



#### Introduction to hydraulic structures

Darren Lumbroso, HR Wallingford



### Weirs

## Function

- > River control with known stage discharge relationship
- > Maintenance of minimum water levels
- > Flow measurement (partial or full range of flow)
- > Spillway (e.g. to flood relief channel)



## Types of weirs

- > Triangular profile (Crump)
- > Flat V
- > Sharp crested
- > Broad crested
- > Compound
- > Other (spillway, side weir, labyrinth weir, non standard)



## Weir equations

### Typical form – horizontal crest

#### The typical weir equation is:

#### $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{h}^{3/2}$

- h gauged head above weir crest
- L length of weir crest
- C is a coefficient which includes two dimensional effects and upstream velocity head (often obtained experimentally)



## Weir equations

### Typical form – horizontal crest

**Typical Coefficient values** 

- $> C \approx 1.5$  for a broad crested weir
- $> C \approx 1.8$  for a sharp crested weir
- $> C = C_d \sqrt{g}$ 
  - C<sub>d</sub> is the discharge coefficient (non-dimensional)

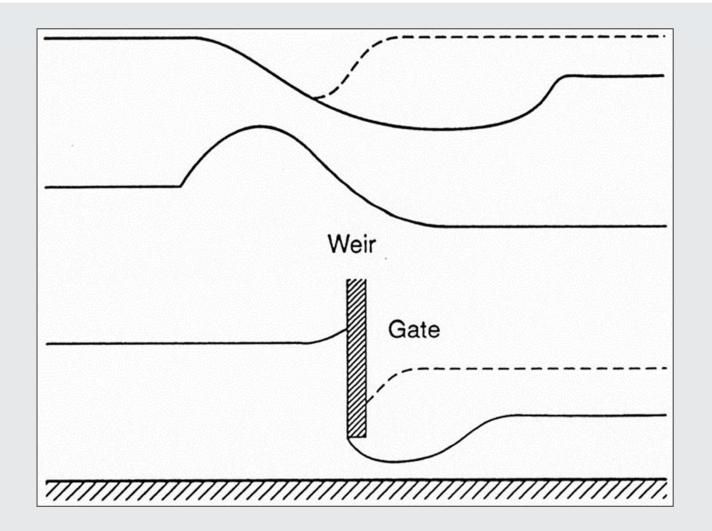


## Weir equations

- > Each type of structure has a discharge equation incorporating C<sub>d</sub>
- > C<sub>d</sub> will vary from structure to structure and will depend upon flow conditions (i.e. flow depth over weir, height of weir etc.)
- For specific calculations ensure that you use the appropriate equations (refer textbooks)



## Drowning of controls

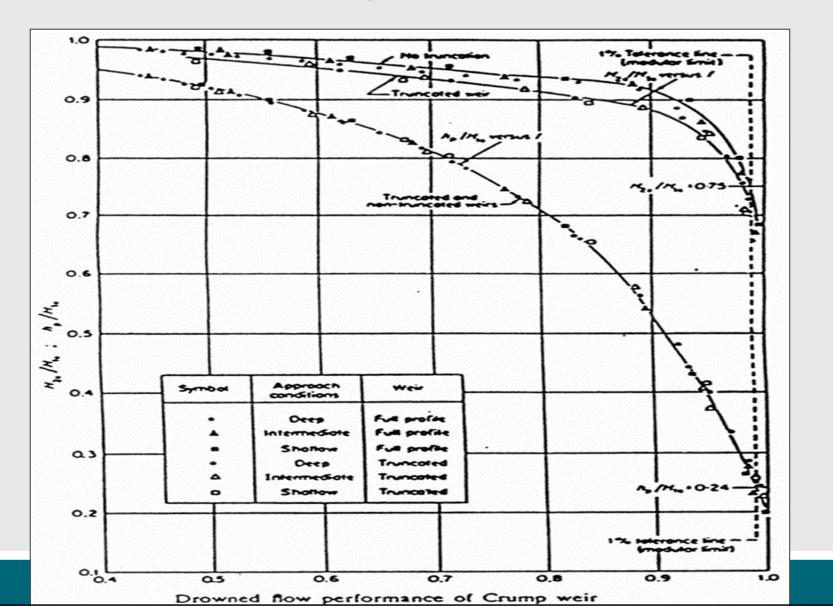


Equations of flow are modified using "drowning functions"



