

# Comparison of 2D numerical hydraulic modelling results using different Digital Bathymetric Models (DBMs)

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London



# Presentation outline

- Introduction (case study)
  - Model set-up
  - Results and discussion
- Summary and conclusions

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Inland water transport is a viable alternative or addition to road and rail transport on European corridors. Nonetheless, it remains largely under-exploited in Europe (CSWD, 2018).

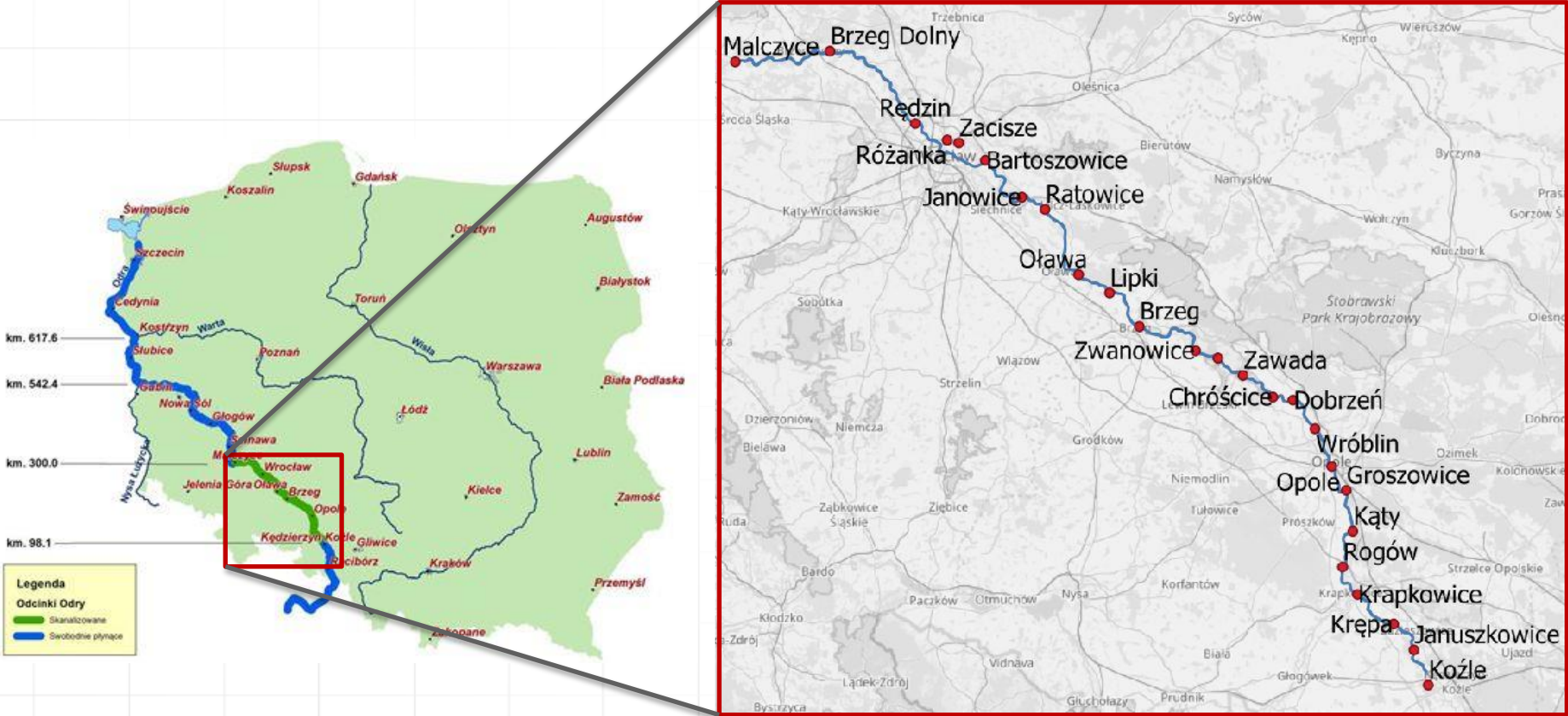


Map source: UNECE

# Comparison of 2D numerical hydraulic modelling results using different Digital Bathymetric Models (DBMs)

During the years 2018-2019, the Wrocław University of Science and Technology carried out the project “*Research and Development Conception on the modernization of the canalized reach of the Odra River to a navigable waterway of class Va*”. Different enhancement works (river training, reconstruction, etc.) on the canalized reach of the Odra river were proposed.

The Odra is planned to be part of the E-30 European waterway linking the Baltic sea to the Danube river in Bratislava. Thus, the modernization of the Odra river is the main priority for Polish inland navigation purposes.



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# Model set-up

Five simple steps to accurately analyse (numerically) any phenomenon related to water flow (Herrera-Granados, 2022):

1. Data retrieval and geometry construction of the computing domain

TIME DEMANDING  
EXPENSIVE

2. Choosing the mathematical model to analyse the natural phenomenon

3. Choosing an adequate numerical method to discretize the mathematical model

4. Defining the boundary and initial conditions of the problem

Essential for a good prediction of the natural phenomenon

5. Calibrating and validating the model

Sometimes very difficult (almost always), but a must to make our numerical models reliable

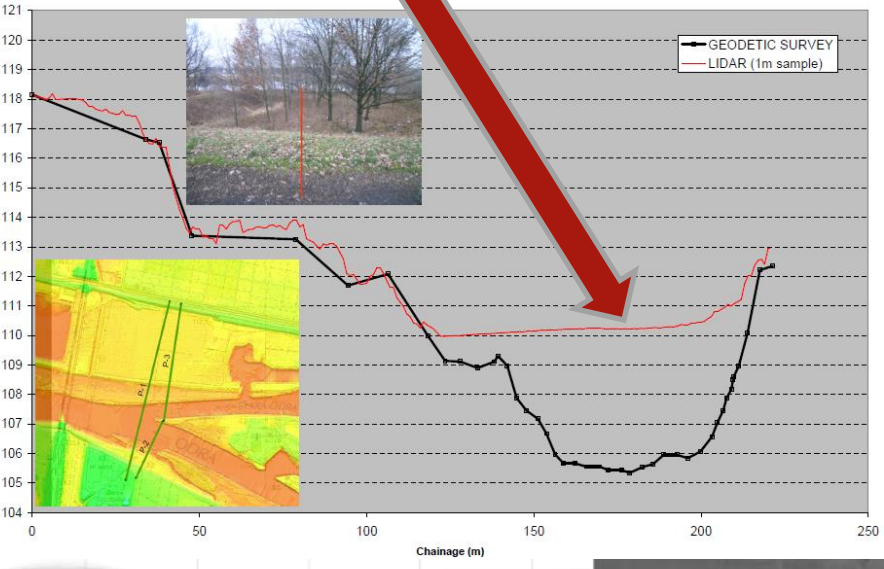
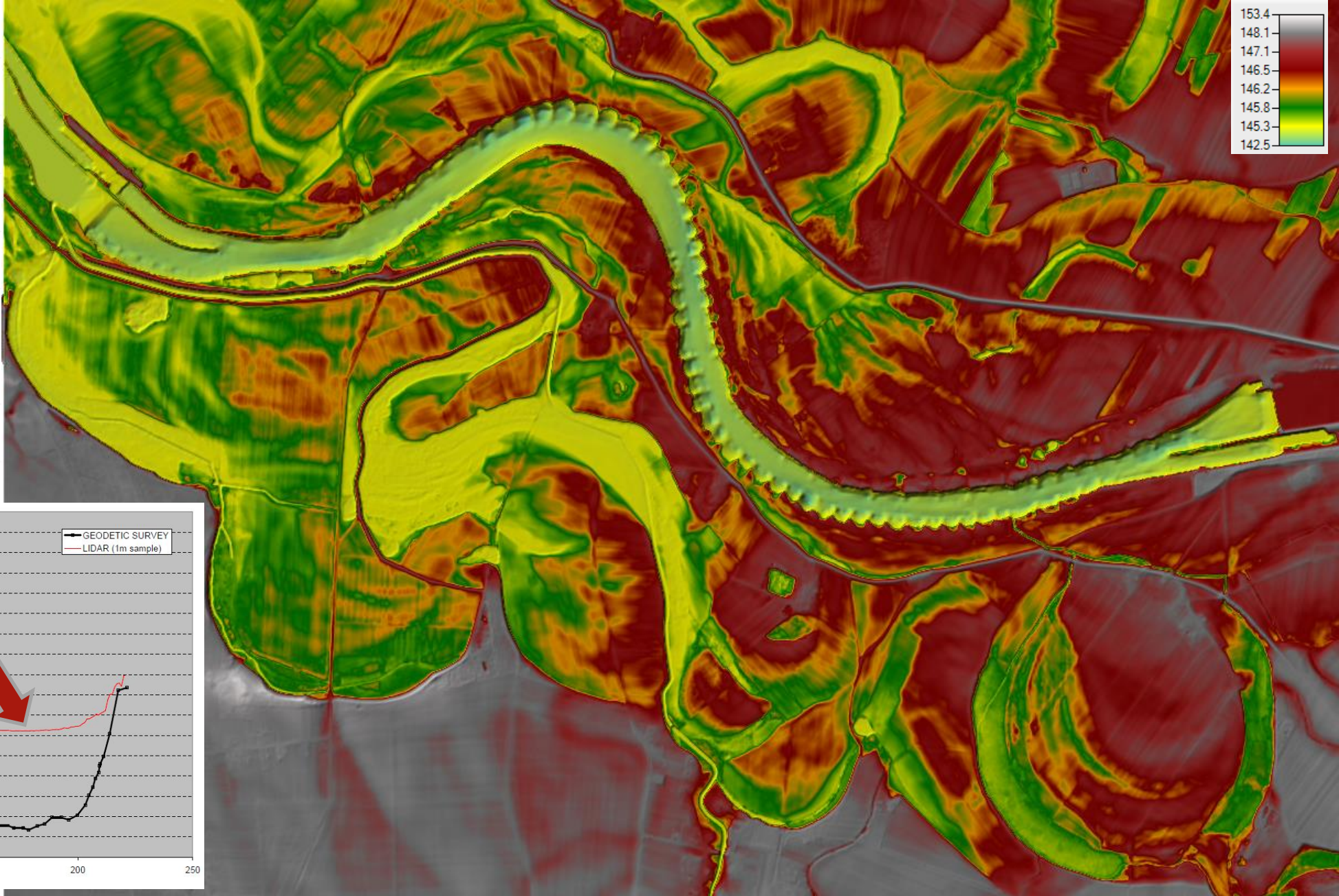
Normally the end-user (the modeler) does not face this problem as there are plenty of computer programs that makes these steps easier (HEC-RAS)

