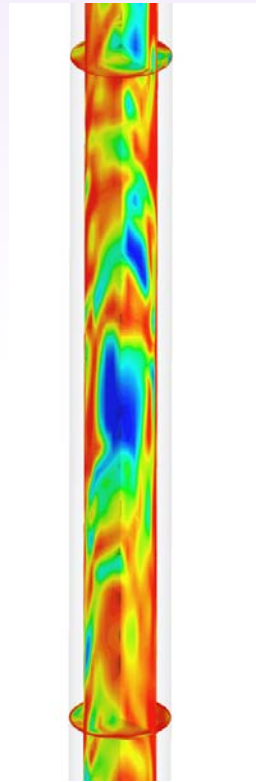
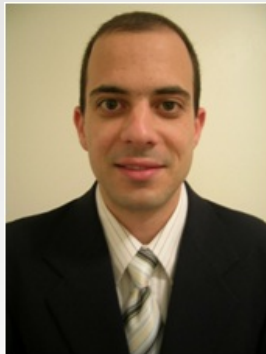


# Experimental Investigation and Performance Evaluation of Models Applied to Worst-Case-Discharge Calculations



LSU

# LSU Team – Principal Investigators



***Paulo Waltrich, PhD.***  
*Assistant Professor*



PhD in Petroleum Engineering



***Richard Hughes, PhD.***  
*Professional in Residence*



PhD in Petroleum Engineering



***Mayank Tyagi, PhD.***  
*Associate Professor*



PhD in Mechanical Eng.

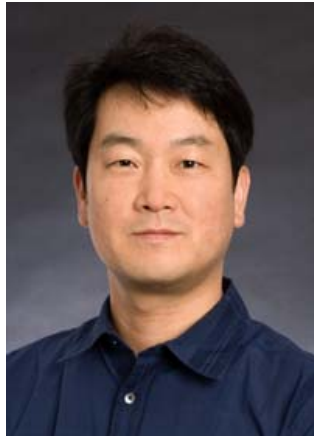
# LSU Team – Principal Investigators



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***Seung Kam, PhD.***  
*Associate Professor*



PhD in Petroleum Eng.

# LSU Team – Post-Doc and Graduate Students



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PhD in Petroleum Engineering



***Woochan Lee, MSc.***

*PhD Graduate Student*



MSc. in Petroleum Engineering



***Renato Coutinho, MSc.***

*PhD Graduate Student*



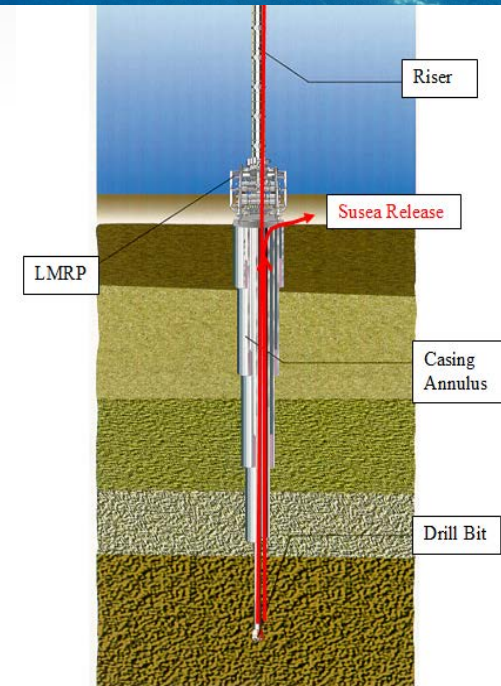
MSc. in Chemical Engineering

# Outline

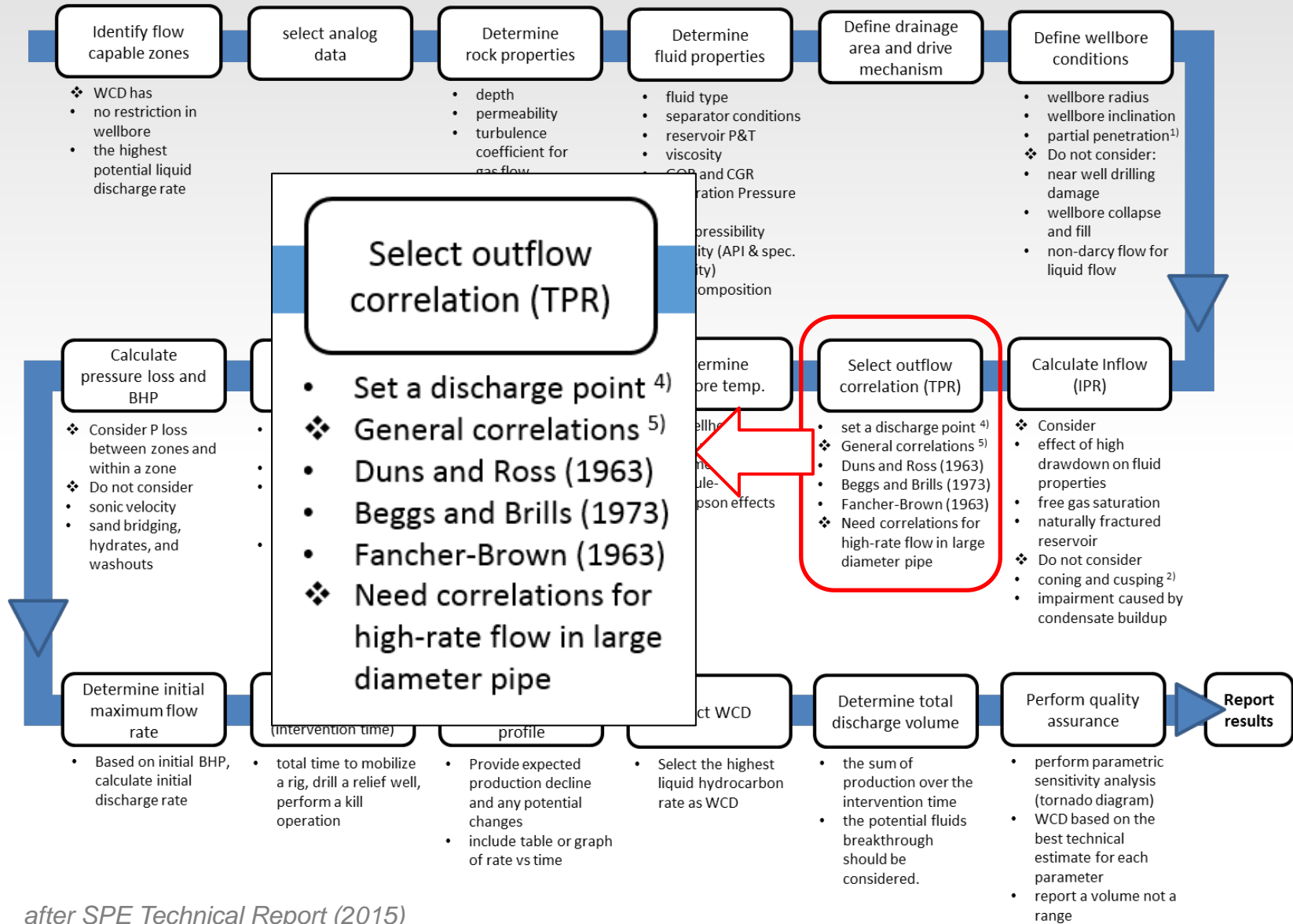
- ✓ Overview of project Objectives and Deliverables
- ✓ Literature Review Findings and Conclusions
- ✓ Description of Base Cases for comparison study *(Dr. Muhammad Zulqarnain)*
- ✓ CFD model description *(Dr. Mayank Tyagi)*
- ✓ Methodology for Comparison of Wellbore Flow models Applied for WCD Calculation
- ✓ Results for WCD Rates for Different Wellbore Flow Models
- ✓ Experimental work progress
- ✓ Conclusions
- ✓ Next Steps

# Project Motivation

- ❑ **Blowouts** Happen!
- ❑ For **effective contingency** plans, we need **accurate oil spill predictions!**
- ❑ For accurate predictions, **we need reliable models!**

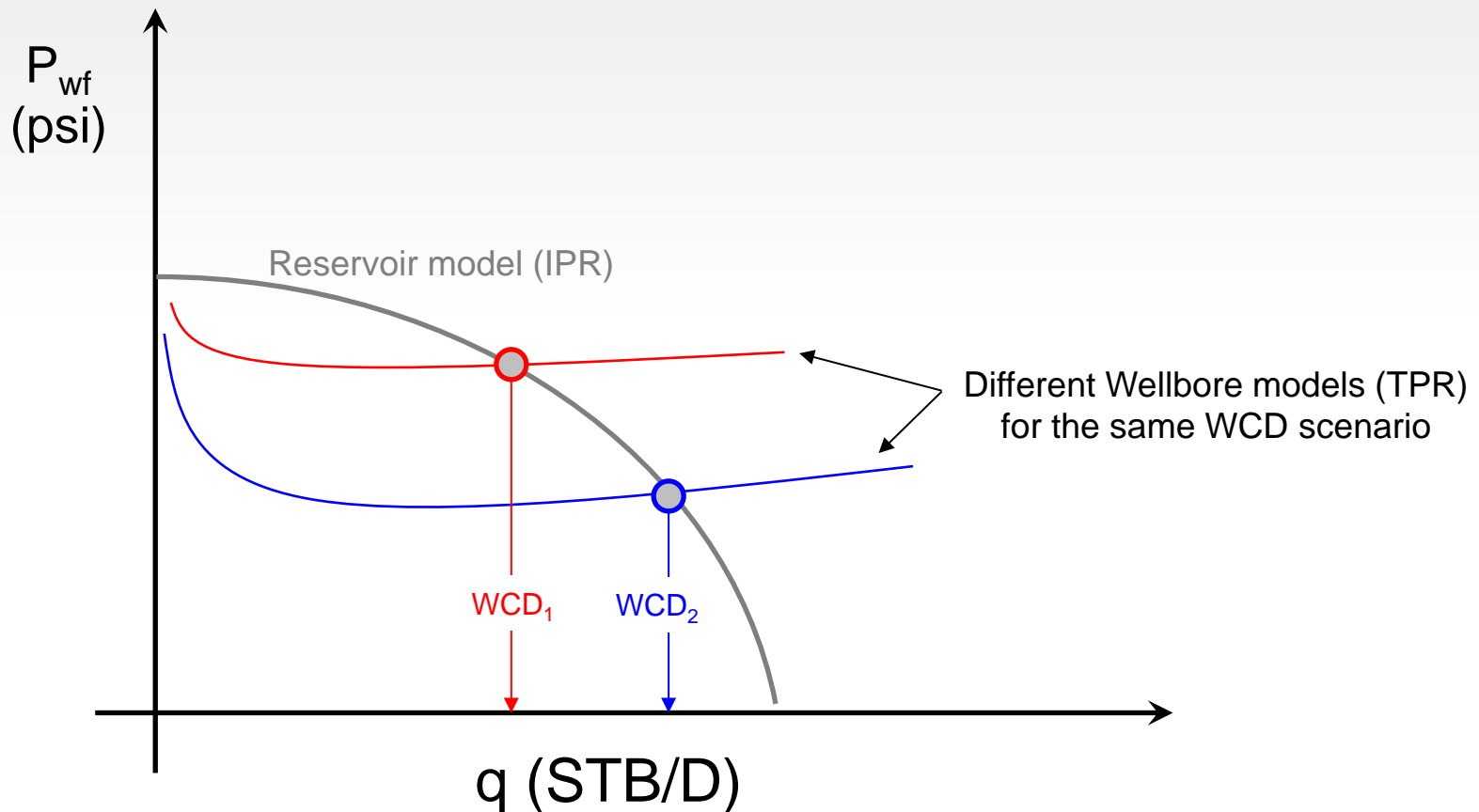


# Statement of the Problem



# Statement of the Problem

- **WCD predictions** are directly dependent to flowing bottomhole pressure of the well:





# Statement of the Problem

- $q$  is calculated using reservoir and fluid properties, and  $p_{wf}$  :

$$q \propto \frac{kh(p_e - p_{wf})}{B_o \mu \ln\left(\frac{r_e}{r_w}\right)} \quad (\text{for } p_{wf} > p_{bp})$$

reservoir and fluid prop. 

