

# Improvement of leakage monitoring in dikes by the use of distributed fiber optics sensors

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# Need for surveillance improving of dikes



## INTERNAL EROSION

- one of the main cause of failure of embankment dams
- leakage with departure of fine particles



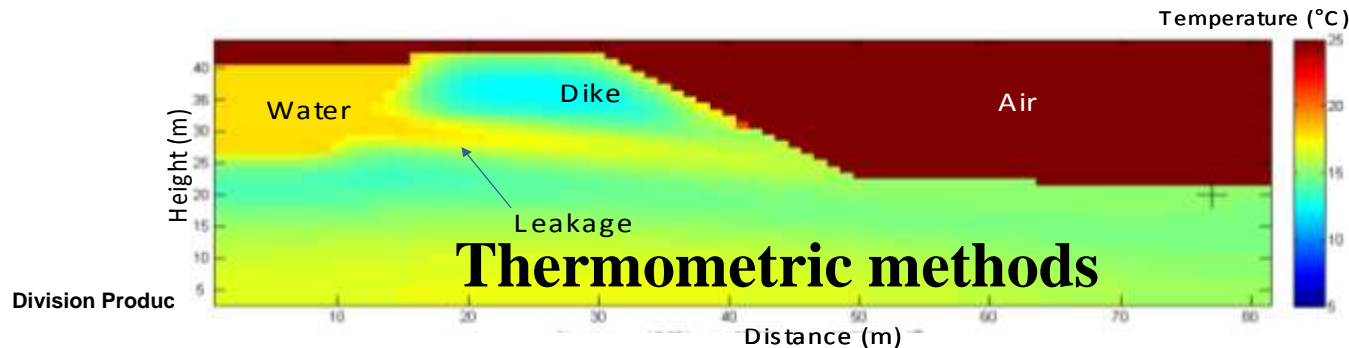
Conventional tools for leakage surveillance:

o **Visual inspection**

o **Monitoring** : - seepage velocity in the drainage system  
- piezometric level



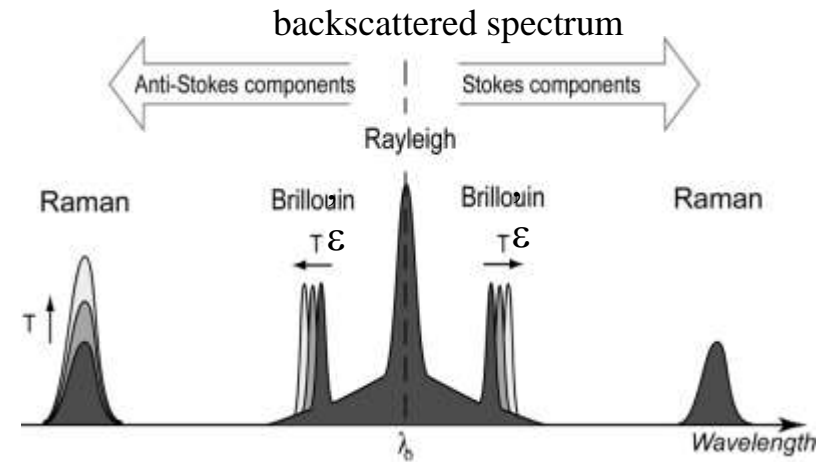
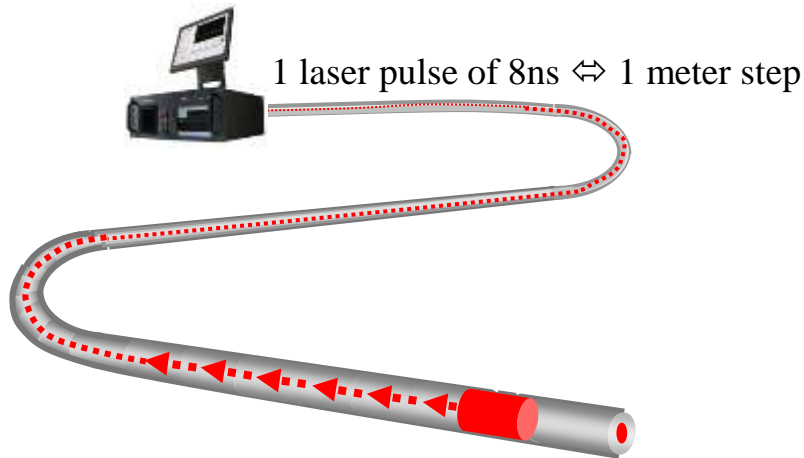
**! NEED solutions for detection and quantification of seepage along earth dams !**



