| 1 2 3 | A Dike-Groyne Algorithm in a Terrain-Following Coordinate Ocean Model (FVCOM): Development, Validation and Application |
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31 Keywords: Dike-Groyne; Changjiang Estuary; Finite Volume Method, Unstructured Grid

Abstract

A dike-groyne module is developed and implemented into the unstructured-grid, three-dimensional primitive equation Finite-Volume Coastal Ocean Model (FVCOM) for the study of the hydrodynamics around human-made construction in the coastal area. The unstructured-grid finite-volume flux discrete algorithm makes this module capable of realistically including narrow-width dikes and groynes with free exchange in the upper column and solid blocking in the lower column in a terrain-following coordinate system. This algorithm used in the module is validated for idealized cases with emerged and/or submerged dikes and a coastal seawall where either analytical solutions or laboratory experiments are available for comparison. As an example, this module is applied to the Changjiang Estuary where a dike-groyne structure was constructed in the Deep Waterway channel in the inner shelf of the East China Sea (ECS). Driven by the same forcing under given initial and boundary conditions, a comparison was made for model-predicted flow and salinity via observations between dike-groyne and bed-conforming slope algorithms. The results show that with realistic resolution of water transport above and below the dike-groyne structures, the new method provides more accurate results. FVCOM with this MPI-architecture parallelized dike-groyne module provides a new tool for ocean engineering and inundation applications in coastal regions with dike, seawall and/or dam structures.

57

1. Introduction

58 It is a challenge for a terrain-following coordinate coastal ocean model to simulate the flow 59 field in an estuarine or coastal system with dikes and grownes. The constructions are usually 60 submerged during high tide but may be fully exposed during low tide. If they are treated as 61 submerged vertical walls, the terrain-following coordinate transformation cannot be directly 62 applied. Adding a slope on the surface of a dike or groyne could make the topographic 63 coordinate transformation work (e.g. Qi, 2003; Du, 2007), but it changes the hydrodynamics. 64 Instead of solid blocking (no flux towards the wall) in the lower column with the dike or groyne 65 and free exchange in the upper column above the construction, that type of construction makes 66 the water tend to flow along the submerged part under the dynamical constraints of the sloping 67 bottom boundary layer. As a result, this approach can overestimate vertical and lateral mixing 68 and thus produce unrealistic circulation around the construction.

69 Recently, inundation has received intense attention for model applications to coastal and 70 estuarine problems. It is defined as coastal flooding of normally dry land caused by heavy rains, 71 high river discharge, tides, storm surge, tsunami processes, or some combination thereof. In 72 many coastal regions, dams are built around the area where the height of land is lower or close to 73 the mean sea level to protect the land from flooding (Pullen et al, 2007, 2008, 2009; Lhomme et 74 al., 2008; Allsop et al., 2009). An coastal inundation forecast system is aimed at 1) making 75 warming of coastal flooding on an event timescale in order to facilitate evacuation and other 76 emergency measures to protect human life and property and 2) estimating accurate statistics of 77 coastal inundation in order to enable rational planning regarding sustainable land-use practices in 78 the coastal zone. A model used for this application must produce accurate, real-time forecasts of 79 water level at high spatial resolution in the coastal zone and have the capability to resolve the

80 overtopping process of dams and similar structures. These dams are like a solid wall boundary 81 when the water level is lower than it, but become submerged constructions like dikes when 82 flooding occurs. The existing wet/dry treatment technology available in current terrain-following 83 coordinate system models (e.g. Lynch and Gray, 1980; Johns et al., 1982; Zheng et al., 2003; 84 Chen et al., 2007; Zhao et al. 2010) is capable of resolving coastal flooding in many situations 85 but not those with vertical seawalls in the computational domain. It is imperative that we 86 implement a dike-groyne treatment module in a terrain-following coordinate unstructured-grid 87 coastal ocean numerical model if we are to apply this type of model to accurately simulate the 88 complex flow fields found in coastal and estuarine regions with submerged dikes and groynes.

89 There have been many efforts on examining the fluid flow features in the dike and groyne 90 systems and developing discrete algorithms to resolve these features in real applications (Ouillon 91 and Dartus, 1997; Muto, et al., 2002; Uijttewaal 2005; Yossef, 2005; McCoy et al., 2006, 2007 92 and 2008; Tang et al., 2006; Kurzke et al., 2002; Yeo and Kang, 2008; Uijttewaal et al., 2001; 93 Yossef and Vriend, 2011; Delft3D-FLOW User Manual, 2009). Recent laboratory experiments 94 revealed that the flow field between dikes is characterized by various types of eddies with 95 significantly different spatial scales and fluctuations under conditions of submerged and emerged 96 dikes (Yossef and Vriend, 2011). The fluid dynamics that control eddy formation and evoluation 97 were examined using Large Eddy Simulation (LES) (McCoy et al., 2006, 2007 and 2008; Tang 98 et al., 2006; Ouillon and Dartus, 1997). A Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) program 99 (named FLOW-3D) was developed to simulate the flow structures around a submerged groyne 100 (Yeo and Kang, 2008). This program, however, is designed for the CFD scale without 101 consideration of the earth's rotation. In order to apply this program to realistic ocean situations, 102 the program must be couple with an ocean model. The Delft3D-FLOW (Delft3D-FLOW User

Manual, 2009) is the current commercial consulting software that is widely used for coastal and estuarine engineering. This model includes a dam treatment algorithm, which treats a dam as an infinitely thin object on a grid line. On this line, no water exchange between two computational cells connected to that line is allowed. This algorithm works well for Delft3D-FLOW, but the structured grids used in this model limits its application to resolve complex and irregular geometry of coastal ocean and estuaries.

109 A joint research team of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (UMassD) and Woods 110 Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) has developed the unstructured-grid, three-dimensional, 111 primitive equations Finite-Volume Coastal Ocean Model (FVCOM) (Chen et al., 2003, Chen et 112 al., 2006a, b, 2007; Huang et al., 2008). FVCOM uses a non-overlapped triangular mesh in the 113 horizontal and a terrain-following coordinate in the vertical. The triangular mesh used in 114 FVCOM can resolve the geometry of dikes-groynes. With the wet/dry point treatment in this 115 model, FVCOM is capable of predicting the water exchange over a dam on land. As with all 116 other terrain-following coordinate models, however, FVCOM has an issue with including the 117 correct kinematics for the case with submarine dikes-groynes.