However, it is necessary to avoid the black-box dilemma, or even worst, to fall in the black box error

# Geometry: Setting up the computational domain

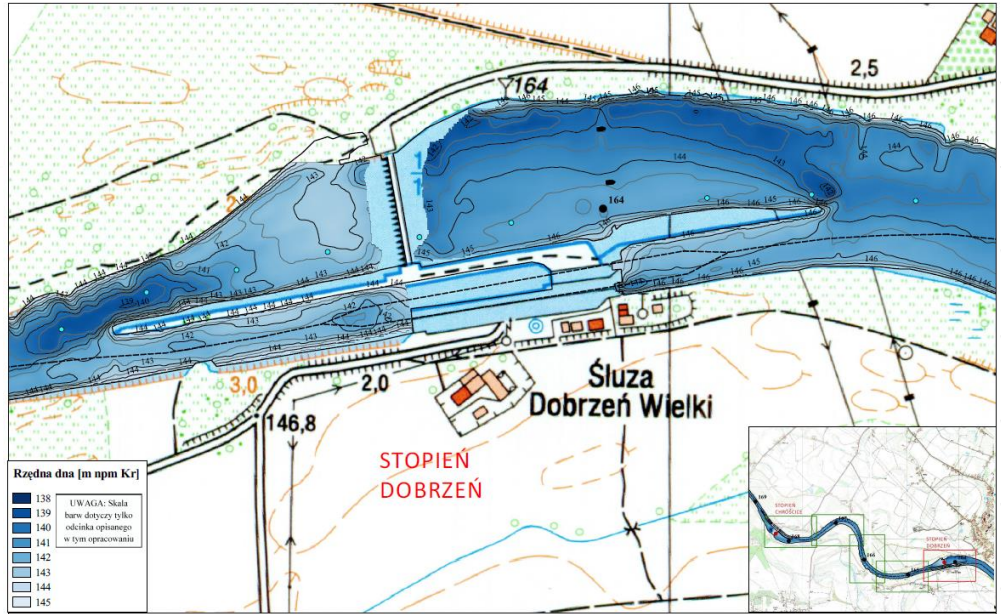
An accurate Digital Elevation Model (DEM) from LIDAR data (ISOK project) was facilitated. The first problem arose:

The ISOK's DEM did not include information about the bathymetry.



DEM source: GUGIK (PL)

# Comparison of 2D numerical hydraulic modelling results using different Digital Bathymetric Models (DBMs)



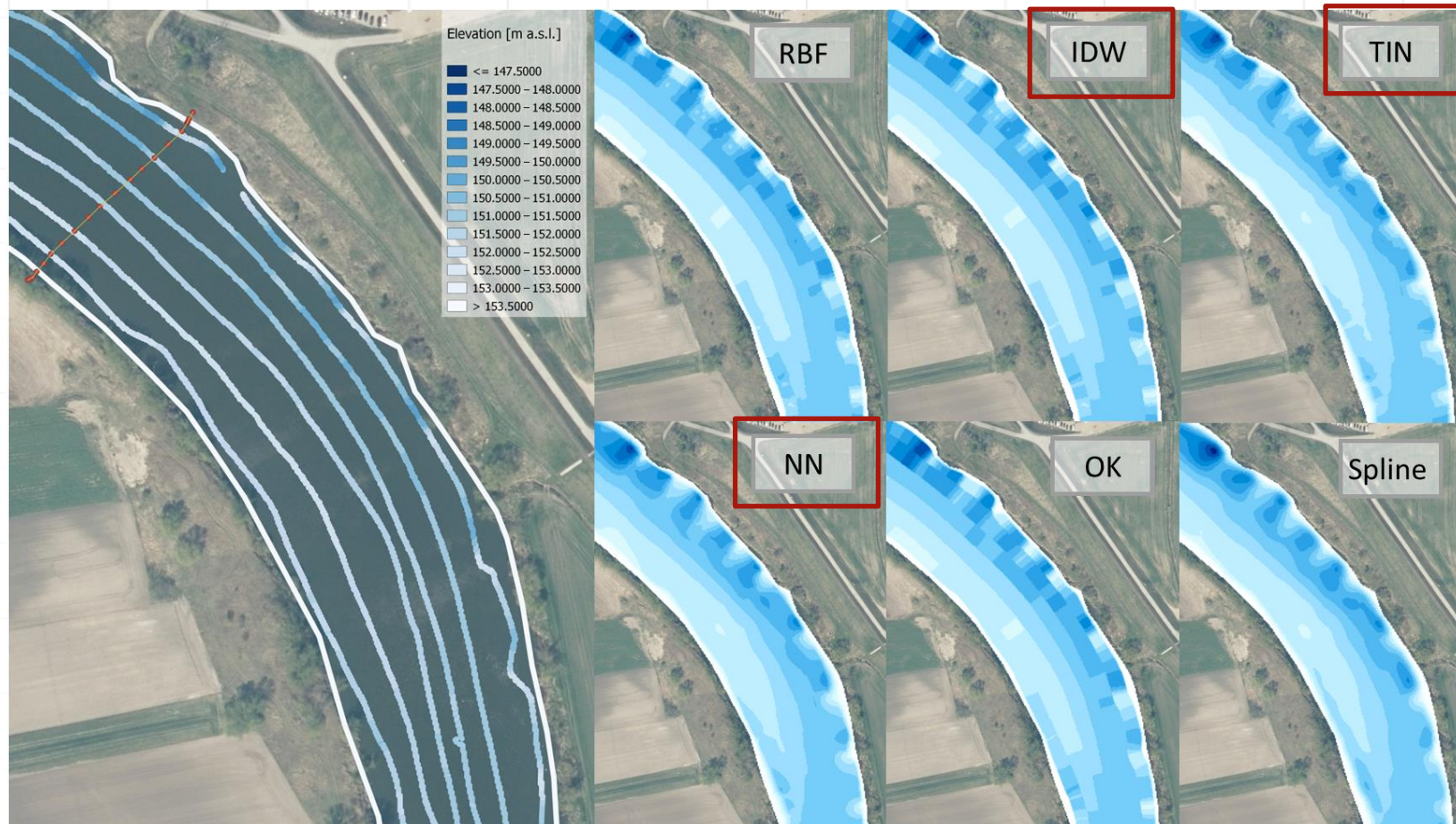
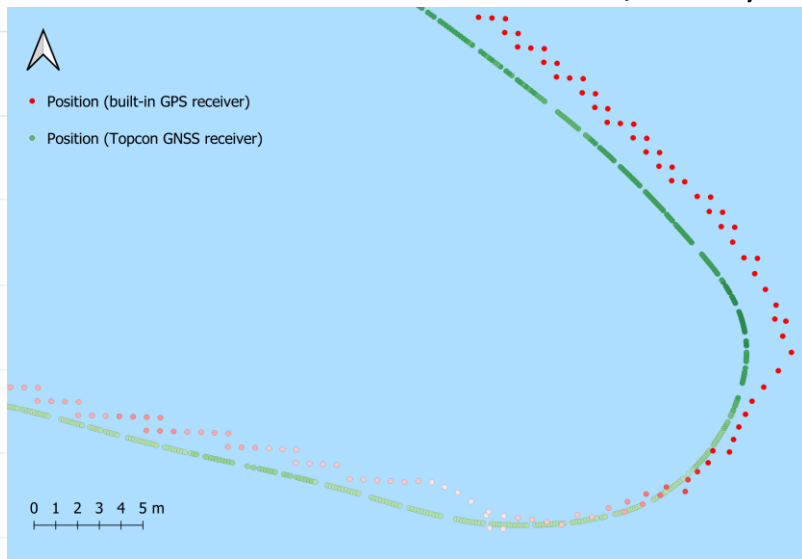
Rzędna dna [m npm Kr]

