

# CVE 372

# HYDROMECHANICS

## OPEN CHANNEL FLOW

### I

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# Overview

## **3.1 General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow**

3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

3.1.2 Pressure Distribution in Open Channel Flows

3.1.3 Velocity Distribution in Open Channel Flows

2.3.4 Friction Loss for Noncircular Conduits

## 3.2 Uniform Flow

3.2.1 Resistance in Open Channel Flow

3.2.2 Uniform Flow Equations

3.2.3 Composite and Compound Sections

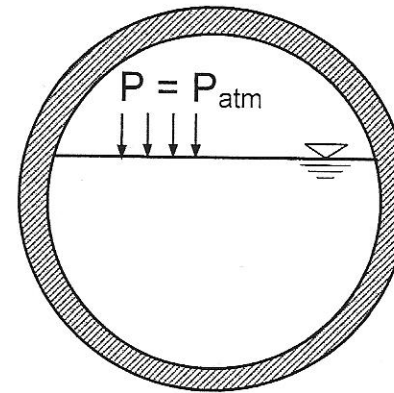
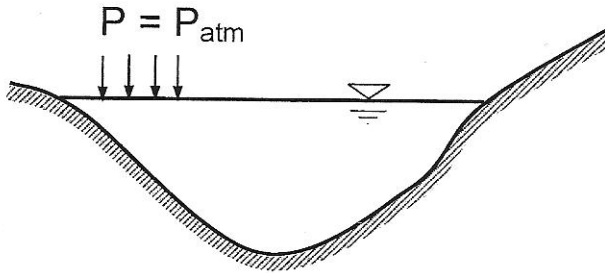
## 3.3 Specific Energy Concept

3.3.1 Specific Energy and Alternate Depth

3.3.2 Critical Flow

3.3.3 Channel Transition and Chocking Problems

# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

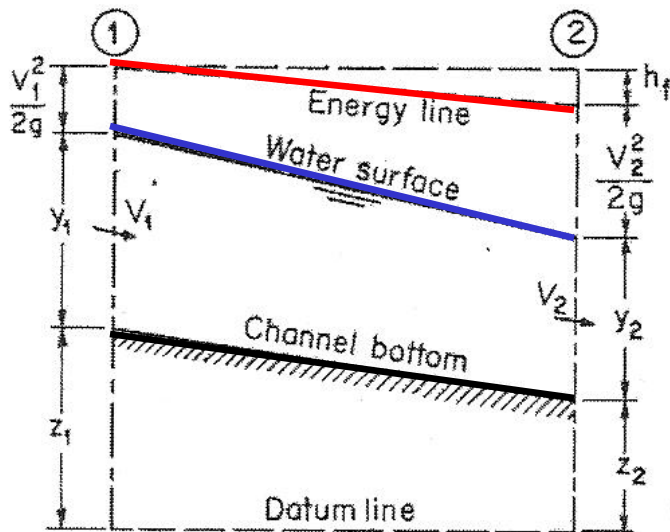


Open channel flow is a flow which has a free surface.

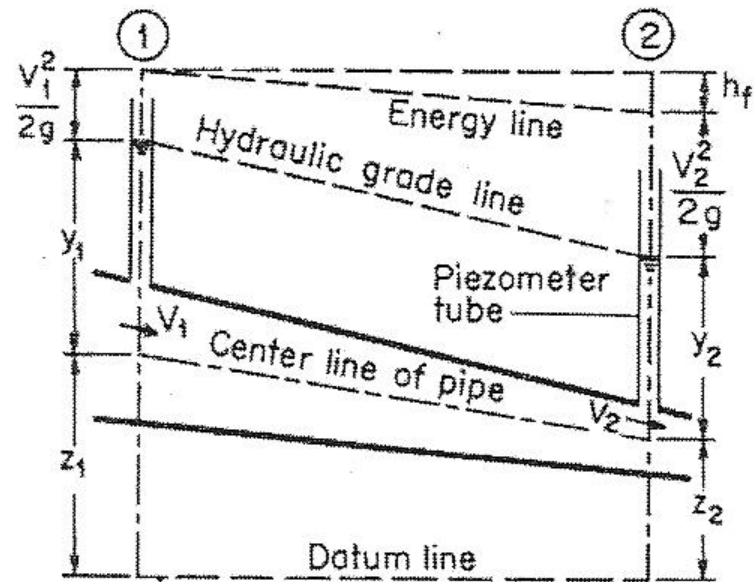
# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## Comparison of Open Channel Flow and Pipe Flow

Open Channel Flow



Pipe Flow



$S_o$ : channel bottom slope

$S_w$ : slope of water surface

$S_e$ : slope of energy grade line

# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## Kinds of Open Channel Flow

An open channel is a conduit in which water flows with a free surface.

**1. Canal** is usually a long and mild-sloped channel built in the ground.



Kennet and Avon Canal, England



# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## Kinds of Open Channel Flow

An open channel is a conduit in which water flows with a free surface.

1. **Canal** is usually a long and mild-sloped channel built in the ground.



Royal Canal, Ireland



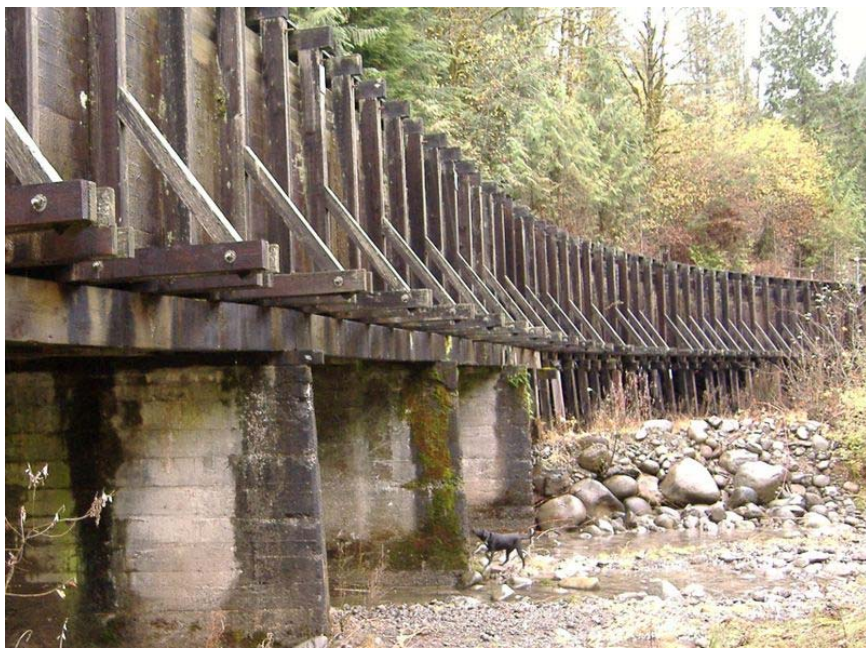
Llangollen Canal, Denbighshire, Wales, UK



# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## Kinds of Open Channel Flow

2. **Flume** is a channel usually supported on or above the surface of the ground to carry water across a depression.



Bull Run Hydroelectric  
Project diversion flume



White River diversion flume  
in Washington



# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## Kinds of Open Channel Flow

3. **Chute** is a channel having steep slope.
4. **Drop** is similar to chute, but the change in elevation is affected in a short distance
5. **Culvert** is a covered channel flowing partly full, which is installed to drain water through highway and railroad embankments.
6. **Open-Flow Tunnel** is a comparatively long covered channel used to carry water through a hill or any obstruction on the ground.





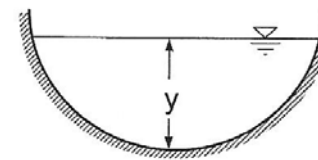
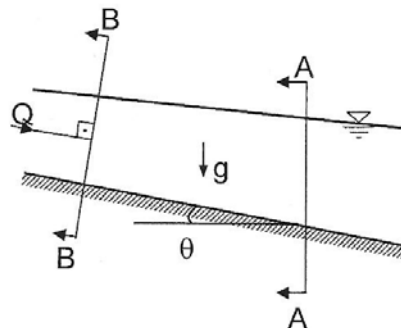
# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## Channel Geometry

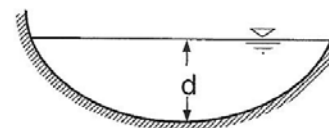
**Prismatic Channel:** A channel built with unvarying cross-section and constant bottom slope.

**Non-prismatic Channel:** A channel built with varying cross-section or bottom slope.

**The Channel Section** is the cross-section of a channel taken normal to the direction of the flow.



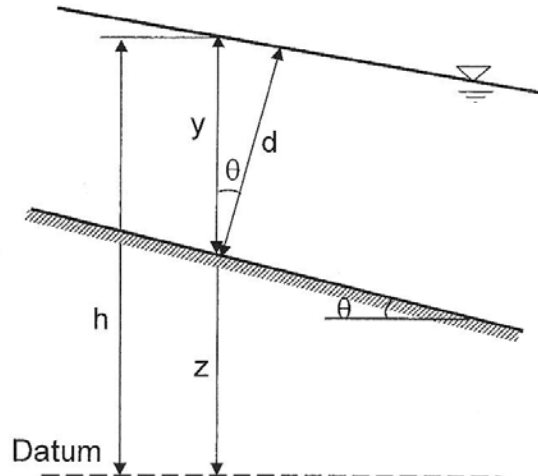
The vertical channel section (A-A)



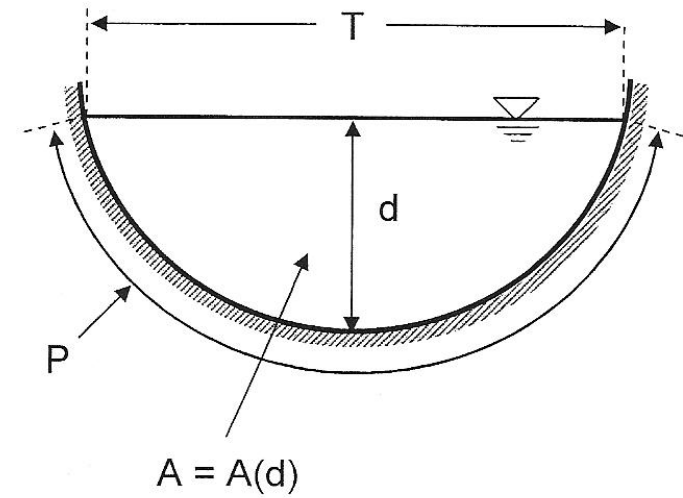
The channel section (B-B)

# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## Geometric Elements of Channel Section



