

## A numerical modeling technique designed for error insight

**With application to 1D shallow-water flow  
simulations (rivers, channels, pipes, ...)**

Mart Borsboom

# Contents

- Examples of 1D shallow-water flow applications
- The 1D shallow-water flow model equations
- Computational model: the components
- Numerical implementation: properties
- Two-step numerical modeling approach
- Finite volume method designed for error analysis
- Test: flow over a weir (with grid adaptation)
- Application: Libyan man-made river
- Concluding remarks
- What's next

(this presentation and other info in [\Bulletin\borsb\\_m\Adaptive-grid\\_SUPSUB](#))

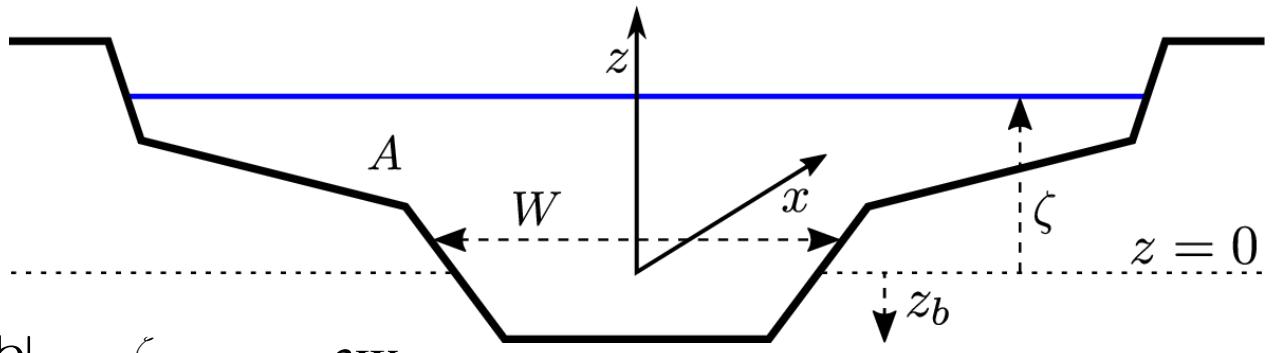
# 1D shallow-water flow applications



# 1D shallow-water equations

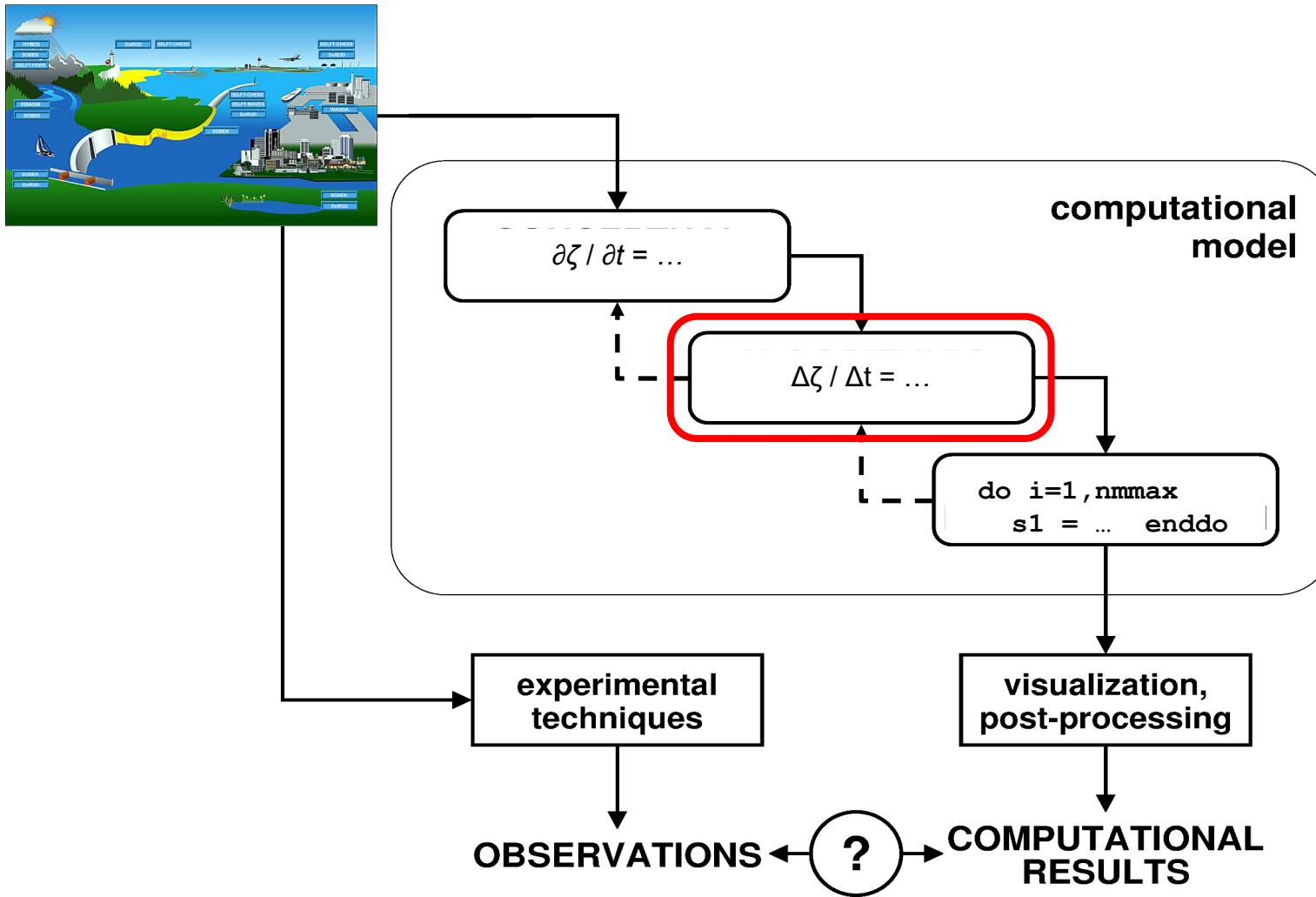
$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Q^2/A}{\partial x} + g \int_{z_b}^{\zeta} \frac{\partial W}{\partial x} \left( \frac{(\zeta - Q)}{C} \right) dz = g \frac{Q \partial Q}{C R A} = g \int_{z_b}^{\zeta} (\zeta - z) \frac{\partial W}{\partial x} dz$$



- $W = W(x, z)$  : channel width ( $W = 0$  below bottom  $z = z_b$ )
- $\zeta = \zeta(x, t)$  : free surface
- $A = \int_{z_b}^{\zeta} W dz = A(x, \zeta)$  : wetted cross-sectional area ( $\rightarrow$  effective depth  $h = A(x, \zeta)/W(x, \zeta)$ )
- $R = A/P$ : hydraulic radius ( $\pm$  average depth), with  $P$  wetted perimeter
- $Q = Q(x, t)$  : discharge ( $\rightarrow$  average velocity  $u = Q/A$  )

# Computational model: the components



this presentation is  
about the numerical  
implementation

# Computational model: the numerical implementation

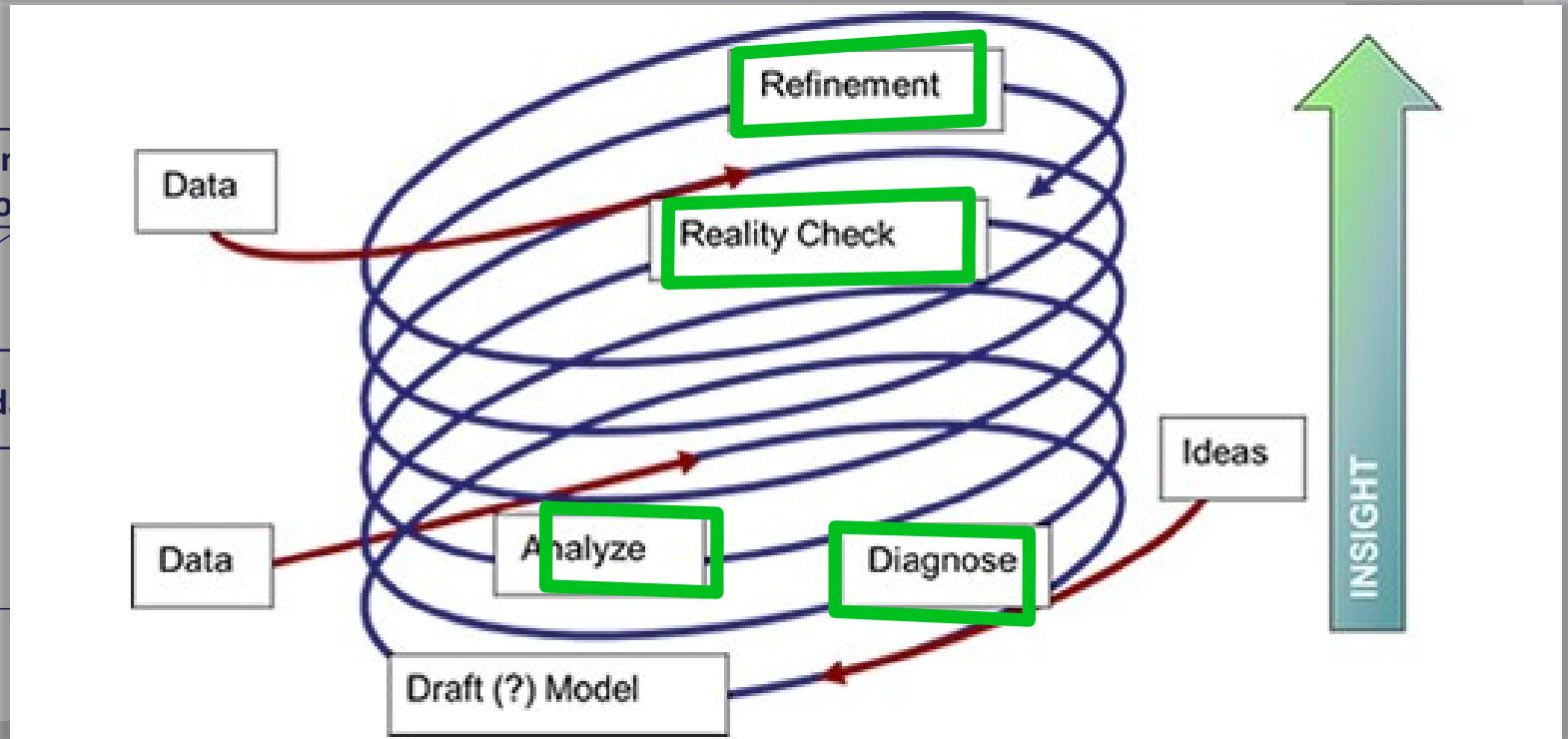
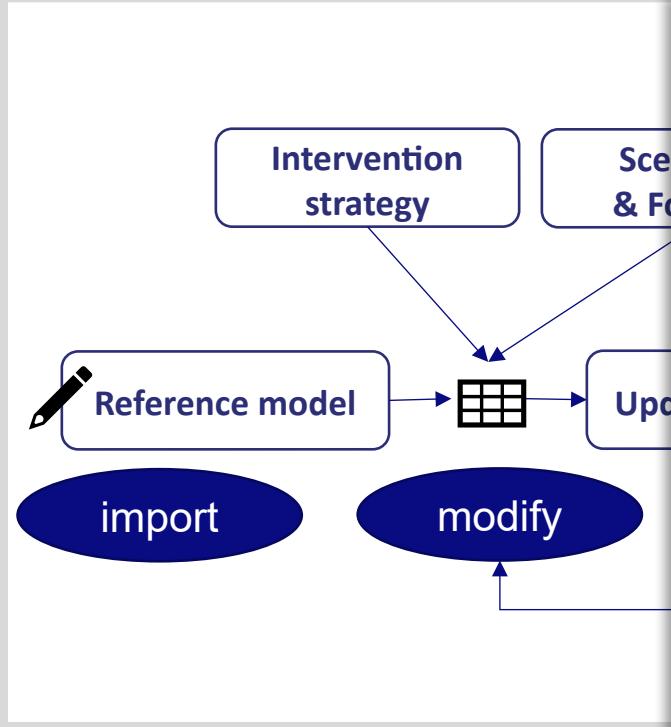
Properties that we are looking for:

