

# CONSTRUCTION, VERIFICATION OF A SOFTWARE FOR THE 2D DAM-BREAK FLOW AND SOME ITS APPLICATIONS

HOANG VAN LAI, NGUYEN THANH DON  
*Institute of Mechanics*

**Abstract.** In this paper the numerical method for the shallow water equations is studied. The paper consists of 3 sections. In the section 1 the theoretical basis and software IMECH\_2DBREAK for simulation of the 2D dam-break or dyke-break flows is outlined. In the section 2 some results in verification of the IMECH\_2DBREAK by the test cases proposed in the big European Hydraulics Laboratories are shown. In the last section some applications of IMECH\_2DBREAK for the inundation problem in the Red river delta in the Northern of Vietnam are presented.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Analyses of the dam-break or the dyke-break flows play an essential role when considering reservoir and dyke safeties for developing emergency plans. The rapid and continuing development of computing power and techniques during the last years has allowed significant advances in the numerical modelling techniques in that difficult and important problem.

The shallow water equations (SWE) are accepted for many practical applications as properly modelling the unsteady flow of water in general, modelling the dam-break and the dyke-break flows in particular. Many computational methods have been reported successful for SWE. In the last few years a lot of effort has been devoted to the development of the finite volume method (FVM) in modelling the dam-break and the dyke-break flows and many papers have been published (see, for instance, [1] - [6]).

In this paper we concentrate on the Roe technique in FVM for SWE, especially in the case of the flow with shock waves.

The paper is organized as follows. After introduction in the section 1 the main formulas of the FVM for SWE are outlined, the boundary conditions for FVM are described. Applying those formulas and conditions, a software IMECH\_2DBREAK for simulation of the 2D dam-break or dyke-break flows has been constructed. In the section 2 the results in verification of IMECH\_2DBREAK for the well known test cases are presented. In section 3 some applications of IMECH\_2DBREAK software for studying the inundation problem in the Red River Delta are demonstrated.

## 2. THEORETICAL BASIS AND SOFTWARE CONSTRUCTION.

*The two-dimensional shallow-water equations:* The 2D SWE in a conservative form are written as follows (see [3]):

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} = H, \quad (2.1)$$

with  $H = H^{(1)} + H^{(2)}$ ,

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} h \\ q_x \\ q_y \end{pmatrix}, \quad E = \begin{pmatrix} q_x \\ \frac{q_x^2}{h} + \frac{gh^2}{2} \\ \frac{q_x q_y}{h} \end{pmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{pmatrix} q_y \\ \frac{q_x q_y}{h} \\ \frac{q_y^2}{h} + \frac{gh^2}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.2)$$

$$H^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ gh S_{0,x} \\ gh S_{0,y} \end{pmatrix}, \quad H^{(2)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ F(q_x) \\ F(q_y) \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $h, q_x, q_y$ , are unknown functions,  $h = h(x, y, t)$  is the flow depth,  $q_x = q_x(x, y, t)$  and  $q_y = q_y(x, y, t)$  are the unit-width discharge components ( $q_x = uh$  and  $q_y = vh$  with  $u, v$  are the depth-averaged velocities) in  $x$  and  $y$  directions, respectively,  $g$  is the gravity acceleration,  $S_{0,x}, S_{0,y}$  are the bed slopes

$$S_{0,x} = -\frac{\partial z_b}{\partial x}; \quad S_{0,y} = -\frac{\partial z_b}{\partial y}$$

$z_b$  is bottom elevation and  $F(q_x), F(q_y)$  are the bed shear stresses in  $x$  and  $y$  directions, respectively:

$$F(q_x) = -\tau_{bx} = -gq_x \frac{\sqrt{u^2 + v^2}}{C_{h,x}^2}; \quad F(q_y) = -\tau_{by} = -gq_y \frac{\sqrt{u^2 + v^2}}{C_{h,y}^2}, \quad (2.3)$$

$C_{h,x} = K_{s,x} h^{2/3}, C_{h,y} = K_{s,y} h^{2/3}$ , where  $C_{h,x}, C_{h,y}$  and  $K_{s,x}, K_{s,y}$  are Chezy and Strickler coefficients.

