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Scalings and Stability in Monodisperse Fluidized Beds PHIL SEGRE, Phys. Dep., Emory Univ., JAMES SUSTMAN, Emory Univ., JIM MC-CLYMER, Physics Dep., Univ. of Maine — We have measured the concentration and fluctuation profiles to investigate steady state sedimentation of nearly monodisperse $(\sigma_a/a \leq 1.6\%)$ fluidized beds over a wide range of particle sizes a. In terms of the normalized particle column height $H^* \equiv H/a$, we find that taller columns are more stratified, and exhibit larger fluctuations, than shorter columns. Operating at a single average volume fraction ϕ_0 , we find scaling relations for the concentration at the top interface, $\phi_{top} = \phi_0 e^{-H^*/3711}$, the velocity fluctuations, $\sigma_v(z)/v_0 = \sqrt{H^*}\alpha(z)$, and the correlation lengths, $\xi(z) = a\beta(z)$. Finally, we develop a new advection-diffusion model that describes the observed bed stability.

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