

Important Earth Dam and Gravity Dam Formulas PDF

Formulas
Examples
with Units

List of 34 Important Earth Dam and Gravity Dam Formulas

1) Earth dam Formulas

1.1) Coefficient of permeability of earth dam Formulas

1.1.1) Coefficient of Permeability given Maximum and Minimum Permeability for Earth Dam Formula

Formula

$$k = \sqrt{K_o \cdot \mu_r}$$

Example with Units

$$11.3274 \text{ cm/s} = \sqrt{0.00987 \text{ m}^2 \cdot 1.3 \text{ H/m}}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.1.2) Coefficient of Permeability given Quantity of Seepage in Length of Dam Formula

Formula

$$k = \frac{Q_t \cdot N}{B \cdot H_L \cdot L}$$

Example with Units

$$4.6465 \text{ cm/s} = \frac{0.46 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \cdot 4}{2 \cdot 6.6 \text{ m} \cdot 3 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.1.3) Coefficient of Permeability Given Seepage Discharge in Earth Dam Formula

Formula

$$k = \frac{Q_t}{i \cdot A_{cs} \cdot t}$$

Example with Units

$$0.292 \text{ cm/s} = \frac{0.46 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}{2.02 \cdot 13 \text{ m}^2 \cdot 6 \text{ s}}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.1.4) Maximum Permeability given Coefficient of Permeability for Earth Dam Formula

Formula

$$K_o = \frac{k^2}{\mu_r}$$

Example with Units

$$0.0077 \text{ m}^2 = \frac{10 \text{ cm/s}^2}{1.3 \text{ H/m}}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.1.5) Minimum Permeability given Coefficient of Permeability for Earth Dam Formula

Formula

$$\mu_r = \frac{k^2}{K_o}$$

Example with Units

$$1.0132 \text{ H/m} = \frac{10 \text{ cm/s}^2}{0.00987 \text{ m}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula



1.2) Quantity of seepage Formulas

1.2.1) Head difference between Headwater and Tail Water given Quantity of Seepage in Length of Dam Formula

Formula

$$H_L = \frac{Q \cdot N}{B \cdot k \cdot L}$$

Example with Units

$$6.3333 \text{ m} = \frac{0.95 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \cdot 4}{2 \cdot 10 \text{ cm/s} \cdot 3 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.2.2) Length of Dam to which Flow Net applies given Quantity of Seepage in Length of Dam Formula

Formula

$$L = \frac{Q \cdot N}{B \cdot H_L \cdot k}$$

Example with Units

$$2.8788 \text{ m} = \frac{0.95 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \cdot 4}{2 \cdot 6.6 \text{ m} \cdot 10 \text{ cm/s}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.2.3) Number of Equipotential Drops of Net given Quantity of Seepage in Length of Dam Formula

Formula

$$N = \frac{k \cdot B \cdot H_L \cdot L}{Q}$$

Example with Units

$$4.1684 = \frac{10 \text{ cm/s} \cdot 2 \cdot 6.6 \text{ m} \cdot 3 \text{ m}}{0.95 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.2.4) Number of Flow Channels of Net Water given Quantity of Seepage in Length of Dam Formula

Formula

$$B = \frac{Q \cdot N}{H_L \cdot k \cdot L}$$

Example with Units

$$1.9192 = \frac{0.95 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \cdot 4}{6.6 \text{ m} \cdot 10 \text{ cm/s} \cdot 3 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.2.5) Quantity of Seepage in Length of Dam under Consideration Formula

Formula

$$Q = \frac{k \cdot B \cdot H_L \cdot L}{N}$$

Example with Units

$$0.99 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} = \frac{10 \text{ cm/s} \cdot 2 \cdot 6.6 \text{ m} \cdot 3 \text{ m}}{4}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.2.6) Seepage Discharge in Earth Dam Formula

Formula

$$Q_s = k \cdot i \cdot A_{cs} \cdot t$$

Example with Units

$$15.756 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} = 10 \text{ cm/s} \cdot 2.02 \cdot 13 \text{ m}^2 \cdot 6 \text{ s}$$

