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# Hazards in Mountain areas: Debris flows and floods

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IHCAP – Indian Himalayas Climate Change Adaptation Programme  
Capacity building programme Level-2 (February 3, 2015)

# Hazards in Mountain areas: Debris flows and floods

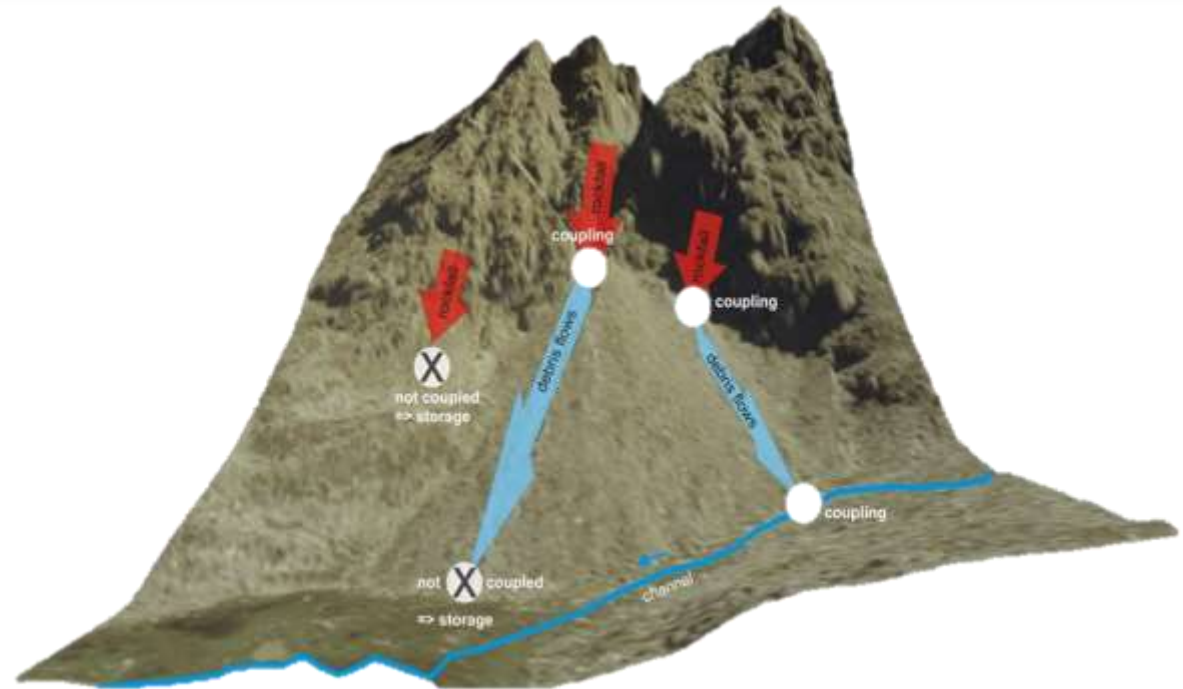
- Summary

- Debris Flows

- Properties
- Parameters
- Analysis
- Modelling

- Floods

- Flood hydrology
- Channel and flow types
- Fluvial processes
- Estimating and reconstructing floods
- Modelling floods: exercises





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# Hazards in Mountain areas: Debris flows

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# Mass movement types

Mass-movement style		Type of material		
		Bedrock	Engineering soils Coarse	Fine
Falling		Rock fall	Debris fall	Earth fall
Toppling		Rock topple	Debris topple	Earth topple
Sliding	Translational	Rock slide	Debris slide	Earth slide
	Rotational	Rock slump	Debris slump	Earth slump
Flowing	Water as pore fluid	Rock flow	Debris flow	Earth flow
	Air as pore fluid	Rock avalanche (deep creep)	Debris avalanche (soil creep)	
Spreading		Rock spread	Debris spread	Earth spread
Complex movements				

Source: Varnes, D.J., 1978. Slope movement types and processes. In: Schuster, R.L., Krizek, R.J. (Eds.), Landslides: Analysis and Control. TRB Special Report 176. Transportation Research Board, National Research Council, Washington, DC, pp. 11–33.



# Debris flow

# Debris flow

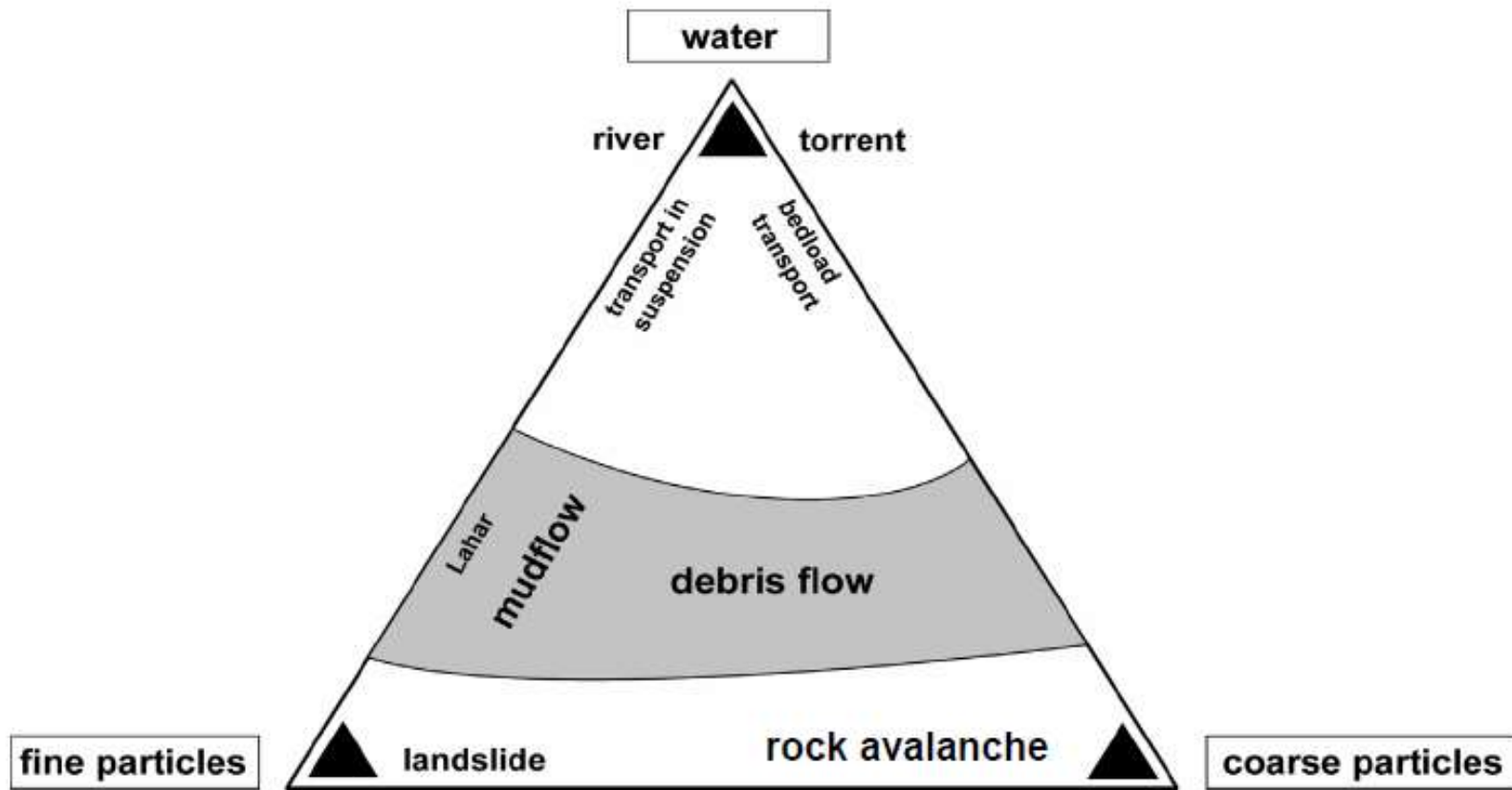
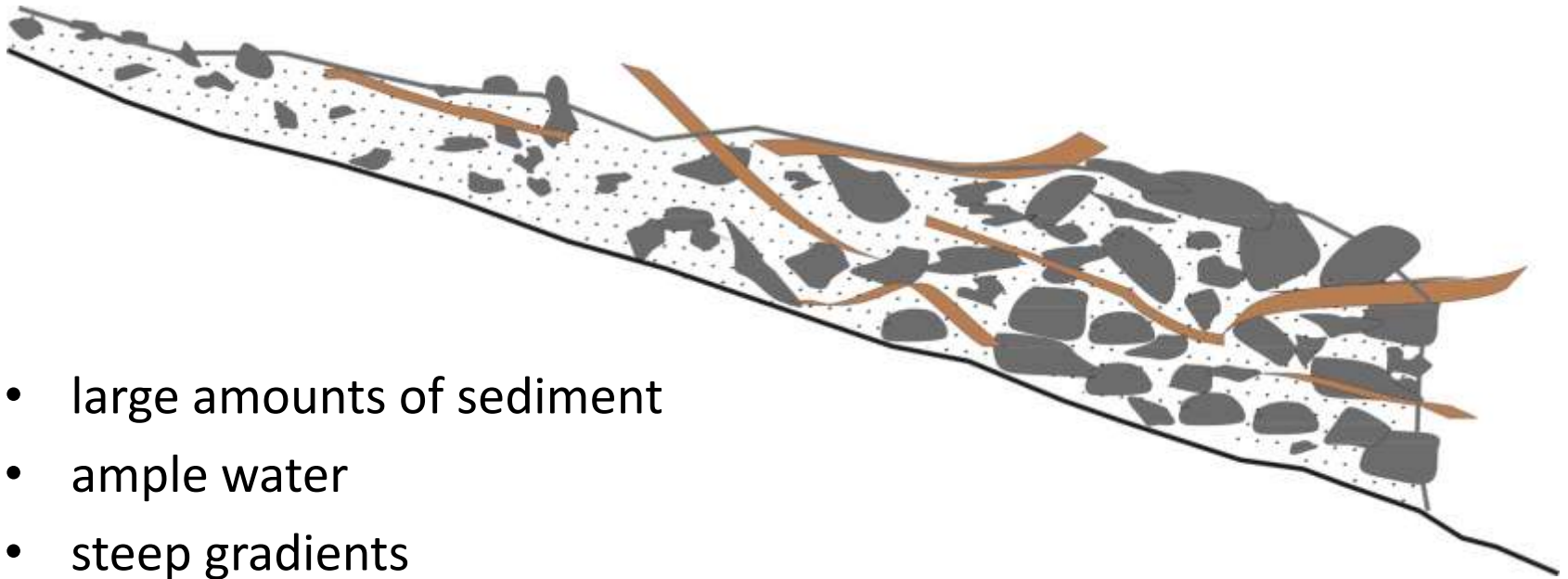


Figure 5: Ternary phase diagram of a debris flows and rapid mass movements (modified from Phillips and Davies, 1991).

# Debris flow

- **Debris flow** = fast moving mixture of unconsolidated water and debris. Their movement is often compared to flowing lava or concrete. A debris flow behaves as Bingham plastics, it is a viscoplastic material that behaves as a rigid body at low stresses but flows as a viscous fluid at high stress (like toothpaste or ketchup...).



- large amounts of sediment
- ample water
- steep gradients

# Debris flow





Table 1: Debris flows: likelihood of occurrence and risk class (from Rickenmann, 1995).

<b>Initiation zone: channel or side- slope gradient</b>	<b>Characteristics of channel and debris potential F (gullies and side-slopes)</b>	<b>Risk class</b>
<b>J &gt; 25%</b>	<b>channel in loose material, larger slope instabilities possible (<math>F &gt; 10'000 \text{ m}^3</math>)</b>	<b>A1</b>
	<b>channel primarily in loose material (<math>F = 1'000 \text{ to } 10'000 \text{ m}^3</math>)</b>	<b>A2</b>
	<b>channel primarily in bedrock (<math>F &lt; 1'000 \text{ m}^3</math>)</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>15% &lt; J &lt; 25%</b>	<b>channel in slate or flysch-like rocks, slope instabilities possible (<math>F &gt; 10'000 \text{ m}^3</math>)</b>	<b>A1</b>
	<b>other rock types, temporary flow blockage possible in channel (<math>F &gt; 10'000 \text{ m}^3</math>)</b>	<b>A2</b>
	<b>channel without possibility for flow blockage (<math>F = 1'000 \text{ to } 10'000 \text{ m}^3</math>)</b>	<b>B</b>
	<b>channel primarily in bedrock (<math>F &lt; 1'000 \text{ m}^3</math>)</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>J &lt; 15%</b>	<b>not relevant</b>	<b>C</b>

**Risk classes:**

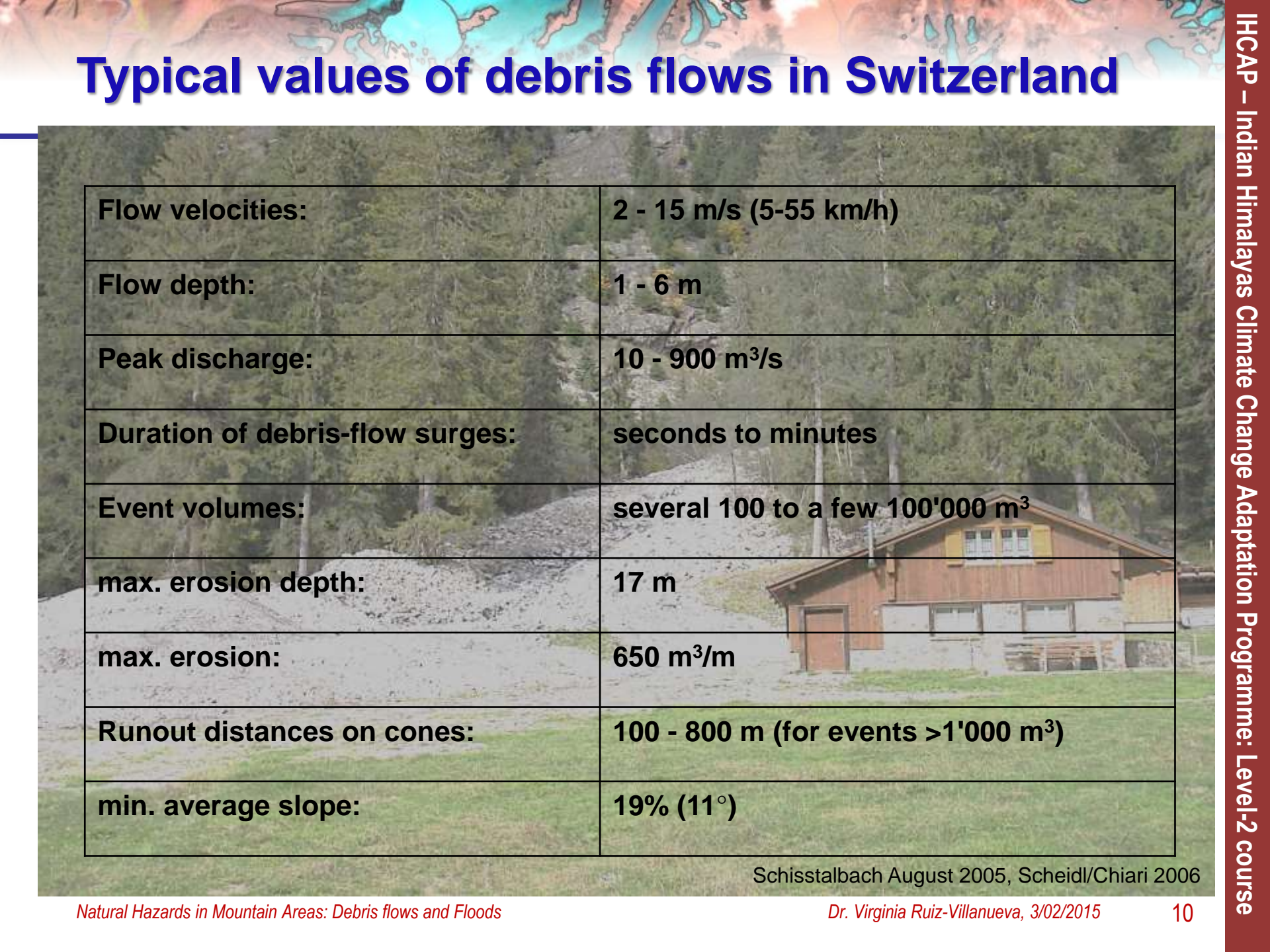
**A1** - strong risk of debris flows

**B** - weak risk of debris flows

**A2** - risk of debris flows

**C** - almost no risk of debris flows

# Typical values of debris flows in Switzerland



<b>Flow velocities:</b>	<b>2 - 15 m/s (5-55 km/h)</b>
<b>Flow depth:</b>	<b>1 - 6 m</b>
<b>Peak discharge:</b>	<b>10 - 900 m<sup>3</sup>/s</b>
<b>Duration of debris-flow surges:</b>	<b>seconds to minutes</b>
<b>Event volumes:</b>	<b>several 100 to a few 100'000 m<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>max. erosion depth:</b>	<b>17 m</b>
<b>max. erosion:</b>	<b>650 m<sup>3</sup>/m</b>
<b>Runout distances on cones:</b>	<b>100 - 800 m (for events &gt;1'000 m<sup>3</sup>)</b>
<b>min. average slope:</b>	<b>19% (11°)</b>

Schisstalbach August 2005, Scheidl/Chiari 2006

# Debris flow



# Debris flow Parameters

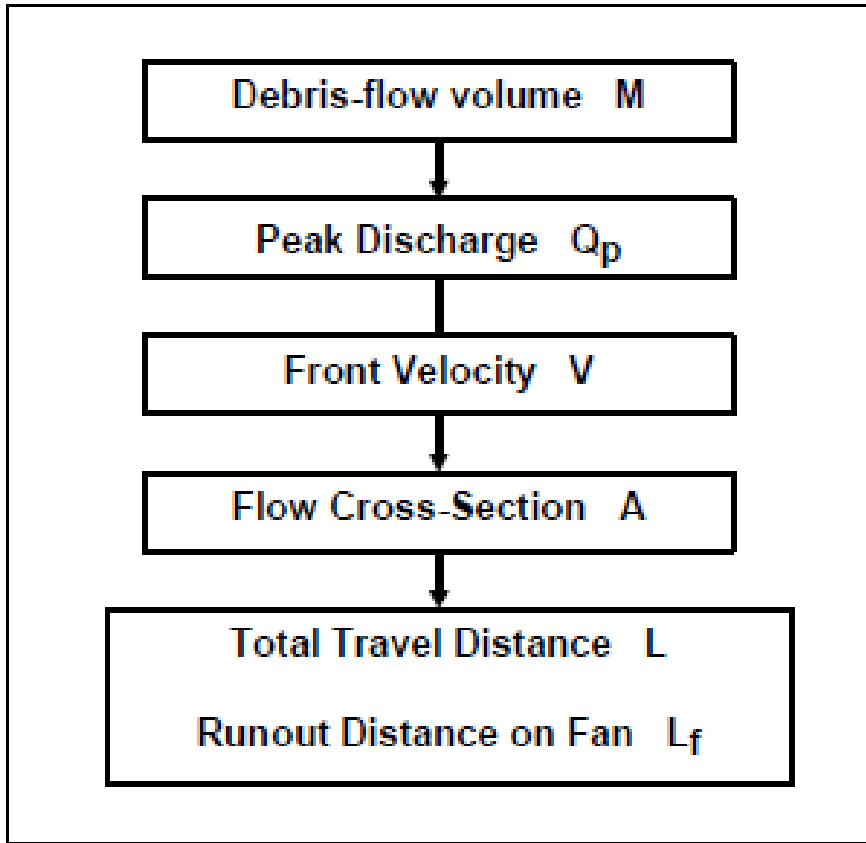
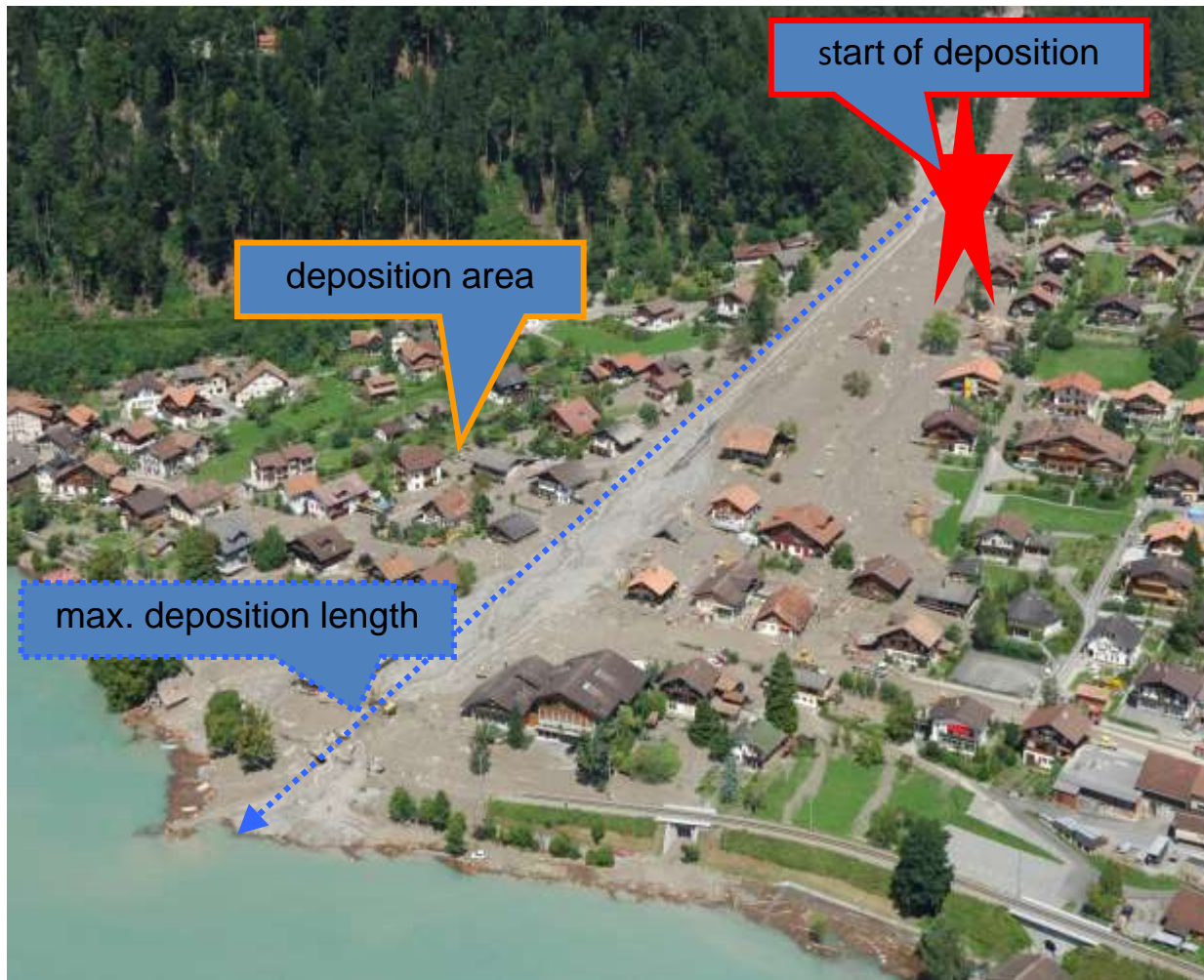


Figure 1: Sequence of estimating debris-flow parameters using empirical formulae (from Rickenmann, 1999).

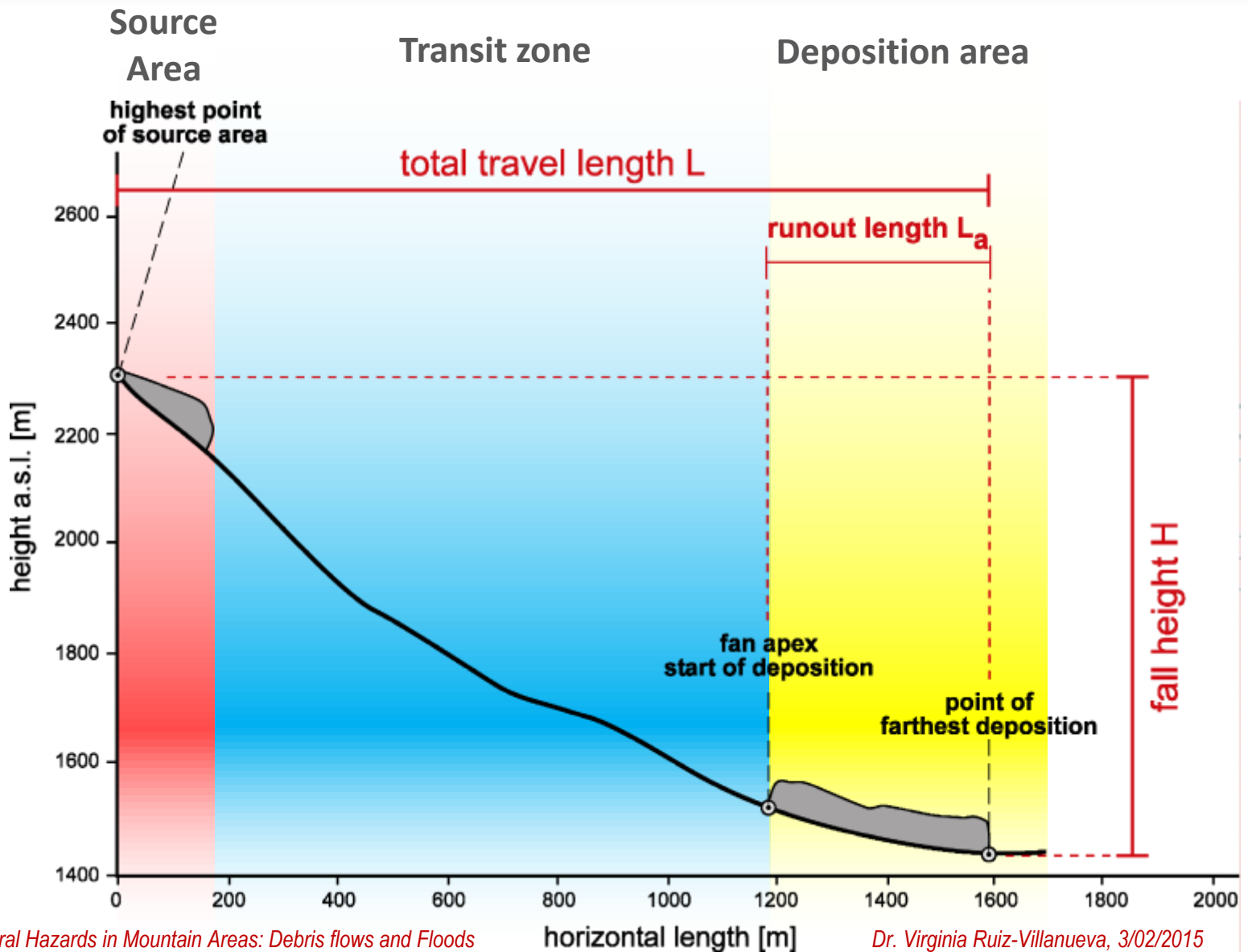
# Debris flow Parameters

The term runout of debris flows refer to the length and form of the deposit area.



