

**State of California  
Air Resources Board**

## **METHOD 1**

# **SAMPLE AND VELOCITY TRAVERSES FOR STATIONARY SOURCES**

**Adopted June 29, 1983  
Amended March 28, 1986  
Amended July 1, 1999**

## METHOD 1

### SAMPLE AND VELOCITY TRAVERSES FOR STATIONARY SOURCES

#### 1 Principle and Applicability

##### 1.1 Principle

To aid in the representative measurement of pollutant emissions and/or total volumetric flow rate from a stationary source, a measurement site where the effluent stream is flowing in a known direction is selected, and the cross-section of the stack is divided into a number of equal areas. A traverse point is then located within each of these equal areas.

##### 1.2 Applicability

This method is applicable to flowing gas streams in ducts, stacks, and flues. The method cannot be used when: (1) flow is cyclonic or swirling (see Section 2.4); (2) a stack is smaller than about 0.30 meter (12 in.) in diameter or 0.071 m<sup>2</sup> (113 in.<sup>2</sup>) in cross-sectional area; or (3) the measurement site is less than two stack or duct diameters downstream or less than a half diameter upstream from a flow disturbance.

The requirements of this method must be considered before construction of a new facility from which emissions will be measured; failure to do so may require subsequent alterations to the stack or deviation from the standard procedure. Cases involving variants are subject to approval by the Executive Officer.

Any modification of this method beyond those expressly permitted shall be considered a major modification subject to the approval of the Executive Officer. The term Executive Officer as used in this document shall mean the Executive Officer of the Air Resources Board (ARB), or his or her authorized representative.

#### 2 Procedure

##### 2.1 Selection of Measurement Site

Sampling or velocity measurement is performed at a site located at least eight stack or duct diameters downstream and two diameters upstream from any flow disturbance such as a bend, expansion, or contraction in the stack, or from a visible flame. If necessary, an alternative location may be selected, at a position at least two stack or duct diameters downstream and a half diameter upstream from any flow disturbance. For a rectangular cross-section, an equivalent diameter ( $D_e$ ) shall be calculated from the following equation, to determine the upstream and downstream distances:

$$D_e = \frac{2LW}{L+W} \quad \text{Eq. 1-1}$$

where L = length and W = width.

An alternative procedure is available for determining the acceptability of a measurement location not meeting the criteria above. This procedure, determination of gas flow angles at the sampling points and comparing the results with acceptability criteria, is described in Section 2.5.

## 2.2 Determining the Number of Traverse Points

### 2.2.1 Particulate Traverses

When the eight- and two-diameter criterion can be met, the minimum number of traverse points shall be: (1) twelve, for circular or rectangular stacks with diameters (or equivalent diameters) greater than 0.61 meter (24 in.); (2) eight, for circular stacks with diameters between 0.30 and 0.61 meter (12-24 in.); (3) nine, for rectangular stacks with equivalent diameters between 0.30 and 0.61 meter (12-24 in.).

When the eight- and two-diameter criterion cannot be met, the minimum number of traverse points is determined from Figure 1-1. Before referring to the figure, however, determine the distances from the chosen measurement site to the nearest upstream and downstream disturbances, and divide each distance by the stack diameter or equivalent diameter, to determine the distance in terms of the number of duct diameters. Then, determine from Figure 1-1 the minimum number of traverse points that corresponds: (1) to the number of duct diameters upstream; and (2) to the number of diameters downstream. Select the higher of the two minimum numbers of traverse points, or a greater value, so that for circular stacks the number is a multiple of 4, and for rectangular stacks, the number is one of those shown in Table 1-1.

**TABLE 1-1**

#### **CROSS-SECTIONAL LAYOUT FOR RECTANGULAR STACKS**

Number of Traverse Points	Matrix Layout
9	3 x 3
12	4 x 3
16	4 x 4
20	5 x 4
25	5 x 5
30	6 x 5
36	6 x 6
42	7 x 6
49	7 x 7

## **2.2.2 Velocity (Non Particulate) Traverses**

When velocity or volumetric flow rate is to be determined (but not particulate matter), the same procedure as that for particulate traverses (Section 2.2.1) is followed, except that Figure 1-2 may be used instead of Figure 1-1.

