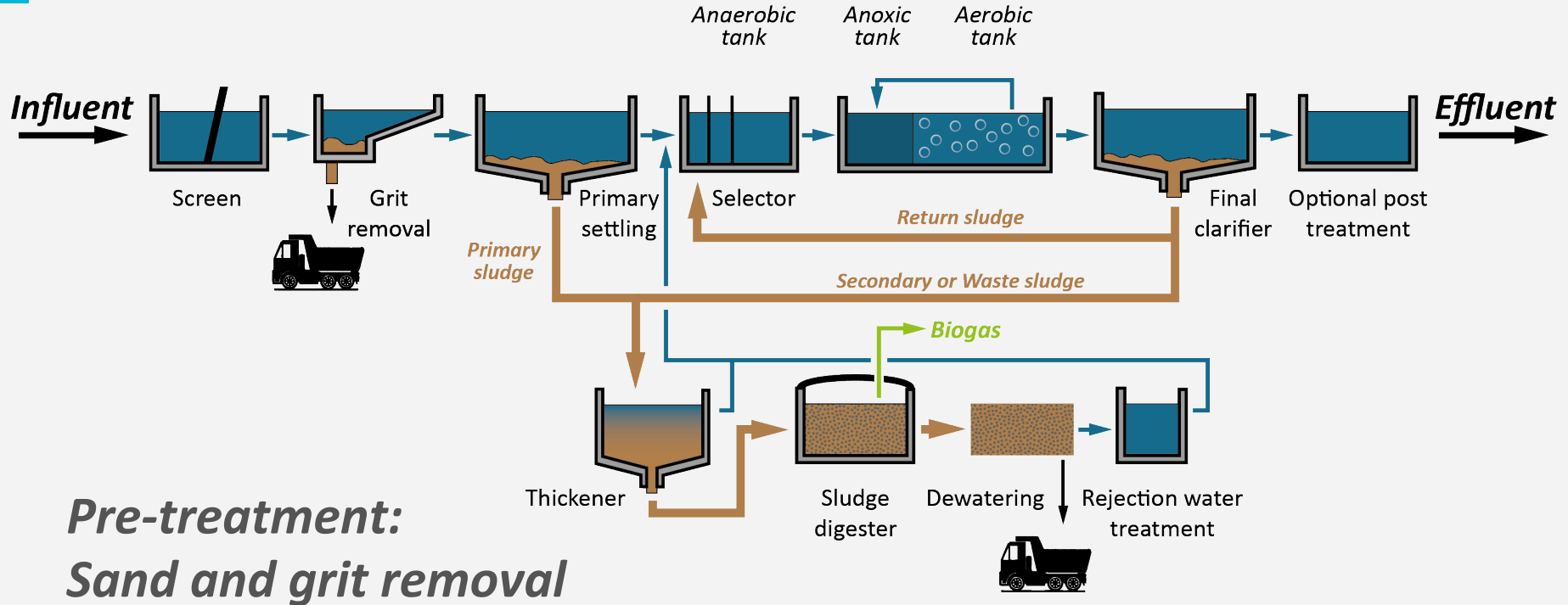


# Grit removal design

*CTB3365x Introduction to water treatment*

Prof.dr.ir. Jules B. van Lier

# Basic WWTP process units



**Pre-treatment:**  
**Sand and grit removal**

# Discrete settling: principles

## *Settling of discrete, non-flocculating particles:*

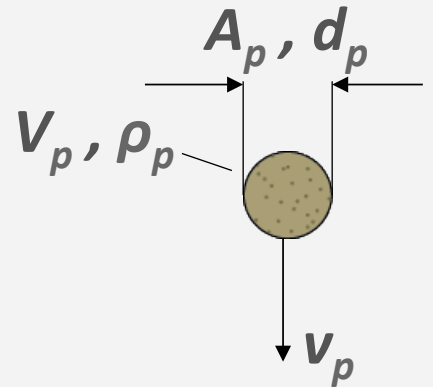
- classical sedimentation laws by Newton and Stokes

**Newton:**  $F_d = \frac{C_d A_p \rho_w v_p^2}{2}$   $C_d = \text{drag coefficient [-]}$



$$F_G = (\rho_p - \rho_w) g V_p$$

**Surface area,  
Diameter:**



# Discrete settling: terminal particle velocity

*Newton's law (spherical particles):*

$$F_G = F_d \quad A = \frac{\pi d_p^2}{4} \quad V = \frac{4}{3} \pi \left( \frac{d_p}{2} \right)^3$$

$$F_G = (\rho_p - \rho_w) g V_p$$

$$F_d = \frac{C_d A_p \rho_w v_p^2}{2}$$



$$v_p = \sqrt{\frac{4g}{3C_d} \left( \frac{\rho_p - \rho_w}{\rho_w} \right) d_p}$$

