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Building Science

Adventures In Building Science

www.buildingscience.com

What is a Building?

A Building is an Environmental Separator

- Control heat flow
- Control airflow
- Control water vapor flow
- Control rain
- Control ground water
- Control light and solar radiation
- Control noise and vibrations
- Control contaminants, environmental hazards and odors
- Control insects, rodents and vermin
- Control fire
- Provide strength and rigidity
- Be durable
- Be aesthetically pleasing
- Be economical

Arrhenius Equation

For Every 10 Degree K Rise
Reaction Rate Doubles

$$k = Ae^{-E_a/(RT)}$$

Damage Functions

Water

Heat

Ultra-violet Radiation

2nd Law of Thermodynamics

Heat Flow Is From Warm To Cold

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold

Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Air Flow Is From A Higher Pressure to a
Lower Pressure

Gravity Acts Down

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Thermal Gradient – Thermal Diffusion
Concentration Gradient – Molecular Diffusion

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Thermal Gradient – Thermal Diffusion
Concentration Gradient – Molecular Diffusion

Vapor Diffusion

Thermodynamic Potential



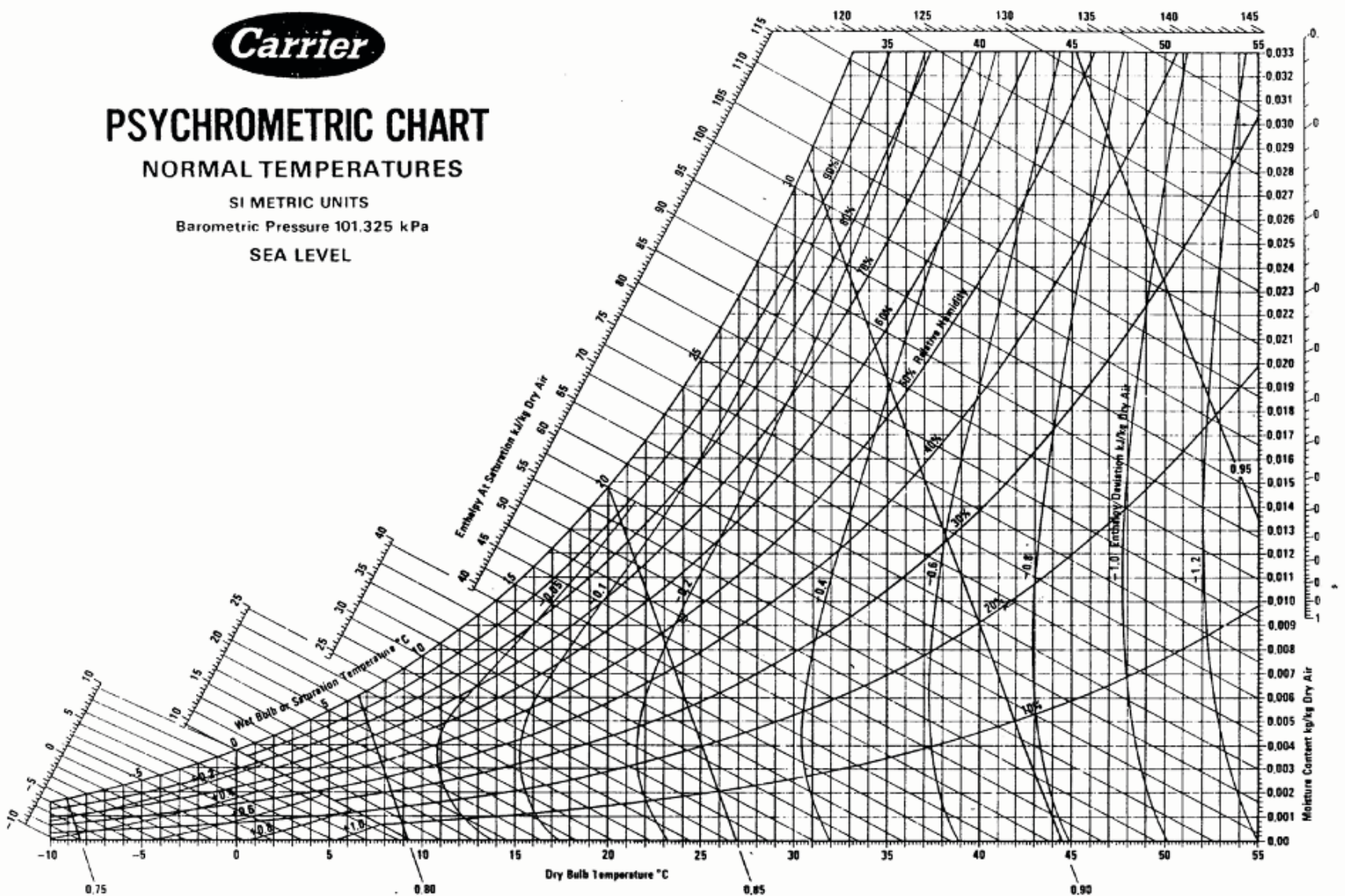
PSYCHROMETRIC CHART

NORMAL TEMPERATURES

SI METRIC UNITS

Barometric Pressure 101.325 kPa

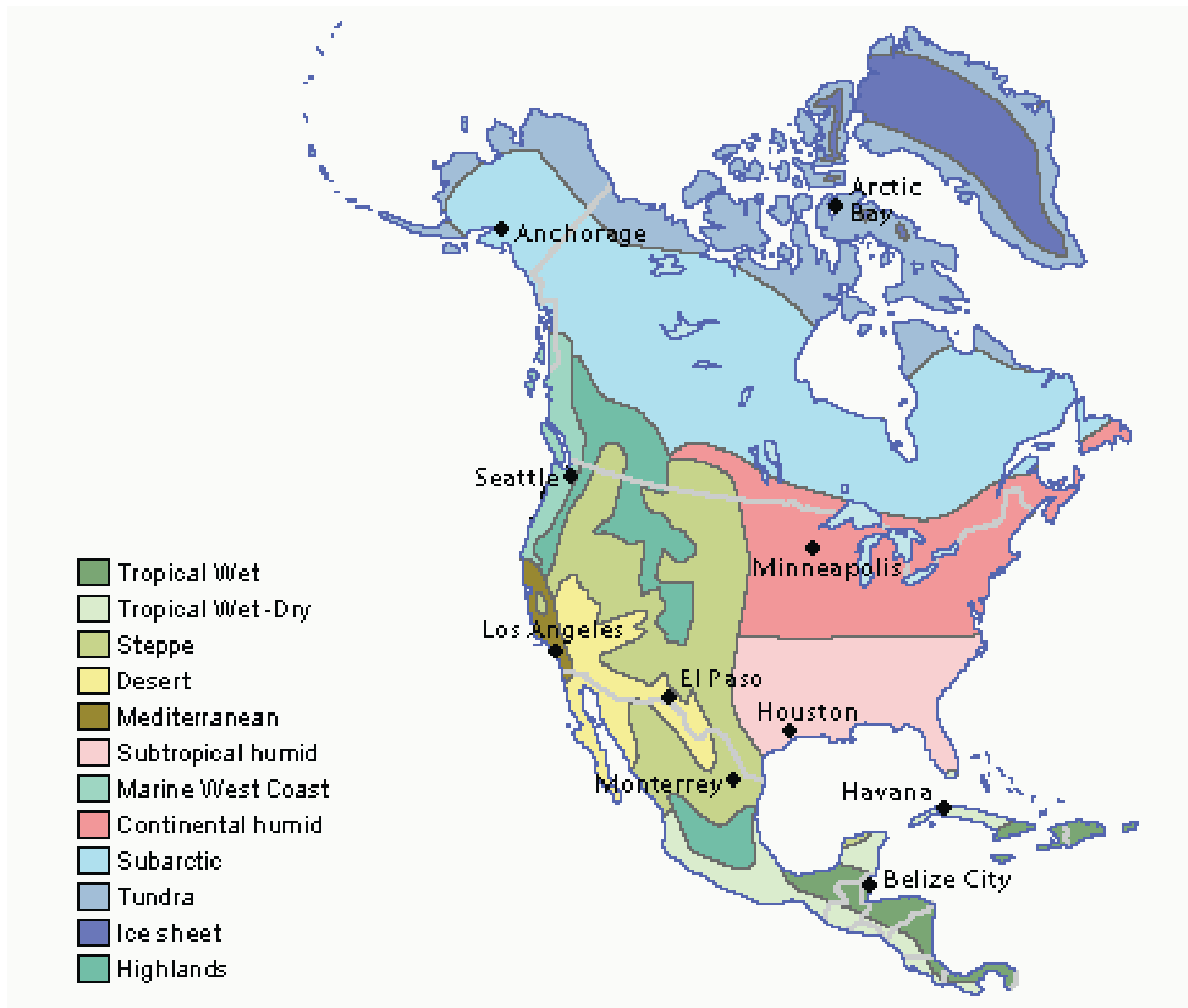
SEA LEVEL



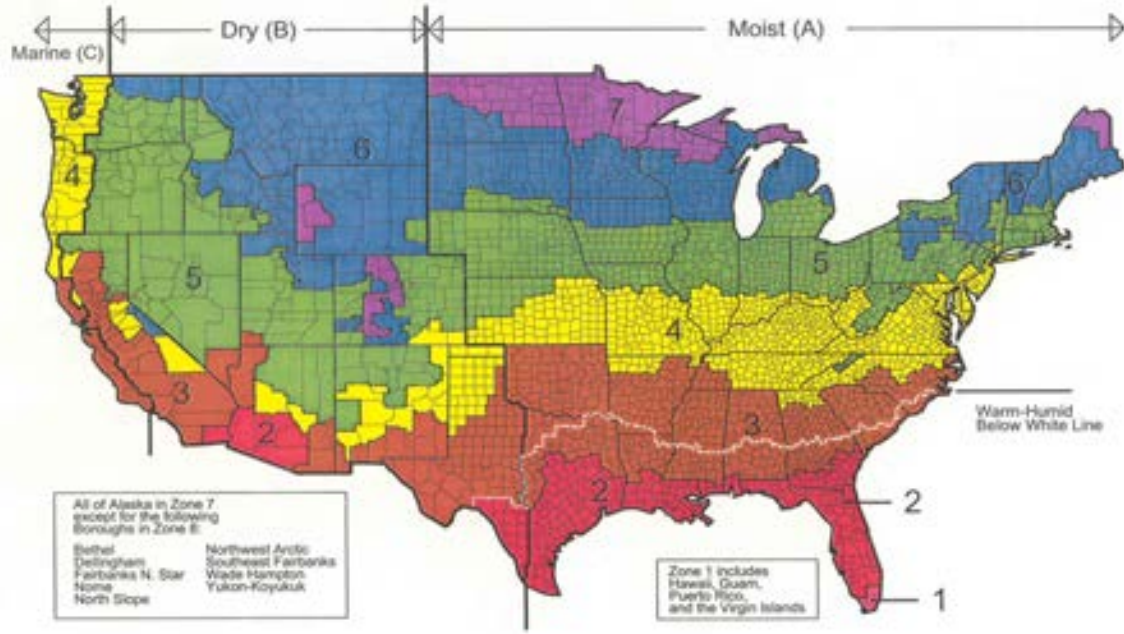
Below 0°C Properties and Enthalpy Deviation Lines Are For Ice

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Map of DOE's Proposed Climate Zones

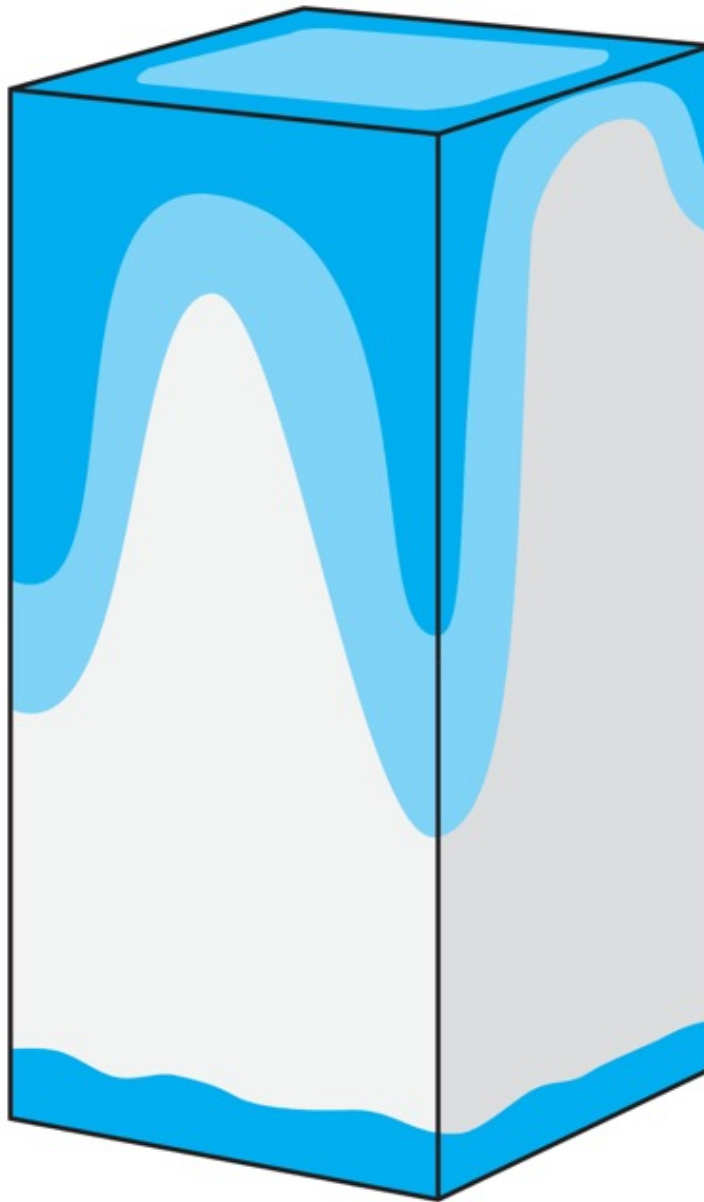


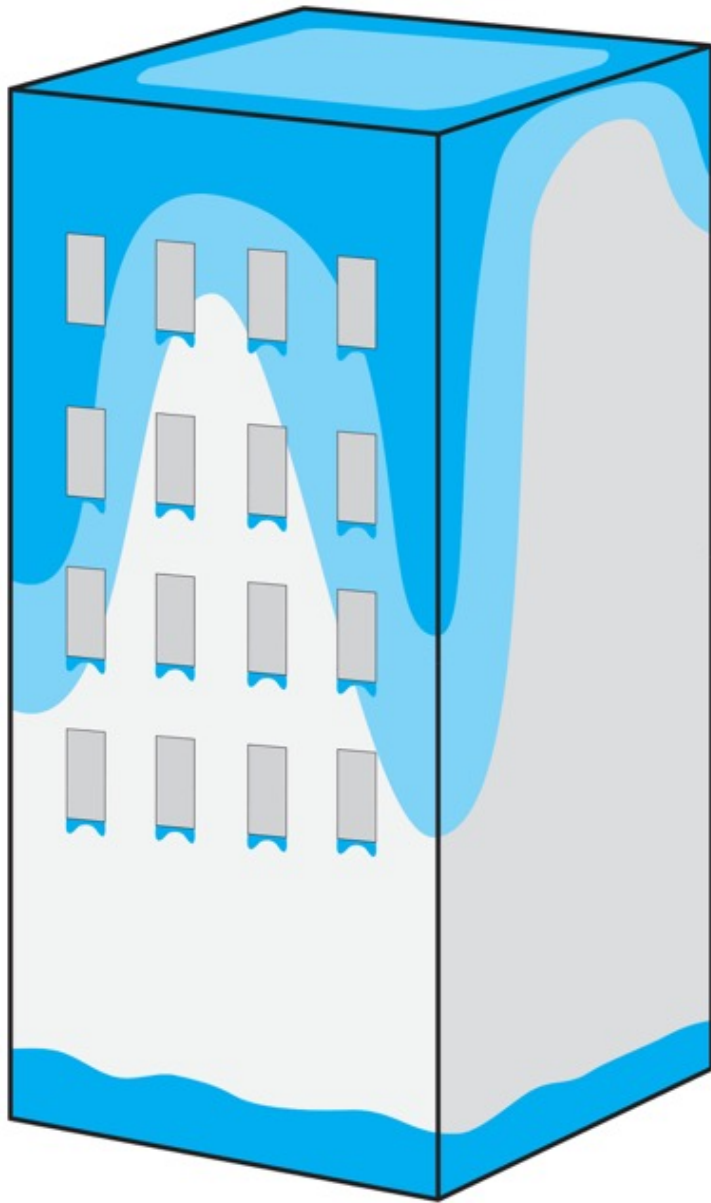
March 24, 2003



Exposure

Extreme	Over 60"
High	40" - 60"
Moderate	20" - 40"
Low	Under 20"



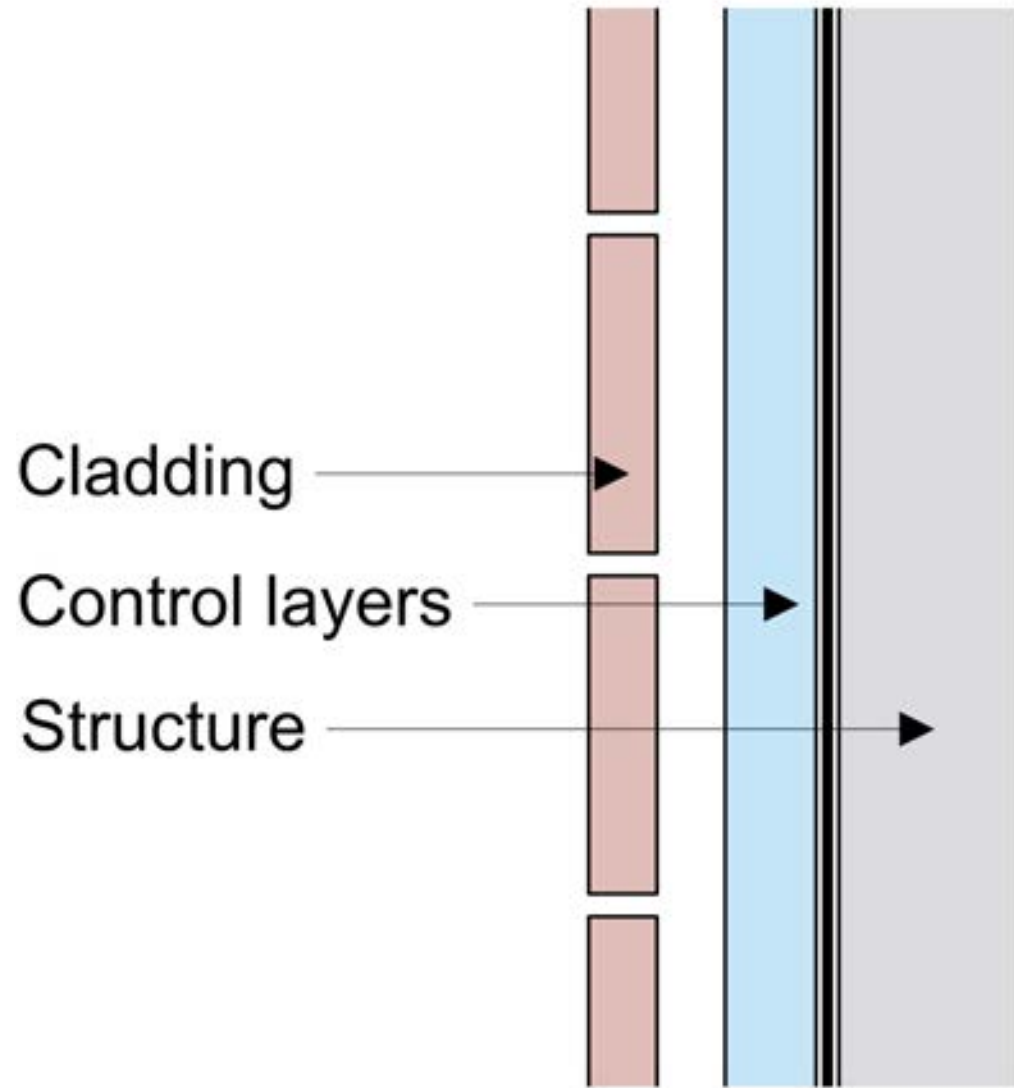


Water Control Layer

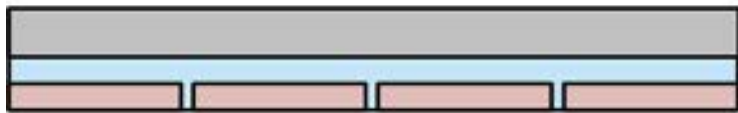
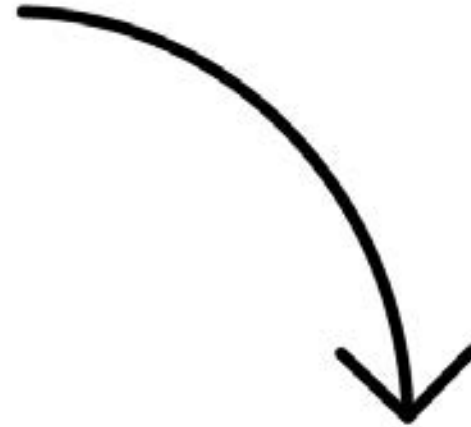
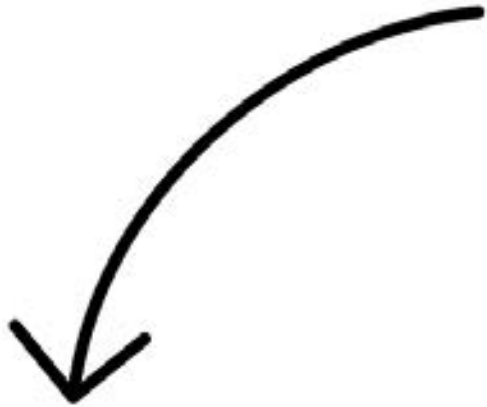
Air Control Layer

Vapor Control Layer

Thermal Control Layer



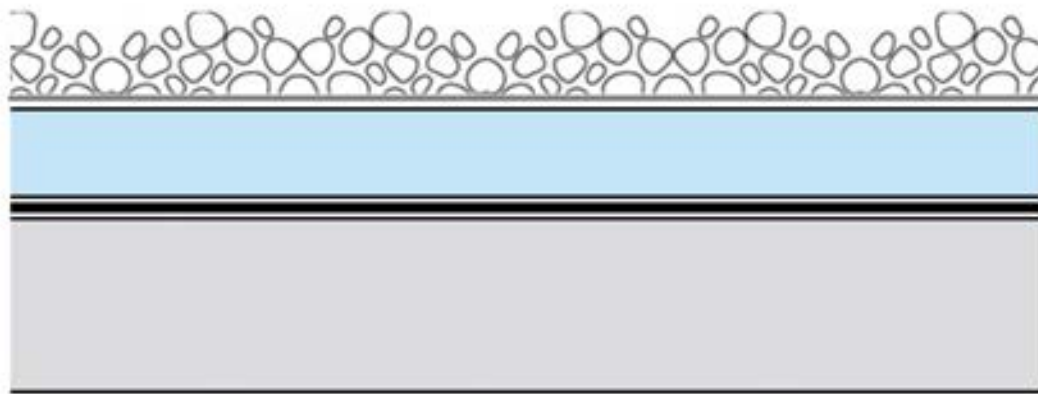
Wall



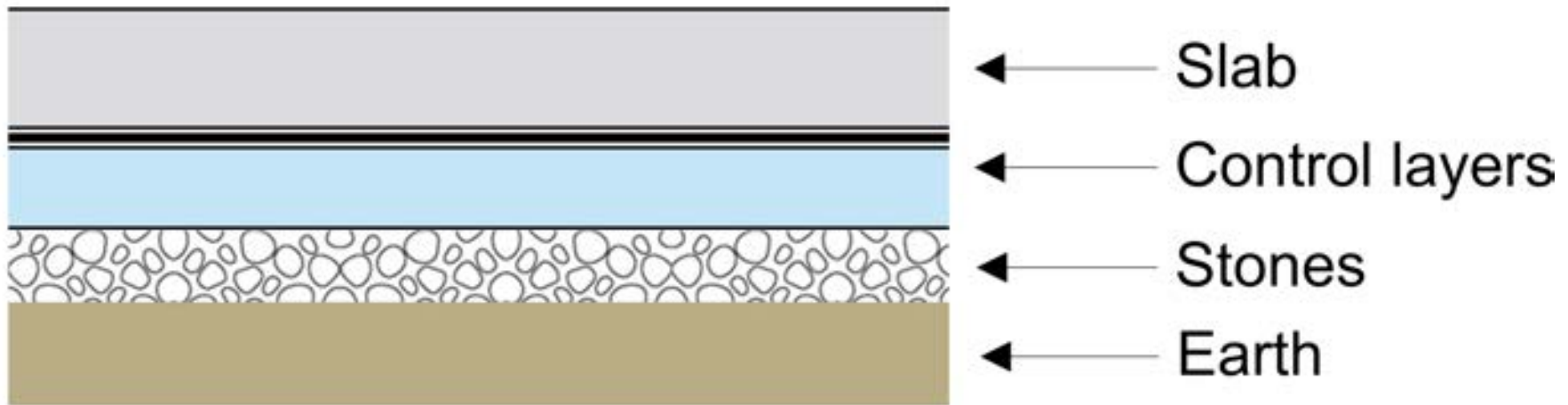
Slab

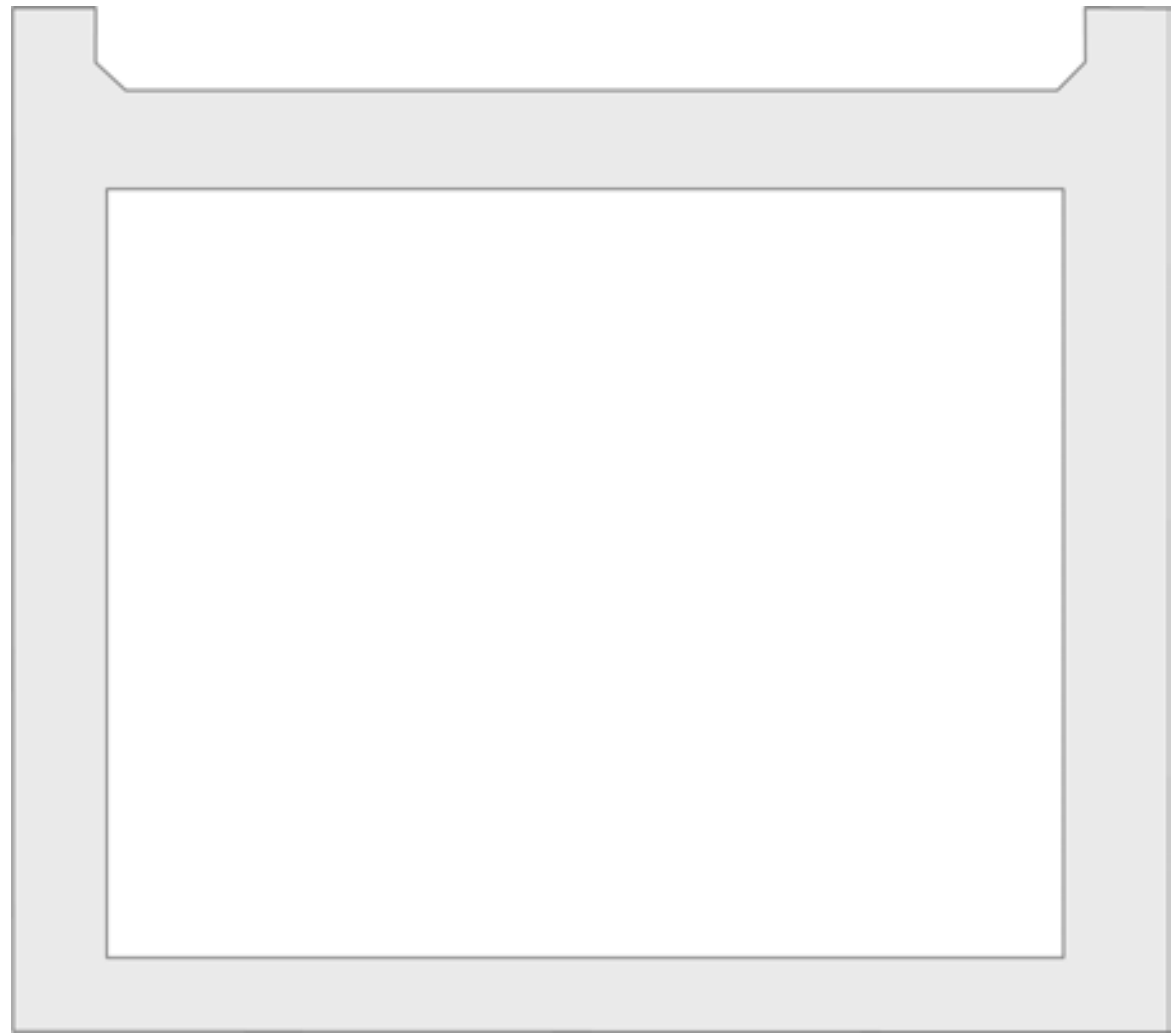


Roof

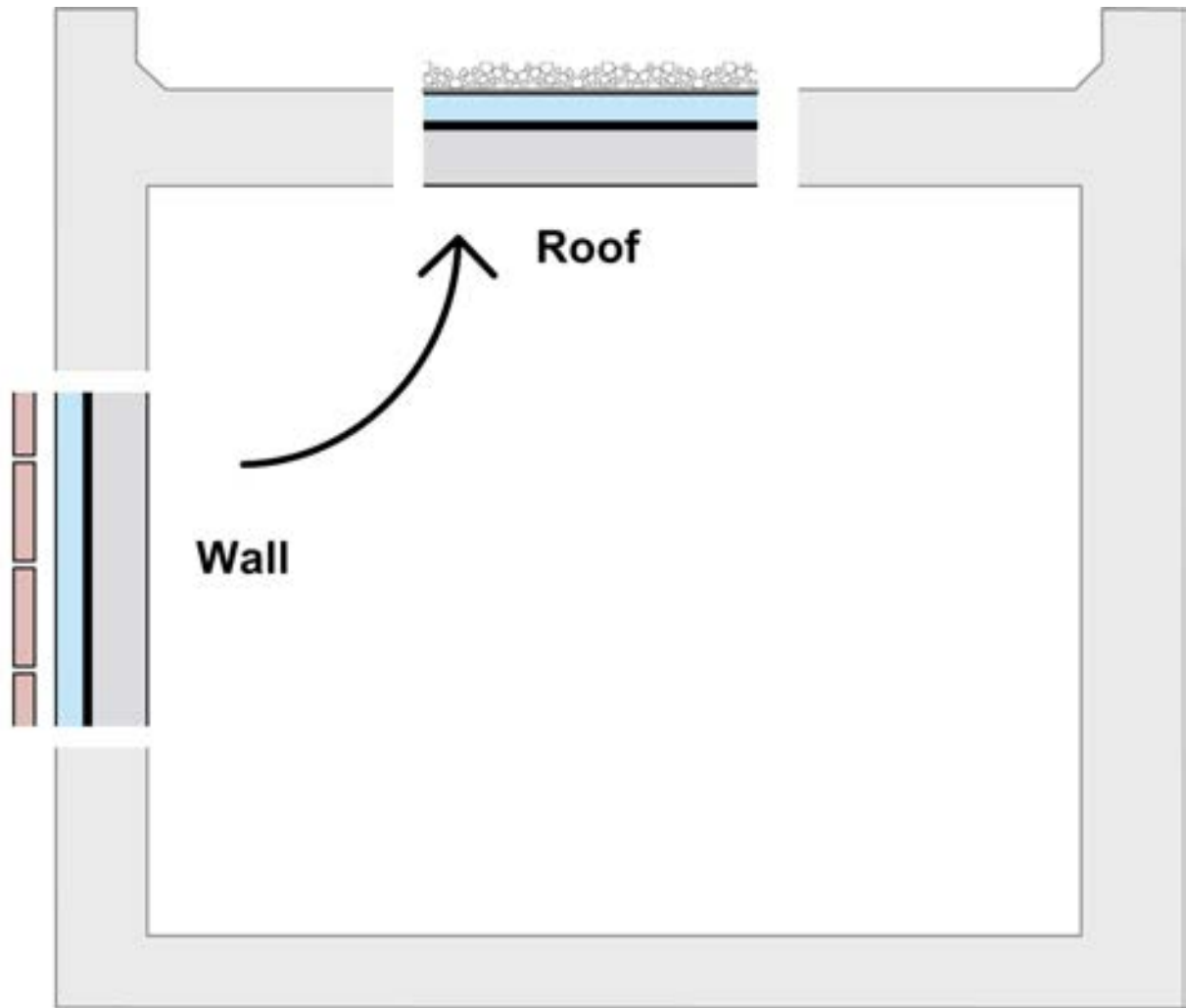


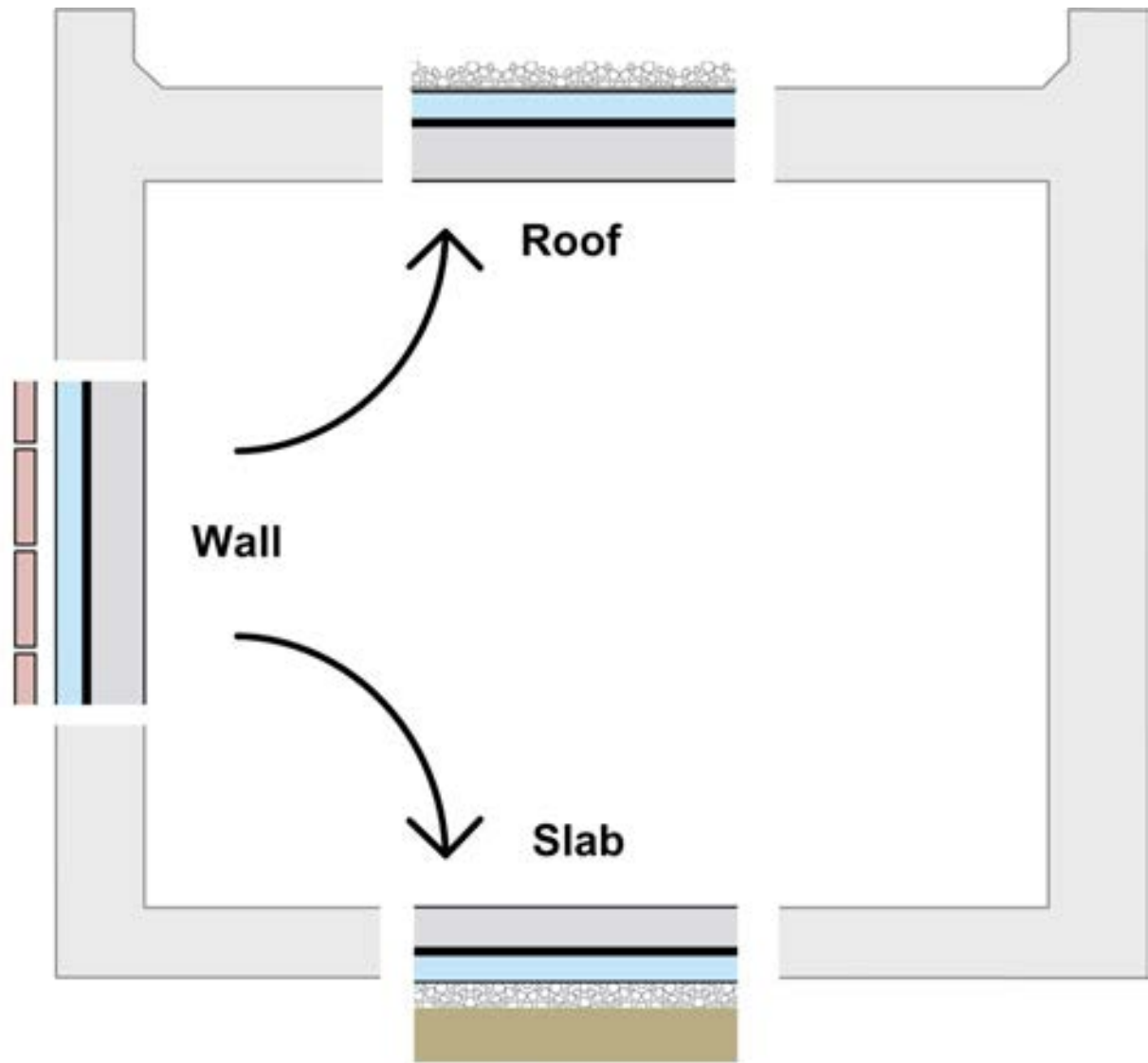
- ← Ballast
- ← Filter fabric
- ← Control layers
- ← Roof structure

