

# Division of Engineering Research on Call Agreement #34652

## (Task #3 – Scour Prediction Tools)

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Khoury, David Rothwell**

Prepared for:  
The Ohio Department of Transportation  
Office of Statewide Planning & Research

and the  
United States Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

May 2022

Final Report



Ohio Research Institute for  
Transportation and the Environment



**Technical Report Documentation Page**

1. Report No. <b>FHWA/ODOT-2022/12</b>	2. Government Accession No.	3. Recipient's Catalog No.	
4. Title and Subtitle <b>Division of Engineering Research on Call Agreement #34652 Task #3 – Scour Prediction Tools</b>		5. Report Date <b>May 2022</b>	6. Performing Organization Code
7. Author(s) <b>Daniel Che (ORCID 0000-0003-3939-6279), Kevin White (ORCID 0000-0002-2902-2524), Peter Narsavage (ORCID 0000-0002-1823-9402), Issam Khoury (ORCID 0000-0003-4856-7535), and David Rothwell</b>		8. Performing Organization Report No.	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address <b>E.L. Robinson Engineering of Ohio Company 950 Goodale Boulevard, Suite 180 Grandview Heights OH 43212 and Ohio Research Institute for Transportation and the Environment (ORITE) 231 Stocker Center Ohio University Athens OH 45701-2979</b>		10. Work Unit No. (TRAIS)	11. Contract or Grant No. <b>Agreement 34652</b>
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address <b>Ohio Department of Transportation 1980 West Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43223</b>		13. Type of Report and Period Covered <b>Final Report</b>	
		14. Sponsoring Agency Code	
15. Supplementary Notes <b>Prepared in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)</b>			
16. Abstract <b>The objective of this project is to compare the most recent ODOT procedures to currently recommended FHWA practices for predicting scour, and to develop a user-friendly spreadsheet solution for calculating/predicting scour at a structure based on the latest procedures. Examples of how to use the scour prediction tool are illustrated in the report</b>			
17. Keywords <b>Scour, bridge pier scour, abutment scour.</b>		18. Distribution Statement <b>No restrictions. This document is available to the public through the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161</b>	
19. Security Classification (of this report) <b>Unclassified</b>	20. Security Classification (of this page) <b>Unclassified</b>	21. No. of Pages <b>59</b>	22. Price

Form DOT F 1700.7 (8-72)

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# SI\* (MODERN METRIC) CONVERSION FACTORS

APPROXIMATE CONVERSIONS TO SI UNITS		APPROXIMATE CONVERSIONS FROM SI UNITS						
Symbol	When You Know	Multiply By	To Find	Symbol	When You Know	Multiply By	To Find	Symbol
<b>LENGTH</b>								
in	inches	25.4	millimeters	mm	millimeters	0.039	inches	in
ft	feet	0.305	meters	m	meters	3.28	feet	ft
yd	yards	0.914	meters	m	meters	1.09	yards	yd
mi	miles	1.61	kilometers	km	kilometers	0.621	miles	mi
<b>AREA</b>								
in <sup>2</sup>	square inches	645.2	square millimeters	mm <sup>2</sup>	square millimeters	0.0016	square inches	in <sup>2</sup>
ft <sup>2</sup>	square feet	0.093	square meters	m <sup>2</sup>	square meters	10.764	square feet	ft <sup>2</sup>
yd <sup>2</sup>	square yards	0.836	square meters	m <sup>2</sup>	square meters	1.195	square yards	yd <sup>2</sup>
ac	acres	0.405	hectares	ha	hectares	2.47	acres	ac
mi <sup>2</sup>	square miles	2.59	square kilometers	km <sup>2</sup>	square kilometers	0.386	square miles	mi <sup>2</sup>
<b>VOLUME</b>								
fl oz	fluid ounces	29.57	milliliters	mL	milliliters	0.034	fluid ounces	fl oz
gal	gallons	3.785	liters	L	liters	0.264	gallons	gal
ft <sup>3</sup>	cubic feet	0.028	cubic meters	m <sup>3</sup>	cubic meters	35.71	cubic feet	ft <sup>3</sup>
yd <sup>3</sup>	cubic yards	0.765	cubic meters	m <sup>3</sup>	cubic meters	1.307	cubic yards	yd <sup>3</sup>
NOTE: Volumes greater than 1 000 L shall be shown in m <sup>3</sup> .								
<b>MASS</b>								
oz	ounces	28.35	grams	g	grams	0.035	ounces	oz
lb	pounds	0.454	kilograms	kg	kilograms	2.202	pounds	lb
T	short tons (2000 lb)	0.907	megagrams (or "metric ton")	Mg (or "t")	megagrams (or "metric ton")	1.103	short tons (2000 lb)	T
<b>TEMPERATURE (exact)</b>								
°F	Fahrenheit temperature	5(°F-32)/9 or (°F-32)/1.8	Celsius temperature	°C	Celsius temperature	1.8°C + 32	Fahrenheit temperature	°F
<b>ILLUMINATION</b>								
fc	foot-candles	10.76	lux	lx	lux	0.0929	foot-candles	fc
fl	foot-Lamberts	3.426	candela/m <sup>2</sup>	cd/m <sup>2</sup>	candela/m <sup>2</sup>	0.2919	foot-Lamberts	fl
<b>FORCE and PRESSURE or STRESS</b>								
lbf	poundforce	4.45	newtons	N	newtons	0.225	poundforce	lbf
lbf/in <sup>2</sup>	poundforce per square inch	6.89	kilopascals	kPa	kilopascals	0.145	poundforce per square inch	lbf/in <sup>2</sup>
or psi								or psi

\* SI is the symbol for the International Symbol of Units. Appropriate rounding should be made to comply with Section 4 of ASTM E380. (Revised September 1993)

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## Task #3 – Scour Prediction Tools

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*The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors who are responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Ohio Department of Transportation or the Federal Highway Administration. This report does not constitute a standard, specification or regulation.*

Final Report  
May 2022

# Credits and Acknowledgments

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The research team thanks the Ohio Department of Transportation for their sponsorship of this project. We specifically note the contribution of the Technical Advisory Committee members: Messrs. Alexander Dettloff, Chris Merklin, Jeffrey Syar, Matt Cozzoli, and Tom Birnbrich. Their guidance throughout the project was instrumental for the success of the research. The research team also thanks Ms. Michelle Lucas of the Office of Statewide Planning and Research for her time and assistance.

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# **1. Introduction**

## **1.1 Scope of Work**

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) wishes to examine the current scour prediction methods available in different design manuals. With the current versions of the Location & Design Manual, Vol. 2 (LD2); Bridge Design Manual (BDM); and the future Geotechnical Design Manual (GDM), ODOT has substantially changed the process for predicting scour at structures. Given the number of scour models and their variability, it is important to understand how these models differ from each other. The goals of the project are:

1. Thoroughly review the most recent procedures for determining scour, as outlined in the manuals listed above. Review and validate all equations, sample calculations, and logic. Note any discrepancies, errors, or technically illogical steps.
2. Compare the most recent ODOT procedures to currently recommended FHWA practices for predicting scour; thoroughly describe each and note any differences.
3. Describe the evolving change in streambed geometry that occurs over time at a structure and recommend how to best reflect this in the scour calculations.
4. Create a user-friendly spreadsheet solution for calculating/predicting scour at a structure based on the latest procedures. The spreadsheet must permit the number of bridge spans and location of substructures with respect to the stream cross section to be defined. ODOT has a spreadsheet, which was shared with the research team for review and use.
5. Create a white paper that clearly describes the process for calculating/predicting scour based on the latest procedures, complete with examples for cohesive and granular soils, bedrock, and varying layers at the same site.

## **1.2 Outline of the Report**

Chapter 2 describes the scour methods used by ODOT, as well as those methods recommended by FHWA.

Chapter 3 illustrates the spreadsheet scour prediction tool. The input and output of the tool are explained.

Chapter 4 shows examples of the use of the scour prediction tool.

## 2. Scour Models

Scour is considered the primary cause of bridge failure and has the propensity to cause millions of dollars' worth of damage to bridges from a singular flood event. For instance, a 1994 assessment of damaged bridges in Georgia cost the state around \$130 million to replace or restore (Arneson et al., 2012). The most current literature published by the FHWA regarding scour at bridges, HEC-18 5<sup>th</sup> edition, was published in April 2012. This document provides guidance on assessing and computing scour for primary bridge components. Scour must be evaluated where a bridge foundation may interface with a streambed or floodplain, more specifically at a bridge's abutments and piers. These two elements are the primary foundations for bridges and if undermined, may cause total catastrophic failure of the bridge. In addition to scour at the foundation of the structure, contraction scour must be evaluated for a given storm event. These three main components, abutment scour, pier scour, and contraction scour are dependent on physical stream characteristics such as the velocity of the water, resulting shear stresses at the streambed, and the composition of the streambed material. Total scour at a foundation structure is then considered as the sum of the local scour (e.g., pier or abutment) and contraction scour. In addition to the three primary scour factors, it is necessary to evaluate the long-term aggradation or degradation of a stream at bridge structures. Aggradation or degradation may occur at natural expansions or constrictions within a stream and may be the result of natural channel morphology or anthropogenic activity (Lagasse et al., 2012). Further evaluation of aggradation and degradation are not discussed at length in the remainder of this document as there is no universal standard to evaluate their effects and they must be evaluated on a per site basis. Lastly, further supplemental instances specific to evaluating velocities at abutments and providing scour countermeasures can be found in HEC-23. These supplemental methods may be used in lieu of two-dimensional (2D) hydraulic modeling, however, 2D modeling is highly encouraged to more accurately elucidate the principal scour related parameters for a given stream.

In both ODOT and FHWA literature, streambed materials are classified into four categories for scour evaluation; cohesive soils, granular (non-cohesive) soils, non-scour resistant rock, and scour resistant rock. Two supplementing reports, published in 2015 and 2016, have been provided to expand on information in HEC-18, with further discussion related to non-cohesive and cohesive soils.

Scour occurs when the shear forces in a stream reach or surpass the critical shear strength for a given substrate, causing the substrate particles to erode (Arneson et al., 2012). For cohesive soils, shear strength is a function of the plasticity index, water content, percent fines, and the unconfined compressive strength. For granular soils, with a mean particle diameter ( $D_{50}$ ) greater than or equal to 0.2 mm, the shear strength is directly proportional to the soil's  $D_{50}$ . Finally, for non-scour resistant rock, the erodibility index, a function of the rock strength and its ability to resist fracture and erosion, dictates the rock's shear strength (ODOT, 2021).

Computations of scour should first consider long-term aggradation or degradation of the stream at the structure being analyzed. This value should be added, when applicable, to contraction scour and local scour. However, the computations in Section 2.4 use the NCHRP scour equations for abutments, which includes contraction scour. Additionally, scour computations for three-sided culverts in Section 2.5 consider contraction scour in conjunction with local scour at the upstream portion of the culvert; however, if multiple open-bottom culverts are installed side-by-side pier scour must be computed for the common central leg.

## **2.1 Similarities and Variations in ODOT and FHWA Literature**

Much of the content related to scour in the proposed GDM is either directly derived from HEC-18 and its supplementing updates or a conglomeration of the material. Examples of this can be seen in GDM Section 1302.3 wherein the critical shear stress for non-scour resistant rock is based on the stream power equations (7.38 and 7.39) in HEC-18. Additionally, the erodibility index for rock utilizes the same equations in both documents. When computing scour, GDM refers users to the appropriate sections in HEC-18 to calculate local and contraction scour depths.

However, some deviations between FHWA and ODOT practices are evident. For instance, Table 1 shows the ODOT (2021) recommended design flows for scour design and scour check based on the hydraulic design flow of a given structure.

**Table 1: ODOT Table 1008-1 Scour Design and Check Flood Return Periods**

Hydraulic Design Flood	Scour Design Flood	Scour Check Flood
Q10	Q25	Q50
Q25	Q50	Q100
Q50	Q100	Q500

The primary difference between Table 1 and Table 2 lies in the scour check, or “scour countermeasure design flood frequency” as it is referred to in HEC-18, for the Q<sub>50</sub> hydraulic design flood. This difference may be attributed to the proliferation of ready-to-use flow data in Ohio via USGS StreamStats web application.( <https://streamstats.usgs.gov/ss/> ). A larger return period for the scour check flood also provides an extra factor of safety that errs on the conservative side for the implementation of scour countermeasures.

**Table 2: HEC-18 Table 2.3 for Hydraulic and Scour Related Design**

Hydraulic Design Flood Frequency (Q <sub>D</sub> )	Scour Design Flood Frequency (Q <sub>S</sub> )	Scour Countermeasure Design Flood Frequency (Q <sub>CM</sub> )
Q <sub>10</sub>	Q <sub>25</sub>	Q <sub>50</sub>
Q <sub>25</sub>	Q <sub>50</sub>	Q <sub>100</sub>
Q <sub>50</sub>	Q <sub>100</sub>	Q <sub>200</sub>
Q <sub>100</sub>	Q <sub>200</sub>	Q <sub>500</sub>

The remainder of Section 2.1 will focus on the differences between the FHWA (HEC-18) literature and ODOT literature.

### 2.1.1 Time rate of Scour

When scour is computed and found to be exceedingly large for a particular site or the calculated local and contraction scour depths are deeper than the bridge foundation (ODOT, 2022), a time-rate analysis may be used. HEC-18 gives the guidance that soil materials should be evaluated to determine scour as a function of time using equation 6.8. Expanding on this and utilizing research from Briaud (2008), a time rate of scour equation can be found in the L&D Vol. 2 Section 1008.10.4:

$$\dot{z} = 10^{\alpha \log(\tau) + \beta}$$

Where:

$\dot{z}$ = Erosion rate (mm/hr)

$\tau$ = Bed shear stress (Pa)

$$\alpha = \frac{13}{EC^{0.309}} - 7.1363$$

$$\beta = 7.3777777 - \left[ \left( 1 - \frac{(EC-4.5)^2}{3.57^2} \right) 10.3777777^2 \right]^{0.5}$$

EC= Erosion category =  $4.5 - \frac{3}{1.07PI}$  for cohesive soils ( $1.5 \leq EC \leq 4.5$ ) and

EC=  $1.2 [1.83333 + \log(D_{50})]$  ( $1 \leq EC \leq 6$ ) for granular soils

PI= Plasticity index

$D_{50}$ = mean particle grain size in mm ( $\geq 0.1$ mm for granular)

Figure 1 shows the relationship of velocity and erosion rates for different materials and their corresponding erosion category (EC) subdivisions. Highly erodible materials, such as fine sands, are the most readily eroded materials with an EC=1 and scour-resistant, non-fractured bedrock is shown as the most erosion resistant material with an EC=6.

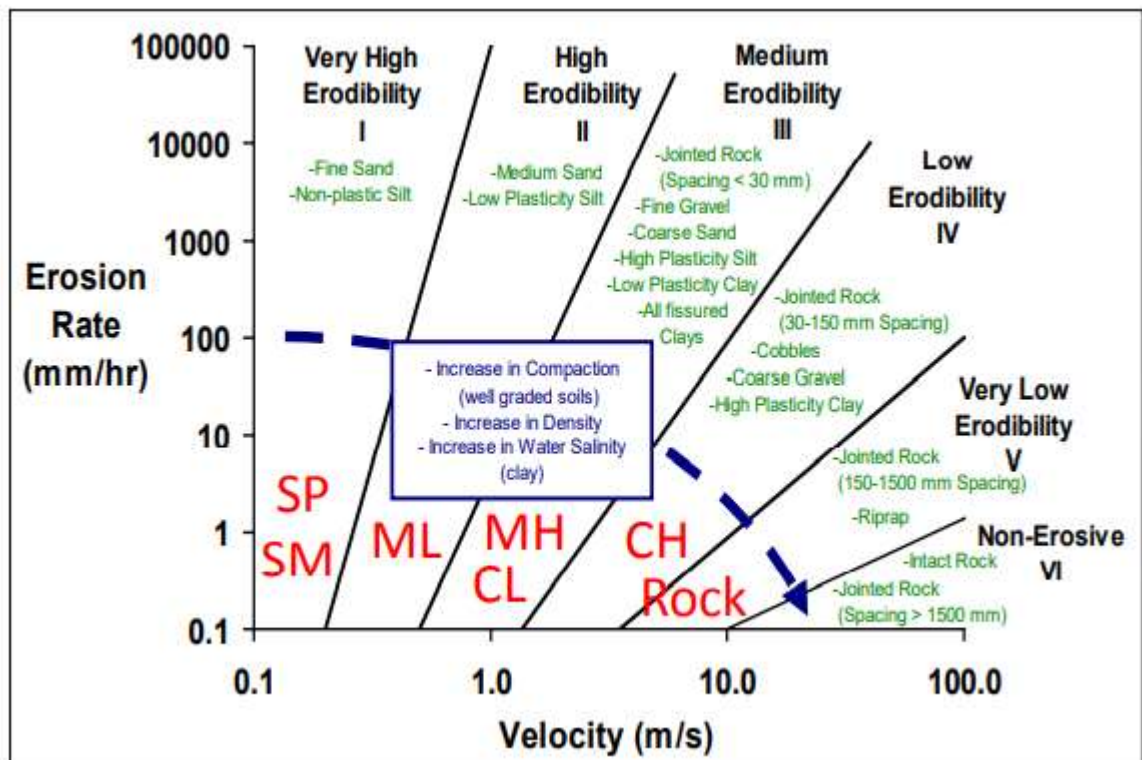


Figure 1: HEC-18 Figure 4.7 for Erosion Rate for a Given Velocity and Erodibility Category (Original Source: Briaud et al. 2011)

Time rate of scour should be evaluated for a design storm, with guidance in the L&D Vol. 2 suggesting a 24-hour duration for time rate analyses when the design storm hydrograph is not known. This tends to be a more conservative approach

Equation 6.8 in HEC-18 utilizes the initial rate of scour, computed ultimate scour, and the storm duration to determine scour as a function of time:

$$y_s(t) = \frac{t}{\frac{1}{z} + \frac{t}{y_{s-ult}}}$$

Where:

$\dot{z}_i$  = Initial scour rate (ft/hr)

t = Flow duration (hr)

$y_{s-ult}$  = Ultimate scour depth (ft)

The method proposed in HEC-18 is still dependent on the ultimate scour, whereas the ODOT method utilizes parameters tied directly to the shear strength of a particular soil. However, the HEC-18 equation relates on the initial scour rate and does not consider decaying shear, whereas the ODOT method considers decaying shear and a dynamic scour rate.

