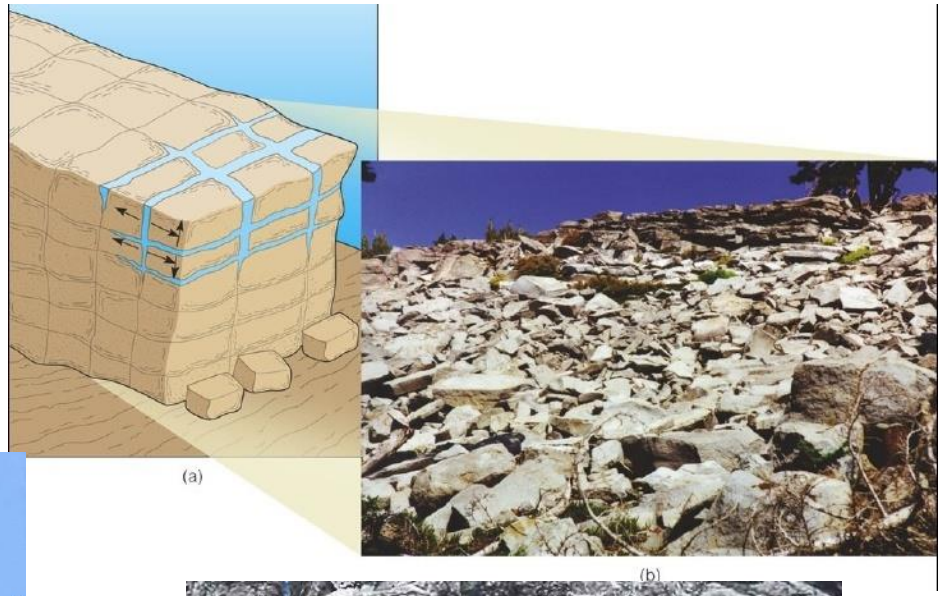
Sedimentary Rocks

The Prologue

Weathering → **Mechanical (particularly important in very cold or dry climate)**

↓

Chemical



The Chemistry of Weathering

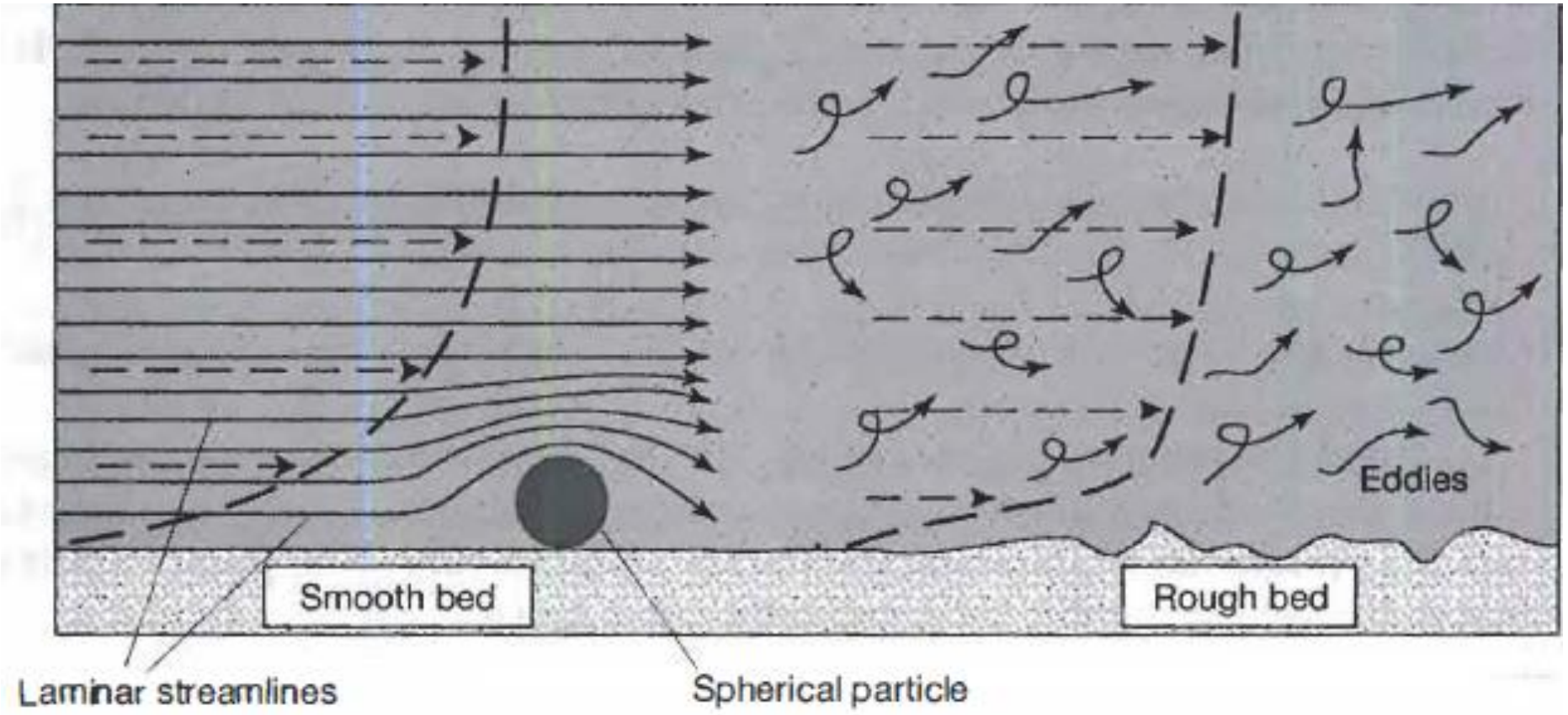
Most important processes	Examples	Principal kinds of rock materials affected
Simple (congruent) Solution—Dissolution of soluble minerals in H_2O (direct solution) or in $H_2O + CO_2$ (carbonation) to yield cations and anions in solution	$SiO_2 + 2H_2O \rightarrow H_4SiO_4$ (direct solution) (quartz) (silicic acid) aq	Highly soluble minerals (e.g., gypsum, halite), quartz
	$CaCO_3 + H_2O + CO_2 \leftrightarrow Ca^{2+} + 2HCO_3^-$ (Carbonation) (calcite) aq aq	Carbonate rocks
Hydrolysis (incongruent dissolution)—Reaction between H^+ and OH^- ions of water and the ions of silicate minerals, yielding soluble cations, silicic acid, and clay minerals (if Al present)	$2KAlSi_3O_8 + 2H^+ + 9H_2O \rightarrow H_4Al_2Si_2O_9 + 4H_4SiO_4 + 2K^+$ (orthoclase) aq (kaolinite) (silicic acid) aq	Silicate minerals
	$2NaAlSi_3O_8 + 2H^+ + 9H_2O \rightarrow H_4Al_2Si_2O_9 + 4H_4SiO_4 + 2Na^+$ (albite) aq (kaolinite) (silicic acid) aq	
Oxidation—Loss of an electron from an element (commonly Fe or Mn) in a mineral, resulting in the formation of oxides or hydroxides (if water present)	$2FeS_2 + 15/2O_2 + 4H_2O \rightarrow Fe_2O_3 + 4SO_4^{2-} + 8H^+$ (pyrite) (hematite) aq aq	Iron- and manganese-bearing silicate minerals, iron sulfides
	$MnSiO_3 + 1/2O_2 + 2H_2O \rightarrow MnO_2 + H_4SiO_4$ (rhodonite) (pyrolusite) (silicic acid)	
Other Processes		
Hydration and Dehydration—Gain (hydration) or loss (dehydration) of water molecules from a mineral, resulting in formation of a new mineral	$Fe_2O_3 + H_2O \leftrightarrow 2FeOOH$ (hydration) (hematite) (goethite)	Ferric oxides
	$CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O \leftrightarrow CaSO_4 + 2H_2O$ (dehydration) (gypsum) (anhydrite)	Evaporites
Ion Exchange—Exchange of ions, principally cations, between solutions and minerals	$K\text{-clay} + Mg^{2+} \leftrightarrow Mg\text{-clay} + K^+$ $Ca\text{-zeolite} + Na^+ \leftrightarrow Na\text{-zeolite} + Ca^{2+}$	Clay minerals and zeolites
Chelation—Bonding of metal ions to organic molecules having ring structures	Metal ions (cations) + chelating agent (e.g., secreted by lichens) $\rightarrow H^+$ ions + chelate (metal ions/organic molecules in solution)	Silicate minerals

