

PIPELINE RULES of THUMB HANDBOOK

**Quick and accurate solutions to your
everyday pipeline problems**

E.W. McAllister, Editor



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Contents

1. General Information	1
Basic Formulas	2
Mathematics – Areas	3
Mathematics – Surfaces and Volumes	4
<i>Cables and Ropes</i>	5
Estimating Strength of Cable	5
Find the Working Strength of Manila Rope	5
How Large Should Drums and Sheaves Be for Various Types of Wire Rope?	5
Find Advantages of Block and Tackle, Taking into Account Pull Out Friction	6
Safe Loads for Wire Rope	6
Stress in Guy Wires	7
Strength and Weight of Popular Wire Rope	9
Measuring the Diameter of Wire Rope	9
Wire Rope: Field Troubles and Their Causes	9
Capacity of Drums	11
<i>Belts and Shafts</i>	11
Determine Length of a V-belt	11
Calculate Stress in Shaft Key	12
Calculate V-belt Length Using Simple Equation	12
Estimate the Horsepower That Can Be Transmitted by a Shaft	13
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	13
How to Estimate Length of Material Contained in Roll	13
Convenient Antifreeze Chart for Winterizing Cooling Systems	13
How to Determine Glycol Requirements to Bring a System to a Desired Temperature Protection Level	14
Weight in Pounds of Round Steel Shafting	14
Properties of Shafting	15
Tap Drills and Clearance Drills for Machine Screws	16
Common Nails	17
Drill Sizes for Pipe Taps	17

Carbon Steel – Color and Approximate Temperature	17
Bolting Dimensions for Raised Face Weld Neck Flanges	18
Steel Fitting Dimensions	19
ANSI Forged Steel Flanges	20
Trench Shoring-minimum Requirements	21
Reuniting Separated Mercury in Thermometers	22
Typical Wire Resistance	22
How to Cut Odd-angle Long Radius Elbows	23
How to Read Land Descriptions	24
Dimensions of Hex Nuts and Hex Jam Nuts	26
Color Codes for Locating Underground Utilities	27
Approximate Angle of Repose for Sloping Sides of Excavations	27
Size an Air Receiver for Engine Starting	28
Wind Chill Chart	29
<i>Pipeline Pigging</i>	30
Sizing Plates	30
Caliper Pigging	30
Cleaning After Construction	30
Flooding for Hydrotest	31
Dewatering and Drying	31
Estimate Volume of Onshore Oil Spill	31
Estimating Spill Volume on Water	33
Fluid Power Formulas	34
2. Construction	35
<i>Project Scoping Data</i>	36
Project Scoping Data Worksheet for Major Facilities	36
<i>Right-of-way</i>	38
How to Determine the Crop Acreage Included in a Right-of-way Strip	38
Clearing and Grading Right-of-way: Labor/Equipment Considerations	39
Estimating Manhours for Removing Trees	39
Estimating Manhours for Removing Tree Stumps	40
Clearing and Grading Right-of-way	40
<i>Ditching</i>	41
How Many Cubic Yards of Excavation in a Mile of Ditch?	41
Shrinkage and Expansion of Excavated and Compacted Soil	41
Ditching and Trenching: Labor/Equipment Considerations	41

<i>Concrete Work</i>	42
How to Approximate Sacks of Cement Needed to Fill a Form	42
What You Should Know About Mixing and Finishing Concrete	42
<i>Pipe Laying</i>	43
How to Determine the Degrees of Bend in a Pipe That Must Fit a Ditch Calling for a Bend in Both Horizontal and Vertical Planes	43
How to Bend Pipe to Fit Ditch – Sags, Overbends, and Combination Bends	43
Pipe Bending Computations Made with Hand-held Calculator	44
Calculate Maximum Bend on Cold Pipe	48
Determine Length of a Pipe Bend	49
Length of Pipe in Arc Subtended by Any Angle	49
Average Pipelay Table – Underground	50
Average Pipelay Table – on Supports	51
Allowable Pipe Span between Supports	51
How Engineers Make Pipe Fit the Ditch	52
<i>Pipe Lowering</i>	55
How to Lower an Existing Pipeline That Is Still in Service	55
<i>Welding</i>	58
When Should Steel Be Preheated before Welding?	58
Welding and Brazing Temperatures	59
Mechanical Properties of Pipe Welding Rods	59
Lens Shade Selector	60
<i>Pipeline Welding</i>	60
How Many Welds Will the Average Welder Make per Hour?	69
How Much Welding Rod Is Required for a Mile of Schedule 40 Pipeline?	69
How Many Pounds of Electrodes Are Required per Weld on Line Pipe?	69
Welding Criteria Permit Safe and Effective Pipeline Repair	70
Cross Country Pipeline – Vertical Down Electrode Consumption, Pounds of Electrode per Joint	76
Guidelines for a Successful Directional Crossing Bid Package	77
 3. Pipe Design	 85
Steel Pipe Design	86
Properties of Pipe	91
Length of Pipe in Bends	93
Calculation of Pipe Bends	94
Spacing of Pipe Supports	96
American Standard Taper Pipe Threads (NPT)	98