- accuracy
- robustness
- efficiency/parallelizability
- flexibility/general applicability
- user friendliness, ease of use (e.g., **virtually no options**)
- relevance/fit for purpose
- reusability, extendibility, modularity (esp. for developers and maintainers)
- costs and risks (short-/long-term, in development/maintenance/applicability, ...)
  - ease of implementation
  - maintainability
  - ease of analysis
- **reliability** (insight in modeling errors), **traceability** (what to do to improve results)

# Computational Framework

provides process support for model analyst

From presentation Peter Gijsbers  
*BlueEarth Engine (Computational Framework)*  
 February 11, 2021

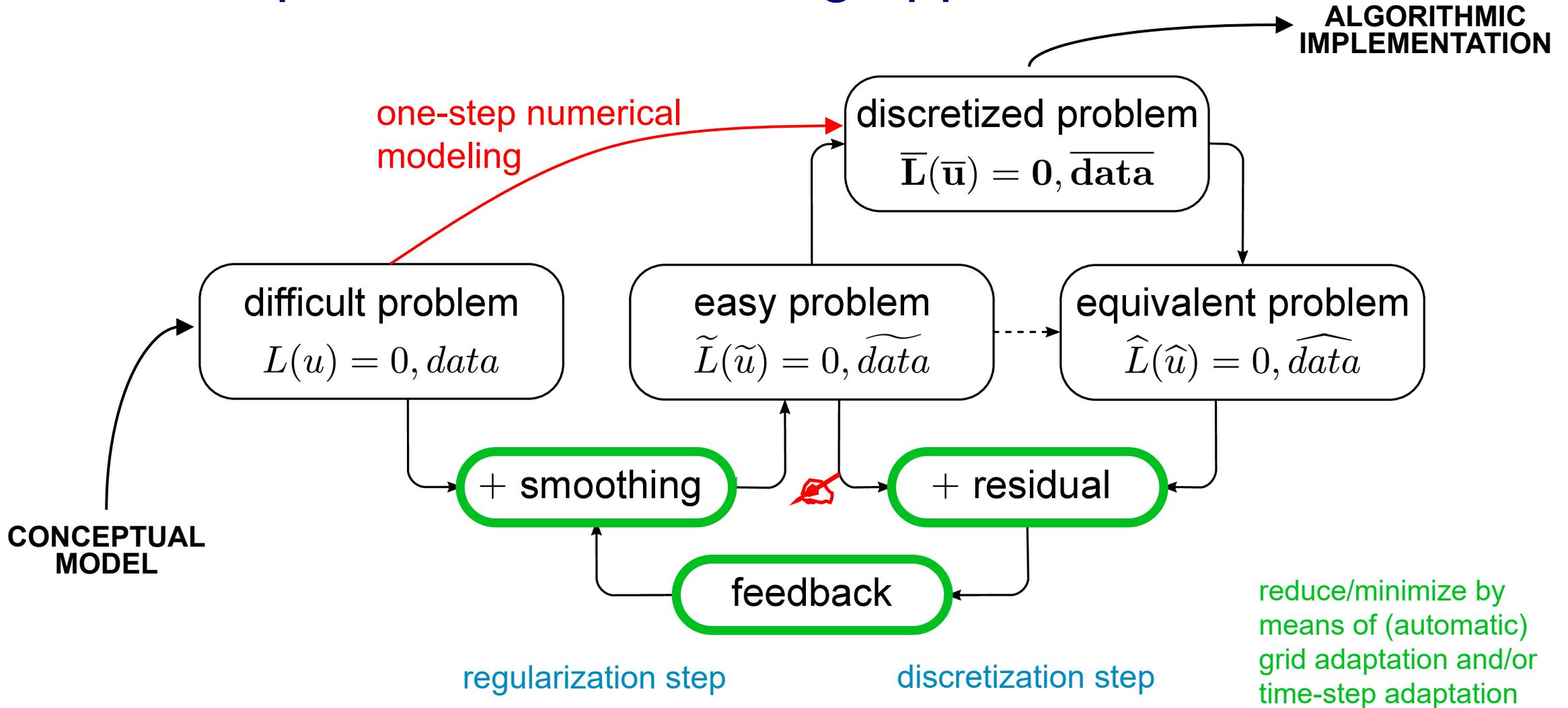


# The basic idea

1. “*... introduce (artificial) dissipative terms ... to give the shocks (MB: and other non-smooth features) a thickness ... somewhat larger than the spacing of the points of the network.*” (regularization à la LES)
2. “*Then the difference equations may be used for the entire calculation, just as though there were no shocks (MB: and other non-smooth features) at all.*” (unified numerical implementation possible)
3. “*The quantitative influence of these terms can be made as small as one wishes by choice of a sufficiently fine mesh (MB: and a sufficiently small time step) ...*” (basis for (automatic) grid adaptation and time-step adaptation)
4. “*... components whose wave-lengths are of order  $\Delta x$  (MB: and whose time scales are of order  $\Delta t$ ) are always falsified somewhat.*” (dynamic subgrid effects can NOT be simulated!)

(Von Neumann & Richtmyer, J. Appl. Phys. 1950)

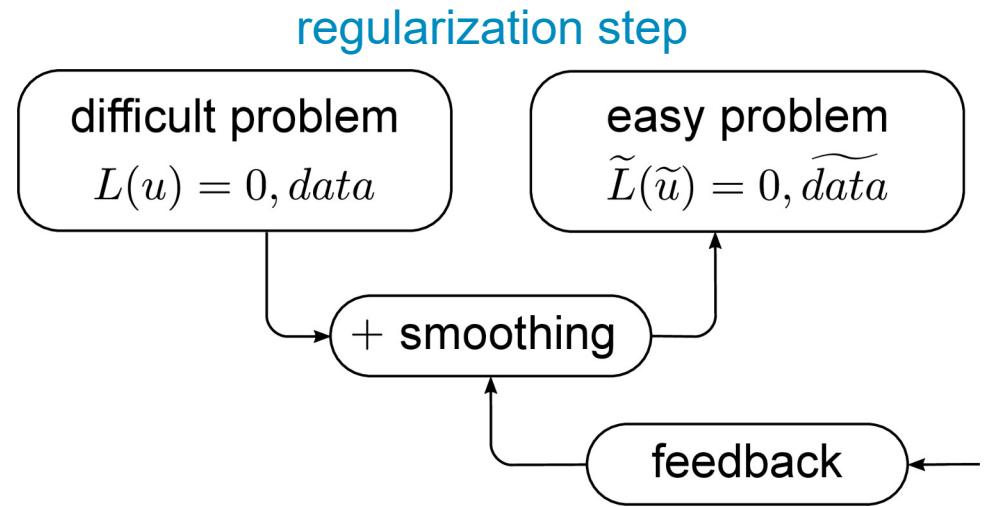
# Two-step numerical modeling approach



# Difficult 1D shallow-water equations

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{A}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \tilde{Q}}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{Q}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \tilde{Q}^2 / \tilde{A}}{\partial x} + g \tilde{A} \frac{\partial \tilde{\zeta}}{\partial x} + g \frac{\tilde{Q} |\tilde{Q}|}{C^2 R \tilde{A}} = 0 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \tilde{A} \tilde{v}_{art} \frac{\partial \tilde{Q} / \tilde{A}}{\partial x} \right)$$



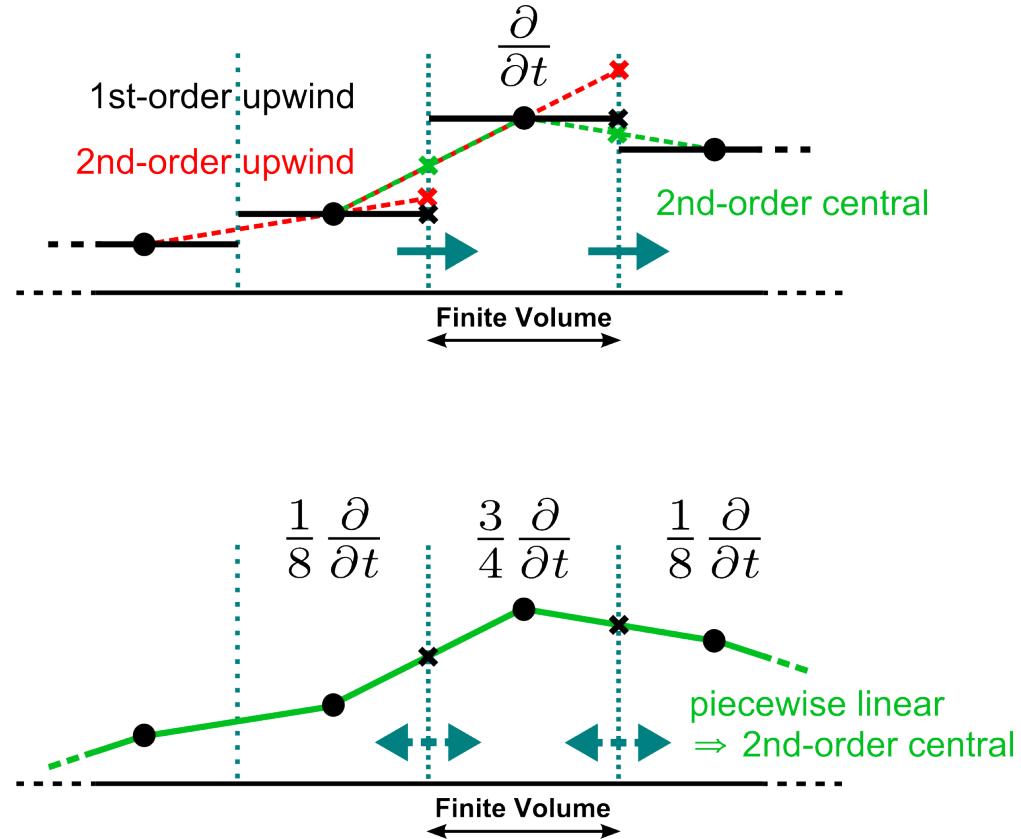
cont.eq. and mom.eq. combined to energy equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \tilde{A} \frac{\tilde{u}^2}{2} + g \int_{z_b}^{\zeta} z \tilde{W} dz \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \tilde{Q} \left( \frac{\tilde{u}^2}{2} + g \tilde{\zeta} \right) \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \tilde{Q} \tilde{v}_{art} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x} \right) - \tilde{A} \tilde{v}_{art} \left( \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x} \right)^2 - g \frac{\tilde{u}^2 |\tilde{Q}|}{C^2 R}$$

→ take  $\tilde{v}_{art} \propto \Delta x \left( \left| err \left( \sqrt{\hat{u}^2 / 2} \right) \right| + \left| err \left( \sqrt{g \hat{\zeta}} \right) \right| \right)$

# Finite volume-type collocated discretizations

- finite difference-like  
→  $\pm$  piecewise constant  $\bar{A}, \bar{Q}, \bar{\zeta}, \bar{W}, \dots$
- finite element-like  
piecewise linear  $\bar{A}, \bar{Q}, \bar{\zeta}, \bar{W}, \dots$



