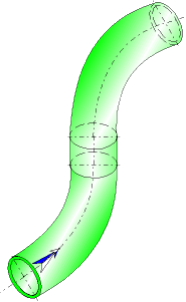




**S-shaped Bends
(with flow in one plane)
Circular Cross-Section
(IDELCHIK)**



Model description:

This model of component calculates the head loss (pressure drop) of S-shaped bends (with flow in one plane) whose cross-section is circular and constant. In addition, the flow is assumed fully developed and stabilized upstream of the first bend.

Model formulation:

Hydraulic diameter (m):

$$D_h = D_0$$

Cross-section area (m²):

$$F_0 = \pi \cdot \frac{D_0^2}{4}$$

Total length measured along the axis (m):

$$l = 2 \cdot \left(2 \cdot \pi \cdot R_0 \cdot \frac{\delta}{360} \right) + l_{el}$$

Mean velocity (m/s):

$$w_0 = \frac{Q}{F_0}$$

Mass flow rate (kg/s):

$$G = Q \cdot \rho$$

Fluid volume (m³):

$$V = F_0 \cdot l$$

Fluid mass (kg):

$$M = V \cdot \rho$$

Reynolds number:

$$Re = \frac{w_0 \cdot D_h}{\nu}$$

Relative roughness:

$$\bar{\Delta} = \frac{\Delta}{D_h}$$

■ Case of a single bend of relative radius of curvature lower than 3 ($R_0/D_0 < 3$) ([1] diagram 6-1)

Coefficient of effect of the roughness:

$$k_{\Delta} = f\left(\frac{R_0}{D_0}, Re, \bar{\Delta}\right) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

- $0.50 \leq R_0/D_0 \leq 0.55$

$\bar{\Delta}$	Re	
	$3 \cdot 10^3 - 4 \cdot 10^4$	$> 4 \cdot 10^4$
0	1.0	1.0
0 - 0.001	1.0	$1 + 0.5 \cdot 10^3 \cdot \bar{\Delta}$
> 0.001	1.0	1.5

- $R_0/D_0 > 0.55$

$\bar{\Delta}$	Re		
	$3 \cdot 10^3 - 4 \cdot 10^4$	$> 4 \cdot 10^4 - 2 \cdot 10^5$	$> 2 \cdot 10^5$
0	1.0	1.0	1.0
0 - 0.001	1.0	$\lambda_{\Delta} / \lambda_{sm}$	$1 + 10^3 \cdot \bar{\Delta}$
> 0.001	1.0	2.0	2.0

with:

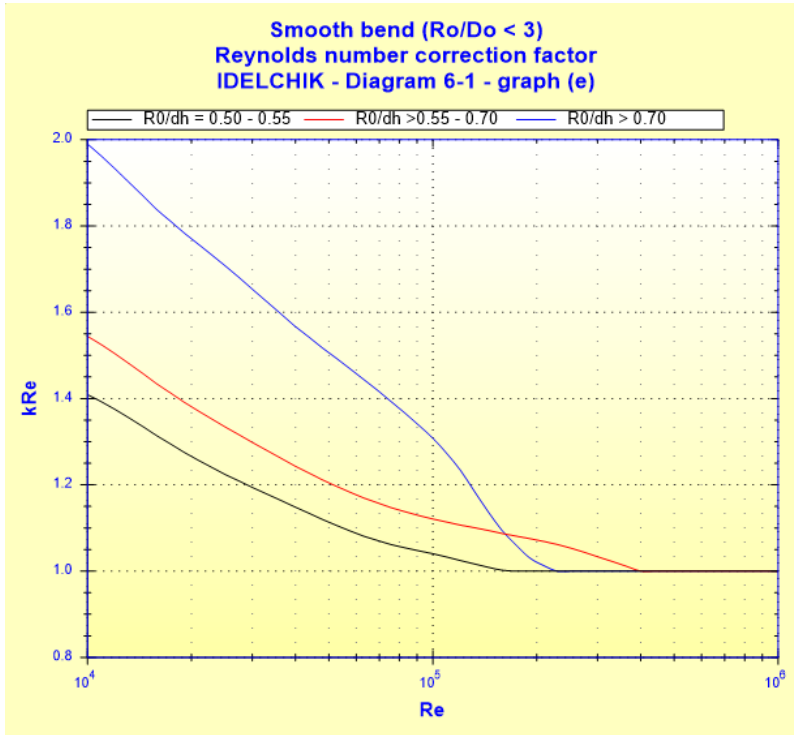
λ_{sm} : Darcy friction factor for hydraulically smooth pipe ($\bar{\Delta} = 0$) at Re

