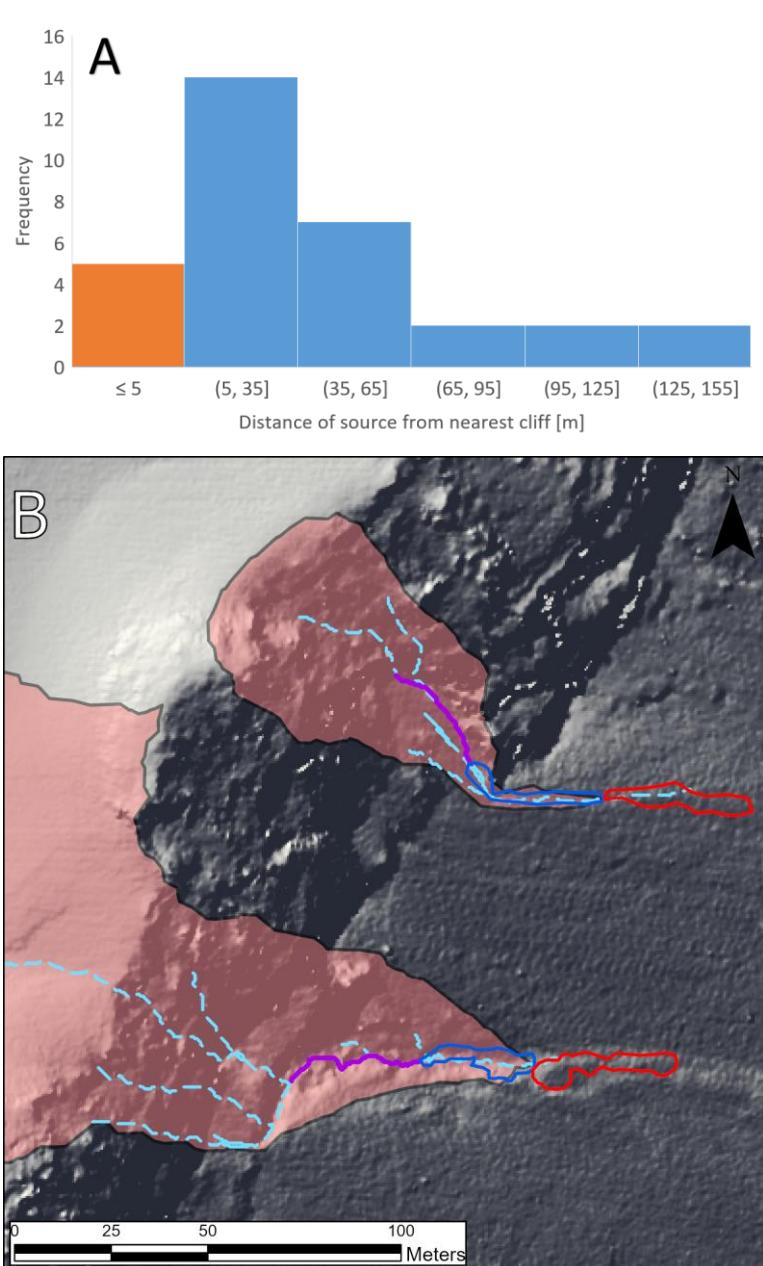


One of the proposed mechanisms for failure in non-cohesive slope sediment is subduction at the base of a waterfall (fire-hose effect) (Griffiths, 2004; Melis et al., 1995; Morino et al., 2019). Figure A5.3.9 shows the distribution of the distances of the identified sources to the cliff closest to them (the distance to the nearest waterfall up the channel, Figure B5.3.9). The results make it clear that in most cases the minimum distance between the source of the DF The nearest waterfall exceeds five meters. The large distance rules out the possibility that the main failure mechanism is subsidence at the base of a waterfall and requires a different explanation for the location of the subsidence and the creation of the channel that is the source of the sediments in DF.

Figure 5.3.9.The failure mechanism in the canal as a dependency on the distance the source from a waterfall above the channel. (A) Histogram of the distance of the DF sources from the cliff the nearest most above the channel. You can see that there are indeed several events in which the source Very close to the cliff (orange column). in most the cases the distance big from five meters and is not allowing mechanism of Subversion At the base of a waterfall. (B) Two events DF nearby the exhibitors You Manner the measurement from him were derived The results in A. on a shading map are marked The drainage basins of two events in the cliff area from the north Ein reserve Pesha The DF sediments (in red) and above them the source to the sediment (in blue). The closest distance between the source and the upstream waterfall The channel is marked with a purple line.



As part of the attempt to understand the failure mechanism that enables the creation of the DF, it is important to examine the geometry of the channel before and after the event. To this end, length and width profiles were prepared for 3 DF events for which the source of the sediment and sediments were mapped with a high level of certainty and the volume difference was less than 50 cubic meters. Figure 5.3.10 shows the profiles of one of these three events that occurred between 2015-2017. 13 profiles, a single profile along the length of the channel, 12 width profiles, of which six in the area of the sediment source, three in the sediment area and three up the channel (above the source). Upstream, it is evident that there is no significant change in the profile of the channel, while in the source area the change is significant and indicates subsidence. Profiles DE indicate the possibility that bank collapse is the failure mechanism and the source of the sediment in the flow, but in Figures GI it appears that the subsidence is in the center of the channel and the failure mechanism or sediment drift is different. Even in the case before us, it can be seen in the longitudinal profile that the waterfall closest to the source is too far to explain the source of the sediment by Descending at the base of a waterfall.

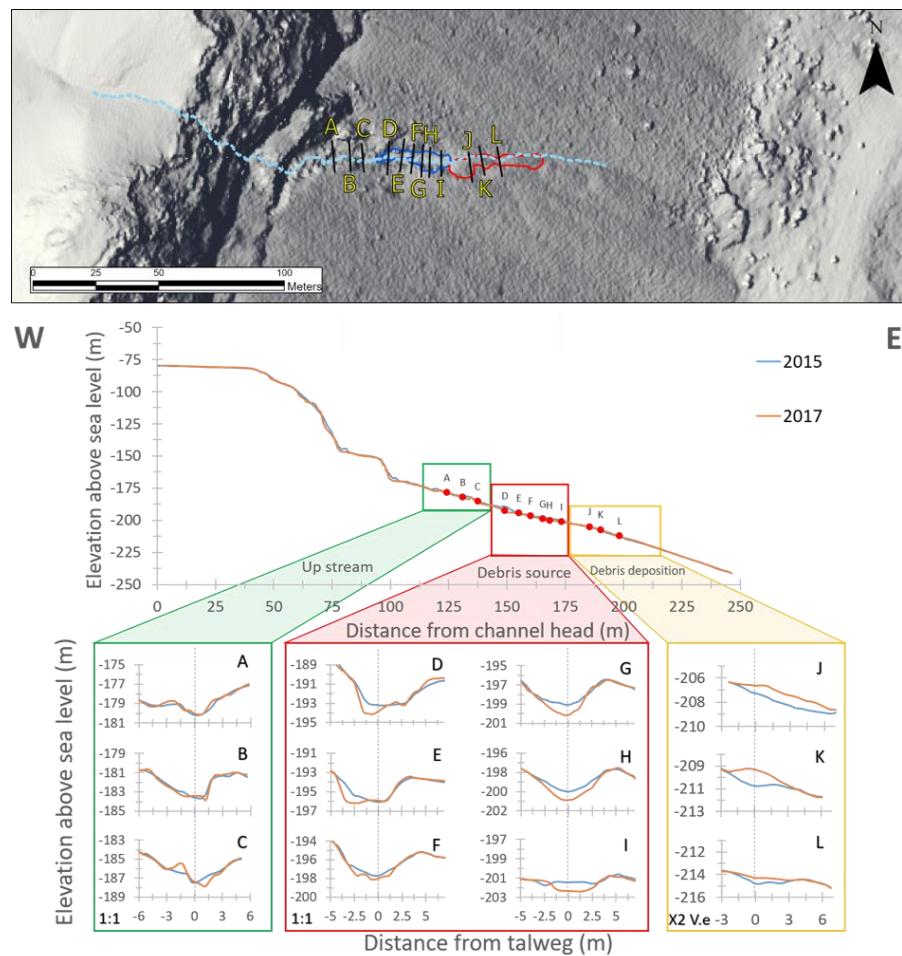


Figure 5.3.10. A longitudinal section extending from the top of the cliff to about 35 meters at the foot of the DF sediments. Data 12 latitudinal profiles: 3 up the channel (AC, marked in green) 6 in the source area (DI, marked in red) and 3 in the sediment area (JL, marked in yellow). The sections were prepared from DSMs from the years 2015 (in blue) and 2017 (in orange). It can be seen that the source of the DF is far from the nearest cliff above the channel, thus ruling out a fire-hose effect type failure mechanism.

5.3.5. Summary, conclusions and work to continue

This report summarizes the main results of the research for 2022, which are a direct continuation of research in a multi-year project dealing with slope stability along the Copies Cliff, focusing on DF-type slope slides. The initial results presented in the report form the basis for continued mapping and research of the DF in the Copies Cliff.

The first part of this document deals with the main method we used to identify and map the overflows, which is based on maps of height differences produced from missing DSMs from successive years. We found that vertical inaccuracies in the original topographic models (DSMs) result in significant vertical deviations (tens of centimeters) in the difference maps (DoD). In the report we refer to the possibility of correcting these deviations, while focusing on changes in the space of the deviations as well as those resulting from the dependence on the slope of the slope. In light of the results we conclude that in order to correct the difference maps on a broad scale (for example for the entire Dead Sea region) the original point clouds must be used from which the DSMs were produced. Regarding the dependence of the vertical deviation on the slope, we showed that for higher slopes the dispersion in the results is greater. In light of this, in order to correct the vertical deviations only local corrections must be made as shown in the results chapter.

After correcting the difference maps, the sediment volume and source of each DF were calculated. The studied events are of small magnitude, the precipitation volume does not exceed hundreds of units of cubic meters. We have shown that usually the volume of the source is similar to the volume of the sediment with a tendency to lack the volume of the source. From this we conclude that a significant part of the material that sinks down the DF originates in higher parts of the drainage basin, but the difference map is not sensitive enough to calculate the volume from these areas (large dispersion and small thickness). The drainage basins in which DFs were observed in the studied years are relatively small and in most cases only drain the area of the cliff and the top of the escarpment, their area is usually not more than 30,000 square meters.

As part of the attempt to understand the failure mechanism of the slope sediment that enables the creation of DF, longitudinal and transverse sections were drawn in several channels and the distance between the base of the nearest cliff up the channel and the main sediment source of the DF was examined. This distance usually exceeds five meters and therefore rules out the possibility that the fire-hose effect is the main cause of the failure. From the cross-sections in the source area, it appears that the collapse of banks and subsidence in the center of the channels may constitute the failure mechanisms of the colluvium to form the DFs.