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## Comparison of 2D numerical hydraulic modelling results using different Digital Bathymetric Models (DBMs)

The process of mapping bathymetry (River Bed Mapping—RBM) of shallow rivers can be defined as the application of remote sensing techniques for collection river bed elevations and later on to use this information and interpolation techniques to build a DEM (Digital Elevation Model) or the DBM of the surveyed area (Uciechowska-Grakowicz & Herrera-Granados, 2021).



Example of RBMs generated for a small non-straight part of the Odra Cascade (reach from the barrage “Kąty” to the barrage “Groszowice”) using six different interpolation methods (Uciechowska-Grakowicz & Herrera-Granados, 2021).

# Comparison of 2D numerical hydraulic modelling results using different Digital Bathymetric Models (DBMs)

## Boundary conditions

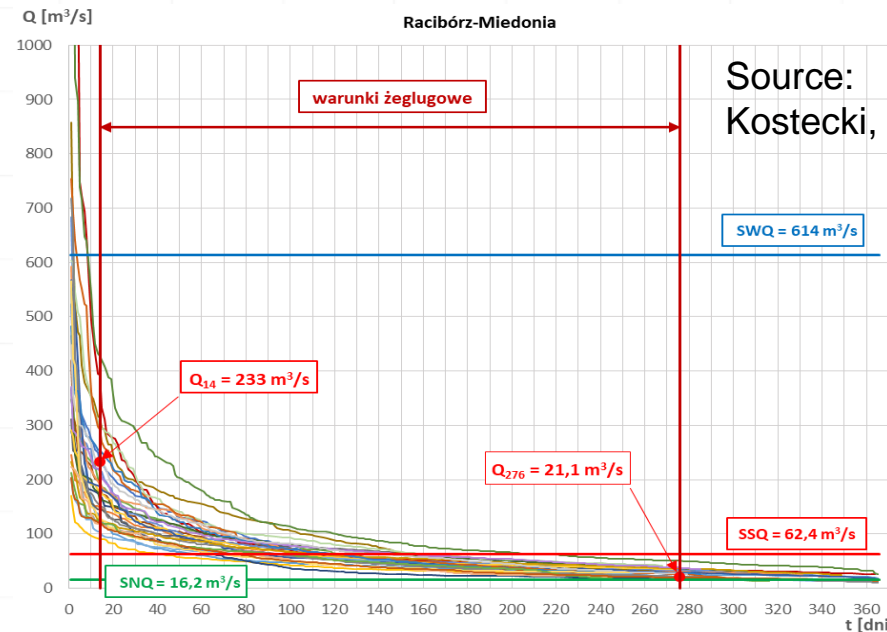
Once the geometry is defined and the numerical model has been chosen. The next step is to establish appropriate boundary and initial conditions (Herrera-Granados, 2022).

The event that was analyzed was flow under exploitation conditions (for inland navigation). Therefore, the flow can be considered almost uni-directional and two boundary conditions can be established.

An appropriate initial condition will accelerate the computational time.

**Upstream:** The average flow with the probability of occurrence of 276 days per year ( $Q_{276}$  or  $Q_{nmin}$  upstream), which meets the minimal conditions for inland navigation (Herrera-Granados, 2022).

**Downstream:** The operational reservoir level of the barrage Chróścice was used as downstream boundary condition.



**Scenario 1:**  $Q_{Nmin} = 35.3 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  (Boundary condition (BC) upstream)

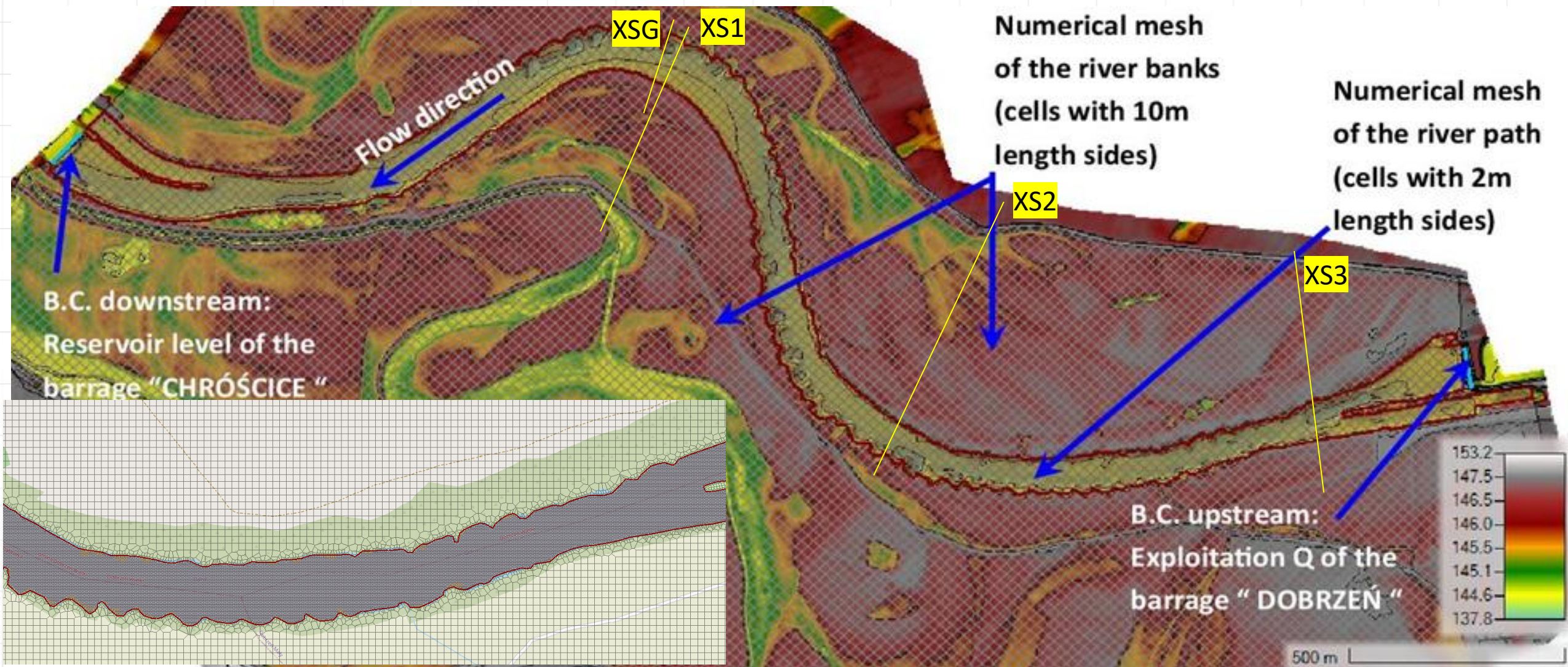
**Scenario 2:**  $Q_{Nmax} = 304.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  (BC for validation purposes)

