



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

This is a repository copy of *Well flow and dilution measurements for characterization of vertical hydraulic conductivity structure of a carbonate aquifer*.

White Rose Research Online URL for this paper:
<http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/133445/>

Version: Accepted Version

Article:

Parker, AH, West, LJ and Odling, NE (2019) Well flow and dilution measurements for characterization of vertical hydraulic conductivity structure of a carbonate aquifer. *Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology*, 52. pp. 74-82. ISSN 1470-9236

<https://doi.org/10.1144/qjegh2016-145>

© 2018 The Author(s). Published by The Geological Society of London. All rights reserved. This is an author produced version of a paper accepted for publication in *Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology*. Uploaded in accordance with the publisher's self-archiving policy. <https://doi.org/10.1144/qjegh2016-145>

Reuse

Items deposited in White Rose Research Online are protected by copyright, with all rights reserved unless indicated otherwise. They may be downloaded and/or printed for private study, or other acts as permitted by national copyright laws. The publisher or other rights holders may allow further reproduction and re-use of the full text version. This is indicated by the licence information on the White Rose Research Online record for the item.

Takedown

If you consider content in White Rose Research Online to be in breach of UK law, please notify us by emailing eprints@whiterose.ac.uk including the URL of the record and the reason for the withdrawal request.



eprints@whiterose.ac.uk
<https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/>

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

Field measurements for characterisation of vertical hydraulic conductivity structure of a carbonate aquifer

Alison H. Parker*¹, L. Jared West², Noelle E. Odling²

Abstract

The paper aims to characterise vertical variations in horizontal hydraulic properties in a fractured carbonate aquifer, the Cretaceous Chalk in E. Yorkshire, UK. Two approaches are used: an inverse model of well flow applied to flow logs of pumped open wells; and open well dilution testing. In this case study, transmissivity in the unconfined part of the aquifer is dominated by the highly permeable zone of water table fluctuation, where carbonate dissolution has occurred enhancing fracture aperture; a similar enhanced permeability zone is present at the top of the aquifer where it is confined beneath glacial deposits although periglacial physical weathering during Quaternary cold periods, rather than carbonate dissolution, is responsible. The aquifer is also shown to contain deeper permeable horizons of stratigraphic origin which are better developed in the unconfined section.

Understanding the hydraulic conductivity structure of aquifers is essential for accurate prediction of contaminant transport, for example for the purpose of defining protected areas around well-heads (often called Source Protection Zones) or designing remediation schemes. However, the vertical structure of horizontal hydraulic conductivity structure is often poorly characterised. The focus of this paper is a carbonate aquifer (the Cretaceous Chalk) in the UK.

Introduction

The Cretaceous Chalk in Yorkshire is a pervasively fractured carbonate aquifer that also has high matrix porosity, typically between 15 and 40% (Smedley et al. 2004) and hydraulic conductivities of

¹ Corresponding Author, formerly School of Earth and Environment, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK , now Cranfield Water Science Institute, Cranfield University, Bedfordshire, MK43 0AL, UK, a.parker@cranfield.ac.uk

² School of Earth and Environment, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK

30 of 0.7 to 6.8×10^{-5} m/day (Hartmann et al. 2004). Fracture systems in the Chalk increase its
31 hydraulic conductivity by many orders of magnitude compared to that of the matrix pore network
32 (Price et al. 1977, Price 1987, Patsoules 1989). Fractures increase Chalk hydraulic conductivity most
33 where they have been enlarged by dissolution (Price 1987). Surface water attains its carbon dioxide
34 content through atmospheric exchange, but when water infiltrates the soil this is strongly enhanced
35 by carbon dioxide produced by biological activity, which typically has concentrations ten to fifty
36 times that attained from atmospheric exchange (Price et al. 1993). Hence the concentration of
37 dissolved carbon dioxide in the saturated zone is at a maximum at the water table, where most
38 carbonate dissolution occurs (Ineson 1962, Foster and Milton 1974, 1976, Reeves 1979, Price 1987,
39 Rushton et al. 1989, Price et al. 1993, Cross et al. 1996, Salmon et al. 1996, Schürch and Buckley
40 2002). As a result, the occurrence of solutionally enlarged fractures in the unconfined section of the
41 aquifer reduces drastically between 30 and 100m below the water table resulting in little fracture
42 enlargement below the upper enhanced permeability zone (Headworth et al 1980, Price 1987, Banks
43 et al. 1995, Buckley et al. 2001).

44
45 Previous studies have shown that the geological structure and history of the Chalk contributes to
46 heterogeneous permeability development. Bedding-parallel marl (clay) bands act as barriers to
47 vertical flow (Reynolds 1947, Green 1950, Headworth et al. 1980, Barker et al. 1984, Zaidman et al.
48 1999, Gale and Rutter 2006). In the saturated zone, solution enhanced fractures often occur just
49 above marls, so enhancing horizontal hydraulic conductivity (Gale and Rutter 2006). The
50 distribution of marls and flints within the Chalk is not uniform and in fact these characteristics are
51 used to define the different formations within the chalk. The two most extensive formations are the
52 Burnham and the Flamborough and are described by Sumbler (1996). The Burnham Chalk has thin
53 beds with tabular and discontinuous flint bands up to 0.3m thick. Flint nodules are rare, but there are
54 some marls up to 0.11m thick. This formation forms the crest and plateau of the Yorkshire Wolds.
55 The younger Flamborough Chalk is mostly flint-free and less hard than the underlying chalks. There
56 are numerous marl seams typically 1 to 3cm in thickness occurring almost one per metre, far more
57 frequently than in the underlying chalks.

58 Periglacial processes have also contributed significantly to the hydraulic conductivity structure of the
59 upper layers of the Chalk during the Quaternary (Gray 1952, Higginbottom and Fookes 1971,
60 Younger and McHugh 1995, Salmon et al. 1996). This dominantly involved freeze-thaw processes
61 that can produce a zone of highly fractured and hence highly permeable chalk, sometimes down to

62 several tens of metres below the palaeosurface, but can also result in completely degraded ‘putty
63 chalk’ which has low permeability.

64 The literature allows the development of three hypotheses. The first hypothesis of this study was
65 that it would be possible to observe solutional enhancement of hydraulic conductivity in the zone of
66 water table fluctuation in the unconfined part of the Chalk aquifer. The second hypothesis of this
67 study was that it would be possible to observe stratigraphically controlled solutionally enhanced
68 fractures within the Chalk aquifer. The third hypothesis of this study was that it would be possible to
69 observe the impact of periglacial processes on the permeability structure of the Chalk aquifer.

70

71 The aim of the study was to test these three hypotheses and elucidate geological and hydrological
72 factors controlling hydraulic conductivity structure in this aquifer. Preliminary findings have
73 already been incorporated into Farrant et al. (2016) which builds a detailed conceptual model for the
74 area around Kilham. This work will also inform the development of a groundwater flow model (if
75 one were commissioned by the UK Environment Agency). This model could then be used to
76 defining Source Protection Zones in fractured aquifers, which requires detailed fieldwork and
77 modelling (for example Robinson and Barker 2000, Carneiro 2005).