British Standard Taper Pipe Threads	99
Normal Engagement between Male and Female Threads to Make Tight Joints	100
Hand-held Computer Calculates Pipe Weight, Contents, Velocity	100
Formulas and Constants of Value in Solving Problems Relating to Tubular Goods	103
How to Calculate the Contraction or Expansion of a Pipeline	104
Estimate Weight of Pipe in Metric Tons per Kilometer	104
How to Find Pipe Weight from Outside Diameter and Wall Thickness	105
What Is the Maximum Allowable Length of Unsupported Line Pipe?	105
Identify the Schedule Number of Pipe by Direct Measurement	105
Determine Buoyancy of Bare Steel Pipe	106
Determine Buoyancy of Bare and Concrete-coated Steel Pipe in Water and Mud	106
Weights of Piping Materials	107
Allowable Working Pressure for Carbon Steel Pipe	107
Find the Stress in Pipe Wall Due to Internal Pressure	108
How to Calculate Stress in Aboveground/Belowground Transitions	109
How to Identify the Series Number of Flanged Fittings	112
Dimensions of Three-diameter Ells with Tangents	112
Spectacle Blind Thicknesses	112
Polypipe Design Data	113
4. Electrical Design	117
Electrical Design	118
Hazardous Locations	119
NEMA Enclosure Types	120
Size Portable Electric Generators	121
Typical Wattages for Tools and Appliances	122
Knockout Dimensions	122
National Electrical Code Tables	123
Electrical Formulas	127
Full Load Currents – Single Phase Transformers	127
Conduit Size for Combinations of Cables with Different Outside Diameters	128
Minimum Bending Radius for Insulated Cables for Permanent Training during Installation	128
Full Load Currents – Three Phase Transformers	130
Motor Controller Sizes	130
Voltage Drop on Circuits Using 600 V Copper Conductors in Steel Conduit	131
Determine the Most Economical Size for Electric Power Conductors	131
How to Find the Resistance and Weight of Copper Wires	132

What You Should Remember about Electrical Formulas	132
How to Calculate Microwave Hops on Level Ground	132
For Quick Determination of the Horsepower per Ampere for Induction Motors (3 Phase) at Different Voltages	133
Chart of Electric Motor Horsepower for Pumping Units	133
Pumping Stations	134
<i>Floodlighting Concepts</i>	135
Terms	135
Floodlighting Calculations	135
Point-by-point Method	135
Beam-lumen Method	136
Design Procedure	136
Conductor Size Conversion Chart – Metric to AWG	137
5. Hydrostatic Testing	139
<i>The Benefits and Limitations of Hydrostatic Testing</i>	140
Hydrostatic Testing for Pipelines	151
<i>Appendix A</i>	157
Volume of Water Required to Fill Test Section	157
Volume Required at Test Pressure	158
<i>Appendix B</i>	159
How to Use Charts for Estimating the Amount of Pressure Change for a Change in Test Water Temperature	159
Basis for Chart Development	162
Compressibility Factor for Water	162
Hydrostatic Test Records	162
6. Pipeline Drying	163
<i>Pipeline Dewatering, Cleaning, and Drying</i>	164
Dewatering	164
Cleaning Pipelines	165
Brush Pig Run with Gas	165
Brush Pig Run with Liquid	165
Internal Sand Blasting	165
Chemical Cleaning	166
Pipeline Drying	166
Moisture Content of Air	168

Commissioning Petrochemical Pipelines	170
Vacuum Drying	173
7. Control Valves	177
Control Valve Sizing Formulas	178
Sizing Control Valves for Throughput	182
Control Valve Selection	187
<i>Relief Valve Sizing, Selection, Installation, and Testing</i>	189
Rupture Disc Sizing	193
Rupture Disc Sizing Using the Resistance to Flow Method (K_R)	194
Variable Orifice Rotary Control Valves	196
<i>Sizing Valves for Gas and Vapor</i>	198
Basic Valve Flow-capacity Coefficient (C_V)	198
8. Corrosion/Coatings	203
Hand-held Computer Determines Concrete Coating Thickness	204
National Association of Pipe Coating Applications (NAPCA) Specifications	206
How Much Primer for a Mile of Pipe?	209
How Much Coal-tar Enamel for a Mile of Pipe?	210
How Much Wrapping for a Mile of Pipe?	210
Estimating Coating and Wrapping Materials Required per Mile of Pipe	210
Coefficient of Friction for Pipe Coating Materials	211
Troubleshooting Cathodic Protection Systems: Magnesium Anode System	213
Cathodic Protection for Pipelines	214
Estimate the Pounds of Sacrificial Anode Material Required for Offshore Pipelines	222
Comparison of Other Reference Electrode Potentials with That of Copper-copper Sulfate Reference Electrode at 25°C	224
Chart Aids in Calculating Ground Bed Resistance and Rectifier Power Cost	225
How Can Output of Magnesium Anodes Be Predicted?	226
How to Determine the Efficiency of a Cathodic Protection Rectifier	226
How to Calculate the Voltage Drop in Ground Bed Cable Quickly	227
What Is the Most Economical Size for a Rectifier Cable?	227
How to Estimate the Number of Magnesium Anodes Required and Their Spacing for a Bare Line or for a Corrosion "Hot Spot"	228
How Can Resistivity of Fresh Water Be Determined from Chemical Analysis?	228
What Will Be the Resistance to Earth of a Single Graphite Anode?	229
How to Estimate the Monthly Power Bill for a Cathodic Protection Rectifier	229