*terminal velocity of particle [m/s]*

# Discrete settling: factors affecting $v_p$

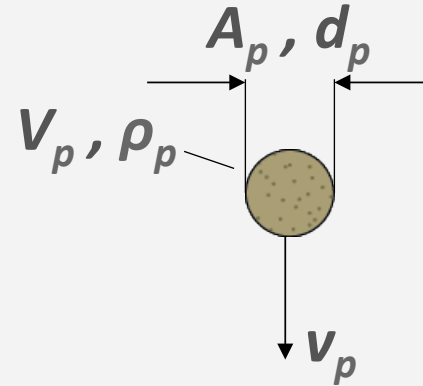
*Nonspherical particles:*

$$v_p = \sqrt{\frac{4g}{3C_d\varphi} \left( \frac{\rho_p - \rho_w}{\rho_w} \right) d_p^3}$$

*Value  $C_d$  depends on flow regime*

*Sphericity factor  $\varphi$ :*

- Spheres:  $\varphi = 1.0$
- Sand grains:  $\varphi = 2.0$
- Up to 20+ for fractal flocs



# Discrete settling: impact of liquid turbulence

*Drag coefficient  $C_d$*

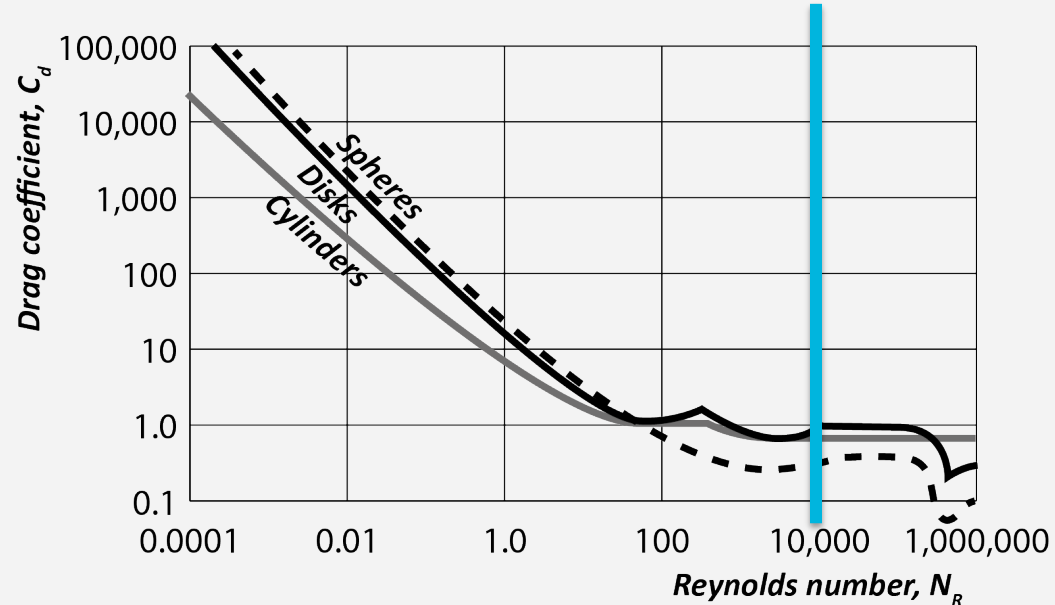
$$C_d = \frac{24}{N_R} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{N_R}} + 0.34$$

