

BACKWATER AT BRIDGES AND DENSELY WOODED
FLOOD PLAINS, BOGUE CHITTO
NEAR SUMMIT, MISSISSIPPI

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HYDROLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS ATLAS
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INTRODUCTION
New techniques for predicting water-surface profiles, needed in the design of economical, structurally sound, and environmentally compatible stream crossings, are under investigation. The investigation has accelerated with the advent of digital computers capable of analyzing large quantities of data. Among the techniques is the development of two-dimensional (2-D) digital models. Field data are essential for development and evaluation of these techniques for predicting water-surface profiles. This atlas is one of a series that provide a wide range of field data.

Since 1969 the U.S. Geological Survey has been collecting backwater data where wide, densely vegetated flood plains are crossed by highway embankments and single-opening bridges. This work was done in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration Department of Transportation, the Alabama State Highway Department, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, and the Mississippi State Highway Department. The objective of this cooperative project is to present the data in a format conducive to the development of improved models for predicting hydraulic responses of flow at highway crossings of streams in complex hydrologic and geographic settings.

Backwater data were obtained at 22 sites for 35 floods; that is, 11 sites had 1 flood each; 5 sites, 2 floods each; and 2 sites, 3 floods each. Analysis of data (Schneider and others, 1976) showed that backwater and discharge at these sites computed by methods presently in use, would be inaccurate. The floodflow data are unique in the range and detail in which information was collected and provide a base for evaluating digital models relating to open-channel flow.

The data sites (fig. 1) are listed below. This atlas shows flood data obtained on Bogue Chitto near Summit, Mississippi, one of the 22 sites.

HYDROLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS ATLAS NUMBER

ALABAMA

Buckhorn Creek near Shiloh	HA-607*
Pine Creek near Louisville	608*
Poley Creek near Sanford	609
Yellow River near Sanford	610*
Whitewater Creek near Tarentum	611*

LOUISIANA

Alexander Creek near St. Francisville	HA-600*
Beaver Creek near Kentwood	601*
Comite River near Olive Branch	602
Cypress Creek near Doyonville	603*
Cyprien Bayou near Liliou	604*
Little Bayou de Loutre near Truxie	605*
Tennille Creek near Elizabeth	606*

MISSISSIPPI

Bogue Chitto near Johnston Station	HA-591
Bogue Chitto near Summit	592
Coldwater River near Red Banks	593*
Loloucha Creek at Zama	594*
Oklahoma Creek east of Magee	595
Oklahoma Creek near Magee	596
Tallahala Creek at Waldip	597
Thompson Creek near Clara	597*
West Fork Amite River near Liberty	598*
Yockanookany River near Thomastown	599*

*In press

DESCRIPTION OF DATA

TYPE OF DATA

Data collected at all study sites consist of (1) depths, velocities, and discharges measured through the bridge openings, and (2) peak water-surface elevations along the highway embankment and along cross sections. A minimum of seven valley cross sections were surveyed at approximately one valley-width intervals in the vicinity of the bridge at each site. Locations of the cross sections were aligned perpendicularly to the assumed direction of flow. Cross sections were extended to intersect the edge of the valley at equal water-surface elevations. Surveying procedures described in the U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-resources Investigations series (Matthai, 1967; Benson and Dalrymple, 1967) were followed.

HIGH-WATER MARKS

Water-surface elevations were determined from high-water marks identified along the cross sections and the edges of the valley after each flood. During peak discharge measurements, water-surface elevations were marked with standard surveying stakes along the upstream and downstream sides of the highway embankment. For some floods additional high-water marks were identified in the valley adjacent to the bridge to define in detail the water surface in the approach and exit reaches.

BRIDGE GEOMETRY

Detailed bridge geometry was obtained at each site. The bridge cross section was surveyed at the most contracted section. Piers, spur dikes, wingwalls, abutments slopes, and other pertinent geometry were measured.

MANNING'S ROUGHNESS COEFFICIENT

Schneider and others (1976) used composite Manning's roughness coefficient values n where frequent changes in roughness occurred. In their study, composite values of n were verified by matching step backwater computations of the water surface with actual water-surface profiles for measured discharges. The range of n values used in this report is based on values used by Schneider and others (1976). Roughness varies from open fields to dense forests.

Roughness values or ranges of roughness values in different parts of the flood plain are shown on the maps. The values shown are based on water depth. The high is the value where water depth is less than 0.6 meter and the low value applies where water depth is greater than 1.0 meter. A linear relation of roughness to water depth is assumed for water depths between 0.6 and 1.0 meter.

