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**Restrained joint systems for ductile  
iron pipelines — Calculation rules for  
lengths to be restrained**

*Systèmes d'assemblages verrouillés pour canalisations en fonte  
ductile — Règles de calcul pour les longueurs à verrouiller*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 5, *Ferrous metal pipes and metallic fittings*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Cast iron pipes, fittings and their joints*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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# Restrained joint systems for ductile iron pipelines — Calculation rules for lengths to be restrained

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a computation method used to determine the length of the ductile iron pipes to be restrained, when used for conveying raw water, drinking water, sewerage under pressure.

This computation method takes into account all common pipeline route changes, including changes in the diameter of the pipeline itself and dead ends at the extremity of the pipeline, the outside diameter of the pipe, the system test pressure (to estimate the thrust), depth of cover, the characteristics of the soil surrounding the pipe and trench backfilling methods for a worldwide usage. The characteristics of the restrained joint are not covered by this document but can also be considered to determine the restraining length using any appropriate method.

The computation method defined in this document is applicable to all types of restrained joint systems, with their operating pressure ratings of ductile iron pipelines complying with ISO 2531, ISO 7186 and ISO 16631.

NOTE 1 ISO 10804 deals with actual design of the joint for various operating pressures of the pipeline.

NOTE 2 National standards or established calculation methods can be used instead of this ISO standard.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 2531, *Ductile iron pipes, fittings, accessories and their joints for water applications*

ISO 7186, *Ductile iron products for sewerage applications*

ISO 10804, *Restrained joint systems for ductile iron pipelines — Design rules and type testing*

ISO 16631, *Ductile iron pipes, fittings, accessories and their joints compatible with plastic (PVC or PE) piping systems, for water applications and for plastic pipeline connections, repair and replacement*

## 3 Terms, definitions and symbols

### 3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 2531, ISO 10804 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

#### 3.1.1

##### **mechanical flexible joint**

flexible joint in which sealing is obtained by applying pressure to the gasket by mechanical means

### 3.1.2

#### **push-in flexible joint**

flexible joint assembled by pushing the spigot through the gasket into the socket of the mating component

### 3.1.3

#### **restrained joint**

joint in which a means is provided to prevent longitudinal separation of the assembled joint

### 3.1.4

#### **maximum design pressure**

##### **MDP**

$P_{MD}$

maximum operating pressure of the system or of the pressure zone fixed by the designer considering future developments and including surge

Note 1 to entry: It is the maximum pressure considering the design pressure and surge together where:

- MDP is designated MDPa,  $P_{MDa}$ , fixed allowance for surge (secondary distribution networks);
- MDP is designated MDPC,  $P_{MDc}$ , surge is calculated (pumping & water mains).

[SOURCE: ISO 10802:2020, 3.6]

### 3.1.5

#### **system test pressure**

##### **STP**

$P_{ST}$

pressure to which a pipeline or a pipeline section is subjected for testing purposes

Note 1 to entry:

- $P_{ST} = 1,5 \times P_D$  (when  $P_{MD} \leq 10$  bar), or
- $P_{ST} = P_D + 5$  (when  $P_{MD} > 10$  bar)

where  $P_D$  is the design pressure.

Note 2 to entry: 1 bar is equivalent to 0.1 MPa.

[SOURCE: ISO 10802:2020, 3.7, modified — The original note 2 to entry has been replaced by a new one.]

### 3.1.6

#### **thrust force**

unbalanced hydrostatic force developed at the locations of a pipeline, changing diameter or direction

### 3.1.7

#### **bearing resistance**

passive pressure that is generated as the pipeline attempts to separate and move into the soil

### 3.1.8

#### **frictional resistance**

resisting force resulting from the interaction of the pipeline with the soil encountered on the project site and the pipeline laying conditions

### 3.1.9

#### **passive soil pressure**

maximum pressure that the soil imparts on a structure at the prescribed depth

Note 1 to entry: The passive soil pressure is dependent upon the compaction of the soil.



**3.1.10****restrained length**

minimum length to be restrained in order to balance *thrust forces* (3.1.6) and prevent disassembly or separation of the pipeline

**3.2 Symbols**

$A$	cross-sectional area of pipe, in $\text{m}^2$
$A_p$	surface area of the pipe bearing on the soil, in $\text{m}^2/\text{m}$
$C$	pipe-soil cohesion, equals $f_c C_s$ , in $\text{kN}/\text{m}^2$ ;
$C_s$	soil cohesion, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}^2$ (see <a href="#">Table 2</a> )
$D_e$	outside diameter of pipe spigot, in m (see <a href="#">Annex A</a> )
$f_c$	ratio of pipe-soil cohesion to soil cohesion (see <a href="#">Table 2</a> )
$F_f$	unit frictional resistance, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}$
$F_s$	unit frictional force assuming 1/2 the pipe circumference bears against the soil, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}$
$(F_s)_b$	unit frictional force assuming the entire pipe circumference contacts the soil, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}$
$f_\varphi$	ratio of pipe-soil friction angle to soil friction angle (see <a href="#">Table 2</a> )
$h$	thrust block height, in m
$H$	depth of cover to top of pipe, in m
$H_c$	depth of cover to pipe centreline, in m
$K_n$	trench condition modifier (see <a href="#">Table 2</a> )
$L$	minimum required restrained pipe length, in m
$N_\varphi$	$= \tan^2 (45^\circ + \varphi/2)$
$P$	system test pressure, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}^2$
$P_p$	passive soil pressure, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}^2$
$R_s$	unit bearing resistance, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}$
$T$	resultant thrust force, in kN
$\gamma$	backfill soil density, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}^3$ (see <a href="#">Table 2</a> )
$W$	unit normal force on pipe $= 2 W_e + W_p + W_w$ , in $\text{kN}/\text{m}$
$W_e$	earth prism load $= \gamma H D_e$ , in $\text{kN}/\text{m}$
$W_p$	unit weight of pipe, in $\text{kN}/\text{m}$ (see <a href="#">Annex A</a> )
$W_w$	unit weight of water, $\text{kN}/\text{m}$ (see <a href="#">Annex A</a> )
$\theta$	bend angle, in degrees
$\delta$	pipe-soil friction angle, equals $f_\varphi \varphi$ , in degrees;

$\varphi$  soil internal friction angle, in degrees (see [Table 2](#))

$S_f$  safety factor (see [4.2](#))

## 4 Thrust restraint principles, calculation rules and general specification

### 4.1 Thrust forces

When underground or above-ground pipelines are in operation, unbalanced hydrostatic or hydrodynamic forces are developed at many locations under the internal pressure of the fluid in the pipeline, this is known as thrust forces. Unless the pipe joints in these areas are restrained against longitudinal movement, joint separation can result. These thrust forces are developed at locations where the pipeline changes either in diameter or in direction. Such locations include horizontal and vertical bends, tees, wyes, reducers, offsets, pipe bifurcations and valves.