*Depends on turbulence*

$$N_R = \frac{v_p d_p \rho_w}{\mu} = \frac{v_p d_p}{\nu}$$

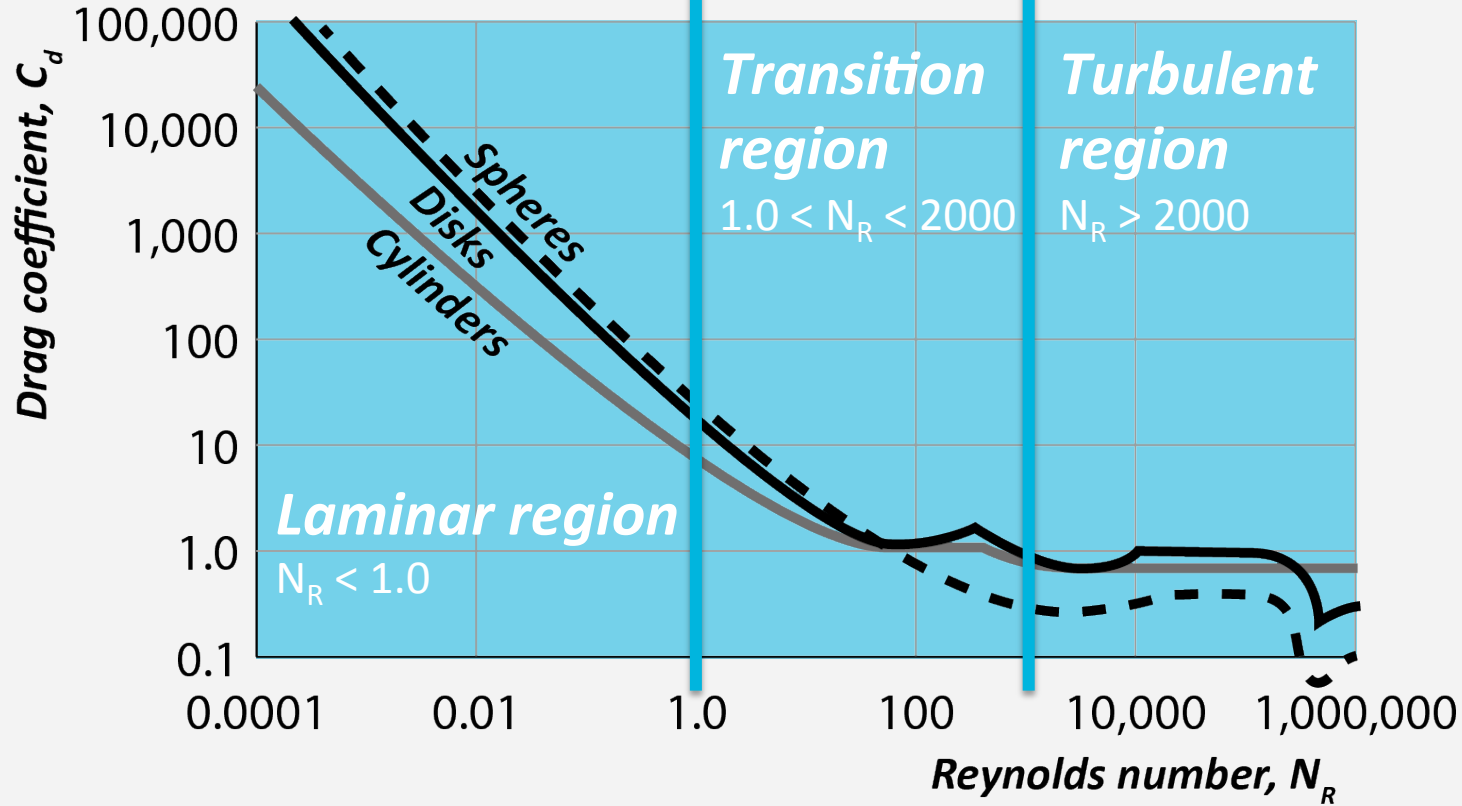
$\mu$  = dynamic viscosity [Ns/m<sup>2</sup>]

$\nu$  = kinematic viscosity [m<sup>2</sup>/s]



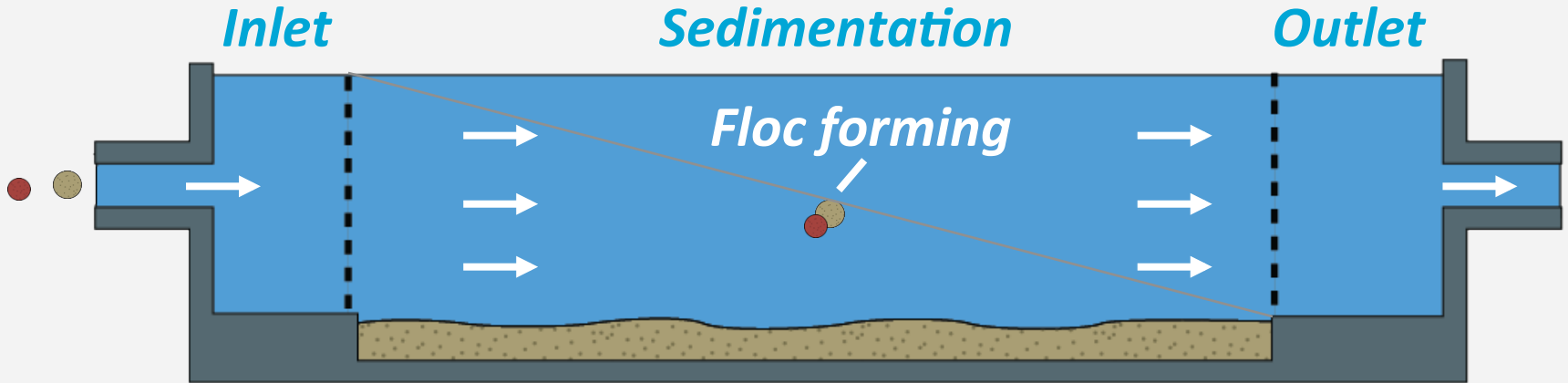
# Discrete settling

$$C_d = \frac{24}{N_R} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{N_R}} + 0.34$$



