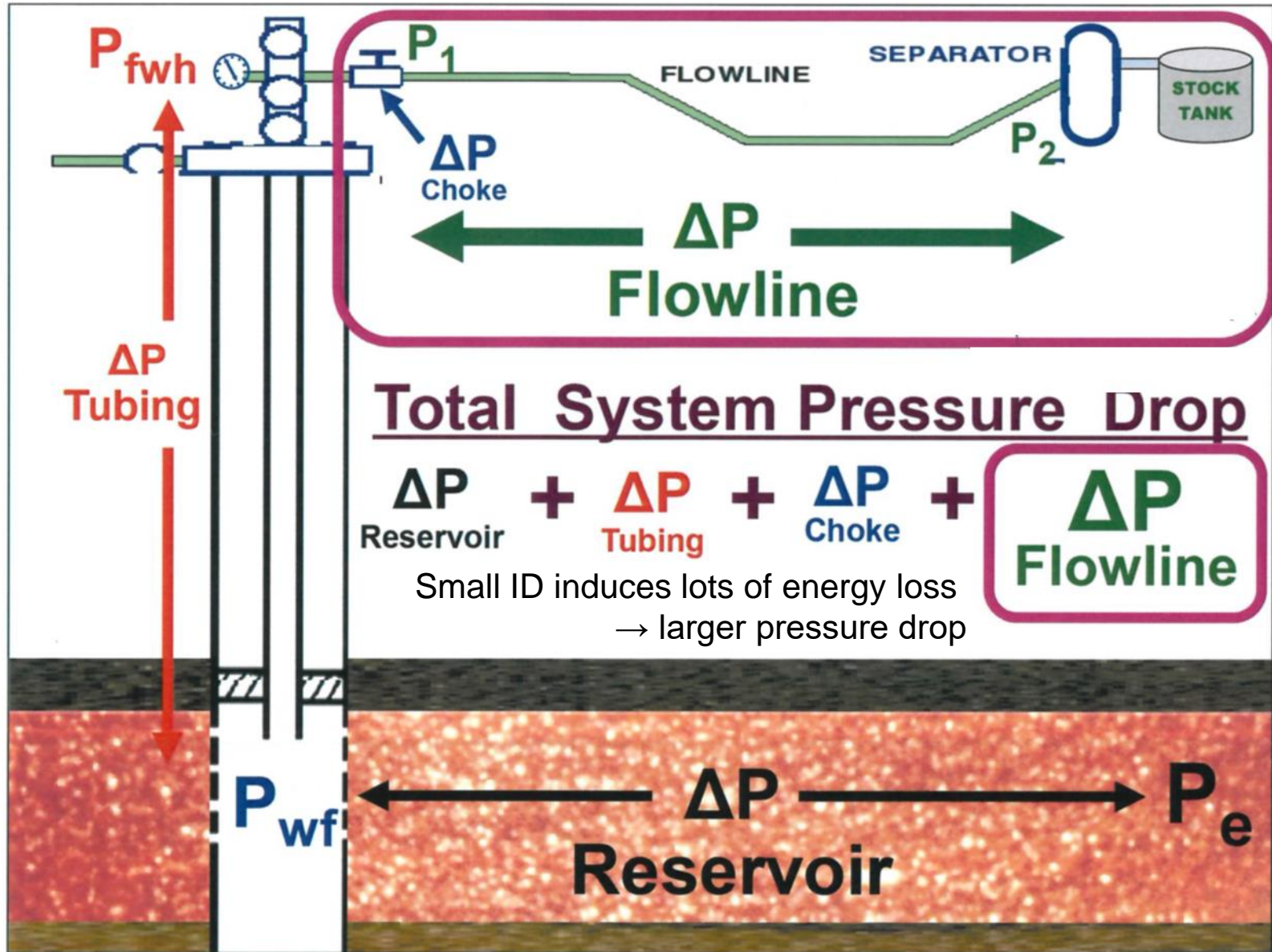


Image courtesy of FMC Technologies

# Flow Assurance

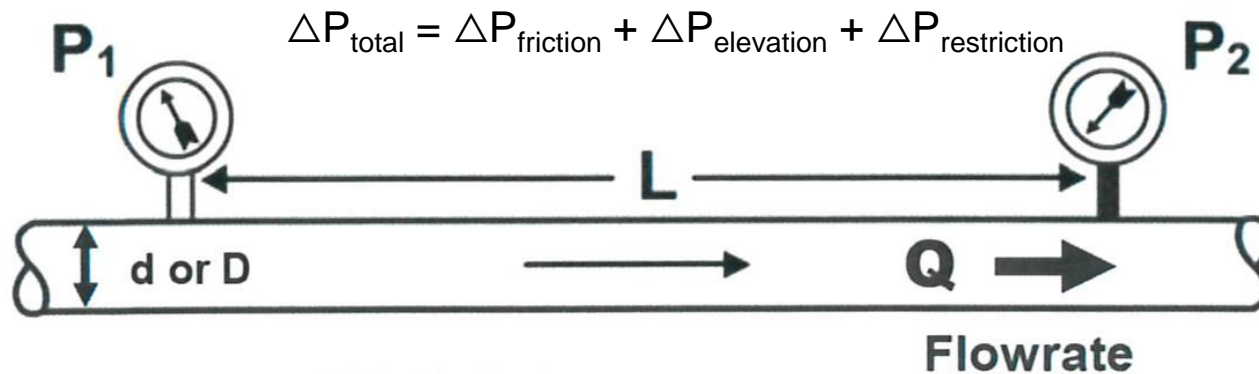
서유택

# 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

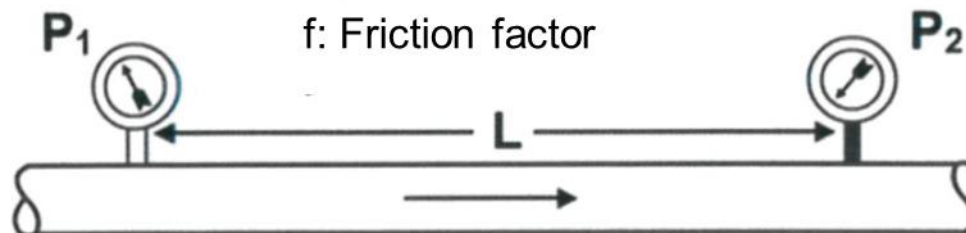
- Pressure drop expressed in feet of fluid head

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

- Pressure drop expressed in psi

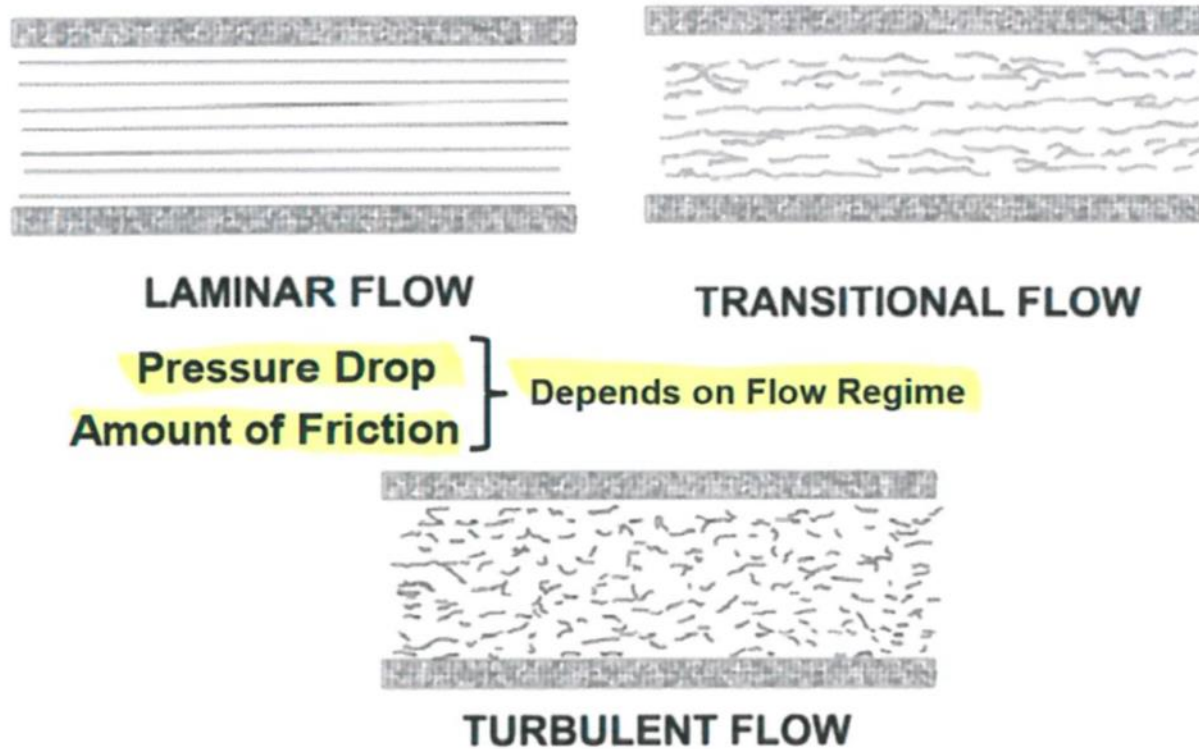
$$\Delta P = \frac{\rho f L v^2}{144 D 2g}$$

