Geomorphic Overlays

Using SAM to Determine the “Effective Discharge”
Geomorphic Overlays

- Part 1
  - HEFR Adjustments to Daily Flows
- Part 2
  - Quick Introduction to Single Representative Discharges
- Part 3
  - Using SAM to Determine the “Effective Discharge”
## HEFR FLOWS

### Overbank Flows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return Period (R) : 0.8 (years)</th>
<th>Duration (D) : 32 (days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volume (V) : 1353987 (ac-ft)</td>
<td>Peak Flow (Q) : 31800 (cfs)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### High Flow Pulses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>Q</th>
<th>V</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>Q</th>
<th>V</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19000</td>
<td>416351</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11900</td>
<td>120397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13400</td>
<td>207868</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7135</td>
<td>82354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Base Flows (cfs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6110</td>
<td>6640</td>
<td>2190</td>
<td>1430</td>
<td>2800</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>1220</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>1540</td>
<td>2340</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>703</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Subsistence Flows (cfs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Average Hydrograph
A River in Europe
Mississippi River
Tensas River
Sabine River Downstream from HYW 12
The Point

- An alluvial stream will adjust the dimensions of its channel to the wide range of flows that mobilize its boundary sediments.
- Will Sabine or Neches Rivers change as a result of Proposed Environmental Flow regime?
Research has shown that in many rivers a single discharge can be used to determine a stable channel geometry.

The Single Representative Discharge is sometimes called:
- Dominant Discharge
- Channel Forming Discharge
- Effective Discharge
- Bankfull Discharge
Single Representative Discharge

- For my talk Channel-forming Discharge and dominant discharge are equivalent
  - The theoretical discharge that if maintained indefinitely would result in the same channel geometry as the existing channel geometry with the natural range of flow events.
Single Representative Discharge

Three methods for determining Channel Forming Discharge
- Bankfull
- Specified recurrence interval discharge
- Effective Discharge
Channel Width vs. Bankfull Discharge

Figure 5.2  Downstream width-discharge relationships in sand-bed streams based on data from various sources.
Regime Equations from Julien and Wargadalam

- $W \approx 0.512Q^{0.53}d_s^{-0.33}T_*^{-0.2}$
- $V \approx 14.7Q^{0.07}d_s^{0.33}T_*^{0.47}$
- $h \approx 0.133Q^{0.40}T_*^{-0.2}$
- $S \approx 14.7Q^{-0.4}d_s T_*^{1.2}$

Where: $Q =$ dominant flow discharge, $d_s = d_{50}$ of the bed material, $T_* =$ Shields parameter $S =$ slope, $V =$ velocity $h =$ depth
PART 2
Using SAM to Determine the “Effective Discharge”

- What is Effective Discharge?
- Terms and Definitions
- What is SAM?
- Example Application of SAM to the Sabine River at Bon Wier for development of a Geomorphic Overlay
Terms and Definitions

**EFFECTIVE DISCHARGE:**
Effective discharge is defined as the mean of the discharge increment that transports the largest fraction of the annual sediment load over a period of years (Andrews 1980). It is calculated by integrating the flow-duration curve and a bed-material-sediment rating curve. (USACE 2000)
EFFECTIVE DISCHARGE:
The effective discharge incorporates the principle prescribed by Wolman and Miller (1960) that the channel-forming discharge is a function of both the magnitude of the event and its frequency of occurrence.
Terms and Definitions

- Effective discharge is calculated using only the *Total Bed Material Load*
- *Wash Load* is not included in computations
SAM
Hydraulic Design Package for Channels

- The SAM package is designed to provide hydraulic engineers a smooth transition from making hydraulic calculations to calculating sediment transport capacity to making sediment yield determinations.
Required Data For SAM Computations of Effective Discharge

Channel Cross Section
Bed Material Gradation
Channel Bed Slope
Flow Duration Curve
Cross-Section Sabine River at Bon Wier

Elevation in Feet
NGVD

Distance in Feet

USGS Measurement
SAM Cross Section

Sam Inputs
Sam Input
Bed Material Gradation

- From USACE Report
- $D_{16} = 0.0625$ mm
- $D_{50} = 0.14$ mm
- $D_{84} = 0.30$ mm
- $D_{100} = 0.5$ mm

- Channel Bottom Slope = $0.00014$ ft/ft or about $0.75$ Ft per mile
Flow duration Curve

Flow Duration Curve
1972-2007

Observed Flows

Percent of Time Flows equaled or Exceeded
Sam output

- Hydraulics

![Graph showing discharge in CFS against gage height in feet. The graph includes two curves: one labeled Rating Curve 11 and the other labeled SAM Computed.](image-url)
Sediment Rating Curve