- $p_{wf}$  is obtained from wellbore flow correlations and wellhead conditions:

$$p_{wf} = p_{wh} + \int_0^L \frac{dp}{dL} dL$$

generic pressure gradient equation

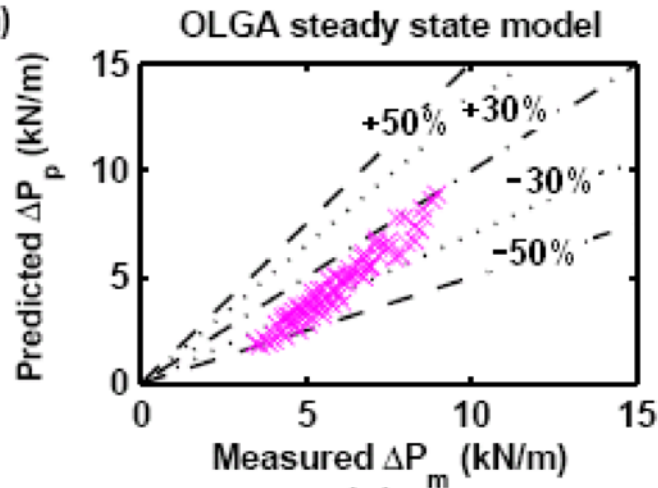
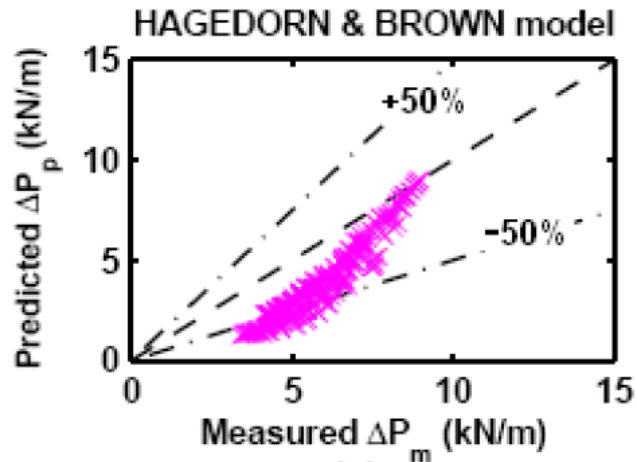
$$\frac{dp}{dz} = \frac{g}{g_c} \bar{\rho} + \frac{2f\bar{\rho}u_m^2}{g_c D} + \bar{\rho} \frac{\Delta(u_m^2/2g_c)}{\Delta z}$$

- Flow regimes
- Superficial velocities
- Pressure & temperature
- Fluid properties

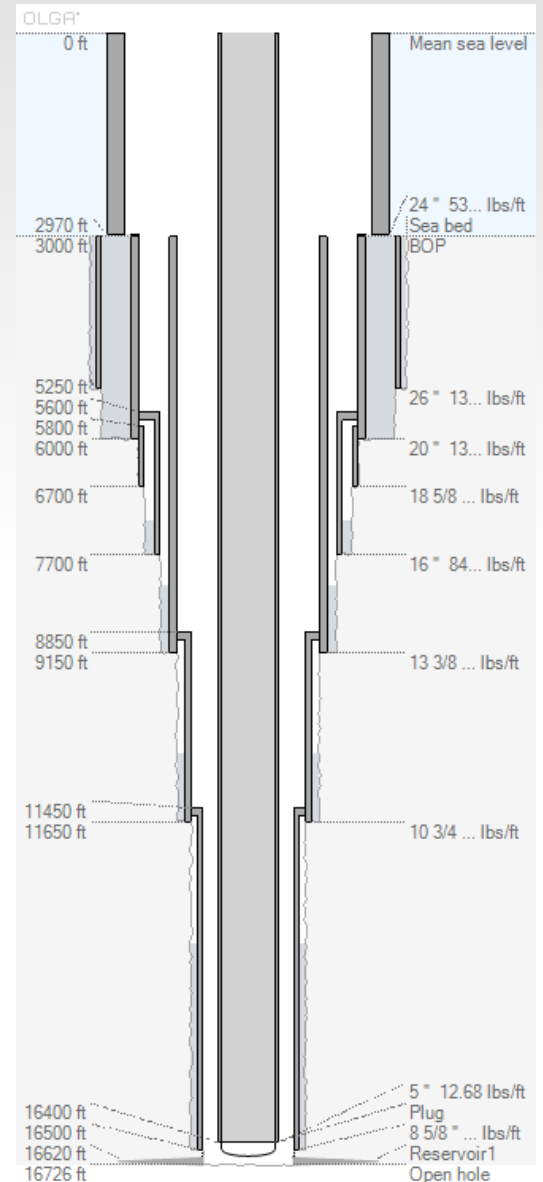
# Statement of the Problem

- The use of flow correlations for **large diameter** pipes is **NOT well understood**:

Two-Phase flow in a vertical pipe (ID = 10 in)



Well configuration for typical WCD scenario



# Main Objective of the Project

“The goal of this project is to **examine the validity of current industry standard flow correlations** used in WCD scenarios...”

## Scope of Work/Deliverables:

- ❑ Task 1 - A complete literature review of flow correlations used in standard WCD software packages.
- ❑ Task 2 - A comparison between the different flow correlations for different base fluid properties at different “level” in a wellbore.
- ❑ Task 3&4 - Build experimental apparatus to investigate the effect of large pipe diameters (2, 4, 7, and 12 inches ID) on WCD analysis.
- ❑ Task 5&6 - Compare experimental data and simulation results to evaluate the performance of the correlations for large pipe diameter correlations.

# ***Literature Review (Task 1)***

# Review of Conditions Used to Develop Flow Models

Correlation	Fluid	Pipe ID (in)	Pipe length (ft)	liquid rate (bbl/d)	Gas rate (Mscf/d)	Fluid properties	Degree From horizon
Poetmann and Carpenter (1952)	Oil/gas, gas/oil/water	2, 2 ½, 3	1,100-11,000	5 - 1,400 (oil)	18 -1,630	30°-54° API; 0.6-1.15 Gas SG 0.2<GOR<41 Mscf/bbl	90
Baxendell and Thomas (1961)	Gas/oil	2 7/8 , 3 ½	6,250	200-5,100 (oil)	N/A	Oil: 34° API, 2.58 cp at 160° F 120<GOR< 160 vol/vol	90

Duns and Ros (1963)	1, 5/8, 3 ½, 6 in ID Vertical Pipe
Asheim (1986) (Mona)	Tested with Forties field, Ekofisk field, and Prudhoe Bay flow line data
Ansari (1994)	Developed with data from TUFFP Databank
Gomez et al. (2000)	Validated against TUFFP Databank
OLGA-S 2000 S.S.	Used over 10000 data from SINTEF multiphase flow loop

Wankarjee and Ditt (1999)	Gas/oil	1, 1 ½	2, 2, 300	0-2,300	0-50	100<GLR<1320 scf/bbl	any angle	
Asheim (1986) (Mona)	Tested with Forties field, Ekofisk field, and Prudhoe Bay flow line data points						0 to 90	
Yao and Sylvester (1987)	Gas/water, oil/gas	compared with field data from Camacho (1970) and Reinicke and et al. (1984), Govier and Fogarasi (1975)						90
Ansari (1994)	Developed with data from TUFFP Databank						90	
Petalas and Aziz (1996)	Verified against Stanford Multiphase Flow Database (SMFD)						any angle	
Chokshi and et al.(1996)	Air/water	3 ½	1333	79-4250	42-2800	16<GLR<12685	90	
	Evaluated with TUFFP							
Gomez et al. (2000)	Validated against TUFFP						any angle	
OLGA-S 2000 S.S.	Used over 10000 data from SINTEF multiphase flow loop						N/A	
LedaFlow	Used over 10000 data from SINTEF multiphase flow loop						N/A	

# Review of Databases Used to Develop Flow Models

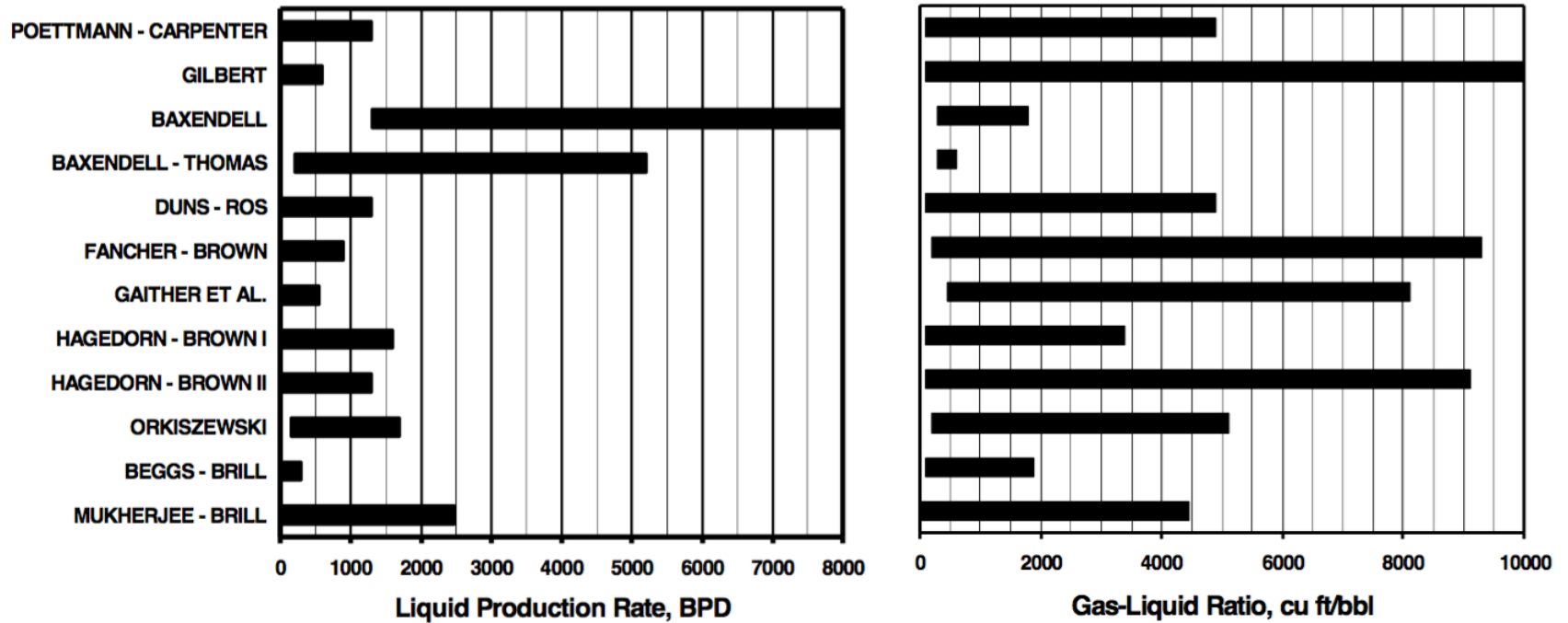
Database	Fluid	Pipe ID (in)	Pipe length (ft)	Liquid rate (bbl/d)	Gas rate (Mscf/d)	Fluid properties	Degree from horizon
SINTEF multiphase flow loop (OLGA-S 2000 S.S.)							
			Nitrogen, Naphtha/ diesel, lube oil				8 in ID
TUFFP databank							1-8 in ID
			Oil/gas/water				
Forties field							3.958, 6.185 in ID
			Oil/gas				
Stanford multiphase flow database	Oil/gas/water	Consisted of 20,000 laboratory and 1,800 field measurements with variations in fluid properties, pipe diameters, and pipe inclinations.					

**Table 1**

Summary of experimental data sets used by the authors of empirical multiphase pressure drop correlations.

AUTHOR	Publ. Year	Group	Data	Pipe Length	Nominal Pipe Diameters, in						Water Cut, %	# of Data	
					1	1 1/4	1 1/2	2 3/8	2 7/8	3 1/2			Ann.
P. – CARPENTER	1952	I	field	various								0 - 98	49
GILBERT	1954		field									0	
BAXENDELL	1958	I	field										50
BAX. - THOMAS	1961	I	field	6000'								0	25
DUNS - ROS	1963	III	lab	33'	ID = 3.2 cm, 8.02 cm, and 14.23 cm pipes						0 & 100	4000	
FANCH. - BROWN	1963	I	test	8000'								95	106
GAITHER ET AL.	1963	I	test	1000'								100	139
HAG. - BROWN I	1964	I	test	1500'								0 & 100	175
HAG. - BROWN II	1965	II	test	1500'								0 & 100	581
ORKISZEWSKI	1967	III	field	various								0 & 100	148
BEGGS - BRILL	1973	III	test	45'								100	584
MUKH. - BRILL	1985	III	test	32'								0	1000

# Review of Flow Rates Used to Develop Flow Models



*Takacs (2001)*





# Why Flow Regime Predictions are Important for WCD calculations?

## Correlations

Duns and Ros (1963)

Hagedorn and Brown (1964)

Hagedorn and Brown Modified (1965)

Orkiszewski (1967)

Beggs and Brill Revised (1973)

Gray (1974)

Govier and Foragasi (1975)

Mukherjee and Brill (1985)

Ansari (1994)