At these locations the thrust forces are resisted with thrust blocks at the focus of the thrust force, or by installing a group of restrained joint pipes, in such a way that the unbalanced force is transmitted to the surrounding soil or pedestals (above-ground installation, without overstressing the pipeline wall and without subjecting the pipeline to joint separation).

The present standard studies and provides formulae which enable to balance thrust forces with the adequate quantity of restrained joint pipes.

Proper care shall be taken by the designer when chambers are installed within the restrained length of the pipeline.

The manufacturer's recommendations for selecting the type of restrained joint shall also be taken into account.

### 4.2 Calculation rules and general specification

The following parameters shall be taken into account: the cross-sectional area of the pipe ([Table A.1](#)), the pipeline changes generating the thrust force ([Clause 5](#)), the outside diameter of the pipe ([Table A.1](#)), the depth of cover of the pipe (see [Figure 6](#)), the characteristics of the soil surrounding the pipe and the trench backfilling methods ([Clauses 7 and 9](#)), the pipeline external coating system (bituminous, epoxy and acrylic paints or polyethylene encased pipe, PU and other extruded coatings - [Clause 8](#)).

The system test pressure (STP) of the pipeline is calculated from the maximum design pressure (MDP) and shall be used to estimate the thrust forces ([Clause 5](#)); and a safety factor of 2 is recommended.

For each pipeline changes and their combination, a specific formula is provided to calculate the length of pipes to be restrained. The list of common situations is provided in [Table 1](#) together with the subclause number:

**Table 1 — Type of common situation**

Description	Subclause number
Horizontal bends	<a href="#">10.1</a>
Vertical down bends	<a href="#">10.2</a>
Vertical up bends	<a href="#">10.3</a>
Tees	<a href="#">10.4</a>
Reducers	<a href="#">10.5</a>
Dead ends	<a href="#">10.6</a>
Encroaching restrained lengths	<a href="#">10.7</a>
Equal angle vertical offset ( $\theta$ )	<a href="#">10.8</a>

Table 1 (continued)

Description	Subclause number
Combined horizontal equal angle bends ( $\theta$ )	<a href="#">10.9</a>
Combined horizontal unequal angle bends	<a href="#">10.10</a>
Combined vertical equal angle offsets ( $\theta$ )	<a href="#">10.11</a>
Pipeline under obstruction	<a href="#">10.11.1</a>
Pipeline over obstruction	<a href="#">10.11.2</a>

### 4.3 Standard jointing systems offer no longitudinal restraint

Ductile iron pipes and fittings are most often joined with push-in or mechanical flexible joints ([Figure 1](#)). Neither of these joints provide significant restraint against longitudinal separation other than the friction, between the gasket and the plain end of the pipe or fitting. Tests have shown that this frictional resistance of these joints are unpredictable. Thus, these joints should be considered as offering no longitudinal restraint for design purposes.

### 4.4 Restrained joint systems

The primary objective of the restrained joint system is to design a system to transmit the unbalanced forces to the surrounding soil without overstressing the pipeline wall and without subjecting the pipeline to joint separation. In order to accomplish the transfer of the unbalanced forces, the friction and passive resistance have been relied upon.

### 4.5 Length to be restrained

The length of the pipe, with restrained joints on each side of the focus of a thrust force, is calculated using the sum of the components of the unbalanced forces in the direction of the corresponding leg. The objective of the thrust restraint design using a restrained joint system is to extend the side of the fitting with inseparable joints so that the fitting can transmit the unbalanced forces to the surrounding soil.

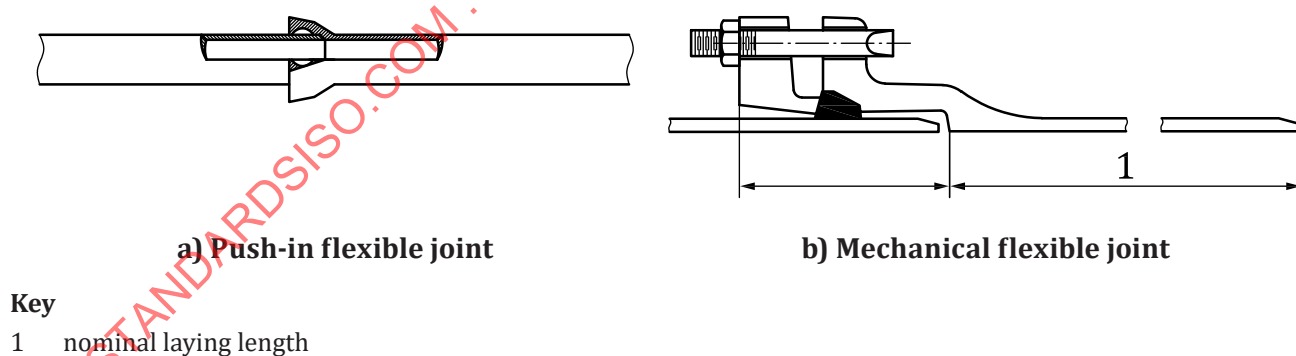


Figure 1 — Push-in and mechanical flexible joints

### 4.6 Restrained design method

This document shows the method to calculate the quantum of thrust forces for the most common situations and the approaches to the design of restrained joint systems for balancing these forces. The suggested design approaches are conservatively based on accepted principles of soil mechanics.

## 4.7 Gravity thrust blocks

The design of gravity thrust blocks to counter the thrust forces in pipeline systems is not covered by this document. Thrust blocks/anchor blocks should not interfere with the angular deflection and axial movement of restrained joints as prescribed by the manufacturer.

## 5 Thrust force

### 5.1 Internal hydrostatic pressure in straight pipes

The internal hydrostatic pressure acts perpendicularly on any plane with a force equal to the pressure ( $P$ ) times the area ( $A$ ) of the plane. All components of these forces acting radially within a pipe are balanced by circumferential tension in the wall of the pipe. Axial components acting on a plane perpendicular to the pipe through a straight section of the pipe are balanced internally by the force acting on each side of the plane (Figure 2).

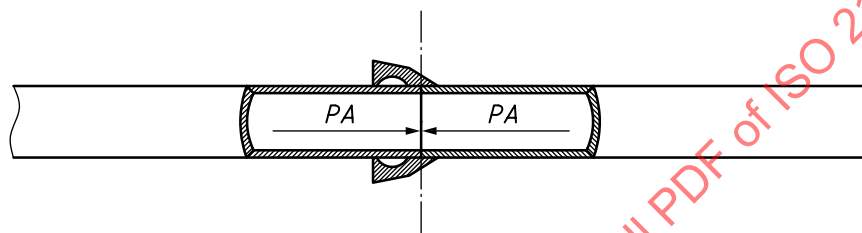


Figure 2 — Internally balanced force

### 5.2 Internal hydrostatic pressure in bends

In the case of a bend as shown in Figure 3, the forces  $PA$  acting axially along each side of the bend are not balanced. The vector sum of these forces is shown as  $T$ . This is the thrust force. In order to prevent separation of the joints, a reaction equal to and in the opposite direction of  $T$ , shall be established.

$$T = 2PA \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \quad (1)$$

where

- $T$  is the resultant thrust force, in kN;
- $P$  is the system test pressure, in kN/m<sup>2</sup>;
- $A$  is the cross-sectional area of pipe, in m<sup>2</sup>;
- $\theta$  is the bend angle, in degrees.