*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

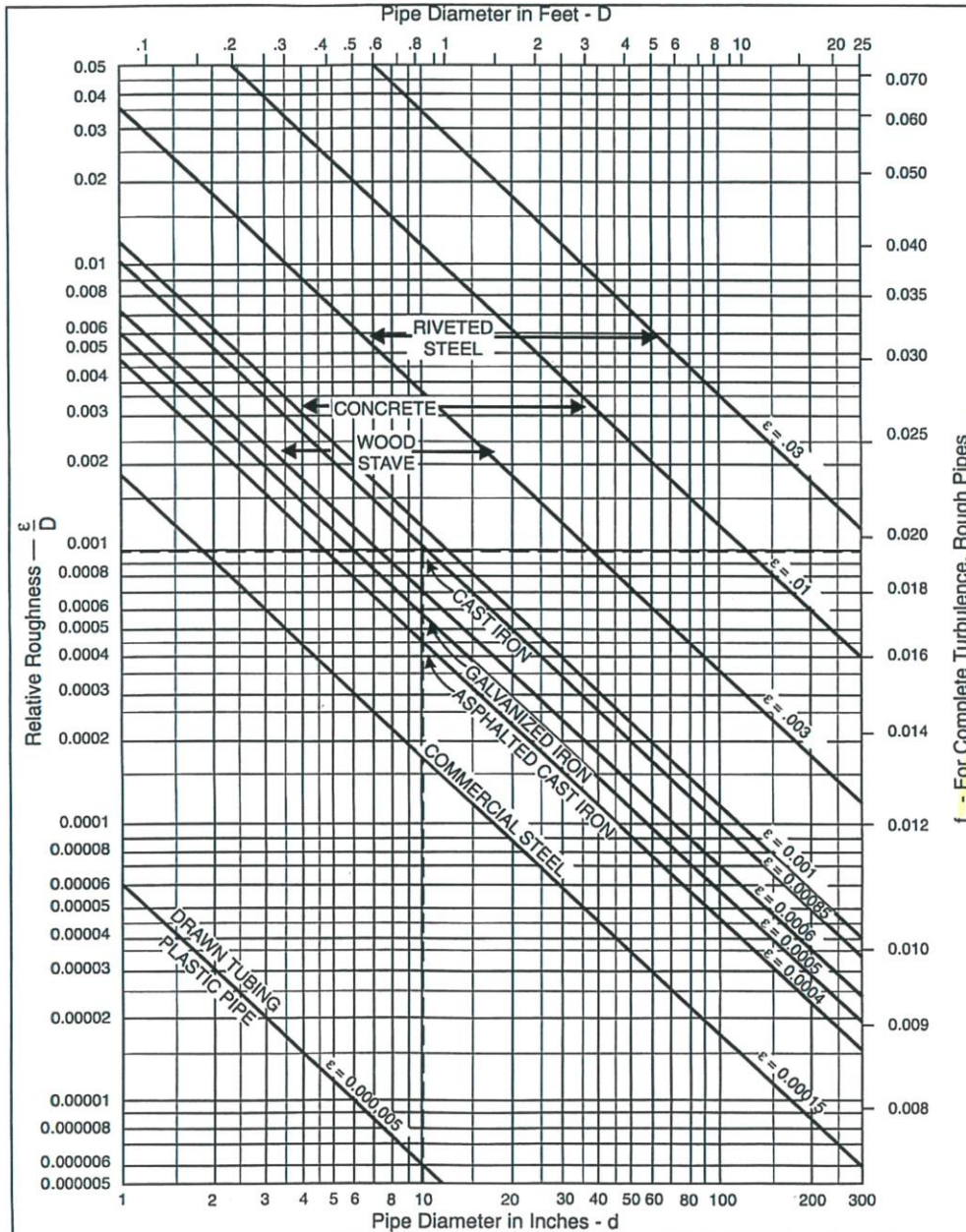
- $f$  = Dimensionless factor of proportionality

$f_m$  = 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:  $\epsilon / D$
- For complete turbulence
  - $f_m$  a function of  $\epsilon / D$  only