78

79

80 **Field area**

81 The Cretaceous Chalk of East Yorkshire (see Figure 1), was uplifted and folded in the Tertiary. As a
82 result, the unconfined part of the aquifer, comprising the Yorkshire Wolds, lie on the western limb of
83 a gentle south-east plunging syncline, the eastern limb being 50 km offshore in the North Sea (Kent
84 1980, Foster and Milton 1976). During the Quaternary, East Yorkshire experienced several cold
85 periods. A drill core extracted from the Holderness Plain area (Wilfholme Landing Field Site, see
86 Hartman et al 2007) shows alluvial deposits and glacial till down to -10 mASL³, underlain by ~4m of
87 fully degraded ‘putty’ chalk (impermeable), then ~10m thickness of periglacially weathered, highly
88 fractured chalk, with fresh unweathered chalk below. The principal surface drainage feature of the
89 region is the River Hull and its tributaries, which flow southwards into the Humber estuary at the
90 city of Kingston-upon-Hull. Surface drainage on the confined chalk (Holderness Plain) has been
91 heavily managed for centuries to make agriculture possible (Gale and Rutter 2006) and water from a

³ Above Sea Level or Ordinance Datum, the UK standard for Mean Sea Level

92 dense network of field drains is pumped into the R. Hull, the elevation of which is several metres
93 above natural ground level along much of its course.

94

95 The natural regional groundwater flow is east-south-eastwards towards the North Sea and the
96 Humber estuary, reflecting the fact that most recharge occurs in the Yorkshire Wolds. A line of
97 springs exists along the feather edge of the largely impermeable Quaternary sequence; some springs
98 emerge further east in small areas where the cover sequence is permeable. Averaged over the period
99 1961 to 1992, rainfall was 750 mm/year and in the summer evapotranspiration exceeds rainfall so
100 that most infiltration occurs from October to March (Downing 1993, Gale and Rutter 2006).

101 Groundwater abstractions are mostly distributed around the edge of the glacial deposits and around
102 the north edge of the town of Kingston-upon-Hull, see Figure 1. East of the River Hull and within
103 Kingston-upon-Hull, the groundwater is saline, due to both ancient and modern marine intrusions.
104 The UK Environment Agency maintain a network of monitoring wells across both confined and
105 unconfined sections of the aquifer, which are generally uncased and self-supporting in the chalk, and
106 typically 30 – 100m deep. It is this network of monitoring wells which have been used to
107 characterise the vertical structure of horizontal hydraulic conductivity of the Chalk in this study.

108

109 **Methods**

110 Impeller flow logging

111 Logging vertical fluid velocity within pumped wells allows the location of and magnitude of inflows
112 into the well to be determined. This method is described in full in Parker et al. (2010). In this
113 study, pumped flow logging of selected UK Environment Agency observation wells on the confined
114 Chalk aquifer (Figure 1) was undertaken. Pumping rates were typically 0.1 to 0.3 m³/min, which
115 resulted in upflow velocities in 0.15 m and 0.2 m diameter wells of typically 3 to 17 m/min, and well
116 drawdowns of 1-5m. In order to maximise signal-to-noise ratio, logging was conducted with the
117 sonde trolling down the well i.e. against the induced flow, typically at rates of 6 to 8 m/min. The
118 logging was carried out after quasi-steady state had been reached to ensure that flows were
119 proportional to transmissivities. Flow logging under ambient (unpumped) conditions was also
120 undertaken, but ambient flow velocities were usually below the detection limit of the flowmeter of
121 ~0.7 m/min (well dilution testing reported below shows that flows under ambient conditions are
122 generally more than an order of magnitude smaller than under pumped conditions).

123

124 Flow logging data were analyzed using a technique described by Parker et al. (2010). In this
125 approach, the flow log data are used to identify the number of hydraulic layers or flowing fractures
126 and the depths of the boundaries of these layers. It involves automated fitting of model flow logs
127 generated for specific numbers of hydraulic layers to the raw (unsmoothed) flow log data, using an
128 algorithm written in the computer code R. Best model fits are identified by regression analysis using
129 varying layer thickness and hydraulic conductivity.

130
131 Wells where flow-log measurements were made are shown in Figure 1. Overall well transmissivity
132 data were measured using either a standard aquifer pumping test, interpreted using the Cooper-Jacob
133 'straight-line' method, or steady state analysis using the observed drawdowns that occurred during
134 pumped flow-logging. Transmissivity data for wells at the Wilfholme Landing Test Site are from
135 Hartmann (2004).

136
137 Well dilution testing
138 Well dilution testing under ambient flow conditions was applied as a second approach to establish the
139 vertical structure of horizontal hydraulic conductivity structure and also to provide an indication of
140 the ambient rate of groundwater flow (see Tsang et al. 1990, West and Odling 2007; Maurice et al.
141 2011). This was the only approach applied to wells in the unconfined chalk where the water table
142 was deep (up to 100m below ground level), as pumping such wells (i.e. for the purpose of flow
143 logging) is impractical owing to the large lift required. Initially, background electrical conductivity
144 profiles were taken using a handheld conductivity probe. Salt solution (containing approximately 230
145 g/L NaCl) was then introduced throughout the open section of the well using a 1.9 cm internal
146 diameter hosepipe. Where the resting water level was within the well casing, tap water was then
147 added so that the freshwater-saltwater interface within the hosepipe was at the level of the base of the
148 casing. The hosepipe was then slowly removed in order to leave a column of saline water in the open
149 section of the well. Depending on the diameter of the well, lateral mixing with the well water gave
150 initial salt concentrations of 0.2 to 4 g/L. Subsequent electrical conductivity profiles were measured
151 using the handheld conductivity probe. This approach allows identification of fractures or permeable
152 layers where water is entering and leaving the well with vertical flows within the water column
153 between, and of zones where flow is essentially horizontal across the well water column (see
154 Maurice et al. 2011). Mathias et al (2007) successfully used the technique in the Chalk in Berkshire
155 to identify flow horizons linked to a hard layer known as the "Chalk Rock". For both cases, the time
156 required for the salt tracer to be replaced by fresh groundwater provides an indication of groundwater

157 flow rates. Where sections of wells are identified where only vertical flows occur between discrete
158 in and outflows horizons, the vertical well fluid velocity was determined by fitting the Advection-
159 Dispersion Equation (ADE) to the salt concentration profiles. The theoretical basis of this approach
160 is described in full by West and Odling (2007) and so is not reproduced here. Key assumptions are
161 that the rate of vertical flow is constant within the section of the well analysed, and that vertical
162 dispersion of salt at the saline/freshwater interface within the water column is Fickian, and can
163 therefore be described by the ADE approach using a well dispersivity co-efficient. Optimum vertical
164 flow velocity and well dispersivity co-efficient were identified by regression analysis (Parker, 2009).
165 Maurice et al (2011) question the assumption that the dispersivity coefficient is linearly related to the
166 flow velocity, and instead propose a power law relationship. However, for this analysis the
167 regression derived dispersivity is deemed to be adequate. Wells where measurements were made are
168 shown in Figure 1. All wells are on the Flamborough Chalk except Millington, Etton D, Dalton
169 Middle, Sherburn Wold, Kilham Road, Thwing and Bartondale which are on the Burnham Chalk
170 (Farrant et al. 2016).

171
172
173
174

175 **Results and interpretation**

176 Transmissivity distribution

177 Measurements of hydraulic conductivity structure need to be viewed in the context of the horizontal
178 pattern of aquifer transmissivity. Therefore a transmissivity map (Figure 2) was created from fifty
179 well transmissivity measurements including those determined in this study, and collated from other
180 sources (Hartmann 2004; Allen et al. 1997; R. Farrell, UK Environment Agency, personal
181 communication, 2008). Six apparently anomalous measurements (i.e. those that were at least an
182 order of magnitude lower than nearby measurements, thus suggesting problems with well
183 construction) were excluded. Figure 2 shows that transmissivity typically varies between 100 and
184 $1000\text{m}^2/\text{day}$ on the Holderness Plain where the Chalk is confined by the glacial sequence. Higher
185 transmissivities of up to $2000\text{m}^2/\text{day}$ occur in the confined aquifer near the feather edge of the glacial
186 sequence (especially near the Etton abstraction, northwest of Beverley, and near the major public
187 water supply abstractions north of Drifffield, see Figure 2); lower values of $<100\text{m}^2/\text{day}$ occur in the
188 easternmost part of the aquifer, east of the R.Hull. Transmissivity values of between 500 and
189 $10,000\text{m}^2/\text{day}$ are typical of the unconfined Chalk, with the higher values tending to occur near the

190 base of the dip slope (eastern side of the unconfined chalk outcrop area), north of Driffield and west
191 of Beverley. These are the sites of a series of major public abstraction wells (see Figure 1). The
192 relatively high transmissivity values for the unconfined aquifer, compared to the confined aquifer,
193 indicate fracture enlargement by carbonate dissolution.

