TECHNICAL NOTES

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS

No. 756

THE EFFECT OF PISTON-HEAD SHAPE, CYLINDER-HEAD SHAPE,

AND EXHAUST RESTRICTION, ON THE PERFORMANCE OF

A PISTON-PORTED TWO-STROKE CYLINDER

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SUMMARY

A full-scale, three-dimensional, steady-flow model
of the two-stroke engine described in N.A.C.A. Technical
Note No. 674 (reference 1), was constructed for the pur-
pose of observing the scavenging-air flow obtained with
the various inlet-port arrangements tested in the actual
engine. Based on experience gained from correlation of
the flow tests with engine tests, several piston-head
shapes were developed, and the most promising were tested
in the engine. Several modifications of the successful
round-edge piston previously used, were also tested. Three
types of cylinder head: spherical, cylindrical, and flat
in cross section were tried, first in the flow model and
then in the engine. The flat head was modified by milling
a portion of the surface away to form steps. The cylin-
drical and modified flat heads were run at various angles
to the plane of symmetry.

Piston- and cylinder-head shapes were developed at
compression ratio of 7, purely from the standpoint of
scavenging, and would not be suited to compression-igni-
tion use without considerable modification.

A flat-top piston, with edge rounded to a 3/4-inch
radius was found best. The best cylinder-head shape tried
was spherical, with radius nearly the same as that of the
cylinder bore.

An investigation was also made of the possibility of
producing a supercharging effect by restricting the ex-
haust ports while using normal piston and cylinder head.
A limited amount of supercharging was found possible by
this means, but the net gain was small owing to increased
pumping loss.

All tests were made over a range of scavenge ratios of 0.8 to 1.6. Spark ignition was used in all engine tests.

This investigation, conducted at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was sponsored by, and conducted with financial assistance from, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

INTRODUCTION

Previous work with this loop-scavenged, piston-ported engine (reference 1) disclosed that with suitable inlet-port shape and arrangement, it was possible to reach approximately 85 percent of the maximum attainable scavenging efficiency with a scavenge ratio of 1.4 and an inlet pressure of 12.8 inch of Hg above atmosphere.

The main purpose of the present investigation was to determine whether the scavenging of this engine could be improved by the use of special piston-head or cylinder-head shapes. An investigation of this sort seemed desirable, since any improvement gained in this manner could be had without losing any of the inherent simplicity of this type of engine.

It was considered likely that, although the backward sloping inlet ports shown in figure 2 were quite effective in directing the scavenging flow, a special piston shape might be of value in keeping a more definite boundary between the upward-moving fresh charge, and the downward-moving exhaust products.

In the previous tests, many modifications of the best port arrangements were made, without obtaining any definite improvement in scavenging. It was felt that observations of flow in a model might indicate some unscavenged pocket, or some other peculiarity of flow which was preventing further improvement. A directing surface on piston or cylinder head could then be added to eliminate the faulty flow. If, on the other hand, no peculiarities were evident, then the piston or cylinder head could perhaps be designed to accentuate the type of flow present in the best port arrangements. Finally, the flow model might indicate whether swirl were present and, if so, whether it could be controlled. Tests on the engine would indicate whether swirl was beneficial or adverse to good scavenging efficiency.

DESCRIPTION OF APPARATUS

Engine.- The engine used for this work is shown in figure 1, and is the one described in detail in reference 1. Briefly, it is a single-cylinder, piston-ported, two-stroke engine, or 4-1/2-inch bore and 6-inch stroke. The engine consists of an outer barrel, into which a longitudinally split cylinder sleeve fits. One half of this sleeve contains the inlet ports, the other half contains the exhaust ports. The port timing may be varied by sliding one or the other of the halves up or down in the outer barrel, and locking it in the desired position. The vertical cross section of any of the ports may be changed by means of removable inserts. The cylinder head is similar to an inverted piston which extends out of the cylinder bore, and includes a flange for bolting it in position. The compression ratio may be changed by sliding the head up or down in the cylinder. The inlet and exhaust passages are partially contained in the outer barrel. Figure 1 shows some of the constructional details, figure 2 is a horizontal cross section through the ports and figure 3 shows how the vertical cross sections of the ports may be modified by inserts. The shape of the ports in the horizontal plane, as shown in figure 2, was adapted from the arrangements recommended in references 2 and 3.

Figures 4 and 5 show the test set-up which is fully described in reference 1. It will be noted that air and illuminating gas are supplied to the engine by separate blowers, with provision for measuring the quantities of each. Surge tanks on both inlet and outlet are used for the prevention of unwanted dynamic effects. As in the work reported in reference 1, illuminating gas was chosen as a fuel to insure homogeneity of the charge, and freedom from injection problems, so that scavenging efficiency could be evaluated directly from the engine output at a given scavenge ratio.

Pistons and cylinder heads were made of aluminum alloys. The two piston tops developed from the flow model were cast integral with the piston. The domed tops were bolted to a flat piston head. The upper part of the cylinder head consisted of a flange, to which the various head shapes could be quickly bolted. The lower head parts were water-cooled and contained the ring grooves. Figures 6, 6a, and 7 show the various piston-head shapes tested, and figures 8 and 9 show the principal cylinder-head shapes.

Flow model.- The flow model shown in figure 10 was carefully made to the same internal dimensions as the actual engine. The model includes inlet passage, ports, cylinder, cylinder head and piston. Walls of the inlet passage, and the cylinder barrel, with the exception of the port ring, are made of a transparent plastic material with polished surfaces. It is thus possible to observe the entire interior of the cylinder. The piston and cylinder head can be moved axially in the cylinder, and are held airtight and in position by means of expanding rubber rings. The "port timing," that is, the position of inlet and exhaust ports relative to the piston, to the inlet manifold, and relative to each other, can be changed by moving the cylinder and port ring vertically with respect to the manifolds, and transferring flat inserts from the top or the bottom of the exhaust ports at the same time.

In order to observe the air flow, a circular wire frame was made, across which were stretched six fine piano wires, as shown in figures 10 and 11. Small glass beads were threaded on the piano wire and spaced with hypodermic tubing. A rubber thread 0.01 inch in diameter and 1/8 inch long was cemented to each bead, and a fine tuft of cotton attached to the other end of the thread. The frame contained a total of 48 tufts which could rotate freely with the bead as a bearing and follow the air flow in a plane perpendicular to the wire. The flexibility of the fine rubber thread also permitted the tuft to follow components of the air motion parallel to the wire. By means of this frame, the direction of the air flow at any number of horizontal sections of the cylinder could be observed. The tufts were small and light enough, so that their effect on the flow was apparently negligible. Air was supplied to the inlet manifold by a small Sirrocco fan. The static pressure in the inlet passage was held constant for all runs at 0.6 inch alcohol. This pressure was sufficient to give a well-defined flow pattern, but not enough to damage the flow frame. Some use was also made of frames giving vertical cross sections of the flow, but the results from these were not as easy to interpret.

TEST PROCEDURE

Flow model tests.- Preliminary studies were made with the flow model, using various air velocities, piston positions and port timings, in order to determine whether

these variables had a noticeable effect on the type of
flow obtained with a given port arrangement. It was
found that port timing did not affect the flow. Air ve-
locities between a flow sufficient to give a definite
indication with the cotton tufts and one sufficient to
destroy the tufts, were investigated, with the conclusion
that the type of flow did not change over this range.
The type of flow was found to be unaffected by piston
position, except in the case where the ports were just
uncovered.

All flow-model runs were therefore made under the
following conditions:

   1. Port timing of $52° - 55°$ before bottom center for
       inlet and $65°$ before bottom center for exhaust.
       This was the timing found best in the engine
       (reference 1).

   2. Constant inlet pressure of 0.6 inch alcohol, which
       resulted in moderate air velocity in the flow
       model.

   3. Piston position $20°$ before bottom center.

The flow was explored and plotted at 0, 1/2, and 1
inch above the piston and at every inch thereafter to the
top of the cylinder. Typical plots are shown in figures
12, 13, and 14. The length of the arrows in these plots
indicates the relative horizontal component of the flow
direction. The relative magnitude of the vertical compo-
nent of the flow direction is indicated approximately by
the shading, a dark shading indicating a large vertical
component. Two arrows at one point indicate a fluctuation
of the horizontal flow direction within the angle included
between the arrows. A dot indicates upward flow with no
horizontal component. A cross indicates downward flow
with no horizontal component. Arrows with crosses at the
tail indicate a downward vertical component. Plain arrows
indicate an upward vertical component. Small circles in-
dicate stagnant or indefinite flow. The boundary between
regions of up-and-down flow is indicated approximately,
by means of a dot-dash line.

Engine test procedure.- Tests with the engine were
made under the following conditions:

   1. Engine speed -- 1,800 rpm.

2. Compression ratio -- 7.

3. Fuel-air ratio ----- 0.227 by volume.

4. Ignition timing ---- 13° BTC.

5. Port timing -------- (Same as for the flow model)
    52° - 55° BBC for inlet and 65° BBC for exhaust.
    (See fig. 3a.)

Other timings were investigated (see fig. 18) with
several of the various combinations of porting, piston,
and cylinder head, but in each case optinum timing was
found to be the above. This timing was therefore adopted
as standard for the engine tests.

6. Port arrangement -- (see table I). Various port
    arrangements were tried whenever indicated as
    desirable by the flow studies or by other con-
    siderations, but usually the "E" arrangement
    was found best.

7. Scavenging ratio -- 0.8 to 1.6.

The various combinations of piston, cylinder head,
and inlet ports tested in the engine are shown in table
III.

DEFINITIONS

"Scavenging Ratio," as defined in reference 1, is
the ratio of the volume of charge at inlet density pass-
ing through the engine cylinder per stroke, to the dis-
placement of the cylinder.

"Scavenging Efficiency" is the ratio of the weight
of fresh charge retained in the cylinder, per stroke, to
the product of total cylinder volume and inlet density.
Inlet density was taken at 75° F and 29.92 inches Hg in
every case. Since the indicated mean effective pressure
of the engine, with a given fuel-air ratio and compression
ratio, is proportional to the weight of fresh charge re-
tained per stroke, the indicated mean pressure is a meas-
ure of the scavenging efficiency. The friction mean ef-
ffective pressure was nearly constant at about 14 pounds
per square inch. This value is small enough so that the

"gross" brake mean effective pressure may also be used as a measure of scavenging efficiency. This quantity, defined as the brake mean effective pressure calculated from the dynamometer brake load, is plotted herewith for all engine tests.

"Net brake mean effective pressure" is calculated by assuming 70 percent adiabatic blower efficiency and subtracting the resulting blower mean effective pressure from the engine gross mean effective pressure.

Port shapes.- Various combinations of port inserts were used in both engine and flow model. The inlet-port arrangements used are designated in table I.

Because no inserts were used in the top of the horizontal ($0°$) ports, they opened about $3°$ of crank travel before the $30°$, $45°$, or $60°$ ports.

The height of the exhaust ports was also varied by inserts as shown in figure 3.

Piston-top shapes.- Seven piston-top shapes were tested as follows:

No.	Name	Figure
1	Deflector	6
2	Deflector	6a
3	Flat	7
4	Round edge, 5/8 in. radius	7
5	Domed, sharp edge	7
6	Domed, 3/4 in. radius	7
7	Flat, 3/4 in. radius	7

Pistons 1 and 2 were developed as a result of flow-model tests. The procedure followed in developing these pistons was one of trial and error, in which a clay piston head was gradually modified to obtain the desired result in the flow model. As no definite pockets or flow peculiarities had been noted with the best port arrangements, the objective was an accentuation of the type of

flow obtained with the port arrangements which gave good
performance in the engine.

Pistons 3, 4, and 5 have definite corners at the in-
tersection of the head surface and the top land, as may
be seen in figure 7. The ports were set to open at the
timings given on page 6. With pistons 6 and 7, the ports
were raised 0.10 inch to give approximately the same ef-
fective port timing. The port area uncovered by the pis-
ton is plotted against crank angle before bottom center,
for each piston-head shape, in figure 3a.

Cylinder-head shapes.- Six cylinder-head shapes were
tested, as follows:

Designation	Name	Figure
A	Deep, spherical	8, 9
B	Shallow, spherical	8
C	Cylindrical	8, 9
D	Flat	8
E	Flat with 7/8-inch step	8
F	Flat with step across center	8, 9

Although work with engine and flow model had indi-
cated certain flow patterns as being desirable, none of
these patterns seemed attainable by means of reasonable
changes in the cylinder-head shape alone. For this rea-
son, the flow model was not used to develop the cylinder-
head shapes, but instead, they were arbitrarily chosen.

Flat heads modified by means of steps were made with
the idea of breaking up the horizontal flow velocity at
the top of the cylinder. The cylindrical and F heads were
tested with their axes both parallel and perpendicular to
the plane of symmetry of the cylinder, in both flow model
and engine.

Exhaust restrictions.- Runs were made to determine
the effect of restricting the exhaust-port area, on the
power output and scavenging pressure. The standard
timing, given on page 4, was used, with the spherical

B head, and round-edge piston 4. Exhaust-port inserts
similar to the $0°$ inlet-port inserts were made up in two
sizes. When these two inserts were placed in the bottom
of the exhaust ports, there remained 13/16 inch for the
one and 9/16 inch for the other between the top of the
inserts and the top of the exhaust port. (See fig. 3.)
With no insert, the distance from piston top to port top
at bottom center was about 1.2 inches. Light spring in-
dicator cards were taken to determine the amount of super-
charging possible by this method (figs. 15 and 16).

