

Class 6

Physical Properties of Coal

1

Particle Energy Equation

$$m_p C_p \frac{dT_p}{dt} = q_{conv} + q_{rxn} + q_{rad}$$

- $m_p = \rho_p V_p = \rho_p \frac{4}{3} \pi r_p^3$
- $q_{conv} = \theta h A_p (T_g - T_p)$
- $q_{rxn} = \dot{r}_{rxn,p}'' A_p \Delta H_{rxn}$
- $q_{rad} = \epsilon_p \sigma A_p (T_\infty^4 - T_p^4)$
- $A_p = 4 \pi r_p^2$

2

Particle Energy Equation

$$m_p \mathcal{C}_p \frac{dT_p}{dt} = q_{conv} + q_{rxn} + q_{rad}$$

- $m_p = \rho_p V_p = \rho_p \frac{4}{3} \pi r_p^3$
- $q_{conv} = \theta h A_p (T_g - T_p)$
- $q_{rxn} = \Sigma \dot{r}_{rxn,i}'' A_p \Delta H_{rxn,i}$
- $q_{rad} = \epsilon_p \sigma A_p (T_\infty^4 - T_p^4)$
- $A_p = 4 \pi r_p^2$
- $Nu = \frac{h d_p}{k_g} = 2 + f(Re_p, Pr)$

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Reading Assignment:

- a. Lee Smith Book, 154-168
- b. Article by Merrick (*Fuel*, 62, 540-546, 1983)
- c. Richards, A., D. Haycock, J. Frandsen, and T. H. Fletcher, "A Review of Coal Heating Value Correlations with Application to Coal Char, Tar, and Other Fuels," *Fuel*, 118942:1-16 (2021). DOI: 10.1016/j.fuel.2020.118942

1. Discuss Figure 4.50 in the Lee Smith book.
2. What is meant by porosity, true density, apparent density, and internal surface area? Why are these quantities important in coal combustion? How do they vary as a function of coal rank? How do the these properties vary between chars and coals?
3. Please use your group to find and discuss the model proposed by Merrick for heat capacity.
4. Please compute the heat capacity in J/kg/K of the dried Argonne Premium Wyodak coal at temperatures from 300 K to 700 K.
5. Please compute the number distribution (# vs. diameter in microns) for the following mass distribution:

Mesh Size (passing)	400	325	270	250	200	170	150
Weight (%)	5	10	20	30	20	10	5
6. Search the web for the DuLong formula, which is used to compute the heating value of coal from the elemental composition. Calculate the heating value of the Illinois #6 Argonne Premium coal and compare the calculated value with the measured value.
7. Recalculate the heating value in problem #7 using the Mott-Spooner re-fit correlation in the paper by Richards et al. (2021).

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Figure 4.50

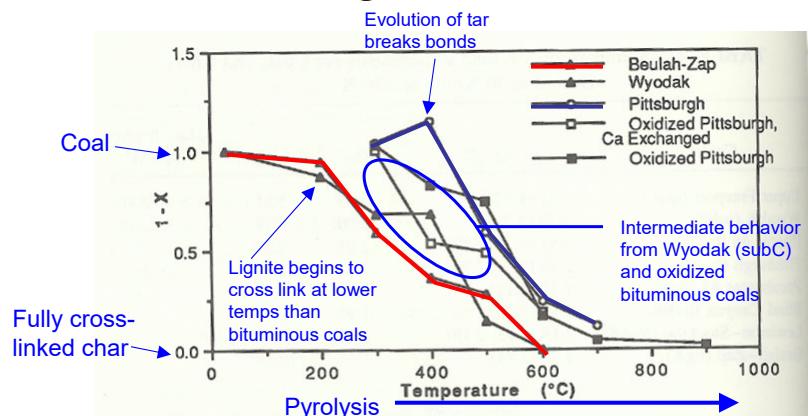


Figure 50. Comparison of solvent-swelling ratios for some Argonne premium coals at a series of pyrolysis final temperatures. Effects of oxidation and minerals on cross-linking behavior are shown for the Pittsburgh coal. The Beulah-Zap and Wyodak coals were pyrolyzed with a heating rate of 30 K/min while the Pittsburgh coal sample were pyrolyzed with a heating rate of 0.5 K/s (Solomon *et al.*, 1990).