Submarine Weathering Processes and Products

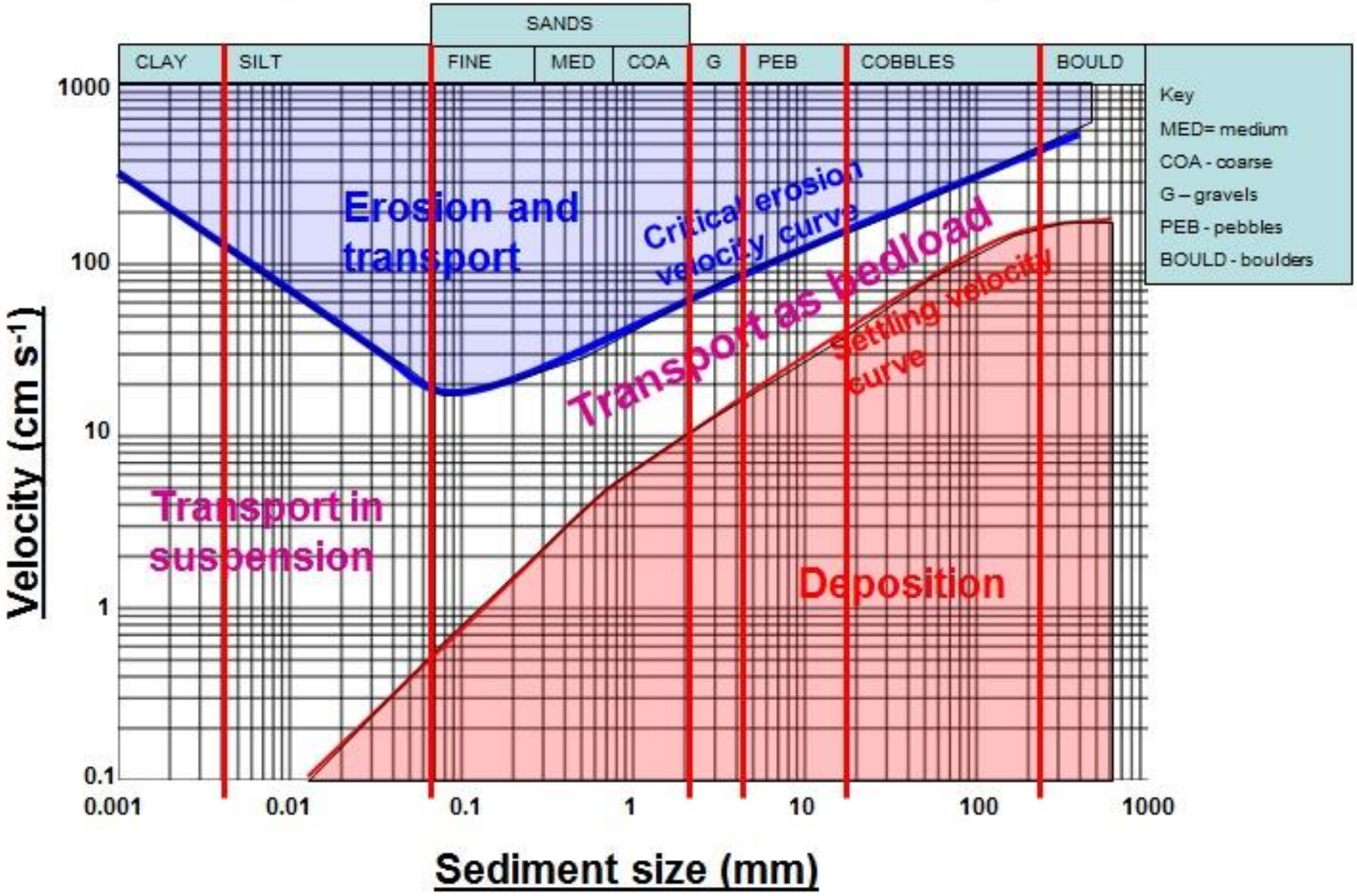
Alteration of ocean rocks occurs both at low temperature (<20°C) as well as at high temperature (~350°C)

As a result of submarine weathering, chemical elements are exchanged between rock and seawater and large mass of seawater becomes fixed in the oceanic crust in the form of altered hydrous minerals

