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of the Leistritz L4 Multiphase Screw Pump**

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Abstract:

This thesis aims to evaluate the performance of the **Leistritz L4** multiphase pump, focusing on **volumetric** and **mechanical efficiencies** under real operating conditions. Multiphase pumping technology enables the direct transportation of an oil–water–gas mixture without prior phase separation, thereby reducing investment and operating costs and limiting environmental impact.

Experimental tests were carried out using a multiphase flow meter and the pump's control system to monitor pressures, temperatures, flow composition, and electrical power consumption. The results showed that the **volumetric efficiency** ranged between **41% and 54%**, influenced by the high associated gas fraction, while the **mechanical efficiency** ranged between **33% and 43%** as a result of friction losses, thermal disturbances, and also the elevated gas content.

This study highlights both the potential and the limitations of twin-screw multiphase pumps and provides practical recommendations to enhance their reliability and improve their energy efficiency in oil and gas industry applications.

Keywords:

Multiphase pumping; twin-screw pumps; **Leistritz L4** pump; volumetric efficiency; mechanical efficiency; pump performance; oil and gas industry.

الملخص:

تهدف هذه المذكرة إلى تقييم أداء المضخة متعددة الأطوار Leistritz L4 مع التركيز على الكفاءة الحجمية والكفاءة الميكانيكية في ظروف تشغيل واقعية. تُمكن تقنية الضخ متعدد الأطوار من نقل خليط النفط والماء والغاز مباشرة دون الحاجة إلى فصل مسبق، مما يساهم في تقليل تكاليف الاستثمار والتشغيل والحد من الأثر البيئي.

أُجريت اختبارات تجريبية باستخدام جهاز قياس تدفق متعدد الأطوار ونظام التحكم بالمضخة من أجل مراقبة الضغوط ودرجات الحرارة ومكونات الجريان واستهلاك القدرة الكهربائية. أظهرت النتائج أن الكفاءة الحجمية تراوحت بين 41 % و 54 % متأثرة بارتفاع نسبة الغاز المرافق، في حين تراوحت الكفاءة الميكانيكية بين 33 % و 43 % نتيجة خسائر الاحتكاك والاضطراب الحراري وأيضاً بسبب الارتفاع الكبير في نسبة الغاز.

تُبرز هذه الدراسة إمكانيات ومحدوديات المضخات اللولبية ثنائية الدوران متعددة الأطوار، وتقدم توصيات عملية من شأنها تحسين موثوقيتها ورفع كفاءتها الطاقوية في تطبيقات صناعات النفط والغاز.

الكلمات المفتاحية:

الضخ متعدد الأطوار؛ المضخات اللولبية ثنائية الدوران؛ مضخة Leistritz L4؛ الكفاءة الحجمية؛ الكفاءة الميكانيكية؛ أداء المضخات؛ صناعة النفط والغاز.

DEDICATION

This research was accomplished despite numerous challenges and obstacles. By the grace of Almighty God, and through perseverance and determination, we were able to overcome them.

We extend our profound gratitude to our parents, siblings, and friends, whose constant encouragement and support have been a source of strength throughout this academic journey.

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To all of you, we dedicate this modest effort, with a prayer that Almighty God bless your lives, grant you health and prosperity, and reward you abundantly.

Thanks, and Appreciation

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

All praise is due to Allah, the One and Only God, and may peace and blessings be upon the Prophet Muhammad, the Seal of the Messengers, his family, his companions, and all those who follow his path until the Day of Resurrection.

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List of abbreviations

MPP: Multiphase Pump.

GVF: Gas Volume Fraction.

PCP: Progressive Cavity Pump.

VFD: Variable Frequency Drive.

RPM: Rotations Per Minute.

SP: Set Pressure.

AV: Actual Pressure Value.

SOS: Seal Oil System.

LMS: Liquid Management System.

SDV: Shut-Down Valve.

XV: Bypass/Drain Valve.

PDIT: Differential Pressure Indicator/Transmitter.

PIT: Pressure Indicator/Transmitter.

FIT: Flow Indicator/Transmitter.

TT: Temperature Transmitter.

PLC: Programmable Logic Controller.

General

Introduction

General Introduction

In recent decades, the oil and gas industry has faced growing pressure to reduce production and operating costs while maintaining supply reliability and improving the exploitation of fields—particularly in deep-offshore locations and remote reservoirs with declining productivity. This challenge has driven the search for innovative technologies capable of minimizing surface infrastructure and eliminating the need for complex and costly conventional separation equipment. In this context, multiphase pumping technology has emerged as a strategic solution, enabling the transportation of the produced mixture of oil, water, and gas simultaneously, without prior phase separation—representing a significant breakthrough compared to traditional approaches based on mechanical and chemical separation units.

This technology offers wide opportunities for the exploitation of low-productivity wells and distant offshore sites, as it reduces capital investment and routine maintenance costs, while also lowering the environmental footprint by limiting the need for additional treatment and separation facilities. Nevertheless, the inherently complex nature of multiphase flow—with large variations in Gas Volume Fraction (GVF), fluid viscosity, and temperature—imposes major engineering and operational challenges on the design and operation of these pumps. Such challenges have motivated both the scientific community and the industry to develop advanced mathematical and experimental models to improve performance and enhance reliability.

Within this framework, the Leistritz L4 twin-screw pump stands out as an advanced industrial example. It is designed to handle high gas fractions while maintaining stable pressure and flow, supported by a set of integrated auxiliary systems that include cooling and lubrication units, a mechanical seal, and real-time control and measurement devices.

The present thesis aims to study and analyze the performance of the Leistritz L4 pump by evaluating its volumetric and mechanical efficiencies, based on accurate experimental data collected through a flow-metering system and the pump control unit. The work includes a review of the main previous studies and theoretical models that established the scientific foundations for understanding the behavior of multiphase screw pumps, together with a detailed analysis of the pump's key mechanical components and the role of its auxiliary systems in enhancing performance and reducing losses.

By combining theoretical insights with experimental findings, this thesis provides a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing the pump's efficiency and derives practical recommendations for improving the operation of multiphase screw pumps in oil and gas applications—thus meeting the modern industry's demand for more efficient and sustainable solutions.

Overview of Multiphase Pumps

I. Introduction:

Although it is not a new technology, the use of positive displacement pumps to move fluids is nevertheless seen as quite novel. Multiphase pumping first appeared in the oil and gas literature in 1957, and for almost 30 years, the technology's development was set aside at the moment because of "unsolvable duties." In the late 1980s, there was a rise in the Poseidon project, a multiphase study headed by Bornemann Pumps. The project's guiding principle was created with the goal of increasing well productivity. straight from the undersea well and deliver the final product to a processing facility located many kilometers distant. The Poseidon project's installation and field testing got underway in 1990. Two significant phenomena were noted over the two-year study period. Extended gas phases Gas Volume Fractions (GVF) ranging from 90% to 100% were common, which led to too much heat production, which could make the pump unusable, and if not closely observed, the potential for catastrophic harm. In addition to the extended dry operating, the early application's mechanical seals were open to the entrance of the pump and suffered significant temperature shocks as a result of the fluctuating GVFs that would cause the seals to fail or wear out too soon [1].

Early on, the advantages of multiphase pumps were exceeded by the costs of development. The world's oil reserves were expanding, and although efficiency and conservation were still crucial, the expense of creating multiphase technology was not thought to be a feasible choice until lately. In the present situation, it is becoming more crucial to boost old well output and lower the expenses of the ongoing activities. Whether offshore or onshore, a conventional oil field application contains or includes a gas production line, fluid pump, gas compressor, gas separator, and liquid production line, as well as a system for handling particulates. The decrease in capital and equipment. Simply employing a single MPP and a single gas or liquid will yield costs. production line with the ability to move the fluid in multiple phases. The suggested Multiphase systems require less maintenance and have lower capital expenditures and system complexity, equipment, lessen the impact on the oil rig, and provide a comprehensive system that includes a One production line and one pumping facility [2].

Additionally, the MPPs may be readily modified for subsea applications, which would enable their installation without the need for a whole oil rig. There may be a lot more opportunities

to drill new wells that were previously inaccessible thanks to this streamlined procedure to the conventional facilities on oil rigs.

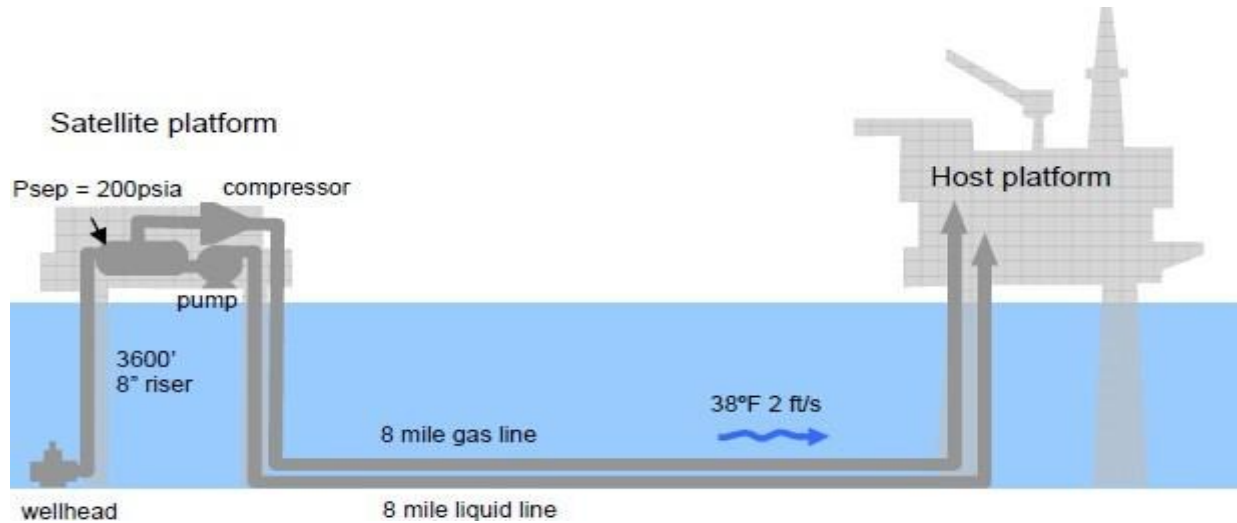


Figure I.1: System Diagram of a Typical Installation (Shippen 2002).

The standard setup for extracting natural gas and oil from an oil field is depicted in Fig. I.1. The host platform would be connected to the satellite platform when it was installed.

Regardless of whether the pumping station was positioned on the satellite platform or the host platform, more infrastructure and a wide footprint are needed to support the equipment. The necessary liquid pump, gas compressor, and separator occupy significantly more room than one MPP. The existing systems' exorbitant cost prevents access to certain wells because of their very low productivity or remoteness of the well, including marine wells that are extremely deep. The MPP is shown in Fig. I.2. installation on the ocean floor as opposed to the conventional configuration of an oil rig [3].

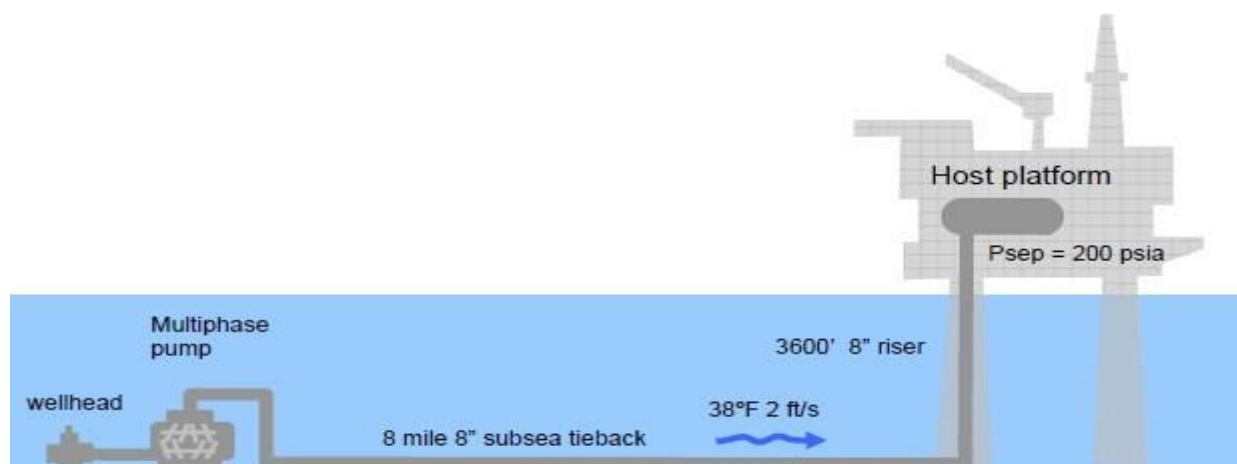


Figure I. 2: System Diagram Utilizing a MPP (Shippen 2002).

Where previously unattainable due to the expensive expense of a fully outfitted oil rig, the MPP technology would provide access to smaller, less productive, and very remote wells. A MPP placed directly on the wellhead on the seafloor frees up room on upcoming oil rigs and have access to a pipeline system. Without requiring additional platforms—such as satellite platforms—and wells that would not have satisfied the A full-on conventional oil rig's production minimum can be used profitably. The These unexplored oil pockets can no longer sustain the global oil economy. be able to afford to go unused.

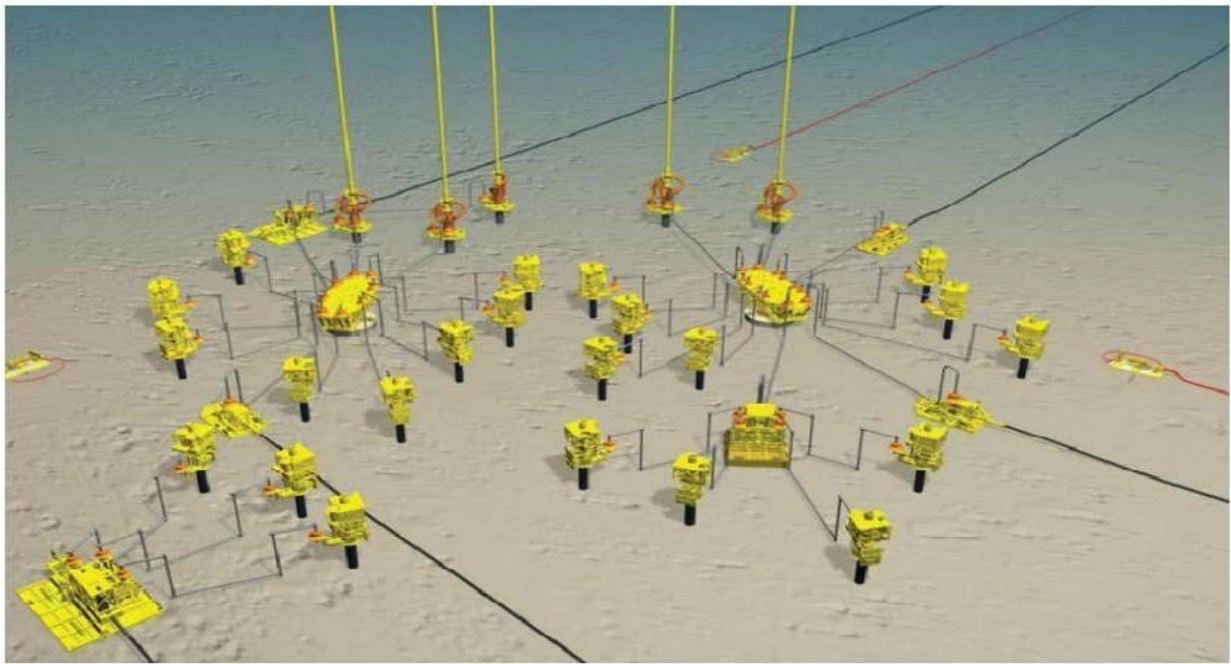


Figure I. 3: Subsea Oil Field (FMC Technologies 2007).

A digital representation of a recent breakthrough made by FMC Technology for Shell can be found in Fig. I.3. [4]. Many wells can be accessed with central pumping stations that raise the harvested fluid to central processing centers by to the utilization of subsea MPP. Utilizing these Subsea networks are a simple method of accessing less productive wells without the requirement for a complete oil rig installation, which drastically lowers expenses and provides access to goods that was not accessible before.

Although there has the technology to put such a system into place, its robustness and dependability must be enhanced before it can be used widely. Although topside apps have been used and installed all over the world, the upkeep need would be too risky for subsea deployment right now. An inability to land would cause the pump to shut off for a bit while a

technician was sent out to do the necessary repairs. The same kind of subsea failure application would necessitate the deployment of a number of ROVs to the ocean floor.

to fix the broken pump. The substantially increased expense of submerged maintenance applications are undoubtedly a major factor in the ongoing technological research. Before any solid solution can be put into practice, the current problems under investigation must be fixed.

II. History of Multiphase Pumps:

Multiphase pumps have a history spanning several decades, their development being driven by the need to find efficient solutions for transporting complex fluids, such as liquid and gas mixtures, in industries such as oil and gas. With the expansion of oil and gas activities, particularly in the 1960s and 1970s, with the rise of offshore fields and remote areas, the need for pumps capable of efficiently handling these mixtures became critical [17].

Over time, significant advances have been made in multiphase pump design and technology. Early prototypes, dating back to the 1980s, often encountered challenges related to reliability and efficiency, but ongoing research and technical innovations have led to significant improvements in their performance. Multiphase pumps have become essential equipment in the oil and gas industry, offering a valuable alternative to traditional methods of phase separation prior to transport.

The widespread adoption of multiphase pumps accelerated in the 1990s and early 21st century, in response to the need to optimize the extraction and transportation of energy resources more efficiently and economically. This led to their widespread integration in various industrial applications.

At the same time, significant advances have been made in specific areas of the pump, such as the improvement of the thermal and acoustic performance of geothermal heat pumps in 2015, or the improvement and integration of methods for displaying the real-time performance of heat pumps in 2017. These advances demonstrate the constant evolution of pumping technologies to meet the varied needs of industries and specific applications, with Fig. I.4. representing the use of the multiphase pump worldwide [1].

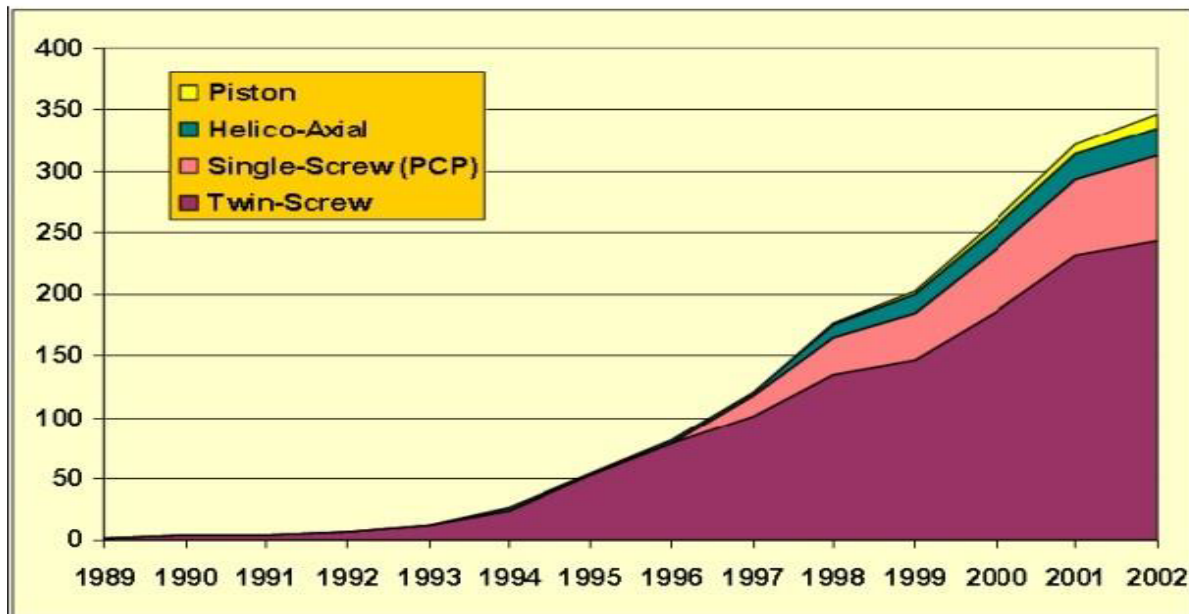


Figure I. 4: Graph representing the use of multiphase pump in the world [2] [17].

The regional and country-level analysis of the multiphase pump industry is segmented into five major regions: North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, Middle East & Africa, and Latin America (including major contributing countries). It provides information on revenue share and current trends. The base years considered for all estimations, based on trend and growth rate analysis, provide an in-depth understanding of the findings presented (Fig. I.5.). [16].

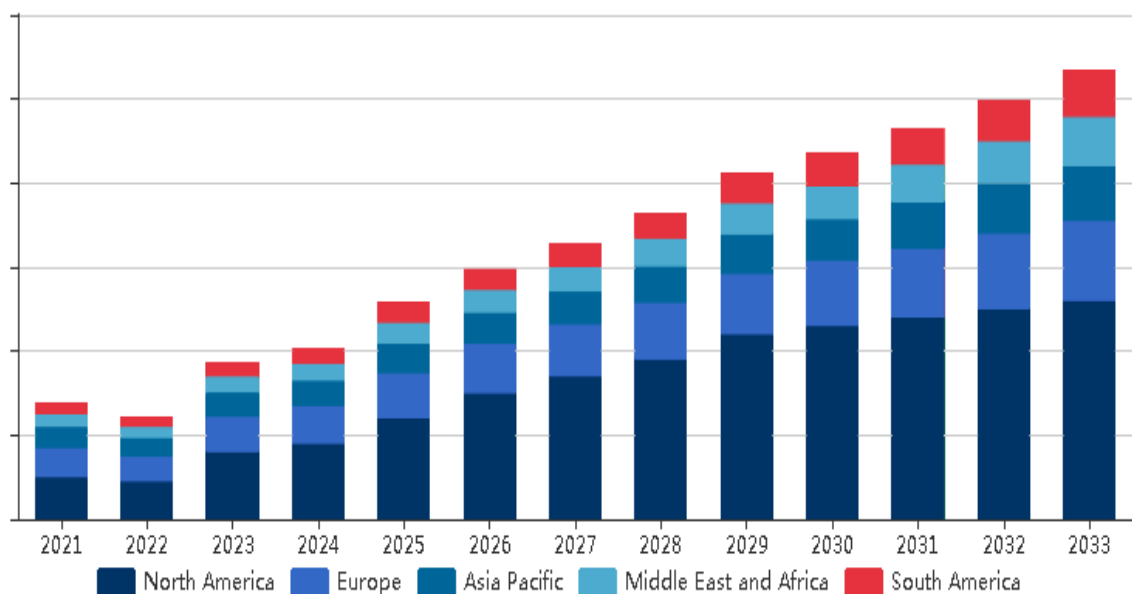


Figure I. 5 : Multiphase Pumps Market Share (%) by Region (2021-2033) [16].

