

Control Valve Sizing Formula for Liquid Service

A. Non-choked Flow

$$\Delta P < C_v^2(\Delta P_c)$$

Volumetric Flow

$$C_v = 1.16q \sqrt{\frac{G_1}{\Delta P}}$$

Flow by Weight

$$C_v = \frac{1.16W}{\sqrt{G_1 \Delta P}}$$

B. Choked Flow – cavitation or flashing

$$\Delta P > C_v^2(\Delta P_c)$$

$$C_v = \frac{1.16q}{C_1} \sqrt{\frac{G_1}{\Delta P_2}}$$

$$C_v = \frac{1.16W}{C_1 \sqrt{G_1 \Delta P_2}}$$

$$\Delta P_2 = P_1 - \left(0.96 - 0.28 \sqrt{\frac{P_v}{P_c}} \right) P_v$$

or for simplicity, if $P_v < 0.5 P_1$, $\Delta P_2 = P_1 - P_v$

Where:

C_v = Valve flow coefficient

C_1 = Critical flow factor

G_1 = Specific gravity at flowing temperature (water = 1 @ 15°C)

P_1 = Upstream pressure, bars absolute

P_2 = Downstream pressure, bars absolute

P_c = Pressure at thermodynamic critical point, bars absolute

P_v = Vapour pressure of liquid at flowing temperature, bars absolute

ΔP = Actual pressure drop $P_1 - P_2$, bars

q = Liquid flow rate, m³/h

W = Liquid flow rate, 1000 kg per hour

Note: 1 bar = 1.02 kg/cm²