



U.S. ARMY

CE-QUAL-W2 MODEL UTILITIES

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CE-QUAL-W2 Workshop

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US Army Corps
of Engineers



Environmental Systems
Modeling Team



Presentation Overview

We will cover the most important utilities included in the CE-QUAL-W2 v45 download:

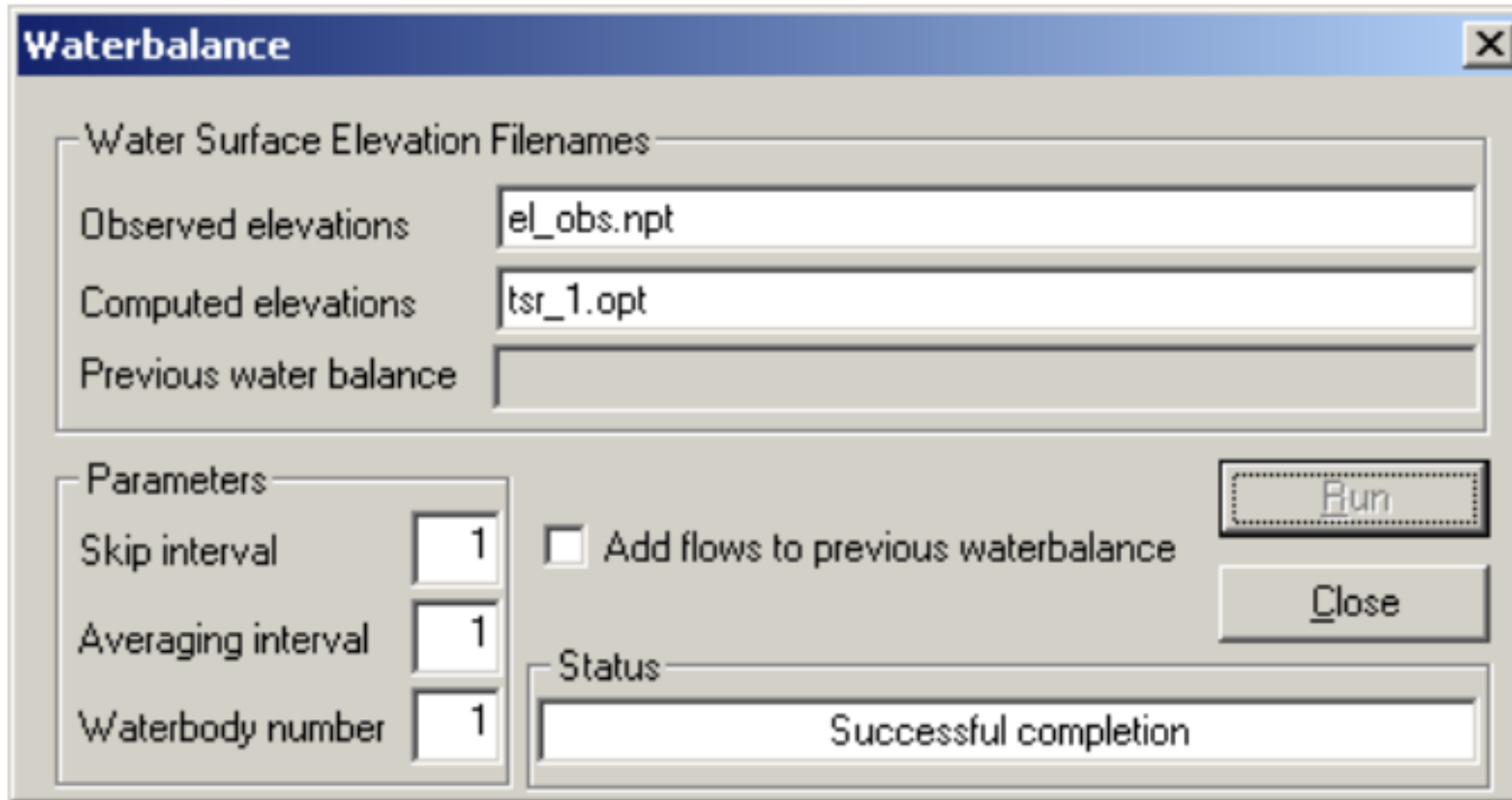
- Version 4.5
 - ▶ Waterbalance
 - ▶ W2tools post-processor
 - ▶ Control File Version Converter
 - ▶ Excel Macro
- Previous versions
 - ▶ W2Control GUI
- Features under development
 - ▶ Control file parser
 - ▶ Python .xism to .csv converter

Water Balance Utility

- **Waterbalance.exe** is one of the most important W2 utilities:
 - ▶ Calculates ungauged flows by comparing the stages calculated by W2 at a flow control structure such as a dam or gate, with observed stages from a real-life gage.
 - ▶ Closely resembles the ungauged flow utility in HEC-RAS.
- From the Model Utilities user-manual:

