

**2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop on  
Labyrinth and Piano Key Weirs – PKW 2013**

# **Estimation of A-type Piano Key Weir rating curve**

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**....and in  
Switzerland**





## Advantages of PKW

As compared to Labyrinth weirs

- small structural footprint: well suited for spillway rehabilitation on gravity dams for example
- improved hydraulic efficiency (discharge): gain up to 20% compared to labyrinth weirs

Hydraulic design supported by physical models, as few design criteria available



## First comprehensive experimental studies

Extensive parametric research studies conducted by

- Kabiri-Samani and Javaheri (2012), *J. Hydraulic Res.* 50(1)
- Leite Ribeiro, Pfister, Boillat and Schleiss (2012), *J. Hydraulic Res.* 50(4)
- Machiels (2012), PhD *Thesis*, Liège

**First general design equations related to rating curves are now available!**

***Do they provide similar results?***

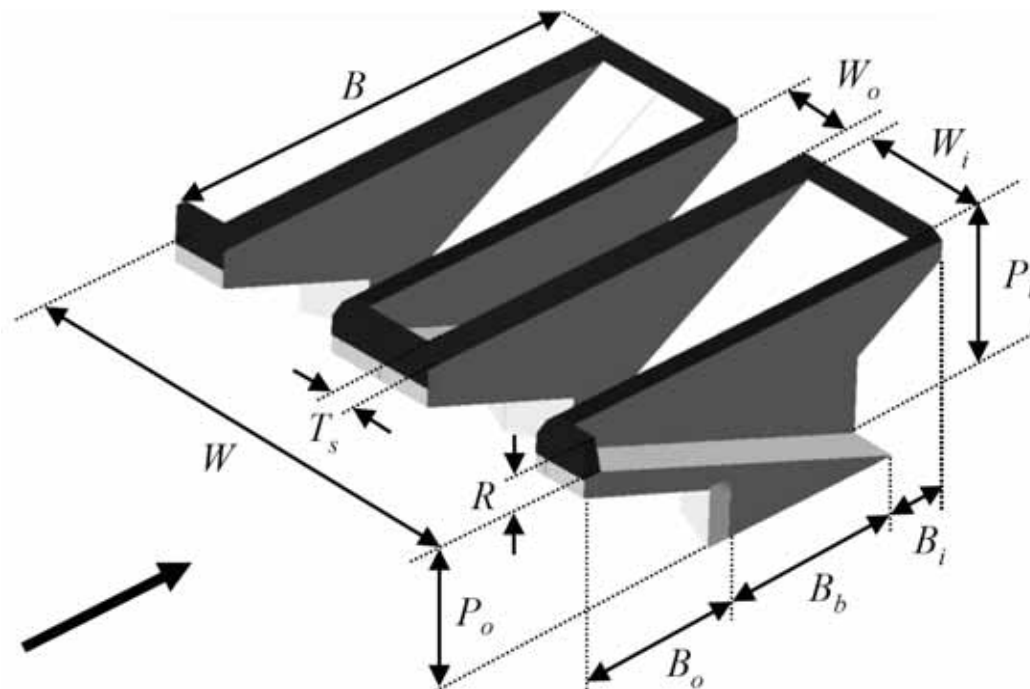
### Goal of the presentation:

- Brief presentation of individual equations
- Comparison on virtual prototype respecting common range of application

# First comprehensive studies

Application range – tested range of parameter

	$L/W$	$H/P$	$W_i/W_o$	$B/P$	$B_i/B, B_o/B$
Kabiri-S. & Javaheri	2.5-7.0	0.1-0.6	0.33-1.22	1.0-2.5	0.00-0.26
Leite Ribeiro et al.	3.0-7.0	0.1-2.8	0.50-2.00	1.5-4.6	0.20-0.40
Machiels	4.2-5.0	0.1-5.0	0.50-2.00	1.0-6.0	0.29-0.33



