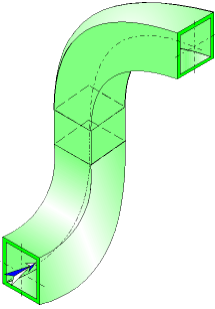




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**S-shaped Bends**  
**(with flow in two perpendicular planes)**  
**Rectangular Cross-Section**  
**(IDELCHIK)**



**Model description:**

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

**Model formulation:**

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Hydraulic diameter (m):

$$D_h = \frac{2 \cdot a_0 \cdot b_0}{a_0 + b_0} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

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Cross-section area (m<sup>2</sup>):

$$F_0 = a_0 \cdot b_0$$

---

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 (m<sup>3</sup>):

$$V = F_0 \cdot l$$

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 relative radius of curvature lower than 3 ( $R_0/b_0 < 3$ ) ([1] diagram 6-1)

Coefficient of effect of the roughness:

$$k_{\Delta} = f\left(\frac{R_0}{b_0}, Re, \bar{\Delta}\right) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

●  $0.50 \leq R_0/b_0 \leq 0.55$

$\bar{\Delta}$	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

●  $R_0/b_0 > 0.55$

$\bar{\Delta}$	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:

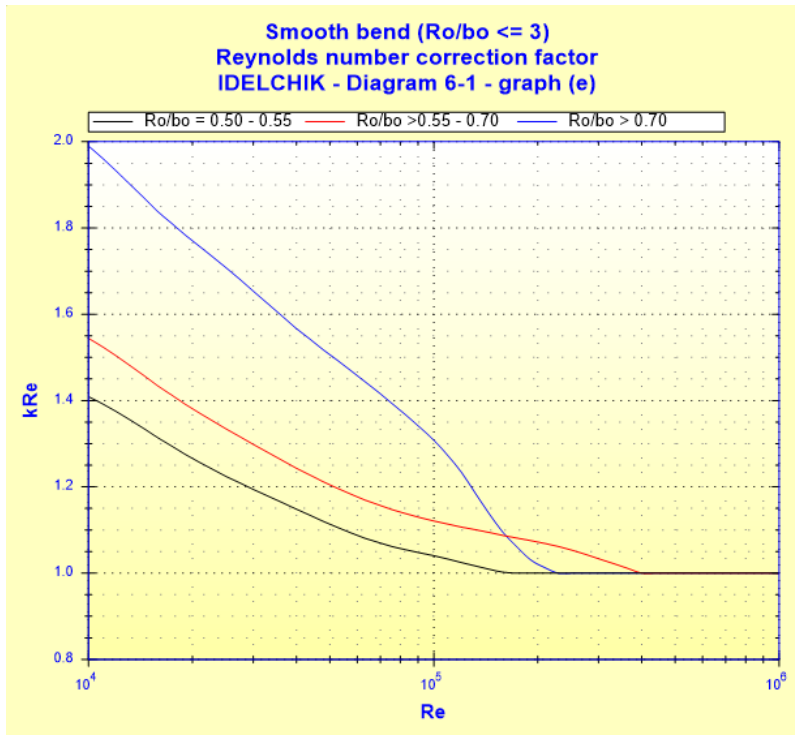
$\lambda_{sm}$  : Darcy friction factor for hydraulically smooth pipe ( $\bar{\Delta} = 0$ ) at Re

