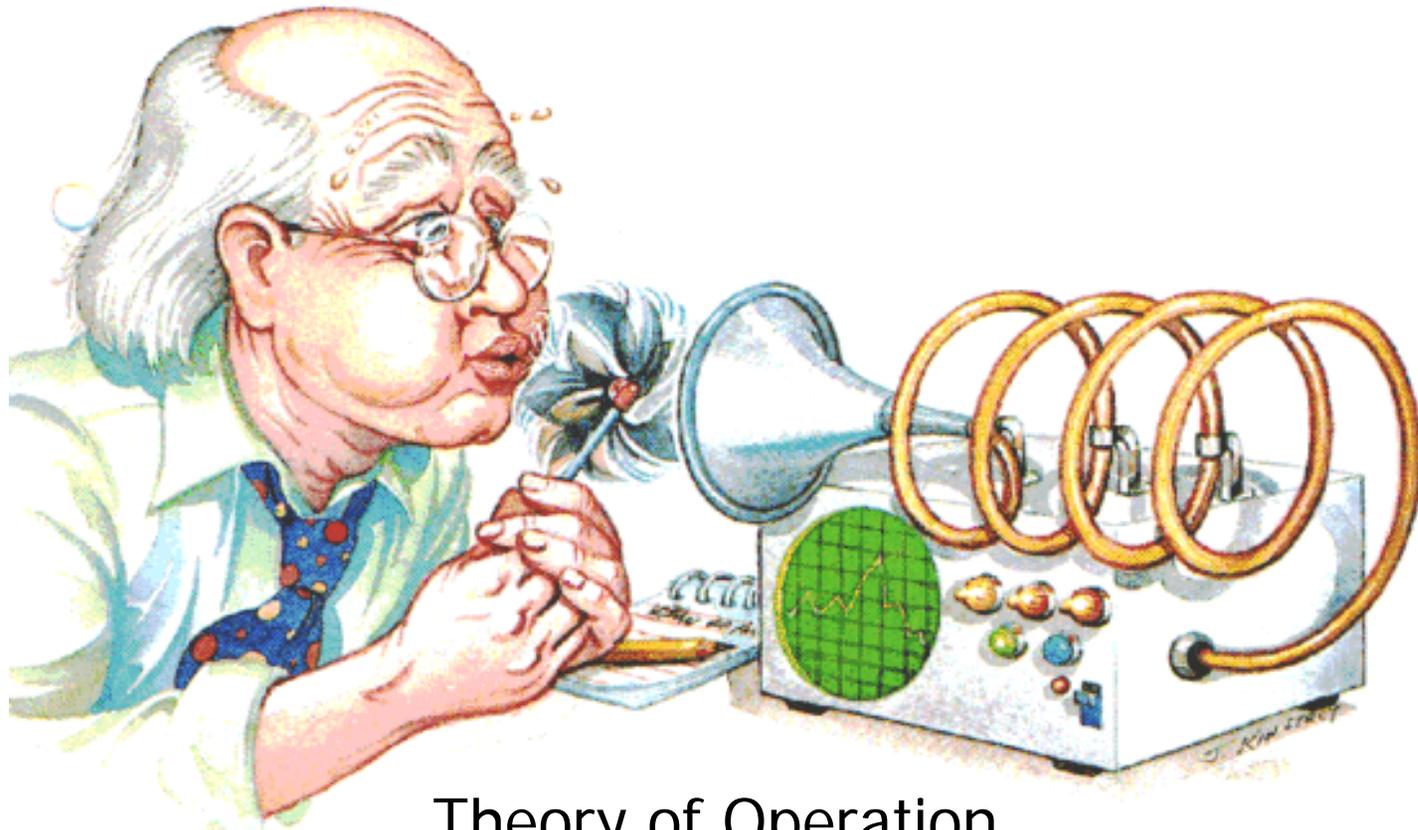




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# Survey of Airflow Measurement Devices



Theory of Operation  
Measurement Uncertainty  
Comparing Performance Potential



# Survey of Airflow Measurement Devices

The information we will cover is intended to address the following issues in airflow rate determination:

1. Instrument performance specs are **misunderstood**, **misleading**, **not easily comparable**, **unverifiable in field conditions**
2. The '**set and forget**' design philosophy conflicts with continuous operating objectives in a **dynamic environment**
3. TAB guidelines/procedures overlook some superior measurement technologies that may be available to the technician at a site.

**The information contained here, may help you to evaluate site equipment for TAB use.**



# Portable Instruments

## NEBB Requirements for Air Measurements

FUNCTION	MINIMUM RANGE	MINIMUM ACCURACY	MINIMUM RESOLUTION	CALIBRATION INTERVAL
<b>Air Temperature Measurement</b>	-40 to 240 deg. F (US) -40 to 115 deg. C (SI)	<b>± 1% of reading</b>	<b>0.2 deg. F (US)</b> 0.1 deg. C (SI)	12 Months
<b>Air Velocity Measurement (Not for Pitot Traverse)</b>	50 to 2500 fpm (US) * 0.25 to 12.5 m/s (SI)	<b>± 5% of reading *</b>	<b>20 fpm (US)</b> 0.1 m/s (SI)	12 Months
<b>Air Volume Measurement (Direct Reading Hood)</b>	100 to 2000 cfm (US) 50 to 1000 l/s	<b>± 5% of reading</b> ± 5 cfm (US) ± 2.5 l/s (SI)	<b>Digital 1 cfm (US)</b> Digital 0.5 l/s (SI)  Analog - NA	12 Months

**Which instruments and sensors can reliably provide this required level of performance in the field?**

\* ±5% of 50 fpm = ±2.5 fpm

<b>ONE commercial Air Velocity Meter can provide the following:</b>	0 to 5000 fpm (US) 0 to 25.4 m/s (SI)	<b>± 2% of reading **</b> (tested to ± 3% duct average in field)	<b>&lt; 2 fpm (US)</b> < 0.01 m/s (SI) [analog output]	Factory Calibrated, recalibration is not normally needed
---	--	---	--	--

\*\* also provides 0.1°C average temperature accuracy



# Survey of Common HVAC Airflow Measurement Devices

## Hand-held and Terminal Measurement Devices

### Differential Pressure

- Pitot-static tubes
- Pitot-static grids
- Flow Capture Hoods

### Thermal velocity meters

- Single point and
- Flow Capture Hoods

### Vane Anemometers

## Permanent Averaging Instruments

### Differential Pressure

- Pitot-static tubes and arrays
- Piezo Rings
- DP Across a Louver
- DP Across a Fixed Obstruction

### Thermal velocity meters

- Thermal Dispersion
- other thermal velocity meters

### Vortex Shedders

### Combination Damper/AFMS



# Airflow Measurement Devices

grouped by common performance characteristics

## Differential Pressure

- Pitot arrays
- Combination Damper/AFMS
- Piezo Rings
- DP Across a Fixed Louver
- DP Across an Obstruction
- Pitot-static grids
- DP Flow Capture Hoods
  
- Pitot-static tubes

## Vane Anemometers

## Thermal velocity meters

- Thermal Dispersion,  
independent multi-point, duct  
averaging

Single-point Thermal meters

Analog thermistor, dependent  
multi-point, duct averaging

RTD single and multi-point

## Vortex Shedders

- independent multi-point, duct  
averaging



# Hand-held and Terminal Instruments



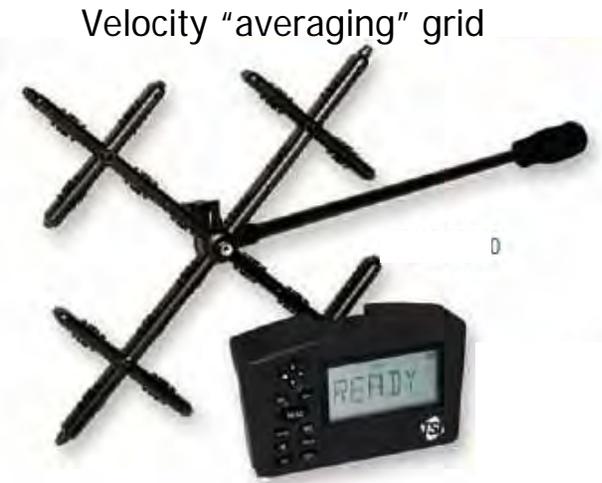
Direct Reading  
Capture / Flow Hoods



Vane anemometers



Pitot-static Tube



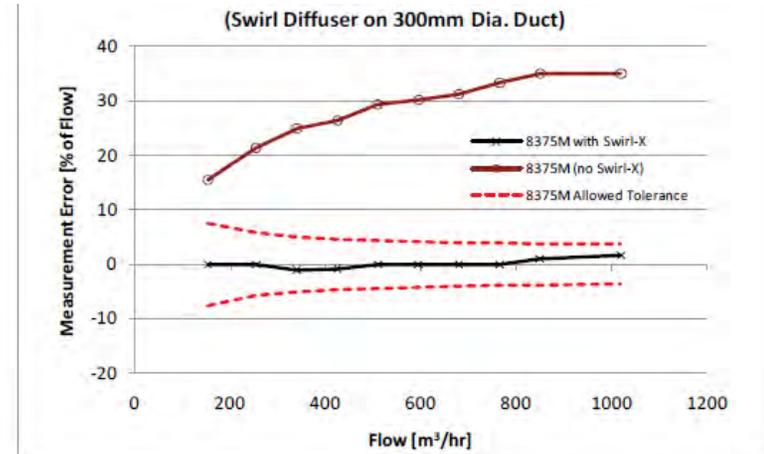
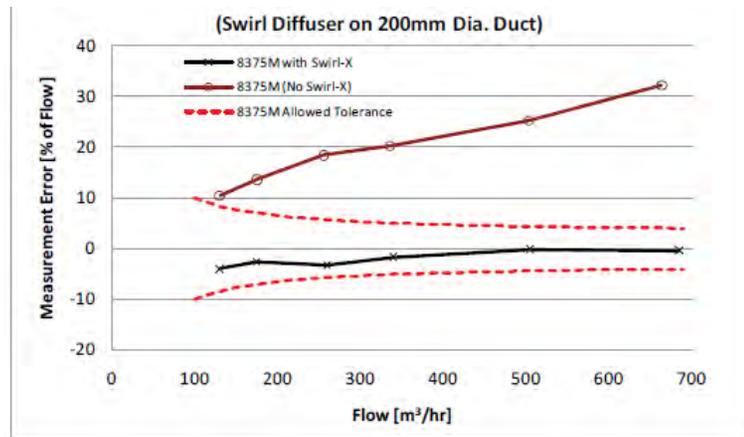
Velocity "averaging" grid



Thermal velocity meters,  
single point, directional



# Portable Instruments Capture Hoods



One Example:

range 0–2000 cfm (0–3400 m<sup>3</sup>/h, 0–950 l/s) (**±60 CFM w/ 50 cfm RES.**)

resolution 5 cfm from 25–250 cfm  
10 cfm from 100–500 cfm  
20 cfm from 400–1000 cfm  
50 cfm from 800–2000 cfm

accuracy (±3% of reading, ± 7 cfm on one model)

SUPPLY **±3% of full scale**, except ± 20 cfm on 250 cfm scale (**± 8%**)

EXHAUST ±3% of full scale, except ± 20 cfm on 250 cfm scale



## Duct Traverse Sampling and Data Points

A **large sample can reduce** the impact from **random errors** and traversing a cross-sectional area of the duct is intended to **compensate for irregular velocity profiles**, thereby reducing the uncertainty in the average.

[specifically as applied to the Pitot traverse].

**ASHRAE 111-2008 §7.6.2.3 The Traverse**

*Since field-measured airflows are rarely steady and uniform, accuracy can be improved by increasing the number of measuring points. ...*



## Duct Traverse Points (typ)

**How many points are needed**  
when using a Pitot-static tube?  
For hand-held thermal?  
For rotating-vane anemometer?  
For permanent instruments?

Are the requirements the same for  
different technologies with differing  
limitations?

**NO! They are not!**



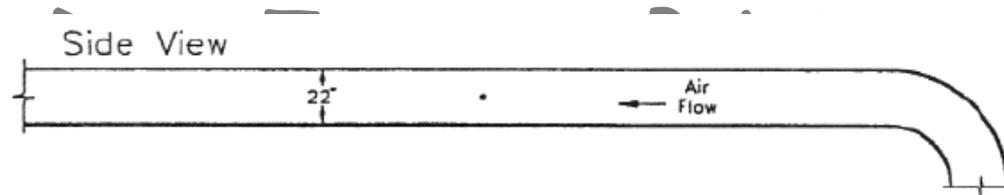
## AIR FLOW MEASUREMENT ACCURACY

*David M. Schwenk*

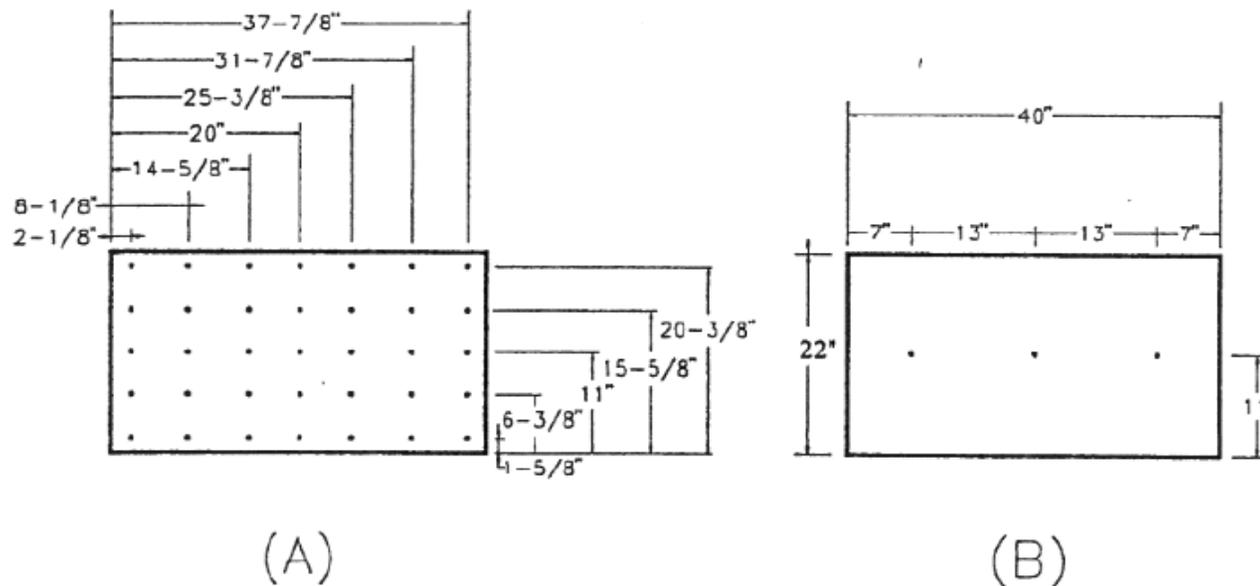
A research paper prepared by the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) in Champaign, IL (est. 1995-96) was presented at a USACE Regional Conference.