## Kabiri-Samani and Javaheri (2012)

- 12 m long and 0.4 m wide channel
- Totally 600 tests resulting in 3000 data
- PKW types A, B, and C
- Specific discharges between 25 and 175 l/sm
- Genetic algorithm
- Free overfall and submerged set-ups
- Based on Poleni
- **Sharp, narrow crest**



For free overfall:

$$C_d = \left[ 0.212 \left( \frac{H}{P} \right)^{-0.675} \left( \frac{L}{W} \right)^{0.377} \left( \frac{W_i}{W_o} \right)^{0.426} \left( \frac{B}{P} \right)^{0.306} \exp \left( 1.504 \frac{B_o}{B} + 0.093 \frac{B_i}{B} \right) \right] + 0.606$$

## Leite Ribeiro, Pfister, Boillat and Schleiss (2012)

- 3 m long and 0.5 m wide channel
- 380 tests considering 49 different PKW geometries
- PKW types A
- Specific discharges between 26 and 440 l/sm
- Physically-based data analysis
- Free overfall conditions exclusively
- **Cylindrical, half round crest**
- Based on discharge increase ratio (relative to sharp-crested weir discharge)



$$r = \frac{Q_{PKW}}{Q_S} = \frac{Q_{PKW}}{0.42W \sqrt{2gH^{1.5}}}$$

# Leite Ribeiro, Pfister, Boillat and Schleiss (2012)

Prediction of  $r$

$$r = 1 + 0.24 \left( \frac{(L - W) P_i}{WH} \right)^{0.9} \cdot (wpba)$$

Individual correction factors

ratio inlet/outlet key width      ratio inlet/outlet key heights

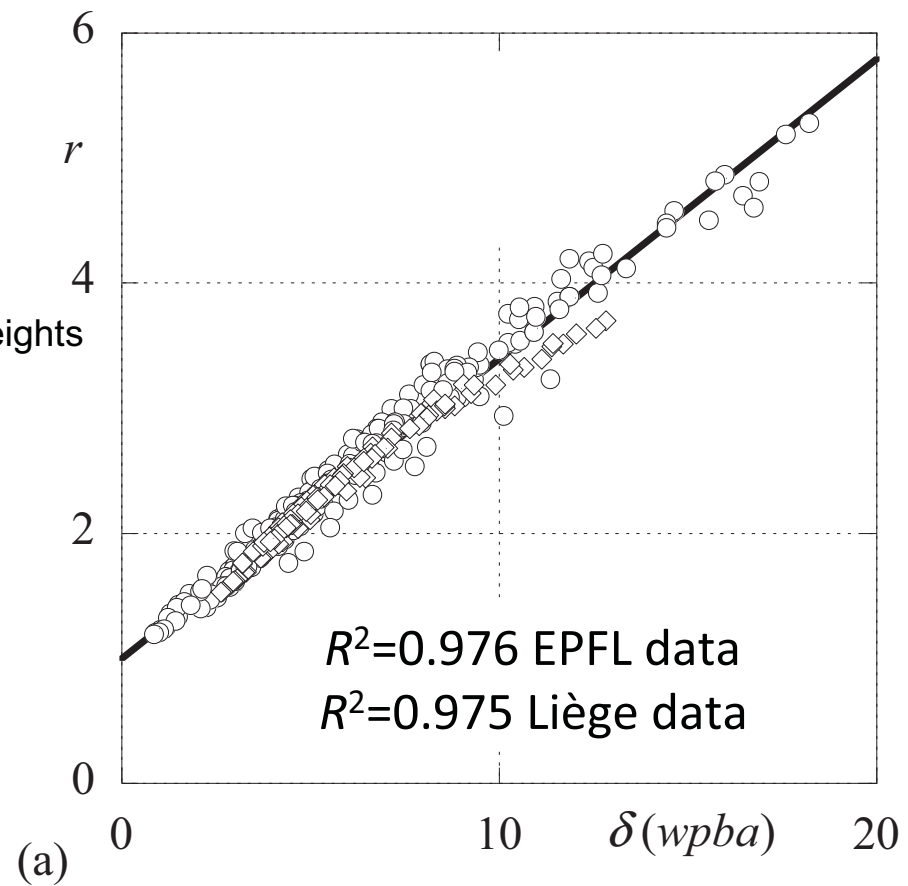
$$w = \left( \frac{W_i}{W_o} \right)^{0.05} \quad p = \left( \frac{P_o}{P_i} \right)^{0.25}$$

