Introduction to Sediment Transport in Open Channel Flows



Image source: http://earthsci.org/processes/geopro/stream/stream.html

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Movies

Scour at bridge model pier

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=485 k6qAmsY&feature=emb logo

Utah Flash Flood

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXIr Bgb-s0

Santa Clara Pueblo Flash Flood

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKOQzkRi4BQ

Sediment Transport

- We study sediment transport to predict the risks of scouring of bridges, to estimate the siltation of a reservoir, etc.
- Most, if not all, natural channels have **mobile** beds
- Most mobile beds are in dynamic equilibrium: on average: sediment in = sediment out
- This dynamic equilibrium can be disturbed by
 - short-term extreme events (e.g., flash floods)
 - man-made infrastructure (e.g., dams)



Source: https://www.flow3d.com/modeling-capabilities/sediment-transport-model/

Sediment Transport Fundamental Questions:



- If so, then at what rate? (Sediment load)
- What net effect does it have on the bed?
 (Scour/accretion)

The main types of sediment load (volume of sediment per unit of time) are **Bed load and Suspended load**. The sum is total load





Bed form motion (Cont.)



Source: https://armfield.co.uk/product/s8-mkii-sediment-transport-demonstration-channel/

Relevant Properties

- Particle
- -Diameter, d
- -Specific gravity, $s = \rho_s / \rho_r$
- Settling velocity, W_c
- Porosity, P
- -Angle of repose, ϕ

• Fluid

- -Density, p

-Kinematic viscosity, v $(20^{\circ}c) = 10^{\circ} m^{2}/s$

Flow

- -Bed shear stress, τ_h
- -Mean-velocity profile, U(z)
- -Eddy-viscosity profile, $v_t(z)$

$$J_{s}[sand] = 2,650 Mg$$

 $g[water] = 1,000 Mg/m^{3}$
 $\frac{P_{s}}{g} = 2.65$

S[Quartz] = 2,650 kg

Inception of Motion

- Inception and magnitude of bed-load depends on:
 - -bed shear stress τ_b
 - -particle diameter d and specific gravity s

- Inception of suspended load depends on ratio of:
 - -settling velocity W_s
 - -typical turbulent velocity (friction velocity u_{τ})

Particle Properties: Diameter d

Various types:

- Sieve diameter
- Sedimentation diameter
- Nominal diameter

Туре	Diameter
Boulders	> <u>256 mm</u>
Cobbles	64 mm – 256 mm
Gravel	2 mm – 64 mm
Sand	0.06 mm – 2 mm
Silt	0.002 mm – 0.06 mm
Clay	< 0.002 mm (cohesive)

In practice, there is a range of diameters (typically, lognormally distributed).

Particle Properties: Specific Gravity S $s = \frac{\rho_s}{\rho}$

Quartz-like: $\rho_s \approx 2650 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $s \approx 2.65$ Anthracite: $\rho_s \approx 1500 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $s \approx 1.50$

Particle Properties: Porosity P

Porosity = fraction of voids (by volume) Typical uncompacted sediment: $P \approx 0.4$.

Particle Properties: Settling Velocity w_s

Terminal velocity in still fluid.



Particle Properties: Angle of Repose $oldsymbol{\phi}$



 μ_f = Effective **coefficient of friction**

Can be used to estimate the effect of slopes on incipient motion

Flow Properties: Bed Friction

Bed shear stress τ_b

- Drag (per unit area) of flow on granular bed.
- Determines inception and magnitude of **bed load**.

Friction velocity (x)
 Triction
 friction
 friction
 friction
 friction
 friction
 friction

$$au_b =
ho u_{ au}^2$$
 or $u_{ au} = \sqrt{ au_b/
ho}$

Determines inception and magnitude of suspended load.

Flow Properties: Mean-Velocity Profile

For a **rough** boundary:





 u_r = friction velocity; κ = von Kármán's constant (\approx 0.41); z = distance from the bed; k_s = roughness height (1.0 - 2.5 times particle diameter).

