Storage Tank Dike Design



George Harriott Computational Modeling Center Air Products

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Tank Rupture Consequences

- Molasses tank, Boston MA, 1919, 2.5x10⁶ gallons, 21 fatalities
- Water tank, Juarez, MX, 1986, 7.5 x10⁵ gallons, 4 fatalities
- Oil tank, Floreffe PA, 1988, 3.8x10⁶ gallons
- Molasses tank, Loveland CO, 1990, 6.2 x10⁵ gallons
- HCI tank, McDonald, PA, 2002, 10⁴ gallons

Floreffe Aftermath



Regulatory Requirements

 Secondary containment volume must be sufficient to hold the contents of the tank (EPA/OSHA).

• Fire code constraints

• Dynamics <u>not</u> considered!

Design Considerations

- Dike height
- Dike diameter
- Dike shape

- Complete tank rupture
- Small hole in tank wall

Rupture Flow Scales

- Height: $H \sim 10 \text{ m}$
- Distance: L ~ 10 m
- Velocity: (gH)^{1/2} ~ 10 m/s
- Time: $L/(gH)^{1/2} \sim 1 s$
- Reynolds number: Re $\sim 10^8$



Initial Condition

Shallow-Water Theory

- Depth-averaged inviscid equations of motion
- Exact mass balance
- Hydrostatic pressure
- Analogous to compressible gas dynamics

$$\dot{h} + \nabla \bullet (hu) = 0$$

$$\dot{u} \Rightarrow \qquad h$$

$$\dot{u} + u \bullet \nabla u + \nabla h = 0$$

Shock Conditions

Multi-valued SWT solutions



• Supplemental jump equations

$$(u^+ - \lambda)h^+ - (u^- - \lambda)h^- = 0$$

$$\left(u^{+}-\lambda\right)^{2}h^{+}-\left(u^{-}-\lambda\right)^{2}h^{-}+\frac{1}{2}\left((h^{+})^{2}-(h^{-})^{2}\right)=0$$



Numerical Pitfalls

• Diffusive Errors



• Dispersive Errors



Computational Methods

• Method of Characteristics

• Explicit Finite-Difference (Lax, FCT, WENO)

• Implicit Finite Element (DG, SUPG)

• Projection Methods (POD)

Method of Characteristics

$$\phi = \begin{cases} h \\ u \end{cases} \implies \mathbf{A} \cdot \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{B} \cdot \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \psi = 0$$

Eigenvalue: $\lambda (\xi \cdot \mathbf{A}) = \xi \cdot \mathbf{B}$

$$(\boldsymbol{\xi} \cdot \mathbf{A}) \cdot \left\{ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \lambda \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right\} + \boldsymbol{\xi} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi} = 0$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\xi} \cdot \mathbf{A}) \cdot \frac{d\phi}{dt} + \boldsymbol{\xi} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi} = 0 \quad : \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \lambda$$

Simple Planar Wave

Wavespeed : $c = \sqrt{h}$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} \pm c \frac{du}{dt} = 0 \quad : \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = u \pm c$$



Lax FD Method



$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} = 0: \ q \equiv uh$$

↓

$$h_{i,j+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(h_{i-1,j} + h_{i+1,j} \right) - \left(\frac{\Delta t}{2\Delta x} \right) \left(q_{i+1,j} - q_{i-1,j} \right)$$

Planar Rupture Splash



Complete Rupture Symmetric Planar Flow



Polar Rupture Splash



Complete Rupture Symmetric Polar Flow



Similarity Solution

$$0 \le r \le R(t) = \sqrt{\alpha^2 + 4t^2} \qquad h(r,t) = 2\frac{\alpha^2}{R^2} \left(1 - \frac{r^2}{R^2}\right) \qquad u(r,t) = \frac{4rt}{R^2}$$



r

Polar Parabaloid Splash



Rupture Flow Experiments

- Greenspan & Young (1978)
 - (a) planar flow, validated SWT
 - (b) sloped dikes particularly ineffective
 - (c) initial splash exceeds tank height

- Greenspan & Johansson (1981)
 - (a) polar flow
 - (b) dike shape study
 - (c) proposed trip rings, deflectors





Figure 6. (a) Schematic of the channel flow experiment. The removable wall is at O; the dike of height a is inclined at an angle θ with the horizontal. (b) The ten dike designs tested with measured overflows. The maximum height is a in each case, and the condition of equal storage and containment volume was maintained in all tests.

Summary

• Low (equilibrium) dikes do not contain rupture flow

• Shallow Water Theory can be applied to address:

(a) small hole splash

(b) dike overflow

(c) multiple dike interaction

• Small-scale experiments are representative