

# Flow and Storage of Powders

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978-799-7311





*Happiness Equals Reality Minus Expectations*

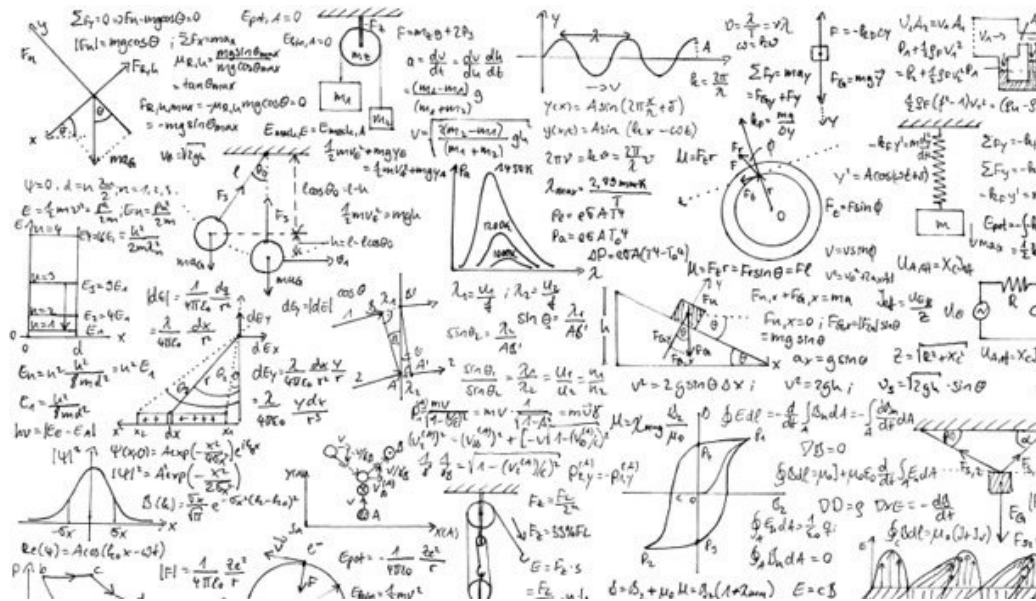


# Flow and Storage of Powders

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# Flow and Storage of Powders



# Flow and Storage of Powders

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# Goals

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- Understand *fundamental* powder flow properties
- Predict flow behavior of powders
- Know how to design/modify equipment for reliable powder handling



# Goals

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# Goals

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# Definitions

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*Bulk solid*



*“Powder”*



# Definitions

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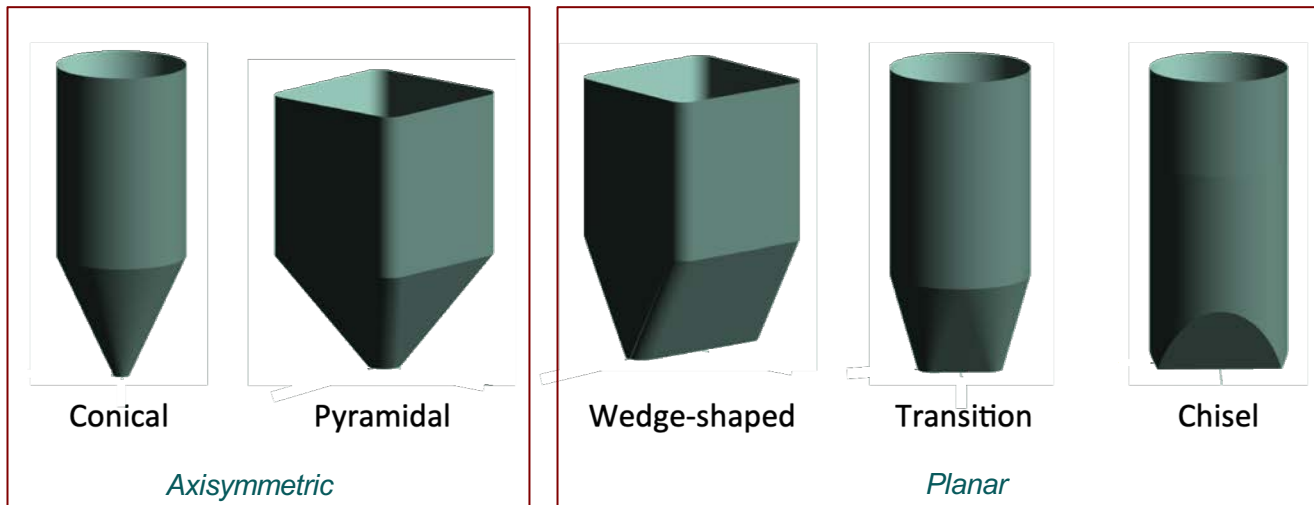
*Biomass*



# Definitions

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## *Hopper, bin, or silo*



# Definitions

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- Normal stress
- Shear stress
- Major principal stress



# Classification of liquids

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Newtonian	Stress is proportional to strain rate
Viscoelastic	Combination of viscous and elastic behaviors
Rheoplectic	Viscosity increases over time
Thixotropic	Viscosity decreases over time
Pseudoplastic	Viscosity increases with increased stress
Dilatant	Viscosity decreases with increased stress



# Classification of bulk solids

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Neurotic	move awkwardly - poor flowability - sticky or tacky
Sadistic	attack their surroundings - abrasive - explosive
Masochistic	suffer from their surroundings - friable - degradable
Schizophrenic	change their behavior pattern - hygroscopic - electrostatic

Woodcock and Mason, 1987



# Flow problems

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- Ratholing



# Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging





# Bridging

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# Flow problems

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- Ratholing
- Arching
- Caking



# Flow problems

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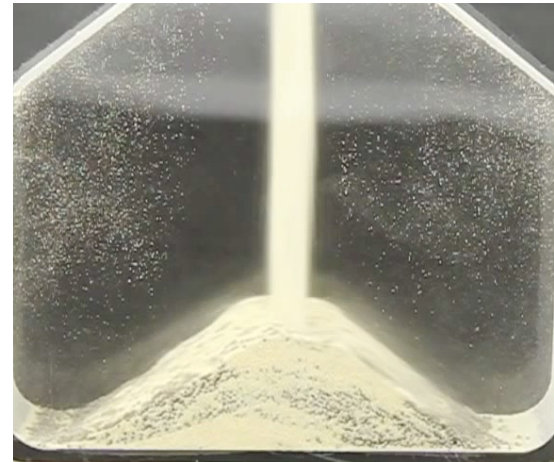
- Ratholing
- Arching
- Caking
- **Flooding**



# Flow problems

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- Ratholing
- Arching
- Caking
- Flooding
- **Segregation**



# Flow problems

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- Ratholing
- Arching
- Caking
- Flooding
- Segregation
- Limiting discharge rate



# Flow problems

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- Ratholing
- Arching
- Caking
- Flooding
- Segregation
- Limiting discharge rate
- **Structural**



# Solids flow patterns

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- Funnel flow
- Mass flow



# Funnel flow

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# Mass flow

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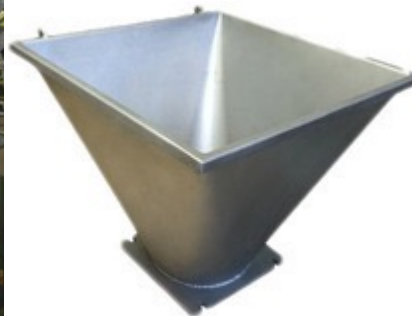
# Mass flow

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# Funnel flow

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# No flow

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# Preventing flow problems

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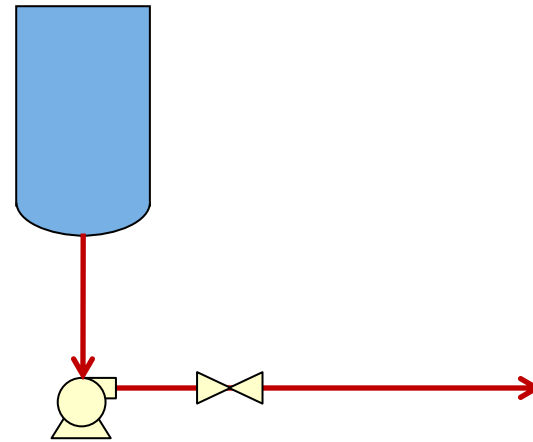
- Ensure properly sized outlet
- Design/modify to allow mass flow
- Need powder flow properties



# Fundamental properties

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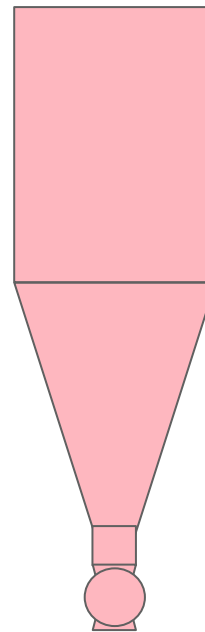
- Viscosity
- Density
- Vapor pressure



# Fundamental properties

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- Cohesive strength
- Internal friction
- Compressibility
- Wall friction
- Permeability



# Andrew Jenike

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# Shear cell testers

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Jenike  
Direct



Schulze  
RST



Brookfield  
PFT



Anton Paar  
MCR



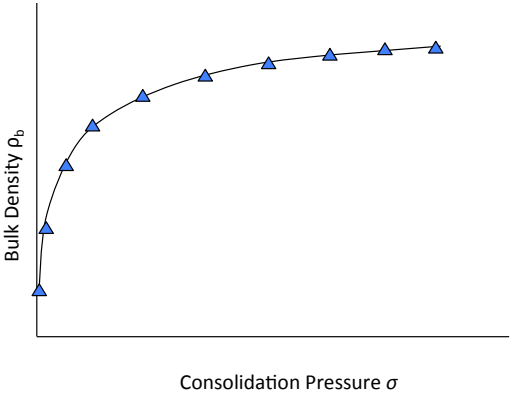
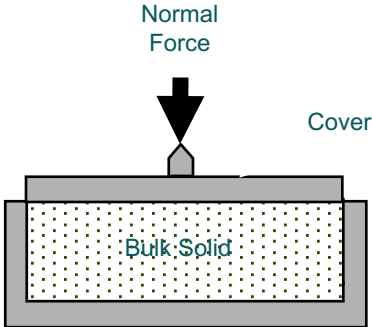
Freeman  
Technology  
FT4

# Compressibility

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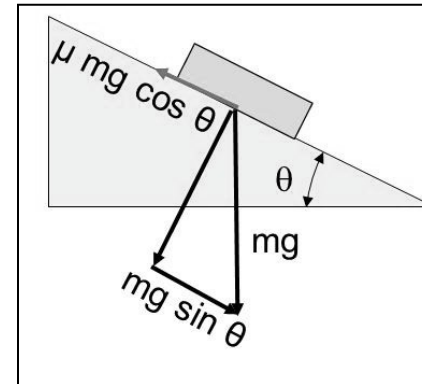


# Compressibility



# Wall friction

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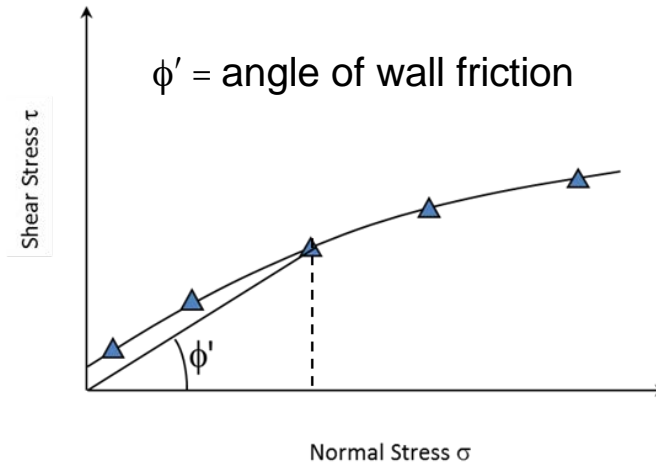
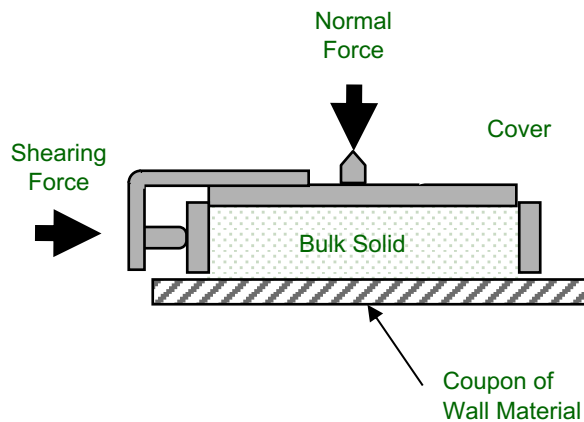


$$mg \sin \theta = \mu mg \cos \theta$$

$$\mu = \tan \theta$$



# Wall friction



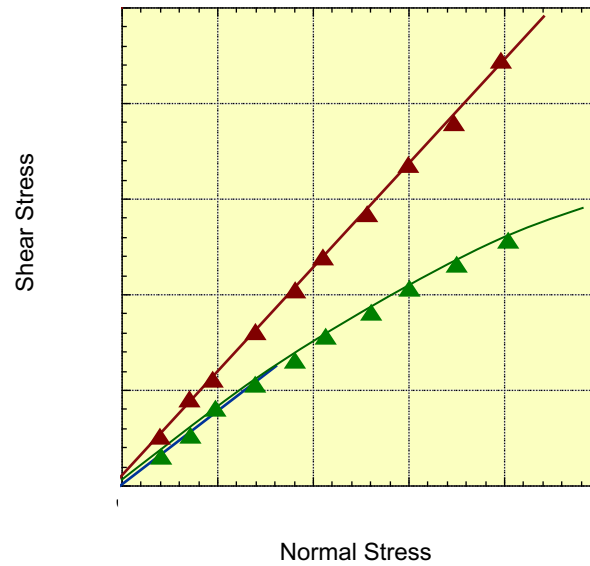
$$\tan \phi' = \frac{\text{Shear Stress}}{\text{Normal Stress}} = \mu$$