118 In this paper, we have introduced an unstructured-grid algorithm to calculate the water 119 velocity and tracer concentration in a dike-groyne system. This algorithm has been coded into 120 FVCOM with MPI parallelization (Chen et al. 2006a; Cowles, 2008) and validated for idealized 121 channel cases with dike-groyne construction where analytical solutions and laboratory 122 experiment results are available for comparison and an idealized estuary with dike-groyne 123 features. As an example of an application, we applied this algorithm to the Changjiang River 124 (CR) for the simulation of the tidal and residual flows inside and outside of the dike-groyne 125 system constructed there in the last decade.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In section 2, an unstructured-grid discrete algorithm for the dike-groyne treatment is described. In section 3, three idealized cases were selected to validate the dike-groyne module code under physical conditions driven by river discharge and tides and the overtopping process of a seawall. In section 4, FVCOM with this new dike-groyne module is applied to the CR and validated with field measurement data, the simulation results are presented, and the computational efficiency of the method is discussed. Conclusions are then summarized in section 5.

133

2. An Unstructured-Grid Dike-Groyne Algorithm

134 Three types of dike and groyne are considered: a) "straight," b) "joint" and 3) "cross" (Fig. 135 1). In plan view, the first is constructed by a straight line running along edges of triangles. The 136 second consists of two lines, with the end point of one line connecting to the other line. The third 137 is composed of two lines, with one crossing the other. In the vertical, we consider three different 138 cases. In the first case, the tops of the structures are always below sea level. For this case, the 139 water column connected to the structure is characterized by two layers: an upper layer in which 140 the water can flow freely across the structure, and a lower layer in which flow is blocked (with 141 no flux into the wall). In a free-surface model, due to the temporal variation of the surface 142 elevation, the top of a dike or a groyne is probably contained within a terrain-following layer. 143 For simplification, we define the interface of free and blocked layers either at the upper level 144 (when a portion of the length of the structure is longer than half the thickness of the terrain-145 following layer) or at the lower level (when a portion of the length of the structure is shorter than 146 half the thickness of the terrain-following layer). In the second case, the dikes and groynes are 147 always above sea level. This is the simplest case in which the dikes and groynes can be easily 148 treated as solid lateral boundaries. In the third case, the dikes and groynes are sometimes above

and sometimes below sea level. For this case, the approaches used for the first and second casesare combined.

In general, the width of a dike or groyne is on the order of 2-5 m. For a numerical simulation with a horizontal resolution of > 20-100 m, these dikes or groynes can be treated as lines without width. Under this assumption, we can construct the triangular grid along dikes and groynes, with a single control volume above the structure and two separate control volumes beneath it (Fig. 2). The algorithm of the dike-groyne treatment is described as follows. An example is given for the algorithm used for a single dike or groyne, and this approach is simply extended for the case of multiple dikes and groynes.

158 **2.1 Free-surface elevation**

159 In the Cartesian coordinate system, the vertically integrated continuity equation can be 160 written in the form of

161
$$\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{\Omega} [\oint_{I_{\Omega}} (\bar{u}D) dy - \oint_{I_{\Omega}} (\bar{v}D) dx]$$
(1)

where ζ is the free-surface elevation, u and v are the x- and y-components of the horizontal 162 163 velocity, D is the total water depth defined as $H+\zeta$, and H is the mean water depth. In FVCOM, 164 an unstructured triangle is comprised of three nodes, a centroid, and three sides, on which u and v 165 are placed at centroids and all scalars (*i.e.*, ζ , *H*, *D*) are placed at nodes. *u* and *v* at centroids are 166 calculated based on the net flux through the three sides of that triangle (shaded regions in Fig. 4, 167 hereafter referred to as the Momentum Control Element: MCE), while scalar variables at each 168 node are determined by the net flux through the sections linked to centroids and the middle point 169 of the sideline in the surrounding triangles (shaded regions in Fig. 2), hereafter referred to as the 170 Tracer Control Element: TCE). Ω is the area of the TCE.

171 Defining h as the height of dike or groyne, we divide a TCE into two elements (Fig. 2), 172 calculate the fluxes individually, and then combine them. Applying (1) to each element, we have

173
$$\Omega_{l} \frac{\partial \zeta_{l}}{\partial t} = -\left[\int_{l_{l}} \overline{u} D \, dy - \int_{l_{l}} \overline{v} D \, dx\right] - \left[\int_{l_{w}} \overline{u}_{w} D \, dy - \int_{l_{w}} \overline{v}_{w} D \, dx\right] \tag{2}$$

174
$$\Omega_r \frac{\partial \zeta_r}{\partial t} = -\left[\int_{l_r} \overline{u} D \, dy - \int_{l_r} \overline{v} D \, dx\right] + \left[\int_{l_w} \overline{u}_w D \, dy - \int_{l_w} \overline{v}_w D \, dx\right] \tag{3}$$

where Ω_{t} and Ω_{r} are the areas of the two elements (hereafter referred to as left and right 175 elements); l_w is the length of the element edge connected to the solid wall; l_l and l_r are the 176 lengths of left and right elements (minus l_w); ζ_l and ζ_r are the surface elevations calculated by 177 the flux derived from the left and right elements; u_w and v_w are the x- and y-components of the 178 horizontal velocity at the edge of the element connected to the wall. u_w and v_w satisfy the 179 180 boundary condition of no flux normal to the wall. The equations (2) and (3) are numerically 181 solved using the modified fourth-order Runge-Kutta time-stepping scheme, the same as that used 182 in FVCOM (Chen et al., 2003; 2006a).

