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# A plot scale modelling investigation of infiltration processes in a landslide

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Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

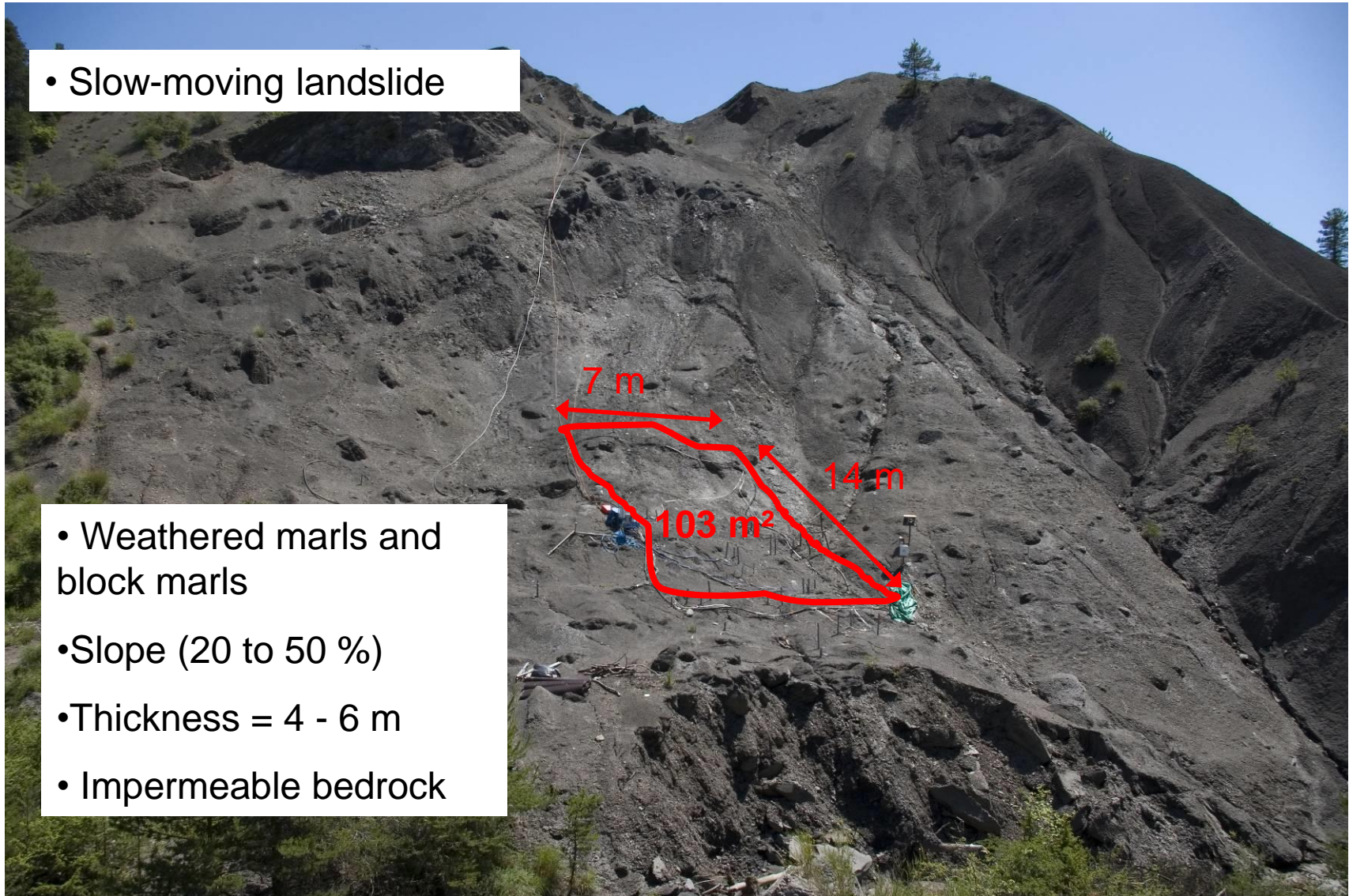
# **Outline**

1. Experimental site
2. Experimental results
3. Numerical Model
4. Modelling results
5. Conclusion and next stages

## 1. Experimental area

- Slow-moving landslide

- Weathered marls and block marls
- Slope (20 to 50 %)
- Thickness = 4 - 6 m
- Impermeable bedrock





## 2. Experimental results

### Simulated rainfall :

- $11\text{mm}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$
- 67 hours
- Water volume :  $68\text{ m}^3$

