

# To Enhance Efficiency of Submersible Pump

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**Abstract**— Submersible pumps are widely used for irrigation, water supply plants, sewage and oil wells because of their suitability in practically any service. Therefore it is necessary to find out the design parameters and working conditions that yield optimal output and maximum efficiency with lowest power consumption. Study indicates that Computational fluid dynamics (CFD) analysis is being increasingly applied in the design of Submersible pumps. Our objective is to increase the efficiency of Submersible pump by changing the blade angle of impeller by theoretical calculation and then comparing it with software base calculation through CFD analysis. With the aid of the CFD approach, the complex internal flows in water pump impellers, can be well predicted, to speed up the pump design procedure.

**Key words:** Submersible Pump, CFD, Impeller

involve fluid flow. Computers are used to perform the calculations required to simulate the interaction of liquids and gases with surfaces defined by boundary conditions. Computational techniques replaces the governing partial differential equations with algebraic equations that are much easier to solve using computer.

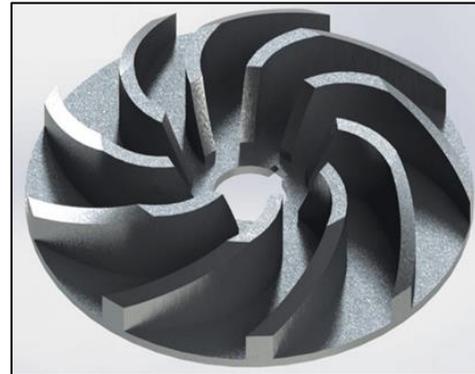


Fig. 1: Semi-Closed Impeller used in Submersible Pump

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Submersible Pump

A submersible pump is a type of centrifugal pump that operates while completely submerged in the liquid which is to be pumped. A centrifugal pump combines the hydraulic design of an end-suction pump with a submersible motor.

Submersible pumps are always of the close-coupled type – meaning that the impeller mounts directly on the end of the motor shaft, and the pump casing attaches directly to the motor frame. Submersible pump motors are designed with a water-cooled jacket. In most cases, the liquid being pumped is circulated around the motor to provide cooling for the motor. The internal parts of the motor are protected by a water-tight enclosure, which prevents the entry of any liquid.

In addition, larger submersible pumps include a sensor placed between the pump and motor which senses when the liquid has gotten past the motor seals and prevents the unit from further operation until repairs have been made. It can be economically designed for both oil and water wells. It can pump fluid from depths up to 15,000 feet. They can be used in crooked or deviated wells. It is relatively simple to operate. It generally provide low lifting costs for high fluid volumes. The advantages of a submersible pump are numerous.

First, it has the advantage of being self-primed because the substance it is pumping, usually water is right there at the pump itself. Further, the submersible pump may actually have to do less work than a standard pump simply because it is closer to the liquid being pumped. The pumps are typically electrically powered and referred to as Electrical Submersible Pumps (ESP).

### B. CFD

Computational Fluid Dynamics usually abbreviated as CFD, is a branch of fluid mechanics uses numerical methods and algorithms to solve and analyze problems that

## II. DESIGN OF IMPELLER & CFD ANALYSIS

We had collected input data from industry in which we have been working for project. Input data for Impeller design are Head (H) = 60 meter, Discharge (Q) = 0.000383 m<sup>3</sup>/ second, Speed (N) = 2800 RPM and Stages (m) = 6

Let,  $D_1$  = diameter of impeller at inlet

$D_2$  = diameter of impeller at outlet

$N$  = speed of impeller, rpm

$$u_1 = \text{tangential velocity of impeller at inlet} = \frac{\pi N D_1}{60}$$

$$u_2 = \text{tangential velocity of impeller at outlet} = \frac{\pi N D_2}{60}$$

