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Incipient motion of boulders in open channel flow

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1 LIST OF CHANGES TO RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED BY KEVIN STOLS (386862)

1.1 Examiner 1

The scope and depth of the investigations and written presentation are appropriate for a six month MSc research project. The work done is novel, complex and very challenging. The interpretation and discussion are technically sound. However, there are some limitations that may be attributable to the scope that might have been rather ambitious, and possibly the time constraint. Given the novelty of the investigations, the amount of work done is commendable.

The report could be improved (optionally) in terms of the general presentation. For example, the quality of the diagrams, figure and table captions that are almost illegible, lists in Chapter 3 that seem surplus to requirements etc. Also, the derivations in the mathematical models in Chapter 5 could be explained more clearly, citing relevant references where appropriate.

The abstract is weak in the sense that it lacks details. It is recommended that the abstract be expanded to at least one page (250 words).

- With reference to the captions that are almost illegible – I have changed the font colour from grey to black and changed the font size from 9 to 10.
- With reference to the lists in Chapter 3 – I have left the lists as they are because I feel that everything is relevant, and I felt that the statement is a bit too vague to be able to make changes to. It is also better to have too much than too little.
- With reference to the derivations of the models in Chapter 5 – I made changes to the content in headings 4.2.1 and 4.2.2. I changed Figure 4.2 to include more detail which makes it clearer where the different measurements are taken in deriving the geometrical variables used in the model (a, ϕ, A, and k_2). I made small changes to formulae 4-2, and 4-5 to suit the changes in Figure 4-2.
  I didn't make any other changes as I wasn't sure what was unclear.
- With reference to the abstract – the abstract has been expanded from 168 to 302 words.

1.2 Examiner 2

5. The only comment I have relating specifically to the document is that, in Table 5-1 the values in the column headed Flow Rate are strange. Either the values are incorrect or the column heading is incorrect. This should be corrected in the final version of the document.

- The column heading has been corrected from "m^3/s" to "m^3/hr"