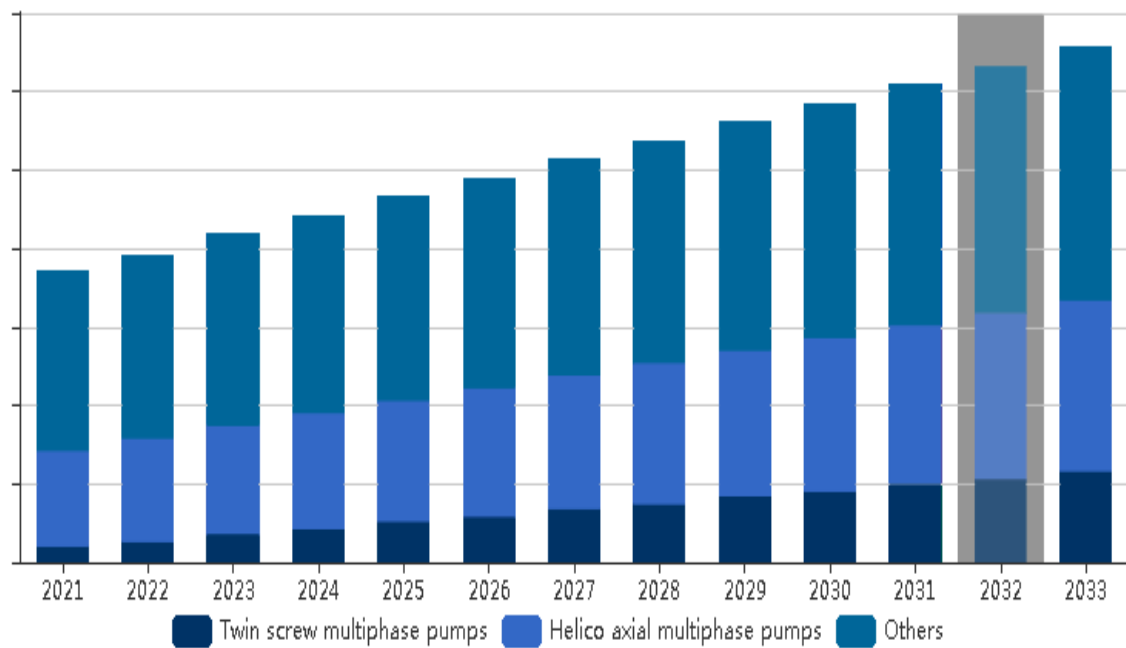


Figure I. 6 : Market share (%) of multiphase pumps by type from 2021 to 2033 [16].

Figure I.6 shows a gradual growth of the multiphase pump market between 2021 and 2033, with a distinction between three types: twin-screw pumps, helical-axial pumps, and other types. Demand increases steadily until 2030, followed by a sharp rise after 2031, indicating a possible market expansion due to innovations or investments. The "Others" category is taking an increasing share, suggesting technological diversification. Overall, the market is undergoing rapid growth, driven by technological advancements and growing industrial demand. [16]

Based on the applications, the market is onshore and offshore. The onshore segment will lead the global share until 2032 (Fig. I.7). [16]

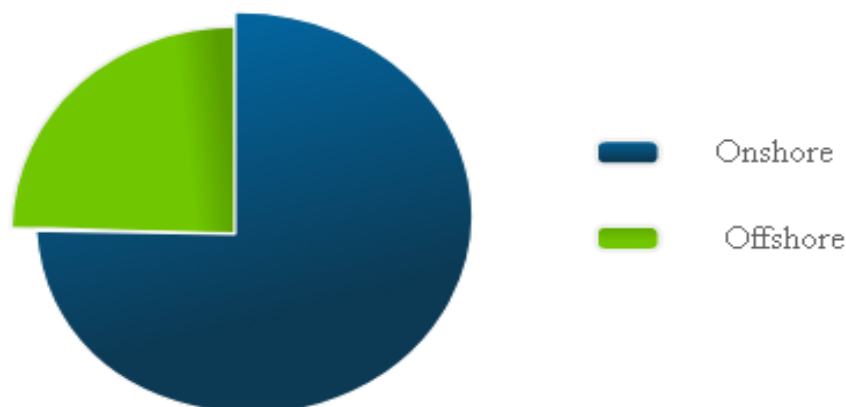


Figure I. 7 : Global market share of multiphase pumps in 2032 [16].

III. Definition of a multiphase pump:

A multiphase pump is a type of pump used to transport fluids composed of multiple phases, such as a mixture of liquid and gas. This type of pump is often used in the oil and gas industry to extract and transport crude oil and natural gas from wells to processing facilities. Multiphase pumps are designed to efficiently handle changes in the composition and properties of the moving fluid, making them particularly suitable for applications where the fluid may vary between different phases during the pumping process. This allows complex mixtures to be transported without having to separate the different phases beforehand, simplifying and optimizing operations. [1]

IV. Types of Multiphase Pumps

Multiphase pumps use several technologies to manage fluids having many phases at once. The types of pumps listed below serve as examples:

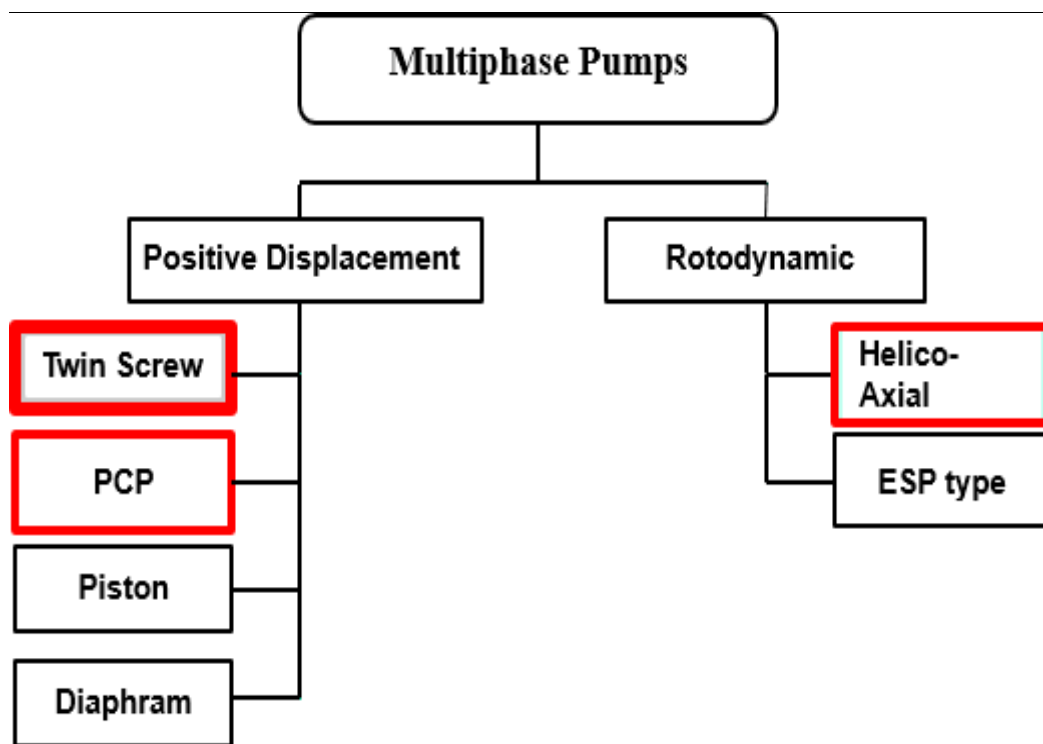


Figure I. 8: Multiphase pumps types.

IV.1. Rotodynamic Multiphase Pump

Centrifugal force pushes the multiphase fluid radially toward the impeller's perimeter after it is drawn axially into the rotor (impeller) by the rotodynamic multiphase pump. The impeller's mechanical energy is transformed into pressure energy by the fluid's radial flow within the

impeller channels. After that, the fluid is released either axially or radially into the diffuser or volute, where it is released under high pressure [2].

IV.2. Multiphase mixed-flow centrifugal pump

This type of pump includes multiple separate booster stages, each of which has a fixed diffuser after an impeller positioned on a single spinning shaft. The fluid receives kinetic energy from the impeller, which the diffuser transforms into pressure. The fluid is redirected to the subsequent impeller stage after being homogenized by the diffuser. By preventing the gas-liquid mixture from separating, this interstage mixing produces consistent pressure-flow characteristics and boosts overall efficiency. The open-type impeller profile and diffuser blade arrangement are specifically designed to prevent the multiphase mixture within the pump from separating, and the impeller blades have a typical helical shape. The gas flow rate (GVF) at the suction, suction pressure, speed, number of impeller stages, and impeller size all affect this pump's pumping capabilities [3].

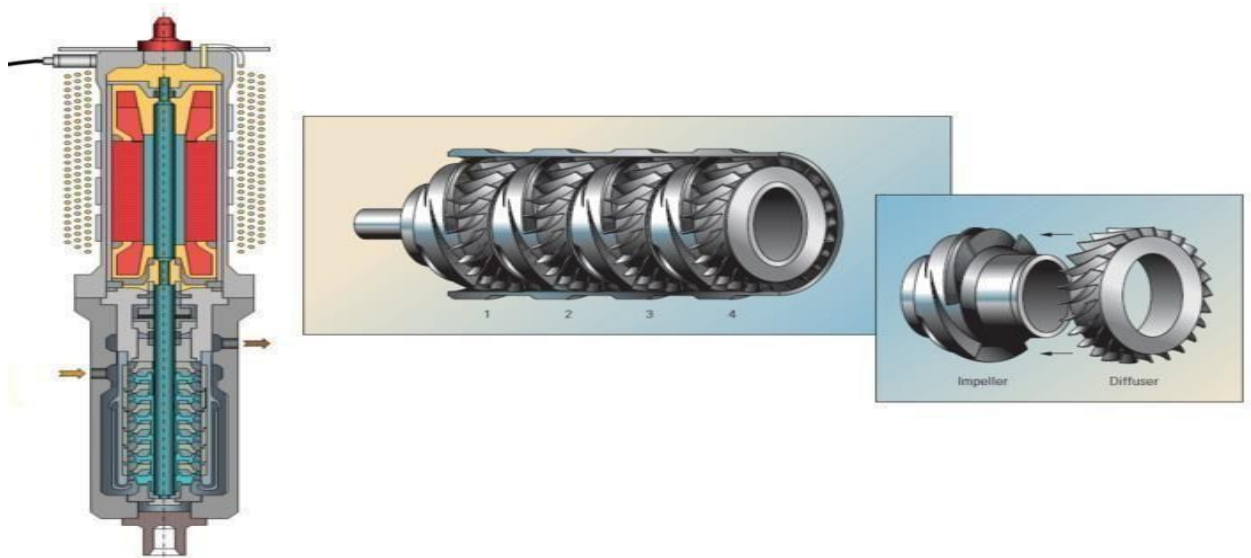


Figure I. 9: Helical centrifugal pump with many phases.

IV.3. Multistage centrifugal pump

The Poseidon Group created the helical-axial pump, which is now manufactured by firms like Framo (Leistritz) and Sulzer. It is intended for horizontal flow via a number of pump stages, such as stationary diffusers and helical impellers.

This pump performs exceptionally well when managing multiphase flows and is especially effective for transporting gas. Because of its design, it can operate steadily even in unpredictable situations like clogging hazards or transients. The main pumping process is

started by the specially designed axial flow stages, which also guide the gas-liquid mixture through the different stages. Gas volume compression is guaranteed by the Poseidon system to maximize pump efficiency [3].

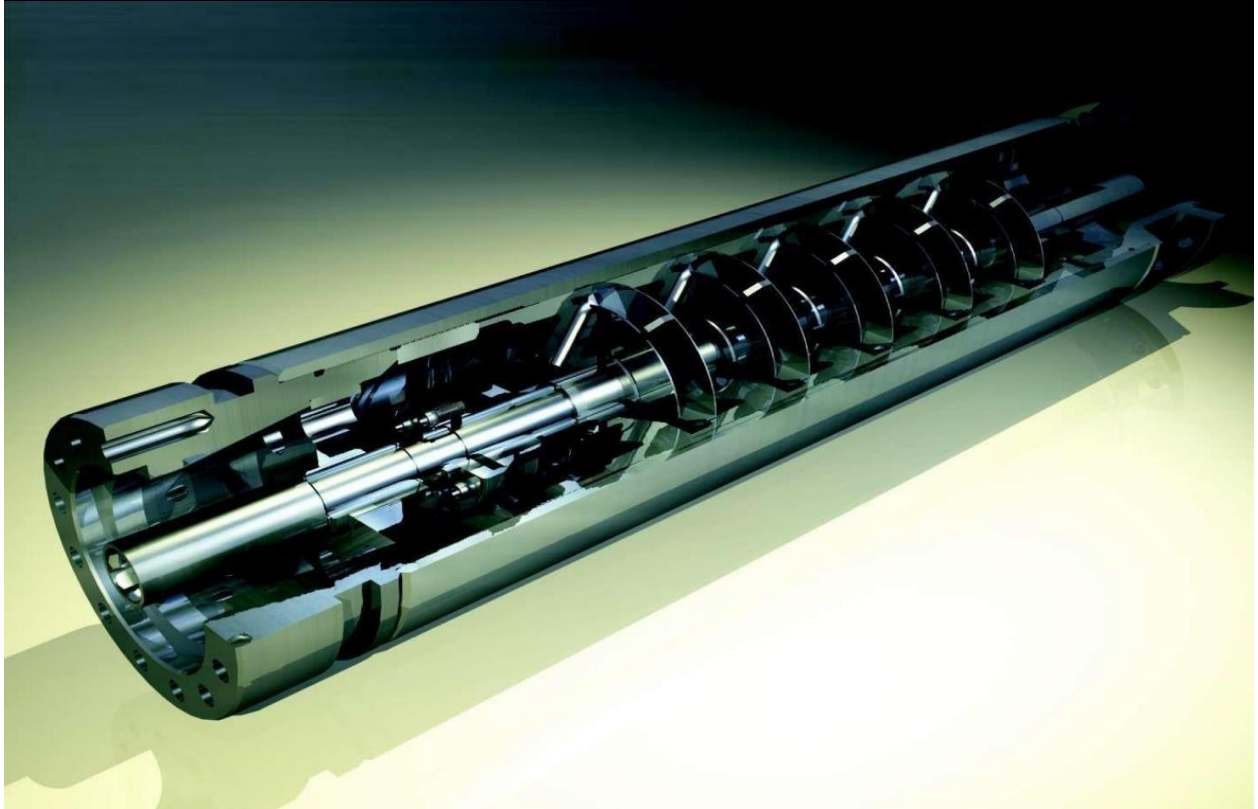


Figure I. 10: Pump with multiple stages [4].

IV.4. Positive Displacement Pump

Because of the pressure differential, fluid can be pulled into the pumping chamber by the vacuum volume in the chamber. After that, the fluid is released, which lowers the chamber's capacity. The resistance that the flow faces at the pump's outlet determines the pressure differential, which affects how well this kind of pump works. [5]

IV.4.1 Progressive Cavity Pumps (Single-Screw Pumps)

Progressive cavity pumps, sometimes referred to as eccentric screw pumps, are positive displacement devices made out of a vulcanized rubber stator and a stainless-steel helical rotor. Enclosed chambers are created one after the other while the rotor rotates, allowing the fluid to move smoothly from the suction side to the discharge side. Because the flow rate is precisely proportional to the pump's rotating speed, this working principle guarantees a constant, pulsation-free flow. These pumps have shown to be highly effective in multiphase pumping operations and are frequently used in artificial lift systems for shallow wells in real-

world applications. They function well at moderate discharge pressures (up to 50 bar) and relatively low flow rates (up to about 30,000 barrels of total fluid per day). Additionally, progressive cavity pumps can withstand large quantities of entrained materials and are ideal for handling extremely viscous fluids. However, one of the primary operational issues of this pump type is the excessive sand output, which speeds up the stator's wear and necessitates periodic replacement.



Figure I. 11: Progressive Cavity Pump (PCP).

IV.4.2 Screw Pumps

Screw pumps are split into two parts: Single rotor and multiple rotor types. In the single rotor type, the rotor thread meshes with the internal housing threads. Multiple rotor types are split into two parts as well: Single-end and double – end. In both cases only one rotor is driven. While a gear is used to rotate the other rotor in double-end screw pumps, the single-end screw pump configuration enables the other rotor to rotate with the motion of driven rotor [6].

Even though all rotary pumps move the fluid circumferentially, flow pattern of screw pumps is axial. This makes the screw pumps unique and gives numerous advantages as follows [6]:

It is able to work in a wide range of different conditions such as flow type, pressures, liquid type and viscosity:

- High speeds can be achieved due to lower inertia of rotating parts.
- Low internal velocity is the outcome of the axial flow pattern.
- It is capable of operating in multiple phases.

It may operate in silence because to the extremely low mechanical vibration:

- The pump is comparatively simple to install and maintain.
- The pump has the capacity to withstand solid particles.

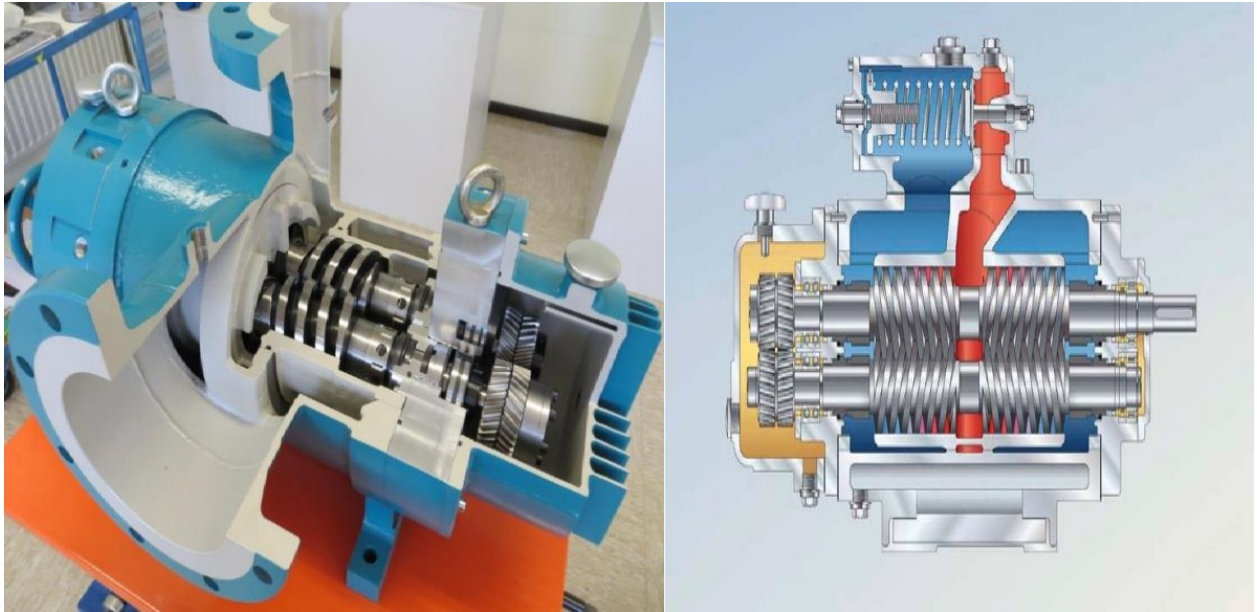
The performance of a screw pump is determined by a few key factors. The following is a list of them:

- **Inlet Condition:** A force must be applied to propel the fluid into the screw pump because it cannot pull or lift the fluid. For this process, ambient pressure is typically utilized.
- **Fluids and Vapor Pressure:** Cavitation can be caused by vapor or dissolved air pressure, which reduces efficiency. It might also operate noisily.
- **Viscosity:** The filling cavity rate is directly correlated with the fluid's viscosity. Higher viscosity fluids require more time to fill the rotor chamber, hence in this case, the pump's speed should be reduced.
- **Outlet Conditions:** A key factor in outlet pressure is the size of the pipe. For instance, a well-chosen pipe size may result in a more efficient pump operation [6].

IV.4.3 Twin-Screw Pump

The twin screw pump under consideration belongs to the double-end screw pump family. It is set up with a common driving rotor and two opposing screws of the same size. A gear holds the screws together. The pump's a shared exit and a shared inlet. The screws' axial loads are all balanced. Double-end screw pumps can function in a variety of pressure applications with big rates of volumetric flow. Additionally, the multiphase and viscous flow can be managed utilizing the same system [7].

The fluid is transported by the C-shaped chambers created by the turning screws. As a result, the only factors that determine the potential volumetric flow rate of the pump are its shape and speed. Figure 8 shows a twin-screw pump in section.



A: Twin Screw Pump.

B: Twin-Screw Multiphase Pump.

Figure I. 12: Twin Screw Pump.

The twin-screw pump is made with tolerances to prevent metal-to-metal contact during pump operation. Another name for these tolerances is clearances.

There are three different kinds of clearances: radial, flank, and circumferential. Clearance. Backflow or leakage across these is caused by the pressure increase across the pump.

Both volumetric and mechanical efficiency are negatively impacted in this scenario. Thus, the most crucial element for a multiphase system is to comprehend this leakage flow, operation to gauge the performance of the pump. These clearances are shown in Figure I.13. As demonstrated in.

The liner and the screw are separated by the circumferential clearance on the graph. The tolerance between the screw's outer diameter and the other screw's root diameter is known as root clearance, while the tolerance between the screw rotors' flanks is known as flank clearance [10].