## Flow patterns

bubble, slug, and froth

no flow pattern consideration

bubble, slug

bubble, slug, annular slug transition, annular mist

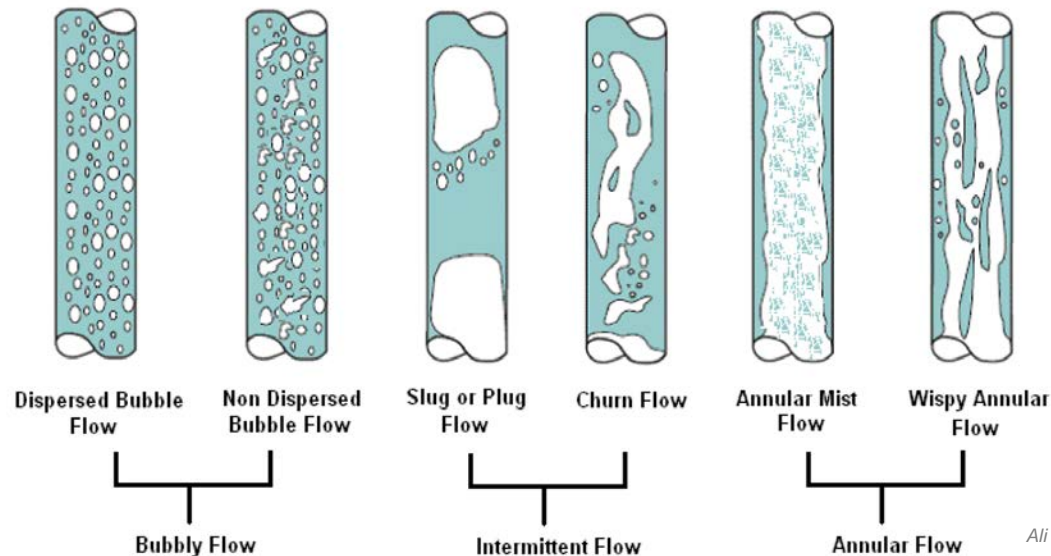
(horizontal pipe) segregated, intermitted, distributed, froth

no flow pattern consideration

slug, annular mist, froth

no flow pattern consideration

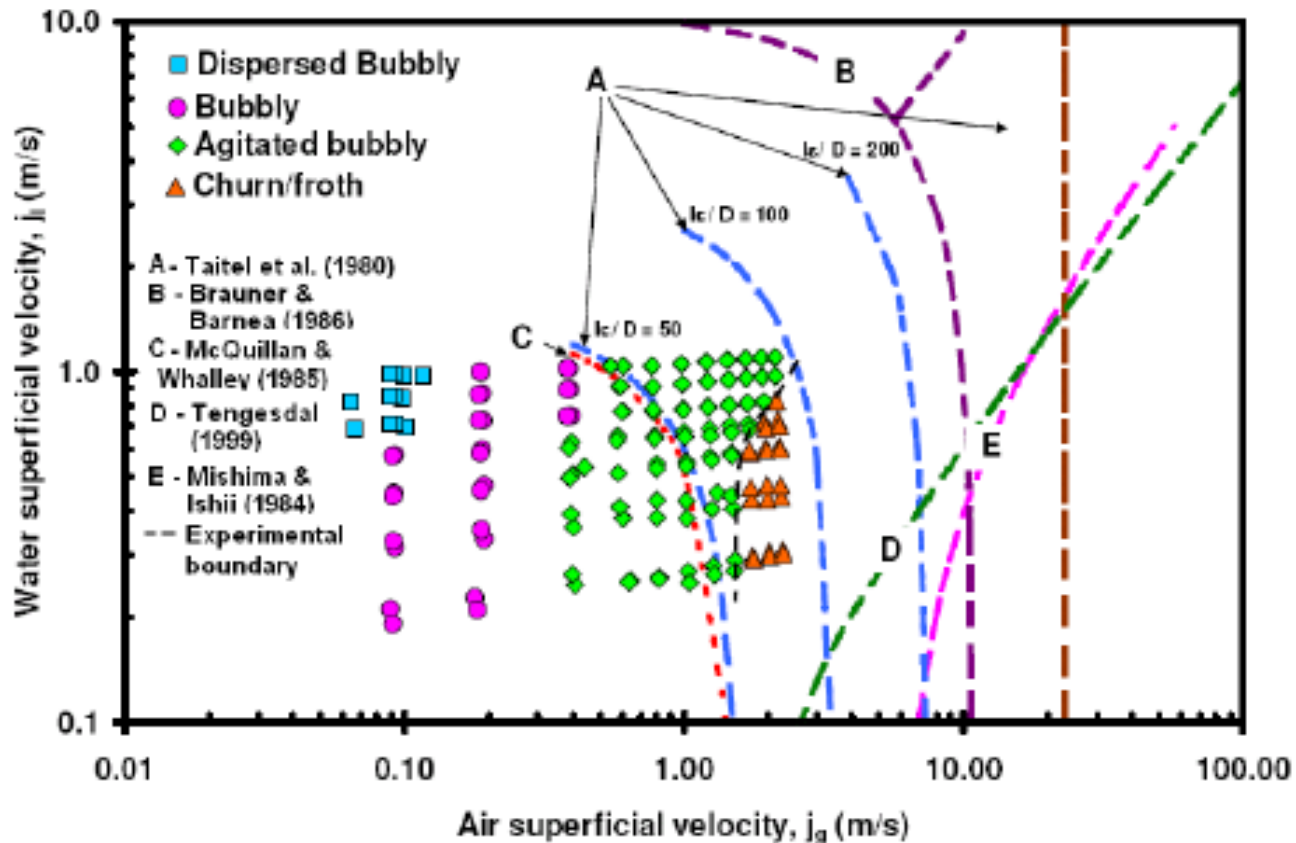
bubble, slug, and annular



# Flow Regime Maps for Large Diameter Pipe

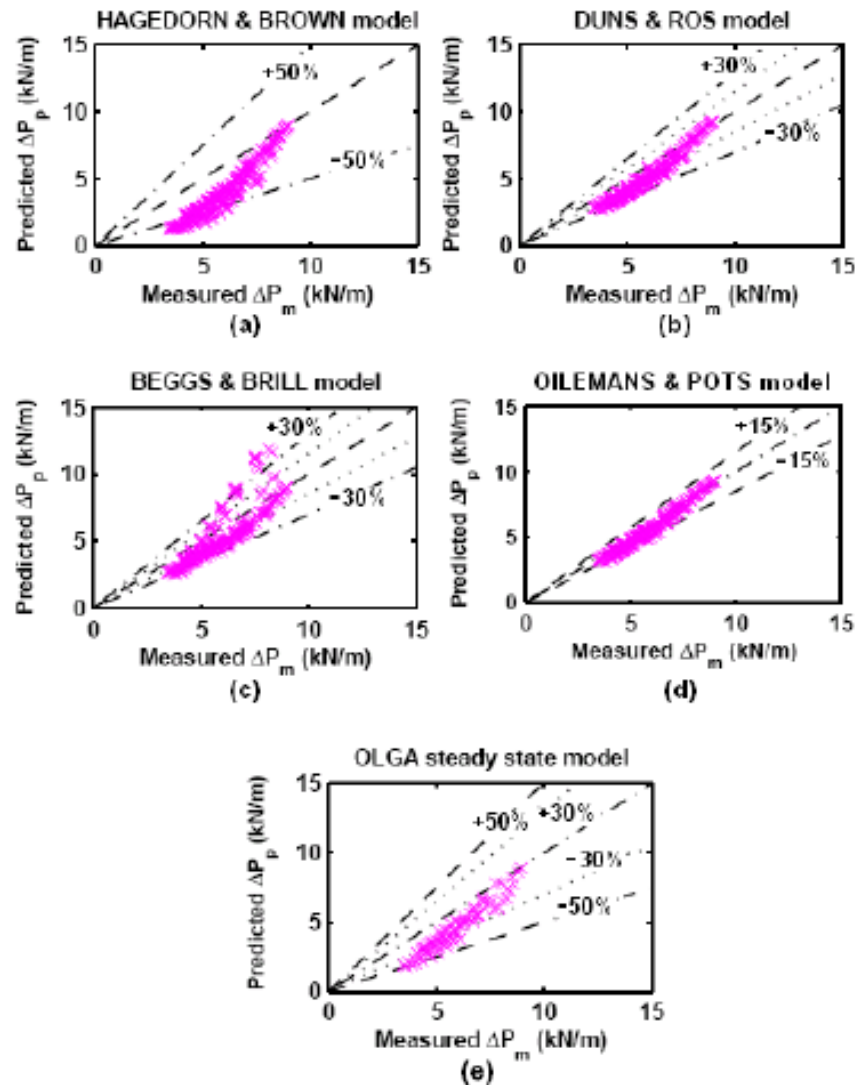
## Ali (2009) - Experimental conditions tested

Study	$Q_o$ , BBL/D	$Q_l$ , GPM	ID, in	$U_l$ , m/s	$R_s$ , SCF/STB	$Q_g$ , MMSCF/D	$Q_g$ , SCFM	$U_g$ , m/s
Ali	30,300	883	10	1.11	41	0.350	243	2.26



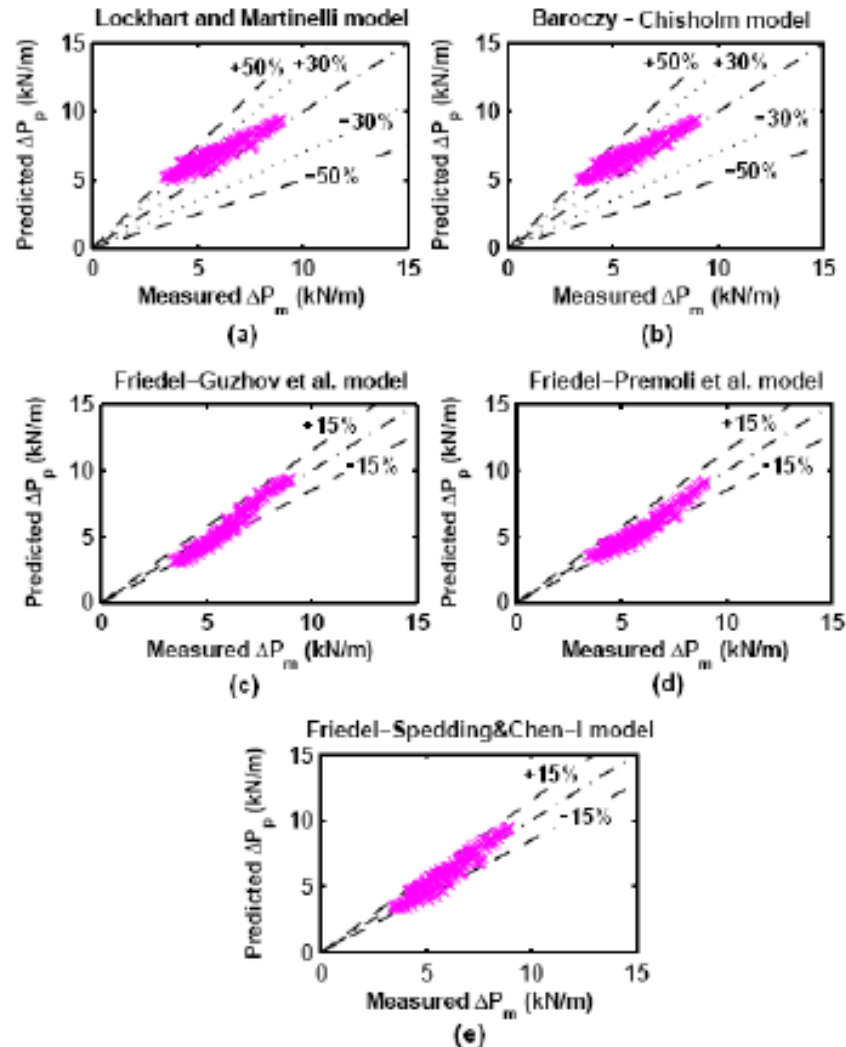
# Evaluation of “Common” Flow Correlations

Ali (2009) – pipe ID = 10 in



# Evaluation of Uncommon Flow Correlations

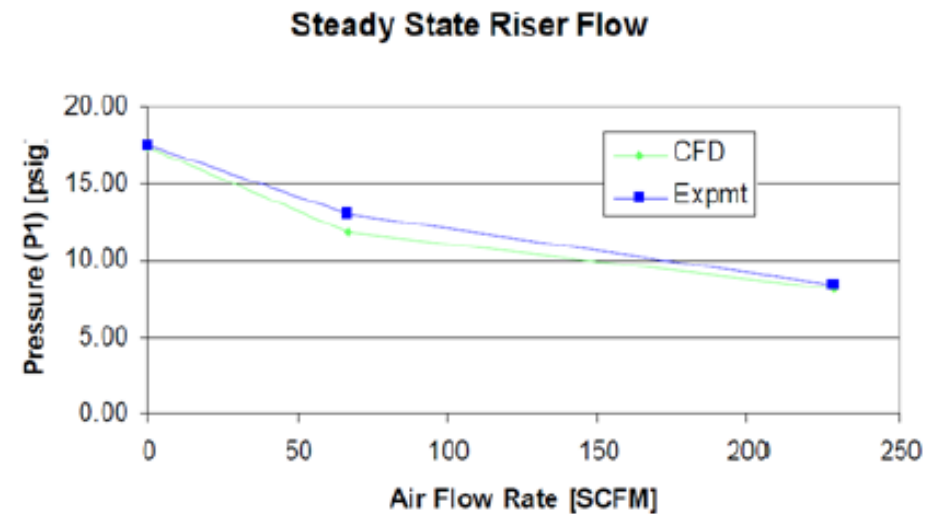
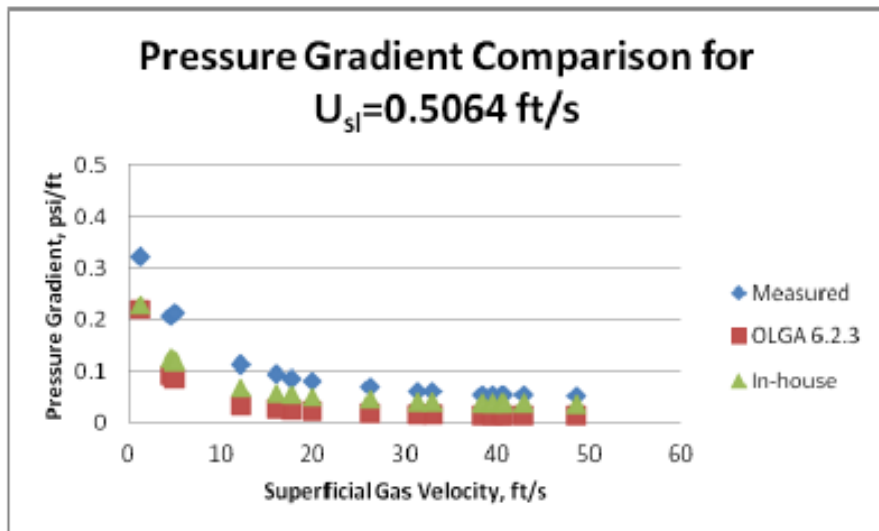
Ali (2009) – pipe ID = 10 in