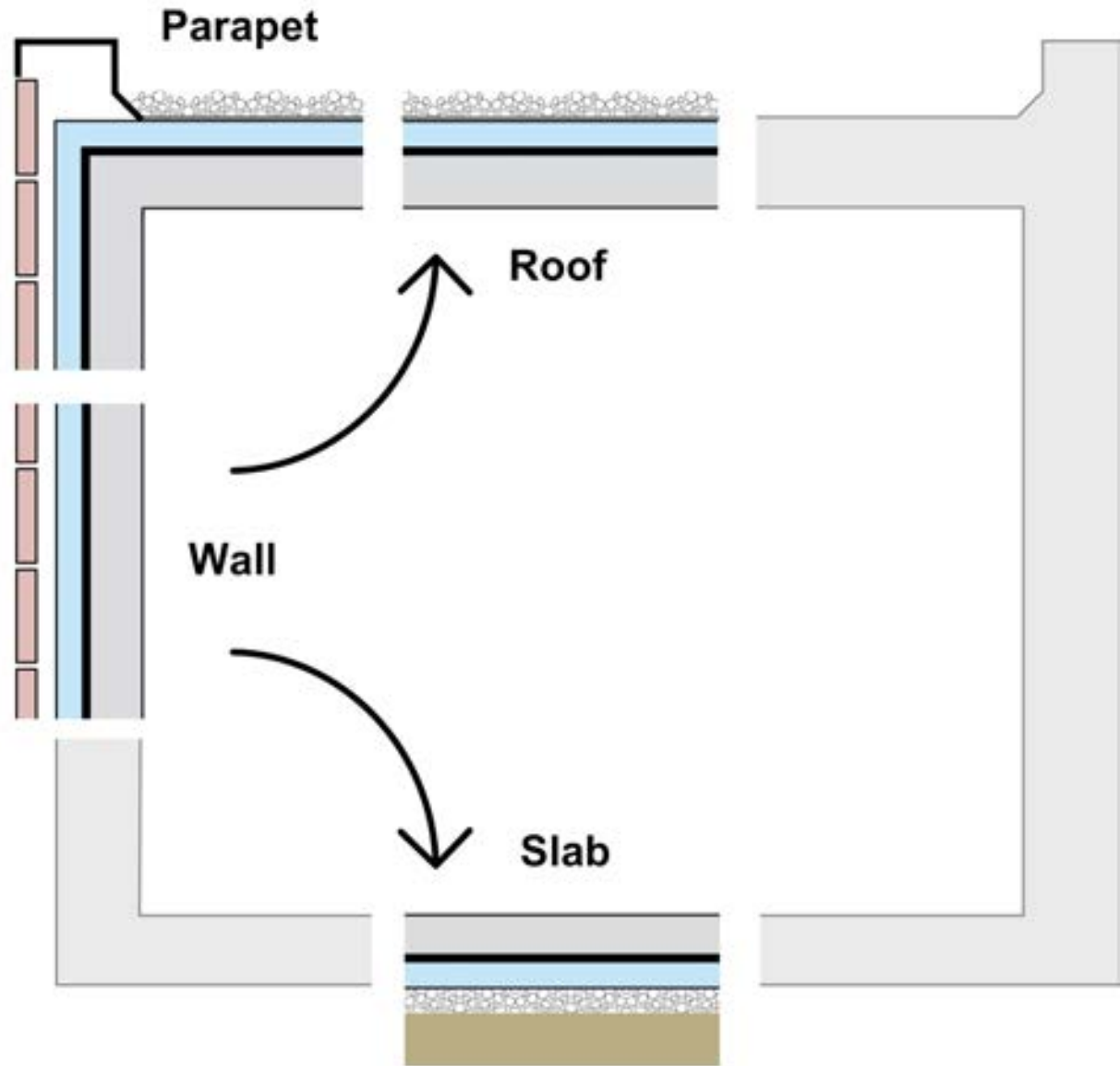


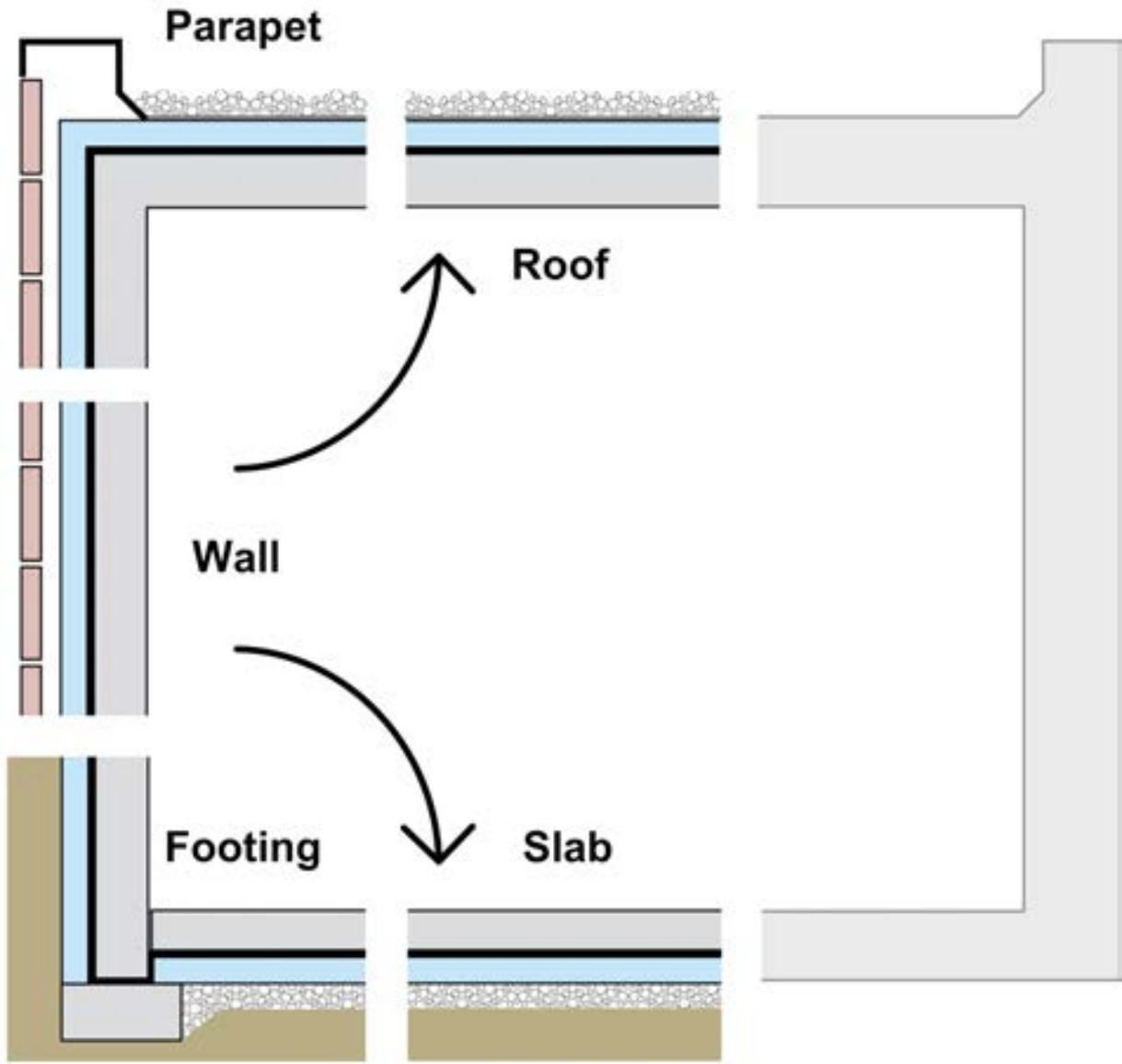


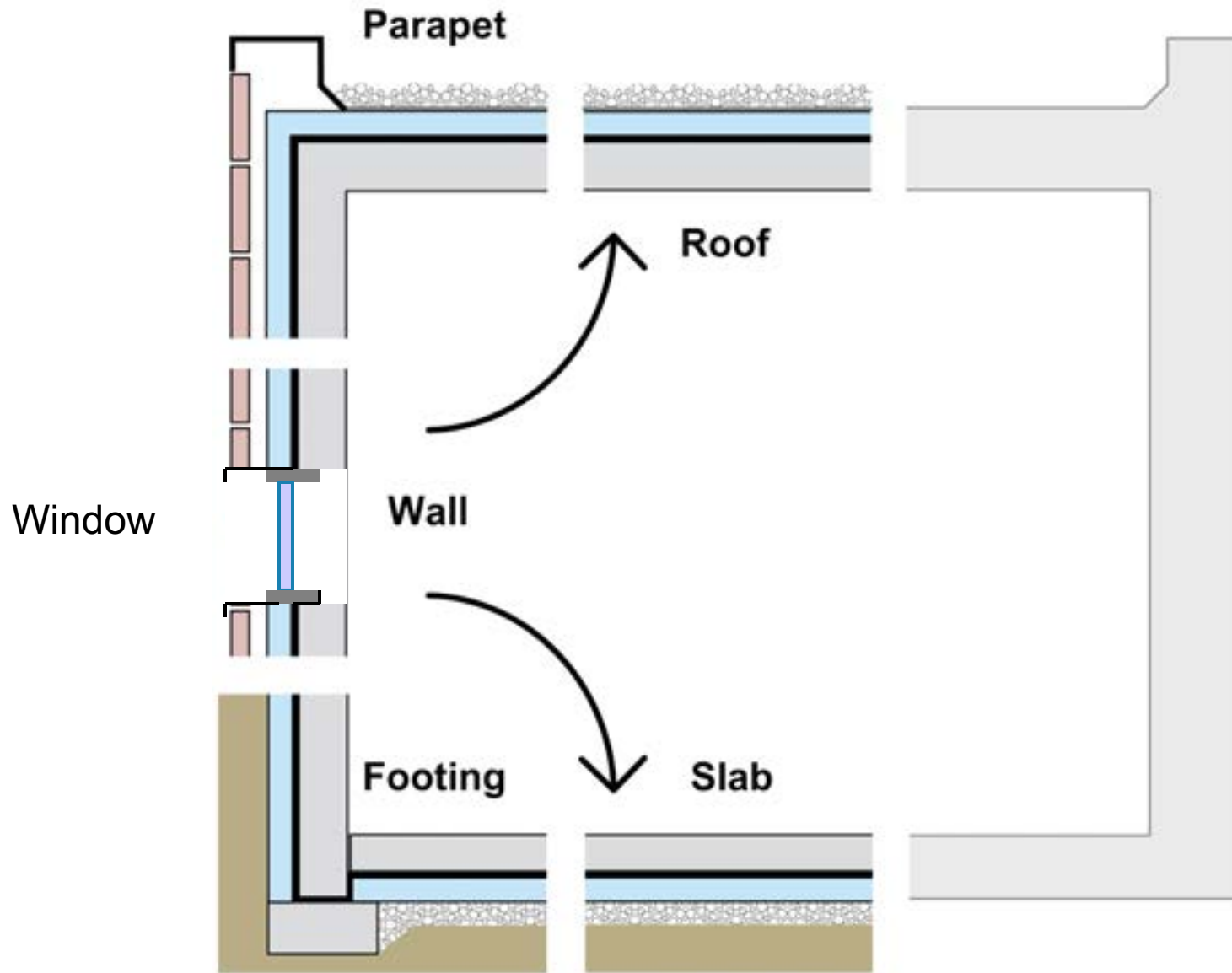




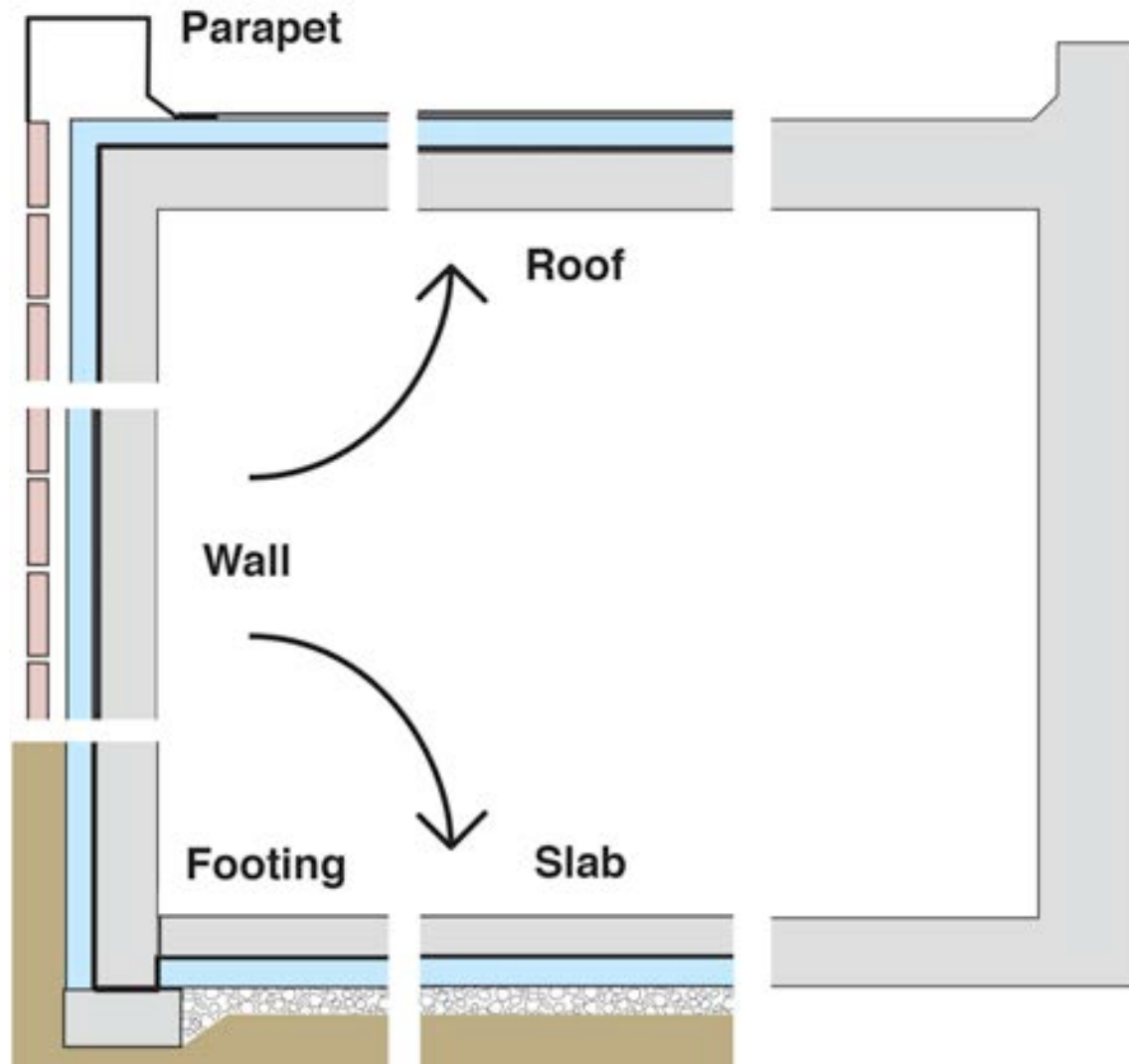


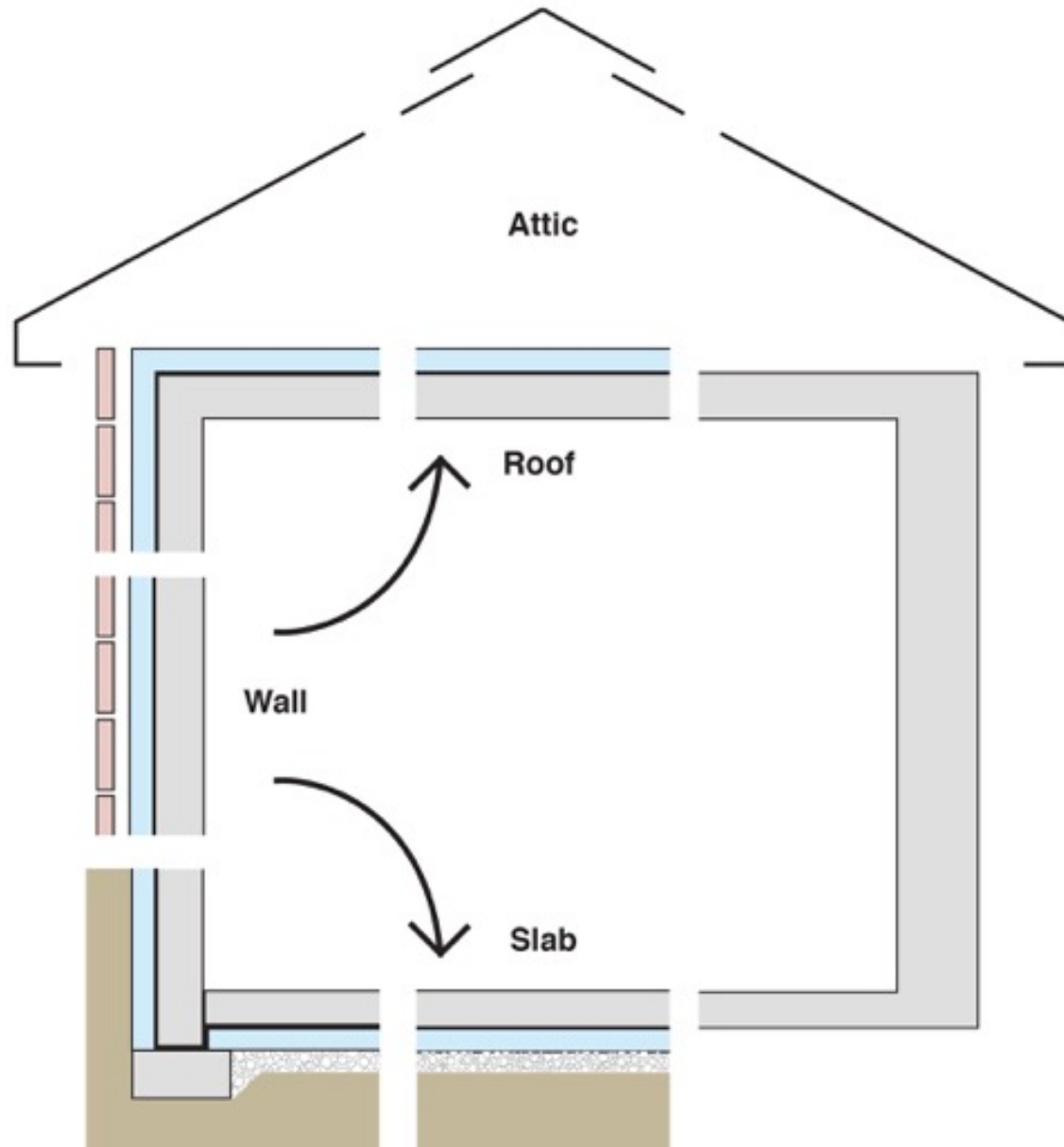


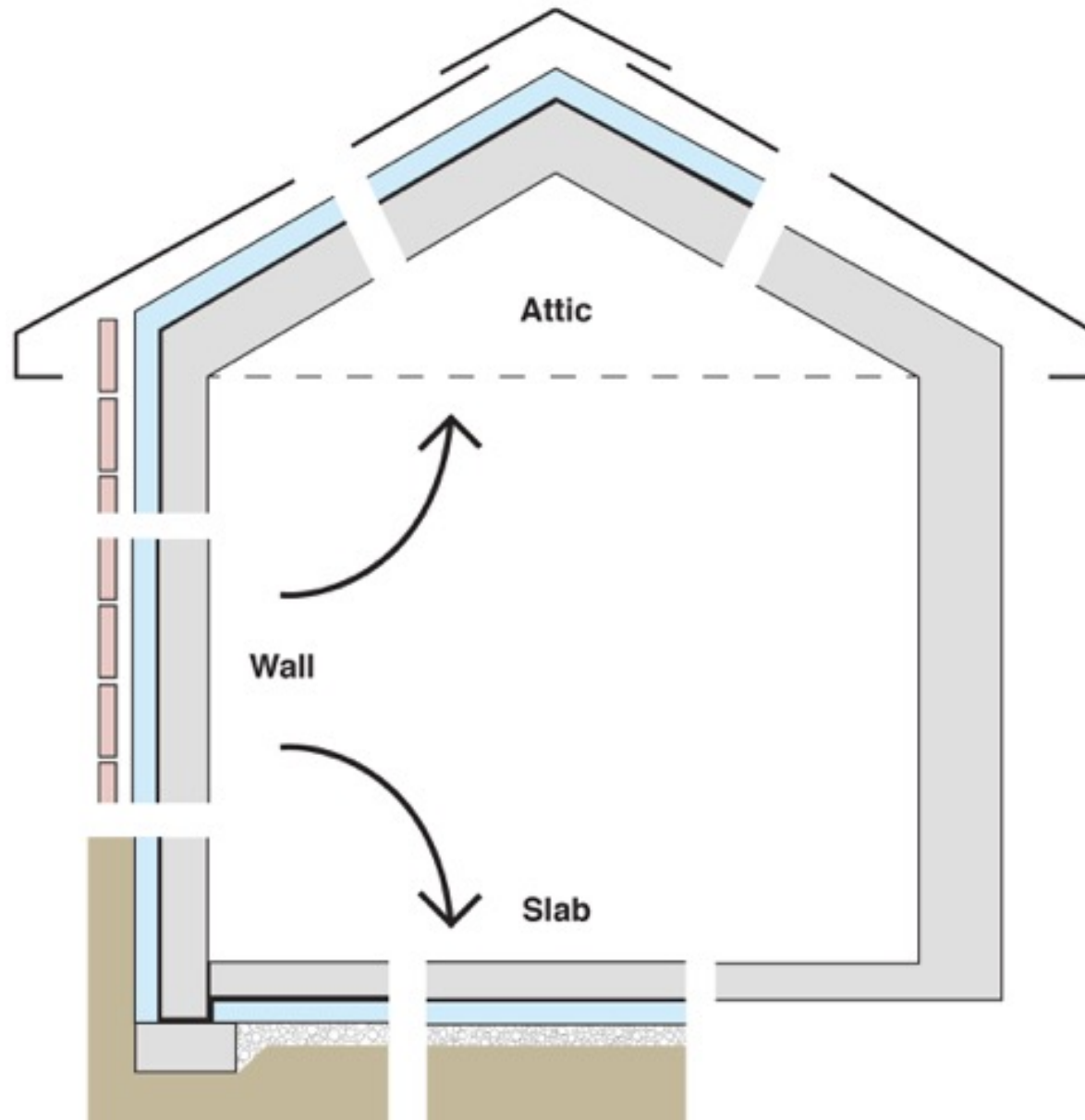


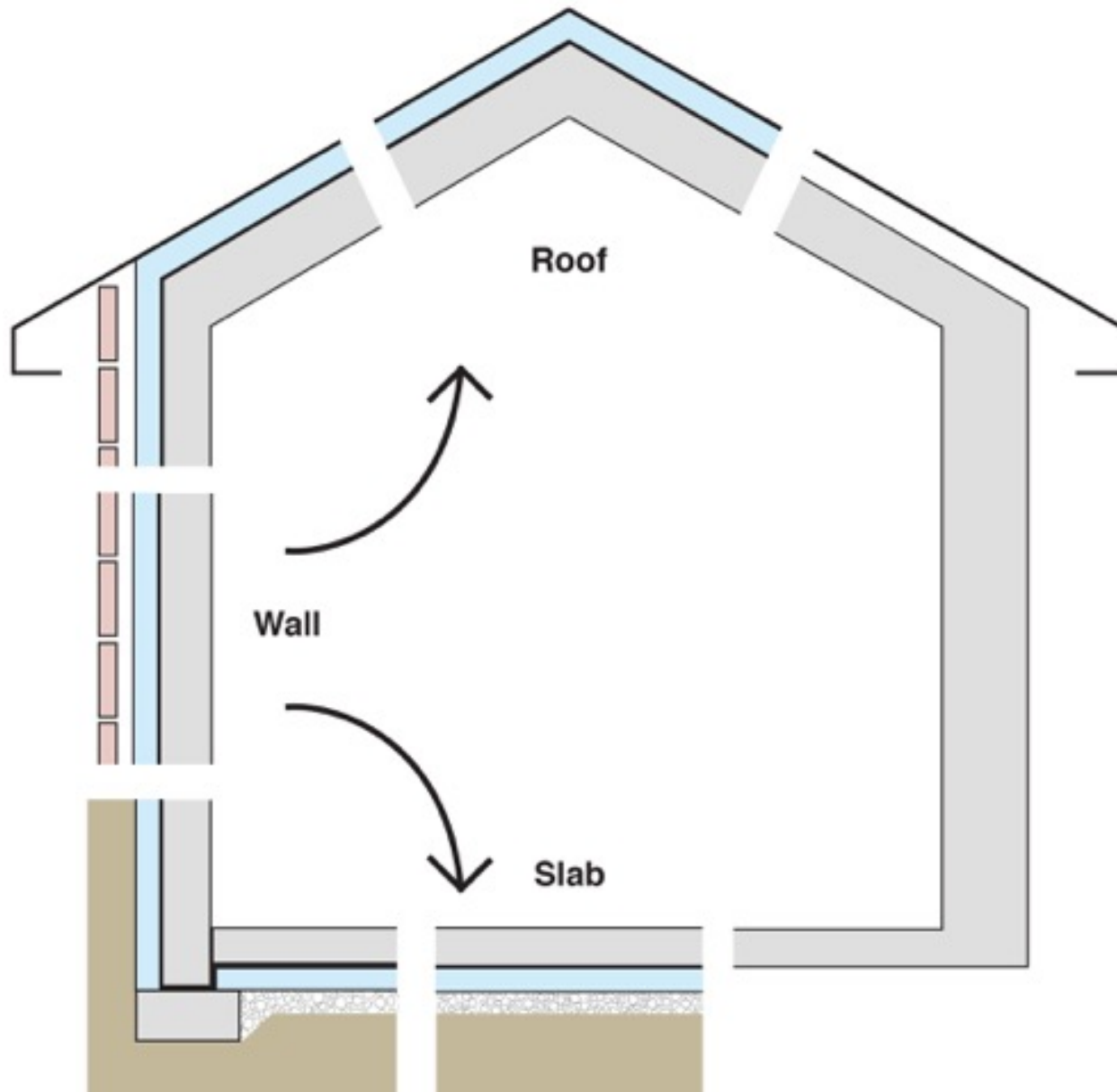


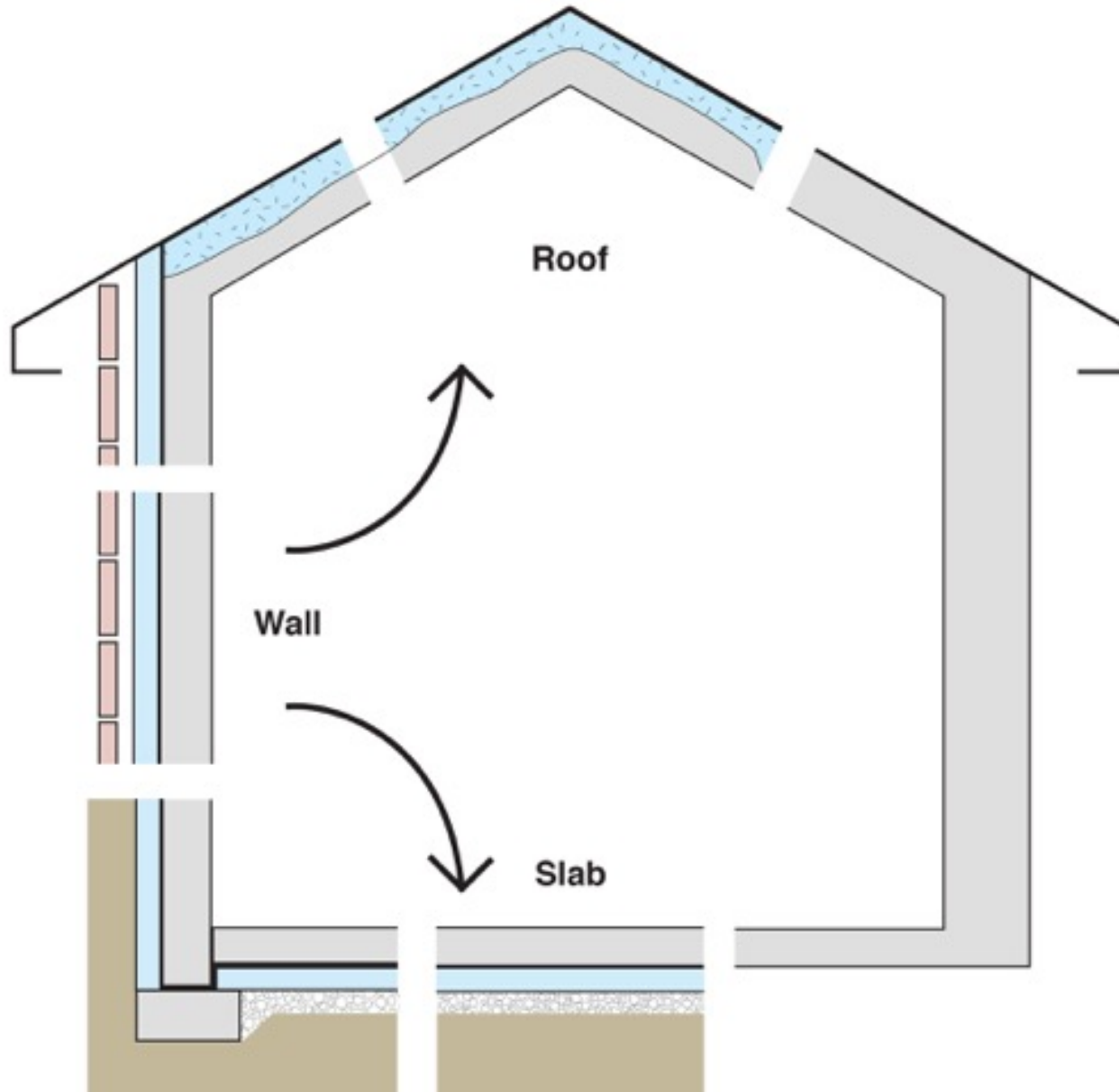




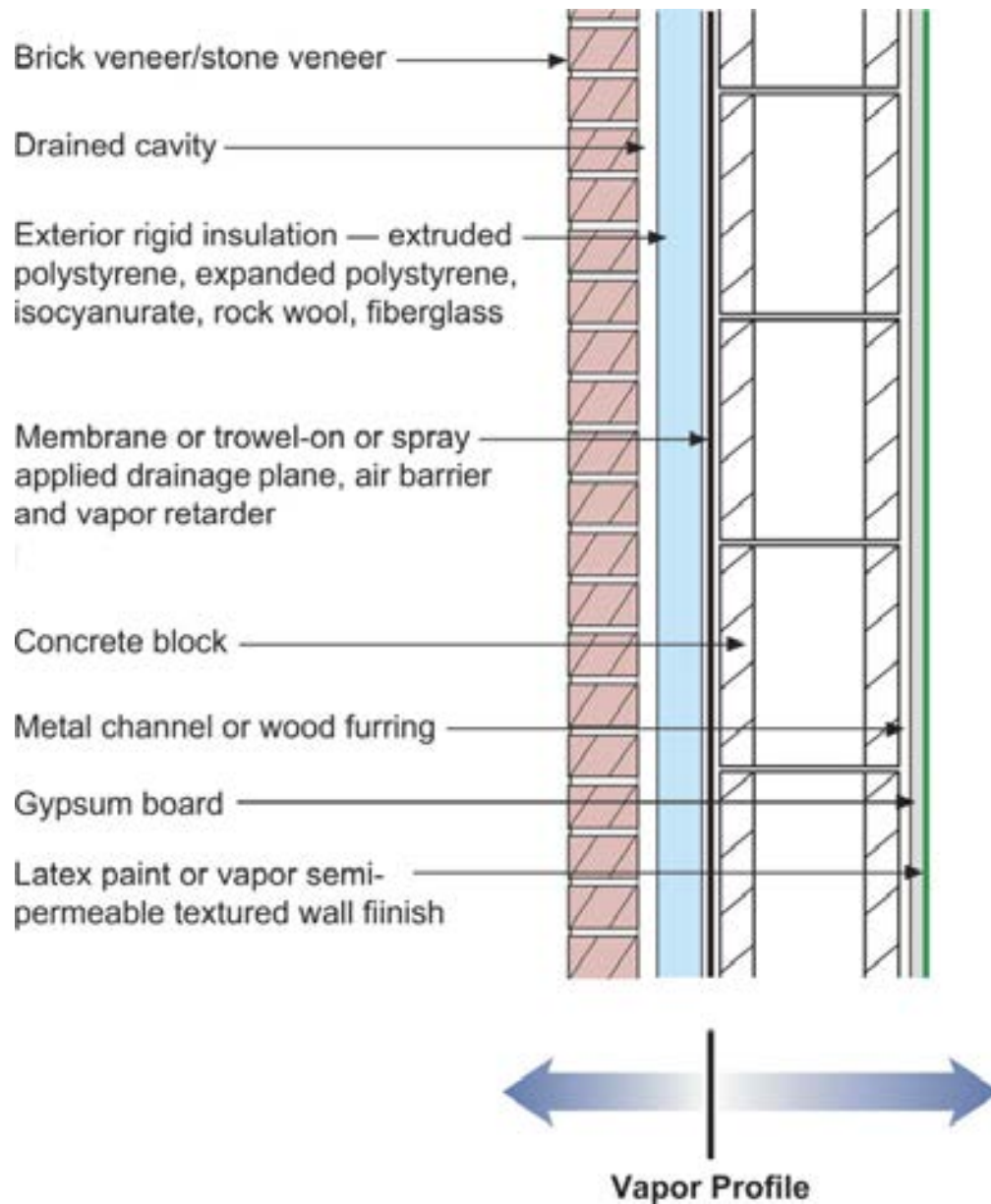


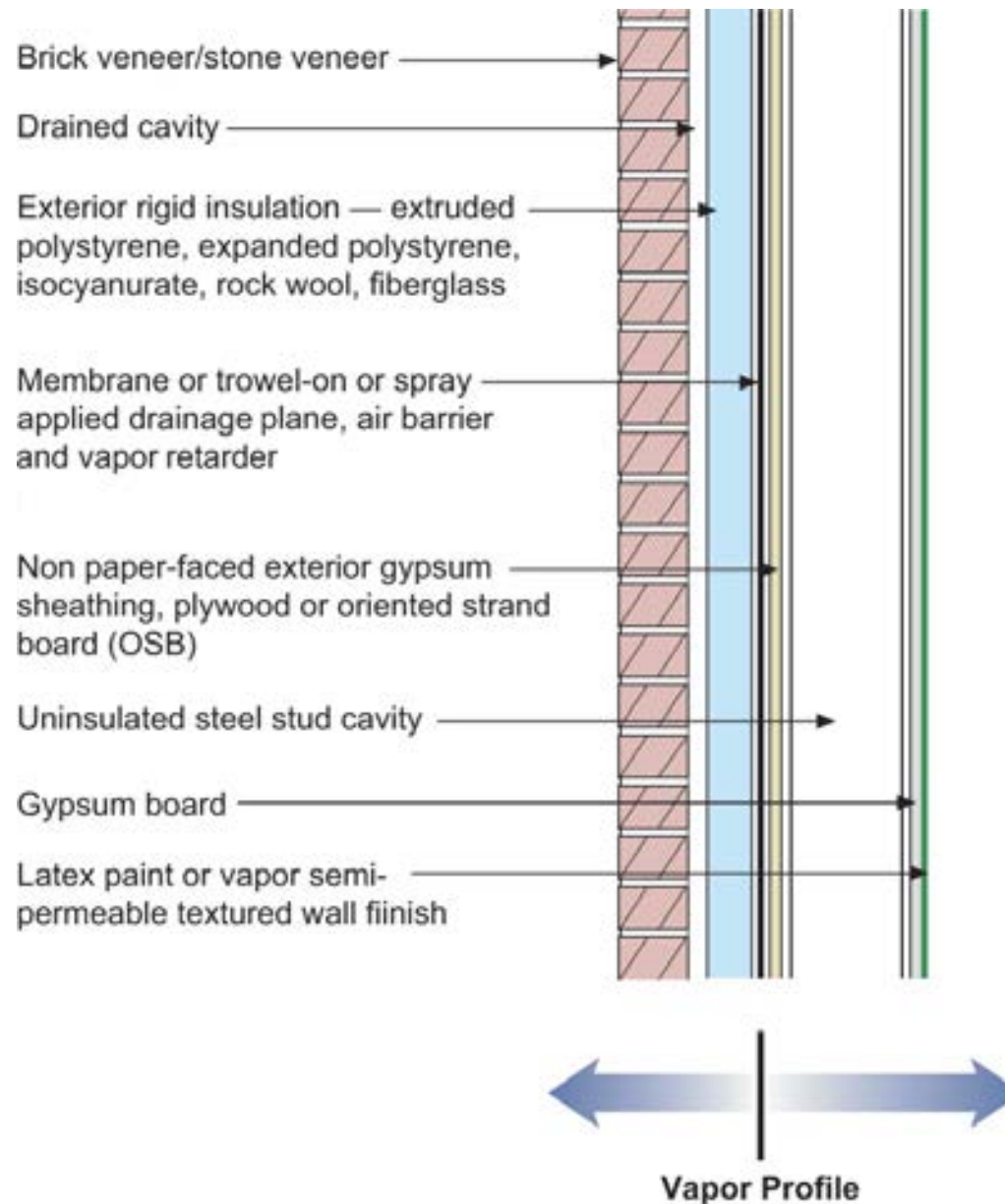


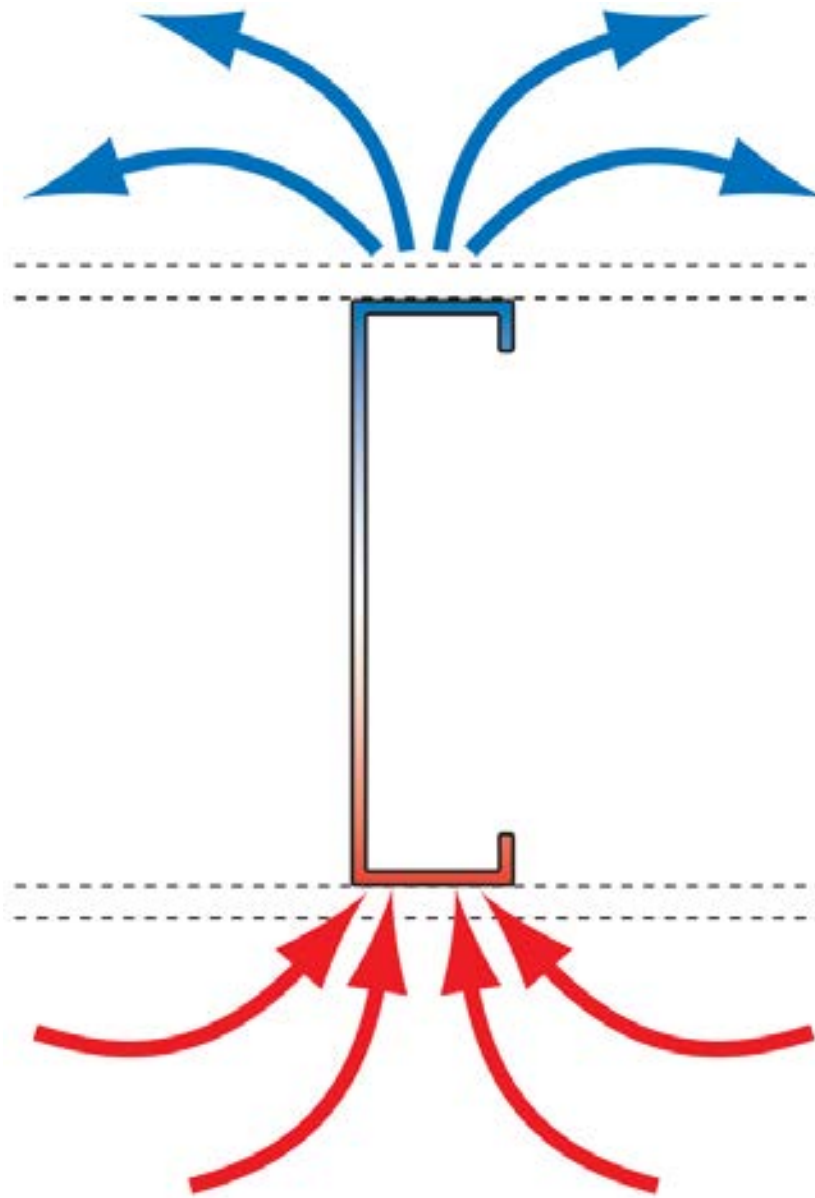




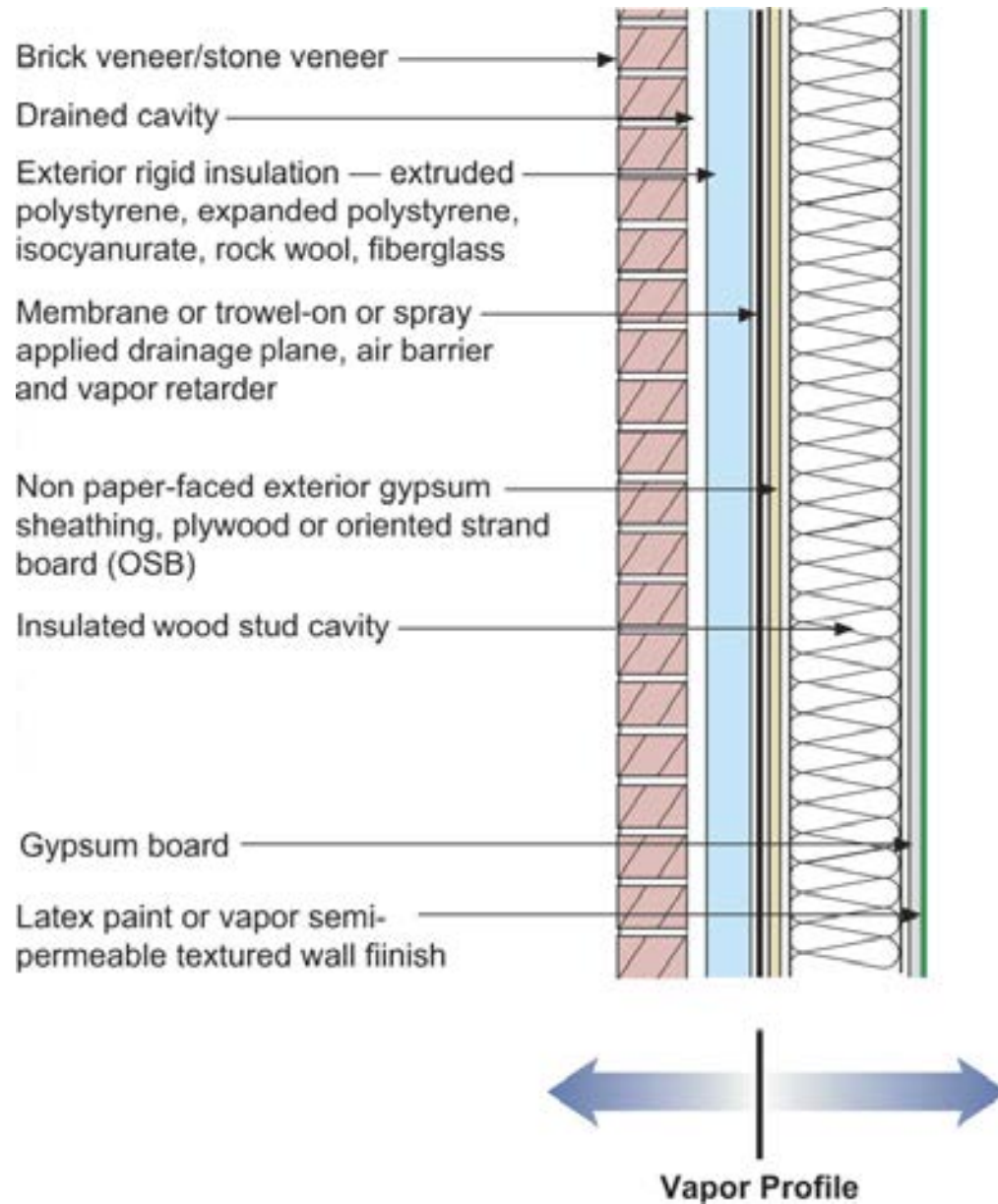
Configurations of the Perfect Wall

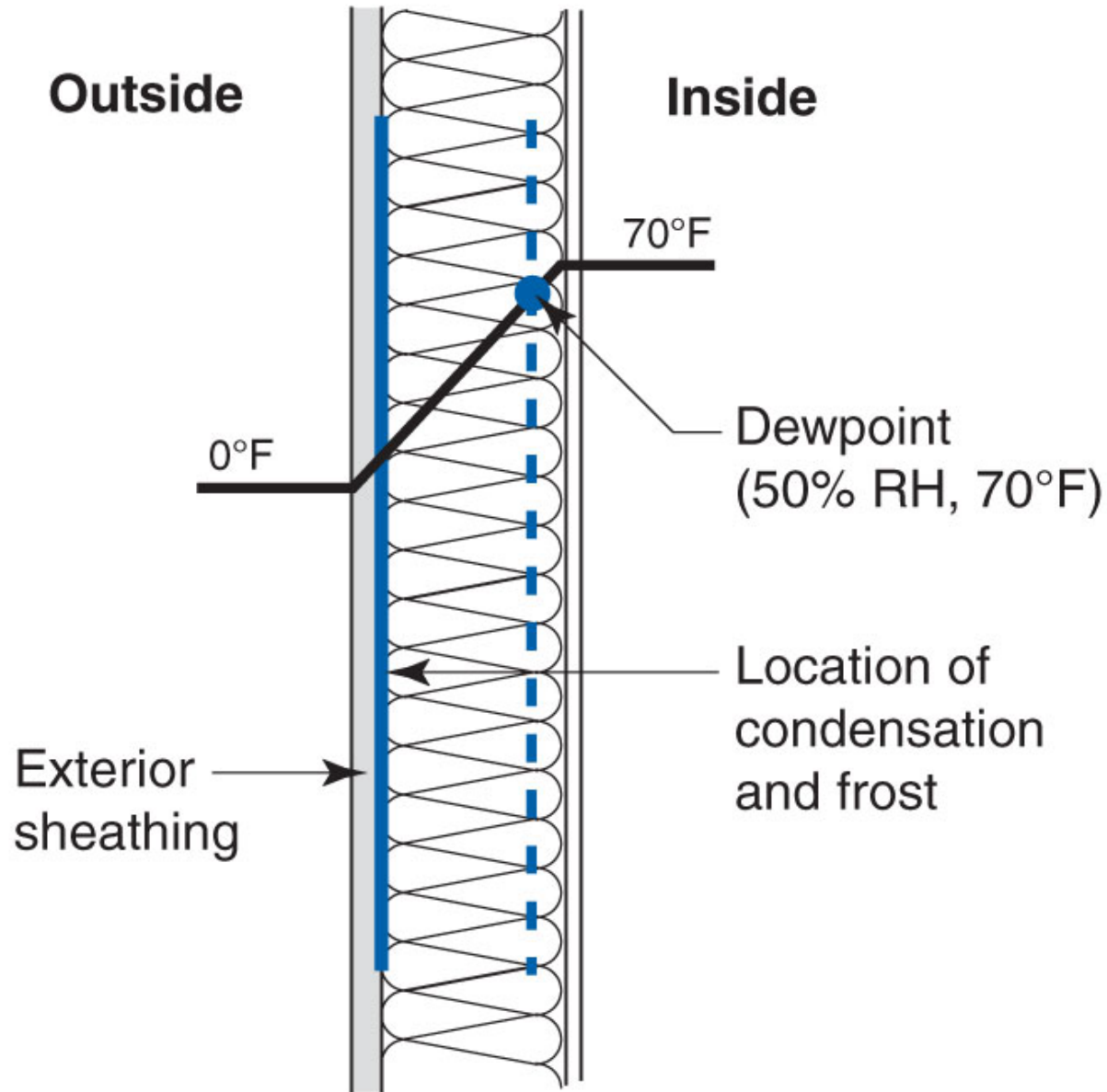




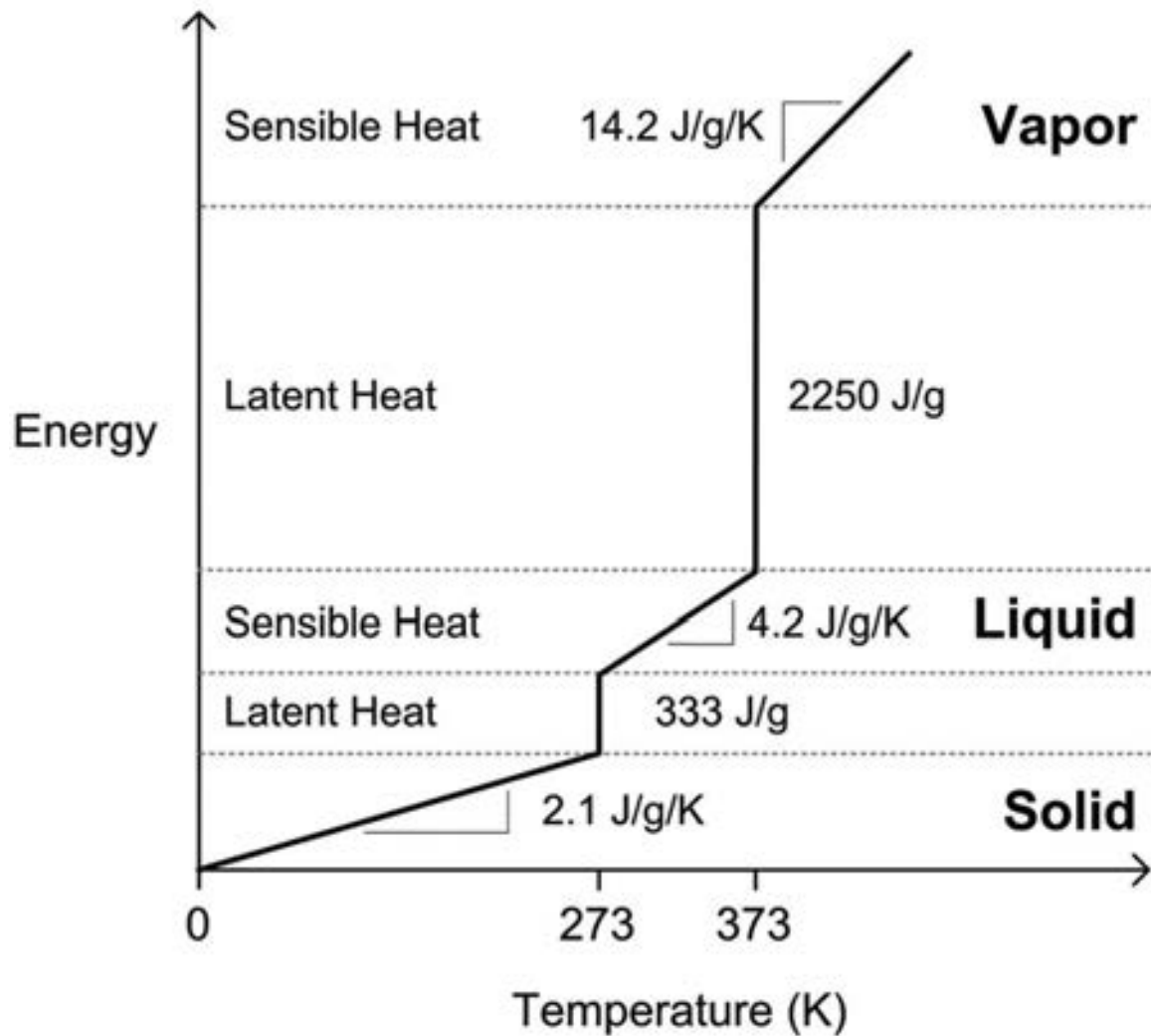








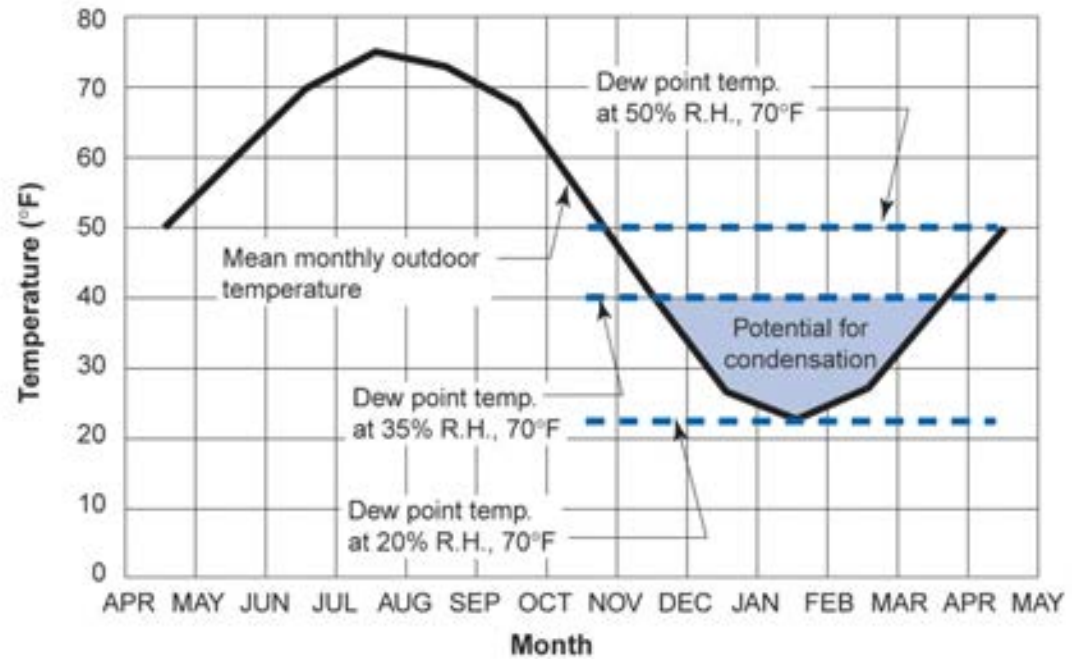
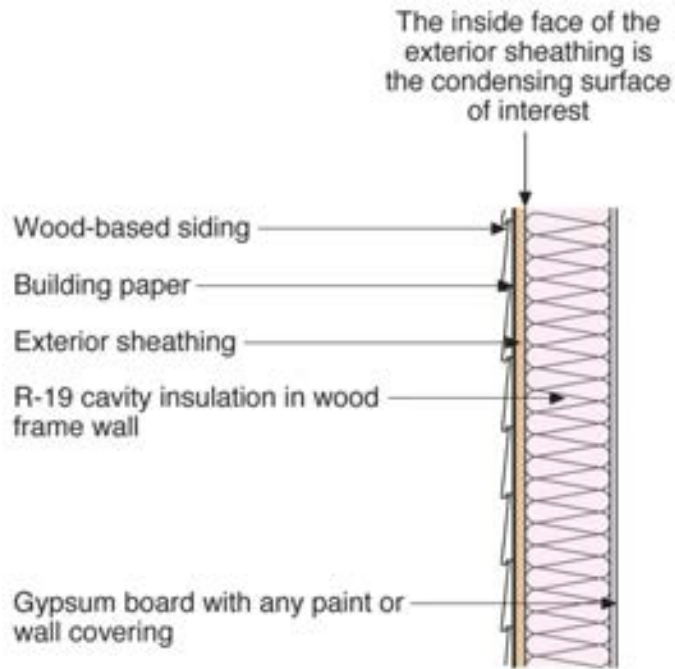


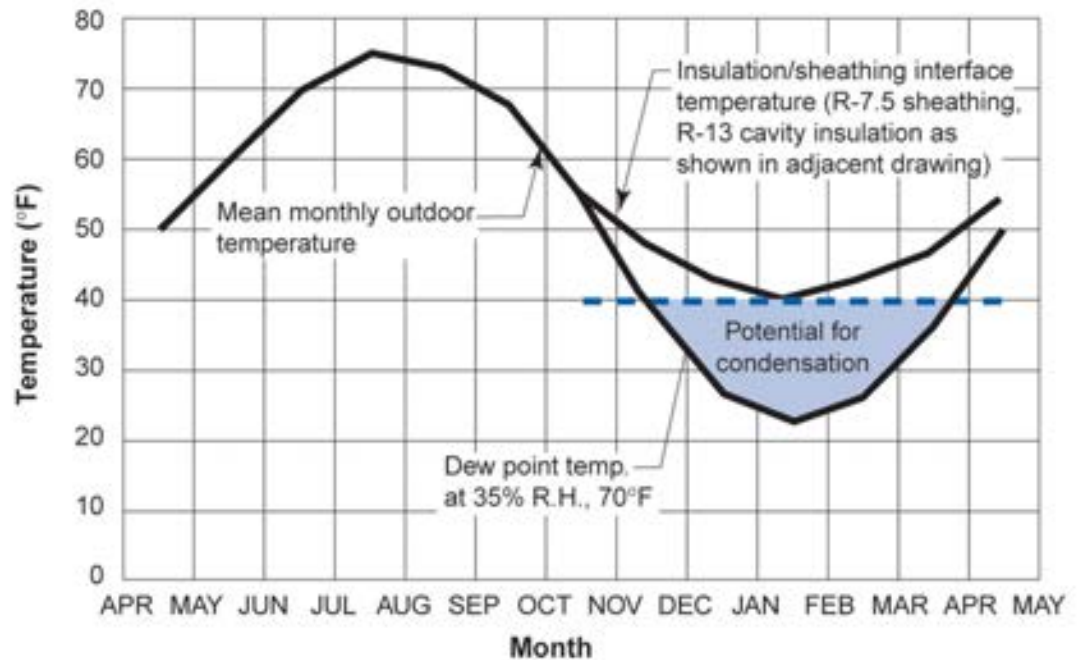
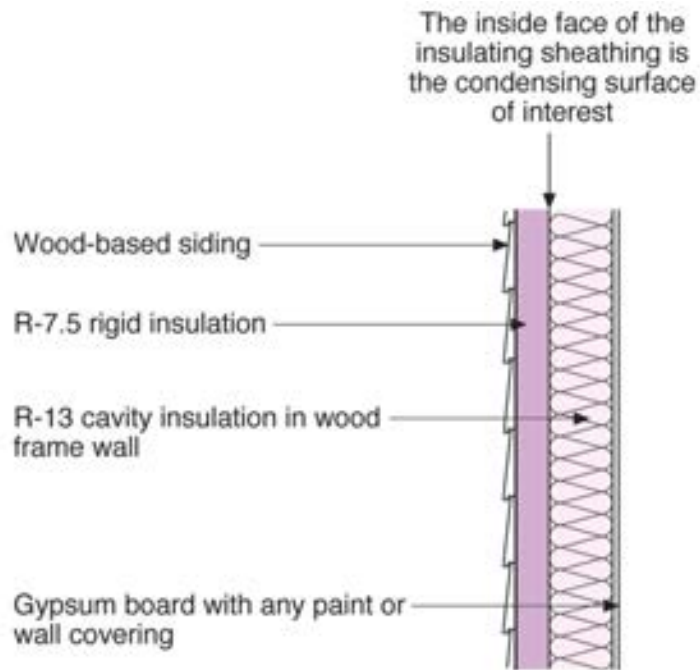


Simple linearized energy-temperature relation for water

From Straube & Burnett, 2005







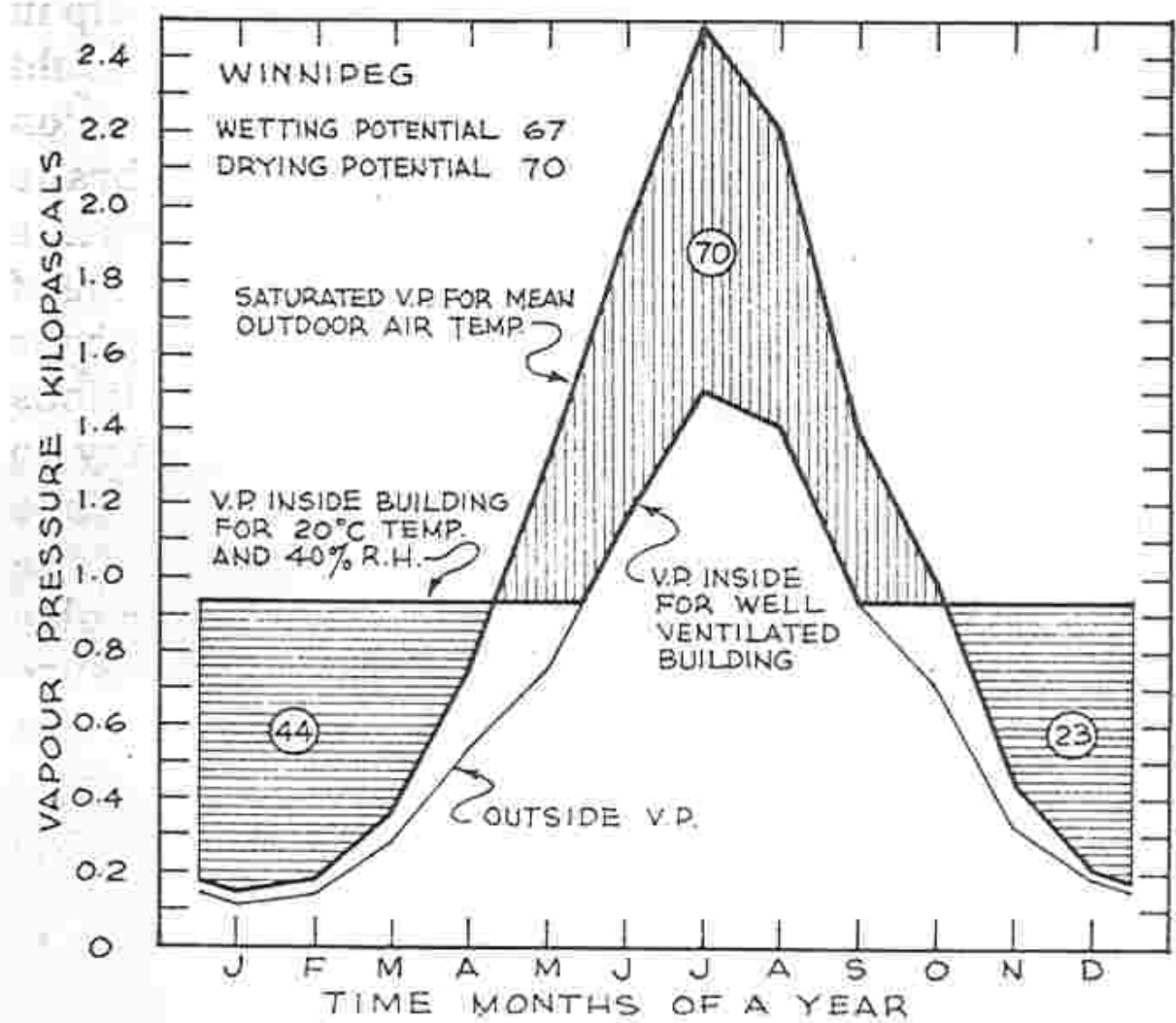
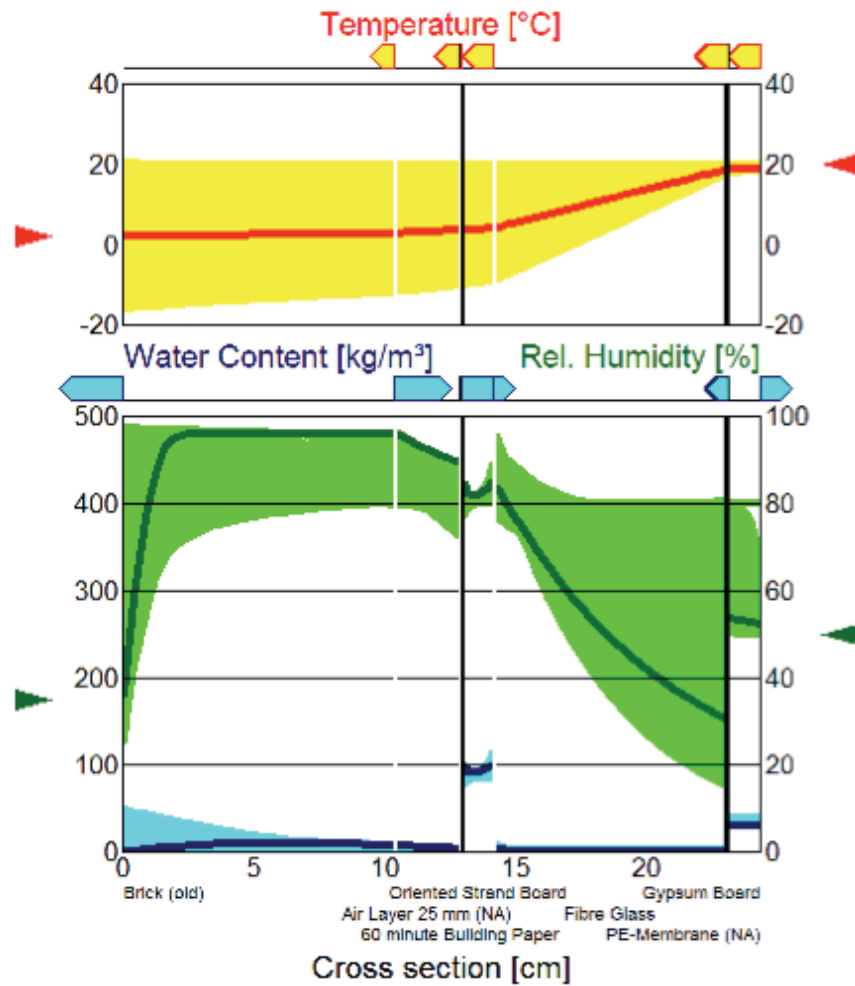


Figure 8-7. Outside vapour pressure, saturated vapour pressure and inside vapour pressure for Winnipeg.