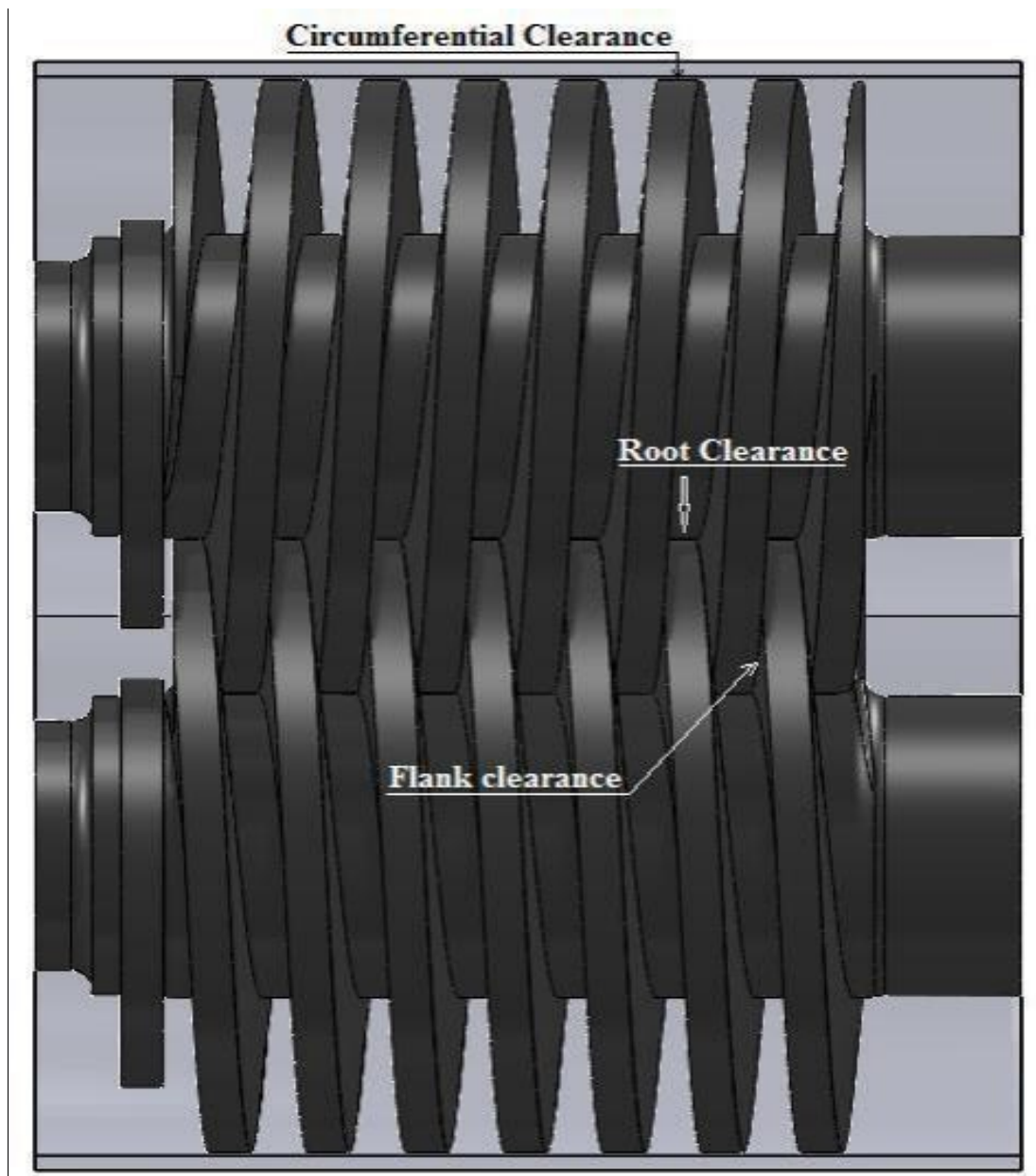


Figure I. 13: Clearance types of a twin-screw pump [10].

Tableau I. 1: Comparison of two types of multiphase pump [11], [12].

Characteristic	Positive displacement pumps	Rotodynamic pumps
Example	Twin screw pump	Multistage centrifugal pump
Principle of operation	A multiphase piston pump works by using a piston to move a mixture of gases and fluids, creating pressure to move the mixture through the system. A motor regulates the piston's action, varying the output pressure according to the driving air pressure.	A multiphase multistage pump works by assembling multiple centrifugal impellers in succession, each of which raises the liquid pressure. This approach enables the production of high pressures in a compact space. The fluid's successive passage through these impellers progressively raises the multiphase mixture's pressure and speed.
Speed	proportionate to the screws' pitch and rotation speed	depends on the impeller size, number of stages, speed, suction pressure, and GVF.
Pressure	Up to 40 bar	Up to 150 m
Fluid viscosity	able to pump extremely viscous liquids	Not as appropriate for fluids with high viscosity
GVF, or gas fraction	Effective with high GVFs	Best used with moderate GVF
speed of rotation	Lower than pumps that use rotodynamics	Greater than pumps with positive displacement
Training	Torque must be constant.	Possible variable speed
Benefits	-Continuous flow -Excellent performance across a broad speed range -Self-priming	Gas-liquid separation is prevented by interstage mixing; the pump is specifically designed to prevent separation.

V. Multiphase Fluids

It is important to comprehend what a multiphase fluid is before learning how an MMP operates. Any combination of gas, liquid, or solid particles can be referred to as a multiphase fluid. When a fluid flow is made up entirely of either a liquid or a gas, it is said to be single phase. The multiphase mixture in the oil pipeline may include materials like sand, wax, gas, water, natural gas hydrates, and crude oil [12].

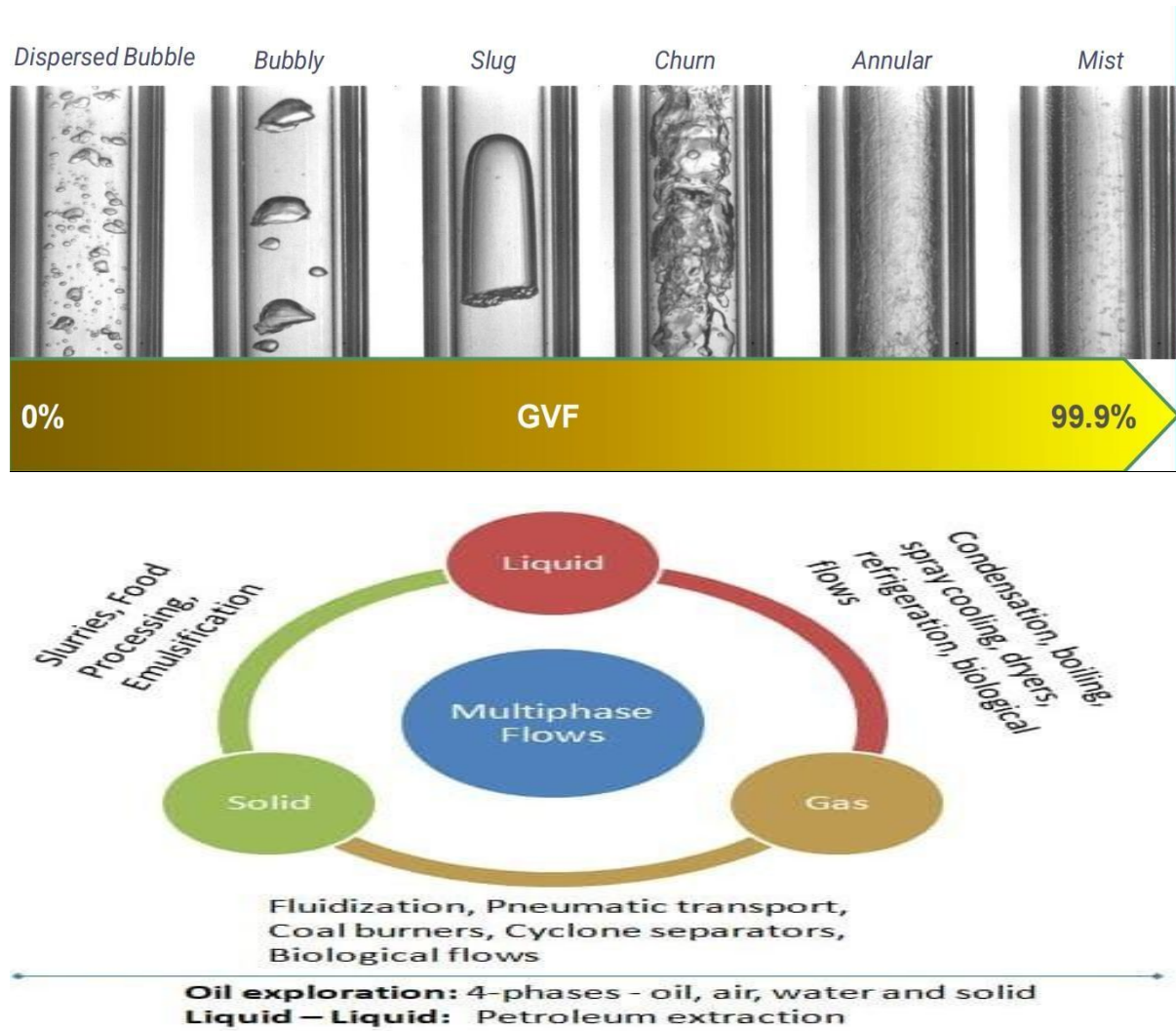


Figure I. 14: Possible Flow Regimes for Mixed Fluid Flow.

Figure I.14 illustrates the variety of flow regimes that are present in multiphase fluids. The GVF and the relative velocities of the corresponding single phase fluids determine the parameters that establish the flow regime. Since sight glasses cannot be inserted into the pump assembly, it will be unable to directly witness the flow regime or the pump inlet circumstances during the current inquiry; consequently, only a topical awareness of these flow regimes is necessary [13].

VI. Pipe Flow

The mass and energy conservation principles serve as the foundation for the pipe flow model. This law states that the energy and mass at the intake and outflow must be equal. This kind of flow can be described by the Bernoulli Equation. The energy calculation should also include the energy consumption brought on by friction, taking into account the inlet and output flow characteristics. With the fully developed flow assumption, the governing equation for a pipe flow takes the following final form [14]:

$$P + \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 + \rho g z_{\text{inlet}} = P + \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 + \rho g z_{\text{outlet}} + h_{\text{friction}} \quad (\text{I.1})$$

Where:

- P : Pressure energy per unit volume (Pa = N/m²)
- $\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2$: Kinetic energy per unit volume (dynamic pressure)
 - ρ : Fluid density (kg/m³)
 - V : Fluid velocity (m/s)
- $\rho g z$: Potential energy per unit volume (hydrostatic head)
 - g : Gravitational acceleration (9.81 m/s²)
 - z : Elevation head (m)
- Subscripts inlet / outlet : Values at pipe inlet and outlet respectively
- h_{friction} : Head loss due to friction and turbulence in the pipe

A German professor named Julius Weisbach and a French engineer named Henry Darcy discovered a link for the friction power:

$$h_f = f \cdot \frac{L}{d} \cdot \frac{V^2}{2} \quad (\text{I.2})$$

Where:

- f : Darcy friction factor (dimensionless)
- L : Length of the pipe (m)
- D : Internal diameter of the pipe (m)

VII. Advantages and Disadvantages of Multiphase Pumps

VII.1 Advantages:

- Centralized Treatment: The pump transfers the flow from the well to a single treatment center, eliminating the need for multiple installations.
- Cost reduction: This centralization results in a significant reduction in capital expenditures and operational costs.
- Increased production: The pump provides reliable flow pressure at the wellhead, accelerating production and enabling flow unblocking.
- Flexibility and reliability: Its robust design ensures smooth and reliable operation, even under variable conditions.
- Environmental benefits: Using the pump eliminates flaring and venting, significantly reducing carbon emissions.
- Complex fluid management: The pump is capable of simultaneously transporting high-viscosity fluids, improving overall flow and flow.
- Offshore applications: This technology is suitable for offshore installations and deep-water wells, enabling increased production from the seabed.

VII.2 Disadvantages:

- Variable efficiency depending on the gas fraction
- Technical expertise required for maintenance (screw synchronization, specific sealing, suitable bearings).
- Limited availability of certain spare parts, which are potentially more expensive.
- The mechanical seal must be sized to simultaneously manage high pressure, temperature, and chemical aggressiveness conditions.
- Sometimes an additional cooling or lubrication system is required, which can increase complexity.
- Even if the pump is designed for multiphase operation, a very high gas fraction can increase the risk of cavitation or overheating, sometimes requiring the injection of stabilizing fluid.
- Beyond certain extreme pressures or flow rates, it may be more efficient to use a combination of technologies (compressors + pumps), as the multiphase pump may no longer provide satisfactory efficiency.

VIII. Conclusion

From this review it is clear that multiphase pumping represents an economical and efficient alternative to conventional systems that rely on prior separation of gas and liquids. It reduces both investment and maintenance costs and enables the exploitation of remote or low productivity wells, particularly in deep-offshore environments.

Nevertheless, the large-scale industrial application of this technology still requires improvements in pump durability and component reliability in order to minimize the risks of failures and the associated maintenance costs.

These considerations naturally lead to the next chapter, which examines the scientific literature and the theoretical models developed for the design and performance analysis of multiphase twin-screw pumps such as the Leistritz L4.

*Literature Review on
Multiphase Pumps*

I. Introduction

This chapter provides a comprehensive review of the literature and previous research on twin-screw multiphase pumps, with a focus on the historical development of thermo-fluid dynamic and analytical models as well as experimental investigations. It highlights the mathematical and experimental approaches developed to describe pump performance under operating conditions with high gas volume fractions, emphasizing the key findings reported by various researchers.

In addition, this chapter presents a detailed description of the Leistritz L4 pump and its auxiliary systems and instrumentation, including the flow-measurement device, explaining the operating principle and the importance of each component in maintaining reliable and efficient operation.

II. Review of Literature: Developments in Multiphase Pumping

The literature study covers earlier research on multiphase twin-screw pumps, including analytical and numerical evaluations as well as experimental testing. Positive displacement pumps are the category that includes screw pumps. Greeks are credited with creating it.

Archimedes was a polymath in the third century BC. Screw-pumps have been utilized in the past for the purpose of transporting water in agriculture. They have recently been utilized in a number of fields. Twin screw pumps' potential in the oil and gas sector was not fulfilled.

until before the early 1990s and mid-1980s. The primary cause of the multiphase surge pumps were required to pump the liquid and gas concurrently in order to decrease capital, environmental impact, and running costs for both onshore and offshore oil producing facilities, particularly production in deep water. Natural gas disposal via venting and flaring was an additional issue for the oil and gas sector. Reducing this waste turned into vital to get the highest possible hydrocarbon production.

II-1-Vetter and Wincek (1993-2000)

Vetter and Wincek started simulating the operation of twin-screw pumps in multiphase settings shortly after Bornemann began exploring with MPP. The performance of the screw pumps for single phase flow had been thoroughly recorded up until this time. However, some simplifications were necessary due to the complex nature of multiphase flow. An Vetter and Wincek formulated the crucial supposition that the pump could be shown as a sequence of cylinders filled with fluid that are traveling toward the pump's center. The fluid flow direction

and chamber arrangement are depicted in Fig. II.1. The majority of A crucial presumption was that the fluid flow was divided into distinct phases because the fluid's exposure to centrifugal forces from the rotating screws.

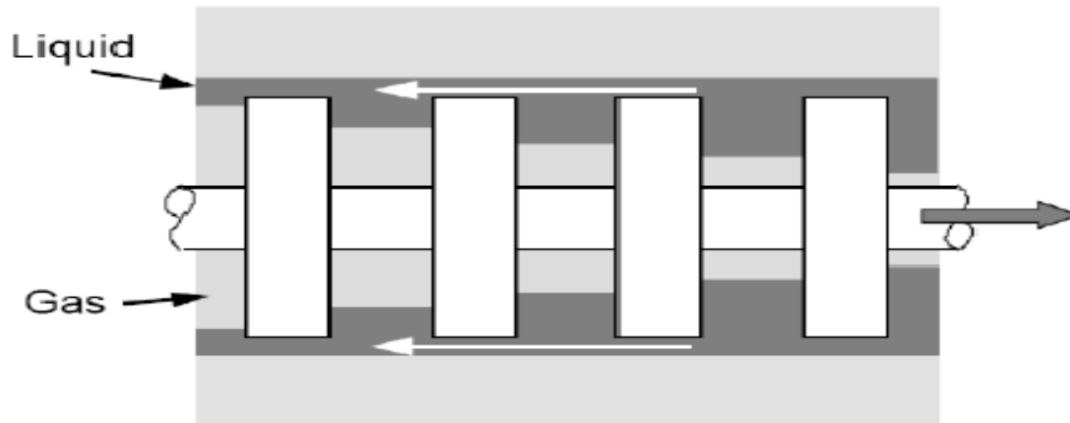


Figure II. 1: Simplified Model (Vetter and Wincek 1993).

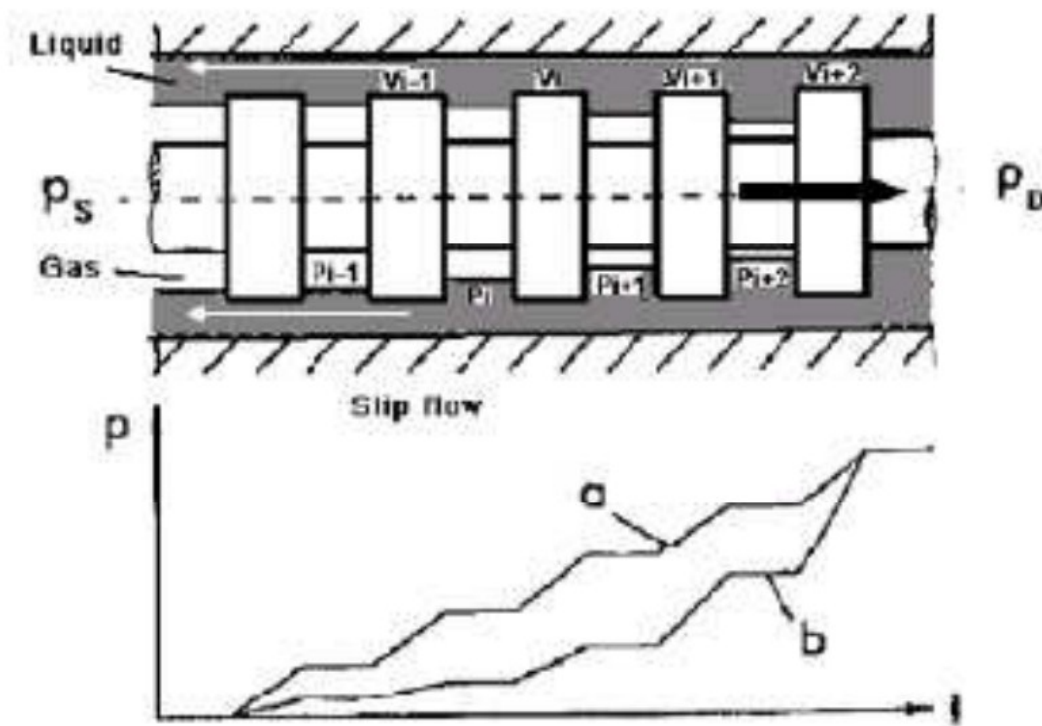


Figure II. 2: Pressure Profiles Along Screw Chambers (Vetter et al. 2000).

The analysis of a multiphase fluid could be reduced to a single phase flow under the presumption of phase separation. Vetter subsequently investigated this hypothesis in a lab, and the results indicated that it was true for GVF up to 85% [1],[2]. The model's chambers were made up of a series of disks that served as the volumes' mimicked the sealed chambers with

discs. After that, the slip itself might be represented as a chamber progressed; the piston compressed the gas as the liquid in the mixture served as a sealant for the chamber. The compression for GVF of up to 96% can be presumed to be isothermal. For this model to correctly forecast performance, a great deal of detail It was necessary to measure the rotor. The slide model relies entirely on the screws' geometry. His analysis indicates that the circular distance between about 80% of the total leak was caused by the screw and the stator flow.

The model's validation studies yielded some intriguing findings. The pressure distribution across the screws was examined for the first time. The pressure profiles for both single-phase and multiphase fluids moving across the screw profiles. The pressure profile for single phase flow (profile an in Fig. II.2) grows linearly as the fluid moves from the pump's suction to its outlet. For GVF greater than zero the pressure profile is no longer linear (see profile b in Fig. II.2). This indicates that in contrast to single-phase flow in which the pressure is equally contributed by each cavity.

II-2-Rabiger (2006)

The majority of leakage models assumed that the liquid portion of the mixture could absorb the side effects of the gas compression portion; however, in high GVF operations, compressibility and certain thermodynamic effects, like pressure drops and choked flow conditions, should be taken into account [3]. The pump's thermodynamic model was modeled as a series of chambers, with each chamber serving as a control volume. Figure II.3 shows that there is inflow and outflow to the mixture leakage in the chamber, with each letter denoting a quantity of bulk or energy and its thermodynamic properties as follows:

- a- Gas Inflow: Its specific enthalpy is constant.
- c- Compression of the gas due to liquid inflow: rising gas temperature
- d- Liquid outflow: Its specific enthalpy may vary.
- e- Liquid outflow causes gas expansion, which lowers gas temperature.
- f- Gas outflow: It may have variable specific enthalpy.
- g- Gas-Heat transfer from gas to liquid happens through the interfacial region.

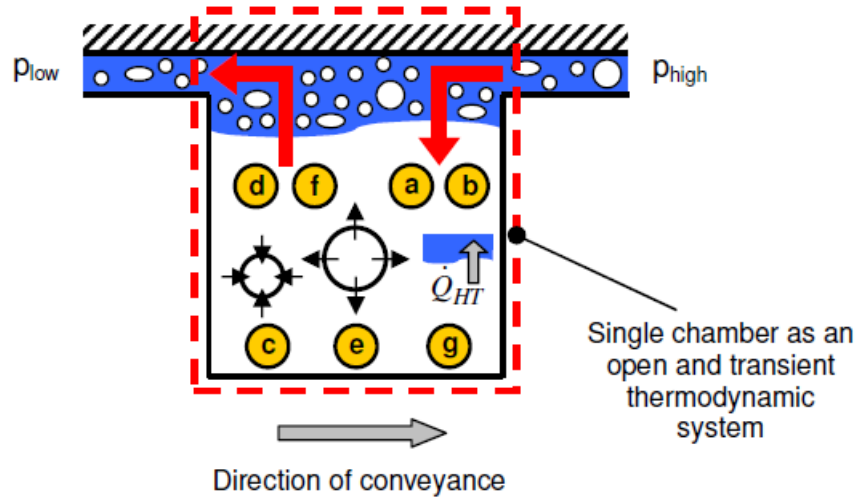


Figure II. 3: Control volume of the chamber [3].

The mass and energy conservation principles were applied to the following chambers based on the aforementioned assumptions. It should be mentioned that the isentropic model assumption was applied to the temperature or pressure change. The simple stratified flow assumption and the identical temperature at the conclusion of the heat transfer assumption were used to represent the heat transfer between phases. The phase temperature changes in a single time step are depicted in Fig. II.4 [3].

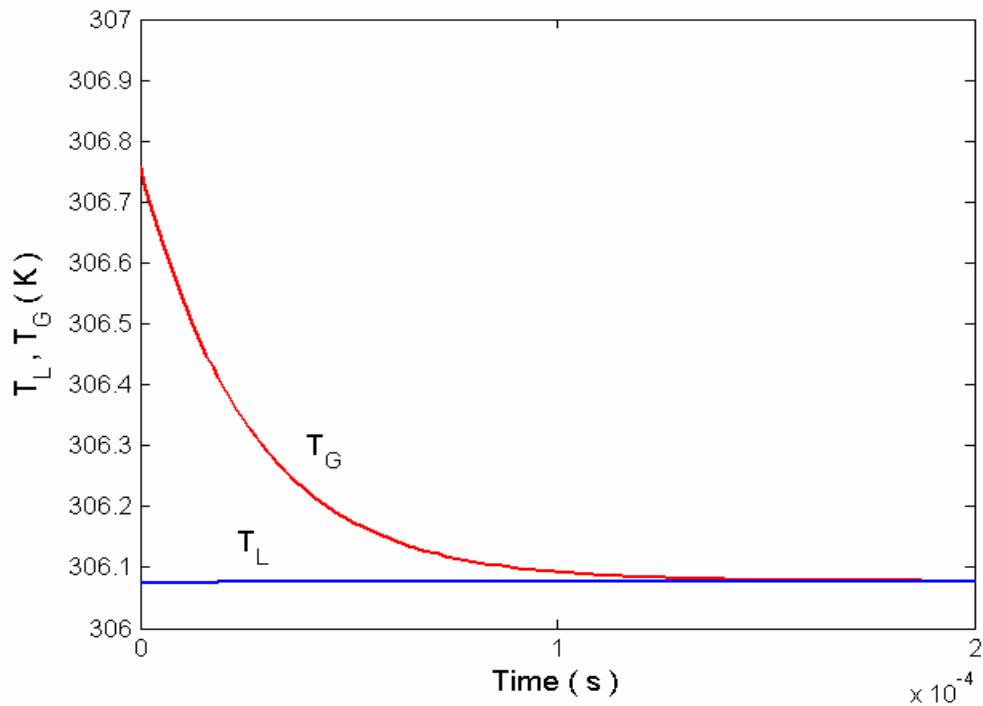


Figure II. 4: One-time temperature fluctuation in a chamber [3].