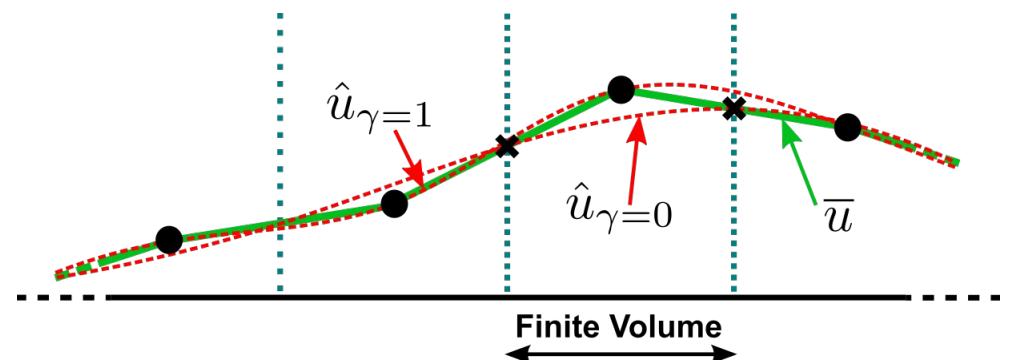
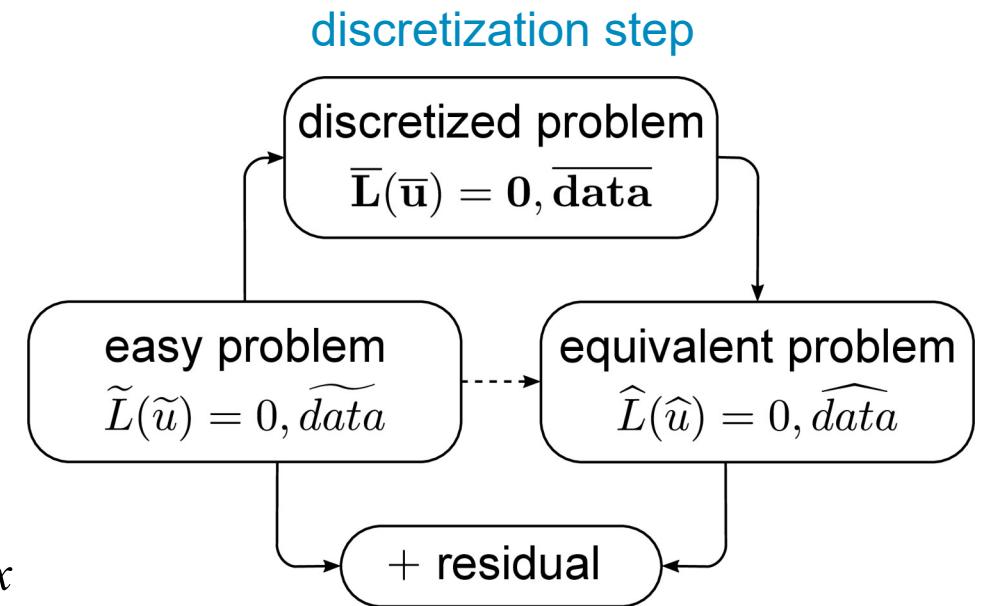
# Error analysis

Discretization error (residual)  $R(\hat{u}) = \hat{L}(\hat{u}) - \tilde{L}(\hat{u})$

We have  $0 = \bar{\mathbf{L}}_i(\bar{\mathbf{u}}) = \int_{\xi_{i-1/2}}^{\xi_{i+1/2}} \tilde{L}(\bar{u}) d\xi = \int_{\bar{x}_{i-1/2}}^{\bar{x}_{i+1/2}} \tilde{L}(\bar{u}) dx = \int_{\bar{x}_{i-1/2}}^{\bar{x}_{i+1/2}} \hat{L}(\hat{u}) dx$

Hence  $\int_{\bar{x}_{i-1/2}}^{\bar{x}_{i+1/2}} R(\hat{u}) dx = \bar{\mathbf{L}}_i(\bar{\mathbf{u}}) - \int_{\bar{x}_{i-1/2}}^{\bar{x}_{i+1/2}} \tilde{L}(\hat{u}) dx$

(Borsboom, Ch.5 in *Adaptive Methods of Lines*, 2001)



# Equivalent 1D shallow-water-like equations

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\tilde{A} + \gamma_0 D_x(\hat{A})) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\tilde{Q} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{Q})) = 0$$

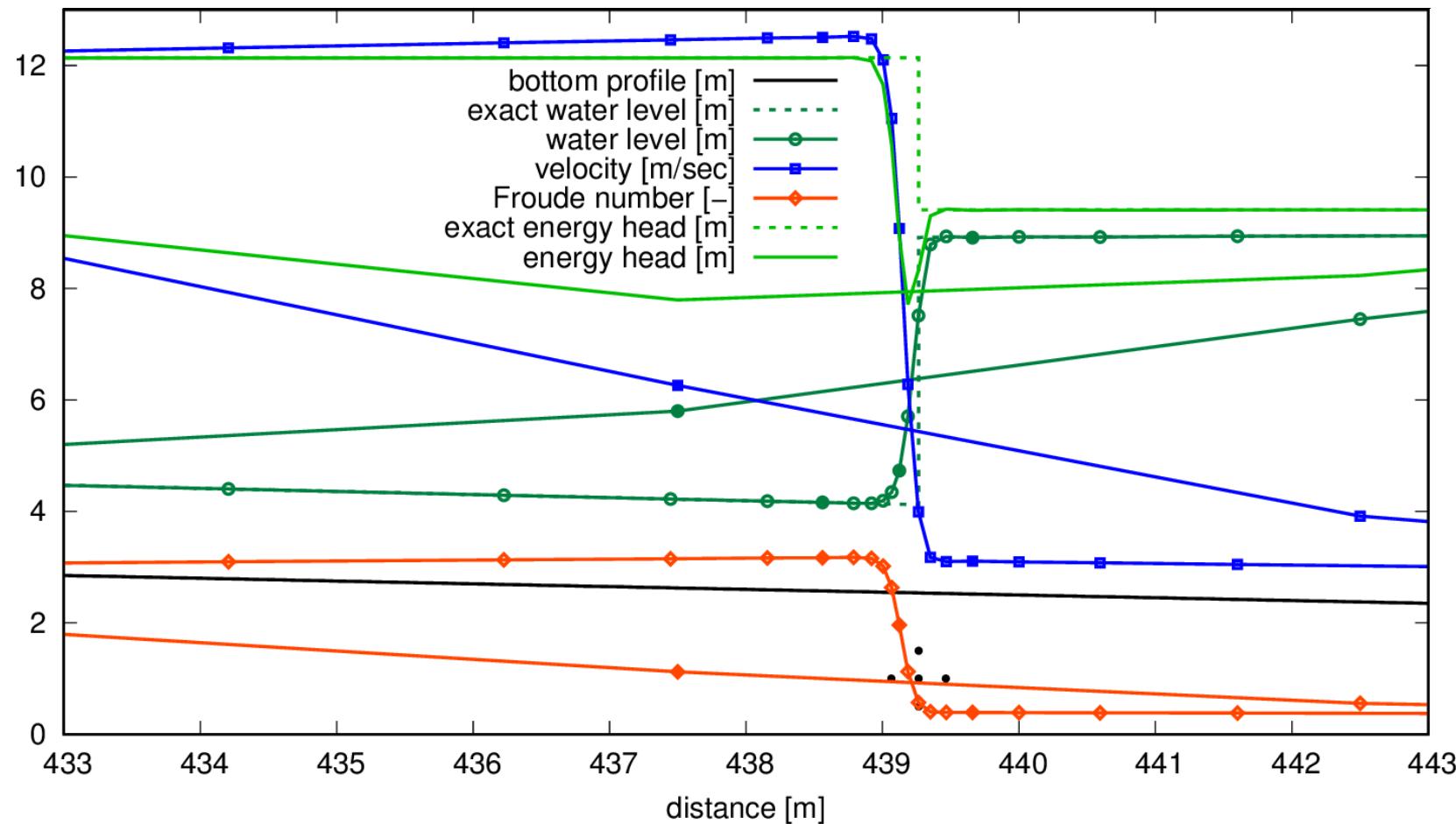
$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\tilde{Q} + \gamma_0 D_x(\hat{Q})) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{(\tilde{Q} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{Q}))^2}{\tilde{A} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{A})} \right) + g \left( (\tilde{A} + \gamma_0 D_x(\hat{A})) \frac{\partial \tilde{\zeta} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{\zeta})}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \hat{A}}{\partial x} \frac{D_x(\hat{\zeta})}{24} \right) \\ & + g \frac{(\tilde{Q} + \gamma_0 D_x(\hat{Q})) |\tilde{Q} + \gamma_0 D_x(\hat{Q})|}{C^2 (\tilde{R} + \gamma_0 D_x(\hat{R})) (\tilde{A} + \gamma_0 D_x(\hat{A}))} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( (\tilde{v}_{art} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{v}_{art})) \frac{\partial \tilde{Q} + \gamma_2 D_x(\hat{Q})}{\partial x} \right) \\ & - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{(\tilde{v}_{art} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{v}_{art})) (\tilde{Q} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{Q}))}{\tilde{A} + \gamma_1 D_x(\hat{A})} \frac{\partial \hat{A} + \gamma_2 D_x(\hat{A})}{\partial x} \right) \end{aligned}$$

with  $D_x = \Delta \xi^2 \left( \partial^2 / \partial \xi^2 - x_{\xi\xi} / x_\xi \partial / \partial \xi \right) + O(\Delta \xi^4) = x_\xi^{-2} \partial^2 / \partial x^2 + O(\Delta \xi^4) \approx \Delta x^2 \partial^2 / \partial x^2$ ,

and with  $\gamma_0 = (\gamma - 1/3)/8$ ,  $\gamma_1 = \gamma/8$ ,  $\gamma_2 = (\gamma - 2/3)/8$ .

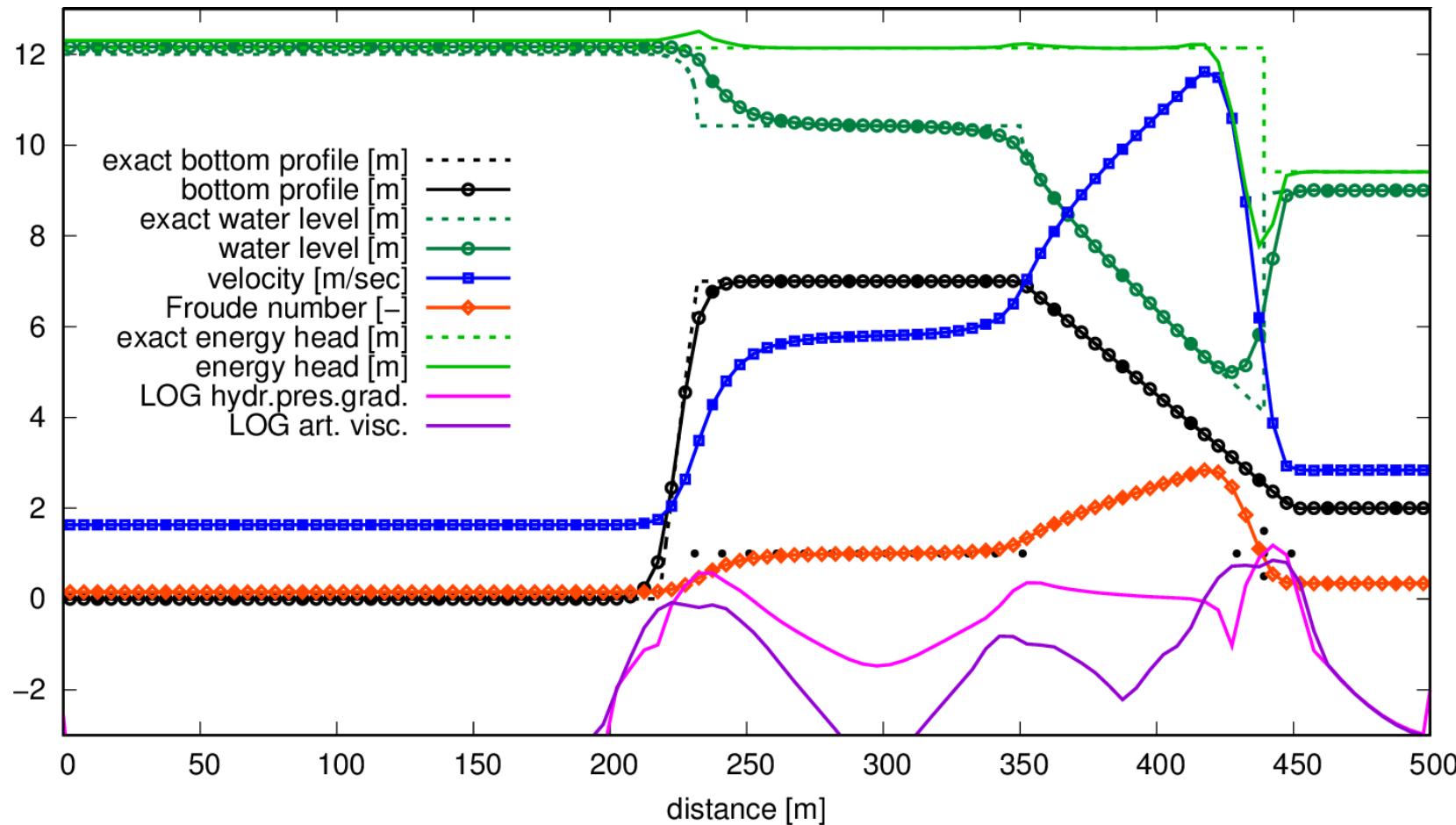
(Borsboom, Ch.5 in *Adaptive Methods of Lines*, 2001)