# Physical principle of temperature measurement by FO



## ◆ Principle : processing of backscattered signal



→ Use of the Raman effect: peak amplitude sensible to  $T$  ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

→ Flight time of the pulse □ spatial position along the fiber

### Fiber Optics based Distributed Temperature Sensor

- Measurement over length and time
- Accuracy  $0.1^{\circ}\text{C}$ , range of 20 km, 1 meas./ m
- Time step : 1 meas./10 min to 1meas./1 year



# Various analysis methods for leakage detection



## ◆ Detection/localization methods:

- « heating » approach:

→ with heated fiber optic cable (Heat Pulse Method)

- « passive » approach:

→ Physico-statistical analysis model based on impulse response

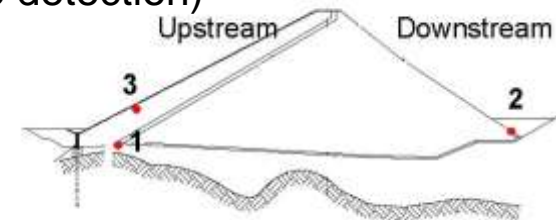
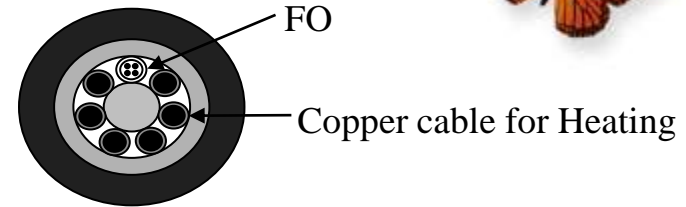
→ Signal processing based analysis model

(Daily Analysis Approach, Source separation for leakage detection)

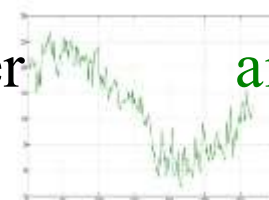
## ◆ Quantification methods (under development) :

→ sensibility of the detection methods to flow velocity

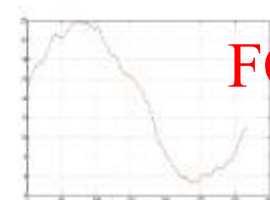
→ 2D inverse models



water



air



FO

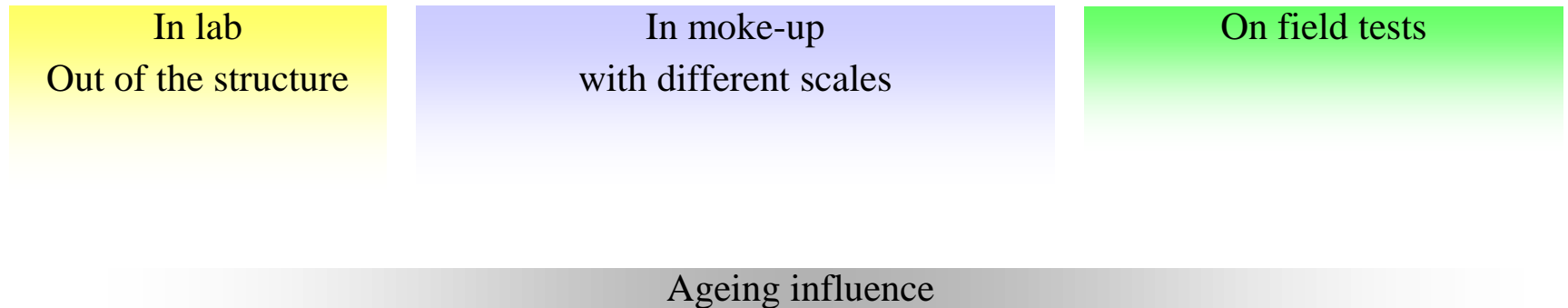
→ Early detection system

→ Long-term monitoring system

# Qualification methodology



- ▶ European Guide FD CEN TR 14748 : Non-destructive testing — Methodology for qualification of non-destructive tests
- ▶ Performances of measuring systems for a given application, by assessing uncertainties, function of sensitive parameters
- ▶ A step-by-step « from the lab to the field » methodology