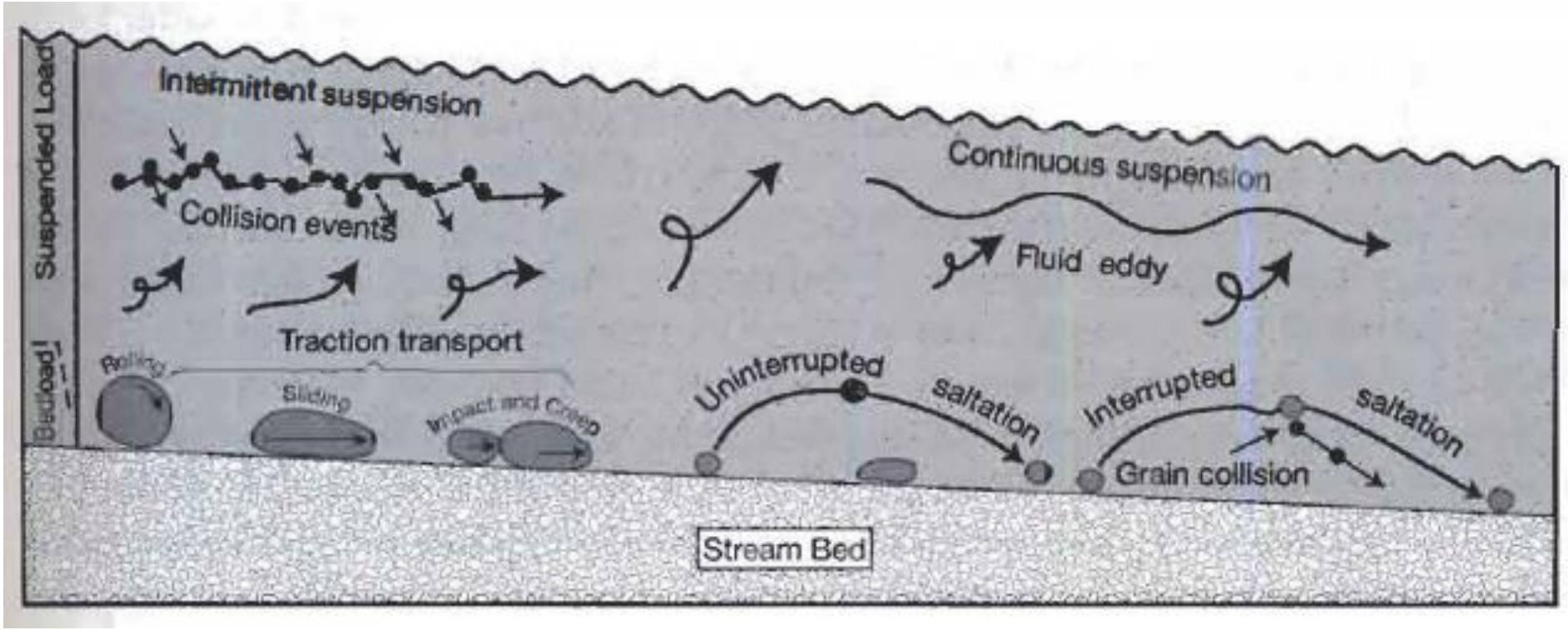
Fluid Flow- Laminar vs. Turbulent



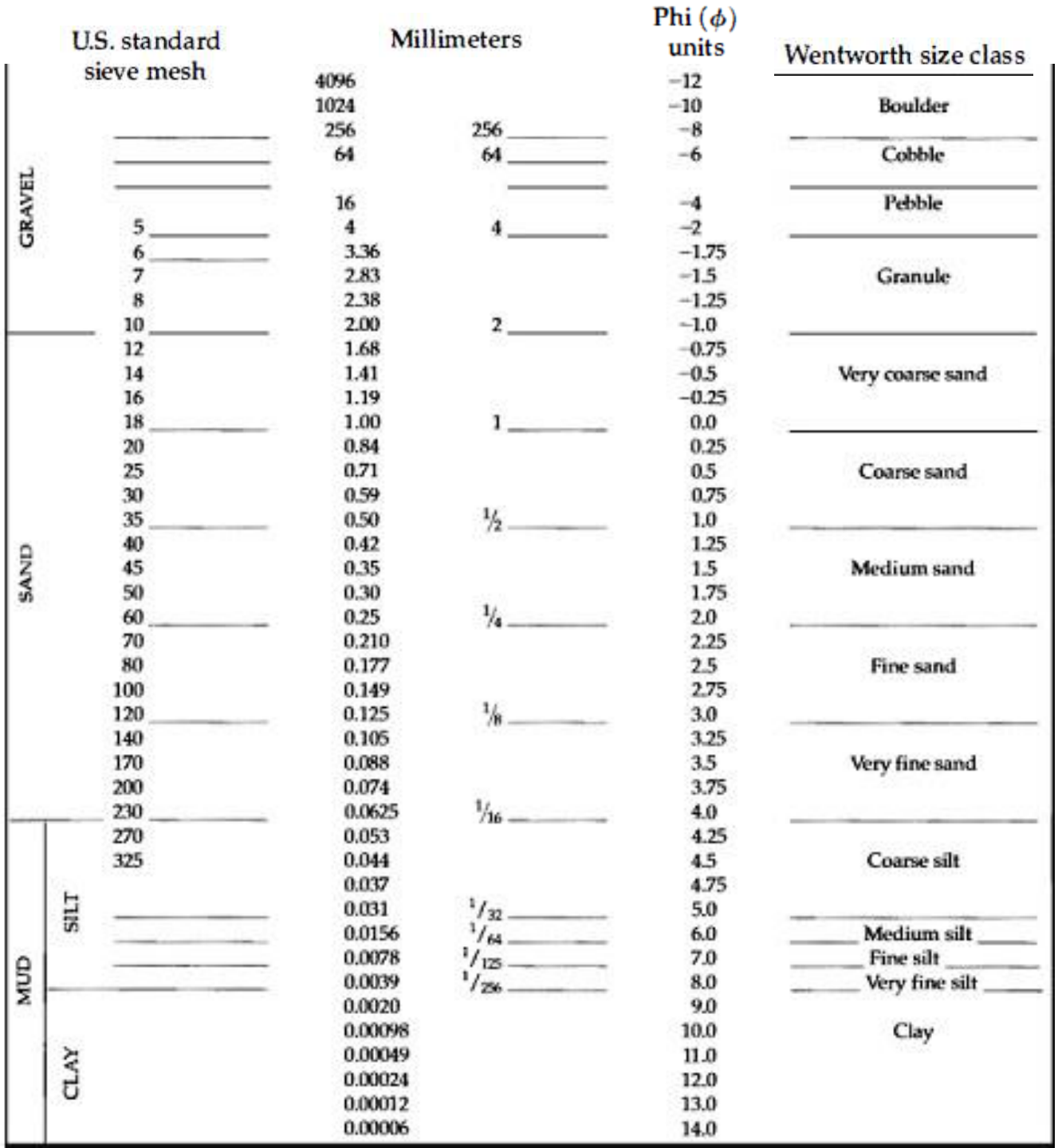
The Hjulström curve

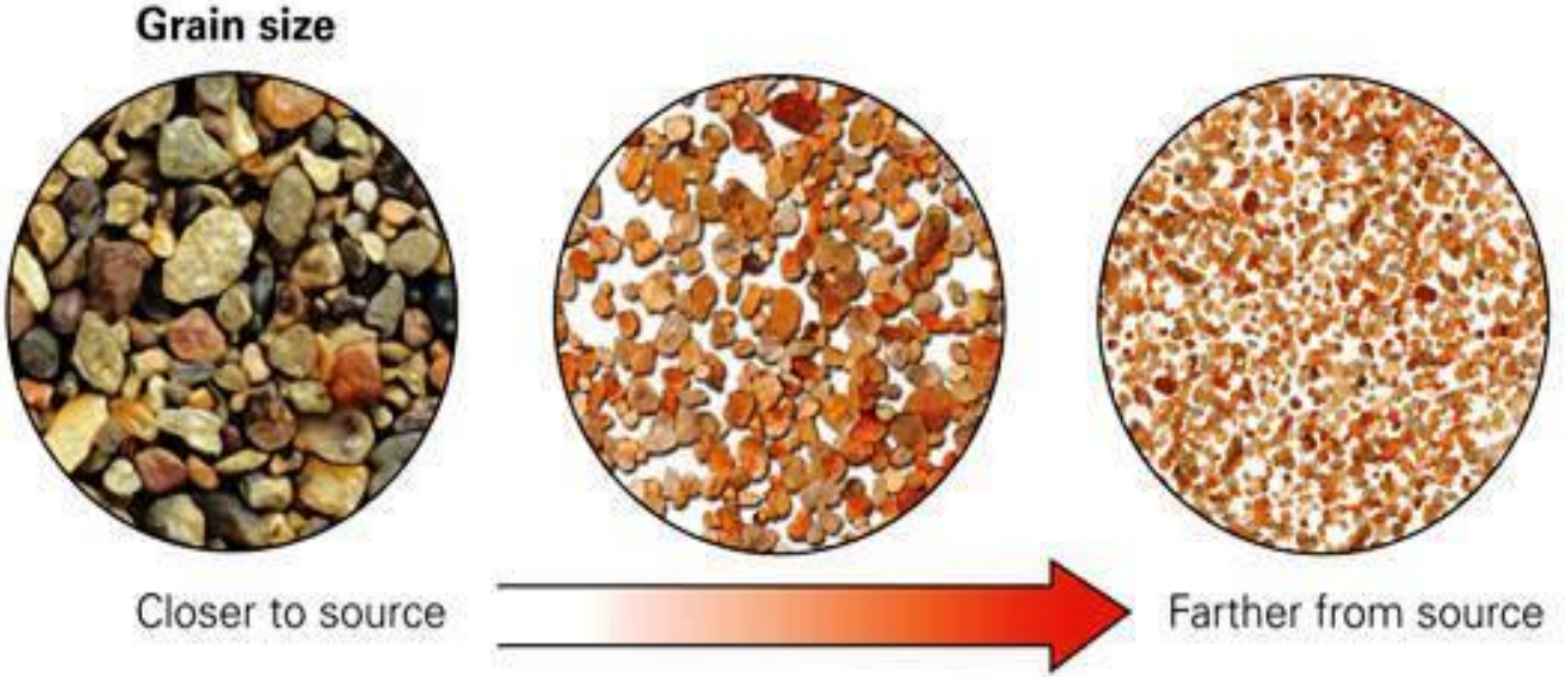


Sediment Transport Path

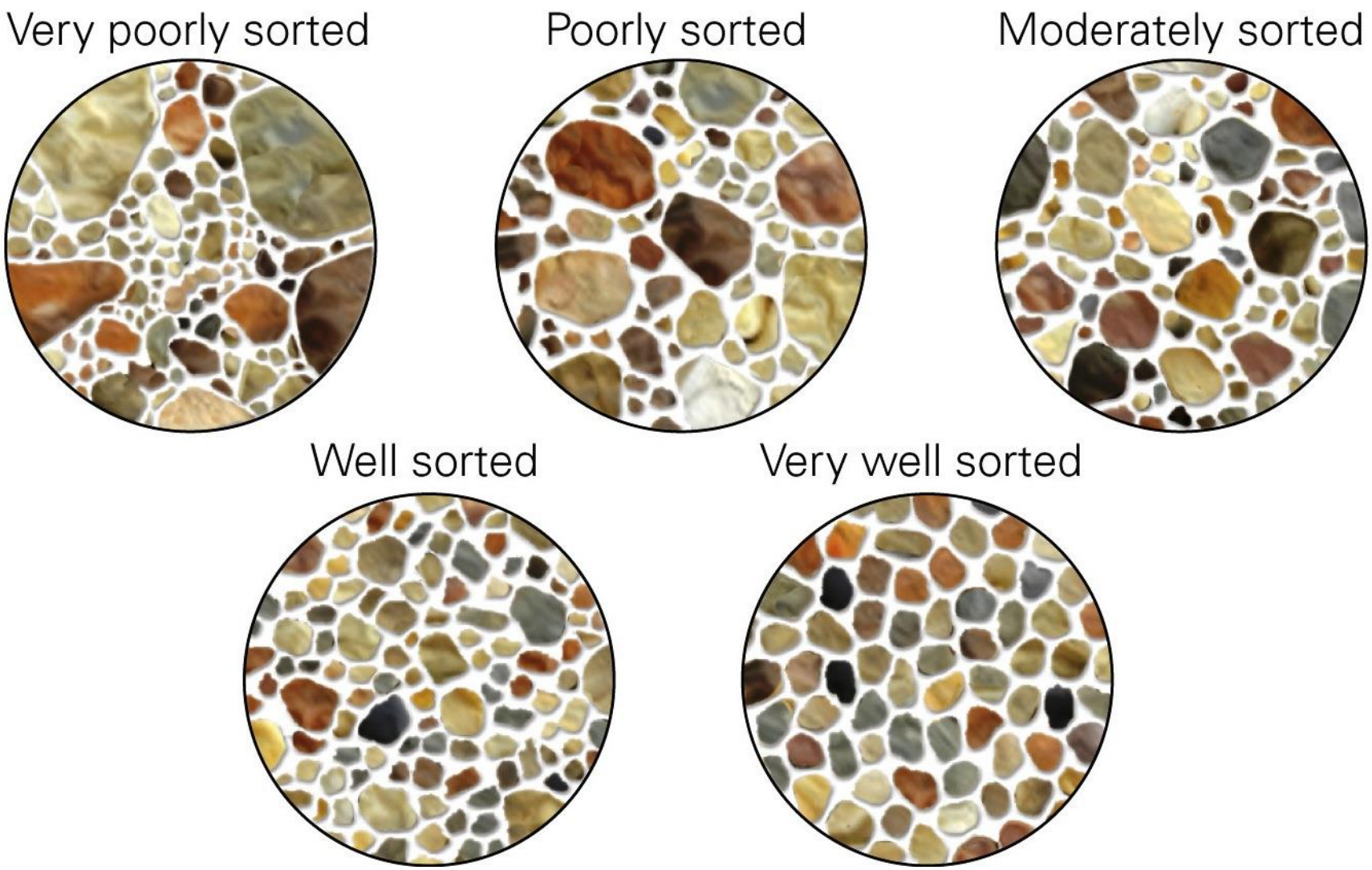


Texture-Grain Size