# Evaluation of Using CFD models for Multiphase flow in Large Pipe Diameters

## Zabaras (2013) - Experimental conditions tested

Study	$Q_o$ , BBL/ D	$Q_l$ , GPM	ID, in	$v_{sl}$ , m/s	$R_s$ , SCF/STB	$Q_g$ , MMSCF/D	$Q_g$ , SCFM	$U_g$ , m/s
Zabaras	5140	150	11	0.15	2640	2.97	2063	15.9

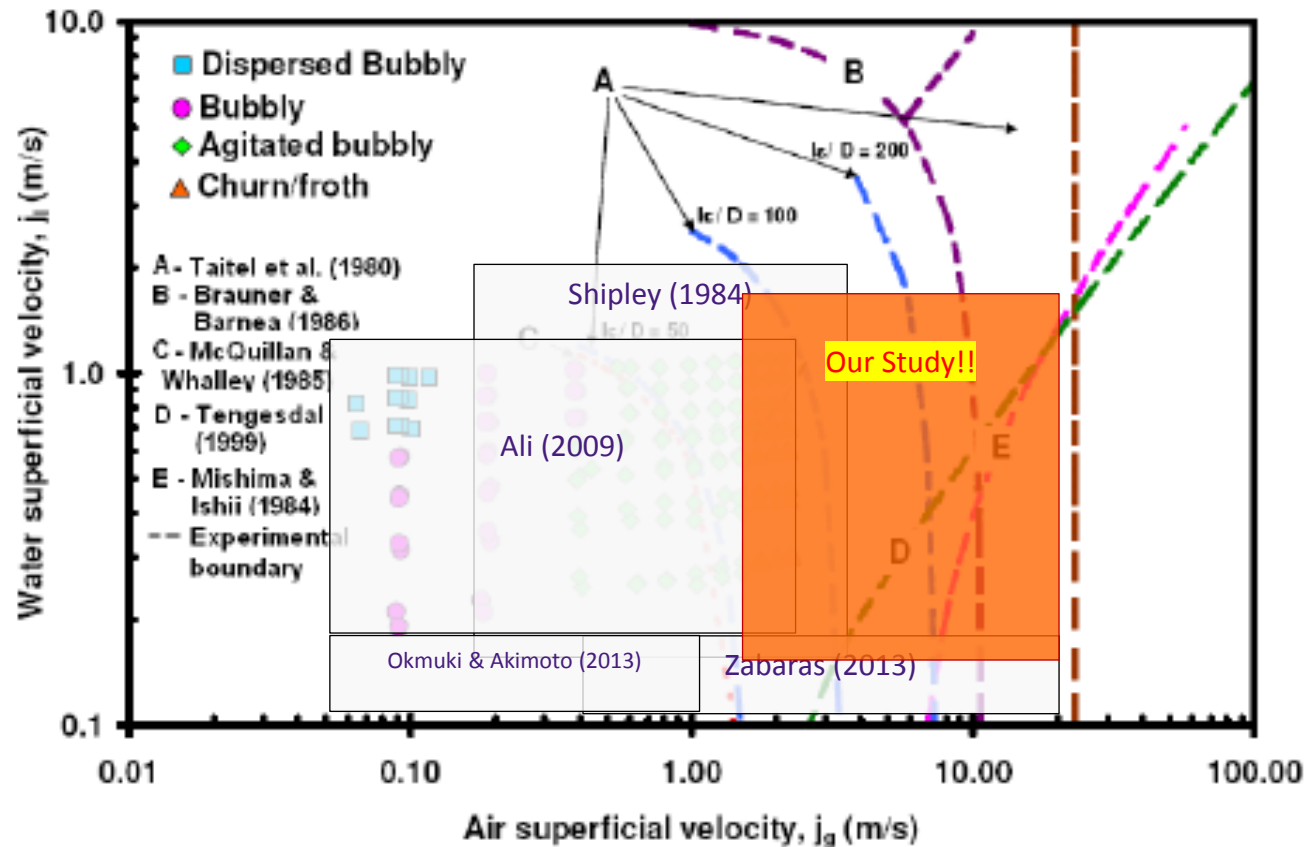


# Gaps in Experimental Data for Large Pipe Diameters (ID > 10")

*modified after Ali (2009)*

Researcher	Year	Fluid System	Diameter (mm)	L/D	$j_{g \max}$ (m/s)	$j_{l \max}$ (m/s)	Pressure (MPa)
Hills	1976	air-water	150	70	0.62 - 3.5	0.5 - 2.6	0.1
Shiplev	1984	air-water	457	12.34	5	2	0.1
Clark and Flemmer	1986	air-water	100	10	-	-	0.1
Hashemi et al.	1986	air-water	305	9.41	1.16	0.06	0.1
Hirao et al.	1986	steam-water	120	-	1	4	0.5; 1.0 and 1.5
Ohnuki and Akimoto	1996	air-water	480	4.2	0.02 - 0.87	0.01 - 0.2	0.1
Cheng et al.	1998	air-water	150	70	1.113	1.25	0.1
Ohnuki and Akimoto	2000	air-water	200	61.5	0.03 - 4.7	0.06 - 1.06	0.1
Shoukri et al.	2000	air-water	100 & 200	43	0.02 - 15.5	0 - 1.8	0.1
Hibiki and Ishii	2002	nitrogen-water	102	53.9	0.286	0.387	0.1
Yoneda et al	2002	steam-water	155	23.9	0.25	0.6	0.2 to 0.5
Prasser et al.	2002	air-water	200	-	0.037 - 1.30	1	0.1
Sun et al.	2002	air-water	123	106.7	0.122	0.011 & 0.15	0.1
Hibiki and Ishii	2003	nitrogen-water	102	53.9	0.146	0.198	0.1
Oddie et al.	2003	nitrogen-water	150	73.33	1.57	1.57	-
Sun et al.	2003	air-water	102	40	0.502	0.058 - 1.03	0.1
Shen et al	2005	air-water	200	120	0.031- 0.372	0.035-1.06	0.1
Shen et al	2006	air-water	200	60.5	0.032 - 0.218	0.144 - 1.12	0.1
Omebere et al.	2007	nitrogen-naphtha	189	264.5	4.0	15.0	2.0 & 9.0
Ali	2009	air-water	254	46	4.44	3	0.1
Schlegel et al	2012	air-water	152 & 203	34 & 26	3	1	0.18 to 0.28
Smith et al	2012	air-water	102 & 152	30 & 18	10 to 20	4 to 10	0.5
Meulen	2012	air-water	127	86	3 to 20	0.004 - 0.7	0.3
Zabaras et al	2013	air-water	280	43.6	0.025 - 0.154	0.5663	0.69

# Gaps in Experimental for Large Pipe Diameters



# Operational Enveloped for PERTT Lab Flow Loop

	Ali (2009)	Zabaras et al. (2013)	LSU PERTT Lab
Pipe length (ft)	40	40	100 (Max)
Pipe diameter (in)	10	11	12
Fluid	air, water	air, water	air, water
Max Liquid rate (BBL/D)	31,000	5,100	To be determined
Liquid velocity (m/s)	1.11	0.15	
Max Gas rate (MMSCF/D)	0.35	2.7	
Gas velocity (m/s)	2.21	16	
Max GLR (SCF/STB)	40	2600	
Comparison	BBO, HBR, DR, OLGA, OP	OLGA, In-House	ANS, BBO, BBR, DR, GAF, GRAYO, GRAYM, HBR, HBRDR, MB, NOSLIP, ORK, OLGA



# Worst-Case-Discharge Vastly Under Studied

## Wellbore and Near-Surface Hydraulics of a Blown-Out Oil Well

A.R. Clark, ARCO Oil and Gas Co.  
T.K. Perkins, SPE, ARCO Oil and Gas Co.

Journal of Natural Gas Science and Engineering 26 (2015) 438–445

### Summary

A method is presented to estimate flow velocity, pressure, and total discharge in a blown-out oil wellbore geometry. The method requires wellbore geometry, wellbore and near-surface knowledge or estimates of wellbore pressure (PI) and gas/oil properties. The method is given for estimating the two-phase flow rate above the wellbore.



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Flow rate and total discharge estimations in gas-well blowouts

Ruo Chen Liu<sup>a</sup>, A. Rashid Hasan<sup>b</sup>, M. Sam Mannan<sup>a,\*</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

Despite multitier safeguards in any drilling operation, blowouts do occur. In such cases, the total discharge of hydrocarbons becomes the focal point for a drilling operator, the service provider, and the regulatory body. Rate estimation based on scant information about the formation and fluids at the time of the accident requires guidelines that require such estimates for any offshore drilling, systematic investigations, and wellbore analysis.

This study presents an analytical model coupling the flow in a reservoir/wellbore system. The model considers flow in the tubing, annulus and riser, and the attendant wellbore system. To gauge safety concerns, a commercially

SPE 69530

A Study on Blowouts in Ultra Deep Waters  
O.L.A. Santos, SPE, Petrobras

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### Abstract

This paper presents the preliminary results of a research project on ultra deepwater blowouts. This research is a part of a comprehensive study currently conducted by Petrobras, the Brazilian oil company, aiming at drilling and producing safely, in terms of well control, in water depths as deep as 10000 feet (approximately 3000 meters). Firstly, the paper presents a methodical procedure that predicts wellbore pressures and wellbore properties during a gas blowout using an unsteady state model that considers the multiphase nature of the flow.

# Conclusions from Literature Review

- ❑ Flow correlations were originally developed and still only verified for small pipe diameters ( $ID < 8$  inches)
- ❑ Experimental setup needs to preferably achieve high liquid and gas flow rates ( $Q_l > 30,000$  bbl/d and  $Q_g > 1$  MMSCF/D)
- ❑ Unpopular flow correlations should be evaluated to be used in WCD models
- ❑ Recent developments show CFD tool as a potential solution to generate simulations results to compete with one-dimensional flow correlations for large pipe diameters
- ❑ WCD models vastly under studied