$V_1$  = absolute velocity of liquid at inlet

$V_{r1}$  = relative velocity of liquid at inlet

$\alpha_1$  = angle made by  $V_1$  at inlet with direction of motion of vane

$\beta_1$  = angle made by  $V_{r1}$  at inlet with direction of motion

of vane And  $V_2, V_{r2}, \alpha_2$  and  $\beta_2$  are the corresponding angles at

outlet

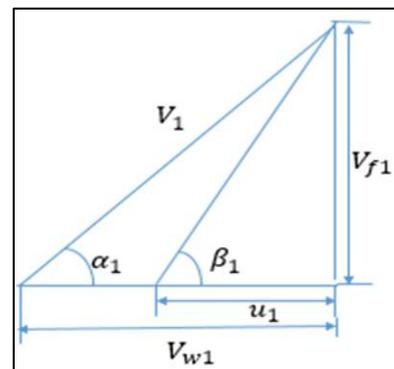


Fig. 2: Inlet Angle

Here,  $\sin \alpha_1 = \frac{7.36}{9.74} = 0.75564$

$$\alpha_1 = \sin^{-1}(0.75564)$$

$$\text{Inlet angle, } \alpha_1 = 49.08 = 49^\circ$$

$$\text{Diameter at inlet, } D_1 = 1.766$$

$$\text{Absolute velocity, } u_1 = \frac{\pi D_1 N}{60} = \frac{\pi \times 1.766 \times 2800}{60} = 0.2589 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{Absolute velocity, } u_2 = \frac{\pi N D_2}{60} = \frac{\pi \times 7.5 \times 0.001 \times 2800}{60} = 1.099 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{Here, } \tan \beta_1 = \frac{V_{f1}}{u_1}$$

$$\therefore \tan(28^\circ) = \frac{V_{f1}}{0.2589}$$

$$\therefore V_{f1} = 0.2589 \times \tan(28^\circ)$$

$$\text{Flow velocity, } V_{f1} = 0.1376 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{Here, } \tan \alpha_1 = \frac{V_{f1}}{V_{w1}}$$

$$\therefore V_{w1} = \frac{V_{f1}}{\tan \alpha_1} = \frac{0.1376}{\tan(49^\circ)}$$

$$\text{Whirl velocity at inlet, } V_{w1} = 0.1196 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{Here, } \sin \alpha_1 = \frac{V_{f1}}{V_1}$$

$$\therefore V_1 = \frac{V_{f1}}{\sin \alpha_1}$$

$$\therefore V_1 = 0.1823 \text{ m/s}$$

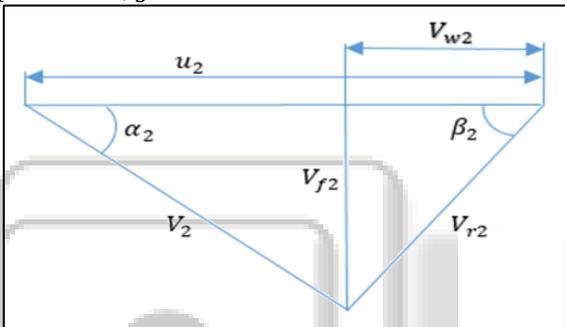


Fig. 3: Outlet Triangle

$$\text{Now for outlet triangle, } \beta_2 = 11.6^\circ$$

$$\text{Here, } \frac{V_{f2}}{V_{f1}} = 0.8$$

$$\therefore V_{f2} = \frac{0.1376}{0.8} = 0.172 \text{ m/s}$$

$$P = m(V_{w2}u_2 - V_{w1}u_1)$$

$$1600 = 0.38(V_{w2} \times 1.099 - 0.1198 \times 0.2589)$$

$$\frac{1600}{0.38} = (V_{w2} \times 1.099 - 0.0309644)$$

$$0.0309644 + 4210.5263 = V_{w2} \times 1.099$$

$$\therefore V_{w2} = \frac{4210.55728}{1.099}$$

$$V_{w2} = 3831.26 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\tan \alpha_2 = \frac{V_{f2}}{V_{w2}}$$

$$\therefore \alpha_2 = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{0.172}{3831.26}\right)$$

