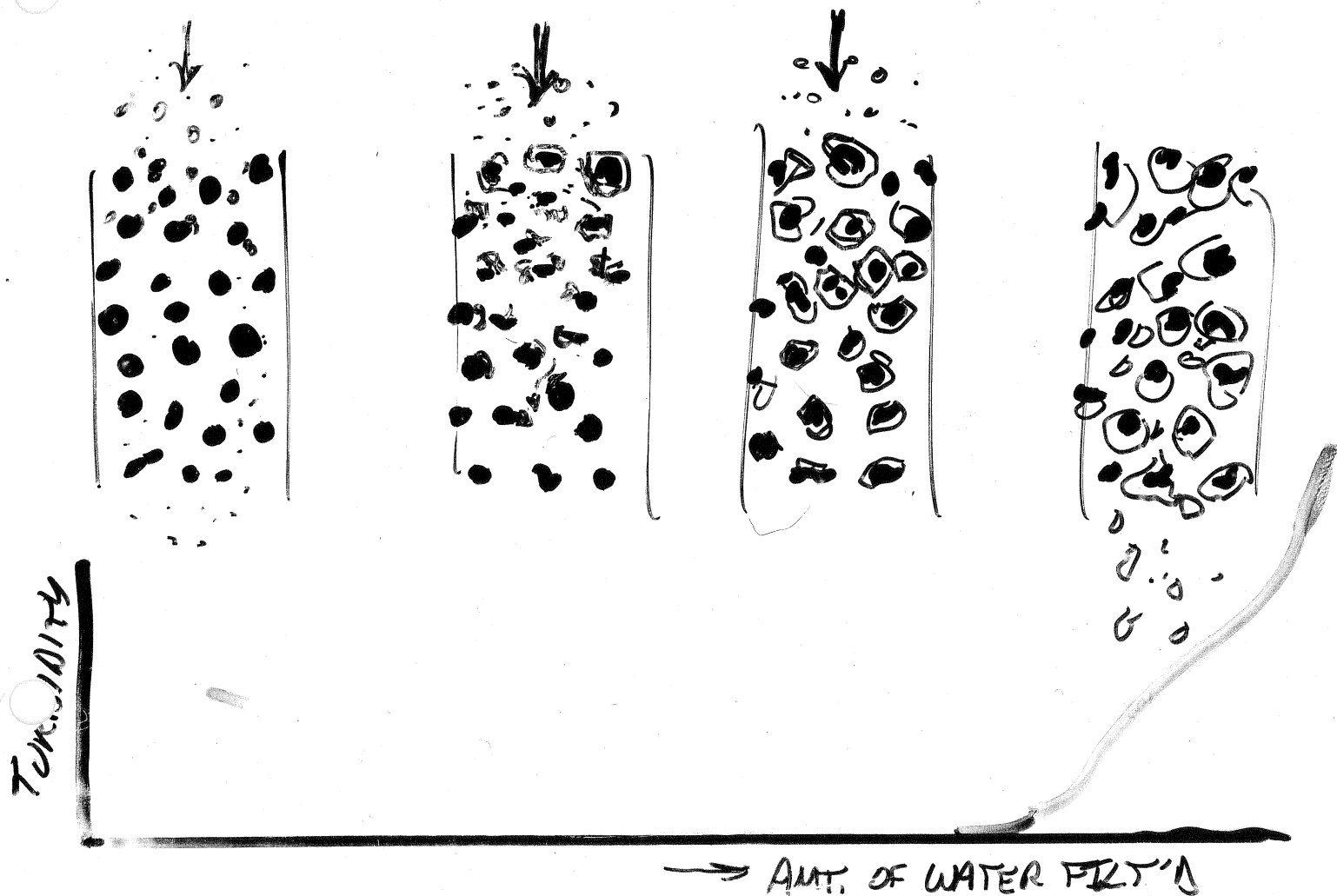
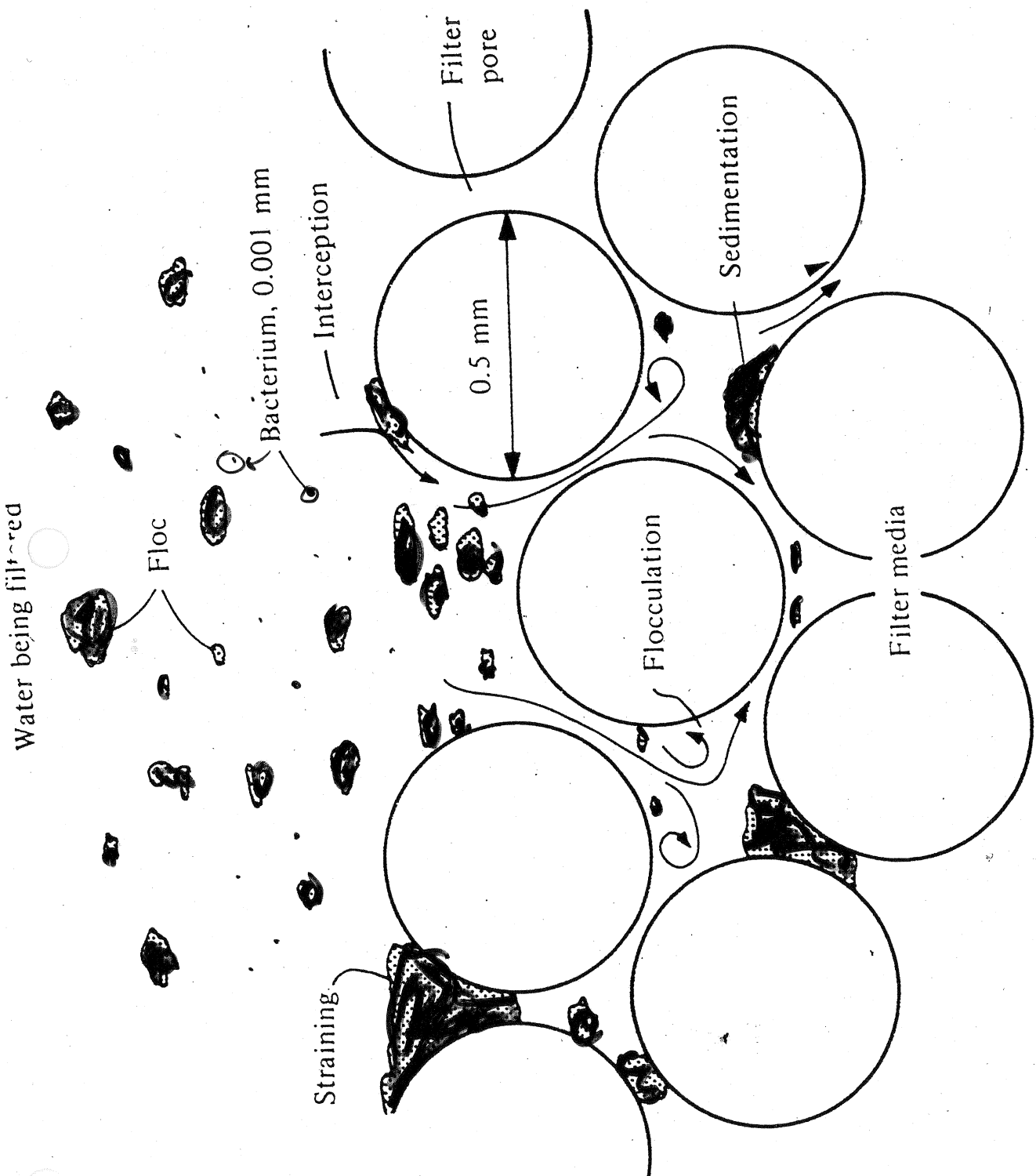


