



Kuwait 4th Flow Measurement Technology Conference

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Hilton Kuwait Resort

A Saturated Steam Injection Meter



Dr Richard Stevens





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MEASUREMATION

A Saturated Steam Injection Meter



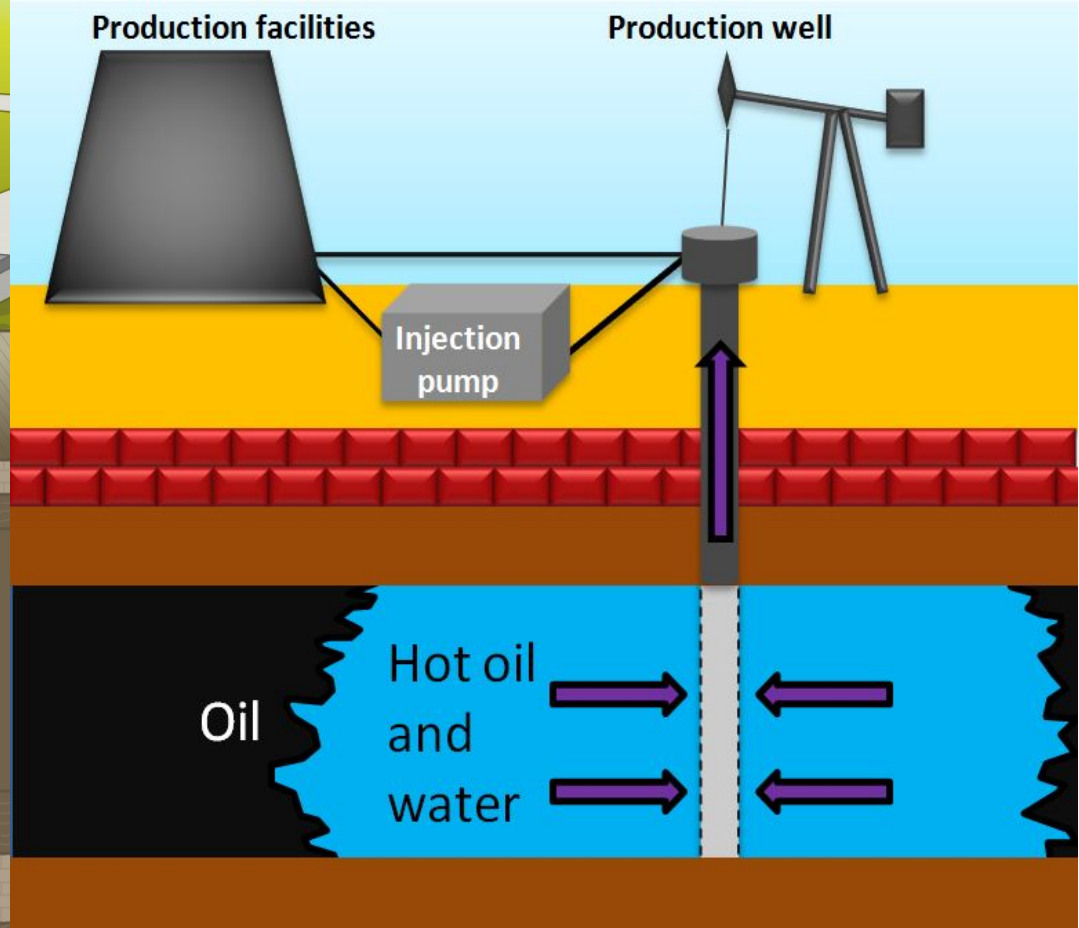
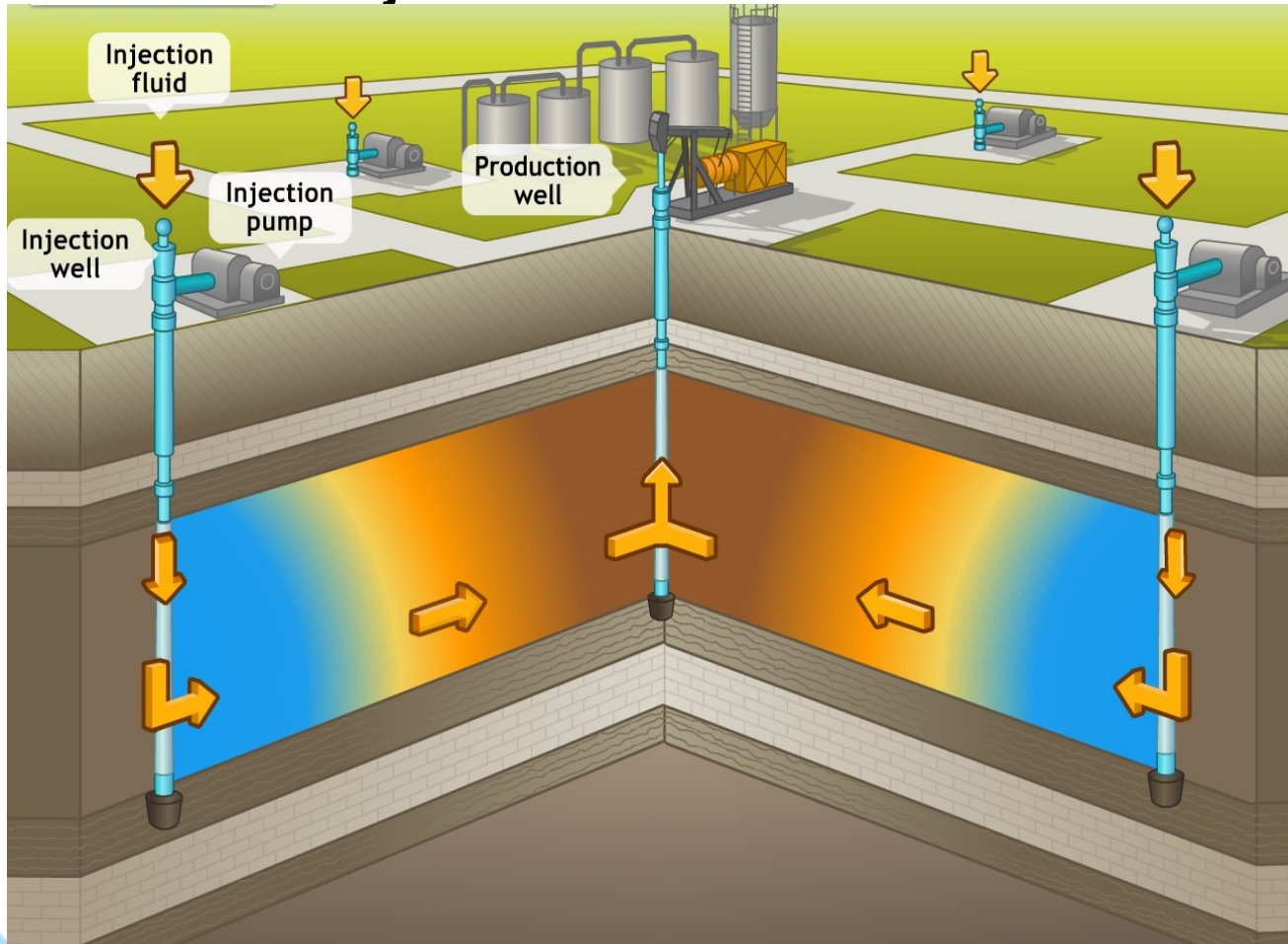
Ray H Narayan, Measurement
Richard Stevens, DP Diagnostics
Eric Sanford, Vortek Instruments