The first three conclusions of their research are summarized below (based on test comparisons using an early ducted BiG Thermistor 3-sensor probe):

- An **air flow straightener is not required** to get an accurate airflow measurement
- Air flow instrumentation **need not be located more than 2 duct diameters downstream of an [unvaned - radiused] elbow**
- A **3-point averaging air flow measurement instrument can provide accuracy comparable to a 35-point traverse measurement and to a measurement based on ASHRAE or SMACNA guidelines.**



**Figure 1. Traverse and Airflow Probe Locations in HVAC Test Facility Duct Section.**



**Figure 2. Point locations for: A) 35-point Traverse, B) 3-point Probe**



## Duct Traverse Sampling Points

This paper does not suggest that three sensing points can compensate for a highly variable velocity profile, only that:

1. the technologies are substantially different and **have different sources of potential error**  
[suggests that requirements and limitations cannot be equated]
2. the **total number of sampling points needed for an effective average should be DIFFERENT for each instrument**  
[both should be increased with the severity of conditions selected for measurement]



## Portable Instruments

### **Pitot-static tubes** - limitations / problems

- **Low velocity limitation** (<700 fpm) = the difference in pressures is very small and hard to measure. Errors in the instrument could be greater than the measurement!
- **Lack of maintenance** = clogged or pinched tubes/lines, the resulting in calculation errors.
- **Misalignment** creates errors demanding more training, attention and greater care by the technician.
- **Leakage** in lines or ductwork
- **K-factors change** with velocity
- **Density** often ignored



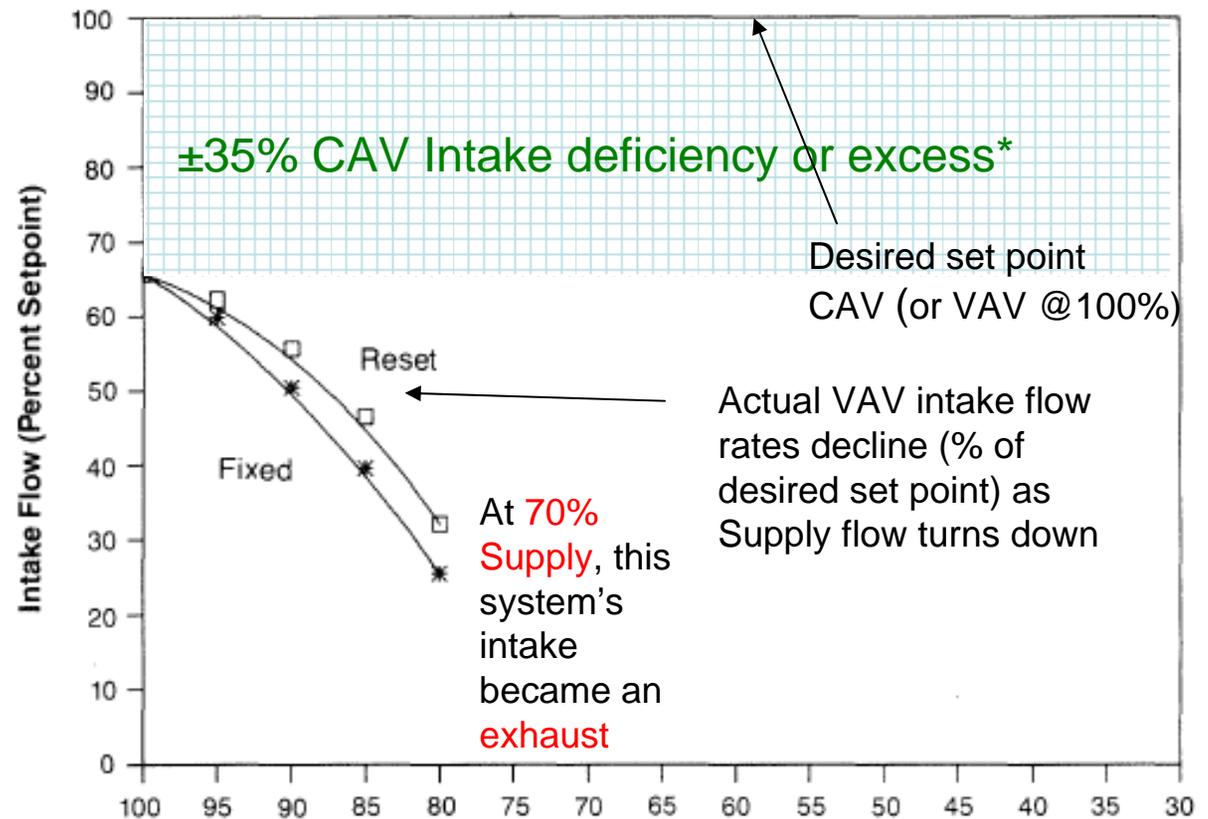
## Fixed-position Intake Dampers and Proportional Reset are *not acceptable*

due to MA plenum pressure variations. Without continuous measurement and control, intake rates can not be maintained!

*“Measurement for the control of fresh air intake”*

ASHRAE Journal, October 1990

\*NOTE: Example depicts control deficiencies and a ‘negative’ impact. Realistic control errors could easily be positive, causing unnecessary conditioning of Outdoor Air.



### Combined Wind & Stack Effect on Fixed Position Intake Damper Systems

Analysis of an intake system with a set point velocity of 400 ft/min (2.03 m/s). (Solberg, Dougan, Damiano 1990)



## Fixed-position Intake Dampers and Proportional Reset are *not acceptable*

due to MA plenum pressure variations. Without continuous measurement and control, intake rates can not be maintained!

**DIRECT  
Motivators**

**ASHRAE Standards 62.1** (ventilation), **90.1** (energy), **189.1** (high performance green buildings)

**ICC Mechanical Code** – IMC Chapter 4: Ventilation

**LEED Rating Systems** – 2009 and proposed 2012 certification requirements

**CA Title XXIV Energy Code** – 2009

**INDIRECT  
Pressure**

1. Standards and Codes have **effectively eliminated** these methods by making it **economically disadvantageous to use them**.
2. The industry has embraced the **energy savings potential of variable speed/capacity/demand control** to automatically adjust systems in response to changing conditions.
3. This type of **dynamic operation** demands **dynamic control**.



## Fixed-position Intake Dampers and Proportional Reset are *not acceptable*

1. These historical system designs are **dependant upon TAB field measurements** for set up and to verify performance.
2. Intake systems (CAV and VAV) are **very difficult to measure directly**
3. It's **nearly impossible to estimate them reliably using indirect means allowed by most guidelines/procedures** (the assumptions required produce a large amount of uncertainty in the result).

## WHAT CAN WE DO?



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# All Permanent Instruments are not Created Equal !!

**Everything is NOT accurate to 2%, contrary to their promotional literature, and especially not under field conditions.**



# Permanently Installed Instruments

## Pitot Arrays and Probes



Averaging Pitot Array  
Stations with  
Honeycomb



Averaging Pitot Array  
Probes



Combination Pitot Array  
& Dampers



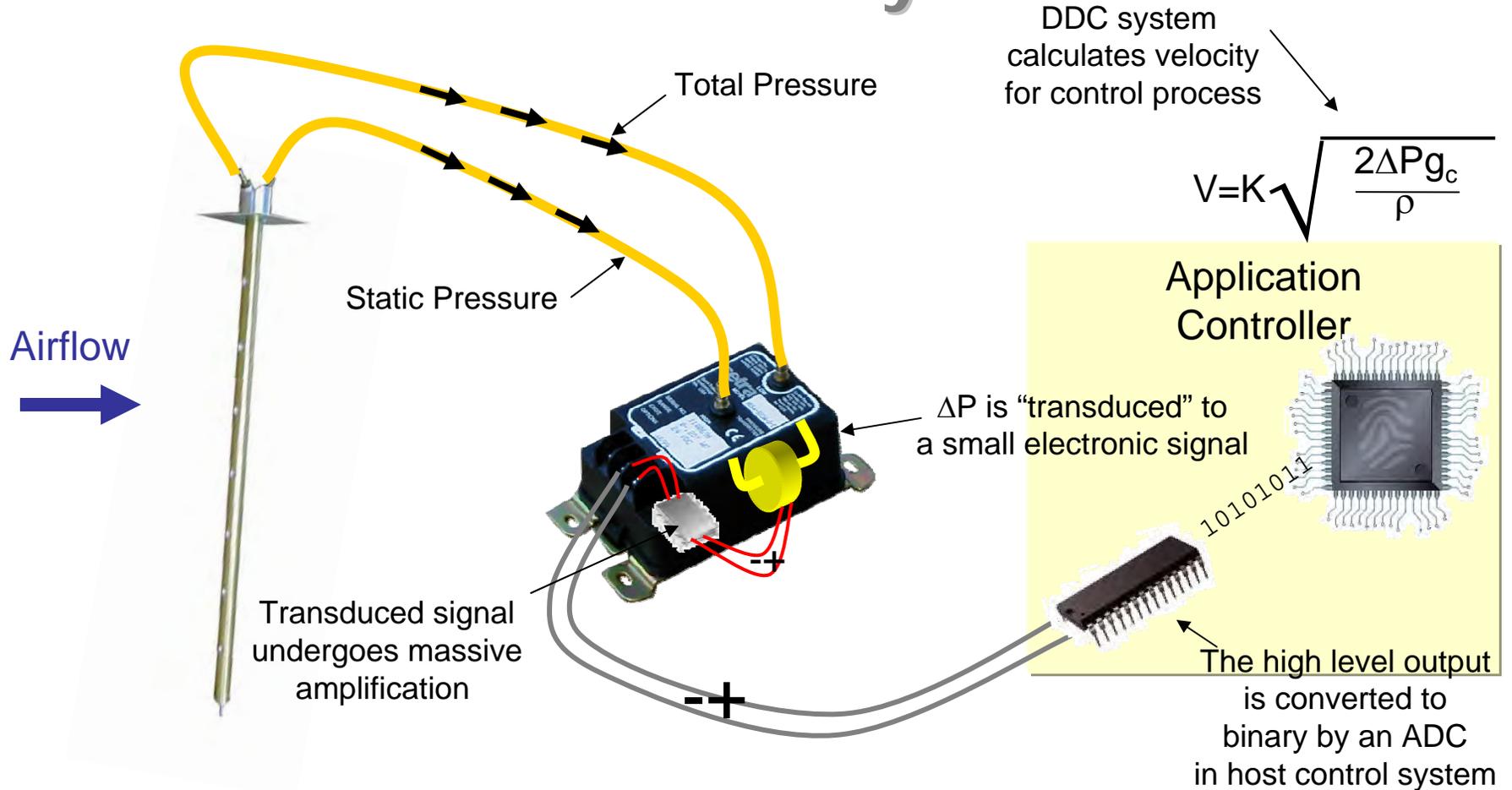
Terminal Box Flow  
Ring/Cross



Combination Pitot  
Array/Damper with  
Honeycomb



# How Pitot Arrays Work



$$\text{Accuracy} = \text{Probe Uncertainty} + \text{Transducer Uncertainty} + \text{Conversion Error}$$



## Probe Uncertainty: **K** factor

Usually assumed to be 0.999 to 1, but **will deviate** when the airflow rate is **under approx. 1,000 FPM**

- As a result, the airflow rate calculated using the **“assumed”** K factor can have significant error.

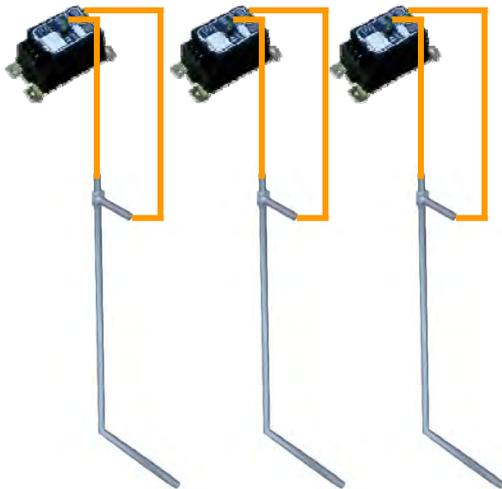
$$V = K \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta P g_c}{\rho}}$$



# Probe Uncertainty: Averaging Error

	Sensor 1	Sensor 2	Sensor 3	Avg. Pressure	Avg. FPM	Error
Pitot Tube	2200	1800	500		1500	
Pitot Array	0.301745	0.201995	0.015586	0.173109	1666	11%

Independent Laboratory Pitot Tubes



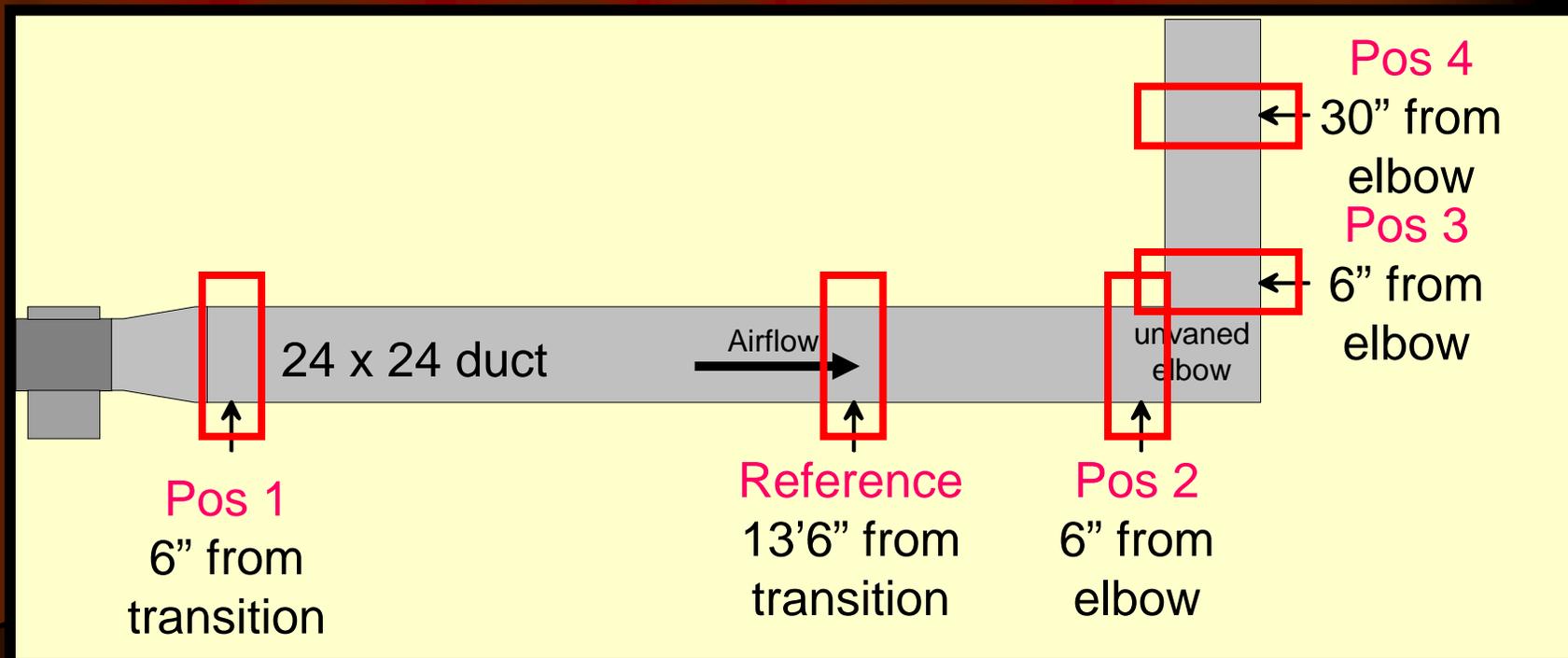
≠

Pitot Tube Array  
Single Sensing Point Device (transducer)