The mass, momentum, and energy conservation equations were used to describe the flow in the radial gap and the perimeter in a rectangular clearance with fully developed flow.

Additionally, the model functioned well under the most extreme critical flow conditions, such as when the static pressure differential between succeeding chambers is extremely large [3].

The aforementioned computations used the pump's inlet characteristics and estimated inlet velocity, after which the model was managed by the pump's outlet characteristics.

The following is a list of the results attained [3]:

The decrease in density and viscosity caused the leakage flow to lose its sealing function in high GVF operations.

The heated leakage for both phases caused the greatest temperature increase to be seen between the inlet and the first chamber.

Figure II.5 illustrates how the amount of liquid in the leakage flow caused the GVF to decrease in each chamber.

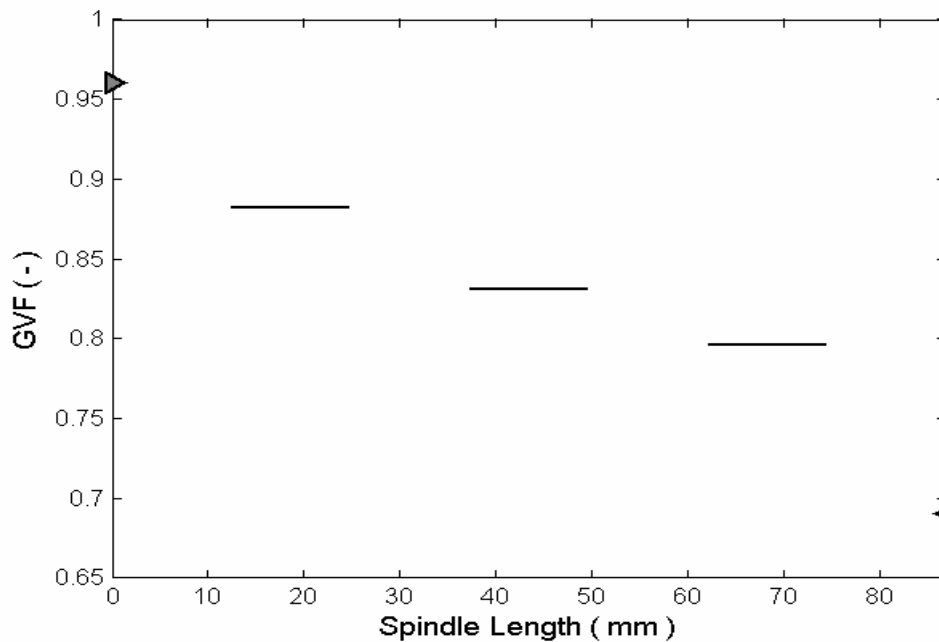


Figure II. 5: GVF shift across the screw [3].

Tableau II. 1: Experimental Studies on Twin Screw Pump Performance Under Varying Operating Conditions [15].

Project Conductor	Pump	Operation Conditions
Abhay Ravindra Patil(2013)	Colfax Twin Screw Pump MR-200	GVF=%50-100
		$\Delta P = 50, 100, 150, 200, 250$ PSI
		Inlet Pressure=15,50,75,100 PSI
		Speed= 900,1350,1800 rpm
Ryan Kroupa(2011)	The twin screw pump Leistritz	GVF=%0-100
		$\Delta P = 50, 100, 150, 200, 250$ PSI
		Inlet Pressure=10,50 PSI
		Speed= 1800,2700,3600 rpm
Theodore Isaac Hatch(2013)	Colfax Twin Screw Pump MR-200	GVF=%65-92
		$\Delta P = 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300$ PSI
		Inlet Pressure=15,50 PSI
		Speed= 900 rpm

III. Experimental Facility

The Leistritz L4 multiphase pump and the flowmeter used in the experiment will be thoroughly described in this portion of the thesis.

The Leistritz L4 pump is a twin-screw multiphase pump that eliminates the need for phase separation by pumping a mixture of water, gas, and crude oil straight from the production line. This pump moves fluid from the suction side to the discharge side by means of two synchronized spinning screws that create sealed chambers. Even in situations with a high gas volume fraction (GVF), it can continue to operate with excellent efficiency.

A flowmeter with microwave technology was utilized to measure the multiphase flow in order to guarantee precise measurements throughout the experiment. By sending electromagnetic waves through the fluid to sense changes in density and velocity, this gadget makes it possible to calculate the instantaneous flow rate and the mixture's composition (oil, water, or gas) with extreme precision.

Since the recorded flow rate data are directly used to determine the pump's volumetric and mechanical efficiency as well as to assess the pump's performance under various operating situations, this device is one of the most important tools in the experiment.

Each pump system will be thoroughly explained in the parts that follow, backed up by field photos and diagrams gathered throughout the experiment.

III.1. Pump Operating System (Process Overview)

Fig.II.6 displays the Leistritz L4 pump's general operating diagram, which includes the realtime measured values of several operating parameters as well as the flow path of the multiphase fluid (oil, gas, and water) from the inlet stage to the outlet stage.

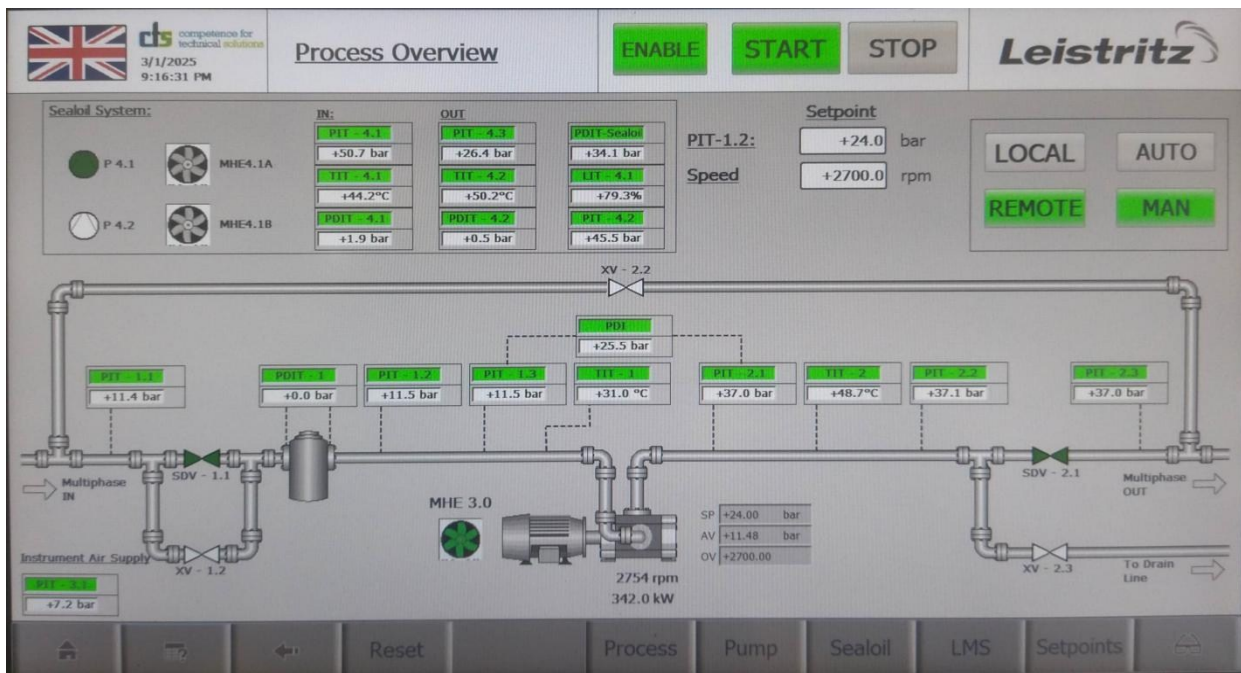


Figure II. 6: Leistritz L4 pump's general operating diagram.

Through the automated shut-off valve SDV- and the Multiphase IN feed line, the fluid enters. The XV valve, which is used to fill the pump during first startup, has a tiny aperture that permit s fluid to enter gradually and keeps external pressure from entering suddenly. When the pump is halted, the XV valve on the bypass line opens, providing fluid recirculation

or pressure relief in the system.

In terms of instrumentation, TTT monitors the temperature of the incoming fluid, PDIT- measures the differential pressure across the strainer, PIT measures the air pressure in the pneumatic system that controls the valves, and PIT measures the fluid pressure prior to entering the pump.

The pump has a cooling fan MHE 3.0 and an electric motor.

Values including rotating speed (RPM), power consumed (kW), set pressure (SP), and actual pressure (AV) are shown on the control interface.

Following pumping, TTT is used to test the output fluid temperature and TTT is used to measure the pump body temperature.

PIT, PIT and PIT are used to measure the pressure.

The Multiphase OUT discharge line, which has the shutoff valve SDV, is where the fluid leaves the pump.

A secondary drain line with valve XV is utilized for drainage in emergency situations or during maintenance. By enabling precise valve control and accurate monitoring of all operational parameters, this system makes sure the pump runs within safe bounds while preserving constant pressure, temperature, and flow rate.

III.2. Seal Oil System (SOS)

One of the Leistritz L4 pump's crucial features, the Seal Oil System (SOS), guards against wear and tear on the mechanical seal and stops liquids or gases from leaking out of the pumping chamber.

To guarantee that the oil flows toward the seal at adequate pressure, the system includes a separate seal oil tank that is supplied by the main pump. The auxiliary pump guarantees a steady supply of oil at starting or when the main pump is not operating.

The oil flows to the MHE heat exchanger for cooling after passing through the mechanical seal, assisting in maintaining the ideal operating temperature, minimizing wear, and protecting the oil's characteristics. The PCV-4.1 pressure control valve regulates oil pressure.

The system has a number of measurement tools for tracking performance, including:

PDIT-4.1: Differential pressure transmitter to identify pressure loss or obstruction in the oil strainer.

PIT-4.2: A pressure transmitter that gauges the seal's direct supply pressure.

The oil flow rate is measured with the FIT-4.1 flow transmitter.

TTT-4-1: A temperature transmitter used to track the oil's temperature at the tank's output.

In order to guarantee that the oil flows toward the seal and avoid any reverse leakage, the Seal Oil System runs at a pressure greater than the pumped fluid pressure inside the pump. The primary control unit (PLC) receives all measures and, in the case of a malfunction, either sounds an alert or turns off the pump.

This technology decreases unscheduled downtime, increases the mechanical seal's service life, and guarantees

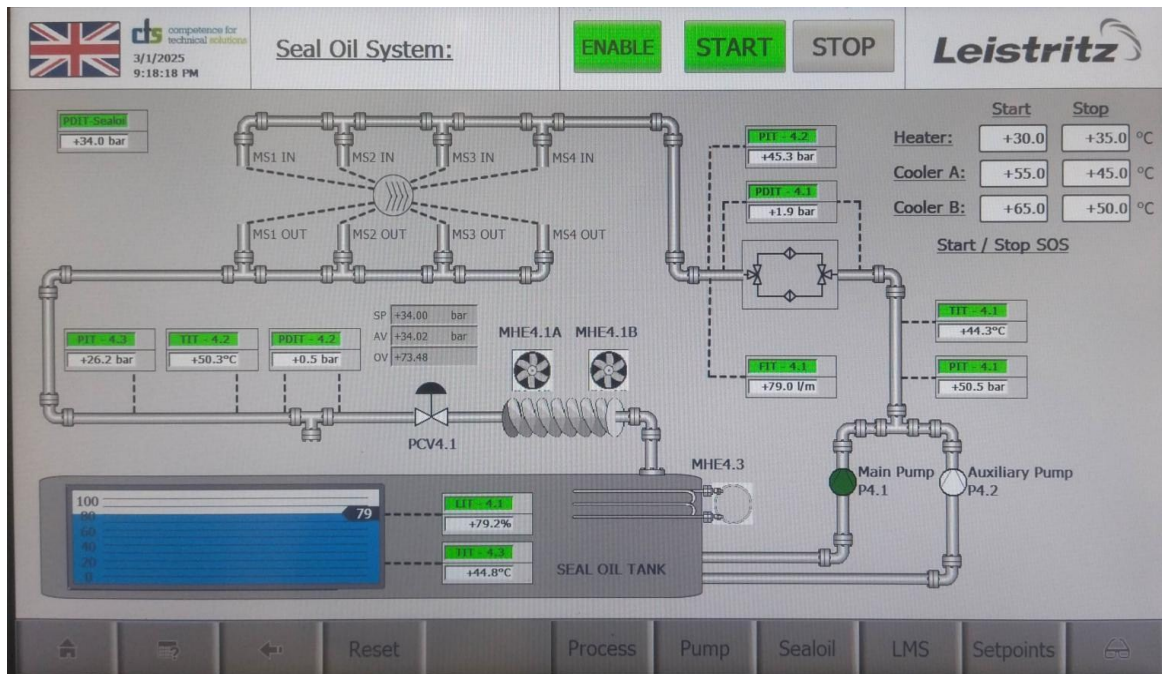


Figure II. 7: Seal Oil System.

III.3. Liquid Management System (LMS)

To provide pump cooling during critical operating conditions, especially when the Gas Volume Fraction (GVF) is high or when operating temperature rises, the Leistritz L4 pump's LMS is an inventive auxiliary system that is intended to retain a portion of the liquid from the discharge line and recirculate it after cooling.

A separator in the system collects and holds a certain amount of liquid from the discharge line. The level transmitter LIT3.15 keeps track of the liquid level inside the separator to make sure there is a enough supply for cooling. The temperature inside the separator is measured by TTT 3.16, and the temperature within the pump is measured by TTT3.02. Following the liquid's pas

sage through the heat exchanger, the temperature is measured by TTT-3.08.

Based on the temperature recorded inside the pump, the flow control valve FCV.3.1 controls the amount of liquid that is recirculated to the pump after it has left the separator and passed through the heat exchanger, which has three cooling fans (M3.1, M3.2, M3.3).

Additionally, the system automatically turns on the cooling fans based on the temperature of the liquid, guaranteeing effective heat dissipation when needed.

This technique has eliminated the need for external cooling water supply, which was the traditional cooling approach. This has ensured efficient pump cooling in difficult working condition, decreased water usage, and increased operational efficiency.

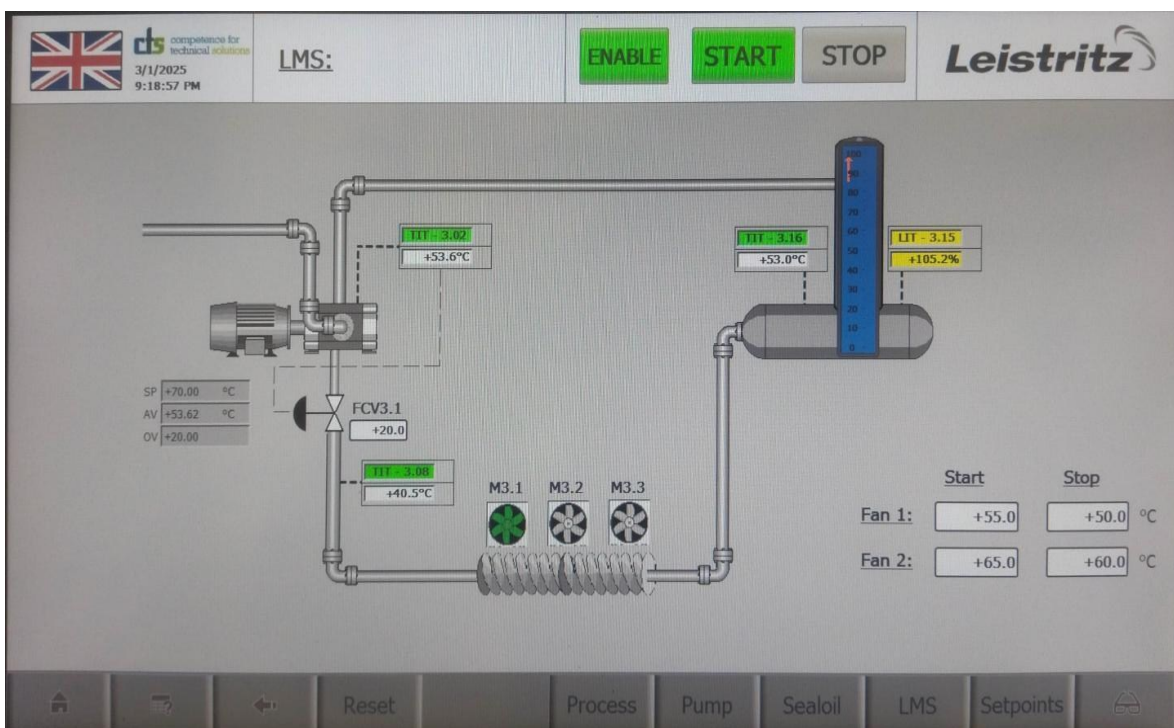


Figure II. 8: Liquid Management System (LMS).

III.4. Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)

By altering the frequency of the supplied voltage, the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD), seen in Figure (II.9), regulates the pump motor's rotational speed. By progressively increasing the motor speed during startup (Soft Start), the VFD lowers high inrush currents and guards against hydraulic shocks inside the pump. This technology offers great flexibility in managing flow and pressure by enabling the pump to run at various rates based on actual operating conditions. In addition to lowering mechanical and electrical stress on the pump's components, it also helps to increase energy efficiency and lower power consumption under partial load.



Figure II. 9: The Variable Frequency Drive (VFD).

III.5. Programmable Logic Controller (PLC System)

Controlling and monitoring the Leistritz L4 pump and all of its ancillary systems is mostly done by the PLC (Programmable Logic Controller). It gathers and processes signals from a variety of sensors, including liquid level transmitters (LIT), temperature transmitters (TTT), flow transmitters (FIT), and pressure transmitters (PIT), in accordance with predetermined logical programming.

The PLC ensures that the pump functions under ideal conditions by sending accurate control orders to the cooling fans (M3.1, M3.2, M3.3), the auxiliary pump, and valves (XV, SDV, PCV, FCV) after analyzing the data.

The system keeps an eye on variations between setpoints and real values and, in the event of significant anomalies, sends out shutdown commands or alerts.

The pump can be operated in either manual mode, which provides direct operator control, or automatic mode, which ensures completely autonomous operation, thanks to the PLC.

Additionally, it integrates with the Human-

Machine Interface (HMI), which shows all operating parameters in real time and allows for manual intervention as needed.

This technology ensures safe pump operation, increases operating efficiency, reduces human intervention, and improves reliability and safety.



Figure II. 10: Mechanical Components of the Leistritz L4 Pump.

IV. Multiphase Components Mechanical

IV.1. Pump Casing / Housing

The pump casing is one of the fundamental components of a multiphase screw pump, as it represents the outer structure that encloses all internal parts and provides the main flow path for the fluid. The casing is designed to withstand high operating pressures and varying flow conditions, in addition to ensuring proper sealing to minimize losses caused by leakages.

Mechanically, the pump casing is typically manufactured from high-strength steel alloys that are resistant to wear and corrosion, particularly when handling multiphase fluids containing gas, liquid, and occasionally solid particles. The wall thickness and structural rigidity play a crucial role in preventing deformation and ensuring rotor stability during operation.

Furthermore, the internal design of the casing has a direct impact on the hydraulic performance of the pump, as it defines the compression chamber volume and contributes to improving volumetric efficiency by reducing leakage areas between the rotors and the inner wall. The casing also integrates with the mechanical seal and lubrication system, making it an essential element in maintaining long-term reliability and operational efficiency.



Figure II. 11: The pump body and sleeve [7].

IV.2. Screw Rotors

The screw rotors represent the operational core of the multiphase screw pump, as they perform the transport and compression of the fluid through successive compression chambers formed between the rotor threads and the pump casing. During synchronous rotation, fixed volumes of fluid are trapped and gradually displaced from the suction side to the discharge side, ensuring a continuous and stable flow.

According to Turhan (2014), rotor design is directly linked to volumetric efficiency, since internal leakages along the contact surfaces represent the main source of effective volume loss. Enhancing sealing between the rotors reduces these losses and improves efficiency.

In addition, Kourpa discussed the concept of Digressive Screw Geometry, where the screw pitch does not remain constant along the rotor length but changes progressively. This design contributes to:

- Reducing sudden compression within the chambers.
- Improving flow stability and minimizing vibrations.
- Increasing volumetric efficiency at higher flow rates.

As highlighted in the Leistritz L4 catalog, the rotors also play a protective role for the mechanical seal, as their design reduces the direct pressure acting on the seal by limiting the backflow of gas and liquid toward the sealing area. This helps extend seal lifetime and maintain overall system reliability.

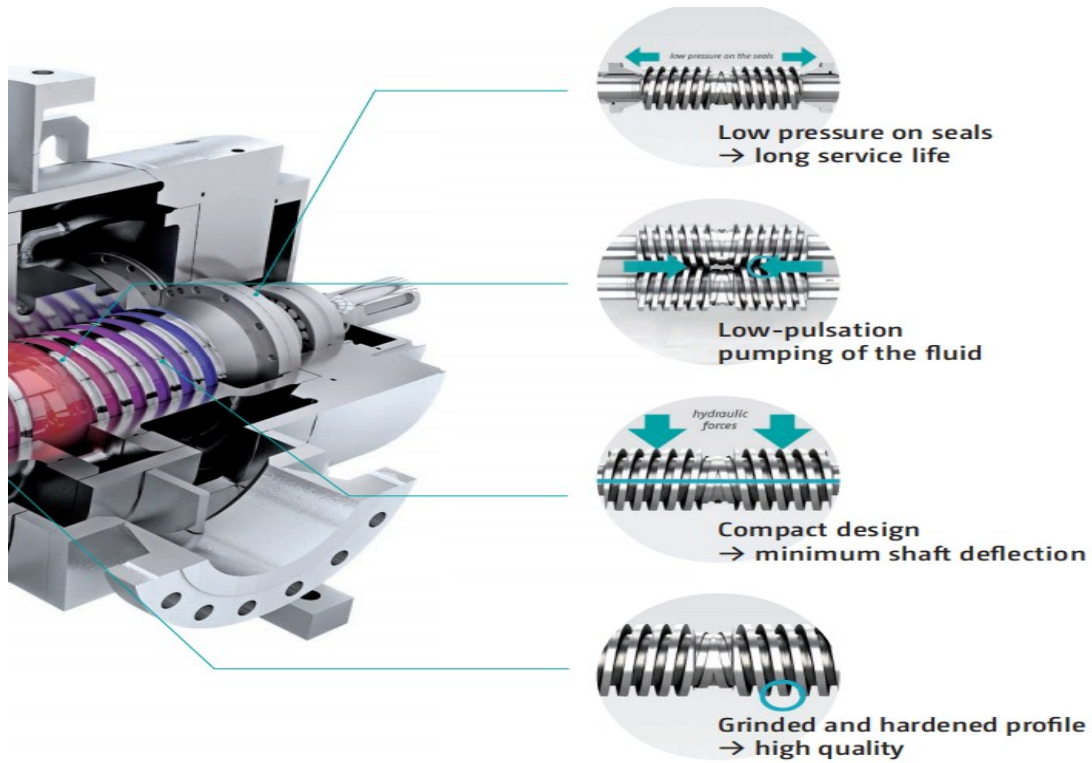


Figure II. 12: Superior technology [6].