- ▶ 10 years of research

# In laboratory

## Metrological studies of the Distributed Temperature Sensor (DTS)

- Some specific metrological testing devices adapted to this technology



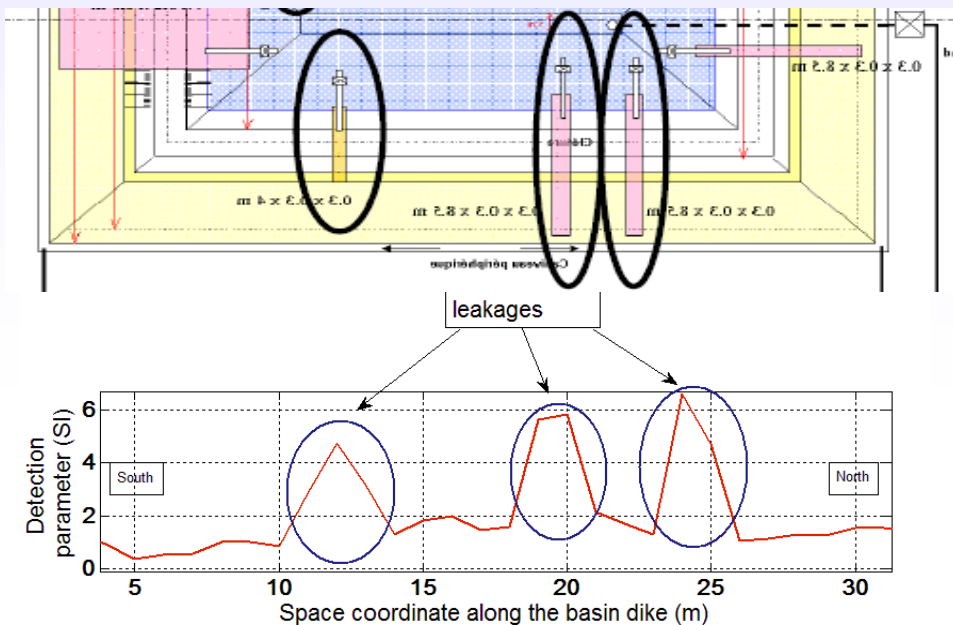
- Development works with DTS supplier
- Optimize the maintenance of the DTS

# Controlled full-scale experiment

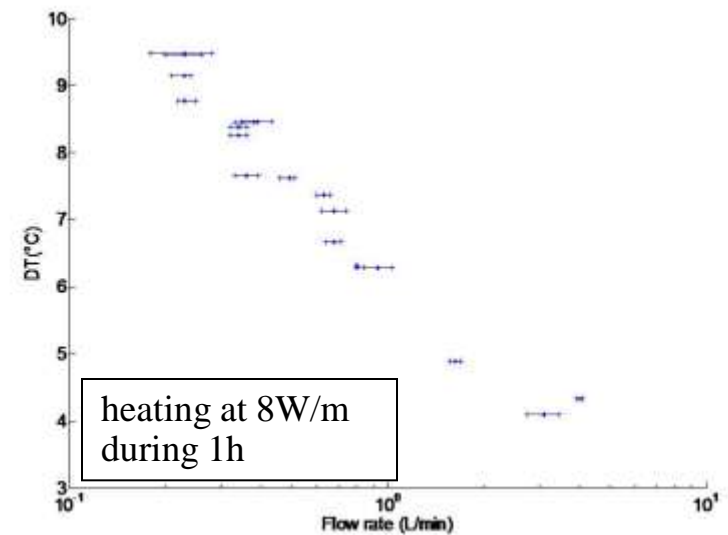
Experimental basin with provoked and controlled leakages (Aix-en-Provence)