The continuation of the research will focus on trying to understand the mechanism of failure/sediment drift that allows the creation of the DF differently from a normal flood event in the channel. In addition, we will try to diagnose in a more precise way the characteristics of the rain that cause the creation of the DF events. To this end, more than ten rain gauges are currently being installed in the research area at the top and base of the replica cliff, as well as cameras that will photograph parts of the cliff throughout the rainy season and will make it possible to determine the relationship between the rain observations and the flow of runoff in the cliff's streams.

5.4 Atmospheric and regional circulation links fluvial and coastal pebble transport and causes the directional investment of coastal ridges and alluvial fans in the Dead Sea basin

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5.4.1 Introduction

Streams carry sediment to the shore of a lake or sea, where the interaction of the sediment with the body of water creates alluvial fans and beach ridges (1995, eg, Ashton et al., 2013; Galloway, 1975; Although the understanding of hydroclimatic conditions inherent in these landscape forms is an important goal in geomorphology (eg, Hansford and Plink-Björklund, 2020), many studies rely on indirect markers (proxies) to decipher past climate, and the relationship between depositional processes and hydroclimate remains unclear and not directly, Palchan et al., 2017; Ahlborn et al., 2018; Ben Dor et al., 2018) Torfstein et al., 2015, 2013; Huntington, 1911; Neugebauer et al., 2016; Kiro et al., 2017; (eg this knowledge gap is a product of the challenge to link processes that are often studied separately and spread over large time-space scales; from synoptic-hydroclimatic forcings, flows in streams, hydrodynamics of the water body and transport and deposition of sediment along the stream and the coast.

In this work, we examine the chain of these processes in the Dead Sea where the contemporary hydroclimate is closely related to geomorphology (2021, eg, Bartov et al., 2006; Sirota et al.) and the transport of sediment in streams and beaches that develop at an accelerated rate in response to the rapid drop in the level of the lake (Figure 5.4.1). This work links previous works that examined the geomorphic development of channels and transport of coarse sediment in response to the drop in level (Eyal et al., 2019), and the mechanics of transporting pebbles and their sorting from the mouths of the channels and along the coast to form sorted beach ridges (Eyal et al., 2021). The processes were examined at the mouth of Nahal Og on the northwestern shores of the Dead Sea (Figure 5.4.2).

Research questions:

What is the nature of the atmospheric circulation and the hydrometeorological conditions that activate the fluvial and coastal sediment conveyors?

1. What are the hydroclimatic thresholds, in the sense of intensity and duration of rainstorms and floods, and windstorms and waves required to transport and deposit pebbles along the shores of the receding lake?
2. How does the interaction between rainstorms create floods and windstorms create waves, create beaches, and blow drifts with a particular sedimentary architecture?
3. What can we learn from the contemporary environments of the stream and the coast and their interaction about earlier sedimentary components?

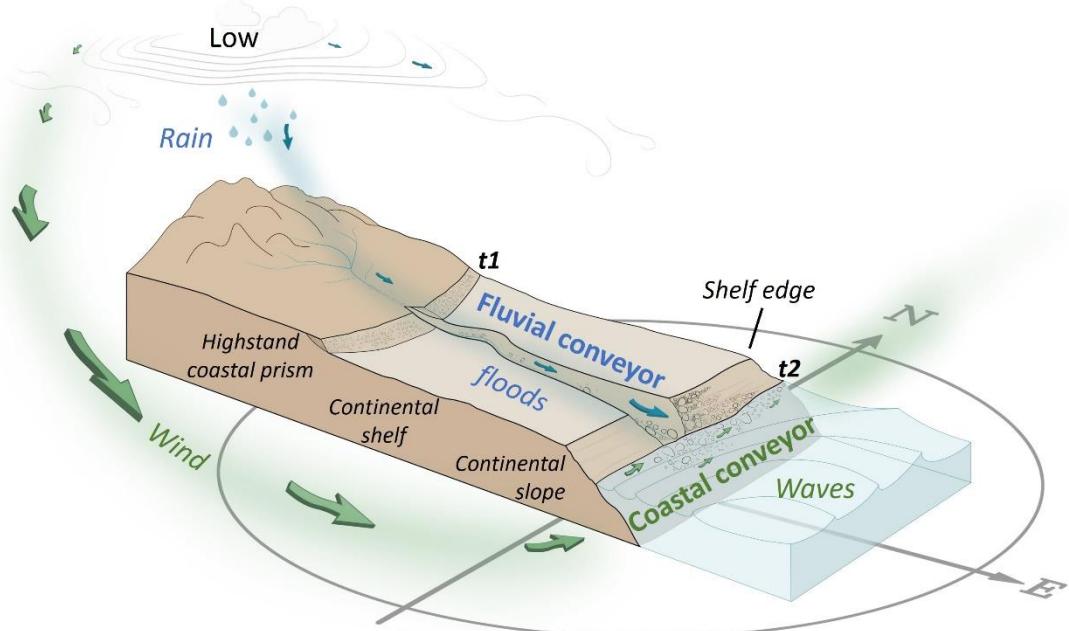


Figure 5.4.1.Schematic of the principles of channel and beach sediment transport as discussed in this work. At the large scale, the synoptic forcing is a barometric depression that causes channel and coastal sediment transport by generating rainfall and floods that carry pebbles into the depositional basin (blue), and alongshore sediment transport by wind-driven waves approaching the coast at an angle (green). Here we examine a case where the level of the water body recedes; t1 and t2 denote upper and lower level locations. In the case of the Dead Sea, t1 represented the level in the middle of the 20th century, and t2 the level in the 21st century.

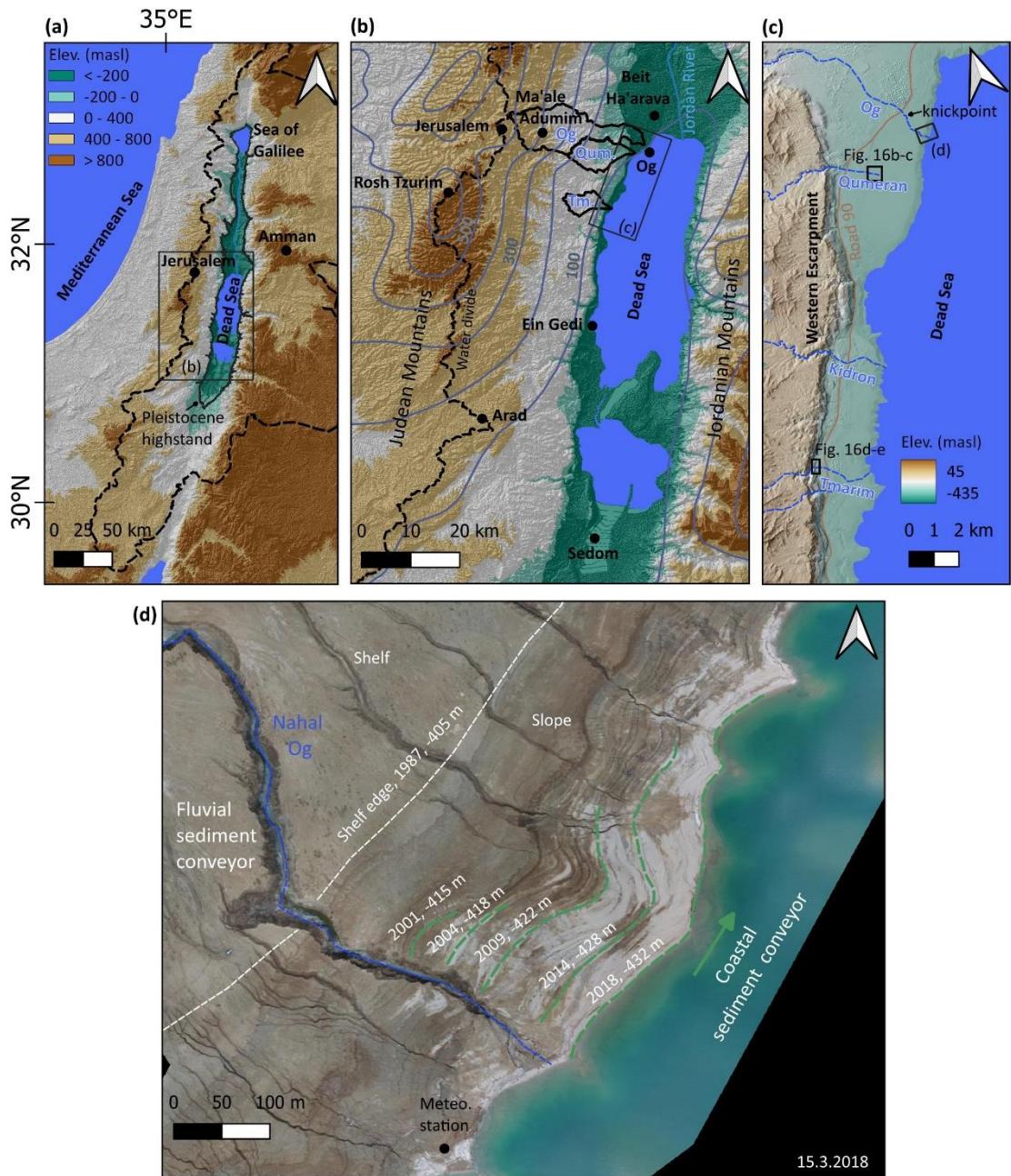


Figure 5.4.2.The research site. (a) Eastern Mediterranean; The drainage basin of the Dead Sea (dashed black line) and the upper level of Lake Heliene from the late Pleistocene (black line) are shown. (b) Dead Sea environment. The regional watershed of the Judean Mountains is shown (dashed black line) and the drainage basins of the studied streams: Og (Og), Qumran (.Qum) and Tamar (.Tm) (black polygons). Gray contours are rain equivalent lines (annual average in mm per year). The rain lines show the rain shadow formed by the Judean Mountains towards the Dead Sea rift. Black dots represent the meteorological measuring stations we used. (c) The channels that drain to the northeast of the Dead Sea (dashed blue line) and the western replica of the Dead Sea rift. (d) Aerial photograph of the mouth of Nahal Og demonstrating the fluvial and coastal sediment conveyors; it should be noted the lengthening of the coastal ridges from the mouth of the channel and to the north as the level drops. (green lines). Processing following 2021. Eyal et al.

5.4.2 Methods

The research used data collected during five years (2018-2022):)data of waves, wind, rain) i and floods collected by the meteorological stations of the Geological Institute and the Meteorological Service, and synoptic circulation data (Alpert et al., synoptic classifications (iii) 2004 (iii) and Eyal et al., 2021) final measurements of the transport of painted pebbles and 'smart' pebbles placed in the stream and on the beach

(ii) High resolution from reanalysis modelThe time series of the waves (Hersbach et al., 2020) ERA5

The wind, rain and floods were processed by code written in the softwarewhere waves and wind storms were classified, MATLAB According to the threshold of the height of the waves to transport pebbles, the rain storms that create floods were defined, synoptic classifications were adjusted for the storms and a correlation was made between the different time series.

5.4.3. Results and discussion

Several low pressure synoptic systems control the weather and climate of the Dead Sea region: Mediterranean trough (Cyprus or Syrian, depending on the location of the center of the trough), Red Sea trough, Persian trough, and Sharabian trough We found that the Mediterranean depressions are also the main producers of (eg, Alpert et al., 2004) The rain storms and also the storms of the waves in the Dead Sea. Therefore, they are also the main causes of fluvial transport of coarse sediment into the lake and transport and sorting of pebbles along the shores of the lake by waves.