Furthermore, Abdalla (2020, Politecnico di Torino) emphasized that rotors are the most influential element in pump performance at high Gas Volume Fractions (GVF). Their geometry enables gradual gas compression within the chambers, mitigating efficiency losses under unstable operating conditions.

The rotors are typically manufactured from wear- and corrosion-resistant steel alloys, and are precisely machined to ensure dynamic balance during operation. The fundamental relation associated with them is the theoretical flow rate:

$$Q_{\text{theoretical}} = V_g \times n \quad (\text{II.1})$$

Where: V_g is the displacement volume per revolution, and n is the rotational speed.

This equation shows that the volumetric flow rate directly depends on the geometric design of the rotors and their rotational speed, while the actual performance relies on minimizing leakages, vibrations, and internal friction, as well as on the rotor's role in protecting the seal and ensuring stable operation under high-GVF condition

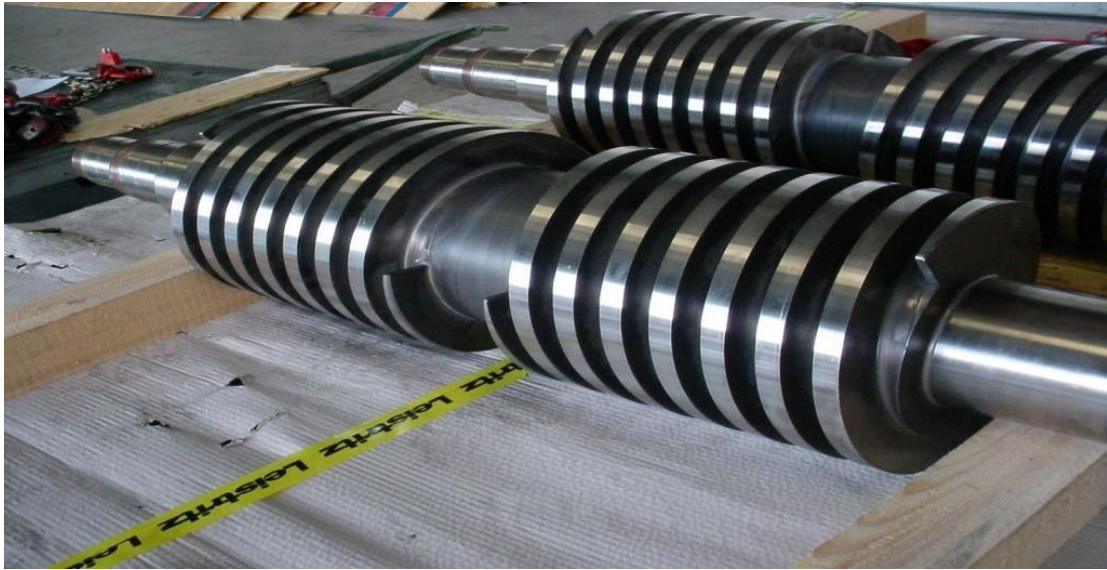


Figure II. 13: The pump rotor [7].

IV.3. Mechanical Seal

The mechanical seal is one of the most critical components in a multiphase screw pump, serving as the primary barrier that prevents fluid leakage from the pumping chamber to the external environment. It operates at the rotating interface between the shaft and the stationary part of the casing, achieving sealing through finely machined contact surfaces typically made of hard materials such as carbon, ceramics, or tungsten carbide.

As reported in Turhan's work, leakages at the mechanical seal are one of the main contributors to volumetric efficiency losses, since inadequate seal performance leads to fluid leakage and, consequently, a reduction of actual flow compared to theoretical flow. In some cases, gas ingress may also occur, negatively impacting operational stability.

To ensure reliable performance, the seal is typically supported by a Seal Oil System (SOS), which maintains a pressure slightly higher than the internal fluid pressure, ensuring oil flow toward the seal and preventing reverse leakage. The oil also passes through a heat exchanger to maintain an optimal operating temperature and reduce wear of the contact surfaces.

- In practice, the mechanical seal contributes to:
- Preventing fluid and gas loss.
- Protecting the shaft and internal components from erosion.
- Extending the operational lifetime of the pump.

Therefore, the performance of this component is directly linked to the pump's efficiency—particularly volumetric efficiency—and to its long-term operational reliability.



Figure II. 14: The mechanical seal [6]

IV.4. Bearings

Bearings are vital components in a multiphase screw pump, as they provide mechanical support for the rotors and the main shaft during rotation. Their primary function is to reduce friction between moving parts and to maintain the shaft in its correct position, ensuring precise alignment of the rotors inside the pump casing.

These pumps commonly employ rolling bearings or journal bearings with high load capacity to withstand both axial and radial forces generated by fluid pressure and rotor contact.

According to studies such as Turhan (2014), any malfunction in bearing performance may lead to misalignment and increased friction, which can result in vibrations, premature wear, and a reduction in mechanical efficiency. Additionally, unstable operating conditions, such as high Gas Volume Fractions (GVF), may further increase the dynamic loads acting on the bearings.



Figure II. 15: The bearings [6].

To ensure reliable operation, bearings are integrated with an effective lubrication system that provides a continuous oil film to reduce friction and dissipate the generated heat. This lubrication and cooling are essential for extending the service life of the bearings and, consequently, the pump itself.

It can therefore be stated that the efficiency and safe operation of the pump depend significantly on the integrity of the bearings and the quality of their maintenance, as bearing failures are often a major cause of unplanned shutdown.

IV.5. Timing Gears

A multiphase screw pump's timing gears guarantee that the rotors are precisely synchronized with one another. Usually, double helical gears are employed to reduce axial forces and distribute the load well. Without making direct contact with the rotor, these gears enable synchronized rotation by transferring torque from the main shaft to the secondary shaft.

An oil system that lubricates the gears prolongs their service life by lowering friction and dissipating heat. To maintain the pump's mechanical efficiency and avoid vibrations or failures that could impair the bearings' and the mechanical seal's performance, accurate design and appropriate maintenance are crucial.



Figure II. 16: The distribution gear [6].

IV.6. Coupling

Reliable torque transmission is ensured by connecting the motor and pump using a flexible connection with a spacer. In order to provide safe operation in hazardous situations, such as oil and gas applications, this coupling is constructed in accordance with API 671 and has an

anti-sparking guard. Additionally, it lessens vibrations and absorbs small misalignments, shielding the pump and motor from undue mechanical strain.

IV.7. Effect of Erosion on Mechanical and Volumetrically Efficiency

Erosion in the pressure chamber and the screw rotors is one of the most common failures in multiphase screw pumps, particularly under harsh operating conditions characterized by high Gas Volume Fractions (GVF) or the presence of solid particles in the fluid. Over time, this erosion enlarges the clearances between contact surfaces, leading to increased internal leakage and a reduction in the effective displacement volume, which directly results in a loss of volumetric efficiency (Stepanoff, 1957). As shown in Figure (II. 17), erosion in the pressure chamber wall produces visible deformations that enhance internal leakage.



Figure II. 17: DE (Drive End Bearing) (Driven shaft side) top view.

Moreover, screw surface wear, illustrated in Figure (II. 18), leads to a loss of sealing between the rotors, increasing non-productive friction and raising energy consumption, thereby significantly reducing mechanical efficiency. Other studies have confirmed that such erosion under high GVF conditions generates strong vibrations and excessive dynamic loads on the bearings and the mechanical seal, ultimately reducing operational reliability (Wilson & Palgrave, 1999).

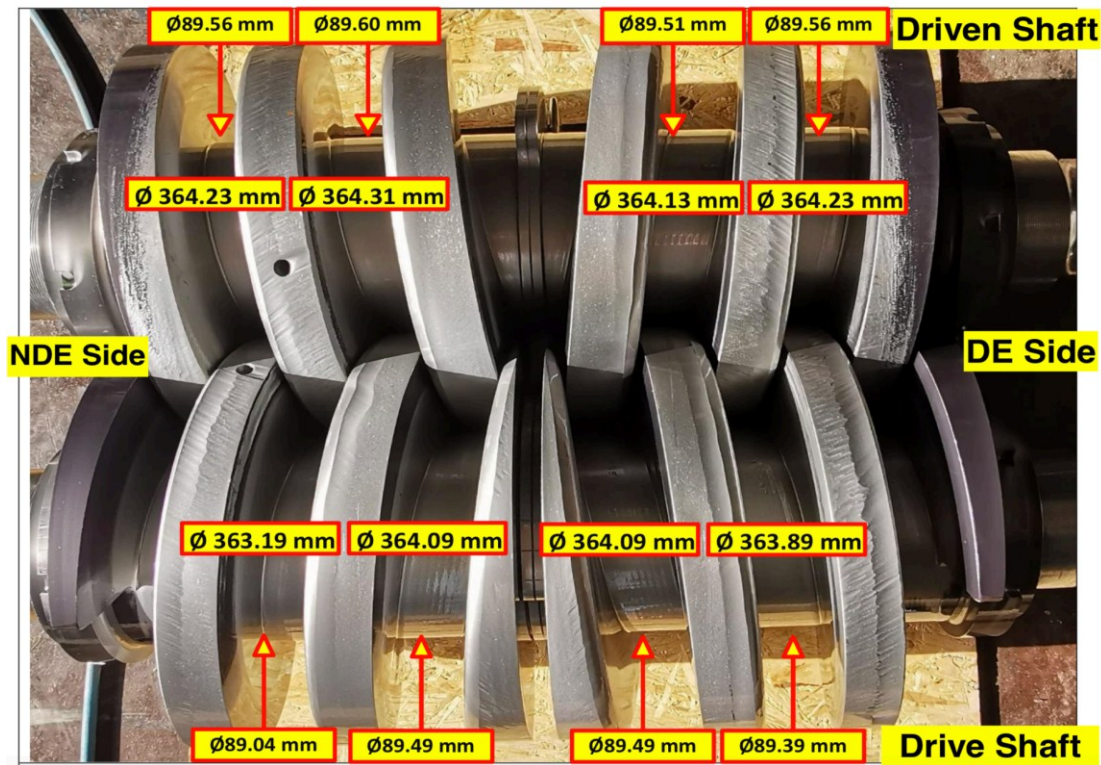


Figure II. 18: Pump Shafts with erosion evidences.

In advanced cases, as depicted in Figure (II.19), simultaneous erosion in both the pressure chamber and the rotors exacerbates the problem, combining losses in both volumetric and mechanical efficiency, while also increasing the likelihood of unplanned pump shutdowns. Therefore, controlling operating conditions and maintaining auxiliary systems such as the Liquid Management System (LMS) and the Seal Oil System (SOS) are essential to mitigate erosion and preserve the pump's mechanical efficiency and operational reliability.

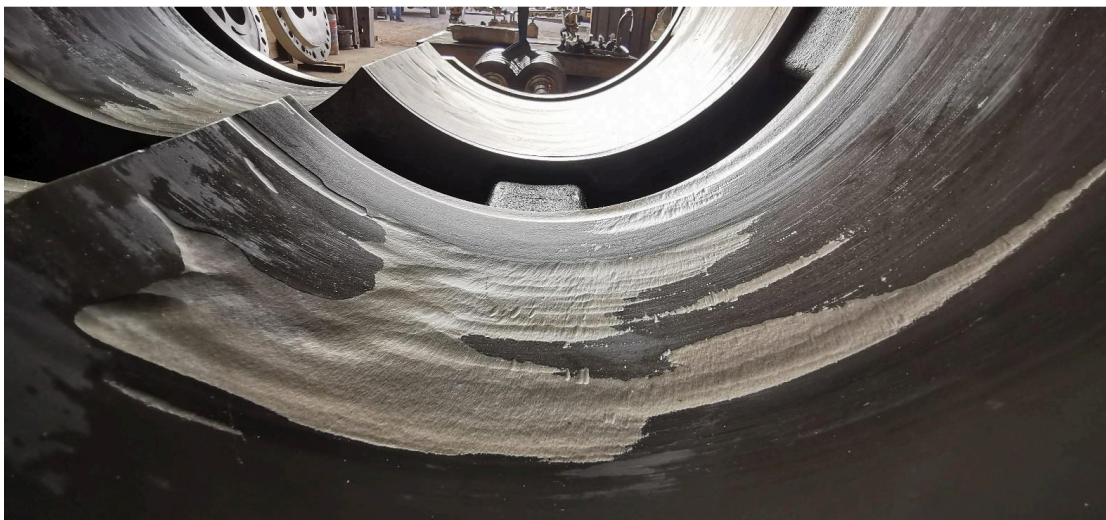


Figure II. 19: NDE (Non Drive End Bearing) (Driving shaft side).

V. Flow-meter

The flowmeter is considered one of the most important instruments used in pump experiments, as it measures the volumetric or mass flow rate of liquids and gases. The device used in this experiment is specifically designed to operate under multiphase flow conditions, making it suitable for testing the Leistritz L4 pump.

V.1. Principle of Operation

The operating principle of the device is based on measuring the actual flow rate (Q_{actual}) under real operating conditions (pressure, temperature, density), and then converting it into a standard flow rate (Q_{standard}) under reference conditions (typically 1 atm and 15 °C) using a correction equation derived from the ideal gas law or fluid density correction:

$$Q_{\text{standard}} = Q_{\text{actual}} \times \frac{P_{\text{standard}}}{P_{\text{actual}}} \times \frac{T_{\text{actual}}}{T_{\text{standard}}} \quad (\text{II.2})$$

- Where P and T represent the pressure and temperature for both actual and standard conditions.
- For liquids, correction is often applied based on density rather than only pressure and temperature.

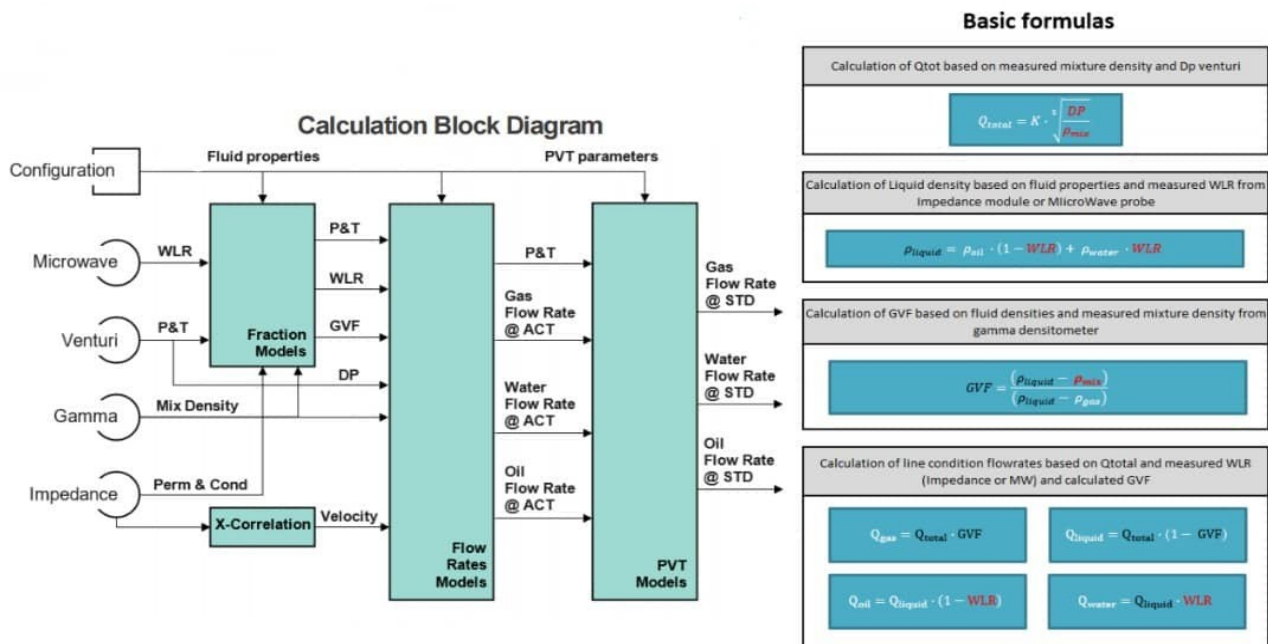


Figure II. 20: Principle of Operation.

V.2. Basic Measurements

The device is equipped with several sensors to measure:

- Pressure (P actual) at the pump inlet and outlet.
- Temperature (T actual) of the fluid during flow.
- Density or correction factor, depending on the fluid type (gas/liquid).

V.3. Flowmeter Components

The multiphase flowmeter is composed of several measuring units based on different physical principles, each providing complementary data that allows accurate calculation of the total flow rate. The main components are:

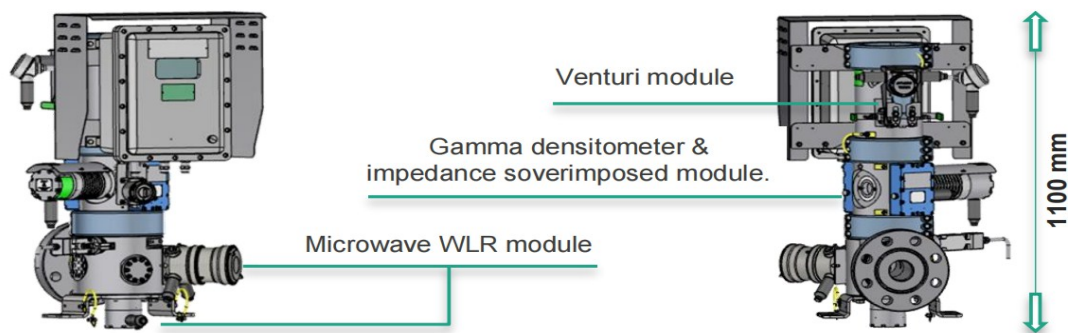


Figure II. 21: Flowmeter Components.

V.3.1. Microwave Sensor

Used to measure the gas volume fraction (GVF) within the fluid. It operates on the principle of electromagnetic wave absorption and propagation through the mixture, with propagation speed varying according to the relative density of gas and liquid.



Figure II. 22: Microwave Sensor.

V.3.2. Venturi Meter

Based on the principle of pressure drop as the fluid passes through a narrow throat. By measuring the differential pressure between the wide and narrow sections, the mass flow rate can be calculated. This component is particularly important when gas is present in the flow.



Figure II. 23: Venturi Meter.

V.3.3. Gamma Densitometer

Utilizes gamma radiation to measure the bulk density of the multiphase mixture. It is especially useful in conditions where accurate density measurement cannot be obtained solely from pressure and temperature data.



Figure II. 24: Gamma Densitometer.

V.3.4. Velocity Measurement Unit

Used to measure the velocity of the fluid within the flow line. This value is employed to correct volumetric and mass flow rate calculations. The reference did not specify the exact

measurement technique, but such systems typically rely on ultrasonic or cross-correlation methods.



Figure II. 25: Velocity Measurement Unit.

V.3.5. Impedance Measurement

The impedance sensor is considered an essential part of multiphase flow meters. Its principle is based on measuring the electrical impedance between electrodes immersed in the flow stream. The impedance value varies according to the physical properties of the fluid, particularly its electrical conductivity, which changes with the relative proportions of the gas and liquid phases. When the gas volume fraction (GVF) increases, the electrical conductivity of the mixture decreases, leading to a higher measured impedance value.

Through this technique, the gas volume fraction can be accurately estimated, which is a critical parameter in multiphase flow calculations. These measurements are integrated with signals from the Venturi, gamma-ray, and microwave sensors to provide a more comprehensive and accurate determination of the actual flow rates of each phase. Thus, impedance measurement enhances the reliability of the flow meter and ensures precise results, especially under unstable operating conditions.



Figure II. 26: Impedance Measurement.

V.4. Integrated Function

-These measurements (pressure, temperature, density, gas fraction, and velocity) are combined through the flowmeter's internal algorithms to provide highly accurate flow rate calculations.

-This integration enables the device to handle unsteady and turbulent flows, which are otherwise difficult to measure with conventional methods.

VI. Conclusion

Through the review of previous studies and the theoretical background of multiphase screw pumps, it becomes clear that the evolution of analytical and experimental models has been crucial for improving pump performance and increasing reliability in oil and gas applications.

The Leistritz L4 pump stands out as an advanced example of these concepts, combining high-efficiency mechanical design with integrated auxiliary systems that ensure stable operation and accurate measurement.

This theoretical and conceptual framework lays the groundwork for the following chapter, which focuses on the experimental study and the analysis of test results, thereby strengthening the link between theoretical understanding and practical evaluation of pump efficiency.

*Experimental Results
and Efficiency Analysis
of the Multiphase Pump*

I. Introduction

This chapter presents and analyzes the experimental results obtained from the testing of a multiphase screw pump under real operating conditions. The primary objective is to evaluate the actual performance of the Leistritz L4 pump and compare it with its theoretical expectations by focusing on two key indicators of efficiency: volumetric efficiency and mechanical efficiency.

Volumetric efficiency reflects the capability of the pump to deliver the expected flow rate relative to its theoretical design, thereby quantifying the impact of internal leakages and phase interactions within the multiphase mixture. In contrast, mechanical efficiency measures the conversion of electrical input power into useful hydraulic power, providing insights into energy losses caused by friction, turbulence, and thermal effects.

The experimental campaign was conducted over two consecutive days using a multiphase flow meter and the pump control system. Parameters such as gas volume fraction (GVF), water-cut, inlet and outlet pressures, differential pressure, motor power consumption, and fluid flow rates were monitored and analyzed. These datasets serve as the foundation for calculating pump efficiencies and assessing performance under varying operating conditions.

By systematically presenting the results from the flow meter, the pump system, and the subsequent efficiency calculations, this chapter aims to highlight the interplay between gas–liquid compositions, thermodynamic conditions, and pump operation. The findings not only validate the experimental approach but also provide a deeper understanding of the limitations and challenges associated with multiphase pump performance in practical applications.

II. Theoretical Equations for Efficiency Calculation

One of the most crucial metrics for assessing multiphase screw pump performance is efficiency. It can be computed using the following relations and is typically classified into two primary types: mechanical efficiency and volumetric efficiency.

II.1. Volumetric Efficiency

The ratio of the actual discharge flow rate to the theoretical flow rate anticipated from the pump design is known as volumetric efficiency. The formula for it is:

$$\eta_{\text{vol}} = \frac{Q_{\text{actual}}}{Q_{\text{theoretical}}} \quad (\text{III.1})$$

Where:

Q_{actual} : actual discharge flow rate measured by the multiphase flow meter.