$$\therefore \alpha_2 = 9.048^\circ$$

$$\text{Specific speed, } N_{sh} = \frac{1000 \times N / 60 \times \sqrt{Q}}{(gH)^{3/4}}$$

$$N_{sh} = \frac{1000 \times 2800 / 60 \times \sqrt{0.000383}}{(9.81 \times 60)^{3/4}}$$

$$N_{sh} = \frac{1000 \times 46.667 \times 0.0194}{119.49}$$

$$N_{sh} = 7.6132$$

$$\text{Hydraulic efficiency, } \eta_{hy} = 1 - \frac{0.42}{(\log d_e - 0.172)^2}$$

$$\eta_{hy} = 1 - \frac{0.42}{(\log 14 - 0.172)^2}$$

$$\eta_{hy} = 55\% = 0.55$$

### A. Design Optimization & CFD

The design optimization has been made on the outlet blade angle as  $44^\circ$  and  $49^\circ$  to compare the hydraulic efficiency of the existing impeller having the outlet blade angle of  $12^\circ$  and  $54^\circ$ .

Impeller design	Inlet blade angle( $\beta_i$ )	Outlet blade angle( $\beta_o$ )
Existing model	$28^\circ$	$12^\circ$
Impeller 1 (optimum)	$69^\circ$	$44^\circ$
Impeller 2 (optimum)	$69^\circ$	$54^\circ$

Table 1:

### B. Design of an Impeller Models

The outlet blade angle of the existing impeller is modified by using some design software SOLID WORKS.

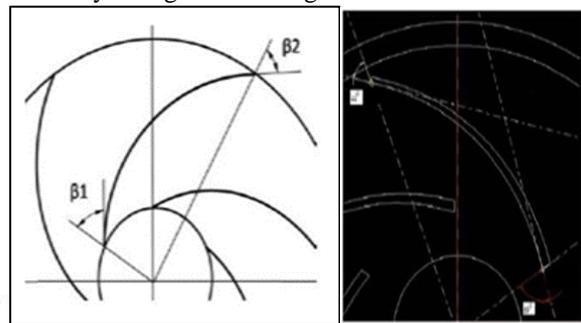


Fig. 4:

Fig. 5:

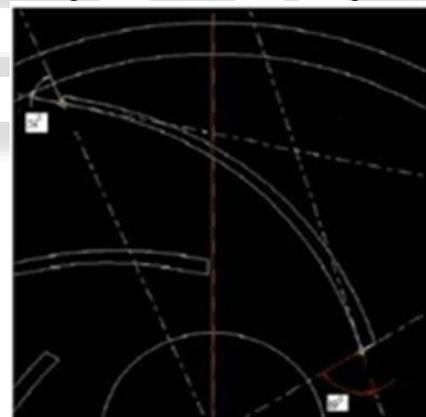


Fig. 6:

The figure-1 shows that description of the inlet blade angle( $\beta_1$ ) & outlet blade angle( $\beta_2$ ) of the impeller. In an existing impeller, the outlet blade angle has been modified to  $44^\circ$  and  $54^\circ$  kept the inlet angle of the impeller is same as that of the existing one which is  $69^\circ$ . The modified outlet blade angle for the impeller models have been given figure-2.

### C. Software Analysis Model

Analysis for Existing Impeller - Static pressure (Pascals), relative velocity magnitude (m/s), Velocity Vector

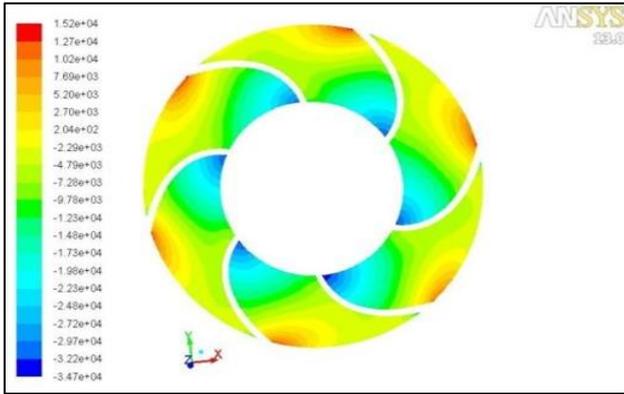


Fig. 7: Static Pressure (Pascals)