Passive Method results



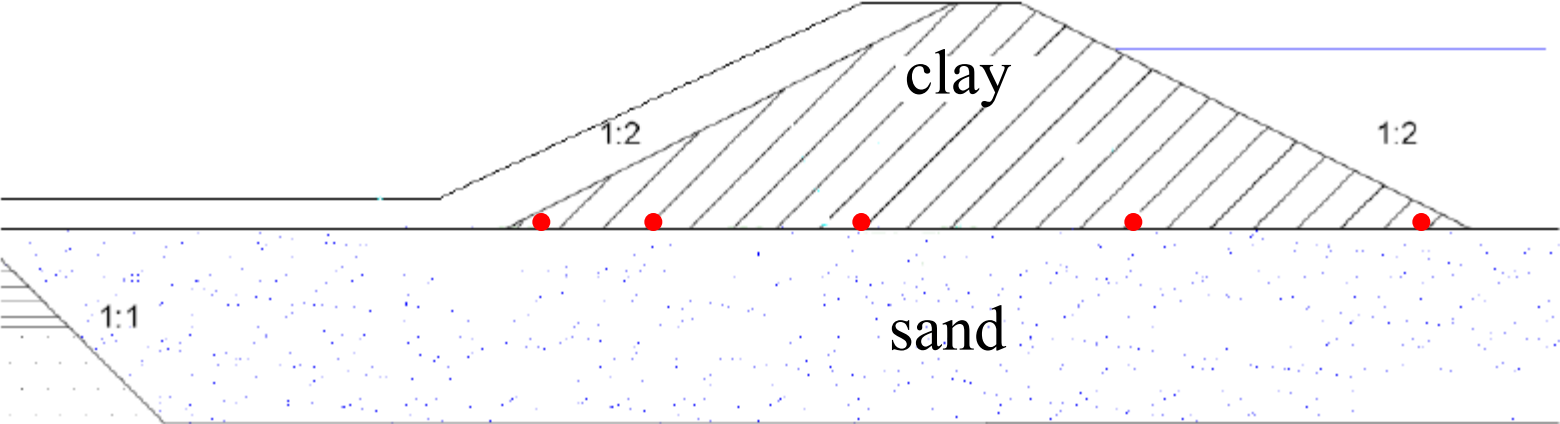
« Heating » Method results



# Early detection of piping erosion : IJKDIJK test



## 2009-IJKDIJK