MEASUREMENT



Introduction

■ Steam Injection for EOR

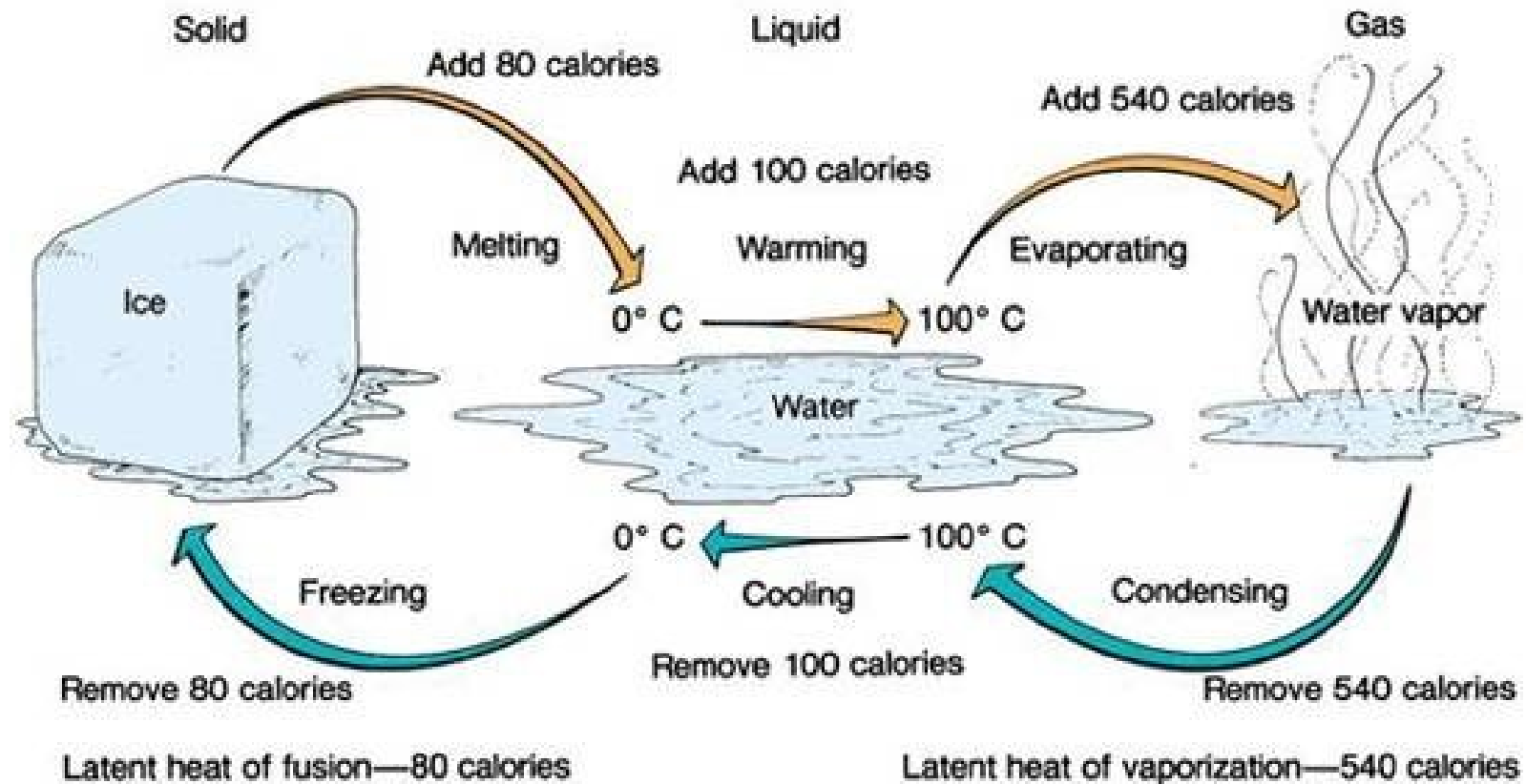


Introduction



- The design of steam injection projects requires a knowledge of the **quality** and **pressure** of steam at the surface before it enters the formation.
- Why is Quality Important? *The great difference in density between steam and liquid during **wet steam injection** always results in **steam override**, that is, steam gathers on the top of the pay zone.*
- In order to make such predictions, the **multiphase** flow and **mass & energy balance** equations must be solved simultaneously- this requires good measurement data of the homogenous mass/energy injection, Pressure/Temperature and steam quality.
- Further more **Poor Steam Quality** can compound **operational issues** with higher erosional velocities and premature equipment failure...

Phase Changes



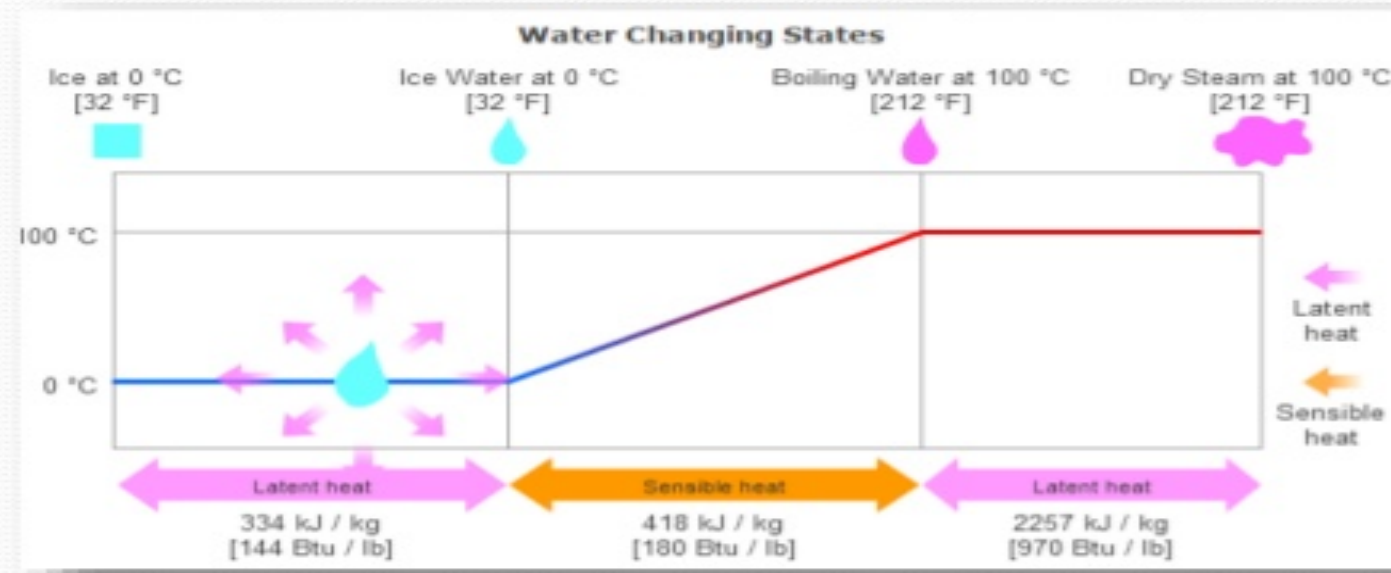
Latent / Sensible Heat



THERMODYNE
Enhancing Energy Efficiency


L ATENT HEAT Vs SENSIBLE HEAT

- A change in the temperature of a solid, liquid or gas represents an increase/decrease in sensible heat. A change in state, such as ice turning into water or water into steam, represents an increase/decrease in latent heat.



Steam Primer : Steam Quality?





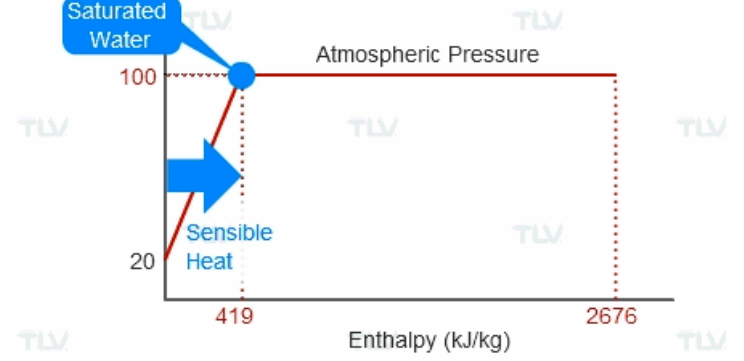
Saturated Water (0% Dryness)
Temperature: 100 °C
Total Heat: $h_f + 0\% \cdot h_{fg}$
= 419 kJ/kg



Wet Steam (x% Dryness)
Temperature: 100 °C
Total Heat: $h_f + x\% \cdot h_{fg}$
< 2676 kJ/kg



Saturated Steam (100% Dryness)
Temperature: 100 °C
Total Heat: $h_f + 100\% \cdot h_{fg}$
= 2676 kJ/kg



Steam Table (abs)

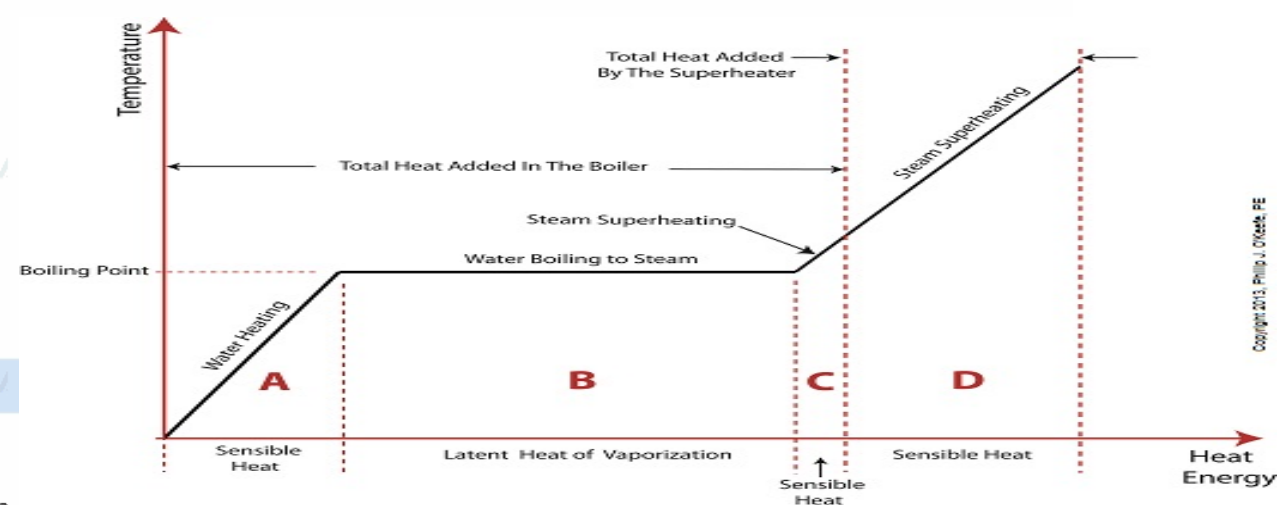
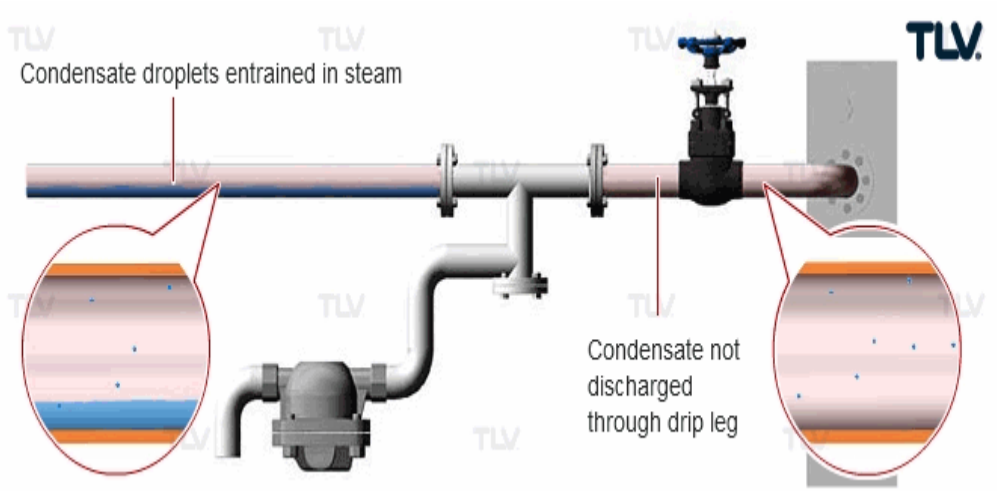
P(MPa)	T(°C)	v'	v''	h'	r	h''
0.1	100	0.00104	1.673	419	2257	2676
0.6	159	0.00110	0.3213	671	2085	2756

Saturated Water

Wet Steam

100% Saturated Steam

Example: Steam at 5 barg [72.5 psig]



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Introduction to steam flow meter



- There are many saturated (wet) steam flow applications throughout industry.
- Most are metered with standard gas meters assuming single phase conditions.
- All steam meters are adversely affected by liquids present within a steam flow.
- This presentation discusses the saturated (wet) steam performance of a hybrid meter, aka 'VorCone mass meter' and/or "TekValsys FloMass".