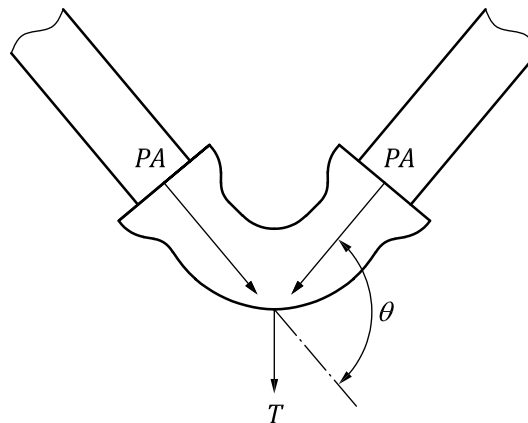
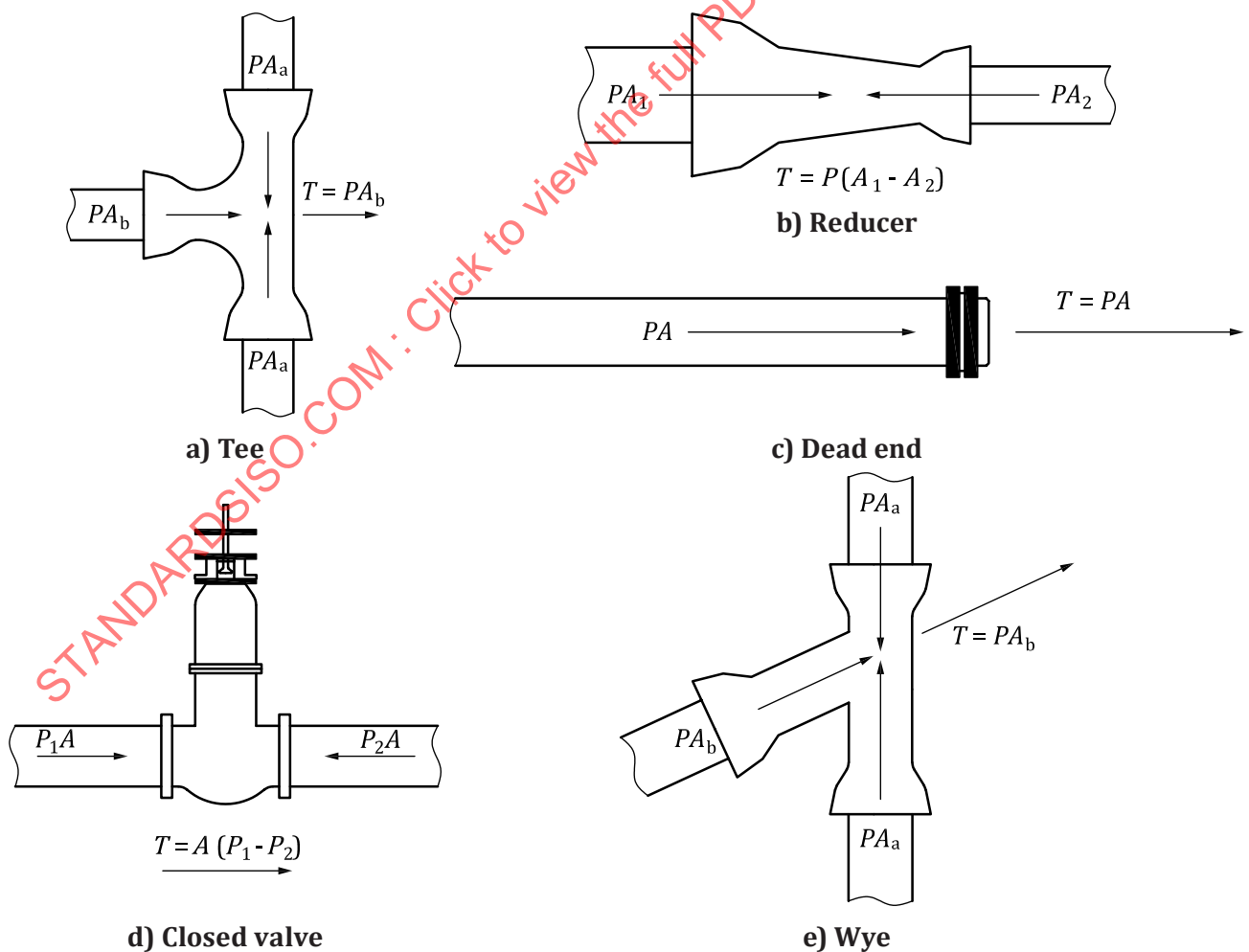


Figure 3 — Thrust force

### 5.3 Internal hydrostatic pressure in other configurations

Figure 4 depicts the net thrust force at various other configurations. In each case the expression for  $T$  can be derived by the vector addition of the axial forces.



#### Key

- $A_a$  is the cross-sectional area of the pipe a, in  $\text{m}^2$   
 $A_b$  is the cross-sectional area of the pipe b, in  $\text{m}^2$

- $A_1$  is the cross-sectional area of the pipe n°1, in  $m^2$   
 $A_2$  is the cross-sectional area of the pipe n°2, in  $m^2$   
 $P_1$  is the system test pressure of the pipe section n°1, in  $kN/m^2$   
 $P_2$  is the system test pressure of the pipe section n°2, in  $kN/m^2$

**Figure 4 — Thrust force for various configurations**

## 6 Restrained joints

### 6.1 Principle

The method of providing thrust restraint in the pipe itself is by the use of restrained joints. Restrained joint systems function, in a manner similar to thrust blocks, in so far as the reaction of the entire restrained lengths of piping with the soil balances the thrust forces.

### 6.2 Conservative design

A practical design procedure has been adopted in this document, based on valid assumptions. The assumptions considered in the design procedure are on the conservative side.

### 6.3 Required prevailing site conditions

Attention is drawn to the fact that all parameters considered in the formulae shall be validated by the prevailing site conditions as taken into consideration by the project designer/owner.

The thrust force shall be restrained or balanced by the reaction of the restrained pipe lengths with the surrounding soil, taking into account:

- the static friction between the pipe length and the soil;
- the restraint provided by the pipe as it bears against the side fill soil along each side of the fitting.

The use of restrained joint pipes, adjacent to the fittings, actually increases the lengths of all the arms of the fitting.

## 7 Unit frictional force, $F_s$

### 7.1 Static frictional force

The static frictional force acting on a body is equal in magnitude to the applied force, up to a maximum value. In the conventional analysis, the maximum static friction is proportional to the normal force between the surfaces which provide the friction. The constant of proportionality, in this case called the coefficient of friction, depends upon the nature of the surfaces. Experimental work indicates that for friction between pipes and soils, the force is also dependent upon the cohesion of the soil.

