TRANSMISSION PIPELINE CALCULATIONS AND SIMULATIONS MANUAL

E. SHASHI MENON



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PREFACE

This book was written to provide guidance on the design of liquid and gas pipelines for both practicing engineers as well as graduate engineers entering the pipeline field as their first employment.

We assume the engineer is familiar with basic fluid mechanics including the Bernoulli's equation. Some knowledge of pumps and compressors is also assumed.

This book covers pipeline hydraulics as it applies to transportation of liquids and gases through pipelines in a single phase steady state environment. It will serve as a practical handbook for engineers, technicians, and others involved in the design and operation of pipelines transporting liquids and gases. Currently, existing books on the subject are mathematically rigorous, theoretical, and lack practical applications. Using this book, engineers can better understand and apply the principles of hydraulics to their daily work in the pipeline industry without resorting to complicated formulas and theorems. Numerous examples from the author's real life experiences are included to illustrate the application of pipeline hydraulics.

The application of hydraulics to liquid and gas pipelines involve understanding of various properties of fluids, concept of pressure, friction and calculation of the energy required to transport fluids from point A to point B through a pipeline. You will not find rigorous mathematical derivation of formulas in this book. The formulas necessary for calculations are presented and described without using calculus or complex mathematical methods. If the reader is interested in how the formulas and equations are derived, he should refer to any of the books and publications listed under the Reference section toward the end of this book.

This book covers liquid and gas properties that affect flow through pipelines, calculation of pressure drop due to friction, horsepower required, and the number of pumps or compressor stations required for transporting the fluid through a pipeline. Topics covered include basic equations necessary for pipeline design, commonly used formulas to calculate frictional pressure drop and necessary horsepower, the feasibility of improving an existing pipeline performance using drag reduction additives (for liquid lines), and power optimization studies. The use of pumps, compressors, and valves in pipelines are addressed along with modifications necessary to improve pipeline throughput. Economic analysis and transportation tariff calculations

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are also included. This book can be used for the analysis of both pipeline gathering systems, plant or terminal piping, as well as long distance trunk lines. The primary audience for the book is engineers and technicians working in the petroleum, water, and process industry. This book could also be used as a textbook for a college level course in pipeline hydraulics.

We are indebted to Ken McCombs of Elsevier for encouraging us to write this book and also for waiting patiently for two years for us to complete this book while Shashi was recuperating from a quintuple heart bypass and sepsis. We would also like to acknowledge our sincere appreciation to Katie Hammon and Kattie Washington who were both very instrumental in getting the book in print. Finally, I would like to dedicate this book to my father and mother, who always believed I could write a technical book, but unfortunately did not live long enough to see it completed.

We invite comments and suggestions for improvements of the book from readers of the book and to point out any errors and omissions they feel. We sincerely hope this book will be an excellent addition to the Pipeline Engineer's library.

E. Shashi Menon, PhD, PE
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Introduction to Transmission Pipelines

Pipelines are used to transport liquids or gases from point of origin to point of consumption of liquids or gases. Transmission pipelines may be small diameter such as 4 in or the average size may range from 24 to 32 in or more in diameter. Over the course of several years, much larger pipelines have been built in the United States and abroad ranging from 48 to 60 in or larger diameter. These pipelines may be short lines, such as gathering lines ranging from a few feet to as much as a couple of miles. They may also be long trunk lines a few thousand miles long. In addition to providing the necessary pipe material, we must also provide the necessary pressure in terms of pumping equipment and drivers as well as other related appurtenances such as valves, regulators, and scraper traps. The Trans-Alaska Pipeline is a well-known large-diameter pipeline built in the United States during the past 25 years at a cost of more than \$8 (US Billion) dollars.

In this book, we will concentrate on transmission pipelines used to transport liquids such as water, refined petroleum products as well as natural gas or compressible fluids such as propane and ethane. More sophisticated pipelines have also been built to transport exotic gases and liquids such as ethylene or compressed high-density carbon dioxide (CO₂). The latter pipelines require extensive hydraulic simulation or modeling taking into account the thermodynamic properties of CO₂ including liquid vapor diagrams as well as the complex formulas that define the behavior of high density CO₂.

Starting with 1866 in Pennsylvania, United States, when the first practical pipeline was constructed by the entrepreneur and scientist Edwin Drake, the United States set the stage for the proliferation of practical utilization of pipelines ranging from a few miles to tens of thousands of miles all over the world.