### 2.1.2 Critical Shear Stress in Cohesive Soil

The equation for critical shear stress in cohesive soil in the ODOT GDM utilizes the equation in Figure 54 from FHWA-HRT-15-033:

$$\tau_c = \alpha \left( \frac{w}{F} \right)^{-2.0} PI^{1.3} q_u^{0.4}$$

Where:

$\tau_c$  = Critical shear stress  $\left( \frac{lb}{ft^2} \right)$

w = Water content

F = Fraction of fines

PI = Plasticity index

$q_u$  = Unconfined compressive strength  $\left(\frac{lb}{ft^2}\right)$

$\alpha$  = Unit conversion factor (0.01 U.S. & 0.1 SI)

However, the proposed unit conversion factor of 0.01 (for U.S. customary units) listed in FHWA-HRT-15-033 is intended for evaluating existing structures. For the design of new structures, Shan (2015) suggests reducing the critical shear by a factor of 0.30 and using an  $\alpha=0.007$  for U.S. customary and  $\alpha=0.07$  for SI units. This reduction in critical shear errs cautiously towards more conservative estimates to provide a factor of safety against variability in soil parameters; this method is only included for discussion and will not be present in the final version of the scour prediction tool.

### 2.1.3 Variation Between Scour Prediction Tool and FHWA Hydraulic Toolbox Version 5.1 Scour Calculator

While both the scour prediction tool associated with this research and the FHWA Hydraulic Toolbox Version 5.1 Scour Calculator both aim to calculate scour at bridges, there are a few differences between the two described below.

**Table 3: Variation between FHWA Hydraulic Toolbox Ver. 5.1 and the Newly Created Excel Scour Prediction Tool**

<b>Variations</b>	<b>FHWA</b>	<b>Excel Tool</b>
<i>Layered Analysis</i>	No layered analysis.	Allows for layered analysis.
<i>Decaying Shear</i>	Does not account for decaying shear.	Recomputes shear stress if a layer is completely scoured or at the bottom of the scour hole within a layer. <u>Note: A single soil layer can be divided into any number of layers to assess the shear at any desired interval</u>
<i>Abutment Scour</i>	Includes multiple methods.	Only utilizes NCHRP 24-20 abutment scour calculations
<i>Graphical User Interface</i>	Allows for HEC-RAS geometry to be imported	No means for HEC-RAS geometry inclusion. Includes nomograph overlays for coefficient calculations.



## 2.2 Contraction Scour

Contraction scour at bridges is dependent on two primary conditions, live-bed and clear-water. HEC-18 defines live-bed contraction scour as the condition when sediments are being carried by the water and the amount of sediment that is carried into a control volume is equal to the amount of sediment being carried out of a control volume. Contrastingly, in clear-water contraction scour, it is presumed that little to no sediment material is being carried into the control volume from the upstream portion of the stream and if it is, it remains in suspension. A layered analysis can be considered for clear-water conditions where scour depth is dependent on the median particle diameter, however, live-bed conditions are not dependent on particle geometries. Furthermore, pressure flow analyses may be conducted to account for an increase in scour when a structure is overtopped, or downward forces are present.

Three-sided culverts are subject to both contraction scour and local scour that is calculated at the upstream corners. Because these structures are unique and require a varied evaluation approach, they are discussed independently in Section 2.5.

### 2.2.1 Live-Bed Contraction Scour

Live-bed contraction scour can be calculated using HEC-18 equation 6.2 and 6.3:

$$\frac{y_2}{y_1} = \left(\frac{Q_2}{Q_1}\right)^{\frac{6}{7}} \left(\frac{W_1}{W_2}\right)^{k_1}$$

$$y_s = y_2 - y_0$$

Where:

$y_1$ = Average depth in the upstream main channel (ft)

$y_2$ =Average depth in the contracted section (ft)

$y_0$ = Existing depth in contracted section prior to scour (ft)

$Q_1$ = Flow in the upstream channel transporting sediment ( $ft^3/s$ )

$Q_2$ = Flow in the contracted channel ( $ft^3/s$ )

$W_1$ = Bottom width of the upstream main channel that is transporting bed material (ft)

$W_2$  = Bottom width of the main channel in contracted section minus pier width(s) (ft)

$k_1$  = Exponent

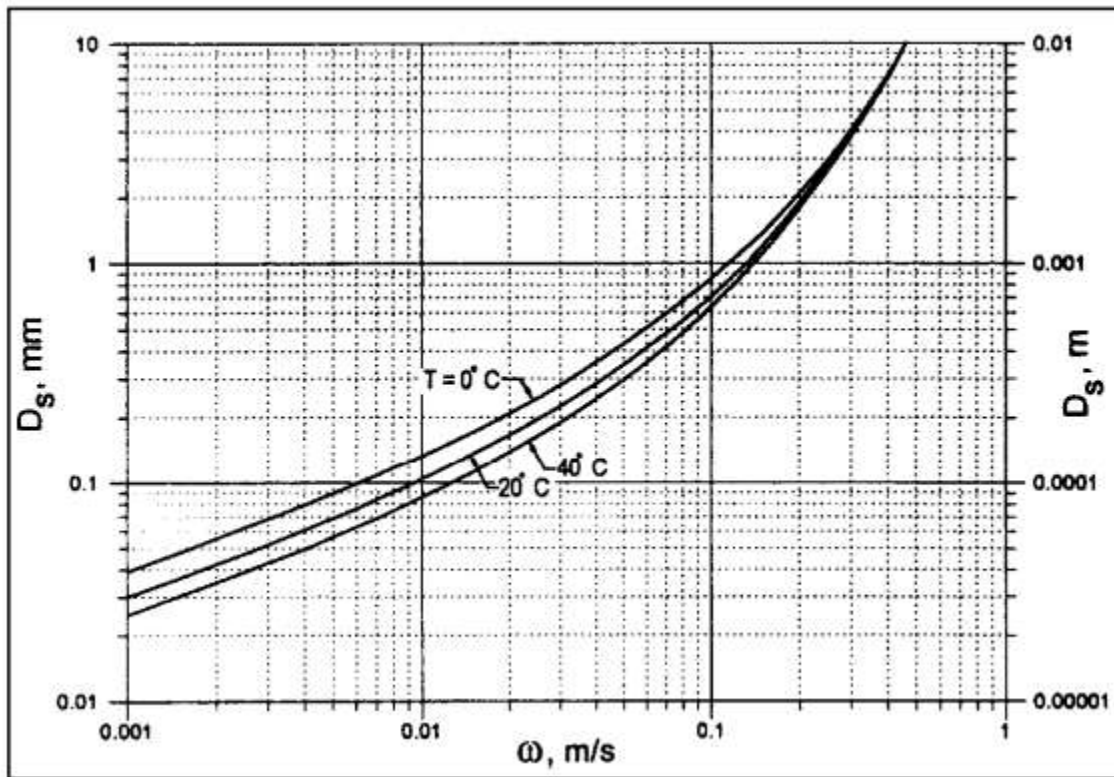
**Table 4: Determination of Live-Bed Contraction Scour Exponent Based on Particle Fall Velocity and Upstream Shear Velocity**

$V_*/T$	$k_1$	Mode of Bed Material Transport
<0.50	0.59	Mostly contact bed material discharge
0.50 to 2.0	0.64	Some suspended bed material discharge
>2.0	0.69	Mostly suspended bed material discharge

$V_*$  = shear velocity in the upstream section (ft/s)

$T$  = fall velocity based on bed material  $D_{50}$  (ft/s)

HEC-18 provides a graphic to aid in the determination of particle fall velocity (Figure 2).



**Figure 2: HEC-18 Figure 6.8- Fall Velocity for Sand Particles ( $S_g=2.65$ ) at Various Temperatures**

HEC-18 also notes that because of difficulties in evaluating bottom widths in cross sections, it is acceptable to use the top width so long as the top width is used for both the upstream and the constricted section. Further information can be found in HEC-18 section 6.3.

### 2.2.1.1 Live-Bed Contraction Scour Pressure Flow

Pressure flow analysis may be necessary if downward pressure results from a structure being overtopped or nearly overtopped. Pressure flow for live-bed conditions can be calculated using the equations 6.14 through 6.16 in HEC-18:

$$y_s = y_2 + t - h_b$$

Where:

$t$  = Flow separation thickness (ft)

$h_b$  = Vertical size of bridge opening prior to scour (ft)

$y_s$  = Scour depth (ft)

$$Q_{ue} = Q_1 \left( \frac{h_{ue}}{h_u} \right)^{\frac{8}{7}}$$

Where:

$Q_{ue}$  = Effective channel discharge for live-bed conditions and bridge overtopping flow ( $ft^3/s$ )

$h_u$  = Upstream channel flow depth (ft)

$h_{ue}$  = Effective upstream channel flow depth for live-bed conditions and overtopping (ft)

$$\frac{t}{h_b} = 0.5 \left( \frac{h_b * h_t}{h_u^2} \right)^{0.2} \left( 1 - \frac{h_w}{h_t} \right)^{-0.1}$$

Where:

$h_t$  = Distance from the water surface to the lower face of the bridge girders (ft) [ $h_t = h_u - h_b$ ]

$h_w$  = Weir flow height (ft) [ $h_w = h_t - T$  if  $h_t > T$ ,  $h_w = 0$  if  $h_t \leq T$ ]

$T$  = Height of obstruction (ft) [ girders, deck, parapet, debris, etc.]

The dimensions in the above equations can be visualized in Figure 3 shown below.

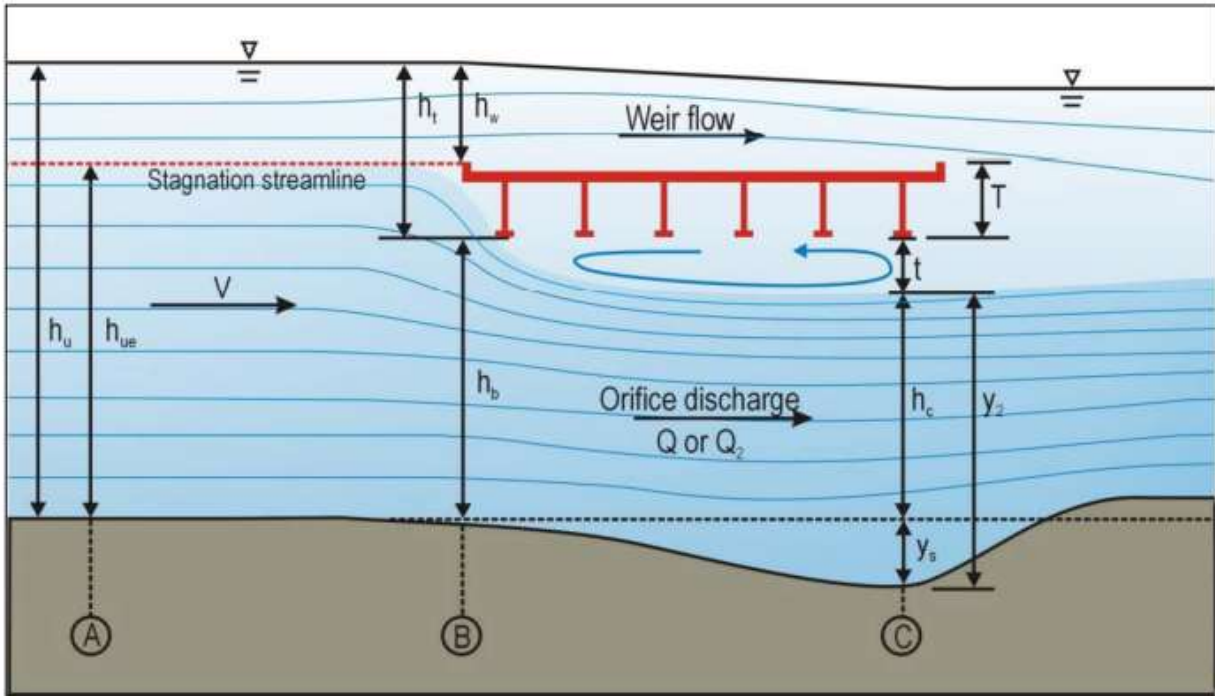


Figure 3: HEC-18 Figure 6.18 Geometric Parameters for Pressure Flow Equations

### 2.2.2 Clear-Water Contraction Scour

Clear-water conditions are dependent on the stream-bed material and flow characteristics of a given design storm. The following equations from HEC-18 are to be used when the critical velocity for the mean upstream bed particle is greater than the velocity of the stream.

$$y_2 = \left[ \frac{K_u Q^2}{D_m^3 W^2} \right]^{\frac{3}{7}}$$

Where:

$y_2$  = Average equilibrium depth in the contracted section after contraction scour (ft)

$Q$  = Discharge through the bridge or on the set-back overbank area at the bridge associated with the width  $W$  ( $ft^3/s$ )

$D_m$  = Median diameter of bed material (ft) [=  $D_{50} * 1.25$ ]

$W$  = Bottom width of contracted section minus pier widths (ft)

$K_u$  = Constant (0.0077 U.S. Customary & 0.025 SI units)

$$y_s = y_2 - y_0$$

Where:

$y_0$  = Average existing depth in contracted section (ft)

### 2.2.2.1 Clear-Water Contraction Scour Pressure Flow

Pressure flow analyses can be applied to clear-water conditions as well. However, no unique equation is required to calculate the effective flow through a structure, as is the case with live-bed applications. Pressure flow under clear-water conditions is calculated using the primary equation for  $y_2$  in the previous section (2.2.2). However, the total scour depth is calculated in the same manner as in Section 2.2.1.1:

$$y_s = y_2 + t - h_b$$

$$\frac{t}{h_b} = 0.5 \left( \frac{h_b * h_t}{h_u^2} \right)^{0.2} \left( 1 - \frac{h_w}{h_t} \right)^{-0.1}$$

Further guidance on calculating pressure flow can be found in HEC-18 section 6.10.

## 2.3 Pier Scour

Pier scour comprises one of the two primary forms of foundation scour that must be evaluated at a bridge. There are two possible manners in which pier scour can be evaluated. The first, a simple evaluation in which the pile cap and pile group of a pier are not subject to scour (i.e., adequately buried below stream bed material). The second case is a complex evaluation which uses the superposition of pier elements: pier stem, pile cap, and pile group to determine the total scour when scour depths may exceed the top of the pile cap. Lastly, methods for evaluating piers with debris present and scour at wider piers are considered.

### 2.3.1 Simple Pier Scour

The fundamental aspect of pier scour can be seen in Figure 4. Pier scour applies to both live-bed and clear-water conditions. The simple pier scour equation given in HEC-18 is a function of pier width and shape, flow depth directly upstream of the pier, and the Froude Number of the point directly upstream of the pier.