Thus,

$$F_s = A_p C + W \tan \delta \quad (2)$$

where

- $A_p$  is the surface area of the pipe bearing on the soil, in  $m^2/m$ :  
 $\pi D_e/2$  (for bends, assume 1/2 the pipe circumference bears against the soil);

$\pi D_e$  (for tee branches, dead end conditions, and reducers, assume the full pipe circumference bears against the soil);

$C$  is the pipe-soil cohesion, which equals  $f_c C_s$ , in kN/m<sup>2</sup>;

$f_c$  is the ratio of pipe-soil cohesion to soil cohesion;

$W$  is the unit normal force, in kN/m;

$C_s$  is the soil cohesion, in kN/m<sup>2</sup> (see Table 2);

$\delta$  is the pipe-soil friction angle, which equals  $f_\varphi \varphi$ , in degrees;

$f_\varphi$  is the ratio of pipe-soil friction angle to soil friction angle;

$\varphi$  is the internal friction angle of the soil, in degrees (see Table 2).

## 7.2 Values of soil cohesion

Values of soil cohesion ( $C_s$ ) and internal friction angle of the soil  $\varphi$ , shall be known or conservatively estimated for the soil at a particular installation.  $f_c$  and  $f_\varphi$  are related to soil types and pipe material. Table 2 presents conservative values of these parameters, for ductile iron pipe in seven general classifications of soils.

The unit normal force  $W$  is given by

$$W = 2 W_e + W_p + W_w \quad (3)$$

where the earth load ( $W_e$ ) is taken as the prism load on the pipe in kN/m. The earth load is doubled, to account for the forces acting on both the top and the bottom of the pipe (see Figure 5). The unit weight of the pipe and water ( $W_p + W_w$ ) is given in Annex A.

Then

— for bends:

$$F_s = \frac{\pi D_e}{2} C + (2 W_e + W_p + W_w) \tan \delta \quad (4)$$

— for tee branches, dead-end conditions and reducers:

$$(F_s)_b = \pi D_e C + (2 W_e + W_p + W_w) \tan \delta \quad (5)$$

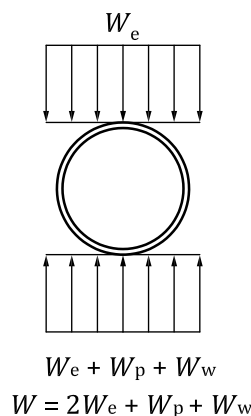


Figure 5 — Unit normal forces on pipe

Extraordinary installations can result in lesser loads and frictional resistance on the pipes than that calculated by [Formulae \(4\)](#) and [\(5\)](#) and as shown in [Figure 5](#). When such conditions exist, this shall be provided for in the design.

## 8 Polyethylene encasement and PU coating and other extruded organic coatings

Limited experimental data suggest that the frictional resistance terms  $(F_s)$  and  $(F_s)_b$  should be multiplied by a factor of 0,7, for pipe encased in polyethylene film, PU coatings and other extruded organic coatings to determine the appropriate value of  $F_f$  to be used in the formulae.

## 9 Unit bearing resistances, $R_s$

### 9.1 Lateral resistance, passive soil pressure

The maximum unit lateral resistance  $R_s$ , at the bend is limited, so as not to exceed a rectangular distribution of the passive soil pressure,  $P_p$ , which is generally less than the ultimate capacity of the soil to resist pipe movement. Passive soil pressure is a term generally defined as the maximum horizontal pressure that is resisted by the soil structure, without shearing failure of the soil. Horizontal sub grade pressure results in a deformation of the soil structure. The resistance offered by the sub grade soil increases with this deformation or strain for pressures less than the passive soil pressure.

In soils having a density that exceeds the critical void ratio (this condition is usually obtained in stable, undisturbed soil and in backfill compacted to approximately 80 % or more of the Proctor density), the movement or deformation that occurs in developing the full passive soil pressure is very small, in relation to the allowable, or available, movement at the bend in restrained push-in or mechanical joint systems used with ductile iron pipe.

The passive soil pressure for a particular soil is given by the Rankine formula:

$$P_p = \gamma H_c N_\phi + 2C_s \sqrt{N_\phi} \quad (6)$$

where

- $P_p$  is the passive soil pressure, in kN/m<sup>2</sup>;
- $\gamma$  is the backfill soil density, in kN/m<sup>3</sup> (see [Table 2](#));
- $H_c$  is the mean depth from surface to the plane of resistance (centreline of a pipe), in m;
- $C_s$  is the soil cohesion, in kN/m<sup>2</sup> (see [Table 2](#));
- $N_\phi$  equals  $\tan^2(45^\circ + \phi/2)$ ;
- $\phi$  is the internal friction angle of the soil, in degrees (see [Table 2](#)).

### 9.2 Design value of passive soil pressure

As shown in [9.1](#), the full Rankine passive soil pressure,  $P_p$  can be developed with insignificant movement, in well-compacted soils. For some of the standard laying conditions (see [Figure 7](#)) for ductile iron, the design value of passive soil pressure shall be modified by a factor  $K_n$  to ensure that excessive movement does not occur.

Therefore,

$$R_s = K_n P_p D_e \quad (7)$$



where

$R_s$  is the unit bearing resistance, in kN/m;

$K_n$  is the trench condition modifier (see Table 2);

$P_p$  is the passive soil pressure, in kN/m<sup>2</sup>;

$D_e$  is the outside diameter of pipe spigot, in m (see Annex A).

### 9.3 Empirical values of passive soil pressure

Empirically determined values for  $K_n$  can be found in Table 2. In this context, the value chosen for  $K_n$  depends on the compaction achieved in the trench, the back-fill materials and the undisturbed earth.

**Table 2 — Suggested values for soil parameters and reduction constant,  $K_n$**

Soil designation	Soil description	Internal friction angle of the soil $\varphi$	Ratio of pipe friction to soil $f_\varphi$	Soil cohesion $C_s$	Ratio of pipe cohesion to soil cohesion $f_c$	Backfill soil density $\gamma$	Factor for laying condition			
		°		kN/m <sup>2</sup>		kN/m <sup>3</sup>	2 <sup>a</sup>	3	4	5
Clay 1	Clay of medium to low plasticity, LL < 50, < 25 % coarse particles (CL and CL-ML)	0	0	14,37	0,80 (0,50 <sup>a</sup> )	14,139	0,2	0,4	0,6	0,85
Silt 1	Silts of medium to low plasticity, LL < 50, < 25 % coarse particles (ML and ML-CL)	29	0,50 <sup>a</sup> 0,75	0	0	14,139	0,2	0,4	0,6	0,85
Clay 2	Clay of medium to low plasticity w/sand or gravel, LL < 50, 25-50 % coarse particles (CL)	0	0	14,37	0,80 (0,50 <sup>a</sup> )	14,139	0,4	0,6	0,85	1
Silt 2	Silt of medium to low plasticity w/sand or gravel, LL < 50, 25-50 % coarse particles (ML)	29	0,50 <sup>a</sup> 0,75	0	0	14,139	0,4	0,6	0,85	1
Coh-gran	Cohesive granular soils, > 50 % coarse particles (GC and SC)	20	0,40 <sup>a</sup> 0,65	9,58	0,4	14,139	0,4	0,6	0,85	1
Sand silt	Sand or gravel w/silt, > 50 % coarse particles (SC and SM) (GM and SM)	30	0,50 <sup>a</sup> 0,75	0	0	14,139	0,4	0,6	0,85	1
Clean sand or clean gravel	Clean sand or clean gravel, > 95 % coarse particles (SW, SP and GW)	36	0,75 <sup>a</sup> 0,80	0	0	15,71	0,4	0,6	0,85	1

<sup>a</sup> These values shall be used for laying condition type 2.

