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1 *Laboratory investigation of overtopping at a sloping structure with permeable*  
2 *shingle foreshore*

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5 **Abstract**

6 The vast majority of overtopping data applied in EurOtop (2018) has been made from small-scale  
7 measurements with impermeable foreshore slopes. This article describes a comprehensive two-  
8 dimensional experimental study conducted in a small-scale 1:50 wave flume. Results are presented  
9 for the overtopping performance at a 1 to 2 sloping wall, undertaken on both impermeable and  
10 permeable foreshore slopes. Within experimental limitations, the results demonstrate that the mean  
11 overtopping rate is reduced by up-to a factor of 4, when compared to the predictions reported for  
12 the impermeable slope. However, when comparing maximum individual wave-by-wave  
13 overtopping volumes, no significant differences were observed. These results are intended for  
14 practitioners and researchers predicting wave overtopping characteristics at sloping structures with  
15 permeable gravel foreshores.

16 **Keywords**

17 Overtopping discharge; Wave by Wave overtopping volume; Sediment rate; Shingle foreshore;  
18 Sloping wall.

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## 19 **1. Introduction**

20 The coastal zone is the interface between land and ocean where both natural and man-made hard  
21 or soft defences protect the hinterland areas against coastal flooding. Over the decades,  
22 conventional coastal engineering solutions result in hard structures such as seawalls, dykes and  
23 embankments. In addition to hard-engineering approaches, nature-based protection approaches,  
24 such as shingle beaches and barriers are also considered as an efficient coastal protection approach  
25 due to its natural capability to mitigate the wave induced energy (McCall et al., 2014).

26 Similar to other coastal infrastructures', shingle beaches and barriers can be affected by various  
27 wave induced hazards such as flooding due to extreme wave overtopping events (EurOtop, 2018).  
28 Hence, sea defences are usually designed to limit the wave induced overtopping at the structures  
29 during an extreme event. Many parametric experimental studies have been carried out to clarify  
30 the phenomenon of wave overtopping on coastal structures with fixed impermeable beaches, based  
31 on these predominantly small-scale laboratory measurements, several empirical formulae have  
32 been reported for the prediction of overtopping at these types of structures, e.g. EurOtop (2018).

33 There have been relatively few studies on the overtopping processes at shingle barriers and  
34 beaches, see Matias et al. (2012); Pearson (2010). For the prediction of cross-shore profile changes  
35 on a shingle coastline, many researchers proposed empirical prediction models, for instance  
36 predictions reported by Bradbury and Powell (1992); Lorang (2002); Van der Meer (1992); Van  
37 Hijum (1976); Van Hijum and Pilarczyk (1982). In addition, advances have also been made to  
38 compile large-scale datasets and to establish appropriate numerical methods for shingle beaches  
39 and barriers. To cite an example, to evaluate the morphological behaviour of shingle beaches and  
40 barriers, subjected to the action of waves, tides and storm, an extensive large-scale experimental  
41 investigation was undertaken, e.g. Williams et al. (2009), Williams et al. (2012a). Alongside the

42 experimental investigations, numerical studies on gravel beaches with the application of XBeach  
43 model have been performed by researchers, e.g. McCall et al. (2015); Williams et al. (2009);  
44 Williams et al. (2012b).

45 The vast majority of overtopping data applied in EurOtop (2018) has been derived from small-  
46 scale measurements with impermeable foreshore slopes. To date, there have been few parametric  
47 studies focussed on the investigation of the wave overtopping at sloping structures with a  
48 permeable foreshore slope. Recent laboratory work by Salauddin and Pearson (2019) demonstrated  
49 that average overtopping rates at a vertical breakwater on a shingle beach is reduced, when  
50 compared to the impermeable bed configuration. However, the overtopping performance of  
51 permeable gravel foreshores at sloping structures was not covered within the earlier work of  
52 Salauddin and Pearson (2019). There is a knowledge gap on the wave overtopping at sloping walls  
53 with permeable gravel slopes due to the lack of field and laboratory research on these types of sea  
54 defences.

55 The main purpose of this experimental research is to extend the existing empirical predictions of  
56 wave overtopping at smooth sloping structures for the case of permeable gravel foreshores. This  
57 paper extends the earlier research work of Salauddin and Pearson (2019), who investigated the  
58 wave overtopping at plain vertical walls with two permeable gravel foreshores subjected to  
59 impulsive and non-impulsive wave conditions. The extension presented in this article covers a  
60 comprehensive experimental study on the overtopping characteristics at 1 in 2 sloping structures,  
61 conducted on both impermeable and permeable foreshore slopes. Detailed results on the  
62 overtopping characteristics at sloping structures are presented and then compared with existing  
63 empirical predictions, which provide guidance for overtopping volumes at these types of sea

64 defences. These results are intended for practitioners and researchers predicting wave overtopping  
65 characteristics at sloping structures with permeable gravel foreshores.

## 66 **2. Technical Background**

### 67 **2.1 Empirical Prediction of Overtopping**

68 Wave overtopping or over-washing is one of the key hydraulic responses of a coastal structure (i.e.  
69 breakwater) due to its significant effects on the functional efficiency of a structure (Franco et al.,  
70 1994). For the design of a coastal defence, the design for tolerable wave overtopping is treated as  
71 one of the key concerns by researchers (EurOtop, 2018). At a coastal structure, an overtopping  
72 event mainly occurs when run-up heights of the largest waves are greater than the freeboard of the  
73 structure (TAW, 2002). The crest freeboard ( $R_c$ ) is the vertical distance between the top of the  
74 structure and still water level line.

75 Mean overtopping discharge ( $q$ ) in terms of per linear metre of width of the structure (l/m/s) is  
76 very often used to quantify wave overtopping phenomenon. Current prediction methods are based  
77 on a general exponential equation, which is used for describing wave overtopping discharge ( $q$ )  
78 on many coastal structures, including: vertical and sloping structures, armoured rubble mound  
79 breakwaters, coastal dikes, etc. (EurOtop, 2018; Franco et al., 1994; Owen, 1980). The exponential  
80 expression as formulated in Equation 1 is a special case of the Weibull-shaped function.

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = a \exp\left(-b \frac{R_c}{H_{m0}}\right) \quad (1)$$

81 in which,  $q$  denotes average overtopping discharge,  $H_{m0}$  represents the significant wave height  
82 based on spectral analysis,  $a$  indicates the Weibull scale parameter,  $b$  exhibits the Weibull shape

83 parameter,  $R_c/H_{m0}$  is the dimensionless crest freeboard and  $q/\sqrt{(gH_{m0}^3)}$  is defined the  
 84 dimensionless wave overtopping discharge, e.g. EurOtop (2018).

85 The EurOtop overtopping manual was published in 2007 (EurOtop, 2007) based upon the most  
 86 reliable existing empirical formulae from parametric tests. Further, Goda (2009) established a set  
 87 of empirical formulations for the prediction of mean overtopping discharges at sloping structures  
 88 by analysing the selected CLASH datasets and argued that new formulas (e.g. Equations 2-6)  
 89 provide better prediction compared to those estimated by EurOtop (2007).

$$90 \quad \frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = \exp\left(-A - B \frac{R_c}{H_{m0}}\right) \quad (2)$$

91 where,

$$92 \quad A = A_0 \tanh\left[(0.956 + 4.44\tan\theta) \cdot \left(\frac{h_t}{H_{m0}} + 1.242 - 2.032\tan^{0.25}\theta\right)\right] \quad (3)$$

$$93 \quad B = B_0 \tanh\left[(0.822 - 2.22\tan\theta) \times \left(\frac{h_t}{H_{m0}} + 0.578 + 2.22\tan\theta\right)\right] \quad (4)$$

$$94 \quad A_0 = 3.4 - 0.734\cot\alpha + 0.239\cot^2\alpha - 0.016\cot^3\alpha \quad (5)$$

$$95 \quad B_0 = 2.3 - 0.5\cot\alpha + 0.15\cot^2\alpha - 0.011\cot^3\alpha \quad (6)$$

96 valid for  $0 \leq \cot\alpha \leq 7$

97 where,  $\theta$  is the slope of the seabed,  $\alpha$  is the slope of the structure and  $h_t$  is the toe water depth.

98 Later in 2014, Etemad-Shahidi and Jafari provided new formulas (Equations 7-8) for the prediction  
 99 of mean overtopping rates at smooth impermeable sloping structures using a decision tree approach  
 100 along with nonlinear regression model. They reported that the revised formulas outperform the  
 101 existing empirical predictions for the estimation of overtopping at sloping structures.

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = 0.032 \cdot \exp\left[-2.6 \left(\frac{R_c}{H_{m0}}\right)^{1.6} \cdot (\xi_{m-1,0})^{-1.26}\right] \quad \text{for } \frac{R_c}{H_{m0}} \leq 1.62 \quad (7)$$

102

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = 0.032 \cdot \exp\left[-5.63(\xi_{m-1,0})^{-1.26} - 3.283 \left(\frac{R_c}{H_{m0}} - 1.62\right)^{0.83}\right] \quad \text{for } \frac{R_c}{H_{m0}} > 1.62 \quad (8)$$

103 Thereafter, Van der Meer and Bruce (2014) proposed a new set of formulae to predict overtopping  
 104 at sloping structures both for breaking and non-breaking waves. They reported that the application  
 105 of Goda's (2009) formulae should be limited to the slopes steeper than 1 in 2. They also reported  
 106 that Goda's (2009) formulae will overestimate wave overtopping at gentle slopes with very low  
 107 and zero crest freeboards.

108 The formulations of Van der Meer and Bruce (2014) were then incorporated into the updated  
 109 overtopping manual, EurOtop (2018). For the estimation of mean overtopping discharges at  
 110 smooth sloping walls under breaking and non-breaking wave conditions, EurOtop (2018) gives  
 111 the following formulae, see Equations 9-10.

112 For breaking waves ( $\xi_{m-1,0} < 2$ )

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = \frac{0.023}{\sqrt{\tan\alpha}} \cdot \xi_{m-1,0} \cdot \exp\left[-\left(2.7 \frac{R_c}{\xi_{m-1,0} \cdot H_{m0} \cdot \gamma_f}\right)^{1.3}\right] \quad (9)$$

113 For non-breaking waves ( $\xi_{m-1,0} > \sim 2$ ) a maximum value of

$$\frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = 0.09 \cdot \exp\left[-\left(1.5 \frac{R_c}{H_{m0} \gamma_f}\right)^{1.3}\right] \quad (10)$$

114 where,

115  $\gamma_f$  = Influence factor for roughness elements on a slope [-]

116 It should be noted that for the smooth impermeable slope, the roughness factor equals to 1.0 in the  
 117 above mentioned formulae (Equations 9-10). Breaker parameter or Iribarren number,  $\xi_{m-1,0}$  is the  
 118 combination of wave steepness and structure slope to distinguish breaking and non-breaking  
 119 waves, see Equation 11. Equation 9 represents the estimation of overtopping for plunging or  
 120 breaking waves ( $\xi_{m-1,0} < \sim 2$ ), while Equation 10 denotes the maximum overtopping induced by  
 121 non-breaking or surging waves ( $\xi_{m-1,0} > \sim 2$ ), see EurOtop (2018) for a detailed explanation of  
 122 breaking and non-breaking waves.

$$123 \quad \xi_{m-1,0} = \frac{\tan \alpha}{\sqrt{\frac{H_{m0}}{L_{m-1,0}}}} \quad (11)$$

124 where,  $\alpha$  is the slope of the structure and  $L_{m-1,0}$  is the deep water wave length based on spectral  
 125 wave period  $T_{m-1,0}$  ( $= \frac{gT_{m-1,0}^2}{2\pi}$ ).

126 The maximum individual overtopping volume ( $V_{max}$ ) in a known overtopping sequence can be  
 127 calculated with the following formula (Equation 12).

128 Maximum individual overtopping volume ( $V_{max}$ ),

$$129 \quad V_{max} = a(\ln N_{ow})^{1/b} \quad (12)$$

130 where,  $V_{max}$  denotes the maximum wave by wave overtopping volume per meter width of the  
 131 structure ( $m^3$  per m), and  $N_{ow}$  represents the number of overtopping waves.