Doubling Down on Single Phase Meter Principles



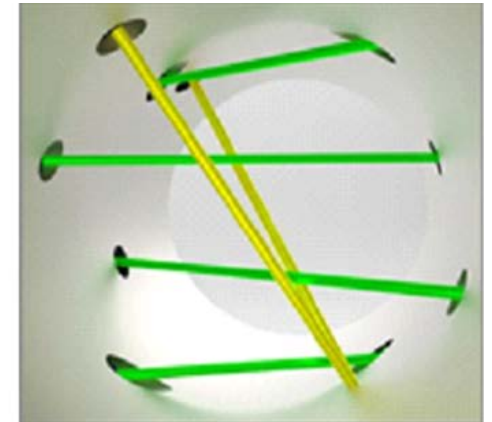
Coriolis



**DP : Cone/Venturi/
Orifice/Wedge**



**Multivariable
Vortex**



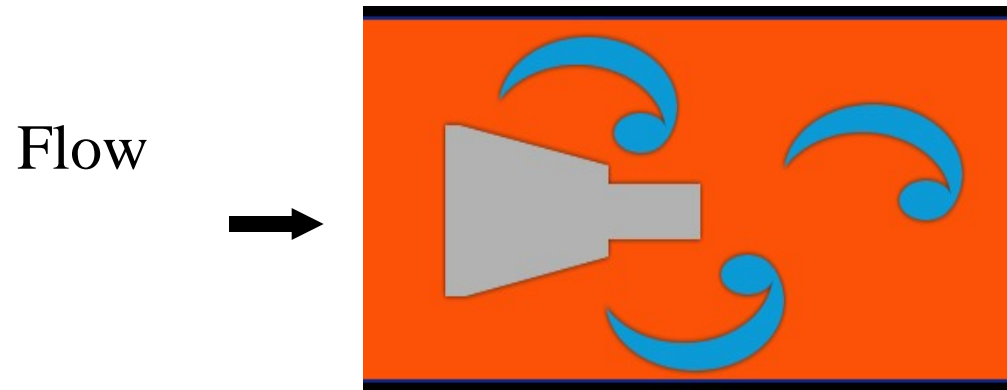
Multipath Ultrasonic

Vortex Shedding Principle



Vortex Shedding Principle

When any liquid, gas or vapor in motion hits a solid body in its path, it flows around it shedding vortices alternately on either side of the body.



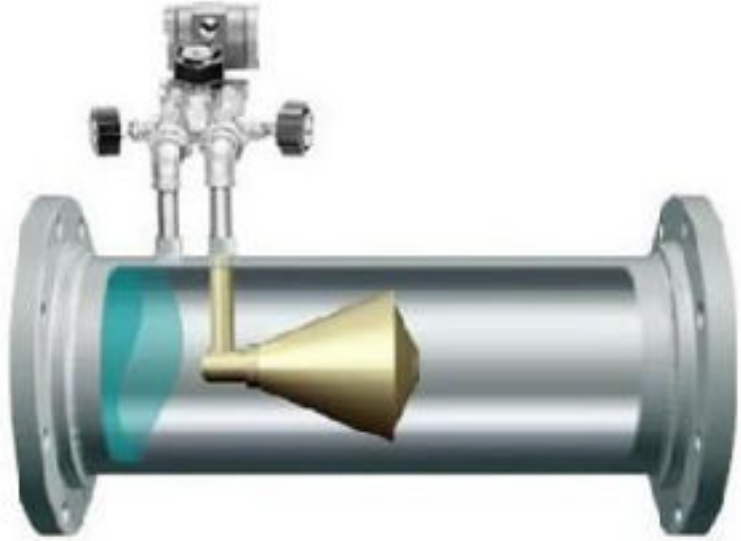
The frequency of the vortices is directly proportional to the velocity of the fluid.

Vortex Meter:

$$Q_v = f (\text{freq})$$

$$Q_v = K(\text{freq})$$

Cone Mass Flow Meter Methodology:



Cone meter:

$$Q_v = f(\rho, \Delta P)$$

$$Q_{\text{acfs}} = \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{\frac{2g_c}{\rho}} \frac{D_{\text{ft}}^2 \beta^2}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^4}} \sqrt{\Delta P_{\text{psf}}} \times C_f \times Y \quad \text{Volume flowrate}$$

$$Q_{\frac{\text{lb}}{\text{s}}} = \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{2g_c \times \rho} \frac{D_{\text{ft}}^2 \beta^2}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^4}} \sqrt{\Delta P_{\text{psf}}} \times C_f \times Y \quad \text{Mass flowrate}$$

Measuring Steam Energy



Measuring Steam Energy

Basic steps for the steam energy calculation

Velocity (ft/s) OR Diff Pressure (DP)



Pipe Cross Area(ft²)

Volumetric Flow Rate (ft³/m)



Density (lb/ft³)

Mass Flow Rate (lb/hr)



Enthalpy (Btu/lb)

Energy Rate (Btu/hr)

Importance of Density

- * Steam is a compressible fluid
- * Density is a function of both temperature and pressure
- * Saturated steam : **Process Heating**
 - Temperature and pressure are dependent variables .
 - Density can be calculated by measuring one variable P&T.
- * Superheated steam: **Power- Motive Force**
 - Temperature and pressure are independent variables .
 - Need to measure both to calculate density
- * Wet Steam: **Nuisance Value - Steam Quality !! VV Important**

Steam Table



■ Pressure-Based Saturated Steam Table

Press. (Abs.)	Temp.	Specific Volume		Specific Enthalpy		
psi	°F	ft ³ /lb		Btu / lb		
P	T	V _f	V _g	h _f	h _g	h _{fg}
0.25	59.323	0.016032	1235.5	27.382	1087.4	1060.1
0.50	79.586	0.016071	641.5	47.623	1096.3	1048.6
1.0	101.74	0.016136	333.60	69.73	1105.8	1036.1
5.0	162.24	0.016407	73.532	130.20	1131.1	1000.9
				161.26	1143.3	982.1
20	227.96	0.016834	20.087	196.27	1156.3	960.1
30	250.34	0.017009	13.7436	218.9	1164.1	945.2
40	267.25	0.017151	10.4965	236.1	1169.8	933.6
50	281.02	0.017274	8.5140	250.2	1174.1	923.9
60	292.71	0.017383	7.1736	262.2	1177.6	915.4
70	302.93	0.017482	6.2050	272.7	1180.6	907.8
80	312.04	0.017573	5.4711	282.1	1183.1	900.9
90	320.28	0.017659	4.8953	290.7	1185.3	894.6
100	327.82	0.017740	4.4310	298.5	1187.2	888.6
110	334.79	0.01782	4.0484	305.8	1188.9	883.1

Temperature (°F) at 20 psi

■ Superheated Steam Table

(Excerpt From Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers, 1999)

Pressure psi (Temperature °F)		Steam Temperature (°F)					
		200	300	350	400	500	
10 (193.21)	v h	38.84 1146.6	44.98 1193.7	48.02 1217.1	51.03 1240.6	57.04 1287.8	
20 (227.96)	v h	Data for saturated steam left blank.		22.356 1191.4	23.900 1215.4	25.428 1239.2	28.457 1286.9
30 (250.34)	v h	↓		14.810 1189.0	15.859 1213.6	16.892 1237.8	18.929 1286.0
40 (267.25)	v h			11.036 1186.6	11.838 1211.7	12.624 1236.4	14.165 1285.0
50 (281.02)	v h			8.769 1184.1	9.424 1209.9	10.062 1234.9	11.306 1284.1

Specific Volume (ft³/lb) at 10 psi, 200°F

The Law of the Instrument



A cognitive bias involving an over-reliance on a familiar tool.