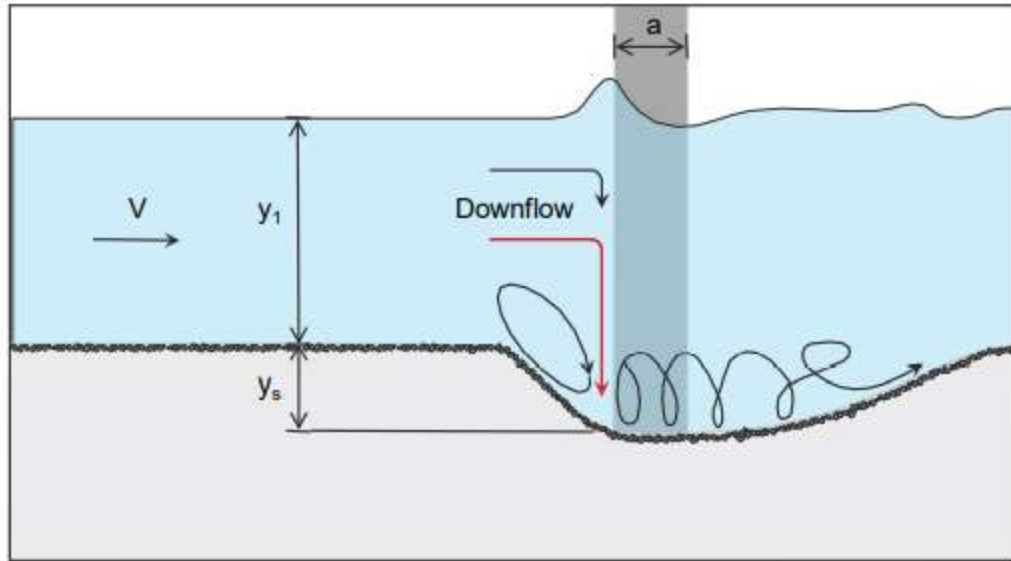


Figure 4: HEC-18 Figure 7.2: Pier Scour Graphic

Two HEC-18 equations are shown below:

$$\frac{y_s}{y_1} = 2.0K_1K_2K_3 \left(\frac{a}{y_1}\right)^{0.65} Fr_1^{0.43}$$

Or

$$\frac{y_s}{a} = 2.0 K_1K_2K_3 \left(\frac{y_1}{a}\right)^{0.35} Fr_1^{0.43}$$

Where:

$y_1$  = Flow depth directly upstream of pier (ft)

$K_1$  = Pier nose shape correction factor

$K_2$  = Angle of attack correction factor

$K_3$  = Bed condition correction factor

$a$  = Width of pier (ft)

$L$  = Length of pier (ft)

$Fr_1$  = Froude number directly upstream of pier

Correction factors for the pier nose shape are seen below in Table 5.

Table 5: Pier Nose Shape Correction Factors

Shape of Pier Nose	$K_1$
(a) Square nose	1.1
(b) Round nose	1.0
(c) Circular cylinder	1.0
(d) Group of cylinders	1.0
(e) Sharp nose	0.9

The correction factor for the angle of attack,  $K_2$ , can be calculated using equation 7.4 in HEC-18 shown below:

$$K_2 = \left( \cos\theta + \frac{L}{a} \sin\theta \right)^{0.65}$$

Where:

$\theta$  = skew angle of the flow in relation to the piers (degrees)

Lastly, the bed condition correction factor can be applied for simple pier scour computations. These values can be seen below in Table 6.

**Table 6: HEC-18 Table 7.3: Bed Condition Correction Factors for Pier Scour**

Bed Condition	Dune Height ft	$K_3$
Clear-Water Scour	N/A	1.1
Plane bed and Antidune flow	N/A	1.1
Small Dunes	$10 > H \geq 2$	1.1
Medium Dunes	$30 > H \geq 10$	1.2 to 1.1
Large Dunes	$H \geq 30$	1.3

Further guidance can be found in HEC-18 section 7.2.

### 2.3.2 Wide Pier Scour

Wide pier scour correction factors are calculated using the two conditional equations shown below. Further information on the application of the correction factor can be found in HEC-18 Section 7.4. This correction factor is designed to be used in the pier scour equations shown in the previous section (2.3.1). This factor is used as a coefficient in addition to the other K-factors already utilized.

$$K_w = 2.58 \left( \frac{y}{a} \right)^{0.34} Fr_1^{0.65} \text{ for } \frac{V}{V_c} < 1$$

$$K_w = 1.0 \left( \frac{y}{a} \right)^{0.13} Fr_1^{0.25} \text{ for } \frac{V}{V_c} \geq 1$$

Where:

$K_w$  = Wide pier in shallow flow correction factor

$V$  = Velocity at pier (ft/s)

$V_c$  = Critical velocity of bed material at pier (ft/s)

According to Arneson et al. (2012, p. 7.10):

*The correction factor should be applied when the ratio of depth of flow ( $y$ ) to pier width ( $a$ ) is less than 0.8 ( $y/a < 0.8$ ); the ratio of pier width ( $a$ ) to the median diameter of the bed material ( $D_{50}$ ) is greater than 50 ( $a/D_{50} > 50$ ); and the Froude Number of the flow is subcritical.*

### 2.3.3 Pier Scour with Debris

HEC-18 supplies guidance in section 7.7 for evaluating piers with debris present. The debris acts to increase the effective size of the pier and is evaluated as accumulating in either a rectangular or triangular shape. Once calculated, the effective pier width can be used in the simple pier scour equation in Section 2.3.1 above. The effective pier width with debris present is calculated using HEC-18 equation 7.32.

$$a_d^* = \frac{K_1(HW) + (y - K_1H)a}{y}$$

Where:

$a_d^*$  = Effective width of pier with debris (ft)

$a$  = Pier width perpendicular to flow (ft)

$K_1$  = 0.79 for rectangular debris and 0.21 for triangular

$H$  = Height of debris on pier (ft)

$W$  = Width of debris perpendicular to flow direction (ft)

$Y$  = Approach flow depth (ft)

### 2.3.4 Pier Scour with Coarse Bed Materials

Coarse bed equations (applicable when  $D_{50} \geq 20$  mm and  $\frac{D_{84}}{D_{50}} \geq 1.5$ ) are supplied in HEC-18 section 7.11 to evaluate clear-water conditions that fit the aforementioned criteria. Computations are performed using equation 7.34 in HEC-18:

$$y_s = 1.1K_1K_2a^{0.62}y_1^{0.38} \tanh\left(\frac{H^2}{1.97\sigma^{1.5}}\right)$$

Where:

$H$  = Densimetric particle Froude number =  $\frac{V_1}{\sqrt{g(S_g-1)D_{50}}}$

$v_1$  = Mean velocity of flow immediately upstream of pier (ft/s)

$S_g$  = Specific gravity of sediment

$\sigma$  = Sediment gradation coefficient  $\frac{D_{84}}{D_{50}}$



### 2.3.5 Complex Pier Scour

Piers with complex foundations (i.e., pile groups and pile caps) should be evaluated if and only if the potential for scour to exceed the top of the pile cap is present. The basis of scour in a complex pier circumstance is shown in Figure 5. Where the scour potential at each component must be evaluated independently and then summed to determine the total scour. Further guidance can be found in HEC-18 Section 7.5.

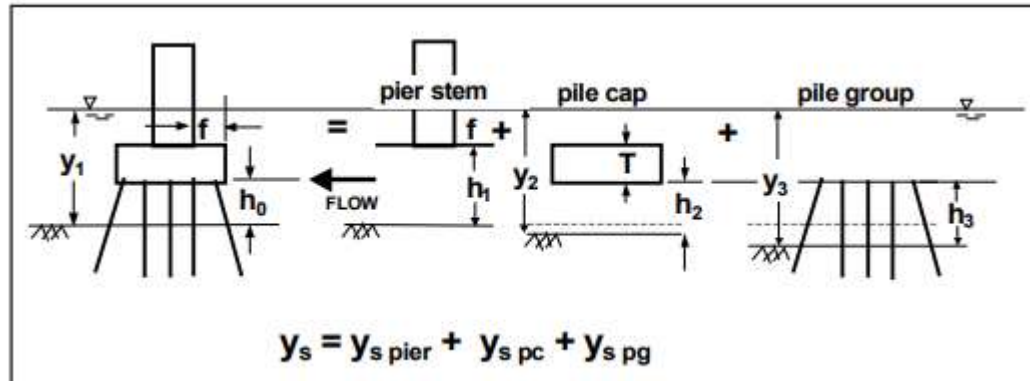


Figure 5: HEC-18 Figure 7.5: Superposition of Complex Pier Elements

Where the parameters given in the HEC-18 equation are defined as:

$f$  = Distance between front edge of pile cap or footing and pier (ft)

$h_0$  = Pile cap height at beginning of computation (ft) (**NOTE:** can be negative)

$h_1 = h_0 + T$  = height of pier stem above bed before scour (ft)

$h_2 = h_0 + y_{s\ pier}/2$  = height of pile cap after pier stem scour component has been computed

$h_3 = h_0 + y_{s\ pier}/2 + y_{s\ pc}/2$  = height of pile group after the pier stem and pile cap scour components have been computed (ft)

$S$  = Spacing between columns of piles (ft) [center to center spacing]

$T$  = Thickness of pile cap (ft)

$y_1$  = Depth of approach flow prior to scour (ft)

$y_2 = y_1 + y_{s\ pier}/2$  = adjusted flow depth for pile cap computations (ft)

$y_3 = y_1 + y_{s\ pier}/2 + y_{s\ pc}/2$  = adjusted flow depth for pile group computations (ft)

$V_1$  = Approach velocity before scour (ft/s)

$V_2 = V_1 \left( \frac{y_1}{y_2} \right)$  = adjusted velocity for pile cap (ft/s)

$V_3 = V_1 \left( \frac{y_1}{y_3} \right)$  = adjusted velocity for pile group (ft/s)

$y_{s\ pier}$  = Scour component at pier stem (ft)

$y_{s\ pc}$  = Scour component at pier cap (ft)

$y_{s\ pg}$  = Scour at piles exposed to flow (ft)

For the pier stem scour component, HEC-18 equation 7.23 is seen below:

$$\frac{y_{s\ pier}}{y_1} = K_{hpier} [2.0K_1K_2K_3 \left( \frac{a_{pier}}{y_1} \right)^{0.65} \left( \frac{V_1}{\sqrt{gy_1}} \right)^{0.43}$$

Where:

$K_{hpier}$  = Coefficient for pier stem height above bed (Shown below in Figure 6)

$g$  = Gravitational acceleration (32.2 ft/s<sup>2</sup>)

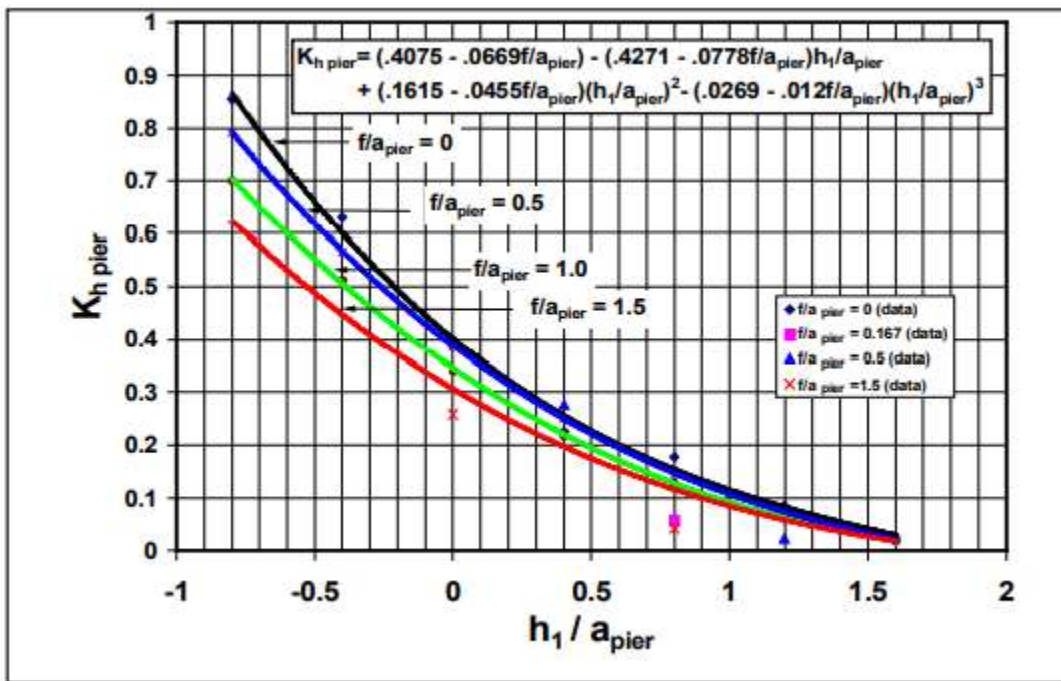


Figure 6: HEC-18 Figure 7.6: Suspended Pier Scour Ratio

Scour at the pile cap can be determined from HEC-18 equation 7.24 for Case 1 circumstances when the bottom of the footing in the flow is above the bed.

$$\frac{y_{s\ pc}}{y_2} = 2.0K_1K_2K_3K_w \left( \frac{a_{pc}^*}{y_2} \right)^{0.65} \left( \frac{V_2}{\sqrt{gy_2}} \right)^{0.43}$$

Where:

$a_{pc}$  = Width of unadjusted pile cap (ft)

$a_{pc}^*$  = Width of the equivalent pile cap (ft) [ Determination seen in Figure 7 ]

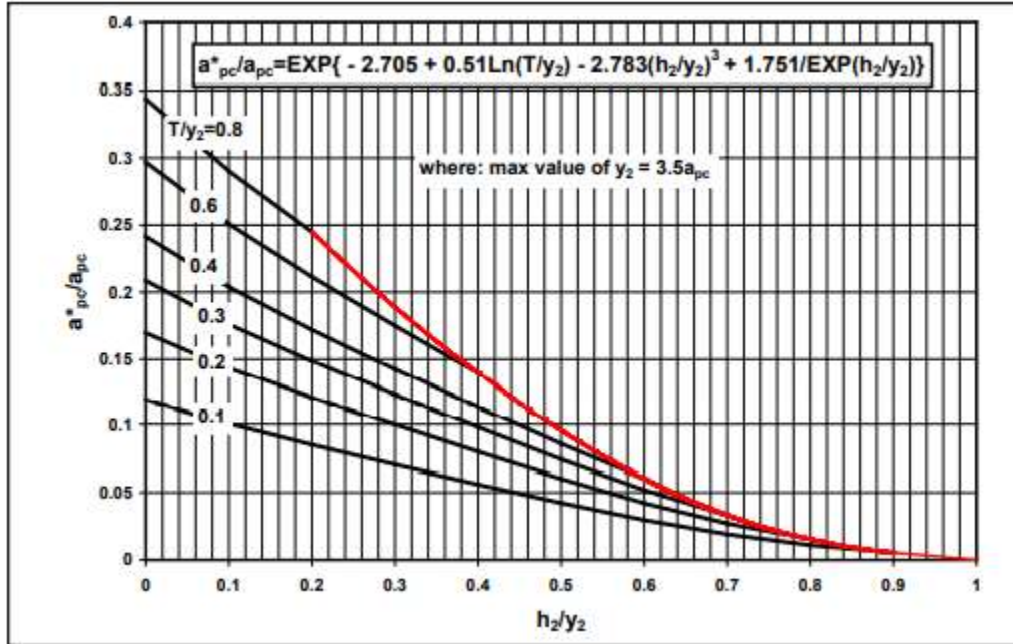


Figure 7: HEC-18 Figure 7.7 Pile Cap Equivalent Width

For Case 2 only, when the bottom of the footing is on or below the bed, the total scour can be computed using HEC-18 equation 7.27:

$$y_s = y_{s\ pier} + y_{s\ pc}$$

Under this condition, the scour component at the pile cap must be computed using HEC-18 equation 7.26:

$$\frac{y_{s\ pc}}{y_f} = 2.0 K_1 K_2 K_3 K_w \left( \frac{a_{pc}}{y_f} \right)^{0.65} \left( \frac{V_f}{\sqrt{g y_f}} \right)^{0.43}$$

Where  $V_f$  is calculated in HEC-18 equation 7.25 as:

$$\frac{V_f}{V_2} = \frac{\ln \left( 10.93 \left( \frac{y_f}{k_s} \right) + 1 \right)}{\ln \left( 10.93 \left( \frac{y_2}{k_s} \right) + 1 \right)}$$

And:

$V_f$  = Average velocity in the flow zone below the top of the footing 9ft/s)

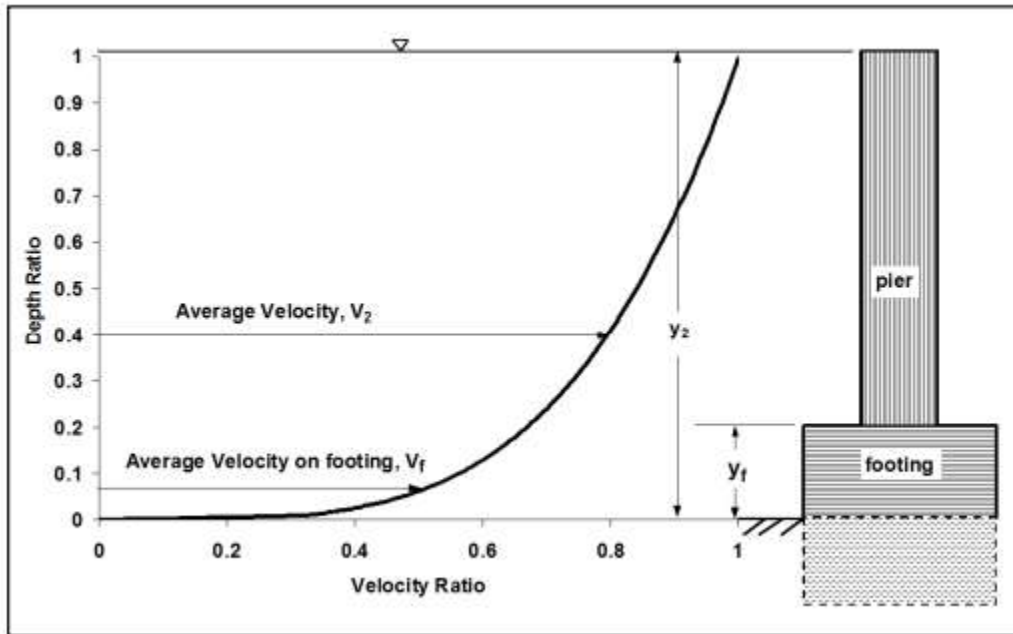
$V_2$  = Average adjusted velocity in vertical of flow approaching the pier (ft/s)

$y_f = h_1 + y_{s\ pier}/2 =$  distance from the bed (after degradation, contraction scour, and pier stem scour) to the top of the footing (ft)

$k_s =$  Grain roughness of the bed (ft)

$y_2 =$  Adjusted depth of the flow upstream of the pier (ft)

Figure 8 illustrates the constituent components of Case 2 pier cap scour, when the bottom of the footing is on or below the stream bed.