λ_{Δ} : Darcy friction factor for rough pipe ($\bar{\Delta} = \Delta/D_h$) at Re

Coefficient of effect of the Reynolds number ($Re \geq 10^4$):

$$k_{Re} = f\left(\text{Re}, \frac{R_0}{D_h}\right)$$

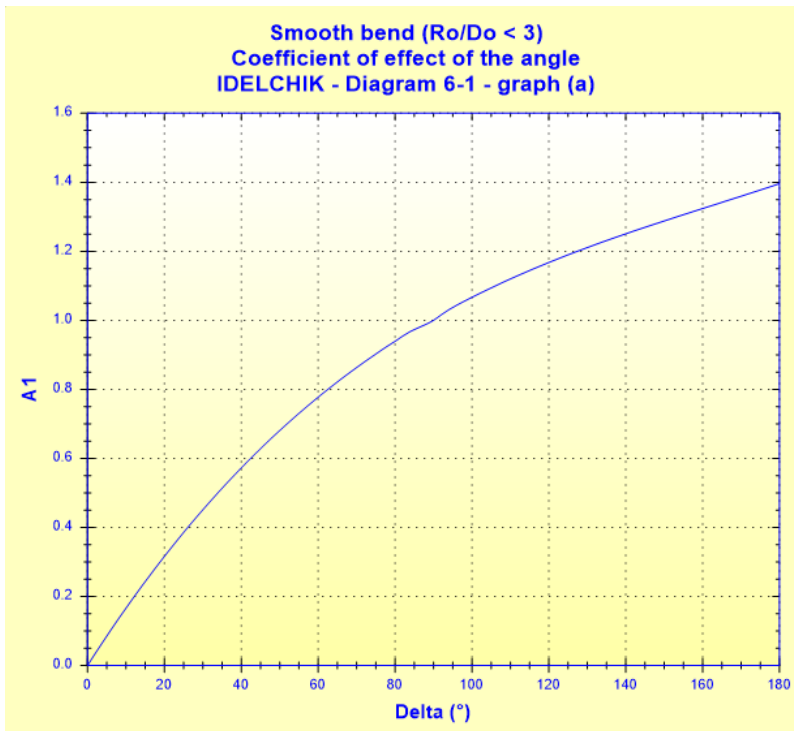
([1] diagram 6-1)



Coefficient of effect of the angle:

$$A1 = f(\delta)$$

([1] diagram 6-1)

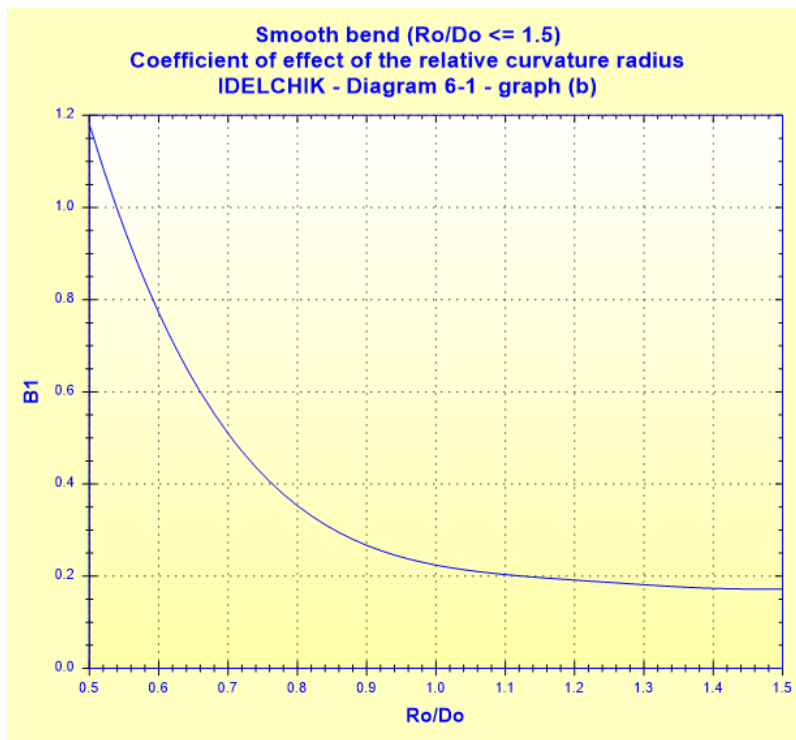


Coefficient of effect of the relative curvature radius:

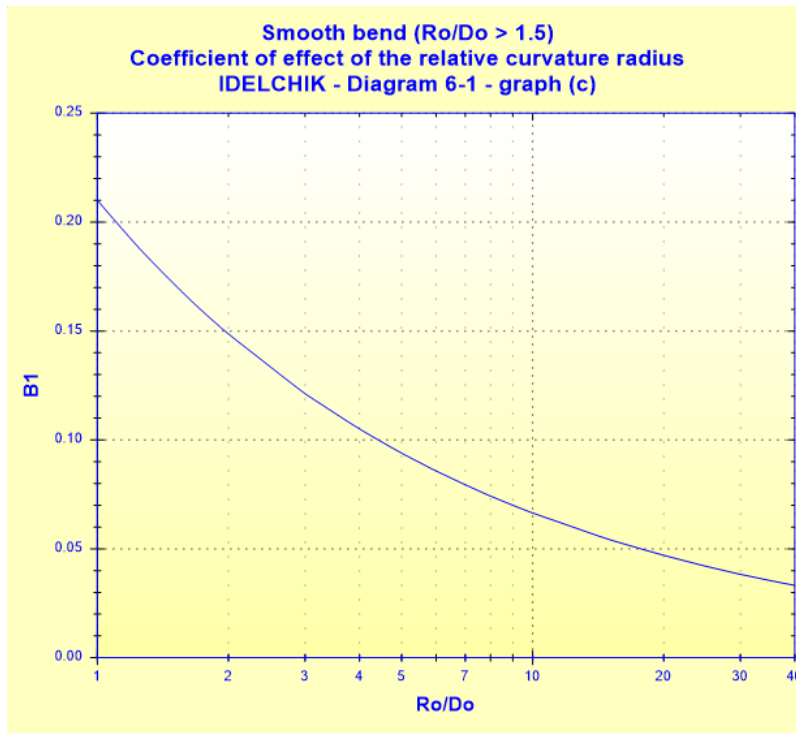
$$B1 = f\left(\frac{R_0}{D_h}\right)$$

([1] diagram 6-1)

- $0.5 \leq R_0/D_0 \leq 1.5$



● $R_0/D_0 > 1.5$



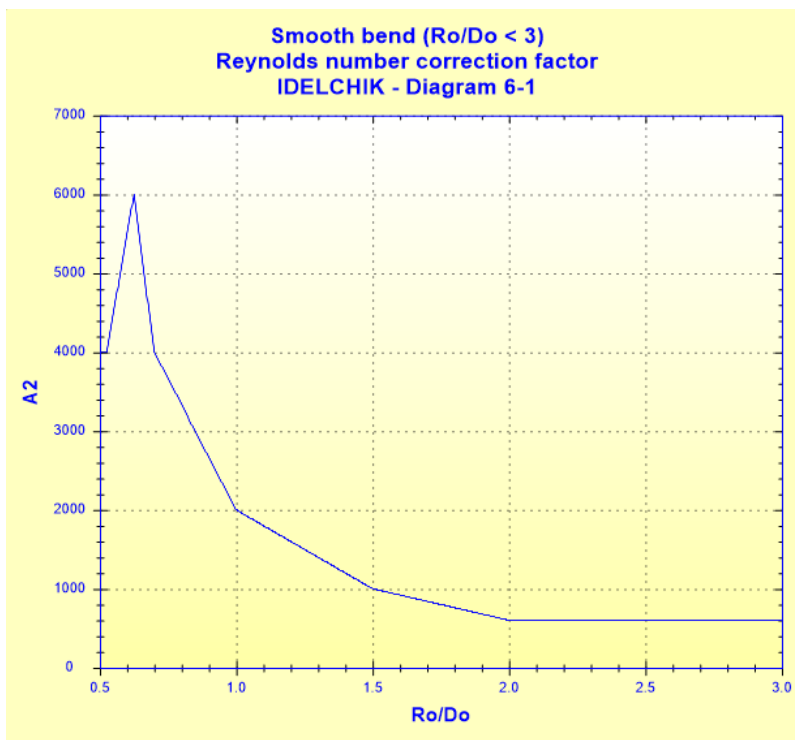
Coefficient of effect of the relative elongation of the cross section:

