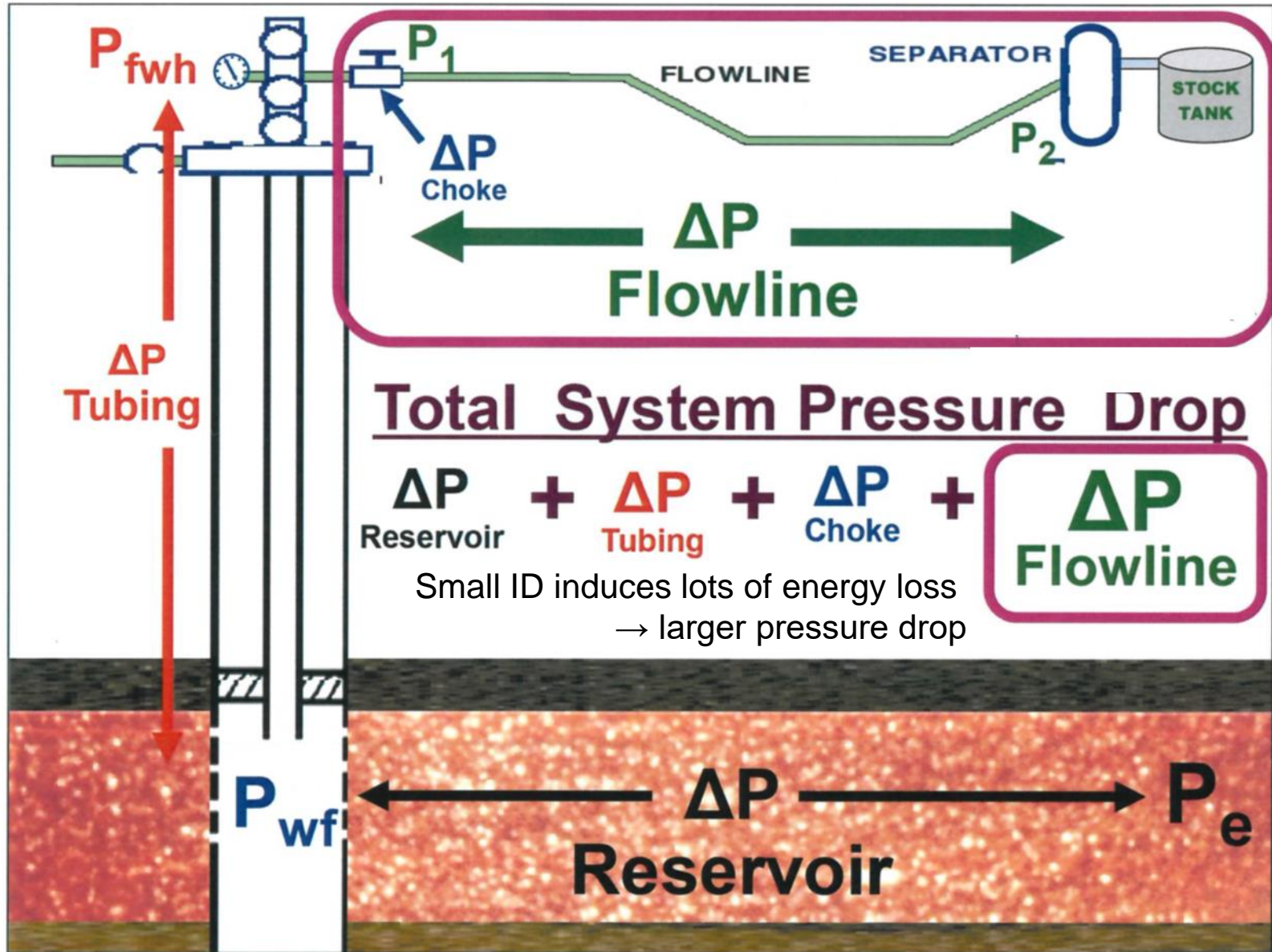


Image courtesy of FMC Technologies

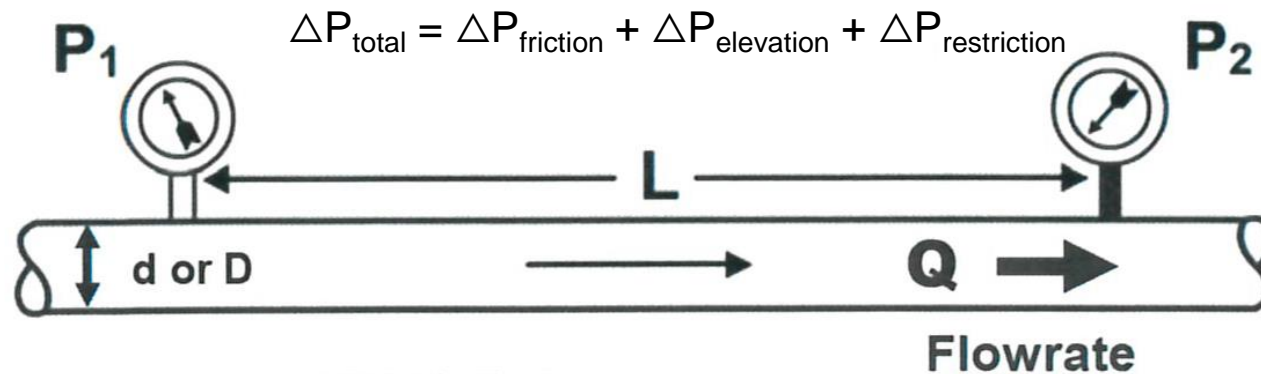
# Pressure drop along pipelines

# Gathering system



# Pressure drop vs. Flowrate in oil field flowlines

$$\Delta P = P_1 - P_2$$



$D$  = Internal Diameter in Feet

$d$  = Internal Diameter in Inches

# Darcy – Weisbach Formula

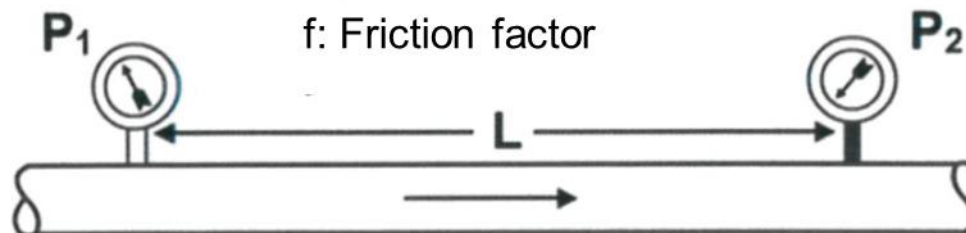
- Pressure drop expressed in feet of fluid head

$$h_{ft} = \frac{f L v^2}{D 2g}$$

- Pressure drop expressed in psi

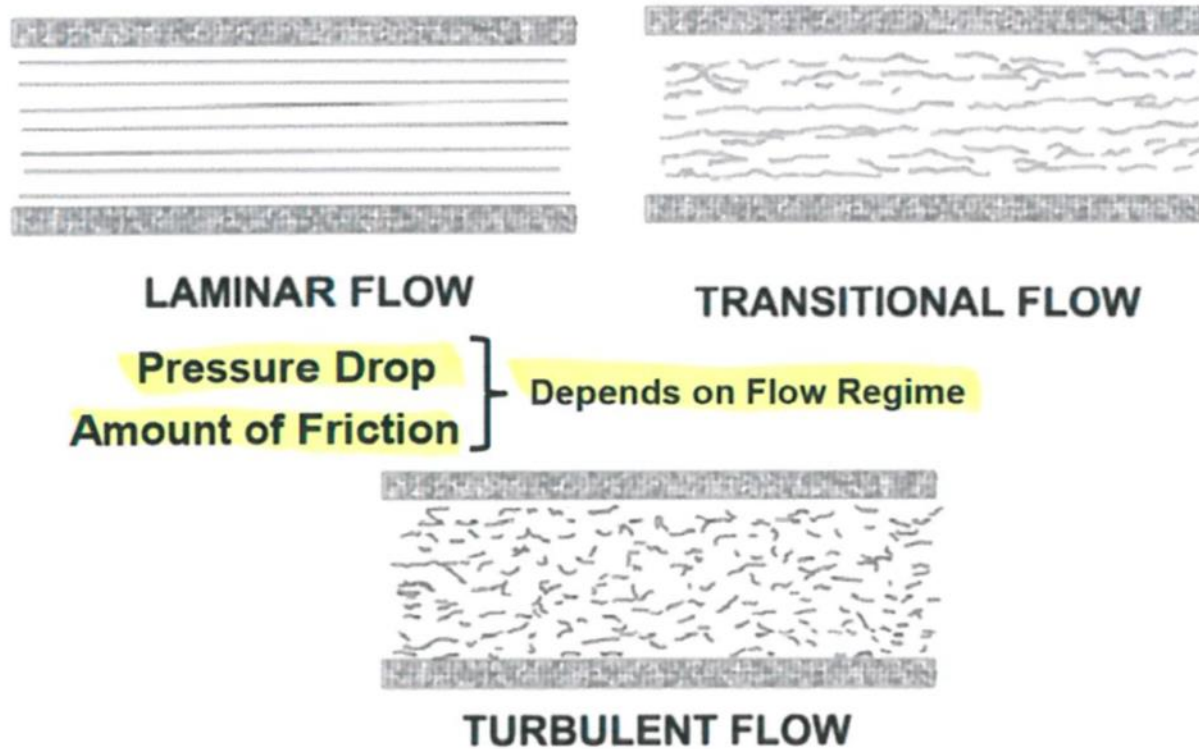
$$\Delta P = \frac{\rho f L v^2}{144 D 2g}$$

*g*: correction factor  
not gravity acceleration  
(= 32.2 ft/s<sup>2</sup> = 9.81 m/s<sup>2</sup>)





# Flow regime in pipe



- Gas dominant stream is mostly turbulent
- Flow regime determined by Reynolds number