132 EurOtop (2018) recommended the following expression (Equation 8) for the estimation of Weibull  
 133 scale factor,  $a$ ,

$$134 \quad a = \left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(1+\frac{1}{b})} \right) \left( \frac{qT_m}{P_{ov}} \right) \quad (13)$$



135 where,  $T_m$  means average wave period,  $P_{ov}$  probability of overtopping waves and  $\Gamma$  denotes  
136 mathematical gamma function.

137 To determine the Weibull shape factor  $b$  at smooth sloping structures, Zanuttigh et al. (2013)  
138 suggested a new prediction formula (Equation 14) by presenting a relationship between shape  
139 factor and relative discharge ( $q/(gH_{m0}T_{m-1,0})$ ).

$$140 \quad b = 0.73 + 55 \left( \frac{q}{gH_{m0}T_{m-1,0}} \right)^{0.8} \quad (14)$$

141 The number of overtopping waves ( $N_{ow}$ ) can be approximated by knowing the probability of  
142 overtopping wave and total number of waves in a storm duration, see Equation 15 as recommended  
143 by EurOtop (2018).

$$144 \quad P_{ov} = \frac{N_{ow}}{N_w} \quad (15)$$

145 For the estimation of the probability of overtopping waves ( $P_{ov}$ ), Van der Meer and Janssen (1994)  
146 provided the following expression (Equation 16) by considering a Rayleigh distribution of the run-  
147 up heights and with the use of 2% run-up height ( $R_{u2\%}$ ).

$$148 \quad P_{ov} = \exp \left[ - \left( \sqrt{-\ln 0.02} \frac{R_c}{R_{u2\%}} \right)^2 \right] \quad (16)$$

149 For a relatively gentle slope with a breaker parameter less than  $\xi_{m-1,0} \leq 4.0$ , the following basic  
150 formula (Equation 17) can be applied to estimate the run-up heights at smooth sloping structures,  
151 e.g. TAW (2002).

$$152 \quad \frac{R_{u2\%}}{H_{m0}} = 1.65 \xi_{m-1,0} \quad (17)$$

153 The empirical formulae, Equation 16 and 17 as proposed by Van der Meer and Janseen (1994) and  
154 TAW (2002), respectively are also incorporated in the overtopping manual, e.g: EurOtop (2007);  
155 EurOtop (2018). It is important to note that these formulations are based on the measurement of  
156 run-up level which is usually calculated at a point on a straight slope but overtopping is measured  
157 on or behind the crest of the structure (EurOtop, 2018). Hence, EurOtop (2018) warned that these  
158 formulations always overestimate the number of overtopping waves.

159 Instead of using 2% run-up height ( $R_{u2\%}$ ), Victor et. al. (2012) proposed another empirical  
160 expression (Equation 18) to estimate probability of overtopping at smooth impermeable slopes  
161 with the use of known relative freeboard and slope, subjected to non-breaking wave attack.

$$162 \quad P_{ov} = \exp \left[ - \left( (1.4 - 0.30 \cot \alpha) \frac{R_c}{H_{m0}} \right)^2 \right] \quad (18)$$

163 The existing prediction formulae currently available are principally founded on the fitting to  
164 experimental measurements, such as empirical formulae reported in the overtopping manual. Since  
165 most of the parametric studies were performed in the laboratory using an impermeable beach,  
166 uncertainties may exist in available prediction formulae when applied to permeable gravel slopes.

## 167 **2.2 Scaling of shingle bed materials**

168 To represent a gravel or shingle bed within the laboratory, crushed anthracite has been  
169 satisfactorily used as a model beach material by researchers over the years, e.g. Powell (1990),  
170 Coates and Dodd (1994). Powell (1990) described that the model bed materials should fulfil the  
171 following three requirements for the appropriate representation of the prototype beach, e.g.  
172 Salauddin and Pearson (2019).

173 — Beach permeability should be correctly reproduced in order to get the actual bed slope

174 — The threshold of motion has to be accurately replicated in order to find the minimum wave  
175 velocity to initiate the movement of the bed

176 — The relative magnitudes of the onshore and offshore movement should be precisely  
177 reproduced for evaluating whether the accretion or erosion occurs at the bed.

178 To fulfil these requirements, Powell (1990) proposed the methodology of Yalin (1963), Komar  
179 and Miller (1973) and Dean (1973) for the beach permeability, threshold of movement and,  
180 onshore and offshore movement criteria respectively. In summary, Powell (1990) reported the  
181 following formulations (Equations 19 – 22) to scale the model bed material.

182 — For accurate representation of permeability

$$183 \lambda_D = \left(\frac{\lambda K_p}{K}\right) \left(\frac{Re_p}{\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} \lambda_D}\right) \quad (19)$$

184 — For accurate representation of onshore/offshore movement

$$185 \lambda_\Delta = \frac{\lambda \lambda_{CD}}{\lambda_D} \quad (20)$$

186 where,

$$187 \lambda_{CD} = \left(\frac{C_{DP}}{C_D}\right) \left(\frac{Re_p}{\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} \lambda_D}\right) \quad (21)$$

188 — For accurate threshold of motion

$$189 \lambda_\Delta \lambda_D^{3/4} = \lambda^{3/4} \quad (22)$$

190 where,  $\lambda$  is the model scale,  $K_p$  and  $Re_p$  are the permeability and Reynolds number of the prototype  
191 situation,  $\lambda_\Delta$ ,  $\Delta$  is  $(\rho_s - \rho_f)/\rho_f$ ,  $\rho_f$  and  $\rho_s$  are the specific gravities of the fluid and sediment  
192 respectively,  $C_D$  is the drag coefficient and  $C_{DP}$  is the prototype drag coefficient. For known  
193 prototype values of  $K_p$  and  $Re_p$ , there are four equations to solve for four unknowns  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda_D$ ,  $\lambda_\Delta$  and  
194  $\lambda_{CD}$ . As also mentioned by Powell (1990) that these four formulations can only be solved with the

195 assumption of prototype condition, which makes  $\lambda = \lambda_D = \lambda_\Delta = \lambda_{CD}$  and subsequently three  
196 variables remain as unknown.

197 Another aspect is that the correct replication of all three criteria is practically unreachable since  
198 the model bed materials have only two characteristics (size and specific gravity of the sediments).  
199 In 1990, Powell found that the filtered anthracite materials with a quoted specific gravity of 1.39  
200 justify most of the requirements by reproducing the correct magnitudes of onshore/offshore  
201 movement and threshold of motion. Later, this methodology was adapted by Coates and Dodd  
202 (1994) to scale down a narrow gravel bed  $d_{50}$  of 15 mm with a prototype density of  $2.65 \text{ (T/m}^3\text{)}$ .  
203 These researchers concluded that at a 1:50 scaling filtered anthracite sediment  $d_{50}$  of 2.50 mm with  
204 a density of  $1.40 \text{ (T/m}^3\text{)}$  satisfy the most of the requirements to reproduce an assumed prototype  
205 gravel bed  $d_{50}$  of 15 mm. In this work, the mobile gravel beds were reproduced with the use of the  
206 crushed anthracite by adapting the methodology of Powell (1990).

### 207 **3. Laboratory Set-Up**

208 The laboratory set up for this experimental work has been performed by adapting the guidelines  
209 of EurOtop (2018) and Wolters et al. (2009) for typical two-dimensional wave flume  
210 investigations. The two-dimensional small-scale investigations were performed in a wave channel  
211 of 22 m long 0.60 m wide and 1.00 m deep (0.70 m operating depth), at the Warwick Water  
212 Laboratory. Experiments were carried out with a smooth impermeable 1: 2 sloping seawall on a  
213 uniform foreshore slope of 1 in 20, e.g. Fig. 1. A piston type wave paddle with an active wave  
214 absorption system is attached with the wave channel which is able to produce both irregular and  
215 uniform waves.

216 In this study, two different permeable 1 in 20 shingle foreshores were tested to investigate the  
217 overtopping characteristics at sloping structures with shingle foreshores. In addition to the shingle

218 beds, experiments were also undertaken with a uniform impermeable foreshore to study the wave  
219 overtopping at a sloping wall with a solid foreshore, which allowed comparison to previous  
220 studies, as reported in EurOtop, 2018.

221 To perform the experiments on permeable foreshores, two different gravel sediments were used  
222 and reproduced by crushed anthracite with a quoted specific gravity of 1.40, with the adaption of  
223 the well-known method of Powell (1990). Two different assumed prototype gravel slopes  $d_{50}$  of  
224 13 mm and 24 mm with a prototype specific gravity of  $2.65 \text{ (T/m}^3\text{)}$  were reproduced with the use  
225 of two different sizes of model sediments. At a model length scale of 1:50, for assumed gravel  
226 beds  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm and 24 mm with a prototype specific gravity of  $2.65 \text{ (T/m}^3\text{)}$ , the required  
227 sediment properties are listed in Table 1 with the application of expressions as suggested by Powell  
228 (1990) (Equations 19 –22). As observed in Table 1, the model sediment should have a specific  
229 gravity around 1.40 to satisfy the requirements of the correct magnitudes of onshore/offshore  
230 movement and threshold of motion. Hence, the filtered anthracite with a quoted specific gravity of  
231 1.40 has been used in this study, which is also commercially available in various sizes. In Fig. 2,  
232 the grain size distribution curve of each gravel sediment is presented.

233 To measure the incident wave characteristics, a total of six wave gauges (resistance type) were  
234 used. Adopting the method suggested by Mansard and Funke (1980), the three-point technique  
235 was executed to separate the incident waves from reflected waves. The first set of three gauges  
236 were placed close to the wave generator, to measure the wave characteristics at comparatively deep  
237 water. In addition, three probes (number 4, 5 and 6 in Fig. 1) were positioned at the toe of the  
238 sloping structure to measure the inshore wave conditions. The gauge (number 6, Fig. 1) at the toe  
239 of the structure was set up adopting the method of Klopman and Van der Meer (1999) in order to  
240 reduce the influence of a reflective structure on the measured incident wave heights.

241 Although the paddle was equipped with an active absorption system to compensate the reflected  
242 waves originating from the structure, due to the presence of reflections induced by structure, there  
243 may be existence of uncertainties in the determination of incident inshore wave characteristics.  
244 Thus, to reduce probable uncertainties in the measurement of inshore wave characteristics, the  
245 measurements were also carried out by repeating the experiments without the existence of the  
246 sloping walls in the flume (bare flume).

247 The overtopping discharges were determined using a load - cell technique by suspending a  
248 measuring container behind the sloping wall from a calibrated load-cell, see Fig. 1. Wave by wave  
249 overtopping events were identified by using two parallel strips of metal tape run along the crest of  
250 the sloping wall which performed as a switch closed by the water. Individual overtopping volumes  
251 were calculated by measuring the increment in the mass of overtopped water in the container after  
252 each overtopping event for a test run.

253 A parameterized JONSWAP wave spectrum with a peak enhancement factor,  $\gamma = 3.3$  ( $\sigma_a = 0.07$   
254 and  $\sigma_b = 0.09$ ) was applied. Each experiment consisted of approximately 1000 random waves as  
255 suggested by EurOtop (2018) and Wolters et al. (2009). This enabled the acquisition of the  
256 measured overtopping characteristics which were statistically independent of the storm duration  
257 (number of waves) for the experiment run.

258 Prior to running of each experiment with shingle bed configurations, the gravel foreshore slope  
259 was reshaped to the initial beach profile of 1:20 in front of the sloping structure. Under the gravel  
260 foreshore configurations, measurements of the scour hole depth at the toe of the sloping wall were  
261 also carried out. Furthermore, for each test run, the bed level changes along the foreshore were  
262 also investigated from the variation of initial and final elevation of the foreshore. From the

263 investigation on the development of scour depths with respect to storm durations, it was observed  
264 that an equilibrium profile can be achieved at around 1000 wave cycles, which are similar to  
265 studies by Sumer and Fredsøe (2000) at a 1 in 1.2 sloping wall on a sandy bed and Salauddin and  
266 Pearson (2019) at a plain vertical wall with permeable gravel foreshore.

