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2D and 3D Modelling of sediment dynamics in a large reservoir, Chambon reservoir France

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Abstract:

This paper focuses on siltation processes in an Alpine reservoir, the Chambon Reservoir on the Romanche River. In order to help identifying a sustainable sediment management strategy, a modelling of sediment dynamics in this reservoir was built. Numerical simulations were performed according to a comprehensive understanding of sediment transport in this lake based on a large set of in situ data.

Suspended sediment concentration monitoring upstream the dam leads to the identification of the main contributing hydrological events. Downstream monitoring demonstrates that specific operating conditions (reservoir level, discharge) allow sediment routing throughout the reservoir. In order to elaborate a clear comprehension of sediment processes, field surveys have also been performed in the reservoir. Bathymetry, Velocity field, sediment concentration were monitored. An innovative device has been built in order to identify sediment and flow dynamics inside the reservoir.

Preliminary numerical simulations of sediment dynamics in the reservoir using TELEMAC2D and SISYPHE show encouraging results. Then calculations using TELEMAC3D allow to well reproduce the three dimensional patterns of suspended sediment transport in this large reservoir. Some sensitivity analyses are performed in order to better assess the validity of the simulations.

Actually modelling could be a useful tool to evaluate sediment management strategy. The main processes involved in suspended sediment transport were identified and their understanding will help to define strategies to reduce sedimentation in Chambon reservoir.

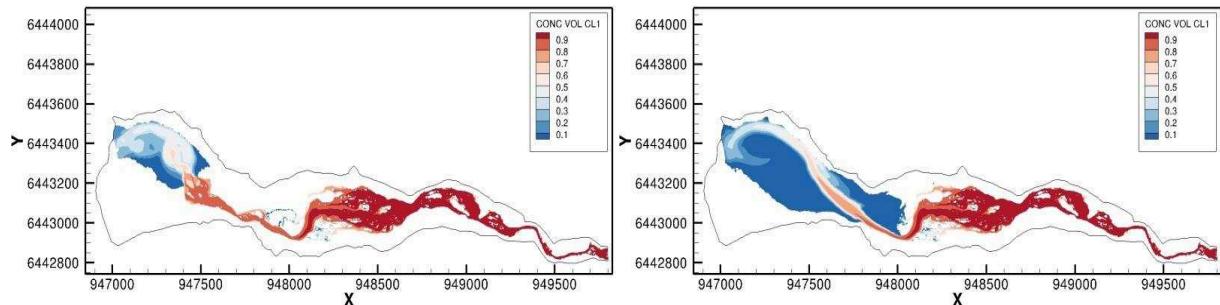


Figure 1. Numerical results of settling calculations (TELEMAC2D SISYPHE) : Qupstream=20 m³/s et Zdam=985-980 m : sediment concentration.