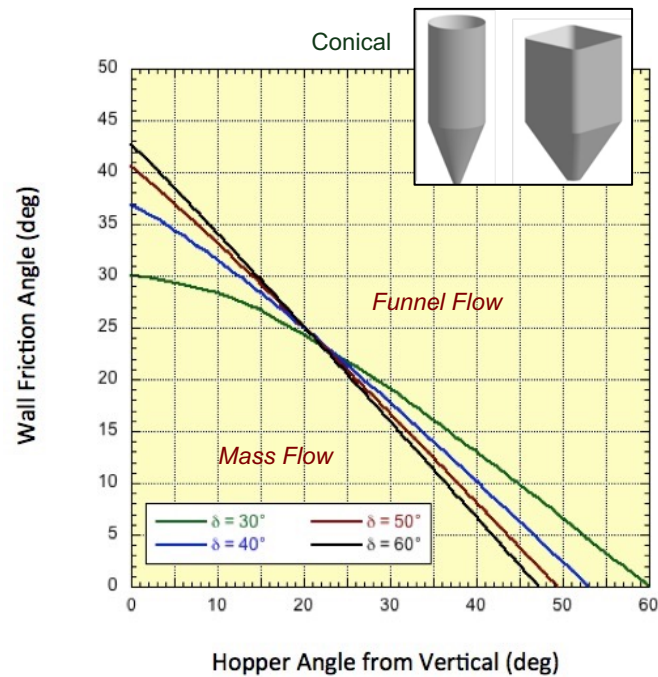
# Wall friction

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Wall yield locus

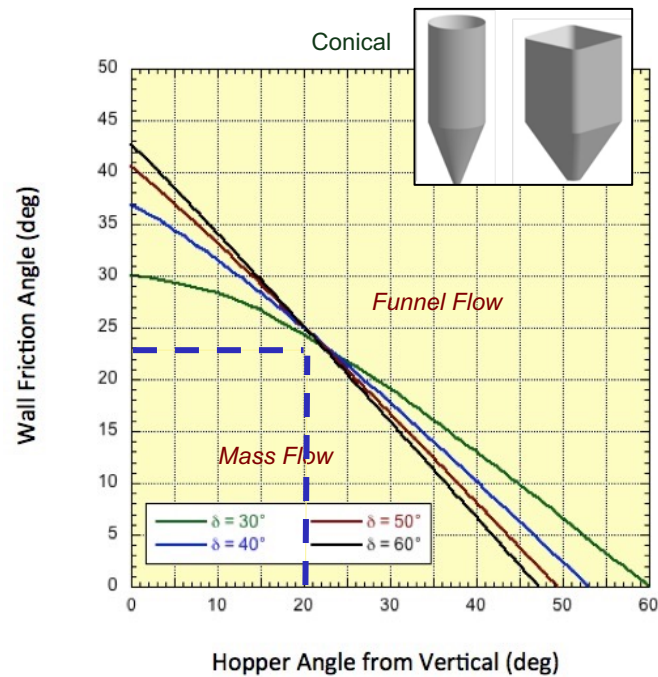


# Mass flow hopper angle

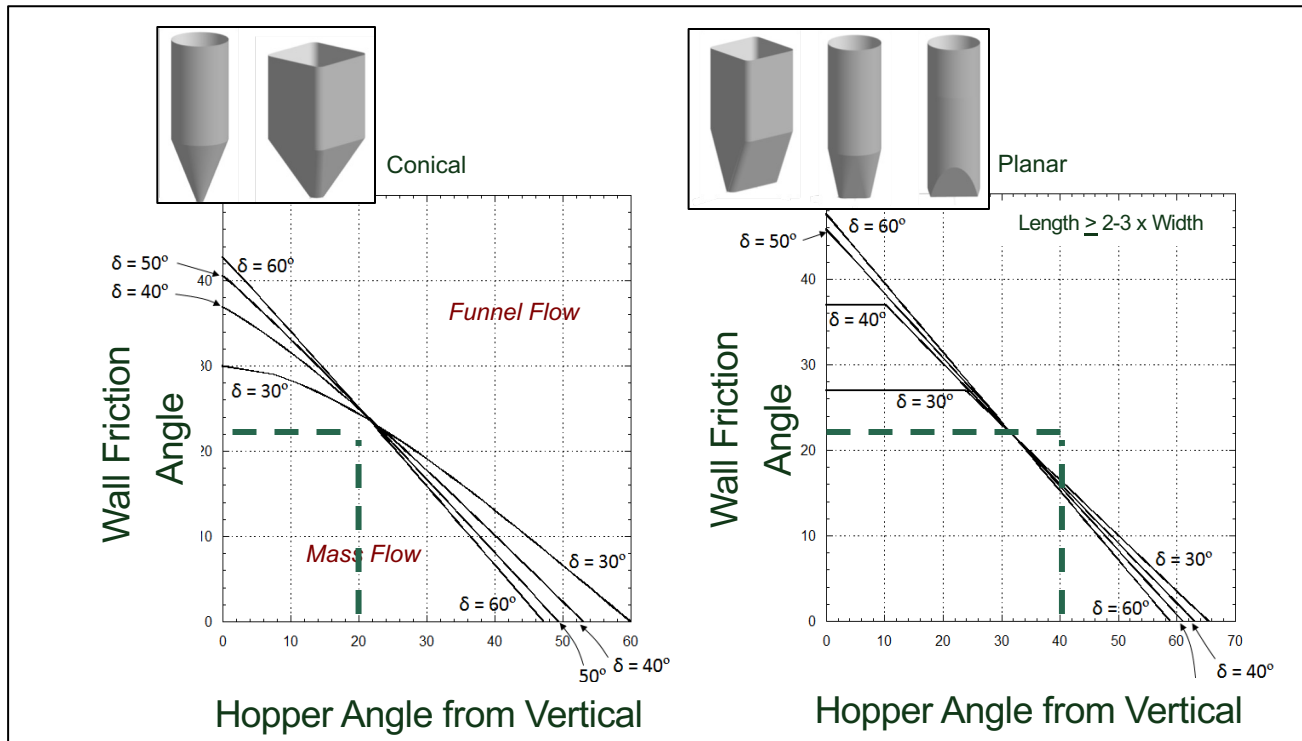




# Mass flow hopper angle



# Mass flow hopper angles

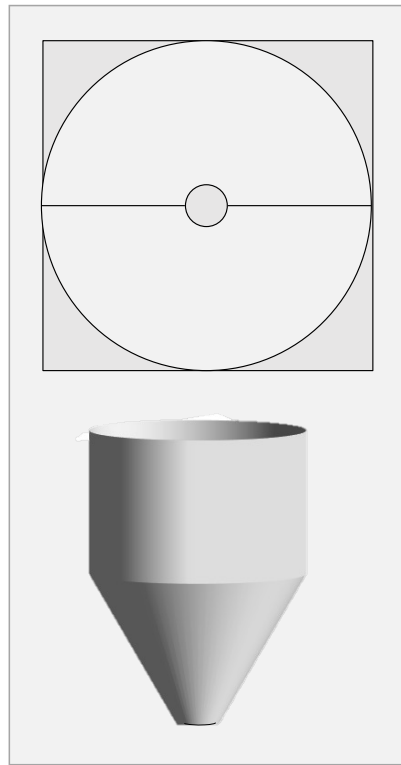


From Jenike Bulletin 123



# Mass flow hopper angle

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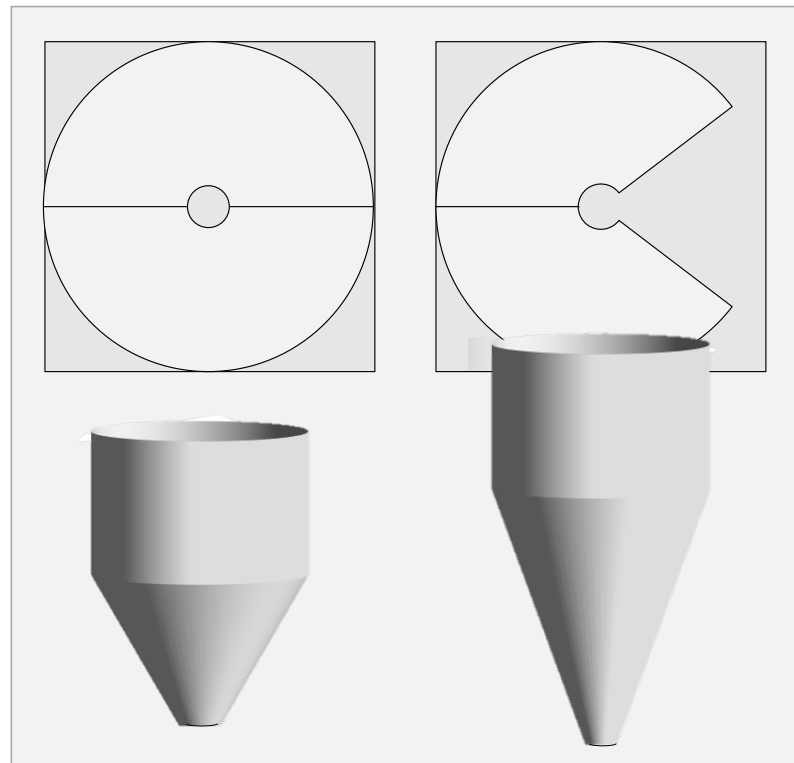


30°



# Mass flow hopper angle

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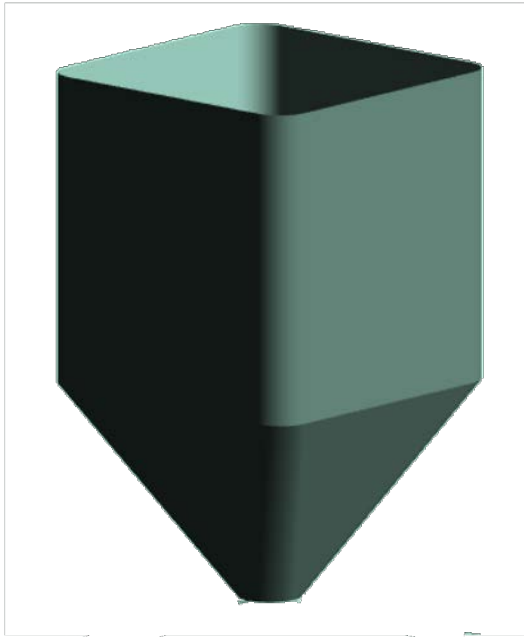
30°