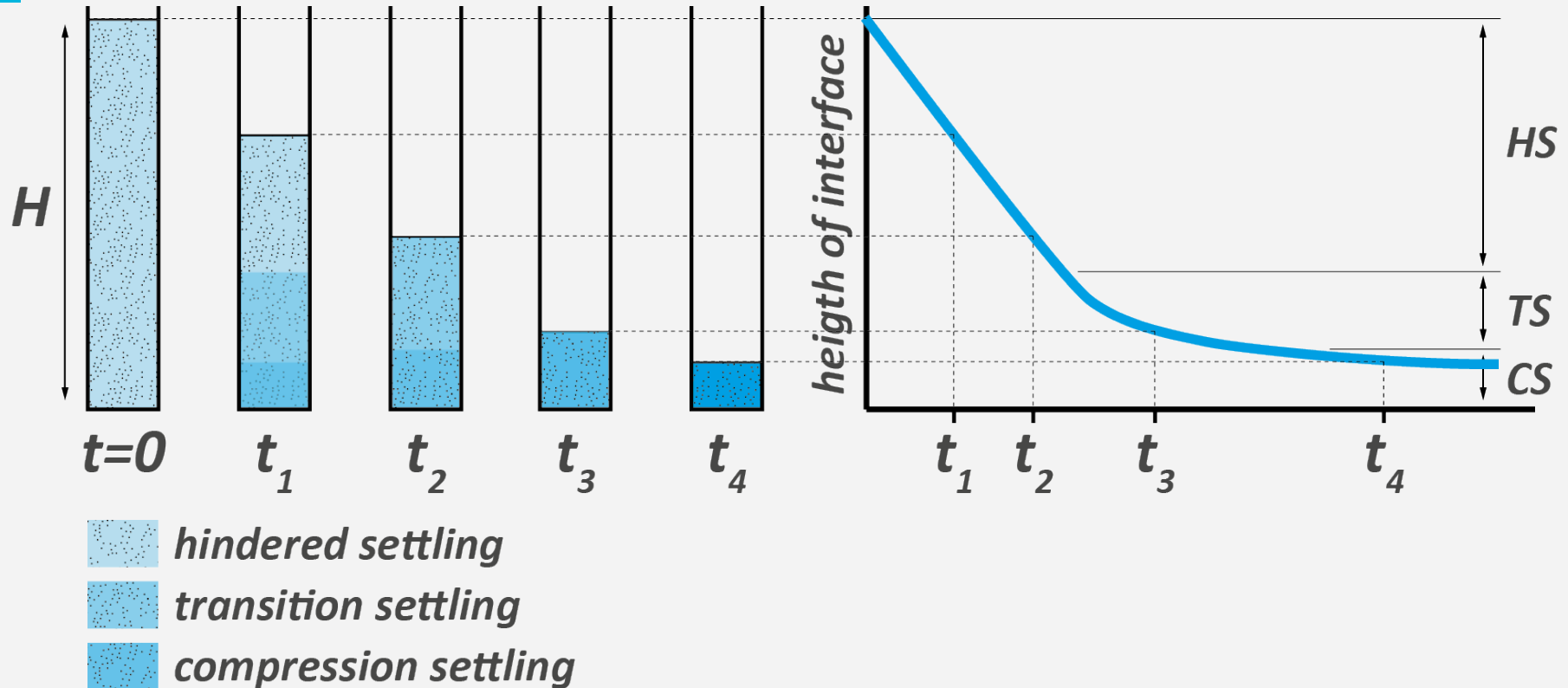
# Flocculent settling

- *Flocculation causes increasing settling velocities*
- *Dilute suspension settling*