Figure 5.4.3 shows an example of a winter storm and the chain of processes affecting sediment transport in both conveyors. A complete examination of all the storms during the study periods shows that this is a representative example. First, on the synoptic scale, the Mediterranean depressions create powerful westerly winds as they approach the northeastern shores of the Mediterranean. Near the surface, perpendicular to the western direction of the synoptic wind, the winds are channeled by the topography of the Dead Sea rift into southerly winds that produce waves that move from south to north and are transported along the coast in this direction (Figure 5.4.4). Then, when the trough is near the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea or is already located over Syria (Syrian trough), the northern component of the wind becomes more significant, the southern winds die down and the waves strengthen, and rain cells develop over the drainage basins of the Judean Desert. The rain creates floods that develop within a few hours and carry sediment to the Dead Sea, therefore, pebbles arrive at the same time or after the decay of the storm waves. Accordingly, the transport of pebbles along the coast and their sorting often happens during the next storm in the season or rarely under the influence of that storm.

Wave-forming Mediterranean depressions are deeper than non-wave-forming depressions (by about 10 hectopascals on average). They create southerly winds that reach 20 meters per second and last for over ten hours. When the wind-driven waves are higher than 0.6 meters, the threshold for the movement of pebbles weighing 1 kg is crossed and the sorting and transport along the coast becomes significant. When more than 10 mm of rain accumulates in the center of the basin, a medium or higher flood develops and pebbles are transported to the investment basin.

Although the channel and coast are often influenced by Mediterranean depressions, the coastal transport is more than five times more common than the transport of pebbles in the channel during medium and higher floods (10 cubic meters

per second or more). This condition dictates the creation of a wave-controlled fan at the mouth of the channel, which in effect becomes sorted beach ridges that extend preferentially northward from the mouth of the channel. Although the hydroclimatology of the floods does not show a clear trend in recent decades, the increase in sediment volumes that carry the channel mouth is attributed to the response of the channel profile to the rapid level drop; Steep slopes of the lake bottom are exposed and create a rapid subsidence accompanied by large slopes that migrate up the channel and increase the transport potential of the pebbles. At the same time, under a relatively constant climate of wave storms, the increase in the flux of sediments to the estuary is also reflected in coastal transport to greater distances and the creation of longer coastal ridges over time.

Following the observations from the contemporary environment, we recognize the same directionality of transporting pebbles to the north from the mouths of the channels and canyons and the investment of drift fans and coastal ridges both from the Dead Sea sediments of the last decades and in the sediments from the late Pleistocene of Lake Heliwan (Figure 5.4.5). These observations show that during the last thousands of years, Mediterranean depressions are the main engine linking the transport of sediments to the deposit basin and their distribution along the coast.

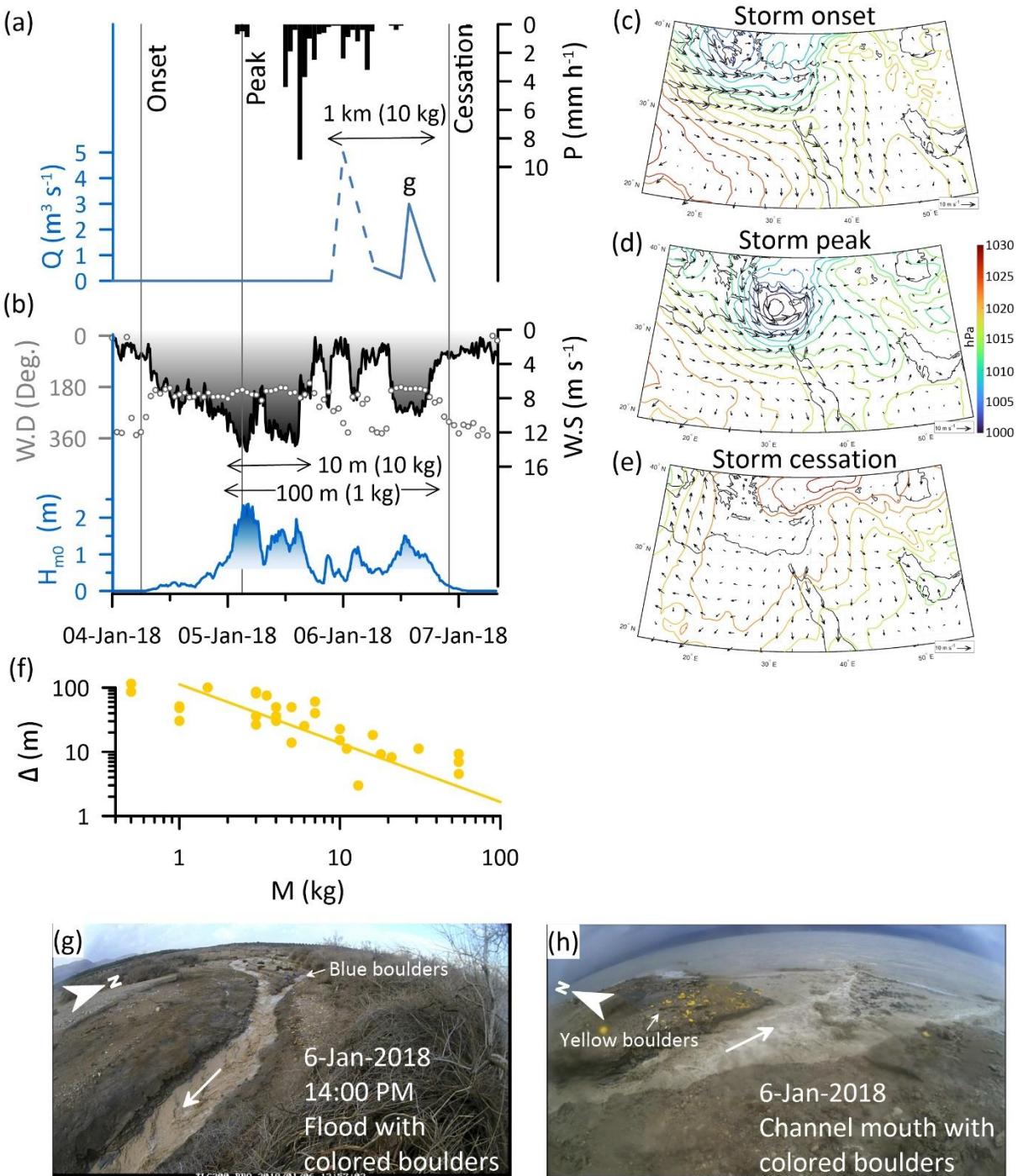


Figure 5.4.3. Observations from the storm that took place on January 4-7, 2018, and demonstrates the chain of processes from the atmospheric circulation that produces rainstorms and floods, wind-driven wave storms, and transport of pebbles in the channels and along the coast. (a) Hourly rainfall (P , Maale-Adumim, location in Figure 5.4.2), flood discharge (Q , continuous line based on TLC camera and dashed line based on reconstruction from flow signals). During this flood, painted pebbles were transported along a channel section that crosses the shelf for a distance of about 1 km. (b) Wind (WS-wind speed, WD-wind direction, dots) and wave height (H , significant wave height, color fill (denotes waves above the movement threshold for transporting coarse pebbles, see text). (d,c and e) Atmospheric circulation pressure maps showing a deep Mediterranean trough as the storm develops from storm onset, peak, and end, respectively. (f)

Movement along the coast (Δ) of pebbles of different masses (M , yellow dots), which were transported and sorted from the mouth of the channel and northward. The sorting can be predicted by the power law (yellow line), according to Eyal et al. 2021. (g) The flood as recorded at the dislocation point of the channel at the location where the painted pebbles were placed. (h) The entrance of the flood into the Dead Sea at the location where the beach pebbles were painted.

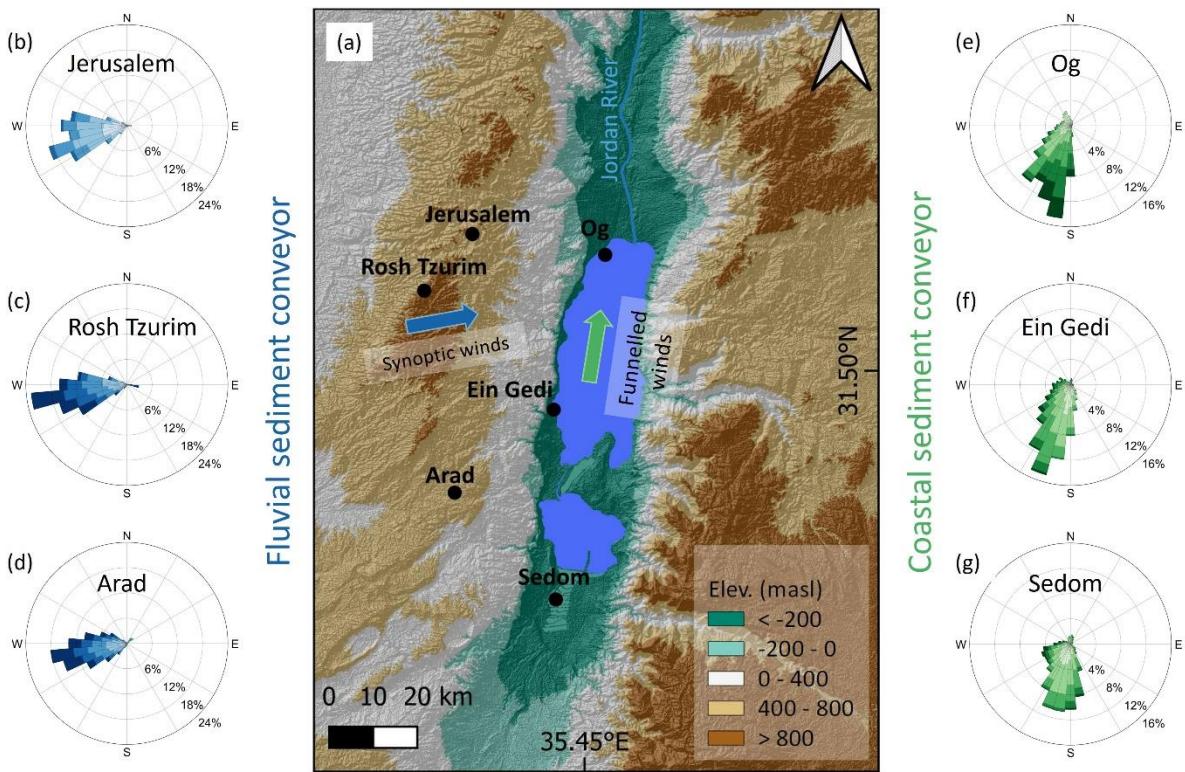


Figure 5.4.4. Synoptic winds and zonal winds. (a) Location map showing the two vertical directions of the winds during Mediterranean depressions. (c, b and d) Shoshant Ruach from three stations located along the watershed of the Yehuda Mountains (Locations appear on the map). These data show the powerful west-southwest winds that blow at high altitudes during winter storms and provide the moisture to create rains and floods that transport pebbles to the depositional basin (blue color). (f,e and g) wind rosettes from three stations located inside the Dead Sea rift. These data show the change of direction of the synoptic wind to a powerful southerly wind under the influence of the topography of the Dead Sea rift. These winds produce the waves in the Dead Sea that create a preferential transport of pebbles along the coast, north from the mouths of the streams (green color). The darkest colors symbolize winds stronger than 10 meters per second.