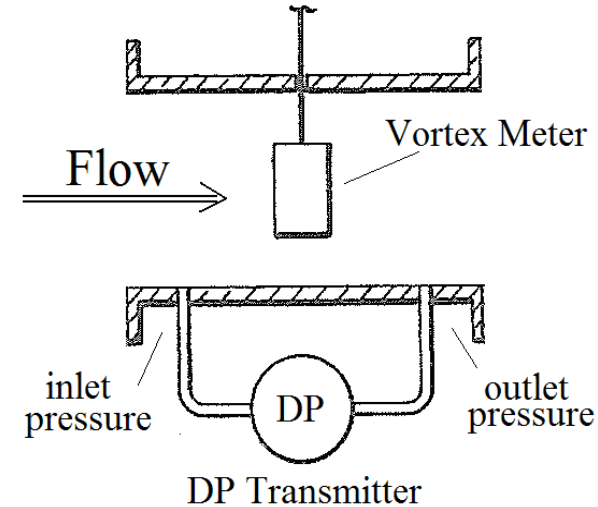
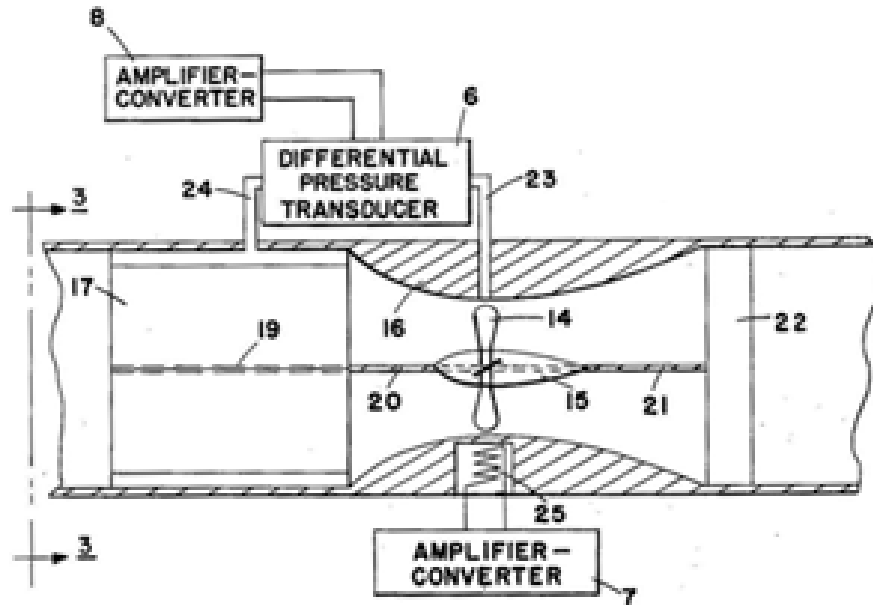


Maslow's Hammer:

"I suppose if you are a proponent of Meter X every flow metering job tends to look like a job for Meter X."

- ⑩ E.g. trying to make a *specific* flow meter type fit *all* applications, even when it really doesn't.

Early Hybrid Meter Designs



Boden (1956) / Lisi (1973):

Density **Insensitive** Q_v meter:

$$Q_v = f(\text{frequency})$$

Density **Sensitive** Q_v meter:

$$Q_v = f(\rho, \Delta P)$$

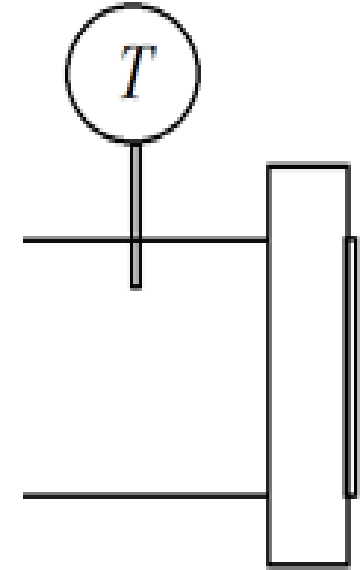
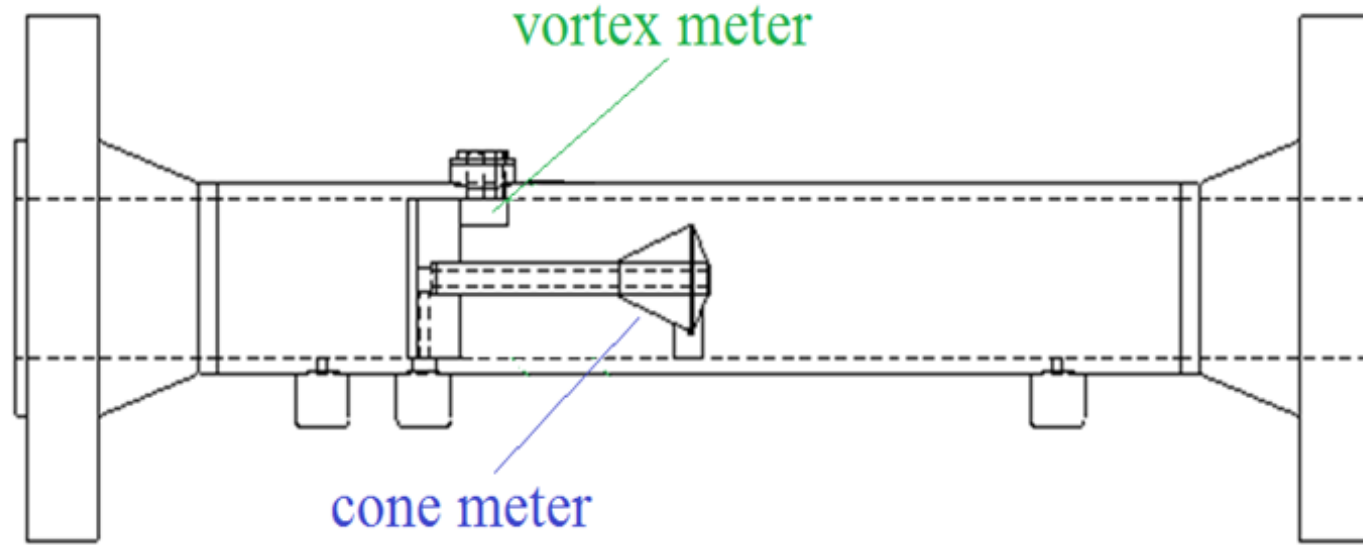
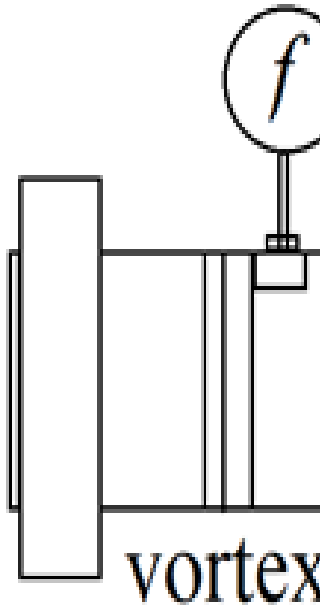
Density:

$$\rho = f(Q_v, \Delta P)$$

Mass:

$$Q_m = \rho Q_v$$

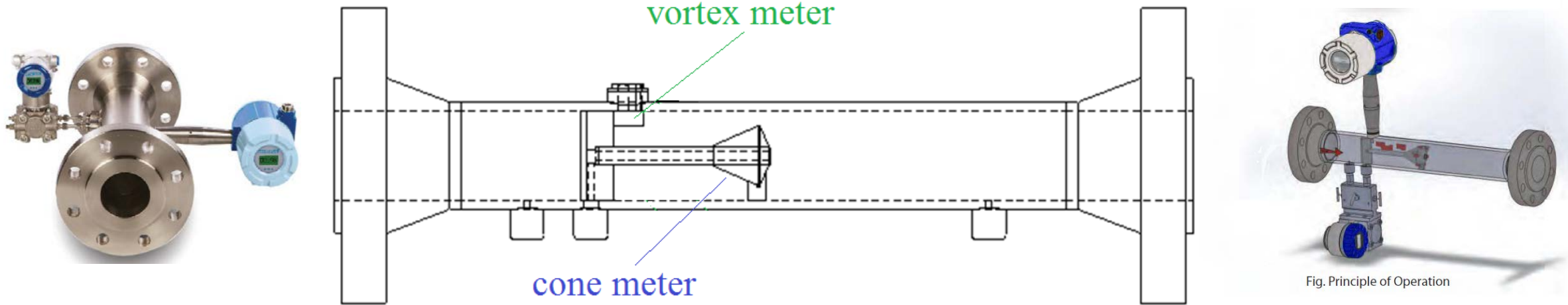
Example 1: Hybrid VorCone Meter



Three Hybrid Meter Design Rules:

1. Give each meter enough consideration to operate.
2. Paired meters must operate over similar ranges.
3. Paired meters must not interfere with each other.

Modern Day Hybrid Meter Design: VorCone™



Vortex + Cone aka VorCone Hybrid Mass Flow Meter Methodology:

Vortex meter meter:

$$Q_v = f (\text{frequency}) \ll \text{density independent}$$

Cone meter:

$$Q_v = f (\rho, \Delta P) \ll \ll \ll \text{density dependent}$$

Density:

$$\rho = f (Q_v, \Delta P) \ll \text{solve for density (1st unknown)}$$

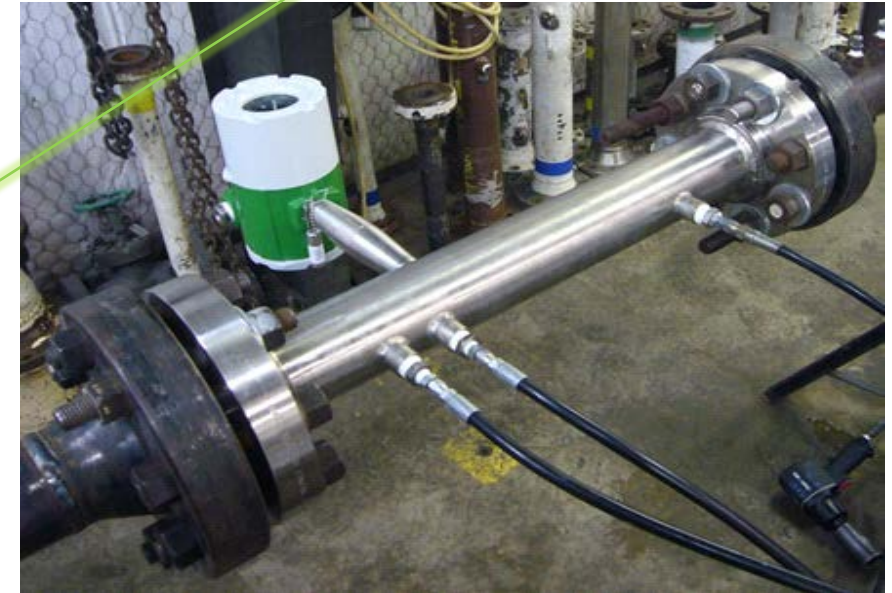
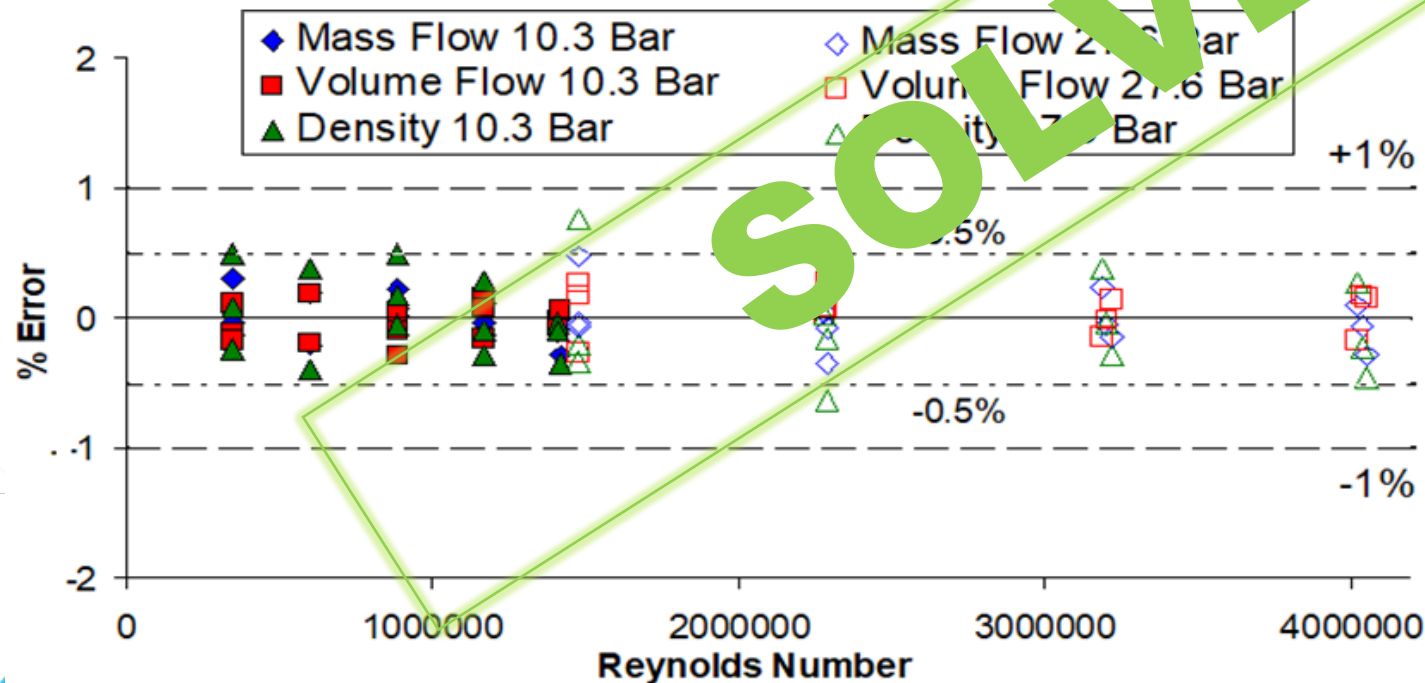
Mass:

$$Q_m = \rho Q_v \ll \text{solve for mass (2nd unknown)}$$

3", 0.68β VorCone Meter

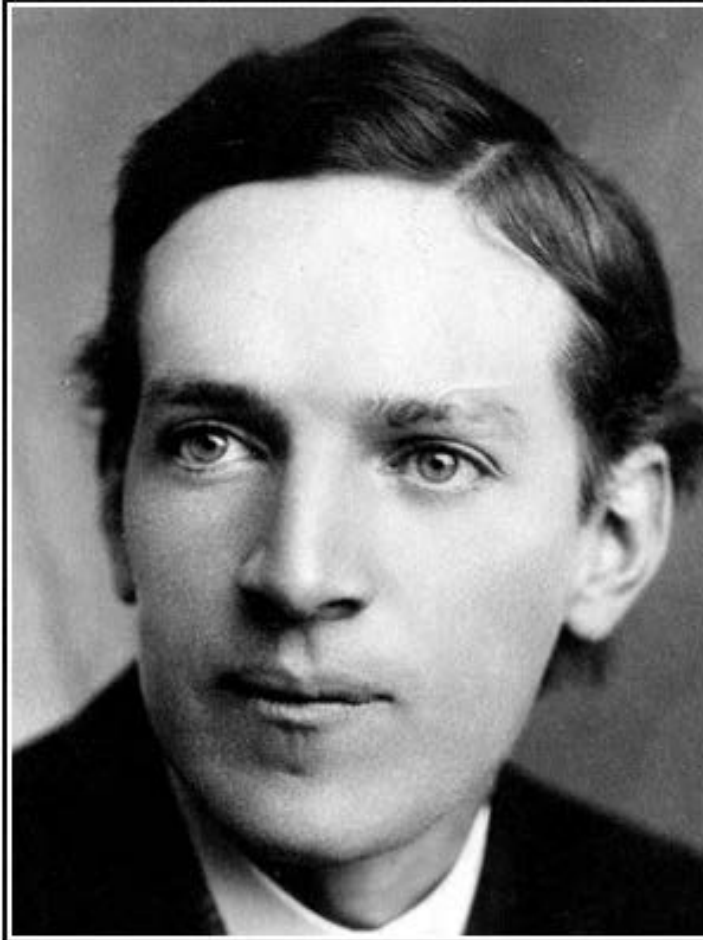


- Air calibrated at CEESI
- Volume & mass flow 0.5%**
- Density ± 0.2 kg/m³



**Without P&T

A Somewhat Balkanized Flow Meter Community



It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it.

— Upton Sinclair —

- *This doesn't facilitate the R&D of newer technologies/ Hybrid meters!*

VorCone Meter and Saturated (Wet) Steam



- For known densities, wet gas flow metering has **two** unknowns: mg & ml,
i.e.: M_L & the quality 'x'

$$x = \frac{\dot{m}_g}{\dot{m}_l + \dot{m}_g}$$

- Known: $M_H = M_{\text{gas}} + M_{\text{liquid}} = \text{Mass Vapor (wet/sat. steam)}$,

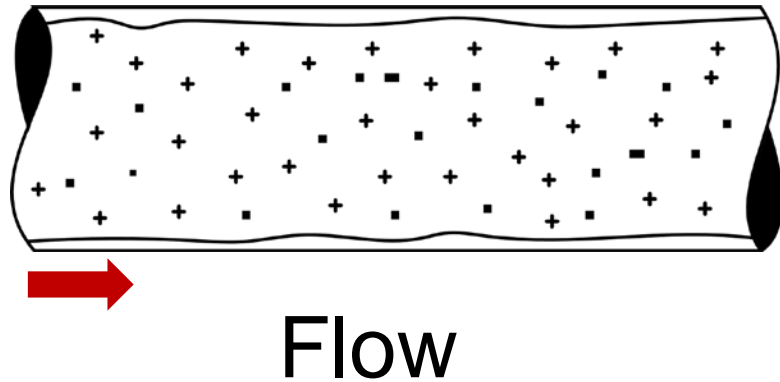
Standard Practice / Standard Problem- Wet Steam

- ⑩ Find the steam flow *for a known x*, using some correction factor 'f':

$$\dot{m}_g = \frac{\dot{m}_{g,app}}{f(x)}$$

- ⑩ ISO gives a cone meter wet gas correction (*f*).
- ⑩ Problem for Standard Vortex meters : if *x* not known, **two** unknowns and **one** equation. *Can't be solved!*
- ⑩ You need two equations to solve for two unknowns dynamically !
- ⑩ Hence fall back to the conventional P&T compensation and Saturated Steam Tables
- ⑩ Steam tables give steam and water densities for known P & / or T conditions (Saturated conditions).

VorCone Meter with Saturated Steam



- Steam injection flows are relatively high pressure velocity flows, i.e. mist / homogenous mix flows.
- Vortex meter predicts homogenous mixture volume.
- VorCone meter then predicts homogenous density.
- Phase densities known from steam tables...

**Steam Quality "X"



from vortex meter

$$\rho_{\text{hom}} = f(Q_{\text{hom}}, \Delta P_{\text{hom}})$$

from steam tables from combined meter

found

$$x = \frac{\rho_g (\rho_l - \rho_{\text{hom}})}{\rho_{\text{hom}} (\rho_l - \rho_g)}$$