TONS/DAY

CFS

ACKERS-WHITE  0
ENGENLUND-HANSEN  0
COLBY  0
VAN.RIJN  0
SAM OUTPUT

- Observed Hydrologic Regime
  - Annual Water Yield = 5,465,145 AC FT
  - Annual Sediment Yield = 3,342,038 Tons
Sediment Histograms

![Sediment Histograms Graph]

- Sediment Load in Tons
- Mid-Point of Discharge Bin in CFS

- Mid-Points: 1284, 7146, 13007, 18869, 24730, 30592, 36453, 42315, 48177, 54038, 59900, 65761, 71623, 77485, 83346, 89208, 95069

- Sediment Load Values: 1284, 7146, 13007, 18869, 24730, 30592, 36453, 42315, 48177, 54038, 59900, 65761, 71623, 77485, 83346, 89208, 95069
Sediment Histograms

Existing Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mid Point of Discharge Bin in CFS</th>
<th>Sediment Load in Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1284</td>
<td>3238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5192</td>
<td>7146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9099</td>
<td>11053</td>
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<td>13007</td>
<td>14961</td>
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<tr>
<td>16915</td>
<td>18869</td>
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<tr>
<td>20823</td>
<td>22776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sediment Histograms
Effective Discharge After HEFR Implemented

- Adjusted the yearly Hydrographs From 1972-2007 to reflect full implementation of the HEFR Flow regime
New Flow duration Curve

Flow Duration Curve

- Observed Flows
- HEFR Adjusted Flows

Flow in CFS vs Percent of Time Flows equaled or Exceeded
SAM OUTPUT

- HEFR Hydrologic Regime
  - Annual Water Yield = 2,397,320 AC FT
  - Annual Sediment Yield = 1,068,724 Tons
Sediment Histograms

HEFR Adjusted Flows

Sediment Load in Tons

Mid Point of Discharge Bin in CFS

622 1252 1882 2512 3141 3771 4401 5031 5661 6291 6921 7550

Load in Tons

5000 10000 15000 20000 25000 30000 35000 40000 45000 50000
Comparison of Results

- Significant Decrease in Water and Sediment Yield
- Water Yield
  - 5.5 to 2.4 Million ac-ft.
- Sediment Yield
  - 3.3 to 1.0 tons annually
- Significant Changes in Effective Discharge
Comparison of Results

- Decrease in discharge and Bed material Load can lead to:
  - Reduction in width
  - Depth changes (+/-)
  - Decrease in width-depth ratio
  - Slope changes (+/-)
  - Increase in Sinuosity

- From Stan Schumm (1969)
Channel Incision
Now, if I wanted to be one of those ponderous scientific people, and 'let on' to prove ...... In the space of one hundred and seventy-six years the Lower Mississippi has shortened itself two hundred and forty-two miles. ..... Therefore, any calm person, who is not blind or idiotic can see that in the Old Oolitic Silurian Period,' just a million years ago next November, the Lower Mississippi River was upwards of one million three hundred thousand miles long, and stuck out over the Gulf of Mexico like a fishing-rod. ..... that seven hundred and forty-two years from now the Lower Mississippi will be only a mile and three-quarters long, and Cairo and New Orleans will have joined their streets together ..... There is something fascinating about science One gets such wholesale returns of conjecture out of such a trifling investment of fact.

“Life on the Mississippi”  Mark Twain
Terms and Definitions

**Bed Load**: Component of the total sediment load made up of sediment moving in frequent, successive contact with the bed (Bagnold 1966)

**Bed-Material Load**: Portion of the total sediment load composed of grain size found in appreciable quantities in the stream bed, in sand-bed streams significant quantities of bed-material load move as suspended load.
Terms and Definitions

- **Fine Material Load (Wash Load)**: Portion of the total sediment load composed of particles finer than those found in the stream bed, frequently assumed to be the fraction finer than .0625mm.

- **Suspended Load (Total Suspended Load)**: is the Suspended bed material load Plus the Fine material Load.
Terms and Definitions

**Total Bed Material Load:** is Suspended Bed Material Load Plus the Bed load

**Total Sediment Load:** is Bed Material Load Plus the Wash Load
SAM Hydraulics Module

- The Hydraulics Module calculates normal depth and composite hydraulic parameters from distributed roughness, including bed roughness predictors.
SAM Sediment Module

- The Sediment Transport Module calculates bed material discharge curves using sediment transport theories.
The Sediment Yield Module calculates sediment yield using the Flow-Duration Sediment-Discharge Rating Curve Method.
Sediment Transport Function
Selection

- SAM provides guidance in the selection of the most applicable sediment transport function for a given stream using bed-material gradations and hydraulic parameters for that stream.
SAM
Hydraulic Design Package for Channels

- Hydraulics Module
- Sediment Transport Module
- Sediment Yield Module
- SAM.AID