267 Both low and high wave steepnesses were generated by performing experiments with two constant  
268 nominal deep-water wave steepnesses ( $s_{op} = 0.02$  and  $0.05$ ). At a 1:50 scaling, the incident  
269 significant wave heights ( $H_{m0}$ ) were tested from 50 mm to 160 mm and corresponding wave  
270 periods were in the range of 0.80 s to 2.26 s. Six different toe water depths were tested in this  
271 study. In total, around 180 test sequences were performed, see Table 2. Table 3 reports the nominal  
272 incident wave conditions followed in this research. It is noted that the nominal incident wave  
273 conditions as presented in Table 3 were applied to both impermeable and permeable slopes,  
274 indicating that one group of three tests was performed with the same incident wave condition with  
275 the three foreshores.

276 Furthermore, Table 4 shows the ranges of application for the sloping structure with impermeable  
277 and permeable slopes considered within this study. As it is seen in Table 4, the tested relative crest  
278 freeboards were in the range from 0.80 to 4.50 for both impermeable and permeable foreshore  
279 configurations. The minimum Iribarren number was equal to 2.0, indicating that tested wave  
280 conditions were non-breaking waves ( $\xi_{m-1,0} > \sim 2$ , EurOtop (2018)) on a relatively steep 1 in 2  
281 smooth sloping structure.

## 282 **4. Results and Analysis**

### 283 **4.1 Incident wave heights**

284 In Fig. 3, two examples of measured incident wave heights at a relatively deep water (near wave  
285 paddle) are presented and compared with the deep-water Rayleigh distribution of wave heights.  
286 From the graph, it is noticeable that the measured wave heights overall follow the predicted  
287 Rayleigh distribution for both low and high wave steepnesses. There is, however, data points that  
288 correspond to relatively high waves that were found slightly lower than the prediction which may  
289 have occurred due to the occurrence of wave breaking near the wave paddle under depth-limited  
290 conditions.

### 291 **4.2 Accuracy of measurement system**

292 The accuracy of the overtopping measurement system was inspected prior to carrying out any  
293 experiments, adapting the technique followed by Pearson et al. (2001). A series of wave  
294 overtopping events were simulated by adding a known amount of water into the overtopping  
295 measuring tank. Then, the observed data from the overtopping detector and load-cell were  
296 processed by using an algorithm to find the number of overtopping waves and resulting individual  
297 overtopping volumes. Afterwards, the actual volume of each simulated overtopping event was  
298 compared with the measured value, e.g. Table 5. The test results clearly demonstrate that the  
299 measured overtopping volumes were almost identical to actual (given) values. The relative error  
300 of total measured volumes and actual volumes was found satisfactory around 0.7% and rmse (root  
301 mean square error) value was observed 9.38 ml indicating that any errors induced by the  
302 overtopping measurement technique were minimal. It is to note that the sensitivity of the load-cell  
303 was limited to the identification of 5-9 ml of overtopping volume, hence the smaller overtopping  
304 volumes showed an overall slightly greater error in the measurements compared to larger values.



### 305 **4.3 Mean overtopping rate**

306 In Fig. 4, the measured relative overtopping discharges  $q/\sqrt{(gH_{m0}^3)}$  for the impermeable foreshore  
307 configuration (reference case) are compared with the predicted values, using the existing empirical  
308 predictions for sloping structures. To predict the mean overtopping rates, the empirical predictions  
309 of Goda (2009), Etemad-Shahidi and Jafari (2014) and EurOtop (2018) are presented in Fig. 4(a),  
310 4(b) and 4(c) respectively. It can be seen from Fig. 4(a) that the predictions of the Goda (2009)  
311 formulae (Equations 2-6) overestimate the mean overtopping rates at sloping structures (1 in 2) for  
312 the tested conditions covered within this study. Similar characteristics of Goda's formulae for the  
313 prediction of mean overtopping rates at sloping structures with gentle slopes (milder than 1 in 2)  
314 were also reported by Van der Meer and Bruce (2014).

315 When comparing the results of the reference case with the empirical formulae of Etemad-Shahidi  
316 and Jafari (2014) and EurOtop (2018), it is seen that both the predictions of Etemad-Shahidi and  
317 Jafari (2014), Equations 7-8, and EurOtop (2018), Equations 9-10, overall succeed in providing  
318 the estimation of the mean overtopping rate, see Fig.4. However, it is also noticeable that the  
319 measured values overall show slightly better agreement with the predicted values of EurOtop  
320 (2018) compared to the those observed by Etemad-Shahidi and Jafari (2014).

321 For the quantitative comparison of the accuracy of the prediction formulae, the statistical error  
322 analysis such as root mean square error (rmse) and Bias analysis have been undertaken and  
323 reported in Table 6. The root mean square error (rmse) analysis and Bias analysis were performed  
324 with the use of measured and estimated values of overtopping using empirical formulations, as  
325 defined in Equations 23-24. As seen in Table 6, the prediction formulae of EurOtop (2018)  
326 outperforms the predictions of Etemad-Shahidi and Jafari (2014) and Goda (2009) by providing  
327 relatively lower rmse and Bias values for the tested impermeable bed configurations.

$$328 \quad \text{rmse} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \left[ \log \left( \frac{q_{\text{measured}}}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} \right)_n - \log \left( \frac{q_{\text{predicted}}}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} \right)_n \right]^2} \quad (23)$$

$$329 \quad \text{Bias} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \left[ \log \left( \frac{q_{\text{predicted}}}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} \right)_n - \log \left( \frac{q_{\text{measured}}}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} \right)_n \right] \quad (24)$$

330 in which,  $N_{\text{test}}$  is defined as the number of experimental results used to derive an equation. The  
 331 smaller rmse-value means the better prediction formula which fits the specific dataset well. The  
 332 rmse value demonstrates the standard deviation of the measured values about the mean predicted  
 333 overtopping rates on a log-log scale.

334 The measured average overtopping rates for both impermeable (reference case) and gravel bed  
 335 configurations are plotted in Fig. 5. The experimental results are compared with the prediction  
 336 formulae (Equations 9-10) for sloping structures as reported by EurOtop (2018). The solid line in  
 337 Fig. 5 represents the empirical expression of EurOtop (2018) considering an impermeable  
 338 foreshore. The graph demonstrates that average overtopping discharges are reduced substantially  
 339 for permeable gravel foreshore configurations compared to those observed for impermeable slope.  
 340 From Fig. 5, it is also observed that the shingle foreshore of prototype grain diameter of 24 mm,  
 341 provide a greater reduction in mean overtopping rate, when the two permeable bed configurations  
 342 are compared.

343 An  $R^2$  ‘best-fit’ analysis was performed on the resulting average overtopping discharges to observe  
 344 the reduction margin with the introduction of gravel foreshores compared to an impermeable slope,  
 345 see Equations 25-26. It is noticeable that the overtopping is decreased by an approximate factor of  
 346 3.0 for gravel  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm and about a factor of 4.0 for  $d_{50}$  of 24 mm in comparison to the  
 347 formulation (Equation 1) of EurOtop (2018). It is important to note that best-fit equations have

348 been derived by adapting the formulations of EurOtop (2018), which enables a direct comparison  
349 between new equations and existing empirical formulae.

350 For gravel  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm,

$$351 \frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = 0.03 \cdot \exp \left[ - \left( 1.5 \frac{R_c}{H_{m0}} \right)^{1.3} \right] \quad (25)$$

352 For gravel  $d_{50}$  of 24 mm,

$$353 \frac{q}{\sqrt{gH_{m0}^3}} = 0.0225 \cdot \exp \left[ - \left( 1.5 \frac{R_c}{H_{m0}} \right)^{1.3} \right] \quad (26)$$

354 To investigate the reliability of the new equations, a root mean square error (rmse) analysis was  
355 performed with the use of measured and predicted values of overtopping using new equations  
356 (Equations 25-26), as following the approach applied by Owen (1980) and Victor et al. (2012), see  
357 Equation 23. In addition to rmse analysis, Bias analysis was also carried out to find the reliability  
358 of the derived equations, see Equation 24. In Table 7, the error measures of the proposed revised  
359 equations in the prediction of mean overtopping rate at sloping walls with permeable foreshores  
360 are shown.

361 For the conditions tested, the rmse value based on the measured and estimated values of  
362 overtopping was only 0.14 and 0.15 for gravel  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm (Equation 25) and  $d_{50}$  of 24 mm  
363 (Equation 26) respectively, see Table 7. Similar to rmse values, the observed Bias values for the  
364 new formulations were also smaller i.e; 0.03 for Equation 25 and 0.10 for Equation 26. These  
365 indicate that despite some scatter, in general, the predictions by using the revised expressions  
366 (Equations 25-26) exhibit a promising trend with the actual measurements.

367 Furthermore, in the prediction of overtopping at sloping structures, the effect of various factors  
368 such as influence of roughness factor of the armour slope, influence of berm, etc. in the reduction  
369 of overtopping is often incorporated by using a 'gamma factor' in the empirical expression, such  
370 as roughness factor of the sloping structure in Equation 10. To adopt a simple overall coefficient  
371 approach for the influence of permeable foreshore in the wave overtopping, measured mean  
372 overtopping rates are compared with various assumed foreshore roughness factors in Fig.6, using  
373 the empirical formulation of EurOtop (2018). The solid line represents the prediction of EurOtop  
374 (2018) considering a 'gamma factor' equals to 1.0 for the impermeable foreshore using Equation  
375 10. Although, it is evident from the graph that test results of permeable foreshores do not perfectly  
376 fit with all data, using the "best-fit" empirical lines assuming foreshore roughness factors i.e.;

377 'gamma factor' of 0.70 (for  $d_{50}$  of 24 mm) and 0.80 (for  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm) using Equation 5.  
378 Nevertheless, an approximate trend is observed.

#### 379 **4.4 Mean overtopping sediment discharge**

380 For the estimation of the average overtopping sediment rate, the mass of sediment overtopped in  
381 the collection tank was measured (dry weight), along with the mass of the water passing the parapet  
382 of the sloping wall. The dry weight of the sediments was then transformed to a volume with the  
383 use of the quoted specific gravity of 1.40 in order to make sure that the measurements were  
384 dimensionally comparable.

385 Fig. 7 illustrates the measured mean overtopping characteristics of the sediment and the  
386 overtopping characteristics of the water for the tested shingle foreshore configurations. The  
387 resulting data points demonstrate that the amount of sediment passes the parapet of the structure  
388 is approximately 1% of the amount of water. Also, it is noticeable from the graph that there is no

389 apparent effect of the size of the shingle foreshore slope on the overtopping of the sediment  
390 material at sloping seawall.

#### 391 **4.5 Distribution of wave by wave volumes**

392 Wave by wave individual overtopping volumes in an overtopping sequence can be fitted with a  
393 Weibull distribution, e.g. Van der Meer and Jansen (1994); Besley (1999); Hughes et al. (2012).  
394 For robust predictions of maximum overtopping volumes, it is important to have a good  
395 distribution of wave by wave individual overtopping volumes. To examine the distribution of  
396 measured volumes, the observed individual overtopping volumes for each tested condition were  
397 investigated on a Weibull scale. Fig. 8 shows the resulting Weibull distribution of individual  
398 overtopping volumes for three distinct tested foreshore slopes for the same wave condition. In  
399 graph,  $V$  denotes wave by wave overtopping volume,  $P(V)$  is the probability that an individual  
400 event volume equals or exceeds a volume  $V$  and  $V_{bar}$  represents average overtopping volume. The  
401 graph (Fig. 8d) provides a comparison of the distribution of overtopping volumes between  
402 impermeable and permeable foreshore slopes

403 From the gradient of linear regression line of the Weibull distribution, the Weibull  $b$  parameter  
404 can be calculated for an overtopping sequence. It has been demonstrated by many researchers that  
405 the higher individual overtopping volumes provide a good fit to the distribution with a reliable  
406 prediction of extreme wave by wave volumes, e.g. Pearson et al. (2002) and Zanuttigh et al. (2013).  
407 In general, the designers and practitioners are mainly interested on the largest individual  
408 overtopping volumes, hence, the shape factor  $b$  is usually determined by fitting only the extreme  
409 tail of the distribution (upper portion of the Weibull plot) using the relatively large overtopping  
410 volumes. In this study, the Weibull  $b$  has been determined for all the tested conditions by plotting  
411 a best-fitted trend line using the conventional fitting procedure i.e. upper part of the Weibull

412 distribution considering overtopping volumes greater than the average values ( $V > V_{bar}$ ), as  
413 indicated in Fig. 8.

