ON SOME NUMERICAL METHODS FOR SOLVING
THE 1-D SAINT-VENANT EQUATIONS OF
GENERAL FLOW REGIME
Part 2: Verification and application

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ABSTRACT. In the Part 1 of this paper [1], some numerical methods for solving the
1-D Saint-Venant equations of general flow regime have been described. This Part of the
paper presents the results of verification by various test problems, covering all of three
flow regimes: sub-, trans-, and super-critical. The results show that the mixed approach
(between pointwise and upwind) for source terms is better than the pointwise one and any
mathematical transformation of source terms must be careful, since that can lead to non­
physical solutions. The Roe’s approximation with the mixed technique for the source terms
is used for a preliminary evaluation of the Son La - Hoa Binh dambreak problem.

1. Verification of the numerical methods by Test-Cases

To evaluate the general flow simulation capacity and the advantages of every
numerical method presented in the Part 1 of this paper some test cases newly developed by European Hydraulic Laboratories [2, 3] will be used. The results of testing
will be shown in figures (1-14, 16-21).

In these figures the following notations are used:
- \(Z_{gt}, Q_{gt}, V_{gt}\) - analytical water level, discharge, velocity
- \(Z_{tt}, Q_{tt}, V_{tt}\) - numerical water level, discharge, velocity
- \(Z_b\) - bed level
- \(H\) - Water depth

1.1. Schemes with the pointwise source term integral

1.1.1. Steady flow through a bump

In this case all 4 schemes are used to calculate the steady flow through a bump
in a rectangular channel with a constant width [2]. Depending on the boundary and
the initial conditions the flow may be sub-critical, super-critical, trans-critical or at rest. The comparison between numerical and analytical solutions is made.

Channel has a length of 25 m, a width of 1 m. The bed slope is as follows:

\[
Z_b(x) = \begin{cases} 
0.2 - 0.05(x - 10)^2, & 8m < x < 12m \\
0, & x \leq 8m \text{ or } x \geq 12m 
\end{cases}
\]
The grid has the space increment $\Delta x = 0.025 \text{ m}$. The calculated cases are

1. Water at rest: $Q = 0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, $Z_{hf} = 2 \text{ m}$,
2. Transcritical flow without shock $Q = 1.53 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, $Z_{hf} = 0.66 \text{ m}$,
3. Transcritical flow with shock $Q = 0.18 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$, $Z_{hf} = 0.33 \text{ m}$,
4. Sub-critical flow: $Q = 4.42 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, $Z_{hf} = 2 \text{ m}$.

Table 1. Comparison of the convergence time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Water at rest</th>
<th>Transcritical flow without shock</th>
<th>Transcritical flow with shock</th>
<th>Sub-critical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lax-Friedrichs</td>
<td>46.98</td>
<td>45.37</td>
<td>94.19</td>
<td>83.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roe's Approximation</td>
<td>181.03</td>
<td>45.33</td>
<td>127.25</td>
<td>95.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid</td>
<td>1440.00</td>
<td>1440.00</td>
<td>1440.00</td>
<td>111.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nessyahu-Tedmor</td>
<td>204.55</td>
<td>45.37</td>
<td>128.54</td>
<td>97.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the results shown in figures (1-4), the accuracy of methods can be presented in the following order: Roe’s approximation, Hybrid, Nessyahu-Tedmor, Lax-Friedrichs. At the smooth region of solutions these methods give nearly the same accuracy, but near discontinuities or nonsmooth part of solutions the Roe’s approximation and the Hybrid method are better than Nessyahu-Tedmor and Lax-Friedrichs methods.

Fig. 1. Water at rest. (a) The Lax-Friedrichs and (b) the Roe’s approximation methods
Fig. 2. Transcritical flow without shock.
(a) The Lax-Friedrichs and (b) the Roe's approximation methods

Fig. 3. Transcritical flow with shock.
(a) The Lax-Friedrichs and (b) the Roe's approximation methods

Fig. 4. The subcritical flow. (a) The Lax-Friedrichs and (b) the Roe's approximation methods
1.1.2. The wet bed dambreak problem

In this case, 4 schemes are applied to calculate the unsteady flow in a flat rectangular channel for the simultaneously dambreak situation. The friction is neglected. A front wave is formulated by the gravitational force. The analytical solution is the Stocker solution that consists of a shock wave, propagated downstream and a rarefaction wave, propagated upstream [4].