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

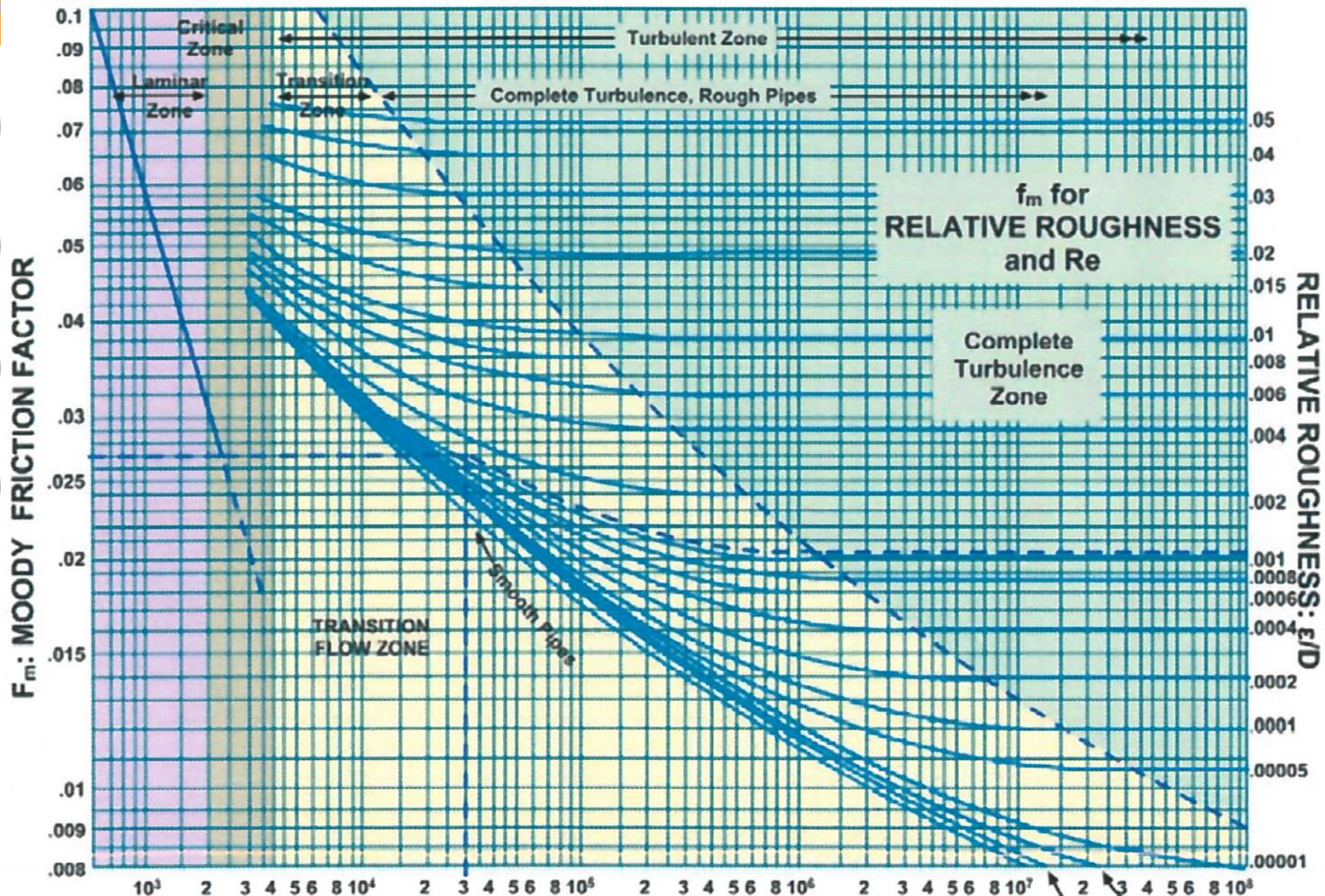


Gas Processors Suppliers Association

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

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





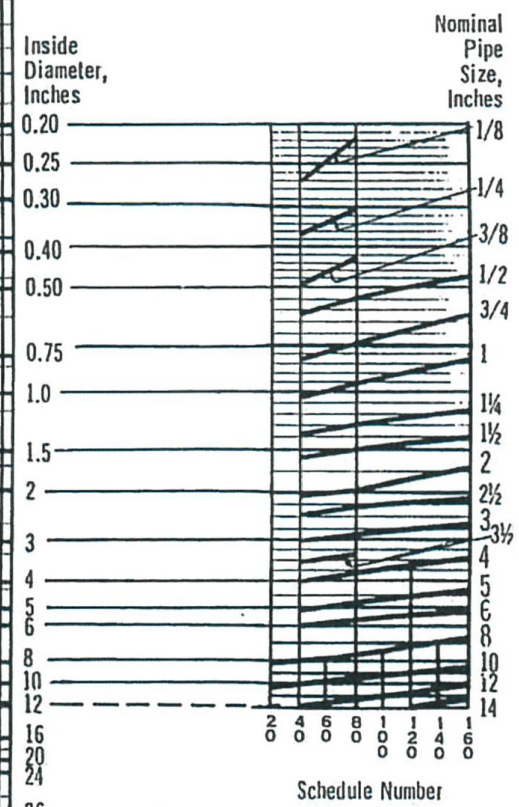
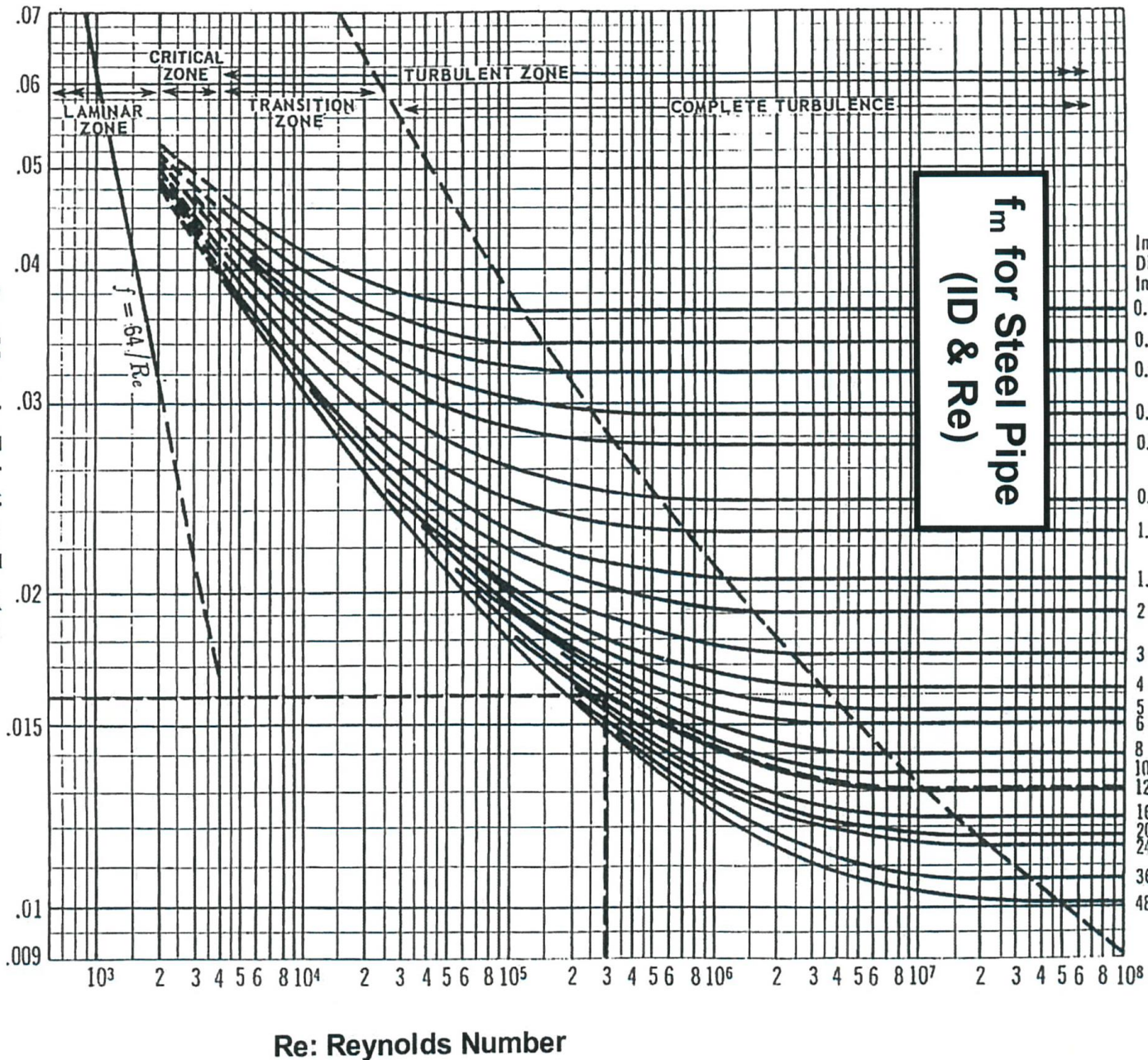
LIQUID:  $Re = 92.1 S_{GL} Q_{BLPD} / d\mu$   
 GAS:  $Re = 20,100 S_{Gg} Q_{MMCFD} / d\mu$

Re: REYNOLDS NUMBER

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



fm: Moody Friction Factor



# 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

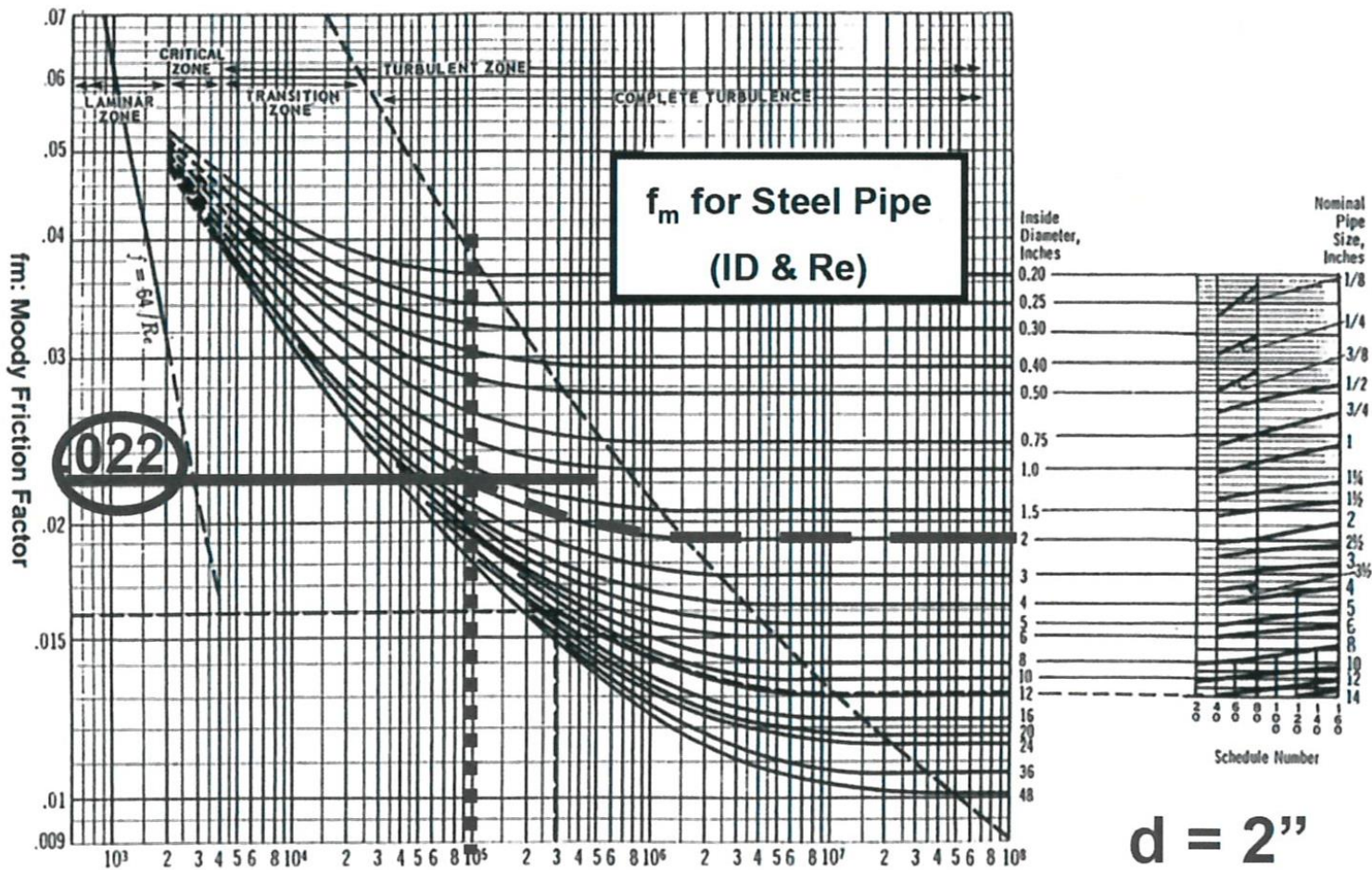
1. First calculate Reynold's number to determine flow regime