Event: Glyssibach August 2005,  
© Schweizer Luftwaffe 2005

# Geometry



# Debris flow patterns

## Runout pattern

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D. Rickenmann and C. Scheidl

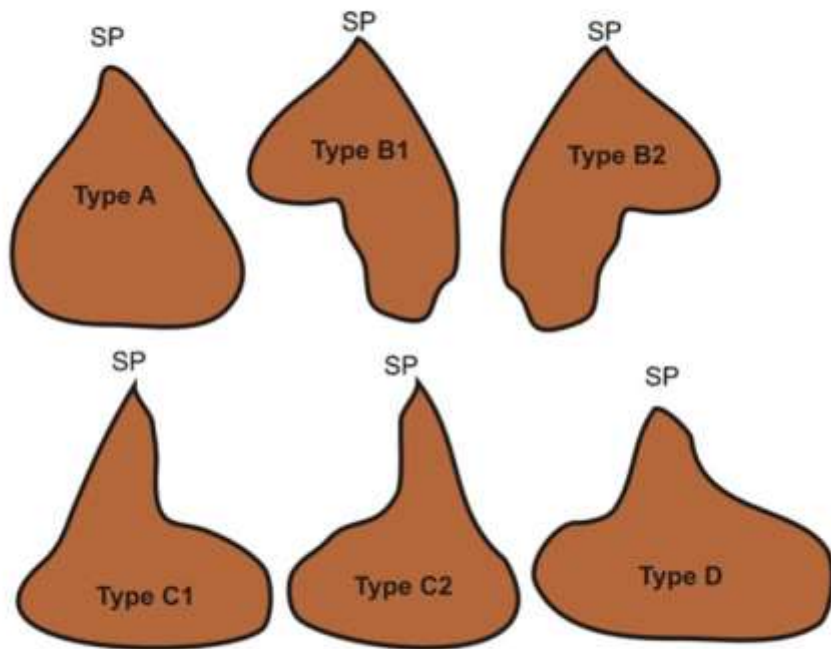
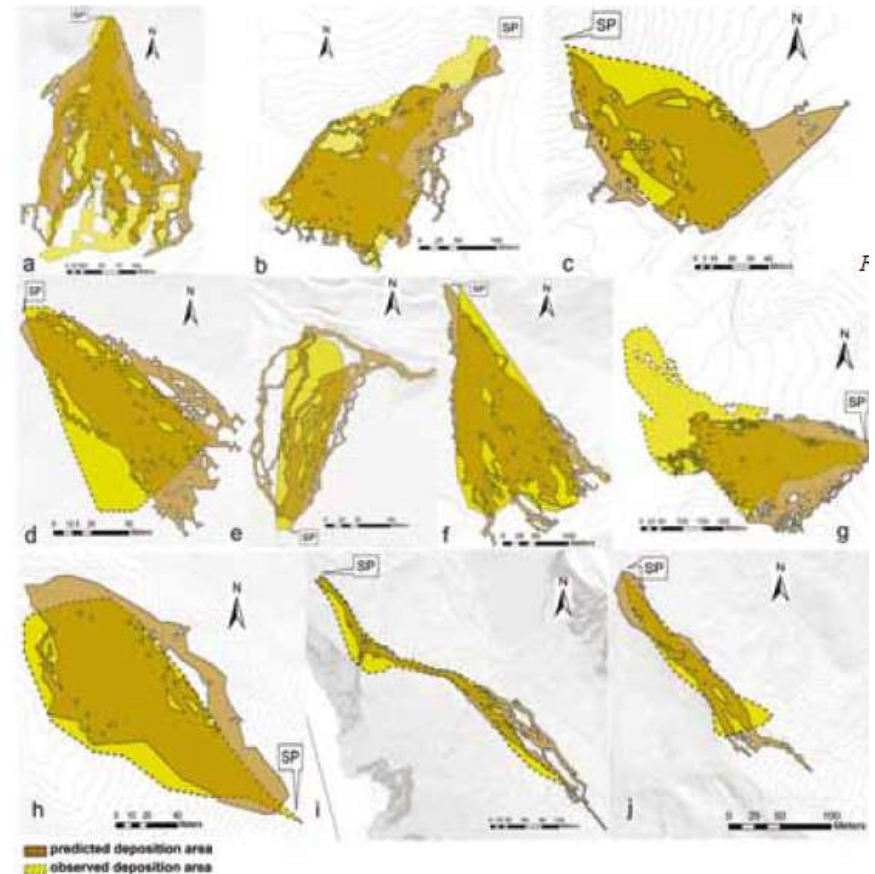


Fig. 3 Types of different recent runout patterns. SP denotes the start point of the deposition (often the fan apex)



# Debris flow field investigations



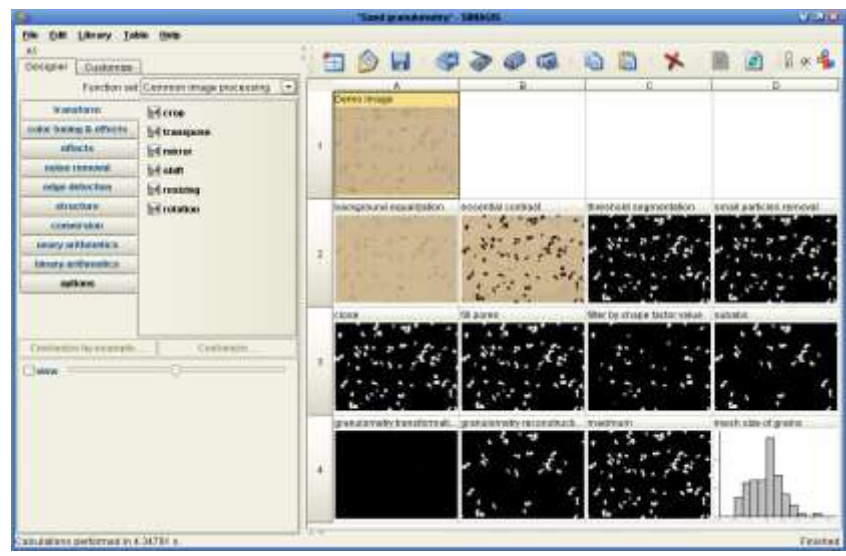
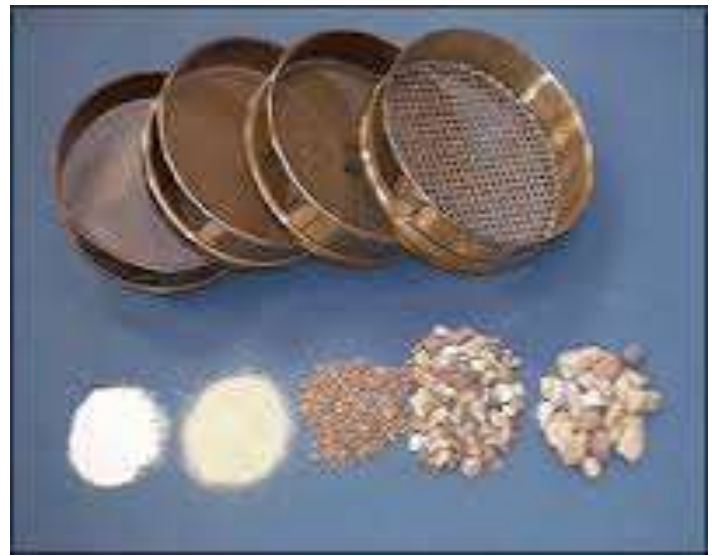
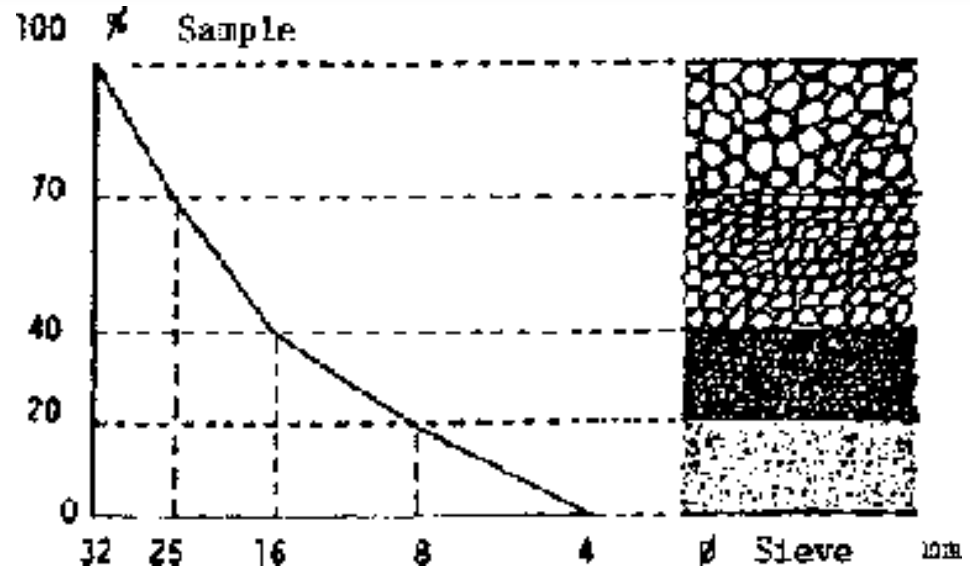
To determine the rheological parameter values characterising the behaviour of a debris flow:

- a grain-size analysis
- rheological analysis

the choice of the sampling point is important



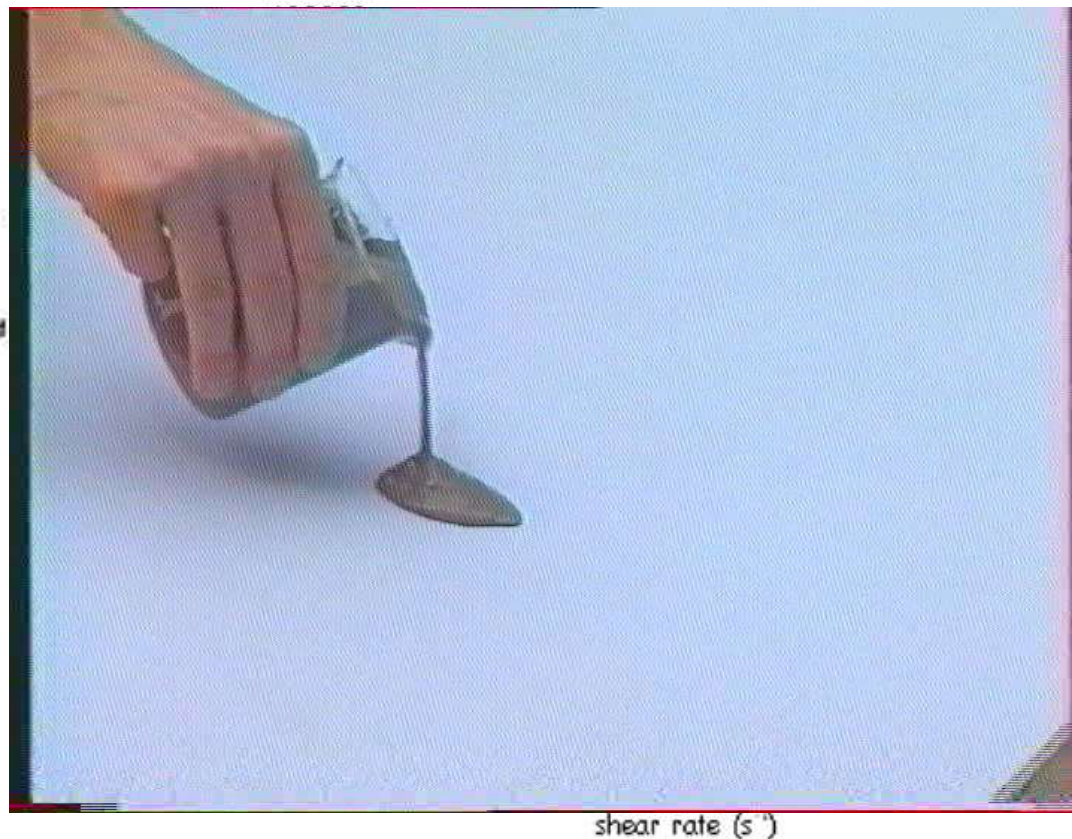
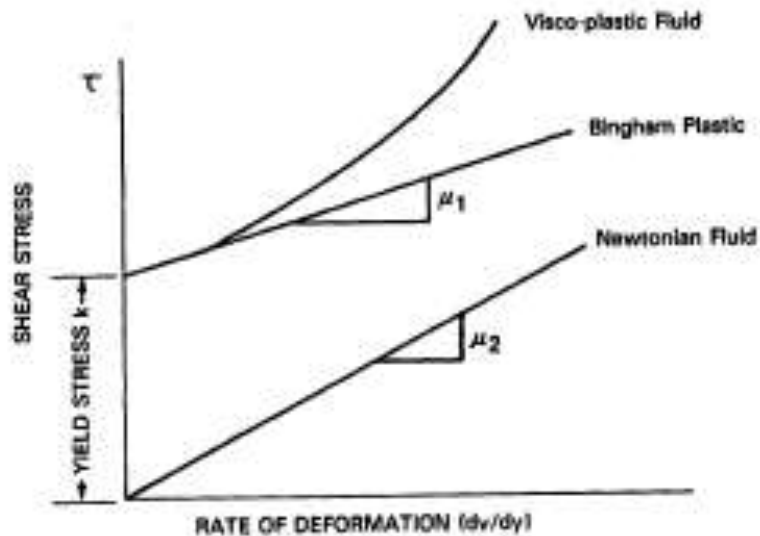
# Debris flow field investigations: grain-size analysis



# Debris flow field investigations: rheological analysis

The rheological study concerned only the fine fraction passing the 0.063 mm sieve.

The aim is to characterise the viscous behaviour of such plastic systems



Debris flow can be related with a Bingham model

# Debris flow analysis

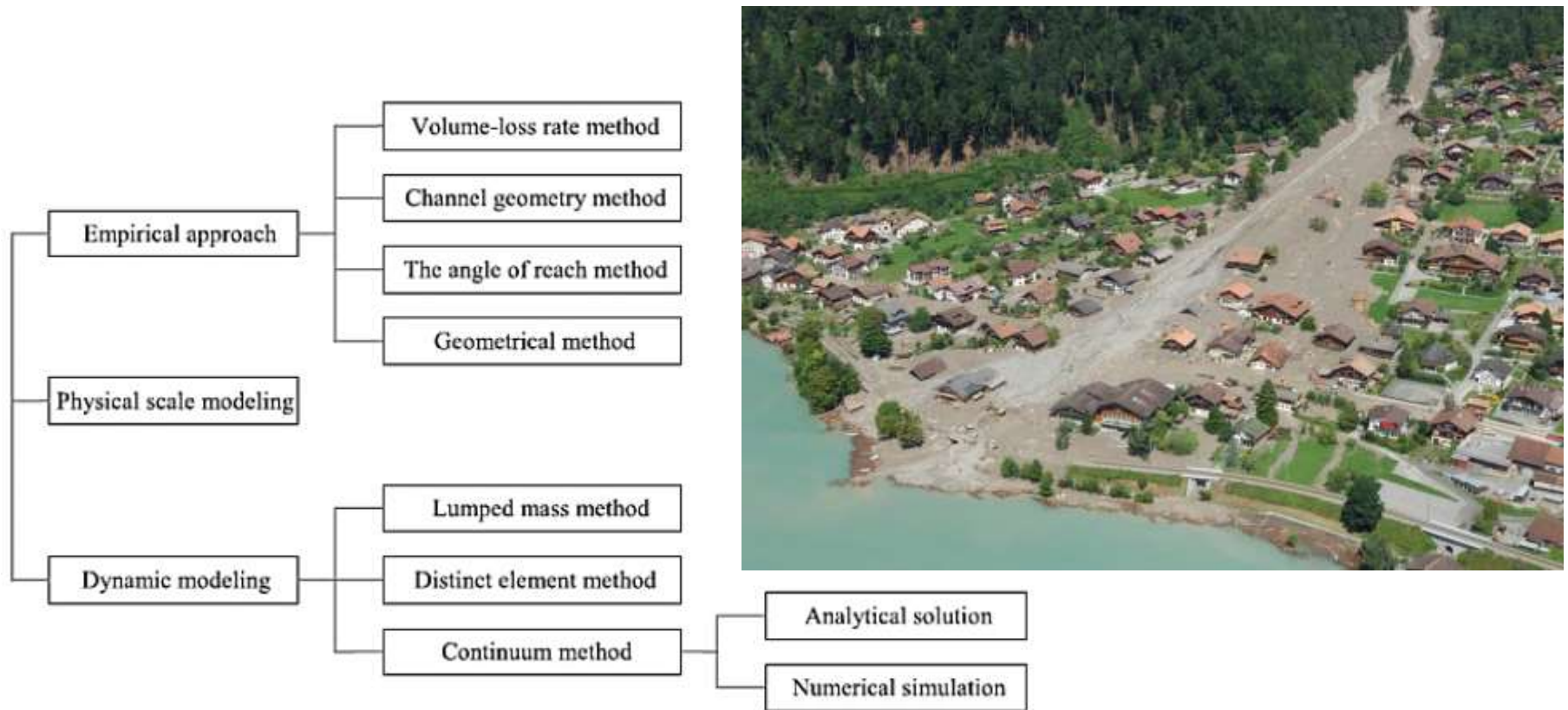
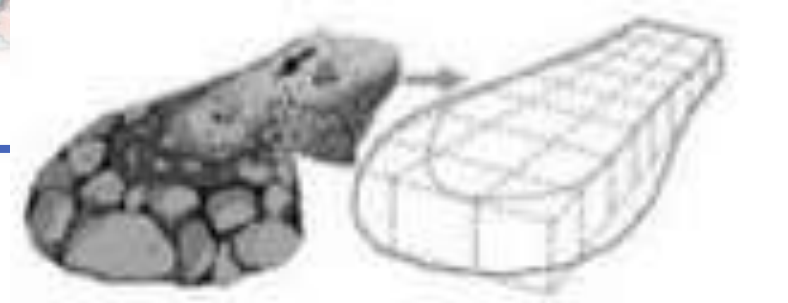


Figure 5 Summary of the run-out prediction approaches (adapted from: Chen & Lee (2004))

# Debris flow analysis



numerical models can simulate the total runout distance, the velocity and flow depth at each point along the flow path

A number of models are based on a **rheological formulation for a Bingham or viscoplastic fluid** (Laigle and Coussot, 1997; Fraccarollo and Papa, 2000; Imran et al., 2001)

some of them including a friction term accounting for **channel roughness** and **turbulence** (Han and Wang, 1996; Jin and Fread, 1999).

In several model applications, the **Voellmy fluid flow rheology (friction)** was successfully used for back-calculating velocity and runout distance of debris flows (e.g. Jakob et al., 2000; Hürlimann et. al., 2003b; Revellino et al., 2004; Naef et al., 2006).

*appropriate values for the rheological parameters are assumed or back-estimated from field observations*

# Debris flow modelling

1- Dimensional (1-D)		2-Dimensional (2-D)	
Empirical/statistical	Dynamical	Empirical/statistical	Dynamical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corominas (1996)</li> <li>• Rickenmann(1999)</li> <li>• ACS Method (Prochaska, 2008)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takahashi, Yoshida (1979), Hungr et al. (1984), Takahashi (1991)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laharz (Iverson et al. 1998)</li> <li>• Dflowz (Berti &amp; Simoni, 2007)</li> <li>• TopRun DF (Scheidl &amp; Rickenmann, 2009)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FLO-2D (O’Brien et al., 1993)</li> <li>• RAMMS (Christen et al., 2010)</li> <li>• FLAT-Model (Medina et al., 2008)</li> <li>• TopFlow DF (Scheidl &amp; Rickenmann, 2011)</li> </ul>

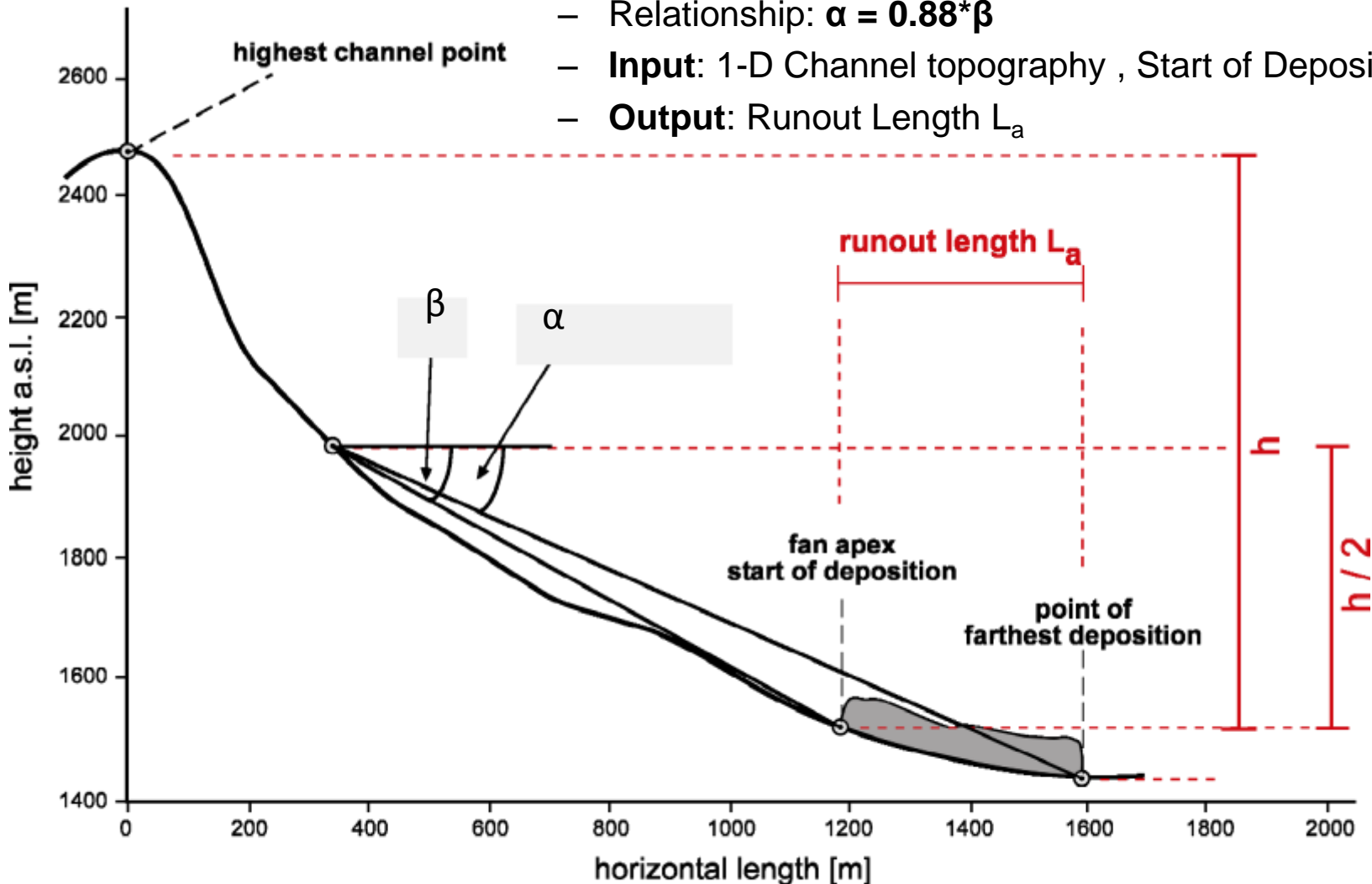
The choice of the appropriate model depends on:

- Prevailing conditions (geology, morphology, hydrology, human influence)
- **Quantity and quality of available information**
- Purpose of simulation results
- Cost-effectiveness considerations

# 1D: average channel slope (ACS)

Prochaska, (2008)

- Relationship:  $\alpha = 0.88 \cdot \beta$
- **Input:** 1-D Channel topography , Start of Deposition
- **Output:** Runout Length  $L_a$



# 1D: Empiric-statistical approaches

- Corominas (1996)

- Relationship:  $L = 1.03 * V^{0.105} * H$

- Input: 1-D channel topography; Debris Flow Volume, Location of release area

- Output: Total Travel Length L

- Rickenmann (1999,2005)

- Relationship:  $L = 1.9 * V^{0.16} * H^{0.83}$

- Input: 1-D channel topography; Debris Flow Volume, Location of release area

- Output: Total Travel Length L

# 1D: Empiric-statistical approaches

The total travel or runout distance,  $L$ , of a debris flow may be important to know for a rough delineation of potentially endangered areas (as for example made in hazard index maps)

$$f_m = H_e/L$$

$H_e$  is the elevation difference between the starting point and the lowest point of deposition of the mass movement

mean gradient ( $f_m$ )

$$f_m = 0.20 A_c^{-0.20}$$

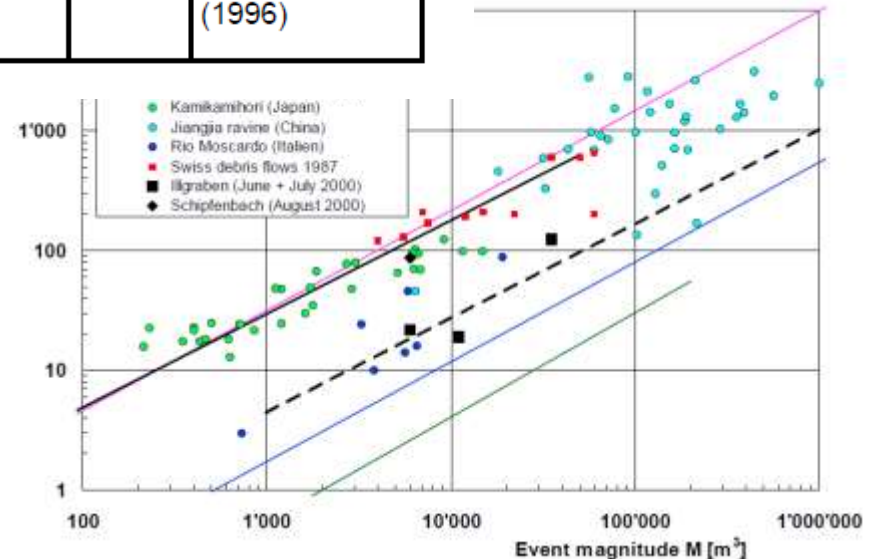
as a function of the catchment area  $A_c$  [km<sup>2</sup>]



# 1D: Empiric-statistical approaches

Table 2: Empirical formulae relating debris-flow peak discharge and event magnitude (from Rickenmann, 1999).

Flow type	Formula	Eq.	N	$r^2$	Source
granular debris flows (Japan)	$Q_p = 0.135 M^{0.780}$	(2)	~ 50	nn	Mizuyama et al. (1992)
muddy debris flows (Japan)	$Q_p = 0.0188 M^{0.790}$	(3)	~100	nn	Mizuyama et al. (1992)
lahars, Merapi volcano (Indonesia)	$Q_p = 0.00558 M^{0.831}$	(4)	~200	0.95	Jitousono et al. (1996)
lahars, Sakurajima volcano (Japan)	$Q_p = 0.00135 M^{0.870}$	(5)	~100	0.81	Jitousono et al. (1996)



# 1D: Empiric-statistical approaches

To describe the flow velocity of debris flows

The peak or **front flow velocity**  $V$  of debris flows may be estimated using a Manning-Strickler type equation (Rickenmann, 1999):

$$V = (1/n) h^{0.67} S^{0.5}$$

where  $h$  is the flow depth,  $S$  is the channel slope, and pseudo-Manning  $n$  values are around  $0.1 \text{ s/m}^{1/3}$ .

$$V = 2.1 Q^{0.33} S^{0.33}$$

where  $V$  is in  $[\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}]$ ,  $Q$  in  $[\text{m}^3\cdot\text{s}^{-1}]$  and  $S$  is a fraction (sin of the bedslope angle)

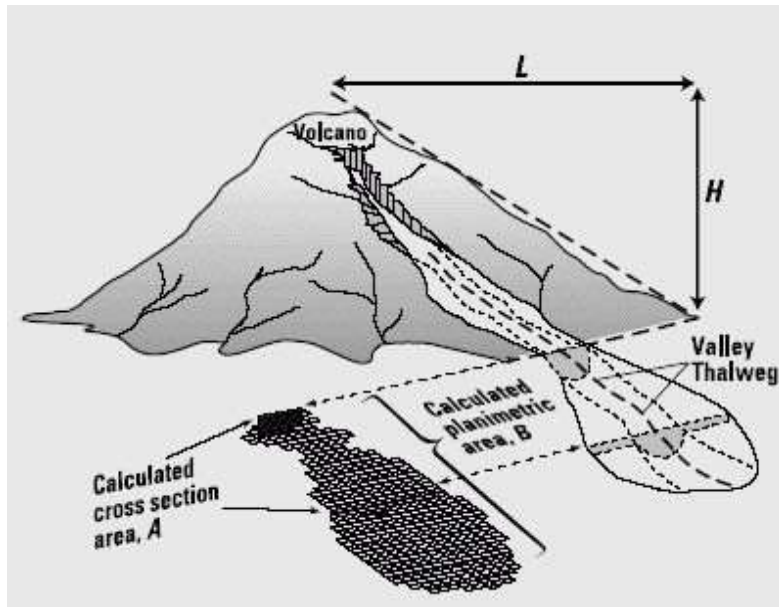
# Conclusion 1-D

- Application under consideration:
  - Flow path known a priori
  - Sediment source area is clearly identified
  - Lateral spreading on the fan can be neglected (e.g. confined channel) or is of minor interest
  - Considerable uncertainties of predicted runout distances
- Possible Application:
  - Pre-screening of possible runout lengths on a coarser scale
  - Estimation of runout length in clearly confined channels without expected overflowing

# 2D: Empiric-statistical approaches

LAHARZ (USGS, Iverson et al., 1998)

Runout-prediction of volcanic mudflows (Lahars)



Iverson described the runout of Lahars due to 2 empirical equations:

$$A = 0.05 \cdot V^{2/3}$$

$$B = 200 \cdot V^{2/3}$$

$V$  = Volume

$A$  = Flow Cross Section

$B$  = Deposition Area

Delineation of lahar-inundation hazard zones (Iverson et al., 1998).

# 2-D Dynamic models

- **Flo 2D**
  - based on Quadratic rheological model
  - finite difference
  - Commercial code
- **RAMMS**
  - Simulates 2-phase flows, based on friction relations of Voellmy-Salm
  - Prediction of areas of inundation, inundation level, flow velocity
  - Commercial code
- **TopRun DF and TopFlow DF**
  - semi-empirical approach with stochastic elements
  - Open-source code

## 2-D Dynamic models: FLO-2D

FLO-2D is a 2-dimensional flood-routing model based on a model using a quadratic rheological model that includes viscous stress, yield stress, turbulence and dispersive stress terms as a function of sediment concentration.

The model uses the full dynamic wave momentum equation and a central finite difference routing scheme with eight potential flow directions to predict the progression of a flood hydrograph over a system of square grid elements.

