

Today, we will:

- Finish derivation of grade efficiency for **spray chambers**, and do an example problem
- Briefly discuss **wet scrubbers** (another type of APCS to remove PM)
- Begin a discussion about **air filters**, and how they work

Continuing from previous lecture, for a counter-flow spray chamber we had:

Differential grade removal efficiency across our small control volume of volume Adz :

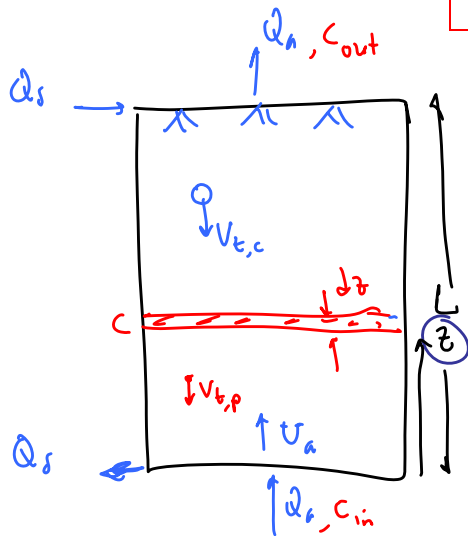
$$\frac{dc}{c} = -dE(D_p) \quad (1)$$

Differential grade removal efficiency across our small control volume of volume Adz :

$$dE(D_p) = E_d(D_p) \frac{\pi D_c^2}{4A} \frac{V_c + U_a}{U_a} c_{\text{number},c} Adz \quad (4)$$

Number concentration of the collector water drops, where Q_s is the water volume flow rate:

$$c_{\text{number},c} = \frac{6Q_s}{V_c \pi D_c^3 A} \quad (\text{From end of previous lecture}) \quad (5)$$



Plug (5) into (4):

$$dE(D_p) = E_d(D_p) \frac{\pi D_c^2}{4A} \frac{V_c + U_a}{U_a} \frac{6Q_s}{V_c \pi D_c^3 A} dz$$

$Q_a = U_a A = \text{vol. flow rate of air}$

$$dE(D_p) = E_d(D_p) \frac{3}{2} \frac{V_c + U_a}{V_c} \frac{Q_s}{Q_a} \frac{dz}{D_c}$$

Plug into (1)

$$\frac{dc}{c} = -\frac{3}{2} E_d(D_p) \frac{V_c + U_a}{V_c} \frac{Q_s}{Q_a} \frac{1}{D_c} dz$$

$U_a = V_{t,c}$ = settling velocity in still air for the collector drops

We can integrate since we have separated variables

Can integrate from $z=0$ to $z=z$ or to $z=L$

$$\int_{C=C_{in}}^C \frac{dC}{C} = - \int_{z=0}^z \underbrace{\frac{3}{2} E_d(D_p) \frac{V_c + V_a}{V_c} \frac{Q_s}{Q_a} \frac{1}{D_c}}_{\text{const. for a given } D_p} dz$$

$$\ln(C) - \ln(C_{in})$$

"

$$\ln\left(\frac{C}{C_{in}}\right) = -\frac{3}{2} E_d(D_p) \frac{V_c + V_a}{V_c} \frac{Q_s}{Q_a} \frac{1}{D_c} z$$

take exp of both sides

$$C = C_{in} \exp \left[-\frac{3}{2} E_d(D_p) \frac{V_{t,c}}{V_c} \frac{Q_s}{Q_a} \frac{1}{D_c} z \right]$$

Overall $E(D_p)$ = grade collection efficiency up to height z

$$E(D_p) = 1 - \frac{C}{C_{in}}$$

$$E(D_p) = 1 - \exp \left[\frac{-z}{\underbrace{\frac{2}{3} \frac{Q_a}{Q_s} \frac{V_c}{V_{t,c}} \frac{D_c}{E_d(D_p)}}_{L_c}} \right]$$

call this L_c = critical length

$$L_c = \frac{2}{3} \frac{Q_a}{Q_s} \frac{V_c}{V_{t,c}} \frac{D_c}{E_d(D_p)}$$

$$E(D_p) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{z}{L_c}\right)$$

For the whole tower, $z=L$

$$E(D_p) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{L}{L_c}\right) \quad \star$$