**The Finite Volume Method:** Given a computational (for example triangle) mesh (see Fig. 1). This mesh divide the domain into small cells (triangles)  $V_i, V_k, \dots$ . The integrated form of equation (2.1) for a fixed area  $V_i$  is:

$$\int_{V_i} \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} dV + \int_{V_i} \left[ \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} \right] dV = \int_{V_i} H dV. \quad (2.4)$$

The application of the Green theorem to (2.4) for  $V_i$ , yields:

$$\int_{V_i} \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} dV + \oint_C (E, G) \cdot \vec{n} dc = \int_{V_i} H dV. \quad (2.5)$$

The contour integral in (2.5) can be approximated as follows:

$$\oint_C (E, G) \cdot \vec{n} dC = \sum_k^3 (E, G)_k \vec{n}_k dC_k, \quad (2.6)$$

where  $k$  represents the index of the edge  $k$  of the volume  $V_i$ ,  $n_k = (n_x, n_y)$  is the unit outward normal,  $dC_k$  is the length of the edge  $k$ .

The evaluation of the numerical flux for the normal flux  $(E, G)_k \cdot n_k = F_{k+1/2}$  in (2.6) used in this paper is based on the Riemann problem defined by the conditions on the left

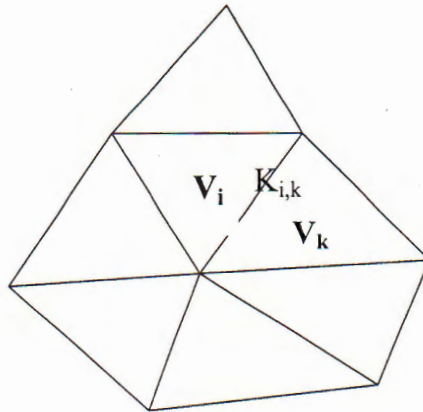


Fig. 1. Unstructured mesh

( $U_L$ ) and right ( $U_R$ ) sides of the edges. For this purpose, the system (2.1) is rewritten in the following form:

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial E}{\partial U} \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial U} \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = H, \tag{2.7}$$

where

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial U} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ (c^2 - u^2) & 2u & 0 \\ -uv & v & u \end{bmatrix}; \quad \frac{\partial G}{\partial U} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -uv & v & u \\ (c^2 - v^2) & 0 & 2v \end{bmatrix}$$

The Jacobian matrix  $A_n$  of the normal flux in (2.7) is evaluated as (see [3]):

$$A_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & n_x & n_y \\ (c^2 - u^2) n_x - uvn_y & 2un_x + vn_y & un_y \\ -uvn_x + (c^2 - v^2) n_y & vn_x & un_x + 2vn_y \end{bmatrix}.$$

The eigenvalues of  $A_n$  are

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 &= u n_x + v n_y + c, \\ \lambda_2 &= u n_x + v n_y, \\ \lambda_3 &= u n_x + v n_y - c, \end{aligned}$$

where  $c = \sqrt{gh}$

The eigenvectors of  $A_n$  are

$$\vec{r}_{1,3} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ u \pm cn_x \\ v \pm cn_y \end{bmatrix}; \quad \vec{r}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -cn_y \\ cn_x \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Main computational formulas:** In solving of that Riemann problem, as suggested by Roe (see [7]), instead of  $A_n$ , we consider the matrix  $A_n$ , where  $A_n$  has the same shape as  $A_n$  but is evaluated at an average state given by the following quantities  $\tilde{u}$ ,  $\tilde{v}$  and  $\tilde{c}$ ,

$$\tilde{u} = \frac{\sqrt{h_R}u_R + \sqrt{h_L}u_L}{\sqrt{h_R} + \sqrt{h_L}}; \quad \tilde{v} = \frac{\sqrt{h_R}v_R + \sqrt{h_L}v_L}{\sqrt{h_R} + \sqrt{h_L}} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{c} = \sqrt{\frac{g(h_R + h_L)}{2}}$$