from combined meter from steam tables

Field Testing: Oil Truck Unloading



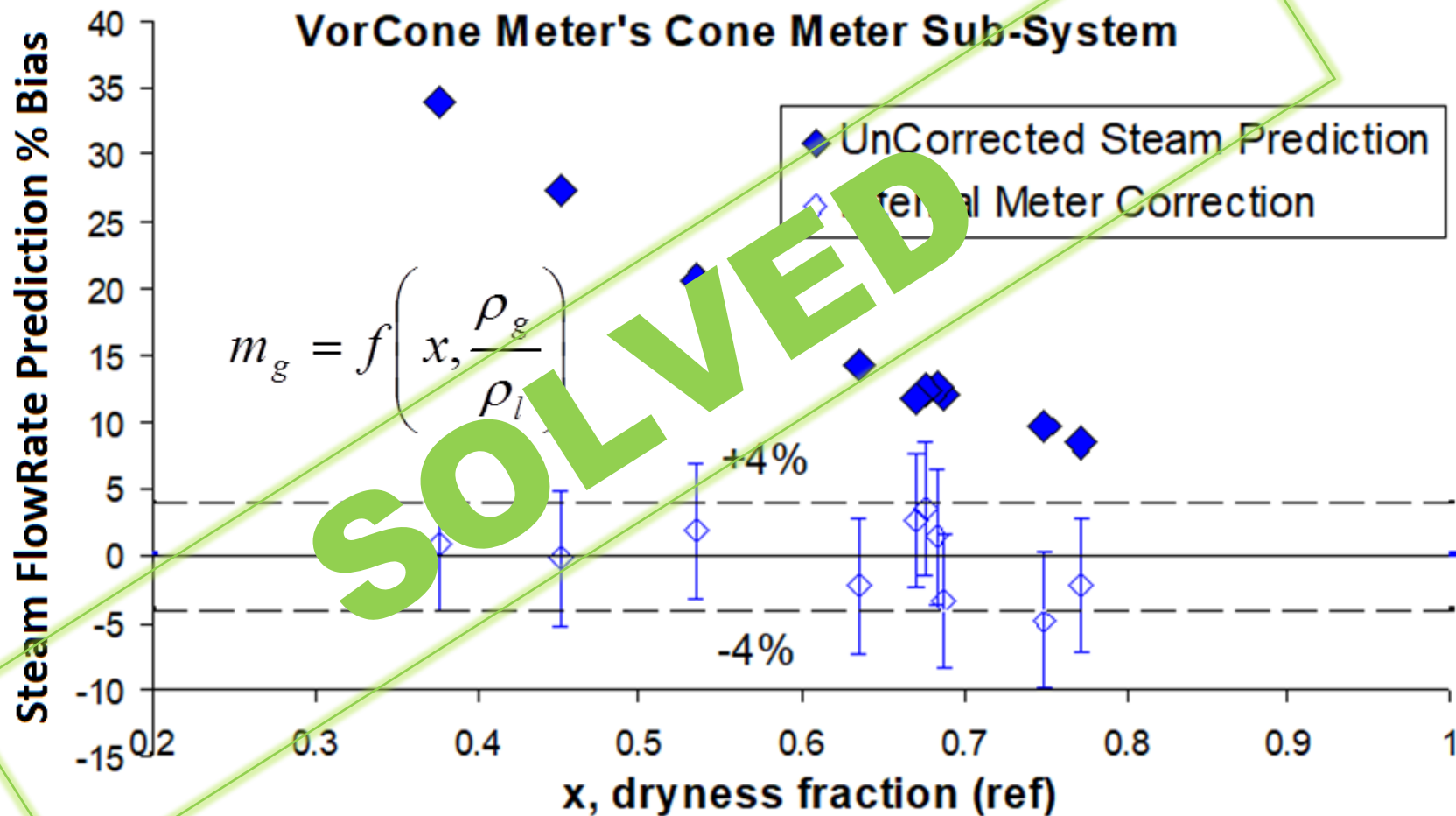
- ⑩ Portable truck compact separator with Coriolis gas and liquid reference system: 5% reference system uncertainty!

*Field Testing: SteamQ**

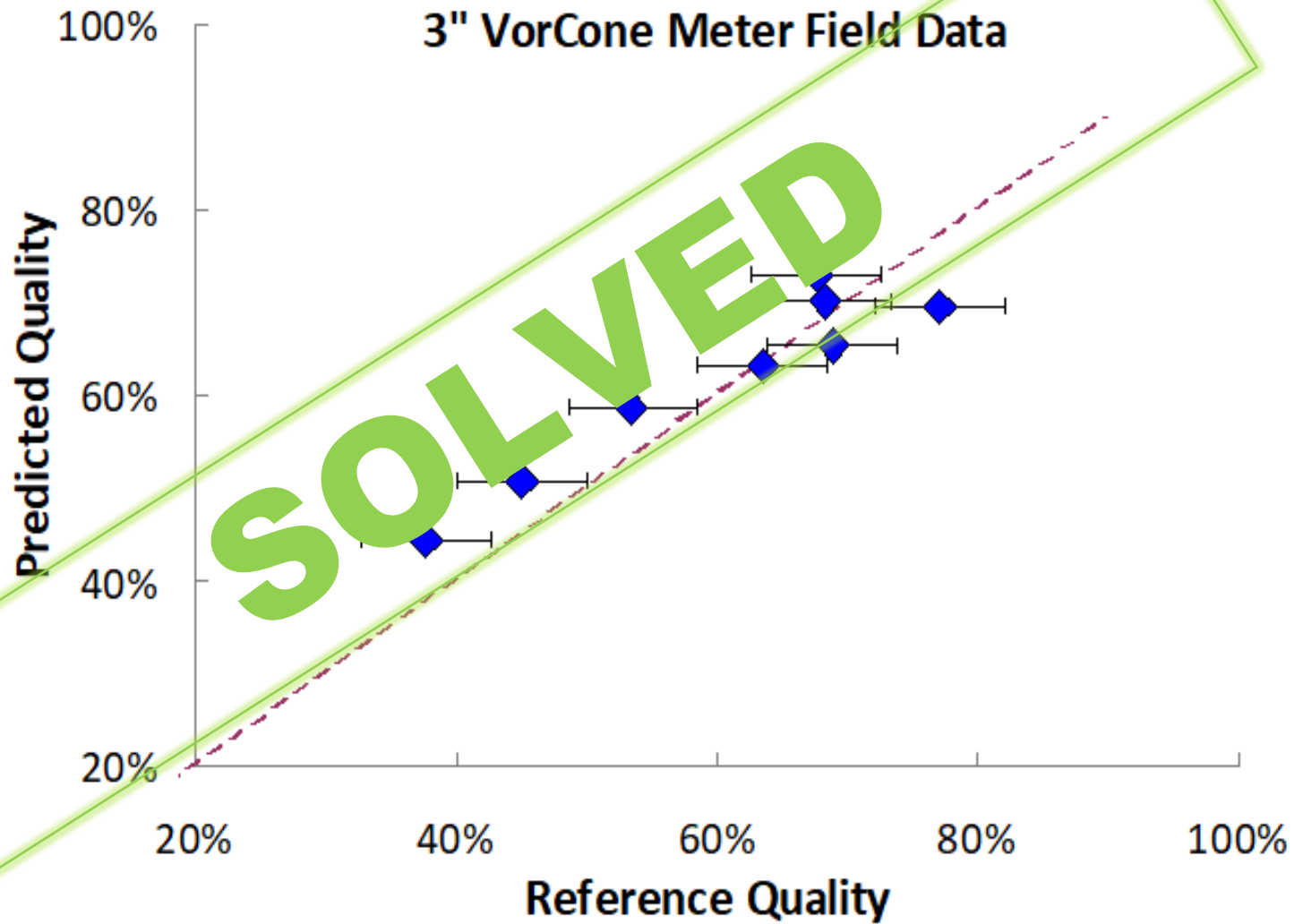
- ⑩ 2" VorCone Meter installed at saturated steam oil well injection point.



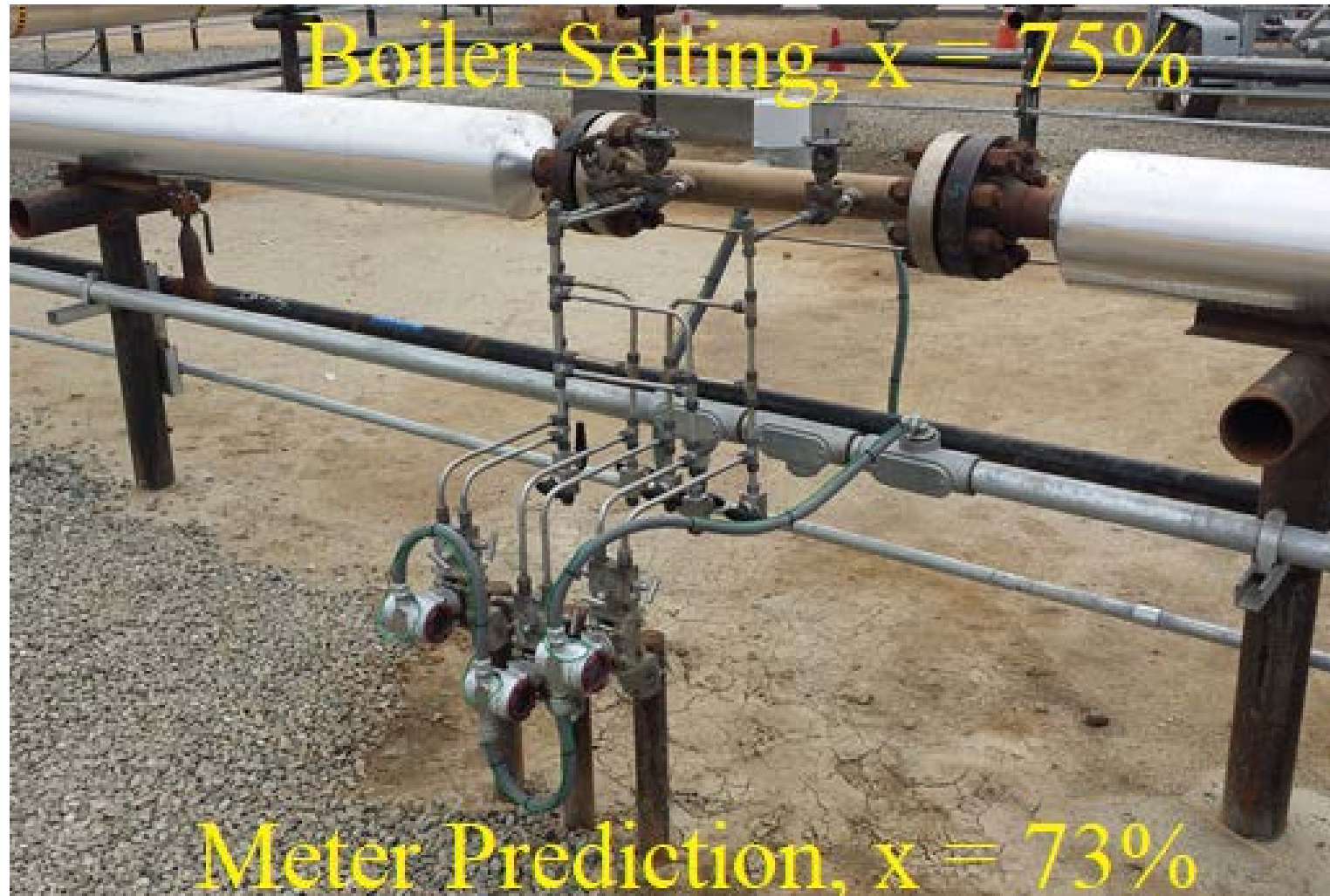
Applying ISO TR 12748 Cone Meter Wet Gas Correction with VorCone Meter Predicted x