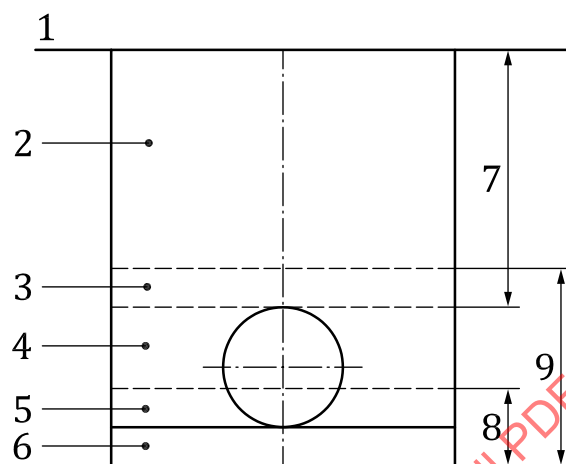
NOTE 1 Laying types are as follows:

- type 1 omitted since no compaction is not suitable for restrained joint;
- type 2 very light compaction Proctor density 75 %;

- type 3 light compaction Proctor density 80 %;
- type 4 medium compaction Proctor density 85 %;
- type 5 high compaction Proctor density 90 %.

NOTE 2 Laying types 1 and 6 (refer to [Figure 7](#)) require full pipeline to be restrained and are therefore not included in [Table 2](#).

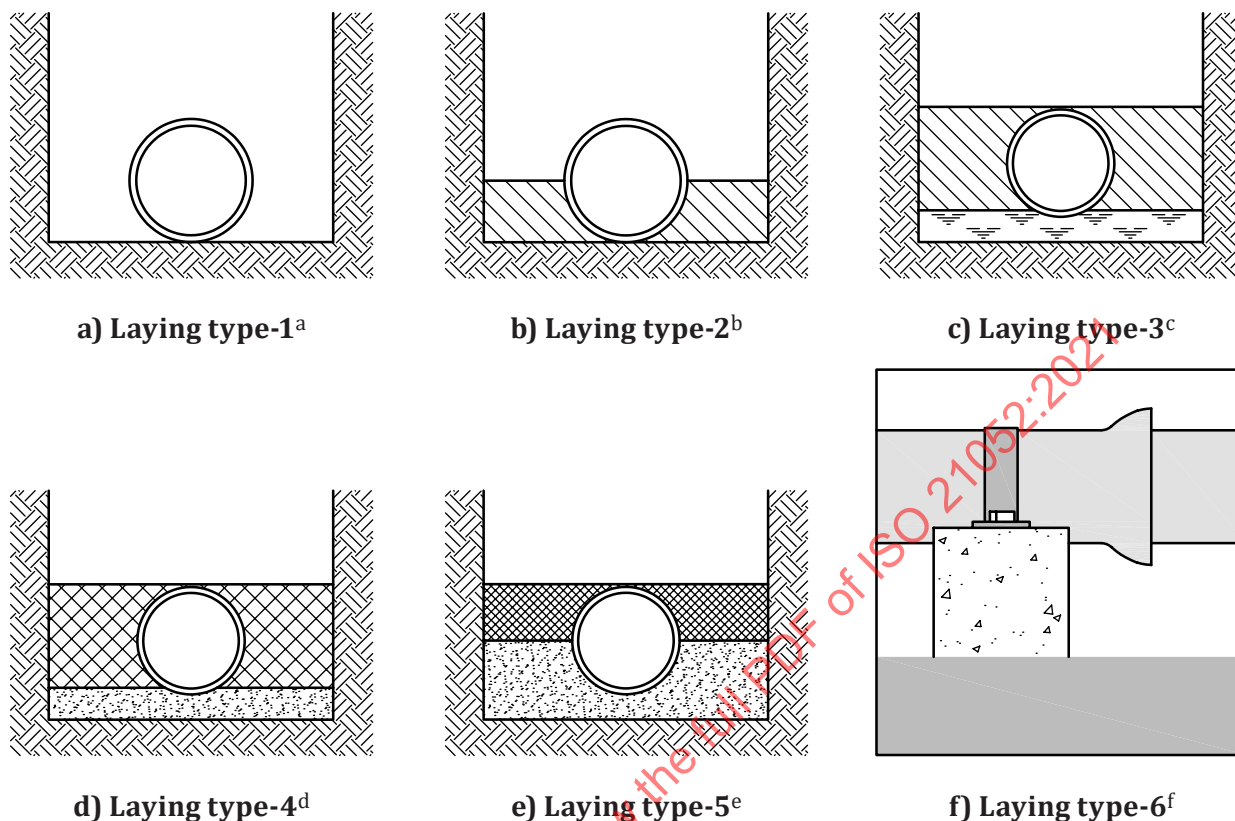
NOTE 3 Characteristics of soil are given in [Annex B](#).



**Key**

- 1 surface
- 2 main backfill
- 3 initial backfill
- 4 side fill
- 5 upper bedding
- 6 lower bedding
- 7 depth of cover
- 8 bedding
- 9 embedment

**Figure 6 — Trench diagram**



- a Loose backfill.
- b Backfill lightly consolidated to centreline of pipe.
- c Pipe bedded in 100-mm minimum loose soil. Backfill lightly consolidated to top of pipe.
- d Pipe bedded in sand gravel, or crushed stone to depth of 1/8 pipe diameter, 100 mm minimum. Backfill compacted to 80 % Proctor density top of pipe, 80 % standard.
- e Pipe bedded to its centreline in compacted granular material, 100 mm minimum under pipe. Compacted granular or select material to top of pipe (approximately 90 % Proctor density).
- f Pipes on support.

**Figure 7 — Laying conditions 1 to 6 for ductile iron pipe**

For DI pipes of any diameter, type 1 is not recommended.

NOTE 1 “Loose soil” or “select material” is defined as “native soil excavated from the trench, free of rocks, foreign material, and frozen earth”.