and the normal flux  $(E, G)_k \cdot n_k = F_{k+1/2}$  in (2.6) is evaluated as (see [1]):

$$F_{k+1/2} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(U^L) + f(U^R) - \sum_{k=1}^n |\lambda_k| (\beta_k - \alpha_k) \vec{r}_k \right], \tag{2.8}$$

$$\beta_{1,3} - \alpha_{1,3} = \frac{h_k - h_L}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2\tau} [(q_{x,R} - q_{x,L})n_x + (q_{y,R} - q_{y,L})n_y - (\hat{u}n_x + \hat{v}n_y)(h_R - h_L)]$$

$$\beta_2 - \alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\tau} [((q_{y,R} - q_{y,L})\tilde{v}(h_k - h_L))n_x - ((q_{x,R} - q_{x,L}) - \tilde{u}(h_k - h_L))n_y]$$

Finally, we get the following computational formula:

$$\frac{U_i^{n+1} - U_i^n}{\Delta t} V_i + \sum_{k=1}^N (E, G)_{k.n_k} \cdot \vec{n}_k \cdot dC_k = H_i. \quad (2.9)$$

In the formula (2.9):  $U_i^{n+1}$  is unknown numerical solution at time  $t_{n+1} = t_n + \Delta t$ ,  $U_i^n$  is known numerical solution at time  $t_n$ ,  $(E, G)_{k.n_k} = F_{k+1/2}$  are the normal fluxes computed by the formula (2.8),  $H_i$  is an approximation of the integral  $\int_{S_i} H dS$  for source terms.

**Boundary conditions.** For calculation of  $U_i^{n+1}$  in (2.9) for the volume  $V_i$  we need the value  $U_i^n$  of the volume  $V_i$  and the values  $U_k^n$  of all surrounding volumes  $V_k$ . So, we can use (2.9) only for the case when  $V_i$  is the inside volume.

In the case, when  $V_i$  is a boundary volume, we do not know the value  $U$  for some edge  $k$  and we need to use boundary conditions.

It is well known that (see, for example, [3], [4]), depending on both the value of the normal velocity through the boundary  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}) = un_x + vn_y$  and the local Froude number  $Fr = (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n})/c$ , ( $c = \text{sqrt}(gh)$ ), there are four possibilities:

- (i) Supercritical inflow:  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \leq -c$ : all the variables must be imposed.
- (ii) Subcritical inflow:  $-c < (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \leq 0$ : two variables must be imposed.
- (iii) Supercritical outflow:  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}) > c$ : none of the variables must be imposed.
- (iv) Subcritical outflow:  $0 < (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \leq c$ : one variable must be imposed.

Using now these boundary conditions and computational formulas for boundary volumes in [1] we can compute the flux  $(E, G)_{k.n_k}$  in (2.9) for the boundary volumes.

#### Software description.

*Software name:* IMECH\_2DBREAK

*Software purpose:* Simulation of 2D complicated water flow (supercritical flow, flow with shock waves, flows on dry beds,...) in the case of the instant of dam or dyke failures.

*Software programming language:* FORTRAN 90

*Software organization:* IMECH\_2DBREAK consists of a computational program and a data directory SL2D.

The main part of the computational program is the MODULE: MH2D\_HMD.FOR, in which the water depth  $h$  and the unit-width discharge components  $q_x, q_y$  are computed by the formula (10).

The input data of the IMECH\_2DBREAK store in the directory SL2D and consist of 4 FILES:

- FVUNMESH.DAT describes the unstructured mesh for the computational region.
- FVCODATA.TXT defines common use parameters (computational precision, depths for definition of wet/dry front,...)
- INIVHQ.TXT defines the initial values in the volumes.
- FVBOU3.TXT describes the boundary condition in the case of subcritical outflow (the boundary condition of the type (iv)).