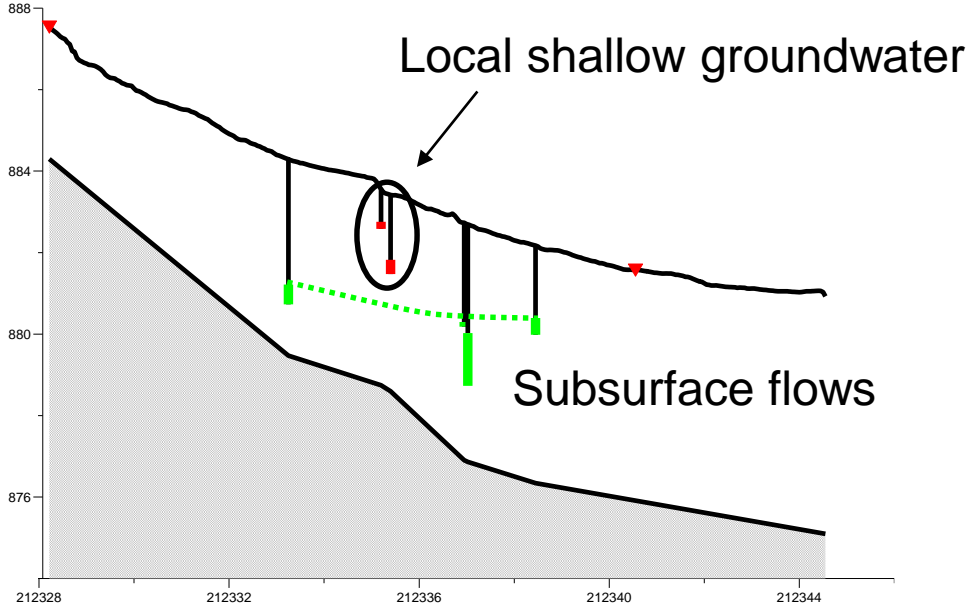
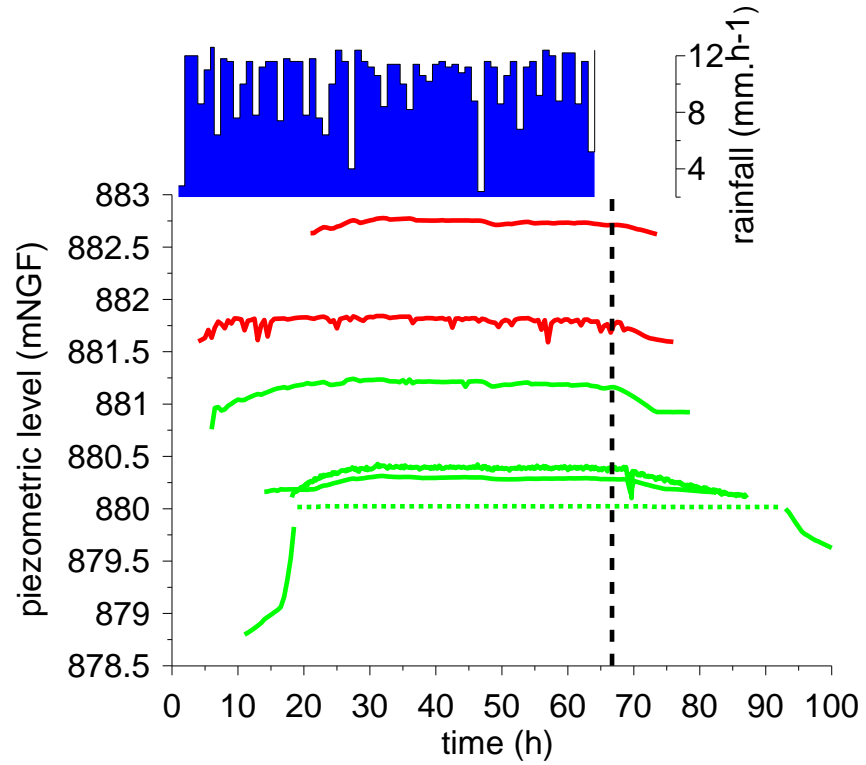


### Water Balance :

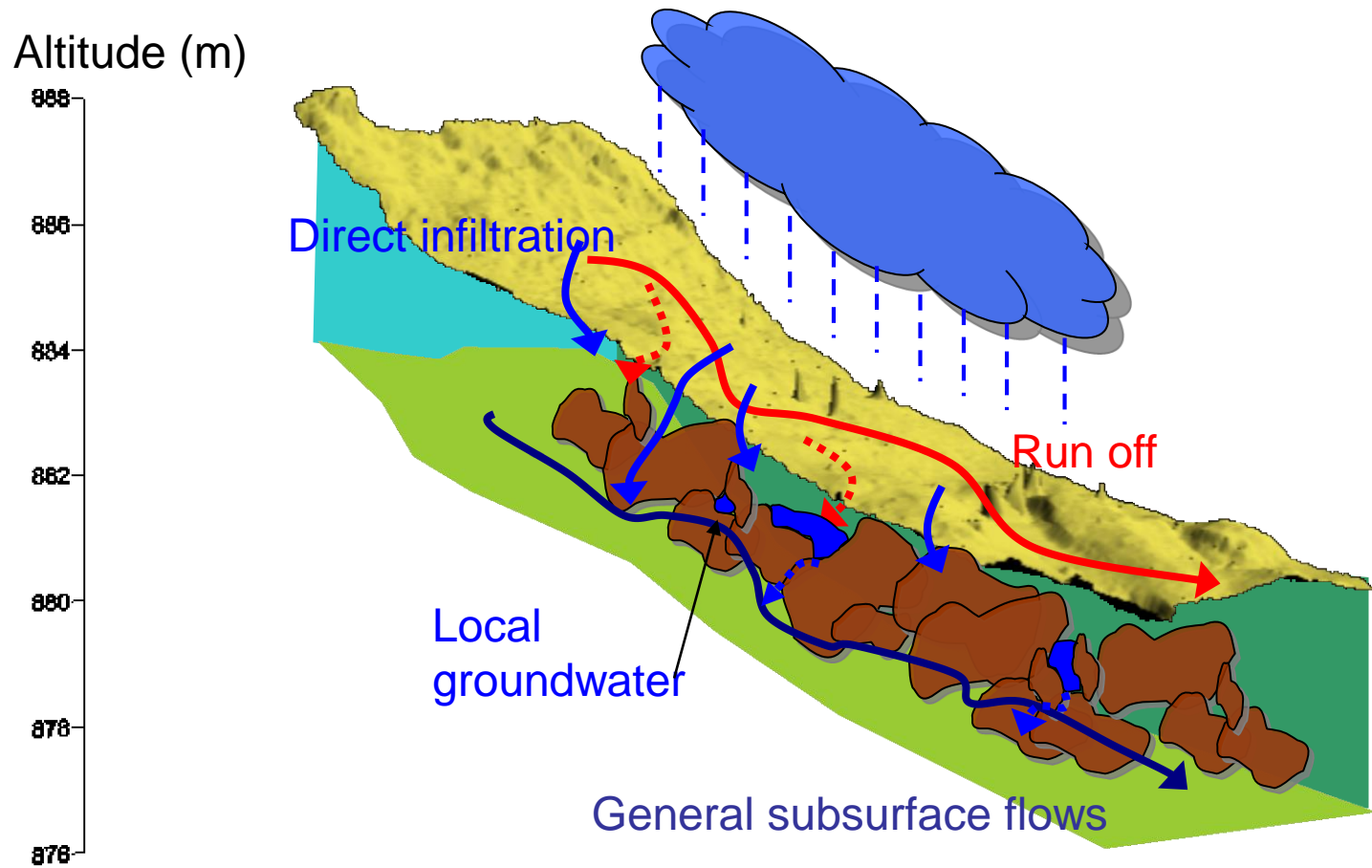
- Evaporation neglected
- Runoff = 40 %
- Infiltration = 60 %