It must be noted that although the US pioneered pipeline efforts in the 1800s, credit must be given to engineers, technicians, and scientists that paved the way for progress in transporting "black gold" to satisfy the twentieth century requirements of mankind, which has reached a level unimaginable particularly during the past few decades. Considering that oil was available for about \$20 per barrel (bbl) in the 1800s, we are now experiencing a tremendous price increase of \$100 to \$150 bbl in recent years. There does

E. Shashi Menon.

not seem to be a let up in the consumption of crude oil and petroleum products despite the fact that the industrialized nations have spent enormous amounts of research and development efforts in replacing oil with a more renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power. The largest consumption by the public for crude oil is the application of diesel and gasoline for motor vehicles. Despite the enormous progress made with electric cars and non—crude oil—based fuels such as compressed natural gas, liquified natural gas, and hydrogen gas, for a long time to come crude oil and their derivatives will remain a major portion of the energy source for worldwide use. For comparison, consider the cost of crude oil today at \$100–120 per bbl versus electricity at \$0.15 per KWH compared with natural gas cost of \$8–10 per MCF. Of course these are only approximations and can vary from country to country depending on Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, and other natural gas and crude oil price regulating organizations.

The most important oil well ever drilled in the United States was in the middle of quiet farm country in northwestern Pennsylvania in a town called Titusville. In 1859, the newly formed Seneca Oil Company hired retired railroad conductor Edwin L. Drake to investigate suspected oil deposits. Drake used an old steam engine to drill a well that began the first large-scale commercial extraction of petroleum. This was one of the first successful oil wells drilled for the sole purpose of finding oil. This was known as the Drake Well. By the early 1860s, western Pennsylvania had been transformed by the oil boom. This started an international search for petroleum, and in many ways eventually changed the way we live.

The reason Drake chose Titusville as the spot to drill for oil was the many active oil seeps in the region. As it turns out, there had already been wells drilled that had struck oil in the region. The only problem was, they were not drilling for oil. Instead, they were looking for salt water or drinking water. When they struck oil, they considered it a nuisance and abandoned the well. At the time, no one really knew how valuable oil was.

Later on, they hoped that "rock oil" could be recovered from the ground in large enough quantities to be used commercially as a fuel for lamps. Oil had already been used, refined, and sold commercially for one of its byproducts: kerosene. Along came a gentleman named Bissell who would try to extract the rock oil from the ground by drilling, using the same techniques as had been used in salt wells. Bissell was simply looking for a better, more reliable, and plentiful source.

Table 1.1 shows a list of long-distance pipelines being used around the world to transport gas, crude oil, and products from the fields to areas of

Table 1.1 Various Transmission Pipelines in North America

Project Name	Start Point	End Point	Diameter (inches)	Length (Km)	Capacity (1000 b/d or bn cm)
_	Bakersfield	Los Angeles	_	_	_
_	Chicago	Cushing	$2 \times 12, 22$	_	i de la companya de l
_	Clearbrook	Minneapolis	16	-	_
_	Clearbrook	Bismark	10	-	_
_	Cushing	Wood River	22	703	275
_	Dallas	Lima	20	_	_
_	Guernsey	Chicago	8, 12, 20, 24	-	_
_	Los Angeles	San Juan	16	_	_
_	Los Angeles	San Francisco	34	_	
_	Louisiana	Lima	22	_	-
_	Midland	Corpus Christi	10, 12	_	_
_	Midland	Cushing	2×16	_	_
_	Midland	Borger	12	-	_
	Midland	Houston	1, 24	742	310
_	Minneapolis	St. Louis	20	_	_
_	Minneapolis	St. Louis	24	_	-
_	New Mexico	Cushing	20, 24	832	350
_	Port Arthur	Midland	10	_	-
_	Prudhoe Bay, Alaska	Valdez	34	_	=
_	San Juan	Houston	12, 16	_	-
_	Santa Barbara	Houston	10	\rightarrow	-
-	Saint James	Patoka	40	1068	1175
-	Wichita	Kansas City	34	-	_
Portland	Westbrook	Colebrook	_	_	_
natural gas transmission					
_	Hugoton	Denver	2×20	-	-
_	Los Angeles	San Diego	36	-	_
_	Los Angeles	Houston	36	-	_
_	Louisiana	Pittsburgh	_	_	_
_	Louisiana	Detroit	_	_	-
-	Mountain Home	Reno	16		_
_	New Orleans	Portland	42	_	_
_	Salt Lake City	Pendleton	22	-	_
-	Sal Lake City	Bakersfield	-	_	-
-	San Juan	Bakersfield	24, 30	_	_
-	San Juan	El Paso	2×30	_	_
-	C33	Raleigh	_	_	_