# GRAVITY GRANULAR-MEDIA FILTRATION

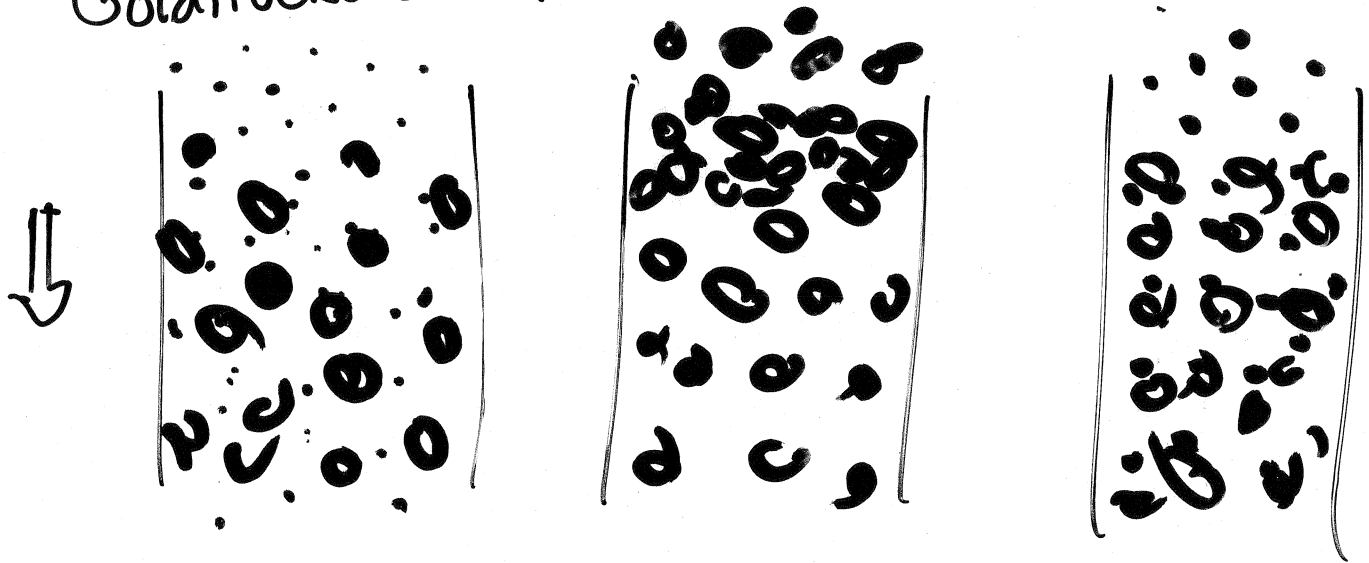
- STRAINING
- INTERCEPTION
- FLOCCULATION
- SEDIMENTATION





**Figure 10.26** Schematic diagram illustrating straining, flocculation, and sedimentation actions in a granular-media filter.

# Goldilock's and the Three Clarifiers



No floc

Too big  
floc

Just right

↑  
IN-DEPTH  
FILTRATION

Esp. important now

↳ that we need filtration to get  
rid of Giardia cysts & Cryptosporidium

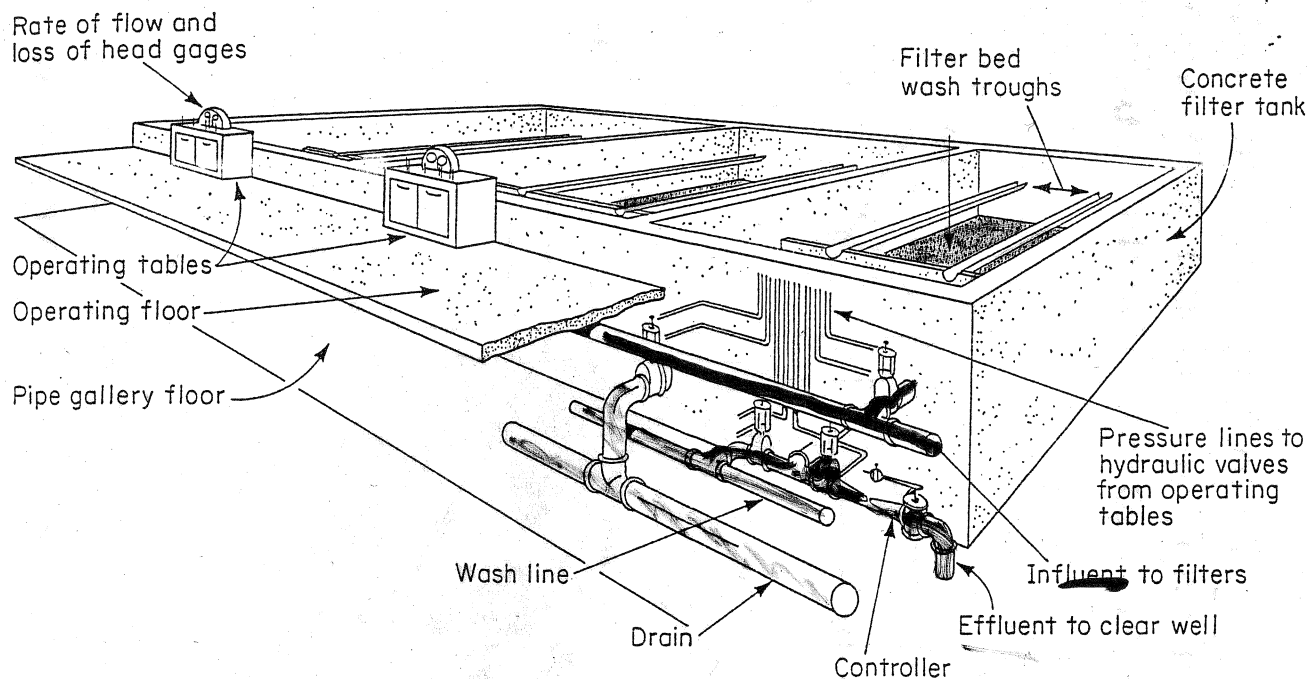
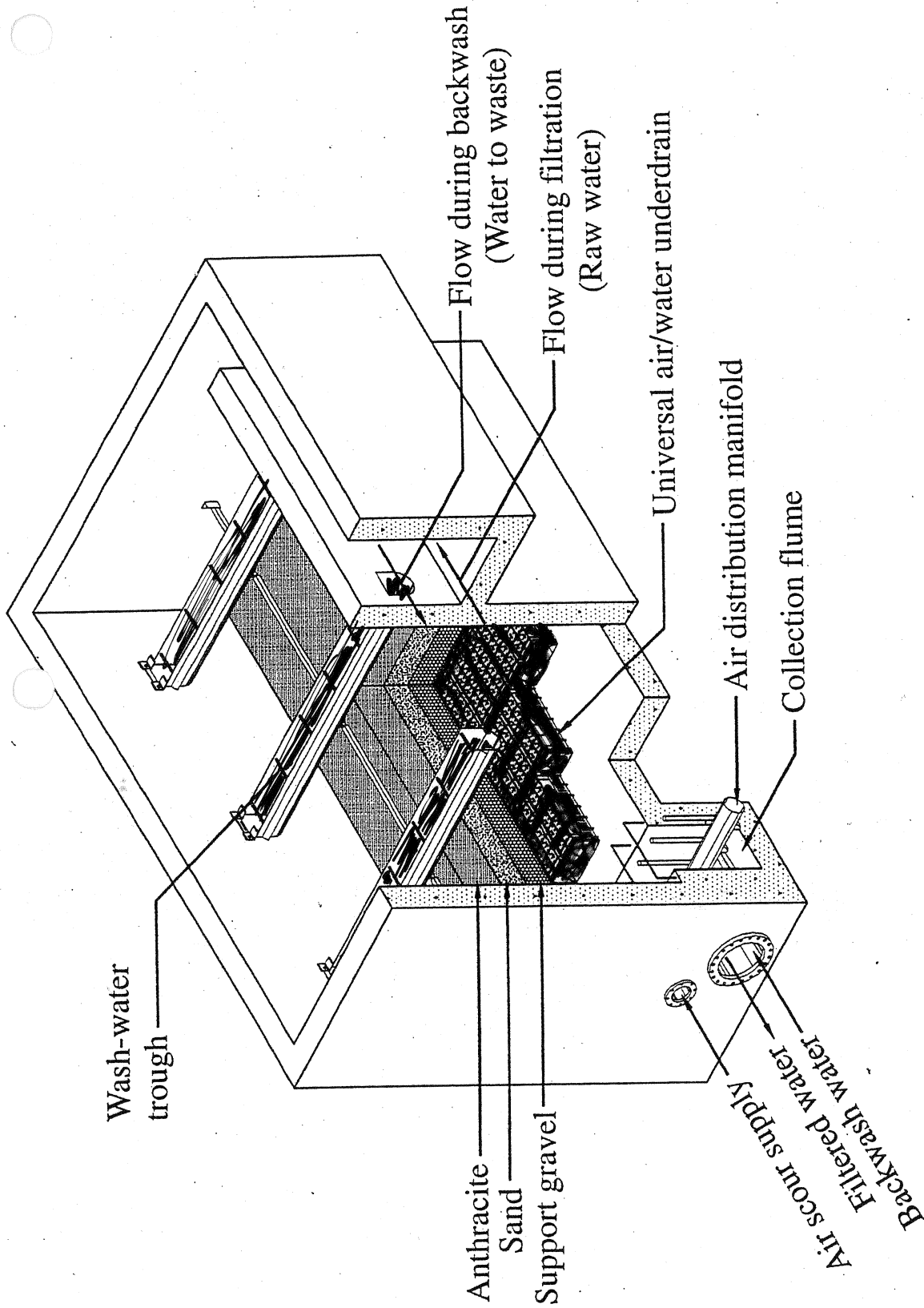