## 2. Experimental results

### Groundwater level



## 2. Experimental results



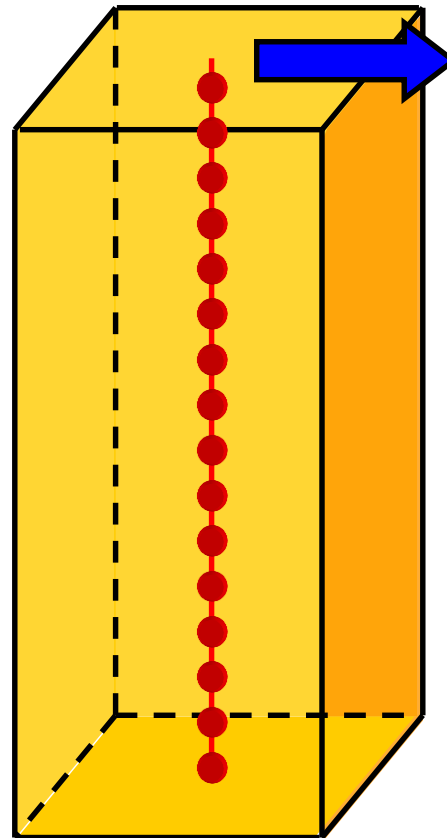
### 3. Numerical Model

One-dimensional mechanistic model

PASTIS : Prediction of Agricultural  
Solute Transfer In Soils (Lafolie, 1991)

Water transport : Richards' Equation

$$\frac{\delta\theta}{\delta t} = \frac{\delta}{\delta x} \left[ K(\theta) \left( \frac{\delta h}{\delta z} - 1 \right) \right]$$



Run off :