WUFI® 3.3 Pro. IBP
Run

16 Feb
2001

100%

Run

Stop

Pause

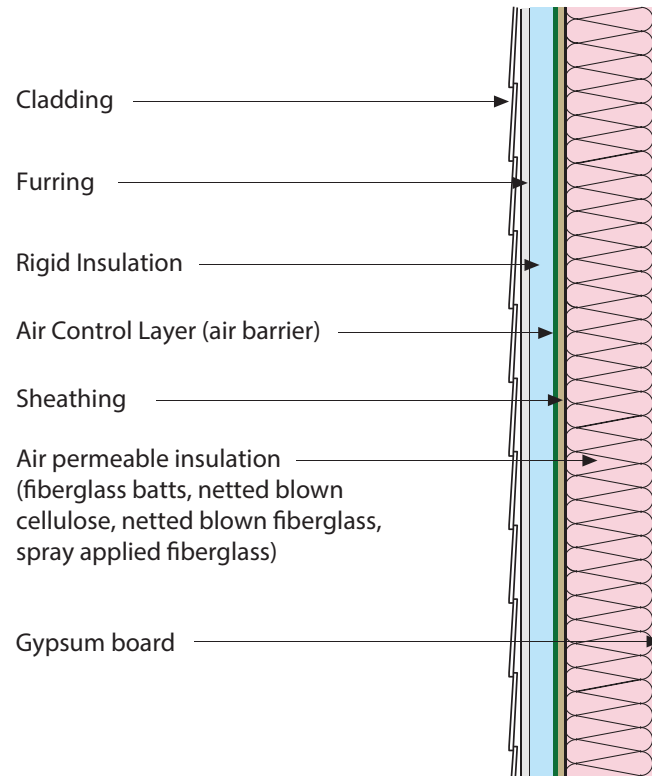
100%

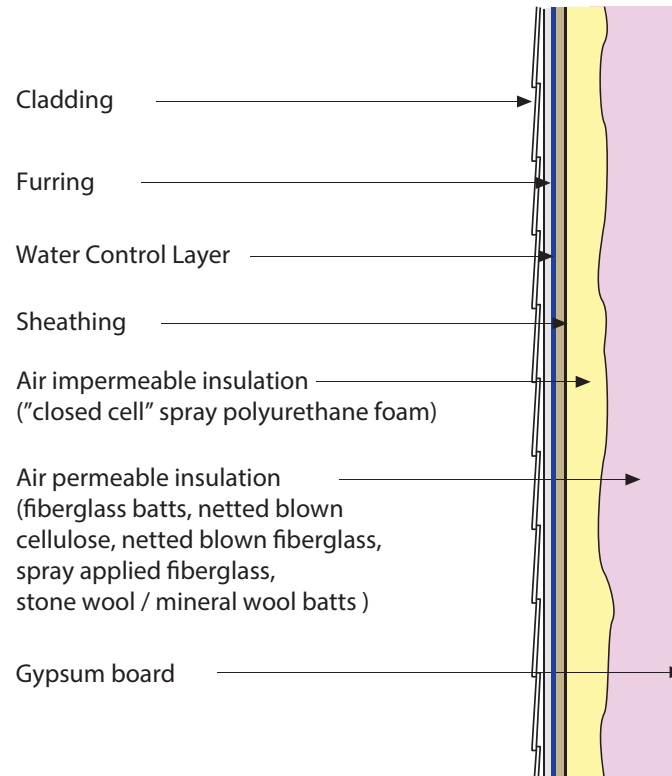
100%

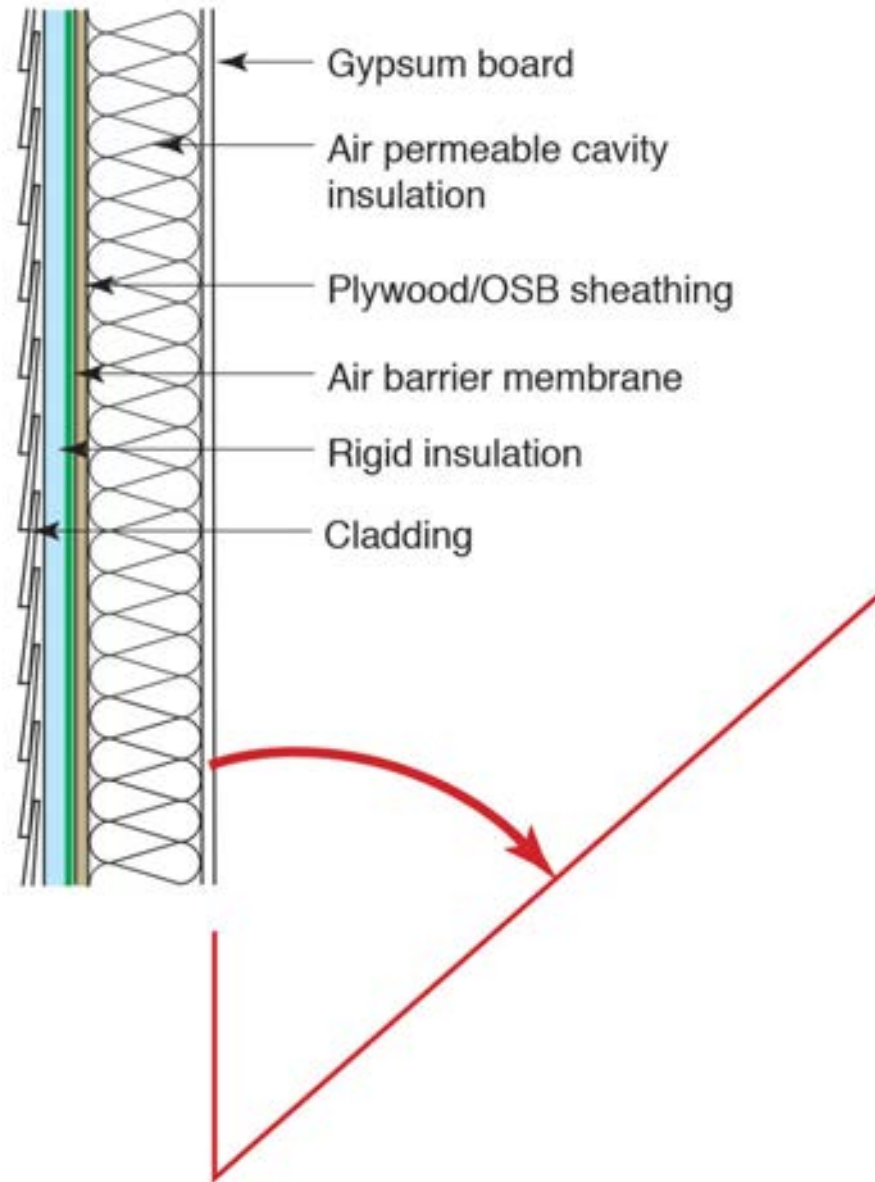
Insulation for Condensation Control*

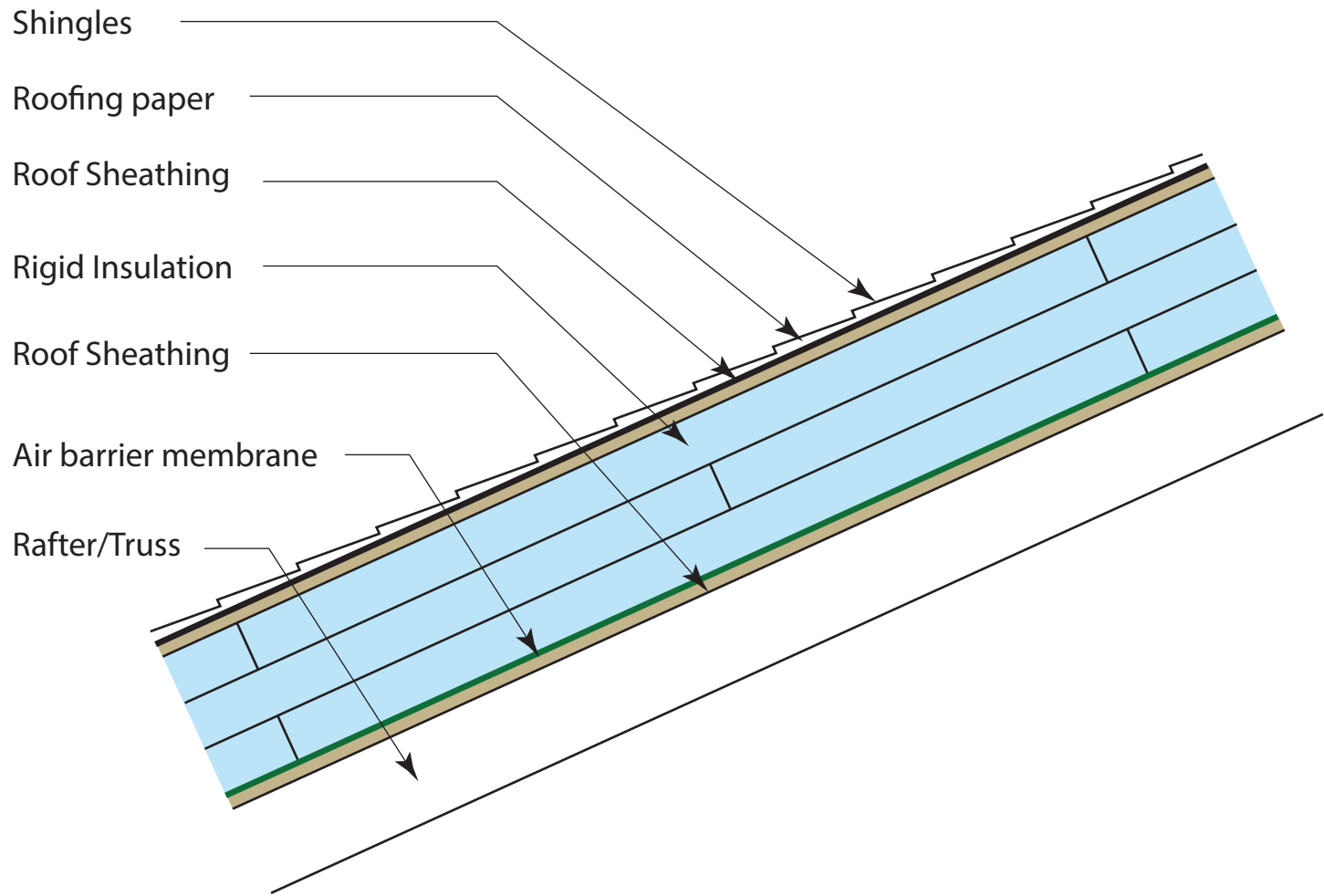
Climate Zone	Rigid Board or Air Impermeable Insulation	Total Cavity Insulation	Total Wall Assembly Insulation	Ratio of Rigid Board Insulation or Air Impermeable R-Value to Total Insulation R-Value
4C	R-2.5	R-13	R-15.5	15%
	R-3.75	R-20	R-23.75	15%
5	R-5	R-13	R-18	30%
	R-7.5	R-20	R-27.5	30%
6	R-7.5	R-13	R-20.5	35%
	R-11.25	R-20	R-31.25	35%
7	R-10	R-13	R-28	45%
	R-15	R-20	R-35	45%
8	R-15	R-13	R-28	50%
	R-20	R-20	R-40	50%

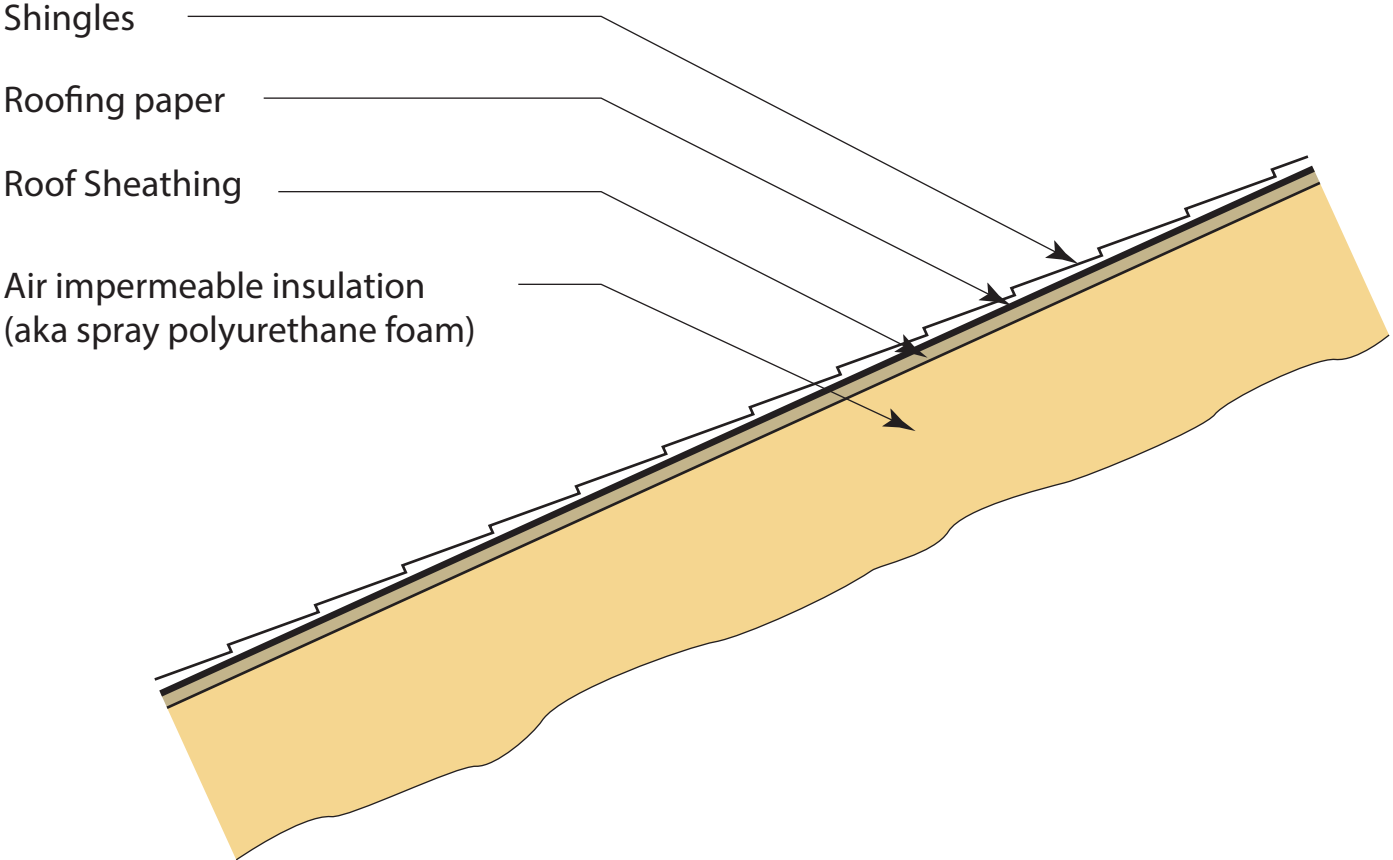
*Adapted from Table R 702.1 2015 International Residential Code

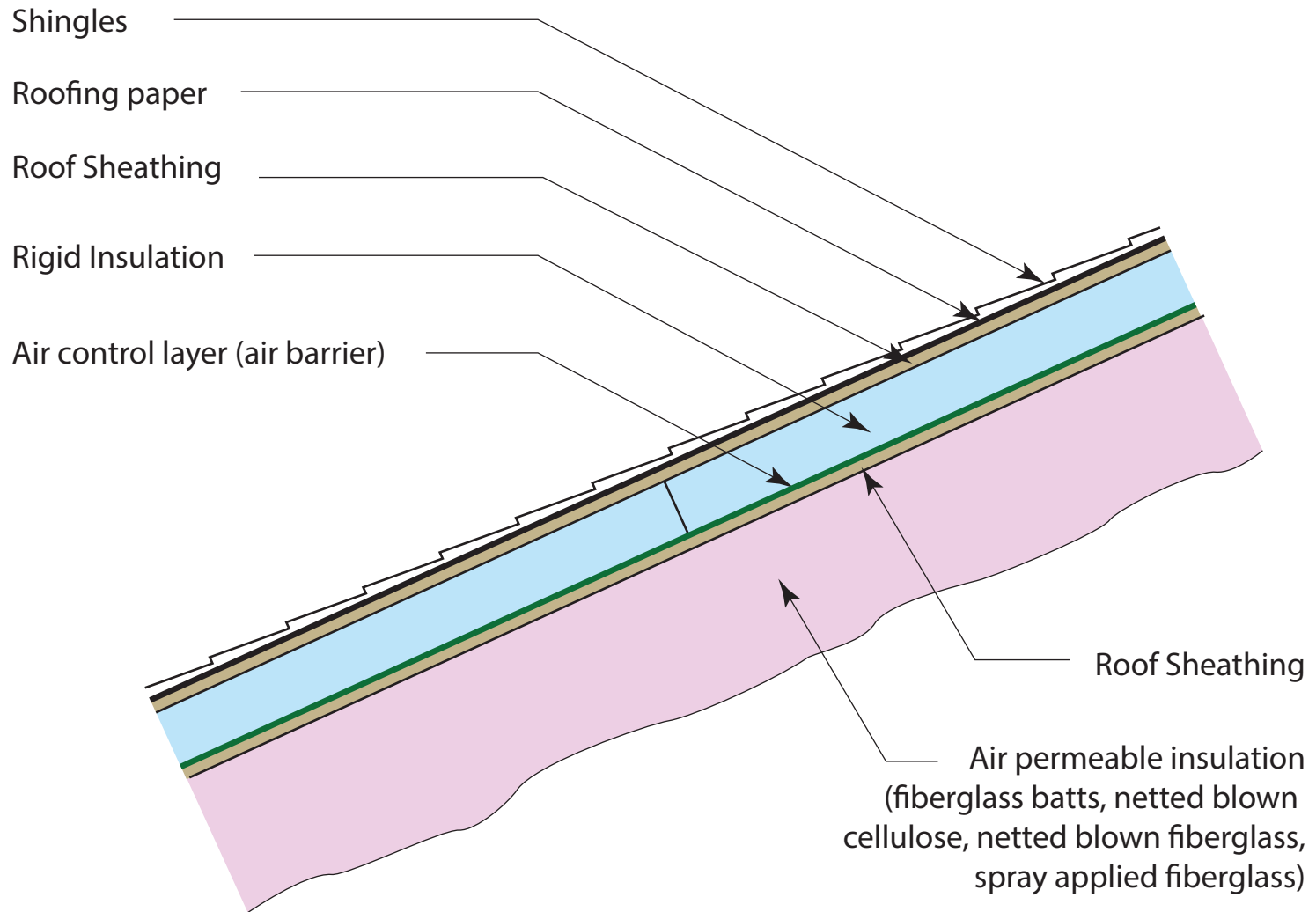










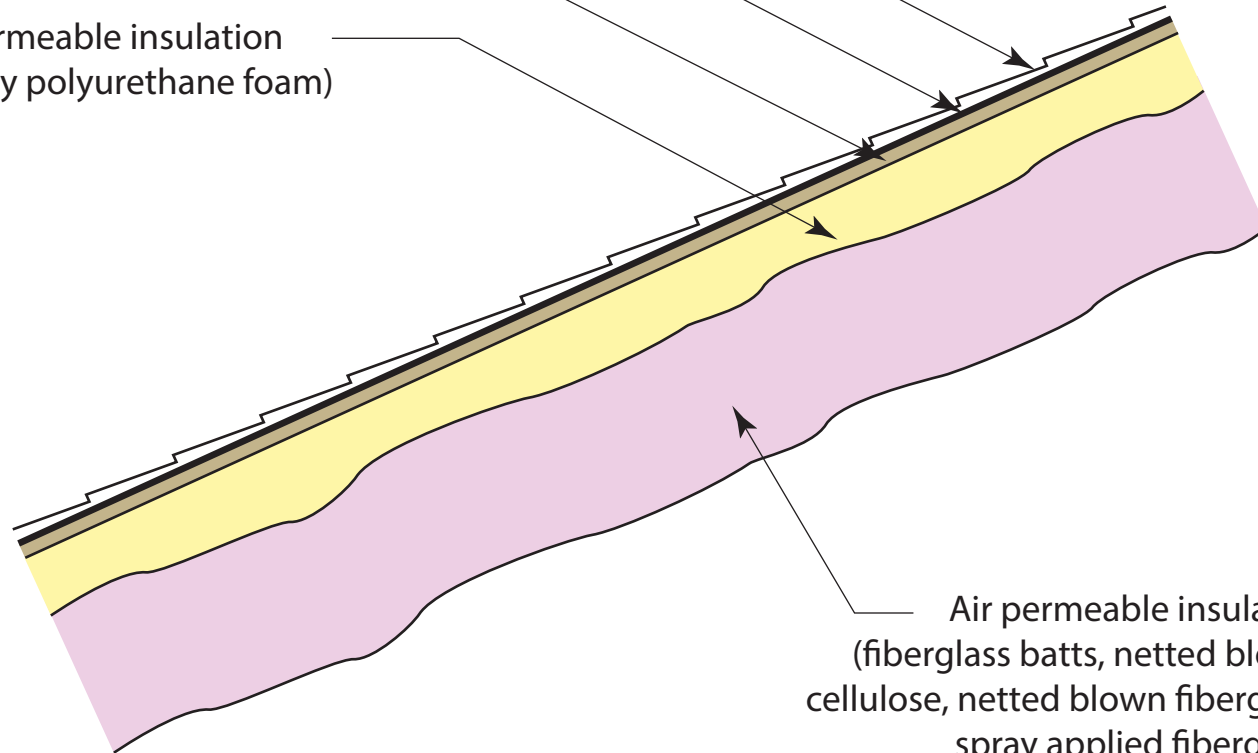


Shingles

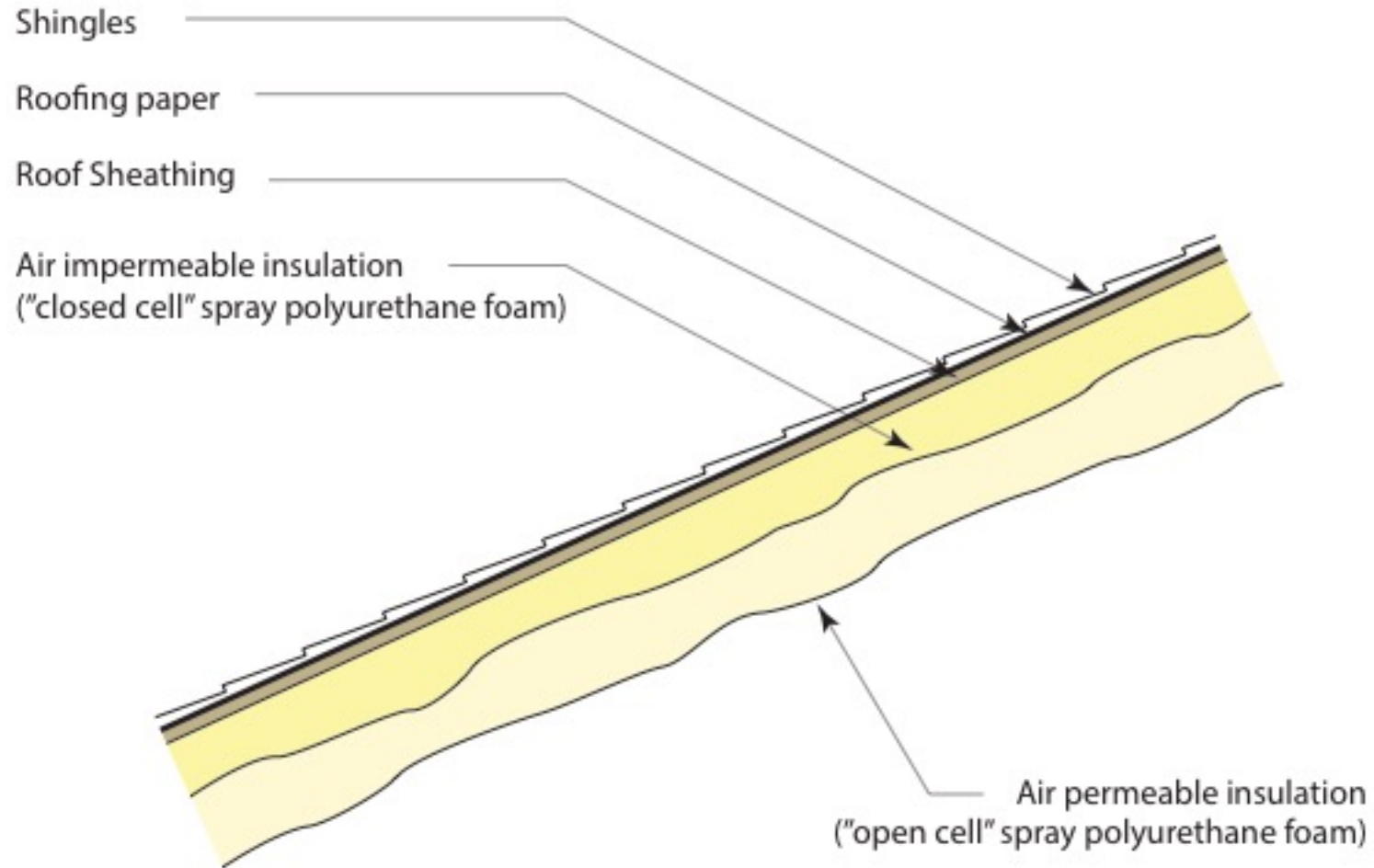
Roofing paper

Roof Sheathing

Air impermeable insulation
(aka spray polyurethane foam)



Air permeable insulation
(fiberglass batts, netted blown
cellulose, netted blown fiberglass,
spray applied fiberglass)

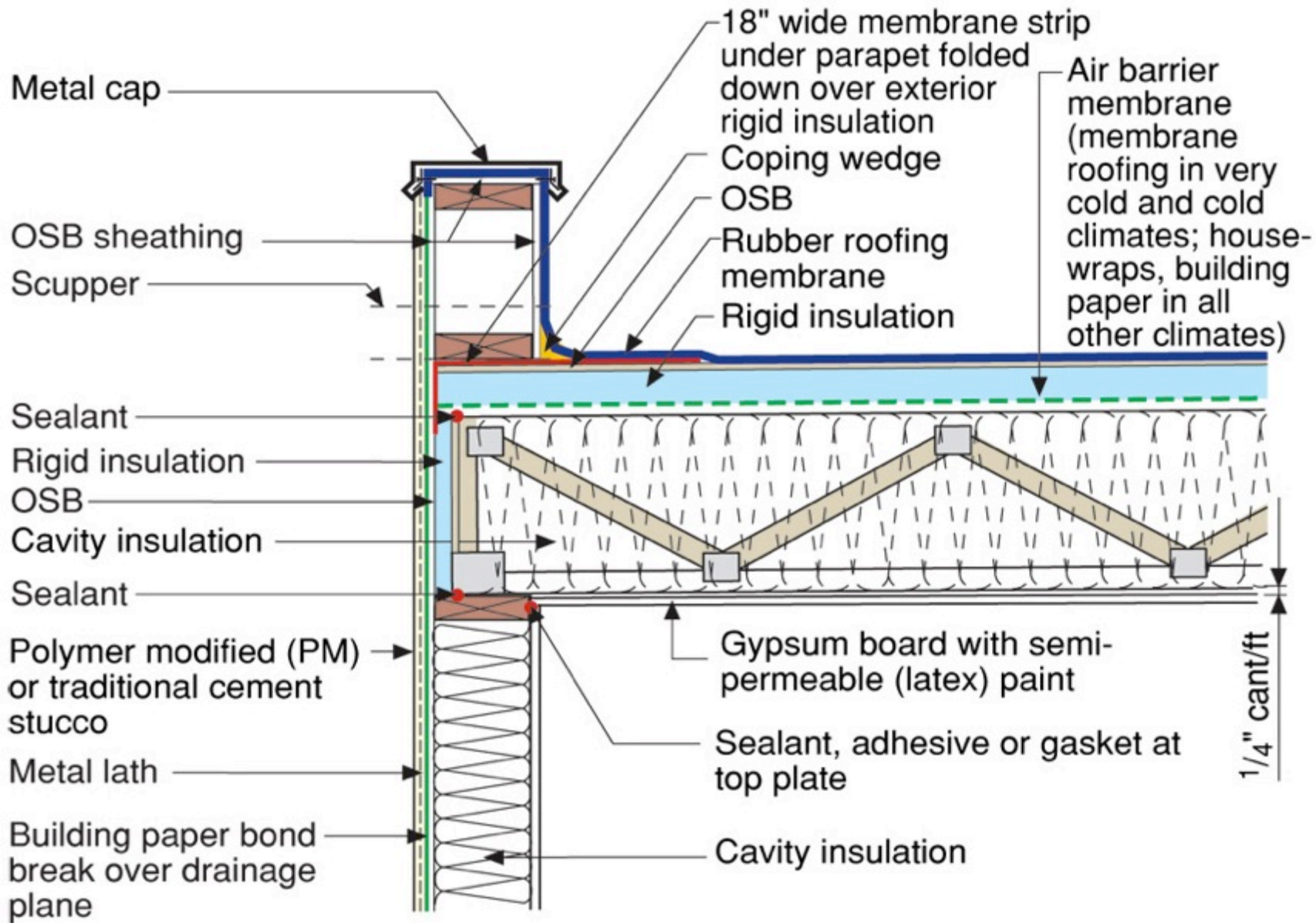


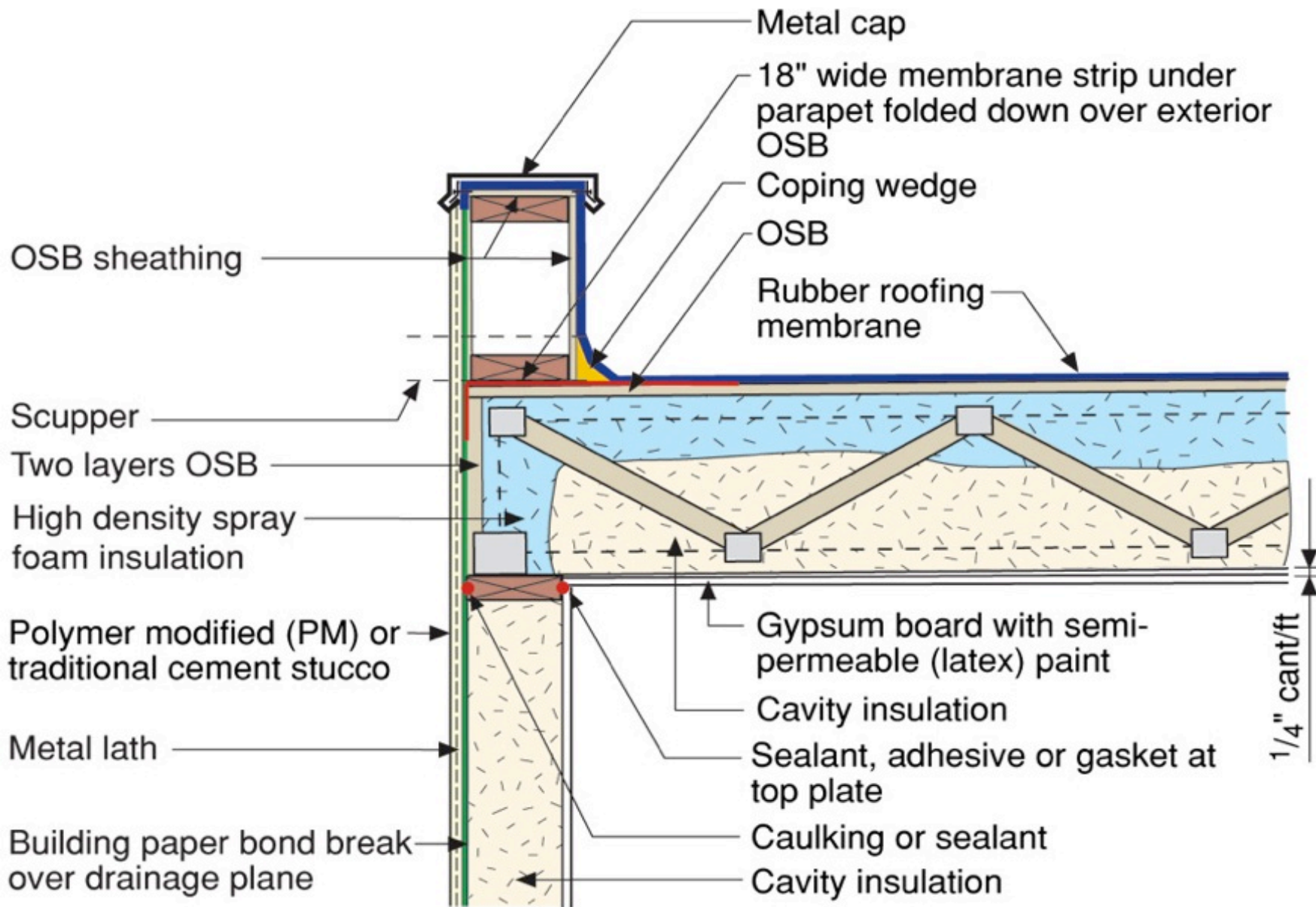
Insulation for Condensation Control*

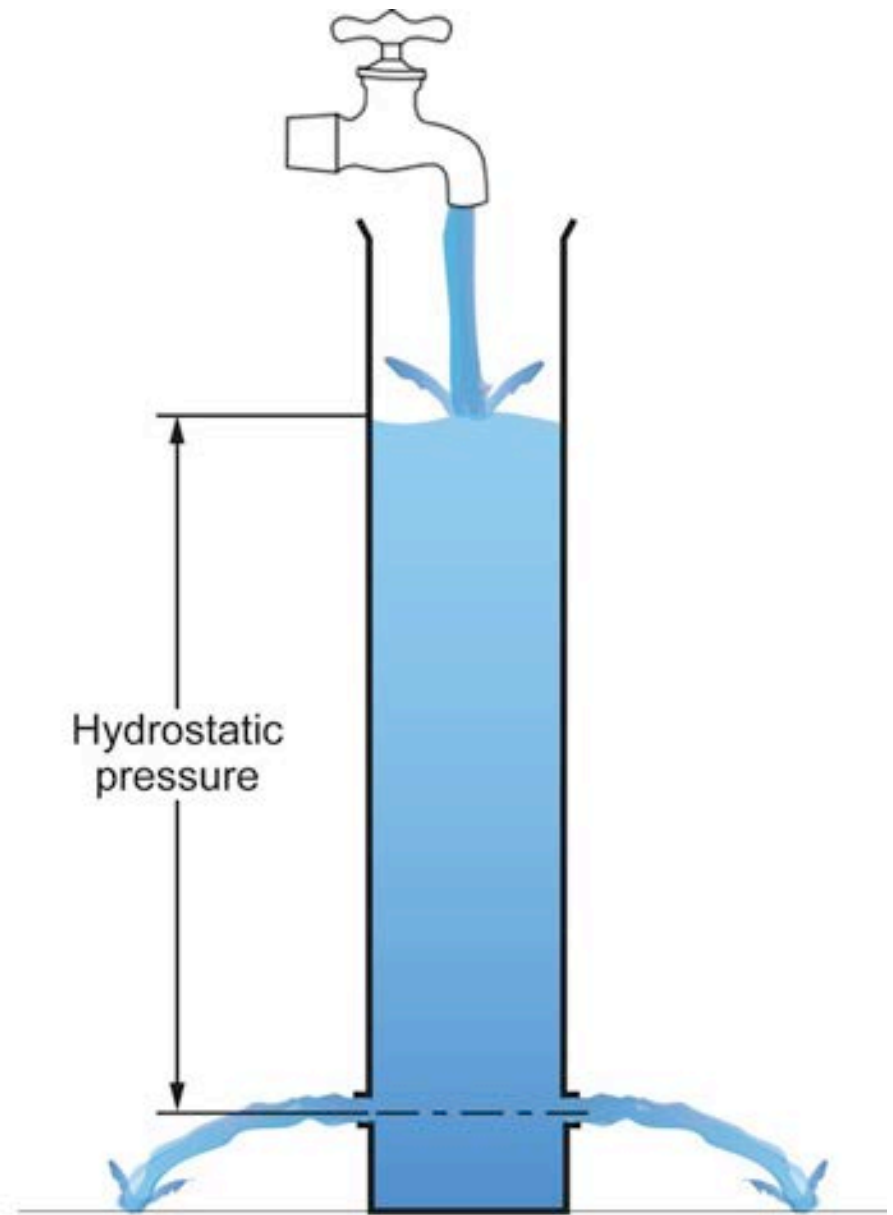
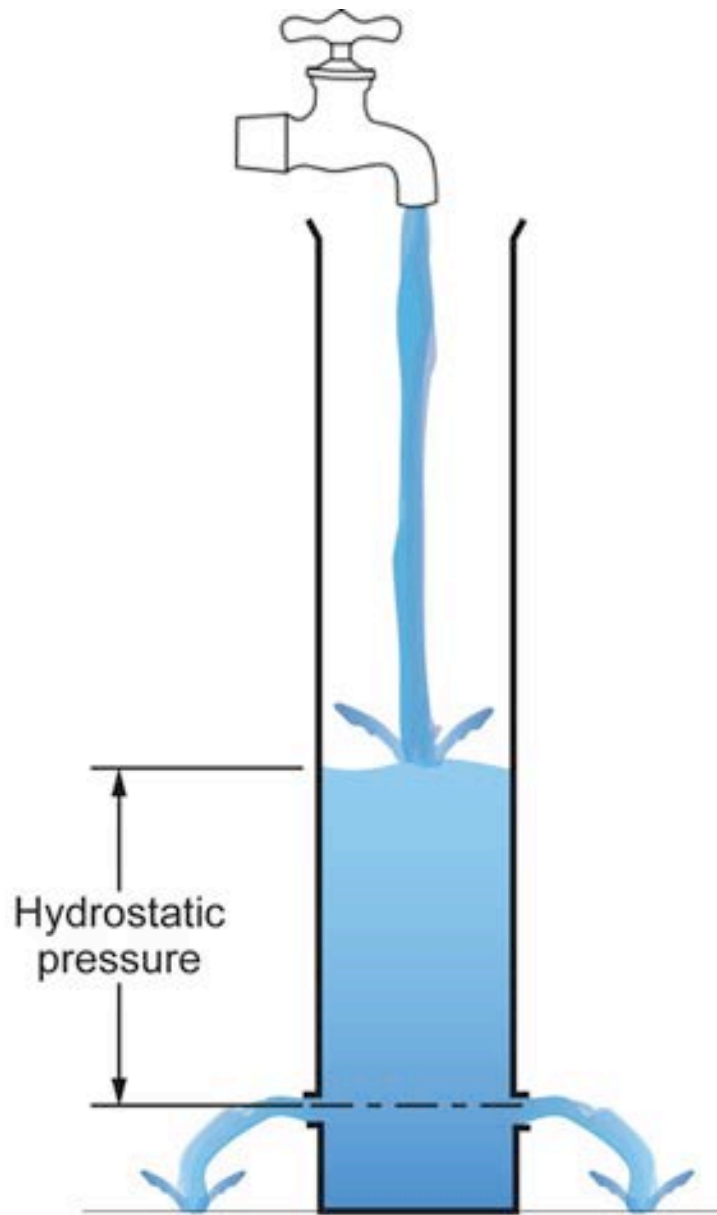
Climate Zone	Rigid Board or Air Impermeable Insulation	Code Required R-Value	Ratio of Rigid Board Insulation or Air Impermeable R-Value to Total Insulation R-Value
1,2,3	R-5	R-38	10%
4C	R-10	R-49	20%
4A, 4B	R-15	R-49	30%
5	R-20	R-49	40%
6	R-25	R-49	50%
7	R-30	R-49	60%
8	R-35	R-49	70%

*Adapted from Table R 806.5 2015 International Residential Code

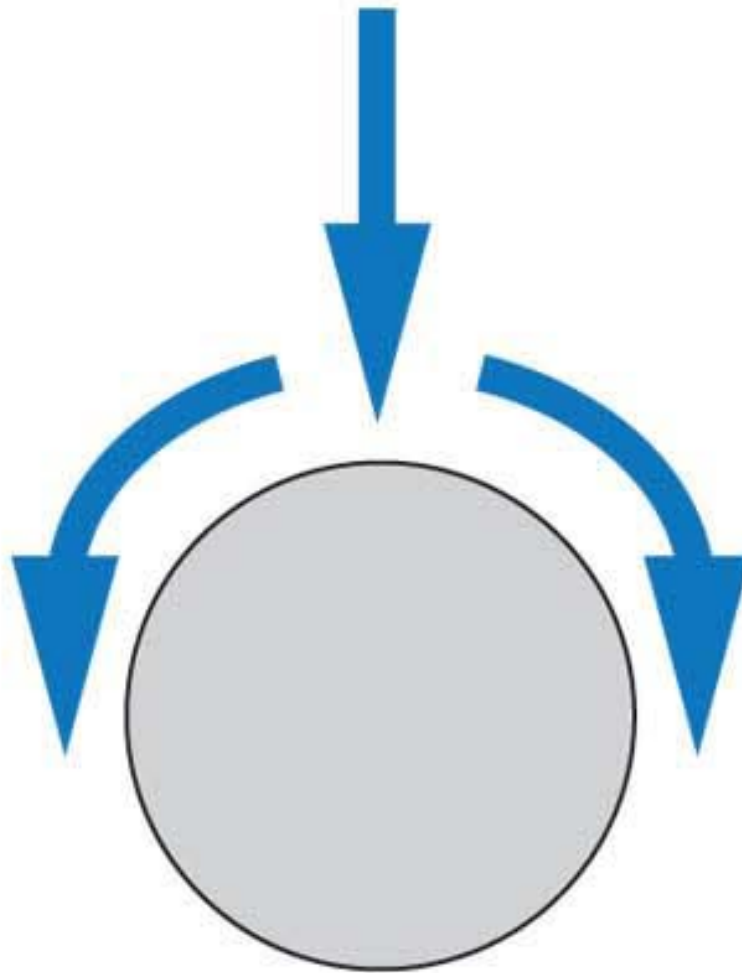
Table 1

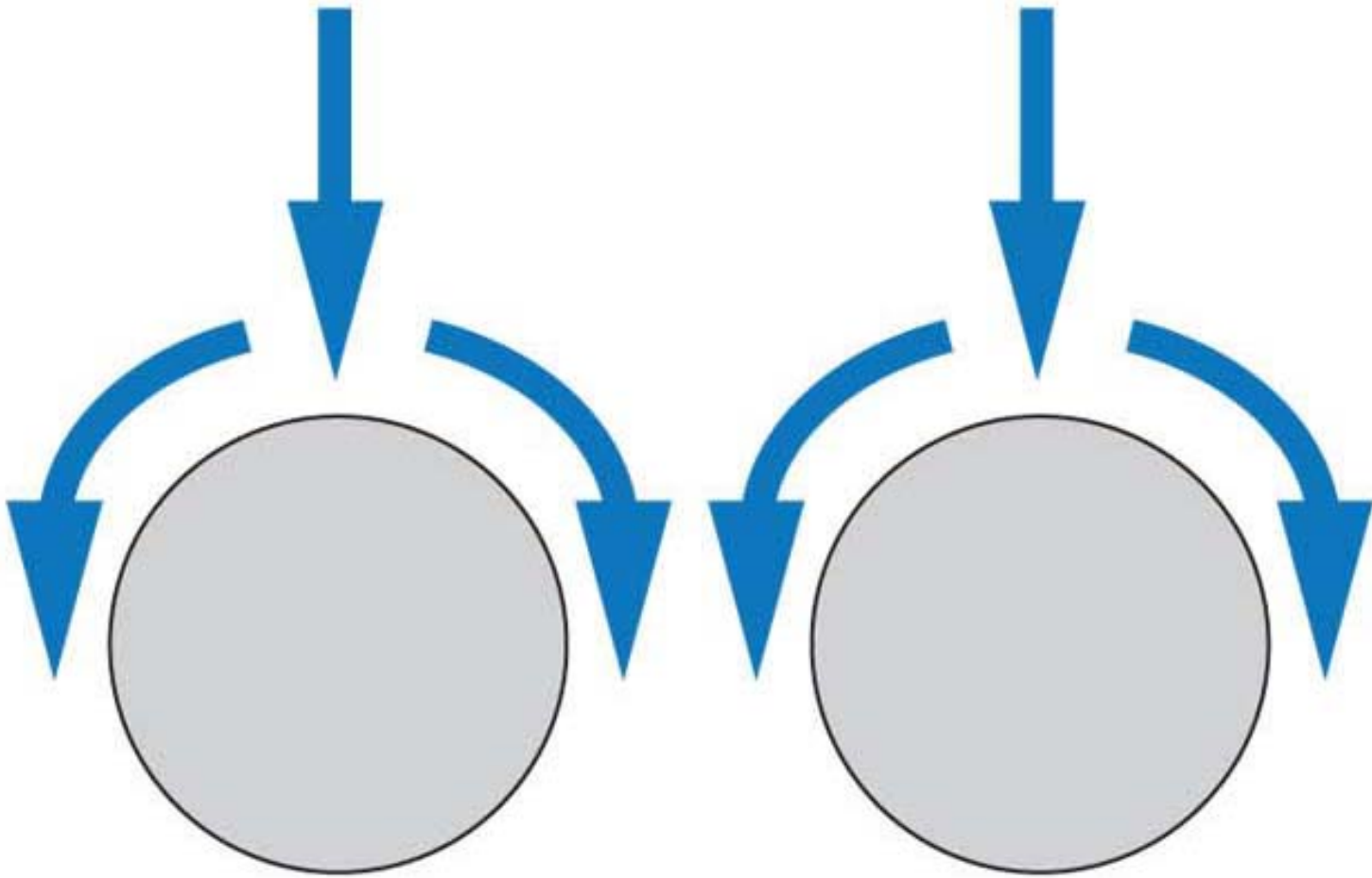


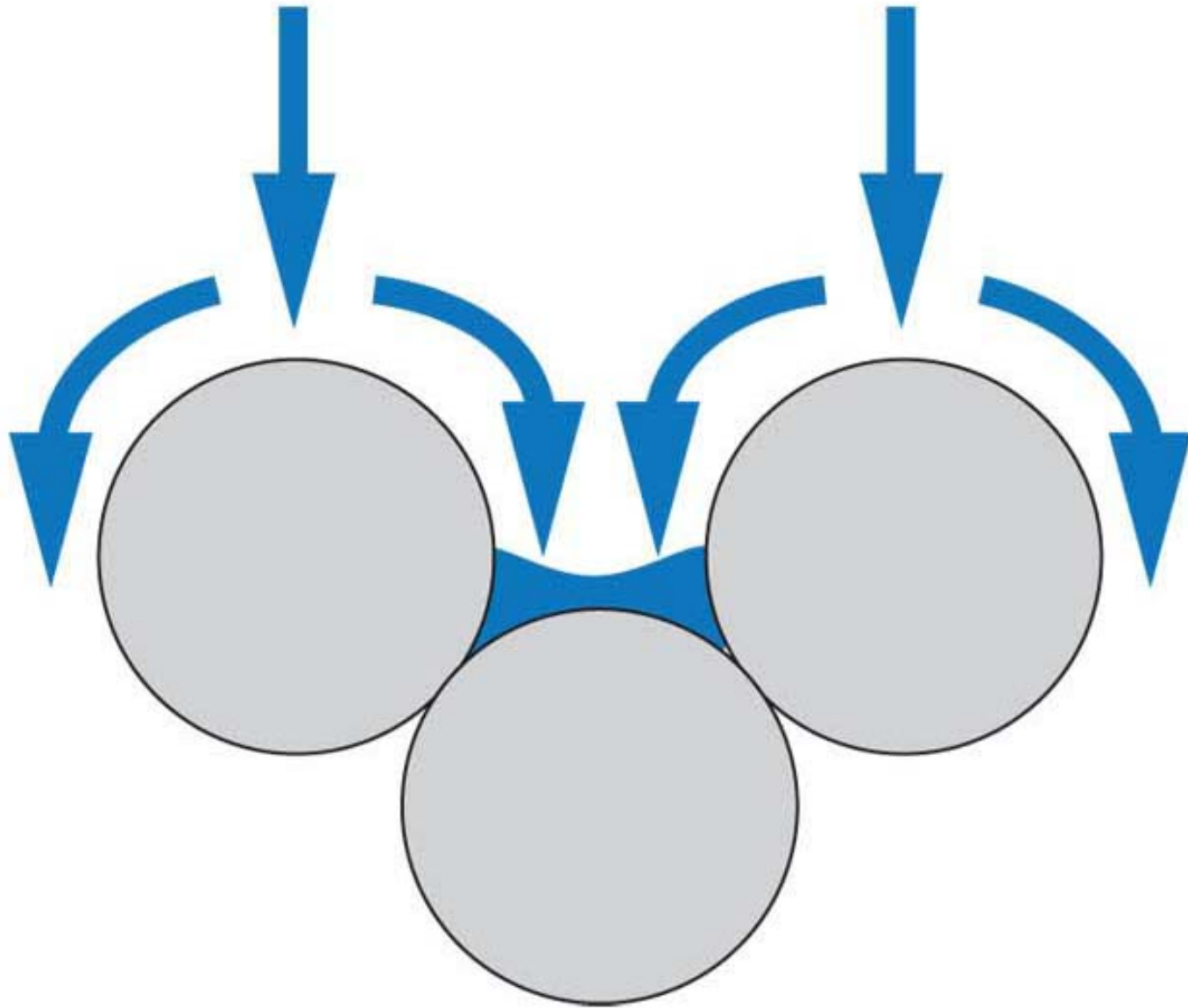




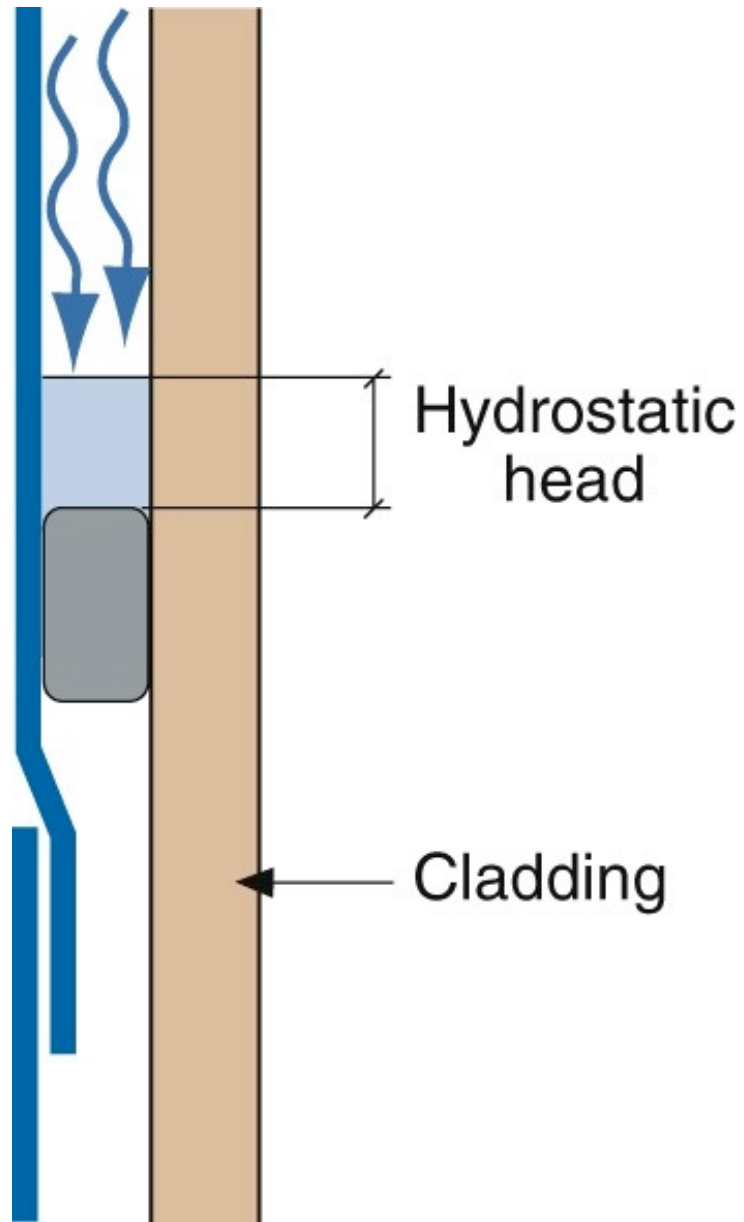


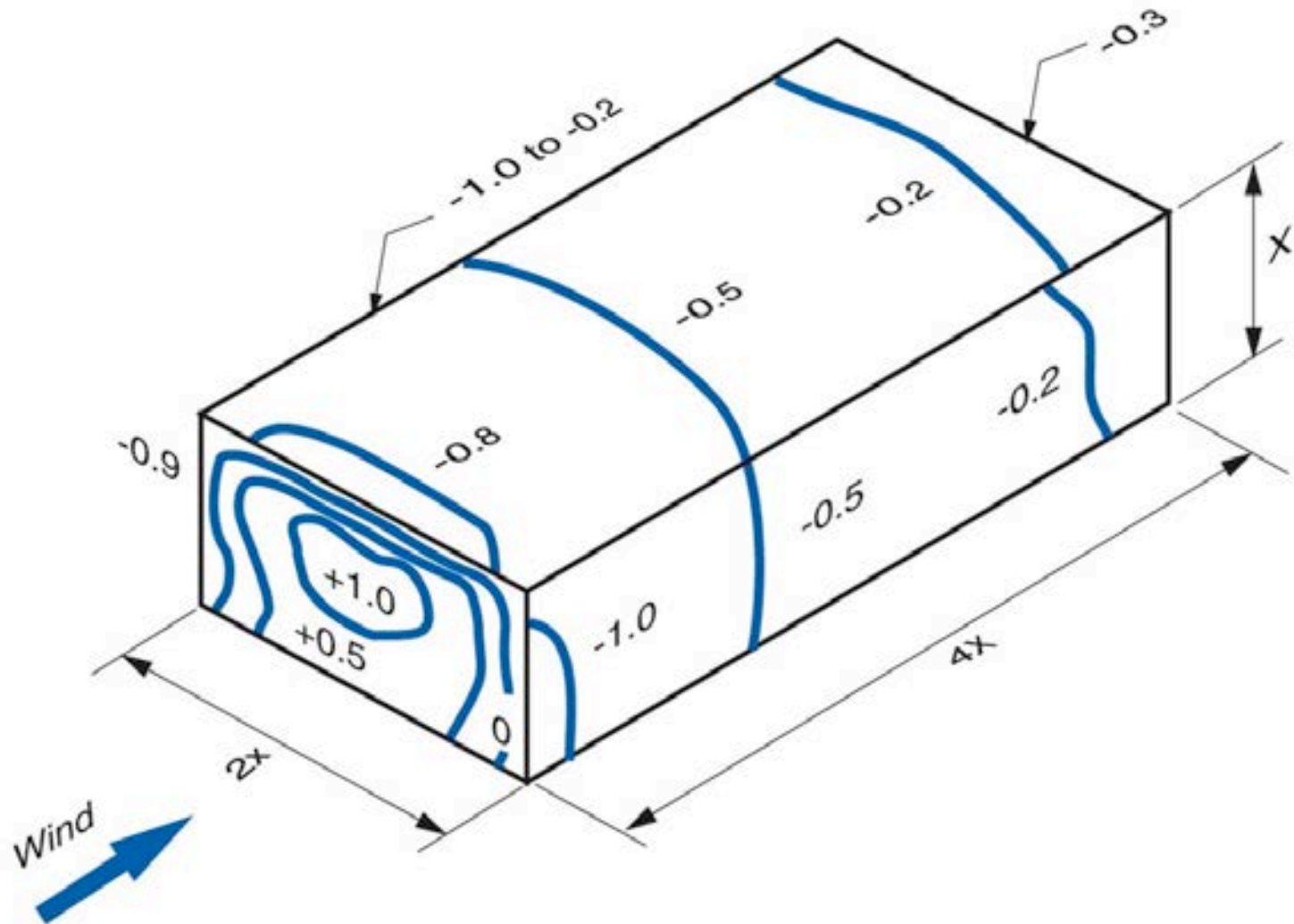






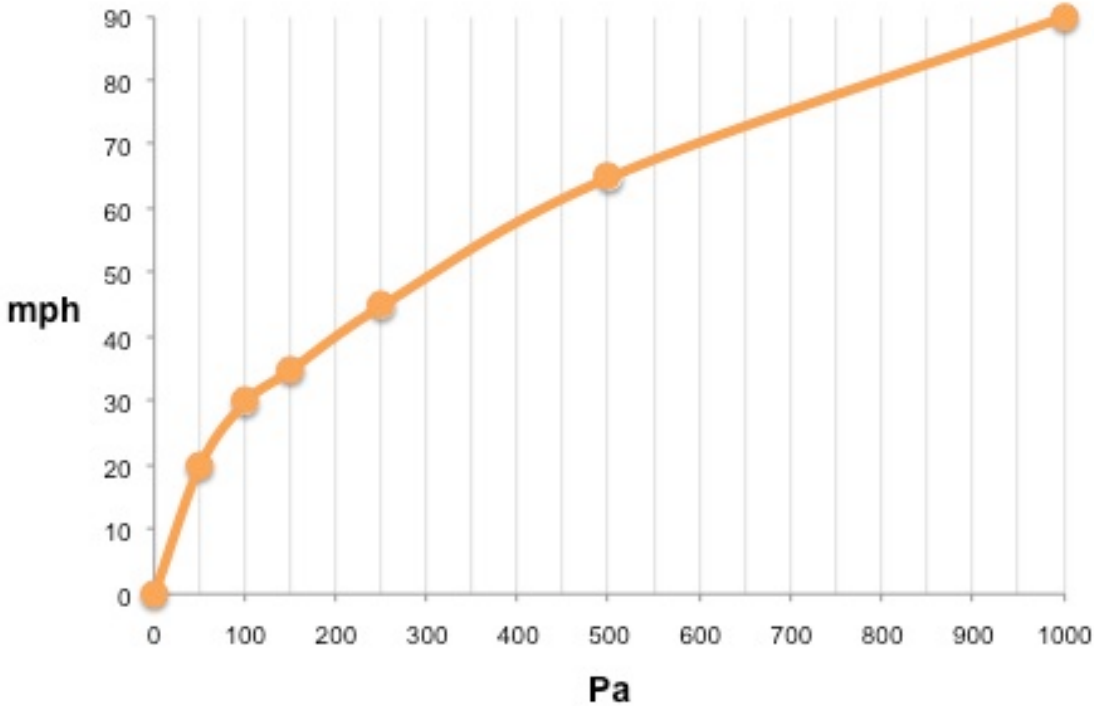




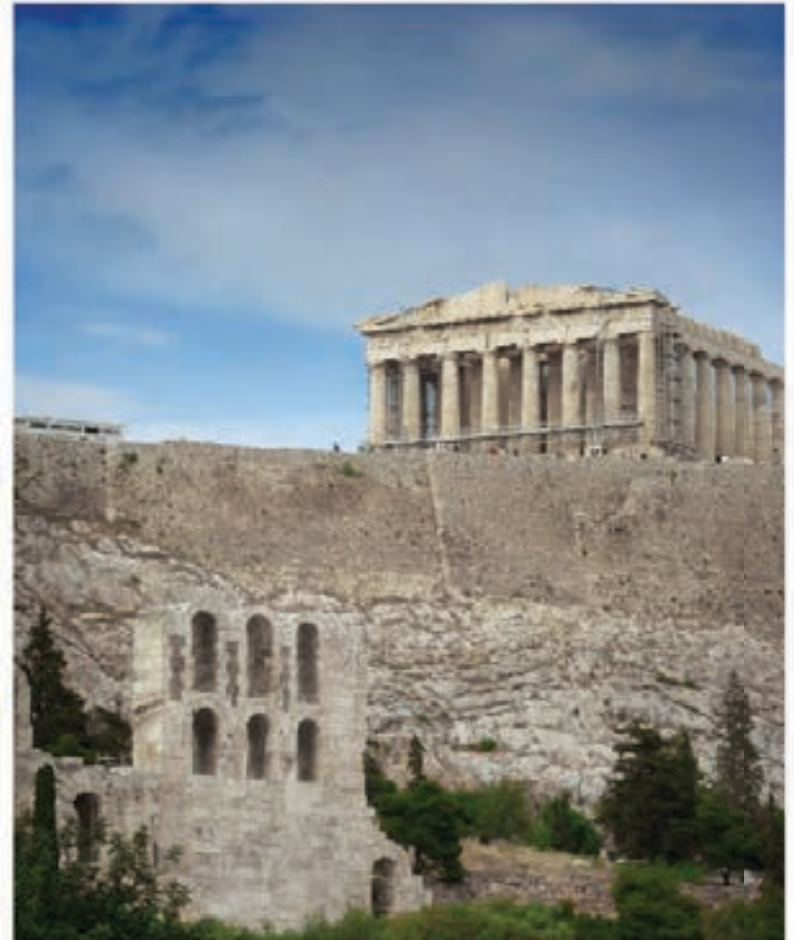


Pascals	mph
50	Pa = 20 mph
100	Pa = 30 mph
150	Pa = 35 mph
250	Pa = 45 mph
500	Pa = 65 mph
1,000	Pa = 90 mph