experimental site: « Piping tests »

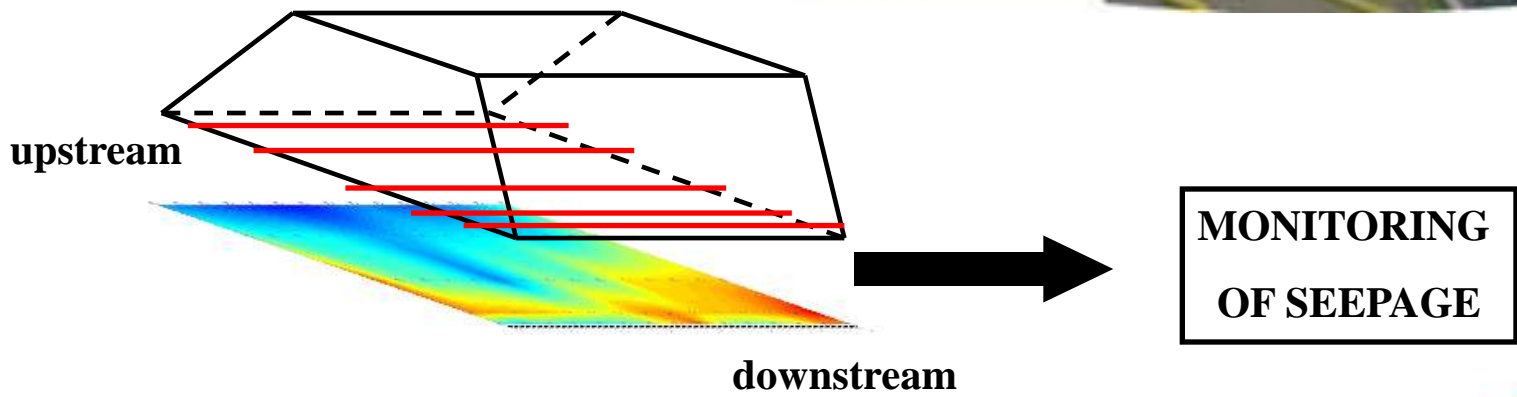




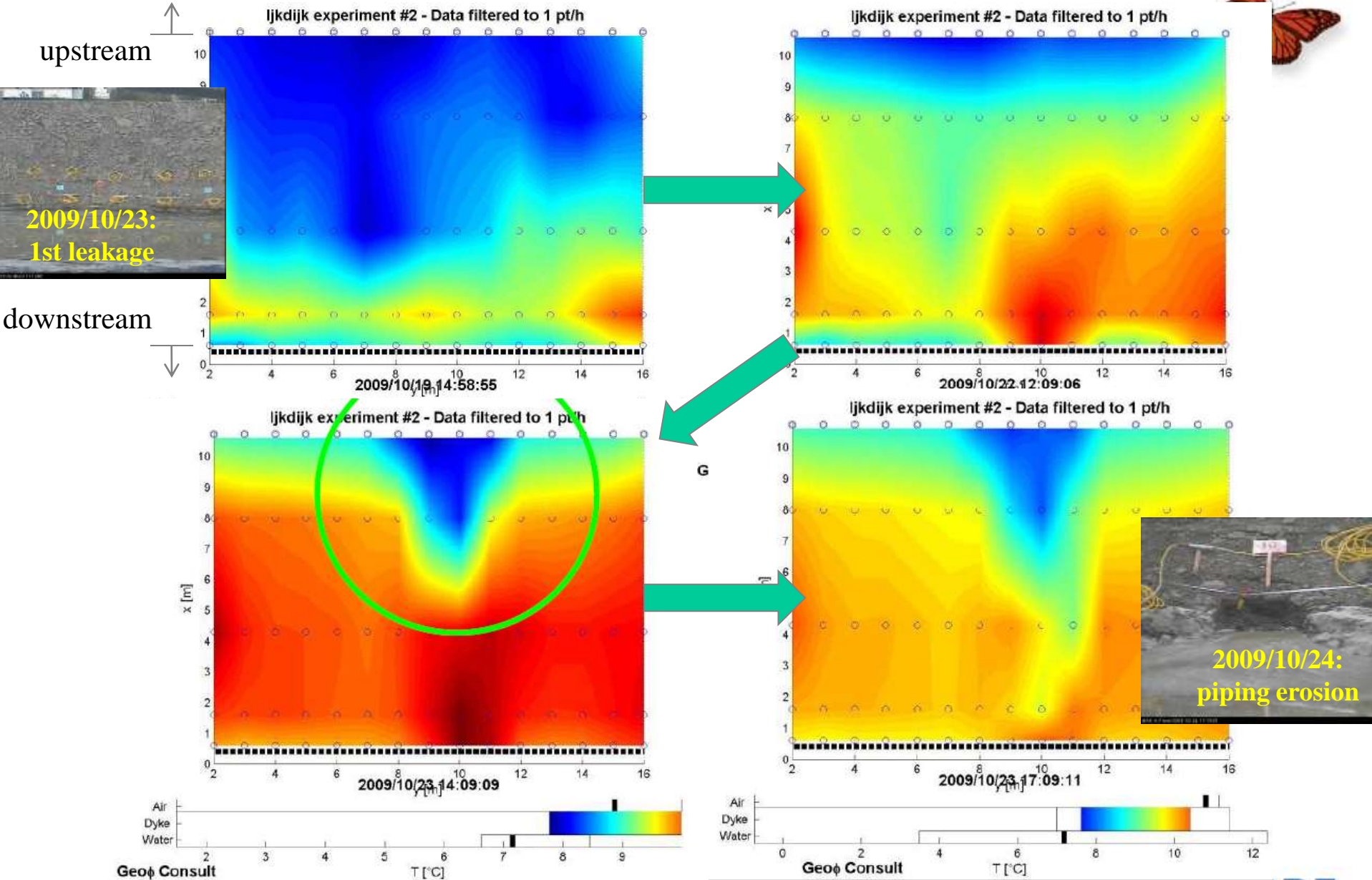
# Early detection of piping erosion : IJKDIJK test