What Will Be the Resistance to Earth of a Group of Graphite Anodes, in Terms of the Resistance of a Single Anode?	229
How Can the Current Output of Magnesium Rod Used for the Cathodic Protection of Heat Exchanger Shells Be Predicted?	229
What Spacing for Test Leads to Measure Current on a Pipeline?	229
How Many Magnesium Anodes Are Needed for Supplementary Protection to a Short-circuited Bare Casing?	230
Group Installation of Sacrificial Anodes	230
How Can the Life of Magnesium Anodes Be Predicted?	231
How to Find the Voltage Rating of a Rectifier if It Is to Deliver a Given Amount of Current through a Given Ground Bed (Graphite or Carbon)	231
Determining Current Requirements for Coated Lines	231
Determining Current Requirements for Coated Lines When Pipe-to-soil Potential Values Are Estimated	231
HVDC Effects on Pipelines	232
Troubleshooting Cathodic Protection Systems: Rectifier-ground Bed	236
How to Control Corrosion at Compressor Stations	237
Project Leak Growth	238
<i>Advances in Pipeline Protection</i>	239
Methods of Locating Coating Defects	240
Case Histories	243
Estimate the Number of Squares of Tape for Pipe Coating (Machine Applied)	244
Estimate the Amount of Primer Required for Tape	245
Tape Requirements for Fittings	245
<i>Induced AC Voltages on Pipelines May Present a Serious Hazard</i>	246
<i>Measuring Unwanted Alternating Current in Pipe</i>	248
Minimizing Shock Hazards on Pipelines near HVAC Lines	253
Cathodic Protection Test Point Installations	254
9. Gas – General	257
Know the Gas Laws	258
Calculate Gas Properties from a Gas Analysis	260
Physical Properties of Selected Hydrocarbons and Other Chemicals and Gases	264
Nomograph for Calculating Density and Specific Volume of Gases and Vapors	272
<i>Considerations for Selecting Energy Measurement Equipment</i>	273
Facts about Methane and Its Behavior	279
Conversion Table for Pure Methane	283

Categories of Natural Gas and Reserves Terminology	284
Glossary of Common Gas Industry Terms	285
10. Gas – Compression	289
Compressors	290
Performance Calculations for Reciprocating Compressors	291
Estimate Suction and Discharge Volume Bottle Sizes for Pulsation Control for Reciprocating Compressors	293
Compression Horsepower Determination	295
Generalized Compressibility Factor	297
Nomograph Aids in Diagnosing Compressor Cylinder Ills	298
<i>Centrifugal Compressor Data</i>	299
Centrifugal Compressor Performance Calculations	299
Nomographs for Estimating Compressor Performance	303
Estimate hp Required to Compress Natural Gas	308
Estimate Compressor hp Where Discharge Pressure Is 1,000 psi	308
Calculate Brake Horsepower Required to Compress Gas	309
How to Find the Size of a Fuel Gas Line for a Compressor Station	309
Estimate Engine Cooling Water Requirements	310
Estimate Fuel Requirements for Internal Combustion Engines	310
Estimate Fuel Requirements for Compressor Installation	311
11. Gas – Hydraulics	313
Gas Pipeline Hydraulics Calculations	314
Equivalent Lengths for Multiple Lines Based on Panhandle A	315
Determine Pressure Loss for a Low-pressure Gas System	316
Nomograph for Determining Pipe-equivalent Factors	317
How Much Gas Is Contained in a Given Line Section?	318
How to Estimate Equivalent Length Factors for Gas Lines	318
Estimating Comparative Capacities of Gas Pipelines	319
Determination of Leakage from Gas Line Using Pressure Drop Method	319
A Quick Way to Determine the Size of Gas Gathering Lines	320
Energy Conversion Data for Estimating	320
How to Estimate Time Required to Get a Shut-in Test on Gas Transmission Lines and Approximate a Maximum Acceptable Pressure Loss for New Lines	321
How to Determine the Relationship of Capacity Increase to Investment Increase	321
Estimate Pipe Size Requirements for Increasing Throughput Volumes of Natural Gas	322

Calculate Line Loss Using Cross-sectional Areas Table When Testing Mains with Air or Gas	323
Flow of Fuel Gases in Pipelines	324
Calculate the Velocity of Gas in a Pipeline	325
Determining Throat Pressure in a Blow-down System	325
Estimate the Amount of Gas Blown Off through a Line Puncture	326
A Practical Way to Calculate Gas Flow for Pipelines	326
How to Calculate the Weight of Gas in a Pipeline	327
Estimate Average Pressure in Gas Pipeline Using Upstream and Downstream Pressures	327
Chart for Determining Viscosity of Natural Gas	328
Flow of Gas	328
Multiphase Flow	332
Nomograph for Calculating Reynolds Number for Compressible Flow Friction Factor for Clean Steel and Wrought Iron Pipe	337

12. Liquids – General	341
Determining the Viscosity of Crude	342
Chart Gives API Gravity of Blends Quickly	343
Liquid Gravity and Density Conversion Chart	344
Nomograph for Calculating Viscosities of Liquid Hydrocarbons at High Pressure	344
Calculate Viscosity of a Blend	346
Calculate Specific Gravity of a Blend	346
Convert Viscosity Units	346
Convert Specific Gravity to API Gravity	346
Calculate Bulk Modulus	348
Nomograph for Calculating Viscosity of Slurries	348
Nomograph for Calculating Velocity of Liquids in Pipes	350
Nomograph for Calculating Velocity of Compressible Fluids in Pipes	350
Nomograph for Calculating Velocity of Liquids in Pipes	351
Derivation of Basic Ultrasonic Flow Equations	353
How Fast Does Oil Move in a Pipeline?	355
Estimate the Volume of a Pipeline per Linear Foot Using the Inside Diameter	355
What Is The Linefill of a Given Pipe in Barrels per Mile?	355
Estimate Leakage Amount through Small Holes in a Pipeline	356
Table Gives Velocity Heads for Various Pipe Diameters and Different Rates of Discharge	357
Viscosities of Hydrocarbon Liquids	358

