MATLAB Programming Solution For Critical And Normal Depth In Trapezoidal Channels

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Abstract

Critical depth and Normal depth are an essential parameter in the analysis of varied flow in open channels. The governing equations for critical depth are implicit and no analytical solutions exist. In trapezoidal channel, the governing equations are highly nonlinear in the normal and critical flow depths and thus solution of the implicit equations involves numerical methods. So many solutions already exist in the form of empirical relations and tabulated form. Equations are lengthy and chances of getting error are more. As in advance computing age MATLAB programming got importance for these types of computational problems. In this study result obtained by programming is compared with different explicit solutions and method of genetic algorithm. It is found that result obtained from recent study is up to millimeter of accuracy from results obtained from genetic algorithm and explicit solution suggested by Ali and Essa.

Methodology

Newton's method use derivative calculus to find the roots of a function or relation by first taking an approximation and then improving the accuracy of that approximation until the root is found. Newton's Method is used to find the root of an equation provided that the function f[x] is equal to zero. f: [a, b] → R is a differentiable function defined on the interval [a, b] with values in the real numbers R. Better approximation, xₙ₊₁ can be calculated from current approximation xₙ and the definition of the derivative at a given point that it is the slope of a tangent at that point. Here, f' denotes the derivative of the function f. Then by simple algebra we can derive

of normal depth is also not possible as critical depth and one has to resort to tedious iterative techniques [6]. But any iterative technique is easy to use with the help of programming interface. In this current study the calculation of critical and normal depth has been done with the help of MATLAB programming. Solution established by MATLAB programming is compared with some explicit solution for critical and normal depth [1-3] and the critical depth of trapezoidal section is compared with genetic algorithm method [4].
\[ x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} \quad (1) \]

The process was started with some arbitrary initial value variable.

**Basic Equations and Functions**

Specific energy \( E \) in an open channel is calculated from Eq. (2)

\[ E = \cos^2 \theta + \frac{\alpha}{2gA^2} Q^2 \quad (2) \]

Where, \( \theta \) = Bed slope; \( \alpha \) = kinetic energy correction factor; \( y \) = flow depth; \( A \) = flow area; \( Q \) = discharge; and \( g \) = gravitational acceleration. By differentiating we get the Eq. (3).

\[ \frac{dE}{dy} = \cos^2 \theta - \frac{\alpha Q^2}{gA^2} \quad (3) \]

For the minimum specific energy first derivative with respect to variable \( y \) should be zero. If the slope of the channel is small (less than 10\%) than \( \cos \theta \approx 1 \) and the governing equation for the critical depth as in Eq. (4).

\[ \frac{\alpha Q^2}{gA^2} = 1 \quad (4) \]

Where \( T = \) Top Width of the channel \((dA=Tdy)\). For trapezoidal section both top width and area is the function of \( y \) and it cannot be separated for the solution of \( y \). Manual calculation is time taking and cumbersome to calculate the critical depth for the trapezoidal section [1]. Especially where the practical design is concerned MATLAB coding will serve the purpose by using Newton method of derivative for finding the root of function.

**Flow Chart for solving the problem**

MATLAB Programming Code:

**1. For Critical Depth**

Input Parameters for Trapezoidal cross section

\( Q = \) input('discharge in cumec=');
\( b = \) input('bottom width of channel in m=');
\( z = \) input('side slope H to V=');
\( a = \) input('kinetic energy correction factor=');
\( y_{initial}=0.01; \) %Initial Guess to start the iterations

% Critical Depths Calculation
\( yc(1)=y_{initial}; \)
\( ic=1; \)
\( dyc(1)=1e^{-2}; \)
while (abs(dyc(ic))>1e^{-4})
\( Ac(ic)=b*yc(ic)+z*(yc(ic))^2; \)
\( Tc(ic)=b+2*z*yc(ic); \)
\( Pc(ic)=b+2*(z^2+1)^(0.50)*yc(ic); \)
\( Rc(ic)=Ac(ic)/(Pc(ic)); \)
\( Dc(ic)=Ac(ic)/(b+2*z*yc(ic)); \)
\( fc(ic)=Ac(ic)^(3/2)*Tc(ic)^{-1/2} \)
\( f' Derivative \)
\( yc(ic+1)=yc(ic)-fc(ic)/f\ fc(ic); \)
\( dyc(ic+1)=-fc(ic)/ffc(ic); \)
\( ic=ic+1; \)
end
\( criticaldepth=yc(ic); \)

**2. For Normal depth**

% Input Parameters for Trapezoidal cross section
\( Q = \) input('discharge in cumec=');
\( b = \) input('bottom width of channel in m=');
\( z = \) input('side slope H to V=');
\( n = \) input('manning coefficient=');
\( S = \) input('Longitudinal slope=');
yn(1)=yinitial;
in=1;
dyn(1)=1e-2;
while (abs(dyn(in))>1e-4)
   An(in)=b*yin+2*z*(yn(in))^2;
   Tn(in)=b+2*z*yn(in);
   Pn(in)=b+2*(z^2+1)^(0.5)*yn(in);
   Rn(in)=An(in)/(Pn(in));
   Dn(in)=An(in)/(b+2*z*yn(in));
   fn(in)=sqrt(S)*An(in)*Rn(in)^(2/3)*n^(-1)-Q;
   ffn(in)=(sqrt(S)*n^(-1))*((Rn(in)^2/3)*Tn(in))+(Tn(in)/Pn(in))-((2*yn(in)*Rn(in))/Pn(in));
   yn(in+1)=yn(in)-fn(in)/ffn(in);
   dyn(in+1)=-fn(in)/ffn(in);
   in=in+1;
end
Normaldepth=yn(in);

Results

An open channel having a flow of 17 m³/s and bottom width of the channel is 6 m. Manning’s coefficient is taken as 0.0145 with side slope 2:1 (Horizontal: Vertical). Longitudinal slope of the channel is taken as 0.002 and kinetic energy correction factor is taken as 1. Critical depth and Normal depth for above mentioned problem obtained from some researchers by explicit solution and genetic algorithm is given in Table below.

Table 1 Critical Depth and Normal Depth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested Solutions</th>
<th>Critical Depth (m)</th>
<th>Normal Depth (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ali R. Vatankhaha [3]</td>
<td>0.8487</td>
<td>0.665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wang et al. [1]</td>
<td>0.8557</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Kanani et al.(GA Method) [4]</td>
<td>0.8462</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Methodology (MATLAB Programming)</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.8468</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.6647</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Order of accuracy found from Ali & Easa [2]. Genetic Algorithm (GA) from Kanani et al. [4] and MATLAB programming is up to millimeter. Critical depth obtained from Ali & Easa [2] explicit solution is 0.8465 m and Kanani et al. [4] found the critical depth from the GA method is 0.8462 m. From the proposed MATLAB programming it is seen that critical depth is 0.8468 m. Normal depth from Ali [3] 0.665 m for the same above mentioned problem is same as 0.6647 m.

References