183 For the case in which the dikes and groynes remain under the sea surface, adding (2) and (3)184 yields

185
$$\Omega_{l} \frac{\partial \zeta_{l}}{\partial t} + \Omega_{r} \frac{\partial \zeta_{r}}{\partial t} = -\left[\int_{l_{l}+l_{r}} \overline{u} D \, dy - \int_{l_{l}+l_{r}} \overline{v} D \, dx\right] \tag{4}$$

186 According to volume conservation, we can determine ζ at the node on the wall with a solution 187 given as

188
$$\zeta = \frac{\Omega_l \zeta_l + \Omega_r \zeta_r}{\Omega_l + \Omega_r}$$
(5)

189 Eq. (5) is derived for a submerged dike or groyne case. For the case in which dikes and 190 groynes are initially above sea level, the surface elevation on either side of the wall is determined by ξ_t and ξ_r in (2) and (3). When the total water depth *D* on both sides is higher than the height of the wall, the surface elevation can be calculated by (5). When the total water depth on one side is higher than the height of the wall but on the other side is not, then the volume of the water above the height of the wall will move to the other side as a lateral flux. For example, assuming that the water on the left side, but not on the right side, is higher than the height of the wall (Fig. 3), *i.e.*,

197
$$D_l = H + \zeta_l > h; \ D_r = H + \zeta_r < h$$
,

198 then the new surface elevations on the respective sides should be equal to

199
$$\hat{\zeta}_r = \zeta_r + \Delta \zeta_l \frac{\Omega_l}{\Omega_r}$$
 and $\hat{\zeta}_l = \zeta_l - \Delta \zeta_l$. (6)

If the adjusted total water depth $D_r = H + \hat{\zeta}_r > h$, then a revised adjustment is made until ζ_l equals ζ_r . This approach is also applied to the case where the mean depths on opposite sides of the wall are different.

203 2.2 Horizontal and vertical velocities

204 In FVCOM, the horizontal velocity is calculated using the second-order upwind scheme 205 derived by Kobayashi et al. (1999). This method was described in detail in Chen et al. (2003). 206 When the dikes and groynes remain above sea level, then they are treated as a solid lateral 207 boundary, and velocity at the centroid of a triangle connected to the wall can be easily 208 determined using the same boundary treatment as in FVCOM (Chen et al., 2006a). For the case 209 in which the dikes and groynes are below sea level, the velocity in the upper free-exchange $(-H + h \le z \le 0)$ and lower solid-blocking $(-H \le z < -H + h)$ layers are calculated based on the 210 211 MCEs shown in Fig. 4 (a and b), respectively. No flux normal to the wall is applied to the MCE 212 in the lower layer.

The governing equations in FVCOM are solved using either a semi-implicit scheme or a mode-split scheme. In the semi-implicit scheme, the velocity can be solved using the approach described here. In the mode-split scheme, the total water flux toward the wall equals $(D-h)\overline{v}_n$, where \overline{v}_n is the component of vertically averaged velocity normal to the wall. This amount of transport must be considered in the 2-D mode to be consistent with the 3-D calculation.

The vertical velocity (ω) in the terrain-following vertical coordinate is calculated based on the same TCEs as those used for the surface elevation. In the upper free-exchange layer, ω is calculated using the combined TCE shown in Fig. 2a, *i.e.*,

221
$$\omega_{i,k+1} = \omega_{i,k} + \frac{\Delta\sigma_k}{\Delta t_i} (\xi_i^{n+1} - \xi_i^n) + \frac{\Delta\sigma_k}{\Omega_l + \Omega_r} \oint_{l_l + l_r} u_{N,k}^n Ddl.$$
(7)

In the lower solid-blocked layer, ω at the vertical level in the left and right TCEs shown in Fig. 223 2b are calculated separately, as,

224
$$\begin{cases}
\omega_{i,k+1}^{l} = \omega_{i,k}^{l} + \frac{\Delta\sigma_{k}}{\Delta t_{i}} (\zeta_{i}^{l,n+1} - \zeta_{i}^{l,n}) + \frac{\Delta\sigma_{k}}{\Omega_{l}} \oint_{l_{i}} u_{N,k}^{n} Ddl \\
\omega_{i,k+1}^{r} = \omega_{i,k}^{r} + \frac{\Delta\sigma_{k}}{\Delta t_{i}} (\zeta_{i}^{r,n+1} - \zeta_{i}^{r,n}) + \frac{\Delta\sigma_{k}}{\Omega_{r}} \oint_{l_{r}} u_{N,k}^{n} Ddl
\end{cases}$$
(8)

where ω^{l} and ω^{r} are the vertical velocities at the separate left and right TCEs; *k* is the vertical level index.

227 **2.3** Scalar variables (temperature, salinity, sediment concentration)

The calculation of scalar variables at nodes with triangles connected to dikes and groynes is similar to that used for the surface elevation and vertical velocity. A special treatment is made for the case in which the water is moved from one side (where the total water depth is greater than the height of the wall) to the other side (where the total water depth is less than the height of the wall). For example, in the case indicated in (6), $\Delta \xi_i \Omega_i$ water is removed from the left TCE and added to the right TCE. If T_l is the water temperature in the left TCE, then an adjustment will be made to extract $\Delta \xi_l \Omega_l T_l$ from the left TCE and add it to the right TCE in the flux calculation of the temperature equation. The same approach is used for salinity and other scalar variables.

237

3. Idealized Test Problems

238 **3.1 Simple Seawall Overtopping**

Consider an overtopping problem in a rectangular channel with a length of 5 km (2*L*) and a width of 1 km (*D*). A 10-m high (*H*) vertical seawall is placed at the shoreline at the mid-point (x = 0) (Fig. 5a). The ocean side (x > 0) features a flat bottom channel filled fully with water, while the land side (x < 0) is characterized by a linear slope that is initially dry. The maximum height of the shore is 10 m, the same height as the seawall. The origin of the vertical coordinate (z = 0) is defined at the reference water level at the top of the seawall. The model was run with a constant discharge rate Q, which is specified uniformly in the vertical at the open boundary.

Let t = 0 at the start of the model run, so that the total volume of inflow from the open boundary at *t* is *Qt*. With *l* being the horizontal distance from the flooding edge to the seawall and h_1 is the water height from the bottom on the land side, then

$$l = \frac{h_1 L}{H}.$$
 (9)

250 When the land side is completely flooded, we have

251
$$Qt = \frac{1}{2}lh_1 D = \frac{1}{2}\frac{h_1^2 L}{H}D, \qquad (10)$$

so that

$$h_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2QH}{LD}t} \quad . \tag{11}$$

The overtopping height (h), which is defined as the depth from the reference level, can be determined as

$$h = -(H - \sqrt{\frac{2QH}{LD}t}) \quad . \tag{12}$$

The experiments were made for cases with $Q = 1000 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, 800 m³/s, 600 m³/s, 400 m³/s and 200 m³/s. For each case, the model was initialized with a 2500-second ramp up and run until $h_1 = H$ (or h = 0). The comparison between the model-computed and analytical overtopping heights for all five cases is shown in Fig. 5b. The model accurately matched the analytical solutions. The slight bias near t = 0 was due to time-dependent oscillations during the model initial ramp period. This idealized experiment demonstrates that the dike-groyne algorithm is capable of predicting the volume-conservative overtopping process from the ocean side to the land side.