(O'Brien and Julien, 1988; Calligaris et al., 2008)

# 2-D Dynamic models: RAMMS

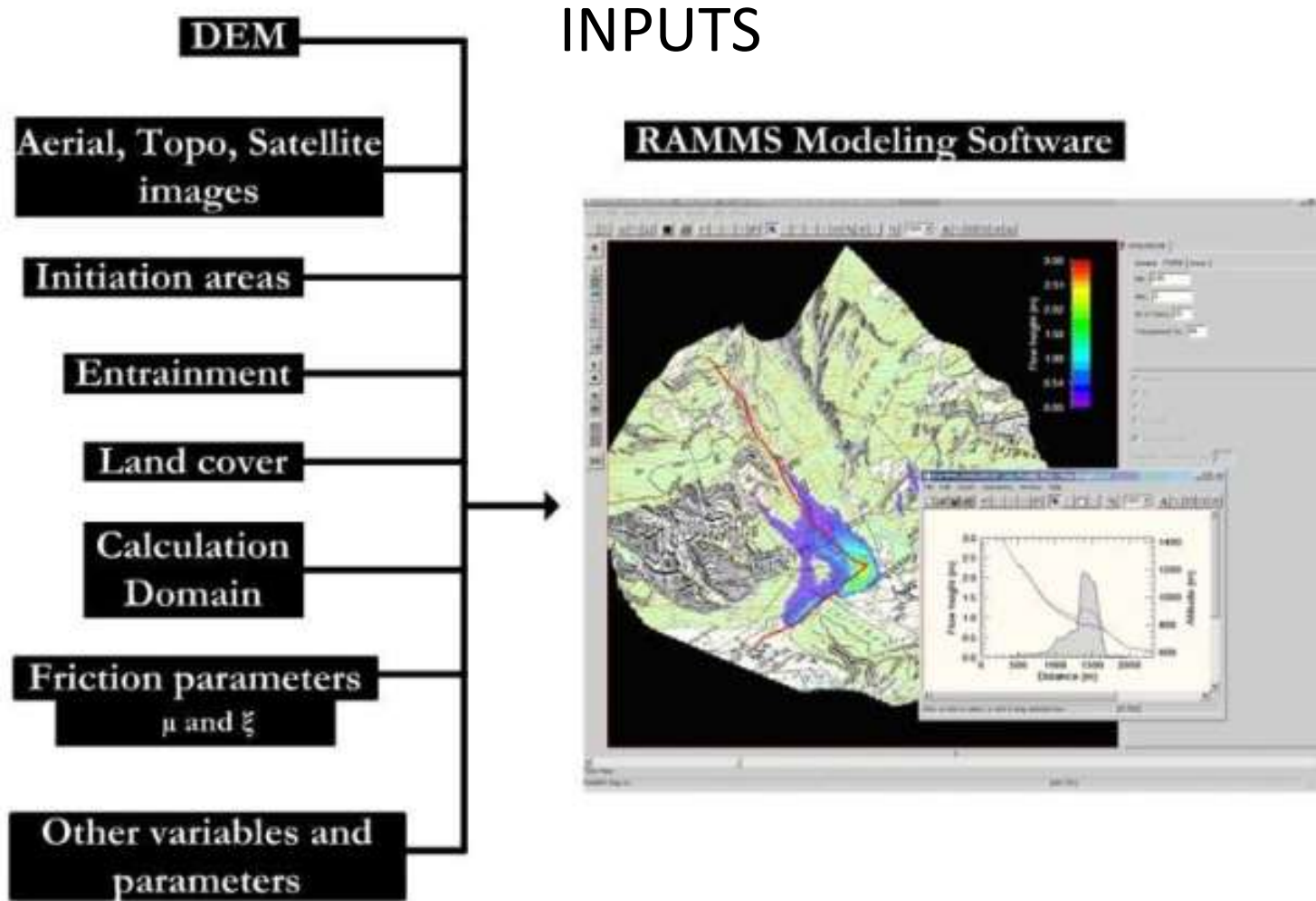
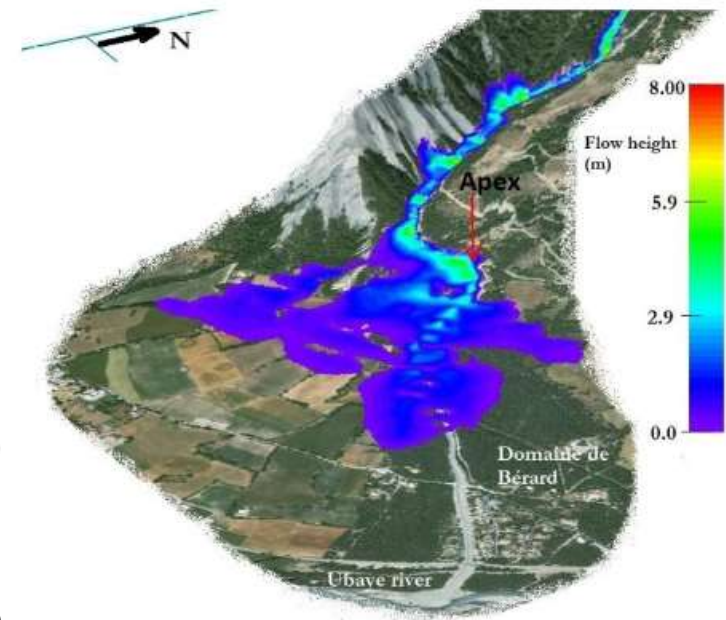


Figure 28 RAMMS inputs and the user interface

# 2-D Dynamic models: RAMMS

## OUTPUTS

- Initiation, entrainment and deposit volumes (m<sup>3</sup>) at any moment of the flow
- The surface area of the flow (m<sup>2</sup>) at any moment
- Deposit heights (m)
- velocities (m/s)
- impact pressures (kPa)
- entrainment rates (kg/m<sup>2</sup>s) and eroded mass (kg) at any moment of the flow
- Longitudinal path profiles and cross sections of the debris flow
- Animations of the entire flow in the GIF file format



HUSSIN, 2011



# 2-D Dynamic models: RAMMS

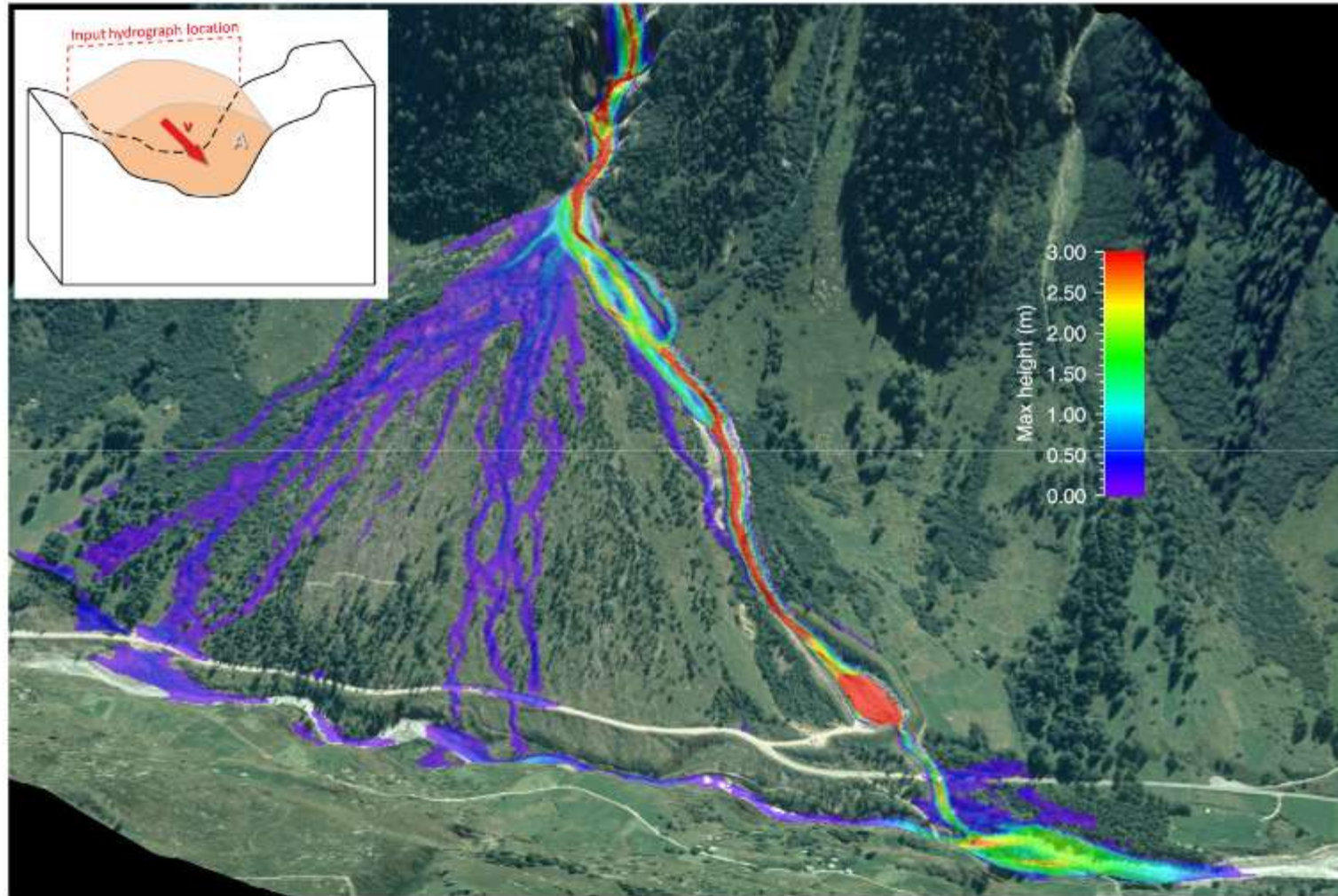


Fig. 3 RAMMS::DEBRIS FLOW simulation, Stampbach, Switzerland. Hydrograph (upper left): discharge  $Q = A * v$  ( $m^3/s$ ) where  $A$  ( $m^2$ ) is the cross-sectional area of the debris flow and  $v$  ( $m/s$ ) the inflow velocity.

## 2-D Dynamic models: TopFlow DF

TopFlowDF combines the simple physical approach of the constant discharge model with a random based flow algorithm which is also implemented in the empirical runout prediction model TopRunDF (Sch eidl & Rickenmann, 2010).

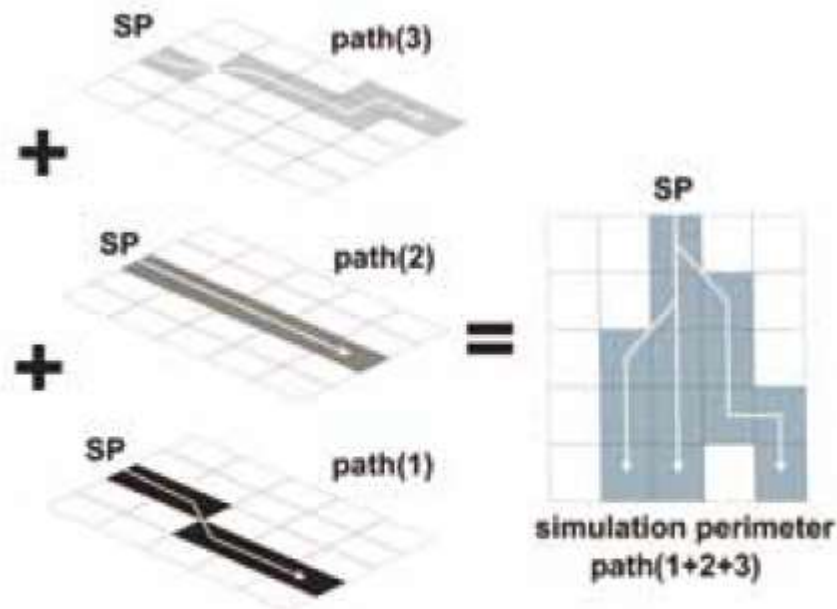


Fig. 3 - Estimation of the simulation perimeter with multiple individual flow pathways. SP denotes the user defined start point

The **input** parameters:

- debris-flow volume,
- a mobility coefficient,
- a starting point of the deposition (fan apex)
- digital terrain model of the fan area

# 2-D Dynamic models: TopFlow DF

C. SCHEIDL & D. RICKENMANN

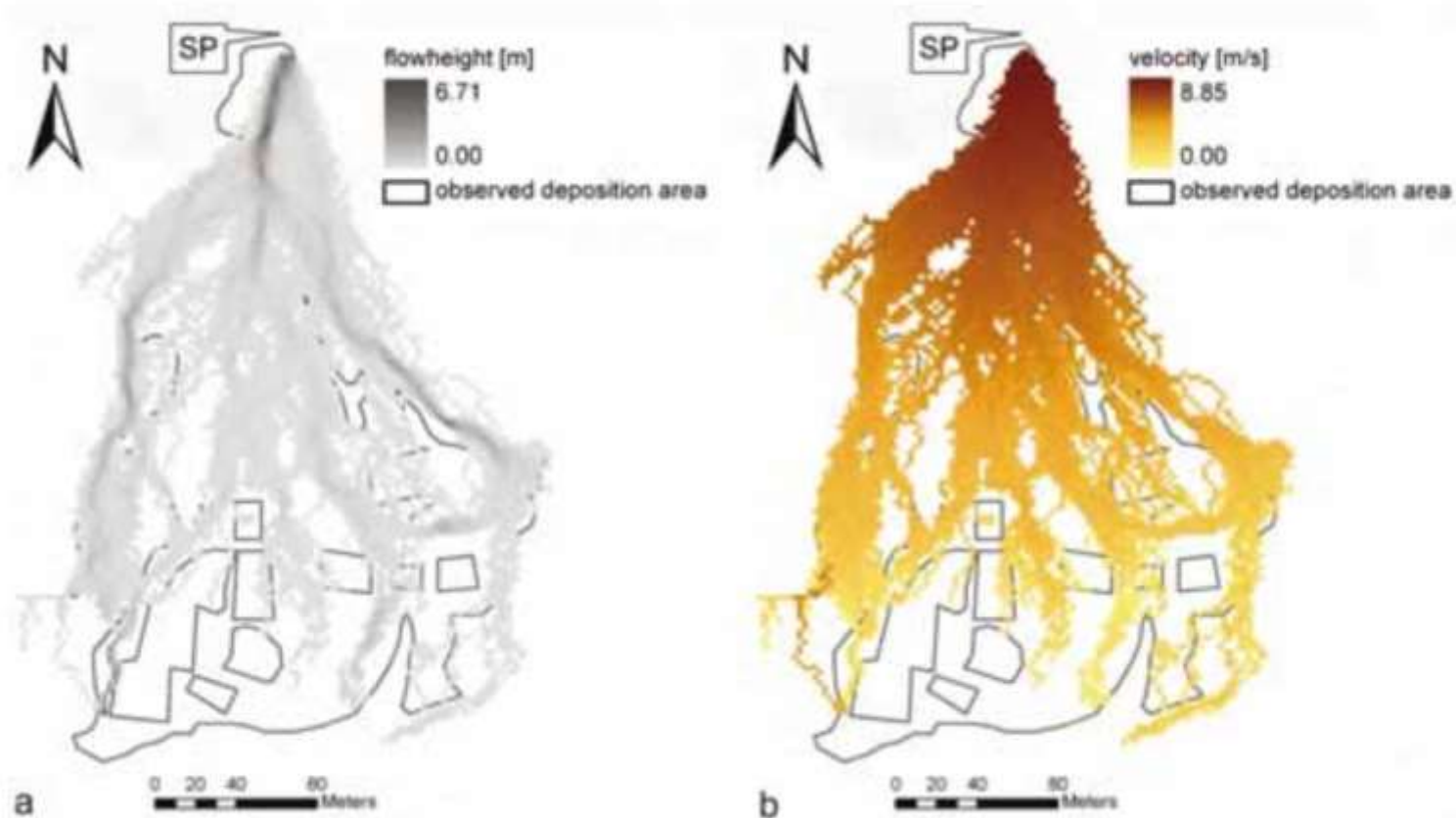
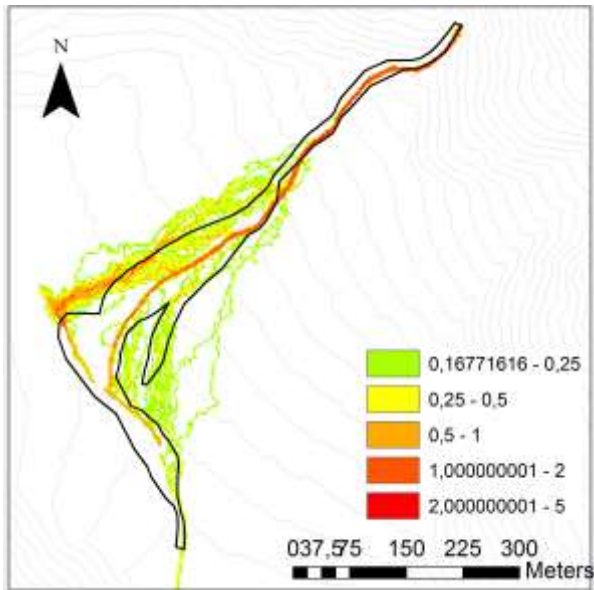


Fig. 4 - Simulation results of TopFlowDF for the Glattbach debris-flow event. a) predicted deposition zones, b) predicted velocity pattern. SP denotes the starting point of the simulation Contour interval is 1 m

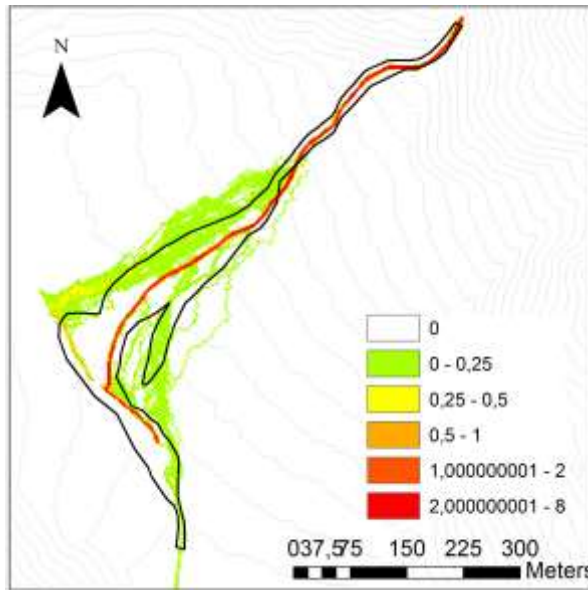
# 2-D Dynamic models

Best fit simulations for Arundakopfbach (South Tyrol):

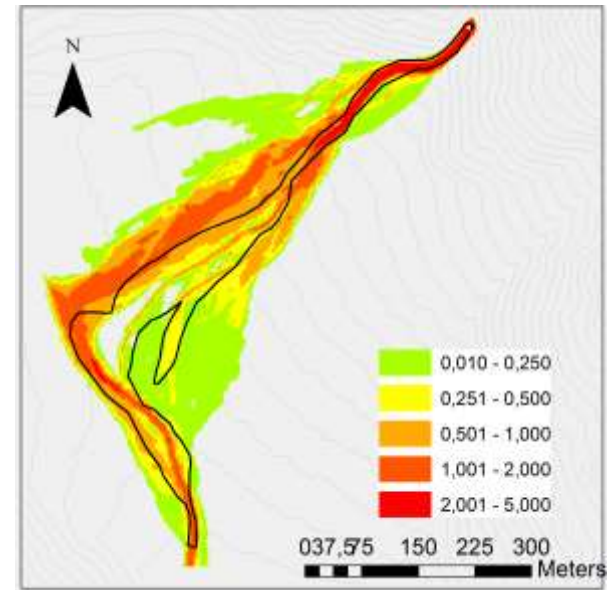
$$V_{\text{dok}} = 15.000 \text{ m}^3, A_{\text{dok}} = 35.500 \text{ m}^2$$



topRun DF:  
MCS = 50  
Kb=58



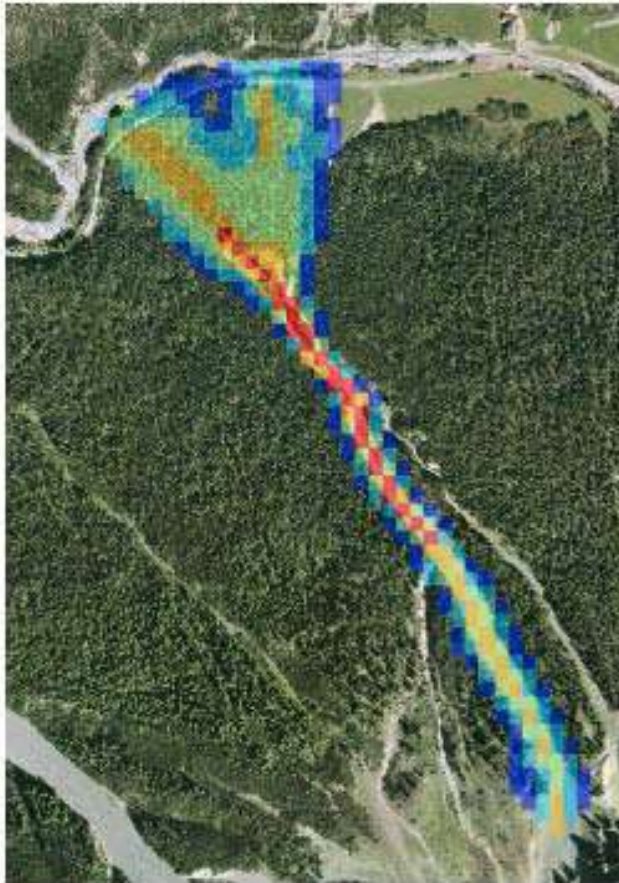
topFlow DF:  
MCS = 50  
Kb=58  
Sfric = 1.032



RAMMS:  
 $\mu = 0.09$   
 $\xi = 250$   
t =

# 2-D Dynamic models

FLO-2D 25m



FLO-2D 4m

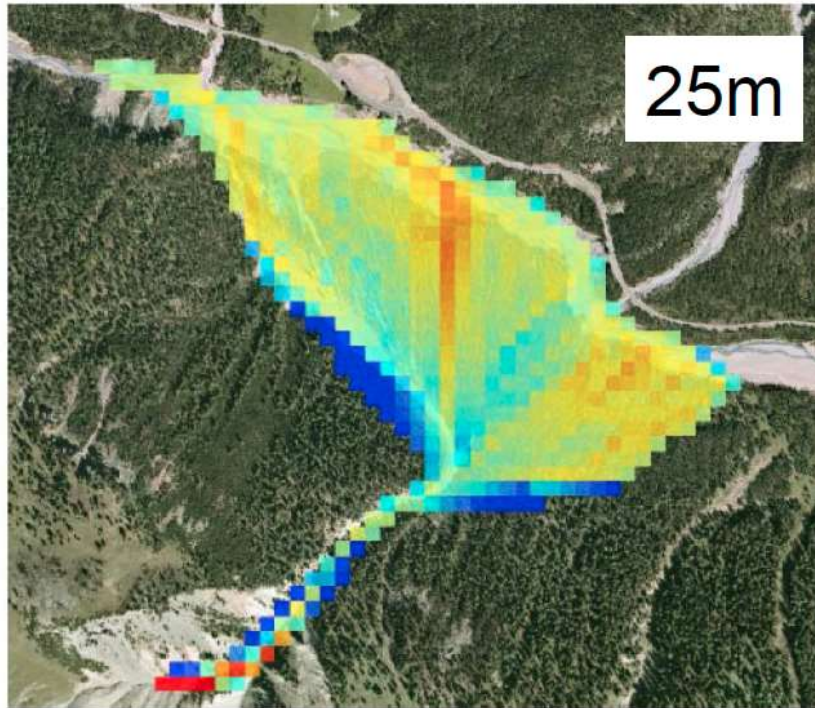


Massstab 1:15'000

Quelle: RGB Orthophoto, © Nationalpark

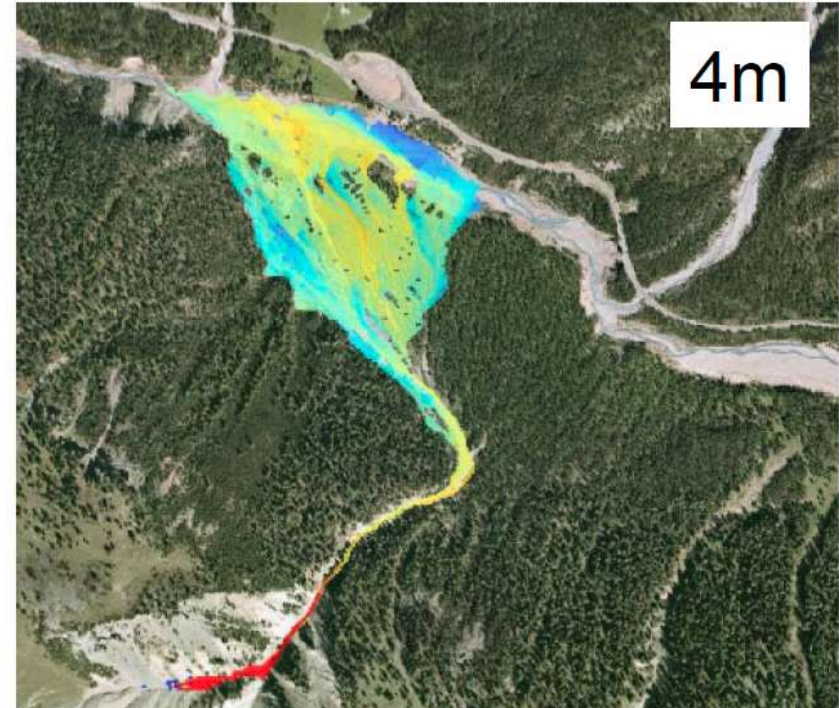


# 2-D Dynamic models



N  
Massstab 1:10'000  
Quelle: RGB Orthophoto, © Nationalpark

Hohe  
Wahrscheinlichkeit  
Tiefe  
Wahrscheinlichkeit



N  
Massstab 1:10'000  
Quelle: RGB Orthophoto, © Nationalpark

Hohe  
Wahrscheinlichkeit  
Tiefe  
Wahrscheinlichkeit

Stolz and Huggel, 2008

# Debris flow modelling: calibration

The calibration of model parameters can be best developed through the back-analysis of historic events

Debris flows are **complex phenomena**, due to spatial and temporal variability in material properties (Sosio et al., 2007; Scotto Di Santolo and Evangelista, 2008), they are made up of soil, rock and water (Pirulli et al., 2008).

Their **flow characteristics** depend on the **water content, sediment size and/or sorting**, and on the dynamic **interaction between the solid and fluid phases** (Pirulli et al., 2008). In particular, the rheological properties naturally change, even **during a single debris-flow event** (Remaitre et al., 2005) or still for debris flows taking place **in the same torrent** (Arattano et al., 2006).

**models outcome are very sensitive** to the wide variability of input parameters (Arattano et al., 2006). This implies that, for purposes of hazard prediction and assessment on a debris fan, **different simulations** have to be performed assuming **different rheological behaviours** and exploring the related **consequences**.



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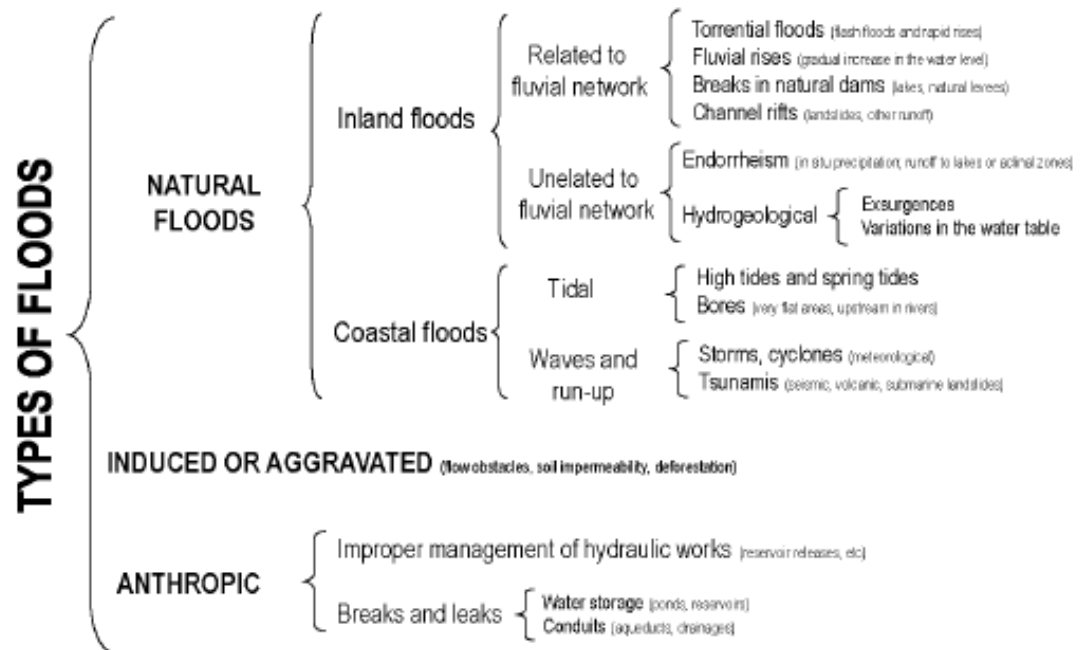
# Hazards in Mountain areas: Floods

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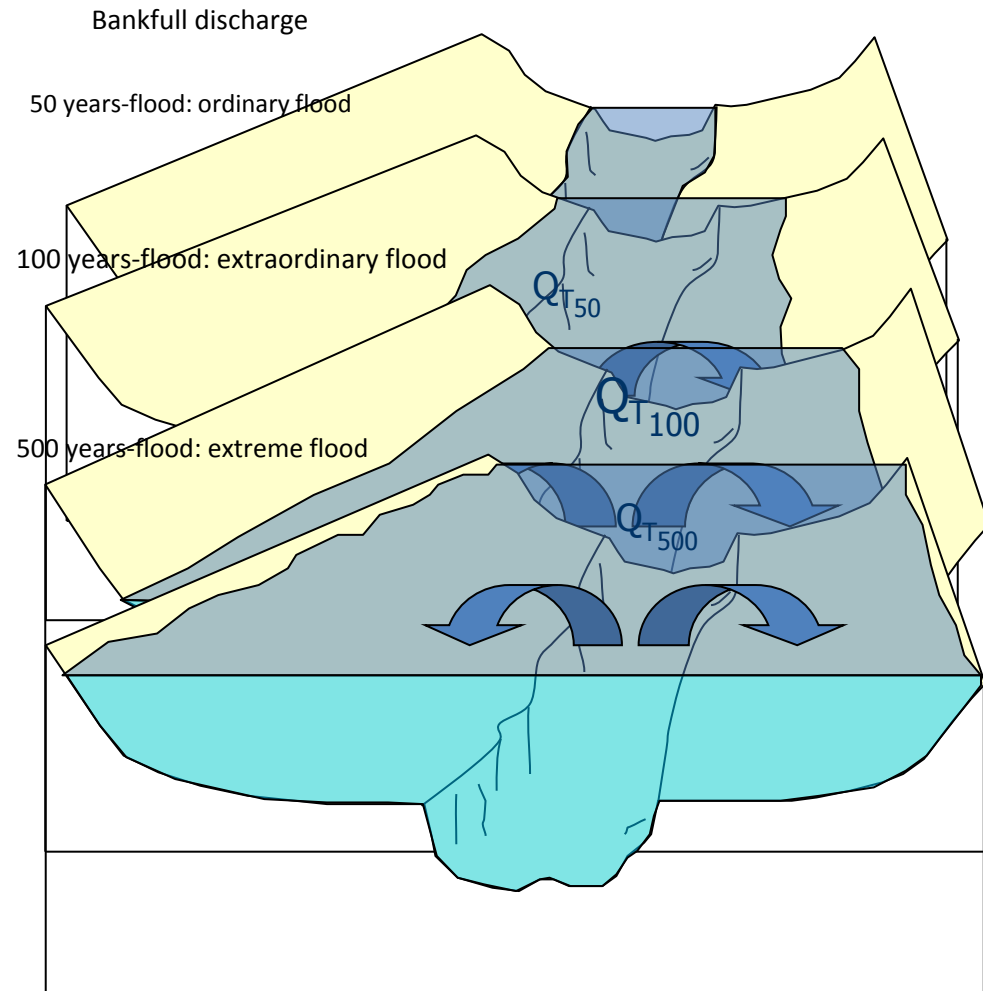
# Floods: what we learnt (we already know)

