Display Material for the work Experimental and CFD Simulation Studies on the Flow Approaching a Type-A Piano Key Weir

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Background and the Research Gap

- Piano Key Weir (PKW) used to increase the discharge capacity in dam upgradation projects and in large diversion schemes.
- Most research focus on its discharge capacity.
- Flow around PKW is complex, three-dimensional and spatially varied.
- Aim: 

  Determining the effect of the approaching flow on the possible sediment transport over PKW.

View of the Goulours PKW (Leite Ribeiro et al. 2012)
Methodology: Experimental

- Flume: 15m x 0.39m x 0.52m (IIT Roorkee).
- Discharge: 16.1 and 18.45 l/s.
- Measurement equipment: 10-MHz Vectrino Acoustic Doppler Velocimeter (Nortek AS).

The PKW model (left) and a photograph of velocity measurement (right)
Methodology: Experimental

Schematic diagram showing the PKW model, measurement gridpoints etc.
Methodology: CFD Simulation

- Performed in Ansys CFX solver (19.1 academic version).

1. Preparation of 3D geometry
2. **Meshing** by fixing desired size, inflation, quality etc.
3. **Define Model Physics**:
   - Transient flow, time step and total time of simulation (30 s).
   - Multiphase model and operating conditions setup.
   - Setup of boundary conditions and domain initialisation.
   - Define turbulent model (standard k-ε (Launder and Spalding (1974))
4. Simulation and comparison of results with experimental data

Note: The detailed methodology is available in Kadia et al. (2020); Kumar et al. (2021)
Methodology: CFD Simulation cont’d

➢ Inlet: Mean velocity
➢ Outlet: Pressure based
➢ Opening: Atmospheric pressure normal to the plane
➢ Walls and bed: Smooth

Note: The detailed methodology is available in Kadia et al. (2020); Kumar et al. (2021)
Results and Discussion: Experimental

Resultant velocity vector diagram for 18.45 l/s discharge along a longitudinal plane (Kadia 2019)
Results and Discussion: Experimental

Resultant velocity vector diagram for 18.45 l/s discharge along a horizontal plane (Kadia 2019).
Results and Discussion: CFD Simulation

Simulated flow along Z1 (left) and X2´ (right) for 16.1 l/s discharge
Results and Discussion: CFD Simulation

Simulated flow along a plane 1 cm above the bed for 16.1 l/s discharge
Results and Discussion: Experimental vs CFD

Resultant velocity profiles (a-c) for 16.1 l/s and (d-f) for 18.45 l/s discharges (Kadia 2019)
Summary of the Results

- Experimentally found that longitudinal velocity increases towards the inlet but decreases towards the outlet.

- Rise in upward velocity (in the outer flow region) towards both the keys was observed experimentally and numerically.

- Both approaches also indicated a significant increase in the lateral velocity near the inlet, especially in the inner flow region.

- Accelerating flow was found in front and over the inlet key.

- Mean absolute error: 18.32% for 16.1 l/s and 15.52% for 18.45 l/s.
Concluding remarks

- Velocity profiles inside the inlet key could not be measured experimentally (Kumar et al. 2021 indicated the reasons), and it demands further research.

- The CFD results generally underestimated the velocity values for the measured 0.1 m depth of flow.

- Increasing flow velocity towards and over the inlet enhances the opportunity of sediment passage over a PKW in comparison to other weirs. And it helps sediment to pass over PKW as found by Kumar et al. (2021).
Future research

➢ Use of other turbulence closures like: RNG k-ε, k-ω SST etc. for better results.

➢ Comparison study for different PKW configurations to have generalised conclusions.
References