Evaluate Formula 



1.3) Slope protection Formulas

1.3.1) Fetch given Height of Waves for Fetch more than 20 miles Formula

Formula

$$F = \frac{\left(\frac{h_a}{0.17}\right)^2}{V_w}$$

Example with Units

$$257.5087 \text{ m} = \frac{\left(\frac{12.2 \text{ m}}{0.17}\right)^2}{20 \text{ m/s}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.3.2) Height of Wave from Trough to Crest given Velocity between 1 and 7 feet Formula

Formula

$$h_a = \frac{V_w - 7}{2}$$

Example with Units

$$6.5 \text{ m} = \frac{20 \text{ m/s} - 7}{2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.3.3) Molitor-Stevenson equation for Height of Waves for Fetch less than 20 miles Formula

Formula

$$h_a = 0.17 \cdot (V_w \cdot F)^{0.5} + 2.5 \cdot F^{0.25}$$

Example with Units

$$4.9675 \text{ m} = 0.17 \cdot (20 \text{ m/s} \cdot 44 \text{ m})^{0.5} + 2.5 \cdot 44 \text{ m}^{0.25}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.3.4) Molitor-Stevenson equation for Height of Waves for Fetch more than 20 miles Formula

Formula

$$h_a = 0.17 \cdot (V_w \cdot F)^{0.5}$$

Example with Units

$$5.043 \text{ m} = 0.17 \cdot (20 \text{ m/s} \cdot 44 \text{ m})^{0.5}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.3.5) Velocity when Wave Heights between 1 and 7 feet Formula

Formula

$$V_w = 7 + 2 \cdot h_a$$

Example with Units

$$31.4 \text{ m/s} = 7 + 2 \cdot 12.2 \text{ m}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.4) Wind velocity Formulas

1.4.1) Wind Velocity given Height of Waves for Fetch less than 20 miles Formula

Formula

$$V_w = \frac{\left(\frac{h_a}{0.17}\right)^2}{F}$$

Example with Units

$$117.0494 \text{ m/s} = \frac{\left(\frac{12.2 \text{ m}}{0.17}\right)^2}{44 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 



1.4.2) Wind Velocity given Height of Waves for Fetch more than 20 miles Formula

Formula

$$V_w = \frac{\left(\frac{h_a - (2.5 \cdot F^{0.25})}{0.17} \right)^2}{F}$$

Example with Units

$$118.5028 \text{ m/s} = \frac{\left(\frac{12.2 \text{ m} - (2.5 \cdot 44 \text{ m}^{0.25})}{0.17} \right)^2}{44 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.4.3) Zuider Zee Formula for Wind Velocity given Height of Wave Action Formula

Formula

$$V_w = \left(\left(\frac{\left(\frac{h_a}{H} \right) - 0.75}{1.5} \right) \cdot (2 \cdot [g]) \right)^{0.5}$$

Example with Units

$$19.723 \text{ m/s} = \left(\left(\frac{\left(\frac{12.2 \text{ m}}{0.4 \text{ m}} \right) - 0.75}{1.5} \right) \cdot (2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2) \right)^{0.5}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.4.4) Zuider Zee Formula for Wind Velocity given Setup above Pool Level Formula

Formula

$$V_w = \left(\frac{h_a}{\frac{F \cdot \cos(\theta)}{1400 \cdot d}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Example with Units

$$20.9587 \text{ m/s} = \left(\frac{12.2 \text{ m}}{\frac{44 \text{ m} \cdot \cos(30^\circ)}{1400 \cdot 0.98 \text{ m}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.5) Zuider zee formula Formulas

1.5.1) Angle of Incidence of Waves by Zuider Zee formula Formula

Formula

$$\theta = \text{acos} \left(\frac{h \cdot (1400 \cdot d)}{(V^2) \cdot F} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$69.309^\circ = \text{acos} \left(\frac{15.6 \text{ m} \cdot (1400 \cdot 0.98 \text{ m})}{(83 \text{ mi/h}^2) \cdot 44 \text{ m}} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.5.2) Height of Wave Action using Zuider Zee Formula Formula

Formula

$$h_a = H \cdot \left(0.75 + 1.5 \cdot \frac{V_w^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$12.5366 \text{ m} = 0.4 \text{ m} \cdot \left(0.75 + 1.5 \cdot \frac{20 \text{ m/s}^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 