Effect of swirl.- A plate, partially blocking off
the inlet ports on one side of the engine, and thus pro-
ducing a strong swirl, was tried in the flow model and
engine. The scavenge ratio was kept the same as without
the plate.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Effect of port arrangement.- The effect of port ar-
rangement on engine performance (with flat piston 3 and
shallow spherical head B) was reported in reference 1 and
is summarized herewith by figure 17. The corresponding
flow patterns as determined in the flow model for the A
and E ports (the poorest and the best as determined by
engine performance) are shown in figure 12.

Neither port arrangement shows evidence of unscav-
enged areas or serious flow peculiarities, such as re-
verse scavenging or violent swirl. It may be noticed that
with the E porting, the flow is characterized by a concen-
tration of the upward-flow area to a minimum at about 2
inches above the piston. At this point the upward-moving
area occupies about 25 percent of the total cylinder cross
section. The upward-flow area subsequently widens out,
until it occupies about 40 percent of the cross-sectional
area at the 6-inch level. The contraction of the upflow
area with the A porting occurs at a higher level and does
not expand again.

The "A" ports show much more "short-circuiting" (that
is, flow from inlet to exhaust) than the E ports at the
lower levels. It seems probable that the "short-circuit-
ing" accounts for the poorer engine performance of the
"A" porting. An interesting difference between the two
arrangements is in the rotary motion of the charge in the
cylinder, which occurs with the "E" ports only. The up-

ward flow, keeping near the wall, twists about 90° by the
time it reaches the top of the cylinder; then as the flow
turns downward, the twist reverses. The twist occurred
in either direction depending on how it started. It is
to be emphasized that the net rotation is zero, the result
being what amounts to a 90° twist to the top of the in-
verted "U" of flowing air. There is a marked horizontal
flow of air from the region of upward flow into the down-
ward region, all the way up the advancing edge of the up-
ward current. There is no evidence of downflow being
picked up by the upflow, however.

The "C" and "D" ports, also good performers in the
engine, showed flow characteristics very similar to those
of arrangement E, while the "B" port arrangement, a poor
performer, gave flow patterns nearly like those of the "A"
arrangement.

Pistons.- Pistons 1 and 2 (see figs. 6 and 6a) were
developed independently by two investigators, using as a
guide the type of flow which was found to be characteris-
tic of the best port arrangements. The process consisted
of gradually modifying a clay piston head, until the de-
sired flow was obtained in the flow model. The "B" (0°)
ports and spherical B head were used during this work.
Particular effort was made to eliminate short-circuiting
and eddies. Figure 13 shows the flow obtained in the
model with piston 2. The flow with piston 1 was the same,
as nearly as could be observed. Owing probably to the
symmetry of the piston, the twist in the flow loop is ab-
sent. The expansion of the upblast above the 2-inch level
was also absent. The use of a deflector surface very
close to the inlet ports to control the upblast, was con-
sidered, but was not tried because of the resulting re-
striction to the flow which would require a high scaveng-
ing pressure. There is a notable absence of "short-cir-
cuiting," which led to the hope of excellent engine per-
formance for these pistons.

The flows obtained with piston 3 (flat) and 4 (nearly
flat with edges rounded to 5/8-inch radius) are also shown
in figure 13, using the E port arrangement in each case.
The general nature of the flow with these two pistons is
quite similar, and both show much more "short-circuiting"
and "mixing" (that is, flow between the upgoing and down-
going air) than with pistons 2. They also show the "twist"
mentioned above.

Engine test of pistons.- Figure 18 shows that the
best port timing was substantially the same for pistons
3 and 4. This was found to be the case for the other
pistons also, so that all other engine tests on the pis-
tons were made at a fixed port timing, as previously noted.

Figure 19 shows the performance of pistons 1, 2, 3,
and 4 in the engine at various scavenging ratios. The
small differences in their performance are surprising, in
view of the very pronounced differences in the flow (fig.
13) shown in the model. Pistons 1 and 2, which show what
would appear to be much better flow in the model, have,
respectively, none and only a very slight performance ad-
vantage over 4, the rounded-edge piston.

The considerable difference in performance between
pistons 3 and 4 is also surprising, in view of the sim-
ilarity of flow in the model (fig. 13). In comparing
these curves, it should be recalled that pistons 1 and 2
were tested with the B ports (0^0) while with 3 and 4 the
E porting was used. Thus each piston was tested with the
most favorable porting.

In view of the good performance of round-edge piston
4, other round-edge pistons, 5, 6, and 7, were tested in
the engine, with results as shown in figure 20. Pistons
6 and 7 showed performance about equal to that with 1 and
2, but required slightly higher scavenging pressure.

In order to accommodate the high-domed pistons, the
deep spherical A head was used through this part of the
work. The action of this head was found to be substan-
tially the same as the shallow spherical B head, so that
the results were not affected by this change. The E port-
ing was used on all tests with the rounded pistons.

As may be seen, increasing the radius of the edge of
the piston (7) definitely increased the gross and net
power about 2 percent at the higher scavenge ratios, but
required higher scavenging pressure for a given scaveng-
ing ratio. Doming the center of the piston head (6) was
of no advantage and required a slight increase in scaveng-
ing pressure. Adding a sharp corner to the domed head (5)
reduced the power considerably at low scavenge ratios.
Apparently the edge of the piston is the important surface,
and is much better at the high scavenge ratios when well
rounded. Note, however, from figure 19 that the ordinary
flat piston with sharp edge is superior at 0.8 scavenge

ratio. At the high scavenge ratios, the flow into the cyl-
inder starts sooner because the higher inlet pressure
overcomes the exhaust pressure more quickly; that is, there
is less backflow from cylinder into the inlet. This means
that the initial scavenging flow, at high scavenge ratios,
occurs with the piston nearer the top of the inlet ports.
Estimating from the indicator cards, the start of flow
would occur with about a 1/4-inch opening at 1.4 scavenge
ratio and a 1/2-inch opening with 0.8 scavenge ratio.
This difference in inlet shape, at the time flow starts,
may account for the above effects.

Cylinder-head shapes.- The six cylinder heads already
described were tested in the flow model with piston 4 and
ports E with rather inconclusive results. The three most
important flow patterns are shown in figure 14. The flow
with the deep spherical head A looks much like that with
the shallow spherical head B except perhaps for a little
less short-circuiting and more eddies. The flat head D
has bad eddies at the 2-inch level. The cylindrical head
C in both parallel and perpendicular positions showed about
the same flow as the deep spherical heads. Heads A, B, C,
and D have similar flow at the 4- and 5-inch levels, with
the usual 90° twist. It is believed that the flow charac-
teristics of the round-top piston tend to obscure the small
effect of the heads, except in the case of the eddies with
the flat head. Modifications E and F of the flat-top head
resulted in negligible flow changes as compared with flow
with the flat head D.

The performance of these heads in the engine is shown
in figure 21, which is a comparison of all the cylinder
heads tested. A deep spherical A head is seen to be about
2 percent better than the shallow spherical B head, and
about 8 percent better than the flat top head D, in both
net and gross power. As might be expected, the scavenge
pressure for a given scavenge ratio is nearly the same for
all the heads. Figure 21 shows the spherical head to be
much superior to the cylindrical head in either position.
The cylindrical head with axis perpendicular to the plane
of symmetry of the ports is about 5 percent better than
with axis turned parallel, but is still nearly 7 percent
below the performance of the spherical A head. Scavenge
ratio has little or no effect on the relative performance
of any of the heads except the modified flat heads. With
the small step (E), perpendicular to the plane of symmetry,
performance is about the same as with the plain flat head,
except at 0.8 scavenge ratio where the performance is

poorer by about 7 percent. Moving the step to the center
of the head (F) causes the same drop in power at 0.8 scav-
enge ratio but results in a slight improvement at the
higher ratios. Rotating the F head 90° in the cylinder
resulted in a reduction in power of 3 percent. (See table
III.)

Effect of swirl.- To determine the effect of actual
swirl in the cylinder, the flow model was set up with a
flat-top piston, B head, and E porting, but with one en-
trance to the inlet passage blocked off, so that a large
proportion of the scavenging air entered the cylinder
through the ports on one side. This resulted in a violent
swirl with the area of upward flow rotating 180° in the
cylinder by the time it reached the cylinder head. The
downward blast from the top remained on the inlet side un-
til reaching the 3-inch level where it crowded the main
part of the upward blast to the side of the cylinder 90°
from the inlet, and quickly crossed the center of the cyl-
inder to leave by the exit ports. The same arrangement
in the engine resulted in a loss of 9 percent in gross,
and 15 percent in net power at a scavenge ratio of 1.4.
(See table III.)

Exhaust restrictions.- Figure 22 gives engine per-
formance with exhaust ports restricted by the introduction
of inserts at the bottom of each port. As shown in figure
3, the first set reduced the height of the ports to 13/16
inch, the second set reduced it to 9/16 inch. With no in-
serts, the distance from the piston edge to the top of the
exhaust port was about 1.2 inches. Normal port timing,
E porting, spherical head B, and round-edge piston 4 were
used throughout. An increase of gross power of about 3
percent was realized with the moderate restriction and 10
percent with the severe restriction. The increase in
scavenge pressure, however, caused the net powers to be
nearly the same. An increase of only 2-1/2 percent in net
power was realized with the severe restriction, with a 58-
percent increase in scavenge pressure. By comparing the
indicated power with the pressure in the cylinder at the
time the ports close, we may estimate how much of the in-
creased power is due to a supercharging effect and how
much to improved scavenging. This was done by measuring
the indicator cards taken during these runs. Two of the
cards are shown in figures 15 and 16. Since a certain
amount of supercharging was realized in these tests, the
definition of scavenging efficiency as used in reference
1 and in this work does not indicate the relative excel-

lence of scavenge in this case, as the fresh charge is
trapped in the cylinder at various pressures depending
upon the amount of exhaust restriction. With a constant
volume fraction of fresh charge in the cylinder, there-
fore, various values of mean effective pressure could be
obtained. Column 4 of table II gives the ratio of indi-
cated mean effective pressure to pressure in the cylinder
at the close of the ports. This number should be a good
indication of the thoroughness of the scavenging process
under these conditions. Table II shows no loss in scav-
enging with moderate exhaust restriction, but a drop of
about 9 percent at the high restriction. This difference
is due probably to the increased tendency of the exhaust
gases to recirculate in the cylinder when the exhaust
ports are restricted.

The indicator diagrams show that the tendency of the
exhaust gases to flow back into the inlet system is only
slightly affected by exhaust restrictions, because the
inlet pressure necessary for constant scavenge ratio hap-
pens to be enough higher in the restricted cases, so that
the elapsed time between the opening of the inlet ports
and the equalization of inlet and cylinder pressures re-
mains nearly constant. The differences between inlet
pressures and cylinder pressures at the moment the port
opens is also nearly constant at about 33 pounds per square
inch. The exact figures are shown in table II. The vari-
ation in these figures is almost within the error of the
indicator.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The steady-flow model is not a complete indicator
of results to be expected in the engine.

2. When used with the E porting (see table I), pis-
tons with well rounded edges but flat at the center of the
head are somewhat superior to other types tested, at scav-
enge ratios over 1.0. Below this figure, the flat-top
piston is best.

3. Pistons with a "deflector" top proved best when
used with B (horizontal) inlet porting. Under these con-
ditions, the "deflector" pistons were slightly inferior
to the best round-edge piston with the E porting.

4. The deep spherical cylinder head A is superior to
the other head types tried.

5. The relative scavenging efficiencies of various piston- and cylinder-head shapes are little affected by scavenge ratio, above a scavenge ratio of 1.0.

6. It appears from a limited number of tests that the best port timing is not affected by piston or head shapes.

7. Within the range of scavenge ratios investigated, the difference in net power between the best and worst piston tested was within 12 percent. The difference in net power between the best and worst cylinder head tested was within 25 percent. The most suitable port arrangement was used in all cases.

8. Swirl produced by partially blocking off the inlet ports on one side of the engine was detrimental to performance.

9. Some supercharging was obtained by reducing the height of the exhaust ports without changing their time of opening or closing, but only a small increase in net power was obtained in this way. Scavenging efficiency was reduced by excessive exhaust restrictions of this type.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
     Cambridge, Mass., December 1939.

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Table I. Inlet Ports

Port	1	2	3	4	4	3	2	1
A	45°	45°	45°	45°	45°	45°	45°	45°
B	0°	0°	0°	0°	0°	0°	0°	0°
C	0°	30°	45°	60°	60°	45°	30°	0°
D	0*	0*	0°	60°	60°	0°	0*	0*
E	0*	0*	0*	60°	60°	0*	0*	0*

*Ports open 3° earlier than other ports in the group.

Table II. Runs with Restricted Exhaust Ports

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Exhaust port height (in.)	imep	Pressure in cylinder at close of ports P_1* (lb/sq in.abs)	$\dfrac{imep}{P_1}$	Scavenging pressure gage (lb/sq in.)	Cylinder pressure as inlet port opens (lb/sq in.)	Max-imum (6-5)	Crank angle during inlet blowback
1.2 (open)	108	21.7	4.98	6	37	31	18°
13/16	111	22.2	5.00	7	40	33	19°
9/16	117	25.7	4.55	10	43	33	19°

*Cylinder pressures were taken with the M.I.T. engine indicator (reference 4).