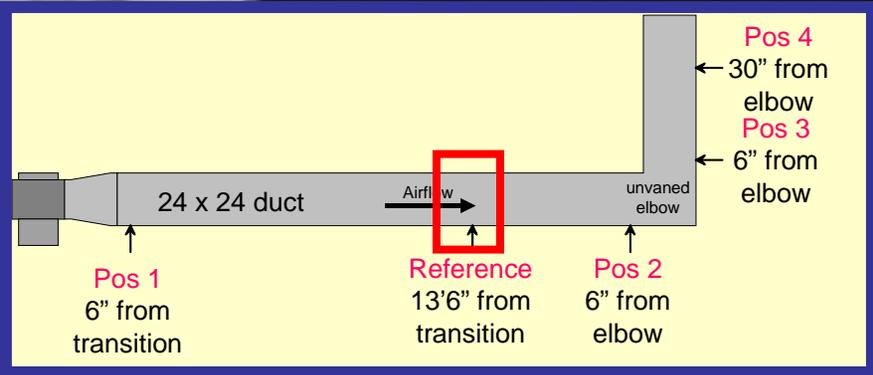


# "ELBOW" Test

Real-world demonstration of averaging error



```
2           R           1
3 Pitot Array Ref Error
4 R = 872 FPM 0.0 %
```