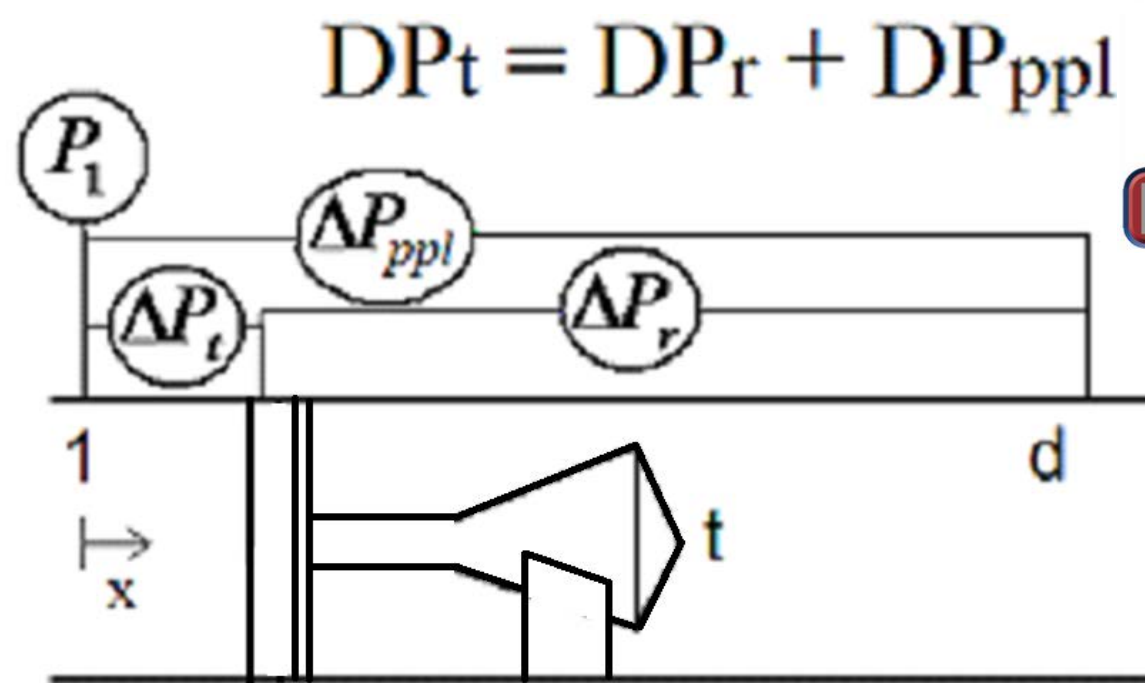
← getting wetter



3" VorCone Meter Boiler Outlet Location



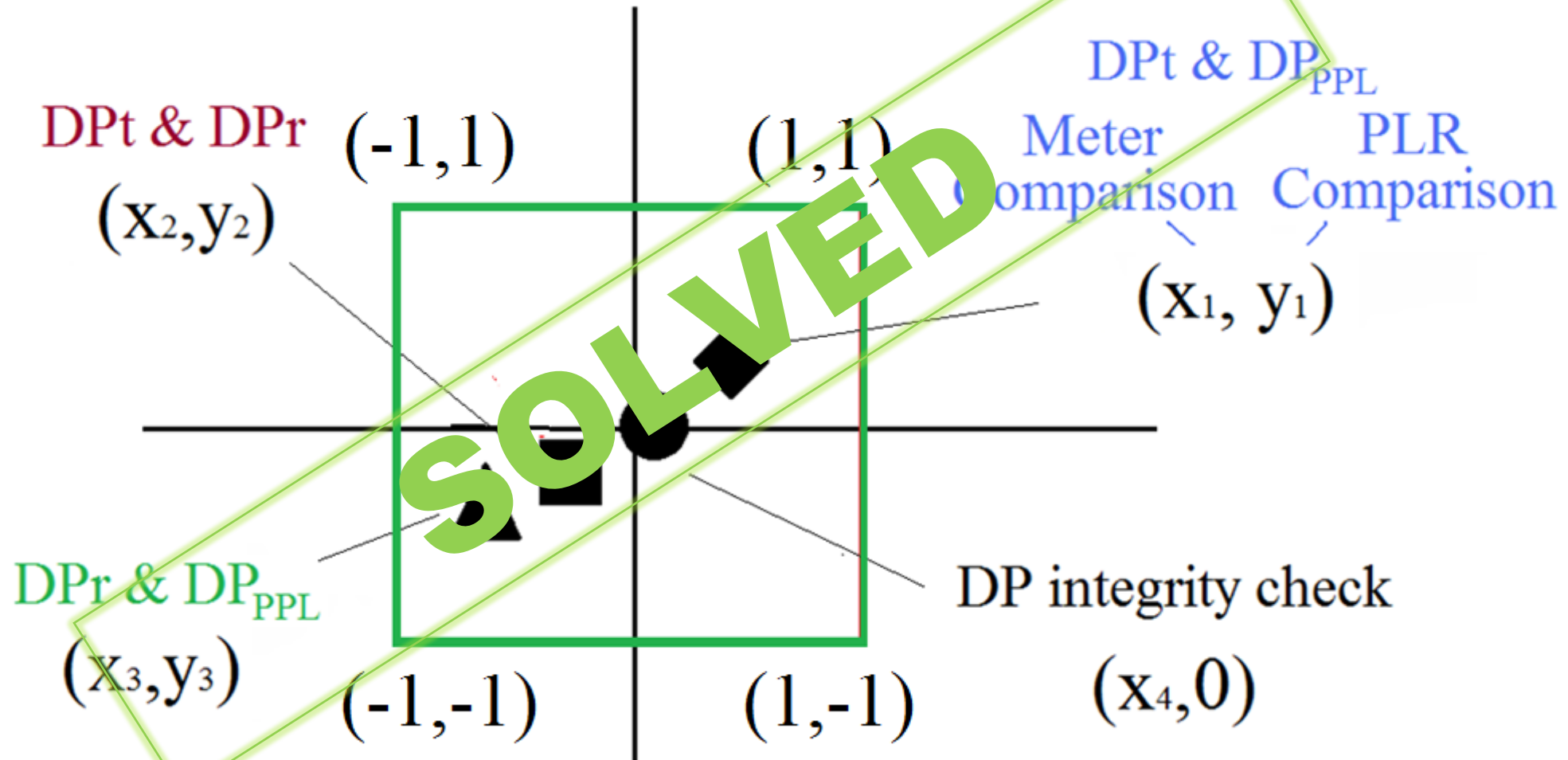
Added Cone DP Meter Verification System



DP Prognosis

- 1 DP summation
- 3 flow meters to compare
- 3 DP ratios to check

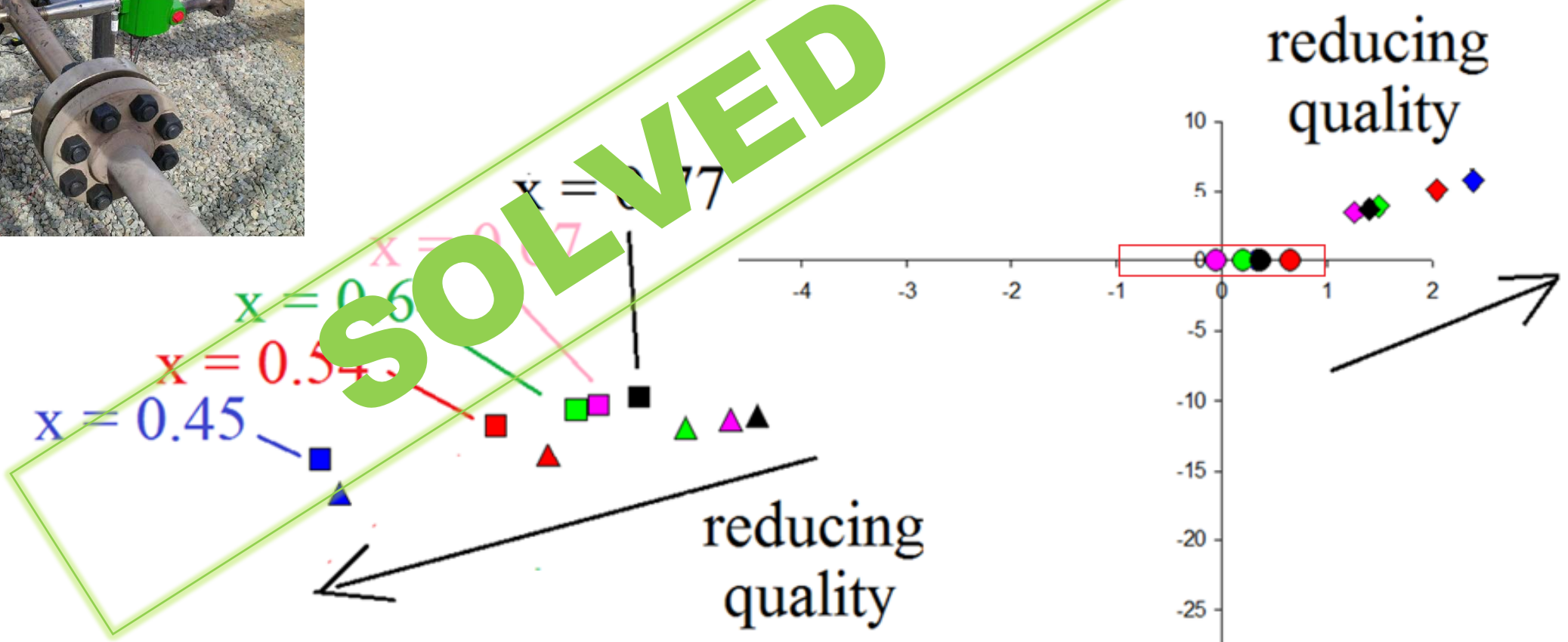
Normalized Diagnostic Display- Built in Validation



Field Test Varying Steam Quality Validation



⑩ X = liquid loading/steam Quality



Conclusions




- For an unknown gas density the VorCone meter predicts dry gas mass flow to $< 1\%$ uncertainty (95% confidence!).
- Saturated steam flows are usually metered by gas meters, with liquid induced gas prediction biases.
- Correction factors (if they exist for a given meter) require an externally supplied liquid loading – **which is usually not known**.
- The VorCone meter can internally predict x (down to 40%), and apply a 2-phase flow correction factor, thereby also predicting a more accurate Wet steam flow along with Steam Quality.