**Figure 8: HEC-18 Figure 7.8: Schematic of Case 2 Pile Cap Scour Component**

The final component of the complex pier scour that must be evaluated is the pile group, which is covered in-depth in HEC-18 section 7.5.5. To begin the computation of the pile group, the effective width of an equivalent pier at full depth needs to be calculated using HEC-18 equation 7.28:

$$a_{pg}^* = a_{proj} K_{sp} K_m$$

Where:

$a_{pg}^* =$  Effective width of an equivalent full depth pier (ft)

$a_{proj} =$  Sum of non-overlapping projected pile widths (ft) [see Figure 9 and Figure 10]

$K_{sp} =$  Pile spacing coefficient [see Figure 11]

$K_m =$  Aligned row coefficient [see Figure 12 NOTE:  $K_m = 1.0$  for skewed or staggered pile groups]

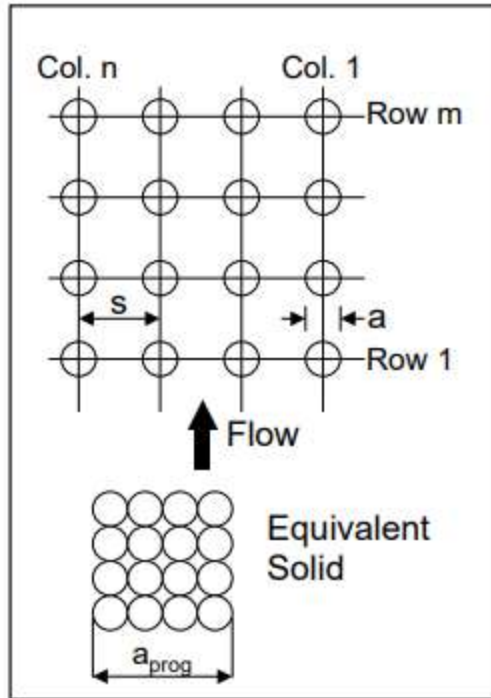


Figure 9: HEC-18 Figure 7.9: Projected Pile Width Aligned with Flow

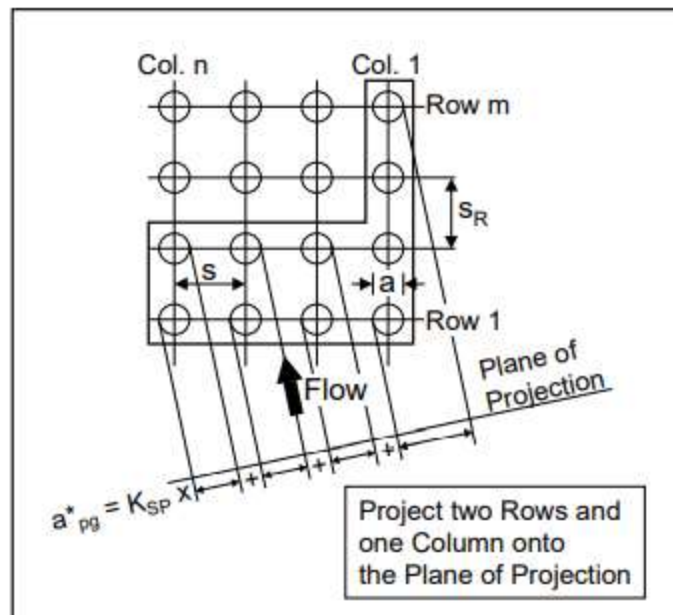


Figure 10: HEC-18 Figure 7.10: Projected Pile Width Skewed to Flow

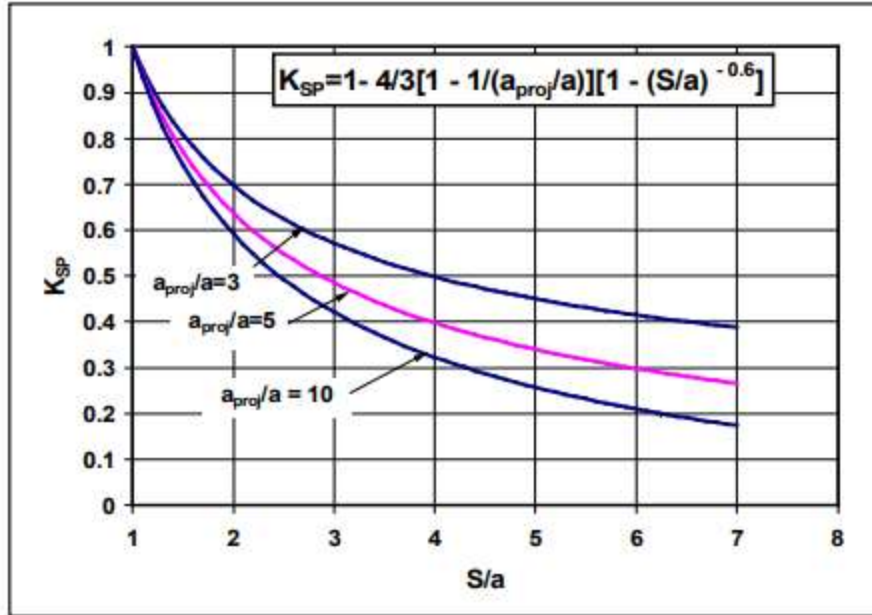


Figure 11: HEC-18 Figure 7.11: Pile Spacing Factor

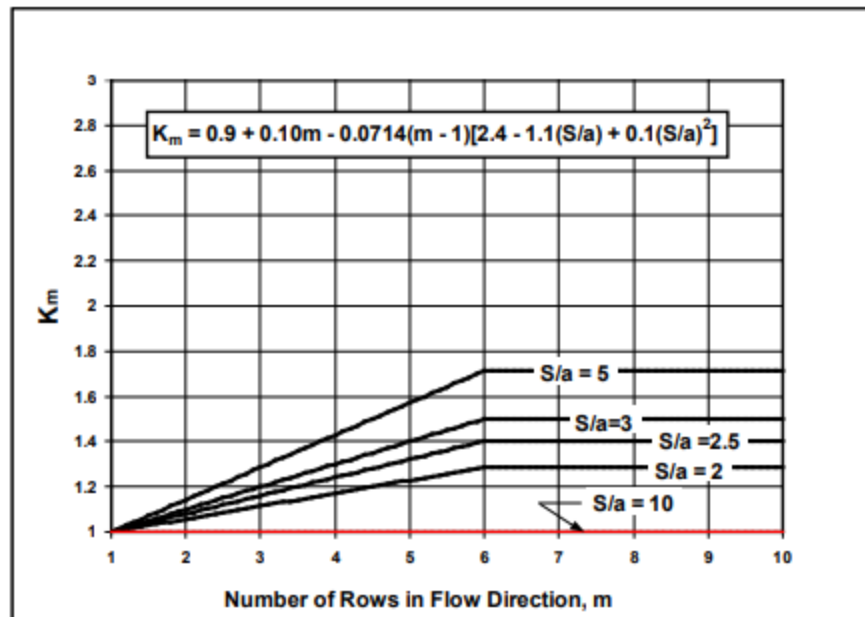


Figure 12: HEC-18 Figure 7.12: Aligned Row Adjustment Factor

Once the effective width of the pile group is computed, the pile group scour component can be evaluated using HEC-18 equation 7.31:

$$\frac{y_{s\ pg}}{y_3} = K_{h\ pg} \left[ 2.0 K_1 K_3 \left( \frac{a_{pg}^*}{y_3} \right) \left( \frac{V_3}{\sqrt{g y_3}} \right)^{0.43} \right]$$

Where:

$K_{h\ pg}$  = Pile group height factor [see Figure 13]

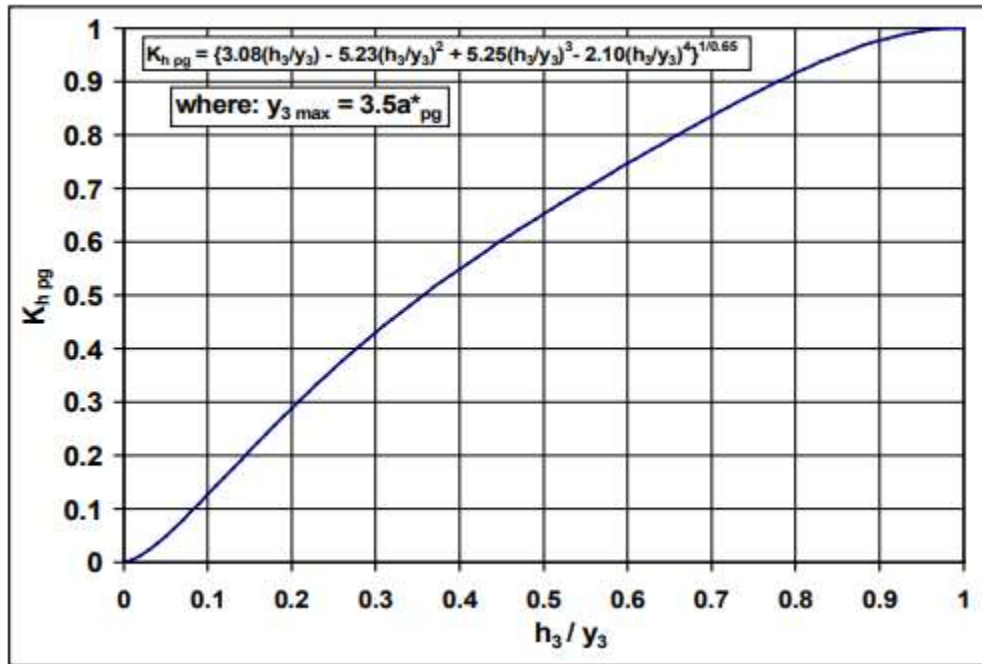


Figure 13: HEC- 18 Figure 7.13: Pile Group Height Adjustment Factor

Once the scour components for the pier stem, pile cap, and pile group are computed, they can be added together to obtain the total complex pier scour depth. The complex pier scour depth is then added to long-term degradation or aggradation and the contraction scour to find the total scour at each pier.

### 2.3.6 Pier Scour in Rock

For pier scour in non-scour resistant rock, a time rate scour analysis should be performed. Refer to section 7.13 in HEC-18 and Section 2.1.1 above for more information. Additionally, section 4.6 and 4.7 of HEC-18 provides guidance on determining rock strength parameters.

## 2.4 Abutment Scour

HEC-18 section 8 provides three possible options for computing abutment scour: Froehlich, HIRE, and NCHRP 24-20. After careful consideration, it was determined that the NCHRP 24-20 equation would be the most viable path forward for evaluating scour at abutments. This method uses an amplification factor, calculated independently for either live-bed or clear-water conditions, to determine the maximum flow depth. HEC-18 equation 8.3 illustrates this:

$$y_{max} = \alpha_A y_c \quad \text{or} \quad y_{max} = \alpha_B y_c$$

Where:

$y_{max}$  = Maximum flow depth after scour (ft)

$y_c$  = Flow depth resulting from live-bed or clear-water contraction scour (ft)

$\alpha_A$  = Amplification factor for live-bed conditions [see Figure 14 for spill-through abutments and Figure 15 for wing wall abutments]

$\alpha_B$  = Amplification factor for clear-water conditions [ see Figure 16 for spill-through abutments and Figure 17 for wing wall abutments]

The scour depth is then computed using HEC-18 equation 8.4:

$$y_s = y_{max} - y_0$$

Where:

$y_s$  = Abutment scour depth (ft)

$y_0$  = Flow depth prior to scour (ft)

### 2.4.1 Abutment Scour: Live-bed Conditions

The flow depth resulting from contraction scour for live-bed conditions is computed using HEC-18 equation 8.5:

$$y_c = y_1 \left( \frac{q_{2c}}{q_1} \right)^{\frac{6}{7}}$$

Where:

$y_1$  = Upstream flow depth (ft)

$q_1$  = Upstream unit discharge (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)

$q_{2c}$  = Unit discharge in the constricted opening accounting for non-uniform flow (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)



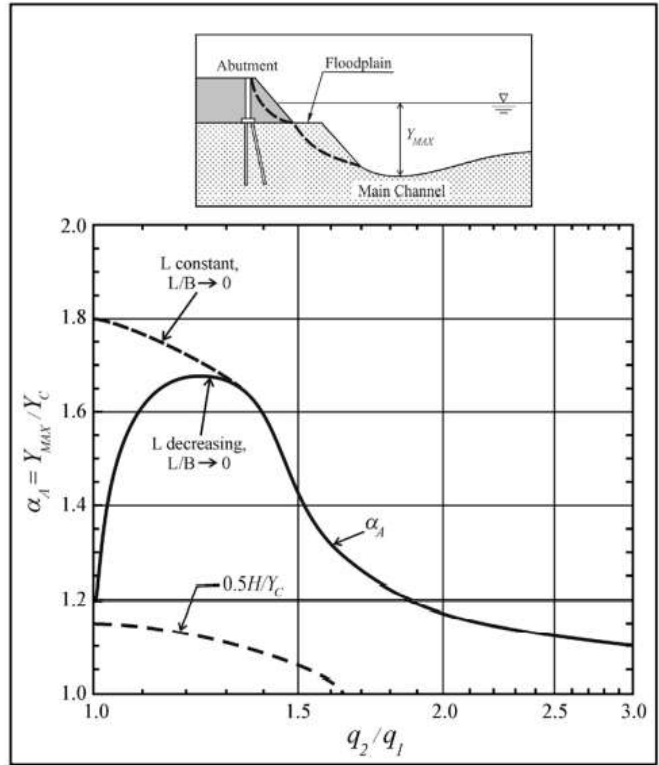


Figure 14: HEC-18 Figure 8.9: Amplification Factor for Spill-through Abutments with Live-bed Conditions

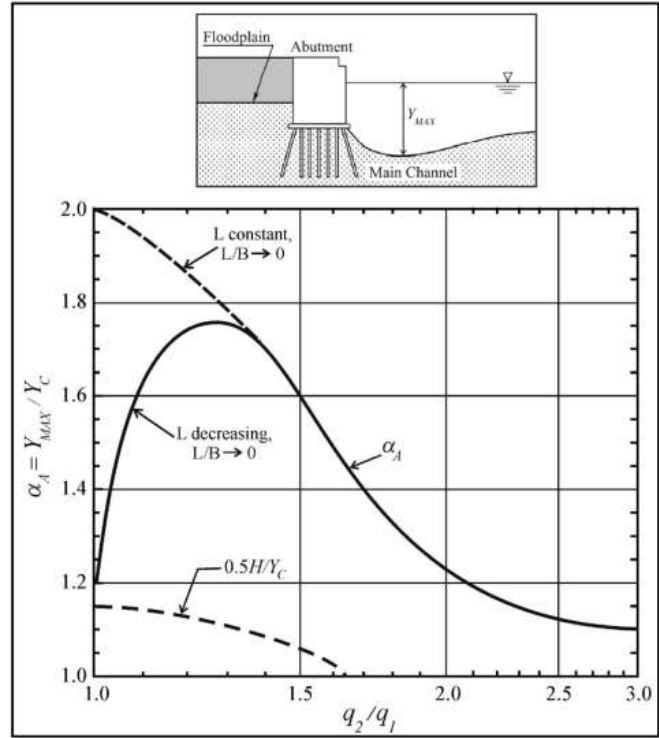


Figure 15: HEC-18 Figure 8.10: Amplification Factor for Wingwall Abutments with Live-Bed Conditions

## 2.4.2 Abutment Scour: Clear-water Conditions

The NCHRP 24-20 equations provide two methods for calculating the contraction flow depth in clear-bed conditions. One equation utilizes the stream bed material's  $D_{50}$  and the other uses the stream bed material's critical shear stress. This section will move forward focusing only on the equation related to critical shear stress due to fewer limitations associated with it. HEC-18 equation 8.7 is used to calculate the scour flow depth ( $y_c$ ) below:

$$y_c = \left( \frac{\gamma}{\tau_c} \right)^{\frac{3}{7}} \left( \frac{nq_{2f}}{K_u} \right)^{\frac{6}{7}}$$