Ratio inlet key overhangs/base length

$$a = 1 + \left( \frac{R_o}{P_o} \right)^2$$

Relative parapet wall height

$$b = \left( 0.3 + \frac{B_o + B_i}{B} \right)^{-0.50}$$





## Machiels (2012)

- 7.2 m long and 0.3 m wide channel
- specific discharges between 13 and 400 l/sm
- Physical approach
- Free overfall conditions exclusively
- **Broad-crested weir top**



PKW discharge as sum of specific discharges:

Downstream(d) + upstream(u) + side crests(s)

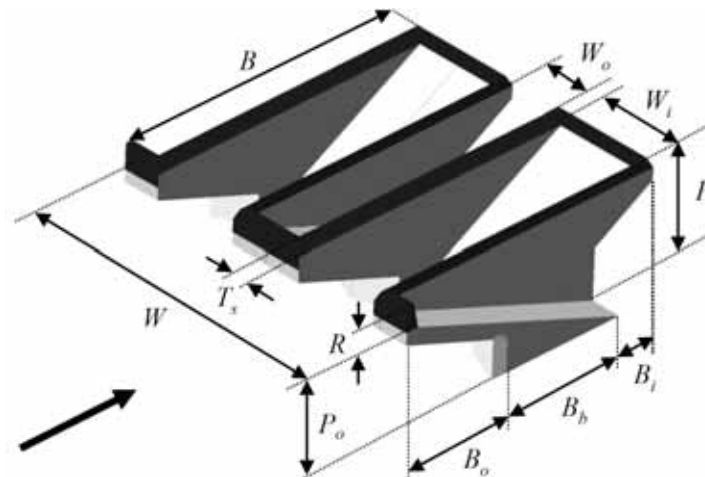
$$q = \frac{Q_{PKW}}{W} = q_u \frac{W_o}{W_u} + q_d \frac{W_i}{W_u} + q_s \frac{2B}{W_u} K_{Wi} K_{Wo}$$