Fig. 1 Battery of three filters.

### Pretreatment Effects

The traditional rapid-sand filter, containing sand of 0.5 mm effective size, 24 to 30 in. thick, operating at a 2 gpm/sq ft filtration rate, is not effective in clarifying water that has not received prior treatment. Figure 2, based on data from Chicago and Montreal, shows that rapid-sand filters operated on unflocculated water were unable to produce water meeting the USPHS drinking water standard of five turbidity units (Jackson units—j. u.) when the raw water turbidity exceeded 15. Because of this, flocculation of water prior to filtration is almost always employed. In most cases flocculation has been followed by sedimentation to reduce the quantity of material applied to the filter.

The most important characteristics of the flocculated water applied to filters are: (1) the completeness of the flocculation and (2) the strength of the flocs. If, due to deficiencies in plant facilities or underdosage of coagulant, the fine particles are not all entrapped in the floc, the filters will be unable to remove them. This will be so even with small-diameter media, low filter rates, thick beds, etc. Variations in such parameters have little effect on filter effluent quality when flocculation is insufficient. Because



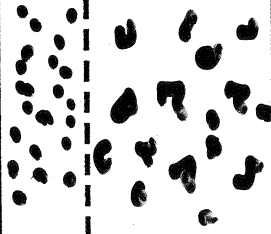
**Figure 10.29** Cutaway view of a gravity-filter box with water and air piping, wash-water troughs, and dual-media filter supported on a plastic block underdrain. (Courtesy of the F. B. Leopold Company, Inc.)



Anthracite (coal):  
Specific gravity 1.4–1.6  
Effective size 0.9–1.1 mm  
Uniformity coefficient  $< 1.7$



Sand:  
Specific gravity 2.65  
Effective size 0.45–0.55 mm  
Uniformity coefficient  $< 1.7$

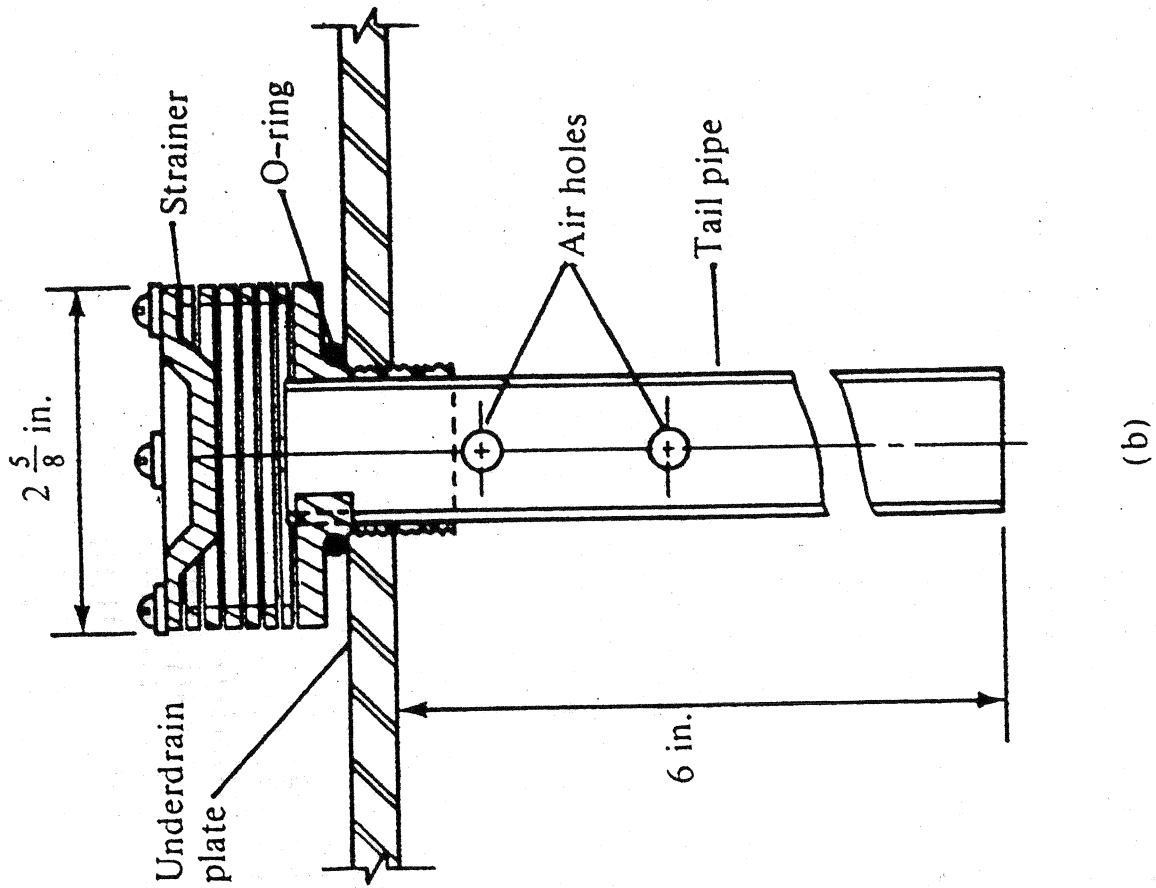


Coarse sand

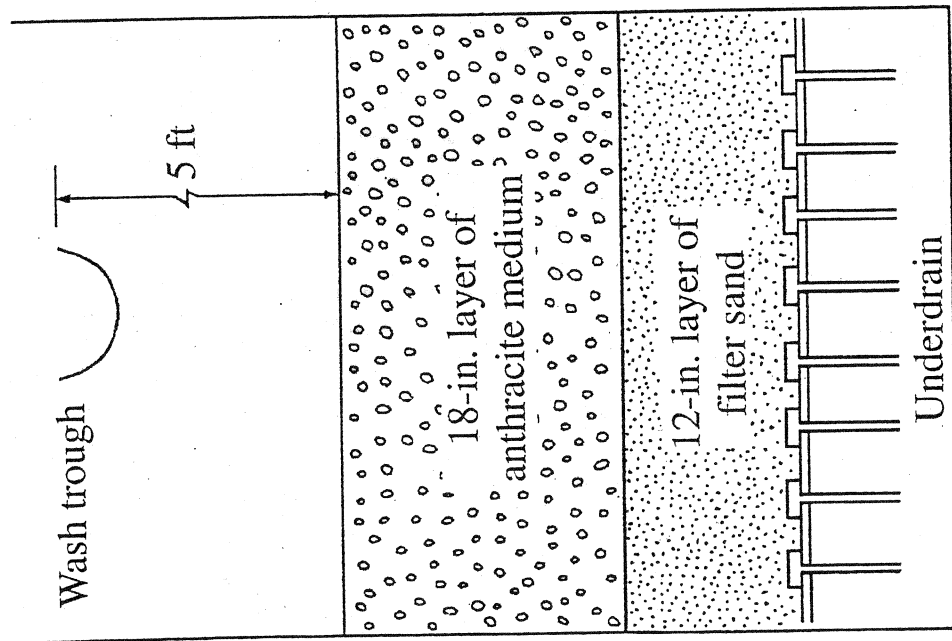
Layers of fine to  
coarse gravel

Underdrain

Figure 10.30 Cross section of the media in a coal–sand dual-media filter and supporting gravel layer showing typical grain sizes, specific gravities, effective sizes, and uniformity coefficients.