The information for the other boundary conditions gives in the main program. Namely, no any information is needed for the boundary condition of the type (iii). In the case of in-flow boundaries the discharge and water level at the boundaries will be given. IMECH\_2DBREAK will compute  $q_x, q_y$  for the boundary condition of the type (ii) and all variables for the boundary condition of the type (i).

The output data of the IMECH\_2DBREAK also are stored in the directory SL2D. The output data consist of 2 FILES:

- KTRHUV.TXT consists of the values  $h, q_x, q_y$  in the all volumes at the end of the computational time.
- RES01.DAT store the values of the water levels, the velocities, the wet/dry front at the nodes of the mesh in the TECPLOT format. With this FILE it is easy to get different presentations of the computational results

### 3. SOFTWARE VERIFICATION

The developed IMECH\_2DBREAK software has been verified by the test cases proposed in the big European Hydraulics Laboratories (see [14]).

#### 3.1. Case 1: Total dam-break problem (see [12])

The computational domain is a rectangular basin of 16 m  $\times$  0.1 m. Initially, the free surface elevation presents a discontinuity at abscissa  $x=0$ . m, where a dam is located. The left side of the basin is covered with water at rest, the water depth being 6 m, whereas the right side is dry (Fig. 2). At the start of the simulation the dam is totally and instantly broken and the dam location becomes a critical flow section where the velocity and the depth are constant in time (see [13]). The flow is subcritical to the left of the dam location (upstream part), and supercritical to the right (downstream part).

Fig. 4 and 5 present some results of the IMECH\_2DBREAK.

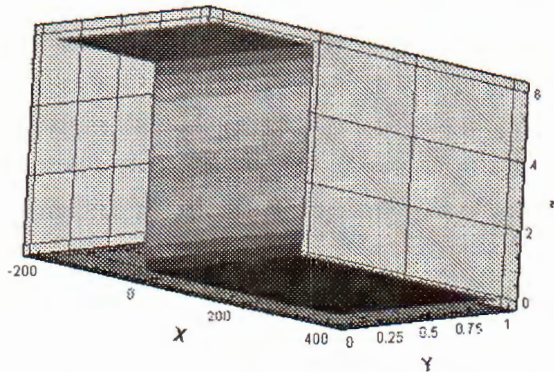


Fig. 2. (Case 1) Water surface at the start of the simulation

#### 3.2. Case 2: Partial dam-break problem (see [2]):

The geometry of the problem consists of a 200 $\times$ 200 m<sup>2</sup> basin with a non-symmetrical breach. The initial water level of the dam is 10 m and the tail water is 5 m high (Fig. 6). At the instant of dam failure, water is released into the downstream side through a breach 75 m wide. Fig. 8 presents the computed water surface at 7.3 sec. Fig. 9 shows the water surface obtained in [2] at the same time.