Table III. Performance at 1.4 Scavenge Ratio

Pis-ton	Cyl-inder head	Inlet-port arrange-ment	bmep (from curves)		Scavenge pressure in. Hg	Fig-ure	Remarks
			Gross	Net			
3	B	E	89.8	80.5	10	19	Piston heads
4	B	E	93.2	83.0	11.9	19	
1	B	B	93.2	83.0	11.9	19	
2	B	B	95.0	84.0	12.7	19	
4	A	E	94.7	84.0	12.0	20	Rounded piston heads
5	A	E	94.7	83.6	12.8	20	
6	A	E	96.5	83.6	14.4	20	
7	A	E	96.5	85.5	13.4	20	
4	A	E	94.8	84.3	12.0	21	Cylinder heads
4	B	E	93.4	82.6	12.0	21	
4	D	E	87.5	77.8	11.6	21	
4	A	E	94.5	84.0	12.0	21	Cylindrical cylinder heads
4	C	E	88.2	77.7	11.8	21	
4	C	E	84.3	74.0	11.2	21	
4	A	E	94.6	84.0	12.0	21	Flat cylinder heads
4	D	E	87.5	77.5	11.8	21	
4	E	E	83.0	77.7	11.8	21	
4	F	E	89.5	79.2	11.8	21	
4	F	E	86.8	76.4	11.8		90° turn of head
4	B	E	93.3	83.0	12.0	22	Open port)
4	B	E	96.2	84.1	13.8	22	13/16 port)*
4	B	E	102.0	85.0	19.0	22	9/16 port)
3	B	E	90.9	81.3	11.0		Swirl:⎰passages ⎱ open
3	B	E	82.6	69.2	15.7		⎰one inlet ⎱ passage ⎱ shut

*Exhaust restrictions.

The sections shown are
taken at various angles
thru center line of cyl-
inder.
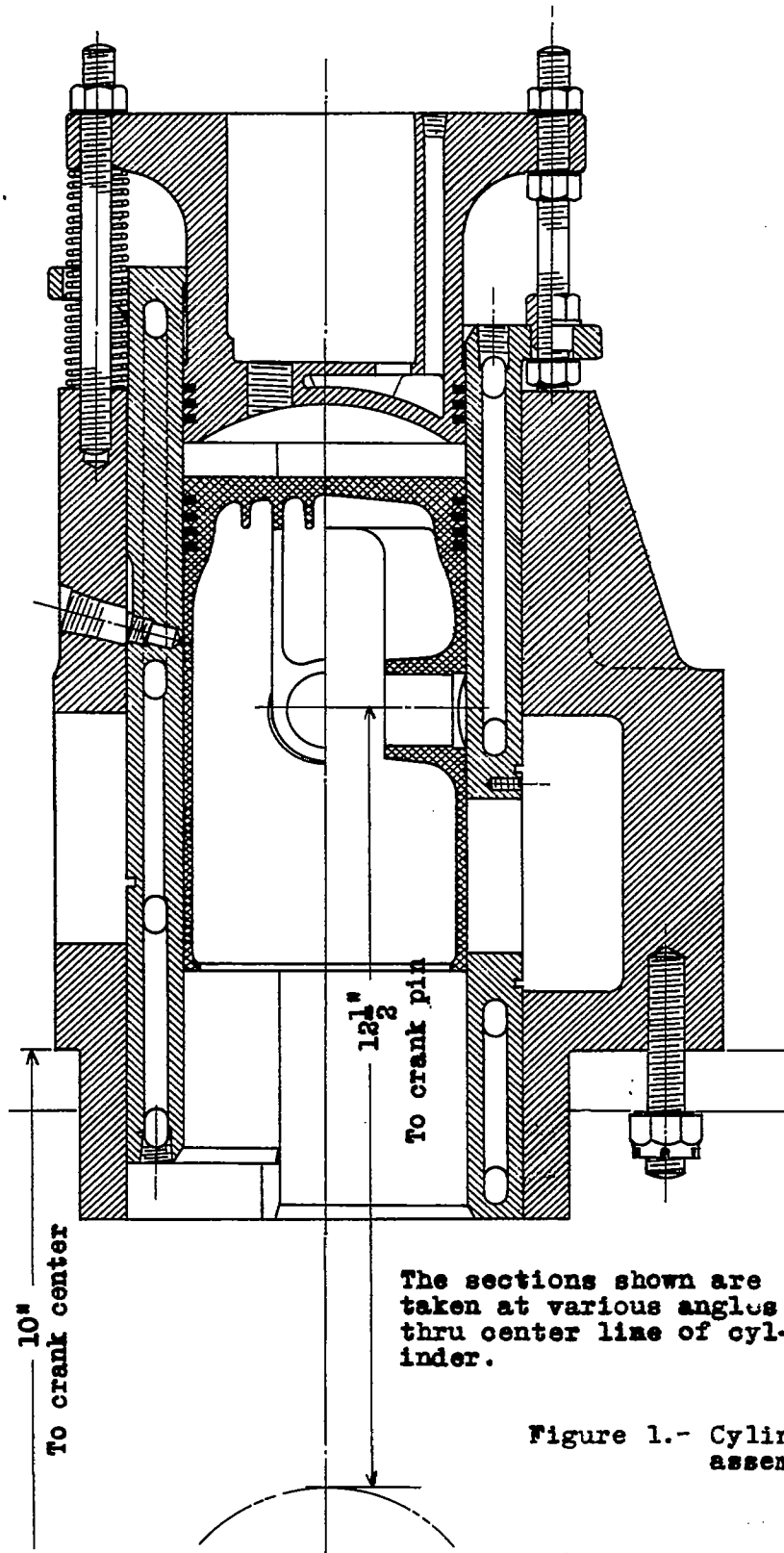
Figure 1.- Cylinder
assembly.
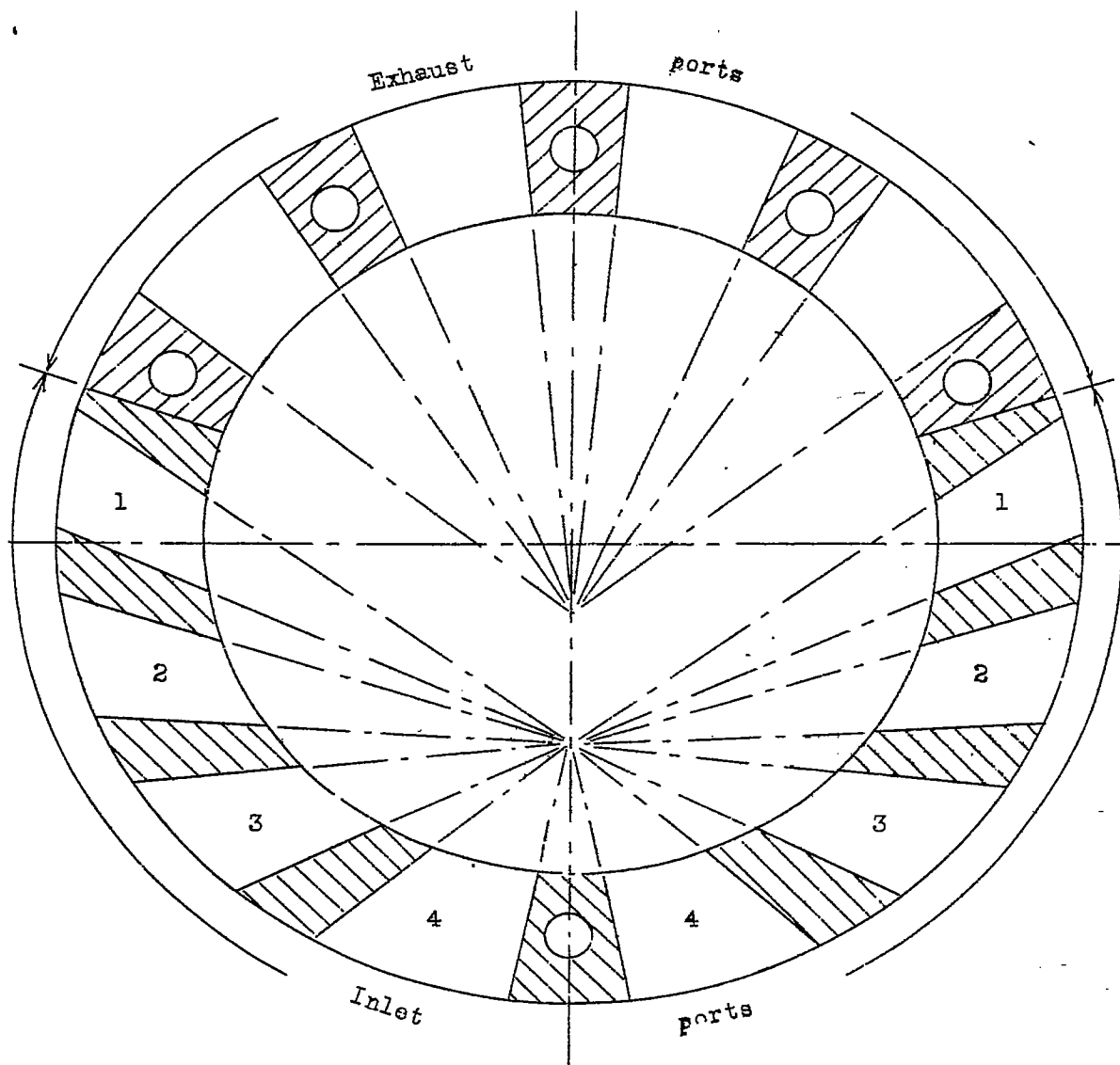
Figure 2.- Horizontal cross-section through ports, showing
inlet-port numbering scheme.

60°

1.2"   9/16"
13/16"
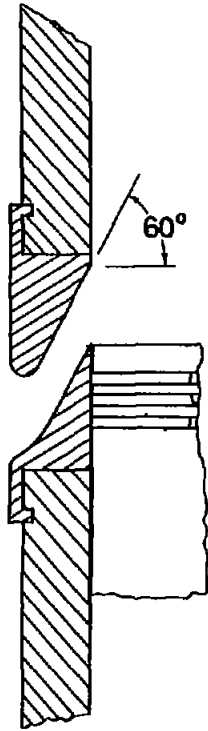
INLET PORT WITH
60° INSERTS IN PLACE
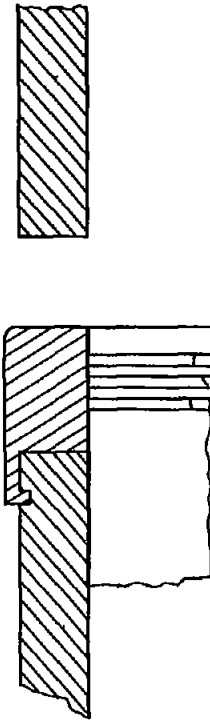
INLET PORT WITH
0° INSERT IN PLACE
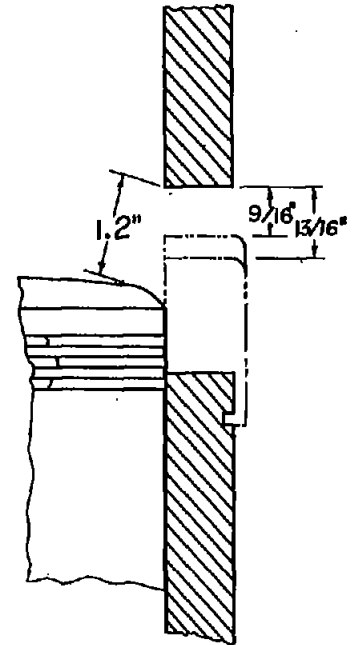
EXHAUST PORT SHOWING
HEIGHT OF TWO RESTRICT-
ING INSERTS

Figure 3. - Principal inlet and exhaust-port inserts.

(piston shown at bottom center)

