

AWS Free Webinar: 13 October 2021

# Australian Riprap Sizing Approaches

## Incorporating the USACE method

Presented by:

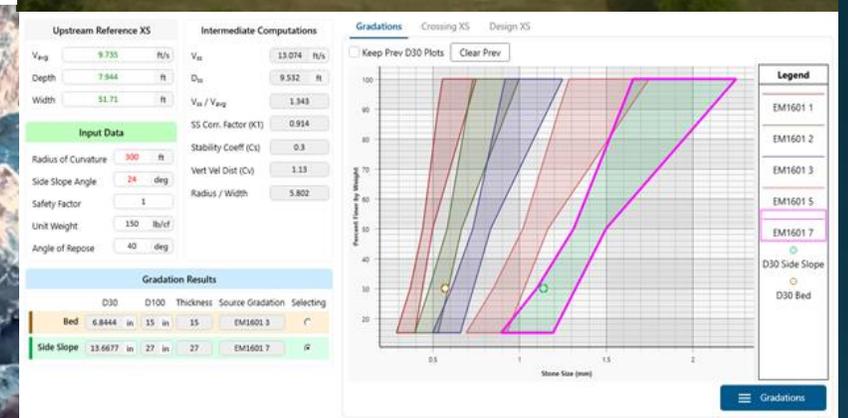
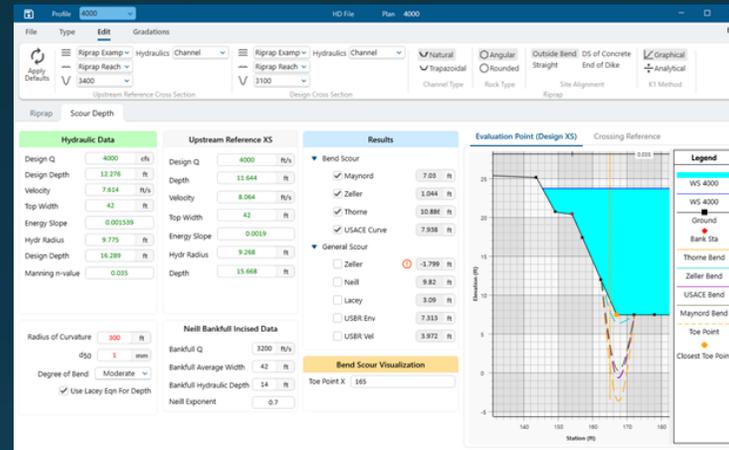
Krey Price

Surface  
Water  
Solutions



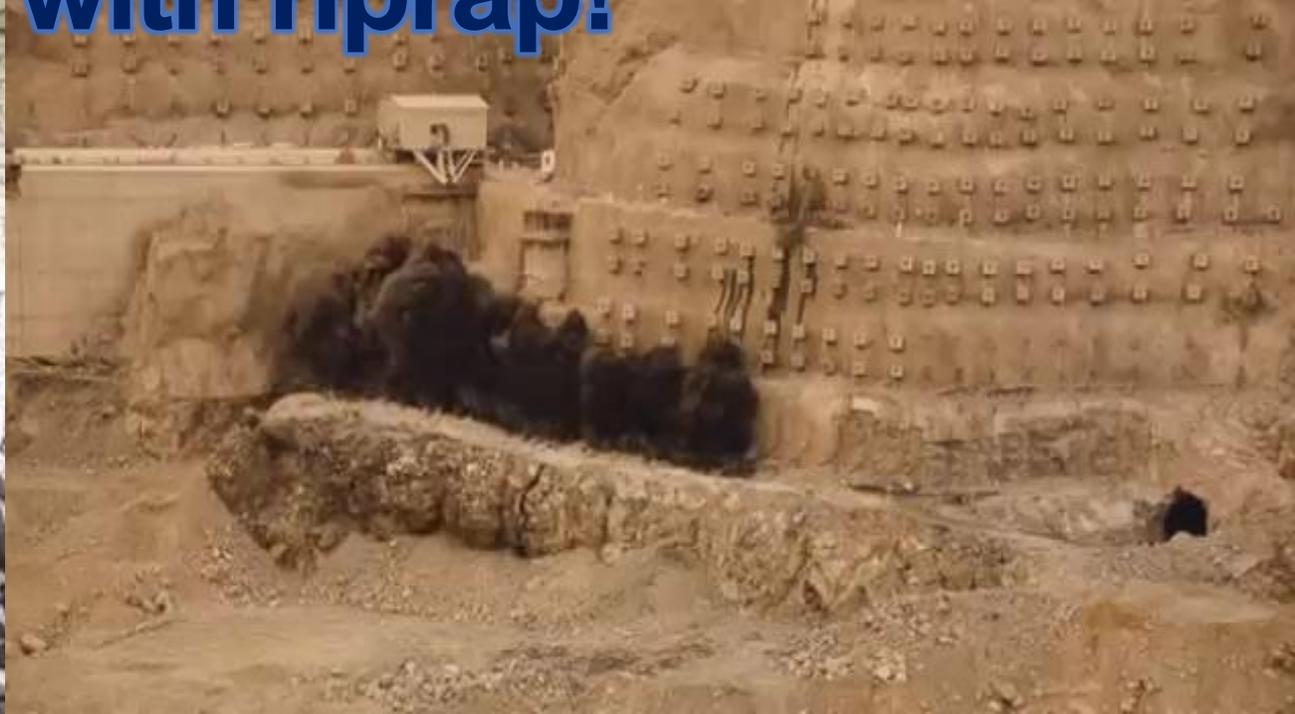
Stanford  
Gibson

USACE





**Rockin' it with riprap!**





australian water school

# Australian Water School Webinar #100: Rockin' It!



Australian Water School  
6.02K subscribers

HOME

VIDEOS

PLAYLISTS

COMMUNITY



#100 Rocking It! Using hydraulic modelling results for rock ...

# Background resources for today's webinar:

## [surfacewater.biz/riprap/](http://surfacewater.biz/riprap/)



Home > Rock sizing resources

## Rock sizing resources

We recently hosted the Australian Water School's 100th webinar, "Rocking It!" which covered using hydraulic modelling results for rock sizing. Watch the recording here:



### Advancing Australian Riprap Sizing Approaches

Krey Price  
Surface Water Solutions  
krey.price@surfacewater.biz

#### ABSTRACT

The placement of riprap is the most commonly implemented scour countermeasure in Australia. Nationwide guidance for riprap sizing is provided in Austroads and Australian Rainfall and Runoff (ARR) documents. ARR guidance generally defers to Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (QDTMR) publications that, in turn, defer to Austroads guidance for riprap sizing. Austroads riprap sizing procedures fall back on methods developed by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The cited procedures generally relate the recommended riprap size to flow velocity because alternative parameters such as shear stress have historically been difficult to visualise, compute, and measure.

Austroads and ARR guidance manuals cite different methods for sizing riprap associated with bridges, culverts, floodways, energy dissipation structures, and channel lining applications; in some cases, the cited methods provide conflicting guidance. Some of the references that serve as a basis for Australian riprap sizing guidance have been superseded by more recent publications that should be incorporated into future editions of Australian guidance documents.

Both Austroads and ARR manuals recommend computing shear stress to determine the potential for mobilising material, but no guidance for applying shear-based rock sizing design criteria is presented. Recent advances in computational methods allow shear-based analyses to be more readily developed for previously impractical applications, leading to the potential introduction of standardised, shear-based, Australian riprap design approaches.

The increasing prevalence of 2D and 3D flood modelling relative to 1D modelling warrants a reappraisal of previously adopted riprap sizing criteria that have traditionally been based on 1D approaches. 2D and 3D results used for riprap sizing are subject to the proper selection of grid size, computational methods, turbulence coefficients, and other modelling parameters. A recommended interim approach for estimating stable design riprap size is presented using hydraulic modelling results for velocity, depth, and shear stress.

#### BACKGROUND

##### The Use of Riprap in Australia

Relative to other scour countermeasures, the installation of riprap in Australia is a primary scour protection option because it is "abundant, inexpensive, and requires no special equipment" (ARR, 2019). Nationwide guidance for the application of hydraulic modelling results to scour protection designs is provided by Austroads and ARR. This paper provides a literature review of the sources that serve as a basis for Australian riprap sizing approaches and recommends selected adjustments to those approaches. Guidance provided by local jurisdictions is only included in this review where referenced in the national guidelines.

##### Velocity vs Shear

Both Austroads and ARR guidance documents cite velocity-based criteria for sizing riprap. In simplest terms, flow velocities are extracted from measurements or hydraulic models and converted directly into a recommended stone size. In general, the velocity refers to a depth-averaged channel velocity, and the stone size refers to the median diameter ( $D_{50}$ ) of an individual riprap stone based on total weight of the rock classes. Figure 1 shows an example of a riprap sizing chart based on tabulated values in Austroads (2013a and 2013b).

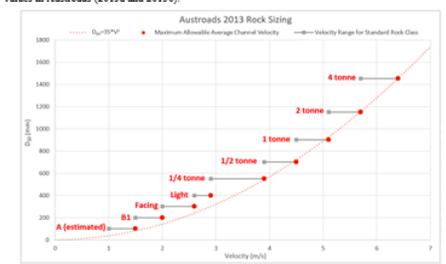


Figure 1. Riprap sizing chart (based on Austroads 2013a, 2013b).

Velocity-based riprap sizing methods can generally be summarised by stating the required rock diameter in terms of a coefficient "a" that is multiplied by the velocity raised to an exponent "b":

$$D_{50} = a \cdot V^b \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

The coefficient "a" can vary with side slope, bend angle, density, angularity, safety factor, and other elements. The exponent "b" generally ranges between a value of 2 and 3 among the various available methods. The applicable velocity ranges associated with standard Australian rock classes are shown in Figure 1 against a relationship curve with a value of 35 for "a" and 2 for "b", where the median rock size (measured in millimetres) is 35 times the square of the velocity (measured in metres per second).

Figure 2 shows an alternative relationship where the velocity on the x axis is taken as the bottom velocity rather than a depth-averaged velocity (Austroads 2013b). The maximum allowable average channel velocities from Figure 1 are shown in red for comparison. The effective "a" values range from 20 to 35 for average channel velocities, and from 40 to 70 for bottom velocities, with the exponent "b" held constant at 2 for both curves.

Increasing the applied velocity has an exponential effect on the computed stone weight. Because the

- Research conducted for Rio Tinto
- Initial results published in IMWA 2020
- Expanded paper submitted to HIWE 2020
- Hydraulics session added to HWRS 2021



ISBN number for HWRS 2021 is 978-1-92027-03-4

### Advancing Australian Riprap Sizing Approaches

Key Price  
Surface Water Solutions  
keyprice@surfacesolutions.biz

**ABSTRACT**

The placement of riprap is the most commonly implemented near countermeasure in Australia. National guidance for riprap sizing is provided in Austroads and Australian Standards and AS/NZS documents. ASR guidance generally refers to Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (QDMR) publications that, in turn, refer to Austroads guidance for riprap sizing. Austroads riprap sizing procedures fall back on methods developed by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The cited procedures generally relate the recommended riprap size to flow velocity because alternative parameters such as shear stress have historically been difficult to visualize, compute, and measure.

Austroads and ASR guidance manuals cite different methods for sizing riprap associated with bridges, culverts, floodways, energy dissipation structures, and channel lining applications. In some cases, the cited methods provide conflicting guidance. Some of the references that serve as a basis for Australian riprap sizing guidance have been superseded by more recent publications that should be incorporated into future editions of Australian guidance documents.

Both Austroads and ASR manuals recommend computing shear stress to determine the potential for mobilizing material. The guidance for applying shear-based rock sizing design criteria is presented. Recent advances in computational methods allow shear-based analysis to be more readily developed for previously impractical applications, leading to the potential introduction of standardized shear-based, Australian riprap design approaches.

The increasing prevalence of 2D and 3D flood modelling relative to 1D modelling warrants a reevaluation of previously adopted riprap sizing criteria that have traditionally been based on 1D approaches. 2D and 3D hydraulic models for riprap sizing are subject to the proper selection of grid size, computational methods, turbulence coefficients, and other modelling parameters. A recommended criteria approach for estimating stable design riprap size is presented using hydraulic modelling results for velocity, depth, and shear stress.




hiwe2020.co.nz

Apps Gmail YouTube Maps eHost Login Bing Google Yahoo Apple Home -- Spatial Ref... Reading

**HIWE 2020**  
14<sup>TH</sup> HYDRAULICS IN WATER ENGINEERING CONFERENCE  
16 – 19 NOVEMBER 2020  
AUCKLAND

Register

Key Dates Registration Sponsorship Call For Abstracts Plan Your Stay Committees Programme Contact Us

## HIWE 2020 HAS BEEN POSTPONED

Considering ongoing travel restrictions with Australia, the Local Organising Committee has made the difficult decision to postpone the HIWE Conference. New dates will be set when there is more clarity around the trans-Tasman bubble arrangements. We are looking forward to you joining us when we can hold the conference in Auckland in future!

# HIWE 2020

14<sup>TH</sup> HYDRAULICS IN WATER ENGINEERING CONFERENCE  
16 – 19 NOVEMBER 2020  
AUCKLAND

### SPONSORSHIP

This Proposal outlines various levels of involvement to suit every budget and marketing objective, we encourage you to explore the benefits of participating as a sponsor.

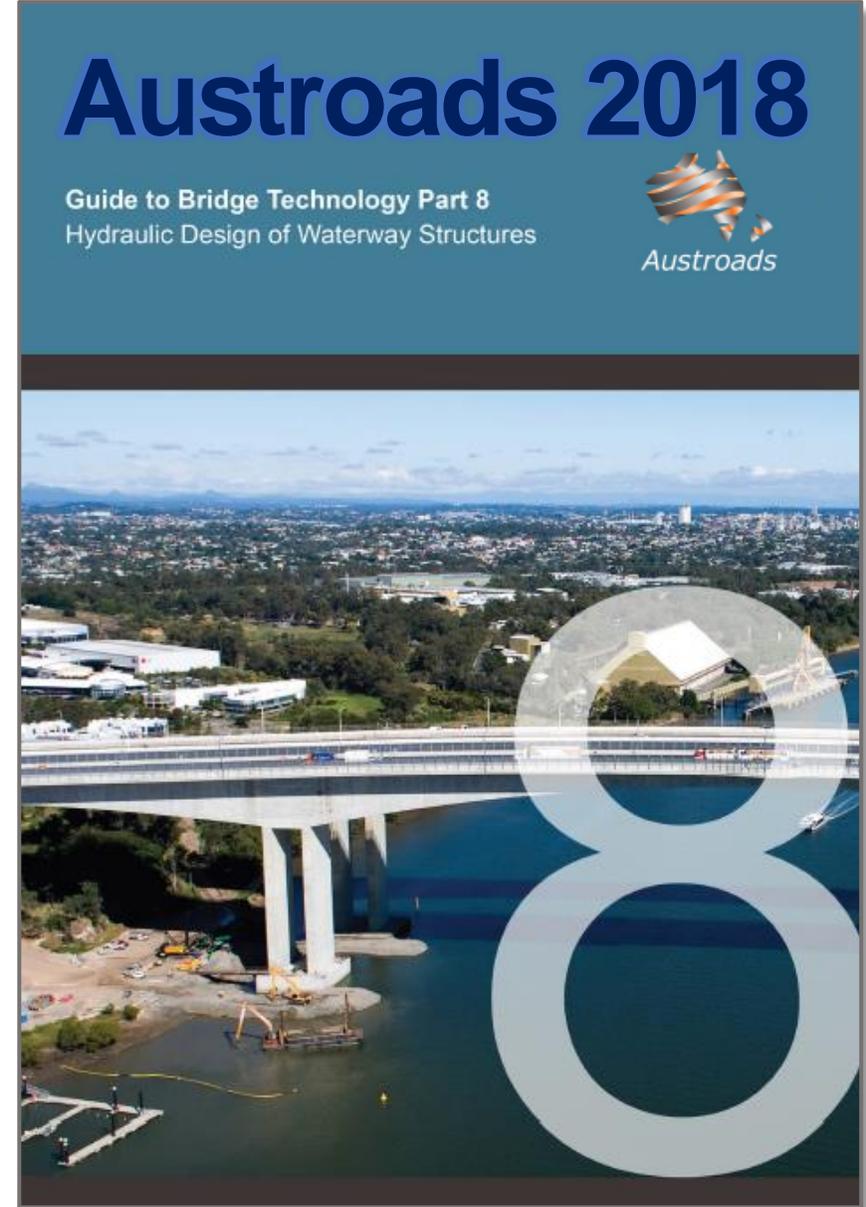
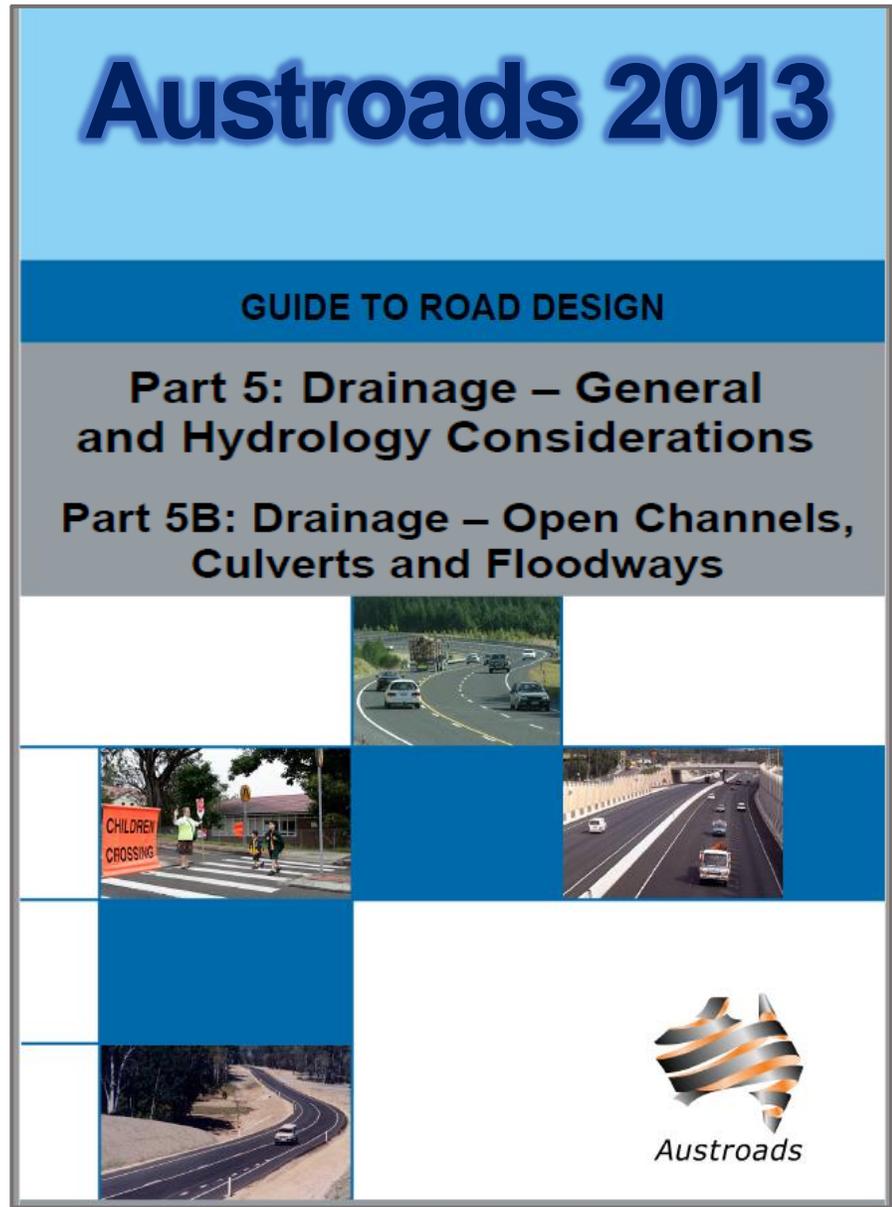
### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Scientific Committee of the 14th Conference on Hydraulics in Water Engineering is inviting Authors to submit oral and poster abstracts. Call for Abstracts are still open.

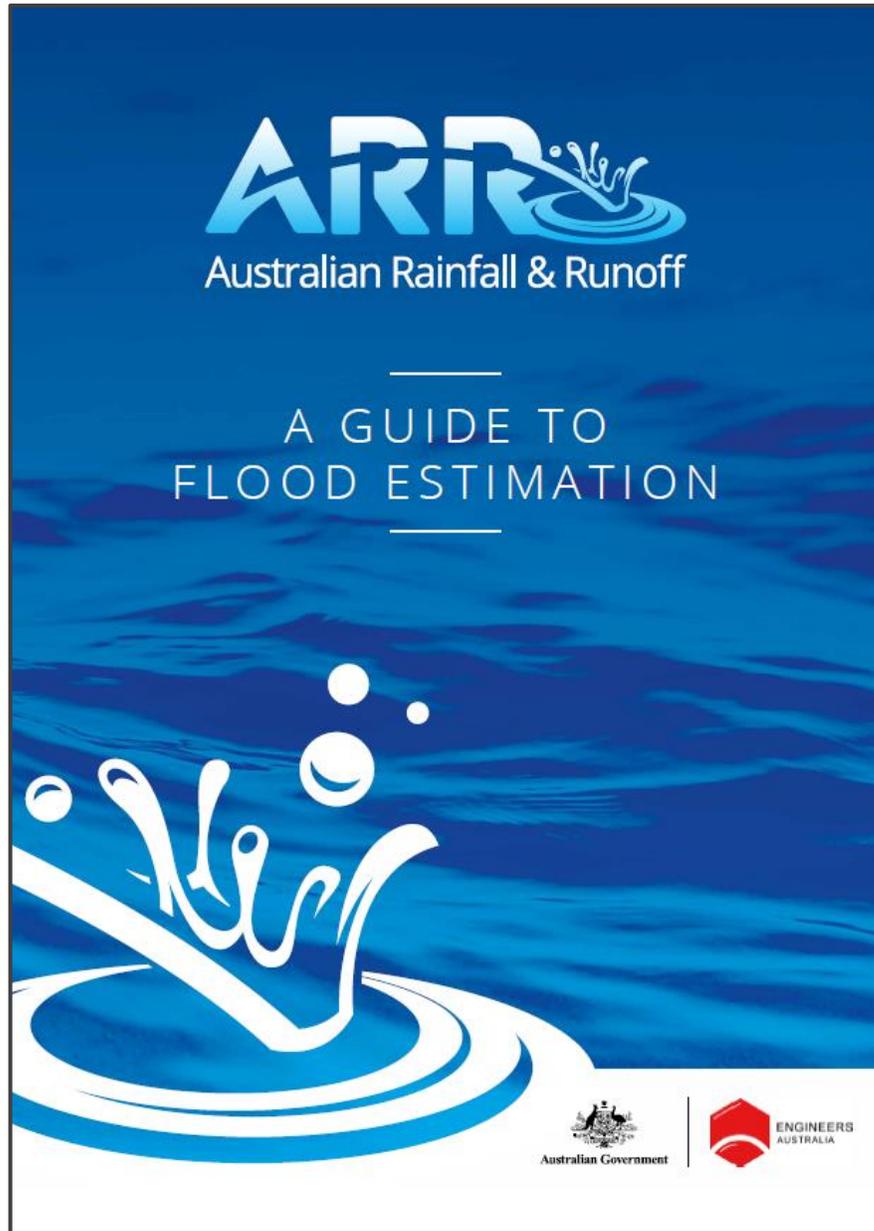
### PROGRAMME

In addition to three days of podium papers and field trip, workshops before and during the Conference are offered to discuss and upskill for emerging and updated hydraulic methods.

# Australian national guidance for rock sizing



# Australian national guidance for rock sizing



## ARR 2019

### Australian Rainfall and Runoff

#### A Guide to Flood Estimation



The Australian Rainfall and Runoff: A guide to flood estimation (ARR) is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence, unless otherwise indicated or marked.

Please give attribution to: © Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2019.

#### Third-Party Material

The Commonwealth of Australia and the ARR's contributing authors (through Engineers Australia) have taken steps to both identify third-party material and secure permission for its reproduction and reuse. However, please note that where these materials are not licensed under a Creative Commons licence or similar terms of use, you should obtain permission from the relevant third-party to reuse their material beyond the ways you are legally permitted to use them under the fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act 1968.

If you have any questions about the copyright of the ARR, please contact:

[arr\\_admin@arr.org.au](mailto:arr_admin@arr.org.au)  
c/o 11 National Circuit,  
Barton, ACT

ISBN 978-1-925848-36-6

How to reference this book:

Ball J, Babister M, Nathan R, Weeks W, Weinmann E, Retallick M, Testoni I, (Editors)  
Australian Rainfall and Runoff: A Guide to Flood Estimation, © Commonwealth of Australia  
(Geoscience Australia), 2019.

How to reference Book 9: Runoff in Urban Areas:

Coombes, P., and Roso, S. (Editors), 2019 Runoff in Urban Areas, Book 9 in Australian  
Rainfall and Runoff - A Guide to Flood Estimation, Commonwealth of Australia, ©  
Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia), 2019.





**Australian Rock**



**vs.**



**American Rock**



**LEGO**

# Architecture

Kraftwerk

German Rock?



Ages/edades

**12+**

21006

Cont. **560** pcs

Construction model

Architect series

1st edition

Booklet included  
with details on  
design and history

Building Toy

vs.

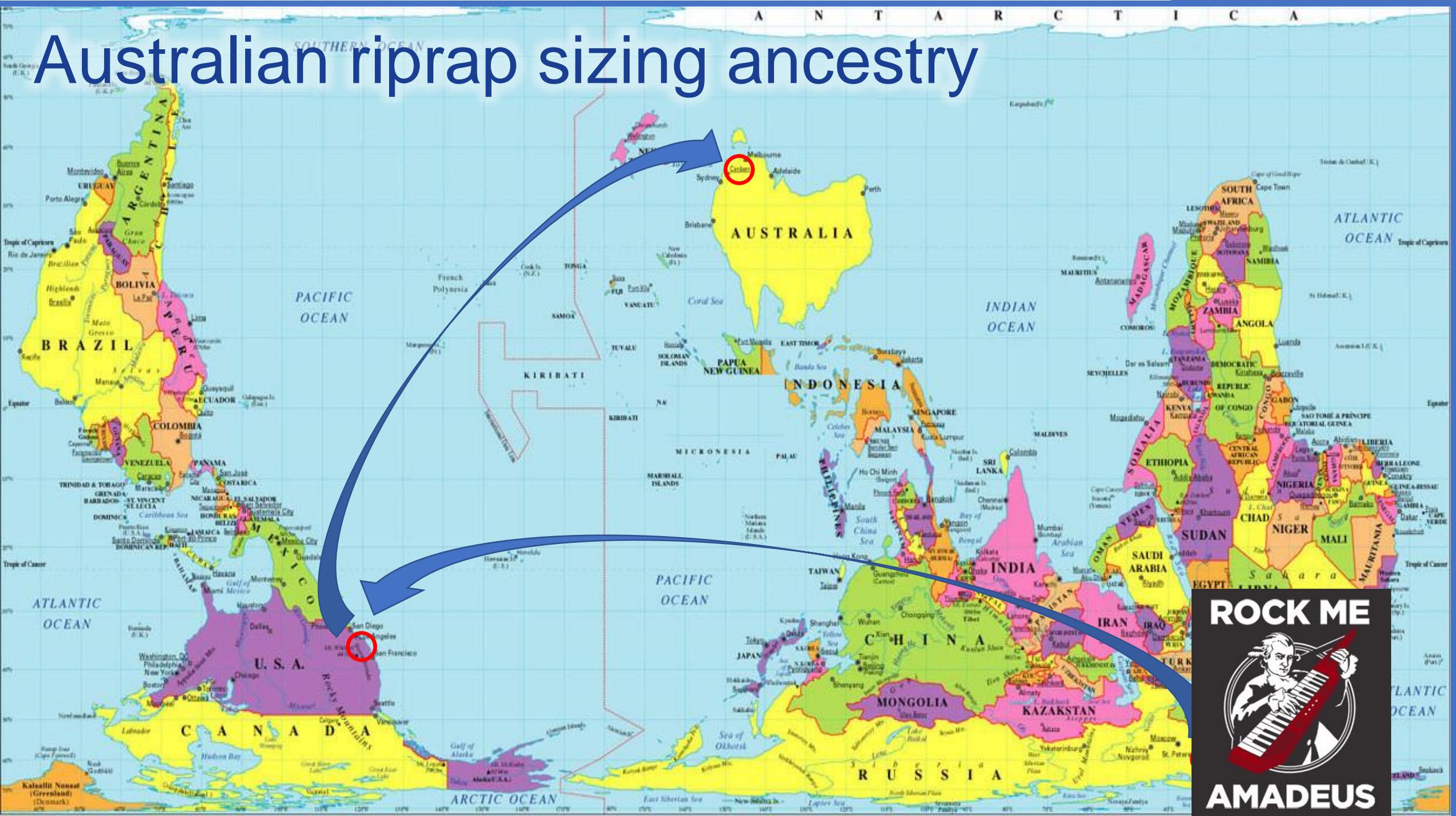


French Rock?

# Australian riprap sizing ancestry



# Australian riprap sizing ancestry



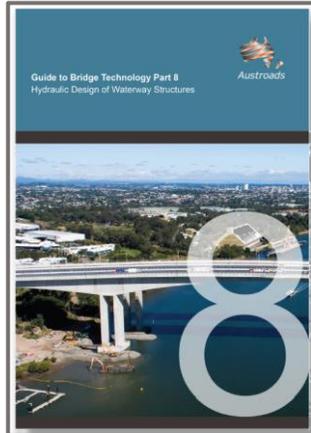
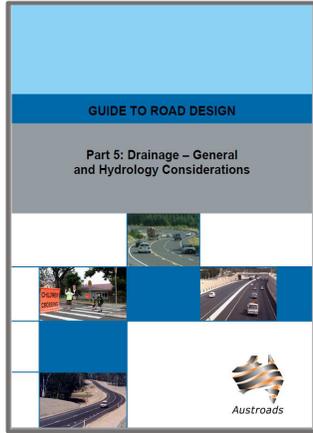
**ROCK ME**



**AMADEUS**

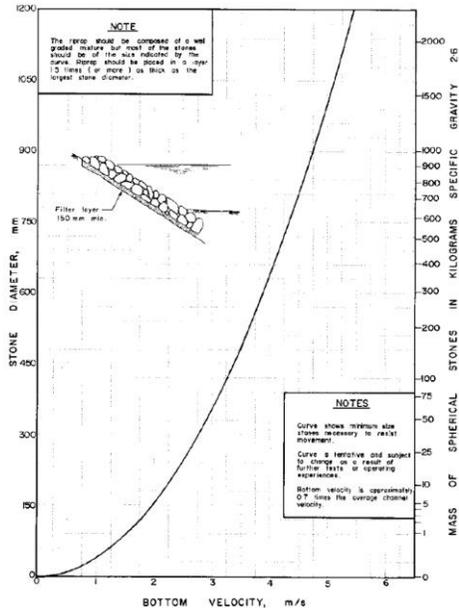
# Rock/riprap references in Austroads

## Bridges and Floodways

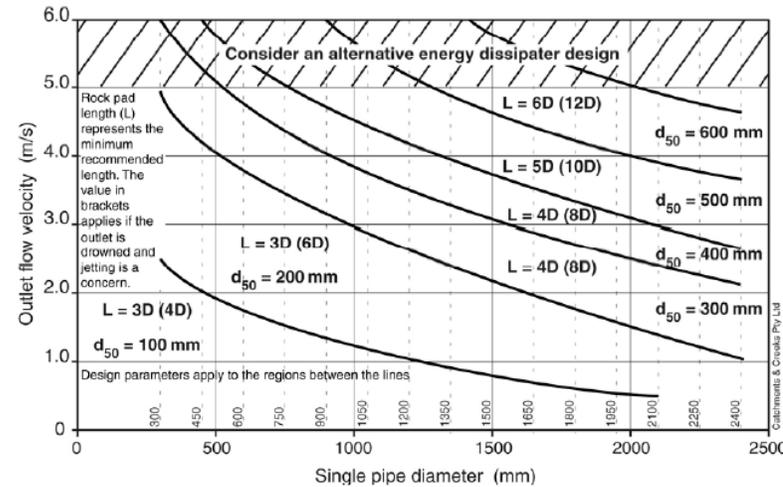


Velocity (m/s)	Class of rock protection (tonne)	Section thickness, T (m)
< 2	None	-
2.0–2.6	Facing	0.50
2.6–2.9	Light	0.75
2.9–3.9	¼	1.00
3.9–4.5	½	1.25
4.5–5.1	1.0	1.60
5.1–5.7	2.0	2.00
5.7–6.4	4.0	2.50
> 6.4	Special	-

## Lined Channels



## Culverts

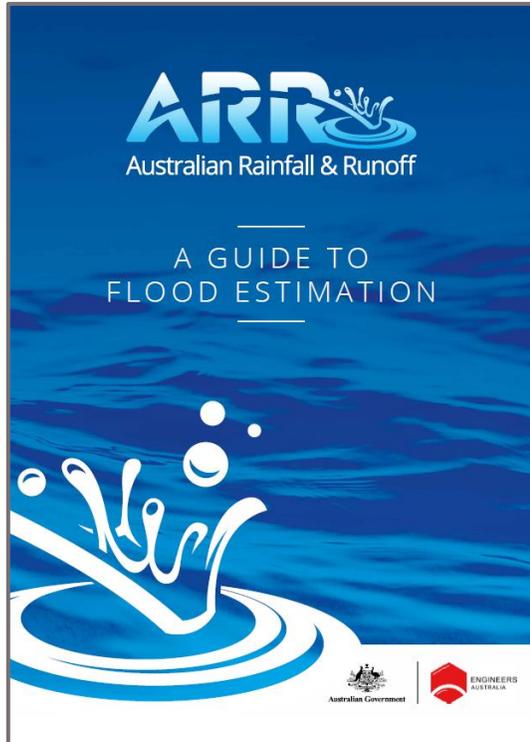


## Natural Channels

Stream bed type		Velocity (m/s)
Silt		less than 0.3
Sand	Fine	less than 0.3
	Coarse	less than 0.3
Gravel	6 mm	0.6 to 0.9
	25 mm	1.3 to 1.5
	100 mm	2.0 to 3.0
Clay	Soft	0.3 to 0.6
	Stiff	1.0 to 1.2
	Hard	1.5 to 2.0
Rocks	150 mm	2.5 to 3.0
	300 mm	3.5 to 4.0



# Rock/riprap references in ARR



## Channels

Equation (6.2.21) applies to uniform flow, but it can be generalised to include gradually varying flow by replacing the slope,  $S$  by the friction slope,  $S_f$ . For gradually varying flow, the bed shear stress is given by:

$$\tau_o = \rho g R_h S_f \quad (6.2.25)$$

The bed shear stress is important when considering the flow velocities necessary for scour

## Spillways

The surfaces of an earthen embankment and overflow spillway must be protected against damage by scour. The degree of protection required is subject to the calculated flow velocity.

The following treatments are recommended as a guide (NSW Government, 2004)

- $V \leq 2$  m/s a dense well-knit turf cover using for example kikuyu;
- $2 \text{ m/s} < V < 7 \text{ m/s}$  a dense well-knit turf cover incorporating a turf reinforcement system; and
- $V \geq 7$  m/s hard surfacing with concrete, riprap or similar.

## Bridges

Riprap is one of the primary scour countermeasures to resist local scour forces at abutments of typical bridges. Riprap is generally abundant, inexpensive and requires no special equipment. However, proper design and placement is essential. Guidelines for proper grading and placement methods are included in QDTMR (2013).

Detailed descriptions of scour repair and protection for existing bridges is included in QDTMR (2013).

## Culverts

If outlet velocities exceed the acceptable limits, it may be necessary to check for potential bed scour problems. Where the outlet flows have a Froude Number ( $Fr$ ) less or equal to 1.7 and outlet velocities less than 5.0 m/s, an extended concrete apron or rock pad (commonly used) protection is recommended.

Design details are provided by Austroads (2013).

## **Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry Applications:**

**1. Channel Bed and Bank Lining**

**2. Bridge Scour Countermeasures  
(Piers and Abutments)**

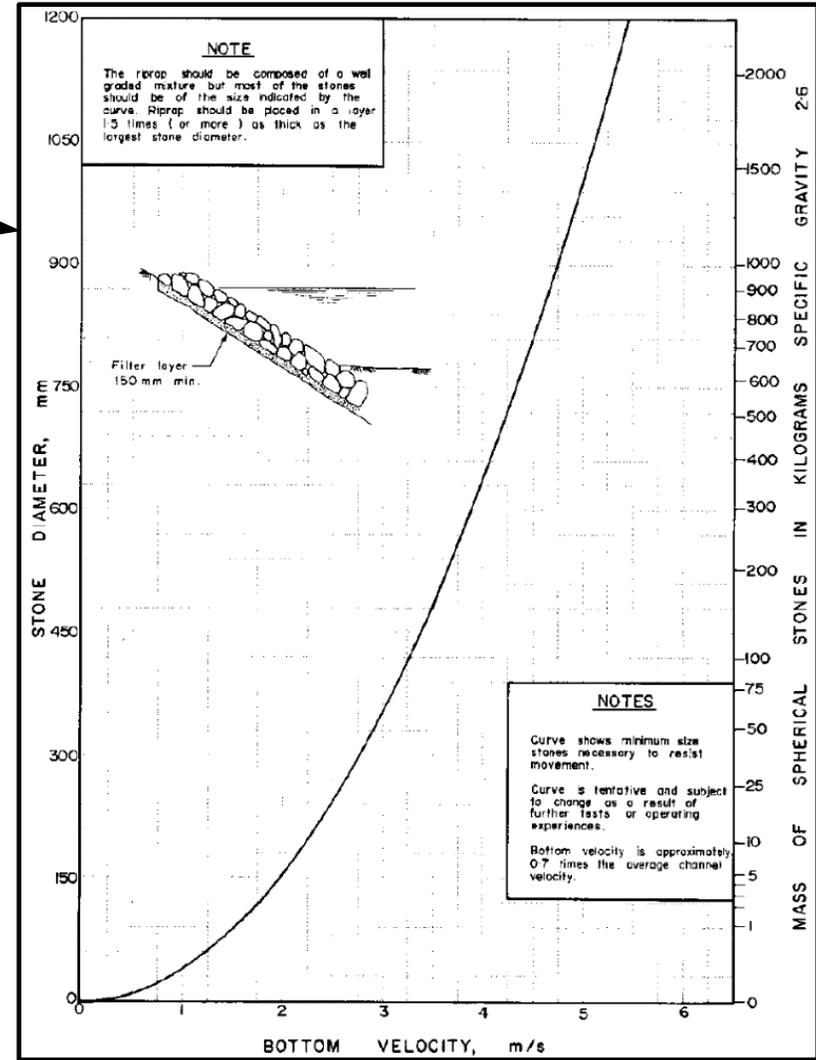
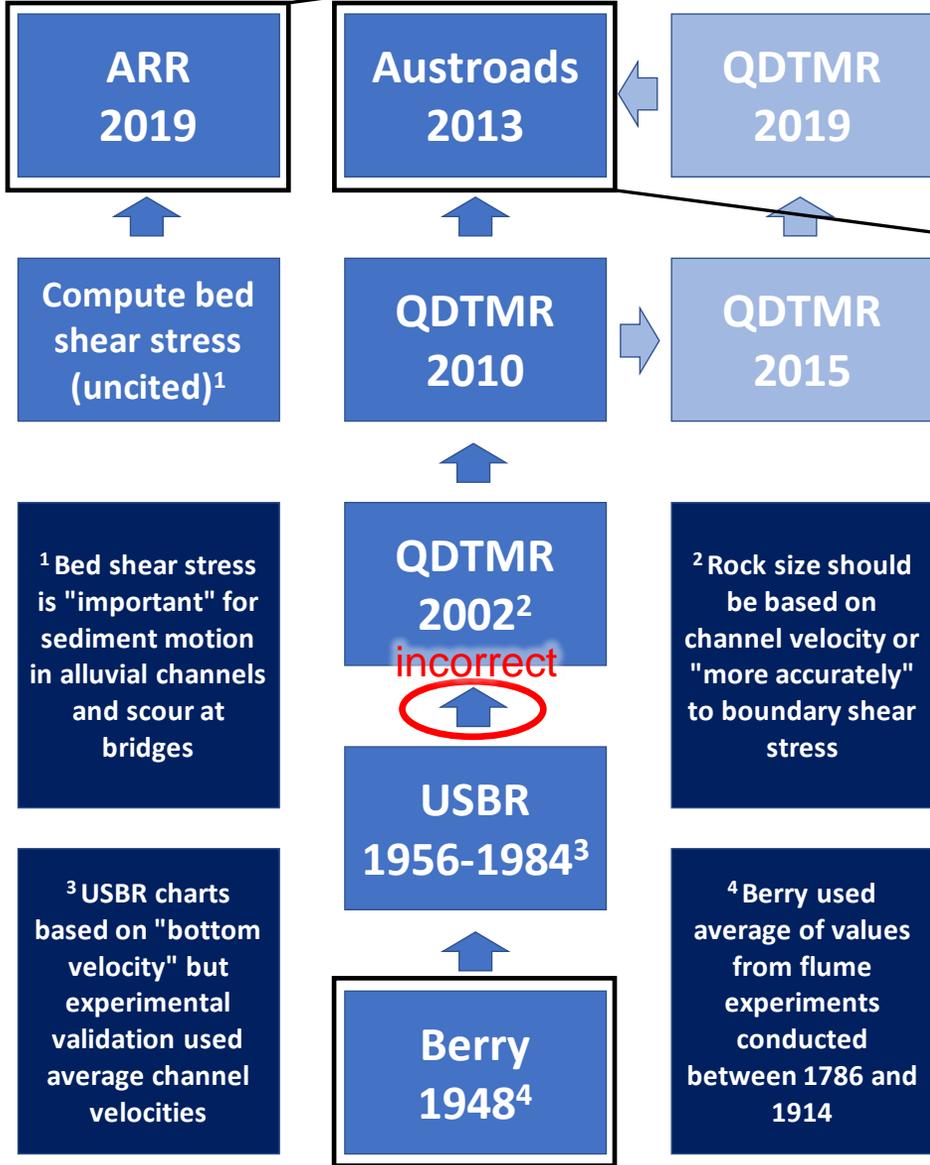
**3. Culvert Outlet Aprons**

**4. Floodways, Spillways, Rock Chutes,  
and Dissipation Structures**

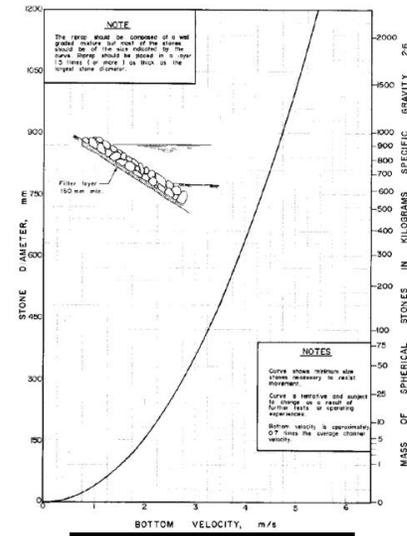
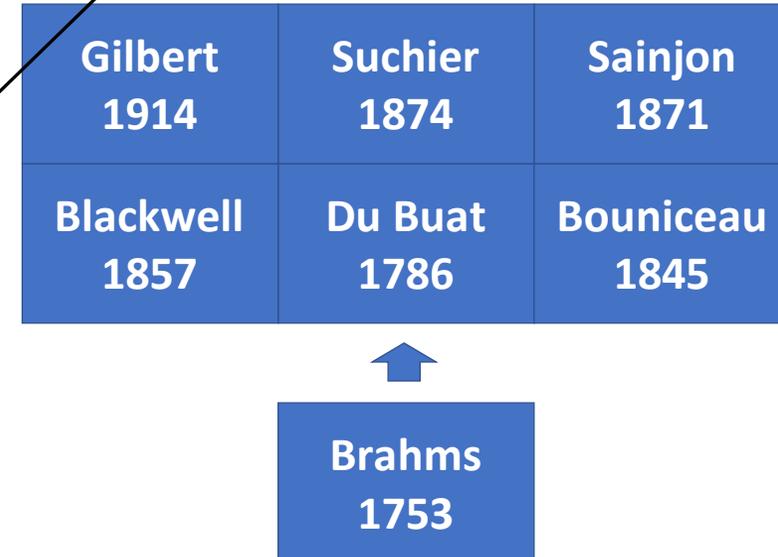
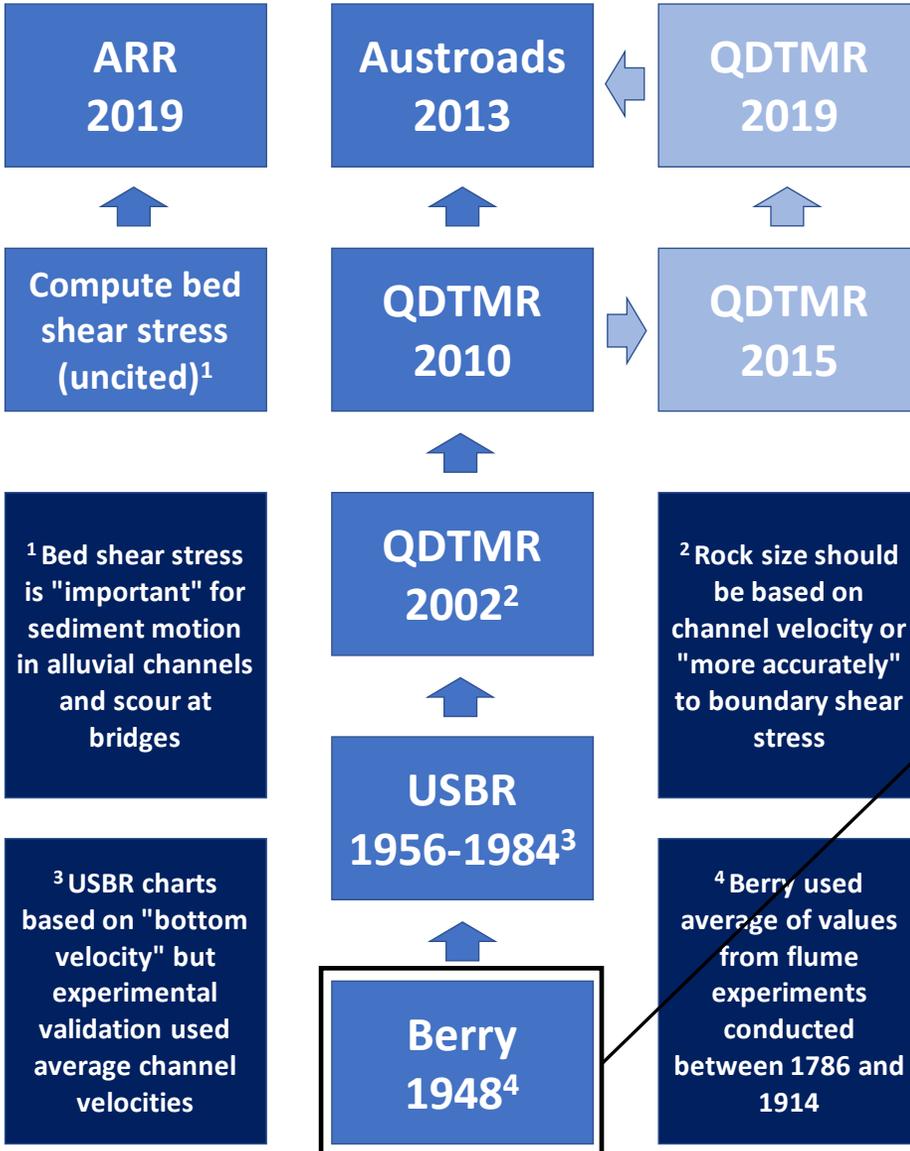


# 1 Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Channel Bed and Bank Lining

$$\tau_o = \rho g R_h S_f$$

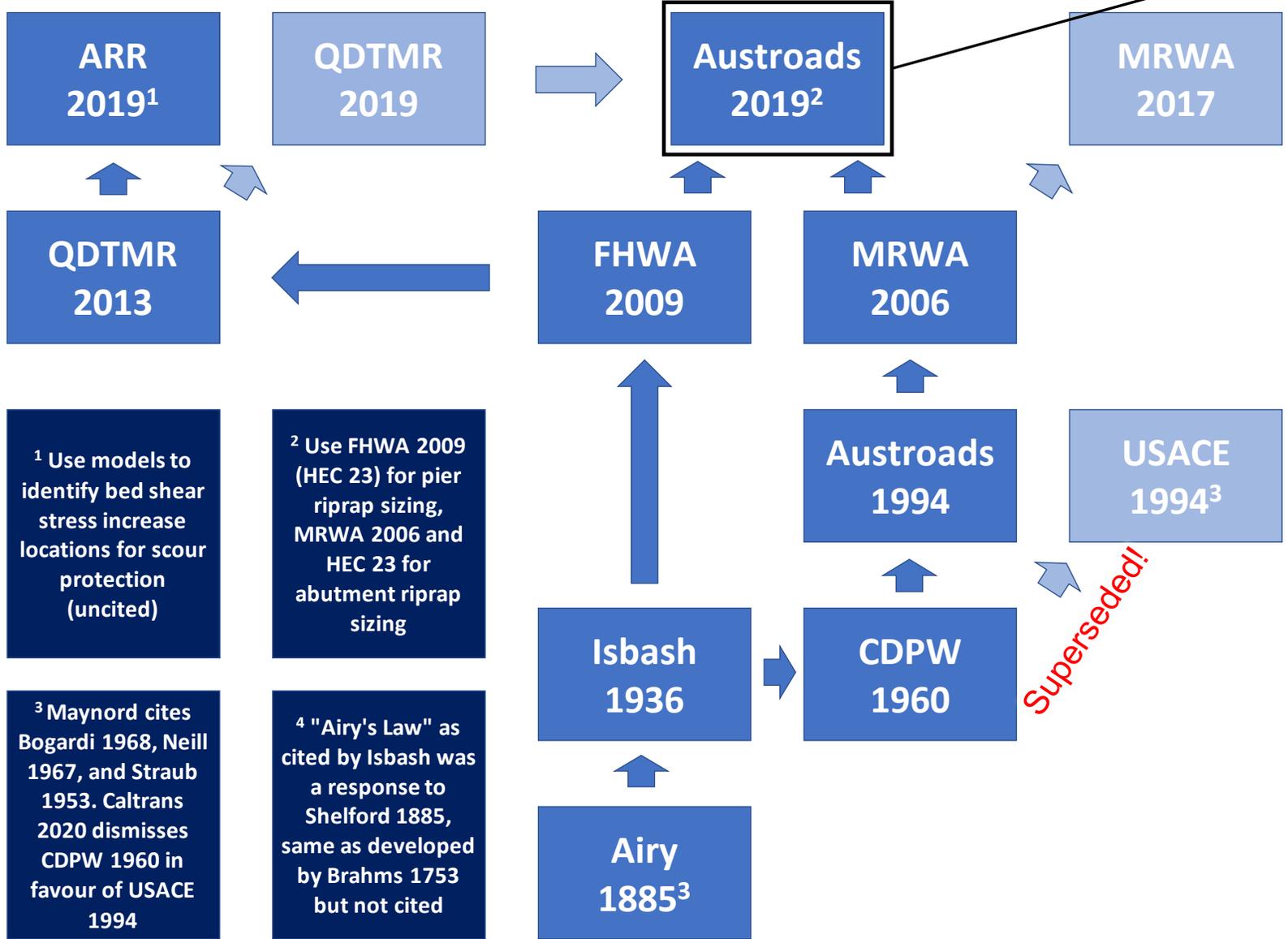


# 1 Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Channel Bed and Bank Lining



# 2

## Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Bridge Scour Countermeasures (Piers and Abutments)