Downstream and upstream of the experimental dam



# Ijkdijk piping test n°2 (2009): raw data

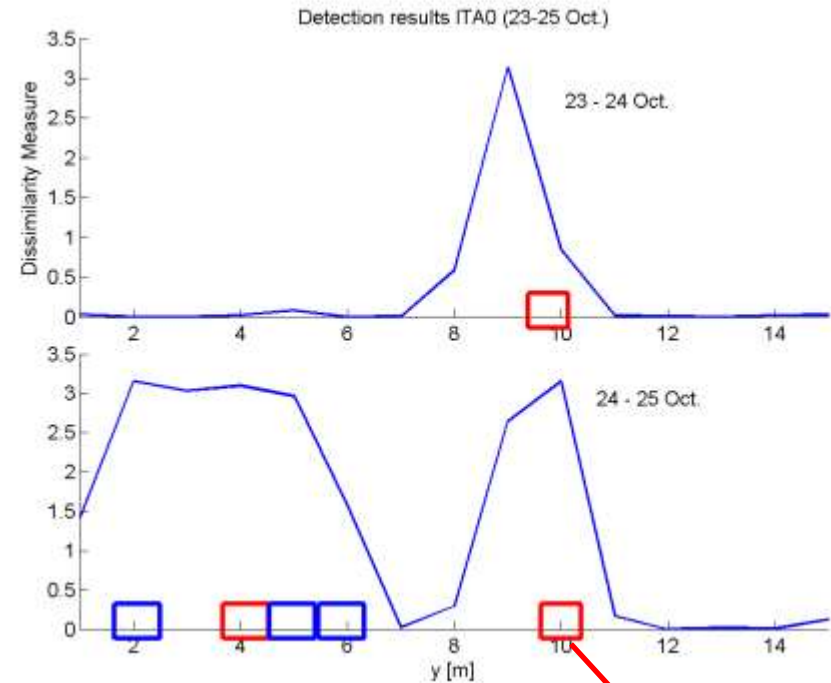
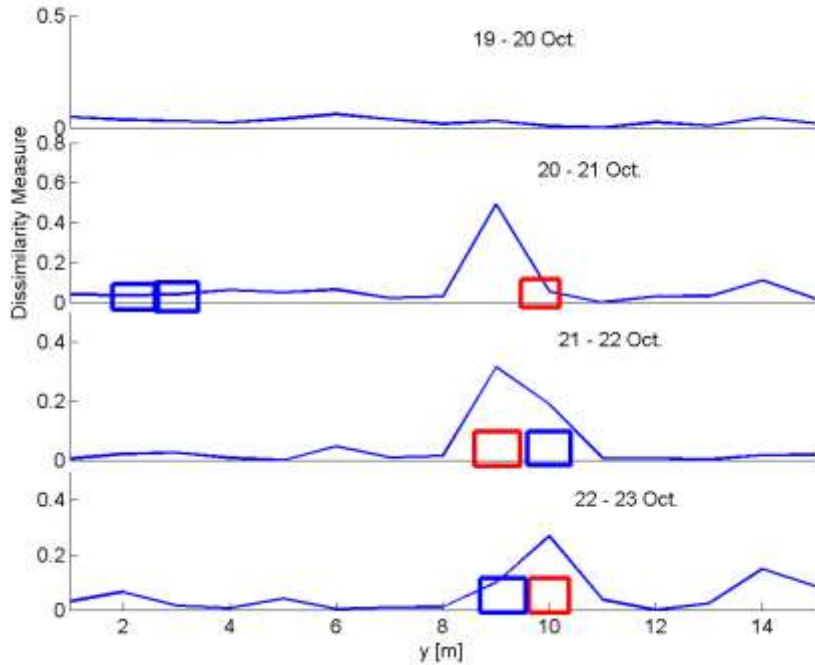


→ leakage detection 2 days before rupture (Test duration = 6 days)