Fig. 3
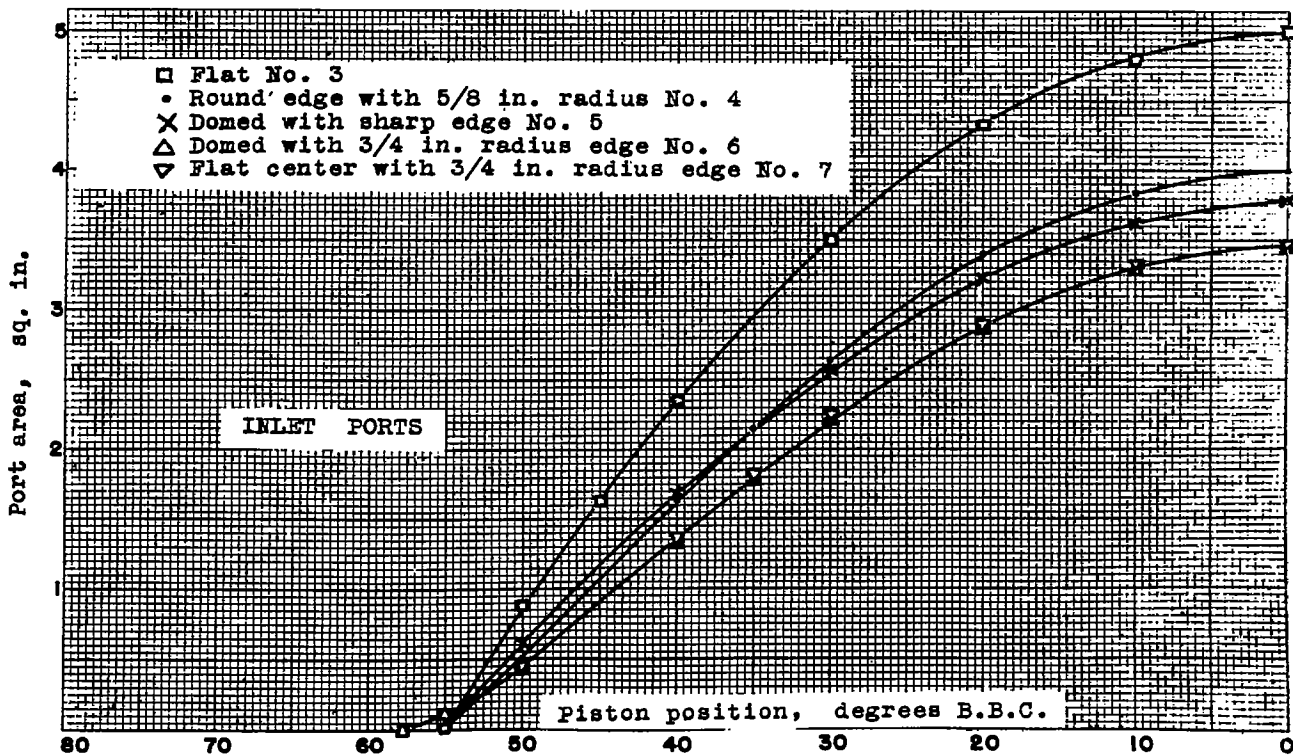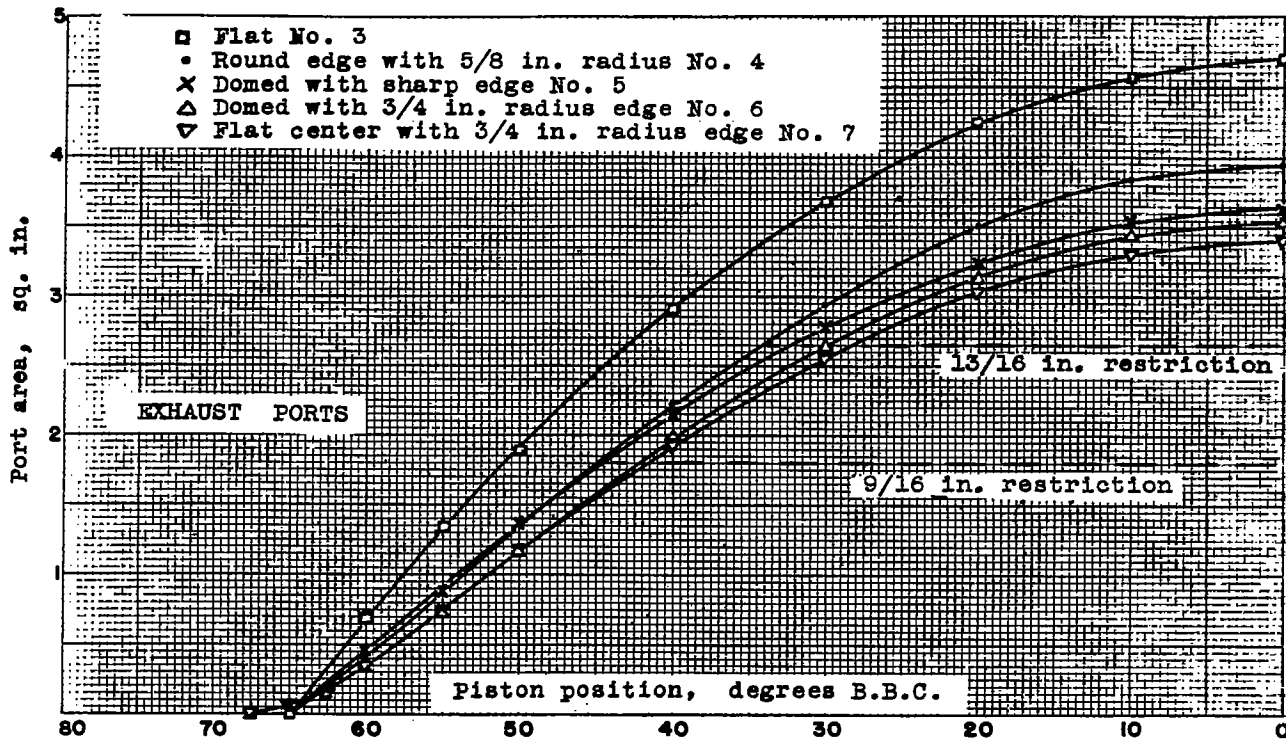
Figure 3a. - Port area-crank angle diagrams for various
piston-head shapes. Optimum timing; zero degree inserts.

Manometer

Orifice
Box

Manometer

Air

Valve

Electric
Motor

Compressor

Two-cycle
engine

Gas

Roots
Blower

Electric
Dynamometer

Electric
Motor

Gas
Meter
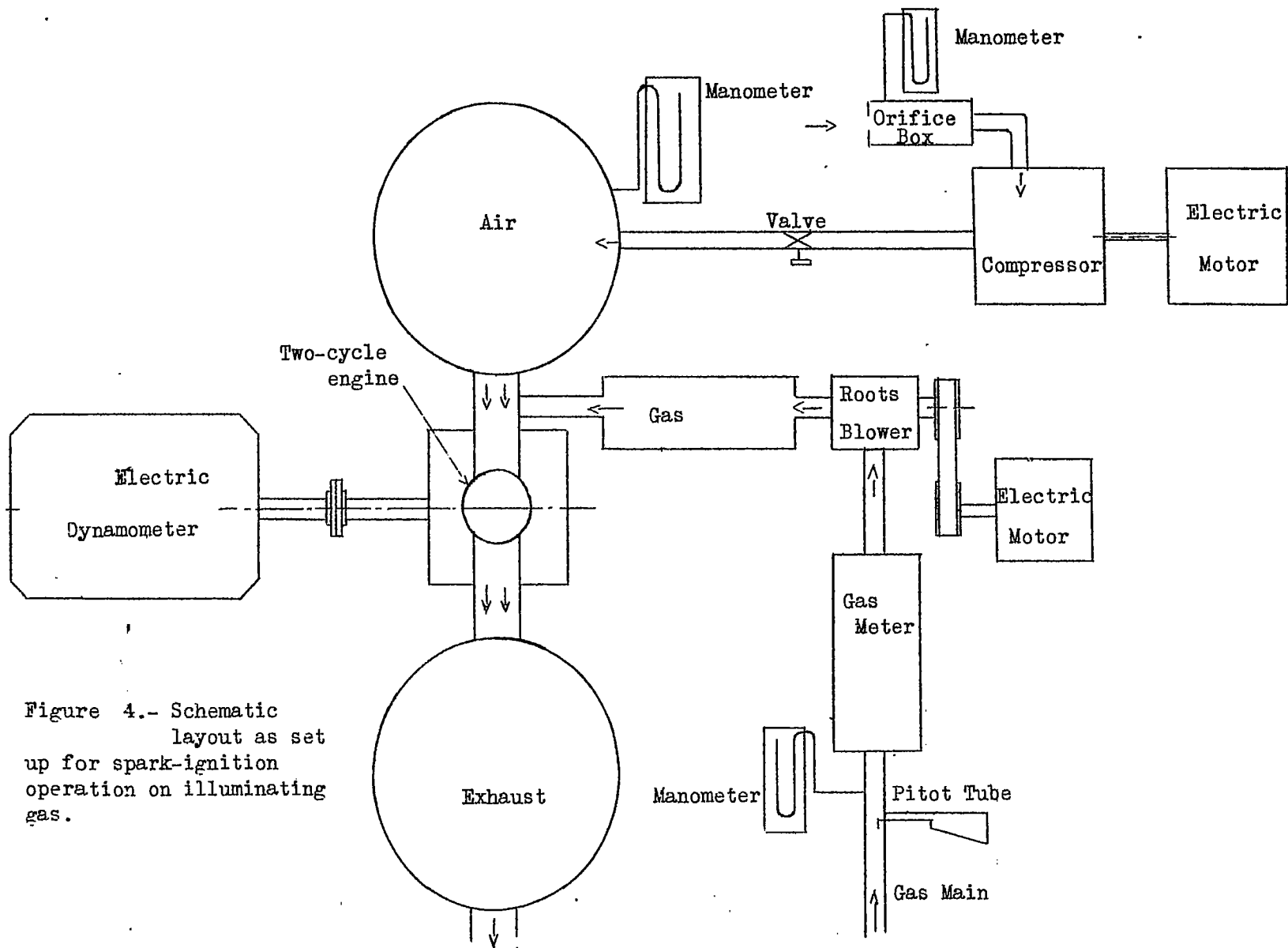
Figure 4.- Schematic
layout as set
up for spark-ignition
operation on illuminating
gas.

Exhaust

Manometer

Pitot Tube

Gas Main

Fig.4
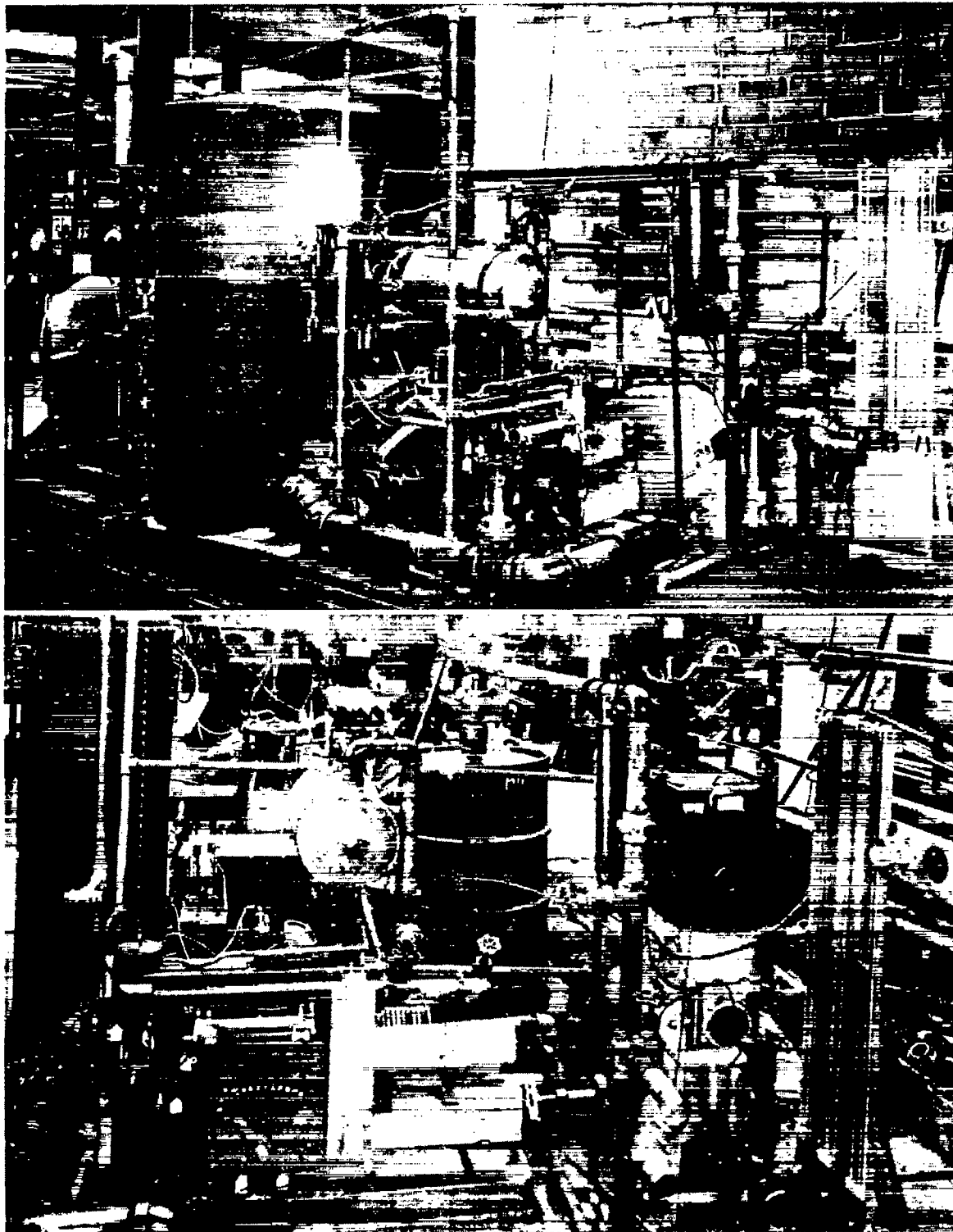
Figure 5.- Two views of engine set-up.

Figure 6. - Deflector piston head No. 1.

Figure 6a. - Deflector piston head No. 2.