*The water balance utility can be used for lakes and reservoirs in which water surface elevations are a function of inflows and controlled outflows from the system. The utility computes the flows necessary to match observed water surface elevations (typically taken at the dam) and outputs them to the **qwb.opt** file. This file is composed of a Julian date and an inflow (m³ sec⁻¹).*

Water Balance Utility



The image shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Waterbalance". It has a standard title bar with a close button (X). The dialog is divided into several sections. The top section, "Water Surface Elevation Filenames", contains three text input fields: "Observed elevations" with the value "el_obs.npt", "Computed elevations" with the value "tsr_1.opt", and "Previous water balance" which is empty. Below this is a "Parameters" section containing three spin boxes: "Skip interval" set to 1, "Averaging interval" set to 1, and "Waterbody number" set to 1. To the right of these spin boxes is a checkbox labeled "Add flows to previous waterbalance" which is currently unchecked. Further right are two buttons: "Run" and "Close". At the bottom of the dialog is a "Status" section with a text area displaying "Successful completion".

Waterbalance

Water Surface Elevation Filenames

Observed elevations: el_obs.npt

Computed elevations: tsr_1.opt

Previous water balance:

Parameters

Skip interval: 1

Averaging interval: 1

Waterbody number: 1

☐ Add flows to previous waterbalance

Run

Close

Status: Successful completion

Figure 2. Dialog box for water balance utility if successful completion.

Water Balance Utility – How to adjust the model after running

Iterative Process: We re-run the water balance utility with added inflows each time, producing an output file resembling the illustration below:



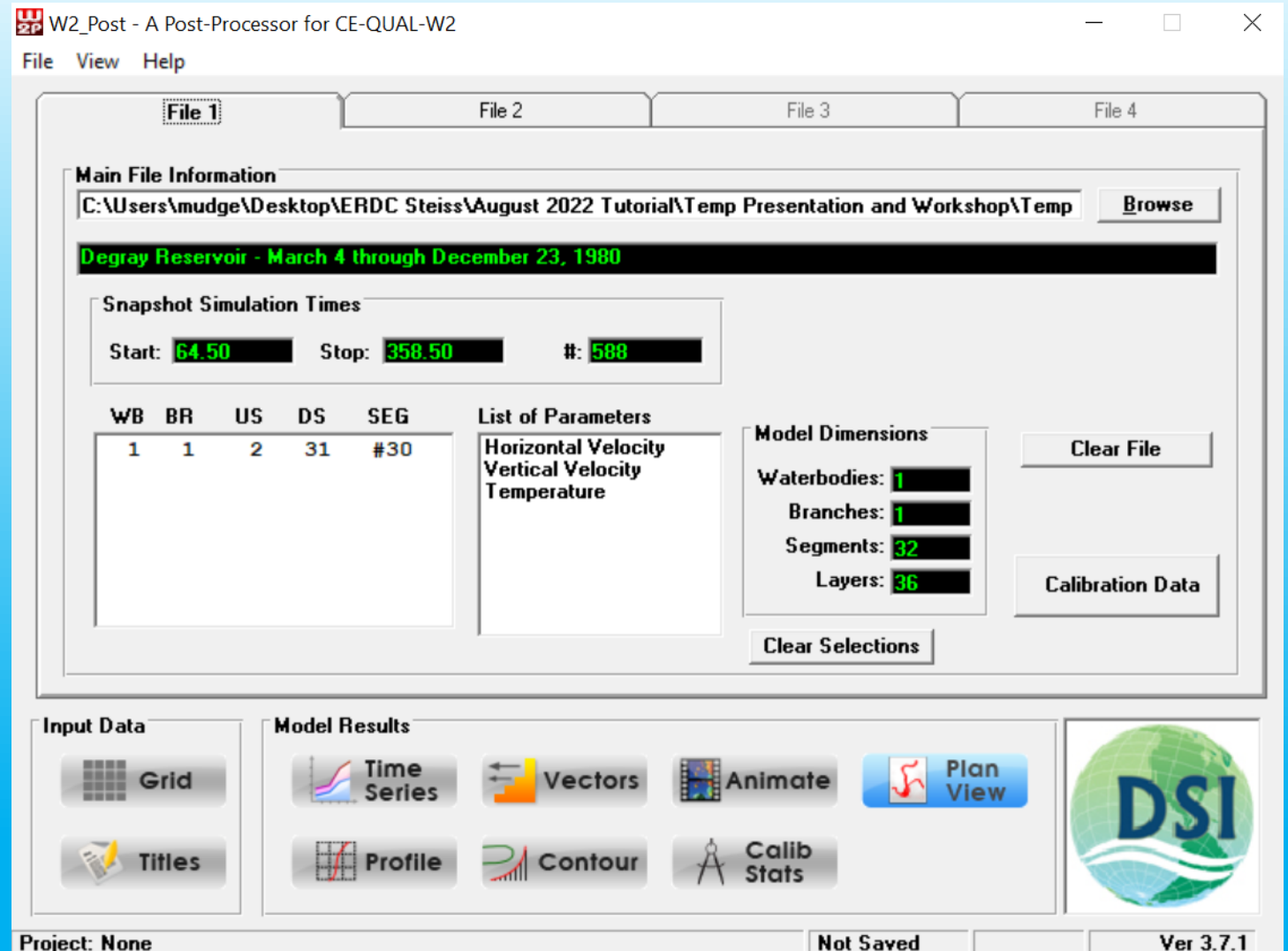
Computed flow to complete water balance

1	1
JDAY	QWB
64.500	0.00
358.700	0.00

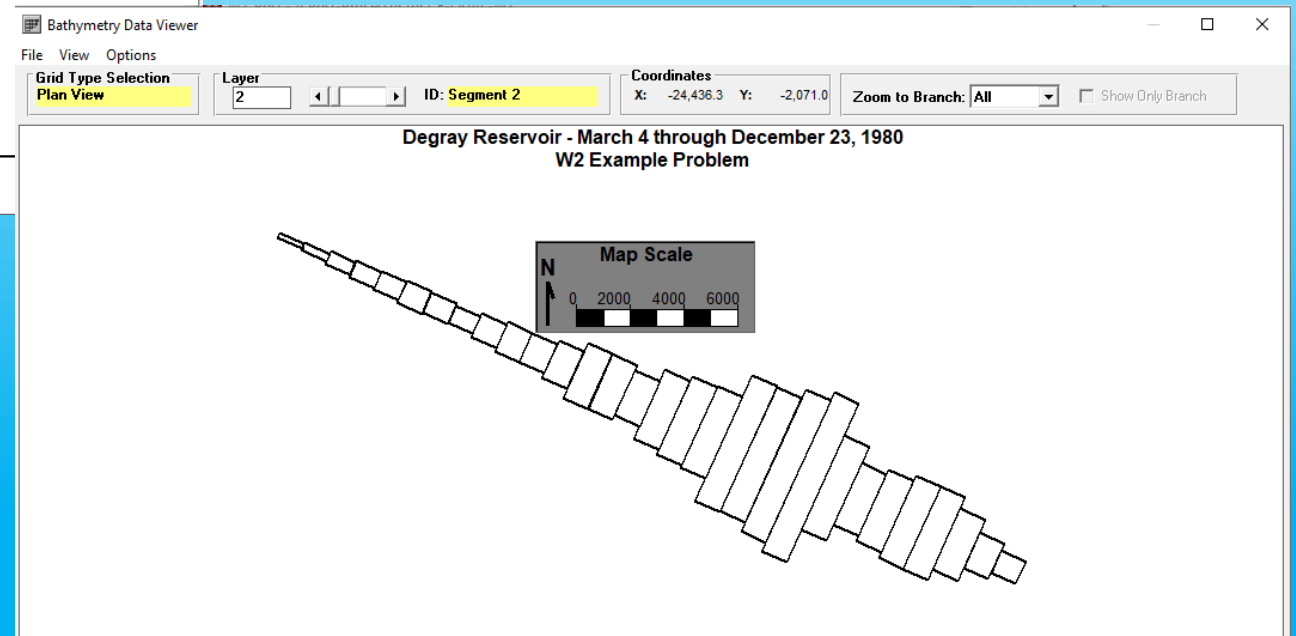
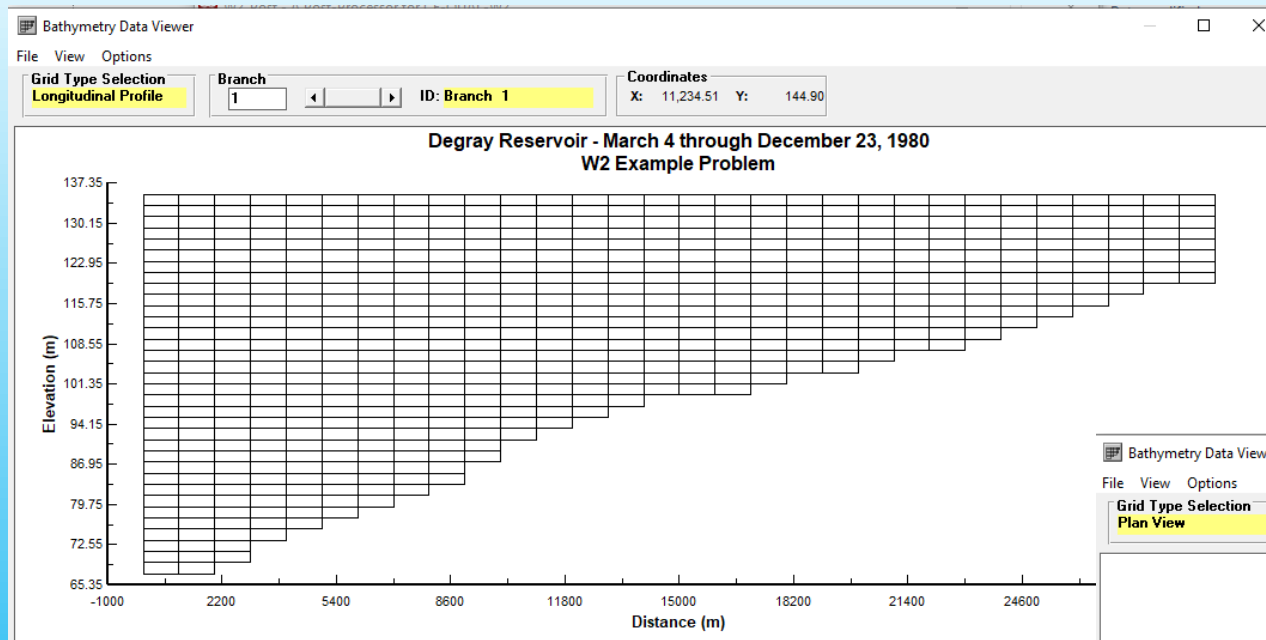
- Computed flows can be negative, indicating underestimated outflow or overestimated inflow.
- Inflows are typically added as distributed inflow, though not always the most accurate.
 - It is good to run sensitivity analysis on different ways to add/subtract flows.
- Any additional flows need to have associated temperature and WQ concentrations.
- Subtracted flows will have temperature and WQ concentrations equal to cell from which flows are removed.