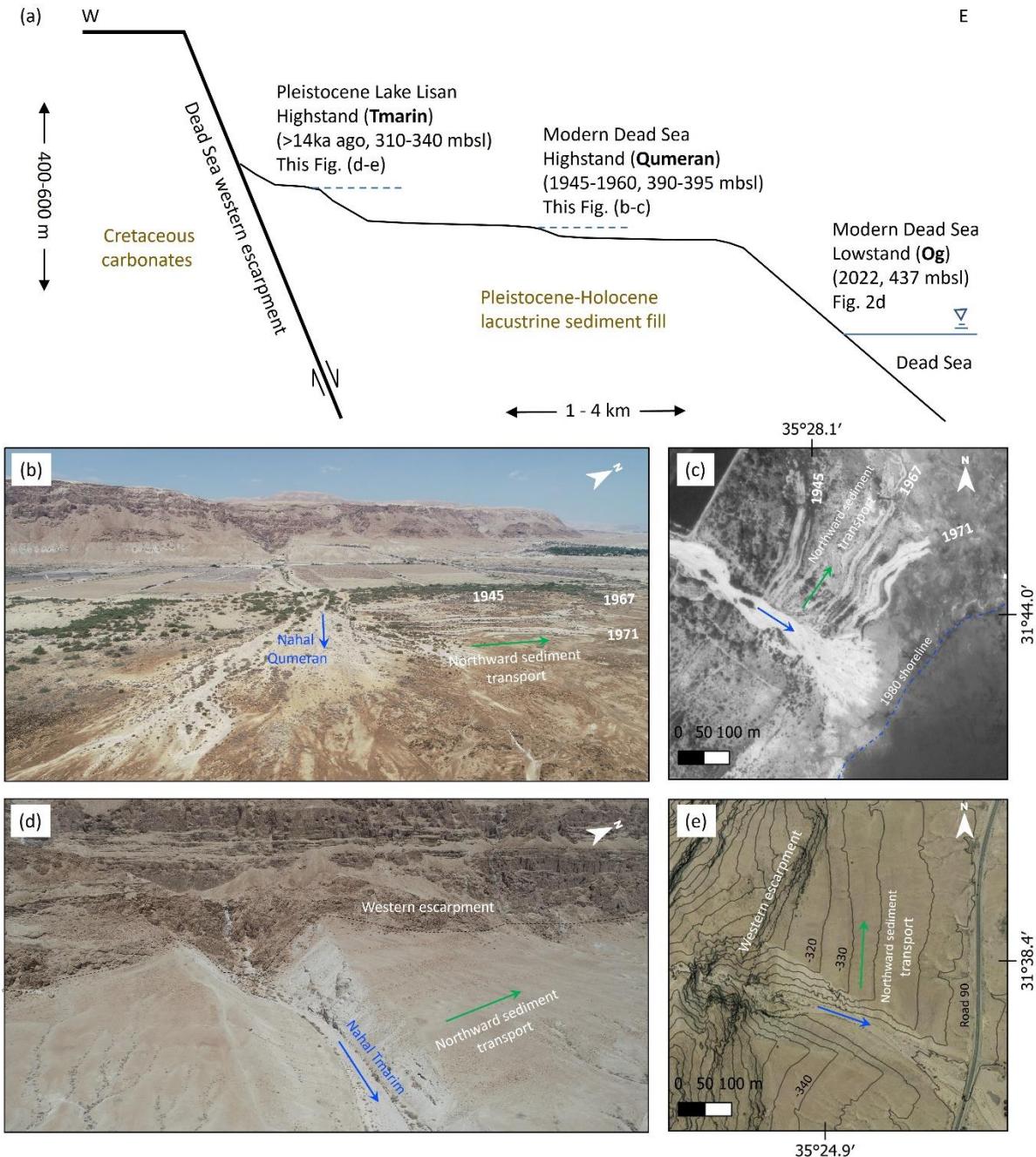


Figure 5.4.5.Alluvial fans and coastal ridges are drawn northward from the modern and ancient environment in the Dead Sea basin. (a) Schematic section from the western replica of the Dead Sea rift towards the modern Dead Sea, showing the geomorphic-stratigraphic position of the three geomorphic environments discussed. Location of the sites is shown in Figure 2. (b) Angled drone photograph of the Nahal Qumran fan, and (c) orthophoto of the Nahal Qumran (1980), showing the northward thrust of beach ridges deposited as long as the channel was connected to the 20th century coastline . From the moment the level drop accelerated, the stream became disconnected from the rapidly retreating shore and an alluvial alluvial fan began to develop on top of the exposed shelf. (d) Angled drone photograph of Nahal Tamir fan, and (e) orthophoto of Nahal Tamir (2012), showing the northward thrust of the alluvial fan and beach ridges deposited under the late Pleistocene Lake Helisan wave regime. The asymmetry in sediment deposition towards the north is also observed in the elevation lines shown in (e), which correspond to the steps of ancient beaches and are subparallel to the strike of the transect north of the channel, while to the south the elevation lines approach the transect diagonally.

thanks

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5.5 Testing the feasibility of dissolving and removing the salt from the salt harvest by dissolving it in seawater and concentrated water from desalination - kinetics of the dissolution of halite

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1 Geological Institute

5.5.1 Introduction

The salt harvesting project promoted by the Dead Sea Enterprises by virtue of a government decision from 2012 includes transporting the salt harvested in Pool 5 to the northern basin of the Dead Sea and burying it in the Dead Sea. The volume of salt that will be transported is approximately 16 million cubic meters of salt per year (16 milliliters) with a weight estimated by the factories to be approximately 20 million tons. Transporting such large volumes of salt through the Linz Straits, and burying them in the deep sea raises serious concerns regarding visibility and drowning. The huge footprint expected for the project on the Lynch Straits and the southern Dead Sea. The Dead Sea Enterprises are aware of these concerns and are open to alternative proposals to their original proposal to transport the salt to the northern basin via a conveyor belt that would cross the Lynch Straits and bury the salt in the southern sea while plugging Tzalim Bay and later by transporting the salt in barges further north and sinking it in the middle of the sea. The current work examines an alternative proposal for the disposal of the salt that combines the salt harvesting project and the Red Sea-Dead Sea pipeline project, if and when it is established. The proposal examines the possibility that the harvested salt will be dissolved by sea water and/or concentrated and tributary water to the north in a dissolved state. Without the need to build a conveyor belt and heavy infrastructure in the northern basin of the Dead Sea. The implementation of the discussed proposal is conditional on the establishment of a Red Sea - Dead Sea pipeline project in a format similar to that proposed in the World Bank's feasibility survey in 2012 and which was approved in principle by the governments of Israel and Jordan.

5.5.2. methods

Materials

Salt from the salt harvest was sampled from dikes in Pool 5 where it was piled up. The batteries sampled are 154-4 and 154-2 where the first is a battery that was harvested six months to a year before sampling while the second is a fresh battery that contained salt that was harvested during the month before sampling. Accordingly, the first battery was covered with a thin layer of dust that was removed before sampling.

For the purpose of defining the boundary conditions of the experiments, the solid halite and the end solutions were characterized:

The level of cleanliness of the salt was determined by completely dissolving it and testing the ions dissolved in the water. This test showed that the harvested salt is halite with a very high level of purity (>99.5% NaCl). The grain size distribution of the harvested salt was determined by sifting representative samples from each pile. The results indicate relatively homogeneous grinding for a grain size between 0.354-4 mm (Figure 5.5.1).

Seawater was collected from the beach of Palmahim. Concentrated desalination water (hereinafter concentrate water) was obtained courtesy of Mekorot desalination plant in Ashdod.

The chemical analyzes of the experimental solutions were carried out in the laboratories of the Geological Institute.

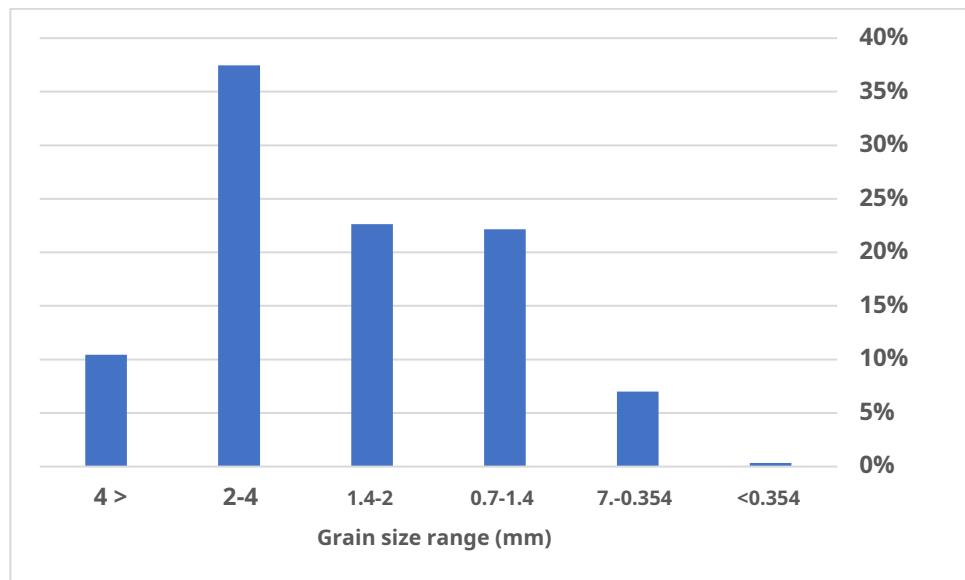


Figure 5.5.1. Grain size distribution of the halite from the salt harvest of pool 5 (average of 3 siftings from two different salt piles)

5.5.3. The course of the experiments and results

In order to chemically and quantitatively describe the dissolution reaction of the salt from the salt harvest (hereafter halite) in seawater and concentrated water, thermodynamic and kinetic experiments were performed while comparing the results of the dissolution experiments in distilled water. The dissolution experiments were conducted in a controlled manner and at different ratios of solid (halite) to solution (Table 5.5.1). After the complete dissolution of the halite, the density and electrical conductivity of the solution were measured. Also, the melting experiments were conducted in which electrical conductivity measurements were performed during the melting for the analysis of the melting rates. These experiments were conducted while intensively mixing the salt grains and the solution using a magnetic stirrer.

In addition, the chemical compositions of the solutions at the end of the dissolution reactions (Table 5.5.2) were modeled in Phreeqc software (Parkhurst and Appelo, 2013) for the purpose of calculating the degrees of saturation of the solution.