$y$ : the depth of flow  
 $d$ : the depth of flow section  
 $h$ : the stage

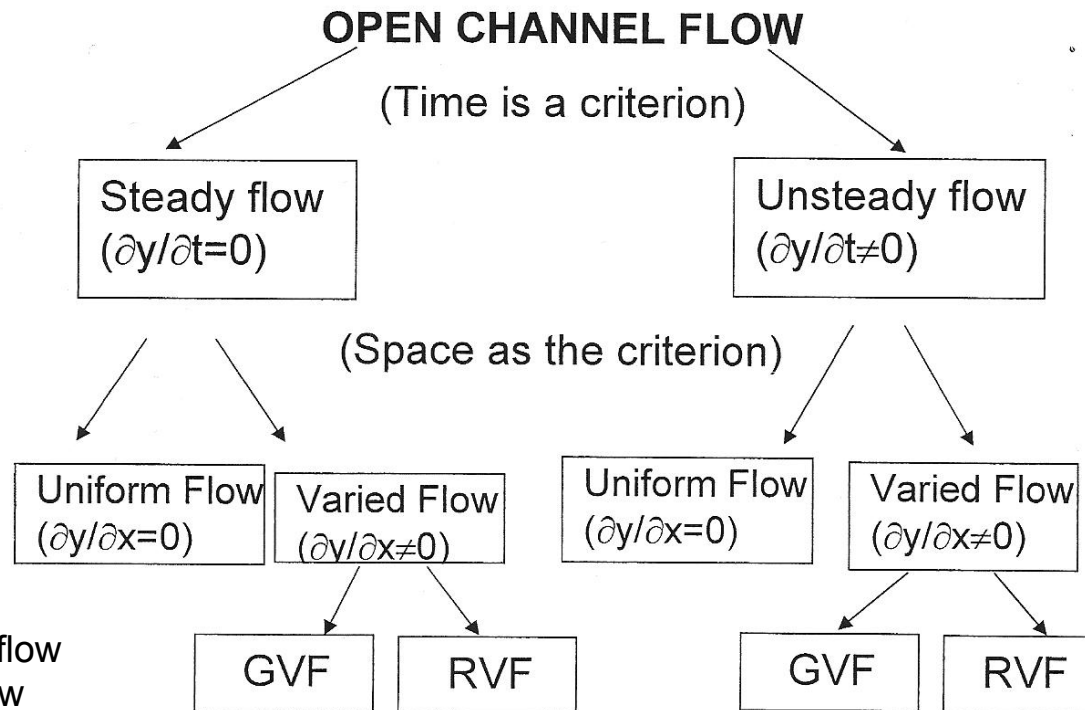


$T$ : the top width  
 $A$ : the water area  
 $P$ : the wetted perimeter  
 $R (=A/P)$  the hydraulic radius  
 $D (=A/T)$  the hydraulic depth

# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

According to the **change in flow depth** with respect to time and space



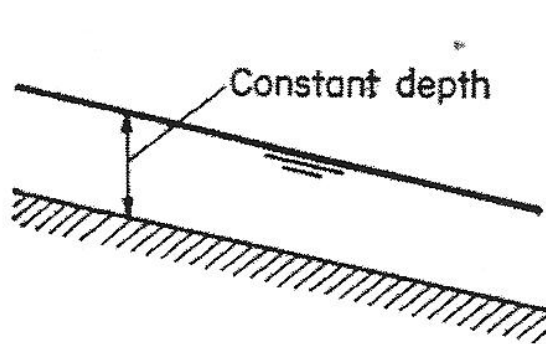
GVF: Gradually varied flow  
RVF: Rapidly varied flow



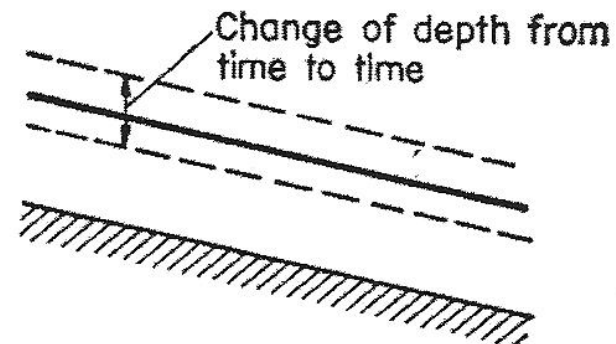
# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

According to the **change in flow depth** with respect to time and space



Uniform flow – Flow in a prismatic channel

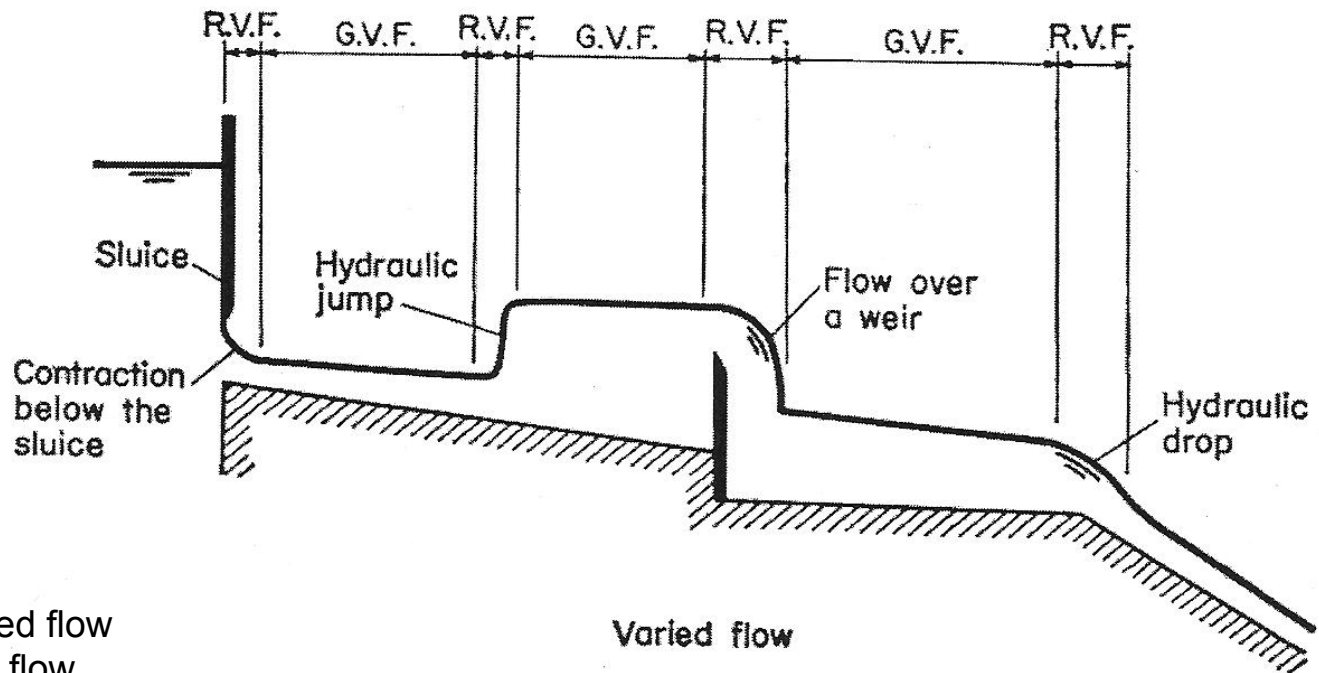


Unsteady uniform flow – Rare

# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

According to the **change in flow depth** with respect to time and space

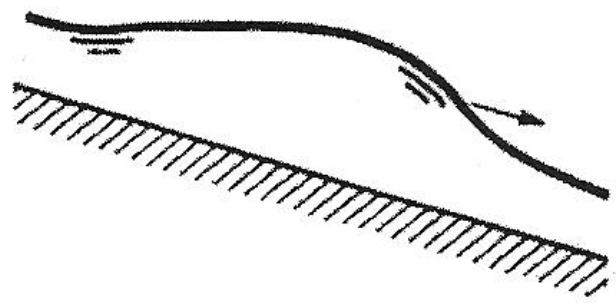


G.V.F: Gradually varied flow  
R.V.F: Rapidly varied flow

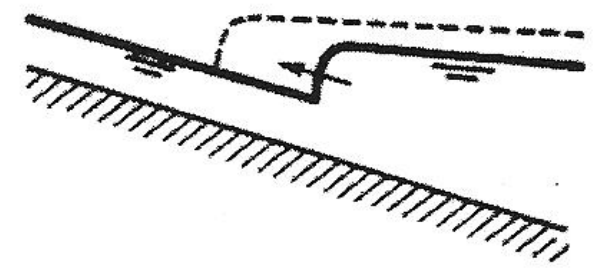
# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

According to the **change in flow depth** with respect to time and space



G.V.F. – Flood wave



R.V.F. – Bore

G.V.F: Gradually varied flow

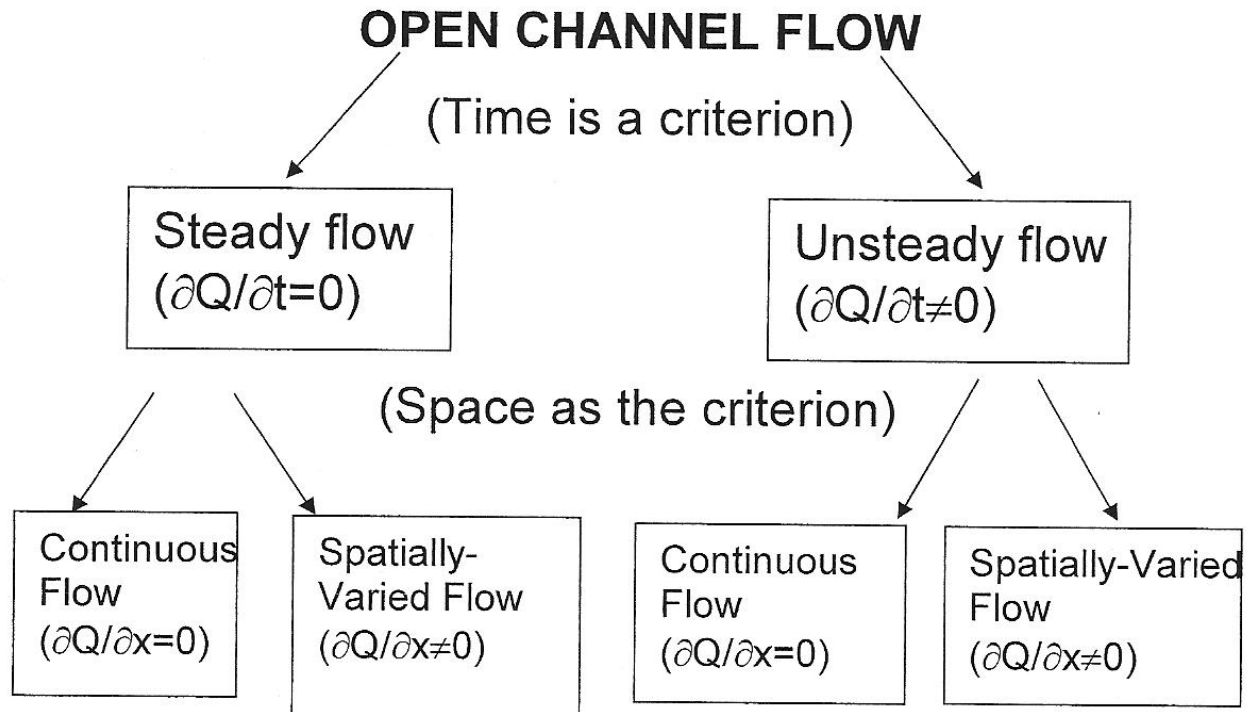
R.V.F: Rapidly varied flow



# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

According to the **change in discharge** with respect to time and space



## 3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

### State of Flow

### Effect of Viscosity

According to the **Reynolds Number**,  $Re = (VR)/\nu$

IF  $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} Re < 500 & \rightarrow \text{Laminar Flow} \\ 500 < Re < 1000 & \rightarrow \text{Transitional Flow} \\ Re > 1000 & \rightarrow \text{Turbulent Flow} \end{array} \right.$

