

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of LOUISIANA ENERGY SERVICES, LP

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GROUNDWATER

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This may well be the only book that either of us will ever write. We cannot save our dedications, as novelists do, to let them forth one by one. We recognize and appreciate the life-long influences of our parents, our wives, our families, our teachers, and our students. This book is dedicated to all of them.

This book is also dedicated to the taxpayers of Canada and the United States, few of whom will ever read it, but all of whom have contributed to its birth through scholarships in our student days and through research support and sabbatical periods in more recent years.

Table 2.2 Range of Values of Hydraulic Conductivity and Permeability

	Rocks	Unconsolidated deposits	k (darcy)	k (cm ²)	K (cm/s)	K (m/s)	K (gal/day/ft ²)
			10^5	10^{-3}	10^2	1	
			10^4	10^{-4}	10	10^{-1}	10^6
			10^3	10^{-5}	1	10^{-2}	10^5
			10^2	10^{-6}	10^{-1}	10^{-3}	10^4
			10	10^{-7}	10^{-2}	10^{-4}	10^3
			1	10^{-8}	10^{-3}	10^{-5}	10^2
			10^{-1}	10^{-9}	10^{-4}	10^{-6}	10
			10^{-2}	10^{-10}	10^{-5}	10^{-7}	1
			10^{-3}	10^{-11}	10^{-6}	10^{-8}	10^{-1}
			10^{-4}	10^{-12}	10^{-7}	10^{-9}	10^{-2}
			10^{-5}	10^{-13}	10^{-8}	10^{-10}	10^{-3}
			10^{-6}	10^{-14}	10^{-9}	10^{-11}	10^{-4}
			10^{-7}	10^{-15}	10^{-10}	10^{-12}	10^{-5}
			10^{-8}	10^{-16}	10^{-11}	10^{-13}	10^{-6}
							10^{-7}

Karst limestone —
 Permeable basalt —
 Fractured igneous and
 metamorphic rocks —
 Limestone and
 dolomite —
 Sandstone —
 Unfractured
 metamorphic and
 igneous rocks —
 Shale —
 Unweathered
 marine clay —
 Glacial till —
 Silt, loess —
 Silty sand —
 Clean sand —
 Gravel —

Table 2.3 Conversion Factors for Permeability and Hydraulic Conductivity Units

	Permeability, k^*			Hydraulic conductivity, K		
	cm ²	ft ²	darcy	m/s	ft/s	gal/day/ft ²
cm ²	1	1.08×10^{-3}	1.01×10^8	9.80×10^2	3.22×10^3	1.85×10^9
ft ²	9.29×10^2	1	9.42×10^{10}	9.11×10^3	2.99×10^6	1.71×10^{12}
darcy	9.87×10^{-9}	1.06×10^{-11}	1	9.66×10^{-6}	3.17×10^{-5}	1.82×10^1
m/s	1.02×10^{-3}	1.10×10^{-6}	1.04×10^5	1	3.28	2.12×10^6
ft/s	3.11×10^{-4}	3.35×10^{-7}	3.15×10^4	3.05×10^{-1}	1	5.74×10^5
gal/day/ft ²	5.42×10^{-10}	5.83×10^{-13}	5.49×10^{-2}	4.72×10^{-7}	1.74×10^{-6}	1

*To obtain k in ft², multiply k in cm² by 1.08×10^{-3} .

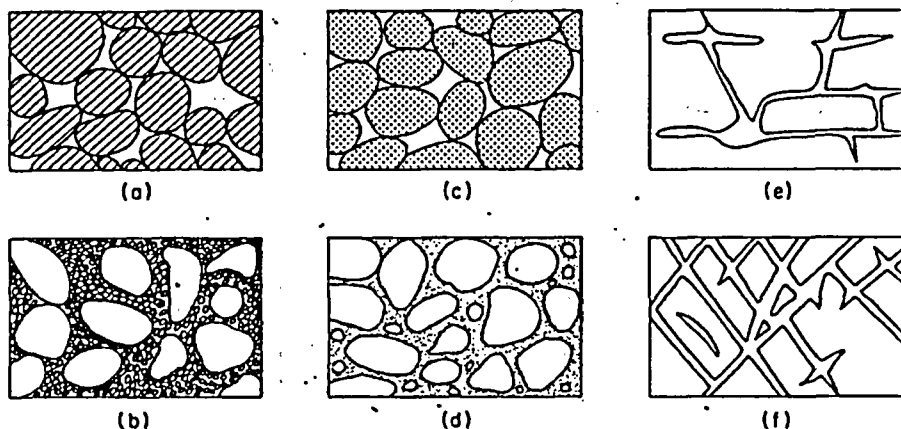


Figure 2.11 Relation between texture and porosity. (a) Well-sorted sedimentary deposit having high porosity; (b) poorly sorted sedimentary deposit having low porosity; (c) well-sorted sedimentary deposit consisting of pebbles that are themselves porous, so that the deposit as a whole has a very high porosity; (d) well-sorted sedimentary deposit whose porosity has been diminished by the deposition of mineral matter in the interstices; (e) rock rendered porous by solution; (f) rock rendered porous by fracturing (after Meinzer, 1923).

soil or rock matrix [Figure 2.11(a), (b), (c), and (d)], and *secondary porosity*, which may be due to such phenomena as secondary solution [Figure 2.11(e)] or structurally controlled regional fracturing [Figure 2.11(f)].

Table 2.4, based in part on data summarized by Davis (1969), lists representative porosity ranges for various geologic materials. In general, rocks have lower porosities than soils; gravels, sands, and silts, which are made up of angular and

Table 2.4 Range of Values of Porosity

	<i>n</i> (%)
Unconsolidated deposits	
Gravel	25–40
Sand	25–50
Silt	35–50
Clay	40–70
Rocks	
Fractured basalt	5–50
Karst limestone	5–50
Sandstone	5–30
Limestone, dolomite	0–20
Shale	0–10
Fractured crystalline rock	0–10
Dense crystalline rock	0–5