264 **3.2 Eddy Formation in a Fixed-bed Flume with Groynes**

Yossef and Vriend (2011) (Y&V) conducted a series of laboratory experiments to examine flow features in a fixed-bed flume (schematized as a straight river) with five groynes (Fig. 6). The experiments were made for cases with emerged and submerged groynes. The results suggested that for a given inflow transport, groynes can produce a periodic flow fluctuation and the formation of multiple small-scale eddies between groynes.

We simulate here the Y&V laboratory experiments using FVCOM with inclusion of the dikegroyne module. The numerical experiments were made with the same configuration as the laboratory experiments. The fixed-bed flume is constructed with x, y and z dimensions of 30 m in length, 5 m in width, and 25 cm in height (Fig. 6). Five 2-m long groynes are attached on one side of the flume with a separation distance of 4.5 m. Groynes have a slope edge with a scale shown in the right side panel of Fig. 6. The region off the groynes is defined as the main channel, which is 3 m in width. A constant and uniform water transport is specified as inflow on the left side boundary and the same amount of water transport is specified as outflow on the right side boundary. Y&V conducted three laboratory experiments: Expt#1 for an emerged condition with water transport $Q = 0.248 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ and flow depth H = 0.248 m; Exp#2 for submerged conditions with $Q = 0.305 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, H = 0.310 m; and Exp#3 for submerged conditions with $Q = 0.381 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, H = 0.357 m. Here we consider Exp#1 and Exp#2 for our model validation.

FVCOM was configured with a non-overlapped triangular mesh with a uniform horizontal resolution of 5 cm. A total of ten layers were specified in the vertical, with a vertical resolution of 2.4 cm in the main channel. The vertical and horizontal viscosities were set to have the same Reynolds number of 6×10^4 in the main channel and 10^4 in the groyne region as estimated in the laboratory experiments. The model was integrated for 1000 seconds, starting with a 100-second ramp up to full flow.

288 The FVCOM solutions reproduced the flow features observed in the Y&V laboratory 289 experiments. In the emerged groyne case (Exp#1), the laboratory experiment produced three 290 types of eddies between groynes [see Fig. 7 in Y&V]: 1) a cyclonic primary eddy in the 291 downstream area between groynes, 2) an anti-cyclonic secondary eddy in the upper-left corner 292 near the left side groyne, and 3) a cyclonic dynamic eddy at the slope edge of the left groyne. 293 These three eddy features were captured in the FVCOM experiment (Fig. 7). The model results 294 not only predict eddy structures, but also the spatial distribution of water exchange between 295 groynes. In the submerged groyne case (Exp#2), a time series of velocity recorded at point#3 296 (Fig. 6) in the laboratory experiment shows an oscillation with a period of \sim 30-35 seconds. The 297 magnitudes and oscillation periods were captured in the FVCOM experiments (Fig. 8). The high-298 frequency fluctuations recorded in the laboratory experiment were believed due to sensor noise.

The good agreement seen between these numerical model and laboratory experiments for the emerged and submerged groyne cases demonstrates that the unstructured-grid dike-groyne algorithm implemented in FVCOM correctly captures the dynamics governing flow in such systems.

303 **3.3 Estuary with Dikes and Groynes**

We next applied FVCOM with the dike-groyne module to the estuarine configuration shown in Fig. 9a. This estuary features a spatially uniform bottom depth of 10.0 m with two sets of dikes and groynes placed in the outer region of the estuary. The lengths of the dike and groyne are 7 km and 1 km, respectively, and all dikes and groynes have the same height *h* above the bottom. The computational domain is discretized using the non-overlapped triangular mesh, with a horizontal resolution varying from 0.1 km around dikes and groynes to 1 km along the lateral boundary and near the open boundary (Fig. 9a).

311 Two experiments were made with an aim at comparing two methodologies: one in which the 312 dikes and groynes are treated as a bed-conforming slope (Fig. 10a) and the other in which the 313 dike and grownes are constructed using the algorithms described in (2)-(8) (Fig. 10b). In the 314 vertical, a sigma coordinate with uniform layer thickness was used for both cases (Fig. 10). The 315 sigma coordinate is a terrain-following coordinate, with levels parallel to the bed-conforming 316 slope in the first and to the flat bottom in the second case. In both cases, the model was driven 317 only by the M_2 (period: 12.42 hours) tidal elevation with amplitude 1.0 m at the open boundary. 318 The model was spun up from zero velocity and surface elevation with a constant salinity of 35 319 psu specified at all nodes at initialization.

320 The experiments were conducted using multi-processor computers with the MPI-based 321 domain decomposition (Fig. 9b). To improve the parallelized computational efficiency, the

neighboring nodes and cells connected to dikes and groynes were defined as an independent subdomain (red and blue colored regions) and run separately using a master node.

324 We ran the model with different values of h. The model results show that in both cases, the 325 influence of dikes and groynes on the currents and sea level varies with h, vanishing at h = 0 and 326 increasing as h is increased. For given h, however, the flow fields predicted in these two cases 327 differ significantly. An example for h = 5 m (one half the mean water depth) is shown in Fig. 11. 328 In the dike-groyne algorithm case, the deeper flow is blocked by the submerged construction, 329 causing an anti-cyclonic shear flow around the groyne during the flood tidal current (Fig. 11: 330 right panels). In the bed-conforming slope case, the water flows over the groyne, with no clear 331 blocked flow features (Fig. 11: left panels). The difference can be viewed more clearly on the 332 flow distribution on the along-channel section (Fig. 12). With the dike-groyne treatment, no flux 333 onto the wall tends to turn the flow along the wall not only in the blocked region but also in the 334 upper unblocked region, while the bed-conforming slope method predicts that the water flows 335 over the wall along the slope.

