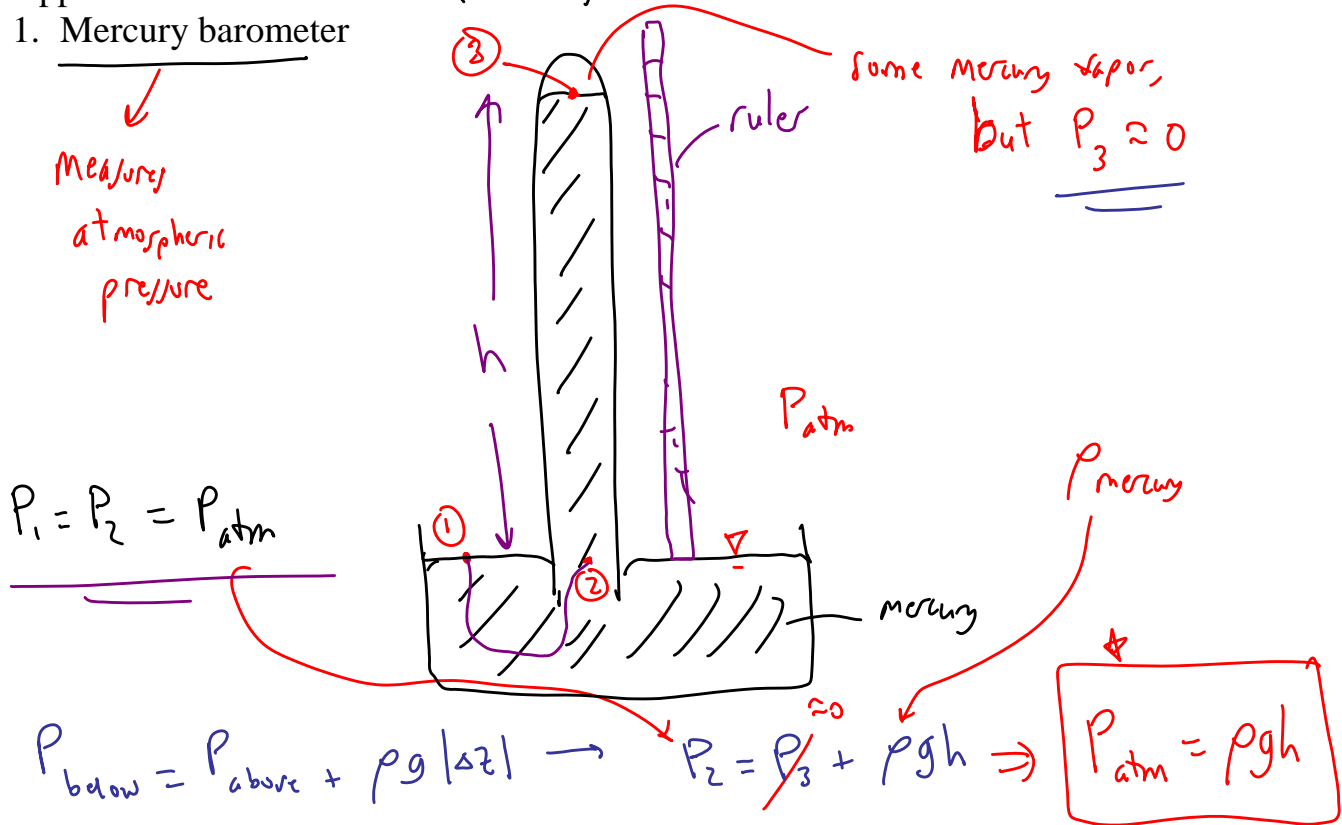


Today, we will:

- Continue Chapter 3 – Pressure and Fluid Statics
- Discuss applications of fluid statics (barometers and U-tube manometers)
- Do some example problems (manometers)