414 Overall, the measured data points follow a linear trend, which indicates that the resulting wave by  
415 wave volumes follow the Weibull distribution within this study, see Fig. 8a -8c. It is noticeable  
416 from Fig. 8d, that the overtopping volumes distribution for different bed configurations are very  
417 similar to each other which indicates that there is no obvious influence of gravel foreshore  
418 configurations on the Weibull distribution of overtopping volumes.

#### 419 **4.6 Proportion of waves overtopping**

420 The measured proportion of waves overtopping as a function of dimensionless freeboard is plotted  
421 in Fig. 9. The graph compares the results of this study with the empirical prediction (Equation 18)  
422 reported by Victor et al. (2012). The data points correspond to the benchmark tests represent the  
423 experiments with the impermeable foreshore. These follow the Victor et al. (2012) prediction to  
424 within a factor of 2. For the tested conditions, the measured proportion of waves overtopping was  
425 reduced by an average of 50% for relative freeboards of 1.0 to 2.0 compared with the predictions,  
426 whereas on an average 75% reduction was observed for relative freeboards of 2.0 to 3.5. When  
427 comparing the two gravel slopes, it is noticeable that the larger gravel  $d_{50}$  of 24 mm, provides a  
428 higher overall reduction in the proportion of waves overtopping.

429 In Fig. 10, the resulting proportion of overtopping waves are compared with the estimated values  
430 (Equations 16-17) as reported by EurOtop (2018). For both impermeable and permeable  
431 configurations, it is evident that the measured values are lower than the estimated values of  
432 EurOtop (2018). As expected, this occurs due to the overestimation of the number of overtopping  
433 waves by using the predictions of EurOtop (2018). An investigation of the time series, showed that

434 for the smaller waves such as for wave height of 50 mm for the model shingle  $d_{50}$  of 2.1 mm  
435 ( $H_{m0}/d_{50} \sim 25$ ), the shingle beach was more ‘efficient’ in reducing the number of overtopping  
436 waves, and hence mean overtopping discharge rates.

#### 437 **4.7 Maximum overtopping volume**

438 For the tested conditions, Fig. 11 compares the measured maximum overtopping wave volumes at  
439 sloping walls with the empirical prediction as suggested by Victor et al. (2012). The resulting data  
440 points correspond to both impermeable and gravel foreshore configurations approximately  
441 following the trend of that reported by Victor et al. (2012). It is evident that there is no discernible  
442 variation in the prediction of the maximum volumes for impermeable and permeable foreshores at  
443 sloping structures. Similar characteristics of the overtopping wave volumes with respect to  
444 different foreshore configurations were also reported by Salauddin and Pearson (2019) for vertical  
445 breakwaters with permeable shingle foreshores.

### 446 **5. Discussion**

447 A wide range of experiments were conducted in this study to inspect the overtopping  
448 characteristics at a smooth sloping structure on impermeable and permeable gravel foreshores and  
449 to provide the preliminary guidelines for the prediction of processes at full-scale. Generally, in the  
450 investigation of overtopping processes, Pearson et al. (2002) reported that the ‘scale’ and ‘model’  
451 effects in the two-dimensional wave flume physical experiments showed no discernible differences  
452 in comparison to the large-scale laboratory measurements, for impermeable configurations (e.g.  
453 vertical walls). In addition, Victor and Troch (2012) concluded that for the smooth impermeable  
454 sloping structures, the influence of ‘scale’ effects is believed to be minimal in the wave  
455 overtopping measurements. In this study, the experimental set up has been complimented by  
456 adapting the well-established guidelines of EurOtop (2018), Powell (1990) and Wolters et al.

457 (2009) for typical two-dimensional experimental investigations. The tested significant wave  
458 heights were varied from 50 mm up to 160 mm, which were higher than the minimum wave heights  
459 of 30 mm as suggested by Wolters et al. (2009) to avoid ‘scale’ effects in the measurements.  
460 During the experiments, an active re-reflected wave absorber system was available in order to  
461 reduce the ‘model’ effects induced by reflection from the model boundaries. In addition, tests were  
462 complimented without the existence of any structure (bare flume) in the wave channel in order to  
463 validate the inshore wave conditions.

464 The measured incident wave conditions within this study overall follow the Rayleigh distribution  
465 at deep-water. The resulting overtopping from benchmark experiments (impermeable foreshore)  
466 showed a good agreement with the empirical prediction of EurOtop (2018). For both permeable  
467 and impermeable slopes, it was also observed that the distribution of wave by wave volumes follow  
468 the two-parameter Weibull distribution. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed revised  
469 prediction methods from this two-dimensional experimental research study, would be applicable  
470 at prototype conditions with minimal ‘scale’ and ‘model’ effects, even though the further  
471 validation of the dataset would be desirable.

## 472 **6. Implications for Prediction Methods**

473 To estimate the overtopping characteristics at a sloping wall on a gravel foreshore, to date, there  
474 are relatively limited prediction tools available in the literature. For a ‘traditional’ impermeable  
475 foreshore slope, the new manual EurOtop (2018) recommended Equations 9-10 for the estimation  
476 of average overtopping rates at sloping structures. It is important to note that to predict the mean  
477 overtopping discharges at sloping walls with permeable foreshores, the prediction guidance  
478 suggested in this study can be considered as a development of those described in the overtopping  
479 manual. Within the experimental limitations, the results of this study demonstrate that the average



480 overtopping discharge is reduced noticeably for permeable gravel beaches, when compared to an  
481 impermeable slope (reference case). Therefore, a new set of prediction formulae (Equations 25-  
482 26) is proposed in this study for the estimation of average overtopping rates at a 1 in 2 sloping wall  
483 with a permeable gravel 1 in 20 foreshore configuration. A conservative method is suggested, i.e.  
484 an impermeable slope, see empirical expressions (Equations 9-10) as described by EurOtop  
485 (2018), when there is no other information available.

486 For the estimation of the average sediment discharges at a sloping structure on a permeable shingle  
487 beach, to date, there is no guidance available. Based on an analysis of the measured average  
488 sediment discharge, it is recommended to expect up to 1% of the sediment material within the  
489 overtopping waves.

490 As observed in Fig. 10, the measured values of probability of overtopping waves at a sloping  
491 structure on a gravel foreshore were lower compared to the impermeable foreshore. However, the  
492 measured maximum individual wave overtopping volumes for shingle beaches do not vary  
493 significantly (within a factor of 2) from those obtained for impermeable slopes, as shown in Fig.  
494 11. A correlation between overtopping wave volumes and number of overtopping waves for both  
495 impermeable and shingle beds is presented in Fig 12., also shown is a comparison of the  
496 distribution of overtopping volumes for various foreshore configurations for an incident wave  
497 height ( $H_{m0}$ ) of 100 mm with a wave steepness ( $s_{m-1,0}$ ) of 0.06. It is noticeable that for the  
498 impermeable foreshore configuration, a higher number of overtopping waves compared to the  
499 shingle foreshores for the same wave condition is observed. For example, the data points  
500 corresponding to the solid foreshore slope represent around 49% of overtopping waves, while the  
501 shingle bed  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm and  $d_{50}$  of 24 mm provide about 33% and 32% respectively.

502 It is however noticeable that the maximum wave by wave overtopping volumes on gravel beds  
503 overall do not differ significantly from those reported on impermeable beach configuration. For  
504 instance, the graph (Fig. 12) shows that the maximum individual overtopping volume of 3.0 litre  
505 per m width for the impermeable foreshore and 2.9 litre per m width for shingle bed  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm.  
506 This indicates that permeable shingle beaches lead to less wave overtopping events, and hence  
507 lower mean overtopping discharges, but the maximum individual overtopping volumes are similar  
508 for both cases. Considering the random characteristics of wave by wave overtopping volumes, the  
509 updated EurOtop manual (EurOtop 2018) also emphasized the significance of the influence of  
510 individual overtopping volumes on the tolerable overtopping discharges. We therefore recommend  
511 a conservative prediction of maximum individual overtopping volumes at sloping walls with  
512 permeable shingle beaches i.e. the predictions as stated by EurOtop (2018) considering a solid  
513 foreshore slope is suggested.

## 514 **7. Conclusions**

515 The average overtopping discharge, average sediment discharge, proportion of overtopping waves  
516 and, wave by wave overtopping volumes on a sloping structure, for both impermeable and  
517 permeable gravel foreshore configurations have been studied based on the experimental results  
518 and through a comparison with existing empirical formulations from literature. Our conclusions  
519 are summarised as follows:

- 520 — The measured baseline overtopping characteristics corresponding to the impermeable  
521 beach configuration (control condition) correlated well with the existing predictions for  
522 the tested conditions.

523 — The results on mean overtopping discharge showed that the overtopping is reduced for  
524 permeable foreshore slopes in comparison to impermeable slopes. A reduction factor of  
525 3.0 and 4.0 was reported for the gravel bed  $d_{50}$  (prototype) of 13 mm and  $d_{50}$  of 24 mm  
526 respectively.

527 — The measured volume of overtopped sediment was found approximately 1% of the total  
528 overtopping volume for the conditions covered within this study.

529 — For the tested conditions, the measured proportion of waves reduced by an average of 50%  
530 for relative freeboards of 1.0 to 2.0 compared with the empirical predictions, whereas on  
531 an average 75% reduction was observed for relative freeboards of 2.0 to 3.5.

532 — The measured values of wave by wave and maximum overtopping volumes for shingle  
533 beaches were somewhat similar (within a factor of 2) to those measured for impermeable  
534 slopes. This indicates that there is no obvious influence of gravel foreshore configurations  
535 on the Weibull distribution of overtopping volumes as well as on the maximum individual  
536 overtopping volumes for the conditions tested within this study.

537 For the prediction of overtopping characteristics at sloping structures on permeable gravel  
538 foreshores, a revised predictions tool is suggested.