194

195 Flow logging results

196 An example of impeller flow log data and the resulting hydraulic conductivity model from a well on
197 the confined Flamborough Chalk (Wilholme well M3) is shown in Figure 3, with n being the
198 number of layers.. The raw flow log data (Figure 3a), with the superimposed modelled flow
199 velocities for the cases of 5, 6 and 7 discrete hydraulic conductivity layers, shows that most of the
200 water entering the well comes from above -35 mASL, i.e. the upper 20m of the aquifer, with more
201 than half coming from the upper 10m. A small proportion of the water enters the well at a deeper
202 level (-43 to -48 mASL). The model output hydraulic conductivities (Figure 3b) are given for the
203 seven layer case; the model output quantifies the trends seen in the raw data, and provides an
204 estimate of uncertainty in hydraulic conductivity and layer boundary positions. However, note that
205 the hydraulic conductivity value for the uppermost permeable layer (37 m/d, layer thickness 3.4 m) is
206 overestimated because the solid well casing protrudes into the upper section of the aquifer; a
207 corrected value (14 m/d, layer thickness 8.9 m), shown by the dashed line in Figure 3, has been found
208 by assuming that no flow comes from the aquifer above the base of the casing(i.e. the K value of the
209 uppermost permeable layer is found using the true layer thickness, rather than only that intersected
210 by the well below the casing). In this example the correction shows that the uppermost permeable
211 layer identified by the model is a distortion caused by the well casing; in fact the hydraulic
212 conductivity is the same as that of the layer below. Model outputs from the other eight wells where
213 pumped flow logging was conducted are summarised in Tables 1a (Wilholme Landing test site wells)
214 and 1b (other wells); similar corrections to the uppermost layer hydraulic conductivity for the
215 presence of well casing have been applied.

216

217 The cumulative vertical transmissivity distribution for the flow-logged wells (Figure 4), found from
218 the hydraulic conductivity values reported in Table 1, indicates that transmissivity is focussed in the
219 upper 10 to 30m of the aquifer. In the case of North End Stream, which is the only flow-logged well
220 on the unconfined aquifer, there is very high hydraulic conductivity (~140 m/d) in the upper 10m,
221 which corresponds to the zone of seasonal water table fluctuation . The upper permeable zone in the
222 confined aquifer is typically thicker, and usually includes a layer of chalk gravel (locally known as

223 ‘bearings’) up to 10m thick underlain by up to 20m thickness of periglacially weathered chalk. [In
224 the case of the Wilfholme Landing Test Site, the permeable layer can be seen to correspond with the
225 depth of periglacial weathering in the core extracted from the site (Hartmann, 2004)]. Hydraulic
226 conductivities for these zones range from a few to ~50 m/d, see Table 1; these estimates are entirely
227 consistent with those derived from a forced gradient tracer test conducted at the Wilfholme site (see
228 Hartmann et al. 2007). Some deeper permeable layers are identified (e.g. seen at the well at
229 Carnaby, see Table 1b and Figure 4), but the transmissivity contribution of such layers is relatively
230 small. These may relate to flow along marl layers as all these boreholes are in the marl-rich
231 Flamborough Chalk.

232

233 Well Dilution Testing

234 Well dilution tests under ambient flow conditions were carried out at the Wilfholme Landing Test
235 Site (TA062472) in order to provide direct comparison with the pumped-well flow logging approach.
236 Generally, these wells showed slow responses compared with those on the unconfined aquifer, with
237 flushing of the salt water taking several days (Figure 5a); this reflects the slower groundwater
238 circulation in the confined part of the aquifer due to the smaller hydraulic gradients present (Gale and
239 Rutter 2006). The pattern of response seen is dominated by flow across the well within the upper
240 permeable zone as identified from the flow logs (compare Figure 5a with Figure 3b); below this zone
241 dilution is slower, for example the feature at -55m develops a lot more slowly than the higher
242 features. Thus, while dilution does not provide quantitative permeability data, it provides an
243 excellent and quick method for the identification of its distribution with depth.

244

245 An example of the patterns seen in the dilution profiles from across the unconfined aquifer is seen in
246 Weaverthorpe well (Figure 5b) on the Flamborough Chalk, which shows downwards vertical flow
247 from near the water table (50 mASL), exiting the well at mid-depth (34 mASL); upwards flow occurs
248 below this depth (from an inflow at 31 mASL). Flow is relatively rapid with flushing taking only 2
249 hours indicating much more rapid groundwater circulation than in the confined aquifer; fitting with
250 the ADE (dashed curves) gave flow velocities of 0.3 and -0.1 m/min (negative sign indicates upflow)
251 for above and below the outflow respectively. The results of other ambient well dilution tests are
252 summarised in Table 2. Like Weaverthorpe, most wells in the unconfined aquifer show water enters
253 the well near the water table and flows downwards to outflows 5 to 30m below. This upper zone of
254 active circulation is likely to represent the zone of enhanced permeability associated with fracture
255 enlargement by calcite dissolution, such as that identified in North End Stream well by flow logging.

256 Most wells show downflow, but exceptions are seen in those wells that penetrate to below sea level,
257 where inflows from deeper permeable horizons create upflows (Bartondale, Henpit Hole); in the case
258 of Henpit Hole very rapid upflow (5m/min) from such a horizon (-15 mASL) is seen which suggest
259 that this well has intersected a permeable horizon with relatively high hydraulic head, connected to
260 topographically higher locations in the nearby Wolds. Such deep permeable horizons cannot be
261 within the zone of water table fluctuation; their origin and nature is discussed further below.
262 Impeller flow logging of ambient (unpumped) flows in the Henpit Hole measured similar ambient
263 upflows of 4 m/min; i.e. good agreement is seen here between the two approaches. These flows
264 show that there are significant head differences between permeable layers in the Chalk. There must
265 be very few vertical conduits connecting these permeable layers as the head differences are
266 maintained.

267
268 Note that the ambient vertical flows in the other wells identified from dilution testing (see Table 2)
269 were below the detection limit of the impeller flow logging technique (0.7 m/min); this result
270 illustrates the greater sensitivity of the dilution testing approach, which was able to detect vertical
271 flows as small as 0.001 m/min. No flow logging method that we are aware of can measure such
272 small flow velocities.

273

274 **Discussion**

275

276

277 Vertical structure of horizontal hydraulic conductivity of the Chalk in E Yorks

278 Results indicate that most of the permeability of the fully confined aquifer is likely to reside in its
279 upper layer comprising chalk gravel and periglacially weathered chalk, typically between 10 and
280 30m thick, thus confirming the third hypotheses. This is not observed in the Chalk of southern
281 England because the glaciation did not extend that far. The unconfined chalk aquifer also shows an
282 upper high permeability zone, but here it is associated with the zone of seasonal water table
283 fluctuation, thus confirming the first hypothesis. This is common to the Chalk of both southern
284 England and Yorkshire. The unconfined section of the aquifer also shows deeper permeable
285 horizons which are below this zone (& in some cases below sea level); these are also present in the
286 confined section of the aquifer (i.e., some ambient well flows are seen at depth) but may be less well
287 developed. This confirms the second hypothesis.