:

2. Use the equation for

3. Determine  $f_m$  using chart

$$\Delta P_{psi} =$$



Re: Reynolds Number

LIQUID:  $Re = 92.1 SG_L Q_{BLPD} / d \mu$

GAS:  $Re = 20,100 SG_g Q_{MCMCFD} / d \mu$

**d = 2"**

**Re: = 97,856**

# 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

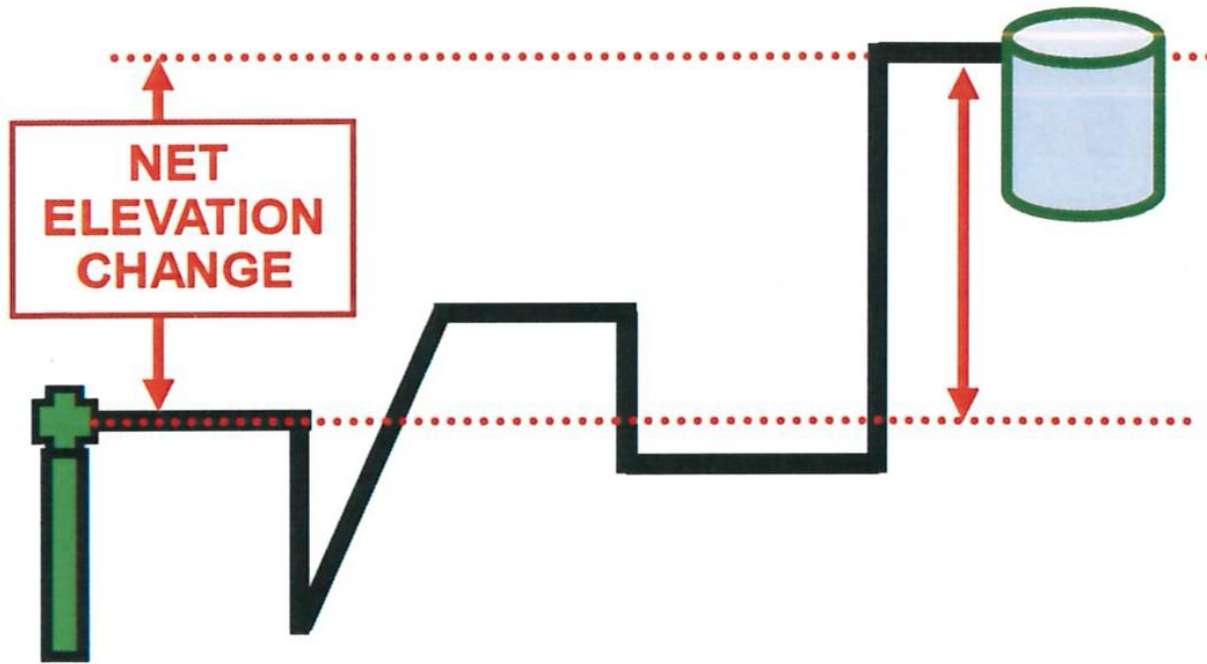
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Liquid: } \Delta P_{\text{psi}} = 11.5 \times 10^{-6} f_m L Q_{\text{BLPD}}^2 S G_L / d^5 \\ \text{Gas: } (P_1)^2 - (P_2)^2 = 25.1 f_m L Q_{\text{MMSCFD}}^2 S G_g Z T / d^5 \end{array} \right.$$

# Pipeline installation





# What if pipeline is not horizontal?





# Pressure drop due to Elevation

- Liquid:  $\Delta P$  due to Elevation

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

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

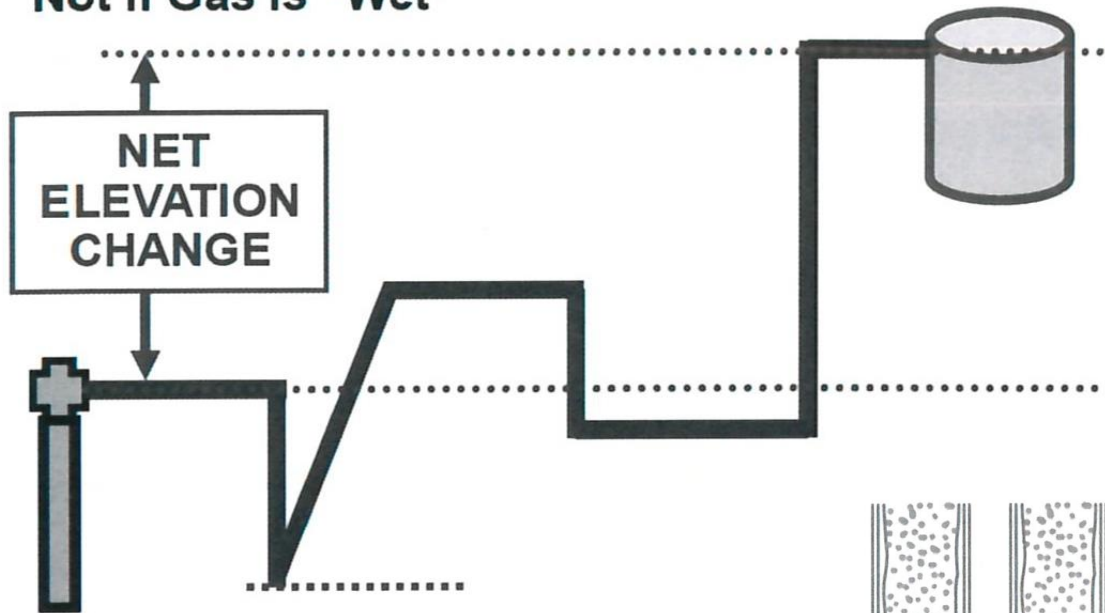
- Gas:  $\Delta P$  due to Elevation

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

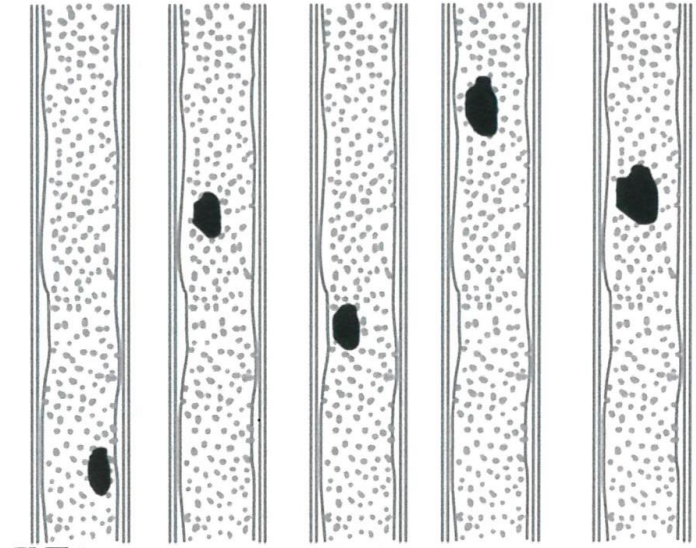
$$\Delta P_{E(psi)} = 0.188 \frac{SG_G P_{psi}}{T_{oR} Z H_E(ft)}$$

# Not always true for gas flow

- Not if Gas is “Wet”