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547

Accepted Version

549 **Notation**

<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Unit</b>
a	Scale parameter in Weibull distribution	[-]
b	Shape parameter in Weibull distribution	[-]
$d_{50}$	Mean sediment size	[mm]
g	Gravitational acceleration	[m/s <sup>2</sup> ]
h	Water depth at toe of the structure	[m]
$H_{m0}$	Significant wave height determined from spectra analysis	[m]
$L_{m-1,0}$	Spectral wave length based on linear theory ( $gT_{m-1,0}^2/2\pi$ )	[m]
$N_{ow}$	Number of overtopping waves	[-]
$N_w$	Number of incident waves	[-]
$P_{ov}$	Probability of overtopping per wave ( $N_{ow}/N_w$ )	[-]
P(V)	Probability of exceedance of overtopping volume	[-]
q	Mean overtopping discharge per m width	[m <sup>3</sup> /s per m]
$R_c$	Crest freeboard	[m]
$R_u$	Run-up level exceeded by 2% of incident waves	[m]
$s_{m-1,0}$	Wave steepness based on mean spectral period ( $2\pi H_{m0}/gT_{m-1,0}^2$ )	[-]
$s_{op}$	Wave steepness for spectral peak period ( $2\pi H_{m0}/gT_p^2$ )	[-]
$T_m$	Average wave period calculated from time series analysis	[s]
$T_{m-1,0}$	Average spectral wave period defined from spectral analysis by $m-1/m_0$	[s]
$T_p$	Spectral peak wave period	[s]
V	Volume of overtopping wave per m width	[m <sup>3</sup> per m]
$V_{bar}$	Mean overtopping volume per m width	[m <sup>3</sup> per m]
$V_{max}$	Maximum individual overtopping volume per m width	[m <sup>3</sup> per m]
$\alpha$	Slope of the structure	[radians]
$\gamma$	Peak enhancement factor of JONSWAP energy spectrum	[-]
$\lambda$	Model scale	[-]
$\xi_{m-1,0}$	Breaker parameter	[-]
$\Gamma$	Mathematical gamma function	[-]

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658 **List of Tables**

659 **Table 1**

660 Properties of model bed materials

Prototype $d_{50}$ [mm]	Model Scale	Model $d_{50}$ [mm]	Sp. Gravity of sediment $\rho_s$ [T/m <sup>3</sup> ] for threshold of motion	Sp. Gravity of sediment $\rho_s$ [T/m <sup>3</sup> ] for onshore or offshore movement
13	1:50	2.1	1.42	1.39
24	1:50	4.2	1.45	1.37

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662 **Table 2**

663 Overview of test matrix

Type of foreshore slope	Water depth, $h_t$ [mm]	Crest freeboard, $R_c$ [mm]	Spectral wave height, $H_{m0}$ [mm]	Nominal wave steepness, $s_{op}$ [-]	Wave Period, $T_p$ [s]
Impermeable	60	190	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Impermeable	75	245	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Impermeable	100	150	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Impermeable	150	100	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Impermeable	180	140	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Impermeable	200	50	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Permeable shingle ( $d_{50} = 13$ mm / $d_{50} = 24$ mm)	60	190	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Permeable shingle ( $d_{50} = 13$ mm / $d_{50} = 24$ mm)	75	245	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Permeable shingle ( $d_{50} = 13$ mm / $d_{50} = 24$ mm)	100	150	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Permeable shingle ( $d_{50} = 13$ mm / $d_{50} = 24$ mm)	150	100	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Permeable shingle ( $d_{50} = 13$ mm / $d_{50} = 24$ mm)	180	140	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43
Permeable shingle ( $d_{50} = 13$ mm / $d_{50} = 24$ mm)	200	50	50-160	0.02	1.27-2.26
				0.05	0.80-1.43

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667

668 **Table 3**

669 Nominal wave conditions

		T <sub>p</sub> [sec]									
s <sub>0p</sub> [-] / H <sub>m0</sub> [mm]	50	55	60	70	80	90	100	120	140	160	
0.02	1.27	1.33	1.39	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.79	1.96	2.12	2.26	
0.05	0.80	0.84	0.88	0.95	1.01	1.07	1.13	1.24	1.34	1.43	

670

671

672 **Table 4**

673 Ranges of application for the sloping structure with permeable foreshore considered within this

674 study

Minimum		Parameter		Maximum
0.80	≤	Relative Freeboard, R <sub>c</sub> /H <sub>m0</sub>	≤	4.5
0.015	≤	Wave Steepness, s <sub>0p</sub>	≤	0.05
2.0	<	Iribaren Number, I <sub>r</sub>		
2.0	=	Slope of the structure, Cotα		

675

676

677 **Table 5**

678 A comparison between the actual volume and measured volume using the overtopping

679 measurement system

No .of event	Actual Volume (ml)	Measured Volume (ml)	Actual error (ml)	Relative error (%)	RMSE (ml)
1	25	21	-4	-16.0	
2	50	45	-5	-10.0	
3	75	78	3	4.0	
4	100	93	-7	-7.0	
5	175	181	6	3.4	
6	200	189	-11	-5.5	
7	300	289	-11	-3.7	
8	500	511	11	2.2	9.38
9	750	742	-8	-1.1	
10	1000	988	-12	-1.2	
11	1250	1237	-13	-1.0	
12	1500	1489	-11	-0.7	
13	1250	1258	8	0.6	
14	1000	1008	8	0.8	
15	500	486	-14	-2.8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>8675</b>	<b>8615</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>9.38</b>

680

681

682 **Table 6**

683 The error measures of existing empirical equations for the prediction of overtopping rates at a  
 684 sloping wall with an impermeable foreshore

<b>Error Indicator</b>	<b>Goda (2009) – Eqns. (2-6)</b>	<b>Etemad-Shahidi and Jafari (2014) – Eqns. (7-8)</b>	<b>EurOtop (2018) – Eqn. (10)</b>
rmse	0.60	0.26	0.12
Bias	0.38	0.09	0.007

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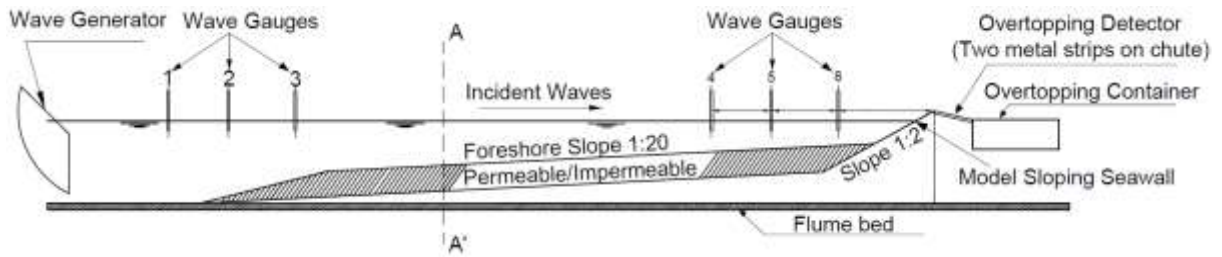
689 **Table 7**

690 The error measures of proposed equations for the prediction of overtopping rates at sloping walls  
 691 with permeable foreshores

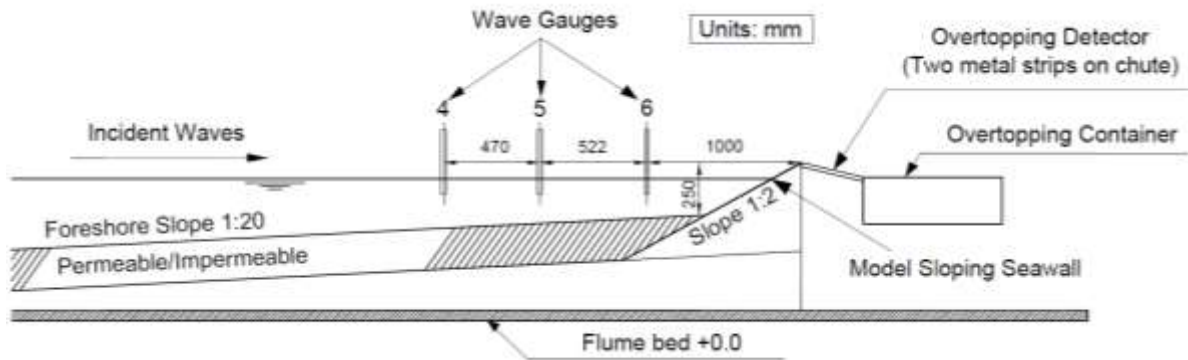
<b>Error Indicator</b>	<b>Eqn. 25 (Gravel <math>d_{50}</math> of 13 mm)</b>	<b>Eqn. 26 (Gravel <math>d_{50}</math> of 24 mm)</b>
rmse	0.14	0.15
Bias	0.03	0.10

696

List of Figures



a.



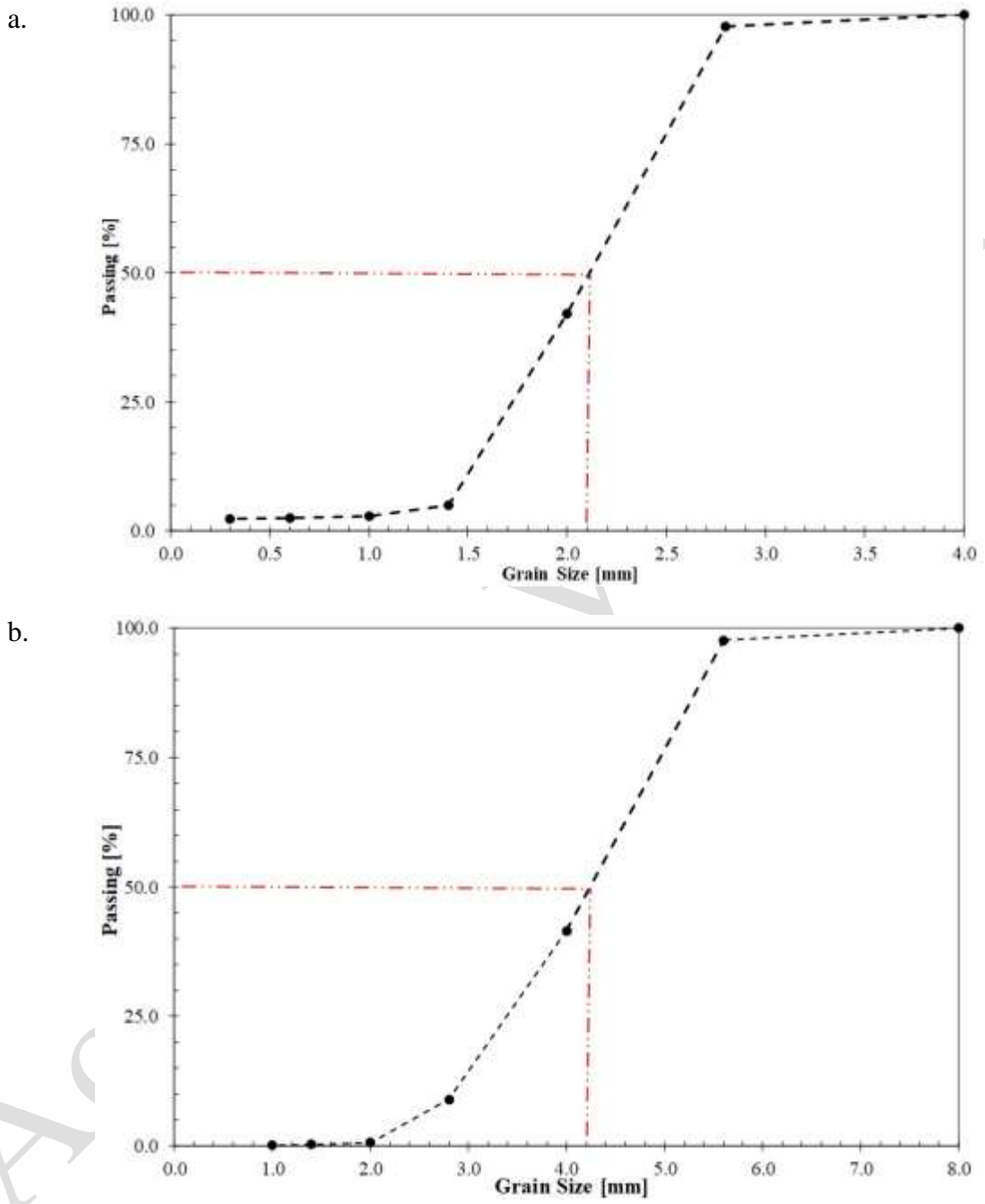
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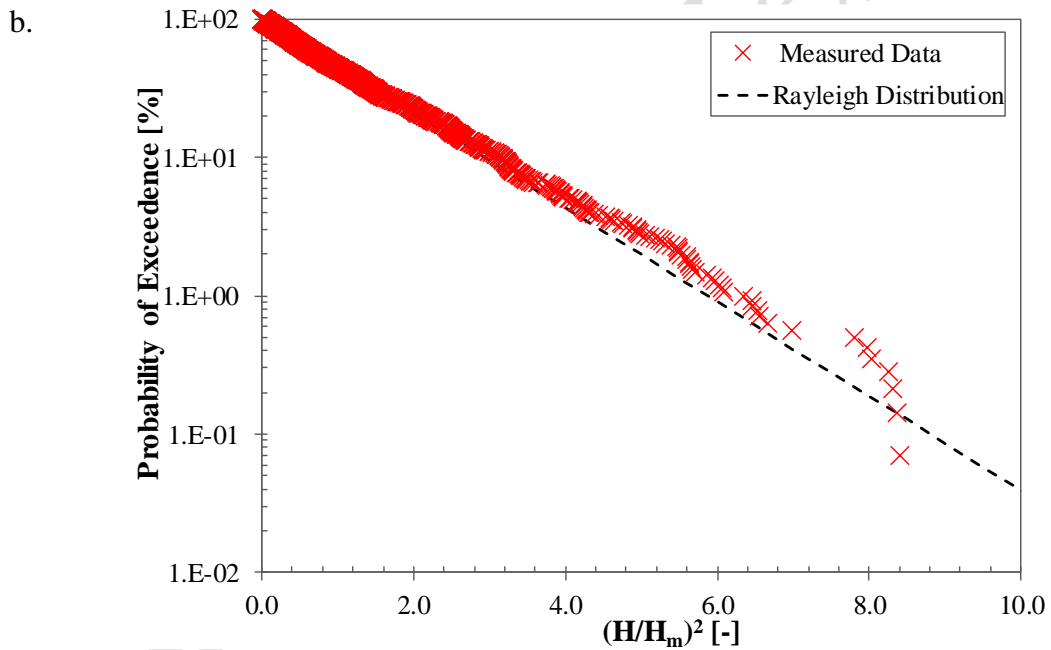
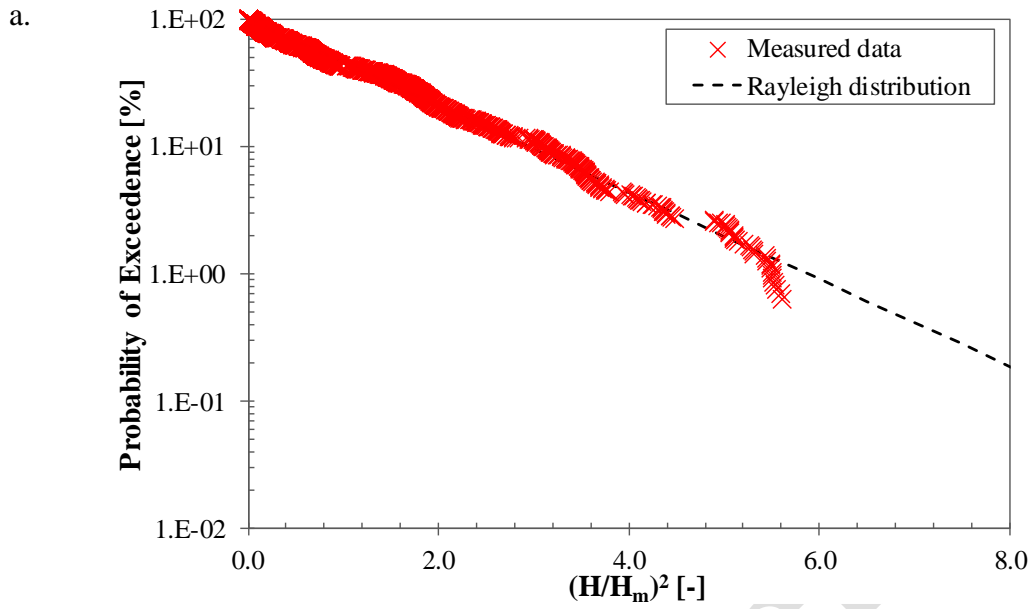
c.