(b)



(a)

**Figure 10.32** Underdrain system for air scouring and water backwashing of a granular-media filter. (a) Cross section of the filter. (b) Detail of the air-water nozzle. (Courtesy of General Filter Co., Ames, IA.)

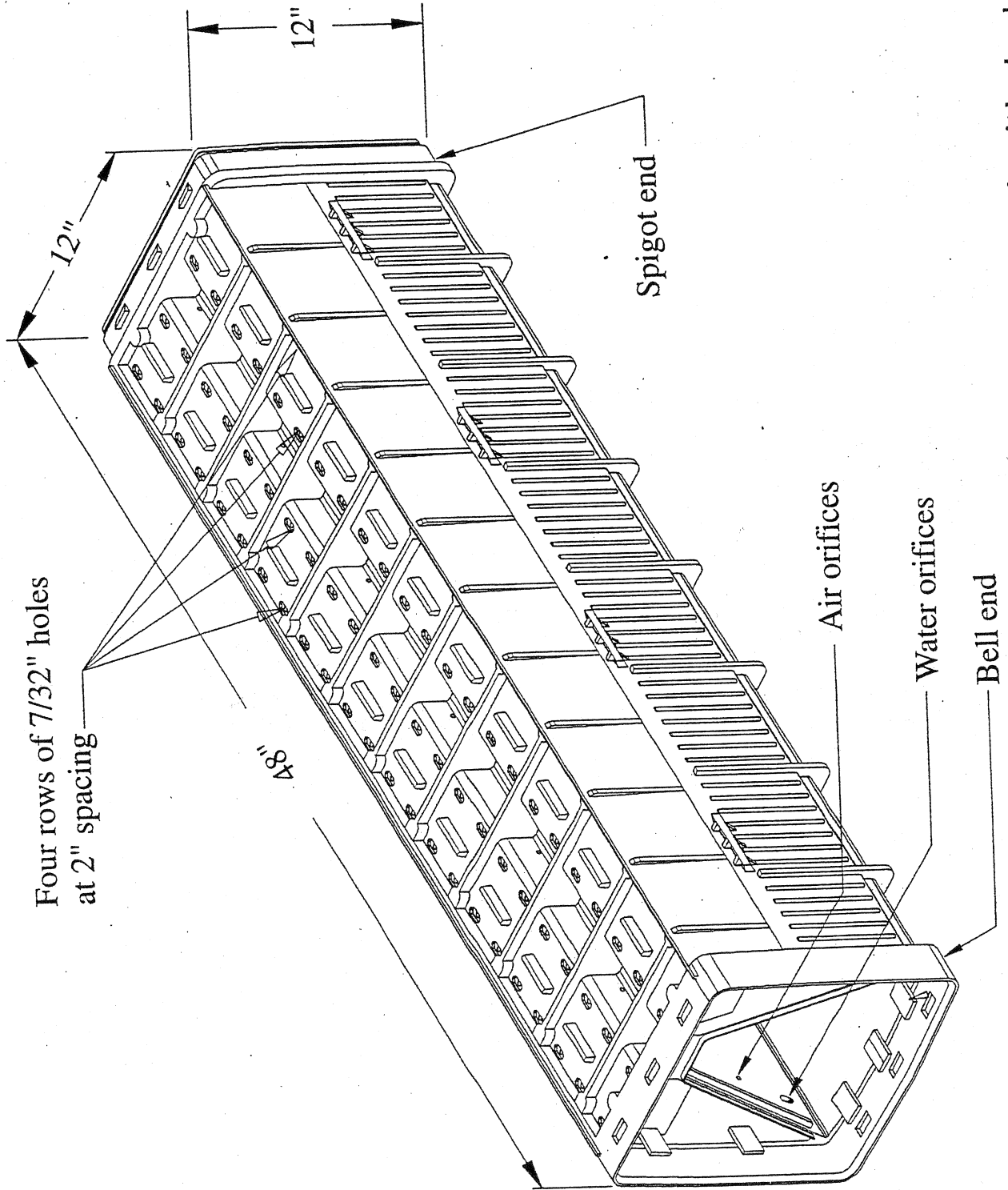


