

CE 5364 Groundwater Transport Phenomena
Exercise Set 1

Exercises

1. A sand column has the following characteristics¹:

$$K = 10^{-4} \frac{cm}{s}; \quad A = 75 cm^2; \quad \frac{dh}{dl} = 0.01; \quad n = 0.20 \quad (1)$$

Determine:

- (a) Sketch the system.
- (b) The specific discharge.
- (c) The pore velocity.
- (d) The volumetric flow rate through the column.

Solution(s)

Sketch the system.

Specific discharge

2. Three geologic formations overlie one another with the characteristics listed below.²

$$\begin{aligned} b_1 &= 50 \text{ ft} & K_1 &= 0.0002 \frac{ft}{s} \\ b_2 &= 20 \text{ ft} & K_2 &= 0.000005 \frac{ft}{s} \\ b_3 &= 210 \text{ ft} & K_3 &= 0.001 \frac{ft}{s} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

A constant velocity vertical flow field exists across the three formations. The hydraulic head at the top of the formations (top of formation 1) is 33 feet. The hydraulic head at the bottom of the formations (bottom of formation 3) is 21 feet.

Determine:

- (a) Sketch the system.
- (b) The hydraulic head at the internal boundary between formation 1 and 2.

¹Problem 2-3, pg. 578 in Bedient, et. al.

²Problem 2-12, pg. 579 in Bedient, et. al.