Plus some 13 equations specifying the parameter

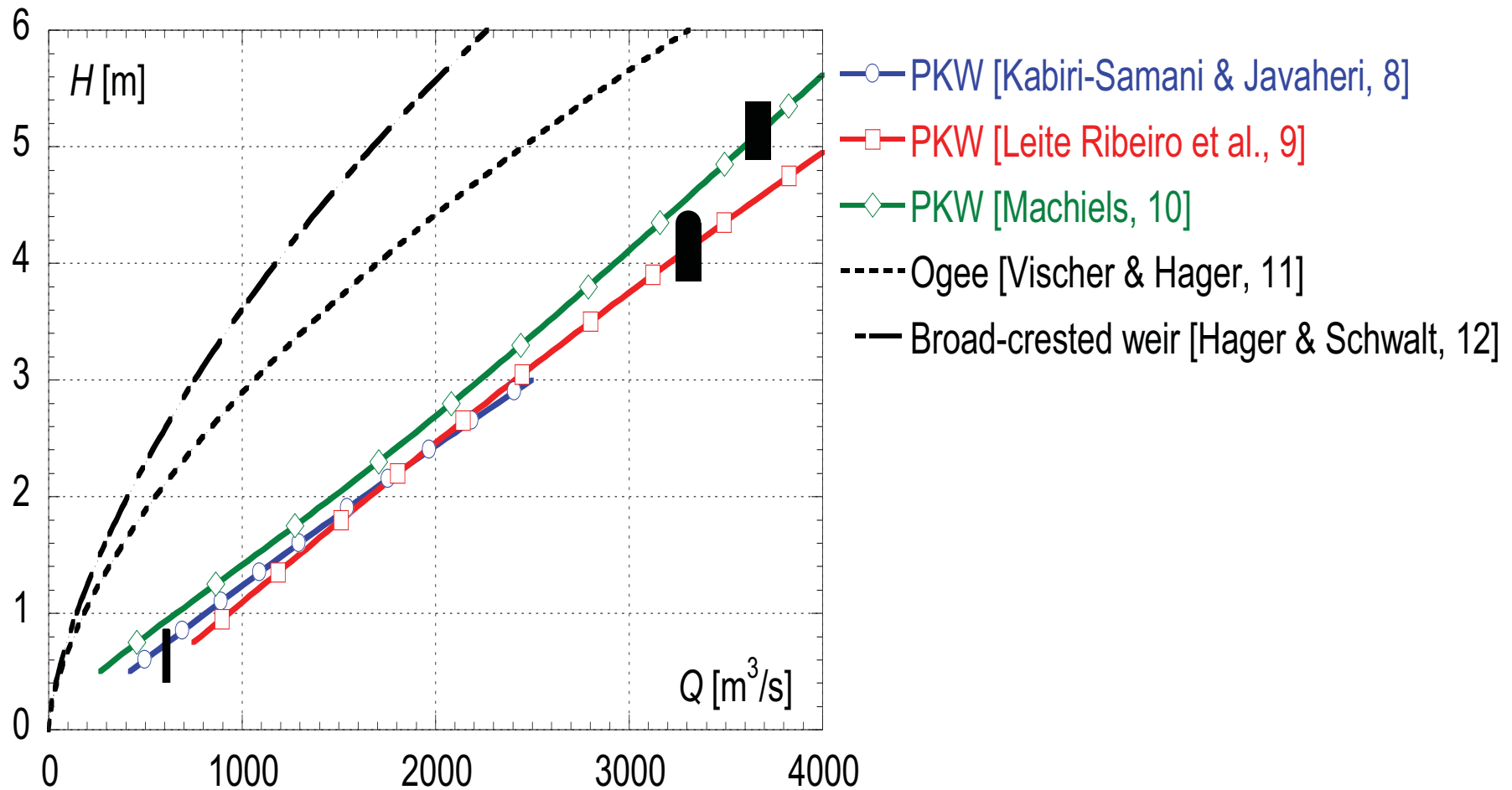
# Comparison of design formulas

## Virtual prototype respecting common application range

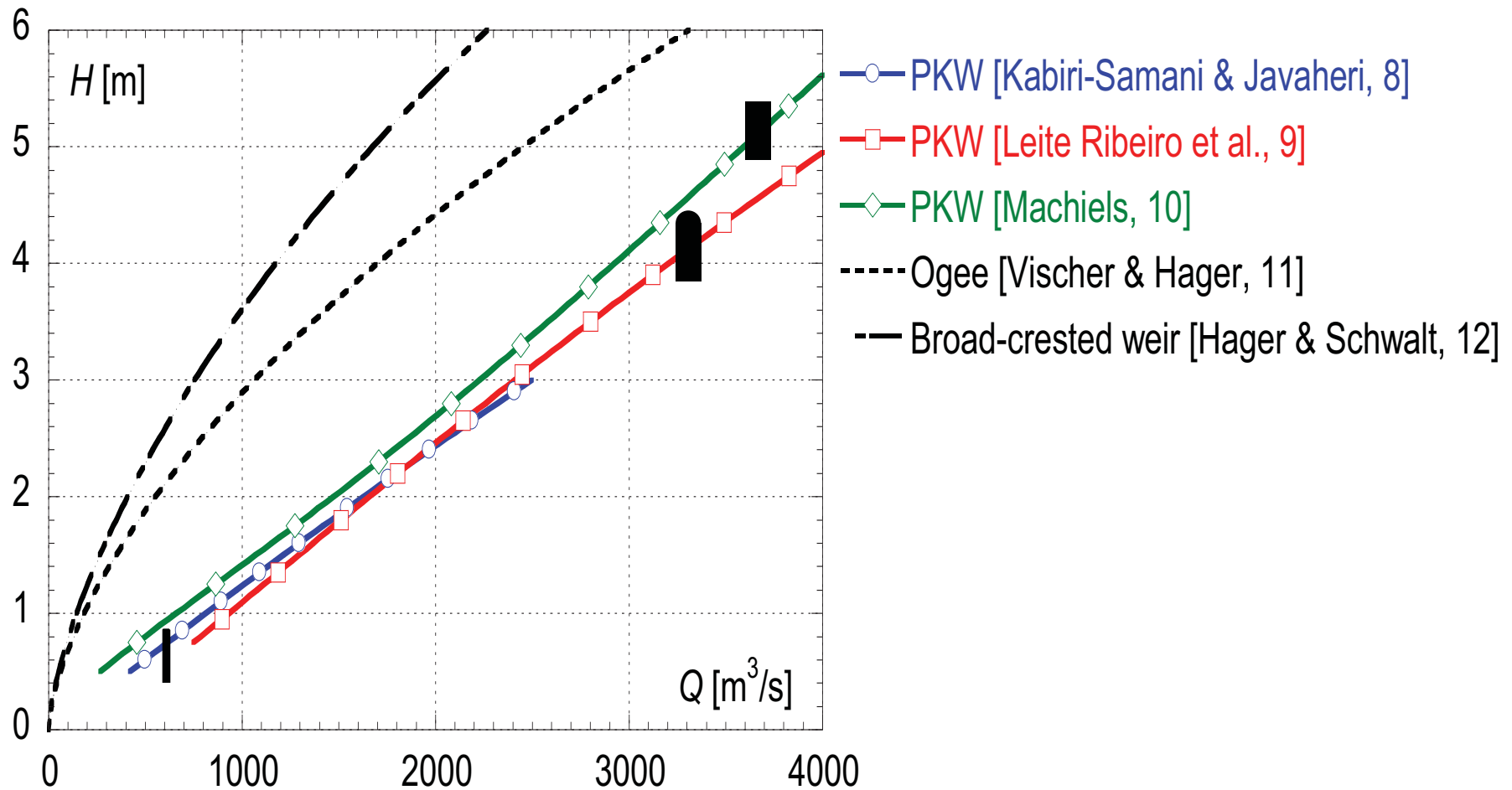
- RCC Dam,  $W=100$  m wide spillway, dam height  $P_d=30$  m,
- symmetrical A-type PKW,  $B=8.00$  m,  $P=P_i=P_o=5.00$ ,  $T_s=0.35$  m,  $R=0$  m (no parapet walls),  $W_i=1.80$  m,  $W_o=1.50$  m as, and  $B_i=B_o=2.00$  m
- Ogee (standard) crest with  $H_D=5.00$  m for  $Q_D=2'500$  m<sup>3</sup>/s
- Weir crest type according model tests used for formulas