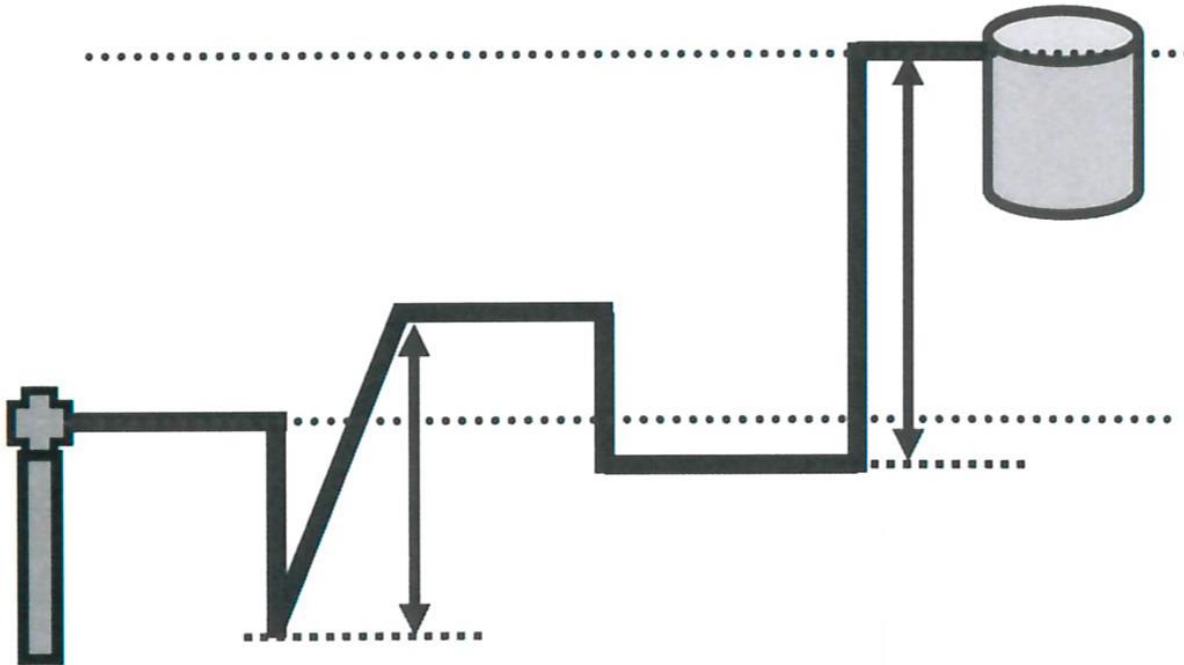


- Big liquid droplets for annular flow



# 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

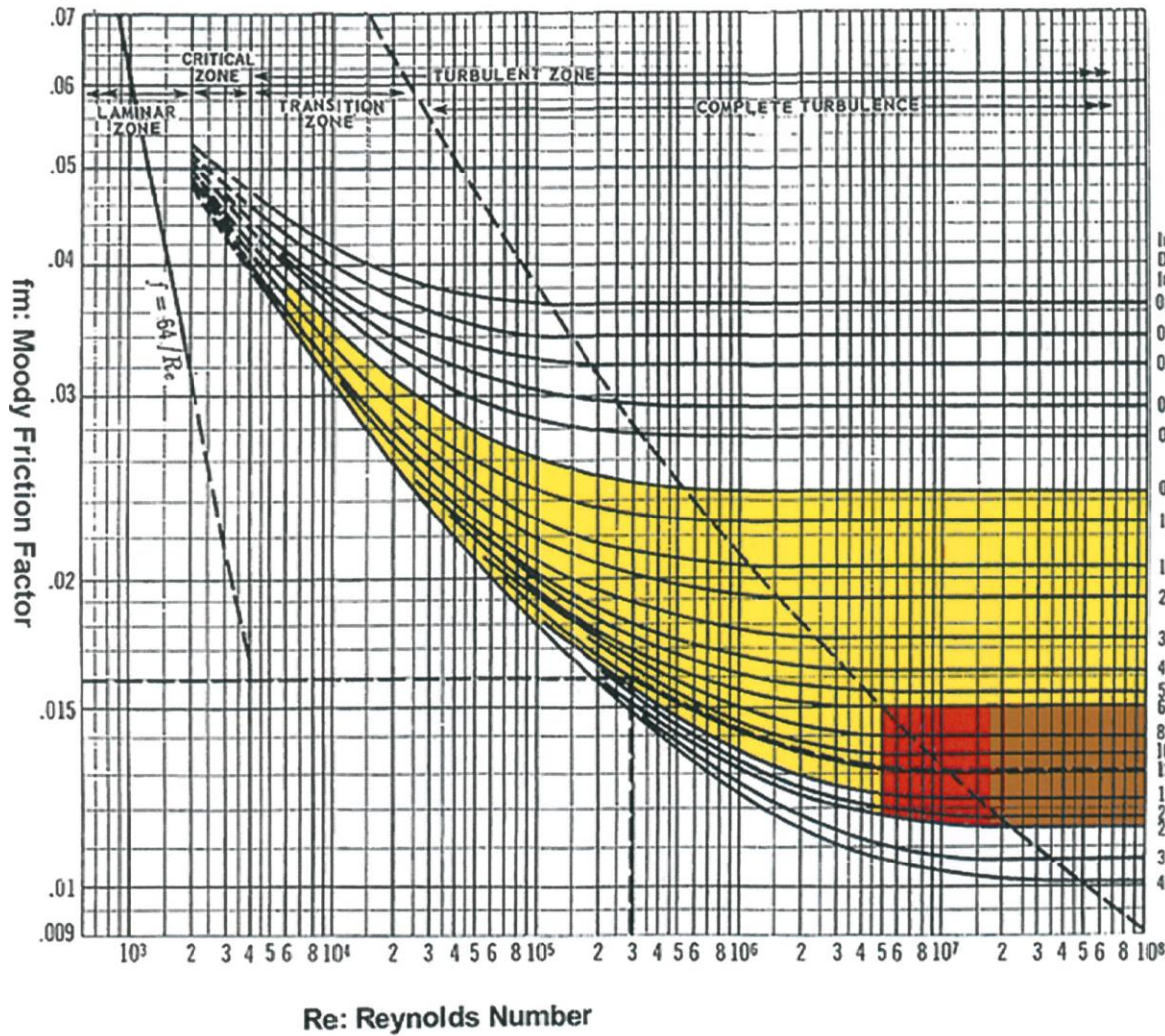
= 0.95 for good condition

= 0.92 for average condition

= 0.85 for old pipe

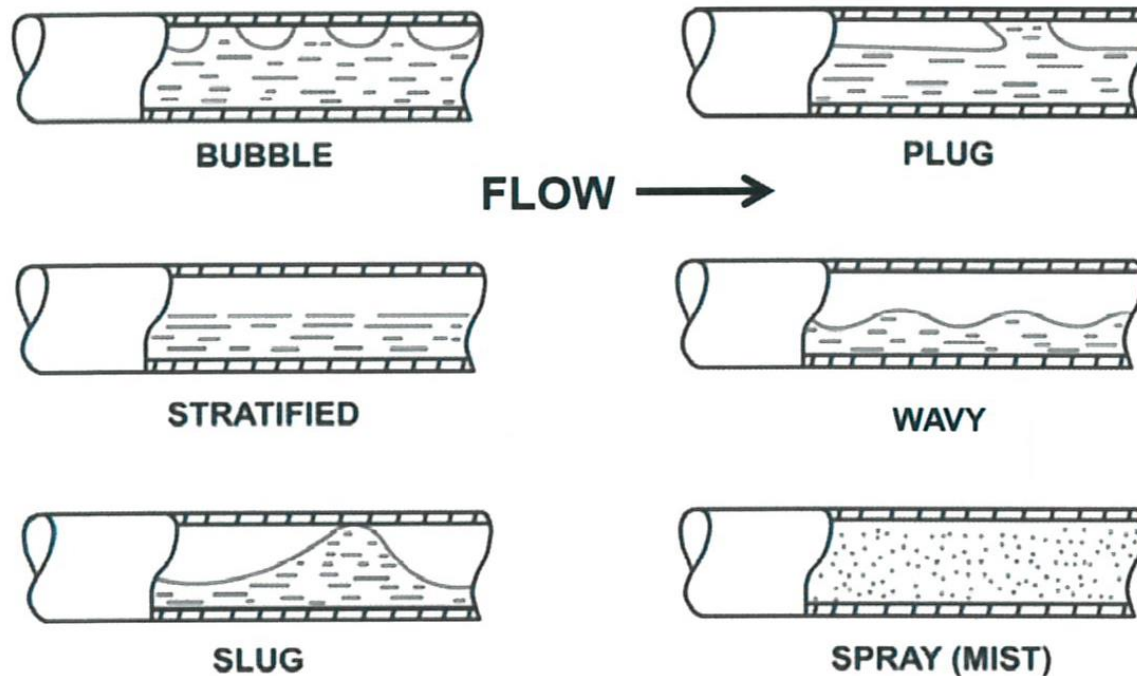
= 0.75 for corroded pipe