**Boundary condition downstream:** WSE = 144.43 m a.s.l.

**Initial condition:** WSE = 144.43 m a.s.l at the beginning of the computations in the grid.

# Comparison of 2D numerical hydraulic modelling results using different Digital Bathymetric Models (DBMs)

## Geometry: Setting up the computational domain and boundary conditions



# Comparison of 2D numerical hydraulic modelling results using different Digital Bathymetric Models (DBMs)

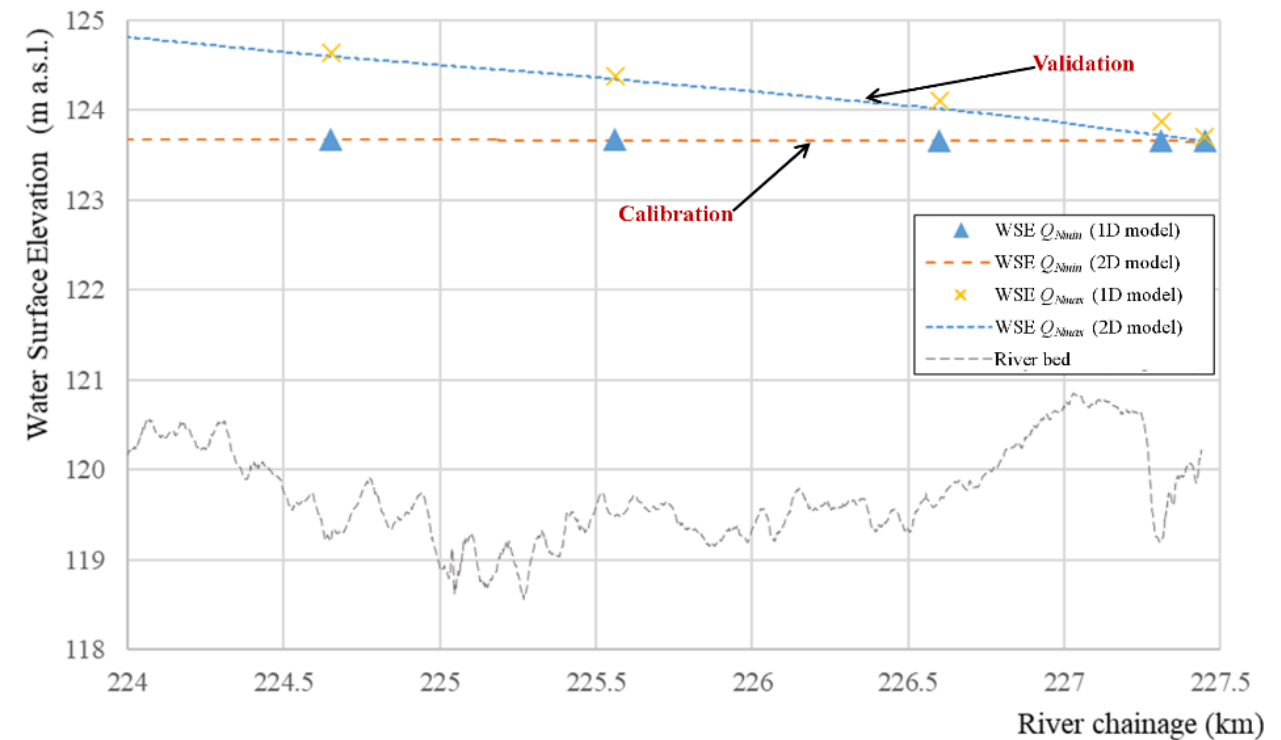
## Calibration and validation

Is it possible to blindly believe in the outcomes of a numerical model? The best practice of assuring confidentiality of our models is the process of validation and calibration (Brath et al., 2006).

Additionally, the maximal flow rate ( $Q_{nmin}$  or  $Q_{14}$ ) suitable for inland navigation was also analyzed. By analogy,  $Q_{14}$  is the average flow with the probability of occurrence of 14 days per year or less. Above this flow rate, inland navigation shall not be allowed along the waterway.

The first model was carried out using the TIN method for calibration and validation purposes (Herrera-Granados, 2022). The calibration of the model was based on the comparison of the Water Surface Elevation (WSE) values with the previously registered. Once an acceptable error was achieved, the validation of the model was carried out on the same comparison but running the model under  $Q_{14}$  flow conditions (Kostecki, et-al. part 1C, 2019).

The output of the model is in this case compared with the observed data of a 1D numerical model that was calibrated and validated (Fig. beside). Therefore, as the 1D model is already verified, the 2D model was calibrated comparing the output of the 2D model. The WSE is compared with  $Q_{nmin}$ . The difference between the first run of the 2D model and the values of the 1D model varies from 10 up to 50 cm in five compared locations.





# Presentation outline

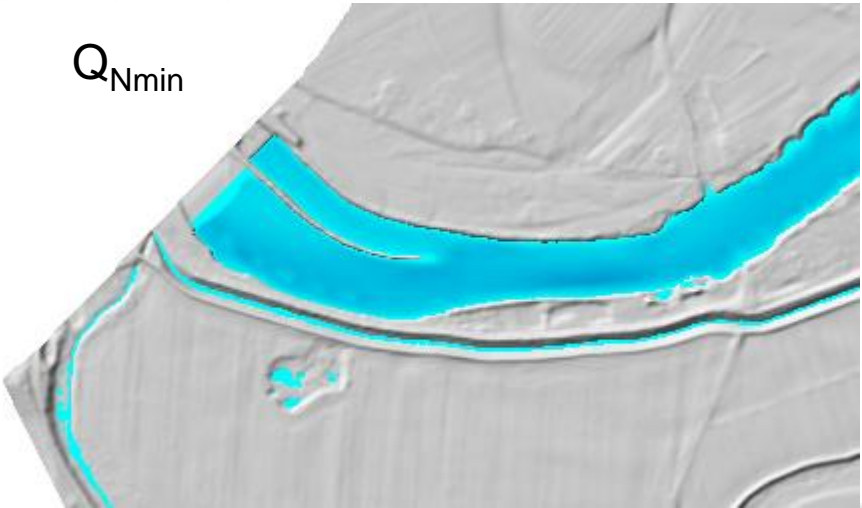
- Introduction (case study)
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# Results and discussion