1.5.3) Height of Wave from Trough to Crest given Height of Wave Action by Zuider Zee Formula

Formula

$$H = \frac{h_a}{0.75 + 1.5 \cdot \frac{V_w^2}{2 \cdot [g]}}$$

Example with Units

$$0.3893 \text{ m} = \frac{12.2 \text{ m}}{0.75 + 1.5 \cdot \frac{20 \text{ m/s}^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.5.4) Setup above Pool Level using Zuider Zee Formula

Formula

$$h_a = \frac{(V_w \cdot V_w) \cdot F \cdot \cos(\theta)}{1400 \cdot d}$$

Example with Units

$$11.1094 \text{ m} = \frac{(20 \text{ m/s} \cdot 20 \text{ m/s}) \cdot 44 \text{ m} \cdot \cos(30^\circ)}{1400 \cdot 0.98 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.5.5) Zuider Zee formula for Average depth of Water given Setup above Pool level Formula

Formula

$$d = \frac{(V_w \cdot V_w) \cdot F \cdot \cos(\theta)}{1400 \cdot h_a}$$

Example with Units

$$0.8924 \text{ m} = \frac{(20 \text{ m/s} \cdot 20 \text{ m/s}) \cdot 44 \text{ m} \cdot \cos(30^\circ)}{1400 \cdot 12.2 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.5.6) Zuider Zee Formula for Fetch Length given Setup above Pool Level Formula

Formula

$$F = \frac{h_a}{\frac{(V_w \cdot V_w) \cdot \cos(\theta)}{1400 \cdot d}}$$

Example with Units

$$48.3196 \text{ m} = \frac{12.2 \text{ m}}{\frac{(20 \text{ m/s} \cdot 20 \text{ m/s}) \cdot \cos(30^\circ)}{1400 \cdot 0.98 \text{ m}}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2) Gravity Dam Formulas

2.1) Density of Water given Water Pressure in Gravity Dam Formula

Formula

$$\rho_{\text{Water}} = \frac{P_w}{0.5} \cdot (H_s^2)$$

Example with Units

$$729 \text{ kg/m}^3 = \frac{450 \text{ Pa}}{0.5} \cdot (0.9 \text{ m}^2)$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.2) Eccentricity for Vertical Normal Stress at Downstream Face Formula

Formula

$$e_d = \left(1 + \left(\frac{\sigma_z}{\frac{F_v}{144 \cdot T}} \right) \right) \cdot \frac{T}{6}$$

Example with Units

$$19.7267 = \left(1 + \left(\frac{2.5 \text{ Pa}}{\frac{15 \text{ N}}{144 \cdot 2.2 \text{ m}}} \right) \right) \cdot \frac{2.2 \text{ m}}{6}$$

Evaluate Formula 



2.3) Eccentricity given Vertical Normal Stress at Upstream Face Formula

Formula

$$e_u = \left(1 - \left(\frac{\sigma_z}{\frac{F_v}{144 \cdot T}} \right) \right) \cdot \frac{T}{6}$$

Example with Units

$$-18.9933 = \left(1 - \left(\frac{2.5 \text{ Pa}}{\frac{15 \text{ N}}{144 \cdot 2.2 \text{ m}}} \right) \right) \cdot \frac{2.2 \text{ m}}{6}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.4) Total Vertical Force for Vertical Normal Stress at Upstream Face Formula

Formula

$$F_v = \frac{\sigma_z}{\left(\frac{1}{144 \cdot T} \right) \cdot \left(1 - \left(\frac{6 \cdot e_u}{T} \right) \right)}$$

Example with Units

$$14.9948 \text{ N} = \frac{2.5 \text{ Pa}}{\left(\frac{1}{144 \cdot 2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \cdot \left(1 - \left(\frac{6 \cdot -19}{2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \right)}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.5) Total Vertical Force given Vertical Normal Stress at Downstream Face Formula

Formula

$$F_v = \frac{\sigma_z}{\left(\frac{1}{144 \cdot T} \right) \cdot \left(1 + \left(\frac{6 \cdot e_d}{T} \right) \right)}$$

Example with Units

$$14.9948 \text{ N} = \frac{2.5 \text{ Pa}}{\left(\frac{1}{144 \cdot 2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \cdot \left(1 + \left(\frac{6 \cdot 19}{2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \right)}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.6) Vertical Normal Stress at Downstream Face Formula