288

289 Where ambient flow measurements were performed in wells within a few hundred metres of each
290 other, it was possible to correlate deep permeable horizons between wells to further test this second
291 hypothesis. This confirmed that deeper permeable zones within the unconfined section of the Chalk
292 (i.e. below the zone of enhanced permeability development related to water table fluctuation) are
293 stratigraphically correlated. This is illustrated in Figure 6 which shows that the inflow and outflow
294 horizons identified in ambient flow measurements in Bartondale, Yorkshire Wolds, are correlated
295 along stratigraphic dip. The most likely explanation is that these permeable horizons represent
296 enhanced permeability caused by calcite dissolution where flow has been focussed along the top of
297 flint or marl (clay) layers known to be present within the Flamborough Formation of the Chalk
298 (Buckley and Talbot, 1994). It has been previously proposed that marl layers in the chalk act as
299 aquitards in both southern England (Reynolds 1947, Headworth et al. 1980, Jones and Robinson,
300 1999, Buckley et al 2001) and Yorkshire (Green 1950, Barker et al. 1984, Buckley and Talbot,
301 1994, Zaidman et al. 1999, Gale and Rutter 2006) which corroborates this second hypothesis.
302 Such horizons are likely to be less well developed in the confined chalk, where the groundwater is
303 calcite saturated and has little dissolving potential remaining.

304

305 Given that there is high permeability (and presumably storativity), within the zone of water table
306 fluctuation in the unconfined aquifer, if droughts or increased rainfall moved the water table the
307 aquifer characteristics could vary, as proposed by Price et al. (1998). However he cites an
308 unpublished study which concluded there would be no significant changes to flows under the likely
309 climate changes up to 2050 in a Chalk catchment in Hampshire.

310

311 The methods used in this study are not without limitations. The well dilution testing in particular
312 requires manual interpretation which will not be fully objective. It also proved practically impossible
313 to attain a column of constant conductivity water despite the trial of various methods (for example
314 using a spinner to mix the water column); further experimentation would be useful here. Minor
315 flows can be dwarfed by major ones. The interpretation can also be affected by the necessary
316 assumptions, for example the value of influx conductivity and well dispersivity, and that the rate of
317 vertical flow is constant within the section of the well analysed. Nevertheless it is an extremely
318 cheap and easy method that could be used to identify where more detailed studies are needed. The
319 flow logging requires more expensive, specialist equipment but is more limited in its application,
320 being only possible in boreholes that can be pumped with a surface pump (unless a powerful, narrow

321 submersible pump can be sourced; low pump rates had a tendency to stall the impeller). The
322 interpretation is more robust and less subjective following the analysis method developed by Parker
323 et al. 2009 which also gives confidence limits.

324

325 **Conclusions**

326

327 The purpose of the investigation was to improve understanding of the nature and origin of the
328 permeable layers in confined and unconfined carbonate aquifers. The unconfined section of the
329 carbonate aquifer investigated was characterised by high permeability within the zone of water table
330 fluctuation where enhancement of fracture apertures by carbonate dissolution is maximal. Deeper,
331 thin permeable horizons were related to fracture permeability developed along stratigraphic features
332 such as marl and flint layers. Where the aquifer is confined beneath a glacial sequence (comprising
333 mostly impermeable till) its uppermost layer was also relatively permeable. This enhancement is the
334 result of periglacial weathering during Quaternary glaciations, which resulted in highly fractured,
335 brecciated rock, overlain by a layer of permeable chalk gravel ('bearings'). This high permeability
336 layer needs careful incorporation into the groundwater models. Deeper, stratigraphically controlled
337 permeable layers are also present within the aquifer beneath the confining layer, but may be less well
338 developed than in the unconfined aquifer. This probably reflects the relatively slow flow in this
339 deeper zone of the aquifer, and its inaccessibility to water containing sufficient dissolved carbon
340 dioxide. The findings support the three hypotheses presented in the introduction. The information
341 gained from the field measurements reported here, such as permeable layer thicknesses and estimates
342 of hydraulic conductivity, may be used in the refinement of the existing groundwater flow model for
343 the region. Specifically this paper can inform the layers that the model will need.

344

345 **Acknowledgements**

346 The authors would like to express their sincere thanks to Rolf Farrell and Richard Senior of the
347 Environment Agency for access to wells and provision of data, to Richard Bown for numerical
348 solver development, to Professor Simon Bottrell for discussions and to Prodeo Agbouti for assistance
349 in Formation identification. We thank D. Buckley (British Geological Survey) for provision of flow
350 log data for Carnaby well. The corresponding author acknowledges support via a UK NERC
351 studentship DTG at the University of Leeds, grant number NER/S/A/2005/13328. We would also like
352 to thank Mr and Mrs Harrison of Three Jolly Tars Farm for support and assistance in the field.

353

354 **References**

- 355 Allen, D.L., Brewerton, L.J., Coleby, L.M., Gibbes, B.R., Lewis, M.A., MacDonald, A.M., Wagstaff,
356 S.J., Williams, A.T., 1997. The physical properties of major aquifers in England and Wales, British
357 Geological Survey Technical Report WD/97/34.
- 358 Banks D, Davies C. & Davies W. 1995. The chalk as a karstic aquifer: evidence from a tracer test at
359 Stanford Dingley, Berkshire, UK, Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology 28, S31-S38
- 360 Barker R.D, Lloyd J.W, Reach C.W. 1984. The use of resistivity and gamma logging in
361 lithostratigraphical studies of the Chalk in Lincolnshire and South Humberside, Quarterly Journal of
362 Engineering Geology 17, 71-80
- 363 Buckley D.K, Talbot J.C. 1994. Interpretation of geophysical logs of the Kilham area, Yorkshire
364 Wolds to support groundwater tracer studies, BGS Technical report WD/94/10C
- 365 Buckley D.K, Hinsby K, Manzano M. 2001. Application of geophysical borehole techniques to
366 examine coastal aquifer palaeohydrology, Geological Society Special Publication 189, 251-270
- 367 Carneiro, J. 2005. A study on new approaches for delineating groundwater protection zones in
368 fractured rock aquifers, PhD thesis, University College London
- 369 Cross G.A, Rushton K.R, Tomlinson L.M, 1996. The East Kent Chalk aquifer during the 1988-92
370 drought, Journal of the Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management 9, 37-48,
- 371 Downing R.A. 1993. The making of an aquifer, in: The hydrogeology of the Chalk of North West
372 Europe, Eds: Downing RA, Price M, Jones GP.
- 373 Farrant, A.R., Woods, M.A., Maurice, L., Haslam, R., Raines, N and Kendall, R 2016 Geology of the
374 Kilham area and its influence on groundwater flow, British Geological Survey Commissioned Report
375 CR/16/023
- 376 Foster S.S.D & Milton V.A. 1974. The permeability and storage of an unconfined chalk aquifer,
377 Hydrological Sciences Bulletin 19, 485-500
- 378 Gray D.A. 1952. Report on a hydrogeological survey on the Chalk of Yorkshire, British Geological
379 Survey Report WD/52/1
- 380 Gale I.N. and Rutter H.K. 2006. The Chalk Aquifer of Yorkshire, British Geological Survey
381 Research Report, RR/06/04.
- 382 Green C. 1950. Water resources of the Yorkshire Chalk, Journal of the British Water Works
383 Association, 32(239), 35-48
- 384 Hartmann S. 2004. Flow and transport in the confined Chalk aquifer of East Yorkshire, PhD thesis,
385 University of Leeds