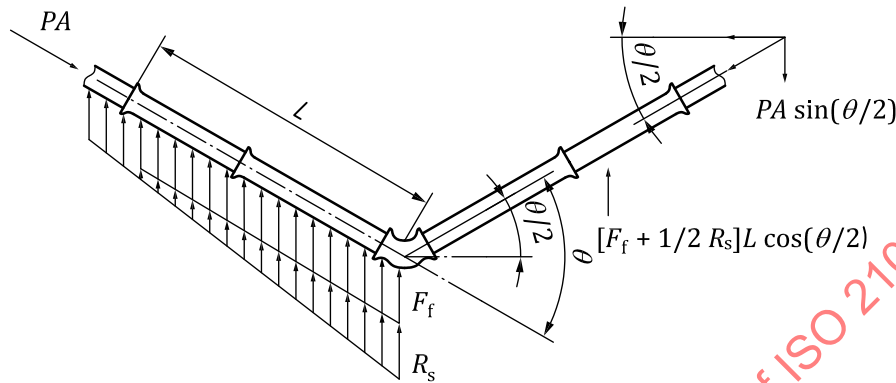
NOTE 2 Granular materials are unified soil with the exception that gravel bedding/backfill adjacent to the pipe is limited to 50 mm maximum particle size. For details, see [Annex B](#).

Design [Formulae \(10\) to \(27\)](#) for vertical bends, tees, reducers, and dead ends are derived with assumptions, similar to those used in the derivation of the horizontal bend formula [\[Formula \(9\)\]](#). This document doesn't include a full discussion of the derivations or discussion of all possible fittings and thrust configurations.

## 10 Application to common situations

### 10.1 Horizontal bends

Figure 8 is a free body diagram of a restrained pipe unit where  $L$  is the length of the restrained pipe on each side of the bend. The unit frictional resistance is shown as a distributed force of unit value  $F_f$ . The total frictional resistance on each side of the bend is then  $F_f L \cos(\theta/2)$ .



#### Key

$F_f = F_s$  for standard bituminous, epoxy or acrylic paint coated pipes

$F_f = 0,7 F_s$  for polyethylene encased pipe, PU and other extruded coatings

Figure 8 — Force diagram of horizontal bend

The bearing resistance is shown as a distributed force with a maximum unit value of  $R_s$  at the bend, diminishing linearly to 0 at  $L$ . This assumption is based on the fact that the bearing resistance (passive resistance of the soil) is proportional to deformation or movement. As the restrained joints take load, maximum movement occurs at the bend. The total assumed bearing resistance on each side of the bend is  $1/2 R_s L \cos(\theta/2)$ .

The equilibrium formula for the free body is then:

$$PA \sin \frac{\theta}{2} = F_f L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_s L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \quad (8)$$

Employing a safety factor and solving for  $L$ ,

$$L = \frac{S_f PA \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{F_f + \frac{1}{2} R_s} \quad (9)$$

As to the design methodology, it is important to ensure that all sides resist the unbalanced force component along the length of the pipe leg, while satisfying overall equilibrium of the joint. Therefore, the length of the pipe with restrained joints in all sides should satisfy the following conditions.

- The resultant of the components of the thrust forces, in the direction of the leg, should be safely transferred to the soil along the pipe-soil interface to avoid joint separation.
- The resultant of the un-balanced thrust forces should be safely transmitted to the soil through friction and bearing.

The safety factor shall be chosen in accordance with 4.2 for the design of thrust restraint systems. Care should be exercised in the selection of the soil parameters used in the design, especially when the designer wants to take advantage of the adhesive and passive resistances from the soil (Clause 9).

## 10.2 Vertical down bends

See [Figure 9](#).

NOTE For conservatism, the weight of the earth, pipe, and water directly opposing the thrust force is ignored; however, the weight of the earth, pipe, and water is used in calculating the unit frictional force,  $F_f$ .

Summation of forces in the “Y” direction:

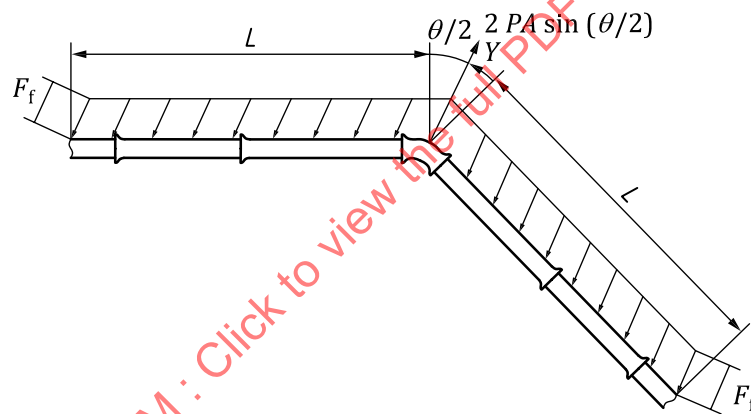
$$\Sigma F_Y = 0 \quad (10)$$

yields:

$$2PA \sin \frac{\theta}{2} - 2F_f L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} = 0 \quad (11)$$

employing a safety factor and solving for  $L$ ,

$$L = \frac{S_f PA \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{F_f} \quad (12)$$



### Key

$F_f = F_s$  for standard bituminous, epoxy or acrylic paint coated pipes

$F_f = 0,7 F_s$  for polyethylene encased pipe, PU and other extruded coatings

**Figure 9 — Force diagram of vertical down bends**

## 10.3 Vertical up bends

See [Figure 8](#).

$$L = \frac{S_f PA \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{F_f + \frac{1}{2} R_s} \quad (13)$$

NOTE Force diagram is identical to that for horizontal bends (see [Figure 8](#)).

As the bend system in this case attempts to move in the direction of thrust, and against the bottom of the trench, the values of  $K_n$  in this case should be chosen to reflect the conditions of the trench bottom on which the pipe rests, assuming adequate socket holes are provided. In most cases, values representing those of type 4 or type 5 laying conditions may be used, as the trench bottom is normally relatively undisturbed.