13. Liquids – Hydraulics	359
<i>Marine Hose Data</i>	360
CALM System	360
SALM System	360
Tandem System	361
Multi-point Mooring System	361
Pressure Loss in Hose String	363
Pressure Drop Calculations for Rubber Hose	365
Examples of Pressure Drop Calculations for Rubber Hose	365
Typical Formulas Used for Calculating Pressure Drop and Flow Rates for Pipelines	365
Hydraulic Gradients	367
Equivalent Lengths	370
Series Systems	371
Looped Systems	372
Calculate Pressure Loss in Annular Sections	373
Calculate Pressure and Temperature Loss for Viscous Crudes $\geq 1,000$ cP	373
Determine Batch Injection Rate as per Enclosure	376
<i>Pressure Loss through Valves and Fittings</i>	377
Nomograph for Calculating Reynolds Number for Flow of Liquids and Friction Factor for Clean Steel and Wrought Iron Pipe	383
Nomograph for Calculating Pressure Drop of Liquids in Lines for Turbulent Flow	385
Drag-reducing Agents	389
How to Estimate the Rate of Liquid Discharge from a Pipe	392
Predict Subsurface Temperature Ranges	392
Sizing Pipelines for Water Flow	393
How Approximate Throughput of a Line Can Be Estimated from Pipe Size	393
Gauge Liquid Flow Where No Weir or Meter Is Available	394
Estimate Crude Gathering Line Throughput for a Given Pipe Diameter	394
How to Determine Head Loss Due to Friction in Ordinary Iron Pipeline Carrying Clear Water	394
How to Size Lines, Estimate Pressure Drop, and Estimate Optimum Station Spacing for Crude Systems	395
Estimate the Optimum Working Pressures in Crude Oil Transmission Lines	395
How to Size Crude Oil and Products Lines for Capacity Increases	395
How to Determine the Maximum Surge Pressure in Liquid-filled Pipeline When a Valve Is Suddenly Closed	396
What Is the Hydrostatic Pressure Due to a Column of Liquid H Feet in Height?	396
Transient Pressure Analysis	396

Tank Farm Line Sizing;	406
Hydraulics Calculations for Multiphase Systems, Including Networks	409
14. Pumps	417
Centrifugal Pumps	418
Speed Torque Calculation	430
<i>Pulsation Control for Reciprocating Pumps</i>	<i>431</i>
Rotary Pumps on Pipeline Services	439
<i>Key Centrifugal Pump Parameters and How They Impact Your Applications – Part 1</i>	<i>444</i>
<i>Key Centrifugal Pump Parameters and How They Impact Your Applications – Part 2</i>	<i>450</i>
Estimate the Discharge of a Centrifugal Pump at Various Speeds	454
How to Estimate the Head for an Average Centrifugal Pump	455
Find the Reciprocating Pump Capacity	455
How to Estimate the hp Required to Pump at a Given Rate at a Desired Discharge Pressure	455
Nomograph for Determining Reciprocating Pump Capacity	456
Nomograph for Determining Specific Speed of Pumps	457
Nomograph for Determining Horsepower Requirement of Pumps	458
How to Select Motors for Field-gathering Pumps	458
Reciprocating Pumps	459
Understanding the Basics of Rotary Screw Pumps	468
15. Measurement	475
Multiphase Flow Meter	476
Pipeline Flow Measurement – the New Influences	477
Liquid Measurement Orifice Plate Flange Taps	480
Mass Measurement Light Hydrocarbons	484
Pipeline Measurement of Supercritical Carbon Dioxide	485
<i>Gas Measurement</i>	<i>491</i>
Master Meter Proving Orifice Meters in Dense Phase Ethylene	491
Gas or Vapor Flow Measurement – Orifice Plate Flange Taps	498
Properties of Gas and Vapors	502
Determine Required Orifice Diameter for Any Required Differential When the Present Orifice and Differential Are Known in Gas Measurement	507
Estimate the Temperature Drop across a Regulator	508
Estimate Natural Gas Flow Rates	508
How to Estimate the Average Pressure Differential on the Remaining Meter Runs of a Parallel System When One or More Runs Are Shut Off	509

Sizing a Gas Metering Run	509
List of Typical Specifications for Domestic and Commercial Natural Gas	509
Determine the Number of Purges for Sample Cylinders	510
Find the British Thermal Units (Btu) When the Specific Gravity of a Pipeline Gas Is Known	510
Estimate for Variations in Measurement Factors	510
Rules of Measurement of Gas by Orifice Meter	511
How to Measure High Pressure Gas	511
Four Ways to Calculate Orifice Flow in Field	515
Practical Maintenance Tips for Positive Displacement Meters	518
Sizing Headers for Meter Stations	522
16. Instrumentation	525
Types of Control Systems	526
<i>Developments in Pipeline Instrumentation</i>	<i>528</i>
Abstract	528
Introduction	529
Flow Measurements	529
Proving Devices	531
Valves	532
Acoustic Line Break Detectors	533
“Smart” Pressure Sensors	534
Densitometers	535
Pipeline Samplers	536
Pipeline Monitoring Systems	537
Computer Systems	538
SCADA Systems	540
Cathodic Protection	540
System Design Guidelines	540
Future Trends	541
Conclusion	541
<i>Choosing the Right Technology for Integrated SCADA Communications</i>	<i>542</i>
WAC Methodology	542
Analysis of Technology	543
C-band VSAT Advantages	544
C-band VSAT Disadvantages	544
Ku-band Advantages	544
Ku-band Disadvantages	544