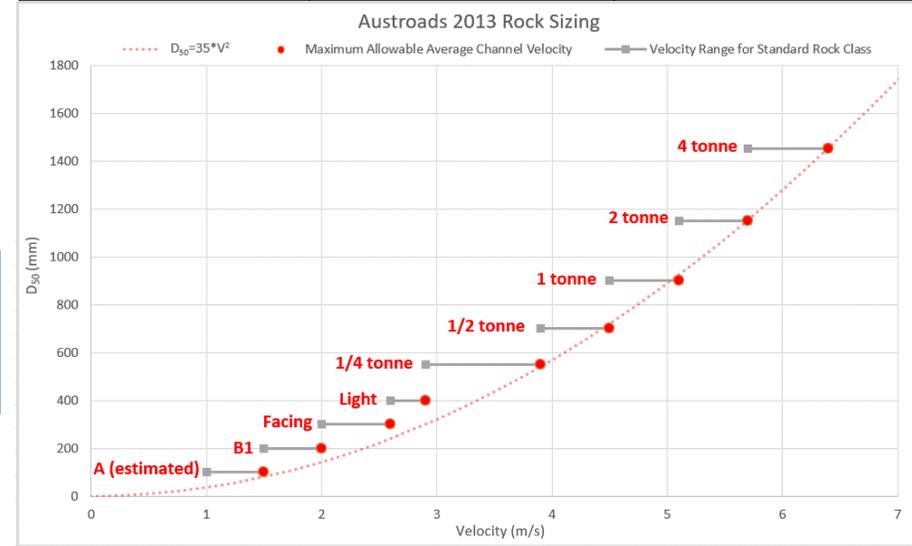
<sup>1</sup> Use models to identify bed shear stress increase locations for scour protection (uncited)

<sup>2</sup> Use FHWA 2009 (HEC 23) for pier riprap sizing, MRWA 2006 and HEC 23 for abutment riprap sizing

<sup>3</sup> Maynard cites Bogardi 1968, Neill 1967, and Straub 1953. Caltrans 2020 dismisses CDPW 1960 in favour of USACE 1994

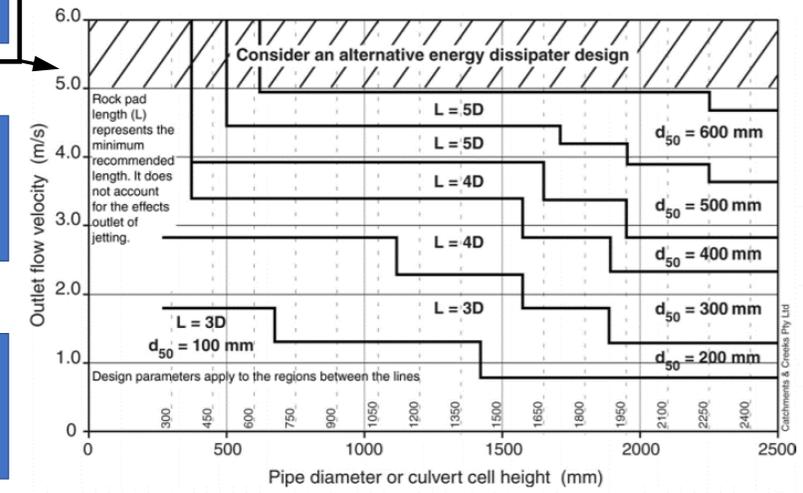
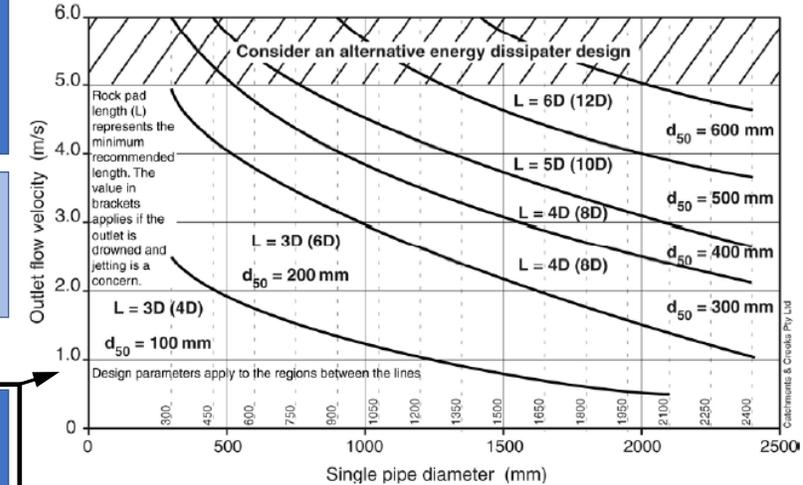
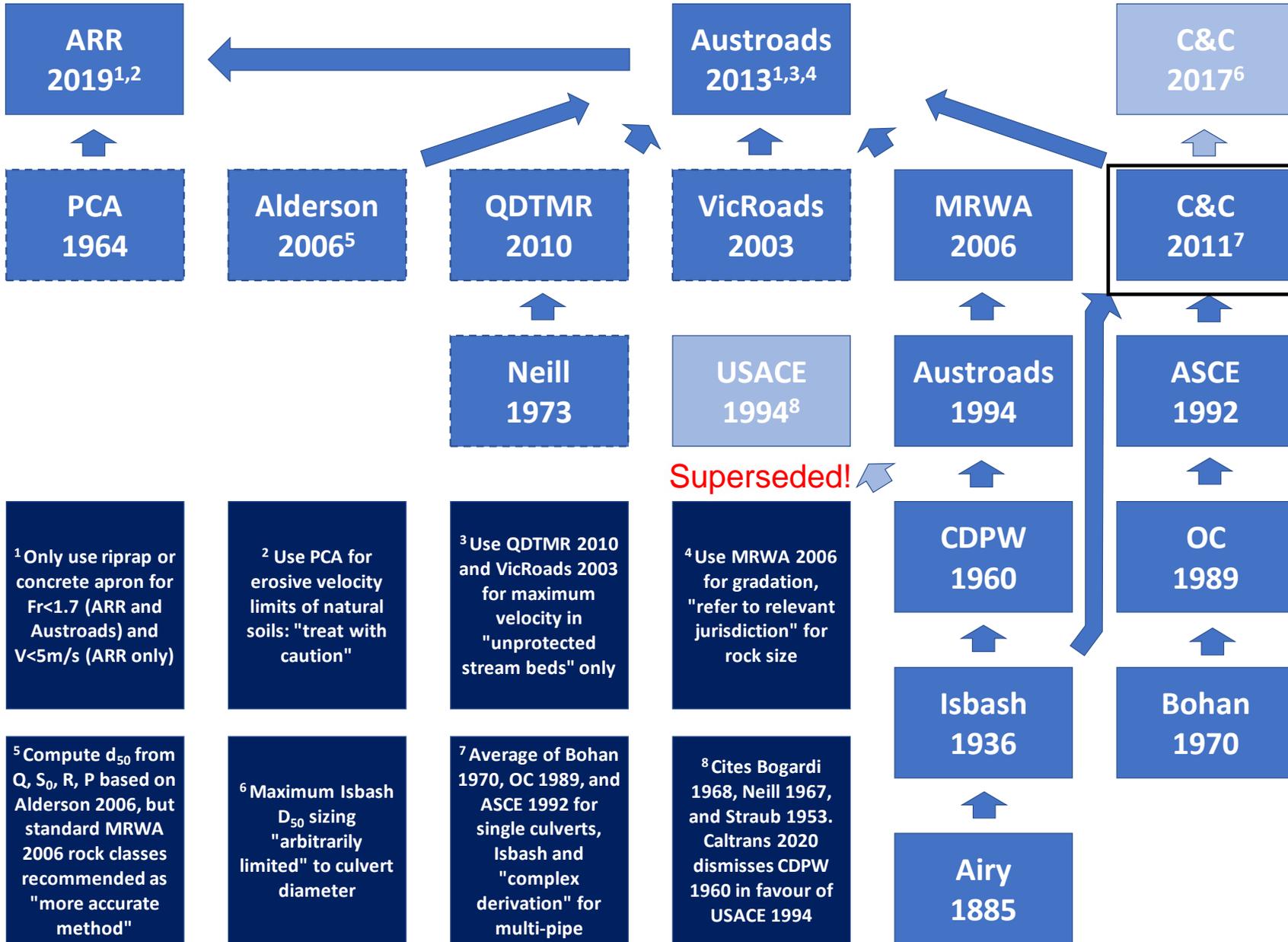
<sup>4</sup> "Airy's Law" as cited by Isbash was a response to Shelford 1885, same as developed by Brahms 1753 but not cited

Velocity (m/s)	Class of rock protection (tonne)	Section thickness, <i>T</i> (m)
< 2	None	–
2.0–2.6	Facing	0.50
2.6–2.9	Light	0.75
2.9–3.9	¼	1.00
3.9–4.5	½	1.25
4.5–5.1	1.0	1.60
5.1–5.7	2.0	2.00
5.7–6.4	4.0	2.50
> 6.4	Special	–



# 3

## Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Culvert Outlet Aprons



<sup>1</sup> Only use riprap or concrete apron for  $Fr < 1.7$  (ARR and Austroads) and  $V < 5m/s$  (ARR only)

<sup>2</sup> Use PCA for erosive velocity limits of natural soils: "treat with caution"

<sup>3</sup> Use QDTMR 2010 and VicRoads 2003 for maximum velocity in "unprotected stream beds" only

<sup>4</sup> Use MRWA 2006 for gradation, "refer to relevant jurisdiction" for rock size

<sup>5</sup> Compute  $d_{50}$  from  $Q, S_0, R, P$  based on Alderson 2006, but standard MRWA 2006 rock classes recommended as "more accurate method"

<sup>6</sup> Maximum Isbash  $D_{50}$  sizing "arbitrarily limited" to culvert diameter

<sup>7</sup> Average of Bohan 1970, OC 1989, and ASCE 1992 for single culverts, Isbash and "complex derivation" for multi-pipe

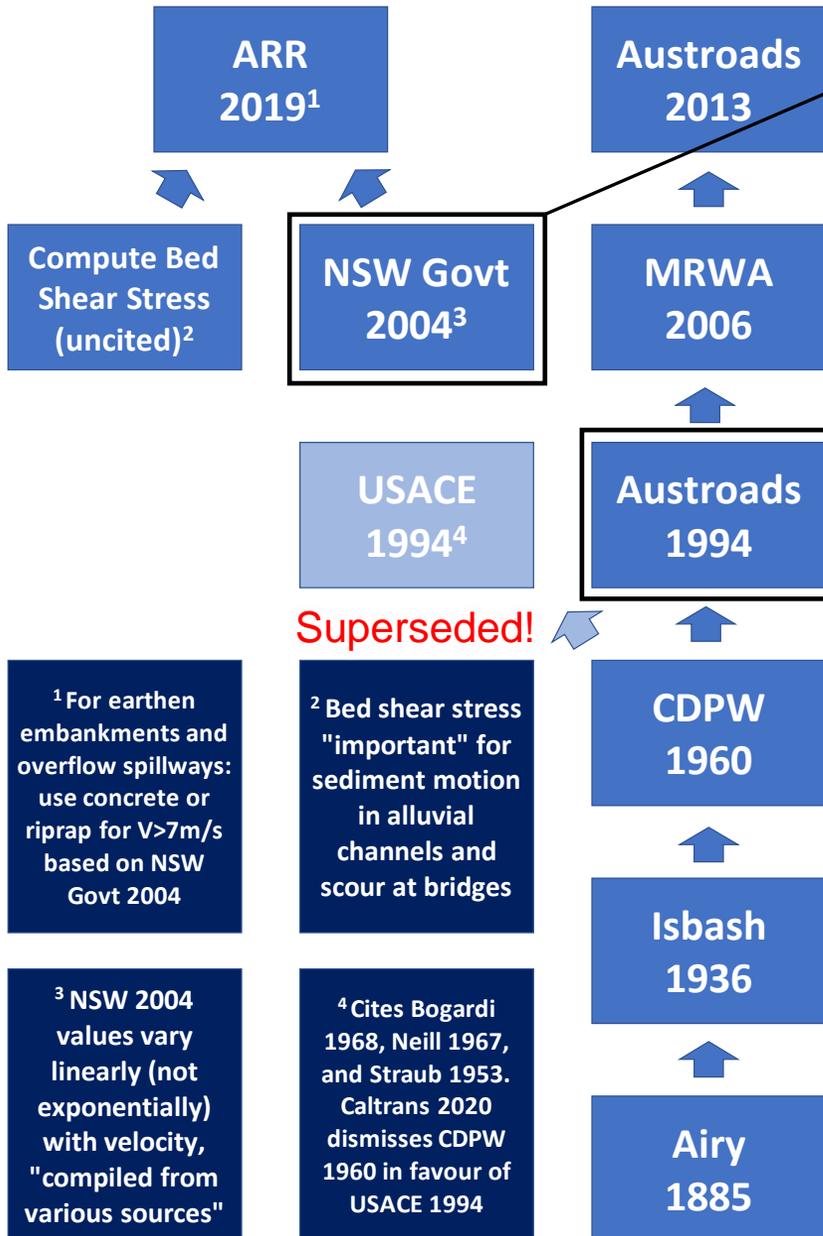
<sup>8</sup> Cites Bogardi 1968, Neill 1967, and Straub 1953. Caltrans 2020 dismisses CDPW 1960 in favour of USACE 1994

Superseded!



# 4

## Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Floodways, Spillways, Rock Chutes, and Dissipation Structures



<sup>1</sup> For earthen embankments and overflow spillways: use concrete or riprap for  $V > 7\text{m/s}$  based on NSW Govt 2004

<sup>2</sup> Bed shear stress "important" for sediment motion in alluvial channels and scour at bridges

<sup>3</sup> NSW 2004 values vary linearly (not exponentially) with velocity, "compiled from various sources"

<sup>4</sup> Cites Bogardi 1968, Neill 1967, and Straub 1953. Caltrans 2020 dismisses CDPW 1960 in favour of USACE 1994

Material			Critical velocity (m/second)	
Type	Thickness (m)	Aggregate size (mm)		
Gabions and reno mattresses	0.50	120-250	6.4	
	0.50	100-200	5.8	
	0.30	100-150	5.0	
	0.30	70-120	4.2	
	0.25	70-100	3.6	
	0.17	70-100	3.5	
Loose rock (assume 100 percent soil cover)	Weight each (kg)		Turbulent flow	Normal flow
	1,000		4.8	6.6
	500		4.2	5.7
	100		3.3	4.5
	50		2.8	3.8
	10		2.3	3.0

Velocity (m/s)	Class of rock protection (tonne)	Section thickness, $T$ (m)
< 2	None	-
2.0-2.6	Facing	0.50
2.6-2.9	Light	0.75
2.9-3.9	¼	1.00
3.9-4.5	½	1.25
4.5-5.1	1.0	1.60
5.1-5.7	2.0	2.00
5.7-6.4	4.0	2.50
> 6.4	Special	-





CALIFORNIA  
BACKINTIME

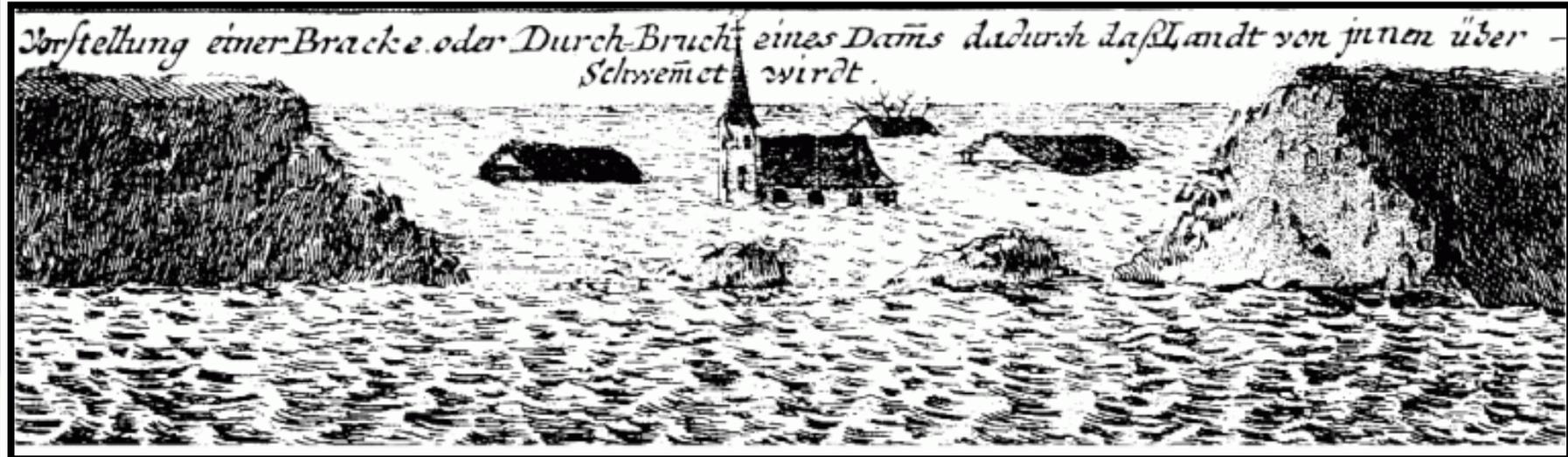
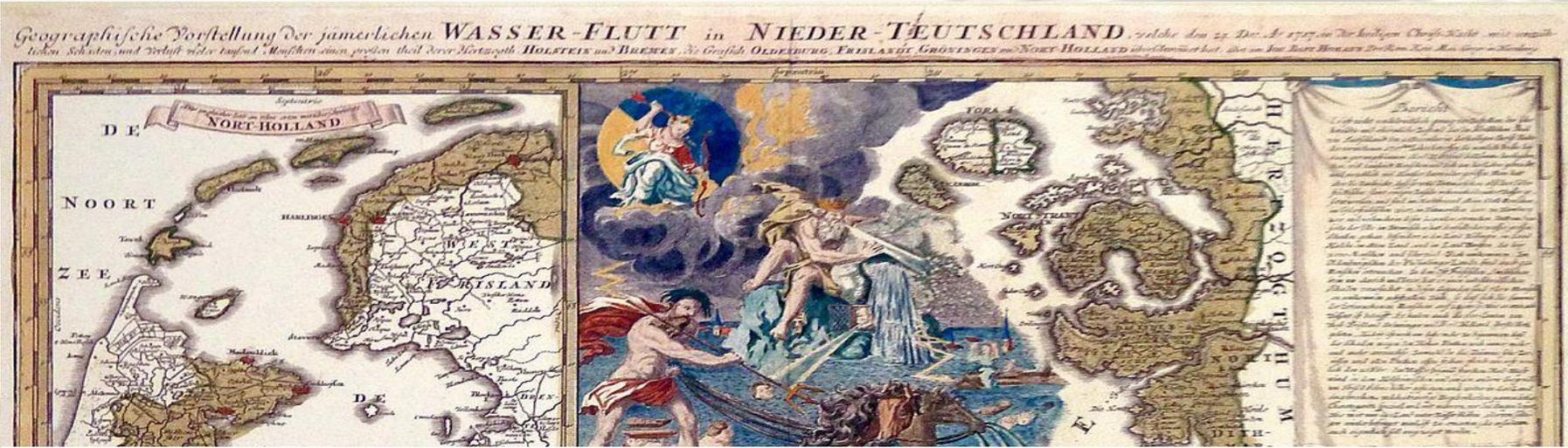


# Christmas 1717

Geographische Vorstellung der jämmerlichen WASSER-FLUTT in NIEDER-TEUTSCHLAND, welche den 24. Dec. A. 1717. in der heiligen Christ-Kirche mit unbeschreiblichen Schrecken und Verlust vieler tausend Menschen einen pyrenen theil dieser Körtzgehit HOLSTEIN und BREMEN, die Graffsch. OLDENBURG, ERISLAND, GROENINGE und NOYD HOLLAND überfluthet hat. Von JOH. BARTH. HOLLANDT. In Amsterdam. 1717.



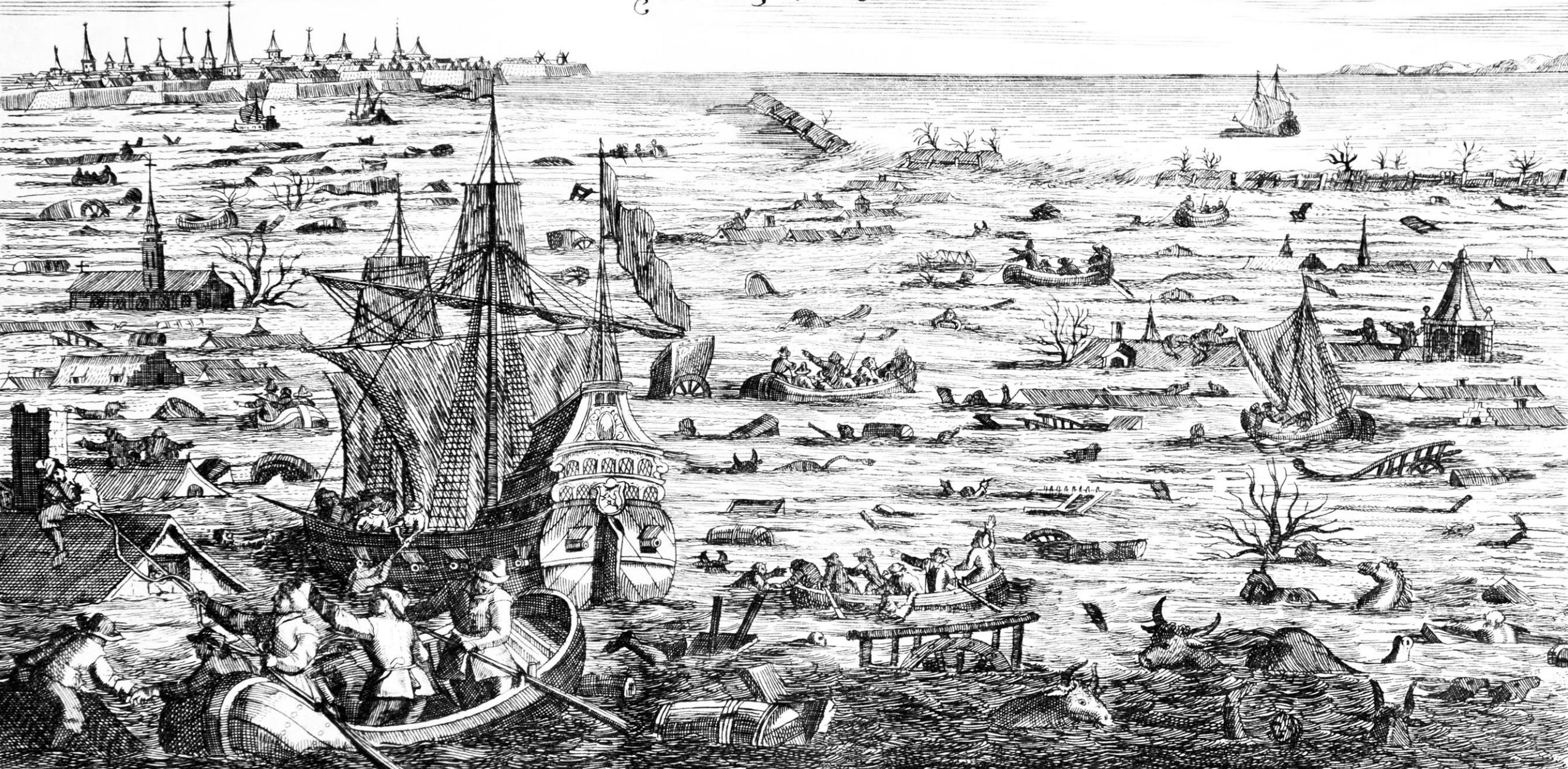
# Christmas 1717

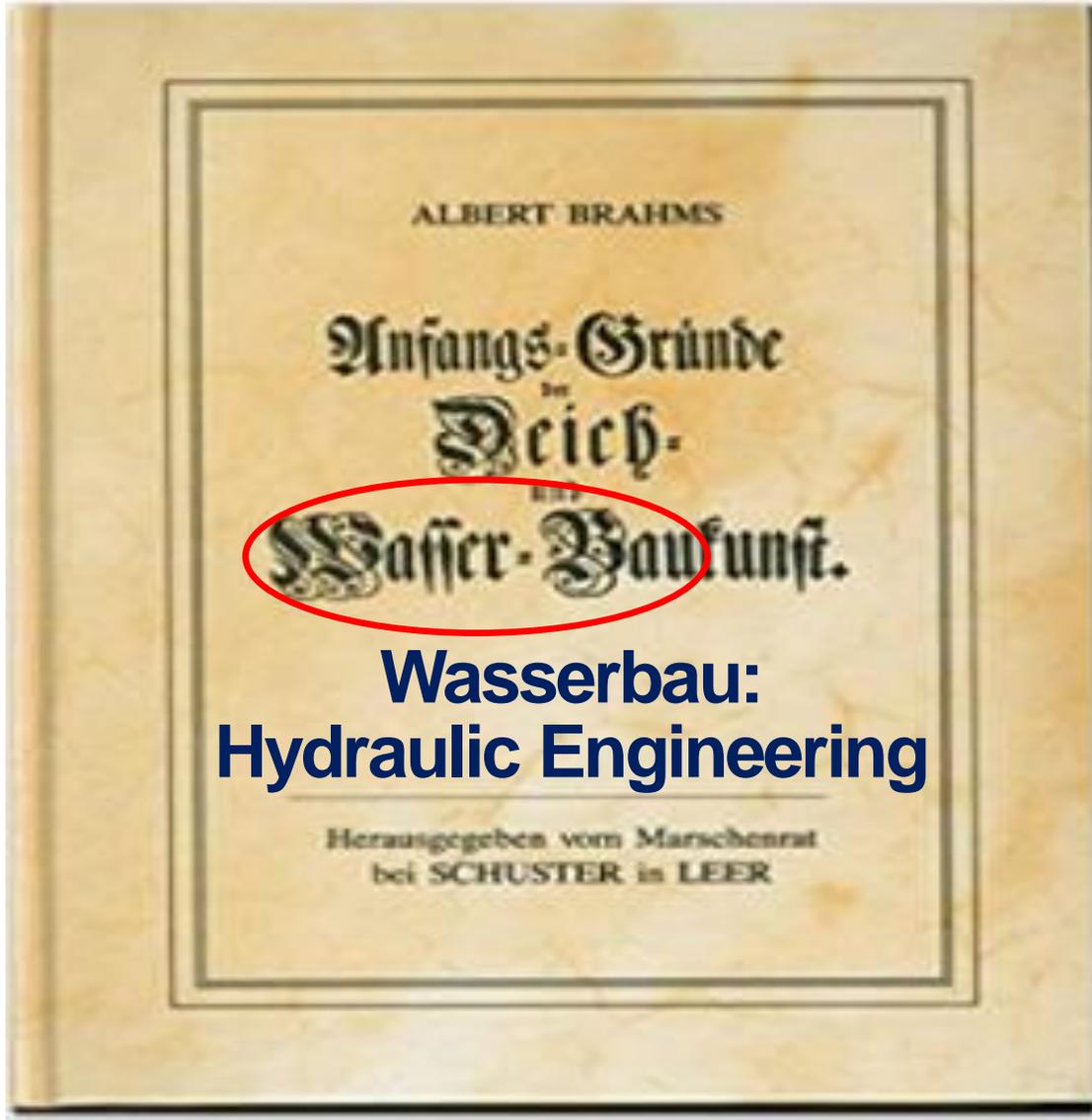


# Christmas 1717



Abbildung der fast übernatürlich hohen Wasserflut am H. Christ-Tag 1717 und am 25. Vorming 1718.





## Wasserbau: Hydraulic Engineering

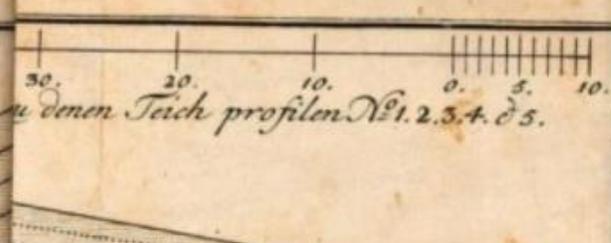




**Kunst = "art"**



zu denen Teich profilen N<sup>o</sup> 1. 2. 3. 4. d 5.



N<sup>o</sup> 1. N<sup>o</sup> 2. N<sup>o</sup> 3. N<sup>o</sup> 4. N<sup>o</sup> 5.  
Höhe der oronair



Fig: 34.

Fig: 35.

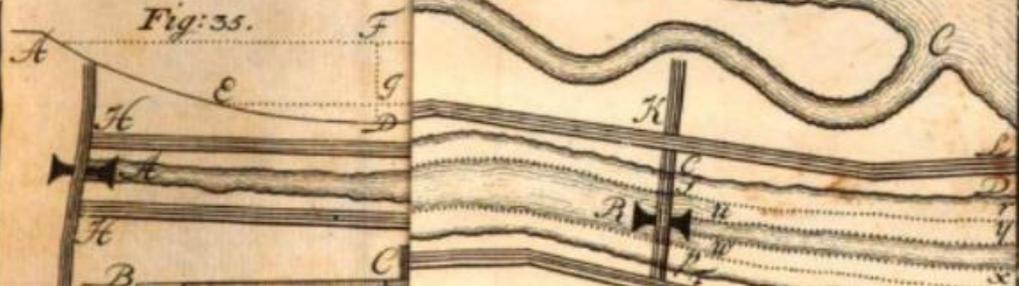


Fig: 36.

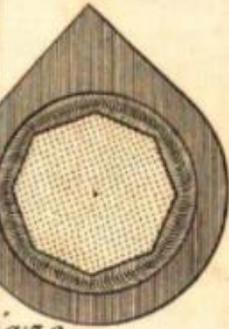


Fig: 39.

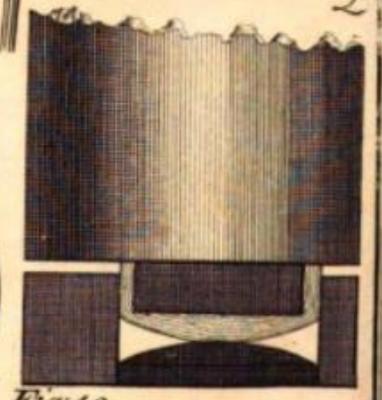


Fig: 40.

Tab: III.

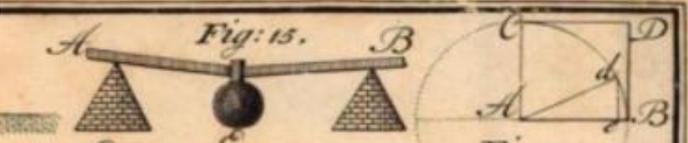


Fig: 15.

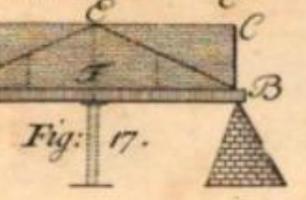


Fig: 17.

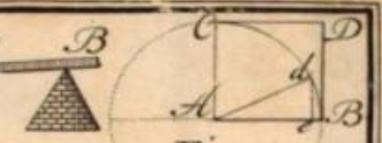


Fig: 18.

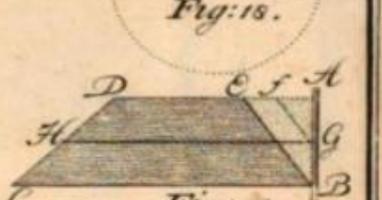


Fig: 19.

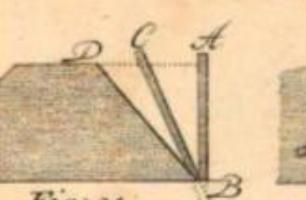


Fig: 21.

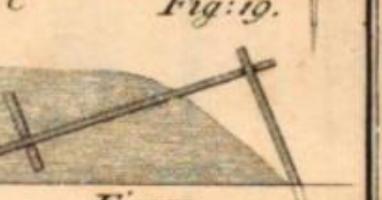


Fig: 22.

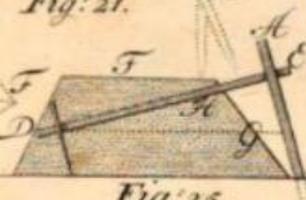


Fig: 25.

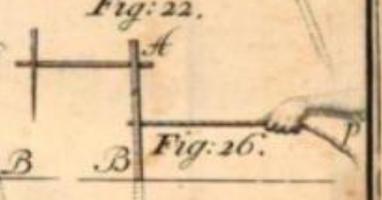


Fig: 26.

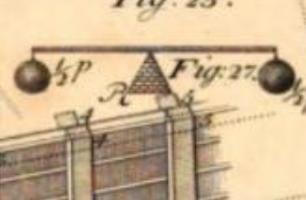


Fig: 27.



Fig: 30.

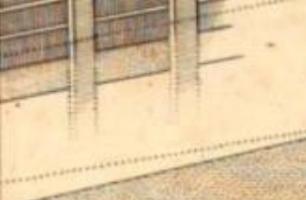


Fig: 31.

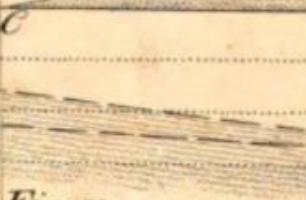


Fig: 32.

Tab: II.

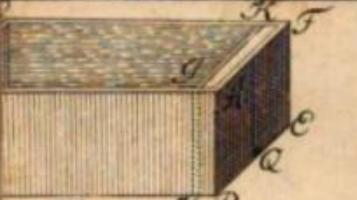


Fig: 2.

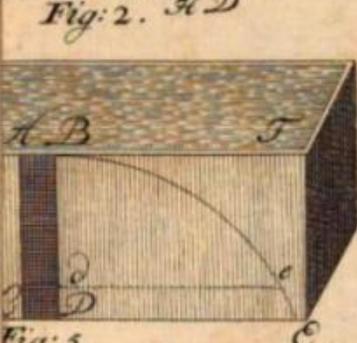


Fig: 5.

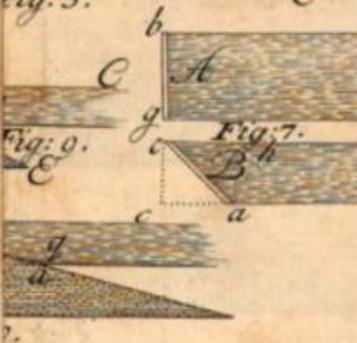


Fig: 7.

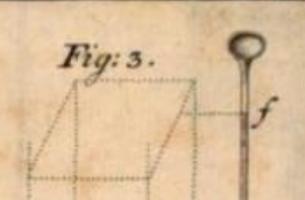


Fig: 3.

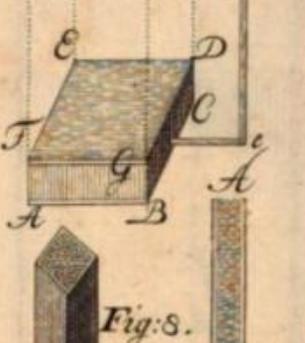


Fig: 8.

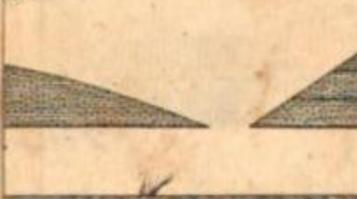


Fig: 12.

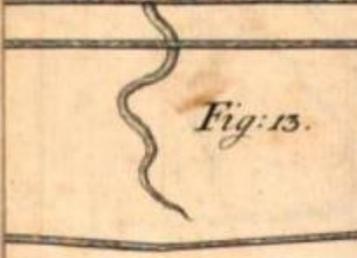
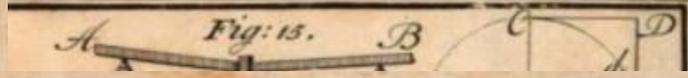
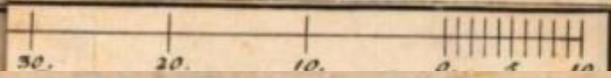
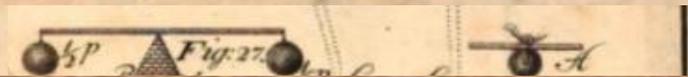


Fig: 13.

Tab: I.



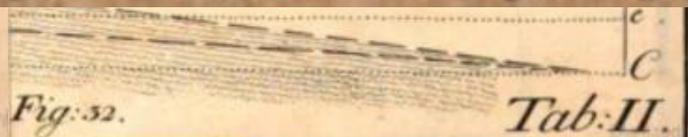
Das Quadrat der Geschwindigkeiten, womit diese Kugeln in Bewegung gesetzt werden können, die Höhe derjenigen Säulen gleich seyn müssen, die derselben das Gleich-Gewicht machen, mithin erhellet die Wahrheit des obigen Satzes, daß die Grössen der Körper von einerley Materie und Form, die durch ein in Bewegung gesetztes Gewässer hinweggerissen und fortzuführen werden, sich untereinander verhalten, oder verhalten können, wie die **Cubi Quadrate** der Geschwindigkeiten des bewegten Gewässers, oder wie die Cubi der Höhen derjenigen Wasser-Säulen, woraus diese Geschwindigkeiten erzeugt werden, klärlich. Alle Wirkungen und Gefolgen, so sich aus diesem wichtigen Satz gründlich erklären und herleiten lassen, an- oder auszuführen, leidet Zeit und Raum alhier nicht, alle Veränderungen, so durch die Bewegung des Gewässers, es seyn Abbrüche und Vertieffungen der Gründe, Anwächse, und Zuschlickungen, oder was es sonst mehr seyn mögte, verursacht werden, lassen sich sehr leicht daraus finden.

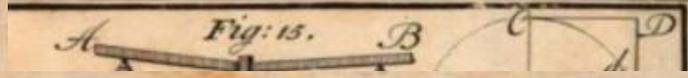
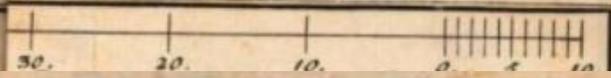


9. Je stärker diese Bewegung ist, je grössere Körper können durch **W** Wasser gewältiget und mit fortgerissen werden. Die eigentlichen **Schweren** solcher Körper verhalten sich untereinander, wie die Cubii der Höhen solcher Wasser-Säulen, oder wie die **Cubic-Quadrate** derer **Geschwindigkeiten** des bewegten Gewässers. §. 21. 116. 159. 199.

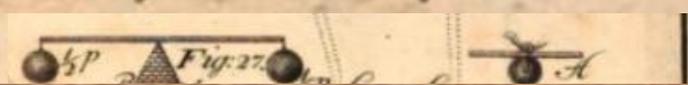
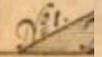
$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

Fig. 38





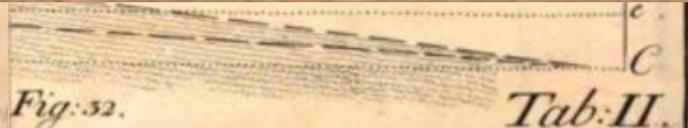
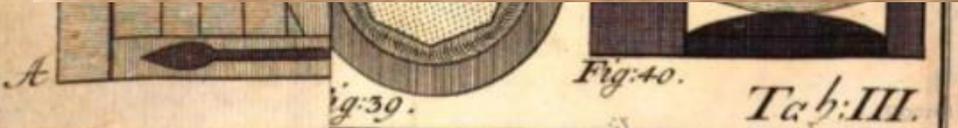
Das Quadrat der Geschwindigkeiten, womit diese Kugeln in Bewegung gesetzt werden können, die Höhe derjenigen Säulen gleich seyn müssen, die derselben das Gleich-Gewicht machen, mithin erhellet die Wahrheit des obigen Satzes, daß die Grössen der Körper von einerley Materie und Form, die durch ein in Bewegung gesetztes Gewässer hinweggerissen und fortzuführen werden, sich untereinander verhalten, oder verhalten können, wie die **Cubi Quadrate** der Geschwindigkeiten des bewegten Gewässers, oder wie die Cubi der Höhen derjenigen Wasser-Säulen, woraus diese Geschwindigkeiten erzeugt werden, klärlich. Alle Wirkungen und Gefolgen, so sich aus diesem wichtigen Satz gründlich erklären und herleiten lassen, an- oder auszuführen, leidet Zeit und Raum alhier nicht, alle Veränderungen, so durch die Bewegung des Gewässers, es seyn Abbrüche und Vertieffungen der Gründe, Anwächse, und Zuschlickungen, oder was es sonst mehr seyn mögte, verursacht werden, lassen sich sehr leicht daraus finden.



9. Je stärker diese Bewegung ist, je grössere Körper können durch **W** Wasser gewältiget und mit fortgerissen werden. Die **W** eigentlichen **Schweren** solcher Körper verhalten sich untereinander, wie die Cubii der Höhen solcher Wasser-Säulen, oder wie die **Cubic-Quadrate** derer **Geschwindigkeiten** des bewegten Gewässers. §. 21. 116. 159. 199.

$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

Fig. 38



u denen Teich profilen N<sup>o</sup> 1. 2. 3. 4. d 5.

Höhe der orömaine

$vol = 1/6 \pi D^3$

D

$W = \rho 1/6 \pi D^3$

Fig: 33.

Fig: 39.

Fig: 40.

Tab: III.

Fig: 15.

Fig: 17.

Fig: 18.

Fig: 19.

Fig: 25.

Fig: 26.

Fig: 30.

Fig: 31.

Fig: 32.

Tab: II.

$W \propto V^6$

$D \propto V^2$

Fig: 3.

Fig: 2.

Fig: 5.

Fig: 7.

Fig: 8.

Fig: 9.

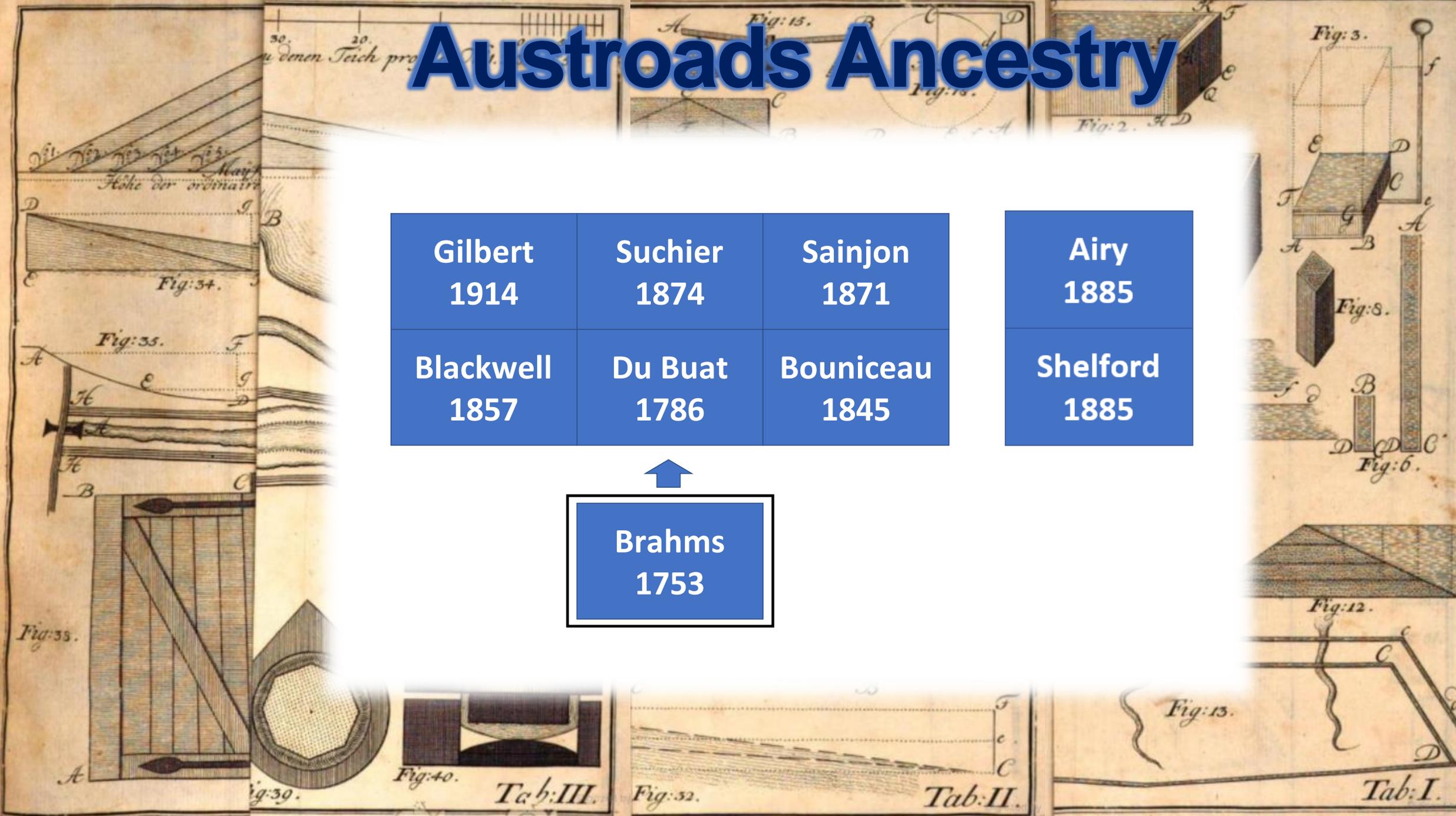
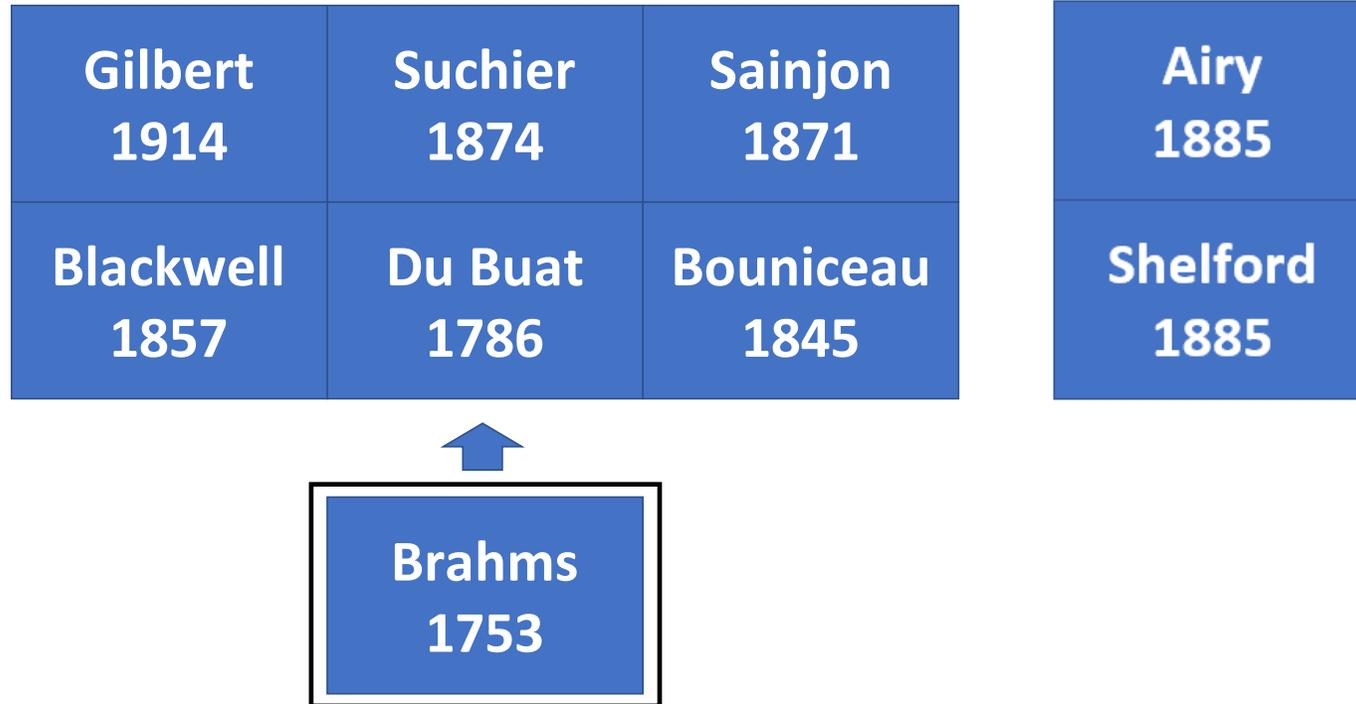
Fig: 10.

Fig: 12.

Fig: 13.

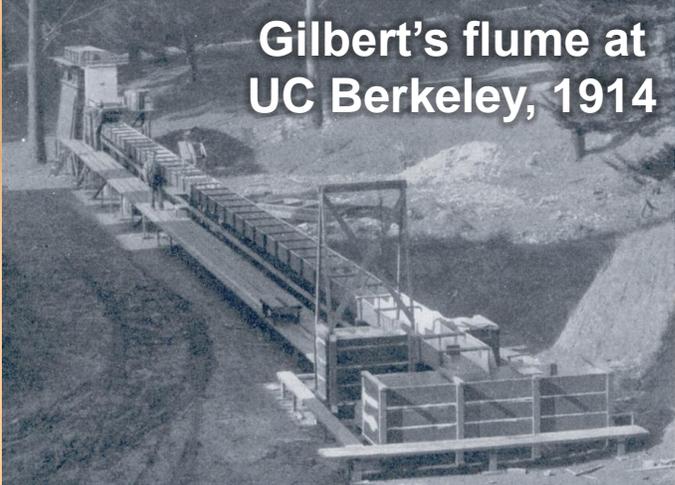
Tab: I.