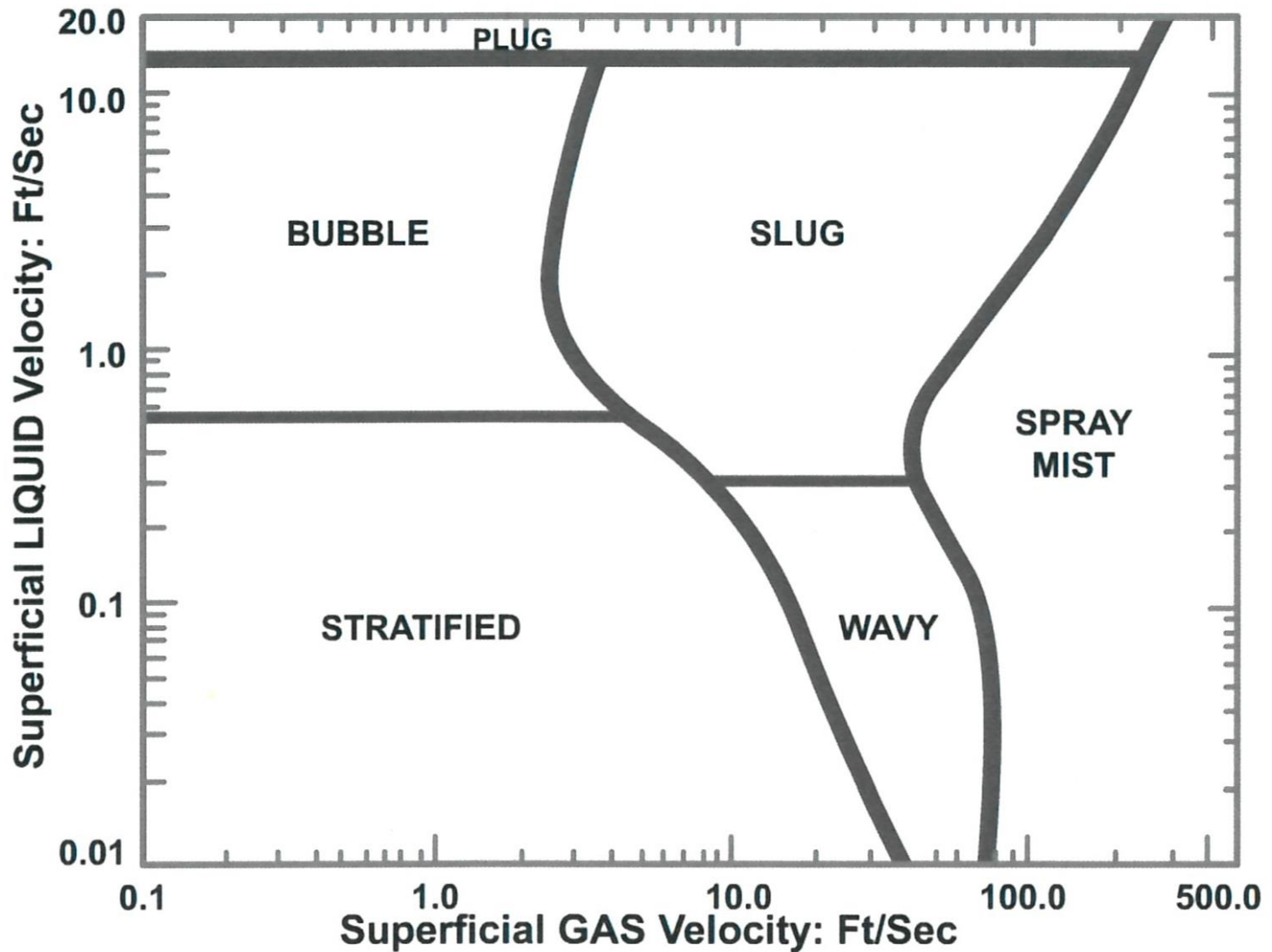


# Pressure drop in pipe: Two phase flow

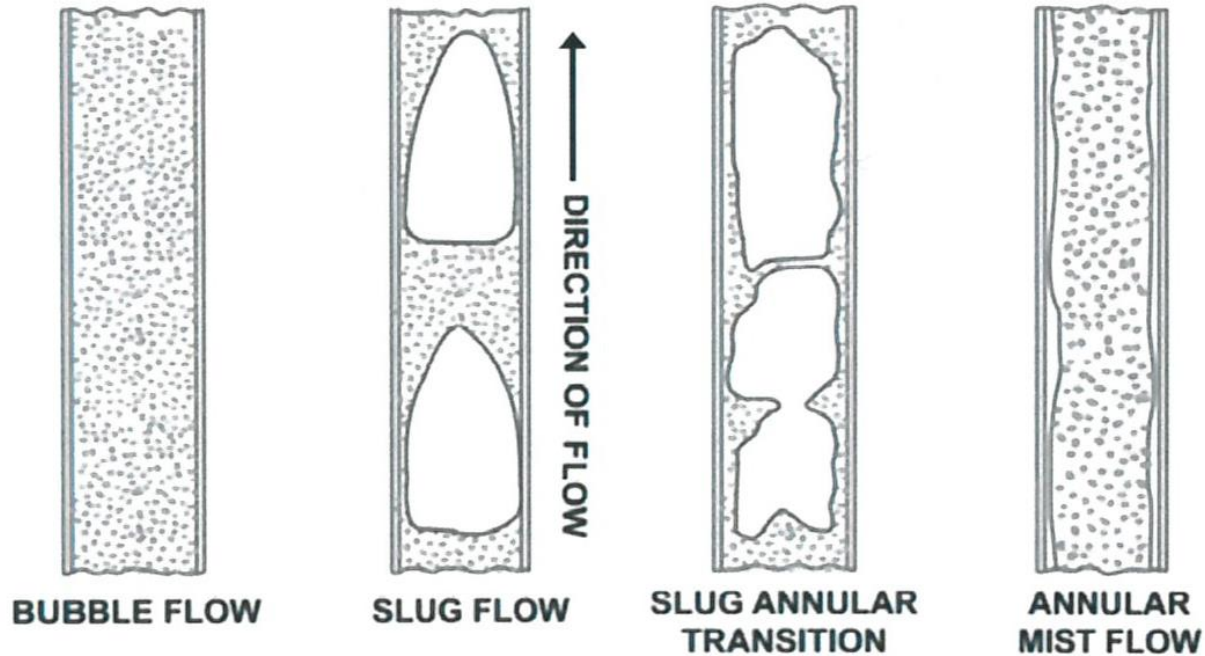
- With liquid and gas both flowing
  - Two phase flow
  - Three phase flow
- Horizontal flow patterns
  - Noise produced with bubbles
  - Using superficial velocities for gas and liquid