Where:

$n$  = Manning's  $n$  for floodplain material at abutment of interest

$\tau_c$  = Critical shear stress of floodplain material ( $\text{lb}/\text{ft}^2$ )

$\gamma$  = Unit weight of water ( $\text{lb}/\text{ft}^3$ )

$K_u$  = 1.486 in U.S. customary or 1.0 SI

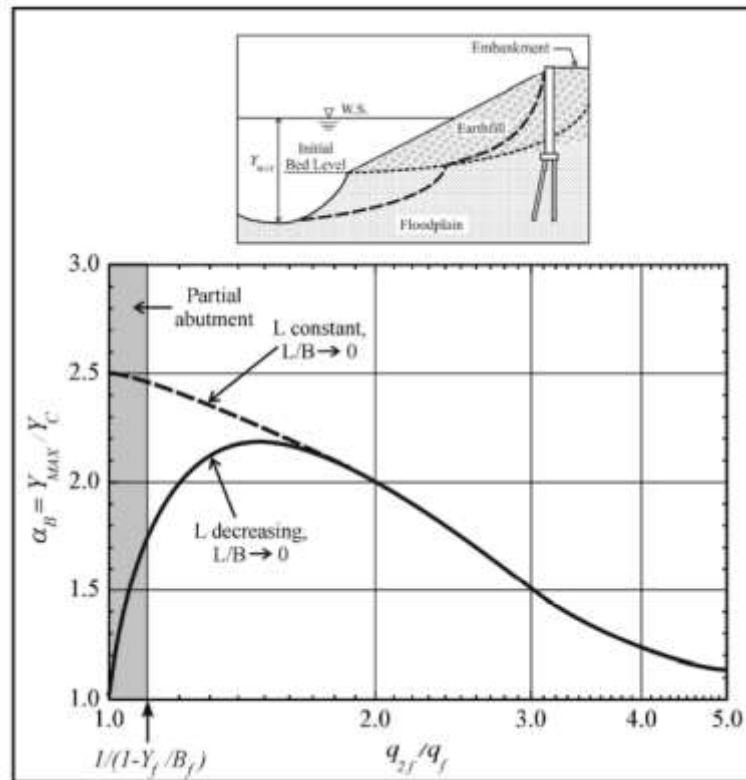
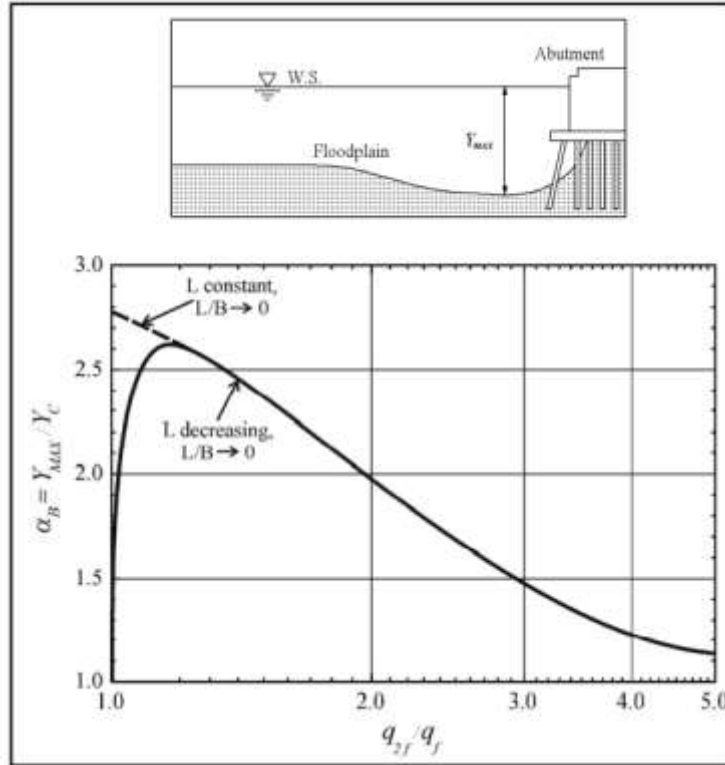


Figure 16: HEC-18 Figure 8.11: Amplification Factor for Spill-through Abutments with Clear-Water Conditions



**Figure 17: HEC-18 Figure 8.12: Amplification Factor for Wingwall Abutments with Clear-Water Conditions**

It should be noted that the preferred method for evaluating velocities for abutment scour computations is through 2D hydraulic modeling. If 2D hydraulic modeling is not used, the next best method is to use 1D modeling and application of the set-back ratio (SBR) discussed in length in HEC-18 section 8.6.3.

## 2.5 Three-Sided Culverts

Scour at three-sided culverts can be considered as a special case of contraction scour. There are two main equations in HEC-18 for evaluating scour at three-sided culverts; one for culverts with wingwalls and one for culverts without wingwalls, both equations assume clear-water conditions. Unfortunately, no method for computing scour at three-sided culverts with live-bed conditions has been approved. For both cases, scour depth is computed using equation 6.11 or 6.13 from HEC-18:

$$y_s = y_{max} - y_0$$

### 2.5.1 Three-Sided Culvert with Wingwalls

For culverts with wingwalls, equation 6.10 in HEC-18 is used to evaluate the scour flow depth at the upstream corner of the culvert, which considers both local and contraction scour.

$$y_{max} = K_u Q_{BI}^{0.28} \left( \frac{Q}{W_c D_{50}^{\frac{1}{3}}} \right)^{0.26}$$

Where:

$y_{max}$  = Flow depth at culvert entrance corner (ft)

$Q_{BI}$  = Discharge blocked by road embankment on one side of culvert (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)

Q = Discharge through culvert (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)

$W_c$  = Culvert width (ft)

$D_{50}$  = Median diameter of bed material (ft)

$y_0$  = Flow depth prior to scour (ft)

$K_u$  = 0.84 for U.S. customary and 1.16 for SI units

### 2.5.2 Three-Sided Culvert without Wingwalls

For culverts without wingwalls, equation 6.12 in HEC-18 is used to assess the flow depth after scour, including contraction and local scour at the upstream corners of the culvert.

$$y_{max} = K_u Q_{BI}^{0.12} \left( \frac{Q}{W_c D_{50}^{\frac{1}{3}}} \right)^{0.60}$$

Where:

$y_{max}$  = Flow depth at culvert entrance corner (ft)

$Q_{BI}$  = Discharge blocked by road embankment on one side of culvert (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)

Q = Discharge through culvert (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)

$W_c$  = Culvert width (ft)

$D_{50}$  = Median diameter of bed material (ft)

$y_0$  = Flow depth prior to scour (ft)

$K_u$  = 0.57 for U.S. customary and 0.88 for SI units

## **2.6 Long-term Aggradation and Degradation**

The propensity for long-term aggradation or degradation at a structure must be assessed in addition to local and contraction scour to determine the long term viability of a structure. Long-term aggradation or degradation should be explored by qualified personnel in accordance with HEC-18 section 5.3 and HEC-20. Hydraulic modeling software, such as HEC-RAS, may be used to aid in computations. These processes should be evaluated using qualitative and quantitative analyses (Arneson et al., 2012).

There are many potential causes of aggradation or degradation (referred to collectively from here on as degradation), however, none may be as impactful as anthropogenic activity. Potential for degradation may increase when dams or reservoirs are present, sediment is removed from the stream bed, land-use changes that reduce riparian buffers, or due to other natural changes such as channel migration during a storm event (Lagasse et al., 2012).

Section 4.5 of HEC-20 provides a more in-depth analysis in the qualitative and quantitative assessment of long-term degradation. In addition, section 4.6 of HEC-20 provides insight into basic engineering analyses, and section 4.7 provides discussion on mathematical modeling (Lagasse et al., 2012).

### **3. Scour Prediction Tool**

#### **3.1 Scour Prediction Tool Development**

In order to streamline the process of scour calculation, an excel spreadsheet tool was developed using the methods discussed in Section 2. For all practical purposes, the built-in formatting options in excel have been used to indicate appropriate sections denoting user input (peach colored backgrounds), calculations (gray background with orange font), and output (gray with black font) when applicable. Users should enter information in the input formatted cells for each parameter. Some of the input options are restricted to predetermined options. An example of this would be the selection of clear-water or live-bed conditions for abutment or contraction scour. It is the users' responsibility to understand what conditions are applicable, however, design of the tool also allows users to run "what-if" scenarios with varying conditions. Calculation sheets have been included for main channel contraction scour, overbank contraction scour, local scour at piers, three-sided culvert scour, and abutment scour. Currently, only one sheet for pier scour is supplied. To analyze multiple piers, the pier scour sheet should be duplicated. Furthermore, as mentioned in Section 2.5, if two or more three-sided culverts are evaluated in succession (i.e., side by side) a pier analysis must be performed for the support between the culverts. Explanatory dialogue in the tool is programmed to auto populate based on input and guide the user throughout use of the tool. Lastly, nomograph overlays have been included to verify the calculation of coefficients, when applicable, throughout various sheets.

For each scour component (e.g., pier, abutment, etc.) there are input sections for bed material to perform a layered analysis. The inputs for the layered analysis are similar across all scour components with the exception of minute alterations where appropriate. When performing a layered analysis, users must choose from one of four soil-types: granular, cohesive, non-scour resistant rock, or scour resistant rock. Depending on the chosen soil-type, appropriate parameters should be input into the layer attribute sections for the determination of critical shear stress for that layer. Layer elevations should also be included to determine the corresponding layer thickness/depth. If the critical shear for a given layer is less than the streambed shear, the layer will be scoured. If needed, information for layers can be increased by simply dragging the entire row down to increase the number of fields where layer information is to be entered.

The layer depth analysis sections detail the amount of scour in a given layer, given its attributes when applicable, and compare the critical shear to the stream bed shear to determine if scour of the layer will occur. If a layer is not completely scoured, auto-populating dialogue will indicate that the layer is not completely eroded; in which case, the next layer down will indicate that the analysis has ended.

Example calculations with the prediction tool can be seen in the next section. Due to the complexity, amount of variation between sites, and differing methods of assessment, long-term aggradation and degradation is not included in the prediction tool but should be assessed in order to provide an accurate description of scour at the structure being analyzed.

### 3.2 Decaying Shear Stress in Layered Analysis

To increase analysis accuracy, a layered shear analysis is included in the scour prediction tool. It should be noted that layers can be included in any decimal or whole foot increment to capture the phenomenon of decaying shear on any interval desired. The first layer is evaluated using the initial bed shear stress, which is calculated in each tab in the accompanying scour tool. At the bottom of the layer or the bottom of the scour depth, whichever is less, shear stress is recomputed. Shear stress is computed using equation 4.5 from HEC-18:

$$\tau_{local} = \left( \frac{n * v_{local}}{1.486} \right)^2 \left( \frac{62.4}{y^{\frac{1}{3}}} \right)$$

Where:

$\tau_{local}$  = The local shear stress at any given point (lb/ft<sup>2</sup>)

$v_{local}$  = Velocity at a point (ft/s)

n = Manning's roughness coefficient

y = Local flow depth at given point (ft)

Changes in the flow area are accounted for in the tool with rectangular sections for contraction and pier scour (e.g., channel width by increase in flow depth for contraction scour or rectangular scour area at pier). Abutment and three-sided culvert shear stresses are modeled as rectangular areas 3 inches wide, adjacent to the abutment.

## 4. Application of Scour Prediction Tool

In this section, scour examples completed using the scour prediction tool will be shown and discussed. These examples will be completed using the input data from the scour example computations in HEC-18. Additionally, scour examples using layered analysis from E.L. Robinson's *MAD/PIC-71-4.56/0.00 structure foundation exploration report* are used for main channel contraction, pier, and abutment computations. These examples will accompany the non-layer dependent HEC-18 examples. One of the benefits of performing a layered analysis is a more accurate depiction of scour in the bed material. For instance, if a layer with greater critical shear resistance underlies a layer of lesser shear resistance, the layer with the greater shear resistance may not be scoured once the decaying shear stress due to the increase in flow depth of an above scoured layer is accounted for.

The HEC-18 example parameters are used to verify the accuracy of the scour prediction tool against an already completed computation; whereas, the layered analysis allows for an investigation to utilize decaying shear stress, as layers are scoured, and layer properties to more accurately determine scour effects. It should be noted that layers may be divided into any increment that a user determines appropriate for analysis to better capture the effects of decaying shear stress with depth. This is discussed in Section 3.2 in more detail.



An overview of the MAD-71-4.56 structure used in the analysis and its basic geometry can be seen in Figure 18 and Figure 19. Grain size analysis for non-cohesive soil layers is shown in Table 7 below.

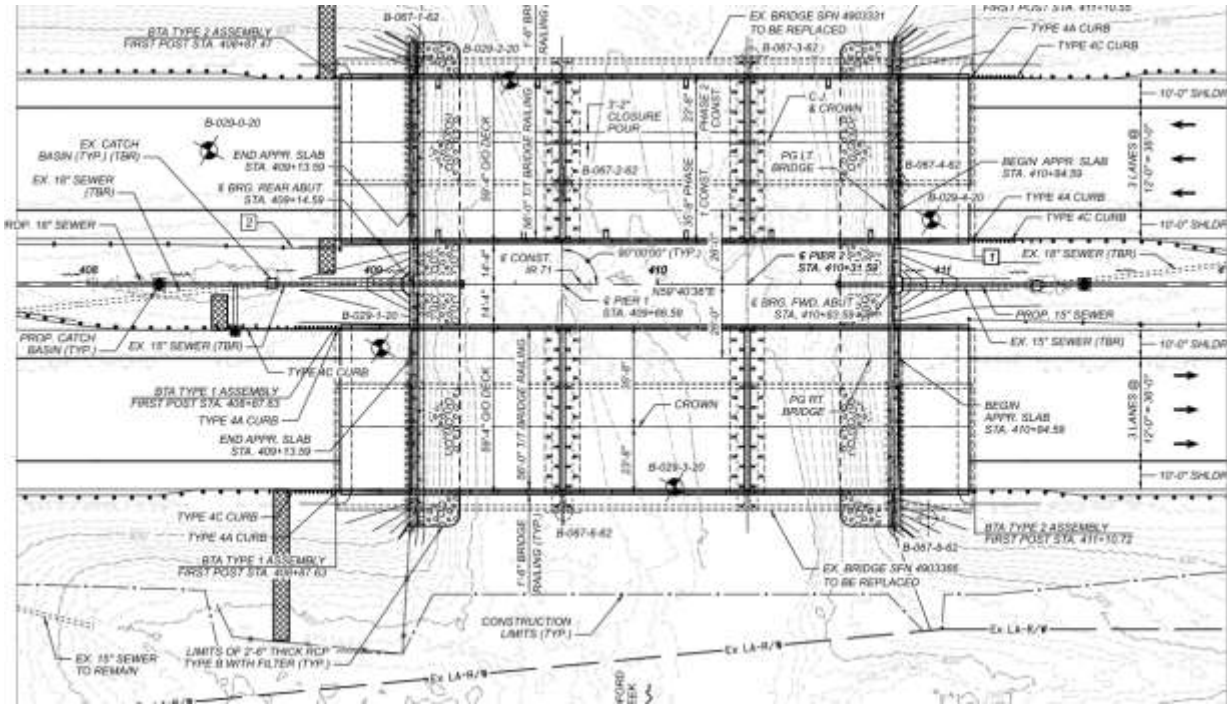


Figure 18: MAD-71-4.56 Bridge Overview- Source: E.L. Robinson

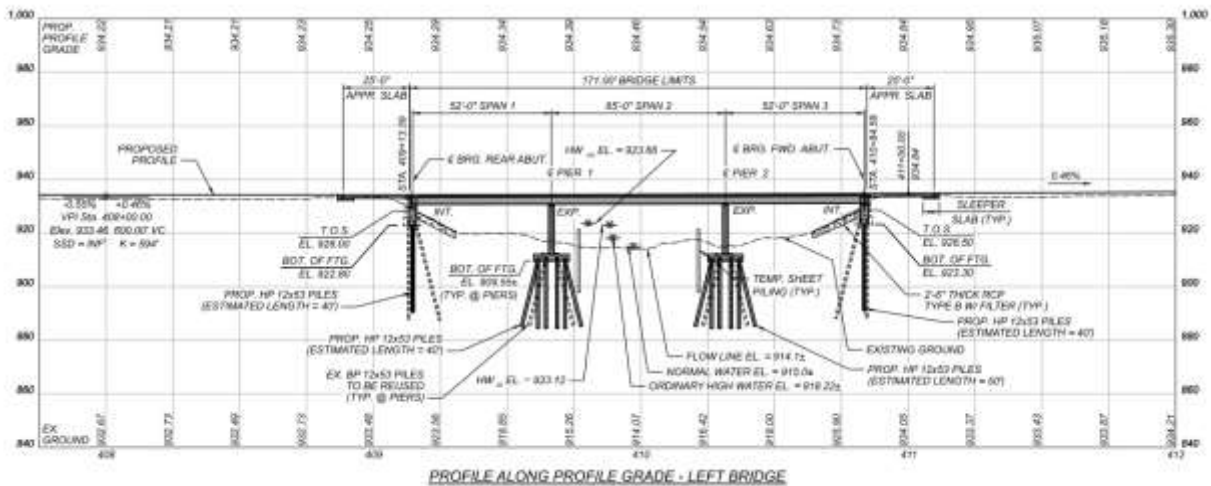


Figure 19: MAD-71-4.56 Bridge Overview (Continued)-Source: E.L. Robinson

**Table 7: MAD-71-4.56 Soil Layer D50s and Depths**

<b>Boring</b>	<b>Sample</b>	<b>Depth (ft)</b>	<b>D50 Value (mm)</b>	<b>D90 Value (mm)</b>
B-029-1-20	SS-1	1.0-2.5	0.281	14.958
B-029-2-20	SS-1	1.0-2.5	0.542	17.26
B-029-2-20	SS-2	2.5-4.0	0.022	0.969
B-029-2-20	SS-3	4.0-5.5	0.068	3.761
B-029-2-20	SS-4	5.5-7.0	0.228	8.083
B-029-3-20	SS-1	1.0-2.5	0.07	1.293
B-029-3-20	SS-2	2.5-4.0	11.921	32.645
B-029-3-20	SS-3	4.0-5.5	0.037	0.205
B-029-3-20	SS-4	5.5-7.0	0.117	0.408
B-029-4-20	SS-1	1.0-2.5	0.035	3.307

## **4.1 Main Channel Contraction Scour Example**

The following examples are completed using example data from HEC-18 section 6.6 and E.L. Robinson’s MAD/PIC-71-4.56/0.00 Exploration Report. Parameter values for HEC-18 data have been inferred for data that is not present in the HEC-18 examples such as bed elevation or other parameters that are not pertinent to scour computation. Examples using E.L. Robinson’s MAD/PIC-71-4.56/0.00 Exploration Report obtained data from the accompanying HEC-RAS files.