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Particle Densities

- True Density
(He pycnometry)
$$\frac{\text{mass of solid}}{\text{volume of solid}}$$

- Apparent Density
$$\frac{\text{mass of solid}}{\text{volume of solid} + \text{volume of voids in solid}}$$

- Bulk Density
$$\frac{\text{mass of solid}}{\text{volume of bed}}$$

$$V_{\text{bed}} = V_{\text{solid}} + V_{\text{voids in solid}} + V_{\text{voids between particles}}$$

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True Particle Densities

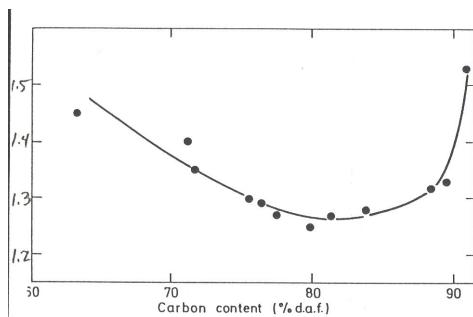


Figure 2 Variation of helium density of coals with carbon content

From Gan et al. Fuel, Vol. 51 (1972)

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Apparent Densities

- Hg porosimetry
 - Measure change in Hg volume as pressure increases
 - Interpret volume change
- Tap density
 - Weigh particles
 - Place in graduated cylinder
 - Tap to settle particles
 - Assume packing factor
 - Ratio of bulk densities ($\rho_b / \rho_{b,0}$) equals ratio of apparent densities ($\rho_a / \rho_{a,0}$)

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4

MICROMERITICS AUTO-PORE 9200 V2.83
New Mexico Blue Subbituminous

PAGE 2

T.FLETCHER
REQ08423 COAL T189 PSOC 1445 HIGH TEMP
PHTN NUMBER +882 1250 K, 70 mm

LP 11:19:50 5/18/88
HP 15:6:54 5/18/88

PRESSURE PSIA	PORE DIAMETER MICRO-M	INTRUSION VOLUME CC/SEC	PORE SURFACE SQ/SEC	MEAN DIAMETER MICRO-M	DV
+1.4	+129.6658	+8.8888	+8.8888	+129.6658	+8.8888
+1.7	+187.5838	+8.8139	+8.8085	+118.4248	+8.8139
+2.0	+98.9893	+8.8518	+8.8528	+99.2459	+8.8371
+2.7	+67.4971	+8.1285	+8.0855	+79.2831	+8.0895
+4.0	+45.4547	+8.6439	+8.6425	+56.4758	+8.5234
+5.0	+34.7748	+8.1793	+8.1852	+39.7975	+8.6288
+7.9	+21.7403	+1.5855	+1.5851	+28.5543	+2.0131
+9.6	+18.8785	+1.5426	+1.4553	+28.8134	+8.8371
+11.9	+15.1851	+1.5784	+1.5158	+16.9918	+8.0278
+12.0	+14.8699	+1.5843	+1.5556	+14.5875	+8.0139
+12.9	+15.1851	+1.5784	+1.5158	+13.3216	+8.0973
+16.4	+11.8279	+1.6829	+1.6115	+12.8086	+8.7972
+20.0	+9.6932	+1.6215	+1.6198	+9.6685	+8.8186
+23.9	+7.5433	+1.6354	+1.7559	+8.1182	+8.0139
+25.7	+7.8333	+1.6354	+1.7559	+7.2883	+8.0660
+28.0	+6.2484	+1.6355	+1.7559	+6.4849	+8.0888
+29.5	+6.2484	+1.6355	+1.7559	+5.8183	+8.0797
+40.1	+4.5828	+1.6482	+1.7192	+4.9458	+8.0881
+45.6	+3.9596	+1.6455	+1.8136	+4.2388	+8.0847
+51.6	+3.4946	+1.6682	+2.8086	+3.7271	+8.0232
+60.0	+2.9693	+1.7087	+2.4699	+3.2328	+8.0325
+77.7	+2.2772	+1.7212	+2.1818	+2.1818	+8.0884
+93.9	+1.9222	+1.8124	+4.4255	+2.1375	+8.112
+110.2	+1.5264	+1.8068	+4.0982	+1.7243	+8.0744
+140.6	+1.2634	+1.9324	+7.7489	+1.4649	+8.0466
+183.0	+8.9863	+2.0081	+1.8848	+1.1349	+8.0747
+204.4	+8.9863	+2.0081	+1.8848	+1.1349	+8.0747
+247.7	+6.6742	+2.1864	+1.2322	+1.1212	+8.0781
+334.2	+6.5488	+2.1627	+1.8492	+8.6871	+8.0554
+429.0	+6.4287	+2.2147	+2.2823	+8.4084	+8.0528
+538.5	+6.3482	+2.2521	+2.7885	+8.3085	+8.0474
+627.9	+6.2956	+2.2956	+3.2186	+8.3116	+8.0335
+888.1	+6.2256	+2.3149	+3.2149	+8.3049	+8.0339
+988.6	+6.1826	+2.3635	+4.4185	+8.2941	+8.0248
+1214.2	+6.1486	+2.3935	+5.1229	+8.1656	+8.0295
+1516.8	+6.1191	+2.4228	+6.8134	+8.1339	+8.0298
+1731.0	+6.0948	+2.4436	+6.7893	+8.1669	+8.0287
+2354.1	+6.0499	+2.4586	+7.0099	+8.0927	+8.0239
+2980.0	+6.0621	+2.4056	+8.8989	+8.8694	+8.0411
+3683.0	+6.0581	+2.5857	+18.3792	+8.8561	+8.0288
+4562.9	+6.0396	+2.5228	+11.8322	+8.8448	+8.0163
+5276.2	+6.0324	+2.5378	+13.5914	+8.8368	+8.0158
+6891.0	+6.0283	+2.5378	+13.7826	+8.8295	+8.0157
+8446.0	+6.0289	+2.5853	+18.4862	+8.8234	+8.0157
+18613.1	+6.0178	+2.5847	+21.4436	+8.8189	+8.0153
+13176.2	+6.0137	+2.5998	+25.6688	+8.8154	+8.0152
+16484.5	+6.0189	+2.6148	+38.4615	+8.8123	+8.0158
+20493.1	+6.0088	+2.6342	+38.2988	+8.8099	+8.0193