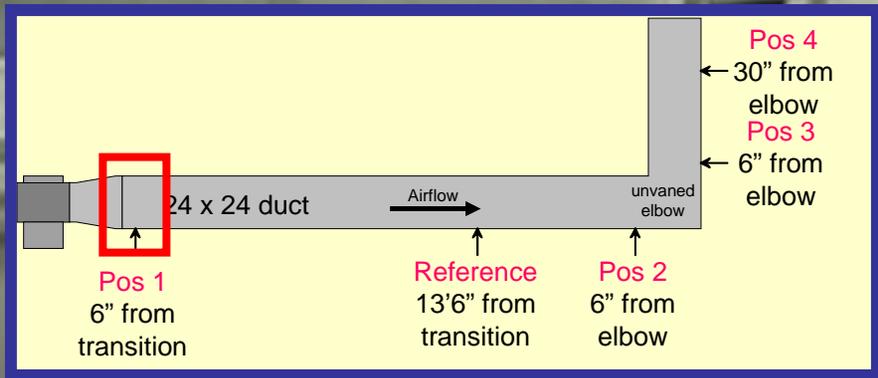


2 R 1

3 **Pitot Array** Ref Error

4 R = 872 FPM 0.0 %

1 = 1097 FPM 25.8 %



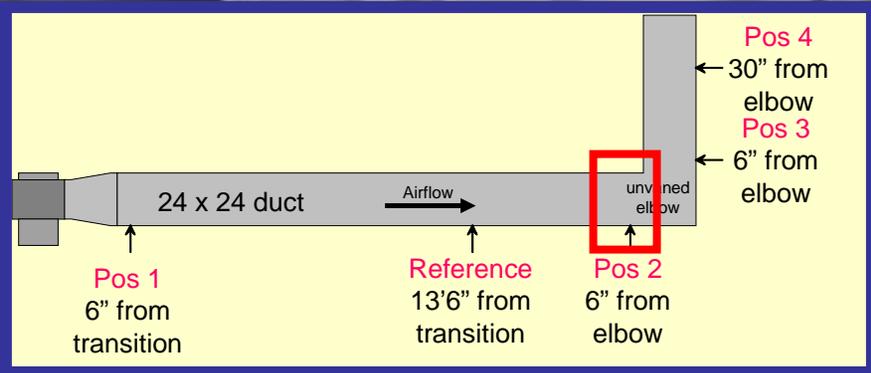
2 R 1

3 **Pitot Array** Ref Error

4 R = 872 FPM 0.0 %

1 = 1097 FPM 25.8 %

2 = 864 FPM -0.9 %

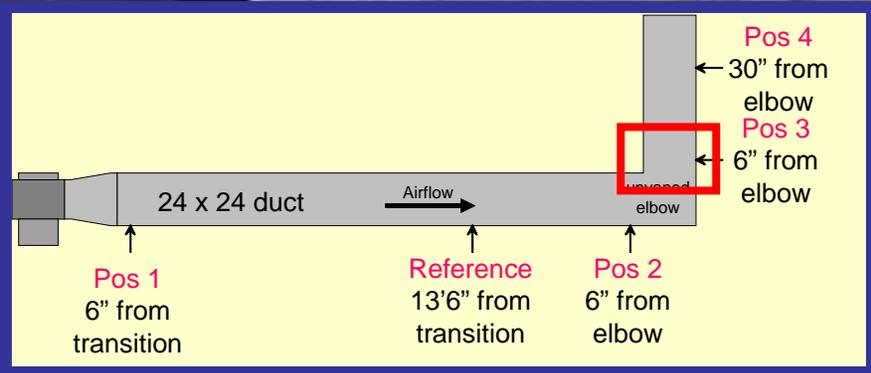


2 R 1

3 **Pitot Array** Ref Error

4

R =	872 FPM	0.0 %
1 =	1097 FPM	25.8 %
2 =	864 FPM	-0.9 %
3 =	1250 FPM	43.2 %

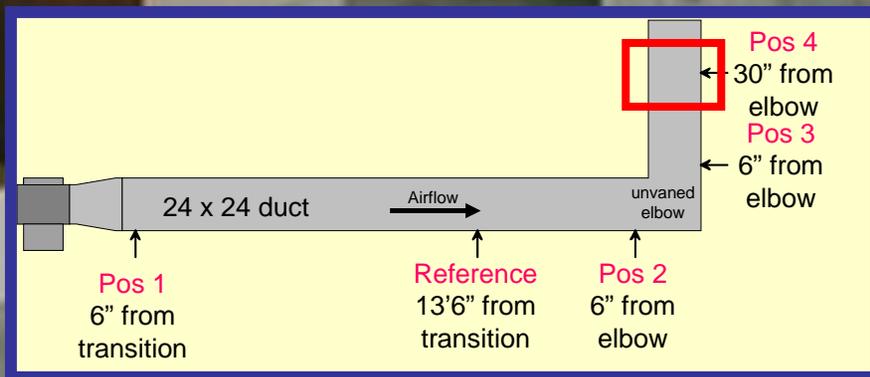


2 R 1

3 **Pitot Array** Ref Error

4

R =	872 FPM	0.0 %
1 =	1097 FPM	25.8 %
2 =	864 FPM	-0.9 %
3 =	1250 FPM	43.2 %
4 =	1155 FPM	32.4 %



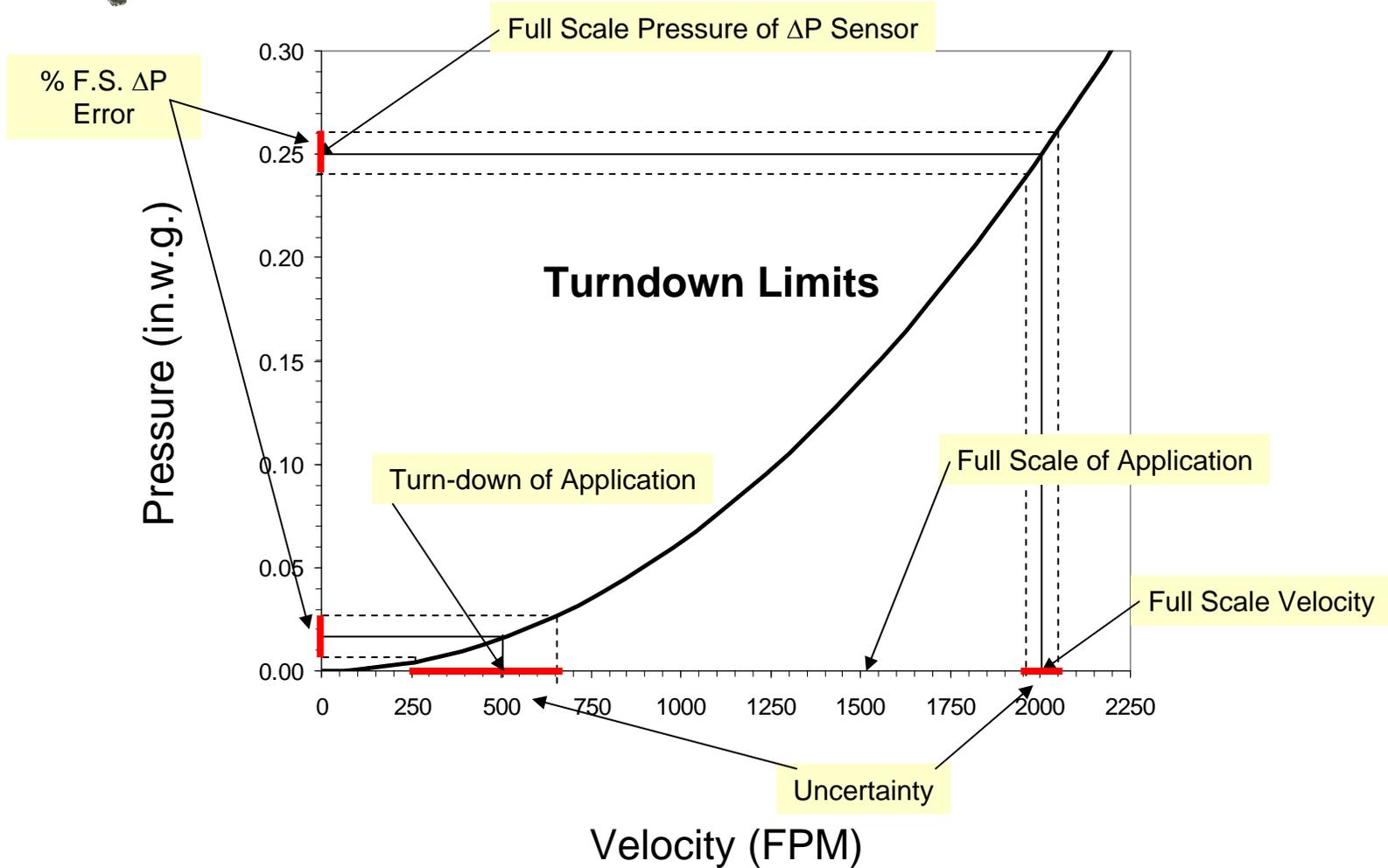


## $\Delta P$ Transducer Uncertainty

$$V=K \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta P g_c}{\rho}}$$

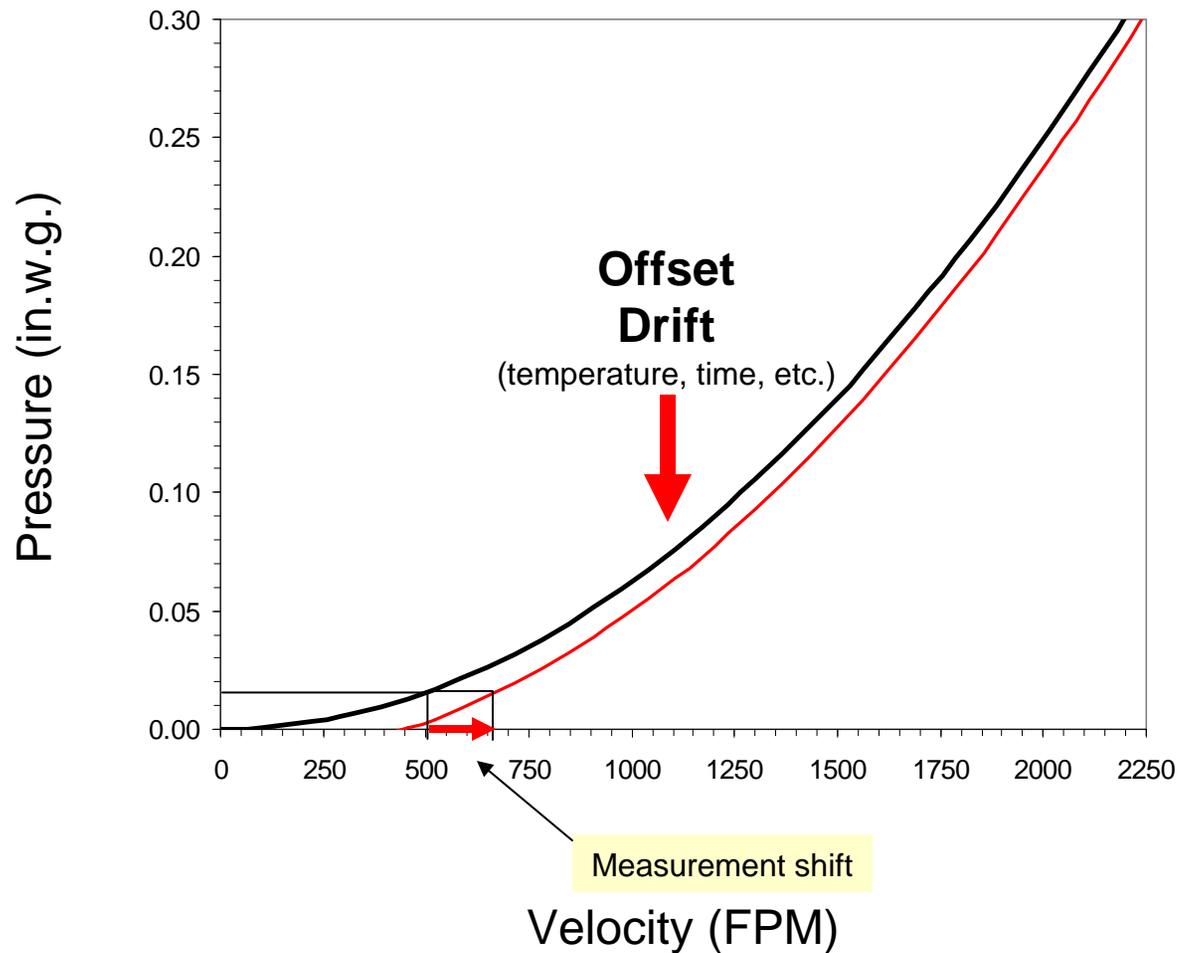


# $\Delta P$ Transducer Uncertainty



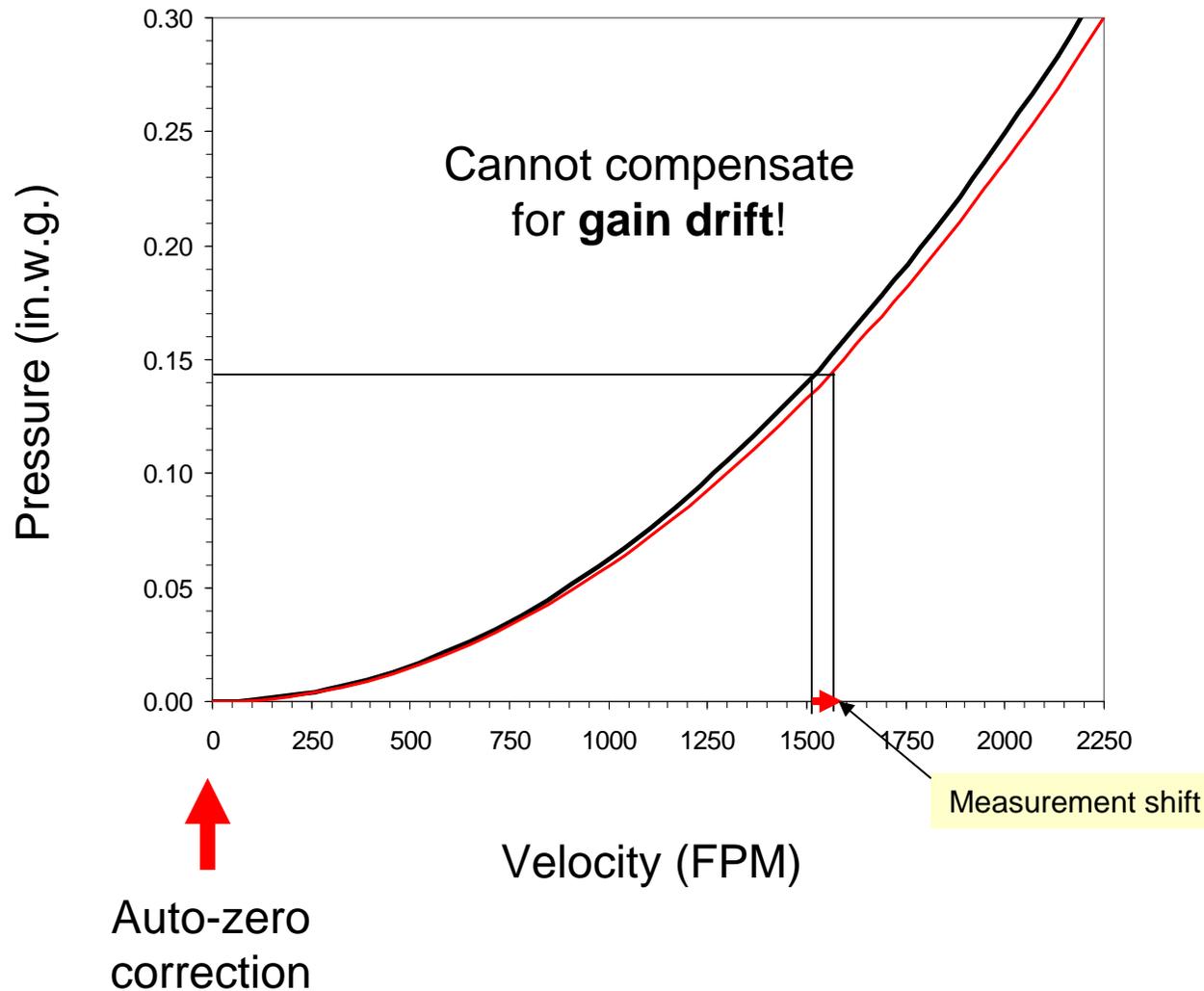


# $\Delta P$ Transducer Uncertainty





# $\Delta P$ Transducer Uncertainty





## $\Delta P$ Transducer Comparisons



0.1% of Full Scale

$\neq$



1% of Full Scale

NOTE: Micromanometers used for Pitot traverse have the same issues of turndown, range-ability, low flow limitations, zero drift, etc.



# $\Delta P$ Transducer Comparisons

## Based on Manufacturer's Specifications

Transducer Accuracy: **1% of natural span (full scale)**

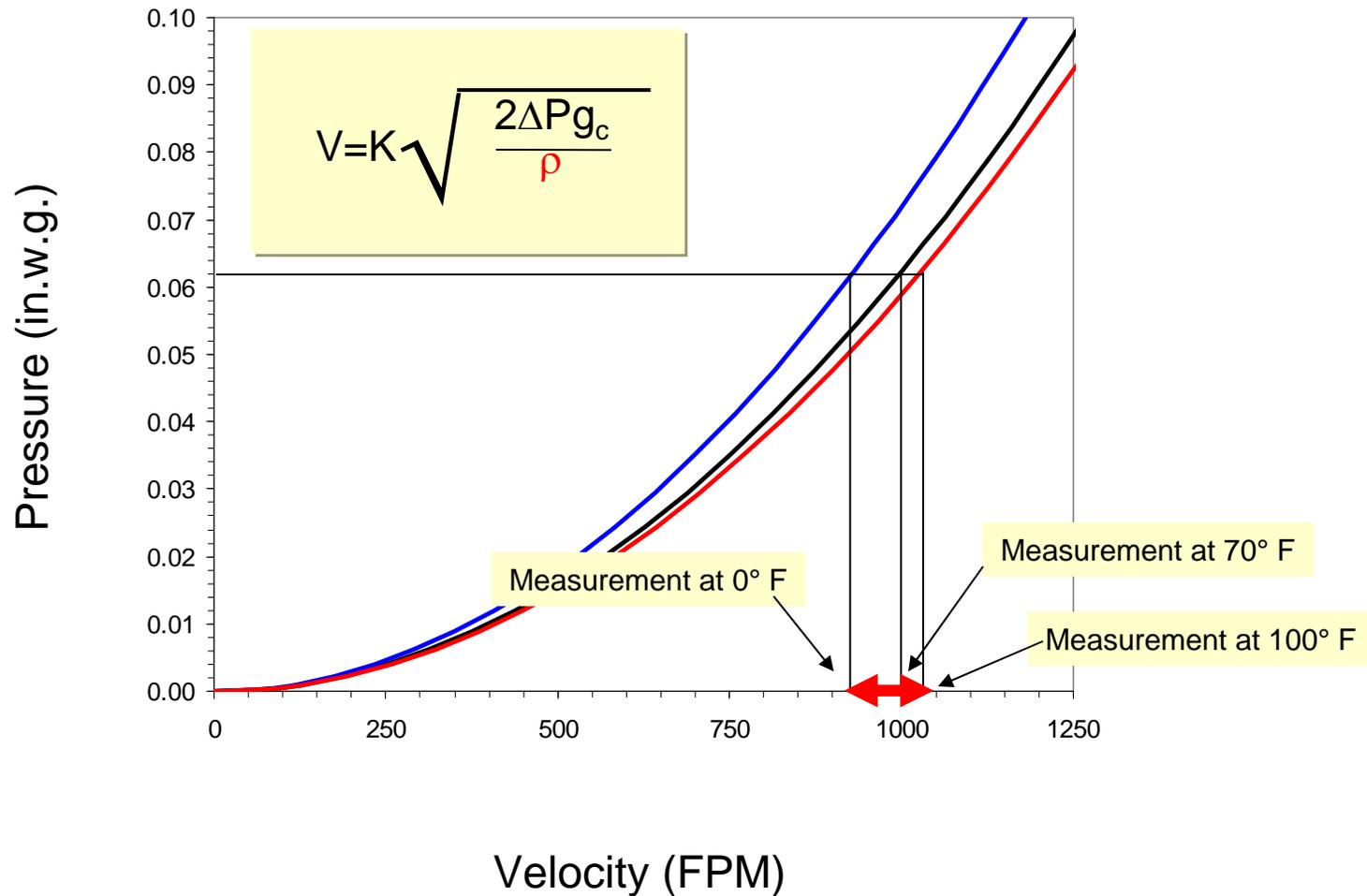
(not including Pitot array)

Natural Span	Transducer F.S. FPM (@100% span)	Airflow Rate (FPM)									
		10,000	5,000	2,500	2,000	1,500	1,000	750	500	250	150
10	12,665	0.8%	3.3%	14%	23%	46%	178%	236%	333%	597%	938%
5	8,955		1.6%	6.6%	11%	20%	56%	165%	248.6%	444%	689%
2	5,664		0.6%	2.6%	4.1%	7.4%	18%	34%	153%	303%	464%
1	4,005			1.3%	2.0%	3.6%	8.4%	15%	40%	225%	348%
0.5	2,832			0.6%	1.0%	1.8%	4.1%	7.4%	18%	153%	260%
0.25	2,003				0.5%	0.9%	2.0%	3.6%	8.4%	40%	188%
0.1	1,266						0.8%	1.4%	3.3%	14%	46%
0.05	896							0.7%	1.6%	6.6%	20%

Accuracy does not include temperature effect, drift, and other significant factors that compound transducer error!

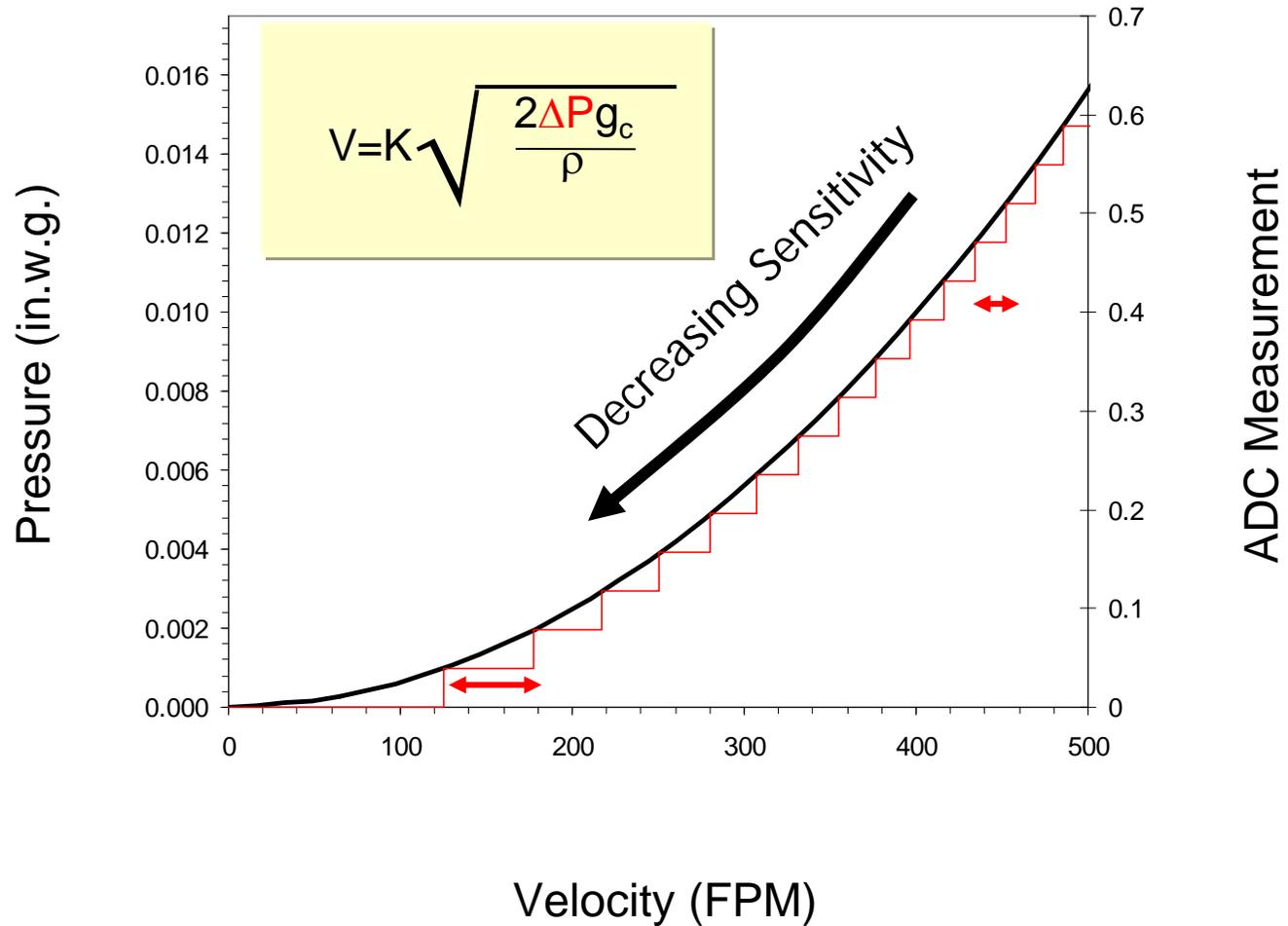


# Conversion Uncertainty: Air Density





# Conversion Uncertainty: ADC





# $\Delta P$ Transducer Uncertainty

Typical Pressure  
Sensor  
Specification

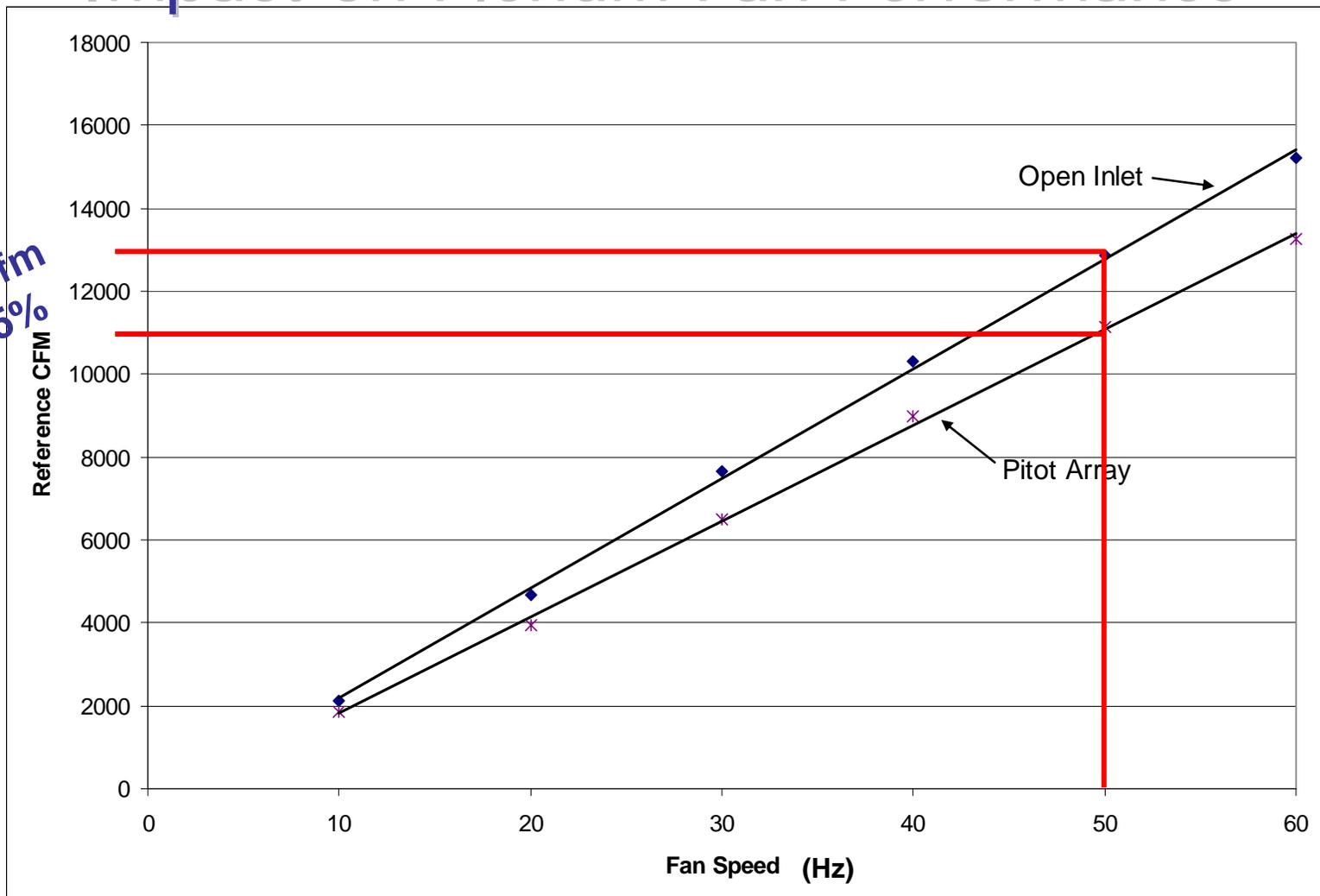
## Performance Data

	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Optional</u>	
Accuracy* RSS(at constant temp)	$\pm 1.0\% \text{ FS}$	$\pm 0.4\% \text{ FS}$	$\pm 0.25\% \text{ FS}$
→ Non-Linearity, BFL	$\pm 0.96\% \text{ FS}$	$\pm 0.38\% \text{ FS}$	$\pm 0.22\% \text{ FS}$
→ Hysteresis	0.10% FS	0.10% FS	0.10% FS
→ Non-Repeatability	0.05% FS	0.05% FS	0.05% FS
<u>Thermal Effects**</u>			
→ Compensated Range °F(°C)	0 to +150 (-18 to +65)		
→ Zero/Span Shift %FS/°F(°C)	0.033 (0.06)		
Maximum Line Pressure	10 psi		
Overpressure	Up to 10 psi (Range Dependent)		
→ Long Term Stability	0.5% FS/1 YR		