(Continued)

Table 1.1 Various Transmission Pipelines in North America—Cont'd

		pennes in Hora	Diameter	Length	Capacity (1000 b/d	
Project Name	Start Point	End Point	(inches)	(Km)	or bn cm)	
_	Amarillo	El Paso	6	_	_	
_	Baton Rouge	Washington, DC	6, 30	5081	550	
_	Billings	Minot	8	-	-	
_	Billings	Casper	6, 12	1097	100	
_	Bismark	Detroit	10	_	_	
_	Casper	Rapid City	12	_	_	
_	Chicago	Green Bay	10, 16	516	166	
_	Chicago	New York	_	_	_	
	Chicago	Saint Louis	_	_	_	
_	Denver	Wichita	_	-	_	
_	Denver	Houston	6, 8	_	-	
_	Denver	Sinclair	_	-	_	
_	Des Moines	Cushing	_	_	_	
_	El Paso	Midland	2×8	-	_	
_	Ferndale	Eugene	16	_	_	
_	Houston	Port Isabel	_	_	_	
—	Houston	Philadelphia	36, 40	_	_	
_	Joliet	Toledo	8, 18	990	300	
-	Kansas	Detroit	10, 16	516	166	
_	Lake Charles	Hammond	8, 28	2248	283	
_	Los Angeles	San Diego	10		_	
_	Los Angeles	El Paso	12	_	_	
_	Midland	Rock Springs	8	_	_	
_	Midland	Houston	10		_	
-	Minneapolis/ St. Paul	Midland basin	8, 10	_	_	
_	Minneapolis/ St. Paul	Tulsa	8, 12, 20	_	-	
_	Mount Belvieu	Raleigh	6, 12	2097	100	
ш.	Omaha	Chicago	_	_	_	
_	Omaha	New Orleans	10	_	_	
-	Port Arthur	Abilene	12	-	_	
	Port Arthur	Albany	$2 \times 16, 20$	_	_	
_	Salt Lake City	Spokane	8	-	_	
_	San Bernardino		8, 14	-	_	
Sacramento	San Francisco	Bakersfield	8, 12, 14	_	_	
line						
_	Spokane	Billings	10	-	_	
_	Tulsa	Detroit	$2 \times 10,$ 12, 14	566, 493	75, 100	

Table 1.1 vallo	us ((a) (5) (1)	i ipelines in Norti	1 Afficiled Co	JIICU	1541			
Project Name	Start Point	End Point	Diameter (inches)	Length (Km)	Capacity (1000 b/d or bn cm)			
Canada/United States								
_	Edmonton	Puget Sound	2		92			
_	Edmonton	Guernsey	8, 12	_	_			
_	Edmonton	Detroit	20, 24, 34	_	1400			
_	Montreal	Chicago	30	_				
_	Regina	Guernsey	6, 16	600	85			
_	Calgary	Barstow	$2 \times 34, 36$	_	-			
_	Fort Nelson	Melford	10, 30, 36	_	_			
Maritimes and	Goldsboro	Westbrook	30	56	-			
Northeast								
_	Edmonton	Windsor	12	3170	92			
_	Portland	Montreal	24	770	109			
_	Portland	Montreal	18	770	-			
Alaska Gas Pipeline	Prudhoe Bay	Edmonton	_	_				

Table 1.1 Various Transmission Pipelines in North America—Cont'd

use. Sometimes these fields are located in one country or continent and then transported by pipeline for distribution through several countries.

1. TRANS-ALASKA PIPELINE (NORTH AMERICA)

This 48-in-diameter steel pipeline zigzags across the frozen tundra of Alaska for 800 miles. It stretches from Prudhoe Bay, on Alaska's North Slope, to the northernmost ice-free port at Valdez, Alaska, on Prince William Sound. Along the way, it must travel over three mountain ranges, cross more than 500 rivers and streams, over three unstable earthquakes faults, and through the migration paths of the caribou and moose. The construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline (the most expensive private undertaking) cost \$8 billion. The completed, 48-inch -diameter pipeline was opened for business in 1977.

The pipeline was purposely built in a zigzag configuration to allow the pipe to move more easily from side to side and lengthwise in cases of earthquakes or temperature-related fluctuations. The effectiveness of this design was proven in 2002 when the pipeline survived a 7.9-magnitude earthquake. Where it runs over fault lines, the pipeline rests on perpendicular so-called "slider supports," which are long rails that will allow the