

Water Treatment Unit Operations—Design Parameters

CENG 340—Introduction to Environmental Engineering

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Introduction

You have been asked to design a water treatment facility to meet the following criteria:

- Design capacity = 3.25 MGD
- Source is river water with an initial turbidity of 10 NTU, an alkalinity concentration of 50 mg/L, at 10 °C and pH = 7.
- Unit operations: coagulation (rapid mix), flocculation, sedimentation, rapid sand filtration, disinfection
- Additional Constraints: units must be sized according to acceptable ranges. Design must accommodate maintenance and repair.

The following values were taken from Table 10.13 in the textbook:

Table 1: Typical values used in design of water treatment systems (adapted from Mihelcic and Zimmerman).

Unit Operation	Design Basis	Calculate
Coagulation–rapid-mix tank	$\theta = 1\text{--}2\text{ min}$ $\bar{G} = 600\text{--}1000\text{ s}^{-1}$ Coagulant type	Volume Number of tanks Mixing Power (P) Coagulant dose Alkalinity req'd
Flocculation Tank	$\theta = 10\text{--}30\text{ min}$ $\bar{G} = 20\text{--}50\text{ s}^{-1}$ (horiz. paddle) $\bar{G} = 10\text{--}80\text{ s}^{-1}$ (vertical shaft)	Volume Number of tanks Mixing power (P)
Sedimentation tanks	$\theta = 2\text{--}4\text{ h}$ OFR = 700–1400 gpd/ft ² weir loading rate = 20,000 gpd/ft	
Filtration (rapid sand)	Hyd. loading rate = 2–6 gpm/ft ² Depth = 2–6 ft	Area Volume Number of filters
Chlorination	$\theta_{\min} = 15\text{ min}$ (at peak hourly rate) $\theta_{\min} = 30\text{ min}$ (at peak hourly rate)	Volume Chlorine dose