# Pitot Array

## Impact on Plenum Fan Performance



-2000 cfm  
or -15%

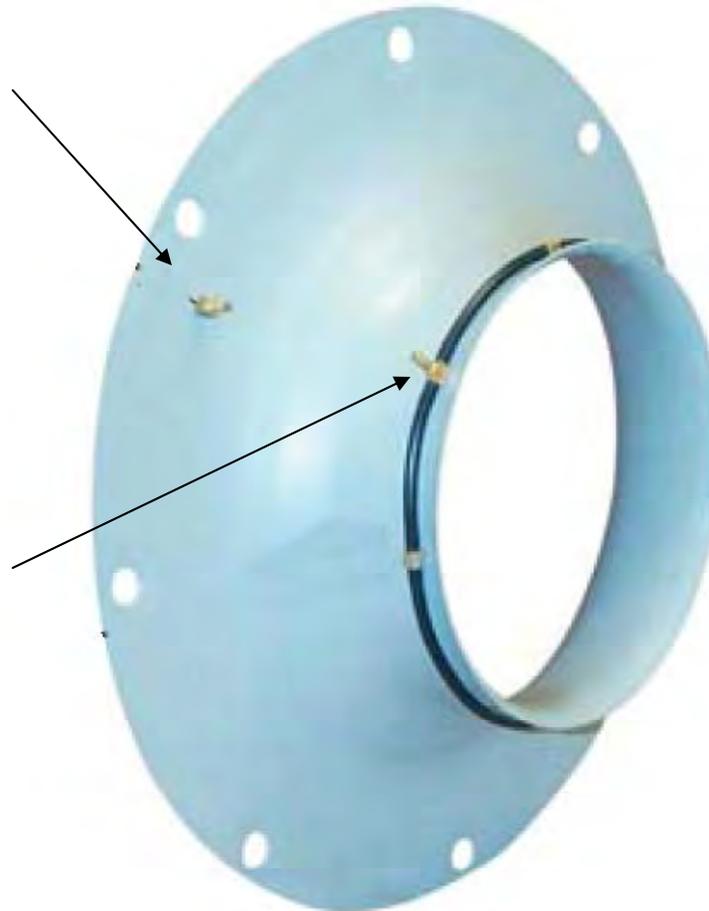


# Permanently Installed Instruments

## Piezo Rings in Fan Inlets

Upstream pressure port

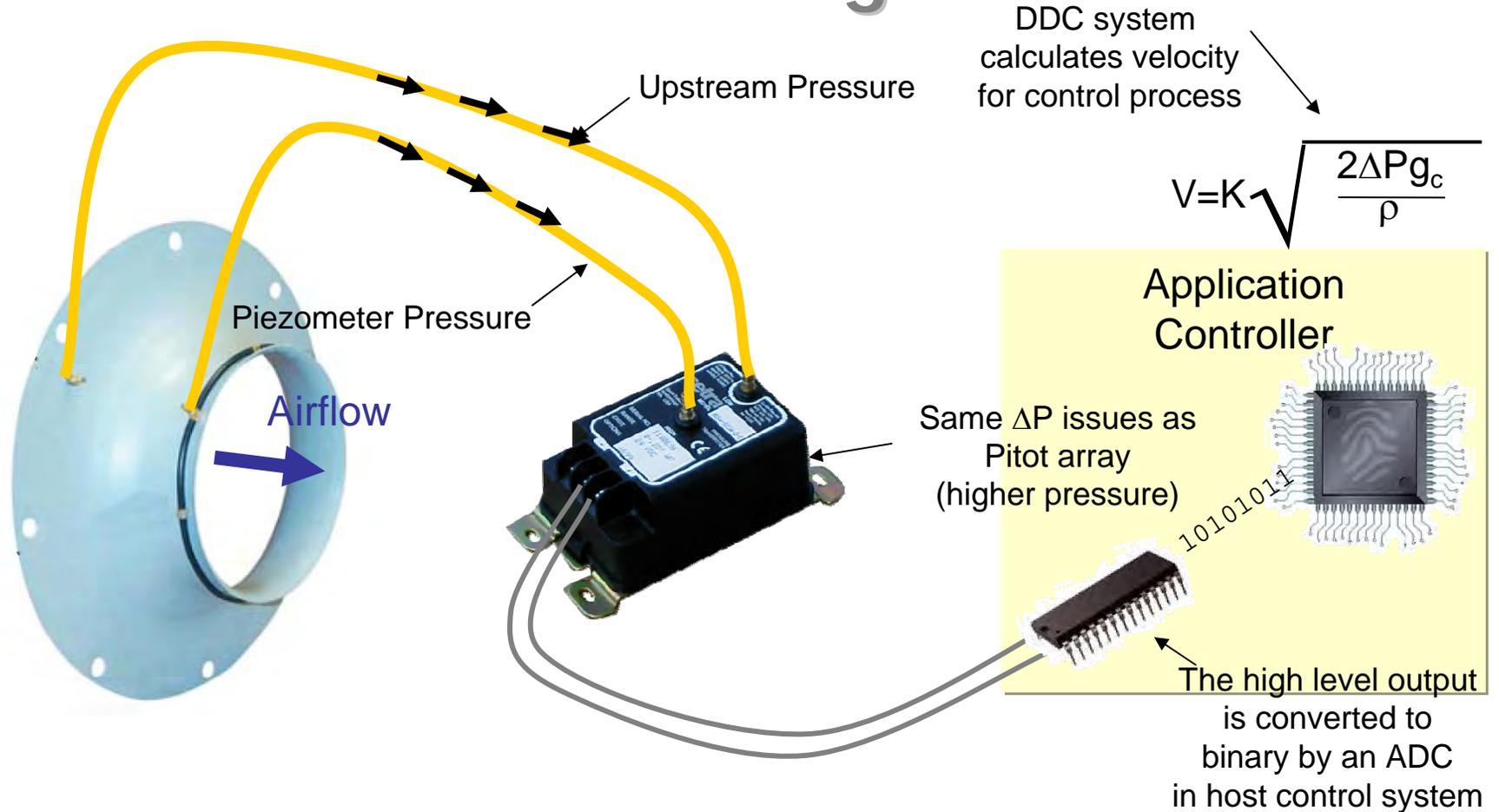
Piezometer ring



This is not like a Piezometer, which is a differential pressure method used as a reference in smaller airflow calibration tunnels for many years.



# How Piezo Rings Work



**Accuracy = Piezometer Uncertainty + Transducer Uncertainty + Conversion Error**



# Compare Error Sources

## Pitot Arrays to Piezo Rings



✓ Yes	✓ Yes
✓ Yes	✓ No

- K factor changes with turndown
- Averaging error (single and fan wall systems)
- % F.S. accuracy pressure transducer dilemma
- Pressure transducer drift with time and temperature
- Auto-zero gain error
- Air density error if not corrected in B.A.S.
- ADC error at host controls with turndown
- Fouling from dirt and dust
- Tubing leaks
- Cross flow error
- Water
- Fan performance loss



## The bottom line!

(Pitot arrays, Piezo rings &  $\Delta P$  across fixed obstruction)

- **Non-linear averaging** can add significant error (all are essentially a single sensing point device).
- **% F.S. pressure sensor error** is significant with turndown (even on higher pressure Piezo rings).
- Pressure sensors are known to **drift** over time and with changes in temperature.
- **Calibration factors** (k factors) will change over the operating range of the device.



## The bottom line!

(Pitot arrays, Piezo rings &  $\Delta P$  across fixed obstruction - Cont'd)

- **Pressure leaks** are nearly impossible to detect.
- **Malfunction of the array** or “sensing” element cannot be reported to the B.A.S.
- **Cross flow** in tubes (array & Piezo)
- **Water accumulation** in tubes (array & Piezo)
- **Unacceptable affect on fan performance** (fan inlet mounted devices)



# Permanently Installed Instruments Pitot Arrays and Probes

*“To reduce errors .... installation guidelines usually require straight, unobstructed duct for 7.5 duct diameters upstream and 3 duct diameters downstream of the airflow measurement station (1997 ASHRAE Handbook—Fundamentals, Chapter 14).*

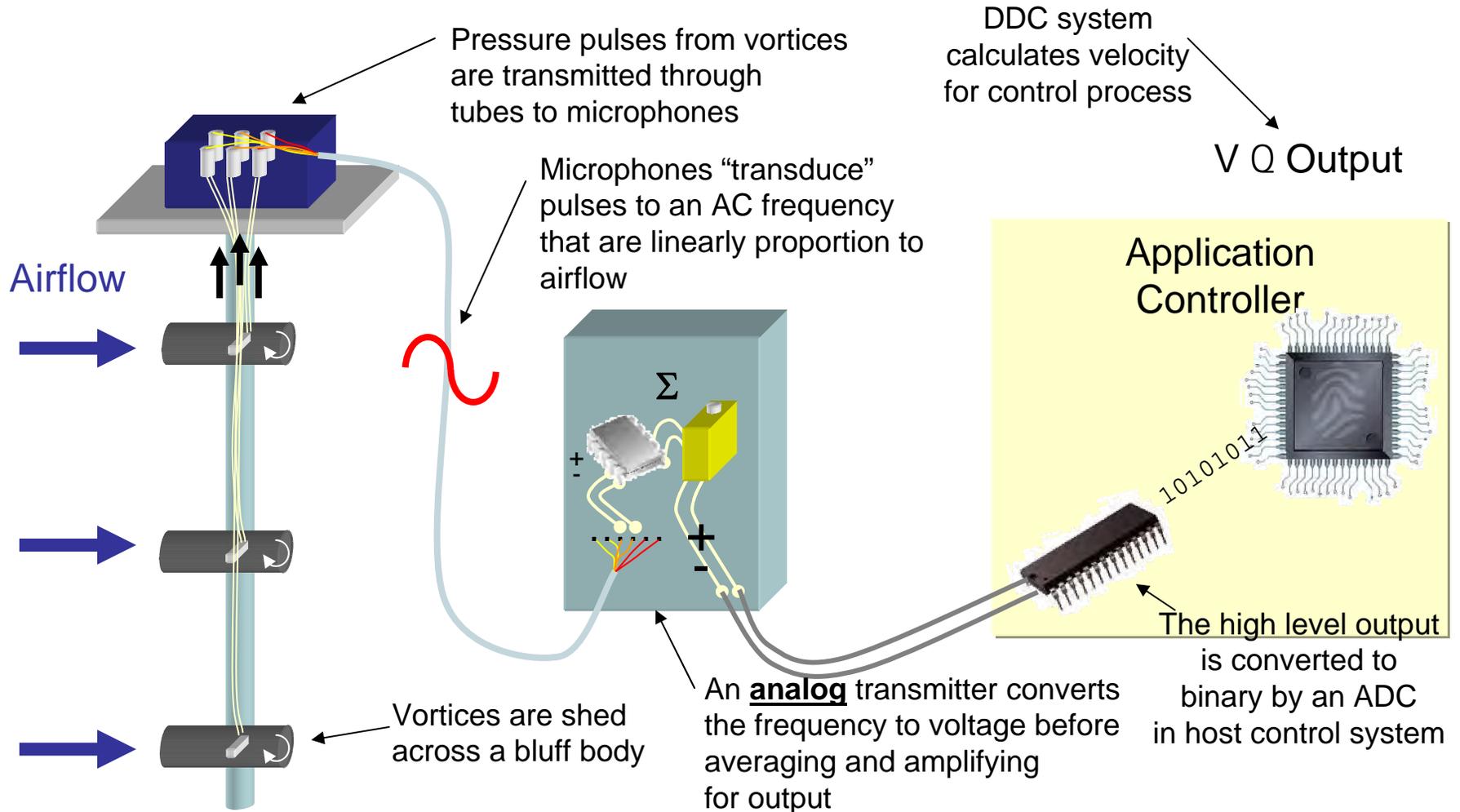
*Typically, averaging Pitot-tube arrays are not accurate for flow rates below 600-800 fpm (3.05 to 4.10 m/s). Differential pressure transmitters are used (Drees et al. 1992, ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 111-1992). ....*

*Additionally, small errors in the differential pressure transmitters can result in large errors in the calculated flow rate.”*

Shroeder, Christopher C.; Krarti, Moncef; and Brandemuehl, Michael J.: “Error Analysis of Measurement and Control Techniques of Outside Air Intake Rates in VAV Systems” ASHRAE RP-980, ASHRAE TRANSACTIONS 2000, V. 106, Pt. 2.



# How Vortex Shedders Work

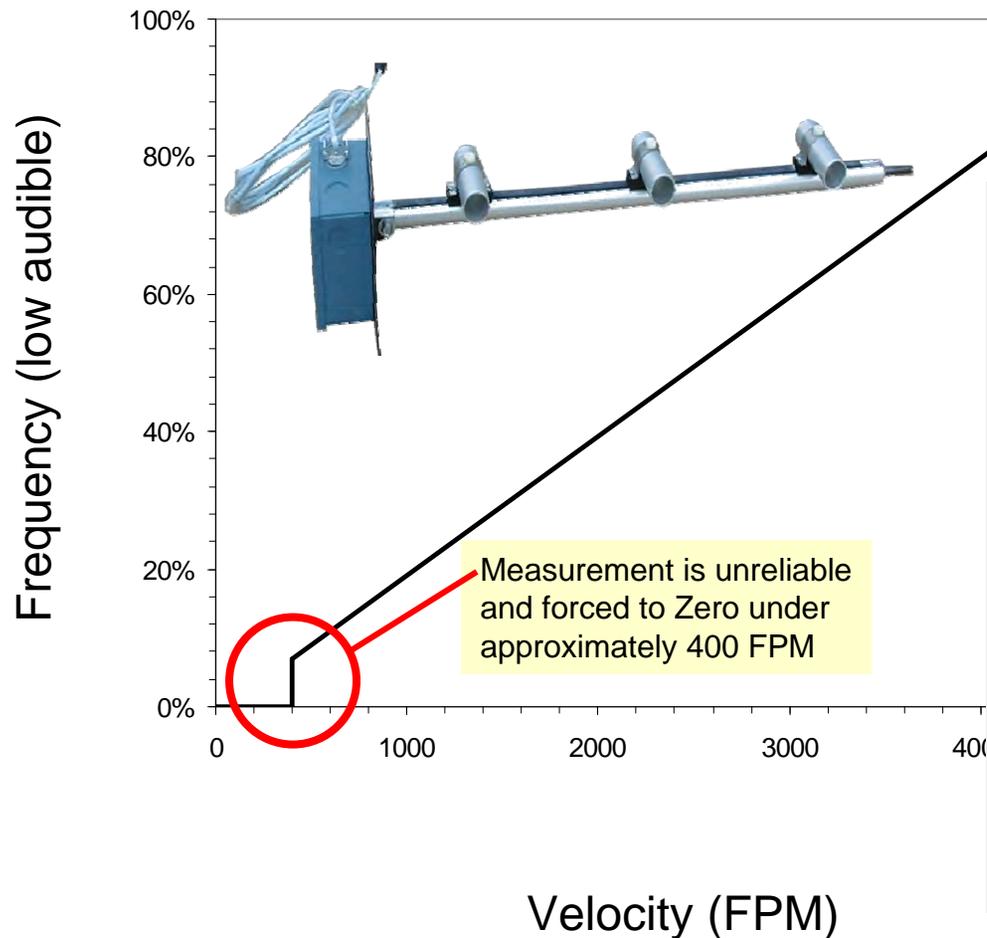


$$\text{Accuracy} = \text{Probe Uncertainty} + \text{Transmitter Uncertainty} + \text{Conversion Error}$$



# Measurement Range & Uncertainty

## Vortex Shedders



Commercially Available Products:

### Accuracy Statement

Probe:  $\pm 2\%$  of reading

Transmitter:  $\pm 0.5\%$  of F.S. ( $\pm 25$  fpm throughout range @ 5,000 fpm FS)

(not including sampling error)



## Concerns & Observations

### Vortex Shedders

- Averaging error is high at low airflow rates
- Tubing failure in probes can be a problem
- Microphone failures reported
- Analog circuitry is prone to drift
- Potentiometers can drift and change calibration
- Transmitter requires periodic calibration to a frequency generator



# Permanently Installed Instruments

**Thermal Dispersion** describes a specific processor-based thermal velocity meter. Other designs have used the terminology but without having all the key elements.