PRESENTATION OF DATA

The data are represented on topographic maps enlarged from standard 1:24,000 or 1:62,500 scale U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps which comply with National Map Accuracy Standards. Accuracy limitations of the base maps are retained in the enlargements. Although positions may be scaled closely on the enlargements, they are not defined with greater accuracy than positions on the base maps.

Ground elevations are placed adjacent to solid squares. Elevations of floodmarks are indicated by numerical values adjacent to solid triangles. Floodmark elevations for separate floods are shown on separate sheets. Bridge geometry and road-embankment dimensions are shown with brief notations of pier spacing and configuration.

In addition to the data points shown on the maps, discharge measurements of selected floods, plots of cross sections, and velocity distribution diagrams are shown. Cross-section elevations are tabulated to define stream channels and flood-plain features in greater detail. Each cross section is referred to a zero station established at the extreme left edge (facing downstream) of the valley.

DATUM

All elevations presented in this report are referred to National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD).

FLOOD FREQUENCY

Flood-frequency relations are presented graphically. Techniques for deriving flood-frequency relations are those described by the U.S. Water Resources Council (1977), and by Colson and Hudson (1976).

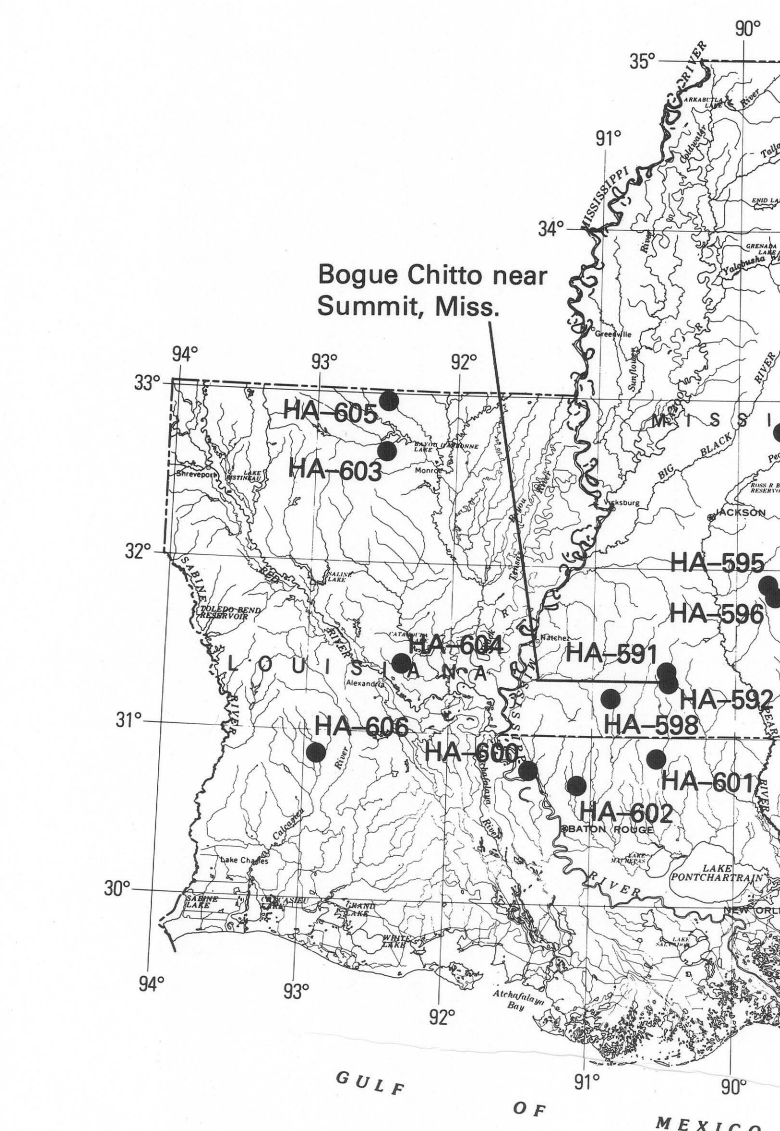


FIGURE 1.—INDEX MAP OF STUDY SITES IN THE BRIDGE BACKWATER INVESTIGATION PROJECT, ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, AND MISSISSIPPI.