→  $R_{s,max}$

→ Slope

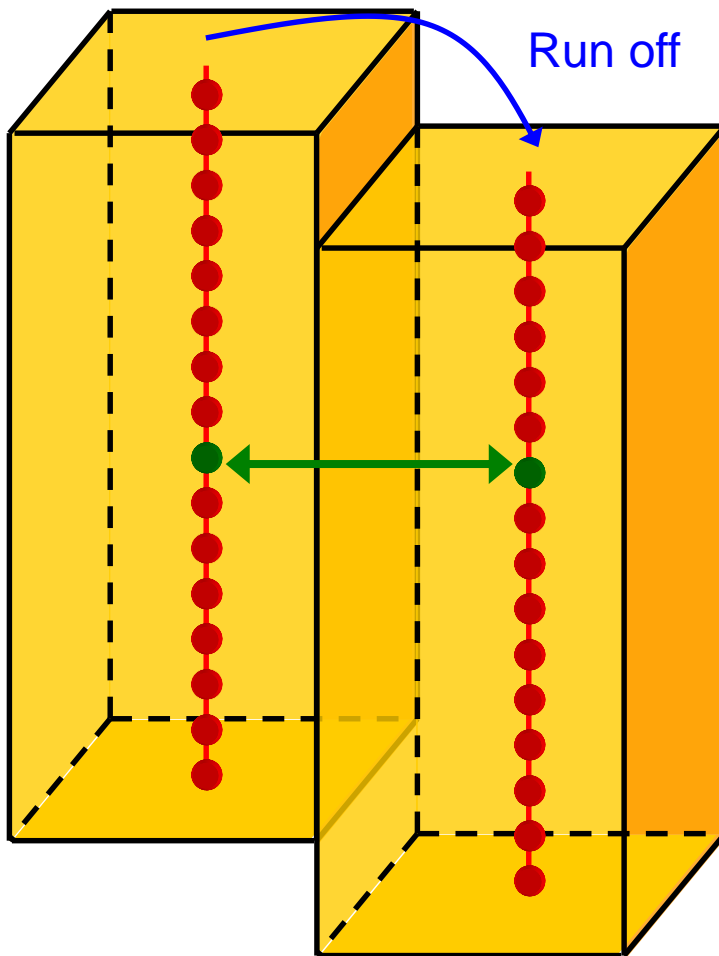
Storage capacity

$$R_{s,max}(t) = \frac{\theta_{max}}{\rho} DM(t)$$



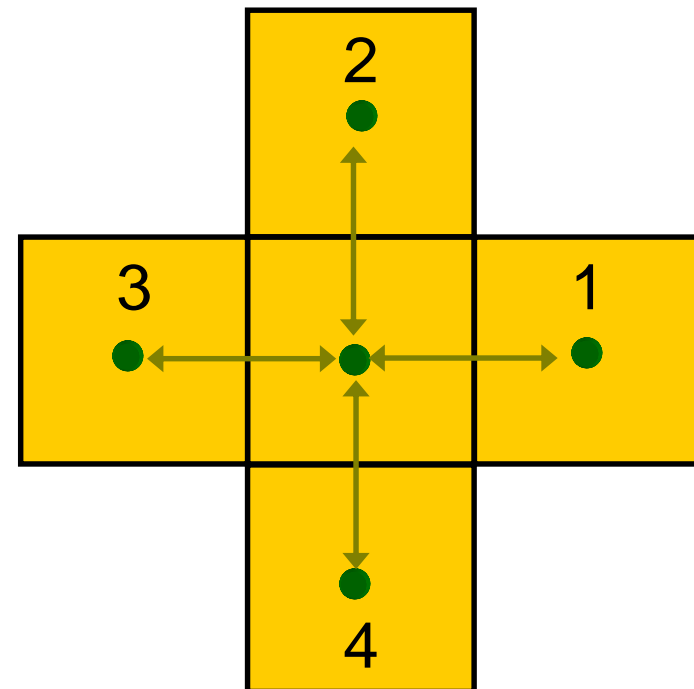
### 3. Numerical Model

PASTIS « 3D » Juxtaposition of columns 1D which interacting simultaneously



$$\frac{\delta\theta}{\delta t} = \frac{\delta}{\delta x} \left[ K(\theta) \left( \frac{\delta h}{\delta z} - 1 \right) \right] + S \left[ \beta K_{mean} \frac{\delta h}{(\delta x)^2} \right]$$