# Sub-/supercritical steady flow over a weir



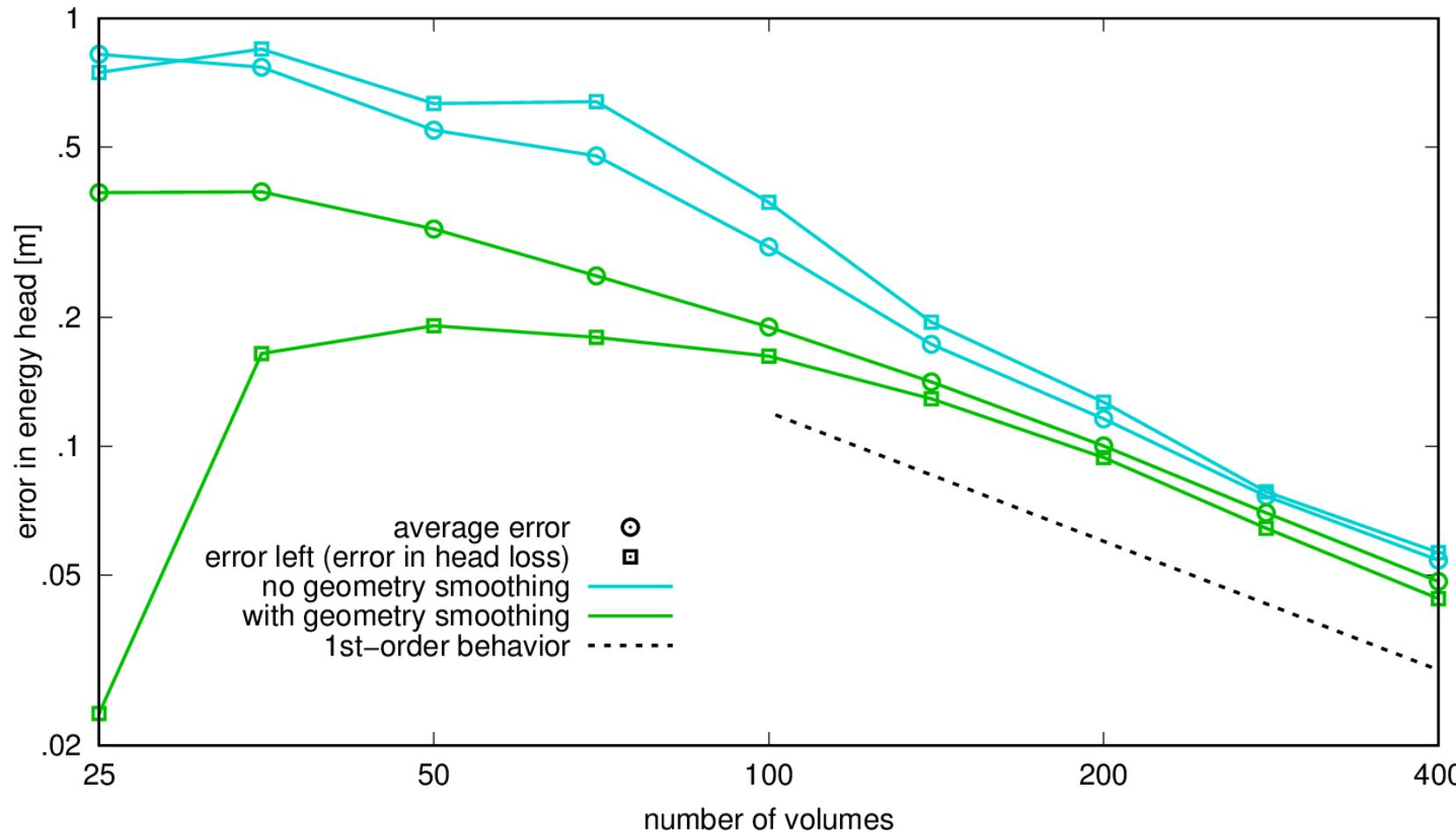
100 finite volumes, uniform and adaptive grid, solution around jump

# Sub-/supercritical steady flow over a weir



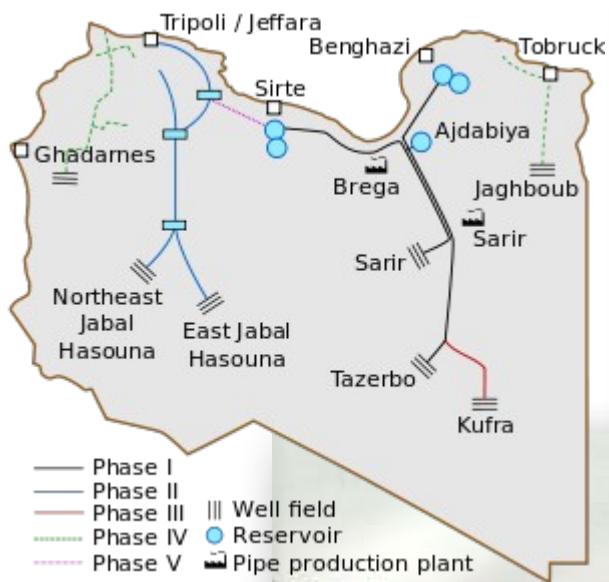
100 finite volumes, smoothed geometry

# Sub-/supercritical steady flow over a weir



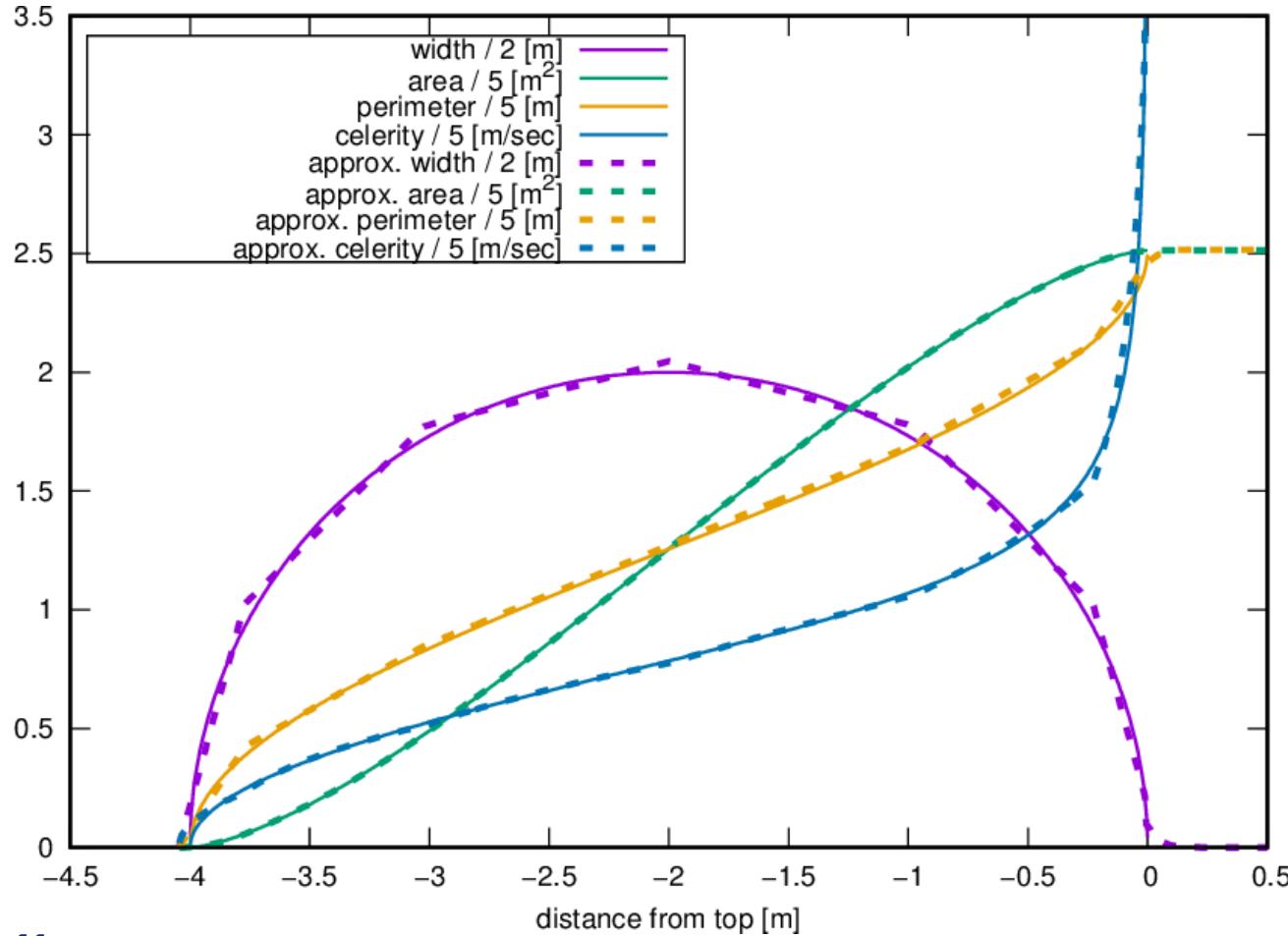
100 finite volumes, error on non-smooth and smoothed geometry

# The great man-made river

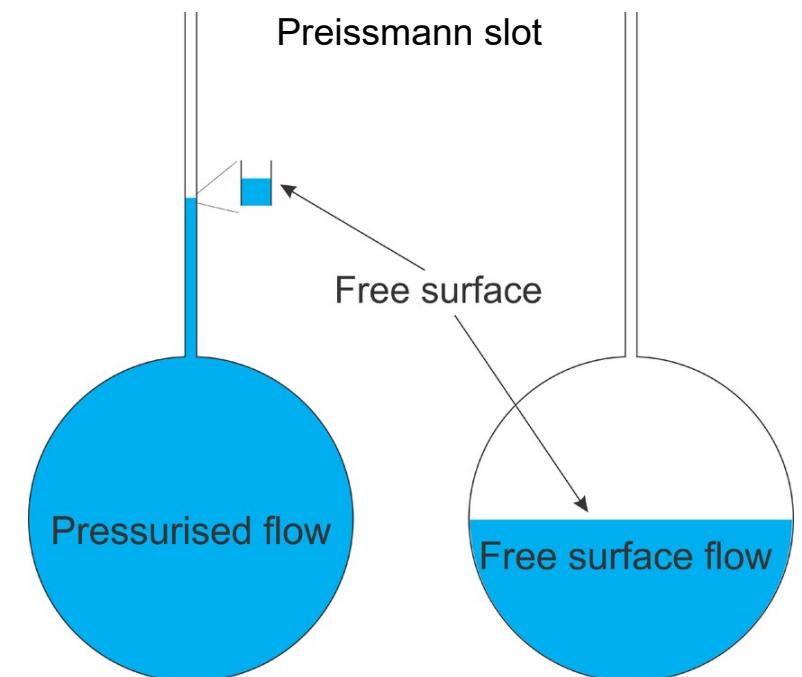


# The great man-made river

4m diameter pipes through Libyan desert  
circular cross section approximated by dodecagon with added Preissmann slot