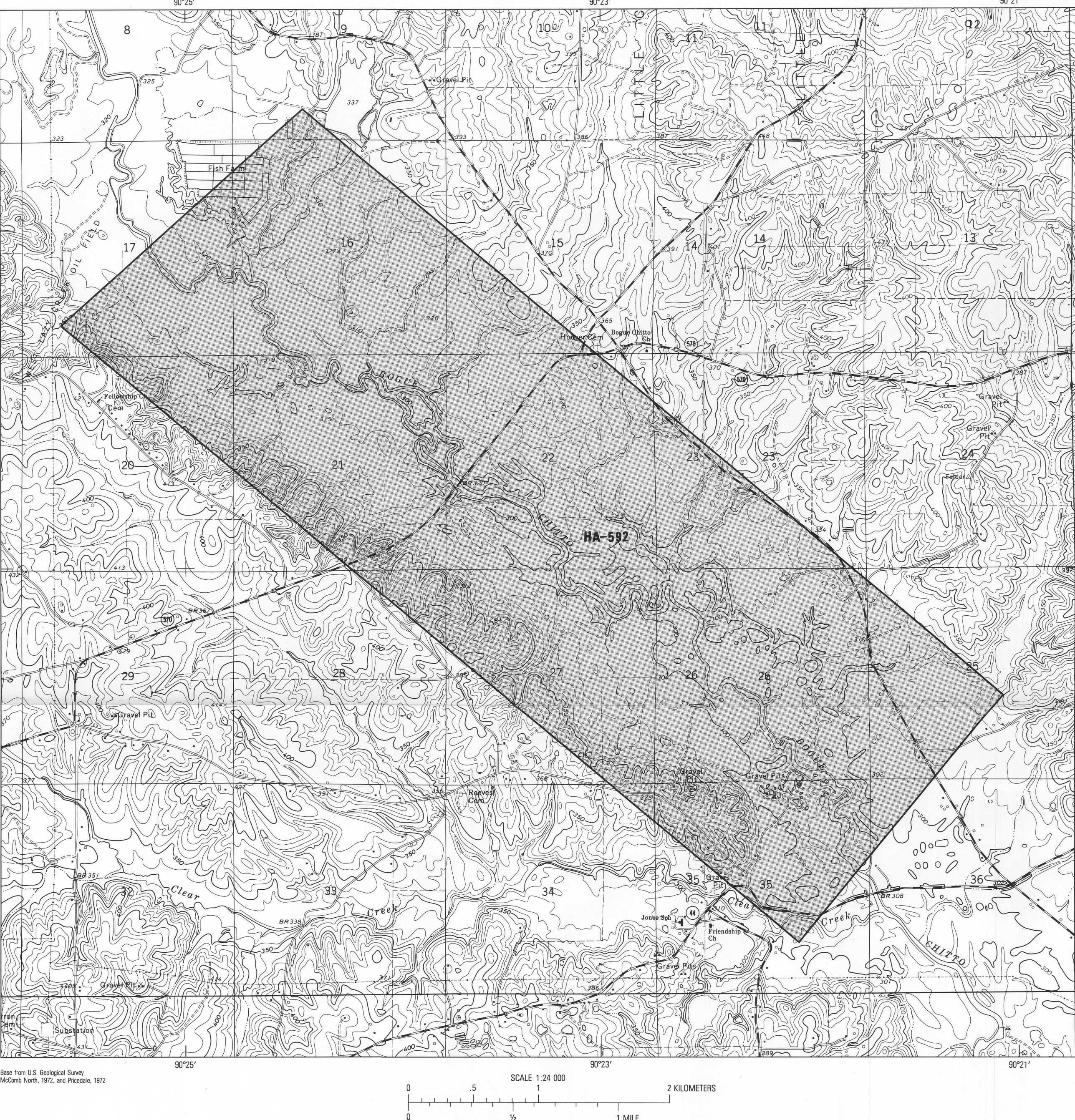


FIGURE 2.—INDEX MAP SHOWING STUDY REACH, BOGUE CHITTO NEAR SUMMIT, MISSISSIPPI

TABLE 1.—VALLEY CROSS-SECTION DATA FOR BOGUE CHITTO NEAR SUMMIT, MISSISSIPPI. ZERO STATION IS AT THE LEFT EDGE OF THE VALLEY (FACING DOWNSTREAM)