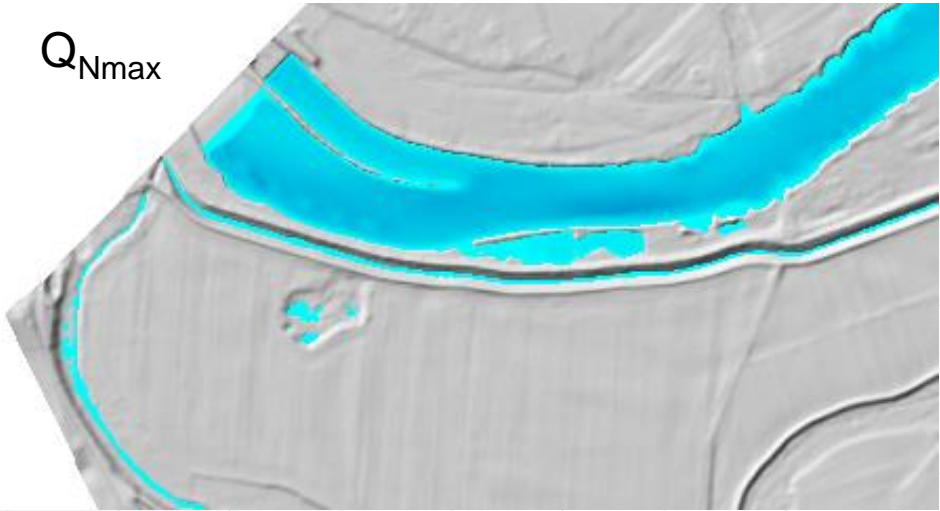
Enjoying the model output



$Q_{Nmin}$

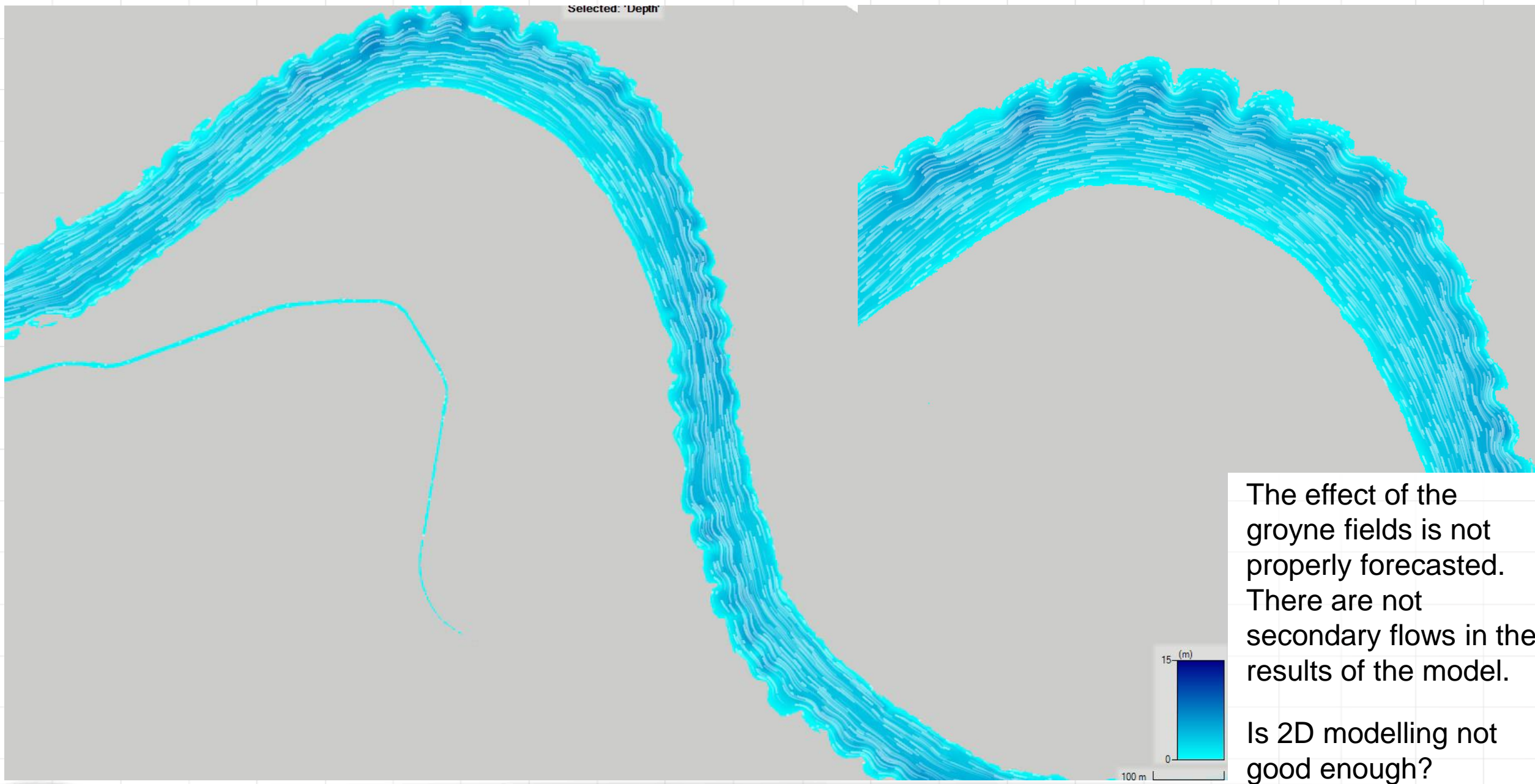


$Q_{Nmax}$



Computed water depth along the study case river reach (TIN bathymetry) under  $Q_{Nmin}$  flow conditions.

Selected: 'Depth'



The effect of the groyne fields is not properly forecasted. There are not secondary flows in the results of the model.

Is 2D modelling not good enough?

# Results and discussion

1. Data retrieval and geometry construction of the computing domain
2. Choosing the mathematical model to analyse the natural phenomenon
3. Choosing an adequate numerical method to discretize the mathematical model
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In HEC-RAS, the computer program applies the following assumptions: Incompressible flow, uniform density and that the vertical length is much smaller than the horizontal lengths (shallow water). Therefore, the vertical velocity is small, and the pressure is hydrostatic, leading to the differential form of the SWE (Shallow Water Equation). The momentum equation then becomes the two-dimensional form of the Diffusion Wave Approximation. Combining this equation with mass conservation yields a one equation model, known as the Diffusive Wave Approximation of the Shallow Water (DSWa) equations (USACE, 2021):

$$\frac{n^2}{R_h^{4/3}} |\mathbf{V}| \mathbf{V} = -\nabla z_s$$

where  $n$  is the Manning coefficient [ $L^{-1/3}T$ ],  $R_h$  [L] is the hydraulic radius,  $\mathbf{V}$  [ $LT^{-1}$ ] is in this case the velocity vector,  $z_s$  is the WSE [L] and  $\nabla z_s$  is the WSE gradient [-].