Same form as for elutriators
or curved ducts, as discussed previously (well-mixed)

Example: Designing a Spray Chamber

Given: A counter-flow spray chamber is being designed with the following properties:

- $D_c = 200$ microns (collector water drop diameter)
- $A = 0.7854 \text{ m}^2$ (cross-sectional area of the spray chamber)
- $Q_s = 0.0000521 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ (volume flow rate of the supply water, at the top)
- $V_{t,c} = 0.700464 \text{ m/s}$ (falling speed of water drops in still air)
- $D_p = 5$ microns (diameter of the air pollution particles we are targeting)
- $\rho_p = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ (air pollution particles are treated as unit density spheres)
- $Q_a = 0.250 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ (volume flow rate of the dirty air, introduced at the bottom)
- Air at STP: $\rho = 1.184 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $\mu = 1.849 \times 10^{-5} \text{ kg/(m s)}$

To do: Calculate the required height of the spray chamber to remove 90% of these particles. Give answer in meters to three significant digits.

Solution: From a previous problem, for 5-micron particles and 200-micron raindrops, we had $E_d(D_p) = 0.183659$. *← Single-drop collection efficiency*

Equations: $E(D_p) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{L}{L_c}\right)$, where $L_c = \frac{2 Q_a V_c}{3 Q_s V_{t,c}} \frac{D_c}{E_d(D_p)}$ and $V_c = V_{t,c} - U_a$.

$$U_a = \frac{Q_a}{A} = \frac{0.250 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}{0.7854 \text{ m}^2} = 0.31831 \text{ m/s}$$

$$V_c = V_{t,c} - U_a = 0.700464 - 0.31831$$

$$V_c = 0.382154 \text{ m/s}$$

$$L_c = \frac{2}{3} \frac{Q_a}{Q_s} \frac{V_c}{V_{t,c}} \frac{D_c}{E_d(D_p)} = \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{0.250 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}{0.0000521 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}} \right) \left(\frac{0.382154 \text{ m/s}}{0.700464 \text{ m/s}} \right) \left(\frac{200 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}}{0.183659} \right)$$