This idealized case clearly shows that difference between the bed-conforming slope method and dike-groyne algorithm around the submerged structure. Yossef (2005) and Uijttewaal (2005) found significant eddy fluctuations under submerged groyne conditions, which appeared in the experiment with dike-groyne algorithm but not in the experiment with the bed-conforming slope. The bed-conforming slope method allows the water to flow over the slope as a sloping bottom boundary current, and can significantly underestimate the retention effect due to eddies formed around the construction.

343 We also conducted the same experiments with temperature stratification. In the bed-344 conforming slope method, tidal mixing can create a thermal boundary layer over the slope, which

can produce shear flows near the bottom (Chen and Beardsley, 1998), which differ from theblocked flow features predicted in the dike-groyne treatment.

347

4. Application to the Changjiang Estuary

348 The Changjiang is the largest river flowing into the East China Sea (ECS) (Fig. 13), with an annually-averaged freshwater discharge rate of 28,527 m³/s, for a total annual freshwater 349 discharge of $\sim 9 \times 10^{11}$ m³ (Chen et al., 1994; Chen et al., 1999; Hu et al., 2002; Liu, 2008). The 350 river outflow varies significantly with season: $\sim 60,000 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ or greater in the flood season (May 351 through October), and $\sim 10,000 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ in the dry season (November through April). In recent 352 history, the maximum discharge rate was 92,600 m³/s in August 1954 and the minimum rate was 353 4,620 m³/s in January 1979. The Changjiang is also a major source of sediment to the ECS, with 354 a total annual amount of 4.86×10^8 tons before the 1990s (Chen et al., 1999) and about 2.0×10^8 355 356 tons after the 1990s.

357 The large amount of sediment deposition in the shipping route has restricted navigation in the 358 Changjiang Estuary. The Deep Waterway Channel Regulation Project (DWCRP) off the 359 Changjiang was launched in 1998 to improve navigation conditions around the estuary (Jin et al., 360 2003). In phase I of this project, a set of dikes and groynes were constructed along the North 361 Passage (Fig. 13). The dikes were designed near the mean tidal level to block the tidal current 362 and thus sediment transport. Enhancing the current separation at the riverward head of the dikes 363 reduced water flow into the channel during the ebb tide by 88% (Chen and Le, 2005). Between 364 these dikes, a set of groynes were constructed perpendicularly to each dike, with an expectation 365 of increasing the sediment erosion and maintaining the water depth in the main navigation path 366 as a result of the intensity of the currents along the channel (Le et al., 2006). The grovne is 367 connected to the dike with the same elevation and then decreases linearly to a depth of 2.0 m

below mean sea level. This phase I project was completed in 2001, with a goal of producing and maintaining a water depth of 8.5 m in the channel in 2002 (Fan, 2004; Fan and Wu, 2004). The phase II project started in 2002 and was completed in June 2005, with the aim of increasing water depth in the channel to 10 m (Fan, 2004; Jin and Huang, 2005; Jin and Zhu, 2005). In this phase, the dikes were extended seaward, the additional groynes (five on the north and four on the south) were added and the lengths of pre-constructed groynes were increased.

374 Since these dikes extend about 0.3 m above mean sea level and have a width of several 375 meters, they become both exposed and submerged over a tidal cycle. Previous modeling studies 376 (Du, 2007; Qi, 2003; and Wu, 2006) treated these structures as submerged "sills" (following the 377 bed-conforming slope method) and failed to reveal two-layer dynamics around the structures. 378 The thin-dam method of DeLft3D-FLOW was also applied to resolve dike-groyne structures in 379 this region (Hu et al., 2009). This model, however, experienced difficulties in resolving the 380 realistic and irregular geometries of the dikes and groyne. We have selected this region as a 381 testbed problem to compare the bed-conforming slope method used in previous studies (Du, 382 2007; Qi, 2003; and Wu, 2006) and the dike-groyne algorithm developed in this paper. Both 383 simulations were conducted within the FVCOM framework, but with the bed-conforming slope 384 method and dike-groyne algorithm implemented respectively to treat the dike-groyne structures 385 in the river mouth.

The numerical experiments were conducted using FVCOM through a nesting of regional and local computational domains. The regional domain covers the entire ECS with the full physical setup described in Chen et al. (2008), while the local domain includes the Changjiang Estuary from the upstream source to the offshore region at about 124.5°E and from 28.3°N to 34.3°N (Fig. 14). Both domains were configured using a non-overlapping triangular mesh in the horizontal and generalized terrain-following coordinate transformation in the vertical. The ECS mesh features about 240,000 cells with a horizontal resolution of 1.0-15 km, while the local Changjiang Estuary mesh features about 100,000 cells with the finest resolution of about 200 m located around the Deep Waterway structures (see right panel in Fig. 14 for an enlarged view). The time step was 2 minutes for the regional ECS domain and 10 seconds for the local Changjiang Estuary domain. This nesting approach improved the overall computational efficiency by a factor of 10.

The dikes and groynes were placed in the Deep Waterway area as zero-width solid walls (solid dark lines) in the local computational domain. The geometric shapes of these constructions are represented accurately using the triangular meshes. Given an average tidal range of about 2.6 m around the Changjiang Estuary, the dikes and groynes should be about 1.5-2.0 m below water during high tide.

403 The local domain FVCOM is driven by eight major astronomical tidal constituents— M_2 , S_2 , 404 K_2 , N_2 , K_1 , O_1 , P_1 and Q_1 —through nesting with the regional ECS FVCOM (Chen et al., 2008) at 405 the outer open boundary and freshwater discharge at the upstream end of the Changjiang and at 406 the location of the Qiantang River in Hangzhou Bay (Ge et al., 2008). Experiments were conducted for the typical flood (40,000 m³/s) season and typical dry (10,000 m³/s) season 407 408 freshwater discharge conditions. In both cases, the discharge rate for the Qiantang River is 409 specified as 1000 m³/s. To examine the change in hydrodynamic conditions after the Phase II 410 project construction, we ran the model with dikes and groynes constructed using both the bed-411 conforming slope method and the dike-groyne algorithm, respectively.