1. Flood types
2. Flood parameters
3. Flood triggering
4. Flood characteristics
5. Flood analysis
6. Flood mapping



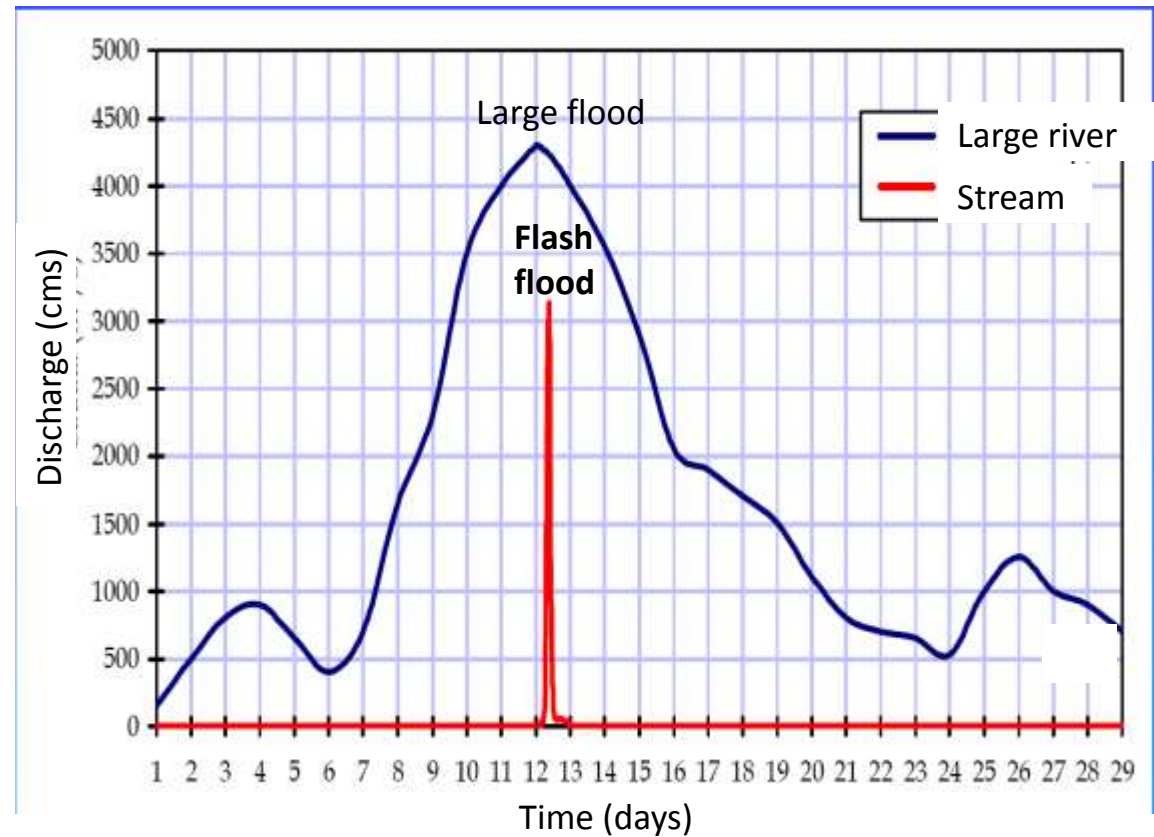
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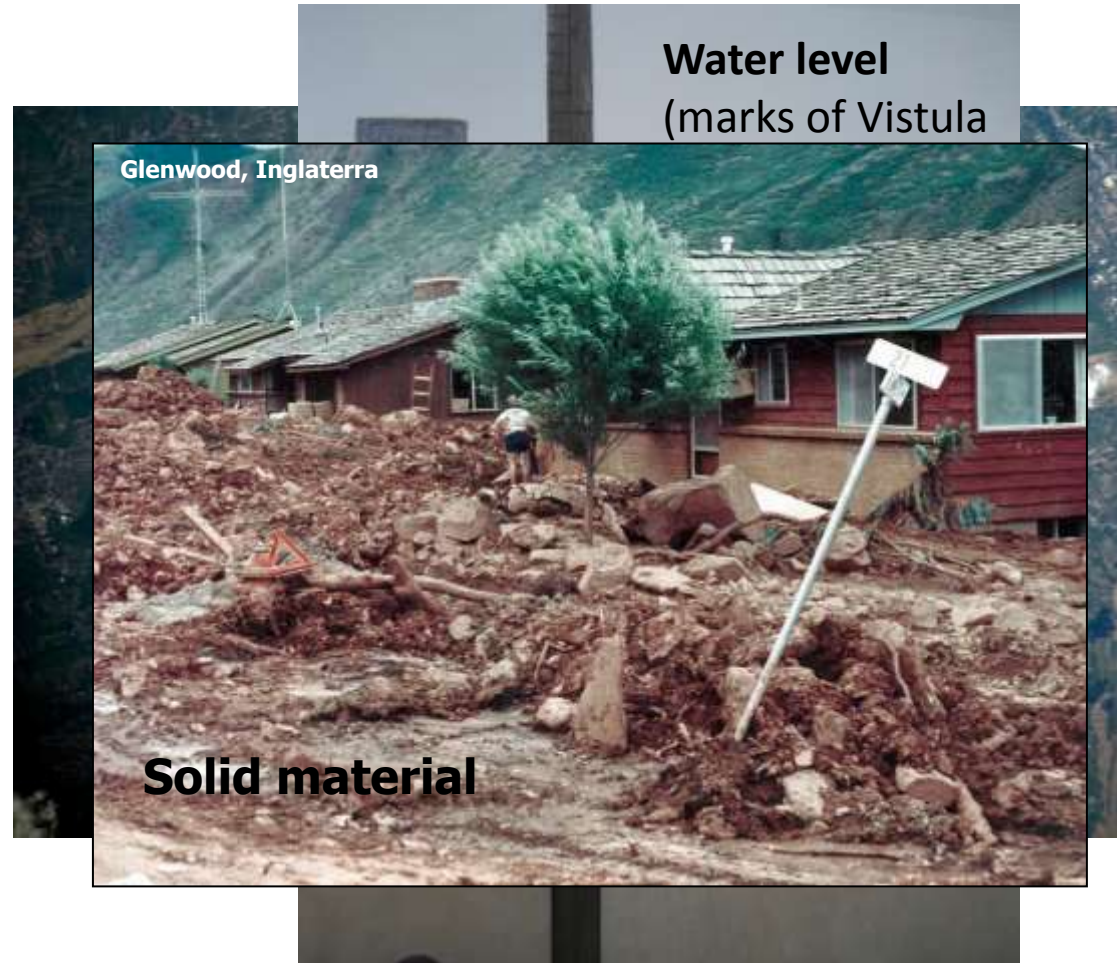
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5. Flood analysis
6. Flood mapping



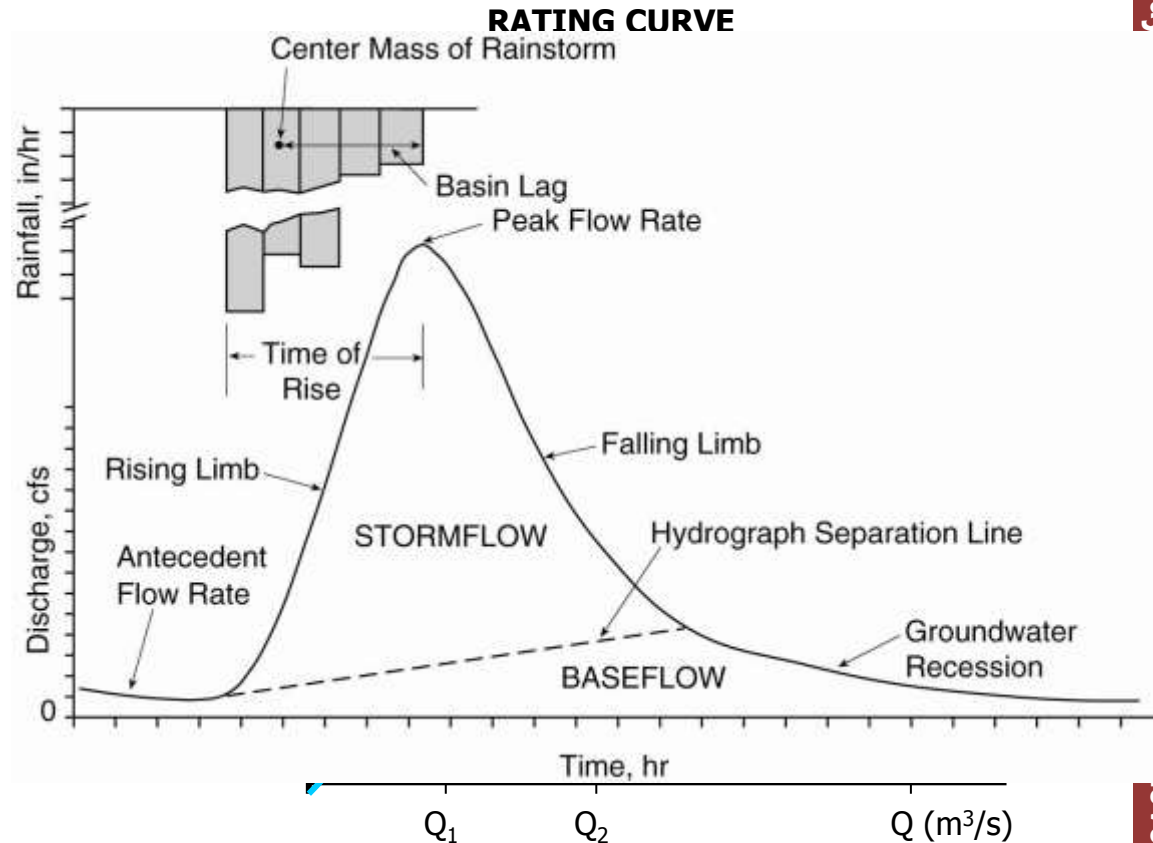
# Floods: what we learnt (we already know)

1. Flood types
2. Flood parameters
3. Flood triggering factors
4. Flood characteristics
5. Flood analysis
6. Flood mapping



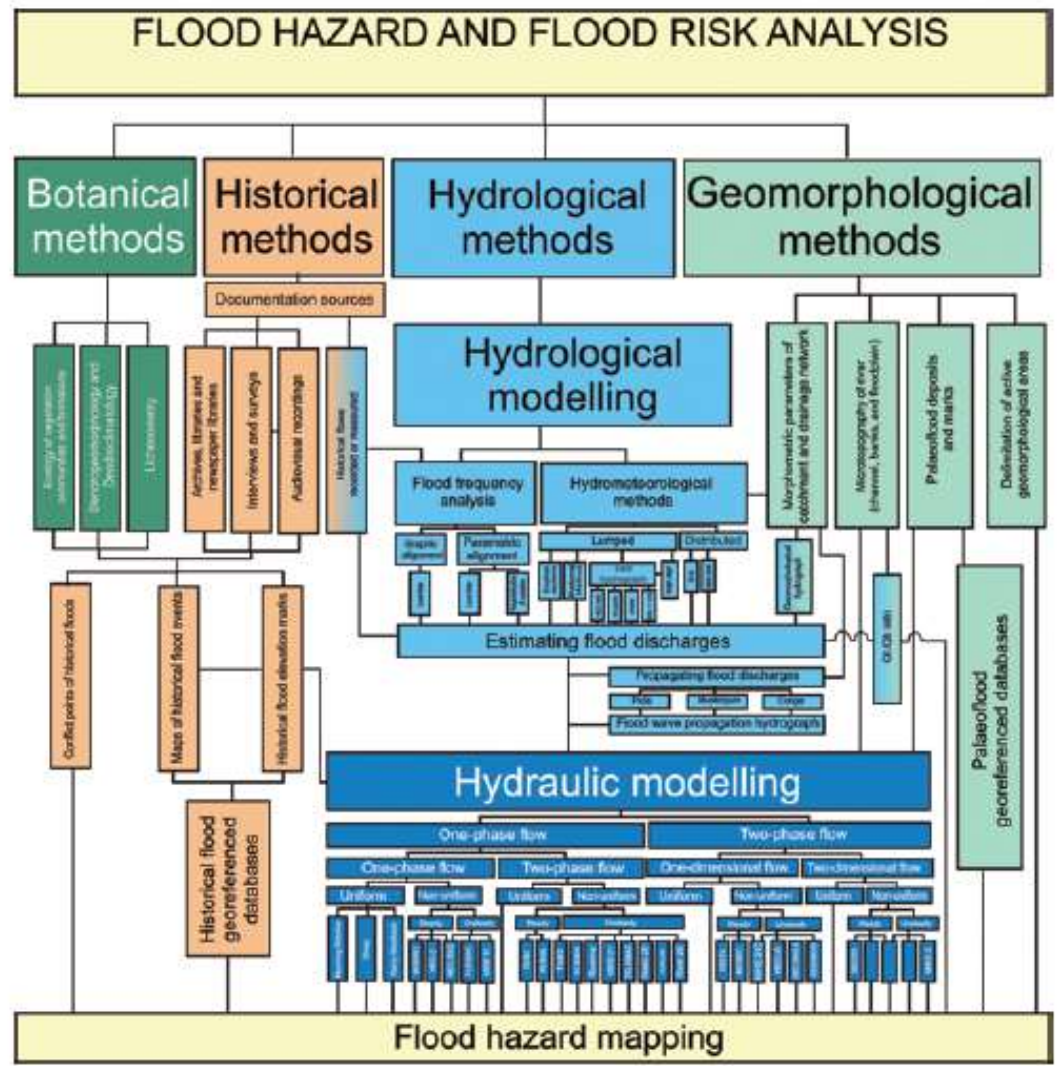
# Floods: what we learnt (we already know)

1. Flood types
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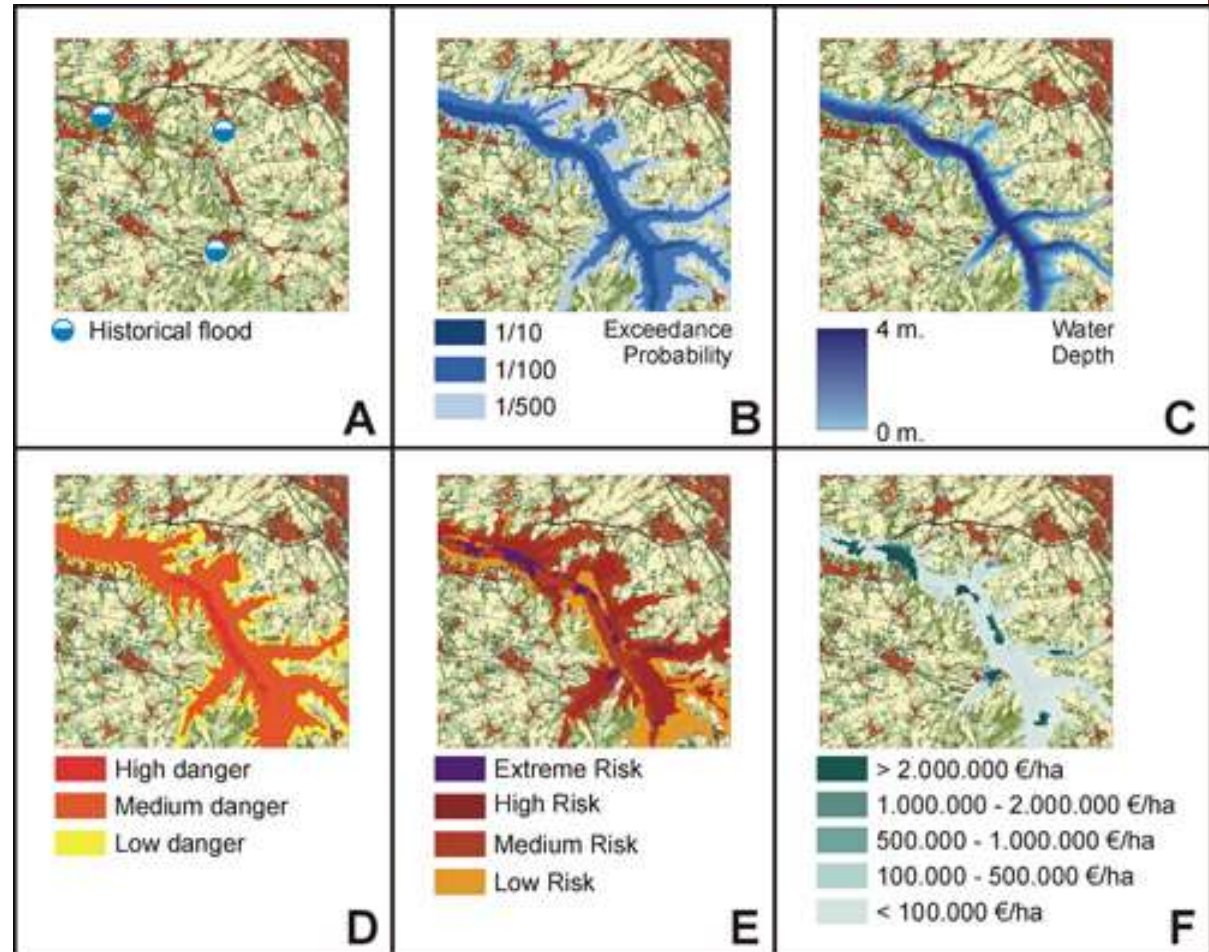
# Floods: what we learnt (we already know)

1. Flood types
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# Floods: what we learnt (we already know)

1. Flood types
2. Flood parameters
3. Flood triggering
4. Flood characteristics
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6. Flood mapping





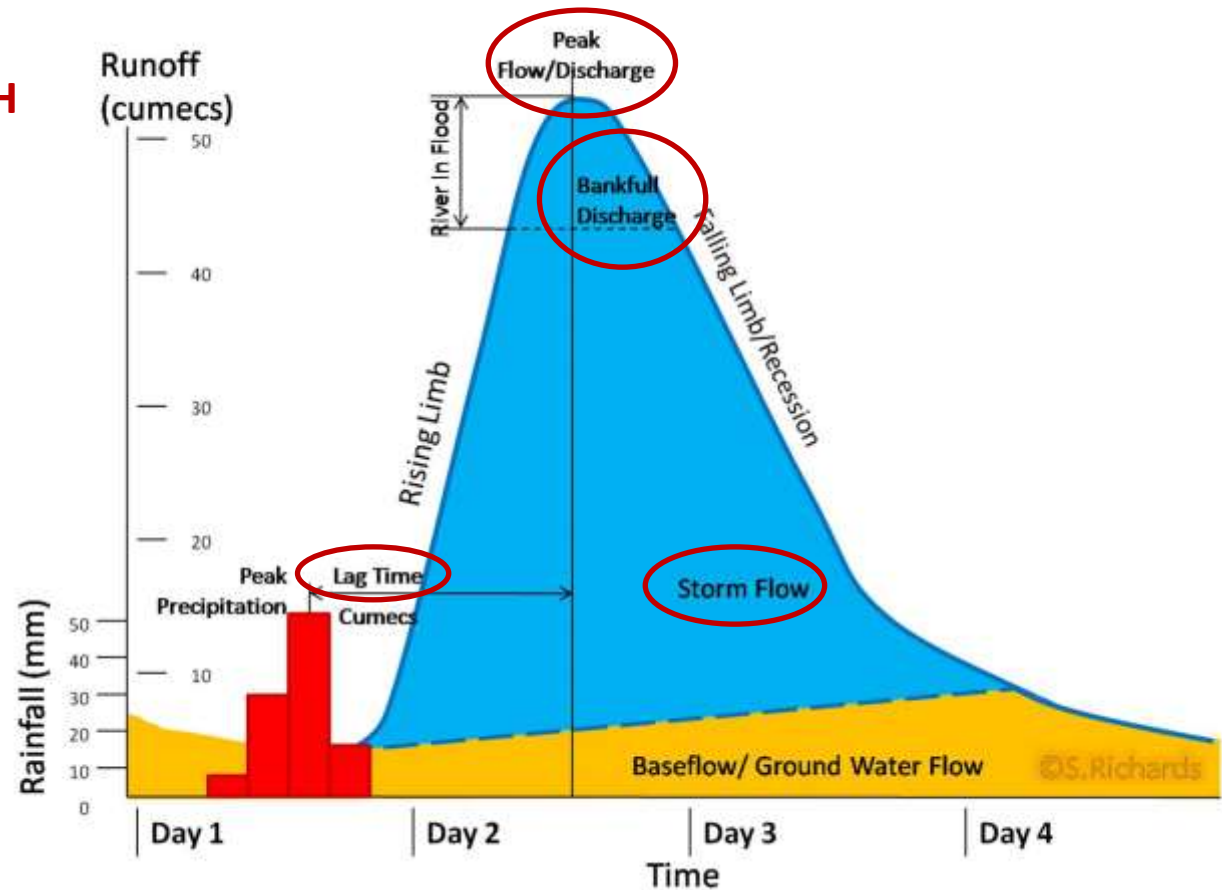
# Floods: what we will learn

1. Flood hydrology
2. Channel and flow types
3. Estimating and reconstructing floods
4. Modelling floods

# 1. Flood hydrology

## THE FLOOD HYDROGRAPH

- Basin characteristics
- Time of concentration
- Channel processes
- Antecedent conditions
- Storm intensity and duration



# 1. Flood hydrology

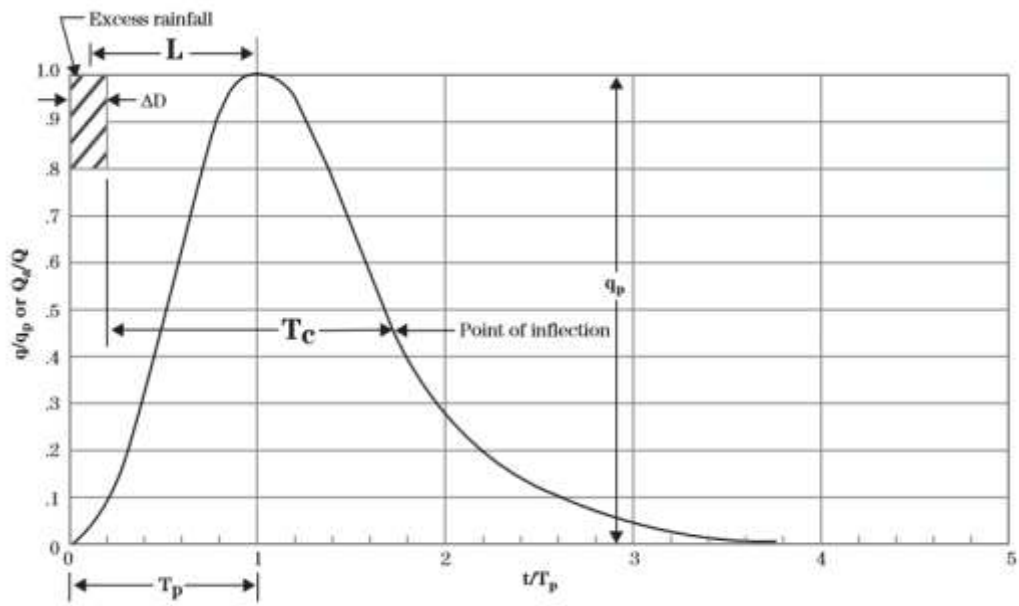
**Time of concentration (T<sub>c</sub>)** is the time required for runoff to travel from the hydraulically most distant point in the watershed to the outlet

$$t_c = 0.3 \left( \frac{L}{(J)^{0.25}} \right)^{0.76}$$

$$t_c = \frac{4\sqrt{A} + 1.5L}{0.8\sqrt{H}}$$

$$t_c = 0.1272(AL/H)^{1/2}$$

The drainage characteristics of **length (L)** and **slope (J)**, relief (H) together with the hydraulic characteristics of the flow paths, determine the time of concentration.



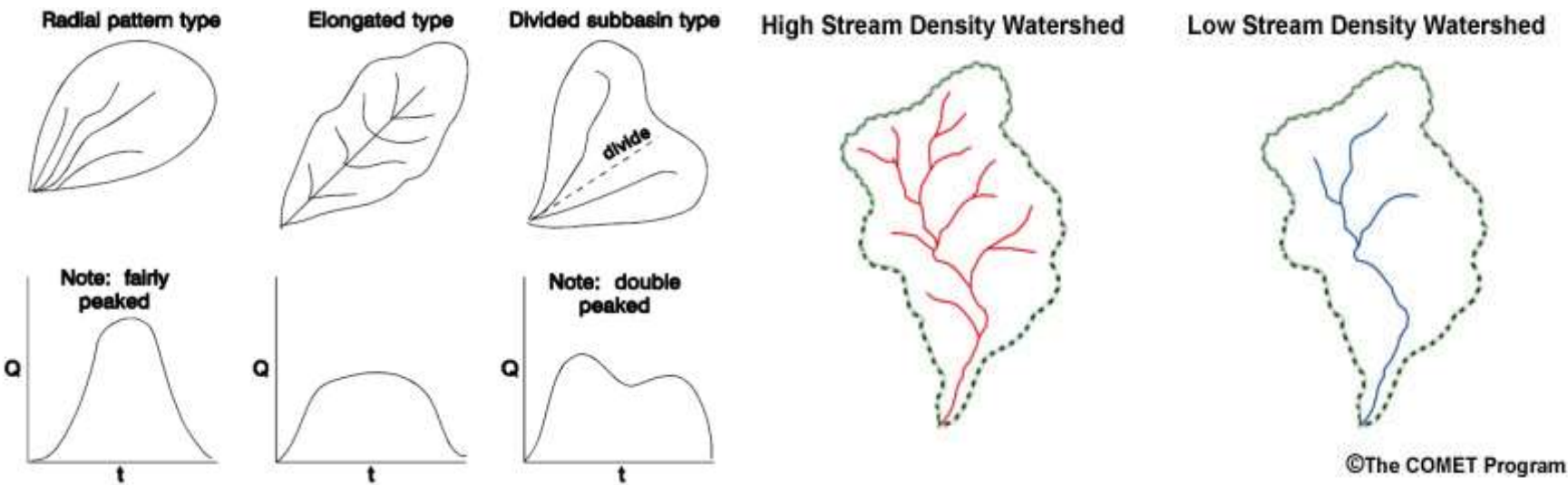
lag time is not unique watershed characteristic and varies from storm to storm depending on:  
 amount, duration and intensity of rainfall;  
 vegetative growth stage and available temporary storage

**Lag time (L)** is the delay between the time runoff begins until runoff reaches its maximum peak.

# 1. Flood hydrology

## Basin morphometry

Identical flood generating mechanisms, may result in very different floods (from catchment to catchment or within a catchment from time to time)

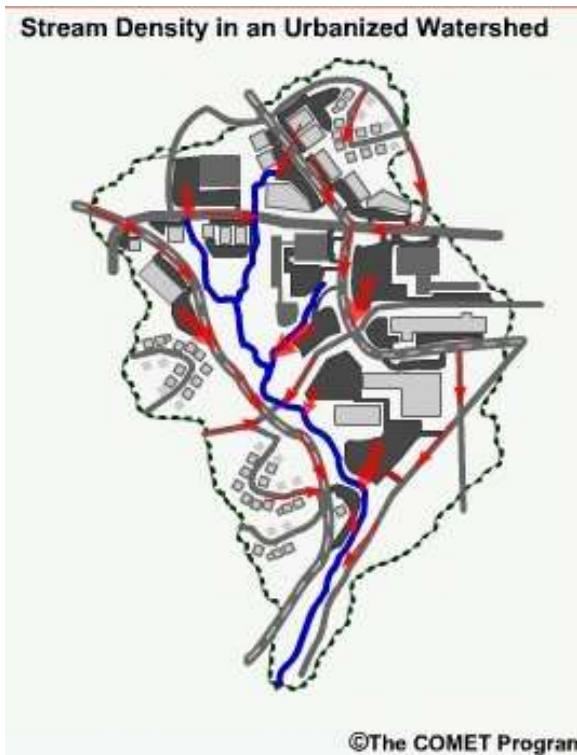


Elongated or Concentrated Shape:  
Affects Timing and Peak Flow

Basins with **high stream density** have **quicker runoff response** than those with low stream density