### **4.1.1 Main Channel Contraction Scour: Live-Bed Conditions**

Using data from HEC-18 example problem 1 (section 6.6.1) the parameters in the tool were completed. Since no pressure flow analysis was to be completed for this section, the remainder of the sheet showing pressure flow and overtopping data is not included in Figure 20. It should be noted that the fall velocity is found using HEC-18 Figure 6.8, which is included in the tool and seen in Figure 2 of Section 2.2.1 of this report, but must be converted to ft/s prior to entering its value in the scour condition check section. Once the exponent is determined, data for the streambed material should be entered in the layer attribute section, shown in Figure 21 on the next page. It should be noted that only the data necessary need be inserted based on the soil-type selection. Additionally, elevation data for the layers should be input into the appropriate columns. Once this data is entered, the critical shear stress of the material is automatically calculated. Finally, the scour output is given in the scour depth analysis section of the tool, seen in Figure 22. In this instance the total depth reported in HEC-18 was 10.1 feet which is verified by scour depth calculation.

Additionally, Figure 22 shows that layer 2 was not completely scoured and an automatically populated “END” statement will appear in the next layer down, indicating that layer 3 is not subject to scour. A clear-water analysis is performed in the same manner, in which case the “Scour Condition Live-Bed Check” “Initial Scour Condition” row should indicate that clear-water conditions exist.

JOB: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

SHEET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CALCULATED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

STREAM: \_\_\_\_\_

RECURRENCE INTERVAL FOR ANALYSIS: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR**

*Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 6 Scour Analysis*

**STRUCTURE TYPE FOR ANALYSIS**

Select one

Choose structure type for contraction scour analysis: Bridge

**STREAM ATTRIBUTES**

Include pressure flow analysis?	No
<b>Do NOT complete pressure flow analysis section</b>	
Average main channel upstream flow depth (ft)	V <sub>1</sub> = 8.6
Existing depth in contracted section before scour (ft)	V <sub>0</sub> = 7.1
Stream bed initial shear stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	τ= 6.91
Average upstream channel velocity (ft/s)	V <sub>1</sub> = 9.86
Contracted section flow velocity (ft/s)	V <sub>2</sub> = 19.59
Flow in upstream channel (ft <sup>3</sup> /s)	Q <sub>1</sub> = 27300
Flow in contracted channel [discharge through bridge] (ft <sup>3</sup> /s)	Q <sub>2</sub> = 27300
<i>Non-floodplain flow through bridge</i>	
Bottom width in upstream main channel (ft)	W <sub>1</sub> = 322
Bottom width in contracted main channel (ft)	W <sub>2</sub> = 118.25
<i>Subtract pier widths for contracted bottom width</i>	
Streambed elevation (ft)	Z= 600
Manning's n for channel	n= 0.035

**SCOUR CONDITION: LIVE-BED CHECK**

*Check if live-bed conditions exist in first streambed layer*

Slope of energy grade line of main channel (ft/ft)	S <sub>1</sub> = 0.004
First Streambed Soil Type	Granular
First Streambed layer (mm)=	D <sub>50</sub> = 0.31
Initial Scour Condition	Live-Bed
Shear velocity (ft/s)	V <sub>*</sub> = 1.05
Fall velocity (m/s)	ω= 0.04
Fall velocity (ft/s)	ω= 0.14
<i>Check fall velocity with HEC-18 Fig. 6.8 below. All data corresponds to T=20°C</i>	
Live-bed contraction scour exponent	k <sub>1</sub> = 0.69

Figure 20: Main Channel Contraction Scour Example Using HEC-18 Example 6.6.1 Data

### MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR LAYER ATTRIBUTES

*Expand as needed*

Layer	Soil Type	Top Elev. (ft)	Bottom Elev. (ft)	Granular	Rock	Cohesive			Critical Shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )
				D <sub>50</sub> (mm)	Erodibility index (K)	% Fines	WC	PI	
1	Granular	600	597	0.31					0.01
2	Granular	597	582	0.7					0.01
3	Granular	582	578	0.7					0.01

Figure 21: Layer Attribute Data for Streambed Material Using HEC-18 Example 6.6.1

### MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR DEPTH ANALYSIS

*Expand as needed. If Scour Depth column returns "Use Time Rate" for erodible rock, a time rate scour analysis must be performed for scour depth (See HEC-18 Section 6.7.2)*

Layer	Layer Depth (ft)	Top Elevation (ft)	Shear Stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Scour Depth (ft)	Layer Completely Scoured?	Bottom of Scour Depth (ft)	Bottom of Scour Elevation (ft)
1	3	600	0.65	10.07	Yes	3.00	597.00
2	18	597	0.13	10.07	No	10.07	589.93
3	22	582	0.13	10.07	No	END	589.93

Figure 22: Scour Depth Analysis Data for HEC-18 Example 6.6.1

#### 4.1.2 Main Channel Contraction Scour: Clear-Water with Pressure Flow and Overtopping

Using data from HEC-18 section 6.10.2 example 4, main channel contraction scour with pressure flow and overtopping is evaluated with the scour analysis tool. All applicable parameters are discussed in Sections 2.2 and 2.2.2.1. The input data in this example can be seen in Figure 23 and Figure 24. Input and output for the layers can be seen in Figure 25 and Figure 26, respectively.

JOB: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

SHEET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CALCULATED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

STREAM: \_\_\_\_\_

RECURRENCE INTERVAL FOR ANALYSIS: \_\_\_\_\_

### MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR

Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 6 Scour Analysis

#### STRUCTURE TYPE FOR ANALYSIS

Select one

Choose structure type for contraction scour analysis:

Bridge

#### STREAM ATTRIBUTES

Include pressure flow analysis?	Yes
<i>Complete pressure flow analysis section below</i>	
Average main channel upstream flow depth (ft)	$Y_1 = 12$
Existing depth in contracted section before scour (ft)	$Y_0 = 7.1$
Stream bed initial shear stress ( $\text{lb}/\text{ft}^2$ )	$\tau = 0.49$
Average upstream channel velocity (ft/s)	$V_1 = 5.2$
Contracted section flow velocity (ft/s)	$V_2 = 5.2$
Flow in upstream channel ( $\text{ft}^3/\text{s}$ )	$Q_1 = 2000$
Flow in contracted channel [discharge through bridge] ( $\text{ft}^3/\text{s}$ )	$Q_2 = 2200$
<i>Non-floodplain flow through bridge</i>	
Bottom width in upstream main channel (ft)	$W_1 = 32$
Bottom width in contracted main channel (ft)	$W_2 = 32$
<i>Subtract pier widths for contracted bottom width</i>	
Streambed elevation (ft)	$Z = 600$
Manning's n for channel	$n = 0.035$

#### SCOUR CONDITION: LIVE-BED CHECK

Check if live-bed conditions exist in first streambed layer

Slope of energy grade line of main channel (ft/ft)	$S_1 = 0.004$
First Streambed Soil Type	Granular
First Streambed layer (mm)=	$D_{50} = 15$
Initial Scour Condition	Clear-Water
Shear velocity (ft/s)	$V_* = 1.24$
Fall velocity (m/s)	$\omega = 0.46$
Fall velocity (ft/s)	$\omega = 1.50$
<i>Check fall velocity with HEC-18 Fig. 6.8 below. All data corresponds to <math>T=20^\circ\text{C}</math></i>	
Live-bed contraction scour exponent	$k_1 = 0.69$

Figure 23: Clear-Water Main Channel Contraction Scour with Pressure Flow and Overtopping

## PRESSURE FLOW CALCULATIONS

Complete following sections. Refer to HEC-18 section 6.10. See figure 6.18 above for parameter definition

Is structure overtopped?	Yes
Vertical size of the bridge opening prior to scour (ft)	$h_b = 8$
Distance from the water surface to the lower face of the bridge girders(ft)	$h_t = 4$
Weir flow height (ft)	$h_w = 1$
<i>Enter weir flow height</i>	
Upstream channel flow depth (ft)	$h_u = 12$
<i>Upstream channel flow depth defined for HEC-18 equation 6.2</i>	
Separation zone thickness (ft)	$t = 3.05$

### OVERTOPPING CONDITIONS

Completion of this section is only required for overtopping conditions

Height of obstruction, including girders, deck and parapet (ft)	$T = 3$
<i>Reference HEC-18 page 6.25, for open railings consider debris blocking openings</i>	
Effective upstream channel flow depth for live bed conditions (ft)	$h_{ue} = 11$
Effective channel discharge and bridge overtopping flow (ft <sup>3</sup> /s)	$Q_{ue} = 2200$

### SCOUR CHECK (NON-LAYERED ANALYSIS)

Average depth in contracted section (ft)	$y_2 = 10.35$
Scour depth (ft)	$y_s = 5.40$

Figure 24: Clear-Water Contraction Scour Example Continued. Computation of Pressure Flow.

## MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR LAYER ATTRIBUTES

Expand as needed

Layer	Soil Type	Top Elev. (ft)	Bottom Elev. (ft)	Granular	Rock	Cohesive				
				$D_{50}$ (mm)	Erodibility index (K)	% Fines	WC	PI	$q_u$ (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Critical Shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )
1	Granular	600	590	15						0.31
2	Granular	590	580	20						0.42

Figure 25: Layer Input for Clear-Water Pressure Flow Contraction Scour

## MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR DEPTH ANALYSIS

Expand as needed. If Scour Depth column returns "Use Time Rate" for erodible rock, a time rate scour analysis must be performed for scour depth (See HEC-18 Section 6.7.2)

Layer	Layer Depth (ft)	Top Elevation (ft)	Shear Stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Scour Depth (ft)	Layer Completely Scoured?	Bottom of Scour Depth (ft)	Bottom of Scour Elevation (ft)
1	10	600	0.02	5.40	No	5.40	594.60
2	20	590	0.03	4.58	No	END	594.60

Figure 26: Layer Output for Pressure Flow Scour

### 4.1.3 Main Channel Contraction Scour: Layered Analysis

Using soil layer data from E.L. Robinson's MAD/PIC-71-4.56/0.00 Exploration Report: Borehole Exploration ID B-029-3-20 and data from the accompanying HEC-RAS file a main channel contraction analysis was completed. For this analysis, a 500-year storm event for Bradford Creek was used to assess scour at the structure. Model output used in the analysis can be seen below in Figure 27 for the bridge and Figure 28 for the upstream cross-section.

Bridge Output

File Type Options Help

River: Bradford Creek Profile: 500 YR

Reach: IR71 @ Bradford RS: 951 Plan: Pr3SpanConc

Plan: Pr3SpanConc Bradford Creek IR71 @ Bradford RS: 951 Profile: 500 YR				
		Element	Inside BR US	Inside BR DS
E.G. US. (ft)	925.94	E.G. Elev (ft)	925.87	925.67
W.S. US. (ft)	925.02	W.S. Elev (ft)	924.80	924.69
Q Total (cfs)	8090.00	Crit W.S. (ft)	922.49	922.00
Q Bridge (cfs)	8090.00	Max Chl Dpth (ft)	9.69	9.79
Q Weir (cfs)		Vel Total (ft/s)	8.30	7.93
Weir Sta Lft (ft)		Flow Area (sq ft)	974.81	1020.66
Weir Sta Rgt (ft)		Froude # Chl	0.58	0.52
Weir Submerg		Specif Force (cu ft)	5751.61	6083.81
Weir Max Depth (ft)		Hydr Depth (ft)	6.40	7.09
Min El Weir Flow (ft)	933.44	W.P. Total (ft)	187.69	177.73
Min El Prs (ft)	930.75	Conv. Total (cfs)	135755.3	151990.3
Delta EG (ft)	0.36	Top Width (ft)	152.27	143.98
Delta WS (ft)	0.37	Frctn Loss (ft)	0.18	0.07
BR Open Area (sq ft)	1821.47	C & E Loss (ft)	0.03	0.01
BR Open Vel (ft/s)	8.30	Shear Total (lb/sq ft)	1.15	1.02
BR Sluice Coef		Power Total (lb/ft s)	9.56	8.05
BR Sel Method	Energy only			

Figure 27: HEC-RAS Bridge Output Data from Steady State Simulation

Cross Section Output

File Type Options Help

River: Bradford Creek Profile: 500 YR

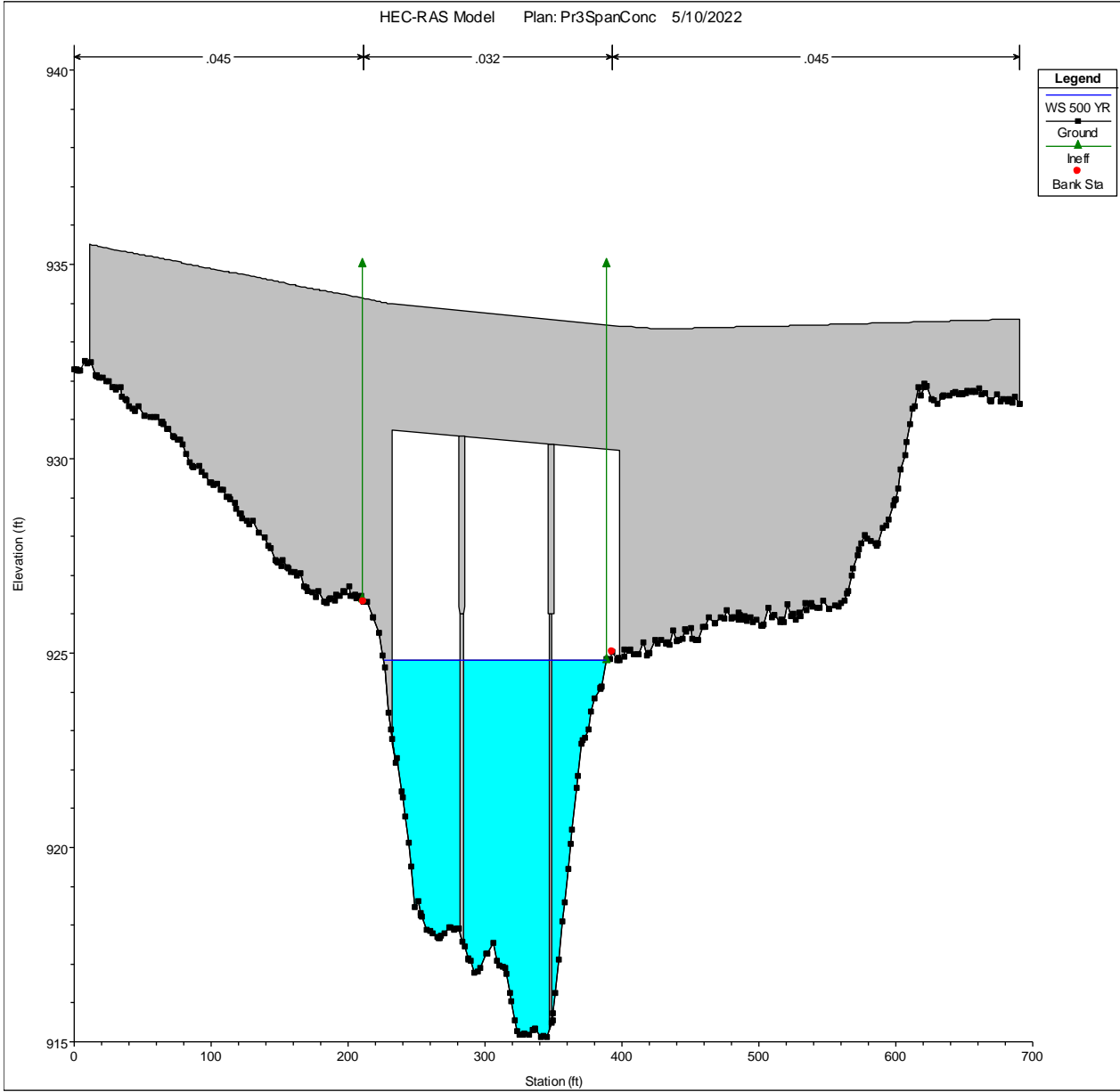
Reach: IR71 @ Bradford RS: 970 Plan: Pr3SpanConc