## Drowned weir flow

#### Crump and triangular weirs







### Overview

#### Function

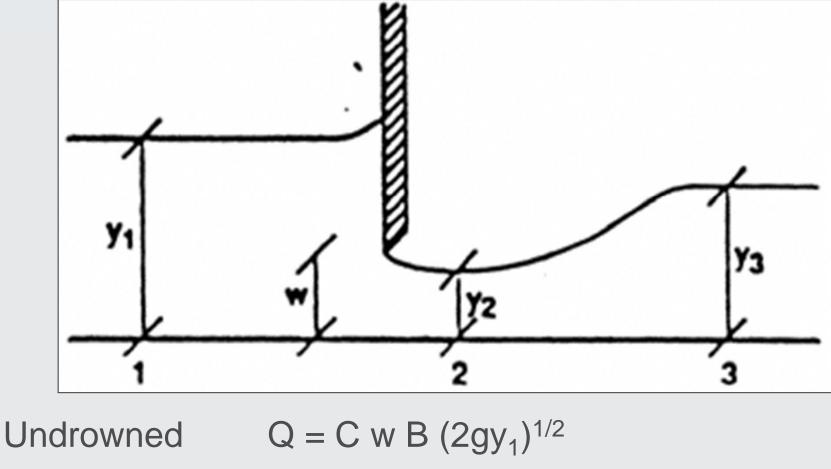
- Flow regulation
- Control of upstream level

#### Types

- Vertical sluice (underflow)
- Radial (underflow)
- Flap weir (overflow)
- Vertical sluice (underflow and overflow)
- Other (movable weir, float operated etc)



## Vertical sluice gates

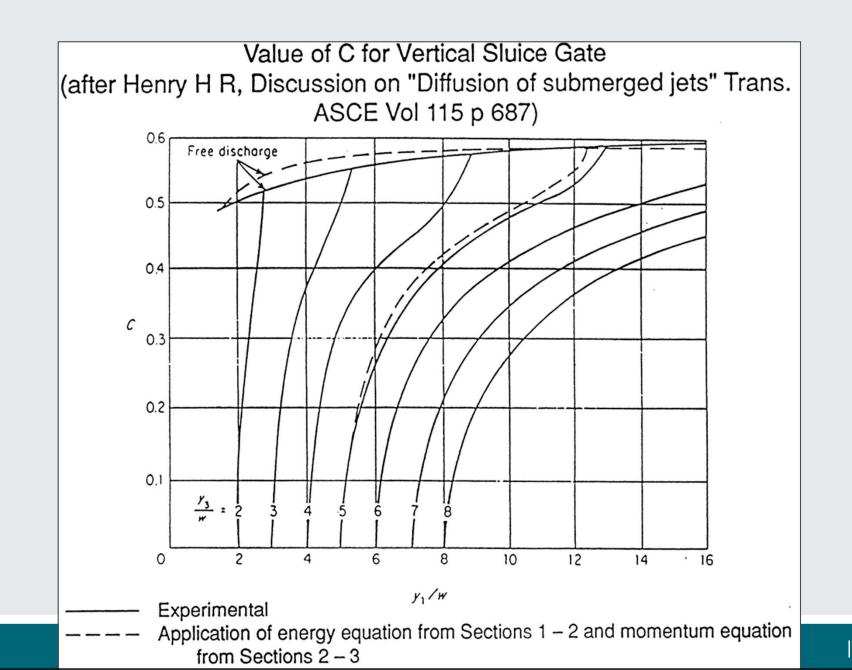


Drowned

Q = C w B  $(2gy_1)^{1/2}$ C = C<sub>c</sub> / (1 + C<sub>c</sub> w/y<sub>1</sub>)<sup>1/2</sup>  $\approx$  0.6 C depends on y<sub>1</sub>/w and y<sub>3</sub>/w



## Vertical sluice gates





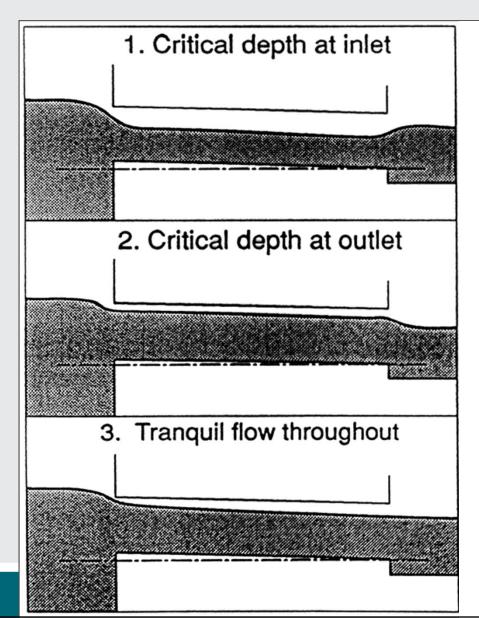
Culverts

- > Conveyance of flow through obstructions
- > Used in channels or on flood plains
- > Types include circular (pipe), box or 'pipe-arch'
- > Six basic flow types
- > See software (Day 3) and design guidelines