# Austrorads Ancestry



# Austrorads Ancestry

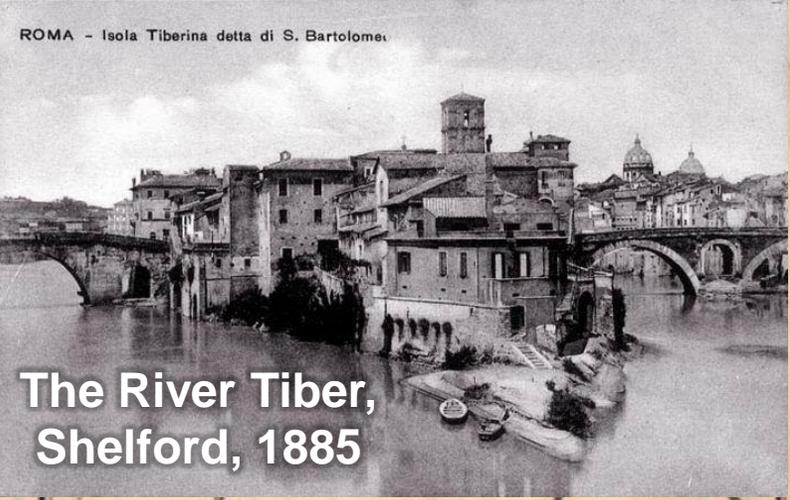
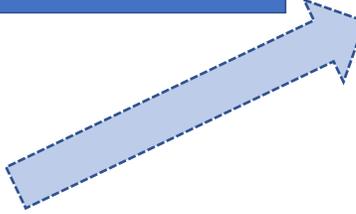
Gilbert's flume at UC Berkeley, 1914



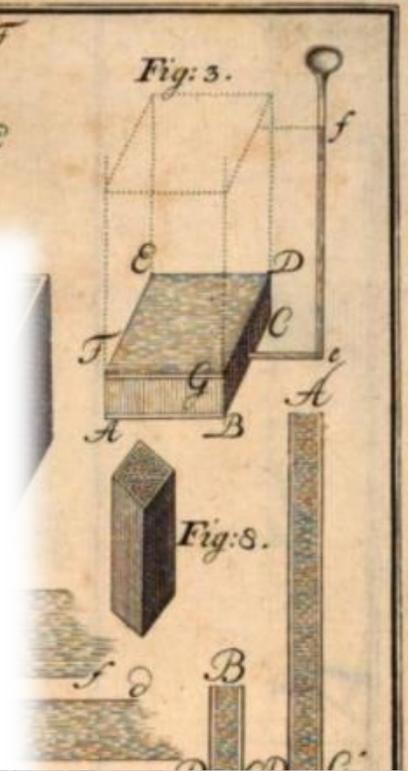
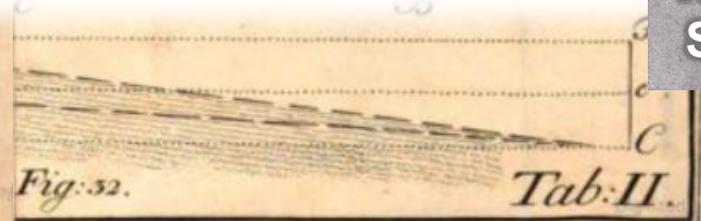
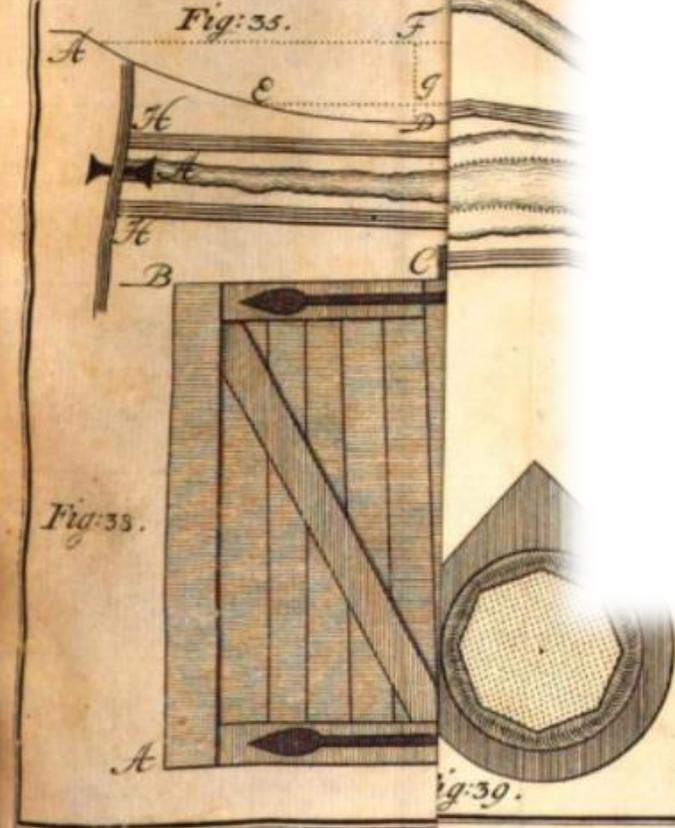
Gilbert 1914	Suchier 1874	Sainjon 1871
Blackwell 1857	Du Buat 1786	Bouniceau 1845

Airy 1885
Shelford 1885

Brahms  
1753

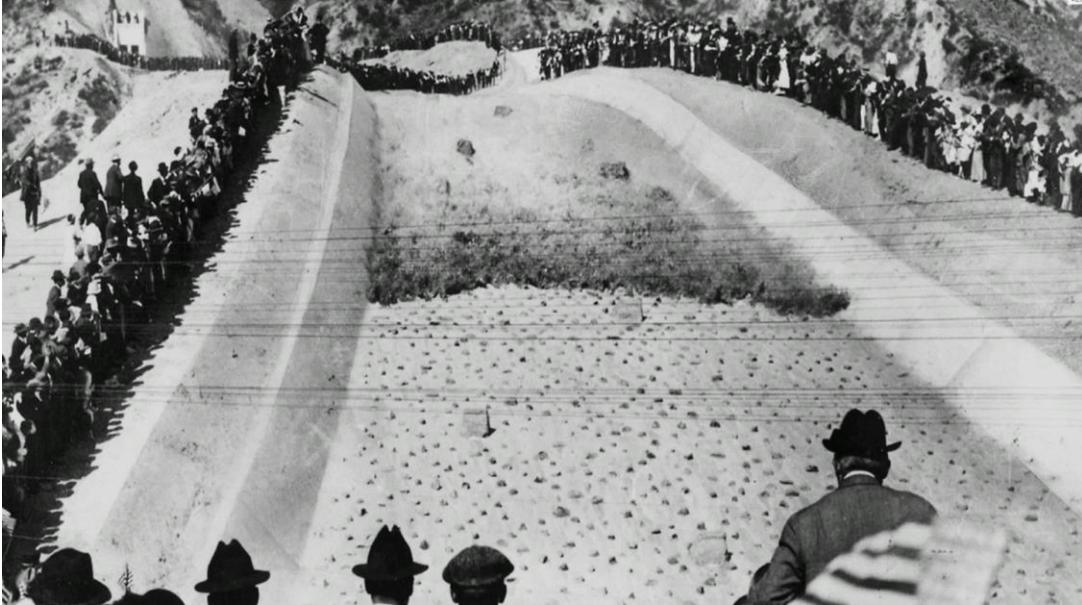


The River Tiber, Shelford, 1885



# American West 1920s-30s

- Canals
- Highways
- Dams



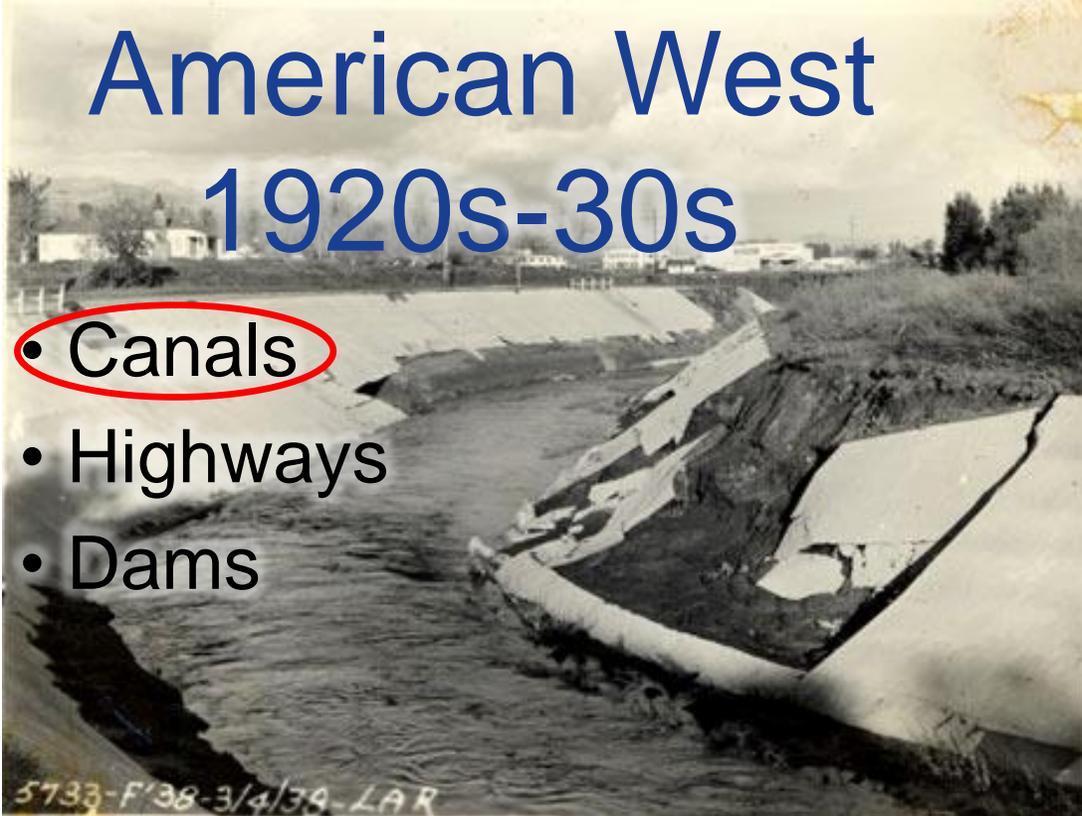
# American West 1920s-30s

- Canals
- Highways
- Dams

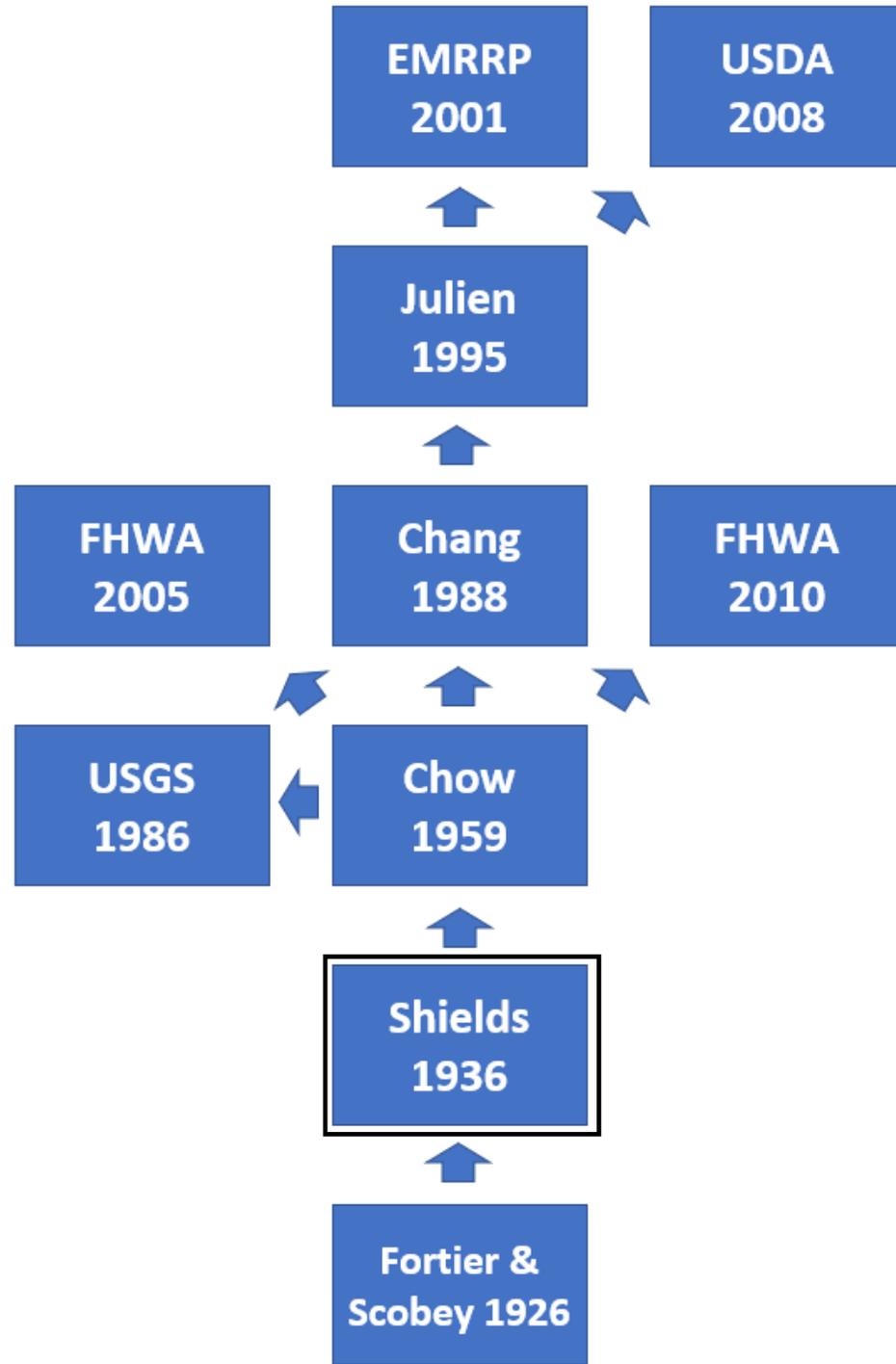


# American West 1920s-30s

- Canals
- Highways
- Dams



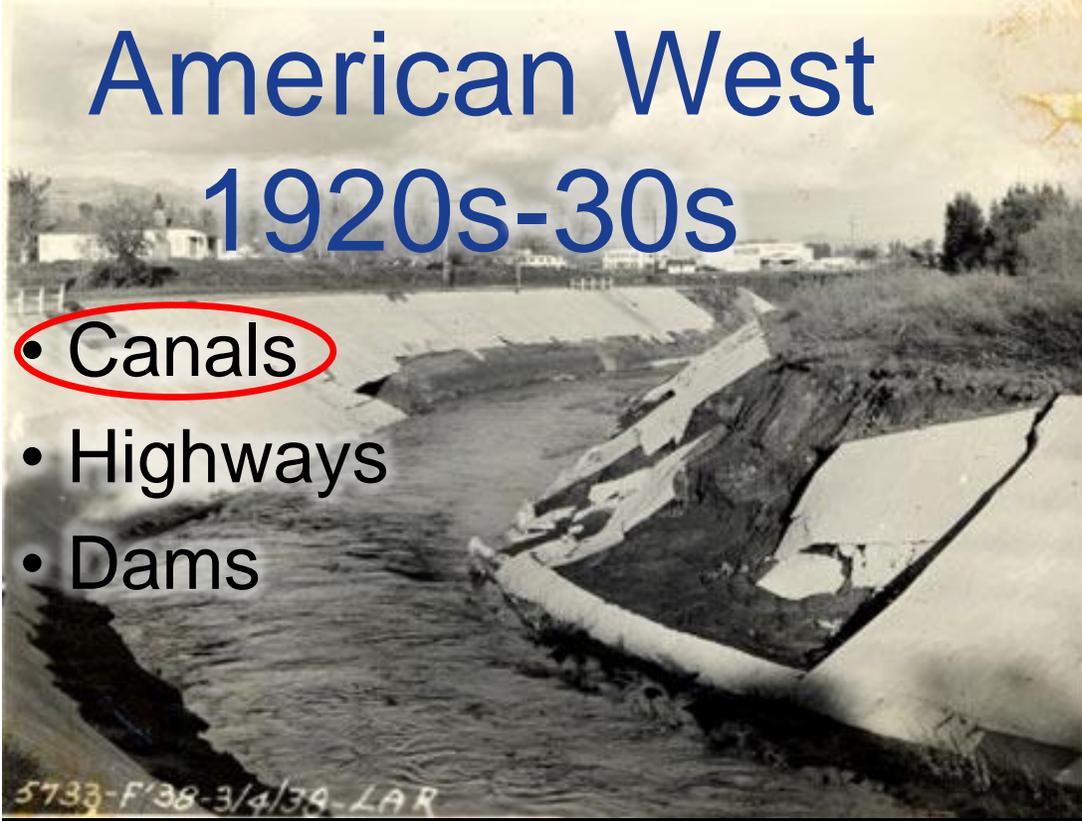
5733-F'38-3/4/39-LAR



# American West

## 1920s-30s

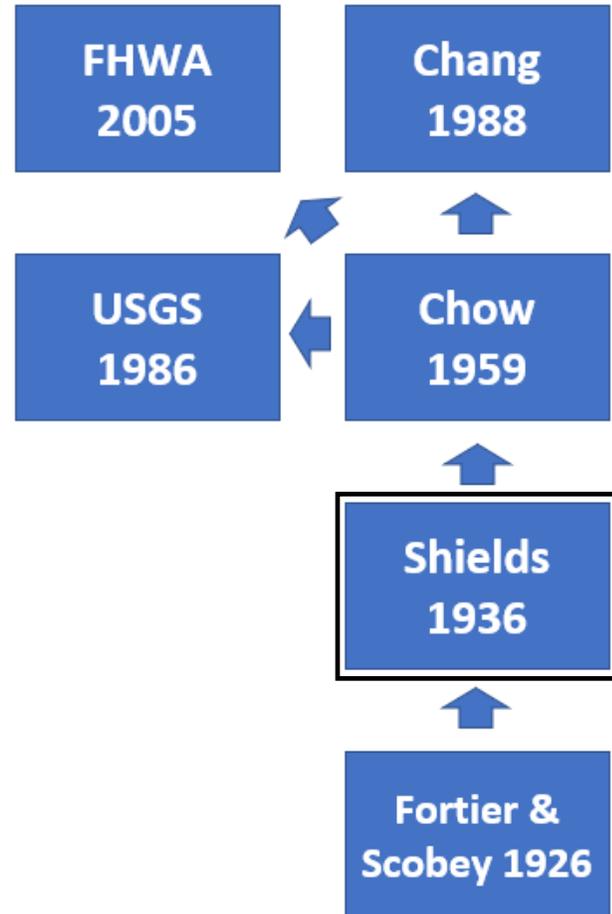
- Canals
- Highways
- Dams



## THE ALBERT SHIELDS STORY

By John F. Kennedy,<sup>1</sup> Member, ASCE

**ABSTRACT:** In the vast literature on sediment transport, rivers, and related topics, few if any names are more frequently cited than Albert F. Shields (1908–1974). Yet all of these citations are to a single publication: his doctoral thesis submitted to the Technischen Hochschule Berlin in 1936 in which he developed his ideas on *Aenlichkeitsmechanik* (similarity mechanics) for application to riverine sediment transport, ripple formation, and initiation of motion. Shields' most famous results are his graph for critical tractive force (initiation of particle motion), and secondarily, his sediment-transport formula. Presented here is the story of the many difficulties Shields encountered in ~~conducting his research in Nazi Germany~~, his inability to find employment in hydraulics following his return to his native United States; the chance encounter with and promulgation of his work by Rouse; and his eventual relinquishment of hydraulics for a long and successful career in machine design.



Shields 1936). In fact, it was not until a few years before his death that he learned that his name and work had become famous in engineering hydraulics. This is the story of Shields' sediment research, and of his abdication of hydraulics for machine design.

### SHIELDS' HYDRAULICS INTERLUDE

Albert Frank Shields was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 26, 1908, the son of Frank Shields, a machinist. Following graduation from high school, he worked for 1 year to earn money to support his further education. In 1927 he enrolled at Cornell University and remained there for two semesters before transferring to Stevens Institute of Technology, where he obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees, both in mechanical engineering, in 1931 and 1933, respectively. In 1933 he was named a *Stipendiat* (fellowship recipient) of the Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes E.V. (German Academic Exchange Service) of the Technischen Hochschule Berlin (TH Berlin). His plans included pursuit of research at the Preussischen Versuchsanstalt für Wasserbau und Schiffbau (Prussian Research Institute for Hydraulic Engineering and Shipbuilding; herein, PRI) that would serve as the basis for his dissertation, which would be submitted to TH Berlin for the degree *Doktor-Ingenieur* (Doctor of Engineering).

In 1933 the world economy was wracked by the Great Depression. Shields had no personal resources, nor was his family in a position to assist him financially. Moreover, his stipend did not provide funds for any travel expenses. After pursuing several other possibilities, he finally gained passage to Germany by working on a freighter.



# American West 1920s-30s

- Canals
- **Highways**
- Dams



5733-F'38-3/4/39-LAR

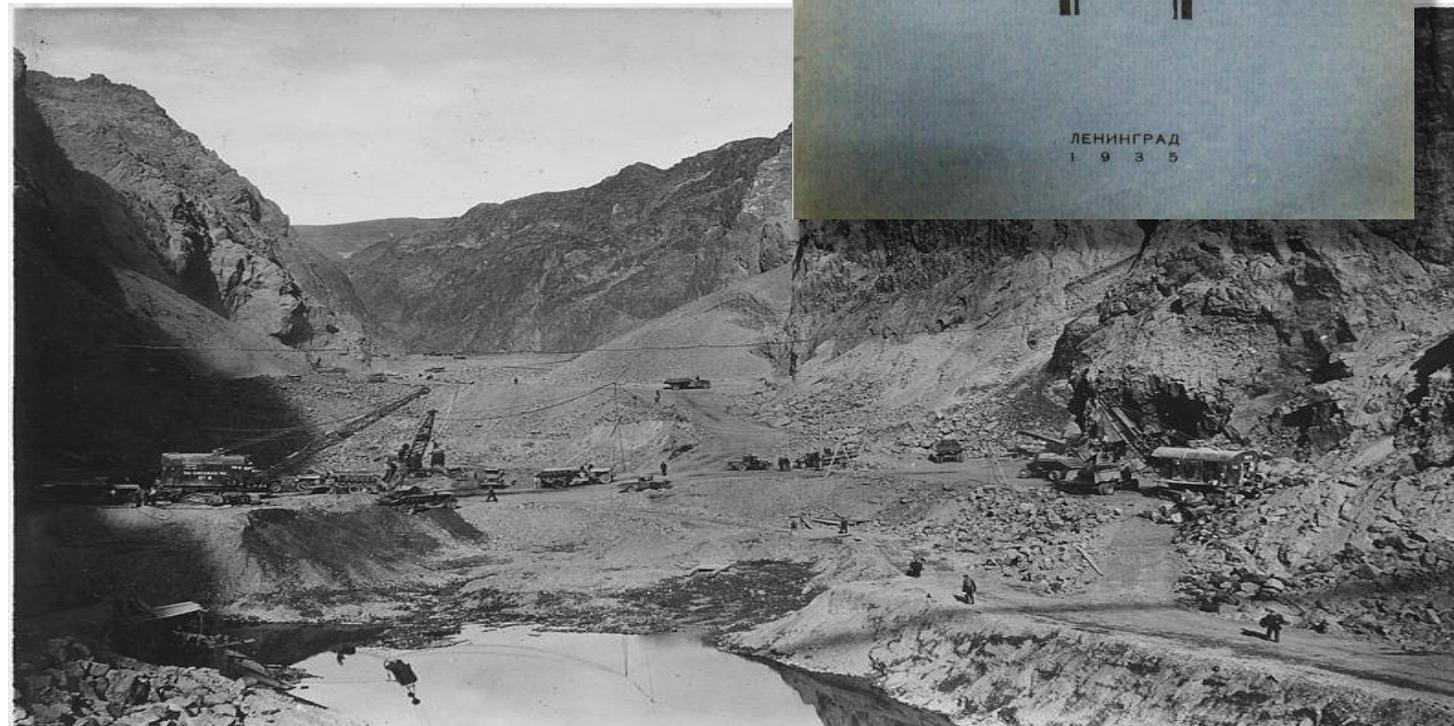
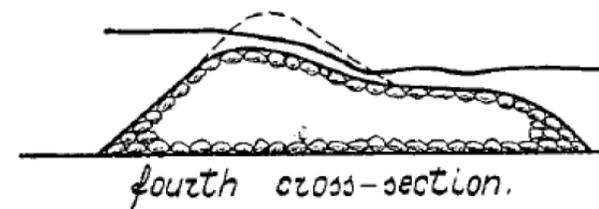
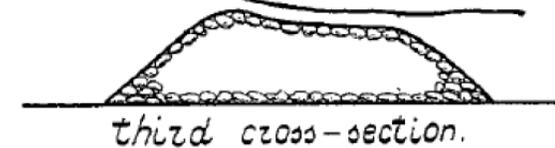
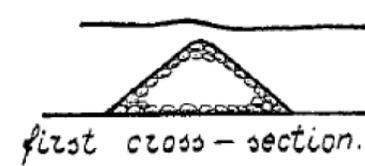
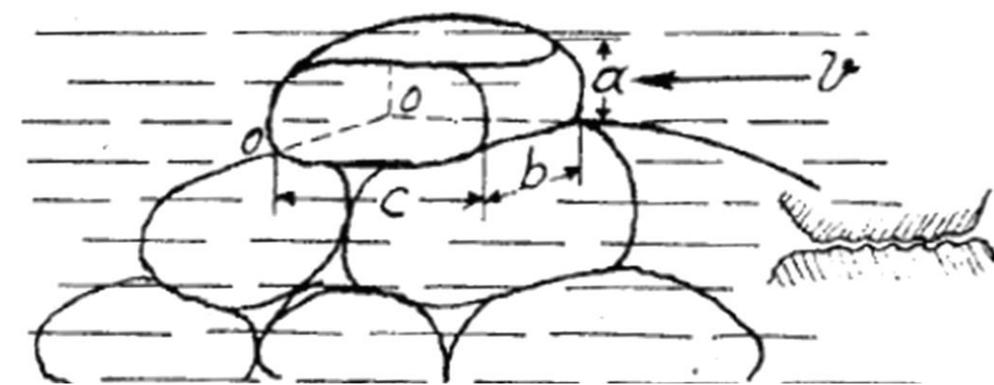
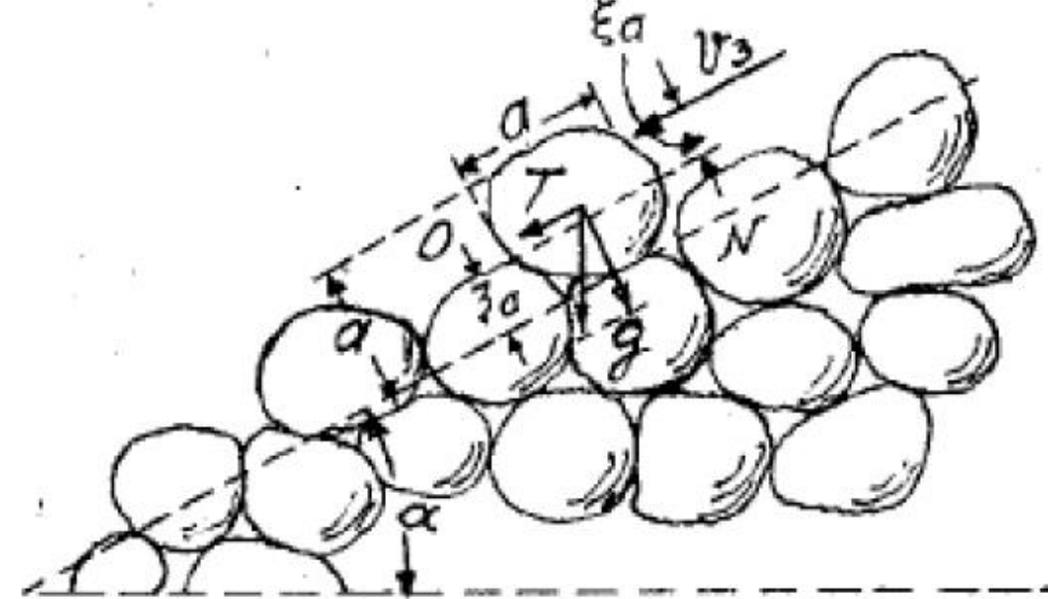
## Trial and Error:

- 1921-22: California Floods
- 1922-27: Bank protection installed
- 1927: Floods, bank protection failed
- 1928-37: Withycombe studies failures, improvements implemented
- 1937 NoCal floods, 1938 SoCal floods: better results, but some problems with rigid solutions
- 1937-49: Riprap widely implemented
- 1949: California Joint Bank Protection Committee organised
- **1960: California Bank and Shore Protection Manual published (CABS)**
- 1970: Errata and revisions published
- 2000: CABS updated by CPDW
- 2006: NCHRP review of CABS vs. USACE
- 2020: Caltrans recommends **USACE**



# Leningrad 1930-1936

- Canals
- Highways
- Dams

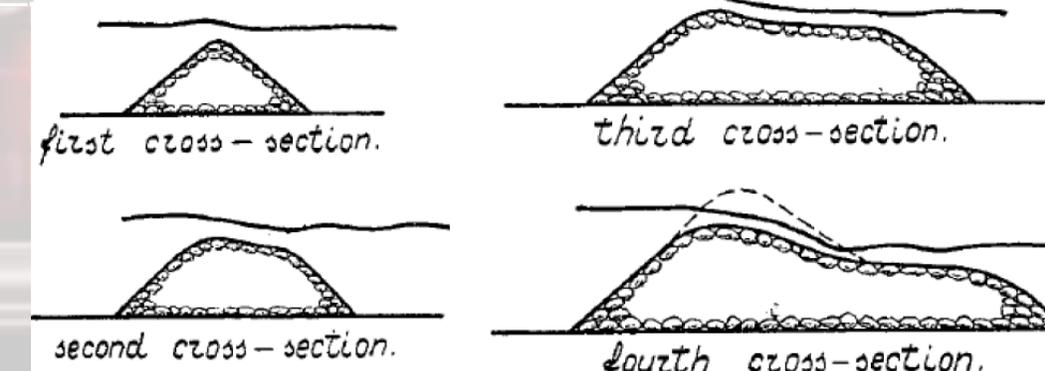
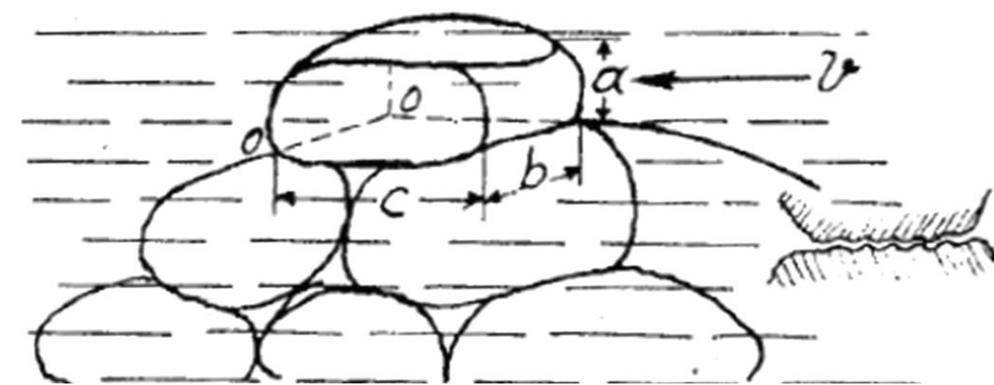
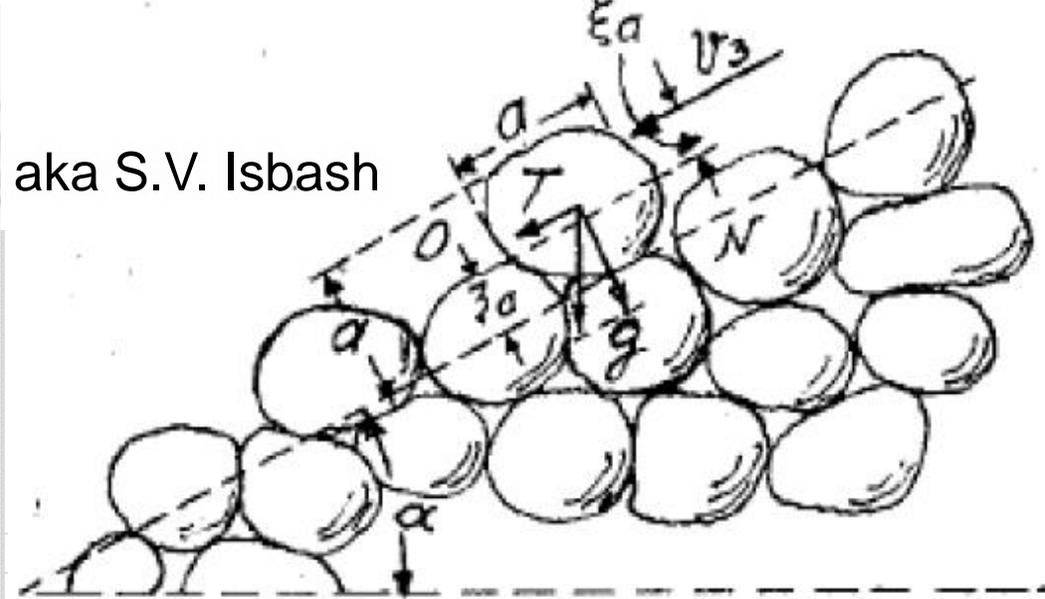
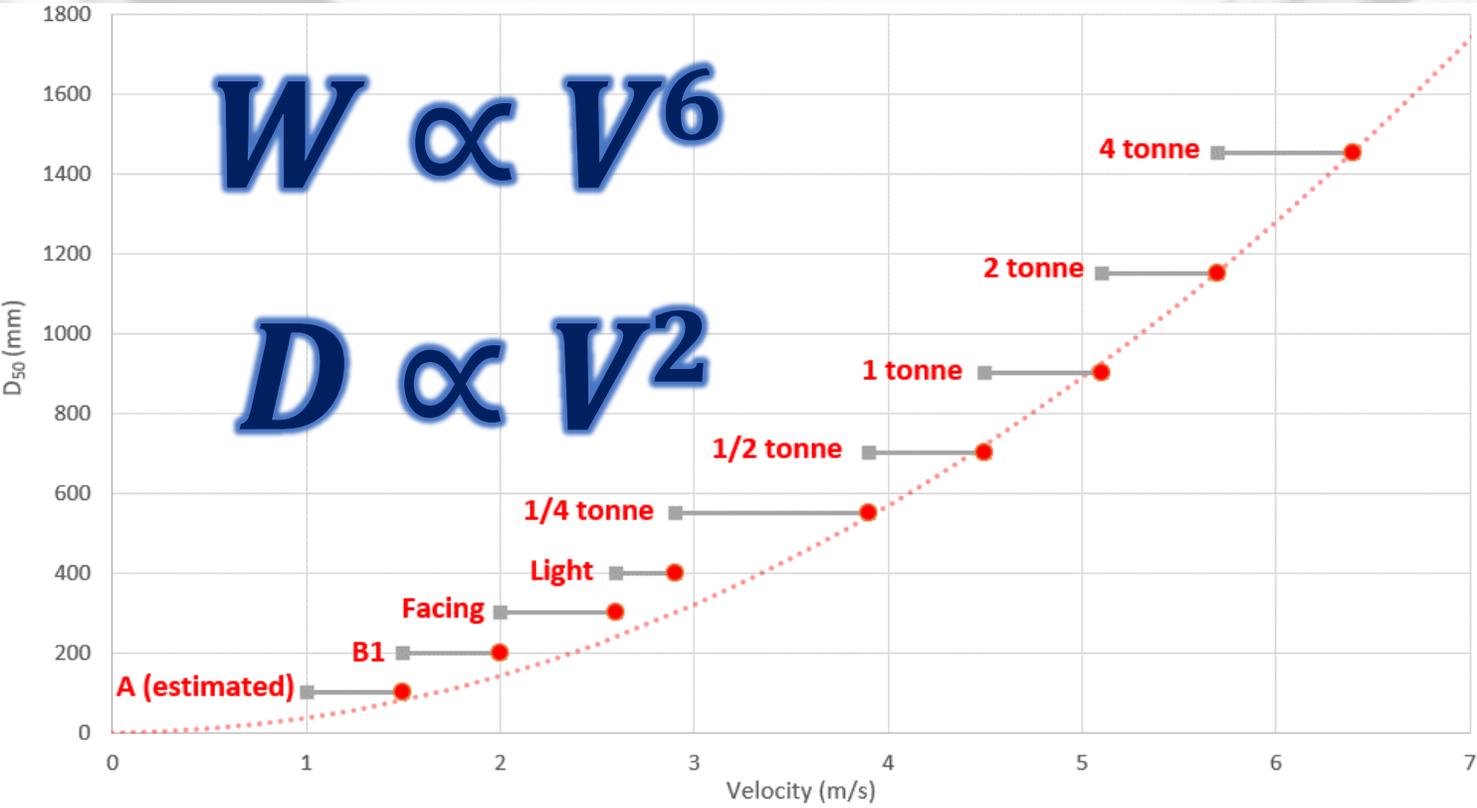


# Isbash 1936

Сергей Владимирович Избаш  
aka Sergey Vladimirovich Izbash aka S.V. Isbash

$$W \propto V^6$$

$$D \propto V^2$$



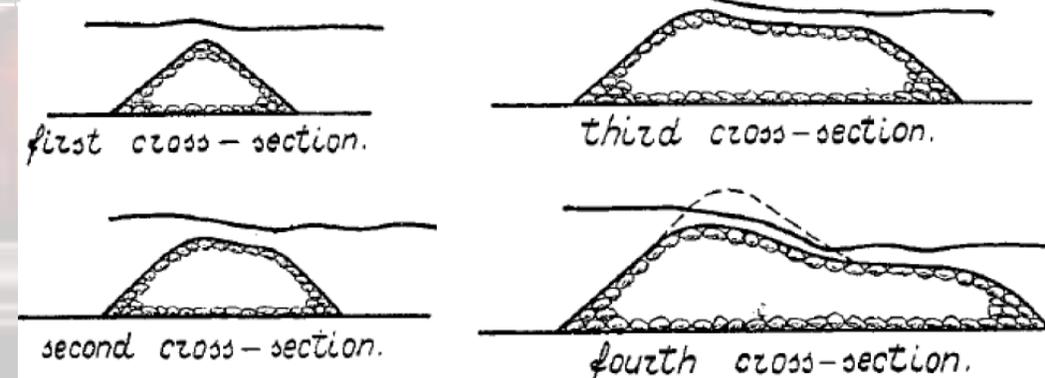
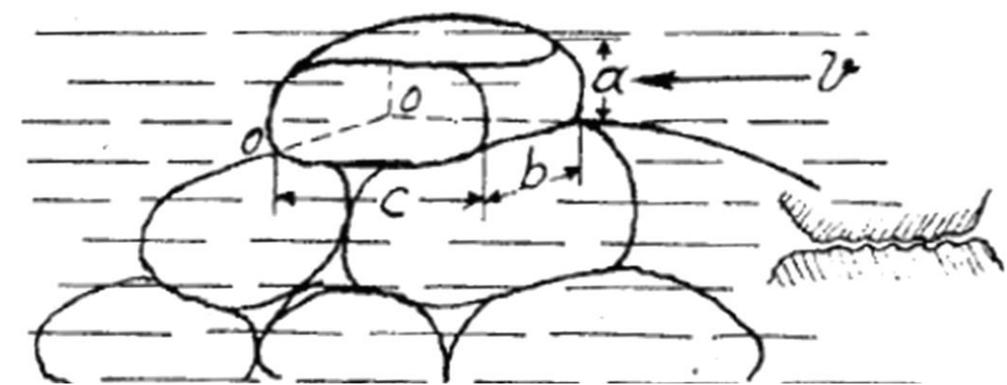
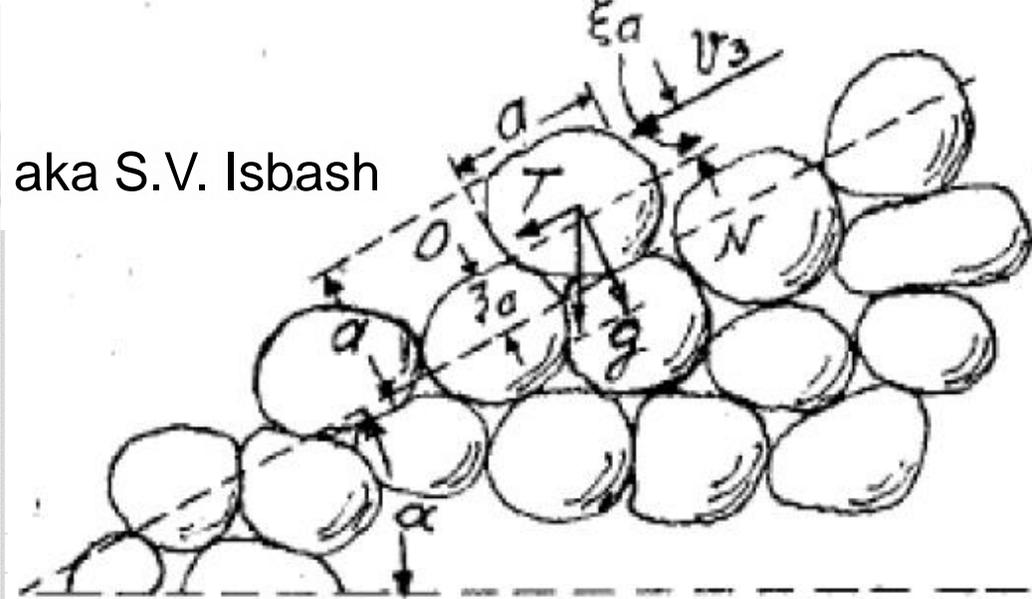
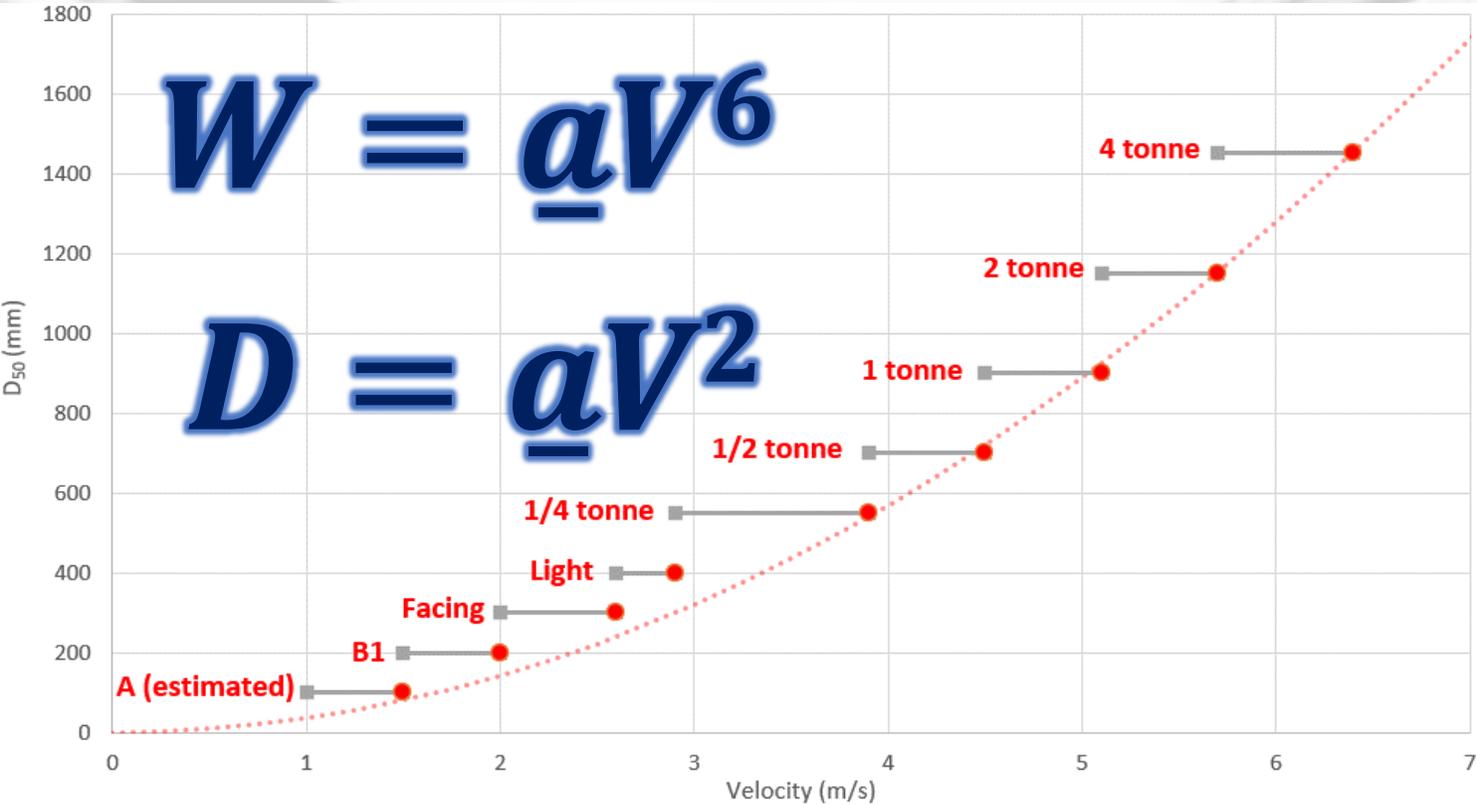
BACKINTIME

# Isbash 1936

Сергей Владимирович Избаш  
aka Sergey Vladimirovich Izbash aka S.V. Isbash

$$W = \underline{a}V^6$$

$$D = \underline{a}V^2$$



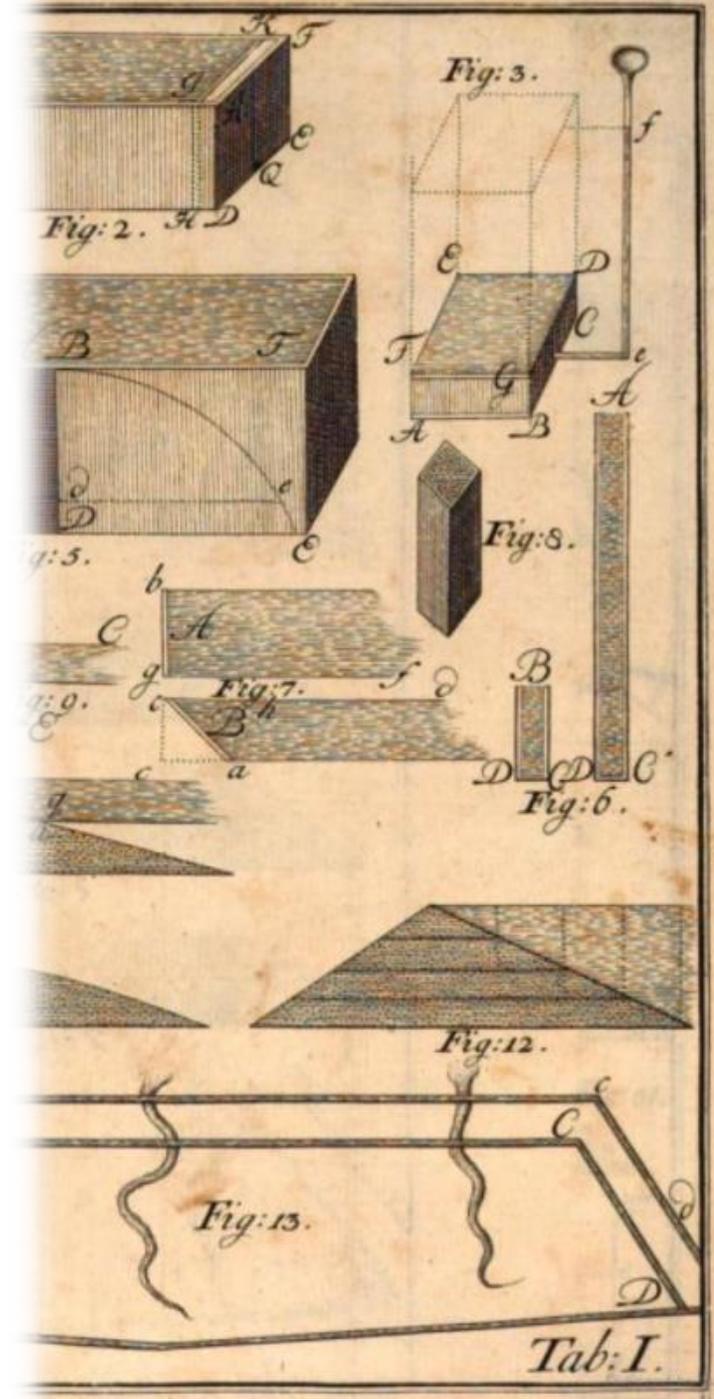
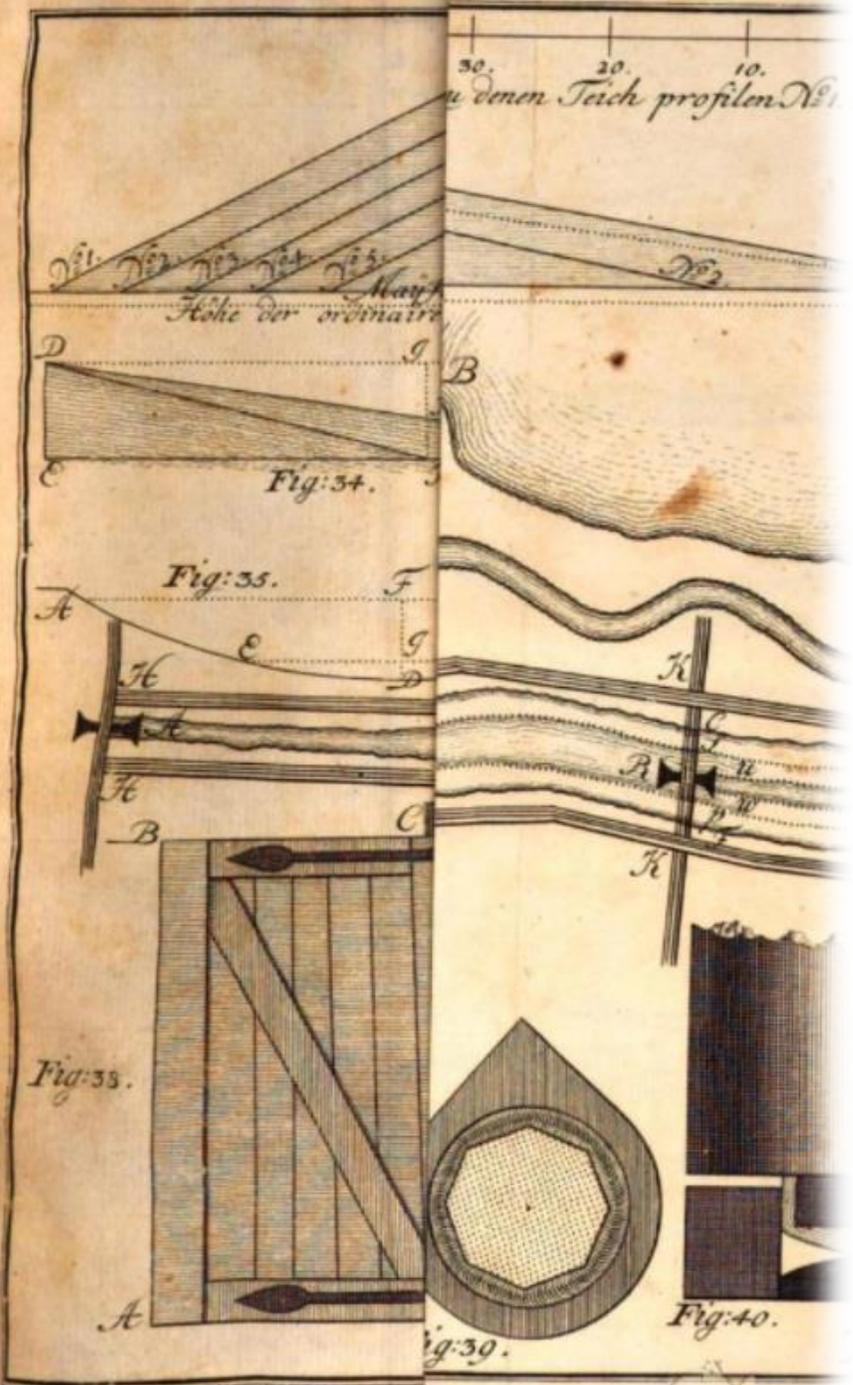
BACKINTIME