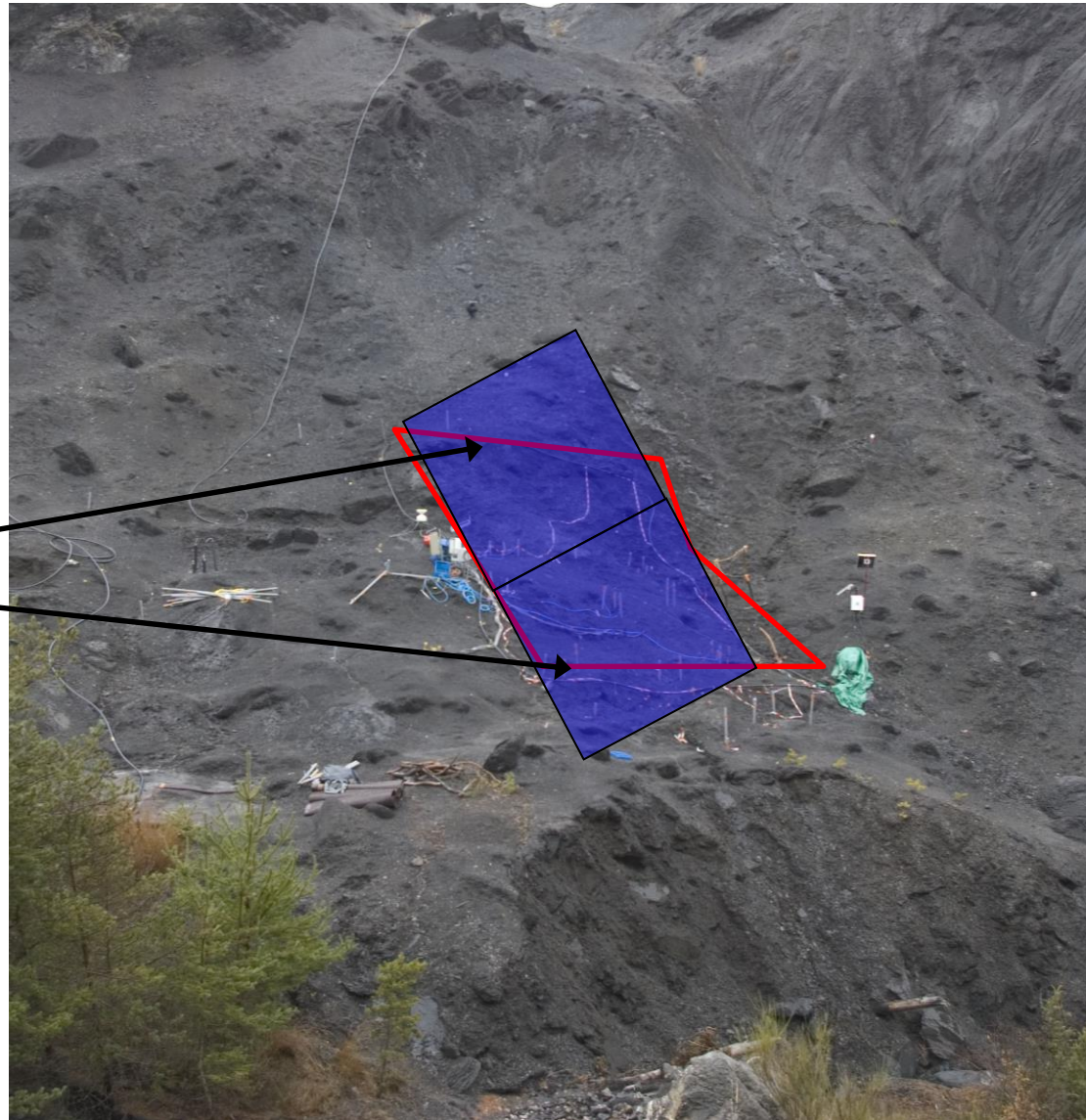
Exchange function



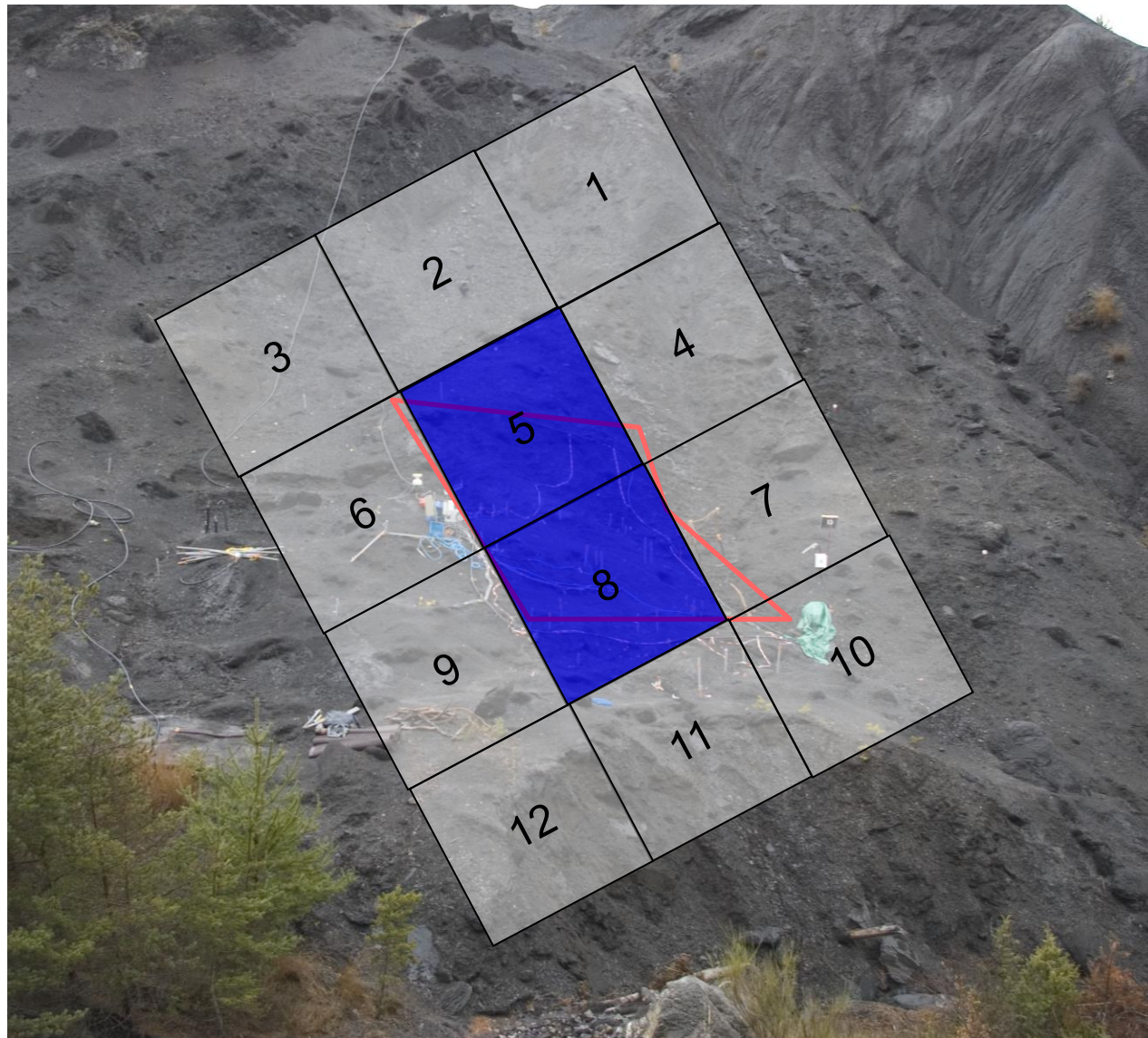


## 4. Modelling results

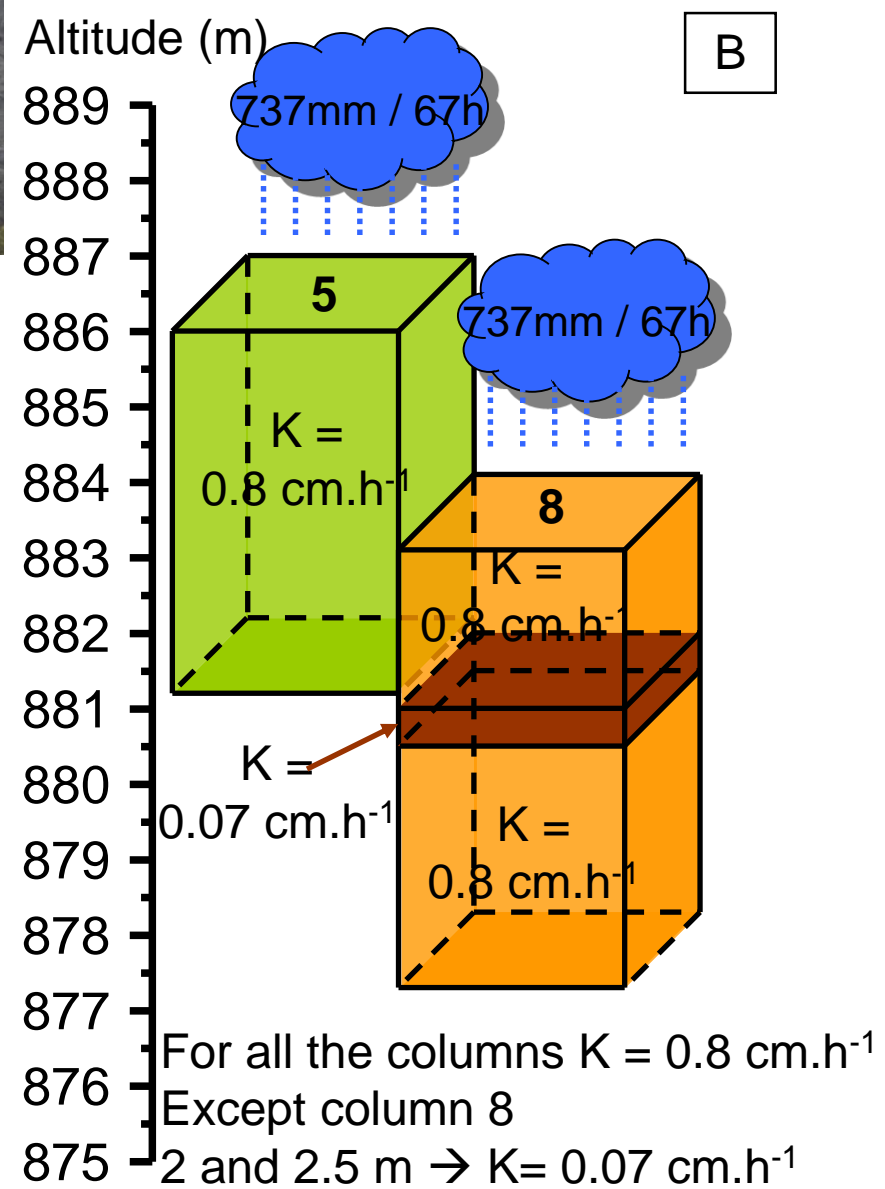
