CLAIM(S):

1. A porous filter element comprises a hollow cylindrical porous metal medium having a first end and a second end, the hollow cylindrical porous metal medium comprising a plurality of pleats longitudinally arranged along an axis A from the first end to the second end of the hollow cylindrical porous metal medium, each pleat comprising a plurality of portions each having a height H extending parallel to axis A and a width W perpendicular to the height H, each portion having a height H to width W aspect ratio of 1:>1.

2. The porous filter element of claim 1, wherein the plurality of portions each have a height H to width W aspect ratio of 1:>1.

3. The porous filter element of claim 1, wherein the plurality of portions each have a height H to width W aspect ratio of 1.5:>1.

4. The porous filter element of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the hollow cylindrical porous metal medium has an interior surface, and the plurality of portions each have a hollow interior, an open end formed in the interior surface, and a closed top end having the height H to width W aspect ratio of 1:>1.

5. The porous filter element of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the porous element has an outside diameter, and portions of each pleat at the first end have a depth flaring out meeting the outside diameter, providing a tapered first end.

6. The porous filter element of any one of claims 1-5, wherein a center to center distance between consecutive portions in a pleat is in the range of .02 inches to 2 inches (.05 cm to 5.1 cm).

7. The porous filter element of any one of claims 1-6, wherein at least the first end is open.

8. The porous filter element of any one of claims 1-6, wherein at least the first end is closed.

9. A porous filter, comprising the porous filter element of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the first end further comprises a fitting.

10. The porous filter of claim 9, further comprising at least one additional porous element comprising a hollow cylindrical porous metal medium having a first end and a second end, wherein the first end of the hollow cylindrical porous metal medium of the at least one additional porous element is connected to the second end of a first porous filter element comprising a hollow cylindrical porous metal medium having a first end and a second end, the hollow cylindrical porous metal medium of the at least one additional porous element comprising a plurality of pleats longitudinally arranged along an axis A from the first end to the second end, each pleat comprising a plurality of portions each having a height H to width W aspect ratio of 1:>1.

11. A method of filtering fluid, the method comprising passing the fluid through the porous filter element of any one of claims 1-8, or the porous filter of claim 9 or 10.

12. The method of claim 11, comprising passing the fluid from outside the porous filter element or porous filter into the hollow interior of the porous filter element or the porous filter.

13. The method of claim 11 or 12, further comprising passing a cleaning fluid through the porous filter element or the porous filter in the opposite direction of filtration.

14. The method of claim 13 comprising reverse pulsing.

15. A filter system comprising a plurality of filters of claim 9 or 10 arranged vertically.

16. The filter system of claim 15, further comprising a reverse pulsing system.

17. The porous filter element of claim 5, wherein the portions of each pleat at the second end have a depth flaring out meeting the outside diameter, providing a tapered second end.