Flat
No. 3

Round Edge
No. 4

$\frac{3}{8}$"

$16\frac{1}{2}$"R

$\frac{5}{8}$"R

Domed with sharp edge
No. 5

$3\frac{1}{16}$"R

$1\frac{3}{16}$"

$\frac{3}{4}$"R

$3\frac{1}{16}$"R

Domed with 3/4 in. radius edge
No. 6

$\frac{5}{8}$"

$\frac{3}{4}$"R

Flat center with 3/4 in. radius edge
No. 7
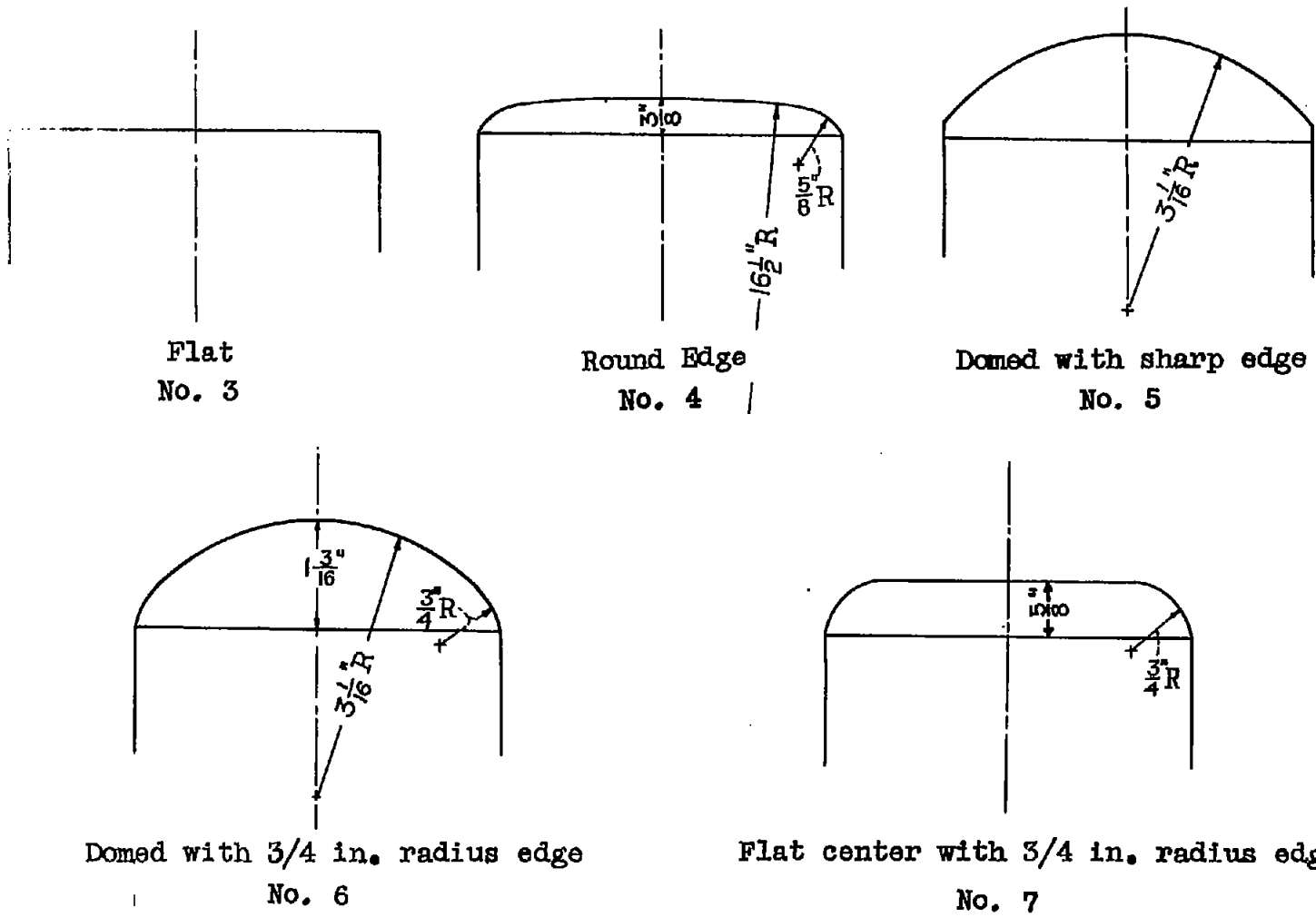
Figure 7. - Piston-head shapes.

Fig. 7

Deep Spherical

A

Shallow Spherical

B
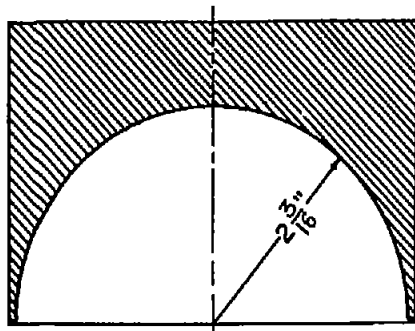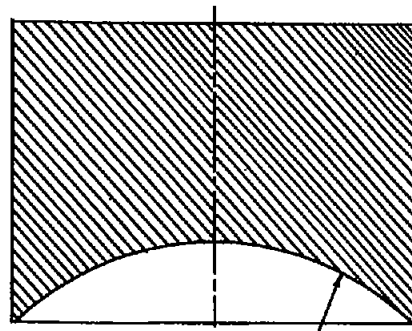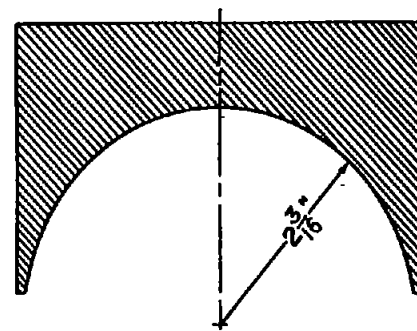
Cylindrical

C
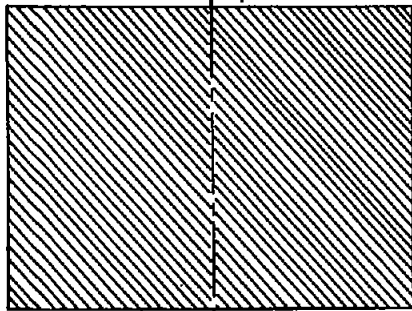
Flat

D
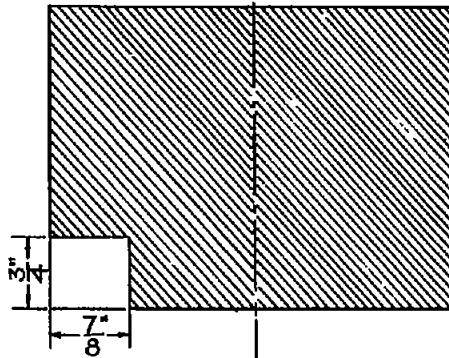
Flat with step 7/8 in.

from edge E
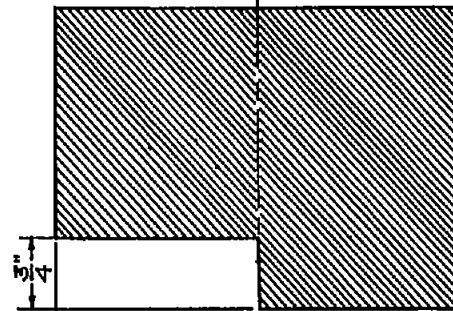
Flat with step across center

F

Figure 8. - Cylinder head shapes.

Fig. 8

F   A   C
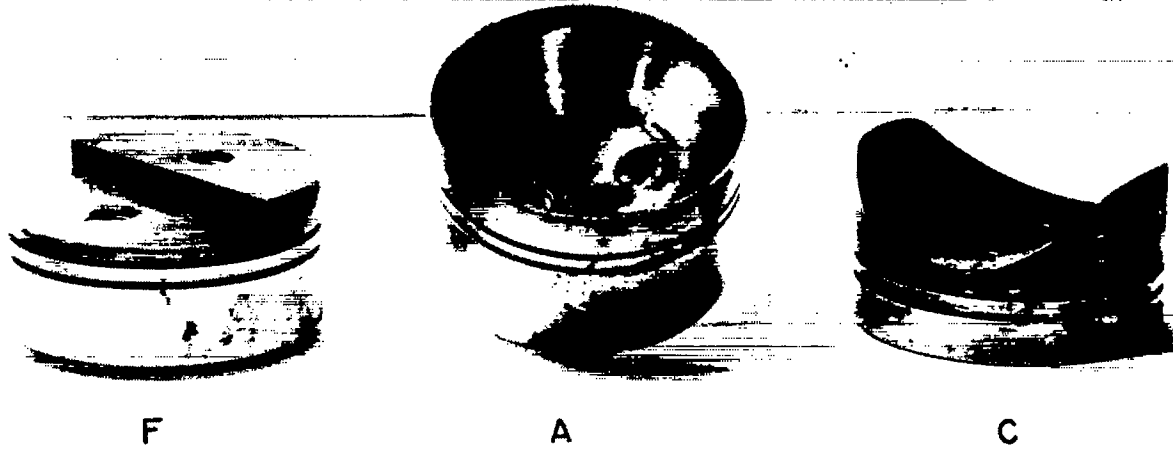
Figure 9.- Cylinder head shapes.
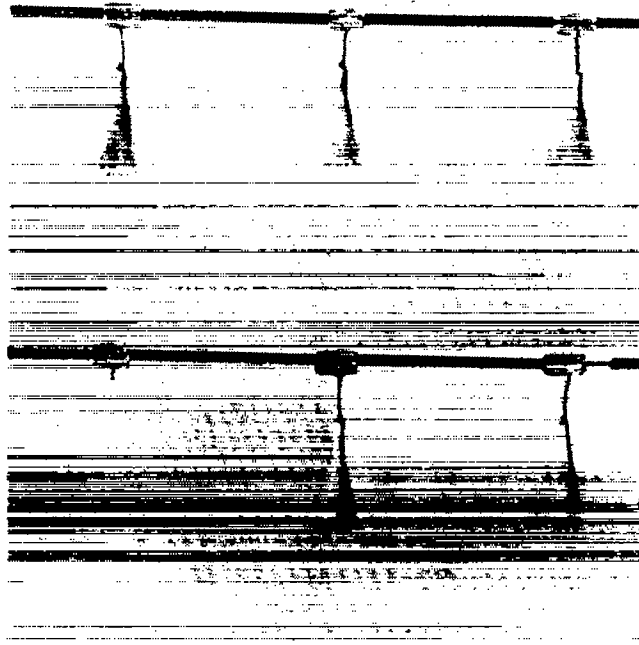
Figure 11.- Detail of flow frame construction.
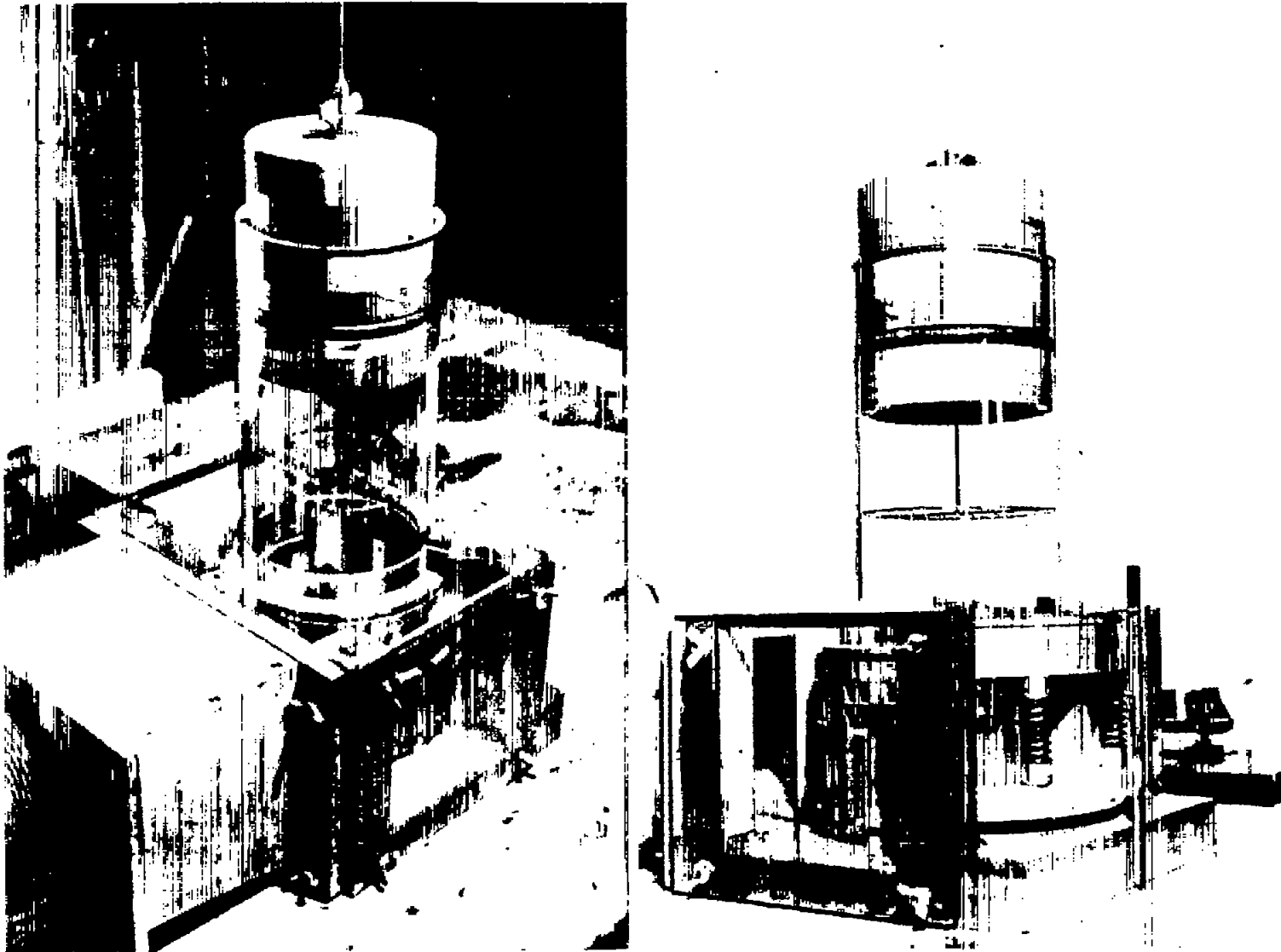
Figure 10.- Two views of flow model.