Wind Speed (mph) vs. Stagnation Pressure (Pa)











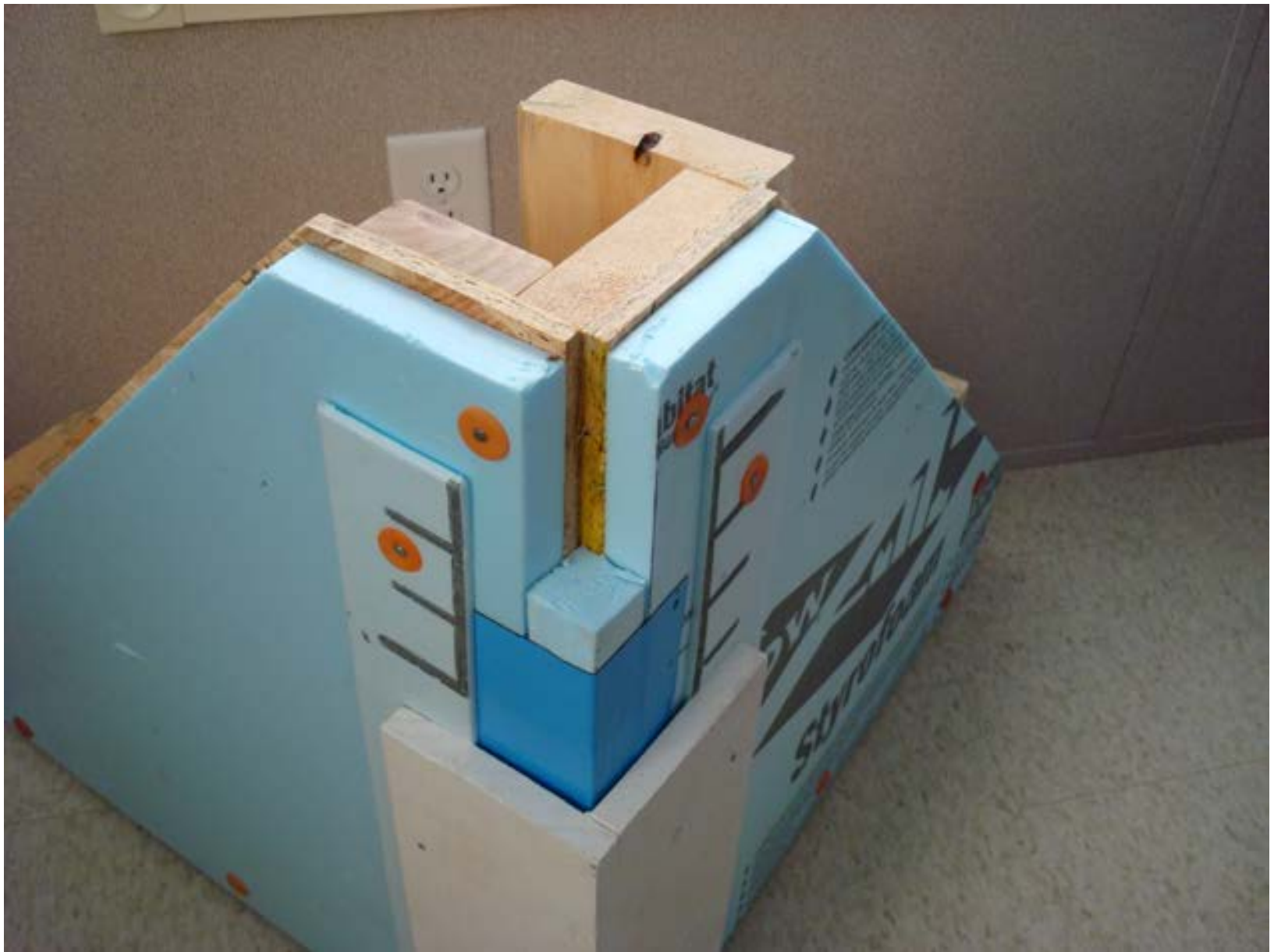








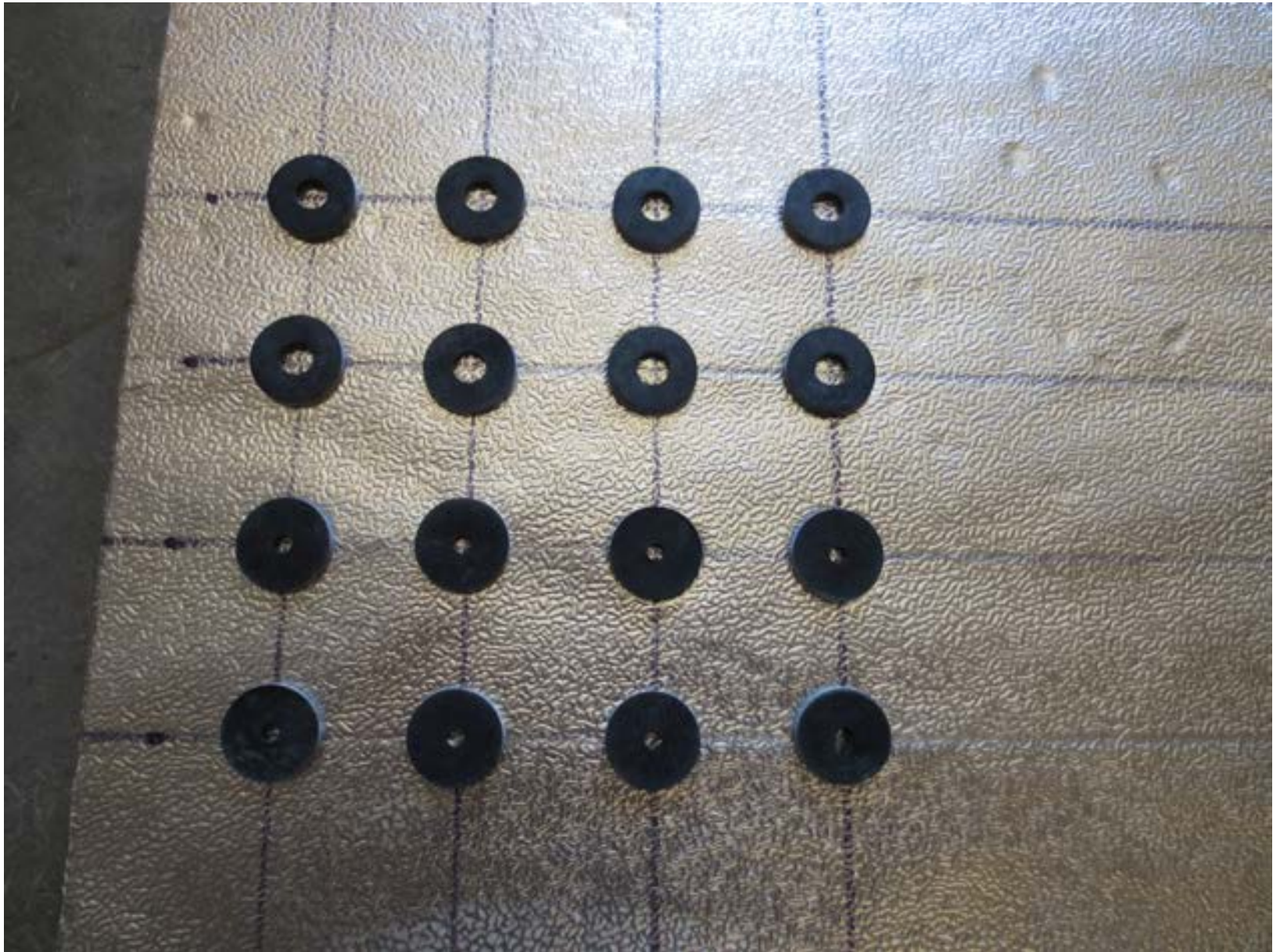




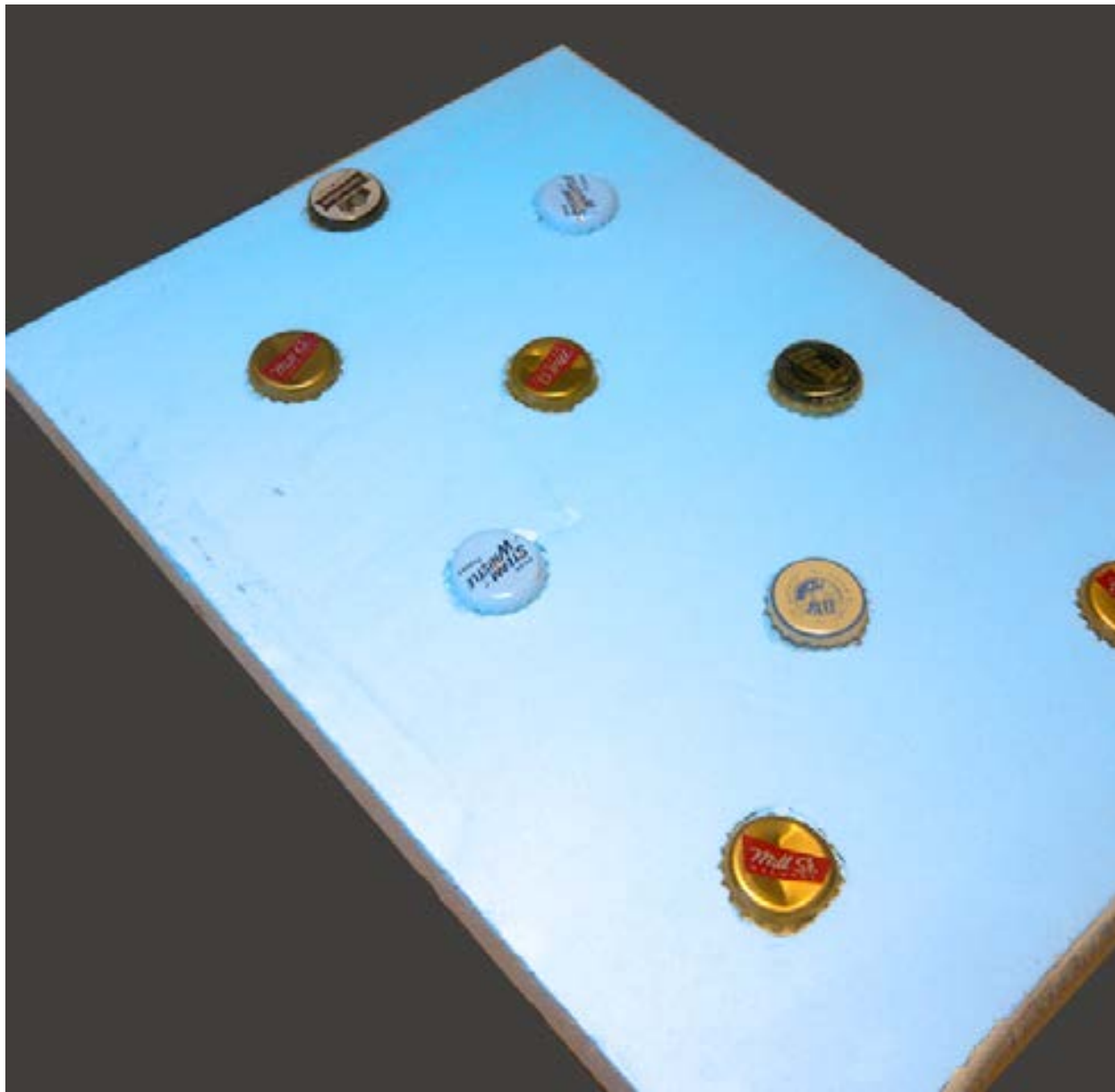




Rain Screen



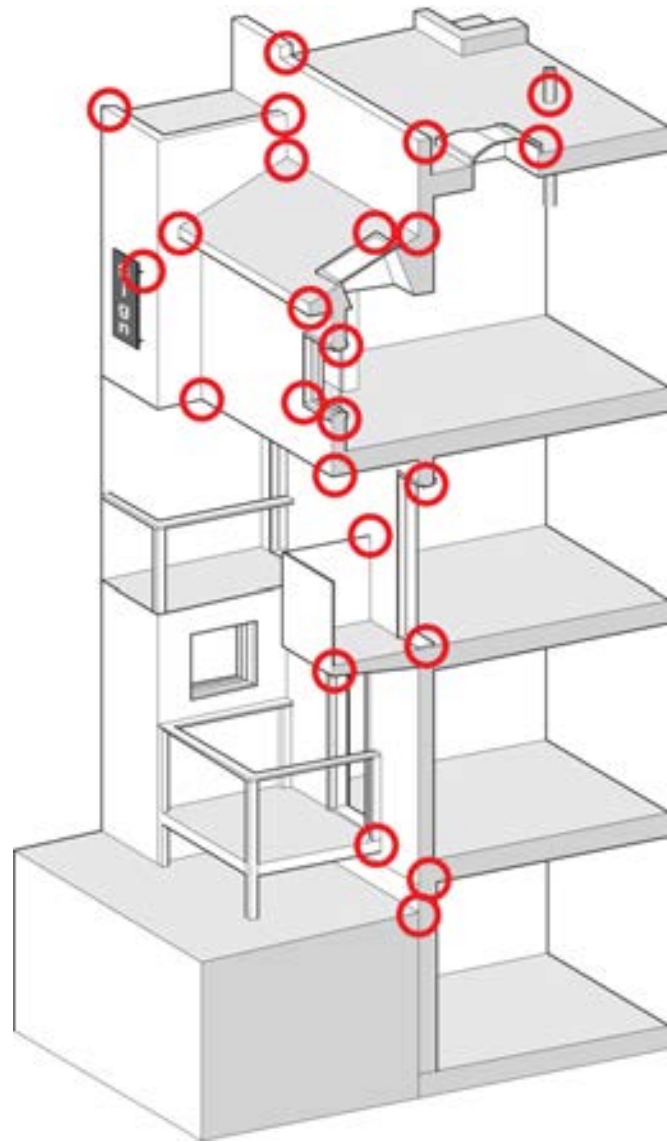
Beer Screen?



Commercial Enclosure: Simple Layers



- Structure
- Rain/Air/Vapor
- Insulation
- Finish



























































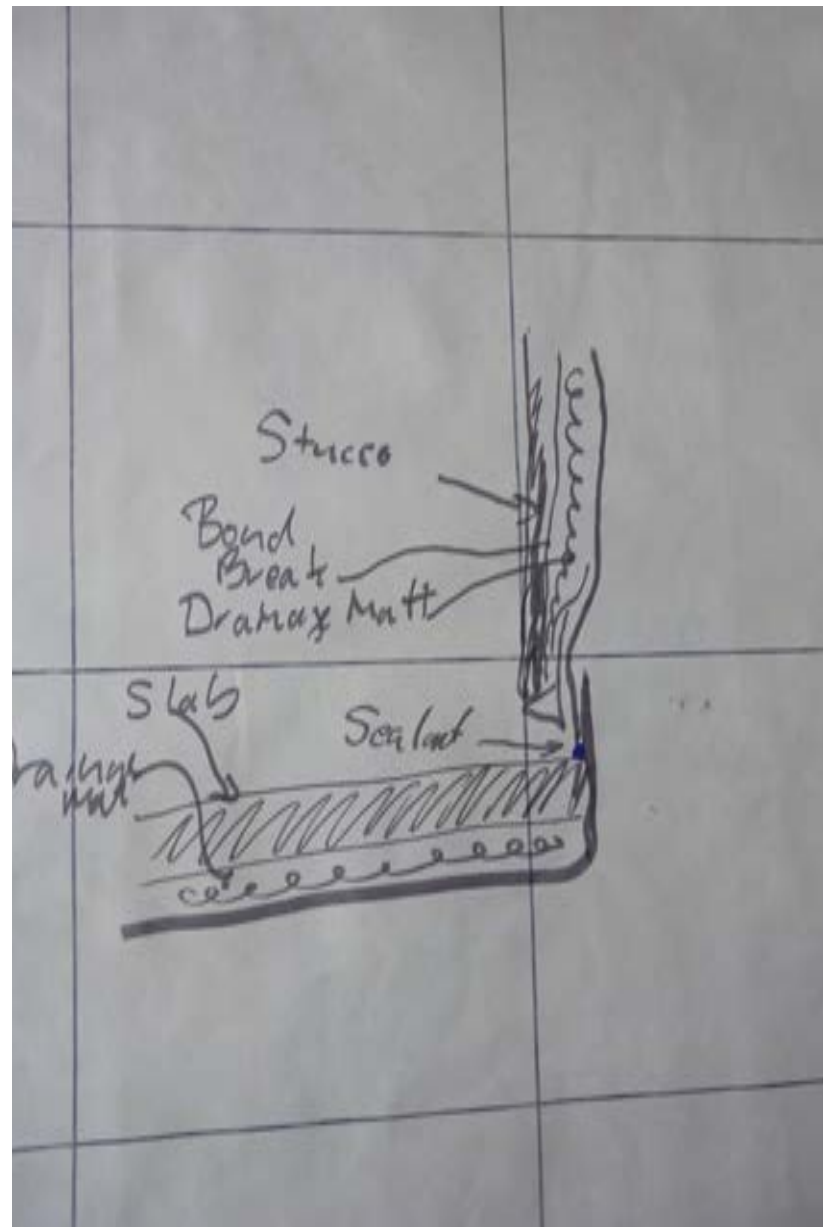
































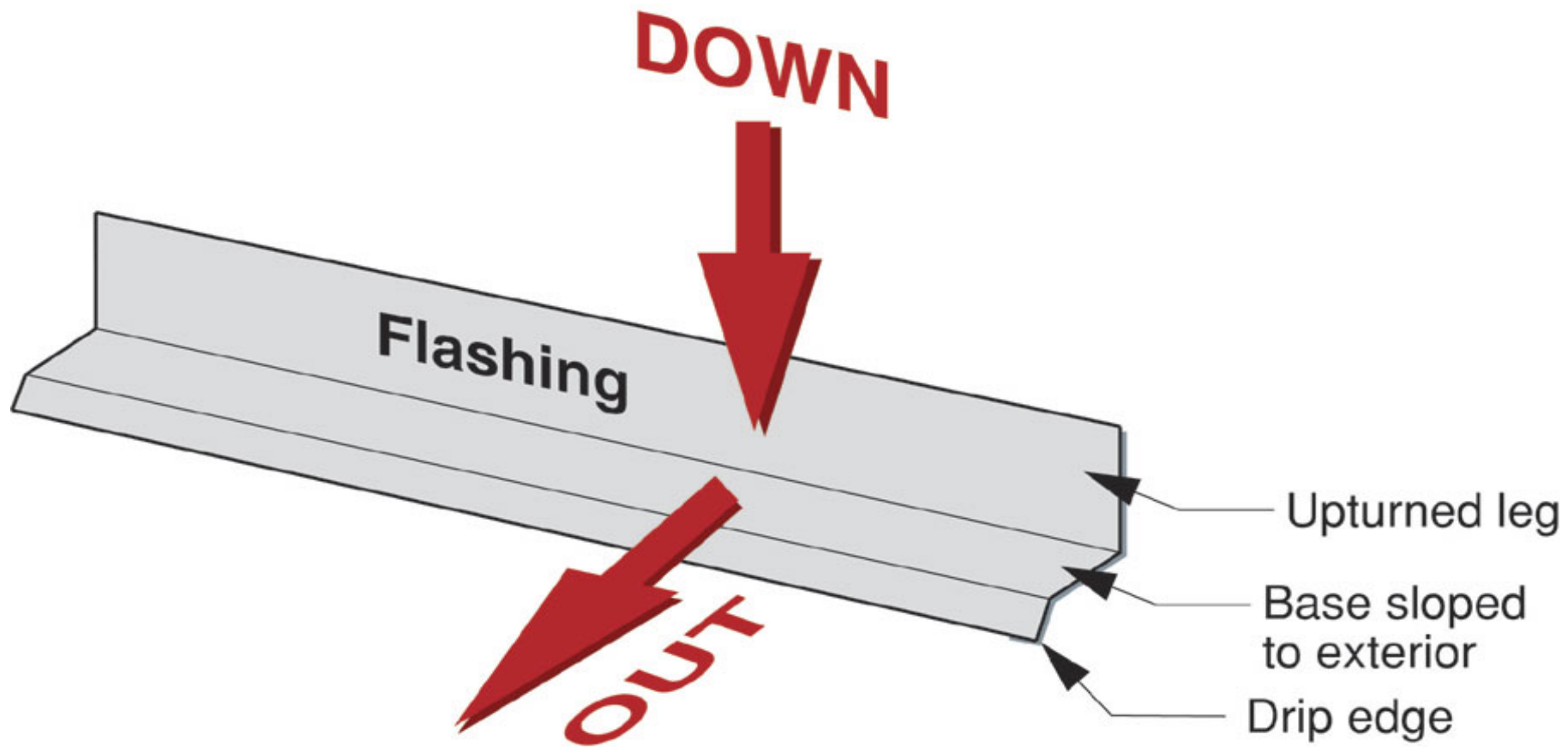


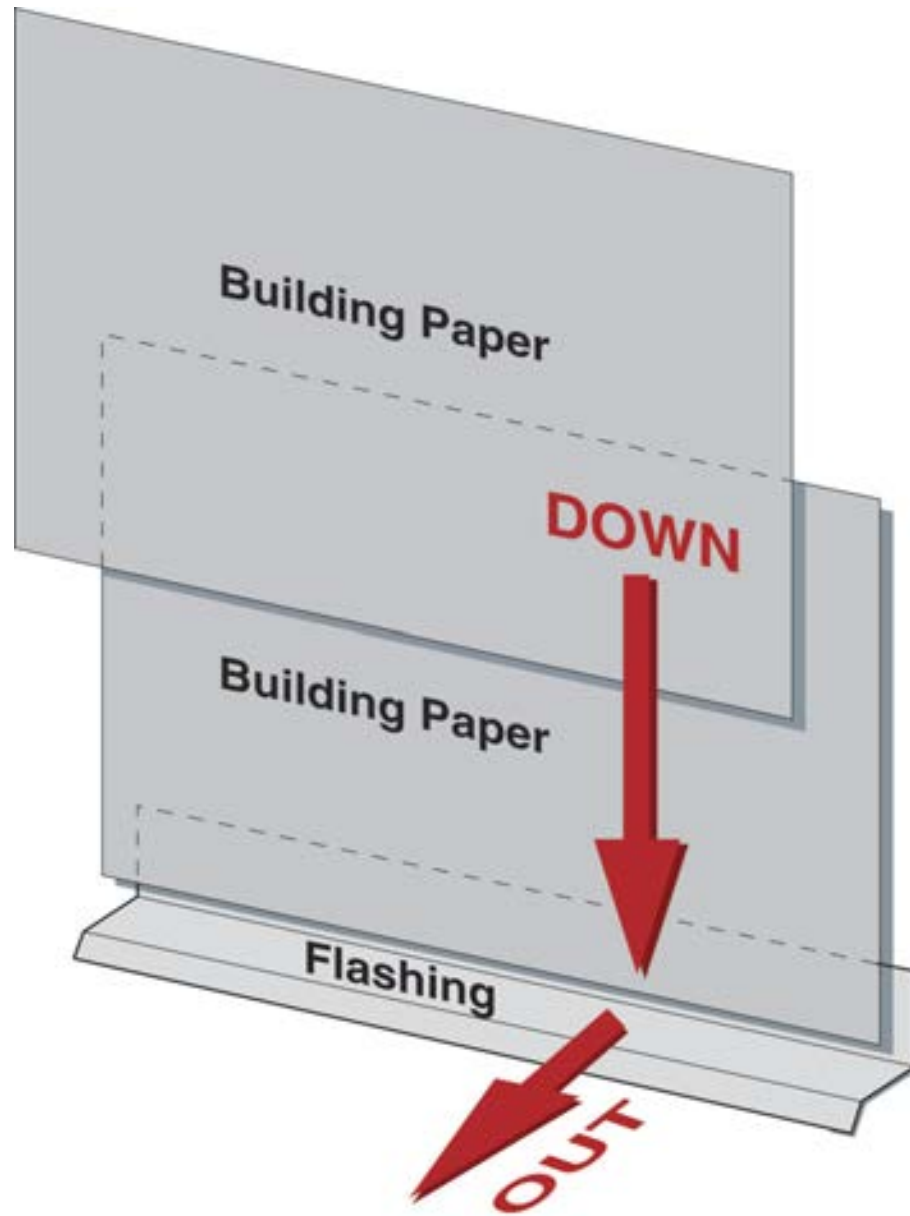


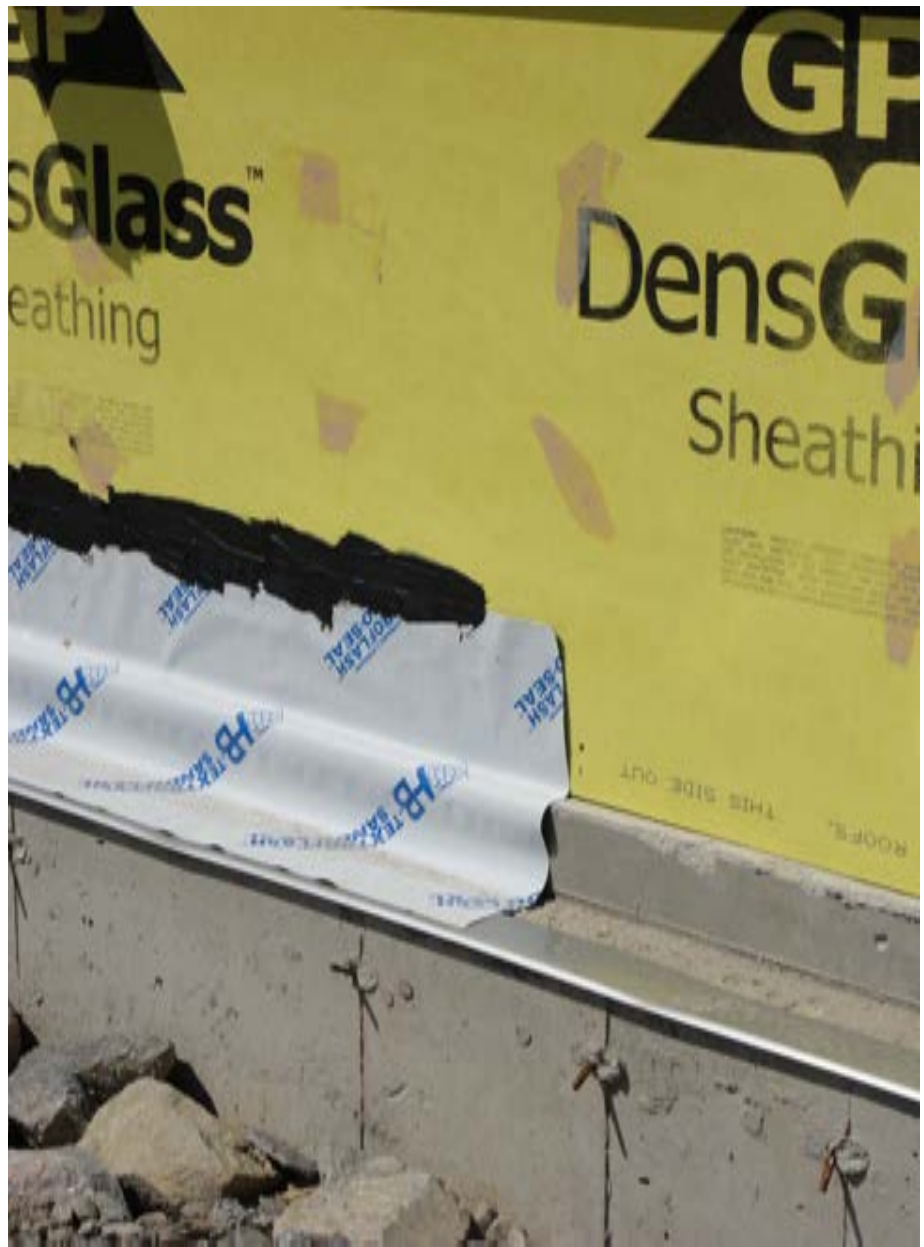






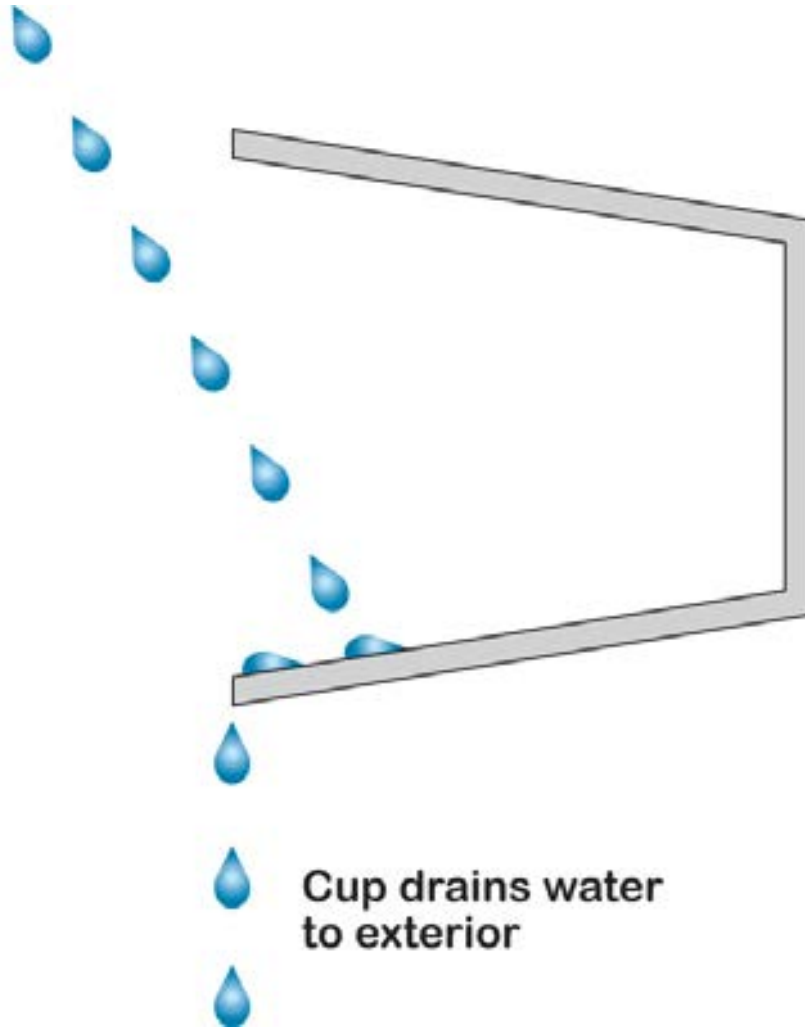








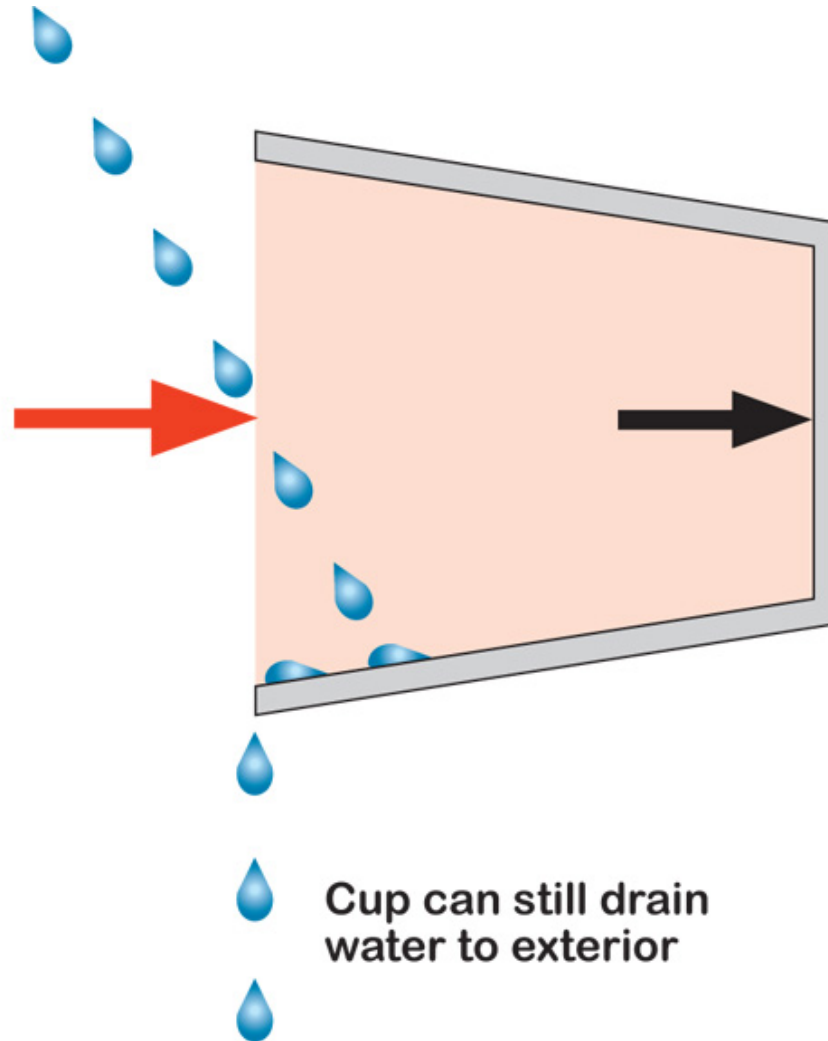
Rain enters cup
due to momentum
("kinetic energy")



Cup drains water
to exterior

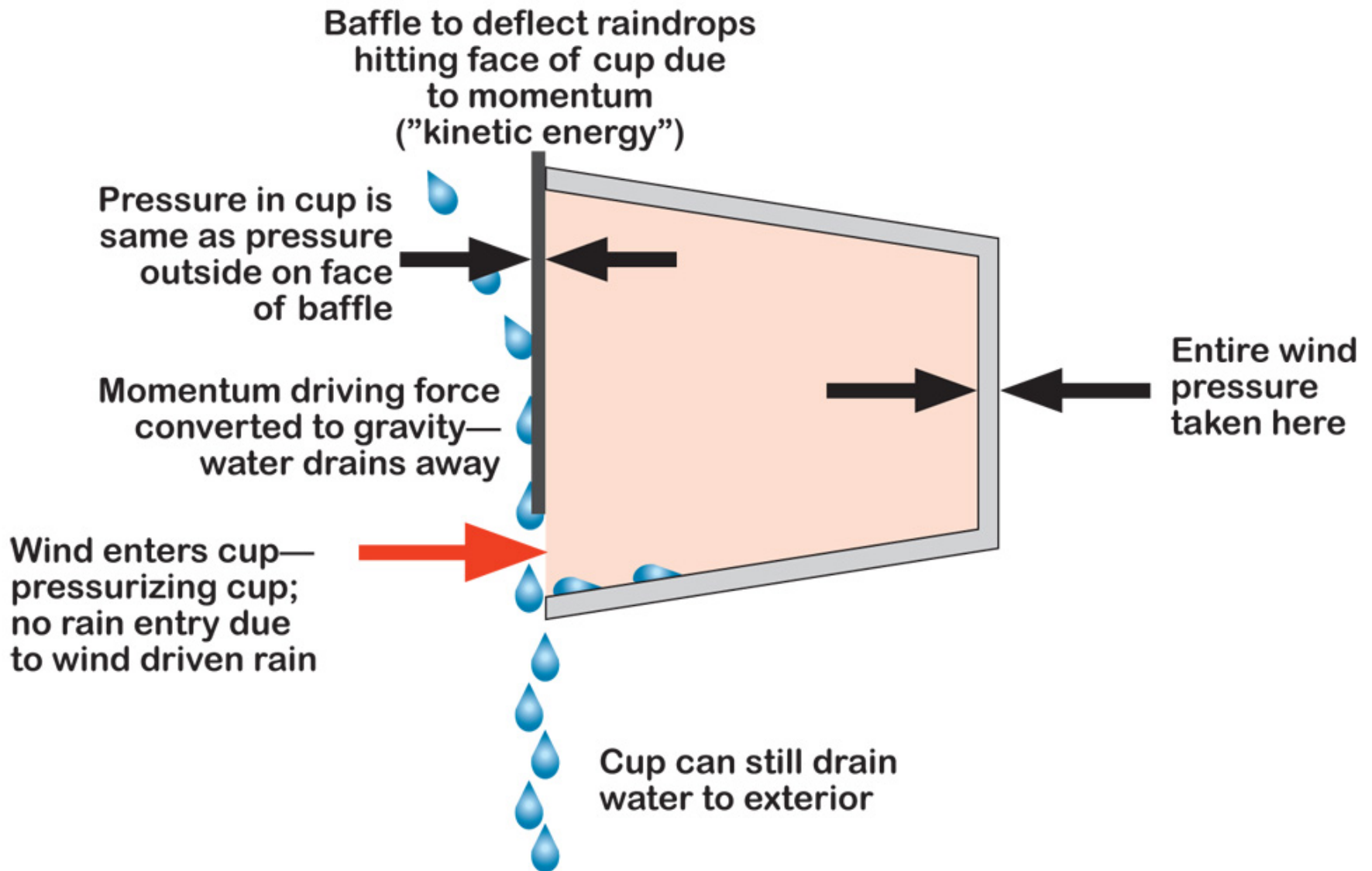
Rain enters cup due to momentum ("kinetic energy")

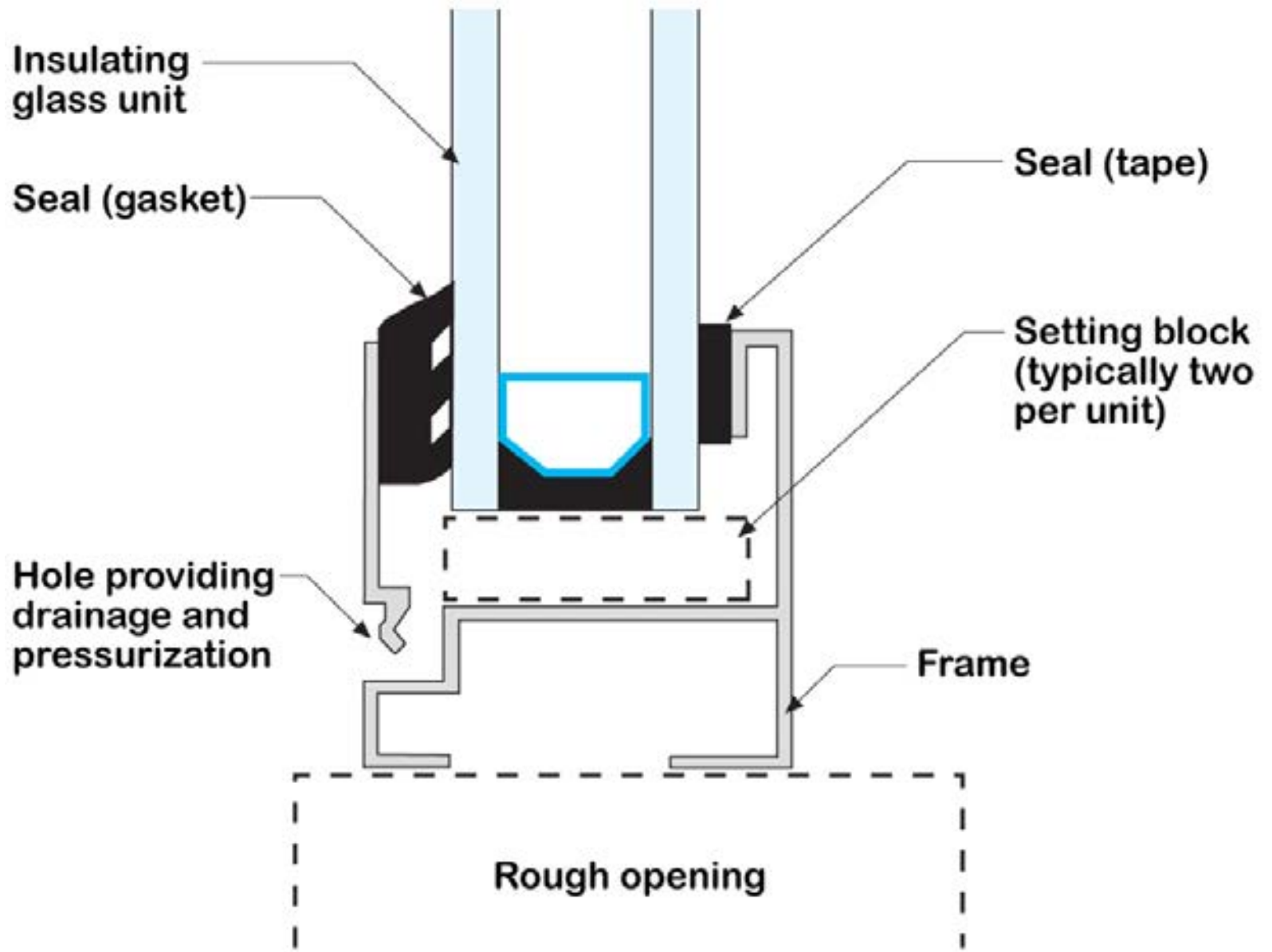
Wind enters cup—pressurizing cup; no rain entry due to wind driven rain