Plan: Pr3SpanConc Bradford Creek IR71 @ Bradford RS: 970 Profile: 500 YR					
		Element	Left OB	Channel	Right OB
E.G. Elev (ft)	925.94	Wt. n-Val.		0.032	
Vel Head (ft)	0.92	Reach Len. (ft)	18.50	18.50	18.50
W.S. Elev (ft)	925.02	Flow Area (sq ft)		1050.31	
Crit W.S. (ft)	922.38	Area (sq ft)		1050.94	1.44
E.G. Slope (ft/ft)	0.002370	Flow (cfs)		8090.00	
Q Total (cfs)	8090.00	Top Width (ft)		168.59	16.59
Top Width (ft)	185.18	Avg. Vel. (ft/s)		7.70	
Vel Total (ft/s)	7.70	Hydr. Depth (ft)		6.39	
Max Chl Dpth (ft)	9.91	Conv. (cfs)		166176.6	
Conv. Total (cfs)	166176.6	Wetted Per. (ft)		167.00	
Length Wtd. (ft)	18.50	Shear (lb/sq ft)		0.93	
Min Ch El (ft)	915.11	Stream Power (lb/ft s)		7.17	
Alpha	1.00	Cum Volume (acre-ft)	3.58	14.00	8.63
Frctn Loss (ft)	0.05	Cum SA (acres)	1.21	2.20	3.42
C & E Loss (ft)	0.01				

Figure 28: HEC-RAS Upstream Cross-section Output

Geometric data for the bridge cross-section can be seen in Figure 29 soil bore hole data can be found in Figure 30. Finally, input and output from the scour prediction tool can be seen in Figure 31, Figure 32, and Figure 33. For this example, the initial computed scour depth exceeded the first layer. The initial scour depth was computed as 4.70 feet and the layer was only 2.5 feet thick. However, it was found that the critical shear stress of the second layer was greater than the bed shear once the bed shear was recomputed with the increase in depth after the first layer was scoured. Therefore, only the first 2.5 foot thick layer was scoured.





**Figure 29: HEC-RAS Bridge Geometry for Scour Analysis at MAD-71-4.56**



JOB: MAD-71-0668 PID:107630

NOTES: EXAMPLE SCOUR

SHEET NO.

CALCULATED BY: DR DATE: 5/11/2022

CHECKED BY: DATE:

SUBJECT: EXAMPLE SCOUR

STREAM: Bradford Creek

RECURRENCE INTERVAL FOR ANALYSIS: 500 Year

### MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR

Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 6 Scour Analysis

#### STRUCTURE TYPE FOR ANALYSIS

Select one

Choose structure type for contraction scour analysis: Bridge

#### STREAM ATTRIBUTES

Include pressure flow analysis? No

Do NOT complete pressure flow analysis section

Average main channel upstream flow depth (ft)  $Y_1 = 6.39$

Existing depth in contracted section before scour (ft)  $Y_0 = 6.4$

Stream bed initial shear stress (lb/ft<sup>2</sup>)  $\tau = 1.07$

Average upstream channel velocity (ft/s)  $V_1 = 7.7$

Contracted section flow velocity (ft/s)  $V_2 = 8.30$

Flow in upstream channel (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)  $Q_1 = 8090$

Flow in contracted channel [discharge through bridge] (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)  $Q_2 = 8090$

Non-floodplain flow through bridge

Bottom width in upstream main channel (ft)  $W_1 = 185.18$

Bottom width in contracted main channel (ft)  $W_2 = 152.27$

Subtract pier widths for contracted bottom width

Streambed elevation (ft)  $Z = 915.16$

Manning's n for channel  $n = 0.032$

#### SCOUR CONDITION: LIVE-BED CHECK

Check if live-bed conditions exist in first streambed layer

Slope of energy grade line of main channel (ft/ft)  $S_1 = 0.002316$

First Streambed Soil Type Cohesive

First Streambed layer (mm)=  $D_{50} = 0.07$

Initial Scour Condition Cohesive

Shear velocity (ft/s)  $V_* = 0.69$

Fall velocity (m/s)  $\omega = 0.01$

Fall velocity (ft/s)  $\omega = 0.02$

Check fall velocity with HEC-18 Fig. 6.8 below. All data corresponds to T=20°C

Live-bed contraction scour exponent  $k_1 = 0.69$

Figure 31: Scour Prediction Tool Layered Analysis Example

### MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR LAYER ATTRIBUTES

Expand as needed

Layer	Soil Type	Top Elev. (ft)	Bottom Elev. (ft)	D <sub>50</sub> (mm)	Erodibility index (K)	Cohesive			Critical Shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	
						% Fines	WC	PI		
1	Cohesive	915.9	913.4			52	7	5	2250	0.25
2	Granular	913.4	911.9	11.92						0.25
3	Cohesive	911.9	910.4			79	14	4	4500	0.14
4	Cohesive	910.4	907.4			36	24	4	2000	0.01

Figure 32: Scour Prediction Tool Soil Layer Input: Main Channel Contraction Scour

### MAIN CHANNEL CONTRACTION SCOUR DEPTH ANALYSIS

Expand as needed. If Scour Depth column returns "Use Time Rate" for erodible rock, a time rate scour analysis must be performed for scour depth (See HEC-18 Section 6.7.2)

Layer	Layer Depth (ft)	Top Elevation (ft)	Shear Stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Scour Depth (ft)	Layer Completely Scoured?	Bottom of Scour Depth (ft)	Bottom of Scour Elevation (ft)
1	2.5	915.9	1.07	4.70	Yes	2.50	912.66
2	4	913.4	0.50	4.69	Yes	4.00	911.16
3	5.5	911.9	0.35	5.11	No	5.11	910.05
4	8.5	910.4	0.00	6.08	No	END	910.05

Figure 33: Scour Prediction Tool Output: Main Channel Contraction Scour

## 4.2 Pier Scour Example

Pier scour example data for this section is from HEC-18 section 7.10.3 “Example Problem 3- Scour at Complex Piers (Solid Pier on an Exposed Footing). These computations are considered as case 2, where the bottom of the pile cap is not exposed after assessing the initial pier stem scour. It should be noted that the HEC-18 example calculations contain an error for the pier nose shape coefficient, which inadvertently increases the pile cap scour component by 10% by increasing the pier nose shape coefficient ( $K_1$ ) from 1.0 to 1.1. Input data can be seen in Figure 34 and Figure 35.

A layered analysis is performed in Section 4.2.2 using data from E.L. Robinson’s MAD/PIC-71-4.56/0.00 Exploration Report. This data is the same data as in Section 4.1.3 Figure 30.

## 4.2.1 Pier Scour: HEC-18 Example

### PIER SCOUR

Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 7 Pier Scour Analysis

#### STREAM ATTRIBUTES

Flowrate (cfs)		
Bed condition [Choose one]		Plane Bed and Antidune
Debris present on piers? [choose one]		No
Manning's n	n =	
Longterm degradation (ft)		4.92
Streambed elevation at pier (ft)	Z =	600
Maximum shear stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	$\tau =$	

Add longterm degradation if applicable

#### PIER ATTRIBUTES

Pier analysis type [Choose one]		Complex
Number of piers		1
Pier length (ft)	L =	59
Pier width(ft)	a =	4
Pier nose shape [Choose one]		Round Nose
Angle of attack (degrees)	$\Theta =$	0
Velocity directly upstream of pier (ft/s)	v =	11.02
Flow depth directly upstream of pier (ft)	y =	10.2
Coarse bed condition exist? [Choose one]		No

Coarse Bed (D<sub>50</sub> > 0.79 in. [20.1mm], clear-water conditions, & D<sub>84</sub>/D<sub>50</sub> > 1.5) See HEC-18 Section 7.11

#### SIMPLE PIER CALCULATIONS

Froude number		0.61
Shear stress at pier (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )		0.00
K <sub>1</sub>		1.00
K <sub>2</sub>		1.00
K <sub>3</sub>		1.1
K <sub>w</sub>		1.00
Scour depth per unit upstream depth(ft)	y <sub>s</sub> =	Continue Calculations Below
Max scour depth check (ft)	y <sub>s,max</sub> =	9.6
Calculated scour depth ok?		Proceed Below

Figure 34: Complex Pier Scour Example with Exposed Footing in Flow

## PIER DEBRIS CALCULATIONS

Only use section for if debris is present. Otherwise, continue to next section.

Shape of debris on piers

Debris shape factor

$K_1 = 0.79$

Height (thickness) of debris (ft)

$H =$

Width of debris perpendicular to flow (ft)

$W =$

Depth of approach flow (ft)

$y = 10.2$

Effective width of pier with debris present (ft)

$a^*_d = -4$

## COMPLEX PIER CALCULATIONS

Refer to: HEC-18 Section 7.5

Distance between front edge of pile cap(footing) and pier (ft)

$f = 2.5$

Pile cap width (ft)

$a_{pc} = 8$

Height of the pile cap above bed at beginning of computation (ft)

$h_0 = -0.33$

Height of pier stem above the bed before scour (ft)

$h_1 = 4.92$

Height of pile cap after pier stem scour component is computed (ft)

$h_2 = -0.01$

Height of pile group after stem and cap scour component is computed (ft)

$h_3 = 6.72$

Spacing between columns of piles, center to center (ft)

$S =$

Thickness of pile cap/footing (ft)

$T = 5.25$

Initial approach flow depth(ft)

$y_1 = 10.2$

Adjusted flow depth for pile cap computations (ft)

$y_2 = 10.52$

Adjusted flow depth for pile group computations (ft)

$y_3 = 17.25$

Initial approach velocity (ft/s)

$V_1 = 11.02$

Adjusted velocity for pile cap computations (ft/s)

$V_2 = 10.68$

Adjusted velocity for pile group computations (ft/s)

$V_3 = 6.52$

$K_{th-pier}$  (See HEC-18 Figure 7.6 Below)

$K_{th-pier} = 0.07$

Width of equivalent pier [see HEC-18 Figure 7.7 Below] (ft)

$a^*_{pc} = 2.16$

Bottom of pile cap/ footing above streambed by design or after pier stem scour?

No

Distance from the bed to top of footing [after degradation] (ft)

$y_f = 5.24$

Grain roughness of bed [ $D$  & for sand and  $3.5D$  & for gravel and larger] (ft)

$k_s = 0.024$

Average velocity in flow zone below the top of footing (ft/s)

$V_f = 9.80$

Sum of non-overlapping projected widths of piles (ft)

$a_{proj} =$

Pile spacing coefficient [see HEC-18 Figure 7.11]

$K_{sp} =$

Number of aligned rows

$m =$

Aligned rows coefficient [see HEC-18 Figure 7.12]

$K_m = 1.07$

For staggered piers,  $K_m = 1$

Effective width of an equivalent full depth pier (ft)

$a^*_{pg} =$

Pile group height factor [see HEC-18 Figure 7.13]

$K_{th-pg} =$

Initial pier scour depth (ft)

$y_{s-pier} = 0.64$

Pile cap scour (ft)

$y_{s-pc} = 13.45$

Pile group scour (ft)

$y_{s-pg} = N/A$

Total complex pier scour (ft)

$y_s = 14.09$

Figure 35: Complex Pier Computations and Total Scour Output

#### **4.2.2 Pier Scour: Layered Analysis Example**

Using HEC-RAS data and soil boring data described in Section 4.1.3 above, an analysis of the right-most pier in Figure 29 is performed below. Flow depths and velocities were obtained from either RAS- Mapper output in HEC-RAS or the data in Figure 27 and Figure 28. Output from the scour prediction tool is seen in Figure 36 and Figure 38. The “maximum scour check” checks the scour computation against the upper limit defined in HEC-18: 2.4 times the pier width for Froude number less than or equal to 0.8 and no more than 3 times the pier width for Froude numbers larger than 0.8. If the computed scour depth is less than or equal to the maximum scour, the cell below “max scour depth check” will read “OK”. . In this instance, the layered analysis was needed as the computed scour depth was 5.38 feet; however, the max scour depth check gave a result of 4.80 feet. In this instance the maximum scour depth check was used. The first two layers were completely scoured, in this case, with the scour ending in the third layer.



JOB: MAD-71-0668 PID: 107630

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NOTES: EXAMPLE

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SHEET NO.

---

CALCULATED BY: DR DATE: 5/11/2022

---

CHECKED BY: DATE:

---

SUBJECT: EXAMPLE

---

STREAM: Bradford Creek

---

RECURRENCE INTERVAL FOR ANALYSIS: 500 Year

---

### PIER SCOUR

Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 7 Pier Scour Analysis. Complete all displayed fields below.

#### STREAM ATTRIBUTES

Flowrate (cfs)	Q=	8090.00
Flow area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	A=	1821.47
Bed condition [Choose one]		Plane Bed and Antidune
Debris present on piers? [choose one]		No
Manning's n	n=	0.03
Longterm degradation (ft)		
Streambed elevation at pier (ft)	Z=	915.90

Add longterm degradation if applicable

#### PIER ATTRIBUTES

Pier analysis type [ Choose one]		Simple
Number of piers		1
Pier length (ft)	L=	59.3
Pier width(ft)	a=	2
Pier nose shape [Choose one]		Round Nose
Angle of attack (degrees)	Θ=	0
Velocity directly upstream of pier (ft/s)	v=	8.02
Flow depth directly upstream of pier (ft)	y=	8.9
Coarse bed condition exist? [Choose one]		No

Coarse Bed ( $D_{50} > 0.79$  in. [20.1mm], clear-water conditions, &  $D_{84}/D_{50} > 1.5$ ) See HEC-18 Section 7.11

#### SIMPLE PIER CALCULATIONS

Froude number		0.47
Shear stress at pier (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )		2.02
K <sub>1</sub>		1.00
K <sub>2</sub>		1.00
K <sub>3</sub>		1.1
K <sub>w</sub>		1.00
Scour depth per unit upstream depth(ft)	y <sub>s</sub> =	5.38
Max scour depth check (ft)	y <sub>s,max</sub> =	4.8
Calculated scour depth ok?		Use Max Scour Depth

Figure 36: Layered Analysis Pier Scour Output

### PIER SCOUR LAYER ATTRIBUTES

*Expand as needed*

Layer	Soil Type	Top Elevation (ft)	Bottom Elevation (ft)	Granular	Rock	Cohesive			Critical Velocity (ft/s)	Critical Shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	
				D <sub>50</sub> (mm)	Erodibility index (K)	% Fines	WC	PI			q <sub>u</sub> (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )
1	Cohesive	915.9	913.4			52	7	5	2250	0.00	0.25
2	Granular	913.4	911.9	11.92						5.46	0.25
3	Cohesive	911.9	910.4			79	14	4	4500	0.00	0.14

Figure 37: Pier Scour Soil Layer Input

### PIER SCOUR LAYERED DEPTH ANALYSIS

*Expand as needed*

*Refer to HEC-18 section 7.11 if coarse bed conditions are applicable*

Layer	Layer Depth (ft)	Shear Stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Scour Depth (ft)	Layer Completely Scoured?	Stop?	Bottom of Scour Elevation (ft)
1	2.5	2.0	4.80	Yes	No	913.40
2	4	1.1	4.80	Yes	No	911.90
3	5.5	0.8	4.80	No	End	910.40

Figure 38: Pier Scour Layered Analysis Output

### **4.3 Abutment Scour Example**

In this section we will evaluate example problems in HEC-18 (section 8.7.5 for the left abutment and section 8.7.3 for the right abutment). The left abutment is computed for clear-water conditions using the critical shear stress scour formula and the right abutment is computed with live-bed conditions. Small variations between values may be attributed to rounding errors. Additionally, a layered analysis was conducted using soil properties acquired from E.L. Robinson's MAD/PIC-71-4.56/0.00 Exploration Report: Exploration ID B-029-4-20 (Figure 46).