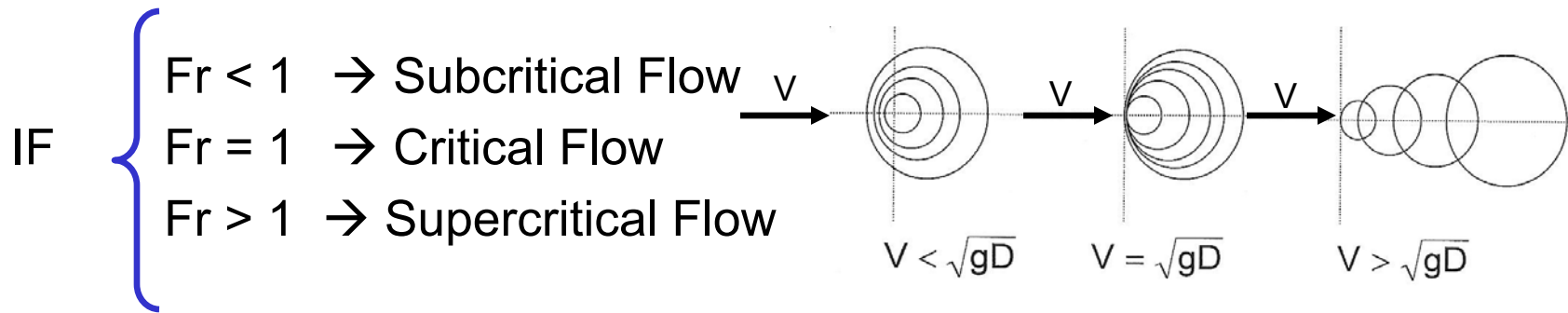
# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.1 Classification of Open Channel Flows

### State of Flow

### Effect of Gravity

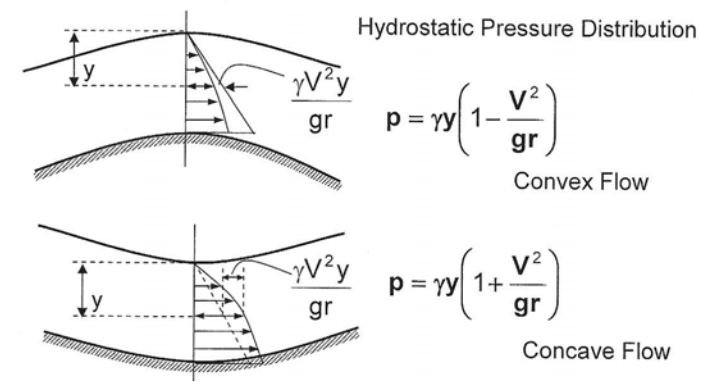
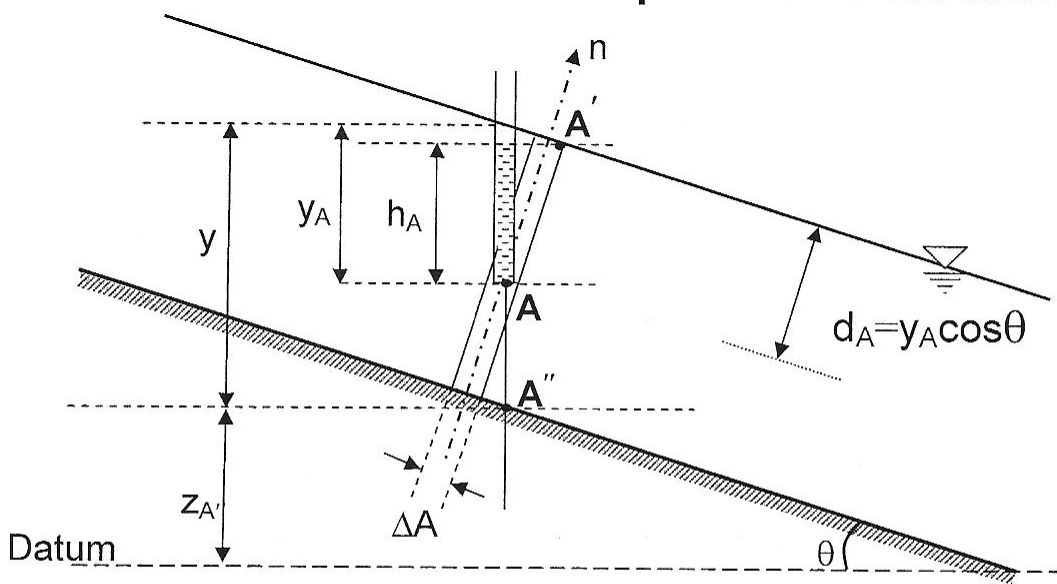
According to the **Froude Number**,  $Fr = V/(gD)^{1/2}$





# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.2 Pressure Distribution in Open Channel Flows



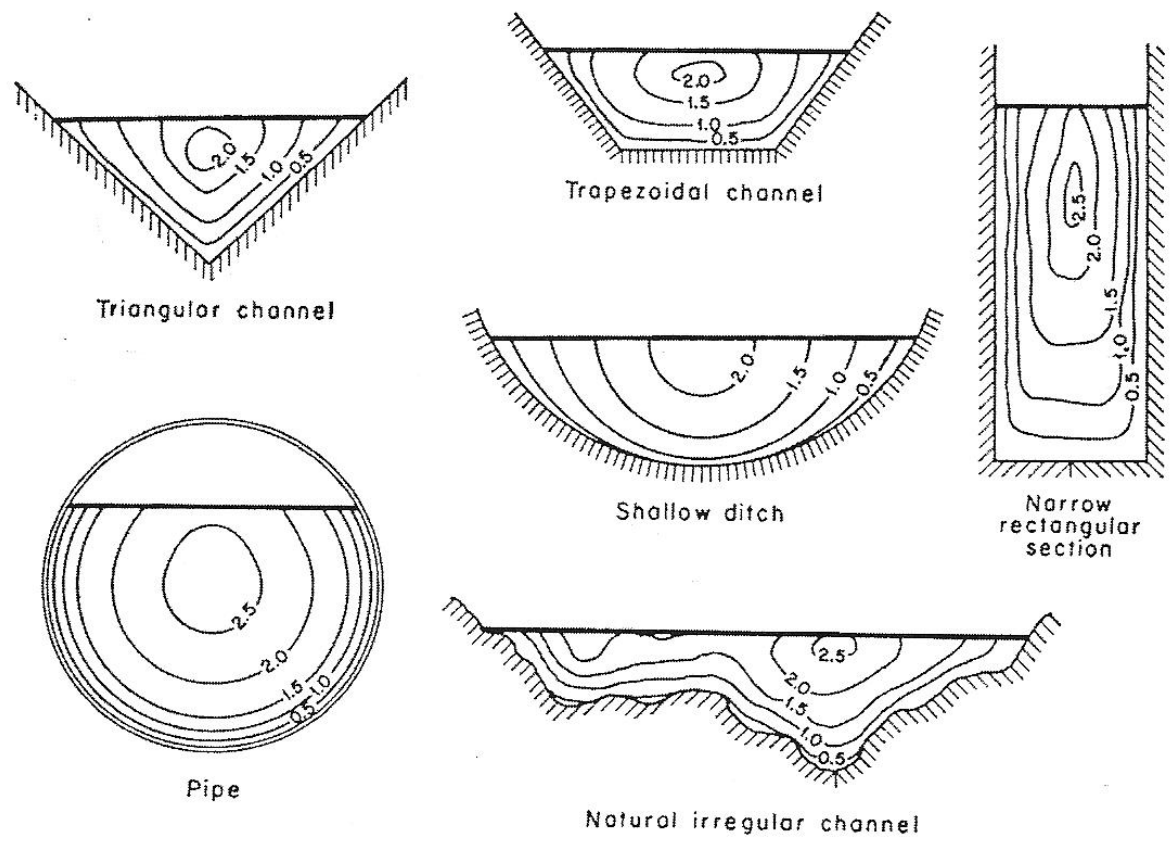
$$\sum F_n = 0, \quad p_A \Delta A - \gamma d_A \Delta A \cos \theta = 0$$

$$p_A = \gamma d_A \cos \theta, \quad d_A = y_A \cos \theta$$

$$p_A = \gamma y_A \cos^2 \theta, \quad \text{If } \theta \text{ is small } \Rightarrow p = \gamma y$$

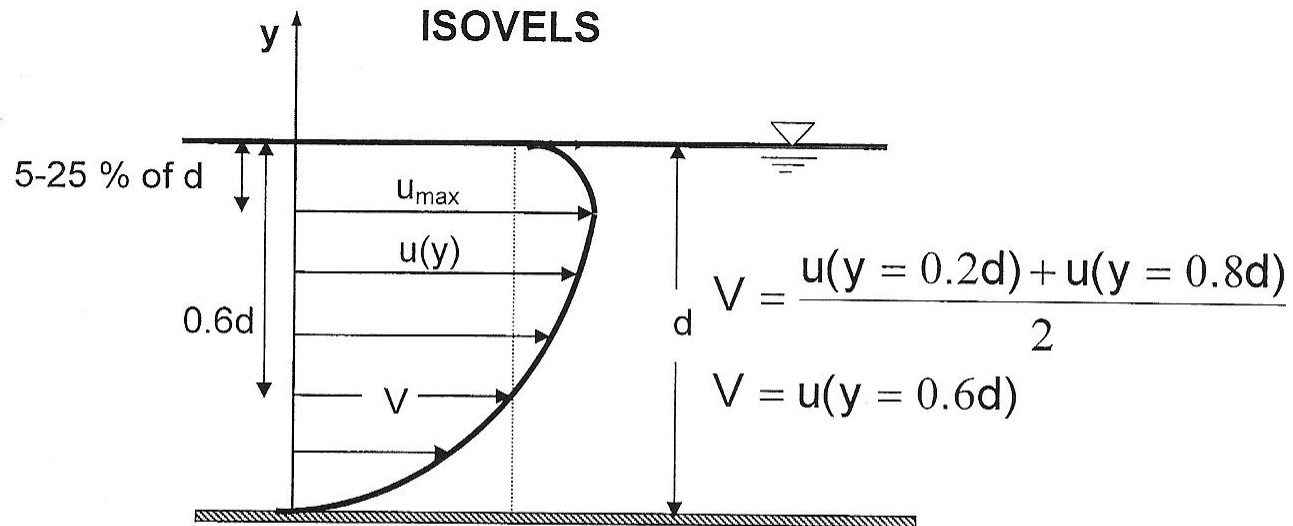
# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.3 Velocity Distribution in Open Channel Flows



# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.3 Velocity Distribution in Open Channel Flows



$$\alpha = \frac{\int u^3 dA}{u^3 A} \approx \frac{\sum u^3 \Delta A}{u^3 A}, \quad \beta = \frac{\int u^2 dA}{u^2 A} \approx \frac{\sum u^2 \Delta A}{u^2 A}$$

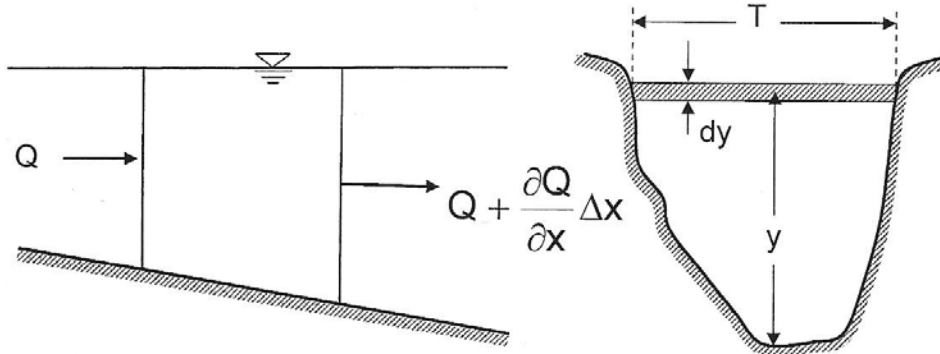
$\alpha$ : energy correction factor     $\beta$ : momentum correction factor

# General Characteristics of Open Channel Flow

## 3.1.3 Velocity Distribution in Open Channel Flows

### Equation of Continuity

$$\int_{cs} \rho \bar{u} \cdot d\vec{A} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{cv} \rho dV$$



i) Unsteady Flow

$$\rho \int_{cs} \bar{u} \cdot d\vec{A} = -\rho \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{cv} dV \Rightarrow \int_{cs} \bar{u} \cdot d\vec{A} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} V_{cv}$$

(incompressible flow)

$$-Q + \left(Q + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \Delta x\right) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (A \cdot \Delta x) \Rightarrow \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$A = A(y), y = y(x, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial A}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

$$dA = T dy \quad \frac{dA}{dy} = T$$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} = T \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

$$\Rightarrow T \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 0$$

ii) Steady Flow

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$Q_1 = Q_2 \Rightarrow (uA)_1 = (uA)_2$$



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## 3.2 Uniform Flow

3.2.1 Resistance in Open Channel Flow

3.2.2 Uniform Flow Equations

3.2.3 Composite and Compound Sections

## 3.3 Specific Energy Concept

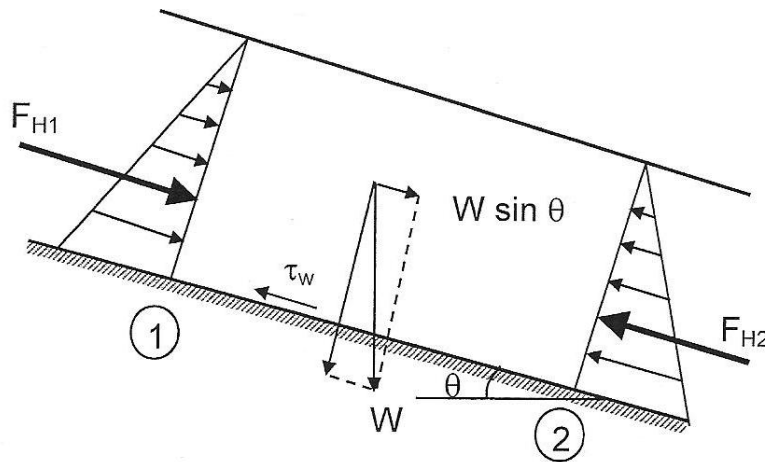
3.3.1 Specific Energy and Alternate Depth

3.3.2 Critical Flow

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# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.1 Resistance in Open Channel Flow



- Water depth is constant
- Discharge is constant
- Steady flow
- $S_o = S_w = S_e$

$y_n$ : normal (uniform) depth

$y_n$ : The depth associated with uniform flow.

Momentum Eqn.

$$F_{H1} - F_{H2} - \tau_w PL + W \sin \theta = \rho Q (V_2 - V_1)$$

$$F_{H1} = F_{H2}; V_2 = V_1$$

$$W \sin \theta = \tau_w PL$$

$$W = \gamma AL \text{ and } \sin \theta \cong S_0$$

$$\tau_w = \gamma R S_0 \quad \text{Resistance formula for uniform flow}$$

$\tau_w$  is the resistance to the flow (shear stress) and

assume  $\tau_w = \frac{f}{8} \rho V^2$

$$V = \sqrt{\frac{8\gamma}{f\rho}} \sqrt{RS_0}$$

$$V = C \sqrt{RS_0} \text{ where } C = \sqrt{\frac{8g}{f}}$$

# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.2 Uniform Flow Equations

Chézy Equation :  $V = C \sqrt{R S_0}$

Manning Equation :  $V = \frac{1}{n} R^{2/3} \sqrt{S_0}$   
(R is in m, V is in m/s)

C: Chezy coefficient.

n: Manning's roughness coefficient

# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.2 Uniform Flow Equations

### Resistance Coefficients

For uniform free surface and pipe flows:  $\tau_w = \gamma R S_0$

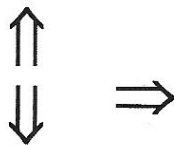


Darcy's friction factor:

$$f = 8 \frac{\tau_w}{\rho V^2}$$

Chézy Equation:

$$V = C \sqrt{R S_0}$$



$$\Rightarrow C = \sqrt{\frac{8g}{f}}$$

$$C = \frac{R^{1/6}}{n}$$

Manning Equation:

$$V = \frac{1}{n} R^{2/3} \sqrt{S_0}$$

$$n = \frac{R^{1/6}}{2\sqrt{2g}} \sqrt{f}$$



# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.2 Uniform Flow Equations

Values of Manning's Roughness Coefficient  $n$

Glass, plastic, machined metal	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.010
Dressed timber, joints flush	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.011
Sawn timber, joints uneven	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.014
Cement plaster	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.011
Concrete, steel troweled	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.012
Concrete, timber forms, unfinished	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.014
Untreated gunite	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.015–0.017
Brickwork or dressed masonry	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.014
Rubble set in cement	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.017
Earth, smooth, no weeds	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.020
Earth, some stones and weeds	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.025
<i>Natural river channels:</i>							
Clean and straight	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.025–0.030
Winding, with pools and shoals	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.033–0.040
Very weedy, winding and overgrown	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.075–0.150
Clean straight alluvial channels	..	..	..	..	..	..	$0.031d^{1/6}$

( $d$ =D-75 size in ft.)

# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.2 Uniform Flow Equations

### Factors Affecting Manning's Roughness Coefficient

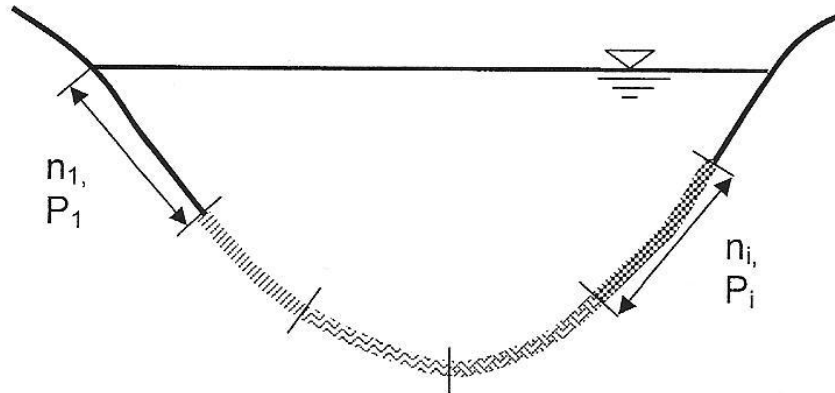
- Surface roughness
- Vegetation
- Channel irregularity
- Channel alignment
- Silting and scouring
- Obstructions
- Size and shape of channel
- Suspended material, bed load.

# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.3 Composite and Compound Sections

### Composite Section:

A channel section, which is composed of different roughness along the wetted perimeter.



$$n_{eq} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum n_i^2 P_i}{\sum P_i}}, \quad \left( \text{Pavlovski's eq.} \right), \quad Q = \frac{A}{n_{eq}} R^{2/3} \sqrt{S_0}$$

$$F = \sum_{i=1}^n F_i$$

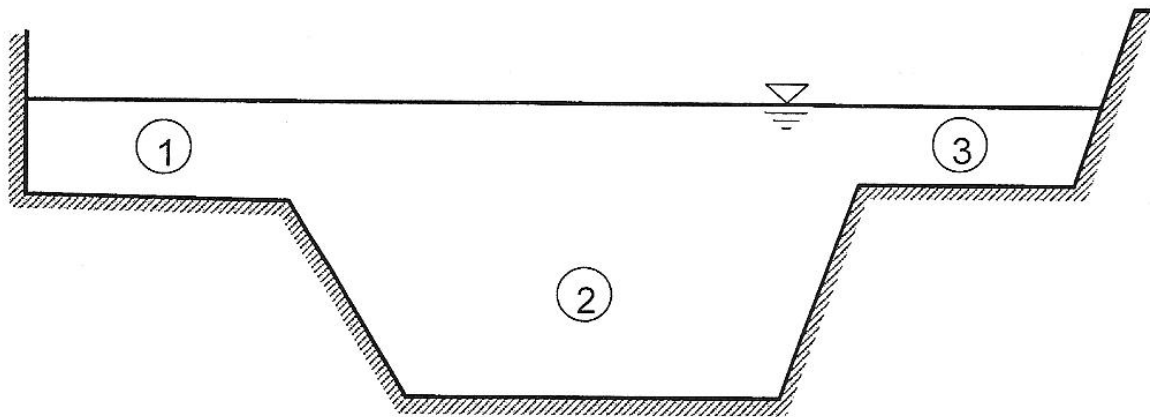
F: Drag force

# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.3 Composite and Compound Sections

### Compound Section:

A channel section, which the cross section is composed of several distinct subsections.



$$Q = \sum Q_i = \sum \frac{A_i}{n_i} R_i^{2/3} \sqrt{S_0}$$



# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.3 Composite and Compound Sections

**Example 1:** A trapezoidal channel has a base width  $b = 6$  m and side slopes 1H:1V. The channel bottom slope is  $S_o = 0.0002$  and the Manning roughness coefficient is  $n = 0.014$ . compute

