

Practical Selection and Usage of Coriolis Meters for Gas Measurement

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Agenda

Introduction and Principle of Operation

Industry Standards

Calibration

Maintenance Best Practices

Application Selection and Volume Conversion

Meter Sizing and Installation Considerations

Typical Applications

Overview of Coriolis Meters



Coriolis Flowmeter Pros and Cons

Key Advantages

- Best-in-class direct mass flow, volume flow, and/or density measurement
- Non-obstructed flow path
- No moving parts
- Low / No maintenance required
- No flow conditioning or straight runs required
- Can provide limited multiphase flow measurement
- Excellent repeatability and turndown
- Advanced diagnostics to monitor meter AND process health



Some Constraints

- Not for line sizes over 16 inches in diameter
- Large external meter envelope
- Some designs result in high pressure drop at high flowrates
- Not as suitable as a Multi-Phase Flow Meter
 - Wet gas above Lockhart-Martinelli Parameter 0.75
 - Entrained gas in liquid Gas Void Fraction above 15% by volume

Principle of operation - Bent Tube Meter Design





Process fluid enters the sensor and flow is split

Principle of Operation

with half the flow through each tube

Drive coil vibrates tubes at natural frequency

 Pick-off coils on inlet and outlet sides generate raw measurement signals



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Coriolis Meter Principle of Operation Physics of Coriolis Force That Creates Twist During Flow

 Coriolis Principle: As a mass moves toward or away from the center of rotation (P) inside a rotating tube, the particle generates inertial forces on the tube.



- A Coriolis meter measures mass directly
- Measurement is not affected by changes in fluid properties and velocity profile

Coriolis Meter Principle of Operation Signal Processing



Coriolis Meter Raw Sensitivity Varies with Design

- Raw Sensitivity Depends on Tube Geometry
- Signal to Noise Ratio Depends on Raw Sensitivity and Stability
- Calibration Flexibility, Immunity to Secondary Effects, and Diagnostic Capabilities Depend on Signal to Noise Ratio



Coriolis Flow Performance – Zero Stability and Flat Spec or rated accuracy

Performance specification	Standard models				
Mass flow accuracy ⁽¹⁾	±0.25% of rate				

(1) Stated flow accuracy includes the combined effects of repeatability, linearity, hysteresis, orientation and other non-linearities.



AGA Section 6.1 Minimum Performance Requirements



Corilois Meter Performance Specification

Direct Density Measurement

Density measurement is based on the natural frequency

- As the mass increases, the natural frequency of the system decreases
- As the mass decreases, the natural frequency of the system increases



Direct Density Measurement - Gas



Clean vs. Dirty & Meter Health Diagnostic

Direct Temperature Measurement

- Three wire platinum Resistance Temperature Detector (RTD)
- Measures tube temperature on inlet side of sensor



Agenda

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Typical Applications

AGA Report Background

AGA Report No. 3	Orifice Metering of Natural Gas
AGA Report No. 4A	Natural Gas Contract Measurement and Quality Clauses
AGA Report No. 5	Natural Gas Energy Measurement
AGA Report No. 6	Field Proving of Gas Meters Using Transfer Methods
AGA Report No. 7	Measurement of Natural Gas by Turbine Meter
AGA Report No. 8	Compressibility Factor of Natural Gas and Related Hydrocarbon Gases
AGA Report No. 9	Measurement of Gas by Multipath Ultrasonic Meters
AGA Report No. 10	Speed of Sound in Natural Gas and Other Related Hydrocarbon Gases
AGA Report No. 11	Measurement of Natural Gas by Coriolis Meter

AGA Report No. 11 / API MPMS Ch. 14.9 Measurement of Natural Gas by Coriolis Meter



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AGA Report No. 11 API MPMS Chapter 14.9

Measurement of Natural Gas by Coriolis Meter

Prepared by Transmission Measurement Committee

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Agenda

Introduction and Principle of Operation

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Coriolis Meter Principle of Operation How Flow Calibration Factor (FCF), Zero, and ΔT Relates to Mass Flow