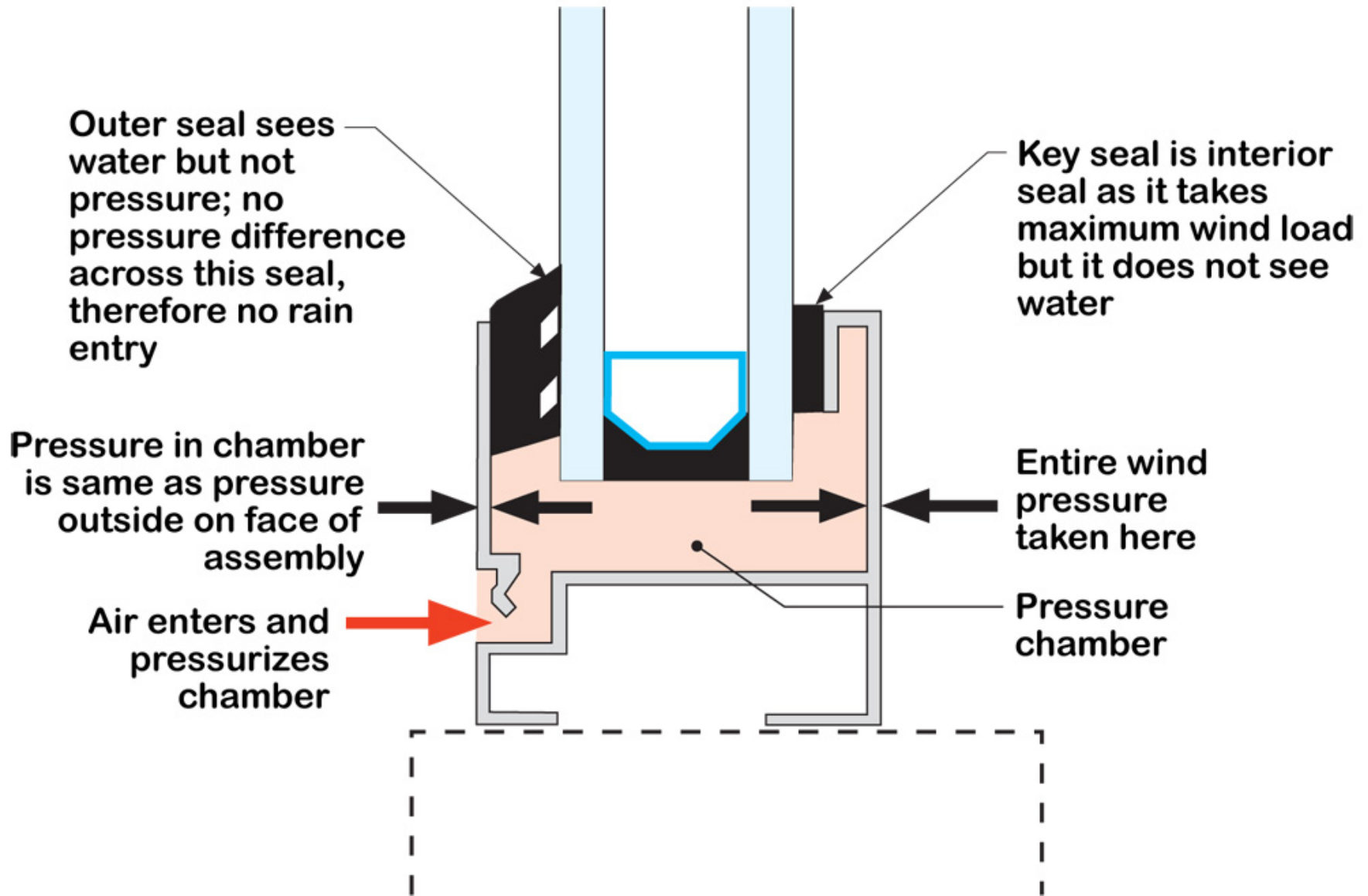


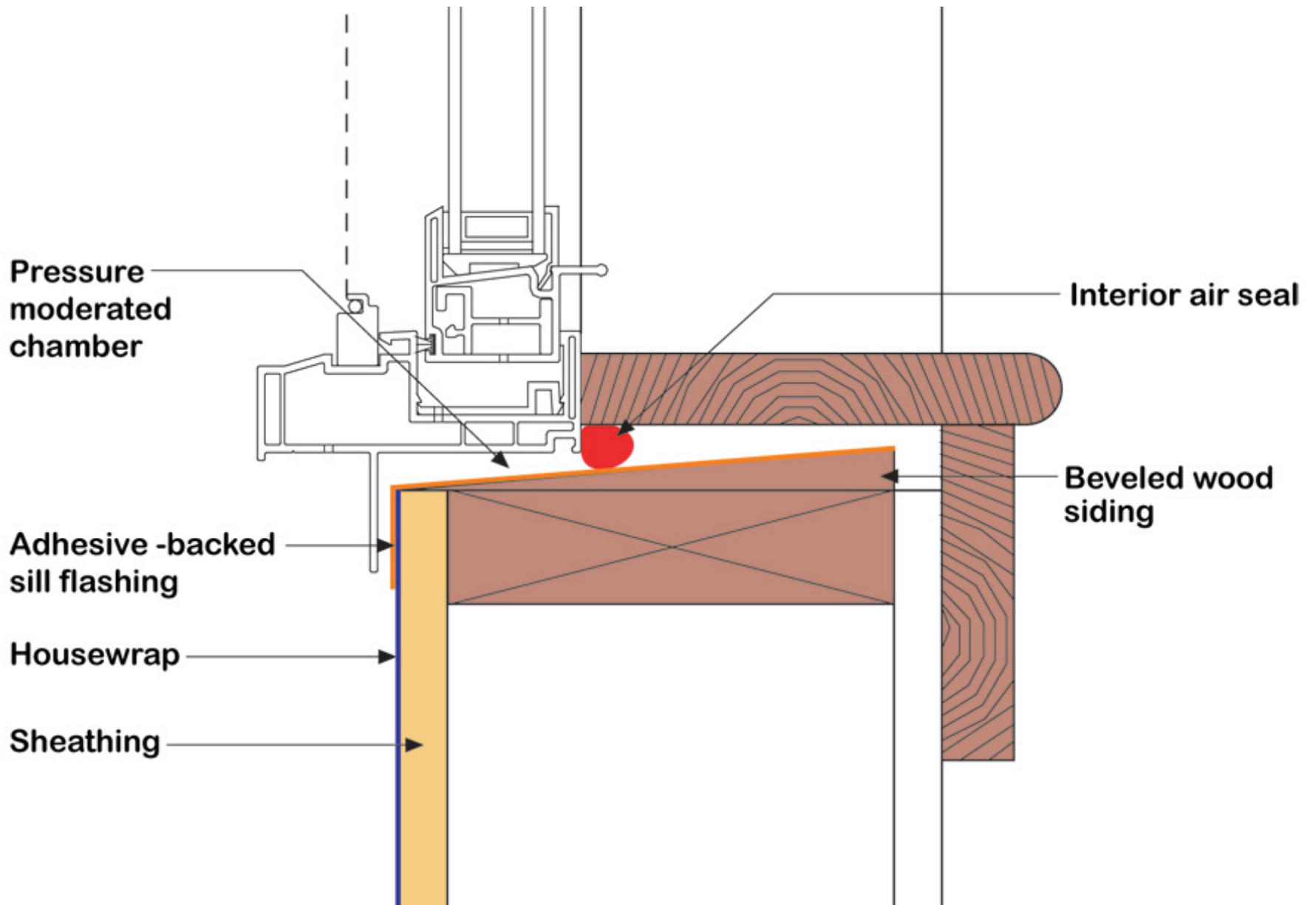
Entire wind pressure taken here

Cup can still drain water to exterior









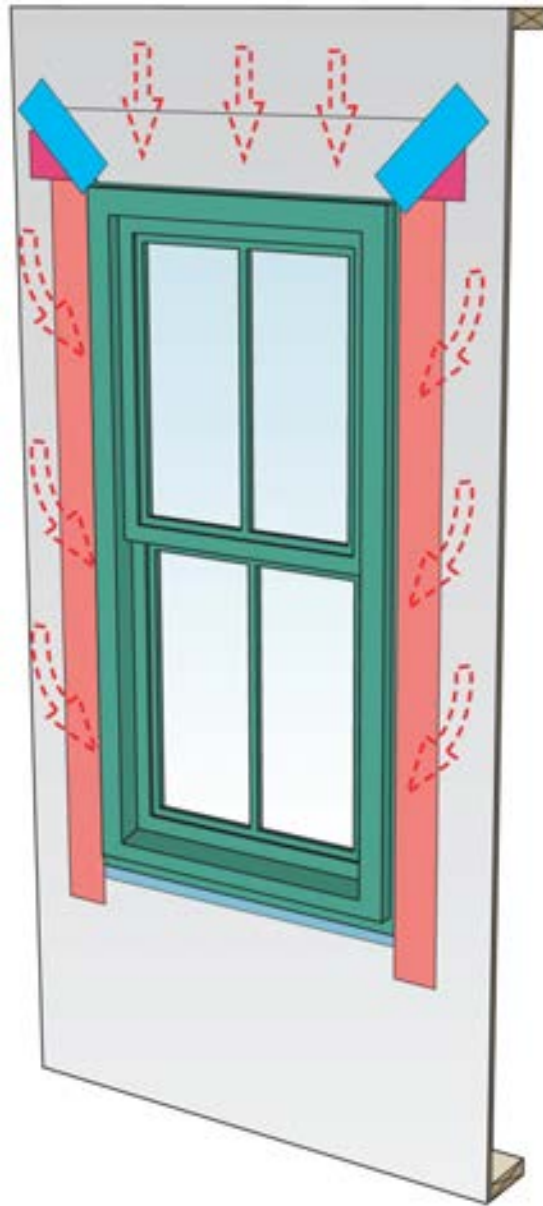


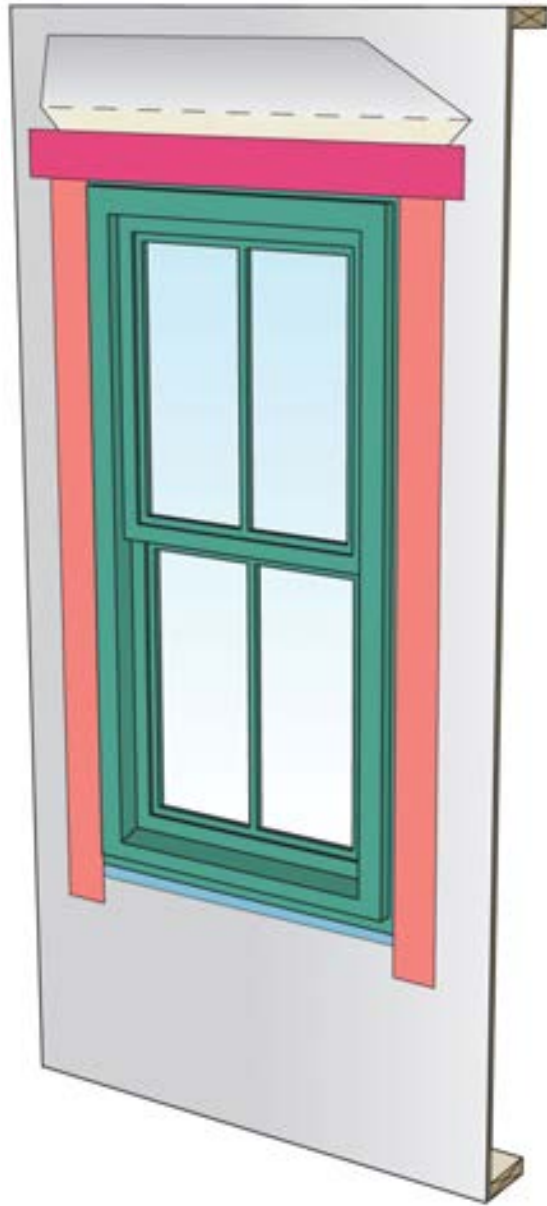




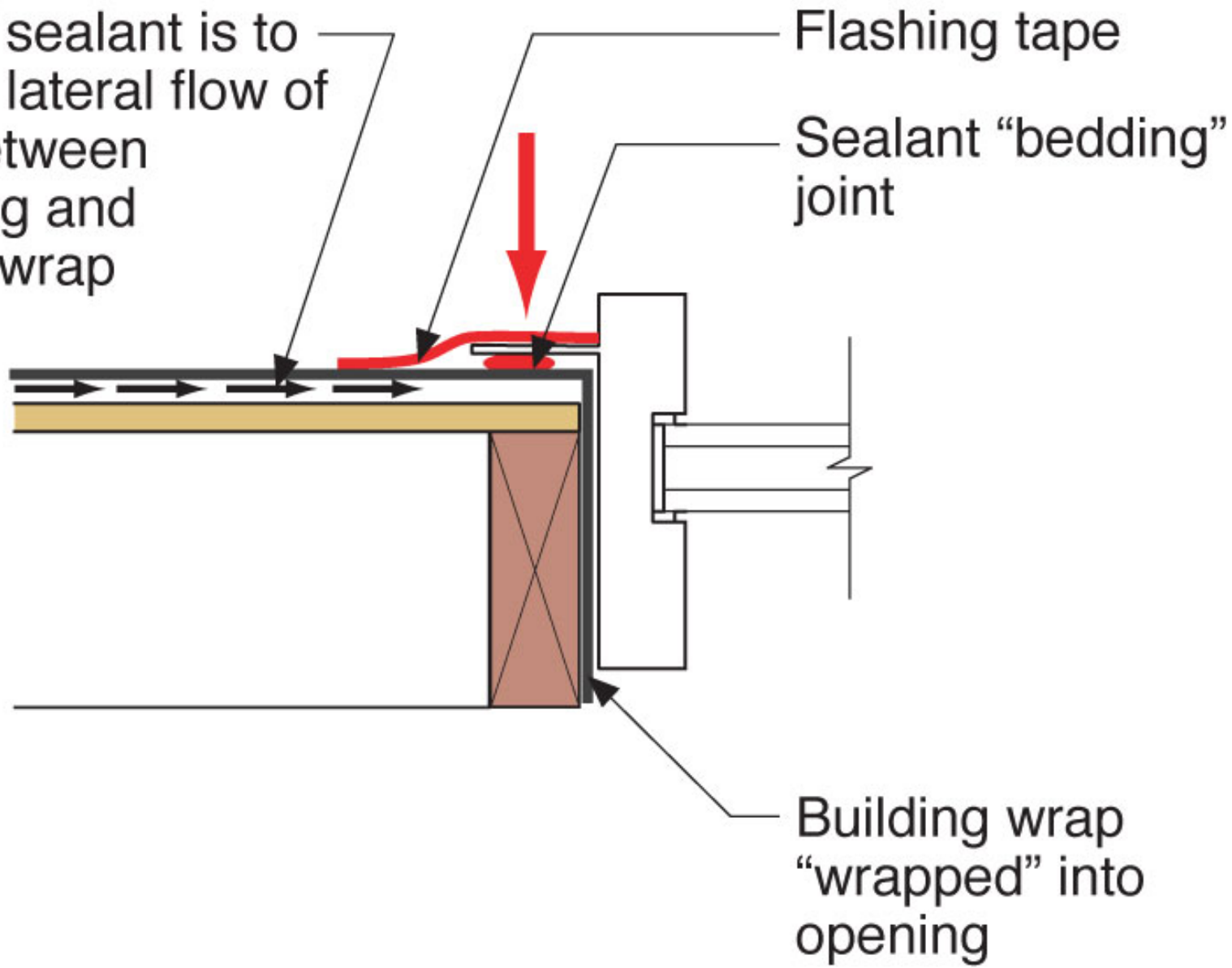


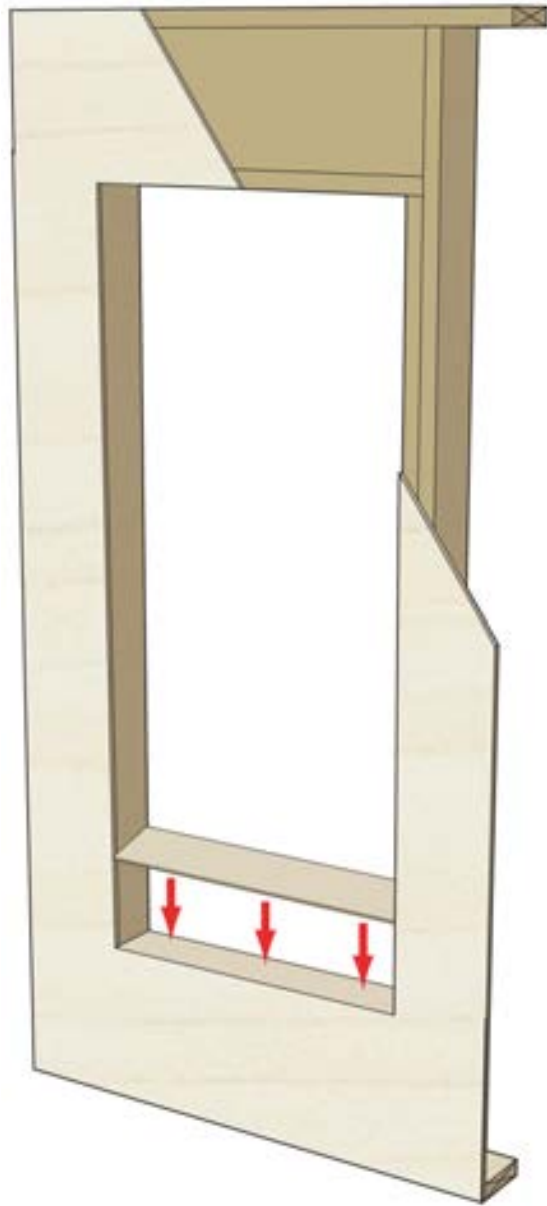


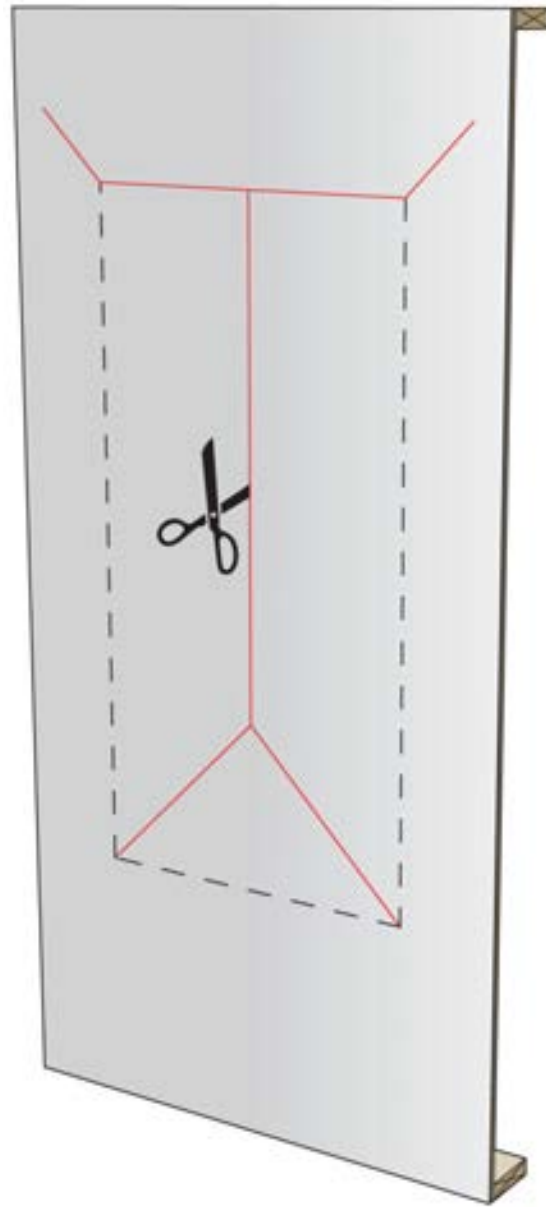


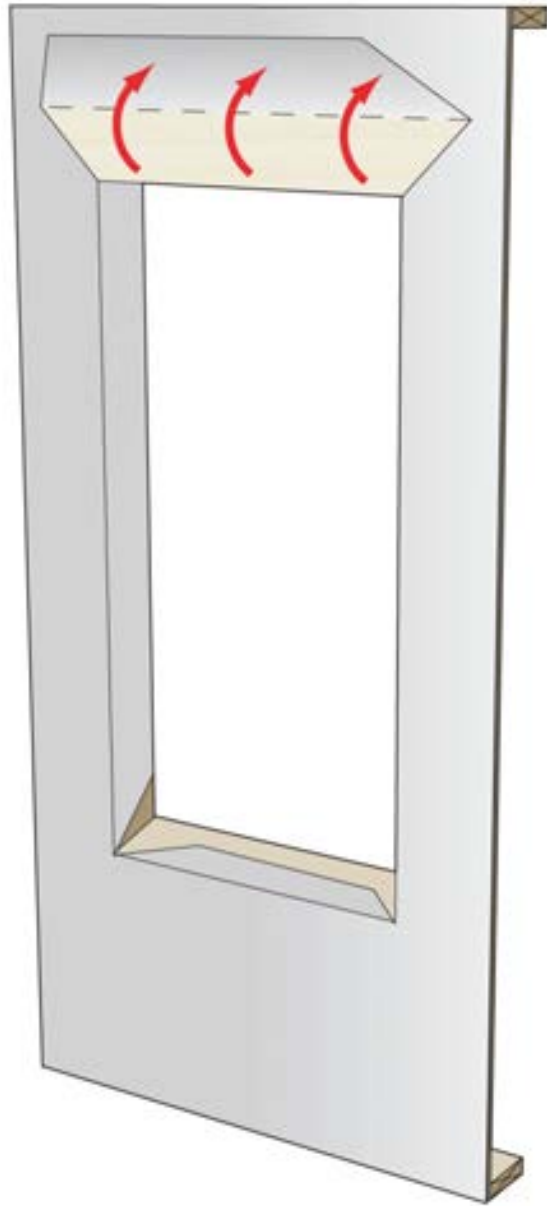


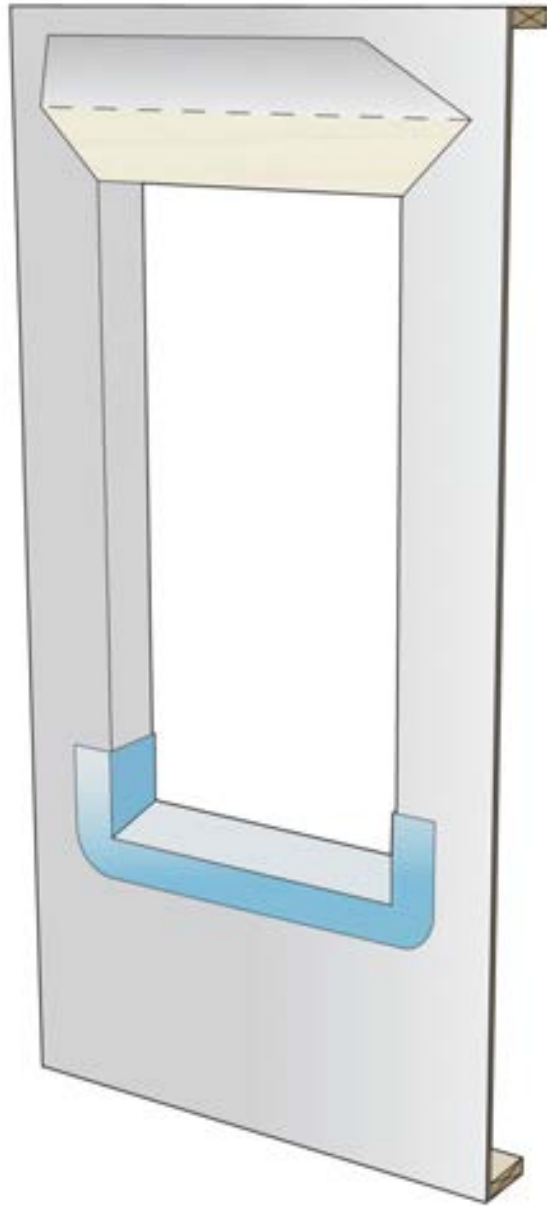
Intent of sealant is to limit this lateral flow of water between sheathing and building wrap