VSAT Decisions	544
Implementation	545
17. Leak Detection	547
Pipeline Leak Detection Techniques	548
Summary	548
Introduction	548
Causes and Economic Aspects of Leaks	548
Simple Leak Detection Systems	549
Pig-based Monitoring Systems	550
Computer-based Monitoring Systems	550
Pipeline Leak Phenomena	551
Background Philosophy of Pipeline Modeling	551
Basic Pipeline Modeling Equations	552
Impact of Instrument Accuracy	553
System Design Aspects and Guidelines	554
Development of Pipeline Monitoring Systems	555
Conclusion	556
18. Tanks	557
Charts Give Vapor Loss from Internal Floating-roof Tanks	558
Estimating the Contents of Horizontal Cylindrical Tanks	560
How to Gauge a Horizontal Cylindrical Tank	561
Use Nomograph to Find Tank Capacity	561
Correct the Volume of Light Fuels from Actual Temperature to a Base of 60°F	563
Volume of Liquid in Vertical Cylindrical Tanks	563
Chart Gives Tank's Vapor Formation Rate	563
Hand-held Calculator Program Simplifies Dike Computations	564
19. Maintenance	569
How to Plan for Oil Pipeline Spills (Part 1)	570
Regulatory Requirements	570
Contingency Plan Objectives	570
Related Studies	570
Planning Concepts	571
Contingency Response	572
How to Plan for Oil Pipeline Spills (Part 2)	573
Immediate Response	573

Immediate Response Actions	574
Flexible Response Actions	574
Training	575
Conclusion	576
20. Economics	577
Rule of Thumb Speeds Payroll Estimates	578
Rule of Thumb Estimates Optimum Time to Keep Construction Equipment	579
How to Estimate Construction Costs	581
Cost Estimating Strategies for Pipelines, Stations, and Terminals (Part 1)	584
Cost Estimating Strategies for Pipelines, Stations, and Terminals (Part 2)	587
Economics	592
<i>Time Value of Money: Concepts and Formulas</i>	<i>596</i>
Simple Interest versus Compound Interest	596
Nominal Interest Rate versus Effective Annual Interest Rate	597
Present Value of a Single Cash Flow to Be Received in the Future	597
Future Value of a Single Investment	598
The Importance of Cash Flow Diagrams	598
Analyzing and Valuing Investments/Projects with Multiple or Irregular Cash Flows	598
Perpetuities	599
Future Value of a Periodic Series of Investments	600
Annuities, Loans, and Leases	600
Gradients (Payouts/Payments with Constant Growth Rates)	601
Analyzing Complex Investments and Cash Flow Problems	602
<i>Decision and Evaluation Criteria for Investments and Financial Projects</i>	<i>603</i>
Payback Method	603
Accounting Rate of Return (ROR) Method	604
Internal Rate of Return (IRR) Method	605
Net Present Value (NPV) Method	606
<i>Sensitivity Analysis</i>	<i>607</i>
<i>Decision Tree Analysis of Investments and Financial Projects</i>	<i>608</i>
<i>Accounting Fundamentals</i>	<i>612</i>
Estimate the Cost of a Pipeline in the United States (Based on 1994 Data)	616
How to Compare the Cost of Operating an Engine on Diesel and Natural Gas	617
How to Estimate Energy Costs for Different Pipeline Throughputs	617
Comparing Fuel Costs For Diesel and Electric Prime Movers	618
Nomograph for Calculating Scale-up of Equipment or Plant Costs	618

Nomograph for Calculating Scale-up of Tank Costs	620
Nomograph for Determining Sum-of-years Depreciation	621
Nomograph for Estimating Interest Rate of Return on Investment ("Profitability Index")	621
Nomograph for Determining Break-even Point	623
Chart Gives Unit Cost per Brake Horsepower of Reciprocating Compressors with Various Types of Prime Movers	624
Chart Shows Influence on Unit Cost of Numbers of Reciprocating Compressor Units Installed in One Station	624
Chart Gives Unit Cost per Brake Horsepower of Centrifugal Compressors with Various Types of Prime Movers	625

21. Rehabilitation-risk Evaluation 627

When Does a Pipeline Need Revalidation? The Influence of Defect Growth Rates and Inspection Criteria on an Operator's Maintenance Program	628
Modeling for Pipeline Risk Assessment	637

22. Conversion Factors 645

Units of Measurement Convert from One System to Another	646
Viscosity – Equivalents of Absolute Viscosity	657
General Liquid Density Nomograph	658
Chart Gives Specific Gravity/Temperature Relationship for Petroleum Oils	660
Weight Density and Specific Gravity of Various Liquids	660
True Vapor Pressure of Crude Oil Stocks with a Reid Vapor Pressure of 2 To 15 psi	661
Low Temperature Vapor Pressure of Light Hydrocarbons	662
High Temperature Vapor Pressure of Light Hydrocarbons	663
Hydrocarbon Gas Viscosity	664
Metric Conversions – Metric to English, English to Metric	665
Temperature Conversion – Centigrade to Fahrenheit or Fahrenheit to Centigrade	666
Viscosity – Equivalents of Kinematic Viscosity	667
Viscosity – Equivalents of Kinematic and Saybolt Universal Viscosity	667
Viscosity – Equivalents of Kinematic and Saybolt Furol Viscosity at 122°F	668
Viscosity – General Conversions	669
A.S.T.M. Standard Viscosity Temperature Chart	670
Pressure Conversion Chart	671
A Simple Method to Determine Square Root	671
SI Data	672
Energy Conversion Chart	673

Flow Conversion Chart	673
Conversions Involving Different Types of Fuel	674
Conversion Factors for Calorific Values of Gases under Different Conditions of Measurement	676
Heat Value Conversions and Natural Gas Equivalents of Various Fuel Units	677
Conversion for Daily/Annual Rates of Energy Consumption (Gross Heat Basis)	678
Weight of Water per Cubic Foot at Various Temperatures	679
Engineering Constants	679
Mensuration Units	680
Minutes to Decimal Hours Conversion Table	681
How to Compare Costs of Gas and Alternate Fuels	681
Typical Characteristics of Fuel Oils	682
Index	683

