



Predicting the flow in the floodplains with evolving land occupations during extreme flood events

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► To cite this version:

Sébastien Proust. Predicting the flow in the floodplains with evolving land occupations during extreme flood events. France. 2014, pp.1. hal-02600363

HAL Id: hal-02600363

<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02600363>

Submitted on 16 May 2020

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Predicting the flow in the floodplains with evolving land occupations during extreme flood events

Context

- + Increasing human settlements over the floodplains
- + Climate change: impact on the return period T of extreme floods (e.g. Hirabayashi *et al.*, 2013)
- + European Flood Directive: assessing the **flow depths** and **velocities** for extreme event scenarios ($T > 1000$ -year)
- + Protection of nuclear installations against flooding events with $T = 10000$ -year, cf. report n°3 of ASN (2013)
- + **No field data** for such periods T to validate the models
- + Still largely unexplored physical processes for such T

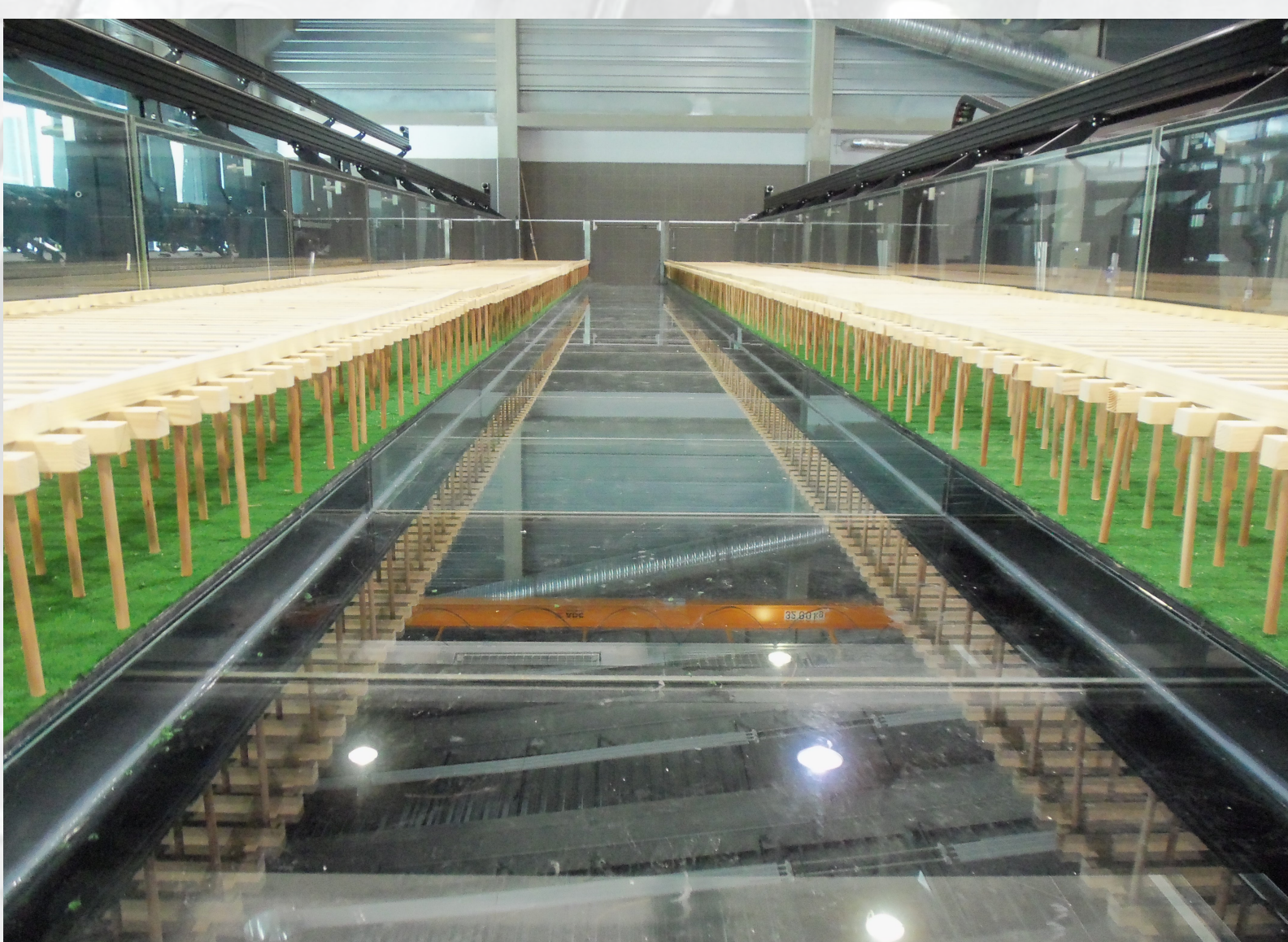


Ochlockonee River, 1975. Picture taken by J.C. Rosenau

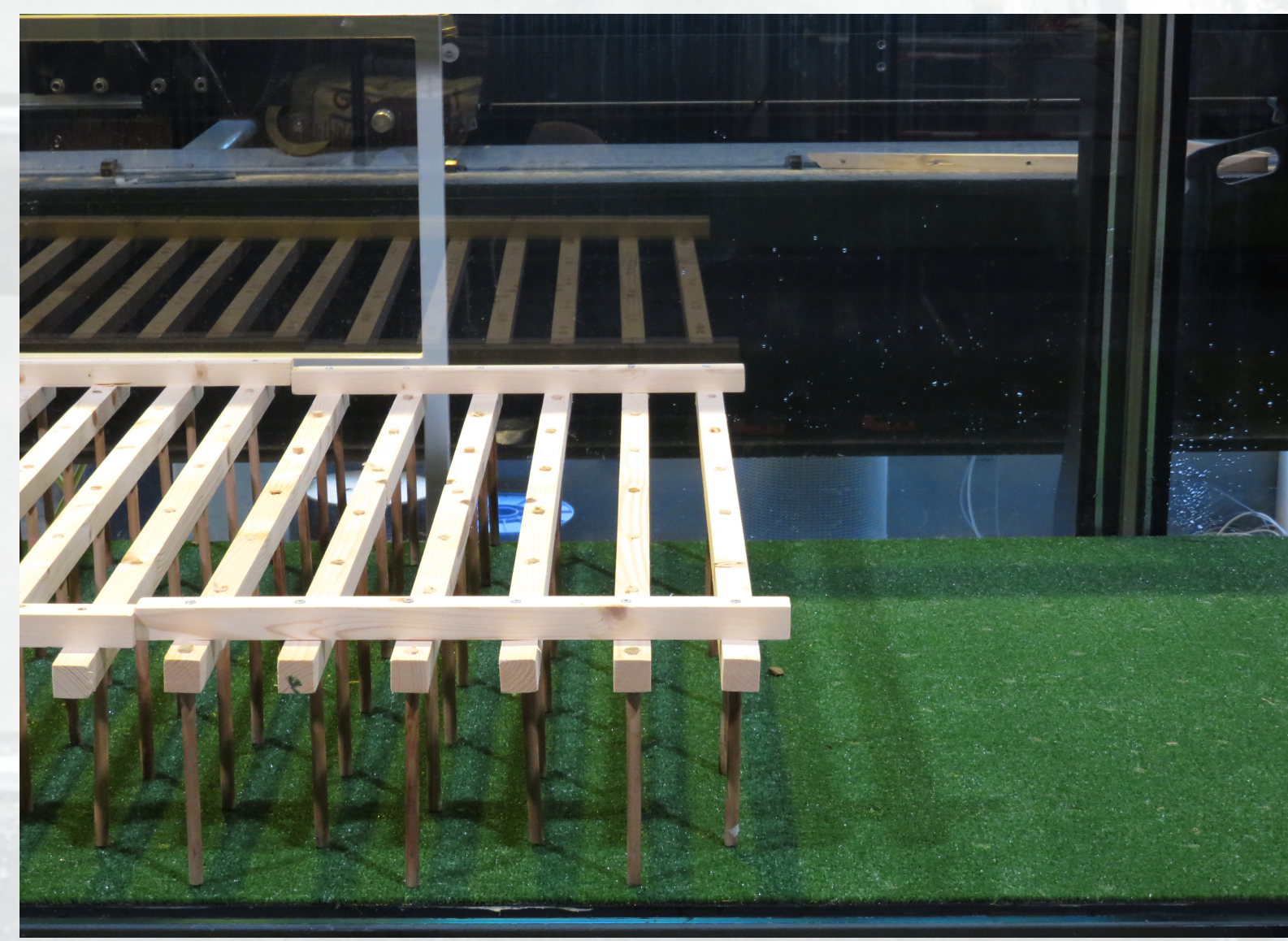
Objective

To improve the flood hazard assessment (flow depths and velocities) in floodplains by:

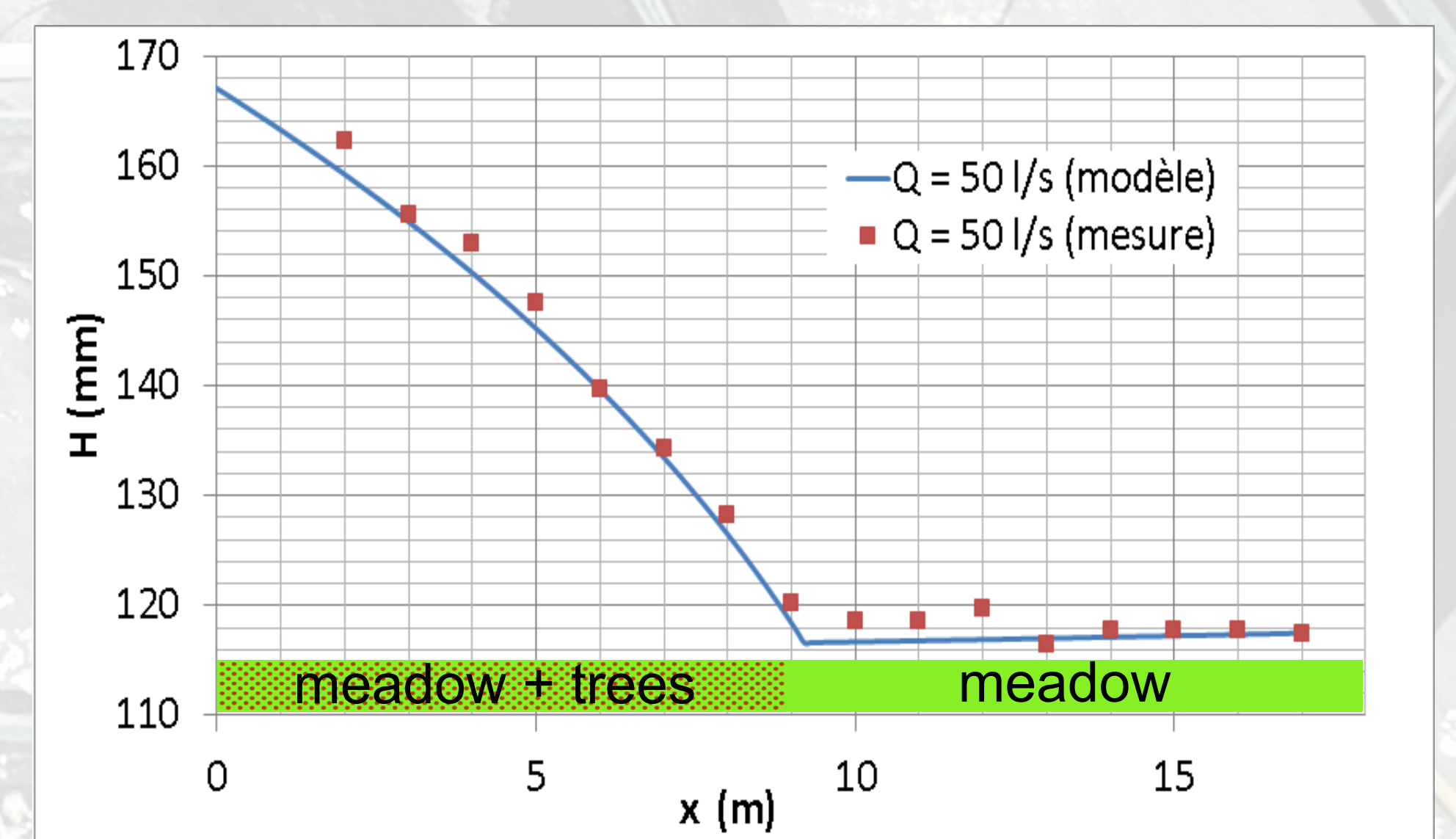
- 1) investigating in laboratory flumes the hydrodynamic processes associated with extreme flood flows for **various flow rate magnitudes** (T ranging from 100 to 10000-year) and **various land occupations**, and notably, the FLOW RESistance in the presence of **meadows**, **trees**, and **houses** (called "roughnesses")
- 2) assessing if the existing modeling practices that are used for $T \sim 100$ -year are still valid to predict the floodplain flow for $T > 1000$ -year



Flume at Irstea-Lyon (18m x 3m), floodplains covered by dense meadow and trees (PhD of V. Dupuis)



Longitudinal roughness transition
"trees + meadow (9m) / meadow (9m)"



Flow depth H versus downstream distance x . Transition "trees + meadow / meadow". 1D model against measurements

Methodology

1) **Experimental investigation** into the effects of longitudinal and lateral transitions in roughness, of vertical transition from emergence to low submergence of the roughness elements, of interspersed families of roughness elements

2) **Comparison experimental data / numerical modelling (1D to 3D)**. The classical methodologies to model flow resistance will be evaluated and improved to better capture the physics irrespective of the return period T

3) **The codes and methods will be applied to the floods at Besançon**. Events with $T = 100$, 1000 and 10000-year will be simulated with both classical and improved methods, and uncertainties on flow depths and velocities will be estimated.

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