# Two-phase horizontal flow regime

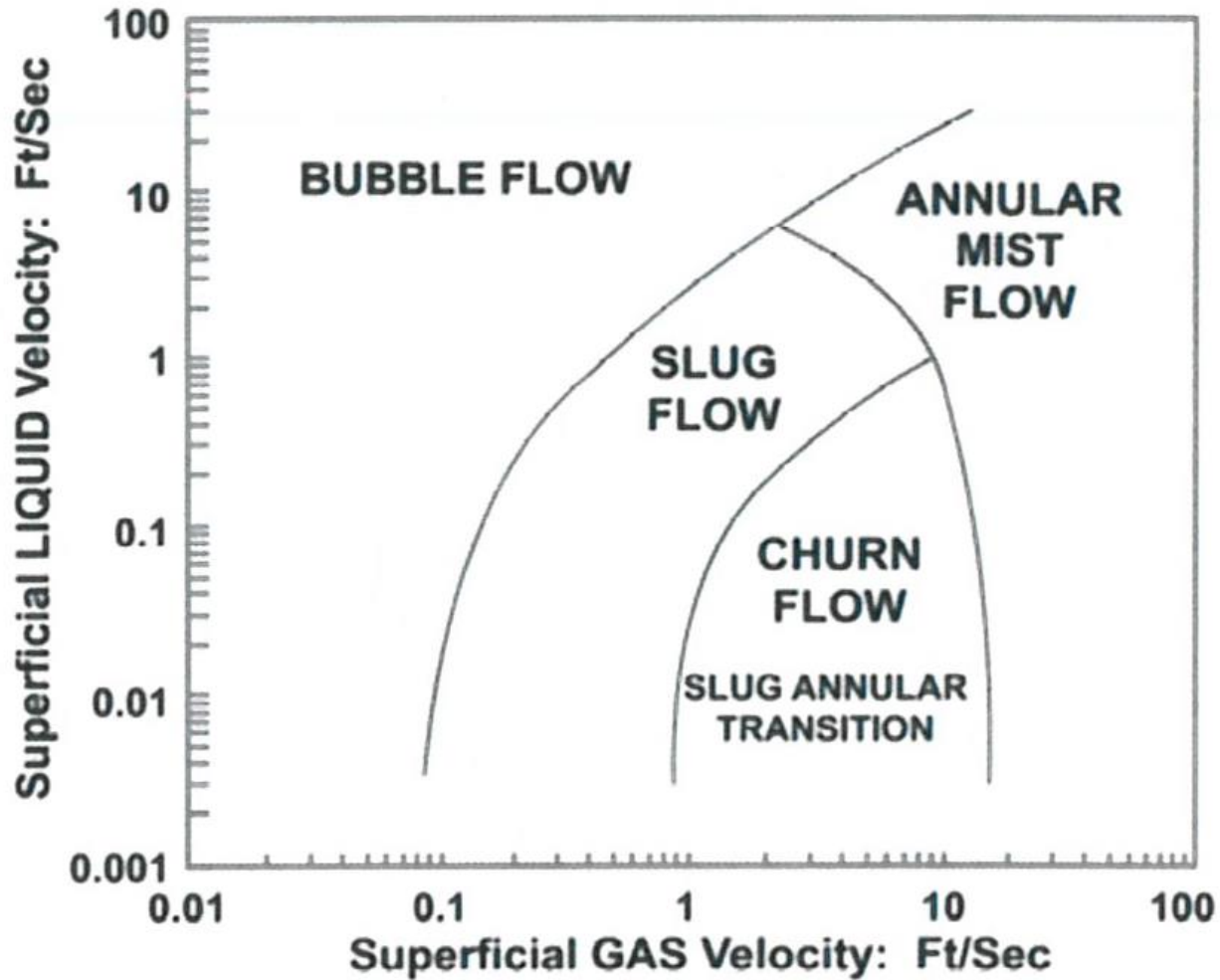


# Vertical two-phase flow regimes





# 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

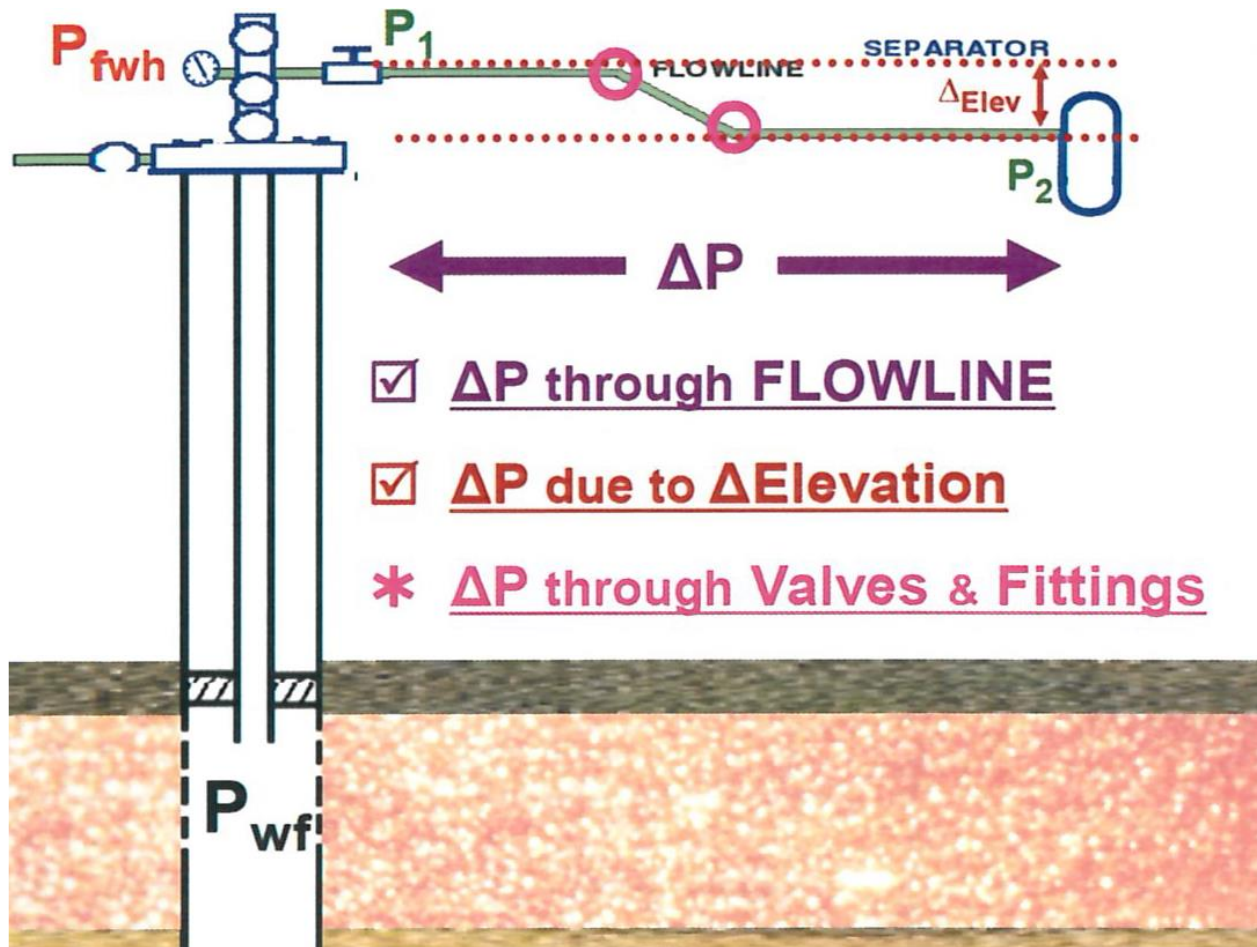
- Frictional  $\Delta P$ : Dukler, A.E., Moyer Wicks, III, and R.G. Cleveland. "Frictional Pressure Drop in Two-Phase Flow: B. An Approach through Similarity Analysis" AIChE Journal, Vol 10, No. 1, January 1964, pp. 44-51.
- Elevation  $\Delta P$ : Flanigan, Orin. "Effect of Uphill Flow on Pressure Drop 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



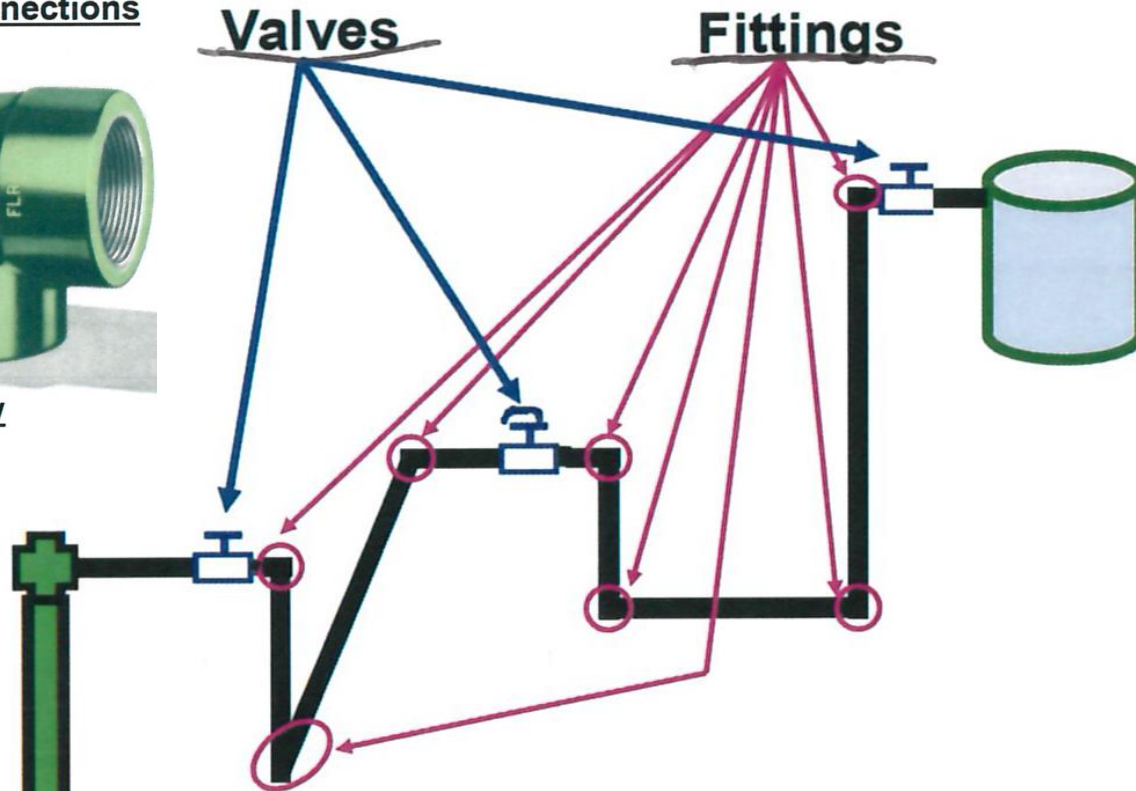
# Pressure drop through valves and fittings