The channel has a length of 2000 m, a width of 1 m. The dam is located on the middle of the channel. The upstream and downstream water levels of the dam are 6 m and 2 m. Water is at rest at the initial time. The results at moments 100 s and 200 s are compared with the analytical solution. The comparison shows that the Roe’s approximation and the hybrid methods give a solution, closed to the analytical solution better than the Nessyahu-Tadmor and the Lax-Friedrichs methods. The Lax-Friedrichs method smears the solution a lot. The Preissman method even smears the shock more than the Lax-Friedrichs method due to large numerical viscosity. Figures 5 and 6 illustrate the results of the Roe’s approximation and the Preissmann methods.

1.1.3. The dry bed dambreak problem

This test has the same condition as the wet bed dambreak problem, apart from the downstream region of the dam is dry, and is used to verify the schemes for the dambreak problem and investigate their behavior at the dry front of the wave. The analytical solution is the Ritter solution [5]. In the calculation the downstream water level is taken by 0.0001 m.

The conclusion in this case is almost the same as in the above case. However, the Roe’s approximation makes the tail of the wave more smeared with respect to the Nessyahu-Tadmor method, but has kept the necessary sharpness. The other methods seem to give the reasonable results.

Figure 7 illustrates the result for the Roe’s approximation method.

![Fig. 5. The wet bed dambreak problem. The Roe’s approximation method.](image)

(a) Water levels, (b) discharges
### I.1.4. **The dry bed dambreak problem with friction**

The aim and conditions of this test are the same as in the above case. The difference is that the friction is taken into account with the Chezy coefficient of $40 m^{1/2}/s$. The analytical solution is the Dressler solution [6]. The results show that the methods approximate well the Dressler solution.

Figure 8 illustrates the result for the Roe's approximation method at time moments of 40s.

With the splitting technique where the source term integral is evaluated according to the pointwise approach, the results are good for the rectangular channel with the constant width. In general case, when the channel has the variable bed level and width, they become much worst with the oscillation at the nonsmooth part of the solution.

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**Fig. 6.** The wet bed dambreak problem. The Preissman method.
(a) Water levels, (b) discharges

**Fig. 7.** The dry bed dambreak problem. Water levels. The Roe’s approximation method
1.2. Roe’s approximation with the mixed technique for the source terms

In this paragraph only the Roe’s approximation with the mixed technique for the source terms will be used for testing.

1.2.1. The water at rest problem

This test is used to verify the discretization of the source term in case of water at rest. The calculation is done for the rectangular channel of 1500 m length, and the variation of bed levels and widths are shown in figure 9.

The upstream boundary condition is $Q = 0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ and the downstream condition is $H = 12 \text{ m}$. Water is at rest initially. The result (Figure 9b) shows that the numerical solution coincides with the analytical one.
1.2.2 **Steady flow through a bump**

The description of this test is given above. In all cases numerical solutions approximate the analytical solution better in comparison with the pointwise source term approach. Figure 10 and Figure 11 illustrate the result.

![Figure 10](image1.png)

*Fig. 10. (a) The water at rest case. (b) Transcritical flow without shock*

![Figure 11](image2.png)

*Fig. 11. (a) Transcritical flow with shock. (b) The subcritical flow*

1.2.3. **The dry bed dambreak problem**

The description of this test is given above. The result (Figure 12) shows that the numerical solutions approximate well the analytical one.

1.2.4. **The wet bed dambreak problem**

The description of this test is given above. The result (Figure 13) shows that the numerical solution coincides with the analytical one.

1.2.5. **The dry bed dambreak problem with friction**

The description of this test is given above. The result (Figure 14) shows that the numerical solution gives a good approximation to the analytical one.
1.2.6. The dambreak problem with a local constriction

This test is constructed by one experiment in the CADAM project. In this case,
the channel has a constriction at the downstream of the dam. The dam is simulated as a gate. The dam break wave is produced by the simultaneously opening the gate. A part of wave is reflected at the constriction and therefore the wave suffers from attenuation in propagation downstream. Due to the abrupt of the front wave and the different flow regimes this test is very appropriated for verifying the schemes, both for one and two dimensional problems. The constriction has a width of 0.1 m. The channel is 0.5 m wide and its geometry is given in figure 15.

![Diagram of the channel geometry](image)

*Fig. 15. The Channel geometry*

At the initial time the storage has a depth of 0.3 m, the downstream water level is 0.003 m. The downstream boundary condition is a chute and the Strickler coefficient is 100 $m^{1/3}/s$.

