

On the “Garonne”

The main elements of the Airbus A380 are moved to the manufacture in Toulouse thanks to boats sailing on the Garonne. They have to pass under the “Pont de Pierre” in Bordeaux.

1. Webquest: look for information about the “Pont de Pierre” on the Internet.
2. At low tide, the boat, which is 14 meters wide, passes through the 9th arch of the bridge, which is a part of a parabola, 20 meters wide. The highest point of the parabola is 10 meters above the water at low tide. The elements of the plane are in a rectangular container which is at the same level as the river. If the container is as wide as the boat, what's the maximum possible height of the container?