Formula

$$\sigma_z = \left(\frac{F_v}{144 \cdot T} \right) \cdot \left(1 + \left(\frac{6 \cdot e_d}{T} \right) \right)$$

Example with Units

$$2.5009 \text{ Pa} = \left(\frac{15 \text{ N}}{144 \cdot 2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \cdot \left(1 + \left(\frac{6 \cdot 19}{2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.7) Vertical Normal Stress at Upstream Face Formula

Formula

$$\sigma_z = \left(\frac{F_v}{144 \cdot T} \right) \cdot \left(1 - \left(\frac{6 \cdot e_u}{T} \right) \right)$$

Example with Units

$$2.5009 \text{ Pa} = \left(\frac{15 \text{ N}}{144 \cdot 2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \cdot \left(1 - \left(\frac{6 \cdot -19}{2.2 \text{ m}} \right) \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.8) Water Pressure in Gravity Dam Formula

Formula

$$P_W = 0.5 \cdot \rho_{\text{Water}} \cdot (H_S^2)$$

Example with Units

$$405 \text{ Pa} = 0.5 \cdot 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3 \cdot (0.9 \text{ m}^2)$$

Evaluate Formula 



Variables used in list of Earth Dam and Gravity Dam Formulas above

- **A_{CS}** Cross-Sectional Area of Base (Square Meter)
- **B** Number of Beds
- **d** Water Depth (Meter)
- **e_d** Eccentricity at Downstream
- **e_u** Eccentricity at Upstream
- **F** Fetch length (Meter)
- **F_V** Vertical Component of Force (Newton)
- **h** Height of Dam (Meter)
- **H** Wave Height (Meter)
- **h_a** Height of Wave (Meter)
- **H_L** Loss of Head (Meter)
- **H_S** Height of Section (Meter)
- **i** Hydraulic Gradient to Head Loss
- **k** Coefficient of Permeability of Soil (Centimeter per Second)
- **K_o** Intrinsic Permeability (Square Meter)
- **L** Length of Dam (Meter)
- **N** Equipotential Lines
- **P_W** Water Pressure in Gravity Dam (Pascal)
- **Q** Quantity of Seepage (Cubic Meter per Second)
- **Q_s** Seepage Discharge (Cubic Meter per Second)
- **Q_t** Discharge from Dam (Cubic Meter per Second)
- **t** Time Taken to Travel (Second)
- **T** Thickness of Dam (Meter)
- **V** Wind Velocity for Freeboard (Mile per Hour)
- **V_w** Wind Velocity (Meter per Second)
- **θ** Theta (Degree)
- **μ_r** Relative Permeability (Henry per Meter)
- **P_{Water}** Water Density (Kilogram per Cubic Meter)
- **σ_z** Vertical Stress at a Point (Pascal)

Constants, Functions, Measurements used in list of Earth Dam and Gravity Dam Formulas above

- **constant(s): [g]**, 9.80665
Gravitational acceleration on Earth
- **Functions: acos**, acos(Number)
The inverse cosine function, is the inverse function of the cosine function. It is the function that takes a ratio as an input and returns the angle whose cosine is equal to that ratio.
- **Functions: cos**, cos(Angle)
Cosine of an angle is the ratio of the side adjacent to the angle to the hypotenuse of the triangle.
- **Functions: sqrt**, sqrt(Number)
A square root function is a function that takes a non-negative number as an input and returns the square root of the given input number.
- **Measurement: Length** in Meter (m)
Length Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Time** in Second (s)
Time Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Area** in Square Meter (m²)
Area Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Pressure** in Pascal (Pa)
Pressure Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Speed** in Centimeter per Second (cm/s), Meter per Second (m/s), Mile per Hour (mi/h)
Speed Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Force** in Newton (N)
Force Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Angle** in Degree (°)
Angle Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Volumetric Flow Rate** in Cubic Meter per Second (m³/s)
Volumetric Flow Rate Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Density** in Kilogram per Cubic Meter (kg/m³)
Density Unit Conversion ↻
- **Measurement: Magnetic Permeability** in Henry per Meter (H/m)
Magnetic Permeability Unit Conversion ↻





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