# Comparison of design formulas

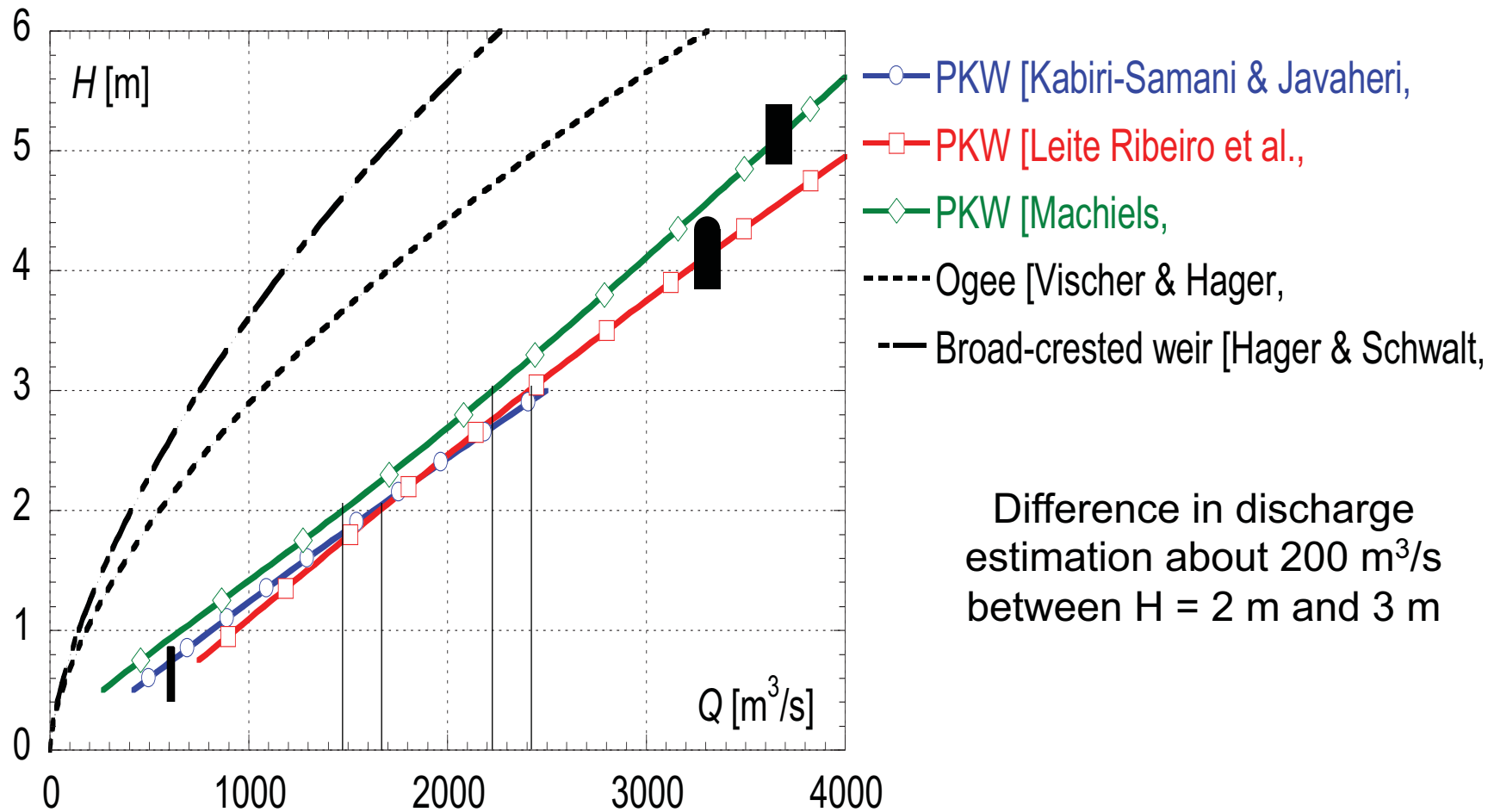


# Comparison of design formulas





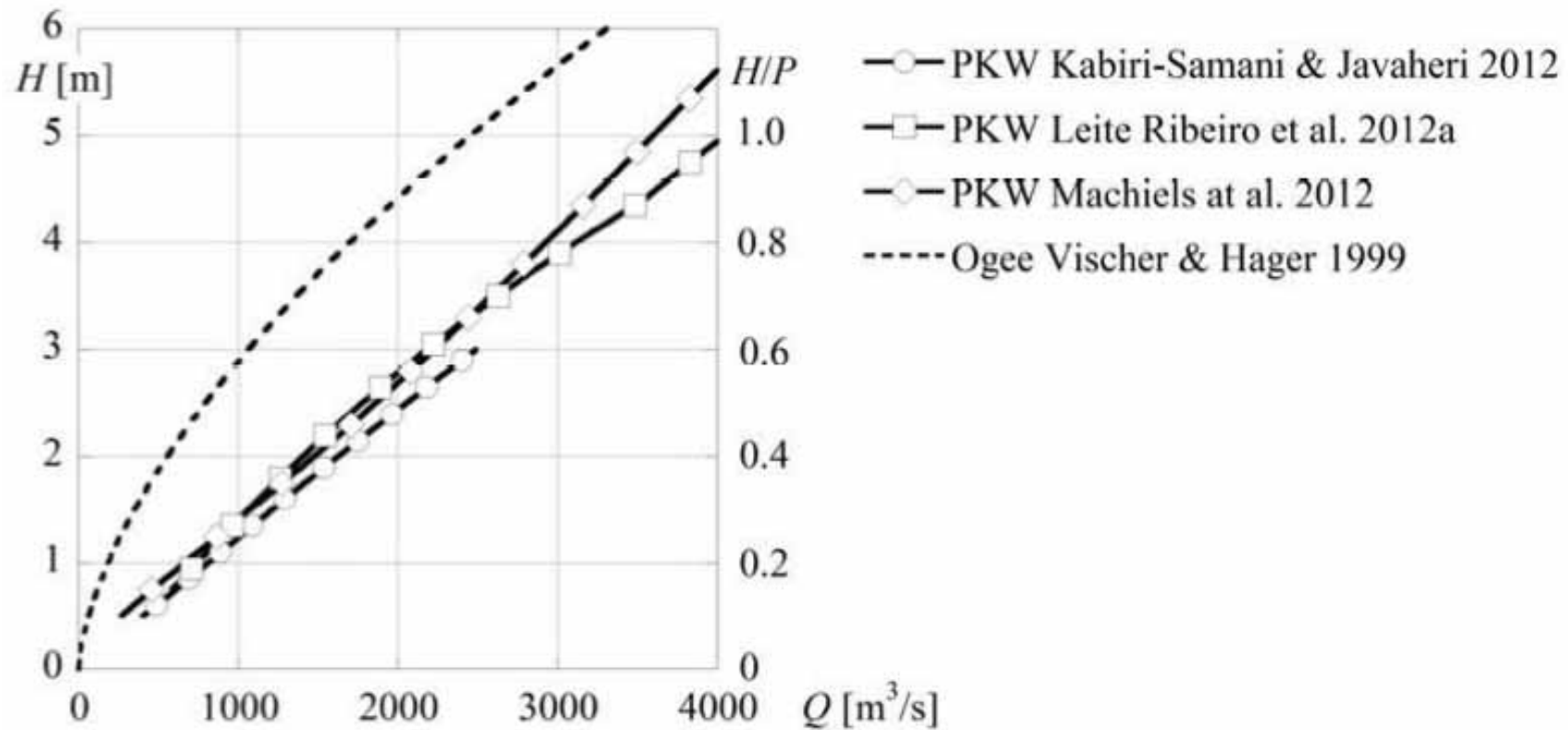
# Comparison of design formulas



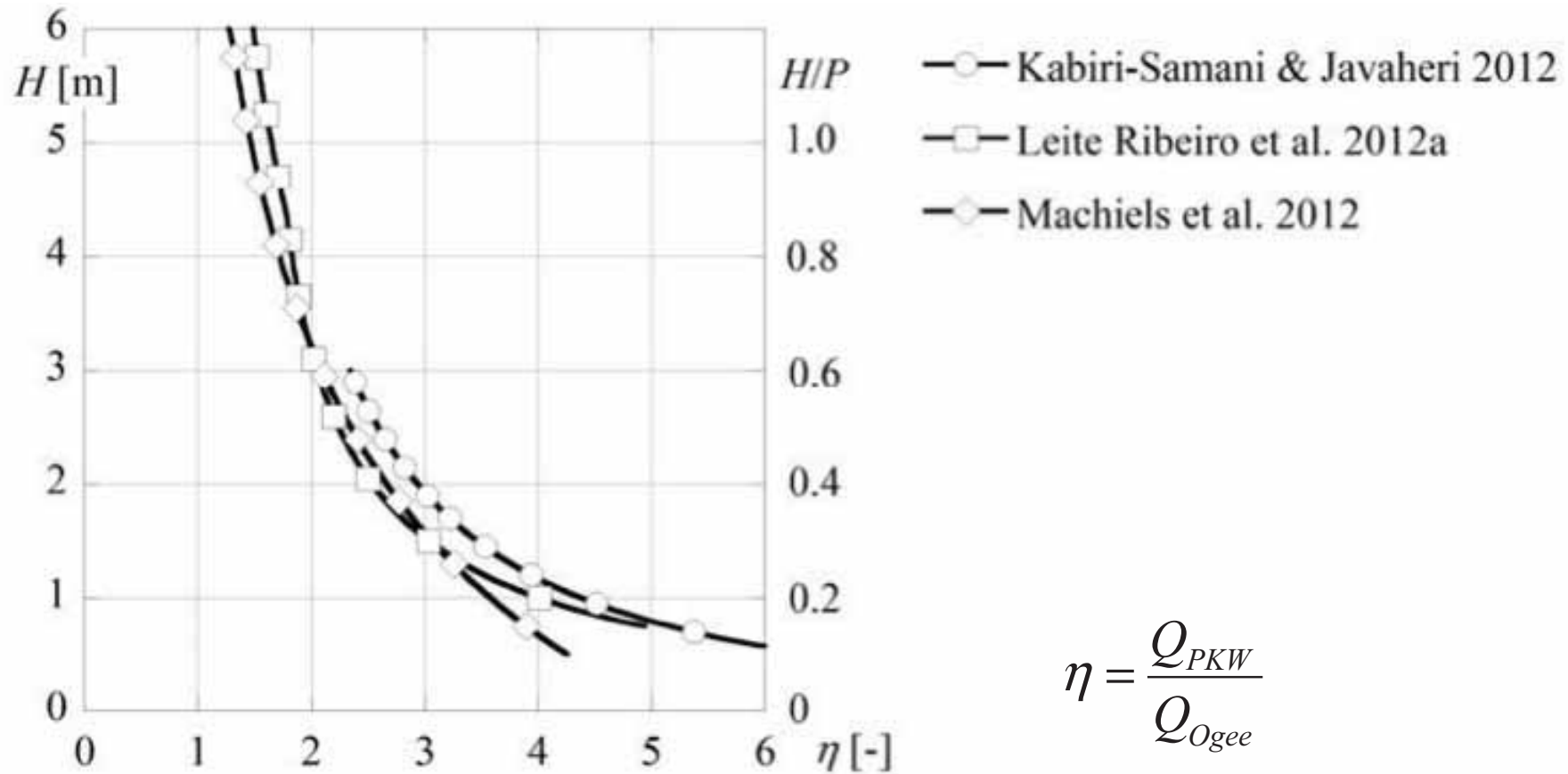
# Comparison of design formulas

$C_d$  for broad-crested weir as function of  $H$  (Hager & Schwalt, 1994), with  $T_s=0.35$  m

$C_d$  for cylindrical weir as a function of  $H$  (Castro-Orgaz 2012), with  $T_s=0.35$  m



# Comparison of design formulas




$$\eta = \frac{Q_{PKW}}{Q_{Ogee}}$$

## Conclusions

- Three general design equations related to PKWs so far published
- They give quite similar discharges for certain head; differences mainly due to crest shape; can be corrected
- Recommendation for design:
  - Use several formulas to obtain range of possible discharge efficiency
  - Use the formula which has an application range close to the prototype and which uses similar crest shape





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**Thank you for your attention**

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