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

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

$$k_{Re} = f\left(\text{Re}, \frac{R_0}{b_0}\right)$$

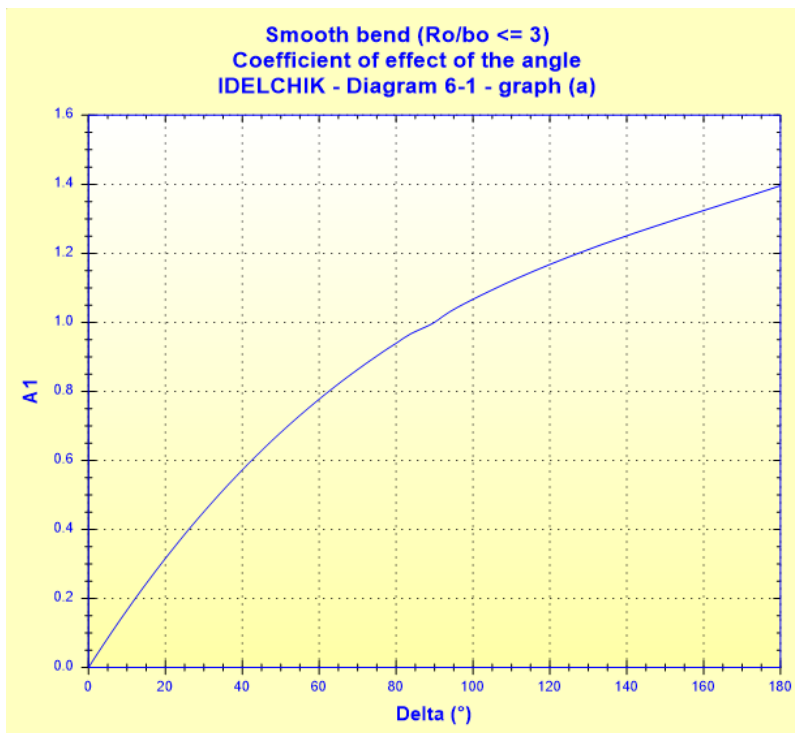
([1] diagram 6-1)



Coefficient of effect of the angle:

$$A1 = f(\delta)$$

([1] diagram 6-1)

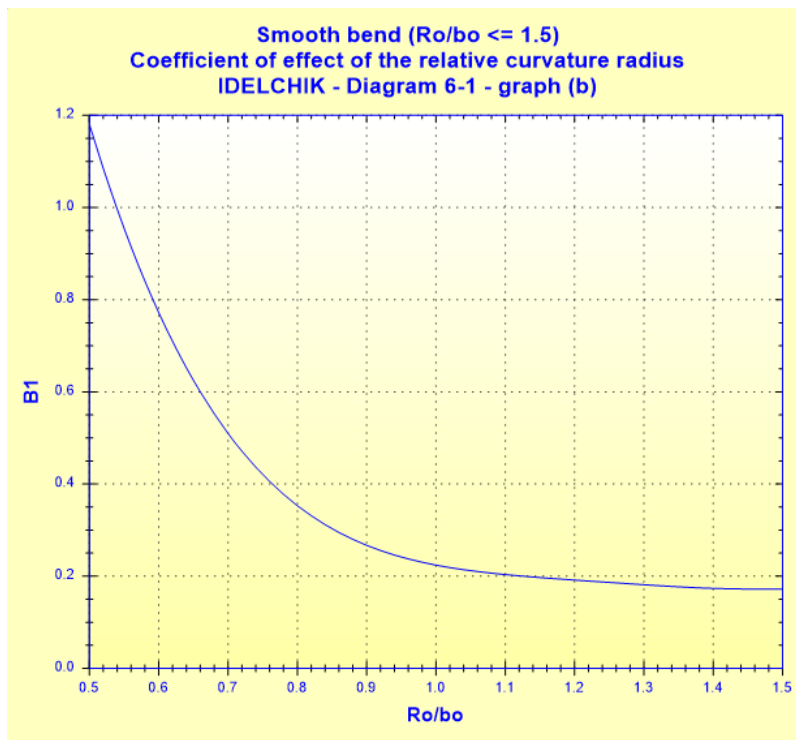


Coefficient of effect of the relative curvature radius:

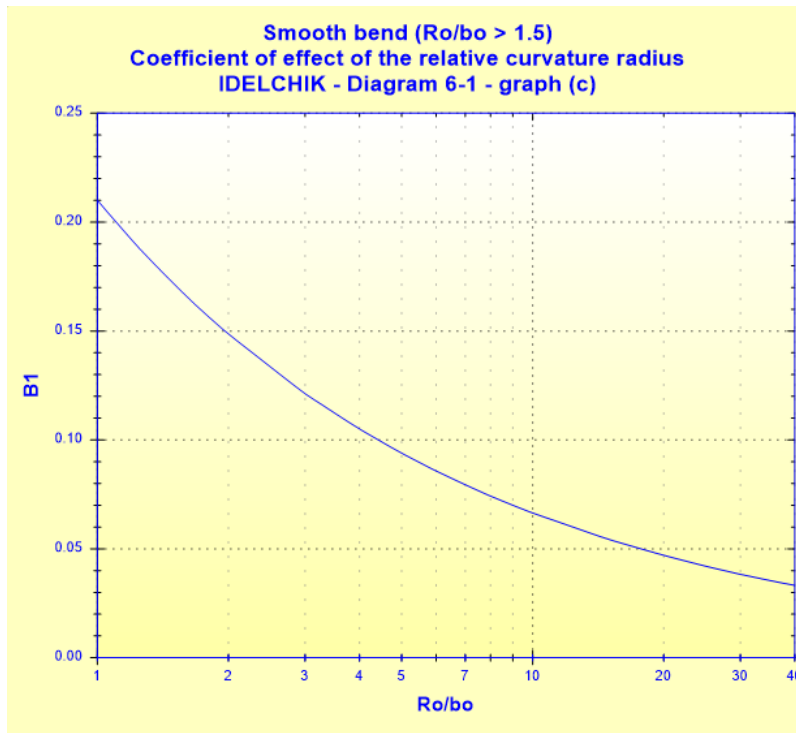
$$B1 = f\left(\frac{R_0}{b_0}\right)$$

([1] diagram 6-1)

- $0.5 \leq R_0/b_0 \leq 1.5$



●  $R_0/b_0 > 1.5$




---

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

◆  $a_0 \geq b_0$

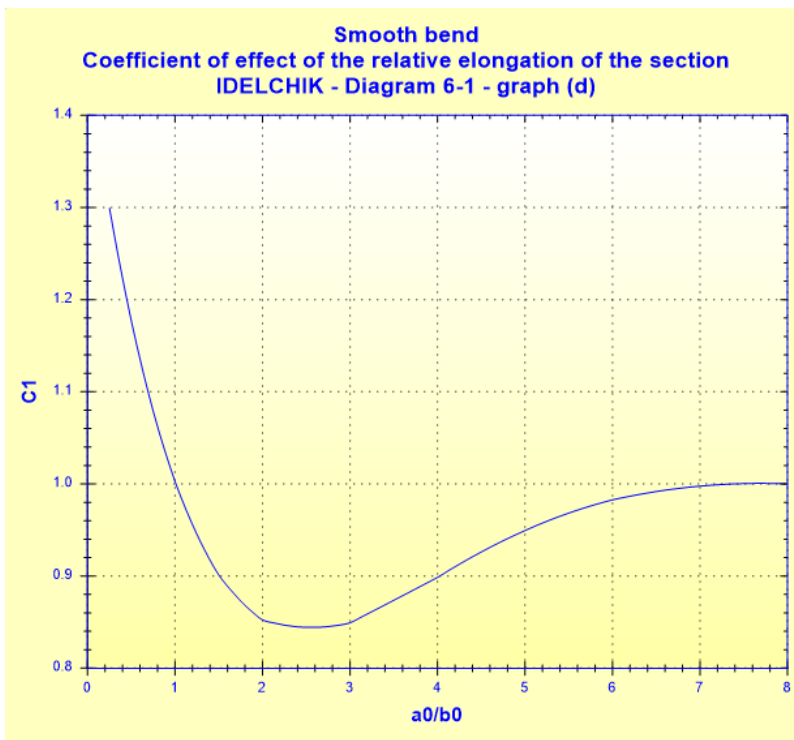
$$C_1 = f\left(\frac{a_0}{b_0}\right)$$

([1] diagram 6-1)