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from Sandia Report SAND88-8240, Coal Combustion Science
Quarterly Progress Report, January – March, 1988

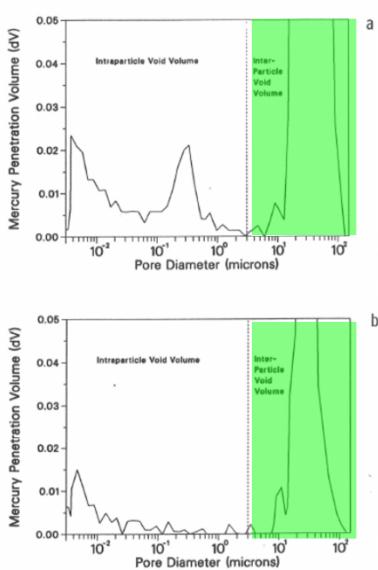
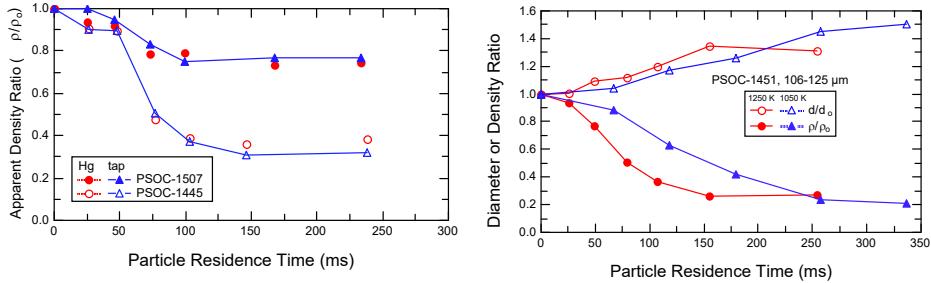


Figure 2. Incremental penetration volume from mercury porosimetry analysis of (a) Spherocarb particles (125 - 149 μm), and (b) PSOC 1415d Pittsburgh #8 high volatile bituminous coal particles (106-125 μm size fraction).

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Apparent Particle Densities



From Fletcher Sandia Milestone Report

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Heat Capacity of Coal

$$h = \int_{T_{ref}}^T C_p dT$$

$$C_p(\text{particle}) = x_{\text{moist}} C_{p,\text{moist}} + x_{\text{org}} C_{p,\text{org}} + x_{\text{ash}} C_{p,\text{ash}}$$

Note: C_p is a function of T_{particle}

Einstein's Formulation for C_p (from Merrick, 1983):

A. Simple

$$C_p = (3R/a) g_i [1200/T] J/kg/K$$

$$a = \left[\sum y_n / \mu_n \right]^{-1}$$

where a = mean coal atomic weight, y_n = mass fraction of element n , and μ = atomic weight of element n

g_i is a function:

$$g_i(z) = \frac{\exp(z)}{[(\exp(z)-1)/z]}$$

R = universal gas constant (8314.3 N-m/K/kg-mol)