CROSS SECTION 1			CROSS SECTION 3 (Cont.)			CROSS SECTION 5 (Cont.)			CROSS SECTION 8 (Cont.)		
STATION (METERS)	GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION (METERS)		STATION (METERS)	GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION (METERS)		STATION (METERS)	GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION (METERS)		STATION (METERS)	GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION (METERS)	
0	91.92		249	91.37		820	95.36		547	95.02	
10	91.95		268	91.52		833	95.30		578	95.15	
110	91.96		286	91.70		935	95.30		645	94.66	
158	90.64		304	91.67		948	95.00		650	94.29	
166	90.51		312	91.95					657	92.10	
201	88.44		324	90.73					667	92.84	
221	88.44		330	91.18					689	93.84	
238	88.32		345	90.73					689	94.81	
241	88.44		350	90.64					700	95.09	
247	88.05		368	91.70					715	95.21	
252	87.05		380	91.82					721	94.54	
256	86.95		384	91.85					722	92.43	
262	84.81		386	92.10					724	91.67	
273	85.27		406	92.22					733	89.32	
285	85.51		425	92.22					739	92.46	
283	86.03		427	95.51					741	92.43	
295	87.37		443	92.28					747	94.84	
309	87.25		485	91.92					749	95.12	
321	87.58		489	91.76					755	94.54	
329	87.31		504	92.04					771	94.67	
336	84.97		519	92.56					788	95.05	
357	85.61		536	92.59					816	95.48	
365	85.53		543	92.31					849	94.20	
368	85.53		553	92.25					859	94.81	
370	85.99		557	92.25					909	93.29	
378	87.47		574	92.45					913	93.71	
379	87.05		584	92.65					918	95.03	
385	87.34		594	92.75					925	94.51	
388	88.11		600	92.83					929	94.38	
391	88.98		608	92.08					941	94.32	
401	88.11		633	88.08					947	95.24	
411	88.11		637	92.08					956	96.27	
441	88.78		648	89.84					959	95.91	
448	88.93		650	92.53					1006	94.67	
461	89.75		653	92.37					1030	96.37	
463	89.11		659	92.31					1033	96.34	
471	88.59		682	92.31					1067	94.14	
483	88.53		684	92.13					1287	96.15	
487	88.48		687	93.96					1478	96.16	
489	88.66		688	93.74							
528	89.63		693	93.29							
530	89.63		694	93.20							
584	89.63		695	93.17							
601	89.36		696	92.65							
608	89.78		697	92.62							
714	90.15		698	92.60							
719	90.05		699	92.59							
729	91.58		700	92.57							
732	92.98		701	92.56							
			702	92.55							
			703	92.54							
			704	92.53							
			705	92.52							
			706	92.51							
			707	92.50							
			708	92.49							
			709	92.48							
			710	92.47							
			711	92.46							
			712	92.45							
			713	92.44							
			714	92.43							
			715	92.42							
			716	92.41							
			717	92.40							
			718	92.39							
			719	92.38							
			720	92.37							
			721	92.36							
			722	92.35							
			723	92.34							
			724	92.33							
			725	92.32							
			726	92.31							
			727	92.30							
			728	92.29							
			729	92.28							
			730	92.27							
			731	92.26							
			732	92.25							
			733	92.24							
			734	92.23							
			735	92.22							
			736	92.21							
			737	92.20							
			738	92.19							
			739	92.18							
			740	92.17							
			741	92.16							
			742	92.15							
			743	92.14							
			744	92.13							
			745	92.12							
			746	92.11							
			747	92.10							
			748	92.09							
			749	92.08							
			750	92.07							
			751	92.06							
			752	92.05							
			753	92.04							
			754	92.03							
			755	92.02							
			756	92.01							
			757	92.00							
			758	91.99							
			759	91.98							
			760	91.97							
			761	91.96							
			762	91.95							
			763	91.94							
			764	91.93							
			765	91.92							
			766	91.91							
			767	91.90							
			768	91.89							
			769	91.88							
			770	91.87							
			771	91.86							
			772	91.85							
			773	91.84							
			774	91.83							
			775	91.82							
			776	91.81							
			777	91.80							
			778	91.79							
			779	91.78							
			780	91.77							
			781	91.76							
			782	91.75							
			783	91.74							
			784	91.73							
			785	91.72							
			786	91.71							
			787	91.70							
			788	91.69							
			789	91.68							
			790	91.67							
			791	91.66							
			792	91.65							
			793	91.64							
			794	91.63							
			795	91.62							
			796	91.61							
			797	91.60							
			798	91.59							
			799	91.58							
			800	91.57							
			801	91.56							
			802	91.55							
			803	91.54							
			804	91.53							
			805	91.52							
			806	91.51							
			807	91.50							
			808	91.49							
			809	91.48							
			810	91.47							
			811	91.46							
			812	91.45							
			813	91.44							
			814	91.43							
			815	91.42							
			816	91.41							
			817	91.40							
			818	91.39							
			819	91.38							
			820	91.37							
			821	91.36							
			822	91.35							
			823	91.34							
			824	91.33							
			825	91.32							
			826	91.31							
			827	91.30							
			828	91.29							
			829	91.28							
			830	91.27							
			831	91.26							
			832	91.25							
			833	91.24							
			834	91.23							