

Introduction to Coastal Dynamics and Shoreline Protection

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Introduction to Coastal Dynamics and Shoreline Protection

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Contents

Preface	xi
CHAPTER 1 Integrated approach to coastal dynamics	1
1. Coastal dynamics basic approach	1
2. Coastal erosion and remediation study	3
2.1 Data acquisition	4
2.2 Critical erosion evaluation	6
2.3 Planning analysis	7
3. Causes of coastal erosion	7
4. Space and time scales	8
5. Meteorological factors	9
5.1 Wind	10
5.2 Waves	10
5.3 Currents	14
5.4 Sea level variations	16
6. Sediment transport and coastal structures	17
6.1 Modes of sediment movement and their appearance region	17
6.2 Coastal structures and sediment transport	19
7. Elements of coastal management	21
CHAPTER 2 Beach morphology and sediment analysis	27
1. Introduction	27
2. Beach classification	27
3. Beach morphology and sediment transport	30
4. Seasonal profiles, bars and berms	33
5. Equilibrium beach profile	33
6. Sediment analysis	35
6.1 Bathymetric and geophysical surveys	35
6.2 Physical and chemical analysis	37

6.3 Sediment size classification	39
7. Case study	42
CHAPTER 3 Linear wave analysis	45
1. Introduction to linear wave theory	45
1.1 Governing equations	45
1.2 Boundary conditions	49
1.3 Linearized boundary conditions	50
2. Results of the linear theory	51
2.1 Wave profile, length and celerity	51
2.2 Group celerity	54
2.3 Velocity components	56
2.4 Particle displacements	58
2.5 Wave pressure	60
3. Case study	62
CHAPTER 4 Sea level variability	67
1. Introduction	67
2. Astronomical tide	67
3. Long waves (tsunami and seiches)	71
4. Wave set-up and set-down	73
4.1 Radiation stress	74
4.2 Water level fluctuations due to radiation stress	76
5. Storm surge	77
6. Case study	85
CHAPTER 5 Random wave measurement and analysis	87
1. Wave measurements	87
1.1 Ultrasonic and pressure gauges	87
1.2 Wave buoys	88
1.3 Italian Sea Wave measurement Network	89
1.4 Satellite remote sensing	90
1.4.1 Radar altimeter	90
1.4.2 Synthetic Aperture Radars	92
2. Statistical properties of random waves	93
2.1 Data sampling	93
2.2 Data processing	95
2.2.1 Time domain analysis	95
2.2.2 Directional wave spectra	99
2.2.3 Pierson – Moskowitz and Jonswap spectrum	100
3. Statistical representation of wave climate	102
4. Case study	103

CHAPTER 6	Short term wave prediction	107
1.	Introduction	107
2.	Elements of wind measurement analysis	108
2.1	Wind information needed for wave hindcasting	109
2.2	Geostrophic and low-height winds	110
3.	Wave prediction on deep water	111
3.1	Fetch and duration limited growth	112
3.2	Significant wave (SMB) model	114
3.2.1	Case study	116
3.3	Spectral wave models	117
3.3.1	First, second and third generation models	118
3.3.2	Third generation models	119
3.3.3	WaveWatch III	122
3.3.4	Case study (WWIII application for the Gulf of Naples)	124
CHAPTER 7	Long term wave statistics	127
1.	Introduction	127
1.1	Wave data	128
1.2	Data selection	129
1.3	Extreme value probability distribution	129
2.	Data fitting to the probability distribution	129
2.1	Normal Probability Distribution	130
2.2	Log-Normal Distribution	131
2.3	Gumbel distribution	131
2.4	Weibull distribution	132
3.	Parameter calculation	133
3.1	Statistical tests of fit	133
3.2	Confidence intervals	134
3.3	Statistics of offshore extreme waves	135
3.4	Wave height persistence	137
3.5	Case study	138
CHAPTER 8	Wave transformation in the coastal zone	143
1.	Wave energy and energy flux	143
1.1	Potential Energy	143
1.2	Kinetic Energy	144
1.3	Energy Flux	145
2.	Refraction and shoaling	146
2.4	Discussion on K_r and K_s	150
3.	Total reflection	152
4.	Wave diffraction	155
5.	Numerical models for wave propagation	156
5.1	Phase-averaged model	158
6.	Finite depth spectral wave models	159
6.1	Other finite depth spectral wave models	161

6.2 Phase-resolving models	161
6.2.1 Boundary Integral Models	163
6.2.1.1 Mild Slope Equation Models	163
6.2.1.2 Boussinesq equation model	165
6.2.2 Lagrangian models – Ray method for wave transformation	166
6.2.3 Eulerian models	169
6.3 Grid models	169
7. Wave breaking	172

