

Corrigenda

The following diagrams should replace the Figs. 4, 5, and 6 that appeared on pages 412 and 413 of the October 1986 issue. These relate to the paper entitled 'A new method for the rapid float-sink analysis of coal fines' by J-P. Franzidis and M.C. Harris

Fig. 4—Comparison of the results obtained from the new method with those from the double-column method, sample 1

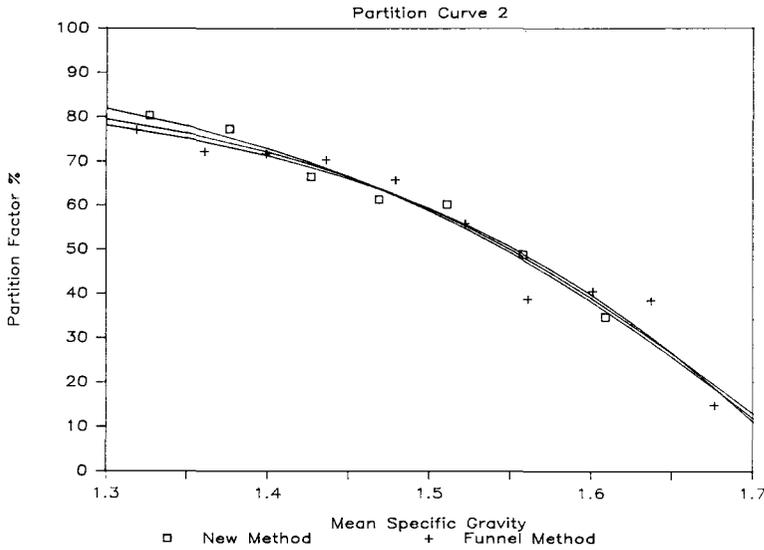
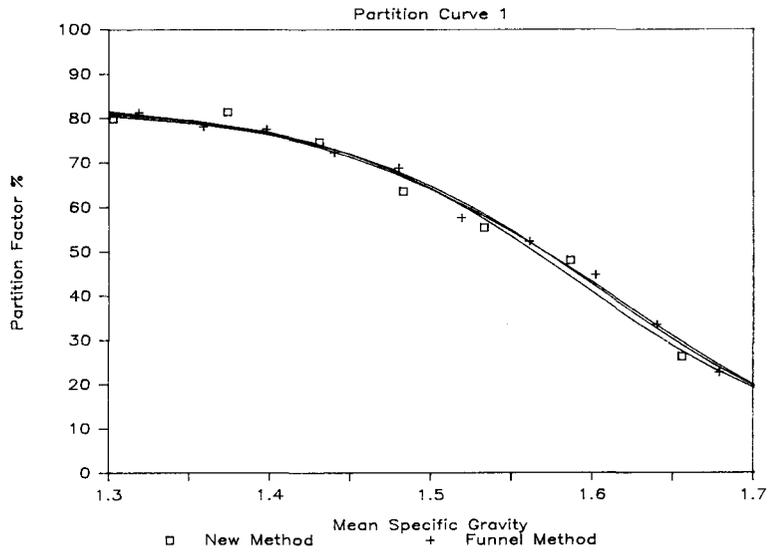
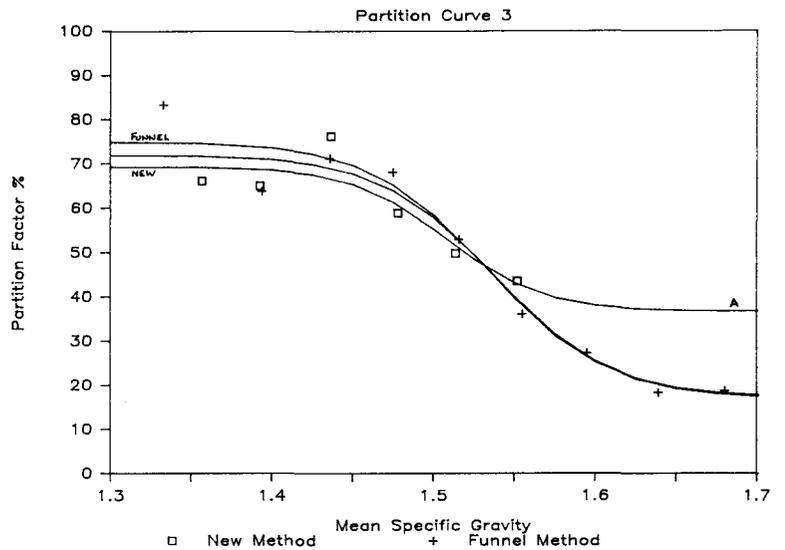


