

Water Research Laboratory | School of Civil & Environmental Engineering

Laboratory Experiments Of Wave Overtopping Of Revetment Structures In Reef Environments

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Wave Overtopping discharge on

smooth revetment with reef condition

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Background

• Reef fronted islands are often protected from ocean swell during modal conditions

- During Tropical Cyclones
- » Storm surge
- » Large infragravity energy
- » Inundation of low lying areas





THE REEF ENVIRONMENT





Wave Transformation on Reefs

- Offshore spectra shows groupiness of waves
- Reef top hydrodynamics
 - Incident waves dissipate much of their energy on the reef edge
 - Energy is transferred into low-frequency components – Surf beat
 - Incident band wave bores travel on top of this surf beat





PARAMETERS USED IN DESIGN EQUATIONS

T_{M-1,0}: For standard cases the ratio between Tp/Tm-1,0 equal to 1.1, but for the situation with shallow and **very shallow foreshore the ratio between these two parameters can be less than 0.3**(EurOtop,2016).

Wave length $L_{m-1,0} = g \frac{T_{m-1,0}^{2}}{2\pi}$

Steepness ($S_{m-1,0}$): For shallow and very shallow foreshore condition the wave steepness is calculated by inputting the **wave length and wave height at toe of the structure**.

Breaker parameter (ξ): $\xi_{m-1,0} = \frac{tan\alpha}{\sqrt{S_{m-1,0}}}$, where slope defined by the structure typically

Rc = crest freeboard, measured from SWL



PARAMETERS USED IN DESIGN EQUATIONS

R2% (smooth impermeable surfaces and very shallow foreshores): (eq. 5.2 Eurotop 2016) $\frac{R_{2\%}}{Hm0} = 1.0 * \gamma_f * \gamma_\beta \left(4 - \frac{1.5}{\sqrt{\gamma_b * \xi_{m-1,0}}}\right)$

 γ_b is the influence factor for a berm [-], [in our case this will be 1]

 γ_f is the influence factor for roughness elements on a slope [-], [in our case this will be 1]

 γ_{β} is the influence factor for oblique wave attack [-] [in our case this will be 1]

 γ_{v} is the influence factor for a wall at the end of a slope. [in our case this will be 1]



General formula (eq. 5.10, Eurotop 2016)

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = \frac{0.023}{\sqrt{\tan\alpha}} \gamma_b exp \left[-\left(b * \frac{R_c}{\xi_{m-1,0} * H_{m0} * \gamma_b * \gamma_f * \gamma_\beta * \gamma_v} \right)^{1.3} \right]$$

Van Gent (1999) for smooth sea dike with shallow/very shall foreshore

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = 10^c exp\left[-\left(\frac{R_c}{(0.33 + 0.022 * \xi_{m-1,0}) * H_{m0} * \gamma_f * \gamma_\beta}\right)\right]$$

Where c = -0.92 + - 1.64(0.24) - mean value approach



Altomare (2016)

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = 10^{c_n ew} exp\left[-\left(\frac{R_c}{(0.33 + 0.022 * \xi_{m-1,0}) * H_{m0} * \gamma_f * \gamma_\beta}\right)\right]$$

Where c = -0.791 +/- 1.64(0.294) [mean value approach]; c = -0.5 (eq. 5.16 Eurotop) design and assessment $\xi_{m-1,0} = \frac{tan\alpha}{\sqrt{S_{m-1,0}}}$



The equivalent slope $tan\alpha$ is defined as the average slope in the zone between still water level minus 1.5 significant incident wave height and still water level plus the wave run-up level exceeded by 2% of the incident wave.

 $\tan \alpha_{sf} = \frac{1.5H_{m0} + R_{2\%}}{(1.5H_{m0} - h_t) * m + (h_t + R_{2\%}) \cot \alpha} \text{ for ht/Hm0 < 1.5 (eq. 5.14 eurotop)}$

But what is 'm' on a flat reef with a steep slope at the rim?







Modified equation for a flat reef with a steep slope at the rim?





EXPERIMENTAL STUDY

1:50 scale tests done on a reef representative of Cook Islands

Prototype Cyclone condition waves:

Wave condition	Wave height (m)	Peak wave period (s)	Still water level (m)
TC Sally	8m	11s, 13s, 15s	0.3m 1.0m
100 year ARI	12m	13s	1.5m 2.1m



Reef widths:

75 and 150 m

Each test was run for 1000 waves





EXPERIMENTAL STUDY

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4 prototype scale revetment





RESULTS – Example Spectral Transformation

Large change in Spectral characteristics

- Offshore
 - » Hm0 = ~8m
 - » Tm-1,0 = 13.6s
- Reef (post-breaking)
 - » Dominated by low-frequency motions caused by breaking on the reef rim
 - » Hm0 = 3m
 - » Tm-1,0 = 195s
 - Peaks at 100 and 166s
 - » Setup ~ 0(1m)
 - » Surf beat ~ 0(0.5m)







 Recalling that this is what the free surface timeseries looks like are Hm0 and Tm-1,0 the best values?



Using Hm0SS and Tm-1,0SS measured at toe of structure

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 Data shifts down but may now have a similar slope



 Recalling that this is what the free surface timeseries looks like are Hm0 and Tm-1,0 the best values?



- Using Hm0SS and Tm-1,0 measured at toe of structure (focussing on infragravity modulation)
- Data shifts slightly up from previous and may still have a similar slope





 Recalling that this is what the free surface timeseries looks like are Hm0 and Tm-1,0 the best values?



- Using Hm0SS and Tm-1,0SS measured at toe of structure (including wave setup)
- Minor differences from using Tm-1,0





 Recalling that this is what the free surface timeseries looks like are Hm0 and Tm-1,0 the best values?



- Using Hm0SS and Tm-1,0SS measured at toe of structure (including wave setup and 2*surfbeat)
- Slight shift up and more vertical spread from wave setup alone





CLOSING THOUGHTS

- It appears from these preliminary tests that we may be missing key processes that determine over-topping of revetments in reef environments during extreme events
- These are AVERAGE Q values. Are these the best to be designing for in environments with high temporal modulation of overtopping where the mean does not represent the true overtopping rate which will flood houses, sweep people off their feet and cause structural damage ???
- We welcome your thoughts/comments and advice, from you the experts in this field.







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KEY DATES

Abstract Submissions Open	1 Apr 2019
Abstract Submissions Close	15 Sep 2019
Registration Opens	13 Apr 2020
Earlybird Registration Closes	3 Jul 2020



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