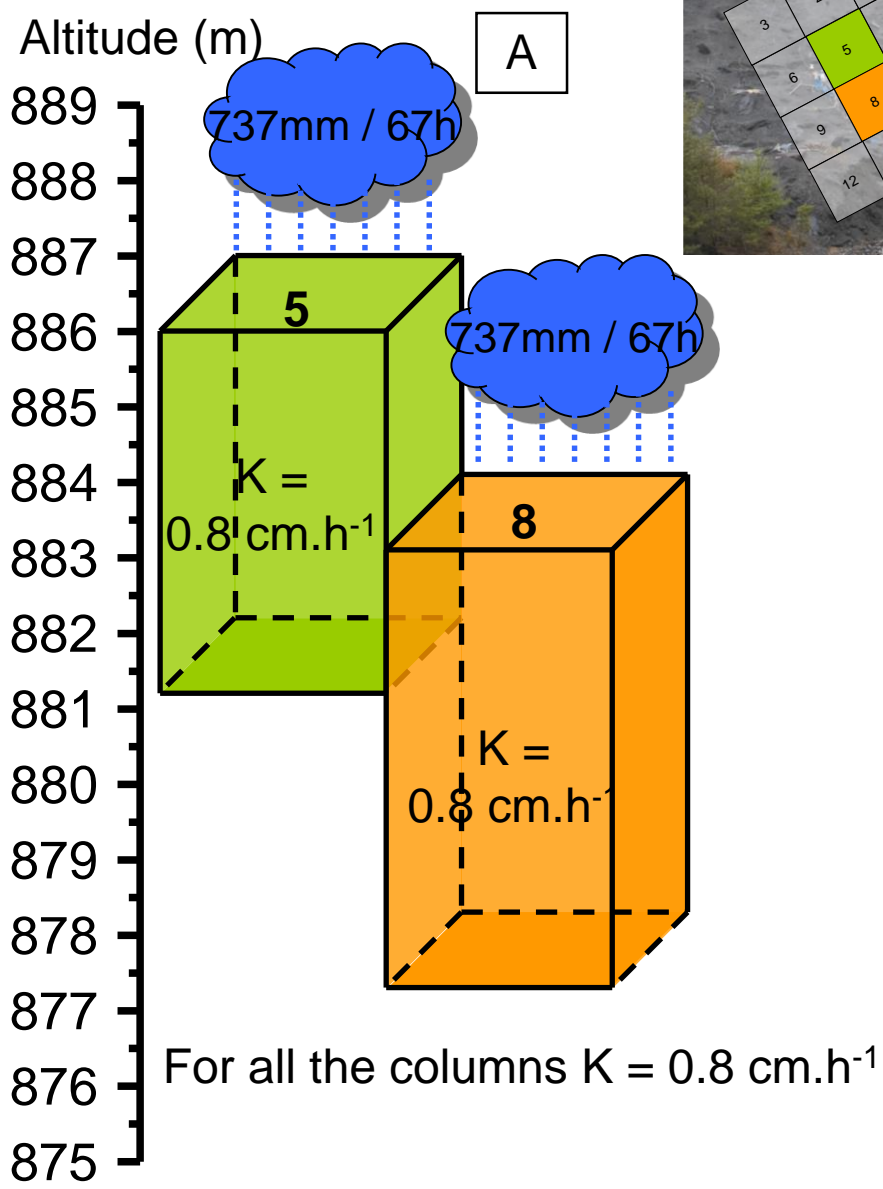
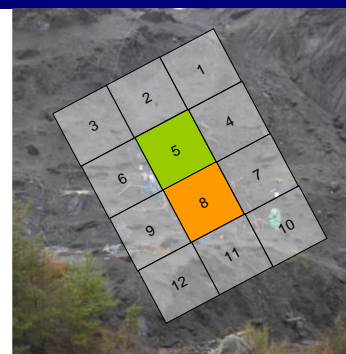
Sprinkling area =  
2 cells  $7\text{m} \times 7\text{m}$