Continue...

Conclusions



- The cone meter diagnostic system  **Prognosis** offers
 - Two additional DP check meters
 - An built in Expanded Hybrid Check meter with a 2nd independent liquid loading validation system.
- Next Project : Wet Gas (Lab Testing on Wet Gas – completed early 2019, awaiting results from Field Trails !!)

- **Questions ?**



MONITOR, VERIFY, AND TRUST YOUR DP METER



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THANK YOU



What I'm Going to Talk About Next



Uncertainty
Certainty



Maximum Likelihood
Uncertainty (MLU)



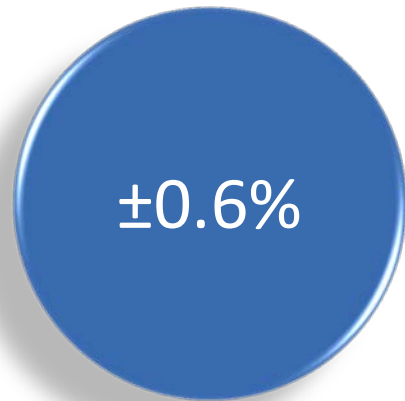
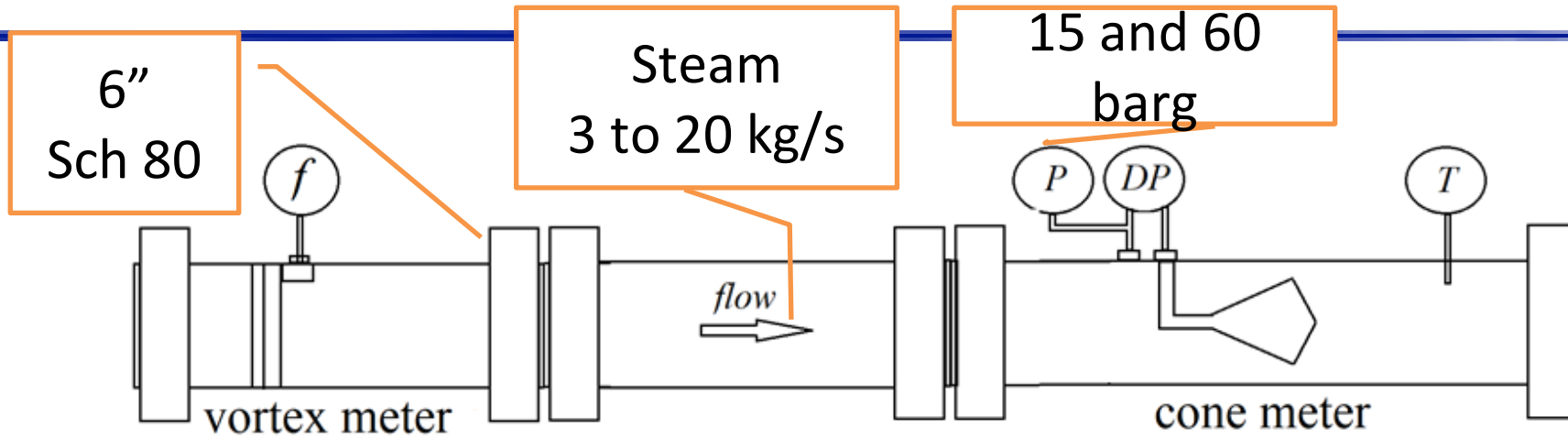
Two meters
combined Reducing
uncertainty



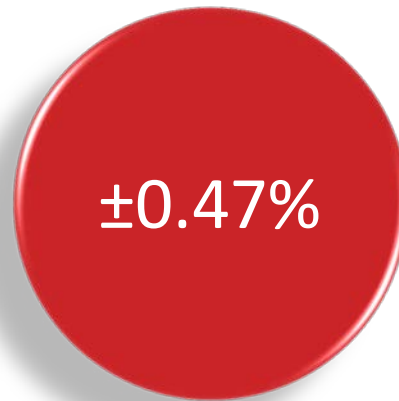
Independent &
Hybrid Meters



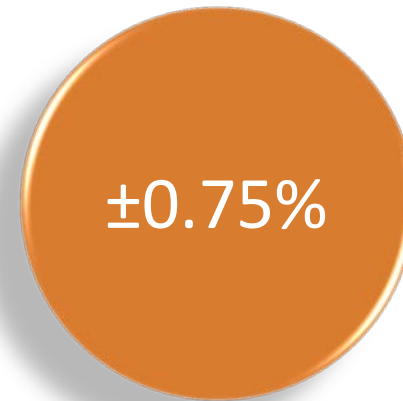
Vortex and Cone Meters in Series



Cone

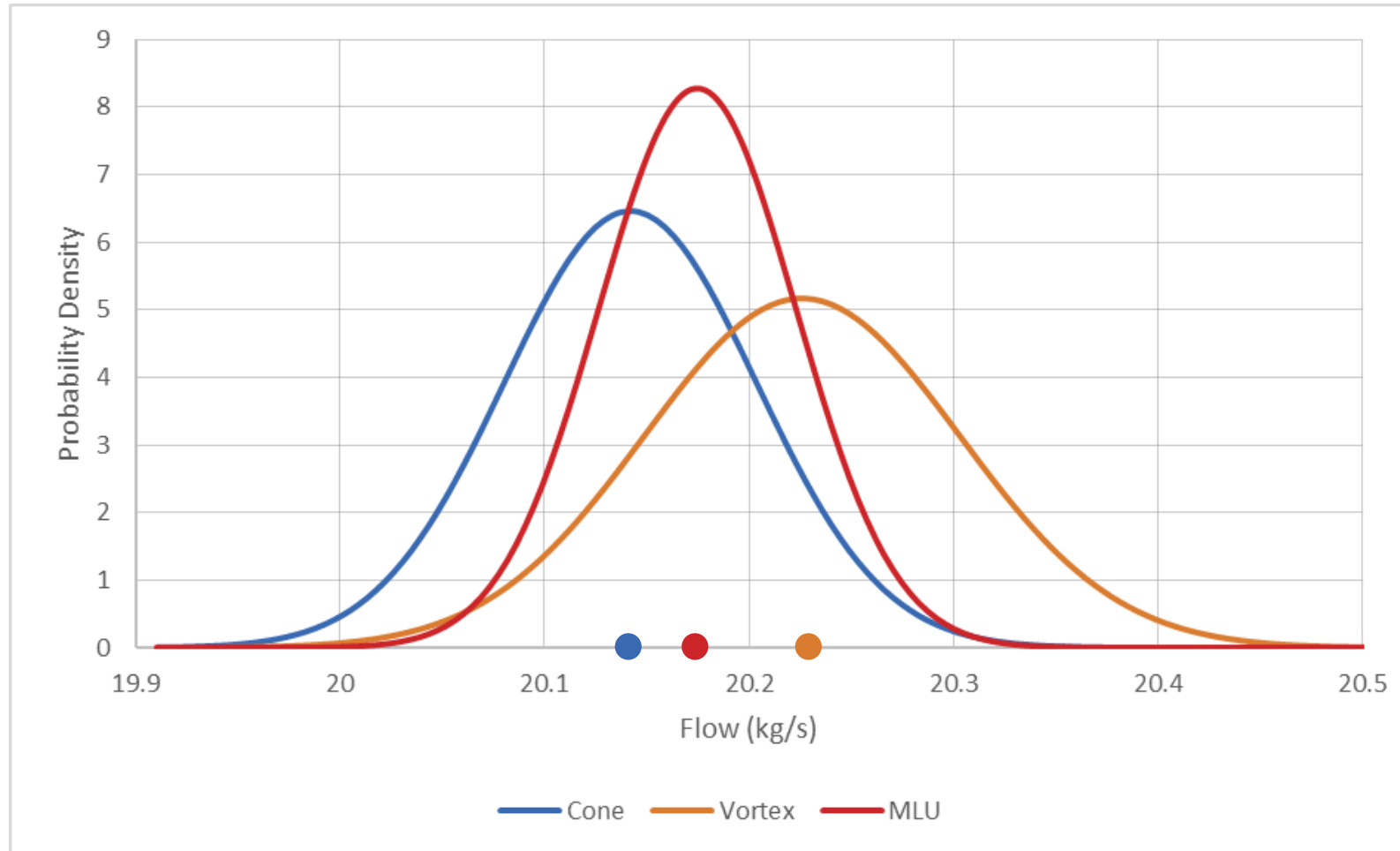


MLU



Vortex

Vortex and Cone Meters in Series



Annual Revenue and Uncertainty Exposure



\$76.18
million

\$76.30
million

+\$127K

Cone
20.142 kg/s \pm 0.6%

\$5.5 / tonne

MLU
20.175 kg/s \pm 0.47%

\$5.5 / tonne

Difference
 $\downarrow \pm$ 0.13%

Annual Revenue and Uncertainty Exposure



±0.457
million

±0.359
million

↓ ±
\$98K

Cone
20.142 kg/s ± 0.6%
\$5.5 / Tonne

MLU
20.175 kg/s ± 0.47%
\$5.5 / Tonne

Difference
↓ ± 0.13%