Interpreting 2D Models When is a Model Right and When is it Wrong?

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Full 1D Equations (St Venant)







Inside the Fully 2D Cell







Inside the Fully 2D Cell







The Assumptions – 1D

- Depth and width averaged
- Water surface is horizontal
- Flow follows a straight line
- Most model momentum (in a straight line)
- No cross-momentum
- No turbulence (eddy viscosity)

Examples: HEC-RAS, MIKE 11, XP-SWMM, TUFLOW 1D





The Assumptions – Pseudo-2D

- Depth averaged
- Solves 1D equation over 2D grid/mesh
- Spreading model
- Diminished or no cross momentum
- No turbulence
- Simplistic representation of true 2D solution
- Can be used where friction dominates (eg. shallow flow)
 - Velocity output not reliable
 - Example: FLO-2D





The Assumptions – Fully 2D

- Depth averaged
- Some omit turbulence (eddy viscosity)
- Can omit Coriolis and atmospheric pressure
- Much closer to reality than 1D (where flow is not unidirectional) and Pseudo-2D (where friction doesn't dominate)
- Grid Examples: MIKE Flood, Sobek, TUFLOW
- Mesh Examples: ADH, FESWMS, InfoWorks, MIKE FM, RMA2, RiverFlo-2D, TUFLOW FV





Full 2D Equations

(Wave length much larger than depth, eg. floods)







Pseudo-2D vs Fully 2D

- UK EA 2D Benchmarking findings:
 - Pseudo-2D suitable for national, strategic, broad-scale assessments
 - Unsuitable for detailed flood hazard and impact assessments (Need to use Fully 2D)
 - Often no speed gains from using Pseudo-2D models





Accuracy Example



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Key Physical Processes







2D Grid or Flexible Mesh?

- Principal Grid Applications
 - Flood studies
 - Flood impact assessments
 - Floodplain management what-if scenarios
 - Whole of catchment modelling
- Principal Flexible Mesh Applications
 - Detailed, high resolution, analyses (eg. hydraulic structures)
 - Complex in-bank river flow patterns
 - Storm surge estuarine and coastal inundation





Grid Pros and Cons

- Pros
 - Very quick to setup
 - Mesh remains unchanged (ie. base case results don't change)
 - Usually fixed timestep (good for flood impact assessments)
 - Faster (for same number of elements)
- Cons
 - Resolution too coarse in key areas (hydraulics not well resolved)
 - Resolution too fine (excessive amount of elements long run times)

Thus far, vast majority 2D flood models in Australia and UK grid based





Flexible Mesh Pros and Cons

Pros

- Element size reflects resolution needed to resolve hydraulics
- Number of elements optimised to reduce run times
- Cons
 - Longer setup times and mesh refinement
 - Timestep reduced by very small elements
 - Changing mesh for what-if scenarios can change base case results (issue for BFE's and flood impact assessments)





2D Element Size (Mesh Convergence)

- Cell/Element Size(s)
 - Small enough to meet hydraulic objectives
 - Large enough to minimise run-times
 - Coarser than DEM
- For a fixed grid model halving the cell size increases run-times by a factor of eight (8) keep this in mind!























Proofing a Model

- Look at the results!
 - Velocities / flow patterns
 - Water levels
 - Energy always reduces downstream





Challenge 1







Challenge 1



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Challenge 1







Mass Error – Solution Convergence

• Less than 1% a good benchmark for adequate convergence

2010 UK EA 2D Benchmarking:

"The largest volume change reported is a 1.4% volume loss. This did not have any identifiable consequence in the results, and the effect of model choice was clearly more significant than a lack of volume conservation of this magnitude."





Acceptable n Values

Are Manning's n Values the same for 1D and 2D models?

- Generally, Manning's n values are usually very similar for 1D and 2D schemes, except:
- Rapid changes in flow direction and magnitude (eg. at a structure, sharp bend or embankment opening)
 - Fully 2D schemes simulate energy losses associated with water changing flow direction and magnitude (may need some minor additional energy loss for fine-scale and/or 3D effects)
 - 1D schemes require: (a) a structure with energy losses;
 (b) artificially high Manning's n; or (c) an additional energy loss

2D schemes typically apply no side wall friction

Where there is significant wall friction a 2D scheme may require a slightly higher Manning's in than a 1D scheme





1D: Traditional Approach Uses Contraction/Expansion Losses







2D: No Contraction/Expansion Losses?















"Calibrating" 2D Structures

 For example, adding 0.2 energy loss, ie. add 0.2*V²/2g compensates for energy losses not mode/ed



Water Surface Profiles - Outlet Controlled - Adjusted Form Losses





TUFLOW

Cooromonto IIC/

1D/2D Link Options



 SX Link (momentum not transferred)

 HX Link (preserves momentum)







"Calibrating" 1D Culvert Linked to 2D



 Culvert as 1D Element

> Reduce Outlet Loss Coefficient by (0.2 in this case) to correct for duplicated losses







Summary

- Full 2D equations significant step closer to reality where horizontal flow patterns are complex
- Pseudo-2D schemes useful but should only be used where bed friction dominates (ie. cross-momentum, turbulence not relevant)
- 2D models are NOT exact
 - Still need to scrutinise, still need to calibrate
 - Check and understand your results!