D. Applications of Fluid Statics (continued)

1. Mercury barometer



e.g. "29" of Hg" means

$$P_{atm} = \rho gh = \left(13,580 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}\right) \left(9.807 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right) \left(29.0 \text{ in}\right) \left(\frac{0.0254 \text{ m}}{\text{in}}\right) \left(\frac{\text{N}}{\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}/\text{s}^2}\right)$$

$$P_{atm} = 98,099.7 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}^2} \approx 98,100 \text{ Pa} \text{ or } \boxed{98.1 \text{ kPa}}$$

2. "Head" as a pressure measurement

\* Head = pressure expressed as the equivalent column height of a fluid

[e.g. here, the head associated with 98.1 kPa is 29" of mercury]

### 3. The U-tube manometer

Purpose: To measure an unknown pressure or pressure difference

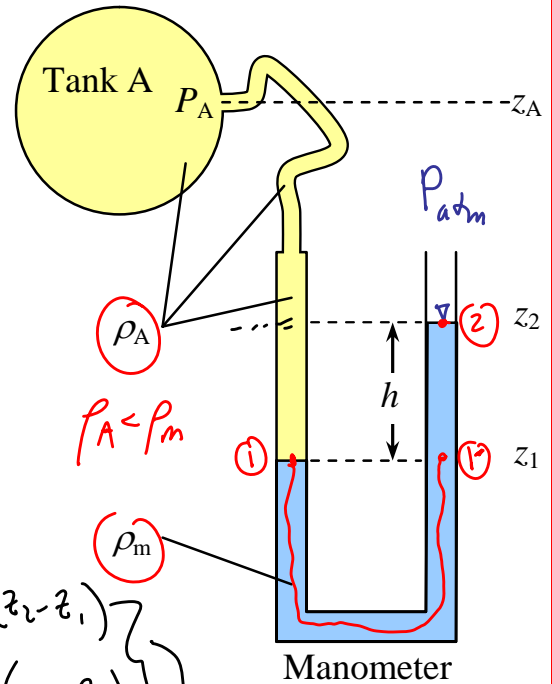
#### Example: Pressure measurement with a U-tube manometer

**Given:** A U-tube manometer is used as an instrument to measure the pressure in a tank. The right leg of the manometer is open to atmospheric pressure.

**(a) To do:** Calculate the absolute and gage pressure  $P_A$  and  $P_{A,gage}$  for the general case in which  $\rho_A$  is not small compared to  $\rho_m$ .

**(b) To do:** Simplify for the case in which  $\rho_A \ll \rho_m$  (e.g., A is air and m is mercury).

**Solution:**



$$P_{\text{below}} = P_{\text{above}} + \rho g \Delta z$$

$$P_i = P_i'$$

$$\text{From (A) to (1)}: P_1 = P_A + \rho_A g(z_A - z_2) + \rho_A g(z_2 - z_1)$$

$$\text{From (2) to (1')}: P_1' = P_2 = P_{atm} + \rho_m g(z_2 - z_1)$$

(a) equate these 2 eq's

$$P_A = P_{atm} + (\rho_m - \rho_A)g(z_2 - z_1) - \rho_A g(z_A - z_2)$$

$$P_{A,gage} = P_A - P_{atm} = (\rho_m - \rho_A)g(z_2 - z_1) - \rho_A g(z_A - z_2)$$

(b)