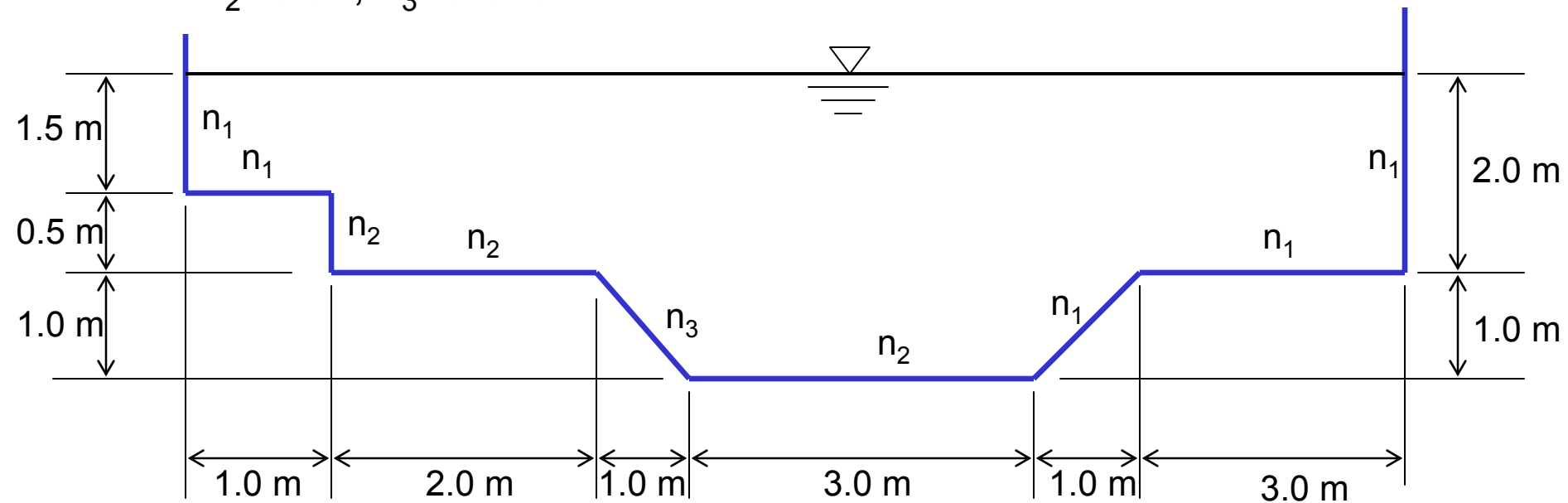
- a) the depth of uniform flow if  $Q = 12.1$  m<sup>3</sup>/s
- b) the state of flow
- c) the average wall-shear stress along the wetted perimeter.

Solved in the class

# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.3 Composite and Compound Sections

**Example 2:** For the compound channel given below, determine the total discharge and the state of the flow, if  $S_0=0.0009$ ,  $n_1=0.014$ ,  $n_2=0.02$ ,  $n_3=0.025$

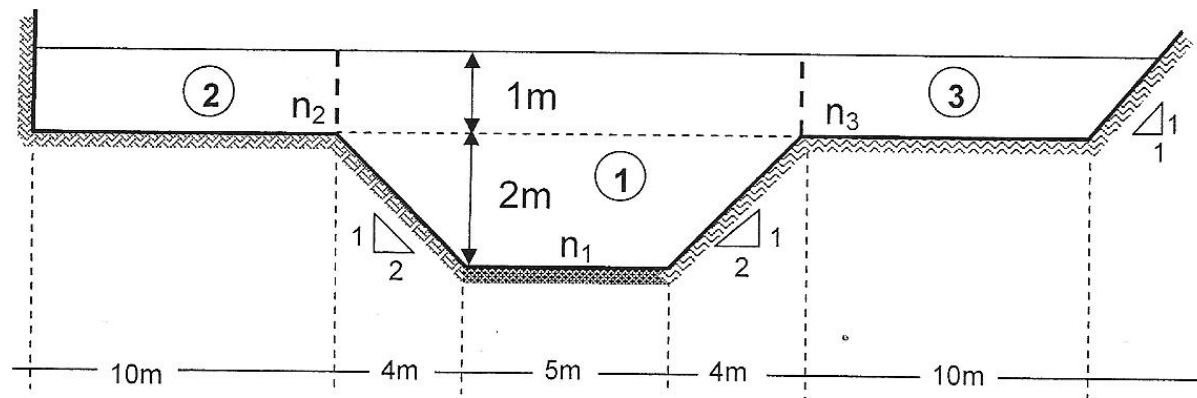


Solved in the class

# Uniform Flow

## 3.2.3 Composite and Compound Sections

**Exercise 1:** Determine the discharge passing through the cross section of the compound channel shown below. The Manning roughness coefficients are  $n_1 = 0.02$ ,  $n_2 = 0.03$  and,  $n_3 = 0.04$ . The channel bed slope for the whole channel is  $S_o = 0.008$ .



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3.3.1 Specific Energy and Alternate Depth

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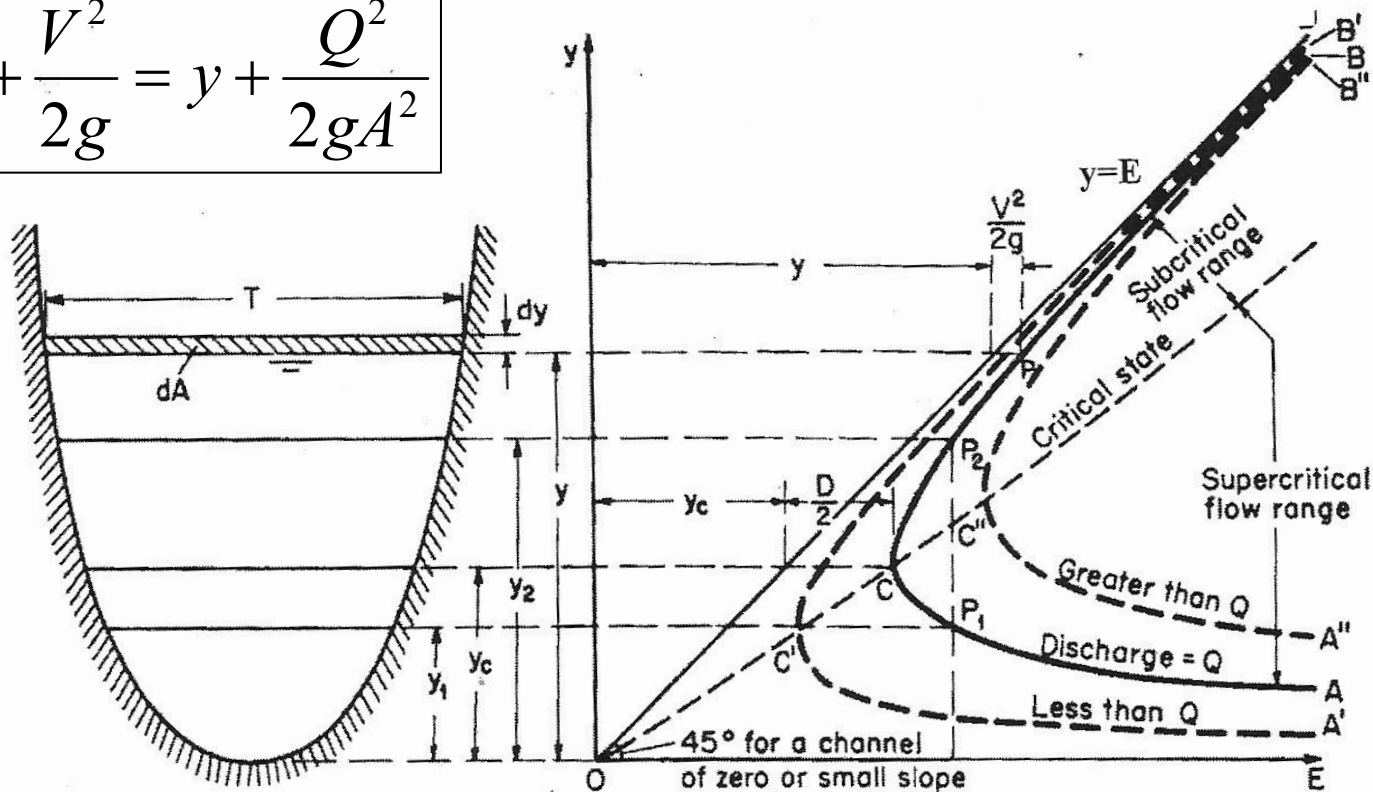
3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems



# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.1 Specific Energy and Alternate Depth