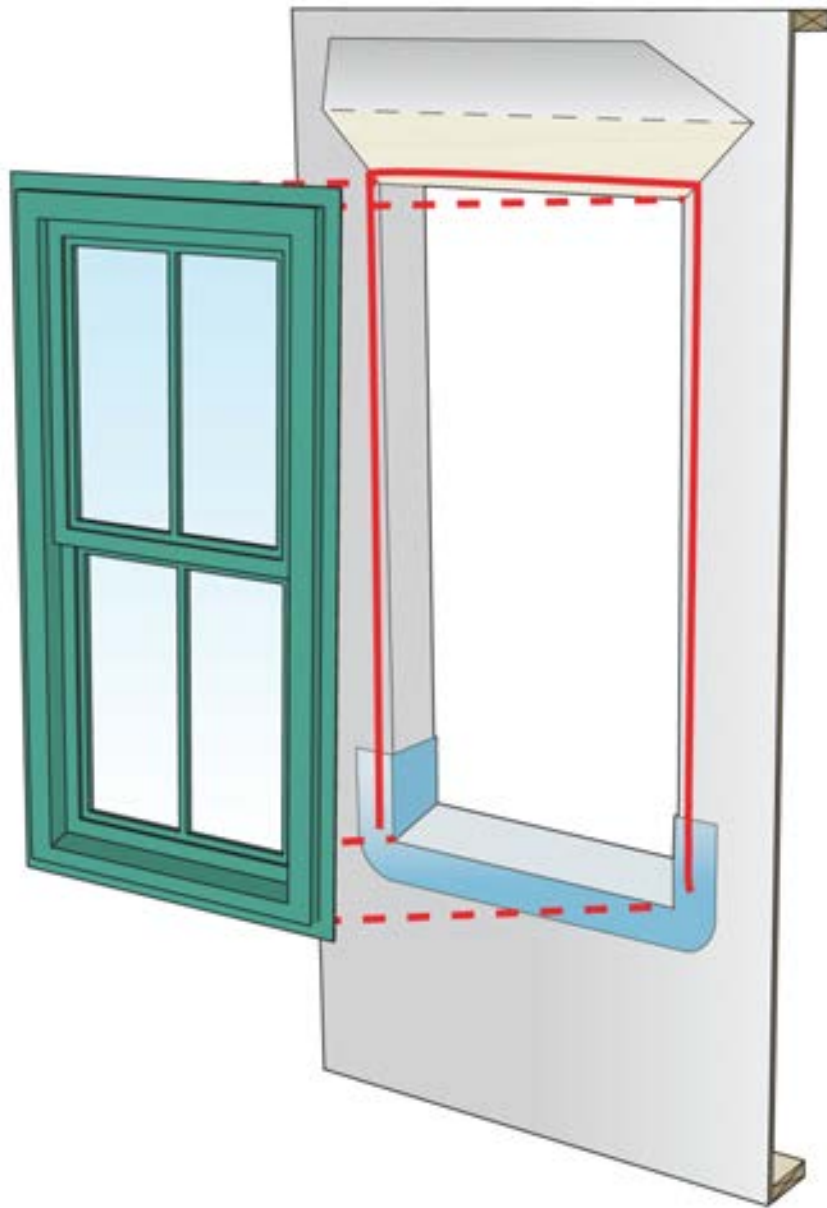


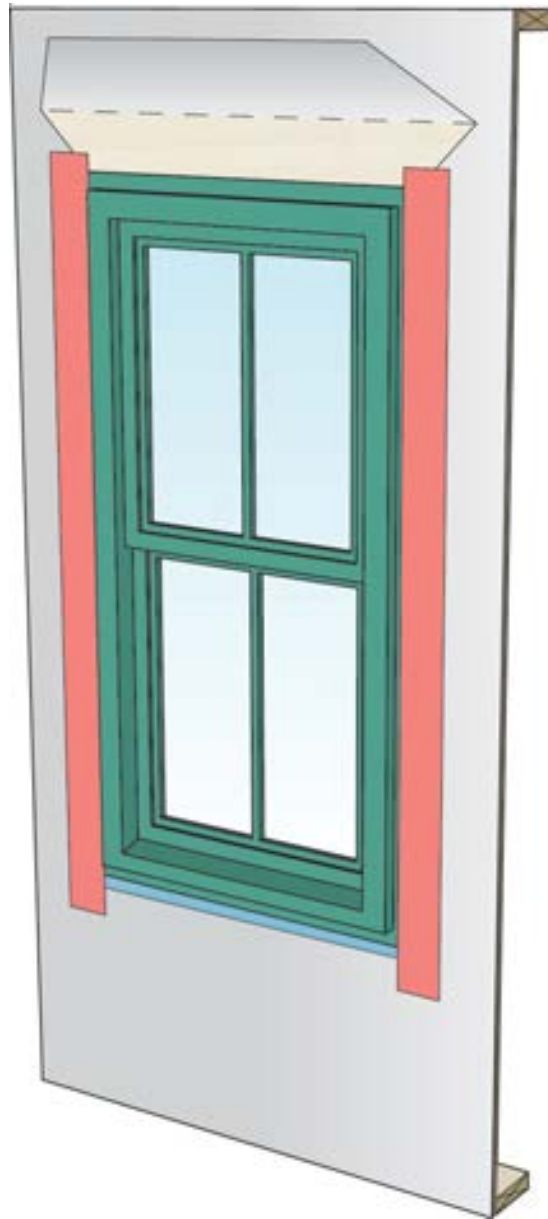


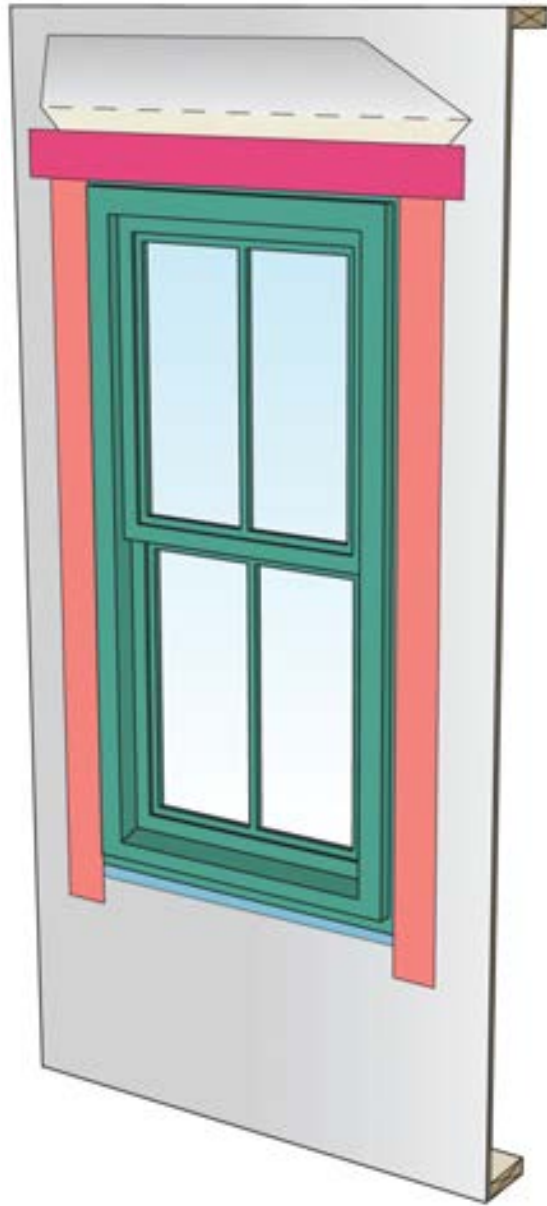


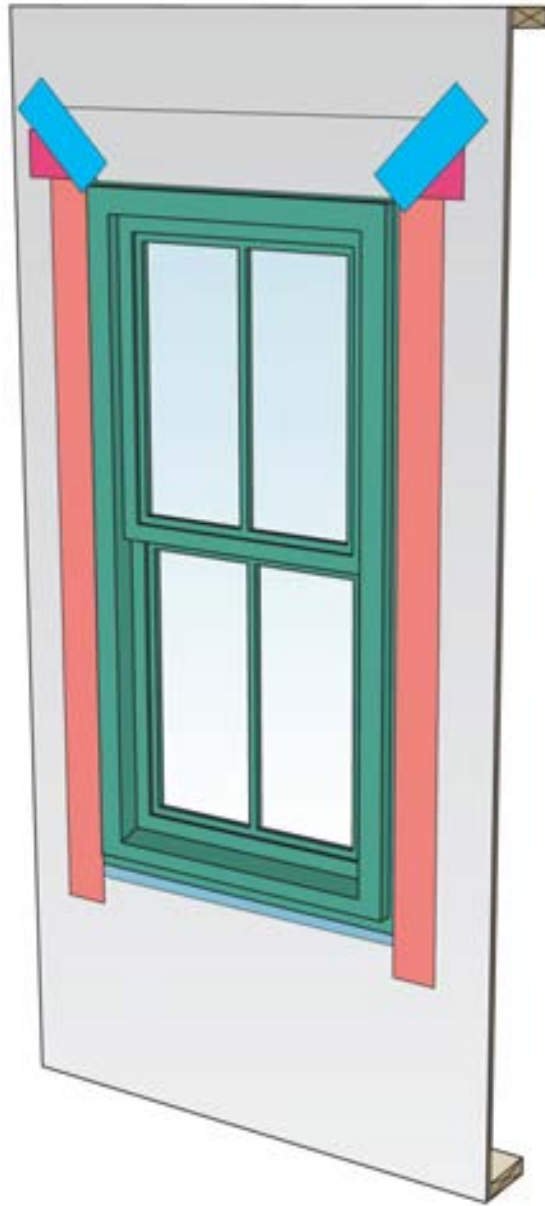


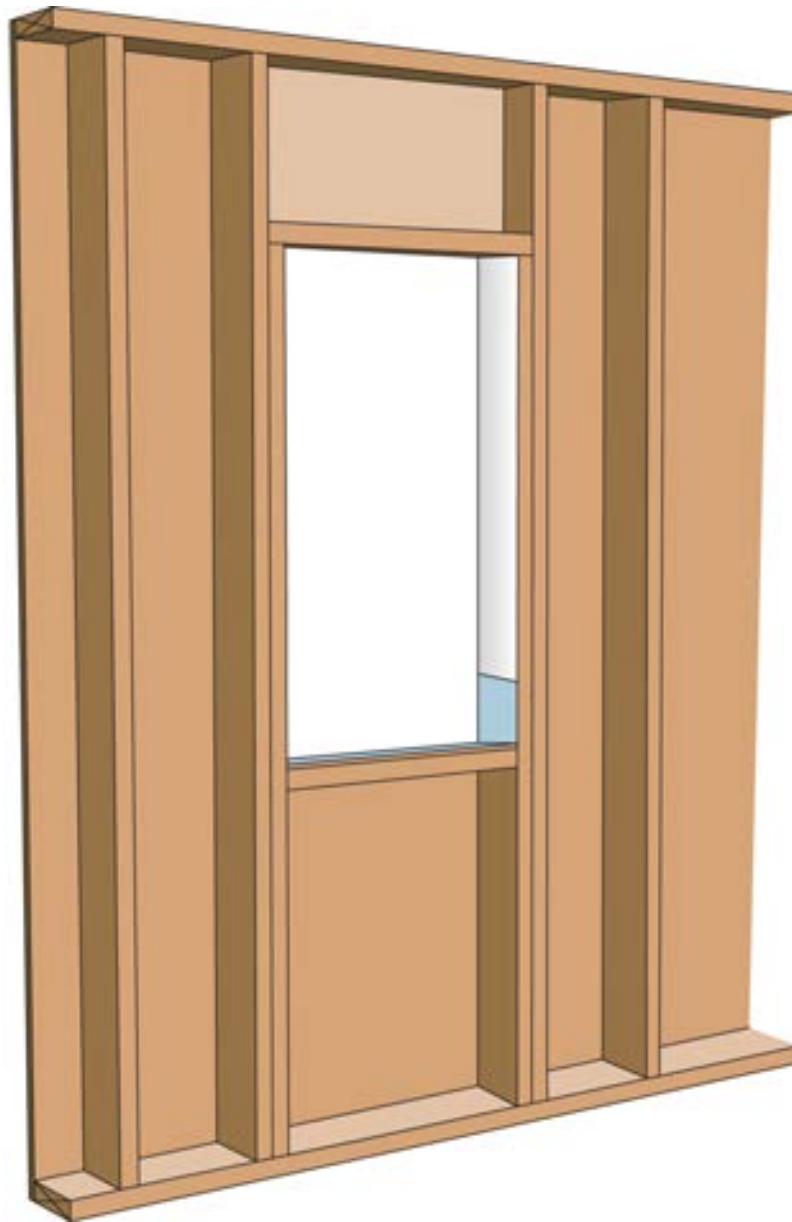








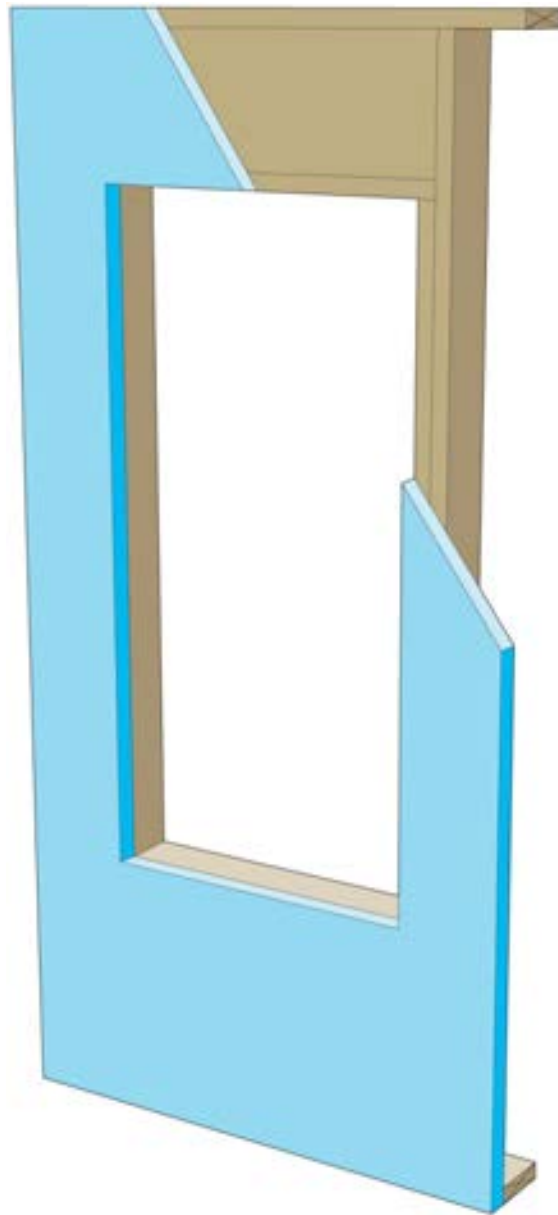


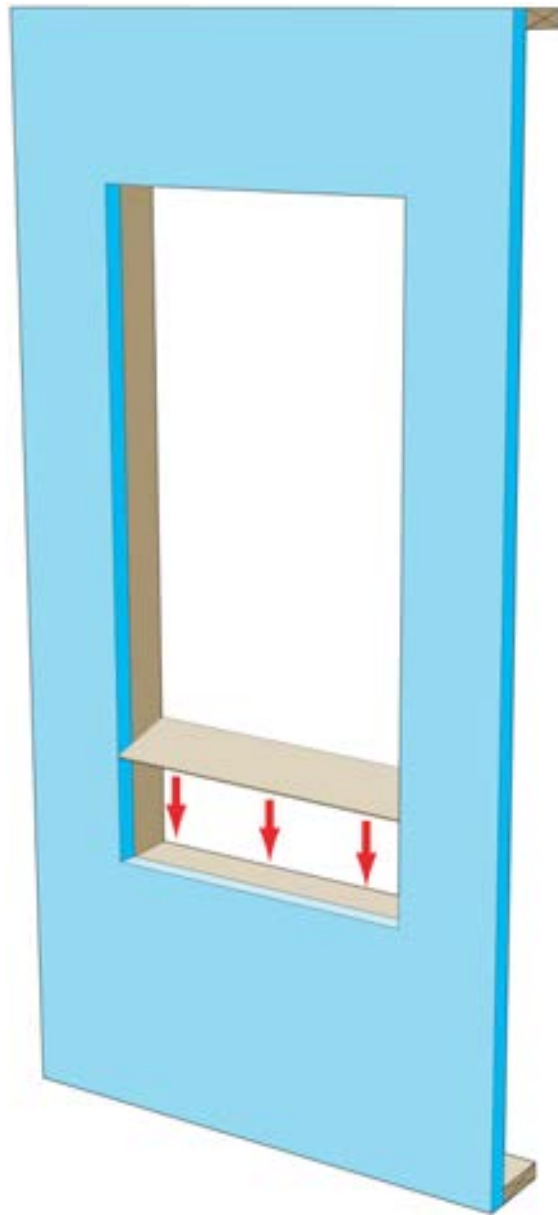


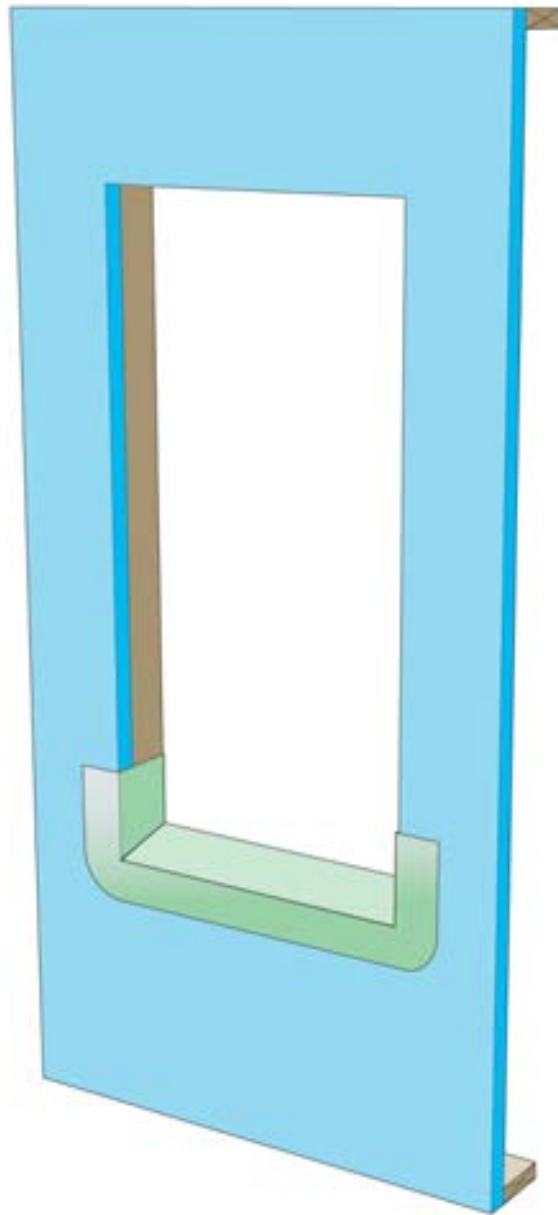


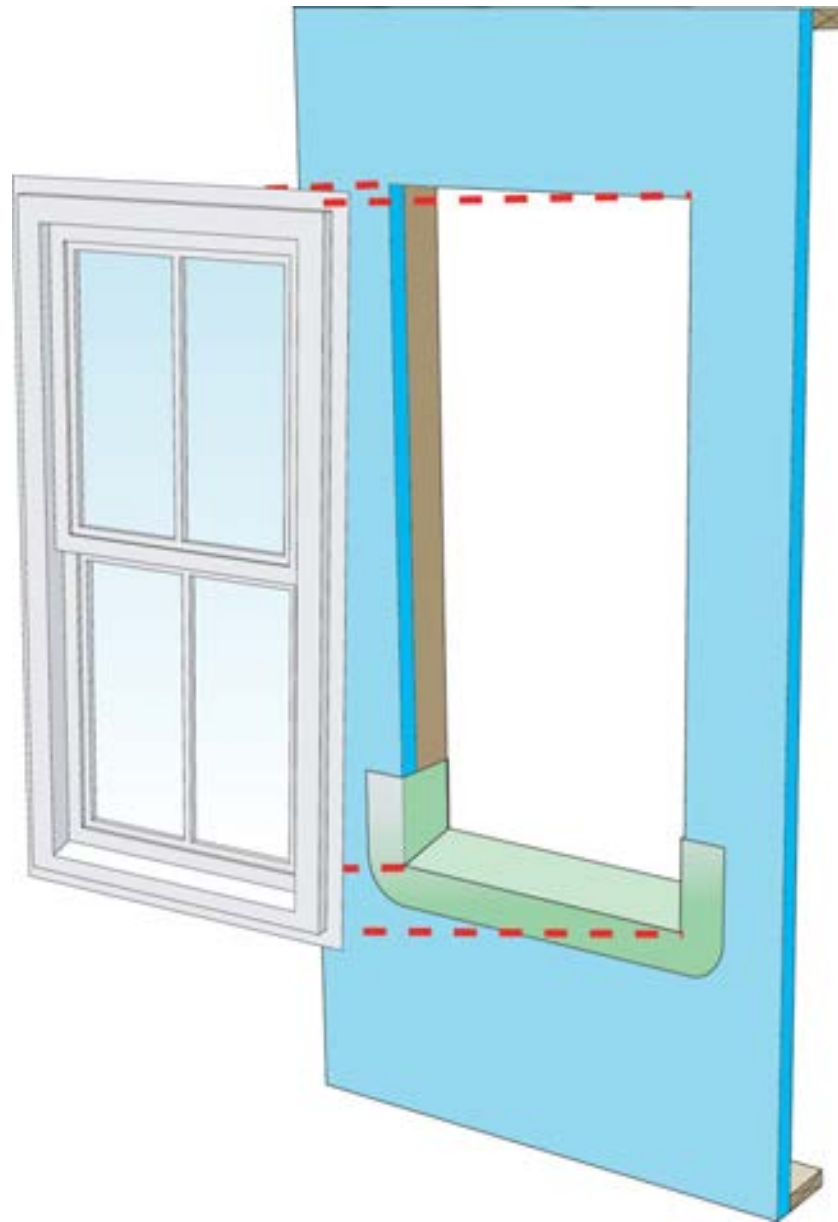








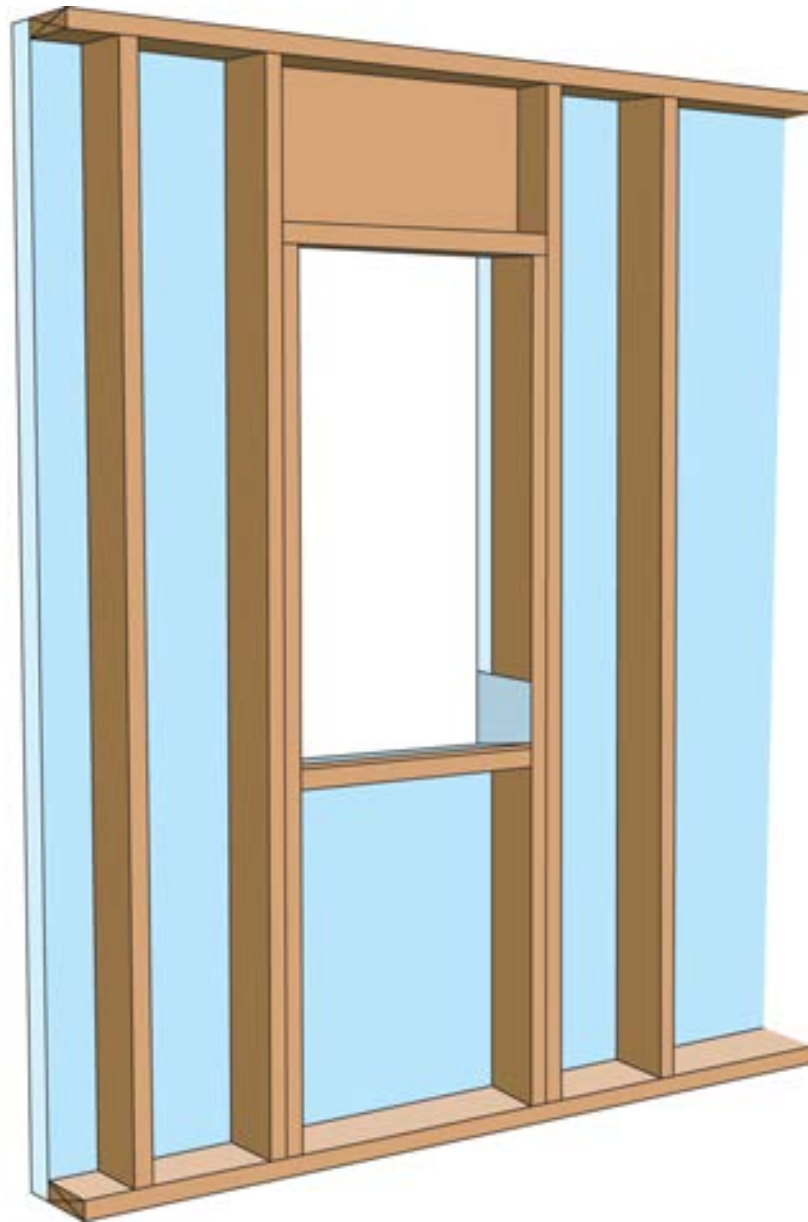


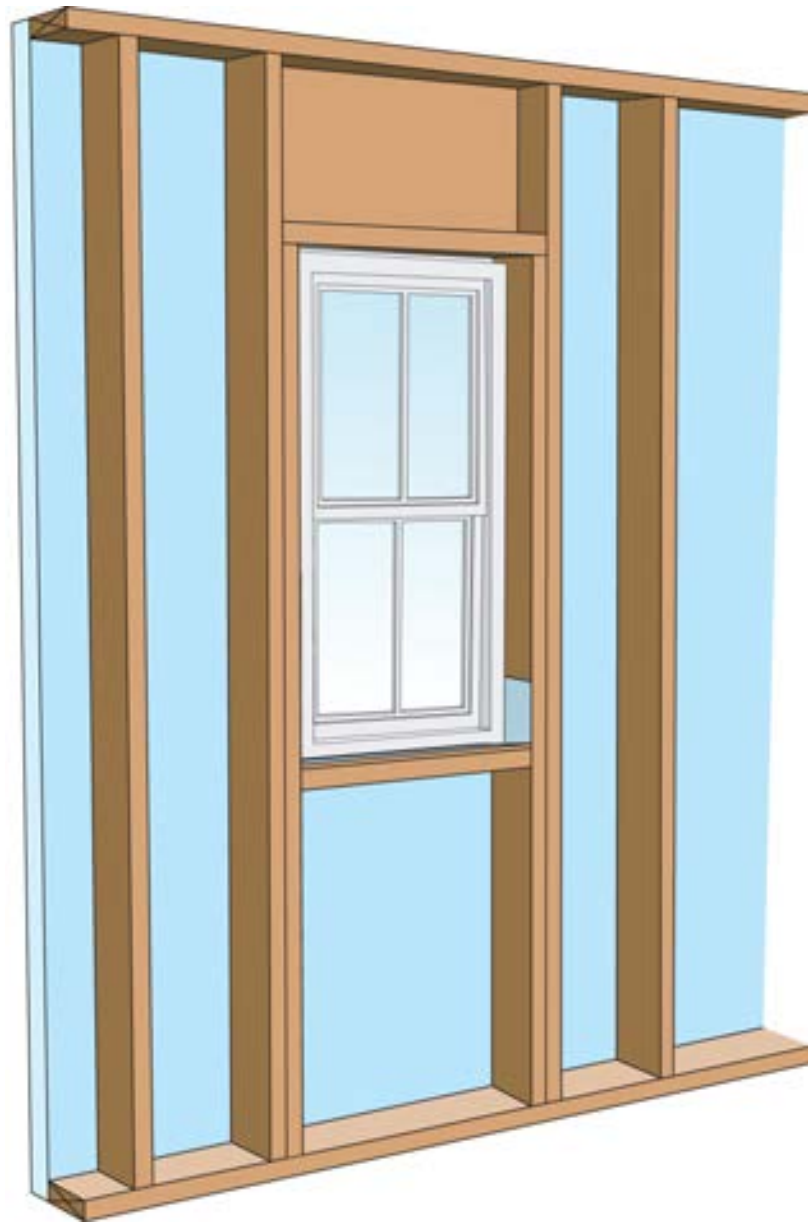


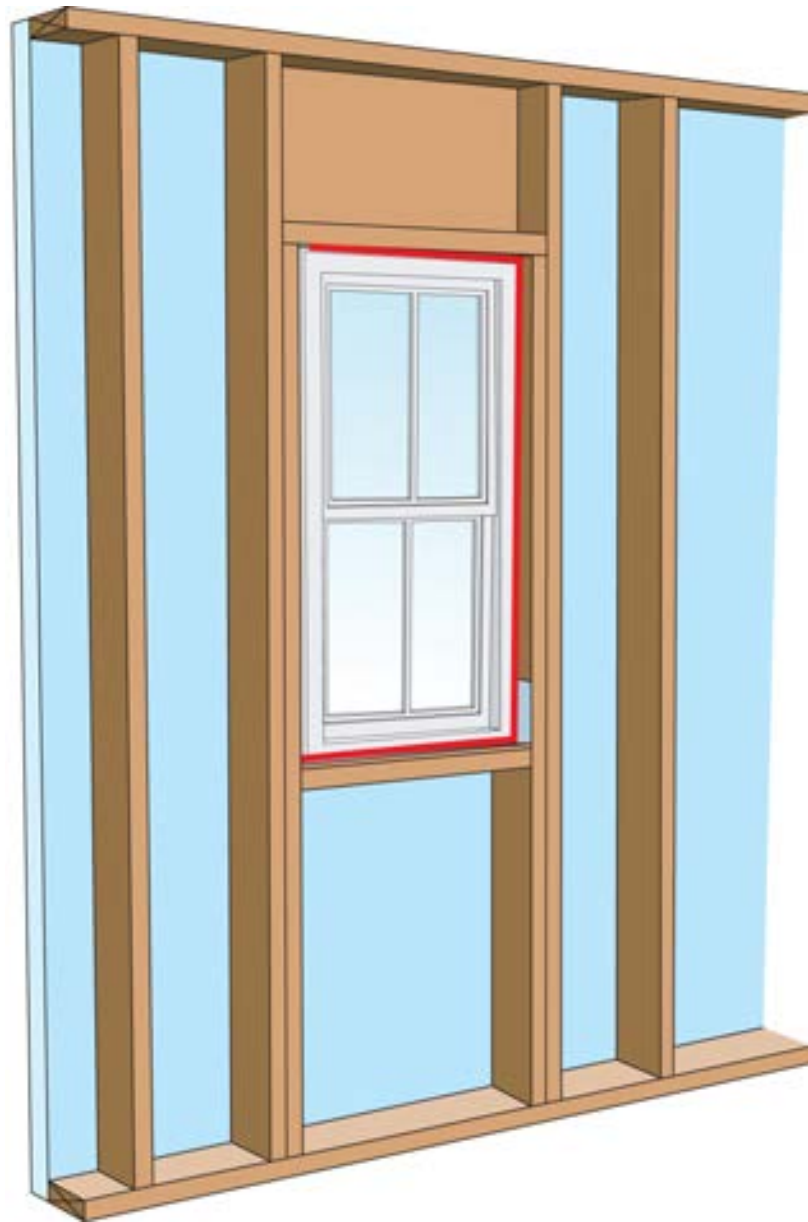




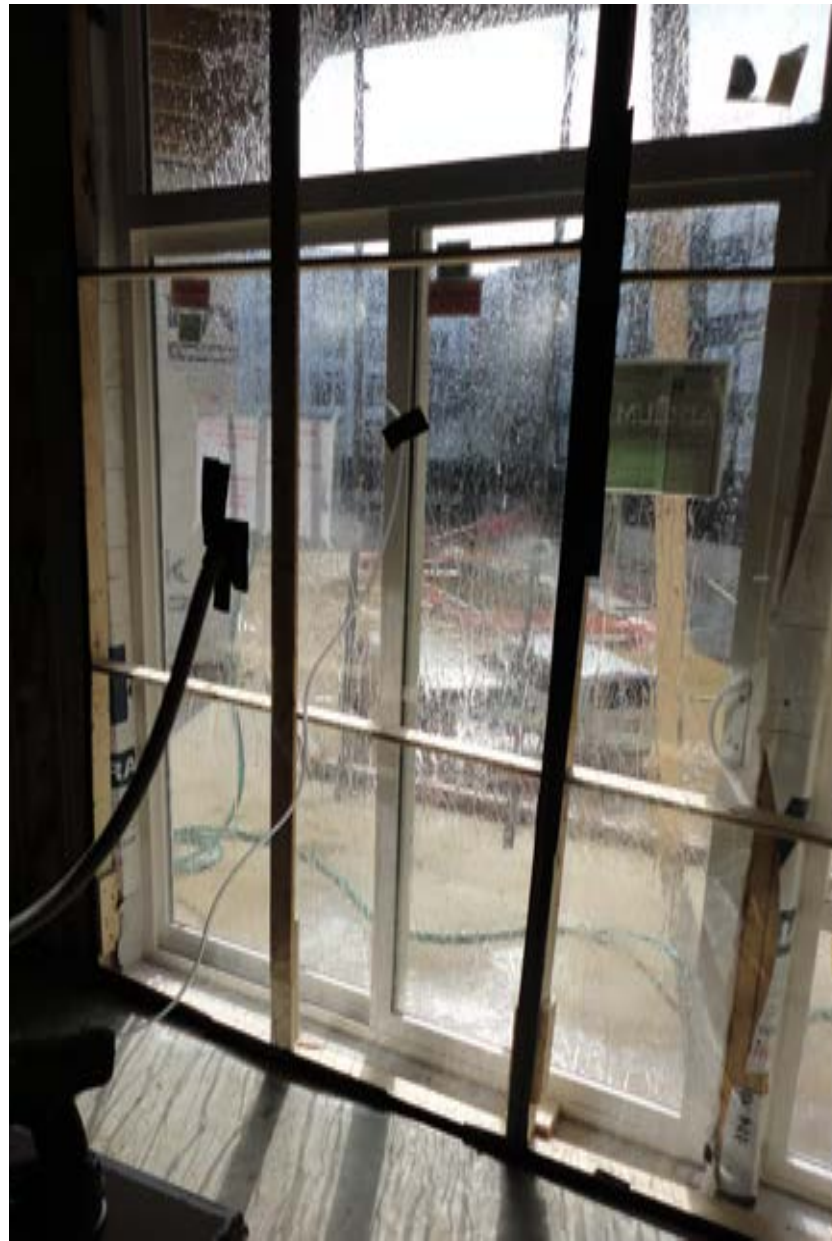


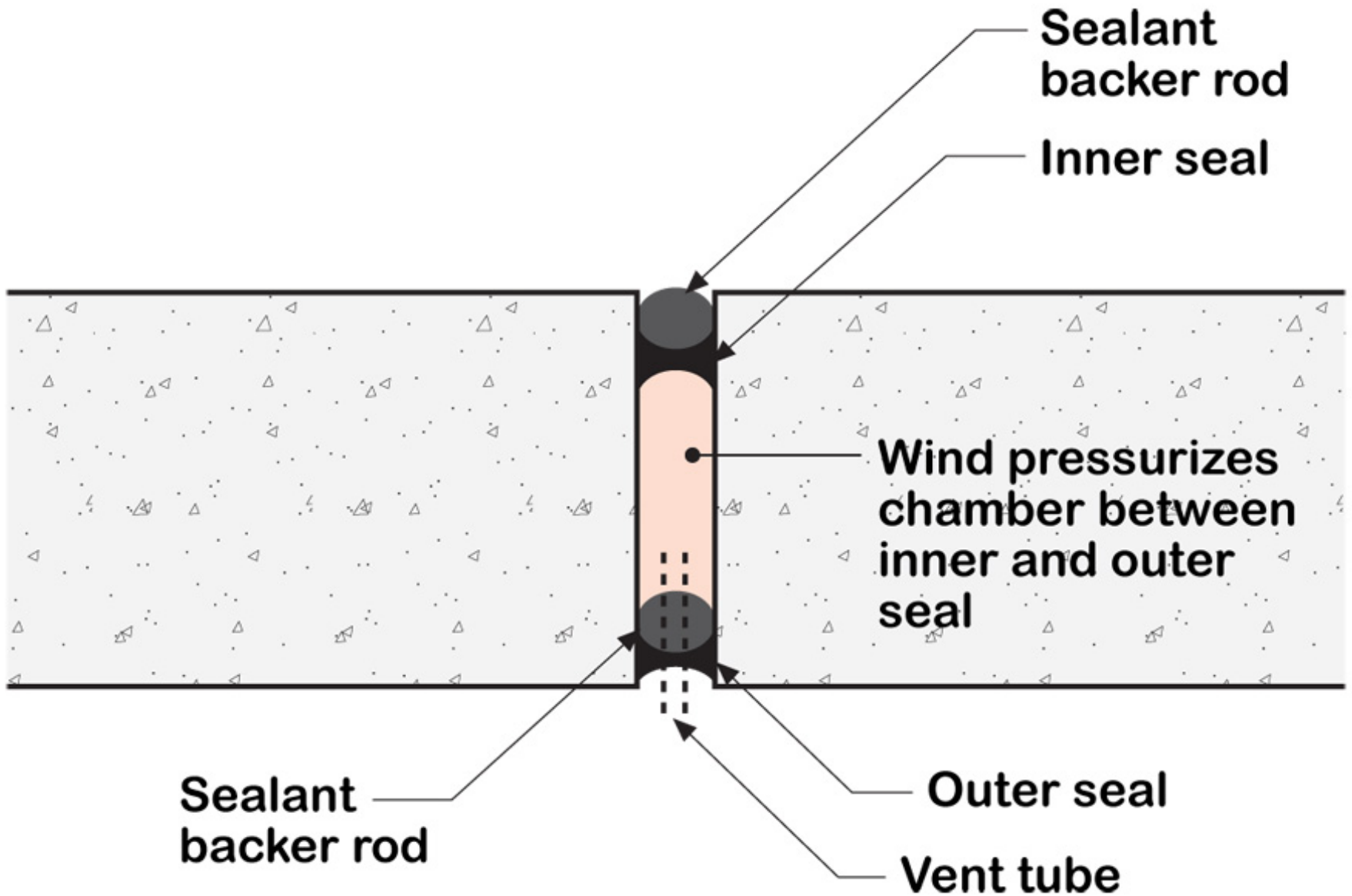


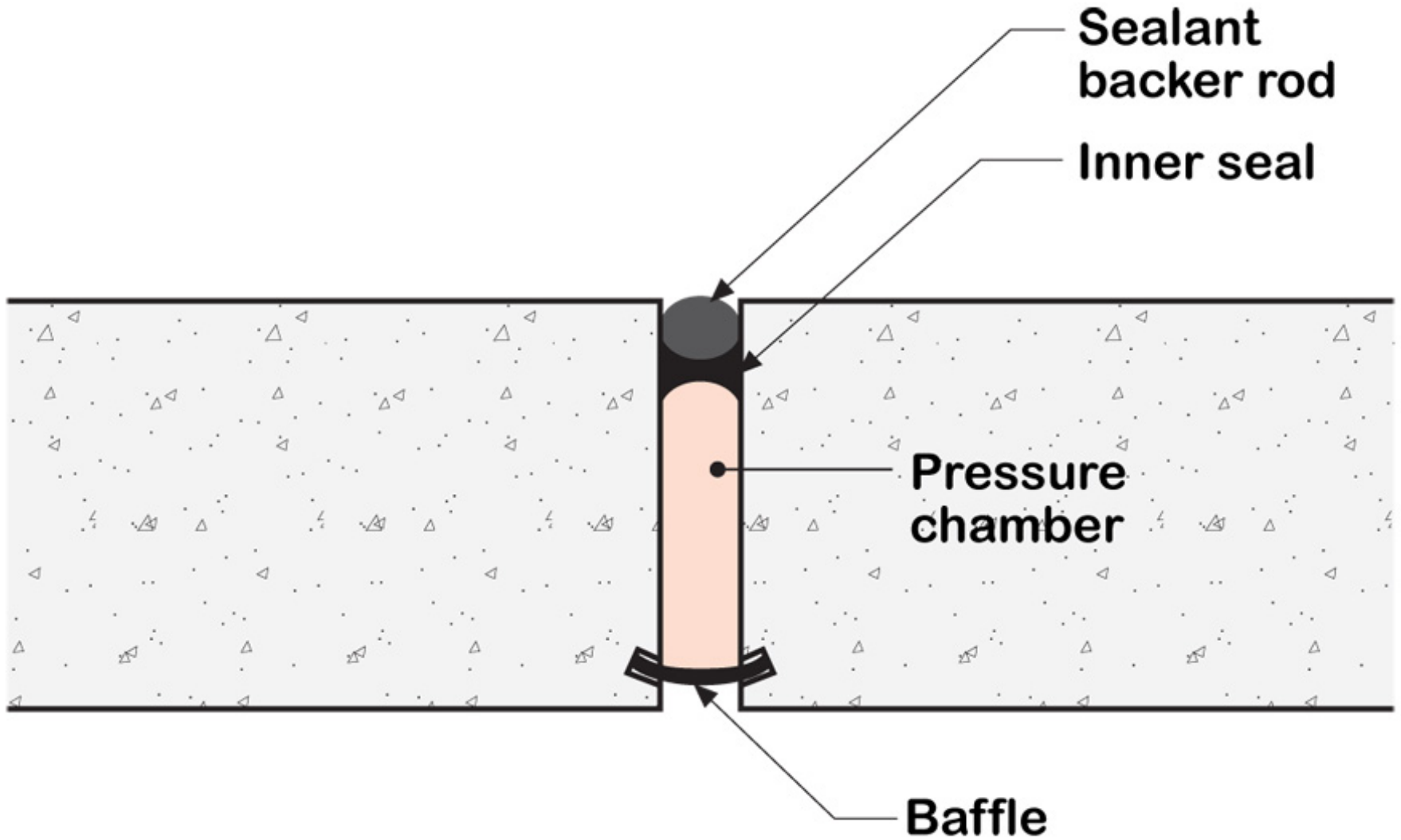


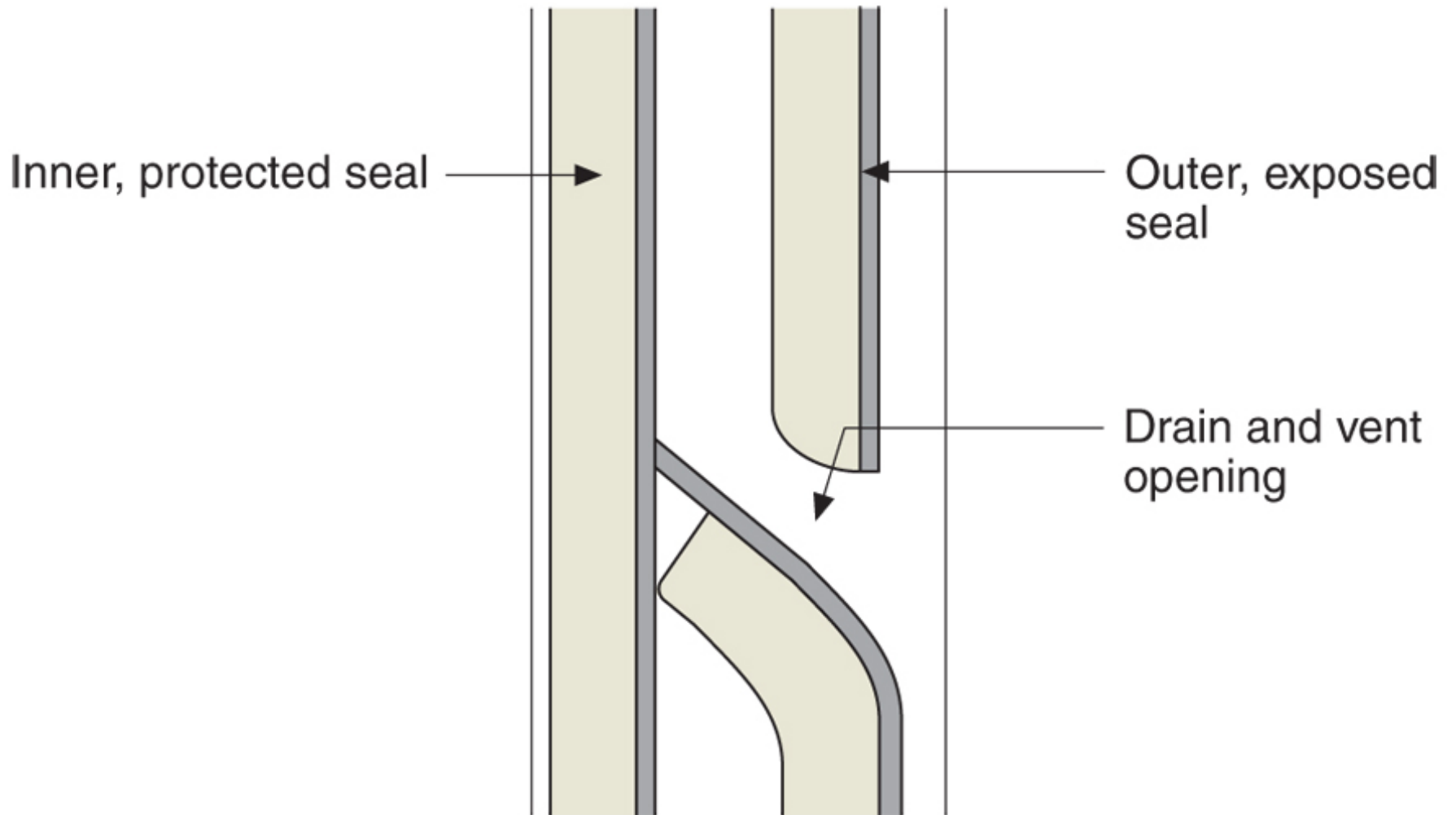


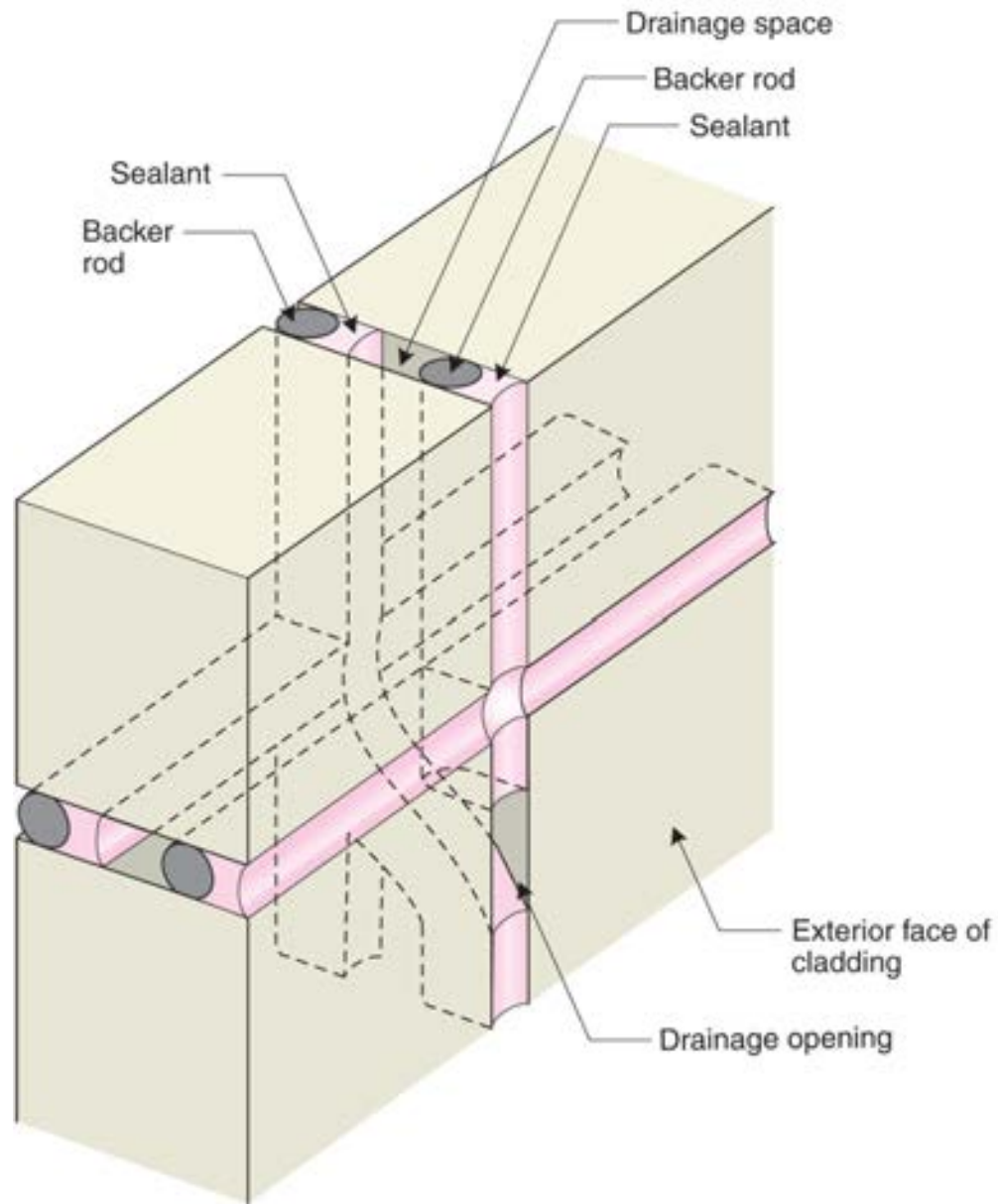










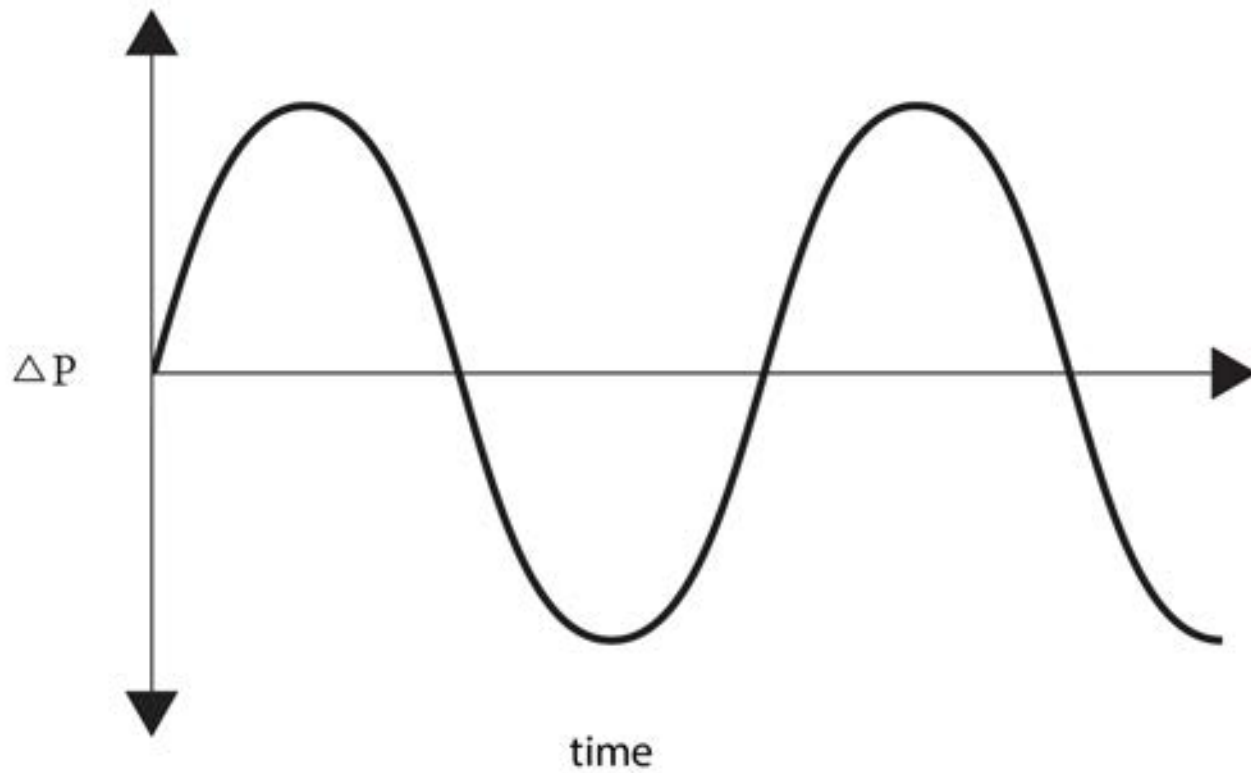


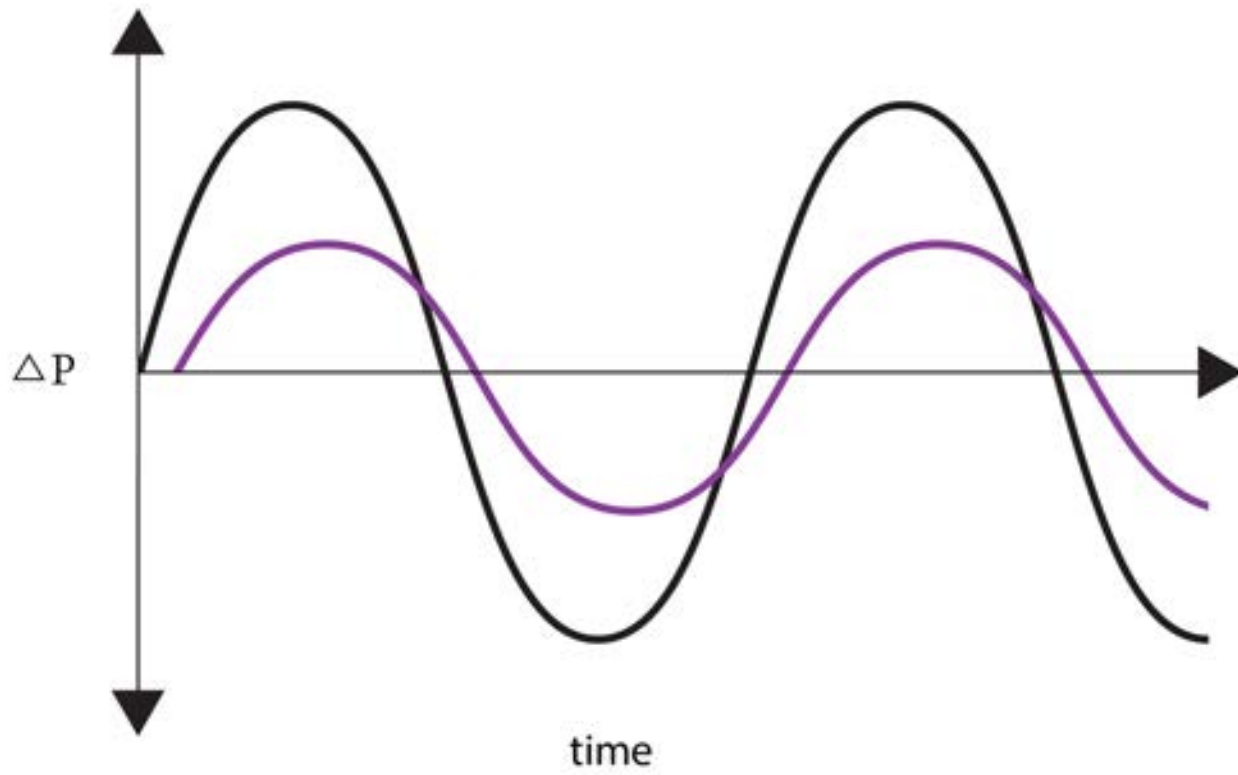


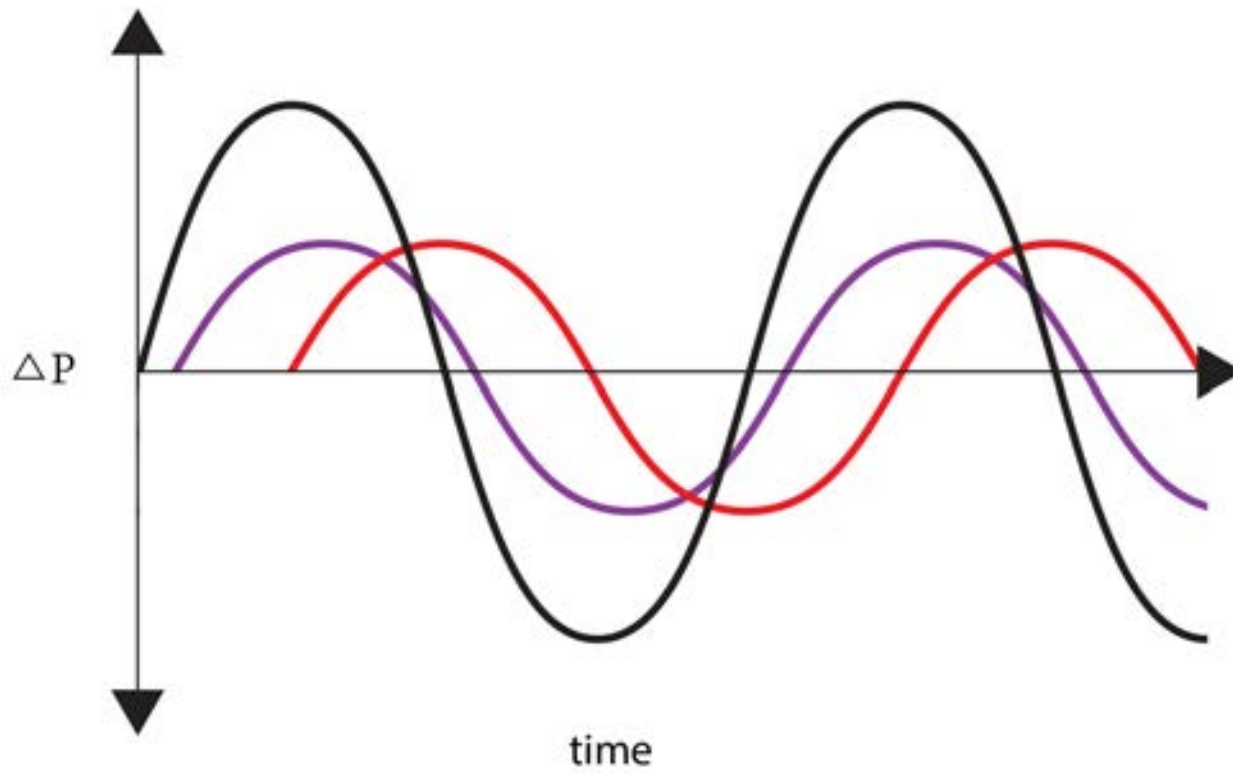
Open Joints vs Closed Joints

Open Joints vs Closed Joints

Limits of Pressure Equalization







Pressure Equalization Needs to be Perfect

Pressure Equalization Reduces Drying

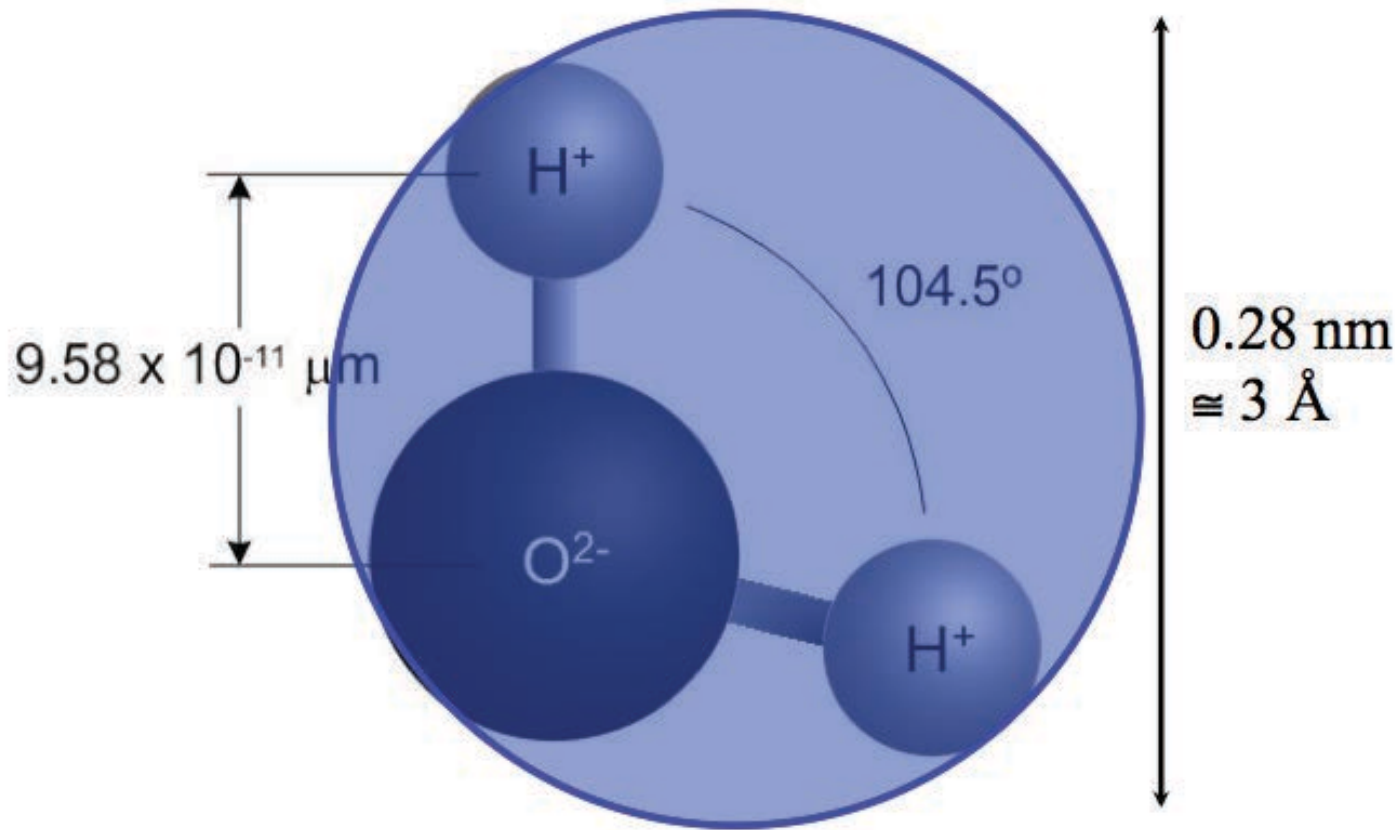
Prevention of Wetting Is Not As Important As
Drying

Assume Things Get Wet...Design Them to Dry

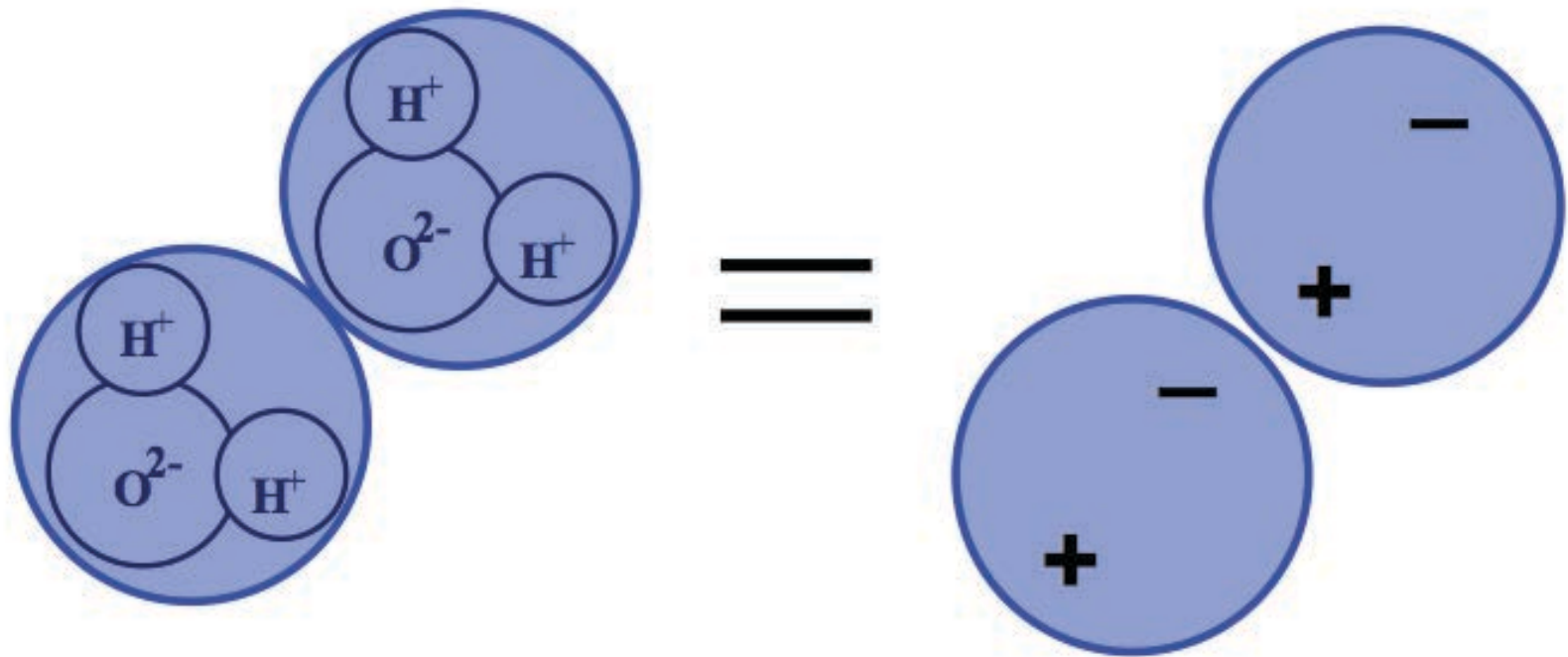
Ventilated Claddings Promote Drying



Water Molecules



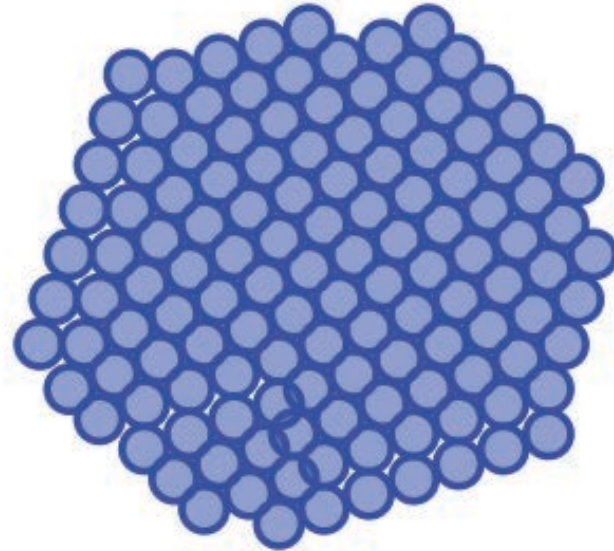
Polar Molecule



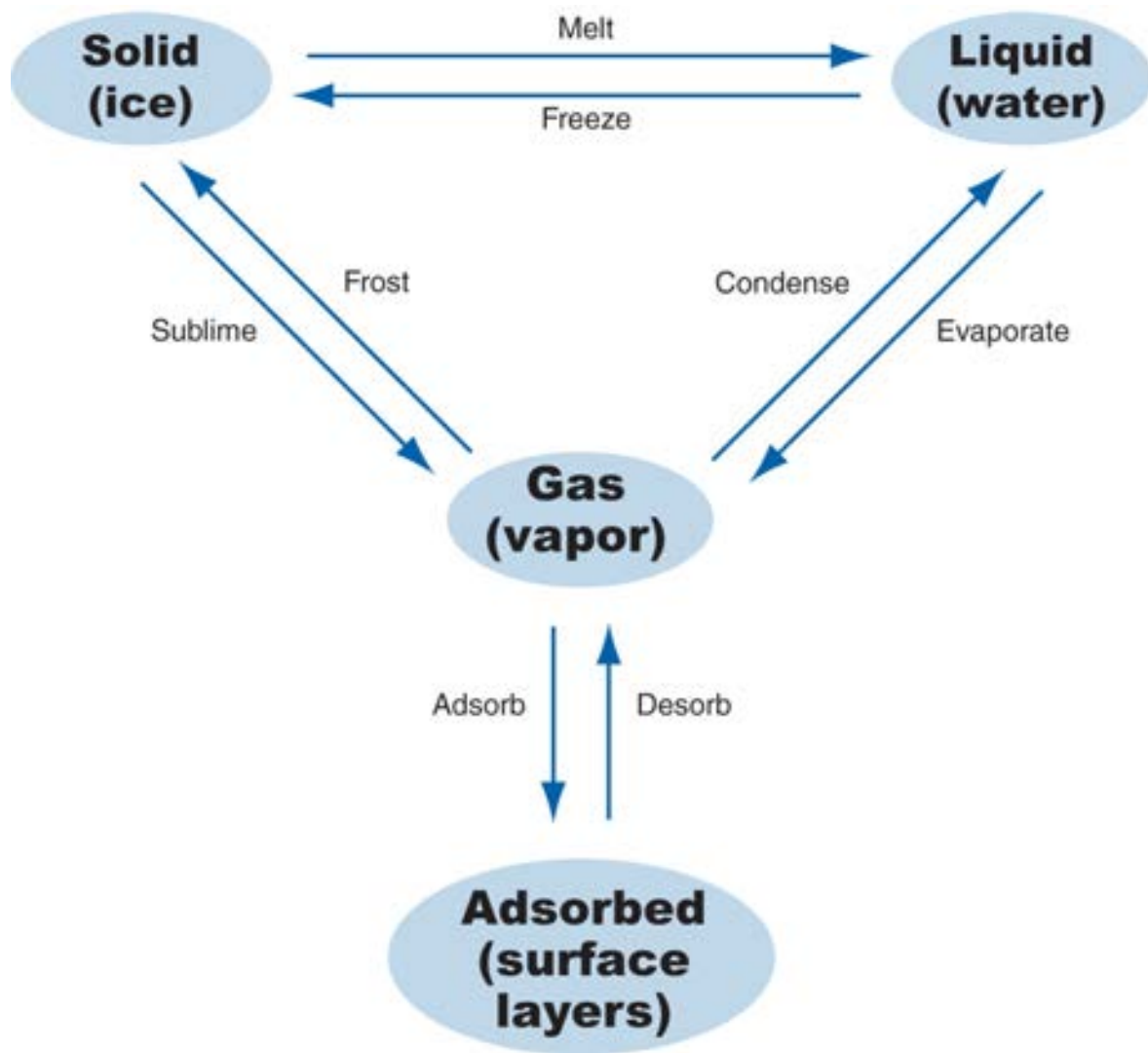
Size Matters

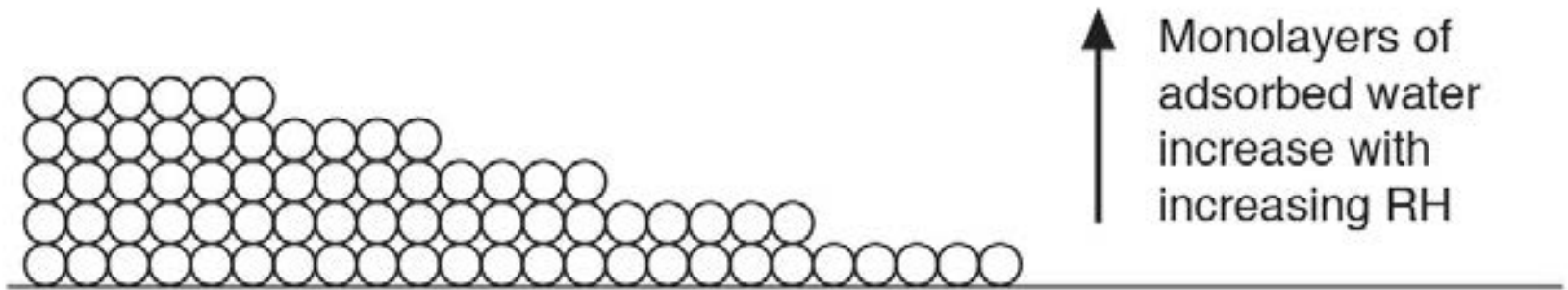


Vapor



Liquid







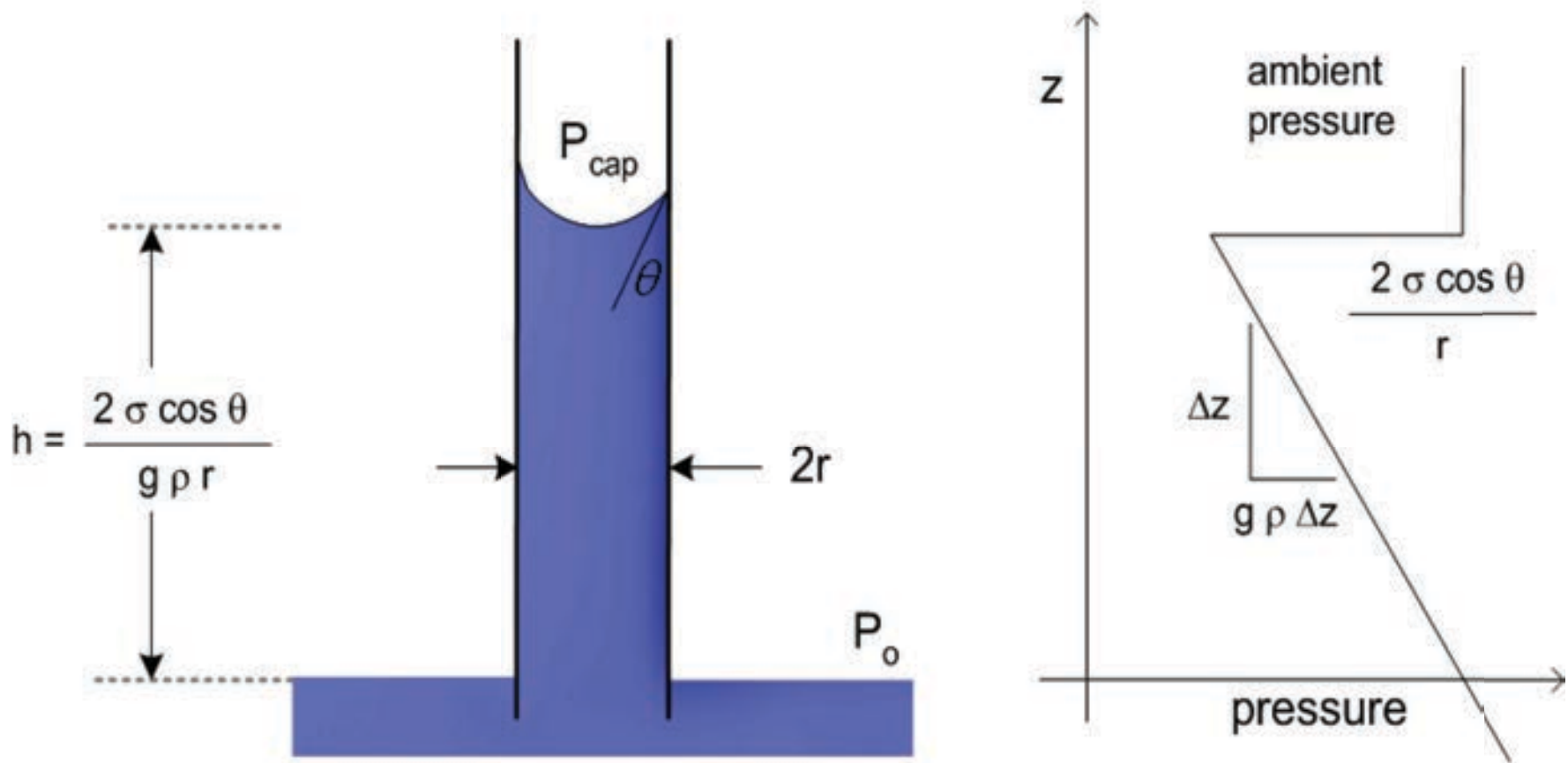
William Thomson

William Thomson – Lord Kelvin

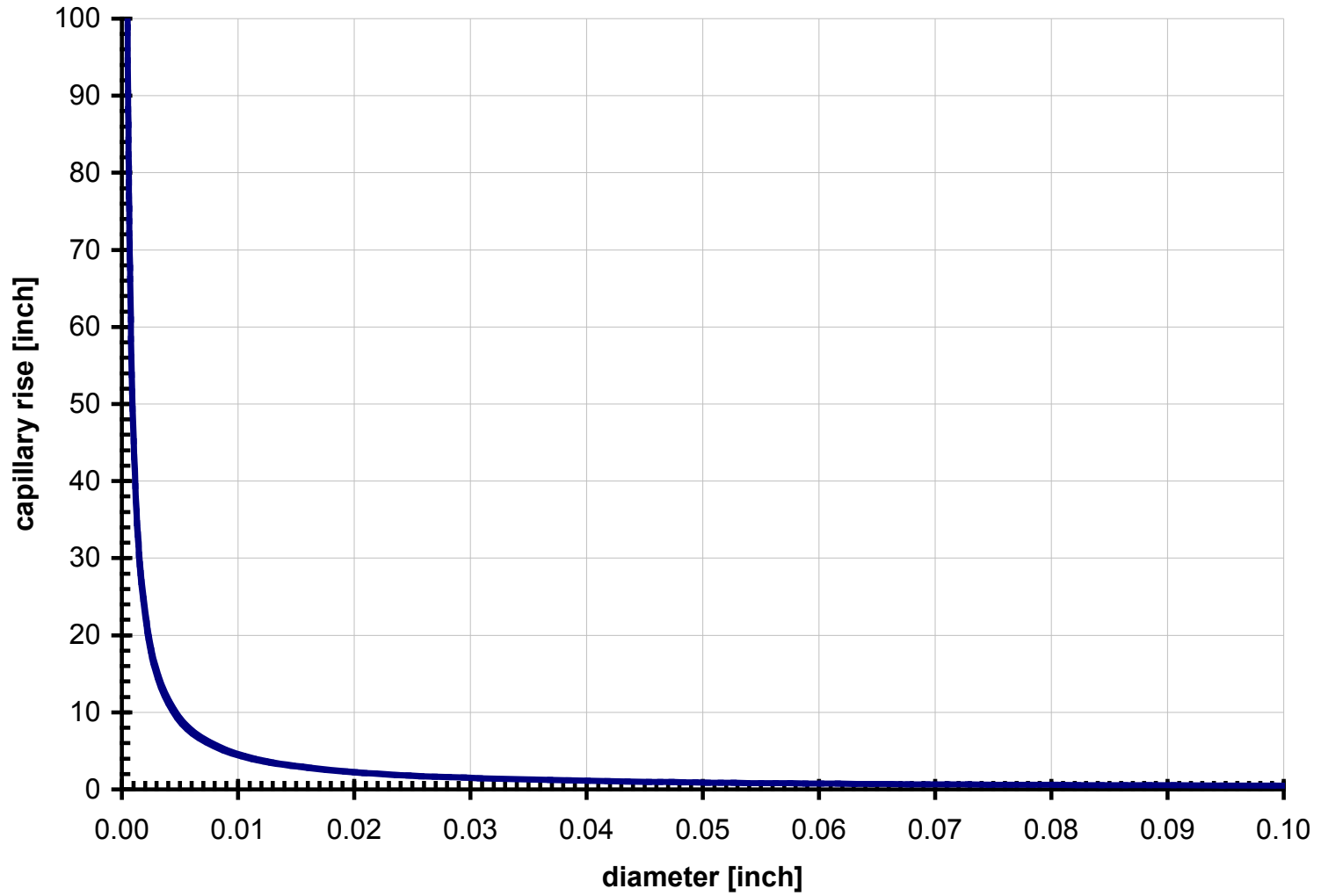
Kelvin Equation

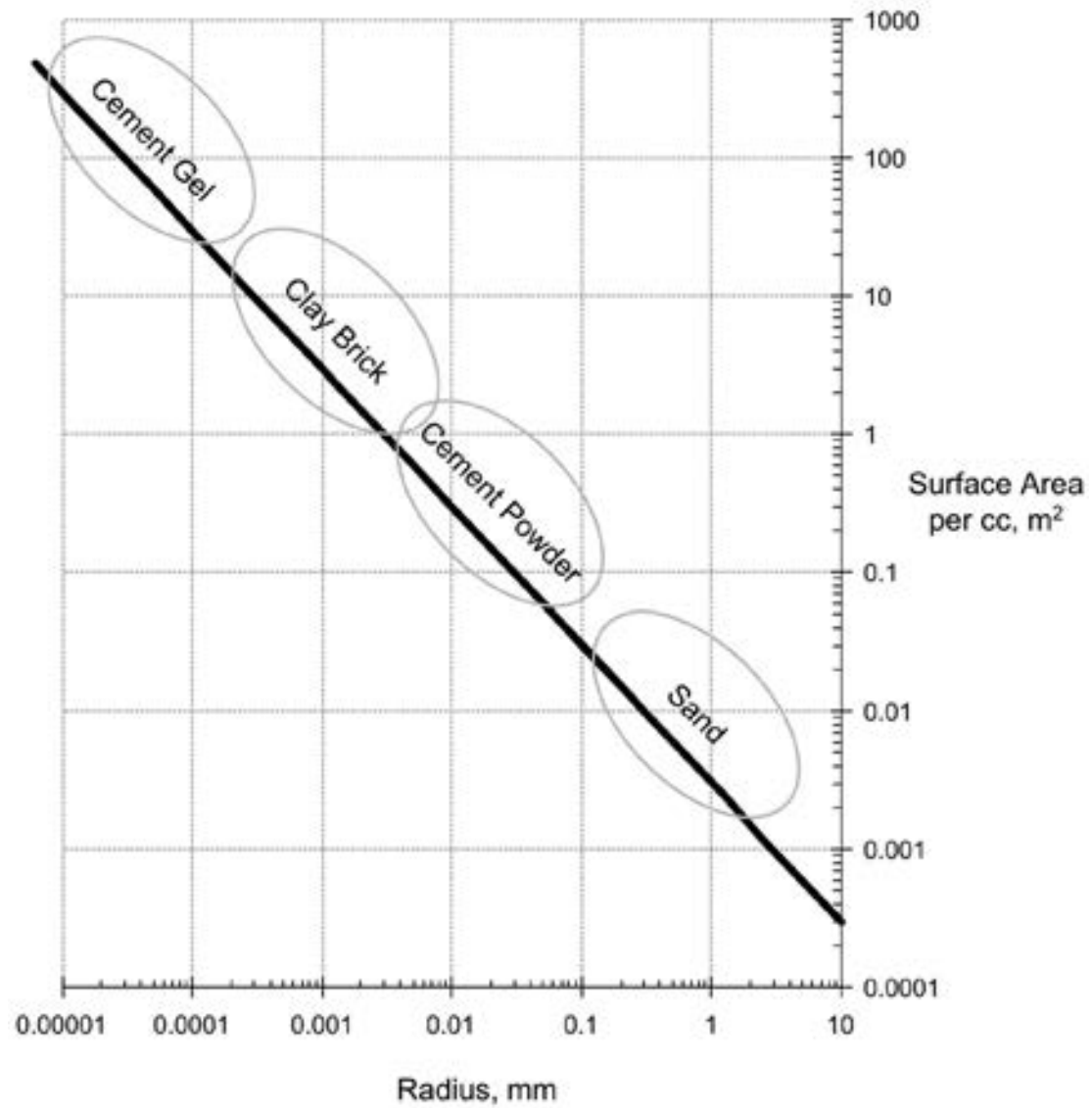
$$\ln \frac{p}{p_0} = \frac{2\gamma V_m}{rRT}$$

Calculating capillary rise



Capillary rise versus diameter





Surface area vs. particle size
From Straube & Burnett, 2005

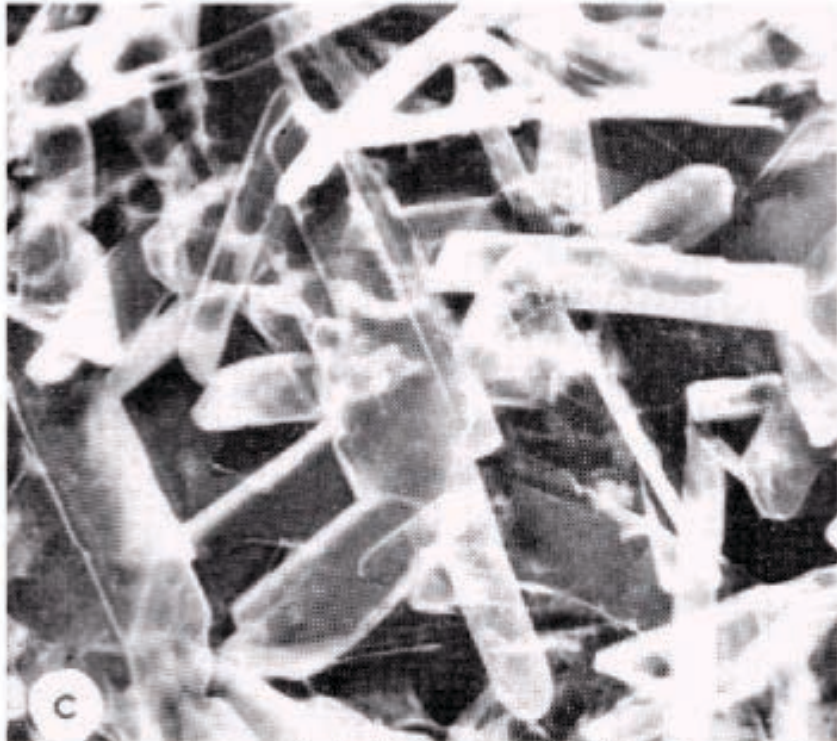


Figure 1c. Gypsum, hydrated from plaster of paris and water, porosity 30 per cent.