# Early detection of piping erosion : IJKDIJK test



## Results from the daily analysis model



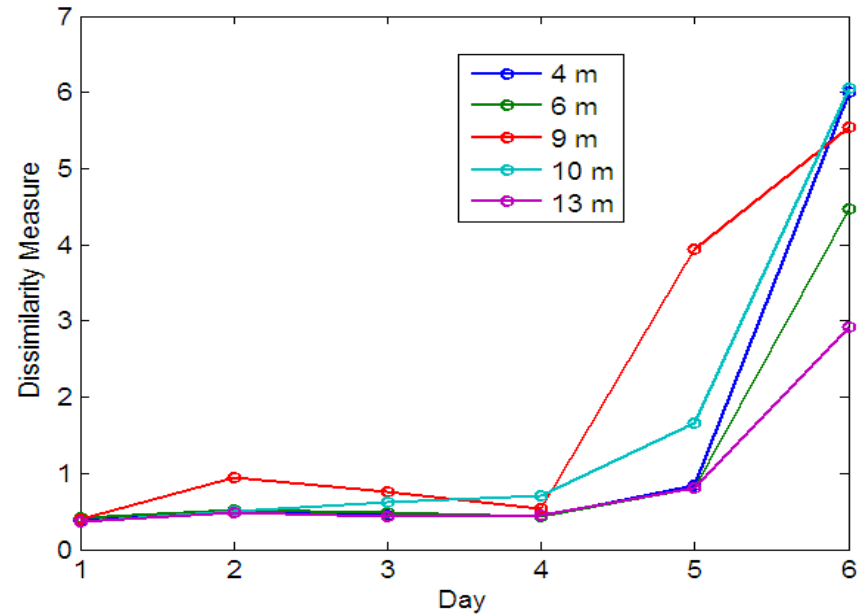
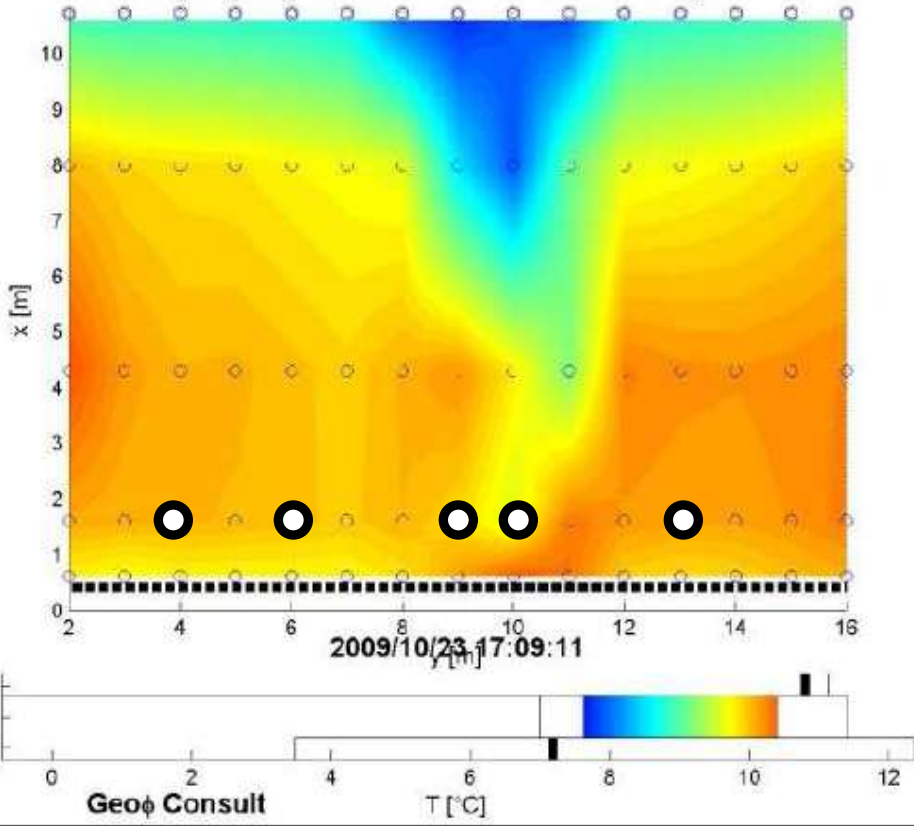
→ Signal processing (Daily Analysis Approach)  
= anomalies' detection 5 days before rupture

# Early detection of piping erosion : IJKDIJK test

## Temporal evolution of leakages



IJKDIJK experiment #2 - Data filtered to 1 pt/h

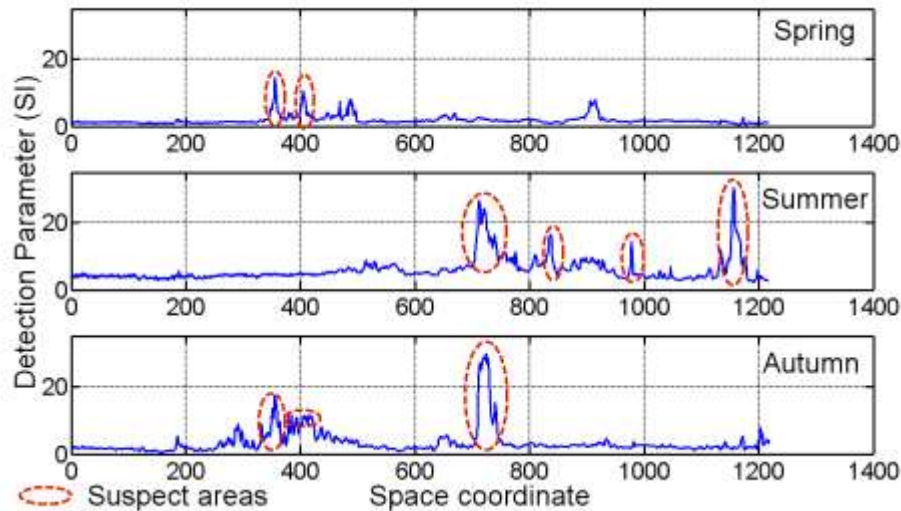
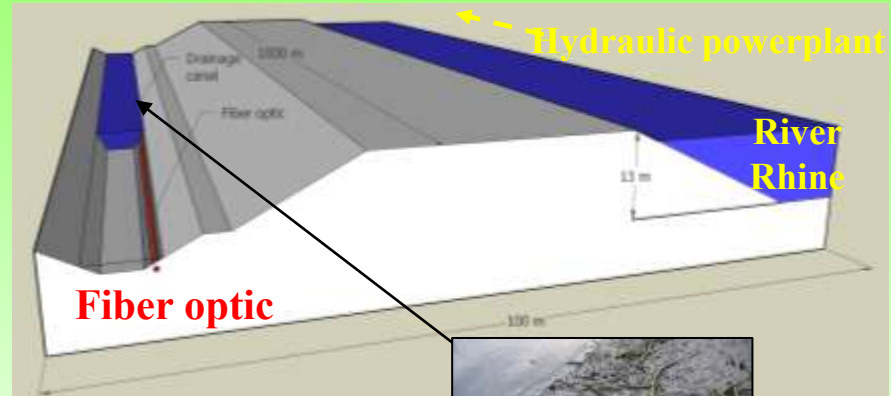