$$E = y + \frac{V^2}{2g} = y + \frac{Q^2}{2gA^2}$$

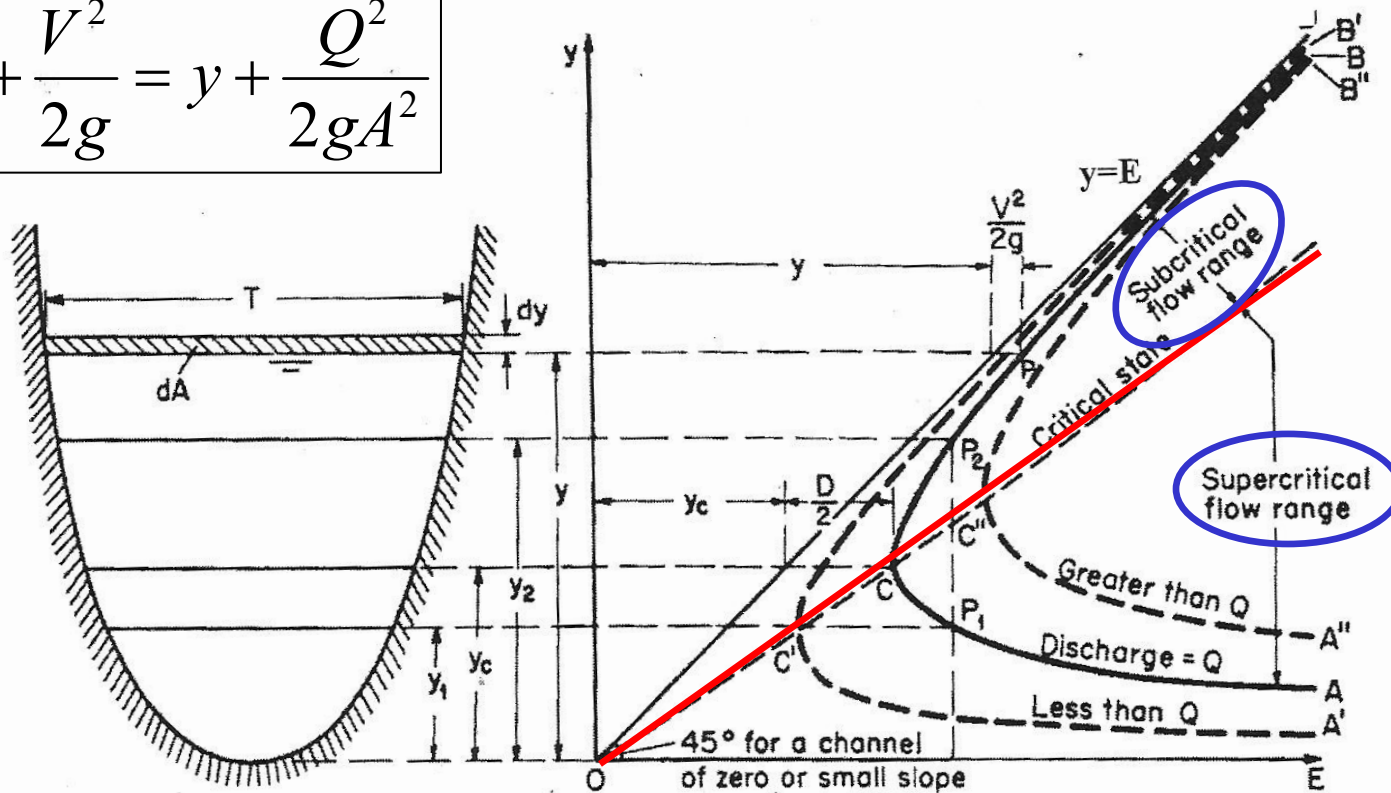


Specific Energy Curve

# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.2 Critical Flow

$$E = y + \frac{V^2}{2g} = y + \frac{Q^2}{2gA^2}$$



Specific Energy Curve

# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.2 Critical Flow

### Arbitrary Cross Section

- $F_r = 1 \rightarrow \frac{Q^2}{g} = \frac{A_c^3}{T_c}$
- $\frac{V_c^2}{2g} = \frac{D_c}{2} \rightarrow E_c = y_c + \frac{D_c}{2}$
- For a given Q,  $E = E_{\min}$
- For a given specific energy,  
 $E_o,$   $Q = Q_{\max}$

### Rectangular Cross Section

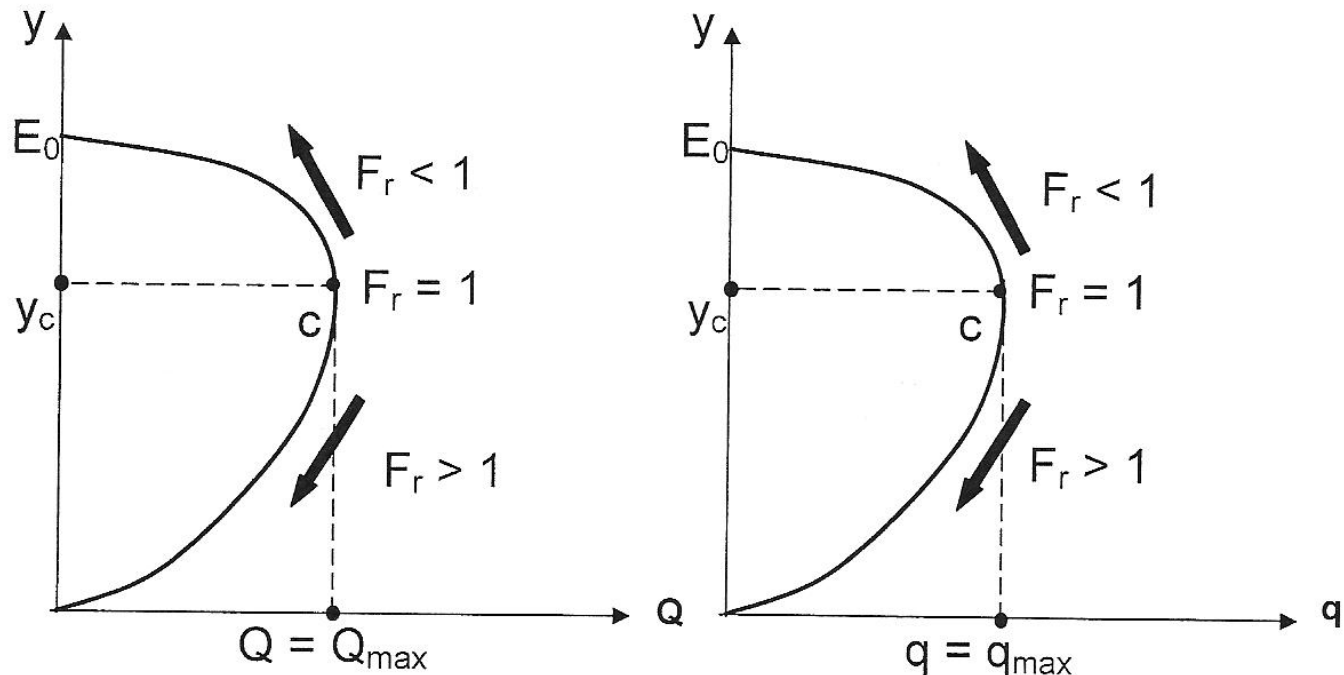
- $F_r = 1 \quad q^2 = gy_c^3 \quad y_c = \sqrt[3]{\frac{q^2}{g}}$
- $\frac{V_c^2}{2g} = \frac{y_c}{2} \rightarrow E_c = \frac{3}{2}y_c$
- For a given q,  $E = E_{\min}$
- For a given specific energy  
 $E_o,$   $q = q_{\max}$   
 $q=Q/T$  (discharge per unit width)

# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.2 Critical Flow

For a given  $E$ ,  $Q = [2gA^2(E-y)]^{1/2}$ ,

$Q=Q(y)$  [  $q=q(y)$  for rectangular channel



The plot of  $Q$  vs  $y$  ( $q$  vs  $y$ ) gives Koch Parabola

# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.2 Critical Flow

### Example 3:

A trapezoidal channel is given with  $b=4$  m,  $n=0.0143$ , and  $z=0.5$ .

a) What is the depth and state of the flow to carry  $Q=15\text{m}^3/\text{s}$  with  $S_0=0.0009$



# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.2 Critical Flow

### Example 4:

Discharge in an open channel of arbitrary cross-section is  $Q=1\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ . Determine:

- a) The critical depth for a triangular channel having side slopes of 1:1
- b) The critical depth for a semicircular channel
- c) The critical depth for a rectangular channel with  $b=2\text{ m}$
- d) The alternate depth for part c if  $y=1\text{ m}$



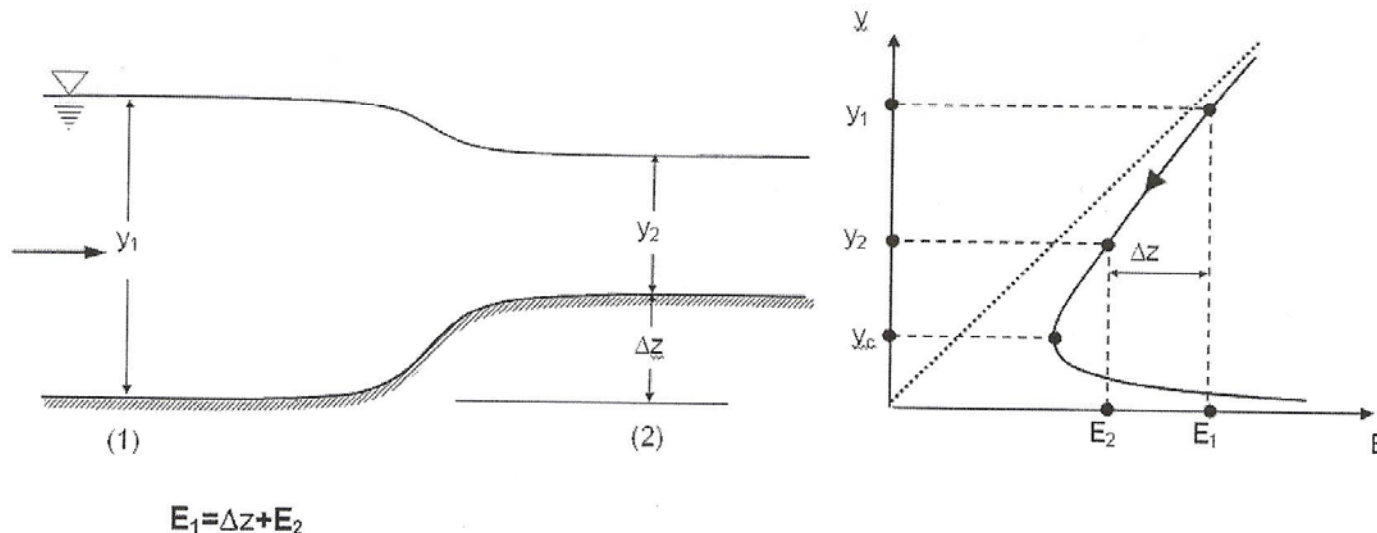
# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

### CHANNEL TRANSITIONS

A.) *Upward step (constant width)*

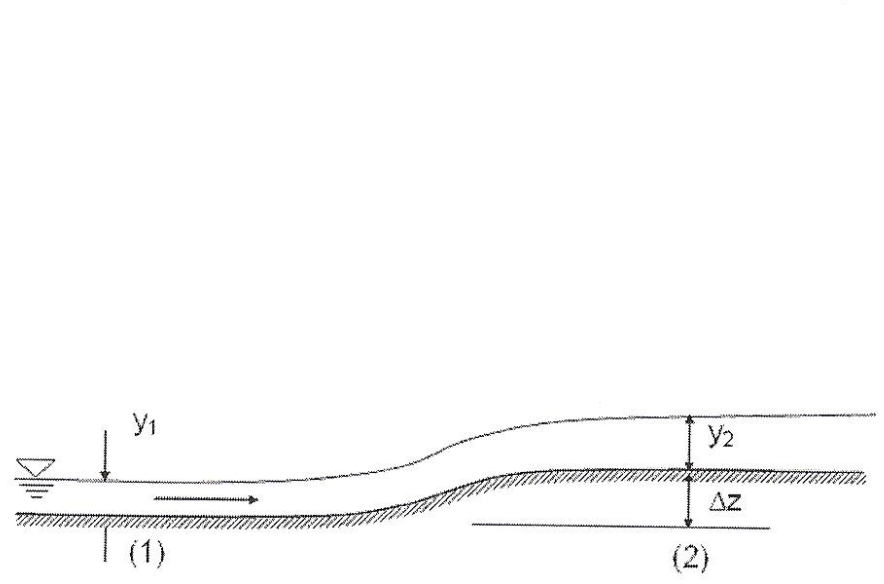
1) Subcritical Flow



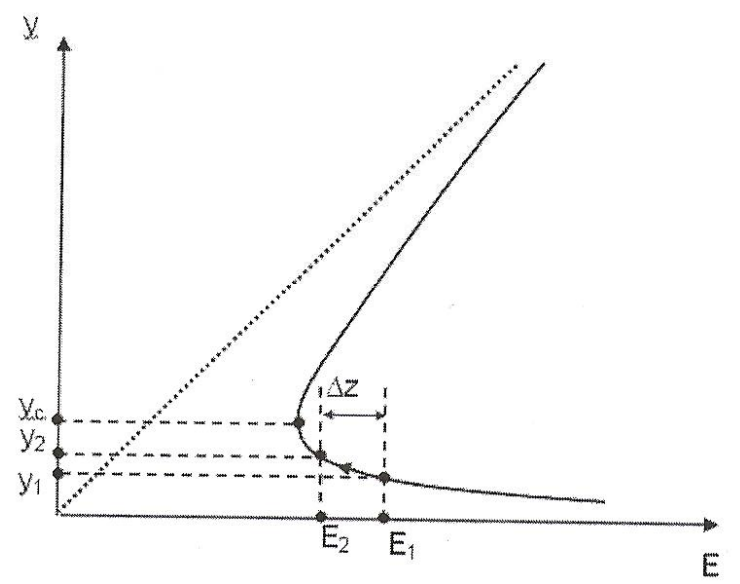
# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