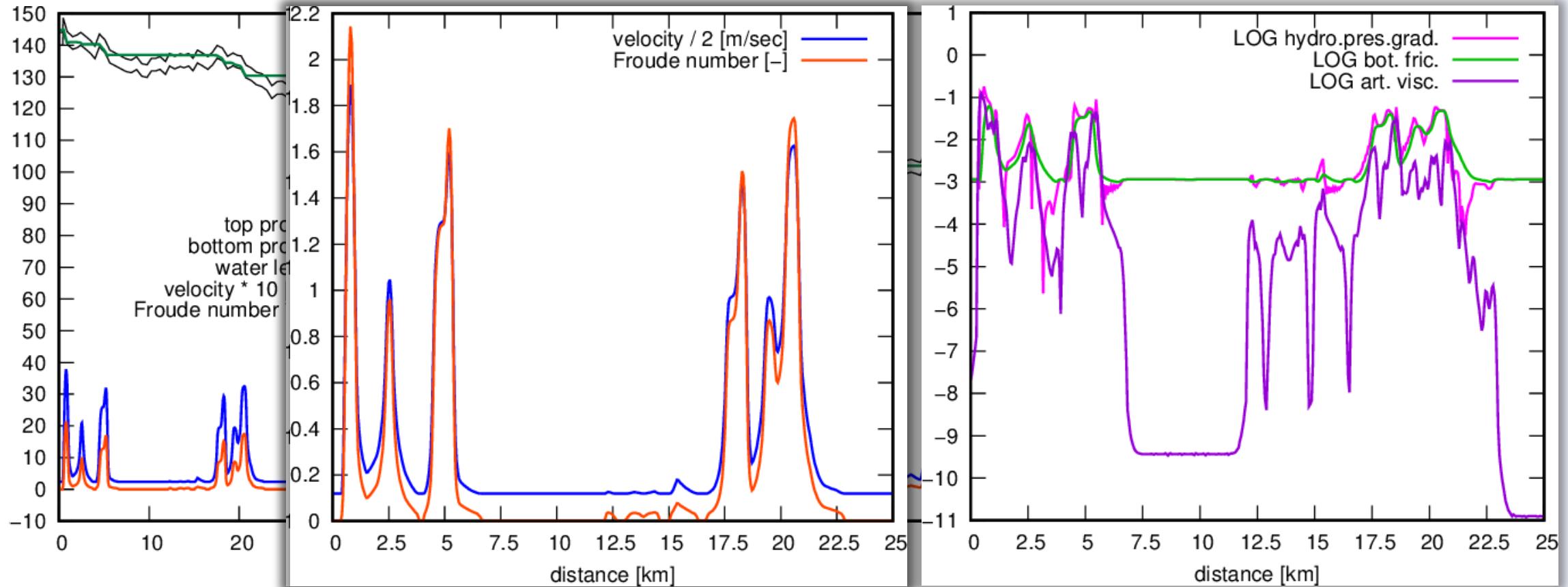
Deltas



From presentation Michiel Tukker  
*Free surface flow in Wanda*  
April 10, 2020

# Steady-state great man-made river

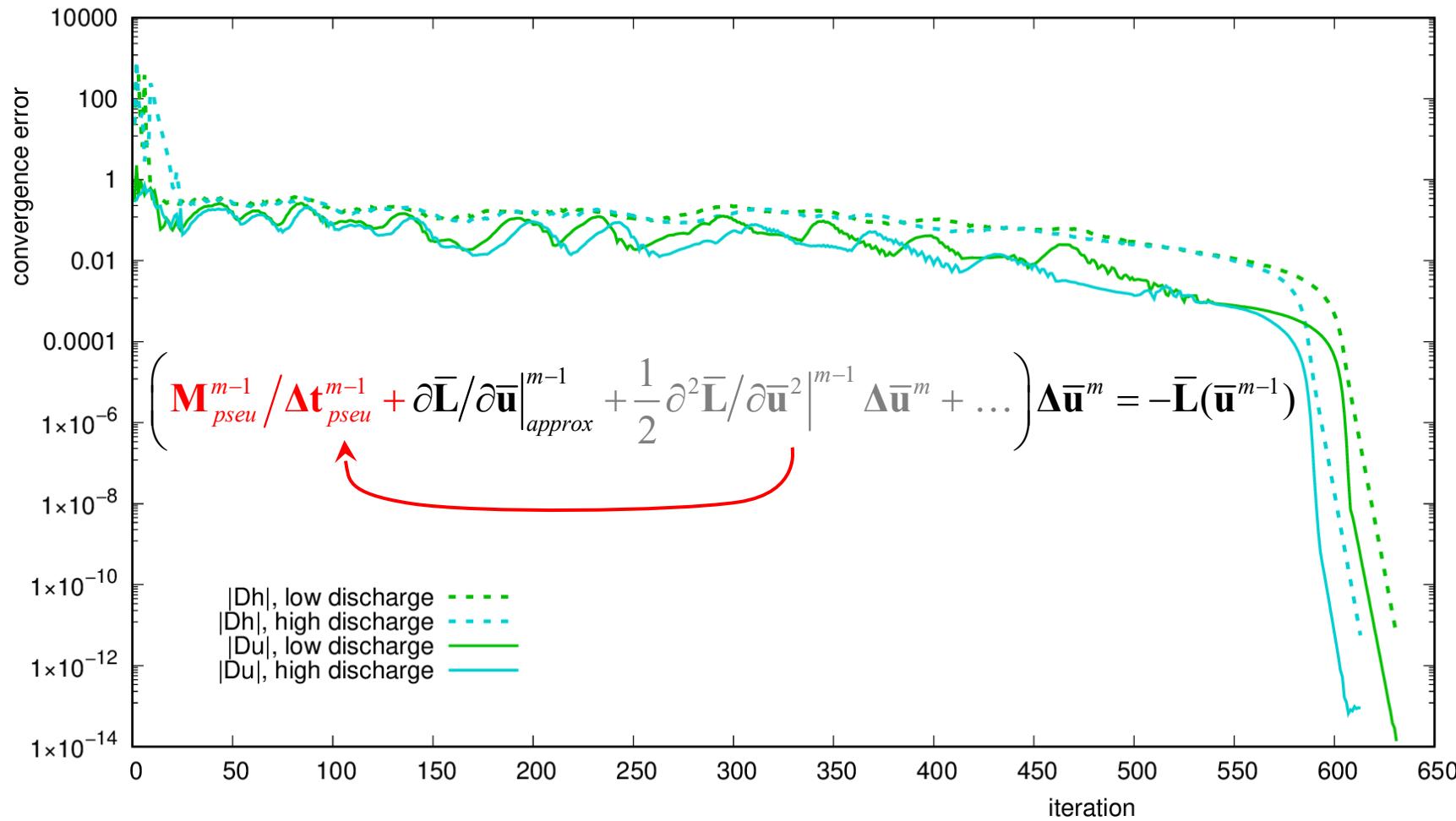
381.2km long 4m diameter pipe through Libyan desert



2000 finite volumes: 1815 of 54.96m in first 100km, 165 of 1648.8m in last 270km, 20 in between

# Steady-state great man-made river

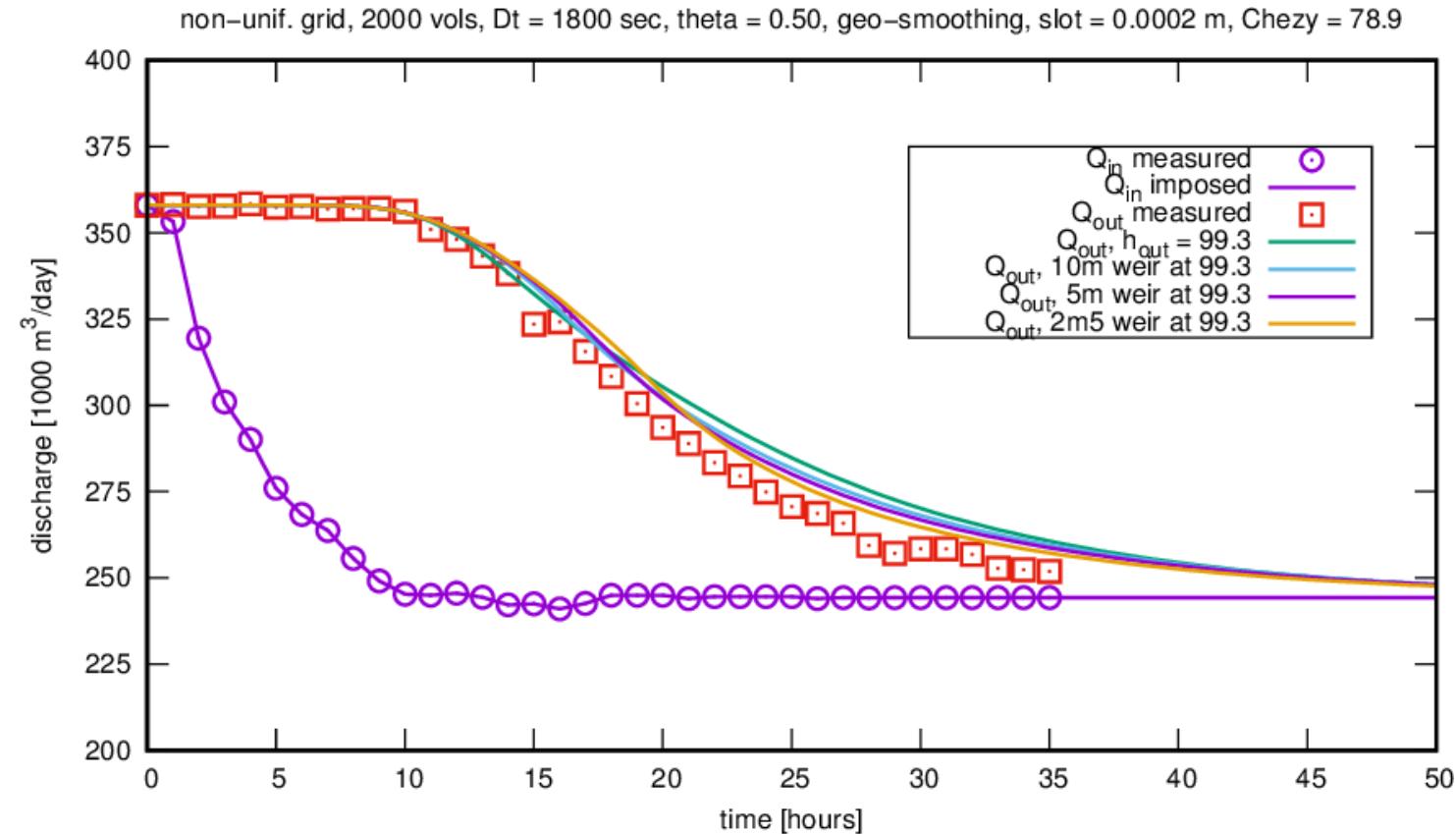
non-unif. grid, 2000 vols, steady-state comp., geo-smoothing, slot = 0.0002 m, no dry-bed, Chezy = 78.9



2000 finite volumes, convergence history

# Unsteady great man-made river

Comparison with measurements, high discharge



$$\max(|u| \Delta t / \Delta x) \approx 125, \quad \max(\sqrt{gh} \Delta t / \Delta x) \approx 26,000$$