Fig. 10

Fig. 12

N.A.C.A. Technical Note No. 756
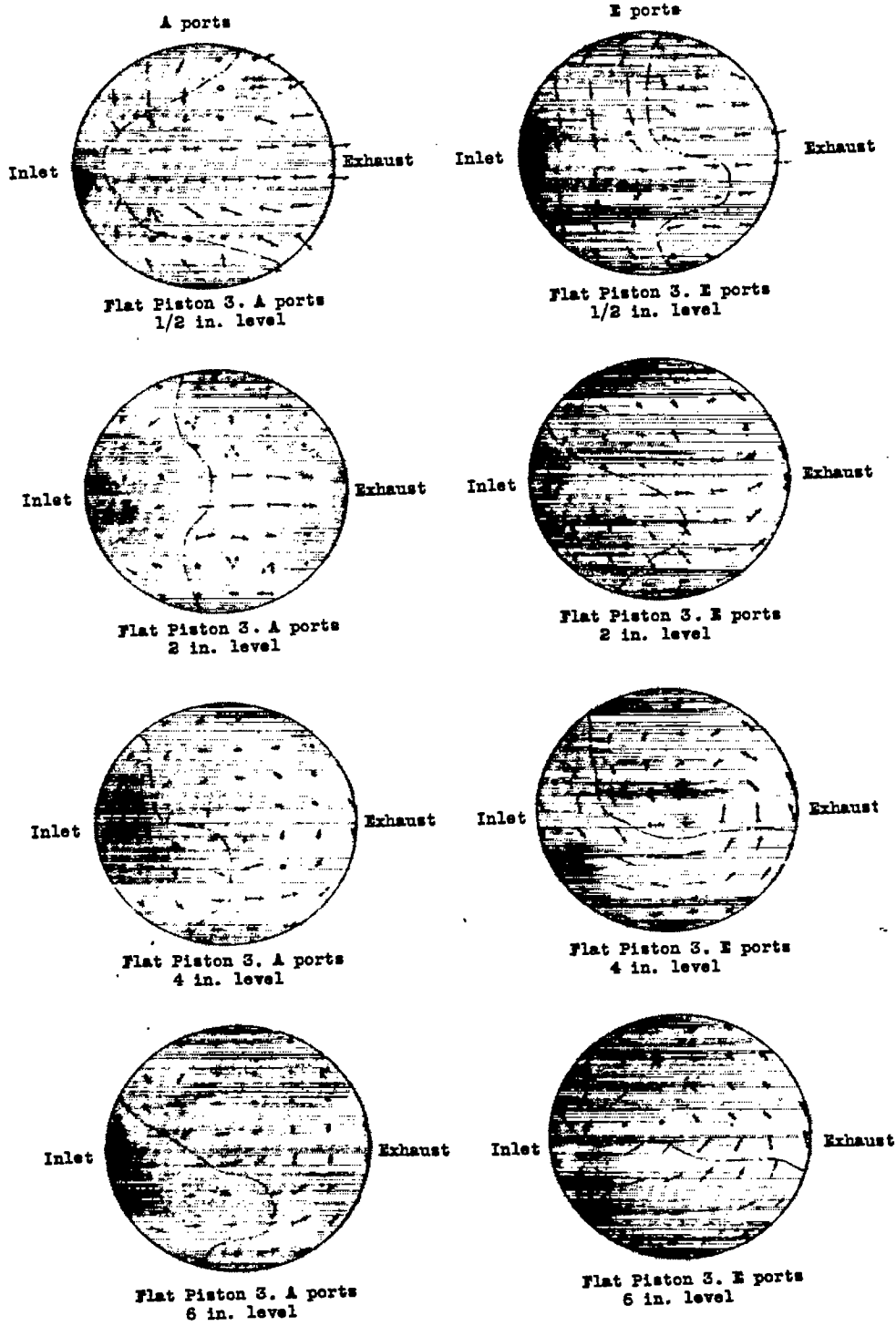
Figure 12.- Effect of inlet port arrangement on air flow in model cylinder at
various distances above the piston head. Flat piston head No. 3;
shallow spherical cylinder head B. (See pages 4,5 & 6 for symbols.)

Fig. 13

Piston No. 2 (Deflector) B ports   Piston No. 3 (Flat) E ports   Piston No. 4 (Round edge) E ports

No. 2 deflector piston
1/2 in. level

Flat Piston 3. E ports
1/2 in. level

Round Edge Piston 4.
Shallow spher. head
1/2 in. level

No. 2 deflector piston
2 in. level

Flat Piston 3. E ports
2 in. level

Round edge Piston 4.
Shallow spher. head
2 in. level

No. 2 deflector piston
4 in. level

Flat Piston 3. E ports
4 in. level

Round edge Piston 4.
Shallow spher. head
3 in. level

No. 2 deflector piston
5 in. level

Flat Piston 3. E ports
6 in. level

Round edge Piston 4.
Shallow spher. head
5 in. level

Figure 13.- Effect of piston head shape on air flow in model cylinder at various distances above the piston head. Shallow spherical cylinder head B. (See pages 4,5&6 for symbols)
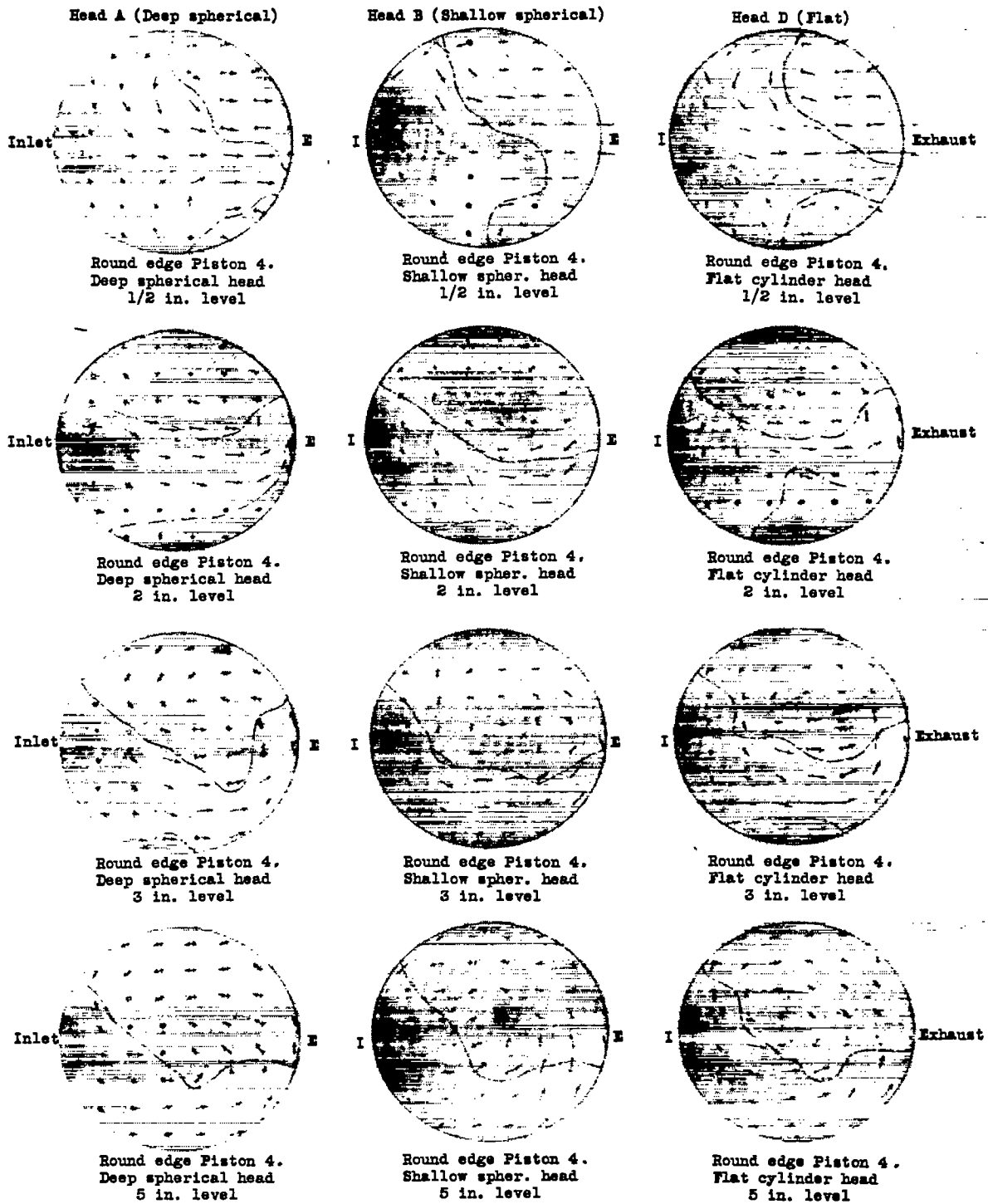
Figure 14.— Effect of cylinder head shape on air flow in model cylinder at various distances above the piston head. Round edge piston No. 4; E ports.
(See pages 4,5 & 6 for symbols)
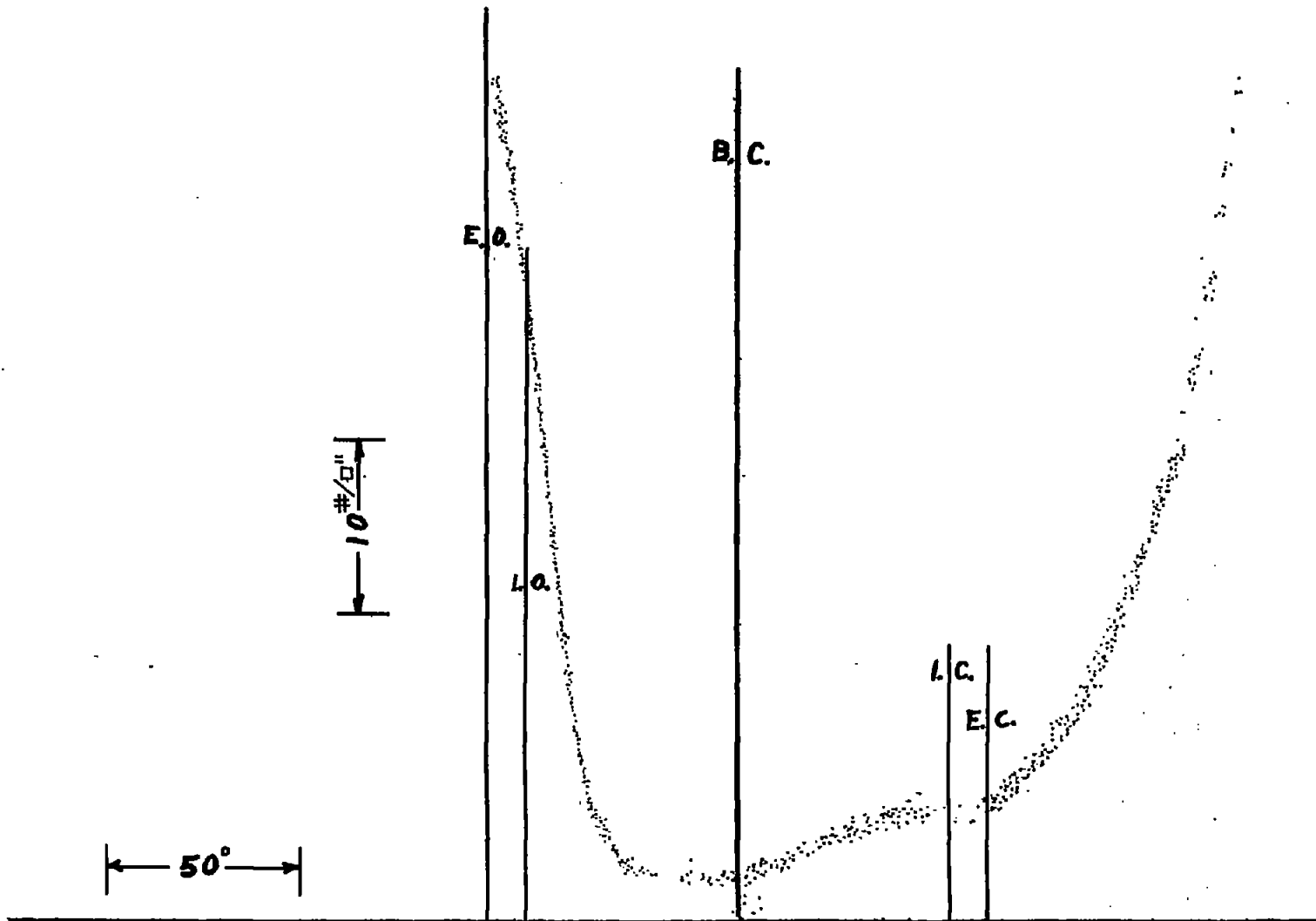
Figure 15. - Indicator diagram with 1.2 in. effective exhaust port height. Scavenge ratio 1.4; scavenge pressure 12 in. Hg; E ports; shallow spherical cylinder head B.
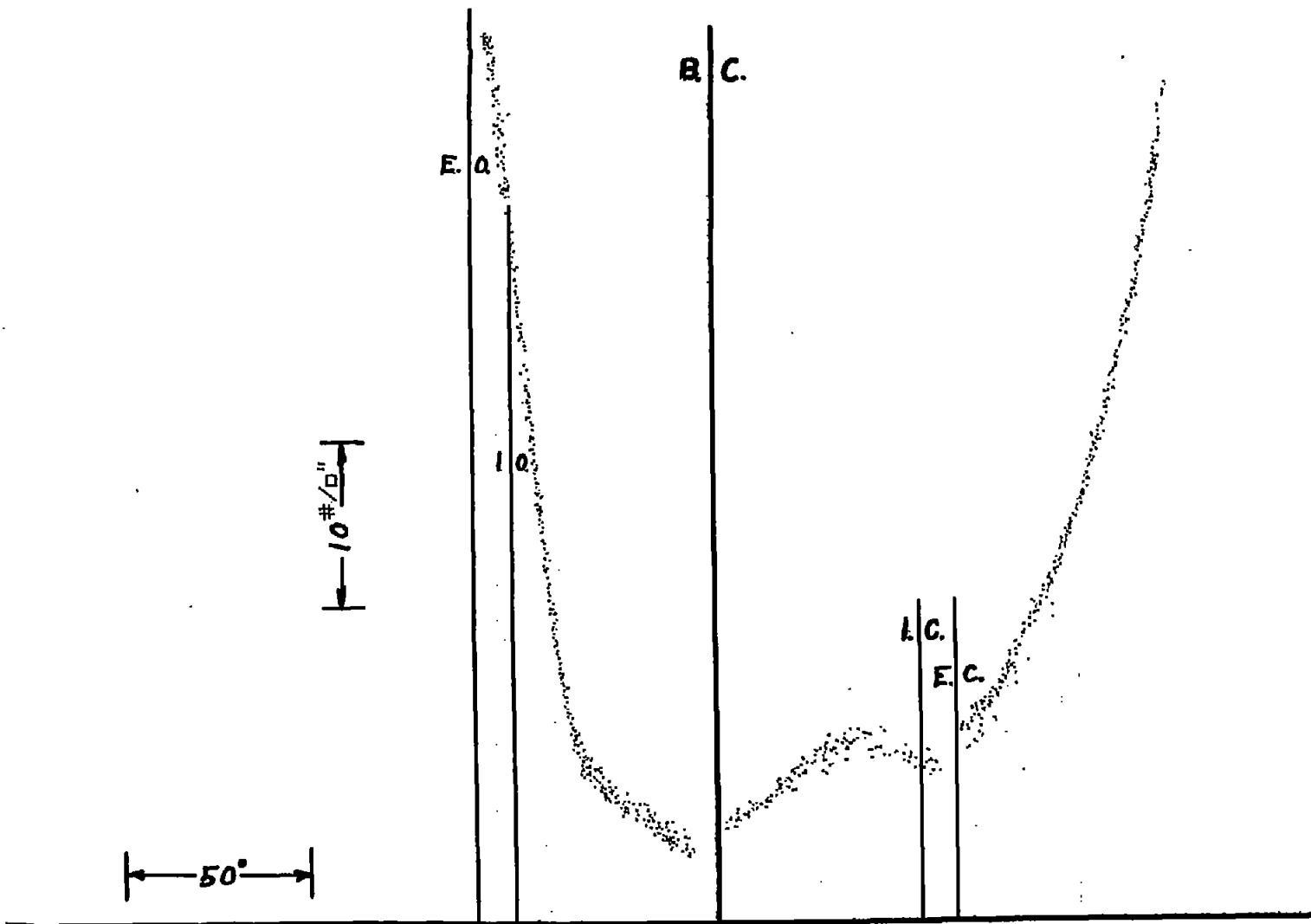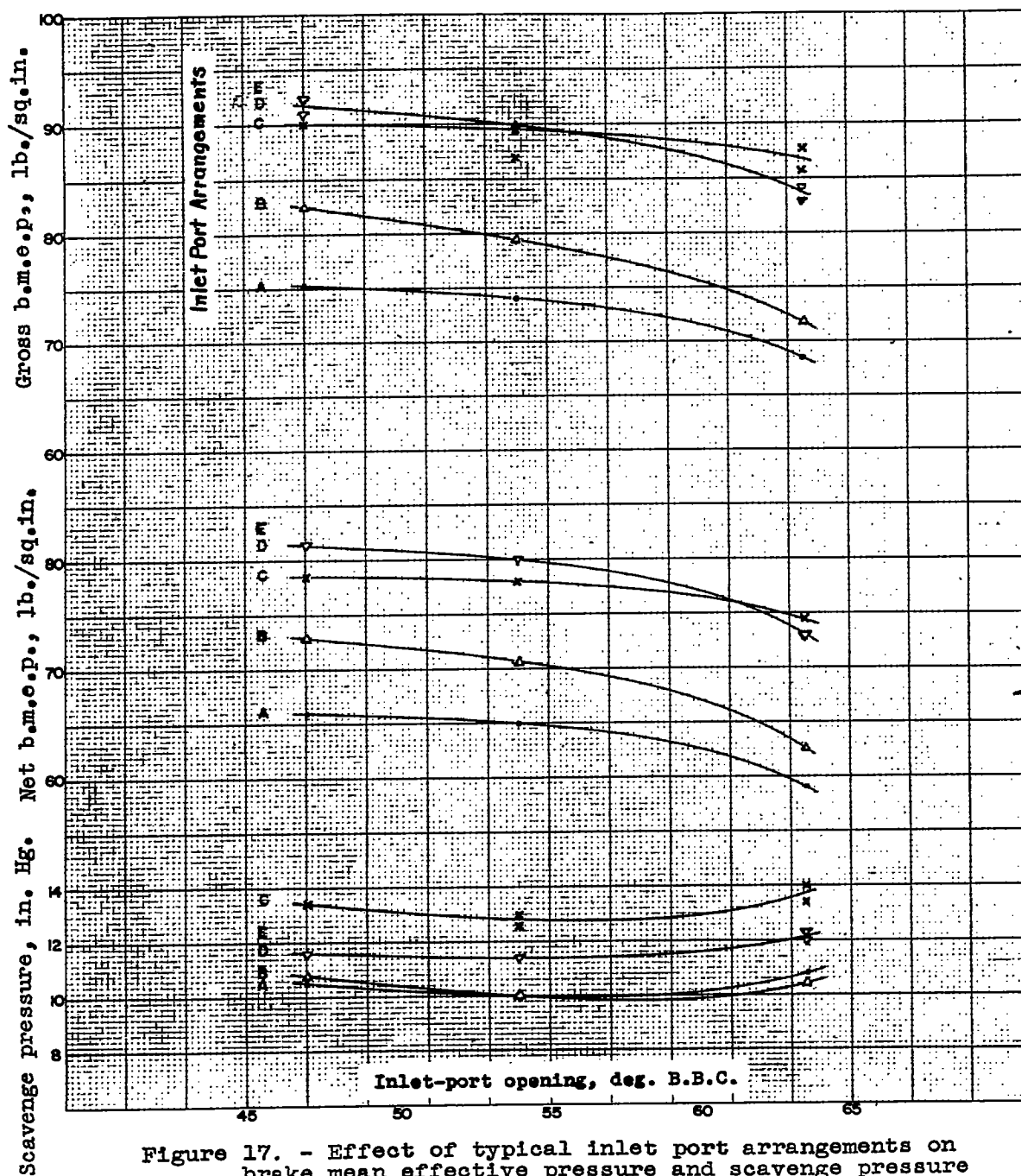
Fig. 15