***Initial WCD Models  
Comparison (Task 2)***

# **Description of Base Cases for Comparison Study**

*Dr. Muhammad Zulqarnain*

# **CFD Model Description**

*Dr. Mayank Tyagi*

# Methodology for Comparison of Wellbore Flow Models

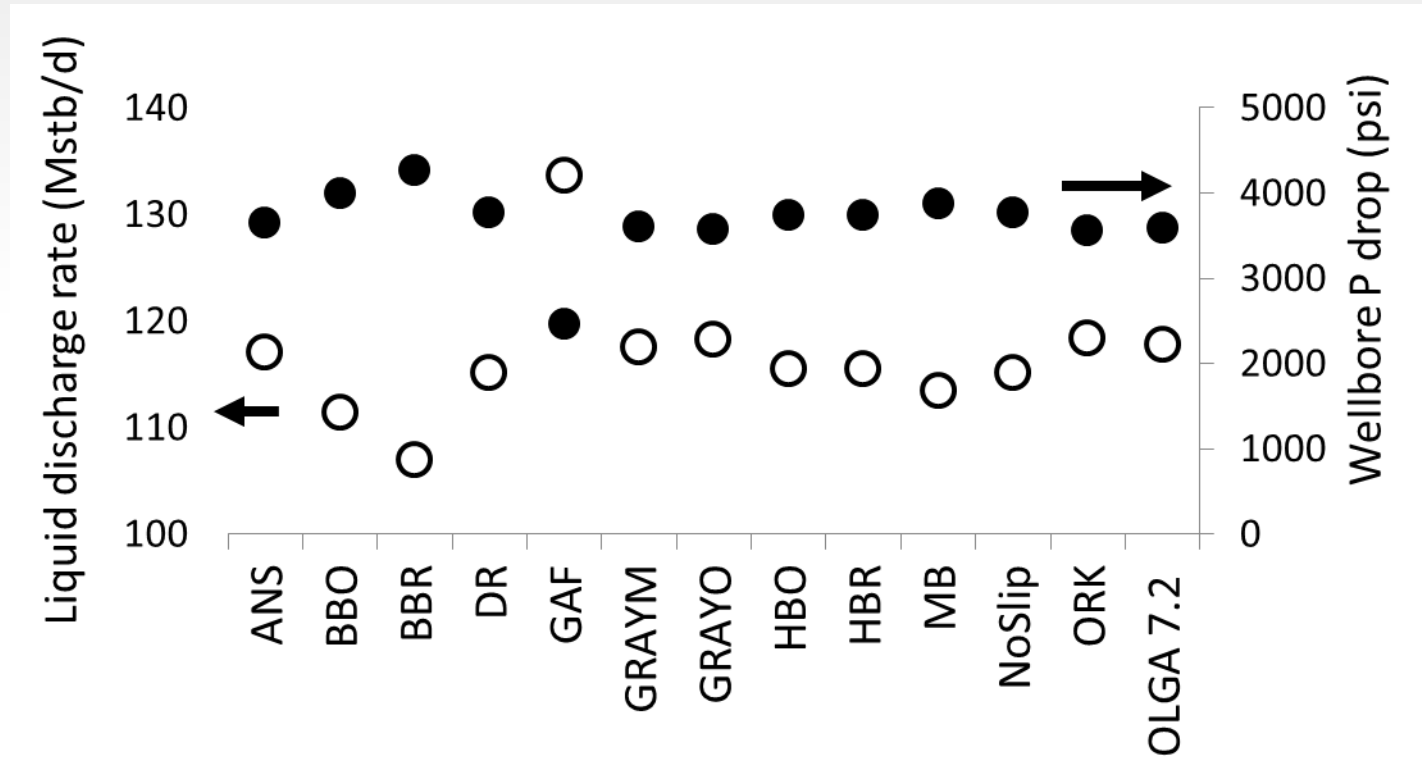
## One-dimensional models

Wellbore flow model	Abbreviation
Ansari (1994)	ANS
Beggs and Brill (1973)	BBO
Beggs and Brill Revised	BBR
Duns and Ross (1963)	DR
Govier, Aziz, and Fogarasi (1972)	GAF
Gray Original (1974)	GRAYO
Gray modified	GRAYM
Hagedorn and Brown (1964)	HBR
Hagedorn and Brown with Duns and Ross map	HBRDR
Mukherjee and Brill (1985)	MB
No Slip	NOSLIP
Orkiszewski (1967)	ORK
OLGA 7.2	OLGA

- Common models available in commercial packages
- Models available in PIPESIM at LSU
- Include different model approaches (empirical, mechanistic, ...)

# Results for WCD Calculations for Different Wellbore Flow Models

## Base Case WCD calculation



# Effect of Reservoir Fluid Properties

## Black Oil Reservoir

Base fluid	Reservoir measured depth (ft)	Reservoir pressure (psi)	Reservoir Temperature (°F)	GOR (scf/stb)	Bubble point Pressure (psi)	Oil gravity (API)	Oil viscosity (cp)
Basecase	16726	11305	210	1700	6306	28	0.8
BO1	19426	10391	166	1340	7693	25.3	1.49
BO2	19553	12523	251	1721	5192	34.5	0.12

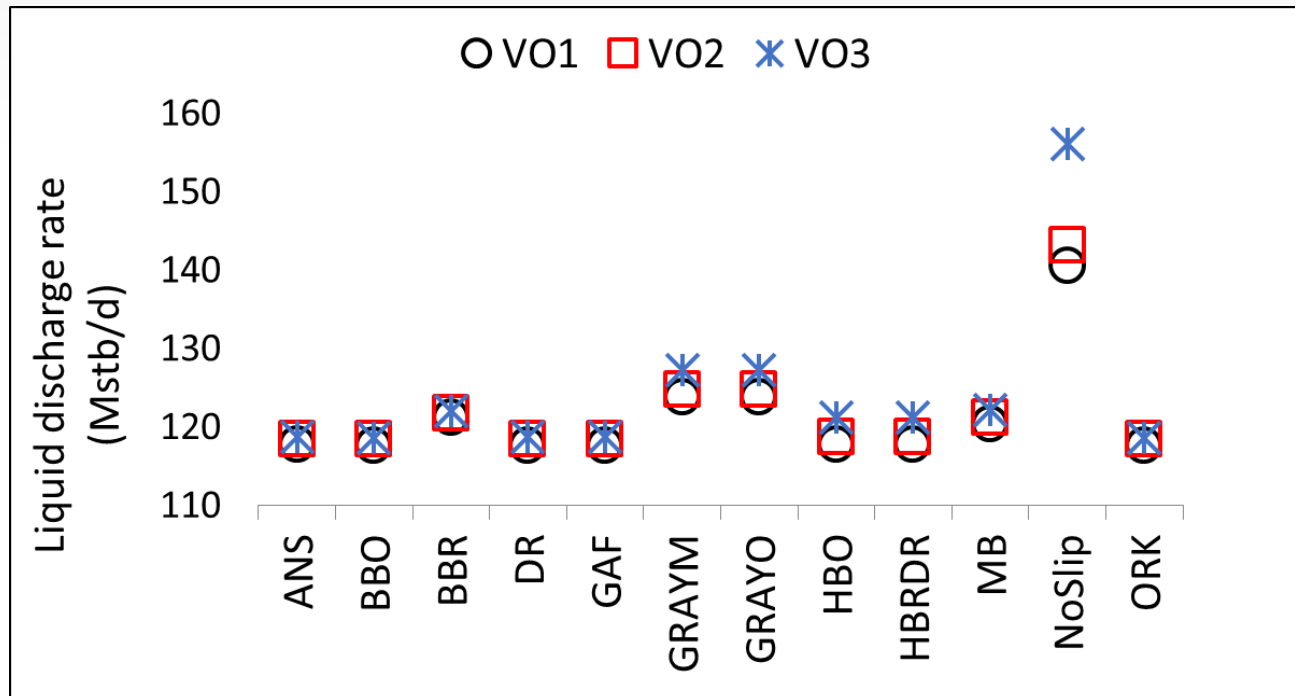




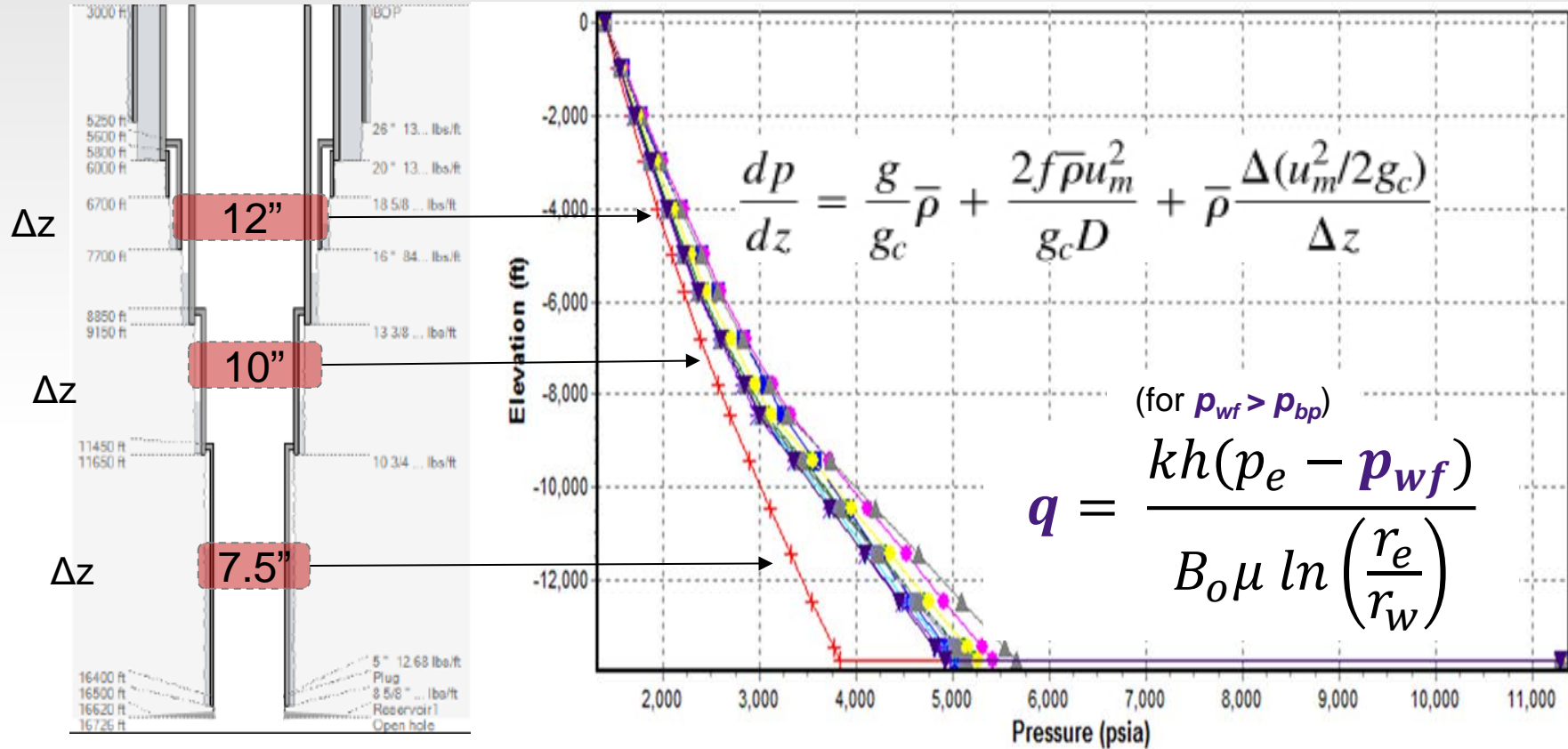
# Effect of Reservoir Fluid Properties

## Volatile Oil Reservoir

Base fluid	Reservoir measured depth (ft)	Reservoir pressure (psi)	Reservoir Temperature (°F)	GOR (scf/stb)
VO1	14631	11499	264	2123
VO2	14532	11055	263	1834
VO3	14374	11009	261	3451



# Methodology for the Verification of Validity of Flow Models



- TYPE=ANSARI Flowrate=117351.8 sbb/day
- ▲ TYPE=BBR Flowrate=106914.8 sbb/day
- TYPE=GA Flowrate=134082 sbb/day
- ✱ TYPE=GRAYO Flowrate=118323.4 sbb/day
- TYPE=HBRDR Flowrate=115699.6 sbb/day
- ▲ TYPE=NOSLIP Flowrate=115276.2 sbb/day
- TYPE=BBO Flowrate=110920.2 sbb/day
- ▼ TYPE=DR Flowrate=115110 sbb/day
- ✱ TYPE=GRAYM Flowrate=117465.8 sbb/day
- TYPE=HBR Flowrate=115699.6 sbb/day
- TYPE=MB Flowrate=113530.1 sbb/day
- ▼ TYPE=ORK Flowrate=119005.3 sbb/day

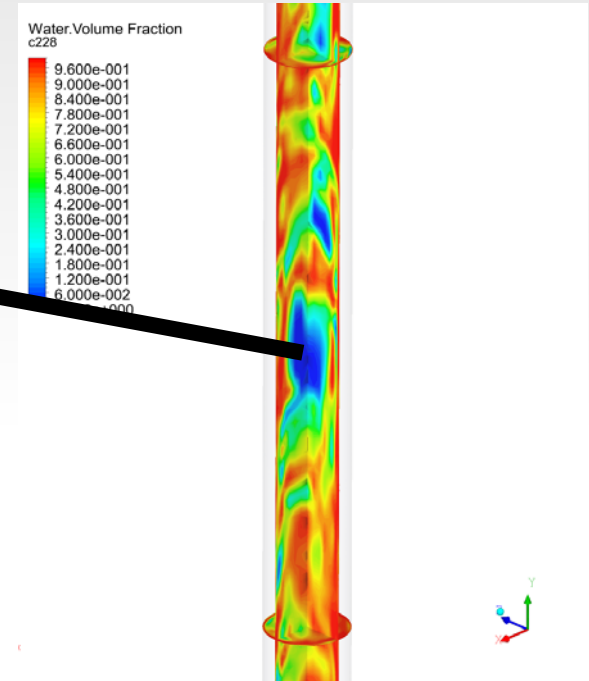
# Methodology on the Verification of Validity of Flow Models