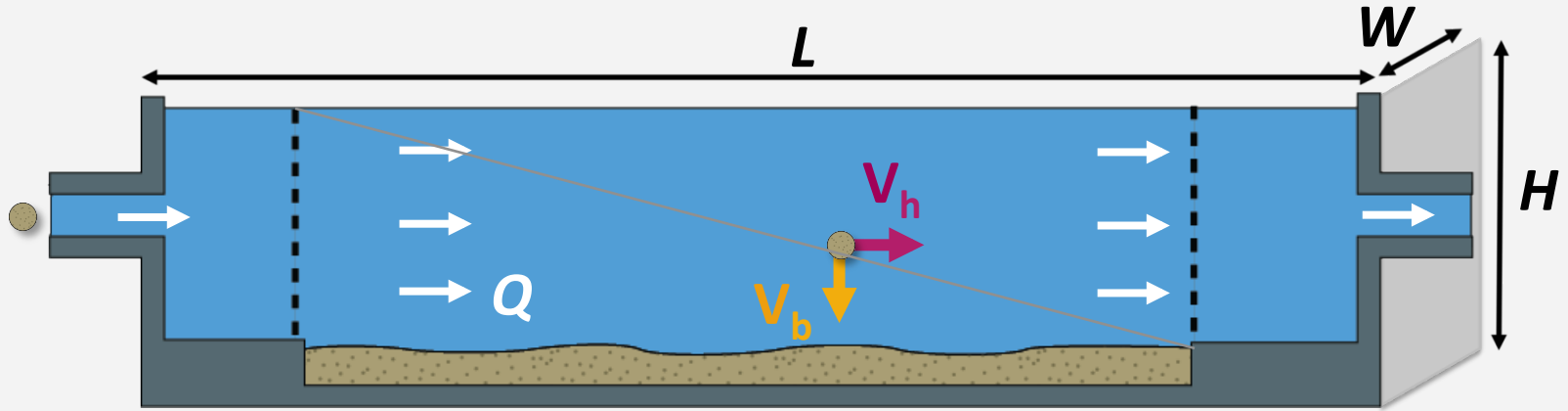


# Flocculent settling: hindered settling



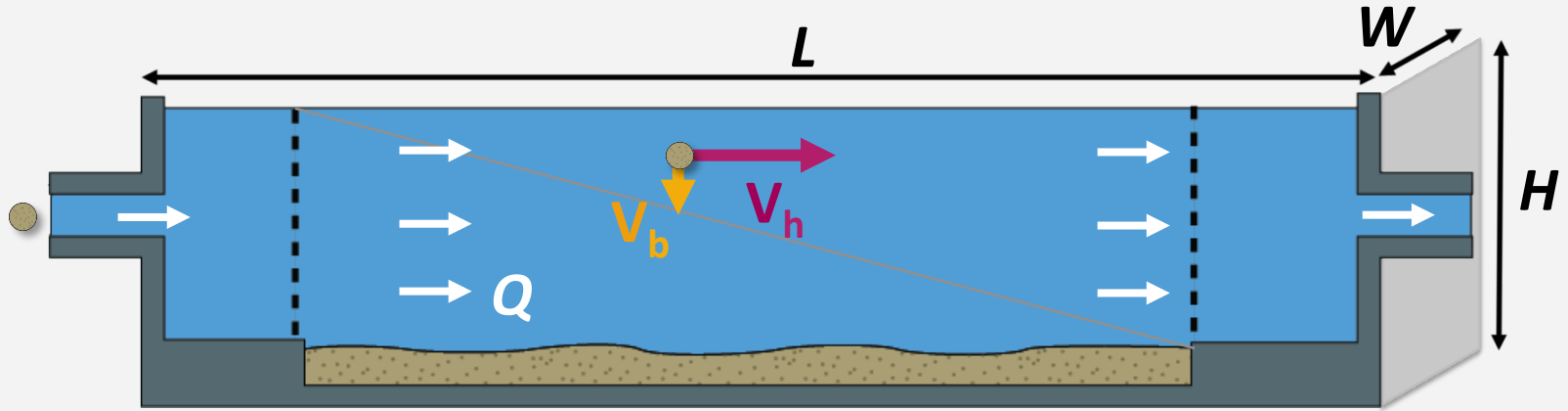
# Application in STP: Grit removal

*Discrete settling*



# Application in STP: Grit removal

*Discrete settling*



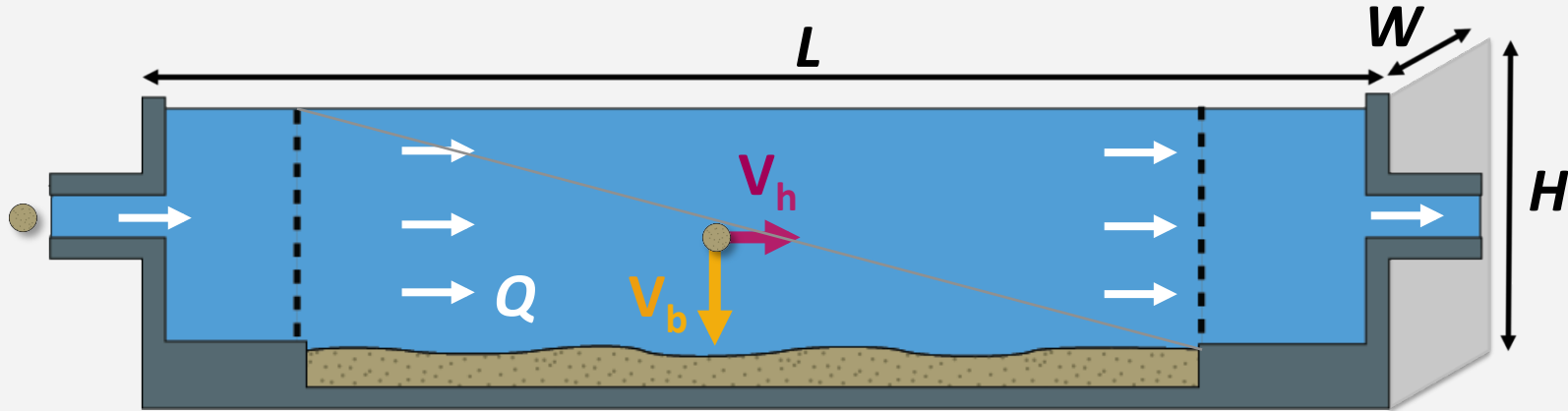
# Application in STP: Grit removal

## Discrete settling: Hazen's law

- Particle is retained if  $t_{\text{horizontal}} < t_{\text{vertical}}$ , or:

$$\frac{V_b}{H} > \frac{V_h}{L} \quad \text{and} \quad V_h = \frac{Q}{A_v} = \frac{Q}{H \cdot W} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{V_b}{H} > \frac{Q}{H \cdot W \cdot L} \quad \longrightarrow \quad V_b > \frac{Q}{A_h} = V_{HA}$$