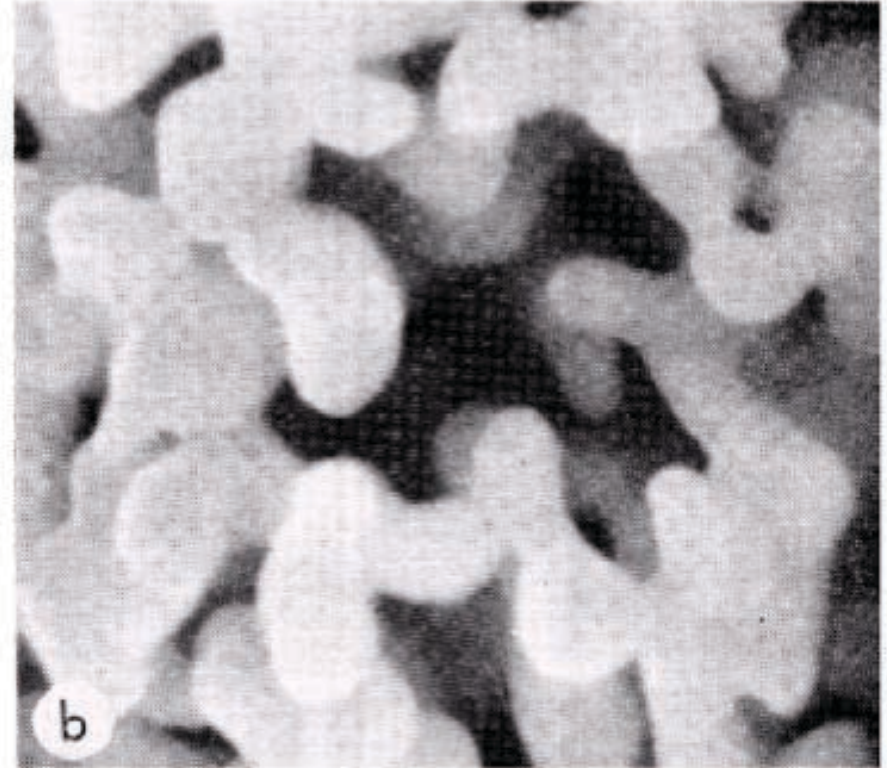
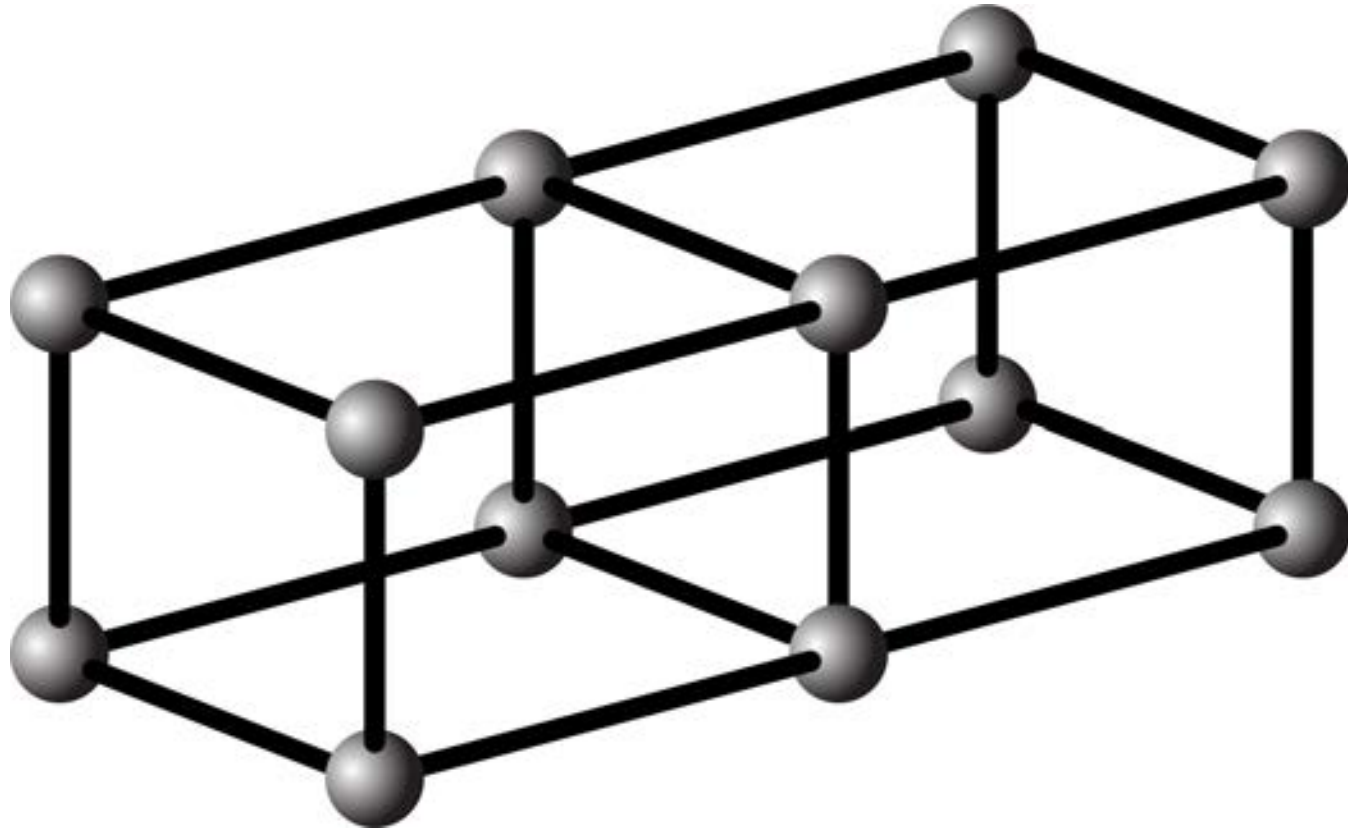
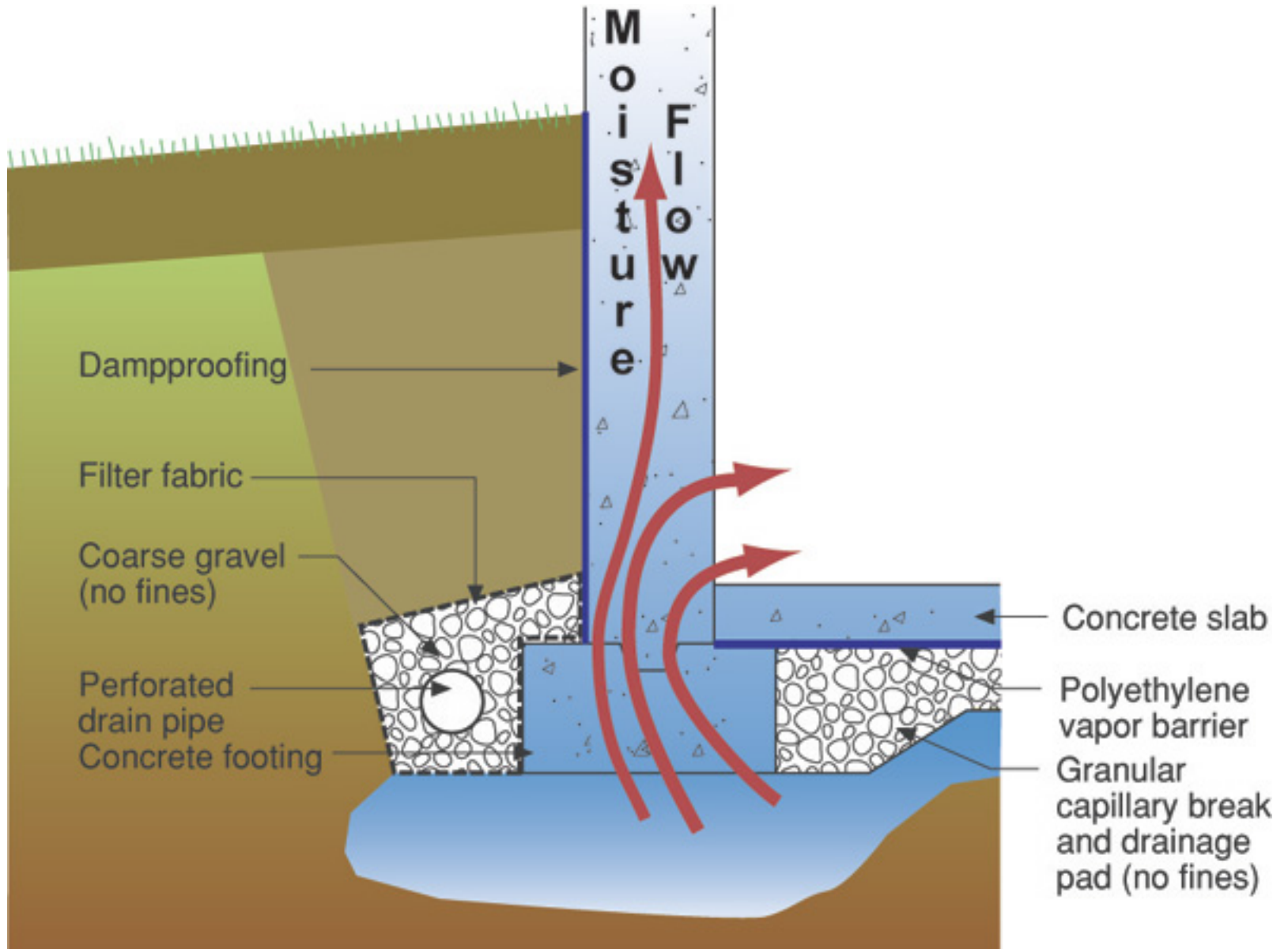
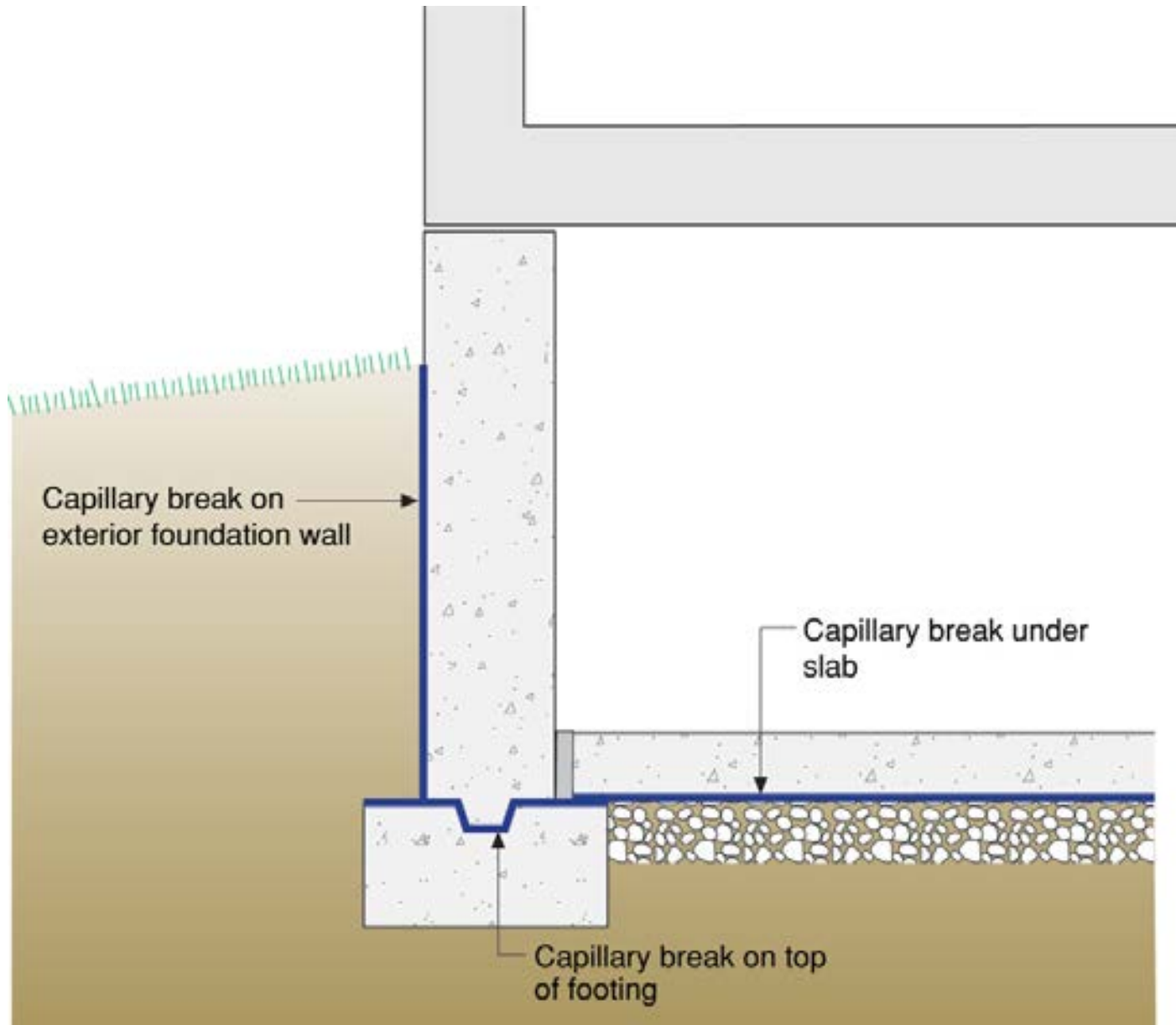


Figure 1b. Brick, sintered clay, porosity 40 per cent.



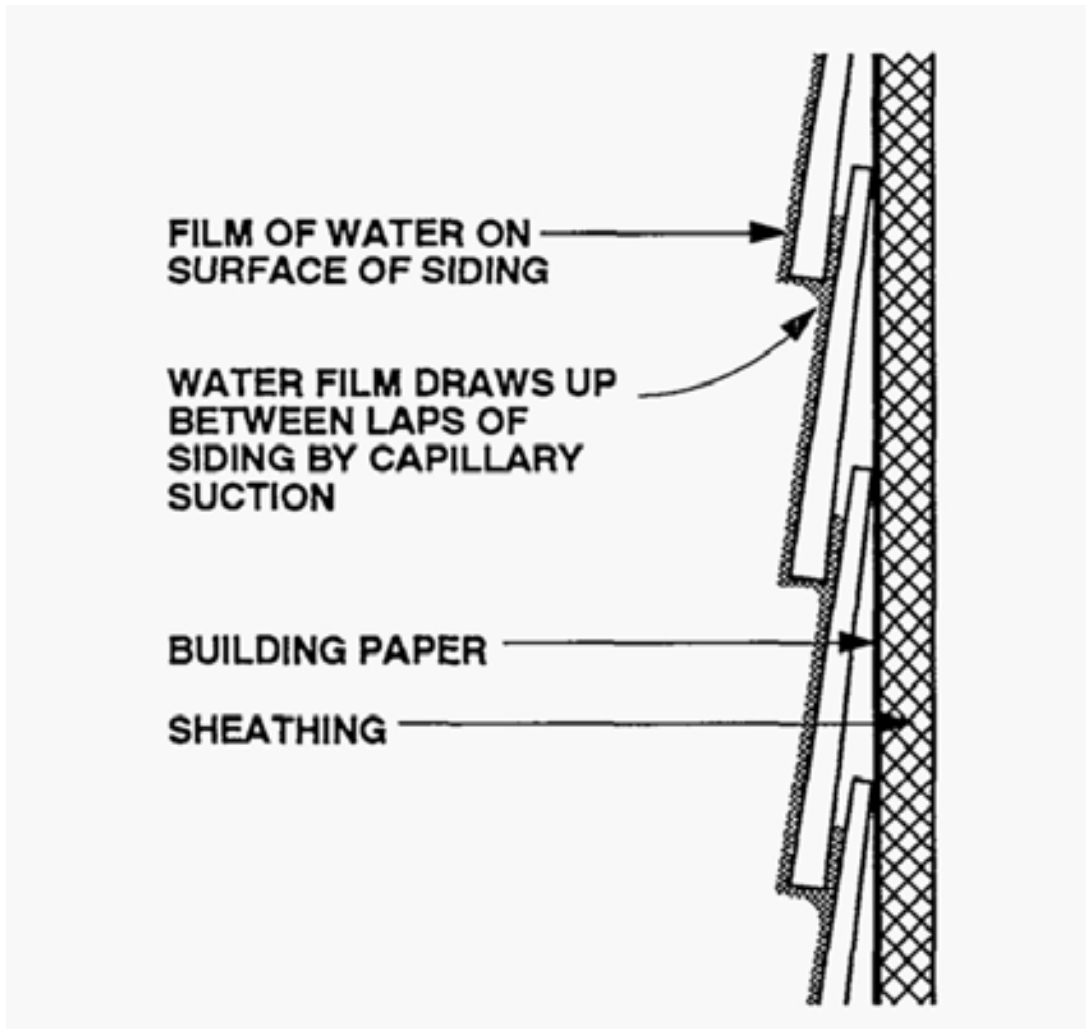




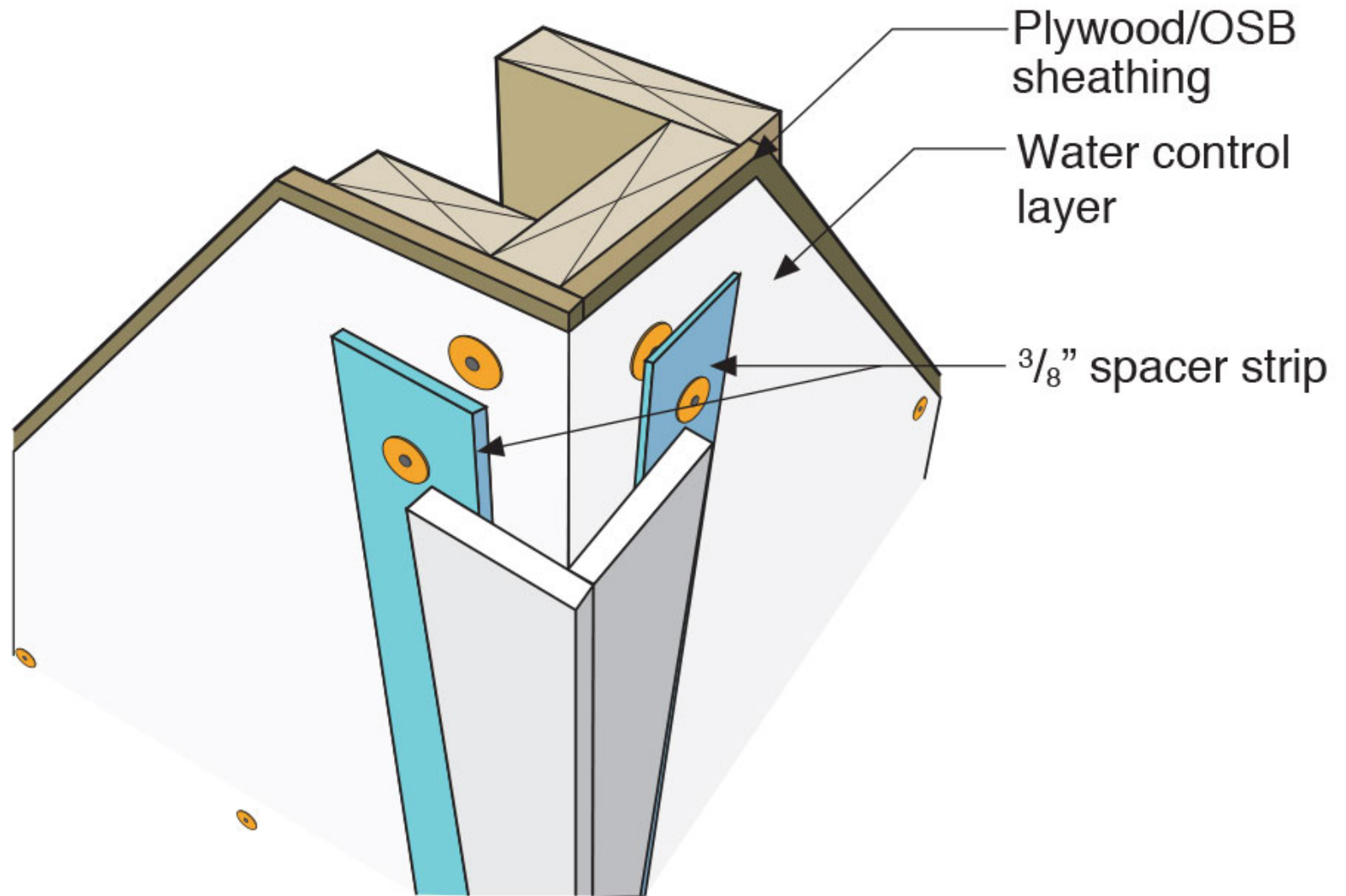


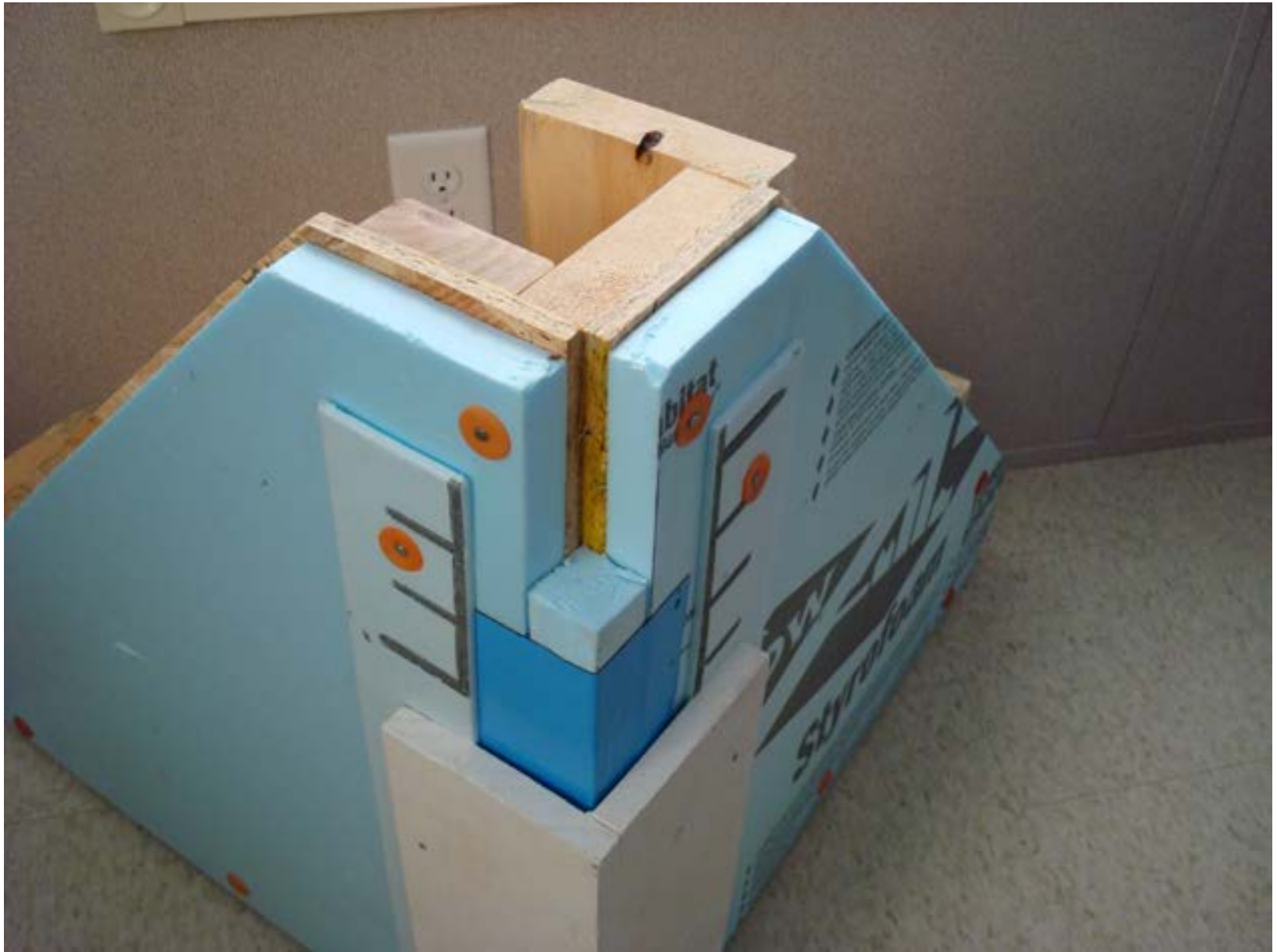
Siding Laps













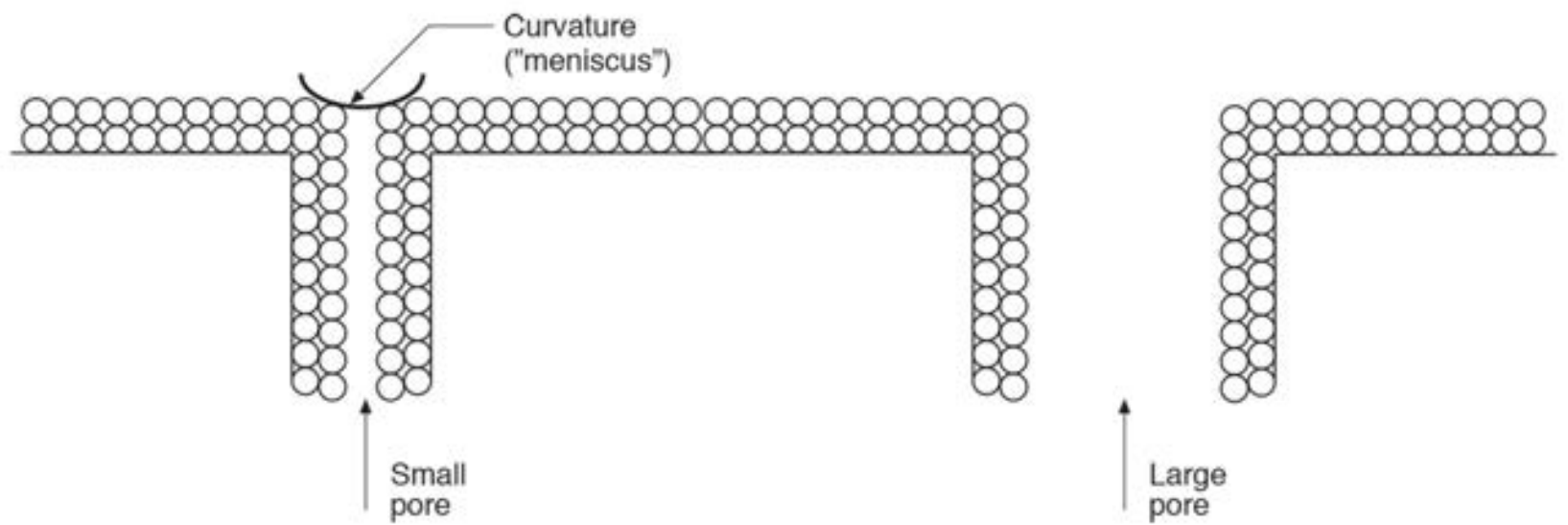






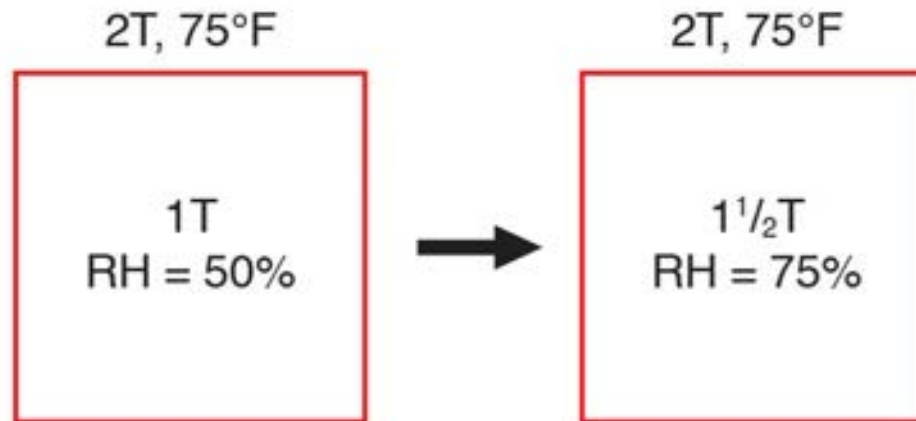
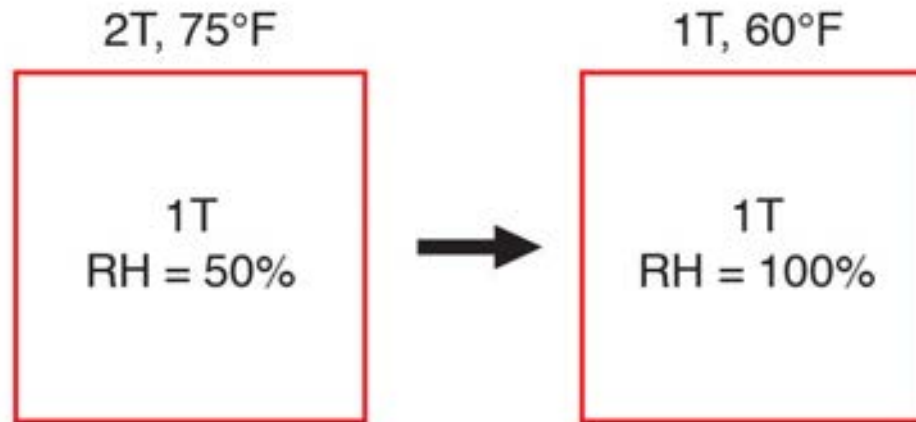
Kelvin Equation Again....

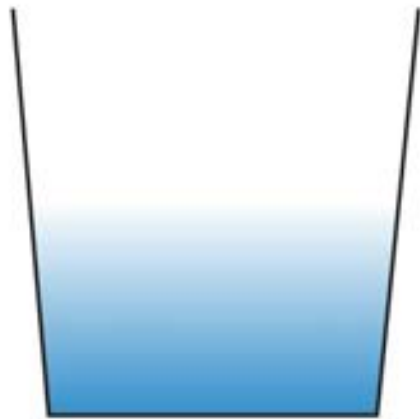
$$\ln \frac{p}{p_0} = \frac{2\gamma V_m}{rRT}$$



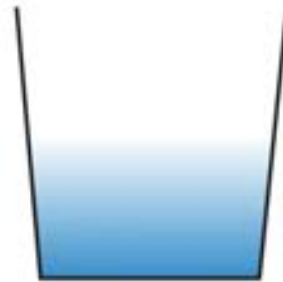


Relative Humidity Vapor Pressure





90°F
50% RH



75°F
50% RH



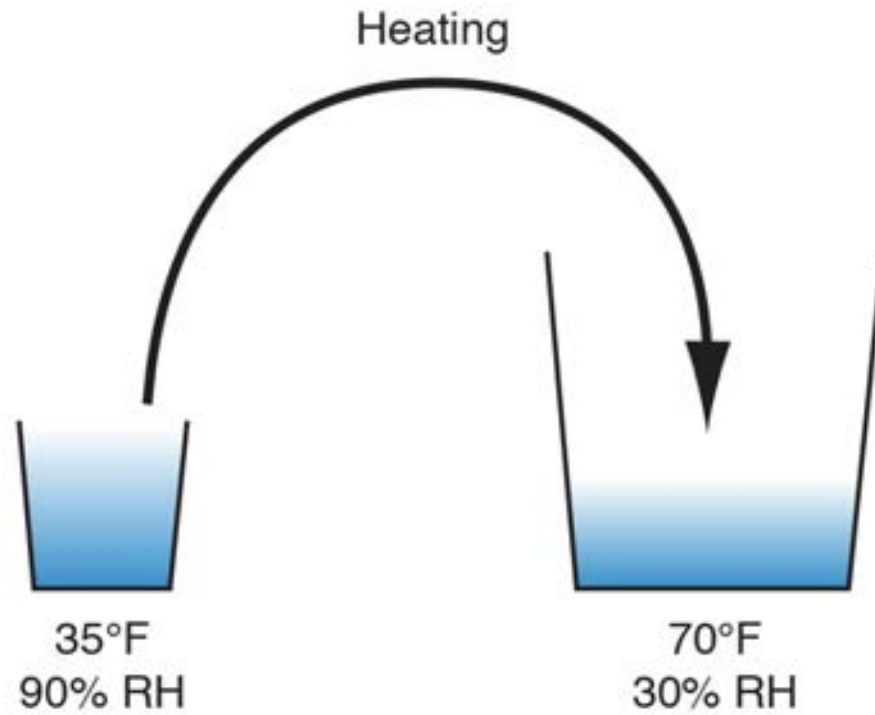
60°F
50% RH

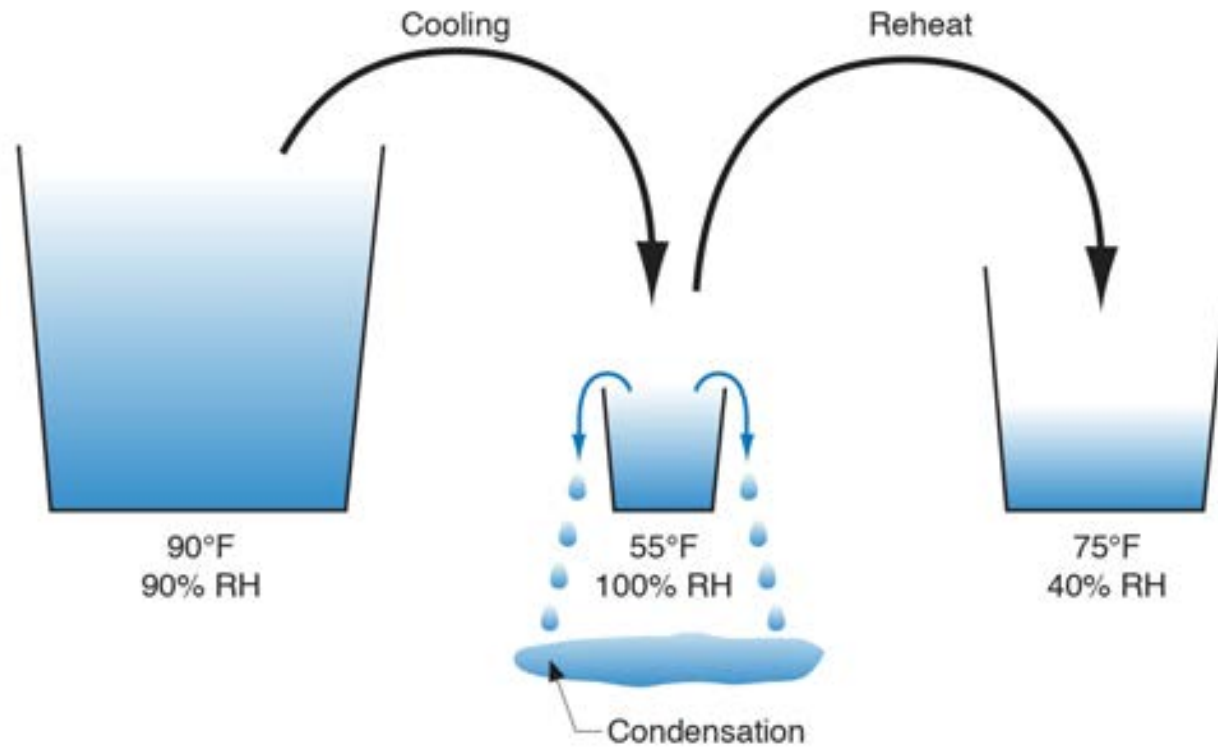


45°F
50% RH

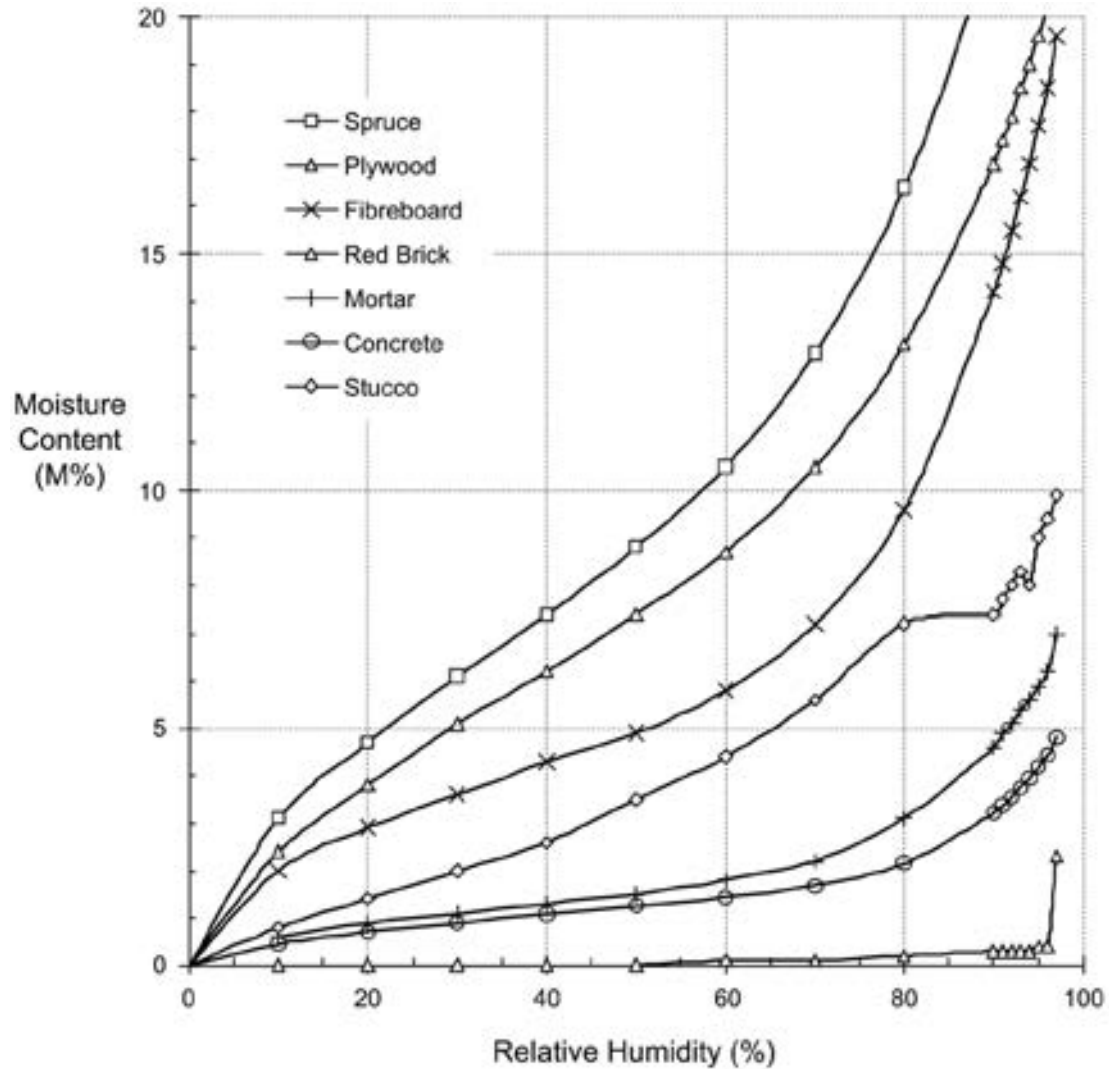


30°F
50% RH





Sorption



Sorption isotherm for several building materials [Kumaran 2002]
From Straube & Burnett, 2005

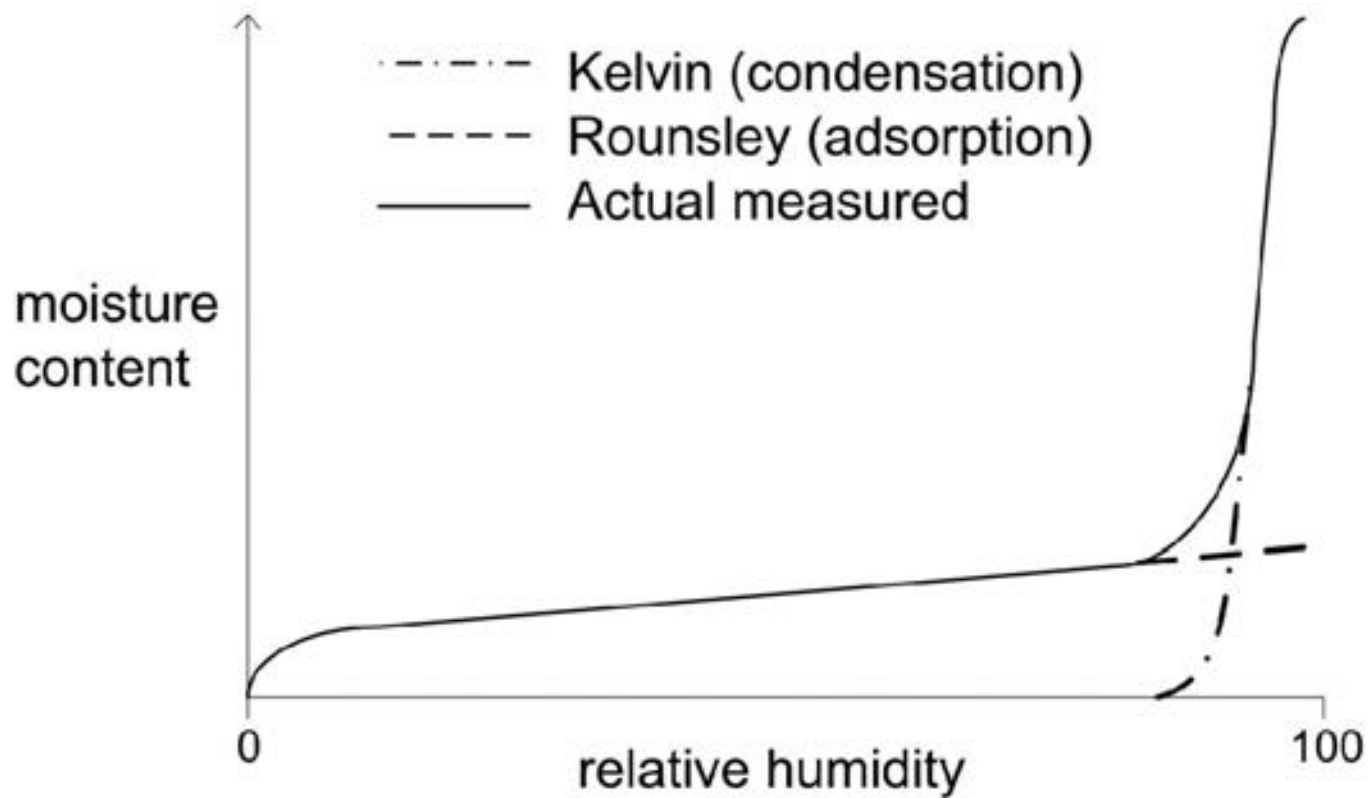
BET Theory

BET Theory

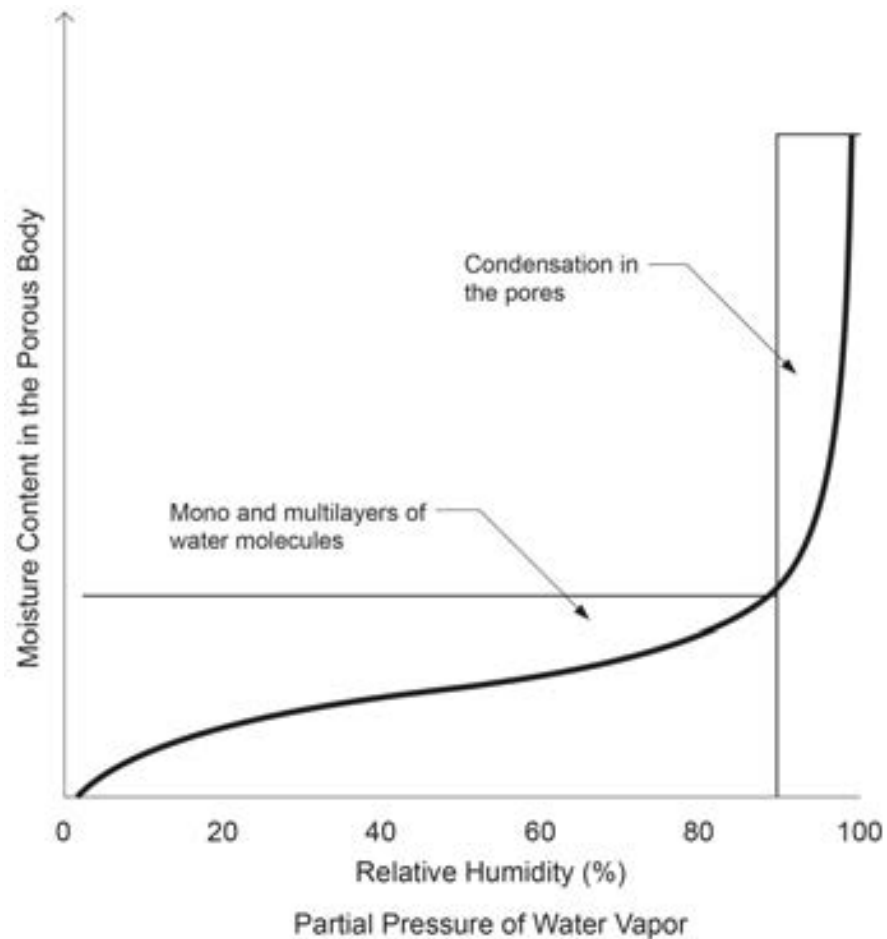
Stephen Brunauer

Paul Emmett

Edward Teller



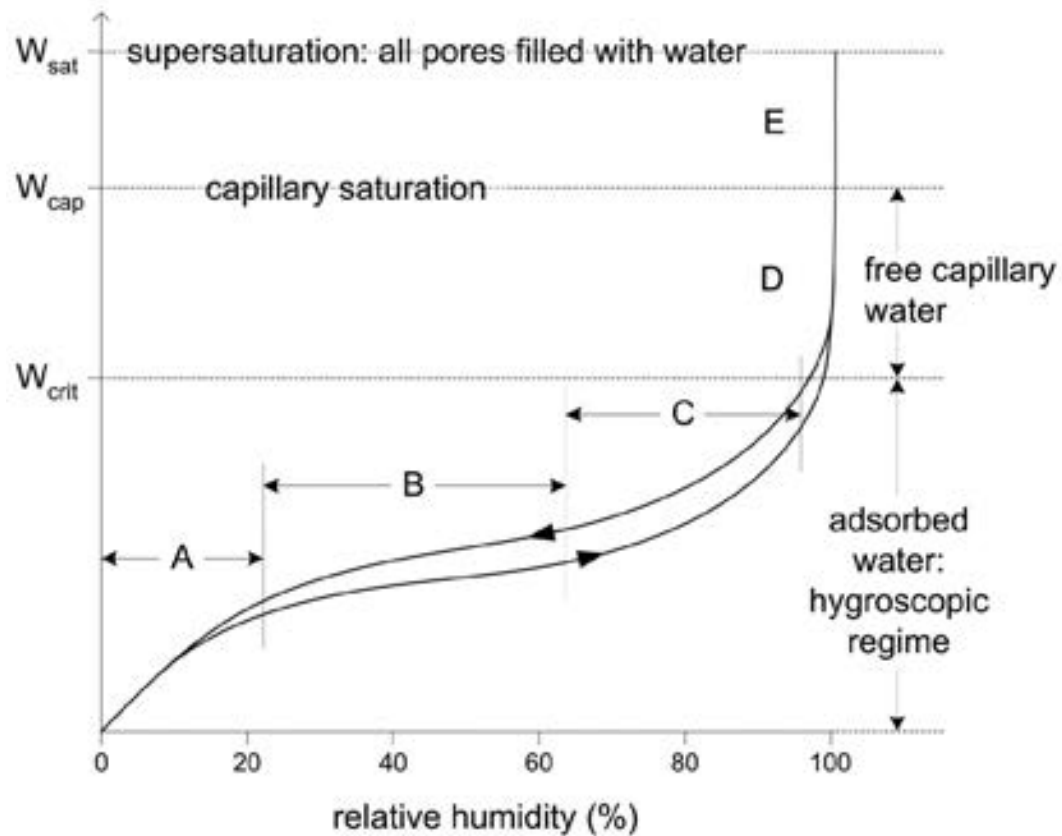
**Typical predicted sorption isotherm according to Kelvin equation
and modified BET theory**
From Straube & Burnett, 2005



Change in the storage of moisture in a porous building material as the partial pressure of water vapor in the ambient air increases from zero to full saturation value at a given temperature.