Figure 10.31 High-density polyethylene underdrain block with dual-



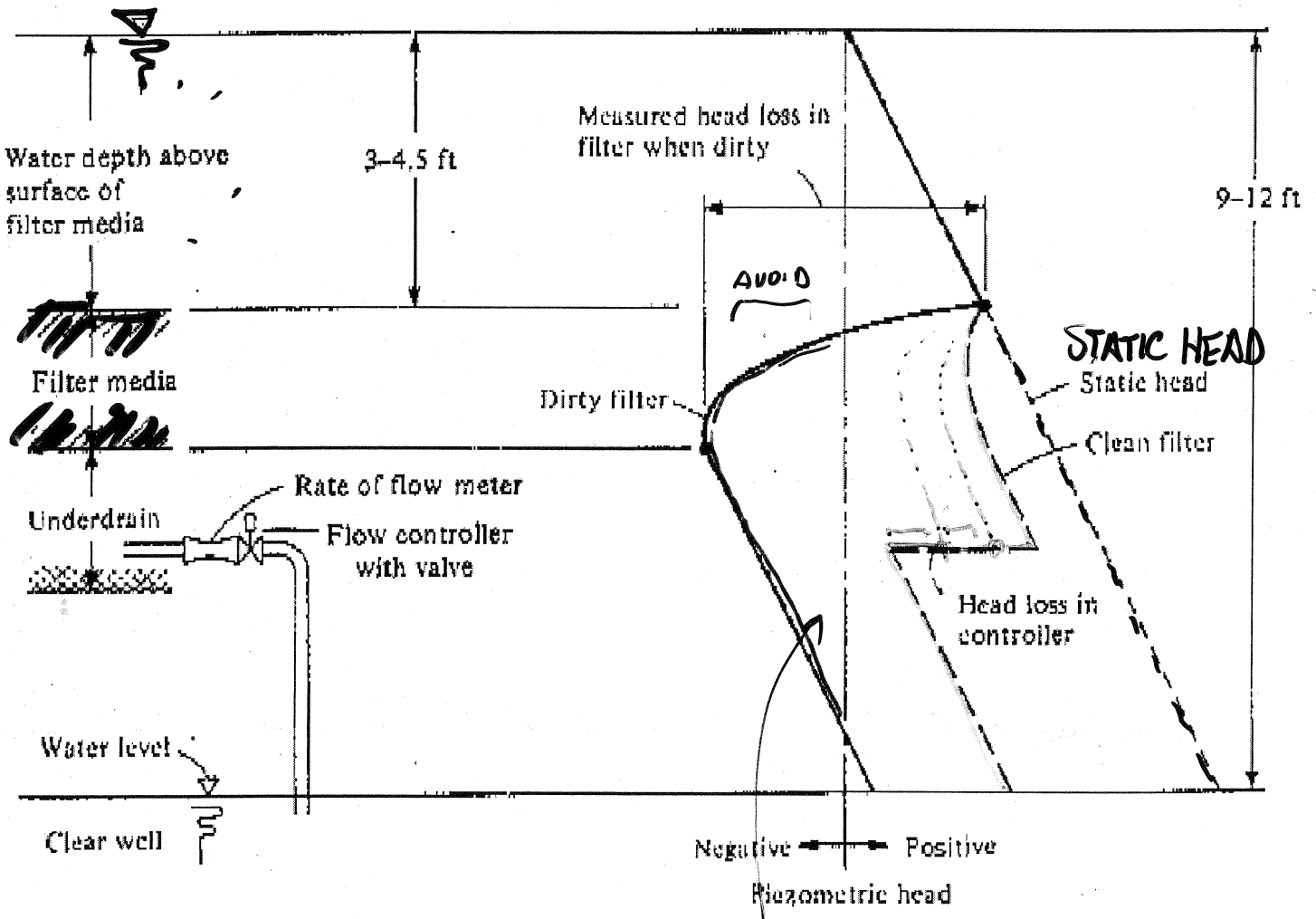
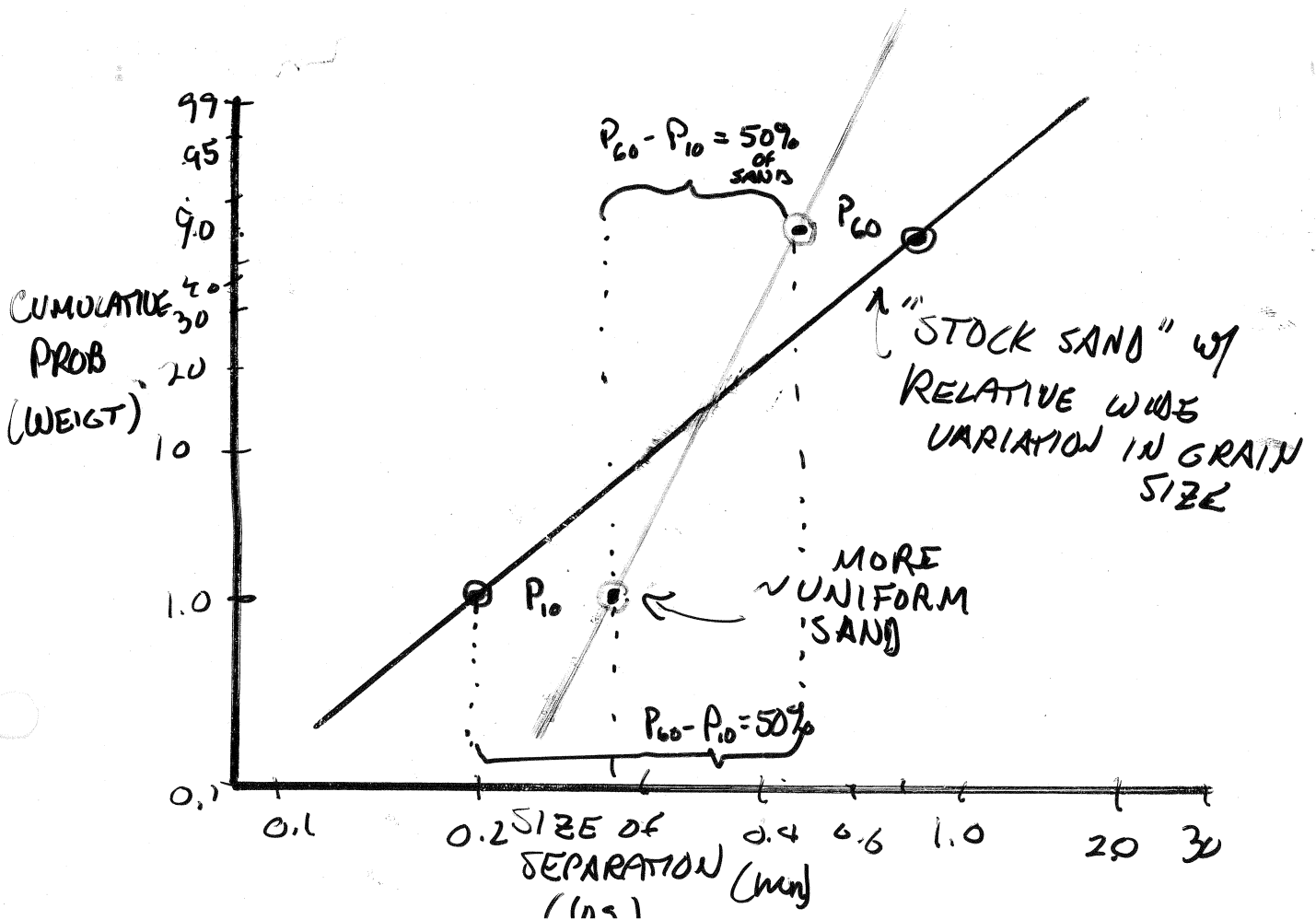
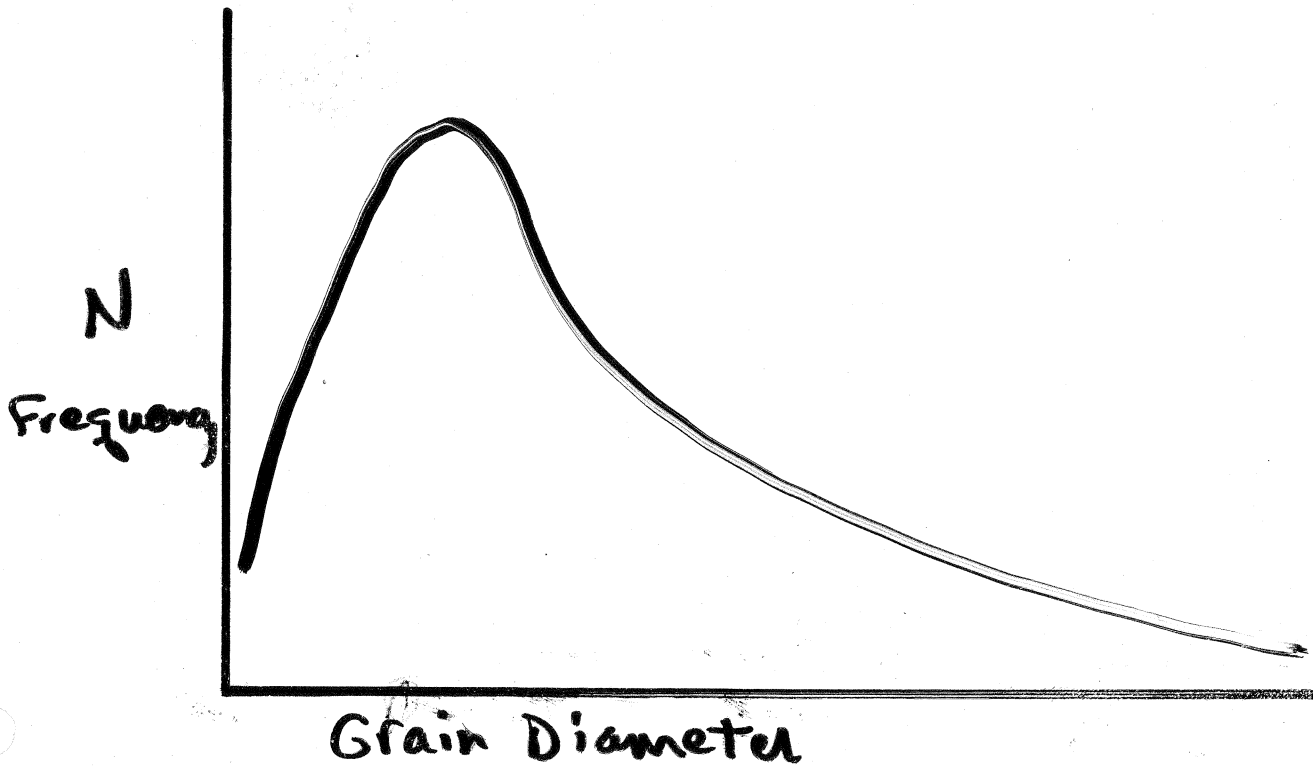


Figure 10.34 Piezometric head diagrams through a gravity filter system operated by control of the rate of flow.