$Q_{\text{theoretical}} = V_g \times n$: theoretical pump flow rate, where:

V_g : displacement volume per revolution.

n : rotational speed (in rps or rpm).

Internal leaks or surface wear are the main causes of volumetric efficiency declines because they lower the effective displaced volume relative to the theoretical value.

II.2. Mechanical Efficiency

The ratio of the motor's electrical power consumption to the fluid's useable hydraulic power is known as mechanical efficiency. It is said as follows:

where:

$$\eta_{\text{mech}} = \frac{P_{\text{electrical}}}{P_{\text{actual}}} \quad (\text{III.2})$$

$$P_{\text{actual}} = \Delta P \times Q_{\text{actual}} \quad (\text{III.3})$$

Hydraulic power transferred to the fluid, with:

ΔP : pressure difference between inlet and outlet.

Q_{actual} : actual discharge flow rate.

$P_{\text{electrical}}$: electrical power that the motor draws, as determined by the VFD.

The main factors affecting mechanical efficiency are the difference between the electrical power used by the motor and the useful hydraulic power supplied to the fluid, as well as losses resulting from friction in the bearings and seals.

III. Results and discussion

III.1. Scenario I - Flow Meter Results

In addition to the standard flow rate (Q_{standard}), the multiphase flow meter supplied real-time data on the overall flow rate and the distribution of the three phases (gas, water, and oil) during the two days of operation that made up the experimental testing. Since the first-day dataset was more representative and more stable than the second-day sample, it was chosen for in-depth examination. A sample of the recorded values is shown in Table (III.1), which also displays the fluid's gas, water, and oil fractions as well as the real-time total flow rate (Q_{actual}). For comparison, the standard flow rate (Q_{standard}) is also provided.

III.1.1 Interpretation of Results

III.1.1.1 Stability of Total Flow Rate

The recorded data indicate that the total flow rate (Q_{actual}) remains relatively stable over the measurement periods, with fluctuations mainly caused by variations in the gas flow rate. This is confirmed by the time-series plots, where the gas fraction (GVF) dominates the flow composition, consistently exceeding 80–90%. Such dominance of the gas phase explains why minor perturbations in GVF significantly influence the total flow rate stability.

III.1.1.2. Oil and Water Contributions

The oil flow rate shows small oscillations around 15–24 m³/h in the first dataset and around 10–13 m³/h in the second dataset, while the water fraction remains extremely low (typically below 0.5%). This demonstrates that the system is gas–oil dominated with negligible water production, which is also reflected in the very low water-cut values (< 1% in most cases). Thus, oil flow remains a minor component compared to gas flow, and water contribution is almost negligible in volumetric terms.

III.1.1.3. Gas Volume Fraction (GVF) Behavior

The GVF consistently exceeds 85–90%, confirming a highly gas-rich multiphase flow. The plots show that while GVF is relatively steady, occasional dips coincide with increases in liquid flow rate, suggesting transient interactions in phase distribution. This highlights the sensitivity of multiphase systems to small compositional changes, even when the overall dominance of gas remains.

III.1.1.4. Comparison Between Standard and Actual Flow Rates

The discrepancy between (Q_{actual}) and (Q_{standard}) emphasizes the role of thermodynamic conditions (pressure and temperature). At higher operating pressures, the actual volumetric flow is greater than the normalized (standard) values. This confirms that gas compressibility effects must be corrected using standard conditions when reporting flow rates for performance evaluation and efficiency analysis.

III.1.1.5. Water-Cut and Flow Instabilities

Although water-cut values remain low, the plots indicate that spikes in water-cut correspond to sharp fluctuations in the liquid flow curve. These spikes, while small in magnitude, could impact sensor accuracy and must be carefully considered when interpreting volumetric efficiency.

III.1.1.6. Implications for Volumetric Efficiency

By using the relation in Eq.III.1, the measured Q_{actual} provides a solid basis to estimate efficiency. Given the relative stability of the total flow, n_{vol} is expected to remain steady, with deviations mostly linked to GVF fluctuations and compressibility corrections. This confirms that volumetric efficiency assessment must consider both standardization of gas flow and transient multiphase behavior.

III.1.2. Results Overview

The experimental results show that the system is gas-dominated with oil as a secondary phase and negligible water contribution. The total flow rate remains stable, though sensitive to GVF variations. Discrepancies between actual and standard flow highlight the importance of pressure and temperature corrections. Finally, volumetric efficiency analysis based on these datasets will provide a realistic performance indicator, aligning theoretical expectations with actual operating behavior.

Table III. 1: Recorded multiphase flow data on **10.07.2025** under actual and standard conditions, including oil, water, and gas fractions, water-cut, GVF, and total flow rate.

		Q - Actual Cond.							Q - Standard Cond.						
Date	Time	Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GVF	Qtotat	Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GOR	Qtotat
dd.mm.yy	hh:mm	m3/h	m3/h	m3/h	m3/h	%	%	m3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/d	%	SCFT/STE	Sm3/h
10.07.25	10:55	23,70974	0,001186	23,71092	126,3191	0,005	84,19588	150,0301	20,18498	0,001178	20,18616	88811,1	0,005834	1029,311	3720,649
10.07.25	11:10	20,71586	0,001036	20,71689	135,86	0,005	86,76888	156,5769	17,57206	0,001028	17,57308	91909,05	0,005852	1223,611	3847,117
10.07.25	11:25	18,46242	0,000923	18,46334	149,4811	0,005	89,00628	167,9445	15,63099	0,000916	15,63191	97210,91	0,005861	1454,91	4066,087
10.07.25	11:40	20,36128	0,001018	20,3623	176,8605	0,005	89,67549	197,2228	17,24531	0,00101	17,24632	110619,5	0,005857	1500,612	4626,394
10.07.25	11:55	16,25147	0,000813	16,25228	165,3131	0,005	91,0488	181,5654	13,74544	0,000806	13,74624	101503	0,005864	1727,539	4243,038
10.07.25	12:10	18,67934	0,000934	18,68028	165,49	0,005	89,85706	184,1703	15,78589	0,000926	15,78681	103105,3	0,005867	1527,986	4311,839
10.07.25	12:25	17,82763	0,000891	17,82853	165,8533	0,005	90,2938	183,6818	15,05434	0,000884	15,05522	102283,3	0,00587	1589,464	4276,858
10.07.25	12:40	16,49141	0,000825	16,49224	162,5254	0,005	90,78737	179,0176	13,9155	0,000817	13,91632	99345,45	0,005874	1670,155	4153,311
10.07.25	12:55	17,22459	0,000861	17,22545	166,1631	0,005	90,60713	183,3886	14,52678	0,000854	14,52763	100952,7	0,005875	1625,759	4220,889
10.07.25	13:10	17,2218	0,000861	17,22266	166,7834	0,005	90,64017	184,0061	14,52086	0,000853	14,52171	100806,7	0,005876	1624,07	4214,8
10.07.25	13:25	17,25808	0,029028	17,28711	163,8832	0,167919	90,45809	181,1703	14,54665	0,028762	14,57541	99213,16	0,197331	1595,563	4148,457
10.07.25	13:40	16,50435	0,172961	16,67731	164,7999	1,037102	90,81024	181,4772	13,90485	0,17135	14,0762	98702,03	1,217305	1660,609	4126,661
10.07.25	13:55	17,45737	0,403102	17,86047	165,3863	2,256951	90,25333	183,2468	14,70487	0,399287	15,10416	98995,02	2,643557	1574,925	4139,896
10.07.25	14:10	18,22127	0,579446	18,80072	166,2149	3,082041	89,8383	185,0156	15,34325	0,573904	15,91715	99871,89	3,605571	1522,767	4177,246
10.07.25	14:25	16,3326	0,393838	16,72644	166,02	2,354581	90,84719	182,7464	13,74628	0,39007	14,13635	98845,47	2,759341	1682,206	4132,697
10.07.25	14:40	15,80759	0,038861	15,84645	160,8642	0,245233	91,03254	176,7106	13,29158	0,038485	13,33007	96598,9	0,288706	1700,212	4038,284
10.07.25	14:55	14,66617	0,140539	14,80671	140,1774	0,949154	90,44631	154,9841	12,31546	0,139162	12,45462	86460,08	1,117355	1642,376	3614,958
10.07.25	15:10	11,25897	0,528687	11,78765	129,7236	4,485094	91,67016	141,5113	9,439485	0,523516	9,963001	79853,25	5,254605	1979,028	3337,182
10.07.25	15:25	14,48539	0,446389	14,93177	133,2662	2,989521	89,92444	148,1979	12,13416	0,441961	12,57612	85148,13	3,514289	1641,621	3560,415

Q - Standard Cond GOR1.							M - Actual Cond.										
Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GOR	Qtotat	Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GVF	Qtotat	Flow Pres	Flow Tem	DP-Venturi	FEB Temperature
Sm3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/d	%	SCFT/STE	Sm3/h	kg/h	kg/h	kg/h	kg/s	%	%	kg/s	BarG	DegC	mBar	DegC
20,18498	0,001178	20,18616	66506,64	0,005834	770,8045	2791,296	18372,29	1,445714	18373,73	0,72266	0,007868	12,40307	5,826461	21,04181	40,38226	452,2142	46,87823105
17,57206	0,001028	17,57308	72407,05	0,005852	963,9752	3034,533	16022,82	1,261804	16024,08	0,833154	0,007874	15,76667	5,284276	21,47743	42,65019	427,5932	47,39482498
15,63099	0,000916	15,63191	79865,71	0,005861	1195,313	3343,37	14266,04	1,123823	14267,16	0,977235	0,007877	19,78079	4,940325	21,65005	43,73495	436,8379	47,91698074
17,24531	0,00101	17,24632	91772,38	0,005857	1244,94	3841,095	15586,92	1,238917	15588,16	1,123133	0,007948	20,59599	5,453166	21,04629	44,57286	549,0343	48,42375183
13,74544	0,000806	13,74624	86442,63	0,005864	1471,218	3615,523	12388,11	0,988473	12389,1	1,058972	0,007979	23,53074	4,50038	21,2644	45,28126	420,9552	48,89593887
15,78589	0,000926	15,78681	85883,69	0,005867	1272,768	3594,274	14232,48	1,135658	14233,61	1,052125	0,007979	21,01772	5,005895	21,15762	46,10514	472,0121	49,34843826
15,05434	0,000884	15,05522	85891,52	0,00587	1334,739	3593,868	13577,89	1,083517	13578,97	1,052221	0,007979	21,81154	4,824147	21,16212	46,76361	454,5078	49,82024384
13,9155	0,000817	13,91632	84206,21	0,005874	1415,64	3522,508	12555,22	1,00202	12556,22	1,031575	0,00798	22,82546	4,519404	21,20991	47,31335	416,141	50,26104355
14,52678	0,000854	14,52763	85241,23	0,005875	1372,739	3566,245	13109,64	1,046177	13110,68	1,044254	0,00798	22,28408	4,6861	21,04941	48,02077	440,7646	50,62670135
14,52086	0,000853	14,52171	85144,91	0,005876	1371,747	3562,226	13105,7	1,045822	13106,75	1,043074	0,007979	22,2697	4,683827	20,97128	48,37666	441,7461	50,9535408
14,54665	0,028762	14,57541	83552,05	0,197331	1343,698	3495,911	13130,95	35,24709	13166,2	1,023561	0,267709	21,86709	4,680829	20,9647	48,6826	434,7045	51,291008
13,90485	0,17135	14,0762	83758,02	1,217305	1409,184	3503,994	12554,33	209,9702	12764,3	1,026084	1,644981	22,4442	4,571712	20,93082	49,12537	425,3809	51,60579681
14,70487	0,399287	15,10416	83280,65	2,643557	1324,923	3485,131	13277,61	489,2327	13766,85	1,020236	3,553702	21,06034	4,844349	20,76818	49,6136	454,3015	51,86100769
15,34325	0,573904	15,91715	83504,55	3,605571	1273,211	3495,273	13856,13	703,1402	14559,27	1,022979	4,829503	20,18822	5,067209	20,7439	49,95353	476,7327	52,18006897
13,74628	0,39007	14,13635	84116,87	2,759341	1431,546	3519,006	12416,98	477,9084	12894,89	1,03048	3,706186	22,3416	4,612383	20,92722	49,9866	432,0887	52,6006279
13,29158	0,038485	13,33007	82293,27	0,288706	1448,422	3442,216	12011,94	47,14759	12059,09	1,00814	0,390971	23,13375	4,357878	21,15189	50,32218	396,8718	52,99343491
12,31546	0,139162	12,45462	73067,73	1,117355	1387,978	3056,943	11137,22	170,4748	11307,69	0,895122	1,5076	22,17768	4,036139	21,59549	50,52088	326,0448	53,34232712
9,439485	0,523516	9,963001	69453,5	5,254605	1721,288	2903,859	8543,165	641,316	9184,481	0,850846	6,982605	25,00955	3,402083	22,17517	50,71973	253,5422	53,7339592
12,13416	0,441961	12,57612	71746,85	3,514289	1383,25	3002,028	10986,49	541,3614	11527,85	0,878941	4,696119	21,5368	4,081111	22,32287	51,09483	316,7325	54,16236115

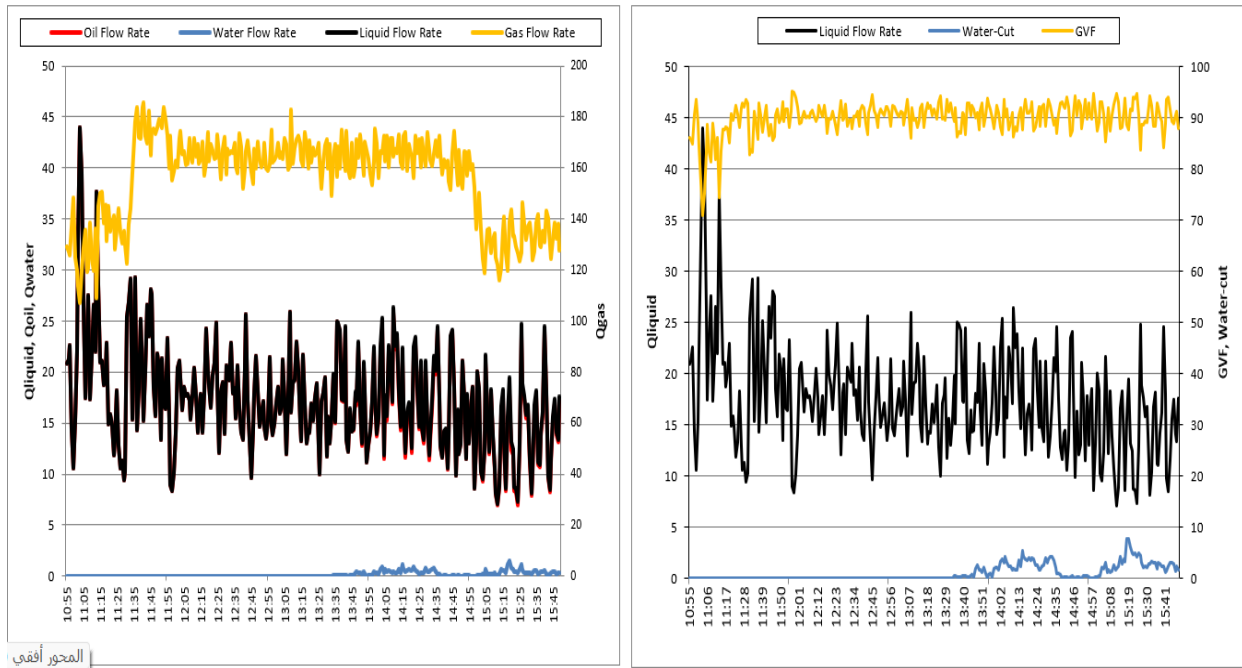


Figure III. 1: Time-series profiles of oil, water, liquid, and gas flow rates on **10.07.2025** under actual operating conditions.

Table III. 2: Recorded multiphase flow data on **11.07.2025** under actual and standard conditions, including oil, water, and gas fractions, water-cut, GVF, and total flow rate.

Date	Time	Q - Actual Cond.						Q - Standard Cond.							
		Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GVF	Qtotal	Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GOR	Qtotal
dd.mm.yy	hh:mm	m3/h	m3/h	m3/h	m3/h	%	%	m3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/h	Sm3/d	%	SCFT/STE	Sm3/h
11.07.25	10:00	10,05929	0,130548	10,18984	109,2759	1,28116	91,4705	119,4657	8,535325	0,129647	8,664971	69058,16	1,496215	1892,79	2886,088
11.07.25	10:15	8,855059	0,134465	8,989524	94,55346	1,495799	91,31808	103,543	7,490027	0,133458	7,623485	62827,74	1,750617	1962,346	2625,446
11.07.25	10:30	10,86062	0,122361	10,98298	101,3051	1,114099	90,21893	112,2881	9,155499	0,121394	9,276893	67551,77	1,308561	1726,086	2823,934
11.07.25	10:45	19,72049	0,060679	19,78117	132,5229	0,306752	87,01205	152,3041	16,60779	0,060166	16,66796	91976,59	0,360968	1295,606	3849,026
11.07.25	11:00	12,06858	0,2171	12,28568	133,0202	1,7671	91,54495	145,3059	10,14435	0,215197	10,35955	85307,38	2,077286	1967,298	3564,834
11.07.25	11:15	17,07039	0,143051	17,21344	132,9716	0,831044	88,53851	150,185	14,33605	0,141751	14,4778	89174,42	0,979092	1455,185	3730,079
11.07.25	11:30	13,25526	0,162895	13,41815	112,6289	1,21399	89,35465	126,0471	11,10544	0,161359	11,2668	75384,41	1,432165	1588,011	3152,284
11.07.25	11:45	6,277688	0,041665	6,319353	78,3136	0,659328	92,53323	84,63295	5,241446	0,04126	5,282707	51088,84	0,781048	2280,25	2133,984
11.07.25	12:00	11,51915	0,148623	11,66777	95,91441	1,27379	89,15456	107,5822	9,601374	0,147122	9,748495	66548,22	1,509173	1621,477	2782,591
11.07.25	12:15	11,02584	0,114847	11,14068	96,14867	1,030876	89,61622	107,2894	9,173328	0,11365	9,286979	66724,18	1,223758	1701,625	2789,461
11.07.25	12:30	10,06798	0,096236	10,16422	95,53537	0,946813	90,38387	105,6996	8,36159	0,095207	8,456798	66050,97	1,125803	1847,983	2760,58
11.07.25	12:45	10,08181	0,133455	10,21526	97,05608	1,30643	90,47717	107,2713	8,367372	0,132022	8,499393	67415,73	1,553308	1884,863	2817,489
11.07.25	13:00	13,18711	0,131319	13,31843	100,4622	0,985994	88,29464	113,7806	10,9315	0,129878	11,06138	72560,18	1,174157	1552,838	3034,402
11.07.25	13:15	10,05614	0,188152	10,24429	100,1372	1,836654	90,7192	110,3815	8,323871	0,186041	8,509912	69797,42	2,186171	1961,651	2916,736
11.07.25	13:30	11,94999	0,249255	12,19924	102,4189	2,043198	89,35663	114,6182	9,885175	0,246424	10,1316	73009,52	2,432236	1727,837	3052,195
11.07.25	13:45	12,14701	0,267173	12,41418	103,926	2,152158	89,32941	116,3402	10,04539	0,264131	10,30952	74248,94	2,562012	1729,144	3104,015
11.07.25	14:00	11,38481	0,235992	11,6208	104,0988	2,030771	89,95779	115,7196	9,408857	0,23328	9,642138	73784,85	2,419384	1834,585	3084,011
11.07.25	14:15	9,705093	0,135577	9,840671	100,6338	1,377722	91,09236	110,4744	8,011742	0,133987	8,145729	70058,09	1,644876	2045,686	2927,233
11.07.25	14:30	13,71975	0,078364	13,79812	102,5826	0,567931	88,14398	116,3807	11,33067	0,077444	11,40812	74801,09	0,678853	1544,4	3128,121
11.07.25	14:45	12,52162	0,103261	12,62488	103,7711	0,817915	89,15351	116,396	10,33681	0,102045	10,43886	74493,2	0,977549	1685,922	3114,322

Experimental Results and Efficiency Analysis of the Multiphase Pump

Q - Standard Cond GOR1.								M - Actual Cond.											
Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GOR	Qtotal		Oil Flow	Water Flo	Liquid Flo	Gas Flow	Water-Cut	GVF	Qtotal		Flow Pres	Flow Tem	DP-Ventur	FEB Temperature
Sm ³ /h	Sm ³ /h	Sm ³ /h	Sm ³ /d	%	SCFT/STE	Sm ³ /h		kg/h	kg/h	kg/h	kg/s	%	%	kg/s		BarG	DegC	mBar	DegC
8,535325	0,129647	8,664971	59456,49	1,496215	1629,622	2486,019		7681,438	159,1107	7840,549	0,728376	2,029331	25,06198	2,906301		21,85261	41,45992	183,5854	49,23770905
7,490027	0,133458	7,623485	54379,78	1,750617	1698,485	2273,448		6750,936	163,7278	6914,663	0,666184	2,367835	25,75203	2,586918		23,52381	43,44515	152,2294	49,73458099
9,155499	0,121394	9,276893	57100,46	1,308561	1459,033	2388,463		8265,757	148,888	8414,645	0,699514	1,769391	23,03375	3,036909		22,9156	44,72978	183,3755	50,19826126
16,60779	0,060166	16,66796	73261,63	0,360968	1031,983	3069,236		15000,21	73,76693	15073,98	0,897497	0,489366	17,65093	5,084703		22,55506	46,25666	402,7415	50,66854095
10,14435	0,215197	10,35955	73866,13	2,077286	1703,448	3088,115		9170,724	263,7924	9434,516	0,904903	2,796036	25,66668	3,525594		22,75148	47,44238	269,7448	51,22451019
14,33605	0,141751	14,4778	73103,38	0,979092	1192,931	3060,452		12965,22	173,7245	13138,95	0,895559	1,32221	19,70315	4,545256		22,5931	48,44428	355,0501	51,80364609
11,10544	0,161359	11,2668	62849,31	1,432165	1323,953	2629,988		10055,14	197,7123	10252,85	0,769941	1,928364	21,28114	3,617947		23,04058	49,51995	240,7727	52,39211655
5,241446	0,04126	5,282707	45079,19	0,781048	2012,021	1883,582		4753,715	50,54688	4804,262	0,552246	1,052126	29,26956	1,88676		23,85272	50,75313	83,2903	52,95465088
9,601374	0,147122	9,748495	55520,03	1,509173	1352,77	2323,083		8714,936	180,1892	8895,125	0,680153	2,025707	21,5852	3,151014		24,04147	51,69741	180,2662	53,5019455
9,173328	0,11365	9,286979	56153,59	1,223758	1432,05	2349,02		8333,653	139,1657	8472,819	0,687914	1,642496	22,61783	3,041468		24,34132	52,72428	174,6052	54,00704575
8,36159	0,095207	8,456798	56369,93	1,125803	1577,125	2357,204		7602,618	116,5609	7719,179	0,690564	1,510016	24,36047	2,834775		24,66079	53,57204	160,196	54,53125
8,367372	0,132022	8,499393	57687,24	1,553308	1612,866	2412,135		7610,406	161,6282	7772,034	0,706702	2,079612	24,66162	2,865594		24,84465	53,71915	163,1787	54,92090225
10,9315	0,129878	11,06138	59848,45	1,174157	1280,798	2504,747		9948,099	158,9797	10107,08	0,733178	1,572954	20,7072	3,540692		24,95916	54,46453	213,767	55,11558914
8,323871	0,186041	8,509912	60079,84	2,186171	1688,539	2511,837		7580,299	227,6907	7807,99	0,736013	2,916125	25,33701	2,904893		25,19532	55,21056	168,7619	55,35465622
9,885175	0,246424	10,1316	61474,84	2,432236	1454,858	2571,583		9004,769	301,5654	9306,334	0,753102	3,240432	22,56022	3,338188		25,24288	55,66833	201,1927	55,61632156
10,04539	0,264131	10,30952	62515,13	2,562012	1455,881	2615,107		9151,913	323,228	9475,141	0,765847	3,411327	22,53933	3,397823		25,3055	55,76673	208,6535	55,88298798
9,408857	0,23328	9,642138	62780,38	2,419384	1560,97	2625,491		8574,645	285,455	8860,1	0,769096	3,221804	23,80934	3,230228		25,39896	56,1249	197,0443	56,10378265
8,011742	0,133987	8,145729	60697,86	1,644876	1772,368	2537,223		7305,112	163,9287	7469,041	0,743584	2,194776	26,38402	2,818312		25,47388	56,98364	165,2106	56,39184189
11,33067	0,077444	11,40812	61608,2	0,678853	1272,01	2578,417		10329,19	94,75015	10423,94	0,754736	0,908967	20,6762	3,650266		25,35757	56,86979	227,4653	56,71447754
10,33681	0,102045	10,43886	62435,44	0,977549	1413,032	2611,916		9425,065	124,8448	9549,91	0,76487	1,307287	22,38023	3,417616		25,41649	57,06838	210,5385	56,94100571

