

Australian Standard™

Measurement of water flow in open channels

**Part 3.6: Velocity-area methods—
Measurement of flow in tidal channels**

[ISO title: Measurement of liquid flow in open channels under tidal conditions]



S t a n d a r d s Australia

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CE-024, Measurement of Water Flow in Open Channels and Closed Conduits. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 25 September 2000 and published on 12 March 2001.

The following interests are represented on Committee CE-024:

Australian Water and Wastewater Association
Department of Natural Resources, Qld
Institute of Instrumentation and Control Australia
Department of Land and Water Conservation, New South Wales
Department of Public Works and Services, New South Wales
South Australian Water Corporation
Sydney Water Corporation
University of New South Wales
University of Adelaide
University of Technology, Sydney

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Australia website at www.standards.com.au and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

Alternatively, the printed Catalogue provides information current at 1 January each year, and the monthly magazine, *The Australian Standard*, has a full listing of revisions and amendments published each month.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at mail@standards.com.au, or write to the Chief Executive, Standards Australia International Ltd, GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001.

Australian Standard™

Measurement of water flow in open channels

**Part 3.6: Velocity-area methods—
Measurement of flow in tidal channels**

Originated as AS 3778.3.6—1990.
Second edition 2001.

COPYRIGHT

© Standards Australia International

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher.

Published by Standards Australia International Ltd
GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 3650 5

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee, CE-024, Measurement of Water Flow in Open Channels and Closed Conduits.

The Standard is identical to and is reproduced from ISO 2425:1999, *Measurement of liquid flow in open channels under tidal conditions*.

This Standard is Part 3.6 of AS 3778, *Measurement of water flow in open channels*, which is published in parts as follows:

AS

3778		Measurement of water flow in open channels
3778.1	Part 1:	Vocabulary and symbols
3778.2	Part 2:	General
3778.2.1	Part 2.1:	Guidelines for the selection of methods of measurement
3778.2.2	Part 2.2:	Establishment and operation of a gauging station
3778.2.3	Part 2.3:	Determination of the stage-discharge relation
3778.2.4	Part 2.4:	Estimation of uncertainty of a flow-rate measurement
3778.2.5	Part 2.5:	Guidelines for the selection of flow gauging structure
3778.3	Part 3:	Velocity-area method
3778.3.1	Part 3.1:	Measurement by current meters and floats
3778.3.2	Part 3.2:	Measurement by moving boat method
3778.3.3	Part 3.3:	Measurement by slope-area method
3778.3.4	Part 3.4:	Collection and processing of data and determination of errors in measurement
3778.3.5	Part 3.5:	Investigation of total error
3778.3.6	Part 3.6:	Measurement of flow in tidal channels (this Standard)
3778.3.7	Part 3.7:	Measurement by ultrasonic (acoustic) method
3778.3.8	Part 3.8:	Electromagnetic method using a full-channel-width coil
3778.4	Part 4:	Measurement using flow gauging structures
3778.4.1	Part 4.1:	Thin-plate weirs
3778.4.2	Part 4.2:	Rectangular broad-crested weirs
3778.4.3	Part 4.3:	Round-nose horizontal broad-crested weirs
3778.4.4	Part 4.4:	V-shaped broad-crested weirs
3778.4.5	Part 4.5:	Triangular profile weirs
3778.4.6	Part 4.6:	Flat-V weirs
3778.4.7	Part 4.7:	Rectangular, trapezoidal and U-shaped flumes
3778.4.8	Part 4.8:	Trapezoidal profile weirs
3778.4.9	Part 4.9:	Parshall and Saniiri flumes
3778.4.10	Part 4.10:	End-depth method for estimation of flow in rectangular channels with a free overfall
3778.4.11	Part 4.11:	End-depth method for estimation of flow in rectangular channels with a free overfall (approximate method)
3778.5	Part 5:	Dilution method
3778.5.1	Part 5.1:	Constant-rate injection method for the measurement of steady flow
3778.5.2	Part 5.2:	Integration method for the measurement of steady flow
3778.6	Part 6:	Measuring devices, instruments and equipment
3778.6.1	Part 6.1:	Rotating element current-meters
3778.6.2	Part 6.2:	Direct depth sounding and suspension equipment
3778.6.3	Part 6.3:	Calibration of rotating element current meters in straight open tanks
3778.6.4	Part 6.4:	Echo sounders for water depth measurements
3778.6.5	Part 6.5:	Water level measuring devices
3778.6.6	Part 6.6:	Cableway system for stream gauging
3778.6.7	Part 6.7:	Ultrasonic (acoustic) velocity meters
3778.6.8	Part 6.8:	Position fixing equipment for hydrometric boats

Under arrangements made between Standards Australia and the international Standards bodies, ISO and IEC, as well as certain other Standards organisations, users of this Australian Standard are advised of the following:

- (a) Copyright is vested in Standards Australia.
- (b) The number of this Standard is not reproduced on each page, its identity is shown only on the cover and title pages.
- (c) In the source text 'this standard' should read 'this Australian Standard'.
- (d) Where the word 'fluid' appears, it should read 'water'.
- (e) A full point should be substituted for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

References to International Standards should be replaced by references to equivalent Australian Standards, as follows:

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>		<i>Australian Standard</i>	
ISO		AS	
772	Liquid flow measurement in open channels—Vocabulary and symbols	3778	Measurement of water flow in open channels
		3778.1	Part 1: Vocabulary and symbols
748	Liquid flow measurement in open channels—Velocity area methods		
4369	Liquid flow measurement in open channels—The moving-boat method	3778.3.1	Part 3.1: Velocity-area methods—Measurement by current-meters and floats
6416	Liquid flow measurement in open channels—Measurement of discharge by the ultrasonic (acoustic) method	3778.3.7	Part 3.7: Velocity-area methods—Measurement by ultrasonic (acoustic) method

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Principles of methods of measurement	2
5 Special considerations and choice of method	3
6 Measurement of tidal flow	5
7 Uncertainties in tidal flow measurement	10
Annex A (informative) Measurement of tidal flow by the cubature method	14
Annex B (informative) Flow measurement methods suitable for tidal conditions	17
Annex C (informative) Record of velocity measurement of a tidal river (see 6.1)	20
Bibliography	22

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Measurement of water flow in open channels

Part 3.6

Velocity-area methods—Measurement of flow in tidal channels

1 Scope

This International Standard provides a summary of a selection of recommended methods available for the measurement of liquid flow in tidal channels, special consideration being given to those techniques that are either unique to or particularly appropriate for measurement under tidal conditions, including treatment of errors.

Reference is also made, where appropriate, to methods developed for measurement in non-tidal channels, but in such cases attention is drawn to their limitations with respect to practicality and/or accuracy.

This International Standard does not describe alternative methods, such as weirs, flumes, dilution gauging, salt velocity and floats, although they may be suitable under certain conditions (especially where the effect of tides only impedes and does not stop or reverse the passage of stream flow). These methods are described in detail in other International Standards.

The standard comprises two parts:

- a) techniques for single measurements of tidal flow;
- b) techniques appropriate for continuous measurement of tidal flow.

The cubature method of measurement, although currently not used, is included in annex A. Annex B presents methods suitable for measurement for tidal conditions, and annex C gives an example of the computation for a single vertical. Similar computations may be made for other verticals.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 772:1977, *Measurement of liquid flow in open channels — Velocity-area methods*.

ISO 772:1996, *Hydrometric determinations — Vocabulary and symbols*.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the terms and definitions given in ISO 772 apply.