# 1. Flood hydrology

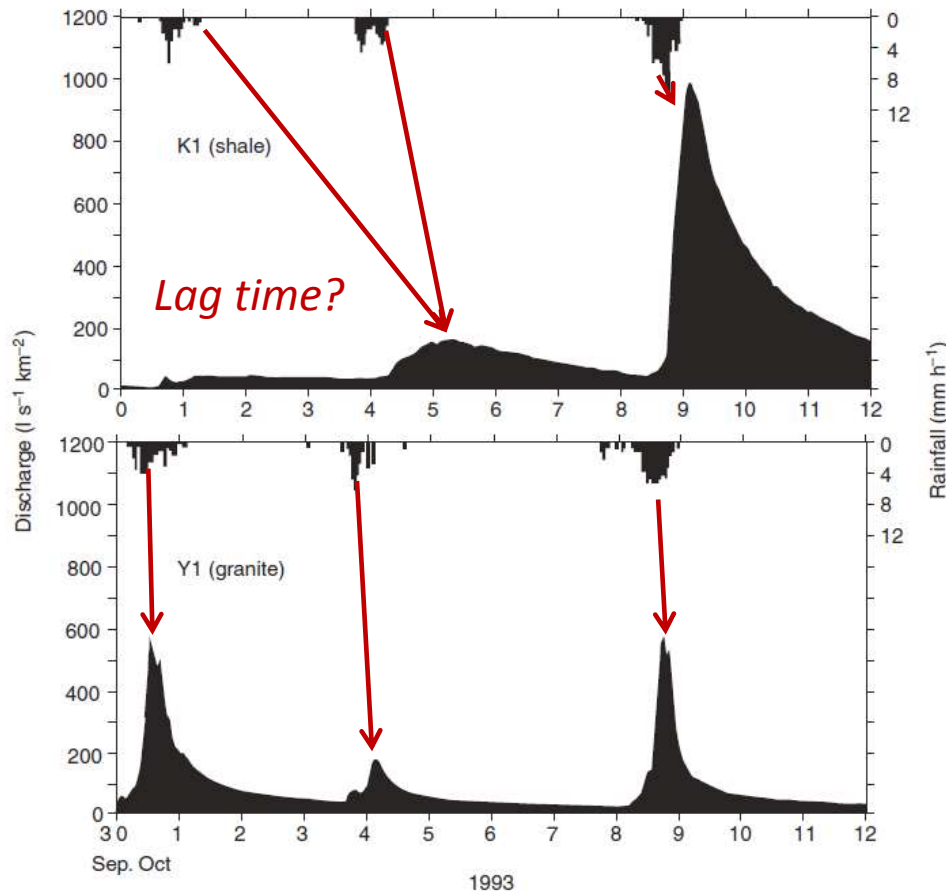
In **urban watersheds** the road grid, drainage ditches, and storm sewer systems act as tributaries and artificially **increase stream density**



**Flood risk increases!**

# 1. Flood hydrology

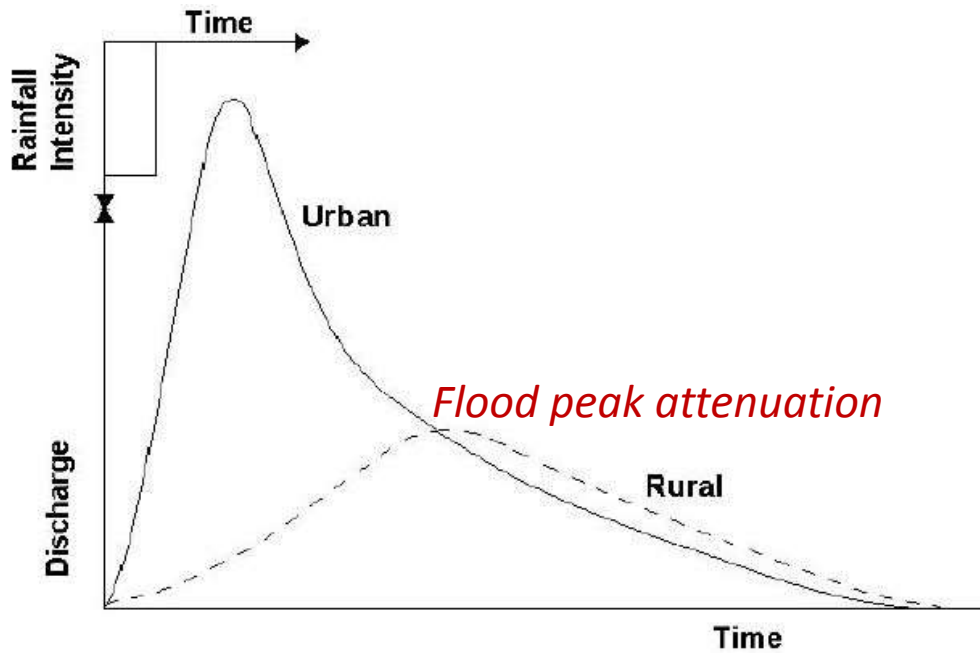
## Soil type, geology



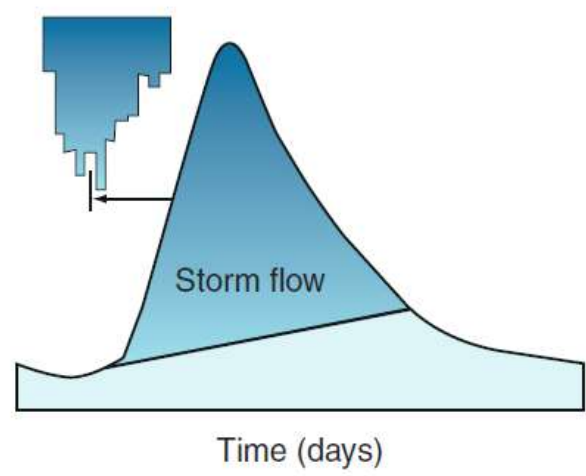
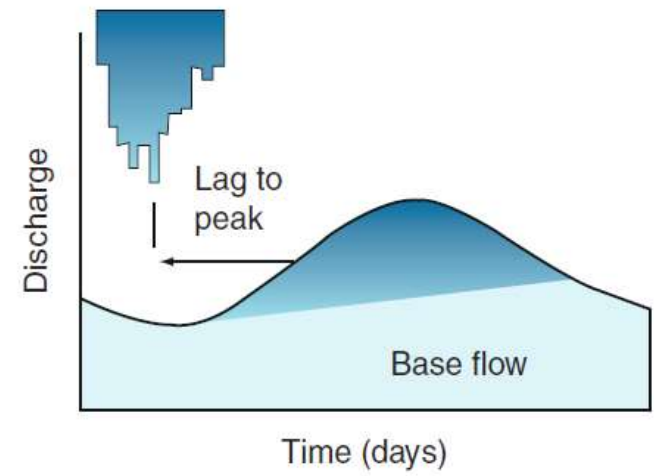
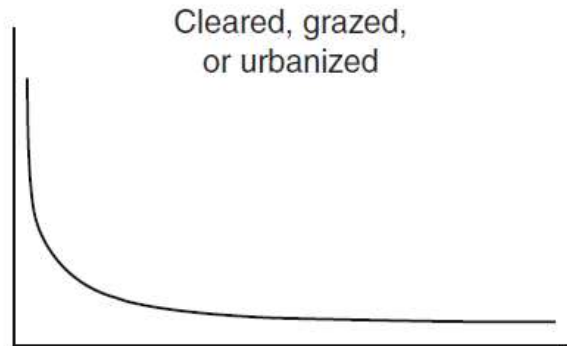
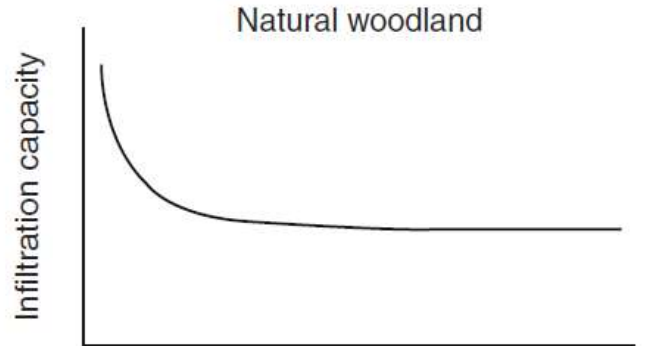
**Figure 7** Sequence of storm event hydrographs from 30 September to 12 October 1993 for two forested watersheds in central Japan with different bedrock substrates. Reproduced from Onda, Y., Tsujimura, M., Fujihara, J., Ito, J., 2006. Runoff generation mechanisms in high-relief mountainous watersheds with different underlying geology. *Journal of Hydrology* 331, 659–673.

# 1. Flood hydrology

## Vegetation, land use



# 1. Flood hydrology



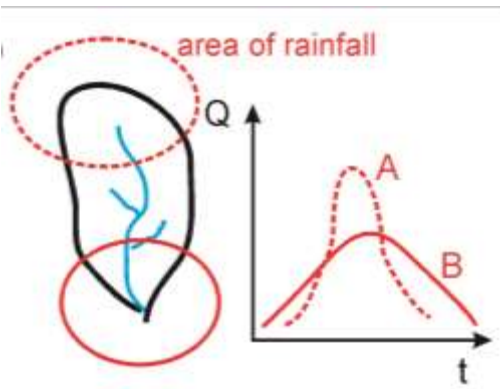
High infiltration rates  
 Low peak discharge  
 Long lag time  
 High base flow

Low infiltration rates  
 high peak discharge  
 Short lag time  
 Low base flow

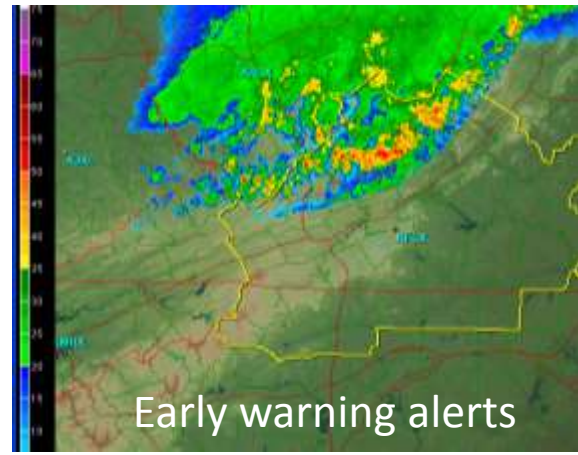
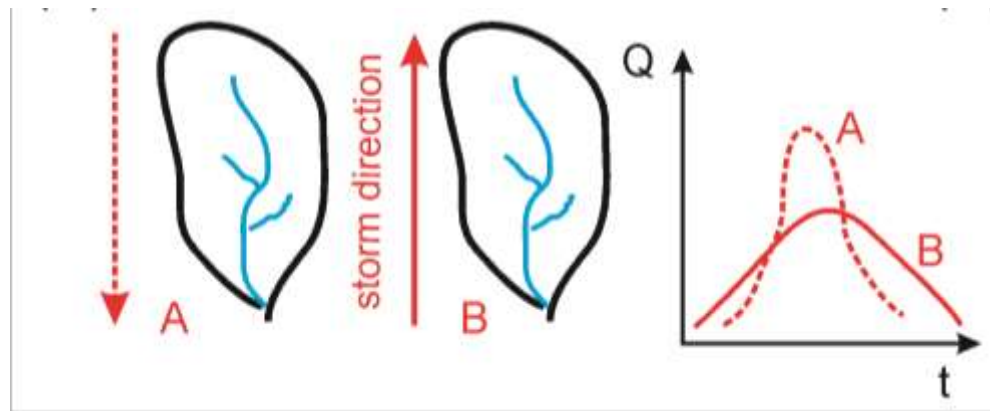


# 1. Flood hydrology

## Flood triggered storm

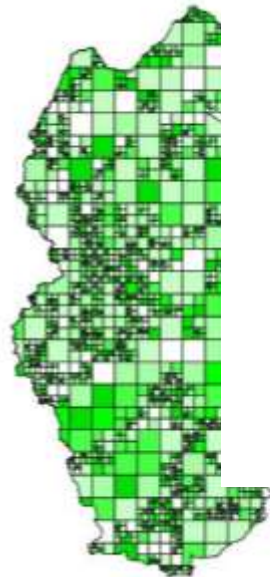
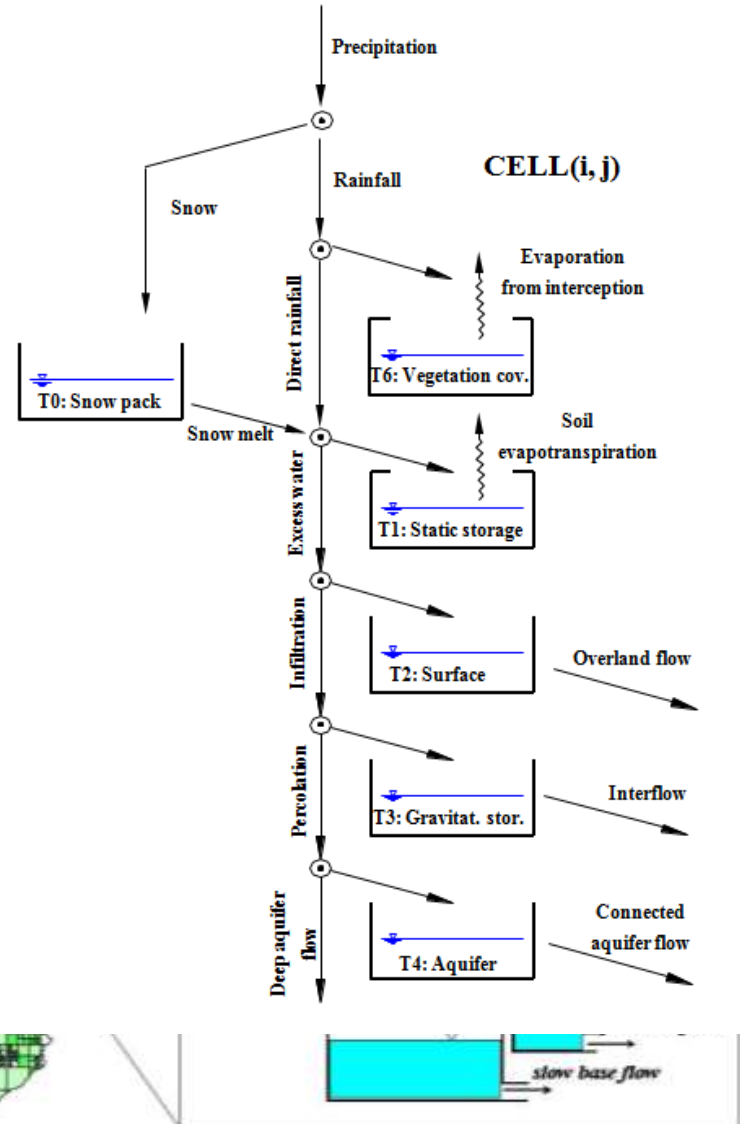
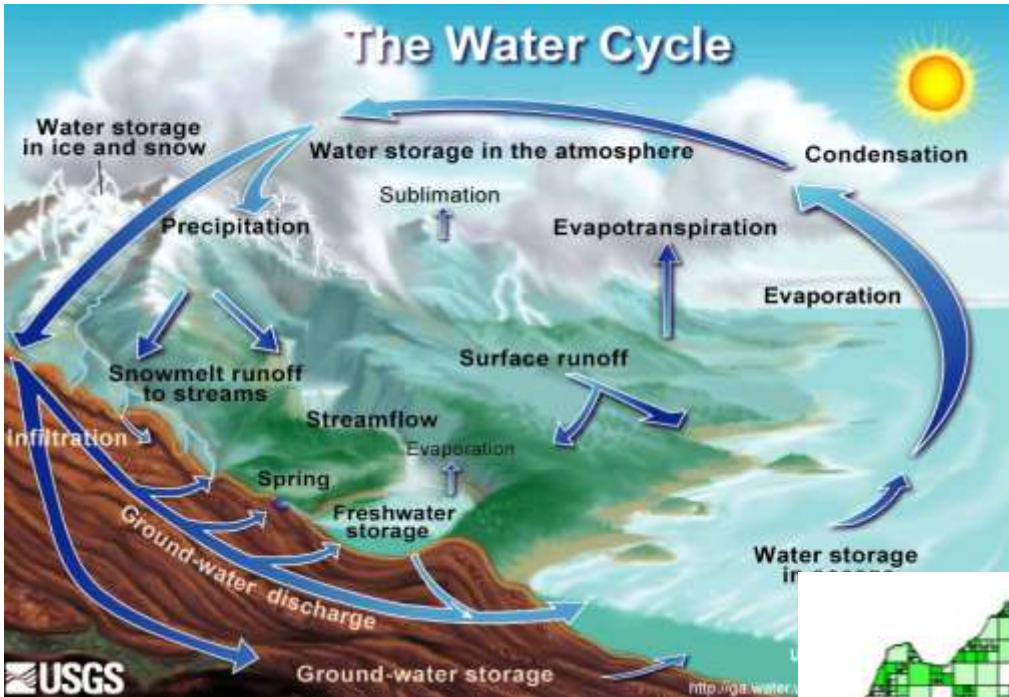


The **storm velocity** may rise to a **stronger flood peak** than that of an equivalent **stationary storm** characterized by the same temporal rainfall distribution and by the same time period



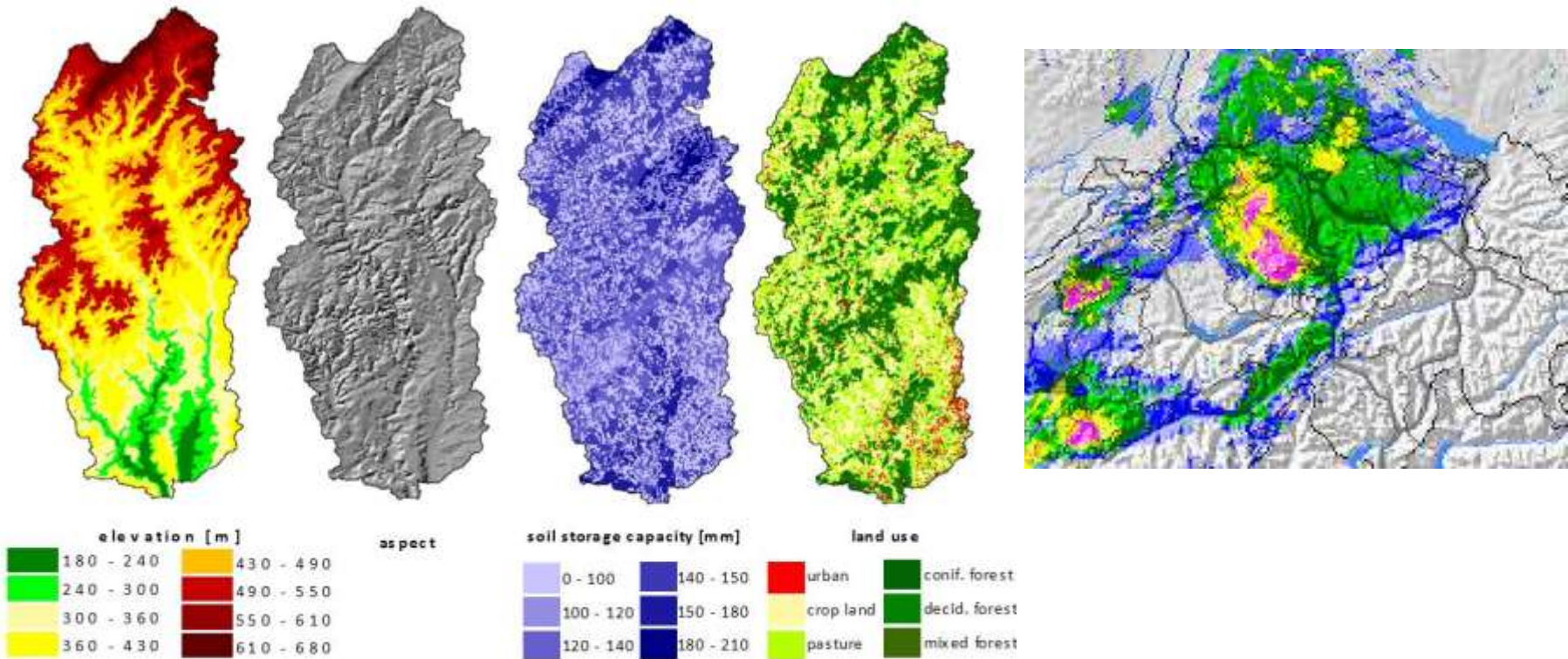
[http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rnk/events/2012/Jun29\\_derecho/summary.php](http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rnk/events/2012/Jun29_derecho/summary.php)

# 1. Flood hydrology: modelling



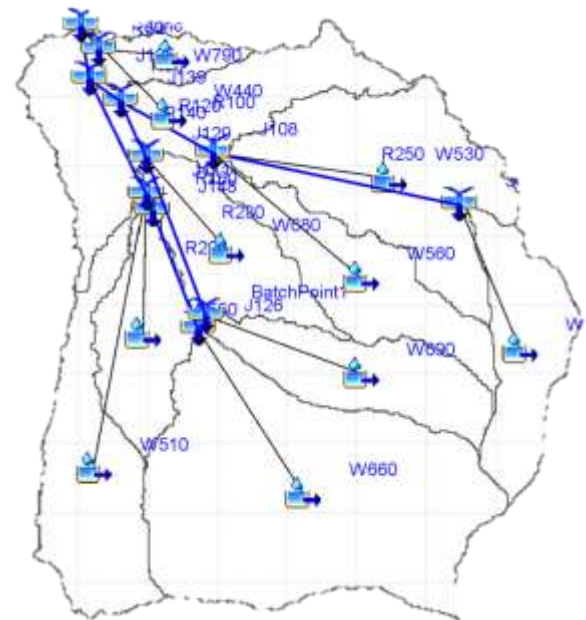
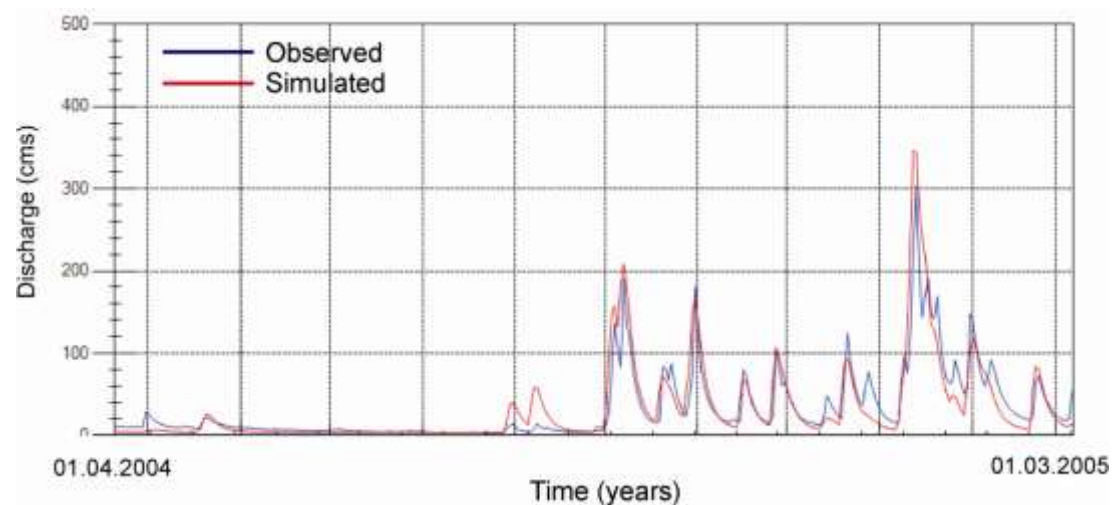
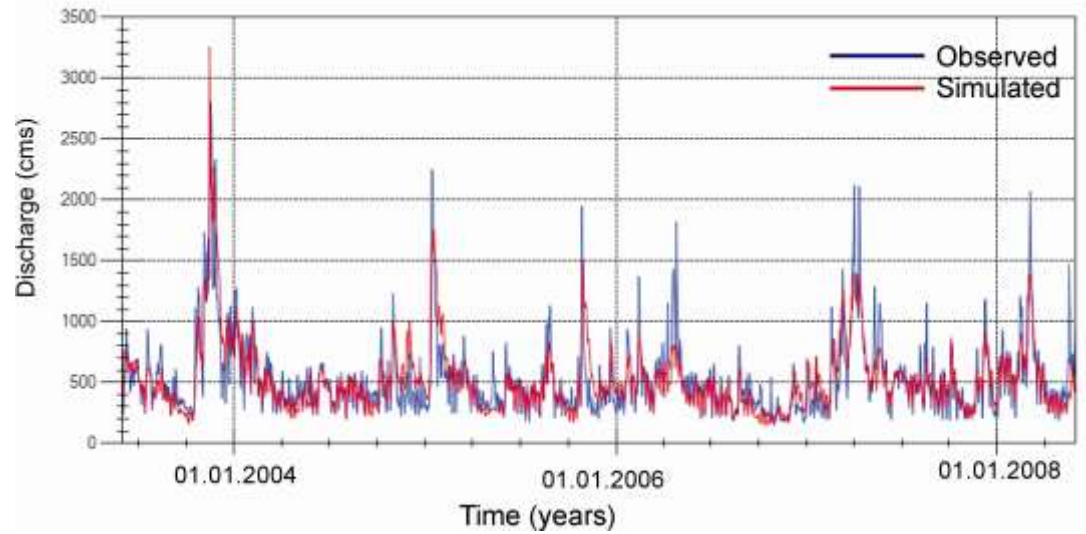
# 1. Flood hydrology: modelling

## Input parameters



Data Base for Hydrological Modelling

# 1. Flood hydrology: modelling



# 1. Flood hydrology: empirical approaches

## Rational Method Equation

The Rational equation is the simplest method to determine peak discharge from drainage basin runoff.

$$Q = c \cdot i \cdot A$$

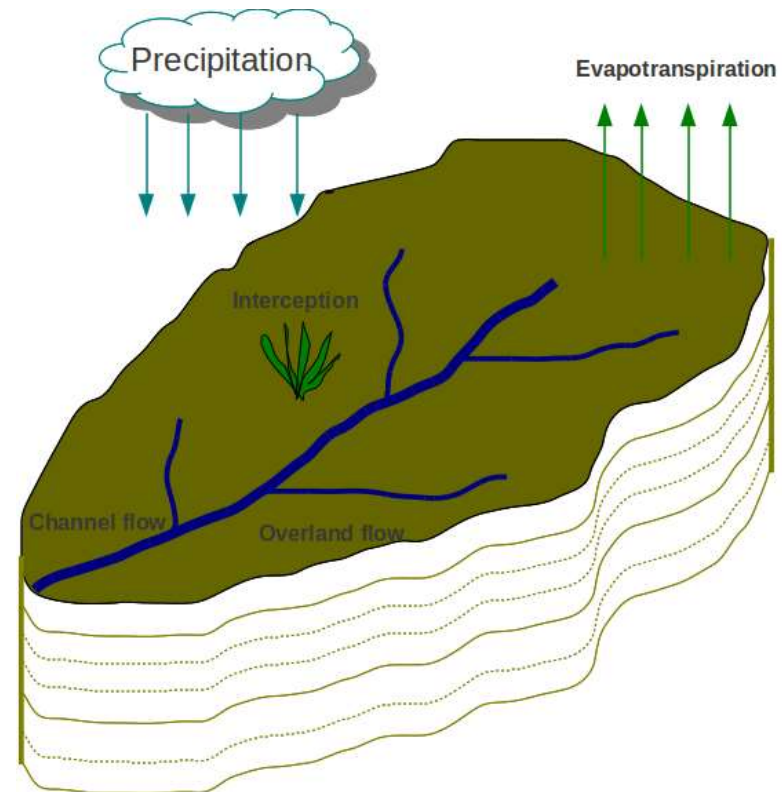
Q = Peak discharge

inputs:

c = runoff coefficient

i = Rainfall intensity

A = Drainage area



# 1. Flood hydrology: empirical approaches

## Rational Method Equation

<http://www.lmnoeng.com/Hydrology/rational.php>

Rational Equation Calculator

Compute peak discharge from a drainage basin using the Rational Equation Method

Rational method equation calculation is mobile-device-friendly as of November 25, 2013

Rational runoff coefficient, c:

Rainfall intensity, i:

Drainage area, A:

Peak discharge, Q:

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Simplified Table of Rational Method Runoff Coefficients (see references below)

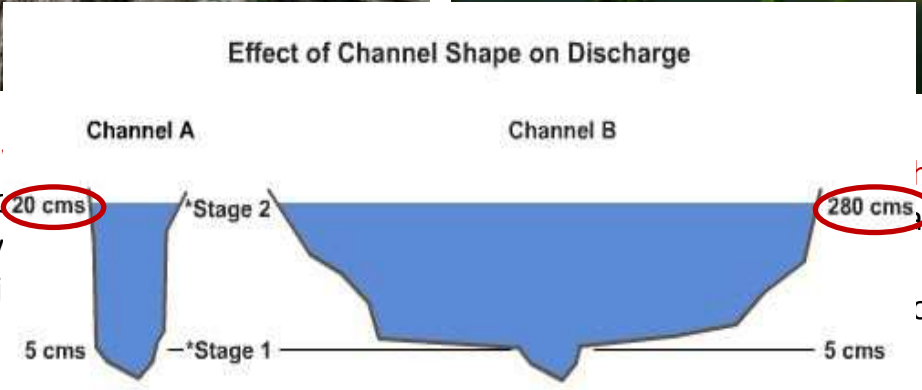
Ground Cover	Runoff Coefficient, c
Lawns	0.05 - 0.35
Forest	0.05 - 0.25
Cultivated land	0.08-0.41
Meadow	0.1 - 0.5
Parks, cemeteries	0.1 - 0.25
Unimproved areas	0.1 - 0.3
Pasture	0.12 - 0.62
Residential areas	0.3 - 0.75
Business areas	0.5 - 0.95
Industrial areas	0.5 - 0.9
Asphalt streets	0.7 - 0.95
Brick streets	0.7 - 0.85
Roofs	0.75 - 0.95
Concrete streets	0.7 - 0.95

# 2. Channels and flow types

One important factor in determining how streamflow varies along a stream is the **geometry of the channel and floodplain**