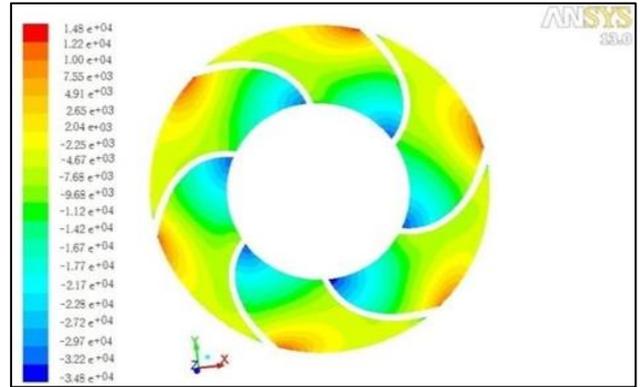


Fig. 10: Static Pressure (Pascals)

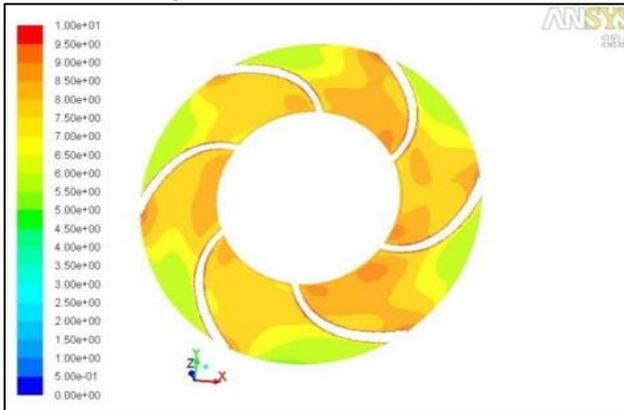


Fig. 8: Relative Velocity Magnitude (m/s)

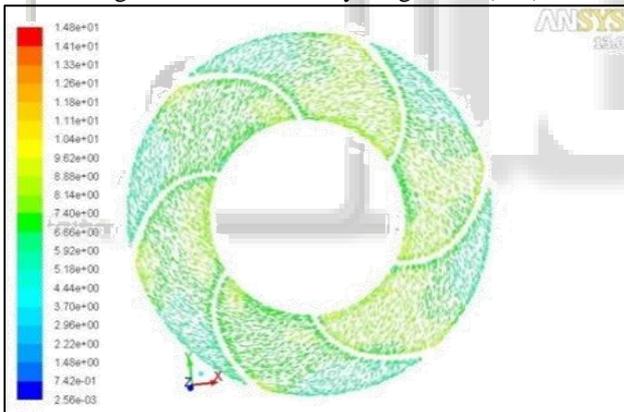
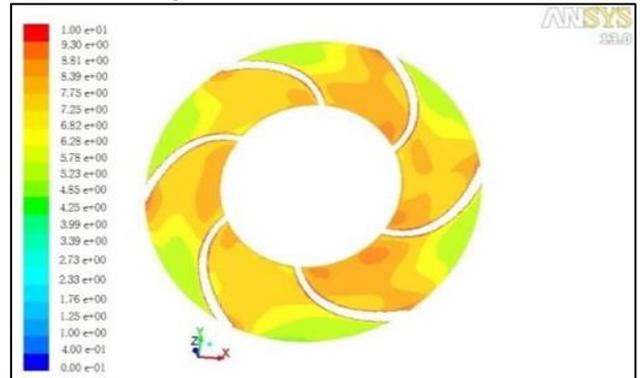