386 Hartmann S, Odling N.E., & West L.J. 2007. A multi-directional tracer test in the fractured Chalk
387 aquifer of E. Yorkshire, UK, *J. Contam. Hydrol.*, 94, 315-331. doi:10.1016/j.jconhyd.2007.07.009
388 Headworth H.G, Puri S, Rampling B.H, 1980. Contamination of a chalk aquifer by mine drainage at
389 Tilmanstone, East Kent, UK, *Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology* 13, 105-117,
390 Higginbottom, I.E. and Fookes, P.G. 1971. Engineering Aspects of periglacial features in Britain.
391 *QJEG*, 3, 85-125
392 Ineson J. 1962. A hydrogeological study of the permeability of the Journal of the Institution of Water
393 Engineers 16, 449-463
394 Jones H.K. and Robinson N.S. 1999. The Chalk aquifer of the South Downs, Hydrogeological Report
395 Series of the BGS, SD/99/001, Keyworth
396 Kent P.E. 1980. Subsidence and uplift in East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire: A double inversion,
397 *Proceedings of the Yorkshire Geological Society* 42, 505-524
398 Mathias S.A., Butler A.P., Peach D.W., Williams, A.T. 2007. Recovering tracer test input functions
399 from fluid electrical conductivity logging in fractured porous rocks, *Water Resources Research* 43(7)
400 W07443
401 Maurice L, Barker J.A, Atkinson T.C., and Smart P.L. 2011. A tracer methodology for identifying
402 ambient flows in boreholes. *Ground Water* 49 (2), 227-238.. doi: 10.1111/j.1745-
403 6584.2010.00708.x
404 Parker A.H. 2009. The distribution of permeability in the Chalk aquifer of East Yorkshire.
405 Unpublished PhD thesis, University of Leeds.
406 Parker A.H, West L.J, Odling N.E; Bown, R.T. 2010. A Forward Modeling Approach for
407 Interpreting Impeller Flow Logs, *Ground Water*, 48, 79-91. doi:10.1111/j.1745-6584.2009.00600.x
408 Patsoules M.G. 1989. Survey of macro and micro-fracturing in the Yorkshire Chalk, in: *Chalk:*
409 *Proceedings of the International Chalk Symposium held at Brighton Polytechnic on 4-7 September*
410 1989, Ed: Lloyd JW, 87-93
411 Price M, 1987. Fluid Flow in the Chalk of England, in: *Fluid flow in sedimentary basins and*
412 *aquifers*, Eds: Goff JC, Williams BPJ, Geological Society Special Publication 34, 141-156.
413 Price, M. 1998. Water storage and climate change in Great Britain – the role of groundwater, *Proc.*
414 *Instn Civ.Engrs Wat., Marit.& Energy*, 130, 42–50
415 Price M, Robertson A.S, Foster S.S.D. 1977. Chalk permeability - a study of vertical variation using
416 water injection tests and borehole logging, *Water Services* 81, 603-610,
417 Price M, Downing R.A, Edmunds W.M. 1993. The Chalk as an aquifer, in: *The hydrogeology of the*
418 *Chalk of North West Europe*, eds: Downing R.A, Price M, Jones G.P.

419 Reeves M. J. 1979. Recharge and pollution of the English Chalk: Some possible mechanisms,
420 Engineering Geology 12, 231-240

421 Reynolds D.H.B. 1947. The movement of water in the Middle and Lower Chalk of the River Dour
422 Catchment, Journal of the Institute of Chartered Engineers 2, 73-108

423 Robinson N. Barker J. 2000. Delineating groundwater protection zones in fractured rock: an example
424 using tracer testing in sandstone, Tracers and Modelling in Hydrogeology (Proceedings of the
425 TraM'2000 Conference held at Liège, Belgium, May 2000). IAHS Publ. no. 262

426 Rushton K.R, Connorton B.J, Tomlinson L.M. 1989. Estimation of the groundwater resources of the
427 Berkshire Downs supported by mathematical modelling, Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology,
428 22, 329-341,

429 Salmon S, Chadha D, Smith D, 1996. Development of a groundwater resource model for the
430 Yorkshire Chalk, Journal of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management
431 10(6), 413-422

432 Smedley P.L., Neumann I. & Farrell R. 2004. Baseline report series 10: The Chalk aquifer of
433 Yorkshire and North Humberside. British Geological Survey, Report No. CR/04/128.

434 Sumbler MG. 1996. The stratigraphy of the Chalk Group in Yorkshire, Humberside and
435 Lincolnshire, British Geological Survey Technical Report WA/96/26C

436 Tsang C.F, Hufschmied P and Hale F.V. 1990. Determination of fracture inflow parameters with a
437 borehole fluid conductivity method, Water Resources Research 26(4), 561—578

438 West, L. & Odling, N. 2007. Characterization of a Multilayer Aquifer Using Open Well Dilution
439 Tests, Ground Water, 45, 74-84. doi:10.1111/j.1745-6584.2006.00262.x

440 Younger P.L, McHugh M . 1995. Peat development, sand cones and palaeohydrogeology
441 of spring-fed mire in East Yorkshire, UK, The Holocene 51, 59-67

442 Zaidman, M.D, Middleton, R.T, West, L.J, Binley, A.M. 1999. Geophysical investigation of
443 unsaturated zone transport in the Chalk in Yorkshire, Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology and
444 Hydrogeology, 29, 185-198.

445

446

447

Well name	UK Grid Reference	Ground surface Elev. mASL	Elev. of top of aquifer mASL	T m ² /d	Layer thickness m	Layer K m/d	Lower 95% confid ence limit on K	Upper 95% confid ence limit on K
Wilfholme P	TA062472	2	-15.3	490	8.6	55*	0.5	0.6
					28.4	0.54		
					26.7	0		
Wilfholme M1	TA062472	2	-15.0	495	9.3	13*	11	12
					15.2	11		
					2.1	100		
					29.4	0		
Wilfholme M2	TA062472	2	-12.9	485	11.3	13*	0.6	2.5
					4.8	0.6		
					2.3	100		
					9.9	6.2		
					8.8	4.4		
					21	0		
Wilfholme M3	TA062472	2	-15.0	490	17.4	14*	∇	70
					1.8	70		
					2.0	14		
					5.7	0.45		
					4.7	8.6		
					1.5	34		
21.9	0							

448 *upper layer value corrected for presence of well casing as explained in the text; no CI given

449 ∇ confidence interval could not be computer by R

450

451 **Table 1a.** Hydraulic conductivities from pumped impellor flow logging on the confined chalk
452 aquifer, Wilfholme Landing Test Site, June and October 2005.

Well name	UK Grid Reference	Ground surface Elev. mASL	Top of aquifer mASL	T m ² /d	Layer thickness m	Layer K m/d	Lower 95% confidence limit on K	Upper 95% confidence limit on K
Confined aquifer								
Benning-holme	TA123389	2.5	-16.4	320	8.1 35 13	38* 0.25 0	0.23	0.25
Carnaby	TA151648	15	-9.4	130	2.8 68 0.2 2.6	19* 0.84 96 0	0.83 0	0.85 870
Hemp-holme	TA095495	1.6	-13.3	90	13.9 1.0 5.3	2.5* 55 0	47	63
Thorn-holme Moor	TA117606	11	-8	130	14.8 6.2 6.0	7.4* 3.3 0	2.8	3.3
Unconfined aquifer								
North End Stream	TA022584	18	12 [□]	1070	6.3 8.0 2.5	143* 27 0	25	27

453 *upper layer value corrected for presence of well casing as explained in the text; no CI given

454 □ water table elevation within Chalk on 11/05/07 – varies between 4.5 and 13 mASL

455

456 **Table 1b.** Hydraulic conductivities from pumped impellor flow logging, other wells (conducted in
457 September 2006 and May 2007, except Carnaby which was logged in December 1996, data provided
458 by D. Buckley of the British Geological Survey).