Y = mx + bmass flow rate = FCF (ΔT) + zero



- FCF (Slope) is the relationship between the ΔT signal and mass flow, determined with the initial calibration
- · The Zero accounts for offset observed at no-flow conditions
- A change in FCF means the relationship between the flow signal (ΔT) and the actual mass flow rate has changed

Conversion of Mass to Volume at Standard Conditions



Base Density, Molar Weight, Base Compressibility, and Specific Gravity Are All Determined by Gas Composition

Section 7 – Gas Flow Calibration Requirements

Manufacturers are responsible for initial flow calibration of Coriolis meters prior to delivery. <u>Calibration with an alternative calibration fluid</u> (e.g., water) is valid with Coriolis sensor designs where the transferability of the alternative calibration fluid, with an added uncertainty relative to gas measurement, has been demonstrated by the manufacturer through tests conducted by an independent flow calibration laboratory. When the transferability of the manufacturer's calibration fluid to gas cannot be verified, the meter shall be flow calibrated on gas as per the requirements in Section 7.1

Calibration Fluid Flexibility

"Calibration fluid flexibility" is a capability that allows a traceable liquid calibration to be used for traceable gas measurements

- Meters may be calibrated for natural gas in liquid laboratories
 - Liquid calibration recognized in AGA Report No. 11 (aka.: API MPMS Ch. 14.9)
 - Must demonstrate acceptable provenance for each Coriolis meter design
 - Advantages of liquid calibration:
 - Meets manufacturers accuracy spec and AGA 11 direct from the meter factory
 - Factory calibration (e.g., water) = Low cost
 - Direct Shipment from meter factory to installation site = Fast project execution
 - Better reference standard uncertainty possible with liquid labs
 - Portable liquid flow calibration rig can be used for traceable onsite calibration at field locations
- Meters may also be calibrated in gas laboratories
 - Piece-Wise Linearization (PWL) Option is available for fine tuning by 3rd party gas labs
 - Potential to reduce Lost and Unaccounted For (LAUF) gas with improved measurement
 - Similar to practice used by gas ultrasonic flow meters
 - Meter calibration traceability chain tied directly through gas calibration standards

NMi Euroloop Testing of Meters to Prove Liquid Cal is Suitable for Gas Measurement



*Manufacturer Dependent (meter shown as example)

Sensor Calibration Established on Water 3rd Party Testing and Certification

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Calibration Adjustment Methods Described in AGA 11



Multi-Point Piecewise Linear Interpolation (PWL)



- Correction applied at selected linearization points is equal and opposite to the average of the as-found values at the same flow rate
- Correction values applied between neighboring points are determined by linear interpolation between the two points
- Correction above the highest flow rate point are held constant
- Correction below the lowest point is based on linear interpolation to zero error at zero flow to allow meter zero adjustment to control accuracy below Qt

Results with PWL – 1-inch Meter CMF100



Averages at Each Flow Rate

Observations

Test turndown ≈ 58 : 1

All verification averages better than ± 0.08%

Verification averages above 0.13 lbm/sec better than ± 0.027%

All verification data better than ± 0.11%

All Data



Agenda

Introduction and Principle of Operation

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Calibration

Maintenance Best Practices

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Meter Sizing and Installation Considerations

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Section 9 – Meter Verification / Flow Performance Testing

- The meter <u>manufacturer should provide</u> the meter operator with <u>written field meter verification test procedures</u> that will allow the Coriolis meter, as a component of the measuring system, to be verified as operating properly and performing within the measurement uncertainty limits required by the designer/operator
- The field verification should identify possible <u>change in</u> the system's <u>performance</u> and the cause
- The evaluation of these indicators <u>will guide the operator in</u> <u>determining the need to re-zero</u> the Coriolis meter or <u>execute a flow performance test</u> (in-situ or laboratory), etc.