Fig. 9: Velocity Vector

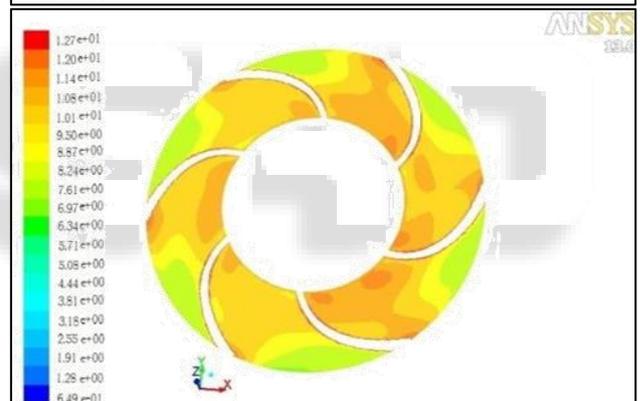
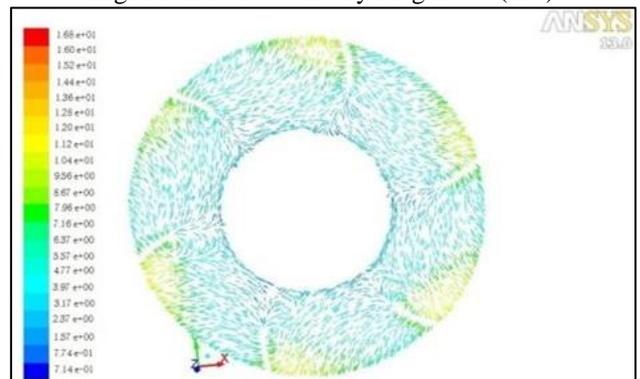
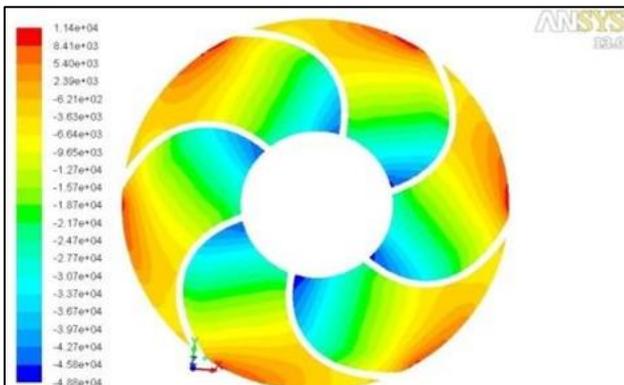


Fig. 11: Relative Velocity Magnitude (m/s)

Analysis for Impeller (Model-1 & 2) - Static pressure (Pascals), relative velocity magnitude (m/s), Velocity Vector



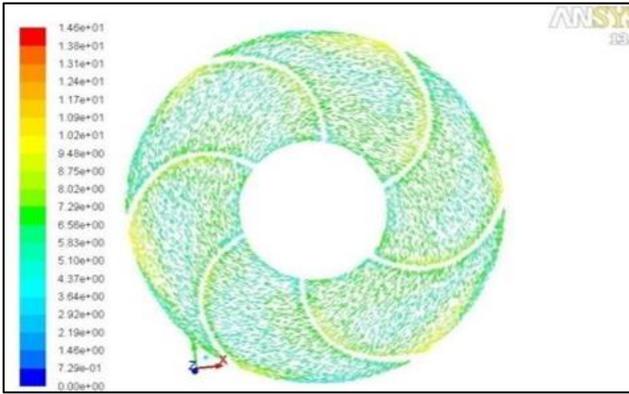


Fig. 12: Velocity Vector

### III. RESULT & DISCUSSION

In this graph we can find that at 54° outlet blade angle the discharge and head will be maximum when compared to the outlet blade angle 44° and 49°. Hence it is conclude that at 54° angle the head and discharge will be higher than the other angles 44° and 49°. Various results are shown in the following figures.