$$\rho_m \gg \rho_A, \rho_m - \rho_A \approx \rho_m$$

$$P_A \approx P_{atm} + \rho_m g(z_2 - z_1) - \rho_A g(z_A - z_2)$$

This term may or may not be negligible

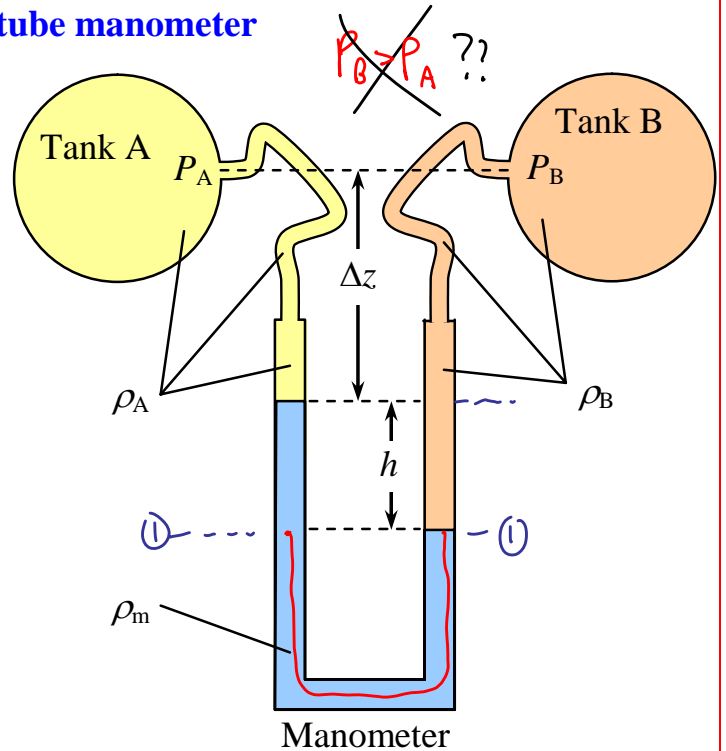
### Example: Pressure measurement with a U-tube manometer

**Given:** A U-tube manometer is used as a differential pressure measurement instrument to measure the pressure difference between two tanks. The two tanks are at the same elevation.

**(a) To do:** Calculate the pressure difference  $P_B - P_A$  for the general case in which  $\rho_A$  is not the same as  $\rho_B$  (they are different fluids).

**(b) To do:** Simplify for the case in which  $\rho_A = \rho_B$  (they are the same fluid).

**Solution:**



$$P_{\text{below}} = P_{\text{above}} + \rho g |\Delta z|$$

- Go from A to B in one swoop.

$$P_A + \underbrace{\rho_A g \Delta z}_{\text{going down } (+)} + \rho_m g h - \underbrace{\rho_B g h}_{\text{going up } (-)} - \rho_B g \Delta z = P_B$$

$$\text{So, } P_B - P_A = \underbrace{(\rho_m - \rho_B) g h}_{(+)} + \underbrace{(\rho_A - \rho_B) g \Delta z}_{(+ \text{ or } -)}$$

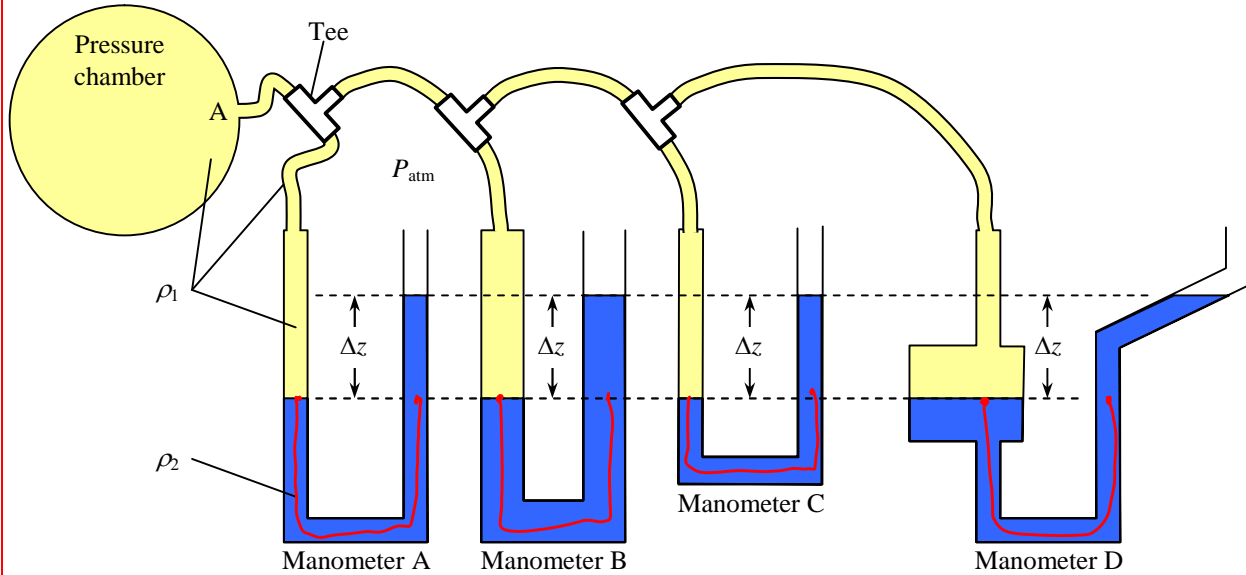
$$(b) \quad P_B - P_A = (\rho_m - \rho_B) g h$$