1: General Information

Basic Formulas.....	2	Weight in pounds of round steel shafting.....	14
Mathematics—areas.....	3	Properties of shafting.....	15
Mathematics—surfaces and volumes.....	4	Tap drills and clearance drills for machine screws.....	16
Cables and Ropes.....	5	Common nails.....	17
Estimating strength of cable.....	5	Drill sizes for pipe taps.....	17
Find the working strength of Manila rope.....	5	Carbon steel—color and approximate temperature.....	17
How large should drums and sheaves be for various types of wire rope?.....	5	Bolting dimensions for raised face weld neck flanges.....	18
Find advantages of block and tackle, taking into account pull out friction.....	6	Steel fitting dimensions.....	19
Safe loads for wire rope.....	6	ANSI forged steel flanges.....	20
Stress in guy wires.....	7	Trench shoring—minimum requirements.....	21
Strength and weight of popular wire rope.....	9	Reuniting separated mercury in thermometers.....	22
Measuring the diameter of wire rope.....	9	Typical wire resistance.....	22
Wire rope: field troubles and their causes.....	9	How to cut odd-angle long radius elbows.....	23
Capacity of drums.....	11	How to read land descriptions.....	24
Belts and Shafts.....	11	Dimensions of hex nuts and hex jam nuts.....	26
Determine length of a V-belt.....	11	Color codes for locating underground utilities.....	27
Calculate stress in shaft key.....	12	Approximate angle of repose for sloping sides of excavations.....	27
Calculate V-belt length using simple equation.....	12	Size an air receiver for engine starting.....	28
Estimate the horsepower that can be transmitted by a shaft.....	13	Wind chill chart.....	29
Miscellaneous.....	13	Pipeline Pigging.....	30
How to estimate length of material contained in roll.....	13	Sizing plates.....	30
Convenient antifreeze chart for winterizing cooling systems.....	13	Caliper pigging.....	30
How to determine glycol requirements to bring a system to a desired temperature protection level.....	14	Cleaning after construction.....	30
		Flooding for hydrotest.....	31
		Dewatering and drying.....	31
		Estimate volume of onshore oil spill.....	31
		Estimating spill volume on water.....	33
		Fluid Power Formulas.....	34

Basic Formulas

1. Rate of Return Formulas:

$$S = P(1 + i)^n$$

a. Single payment compound amount, SPCA. The $(1 + i)^n$ factor is referred to as the compound amount of \$1.00.

b. Single payment present worth, SPPW:

$$P = S \left[\frac{1}{(1 + i)^n} \right]$$

The factor $[1/(1 + i)^n]$ is referred to as the present worth of \$1.00.

c. Uniform series compound amount, USCA:

$$S = R \left[\frac{(1 + i)^n - 1}{i} \right]$$

$$\text{The factor} = \left[\frac{(1 + i)^n - 1}{i} \right]$$

is referred to as the compound amount of \$1.00 per period.

d. Sinking fund deposit, SFD:

$$R = S \left[\frac{i}{(1 + i)^n - 1} \right]$$

$$\text{The factor} = \left[\frac{i}{(1 + i)^n - 1} \right]$$

is referred to as the uniform series, which amounts to \$1.00.

e. Capital recovery, CR:

$$R = S \left[\frac{i}{(1 + i)^n - 1} \right] = P \left[\frac{i(1 + i)^n}{(1 + i)^n - 1} \right]$$

$$\text{The factor} = \left[\frac{i(1 + i)^n}{(1 + i)^n - 1} \right]$$

is referred to as the uniform series that \$1.00 will purchase.

f. Uniform series present worth, USPW:

$$P = R \left[\frac{(1 + i)^n - 1}{i(1 + i)^n} \right]$$

The factor $[(1 + i)^n - 1]/i(1 + i)^n$ is referred to as the present worth of \$1.00 per period.

where:

P = a present sum of money

S = a sum of money at a specified future date

R = a uniform series of equal end-of-period payments

n = designates the number of interest periods

i = the interest rate earned at the end of each period

strata. Longer crossings (especially large-diameter pipelines) that indicate gravel, cobble, boulders, or rock should have samples taken about 600–800 ft apart unless significant anomalies are identified that might necessitate more borings. All borings should be located on the crossing profile along with their surface elevations being properly identified. If possible, the borings should be conducted at least 25 ft off of the proposed centerline. The bore holes should be grouted upon completion. This will help prevent the loss of drilling slurry during the crossing installation.

Depth of Borings—All borings should be made to a minimum depth of 40 ft below the lowest point in the crossing or 20 ft below the proposed depth of the crossing, whichever is greater. In some instances, it may be beneficial to the owner and the contractor to install the crossing at a greater depth than the owner requires for his permit. It is suggested that all borings be through the same elevation to better determine the consistency of the underlying material and note any patterns that may be present.

Standard Classification of Soils—A qualified technician or geologist should classify the material in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System and ASTM Designations D-2487 and D-2488. It is beneficial to have a copy of the field-drilling log completed by the field technician or driller. These logs include visual classifications of materials, as well as the driller's interpretation of the subsurface conditions between samples.