## **2.3 Cross-Sectional Layout and Location of Traverse Points**

### **2.3.1 Circular Stacks**

Locate the traverse points on two perpendicular diameters according to Table 1-2 and the example shown in Figure 1-3. Any equation (for examples see references cited in EPA Method 1 Section 2.3.1) that gives the same values as those in Table 1-2 may be used in lieu of Table 1-2. For particulate traverses, one of the diameters must be in a plane containing the greatest expected concentration variation, e.g., after bends, one diameter shall be in the plane of the bend. This requirement becomes less critical as the distance from the disturbance increases; therefore, other diameter locations may be used, subject to approval of the Executive Officer.

TABLE 1-2  
 LOCATION OF TRAVERSE POINTS IN CIRCULAR STACKS  
 (Percent of stack diameter from inside wall to traverse point)

Traverse Point Number on a Diameter	Number of traverse points on a diameter											
	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
1.....	14.6	6.7	4.4	3.2	2.6	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.1
2.....	85.4	25.0	14.6	10.5	8.2	6.7	5.7	4.9	4.4	3.9	3.5	3.2
3.....		75.0	29.6	19.4	14.6	11.8	9.9	8.5	7.5	6.7	6.0	5.5
4.....		93.3	70.4	32.3	22.6	17.7	14.6	12.5	10.9	9.7	8.7	7.9
5.....			85.4	67.7	34.2	25.0	20.1	16.9	14.6	112. 9	11.6	10.5
6.....			95.6	80.6	65.8	35.6	26.9	22.0	18.8	16.5	14.6	13.2
7.....				89.5	77.4	64.4	36.6	28.3	23.6	20.4	18.0	16.1
8.....				96.8	85.4	75.0	63.4	37.5	29.6	25.0	21.8	19.4
9.....					91.8	82.3	73.1	62.5	38.2	30.6	26.2	23.0
10.....					97.4	88.2	79.9	71.7	61.8	38.8	31.5	27.2
11.....						93.3	85.4	78.0	70.4	61.2	39.3	32.3
12.....						97.9	90.1	83.1	76.4	69.4	60.7	39.8
13.....							94.3	87.5	81.2	75.0	68.5	60.2
14.....							98.2	91.5	85.4	79.6	73.8	67.7
15.....								95.1	89.1	83.5	78.2	72.8
16.....								98.4	92.5	87.1	82.0	77.0
17.....									95.6	90.3	85.4	80.6
18.....									98.6	93.3	88.4	83.9
19.....										96.1	91.3	86.8
20.....										98.7	94.0	89.5
21.....											96.5	92.1
22.....											98.9	94.5
23.....												96.8
24.....												98.9

In addition, for stacks having diameters greater than 0.61 m (24 in.), no traverse points shall be located within 2.5 centimeters (1.00 in.) of the stack walls; and for stack diameters equal to or less than 0.61 m (24 in.) no traverse points shall be located within 1.3 cm (0.50 in.) of the stack walls. To meet these criteria, observe the procedures given below.

#### **2.3.1.1 Stacks and Diameters Greater Than 0.61 m (24 in.)**

When any of the traverse points as located in Section 2.3.1 fall within 2.5 cm (1.00 in.) of the stack walls, relocate them away from the stack walls to: (1) a distance of 2.5 cm (1.00 in.); or (2) a distance equal to the nozzle inside diameter, whichever is larger. These relocated traverse points (on each end of a diameter) shall be the "adjusted" traverse points.

Whenever two successive traverse points are combined to form a single adjusted traverse point, treat the adjusted point as two separate traverse points, both in the sampling (or velocity measurement) procedure, and in recording the data.

#### **2.3.1.2 Stacks with Diameters Equal to or Less Than 0.61 m (24 in.)**

Follow the procedure in Section 2.3.1.1, noting only that any "adjusted" points should be relocated away from the stack walls to: (1) a distance of 1.3 cm (0.50 in.); or (2) a distance equal to the nozzle inside diameter, whichever is larger.