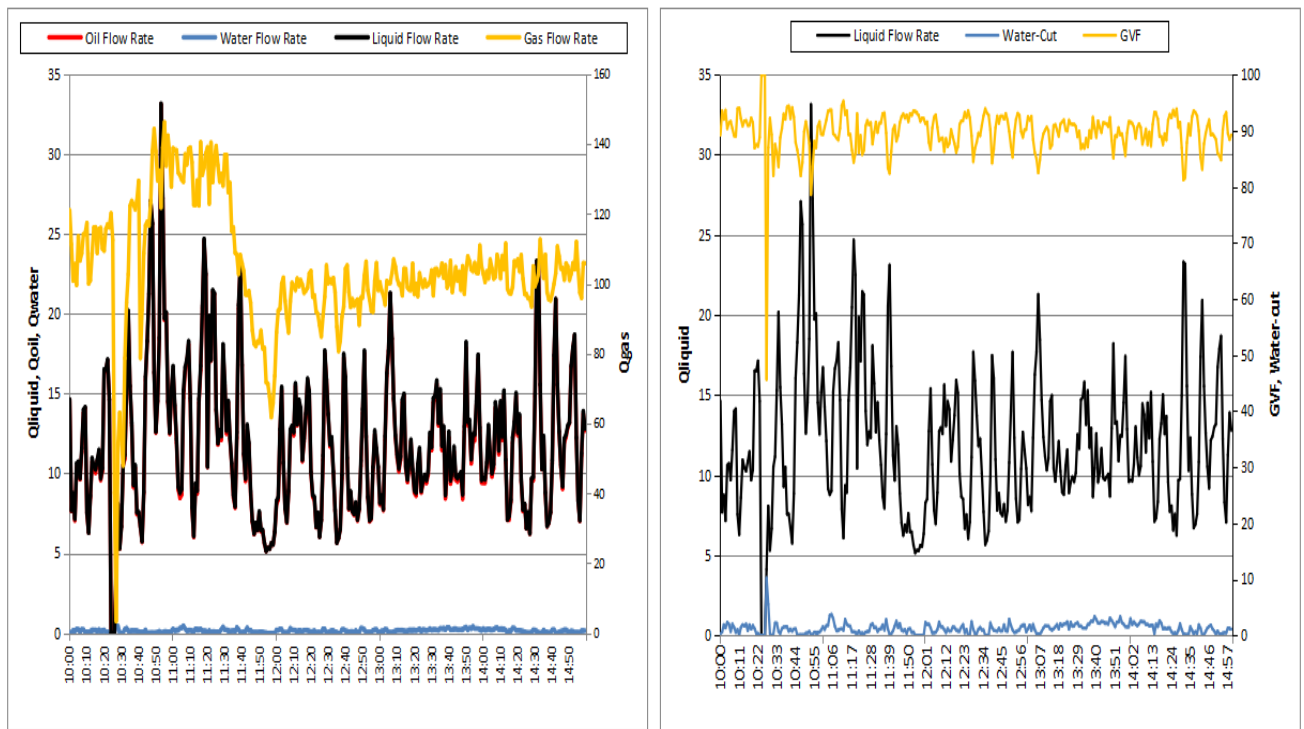


Figure III. 2: Time-series profiles of oil, water, liquid, and gas flow rates on 11.07.2025 under actual operating conditions.

Experiments conducted on the multiphase flow meter are documented practically, allowing the researcher to observe the device's many stages of operation and real-time measurement monitoring.

These images demonstrate the precision of the data collection and the active participation in the experimental effort.

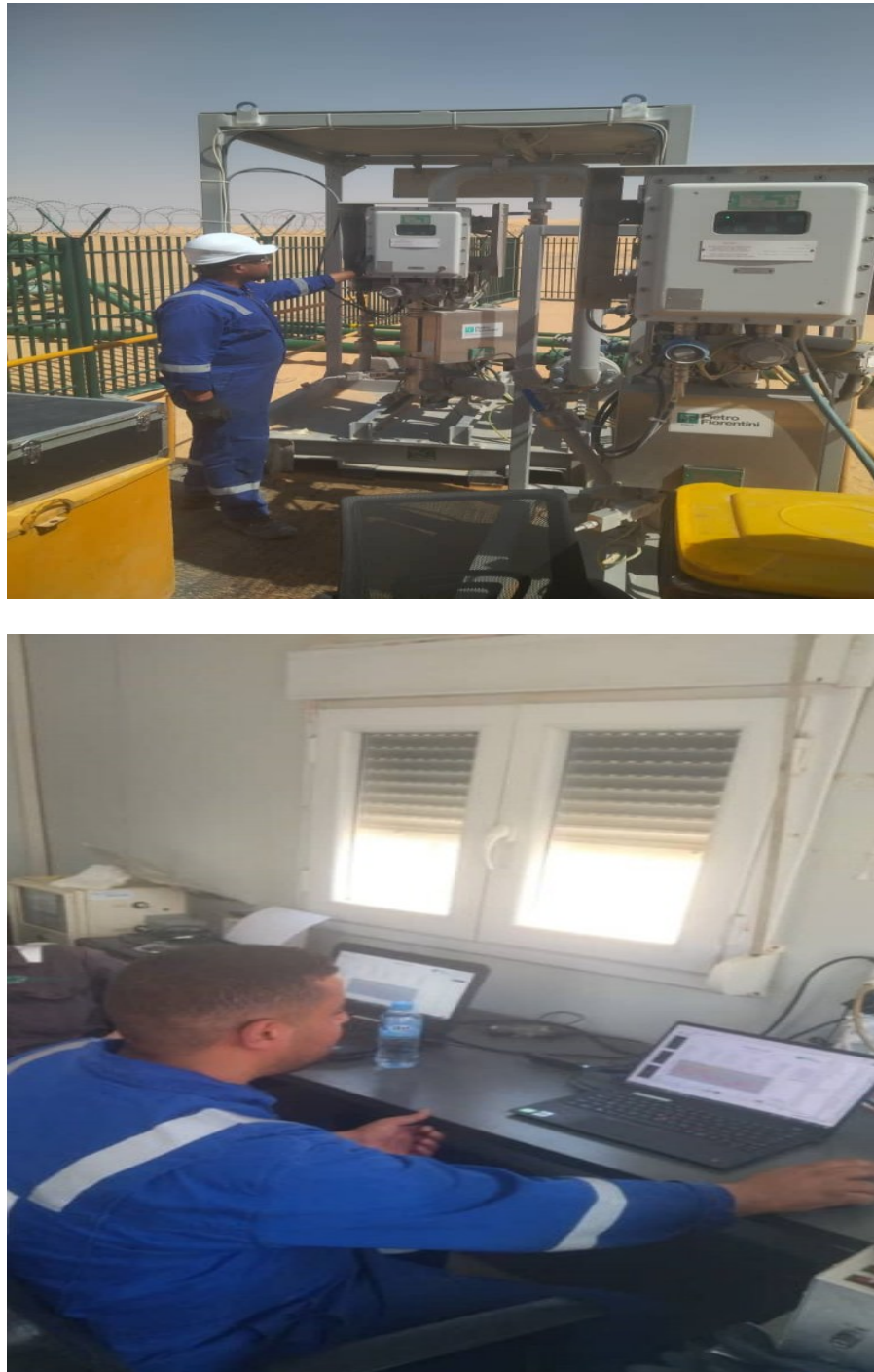


Figure III. 3. Experimental setup and monitoring of the multiphase flow meter during field testing

The images illustrate both the on-site experimental setup of the multiphase flow meter and the real-time monitoring process in the control room. The first image shows the field installation, where the researcher interacts directly with the flow meter to verify operational conditions. The second image

demonstrates the data acquisition stage, where measurements are processed and analyzed using specialized software. Together, these photos highlight the practical implementation of the test campaign and confirm the reliability and precision of the recorded data through continuous observation and researcher involvement.

III.2. Scenario II - Pump System Results

The operational data were obtained directly from the pump control system, where several key variables related to pump performance were recorded in real time. These values include the inlet pressure, outlet pressure, and the differential pressure (ΔP) between them, which reflects the hydraulic load on the pump. In addition, the temperatures at both the inlet and outlet, as well as the temperature inside the pump casing, were monitored to track the thermal conditions during operation. In parallel, the system provided data on the motor rotational speed (RPM) and the electrical power consumed by the motor. All these measurements were presented as time-based curves illustrating the evolution of the variables during the test, and they were subsequently used to calculate the hydraulic power and determine the mechanical efficiency of the pump.

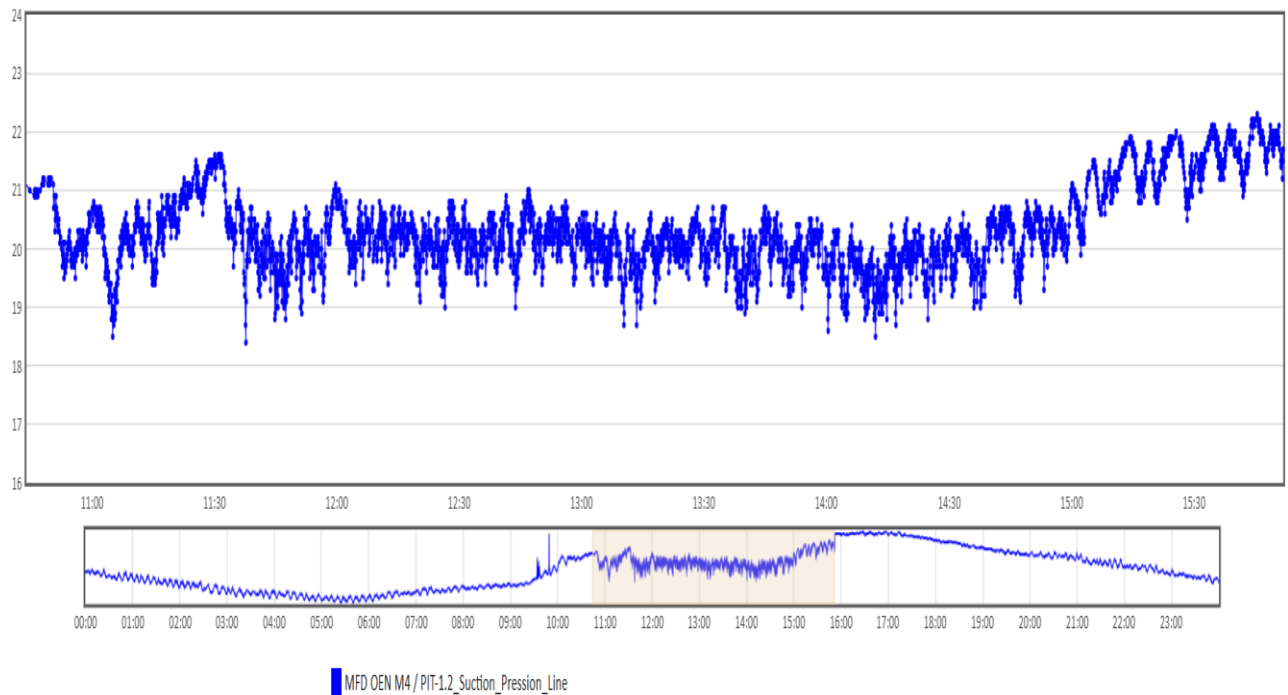


Figure III. 4. Suction Pressure Profile of the Pump System.

Time-series evolution of suction line pressure, showing moderate fluctuations around a relatively stable mean, indicating steady inlet conditions.

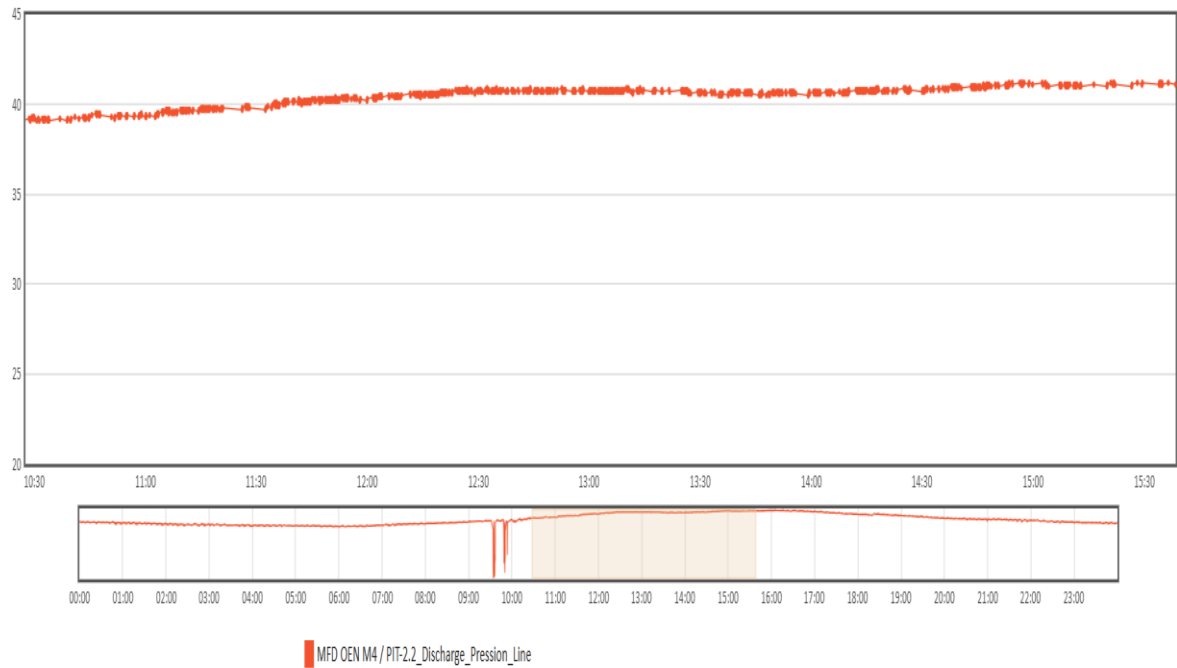


Figure III. 5. Discharge Pressure Profile of the Pump System.

Gradual increase in discharge pressure with minor oscillations, reflecting the pump's ability to maintain consistent outlet conditions under varying load.

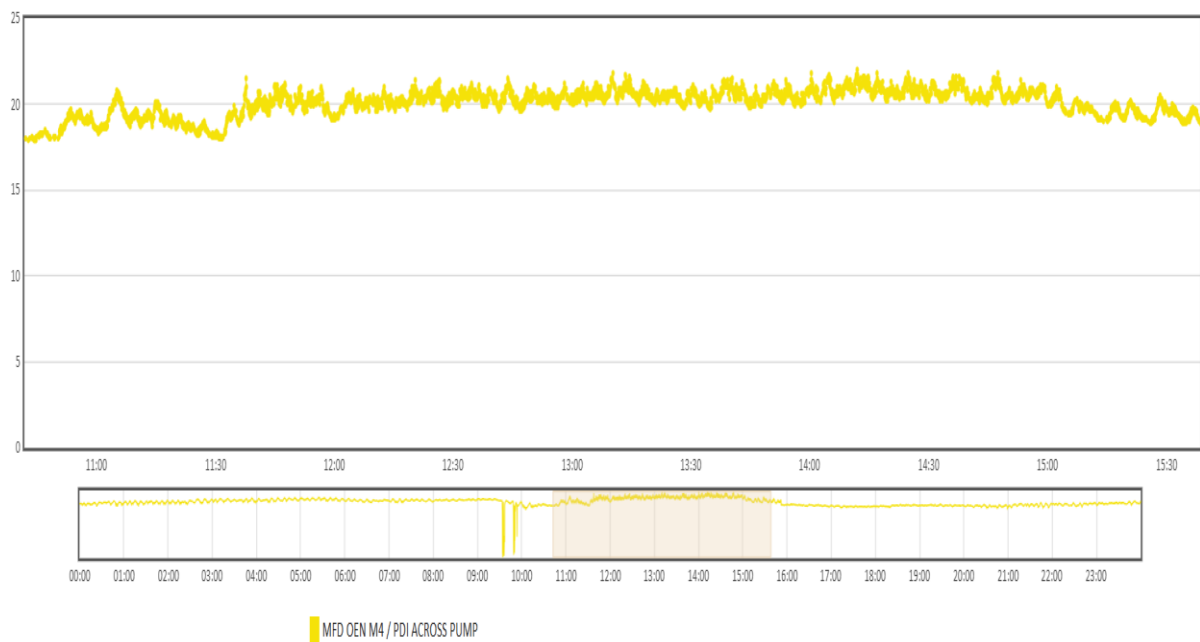


Figure III.6. Differential Pressure (ΔP) Across the Pump.

Calculated difference between suction and discharge pressures, illustrating the hydraulic load on the pump and confirming stable operating conditions.

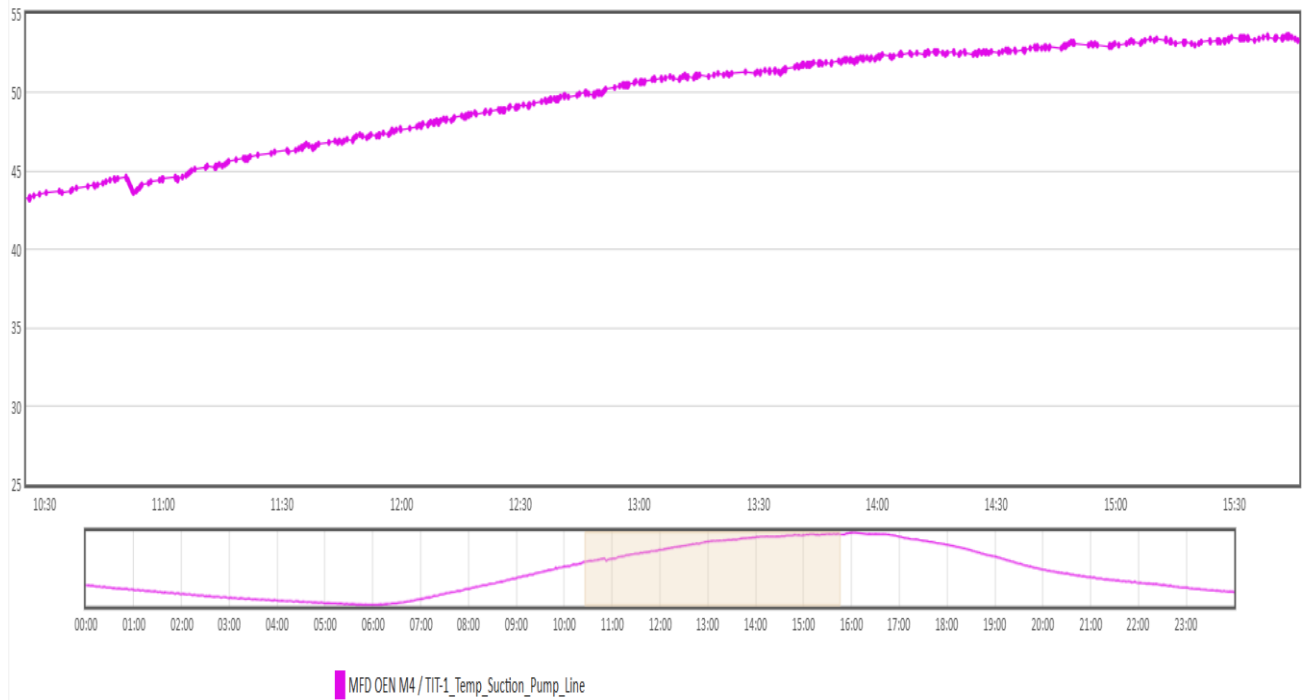


Figure III.7. Suction Line Temperature Trend.

Progressive increase in suction line temperature during operation, highlighting heat transfer effects and fluid warming before compression.

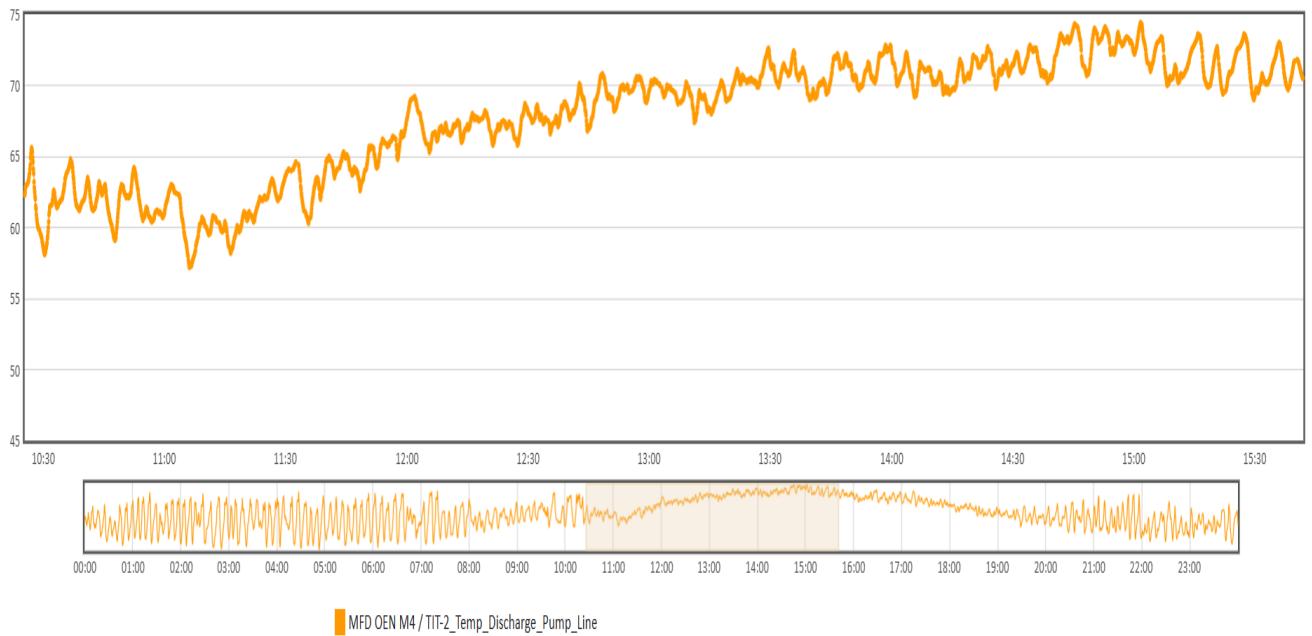


Figure III.8. Discharge Line Temperature Trend.