412 The turbulence mixing in these experiments was parameterized using the same method used413 in Chen et al. (2008) and Xue et al. (2009). The horizontal diffusion coefficient was calculated

using the Smagorinsky (1963) turbulent closure scheme and the vertical eddy viscosity and
thermal/salt diffusivity were determined using the Mellor-Yamada 2.5-level turbulence closure
model (Mellor and Yamada, 1982).

417 **4.1 Current structure**

The current structure changed significantly after the dike-groyne construction was completed. With the M_2 being the dominant tidal component, Jiuduansha Shoal with the south dike built along its northern edge separates the water flow into two branches as shown in Fig. 15a-b. We define the ratio of water transport into the navigation channel to the total outflow from the southern branch of the Changjiang as

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$$R = \frac{F_N}{F_N + F_s} \times 100\%$$
(9)

where F_N and F_S are the volume fluxes flowing through sections L1 and L2 (shown in Fig. 13), 424 425 respectively. Field measurements indicate that R dropped from 60% in August 1998 to 40% in 426 August 2006 (Liu, 2008). Before the Phase I project, the North Passage was the main channel for 427 the Changjiang outflow. During that period, R was above 50%. Since 2000, R dropped to 50%, 428 and now is about 40%. After the Phase I project, the model-computed R was $48 \pm 1.0\%$, agreeing 429 well with the observed value of 49% reported in August 2000 (Table 1). After the Phase II 430 project, the model-computed ratio dropped to $42 \pm 1.0\%$, which is close to the observed value of 431 45% reported in August 2005. This suggests that extending the dikes seaward, elongating 432 existing groynes, and adding more groynes in the extended region do have a significant impact 433 on the current separation at the upstream tip of the southern dike.

434 The model shows that the construction of groynes along the dikes produces residual cyclonic435 eddies and anti-cyclonic eddies between groynes in the northern and southern regions,

436 respectively (Fig. 15). Eddy size depends on groyne length. Elongating the groynes in the Phase 437 II project tends to intensify eddies between N3 and N5. Extending dikes seaward and adding 438 more groynes not only seems to significantly speed up water flow in the central water passage in 439 the downstream area, but also causes a net cross-dike inflow into the navigation path around the 440 northwestern side of Jiuduansha Shoal (between S5 and S9) and more eddies in the downstream 441 area (Fig. 15).

442 The current pattern remains unchanged during spring and neap tides, although eddies and 443 cross-dike flow intensify during spring tide and weaken during neap tide (Fig. 16). When the 444 Phase I project was completed, the difference in maximum velocity along the navigation channel 445 between spring and neap tides was about 0.28 m/s during the ebb period and about 0.72 m/s 446 during the flood period (Table 2). The angle of the tidal currents to the axis of the navigation channel was in the range of 6.4-6.7° at the maximum ebb and 7.0-8.9° at the maximum flood. 447 448 The Phase II project resulted in a minor change in the velocity but a significant reduction in the 449 angle of tidal currents to the axis of the navigation channel by at least 50%. This indicates that 450 extending dikes seaward tends to concentrate the water along the channel, but has little impact on 451 the water flux through the channel.

Although the freshwater discharge rates strongly differ between the flood season (40,000 m^3/s or up) and dry season (~10,000 m^3/s), the cross-dike residual current seems relatively unchanged since it is mainly caused by the astronomical tide which is not affected by the upstream Changjiang runoff. The cross-dike current occurring along the south and north dikes in a south-to-north direction implies that significant net water transport exists from the Jiuduansha Shoal into the North Passage along the south dike, and from the North Passage to Hengsha Shoal along the north dike (Fig. 16). 459 The model experiment results show that the Deep Waterway Channel Regulation Project has 460 achieved its major goal of increasing and maintaining the depth in the navigation channel up to 461 8.5 m after Phase I in 2002, and 10.0 m after Phase II in June 2005. However, the persistence of 462 eddies between groynes and the bathymetric change due to morphology can cause a dramatic 463 amount of sediment accumulation inside the dike-groyne complex. This prediction is consistent 464 with recent sediment measurements in that region, suggesting that dikes and groynes built along 465 the navigation channel will not be able to meet the expected objective of the original design to 466 block all south-to-north sediment transport from Jiuduansha Shoal.

467 4.2 Comparison between dike-groyne and bed-comforting slope methods

468 The model results obtained using the dike-groyne algorithm and the bed-conforming slope 469 methods are compared here with observational data. The field measurements were made inside 470 the navigation channel near W3 (the site marked by the black solid circle in Fig. 13) during the 471 flood periods in February 2006. The model-data comparisons were made for current speed and 472 direction at near-surface, mid-depth and near-bottom levels (Fig. 17). Both methods were robust 473 in simulating the water currents and transport around the DWCRP in this realistic situation (Fig. 474 17). However, the average standard deviation between modeled and observed velocities, 475 estimated over the measurement period, was 17 cm/s for the dike-groyne algorithm case and 23 476 cm/s for the bed-conforming slope case. The major improvement of the dike algorithm appeared 477 during high tide, when the average standard deviation was ~ 4 cm/s for the dike-groyne case and 478 \sim 15 cm/s for the bed-conforming case. As a result, the model-predicted phase of the flow peak 479 and trough showed a better match with observations in the dike-groyne algorithm case than in 480 the bed-conforming slope case. The bed-conforming slope method leads to an overestimation 481 and underestimation of the current peak at the surface (and mid-depth) in comparison to nearbottom, respectively, suggesting that it produces a stronger vertical velocity shear than the dike-groyne algorithm.

For the given initial conditions and forcing, the salinity predicted at W3 by these two methods significantly differed. The measurements were made in the dry season during which the river discharge was of order 10,000 m³/s. The site W3 was located within the transition zone between the Changjiang discharge dilute and ocean salt waters, with a minimum salinity as low as ~2 psu. The dike-groyne algorithm-predicted time series of salinity shows a better match with the data at the surface, mid-depth and near the bottom (Fig. 18), while the bed-conforming slope method overestimated the salinity by a value of 8 psu or more.