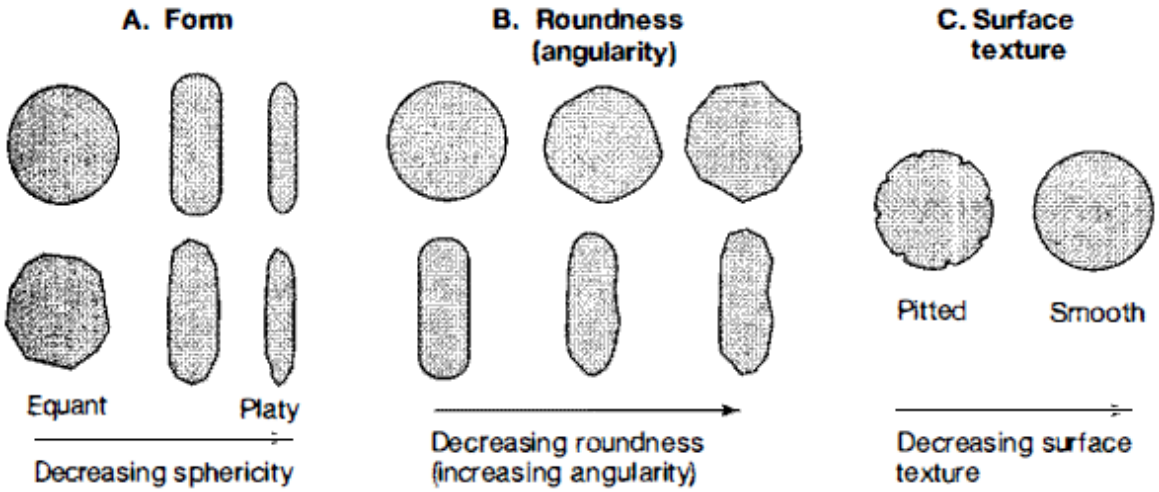


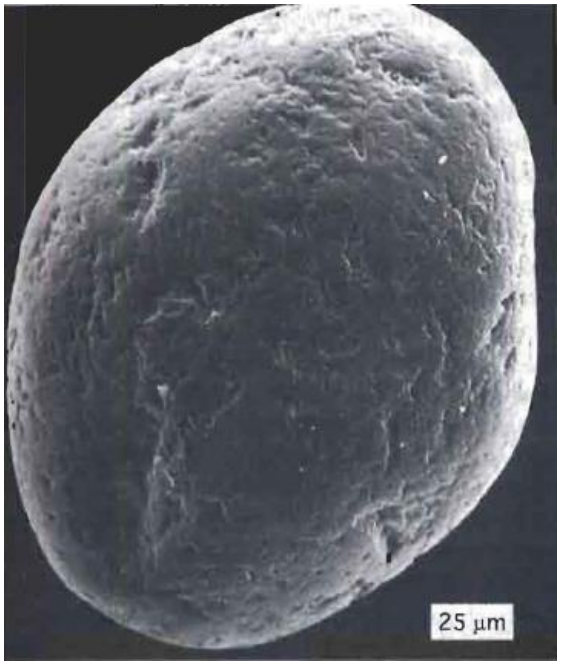

Grain size
Closer to source
Farther from source

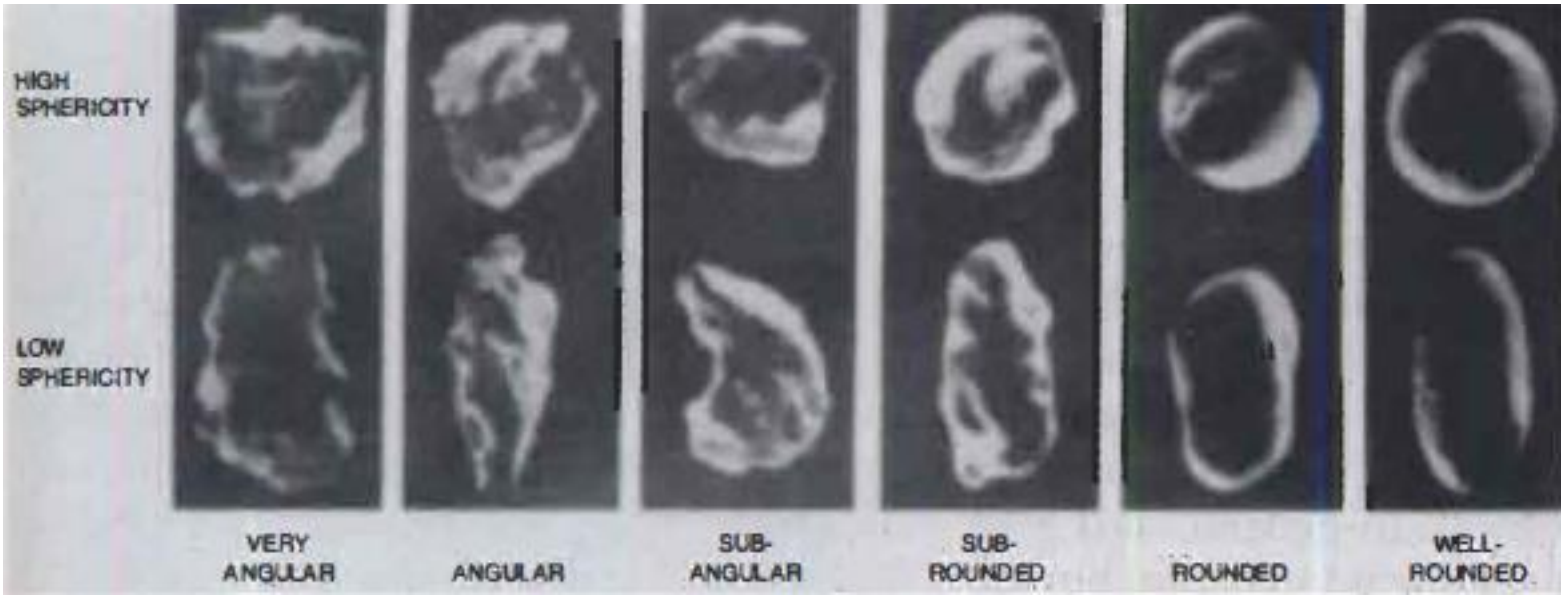
Texture- Grain Sorting



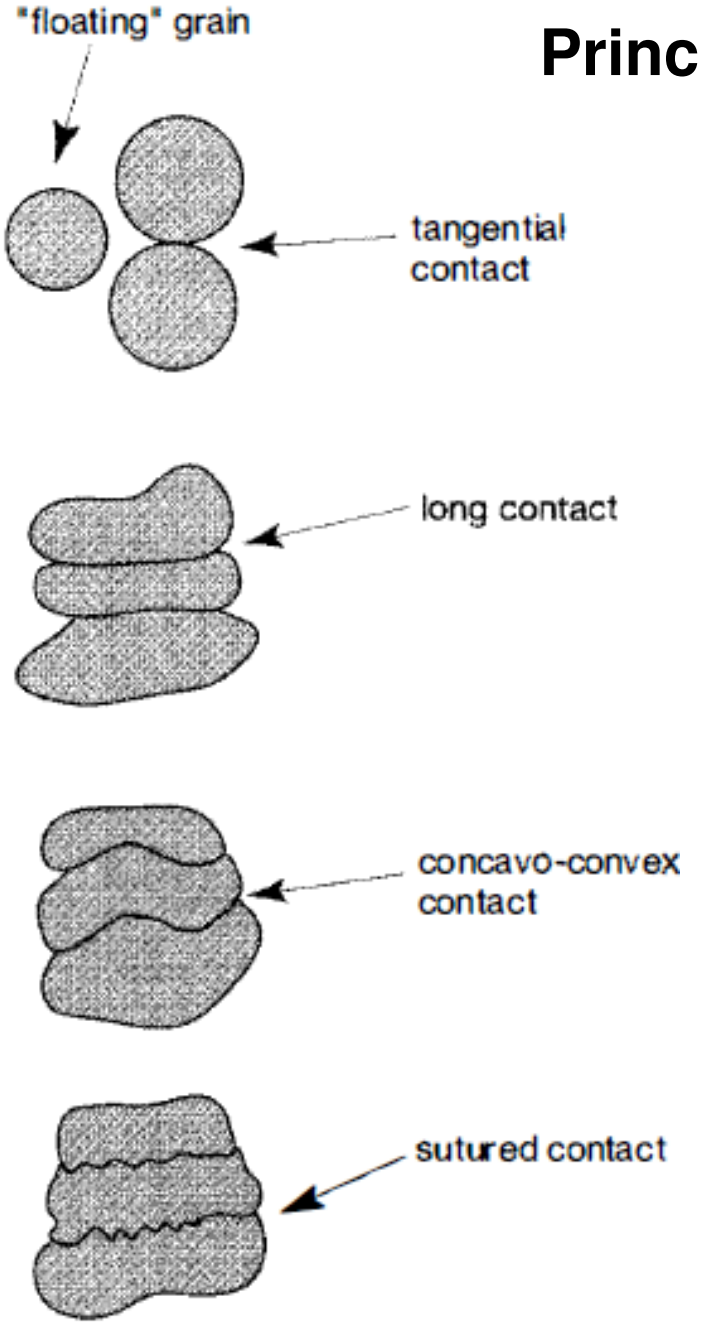
Texture- Roundness and Sphericity