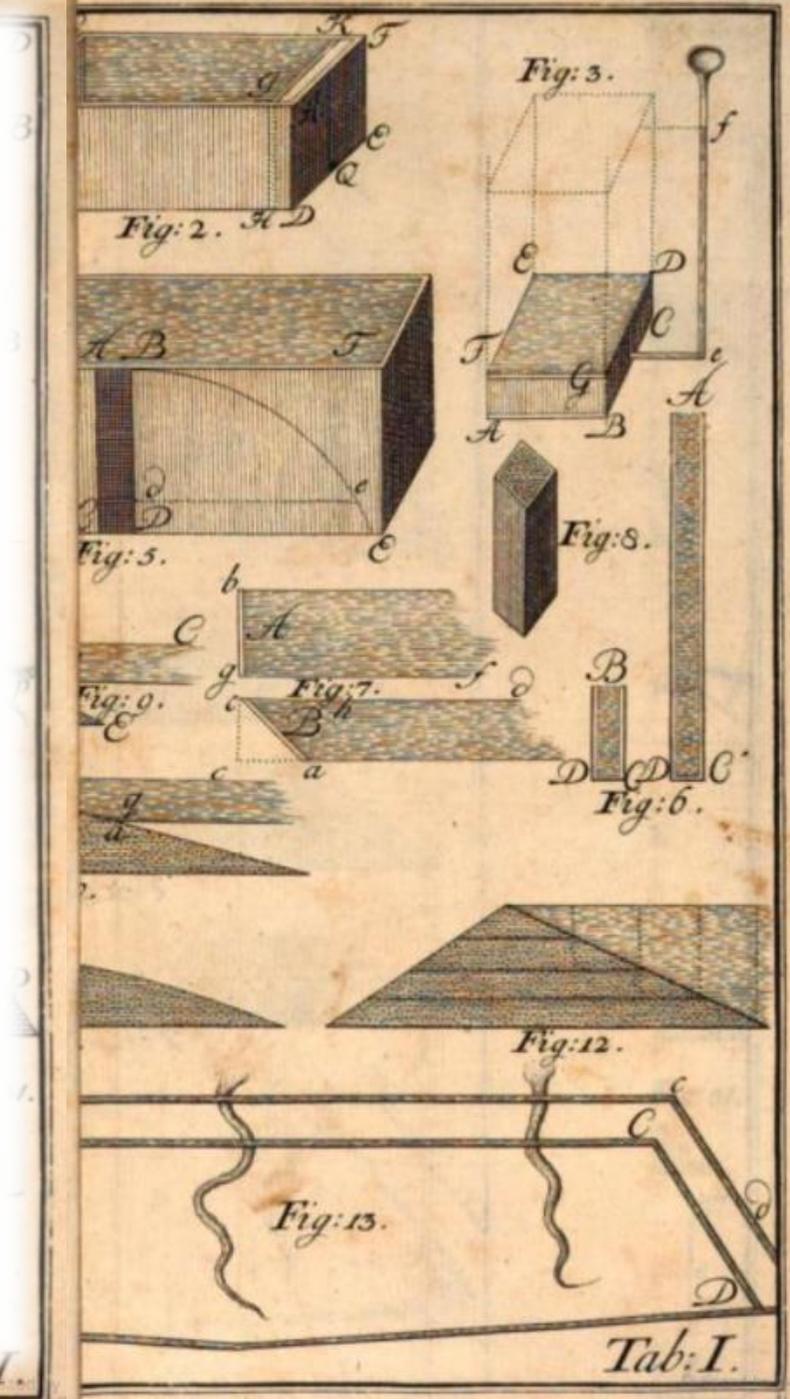
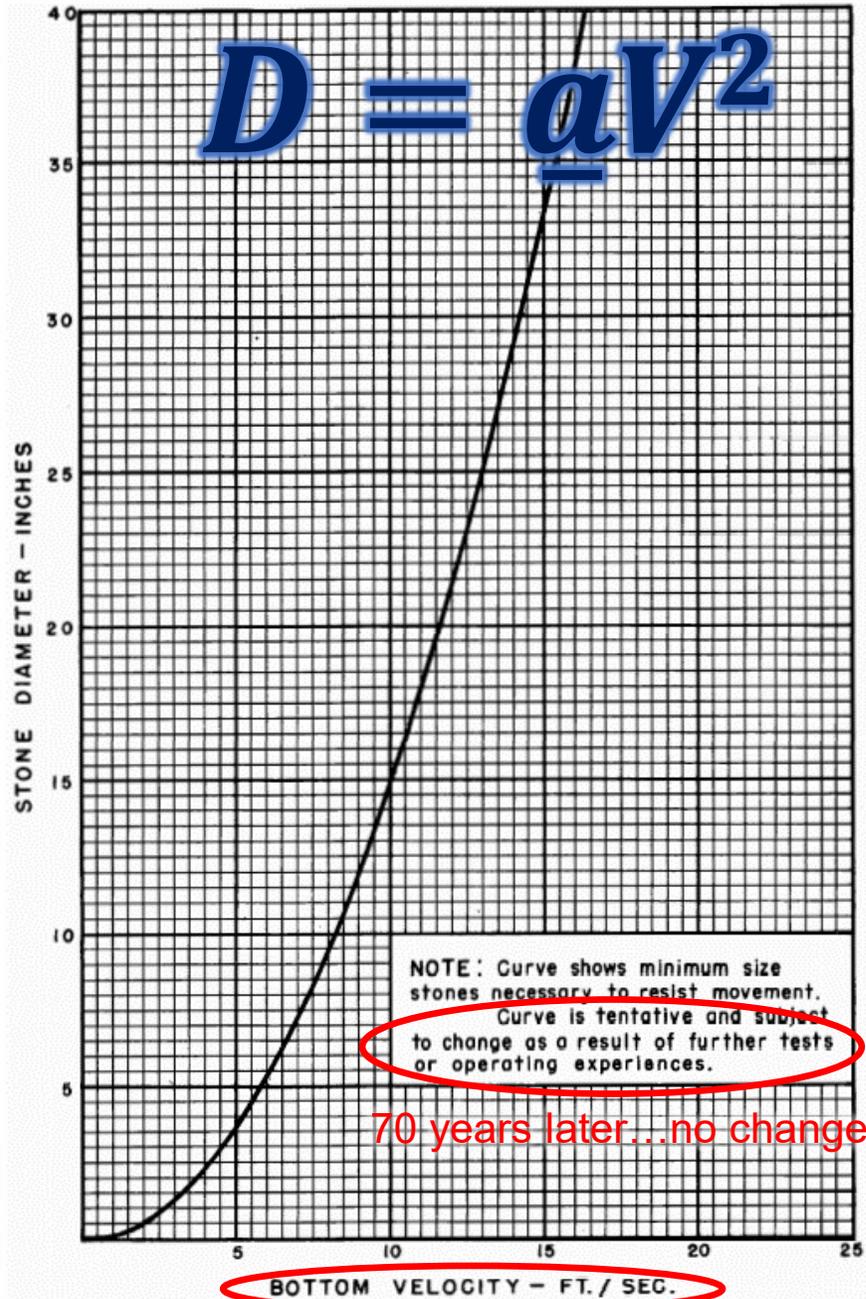
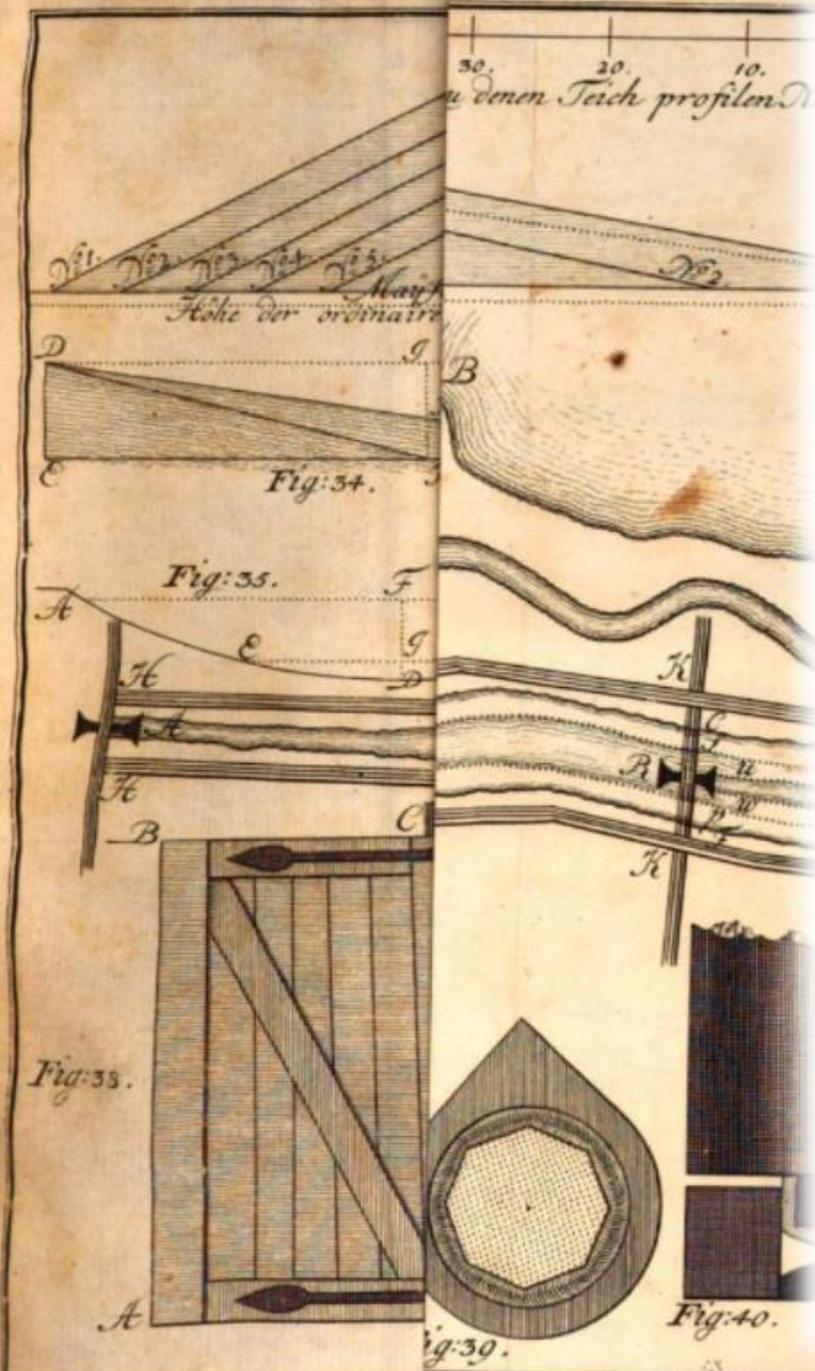
$$D = \underline{a}V^2$$

Berry  
1948<sup>4</sup>

Gilbert 1914	Suchier 1874	Sainjon 1871
Blackwell 1857	Du Buat 1786	Bouliceau 1845

Brahms  
1753





RIPRAP SIZE DETERMINATION

A suggested minimum size for riprap is given by the curve in Figure 11. The curve indicates, over most of its range, that doubling the flow velocity leaving a structure makes it necessary to provide riprap about 4 times larger in nominal diameter or 16 times larger in volume or weight. **Wrong by a factor of 4!**

The lower portion of the curve is an average of data reported by Du Buat in 1786, Bouniceau in 1845, Blackwell in 1857, Sainjon in 1871, Suchier in 1874, and Gilbert in 1914. It checks well with results of tests made at the State University of Iowa by Chitty Ho, Yun-Cheng Tu, Te Yun Liu, and Edward Soucek. The data were assembled and discussed in a paper "A Reappraisal of the Beginnings of Bed Movement-Competent Velocity" by F. T. Mavis and L. M. Laushey, for the International Association for Hydraulic Structures Research, 1948, Stockholm, Sweden. In a thesis by N. K. Berry, University of Colorado, 1948, an identical curve was determined and an equation for it presented.

$$V_b = 2.57 \sqrt{d}$$

where

$$D = 40 V^2 \quad \text{Matches Austroads}$$

$V_b$  = bottom velocity in channel in feet per second  
 $d$  = diameter of particle in inches

In this case the specific gravity of the particle is 2.65.

Mavis and Laushey proposed an identical equation for use with particles of any specific gravity

$$V_b = 1/2 \cdot \sqrt{d} \cdot \sqrt{s - 1}$$

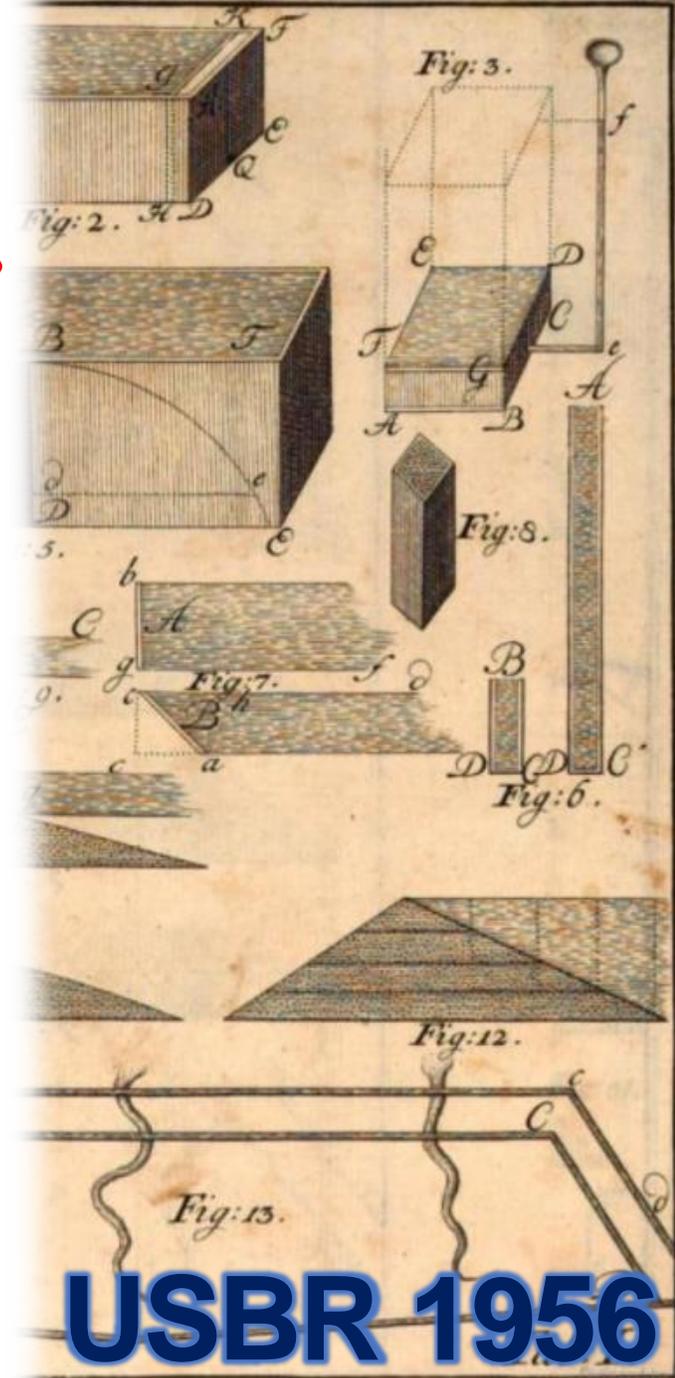
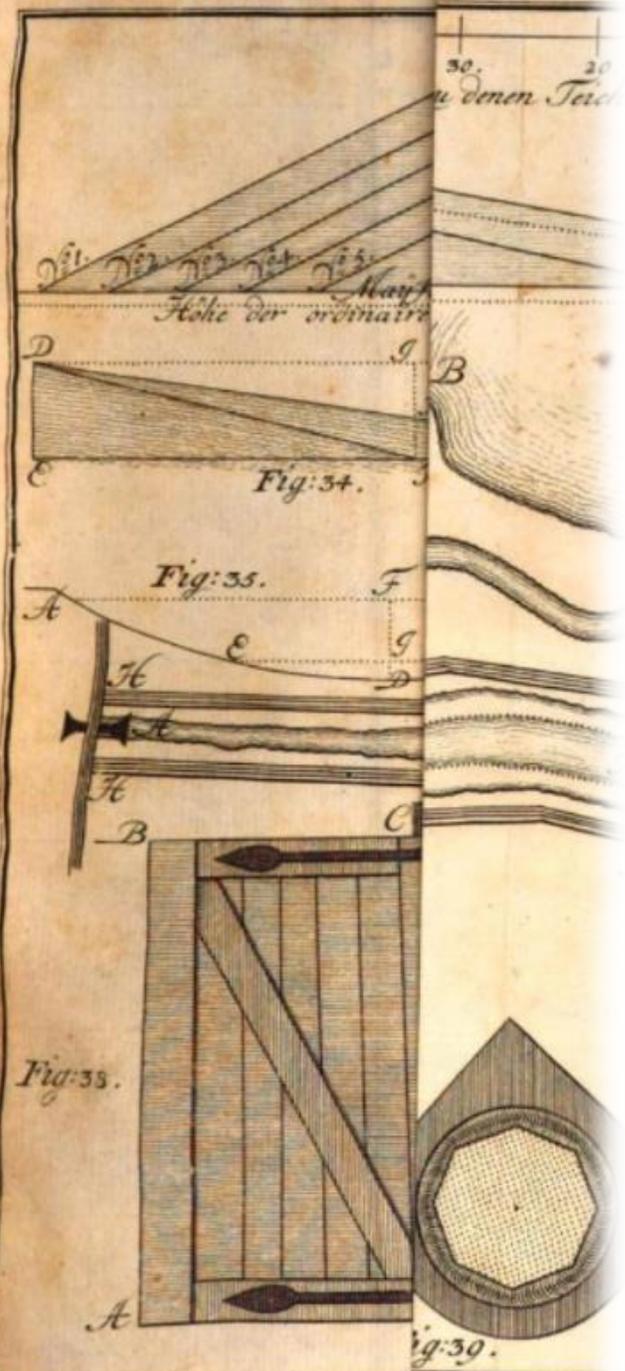
where

$$D = 26 V^2 \quad \text{Unstable!}$$

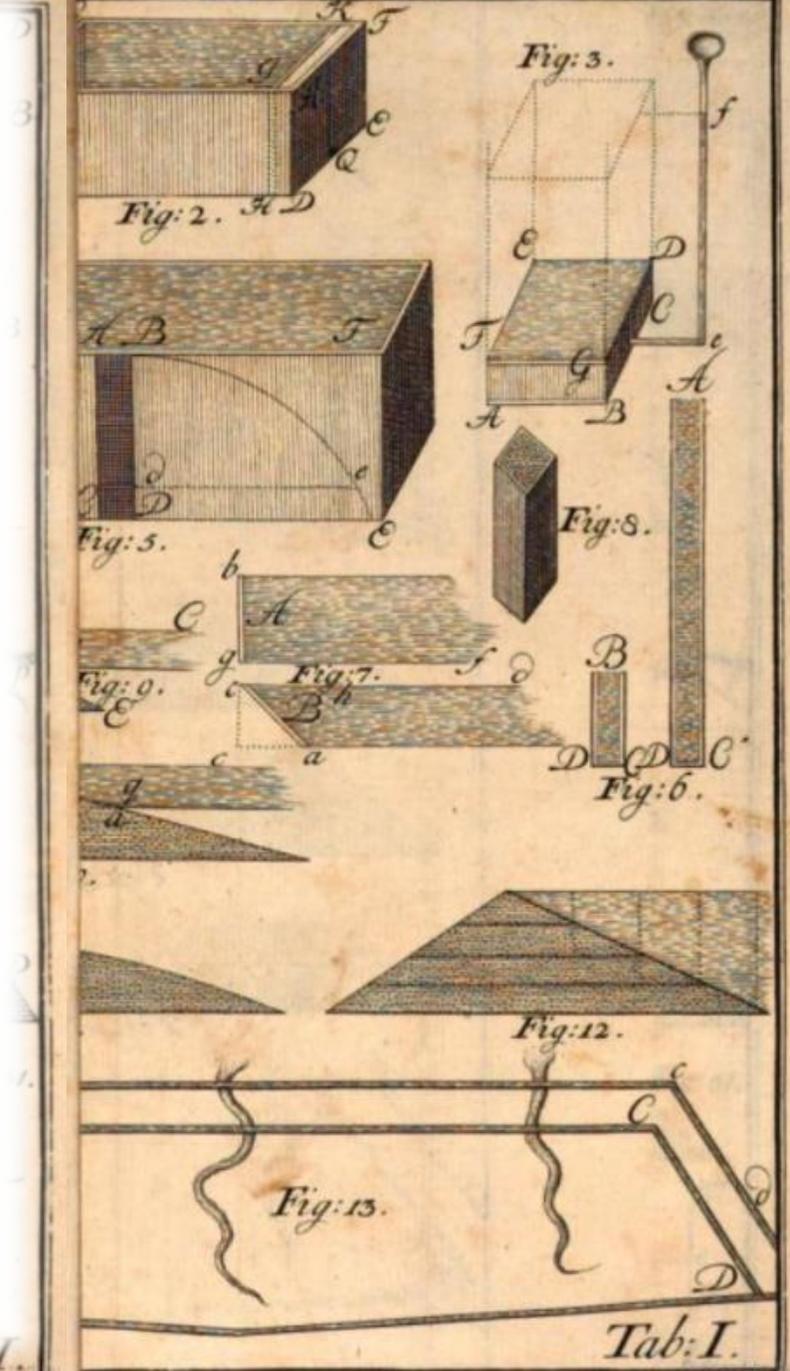
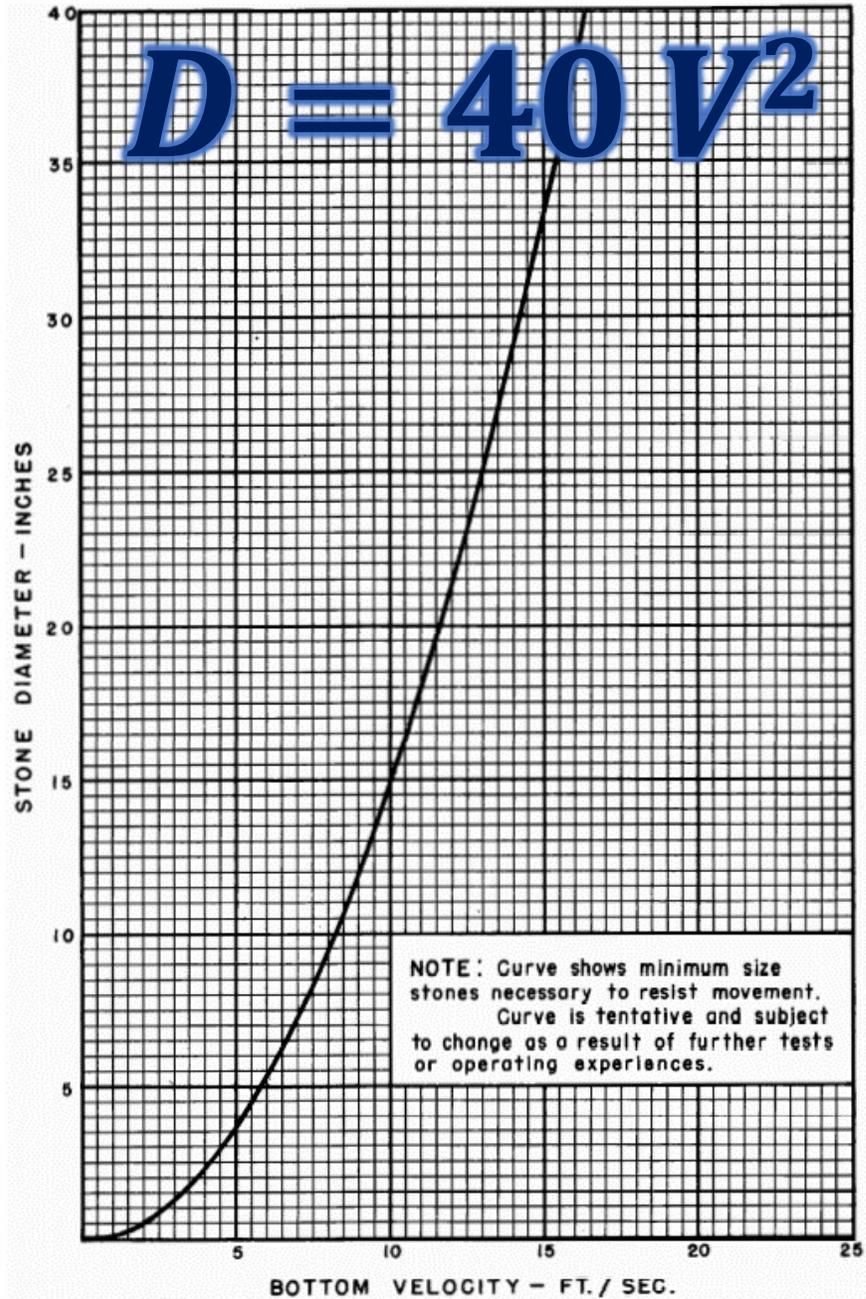
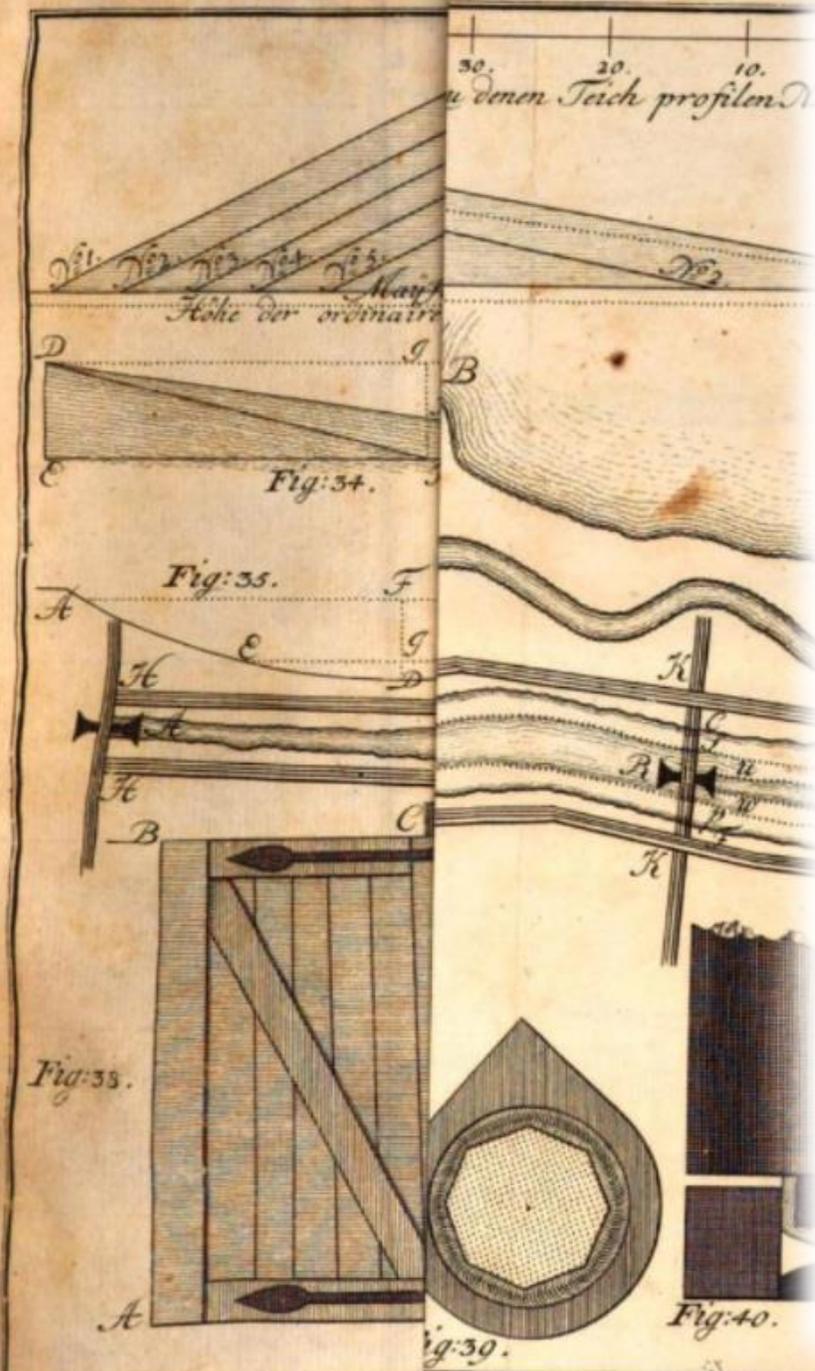
$s$  = specific gravity of the particle  
 $d$  = particle diameter in millimeters

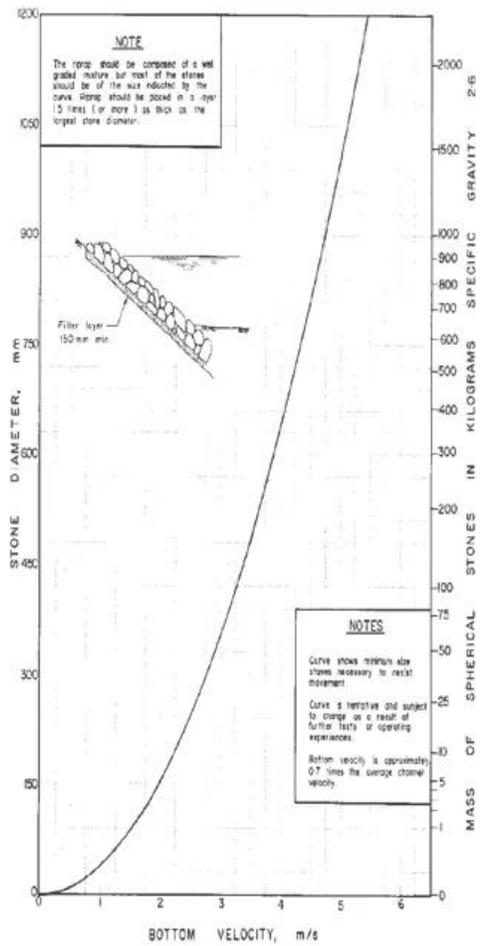
Rationalization of all the known factors indicates that the curve may be directly applicable for the determination of riprap sizes, particularly since it indicates larger stone sizes for the North Dam outlet than were used and agrees reasonably well with general laboratory experience. Until more data and experience with this curve are available, the velocity, determined by dividing discharge by flow area at the end sill, may be used. Until the interlocking effect of the rock pieces can be determined, most of the riprap should consist of the size indicated by the curve. **undefined gradation**

$V_{ave}$ , not  $V_{bed}$ !



**USBR 1956**





SIZE OF RIPRAP TO BE USED DOWNSTREAM FROM STILLING BASINS

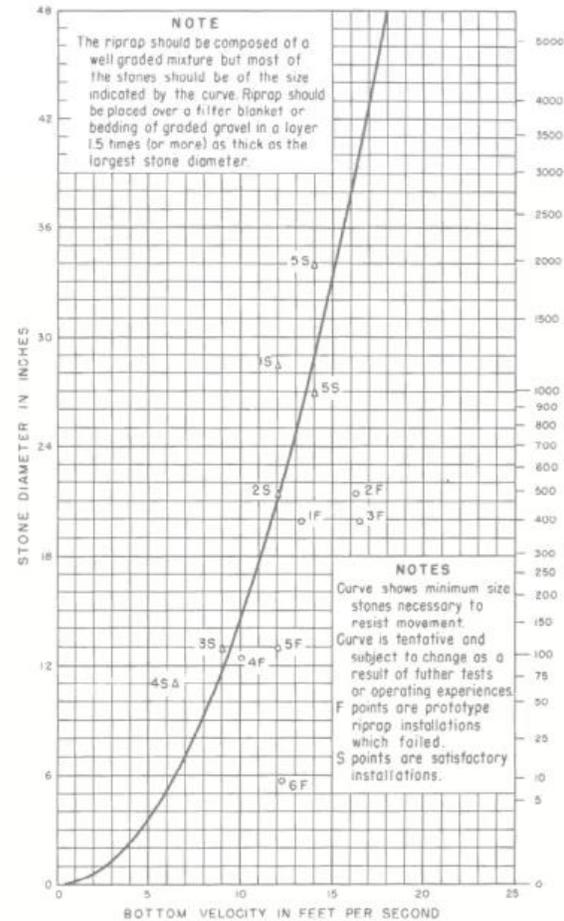
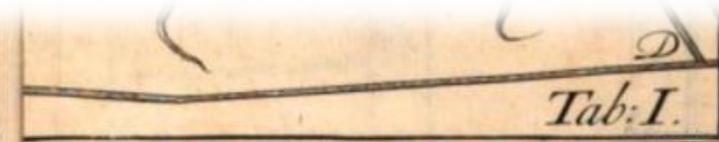
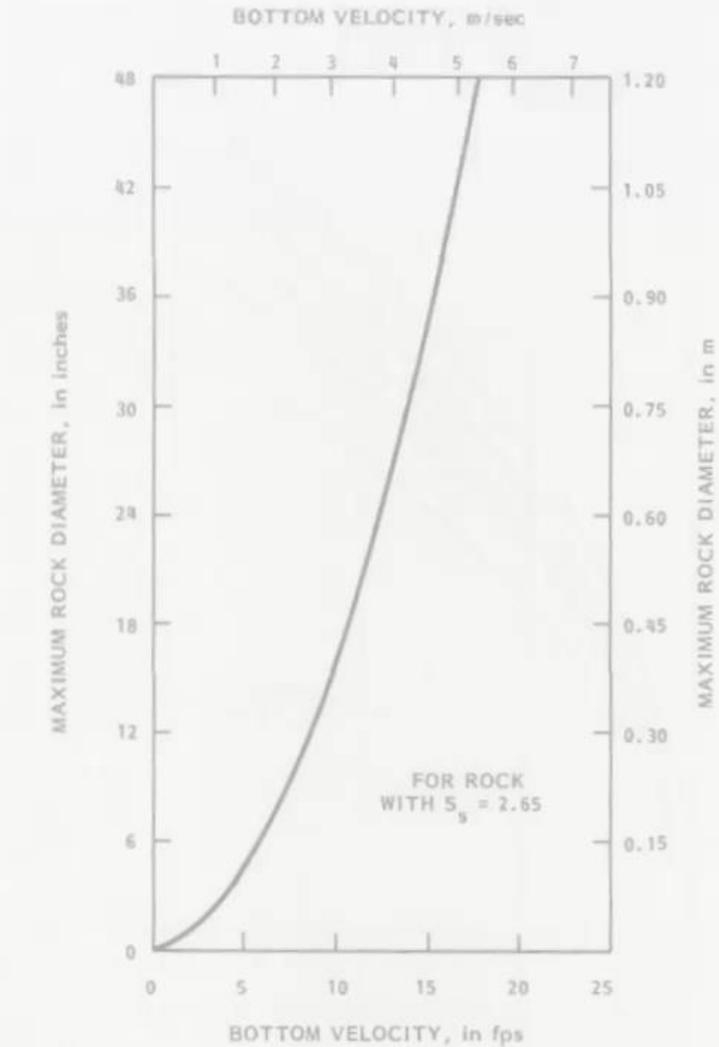
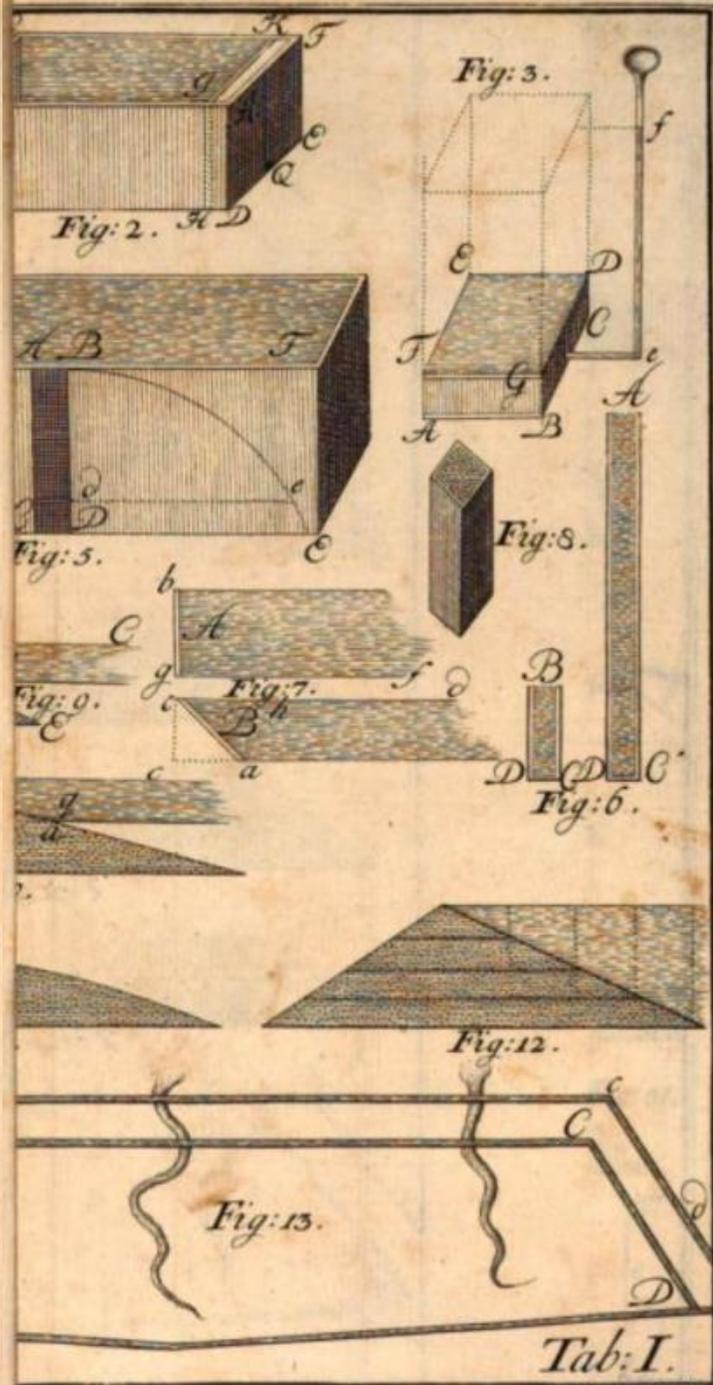
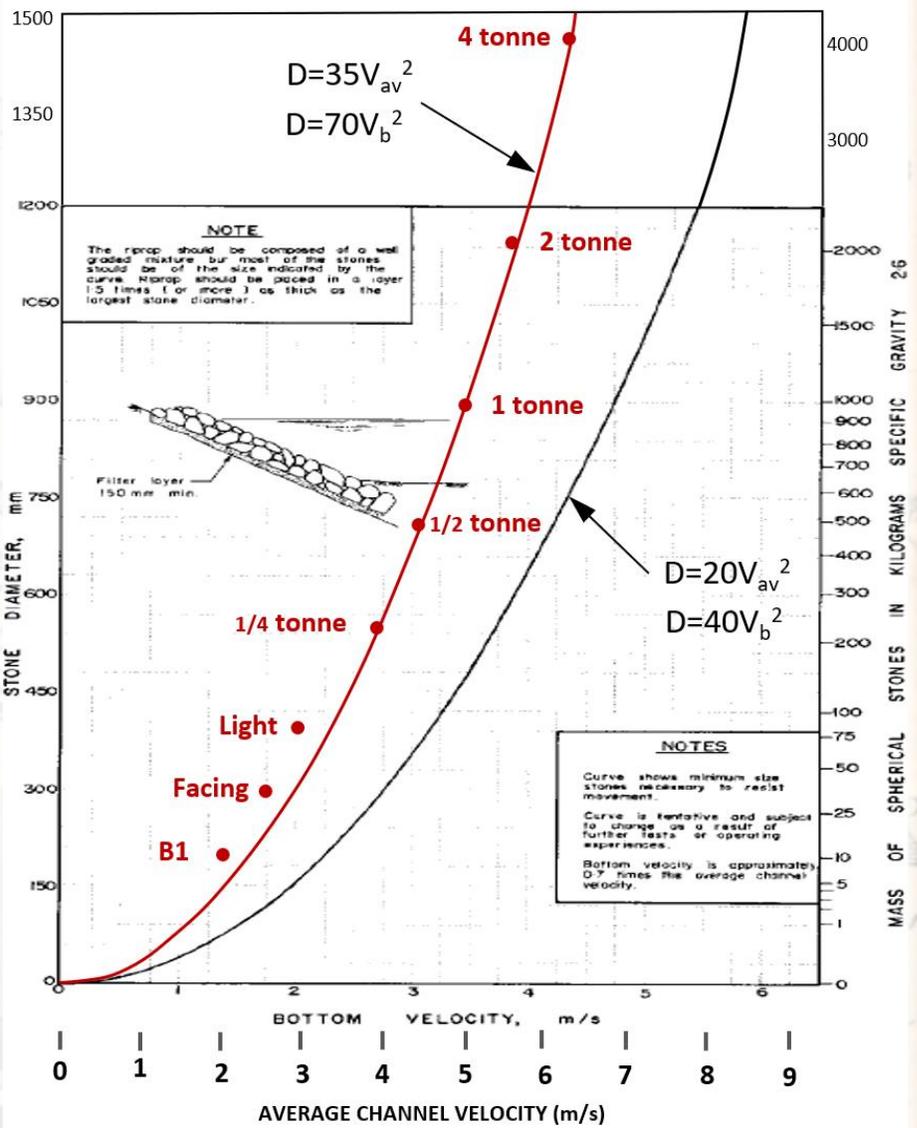
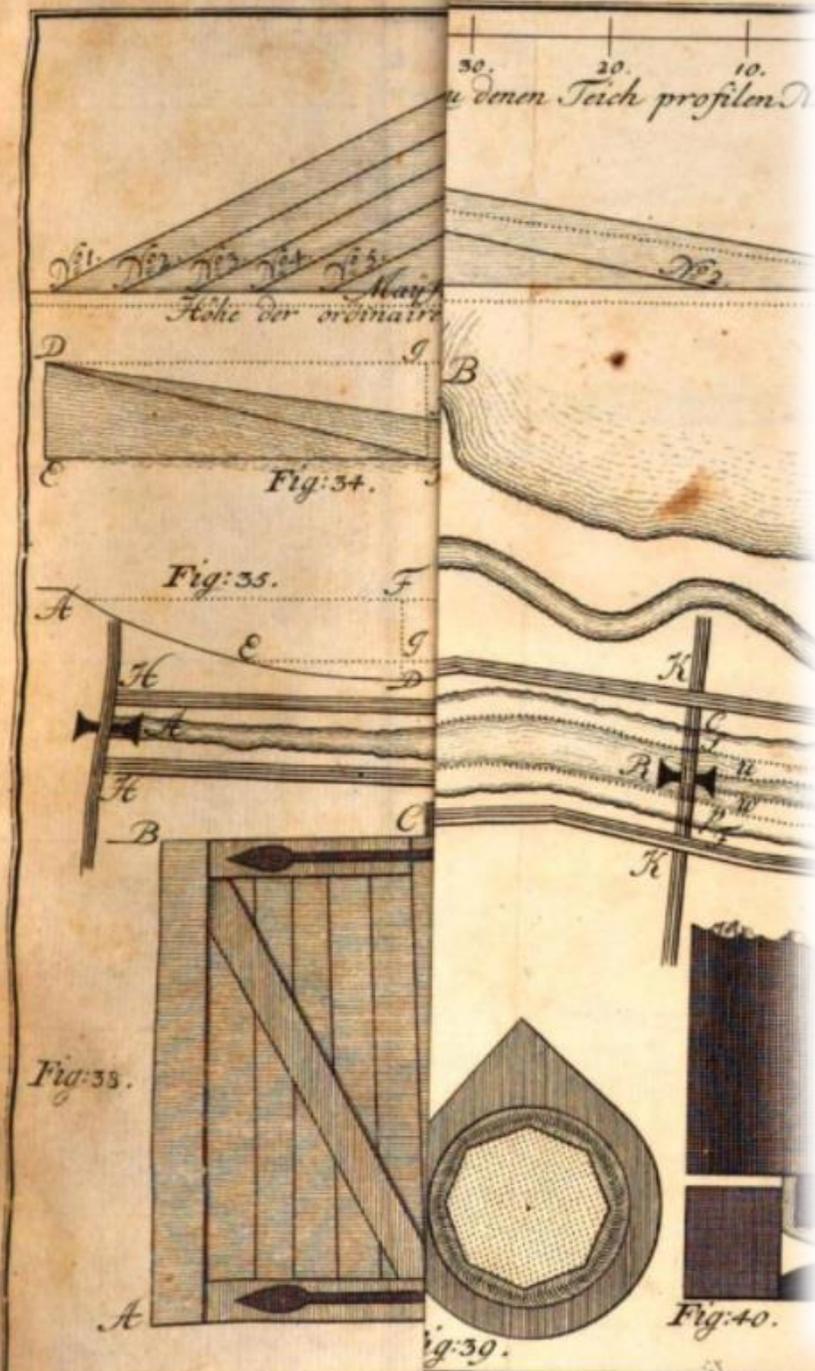
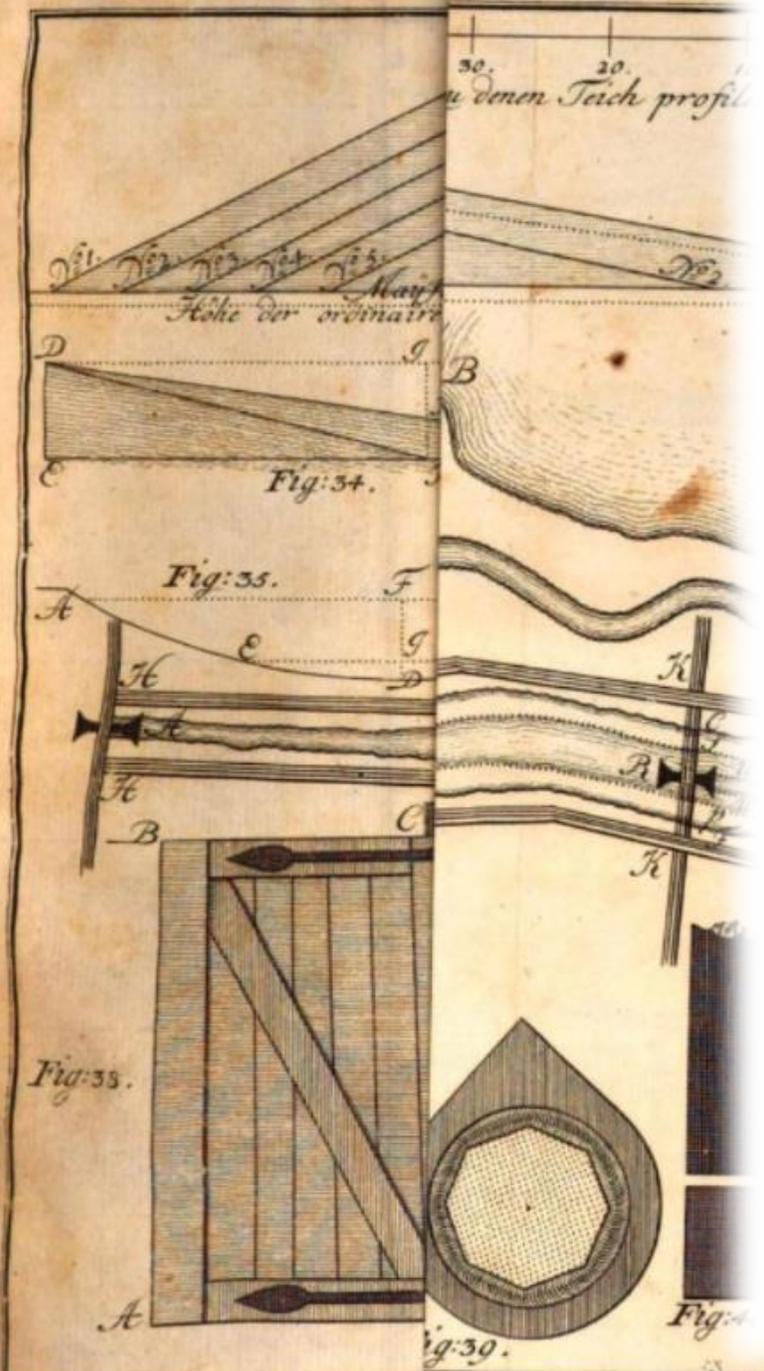


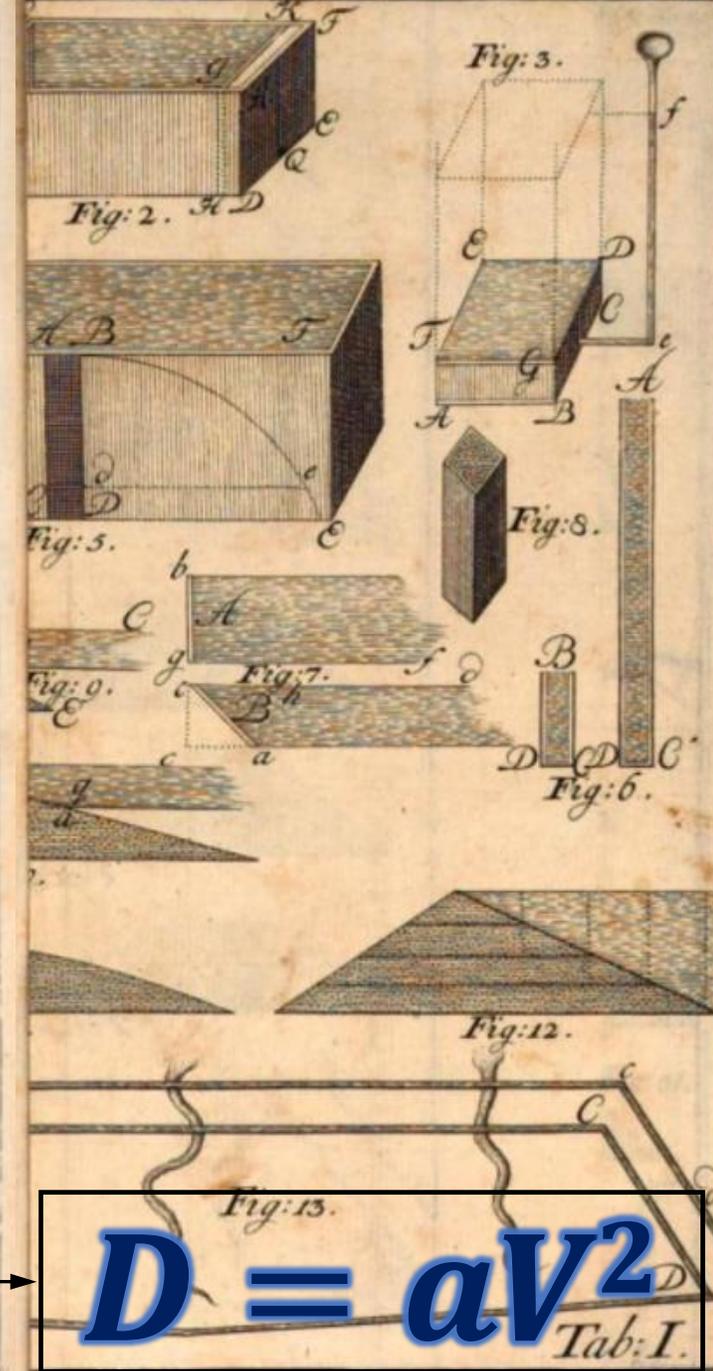
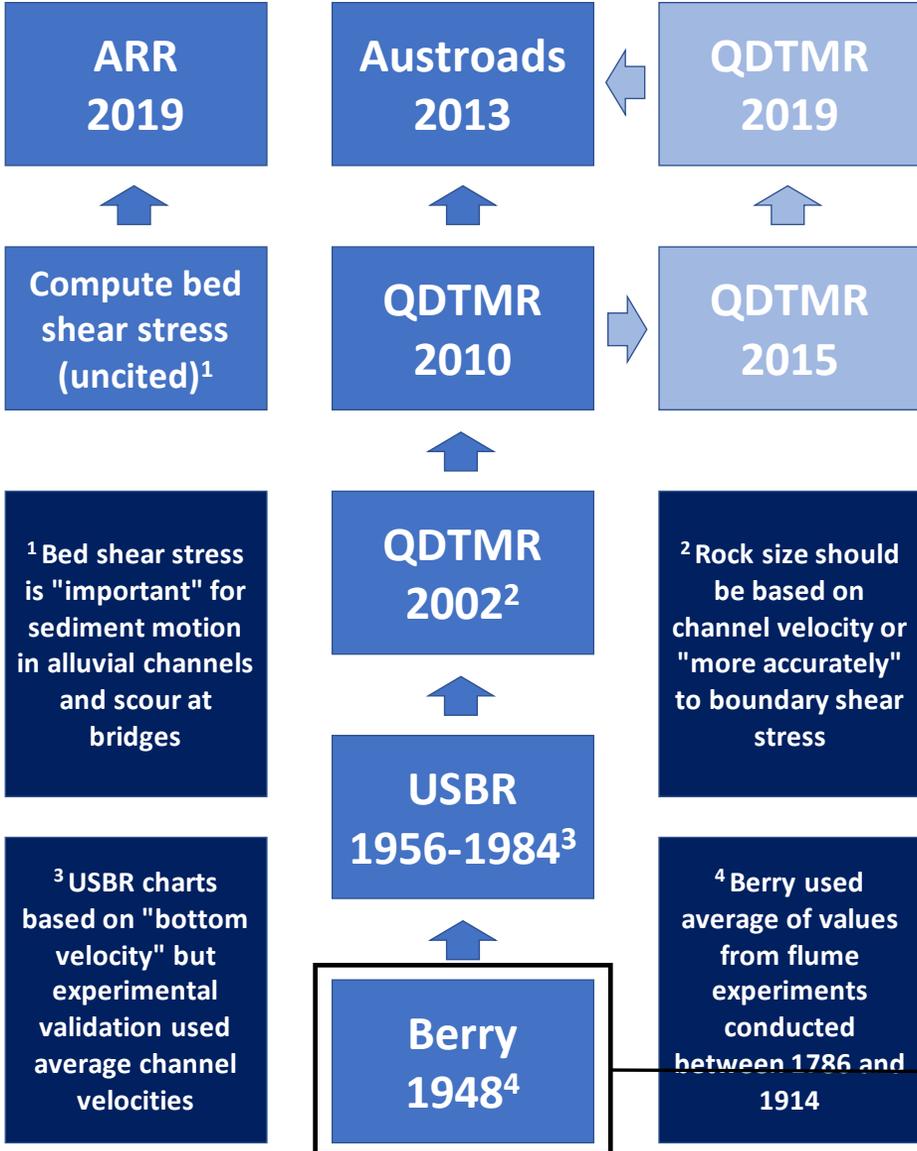
FIGURE 165.—Curve to determine maximum stone size in riprap mixture.