491 The difference can be also viewed in the horizontal distributions of salinity at the surface and 492 near the bottom. An example is shown in Fig. 19 for a comparison for surface and bottom 493 salinity at maximum ebb tide in the flood season. In the bed-conforming slope case, the high-494 salinity water from the surface to bottom dominates the navigation channel region and the 495 salinity around the dikes and groynes is relatively spatially uniform. In the dike-groyne algorithm 496 case, the model predicts a large vertical gradient in the navigation channel. At the surface, the 497 water is dominated by the low-salinity mixed Changjiang discharge flow, while relatively high 498 salinity water remains near the bottom in the navigation channel during the offshore flow period. 499 During the ebb tide, the dikes become exposed above the sea surface, and act more as a solid 500 barrier for the water exchange between the channel and surrounding area. That can be seen in 501 the area between N6 and N10. Similar features also appear in the region between groynes S6 to 502 S9.

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5. Discussion and Conclusions

An unstructured-grid finite-volume dike-groyne treatment algorithm is derived and implemented into FVCOM as a module. The unstructured triangular mesh used in this model is flexible to accurately resolve any configuration of dikes and groynes, and the finite-volume flux algorithm in FVCOM ensures the conservation of volume and mass under the boundary condition of no flux into or out of the structure. With the same MPI framework, this model can be run efficiently on a single computer or multi-processor cluster for fast computation.

510 The idealized test cases are designed to validate the capability of the dike-groyne module in 511 resolving realistic water exchange around and over a dike-groyne structure and overtopping of a 512 seawall onto dry land plus accuracy of parallel computing under memory-distributed multiple-513 node architecture. The comparisons between the dike-groyne algorithm and the bed-conforming 514 slope method suggests that resolving the kinematic boundary condition on dike-groyne structures 515 is critical to capturing realistic flow and tracer fields in the system. The bed-conforming slope 516 approach can cause an unrealistic overestimation of water transport across the structure and poor 517 resolution of the geometrically controlled eddies formed around the structure. The overtopping 518 experiment demonstrates that the dike-groyne algorithm is capable of predicting the volume-519 conservative overtopping process from the ocean side to the dry land side.

The dike-groyne module is used to simulate the flow field in the Changjiang Estuary where a series of dikes and groynes have been recently built as part of the Deep Waterway Channel Regulation Project. The model results indicate that the construction of the dike-groyne system does reduce the proportion of the Changjiang's southern branch outflow water entering the navigation channel. The comparison for the cases with the dike-groyne algorithm and bedconforming slope method suggests that due to the change of the horizontal and vertical distribution of currents, the bed-comforting slope method predicts significantly different features 527 of vertical mixing and water exchange between the Changjiang dilute water and higher-salinity 528 ocean waters in the navigation channel. The better model-data comparison results obtained with 529 the dike-groyne algorithm supports the need to implement this method to improve model 530 simulations of the complex currents and turbulent mixing in dike-groyne systems in coastal and 531 estuarine regions.

532 It should be pointed out here that the overtopping algorithm in the FVCOM dike-groyne 533 module was derived using volume conservation to estimate how much water can flood from one 534 side to another side without consideration of the overtopping dynamics. The overtopping process 535 can be very complex, including for example hydraulic drop-induced head loss and wave- and 536 wind-driven "splash-over", and varies widely in different sites as a function of different 537 geometries, forcing conditions and dynamics. A number of investigators (e.g. McCoy et al., 538 2006 and 2008) have begun to use Large Eddy Simulation approaches with non-hydrostatic 539 dynamics and air-water interaction to explore the different dynamical processes involved in 540 overtopping while others (e.g. Kees et al., 2011) have developed level set and volume-of-fluid 541 approaches to two-fluid incompressible flow and are applying these new methods to study 542 transient wave- and wind-driven flow over coastal barriers. We plan to follow this new work 543 closely and examine if their new results can be used to extend the FVCOM dike-groyne module 544 to simulate more directly overtopping in realistic settings.

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Appendix

574 The dike-groyne module was coded into FVCOM within the MPI parallel environment. 575 We have tested the computational efficiency using the dike-growne module, which depends on 576 the numbers of dikes and groynes configured in the grid. A key factor that can affect the 577 parallelization efficiency is the data exchange among processors. The code in FVCOM version 578 3.1 and higher allows model data-exchange between individual processors. Since dikes and 579 groynes may cross multi-domains, including dikes and groynes in the MPI domain could 580 decrease the computational efficiency. To solve this problem, we used a dynamical domain 581 decomposition method, in which we temporally store all triangle nodes and cells connecting to 582 dikes and grownes into an independent processor and compute separately. With this approach, the 583 imbalance of the computation load in the parallel environment is greatly improved. For the idealized estuarine experiment described in section 3.3, using 4 Intel[®] Core[®] i7 2.2GHz 584 585 processors, the model simulation took 93 minutes in the bed-conforming slope case and 116 586 minutes in the dike-groyne algorithm case. For the Changjiang Estuary case described in section 4, using 8 Intel[®] Xeon[®] E5335 2.00GHz processors (totally 32 parallel threads) on the East China 587 588 Normal University Linux cluster, a one-month model simulation took 24.5 hours in the bed-589 conforming slope case and 31.0 hours in the dike-groyne algorithm case. In our cases, using the 590 dike-groyne algorithm increased the computational time by $\sim 25\%$.

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Table 1: Comparison of the observed and model-predicted ratios of the water flux through
section L1 to the sum of the water flux through sections L1 and L2 after Phase I and Phase II
projects. The ratio is defined as eqn. 9 in the text.

| | Phase | e-I | Phase-II | | |
|----------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|--|
| | Flood (%) | Dry (%) | Flood (%) | Dry (%) | |
| Observed Ratio | 49 | / | 45 | / | |
| Modeled Ratio | 48 ± 1 | 47 ± 2 | 42 ± 1 | 41.3 ± 2 | |

Table 2: Angle and speed of the currents with respect to the axis of the navigational route under763 spring and neap tidal conditions for flood and dry seasons, respectively.