## 4. Some Notes about Manometry [from pdf file on website]

Author: John M. Cimbala, Penn State University  
Latest revision: 05 September 2012

The elevation difference  $\Delta z$  in a U-tube manometer does *not* depend on the following:

1. **U-Tube diameter** (provided that the tube diameter is large enough that capillary effects are negligible). In the sketch below, for a given pressure in the tank,  $\Delta z$  is the same in manometers A and B, even though the tube diameter of manometer B is larger than that of manometer A. Note that the amount of manometer liquid in each of the U-tube manometers has been adjusted such that the level of the interface between fluids 1 and 2 on the left side of each manometer is at the same elevation, for direct horizontal comparison.



Why?

$$P_{\text{below}} = P_{\text{above}} + \rho g |\Delta z| \rightarrow \text{does not depend on diameter!}$$

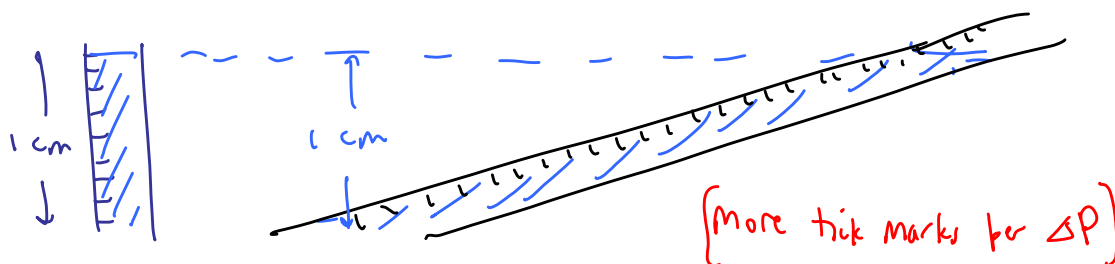
2. **U-Tube length** (provided that the tubes are long enough to include elevation difference  $\Delta z$ ). In the sketch,  $\Delta z$  is the same in manometers A and C, even though manometer C is shorter than manometer A.

Why?

