air. In such cases, due to vapor pressure difference, it is necessary to seal the surface of the insulating material against the penetration of water vapor which would condense within the material, causing a serious increase in heat flow, possible breakdown of the material, and corrosion of metal surfaces. An insulating material with a high degree of moisture absorption might pick up moisture before application and then, when

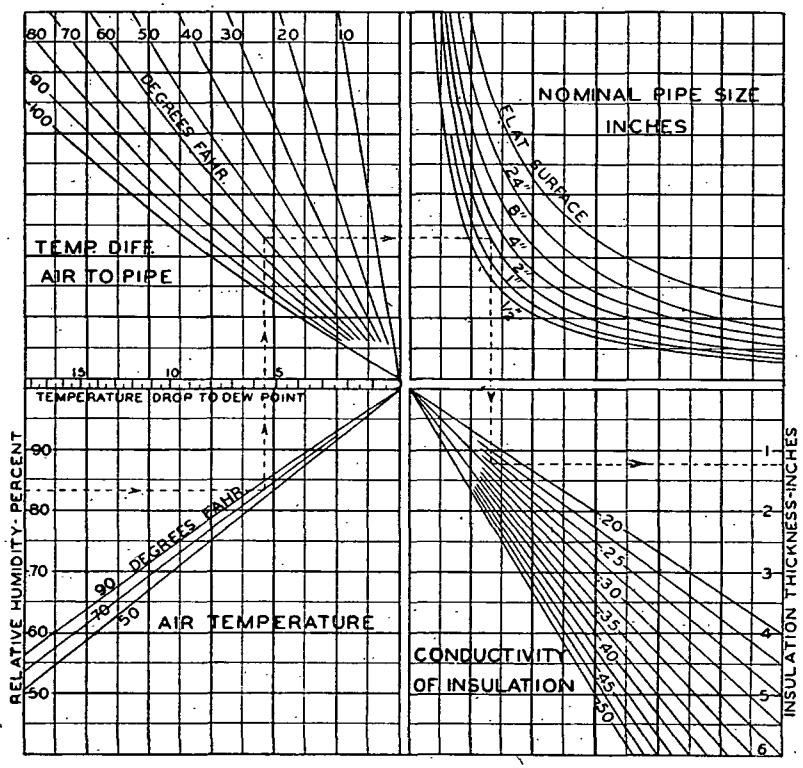


FIG. 5. THICKNESS OF PIPE INSULATION TO PREVENT SWEATING[a]

[a]Solve problems by drawing lines as indicated by dotted line, entering chart at lower left hand scale.

the seal is in place and the temperature of the insulated surface reduced, release that moisture to the cold surface.

The thickness of insulation required to prevent sweating is that thickness which will raise the temperature of the outer surface of the insulation to a point slightly higher than the dew-point for the corresponding air temperature and relative humidity. The difference in temperature between the air and the dew-point for various humidities can be readily ascertained from a psychrometric chart.

The approximate required thickness of insulation to prevent condensation on pipes and flat metallic surfaces may be obtained from Fig. 5. The maximum permissible temperature drop is indicated at the point where the guide line passes through the horizontal scale at the left center of the chart. This temperature drop represents the difference between the dry-bulb temperature and the dew-point temperature for the conditions involved. (See discussion of Condensation in Chapter 4.) The surface resistances used for calculating the family of curves in Fig. 5 are based on tests made on canvas covered pipe insulation surfaces at *Mellon Institute*. However, it has been found that the resistance for asphaltic and roofing surfaces is practically the same as for canvas surfaces, so that the curves may be followed with no alteration for surfaces commonly used.

Heat gains for pipes insulated with a material having a conductivity of

TABLE 10. HEAT GAINS FOR INSULATED COLD PIPES

Rates of heat transmission given in Btu per hour per degree Fahrenheit temperature difference between fluid in pipe and surrounding still air

Based on materials having conductivity, k = 0.30

Nominal Pipe Size (Inches)	Ice Water Thickness			Brine Thickness			Heavy Brine Thickness		
	Thickness of Insulation (Inches)	Btu Per Linear Foot	Btu Per Sq Ft Pipe Surface	Thickness of Insulation (Inches)	Btu Per Linear Foot	Btu Per Sq Ft Pipe Surface	Thickness of Insulation (Inches)	Btu Per Linear Foot	Btu Per Sq Ft Pipe Surface
½	1.5	0.110	0.502	2.0	0.098	0.446	2.8	0.087	0.394
¾	1.6	0.119	0.431	2.0	0.111	0.405	2.9	0.094	0.340
1	1.6	0.139	0.403	2.0	0.124	0.352	3.0	0.104	0.294
1¼	1.6	0.155	0.357	2.4	0.131	0.300	3.1	0.113	0.260
1½	1.5	0.174	0.351	2.5	0.134	0.270	3.2	0.118	0.238
2	1.5	0.200	0.322	2.5	0.151	0.244	3.3	0.134	0.214
2½	1.5	0.228	0.303	2.6	0.170	0.226	3.3	0.147	0.197
3	1.5	0.269	0.293	2.7	0.186	0.202	3.4	0.162	0.176
3½	1.5	0.295	0.282	2.9	0.191	0.183	3.5	0.176	0.167
4	1.7	0.294	0.248	2.9	0.209	0.176	3.7	0.182	0.154
5	1.7	0.349	0.239	3.0	0.241	0.165	3.9	0.202	0.138
6	1.7	0.404	0.233	3.0	0.259	0.150	4.0	0.228	0.130
8	1.9	0.455	0.201	3.0	0.318	0.140	4.0	0.263	0.116
10	1.9	0.559	0.198	3.0	0.383	0.135	4.0	0.309	0.110
12	1.9	0.648	0.194	3.0	0.438	0.131	4.0	0.364	0.108

0.30 Btu per square foot per hour per degree Fahrenheit difference per inch thickness are given in Table 10.

INSULATION OF PIPES TO PREVENT FREEZING

If the surrounding air temperature remains sufficiently low for an ample period of time, insulation cannot prevent the freezing of still water, or of water flowing at such a velocity that the quantity of heat carried in the water is not sufficient to take care of the heat losses which will result and cause the temperature of the water to be lowered to the freezing point. Insulation can materially prolong the time required for the water to give up its heat, and if the velocity of the water flowing in the pipe is maintained at a sufficiently high rate, freezing may be prevented.

Table 11 may be used for making estimates of the thickness of insulation necessary to take care of still water in pipes at various water and