# How one Thermal Dispersion design works

Each thermistor is individually wired to transmitter using FEP plenum rated cable

Airflow



Converted back to analog with a DAC

Digitally processed

Converted to binary with an ADC

Each signal is multiplexed

Self-heated thermistor

Zero-power thermistor

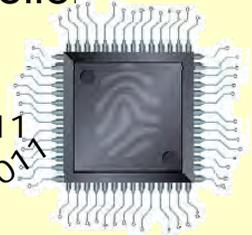
Many host control systems can directly accept our RS-485, Ethernet or Lon outputs

DDC system calculates velocity for control process



V Q Output

Application Controller



10101011

10101011

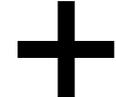
The high level output is converted to binary by an ADC in host control system

Sensor cal Data is stored in "one-wire" memory

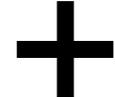
Accuracy =



Probe Uncertainty



Transmitter Uncertainty



Conversion Error



# Permanently Installed Instruments

How one **Thermal Dispersion** meter works

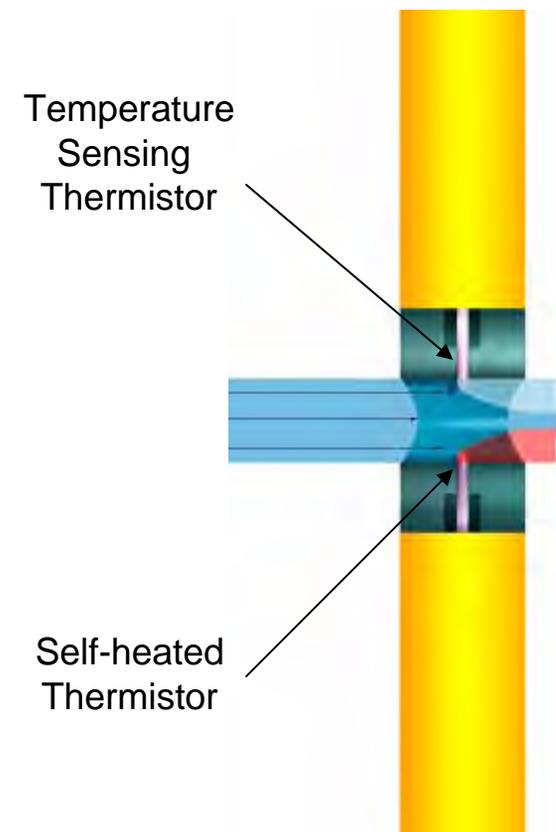
Heat dissipated to the airstream is directly related to the velocity and mass velocity.

$$Q = \frac{\kappa A}{d} \left[ B + C \left( \frac{\rho v d}{\mu} \right)^m \right] (T_H - T_A)$$

Power

velocity

$\Delta T$

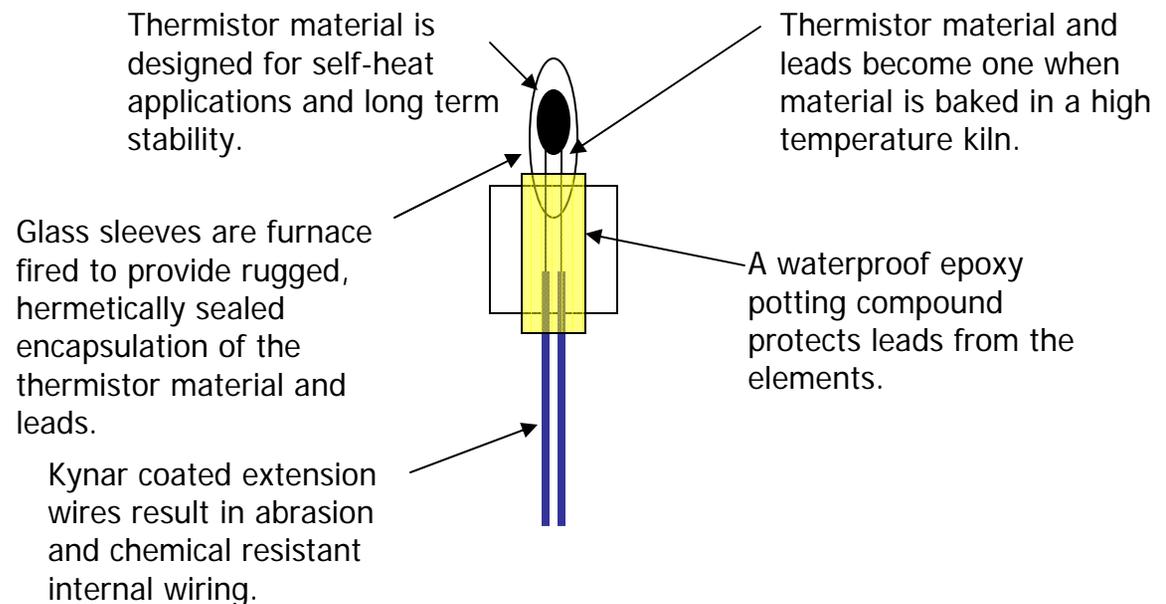




## Probe Uncertainty: **Stability,** **WHEN** specific design features are included

One thermal dispersion manufacturer uses two pre-stabilized bead-in-glass thermistors at each sensor node.

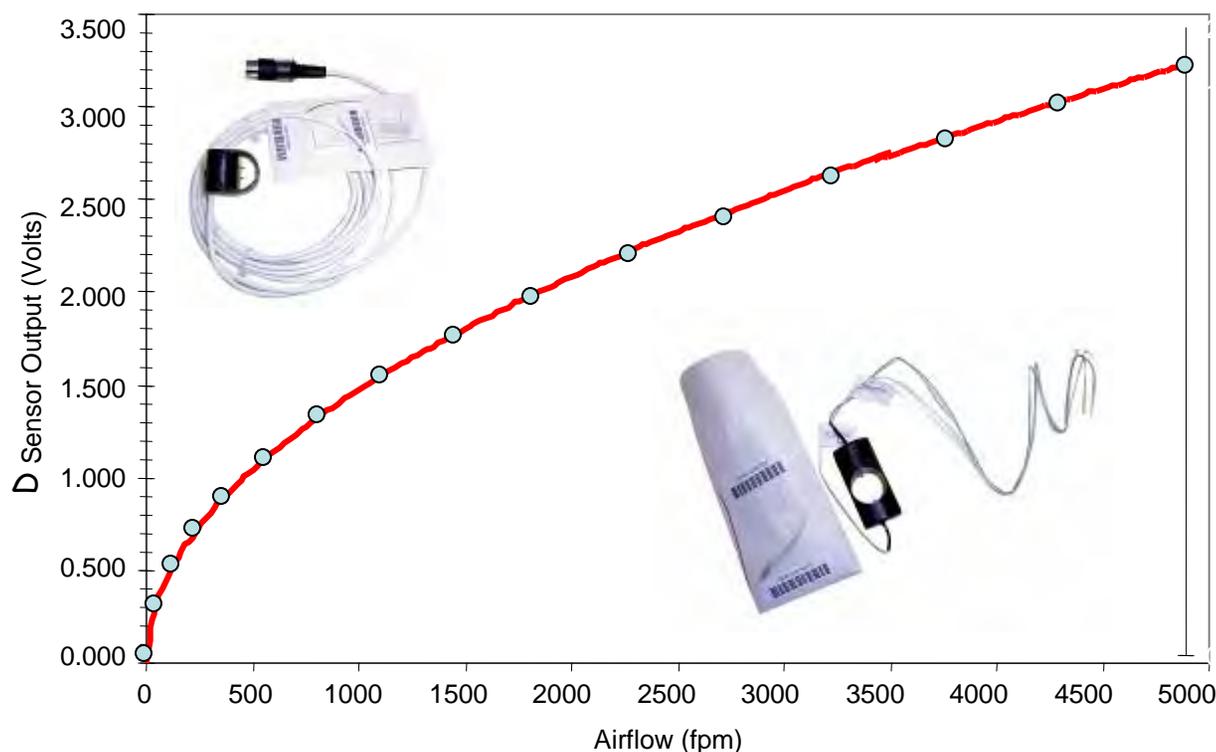
- Designed for self-heat applications.
- Ruggedized thermistor probe is ideal for all HVAC applications.
- Aging process results in exceptional long term stability.





# Probe Uncertainty: **Factory Calibration**

16 Point Sensor Calibration to NIST Traceable Standards



**No K Factor.**

**Need for compensation is  
Calibrated Out under actual airflow.**



# Probe Uncertainty: Factory Calibration

Example from one manufacturer

Production		
NIST Airspeed (VNIST), [fpm]	IUT Output (VIUT), [fpm]	Expanded Uncertainty, [%]
115.92	116.03	1.43
175.58	175.83	1.09
219.59	219.83	0.81
268.35	266.31	1.18
316.32	314.61	1.03
366.59	365.41	0.82
419.39	417.92	0.76
462.72	462.39	0.67
506.95	506.91	0.71
744.49	743.96	0.68
1035.1	1033.5	0.73
1190.7	1187.8	0.67
1438.0	1434.1	0.67
1772.5	1765.7	0.65
2050.1	2040.6	0.64
2488.3	2476.0	0.64
2986.9	2975.0	0.67
3382.5	3367.2	0.68
3984.5	3963.2	0.70
4988.1	4959.6	0.67
5990.8	5965.3	0.88
6979.2	6941.6	0.87
7993.3	7937.7	0.65

## Typical Production Unit Calibration Report

Ref	UUT	Error	Error%	
0	0.00	-0.01	-0.011595	
1	116.89	117.18	0.3	0.3%
2	157.40	157.34	-0.1	0.0%
3	227.43	227.89	0.5	0.2%
4	333.64	331.39	-2.3	-0.7%
5	453.03	447.86	-5.2	-1.1%
6	577.73	574.96	-2.8	-0.5%
7	740.80	737.85	-3.0	-0.4%
8	943.69	940.25	-3.4	-0.4%
9	1153.84	1165.31	11.5	1.0%
10	1414.55	1402.48	-12.1	-0.9%
11	1678.59	1687.86	9.3	0.6%
12	2024.89	2008.12	-16.8	-0.8%
13	2409.37	2399.48	-9.9	-0.4%
14	3342.61	3340.49	-2.1	-0.1%
15	4941.23	4923.32	-17.9	-0.4%



## Probe Uncertainty: **Stability**

Maximum Total Uncertainty  
of **Thermal Dispersion** System,  
Due to Potential Drift

# **0.76% of Reading**

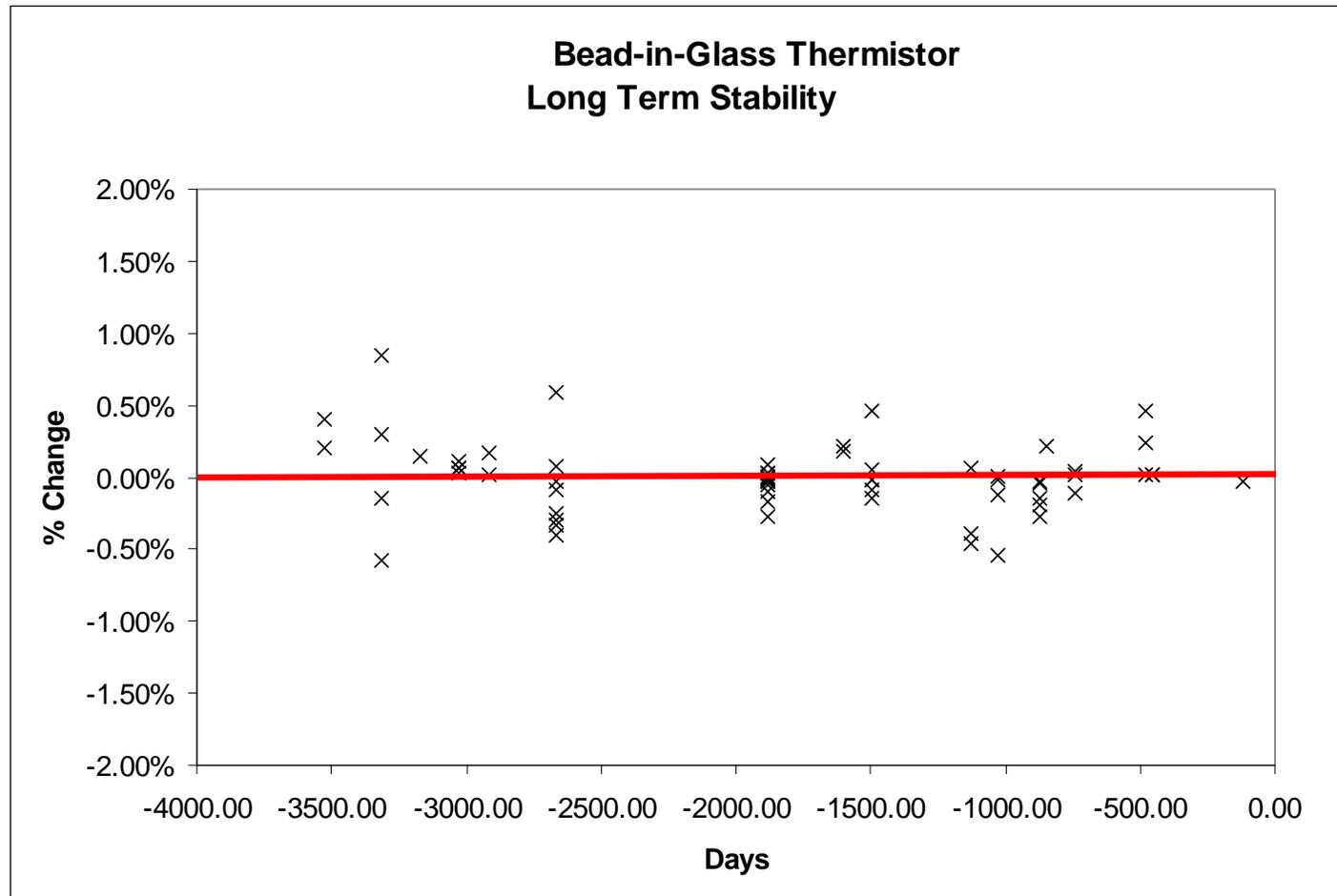
= Uncertainty Range from -0.18% to +0.58%