698 **Fig. 1.** Experimental set-up a. Cross-section along the length of wave channel, b. The overtopping  
 699 measurement techniques and location of wave gauges (A-A'), c. Photograph of an experiment with  
 700 shingle foreshore  $d_{50}$  of 13 mm





702 **Fig. 2.** The grain size distribution curves of shingle anthracites - a) d<sub>50</sub> of 2.10 mm b) d<sub>50</sub> of 4.20  
703 mm; as used in Salauddin and Pearson (2019)



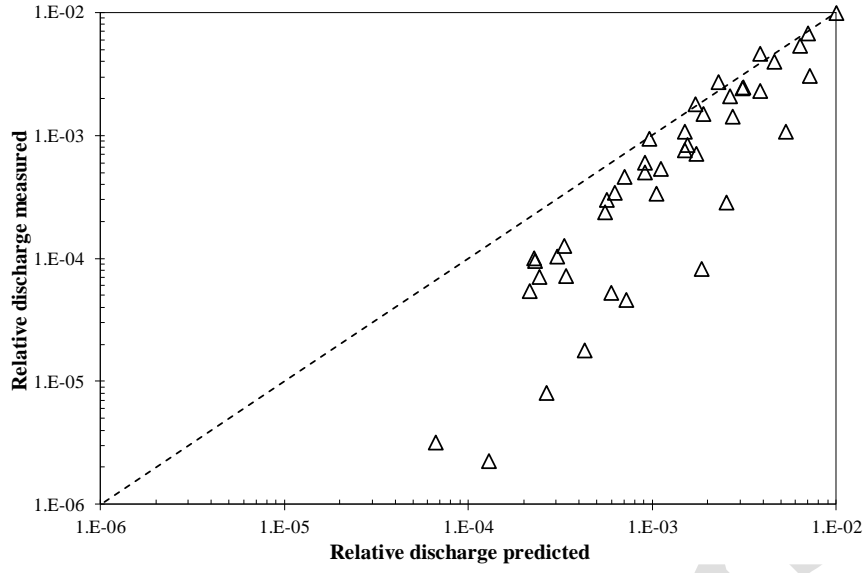
705 **Fig. 3.** A comparison between measured and predicted distribution of incident wave heights - a)

706

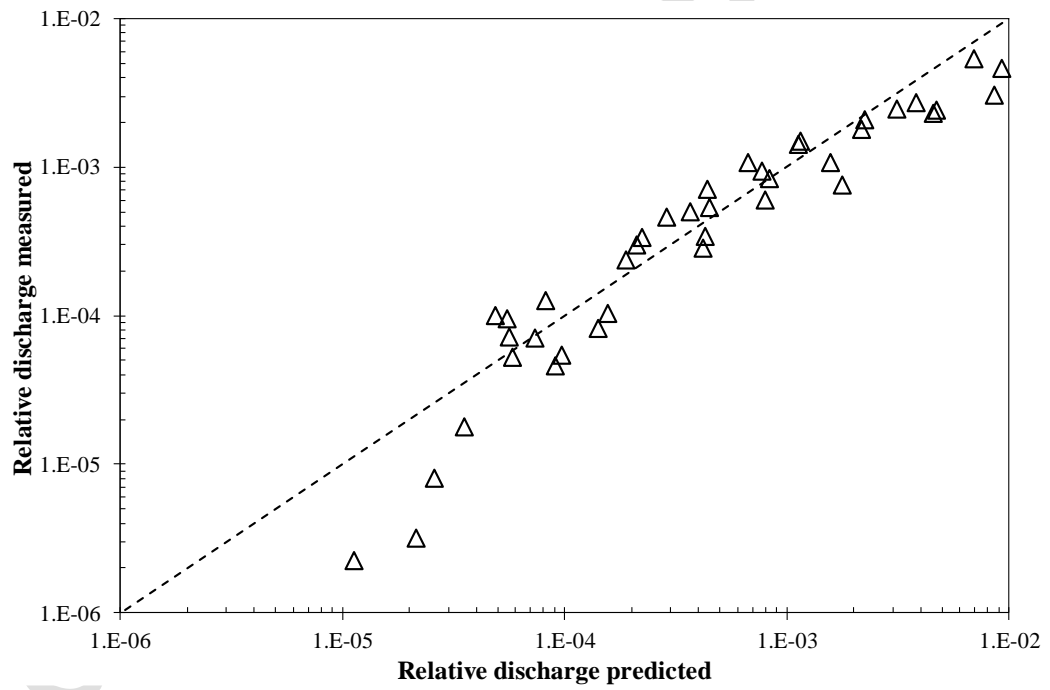
$s_{m-1,0} = 0.02, H_{m0} = 70 \text{ mm}$  b)  $s_{m-1,0} = 0.06, H_{m0} = 100 \text{ mm}$

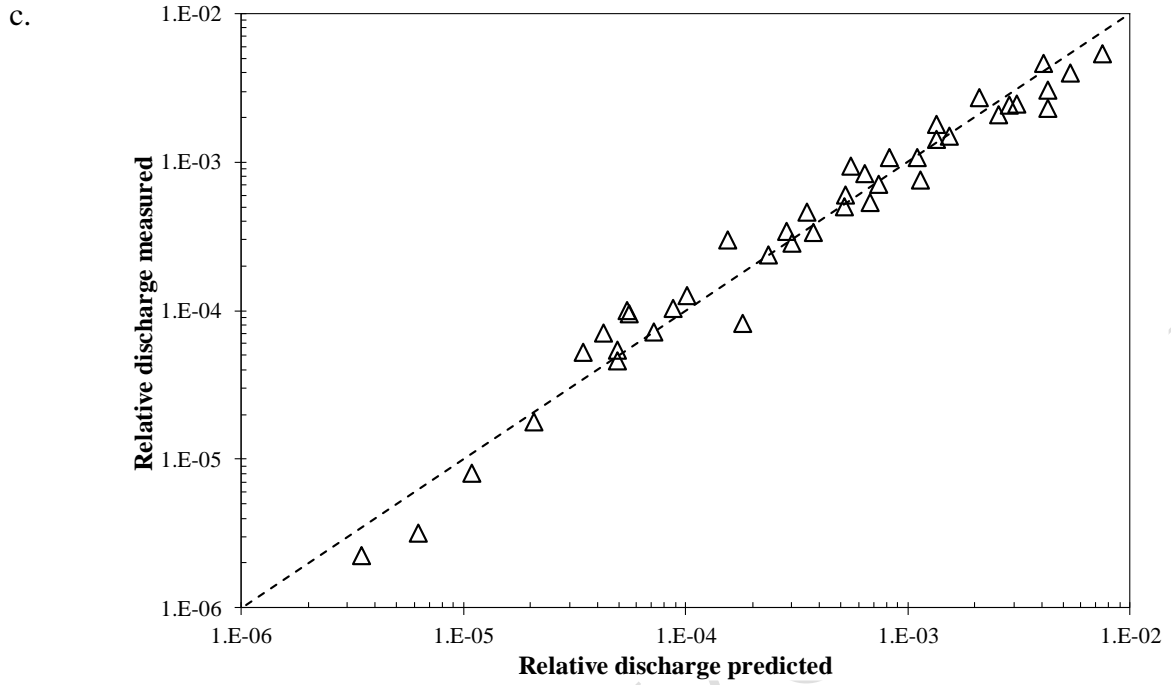
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a.



b.