# Wave run-up/run-down

*domain length = 40,  $\Delta x = 0.4$ , period = 10,  $\Delta t = 0.1$ ,*

*Chezy = 100,  $\theta = 0.6$ ,*

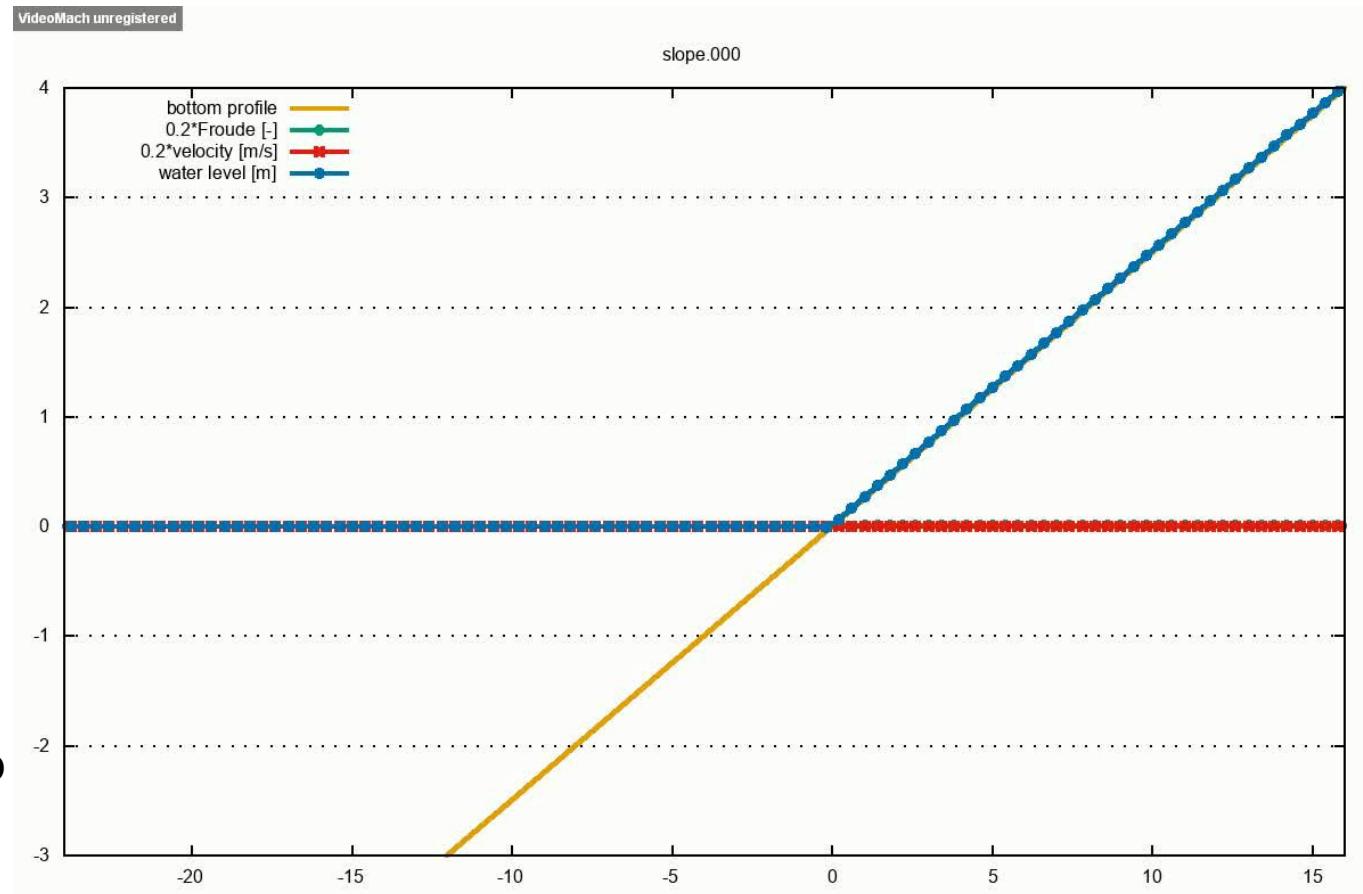
$\max(|u|\Delta t/\Delta x) \approx 2$ ,

$\max(\sqrt{gh}\Delta t/\Delta x) \approx 2$

9–17 iterations per time step

(12.3 on average)

→ better initial solutions required to speed up convergence per time step



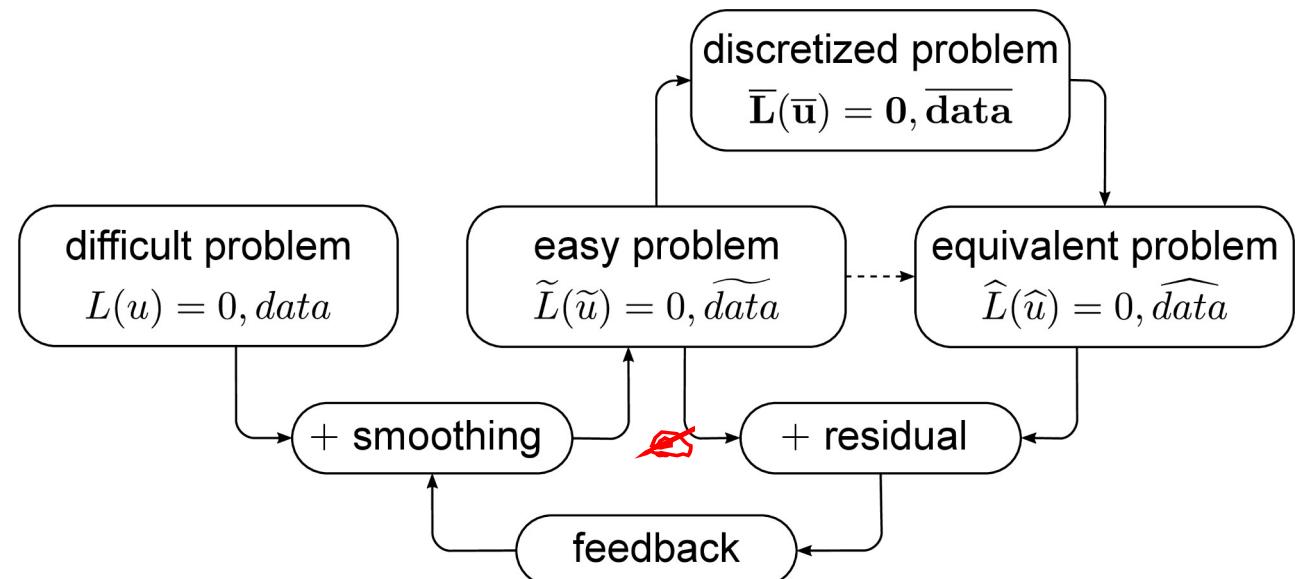
# Summarizing ...

## Properties of space discretization:

- Smoothing errors dominant, discretization errors negligible
    - numerical errors can be interpreted physically!
    - numerical errors can be compared to physical errors!
  - Pretty accurate
  - Continuous and smooth
    - very fast solvers
    - robust model
  - (block-)Structured grids required
    - flexibility by means of DD and IBM

## Time integration:

- To be investigated



# Motto

**SUPPRESS THE WIGGLES, BUT SUCH THAT  
THEY KEEP TELLING YOU SOMETHING!**

(variation on Gresho & Lee, “*Don’t suppress the wiggles—They’re telling you something!*”, Comput. Fluids 1981)

# What's next

SUPSUB next version:

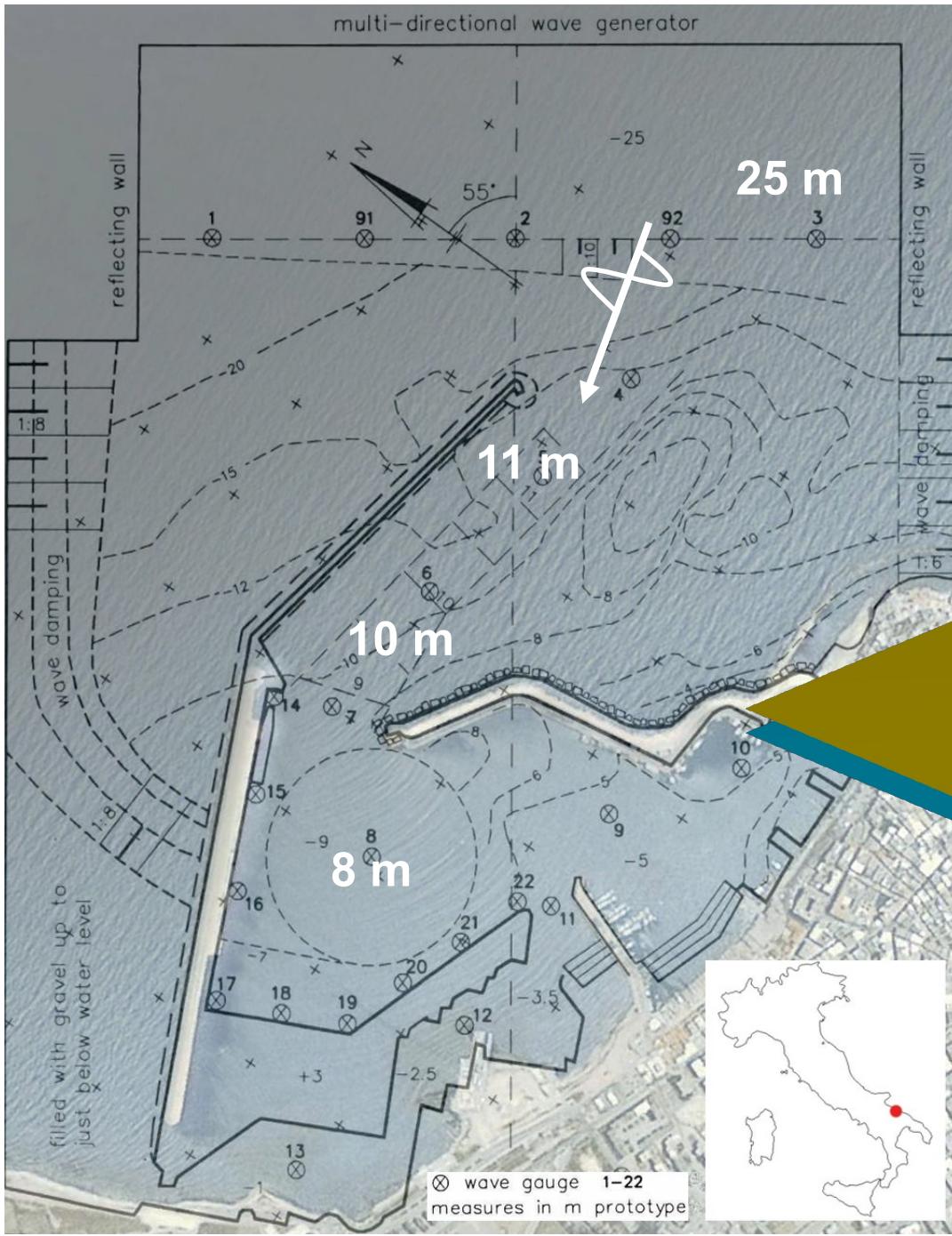
- embed as single-pipe component in WANDA?
- better initialization per time step (unsteady applications)  
→ increase of robustness and efficiency
- better pseudo time-step scaling (based on residual and *full* linearization error)  
→ increase of robustness and efficiency
- proper geometry smoothing (boundary/initial condition smoothing p.m.)  
→ some increase of accuracy, robustness, efficiency
- moving error-minimizing grid adaptation (p.m.)  
→ large increase of accuracy, efficiency, complexity

Wave modeling (Boussinesq-type, multi-layer, GABCs):