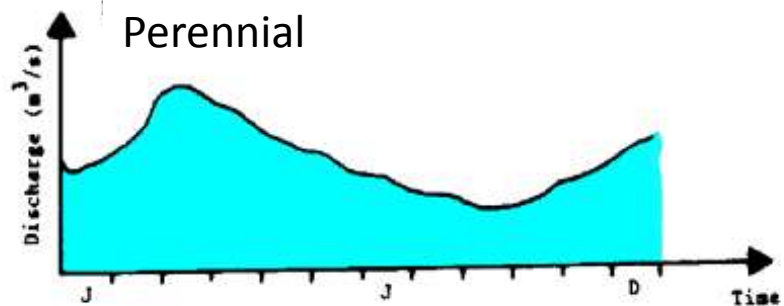
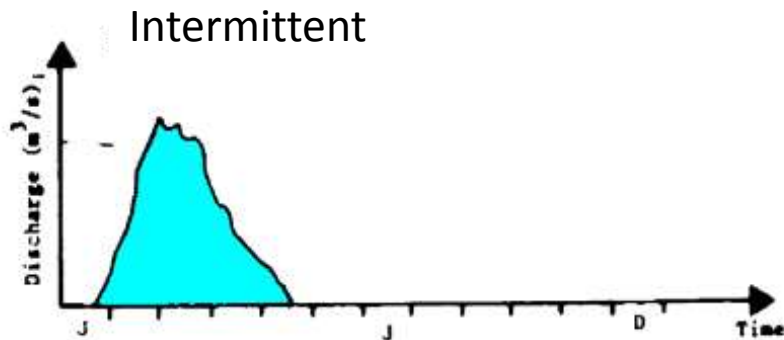
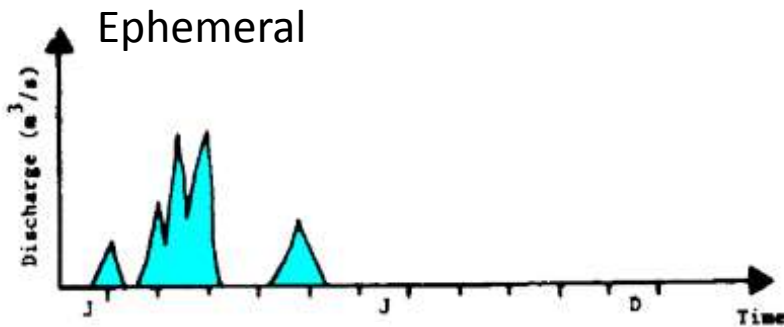
Effect of Channel Shape on Discharge



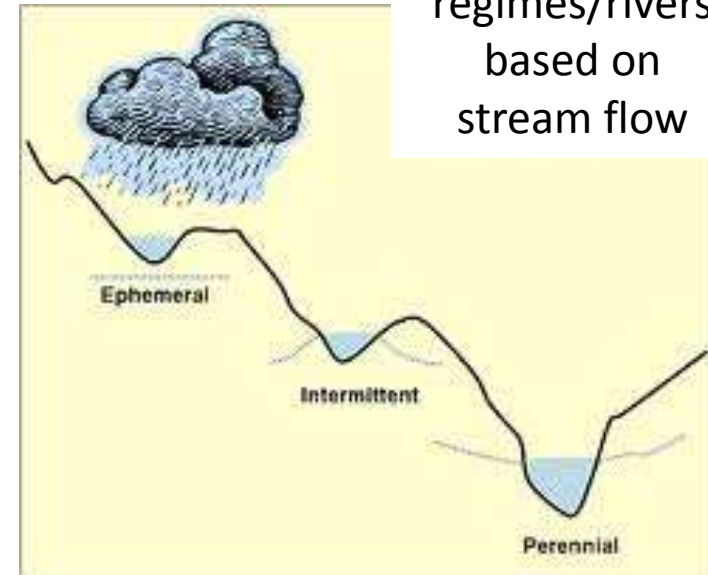
If a channel is narrow like with almost no flood rise in stage may only increase in di

channel with a very broad ge increase could result in the discharge as the cross the flood plain

## 2. Channels and flow types



Type of regimes/rivers based on stream flow



**Ephemeral:** flows only during and immediately after precipitation

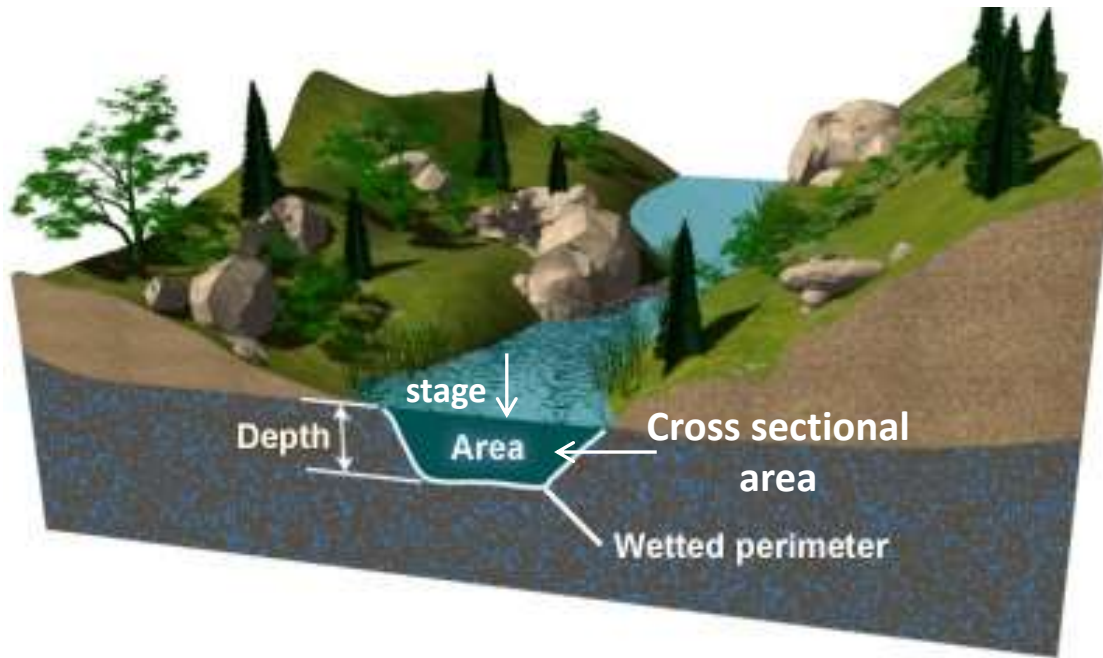
**Intermittent:** only flows for part of the year

**Perennial:** flows continuously



## 2. Channels and flow types

Various parameters are used to describe the hydrologic characteristics of a **stream or river**



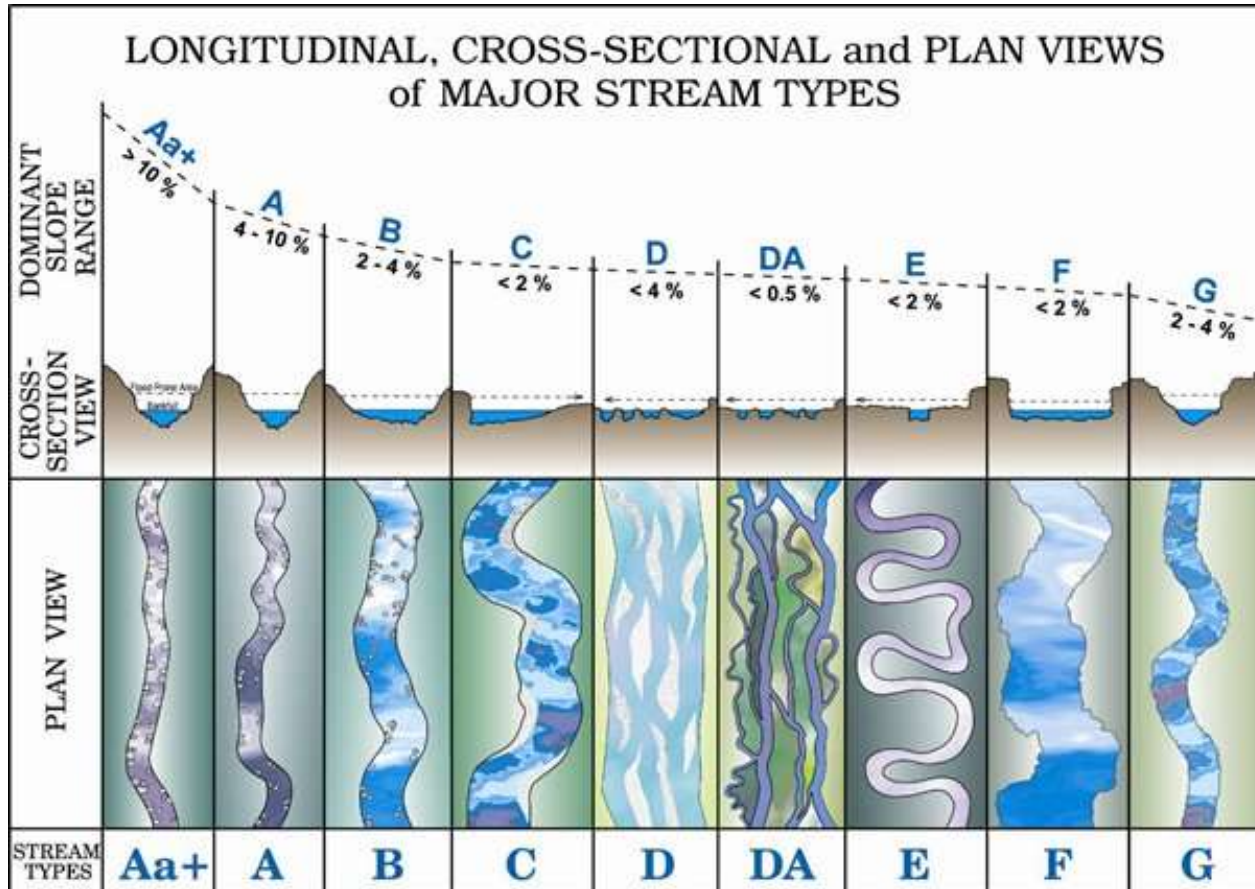
$$R = \text{Area} / \text{Wetted perimeter}$$

The **wetted perimeter** is the length of the wetted edge of a channel cross section containing flowing water.

The **hydraulic radius** is the **cross-sectional area** of the channel divided by the wetted perimeter.

# 2. Channels and flow types

Streams can be classified in many ways, different stream types will show broad differences resulting in contrasting **flow types**



(Rosgen, 1996)

## 2. Channels and flow types



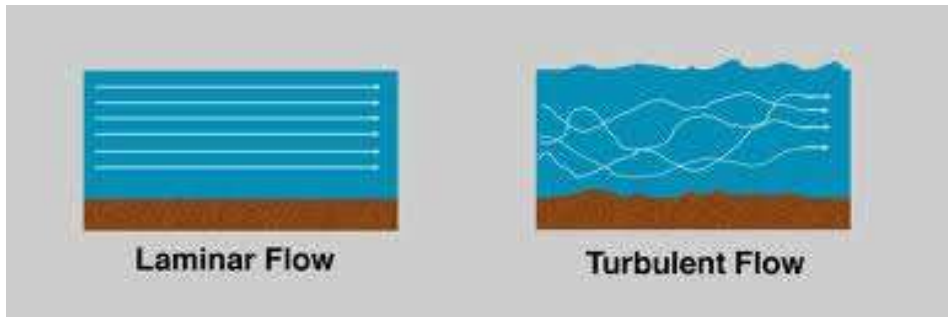
Reynolds number:

$$Re = \frac{\text{inertial forces}}{\text{viscous forces}} = \frac{\rho v L}{\mu} = \frac{v L}{\nu}$$

**laminar** when  $Re < 2300$

**transient** when  $2300 < Re < 4000$

**turbulent** when  $4000 < Re$

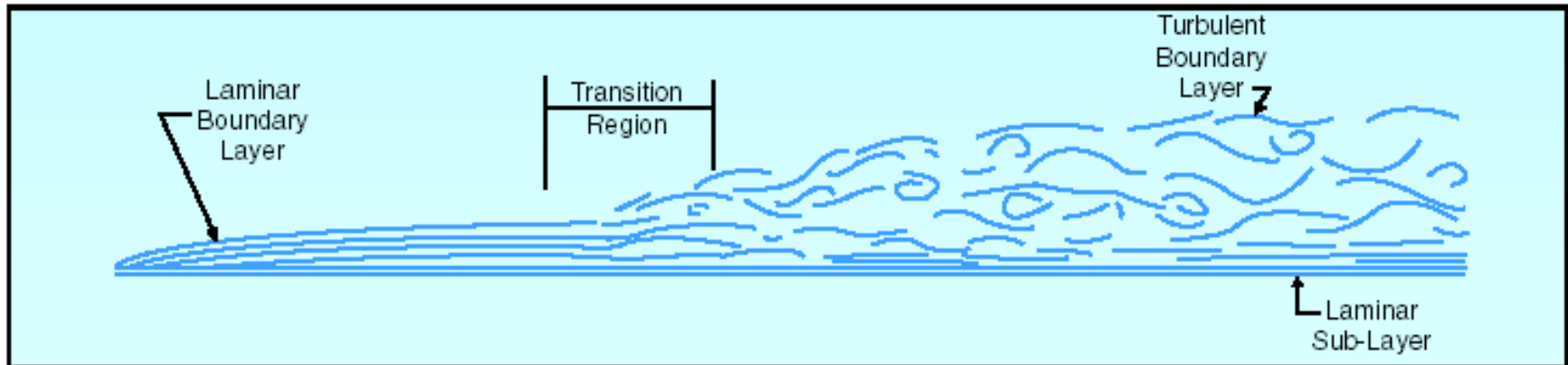
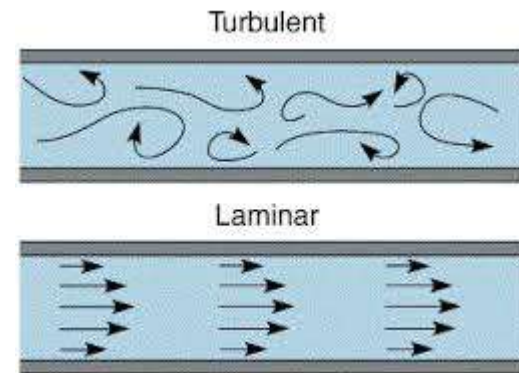


**Laminar flow:** fluid flows in parallel layers, with no disruption

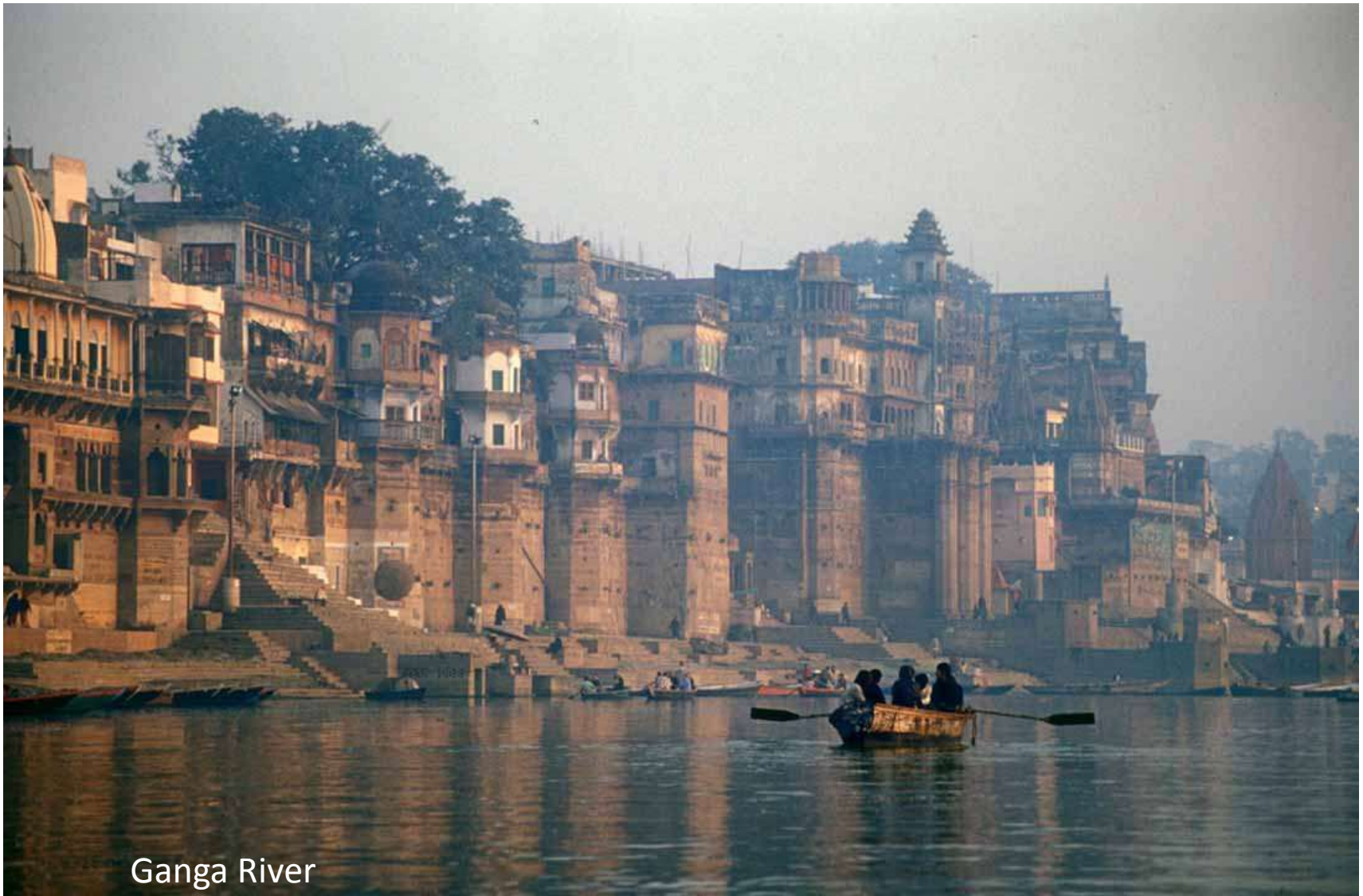
## 2. Channels and flow types



**Turbulence** or **turbulent flow** is a flow regime characterized by chaotic and stochastic property changes.



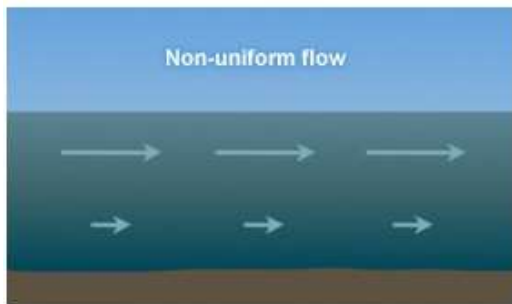
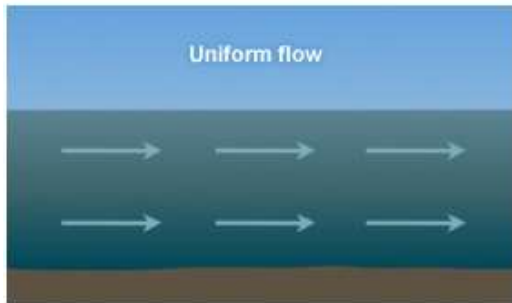
## 2. Channels and flow types



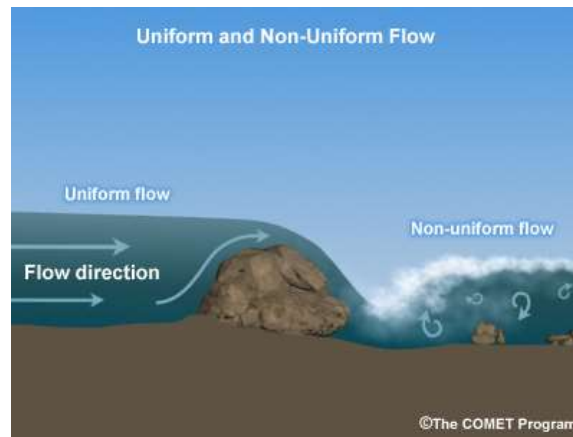
Ganga River

# 2. Channels and flow types

We examine two flow conditions: the **uniformity** of the flow within the stream and the **steadiness** of the flow over time.



©The COMET Program



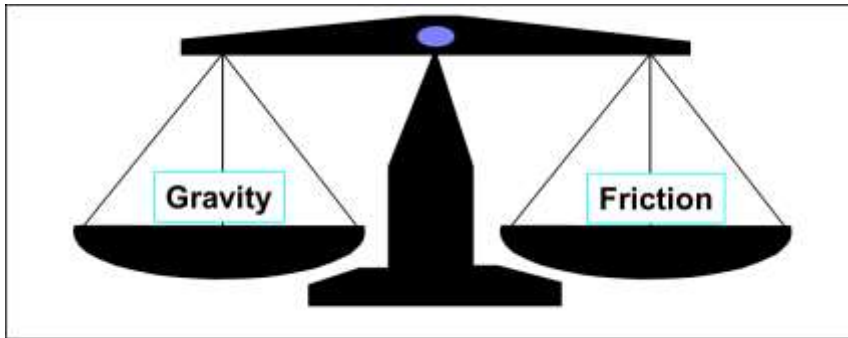
**Uniform** : flow velocity is assumed to have the **same speed** and **direction** at every point within the fluid

**Uniform in space**

<p><b>Uniform Flow:</b> <math>\frac{\partial(U \cdot A)}{\partial x} = 0</math></p>
<p><b>Nonuniform Flow:</b> <math>\frac{\partial(U \cdot A)}{\partial x} \neq 0</math></p>

## 2. Channels and flow types

**Uniform flow** occurs when the gravitational forces are exactly offset by the resistance forces

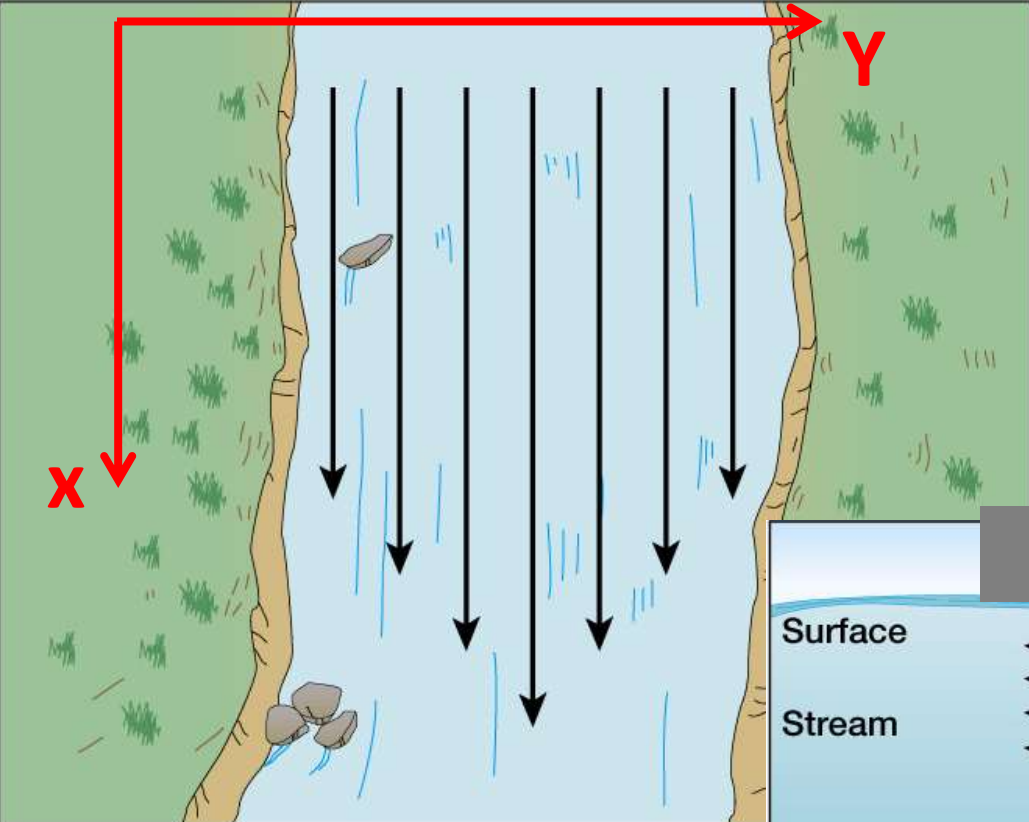


- **Mean velocity** is constant from section to section
- **Depth** of flow is constant from section to section
- **Area** of flow is constant from section to section

Therefore: It can only occur in very long,  
straight, prismatic channels

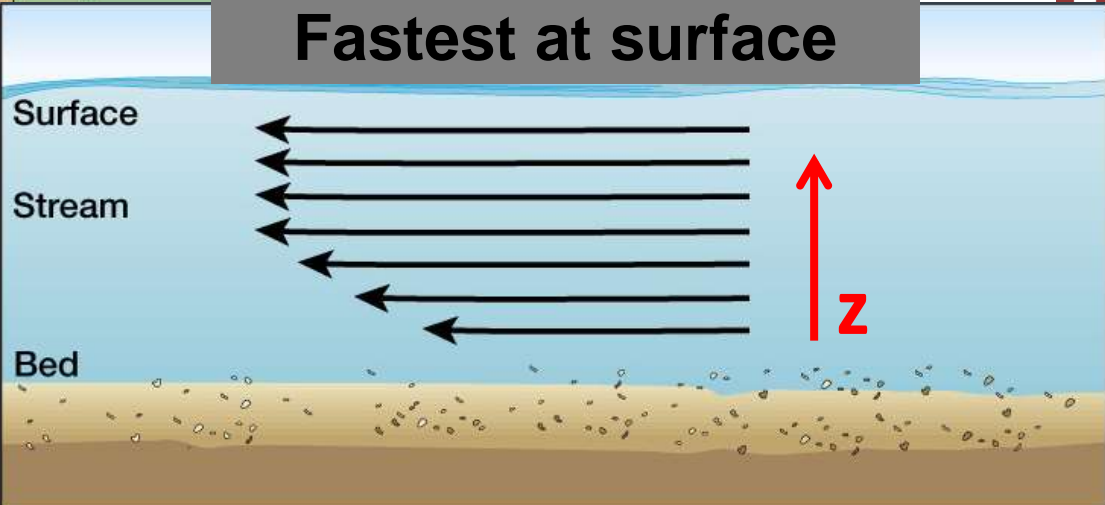
# 2. Channels and flow types

Faster at middle & surface



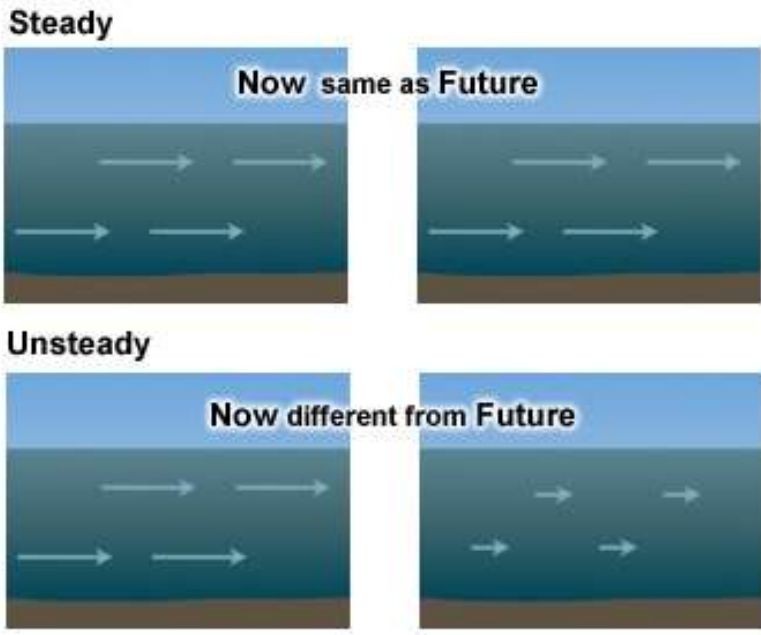
Uniform in space??

Fastest at surface





# 2. Channels and flow types

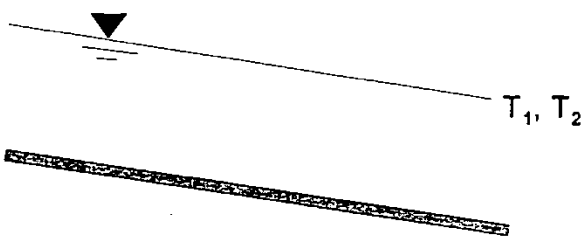


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**Steady flow:** the conditions of **velocity** and/or **depth**, may differ from point to point but **do not change with time**.

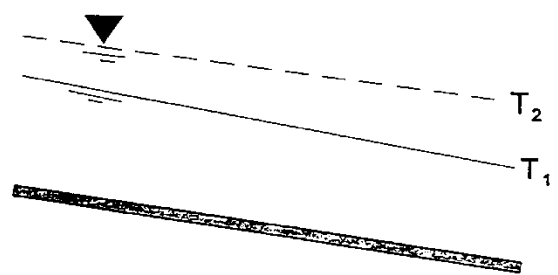
Natural streams are always unsteady

In practice there are always slight variations in velocity and pressure, **but** if the **average values are constant**, the flow is considered steady.



Steady Flow

Depth and velocity at a given location do not vary with time.



Unsteady Flow

Depth and velocity vary with time at a given location.

Steady in time

Steady Flow:	$\frac{\partial(U \cdot A)}{\partial t} = 0$
Unsteady Flow:	$\frac{\partial(U \cdot A)}{\partial t} \neq 0$

## 2. Channels and flow types



## 2. Channels and flow types

Conditions do not change with time. The flow is steady.

Conditions change with time. The flow is unsteady.

At a given instant in time, the flow conditions at different points are the same, but they change with time.

Every condition of flow is different at every point and with time.