### **2.3.2 Rectangular Stacks**

Determine the number of traverse points as explained in Sections 2.1 and 2.2 of this method. From Table 1-1, determine the grid configuration. Divide the stack cross-section into as many equal rectangular elemental areas as traverse points, and then locate a traverse point at the centroid of each equal area according to the example in Figure 1-4.

If the tester desires to use more than the minimum number of traverse points, expand the "minimum number of traverse points" matrix (see Table 1-1) by adding the extra traverse points along one or the other or both legs of the matrix; the final matrix need not be balanced. For example, if a 4 x 3 "minimum number of points" matrix were expanded to 36 points, the final matrix could be 9 x 4 or 12 x 3, and would not necessarily have to be 6 x 6. After constructing the final matrix, divide the stack cross-section into as many equal rectangular, elemental areas as traverse points, and locate a traverse point at the centroid of each equal area.

The situation of traverse points being too close to the stack walls is not expected to arise with rectangular stacks. If this problem should ever arise, the Executive Officer must be contacted for resolution of the matter.

## 2.4 Verification of Absence of Cyclonic Flow

In most stationary sources, the direction of stack gas flow is essentially parallel to the stack walls. However, cyclonic flow may exist (1) after such devices as cyclones and inertial demisters following venturi scrubbers, or (2) in stacks having tangential inlets or other duct configurations which tend to induce swirling; in these instances, the presence or absence of cyclonic flow at the sampling location must be determined. The following techniques are acceptable for this determination.

Level and zero the manometer. Connect a Type S pitot tube to the manometer. Position the Type S pitot tube at each traverse point, in succession, so that the planes of the face openings of the pitot tube are perpendicular to the stack cross-sectional plane: when the Type S pitot tube is in this position, it is at "0° reference." Note the differential pressure ( $\Delta p$ ) reading at each traverse point. If a null (zero) pitot reading is obtained at 0° reference at a given traverse point, an acceptable flow condition exists at that point. If the pitot reading is not zero at 0° reference, rotate the pitot tube (up to  $\pm 90^\circ$  yaw angle), until a null reading is obtained. Carefully determine and record the value of the rotation angle ( $\alpha$ ) to the nearest degree. After the null technique has been applied at each traverse point, calculate the average of the absolute values of  $\alpha$ ; assign  $\alpha$  values of 0° to those points for which no rotation was required, and include these in the overall average. If the average value of  $\alpha$  is greater than 20° the overall flow condition in the stack is unacceptable and alternative methodology, subject to the approval of the Executive Officer, must be used to perform accurate sample and velocity traverses.

## 2.5 Alternative Measurement Site Selection Procedure.

This alternative applies to sources where measurement locations are less than 2 equivalent or duct diameters downstream or less than one-half duct diameter upstream from a flow disturbance. The alternative should be limited to ducts larger than 24 in. in diameter where blockage and wall effects are minimal. A directional flow-sensing probe is used to measure pitch and yaw angles of the gas flow at 40 or more traverse points; the resultant angle is calculated and compared with acceptable criteria for mean and standard deviation.

**NOTE:** Both the pitch and yaw angles are measured from a line passing through the traverse point and parallel to the stack axis. The pitch angle is the angle of the gas flow component in the plane that INCLUDES the traverse line and is parallel to the stack axis. The yaw angle is the angle of the gas flow component in the plane PERPENDICULAR to the traverse line at the traverse point and is measured from the line passing through the traverse point and parallel to the stack axis.

### 2.5.1 Apparatus.

#### 2.5.1.1 Directional Probe.

Any directional probe, such as United Sensor Type DA Three-Dimensional Directional Probe, capable of measuring both the pitch and yaw angles of gas flows is acceptable. (**NOTE:** Mention of trade name or specific products does not constitute endorsement by the California Air Resources Board.) Assign an identification number to the directional probe, and permanently mark or engrave the number on the body of the

probe. The pressure holes of directional probes are susceptible to plugging when used in particulate-laden gas streams. Therefore, a system for cleaning the pressure holes by "back-purging" with pressurized air is required.

#### **2.5.1.2 Differential Pressure Gauges.**

Inclined manometers, U-tube manometers, or other differential pressure gauges (e.g., magnehelic gauges) that meet the specifications described in Method 2, Section 2.2.