Discharge temperatures consistently higher than suction values, reflecting compression heating and frictional effects across the pump.

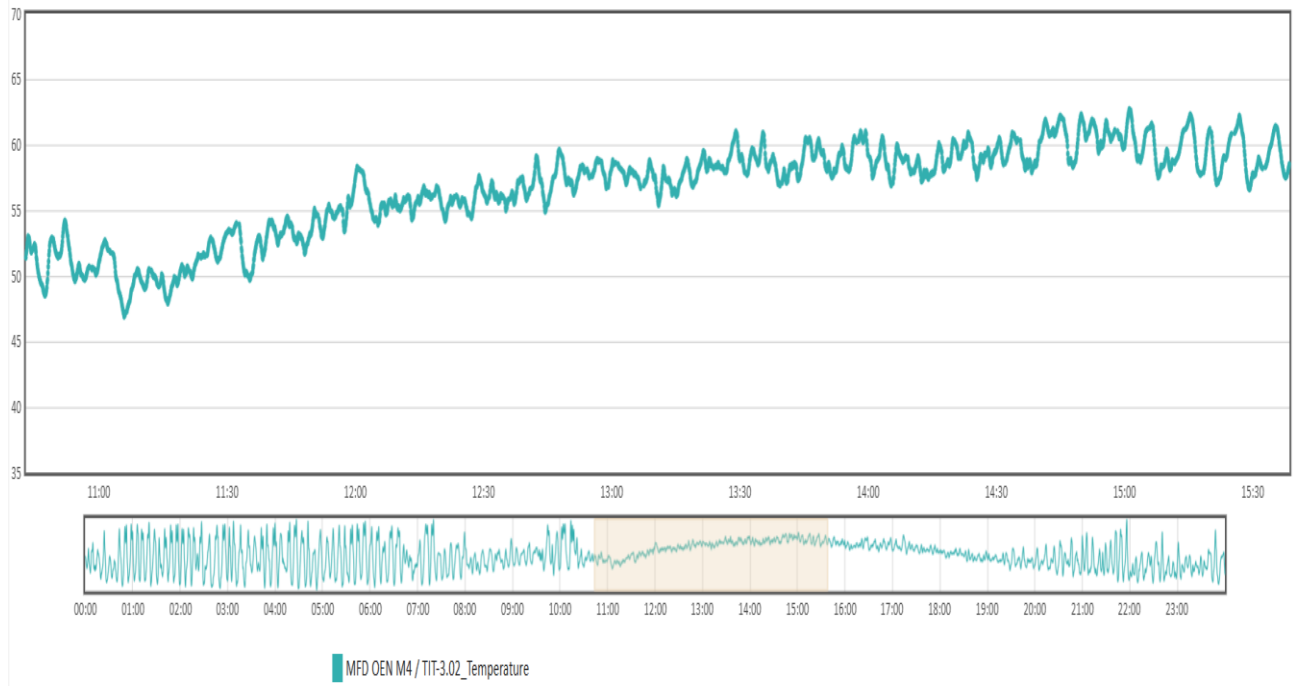


Figure III.9. Pump Casing Temperature Profile.

Monitoring of the pump body temperature, confirming gradual heating consistent with continuous operation and thermal stabilization.

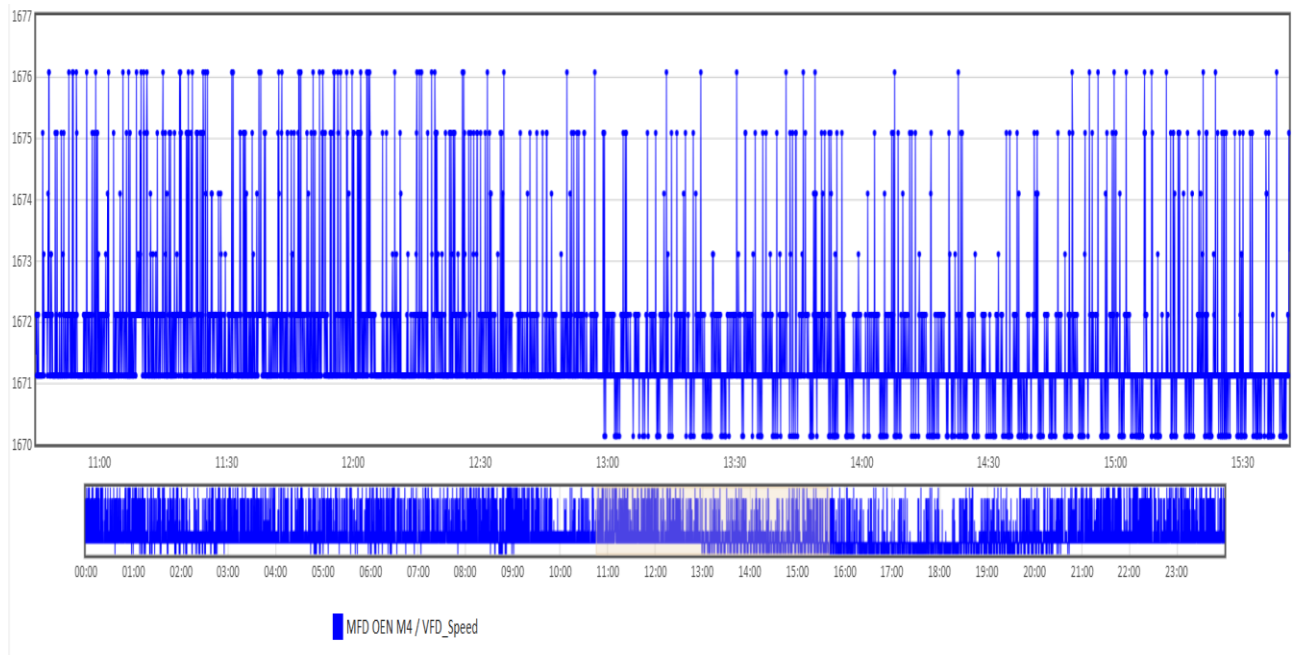


Figure III.10. Motor Rotational Speed (VFD Control).

RPM profile of the pump motor, showing nearly constant speed with minor oscillations, demonstrating effective VFD regulation

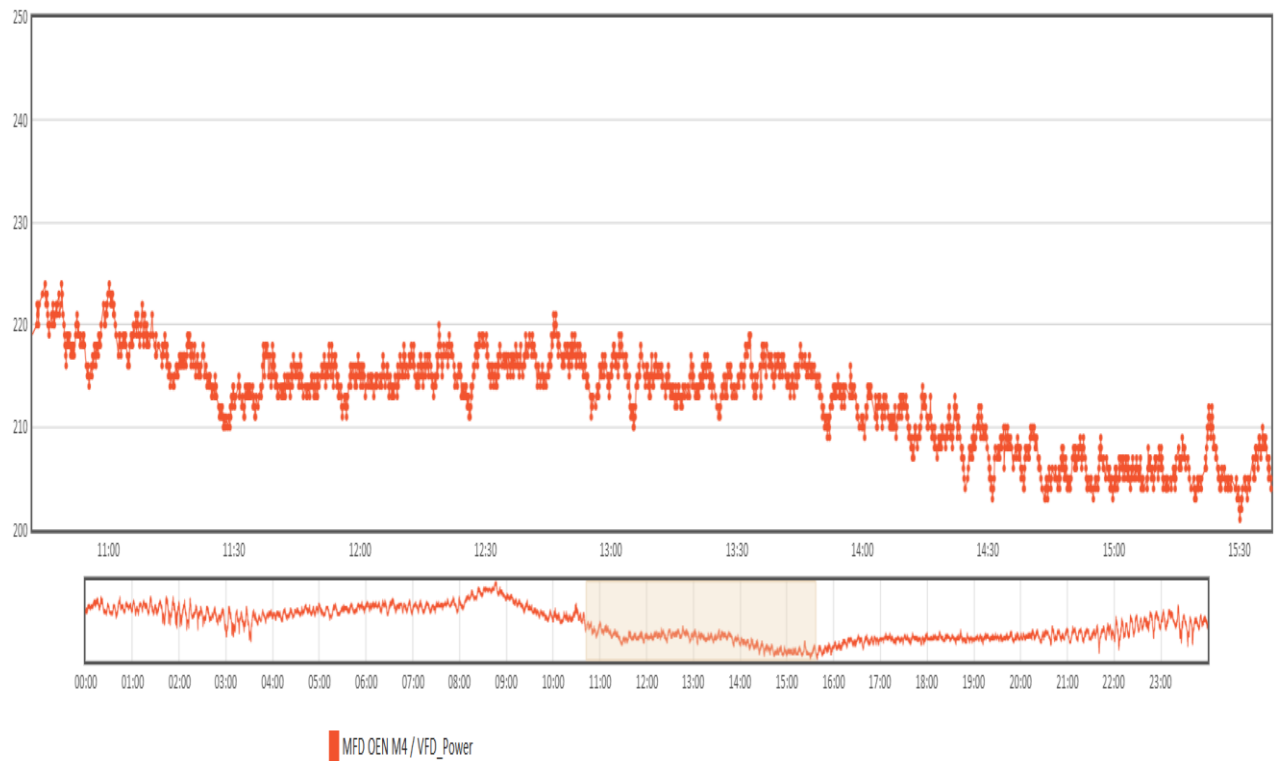


Figure III.11. Motor Power Consumption

Electrical power demand of the pump motor, showing slight downward fluctuations during the test, consistent with pressure and flow variations.

III.2.1. Evaluation of Pump System Performance

The recorded trends demonstrate stable pump operation with expected variations in hydraulic and thermal parameters. The inlet pressure fluctuated moderately, while the outlet pressure showed a more gradual increase, resulting in a relatively steady differential pressure (ΔP) that reflects the pump's hydraulic load.

The temperature profiles at the suction, discharge, and pump casing all exhibited a progressive rise over time, indicating normal heat transfer within the system and the influence of continuous operation. Among these, the discharge line temperature was consistently higher, as expected, due to compression and frictional effects.

The rotational speed (RPM) of the motor remained nearly constant with only minor oscillations, confirming the reliability of the variable frequency drive (VFD) in maintaining operational stability. In parallel, the motor power consumption exhibited small downward fluctuations, suggesting slight efficiency adjustments under varying flow and pressure conditions.

Overall, the measurements confirm that the pump was operating within stable conditions, with hydraulic power and efficiency calculations supported by the alignment between pressure, temperature, and power data. These results validate the monitoring system and provide a solid basis for evaluating the pump's mechanical efficiency.

III.3. Scenario III - Calculation of Volumetric and Mechanical Efficiency

Volumetric and Mechanical Efficiency Calculation the volumetric and mechanical efficiency of the pump were computed following the acquisition of the measured data from the flow meter and the pump control system. The theoretical flow rate ($Q_{\text{theoretical}} = V_g \times n$), which was calculated from the geometric properties of the pump and the motor rotational speed, was compared to the actual flow rate (Q_{actual}), as determined by the flow meter, in order to determine volumetric efficiency. This relationship made it possible to assess the losses brought on by internal leaks and different operational circumstances.

Regarding mechanical efficiency, the fluid's hydraulic power ($P_{\text{actual}} = \Delta P \times Q_{\text{actual}}$), which was computed using the differential pressure and actual flow rate, was compared to the motor's electrical power consumption ($P_{\text{electrical}}$), which was recorded by the VFD.

In order to analyze the differences between theoretical and real performance in the next section, the final data were condensed into tables that showed the volumetric and mechanical efficiency values under various operating situations.

The table summarizes the computed volumetric efficiency ($n_{\text{vol}} = Q_{\text{actual}} / Q_{\text{theoretical}}$) and mechanical efficiency ($n_{\text{mech}} = P_{\text{hydraulic}} / P_{\text{electrical}}$) of the pump. The results highlight the high volumetric efficiency, with values exceeding 41–54%, indicating minimal internal leakage. In contrast, the mechanical efficiency ranges between 33–43%, reflecting energy losses due to hydraulic turbulence, friction, and thermal dissipation. These values provide a comparative insight into the pump's theoretical versus actual performance.

Table III.3. Calculated volumetric and mechanical efficiencies of the pump system under different operating conditions.

Timestamp	Qtot_m3h	Qtot_m3s	GVF	Ps_bar	Dicharge Pressur Lin_bar	DP_bar
10/07/2025 10:55	149.93728637695312	0.041649246215820314	0.860570068359375	19,9	39,3	19,2
10/07/2025 11:10	146.2344970703125	0.040620693630642364	0.8524680328369141	19,7	39,6	19,7
10/07/2025 11:25	153.94203186035156	0.042761675516764325	0.8817372131347656	21,3	39,8	18,3
10/07/2025 11:40	203.936279296875	0.056648966471354166	0.9009305572509766	20,4	40,2	19,6
10/07/2025 11:55	196,4150391	0.054559733072916665	0.8813324737548828	20	40,5	20,1
10/07/2025 12:10	179.96194458007812	0.049989429050021704	0.9020825958251953	20	40,7	20,3
10/07/2025 12:25	191.76512145996094	0.05326808929443359	0.9010935974121094	20	40,8	20,8
10/07/2025 12:40	165.26919555664062	0.04590810987684462	0.9187294006347656	20	40,8	20,3
10/07/2025 12:55	174.19369506835938	0.04838713751898872	0.9126136016845703	20,1	40,7	20,3
10/07/2025 13:10	180.5991668701172	0.05016643524169922	0.8947536468505859	19,3	40,6	21,4
10/07/2025 13:25	182.4922332763672	0.05069228702121311	0.9296816253662109	19,8	40,6	20,7
10/07/2025 13:40	183.5273895263672	0.05097983042399089	0.9063856506347656	19,3	40,6	21,2
10/07/2025 13:55	176.42221069335938	0.049006169637044274	0.9270117950439453	19,7	40,8	21
10/07/2025 14:10	190.75991821289062	0.052988866170247395	0.8618193054199219	19,6	41	20,9
10/07/2025 14:25	185.78018188476562	0.051605606079101564	0.9207833099365235	19,5	41,2	21,4
10/07/2025 14:40	177.28652954101562	0.049246258205837674	0.9201201629638672	20,3	41,1	20,3
10/07/2025 14:55	179.2752685546875	0.049798685709635415	0.9272177124023437	20,7	20,3	20,3
10/07/2025 15:10	144.8652801513672	0.040240355597601994	0.9261599731445312	20,9	20	20
10/07/2025 15:25	136.3922119140625	0.037886725531684026	0.9056432342529297	21,9	19	19
10/07/2025 15:40	155.27584838867188	0.04313218010796441	0.842079849243164	21,6	19,3	19,3

RPM	N_rps	Eff_v	Power_kw	P_hydraulic_W	P_input_W	eff_mech
1672,11	27.868499999999997	0.45594666713178433	235	79966.55273437497	235000	0.3581928453947367
1672,11	27.868499999999997	0.4446867965268865	238	80022.76645236534	238000	0.3539264327835707
1671,12	27.851999999999997	0.4684020861489166	222	78253.86619567867	222000	0.37104725555087087
1922,58	32,043	0.5393607194592727	271	111031.97428385404	271000	0.4312758760297302
1930,5	32,175	0.5173377558176286	277	109665.06347656238	277000	0.41673974340323916
1872,09	31,2015	0.48879099570690493	271	101478.54097154405	271000	0.3941679587164266
1871,1	31,185	0.5211249472393044	279	110797.62573242169	279000	0.41802537533454703
1872,09	31,2015	0.448884317427809	273	93193.46304999453	273000	0.3593347331790805
1872,09	31,2015	0.4731239699426646	274	98225.88916354706	274000	0.37735647008661954
1872,09	31,2015	0.49052174227313927	288	107356.17141723628	288000	0.39238366746065895
1872,09	31,2015	0.4956634616283583	279	104933.03413391112	279000	0.39589901578536546
1871,1	31,185	0.4987387719714421	282	108077.2404988605	282000	0.40342381671840427
1872,09	31,2015	0.47917679613230074	278	102912.95623779281	278000	0.3896742000673714
1871,1	31,185	0.5183932904859481	281	110746.73029581684	281000	0.41485945044321726
1871,1	31,185	0.5048607731464921	289	110435.99700927721	289000	0.4022436605692122
1872,09	31,2015	0.4815243550628287	275	99969.90415785032	275000	0.38265992022143663
1872,09	31,2015	0.48692592885089864	271	101091.33199055986	271000	0.3926639424764415
1670,13	27.835500000000003	0.4410453793499496	241	80480.7111952038	241000	0.35152090498014327
1670,13	27.835500000000003	0.41524894564909787	228	71984.7785101996	228000	0.33233969764635085
1670,13	27.835500000000003	0.4727405723780718	232	83245.1076083713	232000	0.37770012526484253

III.3.1 Interpretation of Volumetric and Mechanical Efficiency Data

The tabulated results present the calculated volumetric efficiency (n_{vol}) and mechanical efficiency (n_{mech}) of the pump under various operating conditions.

The volumetric efficiency values remain close to unity (41 – 54%), which indicates that the pump delivers flow rates very close to the theoretical design capacity. Small deviations can be attributed to internal leakage and minor flow instabilities, but overall the pump demonstrates high volumetric performance.

The mechanical efficiency values range between 33 and 43%, showing that only about one-third of the electrical input power is effectively converted into useful hydraulic output. This relatively lower efficiency highlights the mechanical and thermal losses within the system, including friction in moving parts, hydraulic turbulence, and heat dissipation.

Comparing the two efficiencies demonstrates that while the pump displacement process is highly effective volumetrically, the conversion of electrical power to hydraulic power is less efficient. This reinforces the importance of efficiency analysis not only at the volumetric level but also in terms of energy consumption and mechanical performance.

IV. Conclusion

The analysis of the experimental data has provided valuable insights into the performance of the Leistritz L4 multiphase screw pump under realistic operating conditions. The results highlight the dominant role of the gas phase in the multiphase mixture, with gas volume fractions consistently exceeding 41–54%. This high gas content significantly influenced the stability of the total flow rate, the behavior of liquid phases, and the overall volumetric efficiency. Oil contributed as a secondary phase, while water remained negligible, confirming that the tested system was predominantly gas–oil in nature.

The comparison between actual and standard flow rates emphasized the importance of accounting for thermodynamic corrections (pressure and temperature) when evaluating pump performance. Volumetric efficiency values remained high, indicating minimal leakage and strong displacement capability. However, mechanical efficiency was substantially lower, ranging between 33–43%, reflecting notable energy losses due to hydraulic turbulence, friction in moving components, and heat dissipation.

These findings reveal a clear disparity between theoretical and actual performance, underscoring the complexity of multiphase pumping operations. While the pump demonstrates strong volumetric reliability, its mechanical efficiency is more sensitive to operating conditions and phase composition, particularly gas volume fraction.

In conclusion, the results align with trends reported in the literature and confirm that improving operating conditions—such as reducing GVF, enhancing cooling and lubrication systems, or optimizing flow regulation—can significantly improve pump performance. The experimental evaluation thus provides both validation of theoretical principles and practical guidance for enhancing the efficiency and reliability of multiphase screw pumps in field applications.

General Conclusion and Recommendations

I. General Conclusion

This study, through both theoretical analysis and experimental evaluation of the Leistritz L4 multiphase pump, has demonstrated that such technology is an effective and reliable solution for transporting oil–water–gas mixtures without the need for costly and complex surface separation facilities. The results showed that the volumetric efficiency of the pump remained within acceptable values despite large variations in the Gas Volume Fraction (GVF), while the mechanical efficiency proved relatively stable even in the presence of the mechanical and hydraulic losses inherent to multiphase flow. These findings confirm what has been reported in previous studies regarding the ability of twin-screw pumps to maintain stable pressure and flow under demanding operating conditions, reinforcing their role as one of the most suitable industrial solutions for deep-offshore fields and low-productivity wells.

Despite these satisfactory performances, the practical results highlighted certain aspects that warrant further improvement in order to enhance the reliability of the pump and extend the lifetime of its most sensitive components—particularly the mechanical seal, which is highly exposed to wear and potential failure. Among the proposals that can serve as a basis for future investigations is the possibility of re-examining the screw geometry itself by adopting modified profiles that reduce friction with the pressure chamber, or by using screws with non-uniform cavities as suggested in some recent studies; such modifications could decrease internal leakages and increase volumetric efficiency.

It is also advisable to install a high-response external safety valve located adjacent to the pump casing near the outlet or at the high-pressure zone. This valve would open automatically to relieve pressure in the event of a sudden shutdown, thereby protecting the mechanical seal from severe hydraulic shocks. Furthermore, it is recommended to program the control system so that the electric motor continues to rotate for a fraction of a second after the inlet valve has closed, allowing the screws to gradually discharge the residual pressure before coming to a complete stop—an important preventive measure to reduce sudden mechanical loads on the seal.

Adopting such improvements—whether through mechanical modifications to the screw design or through the development of enhanced protection and control systems—would significantly increase the reliability of the pump, reduce unplanned downtime, and extend the service life of

its critical components, particularly the mechanical seal. In this way, the present study paves the way for future research aimed at further improving the overall performance of twin-screw multiphase pumps, making them an even more sustainable and efficient option for oil and gas production and transport, and reinforcing their strategic importance in meeting the modern industry's technical and economic challenges.

II. Recommendations

Based on the experimental findings and the observed performance of the multiphase screw pump, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. Optimization of GVF: Limit excessive gas entrainment by adjusting operating pressures or integrating upstream separation techniques to improve both volumetric and mechanical performance.
2. Improved Cooling and Lubrication: Enhance thermal management and lubrication systems to reduce frictional losses and extend component lifetime.
3. Real-Time Monitoring and Control: Employ adaptive control systems using advanced sensors and VFD regulation to maintain optimal operating conditions.
4. Extended Testing: Conduct further experiments across a wider range of pressures, temperatures, and mixture compositions to establish a more comprehensive performance profile.
5. Field Validation: Apply the findings to industrial field conditions to verify scalability, reliability, and efficiency improvements in real operations.

In summary, while the pump demonstrates promising volumetric efficiency, addressing mechanical inefficiencies through optimized design, operational improvements, and field validation is essential for enhancing its applicability in multiphase production systems.

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