20°

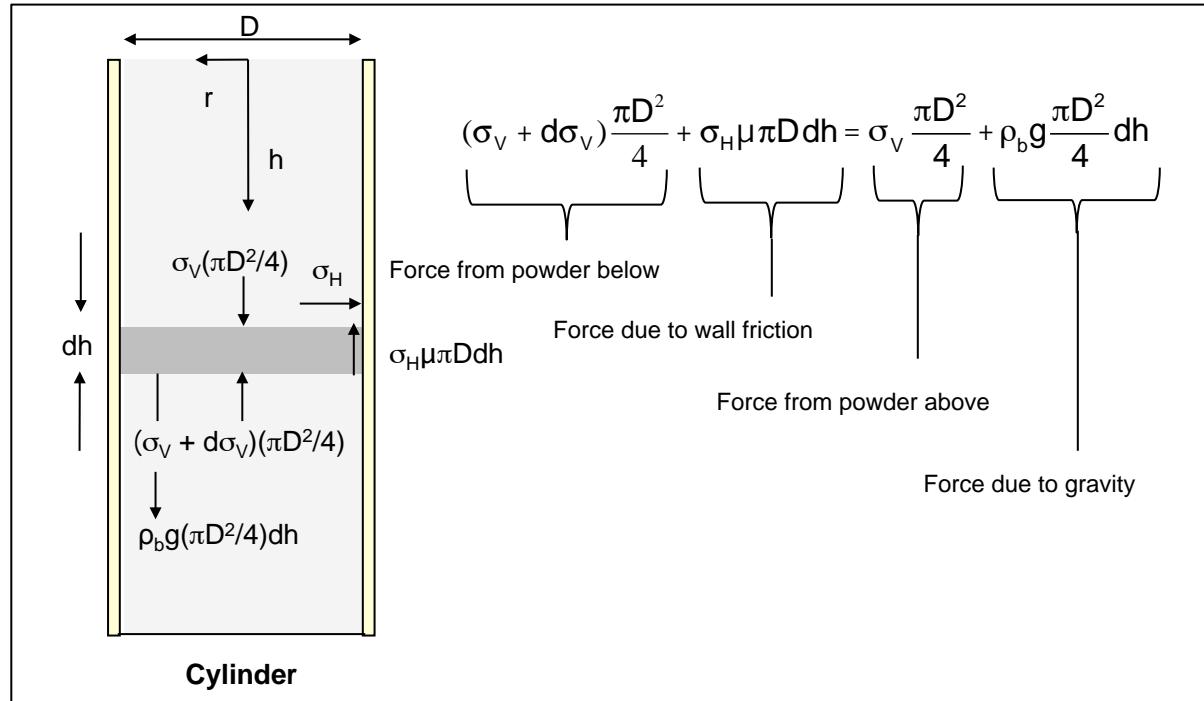


# Valley angles

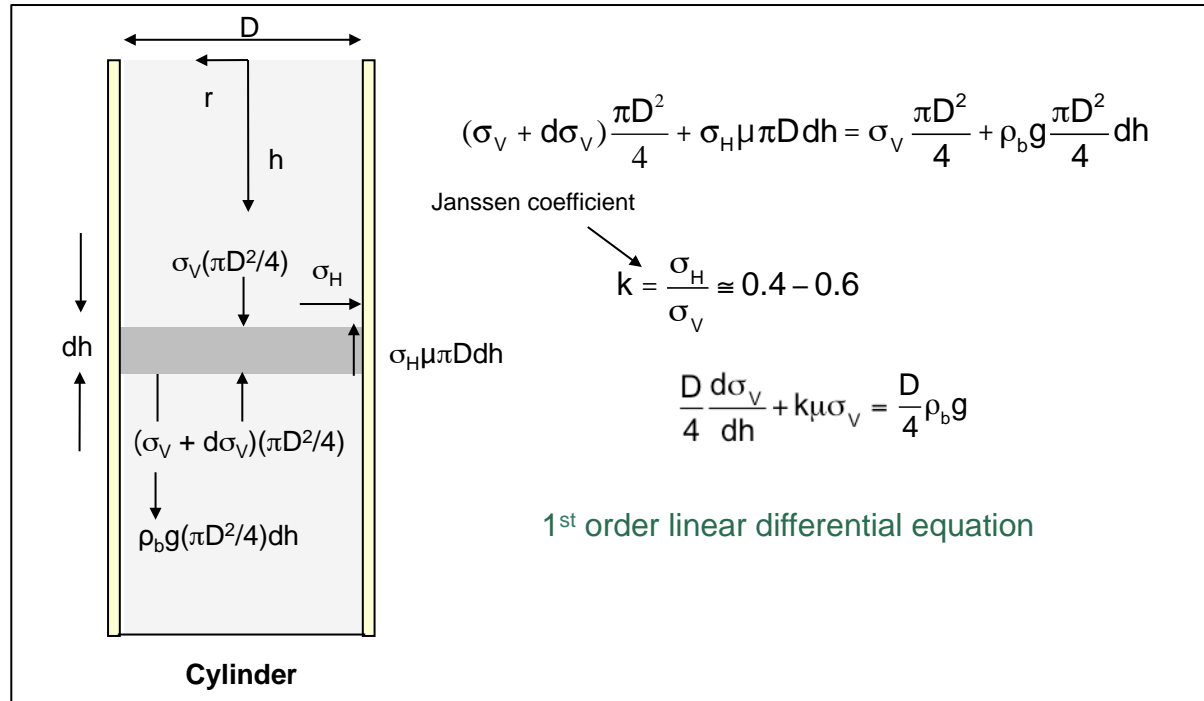
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# Pressure distribution



# Pressure distribution




Browser tabs: rathole silo - Google Search x, analysis of stress mohr's cir x, Integrating factor - Wikiped x, Phoenix, 2/12 — 2/17 x, Flights: Find Cheap Flights x, BOS to PHX, 2/12 — 2/17 x

Address bar: Secure https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Integrating\_factor

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## Integrating factor

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
(Redirected from integration factor)

In mathematics, an **integrating factor** is a function that is chosen to facilitate the solving of a given equation involving differentials. It is commonly used to solve ordinary differential equations, but is also used within multivariable calculus when multiplying through by an integrating factor allows an inexact differential to be made into an exact differential (which can then be integrated to give a scalar field). This is especially useful in thermodynamics where temperature becomes the integrating factor that makes entropy an exact differential.

**Contents** [hide]

- 1 Use in solving first order linear ordinary differential equations
  - 1.1 Example
- 2 General use
- 3 References
- 4 See also

### Use in solving first order linear ordinary differential equations [ edit ]

Integrating factors are useful for solving ordinary differential equations that can be expressed in the form

$$y' + P(x)y = Q(x)$$

The basic idea is to find some function  $M(x)$ , called the "integrating factor," which we can multiply through our DE in order to bring the left-hand side under a common derivative. For the canonical first-order, linear differential equation shown above, our integrating factor is chosen to be

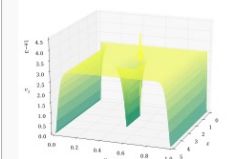
$$M(x) = e^{\int_{x_0}^x P(s)ds}$$

In order to derive this, let  $M(x)$  be the integrating factor of a first order, linear differential equation such that multiplication by  $M(x)$  transforms a partial derivative into a total derivative, then:

$$(1) \quad M(x)(y' + P(x)y)$$

partial derivative

### Differential equations



Navier–Stokes differential equations used to simulate airflow around an obstruction.

<b>Scope</b>	<a href="#">[show]</a>
<b>Classification</b>	
<b>Types</b>	<a href="#">[show]</a>
<b>Relation to processes</b>	<a href="#">[show]</a>
<b>Solution</b>	
<b>General topics</b>	<a href="#">[show]</a>
<b>Solution methods</b>	<a href="#">[show]</a>
<b>People</b>	<a href="#">[show]</a>

V · T · E





# Pressure distribution

Cylinder

$$(\sigma_v + d\sigma_v) \frac{\pi D^2}{4} + \sigma_H \mu \pi D dh = \sigma_v \frac{\pi D^2}{4} + \rho_b g \frac{\pi D^2}{4} dh$$

$$k = \frac{\sigma_H}{\sigma_v} \cong 0.4$$

$$\frac{D}{4} \frac{d\sigma_v}{dh} + k \mu \sigma_v \frac{D}{4} \rho_b g$$

Janssen Equation:

$$\sigma_v = \frac{\rho_b g D}{4k\mu} \left[ 1 - \exp\left(\frac{-4k\mu h}{D}\right) \right]$$


# Pressure distribution

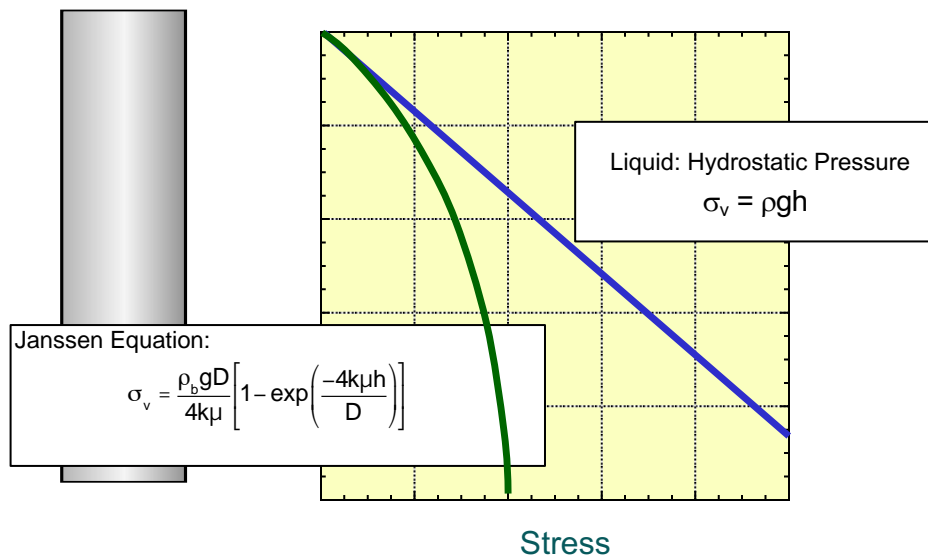
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Stress



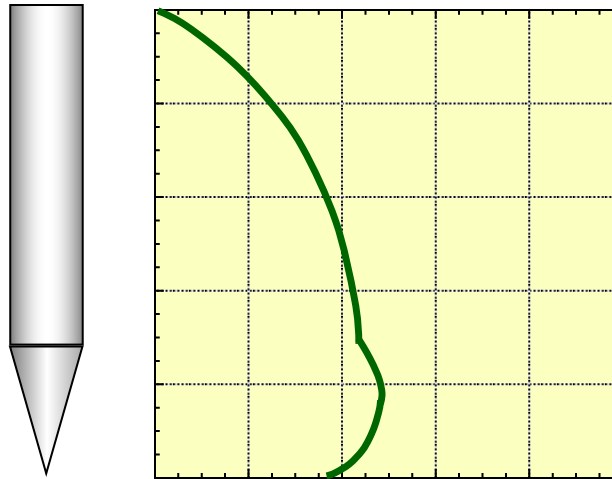
# Pressure distribution



# Pressure distribution

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Initial fill



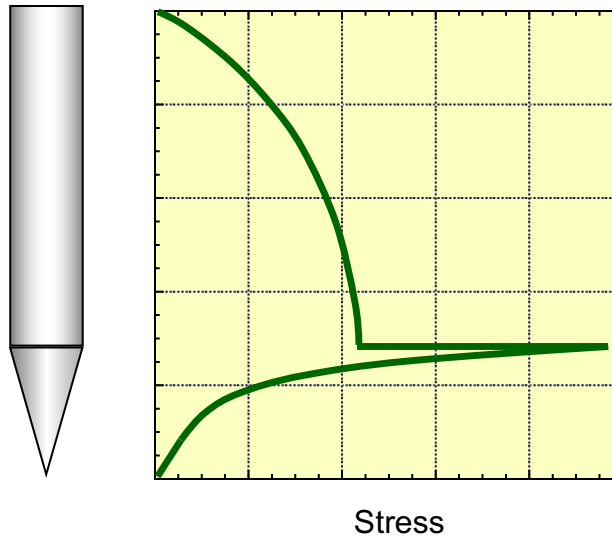
Stress



# Pressure distribution

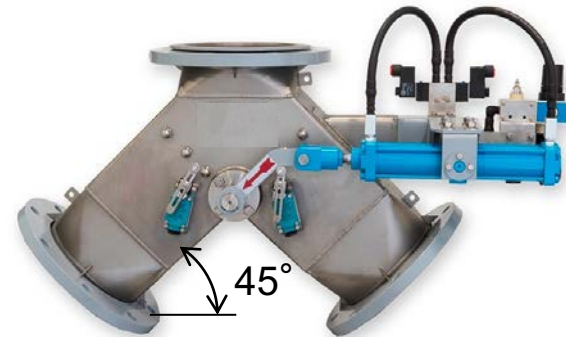
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After discharge (mass flow)



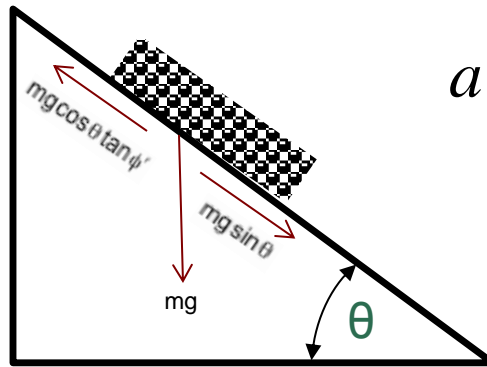
# Transfer chutes and diverter valves

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# Transfer chutes

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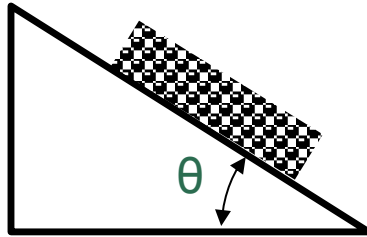
$$a = g (\sin \theta - \cos \theta \tan \phi')$$
$$= g \cos \theta (\tan \theta - \tan \phi')$$