◆  $a_0 < b_0$

$$C_1 = f\left(\frac{b_0}{a_0}\right)$$

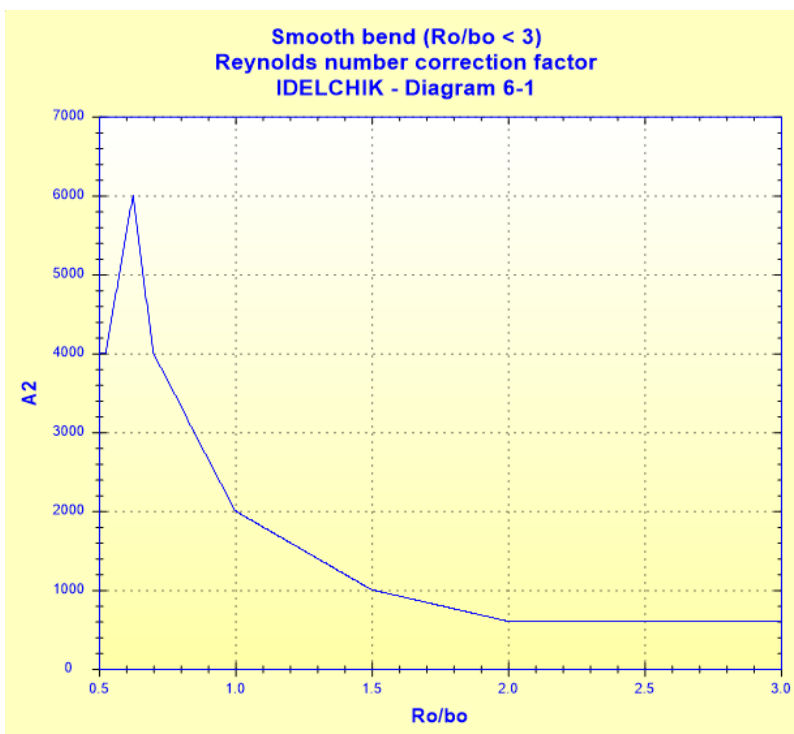
([1] diagram 6-1)



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

$$A2 = f\left(\frac{R_0}{b_0}\right) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

$R_0/b_0$	0.50 - 0.55	>0.55 - 0.70	>0.70 - 1.0	>1.0 - 2.0	>2.0
$A2 \times 10^{-3}$	4.0	6.0	4.0 - 2.0	1.0	0.6



Pressure loss coefficient (without friction):

- $Re \geq 10^4$

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

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

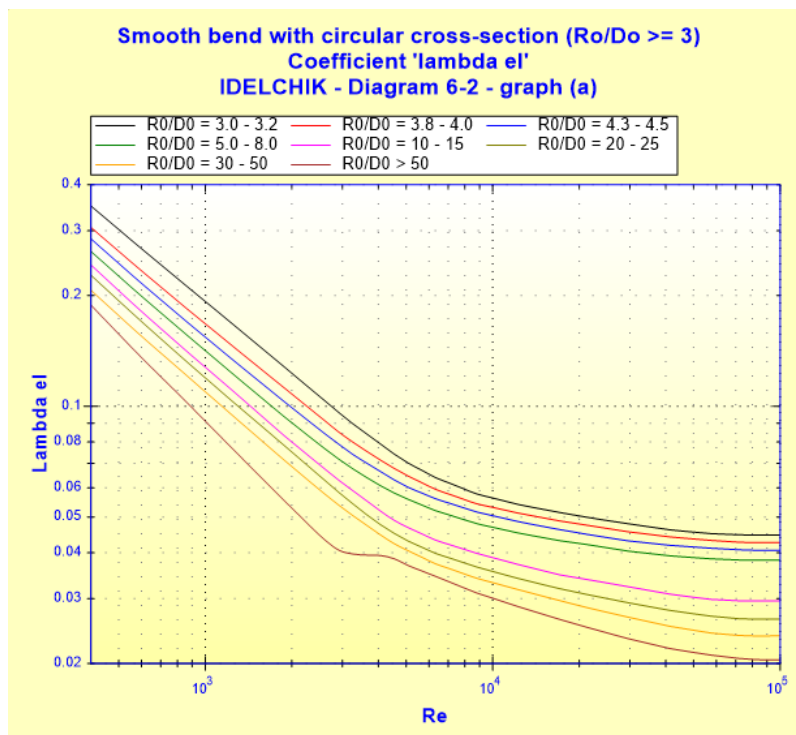
$$\zeta'_{loc} = \frac{A_2}{Re} + A_1 \cdot B_1 \cdot C_1 \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-1})$$

- Case of relative radius of curvature greater than or equal to 3 ( $R_0/b_0 \geq 3$ ) ([1] diagram 6-2)

Total friction factor with smooth wall:

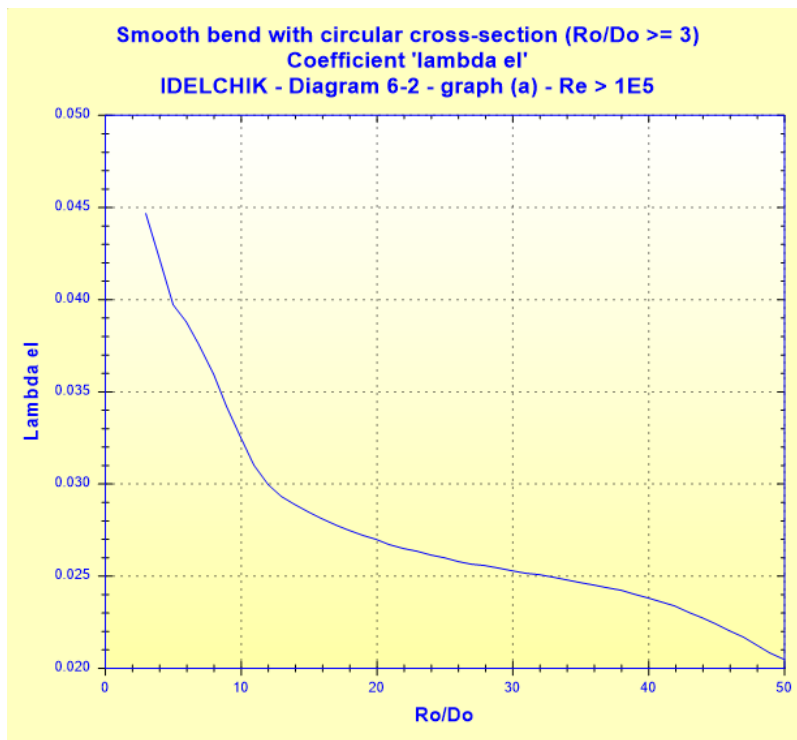
- $4 \cdot 10^2 \leq Re < 10^5$

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



- $Re \geq 10^5$

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



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:

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

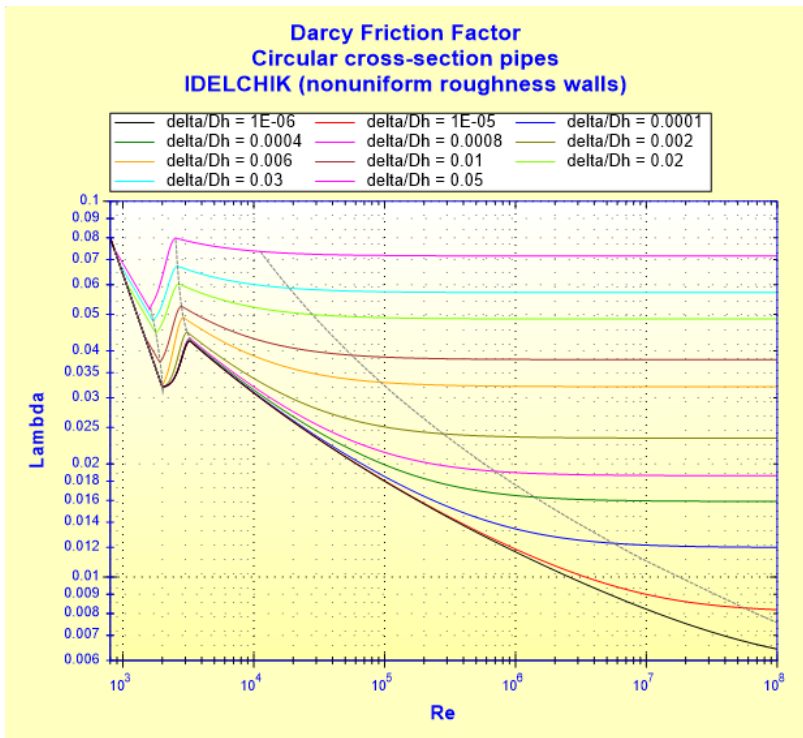
■ Case of the S-shaped Bends ([1] diagram 6-19)

Darcy friction factor:

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

■ Darcy friction factor for circular cross-section

$$\lambda_{circ} = f\left(Re, \frac{\Delta}{D_h}\right)$$



■ Correction for Darcy friction factor for noncircular cross-section

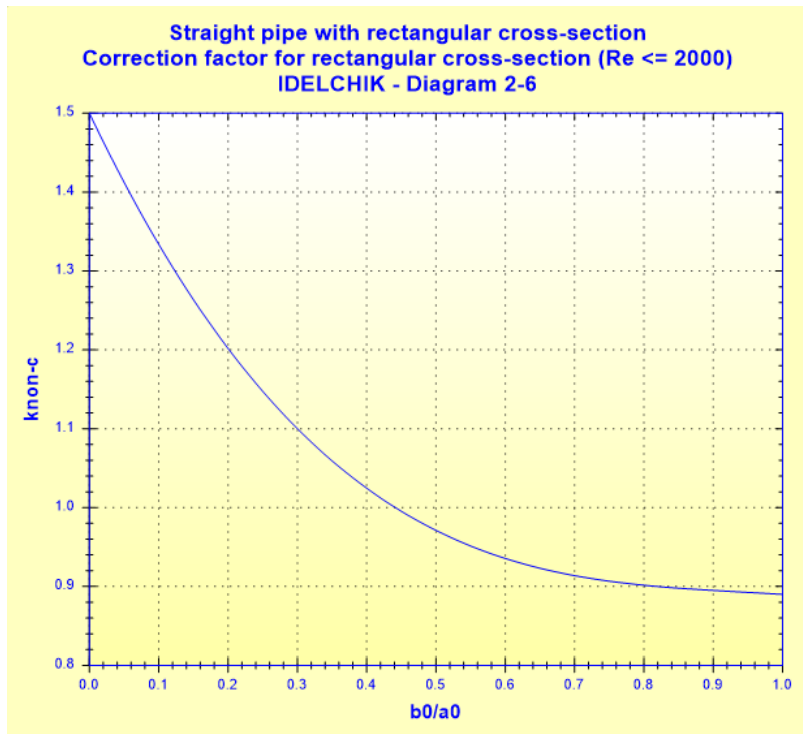
◆  $a_0 \geq b_0$

$$k_{non-c} = f(b_0/a_0) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 2-6})$$

◆  $a_0 < b_0$

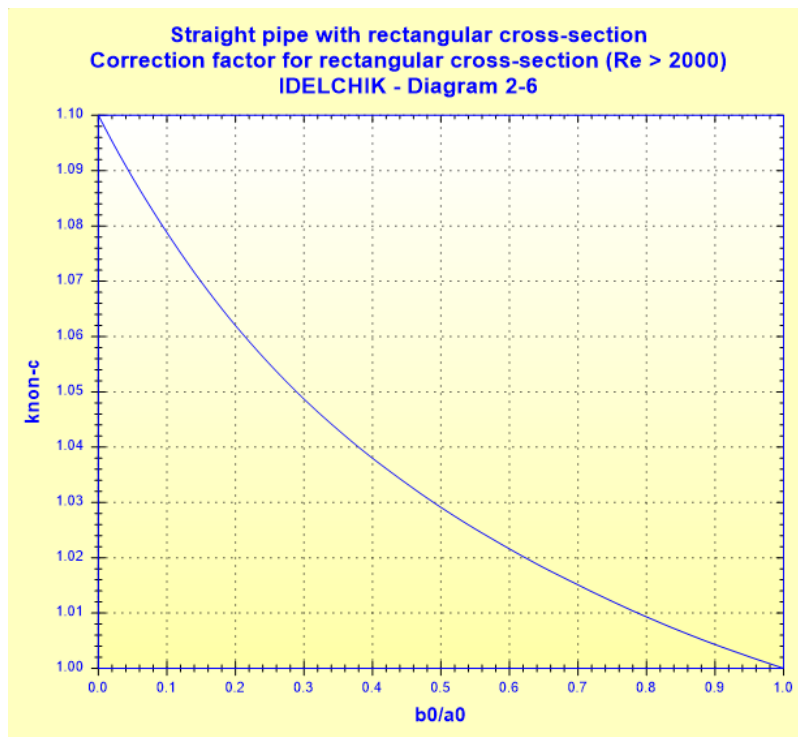
$$k_{non-c} = f(a_0/b_0) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 2-6})$$