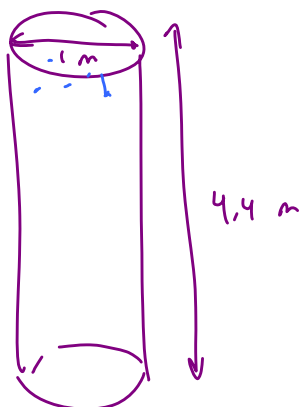
$$L_c = 1.90056 \text{ m}$$

$$1 - E(D_p) = \exp\left(-\frac{L}{L_c}\right)$$

$$L = -L_c \ln(1 - E(D_p)) \rightarrow = -(1.90056 \text{ m}) \ln(1 - 0.90)$$

$$L = 4.376 \text{ m} \rightarrow \boxed{L \approx 4.38 \text{ m}}$$

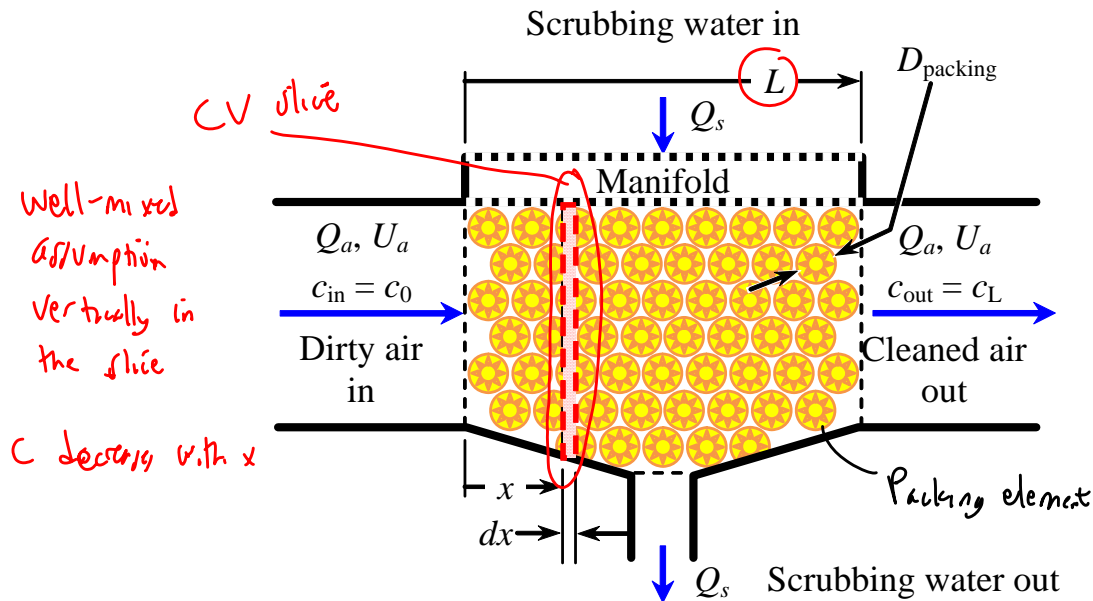
1-m dia tower



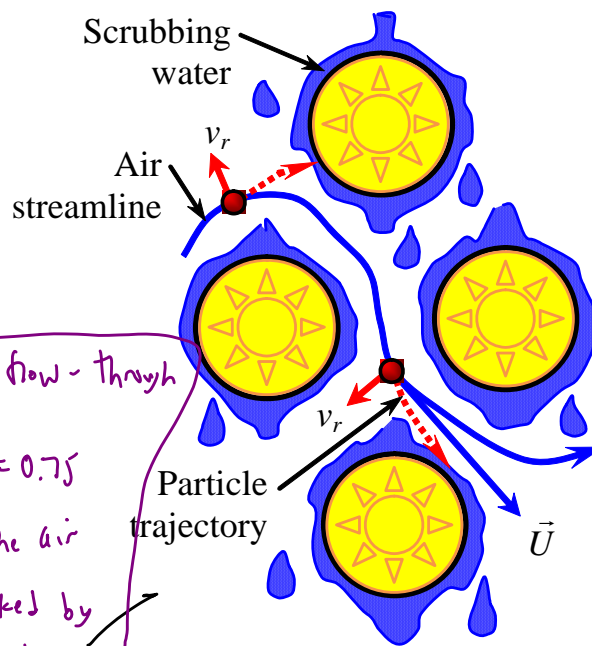
The taller the tower, the better the removal efficiency

Wet Scrubbers: → Similar to spray tower, but very compact

Example: **Transverse Packed-Bed Scrubber:**



Close-up of packing elements, showing water and inertial separation of small particles:



ϵ = Porosity = air flow-through factor
 e.g. if $\epsilon = 0.75$
 → 25% of the air duct is blocked by packing elements

D_c = Some characteristic collector diameter
 (depends on the shape, geometry of the packing material)

- Also use principle of inertial separation
- Can be much more compact than a spray chamber *
- Can draw a CV. slice (vertical slice) since flow is horizontal
- Result:

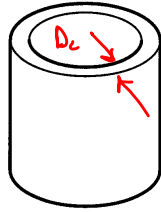
$$E(D_p) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{L}{L_c}\right)$$

Same eq. as for spray tower

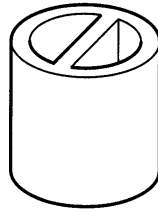
need to calc. L_c

$$L_c = f_{in}\left(Q_a, \rho, \mu, \rho_p, D_p, D_c, U_a, \epsilon, a_p\right) \rightarrow \text{packing surface area} \div \text{bed}$$

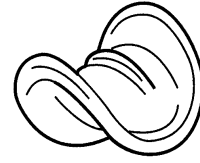
Packing elements come in all kinds of sizes, shapes, and materials:



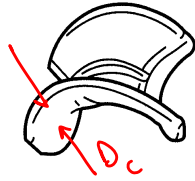
(a) Raschig ring



(b) Lessing ring



(c) Berl saddle



(d) Intalox saddle



(e) Tellerette ring



(f) Pall ring

D_c is typically associated with the small diameter scale, not necessarily the dia. of the packing element itself.