Standard Penetration Test (SPT)—In order to better define the density of granular materials, the geotechnical engineer generally uses the Standard Penetration Test (SPT) in general accordance with ASTM Specifications D-1586. This is a field test that involves driving a 2-in. split spoon sampler into the soil by dropping a hammer of a specific weight (usually 140-lb.) a specified distance (usually 30 in.) to determine the number of blows necessary to drive the sampler 12 in. In very dense soils, the field technician may note the number of blows required to drive the sampler less than the required 12 in. (i.e., 50 blows for 3 in.). The number obtained is the standard penetration resistance value (N) and is used to estimate the in situ relative density of cohesionless soils. Some geotechnical firms will conduct these penetration tests in cohesive materials and rock, and to a lesser extent, the consistency of cohesive soils and the hardness of rock can be determined.

Thinwalled “Shelby” Tube Sampling—Most geotechnical firms prefer to use a Thinwalled Tube Sampling method for obtaining samples of cohesive materials. These tests are conducted in general accordance with ASTM Specification D-1587. This test is similar to the Standard Penetration test except the sample is collected by hydrau-

lically pushing a thinwalled seamless steel tube with a sharp cutting edge into the ground. The hydraulic pressure required to collect the sample is noted on the field log. This produces a relatively undisturbed sample that can be further analyzed in the laboratory. These samples can be field tested with handheld penetrometers, but more accurate readings of density and consistency can be obtained by performing unconfined compressive strength tests where the results are noted in tons per square foot. Generally, for directional drilling contractors a standard penetration test using the split spoon sampler described earlier will suffice in both materials.

Sieve Analysis of Granular Materials—A sieve analysis is a mechanical test of granular materials performed on samples collected in the field during the standard penetration test with the split spoon sampler. The split spoon samples are taken to the laboratory and processed through a series of screens. The sample provides a percentage analysis of the granular material by size and weight. It is one of the most important tests undertaken.

Rock Information—If rock is encountered during the soil investigation borings, it is important to determine the type, the relative hardness, and the unconfined compressive strength. This information is typically collected by the geotechnical drilling firm by core drilling with a diamond bit core barrel. The typical core sample recovered with this process has a 2-in. diameter. The type of rock is classified by a geologist. The geologist should provide the Rock Quality Designation (RQD), which rates the quality of the rock based on the length of core retrieved in relation to the total length of the core. The hardness of the rock (Mohs' Scale of Hardness) is determined by comparing the rock to ten materials of known hardness. The compressive strength is determined by accurately measuring the core and then compressing the core to failure. This information pertaining to the underlying rock formation is imperative to determine the type of downhole equipment required and the penetration rates that can be expected.

Pipe material selection

Wall Thickness—D/t “Rule of Thumb”—The following table provides generalized recommendations for the selection of steel pipe wall thicknesses relative to pipe diameter. These recommendations are meant to be used only as a starting point in the design. It is recommended that in the final design, specific stresses be calculated and compared with allowable limits.

(For high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe, a standard dimension ratio of D/t, SDR, of 11 or less is recommended and the pipe manufacturer should be consulted.)