CHAPTER 7 Sediment transport 175

1. Introduction	175
2. Basic concepts of sediment transport	176
2.1 Critical bed shear stress	176
2.2 The Shields parameter and modified Shields diagram	177
2.3 Sediment fall velocity	179
2.4 Bed load and suspended load	180
2.4.1 Bed-load and shear stress	181
2.4.2 Steady bed load in sheet flow transport	182
2.4.3 Basics of suspended load transport formulation	183
2.5 The bottom boundary layer and the bed roughness	185
2.6 Bed load and suspended load: a simple parametrical model	187
2.7 Case study	189
3. Basic shore processes	194
3.1 Nearshore circulation	194
3.2 Wave run-up in the swash zone	198
3.3 Bar formation by cross-zone flow mechanisms	199

CHAPTER 10 Beach profile modeling 201

1. Cross-shore transport	201
2. Cross-shore sediment transport and equilibrium beach profile	203
3. Dean's model for equilibrium beach profile	204
3.1 Equilibrium parameter A	207
4. Processes of accretion and erosion	208
4.1 Surf zone	208
4.2 Swash zone	208
5. Erosion/accretion parameters	209
5.1 Case study	213
6. Analytical profile modelling	214
6.1 Case study	219
7. Numerical beach profile modeling	220
7.1 Example of numerical model: SBEACH	222

CHAPTER 11 Shoreline modeling 227

1. Introduction	227
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2. Longshore transport	228
2.1 Case study	230
3. Numerical shoreline modeling	231
3.1 GENESIS	234
3.1.1 Governing equations	234
3.1.2 Model parameters	236
3.1.3 Model implementation	239
3.1.4 Model calibration	241

CHAPTER 12 Comparison and choice among alternative protection systems **245**

1. Introduction	245
2. Insertion of protection systems on the coastline	245
3. Shoreline protection systems	246
4. Hard measures	248
4.1 Detached emerged breakwaters	248
4.2 Detached submerged breakwaters	249
4.3 Emerged or semi-submerged groins	250
4.4 “T”-shaped emerged or semi-submerged groins	252
4.5 Adherent breakwaters	252
4.6 Seawalls	254
5. Soft measures	254
5.1 Artificial nourishment	254
5.2 Dune restoration	256
6. Schematic indications for the choice	258
7. Mechanisms of protection	260
7.1 Efficiency	260
7.2 Induced efforts	261

CHAPTER 13 Hydraulic design **263**

1. Dimensional analysis	263
2. Wave run-up R_u and run-down R_d	265
3. Overtopping discharge	268
4. Transmission coefficient	270
5. Reflections	271
6. Case study	273

CHAPTER 14 Structural design **275**

1. Introduction	275
2. Structural stability	277
2.1 Hudson formulation	279
2.2 Van der Meer Formulation	280
2.3 Comparison of Hudson and new formulae	283
3. Armour layers with concrete units	283

4. Low-crested structures	285
5. Reef breakwaters	286
6. Statically stable low-crested breakwater	286
7. Submerged breakwaters	287
8. Filter and core characteristics	287
9. Toe stability and protection	288
10. Breakwater head stability	289
11. Fundamentals of probabilistic design	289
12. Deterministic design – case study	291

CHAPTER 15 Beach fills 293

1. Introduction	293
2. Beach fill profile	296
3. Volume computation	298
4. Beach planform evolution	298
5. Longevity of beach fills	301
6. Effect of fill length and of wave climate	303
6.1 Case study	305
7. Compatibility of the borrow material	306
7.1 Case study	308
8. Sediment sources	309
9. Monitoring	310

References 313

Preface

This book was developed from lecture notes for a course on Coastal Dynamics and Shoreline Protection addressed to students of Environmental Sciences. This is the reason why it is organized to introduce the reader to the fundamental principles of the topics treated in each chapter. It can be used as a training aid both for students and for practicing engineers, as almost every topic is developed with case studies.

The book, which deals primarily with sandy coastlines, is divided into three parts. In the first part, which is limited to Chapter 1 – Integrated approach to coastal dynamics, the reader is introduced to the approach of a coastal erosion and remediation study and to coastal management.

In the second part, the meteomarine factors cited in Chapter 1 are dealt with in some detail, together with the mechanisms of sediment transport. The topics addressed are, amongst others, linear and higher order waves, random waves and spectra, wave transformation in the coastal zone, water levels, short-term and long-term wave prediction, sediment transport, shoreline and beach profile modeling.

The third part deals with the choice between various protection systems and tries to give the reader some basic elements of hydraulic and structural design for both rigid structures and beach fills.

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Finally, particular thanks is due to my wife Maria Pia and my sons Edoardo Maria and Rossella who have given me total support and encouragement, and to whom this book is dedicated.

G. Benassai
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