Figure 16. - Indicator diagram with 9/16 in. exhaust port height. Scavenge
ratio 1.4; scavenge pressure 19 in. Hg; E ports; shallow spherical
cylinder head B.

Fig. 16

Figure 17. - Effect of typical inlet port arrangements on
brake mean effective pressure and scavenge pressure
at various inlet port timings. Flat piston No. 3,
shallow spherical cylinder head B; scavenge ratio 1.4.
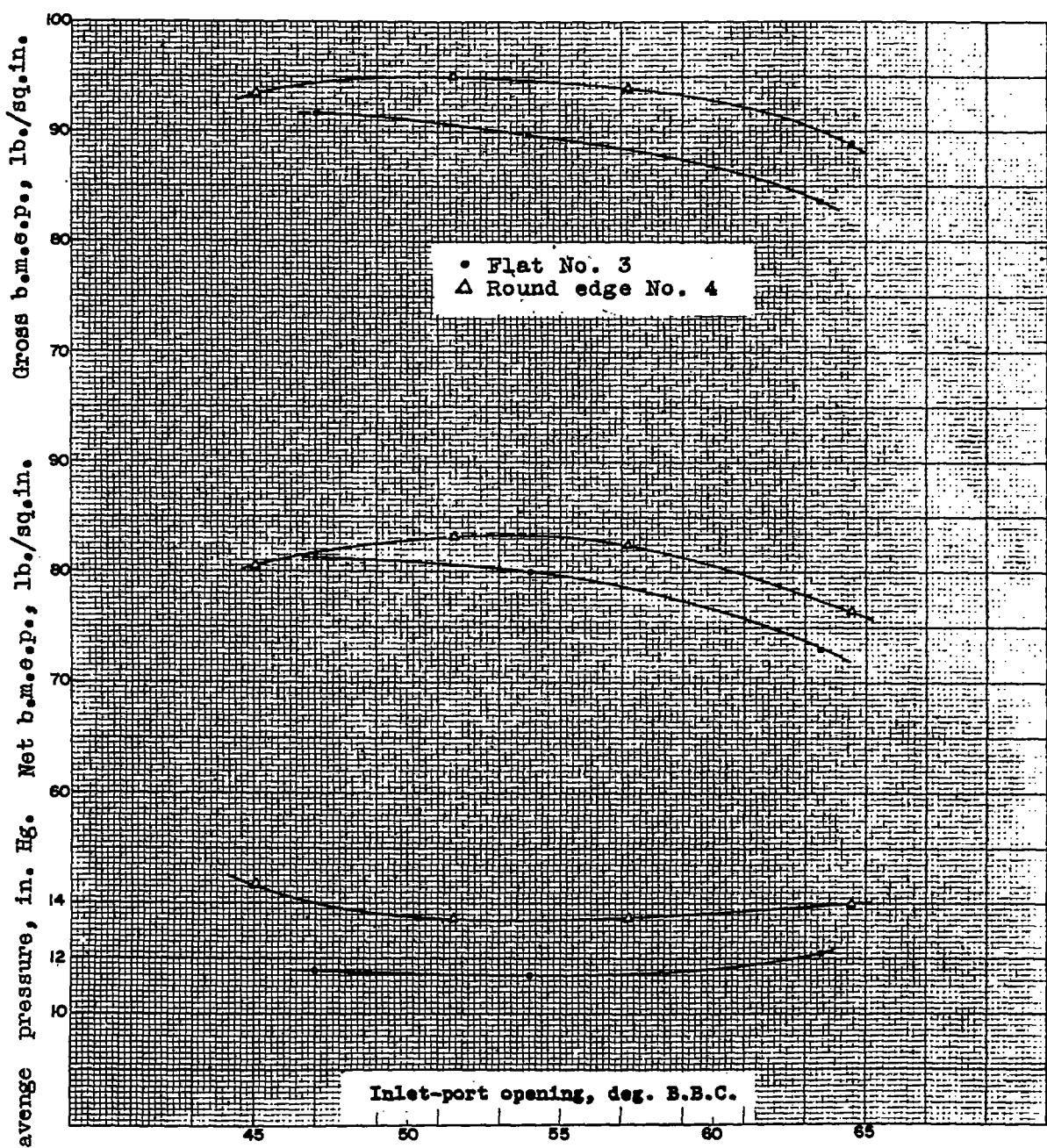
Figure 18. - Effect of inlet-port timing with flat piston
No. 3 and round edge piston No. 4 on brake
mean effective pressure and scavenge pressure.
Shallow spherical cylinder head B; scavenge
ratio 1.4.　E ports.
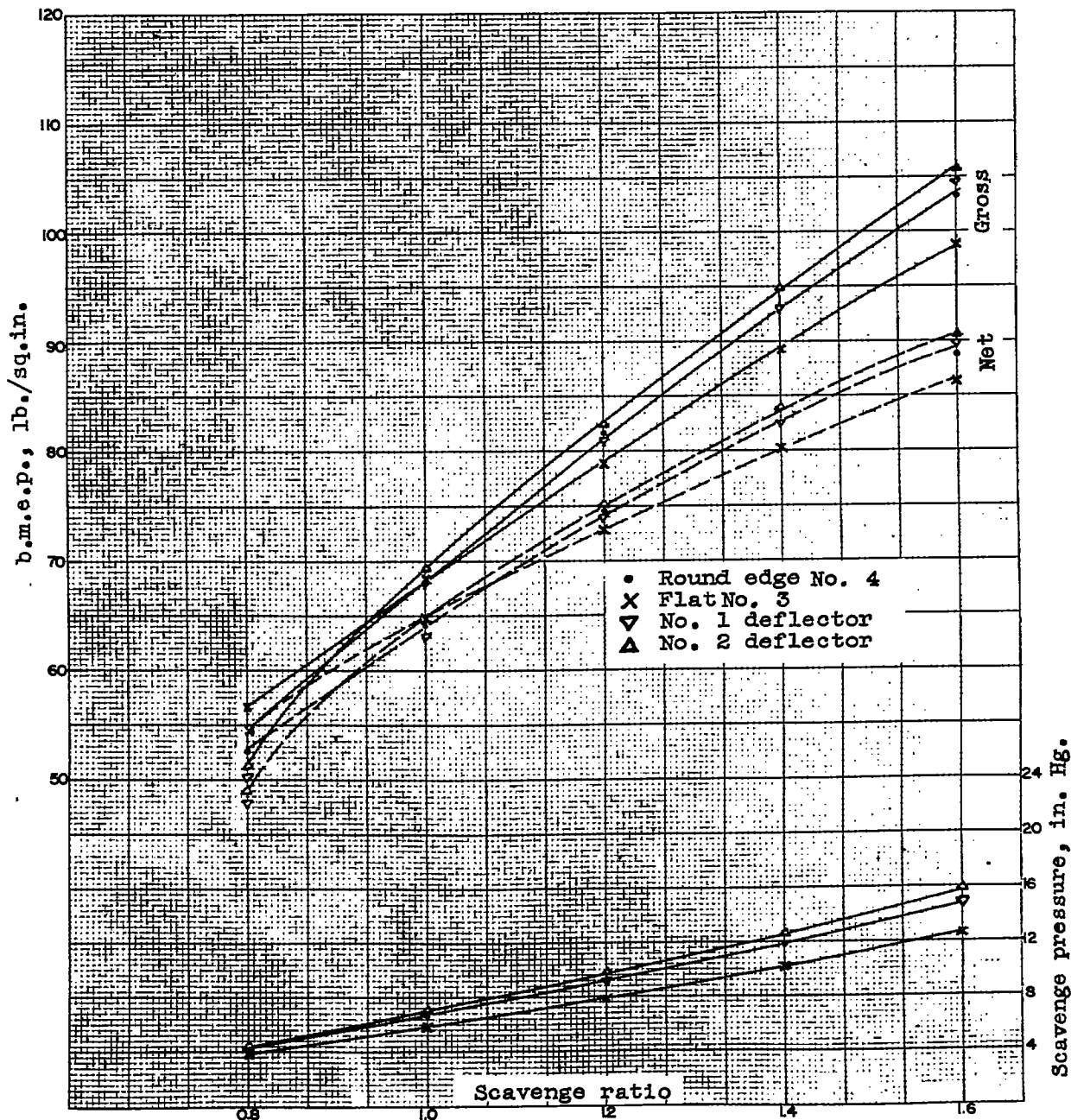
Figure 19.- Effect of piston head shape on brake mean effective
pressure and scavenge pressure at various scavenge
ratios. Shallow spherical cylinder head B. B ports used with
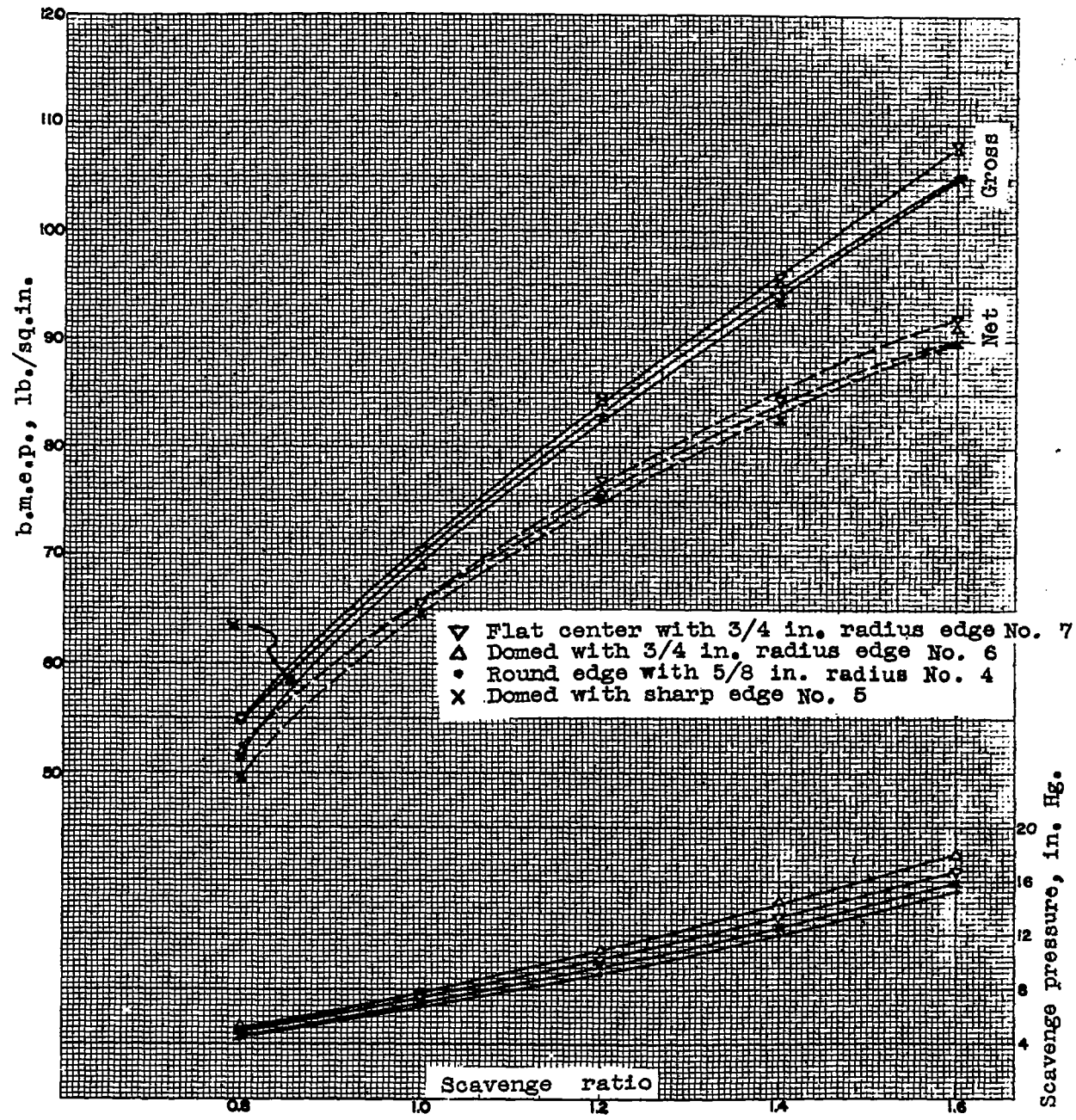pistons No. 1 and 2. E ports used with pistons No. 3 and 4.