# 1 Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Channel Bed and Bank Lining



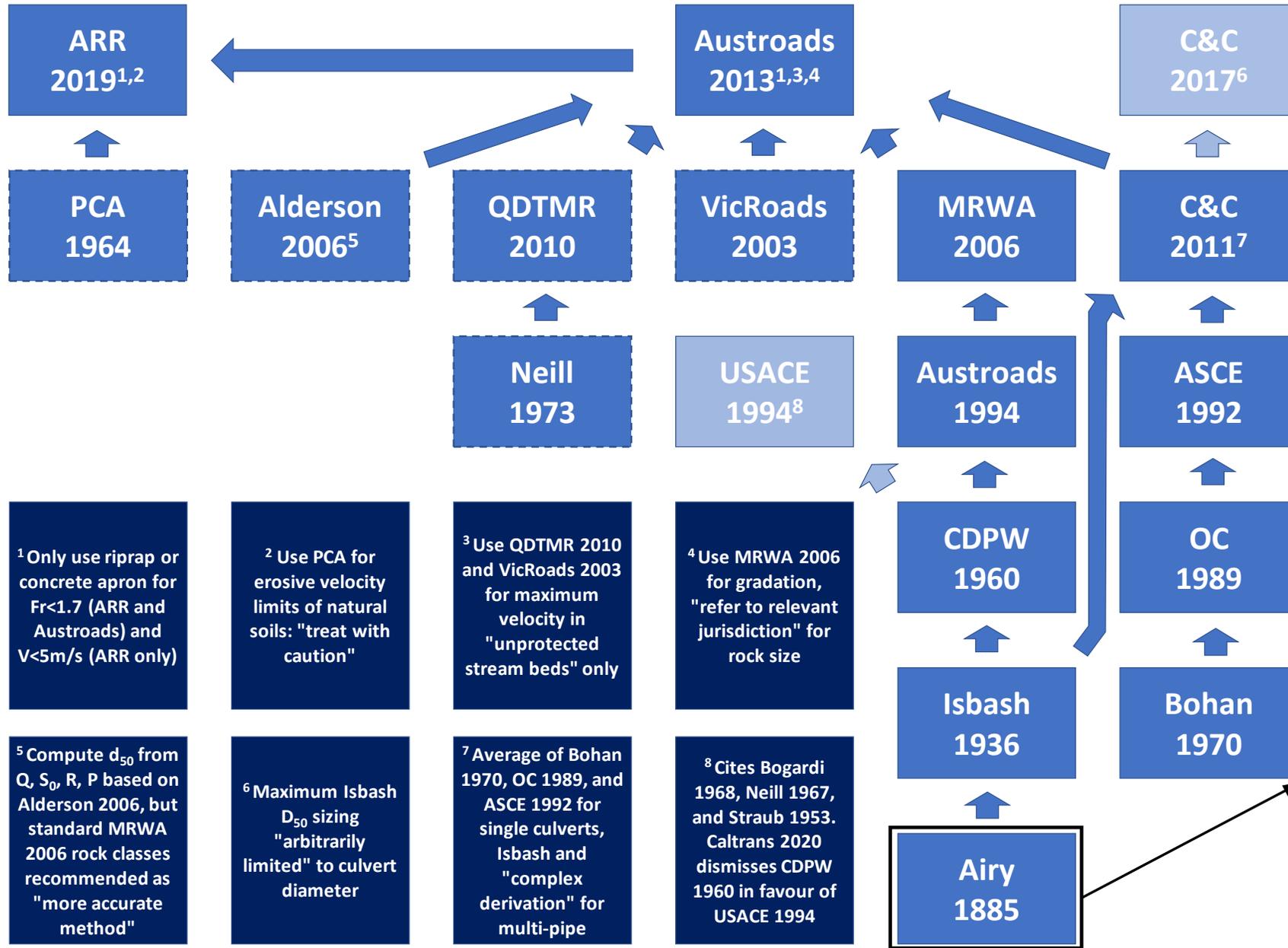
$$D = aV^2$$

Tab. I.



# 3

## Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Culvert Outlet Aprons



<sup>1</sup> Only use riprap or concrete apron for  $Fr < 1.7$  (ARR and Austroads) and  $V < 5m/s$  (ARR only)

<sup>2</sup> Use PCA for erosive velocity limits of natural soils: "treat with caution"

<sup>3</sup> Use QDTMR 2010 and VicRoads 2003 for maximum velocity in "unprotected stream beds" only

<sup>4</sup> Use MRWA 2006 for gradation, "refer to relevant jurisdiction" for rock size

CDPW 1960

OC 1989

<sup>5</sup> Compute  $d_{50}$  from Q,  $S_0$ , R, P based on Alderson 2006, but standard MRWA 2006 rock classes recommended as "more accurate method"

<sup>6</sup> Maximum Isbash  $D_{50}$  sizing "arbitrarily limited" to culvert diameter

<sup>7</sup> Average of Bohan 1970, OC 1989, and ASCE 1992 for single culverts, Isbash and "complex derivation" for multi-pipe

<sup>8</sup> Cites Bogardi 1968, Neill 1967, and Straub 1953. Caltrans 2020 dismisses CDPW 1960 in favour of USACE 1994

Airy 1885

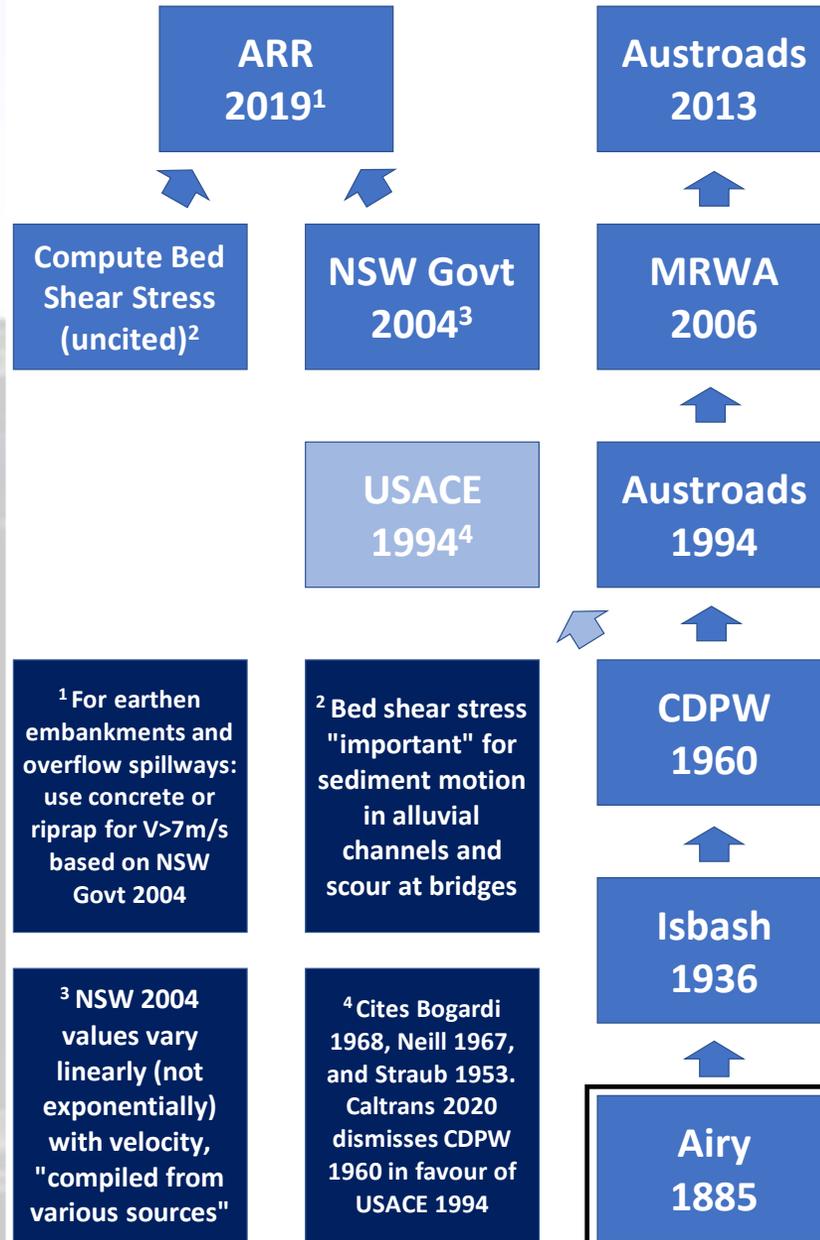
Bohan 1970

$$D = aV^2$$



# 4

## Australian Rock Sizing Ancestry: Floodways, Spillways, Rock Chutes, and Dissipation Structures



<sup>1</sup> For earthen embankments and overflow spillways: use concrete or riprap for  $V > 7\text{m/s}$  based on NSW Govt 2004

<sup>2</sup> Bed shear stress "important" for sediment motion in alluvial channels and scour at bridges

<sup>3</sup> NSW 2004 values vary linearly (not exponentially) with velocity, "compiled from various sources"

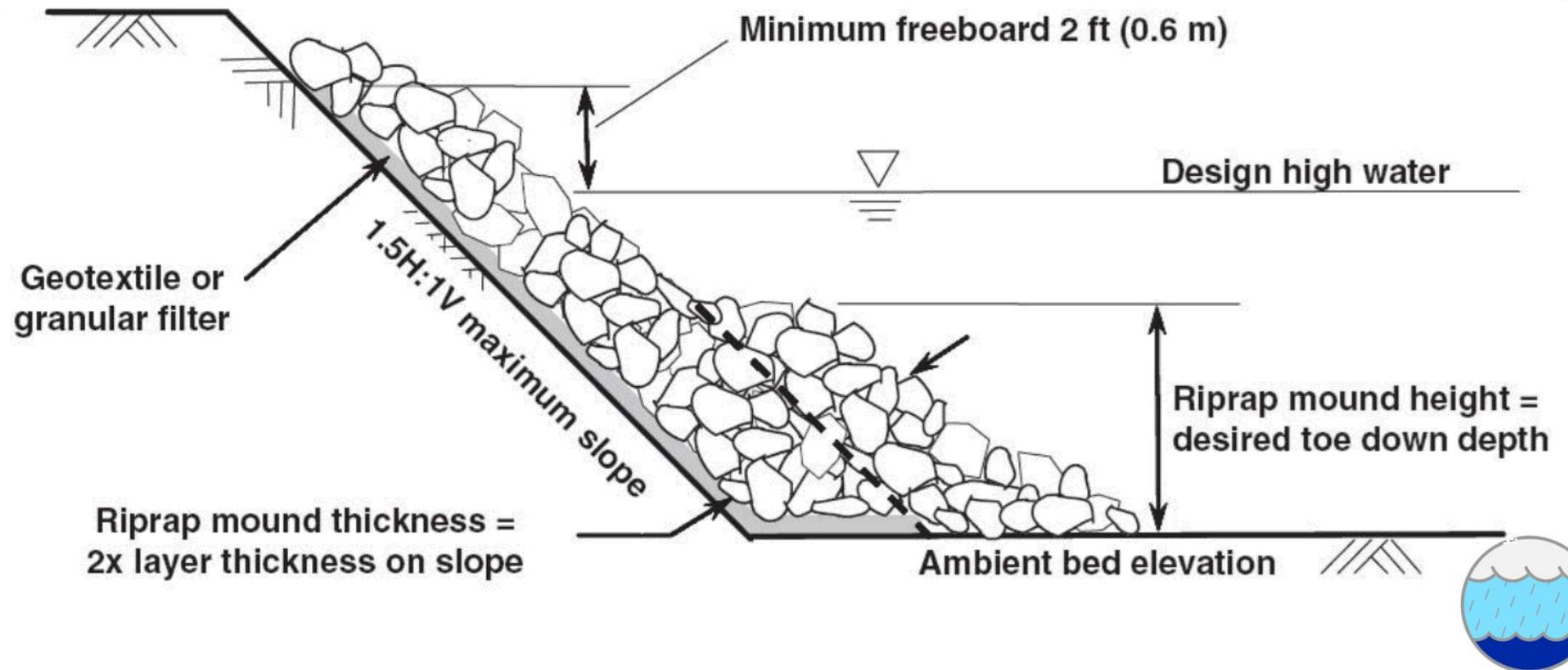
<sup>4</sup> Cites Bogardi 1968, Neill 1967, and Straub 1953. Caltrans 2020 dismisses CDPW 1960 in favour of USACE 1994

$$D = aV^2$$



# Riprap design considerations and discrepancies

- Velocity distribution
- Shape
- Angle of repose
- Gradation



# Velocity Distribution

$$W = \frac{0.00002V^6 sg_R csc^3 (\rho - \alpha)}{(sg_R - 1)^3}$$

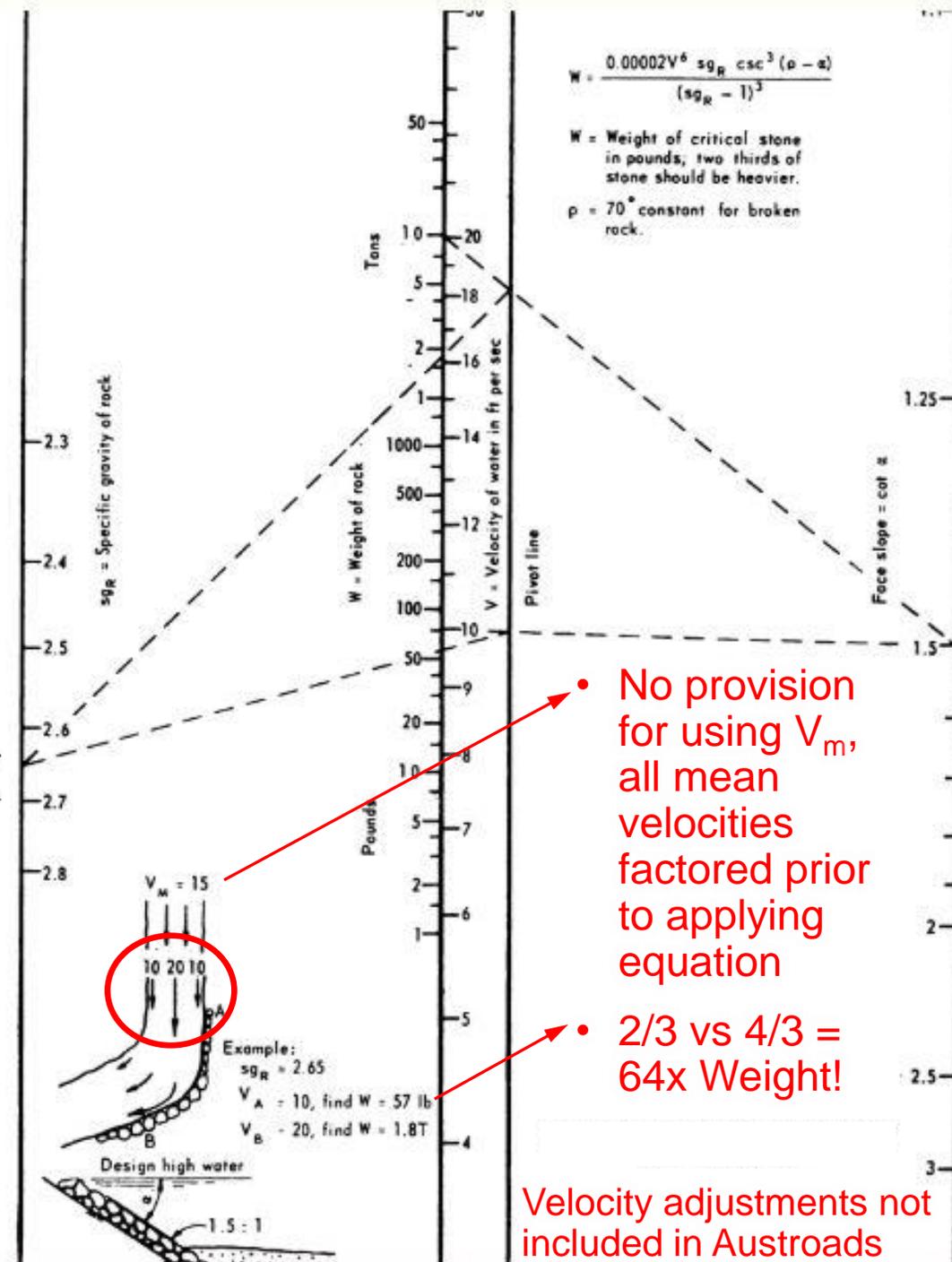
**W = Weight of critical stone in pounds; two thirds of stone should be heavier.**

**$\rho = 70^\circ$  constant for broken rock.**

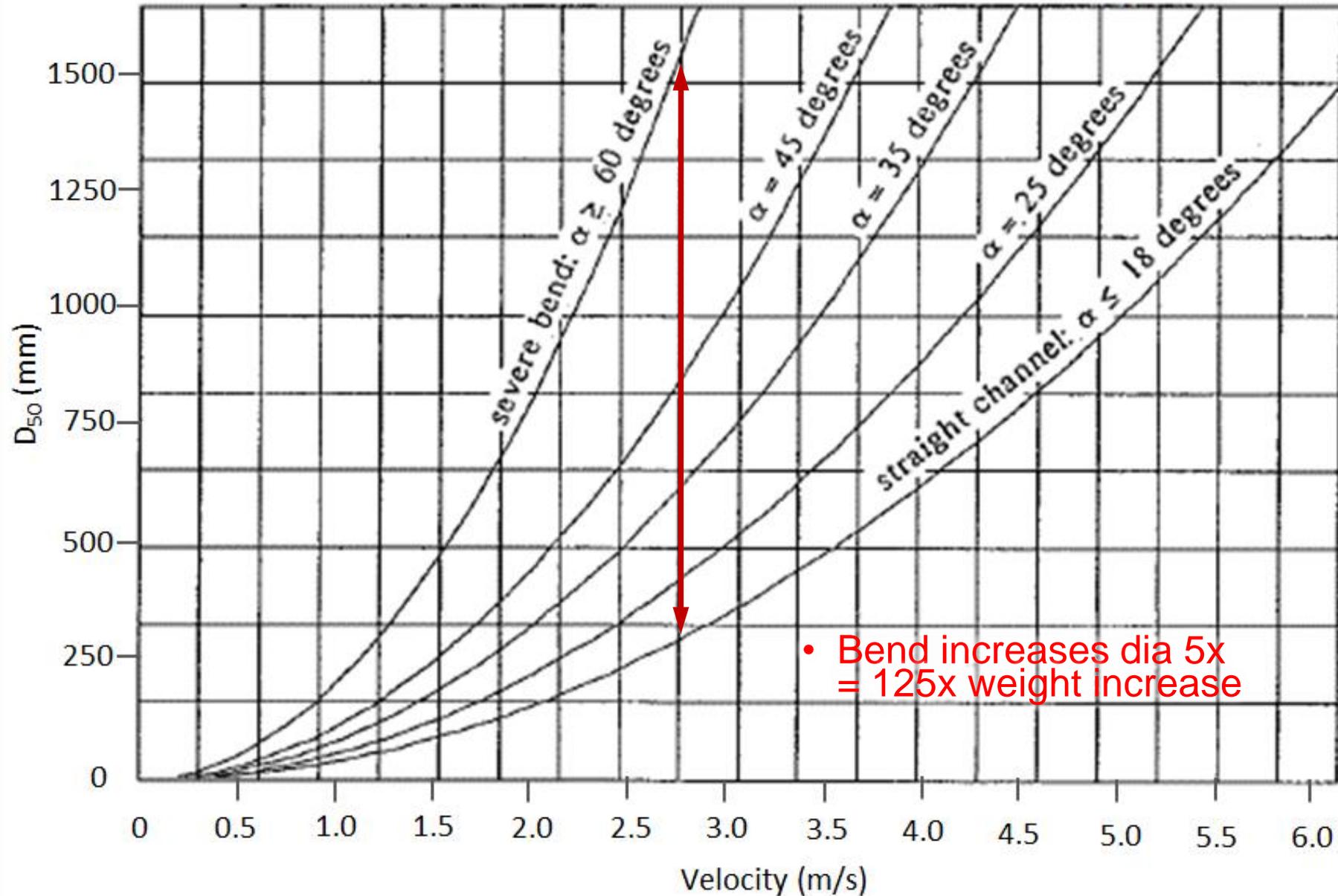
*Basic data and assumptions:* velocity ratios  $V_A:V_M:V_B = 2:3:4$ ; specific gravity of rock is  $sg_r = 2.65$ ; face slope of revetment is 1.5:1; stones grade uniformly between specified minima for class with two thirds heavier than minimum required on face;  $T = \frac{1}{3} \sqrt[3]{W_c}$ , plus 25% for Method B.

$$W = \frac{2 \times 10^{-5} V^6 sg_r}{(sg_r - 1)^3 \sin^3 (\rho - \alpha)} = \frac{.00002 V^6 \cdot 2.65}{1.65^3 \cdot .592^3} = .000057 V^6$$

V = Stream velocity to which bank is exposed, ft/s  
 = 4/3 the average stream velocity for impinging velocities (on outside of bends in line with the central thread), ft/s  
 = 2/3 the average velocity for tangent (parallel) velocity, ft/s



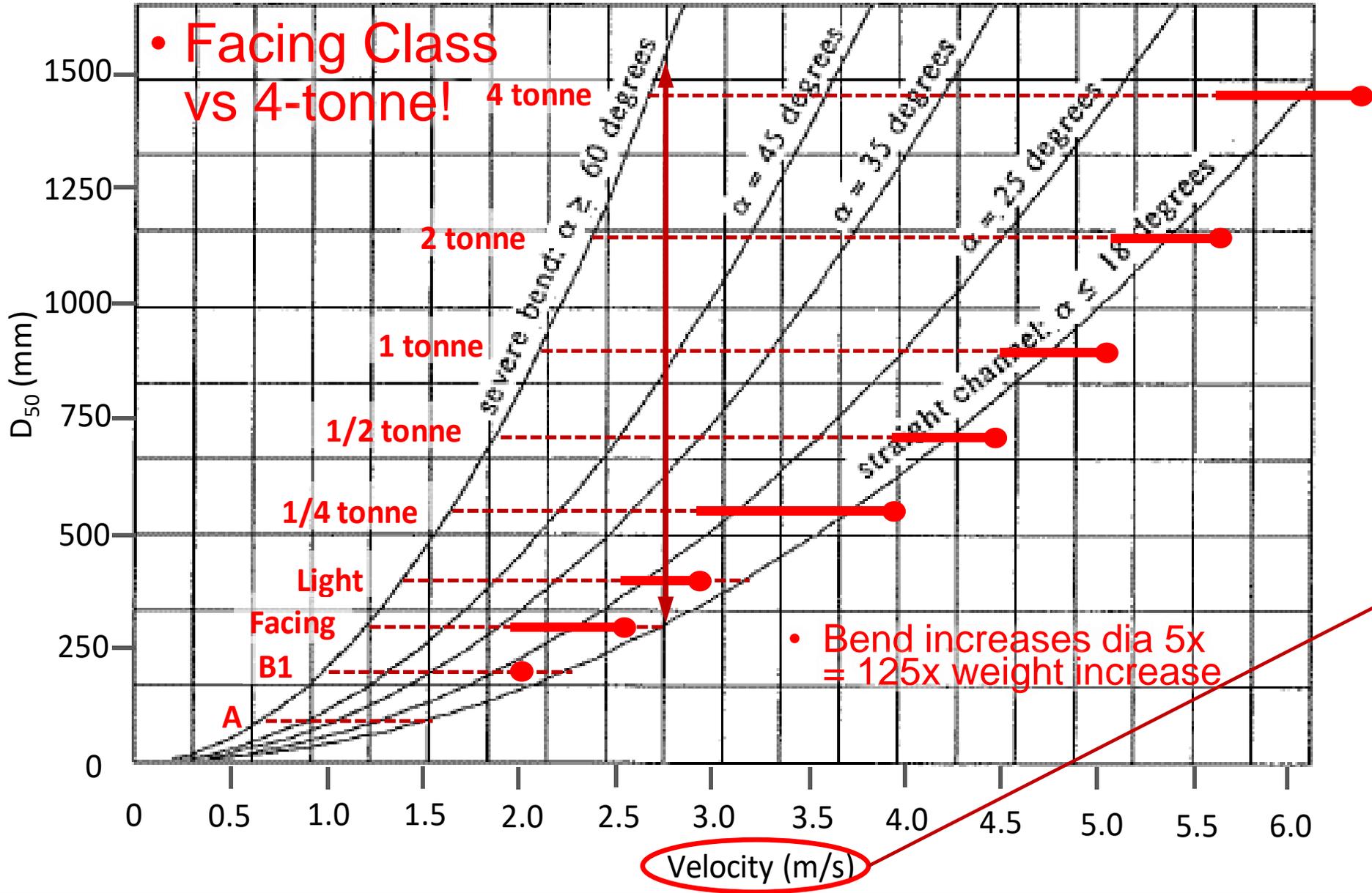
Rip Rap Sizing for 3H:1V or flatter side slope (SLA 1988)



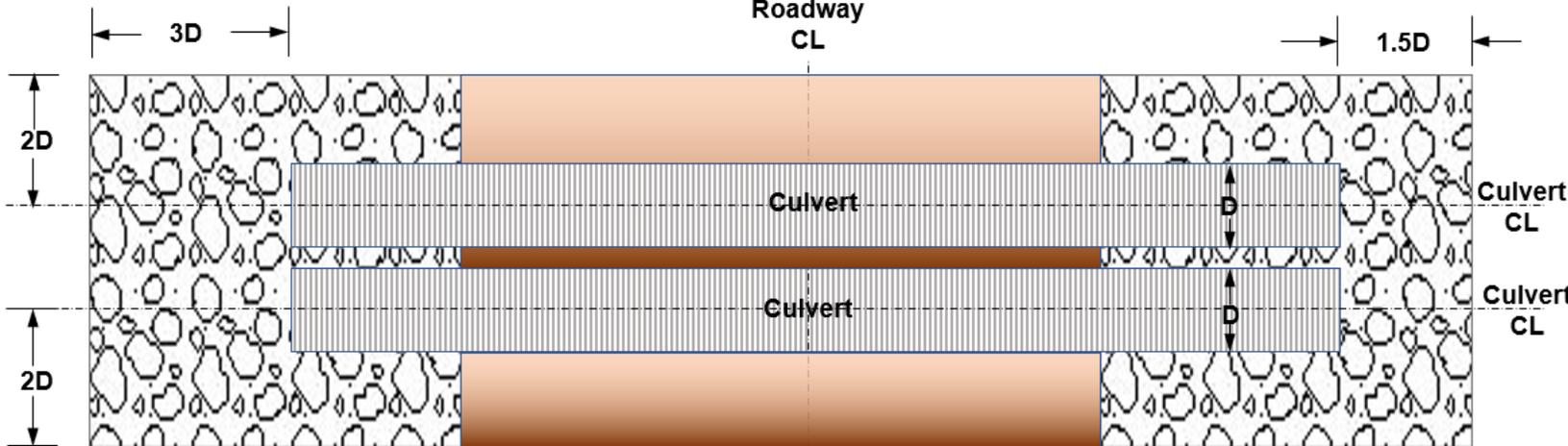
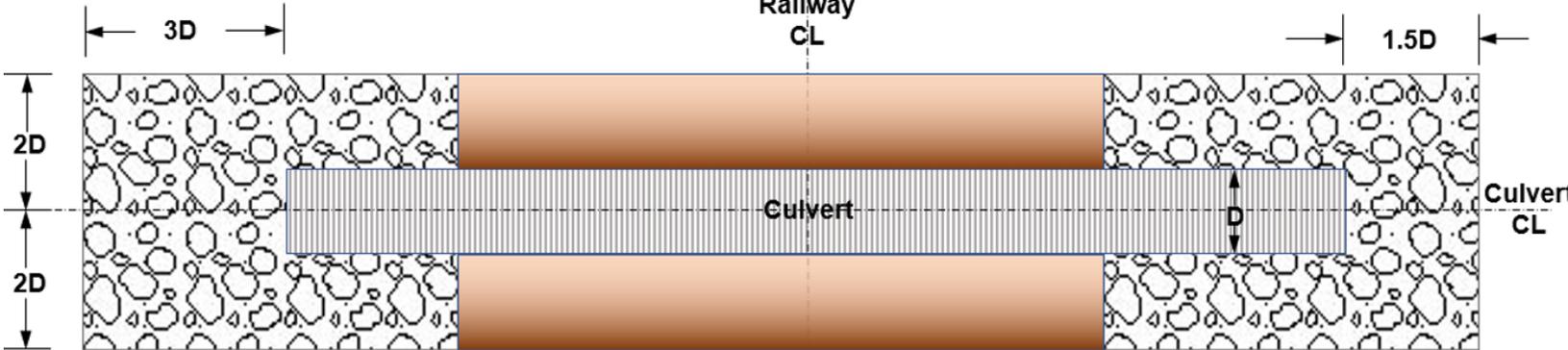
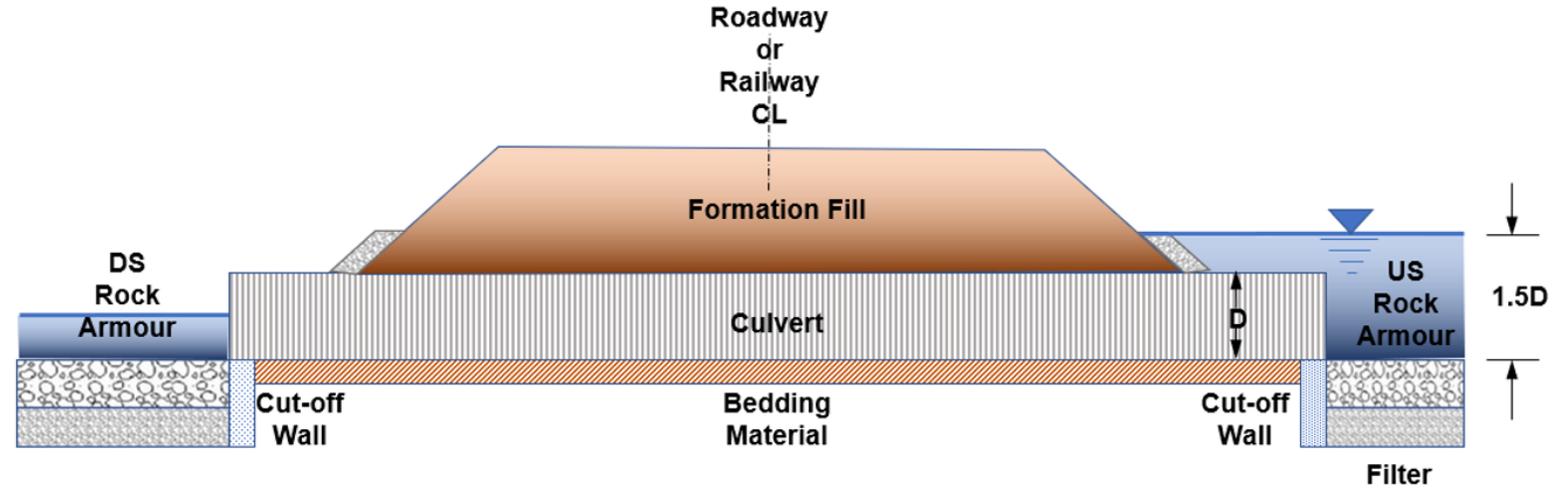
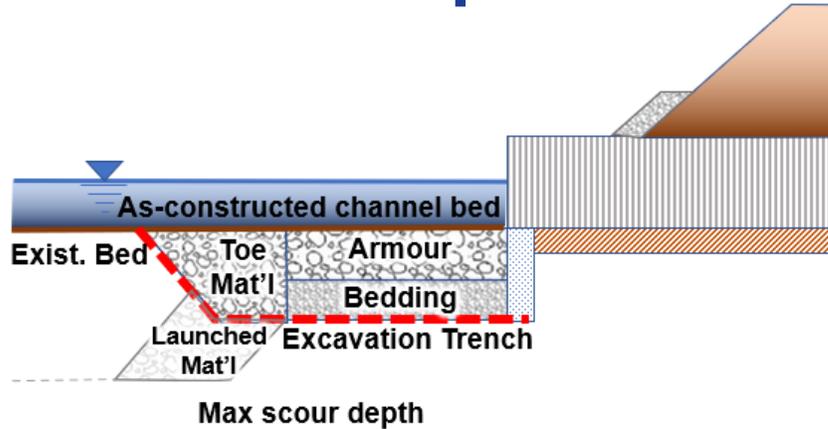
- Bend increases dia 5x = 125x weight increase



Rip Rap Sizing for 3H:1V or flatter side slope (SLA 1988)



# Culvert Aprons



- Single barrel

- Multi barrel

C&C  
20117

ASCE  
1992

OC  
1989

Bohan  
1970

# Catchments & Creeks (cited in Austroads 2013)

www.catchmentsandcreeks.com.au

C&C  
2017<sup>6</sup>



Catchments & Creeks



About Us

Training

Field Guides

Fact Sheets

Drawings

C&C  
2011<sup>7</sup>

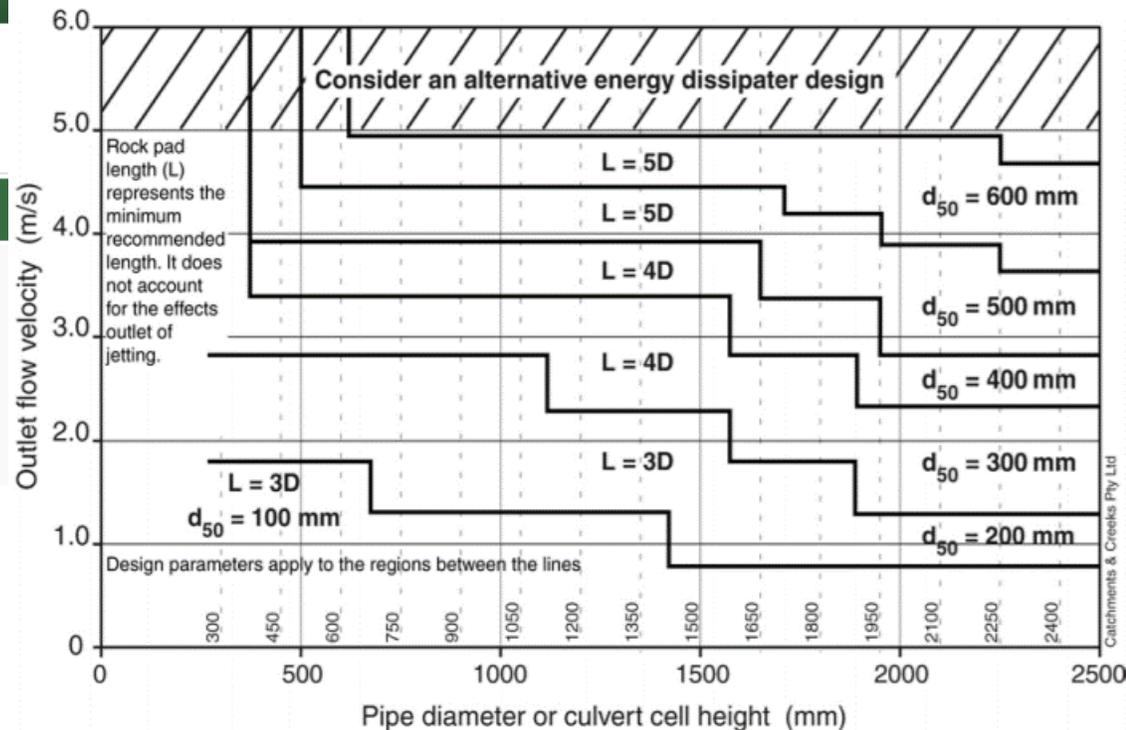
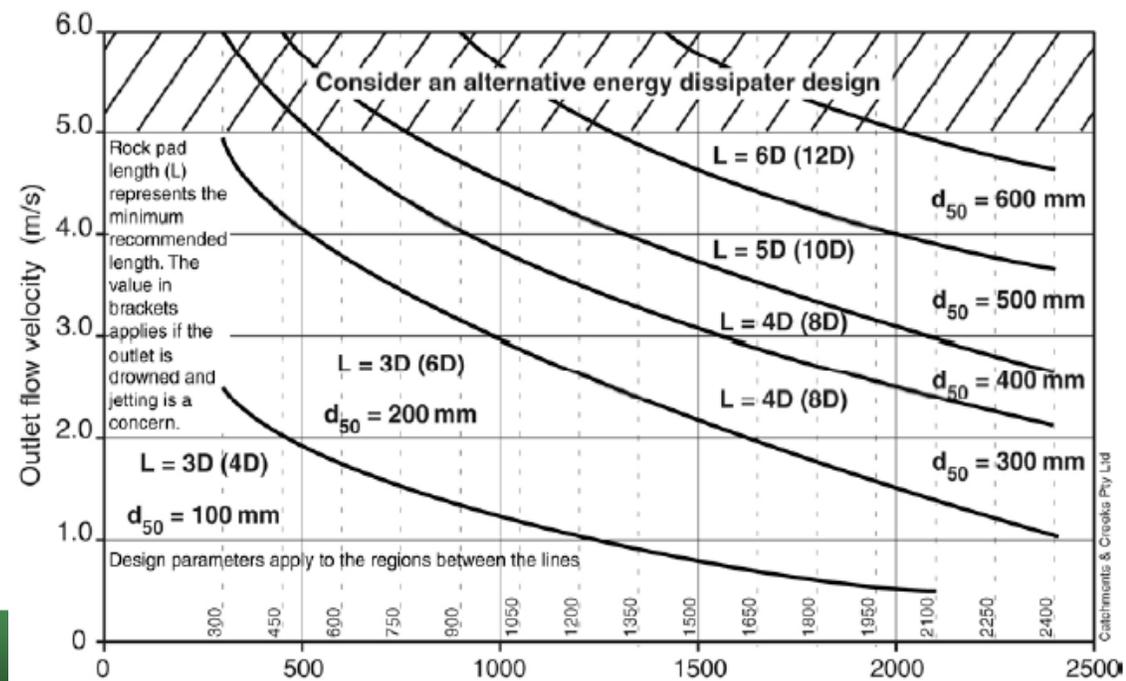
ASCE  
1992

OC  
1989

Bohan  
1970

## Fact Sheets: Rock Sizing

Preview	Title & Description	Specs	File
	<b>Background to Rock Roughness Equation</b> <i>5 pages</i>	N/A	 185.75 KB
	<b>Background to Rock Sizing Equations</b> <i>52 pages</i>	N/A	 992.40 KB



# NSW 2004 (cited in ARR 2019)

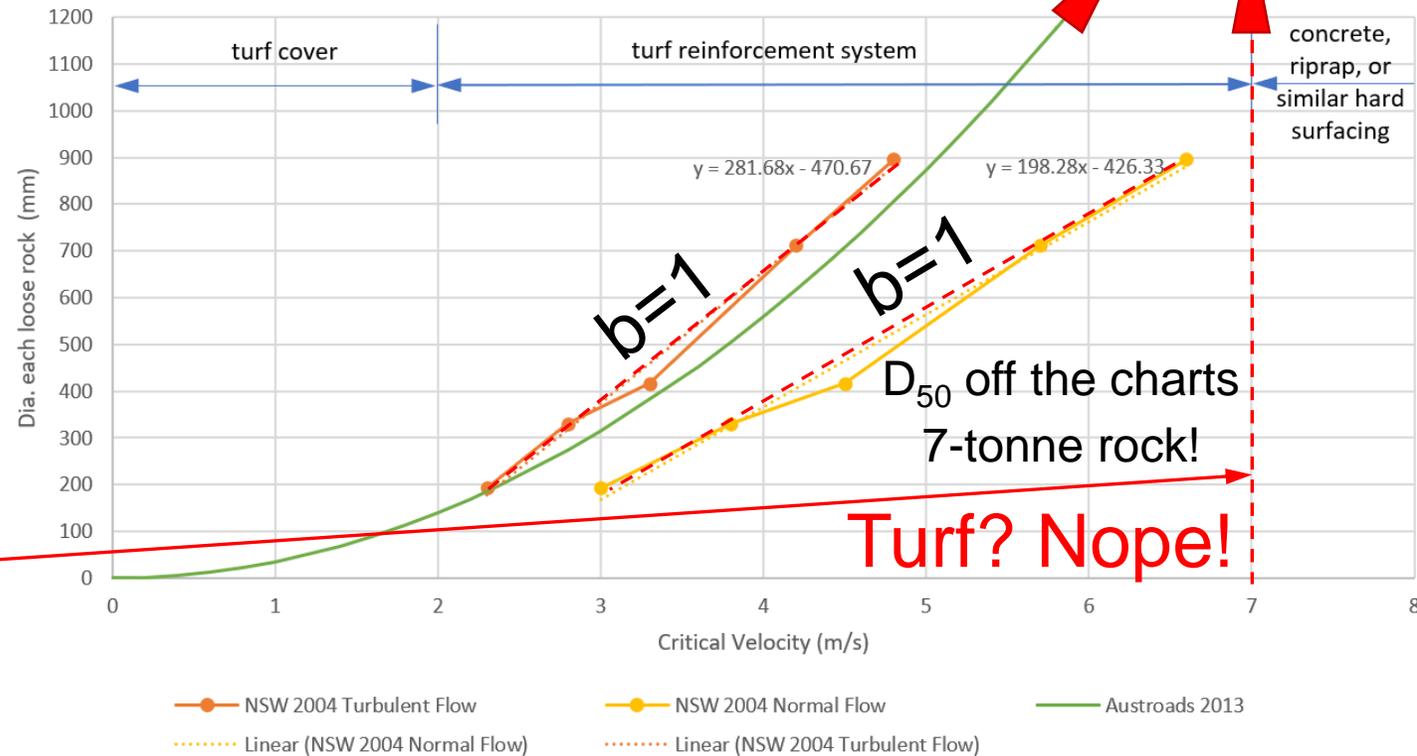
- No citations, compiled from “various sources”
- For  $D=a*V^b$ , NSW 2004 shows linear relationship between D and V with  $b=1$
- b varies between 2 and 3 (based on 200+ sources)
- b is never 1!

The following treatments are recommended as a guide (NSW Government, 2004):

- $V \leq 2$  m/s a dense well-knit turf cover using for example kikuyu;
- $2 \text{ m/s} < V < 7 \text{ m/s}$  a dense well-knit turf cover incorporating a turf reinforcement system; and
- $V \geq 7$  m/s hard surfacing with concrete, riprap or similar.

Material			Critical velocity (m/second)	
Type	Thickness (m)	Aggregate size (mm)		
Gabions and reno mattresses	0.50	120-250	6.4	
	0.50	100-200	5.8	
	0.30	100-150	5.0	
	0.30	70-120	4.2	
	0.25	70-100	3.6	
	0.17	70-100	3.5	
Loose rock (assume 100 percent soil cover)	Weight each (kg)		Turbulent flow	Normal flow
	1,000		4.8	6.6
	500		4.2	5.7
	100		3.3	4.5
	50		2.8	3.8
10		2.3	3.0	

NSW 2004 Maximum Design Flow Velocities in Waterways vs Austrads 2013



# VicRoads 2003, DTMR 2010, Neill 1973 (Cited in ARR 2019)

Table 4.4 Erosive Velocities in Natural Streams

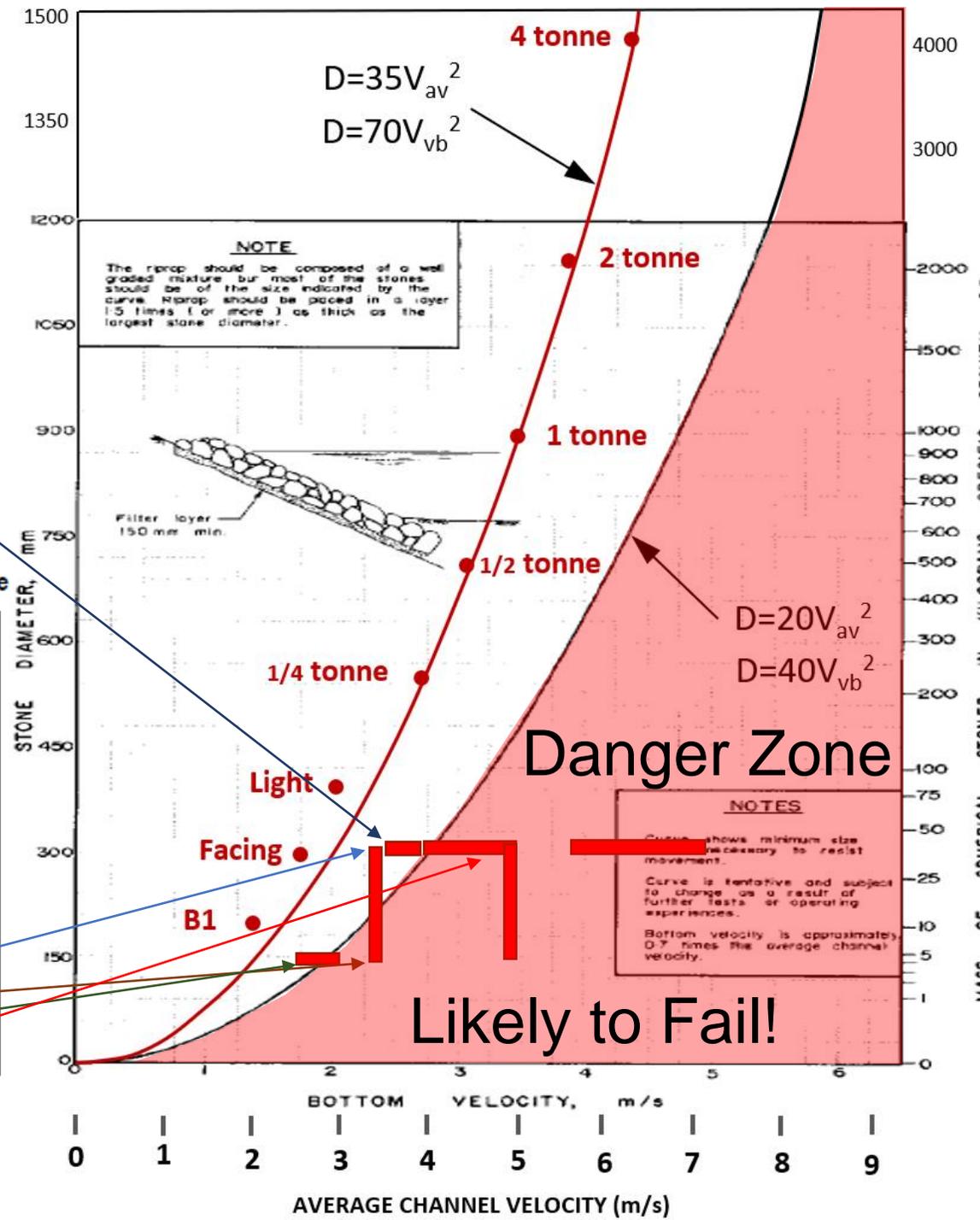
Stream Bed Type		Velocity (m/s)
<b>Silt</b>		less than 0.3
<b>Sand</b>	fine	less than 0.3
	coarse	0.4 to 0.6
<b>Gravel</b>	6 mm	0.6 to 0.9
	25 mm	1.3 to 1.5
	100 mm	2.0 to 3.0
<b>Clay</b>	soft	0.3 to 0.6
	stiff	1.0 to 1.2
	hard	1.5 to 2.0
<b>Rocks</b>	150 mm	2.5 to 3.0
	300 mm	3.5 to 4.0

Table 2.5: Erosive velocities in natural streams

Stream bed type		Velocity (m/s)
Silt		less than 0.3
Sand	Fine	less than 0.3
	Coarse	less than 0.3
Gravel	6 mm	0.6 to 0.9
	25 mm	1.3 to 1.5
	100 mm	2.0 to 3.0
Clay	Soft	0.3 to 0.6
	Stiff	1.0 to 1.2
	Hard	1.5 to 2.0
Rocks	150 mm	2.5 to 3.0
	300 mm	3.5 to 4.0

Table 3.10: Desirable maximum flow velocities in culverts or unprotected stream bed

Stream bed soil type	Maximum advisable culvert velocity (m/s)	Maximum allowable stream velocity (m/s)
Silt	1.0-1.5	< 0.3
Clay, soft	1.0-1.5	0.3-0.6
Clay, stiff	1.2-2.0	1.0-1.2
Clay, hard	1.2-2.0	1.5-2.0
Sand, fine	1.0-1.5	< 0.3
Sand, coarse	1.0-1.5	0.4-0.6
Gravel, 6 mm	1.0-1.5	0.6-0.9
Gravel, 25 mm	1.2-2.0	1.3-1.5
Gravel, 100 mm	2.5	2.0-3.0
Rocks, 150 mm	3.5	2.5-3.0
Rocks, 300 mm	3.5	4.0-5.0



Source: Derived from DTMR (2010b) and VicRoads (2003).