$$\boxed{C_1 = 1} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

Reynolds number correction factor that depends on the relative curvature radius:

$$\boxed{A_2 = f\left(\frac{R_0}{D_0}\right)} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

R_0/D_0	0.50 - 0.55	>0.55 - 0.70	>0.70 - 1.0	>1.0 - 2.0	>2.0
$A_2 \times 10^{-3}$	4.0	6.0	4.0 - 2.0	1.0	0.6



Pressure loss coefficient (without friction):

- $Re \geq 10^4$

$$\zeta'_{loc} = k_{\Delta} \cdot k_{Re} \cdot A1 \cdot B1 \cdot C1 \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

- $3 \cdot 10^3 < Re < 10^4$

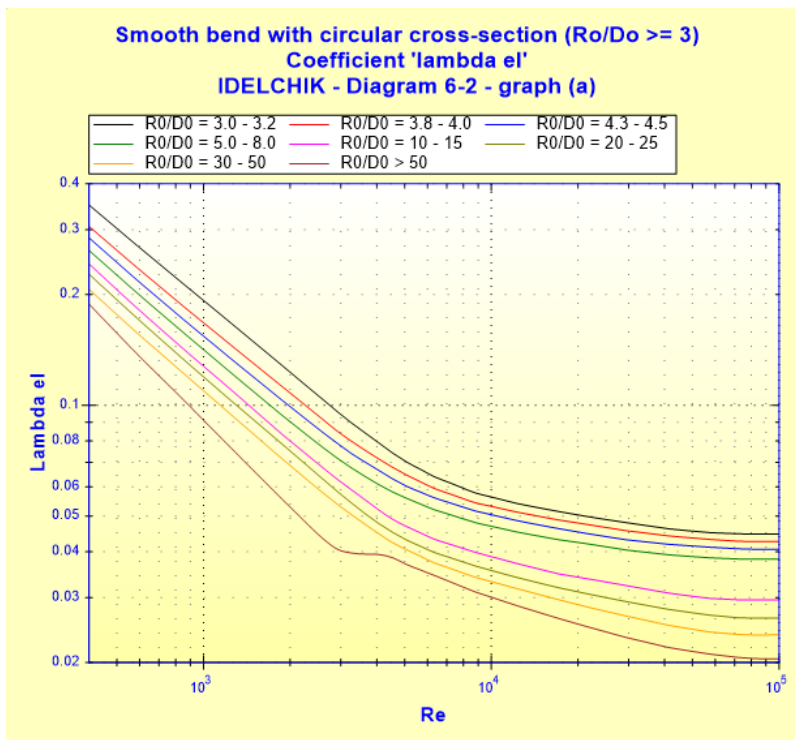
$$\zeta'_{loc} = \frac{A2}{Re} + A1 \cdot B1 \cdot C1 \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

■ Case of a single bend of relative radius of curvature greater than or equal to 3 ($R_0/D_0 \geq 3$) ([1] diagram 6-2)

Total friction factor with smooth wall:

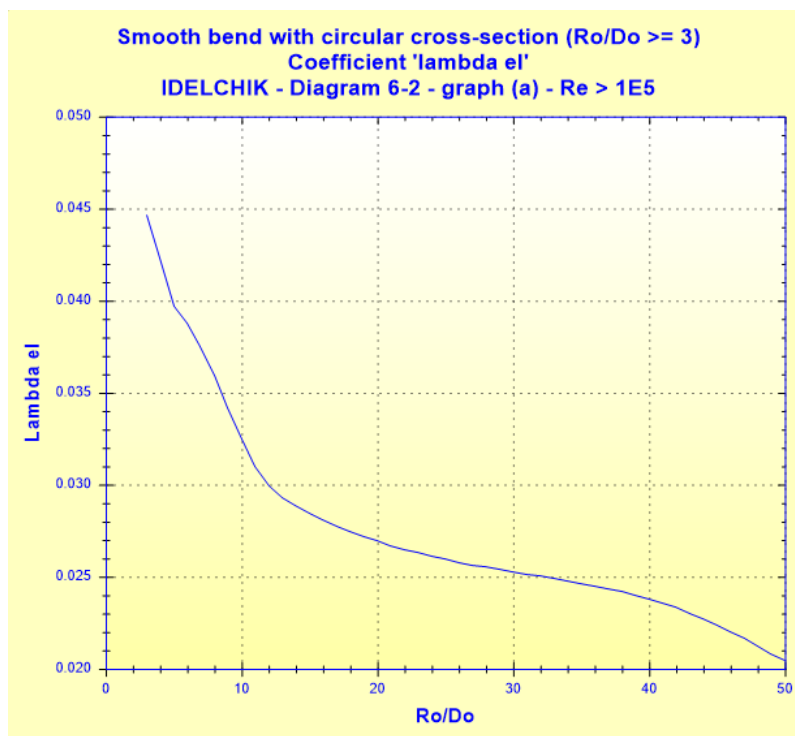
- $4 \cdot 10^2 \leq Re < 10^5$

$$\lambda_{el} = f \left(Re, \frac{R_0}{D_0} \right) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-2})$$



● $Re \geq 10^5$

$$\lambda_{el} = f\left(\frac{R_0}{D_0}\right) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-2})$$



Estimation of the coefficient of local resistance

$$\zeta'_{loc} = (\lambda_{el} - \lambda_s) \cdot \frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot R_0 \cdot \delta / 360}{D_h}$$

with:

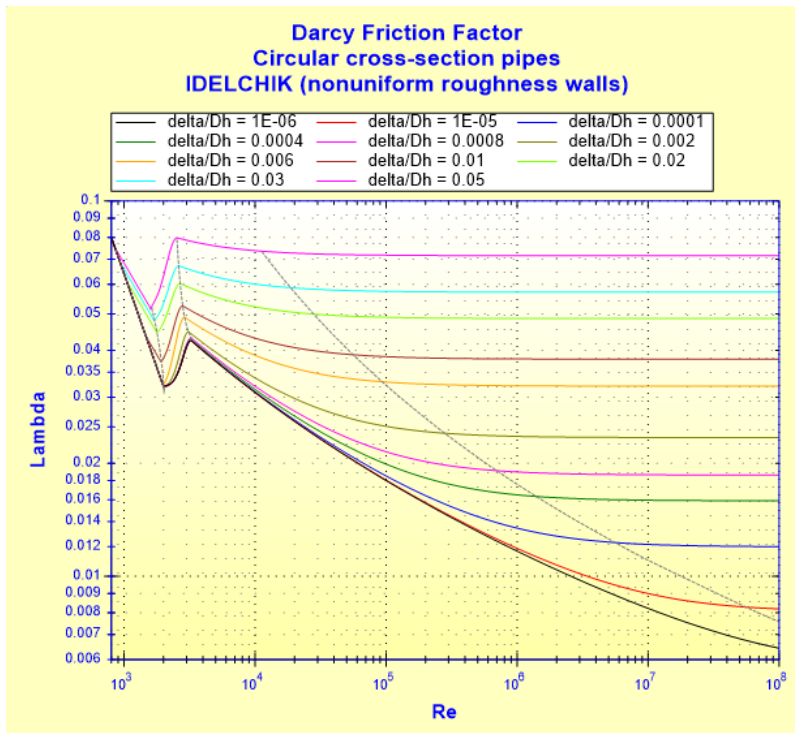
λ_s : Darcy friction factor for hydraulically smooth pipe ($\bar{\Delta} = 0$) at Re

■ Case of the S-shaped Bends ([1] diagram 6-18)

Darcy friction factor:

$$\lambda = f\left(\text{Re}, \frac{\Delta}{D_h}\right)$$

See [Straight Pipe - Circular Cross-Section and Nonuniform Roughness Walls \(IDELCHIK\)](#)