**NOTE:** If the differential pressure gauge produces both negative and positive readings, then both negative and positive pressure readings shall be calibrated at a minimum of three points as specified in Method 2, Section 2.2.

#### **2.5.2 Traverse Points**

Use a minimum of 40 traverse points for circular ducts and 42 points for rectangular ducts for the gas flow angle determinations. Follow Section 2.3 and Table 1-1 or 1-2 for the location and layout of the traverse points. If the measurement location is determined to be acceptable according to the criteria in this alternative procedure, use the same traverse point number and locations for sampling and velocity measurements.

#### **2.5.3 Measurement Procedure.**

**2.5.3.1** Prepare the directional probe and differential pressure gauges as recommended by the manufacturer. Capillary tubing or surge tanks may be used to dampen pressure fluctuations. It is recommended, but not required, that a pretest leak check be conducted. To perform a leak check, pressurize or use suction on the impact opening until a reading of at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) H<sub>2</sub>O registers on the differential pressure gauge, then plug the impact opening. The pressure of a leak-free system will remain stable for at least 15 seconds.

**2.5.3.2** Level and zero the manometers. Since the manometer level and zero may drift because of vibrations and temperature changes, periodically check the level and zero during the traverse.

**2.5.3.3** Position the probe at the appropriate locations in the gas stream, and rotate until zero deflection is indicated for the yaw angle pressure gauge. Determine and record the yaw angle. Record the pressure gauge readings for the pitch angle, and determine the pitch angle from the calibration curve. Repeat this procedure for each traverse point. Complete a "back-purge" of the pressure lines and the impact openings prior to measurements of each traverse point.

A post-test check as described in Section 2.5.3.1 is required. If the criteria for a leak-free system are not met, repair the equipment, and repeat the flow angle measurements.



**2.5.4** Calculate the resultant angle at each traverse point, the average resultant angle, and the standard deviation using the following equations. Complete the calculations retaining at least one extra significant figure beyond that of the acquired data. Round the values after the final calculations.

**2.5.4.1** Calculate the resultant angle at each traverse point:

$$R_i = \arccos[(\cos Y_i)(\cos P_i)] \quad \text{Eq. 1-2}$$

Where:

$R_i$  = resultant angle at traverse point i, degree.  
 $Y_i$  = yaw angle at traverse point i, degree.  
 $P_i$  = pitch angle at traverse point i, degree.

**2.5.4.2** Calculate the average resultant for the measurements:

$$R_{avg} = \frac{\sum R_i}{n} \quad \text{Eq. 1-3}$$

Where:

$R_{avg}$  = average resultant angle, degree.  
 $n$  = total number of traverse points.

**2.5.4.3** Calculate the standard deviations:

$$S_d = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (R_i - \bar{R})^2}}{(n-1)} \quad \text{Eq. 1-4}$$

Where:

$S_d$  = standard deviation, degree.

**2.5.5** The measurement location is acceptable if  $R_{avg} \leq 20^\circ$  and  $S_d \leq 10^\circ$ .

**2.5.6 Calibration.** Use a flow system as described in Sections 4.1.2.1 and 4.1.2.2 of Method 2. In addition, the flow system shall have the capacity to generate two test-section velocities: one between 365 and 730 m/min (1200 and 2400 ft/min) and one between 730 and 1100 m/min (2400 and 3600 ft/min).

**2.5.6.1** Cut two entry ports in the test section. The axes through the entry ports shall be perpendicular to each other and intersect in the centroid of the test section. The ports should be elongated slots parallel to the axis of the test section and of sufficient length to allow measurement of pitch angles while maintaining the pitot head position at the test-section centroid. To facilitate alignment of the directional probe during calibration, the test section should be constructed of plexiglass or some other transparent material. All calibration measurements should be made at the same point in the test section, preferably at the centroid of the test section.

**2.5.6.2** To ensure that the gas flow is parallel to the central axis of the test section, follow the procedure in Section 2.4 for cyclonic flow determination to measure the gas flow angles at the centroid of the test section from two test ports located  $90^\circ$  apart. The gas flow angle measured

in each port must be  $\pm 2^\circ$  of  $0^\circ$ . Straightening vanes should be installed, if necessary, to meet this criterion.