## 4. Modelling results

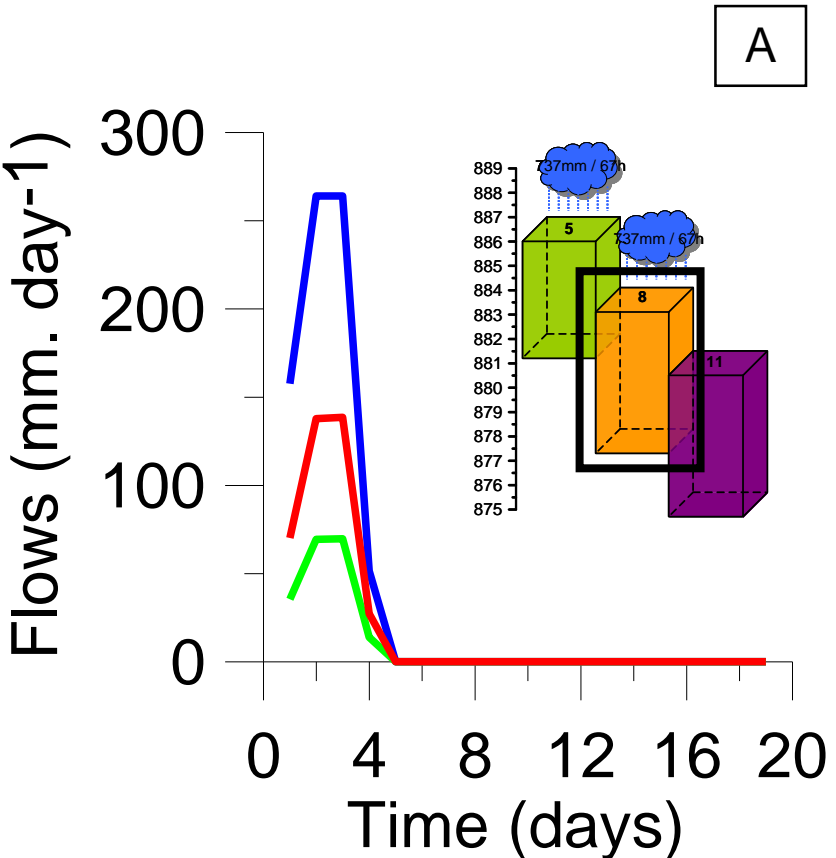


### 4. Modelling results

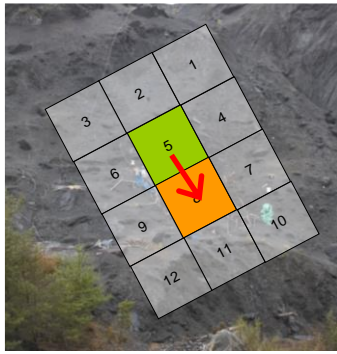




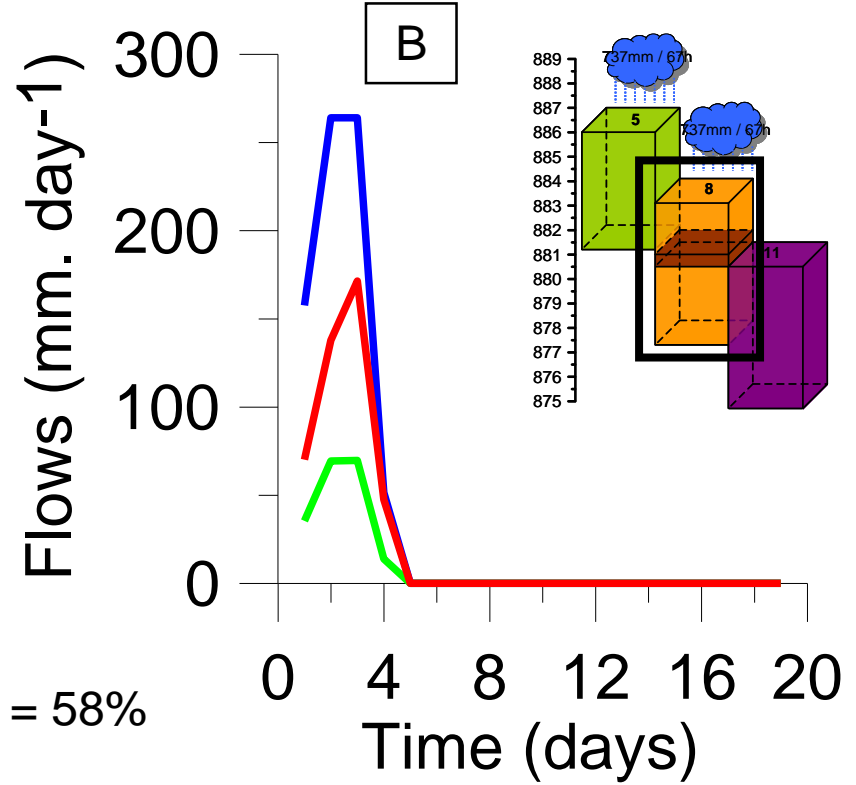
### 4. Modelling results



Runoff = 50%



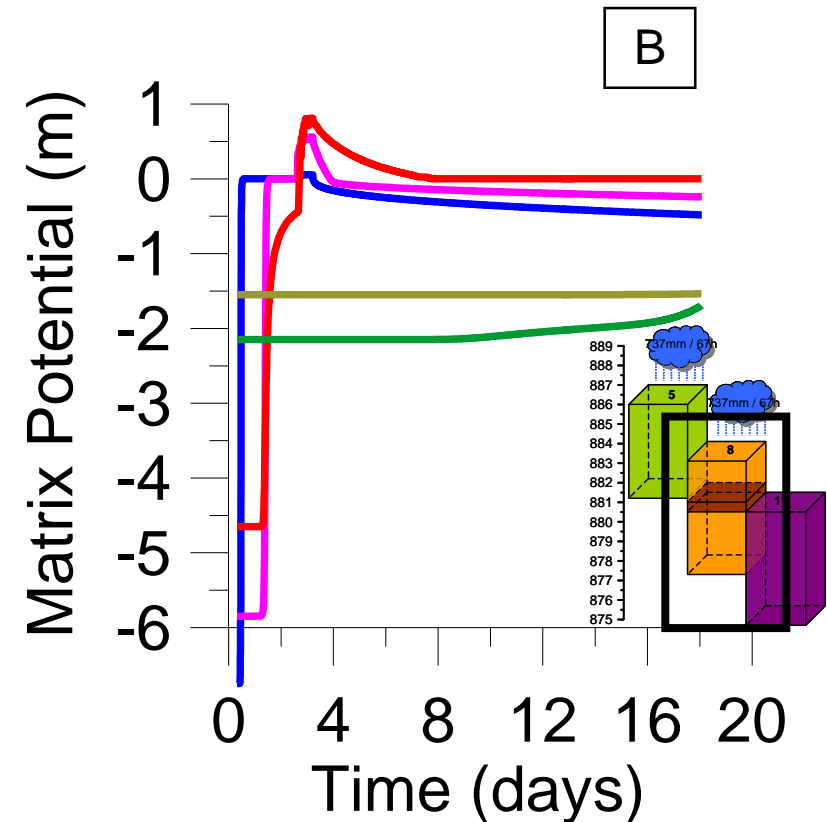
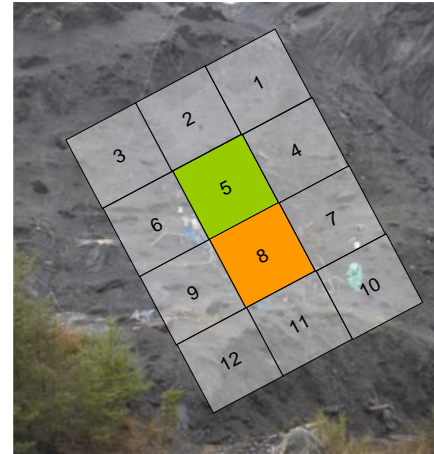
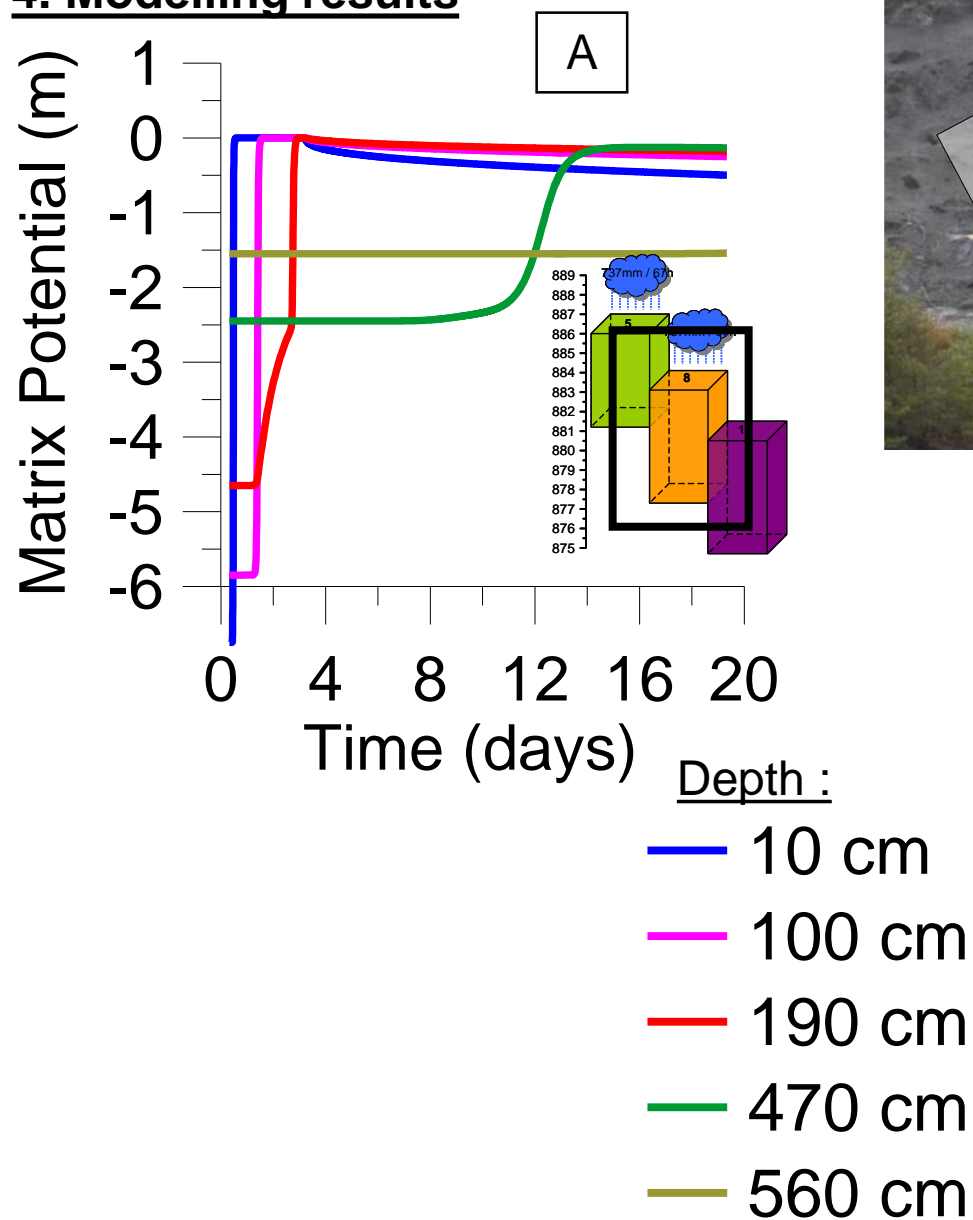
- Rainfall
- Surface inflow
- Surface outflow



Runoff = 58%



### 4. Modelling results



## **5a. Conclusion**

- Ability of the model to reproduce the right processes and right orders of magnitude without calibration
- Area and depth distribution of marl blocks needed to define the boundary conditions of the system
- Richard's equation inappropriate to simulate observations

## **5b. Next work**

- Implementation of the blocks distribution from additional field data (ongoing)
- Refining the grid for a model application extended to 18 columns  $2.3 \text{ m} \times 2.3 \text{ m}$
- Including preferential pathways in the model structure
- Combining with non reactive solute transport (tracers)

## **5c. Expected results**

- Improving the water balance estimation
- Improving subsurface flows quantification
- Water residence time