Negative head "suctioning" the water thru the filter bed

# SAND SIZE DISTRIBUTION



## SAND SIZE

$$\text{Eff. size} = ES \equiv P_{10}$$

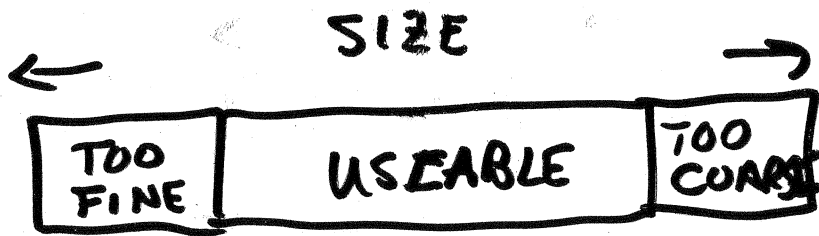
↑  
size (mm) corresponding  
to smallest 10%  
(10th percentile)

$$\text{Uniformity Coeff} = U \equiv P_{60}/P_{10}$$

Can use  $U$  to extrapolate to other  
size fractions

$$\text{E.g. } d_{90} = d_{10} U^{1.67}$$

Note also: 50% of sand lies between  
 $d_{10}$  and  $d_{60}$



$$P_{use} + P_f + P_c = 100$$

All sand between  $P_{10}$  &  $P_{60}$  (specified) is useable (and this is 50% of spec. sand)

FOR STOCK sand can only use the part that corresponds to useable part of spec sand

$$P_{use} = 2(P_{st60} - P_{st10})$$

STOCK SAND WILL HAVE  $P_{st10} > P_{10}$  (10% - 116)

BUT CAN ACCEPT 10% of those fines (by definition of  $P_{10}$ )

$$P_f = P_{st10} - 0.10 P_{use} = P_{st10} - 0.2(P_{st60} - P_{st10})$$

↑

TOO FINE

↑

NOMINAL DESIRED MIN

↑

10% of usable sand we can tolerate below  $P_{10}$

Too COARSE:

$$P_c = 100 - P_f - P_{use}$$
$$= 100 - \left[ P_{st10} + 0.2(P_{st60} - P_{st10}) \right] - 2(P_{st60} - P_{st10})$$

$$P_c = 100 - P_{st10} - 1.8(P_{st60} - P_{st10})$$

See Ex. 14.1 in text.

Remove coarse fraction w/ SIEVES

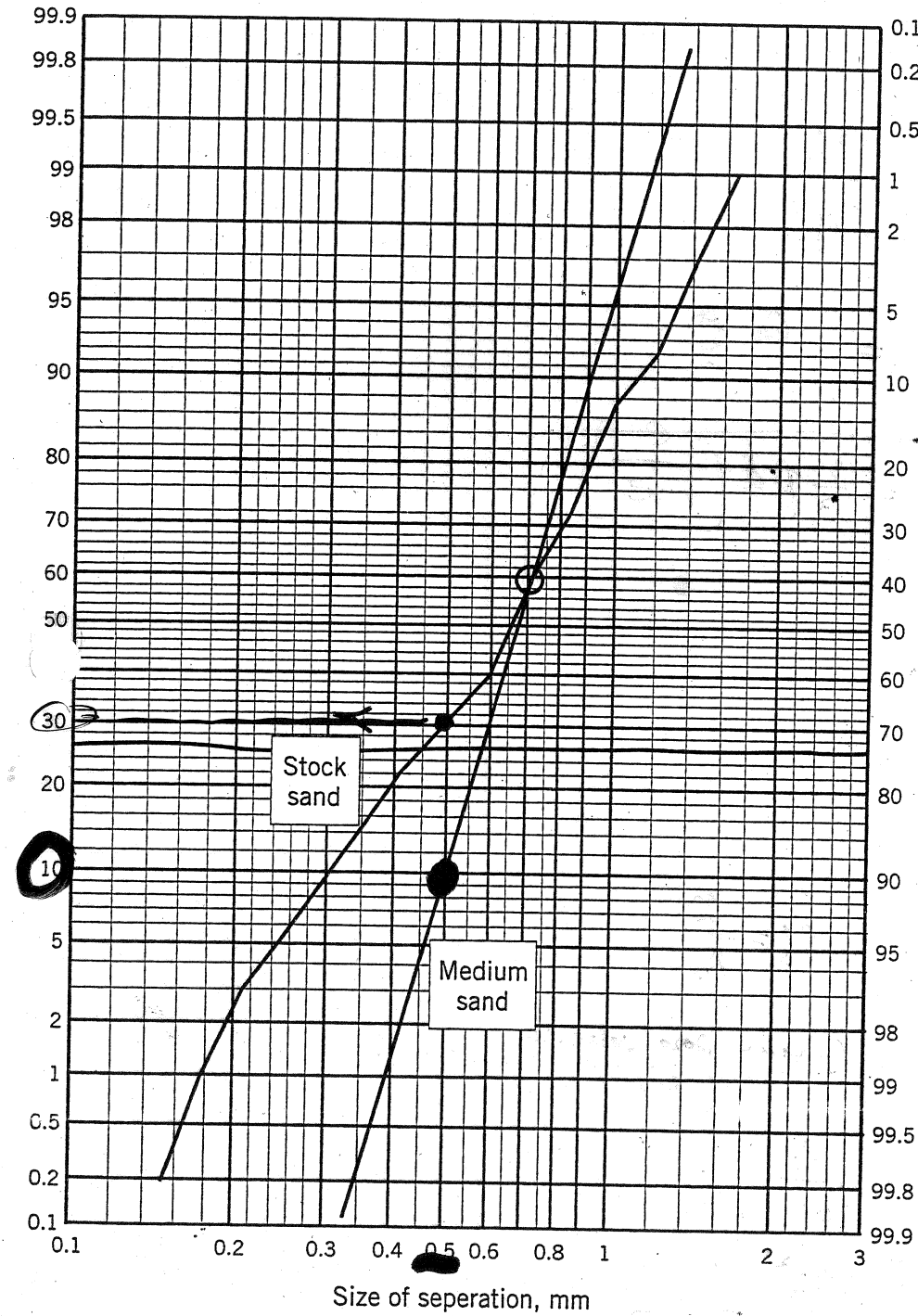
Remove fine fraction "in situ" by  
backwashing at high rate to drive  
out fines

(Use Stokes law to find backflow  
velocity)

prob. The inter sand specifications are an ES ( $d_{10}$ ) of 0.050 cm and a unifor coefficient of 1.4.

The  $d_{60}$  size is

$$d_{60} = U d_{10} = 1.4(0.05 \text{ cm}) = 0.70 \text{ cm}$$



**Figure 14.3** Sand grain size distribution for example.

corresponding characteristics for the Ottawa sand are 0.55. The sphericities of the sand and anthracite are 0.95 and 0.95. The surface area of 1.5 for anthracite and information in Table 14.3 for sand. Perform the calculation for a temperature of 10°C and surcharge (4 290 gal/ft<sup>2</sup>/d).

The  $P_{60}$  sizes for the media are

anthracite:  $d_{60} = U d_{10} = 1.5(0.85 \text{ mm}) = 1.27 \text{ mm}$

sand:  $d_{60} = U d_{10} = 1.35(0.55 \text{ mm}) = 0.74 \text{ mm}$

The media size distributions are obtained by plotting the data on probability paper and drawing a straight line through the data. The size distribution data obtained from these plots are tabulated in Table 14.4.

Size Distribution of Media

Percentiles (by weight) of media	$d_1$ mm	$d_2$ mm	Geometric
			Mean size <sup>a</sup> mm
<b>Anthracite</b>			
5-20 <sup>b</sup>	0.72	1.00	0.85
20-40	1.00	1.18	1.09
40-60	1.18	1.27	1.22
60-80	1.27	1.53	1.39
80-95 <sup>b</sup>	1.53	1.81	1.66
<b>Sand</b>			
5-20 <sup>b</sup>	0.51	0.61	0.56
20-40	0.61	0.68	0.64
40-60	0.68	0.74	0.71
60-80	0.74	0.82	0.74
80-95 <sup>b</sup>	0.82	0.93	0.87

$$= \sqrt{d_1 \cdot d_2}$$

<sup>a</sup>The mean size is the geometric mean size because a probability plot is used.  $d = \sqrt{d_1 d_2}$ .