# Reynolds number

- Dimensionless parameter  
: Ratio of Inertia forces to Viscous forces

$$Re = \frac{\rho D v}{\mu_e}$$

$\rho$ : lb/ft<sup>3</sup>    $D$ : ft    $v$ : ft/sec    $\mu_e$ : lb/ft-sec

- $Re < 2000$  = Laminar flow

$$\text{Liquid: } Re = 92.1 \frac{SG_L Q_{BPD}}{d \mu}$$

$$\text{Gas: } Re = 20100 \frac{SG_G Q_{MMCFD}}{d \mu}$$

$d$ : inches,  $\mu$ : centipoise

# Friction factor

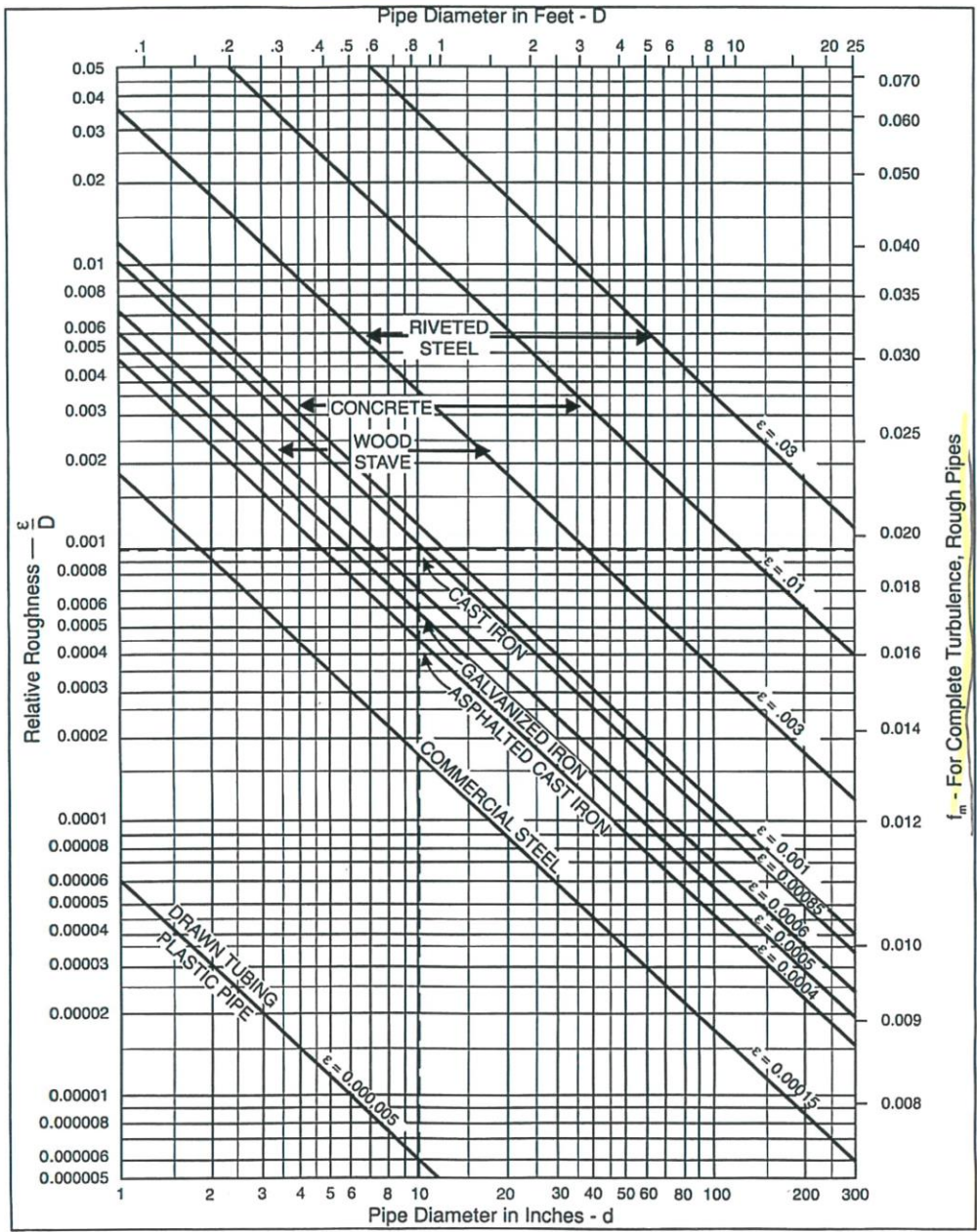
- $f$  = Dimensionless factor of proportionality

$f_m$  = Moody friction factor

$f_f$  = Fanning friction factor ( $f_f = 1/4 f_m$ )

- Laminar flow:  $f_m = 64 / Re$
- For transitional and turbulent flow
  - $f_m$  a function of  $Re$
  - Relative roughness:  $\varepsilon / D$
- For complete turbulence
  - $f_m$  a function of  $\varepsilon / D$  only

( Do NOT use right hand scale for  $f_m$  unless you KNOW flow is FULLY TURBULENT )



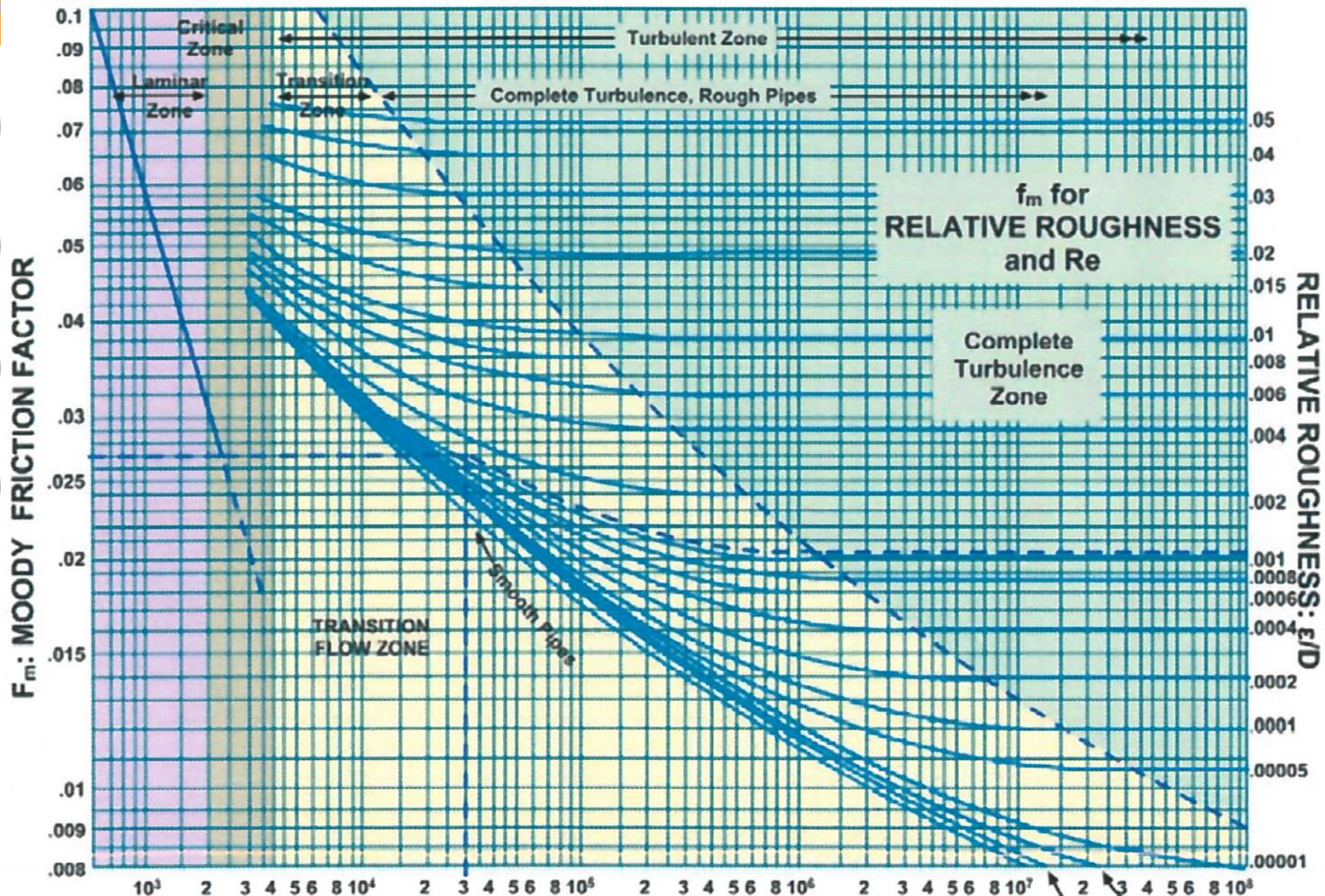
$f_m$  - For Complete Turbulence, Rough Pipes

Gas Processors Suppliers Association

Note: Absolute Roughness units are in feet.  
Relative Roughness is Dimensionless.

**$\epsilon$  for Steel Pipe = 0.00015 feet**





**$f_m$ : MOODY FRICTION FACTOR**

**RELATIVE ROUGHNESS:  $\epsilon/D$**

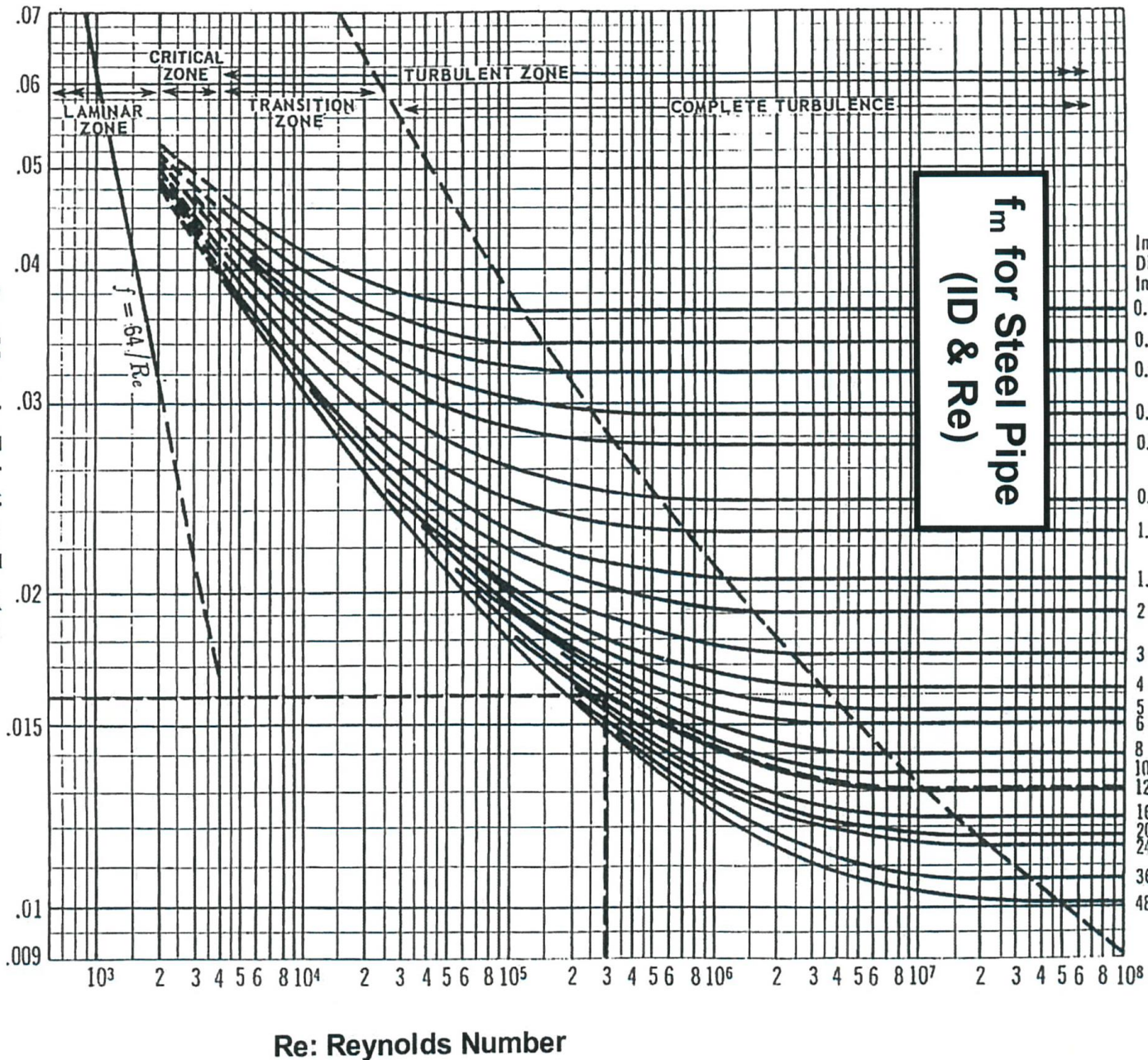
LIQUID:  $Re = 92.1 S_{GL} Q_{BLPD} / d\mu$   
 GAS:  $Re = 20,100 S_{Gg} Q_{MMCFD} / d\mu$