B. 2-stage (along bedding plane and perpendicular to bedding plane)

$$C_p = (R/a) g_i [380/T] + 2g_i [1800/T] J/kg/K$$

Also note that enthalpy is calculated by Merrick as:

$$h = 3600(R/a) g_0 [1200/T] J/kg \quad \text{or}$$

$$h = (R/a) [380g_0 [380/T] + 3600g_0 [1800/T]] J/kg$$

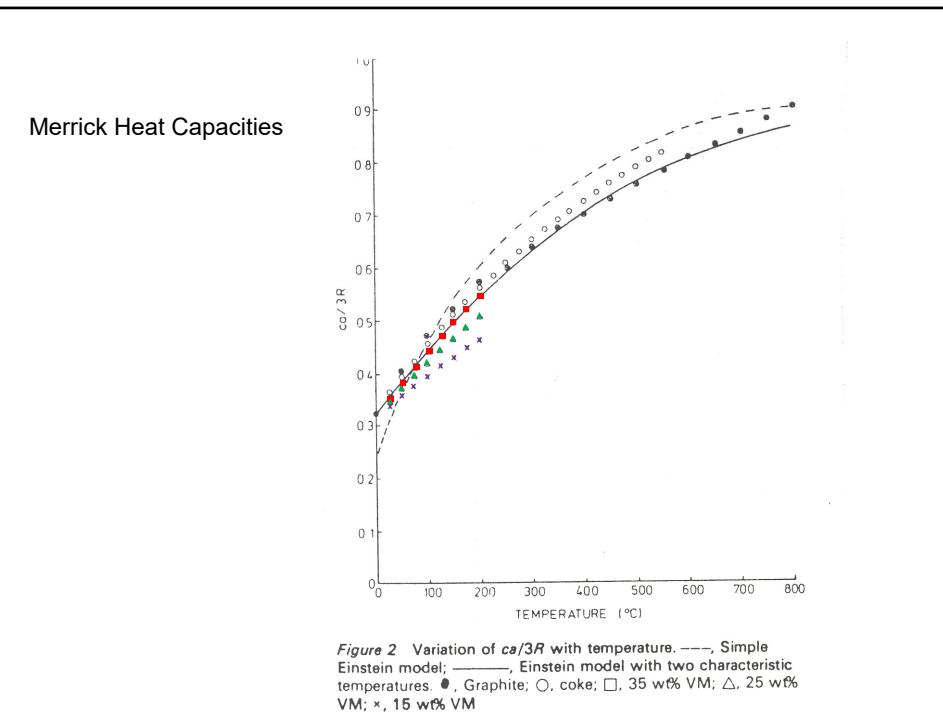
$$\text{Where } g_0(z) = \frac{1}{\exp(z)-1}$$

C. C_p for Ash

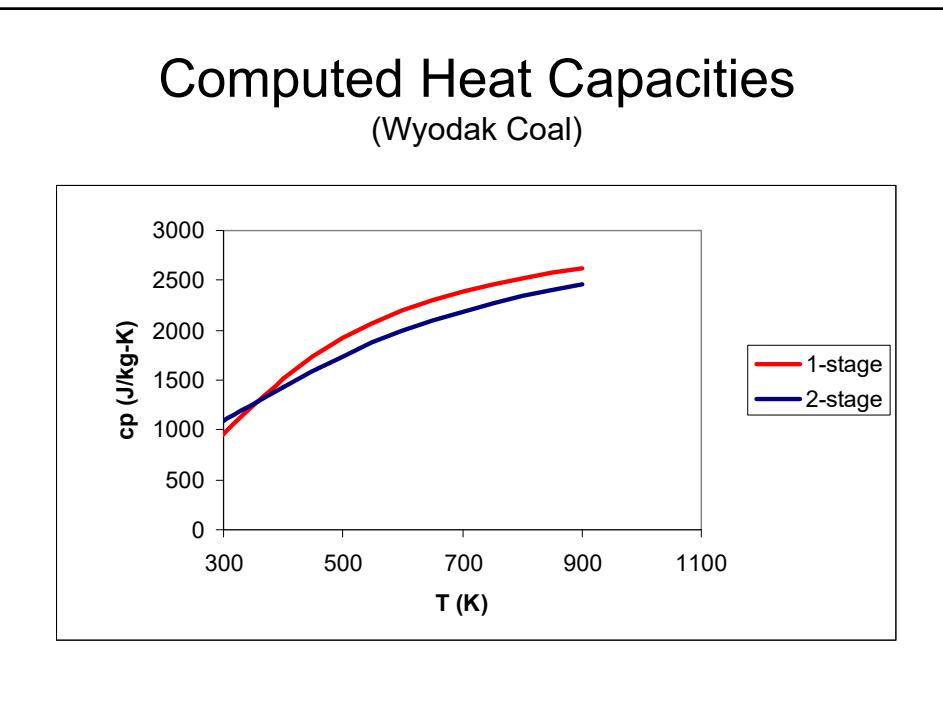
$$C_{p,\text{ash}} = 754 + 0.586 T \quad (\text{J/kg/K where } T \text{ is in } ^\circ\text{C})$$