● laminar flow ( $Re \leq 2000$ ):



● turbulent flow ( $Re > 2000$ ):





■ Darcy friction factor for rectangular cross-section

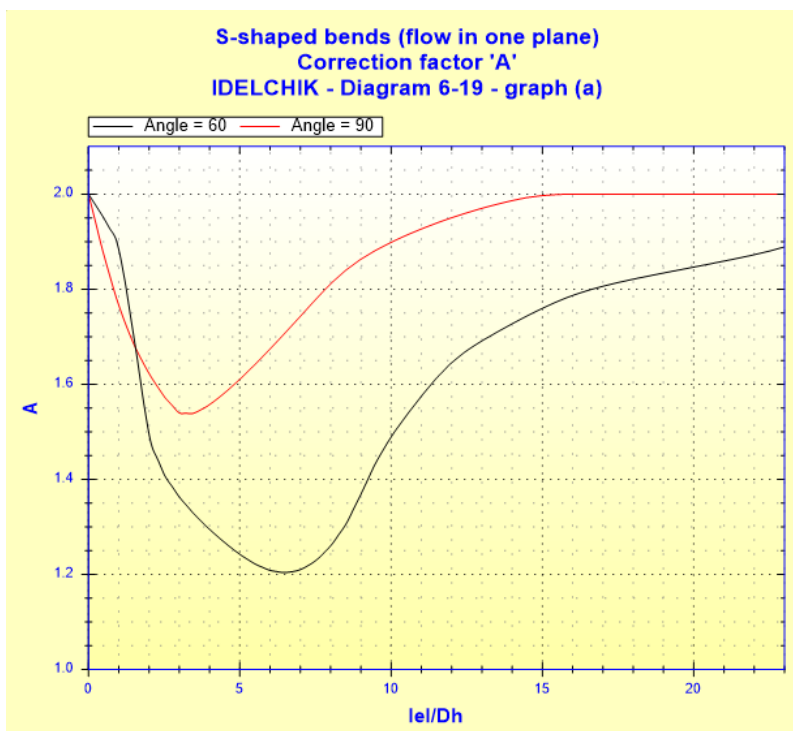
$$\lambda_{rect} = \lambda_{circ} \cdot k_{non-c} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 2-6})$$

Pressure loss friction factor:

$$\zeta_{fr} = \lambda \cdot \left[ 2 \cdot \left( 0.0175 \cdot \delta \cdot \frac{R_0}{D_h} \right) + \frac{l_{el}}{D_h} \right] \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-19})$$

Interaction correction factor:

$$A = f \left( \frac{l_{el}}{D_h}, \delta \right) \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-19 graph a})$$



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

$$\zeta = A \cdot \zeta'_{loc} + \zeta_{fr} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-19})$$

Total pressure loss (Pa):

$$\Delta P = \zeta \cdot \frac{\rho \cdot w_0^2}{2} \quad ([1] \text{ diagram 6-19})$$

Total head loss of fluid (m):

$$\Delta H = \zeta \cdot \frac{w_0^2}{2 \cdot g}$$

Hydraulic power loss (W):

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

Straight length of equivalent pressure loss (m):

$$L_{eq} = \zeta \cdot \frac{D_h}{\lambda_{rect}}$$

### Symbols, Definitions, SI Units:

$a_0$	Rectangular cross-section width (m)
$b_0$	Rectangular cross-section height (m)
$D_h$	Bend hydraulic diameter (m)
$F_0$	Cross-sectional area (m <sup>2</sup> )
$l$	Total length measured along the axis (m)
$R_0$	Radius of curvature (m)
$\delta$	Curvature angle of each bend (°)
$Q$	Volume flow rate (m <sup>3</sup> /s)
$w_0$	Mean velocity (m/s)
$G$	Mass flow rate (kg/s)
$V$	Fluid volume (m <sup>3</sup> )
$M$	Fluid mass (kg)
$Re$	Reynolds number ( )
$\Delta$	Absolute roughness of walls (m)
$\bar{\Delta}$	Relative roughness of walls ( )
$k_{\Delta}$	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 ( )
$\zeta'_{loc}$	Coefficient of local resistance ( )
$\lambda_{circ}$	Darcy friction coefficient for circular cross-section ( )