459

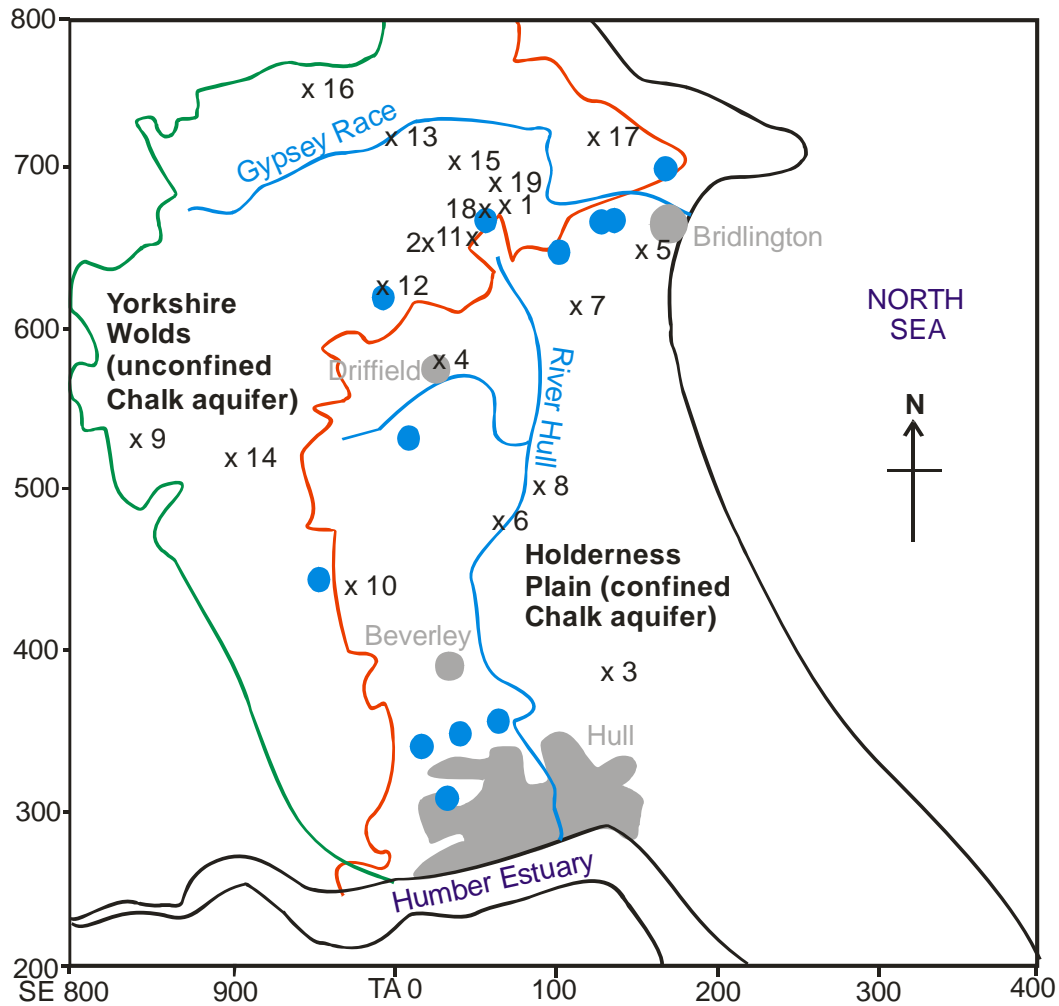
Well name	UK Grid reference	Ground Surface Elev. mASL	Water table Elev. mASL	Inflow depth mASL	Outflow depth mASL	Well base Elev. mASL	Vertical flow rate m/min [Ⓜ]
Unconfined aquifer							
Bartondale	TA054669	50	21	-8	21	-15	-0.01
Dalton Middle	SE903514	110	20	20	10	2	0.002
Etton D	SE966430	34	14	*	*	-37	*
Field House, Kilham	TA071673	69	28	28	6	6	0.001
Garton Wold	SE982622	49	22	22	13	5	0.2
Grindale	TA140718	74	20	20	*	0	<0.001
Henpit Hole	TA025658	49	35	-15	35	-15	-5
Kilham Road,Thwing	TA050690	115	33	33	16	10	0.002
Little Kilham Farm	TA045649	40	24	*	*	-11	*
Millington	SE847539	99	87	87	66	62	0.75
Sherburn Wold	SE969745	122	65	65	35	22	0.002
Weaverthorpe	SE981702	71	50	50, 31	36	23	0.3, -0.1
Confined aquifer							
Wilfholme P	TA062472	2	1	-79	-26	-79	-0.006
Wilfholme M1	TA062472	2	1	-41	-36	-68	*
Wilfhome M2	TA062472	2	1	-33	-42	-68	*

[Ⓜ] negative values indicate upflow

*not determinable (horizontal flow dominates)

460
461
462
463

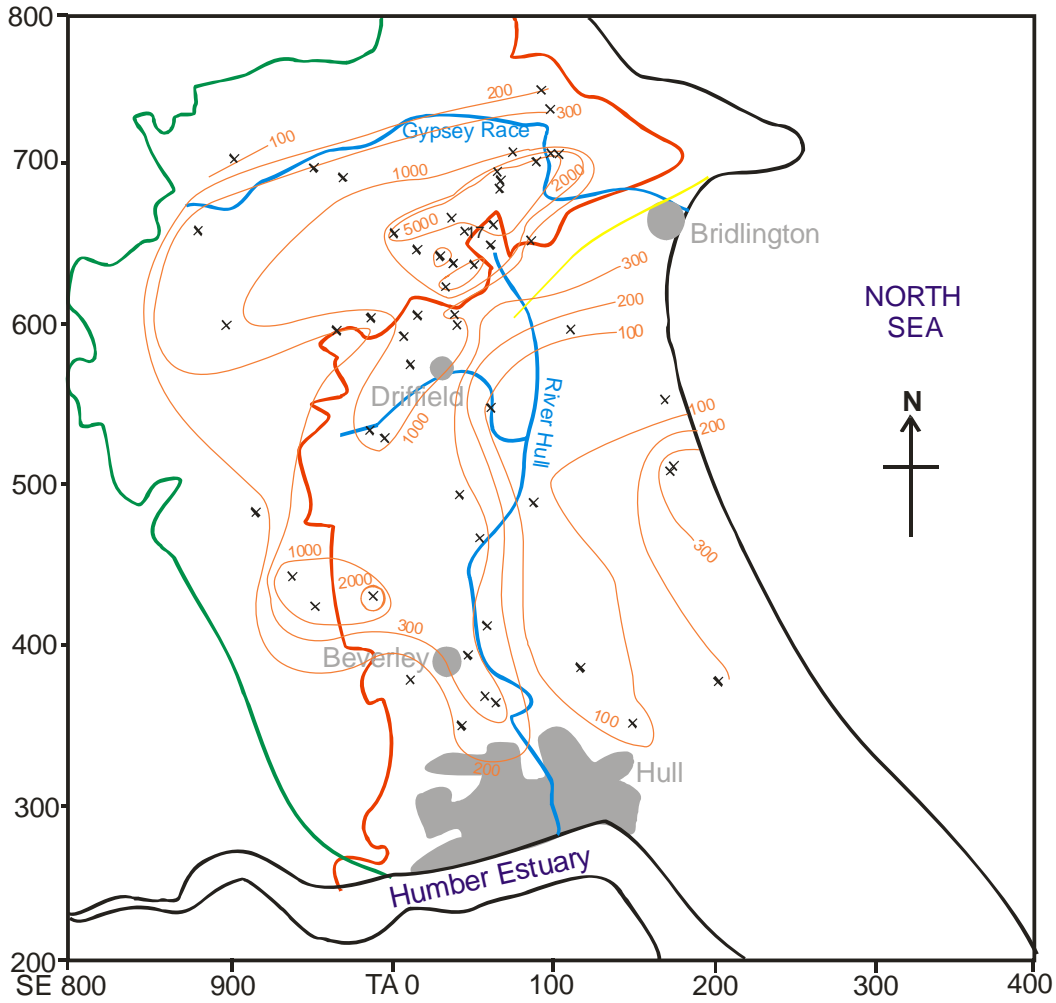
Table 2: Results of ambient well dilution testing (conducted in June and November 2008)



- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>KEY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Coastline — Feather edge of Chalk — Edge of glacial deposits — Rivers ■ Urban areas X Monitoring borehole tested ● Public water abstraction | <p>Flowmeter testing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tancred Pit 2. Henpit Hole 3. Benningholme 4. North End Stream 5. Carnaby 6. Wilfholme 7. Thornholme Moor 8. Hempholme PS | <p>Dilution testing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Henpit Hole 6. Wilfholme 9. Millington 10. Etton D 11. Little Kilham Farm 12. Garton Wold 13. Weaverthorpe 14. Dalton Middle 15. Kilham Road Thwing 16. Sherburn Wold 17. Grindale 18. Bartondale 19. Field House, Kilham |
|---|---|---|

464
 465 Figure 1: Map showing the location of the field area. Boreholes where flow logging and dilution
 466 testing carried out are indicated.
 467
 468
 469

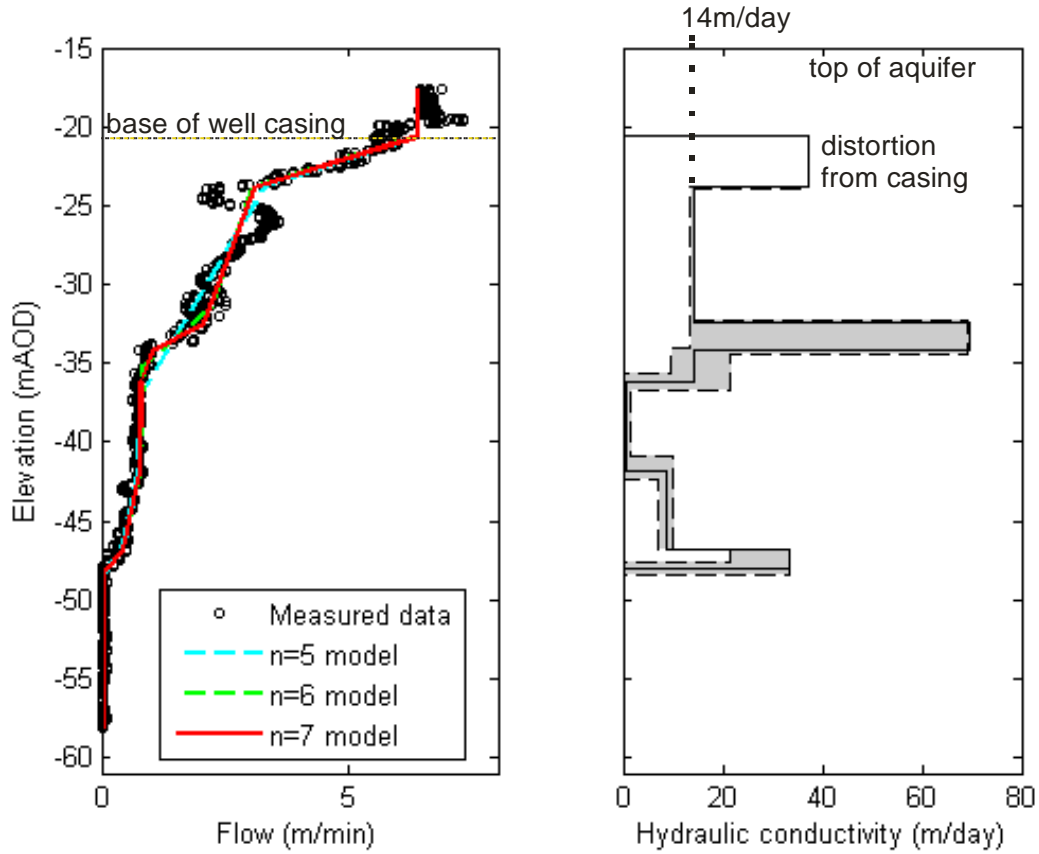
470
471



- KEY
- Coastline
 - Edge of Chalk
 - Edge of glacial deposits
 - Rivers
 - Urban areas
 - Contours of transmissivity
 - x Well with transmissivity measurement

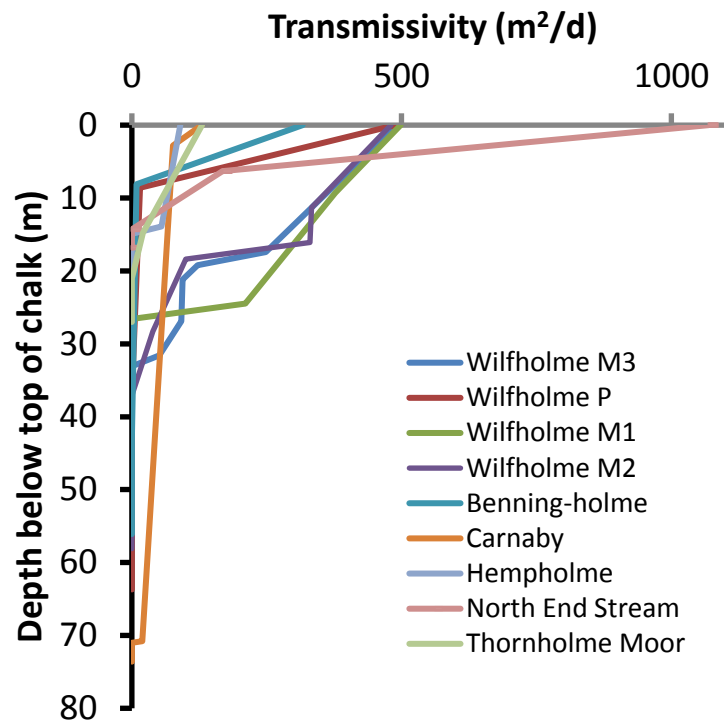
472
473
474
475
476
477
478

Figure 2: Map showing contours of transmissivity based on pumping tests (data from UK Environment Agency, British Geological Survey, and this study). Contours were drawn by inspection.