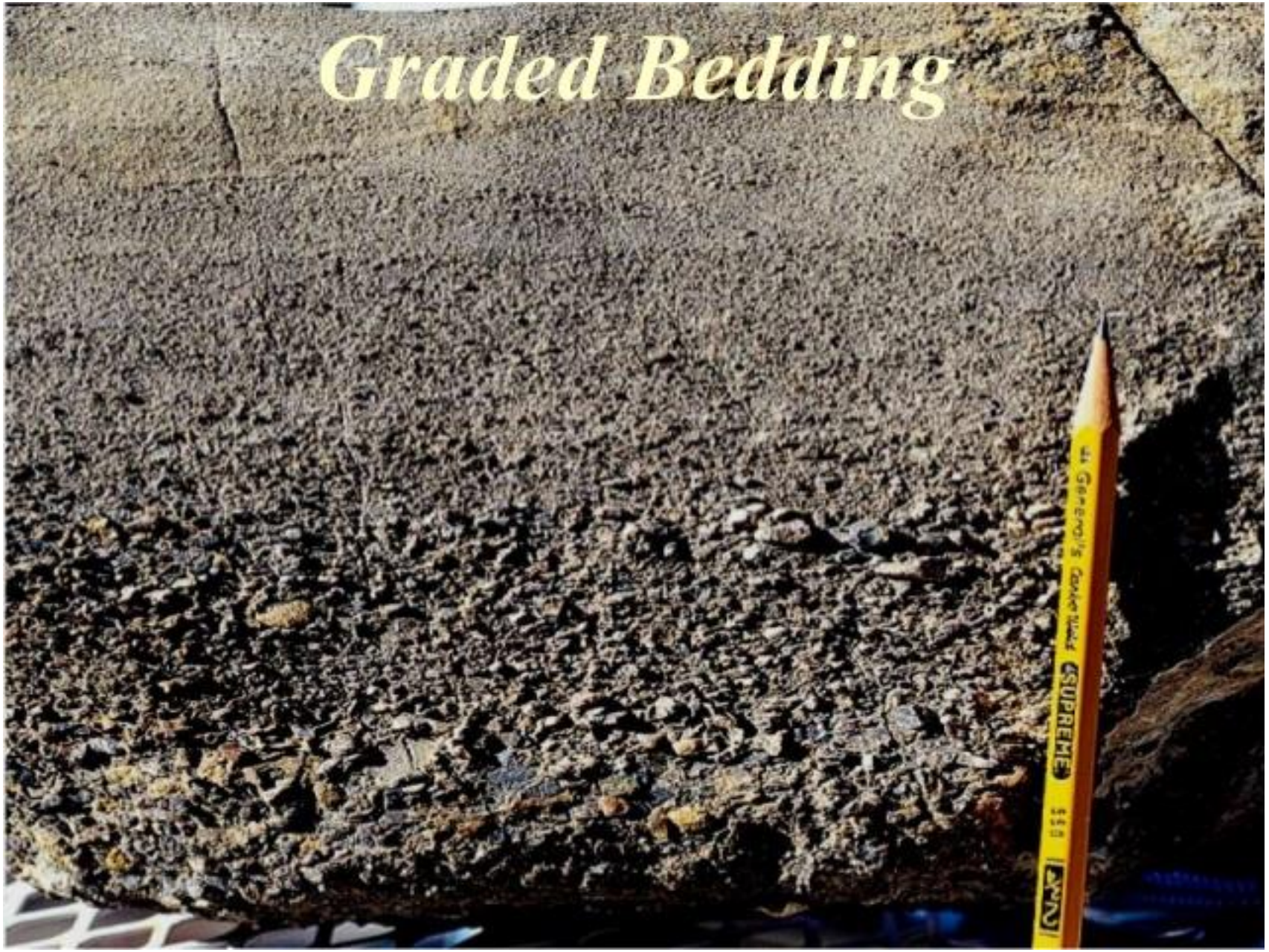
Principal kinds of Grain Contacts



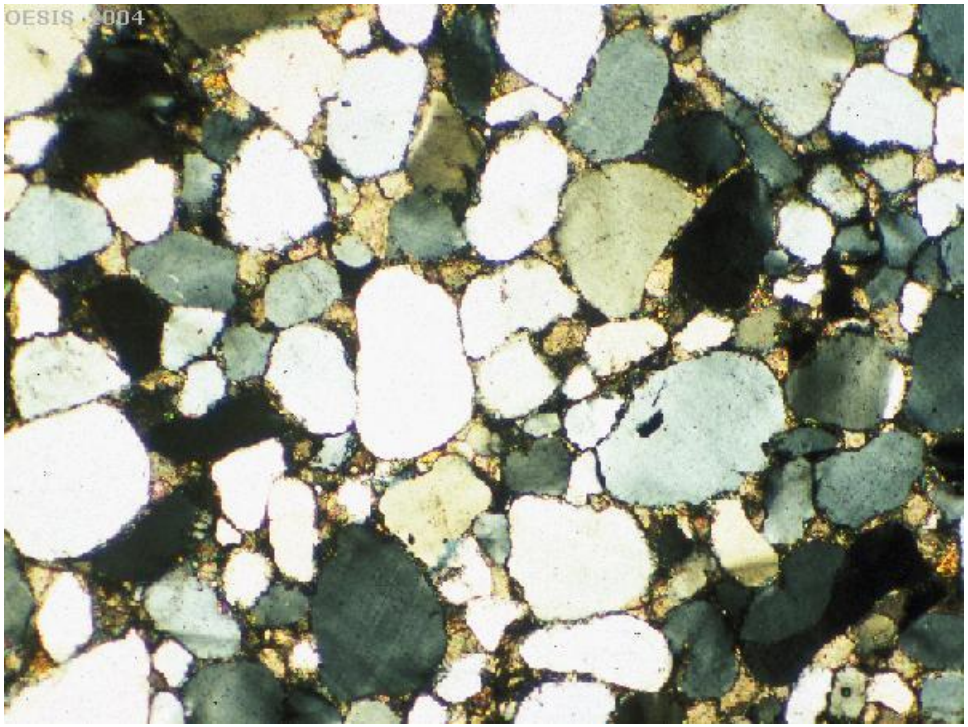
Sedimentary Structures- Bedding

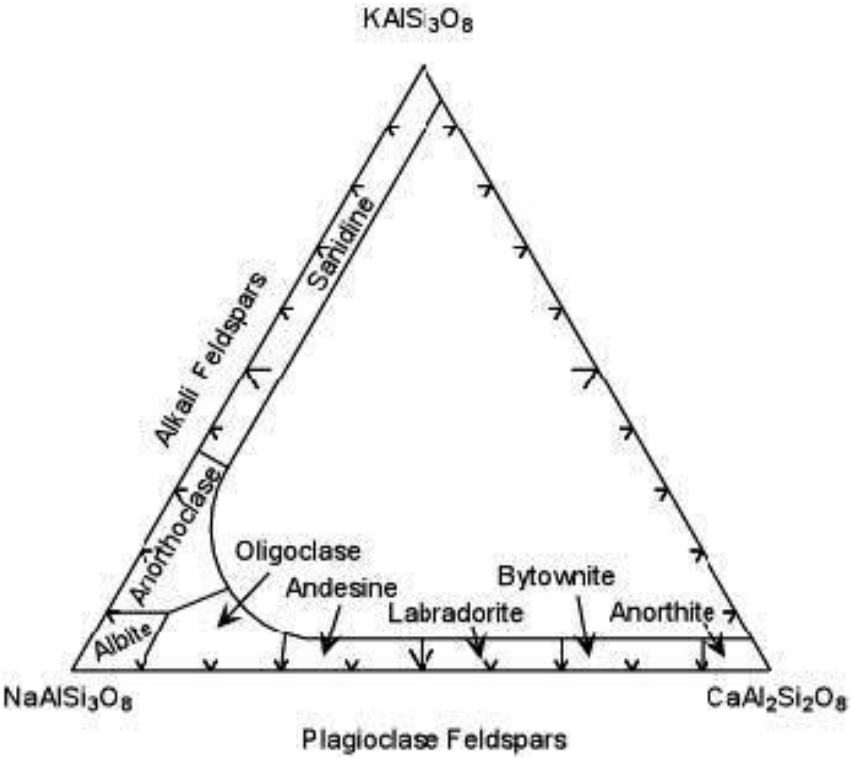
Laminated Bedding

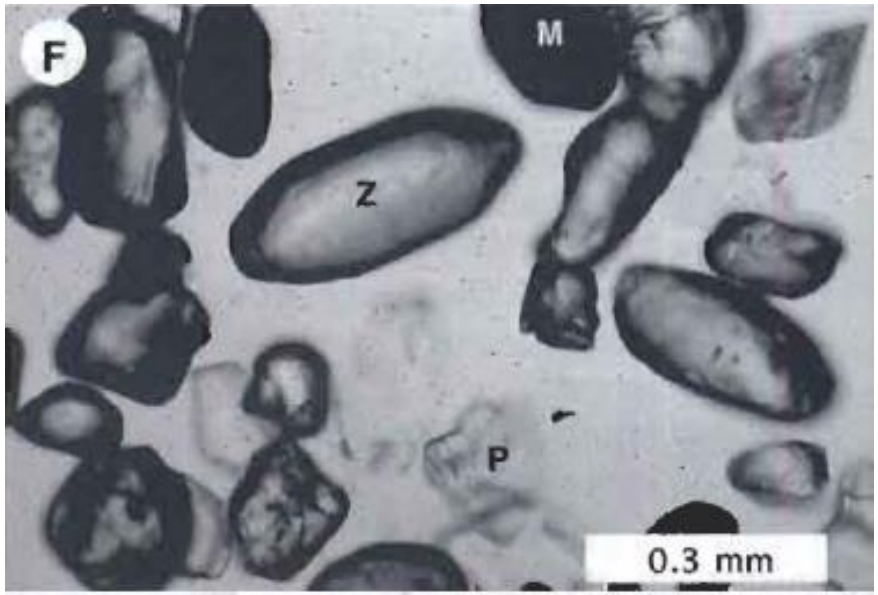