## 10.4 Tees

See [Figure 10](#).

$$PA_b = L_b F_f + \frac{1}{2} R_s L_r \quad (14)$$

Employing a safety factor and solving for  $L_b$ ,

$$L_b = \frac{S_f PA_b - \frac{1}{2} R_s L_r}{F_f} \quad (15)$$

where

$R_s$  equals  $K_n P_n D_r'$ ;

$A_b$  is the cross-sectional area of branch, in  $m^2$ ;

$L_b$  is the length of branch to be restrained, in m;

$L_r$  is the total length between first joints on either side of tee on the run, in m;

$D_r'$  is the diameter of run, in m;

$F_f$  equals  $(F_s)_b$ ; for standard bituminous, epoxy or acrylic paint coated pipes, in kN/m;

$F_f$  equals  $0,7 (F_s)_b$ ; for polyethylene encased pipe, PU coated pipes and other extruded organic coatings, in kN/m;

$(F_s)_b$  is the unit frictional force (in kN/m) on branch:

$\pi(D_e)C + (2W_e + W_p + W_w) \tan \delta$  (used for tee branches, dead end conditions and reducers);

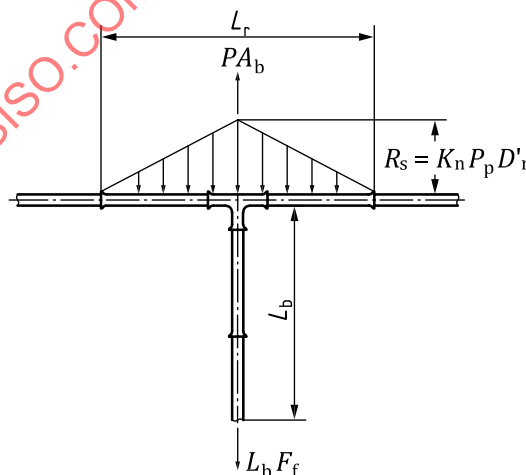


Figure 10 — Tee(s)

## 10.5 Reducers

See [Figure 11](#).

$$L_1 = \frac{S_f P (A_1 - A_2)}{F_{f1}} \quad (16)$$

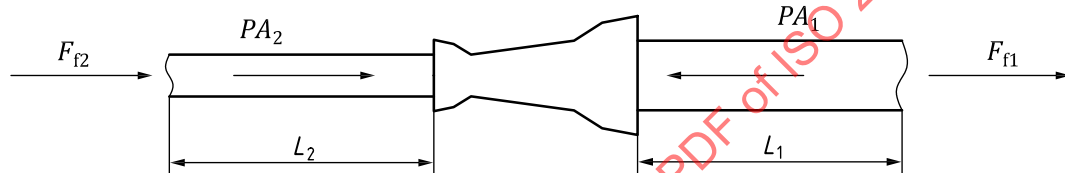
where

$A_1$  is the cross-sectional area of larger pipe;

$A_2$  is the cross-sectional area of smaller pipe;

NOTE If straight run of pipe on small side of reducer exceeds  $L_2$ , then no restrained joints are necessary.

$$L_2 = \frac{S_f P (A_1 - A_2)}{F_{f2}} \quad (17)$$



### Key

$F_{f2} = (F_s)_{b2}$  and  $F_{f1} = (F_s)_{b1}$  for standard bituminous, epoxy or acrylic paint coated pipes

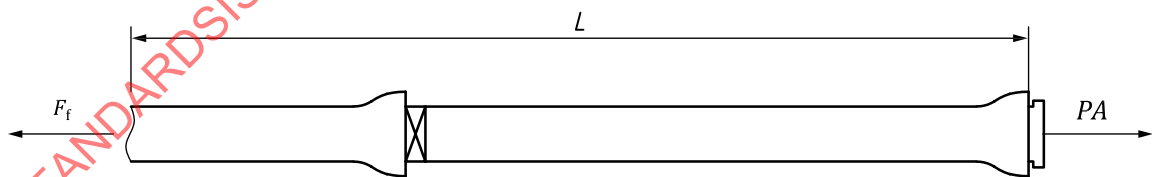
$F_{f2} = 0,7(F_s)_{b2}$  and  $F_{f1} = 0,7(F_s)_{b1}$  for polyethylene encased pipe, PU and other extruded coatings

**Figure 11 — Reducers**

## 10.6 Dead ends

See [Figure 12](#).

$$L = \frac{S_f P A}{F_f} \quad (18)$$



### Key

$F_f = (F_s)_b$  for standard bituminous, epoxy or acrylic paint coated pipes

$F_f = 0,7(F_s)_b$  for polyethylene encased pipe, PU and other extruded coatings

**Figure 12 — Dead ends**

## 10.7 Encroaching restrained lengths

Both horizontal and vertical offsets are commonly encountered in restrained sections of a line. These offsets should be made with as small a degree bend as possible in order to minimize the thrust loads and restrained length required. Also, in these configurations an increase in line segment length can be detrimental to the pipeline or surrounding structures due to over deflection of the joints; therefore, the restrained joints should be fully extended (if applicable) during installation. In certain configurations,

fittings may be close enough to one another that adjacent calculated restrained lengths overlap. In situations of this type, one approach is to:

- restrain all pipes between the two fittings;
- assume 1/2 of the restrained pipe length between the two fittings acts to resist the thrust force of each fitting;
- use the appropriate formulae, calculate the additional restrained length required on the outer legs of the fittings. 10.8 and 10.9 offer two such examples.

### 10.8 Equal angle vertical offset ( $\theta$ )

See Figure 13.

As the bend angle approaches 90°, lateral movement of the outer legs approaches zero. For this condition, restrain all pipes between the fittings and restrain the outer legs as dead ends.

For  $L_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma F &= 0 \\ 2PA \sin \frac{\theta}{2} &= F_f L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + F_f L_1 \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\end{aligned}\quad (19)$$

Employing a safety factor and solving for  $L_1$ ,

$$L_1 = \frac{S_f 2PA \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{F_f} - L \quad (20)$$

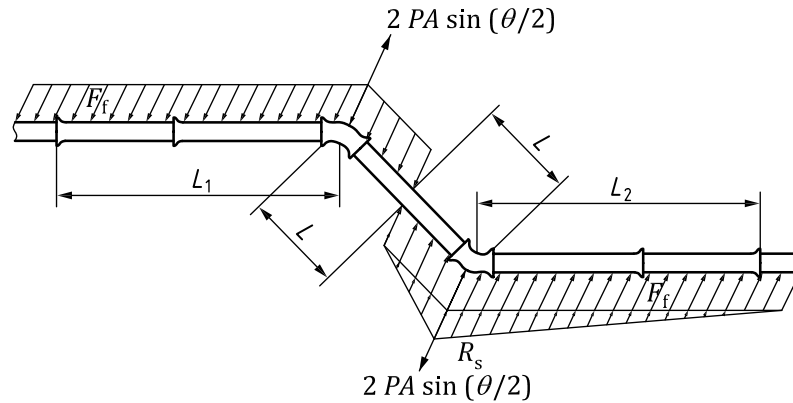
For  $L_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma F &= 0 \\ 2PA \sin \frac{\theta}{2} &= F_f L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_s L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + F_f L_2 \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_s L_2 \cos \frac{\theta}{2}\end{aligned}\quad (21)$$

Employing a safety factor and solving for  $L_2$ ,

$$L_2 = \frac{S_f 2PA \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{F_f + \frac{1}{2} R_s} - L \quad (22)$$



**Key**

$F_f = F_s$  for standard bituminous, epoxy or acrylic paint coated pipes

$F_f = 0,7F_s$  for polyethylene encased pipe, PU and other extruded coatings

**Figure 13 — Force diagram of equal angle vertical offset ( $\theta$ )**

### 10.9 Combined horizontal equal angle bends ( $\theta$ )

See [Figure 14](#).