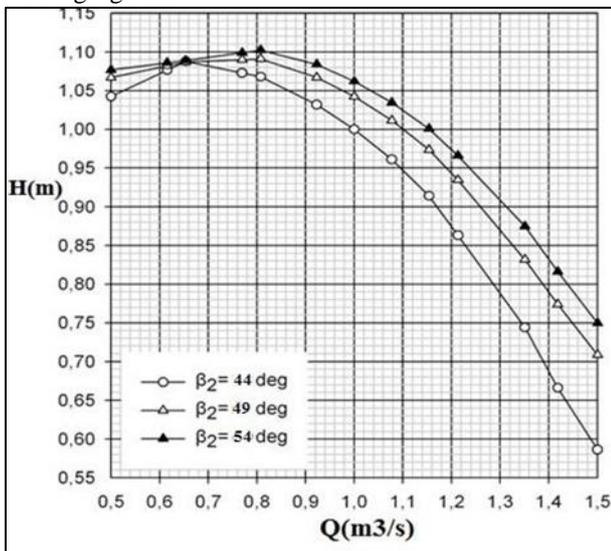


Fig. 13: Head & Discharge Curve

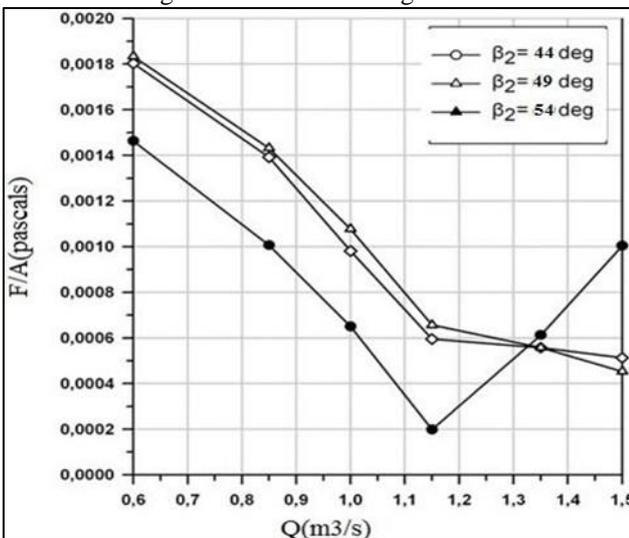


Fig. 14: Pressure & Discharge Curve

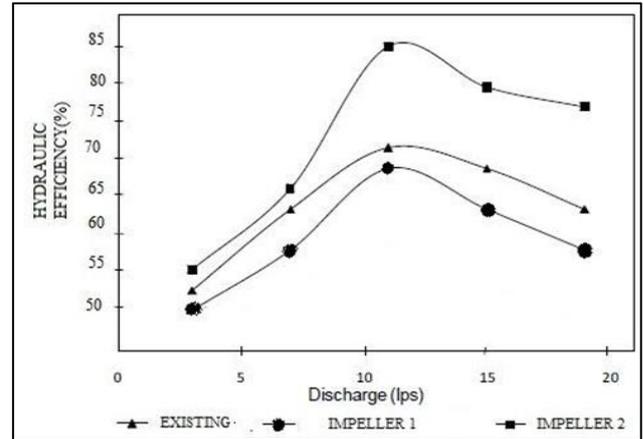


Fig. 15: Hydraulic Efficiency & Discharge

S.No	Impeller Models	Inlet Blade Angle(B1)	Outlet Blade Angle(B2)	Hydraulic Efficiency(Hh)
1	Existing model	28°	12°	55%
2	Model 1	69°	44°	67.12%
3	Model 2	69°	54°	83.35%

Table 2: Hydraulic Efficiencies of the Impeller Models

### IV. CONCLUSION

In mathematical analysis the existing impeller model have a hydraulic efficiency of 65.3% and further the same model has been analysed made by using Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) software then it has been 73.5%. From the above results it has been concluded that analytical results of the existing impeller is higher than the mathematical results, further the same existing impeller has been optimum at the outlet blade angle region which is increased to 54°. The existing impeller has an outlet blade angle of 49° and the modified angle is 44° for model 1 and 54° for model 2.