### Culverts

### Classification of culvert flow





### Culverts

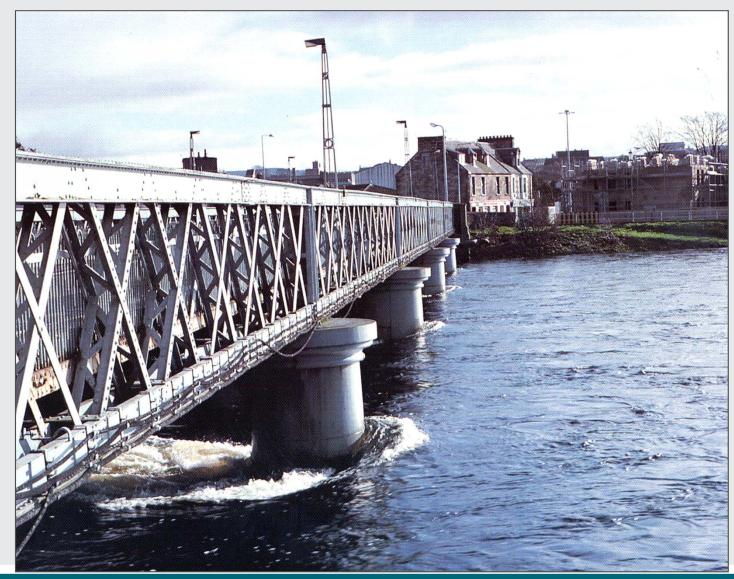
### **Design considerations**

### > Small pipes are prone to blockage

- > Access for maintenance
- > Screens
- > Future channel improvements



## Headloss at bridges





Overview

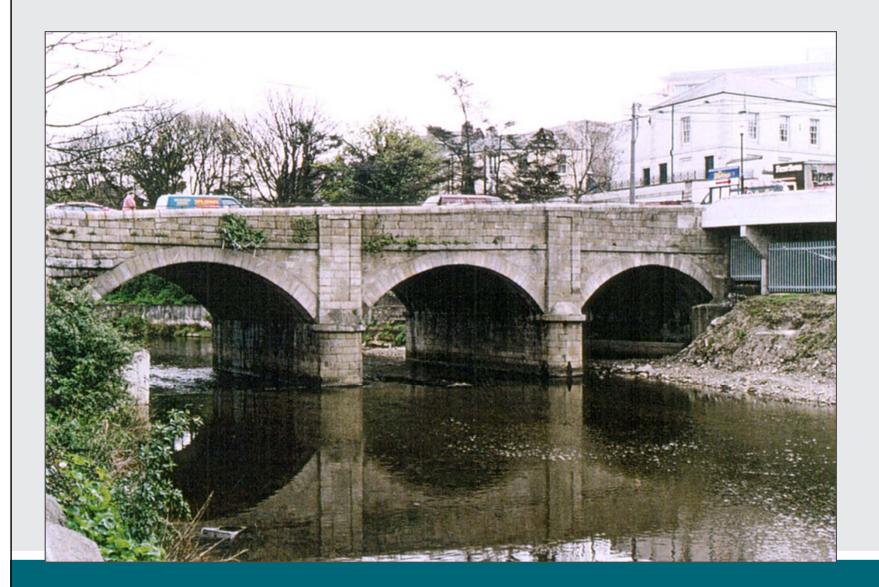
Low stone arch type bridge
Yarnell's equation for arch bridges