For dependable flow,  $\theta' = \phi' + 5^\circ$



# Transfer chutes

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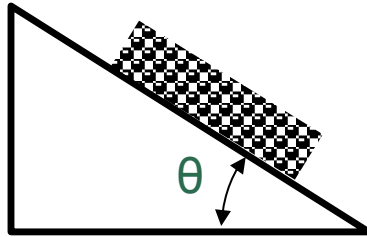


$$a = g \cos \theta (\tan \theta - \tan \phi')$$



# Transfer chutes

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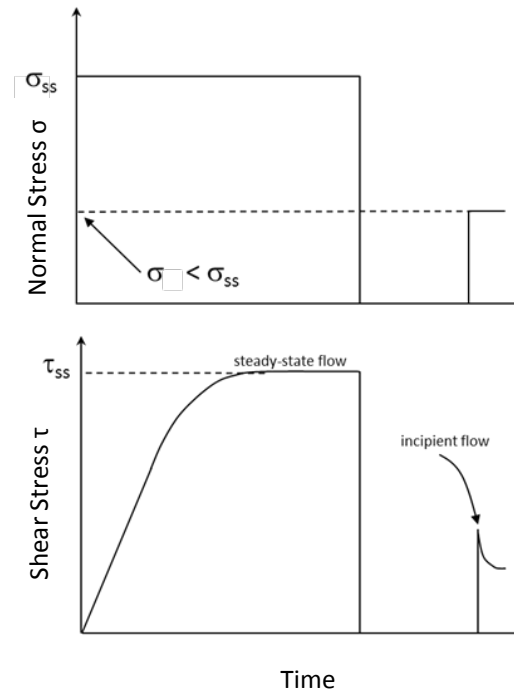
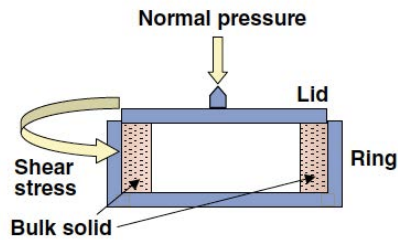
$$a = g \cos \theta (\tan \theta - \tan \phi')$$

# Cohesive strength

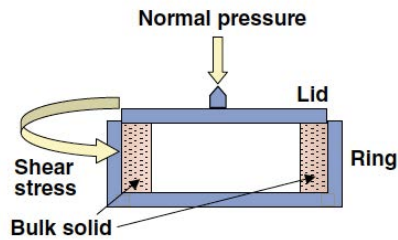
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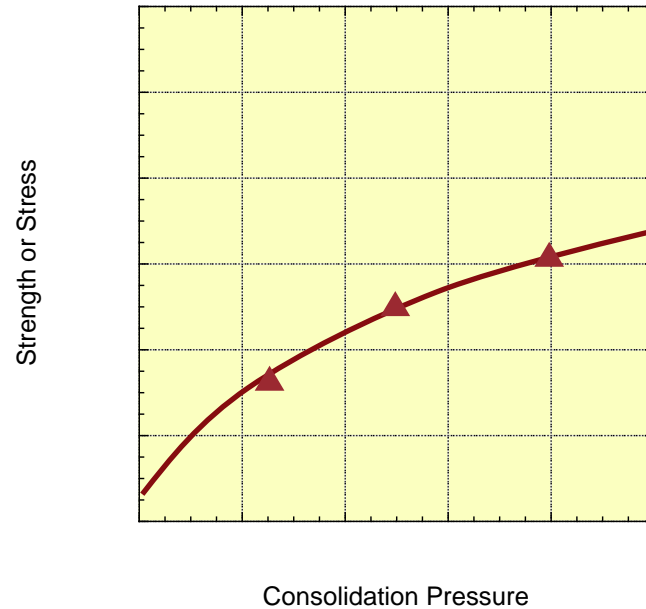
# Cohesive strength



# Cohesive strength



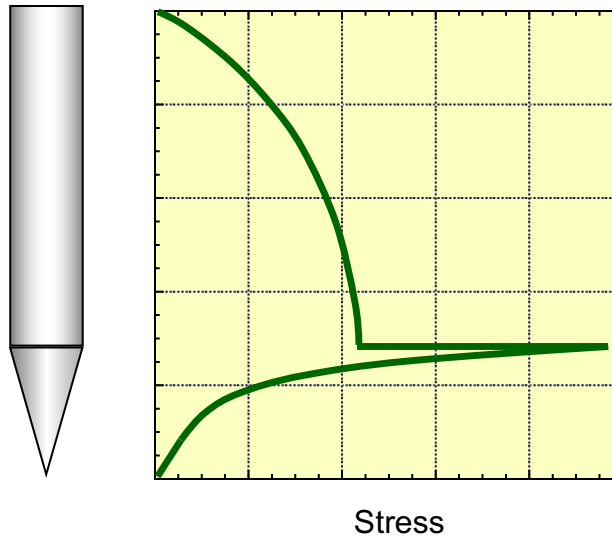
## Flow Function



# Pressure distribution

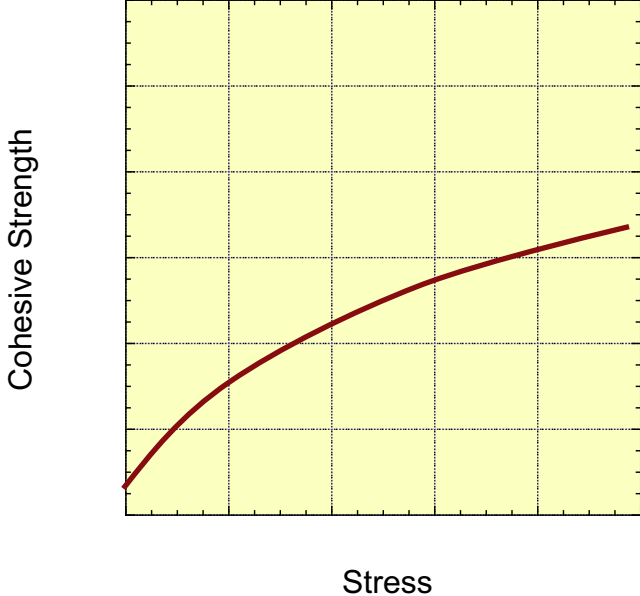
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After discharge (mass flow)

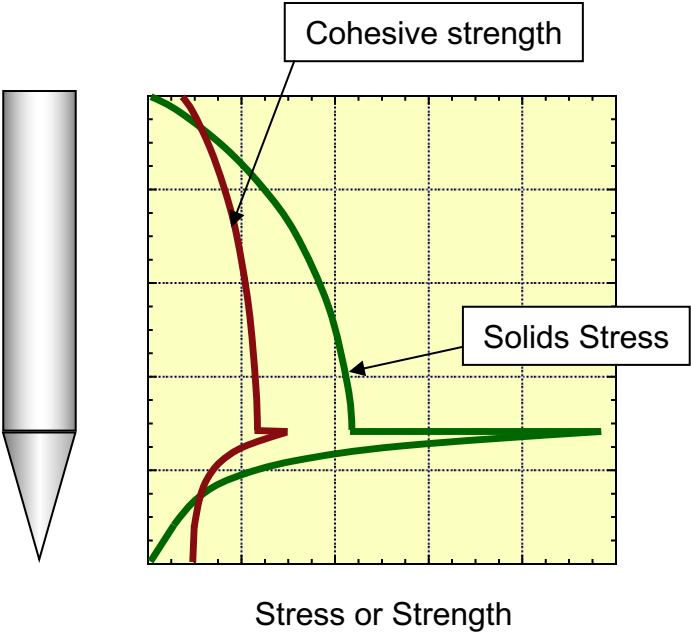


# Cohesive strength

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# Cohesive strength



# Arch stress

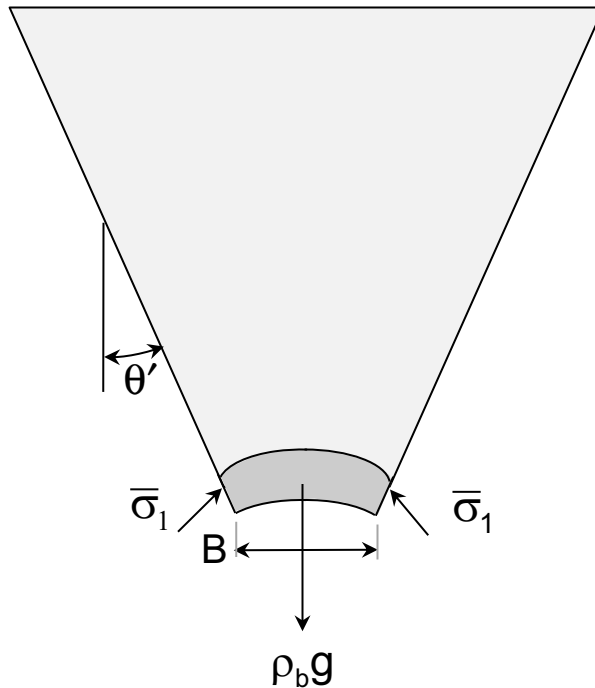
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# Arch stress

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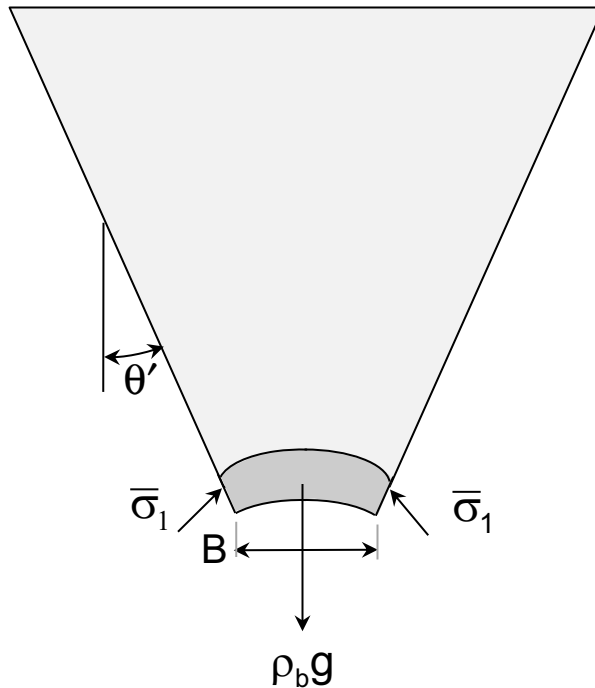


Stress on abutments of arch:

$$\bar{\sigma}_1 \approx \frac{\rho_b g B}{2}$$



# Arch stress



Stress on abutments of arch:

$$\bar{\sigma}_1 = \frac{\rho_b g B}{H(\theta')}$$

Conical:

$$H(\theta') \approx 2$$

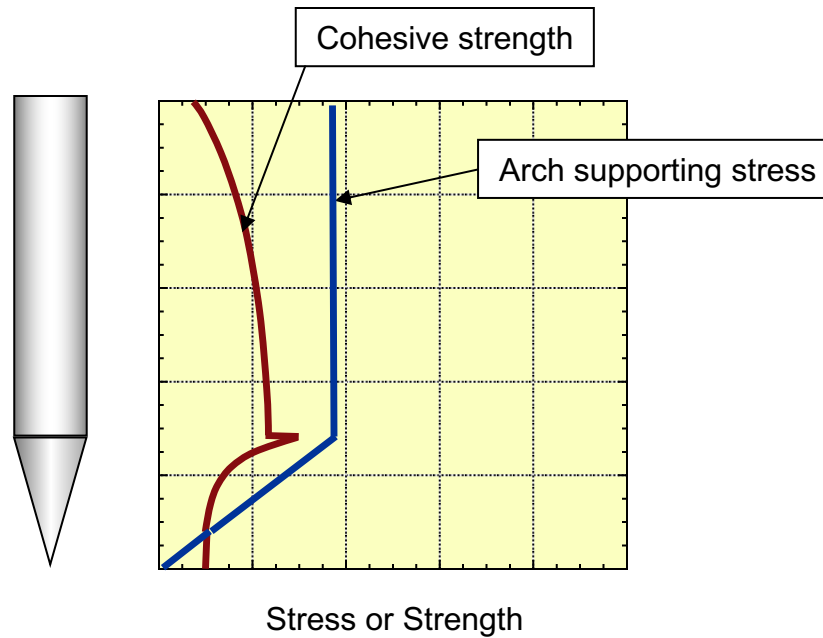
Slot:

$$H(\theta') \approx 1$$

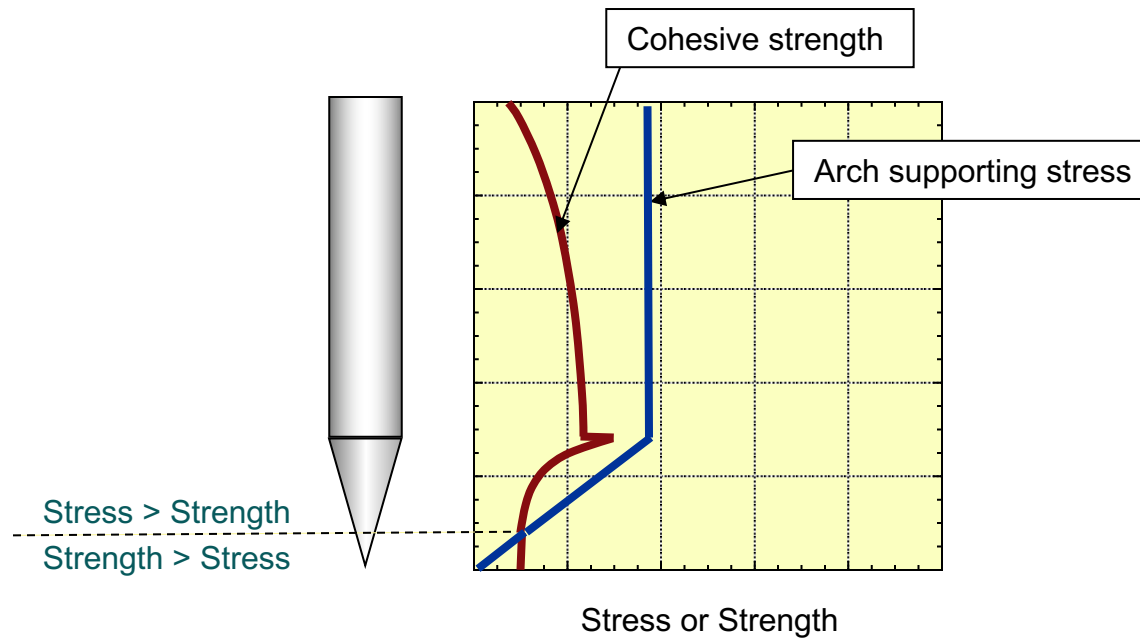


# Arch stress

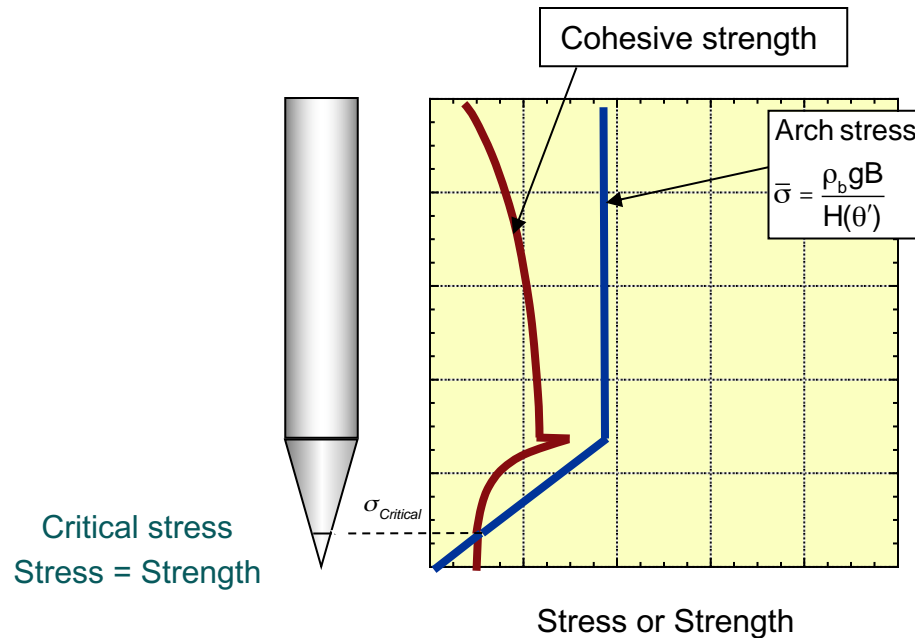
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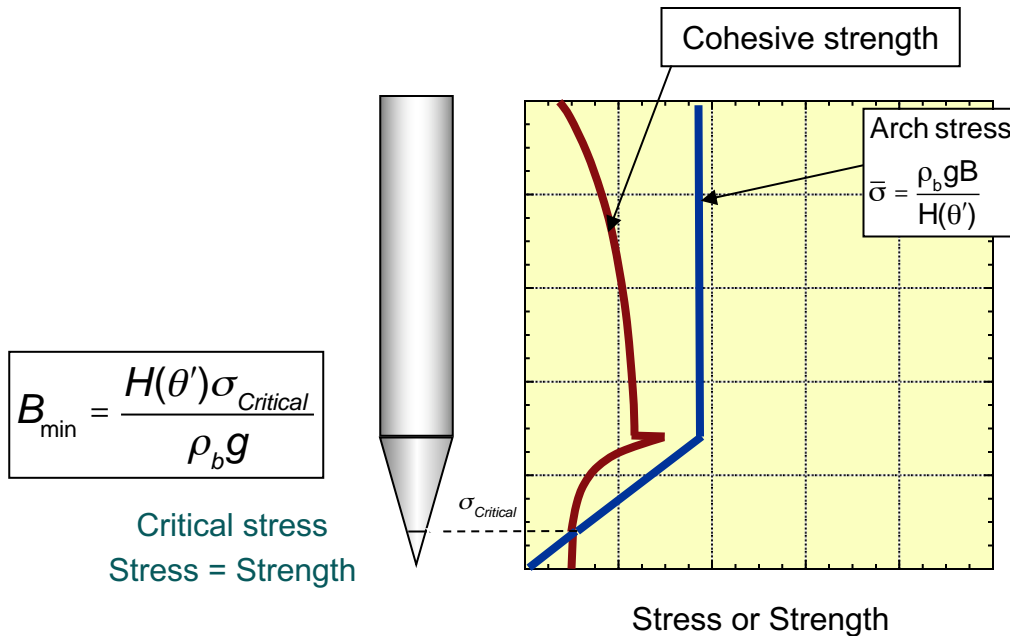
# Arch stress



# Critical arching diameter



# Critical arching diameter



# Flow factor

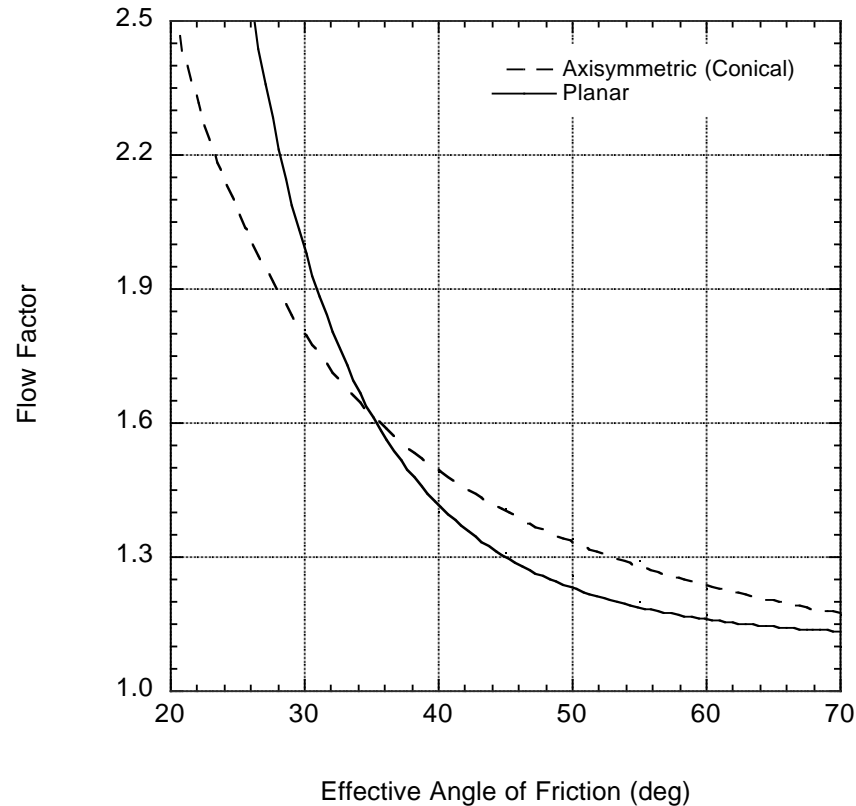
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- Flow function (FF)
  - Relationship between consolidation stress and cohesive strength
- Flow factor (ff)
  - Ratio of consolidation stress and arch supporting stress

$$ff = \frac{\text{consolidation stress}}{\text{arch stress}}$$



# Critical flow factor



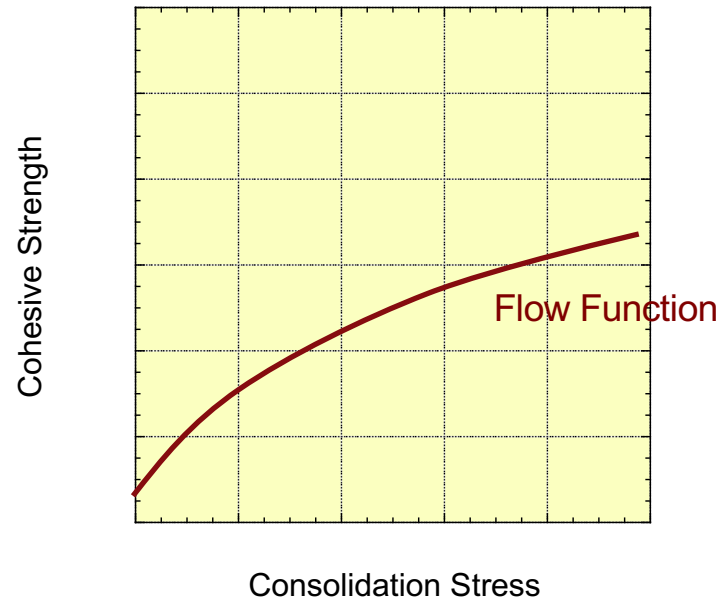
from Jerry Johanson's chapter in McGlinchey, Bulk Solids Characterization, 2005



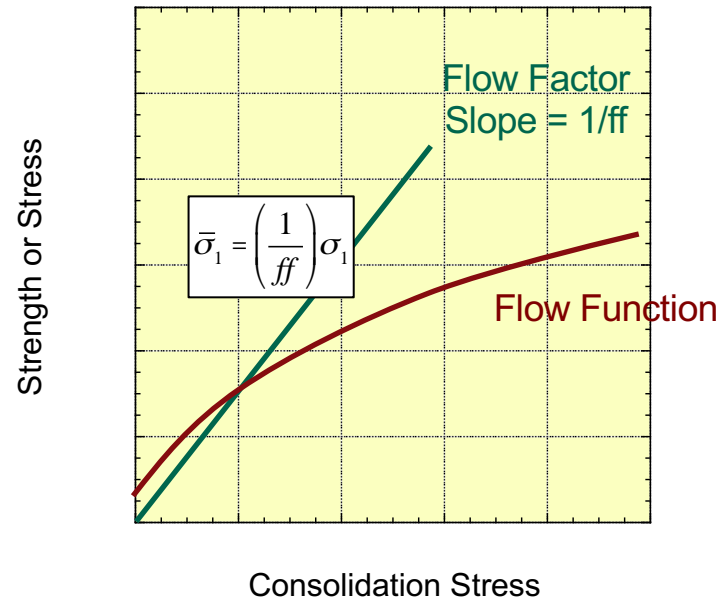


# Flow function

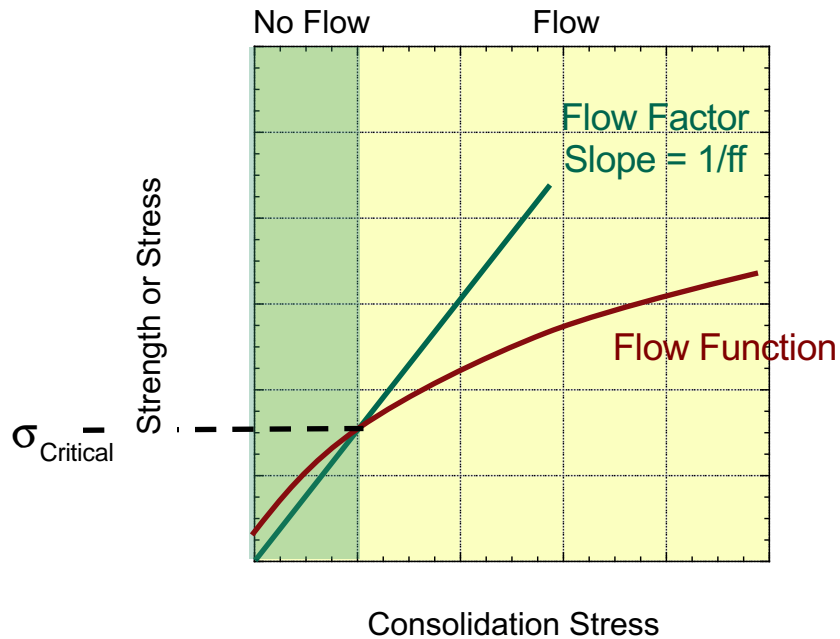
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# Flow factor