$V_{HA}$  = Hazen velocity  
Independent on tank  
height!

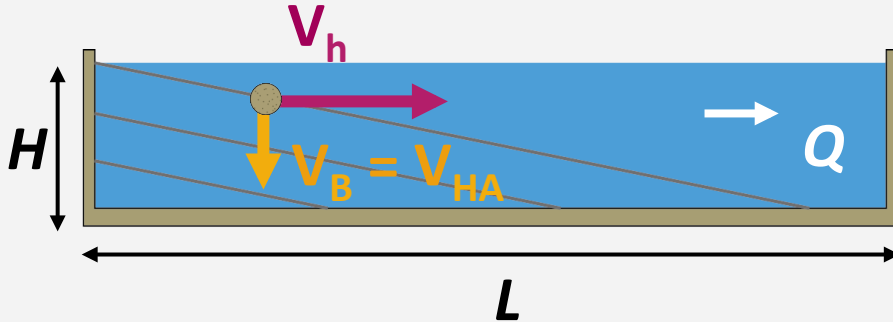


# Application in STP: Grit removal

- All particles with settling velocity  $v_b < v_{HA}$  will be removed

*Feed water distributed over H:*

- Also particles with  $v_b < v_{HA}$  will be removed, in  $v_b / v_{HA}$  ratio



# Grit removal

## *Important design features:*

- Sand, surface load:  $V_O = V_{HA} = 40 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{h}}$  or 0.011 m/s
- $V_h = 0.30 \text{ m/s} = V_S$ , Critical 'scouring' or 'slip' velocity