**2.5.6.3 Pitch Angle Calibration.** Perform a calibration traverse according to the manufacturer's recommended protocol in  $5^\circ$  increments for angles from  $-60^\circ$  to  $+60^\circ$  at one velocity in each of the two ranges specified above. Average the pressure ratio values obtained for each angle in the two flow ranges, and plot a calibration curve with the average values of the pressure ratio (or other suitable measurement factor as recommended by the manufacturer) versus the pitch angle. Draw a smooth line through the data points. Plot also the data values for each traverse point. Determine the differences between the measured data values and the angle from the calibration curve at the same pressure ratio. The difference at each comparison must be within  $2^\circ$  for angles between  $0^\circ$  and  $40^\circ$  and within  $3^\circ$  for angles between  $40^\circ$  and  $60^\circ$ .

**2.5.6.4 Yaw Angle Calibration.** Mark the three-dimensional probe to allow the determination of the yaw position of the probe. This is usually a line extending the length of the probe and aligned with the impact opening. To determine the accuracy of measurements of the yaw angle, only the zero or null position need be calibrated as follows: Place the directional probe in the test section, and rotate the probe until the zero position is found. With a protractor or other angle measuring device, measure the angle indicated by the yaw angle indicator on the three-dimensional probe. This should be within  $2^\circ$  of  $0^\circ$ . Repeat this measurement for any other points along the length of the pitot where yaw angle measurements could be read in order to account for variations in the pitot markings used to indicate pitot head positions.