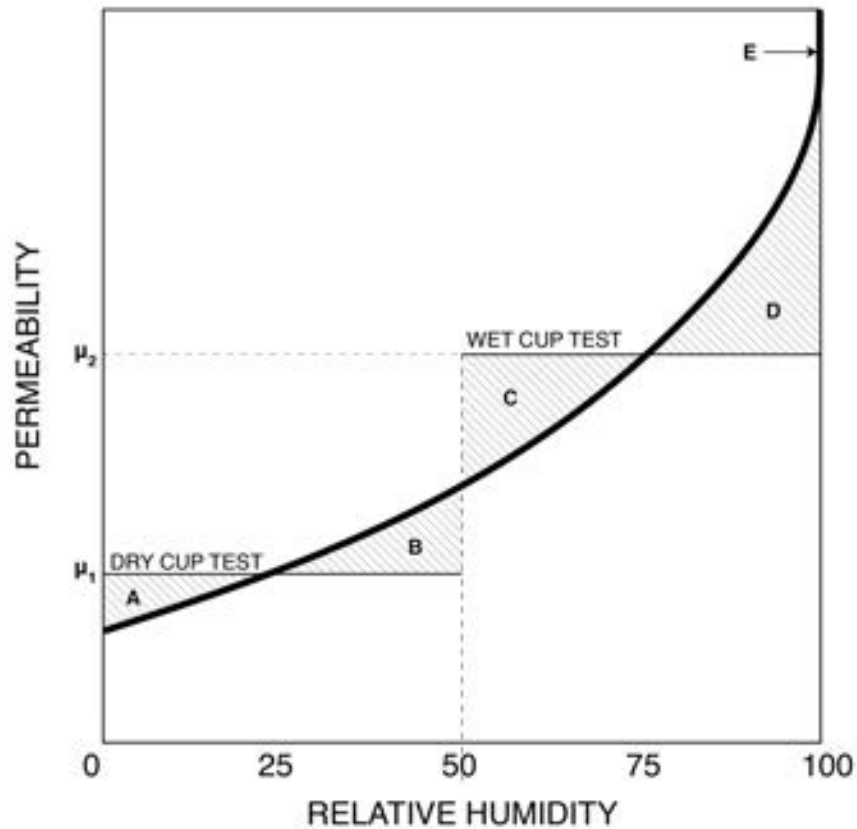
Sorption Curve

From M.K. Kumaran, ASTM MNL 18-2nd Edition,
Moisture Control in Buildings, 2009



- A: Single-layer of adsorbed molecules
- B: Multiple layers of adsorbed molecules
- C: Interconnected layers (internal capillary condensation)
- D: Free water in Pores, capillary suction
- E: Supersaturated Regime

Regimes of moisture storage in a hygroscopic porous material
 From Straube & Burnett, 2005

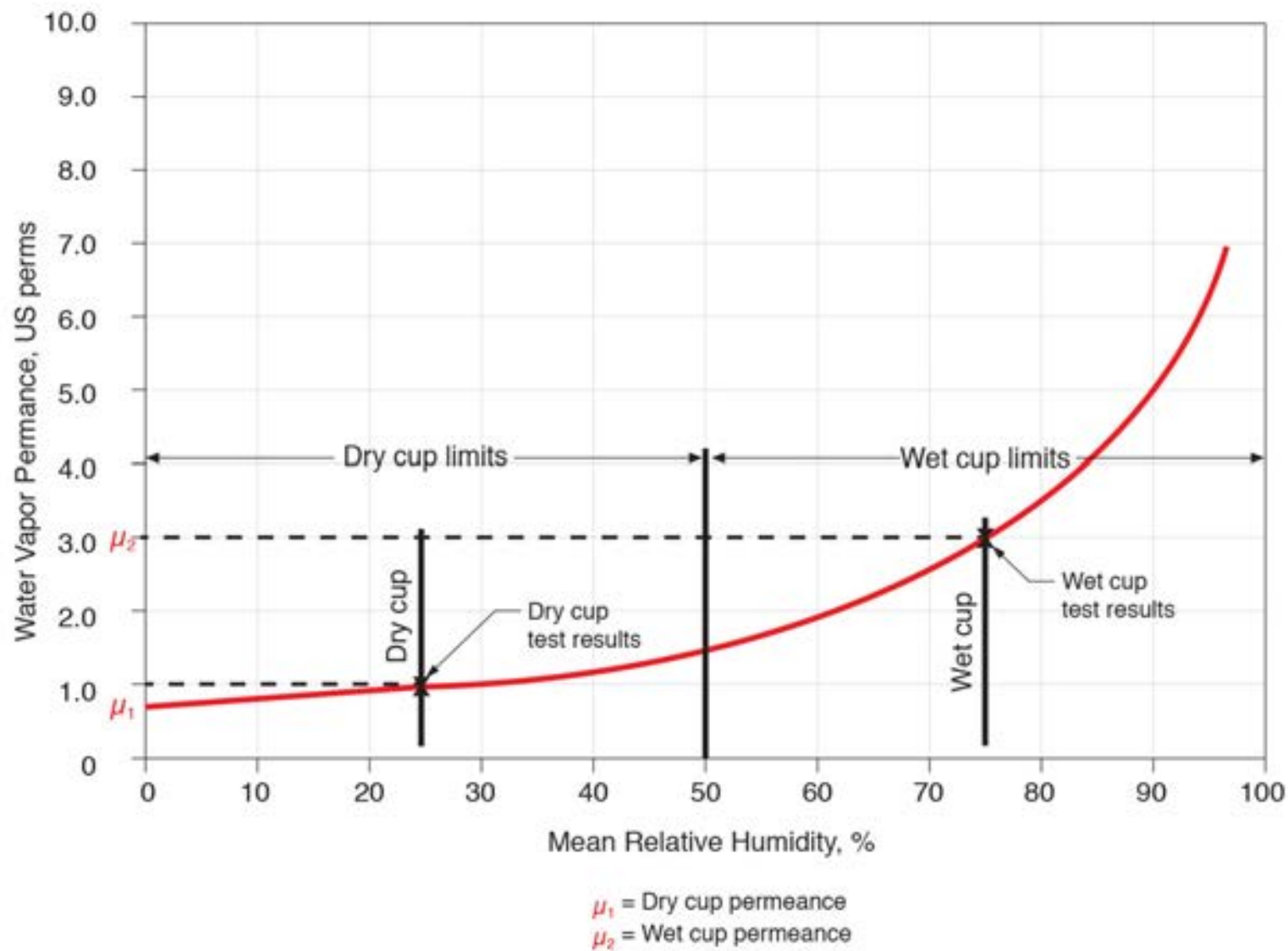


- A - Single-layer of absorbed molecules
- B - Multiple layers of absorbed molecules
- C - Interconnected layers (internal capillary condensation)
- D - Free water in pores, capillary suction
- E - Supersaturated regime

Relationship between Dry Cup and Wet Cup
Adapted from Joy & Wilson, 1963



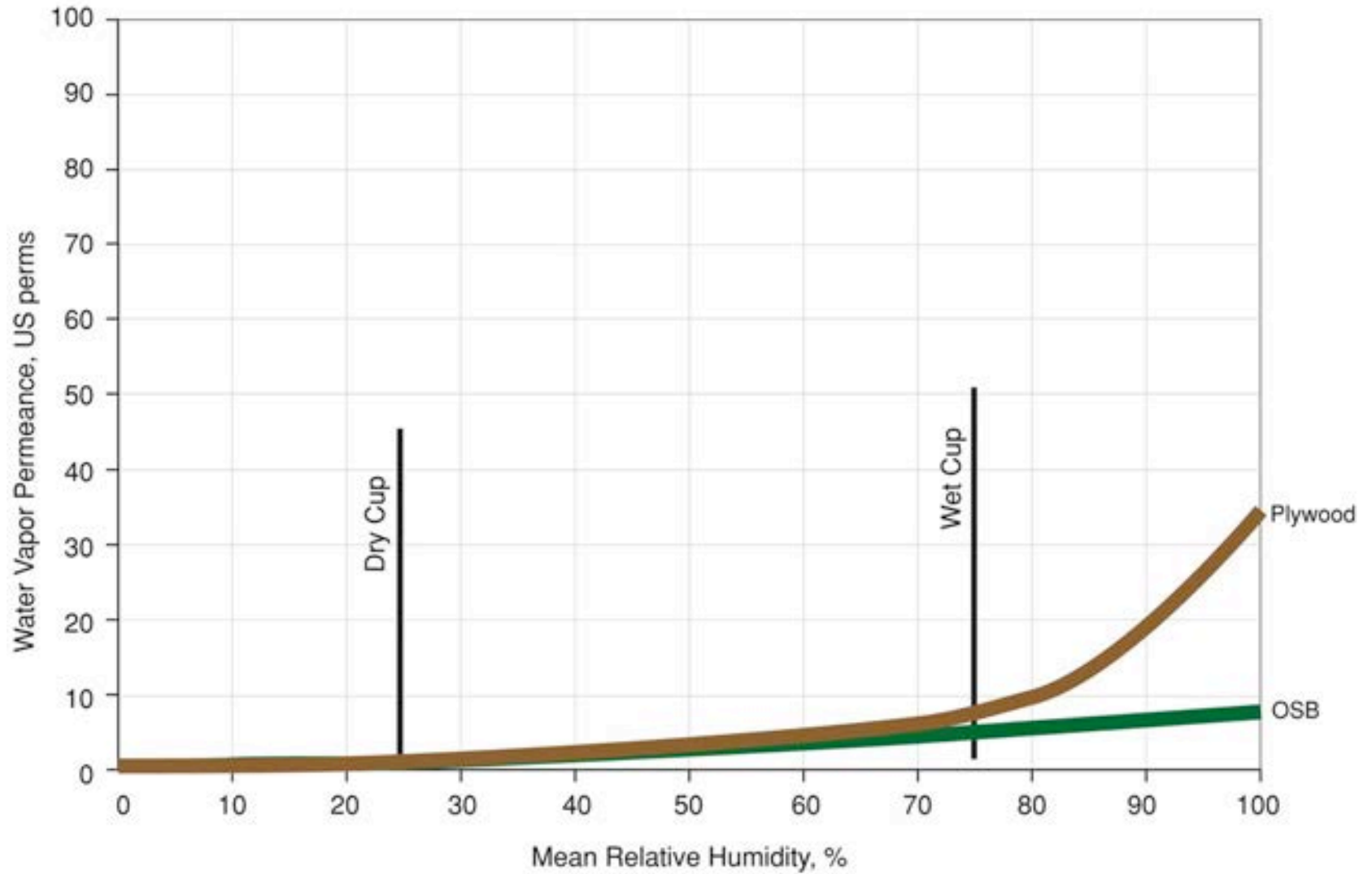
Water Vapor Permeance vs. Relative Humidity



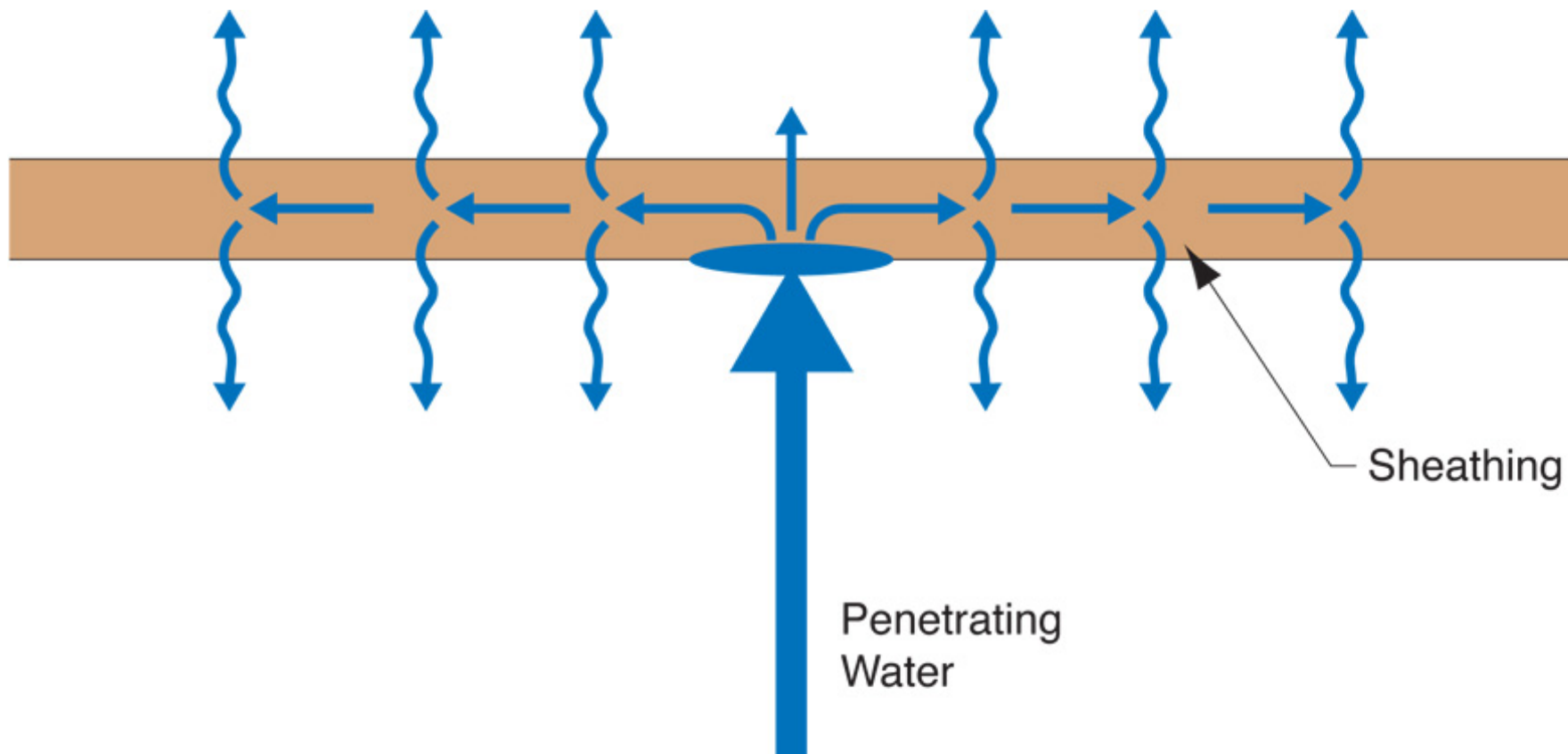


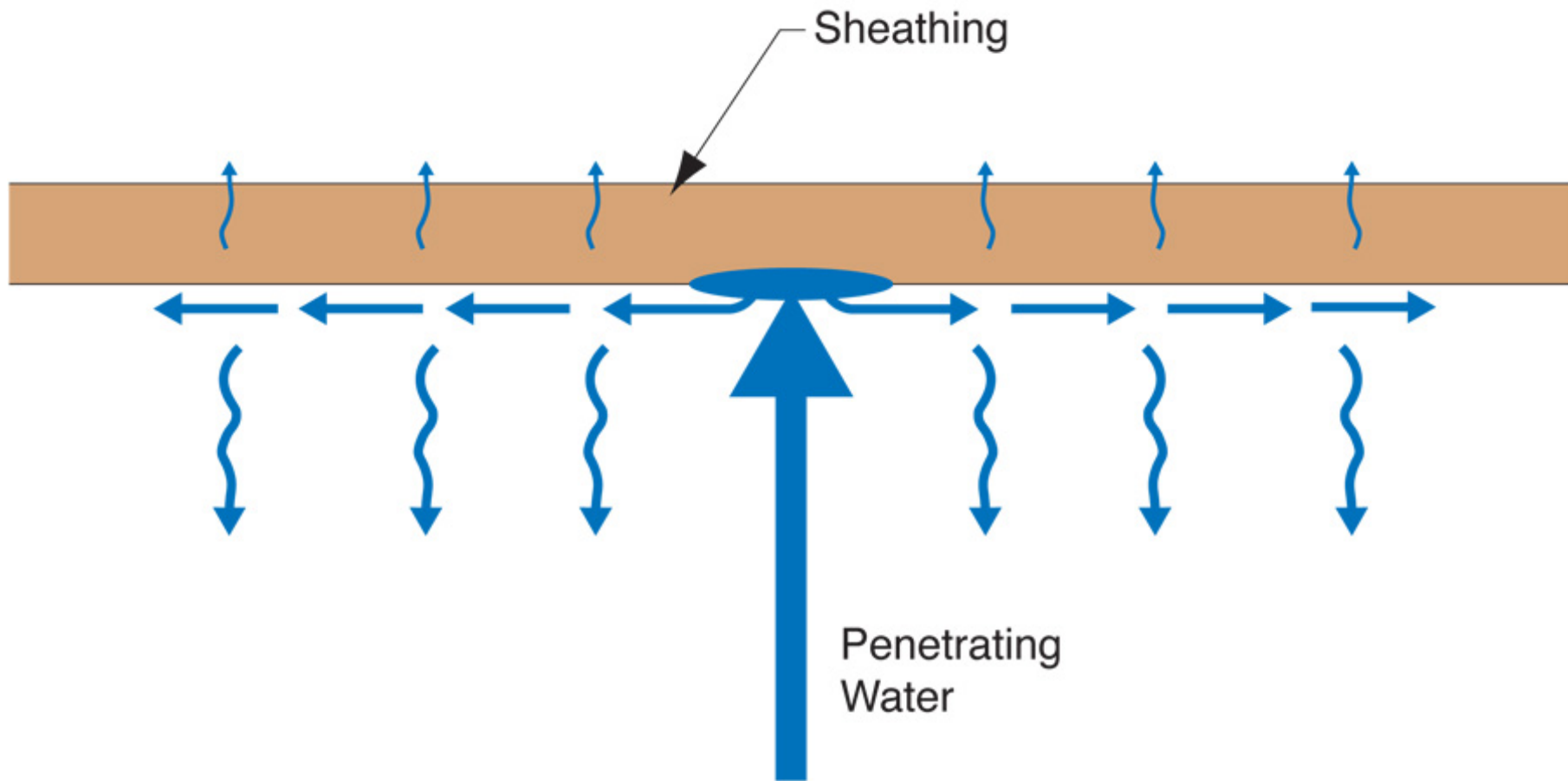


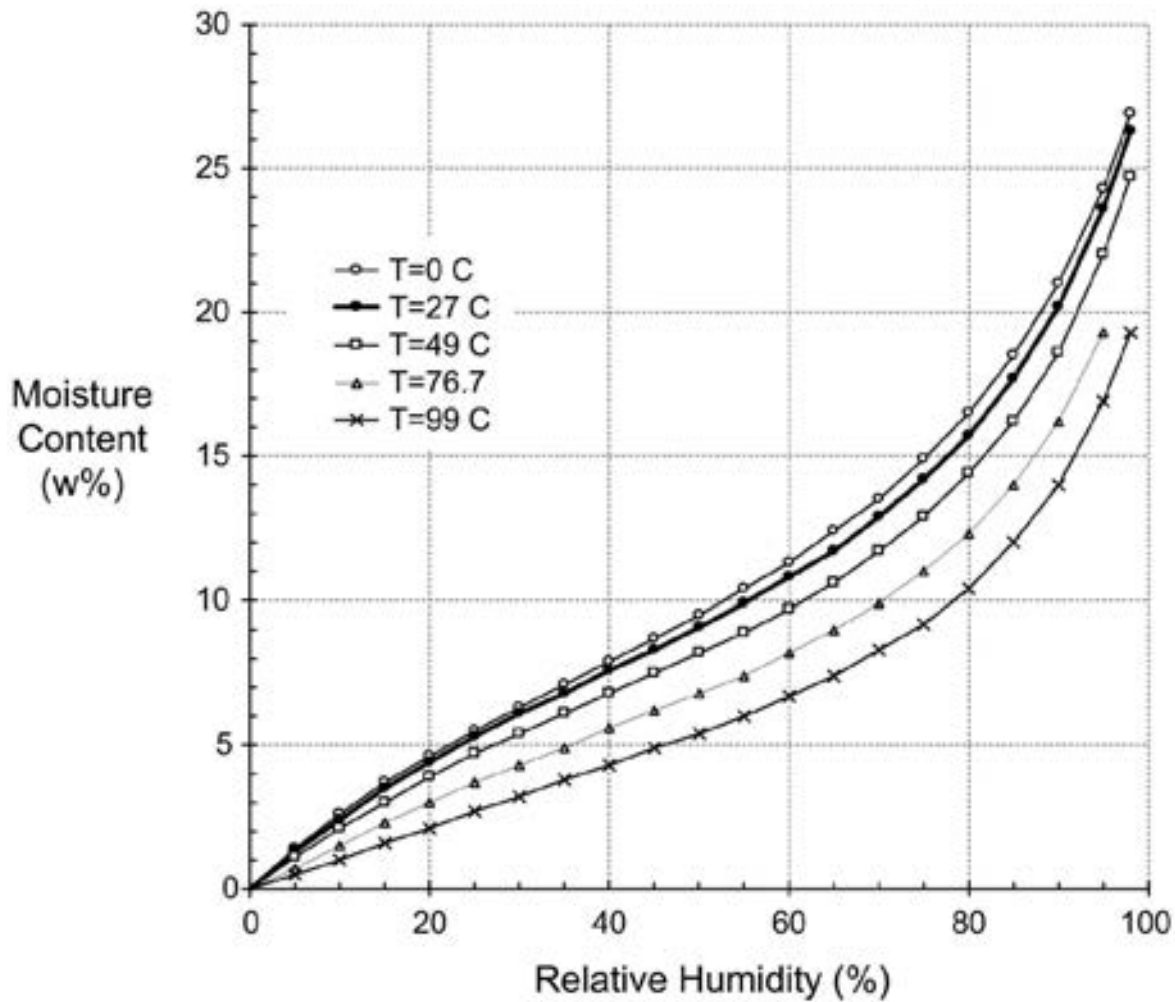
Water Vapor Permeance of Sheathing Materials





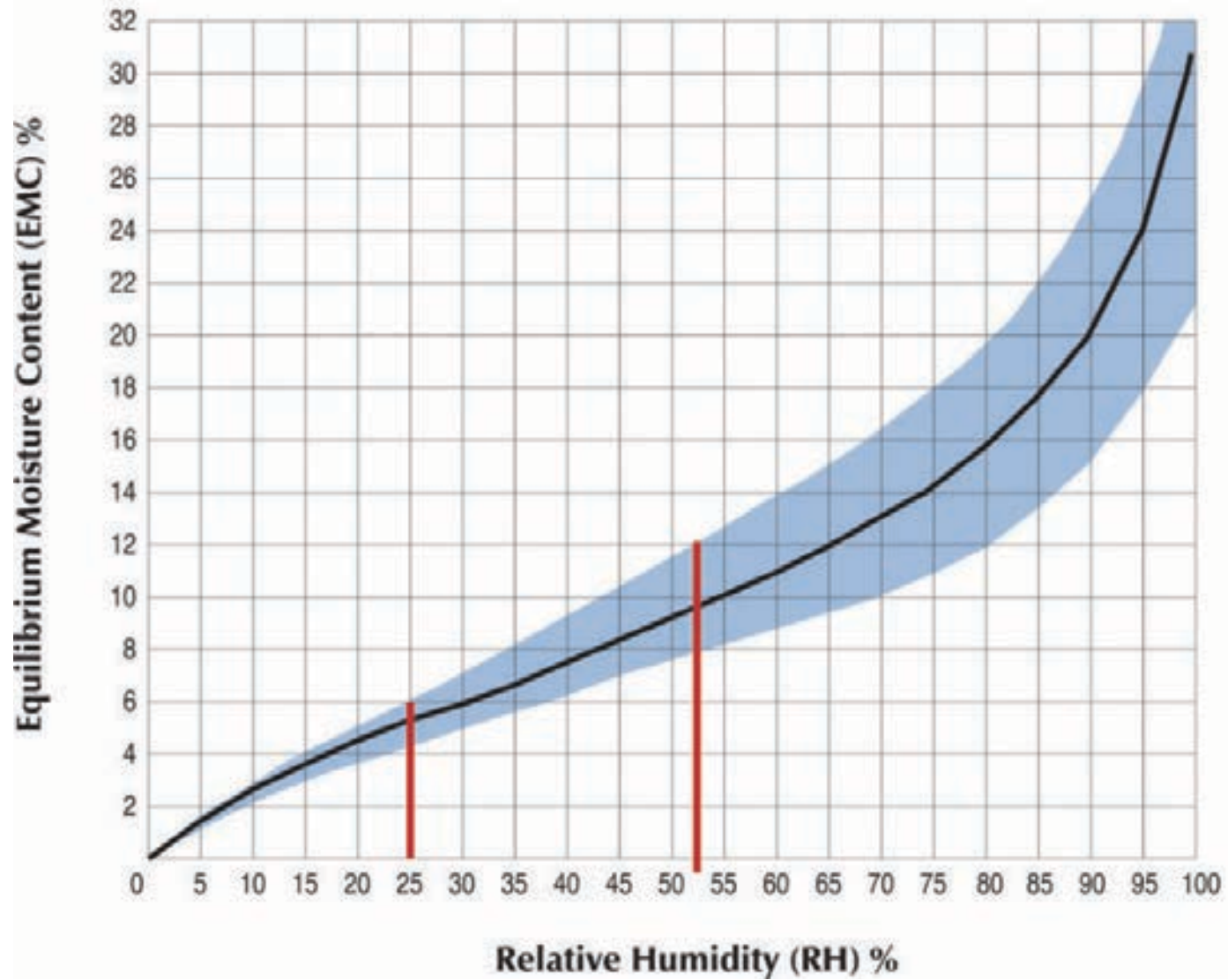






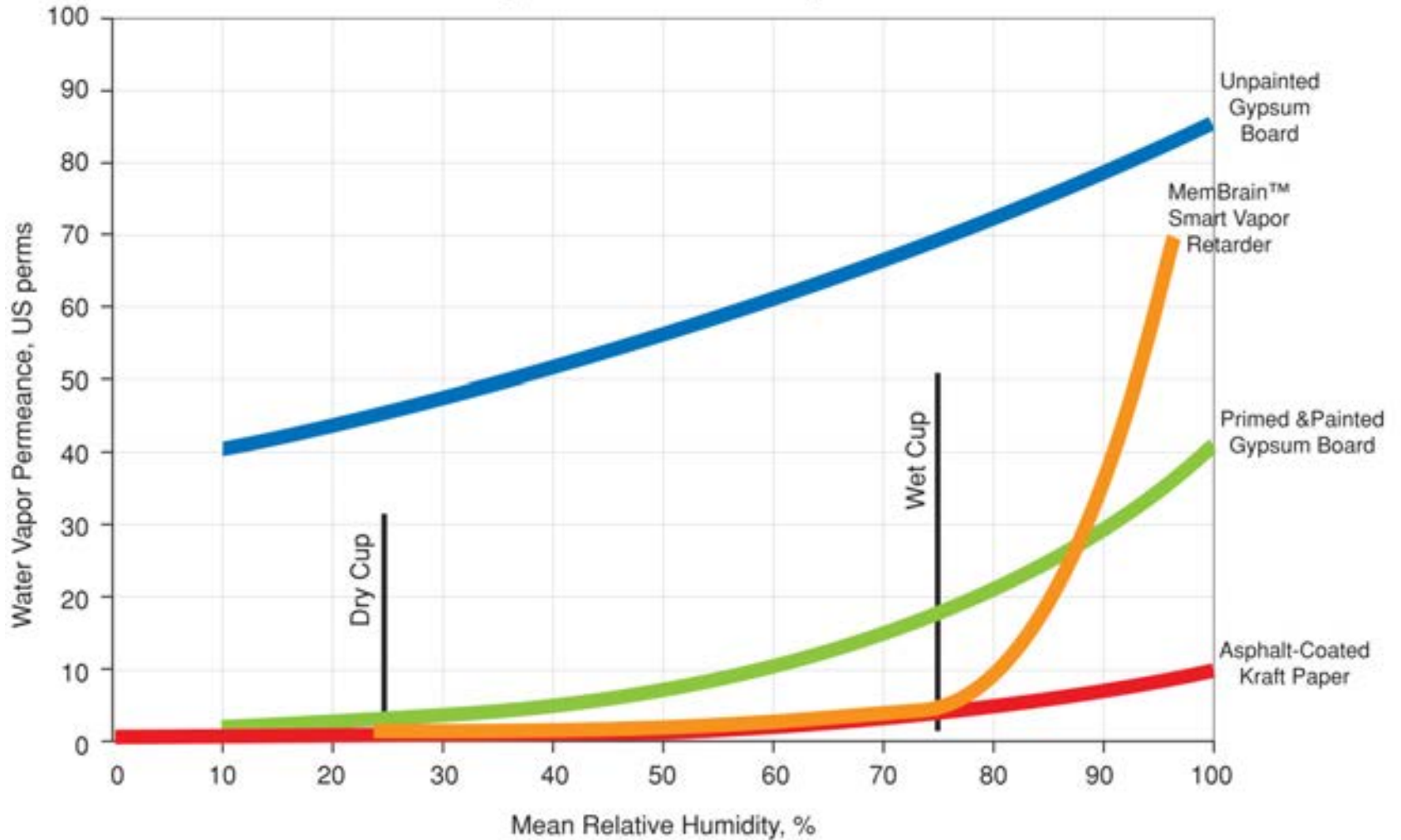
Average sorption isotherm for wood as a function of temperature
 From Straube & Burnett, 2005

Moisture Content vs. Relative Humidity

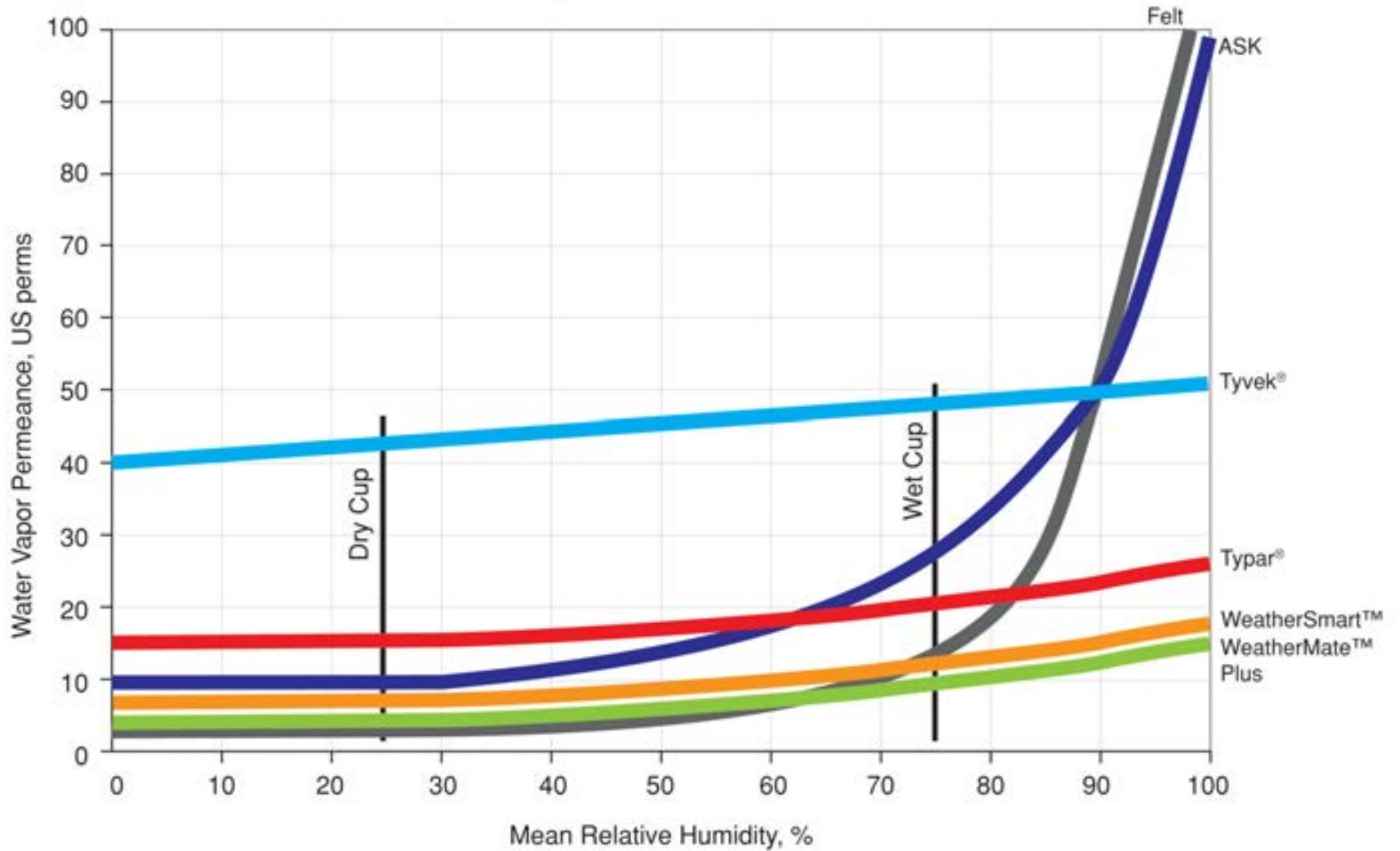




Water Vapor Permeance of MemBrain™ Smart Vapor Retarder, Primed and Painted Gypsum Board, Unpainted Gypsum Board and Asphalt-Coated Kraft Paper



Water Vapor Permeance of WRB's



Vapor

Diffusion

Convective Flow

Vapor Concentration

Air Pressure



DIFFUSION



**Higher Dewpoint Temperature
Higher Water Vapor Density
or Concentration
(Higher Vapor Pressure)
on Warm Side of Assembly**

**Low Dewpoint Temperature
Lower Water Vapor Density
or Concentration
(Lower Vapor Pressure)
on Cold Side of Assembly**

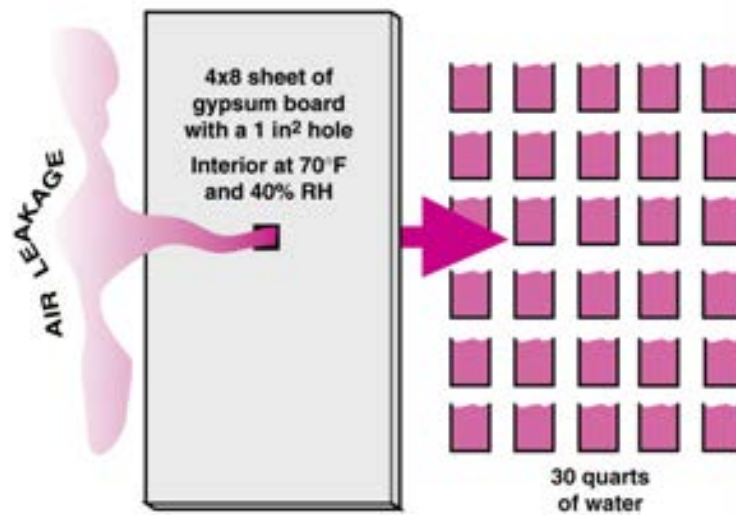
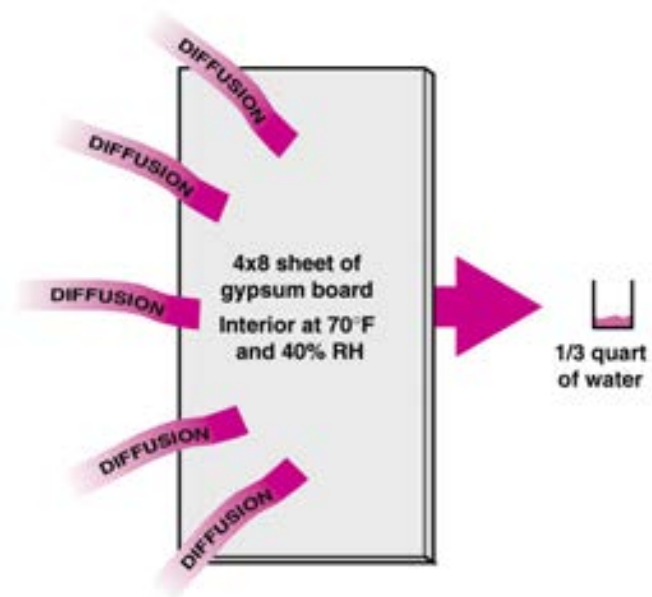


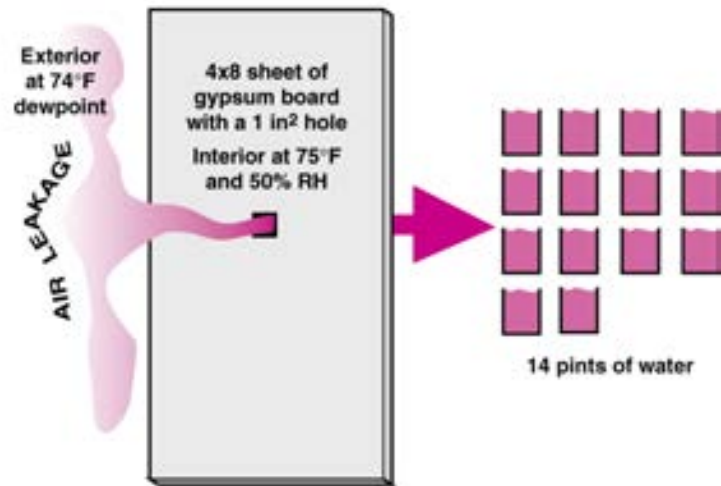
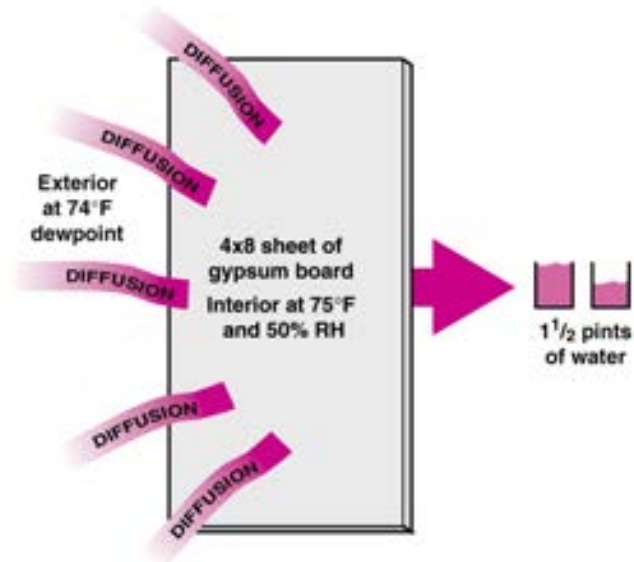
AIR TRANSPORT

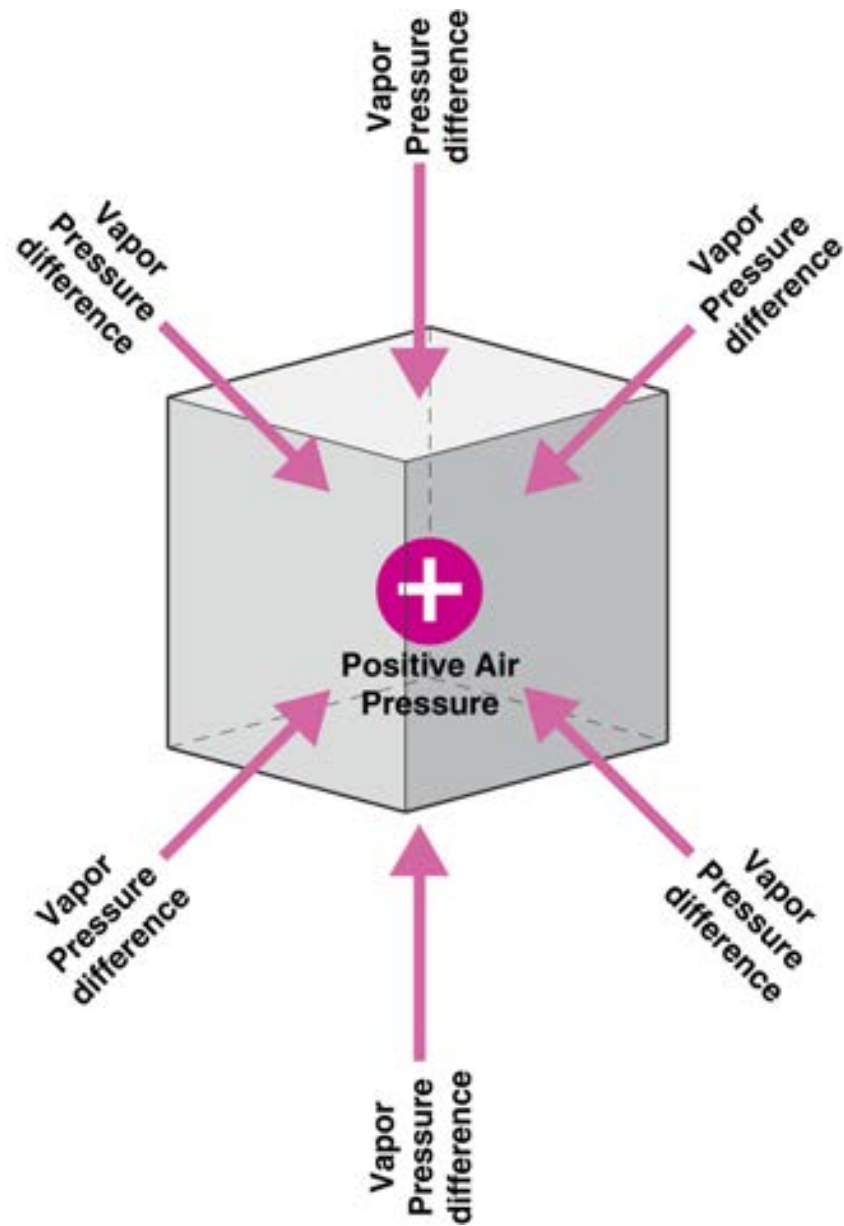


**Higher Air
Pressure**

**Lower Air
Pressure**







Life is Tough Enough As it Is...

Life is Tough Enough As it Is...
It's Harder When You Are Stupid

Don't Do Stupid Things



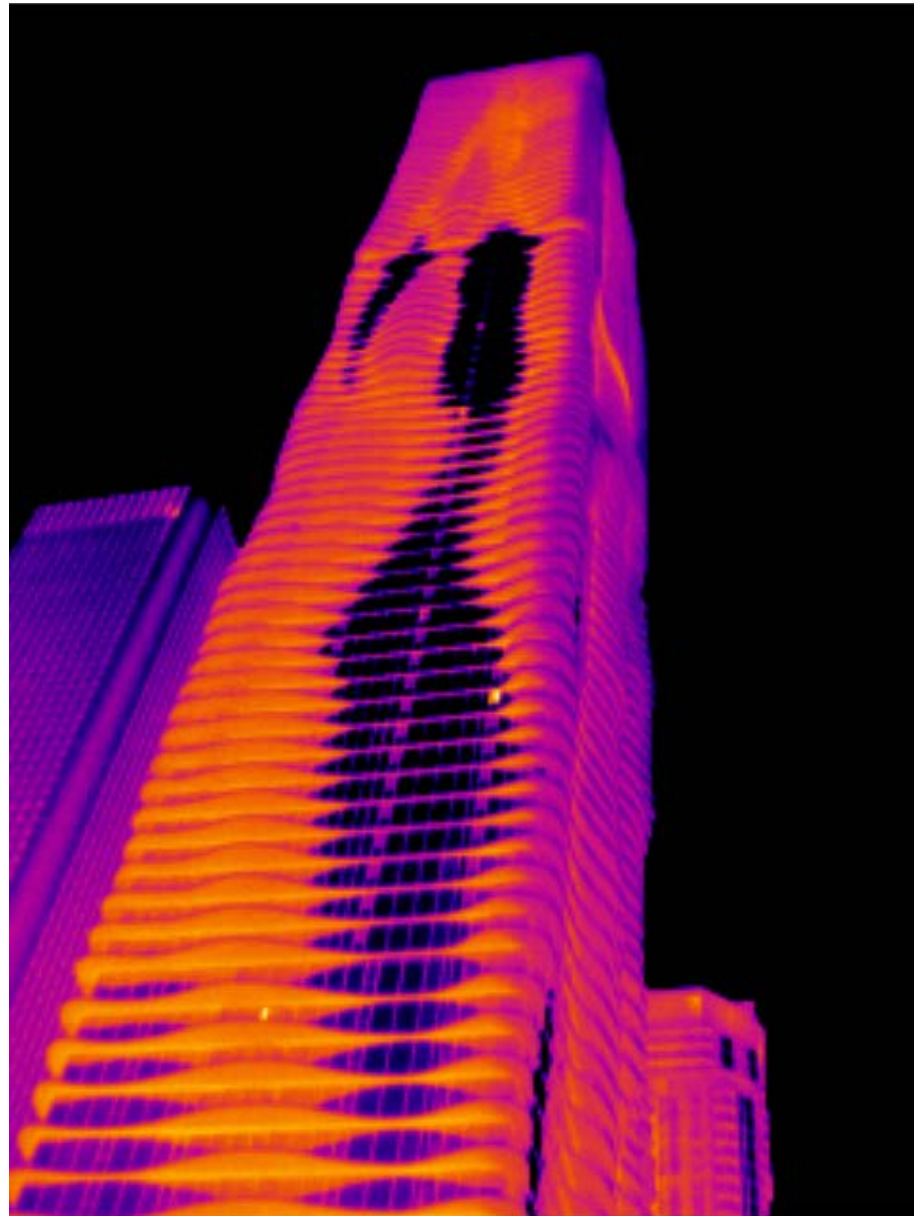


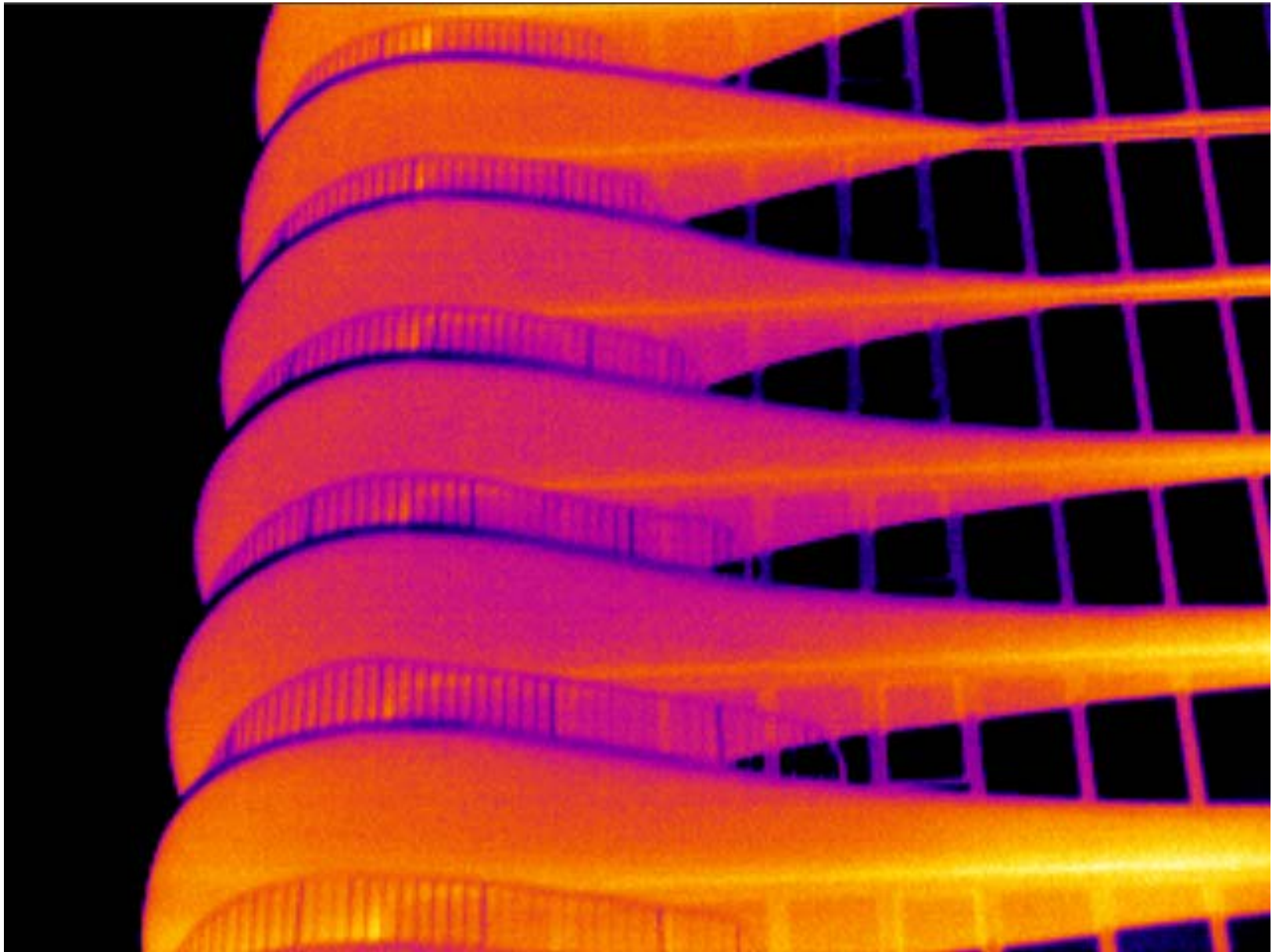


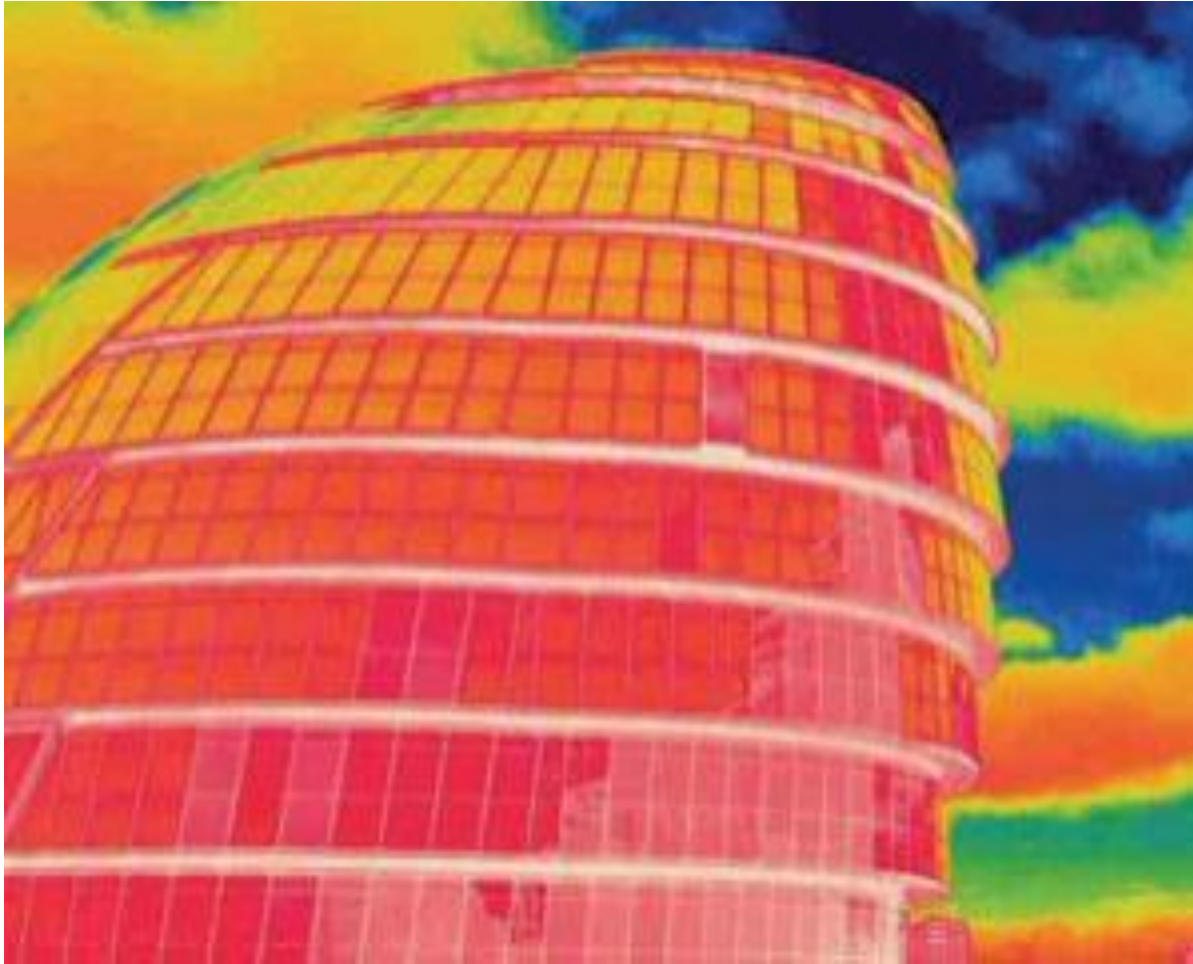






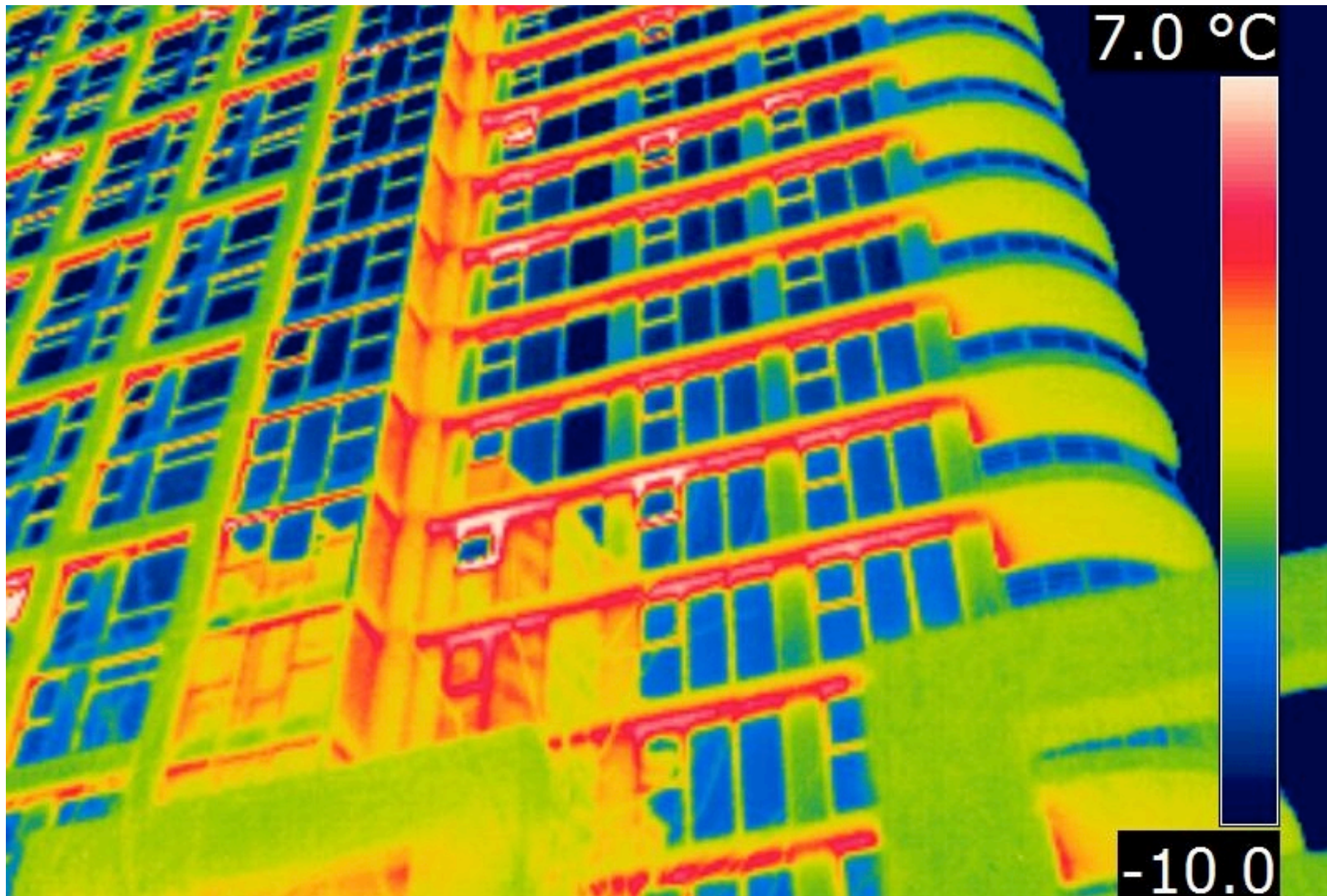


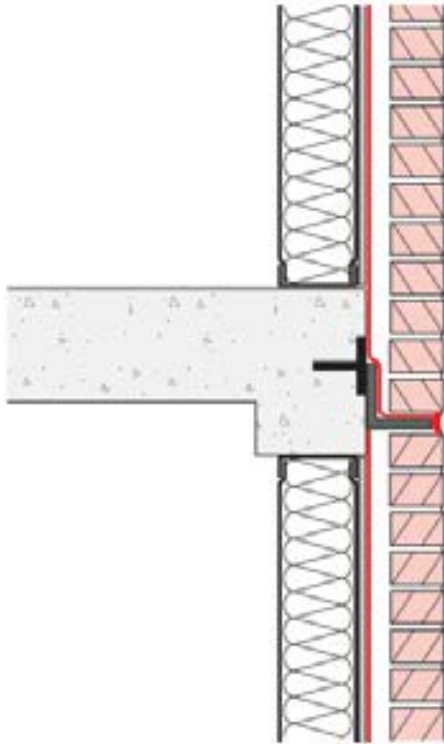




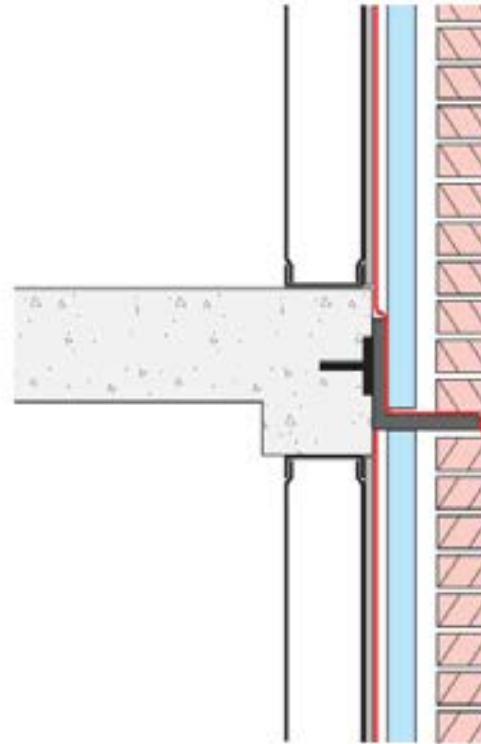




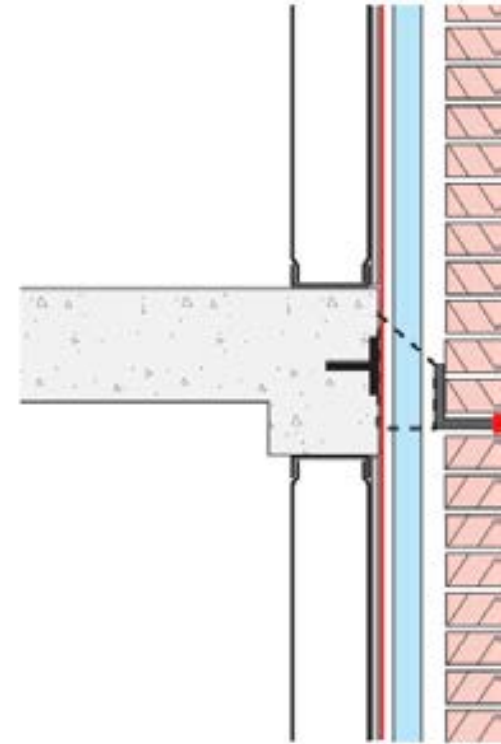




“The Ugly”



“The Bad”



“The Good”









WEDGE SHIMS INSERTED BEHIND/FRONT OF ANGLE TO ENSURE DIRECT BEARING ON BRACKET AND PROVIDE LEVEL (IF NECESSARY)