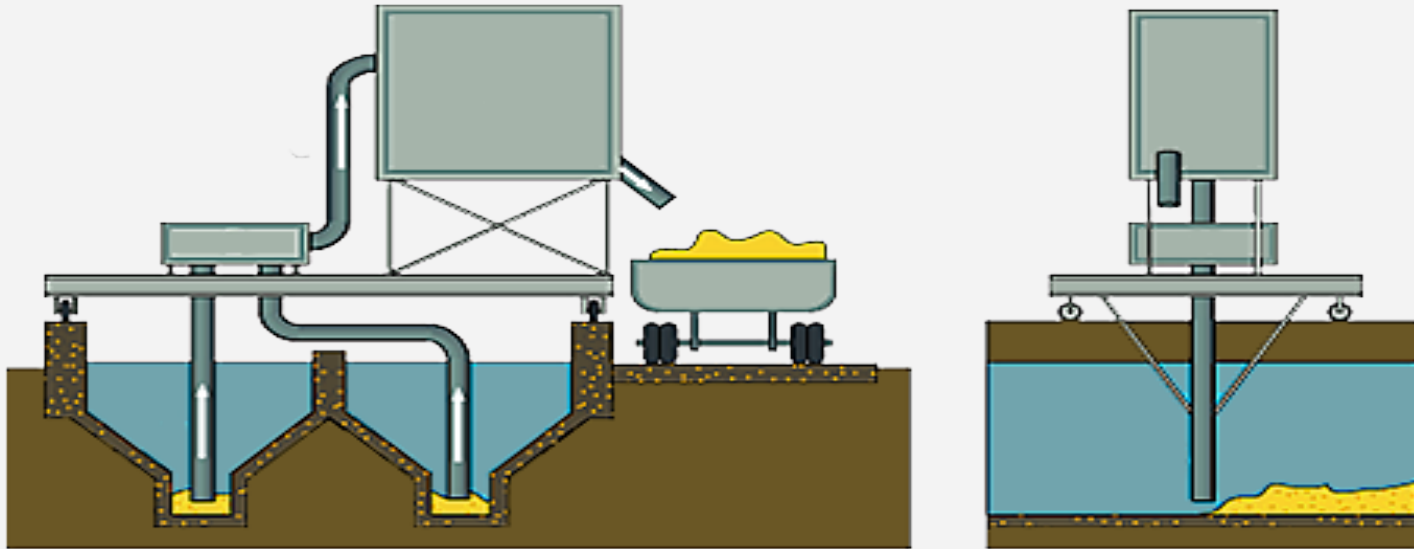
# Grit removal

## *Rectangular grit chamber*



- More gutters in parallel
- Long gutter with constant flow rate
- Constant discharge
- Surface loading rate:  $V_o = \frac{Q}{A} = 40 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{h}}$
- Horizontal velocity  $V_h$ , approx. 0.30 m/s
- Length/width ratio: 10:1 – 15:1