<sup>b</sup>The 5th and 95th percentile sizes were chosen to represent the extreme sizes.

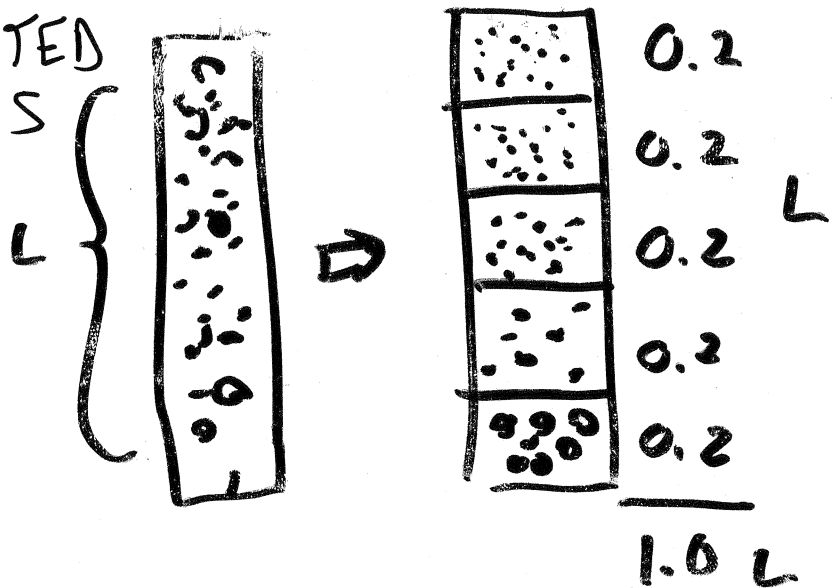
The headloss calculations are performed by calculating the term after the summation sign in Eq. (14.16) for each layer in the table of media sizes. The results are shown for each medium.





# HEADLOSS CALCULATIONS

FOR DISTRIBUTED  
GRAIN SIZES



$$h_L^{\text{Tot}} = \sum h_{L_i} = \left[ \frac{(1-e)}{e^3} \frac{v_s^2}{\psi g} L \right] \sum f_{fi} \frac{x_i}{d_i}$$

FRICTION FACTOR:  $f_{fi} = 150 \frac{1-e}{Re} + 1.75$

So, for given: bed depth:  $L$

sphericity:  $\psi$

surf. loading rate:  $v_s = \frac{Q}{A_s}$

Find the summation of the friction  
and size factors

# ~~Filtering~~ Experimentally

## HEAD LOSS THRU A FILTER

Egns 10.26  $\rightarrow$  10.27  
           $\uparrow$                    $\uparrow$   
UNIFORM                GRADED

~~10.27~~  
1415

$$\frac{h}{l} = \frac{36 k \nu (1 - \epsilon)^2 V}{g \epsilon^3 \psi^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{P_i}{d_i^2}$$

$$k = 5.0$$

$\nu$  = kin. viscosity

$\epsilon$  = porosity

$V$  = approach velocity  $\left(\frac{Q}{A}\right)$

$\psi$  = sphericity

$P_i$  = fraction of grains in any layer

$d_i$  = geometric mean

$$= \sqrt{d_{\max} \cdot d_{\min}}$$

$\psi =$  sphericity (known/given)

$v_s = \frac{Q}{A_s} =$  surf. loading rate

$e =$  porosity (given)

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SECTION IV/Physical-Chemical Treatment Processes

$\rho =$  density ( $\gamma$ )

$\mu =$  viscosity ( $\tau$ )

Headloss Calculations

$Re = \frac{\rho v_s \psi d}{\mu}$   $f_t = 150 \frac{1-e}{Re} + 1.75$  (k)

FROM PRIOR TABLE Percentiles (by weight) of media	Mean size mm	$Re^a$	$f_{ti}$	$x_i/d_i^b$ mm <sup>-1</sup>	$f_{ti} \frac{x_i}{d_i}$ mm <sup>-1</sup>
<u>Anthracite</u>					
5-20	0.85	1.02	67.6	0.236	15.9
20-40	1.09	1.31	53.2	0.184	9.8
40-60	1.22	1.48	47.4	0.163	7.7
60-80	1.39	1.68	41.8	0.143	6.0
80-95	1.66	2.01	35.3	0.120	4.2
				Total	43.7
<u>Sand</u>					
5-20	0.56	0.82	111.5	0.359	40.0
20-40	0.64	0.95	96.8	0.311	30.0
40-60	0.71	1.04	88.0	0.282	24.8
60-80	0.74	1.15	80.3	0.257	20.6
80-95	0.87	1.28	71.8	0.229	16.4
				Total	131.9

<sup>a</sup>The porosities of anthracite and sand are 0.55 and 0.40, respectively, from Table 14.3.

<sup>b</sup>The fractions,  $x_i$ , were taken to be 0.20 for each mean size.

$$h_L = h_{La} + h_{Ls} = \left( \frac{1 - e_a}{e_a^3} \right) \frac{v_s^2}{\psi_a g} L_a \sum \left( f_{fai} \frac{x_{ai}}{d_{ai}} \right) + \left( \frac{1 - e_s}{e_s^3} \right) \frac{v_s^2}{\psi_s g} L_s \sum \left( f_{fsi} \frac{x_{si}}{d_{si}} \right)$$

$$h_L = \frac{(1 - 0.55) \left[ 175 \frac{m}{d} \left( \frac{1 d}{86400 s} \right) \right]^2 (0.45 m)}{(0.55)^3 (0.72) (9.81 m/s^2)} (43.7 \times 10^3 m^{-1})$$