(a) Thermodynamic experiments (TD):

The purpose of the thermodynamic experiments is to calibrate the relationship between the amount of dissolved salt and the electrical conductivity, density and degrees of saturation in each of the three solutions tested (distilled water, sea water and concentrated water).

The dissolution experiments were conducted in series of 7 containers for each solution. Each series included an increasing amount of halite in increments of 50 grams of salt per kilogram of solution. Upon reaching complete dissolution, the electrical conductivity and density of the solution were measured (Figures 5.5.2 and 5.5.3, respectively). These parameters were also measured for the experimental solutions

themselves, without the addition of the halite. The maximum amount of dissolved salt in each series of experiments (the potential of dissolving each solution) was calculated by extrapolation of polynomial regressions adjusted between the electrical conductivity and the amount of salt dissolved and between the density and the amount of salt dissolved up to the maximum values measured in the experiments in which an excess amount of salt was introduced which did not dissolve even after several hours (See horizontal lines representing the equilibrium values and regression lines based on the results of the experiments). According to these calculations, the maximum amounts of halite dissolved in distilled water, seawater, and concentrated water are 356, 302, and 266 grams per kilogram of original solution (before dissolution), respectively. These values translate to the dissolution potential of 355, 310, and 279 grams of halite per liter of original solution (before dissolution) for distilled water, seawater, and concentrated water, respectively.

These differences illustrate the difference in the melting potential between the solutions, and as expected indicate a decrease in the melting potential with the increase in salinity.

T (°C)	Density (kg/L)	Leftover crystals?	pH	T (°C)	EC (mS/cm)	Salt [C] (g/Kg initial solution)	Grain size (mm)	Water type	Exp. #
23.9	0.9973	no	7.45	23	0.0106	0	DW	Unsorted	TD-1
23.9	1.0307	no	8.668	22.6	72.9	50	DW	Unsorted	TD-2
23.9	1.0617	no	7.02	22.4	128.3	100	DW	Unsorted	TD-3
24	1.0914	no	6.388	22.7	171.6	150	DW	Unsorted	TD-4
24	1.1185	no	6.04	22.6	203	200	DW	Unsorted	TD-5
24.1	1.1448	no	5.511	22.8	226	250	DW	Unsorted	TD-6
24.1	1.1689	no	5.5	22.9	241	300	DW	Unsorted	TD-7
24.5	1.1923	no	7.02	24.1	249	350	DW	Unsorted	TD-8
24.3	1.1939	Yes	7.16	24.1	250	400	DW	Unsorted	TD-9
23.8	1.0270	no	8.439	23	58.5	0	SW	Unsorted	TD-10
23.8	1.0593	no	8.416	23	117.9	50	SW	Unsorted	TD-11
23.8	1.0903	no	8.318	22.9	163.8	100	SW	Unsorted	TD-12
23.8	1.1191	no	8.288	23.1	197.9	150	SW	Unsorted	TD-13
23.9	1.1453	no	8.158	23	221	200	SW	Unsorted	TD-14
24	1.1713	no	8.038	23.3	237	250	SW	Unsorted	TD-15
24.2	1.1968	no	7.953	23.4	246	300	SW	Unsorted	TD-16
24.4	1.1969	Yes	7.88	24.1	24.7	350	SW	Unsorted	TD-17
23.8	1.0479	no	8.653	23.3	93	0	RB	Unsorted	TD-18
23.8	1.0804	no	8.539	22.8	145.2	50	RB	Unsorted	TD-19
23.8	1.1106	no	8.417	22.8	184.3	100	RB	Unsorted	TD-20
23.9	1.1387	no	8.32	22.8	212	150	RB	Unsorted	TD-21
24	1.1659	no	8.329	23.3	231	200	RB	Unsorted	TD-22
24.1	1.1911	no	8.146	23.4	241	250	RB	Unsorted	TD-23
24.2	1.1980	Yes	8.137	23.7	244	300	RB	Unsorted	TD-24
24.4	1.1983	Yes	7.11	23.6	250	400	DW	1.4-2	K-1
24.4	1.2018	Yes	7.69	23.7	24.7	400	SW	1.4-2	K-2
24.7	1.2034	Yes	8.127	23.8	244	400	RB	1.4-2	K-3
24.5	1.1987	Yes	7.255	23.7	250	400	DW	2-4	K-4
24.9	1.2011	Yes	7.944	24.1	24.7	400	SW	2-4	K-5
25	1.2031	Yes	8.11	24.1	244	400	RB	2-4	K-6

Table 5.5.1. Details of the set of thermodynamic and kinetic melting experiments. The table lists the number of the experiment, whether the salt from the salt piles is sifted and if so, to what range of grain size, the type of solution (DW - distilled water; SW - sea water; RB - concentrated water from desalination), the amount of salt added to the solution (in units of grams of salt per kilogram solution before melting), the electrical conductivity and the temperature measured at the end of the experiment after the melting, the value of the lift, whether there were any crystals left at the end of the experiment, and the density and temperature of the liquid at the end of the experiment. It should be taken into account that since the reaction of dissolving the salt is endothermic there is a temperature amplitude of 1.5 degrees between the temperature measured by the electrical conductivity sensor in real time and the temperature of the density meter measured about an hour after the end of the reaction.

kgw/kgs	TDS	SO_4^{2-}	Br^-	Cl^-	Sr^{+2}	Mg^{+2}	Ca^{+2}	K^+	Na^+	mg/L
1.00	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	TD-1
0.95	50840	119	30	30321	0.4	38	50	31	20235	TD-2
0.90	96884	159	44	59071	0.7	74	89	91	37339	TD-3
0.85	146378	191	54	88395	1.2	116	134	53	57176	TD-4
0.81	190799	315	67	114636	1.5	136	182	49	75157	TD-5
0.77	232868	331	80	140712	1.7	187	220	57	91027	TD-6
0.73	271021	403	94	163286	2.0	249	249	39	106450	TD-7
0.68	315136	450	76	193452	2.4	240	286	97	120281	TD-8
0.68	318268	479	101	194748	2.2	274	286	22	122126	TD-9
0.96	42868	2865	88	24346	8.2	1562	496	447	12805	TD-10
0.91	93657	2953	99	55133	8.4	1574	534	491	32621	TD-11
0.86	139653	3329	118	82256	9.1	1585	562	473	51067	TD-12
0.81	190337	3381	129	112003	9.2	1592	609	468	71888	TD-13
0.77	230896	3287	143	136703	9.4	1633	655	467	87744	TD-14
0.73	268317	3250	150	162289	9.4	1547	680	478	99660	TD-15
0.69	312601	3348	162	188507	9.8	1642	705	508	117461	TD-16
0.68	321274	3517	175	194318	10.2	1694	752	455	120094	TD-17
0.93	72464	5615	137	40102	15.0	2800	864	857	21828	TD-18
0.88	124702	5743	153	71603	15.2	2733	910	767	42527	TD-19
0.83	169309	5620	165	98876	14.9	2682	914	706	60080	TD-20
0.78	221380	5772	181	128906	15.5	2760	969	784	81738	TD-21
0.73	265697	5635	190	154954	15.3	2665	980	767	100232	TD-22
0.70	302270	5598	198	179824	15.8	2724	1027	802	111822	TD-23
0.68	324248	5654	211	194005	15.6	2714	1043	783	119563	TD-24
0.68	319656	501	103	196047	2.3	284	296	19	122150	K-1
0.68	322134	3570	166	194659	9.9	1669	743	438	120619	K-2
0.66	335072	6130	224	198280	16.9	2951	1134	838	125237	K-3
0.68	316880	457	99	193448	2.1	265	276	26	122103	K-4
0.67	329062	3387	159	194666	9.8	1613	722	424	127826	K-5
0.68	321754	5552	202	192625	15.3	2618	1001	813	118665	K-6

Table 5.5.2. The composition of the main ions of the solutions from the thermodynamic and kinetic experiments (in units of milligrams per liter) at the end of the halite dissolution. In order to switch to weight units, the concentration of the water in the brines at the end of each experiment is also indicated (in units of kilograms of water per kilogram of solution - kgw/kgs). The deviation in the charge balance (RE - reaction error) in all solutions does not exceed $\pm 2\%$.

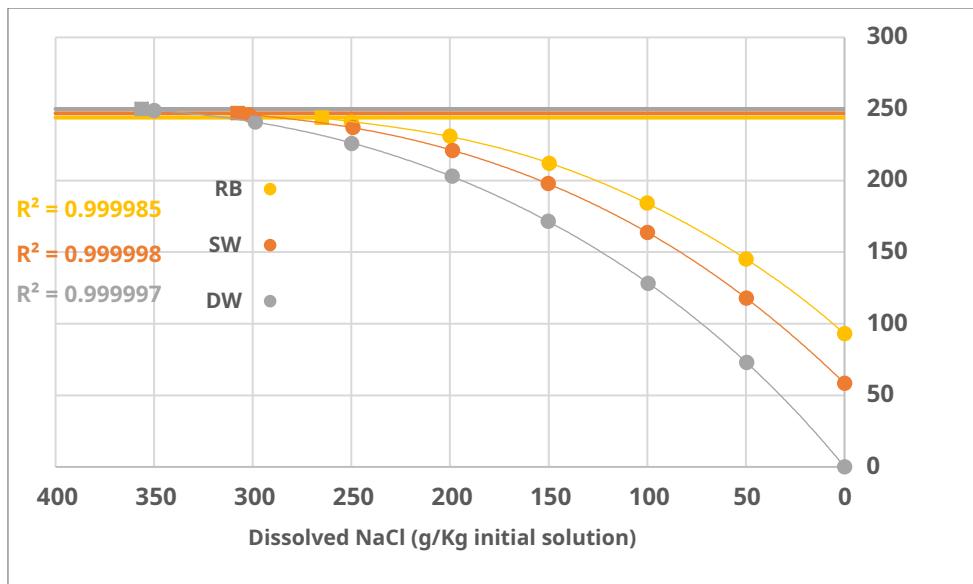


Figure 5.5.2. Electrical conductivity against the amount of salt dissolved in each experiment. The horizontal lines represent the maximum electrical conductivity values in each series of experiments to which the polynomial regressions adjusted to the experimental results were extrapolated. DW - distilled water. SW - sea water. RB - concentrated water from desalination.