$k_{\text{non-c}}$	Correction for Darcy friction factor for noncircular cross-section ( )
$\lambda_{\text{rect}}$	Darcy friction coefficient for rectangular cross-section ( )
$\lambda_{\text{el}}$	Friction coefficient ( )
$\zeta_{\text{fr}}$	Pressure loss friction factor ( )
$A$	Interaction correction factor ( )
$\zeta$	Total pressure loss coefficient (based on the mean velocity in the bend) ( )
$\Delta P$	Total pressure loss (Pa)
$\Delta H$	Total head loss of fluid (m)
$Wh$	Hydraulic power loss (W)
$L_{\text{eq}}$	Straight length of equivalent pressure loss (m)
$\rho$	Fluid density ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ )
$\nu$	Fluid kinematic viscosity ( $\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ )
$g$	Gravitational acceleration ( $\text{m/s}^2$ )

### Validity range:

- stabilized flow upstream bend
- length of the straight section downstream:  $\geq 10 D_h$
- relative radius of curvature: greater than or equal to 1 ( $R_0/b_0 \geq 1$ )
- curvature angle of one bend: 0 to  $180^\circ$

for ' $\delta$ ' angles less than  $60^\circ$  the pressure loss coefficient ' $\zeta$ ' is estimated by taking into account an interaction correction factor ' $A$ ' corresponding to that of an angle of  $60^\circ$ .

for ' $\delta$ ' angles greater than  $90^\circ$  the pressure loss coefficient ' $\zeta$ ' is estimated by taking into account an interaction correction factor ' $A$ ' corresponding to that of an angle of  $90^\circ$ .

- case of relative radius of curvature lower than 3 ( $R_0/b_0 < 3$ )
  - flow regime:  $Re \geq 3 \cdot 10^3$
- case of relative radius of curvature greater than or equal to 3 ( $R_0/b_0 \geq 3$ )
  - flow regime:  $500 \leq Re \leq 38 \cdot 10^3$

for Reynolds number ' $Re$ ' lower than 500 or greater than  $38 \cdot 10^3$ , the coefficient ' $\lambda_{\text{el}}$ ' is linearly extrapolated.

### Example of application:

HydrauCalc 2023a - [S-shaped bends with rectangular cross-section (flow in two perpendicular planes) - IDELCHIK (3rd Ed.)]

File Edit Preferences Calculation method Database Tools Help

Fluid characteristics  
 Fluid : Water @ 1 atm [HC]  
 Ref.: IAPWS IF97  
 Temperature : T 20 °C  
 Pressure : P 1.013 bar  
 Density : ρ 998.2061 kg/m³  
 Dynamic Viscosity : μ 0.00100159 N.s/m²  
 Kinematic Viscosity : ν 1.00340E-06 m²/s  
 Density  Dyn. Visc.  Kin. Visc.

Geometrical characteristics  
 Help Info  
 Pressure loss  
 $\Delta P$  0.001846393 bar  
 $\Delta H$  0.0189 m of fluid  
 G 4.9910 kg/s  
 Q 0.005 m³/s  
 1.0 m/s (Turbulent)

Complementary results

Designation	Symbol	Value	Unit
Hydraulic diameter	Dh	0.06666667	m
Passage cross-section area	F0	0.005	m²
Sides ratio	b0/a0	0.5	
Relative radius of curvature	R0/b0	3.5	
Length between elbows / hydraulic diameter ratio	leI/Dh	1.5	
Relative roughness	Δ	0.00015	
Reynolds number	Re	66440.97	
Friction factor for rectangular cross-section	λ <sub>rect</sub>	0.0208327	
Friction factor (Diagram 6-2)	λ <sub>el</sub>	0.04368597	
Darcy friction factor (hydraulically smooth pipe)	λ <sub>s</sub>	0.01962486	
Interaction correction factor (Diagram 6-19)	A	1.68218	
Pressure loss coefficient (based on the mean bend velocity)	ζ	0.3699424	
Hydraulic power loss	Wh	0.9231967	W
Straight length of equivalent pressure loss	Leq	1.183851	m

## References:

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