### 3 Bibliography

1. EPA Method 1, Sample and Velocity Traverses for Stationary Sources, CFR40, Part 60, Appendix A.

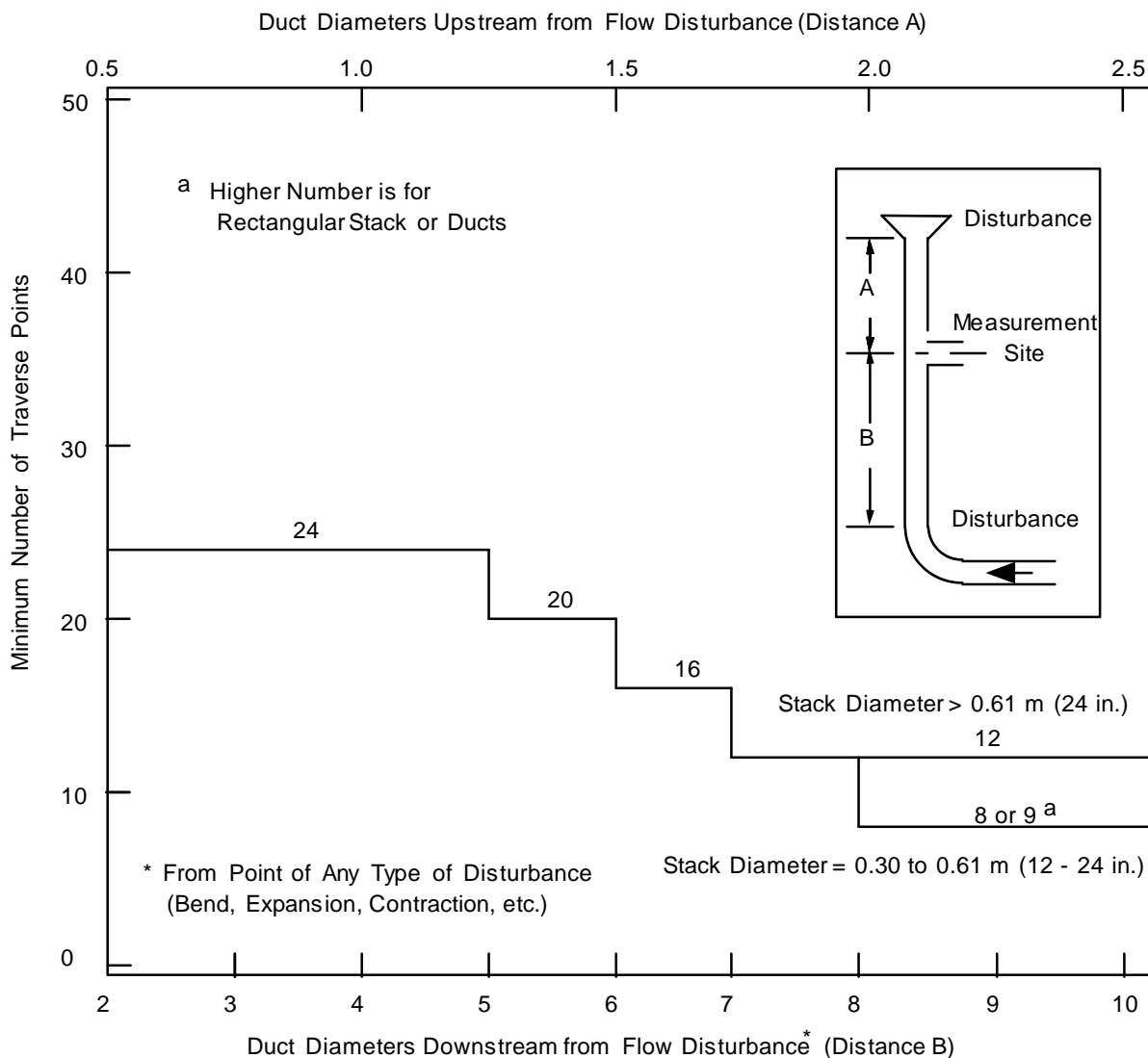


Figure 1-1. Minimum number of traverse points for particulate traverses.