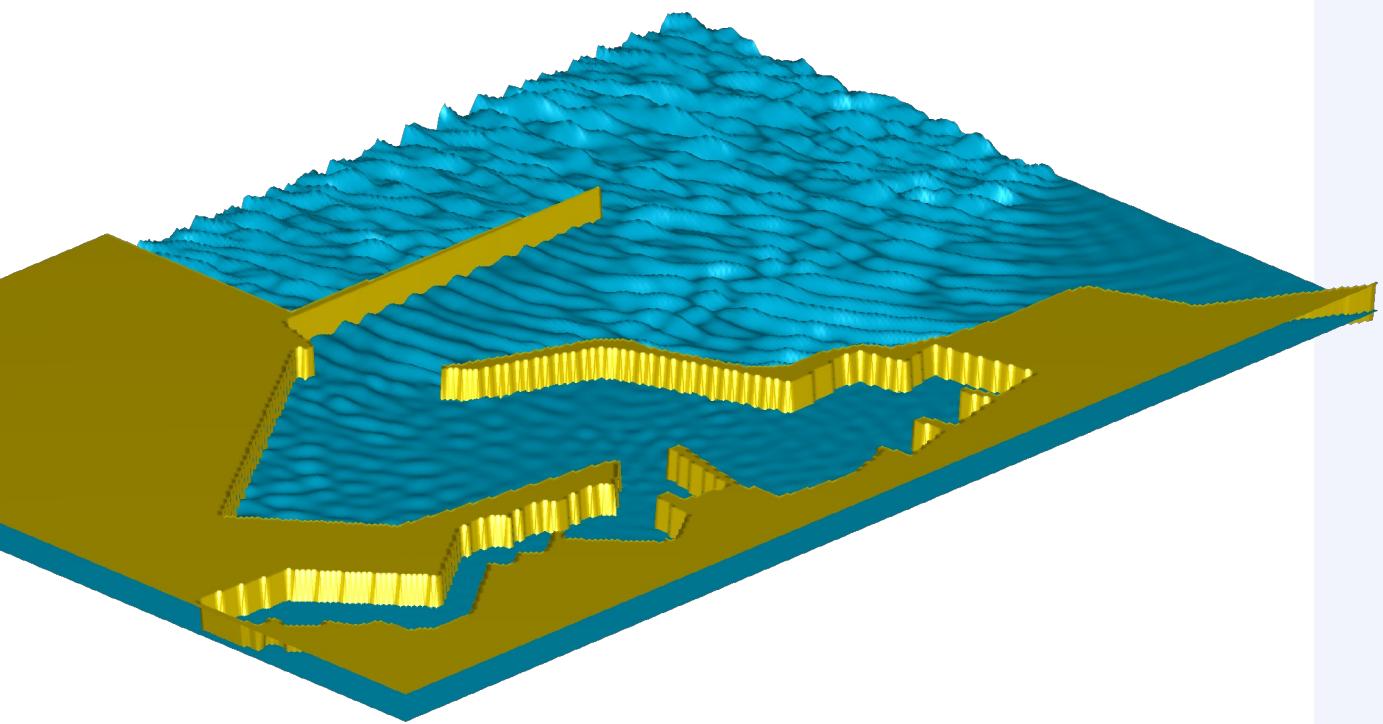
- extension to 2DV, IMEX time integration?
- 2DH/3D with DD and IBM for modeling flexibility (p.m.)

# Remarks, discussion, questions?





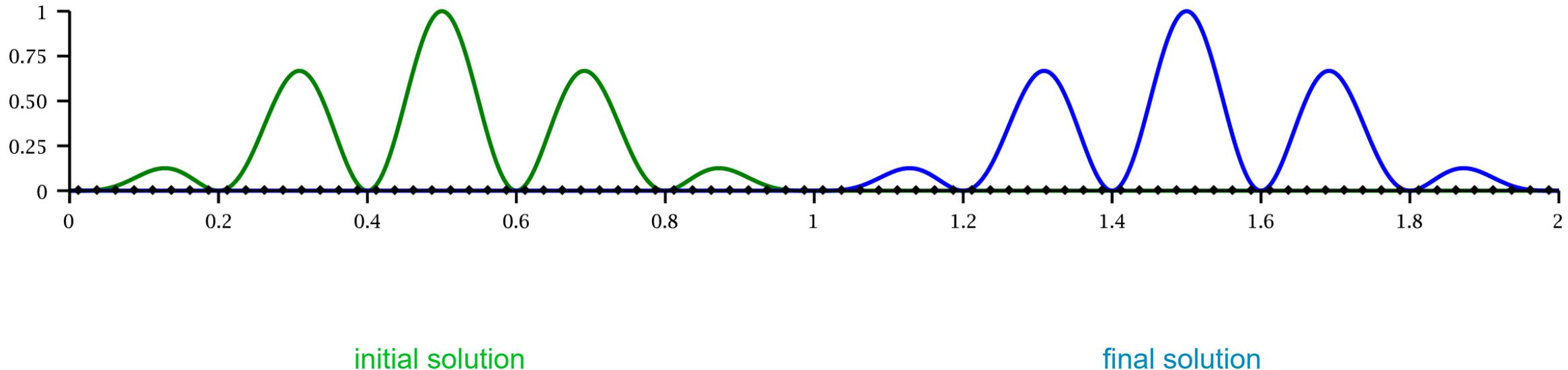
# A wave modeling example



## Port of Molfetta, Italy

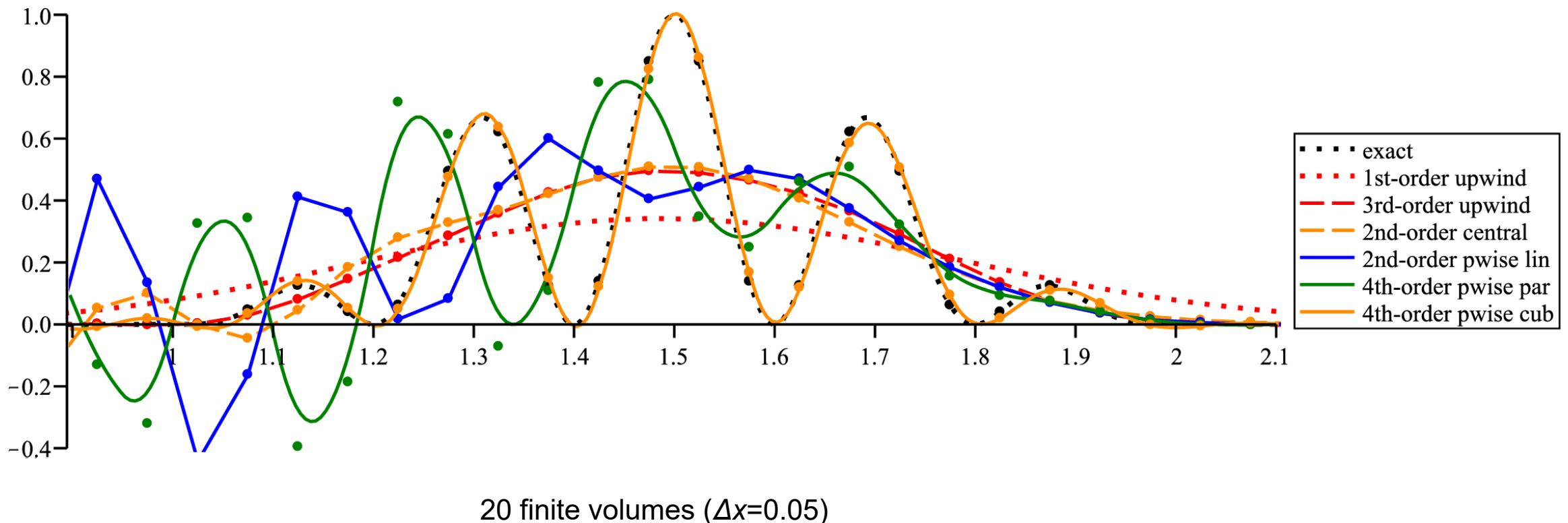
# Performance of several space discretizations

Transport of wavy signal



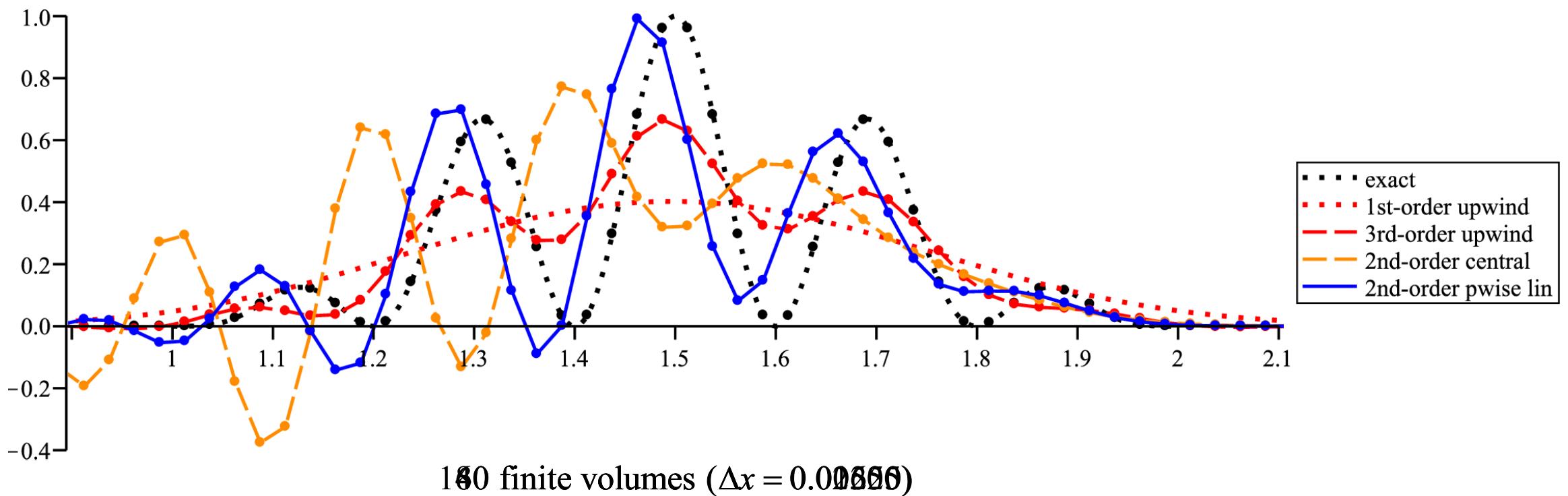
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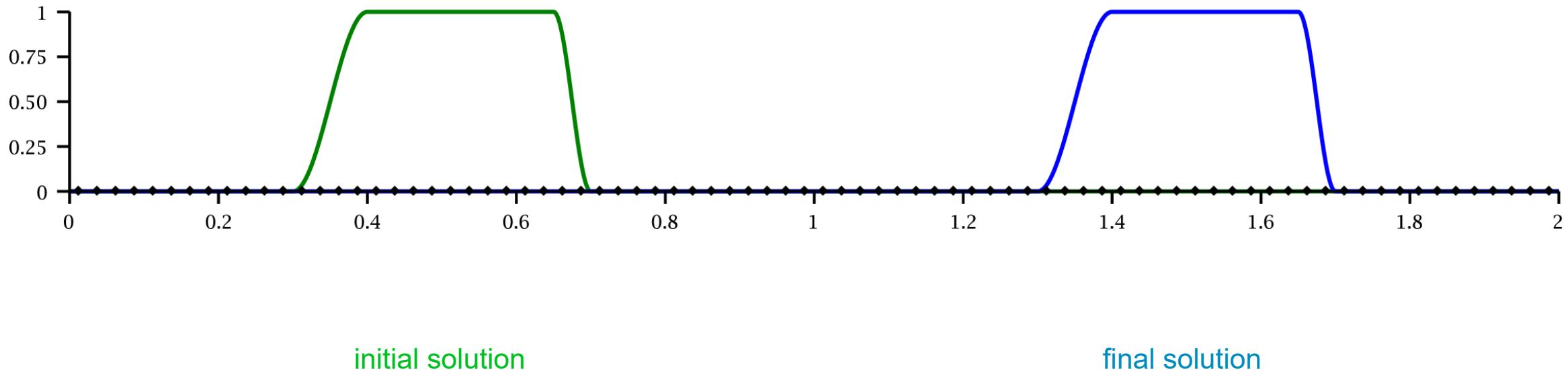
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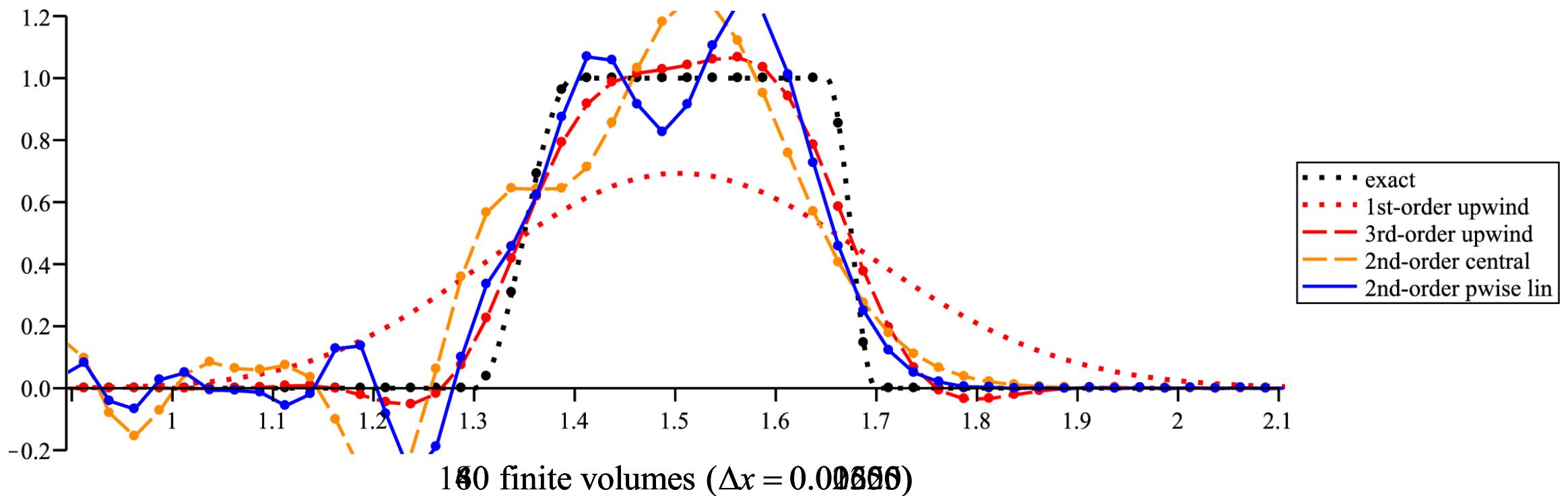
# Performance of several space discretizations