# Shape

**Assumed spherical for  
diameter-volume-weight calculations**

**Assumed angular for calculations**



FIG. 6. Large Sediment Particle Found on Streambed after Sizable Flood of Santa Clara River in California (Courtesy of Margaret Petersen, Honorary Member, ASCE)



- Volume of sphere is approximately half the volume of a cube with edges equal to sphere diameter
- Some methods recommend using a mid-way value of 75%-85% of the volume of an equivalent cube
- Austroads assumes spherical conversion and specific gravity of 2.65; some methods allow variation in s.g.



# Angle of Repose

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

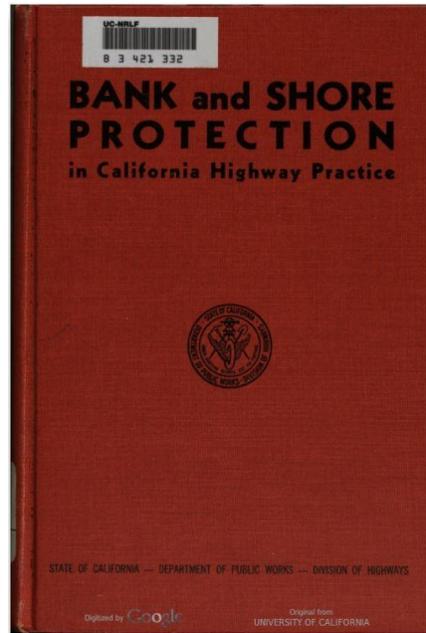
BANK AND SHORE PROTECTION IN  
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PRACTICE

November 1960



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
LIBRARY  
NOV 27 1961  
LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EDMUND G. BROWN  
Governor  
ROBERT B. BRADFORD  
Director of Public Works  
J. C. WOMACK  
State Highway Engineer



**California Department of Transportation RSP**  
This technique was developed by the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) for designing rock slope protection (RSP) for streams and riverbanks. Unlike most of the other available techniques, it results in a recommended minimum weight of the stone. The equation is:

$$W = \frac{0.00002}{(G_s - 1)^3} \times \frac{VM \times V^6 \times G_s}{\sin^3(r - a)} \quad (\text{eq. TS14C-18})$$

where:

W = minimum rock weight (lb)

V = velocity (ft/s)

VM = 0.67 if parallel flow

VM = 1.33 if impinging flow

G<sub>s</sub> = specific gravity of rock (typically 2.65)

r = angle of repose (70° for randomly placed rock)

a = outside slope face angle to the horizontal (typically a maximum of 33°)

• Nope!

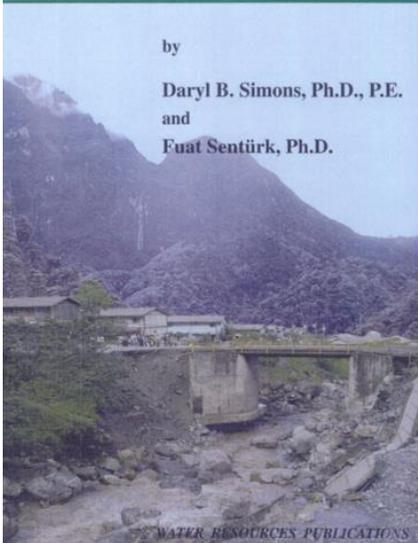
The definition of r equals 70° (for randomly placed rubble, a constant). Neither the 1960 manual nor the 2000 manual discusses why the value of r is 70°. However, Blodgett and McConaughy (1986) refer to notes assembled by R.M. Carmany of Caltrans that discuss laboratory experiments conducted by the University of California to determine the minimum force to dislodge a stone from the bank. The University of California constructed a model streambank with small stones arranged as riprap and underlying stones cemented into a plaster base. The side slope was increased until the first outer stone was displaced. A maximum angle of 65° to 70° was attained before the first stone fell out. It is assumed that the value of r equals 70° is based on these tests.

• Cheat!



# SEDIMENT TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGY

WATER AND SEDIMENT DYNAMICS



by  
Daryl B. Simons, Ph.D., P.E.  
and  
Fuat Sentürk, Ph.D.

For Information and Correspondence:  
Water Resources Publications  
P. O. Box 2841, Littleton, Colorado 80161, USA

SEDIMENT TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGY

WATER AND SEDIMENT DYNAMICS

by  
Daryl B. Simons, Ph.D., P.E.  
and  
Fuat Sentürk, Ph.D.

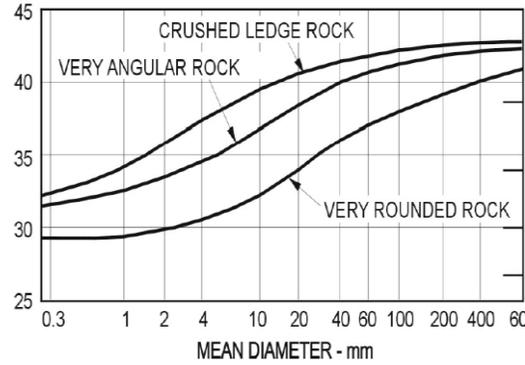
Photograph by Simons & Associates, Inc.  
Cover Designed by Water Resources Publications

ISBN Number 0-918334-66-7  
U.S. Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 91-67534

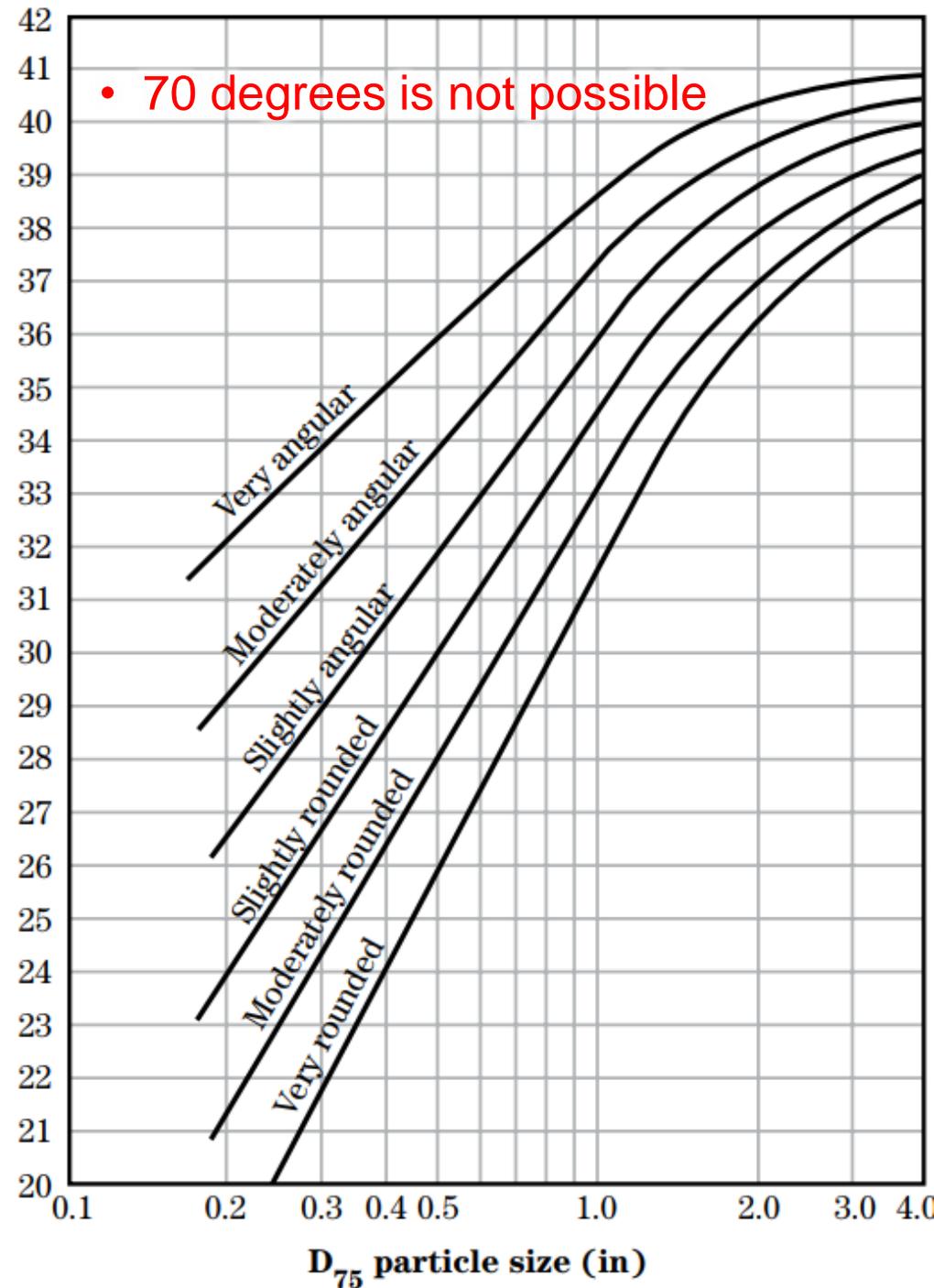
Copyright © 1992 Revised Edition by Water Resources Publications.  
All rights reserved. Printed and bound in the United States of America.  
No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, transmitted,  
transcribed or stored in any form or by any means such as mechanical,  
electronic, magnetic, optical, chemical, manual or otherwise, without  
prior written permission from the publisher, Water Resources  
Publications, P. O. Box 2841, Littleton, Colorado 80161-2841, U.S.A.

This publication is printed and bound by BookCrafters, Inc.,  
Chelsea, Michigan, U.S.A.

iv



Angle of repose,  $\phi_R$ , degrees with horizontal



• 70 degrees is not possible

$$W = \frac{2 \times 10^{-5} S_s U^6}{(S_s - 1)^3 \sin^3 (70^\circ - \theta)} \quad (7.109)$$

in which  $\theta$  is the angle of repose of the riprap,  $W$  is the minimum weight in lbs of the outside stone, and  $U$  is the average stream velocity. If we assume  $S_s = 2.65$  and that

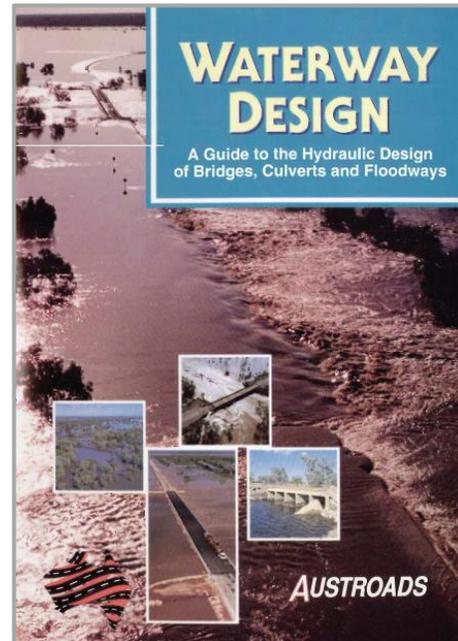
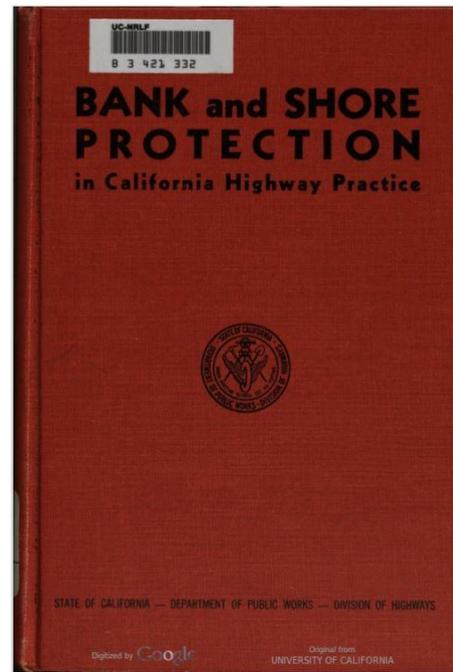
$$W = S_s \gamma \frac{\pi D_{50}^3}{6}$$

then Eq. 7.109 reduces to

$$\frac{0.27 U^2}{(S_s - 1) g D_{50}} = \sin (70^\circ - \theta) \quad (7.110)$$

- Incorrect: Should be design angle of the riprap
- $W$  is infinite if angle of repose is reached

# Gradation



$$W = \frac{0.00002V^6 \text{ sg}_R \text{ csc}^3(\rho - \alpha)}{(\text{sg}_R - 1)^3}$$

$W$  = Weight of critical stone in pounds; two thirds of stone should be heavier.

$\rho = 70^\circ$  constant for broken rock.

Note that the mass by which the Class of rock protection,  $W_c$  is designated does not correspond to the mass  $W$ . The Class of rock protection,  $W_c$  should be graded so that at least 2/3 of all rocks in the Class have a greater mass than  $W$ .



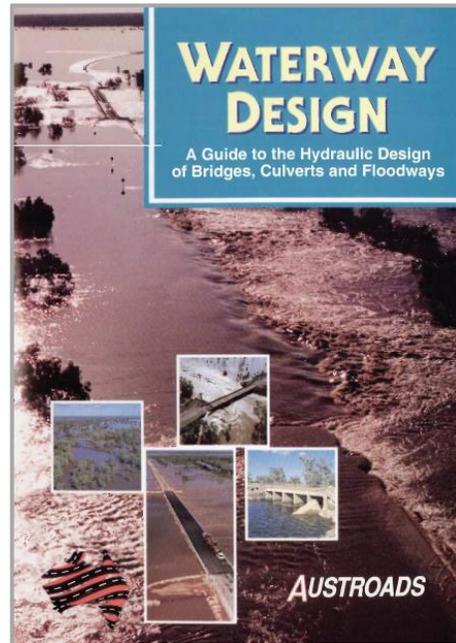
# Rock



$$W = \frac{0.00002V^6 \text{ sg}_R \text{ csc}^3 (\rho - \alpha)}{(\text{sg}_R - 1)^3}$$

W = Weight of critical stone in pounds; two thirds of stone should be heavier.

$\rho = 70^\circ$  constant for broken rock.



Note that the mass by which the Class of rock protection,  $W_c$  is designated does not correspond to the mass  $W$ . The Class of rock protection,  $W_c$  should be graded so that at least 2/3 of all rocks in the Class have a greater mass than  $W$ .



# Rock

## vs rocks



$$W = \frac{0.00002V^6 sg_R csc^3 (\rho - \alpha)}{(sg_R - 1)^3}$$

$W$  = Weight of critical stone  
in pounds; two thirds of  
stone should be heavier.

$\rho = 70^\circ$  constant for broken  
rock.



Note that the mass by which the Class of rock protection,  $W_c$  is designated does not correspond to the mass  $W$ . The Class of rock protection,  $W_c$  should be graded so that at least 2/3 of all rocks in the Class have a greater mass than  $W$ .



# Gradation



CEN provides standard gradation classes for aggregates (five classes by size), light riprap (five classes by weight up to 300 kg), and heavy riprap (5 classes by weight up to 15,000 kg) (CEN, 2002). Particles with a length to thickness ratio  $A/C$  greater than 3.0 cannot be more than 20% by weight for aggregates and light riprap; for heavy riprap, the limit is 5% based on **number of particles**. Requirements for documenting the design, production, delivery, and placement of riprap are provided, as is guidance for general record-keeping procedures.

*Size.* Riprap design methods typically yield a required size of stone that will result in stable performance under the design loadings. Because stone is produced and delivered in a range of sizes and shapes, the required size of stone is often stated in terms of a minimum allowable representative size. For example, the designer may specify a minimum  $d_{50}$  or  $d_{30}$  for the rock composing the riprap, thus indicating the size for which 50% or **30% (by weight) of the particles** are smaller. Stone sizes can also be specified in terms of weight (e.g.,  $W_{50}$  or  $W_{30}$ ) through the use of an equivalent spherical or cuboidal particle shape, and the known (or assumed) density of the particle.

## Order of magnitude difference in $W_{50}$

The desired particle dimension or weight is typically expressed in the form of a size distribution curve. Such curves usually indicate the percentage of stones that are smaller than the indicated size, although the CABS (Racin et al., 2000) gradations are based on the percentage larger than the indicated size.

Whether expressed as a “larger than” or “smaller than” gradation, a size distribution curve represents the cumulative distribution function of the sample population of the various rocks that compose the matrix of particles. The  $d_{50}$  (or  $W_{50}$ ) value represents the size for which **half the particles are larger and half are smaller** (i.e., the *median* size). The steepness of the distribution curve is a measure of the standard deviation of the particle sizes about the median and is referred to as the uniformity of the gradation. The probability function is not necessarily a normal (“bell-shaped” or Gaussian) distribution.

Once 100 particles have been measured, the frequency curve is developed by counting the **number of particles** less

## Gradation Specifications

**General.** Gradation specifications for riprap prescribe a range of allowable sizes for a given riprap class. Sizes can be defined by weight or by a length dimension. Practical specification guidance must allow producers to supply rock with a range of sizes that allows reasonable, but not excessive, deviation from the “ideal” particle size distribution curve. The underlying principle in this regard is to achieve economy through standardization without sacrificing hydraulic stability. From this perspective, the specification should result in a matrix of rocks that has **a majority of particles** that are equal to, or larger than, the size required for stability at the design hydraulic loading. A certain amount of particles that are smaller than the stable size can be tolerated, but in much smaller proportion.

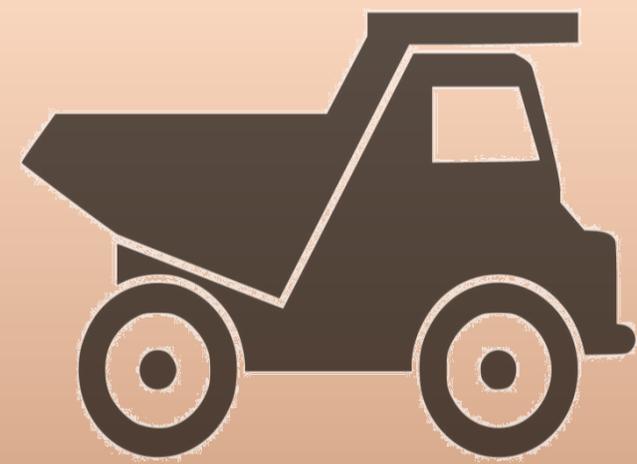
A specification that allows an excessive amount of under-sized stones can result in failure by particle displacement. On the other hand, a specification that requires a large proportion of particles significantly greater than the stable stone size will result in unnecessarily high cost, both for the material itself, and for the transportation and placement of that material. Thus, there is a very real need to strike a balance between “too many small particles” on the one hand, versus “too many large particles” on the other.

- “Number of particles” implies “by weight” or count at regular intervals



What is the  $D_{33}$  and the  $D_{50}$ ?





$D_{50}=250\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{50}=20\text{ kg}$

$D_{33}=200\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{33}=12\text{ kg}$

2 stones, total mass 60 kg		7 stones, total mass 60 kg		
1 stone, total mass 40 kg	2 stones, total mass 40 kg		6 stones, total mass 40 kg	

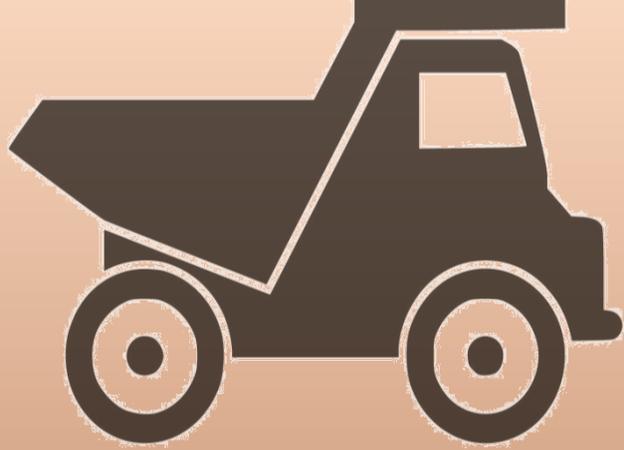
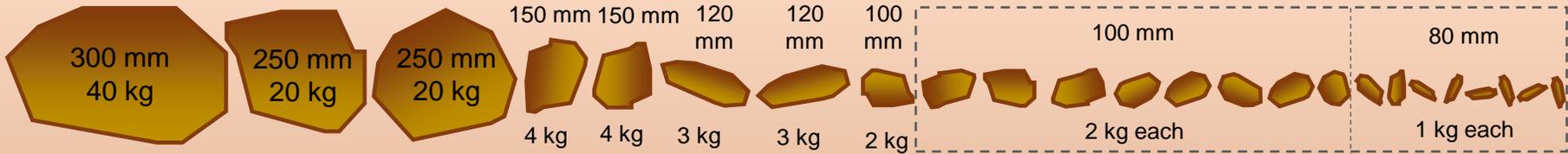
“2/3 of **stone** should be heavier” than  $D_{33}$   
(CPDW 1960)

$D_{50}=175\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{50}=10\text{ kg}$

$D_{33}=150\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{33}=5\text{ kg}$

97 kg		23 kg		
3 stones, total mass 80 kg	3 stones, total mass 28 kg	3 stones, total mass 12 kg		

“2/3 of all **rocks** have a greater mass” than  $D_{33}$   
(Austroads 1994)



$D_{50}=250\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{50}=20\text{ kg}$

$D_{33}=150\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{33}=4\text{ kg}$

2 stones, total mass 60 kg		22 stones, total mass 60 kg	
1 stone, total mass 40 kg	2 stones, total mass 40 kg		21 stones, total mass 40 kg

“2/3 of **stone** should be heavier” than  $D_{33}$   
(CPDW 1960)

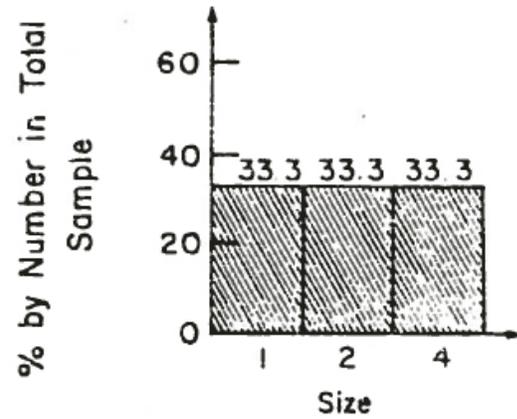
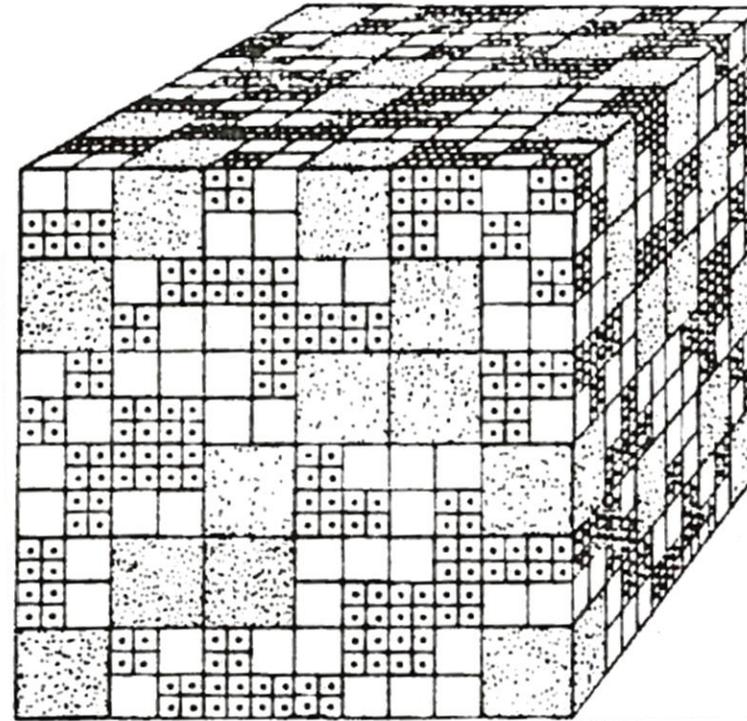
$D_{50}=100\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{50}=2\text{ kg}$

$D_{33}=80\text{ mm}$   
 $W_{33}=1\text{ kg}$

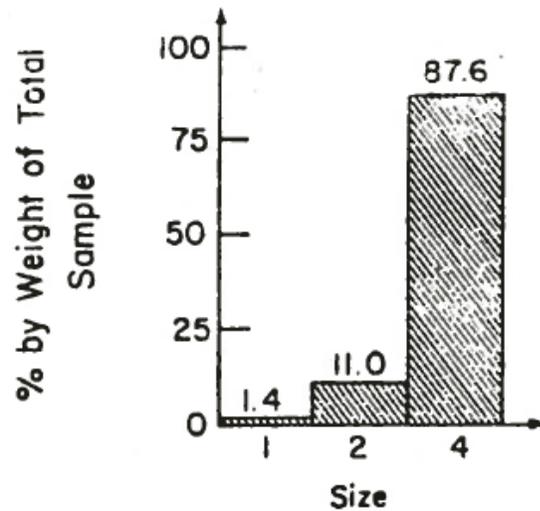
12 stones, total mass 104 kg		12 stones, total mass 16 kg	
8 stones, total mass 96 kg		8 stones, total mass 16 kg	8 stones, total mass 8 kg

“2/3 of all **rocks** have a greater mass” than  $D_{33}$   
(Austroads 1994)

# Cube Model



b) Grid-by-Number



d) Grid-by-Weight

Particle	Linear Size D	Weight W	Total No. in Sample Volume	Total No. in Sample Surface
	1	1	4608	192
	2	8	576	48
	4	64	72	12



# Gradation



Table 4.2: Standard classes of rock slope protection

Rock class	Rock size (m)	Rock mass	Minimum percentage of rock larger than
Facing	0.4	100	0
	0.3	35	50
	0.15	2.5	90
Light	0.55	250	0
	0.40	100	50
	0.20	10	90
¼ tonne	0.75	500	0
	0.55	250	50
	0.30	35	90
½ tonne	0.90	1000	0
	0.70	450	50
	0.40	100	90
1 tonne	1.15	2000	0
	0.90	1000	50
	0.35	500	90
2 tonne	1.45	4000	0
	1.15	2000	50
	0.75	500	90
4 tonne	1.80	8000	0
	1.45	4000	50
	0.90	1000	90

• Error

• Error

Table 3.12: Standard classes of rock slope protection

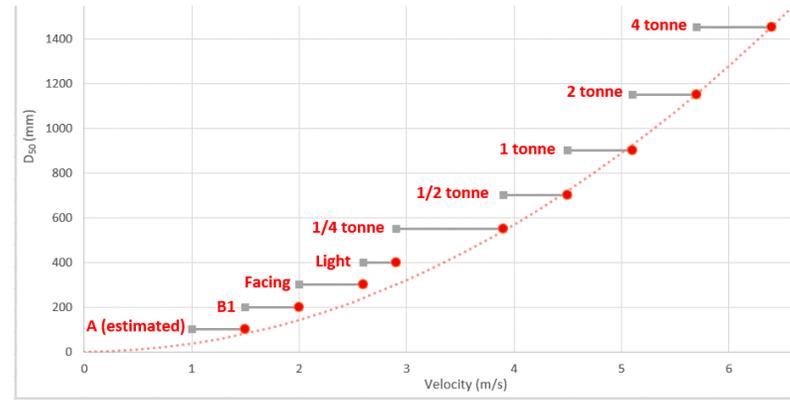
Rock class	Rock size <sup>(1)</sup> (m)	Rock mass (kg)	Minimum percentage of rock larger than
Facing	0.40	100	0
	0.30	35	50
	0.15	2.5	90
Light	0.55	250	0
	0.40	100	50
	0.20	10	90
¼ tonne	0.75	500	0
	0.55	250	50
	0.30	35	90
½ tonne	0.90	1000	0
	0.70	450	50
	0.40	100	90
1 tonne	1.15	2000	0
	0.60	1000	50
	0.55	250	90
2 tonne	1.45	4000	0
	1.15	2000	50
	0.75	500	90
4 tonne	1.80	8000	0
	1.45	4000	50
	0.90	1000	90

• Error

• Error

Rock Class	Rock Size (m)	Rock mass (kg)	Minimum Percentage of Rock Larger Than
Facing	0.40	100	0
	0.30	35	50
	0.15	2.5	90
Light	0.55	250	0
	0.40	100	50
	0.20	10	90
¼ tonne	0.75	500	0
	0.55	250	50
	0.30	35	90
½ tonne	0.90	1000	0
	0.70	450	50
	0.40	100	90
1 tonne	1.15	2000	0
	0.90	1000	50
	0.35	250	90
2 tonne	1.45	4000	0
	1.15	2000	50
	0.75	500	90
4 tonne	1.80	8000	0
	1.45	4000	50
	0.90	1000	90

• Error

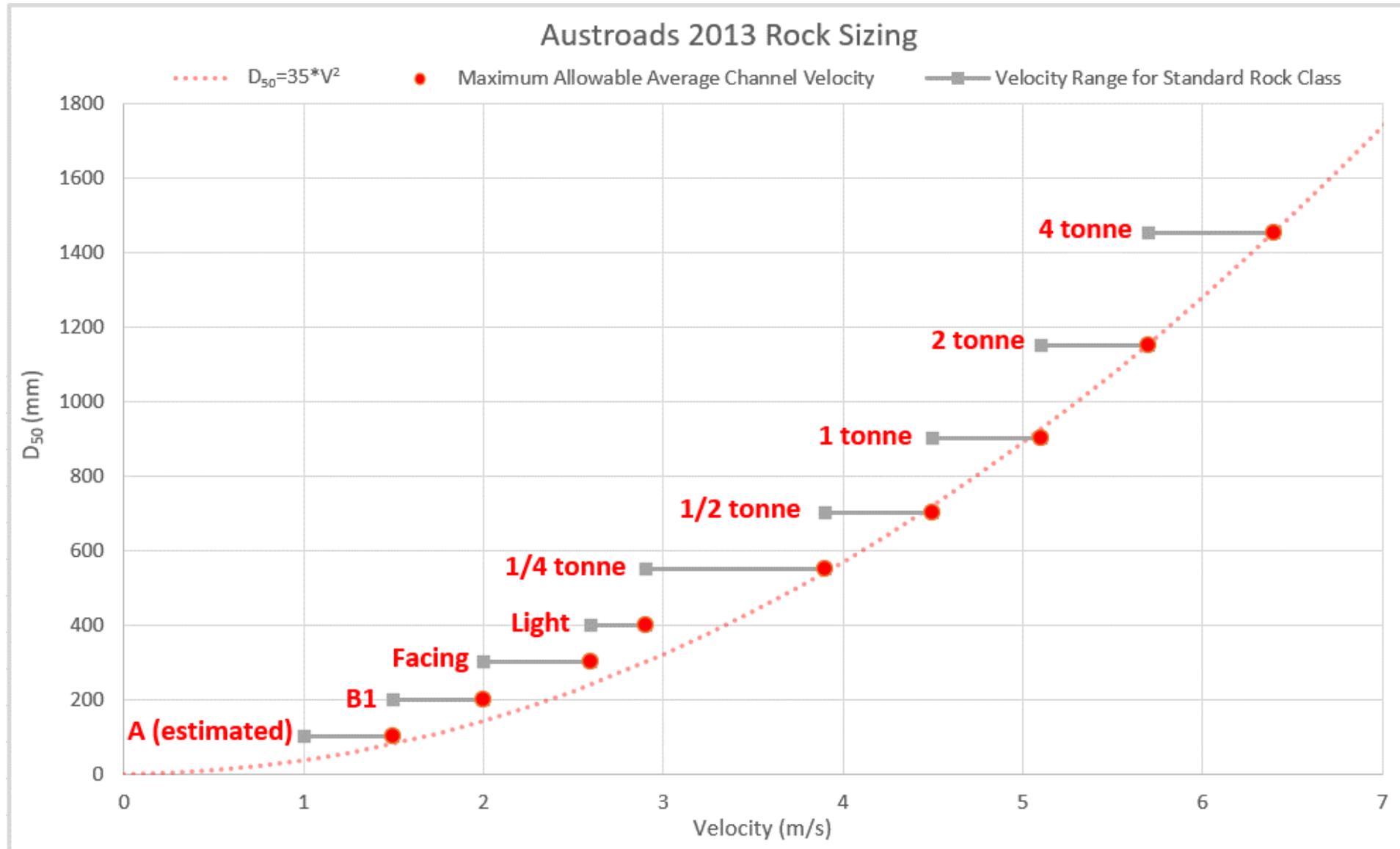


- Minimum zero percent larger is not helpful!
- Better to specify D<sub>85</sub> or D<sub>90</sub>

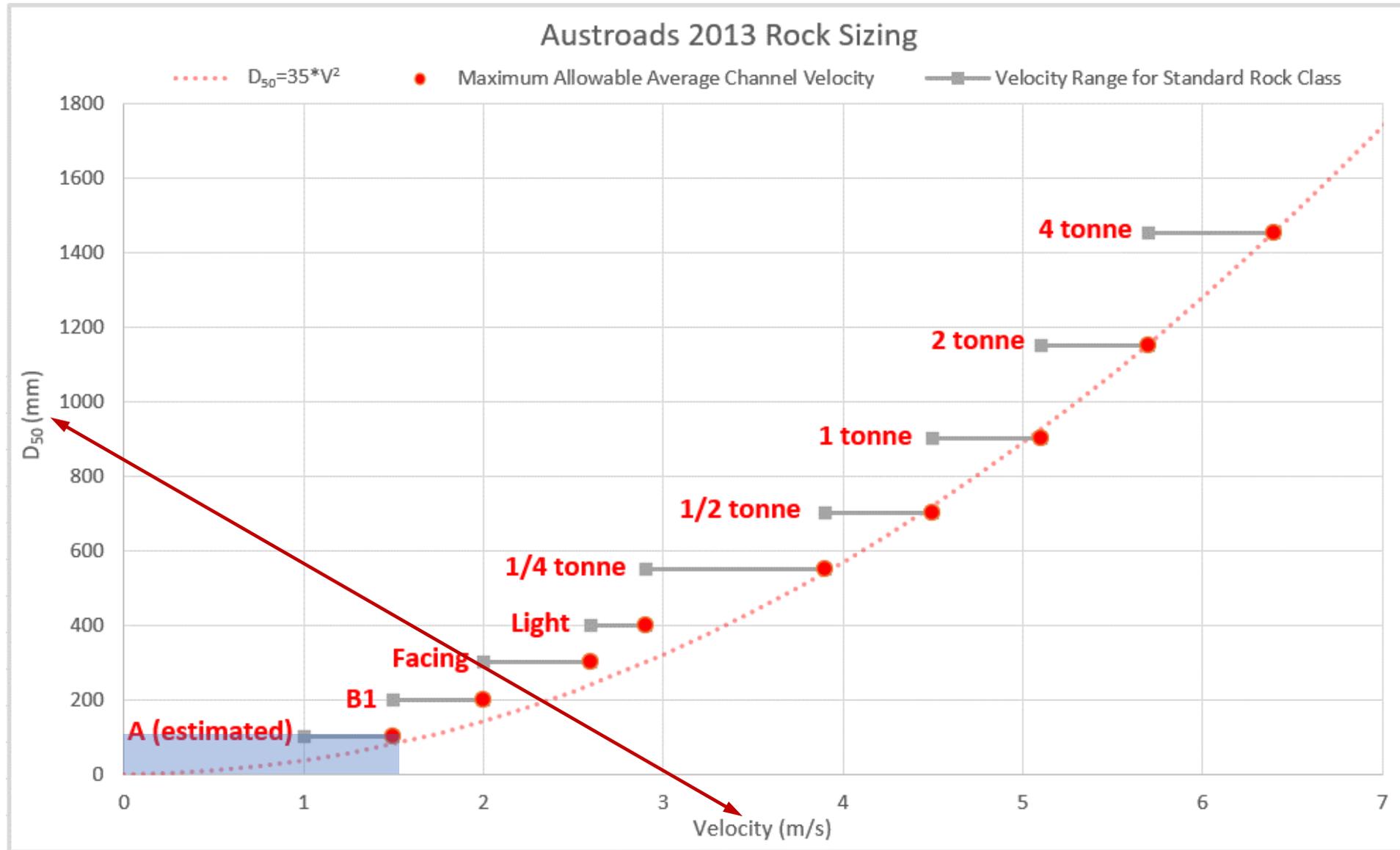


Table 5.2 – Standard Classes of Rock Slope Protection

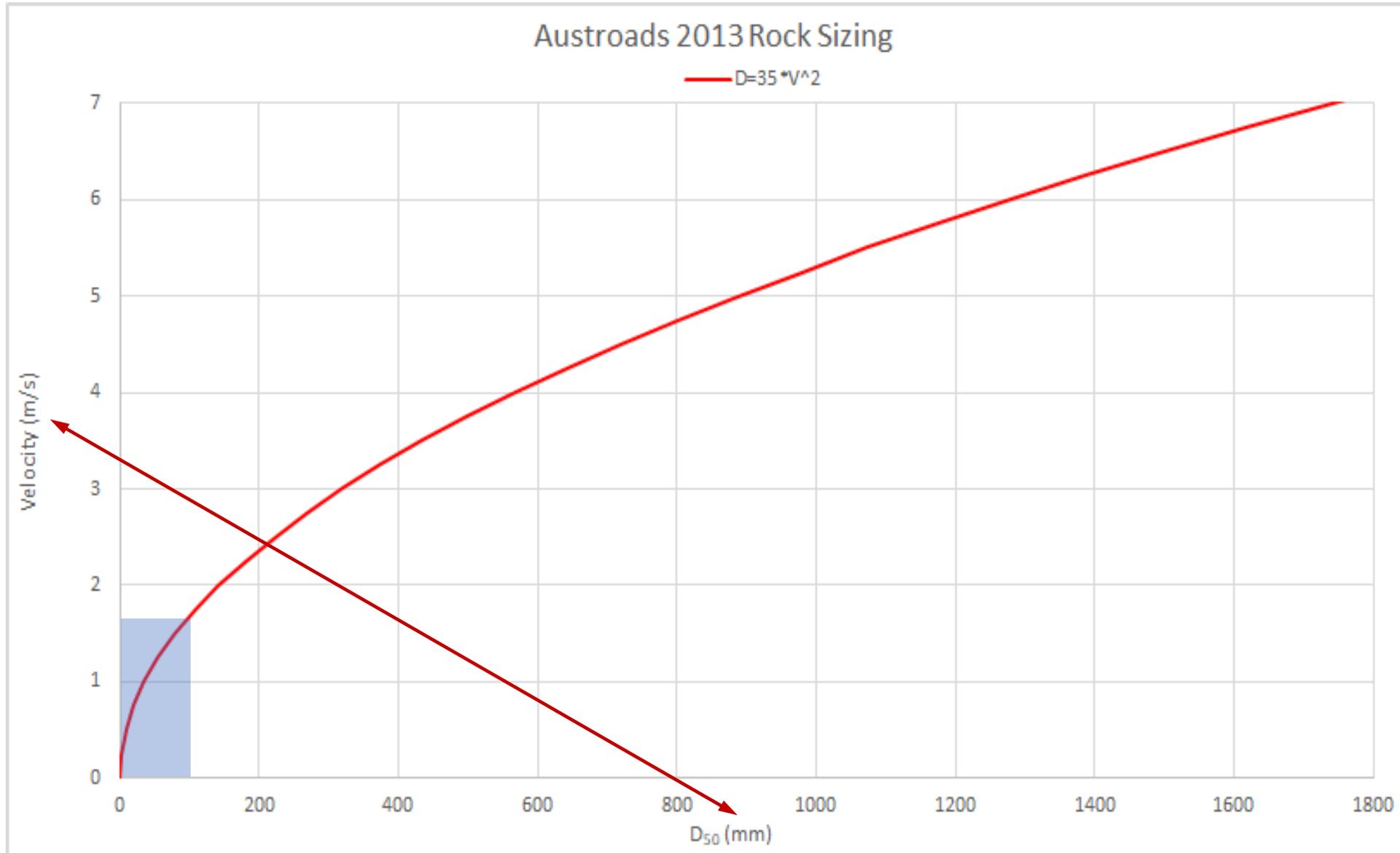
# Velocity-based rock sizing



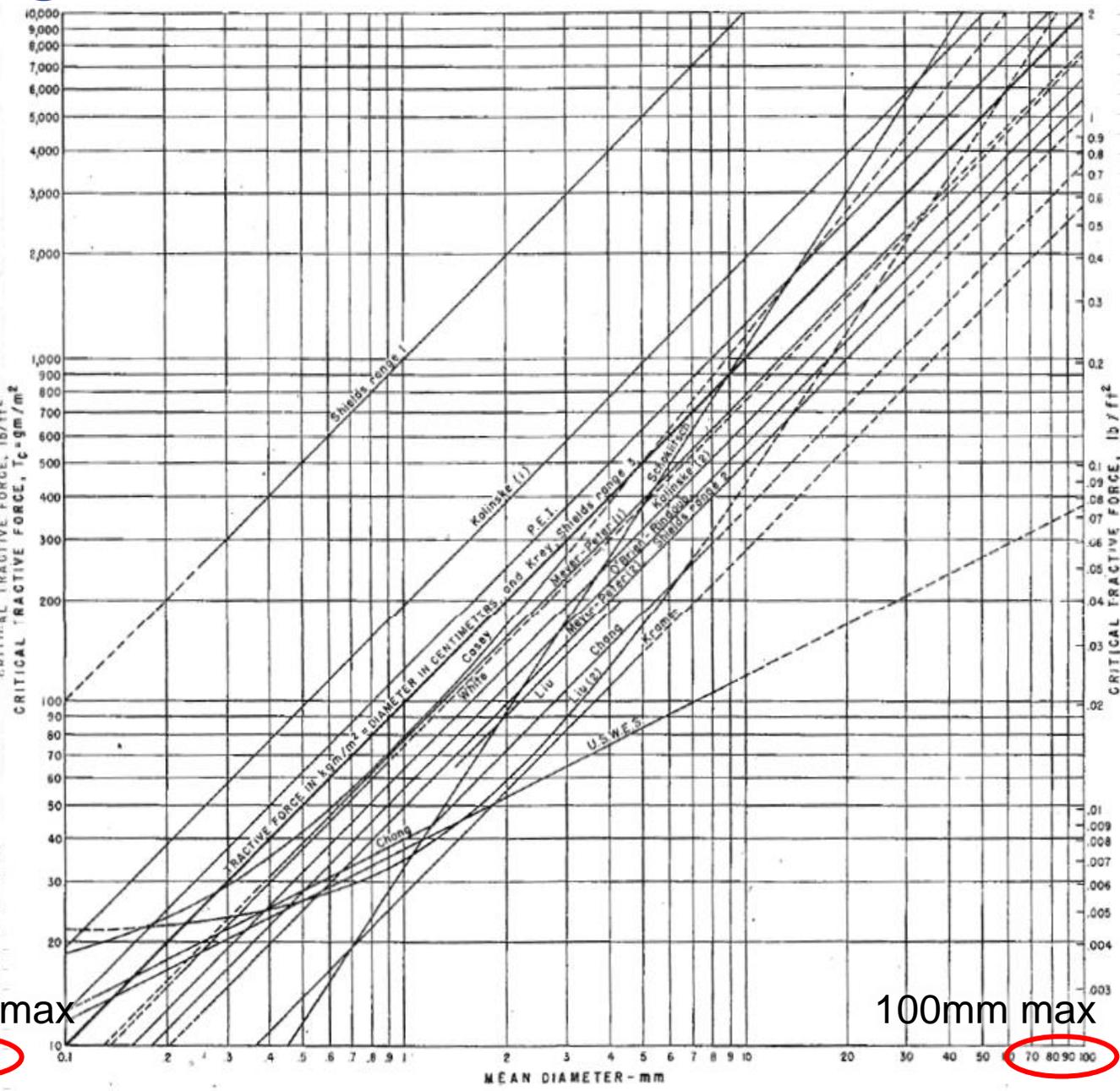
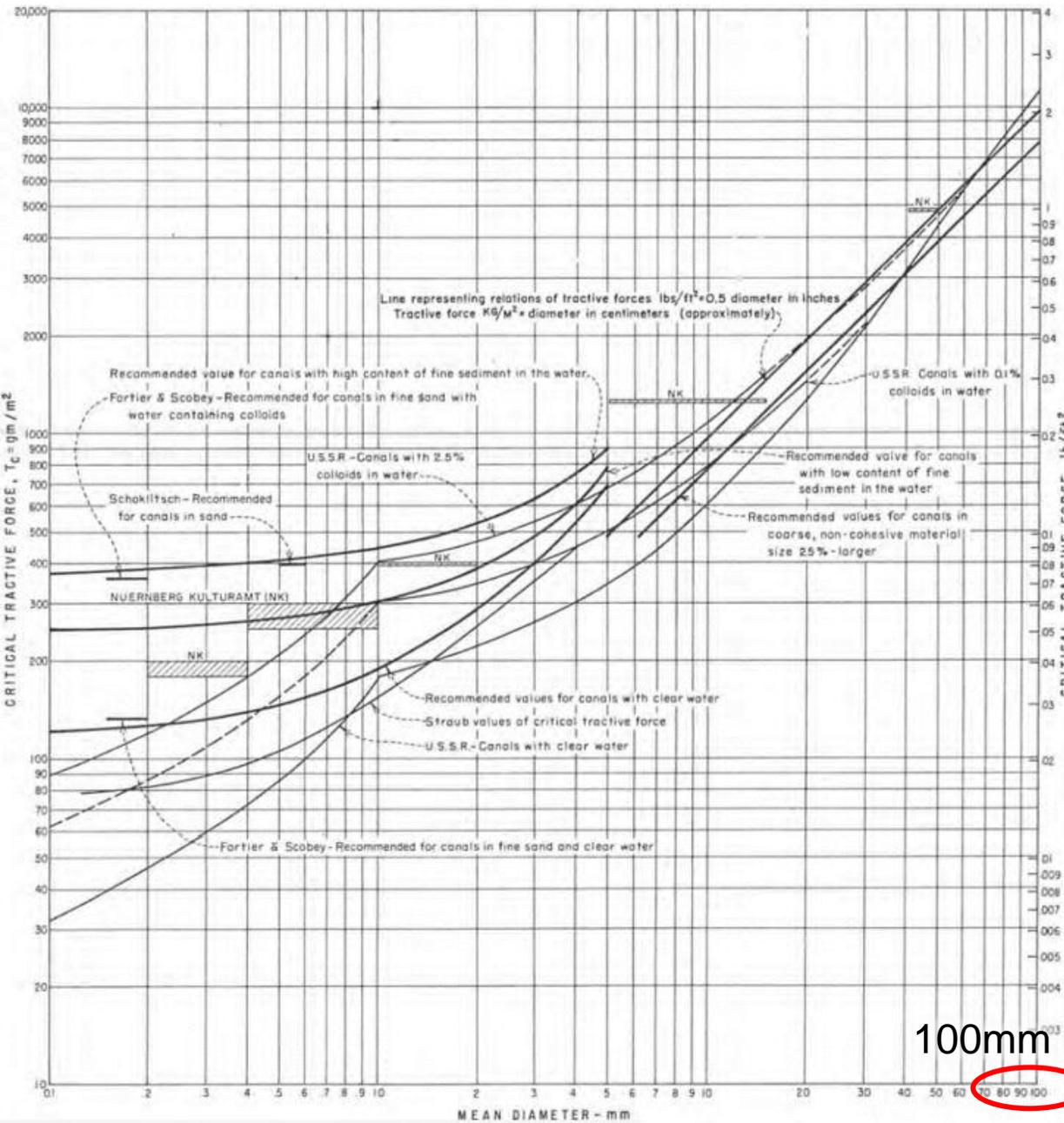
# Shear-based rock sizing



# Shear-based rock sizing



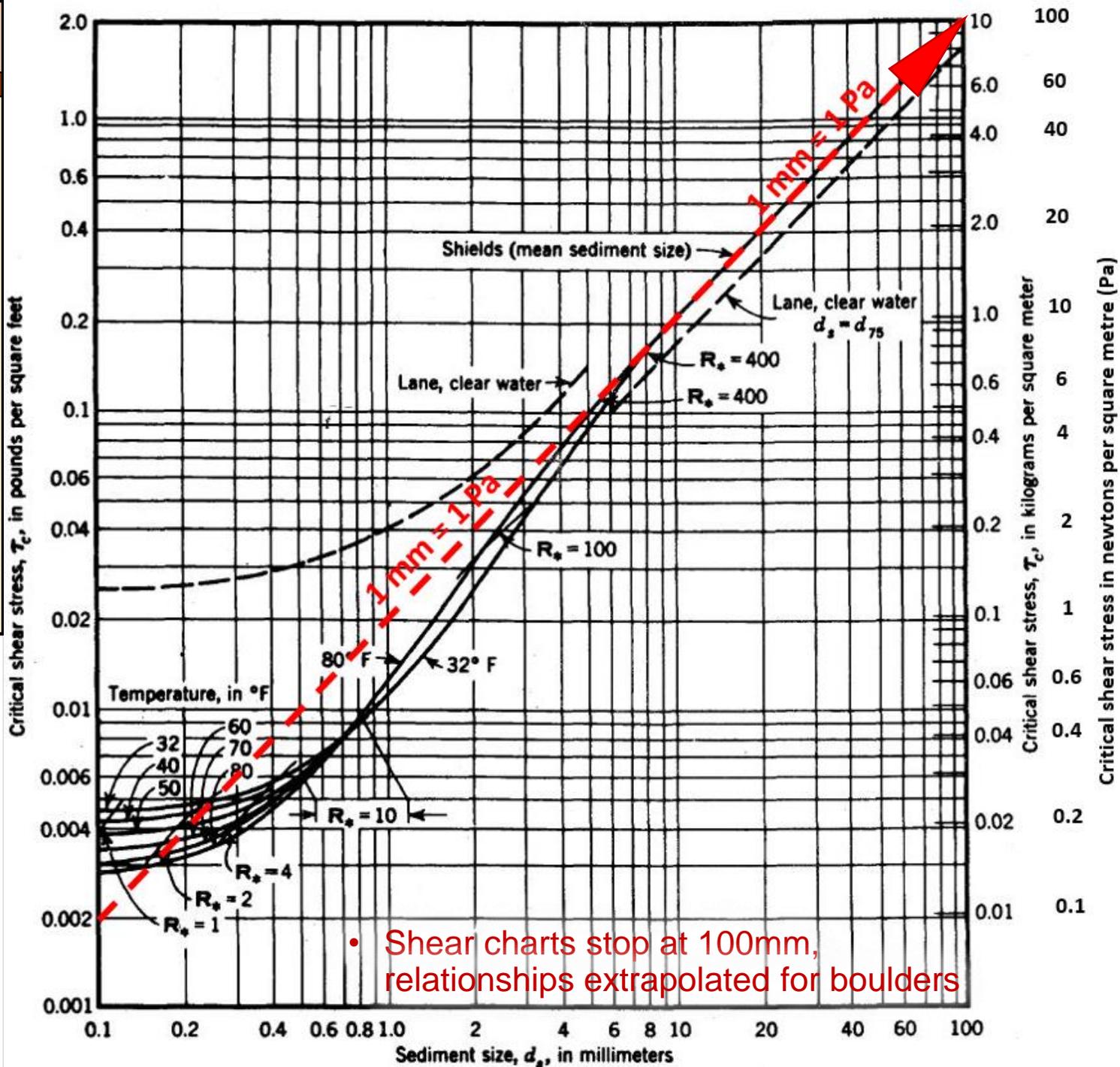
# Shear-based rock sizing



100mm max

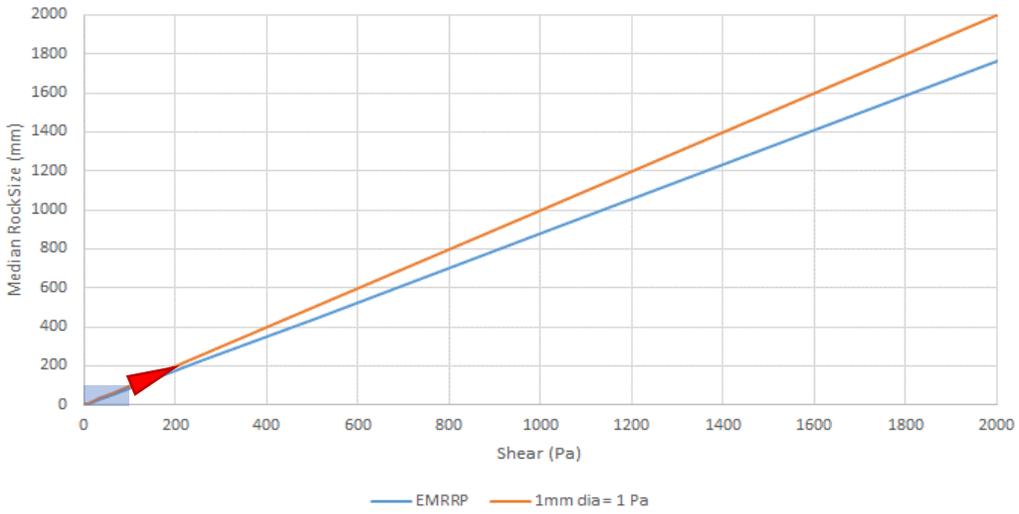
100mm max

Rock class	Particle diameter	Angle of repose	Critical shear stress	Critical shear velocity	Particle diameter	Critical shear stress	Critical shear velocity
Class name	$d_s$ (in)	$\phi$ (deg)	$\tau_c$ (lb/sf)	$V_c$ (ft/s)	(mm)	(Pa)	(m/s)
<b>Boulder</b>							
Very large	>80	42	37.4	4.36	2032	1791	1.33
Large	>40	42	18.7	3.08	1016	896	0.94
Medium	>20	42	9.3	2.20	508	445	0.67
Small	>10	42	4.7	1.54	254	225	0.47
<b>Cobble</b>							
Large	>5	42	2.3	1.08	127	110	0.33
Small	>2.5	41	1.1	0.75	64	53	0.23
<b>Gravel</b>							
Very coarse	>1.3	40	0.54	0.52	33	26	0.16
Coarse	>0.6	38	0.25	0.36	15	12	0.11
Medium	>0.3	36	0.12	0.24	8	6	0.07
Fine	>0.16	35	0.06	0.17	4	3	0.05
Very fine	>0.08	33	0.03	0.12	2	1	0.04
<b>Sands</b>							
Very coarse	>0.04	32	0.01	0.070	1.0	0.5	0.021
Coarse	>0.02	31	0.006	0.055	0.5	0.3	0.017
Medium	>0.01	30	0.004	0.045	0.3	0.2	0.014
Fine	>0.005	30	0.003	0.040	0.13	0.1	0.012
Very fine	>0.003	30	0.002	0.035	0.08	0.1	0.011
<b>Silts</b>							
Coarse	>0.002	30	0.001	0.030	0.05	0.05	0.009
Medium	>0.001	30	0.001	0.025	0.03	0.05	0.008



• Shear charts stop at 100mm, relationships extrapolated for boulders

Relationship between shear stress and median rock size



# CRC for catchment hydrology riprap spreadsheet



Catchment Modelling Toolkit - RIPRAP

**riprap**

A spreadsheet program for the design of rip-rap bank protection.