C_v vs. K or Valve Flow Coefficient vs. Resistance Coefficient

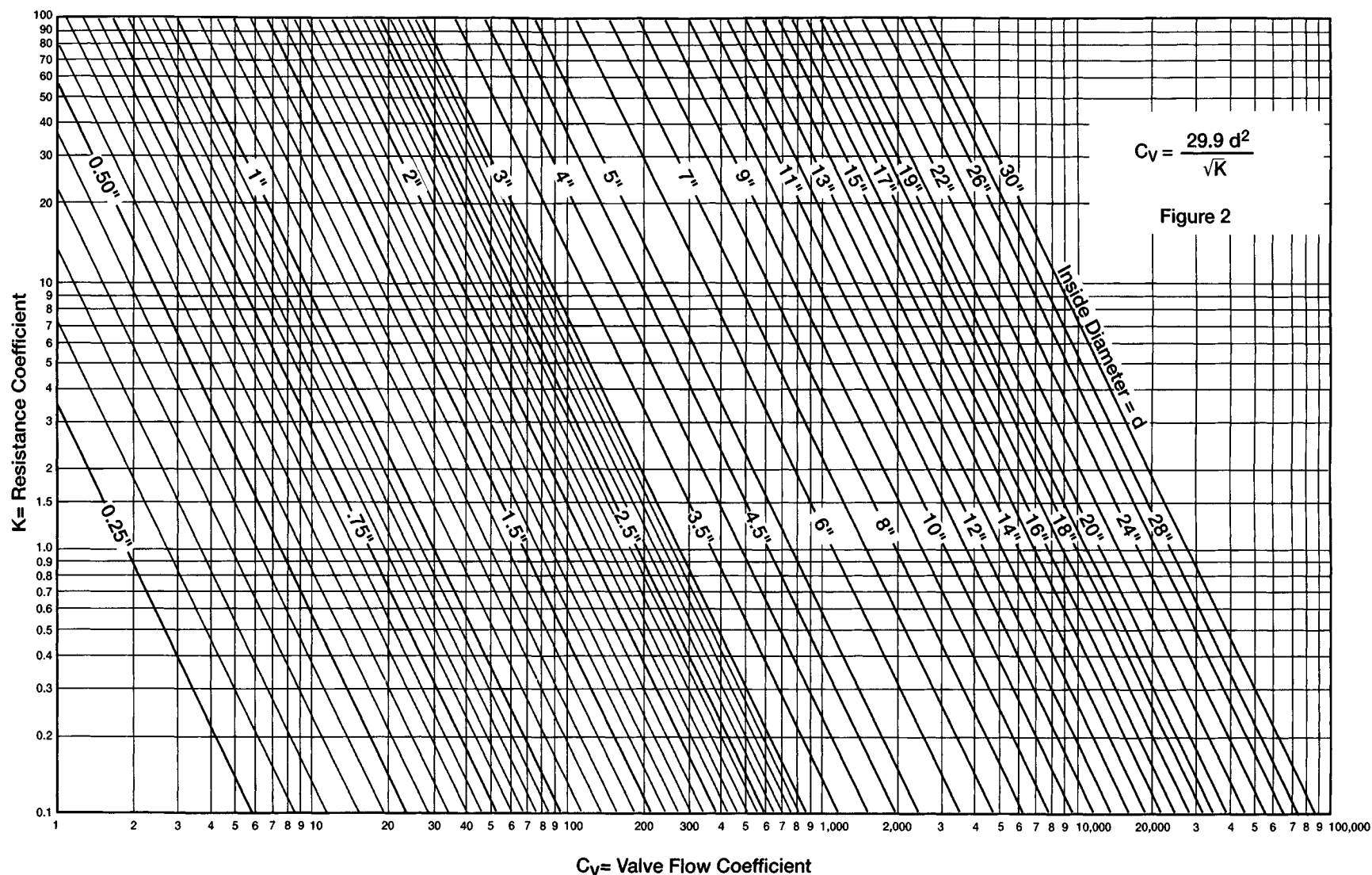


Figure 2. C_v versus K values for valves.

Q = Volumetric flow rate, gal/min
 ρ = Fluid density, lb/cubic ft
 μ = Fluid viscosity, centipoise
 μ_a = Fluid viscosity, lb/(ft)(sec)
 v = Average fluid velocity, ft/sec
 w = Mass rate of flow, lb/hr

Connect	With	Mark or Read
Q = 415	$\rho = 60.13$	W = 200,000
W = 200,000	d = 4-in. schedule 40	Index
Index mark	$\mu = 0.3$	Re = 1,000,000

Example.

Given:
 water at 200°F
 d = 4-in. schedule 40 steel pipe
 Q = 415 gal/min
 $\rho = 60.13$ lb/cubic ft
 $\mu = 0.3$ centipoises

Obtain the Reynolds number and the friction factor.

At Re = 1,000,000 read $f = 0.017$ from the graph on the center of the nomograph.

Figure 2 is an enlarged version of the friction factor chart, based on Moody's data¹ for commercial steel and wrought iron. This chart can be used instead of the smaller version shown in Figure 1.

Reference

1. Moody, L. F., *Transactions, American Society of Mechanical Engineers*, 66, 671 (1944).

Nomograph for calculating pressure drop of liquids in lines for turbulent flow

The nomograph (Figure 1) is based on a modified version of the Fanning equation. It gives the pressure drop per 100 ft of pipe for liquids flowing through a circular pipe. The basic equation is:

$$P_{100} = \frac{0.0216 f \rho Q^2}{d^5} = 4,350 \frac{f \rho q^2}{d^5} = 0.000336 \frac{f W^2}{d^5 \rho}$$

$$= 0.1294 \frac{f v^2 \rho}{d}$$

where:

P_{100} = Pressure loss per 100 ft of pipe, psi
 f = Friction factor ($4 \times f'$ in Fanning equation)
 ρ = Fluid density, lb/cu. ft
 d = Tube internal diameter, in.
 W = Flow rate, lb/hr
 Q = Flow rate, gal/min
 q = Flow rate, cu. ft/sec

The Moody¹ friction factor and relative roughness generalized charts (Figures 2 and 3) are also included for use with the nomogram.

2-in. diameter pipe, the relative roughness from Figure 3 is 0.0009.

At $e/d = 0.0009$ and Re = 100,000, the friction factor, f , is 0.022 from Figure 2.

Using Figure 1:

Connect	With	Mark or Read
$f = 0.022$	$\rho = 62.3$ lb/cu. ft	Intersection at Index 1
Index 1	Q = 100 gal/min	Intersection at Index 2
Index 2	d = 2-in.	P = 8 psi per 100 ft of pipe

Source

Flow of Fluids Through Valves, Fittings and Pipe, Technical Paper No. 410, 3-11, Crane Company, Chicago (1957).
 Anon., *British Chemical Engineering*, 2, 3, 152 (1957).

Reference

1. Moody, L. F., *Transactions, American Society of Mechanical Engineers*, 66, 671 (1944).

Example. The estimated Reynolds number is 100,000 when water is flowing at a rate of 100 gal/min and a temperature of 70°F. Find the pressure drop per 100 ft of

Index terms

Links

Crude oil (*Continued*)

transmission lines, estimate the optimum working pressures in 395

viscosity, determining 342

viscous, calculate pressure and temperature loss for 373

Current, spacing of test leads to measure 229

Cylinders, sample, purges for 510

D

Debt payments 592

Decimal hours conversion table 681

Decision tree analysis 608

Defect growth rates, influence of 628

Defect size, failure pressure versus 628

Dense phase ethylene, orifice meters in 491

Densitometers 535

Density

conversion and liquid gravity (chart) 344

liquid 658 660

and specific volume of gases and vapors, calculating 272

Depreciation 593 621

Derivation of basic ultrasonic flow equations 353

Detectors, acoustic line break 533

Diesel and electric prime movers, cost comparison of 618

Diesel and natural gas, cost comparison of 617

Discharge, estimate rate of 392

Discharge pressure, estimating horsepower required to pump at a given rate 455

Discharge rate, velocity heads for various pipe diameters and (table) 357

Ditching 41

Drag-reducing agents 389

E

Economic study, components of 592

Elbows, how to cut 23

Electrical design 118

Electrical formulas 127

Electric generators, portable 121

Electric power conductors, determining most economical size for 131