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

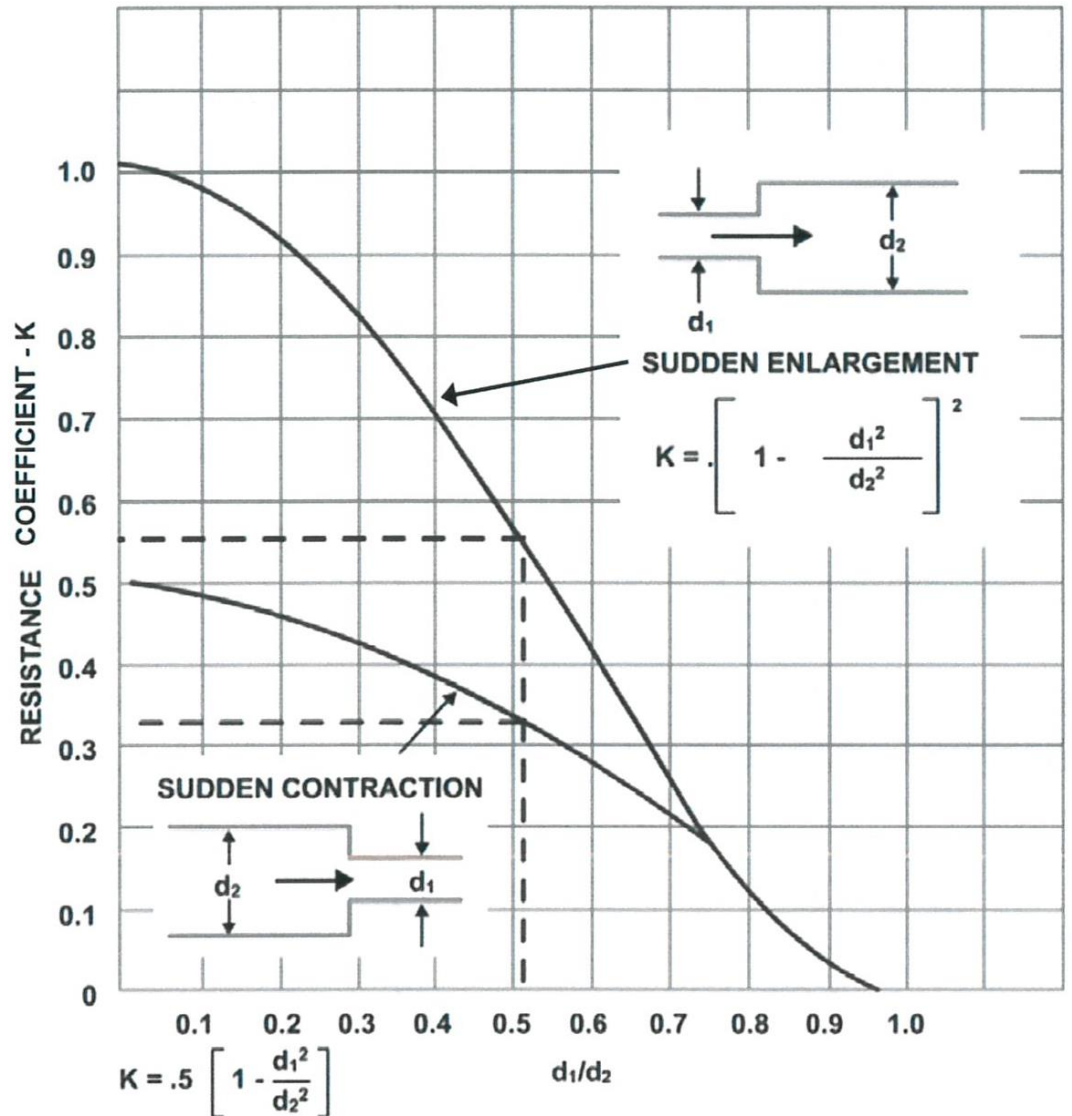
$$\Delta P_{psi} = 0.958 \times 10^{-6} \frac{K_r Q_{BPD}^2 S G_L}{d^4}$$

- 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.

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

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

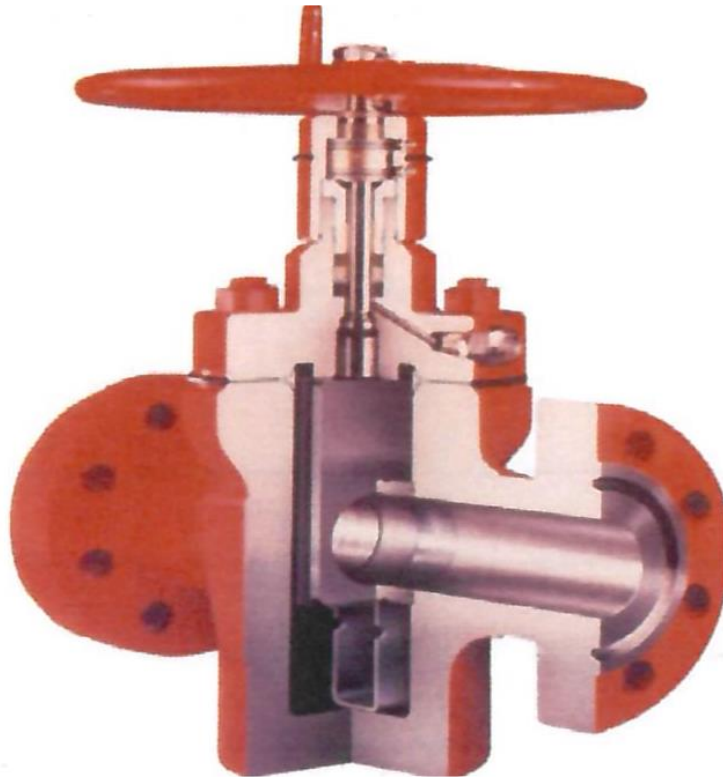
# L<sub>E</sub>: Equivalent Length of Valves and Fittings, in Feet

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>

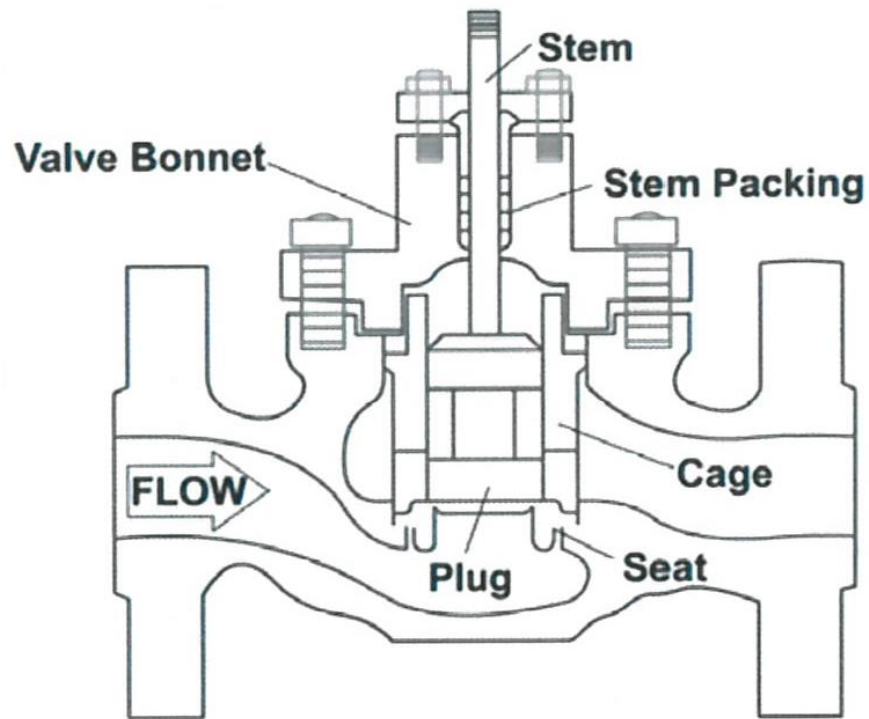
# Gate valve



- Full Opening Throughput

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

# Globe valve



- **Reduced Opening Throughput**

- **Larger  $\Delta P$**

- **Larger  $L_E$**



**Thank you**