### 2) Supercritical Flow



$$E_1 = \Delta Z + E_2$$

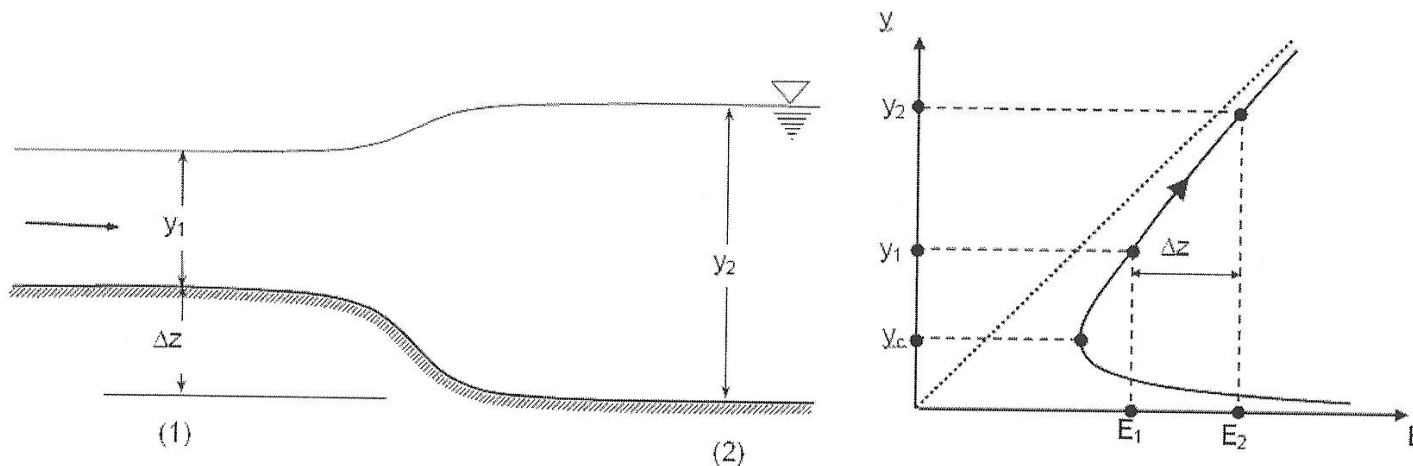


# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

B.) Downward Step (Constant Width)

1) Subcritical Flow

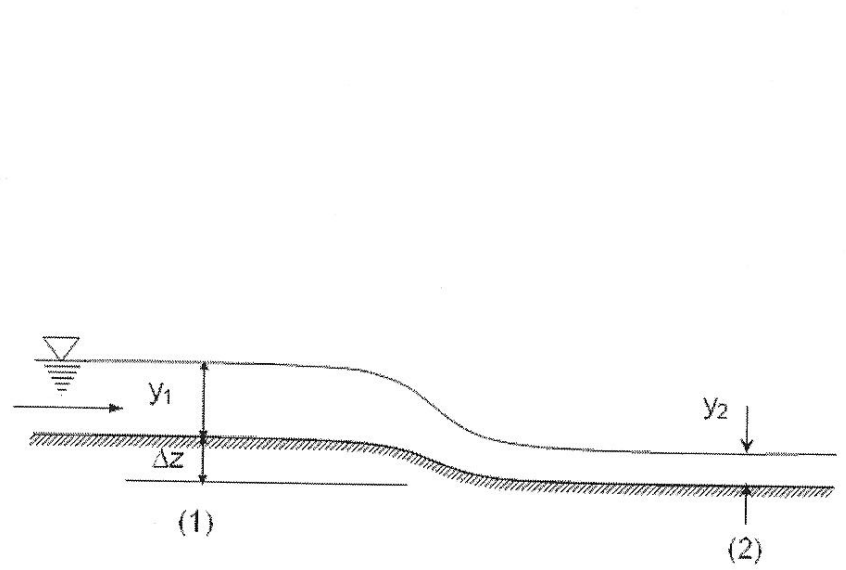


$$E_1 + \Delta z = E_2$$

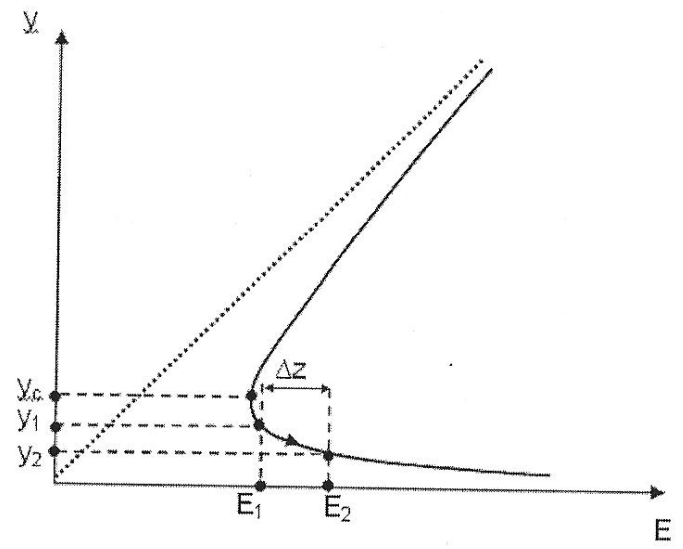
# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

### 2) Supercritical Flow



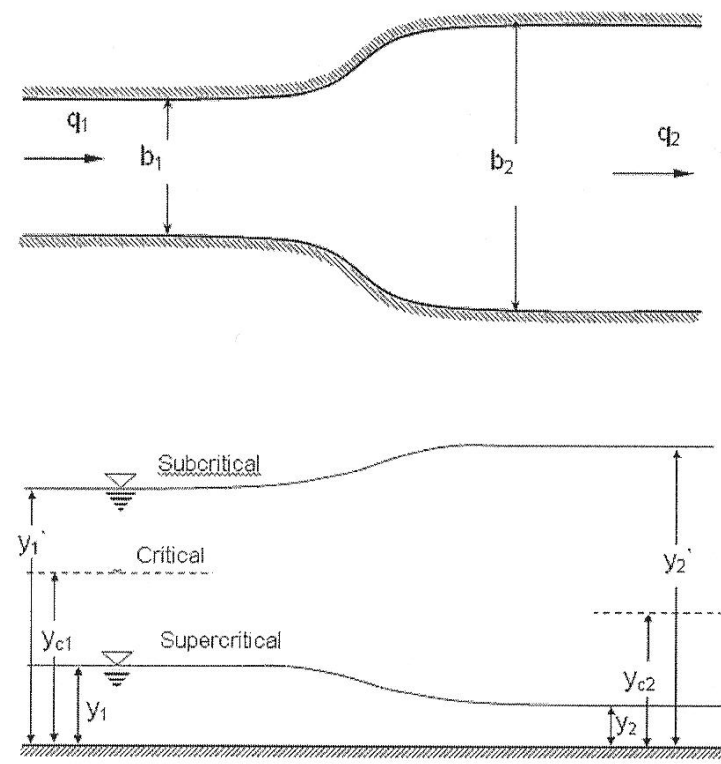
$$E_1 + \Delta z = E_2$$



# Specific Energy Concept

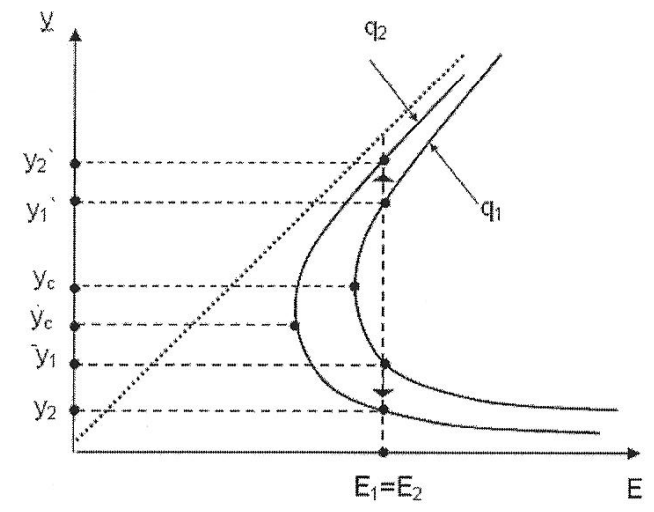
## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

C.) Channel Expansion (Constant Bed Elevation)



$$q_1 = Q/b_1$$

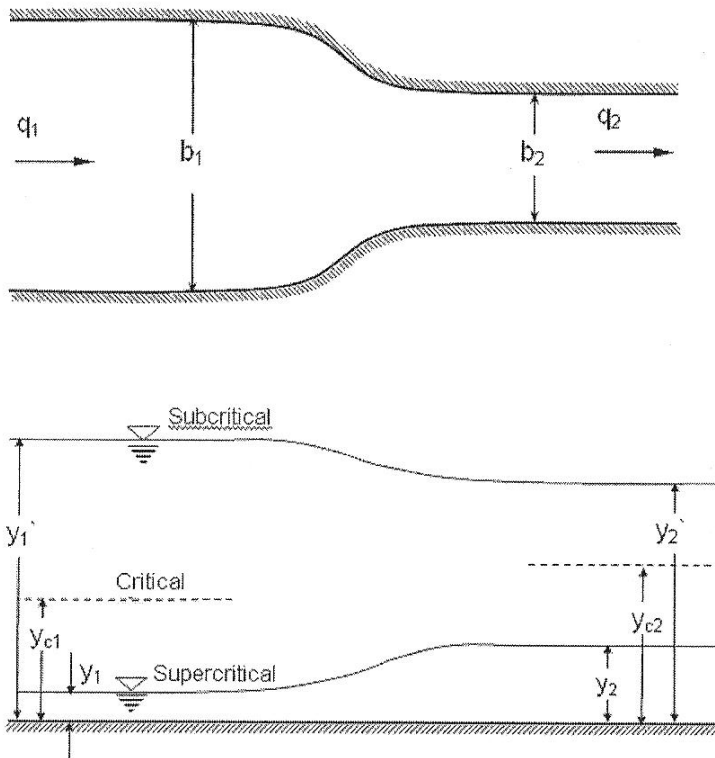
$$q_2 = Q/b_2$$



# Specific Energy Concept

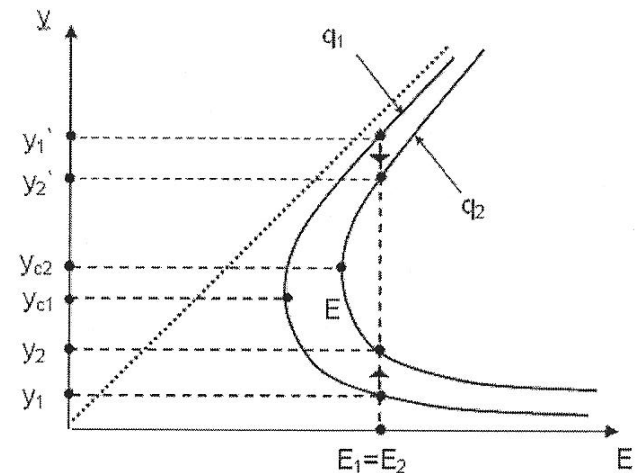
## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

