Steady Flow Water Surface Profile Computation
Using HEC-RAS

Objectives

The objective of the course is to enable the participants to perform water surface profile computations using computer program HEC-RAS in a sound and effective manner.

Topics will include concepts of open channel flow, data requirements, basic input requirements, output analysis, application of bridge and culvert routines, and floodway determination. Participants will have an opportunity to prepare input and analyze output during workshops.
Monday: Modeling River Hydraulics with HEC-RAS

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. INTRODUCTION

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. 1.1 Lecture: WATER SURFACE PROFILE CALCULATION
Classifications of open channel flow; velocity distribution in a channel; energy principles; cross section subdivision for conveyance calculations; friction loss equations; contraction and expansion losses; computational procedure; critical depth determination; and applications of the momentum equation.

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. 1.2 Lecture: GEOMETRIC DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR WATER SURFACE PROFILE CALCULATIONS
Study limit determination; defining the river system schematic; cross section geometry and locations; optional cross section properties: ineffective flow areas, levees, and blocked obstructions; defining the reach lengths between sections; energy loss coefficients; stream junction data.

11:15 – 12:00 a.m. 1.3 Lecture: RESISTANCE TO FLOW
Discussions about Manning’s equation; uniform flow equations; methods for computing n values: tables, pictures, and equations; examples of calibrated n values for various streams.

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 - 1:45 p.m. 1.4 Lecture CROSS SECTION LAYOUT
This lecture will go through examples terrain situations and show how cross sections should be laid out in order to accurately model the hydraulics.

1:45 – 3:15 p.m. 1.5 Workshop: CROSS SECTION LAYOUT WORKSHOP
Students will learn to lay out cross sections in HEC-RAS Mapper for the provided terrain model. The students will be introduced to the geospatial editing functionality in HEC-RAS.

3:15 – 3:45 p.m. REVIEW WORKSHOP 1.5

3:45 - 4:00 p.m. Break

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. 1.6 Lecture STEADY FLOW DATA REQUIREMENTS
Discussions about flow regime; boundary conditions; discharge information.
Tuesday: Developing a Model and HEC-RAS Bridge Analysis

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.  2.1 Lecture: STEPS IN DEVELOPING A HYDRAULIC MODEL WITH HEC-RAS

Starting HEC-RAS; steps in developing a hydraulic model: starting a new project, entering geometric data, entering steady flow data, performing the computations, viewing and printing results; getting and using help.

9:00 - 9:15 a.m.  Break

9:15 - 10:45 a.m.  2.2 Workshop: CALCULATION OF WATER SURFACE PROFILES

Students will learn to enter data into HEC-RAS; perform the hydraulic computations; and view results.

10:45 - 11:15 a.m.  REVIEW WORKSHOP 2.2

11:15 - 12:00 a.m.  2.3 Lecture: VIEWING RESULTS

Viewing results; cross section plots; profile plot; X-Y-Z plot; summary tables; errors, warnings, and notes. Water surface depth mapping with the RAS Mapper will be introduced.

12:00 –1:00 p.m.  LUNCH

1:00 -2:15 p.m.  2.4 Lecture: HYDRAULICS OF BRIDGE WATERWAYS

Nature of flow through bridges; components of bridge losses; cross-section locations; defining ineffective flow areas; contraction and expansion losses.

2:15 - 2:30 p.m.  Break

2:30 – 3:45 p.m.  2.5 Lecture: BRIDGE MODELING APPROACHES IN HEC-RAS

Available approaches to bridge loss computations within HEC-RAS; selecting the appropriate bridge modeling approach for various situations of low flow bridge hydraulics; selecting the appropriate bridge modeling approach for various situations under high flow bridge hydraulics.

3:45 - 4:00 p.m.  Break

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  2.6 Lecture  APPLICATION OF HEC-RAS TO BRIDGE HYDRAULICS

Entering and editing bridge data; defining a bridge modeling approach; bridge modeling options; example bridge application; pertinent bridge output.
Wednesday: HEC-RAS Bridge and Culvert Hydraulics

8:00 - 10:00 a.m. 3.1 Workshop:  **BRIDGE COMPUTATIONS**
Students will learn to enter and edit bridge data; perform bridge hydraulic computations; and review pertinent results.

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.  **REVIEW:** Workshop 3.1

10:45 - 11:00 a.m.  Break

11:00 - 12:00 a.m. 3.2 Lecture:  **OVERVIEW OF CULVERT HYDRAULICS**
Definition of terms; input requirements: cross section locations, ineffective flow areas, expansion and contraction coefficients; inlet control; outlet control; solution logic.

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.  **Lunch**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. 3.3 Lecture:  **APPLICATION OF HEC-RAS TO CULVERT HYDRAULICS**
Entering and editing culvert data; culvert modeling options; example culvert applications.

2:00 - 2:15 p.m.  Break

2:15 - 4:15 p.m. 3.4 Workshop  **CULVERT ANALYSIS**
Students will learn how to enter and edit culvert data, perform culvert hydraulic computations; and review pertinent output.

4:15 - 4:45 p.m.  **REVIEW:** Workshop 3.4
**Thursday: Model Calibration, Optional Capabilities and Floodway Determination**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lecture/Workshop</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>4.1 Lecture: <strong>CALIBRATING A STEADY FLOW HYDRAULICS MODEL</strong></td>
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<td>Students will learn what data is required for model calibration and how to modify Manning’s n values to calibrate the model to observed data.</td>
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<td>9:15 - 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>9:30 – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>4.2 Workshop: <strong>MODEL CALIBRATION</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Students will learn how to modify Manning’s n values to calibrate the model to observed data.</td>
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<td>11:00 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Workshop 4.2</td>
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<td>11:30 -12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>12:30 - 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>4.3 Lecture: <strong>OVERVIEW OF OPTIONAL CAPABILITIES</strong></td>
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<td>Multiple plan analysis; cross section interpolation; mixed flow regime calculations; flow distribution calculations; Inline Weirs and Gated Spillways; and Bridge Scour Analysis.</td>
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<td>1:30 – 1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>1:45 - 2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>4.4 Lecture: <strong>FLOODPLAIN AND FLOODWAY DETERMINATION</strong></td>
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<td>Floodway definitions; general guidelines; computer procedures; program input requirements for floodway calculations; available output.</td>
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<td>2:45 – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>4.5 Workshop: <strong>FLOODWAY DETERMINATION</strong></td>
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<td>Students will learn how to enter and edit encroachment data and perform a floodway analysis.</td>
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<td>4:30 - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Workshops 4.5</td>
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Friday:  

HEC-RAS Trouble Shooting and Output Analysis

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. 5.1 Lecture:  
**TROUBLE SHOOTING WITH HEC-RAS**

This lecture will provide students with information on how to interpret HEC-RAS output messages (errors, warnings, and notes); diagnose common data input mistakes; and how to use the HEC-RAS Log File to understand more about the computations and possible problems.

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. 5.2 Workshop  
**OUTPUT ANALYSIS**

This workshop will teach students how to analyze the HEC-RAS output in order to detect common hydraulic modeling problems.

9:30 - 9:45 a.m.  
Break

9:45 - 10:45 a.m. 5.3 Workshop  
**MAPPING HEC-RAS RESULTS IN RAS MAPPER**

This workshop will teach students how to use RAS Mapper to create a terrain model, view RAS results, and create inundation maps.

10:45 - 11:00 a.m.  
**POST-COURSE ASSESMENT**

11:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
**ORAL CRITIQUE AND COURSE COMPLETION**