Graded Bedding

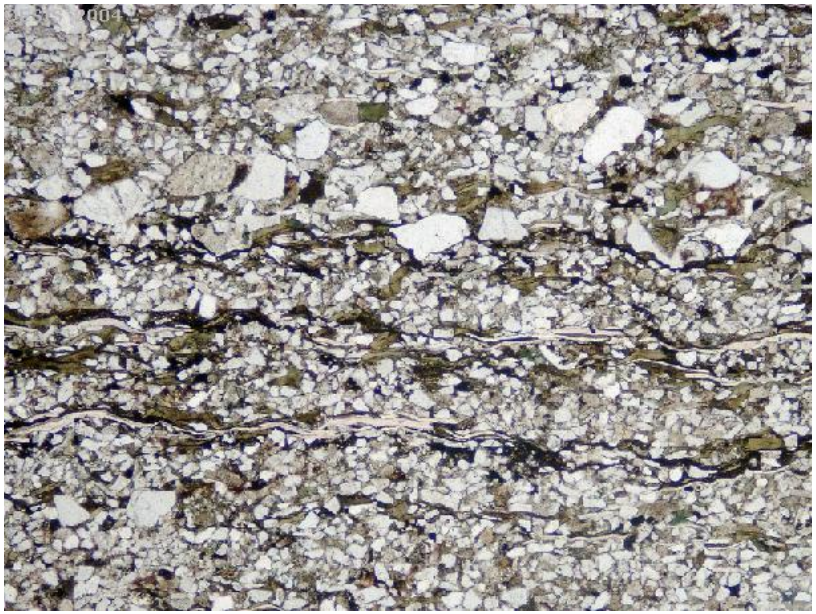


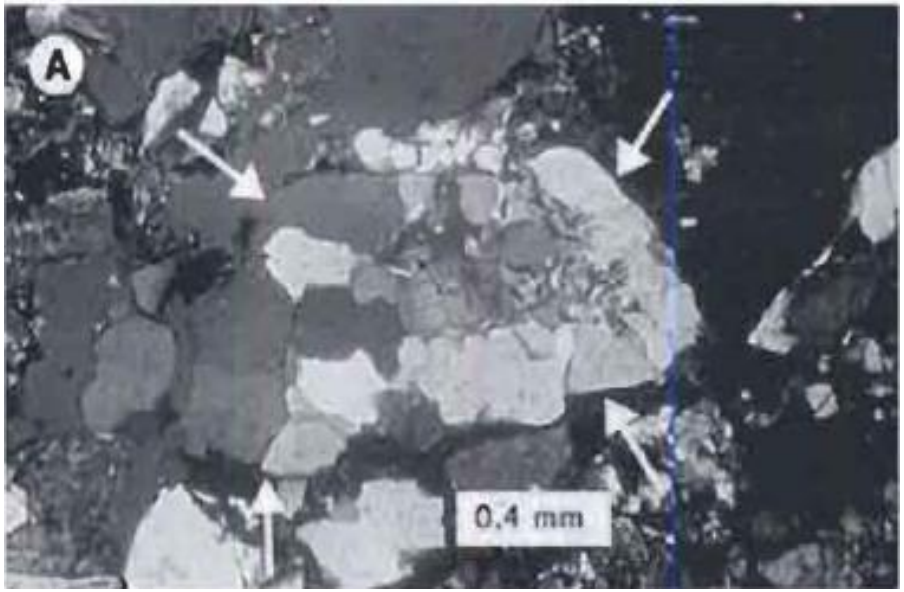
Massive Bedding




KAlSi3O8
Alkali Feldspars
Sanidine
Anorthoclase
Albite
Oligoclase
Andesine
Labradorite
Bytownite
Anorthite
NaAlSi3O8
CaAl2Si2O8
Plagioclase Feldspars