Fig. 5—Comparison of the results obtained from the new method with those from the double-column method, sample 2

Fig. 6—Comparison of the results obtained from the new method with those from the double-column method, sample 3



Womanpower

In 1981 the Publicity Committee of the Federation of Societies of Professional Engineers (FSPE) decided that one way in which the engineering manpower pool could be increased would be by the introduction of womanpower to the profession. Since then, Std 9 and 10 girls have been invited to attend the engineering winterschools held annually at the various universities under the auspices of SAFUES. The girls are selected from a list of high achievers in the National Youth Science Olympiad on the basis of good marks in mathematics and science. Initially, unqualified invitations were sent, but, when it became clear that some were accepting even though they had no interest in engineering or had already chosen another career, FSPE requested that, in such cases, the invitations should be declined to allow someone else to attend a winterschool.

This year 68 were invited, and 25 accepted the invitation. Their replies to the questionnaire sent after they had been to the winterschools made interesting reading. Of the 25 who attended, 9 would like to become engineers, 7 are uncertain, and only 5 are not interested. All 16 who are interested or uncertain said the winterschool had encouraged them to consider engineering. The most popular branch of engineering proved to be chemical (7), followed by electronic and mechanical (3 each), electrical (2), and civil (1).

As in previous years, the girls thought that the best careers guidance is obtained by talking to people in the profession; that engineering should be emphasized more among scholars, especially girls; that most girls become aware of engineering too late to qualify for admission; and that careers guidance at schools is inadequate. All the girls considered mathematics essential, and manual dexterity helpful but not necessary.

For those engineers who feel that engineering does not enjoy the status it deserves, the replies are most encourag-

ing. The majority thought that the country's economic prosperity depends on engineers, that engineers have status, that engineers are not just glorified artisans, that there is a good future for girls in engineering, and that engineers earn above-average salaries.

The young ladies involved appear to be very strong minded, the majority indicating that they would not be discouraged from studying engineering by male chauvinism, the fear of being considered unfeminine, or the influence of friends, family, or teachers. They are also realistic and appreciate that hard work, rather than just intellect, is essential for those aspiring to be engineers.

To assess the success of FSPE's sponsorship in previous years, short questionnaires were sent to those who had attended winterschools in the years 1982 to 1985. In 1982, 65 girls were sponsored, in 1983 47, in 1984 32, and in 1985 31. Of the 78 replies received, 14 indicated that they are studying engineering (chemical 4, electronic and electrical 3 each, and mechanical, metallurgical, civil, and industrial 1 each). Allied courses like B.Sc. Computer Science and Architecture are being followed by 20, while the only prospective teacher will be able to pass on to her pupils the knowledge obtained at the winterschool. Three of the 14 prospective engineers are involved in the organization of winterschools at their universities.

Many of the girls indicated that, although they had not chosen engineering, they had encouraged their friends to do so. Others were convinced, after finding out more about engineering, that it was a career for which they were not suited. Some who chose other careers now regret it and may do engineering later. Some had to go to work because bursaries were not available (or not for girls).

There is a growing awareness that engineering is a suitable and worth-while career for girls. FSPE has played a role in creating this awareness, although this cannot be assessed statistically.

Coal-mining wastes

The 2nd International Symposium on the Reclamation, Treatment and Utilization of Coal Mining Wastes will be held in Nottingham (England) from 7th to 11th September, 1987.

The original concept underlying the promotion of the Symposium was to provide, for those engaged in the British coal-mining scene, an opportunity for an exchange of experience and views in the field of reclamation, treatment, and utilization of wastes culminating from the mining and preparation of coal for market. The participants for whom the 1st Symposium was organized changed that concept because, not only were papers received from Canada, France, Germany (FRG), the Netherlands, Poland, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States, but delegates also attended from

Belgium and China—thus the Symposium developed a truly international flavour. Therefore, following the overwhelming success of the 1st Symposium, which was held in Durham in 1984, British Coal's Minestone Services is now organizing the 2nd, and it is hoped that these symposia will become regular three-yearly events.

The Symposium Programme of technical papers, social events, visits, and tours is now available from

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