From 100 – 5,000 FPM, over 10 years

## **Negligible Drift**



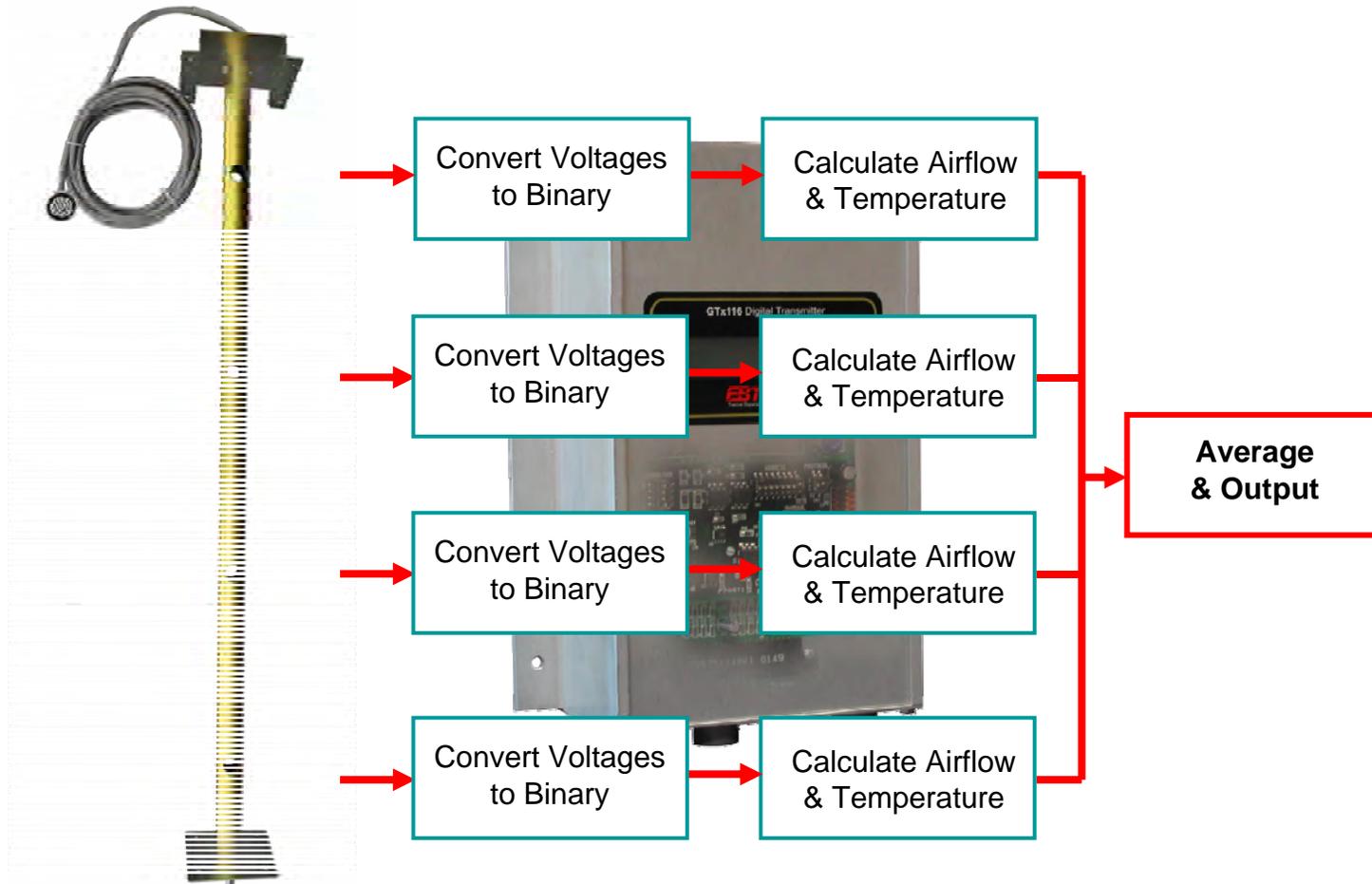
# Probe Uncertainty: **Stability**



**Long term empirical testing validated modeling.  
Negligible Drift**



# Probe Uncertainty: Averaging Error

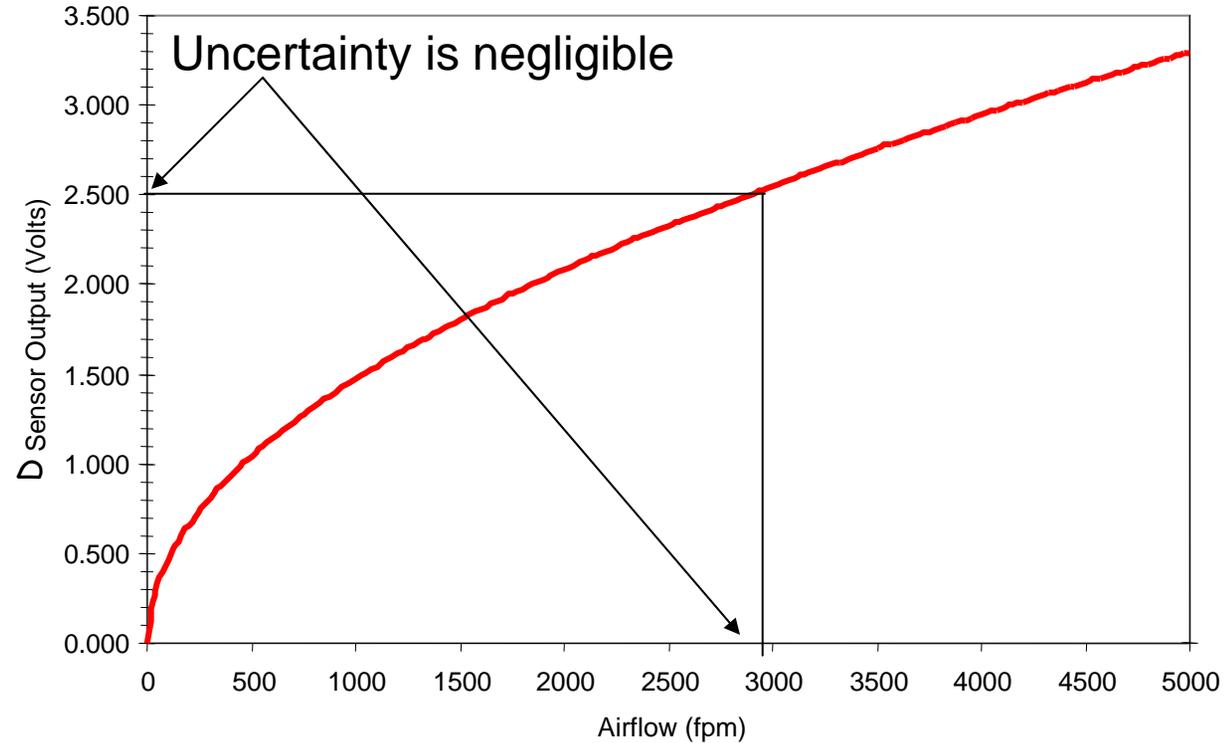


**NO AVERAGING ERROR**



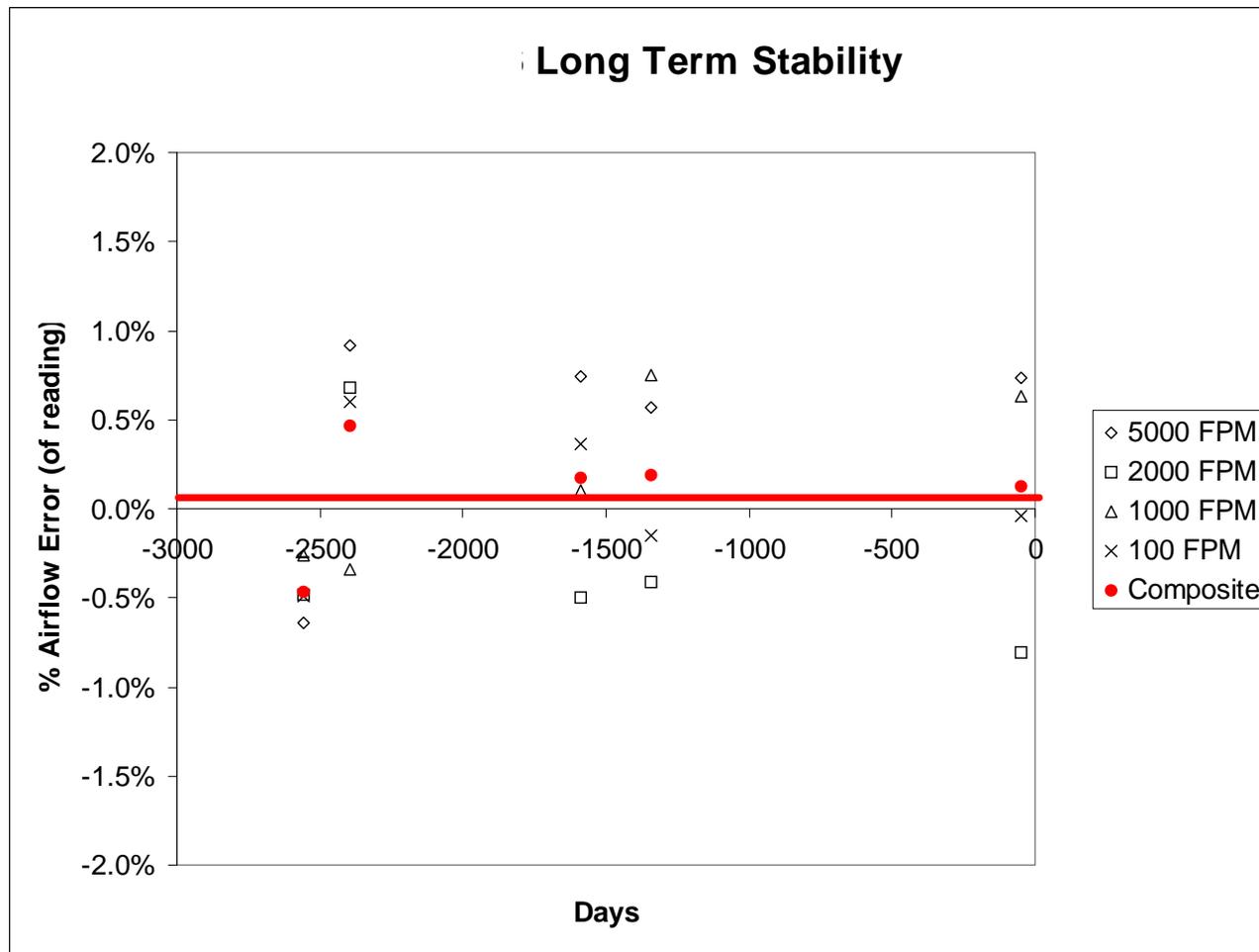
# Transmitter Uncertainty

**Transmitter can Accurately Resolve to 0.0024 VDC**  
( $< 2.5$  millivolts or about 1.2 fpm @ 5,000 fpm FS)





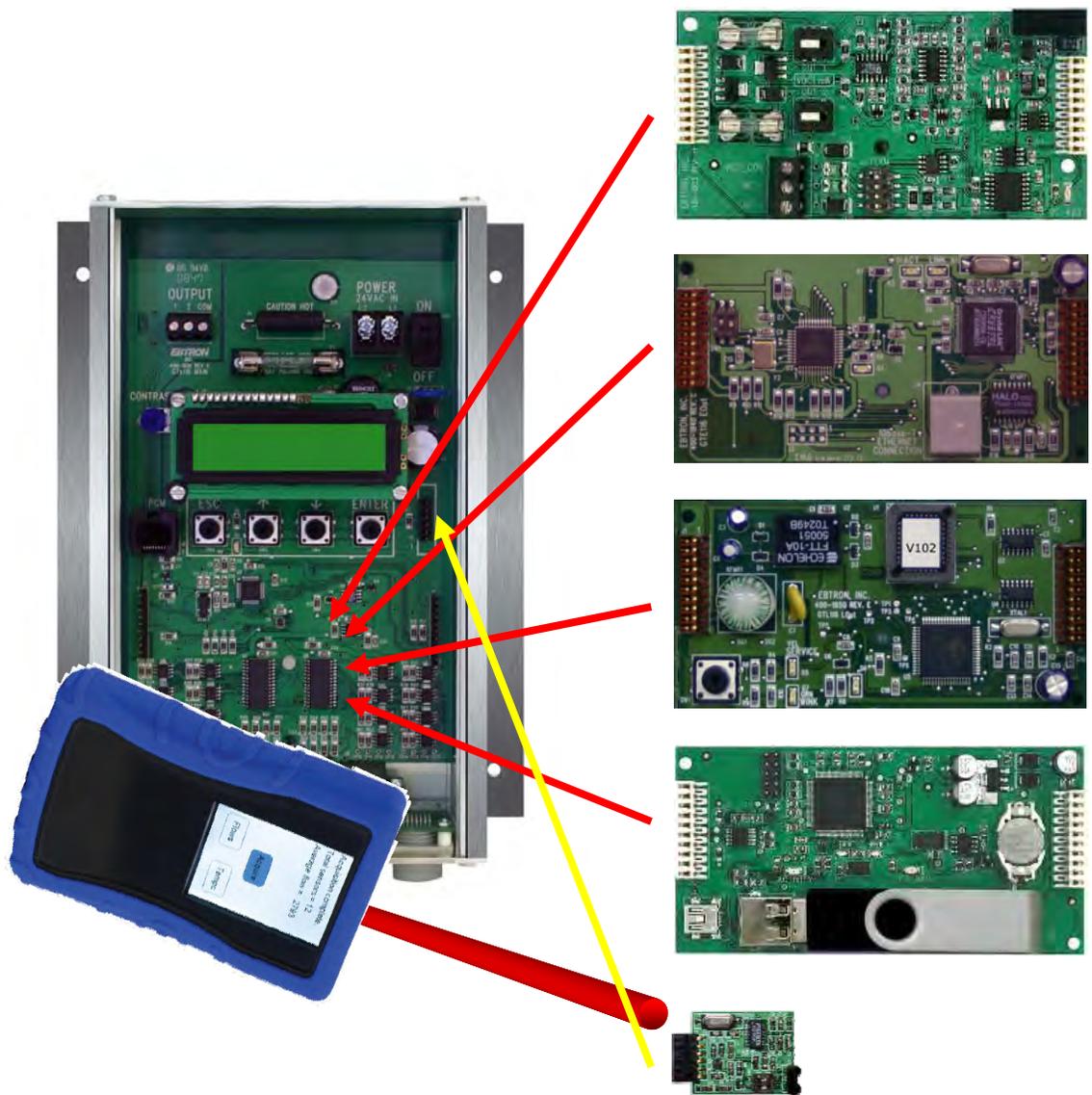
# Transmitter Uncertainty: **Stability**



**No Drift in the processor-based transmitters!**



# Connectivity Solutions – Thermal Dispersion



## Combination analog/digital

Two field selectable 0-5, 0-10 VDC or 4-20 mA isolated outputs  
One RS-485 BACnet MS/TP or Modbus output

## Ethernet

Two field selectable 0-5, 0-10 VDC or 4-20 mA isolated outputs  
One Ethernet BACnet or Modbus output

## Lon

Lonworks

## Data Logging

USB thumb-drive datalogger, logs average airflow and temperature plus airflow and temperature readings of individual sensors with time stamp