Rip-rap can be employed to provide protection to actively eroding or potentially eroding banks in rivers and channels.

<https://toolkit.ewater.org.au/Tools/RIPRAP>

**catchment MODELLING TOOLKIT**  
supported by the CRC for Catchment Hydrology

OK

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRES FOR CATCHMENT HYDROLOGY

The Catchment Modelling Toolkit is a suite of software designed to improve the standard and efficiency of catchment modelling. [www.toolkit.net.au](http://www.toolkit.net.au)



Guidelines for the Design of  
River Bank Stability and  
Protection using RIP-RAP

Prepared by  
Associate Professor R. J. Keller

[www.toolkit.net.au/riprap](http://www.toolkit.net.au/riprap)

USER GUIDE

# RIPRAP - Input Table

About

A design program for stabilisation of river banks with rip- rap

## Input Table

Variable Name	Allowed Range	Value	Units
Energy Slope		2.10E-03	-
Bank Angle		22	degrees
Rock Specific Gravity	>1	2.65	-
Rock Angle of Repose	1-46	46	degrees
Maximum Depth		10	m
Depth of Interest		8	m
Factor of Safety	1-5	1.2	-
Maximum Safe Bank Angle	Calculated	40.7922861	degrees

## Output Table

### Output Table D50 (mm)

		Bank Angles									
		0	10	15	20	22	25	30	35	40	40.6
Depth (m)	1	32	25	27	29	30	32	38	51	136	280
	2	63	51	53	57	59	64	76	102	270	550
	3	95	76	80	86	89	96	114	153	410	830
	4	126	101	106	114	119	128	151	204	550	1100
	5	158	126	133	143	149	160	189	250	680	1400
	6	189	152	159	172	178	192	227	310	820	1650
	7	221	177	186	200	208	224	270	360	950	1950
	8	250	202	212	229	238	260	300	410	1100	2200
	9	280	228	239	260	270	290	340	460	1250	2500
	10	320	250	270	290	300	320	380	510	1350	2750

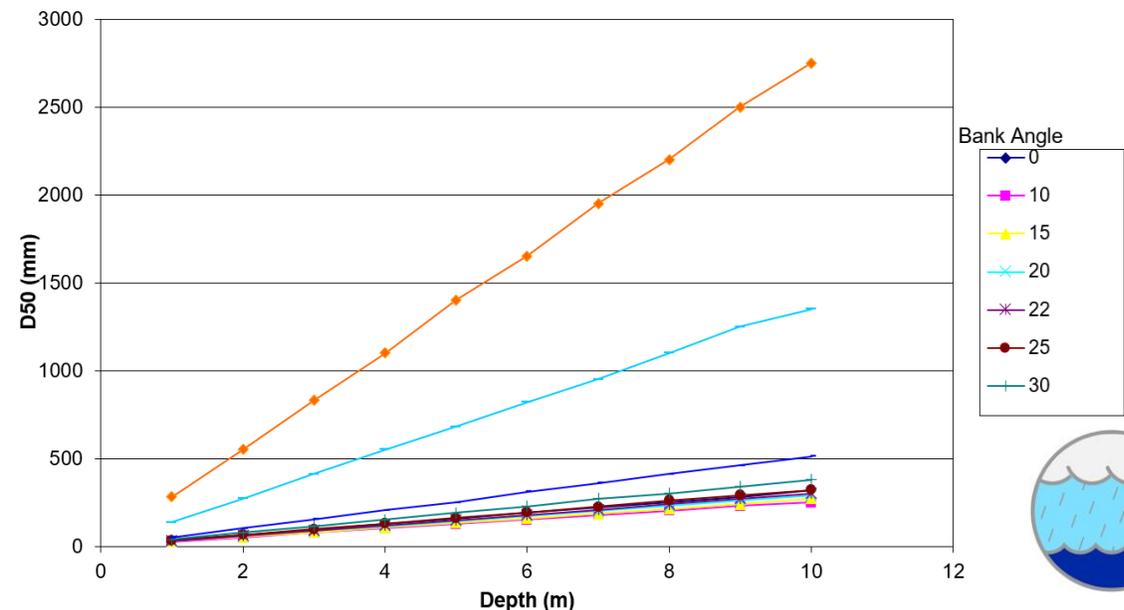
# Shear-based:

Shields coefficient  $\left[ \frac{0.75 y S \tan \phi}{0.047 (S_s - 1)} \right]$

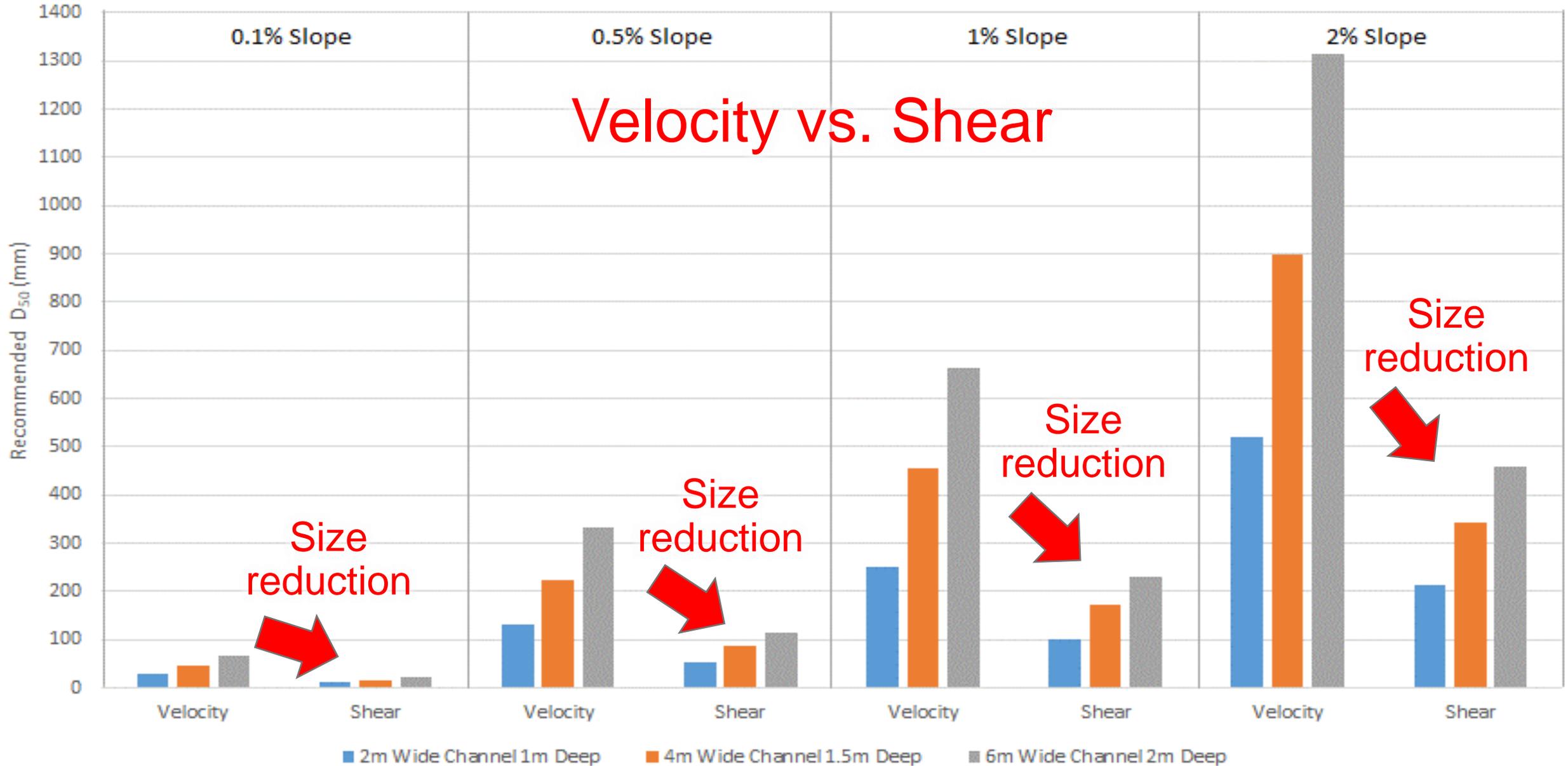
$$D_{50} = \frac{0.75 y S \tan \phi}{\sqrt{\left( \frac{\cos \theta \tan \phi}{F_s} \right)^2 - \sin^2 \theta}}$$

Riprap size increases with depth (for constant energy slope)

Median rip-rap size

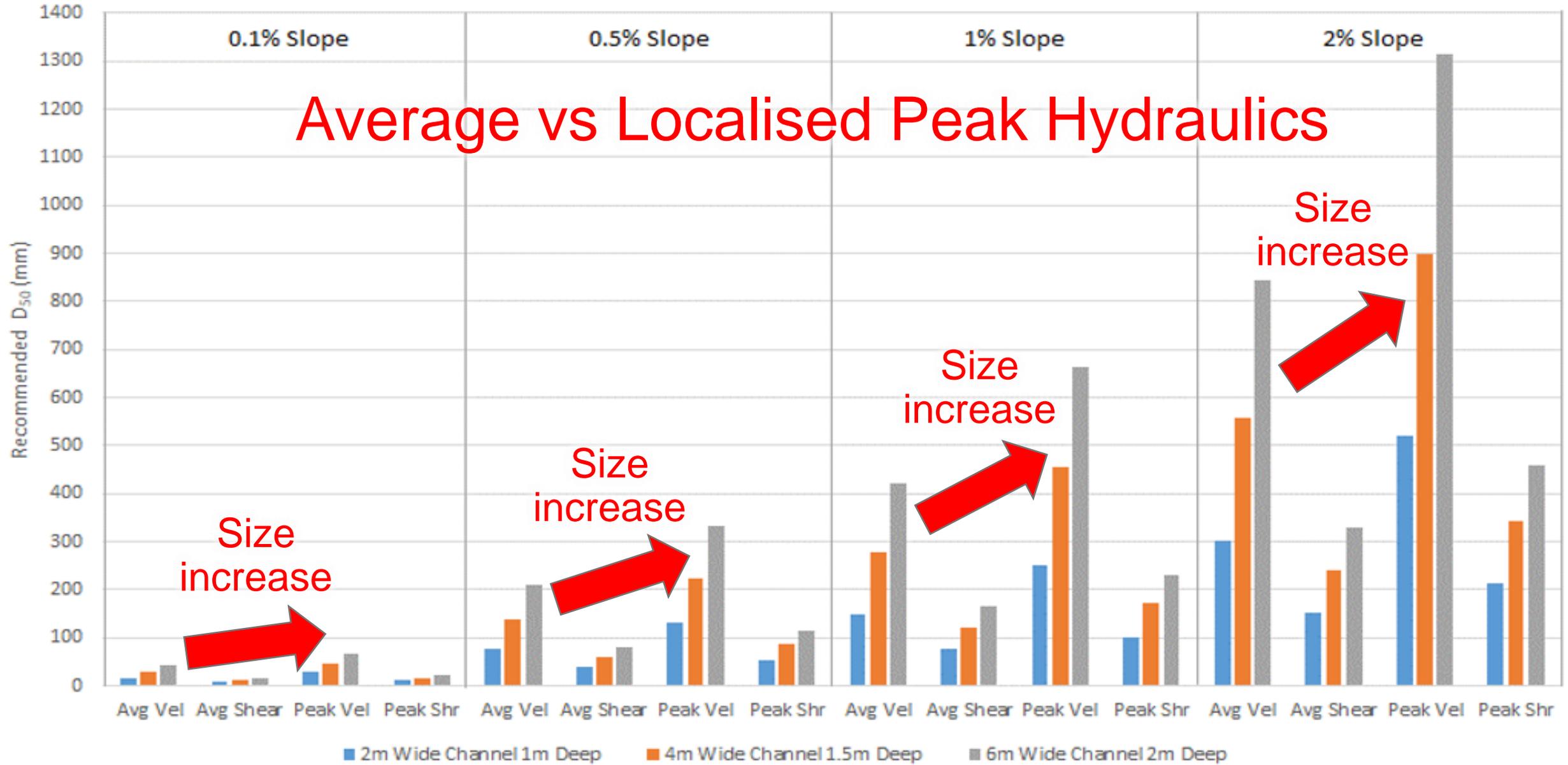


Comparison of rock sizes based on Austroads velocity criteria vs shear stress at 1mm/Pa + 25%



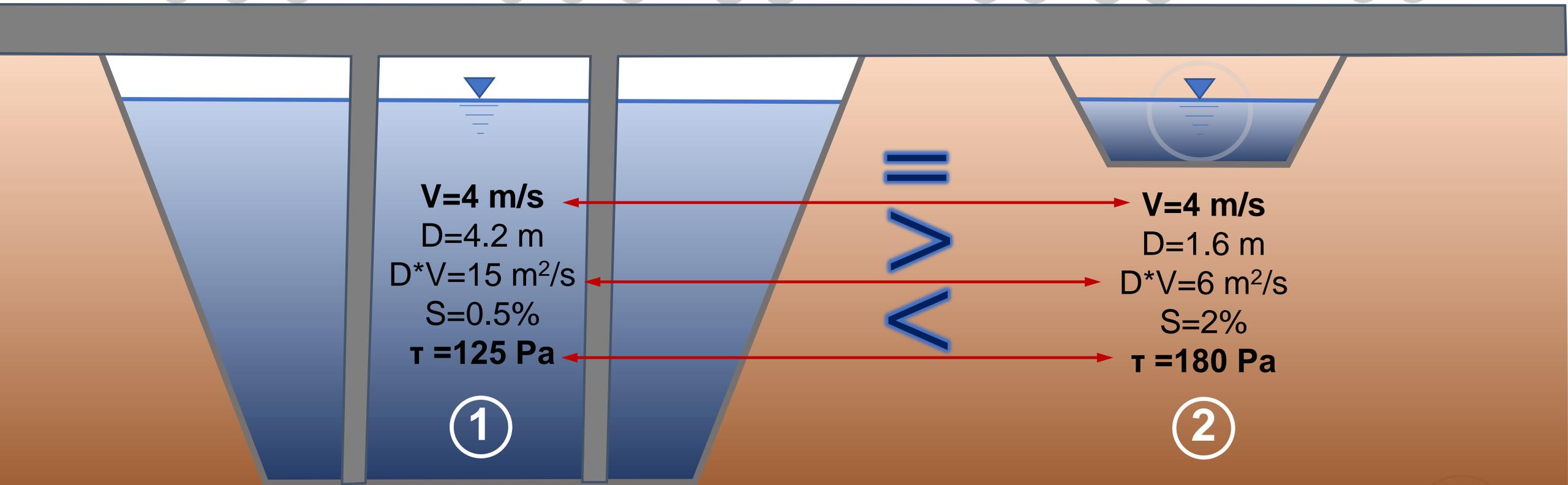
• From Price and Westwater, IMWA 2020

Comparison of rock sizes based on average vs maximum velocity and shear stress

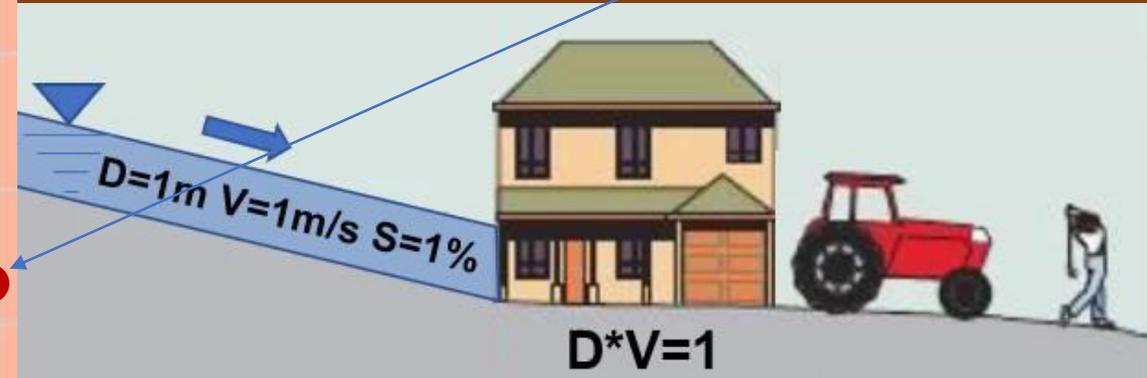
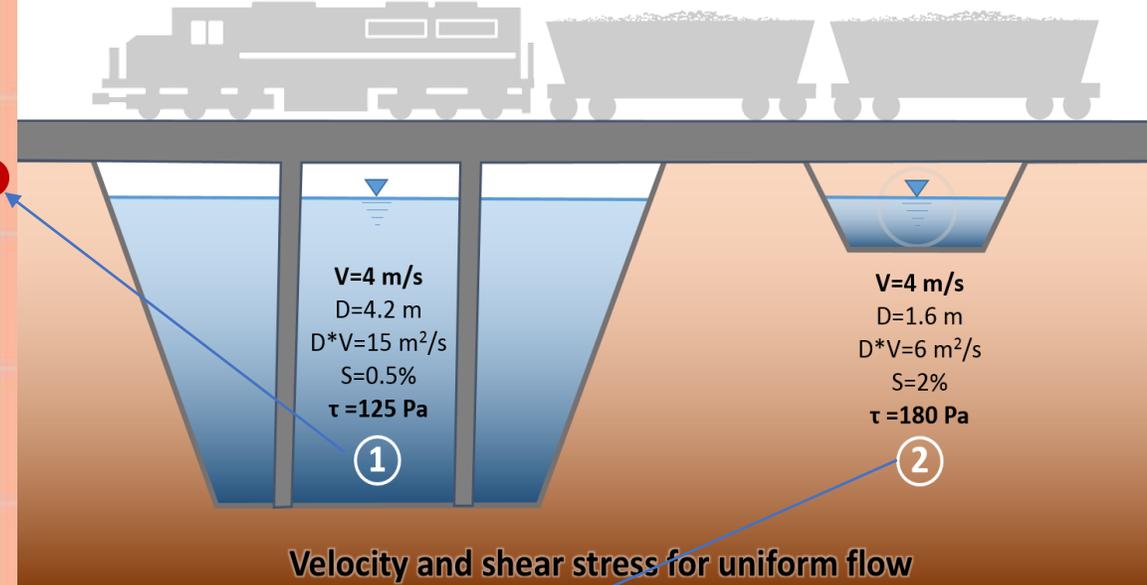
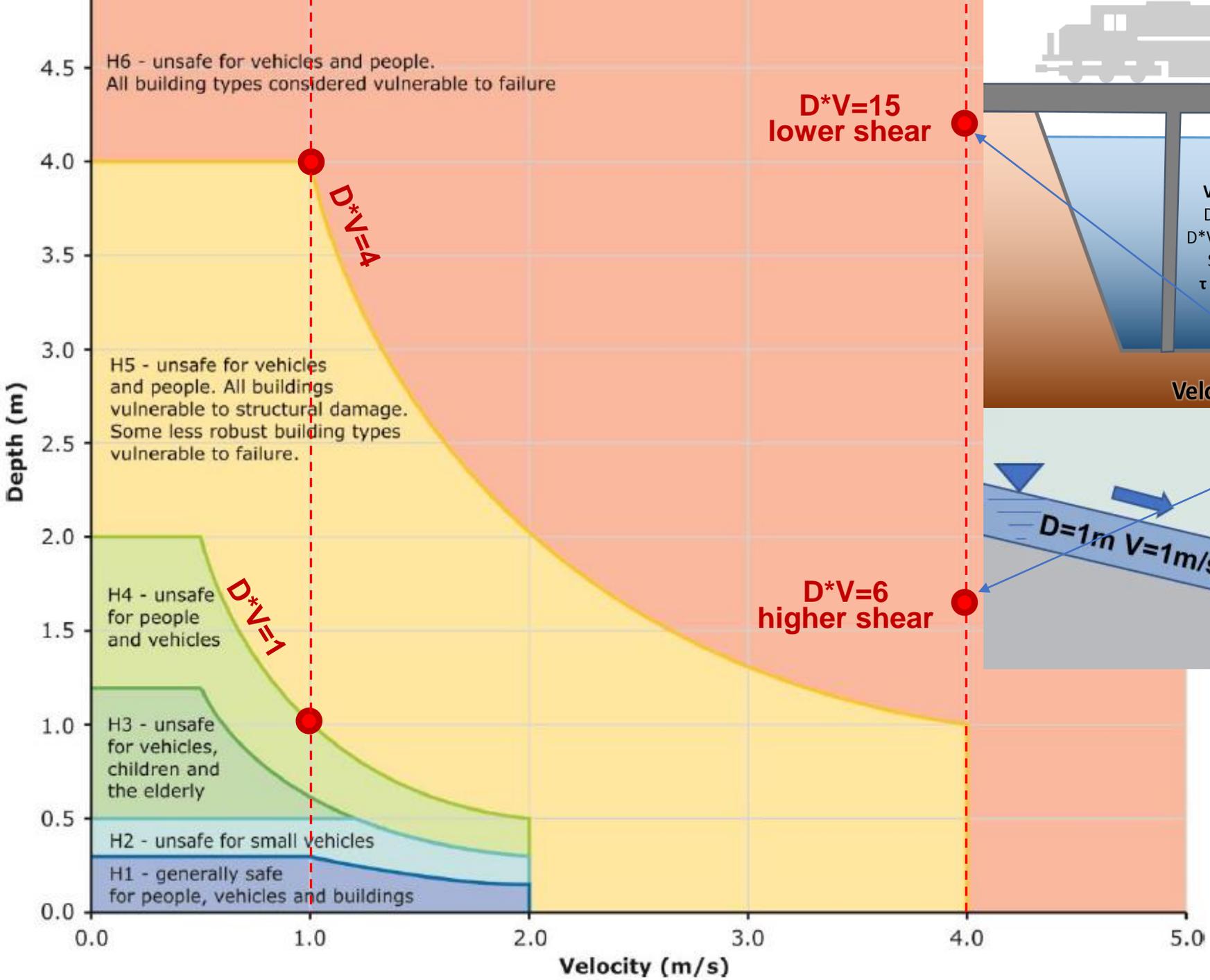


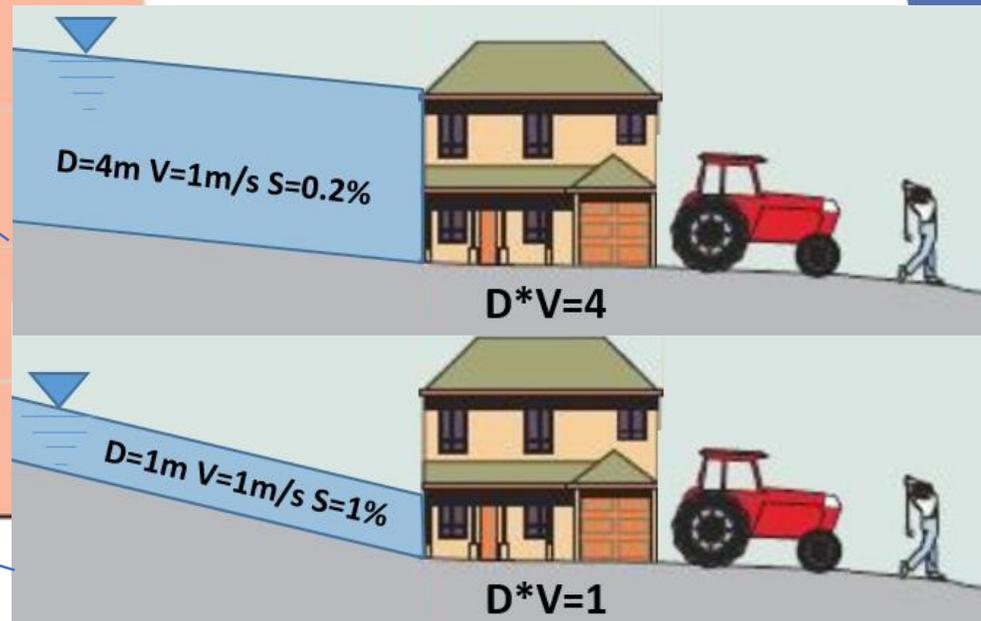
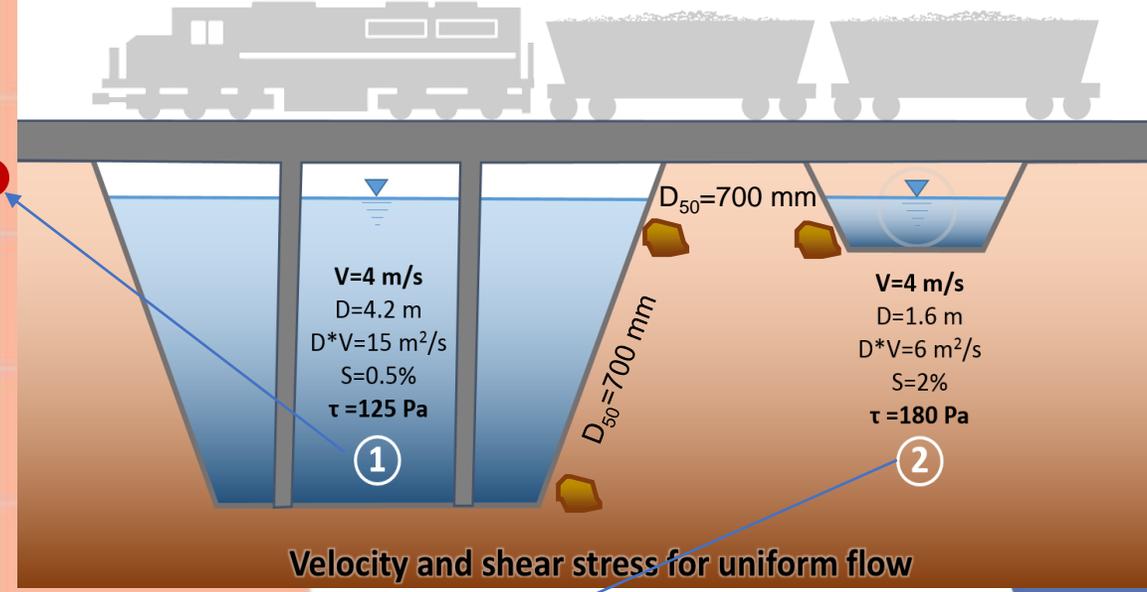
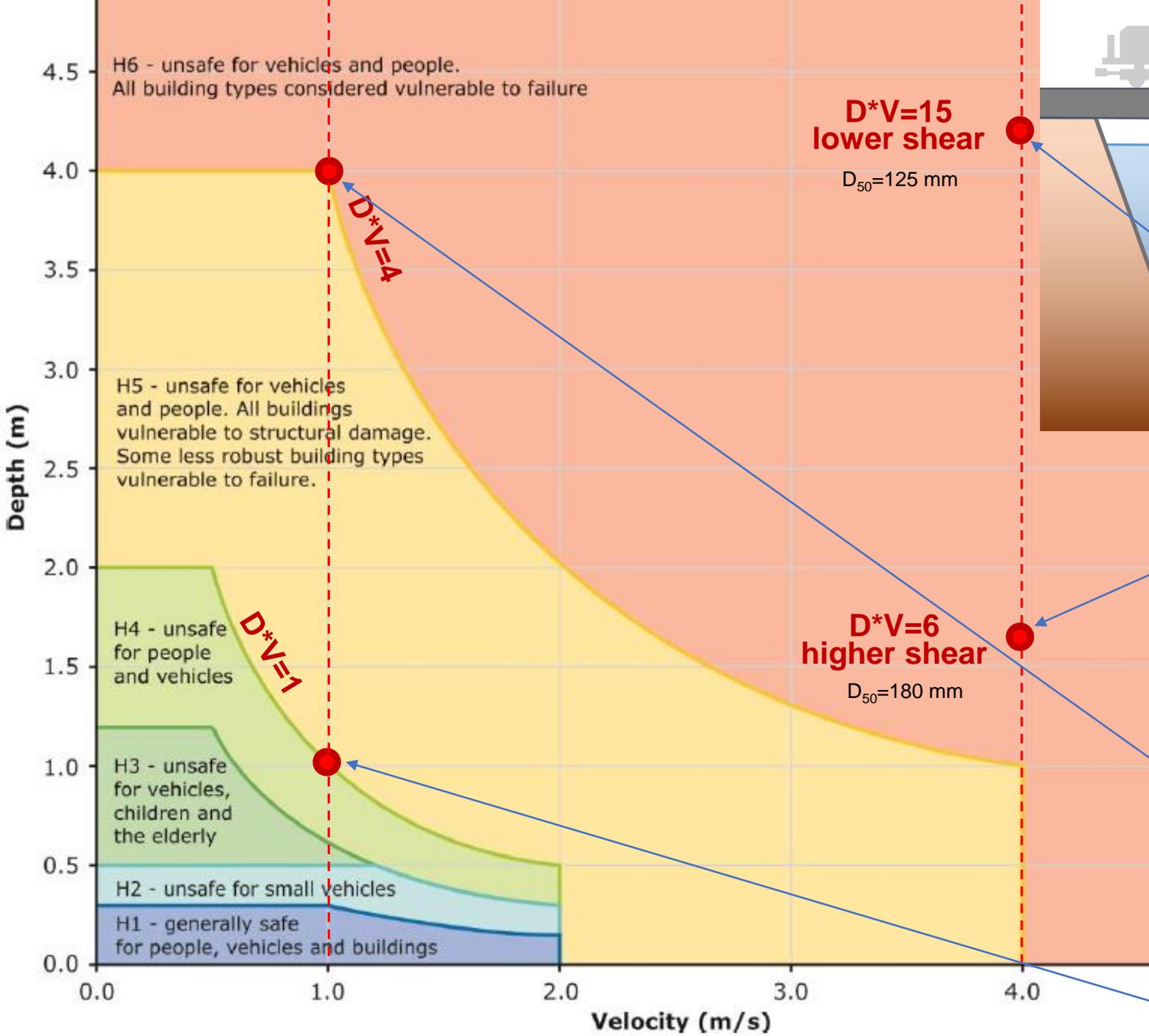
• From Price and Westwater, IMWA 2020

# Velocity vs. Shear: Depth sensitivity



Velocity and shear stress for uniform flow





# USACE 1994: Experimental Flume



Limitations:

$$s < 2\%$$

$$F < 0.8$$

$$4 < d : D_{30} < 30$$



# USACE 1994: $D_{30}$ varies with depth

$$D_{30} = S_f C_s C_v C_t d \left( \left( \frac{\gamma_w}{\gamma_s - \gamma_w} \right)^{0.5} \frac{V}{\sqrt{K_1 g d}} \right)^{2.5}$$

Riprap size is inversely proportional to depth:

$$D \propto d^{-0.25} V^{2.5}$$

Velocity exponent differs from Austroads,  
supersedes source material



# USACE 1994: $D_{30}$ varies with depth

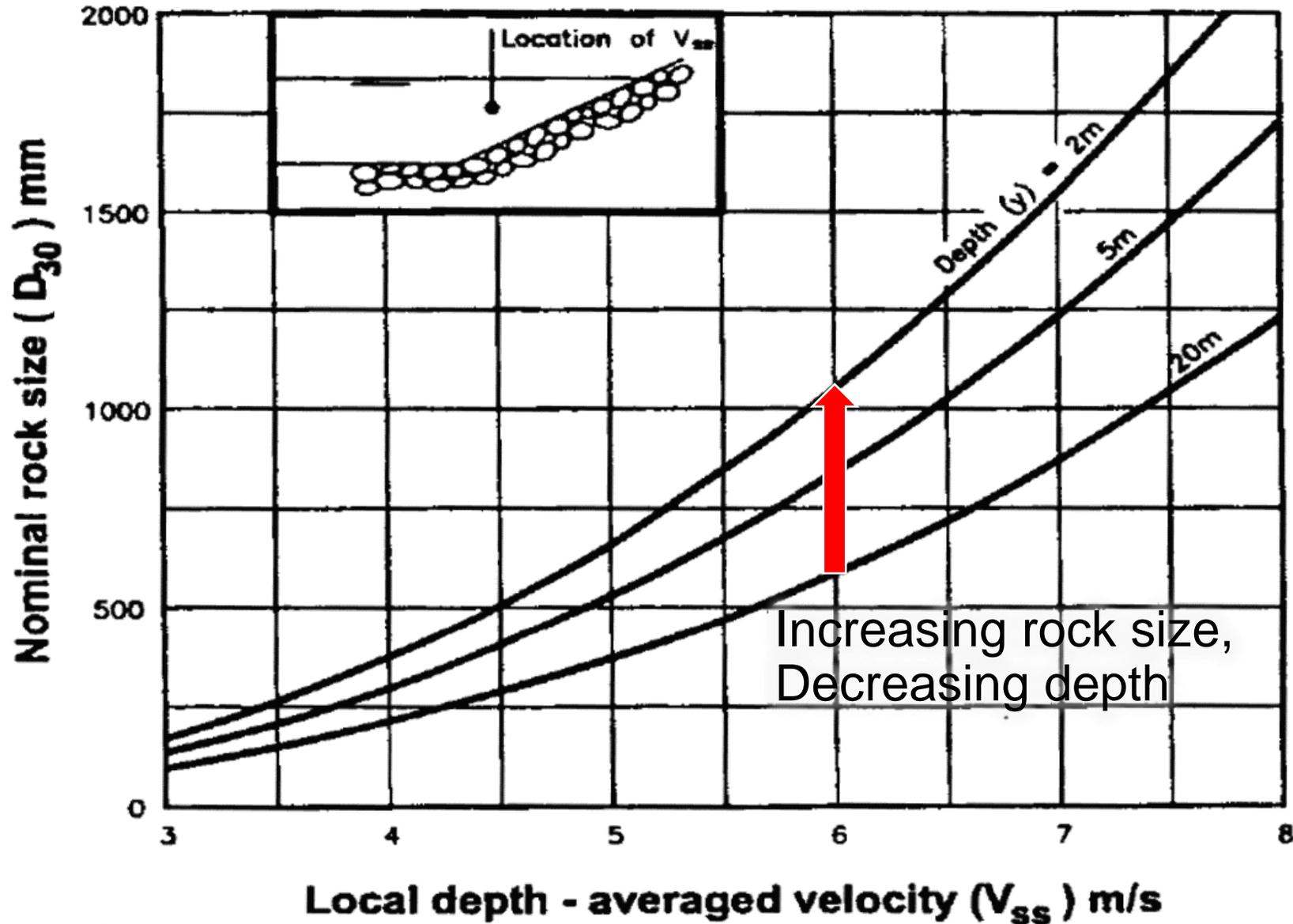
$$D_{30} = S_f C_s C_v C_t d \left( \left( \frac{\gamma_w}{\gamma_s - \gamma_w} \right)^{0.5} \frac{V}{\sqrt{K_1 g d}} \right)^{2.5}$$

Coefficients are outside the exponents:

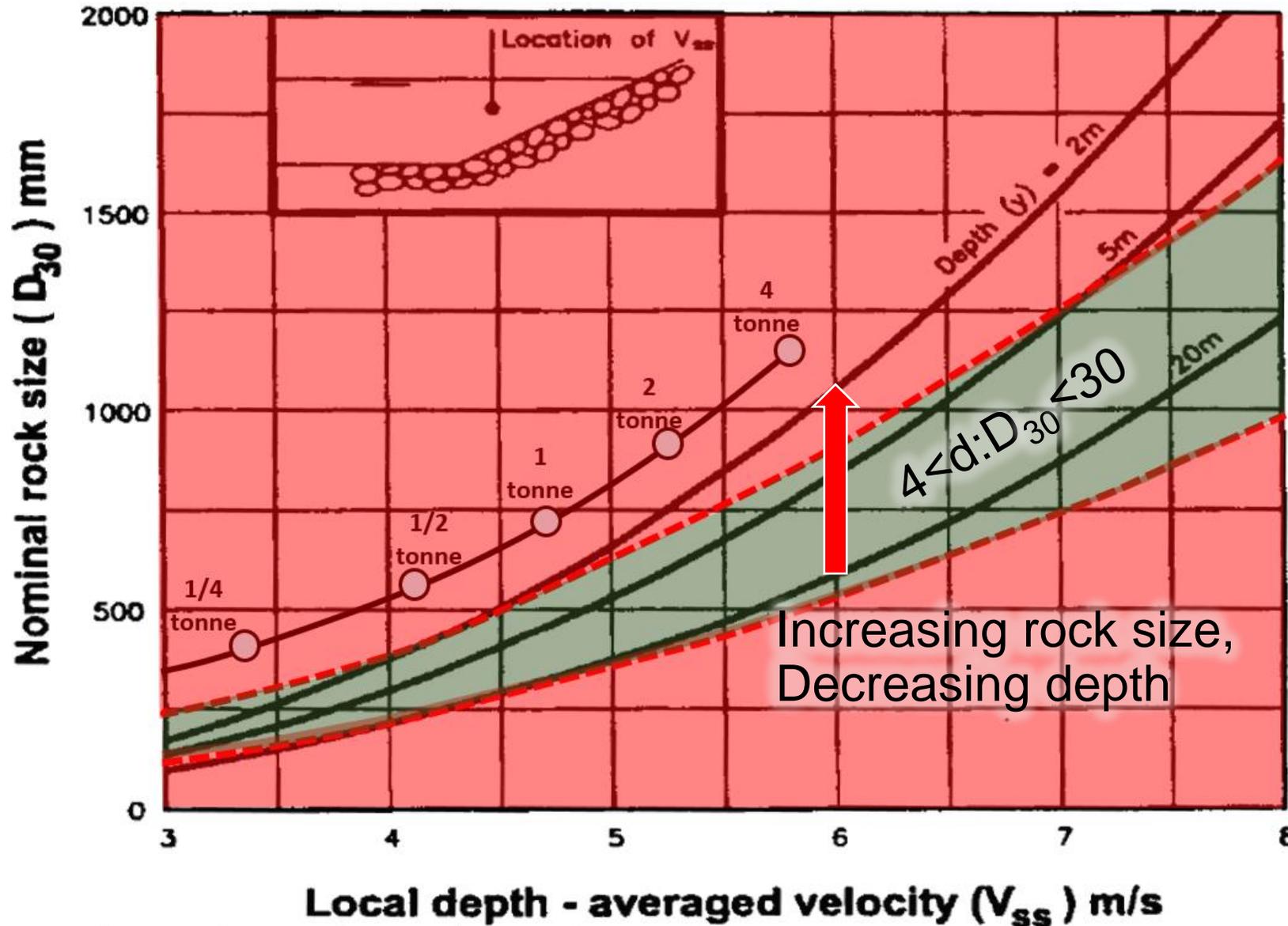
$$D = a(V^b) \neq D = (aV)^b$$



# USACE 1994: $D_{30}$ varies with depth



# USACE 1994: Applicable range



Limitations:

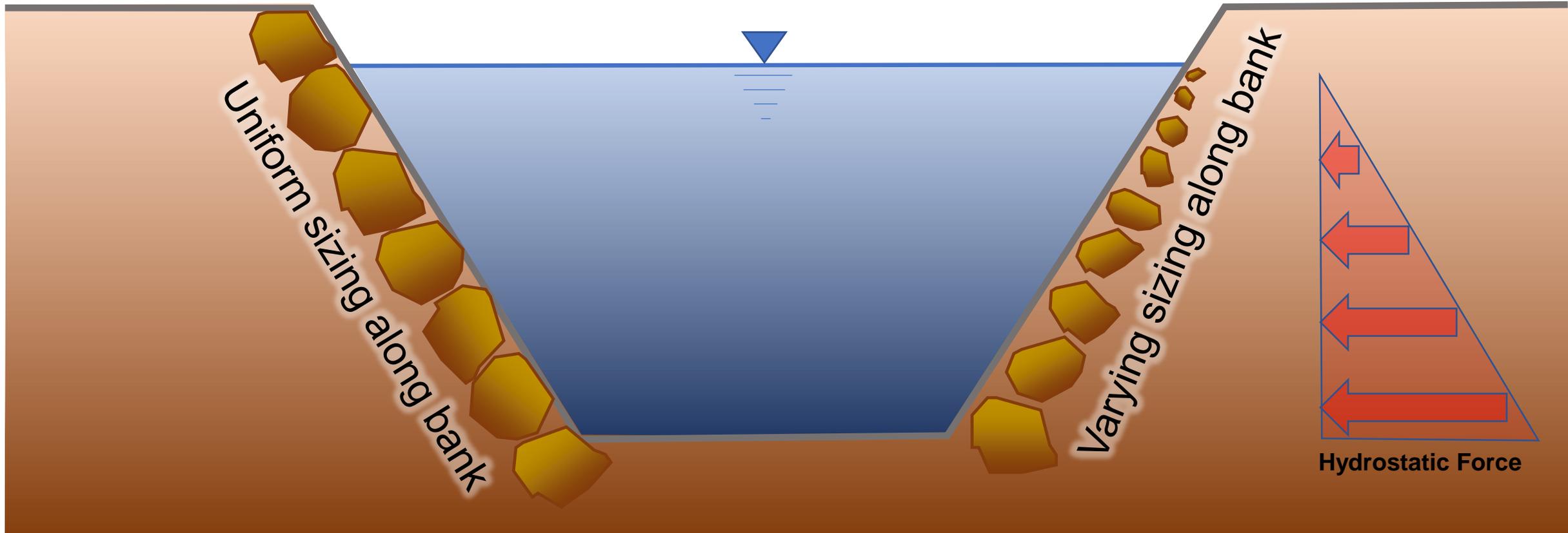
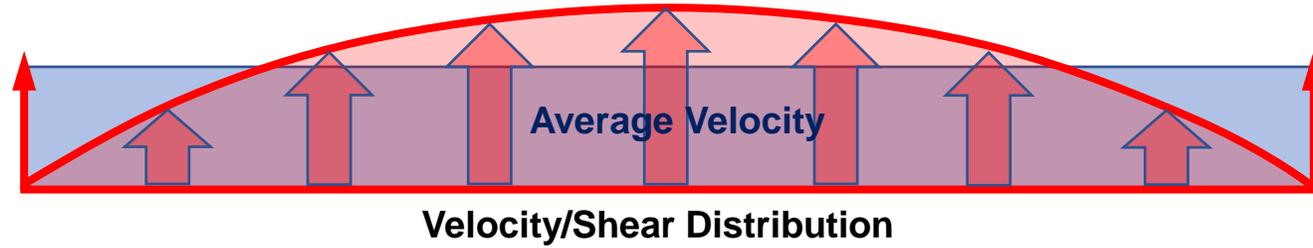
$s < 2\%$

$F < 0.8$

$4 < d : D_{30} < 30$

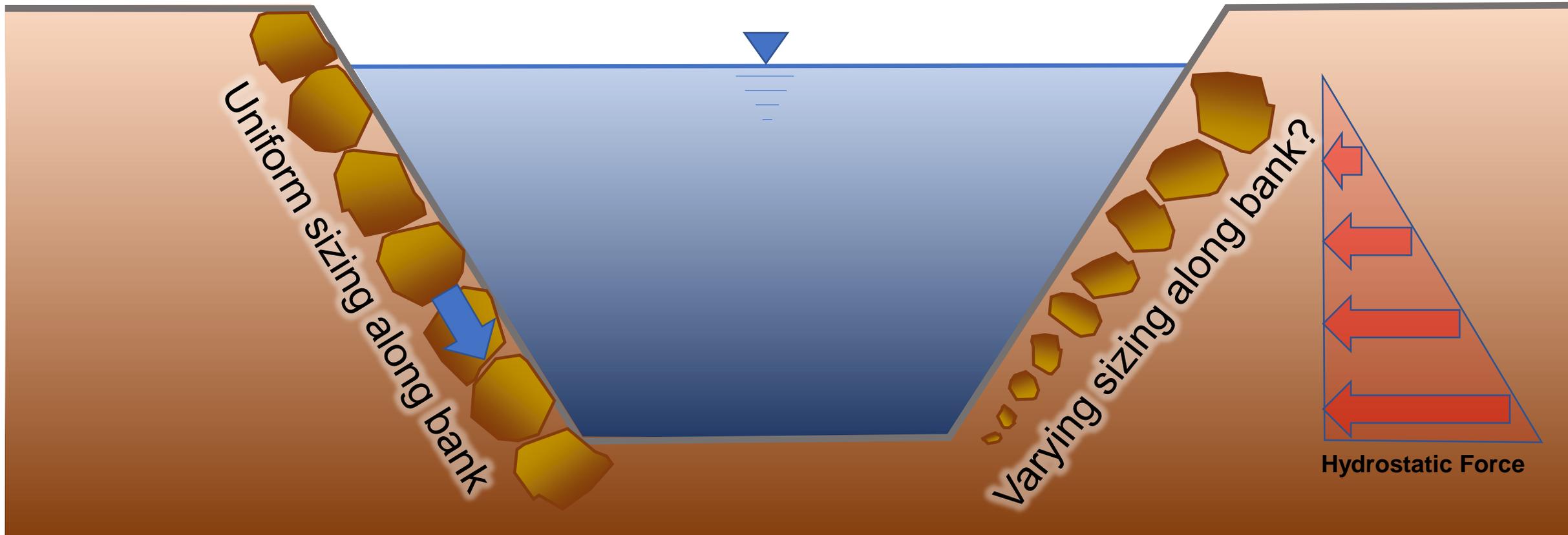
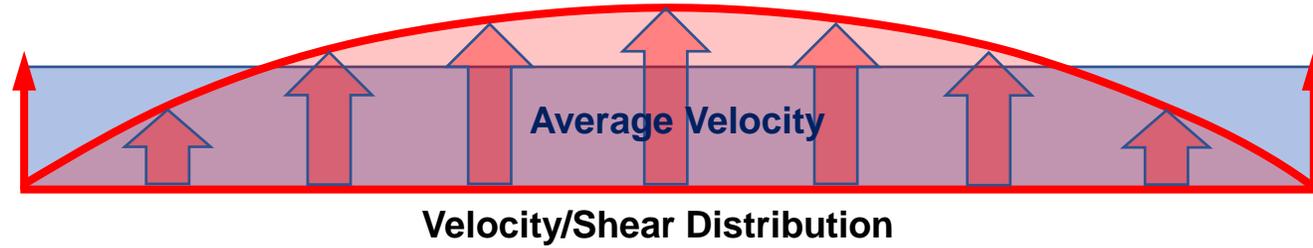


# Variation of size with depth



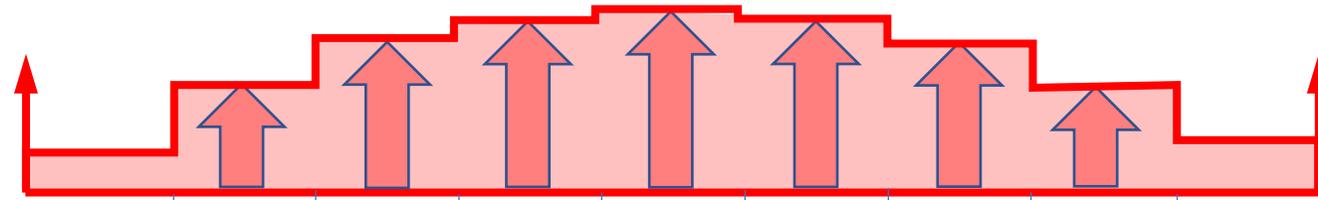
**Distribution of tractive forces: shear increasing with depth**