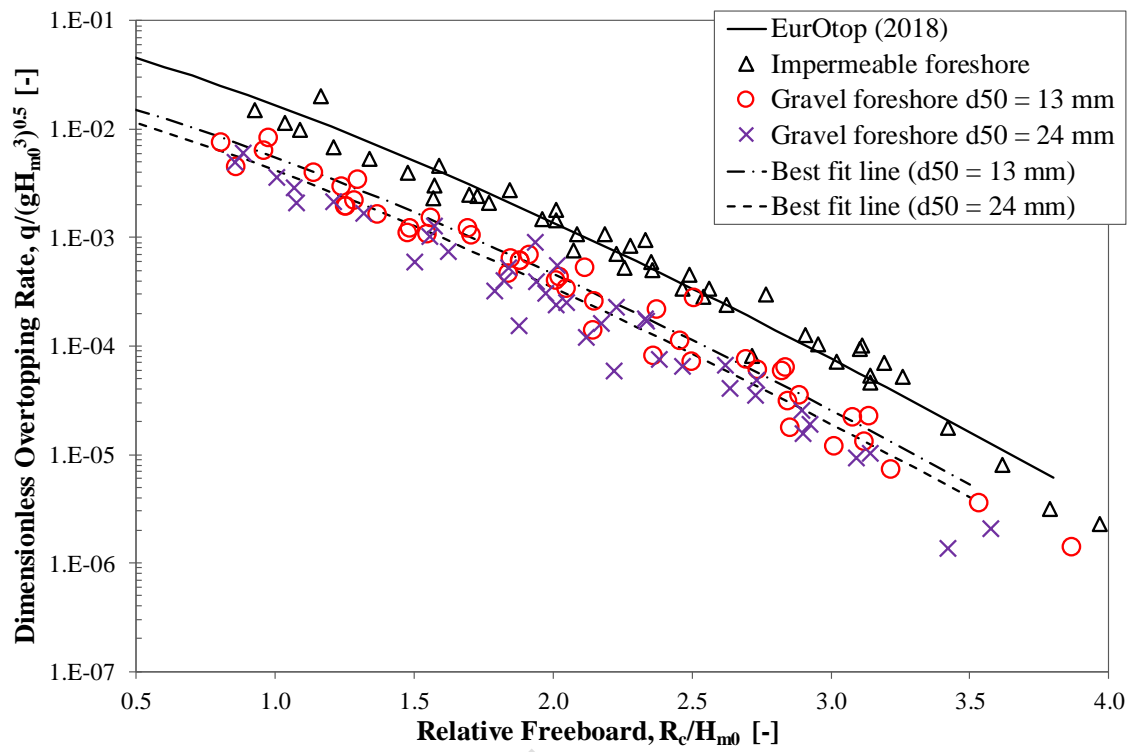




708 **Fig. 4.** Measured relative overtopping discharges at a sloping wall on an impermeable foreshore,  
 709 compared to the prediction of a) Goda (2009), b) Etemad-Shahidi and Jafari (2014) and c)  
 710 EurOtop (2018)

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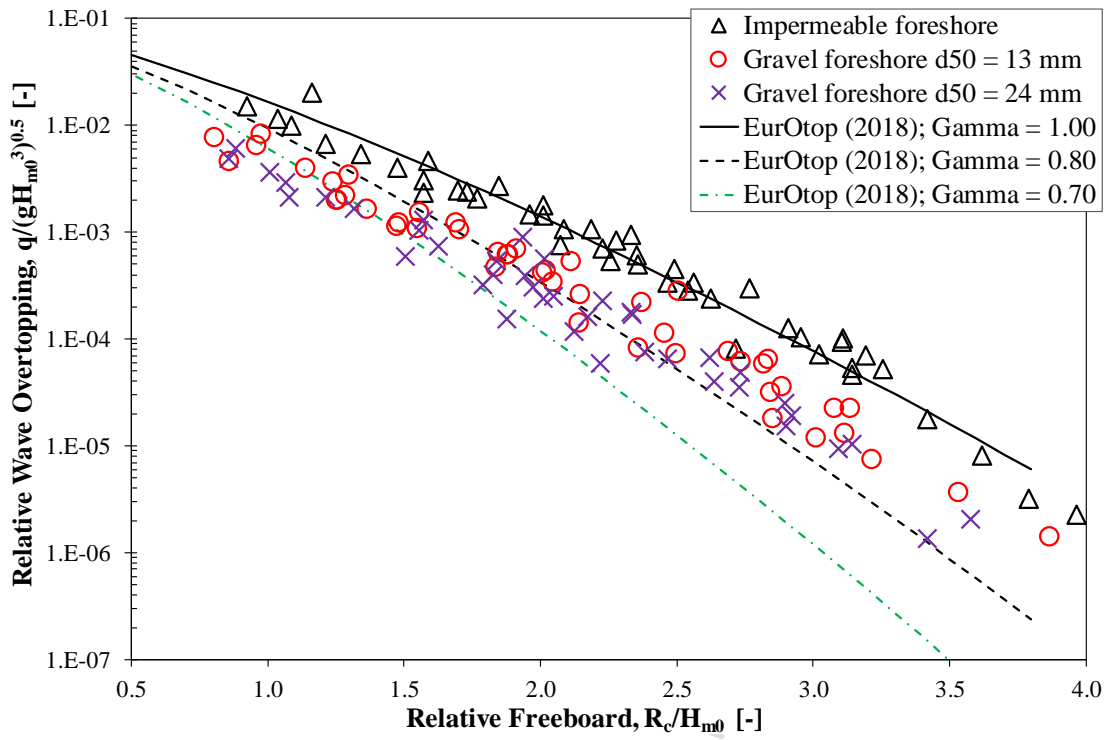
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712 **Fig. 5.** Dimensionless average overtopping rate against relative freeboard at sloping walls

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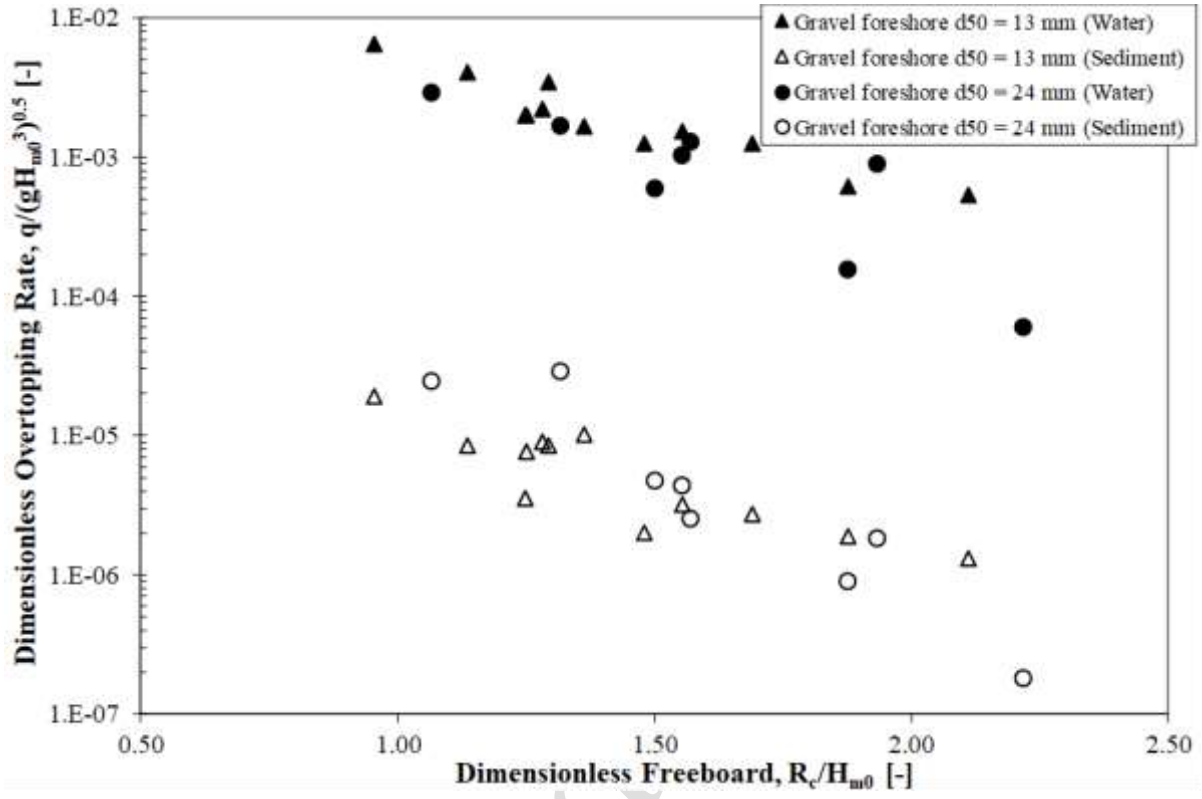
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**Fig. 6.** Estimation of roughness factor for the influence of permeable foreshore

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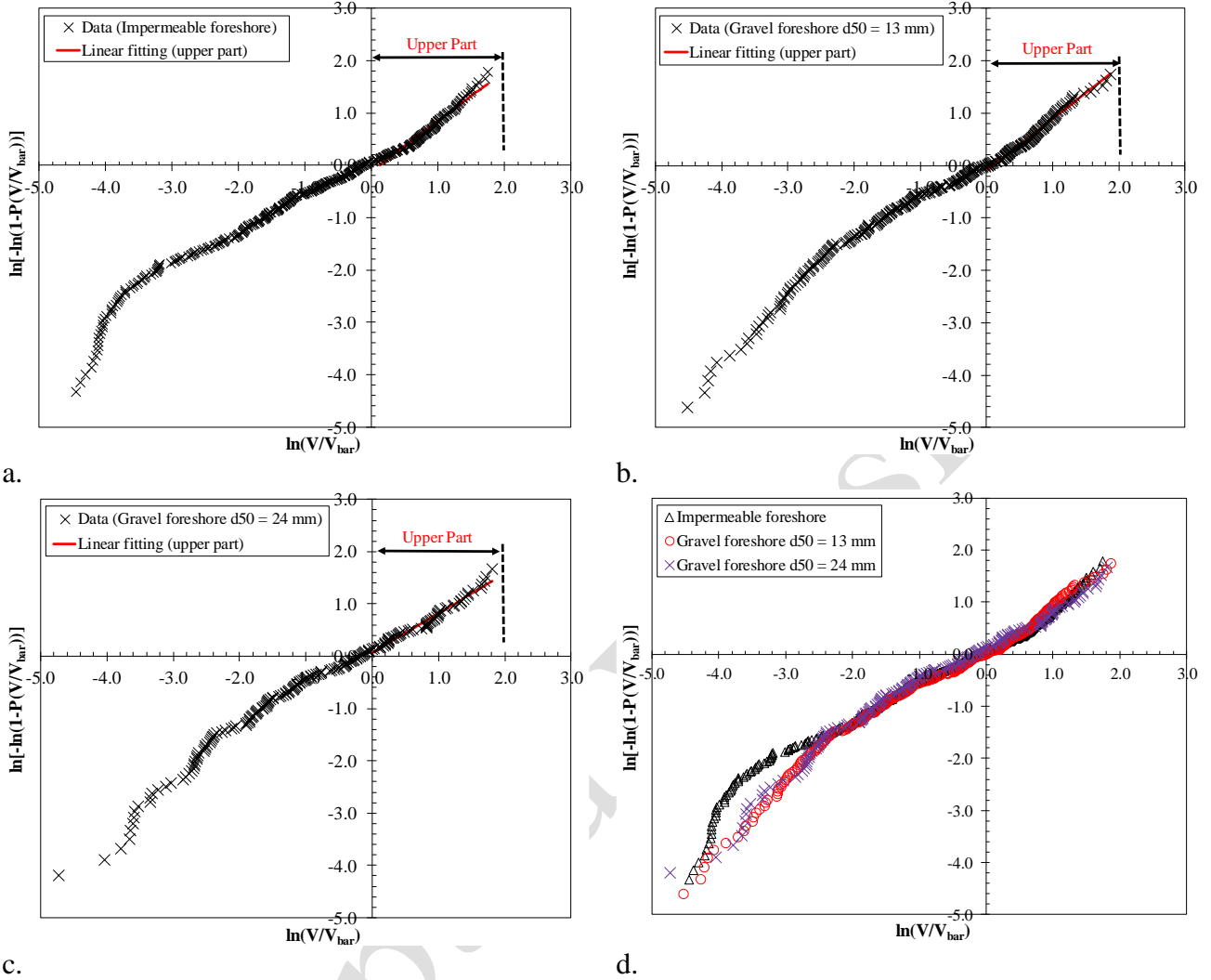


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**Fig. 7.** A comparison between average overtopping rate of water and sediment at sloping walls