# Critical stress

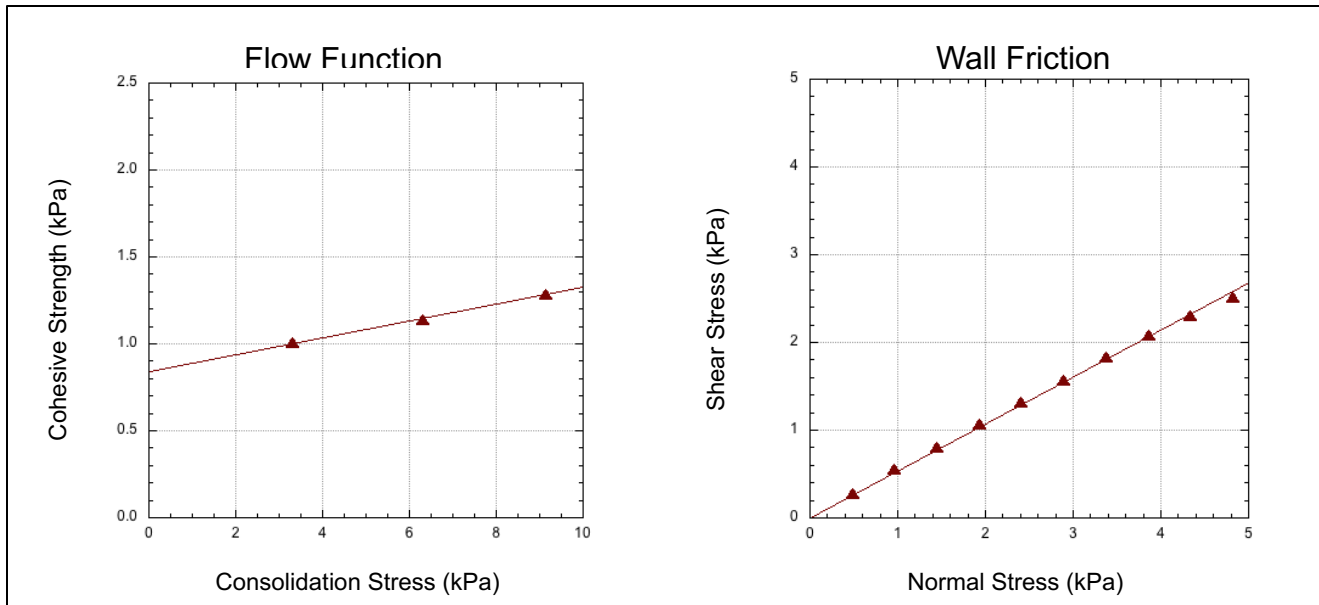


$$B_{min} = \frac{H(\theta')\sigma_{Critical}}{\rho_b g}$$

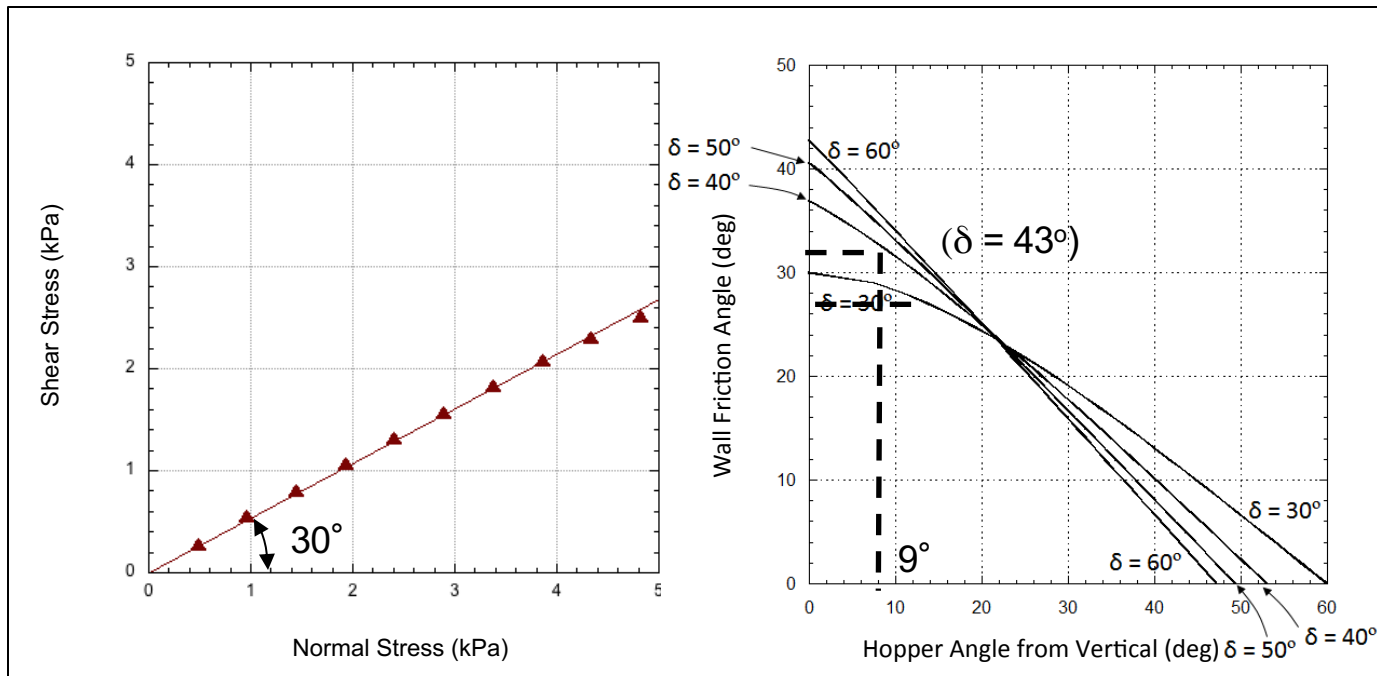


# Example

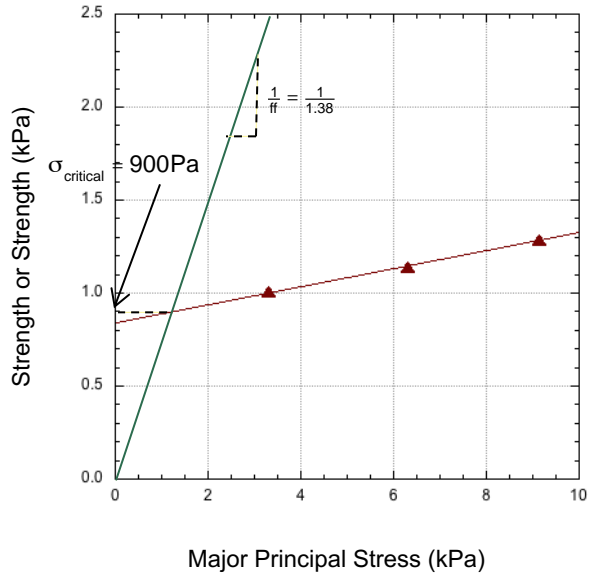
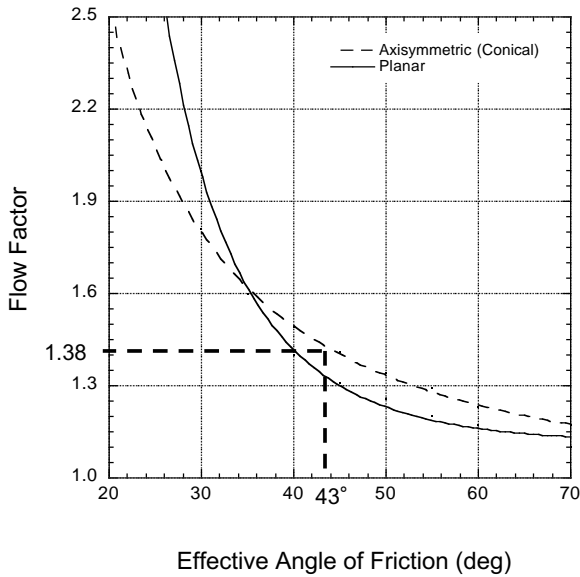
Design a hopper that reliably handles 67/29/4 blend of acetaminophen/Avicel/hydroxypropyl cellulose



# Example



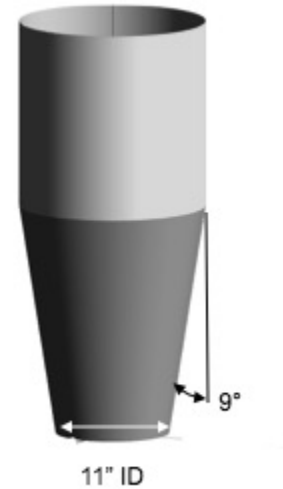
# Example



# Example

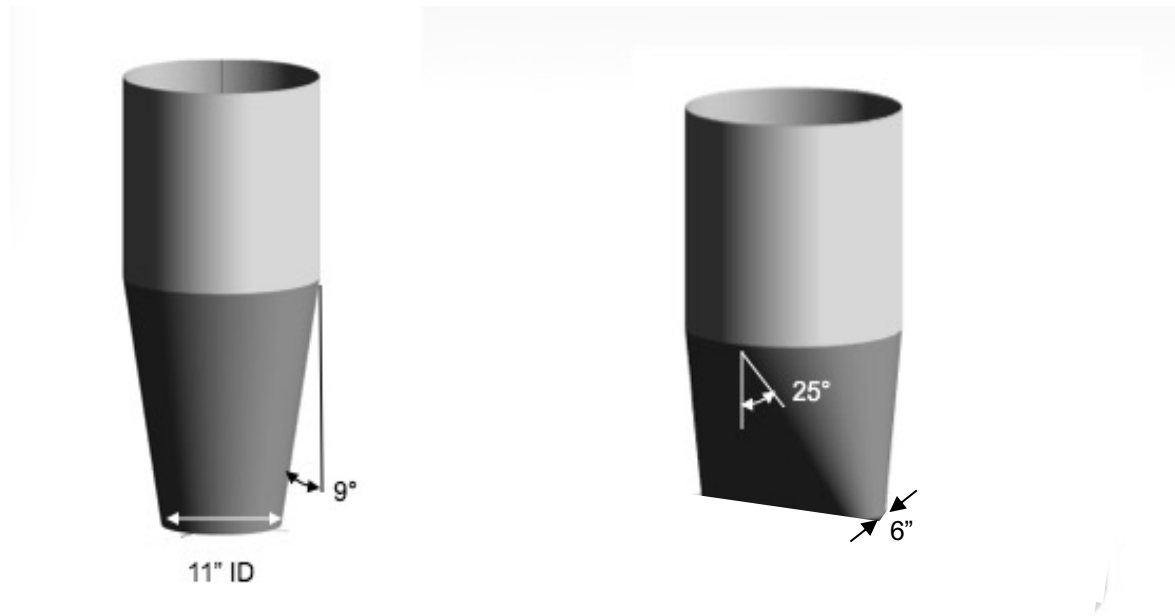
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$$B_{\min} = \frac{H(\theta')\sigma_{\text{Critical}}}{\rho_b g} = \frac{(2.14)(900)}{(690)(9.8)} = 0.28 \text{ m} = 11 \text{ in.}$$



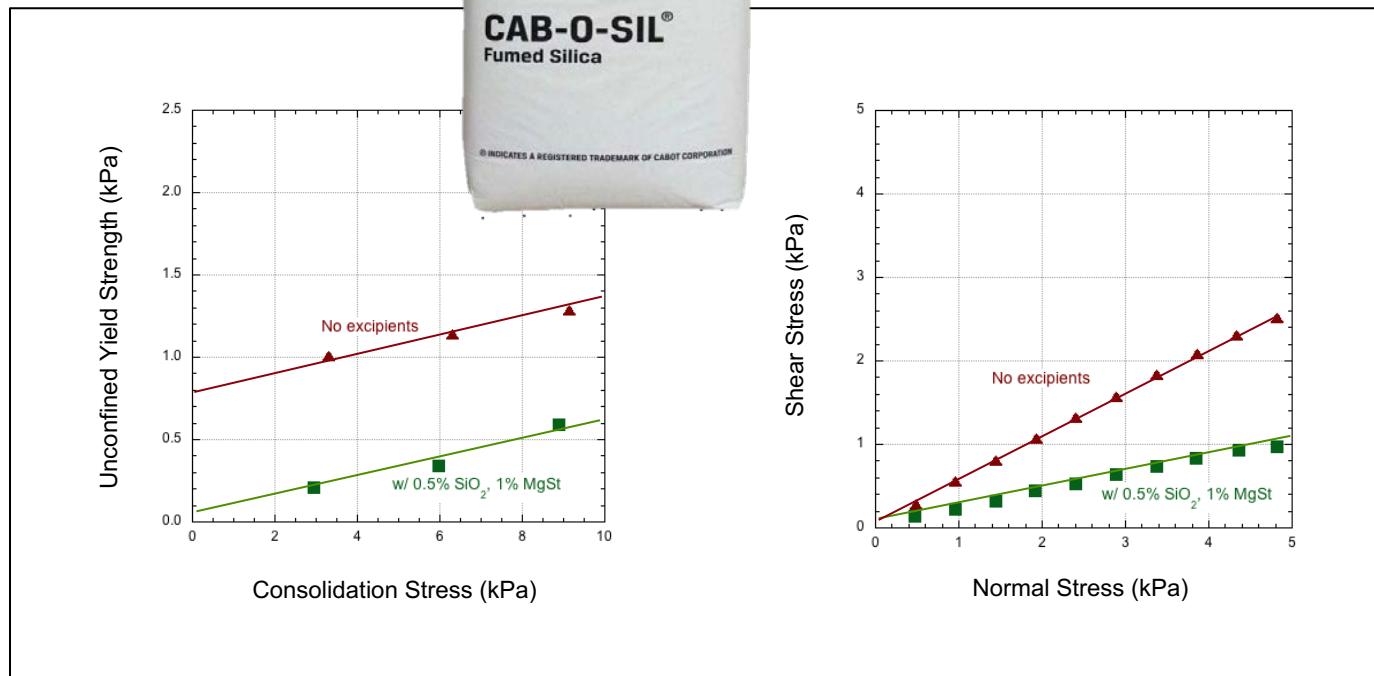
# Example

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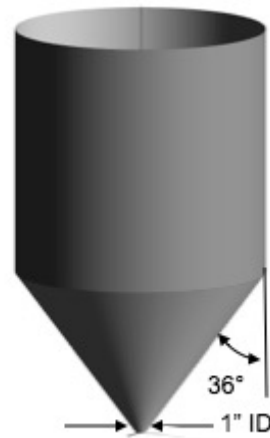