W2tools Post-Processor

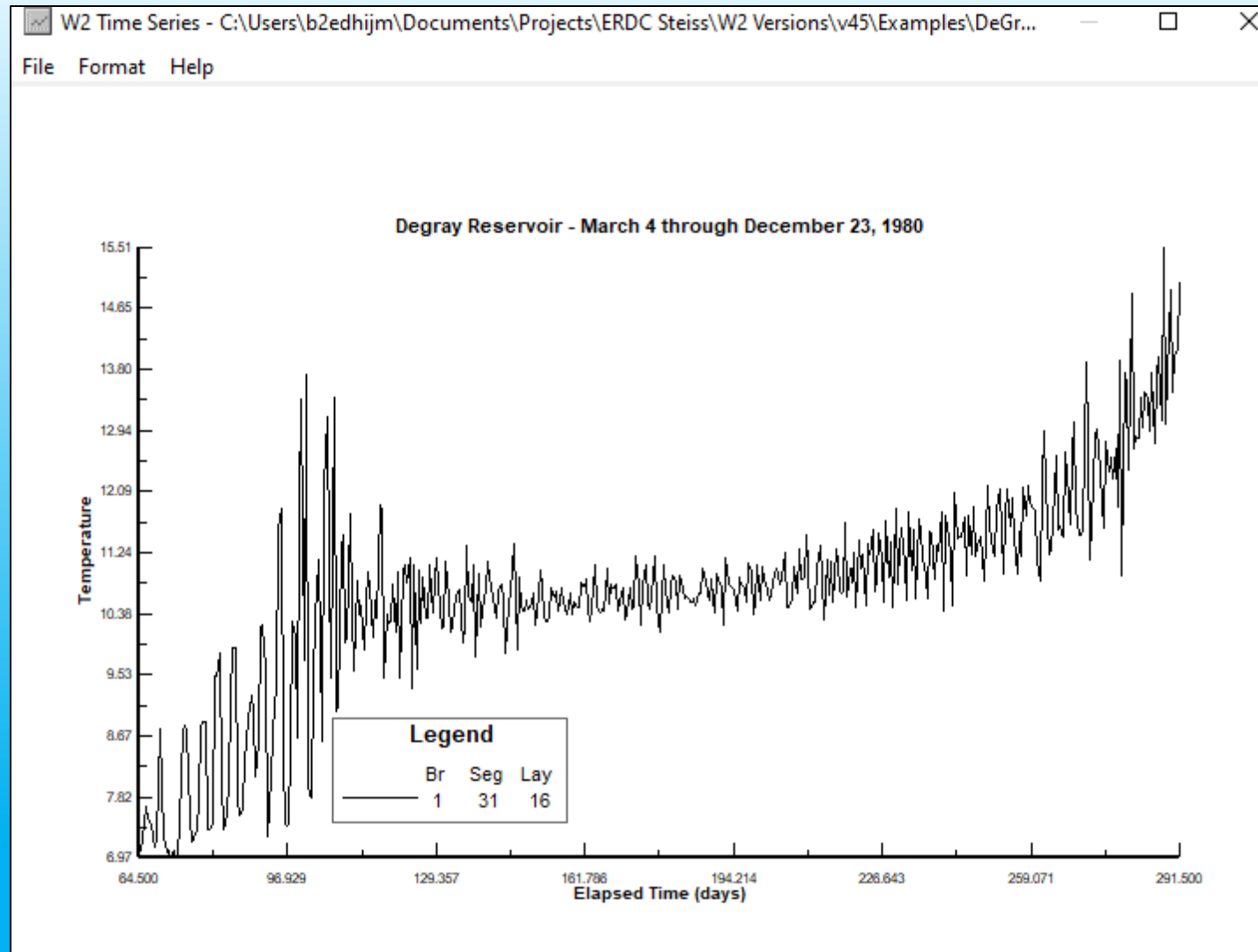
- W2_Post is a CE-QUAL-W2 post-processing tool created by DSI which reads in a binary file.
- The name of the binary file is specified in the W2 control file.
- This binary file contains nearly all data generated during the model run.