$$C_{p,\text{ash}} = 593 + 0.586 T \quad (\text{J/kg/K where } T \text{ is in K})$$

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Heat Capacities (Conclusions)

Cautions about the Merrick model:

- Good for graphite and char (coke)
- Coal heat capacity data are limited
- Model does not fit data from different coal ranks very well!
- Coal data only extends to 200°C (573 K)

In other words, keep a look out for better heat capacity data!

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Thermal Conductivities

- Atkinson and Merrick (1983) report that the thermal conductivities k of coal, semi-cokes and cokes ($\text{W m}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$) can be correlated as follows:

$$k = (\rho_t / 4511)^{3.5} T^{0.5}$$

where ρ_t is the true density of the material (2260 kg m³ for amorphous carbon, 1279 kg m³ for coal)

- The temperature dependence of this correlation does not agree well with the findings of Badzioch, et al. (1964), which are approximately correlated by the following expression:

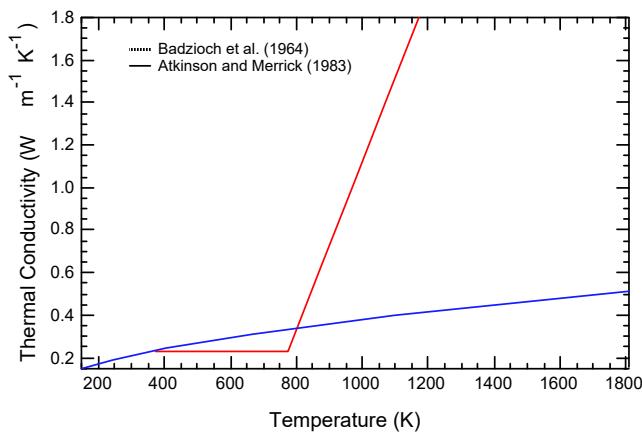
$$\begin{array}{ll} k = 0.23 & 300 \text{ K} < T < 773 \text{ K} \\ k = (T/255) - 2.8 & 773 \text{ K} < T < 1173 \text{ K} \end{array}$$

- The two expressions agree at temperatures below 800 K, but the data and correlation from Badzioch and coworkers indicate significantly higher thermal conductivities at temperatures greater than 800 K.

Recommendation

- Set the thermal conductivity to 0.25, which agrees with all of the data at temperatures below 800 K, and agrees somewhat with the correlation of Atkinson and Merrick at even higher temperatures.

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Comparison of thermal conductivity correlations from Atkinson and Merrick (1983) and Badzioch et al. (1964).

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Single Particle Energy Equation

- Temperature form

$$m_p C_p \frac{dT_p}{dt} = \theta h A_p (T_g - T_p) + \varepsilon \sigma A_p (T_w^4 - T_p^4) + \sum_i r_{pi} \Delta H_{rxn,i}$$

- Enthalpy form

$$\frac{d(m_p h_p)}{dt} = Q_{rp} + Q_{cp} - r_p h_{pg}$$

- where

$$h_{pg} = \frac{\sum r_{vol,i} h_{vol,i} + h_{char} \sum r_{char,i}}{r_{tot}}$$

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Particle Size Distribution

- In general, means are defined as:

$$x_m = \frac{\int_a^b x df}{\int_a^b df} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i f_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n f_i}$$

- Mass mean:

$$d_m = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i w_i, \quad \text{where } \sum_{i=1}^n w_i = 1$$

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Particle Size Distributions (cont.)