**Re: REYNOLDS NUMBER**

$\epsilon_D = .000,001$     $\epsilon_D = .000,005$



fm: Moody Friction Factor



| Inside Diameter, Inches | Nominal Pipe Size, Inches | Schedule Number |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 0.20                    | 1/8                       | 20              |
| 0.25                    | 1/4                       | 40              |
| 0.30                    | 3/8                       | 60              |
| 0.40                    | 1/2                       | 80              |
| 0.50                    | 3/4                       | 100             |
| 0.75                    | 1                         | 120             |
| 1.0                     | 1 1/4                     | 140             |
| 1.5                     | 1 1/2                     | 160             |
| 2                       | 2                         | 180             |
| 2                       | 2 1/2                     | 20              |
| 3                       | 3                         | 40              |
| 3                       | 3 1/2                     | 60              |
| 4                       | 4                         | 80              |
| 4                       | 5                         | 100             |
| 5                       | 6                         | 120             |
| 6                       | 8                         | 140             |
| 8                       | 10                        | 160             |
| 10                      | 12                        | 180             |
| 12                      | 14                        | 200             |
| 16                      |                           | 20              |
| 20                      |                           | 40              |
| 24                      |                           | 60              |
| 36                      |                           | 80              |
| 48                      |                           | 100             |

# Pressure drop: Laminar flow (Re < 2000)

- Liquid

$$\Delta P_{psi} = 0.00068 \frac{\mu_{cp} L_{ft} V_{ft/sec}}{d_{in}^2}$$

$$\Delta P_{psi} = 7.95 \times 10^{-6} \frac{\mu_{cp} L_{ft} Q_{BPD}}{d_{in}^4}$$

- Gas

$$\Delta P_{psi} = \frac{0.040 \mu_{cp} L_{ft} T_{oR} Z Q_{MMCFD}}{P_{psi} d_{in}^4}$$

No "f<sub>m</sub>" since f<sub>m</sub> = 64/Re and Re = SG<sub>L</sub> Q / d μ

# Pressure drop: Transitional and Turbulent

- Liquid

$$\Delta P_{psi} = 11.5 \times 10^{-6} \frac{f_m L_{ft} Q_{BPD}^2 S G_L}{d_{in}^5}$$

- Gas

$$P_1^2 - P_2^2 = 25.1 \frac{f_m L_{ft} Q_{MMCFD}^2 S G_G Z T_R}{d_{in}^5}$$

# Exercise $\Delta P$ : Liquid flow in Pipe

- What is the friction pressure drop in 10,000 ft of 2 inch ID pipe flowing 50 BPD of 35 °API crude oil ( $\mu=1.2$  cp and  $SG_L=0.85$ ) ?
  1. First calculate Reynold's number to determine flow regime  
:
  2. Use the equation for

$$\Delta P_{psi} =$$



# Exercise: Increasing flow rate 3000 BPD

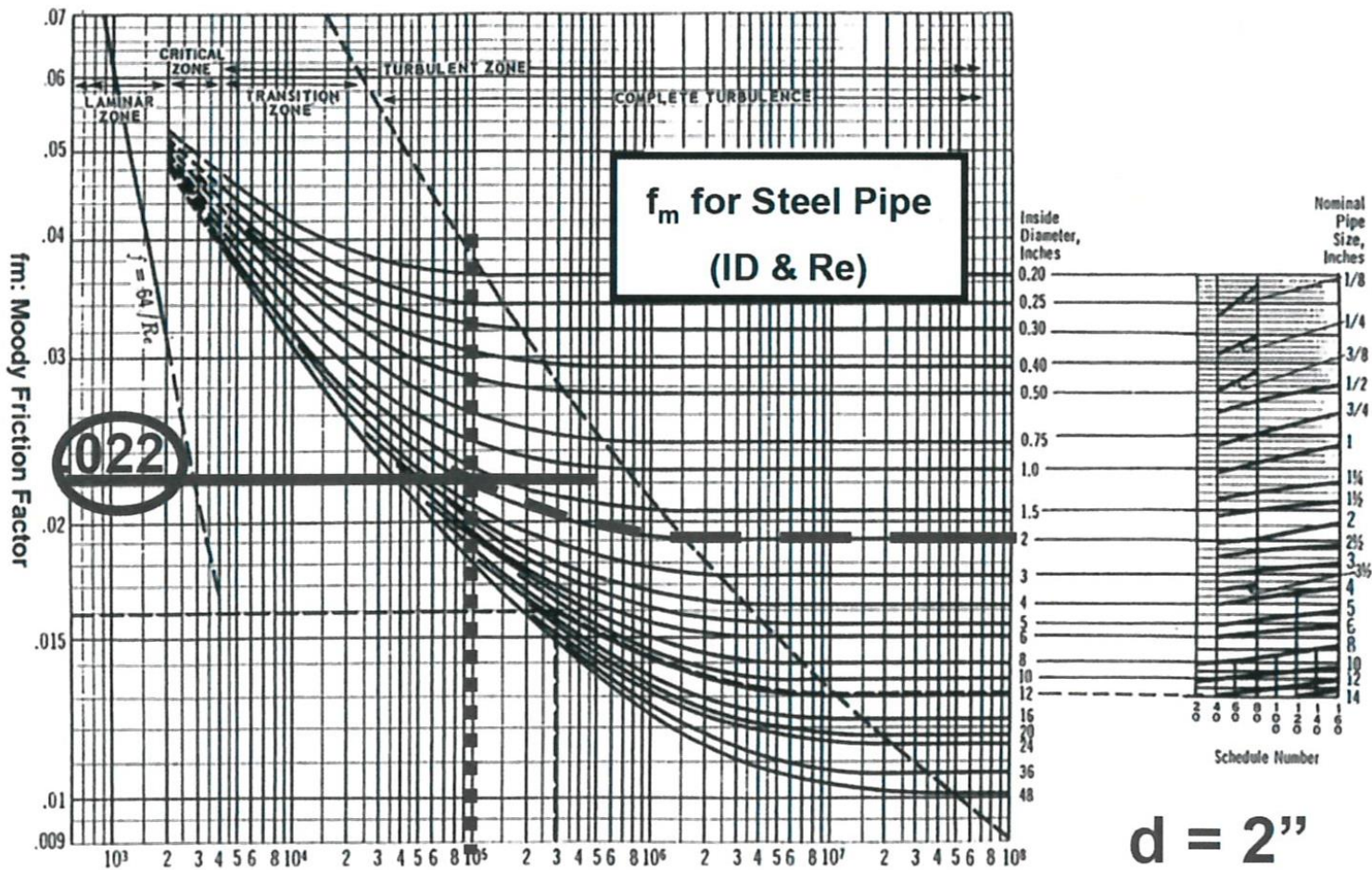
1. First calculate Reynold's number to determine flow regime

:

2. Use the equation for

3. Determine  $f_m$  using chart

$$\Delta P_{psi} =$$



**$d = 2''$**

**$Re = 97,856$**

**Re: Reynolds Number**

LIQUID:  $Re = 92.1 SG_L Q_{BLPD} / d \mu$   
 GAS:  $Re = 20,100 SG_g Q_{MMCFD} / d \mu$

# Pipeline sizing Summary

- **Consider Fluid Velocity**

- Noise / Corrosion / Erosion
- Liquid / Solids Build-Up

- **Contain Internal Pressure**

$$P = 2 S t F E T / d$$

- **Pressure Drop: Horizontal Pipeline**

Laminar

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Liquid: } \Delta P_{\text{psi}} = 7.95 \times 10^{-6} \mu_{\text{cp}} L_{\text{ft}} Q_{\text{BLPD}} / d_{\text{inch}}^4 \\ \text{Gas: } \Delta P_{\text{psi}} = 0.40 \mu_{\text{g}} L_{\text{ft}} T Z Q_{\text{MMCFD}} / P_{\text{psi}} d_{\text{inch}}^4 \end{array} \right.$$