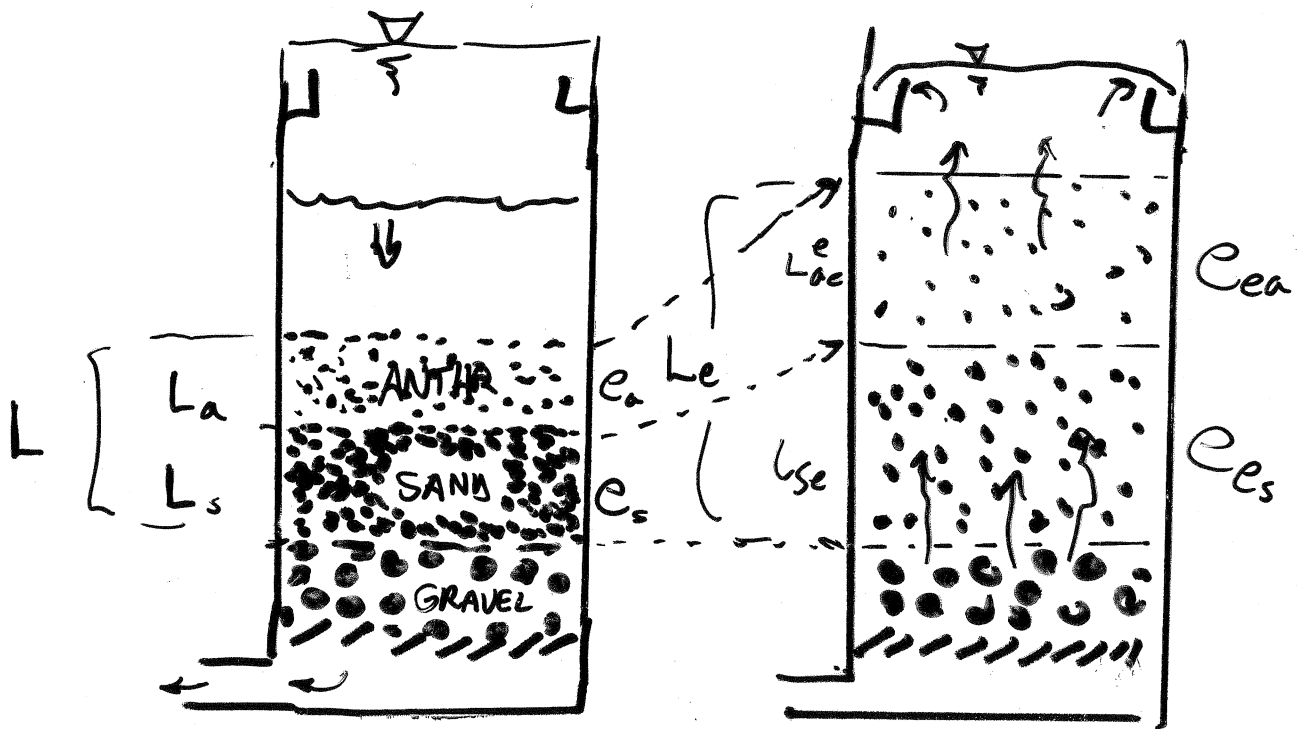
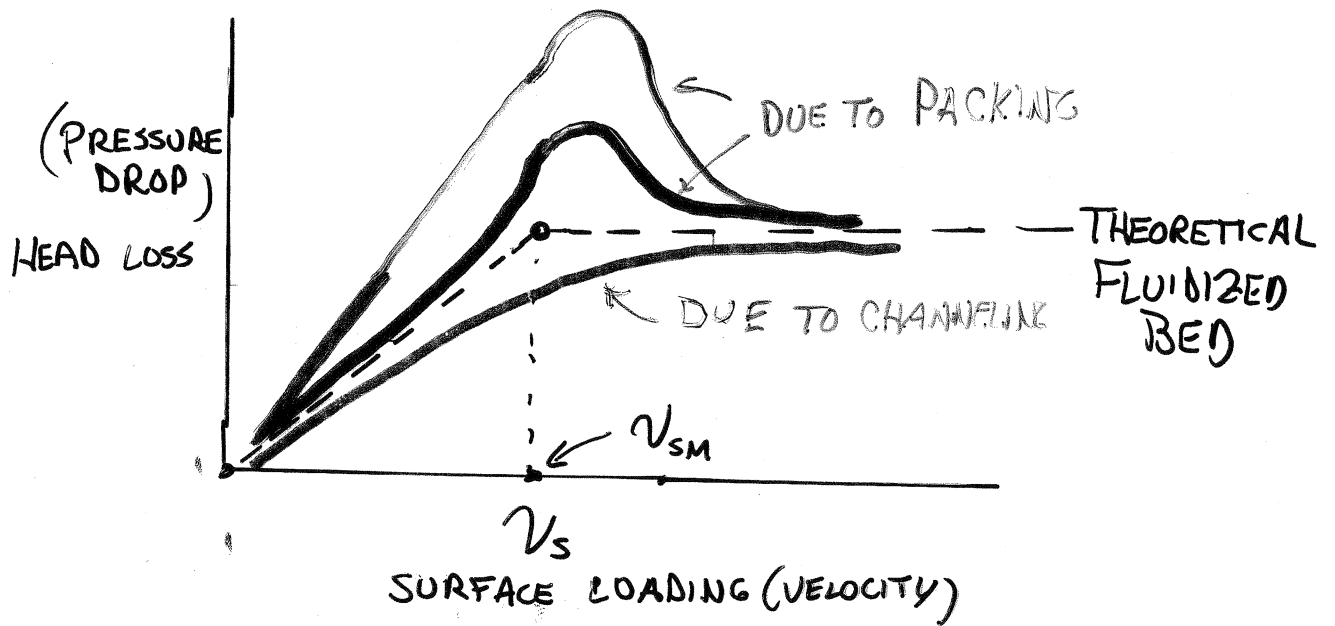
$$+ \frac{(1 - 0.40) \left[ 175 \frac{m}{d} \left( \frac{1 d}{86400 s} \right) \right]^2 (0.30 m)}{(0.40)^3 (0.95) (9.81 m/s^2)} (131.9 \times 10^3 m^{-1})$$

$$= 0.032 m + 0.163 m = 0.195 m$$

In U.S. units:

$\left[ \dots gal / (1 ft^3) \right] / (1 d) \left[ \dots \right]^2 (1.5 ft)$

# FILTER BACKWASHING



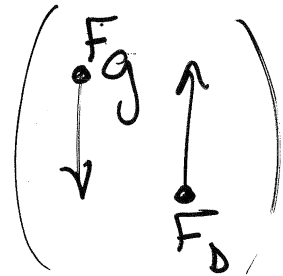
Uses  $\sim 1-5\%$  of product water  
 $\therefore \rightarrow$  want to MINIMIZE

# HEADLOSS DURING BACKWASH

$$\frac{\text{Eff. weight of medium}}{\text{Vol. of medium}} = (\rho_s - \rho)g[1 - e_e]$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{"Reduced" density}} \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \text{Porosity of fluidized bed}$

$$(\rho_s - \rho)g(1 - e_e) = \frac{F_{\text{DRAG}}}{A_s L e}$$



$F_D$  = HEAD LOSS THRU MEDIUM  
(i.e. frictional drag on water)

$$\frac{F_D}{A_s} = (\rho g) \frac{h_{Le}}{e}$$

$$\underbrace{(\rho_s - \rho)(1 - e_e)g L e}_{\text{EFF. wt expanded}} = \rho g \cdot h_{Le} = \underbrace{(\rho_s - \rho)g(1 - e)L}_{\text{EFF. WT. at REST}}$$

$$* h_{Le} = \frac{(\rho_s - \rho)}{\rho} (1 - e_e) L e = \frac{(\rho_s - \rho)}{\rho} (1 - e) L \quad (\text{Eq. 14.20})$$

$$\text{And } \therefore \frac{L e}{L} = \frac{1 - e}{1 - e_e} \quad (e_e = ?) \quad (\text{Eq. 14.21})$$

# CALCULATING MINIMUM BACKWASH VELOCITY

For grain diameter  $d$

DEFINE TWO GOVERNING DIMENSIONLESS PARAMETERS

$$Re_{mf} = \frac{vL}{\nu} = \frac{\rho v_{mf} d}{\mu} = \left[ \frac{\rho d}{\mu} \right] v_{mf}$$

Reynolds No. for M.n. Fluidization

SOLVE FOR THIS

$$Ga = \frac{L^3 \rho (\rho_s - \rho) g}{\mu^2} = \frac{d^3 (\rho_s - \rho) \rho g}{\mu^2}$$

Galileo No. for particles

SemiEmpirical Expression:

$$Re_{mf} = \left[ \frac{\rho d}{\mu} \right] v_{mf} = \left[ (33.7)^2 + 0.0408 Ga \right]^{1/2} - 33.7$$

FIND THIS

SOLVE FOR  $v_{mf}$

FIND  $Ga$

P.S.:  $d = d_{90}$   
USE

# BED EXPANSION:

What is  $e_c$ ?

Two relationships were developed

$$\left( \frac{L_e}{L} = \frac{1-e}{1-e_c} \right)$$

① (a)  $Re_{f,fit} = \frac{\rho v_b \psi d}{6\mu(1-e_c)}$

← For given  $v_b$   
 ← get some expr'n to  $e_c$   
 But ~~not~~ not independent

(b)  $H = f_f Re_f^2$

$$H = \left[ \frac{\rho(\rho_s - \rho)g(\psi d)^3}{36\mu^2} \right] \cdot \frac{e_c^3}{(1-e_c)^2} \quad \text{Eq. 14.31}$$

CONSTANT

② REGRESSION ANALYSIS  $H$  vs  $Re_f$

$$\log\left(\frac{H}{G}\right) = 0.565 + 1.09 \log Re_f + 0.179 (\log Re_f)^2 - 0.004 (\log Re_f)^4 - 1.5 (\log \psi)^2$$

Eq. 14.32b

PROCEDURE:

① PICK BACKWASH VELOCITY  $v_b$

②  $H = K \cdot \frac{e_c^3}{(1-e_c)^2}$  [14.31]

③  $\log\left(\frac{H}{G}\right) = f_{reg}(\log Re_f) = f_{reg} \left[ \log \left[ \frac{\rho v_b \psi d}{6\mu} \right] \cdot \frac{1}{(1-e_c)} \right]$