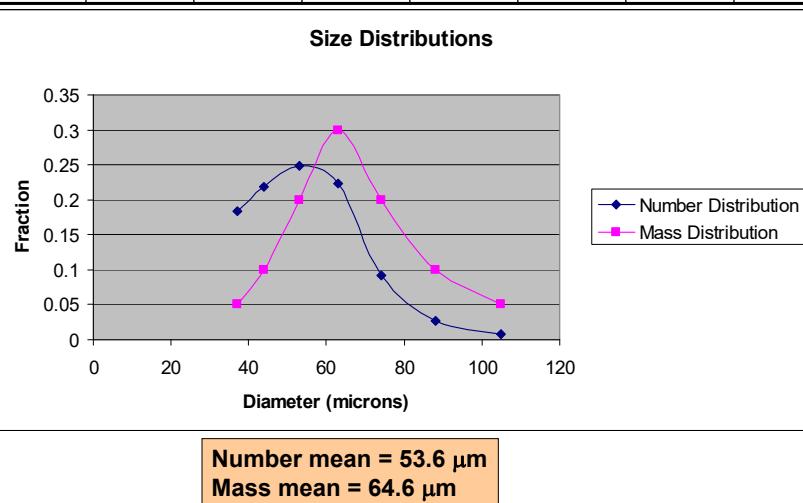
- Mass per particle:
 $m_p = \rho \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$
- Number of particles = mass/(mass per particle)
- Number mean becomes:

$$d_n = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n d_i \left(\frac{6w_i}{\rho \pi d_i^3} \right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{6w_i}{\rho \pi d_i^3} \right)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n d_i \left(\frac{w_i}{d_i^3} \right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{w_i}{d_i^3} \right)}$$

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Please compute the number distribution (# vs. diameter in microns) for the following mass distribution

Mesh Size (passing)	400	325	270	250	200	170	140
Weight (%)	5	10	20	30	20	10	5



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Table 21-12. U.S. Sieve Series and Tyler Equivalents
(A.S.T.M.—E-11-61)

Sieve designation	Sieve opening in. mm.	Nominal wire mesh. in. (approx. equiv.)	Tyler equivalent designation
Standard	Alternate	mm.	mm.
107.6 mm.	4.24 in.	107.6	4.24
101.6 mm.	4 in.	101.6	4.00
90.5 mm.	3½ in.	90.5	3.50
76.2 mm.	3 in.	76.2	3.00
64.0 mm.	2½ in.	64.0	2.50
53.9 mm.	2.12 in.	53.8	2.12
50.8 mm.	2 in.	50.8	2.00
45.3 mm.	1¾ in.	45.3	1.75
38.1 mm.	1½ in.	38.1	1.50
32.0 mm.	1¼ in.	32.0	1.25
26.9 mm.	1.06 in.	26.9	1.00
23.4 mm.	.94 in.	23.4	.90
22.6 mm.*	.76 in.	22.6	0.875
19.0 mm.*	.56 in.	19.0	0.750
16.0 mm.*	.51 in.	16.0	0.625
13.5 mm.	0.530 in.	13.5	.530
12.7 mm.	.52 in.	12.7	.500
11.3 mm.	.45 in.	11.3	.438
9.51 mm.	.38 in.	9.51	.375
8.00 mm.*	.31 in.	8.00	.312
6.73 mm.	0.265 in.	6.73	.265
6.35 mm.	.34 in.	6.35	.250
5.63 mm.*	.35 in.	5.63	.232
4.76 mm.	No. 40	5.76	.187
4.00 mm.*	No. 5	4.00	.157
3.36 mm.	No. 6	3.36	.132
2.88 mm.*	No. 8	2.88	.111
2.38 mm.	No. 10	2.38	.0787
2.00 mm.*	No. 12	2.00	.0611
1.68 mm.	No. 12	1.68	.0661
1.41 mm.*	No. 14	1.41	.0555
1.19 mm.	No. 16	1.19	.0469
1.00 mm.*	No. 18	1.00	.0394
841 micron*	No. 20	0.841	.0331
707 micron*	No. 25	0.707	.0250
595 micron	No. 30	.595	.0234
503 micron*	No. 32	.503	.0197
420 micron	No. 40	.420	.0165
354 micron	No. 45	.354	.0139
297 micron	No. 50	.297	.0117
250 micron*	No. 60	.250	.0098
210 micron*	No. 70	.210	.0083
177 micron*	No. 77	.177	.0070
149 micron	No. 100	.149	.0059
125 micron	No. 120	.125	.0049
105 micron	No. 140	.105	.0041
88 micron	No. 160	.088	.0034
74 micron	No. 200	.074	.0029
63 micron*	No. 230	.063	.0025
53 micron	No. 270	.053	.0021
44 micron*	No. 325	.044	.0017
37 micron	No. 400	.037	.0015