Non-Laminar

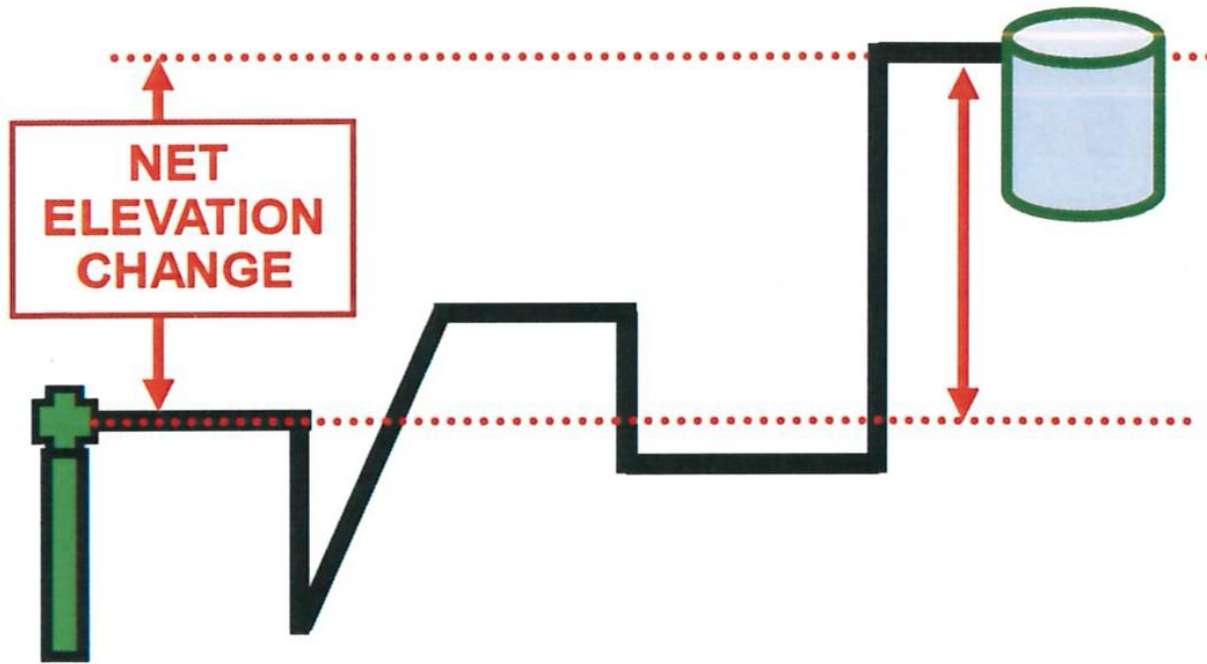
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Liquid: } \Delta P_{\text{psi}} = 11.5 \times 10^{-6} f_m L Q_{\text{BLPD}}^2 S G_L / d^5 \\ \text{Gas: } (P_1)^2 - (P_2)^2 = 25.1 f_m L Q_{\text{MMSCFD}}^2 S G_g Z T / d^5 \end{array} \right.$$

# Pipeline installation





# What if pipeline is not horizontal?





# Pressure drop due to Elevation

- Liquid:  $\Delta P$  due to Elevation

$$\Delta P_{E(psi)} = \frac{\rho_L(lb/ft^2)H_E(ft)}{144} = 62.4 \frac{SG_L H_E(ft)}{144}$$

$$\Delta P_{E(psi)} = 0.433 SG_L H_E(ft)$$

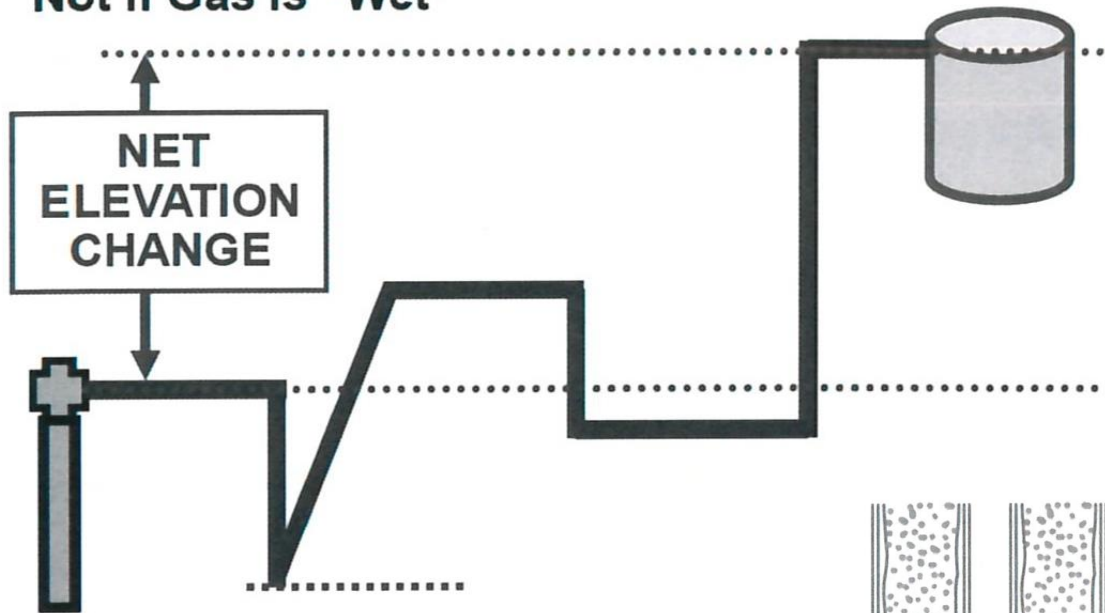
- Gas:  $\Delta P$  due to Elevation

$$\Delta P_{E(psi)} = \frac{\rho_G(lb/ft^2)H_E(ft)}{144} = 2.70 \frac{SG_G P_{psi}/T_{oR} Z H_E(ft)}{144}$$

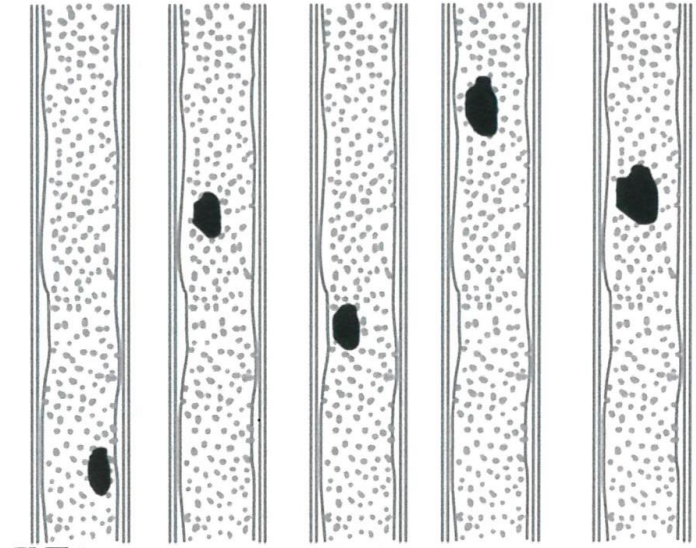
$$\Delta P_{E(psi)} = 0.188 \frac{SG_G P_{psi}}{T_{oR} Z H_E(ft)}$$

# Not always true for gas flow

- Not if Gas is "Wet"

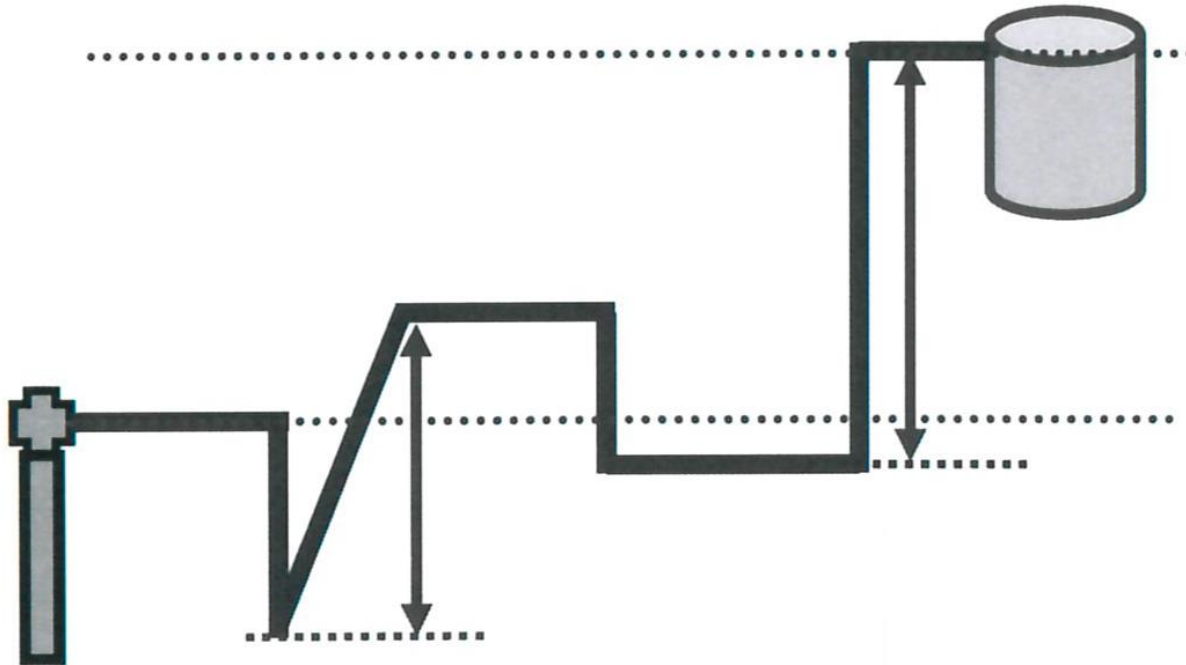


- Big liquid droplets for annular flow



# Pressure drop for Wet gas

- Sum the “Ups”



# Estimating $\Delta P$ without using Friction Factor

- Empirical equations

- Useful for quick calculation before use of PCs

- Commonly accepted empirical equations

- : Hazen-Williams empirical equation (Liquid flow)

$$\Delta P = 0.7 \times 10^{-6} \frac{Q^{1.85} L S G_L}{d^{4.87}}$$

*( $\Delta P$  in psi,  $Q$  in BLPD,  $L$  in feet,  $d = ID$  in inches)*

- : Weymouth formula (gas flow)

$$P_2^2 = P_1^2 - \left[ \frac{0.8 L_{ft} T_R Z S G_G Q_{MMCFD}^2}{d_{in}^{5.334}} \right]$$

- most common for oil field use

- good for IDs between 0.75 inch & 16 inch

- at Laminar rates, calculated  $\Delta P$  is too low

- : Panhandle empirical equation (gas flow)

# Panhandle: A & B Empirical equation

- For estimating  $\Delta P$  without friction factor

$$A: Q_{MMCFD} = \left[ \frac{0.020 E (P_1^2 - P_2^2)^{0.51} d^{2.62}}{(SG_G^{0.853} z T_o R L_{mi})^{0.539}} \right]$$

- For IDs between 6 inch and 24 inch
- Re between  $5 \cdot 10^6$  and  $15 \cdot 10^6$

$$B: Q_{MMCFD} = \left[ \frac{0.028 E (P_1^2 - P_2^2)^{0.51} d^{2.53}}{(SG_G^{0.961} z T_o R L_{mi})^{0.51}} \right]$$