### D.) Channel Contraction (Constant Bed Elevation)



$$q_1 = Q/b_1$$

$$q_2 = Q/b_2$$



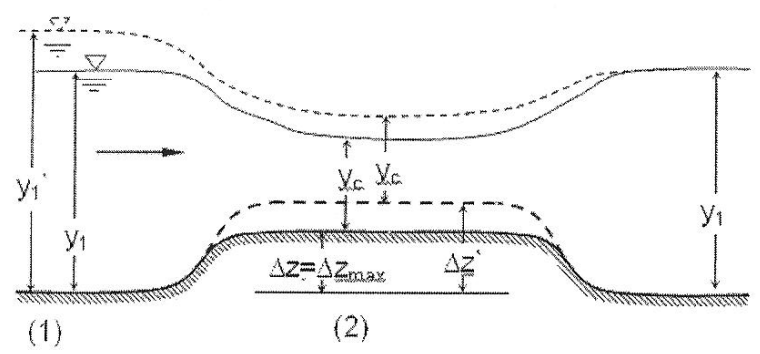


# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

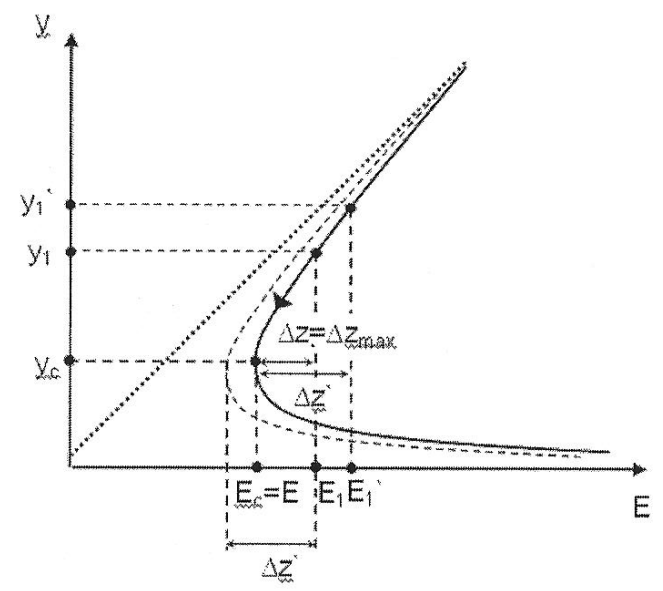
### CHOKING

#### 1) Upward step



$$E_1 = \Delta Z_{max} + E_c, \Delta Z' > \Delta Z_{max}$$

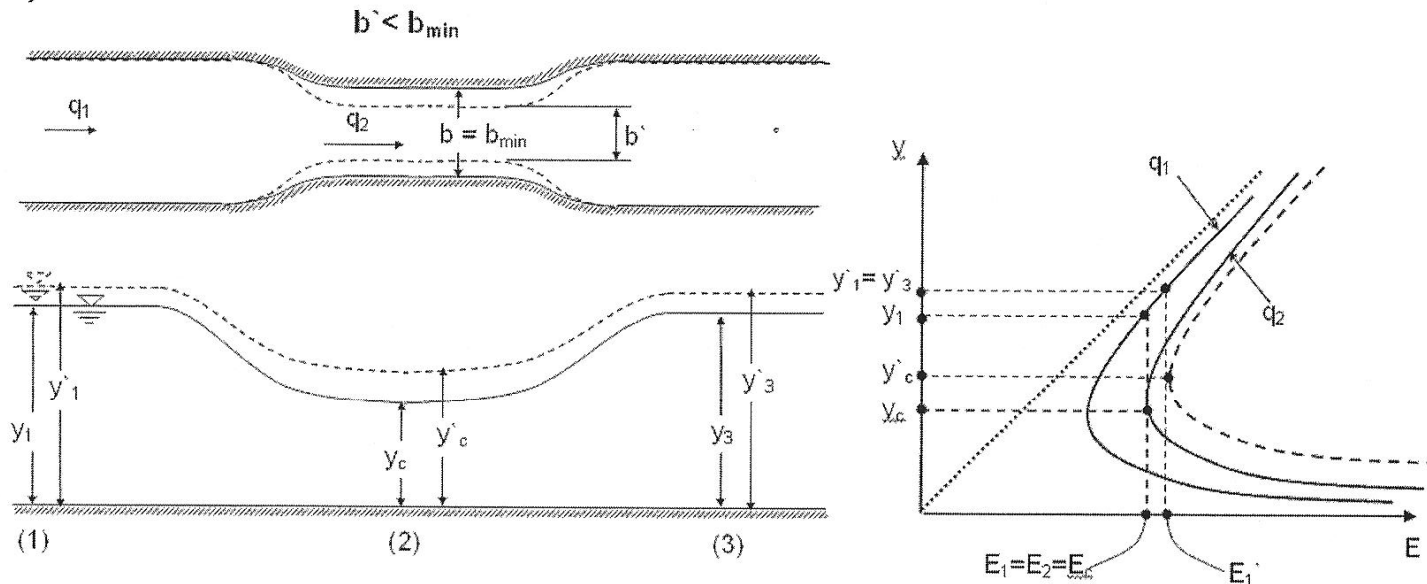
$$E_1' = \Delta Z' + E_c$$



# Specific Energy Concept

## 3.3.3 Channel Transition and Choking Problems

### 2) Contraction



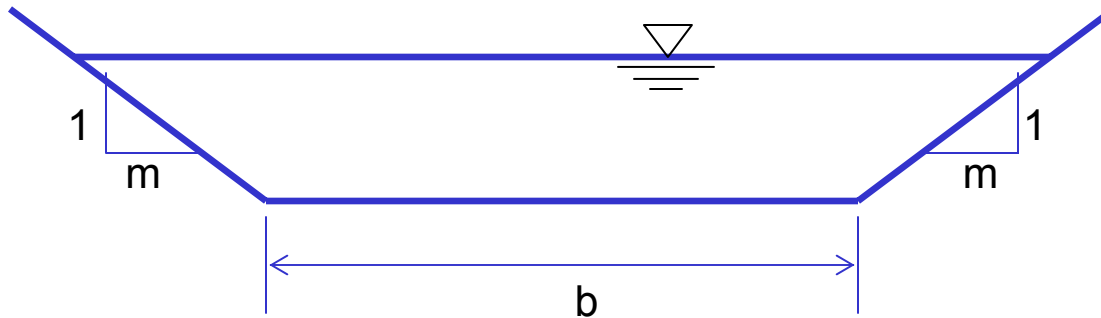
$$E_1 = (E_c)_2 = E_3 \quad \text{if} \quad b = b_{\min}, \quad (E_c)_2 = \frac{3}{2} y_c$$

$$E_1' = (E_c)_2' = E_3' \quad \text{if} \quad b < b_{\min}, \quad (E_c)_2' = \frac{3}{2} y_c'$$

# Specific Energy Concept

## Example 5:

- a) What will be the normal depth corresponding to  $11 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  discharge in a trapezoidal channel for  $b=7.5 \text{ m}$ ,  $m=3$ ,  $S_0=0.00001$ , and  $n=0.025$ .
- b) Compute the critical depth and the min. specific energy.



Solved in the class

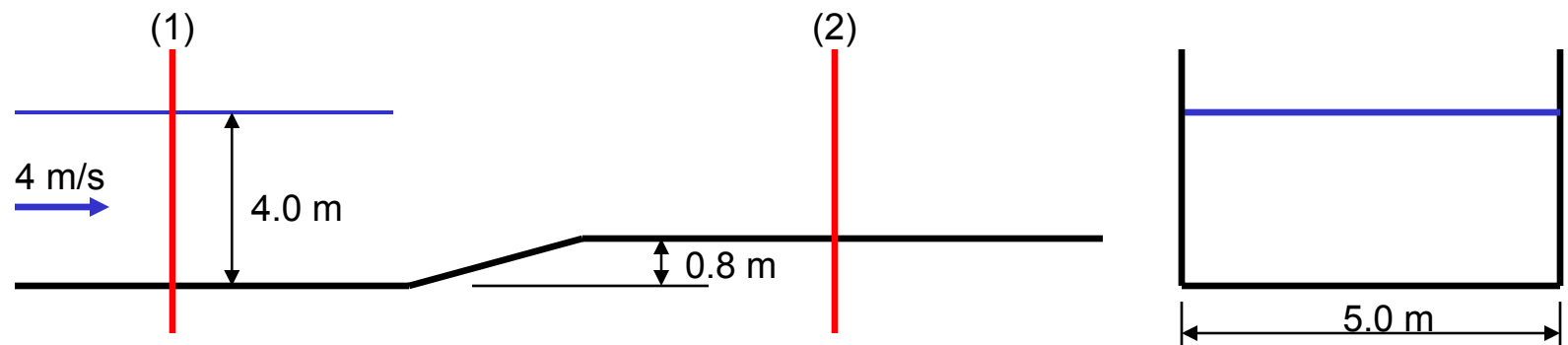
# Specific Energy Concept

Solved in the class

## Example 6:

Water is flowing at a velocity of 4 m/s and a depth of 4 m in a channel of rectangular section of 5 m in width. There is then a smooth upward step of 0.8 m.

- Determine if there is choking.
- If there is choking, determine the decrease in discharge assuming energy at a section 1 remains constant.
- If the discharge is kept to be the same as in (a), what should be the increase in specific energy and depth at section 1.



# Specific Energy Concept

## Example 7:

Water is flowing at a velocity of 4 m/s and a depth of 3 m in a channel of rectangular cross-section 6 m in width. Find the change in depth and absolute water level produced simultaneously by a downward step of 0.4 m and 2 m contraction in width.

Solved in the class