Flow Properties: Eddy-Viscosity Profile

A model for the effective shear stress τ in a turbulent flow:

 $\tau = \mu_t \frac{dU}{dz} \text{ or } \tau = \rho v_t \frac{dU}{dz}$ $\mu_t \text{ and } v_t \text{ are the dynamic and kinematic eddy viscosities, respectiv.}$ At the bed (z = 0): $\tau = \tau_b \equiv \rho u_\tau^2$ At the free surface (z = h): $\tau = 0$

Assuming linear: $\tau = \rho u_{\tau}^2 (1 - z/h)$ From stress and mean-velocity profiles: $\rho u_{\tau}^2 (1 - \frac{z}{h}) = \rho v_t \frac{\mu_{\tau}}{\kappa_z}$

$$\mathbf{v}_t = \mathbf{\kappa} \underline{u}_{\tau} z (1 - \frac{z}{h})$$



Formulas For Bed Shear Stress

Normal flow: $\tau_b = \rho g R_h S$

Manning's formula:
$$V = \frac{k}{n} R_h^{2/3} S^{1/2}$$

Strickler's formula: $n = \frac{d^{1/6}}{21.1}$

 $R_h =$ hydraulic radius in m

S = bed slope

d = is the particle diameter in m

Typical values: $n \approx 0.01$ to 0.035 m^{-1/3}s

Via a friction coefficient: $\tau_b = c_f \left(\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2\right)$

Fully-developed boundary $C_f = \frac{0.34}{\left[\ln\left(\frac{12h}{k_s}\right)\right]^2}$ layer (log-law):

Typical values of friction coefficient $c_f \approx 0.003$ to 0.01

Shields

Finding the Threshold of Motion



Soulsby, R., 1997, "Dynamics of Marine Sands", Thomas Telford.

Example (Adapted from Apsley, hydraulic notes):

Find the critical Shields parameter τ^*_{crit} and critical absolute stress τ_{crit} for a sand particle of diameter 1 mm in water.

1mm For a sand particle $S = \frac{R}{2} = \frac{2650}{2}$ Tcrit⁷ S = 2.65 * Zcrit (Soulsby formula) -0.050 g $\frac{0.50}{1+1.2d*} + 0.055(1-e)$ $i_{1} = 0.30$ 1.65×9.8 25.3

In (i)

$$C_{crit}^{*} = \frac{0.30}{1+1.2\times25.3} + 0.055(1-e^{-0.02\times25.3})$$

 $C_{crit}^{*} = 0.03141$ Critical Shieds
 $Parameter$
* $C_{crit}^{*} = \frac{0.03141}{2}$ Parameter
* $C_{crit}^{*} = \frac{C_{bcrit}}{g(s-1)gd}$
 $C_{bcrit} = \frac{1}{2}C_{crit} p(s-1)gd$
 $C_{bcrit} = 0.03141 + 1000(1.65) * 9.81 \times \frac{1}{1000}$
 $C_{bcrit} = 0.508 \frac{N}{m^{2}}$

Example (Adapted from Apsley, hydraulic notes):

A sluice gate is lowered into a wide channel carrying a discharge of $0.9 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ per meter width. The bed of the channel is coarse gravel with particle diameter 60 mm and density 2650 kg/m³. The critical Shields parameter is 0.056 and the bed friction coefficient is 0.01. The particles of gravel have settling velocity 1.1 m/s. Initially the bed of the channel under the sluice is horizontal and the depth of flow just upstream of the gate is 2.5 m.

(a) Show that the bed is stationary upstream of the gate.

(b) Determine the initial water depth just downstream of the gate. Show that the bed is mobile here.

(c) Assuming that the downstream water level is set by the gate and the discharge remains constant, find the final depth of scour and the final depths of flow upstream and downstream of the gate.