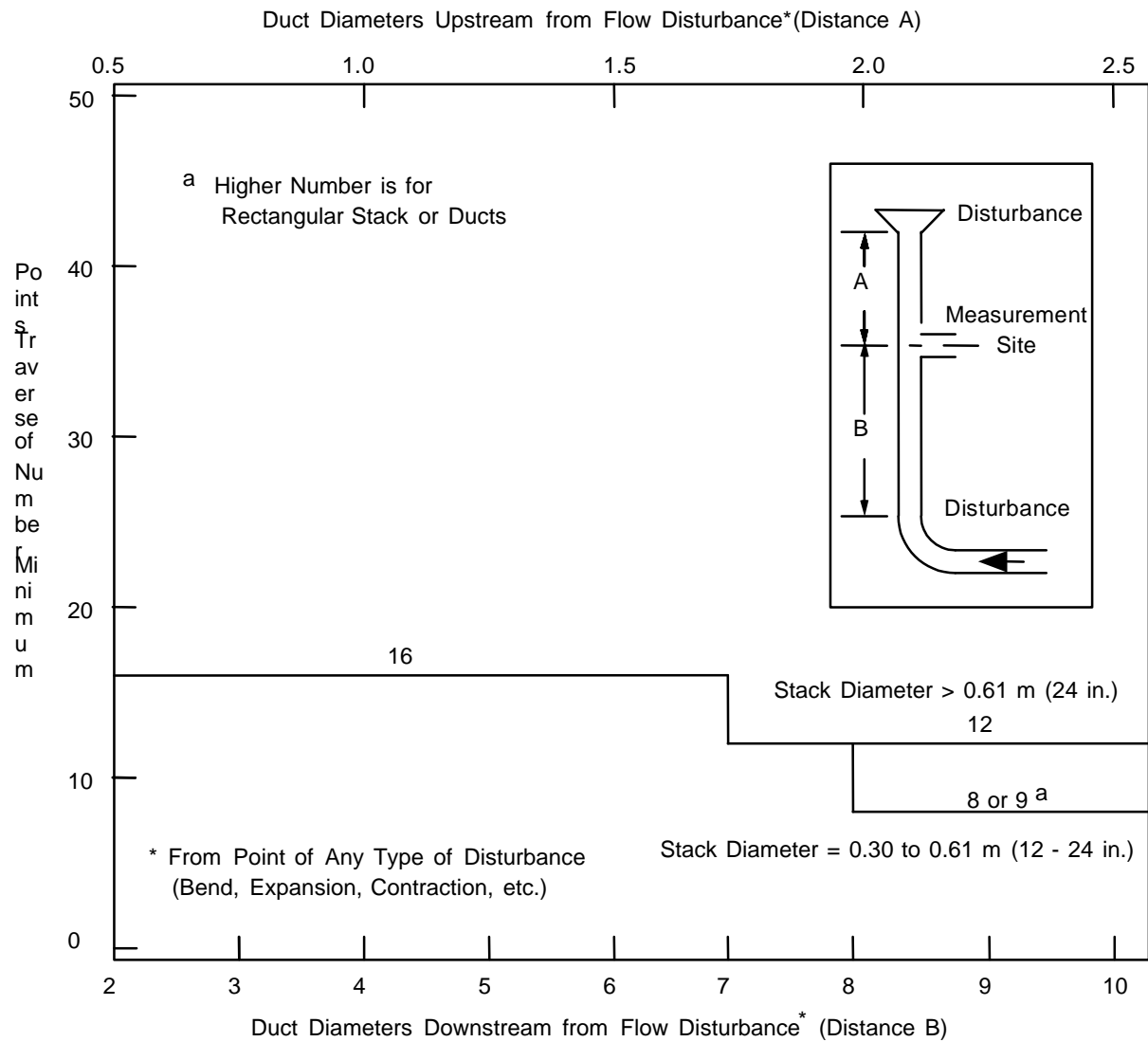


Figure 1-2. Minimum number of traverse points for velocity (nonparticulate) traverses.

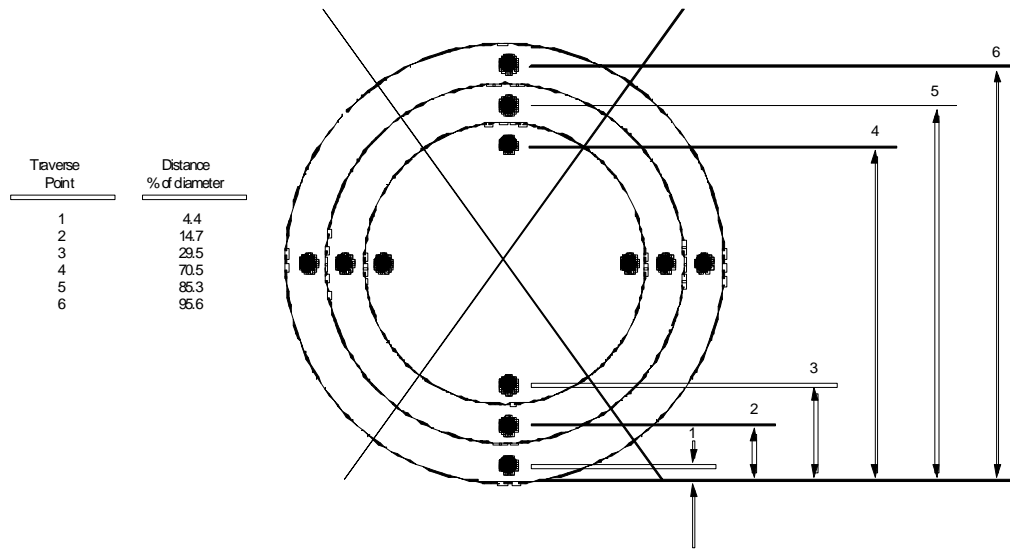


Figure 1-3. Example showing circular stack cross section divided into 12 equal areas, with location of traverse points indicated.

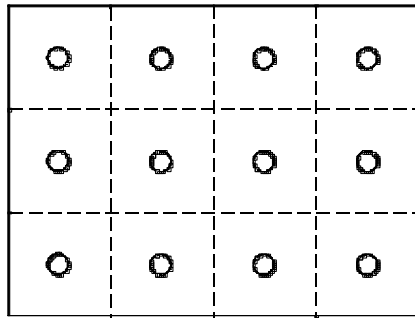


Figure 1-4. Example showing rectangular stack cross section divided into 12 equal areas, with a traverse point at centroid of each area.