

$3.9 \times 10^{-5}$  (in/sec)/(psi/in) in the present units, so the value  $8.6 \times 10^{-5}$  (in/sec)/(psi/in) would appear somewhat high. On the other hand, Jaeger and Cook cite a value  $230 \times 10^{-5}$  (in/sec)/(psi/in) for "Berea sandstone" on page 197 of [10]. The textbook values of  $k$  span too wide a range to help determine the permeability of Wilkeson sandstone, but the assumed value falls within the range and is not unreasonable.

Figure 7 is a comparison between the theory and Olsen and Thomas's data. The ordinate represents  $h$  and the abscissa  $v$ , both coordinates being logarithmic. The curve was obtained from equation (28) by numerical integration for the given experimental conditions and assumed material properties, and for

$$\mu_w = 0.42 \quad . \quad (32)$$

Agreement between experiment and theory is seen to be excellent. The measured values of  $h$  do appear to become constant at low  $v$  in accord with (29), and in the opposite extreme they decrease inversely with  $v$  in accord with (30). The theory accurately describes the shape of the transition between the two asymptotes. The choice  $\mu_w = 0.42$  befitting the data, moreover, falls in the midst of the plausible range (15). The comparison in Fig. 7 is highly encouraging, though positive confirmation of the theory must await an independent measurement of  $k$ .

Olsen and Thomas also subjected Wilkeson sandstone to a few pressures  $P_o$  lower than 17,000 psi over a very limited range of feed rates. Figure 8 shows a sample of the results, for  $d_o = 0.030$  inch and  $\theta_o = 90^\circ$  as before. The depth  $h$  is plotted as a function of  $P_o$  for a feed rate  $v = 40$  in/sec. The four experimental points were obtained by interpolating between data at nearby values of  $v$ , and the straight solid line follows from (28). The data describe an S-shaped curve, which tends toward the theory at high  $P_o$ . The fact that the first two points fall well below theory should come as no surprise, because equation (25) predicts a critical pressure  $P_c = 7900$  psi when  $v = 40$  in/sec. Notice that if  $h$  were assumed proportional to  $(P_o - P_c)$  as shown by the dotted line, then the best choice for  $P_c$  would be only 4000 psi. The  $P_c$  of (25) should be interpreted as the pressure for which  $h$  falls short of theory by about half, rather than as an absolute cutoff.