

# Important Specific Energy and Critical Depth Formulas PDF



**Formulas**  
**Examples**  
**with Units**

## List of 23 Important Specific Energy and Critical Depth Formulas

### 1) Area of Section Considering Condition of Maximum Discharge Formula

Formula

$$A_{CS} = \left( Q \cdot Q \cdot \frac{T}{[g]} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Example with Units

$$3.4752 \text{ m}^2 = \left( 14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \cdot 14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \cdot \frac{2.1 \text{ m}}{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

### 2) Area of Section given Discharge Formula

Formula

$$A_{CS} = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{2 \cdot [g] \cdot (E_{\text{total}} - d_f)}}$$

Example with Units

$$1.3731 \text{ m}^2 = \frac{14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}{\sqrt{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2 \cdot (8.6 \text{ J} - 3.3 \text{ m})}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

### 3) Area of Section of Open Channel Considering Condition of Minimum Specific Energy Formula

Formula

$$A_{CS} = \left( Q \cdot \frac{T}{[g]} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Example with Units

$$1.4419 \text{ m}^2 = \left( 14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} \cdot \frac{2.1 \text{ m}}{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

### 4) Datum Height for Total Energy per unit Weight of Water in Flow Section Formula

Formula

$$y = E_{\text{total}} - \left( \left( \frac{V_{\text{mean}}^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right) + d_f \right)$$

Example with Units

$$98.9375 \text{ mm} = 8.6 \text{ J} - \left( \left( \frac{10.1 \text{ m/s}^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right) + 3.3 \text{ m} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

### 5) Depth of Flow given Discharge Formula

Formula

$$d_f = E_{\text{total}} - \left( \frac{\left( \frac{Q}{A_{CS}} \right)^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$7.7355 \text{ m} = 8.6 \text{ J} - \left( \frac{\left( \frac{14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}{3.4 \text{ m}^2} \right)^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 



## 6) Depth of Flow given Total Energy in Flow Section taking Bed Slope as Datum Formula

Formula

$$d_f = E_{\text{total}} - \left( \left( \frac{V_{\text{mean}}^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right) \right)$$

Example with Units

$$3.3989 \text{ m} = 8.6 \text{ J} - \left( \left( \frac{10.1 \text{ m/s}^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right) \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 7) Depth of Flow given Total Energy per Unit Weight of Water in Flow Section Formula

Formula

$$d_f = E_{\text{total}} - \left( \left( \frac{V_{\text{mean}}^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right) + y \right)$$

Example with Units

$$3.3589 \text{ m} = 8.6 \text{ J} - \left( \left( \frac{10.1 \text{ m/s}^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right) + 40 \text{ mm} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 8) Diameter of Section given Froude Number Formula

Formula

$$d_{\text{section}} = \frac{\left( \frac{V_{\text{FN}}}{\text{Fr}} \right)^2}{[g]}$$

Example with Units

$$4.9966 \text{ m} = \frac{\left( \frac{70 \text{ m/s}}{10} \right)^2}{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 9) Diameter of Section through Section Considering Condition of Minimum Specific Energy Formula

Formula

$$d_{\text{section}} = \frac{V_{\text{mean}}^2}{[g]}$$

Example with Units

$$10.4021 \text{ m} = \frac{10.1 \text{ m/s}^2}{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 10) Discharge through Area Formula

Formula

$$Q = \sqrt{2 \cdot [g] \cdot A_{\text{cs}}^2 \cdot (E_{\text{total}} - d_f)}$$

Example with Units

$$34.6651 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2 \cdot 3.4 \text{ m}^2 \cdot (8.6 \text{ J} - 3.3 \text{ m})}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 11) Discharge through Section Considering Condition of Maximum Discharge Formula

Formula

$$Q = \sqrt{\left( A_{\text{cs}}^3 \right) \cdot \frac{[g]}{T}}$$

Example with Units

$$13.5478 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} = \sqrt{\left( 3.4 \text{ m}^2 \right)^3 \cdot \frac{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}{2.1 \text{ m}}}$$

Evaluate Formula 



## 12) Discharge through Section Considering Condition of Minimum Specific Energy Formula

Formula

$$Q = \sqrt{\left( A_{cs}^3 \right) \cdot \frac{[g]}{T}}$$

Example with Units

$$13.5478 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} = \sqrt{\left( 3.4 \text{ m}^2 \right)^3 \cdot \frac{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}{2.1 \text{ m}}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 13) Froude Number given Velocity Formula

Formula

$$Fr = \frac{V_{FN}}{\sqrt{[g] \cdot d_{\text{section}}}}$$

Example with Units

$$9.9966 = \frac{70 \text{ m/s}}{\sqrt{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2 \cdot 5 \text{ m}}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 14) Mean Velocity of Flow for Total Energy per Unit Weight of Water in Flow Section Formula

Formula

$$V_{\text{mean}} = \sqrt{\left( E_{\text{total}} - (d_f + y) \right) \cdot 2 \cdot [g]}$$