$$q = \left(\frac{Q}{b}\right) = 0.9 \frac{m^2}{3}$$

 $d = 60 \text{ mm} \left(0.06 \text{ m}\right)$
 $S_s = 2650 \frac{kg}{m^3}$

 $C_{crit}^{*} = 0.056$ $C_{f} = 0.01$ $W_{S} = 1.1 \text{ m/S}$

$$h_{1} = 2.5 \text{ m}$$

$$V_{1} = \frac{Q}{A} = \frac{q \cdot bT}{h_{1} pT}$$

$$v_{1} = \frac{Q}{A} = \frac{q \cdot bT}{h_{1} pT}$$

$$V_{1} = \frac{Q}{h_{1}} = \frac{0.9}{h_{1}}$$

$$Th_{2} \quad V_{1} = 0.36 \text{ m}$$

$$Th_{3} \quad V_{1} = 0.01 \quad (\frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times 0.36)$$

$$Th_{4} = 0.648 \text{ m}$$

$$M^{2}$$

$$Th_{5} \quad V_{1} = 0.016 \quad (\frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times 0.36)$$

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$$Cb_{erit} = 54.39 \text{ N/m}^2$$

critical shield stress Bed shear 0.648 54.39 Bed upstream of gate is stable (stationary) b) h2? show that bed is mobile (section 2) $Z_1 = Z_2$ Energy eq. () - () $h_1 + V_1^2 = h_2 + V_2^2$ h1+ 9 $= h_2 + q^2$ 2ah²

2.5 +
$$0.9^2$$
 = $h_2 + 0.9^2$
2x9.81x2.5² 2x9.81xh₂²
 $h_2 = 0.1318$ Choose minimum positive
water depth [Supercritical
flow solution]
 $V_2 = \frac{9}{h_2} = \frac{0.9}{9} = 6.83 \text{ M/S}$
 $V_2 = \frac{9}{h_2} = 0.9 = 6.83 \text{ M/S}$
 $Tb_2 = C_1 \left(\frac{1}{2}9V_2^2\right)$
 $Tb_2 = 0.01 \left(\frac{1}{2}x1000 \times 6.83^2\right) \rightarrow Tb_2 = 233.2 \frac{N}{m^2}$
 $Tb_2 > T crit$
233.2 > 54.39
Bed right downstream of shuice gate is mobile



* height of scour:
hs = 0.273 - 0.1318 = 0.141 m
* Froude number at (2)

$$Fr_2 = \frac{V_2}{\sqrt{9.92}} = \frac{3.298}{\sqrt{9.81 \times 0.223}} = 2.02$$

(superovitical
thi
Apply new energy equation to find h, and V,
 $\frac{(2) + h_1 + V_1^2}{29} = Z_2 + h_2 + V_2^2$
hs $\frac{(2) + h_1 + V_1^2}{29} = 0 + 0.273 + 9^2$
 $\frac{(2) + h_1 + h_1 + 9^2}{29 h_2^2} = 0 + 0.273 + 9^2$

$$\begin{array}{l} 0.141 + h_{1} + \underline{0.9^{2}}_{2xq.31h_{1}^{2}} = 0.273 + \underline{0.9^{2}}_{2xq.81} \left(0.273^{2}\right) \\ h_{1} + \underline{0.9^{2}}_{1q.62h_{1}^{2}} = 0.6861 \\ 19.62h_{1}^{2} & \text{choose maximum} \\ h_{1} = 0.549 \text{ m} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} v_{1} = \underline{0.9}_{1} = 1.64 \text{ m} | \text{S} \\ v_{2} = 1.64 \text{ m} | \text{S} \\ v_{3} = 0.549 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} F_{1} = \underline{1.64}_{1} \\ \sqrt{9.81 \times 0.549} \\ F_{1} = 0.7 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} F_{1} = 0.7 \\ F_{2} = 0.7 \\ F_{3} = 0.7 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} F_{2} = 0.7 \\ F_{3} = 0.7 \\ F_{3} = 0.7 \\ F_{3} = 0.7 \\ F_{4} = 0.510 \\ F_{5} = 0.7 \end{array}$$

 $Tb_1 = Cf \times \frac{1}{2} PV'_{x}$ $\frac{2000 \times 1000 \times 1000}{2} \times 1000 \times 1004^{2}$ $\frac{\text{Tb}_{1}=13\cdot4}{\text{m}^{2}} \frac{N}{(54\cdot39N)} = \frac{13\cdot4}{\text{m}^{2}} \frac{N}{\text{m}^{2}}$ * No erosion at Section (D), there pore our assumption is correct.