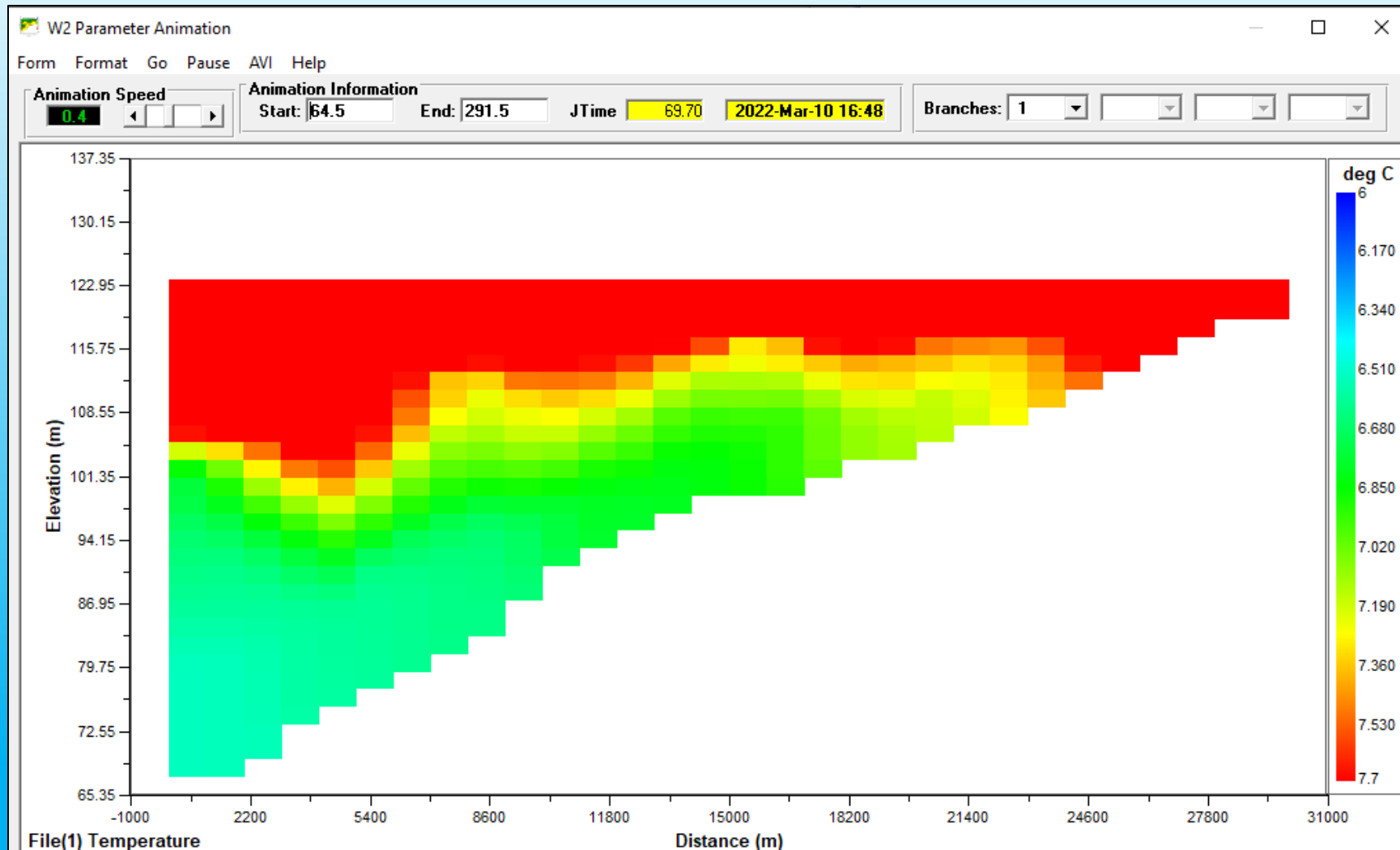
Bathymetry Viewer



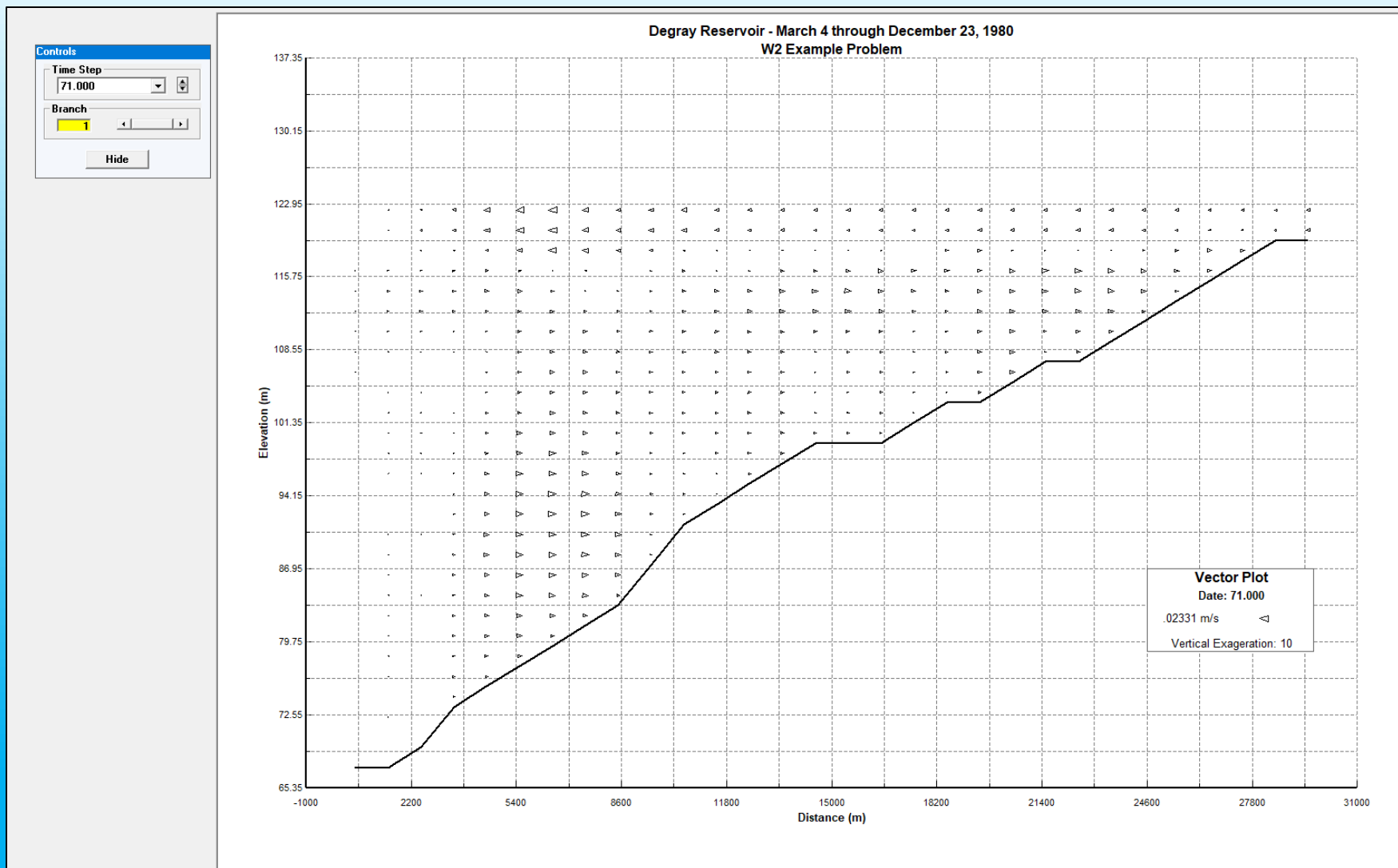
Temperature Time Series – Example View



Contour Plotting and Animations



Vector Field Plotting



Output Visualization Future Work

- Visualizing Python-based output using built-in plotting tools.
- Using YAML configuration files, essentially streamlining the organization of output files and making them easy for humans to read
- Making output compatible with USACE security settings

A case-study of these tools will be presented following this lecture.