Example with Units

$$10.1571 \text{ m/s} = \sqrt{\left( 8.6 \text{ J} - (3.3 \text{ m} + 40 \text{ mm}) \right) \cdot 2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 15) Mean Velocity of Flow given Froude Number Formula

Formula

$$V_{FN} = Fr \cdot \sqrt{d_{\text{section}} \cdot [g]}$$

Example with Units

$$70.0237 \text{ m/s} = 10 \cdot \sqrt{5 \text{ m} \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 16) Mean Velocity of flow given Total Energy in flow section taking Bed Slope as Datum Formula

Formula

$$V_{\text{mean}} = \sqrt{\left( E_{\text{total}} - (d_f) \right) \cdot 2 \cdot [g]}$$

Example with Units

$$10.1956 \text{ m/s} = \sqrt{\left( 8.6 \text{ J} - (3.3 \text{ m}) \right) \cdot 2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

## 17) Mean Velocity of Flow through Section Considering Condition of Minimum Specific Energy Formula

Formula

$$V_{\text{mean}} = \sqrt{[g] \cdot d_{\text{section}}}$$

Example with Units

$$7.0024 \text{ m/s} = \sqrt{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2 \cdot 5 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 



**18) Top Width of Section Considering Condition of Maximum Discharge Formula**

Formula

$$T = \sqrt{\left( A_{cs}^3 \right) \cdot \frac{[g]}{Q}}$$

Example with Units

$$5.247 \text{ m} = \sqrt{\left( 3.4 \text{ m}^2 \right)^3 \cdot \frac{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}{14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}}$$

Evaluate Formula

**19) Top Width of Section through Section Considering Condition of Minimum Specific Energy Formula**

Formula

$$T = \left( \left( A_{cs}^3 \right) \cdot \frac{[g]}{Q} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$27.5315 \text{ m} = \left( \left( 3.4 \text{ m}^2 \right)^3 \cdot \frac{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}{14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula

**20) Total Energy per unit Weight of Water in Flow Section Formula**

Formula

$$E_{\text{total}} = \left( \frac{V_{\text{mean}}^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right) + d_f + y$$

Example with Units

$$8.5411 \text{ J} = \left( \frac{10.1 \text{ m/s}^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right) + 3.3 \text{ m} + 40 \text{ mm}$$

Evaluate Formula

**21) Total Energy per unit Weight of Water in Flow Section considering Bed Slope as Datum Formula**

Formula

$$E_{\text{total}} = \left( \frac{V_{\text{FN}}^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right) + d_f$$

Example with Units

$$253.1305 \text{ J} = \left( \frac{70 \text{ m/s}^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right) + 3.3 \text{ m}$$

Evaluate Formula

**22) Total Energy per unit Weight of Water in Flow Section given Discharge Formula**

Formula

$$E_{\text{total}} = d_f + \left( \frac{\left( \frac{Q}{A_{cs}} \right)^2}{2 \cdot [g]} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$4.1645 \text{ J} = 3.3 \text{ m} + \left( \frac{\left( \frac{14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}{3.4 \text{ m}^2} \right)^2}{2 \cdot 9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula

**23) Volume of Liquid Considering Condition of Maximum Discharge Formula**

Formula

$$V_w = \sqrt{\left( A_{cs}^3 \right) \cdot \frac{[g]}{T}} \cdot \Delta t$$

Example with Units

$$16.9348 \text{ m}^3 = \sqrt{\left( 3.4 \text{ m}^2 \right)^3 \cdot \frac{9.8066 \text{ m/s}^2}{2.1 \text{ m}}} \cdot 1.25 \text{ s}$$








Evaluate Formula



## Variables used in list of Specific Energy and Critical Depth Formulas above

- **$A_{CS}$**  Cross-Sectional Area of Channel (Square Meter)
- **$d_f$**  Depth of Flow (Meter)
- **$d_{section}$**  Diameter of Section (Meter)
- **$E_{total}$**  Total Energy (Joule)
- **$Fr$**  Froude Number
- **$Q$**  Discharge of Channel (Cubic Meter per Second)
- **$T$**  Top Width (Meter)
- **$V_{FN}$**  Mean Velocity for Froude Number (Meter per Second)
- **$V_{mean}$**  Mean Velocity (Meter per Second)
- **$V_w$**  Volume of Water (Cubic Meter)
- **$y$**  Height above Datum (Millimeter)
- **$\Delta t$**  Time Interval (Second)

## Constants, Functions, Measurements used in list of Specific Energy and Critical Depth Formulas above


- **constant(s):** [ **$g$** ], 9.80665  
Gravitational acceleration on Earth
- **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), Millimeter (mm)  
Length Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Time** in Second (s)  
Time Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Volume** in Cubic Meter ( $m^3$ )  
Volume Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Area** in Square Meter ( $m^2$ )  
Area Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Speed** in Meter per Second (m/s)  
Speed Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Energy** in Joule (J)  
Energy Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Volumetric Flow Rate** in Cubic Meter per Second ( $m^3/s$ )  
Volumetric Flow Rate Unit Conversion 



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