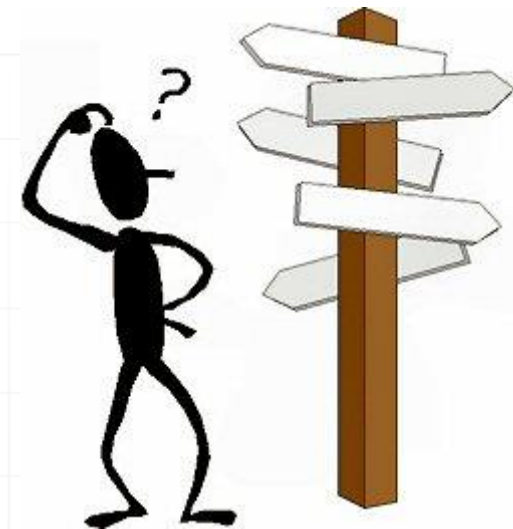
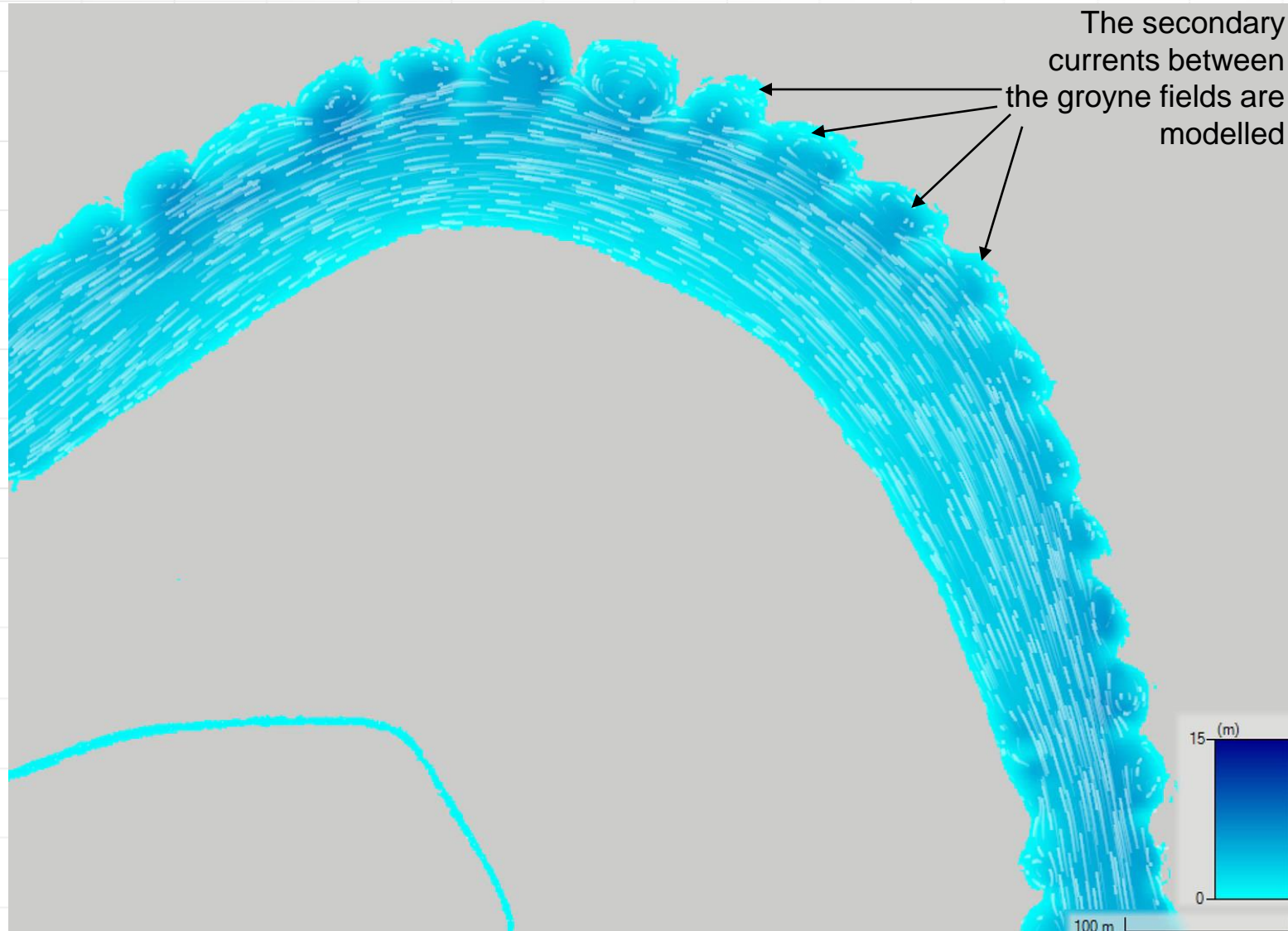


Photo licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

# Results and discussion

In HEC-RAS, the full momentum equation in 2D can be also be modelled. However, there is a computational cost in the time to be invested to model the additional terms of the SWE equation.



## IDW

Computation Task	Time(hh:mm:ss)
Completing Geometry	43
Preprocessing Geometry	<1
Completing Event Conditions	<1
Unsteady Flow Computations	1:58:31
Computing Maps	<1
Complete Process	1:59:16
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Computation Speed	Simulation/Runtime
Unsteady Flow Computations	24.8x
Complete Process	24.7x

## NN

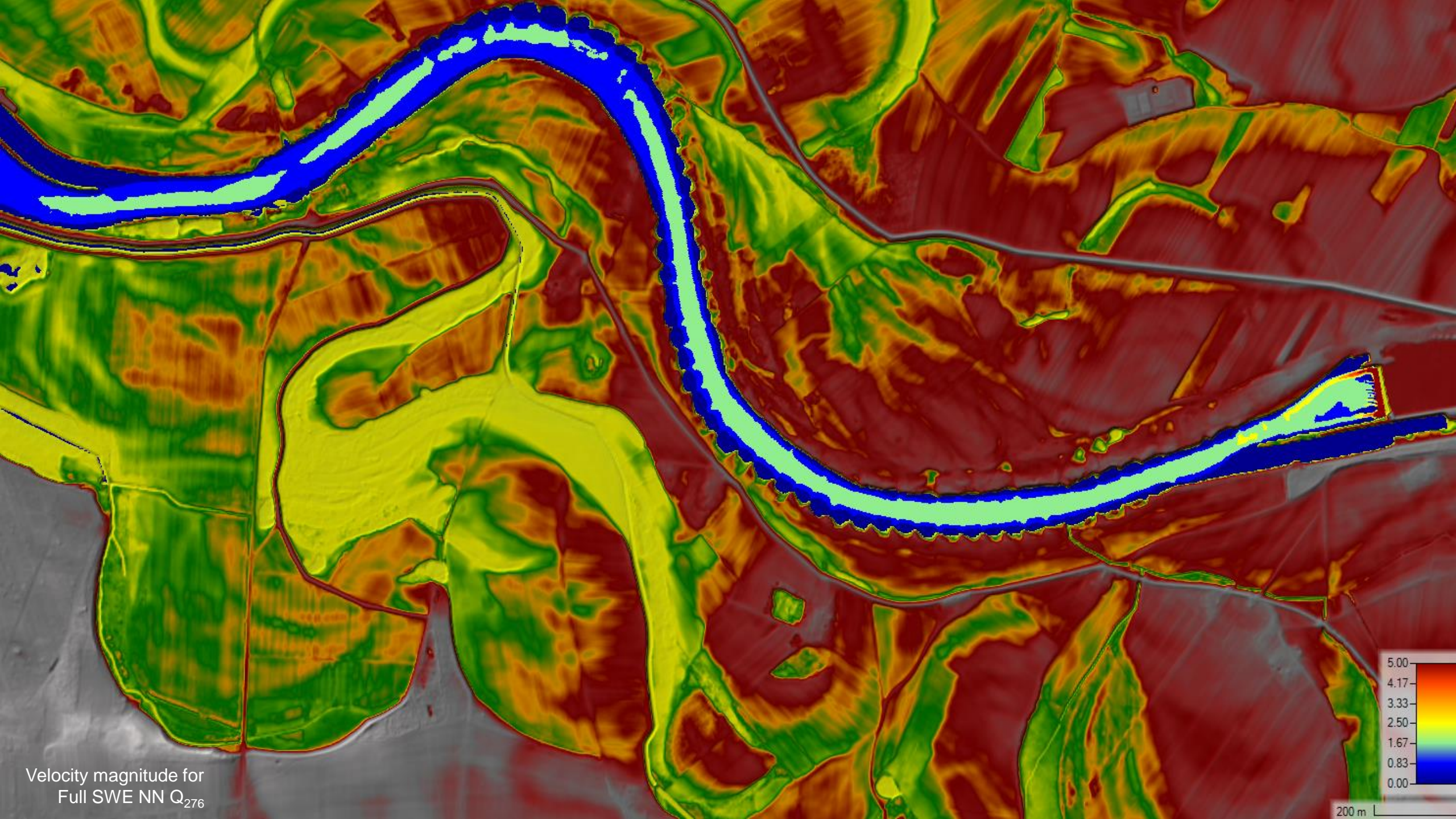
Computation Task	Time(hh:mm:ss)
Completing Geometry	53
Preprocessing Geometry	<1
Completing Event Conditions	<1
Unsteady Flow Computations	1:34:52
Computing Maps	<1
Complete Process	1:35:47
<hr/>	
Computation Speed	Simulation/Runtime
Unsteady Flow Computations	31.0x
Complete Process	30.7x

## TIN

Computation Task	Time(hh:mm:ss)
Completing Geometry	46
Preprocessing Geometry	<1
Completing Event Conditions	<1
Unsteady Flow Computations	3:01:30
Computing Maps	<1
Complete Process	3:02:17
<hr/>	
Computation Speed	Simulation/Runtime
Unsteady Flow Computations	16.2x
Complete Process	16.1x

**Model size:** around 4 km river reach; ca. 175 000 computational cells with size of around 10x10 meters and 1x1 meters.  
**Computational time:** ca. 20 minutes (DWA). PC details: Win11. processor 11th Gen Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-11800H @ 2.30GHz, 32 GB RAM