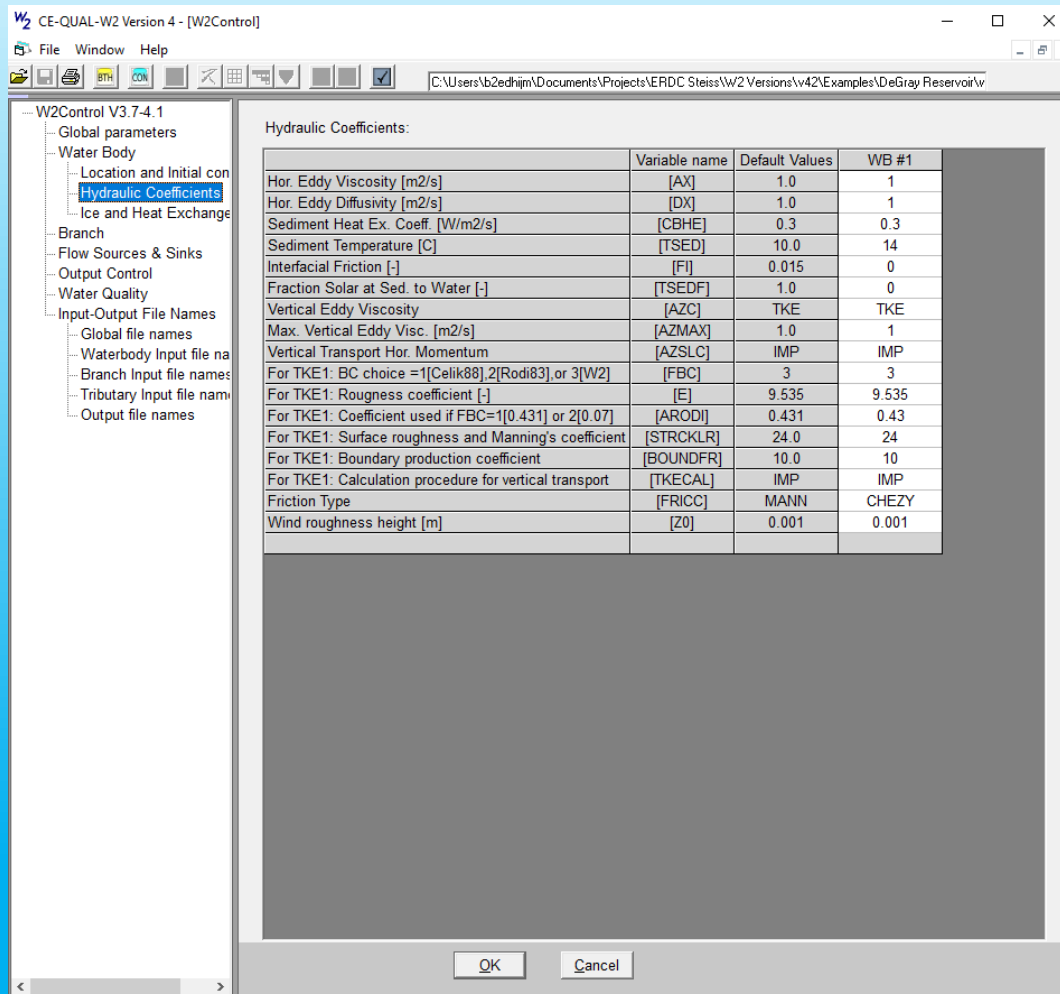
Control File Converter, from v3.7– 4.2 to v4.5

- Feature allows conversion of legacy models to version 4.5.
- Different model versions produce slightly different outputs.
- Additional details will be offered in tomorrow's workshop.

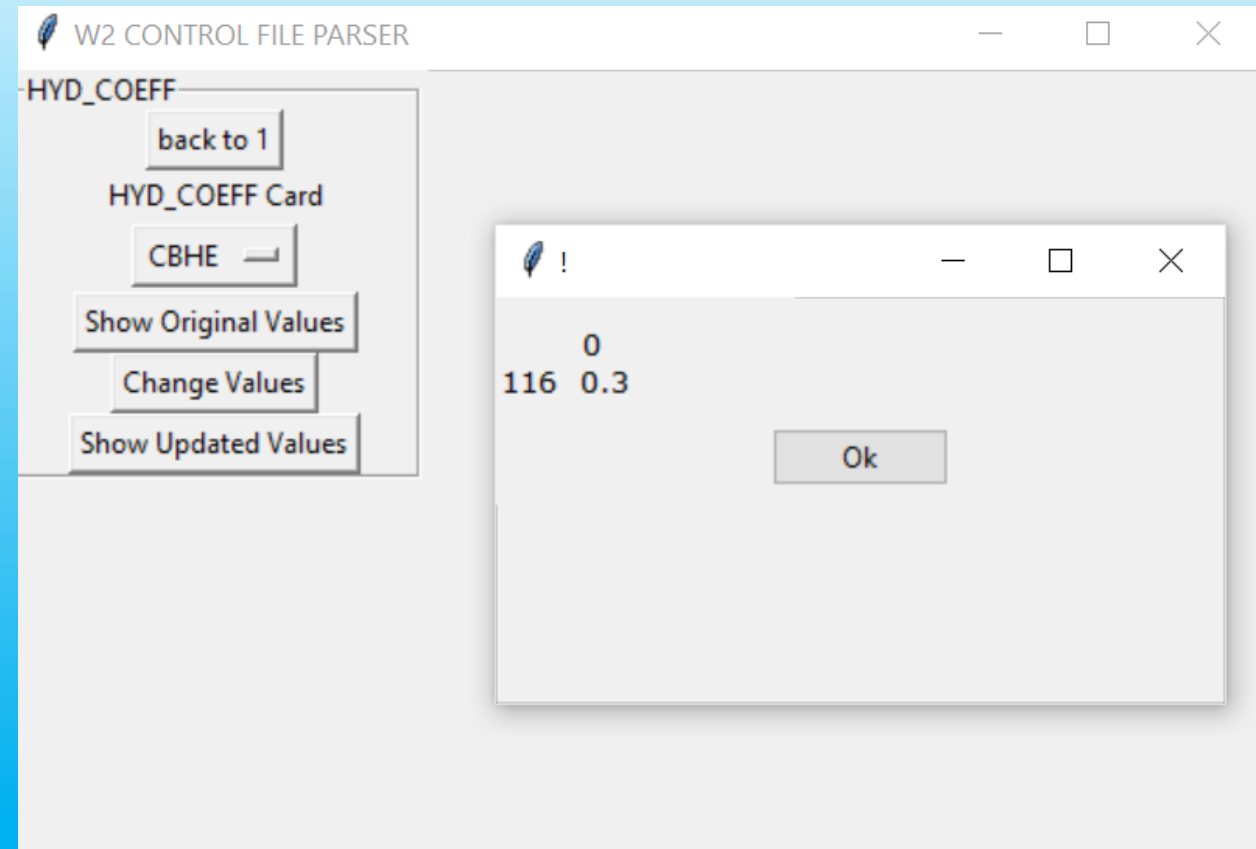
This visual basic macro in Excel allows us trim the heavily annotated .xslm file to an input file readable by the model:

W2Control GUI

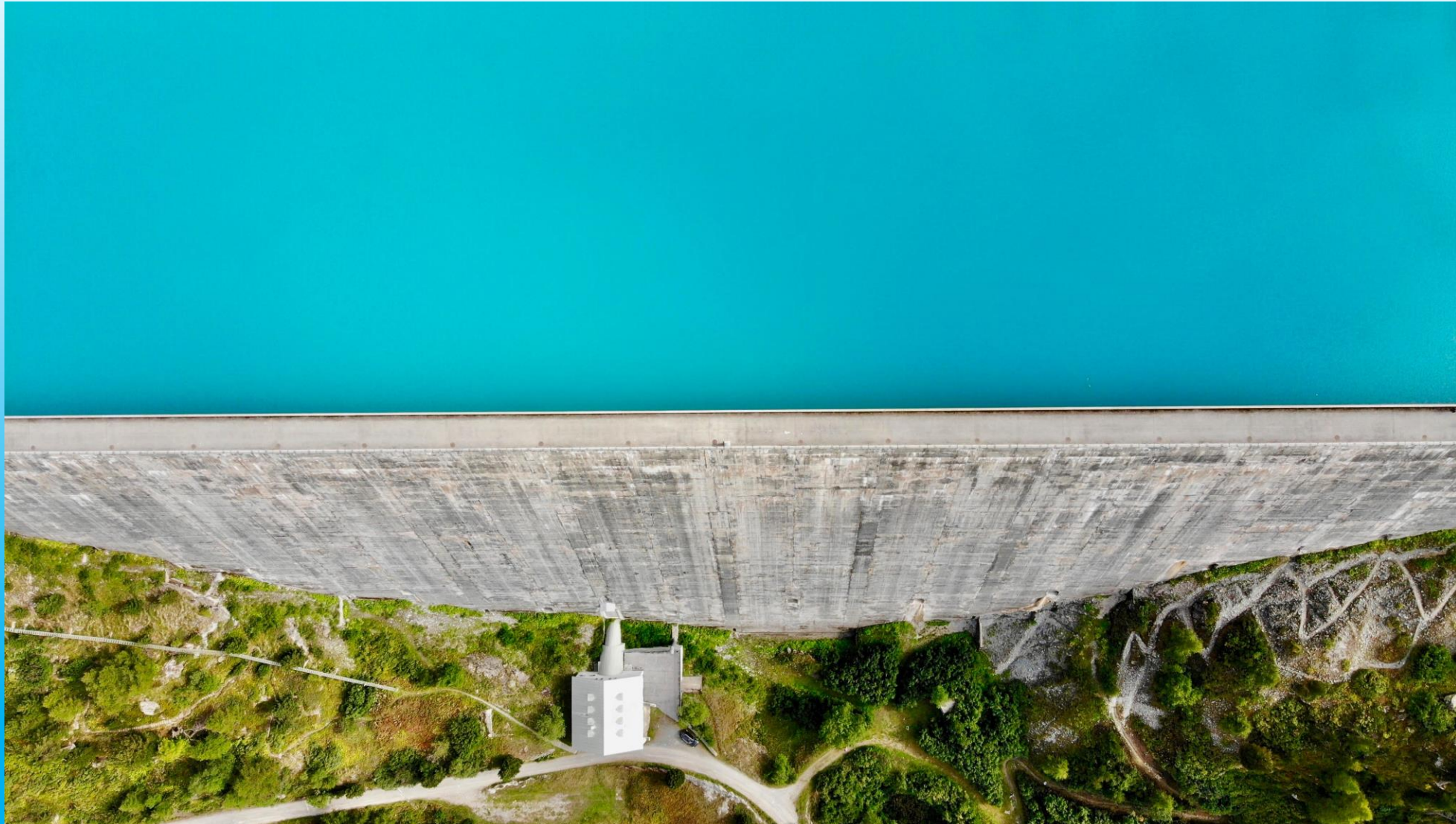
The interface prior to the .xslm file absorbs the .npt file:



A Python tool under development will move the control file .csv in a similar way to the W2Control GUI:s:



Questions?



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