

Feedback from reservoir sedimentation on the flow pattern in rectangular reservoirs



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How does the location of inlet and outlet channels affect flow and sedimentation in rectangular reservoirs?



- Influence on ... the velocity field?
 - the trapping efficiency?
 - the location of deposits?





Does it matter? It does, at least from two different perspectives

Rectangular shallow reservoirs are

- idealized configurations, providing a better insight into individual processes
- **common** structures in hydraulic engineering and urban drainage







Despite the simple geometry, complex flow fields develop and strongly affect sediment transport and deposition



The typology of flow patterns developing as a function of the reservoir geometry highlights **bi-stable** flow fields





Dufresne, M, Dewals, B, Erpicum, S, Archambeau, P, & Pirotton, M. (2010). Classification of flow patterns in rectangular shallow reservoirs. *Journal of Hydraulic Research*, 48(2), 197-204.

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Influence on ...

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Measure velocity field Measure deposits thickness + numerical simulations



Flow velocity was measured throughout the reservoir

Square grid formed by eight UVP transducers





A simple turbulence closure was first tested: algebraic model based on Elder formula ($v_t = \alpha h u_*$)

Without sediments

With sediments



As bottom topography varies according to measurements, the computed velocity profile changes after 30 to 60 min

Forced evolution of the bottom topography [m] (based on measurements)





Simulated velocity field [m/s]







Conclusions

Four configurations of inlet and outlet channels locations (on opposite sides of the reservoir) have been tested

Trapping efficiency does not vary significantly (≈10%)

In one geometric configuration, a **change in the stable flow field** was observed when sediments were supplied

Numerical simulations based on a two length-scale depth-averaged k- ε model **simulate accurately** the measured velocity fields

They reproduce the change of flow pattern as a result of

- sediment deposits
- and increased bottom roughness