| | Phase I | | | Phase II | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------|------------|----------|----------|--------|------------|--------|
| | Max. ebb | | Max. flood | | Max. ebb | | Max. flood | |
| | θ (°) | V(m/s) | θ (°) | V(m/s) | θ (°) | V(m/s) | θ (°) | V(m/s) |
| Flood season (Neap) | 6.4 | 1.25 | 8.9 | 0.71 | 3.0 | 1.29 | 2.9 | 0.73 |
| Flood season (Spring) | 6.7 | 1.53 | 7.0 | 1.43 | 3.1 | 1.53 | 3.5 | 1.45 |
| Dry season (Neap) | 6.8 | 1.16 | 8.4 | 0.97 | 3.3 | 1.11 | 3.2 | 1.01 |
| Dry season (Spring) | 6.6 | 1.28 | 6.3 | 1.73 | 2.7 | 1.38 | 2.1 | 1.79 |

774

Figure Captions

| 775 | Fig.1: Three types of dike and groyne construction. Type 1: a straight dike. Type 2: a groyne |
|-----|---|
| 776 | joined at its end with a dike. Type 3: a groyne crossed through a dike. A horizontal red |
| 777 | line indicates a dike and a vertical red line represents a groyne. The black lines are the |
| 778 | triangle's edges. |

Fig.2: Sketch of the separation of the control element at dikes or groynes. The shaded regions
indicate the tracer control elements (TCEs)

Fig.3: Illustration of the treatment of the water exchange across a dike or a groyne when the
water on either side is over the height of the construction.

- Fig.4: Illustration of momentum control elements (shaded regions) used to calculate the
 horizontal velocity in the upper (above the height of the construction) and lower (below
 the height of the construction) layers.
- 786 Fig.5: Schematic of the model set up for the overtopping process experiments (a), model-data 787 comparison of the overtopping depth (b) and model-predicted distribution of the surface 788 flow in the oceanic region and on land (c). In panel a: H: the height of the seawall; L the 789 horizontal length of the land slope and ocean region; Q: the water discharge rate at the 790 open boundary, h: the overtopping depth from the reference level; h_1 : the overtopping 791 height from the bottom; and *l*: the distance from the seawall to the flooded edge on the 792 landside. In panel b: blue lines are the analytical solutions, and red lines the model 793 results. The flow plotted in panel (c) was the simulation results at 1.5 hours for the 794 discharge rate of $600 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$.

Fig.6: Plan view of the geometric structure and forcing setup used in the laboratory experiments
by Yossef and Vriend (2011) and also used in our numerical experiments. The right panel

797 indicates the cross-sectional view. The gray region is the groyne, and the blue point #3 is 798 the measurement site, which is a distance of 0.75 m from the third groyne tip. The data 799 collecting depth is at 0.3h of the whole water column.

- Fig.7: Snapshot of simulated flow patterns in the 4th groyne field for Exp#1 under an emerged
 groyne condition. Solid red lines indicate emerged groynes, and dashed red lines indicate
 the submerged slope edges of groynes. Blue cycles show the locations of primary,
 secondary and dynamic eddies.
- Fig.8: The model-data comparison of u and v components of the fluid velocity at point #3 for Exp#1 under a submerged groyne condition. Red lines indicate the time series of the measured velocity recorded in the laboratory experiment and black lines are the modelcomputed velocity.
- Fig.9: The computational domain and unstructured triangular mesh (a) and domain
 decomposition (b) for the idealized estuary case. Bold solid lines inside the domain are
 the dikes and groynes specified in the model.
- Fig.10: The vertical structures of the terrain-following coordinate levels in the bed-conforming
 method (a) and dike-groyne treatment method (b).
- Fig.11: Distributions of horizontal currents near the surface (upper row) and bottom (lower row) for the idealized estuary case driven by tidal forcing with slope bed-conforming method (left column) and the dike-groyne algorithm (right column). The blue solid lines in the upper row panels indicate the location of the velocity sections shown in Fig. 12.
- Fig.12: Velocity distributions along the vertical section under slope-conforming method (left)
 and dike-groyne algorithm (right). The horizontal position of the vertical section is shown
 in Fig. 11.

820 Fig.13: Upper panel: bathymetry of the Changjiang Estuary and adjacent inner shelf region of 821 the East China Sea. Black lines around the North Passage represent the dike and groyne 822 construction built during the Deep Waterway Channel Regulation Project. The bold black 823 line in the middle of the North Passage is the navigational channel. Lower panel: a 824 detailed Phase I and Phase II project layout. The black solid lines denote the dikes and 825 groynes built during the Phase I project; the red lines denote the construction modified 826 and added during the Phase II project. The dashed blue lines mark the navigational route. 827 N1-N10 and S1-S9 represent the ten northern and nine southern groynes, respectively. 828 The magenta lines L1, L2 and L3, are the sections selected to calculate the ratio of the 829 water transport entering the Deepway Channel to the total transport flowing out from the 830 southern branch of the Changjiang.

Fig.14: Enlarged view of the triangular mesh with dikes and groynes around the Deepway Channel off the Changjiang. The panel inserted in the lower left corner shows the computational domain and mesh of the local domain FVCOM with inclusion of the Changjiang, Hangzhou Bay and the inner shelf of the East China Sea.

- Fig.15: Distributions of residual currents around the Deep Channel predicted by FVCOM under the freshwater discharge condition for the dry season (left column) and flood season (right column) with dike-groyne algorithm.
- Fig.16: Distributions of currents near the surface at maximum flood (upper row) and ebb (lower
 row) between the segments marked W2-W3 during the spring tide cycle (right column)
 and neap tide cycle (left column) in the flooding season predicted by FVCOM with dikegroyne algorithm.

Fig.17: Model-data comparisons of current velocity (left) and direction (right) during February
2006 at the surface (upper), mid-depth (middle) and near bottom (lower). The solid black
dots indicate the field data. The blue and red lines indicate the results with the dikegroyne algorithm and bed-conforming slope method, respectively.

- Fig.18: Model-data comparisons of the salinity in February 2006 at the surface, mid-depth and near bottom. The solid black dots indicate the field data. The blue and red lines indicate the results with the dike-groyne algorithm and bed-conforming slope method, respectively.
- Fig.19: Model-predicted distributions of the salinity near the surface (upper) and bottom (lower)
 at maximum ebb tide around the Deep Waterway Channel Regulation Project during
 spring tide of the flooding season for the cases with bed-conforming slope method (left)
 and dike-groyne algorithm (right).

854





a) upper column

b) lower column



















Fig.11

















Fig.19