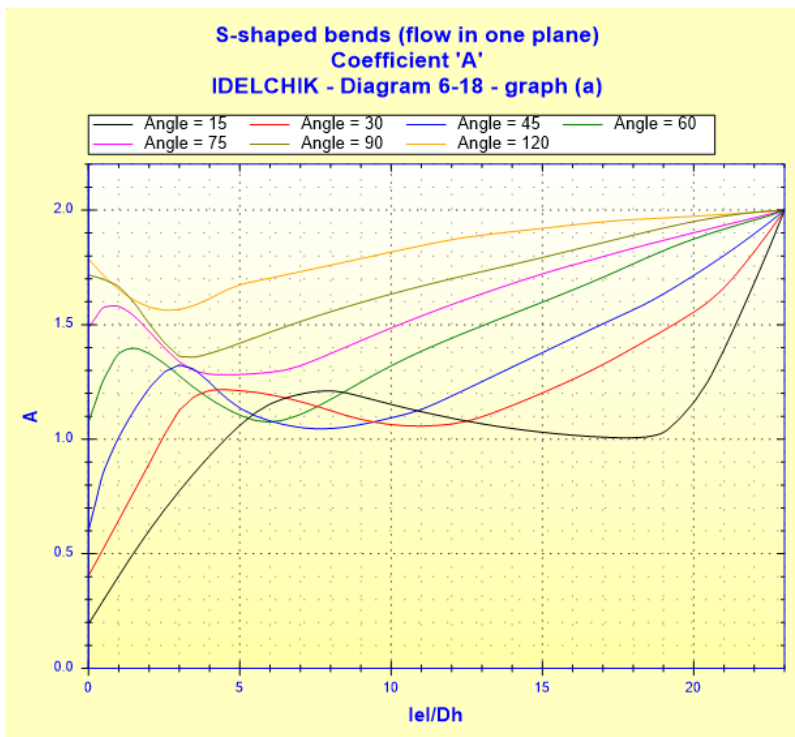


Pressure loss friction factor:

$$\zeta_{fr} = \lambda \cdot \left[2 \cdot \left(0.0175 \cdot \delta \cdot \frac{R_0}{D_h} \right) + \frac{l_{el}}{D_h} \right] \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-18})$$

Interaction correction factor:

$$A = f\left(\frac{l_{el}}{D_h}, \delta\right) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-18 graph a})$$



Total pressure loss coefficient (based on the mean velocity in the bends):

$$\zeta = A \cdot \zeta'_{loc} + \zeta_{fr} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-18})$$

Straight length of equivalent pressure loss (m):

$$L_{eq} = \zeta \cdot \frac{D_0}{\lambda}$$

Total pressure loss (Pa):

$$\Delta P = \zeta \cdot \frac{\rho \cdot W_0^2}{2} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-18})$$

Total head loss of fluid (m):

$$\Delta H = \zeta \cdot \frac{W_0^2}{2 \cdot g}$$

Hydraulic power loss (W):

$$Wh = \Delta P \cdot Q$$

Symbols, Definitions, SI Units:

D_h	Bend hydraulic diameter (m)
D_0	Bend internal diameter (m)
F_0	Cross-sectional area (m ²)
l	Total length measured along the axis (m)
l_{el}	Straight length between bends (m)
R_0	Radius of curvature (m)
δ	Curvature angle of each bend (°)
Q	Volume flow rate (m ³ /s)

w_0	Mean velocity (m/s)
G	Mass flow rate (kg/s)
V	Fluid volume (m ³)
M	Fluid mass (kg)
Re	Reynolds number ()
Δ	Absolute roughness of walls (m)
$\bar{\Delta}$	Relative roughness of walls ()
k_{Δ}	Coefficient that allows for the effect of the roughness ()
k_{Re}	Coefficient that allows for the effect of the Reynolds number ()
A_1	Coefficient that allows for the effect of the angle ()
B_1	Coefficient that allows for the effect of the relative curvature radius ()
C_1	Coefficient that allows for the effect of the relative elongation of the cross section ()
A_2	Reynolds number correction factor that depends on the relative curvature radius ()
ζ'_{loc}	Coefficient of local resistance ()
λ_{el}	Total friction factor with smooth wall ()
λ	Darcy friction coefficient ()
ζ_{fr}	Pressure loss friction factor ()
A	Interaction correction factor ()
ζ	Total pressure loss coefficient (based on the mean velocity in the bend) ()
L_{eq}	Straight length of equivalent pressure loss (m)
ΔP	Total pressure loss (Pa)
ΔH	Total head loss of fluid (m)
Wh	Hydraulic power loss (W)
ρ	Fluid density (kg/m ³)
ν	Fluid kinematic viscosity (m ² /s)
g	Gravitational acceleration (m/s ²)