Example (Adapted from Apsley, hydraulic notes):

A river of width 12 m and slope 0.003, carrying a maximum discharge of 200 m^3/s , is to be stabilized by using an armour layer of stones of density 2650 kg/m³. Assuming a critical Shields parameter of 0.056, estimate the minimum size of stone that should be used and the corresponding river depth at maximum discharge.



$$0.056 = \frac{Cb}{Cvit}$$

$$1000(1.65) \times 9.81 \times d$$

$$\frac{Db}{Cvit} = 906.4 d$$

$$\frac{Cb}{Cb} = \frac{PgRhS}{R}, \quad \begin{array}{c} 0 = LARS \\ P = LARS \\ 06.4 d = 1000 \times 9.81 \times \left(\frac{12h}{12+2h}\right) \times 0.603 \\ R = A = bh \\ R = 2h \\ R = 30.8 d \\ 1 - 5.133 d \end{array}$$

 $Q = \frac{k}{k} A R^{2/3} S^{1/2}$ formula * Manning's 0.5 2/3 $200 = \frac{1}{(12h)}(30.8d) \times 0.003$ From (1) R = 30.8 d> h= h(d) / n n = d $200 = \frac{21 \cdot 1}{12 \times 30.8 \text{ d}} (30.8 \text{ d}) \times 0.003$ 0.5 Solving by iteration 1-5.1330 ۲/6 d = 0.08802 m4198 d dmin = 88 mm1-5.133 d \approx 3.5 inches



Inception of Motion in Normal Flow

Assume:



The bed will be mobile if $\frac{R_h S}{(\rho_s/\rho-1)} > 0.056 d$

For sand ($\rho_s/\rho = 2.65$), the bed will be mobile if $d < 10.8R_hS$

Bed Load

- **Bed load** consists of particles **sliding**, **rolling or saltating**, but remaining essentially in **contact with the bed**
- It is the dominant form of sediment transport for larger particles (settling velocity too large for suspension)
- The **bed-load flux** q_b is the volume of non-suspended sediment crossing unit width of bed per unit time.



Dimensionless Groups

$$q^* = \frac{q_b}{\sqrt{(s-1)gd^3}}$$

dimensionless **bed-load flux**

$$\tau^* = rac{ au_b}{
ho(s-1)gd}$$

dimensionless **bed shear stres**s (Shields parameter)

$$d^* = d \left[\frac{(s-1)g}{v^2} \right]^{1/3}$$

dimensionless particle diameter

Bed-Load Formulas

Reference	Formula
Meyer-Peter and Müller (1948)	$q^* = 8(\tau^* - \tau^*_{crit})^{3/2}$
Nielsen (1992)	$q^* = 12(\tau^* - \tau^*_{crit})\sqrt{\tau^*}$
Van Rijn (1984)	$q^* = \frac{0.053}{d^{*0.3}} \left(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau^*_{crit}} - 1\right)^{2.1}$
Einstein-Brown(Brown, 1950)	$q^* = \begin{cases} \frac{Ke^{\frac{-0.391}{\tau^*}}}{0.465} & \text{if } \tau^* < 0.182\\ 40K\tau^{*3} & \text{if } \tau^* \ge 0.182 \end{cases}$ $K = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3} + \frac{36}{d^{*3}}} - \sqrt{\frac{36}{d^{*3}}}$
Yalin (1963)	$q^* = 0.635r\sqrt{\tau^*} \left[1 - \frac{1}{\sigma r}\ln(1 + \sigma r)\right]$ $r = \frac{\tau^*}{\tau^*_{crit}} - 1, \sigma = 2.45 \frac{\sqrt{\tau^*_{crit}}}{s^{0.4}}$

Reference: Apsley, D.D.; Stansby, P. Bed-load sediment transport on large slopes: Model formulation and implementation within a RANS solver. J. Hydraul. Eng. **2008**, 134, 1440–1451.



$$au^* = rac{ au_b}{
ho(s-1)gd}$$

$$d^* = d \left[\frac{(s-1)g}{v^2} \right]^{1/3}$$

To find bed-load flux:

- from particle and fluid properties, find $d^*
 u$
- from formula or graph, find τ^*_{crit}
- from flow hydraulics, find τ_b^{\prime} and hence τ^*
- if $\tau^* > \tau^*_{crit}$ (or $\tau > \tau_{crit}$), find q^* by chosen model ι
- Find bed-load flux per unit width, q_b
- Multiply by channel width to get bed-load flux, Q_b

Suspended Load

- Suspended load consists of finer particles carried in suspension by turbulent fluid flow.
- Significant suspended load occurs if turbulent velocity fluctuations are larger than the settling velocity. A typical turbulent velocity fluctuation is of the order of the friction velocity u_{τ} . Thus, suspended load will occur if



• For coarser sediment, suspended load does not occur and all sediment motion is bed load.

Suspended Load (Cont.)



 In practice, the separation between what constitutes bed load and suspended load is fuzzy

Concentration

Sediment **Concentration** C is the volume of sediment per total volume of material (fluid + sediment)



- Sediment settles, so concentrations are larger near the bed.
- Upward-moving eddies tend to carry more sediment than downward-moving ones.
- This leads to a **net upward diffusion of material**.
- Equilibrium when **downward settling = upward diffusion**.

Concentration Profile

Rouse
$$\frac{C}{C_{ref}} = \left(\frac{h/z-1}{h/z_{ref}-1}\right)^{\frac{W_S}{\kappa u_T}}$$
 profile:

Rouse number: $\frac{w_s}{\kappa u_\tau}$

 w_s =settling velocity of the particle u_{τ} =friction velocity of the flow, $u_{\tau} = \sqrt{\tau_b/\rho}$ κ =von Kármán's constant(≈0.41)



Calculation of Suspended Load

Volume flow rate of water: $u \, dA$ per unit span: u dz (through depth dz)

Volume flux of sediment = concentration × volume flux of water = Cu

Suspe

ended load:

$$q_{s} = \int_{\underline{z_{ref}}}^{\underline{h}} Cu(z) dz$$

$$u(z) = \frac{u_{\tau}}{\kappa} \ln(33\frac{z}{k_{s}})$$

$$\underbrace{O}_{Cref} = \left(\frac{h/z-1}{h/\underline{z_{ref}}-1}\right)^{\frac{W_{s}}{Ku_{\tau}}}$$
Con centration

Calculation of Suspended Load (cont.)

It is necessary to specify C_{ref} at some depth z_{ref} , typically at a height representative of the bed load. The **formula of Van Rijn** (see, Chanson 2004):

$$C_{ref} = \min\left[\frac{0.117}{d^*}(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau^*_{crit}} - 1), 0.65\right]$$

$$\frac{z_{ref}}{d} = 0.3d^{*0.7} \left(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau^*_{crit}} - 1\right)^{1/2}$$

Reference: Chanson H. (2004). The Hydraulics of Open Channel Flow : An Introduction. Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford, UK, 2nd Edition.

Example (Adapted from Apsley, hydraulic notes):

A wide channel of slope 1:800 has a gravel bed with d_{50} =3 mm. The discharge is 4 m³/s per meter width. The density of the gravel is 2650 kg/m³.

(a) Estimate Manning's n using Strickler's formula.

(b) Find the depth of flow; (assume normal flow).

(c) Find the bed shear stress.

(d) Show that the bed is mobile and calculate the bed-load flux (per meter width) using (i) Meyer-Peter and Müller; (ii) Van Rijn formulas.

(e) Determine whether suspended load occurs.

Wide channel (b>>h = 0.00125800 3mm = 3 m1000



 $y_s = 2650 \text{ Kg/m}^3$ a) Manning's n (Strickler's formula) $n = \frac{1}{6} =$ = 0.018 m/sb) Flow depth (normal flow) Q = k A R S / 2-1 /2/3 1/2 n/bh.h S/2 96: 5/3 1/2 h × 0.00125 0.018

h = 1.532 m
c) Bed shear stress (7b)

$$Tb = PgPhS = 1000 \times 9.81 \times 1.532 \times 0.00125$$

 $Tb = 18.79 \frac{N}{m^2}$
d) Show bed is mobile?
Bed load flux using Meyer-Peter, Van Rijn.
Bed will be mobile if Tb > Tb crit
By Soulsby:
 $2^{4}_{crit} = \frac{0.30}{1+1.2d^{4}} + 0.055 (1-e^{-0.020d_{4}})$