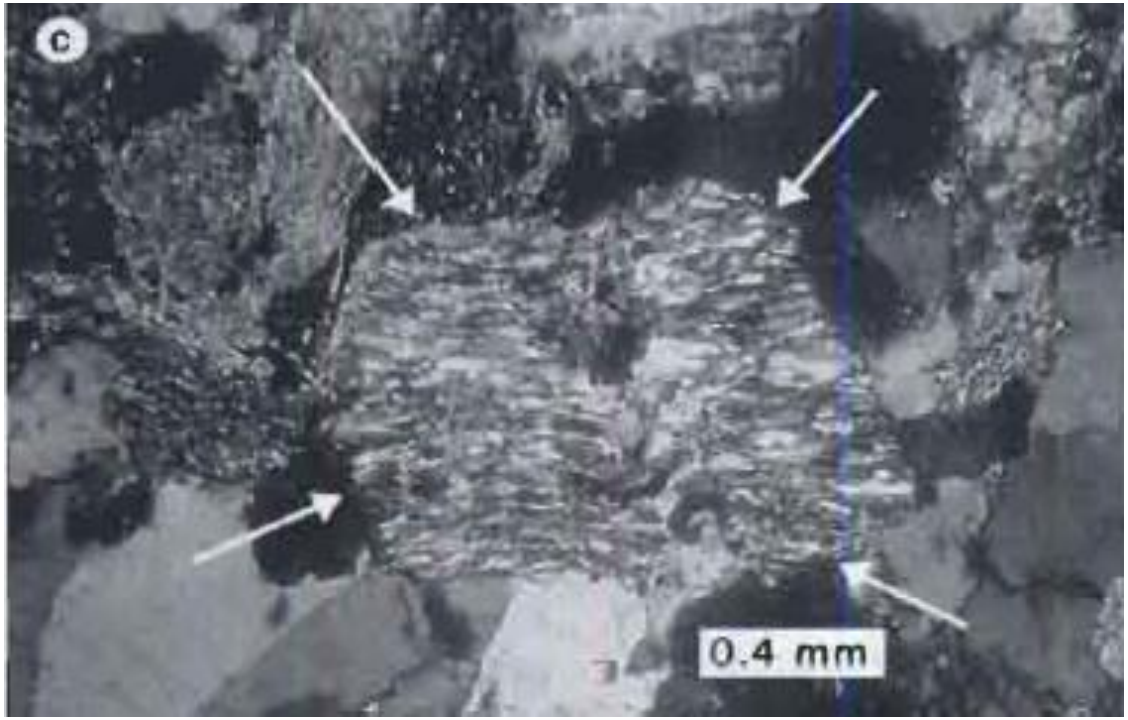

F
M
Z
P
0.3 mm





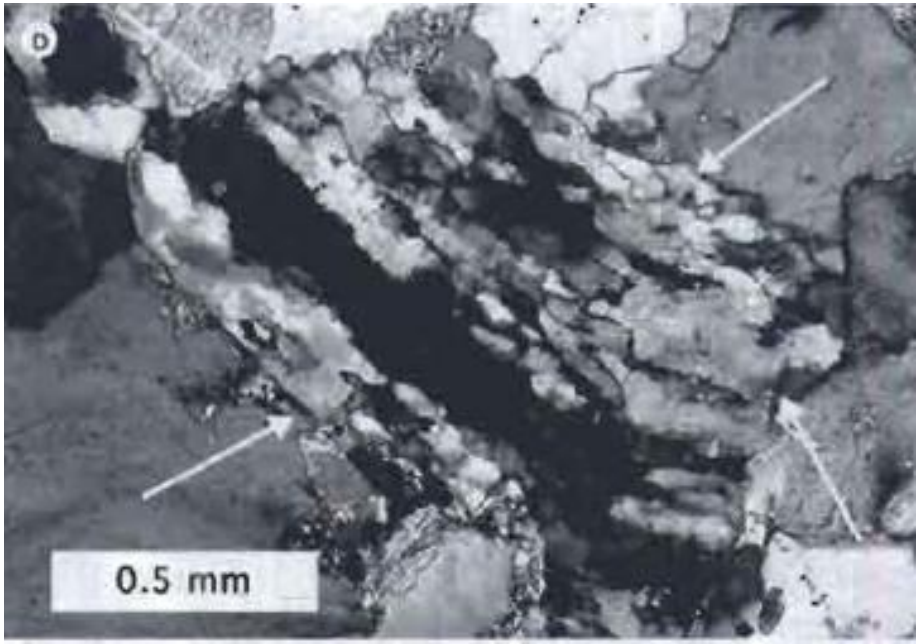
Plutonic

Volcanic

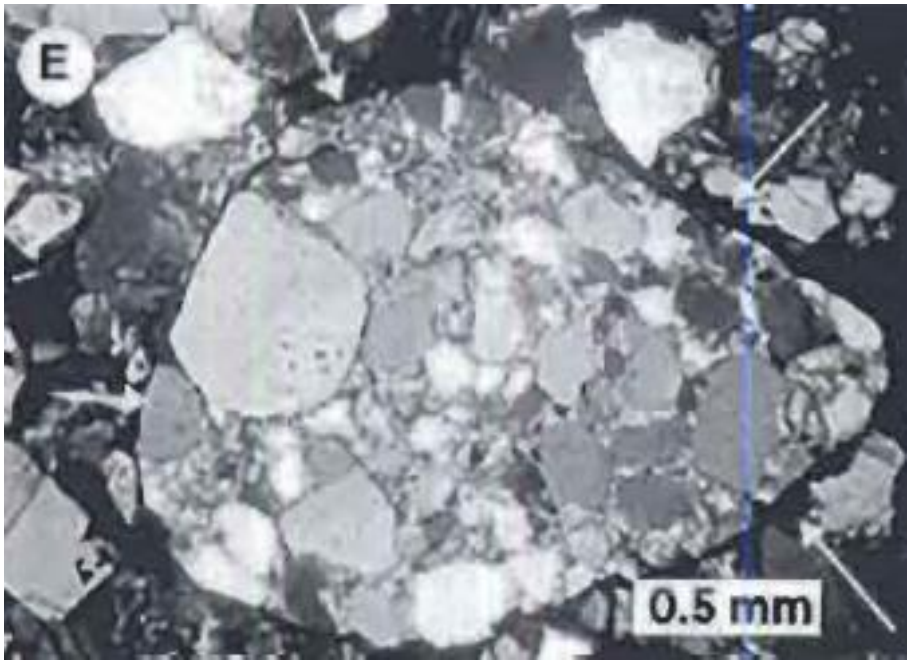


Lithic Fragments

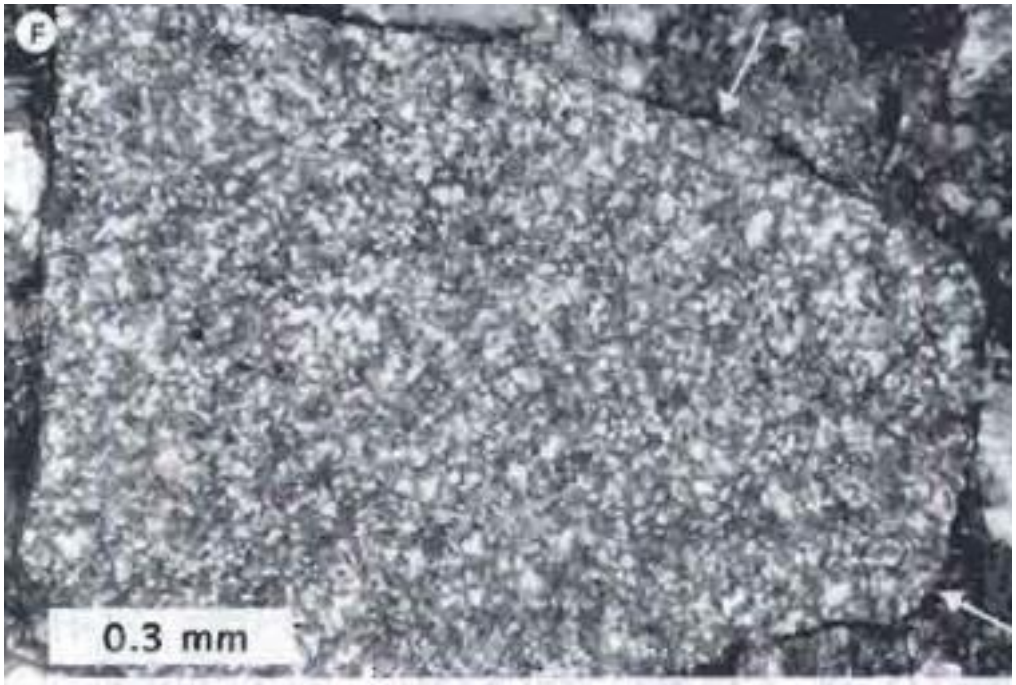
Metamorphic schist



Metamorphic Quartzite



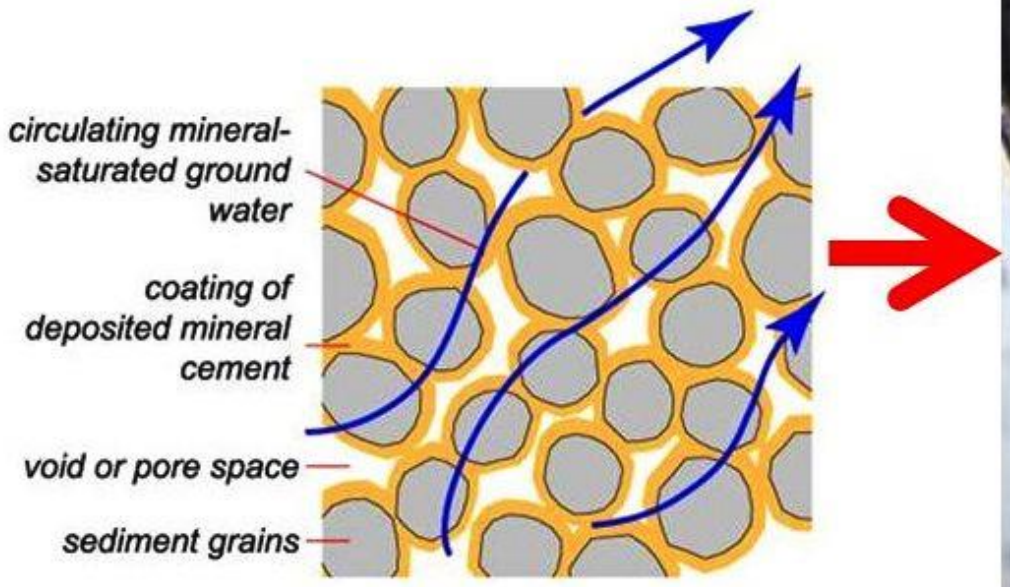
Sandstone



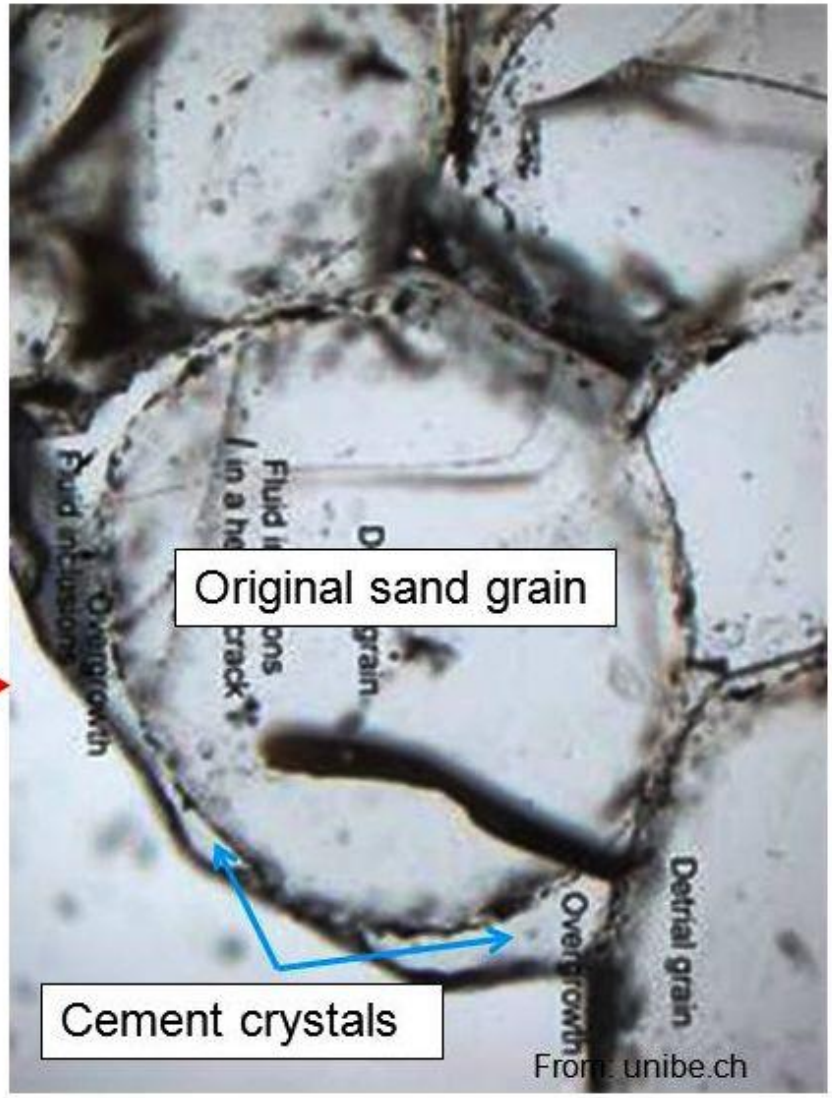
Chert

Lithic Fragments

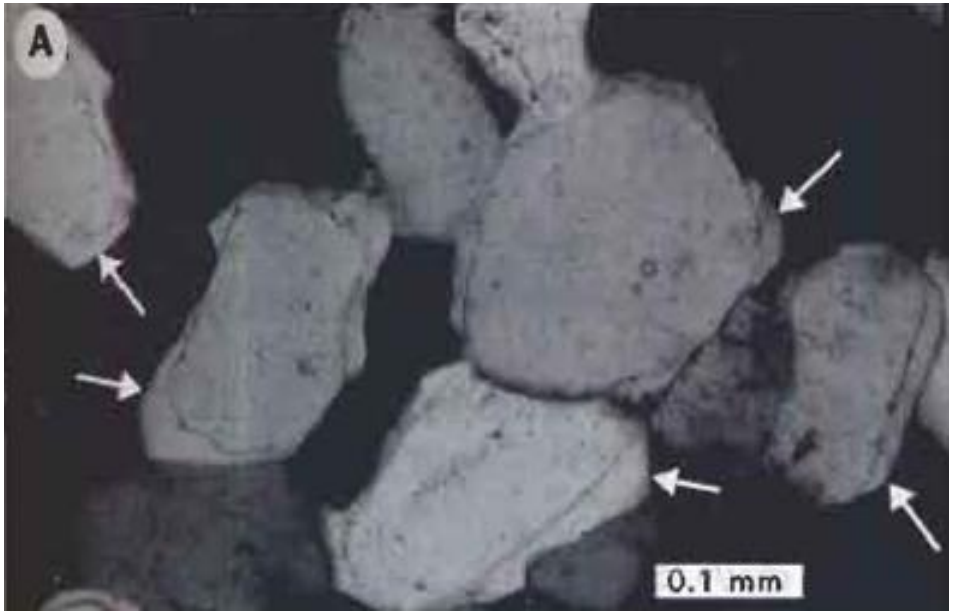
- New crystals form between grains
- Precipitation out of groundwater
- Fills in remaining porosity