As the bend angle approaches  $90^\circ$ , lateral movement of the outer legs approaches zero. For this condition, restrain all pipes between the fittings and restrain the outer legs as dead ends.

For  $L_1$ :

$$2PA \sin \frac{\theta}{2} = F_f L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_s L \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + F_f L_1 \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_s L_1 \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \quad (23)$$

Employing a safety factor and solving for  $L_1$ ,

$$L_1 = \frac{S_f 2PA \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{F_f + \frac{1}{2} R_s} - L \quad (24)$$

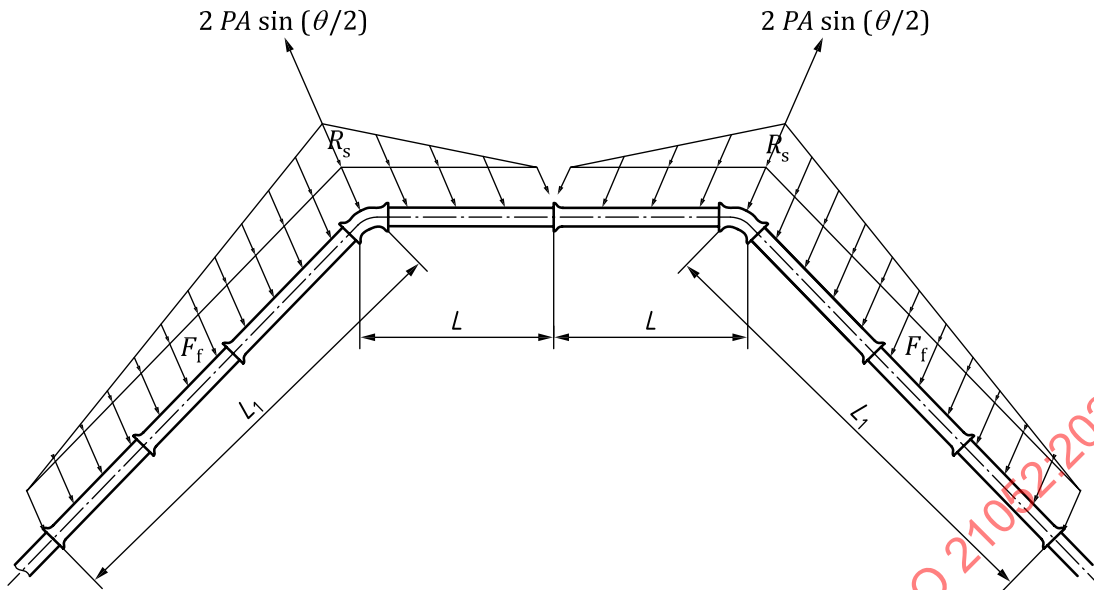


Figure 14 — Force diagram of combined horizontal equal angle bends ( $\theta$ )

### 10.10 Combined horizontal unequal angle bends

See [Figure 15](#).

For  $L_1$ :

$$2PA \sin \frac{\theta_1}{2} = F_f L \cos \frac{\theta_1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_{S1} L \cos \frac{\theta_1}{2} + F_f L_1 \cos \frac{\theta_1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_{S1} L_1 \cos \frac{\theta_1}{2} \quad (25)$$

Employing a safety factor and solving for  $L_1$ ,

$$L_1 = \frac{S_f 2PA \tan \frac{\theta_1}{2}}{F_f + \frac{1}{2} R_{S1}} - L \quad (26)$$

For  $L_2$ :

$$2PA \sin \frac{\theta_{\text{tot}}}{2} = F_f L \cos \frac{\theta_{\text{tot}}}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_{S2} L \cos \frac{\theta_{\text{tot}}}{2} + F_f L_2 \cos \frac{\theta_{\text{tot}}}{2} + \frac{1}{2} R_{S2} L_2 \cos \frac{\theta_{\text{tot}}}{2} \quad (27)$$

Employing a safety factor and solving for  $L_2$ ,

$$L_2 = \frac{S_f 2PA \tan \frac{\theta_{\text{tot}}}{2}}{F_f + \frac{1}{2} R_{S2}} - L \quad (28)$$

With  $\theta_{\text{tot}} = \theta_1 + \theta_2$ .

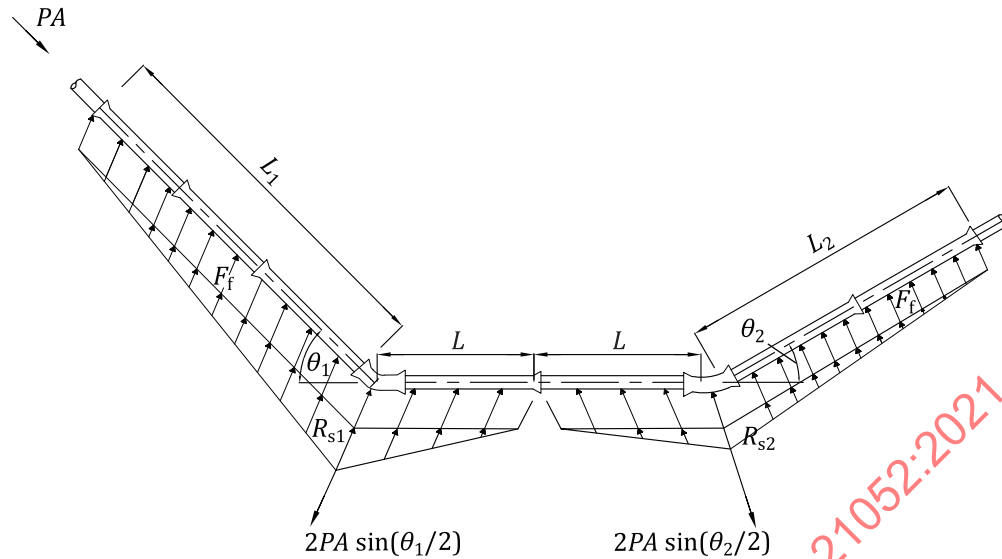


Figure 15 — Force diagram of combined horizontal unequal angle bends

## 10.11 Combined vertical equal angle offsets ( $\theta$ )

### 10.11.1 Pipeline under obstruction

See [Figure 16](#).

Vertical offsets are often combined to route a pipeline under an obstruction or existing utility. If the required restrained lengths of the vertical up bends do not overlap, the system may be treated as two individual vertical offsets ([Figure 16](#)). If the required restrained lengths do overlap, one approach is to:

- restrain all pipe between the outermost two fittings;
- assume that the thrust forces of the middle two fittings (vertical up bends) are counteracted due to opposing forces;
- assume 1/2 of the restrained pipe length between the vertical down and vertical up bends acts to resist the thrust force of the vertical down bends;
- use the appropriate formulae, calculate the additional restrained length required on the outermost legs of the offset system (vertical down bends). The resulting formula is the same as for the vertical down bend in the single vertical offset [[Formula \(20\)](#)]:

$$L_1 = \frac{S_f 2PA \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{F_f} - L \quad (29)$$