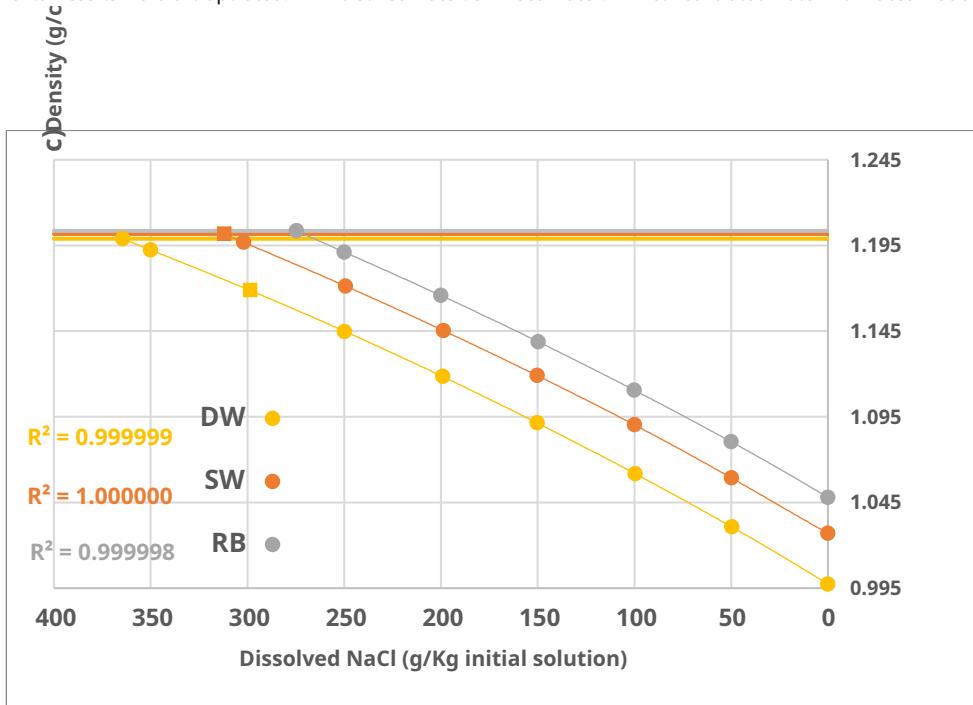


Figure 5.5.3. Density against the amount of salt dissolved in each experiment. The horizontal lines represent the maximum density measured in each series of experiments to which the polynomial regressions adjusted to the experimental results were extrapolated. DW - distilled water, SW - sea water, and RB - concentrated water from desalination.

(b) Kinetic experiments (K):

Kinetic experiments were performed on a fixed and excess amount of salt (400 grams of salt per kilogram of solution) that were added at once to the various solutions (distilled water, sea water and concentrated water) while they were mixed and mixed using a magnet and a magnetic stirrer located at the bottom. Two series of experiments were performed, one on salt

with a grain size of 1.4-2 mm, and the second on salt with a grain size of 2-4 mm. The dissolution kinetics was monitored through continuous measurement of the electrical conductivity of the solution in time, with a resolution of one second, using a Multi 3630 (WTW) type sensor. The electrical conductivities measured during the experiments were converted to the amount of salt dissolved at any given moment by using the empirical relationships established in the thermodynamic experiments (part A').

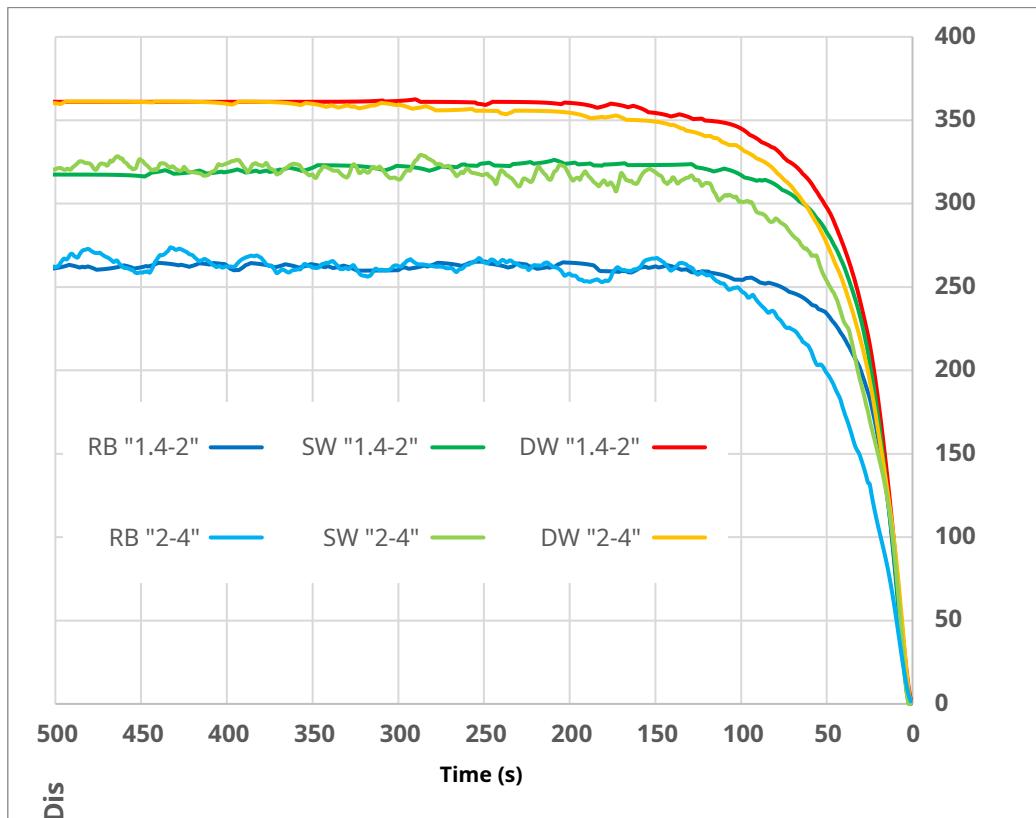


Figure 5.5.4. The amount of salt dissolved as a function of time in each experiment. The experiments indicate that equilibrium is reached after about two and a half minutes. It can be clearly identified that for each solution, the salt dissolution rate is faster when the grain size is smaller.

5.5.4. discussion

Figure 5.5.4 indicates two familiar points from the theory of mass kinetics but important to note:

1. The dissolution rate is smaller the closer the solution is to equilibrium.
2. The smaller the grain size (i.e. larger available surface area) the faster the melting rate.

In addition, until about 80% of the dissolution potential of the salt in each solution is exhausted, the dissolution rate remains relatively linear and less dependent on the available surface area and proximity to equilibrium. Reaching equilibrium occurs within two and a half minutes in all experiments despite the different experimental conditions in terms of grain size and the different solutions.

The kinetic analysis of the experiments was based on the following equation (: Brantley, 2008

$$-\Omega = \log(k) + n \log(1 - s_1) \quad \text{Eq. (1): Log Rate (g halite kg solution)}$$

Where: n is the order of the reaction (average value of $2\pm10\%$), k is the kinetic constant (average value of $0.95\pm10\%$) and- is the degree of saturation calculated by the Ω . PhreeqC

Figure 5.5.5 describes the results of the experiments based on equation 1. The low dispersion obtained from the rate law between

solutions

the show

mass as

who died

0.97654 =₂R	y = 0.98209 + 2.2334x	—
0.97687 =₂R	y = 1.0328 + 1.867x	—
0.96199 =₂R	= 1.0392 + 1.9815x	y = —
0.95028 =₂R	0.89797 + 2.0903x	y = —
0.92177 =₂R	0.96562 + 2.0489x	y = —
0.91025 =₂R	0.8161 + 1.5862x	—

A
B
(
M

versus the distance from equilibrium
according to equation 1.
The coarse (2-4 mm). DW -

5

N
God
B
God

Minister to determine the potential of
these will reach the southern Dead Sea
taking into account the challenges
Romi to the northern basin.

According to the Dead Sea Enterprises, the salt harvesting project is expected to harvest about 20 million tons of salt per year. Assuming that the factories in Jordan (APC) harvest about 15 million tons per year (estimation based on the ratio of the evaporation areas), the general amount of salt to be disposed of is about 35 million tons per year.

In the feasibility study for the Red Sea - Dead Sea project conducted for the World Bank by the Geological Survey and Tel Aviv (Gavrieli et al., 2011), it was determined that the discharge of up to 400 milliliters of seawater/concentrated water is not expected to substantially change the nature of the sea

According to these numbers, if the pipeline project is realized and includes in the first stage a discharge of the upper limit of 400 mm/s, then the melting of about 0.088 tons of halite per cubic meter (m³) of solution (88 g per liter of solution) is sufficient to remove the full weight of the salt harvest (35 million tons per year) of the two plants.

In practice, the melting potential of seawater and concentrate water from desalination are significantly higher than 0.088 tons of halite per cubic meter of solution and stand at 0.310 and 0.279 tons of halite per cubic meter, respectively. That is, the mass of 0.088 tons of lithium per cubic meter of solution exhausts only 28% and 32% of the dissolution potential of seawater and concentrated water, respectively. Therefore, if the engineering solution is found to maintain a constant ratio of mixing salt and solution in suitable mixing/circulation facilities, and an amount of water is flowed sea and/or concentrated water in a volume of 400 ml/h, the great melting potential will not be exhausted and the melting rate is expected to be very fast (less than 20 seconds). Accordingly, the required residence time of the solution-salt mixture in the mixing facility is expected to be extremely short.

Alternatively, since the potential amount of salt that can be removed by melting according to the above calculations significantly exceeds the annual amount of salt harvested by the two plants, it will be possible to melt all the salt harvested from the two plants even in volumes smaller than 400 milliliters per hour. Assuming that you will find a way to bring the solutions to saturation at the rate observed in the laboratory (about two and a half minutes), then the annual volume of seawater required to remove all the salt is:

$$3610 \cdot 110 \sim = \frac{0.31}{3} \div 610 \cdot 35$$

And who is the coordinator:

$$3610 \cdot 125 \sim = \frac{0.28}{3} \div 610 \cdot 35$$

It can be assumed that even after it is agreed upon between the parties, it will take a long time until the implementation of the Red Sea and Dead Sea project. On the other hand, the adoption of the solution of dissolving the harvest salt using sea water allows temporary storage of the salt in the ponds knowing that with the establishment of the project it will be possible within a few years to melt and remove the entire volume of salt that had accumulated until then. The annual amount of salt that can be removed while bringing the sea water to saturation with a discharge of 400 millimeter per hour is:

$$610 \cdot 125 \sim = \frac{0.31}{3} \cdot 3610 \cdot 400$$

And who is the coordinator:

$$610 \cdot 110 \sim = \frac{0.28}{3} \cdot 3610 \cdot 400$$

These amounts are 3-3.5 times higher than the amount of salt that sinks annually in the Israeli and Jordanian factories combined.

As mentioned, the residence time required according to the laboratory experiments to reach the exhaustion of the melting potential and reach equilibrium is about two and a half minutes. If necessary, it will be possible to reduce the above-mentioned residence time by grinding the salt grains to a finer grain size than is currently done by the barges in order to speed up the melting rate.

Another point that must be taken into account is that it is likely that if a fine grain of salt that has not fully dissolved remains, it will be able to be removed in suspension as it melts, towards the northern basin, thereby even increasing the potential amount of salt that can be transported to the northern basin.