- For IDs between 6 inch and 24 inch
- Re >  $15 \cdot 10^6$

$\Delta P$  in psi, Q in MMCFD,  $L_{mi}$  in miles, d = ID in inches

E factor : E = 1.00 for new pipe

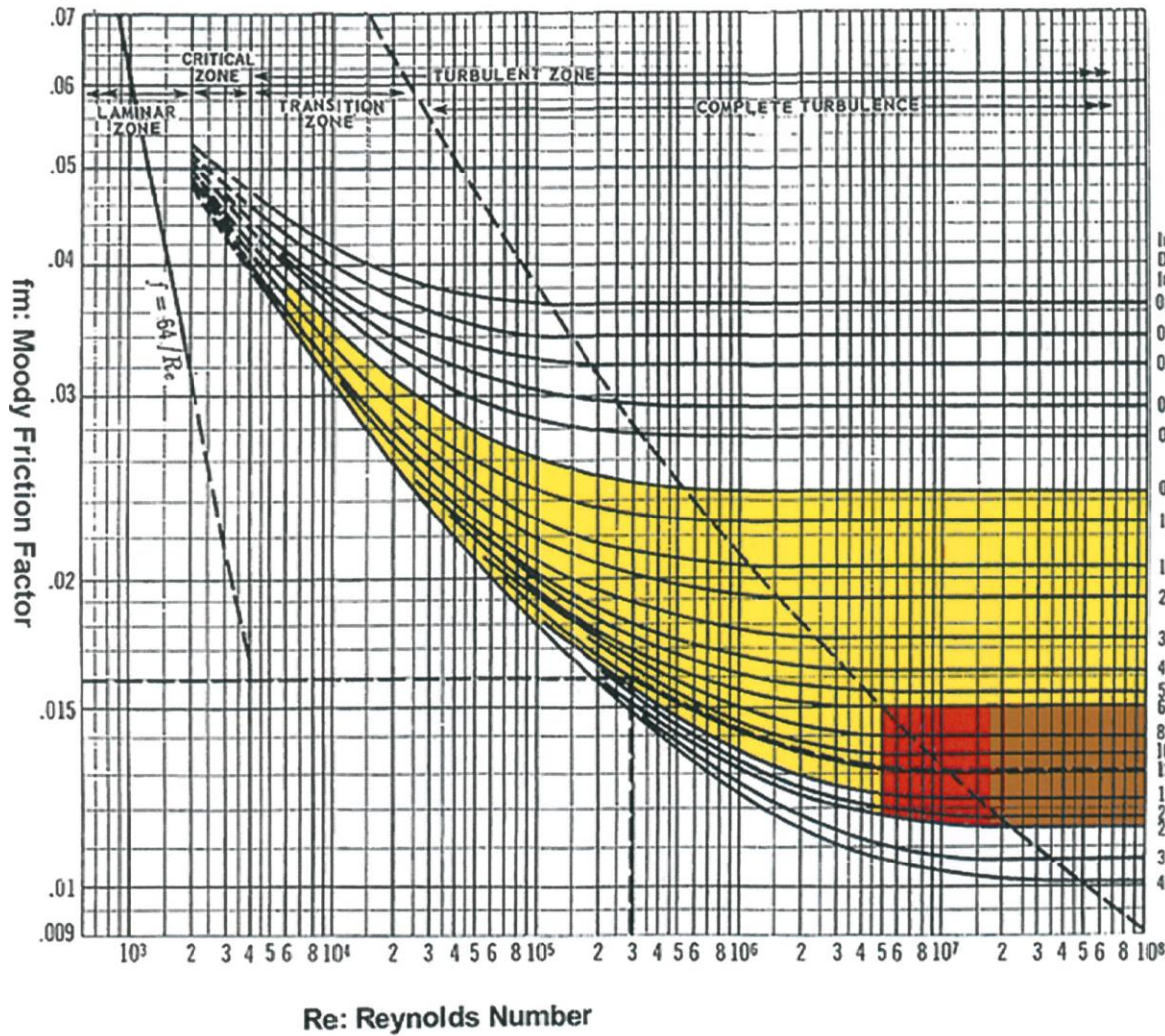
= 0.95 for good condition

= 0.92 for average condition

= 0.85 for old pipe

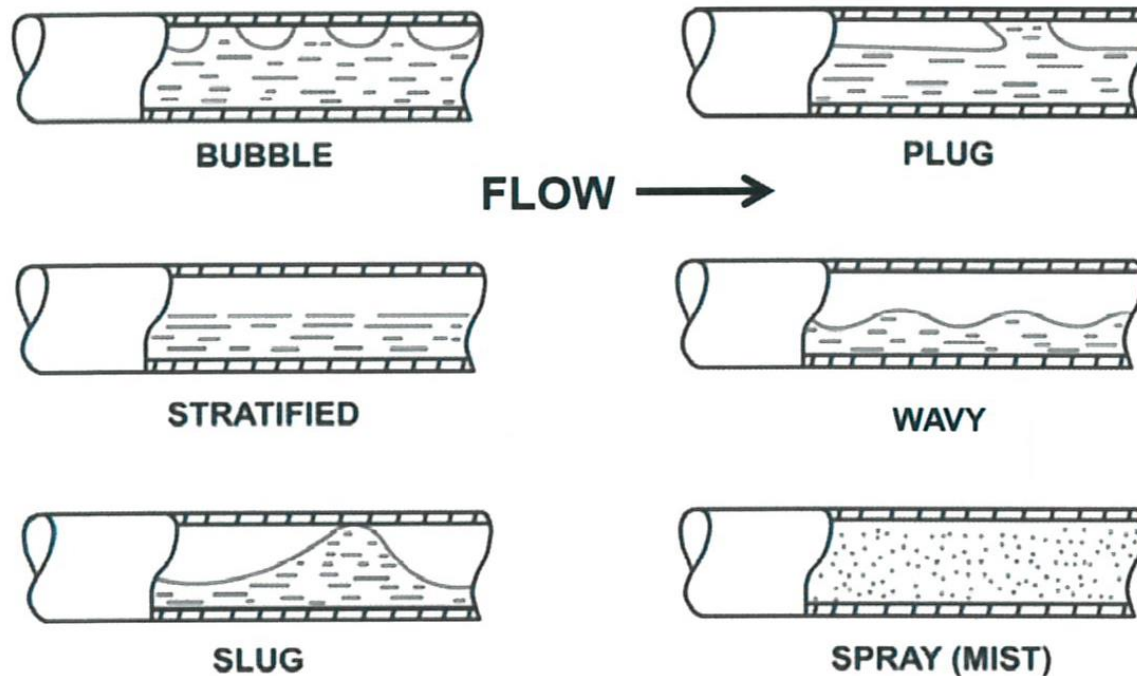
= 0.75 for corroded pipe



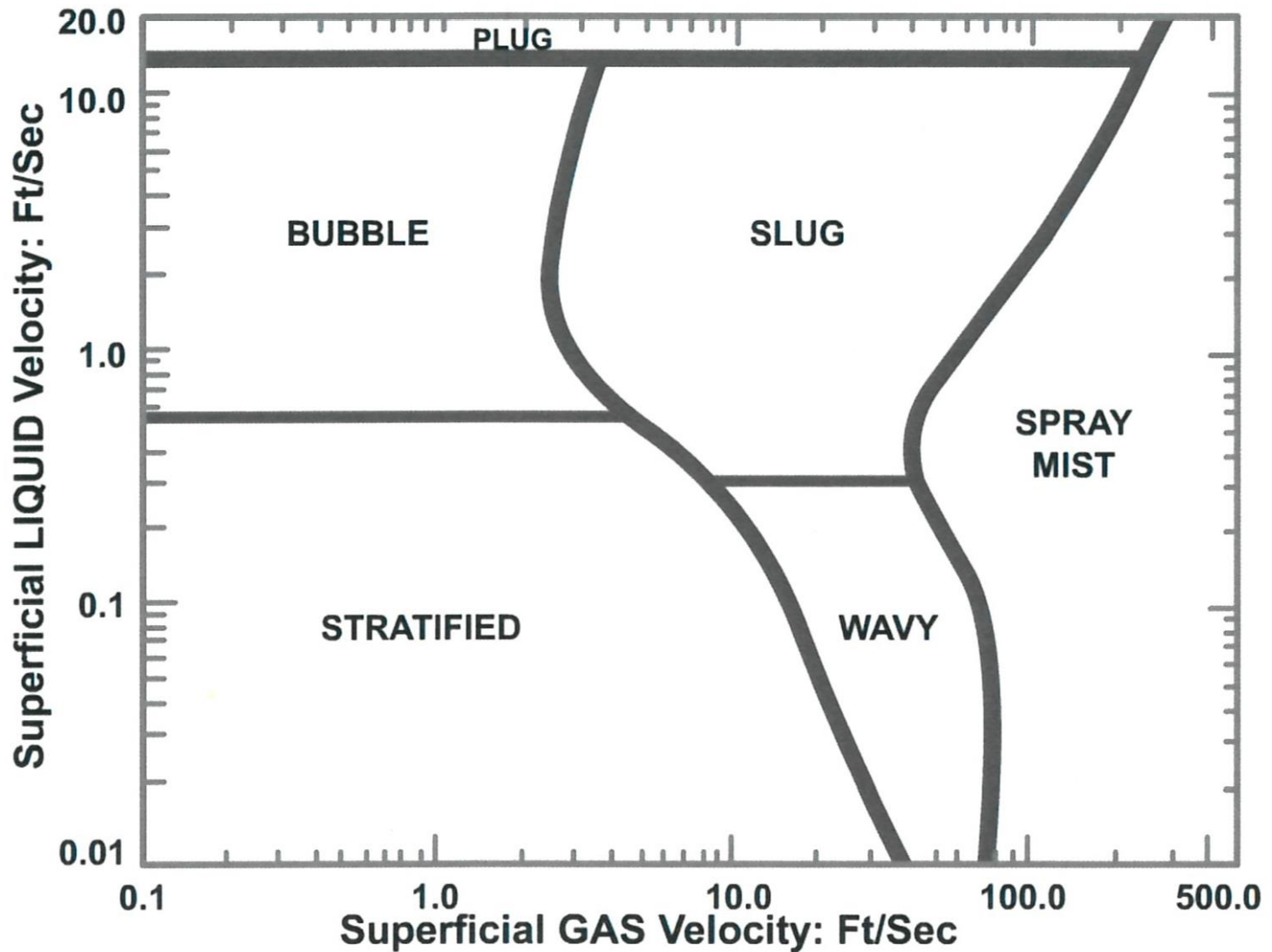


# Pressure drop in pipe: Two phase flow

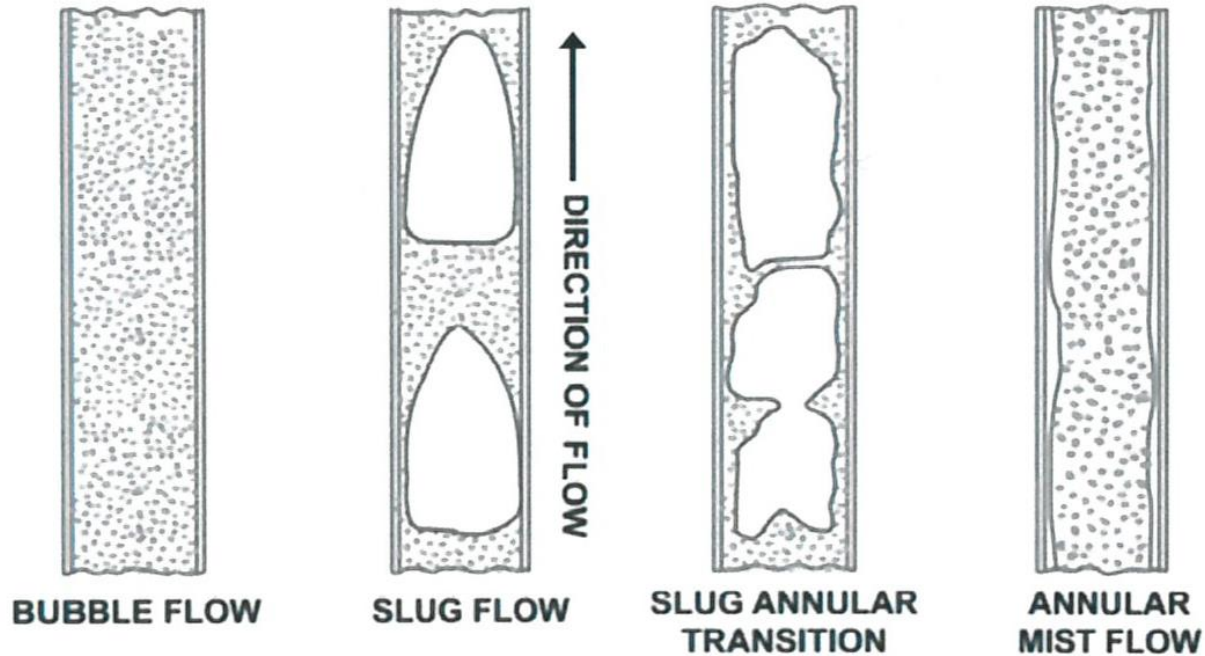
- With liquid and gas both flowing
  - Two phase flow
  - Three phase flow
- Horizontal flow patterns
  - Noise produced with bubbles
  - Using superficial velocities for gas and liquid



# Two-phase horizontal flow regime

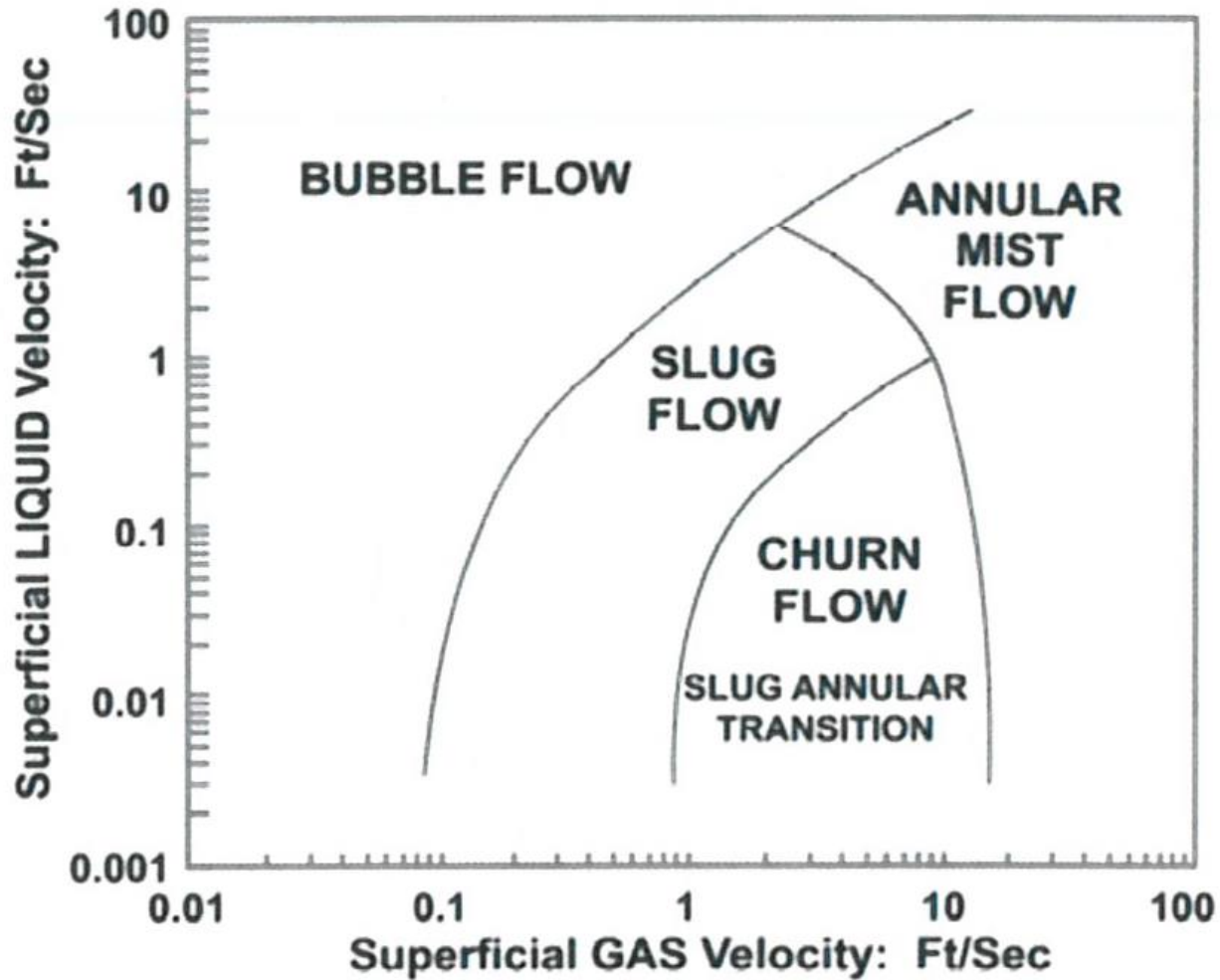


# Vertical two-phase flow regimes





# Two-phase vertical flow regimes





# Pressure drop for two-phase flow

- Very complex: errors  $\approx 20\%$  common
  - Use simulation software and experience
- API RP 14 E gives following simplified method
  - Assumes:  $\Delta P < 10\%$ , bubble / mist flow,  $f=0.015$

$$\Delta P = \frac{5 \times 10^{-8} L W^2}{d^5 \rho_{mix}}$$