Prior AGA 11 Coriolis Verification Practice

– Meter Zero Verification

- Corrosion, erosion, mounting stress, flow tube damage, and coating
- Catch-all diagnostic
- Works well, but very broad indicator

– Meter Diagnostics Check

- Diagnostics
 - -Electronics
 - -Processing and memory
 - -Measurement system health
 - » Within normal limits
 - » Catastrophic failure

Pass/Fail Not quantitative



Perform In-Situ Verifications Quickly and Easily to Increase Confidence and Reduce Downtime



SMV is Easy to Use

- On-demand
- One button/command
- No extra equipment
- Formal report
- Less than 2 minutes
- No interruption to process or measurement
- Scales with host systems
- Evaluate meter under "as installed" conditions



New AGA 11 Coriolis Verification Practice

- Meter Transmitter Verification The meter transmitter verification should coincide with the meter zero check. It should include the following procedures:
 - Verify the sensor calibration and correction factors in the configuration of the transmitter to be unchanged from most recent calibration.
 - Verify all transmitter diagnostic indicators to be in the normal state.
- Coriolis Sensor Verification Sensor diagnostics may be available that continuously, on-command or procedurally verify the performance of the sensor and/or infer change in measurement performance. Users should consult the meter manufacturer for the availability of these types of diagnostics.
- Temperature Verification The Coriolis transmitter monitors a temperature element bonded to the flow tubes of the Coriolis sensor to correct for Young's modulus of the flow tubes. Although transmitter diagnostics on this element exist, they typically identify only catastrophic failures; e.g., element open, element short, and an opening in the compensation loop.

Use a temperature reference placed in an upstream thermowell or temporarily placed tightly against the upstream flow splitter/inlet and insulated, to verify the temperature indicated by the Coriolis meter to be within the published uncertainty of the Coriolis meter's temperature measurement plus the accuracy of the temperature reference.

 Meter Zero Verification – A change in the meter zero value can be used as an indicator of change in the metering conditions. This can be caused by contamination and coating of

AGA11 Section 9 – Meter Verification Cont.

Meter Verification @ a minimum entails...

- Meter Transmitter Verification
 - Diagnostics
- Coriolis Sensor Verification
 - Diagnostics
 - -Flow Tube Structure Diagnostic (FCF)
- Temperature Verification

Compare to upstream temperature reference.

- Meter Zero Verification

Per AGA, check within 4 weeks of installation and quarterly during first year.

–Zero Verification Tool

AGA11 Section 9.2 – Periodic Flow Performance Testing

Should flow performance testing be required several options exist...

- 1) Remove from service and send to the manufacturer or third party lab.
- 2) In-situ flow test as outlined in this section or in accordance with AGA6, Field Proving of Gas Meters Using Transfer Methods
- 3) <u>New</u> Remove from service for flow test with a portable weigh scale system or certified meter using an alternate fluid. Must have certification of transferability (3rd party)

When a Meter Under Test (MUT) is tested against a field reference, the MUT should not be adjusted if the performance is found to be within the uncertainty of the field reference

Agenda

Introduction and Principle of Operation

Industry Standards

Calibration

Maintenance Best Practices

Application Selection and Volume Conversion

Meter Sizing and Installation Considerations

Typical Applications

Unique Attributes of Coriolis Technology Resolves common measurement problems

Water calibration transfers to gas

- Reduced meter flow calibration and verification costs
- Out-of-box <u>+</u> 0.25 0.35% accuracy on gas
- Turbine, ultrasonic, and rotary require gas calibrations

No flow conditioning or piping requirements

- Elimination of errors due to flow profile disturbances and the cost of monitoring for their occurrence
- Major concern in use of Ultrasonic, Turbine, Orifice

No errors caused by pulsations and noise radiated from flow regulation

- Flow pulsations cause error in every flow technology except Coriolis
- Turbine and Rotary also incur mechanical damage when subjected to pulsating flows

No over-registration or damage due to flow surges

High rate-of-change during fuel gas start-up... "flow surge"

Reynolds Number



Asymmetrical Profile







AGA 11 – Gas Operating Conditions "Upstream Piping and Flow Profiles"

No Flow Conditioning or Special Piping Required

Performance with Lab Uncertainty



GERG Installation Requirements "No Error Effects from Regulator Location"



Micro Motion- <u>Pulsation</u> Immunity GERG - No Gas Pulsation Error Concerns



Manufacturer dependent

- Ideal Meter for...
 - Gas leg of separators
 - Fuel gas measurement to reciprocating engines
 - Measurement at or near inlet and outlet of reciprocating compression
 - Measurement near regulation; i.e. flow through regulator pulsates at low flows