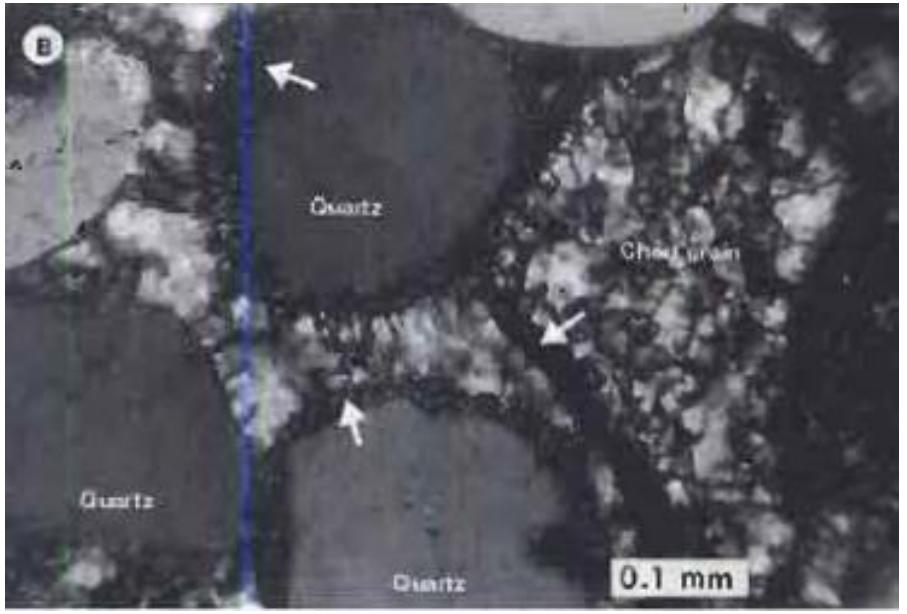


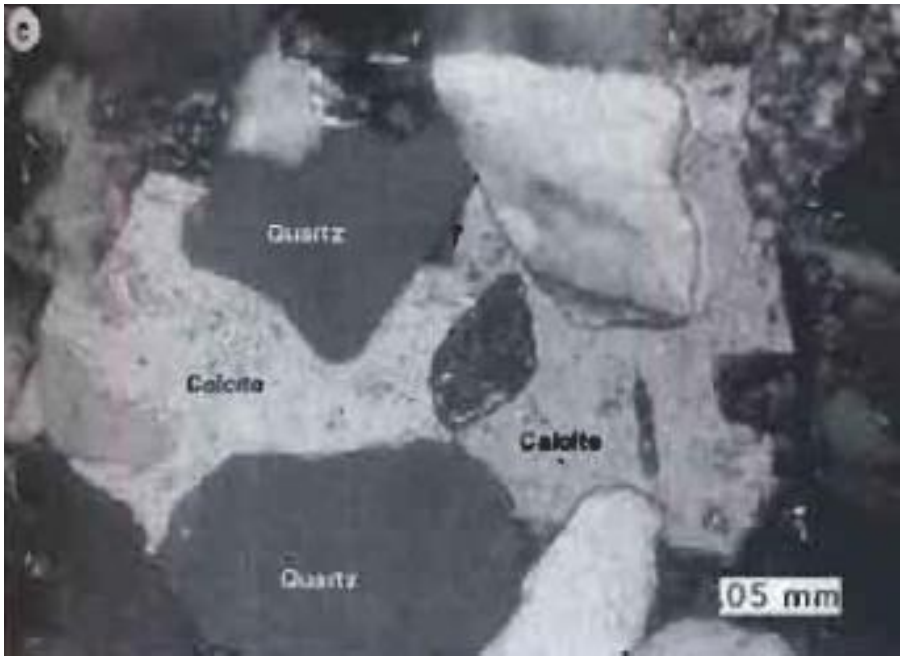
From: northstonematerials.com



From: unibe.ch

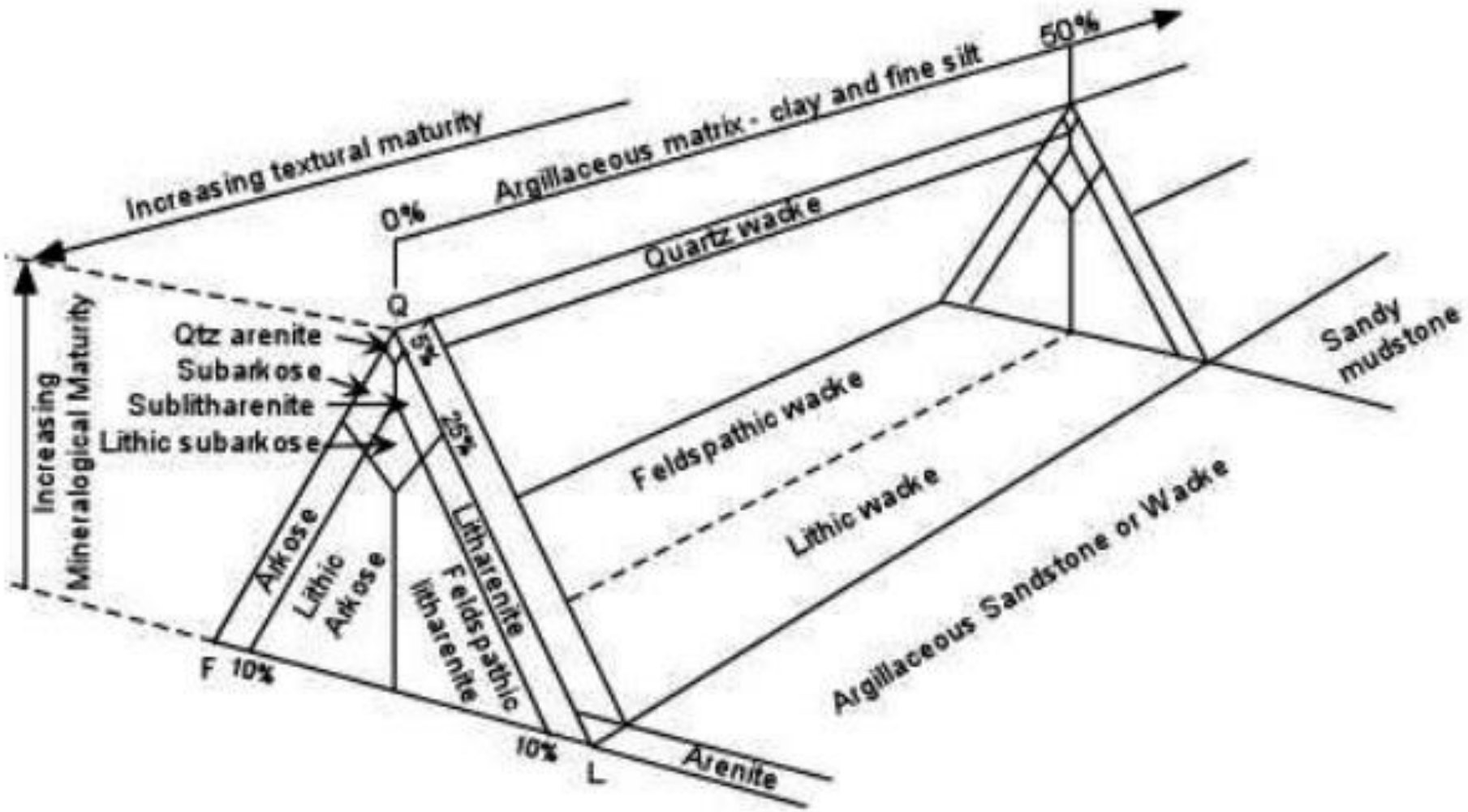

A
0.1 mm


B
Quartz
Quartz
Quartz
0.1 mm


C
Quartz
Calcite
Calcite
Quartz
05 mm

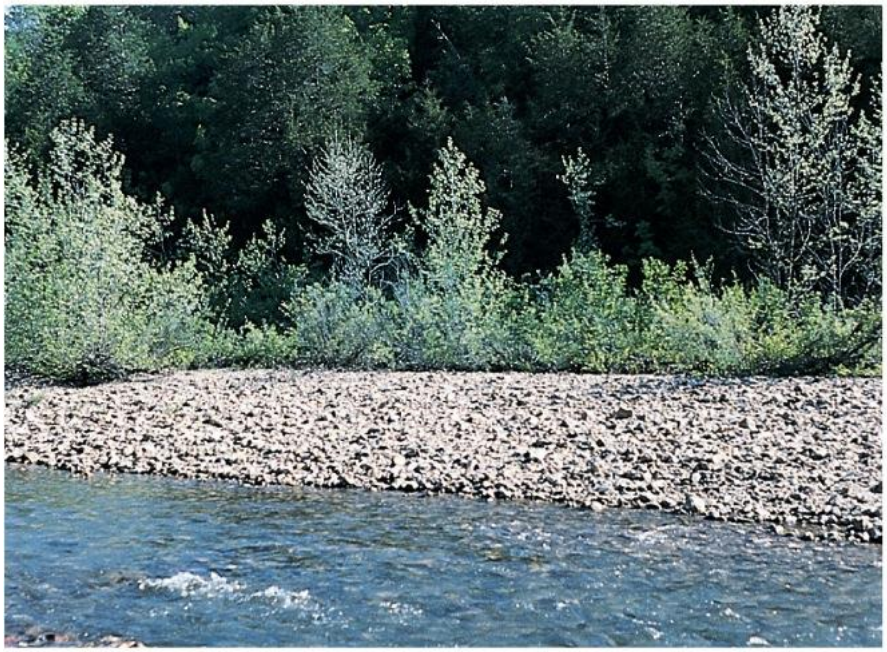
Cement

Dott Classification



Conglomerate

Sediment → Lithification → Sedimentary rock



Clast-Supported Conglomerate

Breccia

Matrix-Supported Conglomerate

Oligomictic Conglomerate

Polymictic Conglomerate