where,  $W = 3180 Q_{MMCFD} SG_G + 14.6 Q_{BPD} SG_L$

and  $\rho_{mix} = \frac{12409 SG_L P + 2.7 R_{scf/bbl} SG_G P}{198.7 P + R_{scf/bbl} T z}$

# Two phase flow: High GOR > 10,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/bbl

- Use gas equations but change  $SG_G$  to :

$$SG_{mix} = \frac{SG_G + \frac{4591 SG_L}{R_{scf/bbl}}}{1 + \frac{1123}{R_{scf/bbl}}}$$

If GOR < 10,000 scf/bbl, use two-phase correlations

# AGA: Recommended multiphase $\Delta P$ calculations

## HAND CALCULATION METHODS

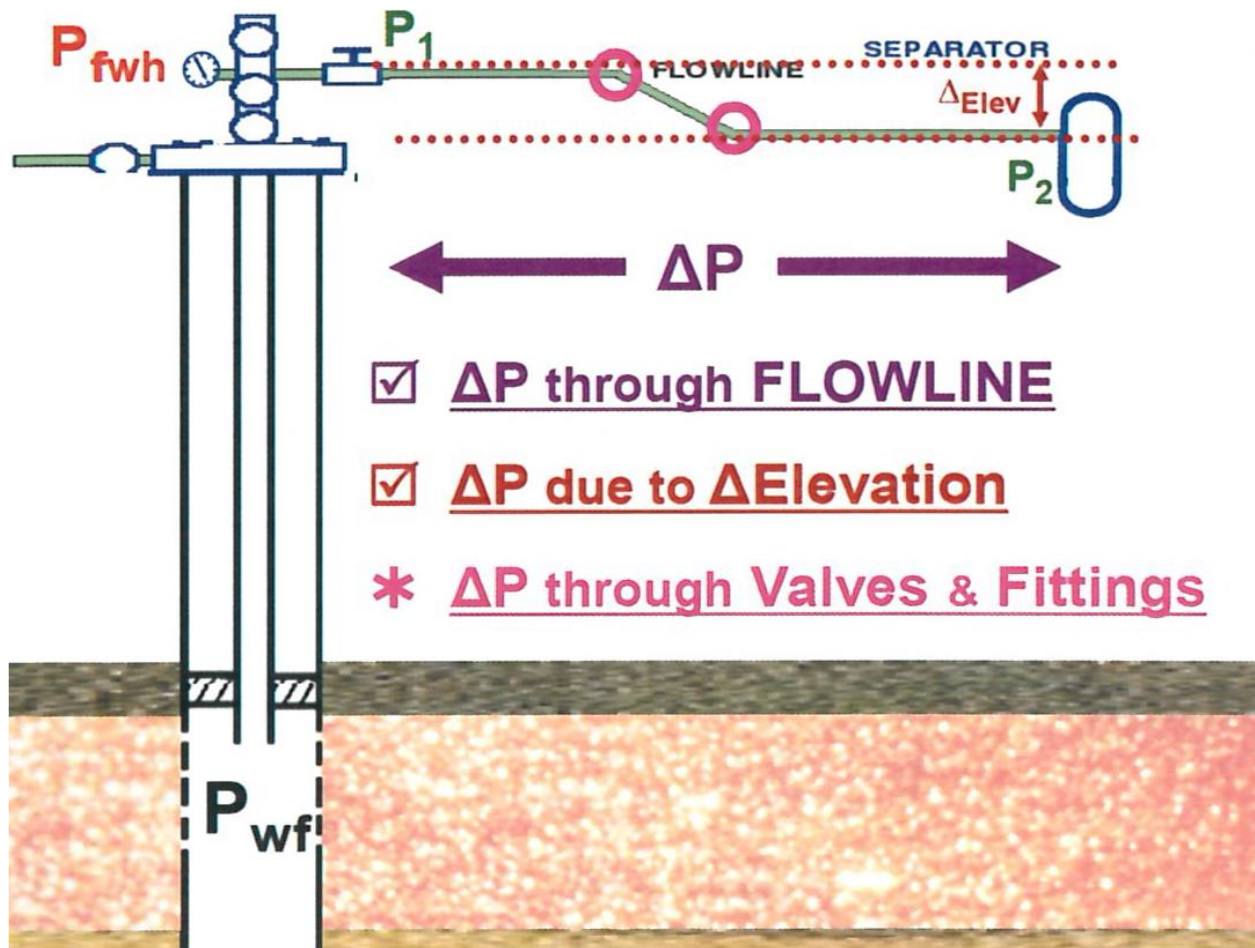
- Frictional  $\Delta P$ : Dukler, A.E., Moyer Wicks, III, and R.G. Cleveland. "Frictional Pressure Drop in Two-Phase Flow: B. An Approach through Similarity Analysis" AIChE Journal, Vol 10, No. 1, January 1964, pp. 44-51.
- Elevation  $\Delta P$ : Flanigan, Orin. "Effect of Uphill Flow on Pressure Drop in Design of Two-Phase Gathering Systems" Oil and Gas Journal, March 10, 1958, pp. 132-141.
- Liquid Hold-up: Eaton, Ben A., et al. "The Prediction of Flow Patterns, Liquid Holdup and Pressure Losses Occurring During Continuous Two-Phase Flow in Horizontal Pipelines" J. Pet. Tech. AIME, JUNE 1967, pp.815-828.