Below the surface, nothing impacts our calculations or interface

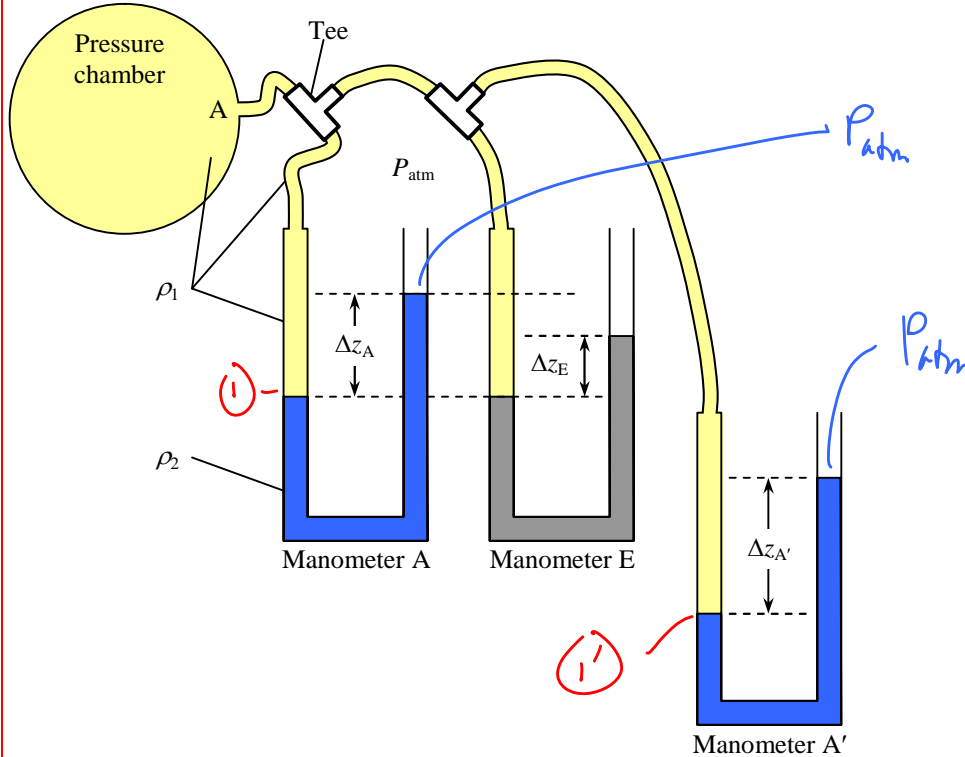
3. **U-Tube shape** (again provided that capillary effects are not important and the relative elevation is the same). In the sketch,  $\Delta z$  is the same in manometers A and D, even though manometer D is oddly shaped. Can you think of an advantage of the “inclined manometer” configuration of manometer D?

Inclined manometer can read to finer resolution



However, the elevation difference  $\Delta z$  in a U-tube manometer *does* depend on the following:

1. **Manometer fluid.** For example, if we replace the blue manometer fluid in the above sketch with a *higher density* (gray colored) fluid, as in the sketch below,  $\Delta z$  would *decrease*. In other words,  $\Delta z_E < \Delta z_A$ .



Which manometer (A or E) would have better *resolution*?

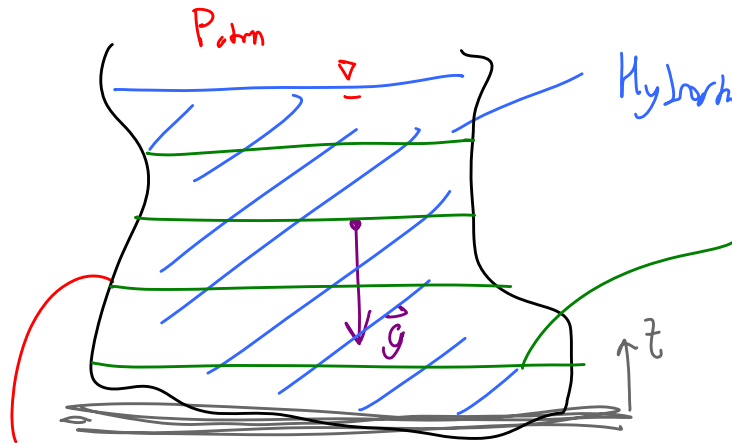
A  $\rightarrow$  more tick marks when  $h$  is higher  $\therefore$  better resolution

2. **Vertical location of the manometer.** For example, if we move manometer A to a lower elevation, all else being the same, and ignoring changes in atmospheric pressure (manometer A' in the above sketch),  $\Delta z$  would *increase*, i.e.,  $\Delta z_{A'} > \Delta z_A$ . Why?

The yellow fluid has more column height in A',  $\therefore$  pushes the manometer fluid down more.

$\therefore P_{i'} > P_i$  in this case

5. Isobar  $\Rightarrow$  a surface of constant pressure  $\star$



Hydrostatics:  $P_{below} = P_{above} + \rho g \Delta z$

Isobars  $\star$   
= horizontal lines in hydrostatics

$P$  increases as you go down

Arbitrary shape container with a liquid in it

$\star$  NOTICE: ISOBARS ARE PERPENDICULAR ( $\perp$ ) to  $\vec{g}$