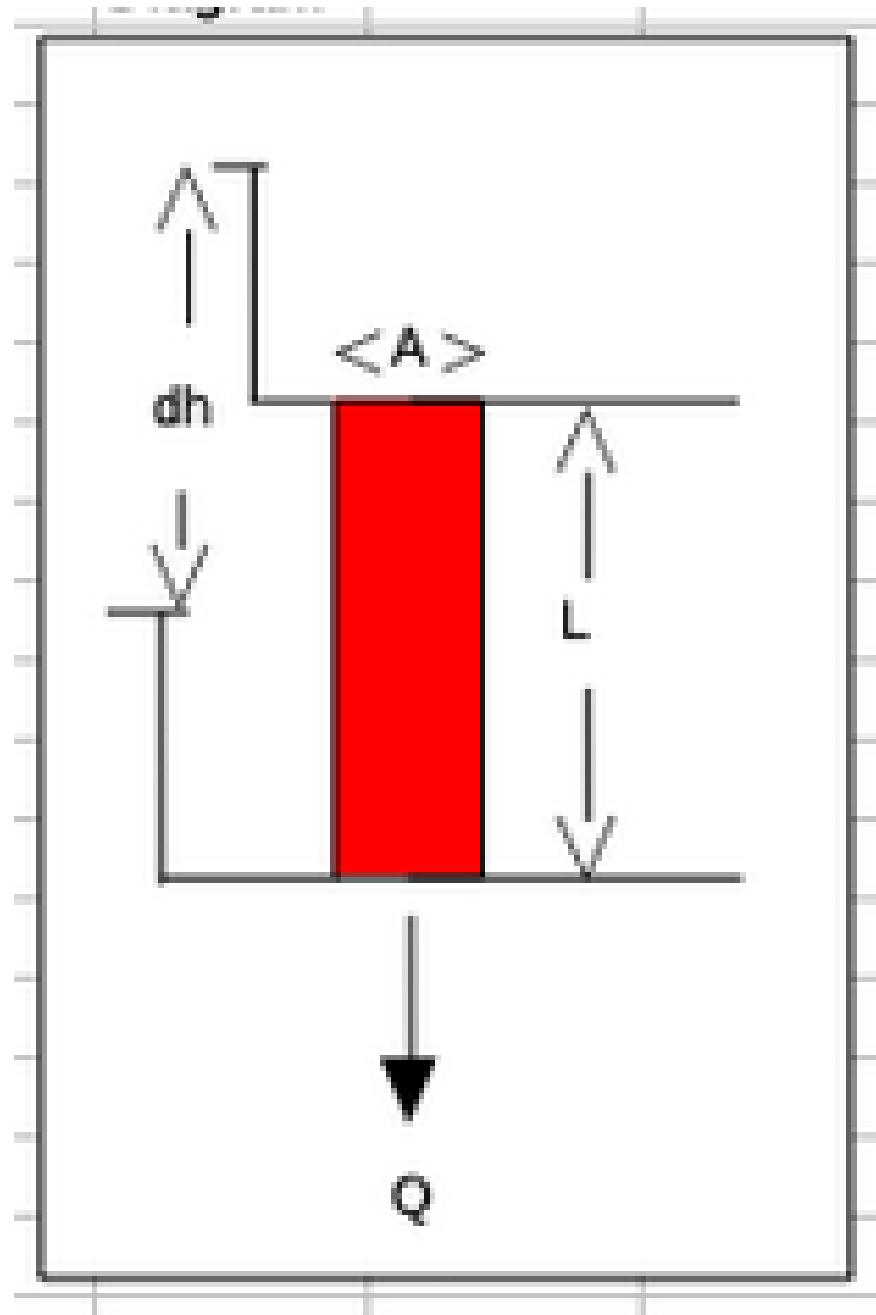


Figure 1: Sketch of Sand Column

- (c) The hydraulic head at the internal boundary between formation 2 and 3.
- (d) Approximate time for a tracer to flow (vertically) through the three layers if the porosities n_1 , n_2 , and n_3 are 0.30, 0.42, and 0.35, respectively

3. Figure ?? below shows a piezometric map for a shallow sand aquifer.³ The hydraulic conductivity is estimated to be $1.5 \times 10^{-2} \frac{cm}{s}$, the saturated thickness is 40 feet, and the effective porosity is 0.3.

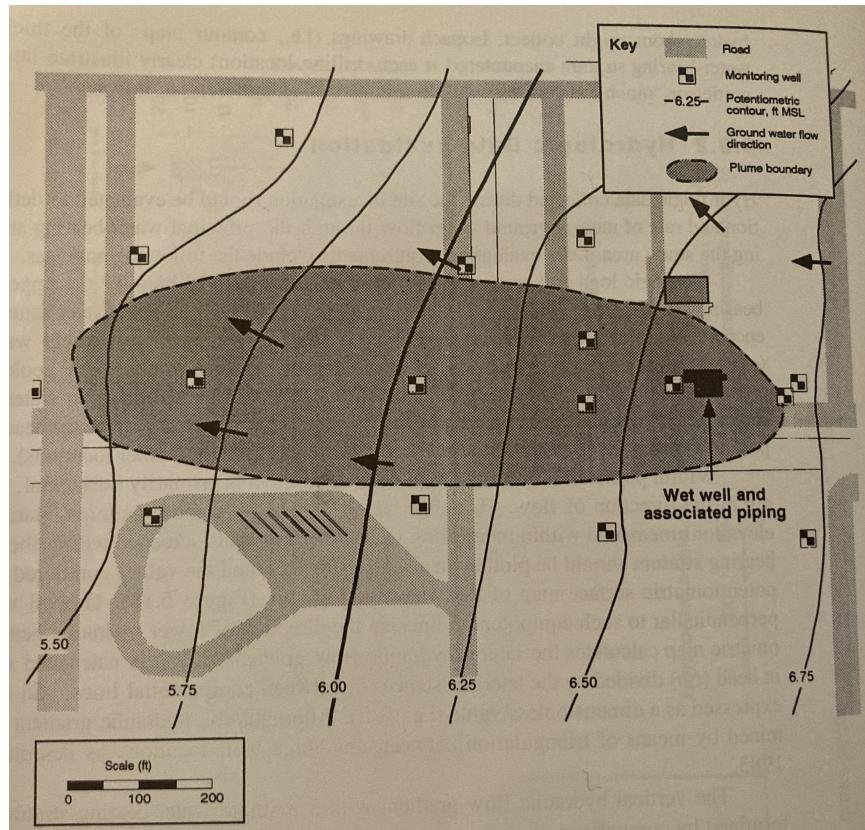


Figure 2: Plume Map (plan view)

Determine:

- Which well is expected to be the most contaminated.
- The groundwater velocity and seepage velocity across the plume.
- The duration that the source has been contaminating the aquifer (neglect dispersion, diffusion, and adsorption).
- The flow rate across the plume.
- An explanation for contamination upgradient of the source zone.

³Problem 2-8, pg. 578 in Bedient, et. al.