*For examples using these Methods : see AGA ENGINEERING DATA BOOK  
Gas Processors Association. 1998  
[gpsa@gasprocessors.com](mailto:gpsa@gasprocessors.com)*

## COMPUTER CALCULATION METHODS

- Beggs, H. Dale, and James P. Brill. "A Study of Two-Phase Flow in Inclined Pipes" Trans. AIME, May 1973, pp. 606 – 617.
- Orkiszewski, J. "Predicting Two-Phase Pressure Drops in Vertical Pipe" Pet. Tech, AIME, 6/67 pp 829 – 838.
- Baker, O. , et al. "Gas-Liquid Flow in Pipelines, II. Design Manual" AGA - API Project NX-28, 10/ 70
- Brill & Mukherjee "Multiphase Flow in Wells" Monograph Vol 17 SPE Henry L Doherty Series  
**Ansari and Olqa-S      Transient Multiphase Simulator: OLGA**

# Pressure drop through valves and fittings



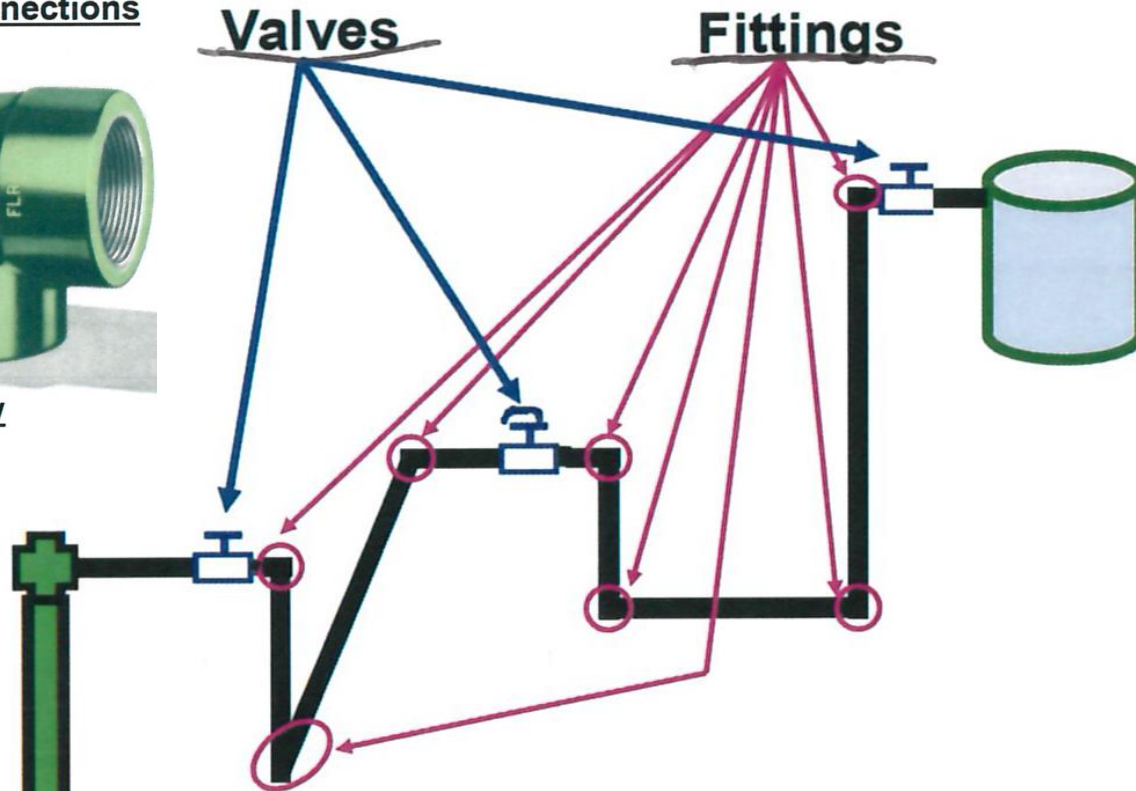
# Pressure drop through valves and fittings

Screwed Connections



Elbow

Welded Connections





# Pressure drop through valves and fittings

- Resistance coefficients:  $K_r$
- Flow coefficients: liquid –  $C_v$ , Gas –  $C_g$
- Equivalent length:  $L_E$

# Darcy's Law for valves and fittings

- Resistance coefficient:  $K_r$

$$\Delta H = K_r \frac{v^2}{2g}, \text{ where } K_r = \frac{fL}{D}$$

Larger  $K_r$   $\Rightarrow$  Larger  $\Delta P$

- Liquid

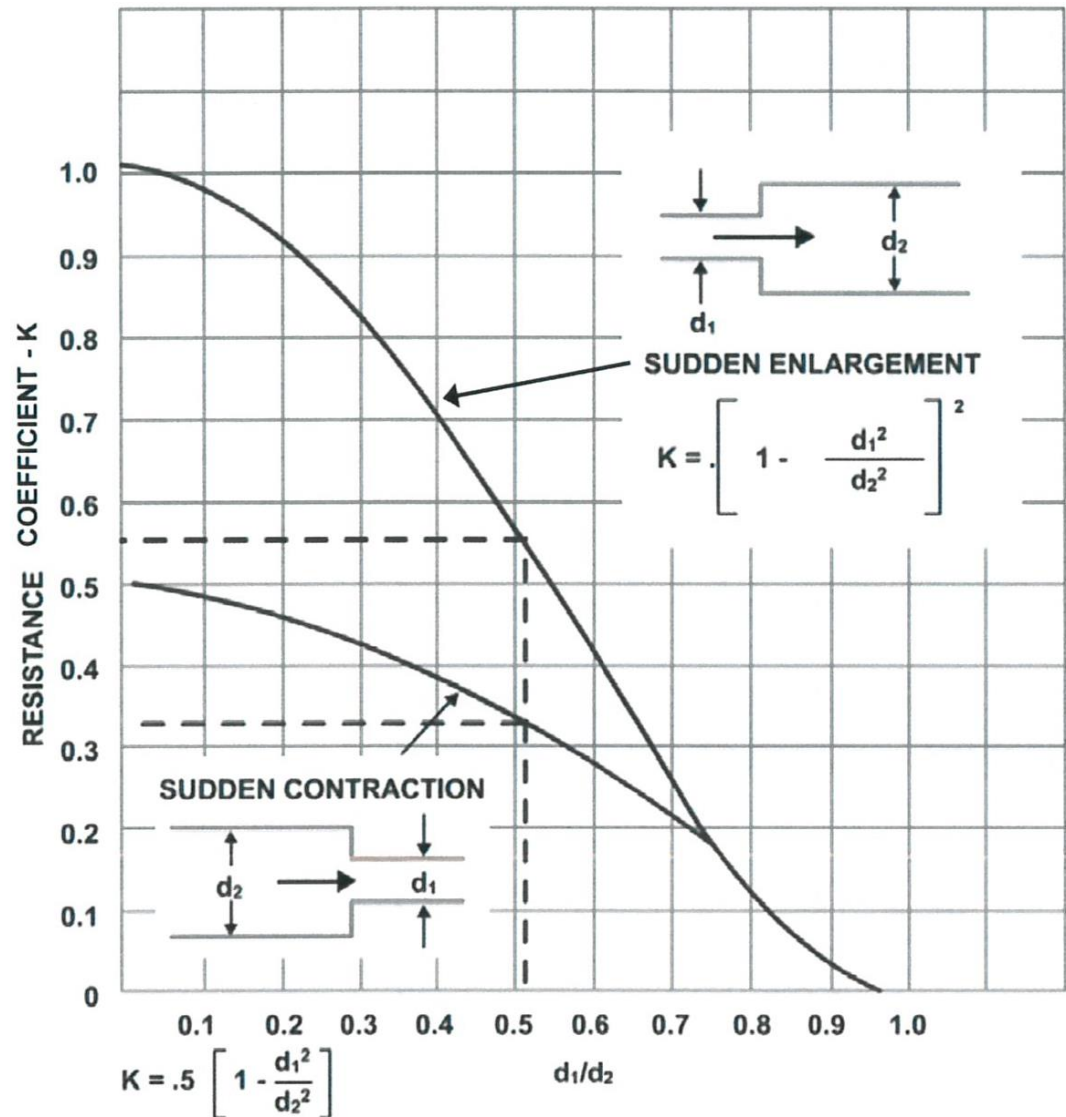
$$\Delta P_{psi} = 0.958 \times 10^{-6} \frac{K_r Q_{BPD}^2 S G_L}{d^4}$$

- Gas

$$P_1^2 - P_2^2 = 2.09 \frac{K_r Q_{MMCFD}^2 S G_G Z T_{oR}}{d^4}$$

# Resistance coefficients

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Global Valve, wide open | 10.0 |
| Angle Valve, wide open  | 5.0  |
| Gate Valve, wide open   | 0.2  |
| Tee                     | 1.8  |
| 90° Elbow               | 0.9  |
| 45° Elbow               | 0.4  |



# Darcy's law for valves and fittings

- Flow coefficient:  $C_v$  and  $C_g$   
: a relative measure of its efficiency at allowing fluid flow

**Larger  $C_v$  (liquids) or  $C_g$  (gases)  $\Rightarrow$  Smaller  $\Delta P$**

- Liquid

$$\Delta P_{psi} = 8.5 \times 10^{-4} \frac{Q_{BPD}^2 S G_L}{C_v^2}$$

- Gas

$$P_1^2 - P_2^2 = 1.869 \frac{Q_{MMCFD}^2 S G_G Z T_{oR}}{C_g^2}$$

# Relationship between $K_r$ and $C_v$

$$C_v = 29.9 \frac{d^2}{\sqrt{K_r}}$$

$$K_r = 894 \frac{d^4}{C_v^2}$$



# Equivalent lengths

- The pressure drop in a system component such as valve and fittings can be converted to the "**equivalent length**" of a pipe or tube that would give the same pressure loss.