As described in the introduction, the World Bank's recommendation, which was adopted at the time by all parties involved, was to establish the entire Red Sea-Dead Sea pipeline in Jordan and to release the sea water and/or the concentrate water in the Gulf of Lisan in the southeast of the Dead Sea, also within the territory of the Kingdom of Jordan. Hence, in order to realize the idea presented here, it will be necessary to transport the salt from the salt harvest of the Dead Sea factories to the territory of Jordan and from there mix it with the transported water, or alternatively, pull part of the volume of the transported water towards the factories and perform the melting there. However, it must be carefully considered whether it would be correct to release these solutions, after the melting, in a free flow through Nahal Arba, between the batteries of the Dead Sea and APC plants, since these solutions will still have the potential to dissolve and therefore they may melt parts of the batteries built from lithium. In addition, there is a fear of increased silting in Nahal Arava, which could endanger the ponds as well. Because of this, even if the melting of the salt from the salt harvest of the Dead Sea factories takes place on the territory of the Israeli factories, it will still be necessary to flow the solutions back to the Kingdom of Jordan for their release in the Lisan Gulf, in accordance with the World Bank's proposal.

Apart from the techno-economic question, the consequences of mixing the sea water and the concentrated water, which dissolved large amounts of salt, with the Dead Sea must also be examined. Preliminary thermodynamic calculations indicate that such mixing will be accompanied by outsalting of salt, similar to what happens in the salt delta (Gavrieli et al., 1998, Gavrieli et al., 1989, Gavrieli 1997, Beyth, M). This is in addition to the gypsum deposition that is expected anyway when mixing seawater and concentrated water in the Dead Sea (2021) (Reznik et al., 2009, Reznik et al., 2010, Reznik et al., 2012, Reiss et al.). These issues will be examined in separate works .

thanks

To Ms. Shamayim Shariki from the Dead Sea Enterprises who guided us and assisted in collecting the harvest salt from the batteries, to Ms. Naifa Subah who assisted in the sifting work and to the team of geochemists and geochemists in the Geological Institute laboratories who determined the composition of the salt.

5.6 Feeding salt from the salt harvest to the Arava stream - a proposal to protect against the subsidence of the stream and to transport the salt through the stream to the northern basin

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5.6.1. background

5.6.1.1. Challenges in the area of the southern basin of the Dead Sea *The salt harvest - the transportation of the harvested salt and its storage*

The government's decision regarding the salt harvest (2012) establishes an upper water level in the evaporation ponds in the southern basin of the Dead Sea, in order to enable the operation of the hotels and the accompanying infrastructures alongside the industrial evaporation ponds (regional background is shown below). The level of the pools rises at a rate of about 0.2 m per year due to the accumulation of salt at the bottom of the pools. Therefore, in order to determine the level, salt must be harvested at a rate similar to this accumulation, which amounts to about 15 million cubic meters per year, and the salt transported to the northern basin. According to the original plan, a conveyor belt should be built from the southern basin to the mouth of Nahal Tzalim in the northern basin (Figure 5.6.1, and from there on rely on marine transport into the northern basin, where the salt storage volume is unlimited (Lensky et al. 2010). The terrestrial conveyor passes through areas with unstable infrastructure (sinkholes, land subsidence, streams that are constantly undermining and widening, will be detailed In order to transport the salt from the end of the land conveyor belt, further into the sea, it is necessary to build an infrastructure for marine transportation using unloading ships, which load the salt on the shore and unload it at sea (split barge), or by disposal pipes and transportation under pressure (slurry). Application of two alternatives Those in the Dead Sea are not simple due to dealing with unstable ground, a receding coastline, and salt accumulation on every facility immersed in the sea (2017a,b, Sirota et al. 2016, Arnon et al. 2016, Lensky et al.).**The challenges detailed above place a question mark on the applicability of implementing the government's decision regarding the salt harvest based on the original idea of transporting salt and dumping it deep in the northern basin.**

If the sea transportation is delayed, large amounts of salt from the harvest will remain in the area between the southern and northern basins. To illustrate, at the end of 30 years, assuming that the rate of salt creation remains constant, approximately 450 million cubic meters of salt will be harvested and piled up (more than 4 times the volume of Mount Masada). Several options have been proposed, among them:

of salt from the land to the lake, near Pi88 Bay (about 60 cubic meters), salt storage in the Lynch Straits area that separates the evaporation ponds from the northern basin (about 150 cubic meters); These can answer a small part of the volume of the harvested salt and do not answer the long-term solution. These alternatives have landscape and environmental consequences and consume high power energy. An alternative to the mass by sea water within the Sea Canal was proposed a decade ago as part of Hali's studies and recently discussed again (Gabrieli and Reznik 2022); at this time it does not seem that this alternative has geopolitical applicability. **In this work, we will examine an alternative of transporting salt from the salt harvest using the residual salinization that flows down the Arava River** to the northern basin (the characteristics of the flow in Nahal Arava are detailed below). If this alternative is found to be applicable, it will be energetically efficient (use of the current of the stream, which is prevented by the height difference and slope), and may prevent the challenging and complex construction of the infrastructures described above.

Submerging the Arava River - protection of the evaporation ponds' batteries

Nahal Arava is immersed in Holocene lacustrine sediments (Tzalim Formation) consisting mostly of silt and aragonite (Bookman et al., 2004); These sediments are covered by a young layer of salt (deposited since the 80s of the last century) that is getting thicker towards the north (Dente et al. 2017, Lenski et al. 2011c). With the lowering of the level of the northern basin in recent decades, Nahal Arava narrows, twists and changes its width (Figure 5.6.1); In the southern section where the stream flows between the evaporation ponds of the Israeli Dead Sea plants (MIH) and the Jordanian (The subsidence and meandering of the stream endangers the stability of the embankments bordering the APC ponds the evaporation. Restraint facilities were erected to keep the stream away from the embankments of the ponds, on both sides of the stream. Currently, a plan is being promoted to build a dam (Dam A) inside the stream, north of the Israeli Pool 5 (see location in Figure 5.6.1), the purpose of which is to prevent flooding in the section between the pools. Over time, the subsidence that will continue downstream of the dam is expected to damage the bottom of the dam, so plans are being made to build more dams downstream, to protect the upper dam. **In this work, we will examine ways to use the excess salt from the salt harvest for the purpose of armoring the bottom of the stream downstream of Dam A, thereby also slowing down or stopping subsidence downstream, and eliminating the need for the construction of additional engineering facilities along the stream.**

5.6.1.2 Regional background - the geological, geomorphological and limnological environment

The Dead Sea is made up of a deep northern basin (today, 280 m deep) that covers an area of over 600 square kilometers (Sade et al. 2014), and a shallow southern basin that has been used in recent decades as evaporation ponds for the production of potash and other materials. Level The northern basin is falling at a rate of more than a meter per year due to the capture of water up the Hikva basin (mainly the Jordan) and the activity of the potash plants (Lensky et al. 2005, Lensky and Dante 2015). "The and APC. The two basins are distinguished by the raised geological structure of the "Tongue" (it was called the Tongue Peninsula), west of which flows the Arava River; This stream drains the eastern Negev, the Arava, and western Adom. Downhill - The stream passes between the evaporation ponds of the factories, where the final brines of the factories are discharged after the extraction of the minerals (Lansky et al. 2014, 2011a). At the outlet of the Arava stream to the Dead Sea (northern basin), a salt delta is formed in the lake as a result of a chemical reaction when the final salinities mix with the Dead Sea brine, which has a different composition; The rate of salt accumulation in the delta is about 7 million cubic meters per year, and as a result the delta advances underwater into the receding lake (Lensky et al. 2011b, c). The annual flow

The total of the final brines is over 300 million cubic meters per year (there is another component of leaks from the ponds, 2021 Levy and Gvirtzman); the density of the brines is very high, about 1.35 g per cubic meter (Lansky et al. 2011a, 2014). In addition, flood water flows in the river with an annual flow of about one million cubic meters per year and in particularly rainy years can reach ten million cubic meters. Since the lake level is dropping (about forty meters over the last fifty years), and the river mouth is being lowered accordingly, the flow in the stream sweeps material from the bottom and creates a backwash and uplift in the meanders of the stream (Dente et al. 2017). The reaction of the stream to the decrease of the lake level also depends on the exposed topographical structure and the rate of construction of the salt delta at the outlet of the stream (Lansky et al. 2011c); The steeper the slope, the more powerful the retreat will be (et al. 2017, Eyal et al. 2019 Dente).

The characteristics of the water column of the Dead Sea with reference to the expected effects of salt dispersion from the harvesting and storage of the salt, can be found in the reports and articles of the Geological Institute (Lansky et al. 2011a,b, 2010, 2013-af, 2016, 2017a-b, Nehorai et al., 2013 ab Lensky et al.).

The instability of the infrastructure in the area stems from several factors: (a) The coast of the northern basin of the Dead Sea changes frequently, the sea level drops and accordingly the coastline recedes, thus revealing the bottom of the lake with the special topographic and sedimentary structures. Winter storms with strong winds produce waves which in turn produce coastal cliffs (Enzel et al. 2022) and transport materials that come with the streams, including pebbles, along the coast (Eyal et al. 2021). All these processes have implications for the establishment and maintenance of engineering facilities along the coast and the dispersion of salt in the sea. (b) Sinkholes develop along the coast of the Dead Sea as well as in the Lynch Straits, these are found in areas where a layer of salt is buried in the subsoil, usually between the coastline (today, Rom 437 m) and the surroundings of Rom 400 m (2020. Abelson 2021 , Abelson et al.). (c) Significant land subsidence is measured along the Dead Sea coast (Yechieli et al. 2016). (d) Submerging streams (as mentioned above and expanded later).

5.6.1.3 Theoretical background and knowledge gaps

Fluvial geomorphology and sediment transport / subduction

The natural gradient of alluvial streams (equilibrium gradient) is derived from the hydro-climatic characteristics of the drainage basin, the amount of sediment and the characteristics of the pebbles that arrive from upstream and are transported downstream (Ben Moshe and Lansky, 2020). An increase in the slope of the stream, which is not due to the variables detailed above, will cause an increase in the stream's ability to transport sediment and correspondingly to the shearing of uncohesive material from the bottom of the channel and subsidence. Since the beginning of the 90s of the last century, subsidence has been occurring in the Arava River due to exposure of the steep bathymetry from its equilibrium slope at the mouth of the stream to the retreating Dead Sea coast (Dente et al., 2017). This type of subsidence currently occurs in a significant part of the streams that drain into the lake (Ben Moshe and Lansky, 2020, 2022; Ben Moshe et al., 2008), and is usually accompanied by a change in the width and meandering of the streams (Dente, 2017, 2018, 2021). It is possible to estimate the expected rate of subsidence in the future by combining theoretical and empirical methods, but we are limited in our ability to predict future changes in the cross-section and degree of meandering of the streams.

