



Features:

- Fixed, smooth bed flow
- Flow over a mobile sand bed
- Mechanics of sediment transport
- Depositional features and facies
- Local scour
- Flow structures
- Bedform hysteresis
- Computational work (Optional)
- Flow over a fixed, gravel bed

Tesca Sedimentation Demonstration Channel allows demonstration of the full range of bedforms that arise in a mobile bed as the flow and/or slope are increased.

The channel can be used to perform most of the experiments and demonstrations are usually undertaken in much larger laboratory flumes, but at a much lower cost and without the need for technician back up. The equipment is portable, and therefore may be used in the classroom as well as in the laboratory. This

demonstration flume can play a useful role in any course concerning the mechanics of open channel flow and sediment transport, including those in departments of civil engineering, geology, and physical geography.

Fixed, smooth bedflow:

The flume may be used without sediment on the bed to demonstrate the following flow phenomena and governing equations:

Tranquil, subcritical flow – the movement of surface waves upstream against the flow

Rapid, supercritical flow – the dominance of inertial over gravity forces, 'shock waves' from flow obstructions

Hydraulic jump – the transition from super to subcritical flow, air entrainment, mixing

Turbulence – flow visualization eg by dye injection from a hypodermic syringe (not supplied)

Flow measurement – using sharp-crested weirs

Governing equations of open channel flow – Reynolds' number, Froude number, continuity, Bernoulli's equation, weir equations flow over a mobile sandbed

Note: Specifications are subject to change.

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Flow over a mobile sandbed:

A sequence of bedforms associated with increasing flow intensity and sediment transport rate. The following bedforms are exhibited (as discharge and/or slope are increased):

Lower Regime:

Plane bed (no motion)

Ripples

Ripples and dunes

Dunes

Washed out dunes

Upper Regime: - Plane bed (with motion)

Standing waves

Antidunes

Breaking antidunes

Chutes and pools

Mechanics of sediment transport:

Starting from a plane bed with no motion, the movement of grains can be observed with emphasis on the following:

Initiation of motion

The trajectory of the initial motion

Movement by rolling and sliding (contact load)

Movement by hopping (saltation load)

Depositional features and facies:

The deposition of sediment load can be observed and the resulting patterns of grains within the sand body (such as cross-bedding, foreset beds, etc) may be identified. The significance of such features when found in geological records can be discussed.

Local scour:

Scour under boils and vortices in the flow is observed under both the lower and upper regime bedforms. Artificial obstructions may be introduced to represent bridge piers, revetments, sills or other man-made structures, and the resulting pattern of scouring

examined. Two such models are included.

Model bridge pier

Flow structures:

The structure of turbulence in the flow may be examined using dye injection (dye injector not included). This is particularly interesting for the dune bedform configuration and clearly demonstrates separation on the lee face. Bedform hysteresis: If the discharge in the flume changes quickly, there is insufficient time for bedforms to adjust to the new flow regime. Hence, if a flood hydrograph is simulated by increasing and then decreasing the discharge, different depths (stages) will occur for the same discharge on the rising and falling limbs. This effect is of major importance to gauging stations on sandbed rivers. It is easily and clearly demonstrated in the flume. Computational work: In addition to illustrating flow and sediment phenomena, the flume can be used for basic data collection and numerical evaluation of the following:

- Flow resistance:
- Manning, Chezy and Darcy - Weisbach friction factors for various bedform configurations
- Bedform prediction:
 - Hjulstrom diagram (velocity)
 - Bogardi diagram (shields parameter)
 - Simons and Richardson charts (stream power)
 - Leeder chart (boundary shear stress)
 - Movement by suspension (suspended load)
- Initiation of motion:
- Hjulstrom's curve
- Shields diagram
- Flow over a fixed gravel bed:

The flume cannot transport gravel but can be used to investigate flow resistance in gravel and polder bed rivers. The flow resistance coefficients may be calculated using

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equations, (such as those of Bray, Limerinos, Hey, Lacey, Thompson & Campbell, and Bathurst), and the results compared to the actual values obtained by observation. It is recommended that users obtain actual gravel material from local sources (gravel not supplied).

Bedforms in sand

As water flows over sand in a river or on a beach it exerts a shear force on the bed. If the flow is strong enough, sand grains are lifted to roll and bounce along the bed. The shape of the bed responds to this motion by transforming into ripples. As the energy of the flow and transport rate of sand increase, the bedforms change. Ripples are replaced by larger dunes.

At higher energy still, the dunes are washed out to produce a flatbed and in extremely energetic flows anti dunes appear.

Bedforms are important in affecting the flow of water and movement of sediment in rivers and on beaches. They also occur in deserts due to the movement of sand by the wind.

Bedforms are preserved when sand deposits are turned into sandstone by geological processes. They are used to reconstruct environments under which the sand was deposited.

Specifications:

A transparent, inclinable flow channel through which water can be re-circulated by a pump over a mobile bed to demonstrate the whole range of bedforms from incipient particle movement to bed wash-out

Three different discharge rates can be selected (and measured) within the range 0.2-0.6 l/s The channel slope can be adjusted within the range of 0-10%

The working section of the channel is 1.55m long, 78mm wide and 110mm deep

The equipment is self-contained and may be bench-mounted in either the classroom or laboratory by virtue of its portability

A model undershot weir and bridge pier are included for local erosion demonstrations A water level gauge is supplied to calibrate the overshot weir

Technical Specifications:

Channel Working Section: Length: 1550mm

Width: 780mm

Depth: 110mm

Discharge Rate: Three fixed flow rates between 0.2-0.6 l/s, selected by a switch on pump Slope: 0 – 10%

Sediment diameter: 0.1-0.3mm

Weight of sand: 15kg

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