$$d^{*} = d\left[\frac{(s-1)}{y^{2}}\right]^{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{3}{1000} \left[\frac{1.65 \times 9.81}{(10^{-6})^{2}}\right]^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$d^{*} = 75 \cdot 89$$
In (1) $\frac{7^{*}}{2crit} = \frac{0.0462}{0.0462}$

$$\frac{7^{*}}{crit} = \frac{7b}{9(s-1)9d}$$

$$0.0462 = \frac{7b}{000} \frac{crit}{1000} \frac{1}{1000}$$

$$\frac{7b}{18.79} = \frac{7b}{2.24} \frac{N}{bed is mobile}$$

* Bed-load Meyer-Peter and Müller

$$9^{*} = 8(T^{*} - T^{*}_{crit})^{3/2}$$

 $T^{*} = \frac{7b}{g(s-i)gd} = \frac{18\cdot79}{1000(1\cdot65)\times9\cdot81\times\frac{3}{1000}}$
 $T^{*} = 0.3869$
 $9^{*} = 8(0.3869 - 0.0462)^{3/2} = 1.591$
 $9^{*} = 9^{*} \sqrt{(s-1)9d^{3}}$
 $9b = 9^{*} \sqrt{(s-1)9d^{3}}$
 $9b = 1.591\sqrt{1.65\times9\cdot81\times(\frac{3}{1000})^{3}}$

$$f_{b} = 1.052 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^{2}$$
 (per meter width)
For a river of 100 m in one day.
Vol. sediments: 100 fbx 24x3600 S
Vol. (1 day) \approx 9000 m³
 $#$ Bed load with Van Rijn
 $q^{*} = \frac{0.053}{(d^{*})^{0.3}} \left(\frac{2^{*}}{2^{*}} - 1\right)^{2.1} = 0.9604$
 $\circ^{\circ} q_{b} = q^{*} \sqrt{(s-1)gd^{3}} = 6.35 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^{2}/\text{S}$

e) Supended load will occur if
$$\frac{Uz}{W_s} > 1$$

* Fall velocity Ws $\frac{Uz}{W_s} > 1$
Cheng's formula for Ws $\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2} = \frac{13/2}{2} \sqrt{2} = \frac{18.79}{1000} = \frac{18.79}{1000} = \frac{12.37}{1000} \sqrt{2} = \frac{12.37}{1000} = \frac{12.37}{1$

* No significant suspended load will occur

Example (Adapted from Apsley, hydraulic notes):

The vertical profile of mean velocity U in a rough-walled turbulent flow is:

 $U(z) = \frac{u_{\tau}}{\kappa} \ln(33 \frac{z}{k_s})$

Use numerical integration to calculate the suspended-load sediment flux in a channel using the following data:

channel width: b = 5 m; flow depth: h = 1.5 m; friction velocity: $u_{\tau} = 0.2$ m/s; settling velocity: $w_s = 0.03$ m/s; roughness length: $k_s = 0.001$ m; reference concentration: $c_{ref} = 0.65$; reference height: $z_{ref} = 0.001$ m. κ is a universal constant with value 0.41



 $q_{s} = \int_{Zref}^{h} c u(z) dz$, $Q_s = 69s$ $\begin{array}{c} 1.5 \\ 1.5 \\ 0.65 \\ \hline z \\ 1.5 \\ 1.5 \\ 1.5 \\ 1.5 \\ 1.001 \\ 0.001 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0.03 \\ 0.41 \times 0.2 \\ \times \\ 0.41 \\ 0.41 \\ 0.41 \\ 0.41 \\ 0.41 \\ 0.001 \end{array} \right) dZ$ We can also use MATLAB or other tools. V t (x) q X

N=3f(4) tw 0.00) Δx ((4) (f(i))+f(z)+ f(2) + f(3) +f(3) Area = $2 \sum_{k=2}^{N} f(x_k)$ $Area = \underbrace{\Delta X}_{2} f(X_{1}) + \cdot$ In general Nti