Micro Motion Vibration Immunity



AGA11 – Gas Velocity and Filtration

- Coriolis flow tubes typically do not erode from high gas velocities (example Orifice Plate)
- Gas velocities & pressure drop similar to other measurement technologies (Orifice, Turbine)
- Meter should be protected from abrasive particles
- Flow tube coating/debris build-up appears as zero offset (zero offset affects low-end not high-end performance)

Large Diameter Coriolis and Pressure Drop

Coriolis	CMF400	CMFHC2	CMFHC3	CMFHC4
Typical	4 - 8"	6 -10"	8 -12"	10 -16"
Line Size	(100-150mm)	(150-200mm)	(200-250mm)	(250-300mm)
Flow @ 6 psid	69 MMSCFD	129 MMSCFD	223 MMSCFD	341 MMSCFD
Flow @ 15 psid	187 MMSCFD	318 MMSCFD	485 MMSCFD	743 MMSCFD

Ultrasonic Meter Comparison (Max Flow = 100 ft/sec & 6 psi pressure drop, <u>CPA50E</u>)

Max Flow	4" = 47 MMSCFD	6" = 106 MMSCFD	8" = 189 MMSCFD	10" = 295 MMSCFD
	8" = 189 MMSCFD	10" = 295 MMSCFD	12" = 425 MMSCFD	16" = 756 MMSCFD

USM vs. Coriolis Maximum Flow Capacity Comparison performed w/Gulf Coast @ 800 psi and 60 Deg F Gas Flowing Density = 2.717 lb/cf

Effect of Pressure on Coriolis Meters

- Internal pressure changes the shape of the flow tube
 - Tube ovality becomes round
 - Tube bends straighten
- Changes in flow tube shape increases stiffness of flow tube
- Changes in flow tube stiffness can affect sensor calibration
- Magnitude of effect varies by meter size and design



Example of Pressure Effect Compensation Large Meter Gas Test Results

- · All data collected on natural gas using meter factory calibration on water
- Data shown with and without standard F_P pressure compensation
- Max deviation of all compensated data < 0.25%



Agenda

Introduction and Principle of Operation

Industry Standards

Calibration

Maintenance Best Practices

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Meter Sizing and Installation Considerations

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Gas Sizing Best Practices - Coriolis Meter Turndown High Pressure = High Turndown



Installation Best Practices Orientation & Piping Requirements

- No special upstream or downstream piping requirements
- Vertical line installations
 - Flow tubes in flag position
 - Flow direction down preferred for gas (especially for WET GAS!!!)
 - Flow direction up preferred for liquid
- Horizontal line installations
 - Flow tubes up preferred for gas
 - Flow tubes down preferred for liquid



AGA11 - Installation Best Practices Piping Alignment and Support

Proper weight support

- No sagging pipes
- Piping supports installed near upstream and downstream flanges of meter
- Meter flow tube case is sacred ground
 - Case should not be used to support the meter or other equipment
- Proper alignment of piping & flanges
 - Use of fabrication spool piece when fabricating piping in the field (slip-fit desired)



AGA11 - Installation Best Practices Piping Operational Requirements

- Upstream and Downstream Block Valves
- Bypass to Eliminate Interruption of Service
- Pressure Port Upstream of Sensor
- Temperature Port <u>Upstream</u> of Sensor
 - Avoid Joules Thomson Effect issues downstream



Agenda

Introduction and Principle of Operation

Industry Standards

Calibration

Maintenance Best Practices

Application Selection and Volume Conversion

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Natural Gas Industry Coriolis Sweet Spots

Custody Transfer

- Natural gas city, commercial, and industry gates
 - Pay and check meters
- Gathering stations
- Specialty gas
 - Pure and unusual gas mixtures

Fiscal

- Fuel gas
- Gas storage

Operations

- Efficiency control
- Injection meters



The "Coriolis" Effect....

- → Safety Improvement
 - Reduction in human intervention into equipment, the process, and hazardous situations
- Accurate and Efficient Asset Management
 - Reduction in measurement and control uncertainty
 - Operating cost reduction
- Sustainability of Operations
 - Improvement in system performance and reliability