Validity range:

- stabilized flow upstream bend
- length of the straight section downstream: $\geq 10 D_0$
- relative radius of curvature: greater than or equal to 1 ($R_0/D_0 \geq 1$)
- curvature angle of one bend: between 0° and 180°

for ' δ ' angles less than 15° the pressure loss coefficient ' ζ ' is estimated by taking into account an interaction correction factor ' A ' corresponding to that of an angle of 15°.

for ' δ ' angles greater than 120° the pressure loss coefficient ' ζ ' is estimated by taking into account an interaction correction factor ' A ' corresponding to that of an angle of 120°.

- case of relative radius of curvature: lower than 3 ($R_0/D_0 < 3$)
 - flow regime: $Re \geq 3 \cdot 10^3$

■ case of relative radius of curvature: greater than or equal to 3 ($R_0/D_0 \geq 3$)

- flow regime: $Re \geq 400$

for Reynolds number 'Re' lower than 400 the coefficient ' λ_{el} ' is linearly extrapolated.

Example of application:

The screenshot displays the HydraulCalc 2023a software interface for calculating the hydraulic resistance of a 90-degree pipe bend. The software is titled "HydraulCalc 2023a - [S-shaped bends with circular cross-section (flow in one plane) - IDELCHIK (3rd Ed.)]".

Fluid characteristics:

- Fluid: Water @ 1 atm [HC]
- Ref.: IAPWS IF97
- Temperature: $T = 20$ °C
- Pressure: $P = 1.013$ bar
- Density: $\rho = 998.2061$ kg/m³
- Dynamic Viscosity: $\mu = 0.00100159$ N.s/m²
- Kinematic Viscosity: $\nu = 1.00340E-06$ m²/s

Geometrical characteristics:

- Pressure loss: $\Delta P = 0.003876946$ bar
- $\Delta H = 0.0396$ m of fluid
- Angle: 90°
- Radius of curvature: $R_0 = 0.175$ m
- Hydraulic diameter: $D_0 = 0.0703$ m
- Relative radius of curvature: $R_0/D_0 = 2.489331$
- Length between elbows / hydraulic diameter ratio: $l_{el}/D_0 = 1.422475$
- Developed straight length from the axis: $l = 0.6497787$ m
- Relative roughness: $\Delta = 0.0001422475$
- Reynolds number: $Re = 90251$
- Darcy Friction Factor: $\lambda = 0.01907611$
- Coefficient of local resistance: $\zeta_{loc} = 0.181306$
- Coefficient of friction resistance: $\zeta_{fr} = 0.1763193$
- Interaction correction factor (Diagram 6-18): $A = 1.609457$
- Pressure loss coefficient (based on the mean bend velocity): $\zeta = 0.4681237$
- Hydraulic power loss: $Wh = 1.938473$ W
- Straight length of equivalent pressure loss: $Leq = 1.725147$ m

Complementary results:

Designation	Symbol	Value	Unit
Hydraulic diameter	D_h	0.0703	m
Passage cross-section area	F_0	0.003881508	m ²
Relative radius of curvature	R_0/D_0	2.489331	
Length between elbows / hydraulic diameter ratio	l_{el}/D_h	1.422475	
Developed straight length from the axis	l	0.6497787	m
Relative roughness	Δ	0.0001422475	
Reynolds number	Re	90251	
Darcy Friction Factor	λ	0.01907611	
Coefficient of local resistance	ζ_{loc}	0.181306	
Coefficient of friction resistance	ζ_{fr}	0.1763193	
Interaction correction factor (Diagram 6-18)	A	1.609457	
Pressure loss coefficient (based on the mean bend velocity)	ζ	0.4681237	
Hydraulic power loss	Wh	1.938473	W
Straight length of equivalent pressure loss	Leq	1.725147	m

References:

[1] Handbook of Hydraulic Resistance, 3rd Edition, I.E. Idelchik