

Calculate the number of supports needed for the BTeV Forward Beam Pipe

Given: The design requirements as specified 17 September 2002:

Tube inner diameter	ID := 1.00	inch
Tolerance	IDtplus := 0.06	inch
	IDtminus := 0	inch
Tube wall thickness	t := 0.013	inch
Tolerance	ttplus := 0.002	inch
	ttminus := 0.002	inch
Front z position	z1 := 29.0	inch
Back z position	z2 := 151.6	inch
Tube length	L := z2 - z1	
	L = 122.6	inch
Tube roundness	round := 0.020	inch
Tube straightness	st := 0.050	inch
Tube minimum clear line of sight	cls := 0.750	inch
Tube material: aluminum		
Young's modulus	E := 10 · 10 ⁶	psi
specific weight	gamma := 170	lb/ft ³

Solution: First determine the maximum sag to see if it reaches a minimum clear line of sight.

Inner radius	$r1 := \frac{ID}{2}$	
	r1 = 0.5	inch
Outer radius	r2 := r1 + t	
	r2 = 0.513	inch
Moment of inertia	$I := 0.25 \cdot \pi \cdot (r2^4 - r1^4)$	
	I = 5.308 × 10 ⁻³	inch ⁴
Distributed load per unit length	$w := \text{gamma} \cdot \pi \cdot \frac{(r2^2 - r1^2)}{12^2}$	
	w = 0.049	lb/ft
Maximum sag	$y := 0.0054 \cdot \frac{\frac{w}{12} \cdot L^4}{E \cdot I}$	
	y = 0.094	inch

Assuming that the inner diameter of the pipe remains perfectly round and straight and holds its inner diameter at 1-inch, the sag in the tube results in a minimum clear line of sight 0.812-inch.

However, if the tube is out-of-round, the minimum inner diameter of the tube is reduced to 0.99-inch. In addition, if the tube is not straight by its maximum tolerance of 0.050-inch, the tube's inner diameter is further reduced to 0.89-inch. Taking into account the sag, the minimum clear line-of-sight becomes 0.702. Since the specified clear line-of-sight is 0.750, having a tube without a middle support is unacceptable.

Now, consider having the tube supported at $z=125.0$ inches so that the support lies between the fourth straw tube chamber and the fifth silicon strips detector. Calculate the minimum clear line-of-sight in the longest length of unsupported tube.

Longest length of unsupported tube

$$L1 := 125 - z1$$

$$L1 = 96 \quad \text{inch}$$

Maximum sag in unsupported tube

$$y1 := 0.0054 \cdot \frac{\frac{w}{12} \cdot L1^4}{E \cdot I}$$

$$y1 = 0.035 \quad \text{inch}$$

Assuming a minimum tube inner diameter of 0.89-inch due to out-of-roundness and minimum straightness, adding in the sag in the unsupported tube results in a clear line-of-sight of 0.855-inch.

In conclusion, if the tube is not supported along its length, the combination of the tube out-of-roundness, minimum straightness, and maximum sag results in a clear line-of-sight of 0.702, which is less than the minimum allowed. However, **if the tube supported at the position $z=125$ inches from C0, the clear line-of-sight is an acceptable 0.855-inch.**