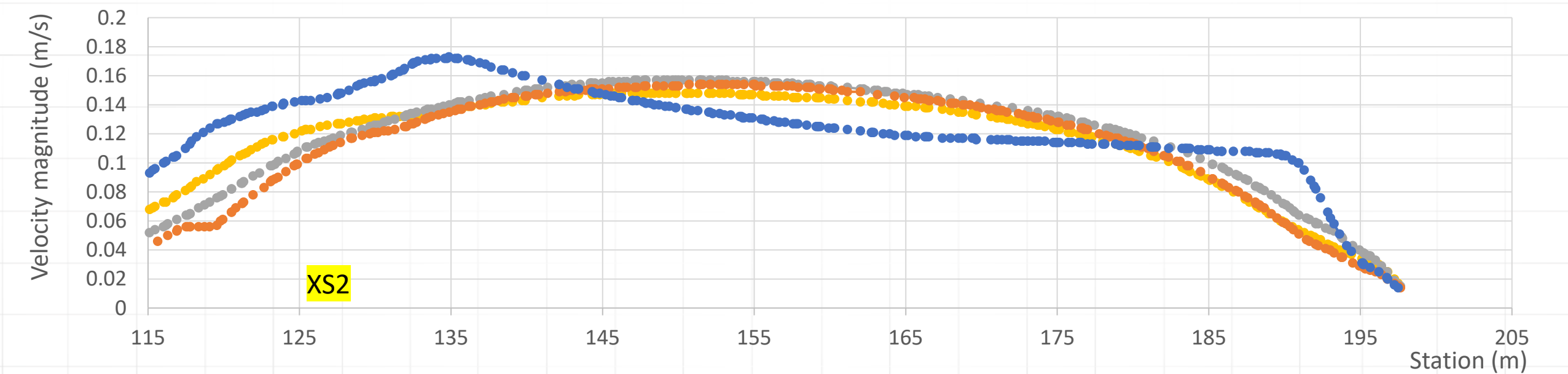
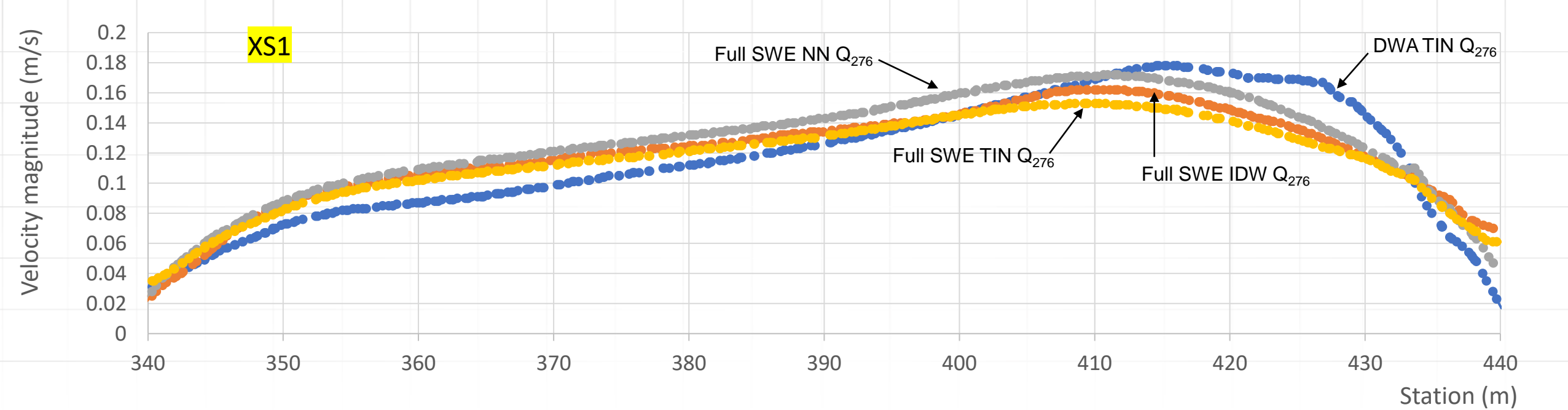


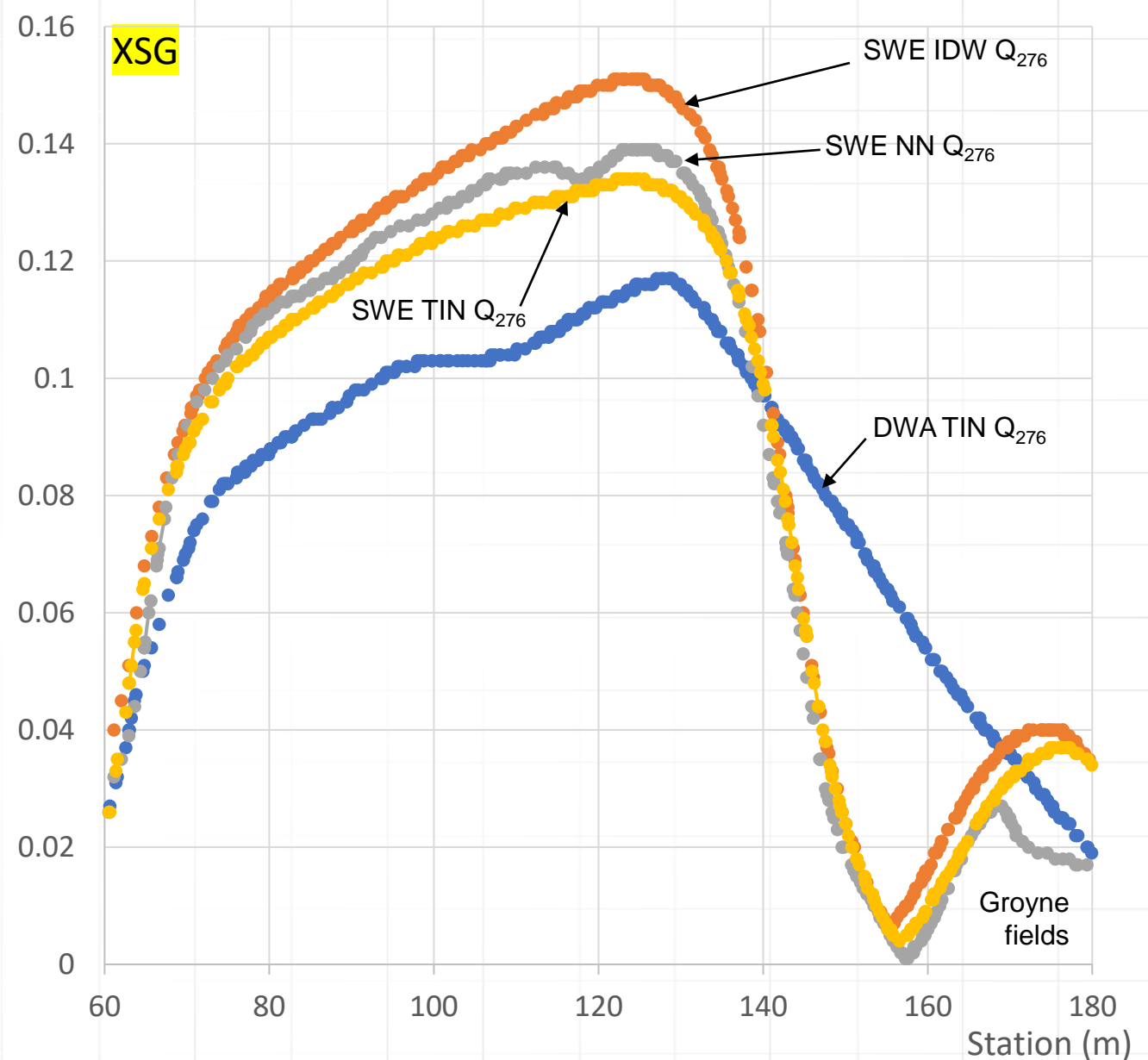
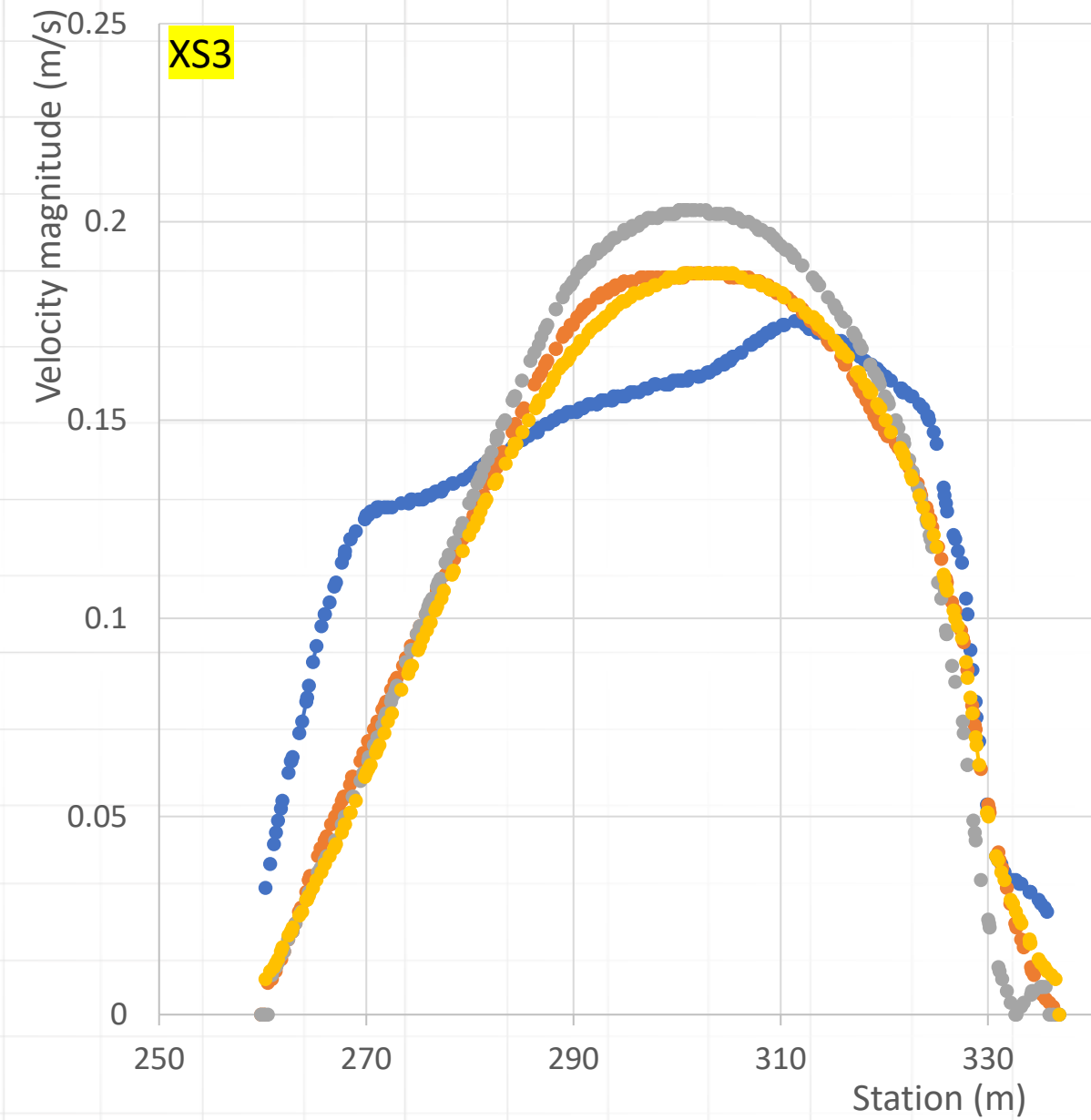