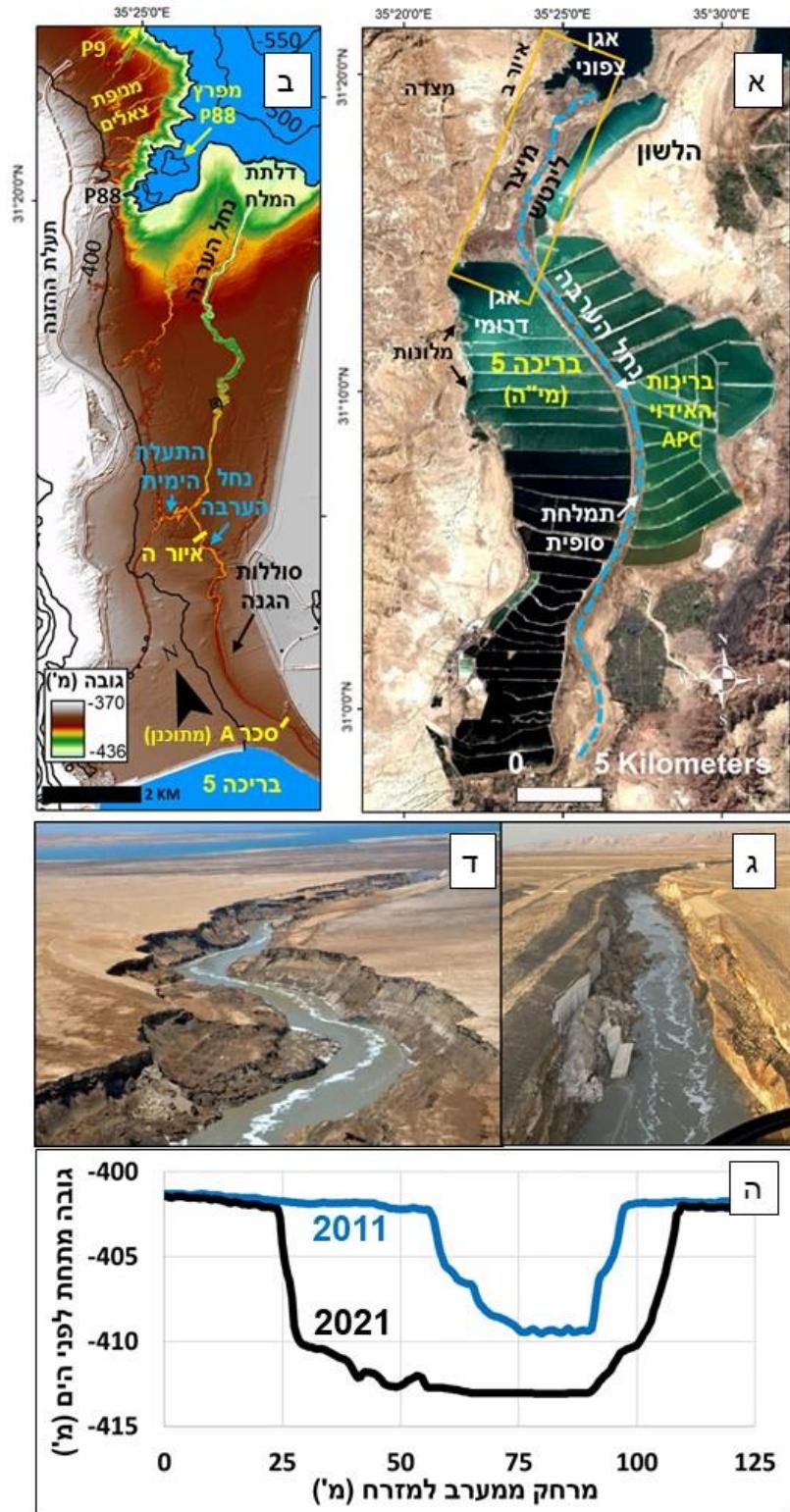


Figure 5.6.1.A. Orthophoto map of the south of the northern basin, the Lintsch Strait, and the southern basin of the Dead Sea, indicating the areas and sites mentioned in the report. The orange rectangle marks the area of the elevation map. **B.** Elevation map of the Mitzner Lintsch area and Nahal Arava. The yellow line marks the location of the cross section in Figure e. **third. d.** Oblique aerial photograph of Nahal Arava in the area south of its junction with the sea canal (looking south up the stream), and in the area north of its junction with the sea canal (looking north down the stream). **God.** Cross-sections of Nahal Arava in 2011 and 2021, showing the expansion and deepening of the river channel.

When the active layer in the stream (the layer of alluvial material at the bottom of the channel that is transported as a lump, active layer) is covered with coarse pebbles, the critical shear stress necessary to transport them is higher than the shear stress of the current, an armor of the stream bed is formed; The armor protects the active layer from weathering and causes an increase in the equilibrium gradient of the stream (van den Berg 1995). Armor can occur as a result of natural processes (for example, Storz-Peretz et al, 2011), or due to an artificial intervention aimed at slowing down or preventing subsidence (Czapiga et al, 2022). In order to achieve an optimal armor effect, one must know the appropriate sediment flow and grain size, the number and location of sediment feeding points along the channel, the sediment feeding method, the characteristics of the stream infrastructure, and the expected geomorphological reactions to feeding (for example, meandering changes due to the accumulation of sediment in meanders, the formation of scratches).

Hydraulics of sediment transport in an open channel

In order to estimate the armoring ability of the river bed to prevent subsidence, and the ability to transport salt as a suspension in the Arava River brine, theoretical calculations are not enough, but a combined approach of theory, laboratory experiment and field experiment is required. The transport of harvested salt in the Araba river in the final brine of the factories is completely different from the transport of silt and clay sand in normal streams. For example, the buoyancy of salt grains in the final brine is up to three times greater than the buoyancy of silt grains in fresh water (according to the density difference between the grains and liquid normalized to the density of the liquid), and the viscosity of brine is ten times higher than that of fresh water, 2016. Weisbrod et al) - these substantially affect the ability to transport particles and the ability to calculate the transport efficiency. In the accepted approaches in the engineering and management of rivers and open canals, it is customary to start with calculations based on empirical experience accumulated over the years; Before any implementation of an engineering project in rivers, preliminary experiments are also performed, due to the knowledge gap in the field of sediment transport in rivers. In the case of the transport of salt in the brine of the Arava River, the questions expand due to a lack of previous experience with the unique properties, and because there is additional complexity that requires preliminary research:

1. The brine has fundamentally different properties from fresh water and even sea water (the density is about 35 percent higher than fresh water, and the viscosity is ten times higher).
2. The salt has a lower density than most of the materials transported in "normal" streams and canals, and in addition, the salt reacts in the form of formation or dissolution, according to the changing conditions along the flow in the stream (change in salinity and temperature) and as a result grains can crystallize in the bottom and preserve it, or vice versa, dissolve during floods with fresh water.
3. The slope along the stream changes all the time, as a response to the drop in the level and the response of the stream. This is a case that goes beyond what is known in rivers in the world, and it is a particularly challenging case in planning river management systems.

When planning an engineering activity in normal streams, it is common to calculate the grain sizes that will be transported as a suspension or as a group using well-known equations such as the Rouse equation and a system of equations developed by 2009 (Cheng). Multiplying the sediment concentration by its flow speed and the width of the channel (assuming a rectangular channel). The calculation can be performed using the procedure proposed by Van Rijn (1984), and the rate of mass transport in the channel can be estimated using a system of empirical equations developed (in the laboratory) by Meyer-Peter

(1948) and Müller and considered useful. It is important to emphasize that these calculations are based on basic assumptions. Many such as the rectangular geometry of the cross-section of the channel, the distribution of grain sizes, the critical shear stress for separating grains of different sizes from the bottom, the reduction factor (in cases where the shear stress is lower than the critical shear stress), and the Reynolds number (expresses the ratio between the inertial forces and the frictional forces in the flow). Also, the calculations require neglect such as the effect of the channel banks on the flow profile, and the consequences of sharp velocity and pressure changes between different layers in a turbulent flow (for example, Afzal and Gersten, 1996). For these reasons, theoretical calculations can be used as a basis for planning experiments in the laboratory and in the field, but are not a substitute for empirical research. Therefore, there is no substitute for monitoring in the field in order to quantify the transport of the fed sediment, measure the changes in the geometry of the river channel, and reduce the uncertainty in the correct management of the sediment feed to the stream (Arnaud et al., 2017).

5.6.2. A proposal for research on the subject of feeding salt to Nahal Arava - protection against subsidence and transporting the salt to the basin the northern

5.6.2.1 Research objectives

The purpose of the research is to find ways to optimize the salt supply to the Arava river, in order to meet the goals of: 1) minimizing the subsidence down the Arava river (below the planned A dam), and 2) transporting as much salt as possible (up to 15 million cubic meters per year). Meeting these goals will greatly reduce the engineering intervention and the landscape disturbance to the area because the stream will "do the work" (a nature-based solution), and will also reduce the need to bring materials and generate energy to create more dams and conveyors.

5.6.2.2 The research questions

1. What is the optimal grain size distribution to achieve both objectives? For armor, coarse grains are needed, while for transport as a suspension, as fine grains as possible are needed.
2. What is the optimal feeding method? There are many ways to feed granular material into the river, which is the most appropriate way for the special case of Nahal Arava?
3. What is the optimal way to spread the salt along the stream, compared to spreading it at one point? Obviously, the more feed points there are down the stream, the control over the process will increase.
4. What is the maximum amount of salt that can be fed, depending on the size of the grain, to meet both goals at the same time?
5. What will be the geomorphological reactions of the stream along the stream and changes over time? Change in tortuosity? The width of the stream? Delta construction? All these under conditions of salt feeding upstream and level drop downstream.
6. How do floods of fresh water that come in high flow and have the ability to dissolve the salt in the channel affect?
7. The question of volumes - assuming that the stream will take the entire amount of salt, for how many years can the stream be allowed to transport the salt until the underwater mounds and the salt delta reach the pumping stations (MI - P9, and APC)?

5.6.2.3 The research approach

Due to the complexity of the problem of transporting salt particles through flow in the stream of Tamlahat and then in the lake, and due to the gaps in knowledge in this area, the proposed research will combine the three accepted approaches: field observations and experiments (the Geological Institute and the Hebrew University), laboratory experiments (Braunschweig, Germany Technical University), and computer simulations (University of California Santa Barbara, USA). The research is designed in such a way that the three approaches are led by leading experts in these fields, and the approaches feed each other; As the project progresses, the knowledge gaps will narrow and the scientific basis for the recommendations will be strengthened.

5.6.3 An overview of the research applications

After preliminary tests, it seems that with a high probability - it is possible to implement the first goal of feeding salt to protect against the subsidence of the stream downstream of dam A. The question is how to do the process optimally. If it turns out that it is not possible to prevent all subsidence, this means the addition of engineering facilities downriver to maintain dam A. Regarding the second goal of feeding fine salt so that it flows as a suspension and becomes a conveyor belt, there is a fundamental question here, how much can be transported under optimal conditions? What actions are required to "help" the stream reach a transport of 5% by volume of grains in the flowing brine? In this work, we will examine the conditions required to meet this goal, and it is possible that this goal will only be achieved with a massive engineering intervention (grinding and spreading the harvested salt) in a way that is difficult to implement. As we progress in research and field experiments, we will know more. We are aware that the implementation of the salt harvest and the transport of the salt to the north meets schedules that require very fast research because the salt cannot wait in piles in the southern basin. And yet, as we mentioned in the introduction, the implementation of maritime transport is currently not in sight, and may not be environmentally and scenically correct either. That is why it is difficult to underestimate the importance of this research - it has the potential to meet a tremendous engineering-environmental need in the Dead Sea area, a challenge that will increase in the years to come.

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