Laboratorial data



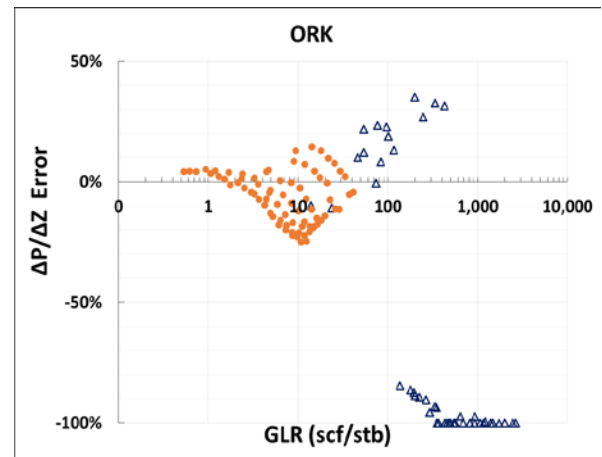
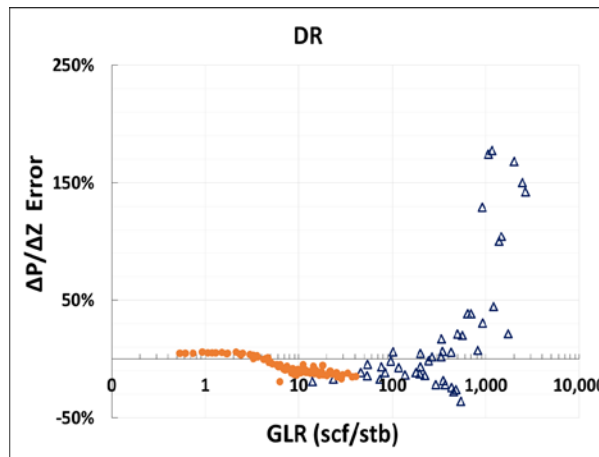
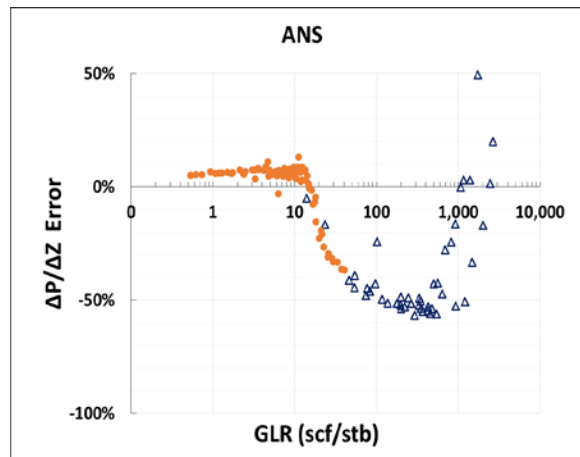
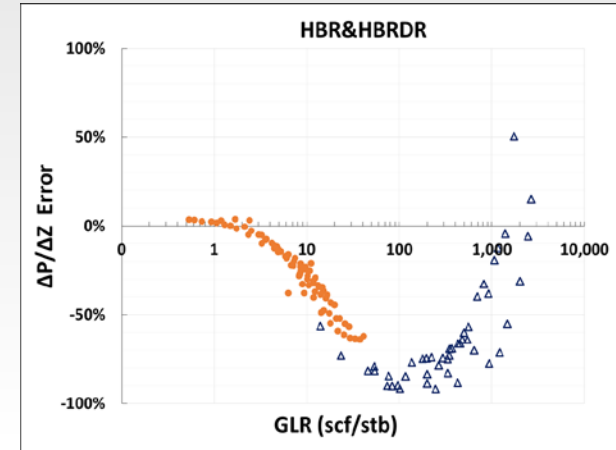
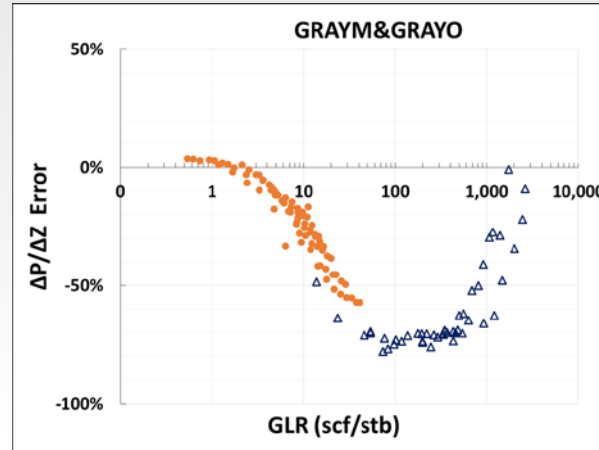
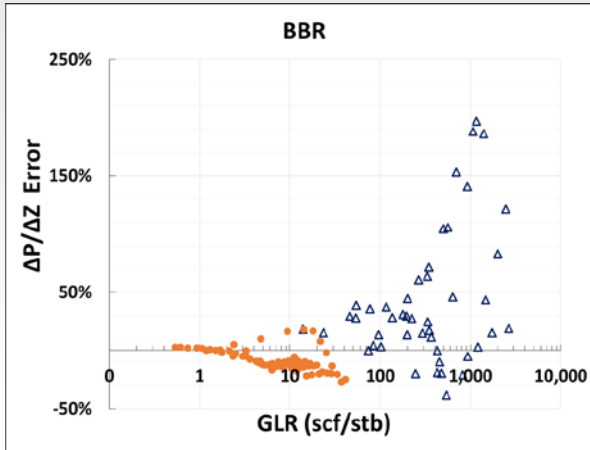
$$\frac{dp}{dz}$$

CFD model results

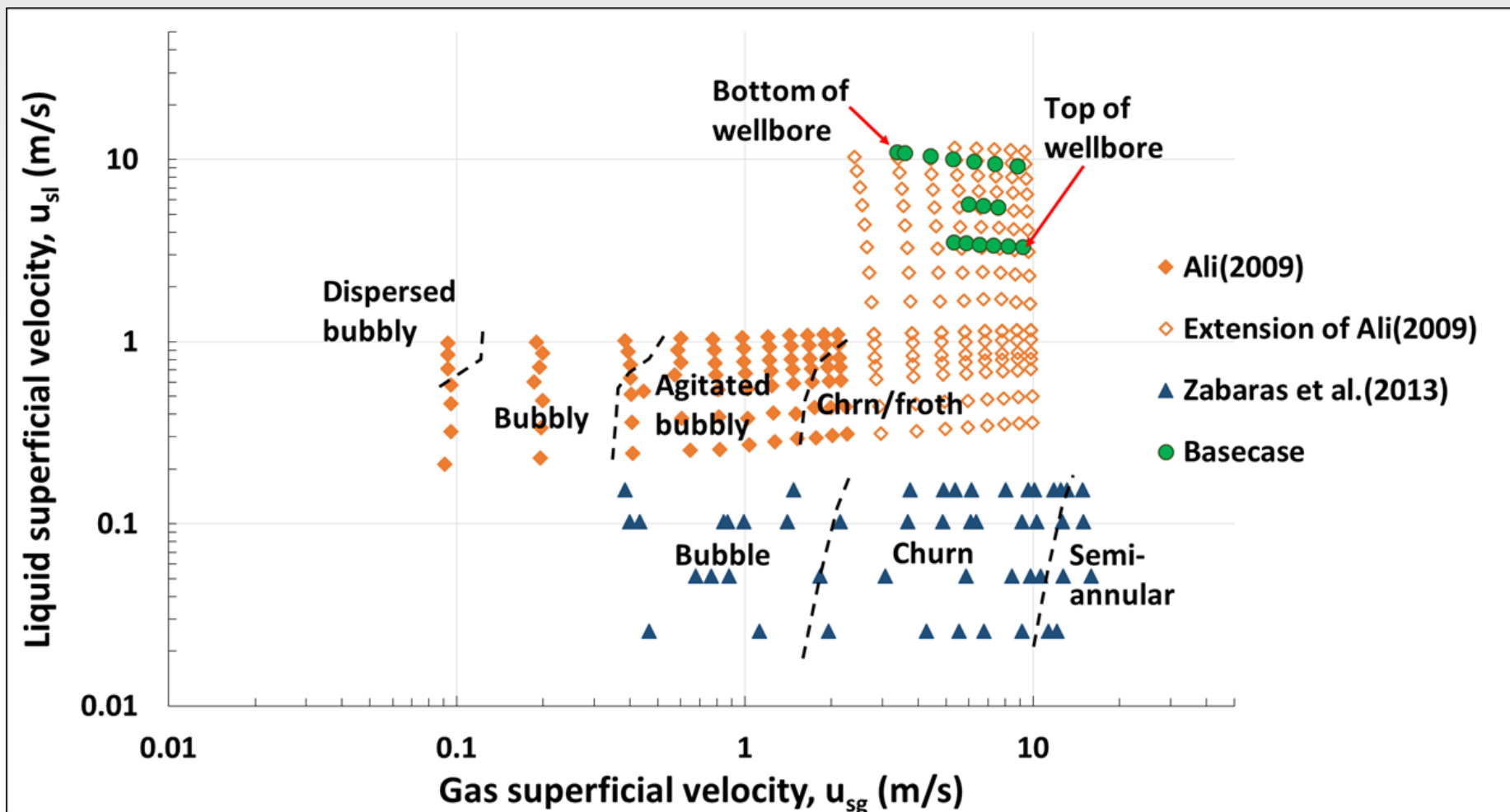


- ❑ Validity of using water and air rather than hydrocarbon liquid and gas:
  - ✓ Understand **hydraulics** issue and **PVT** issue **separately!**
  - ✓ A perfect **PVT model is useless** if the **hydraulic model is wrong!**

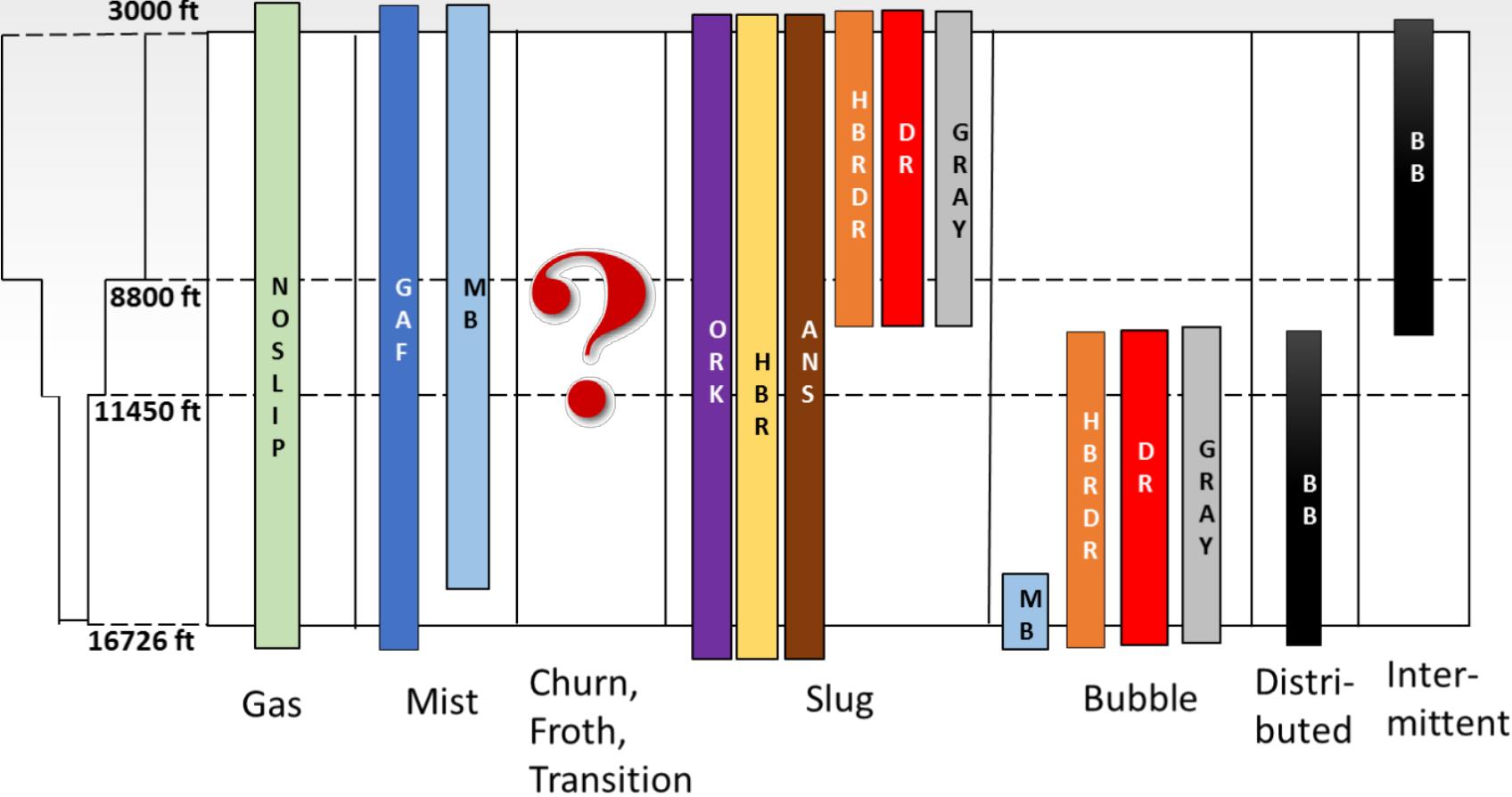
# Results for Wellbore Flow model Verification with Laboratorial Data