Velocity magnitude for  
Full SWE NN  $Q_{276}$



200 m







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# Summary and Conclusions

- In this presentation, a 2D numerical model was set-up and run using different DBMs to compare the influence of the different interpolation techniques on the modelling results.
- Thanks to the project *Research and Development Conception on the modernization of the canalized reach of the Odra River to a navigable waterway of class Va*, a large bathymetric survey was carried out along 200 km of the channelized part of the Odra River. Several interpolation methods were applied to build different DBMs to be used for numerical modeling purposes.
- The end-users of available numerical models shall be aware of the mathematical and numerical methods that are applied by the computer programs to avoid misjudgments of the model's outputs.
- The TIN model seems to be the one that gives the best results in the whole part of the waterway. Moreover, the TIN model provides the lowest error values in comparison with the onsite survey values.
- The differences between the WSE using the TIN & other DBMs are not significant (less than 20 cm difference in the WSE). However, the TIN model is giving a less error (output) for modeling purposes.
- The values of the velocity profiles seem to be similar in the center part of the river. However, there larger discrepancies close to the banks and above all within the groyne fields.
- The modeler (regardless his age and experience) shall consult other colleagues to give a proper statement and interpretation of the numerical outputs as well as for calibrating/validating the model.

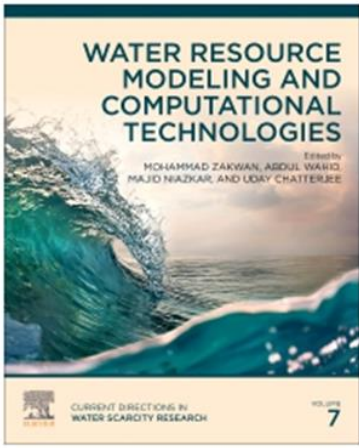
# References



## Riverbed Mapping with the Usage of Deterministic and Geo-Statistical Interpolation Methods: The Odra River Case Study

by [Anna Uciechowska-Grakowicz](#) and [Oscar Herrera-Granados](#)

Faculty of Civil Engineering, Wrocław University of Science and Technology, Wyb. Wyspiańskiego 27, 50-370 Wrocław, Poland



## Water Resource Modeling and Computational Technologies

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★★★★★ Write a review

Editors: Mohammad Zakwan, Abdul Wahid, Majid Niazkar, Uday Chatterjee

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Herrera-Granados, O. (2022). Theoretical background and application of numerical modelling to surface water resources. In: Water resource modelling and computational technologies. Elsevier, cop. pp. 319-340.

Uciechowska-Grakowicz, A., Herrera-Granados, O. (2021). Riverbed Mapping with the Usage of Deterministic and Geo-Statistical Interpolation Methods: The Odra River Case Study. Remote Sens. 13, 4236.

Data source: echosounder Lowrance HDS7 with GPS receiver and an InSite survey

DBM raster files were created from paths parallel to riverbanks with the use of several interpolation methods and compared to each other in terms of consistency with geodetic cross-sections.

```

    graph LR
      A[Echosounder] -- RS422 --> B[RS422/CMOS 3.3V Converter]
      B -- CMOS 3.3V --> C[Transmission rate conversion system]
      C --> D[Bluetooth wireless transmission module]
      D -- bluetooth wireless connection --> E[Controller/recorder Topcon T18]
      F[GPS/GNSS receiver] --> E
  
```

Two statistical errors between the interpolation values and the survey were estimated: the Mean Absolute Error - MAE & the Root Mean Square Error—RMSE.

Method	Whole riverbed MAE [m]	Whole riverbed RMSE [m]	Central part of the riverbed MAE [m]	Central part of the riverbed RMSE [m]
RBF	0.488	0.774	0.310	0.513
IDW	0.511	0.817	0.321	0.523
TIN	0.477	0.723	0.289	0.456
NN	0.481	0.720	0.328	0.475
OK	0.496	0.787	0.320	0.522
Spline	0.488	0.719	0.306	0.456

- The echo sounder data should be complimented with a RTK-GNSS data collector to obtain the exact geographical coordinates;
- The submerged groynes can be spotted for navigation way along the river, while using zig-zags can provide false results due to incomplete or false data;
- IDW presents the largest differences between raster and geodetic cross-sections;
- NN and TIN presents the lowest error values.

Herrera-Granados, O. et-al (2023).

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*Thank you very much for your attention*



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