$$L_E = \frac{K_r d}{12 f_m}$$

$$L_E = 74.5 \frac{d^5}{f_m C_v^2}$$

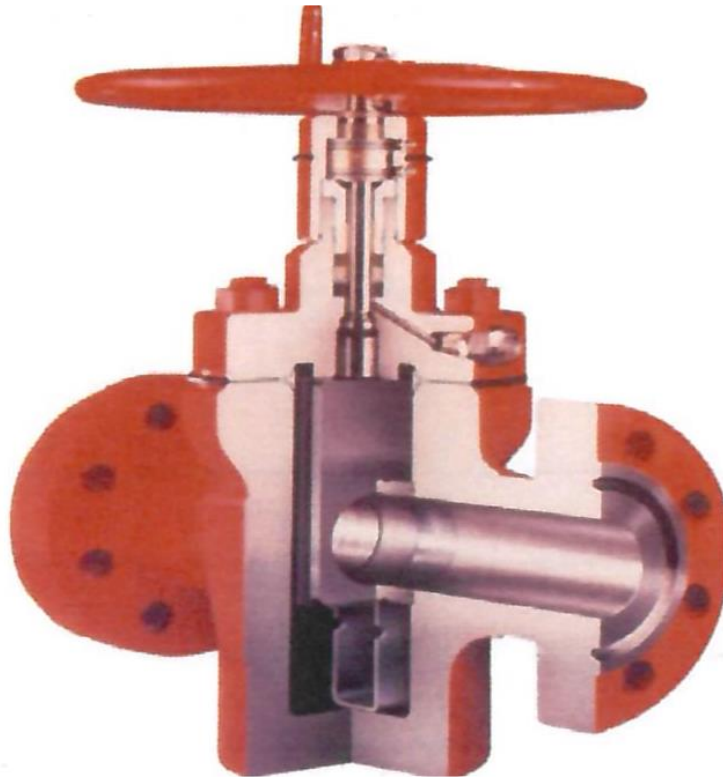
# L<sub>E</sub>: Equivalent Length of Valves and Fittings, in Feet

| Nominal Pipe size in. | Globe valve or ball check valve | Angle valve | Swing check valve | Plug cock | Gate or ball valve | 45° ell   |           | Short rad. ell |           | Long rad. ell |           | Hard T    |           | Soft T    |           | 90° miter bends |          |         | Enlargement |         |                              |    |           | Contraction |    |        |   |           |  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|----------|---------|-------------|---------|------------------------------|----|-----------|-------------|----|--------|---|-----------|--|
|                       |                                 |             |                   |           |                    | Welded    | Threaded  | Welded         | Threaded  | Welded        | Threaded  | Welded    | Threaded  | Welded    | Threaded  | Welded          | Threaded | 2 miter | 3 miter     | 4 miter | Sudden                       |    | Std. red. |             |    | Sudden |   | Std. red. |  |
|                       |                                 |             |                   |           |                    |           |           |                |           |               |           |           |           |           |           |                 |          |         |             |         | Equiv. L in terms of small d |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |
|                       |                                 |             |                   |           |                    | d/D = 1/4 | d/D = 1/2 | d/D = 3/4      | d/D = 1/2 | d/D = 3/4     | d/D = 1/4 | d/D = 1/2 | d/D = 3/4 | d/D = 1/2 | d/D = 3/4 |                 |          |         |             |         |                              |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |
| 1½                    | 55                              | 26          | 13                | 7         | 1                  | 1         | 2         | 3              | 5         | 2             | 3         | 8         | 9         | 2         | 3         |                 |          |         | 5           | 3       | 1                            | 4  | 1         | 3           | 2  | 1      | 1 | -         |  |
| 2                     | 70                              | 33          | 17                | 14        | 2                  | 2         | 3         | 4              | 5         | 3             | 4         | 10        | 11        | 3         | 4         |                 |          |         | 7           | 4       | 1                            | 5  | 1         | 3           | 3  | 1      | 1 | -         |  |
| 2½                    | 80                              | 40          | 20                | 11        | 2                  | 2         | -         | 5              | -         | 3             | -         | 12        | -         | 3         | -         |                 |          |         | 8           | 5       | 2                            | 6  | 2         | 4           | 3  | 2      | 2 | -         |  |
| 3                     | 100                             | 50          | 25                | 17        | 2                  | 2         |           | 6              |           | 4             |           | 14        |           | 4         |           |                 |          |         | 10          | 6       | 2                            | 8  | 2         | 5           | 4  | 2      | 2 | -         |  |
| 4                     | 130                             | 65          | 32                | 30        | 3                  | 3         |           | 7              |           | 5             |           | 19        |           | 5         |           |                 |          |         | 12          | 8       | 3                            | 10 | 3         | 6           | 5  | 3      | 3 | -         |  |
| 6                     | 200                             | 100         | 48                | 70        | 4                  | 4         |           | 11             |           | 8             |           | 28        |           | 8         |           |                 |          |         | 18          | 12      | 4                            | 14 | 4         | 9           | 7  | 4      | 4 | 1         |  |
| 8                     | 260                             | 125         | 64                | 120       | 6                  | 6         |           | 15             |           | 9             |           | 37        |           | 9         |           |                 |          |         | 25          | 16      | 5                            | 19 | 5         | 12          | 9  | 5      | 5 | 2         |  |
| 10                    | 330                             | 160         | 80                | 170       | 7                  | 7         |           | 18             |           | 12            |           | 47        |           | 12        |           |                 |          |         | 31          | 20      | 7                            | 24 | 7         | 15          | 12 | 6      | 6 | 2         |  |
| 12                    | 400                             | 190         | 95                | 170       | 9                  | 9         |           | 22             |           | 14            |           | 55        |           | 14        |           | 28              | 21       | 20      | 37          | 24      | 8                            | 28 | 8         | 18          | 14 | 7      | 7 | 2         |  |
| 14                    | 450                             | 210         | 105               | 80        | 10                 | 10        |           | 26             |           | 16            |           | 62        |           | 16        |           | 32              | 24       | 22      | 42          | 25      | 9                            | -  | -         | 20          | 16 | 8      | - | -         |  |
| 16                    | 500                             | 240         | 120               | 145       | 11                 | 11        |           | 29             |           | 18            |           | 72        |           | 18        |           | 38              | 27       | 24      | 47          | 30      | 10                           | -  | -         | 24          | 18 | 9      | - | -         |  |
| 18                    | 550                             | 280         | 140               | 160       | 12                 | 12        |           | 33             |           | 20            |           | 82        |           | 20        |           | 42              | 30       | 28      | 53          | 35      | 11                           | -  | -         | 26          | 20 | 10     | - | -         |  |
| 20                    | 650                             | 300         | 155               | 210       | 14                 | 14        |           | 35             |           | 23            |           | 90        |           | 23        |           | 46              | 33       | 32      | 60          | 38      | 13                           | -  | -         | 30          | 23 | 11     | - | -         |  |
| 22                    | 688                             | 335         | 170               | 225       | 15                 | 15        |           | 40             |           | 25            |           | 100       |           | 25        |           | 52              | 36       | 34      | 65          | 42      | 14                           | -  | -         | 32          | 25 | 12     | - | -         |  |
| 24                    | 750                             | 370         | 185               | 254       | 16                 | 16        |           | 44             |           | 27            |           | 110       |           | 27        |           | 56              | 39       | 36      | 70          | 46      | 15                           | -  | -         | 35          | 27 | 13     | - | -         |  |
| 30                    | -                               | -           | -                 | 312       | 21                 | 21        | 55        | 40             | 140       | 40            | 70        | 140       | 40        | 70        | 51        | 44              |          |         |             |         |                              |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |
| 36                    | -                               | -           | -                 |           | 25                 | 25        | 66        | 47             | 140       | 47            | 84        | 140       | 47        | 84        | 50        | 52              |          |         |             |         |                              |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |
| 42                    | -                               | -           | -                 |           | 30                 | 30        | 77        | 55             | 200       | 55            | 98        | 200       | 55        | 98        | 64        | 64              |          |         |             |         |                              |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |
| 48                    | -                               | -           | -                 |           | 35                 | 35        | 88        | 55             | 220       | 55            | 112       | 220       | 55        | 112       | 72        | 72              |          |         |             |         |                              |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |
| 54                    | -                               | -           | -                 |           | 40                 | 40        | 98        | 70             | 250       | 70            | 126       | 250       | 70        | 126       | 80        | 80              |          |         |             |         |                              |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |
| 60                    | -                               | -           | -                 |           | 45                 | 45        | 110       | 80             | 260       | 80            | 140       | 260       | 80        | 140       | 92        | 92              |          |         |             |         |                              |    |           |             |    |        |   |           |  |

Full Opening - Small L<sub>E</sub>

Reduced Opening - Large L<sub>E</sub>

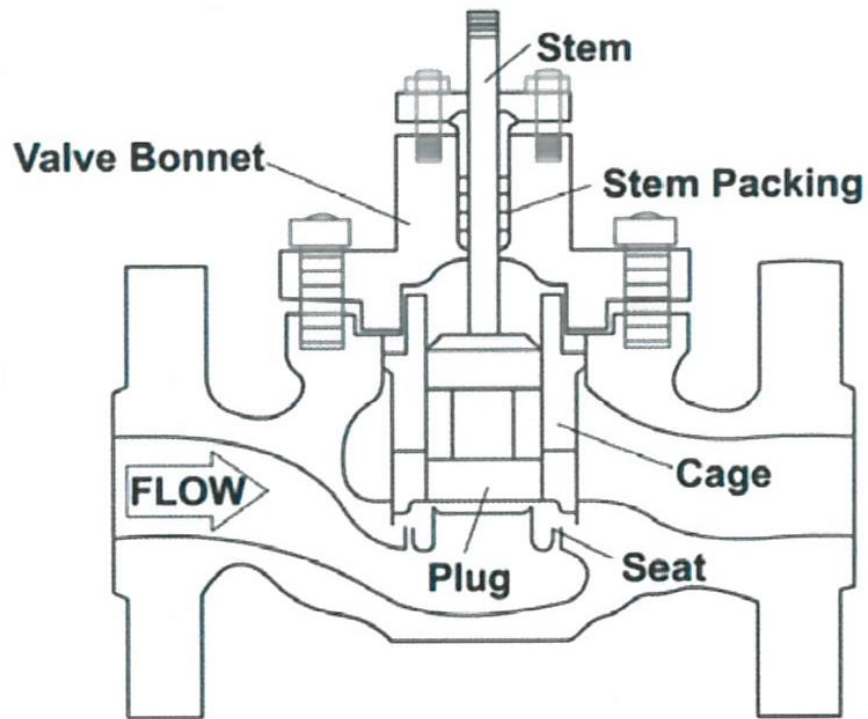
# Gate valve



- Full Opening Throughput

- Not Much  $\Delta P$
- Small  $L_E$

# Globe valve



- **Reduced Opening Throughput**

- **Larger  $\Delta P$**

- **Larger  $L_E$**



**Thank you**