 High, flat deck, rectangular opening type bridge
USBPR method for modern bridges



## Stone arch type bridges

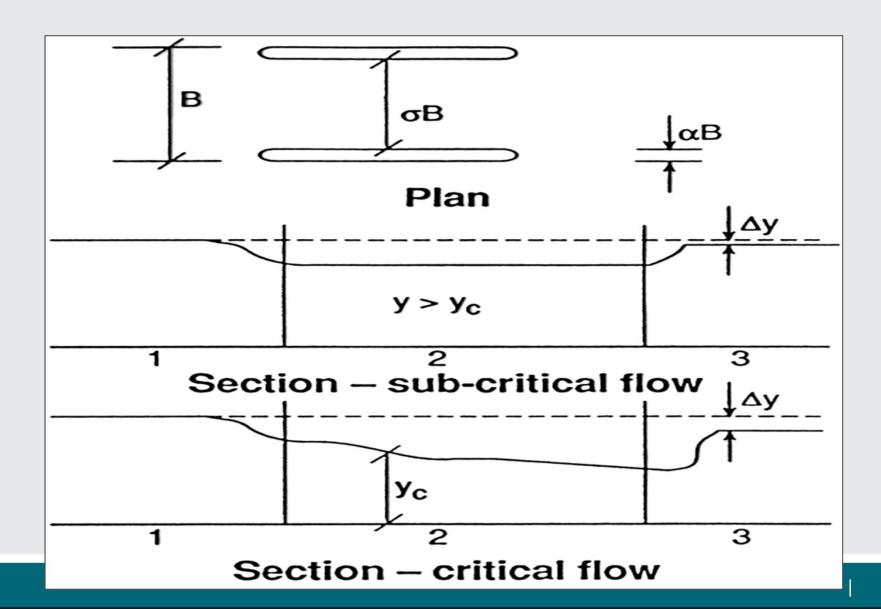
#### Yarnell's approach





## Stone arch type bridges

#### Yarnell's approach





## Yarnell's approach

- > Sub-critical flow:
- > To estimate headloss at bridge,  $\Delta y$ :

 $\Delta y/y_3 = KF_3^2 [K + 5F_3^2 - 0.6][\alpha + 15 \alpha^4]$ 

- >  $\alpha$  is the proportion of flow area blocked
- > K varies between 0.9 and 1.25 depending upon pier shape:
  - 0.9 = semicircular nose and tail
  - 1.25 = square nose and tail



## **USBPR** approach

#### Overview

 $\Delta y = k \alpha_2 v_2^2 / 2g + \alpha_1 [ (A_2 / A_3)^2 - (A_2 / A_1)^2 ] v_2^2 / 2g$  where:

- $\alpha_2$  energy coefficient under the bridge
- $\alpha_1$  energy coefficient downstream

Note  $\alpha$  has a different meaning in this equation from Yarnell's equation

k total backwater coefficient, where:

 $k = k_{b} + k_{p} + k_{e} + k_{s}$ 

- $k_{b}$  = base coefficient,  $k_{p}$  = effects of piers
- $k_e$  = effect of eccentricity,  $k_s$  = effect of skew



- > Deck above flood level
- > Piers smooth and aligned with the flow
- > Scour at piers
- > Flood plain culvert design
- > Flood plain storage
- > Runoff and pollution
- > Temporary works





- > Protection of hydraulic structures if really necessary
- > Safety
- > Bars 50 mm to 150 mm spacing
- > Clean by raking
- > Head losses are:
  - small when clean
  - large when blocked







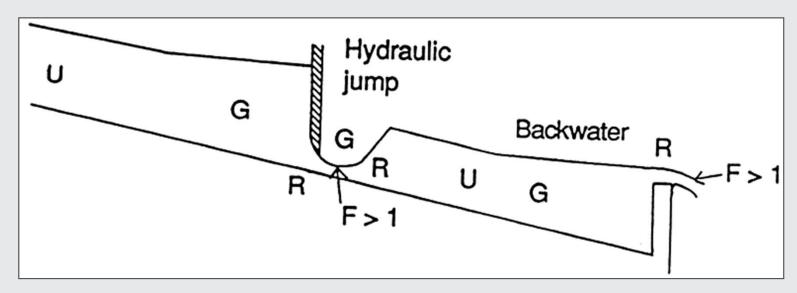


#### Fish passes

- > Allow fish to bypass man made obstacles
  - divide single leap into several smaller leaps
  - sloping channel baffles to reduce velocity
- > Fish attracted by strong flows



### Impact on water level



#### Flow zones:

- U Uniform flow (constant depth)
- G Gradually varied flow
- R Rapidly varied flow
- F Froude number



- > Range of discharge
- > Afflux available head loss is often limited
- > Range of upstream and downstream levels
- > Approach and exit conditions
- > Energy dissipation
- > Erosion, scour, bed and bank protection
- > Hydrostatic uplift and seepage
- > Cavitation, vibration etc.
- > Construction requirements (e.g. river diversion)



# Further reading (on CD)

#### **Federal highways Administration**

- Hydraulic design of highway culverts
- Hydraulic design of energy dissipators for culverts and channels
- Hydraulic design of safe bridges
- Introduction to highway hydraulics
- River engineering for highway encroachments Highways in the river environment
- Urban drainage design manual
- Evaluation of scour at bridges
- Debris control structures





#### Any questions?

HR Wallingford Howbery Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8BA, United Kingdom tel +44 (0)1491 835381 fax +44 (0)1491 832233 email info@hrwallingford.com