From Perry's Chemical Engineers' Handbook

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follow some distribution, such as the Rosin-Rammler-Bennett [Rosin and Rammler, *J. Inst. Fuel*, 7, 29-36 (1933); Bennett, *ibid.*, 10, 22-39 (1936)]:

$$Y = 1 - \left[\exp - \left(\frac{X}{X'} \right)^n \right] \quad (8-1)$$

or the Gates-Gaudin-Schumann distribution [Schumann, *A.I.M.E. Tech. Paper 1189, Mining Tech.* (1940)]:

$$Y = \left(\frac{X}{k} \right)^m \quad (8-2)$$

or the logarithmic-probability distribution [Hatch and Choate, *J. Franklin Inst.*, 207, 369 (1929)]:

$$Y = \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\ln X/X'}{\sigma} \right) \quad (8-3)$$

or the Gaudin-Meloy distribution [Gaudin and Meloy, *Trans. A.I.M.E.*, 223, 40-50 (1962)]:

$$Y = 1 - \left(1 - \frac{X}{X'} \right)^r \quad (8-4)$$

where Y = cumulative fraction by weight undersize; X = size; k , X' = parameters with dimension of size; m , n , r = dimensionless

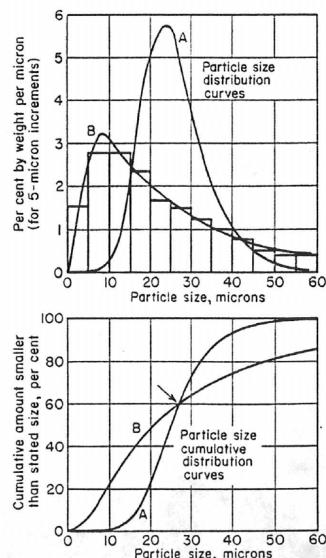


FIG. 8-1. Particle-size distribution curves for simple powders.

From Perry's Chemical Engineers' Handbook

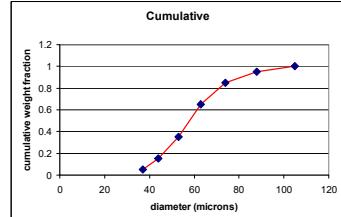
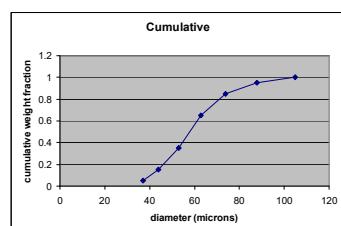
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Rosin-Rammler Distribution

(similar to a Weibull distribution)

$$f = 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{d}{a}\right)^n}$$

where f is the cumulative weight fraction under size d , and a and n are fitting parameters.



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Internal Surface Areas

- Internal surface areas are measured by adsorption of some gas (N_2 , CO_2 , O_2 , Ar)
- Units are generally m^2/g
- Raw coal generally has less surface area than char (after devolatilization)
- CO_2 method generally gives larger internal surface area than N_2 method
- No method is accepted as standard

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Internal Surface Area Data

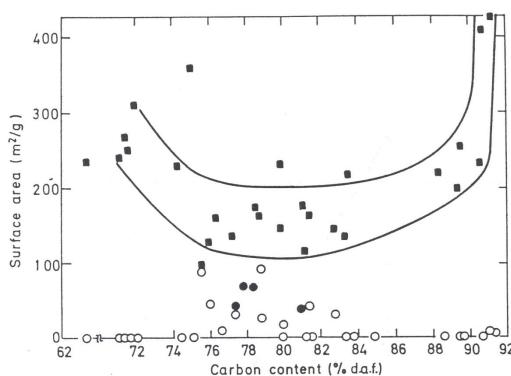
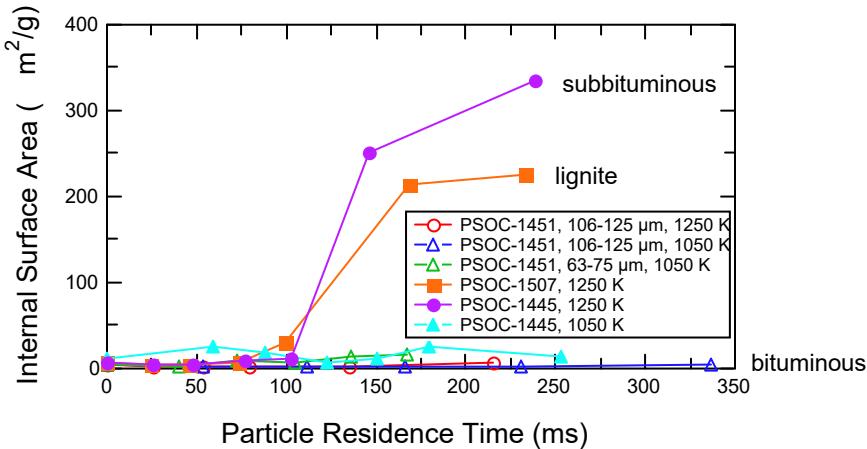