# 2. Channels and flow types

Classify the **types of flow** according to the **uniformity** within the stream and the **steadiness** of the flow over time



Unsteady non-uniform

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# 2. Channels and flow types

## Non-uniform (varied) flow and boundary conditions

$$Fr = \frac{V \text{ Inertial (velocity)}}{\sqrt{gD} \text{ Gravitational (celerity)}}$$

Where:  
 V = Water velocity  
 D = Hydraulic depth  
 g = Gravity



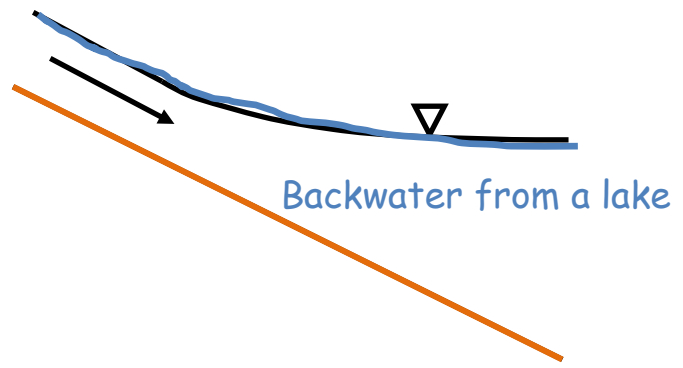
- At **critical flow** celerity equals flow velocity: any disturbance to the surface will remain stationary.  $Fr \approx 1$
- In **subcritical flow** the flow is controlled from a downstream point and information is transmitted **upstream**. This condition leads to **backwater effects**.  $Fr < 1$
- The **supercritical flow** is controlled upstream and disturbances are transmitted **downstream**.  $Fr > 1$

# 2. Channels and flow types



## Non-uniform (varied) flow

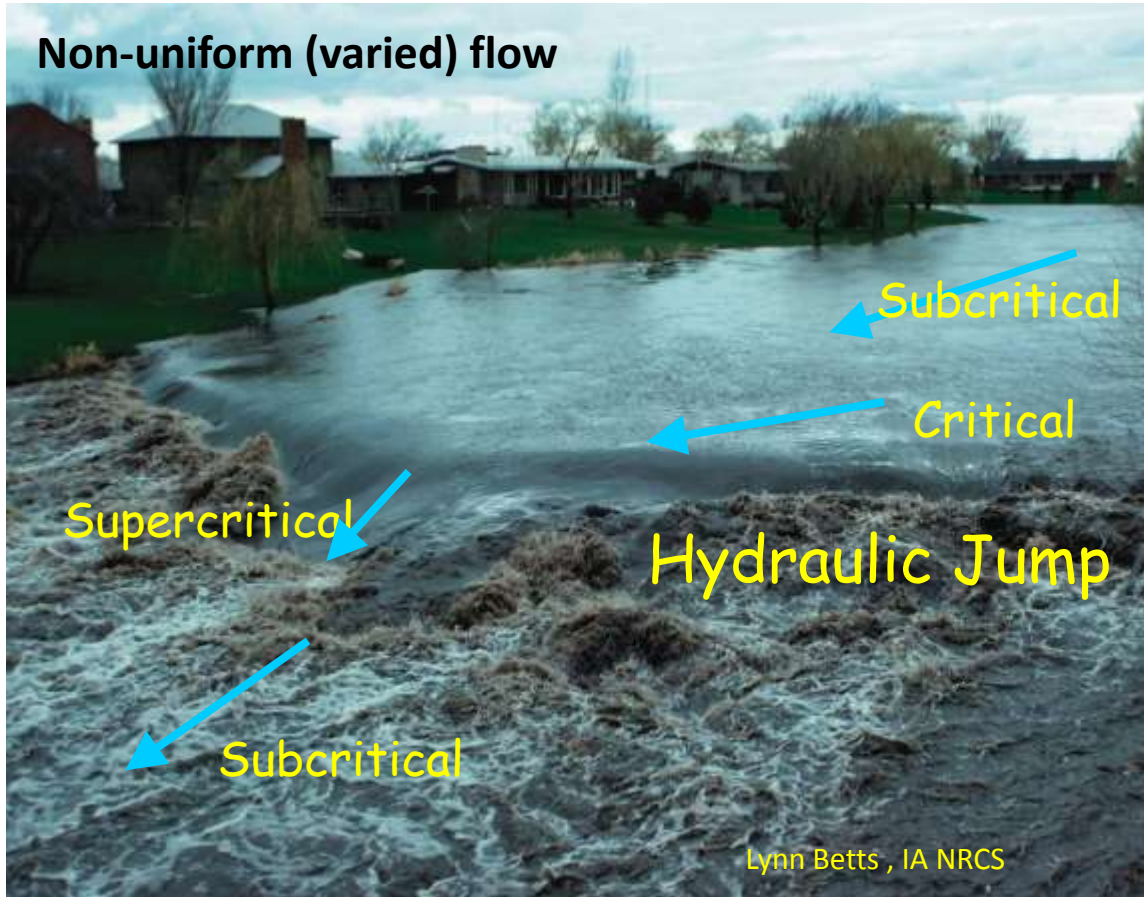
If (most) **alluvial streams** are disturbed at a point, the effect of that disturbance tends to **propagate upstream**.



**Supercritical flow** does occur in very **steep mountain streams**. In the case of a supercritical flow the effect of a disturbance propagates **downstream**



## 2. Channels and flow types

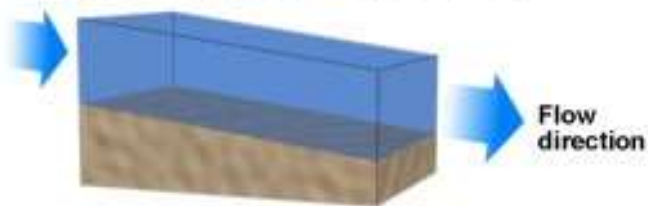


Critical flow is unstable and often sets up standing waves between super and subcritical flow

## 2. Channels and flow types

### Water surface slope and channel slope surface

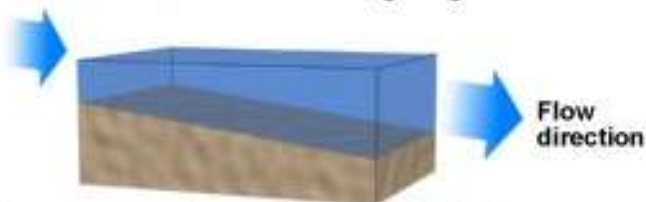
#### Slope and Stage Relationship



Water surface slope  $\approx$  Channel bed slope  
Flow condition = Baseflow



Water surface slope  $>$  Channel bed slope  
Flow condition = Rising stage



Water surface slope  $<$  Channel bed slope  
Flow condition = Falling stage

- Under **baseflow conditions**, the **water surface slope** is about the same as the **channel bed slope**. This is typical of flow conditions between runoff events.
- Under **rising stage** conditions, the water surface slope is greater than the channel bed slope. This occurs when a flood wave is approaching.
- When the **stage is falling**, the water surface slope is less than the channel bed slope. This occurs after a flood wave has passed a location.



### 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport

Aggradation occurs when **deposition** is greater than **erosion**.



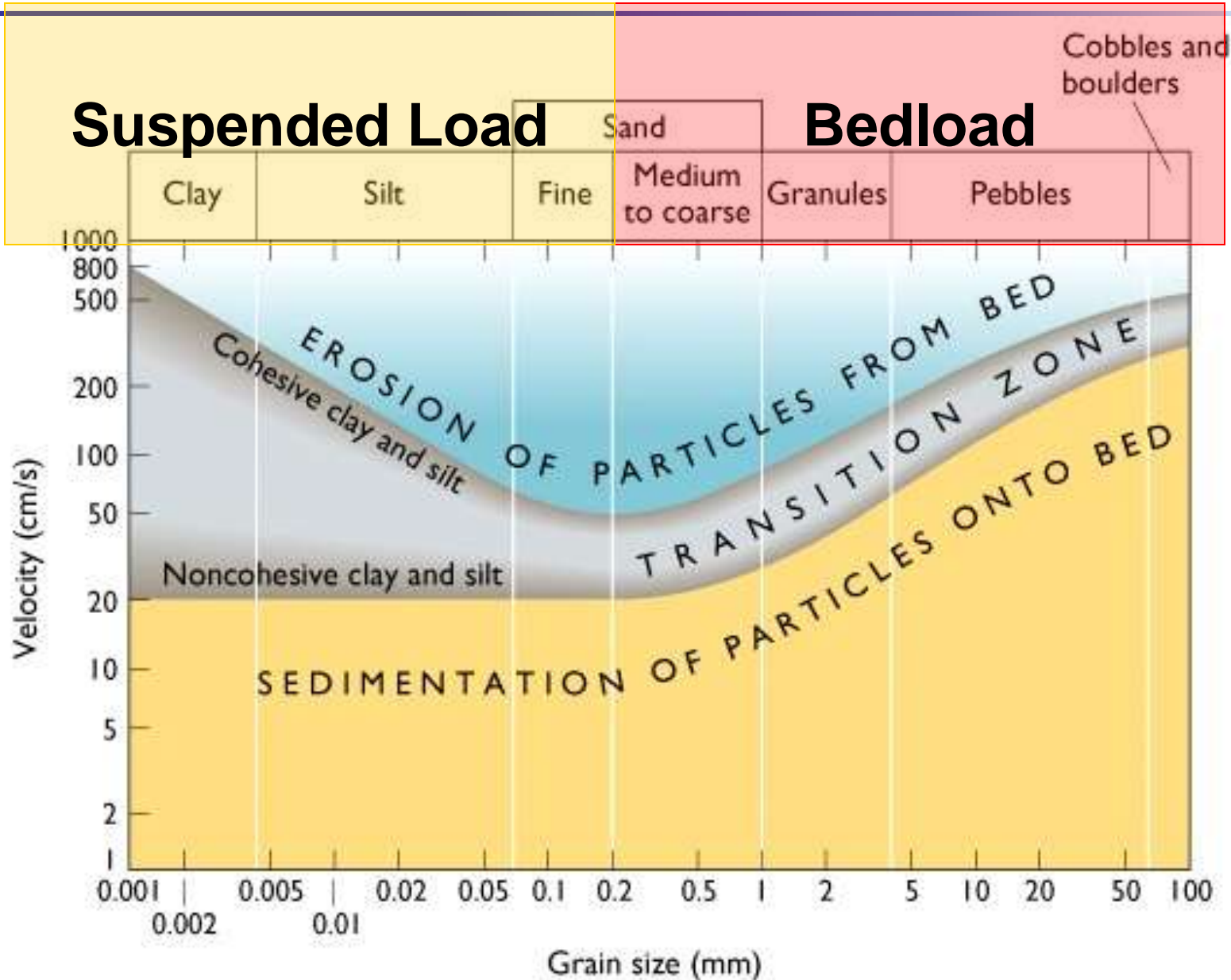
### 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport

**Incision** occurs when **erosion** is greater than **deposition**.



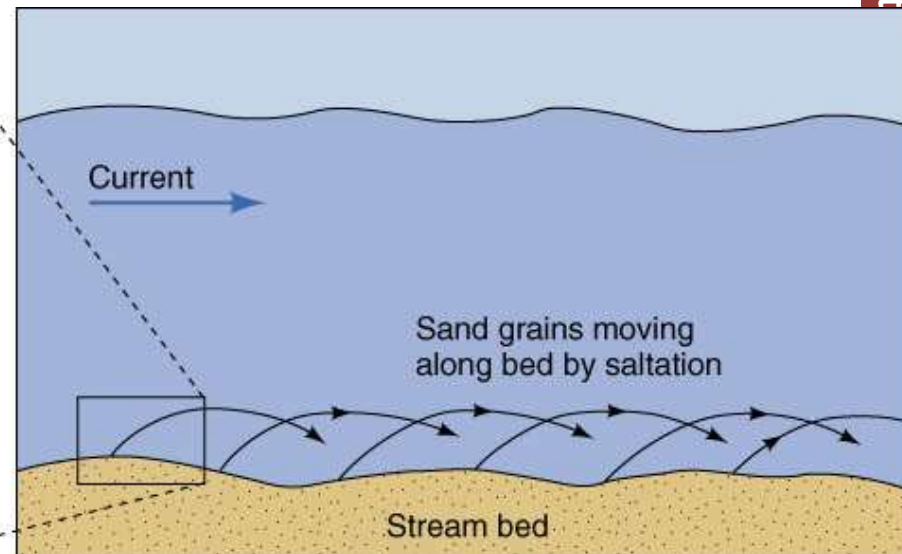
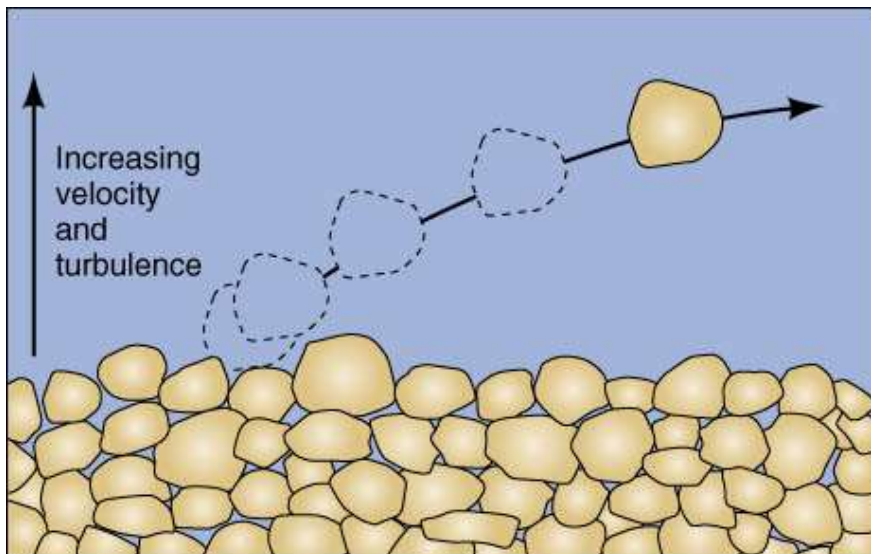
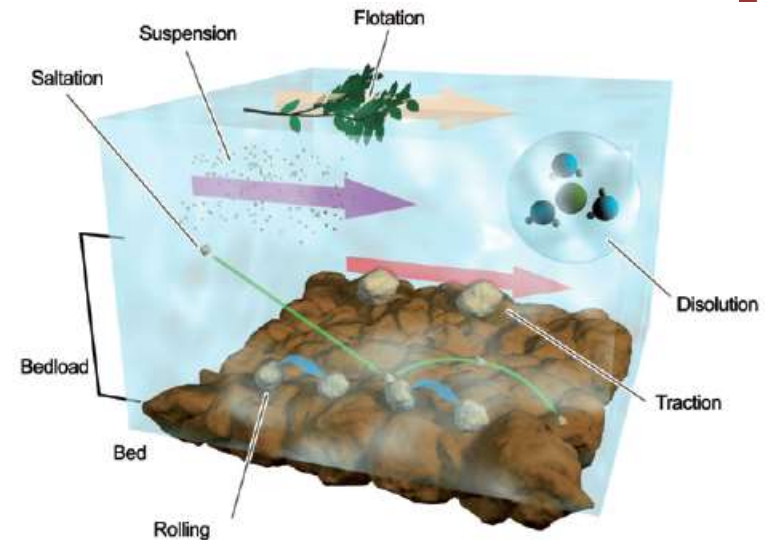
Broadstreet Hollow Stream, NY

### 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport



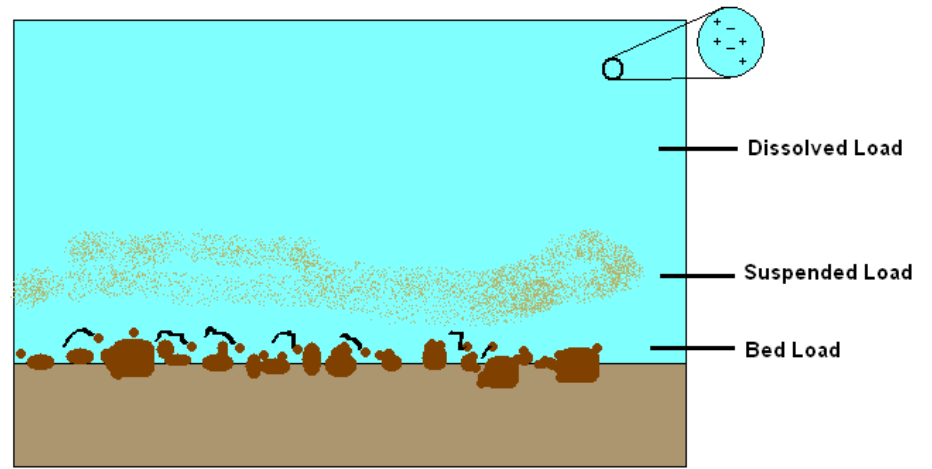
### 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport

- The **bed load** generally constitutes between 5 and 20 % of the total load of a stream.
- Particles move discontinuously by **rolling or sliding** at a slower velocity than the stream water.
- The bed load may move short distances by **saltation** (series of short intermittent jumps).



# 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport

## suspended load



# 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport

Tributaries can have different sediment loads



### 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport

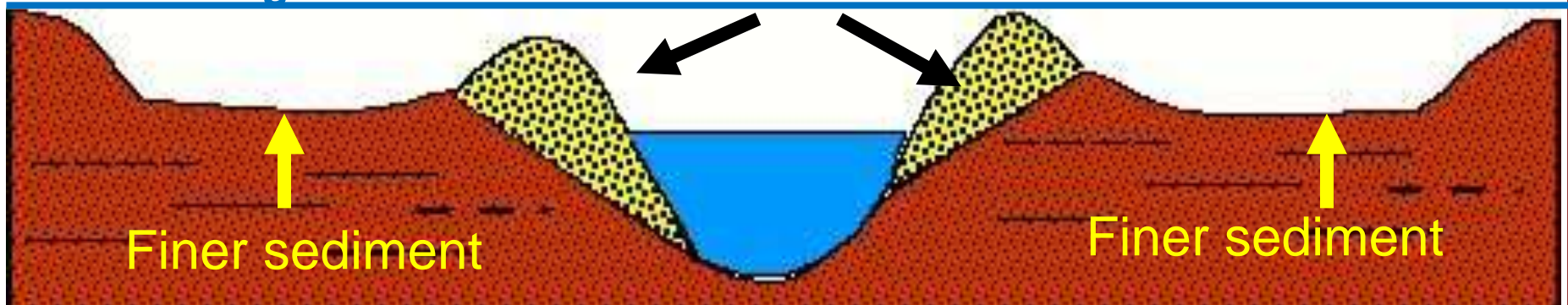
## Levee Deposits

Flood stage

Coarser sediment

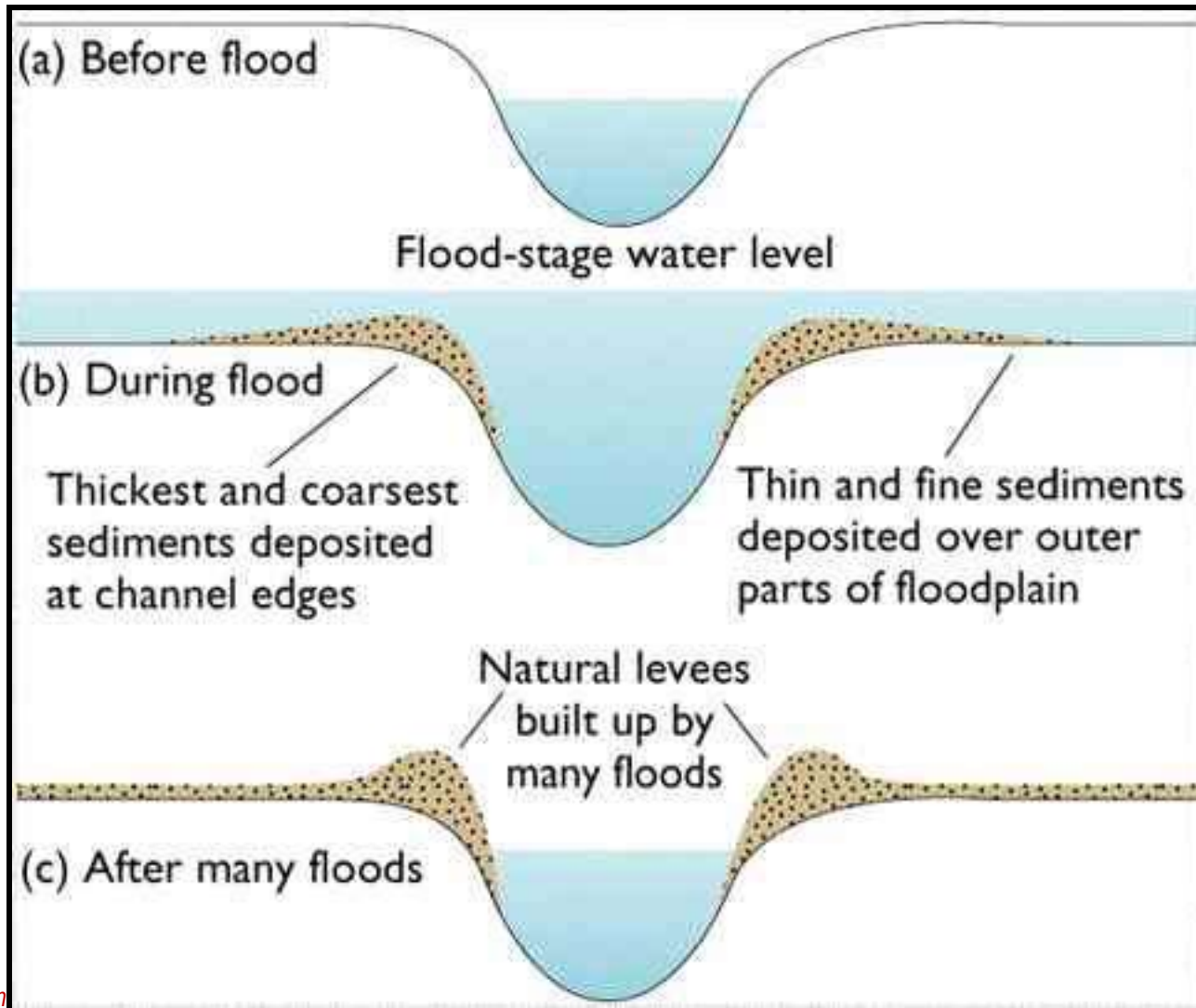
Finer sediment

Finer sediment



### 3. Fluvial processes: Erosion and Transport

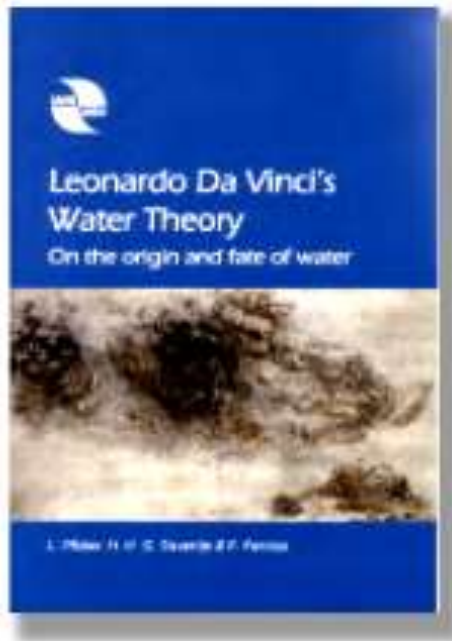
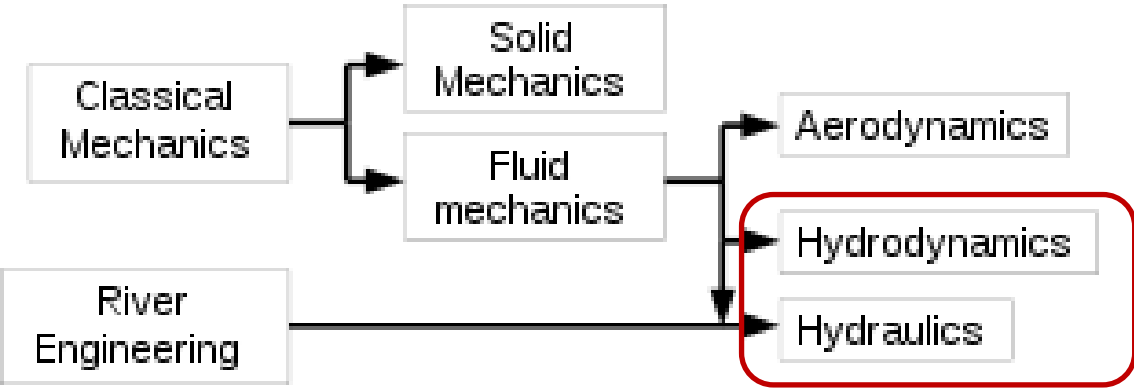
#### Floodplain Formation by Suspended Load Deposition





# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

**Hydraulics** is an applied science and engineering dealing with the mechanical properties of liquids.



**Free surface hydraulics and hydrodynamics** are the branches of hydraulics dealing with free surface flow, such as occurring in rivers.

# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods



- (1) **Steady** flow equations
- (2) **Non steady** (varied) flow equations:
  - (1) 1D modelling (standard step method)
  - (2) 2D modelling

# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

## Steady Flow Equations: MANNING

Continuity Equation:  $Q = VA$

### Manning's Equation

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

V is average velocity (m/s)

R = hydraulic radius (m)

S = energy slope (m/m)

n = Manning's roughness coefficient

**R = Area / Wetted perimeter**

**Manning assumes uniform flow**

### Discharge Equation

$$Q = \frac{A R^{2/3} S^{1/2}}{n}$$

Q is discharge (cms)

A = channel cross-sectional area (m<sup>2</sup>)

# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

## Steady Flow Equations: MANNING

### Manning's Equation Example

Hydraulic radius (R) = Area / wetted perimeter =  $10 \text{ m}^2 / 5 \text{ m} = 2.0 \text{ m}$

Water surface slope = 0.001

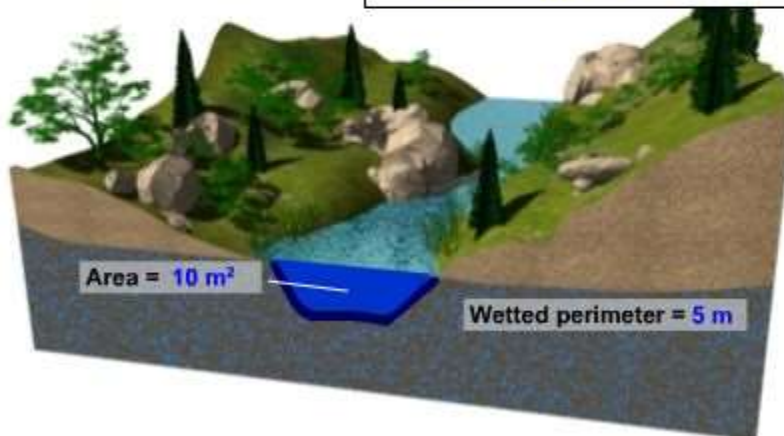
Channel roughness (n) = 0.025

$$V = \frac{R^{2/3} * s^{1/2}}{n}$$

$$V = \frac{2.0^{2/3} * 0.001^{1/2}}{0.025} = 20 \text{ m/s}$$

$$Q = V * A$$

$$Q = 20 * 10 = 200 \text{ cms}$$



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### Manning's Equation Example

Hydraulic radius (R) = Area / wetted perimeter =  $50 \text{ m}^2 / 15 \text{ m} = 3.3 \text{ m}$

Water surface slope = 0.001

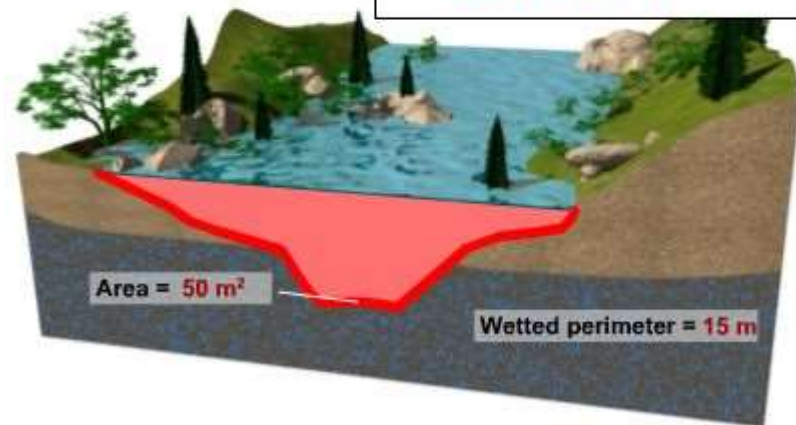
Channel roughness (n) = 0.045

$$V = \frac{R^{2/3} * s^{1/2}}{n}$$

$$V = \frac{3.3^{2/3} * 0.001^{1/2}}{0.045} = 15.6 \text{ m/s}$$

$$Q = V * A$$

$$Q = 15.6 * 50 = 780 \text{ cms}$$



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# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

Non steady (varied) flow: Differential equations

Conservation of mass states that no water is created or destroyed

$$\frac{\partial U_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial z} = 0$$

$dM/dt=0$

**U** denotes flow velocity and **x, y, z** denote the three Cartesian dimensions

Conservation of momentum states that the flowing water adheres to Newton's second law of motion, i.e., any change in the flow velocity is the result of the forces acting upon the flow (pressure, shear and friction, gravity, Coriolis):

Momentum equations

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial z} \right) = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial z} + F_x$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial z} \right) = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial z} + F_y$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial z} \right) = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zz}}{\partial z} - \rho g + F_z$$

$\rho, \tau, p$  and  $g$  denote fluid density, shear stress, pressure, gravity,  $F$  is any additional external forces

# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

In their 3D form, these equations are known as the **Navier–Stokes equations**

**X-Momentum**  $\rho \left( \cancel{\frac{\partial U_x}{\partial t}} + U_x \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial z} + F_x$

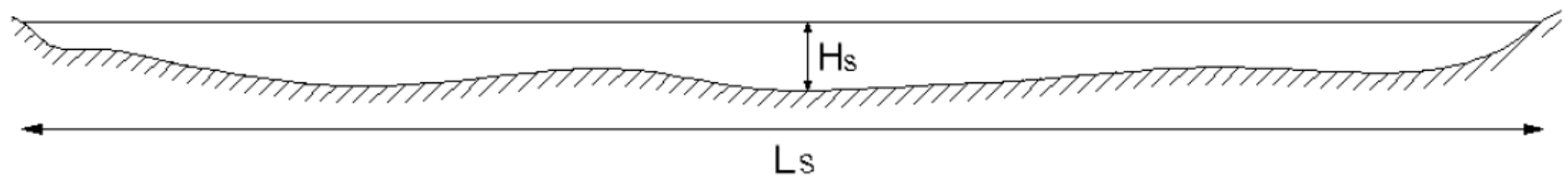
**Y-Momentum**  $\rho \left( \cancel{\frac{\partial U_y}{\partial t}} + U_x \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial z} + F_y$