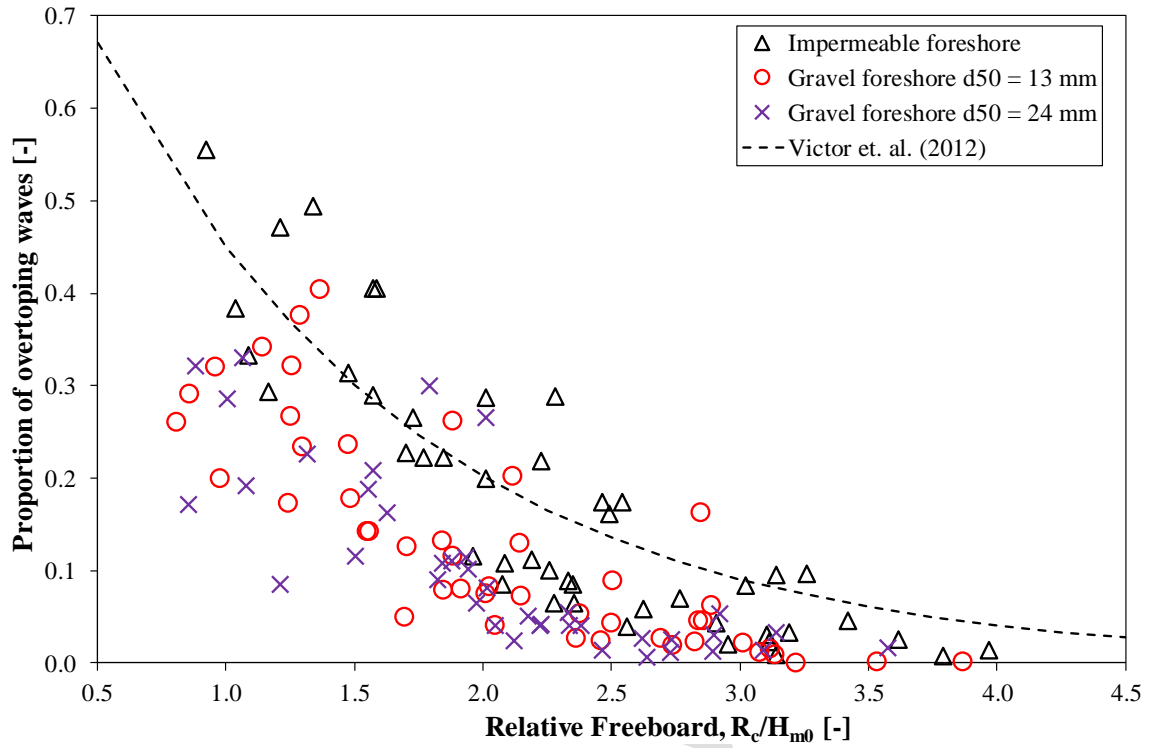
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720 **Fig. 8.** Weibull distribution of individual overtopping volumes for an incident significant wave  
 721 height ( $H_{m0}$ ) of 70 mm with a wave steepness ( $s_{m-1,0}$ ) of 0.02 - a) Impermeable foreshore b) Gravel  
 722 foreshore  $d_{50} = 13$  mm and c) Gravel foreshore  $d_{50} = 24$  mm and d) Variation of wave by wave  
 723 volumes at sloping structures with different foreshore configurations

724

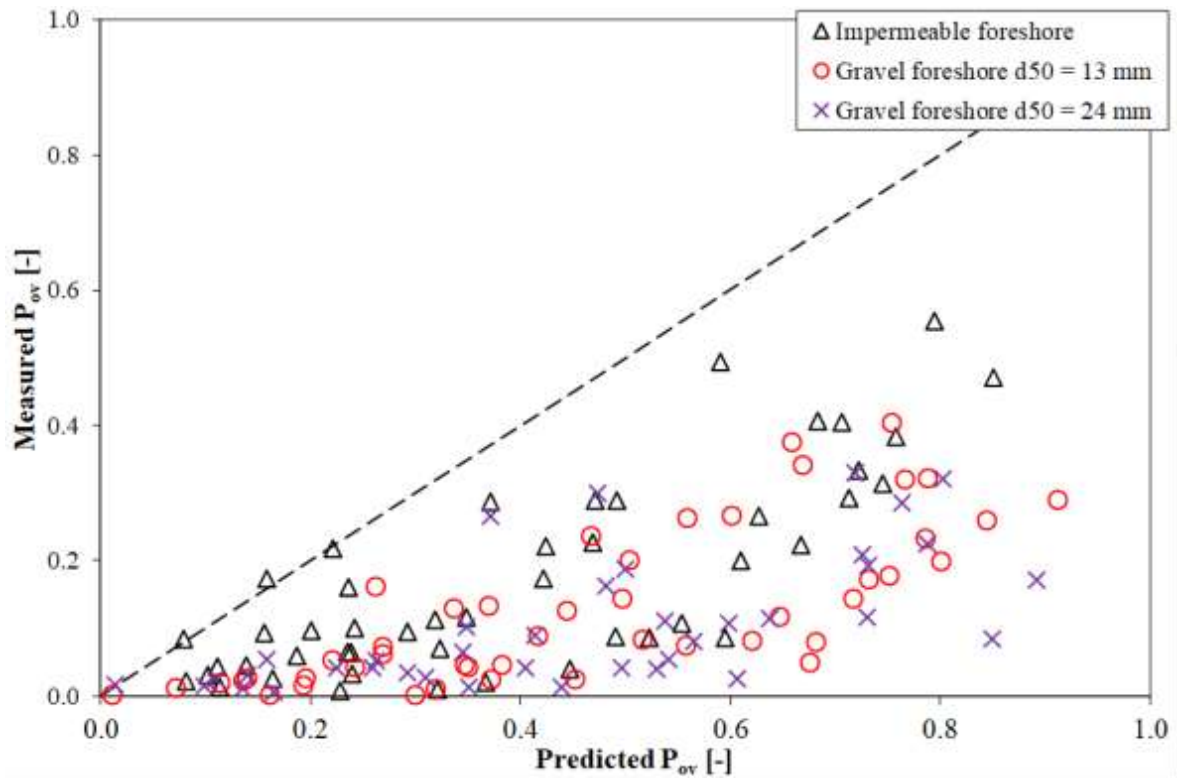




725 **Fig. 9.** Proportion of overtopping waves at sloping structures for both impermeable and  
 726 permeable foreshore configurations

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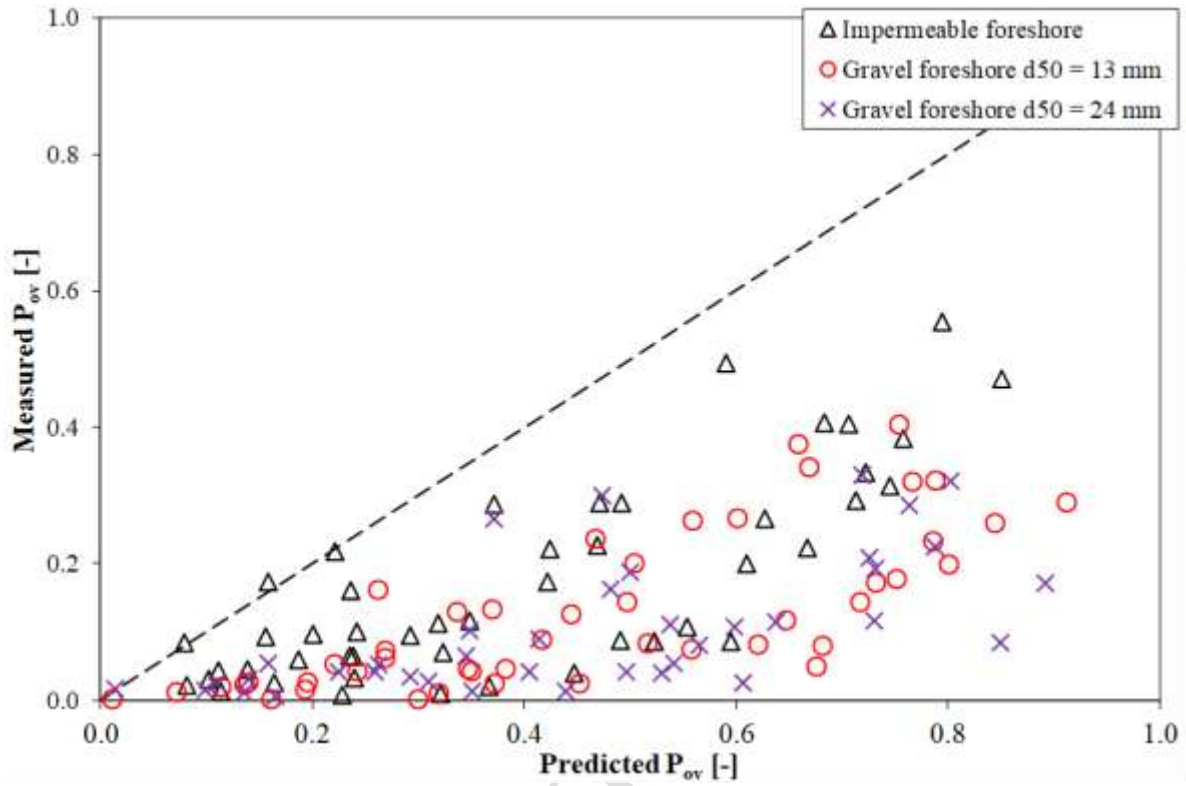
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**Fig. 10.** A comparison of measured and predicted proportion of overtopping waves

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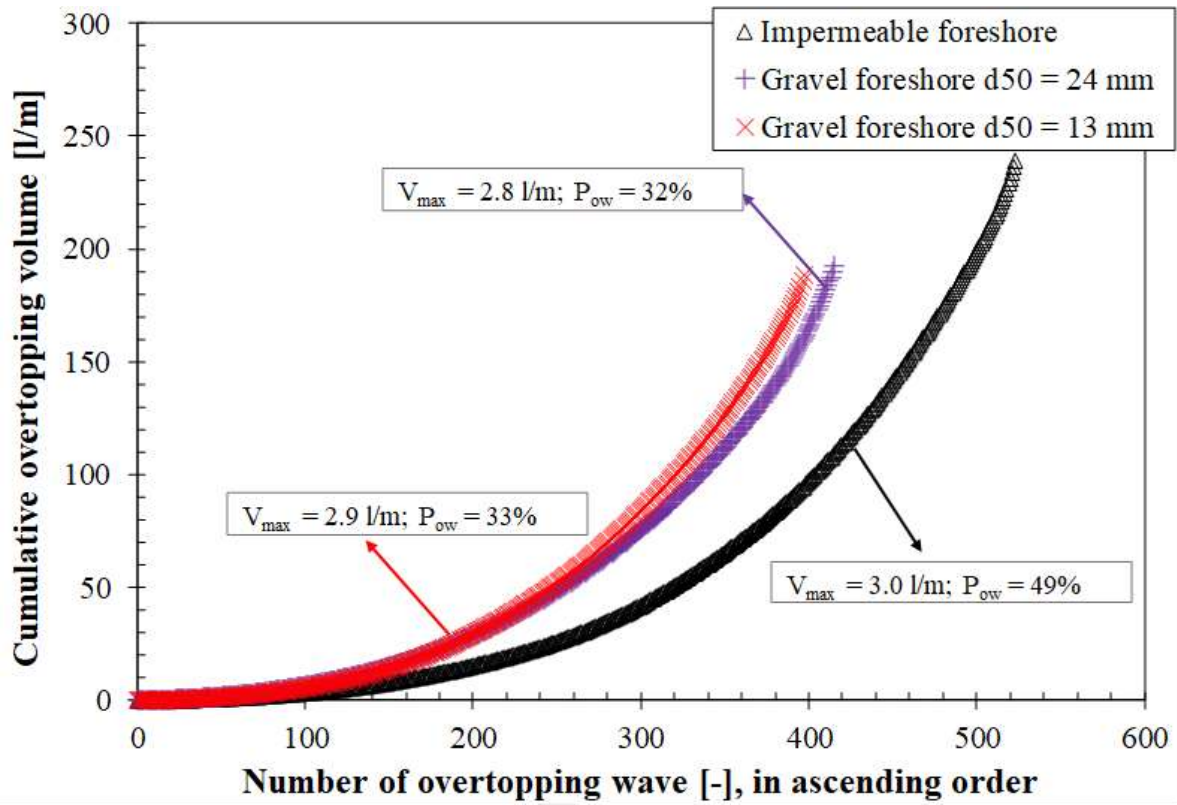


731

**Fig. 11.** A comparison of measured and predicted maximum overtopping volumes

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733 **Fig. 12.** Cumulative wave overtopping volumes against number of overtopping waves at sloping  
 734 structures with both impermeable and permeable foreshore configurations for

735  $s_{m-1,0} = 0.06$ ,  $H_{m0} = 100$  mm

736