Transport of block with cosine slopes



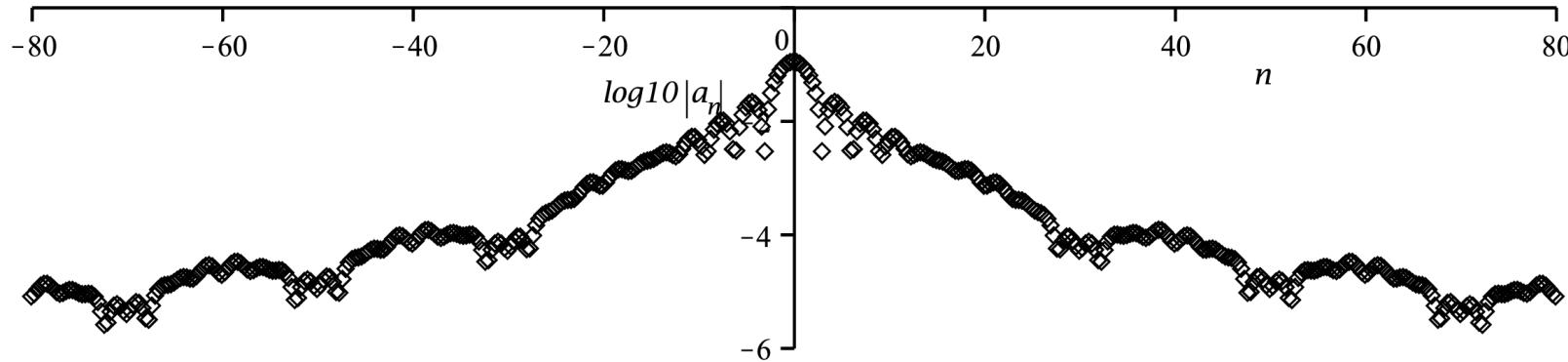
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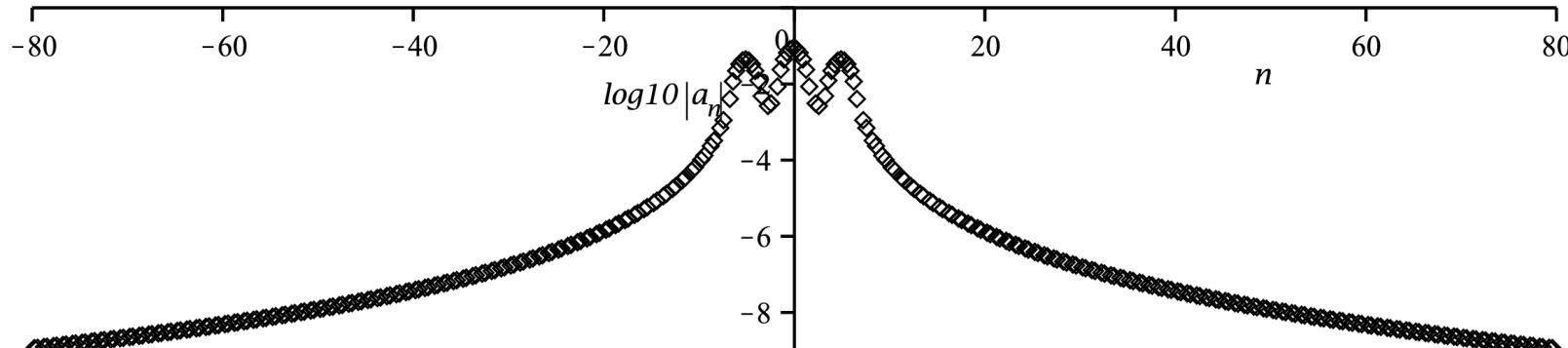


# Fourier-mode decompositions

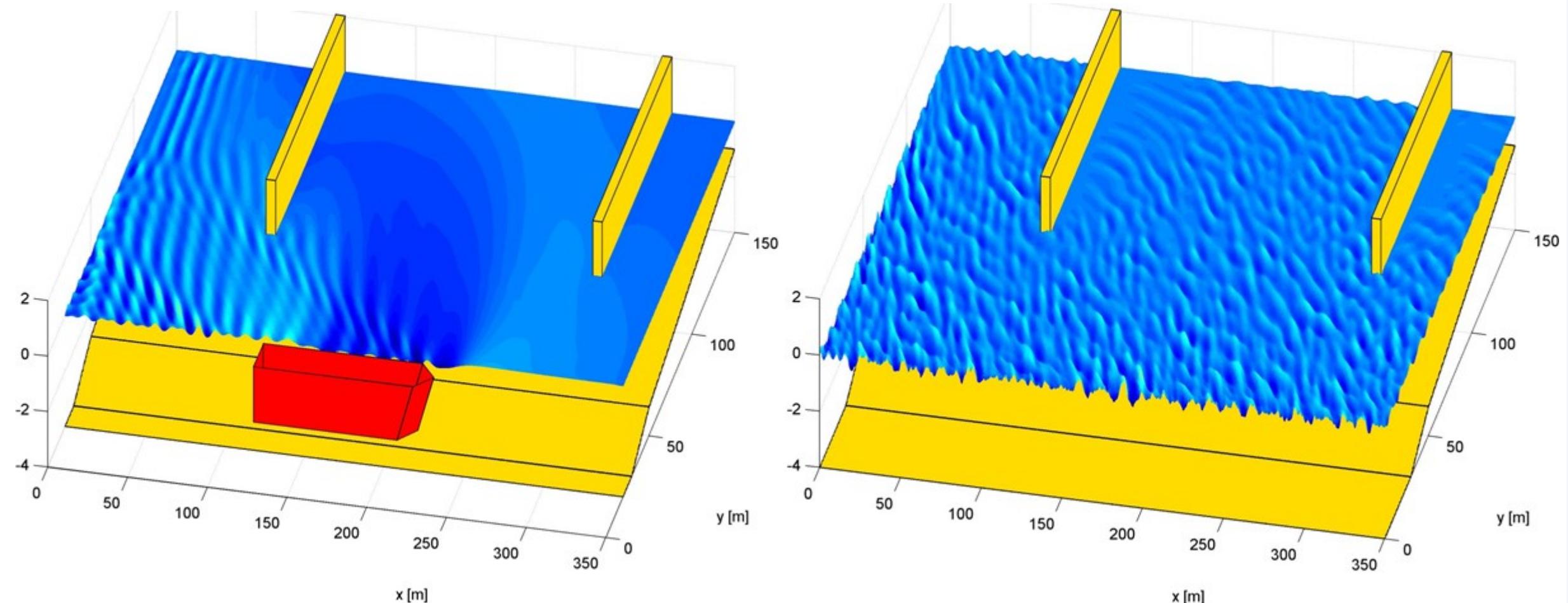
Block with cosine slopes



Wavy signal



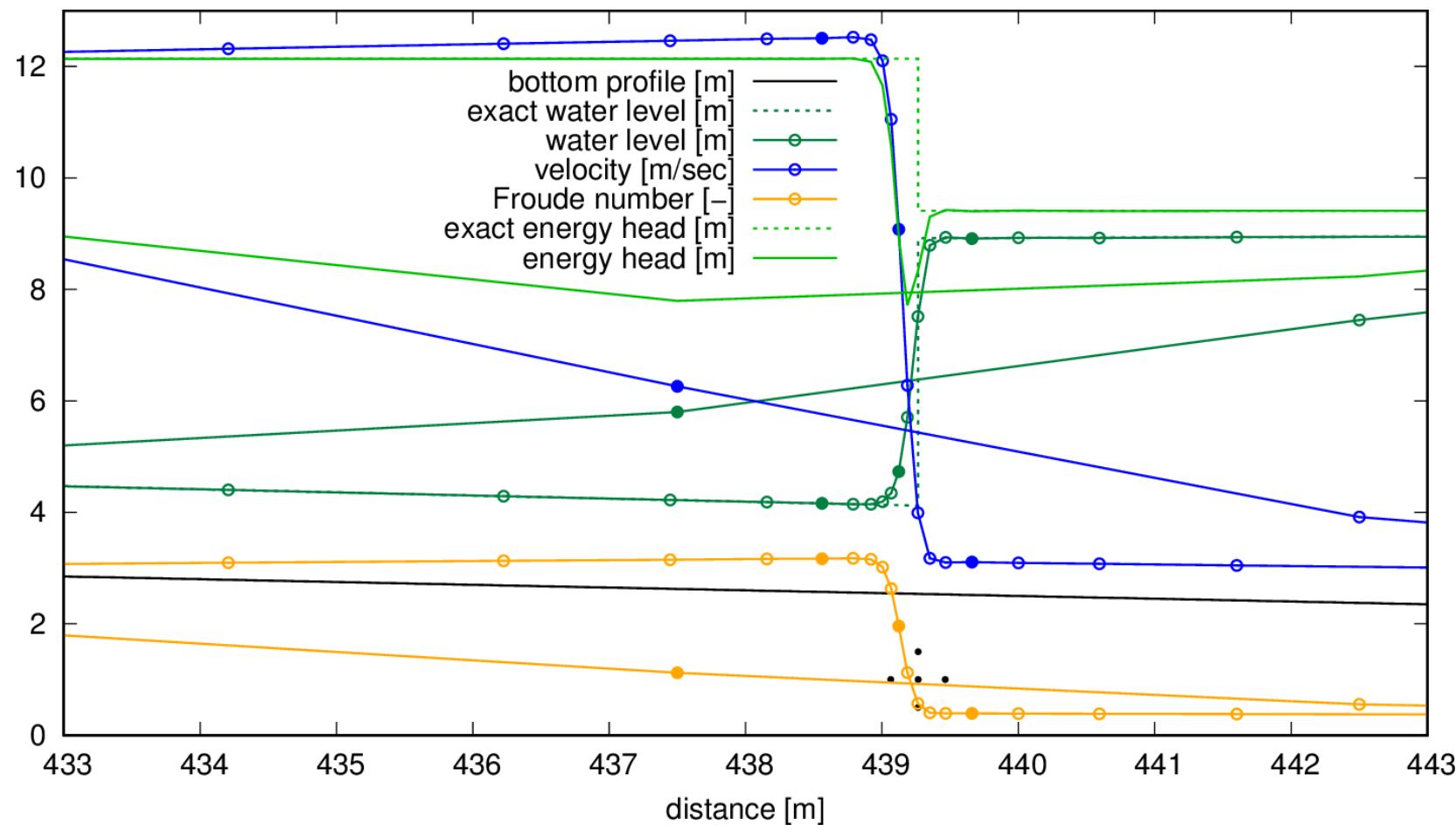
# Some more wave modeling examples



Ship-induced waves in a river section

Wind waves in a river section

# Sub-/supercritical steady flow over a weir



100 finite volumes, uniform and adaptive grid, solution around jump