# Variation of size with depth

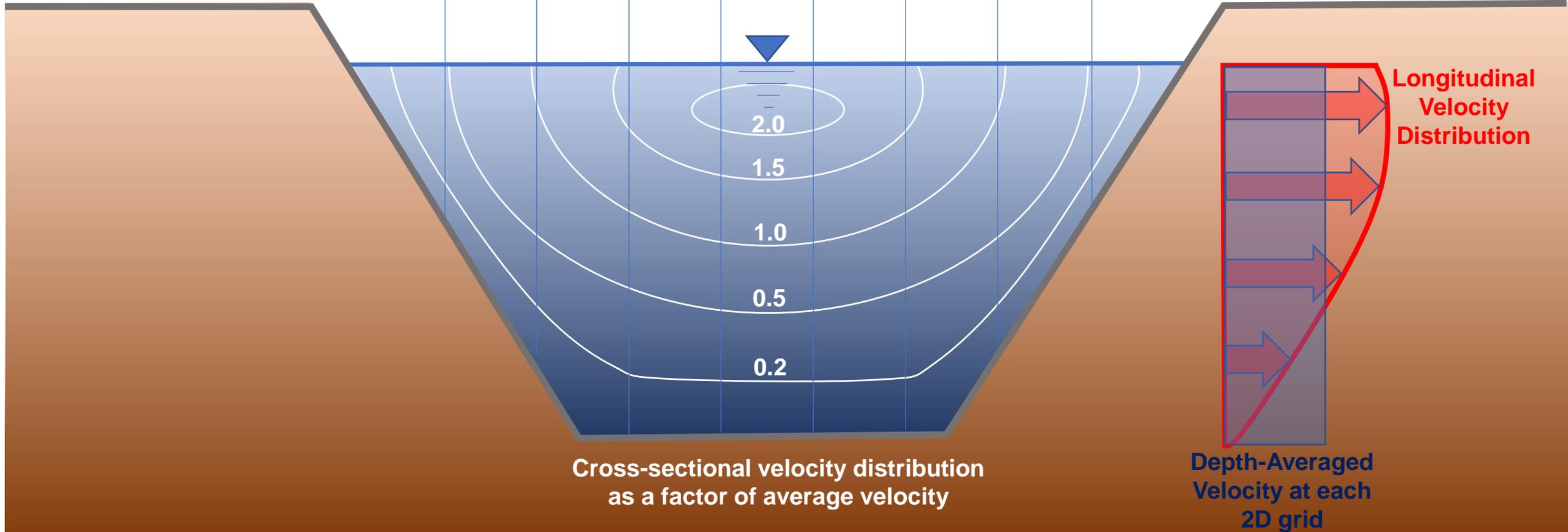


**Distribution of forces: varying inversely with depth?**

# Horizontal and vertical variation



Horizontally varied, depth-averaged velocity at each 2D grid



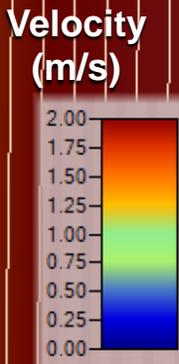
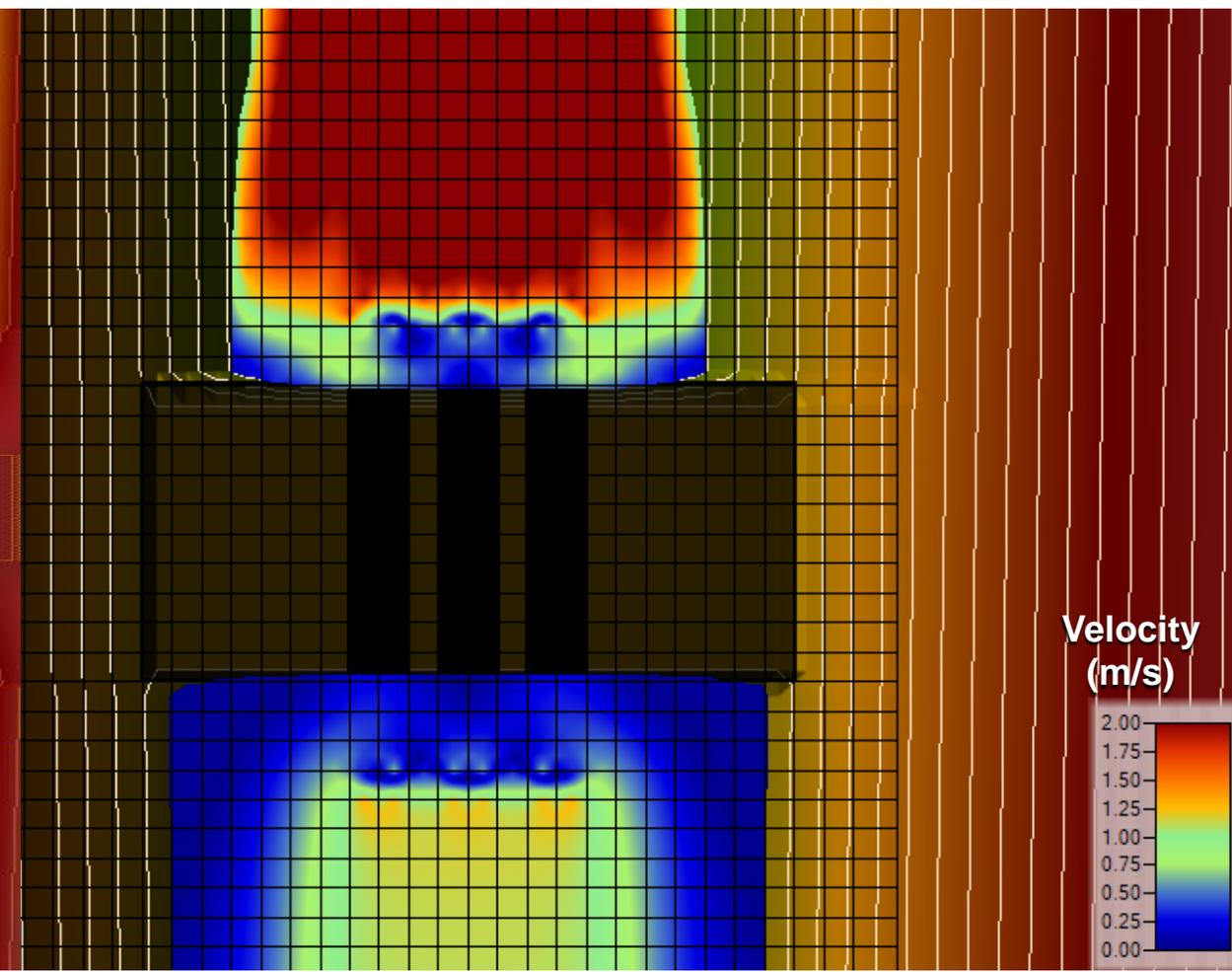
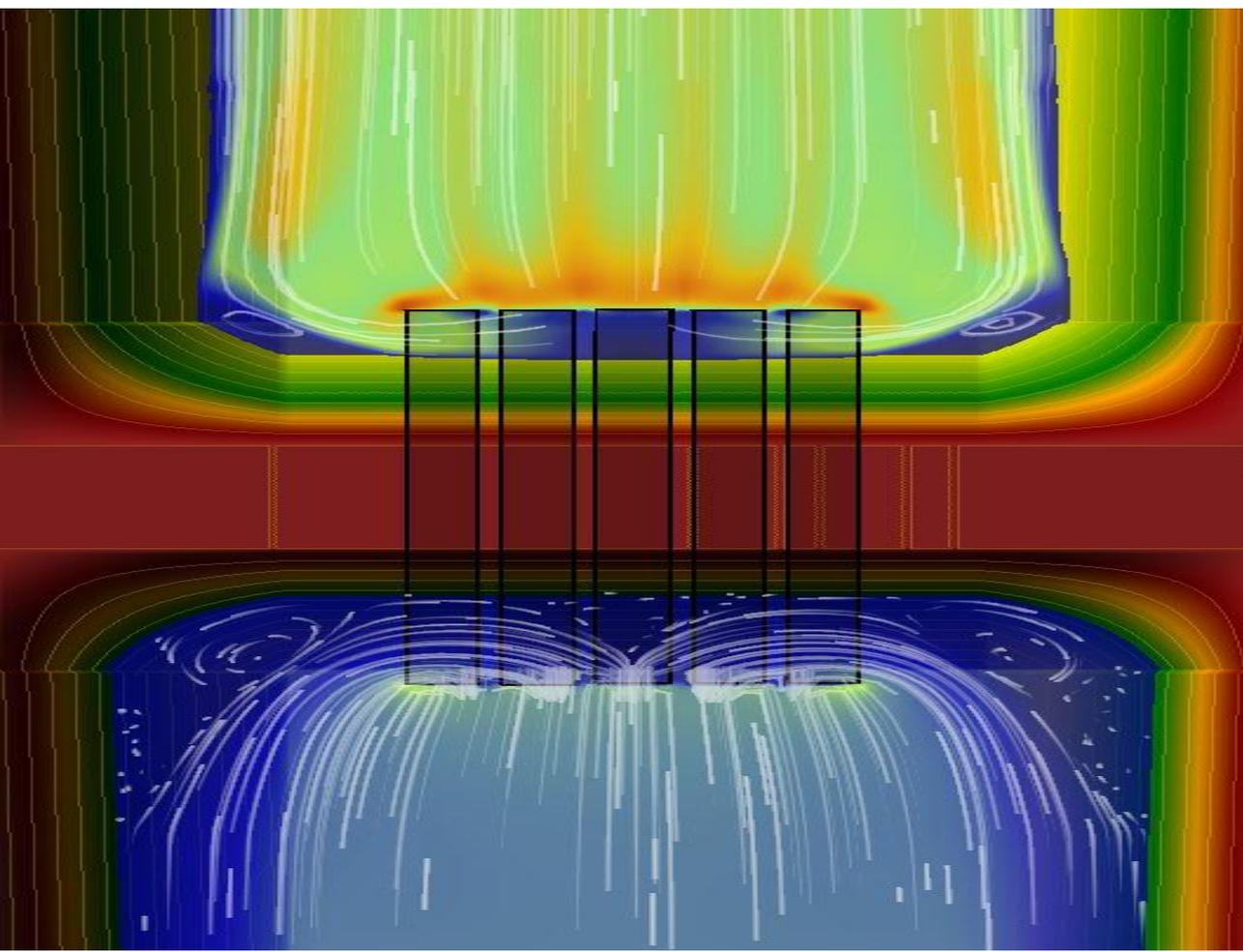
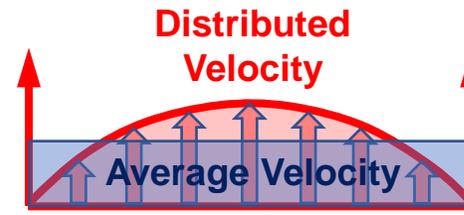
Cross-sectional velocity distribution as a factor of average velocity

Depth-Averaged Velocity at each 2D grid

Longitudinal Velocity Distribution

## Typical distribution of velocities

# Horizontal variation



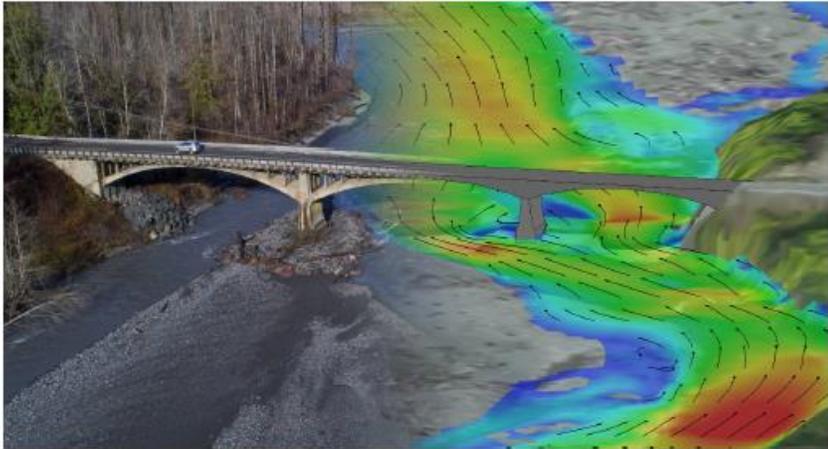
**Horizontal distribution of depth-averaged velocities**

# Advancements: 2D Modelling Guidance

- $D_{50} = 4\text{m}$ ,  $W_{50} = 40\text{ tonne}$
- $D_{90} = 6\text{m}$ ,  $W_{50} = 150\text{ tonne}$

Publication No. FHWA-HIF-19-061  
October 2019

## Two-Dimensional Hydraulic Modeling for Highways in the River Environment Reference Document



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway Administration**

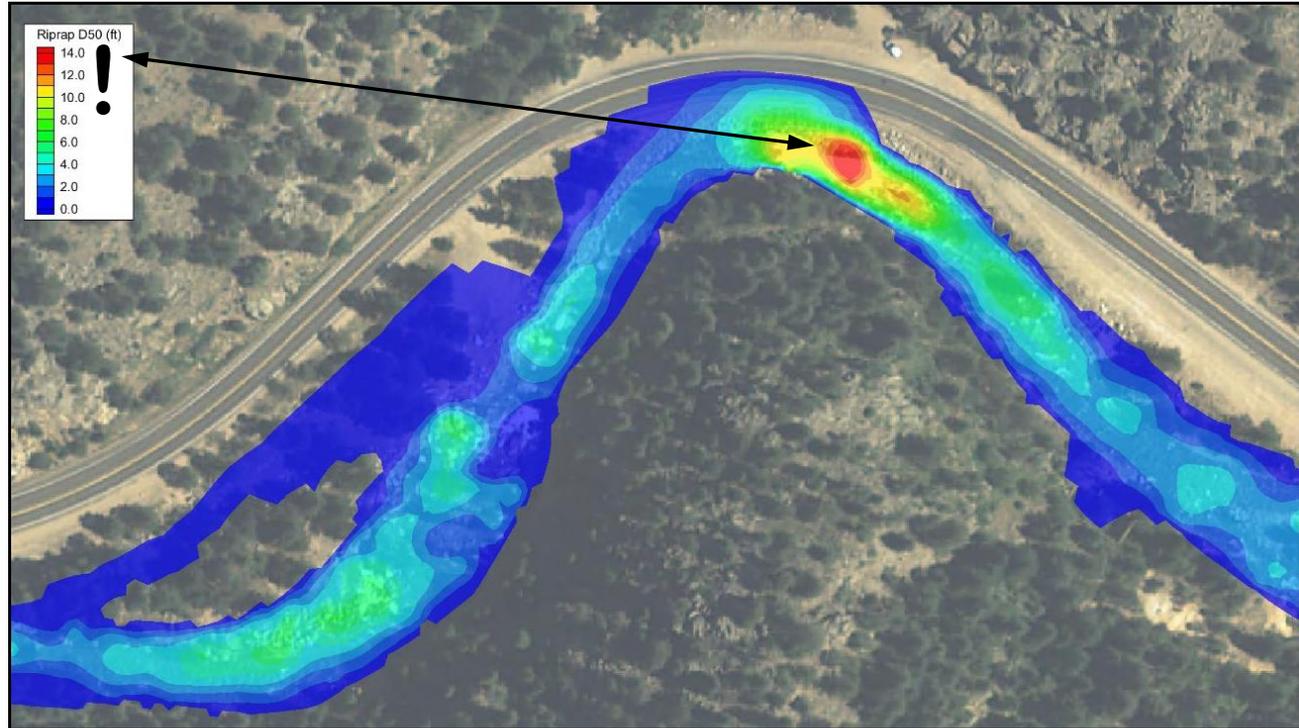
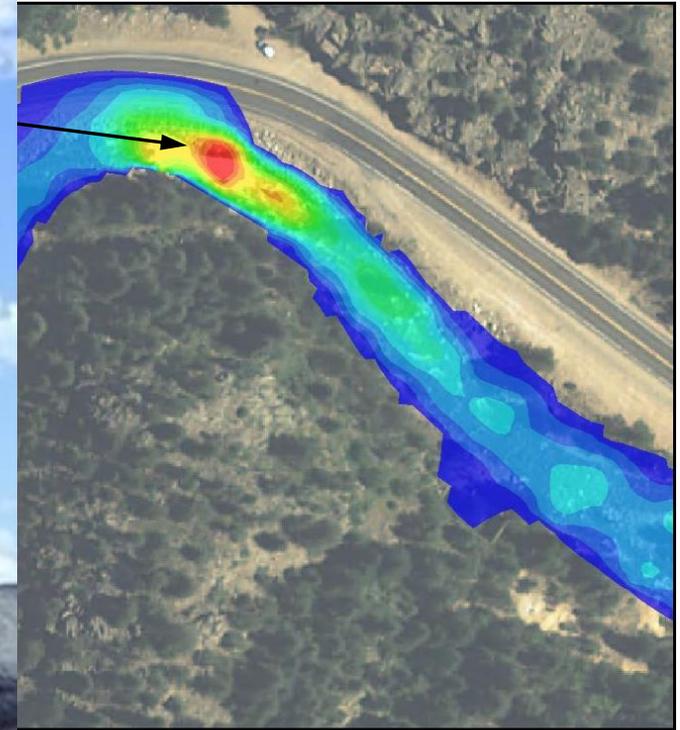


Figure 8.5. Riprap sizing contours based on 2D model depth and velocity results.



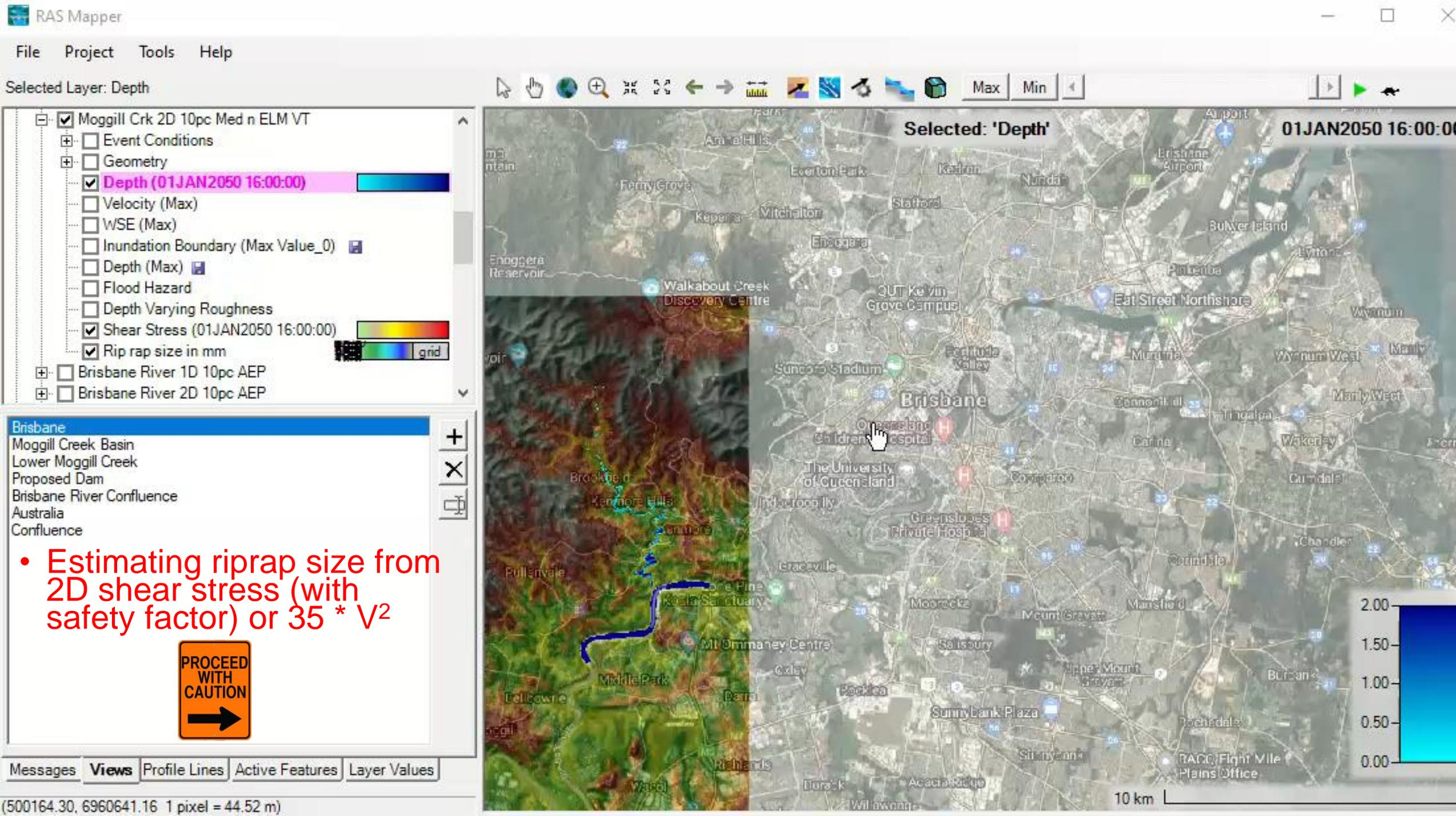
# Advancements: 2D Modelling Guidance

- $D_{50} = 4\text{m}$ ,  $W_{50} = 40\text{ tonne}$
- $D_{90} = 6\text{m}$ ,  $W_{50} = 150\text{ tonne}$



Based on 2D model depth and velocity results.





# Recommendations

- Check using at least 3 methods:

## 13.2 Sizing Riprap

The basis of designing a riprap revetment is sizing the rock. Methods presented here are applicable to all bank hardening methods presented in succeeding chapters. There are many methods available and this presentation is not all-inclusive, however a sensitivity analysis has been provided on the presented methods to aid in selecting an appropriate riprap sizing equation for the site. The recommended approach is to use a minimum of three methods to define the range in values. Selection of the riprap size could be based on an average value from the range, or it may be a high or low value depending on site specific characteristics such as the geomorphic factors. There are spreadsheets and software available for computing riprap size, but the designer should be familiar with the individual riprap sizing methods to ensure they are applied correctly.

## RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

### Bank Stabilization Design Guidelines

Report No. SRH-2015-25  
Albuquerque Area Office  
Science and Technology  
Policy and Administration (Manuals and Standards)  
Yuma Area Office



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Technical Service Center  
Denver, Colorado

June 2015



# Recommendations

- Check using at least 3 methods:

- Velocity

$$D_{50} = a * V^2$$

- Shear

$$D_{50} = S_f * \tau$$

- Velocity & Depth

$$D_{30} = S_f C_s C_v C_t d \left( \frac{\gamma_w}{\gamma_s - \gamma_w} \right)^{0.5} \frac{V}{\sqrt{K_1 g d}} \Big)^{2.5}$$

- Clarifications needed:

- Application:

Channels vs. Structures

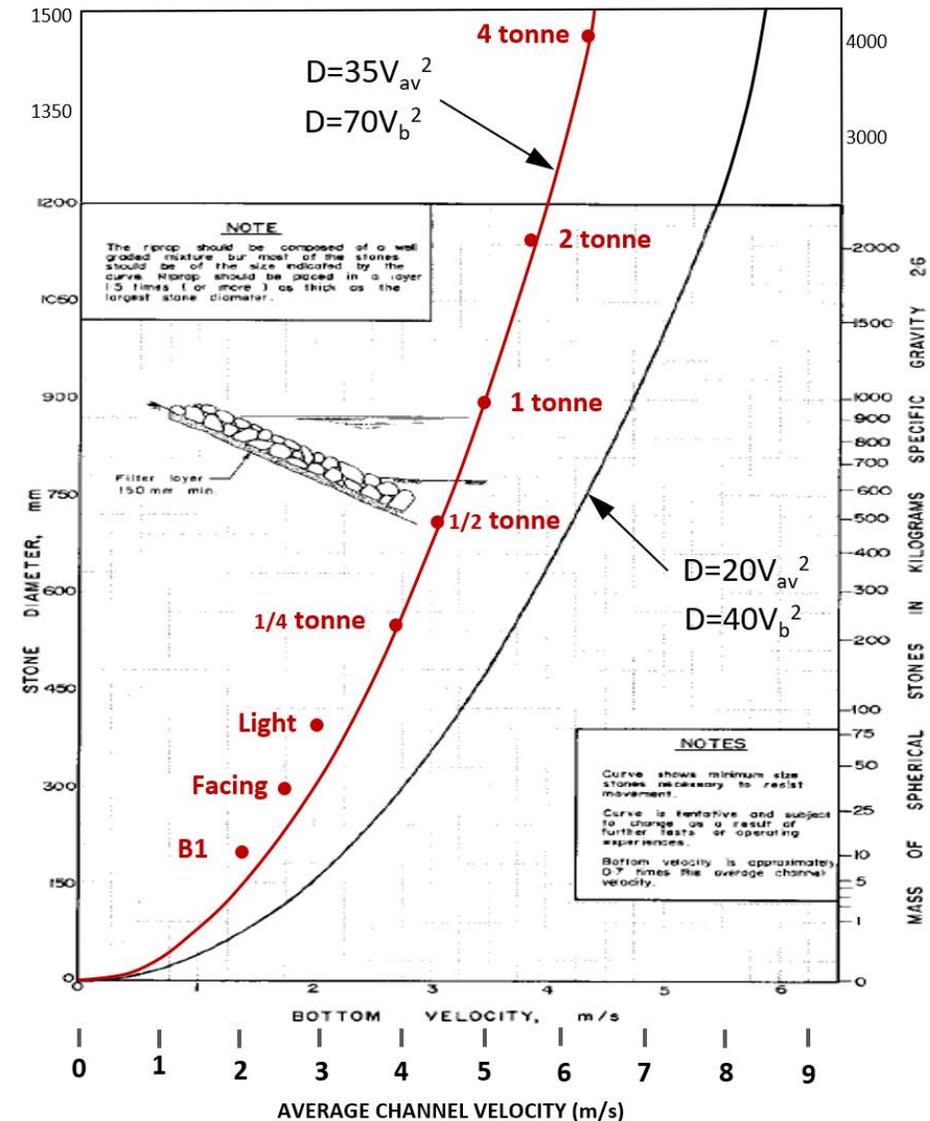
- Gradation:

$D_{10}$ ,  $D_{50}$ ,  $D_{90}$  by total weight

- Velocity Adjustments:

1D vs 2D vs 3D

- How to apply the USACE method



# Recommendations

- Check using at least 3 methods:

- Velocity

$$D_{50} = a * V^2$$

- Shear

$$D_{50} = S_f * \tau$$

- Velocity & Depth

$$D_{30} = S_f C_s C_v C_t d \left( \frac{\gamma_w}{\gamma_s - \gamma_w} \right)^{0.5} \frac{V}{\sqrt{K_1 g d}}^{2.5}$$

- Clarifications needed:

- Application:

Channels vs. Structures

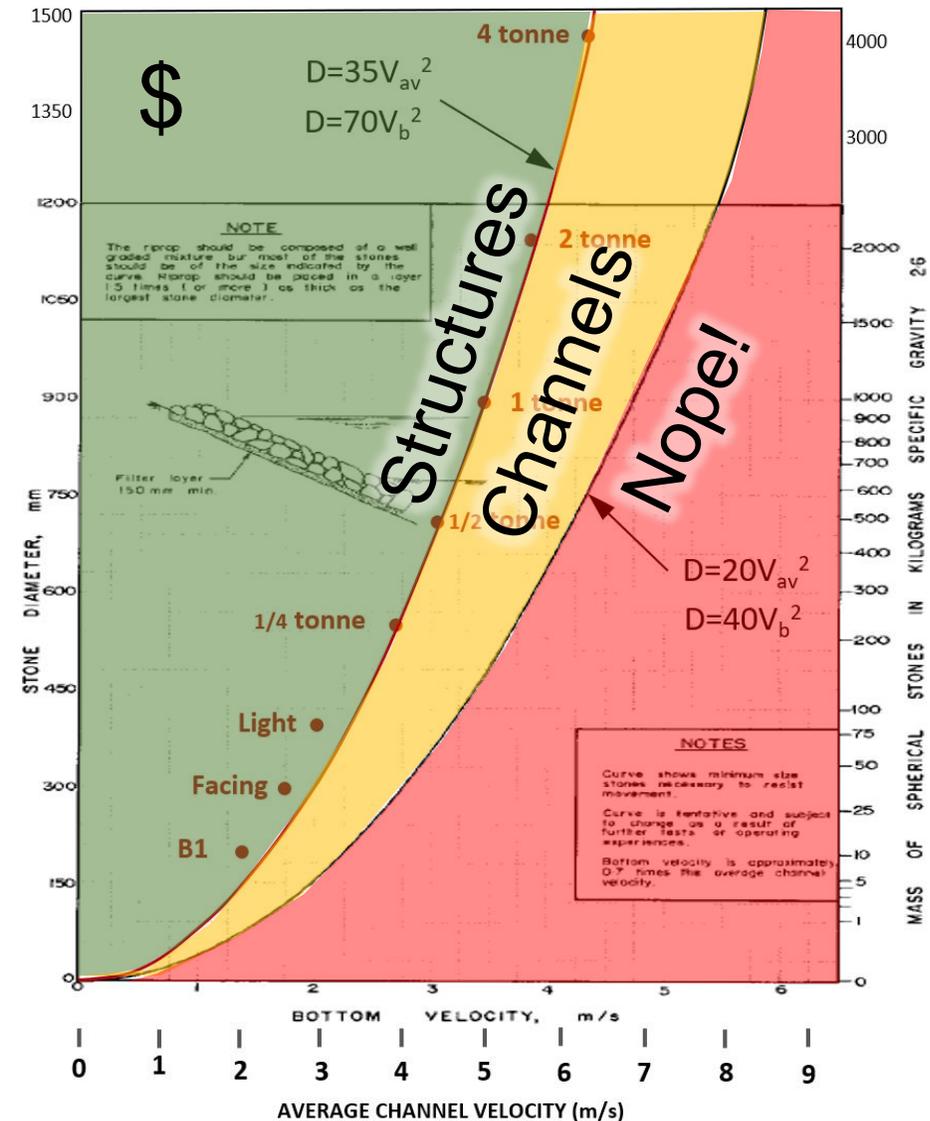
- Gradation:

$D_{10}$ ,  $D_{50}$ ,  $D_{90}$  by total weight

- Velocity Adjustments:

1D vs 2D vs 3D

- How to apply the USACE method



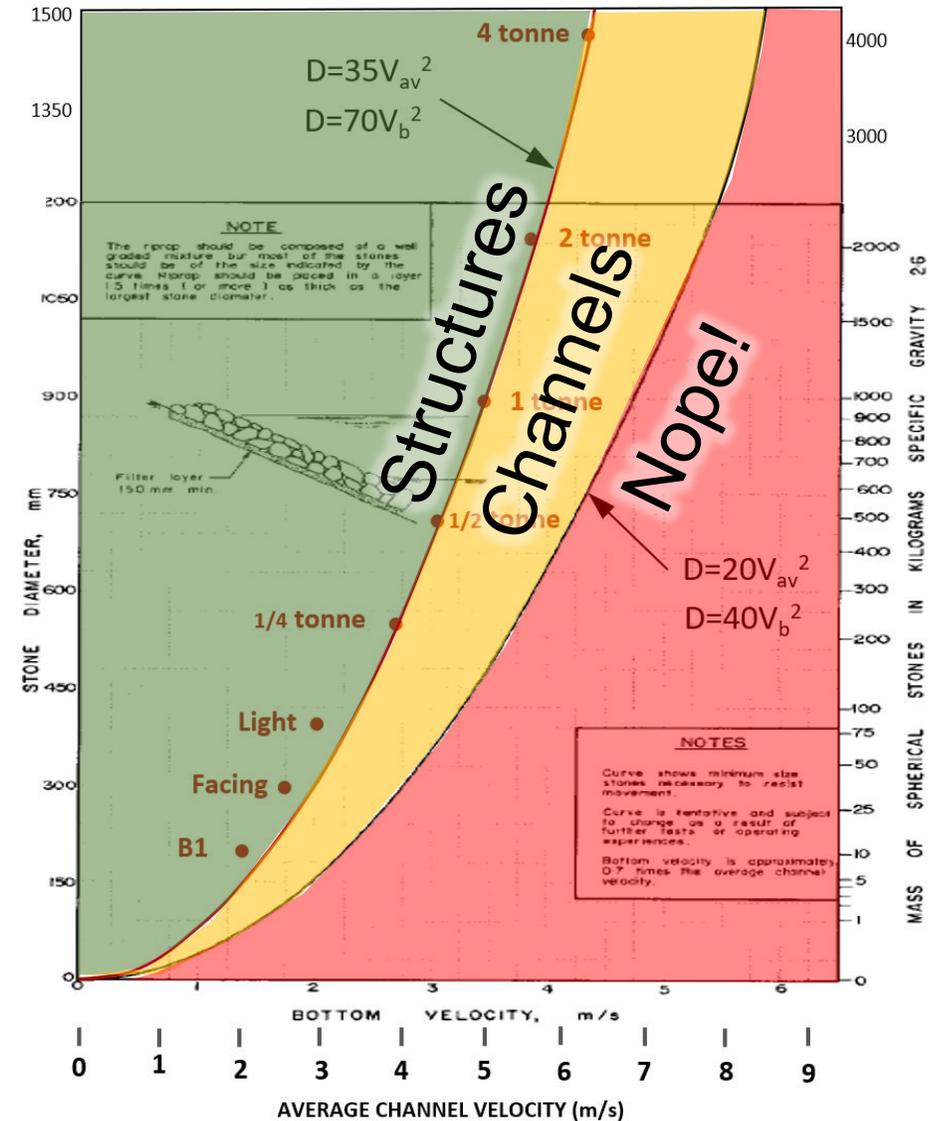
# Recommendations

## QDTMR 2019

'hard' solutions (such as riprap lining) or creek realignment (Option 3) is not favoured as changes to the creek at one location will often transfer problems to other nearby locations.

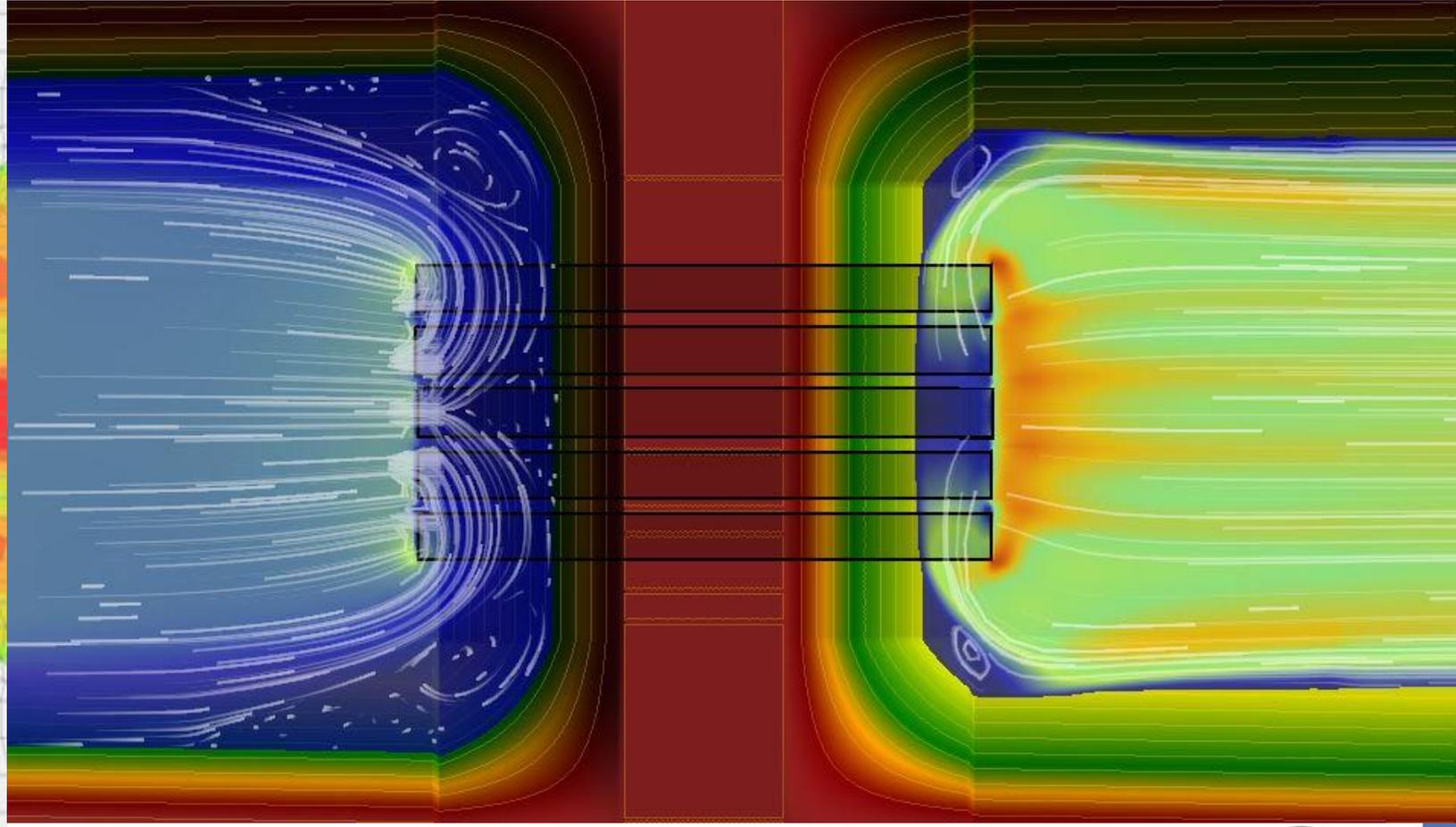
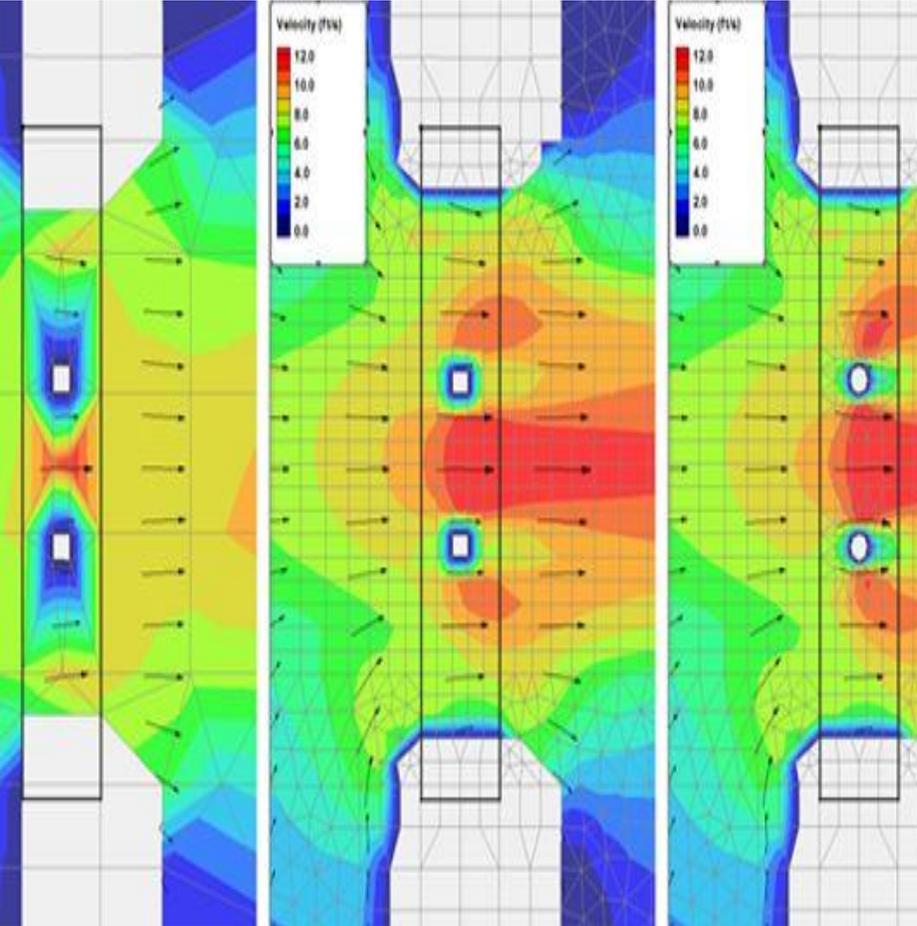
## Austrroads 2019

Riprap is, and will remain, one of the primary scour countermeasures to resist local scour forces at abutments of typical bridges. Riprap is generally abundant, inexpensive and requires no special equipment, but proper design and placement is still essential. An adequate hydraulic opening must be maintained when



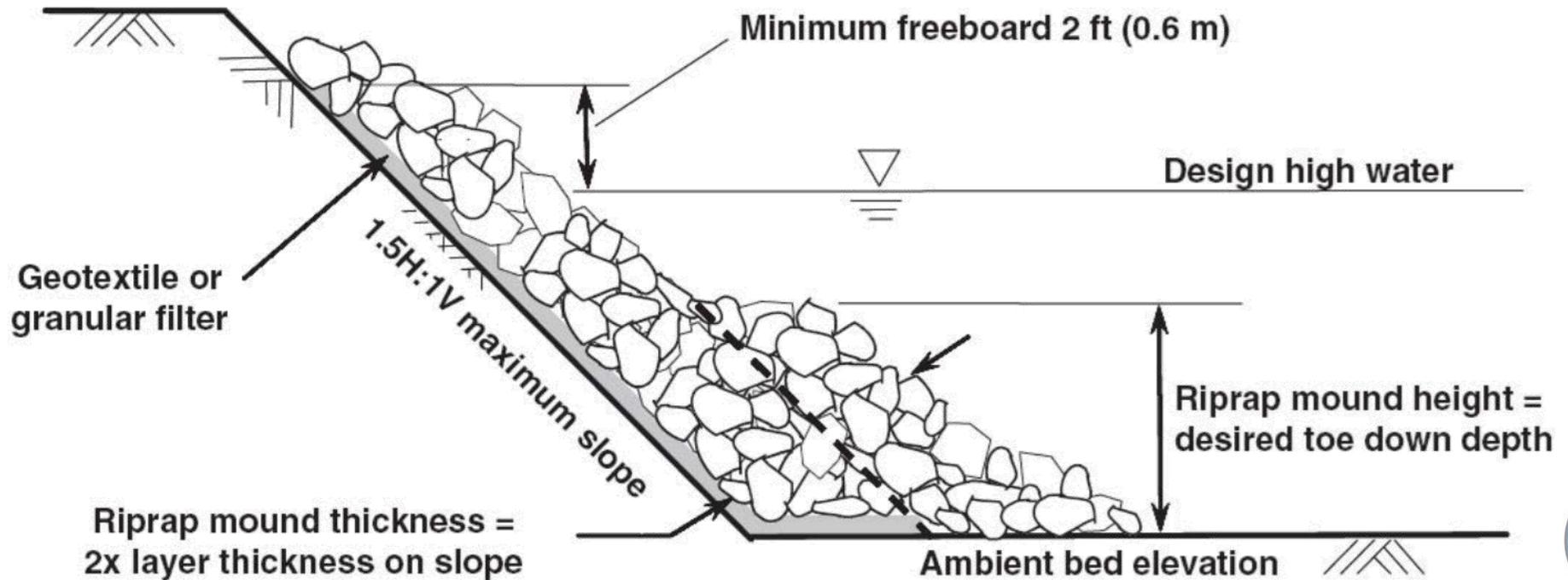
# Conclusions:

- Proper selection of 1D, 2D, or 3D modelling



# Conclusions:

- Appropriate sizing approach ✓
- Design parameters ✓
- Construction methods ✓



# Conclusions:

- Remediation ?



Brisbane River, 2011

Tou-Chien River, 2014

# Pop Quiz



- Doubling the velocity increases the required rock weight by a factor of:
  - 2
  - 4
  - 8
  - 16
  - 32
  - 64



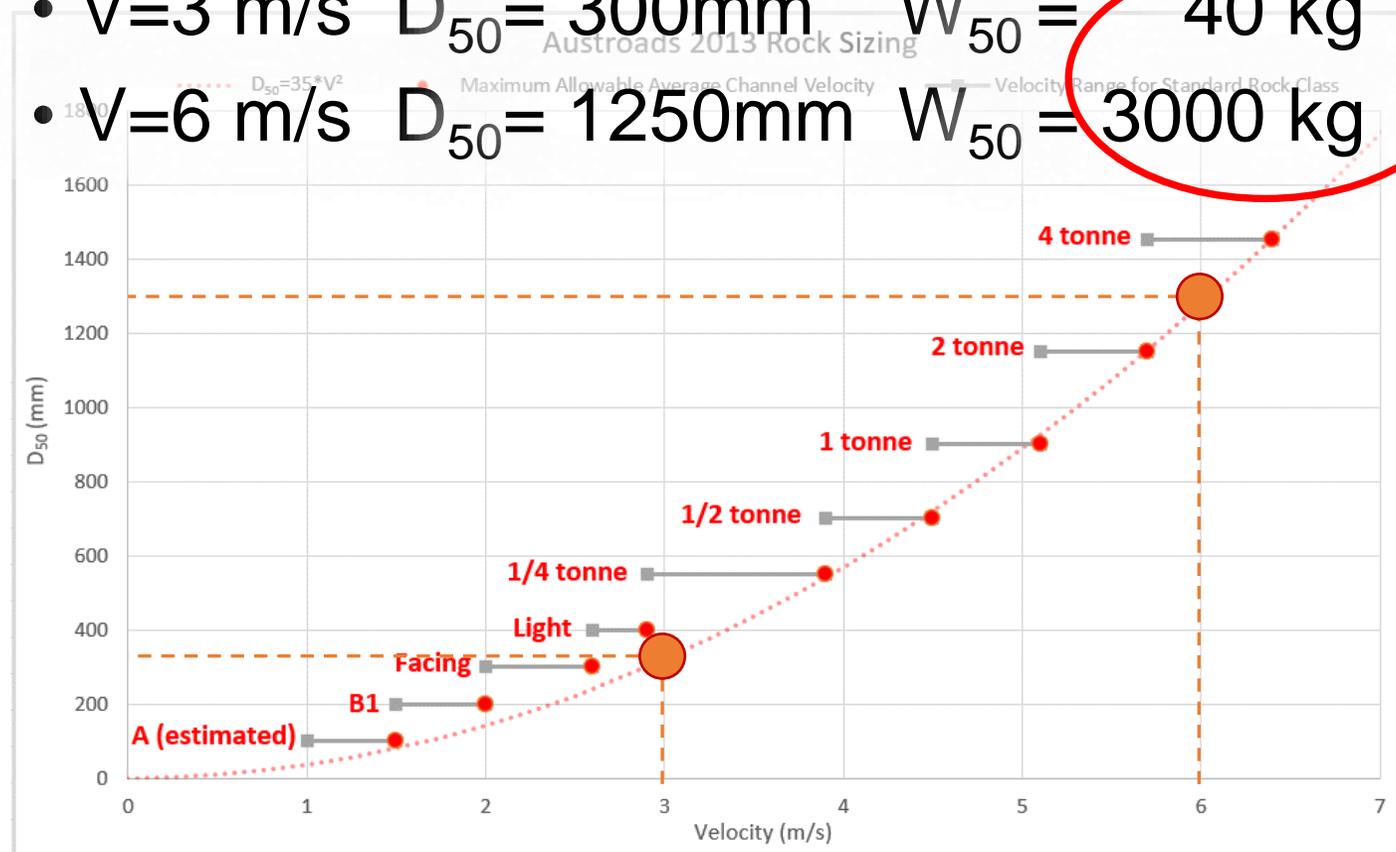
# Pop Quiz



- Doubling the velocity increases the required rock weight by a factor of:

- 2
- 4
- 8
- 16
- 32
- 64

•  $V=3 \text{ m/s}$   $D_{50} = 300\text{mm}$   $W_{50} = 40 \text{ kg}$   
•  $V=6 \text{ m/s}$   $D_{50} = 1250\text{mm}$   $W_{50} = 3000 \text{ kg}$



# Additional Resources

[www.catchmentsandcreeks.com.au](http://www.catchmentsandcreeks.com.au)



Catchments & Creeks



## Fact Sheets: Rock Sizing

Preview	Title & Description	Specs	File
	<b>Background to Rock Roughness Equation</b> <i>5 pages</i>	N/A	 185.75 KB
	<b>Background to Rock Sizing Equations</b> <i>52 pages</i>	N/A	 992.40 KB

[www.surfacewater.biz/riprap/](http://www.surfacewater.biz/riprap/)

The screenshot shows the website interface for Surface Water Solutions. The navigation menu includes Home, Services, Course Locations, Registration, Articles, About Us, and Contact. The main content area features a video player with the title "#100 Rocking It! Using hydraulic modelling results for rock sizing." The video shows a large concrete bridge structure over a river with a rocky bed. The video player includes a play button, a "Watch later" option, and a "Share" option. A "Watch on YouTube" button is visible at the bottom left of the video player.

# Additional Resources

FHWA Hydraulic Toolbox: [www.fhwa.dot.gov/engineering/hydraulics/software/toolbox404.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/engineering/hydraulics/software/toolbox404.cfm)

The screenshot displays the Hydraulic Toolbox software interface. The main window is titled "Hydraulic Toolbox - [Hydraulic Toolbox Project]". The "Project Explorer" on the left shows a tree view with "Project - Untitled" containing "Riprap Analysis" and "Channel Analysis". The "Riprap Analysis" dialog box is open, showing a list of structure types and a table of parameters.

Structure type: **Revetment (channel slopes 2% or less)**

Parameter list:

- Pier
- Abutment/Guide Bank
- Spur
- Embankment Overtopping/Channel Slopes > 2%
- Culvert Outlet Protection
- Open-Bottom Culvert Protection
- Wave Attack

Parameter	Value	Units
Channel Depth	1.285	m
Slope	0.001	m/m
Bottom Width	3.048	m
Side Slope 1	2.000	m/m
Side Slope 2	2.000	m/m
Area	7.215	m <sup>2</sup>
Top Width	8.186	m
Wetted Perimeter	8.793	m
Hydraulic Radius	0.821	m

**Input Parameters**

Parameter	Value	Units	Notes
Channel Type	natural channel		
Local Depth of Flow	1.285	m	
Riprap Shape	angular rock		
Stability Coefficient	0.300		This value is updated by the selected Riprap Shape
Blanket Thickness Coefficient	1.000		
Channel Cross-sectional Average Velocity	1.386	m/s	
Centerline Radius of Curvature of Channel Bend	304800000	m	Infinite Radius for straight channels are approximated by using a large number
Width of Water Surface at Upstream End of Channel Bend	8.186	m	
Bank Angle	2.000	H:V ( : 1)	.966 < Bank Angle < 4.011
Bank Angle	26.6	degrees	14 < Bank Angle < 46

Buttons: OK, Cancel



AWS Free Webinar: 12 October 2021

# Australian Riprap Sizing Approaches Incorporating the USACE method

Presented by:



Stanford  
Gibson  
USACE

# QUESTIONS?

Keynote  
Surface  
Water  
Solutions