Figure 20. - Effect of domed piston head shapes on brake
mean effective pressure and scavenge pressure at
various scavenge ratios. Deep spherical cylinder
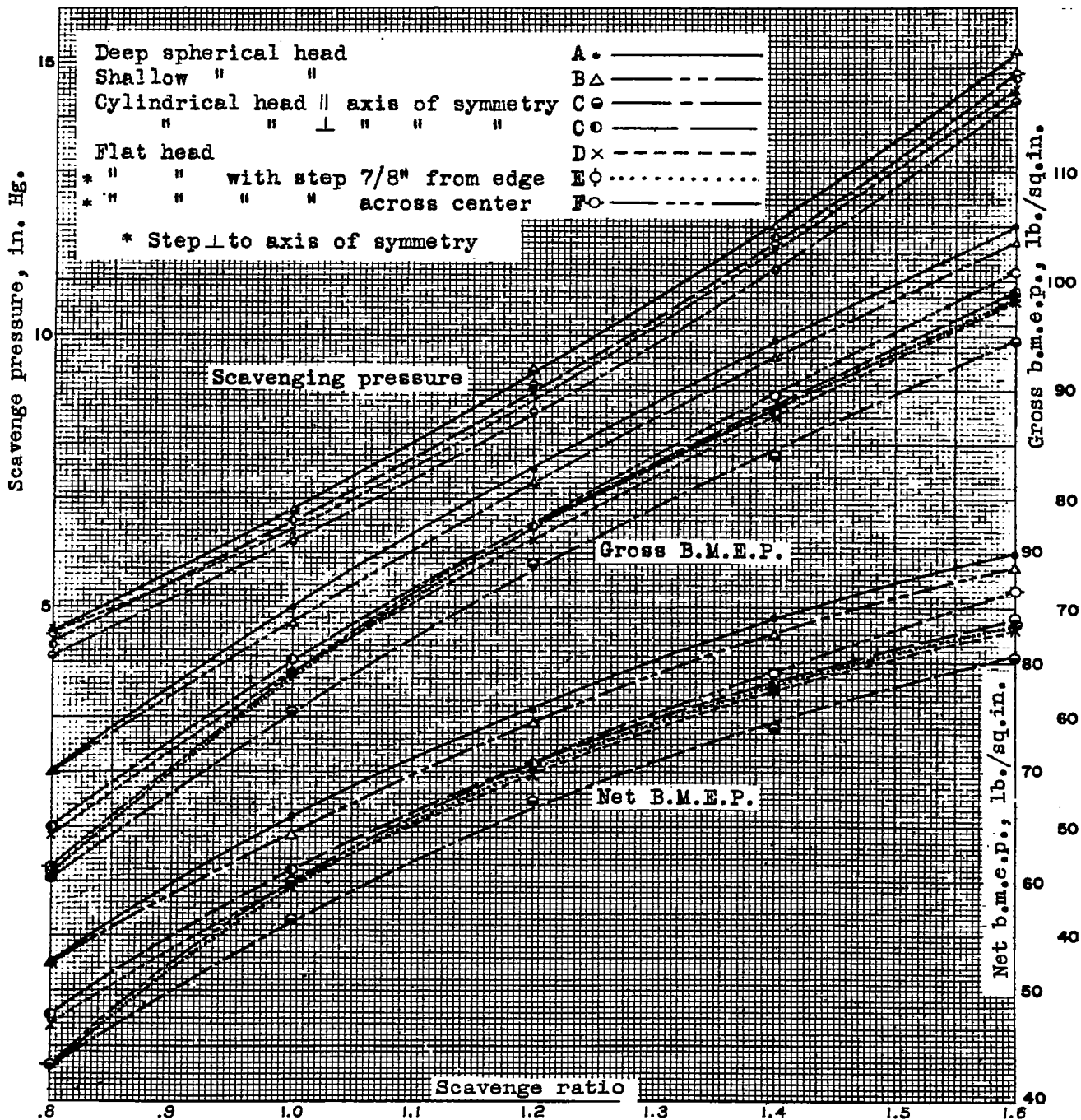head A; E ports.

Figure 21. - Effect of cylinder head shape on brake mean
effective pressure and scavenge pressure at various
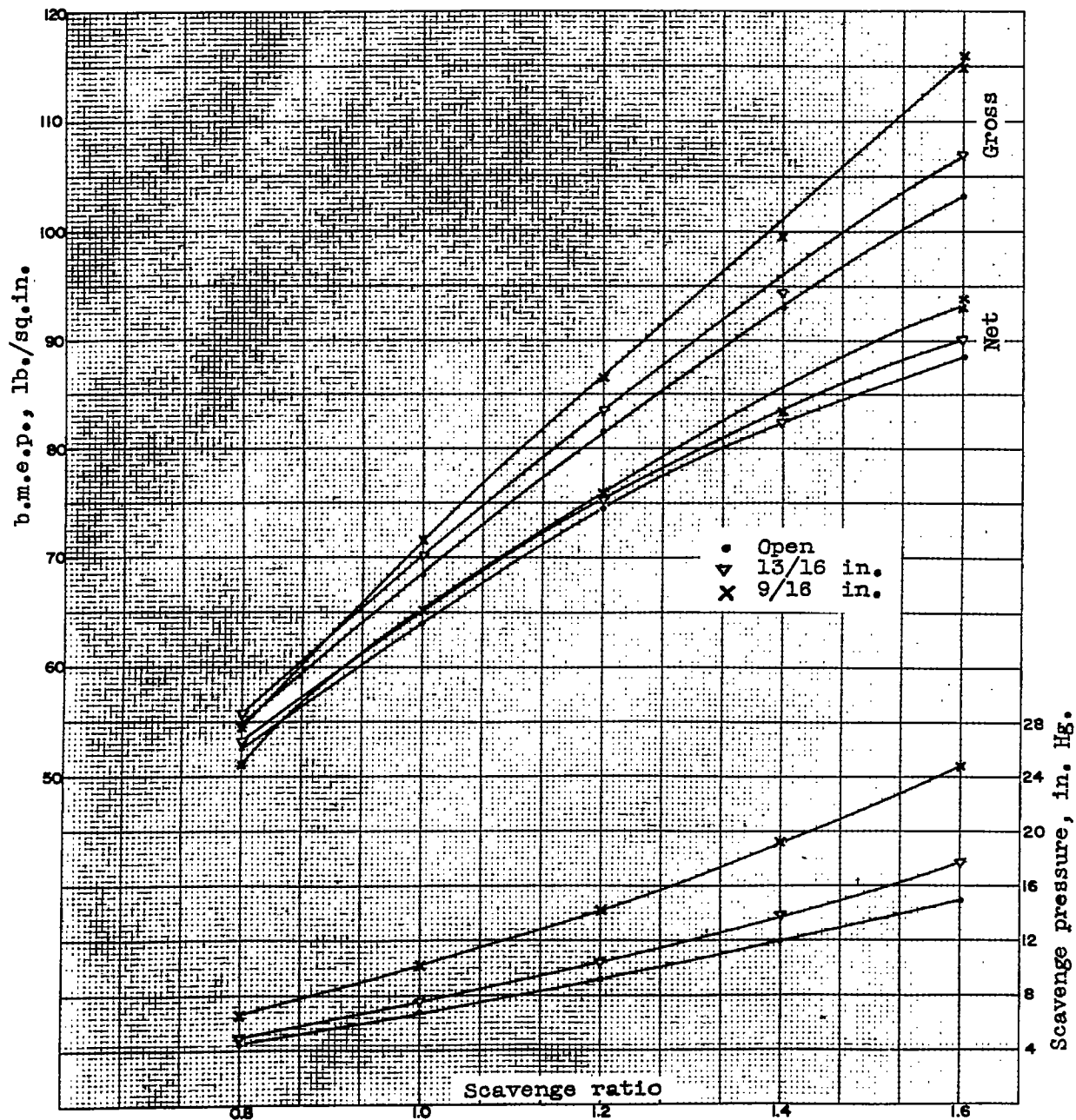scavenge ratios. Round edge piston No. 4; E ports.

Figure 22. - Effect of exhaust port restrictions on brake
mean effective pressure and scavenge pressure for
various scavenge ratios. Shallow spherical cylinder
head B; round edge piston No. 4. E inlet ports.