### 4.3.1 Abutment Scour: HEC-18 Examples

JOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SHEET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CALCULATED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHECKED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREAM: \_\_\_\_\_  
 RECURRENCE INTERVAL FOR ANALYSIS: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ABUTMENT SCOUR

Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 8 Scour Analysis

#### NCHRP 24-20 Abutment Scour Characteristics

Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 8.6.3

Clear-water or live bed condition for left abutment? [Choose One]  
 Clear-water or live bed condition for right abutment? [Choose One]  
 Manning's n for left abutment floodplain material  
 Manning's n for right abutment floodplain material  
*Note: 2D hydraulic modeling is highly recommend*

	Clear-Water
	Live Bed
n=	0.025
n=	0.025

#### LEFT ABUTMENT

Abutment set-back length for left abutment (feet)		
Flow depth at abutment (feet)	y=	10
Set-back ratio for left abutment	SBR=	
Bed elevation at left abutment (feet)	Z=	600
Projected length of abutment (feet)	L=	6
Width of floodplain (feet)	B <sub>f</sub> =	10
Ratio	L/B <sub>f</sub> =	0.60
Bridge channel flow depth prior to scour (ft)	y <sub>0</sub> =	3.5
Velocity at left abutment (ft/s)	v=	5.5
Left abutment average initial shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	τ=	0.25

#### RIGHT ABUTMENT

Abutment set-back length for right abutment (feet)		
Flow depth at abutment (feet)	y=	10
Set-back ratio for right abutment	SBR=	
Bed elevation at right abutment (feet)	Z=	600
Projected length of abutment (feet)	L=	6
Width of floodplain (feet)	B <sub>f</sub> =	10
Ratio	L/B <sub>f</sub> =	0.6
Bridge channel flow depth prior to scour (ft)	y <sub>0</sub> =	10
Velocity at right abutment (ft/s)	v=	4.7
Right abutment average initial shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	τ=	0.18

**Suggested method for determining approach velocity and unit discharge:**

*Compute velocity, Q/A, for respective overbank flow only*

Figure 39: Abutment Scour Using NCHRP Equations

**LIVE BED SCOUR CONDITION RIGHT ABUTMENT- AMPLIFICATION FACTOR**

Complete for live bed conditions

Right abutment type [choose one]

Upstream flow depth [y1] (feet)

Upstream unit discharge [q1] (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)

Unit discharge in the constricted opening [q2c] (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)

Note: account for non-uniform flow distribution for q2

Discharge ratio for amplification factor (q2/q1)

Calculated amplification factor [αA]

	Wing Wall
y1=	10
q1=	57
q2c=	78.6
q2/q1=	1.38
αA=	1.71

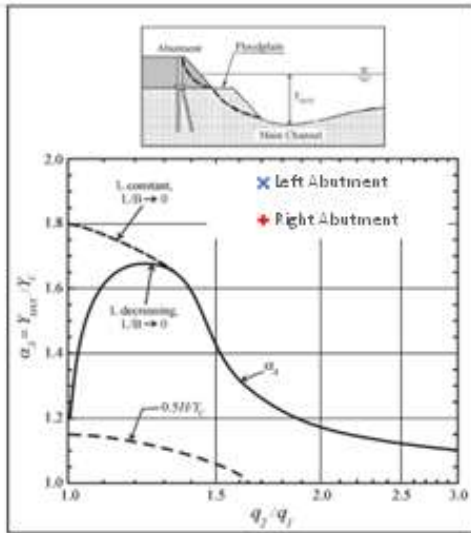


Figure 8.9. Scour amplification factor for spill-through abutments and live-bed conditions (NCHRP 2010b).

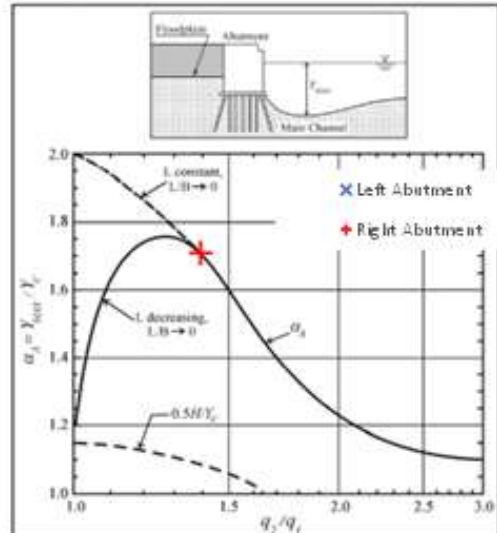


Figure 8.10. Scour amplification factor for wingwall abutments and live-bed conditions (NCHRP 2010b).

**Figure 40: Scour Tool Input and Calculations for Right Abutment Scour Factors**

### CLEAR WATER SCOUR CONDITION LEFT ABUTMENT- AMPLIFICATION FACTOR

Complete for clear-water conditions

Left abutment type [choose one]

Upstream floodplain unit discharge (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)

Unit discharge in the constricted opening (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)

Note: account for non-uniform flow distribution for  $q_2$

Discharge ratio for amplification factor

Calculated amplification factor [ $\alpha A$ ]

	Spill Through
$q_f =$	5.7
$q_{2f} =$	10.1
$q_{2f}/q_f =$	1.77
$\alpha A =$	2.11

### CLEAR WATER SCOUR CONDITION RIGHT ABUTMENT- AMPLIFICATION FACTOR

Return to live bed section

	N/A
	N/A

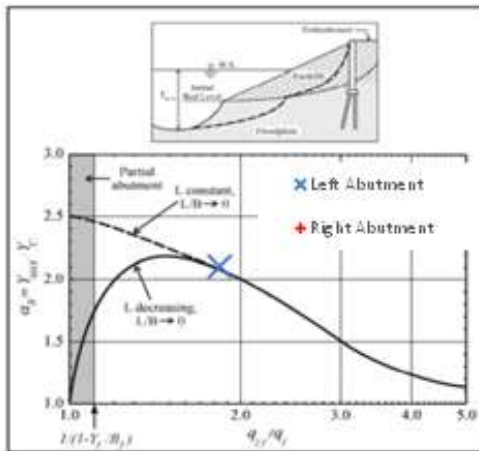


Figure 8.11. Scour amplification factor for spill-through abutments and clear-water conditions (NCHRP 2010b).

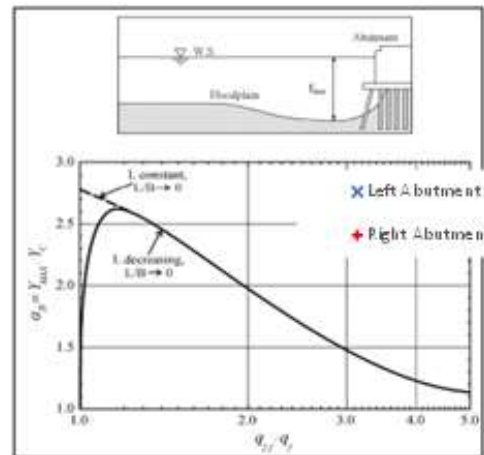


Figure 8.12. Scour amplification factor for wingwall abutments and clear-water conditions (NCHRP 2010b).

Figure 41: Left Abutment Scour Factors

### Left Abutment Layer Attributes

Layer	Soil Type	Top Elevation (ft)	Bottom Elevation (ft)	Granular	Rock	Cohesive				
				D <sub>50</sub> (mm)	Erodibility index (K)	% Fines	WC	PI	q <sub>u</sub> (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Critical Shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )
1	Granular	600	585	2						0.04
2	Granular	585	580	20						0.42

Figure 42: Streambed Material Attributes for Left Abutment with Clear-Water Conditions

### Right Abutment Layer Attributes

Layer	Soil Type	Top Elevation (ft)	Bottom Elevation (ft)	Granular	Rock	Cohesive				
				D <sub>50</sub> (mm)	Erodibility index (K)	% Fines	WC	PI	q <sub>u</sub> (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Critical Shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )
1	Granular	600	585	2						0.04
2	Granular	585	580	18						0.38

Figure 43: Streambed Material Attributes for Right Abutment with Live-Bed Conditions

### LEFT ABUTMENT SCOUR DEPTH ANALYSIS

Layer	Layer Depth(ft)	Shear Stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Scoured Max Flow Depth (ft)	Scour Depth (ft)	Layer Completely Scoured?	Bottom of Scour Depth (ft)	Bottom of Scour Elevation (ft)
1	15	0.22	10.58	0.58	No	0.58	599.42
2	20	0.22	10.58	0.58	No	END	END

Figure 44: Left Abutment Scour Analysis

### RIGHT ABUTMENT SCOUR DEPTH ANALYSIS

Layer	Layer Depth(ft)	Shear Stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Scoured Flow Depth (ft)	Scour Depth (ft)	Layer Completely Scoured?	Bottom of Scour Depth (ft)	Bottom of Scour Elevation (ft)
1	15	0.03	22.48	12.48	No	12.48	587.52
2	20	0.03	22.48	12.48	No	END	END

Figure 45: Right Abutment Scour Analysis

### 4.3.2 Abutment Scour: Layered Analysis Example

As seen in Figure 29, the flow depth at the right abutment is zero and is excluded from this analysis. Soil data from E.L. Robinson's MAD/PIC-71-4.56/0.00 Exploration Report: Exploration ID B-029-4-20, as seen in Figure 18, was used for this analysis. Soil data can be seen below in Figure 46. Results from the scour analysis are shown in Figure 50 below.

PROJECT: MAD-71-04.56		DRILLING FIRM / OPERATOR: CTL / VIRGIL		DRILL RIG: MOBILE B-57 #513-2		STATION / OFFSET: 410+96.29' LT.		EXPLORATION ID: B-029-4-20													
TYPE: BRIDGE		SAMPLING FIRM / LOGGER: CTL / VIRGIL		HAMMER: CME AUTOMATIC		ALIGNMENT: EX CLR:71		ELEVATION: 933.4 (MSL) EOB: 80.0 ft													
PID: 107630 SFN:		DRILLING METHOD: 3.25" HSA		CALIBRATION DATE: 10/20/20		ELEVATION: 933.4 (MSL) EOB: 80.0 ft		PAGE: 1 OF 3													
START: 11/18/20 END: 11/18/20		SAMPLING METHOD: SPT		ENERGY RATIO (%): 76.4		LAT / LONG: 39.748060 -83.324867															
MATERIAL DESCRIPTION AND NOTES		ELEV.	DEPTHS	SPT/ROD	N <sub>60</sub>	REC (%)	SAMPLE ID	HP (bf)	GRADATION (%)				ATTERBERG				ODOT CLASS (G)	SOM	HOLE SEALED		
									GR	CS	FS	SI	CL	LL	PL	PI	WC				
Topsoil (12")		932.4																			
VERY STIFF, BROWN, SILTY CLAY, SOME SAND, LITTLE GRAVEL, FILL, CONTAINS COBBLES, DAMP		932.4	1	5																	
			2	13	34	100	SS-1	2.50	14	13	12	35	26	37	20	17	16	A-6b (8)			
			3	14																	
			4	5	15	33	100	SS-2	3.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	A-6b (V)			
			5	11																	
VERY STIFF, BROWN, CLAY, "AND" SILT, LITTLE SAND, TRACE GRAVEL, FILL, DAMP		927.4	6	4	5	17	100	SS-3	3.75	4	6	11	40	39	49	24	25	20	A-7-6 (16)		
			7	5	8																
VERY STIFF, BROWN, SANDY SILT, SOME CLAY, LITTLE GRAVEL, FILL, DAMP		924.9	8	5	7	18	100	SS-4	2.75	16	11	14	37	22	27	17	10	14	A-4a (5)		
			9	7	7																
VERY STIFF, BROWN, SILT AND CLAY, SOME SAND, TRACE GRAVEL, MOIST		922.4	10	5	8	25	100	SS-5	2.50	7	10	14	38	31	34	19	15	27	A-6a (9)		
			11	8	32																
@13.5' DAMP			12	7	27	100	SS-6	3.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	A-6a (V)		
			13	6	15																
@16.5' MOIST			14	5	18	100	SS-7	3.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	A-6a (V)		
			15	8	8																
			16	5	7	22	100	SS-8	2.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	A-6a (V)		
			17	10																	
HARD, GRAY AND BROWN, SANDY SILT, SOME CLAY, LITTLE GRAVEL, DAMP		912.4	18	7	12	32	100	SS-9	4.50	12	13	16	38	21	21	14	7	9	A-4a (5)		
			19	13																	
			20	10	11	27	100	SS-10	4.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	A-4a (V)		
			21	10																	
STIFF, BROWN, SILT, LITTLE CLAY, TRACE SAND, CONTAINS COBBLES, TILL, MOIST		907.4	22	5	11	33	100	SS-11	1.75	0	0	4	79	17	21	15	8	16	A-4b (8)		
			23	15																	
HARD, BROWN, SANDY SILT, LITTLE CLAY, LITTLE GRAVEL, CONTAINS COBBLES, TILL, DAMP		904.9	24	14	16	48	100	SS-12	4.50	11	13	17	41	18	22	14	8	10	A-4a (5)		
			25	20																	

Figure 46: MAD-71-4.56 Exploration ID B-029-4-20 Soil Data- Source: E.L. Robinson



JOB: MAD-71-4.56 PID:107630  
 SHEET NO. EXAMPLE

CALCULATED BY: DR DATE: 5/10/2022  
 CHECKED BY: DATE:  
 SUBJECT: Example Scour Analysis  
 STREAM: Bradford Creek  
 RECURRENCE INTERVAL FOR ANALYSIS: 500 Year

**ABUTMENT SCOUR**

*Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 8 Scour Analysis*

**NCHRP 24-20 Abutment Scour Characteristics**

*Refer to: HEC-18 - Section 8.6.3*

Clear-water or live bed condition for left abutment? [Choose One]  
 Clear-water or live bed condition for right abutment? [Choose One]  
 Manning's n for left abutment floodplain material  
 Manning's n for right abutment floodplain material  
*Note: 2D hydraulic modeling is highly recommend*

	Live Bed
n=	0.045
n=	0.045

**LEFT ABUTMENT**

Abutment set-back length for left abutment (feet)  
 Flow depth at abutment (feet)  
 Set-back ratio for left abutment  
 Bed elevation at left abutment (feet)  
 Projected length of abutment (feet)  
 Width of floodplain (feet)  
 Ratio  
 Bridge channel flow depth prior to scour (ft)  
 Velocity at left abutment (ft/s)  
 Left abutment average initial shear (lb/ft<sup>2</sup>)

	81.96
y=	2.22
SBR=	36.92
Z=	915.2
L=	220.88
B <sub>r</sub> =	40.67
L/B <sub>r</sub> =	5.43
y <sub>0</sub> =	6.4
v=	4.5
τ=	0.89

**Figure 47: Abutment Scour Layered Analysis Input**

**LIVE BED SCOUR CONDITION LEFT ABUTMENT- AMPLIFICATION FACTOR**

*Complete for live bed conditions*

Left abutment type [choose one]  
 Upstream flow depth (feet)  
 Upstream unit discharge (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)  
 Unit discharge in the constricted opening (ft<sup>2</sup>/s)  
*Note: account for non-uniform flow distribution for q2*  
 Discharge ratio for amplification factor  
 Calculated amplification factor

	Wing Wall
y1=	6.4
q1=	43.69
q2c=	53.13
q2/q1=	1.22
αA=	1.74

**Figure 48: Abutment Scour Layered Analysis Input (Continued)**

### LEFT ABUTMENT LAYER ATTRIBUTES

Layer	Soil Type	Top Elevation (ft)	Bottom Elevation (ft)	Granular	Rock	Cohesive				
				D <sub>50</sub> (mm)	Erodibility index (K)	% Fines	WC	PI	q <sub>u</sub> (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Critical Shear (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )
1	Cohesive	932.4	929.9			61	16	17	5000	0.44
2	Cohesive	929.9	927.4			61	10	8	7500	0.50
3	Cohesive	927.4	924.9			79	20	25	4250	0.73

Figure 49: Abutment Scour Layered Analysis Soil Data Input

### LEFT ABUTMENT SCOUR DEPTH ANALYSIS

Layer	Layer Depth(ft)	Shear Stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> )	Scoured Max Flow Depth (ft)	Scour Depth for Layer (ft)	Layer Completely Scoured?	Bottom of Scour Depth (ft)	Bottom of Scour Elevation (ft)
1	2.5	0.89	13.19	10.97	Yes	2.50	929.90
2	5	0.00	4.72	2.50	No	2.50	929.90
3	7.5	0.00	4.72	2.50	No	END	END

Figure 50: Abutment Scour Layered Analysis Output

Figure 50 above illustrates the benefit to using a layered analysis with a decaying shear stress. The initial scour depth was calculated as 10.97 feet, with the critical shear for the first layer, 0.44 psf (shown in Figure 49) was less than the stream bed shear stress, 0.89 psf (shown in Figure 47) indicating that scouring of the layer will occur. However, once the first layer was scoured, the critical shear of the next layer was greater (0.50 psf) than the recomputed shear (0.15 psf), which was recomputed with the initial flow depth at the abutment plus the depth of first layer using a control area 0.25 feet wide adjacent to the abutment (seen above as the corresponding shear stress for layer 1 in Figure 50). Because the critical shear of the second layer is greater than the shear calculated for layer 1 in Figure 50, incipient particle motion does not occur for the second layer, and the layer is not scoured.

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