# Example

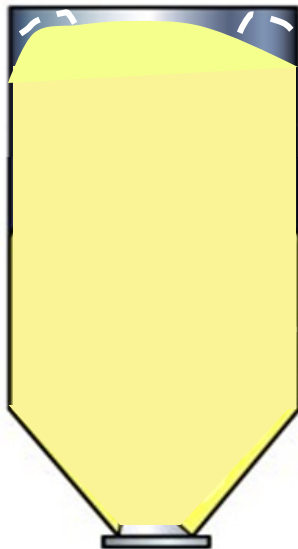


# Example

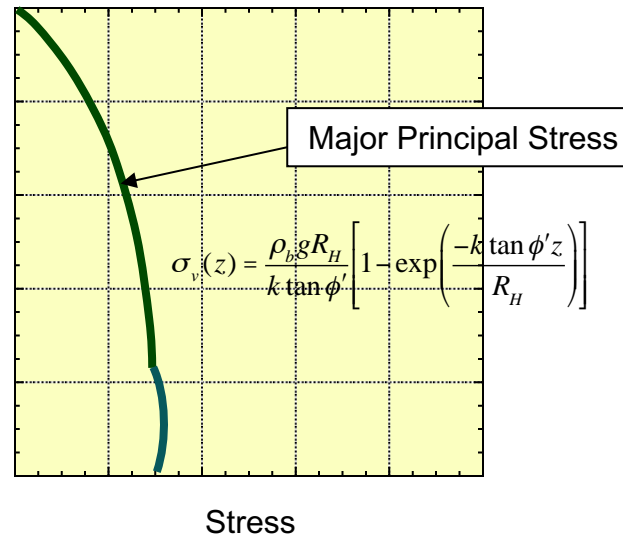
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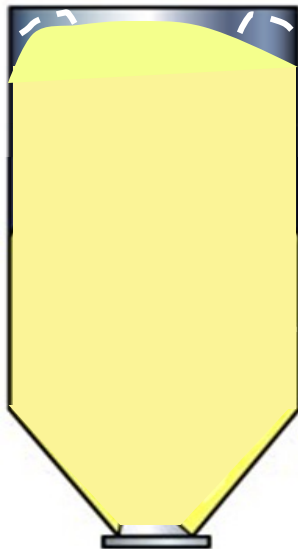
# Funnel flow bins



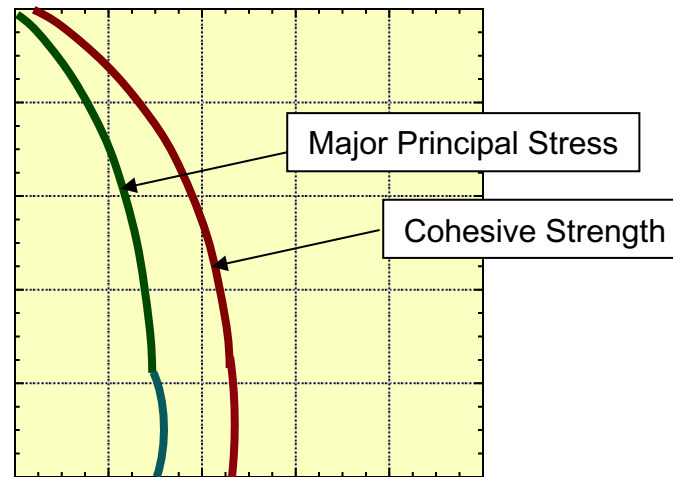
D = diameter of round outlet or  
*diagonal* of slotted outlet



# Funnel flow bins



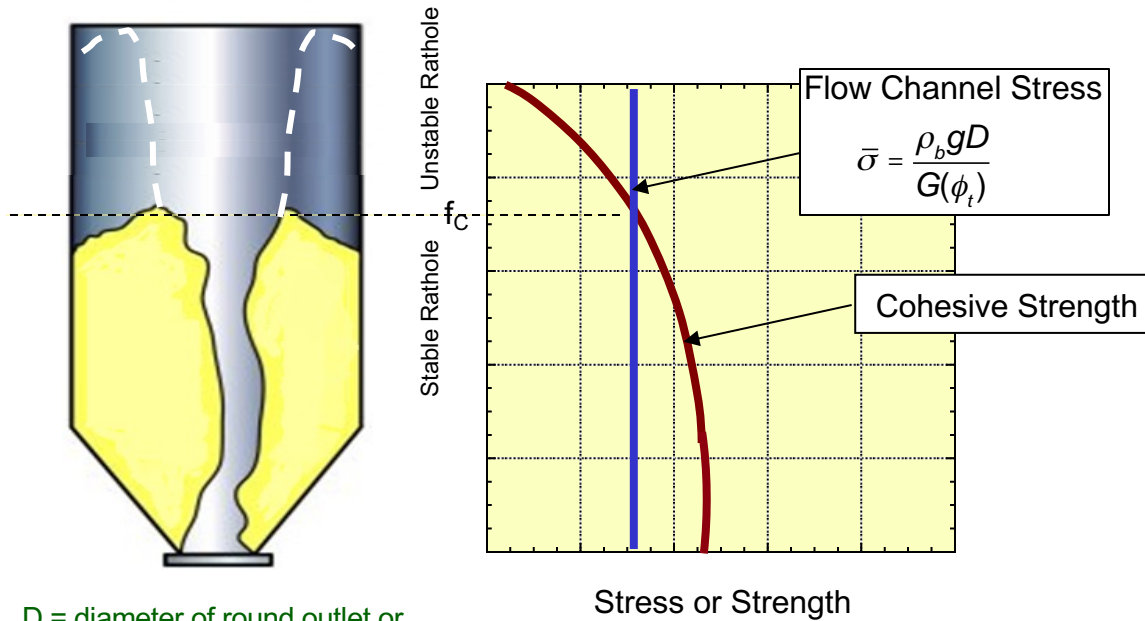
D = diameter of round outlet or  
*diagonal* of slotted outlet



Stress or Strength



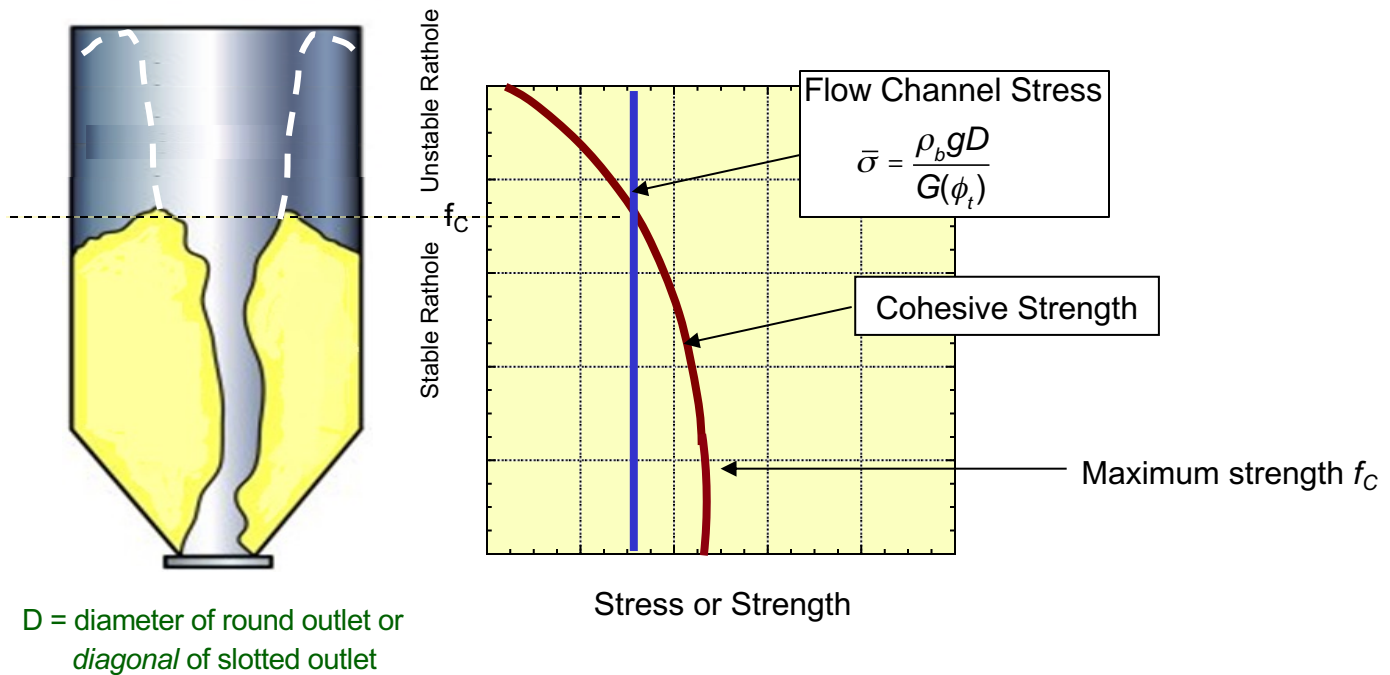
# Funnel flow bins



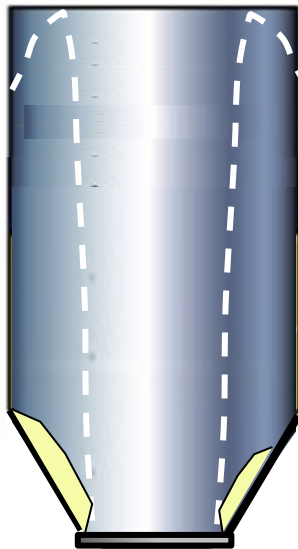
D = diameter of round outlet or  
diagonal of slotted outlet



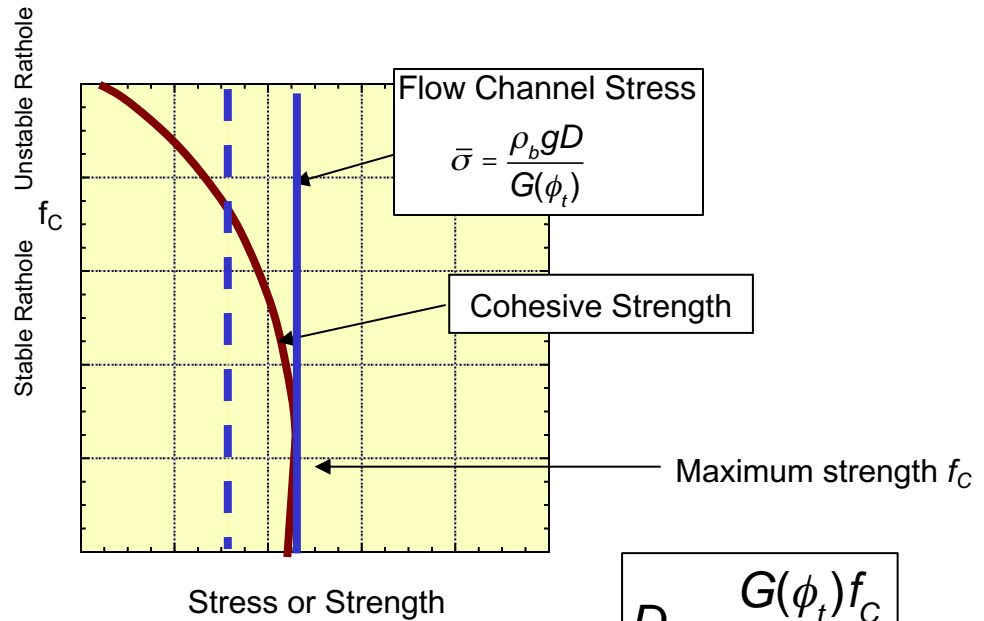
# Funnel flow bins



# Funnel flow bins



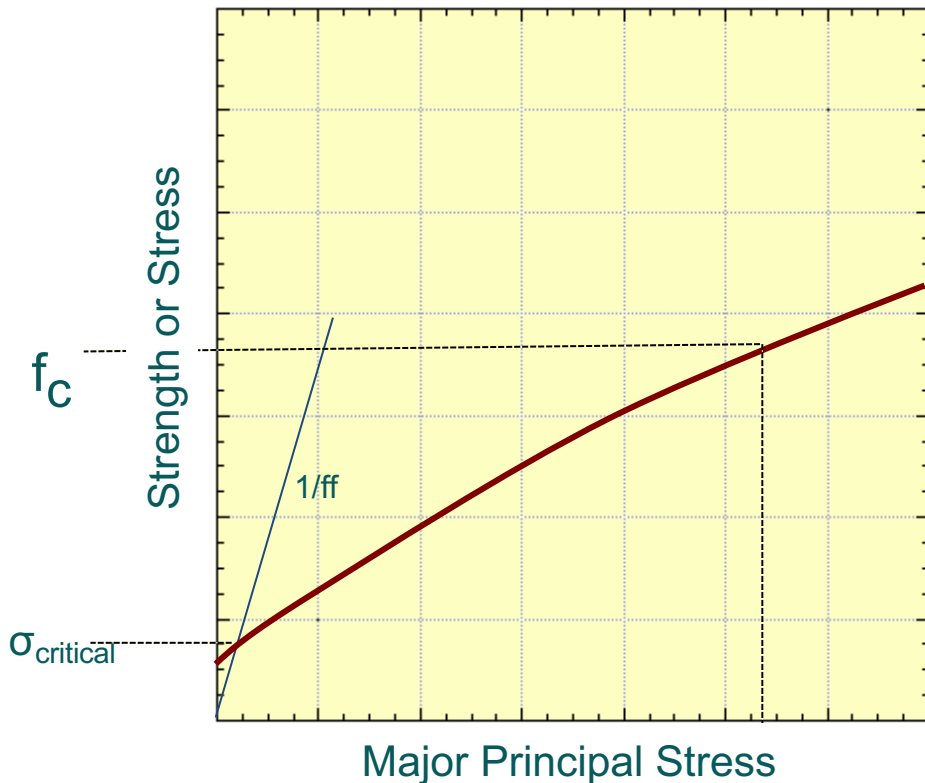
D = diameter of round outlet or diagonal of slotted outlet



$$D_F = \frac{G(\phi_t) f_c}{\rho_b g}$$



# Mass flow vs. funnel flow



To prevent arching in a mass flow bin:

$$B_{min} = \frac{H(\theta')\sigma_{critical}}{\rho_b g}$$

To prevent a stable rathole in a funnel flow bin:

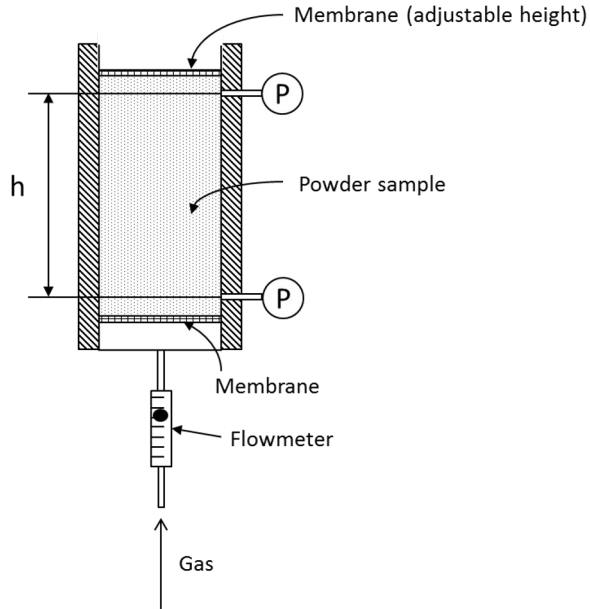
$$D_F = \frac{G(\phi_t)f_c}{\rho_b g}$$

$$\sigma_v = \frac{\rho_b g R_H}{k \tan \phi'} \left[ 1 - \exp\left(\frac{-k \tan \phi' z}{R_H}\right) \right]$$



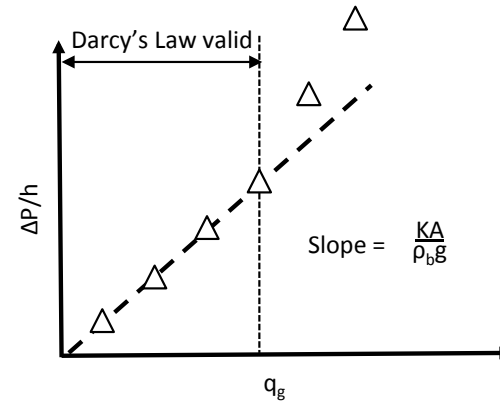


# Permeability

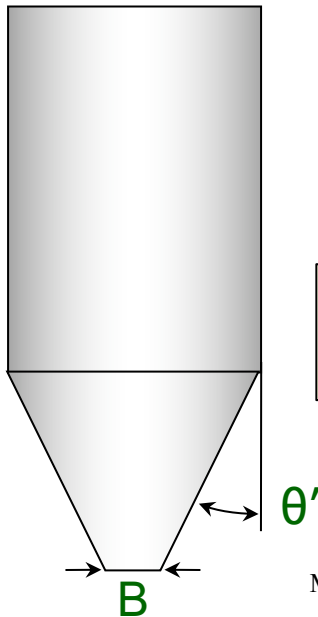


## Darcy's Law

$$q_g = \frac{KA}{\rho_b g} \frac{\Delta P}{h}$$



# Solids discharge rates



$$\frac{2(m+1)\tan\theta'}{Bg}v_o^2 = 1 - \frac{2(m+1)\cos\theta'\sin(\beta+\theta')f_c}{\rho_b g B} + \frac{1}{\rho_{bo}g} \frac{dP}{dz} \Big|_o$$

$$\left[ \frac{2(m+1)\tan\theta'}{Bg} \right] v_o^2 + \left[ \frac{1}{K_o} \left( 1 - \frac{\rho_{bo}}{\rho_{bmp}} \right) \right] v_o + \frac{2(m+1)\cos\theta'\sin(\beta+\theta')f_c}{\rho_b g B} - 1 = 0$$

Permeability

Mehos, G., "Maximum Solids Discharge Rates from Hoppers", *Chem. Engr. Res. Des.*, 191, 564 (2023)



# Summary

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- Flow problems
  - Arching and ratholing
  - Caking
  - Segregation
  - Flooding and erratic discharge
- Flow properties
  - Cohesive strength
  - Internal friction
  - Compressibility
  - Wall friction
  - Permeability
- Design
  - Outlet dimension
  - Hopper angle



# Rand Corporation Study

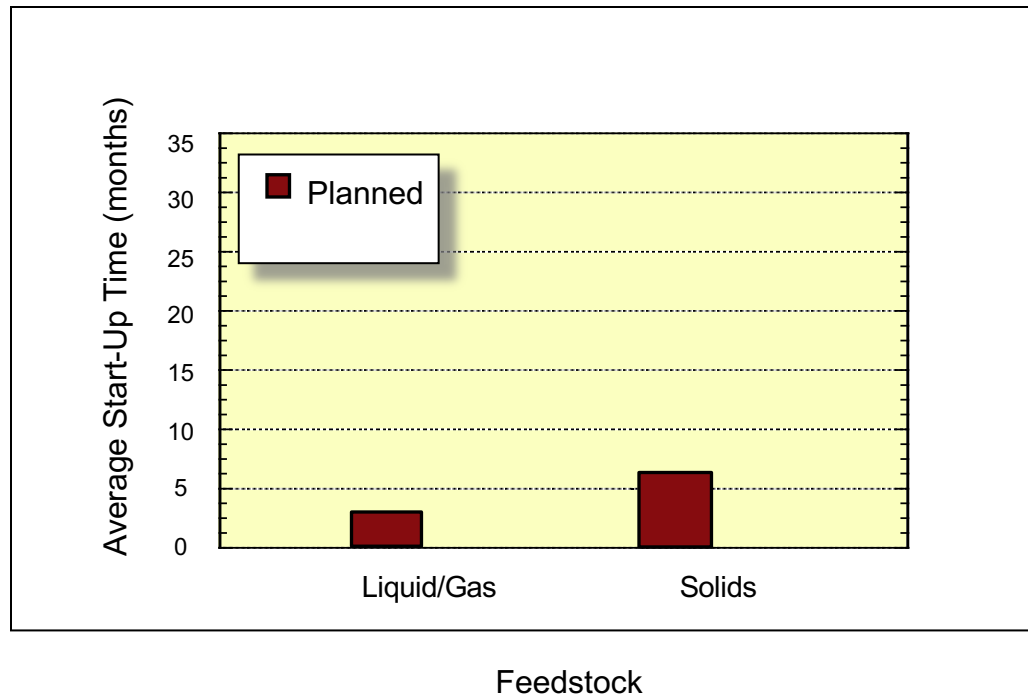
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- Study by independent organization
- 40 solids processing plants in U.S. and Canada
- Six-year duration



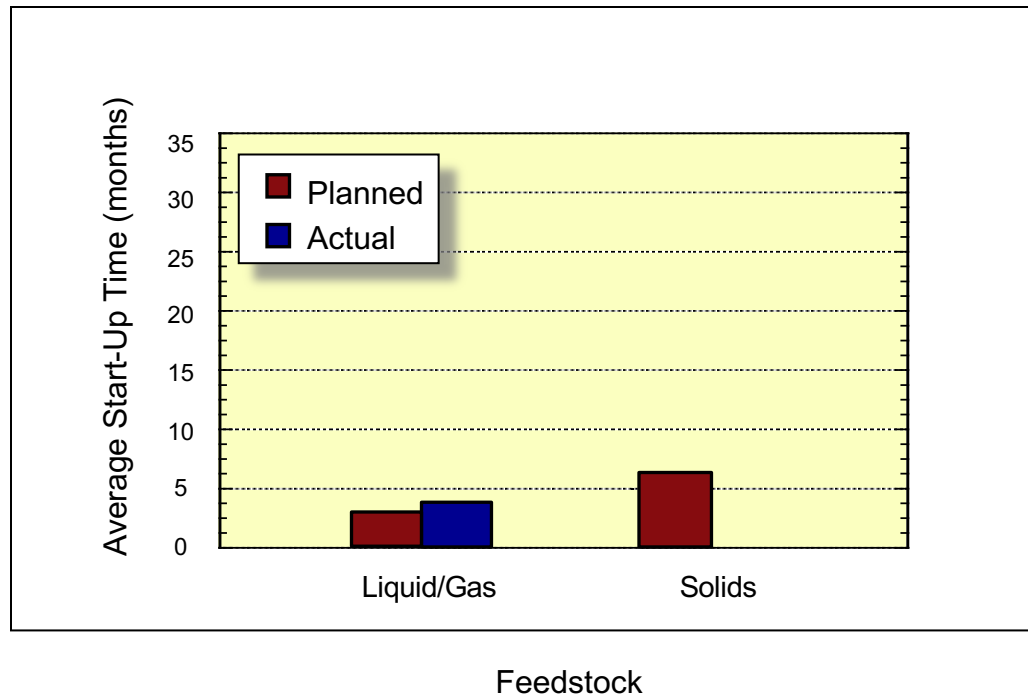
# Planned vs. actual start-up

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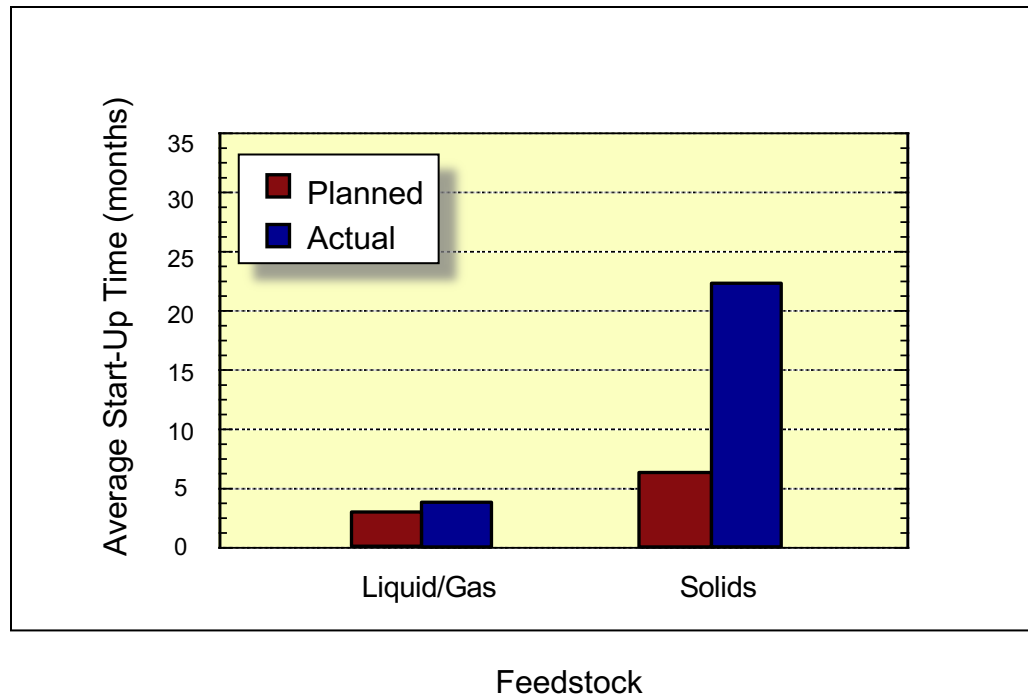
# Planned vs. actual start-up

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# Planned vs. actual start-up

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# Rand conclusions

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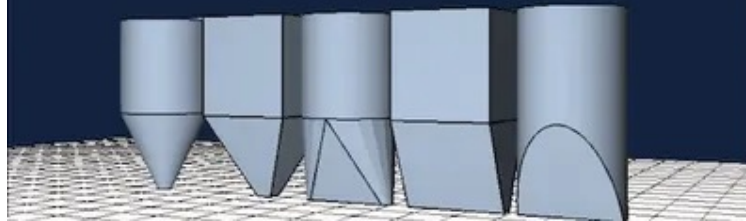
- 80% experienced solids handling problems
- Average startup time *ca.* 20 months (vs. 4 mo. for fluids)
- Typical performance 40 to 50% of design





# STORAGE AND FLOW OF BULK SOLIDS

Greg Mehos, Ph.D., P.E.



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# Flow and Storage of Powders

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