For these two model an analysis is done by using same CFD software and it shows the results of hydraulic efficiency as 67.12% for model 1 and 83.35% for model 2. It has been seen that by increasing the blade angle, the hydraulic efficiency of the impeller gets increased but the pressure head range of the impeller is decreased when compared to the existing model and optimum model 1. Thus by increasing the outlet blade angle the hydraulic efficiency has been increased by 9.8% when compared to the existing model.

Validation:

$$Q = 0.00383 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \quad H = 89 \text{ m} = 434.90 \text{ feet}$$

$$\eta = \frac{HP \text{ of Pump}}{WHP}$$

$$\therefore WHP = \frac{HQ}{3960}$$

$$= \frac{434.90 \text{ (feet)} \times 6075 \text{ (gpm)}}{3960}$$

$$\therefore \eta = 66.05 \%$$

## V. LITERATURE SURVEY

Michael R. Berry and Yasser Khan Bangash et. al. 1 [2003] has investigated that the present invention provides an electric submersible pumping assembly that includes an encapsulated pumping device containing a pump, an electric submersible motor, a sealing device at the top, and an opening device at the bottom. The lubricant-filled, initially sealed, encapsulated pumping device allows the pump and motor to be run in the wellbore without contamination and be left intact until operated.

K.J. Saveth (Consultant) et. al. 2 [1993] has investigated that With operating costs playing a larger and larger role in the economics of producing a well, optimizing equipment selection by means of an efficient artificial lift system is critical in reducing operating costs for a given field. Six wells in Carter County, Oklahoma, utilizing three different methods of artificial lift were looked at to compare overall system efficiencies between each method. Progressing cavity, reciprocating, and electric submersible pumps were compared on per barrel of fluid produced basis and the electrical power usage converted to kw-hr/hr.

Feltus Henry James et. al. 3 [1963] has investigated that In relation to deep well pumps as contemplated within the scope of the present invention, reference is had to operations in conjunction with wells extending in depth from in the neighbourhood of 1500 feet to and beyond 10,000 feet. At the present time, the more conventional type of deep well pump i.e. Sucker rod type and others are more increasingly being replaced by centrifugal pumps of the single or multistage type having, in association therewith, electric motors which may be either positioned above or below the pump but in close proximity there to and which are kept dry by sealed housings filled with oil or wherein the sealed windings of the motors are insulated by being potted in plastic resin material. Pump motor systems of this type are normally built in one long casing and are adapted for a particular capacity suitable for pumping purposes within a discrete range of conditions.

James F. Lea and J.L. Bearden et. al. 4 [1982] has investigated that the presence of free gas has been recognized as having, in general, a detrimental effect on the performance of a submersible centrifugal pump. Gas locking occurs when the pump ingests too much gas and actually stops pumping because its head (or pressure) production is drastically decreased. This causes the motor to unload and to shut down because of excessive under load (control protection).

Jerzy A. Lorett and Joseph E. Vandevier et. al. 5 [1987] has investigated that a low volume submersible pump assembly has features to stabilize the operation. The pump assembly includes a centrifugal pump driven by a submerged electrical motor. The centrifugal pump has an impeller configuration that is designed for high specific head, but potentially unstable operation. At the design speed, the pump potentially could deliver an indeterminate flow rate for a given head and also at the design speed, the design flow rate will yield a design head that is very close to the maximum head at zero flow. To stabilize the potentially unstable pump, a variable speed drive varies the speed of the motor to maintain constant torque. Maintaining a constant torque

allows a considerable variance in head with only a small variance in flow rate resulting.

V. Ram Kumar and M.Prabhu et. al. 6 [2015] has investigated that this project deals with the modification in the existing design of radial flow impeller made out of plastic material in many cases may be called rotor. By modifying the design of impeller either by changing the blade angle or by changing the width we could achieve a considerable increase in the output discharge which will be shown in the further work. Ansys software is used to analyse the performance of pump and the equivalent output of the new impeller design and use Pro-e for the design of impeller. After modelling the impeller we will calculate the equivalent theoretical efficiency so as to prove that the impeller that is designed newly is of better design than the previous one.

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