# Grit removal: removal of sand with air-lift

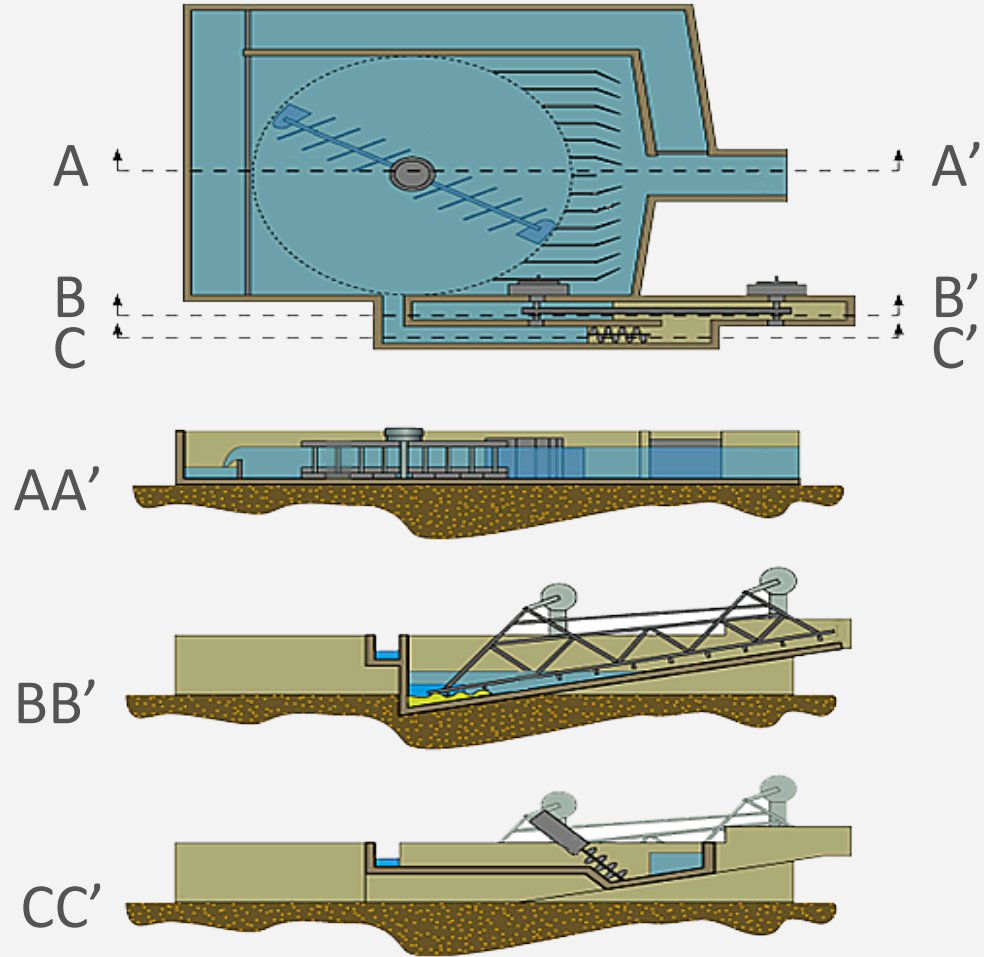




# Grit removal

## *Square grit chamber*

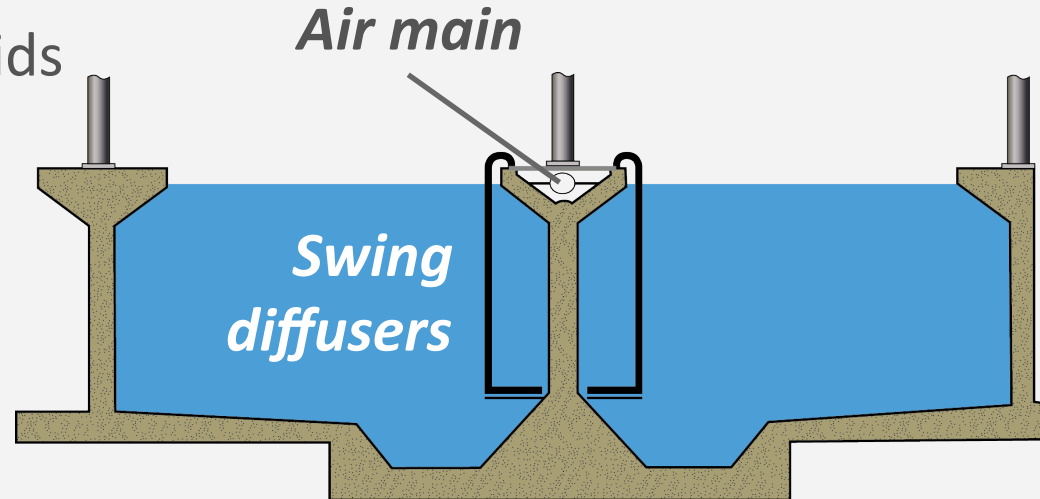
- Water depth 0.8 – 1m
- Square or circular
- $V_{O, \max} = 30 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{h}}$
- Fluctuating discharge
- External sand washer



# Grit removal

## *Aerated grit chamber*

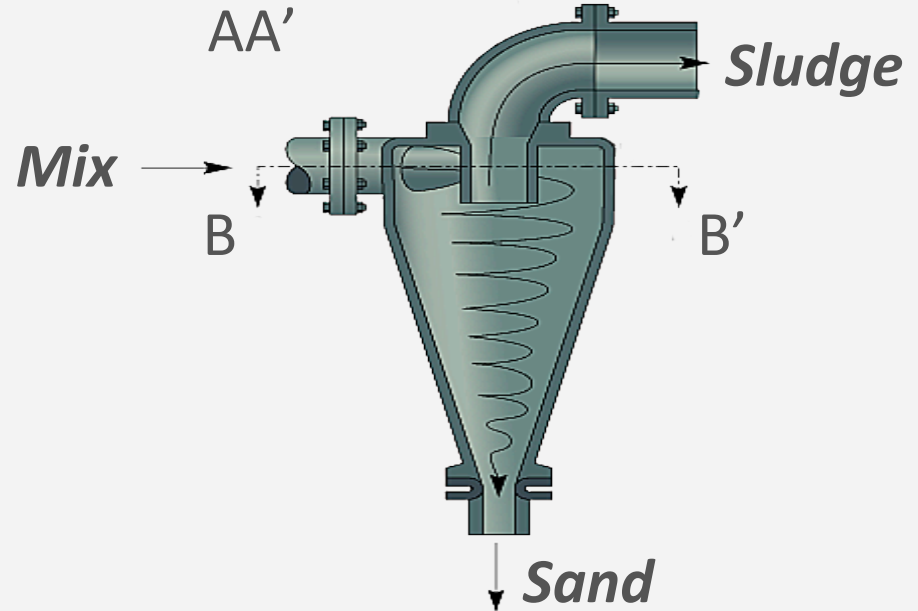
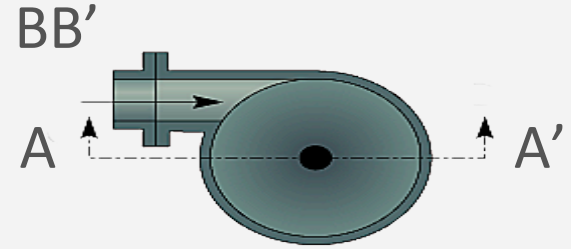
- More turbulent
- Increased  $V_p$  of sand particles
- Slurry: both sand and solids
- Ex-situ separation



# Grit removal: Hydroclone

*Slurries:*

→ *sand – solids separation*



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