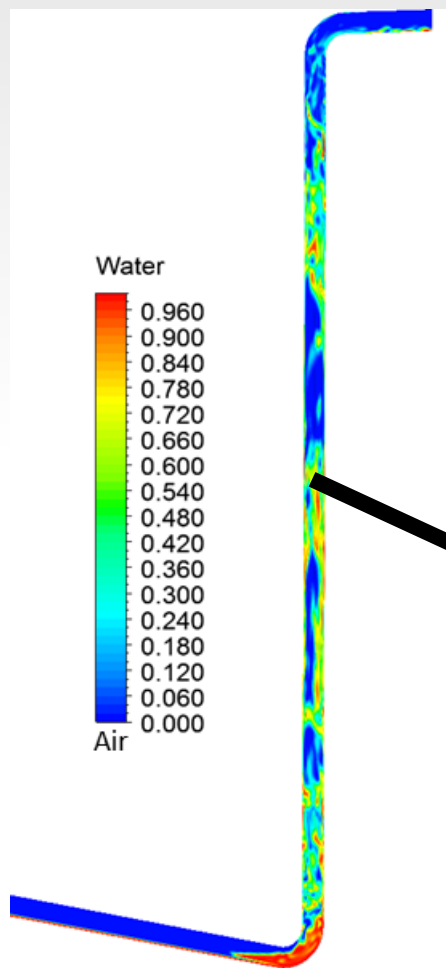
# Results for Flow Regime Prediction for Base Case



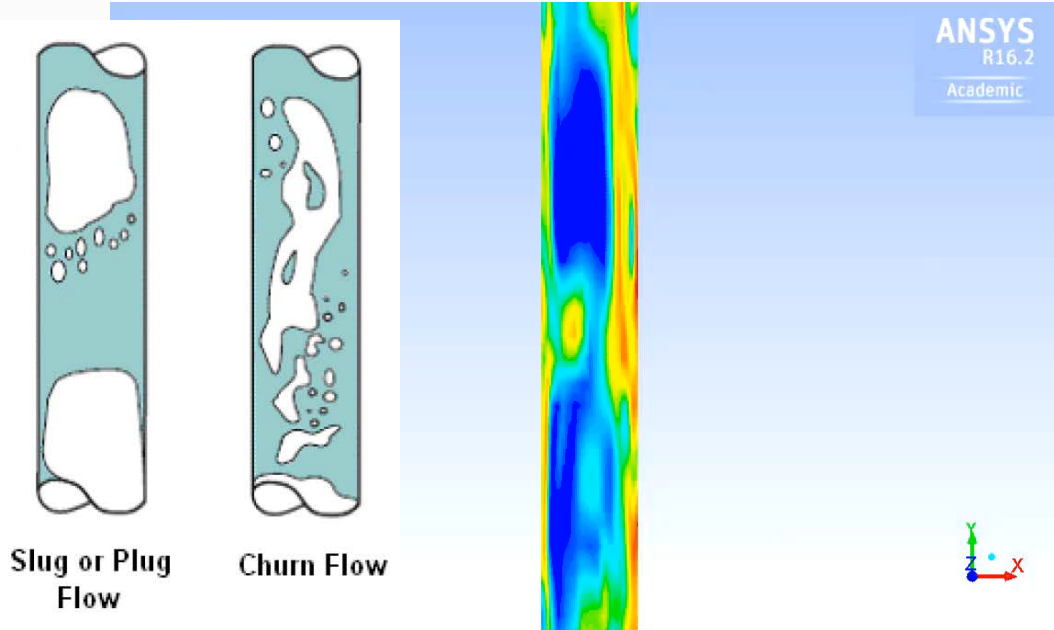
# Results for Flow Regime Prediction for Base Case



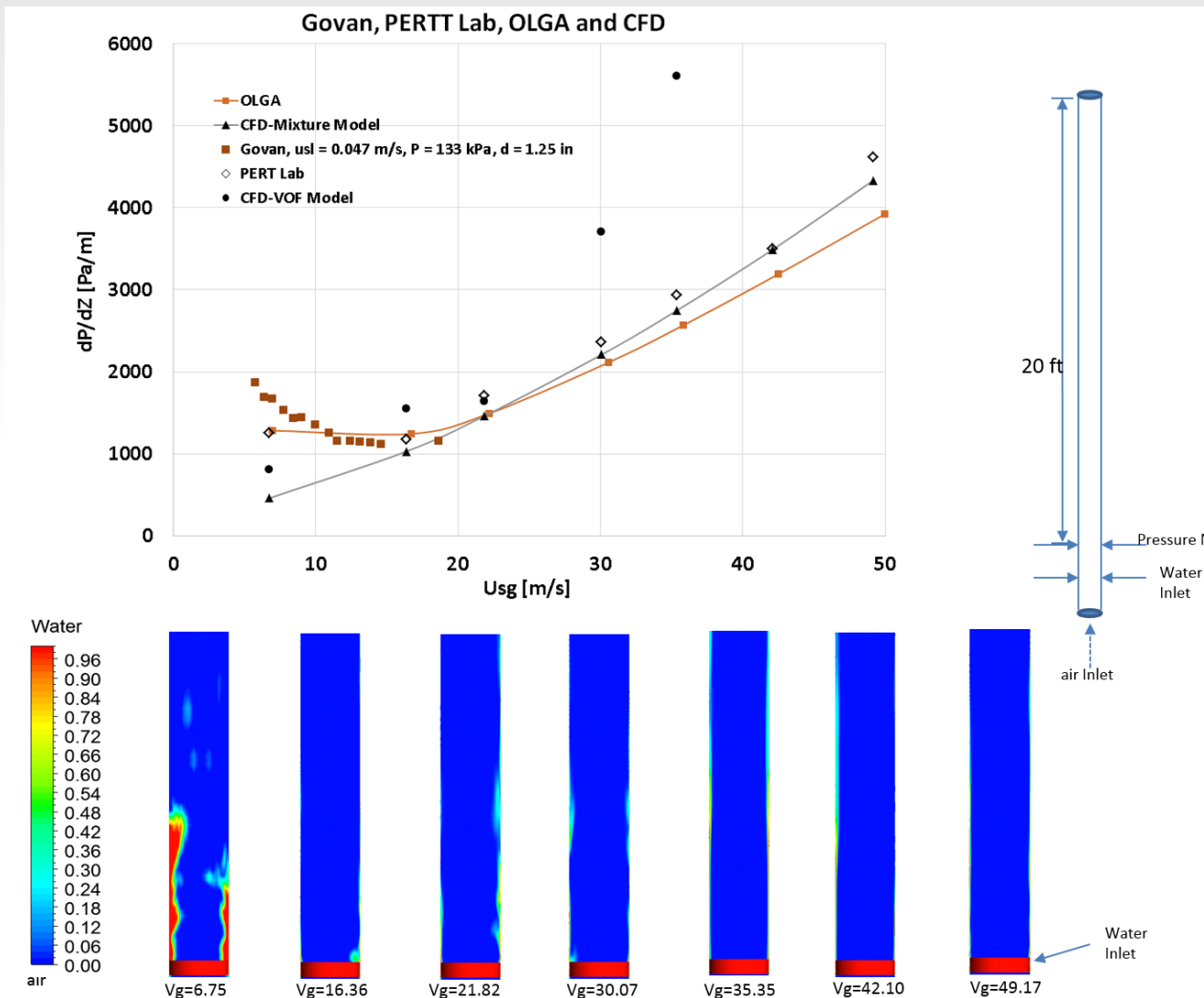
# Results for CFD Validation for Large Diameter



Experimental Data Set	Pipe Dia (inches)	QL (STBD)	Qg (MM SCFD)	Exp. dp/dx (psi/ft)	CFD dp/dx (psi/ft)	Grid Points (K)	% deviation to Experimental pressure gradient
Zabaras et al. (2013)	11	5143	0.276	0.21	0.19	355	-7.1
Ali (2009)	10	29804	0.221	0.26	0.32	382	<del>22.4</del>
		29804	0.221	0.26	0.29	610	11.1