## IR-Reader Option

Add to any transmitter to interface with infra-red PDA



## Permanently Installed Instruments

# IR and Network Connectivity can allow you to **Collect Traverse Data Fast !**

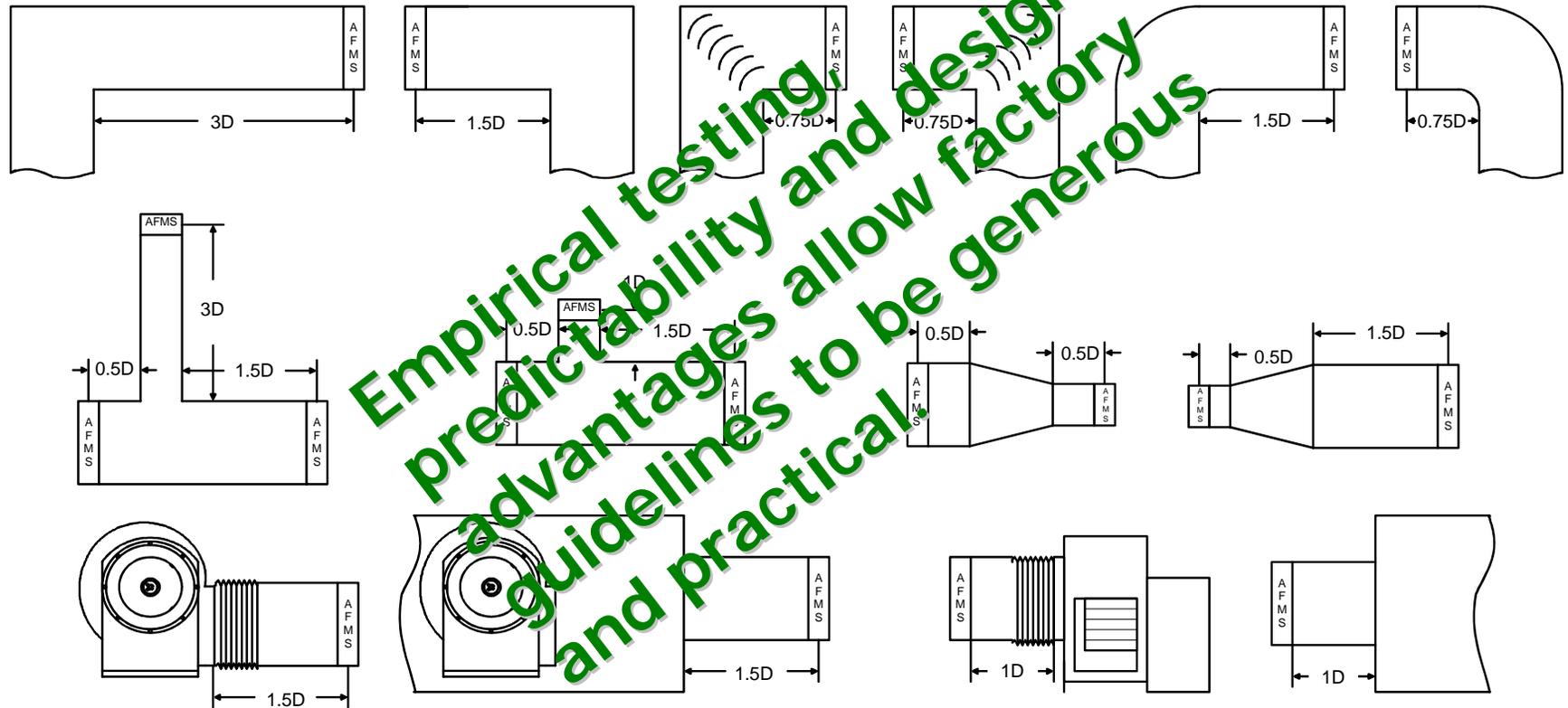
- Download **individual sensing point data** directly to your PDA and totally independent of the BAS system.
- Increases your efficiency and **SAVES** time and money
- **Directly measure outdoor air intake**  
(ASHRAE Std. 62.1-2010, 189.1-2009, CA Title 24, IMC 2009, IGCC & LEED – 2009/2012)



# Permanently Installed Instruments

## Minimum Duct Placement Conditions

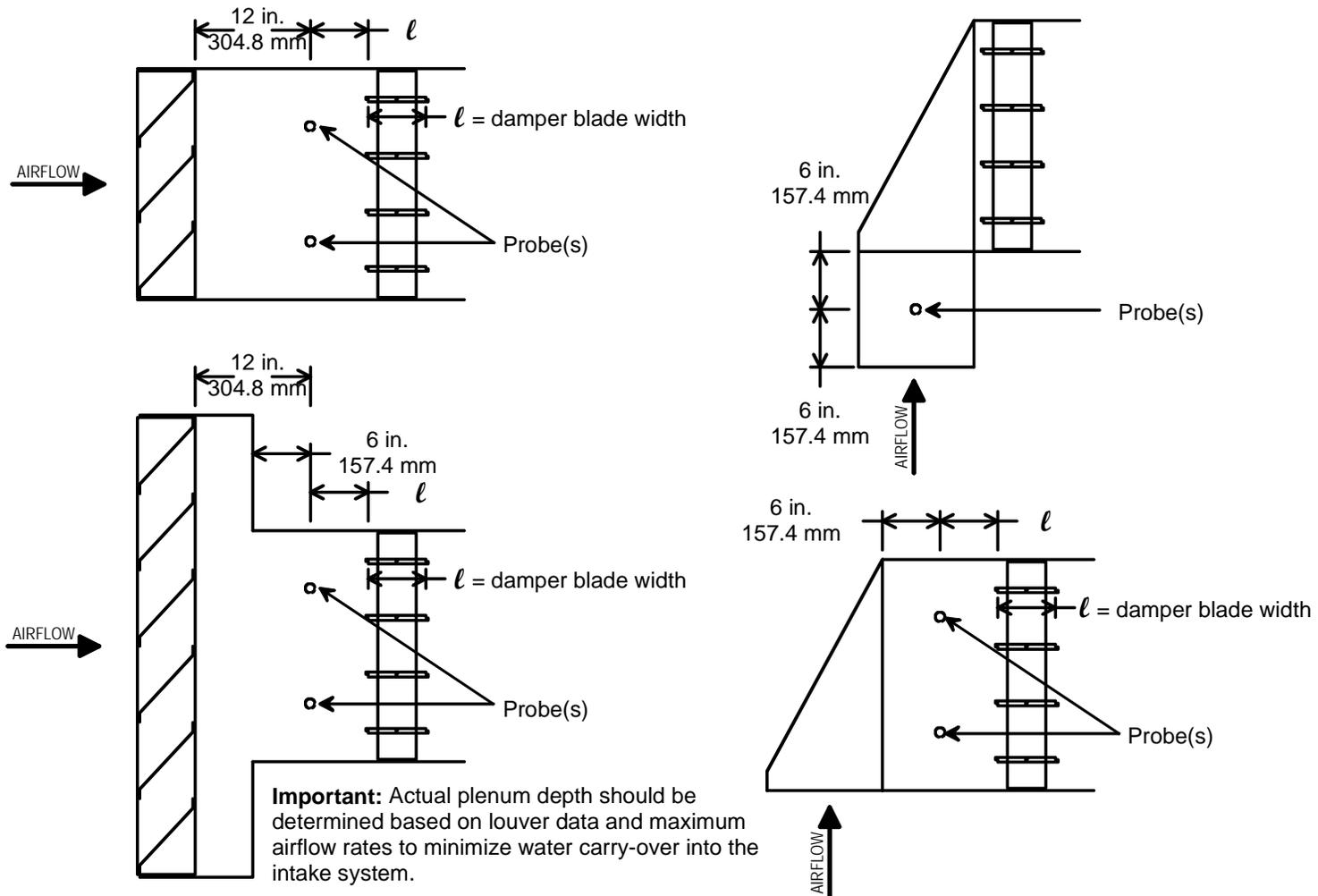
Thermal Dispersion Ducted Probes, 'C' Density Only





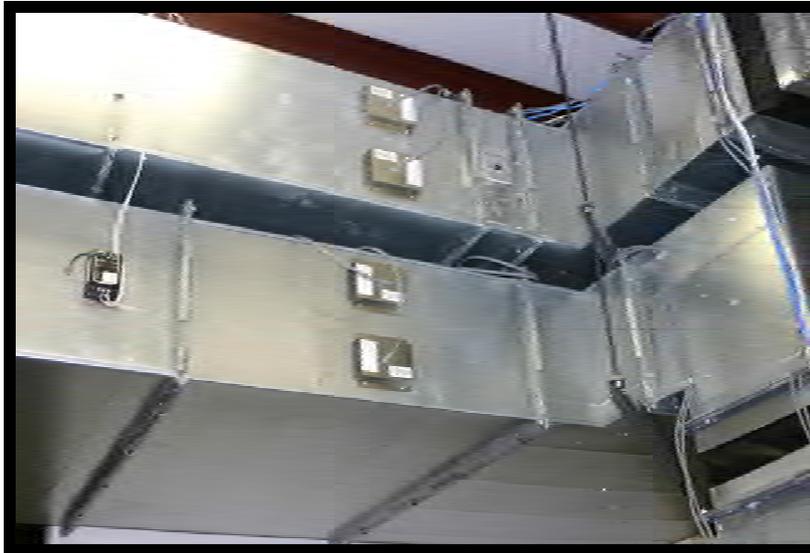
# Permanently Installed Instruments

## OA Intake Placement





## Eliminating Averaging Errors Expands Placement Options



Averaging Error  
Comparison

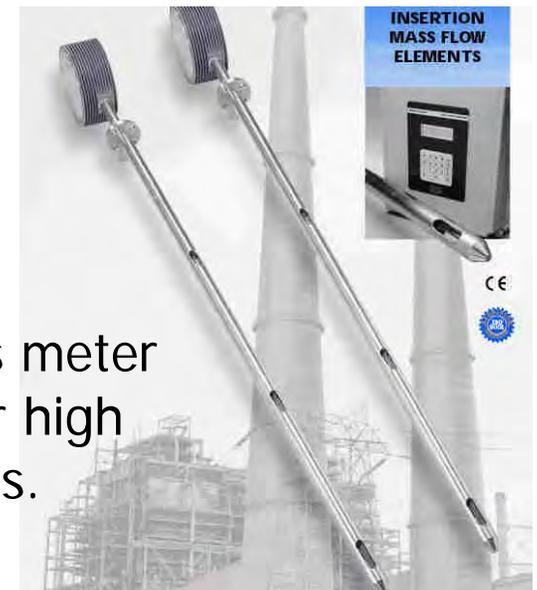
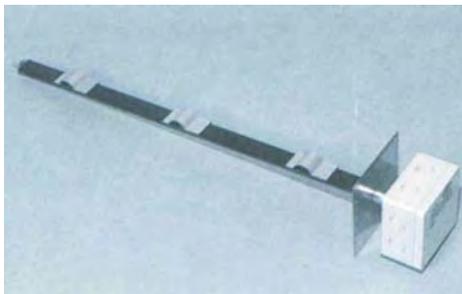
	2	R	1
3	<b>Thermal Dispersion</b> Ref Error		
	R =	960 FPM	0.0 %
4	1 =	957 FPM	-0.3 %
	2 =	933 FPM	-2.9 %
	3 =	938 FPM	-2.4 %
	4 =	992 FPM	3.4 %

6 independent sensors  
vs 14 dp pickups

			Ref Error
3	<b>Pitot Array</b>		
	R =	872 FPM	0.0 %
4	1 =	1097 FPM	25.8 %
	2 =	864 FPM	-0.9 %
	3 =	1250 FPM	43.2 %
	4 =	1155 FPM	32.4 %

## What thermal-based velocity meter designs are available for permanent mounting?

- **5 vendors** have introduced and/or are selling thermistor-based velocity meters during the past 5 years.



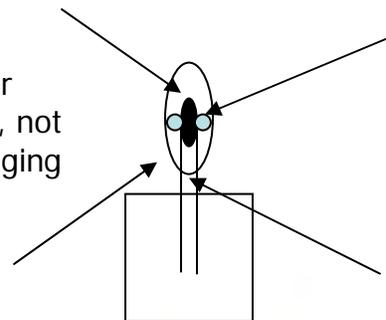
- This excludes the industrial and process meter manufacturers that use RTD designs for high temperature and corrosive environments.

# Thermistor Selection is Pivotal !

- ☞ **One notable product uses two epoxy coated chip thermistors.**
- NOT designed for self-heat applications.
  - NOT a ruggedized thermistor probe. Epoxy coating can absorb water. Leads can separate from thermistor substrate. Exposed leads can corrode.
  - Limited aging process results in very poor long term stability.

Chip thermistor material is designed for low-cost interchangeable ambient air temperature measurement, not self-heat applications. No aging process.

Epoxy coating provides minimal protection and can absorb water, leading to sensor failure.



Leads are soldered to thermistor material and can separate when used in self-heat applications or as a result of mechanical vibration.

Exposed leads can corrode. Thermistor position can move and change airflow calibration.

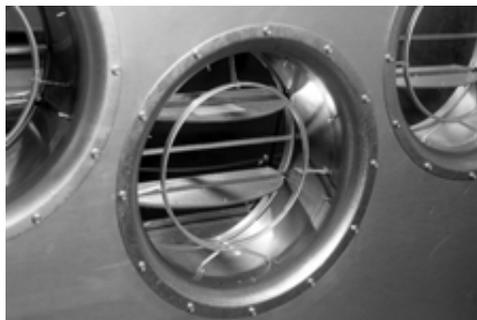




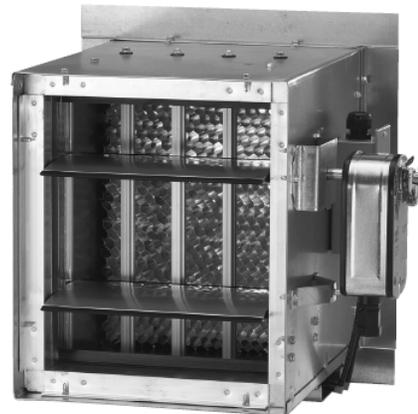
## Combination Damper/AFMS

At least **4 vendors** offer combination products.

Only one manufacturer uses Thermal Dispersion technology. All others use variations of the Pitot array.



AHU manufacturer's Intake damper option



calibrated to operate across a specific operating range.



intended to maintain a single pre-determined airflow set point and includes a controller



## **10 of 16 Minimum TAB Air Procedures can be Satisfied with Qualified Permanent Instruments, already on site**

Test and adjust fan speed to design requirements.

Test and record outside air, mixed air, and discharge temperatures

Set adjustments of automatically operated dampers to operate as specified.

Test and adjust air handling and distribution systems to provide required or design quantities for supply, return, outside, and exhaust air.

Make air quantity measurements in ducts by Pitot tube traverse entire cross sectional area of duct.

Measure air quantities at air inlets and outlets.

Vary total system air quantities by adjustment of fan speeds. Provide drive changes recommendations to installing contractor.

Adjust outside air automatic dampers, supply, return and exhaust dampers for design conditions.

Measure temperature conditions across supply, return and exhaust dampers to check leakage.

Where modulating dampers or economizers are provided, take measurement at full design flow - return air, minimum outside air, and 100 percent outside air mode of operation.



# Airflow Measurement Devices

**Devices having substantially greater, verifiable performance can provide superior TAB field results, reduce TAB labor costs and time investments.**

**In locations difficult to measure with a Pitot, these devices can provide a superior basis for set up or field verification – the key for the technician is product knowledge, understanding and confidence.**



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