→ The detection parameter's temporal evolution seems to be an interesting way to monitor leakage evolution !



# Experiment on real site

- Two experimental installations on industrial sites:
- Durance river (2001)
  - Rhine river (2006)



# Conclusions



## → Distributed temperature sensor based on fiber optics:

- **Relevant for seepage detection and monitoring**
- **Efficient for monitoring of large sections of the dike with a high spatial and temperature resolution**
- **Complementarity of existing methods (“heating” and passive)**
- **Developed analysis model :**
  - **necessary for an easy detection**
  - **a tool for alarm (short term) and monitoring (long term)**

## → **Improvement: (under development)**

**estimation of the flow velocity (or its evolution)  
seems to be possible**

# NEXT STEP: experimental surveillance of a 5 km intake canal instrumented by 11 km of fibre optics



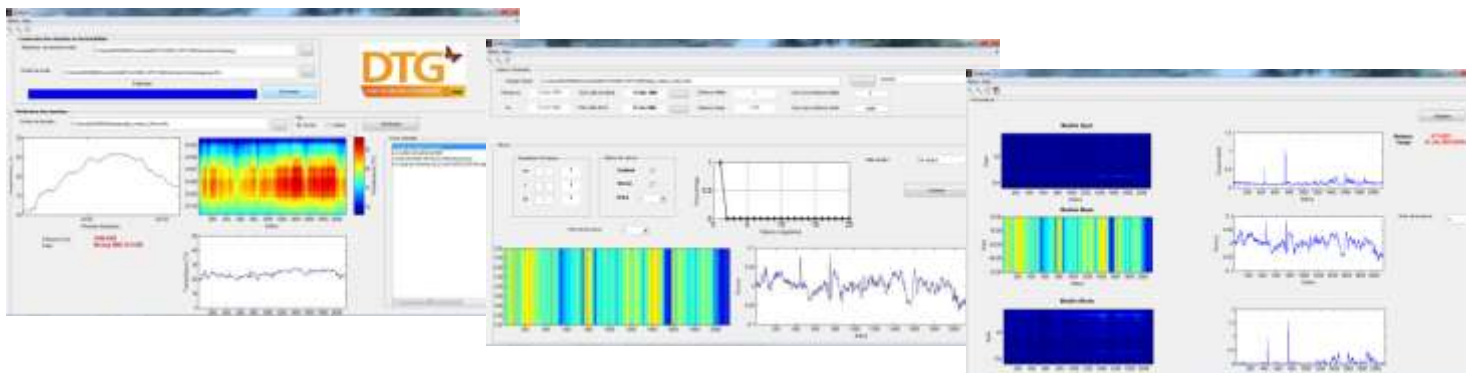
## OBJECTIVES:

- ✓ Comparison of FO results with conventional drainage systems



- Comparison with 31 drains (each ~300 meter long)
- Testing of ACTIVE and PASSIVE method

- ✓ Developpement of an industrial tool for data interpretation



- ✓ Establishment of an internal organization in order to integrate this new technology



A wide-angle photograph of a large concrete dam. The dam's spillway is visible, with water cascading over it and creating white foam. The dam is situated in a valley with mountains in the background under a clear blue sky. The text "Thank you for your attention" is overlaid in orange on the lower part of the image.

**Thank you for your attention**