Figure 1 Variation of nitrogen and carbon dioxide surface areas of coals with carbon content
● N_2 (from reference 14), ○ N_2 (determined), ■ CO_2

From Gan et al. Fuel, Vol. 51 (1972)

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N₂ Internal Surface Area Data



Internal surface areas of char particles from different coals as a function of residence time, as measured by the N₂ BET method.
From Fletcher Sandia Milestone Report

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Heating Value

- A common terminology has been adopted in the United States regarding the heating value of coal. The term "high heating value" is defined to be the calorific value of coal, computed as if the water (H₂O) products of coal combustion end up in the liquid form.
 - In other words,
 - C ==> CO₂ (gas)
 - H ==> H₂O (liquid)
 - O ==> O₂ (gas), which helps burn the C, H, and S
 - N ==> N₂ (gas)
 - S ==> SO₂ (gas)
 - $Q_h = 145.44 (\%C) + 620 [(\%H) - (\%O)/8] + 41(\%S)$ (Btu/lb) **(DuLong formula)**
 - $Q_l = Q_h - 92.7 (\%H)$ (Btu/lb)
- (daf compositions)
- (Q_l and Q_h are positive when exothermic)
- (from Perry's Chem. Eng. Handbook)

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Heating Value (cont.)

Note:

- If the high heating value of the coal is defined to have the hydrogen products end up as H₂O (liq.), then the latent heat of moisture evaporation is automatically removed from the problem.
- % moisture = %H₂O (liq.) ==> H₂O (liq.) ΔH_{react} = 0.0
- So:

$$\frac{Q_h \text{ (Btu/lb of wet, ash-included coal)}}{(1 - x_{ash} - x_{moist})} = Q_h \text{ (Btu/lb of daf coal)}$$

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Other Heating Value Correlations

$$Q_s = 338.3C + 1443\left(H - \frac{O}{8}\right) + 94.2S \quad (1)$$

$$Q_s = 340.6C + 14324H - 153.2O + 104.7S \quad (2)$$

$$Q_s = 339.1\left(C - \frac{3}{8}O\right) + 238.6\left(\frac{3}{8}O\right) + 1444\left(H - \frac{1}{16}O\right) + 104.7S \quad (3)$$

$$Q_s = 339.1C + 1433.7H + 93.1S - 127.3O \quad (4)$$

$$Q_s = 519C + 1625H + O^2 - 17870 \quad (5)$$

$$Q_s = 340.3C + 1243.2H + 62.8N + 190.9S - 98.4O \quad (6)$$

$$Q_s = 351.7C + 1162.6H + 104.7S - 111O \quad (7)$$

$$Q_s = 341.4C + 1444.5H - \frac{1000(N+O-1)}{8} + 93S \quad (8)$$

$$Q_s = 341C + 1323H + 68.5 - 119.4(O+N) \quad (9)$$

$$Q_s = 349.1C + 1178.3H + 100.5S - 103.4O - 15N \quad (10)$$

$$Q_s = 339C + 1214\left(H - \frac{O}{8}\right) + 104S + 226H \quad (11)$$

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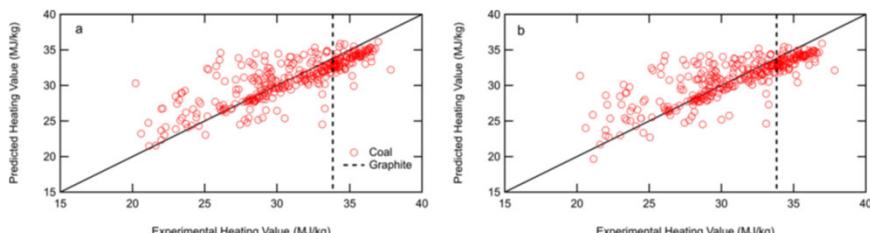
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(from Sciazko, M., 2012)

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Andrew Richards Paper

- DuLong and other formulas were obtained from a limited number of coals
- Re-fit data from large number of coals using proposed model forms



Parity plots of all best model forms for coal heating value: a) Mott-Spooner re-fit and b) Boie re-fit. Both plots include a vertical dashed line indicating the heating value of pure graphite.

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