The calculated results are compared with the experimental data at 4 location $x = 5.1 \text{ m}, 12.20 \text{ m}, 14.70 \text{ m}, 16.60 \text{ m}$ and are illustrated in figures 16-17. It can be shown that the obtained numerical solution approximates to the analytical one and also to the result of the MASCARET model (of France) [7].

Gauge 1 (G1) shows the propagation of the rarefaction wave in the reservoir. This wave is correctly approximated. On the second gauge (G2), we remark on the propagation with a negative velocity of a jump due to the constriction. The approximated solution models this discontinuity well. In addition, it is noticed that the time propagation (gauges 3 and 4) is well computed which is essential for dam-break wave simulation.

![Diagram of dambreak problem with a local constriction](image)

*Fig. 16. The dambreak problem with a local constriction. (a) $x = 5.1 \text{ m}$, (b) $x = 12.2 \text{ m}$

$Z_{td}$ - measurements, $Z_{tt}$ - numerical solution
1.2.7. The hydrodynamic wave problem

This test is described in [8] and is a test for the subcritical case. The result here is appropriated with the result, presented in [8] (Figure 18).

1.2.8. The diffusion wave problem

This test is described in [8] and is a test for the subcritical case also. The result here is coincided with the result, presented in [8] (Figure 19).

1.2.9. The dynamic wave problem

This test is used to verify schemes when the channel has the enough high bed slope, where the gravitational and friction forces are dominated. The channel is rectangular with a length of 10,000 m, a bed slope of 0.005 and the Strickler coefficient is 31 m$^{-1/3}$/s.

The initial condition is the uniform flow with the downstream water depth of 2.49 m and the upstream discharge of 1000 m$^3$/s. The boundary condition is given as
for the hydrodynamic wave with $T = 12$ hours, $Q_{\text{max}} = 2000 \, \text{m}^3/\text{s}$, $T_{\text{max}} = 129000 \, \text{s}$. The flow pattern is correct and is illustrated in figure 20.

**Fig. 19.** The dispersion wave. Water depths and Discharges at $x = 0 \, \text{m}$ and $x = 25000 \, \text{m}$

**Fig. 20.** The dynamic wave. (a) Water levels, (b) Discharges at $x = 0 \, \text{m}$ and $x = 50000 \, \text{m}$

2. Preliminary evaluation of the Sonla-HoaBinh dambreak problem

In this section, the Roe's approximation with the mixed technique for the source terms will be used to carry out a preliminary evaluation of the Sonla-HoaBinh dambreak problem.

Let us consider the river branch from the Vietnamese Chinese border to the Thao-Da confluence with a length of 570 km. The future Sonla dam is located at the Pa Vinh, which is 268 km far from Thao-da confluence. The Hoa Binh dam is located at 63 km from Thao-Da confluence.

The initial water levels at the up- and downstream parts of the Hoa Binh dam
are 125 m and 14 m, at the upstream part of the Sonla dam—change from 265 to 320 m. The upstream boundary condition is $3000 \text{m}^3/\text{s}$ and the downstream one is a discharge-water level relation.

Dams are supposed to be simultaneously broken at time $t = 0$. The result shows that the maximum discharges through the Hoabinh dam and the Sonla dam are reached after approximately 200 s. The shock travel time from Hoa Binh to Thao-Da confluence is approximately 1.5 hour.

This flow pattern is correct for the simultaneously dam-break wave and the result is approximately closed the result of the research project for the Son La dam break of the Institute of Mechanics.

3. Conclusion

In this part of the paper, the verification of 4 numerical methods for solving the Saint-Venant equations: the Lax-Friedrichs, the Self-adjusting Hybrid, the Nessyahu-Tedmor, and the Roe's approximation methods, are presented. The source terms can be discretized following the pointwise, upwind or mixed approaches. By the numerical tests it is recommended that upwind and the mixed approaches are more appropriated to the Saint-Venant equations, the Roe's approximation is an efficient method and can be used with all the source term approaches of discretization.

The numerical tests are carried out for all flow regimes: sub-, super- and transcritical flow. Then the Roe's approximation with the upwind and mixed technique for the source terms is used for a preliminary evaluation of the Son La - Hoa Binh dambreak problem.

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VỀ MỘT SỐ PHƯƠNG PHÁP GIẢI SỐ HỆ PHƯƠNG TRÌNH SAINT-VENANT MỘT CHIỀU TRONG CHẾ ĐỘ ĐỒNG CHÂY TỔNG QUẤT.
PHẦN 2: KIỂM ĐỊNH VÀ ỨNG DỤNG