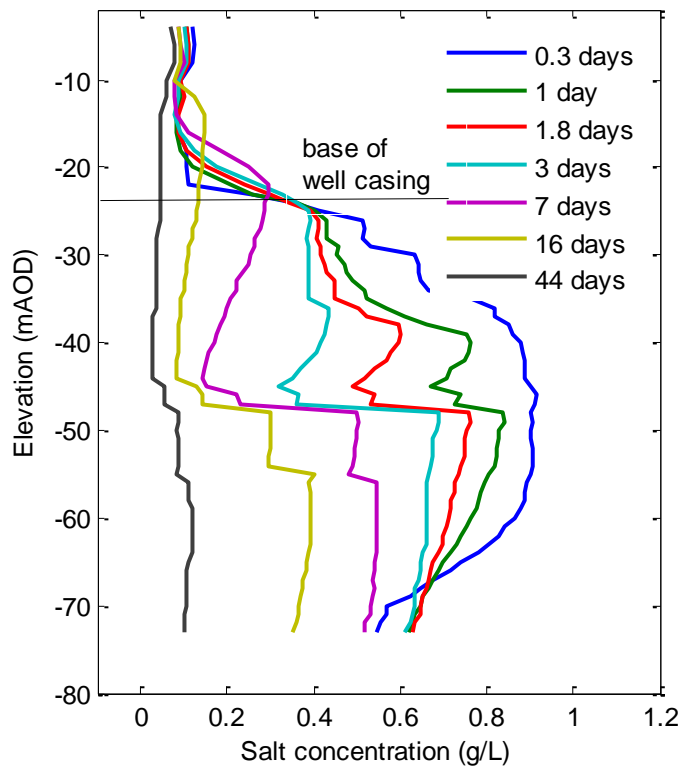
479
 480
 481
 482
 483
 484
 485
 486
 487

Figure 3: a) Impeller flow log and b) model-derived hydraulic conductivity profile from Wilfholme borehole M3 (TA062472) shown by solid line; dashed lines & shaded area shows 95% confidence limits, dotted line value for upper layer corrected for presence of impermeable well casing.

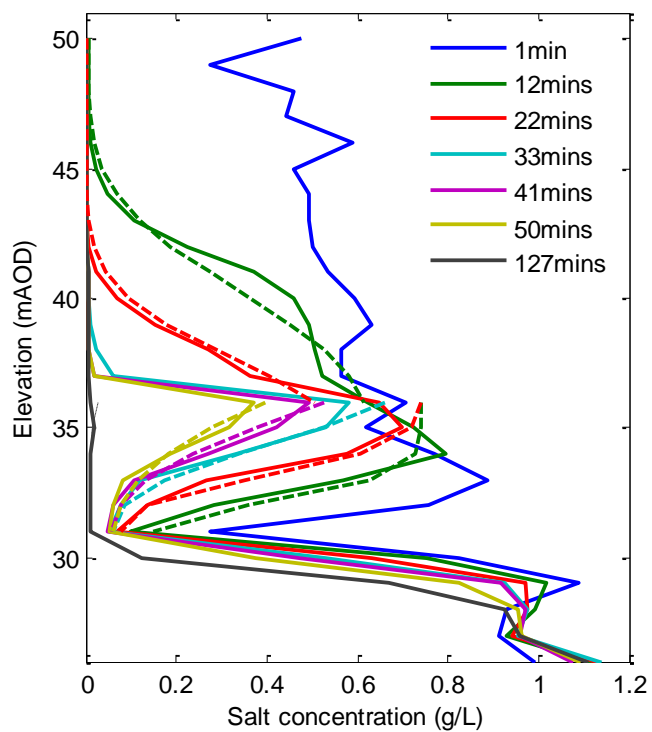


488
 489 Figure 4: Cumulative transmissivity versus depth below top of the aquifer. Note that the top of the
 490 aquifer is defined as the top of the uppermost permeable layer, which is often chalk gravel (bearings),
 491 see Tables 1a and b.
 492
 493

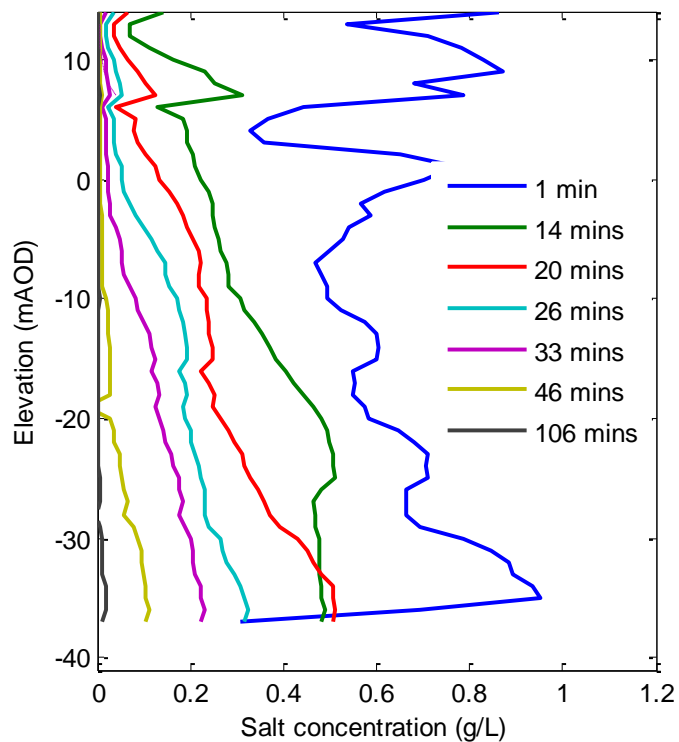
494 a)



495 b)

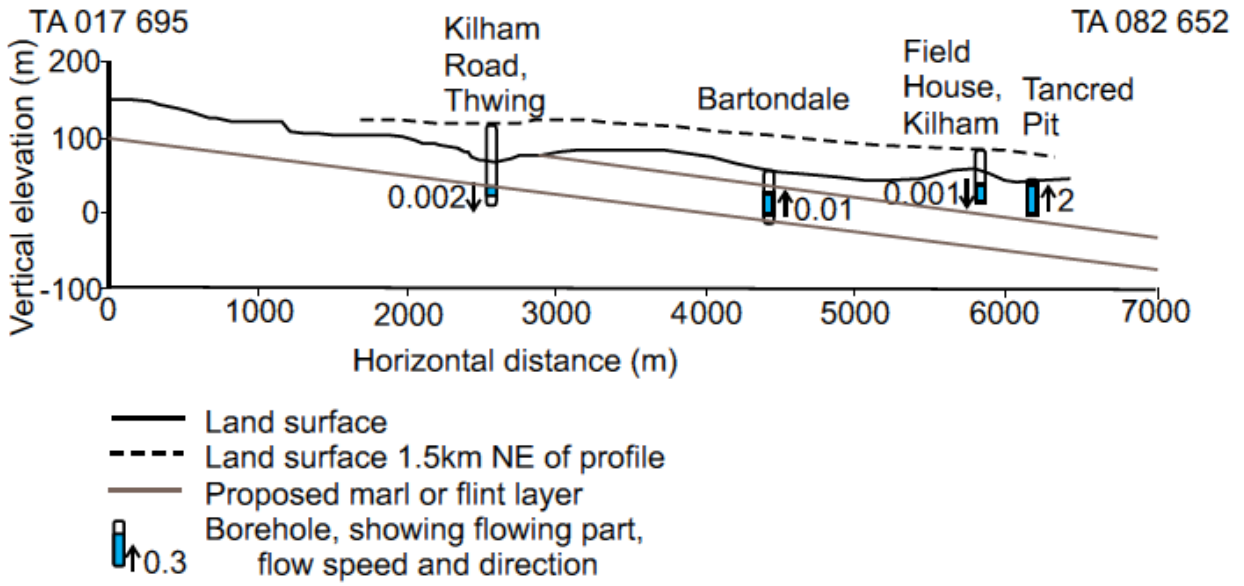


496



498 Figure 5. Salt concentration profiles from a) Wilfholme borehole M1 b) Weaverthorpe (solid lines –
 499 data; dashed lines – model fits to the ADE assuming vertical flow in well) and c) Etton borehole D
 500

501
502
503
504



505
506 Figure 6: Profile along Bartondale. Borehole flow velocities shown in m/min. Kilham Road
507 Thwing and Bartondale are in the Burnham Formation and Field House Kilham and Tancred Pit are
508 in the Flamborough Formation according to Farrant et al (2016)