# Results for CFD Validation for Small Diameter





***Progress on Experimental  
Work***

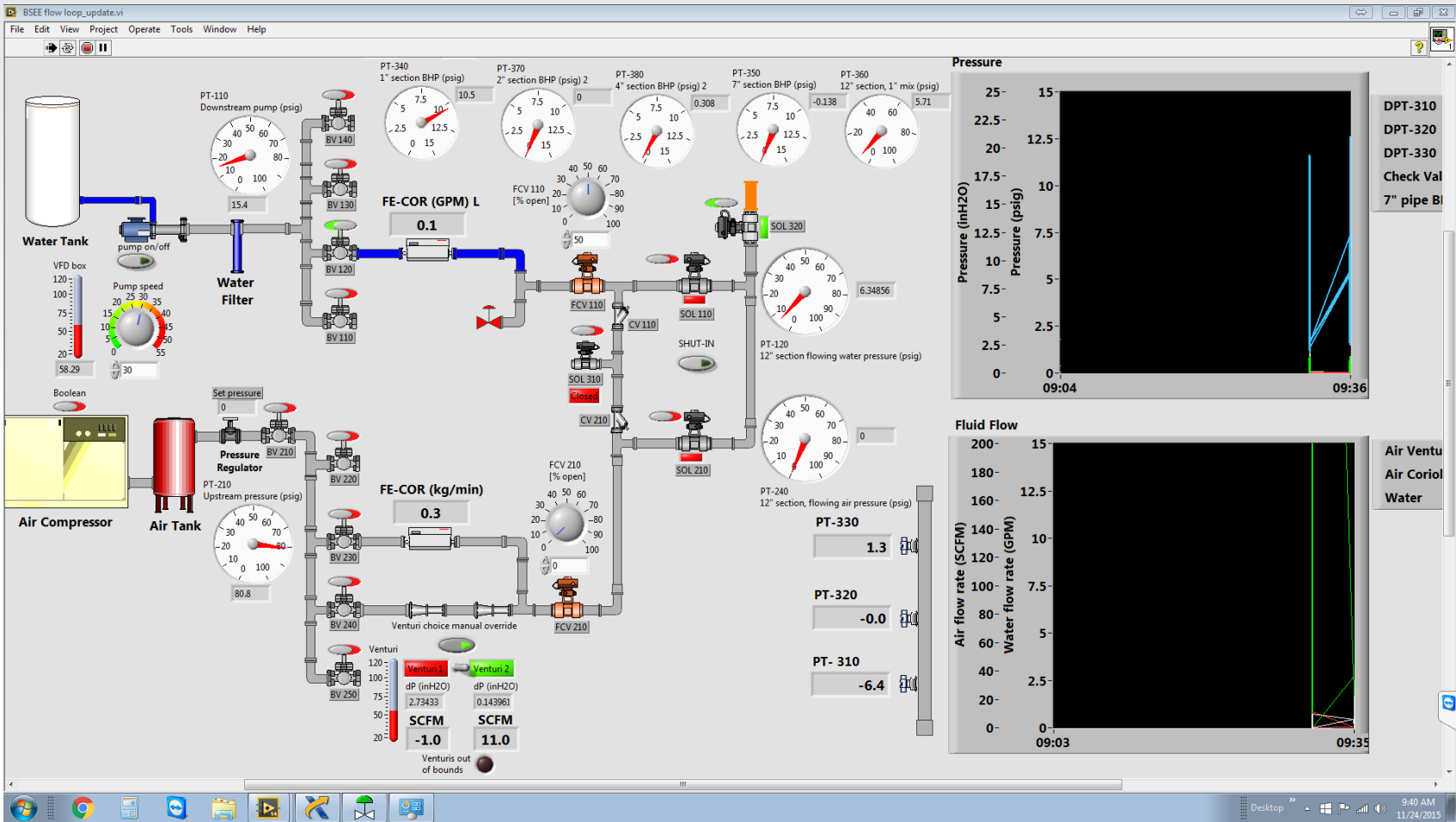
# Small and Intermediate Pipe IDs



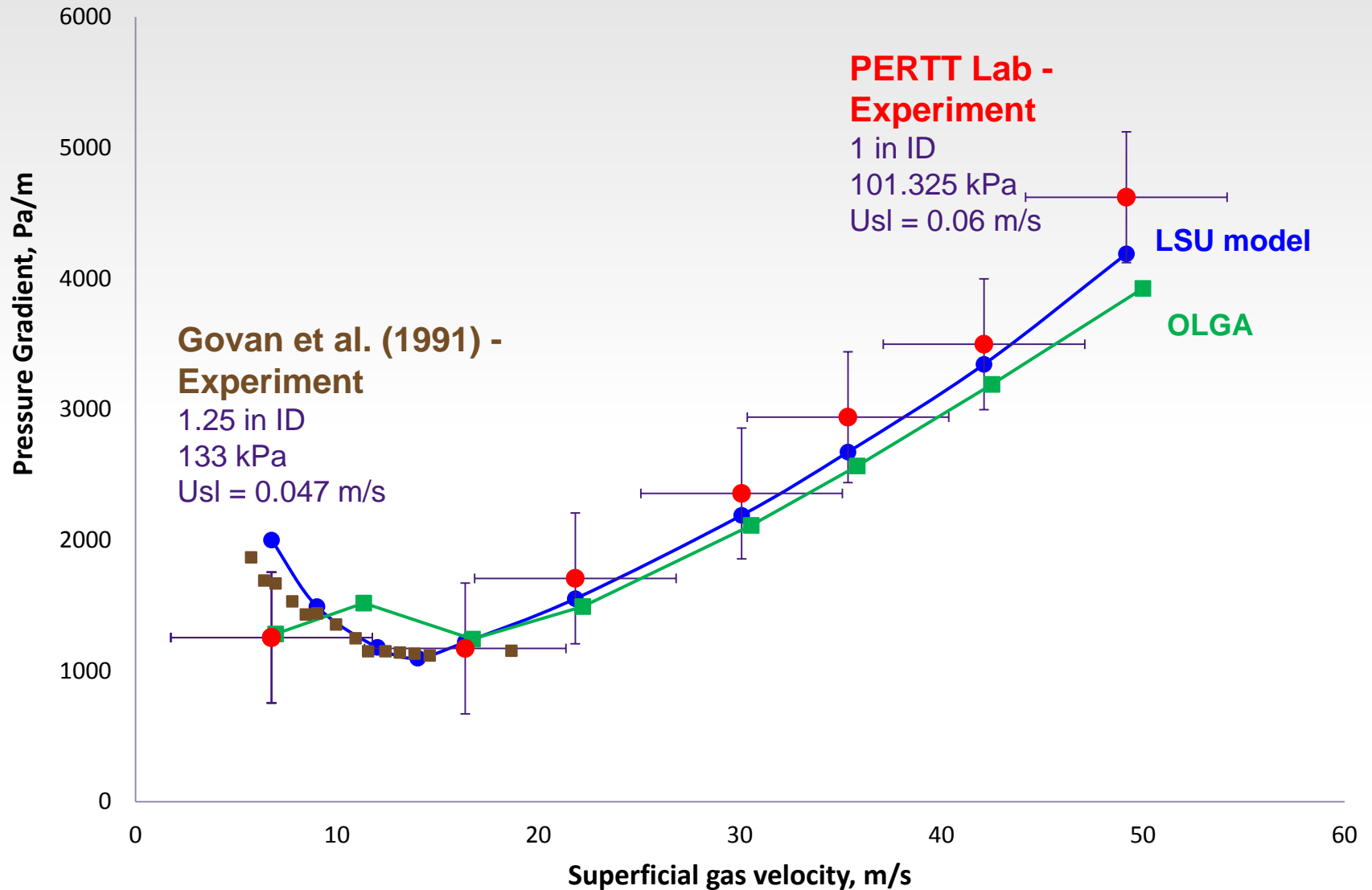
# Base Structure and Visualization for 12" ID



# Monitoring and Control System



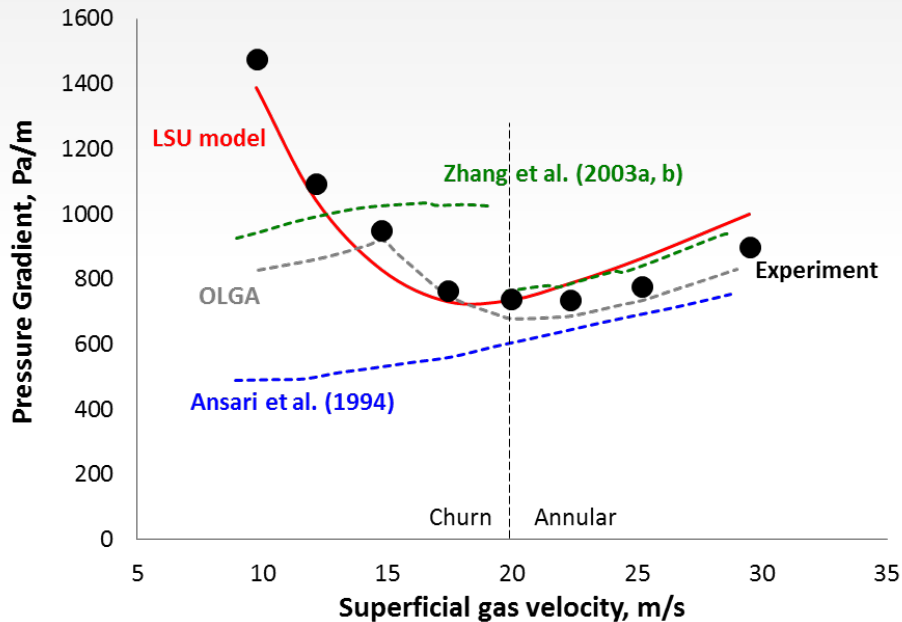
# Experimental Data Quality Check



# Can the Current Models be Improved?

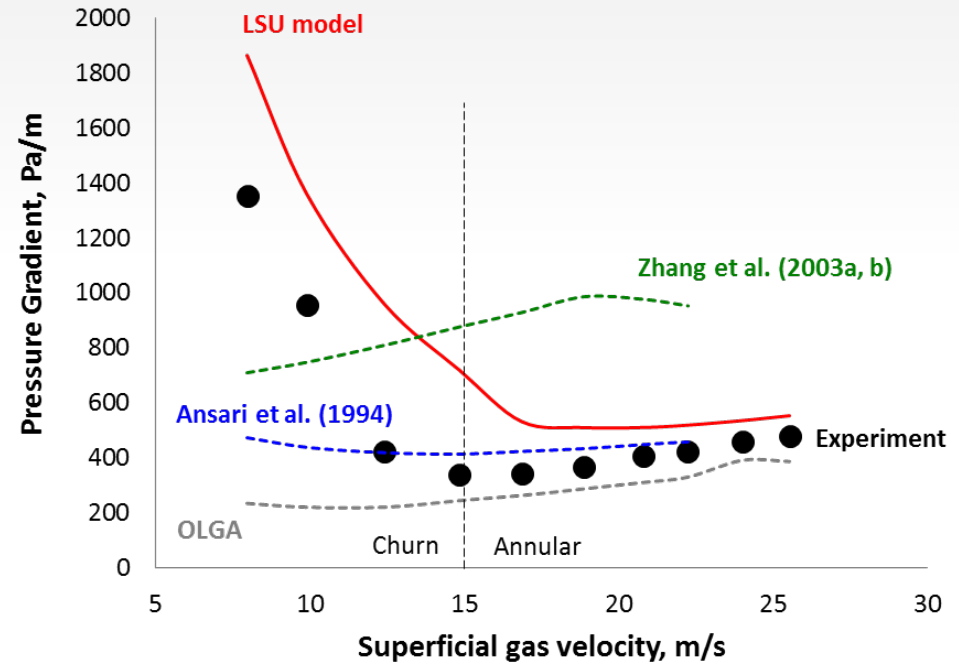
☐ We believe **its is possible!!!**

**d = 2-in**



$U_{LS} = 0.05$  m/s

**d = 4-in**

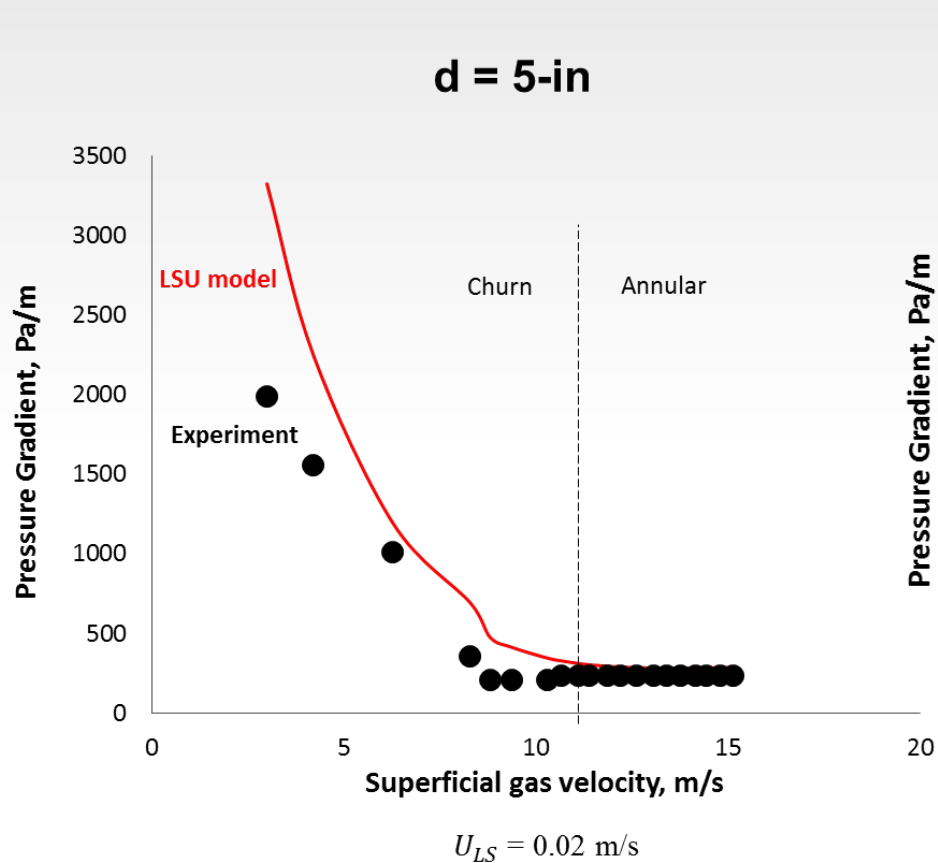


$U_{LS} = 0.05$  m/s

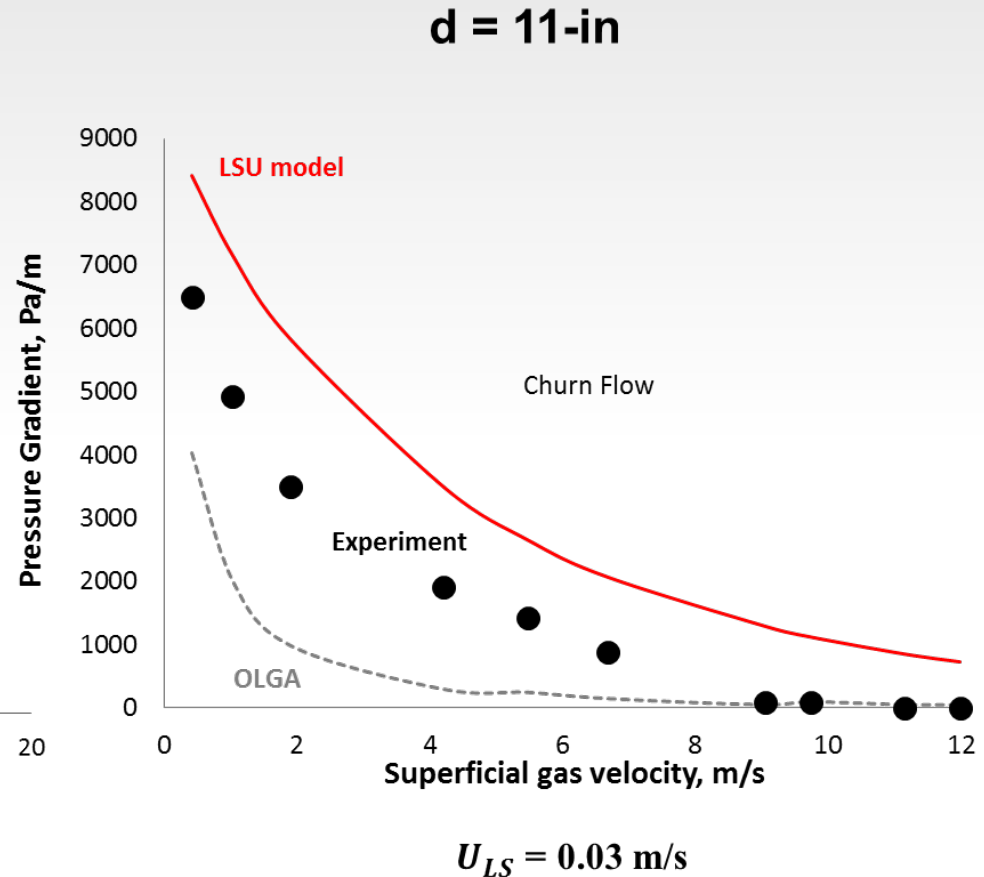
(modified after Skopich et al., 2015)

# Can the Current Models be Improved?

❑ Even for **large pipe diameters!**




(Van der Meulen, 2012)



(Zabaras et al., 2013)

# Final Remarks

- ✓ We have done a **significant amount of work in 4 months**. We are on schedule!!! 
- ✓ It is still **extremely challenging** to point out a **single method** for a wide variety of WCD conditions
- ✓ **Different methods** may be suggested for **different fluid and flow conditions**, making the **recommended practice field specific** depending on reservoir and fluid properties.
- ✓ **Further investigations** of benchmarking and **calibration** of existing WCD models against representative **field and fluid WCD conditions is needed!**
- ✓ Experimental Setup Design and construction **is following the schedule**



# Final Remarks

- ✓ Based on preliminary comparisons, **significant improvement** can be achieved on **wellbore flow models for WCD calculations**

# Next Steps

- ❑ Try to get field data for large diameter pipe and large flow rates, to assess validity of wellbore flow models
- ❑ Compare WCD calculations between different commercial packages (PETEX and HIS), but using the same wellbore flow models
- ❑ Finish installation of 12 in test section for experimental set up
- ❑ CFD upscaling model results
- ❑ Generate experimental data at PERTT Lab for large pipe diameter and large flow rates
- ❑ Compare wellbore flow models to experimental data