**Z-Momentum**  ~~$\rho \left( \cancel{\frac{\partial U_z}{\partial t}} + U_x \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zz}}{\partial z} - \rho g + F_z$~~

$$u = \bar{u} + u'$$

Time averaged  $\bar{u} = \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} u dt$  Reynolds equations

Depth averaged  $u = \frac{1}{h} \int_{z_0}^{z_0+h} \bar{u} dz$  Saint Venant 2D or Shallow water equations



# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

Saint Venant 1D or 1D Shallow water equations

$$\frac{\partial U_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial z} = 0$$

1D Continuity Equation

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial z} + F_x$$
~~$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial z} + F_y$$~~
~~$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zz}}{\partial z} - \rho g + F_z$$~~

Momentum Equation X

# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

Saint Venant 2D or 2D Shallow water equations

$$\frac{\partial U_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial z} = 0$$

2D Continuity Equation

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial z} + F_x$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_y}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial z} + F_y$$
~~$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial t} + U_x \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial x} + U_y \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial y} + U_z \frac{\partial U_z}{\partial z} \right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zz}}{\partial z} - \rho g + F_z$$~~

Momentum Equation X

Momentum Equation Y

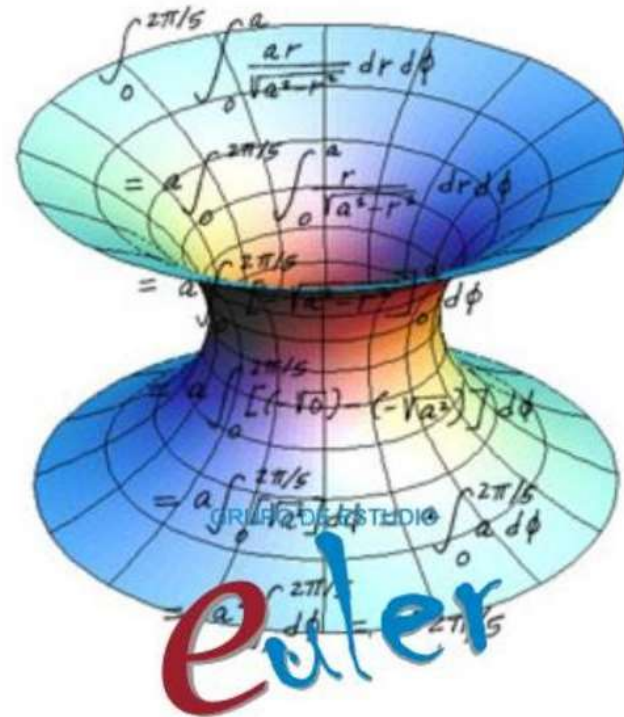


# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

Differential equations do not have explicit solution, they need numerical methods to be solved

## Methods of Solution

- Finite Difference Method
- Finite element method
- Finite volume method
- Solution:
- Implicit
- Explicit
- CFL condition



## 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

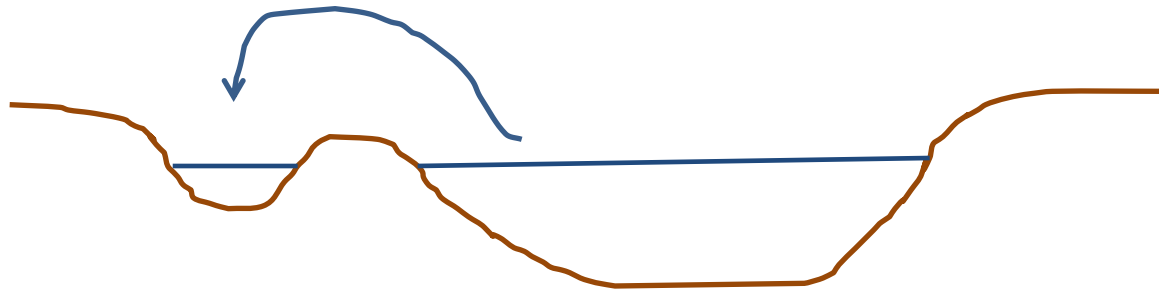
Not all aspects of a flood can be described by a single method

### 1D-methods:

- + Long time-scales
- + Big areas
- + High system complexity
- Calculation of inundation extent.
- Interaction of floodplain and river.

### 2D-methods:

- Short time-scales
- Small areas
- Low system complexity
- + Highly detailed, more correct description of physics.
- + Integrated treatment of floodplain and river.

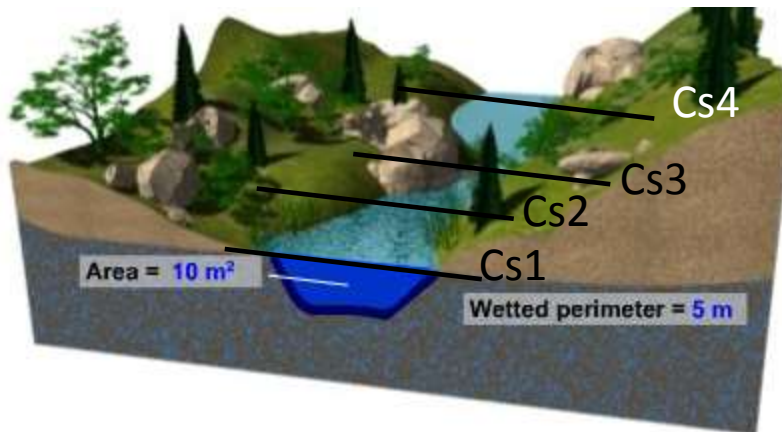




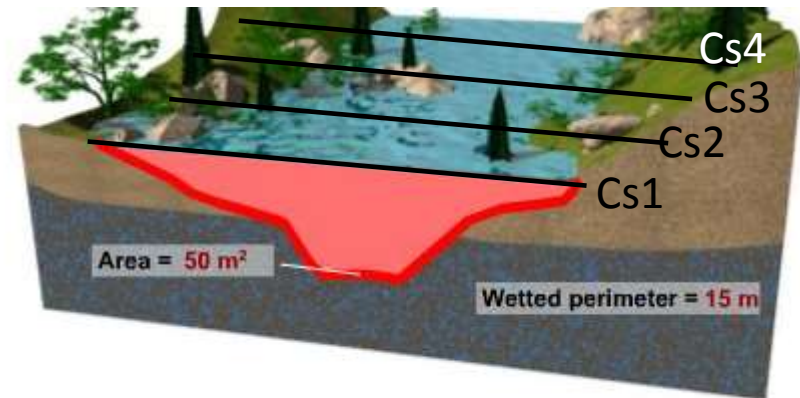
Hydraulic, step 0  
Contour Fill of Depth.

# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

## Slope conveyance



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### Discharge Equation

$$Q = \frac{A R^{2/3} S^{1/2}}{n}$$

Q is discharge (cms)

A = channel cross-sectional area (m<sup>2</sup>)

# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

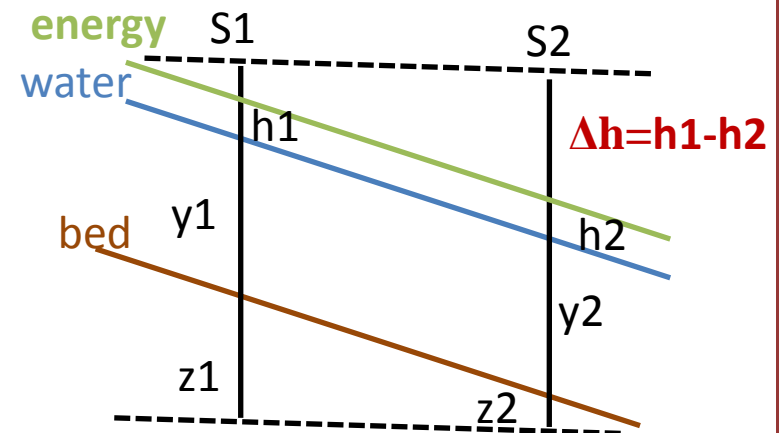
## 1D: STANDARD STEP METHOD

The **Standard Step Method (STM)** is a computational technique utilized to estimate **one dimensional** surface water profiles in open channels with **non uniform (varied)** flow under **steady state conditions**. It uses a combination of the energy, momentum, and continuity.

$$y_2 + z_2 + \frac{\alpha_2 \bar{v}_2^2}{2g} = y_1 + z_1 + \frac{\alpha_1 \bar{v}_1^2}{2g} + h_t$$

**Supercritical**= S1 is upstream

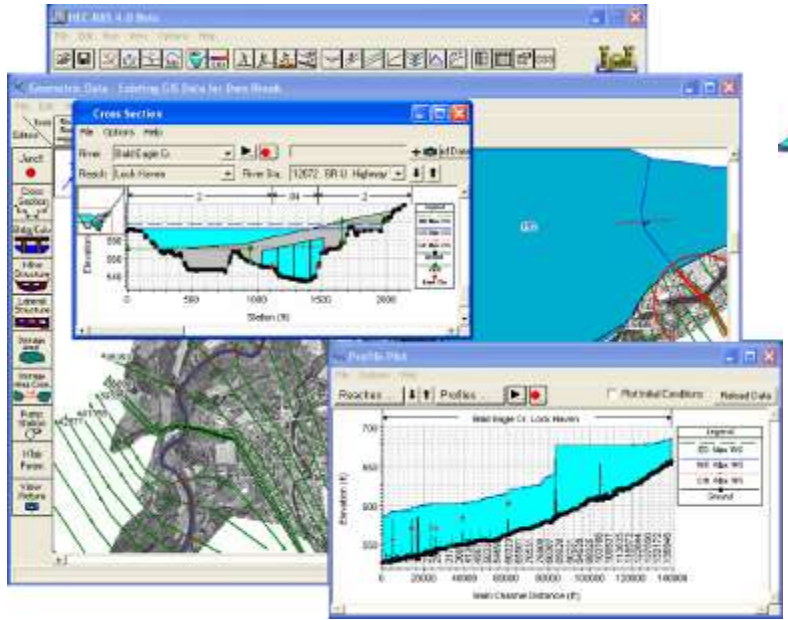
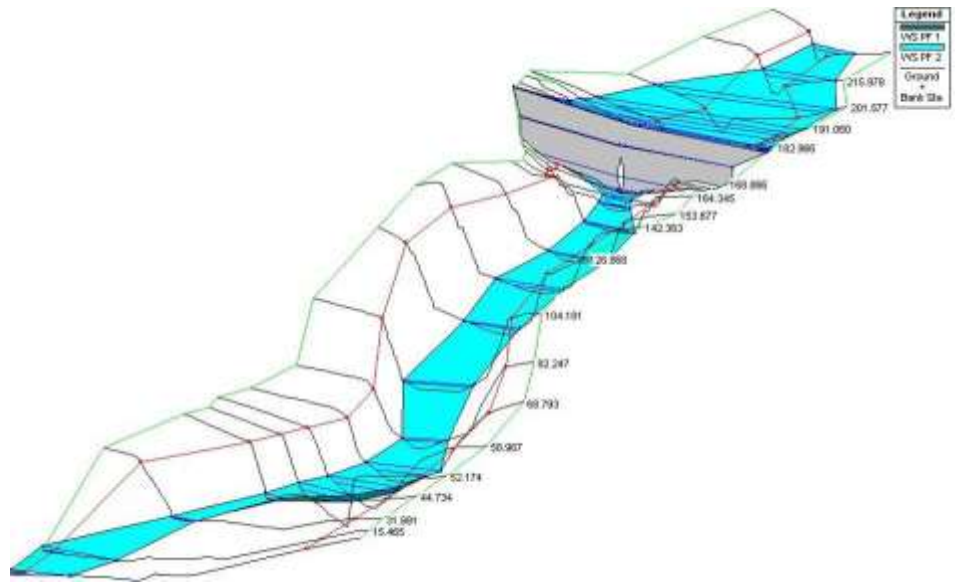
**Subcritical**=S1 is downstream



# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

HEC RAS:

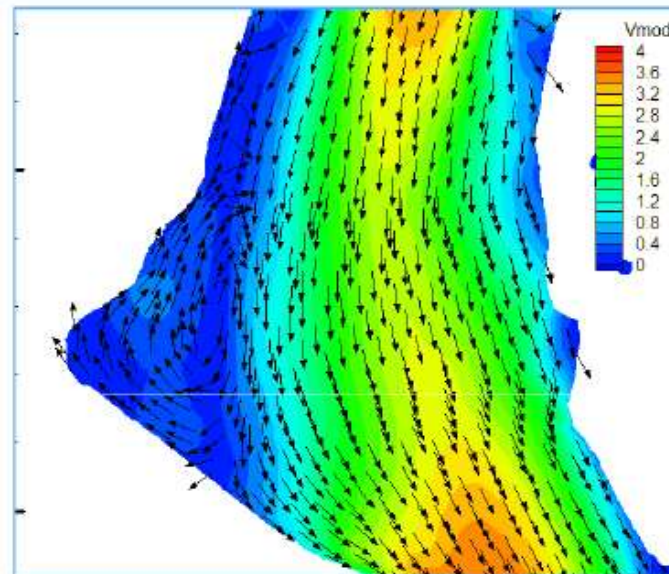
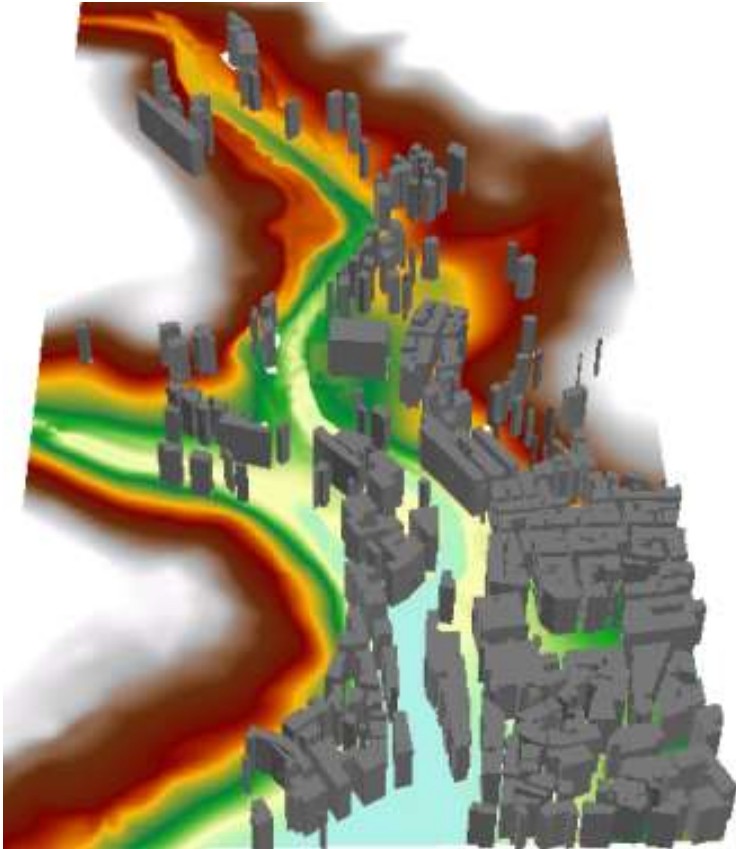
1. Cross sections
2. Discharge/hydrograph
3. Boundary conditions
4. Manning roughness



# 4. Estimating and reconstructing floods

## 2D SAINT VENANT EQ.: IBER model

1. DEM
2. Calculation mesh
3. Initial conditions
4. Boundary conditions (inlet and outlet)
5. Discharge/hydrograph
6. Manning roughness (spatially distributed)



### 3. Estimating and reconstructing floods

A **roughness coefficient** is used to describe the channel friction that acts to slow down the streamflow.

Roughness coefficients represent the resistance to flood flows in channels and flood plains

Trees and boulders would have a higher coefficient than the concrete lining of an engineered drainage channel.

Values of the roughness coefficient, may be assigned for conditions that exist at the time of a specific flow event, for average conditions over a range in stage, or for anticipated conditions at the time of a future event.

**Irregularity (n1):**

Variation in **Channel Cross Section (n2):** shape and size of cross sections

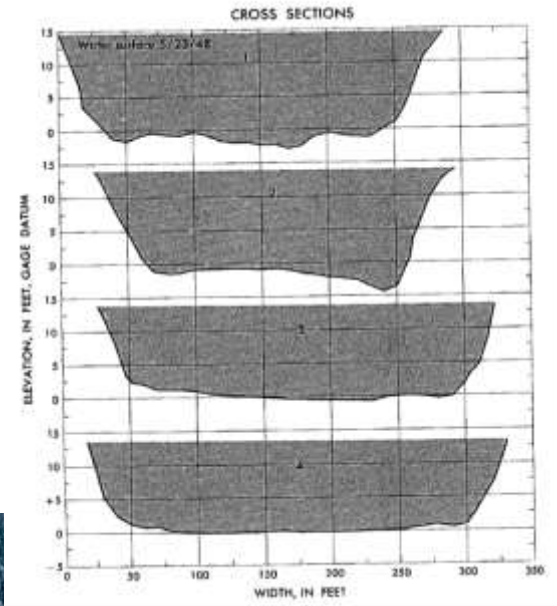
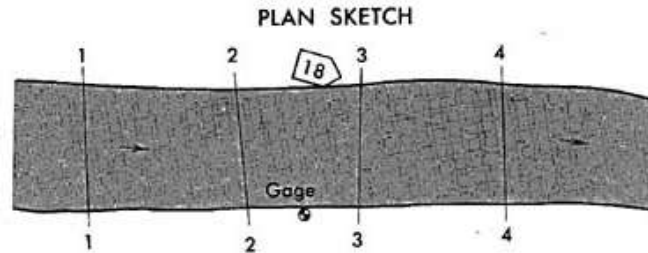
**Obstruction (n3)**

**Vegetation (n4)**

$$n=n1+n2+n3+n4$$

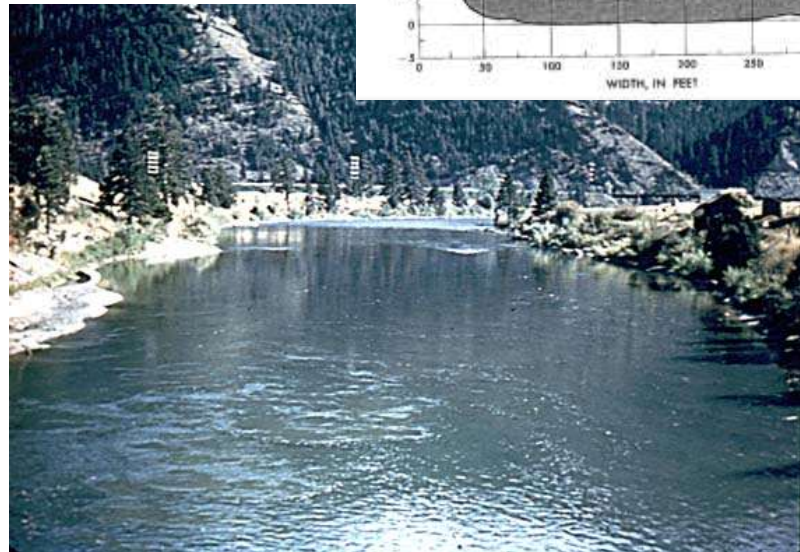
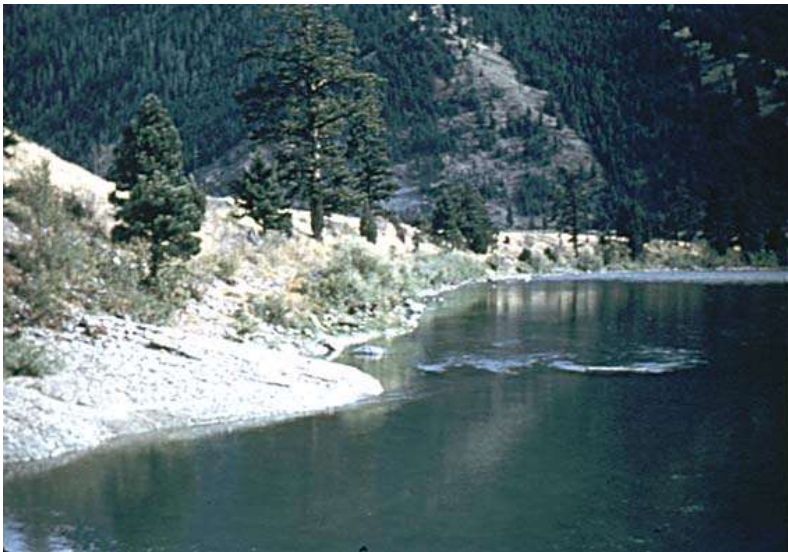


# 3. Estimating and reconstructing floods



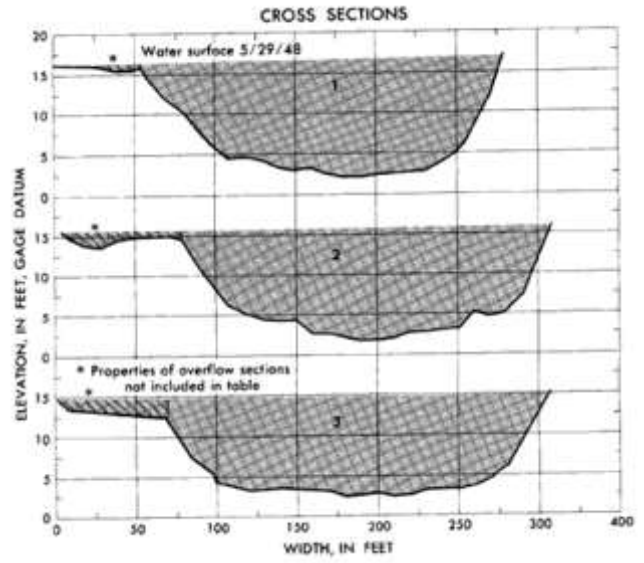
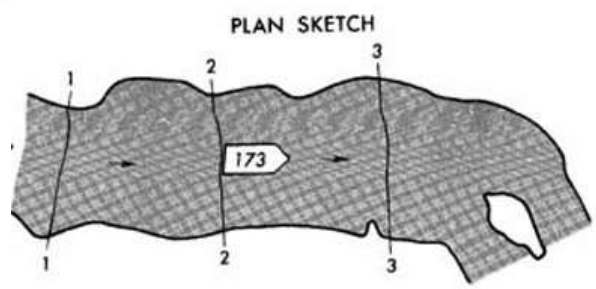
Manning  $n = 0.030$

Clark Fork at Missoula, Montana



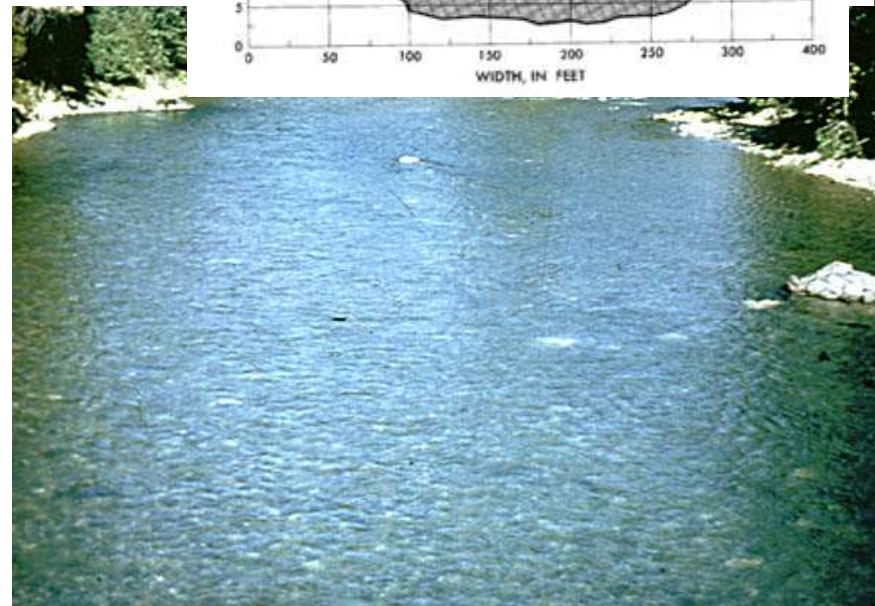
<http://wwwrcamnl.wr.usgs.gov/sws/fieldmethods/Indirects/nvalues/index.htm>

# 3. Estimating and reconstructing floods



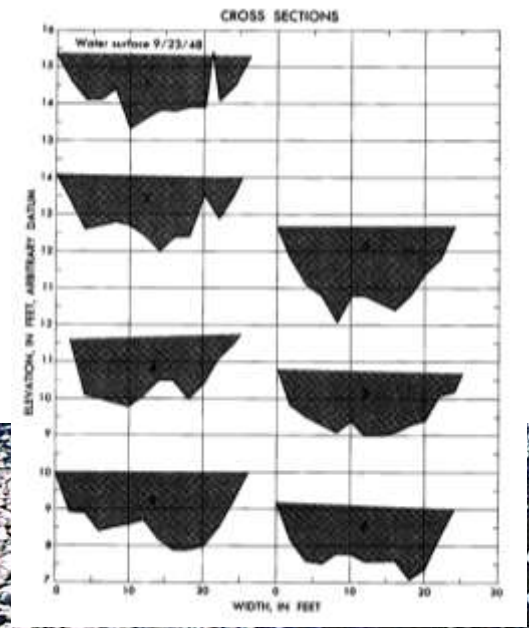
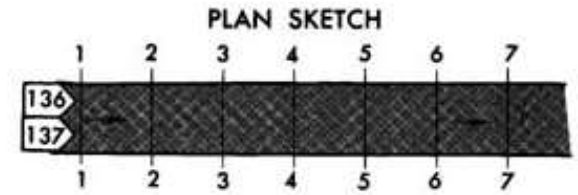
Manning  $n = 0.037$

Wenatchee River at Plain, Washington



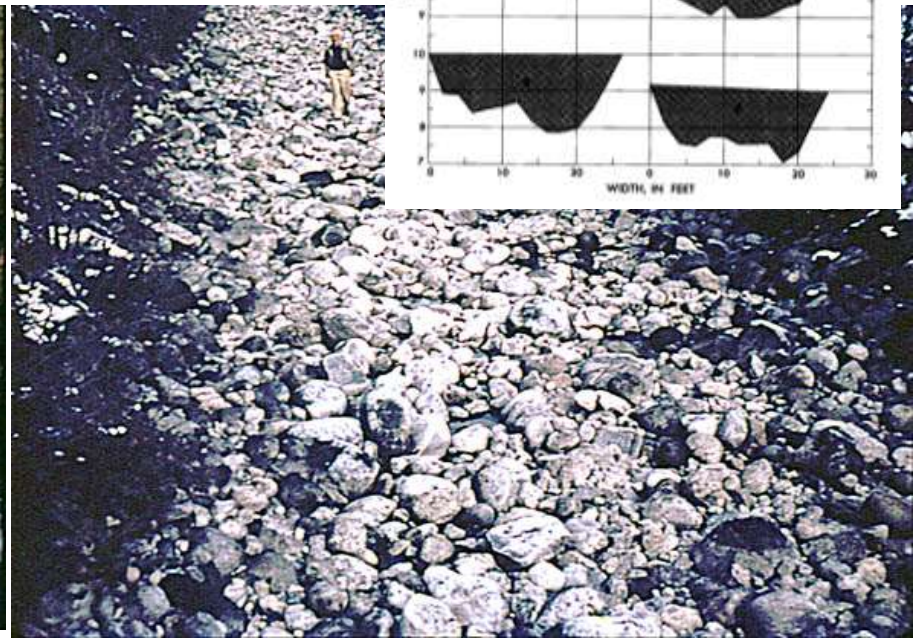
<http://wwwrcamnl.wr.usgs.gov/sws/fieldmethods/Indirects/nvalues/index.htm>

# 3. Estimating and reconstructing floods



Manning  $n = 0.060$

Rock Creek Canal near Darby, Montana



(<http://wwwrcamnl.wr.usgs.gov/sws/fieldmethods/Indirects/nvalues/index.htm>)

# 3. Estimating and reconstructing floods

Manning's n for Channels (Chow, 1959).

Type of Channel and Description	Minimum	Normal	Maximum
Natural streams - minor streams (top width at floodstage < 100 ft)			
<b>1. Main Channels</b>			
a. clean, straight, full stage, no rifts or deep pools	0.025	0.030	0.033
b. same as above, but more stones and weeds	0.030	0.035	0.040
c. clean, winding, some pools and shoals	0.033	0.040	0.045
d. same as above, but some weeds and stones	0.035	0.045	0.050
e. same as above, lower stages, more ineffective slopes and sections	0.040	0.048	0.055
f. same as "d" with more stones	0.045	0.050	0.060
g. sluggish reaches, weedy, deep pools	0.050	0.070	0.080
h. very weedy reaches, deep pools, or floodways with heavy stand of timber and underbrush	0.075	0.100	0.150
<b>2. Mountain streams, no vegetation in channel, banks usually steep, trees and brush along banks submerged at high stages</b>			
a. bottom: gravels, cobbles, and few boulders	0.030	0.040	0.050
b. bottom: cobbles with large boulders	0.040	0.050	0.070
<b>3. Floodplains</b>			
a. Pasture, no brush			
1. short grass	0.025	0.030	0.035
2. high grass	0.030	0.035	0.050
b. Cultivated areas			
1. no crop	0.020	0.030	0.040
2. mature row crops	0.025	0.035	0.045
3. mature field crops	0.030	0.040	0.050
c. Brush			
1. scattered brush, heavy weeds	0.035	0.050	0.070

*...to be continued...*

## Modelling floods: exercises