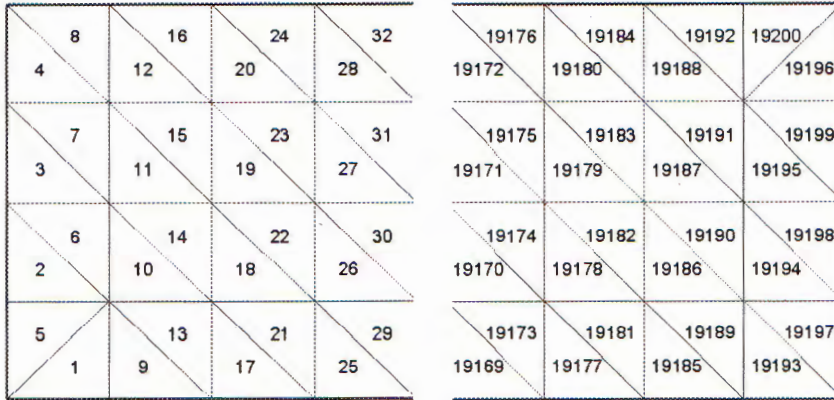


Fig. 3. Computational mesh

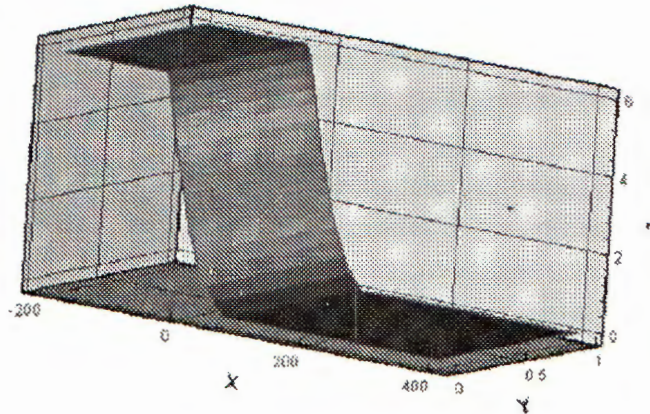


Fig. 4. Water surface at 5 sec. after dam-break

**3.3. Case 3: Dam-break in a channel with a local construction (see [14])**

The channel configuration is presented in Fig. 10. The entire channel, with a zero longitudinal slope, is 19.30 m long and his rectangular section is 0.50 m wide. Dam removal time is approximately 0.2 s. The gate is located at a section 6.10 m from the upstream section of the channel. The variation of the water-depth with time were obtained with four capacitance probes. Fig. 11 presents the measured and computed water levels in the prober N2

**3.4. Case 4: Dam-break in a channel with a non symmetrical flood plain (see [14])**

The entire channel, with a zero longitudinal slope, is 19.30 m long and his rectangular section is 0.50 m

wide. Dam removal time is approximately 0.2 s. The gate is located at a section 6.10 m from the upstream section of the channel. The upstream channel is also 0.50 m wide. The sudden enlargement for the “flood plain” is located 6.45 m downstream of the gate.

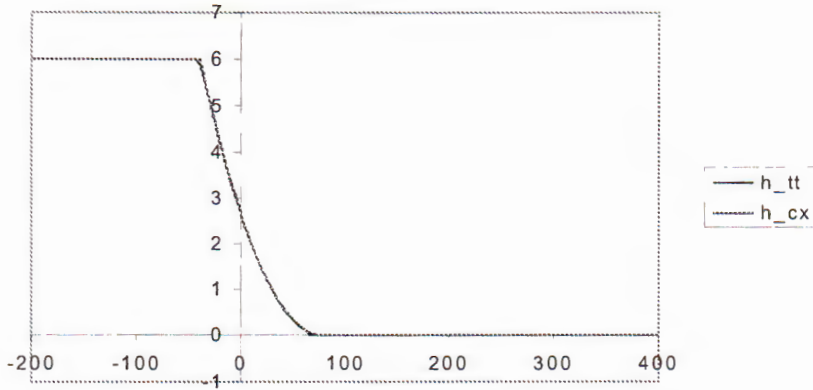


Fig. 5. Exact and computational water levels

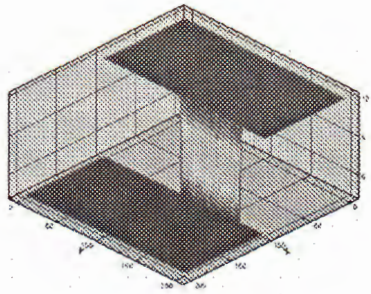


Fig. 6. (Case 2) Water surface at the start of the simulation

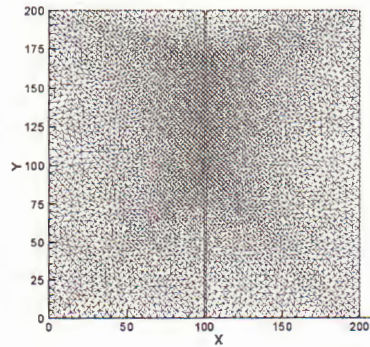


Fig. 7. Computational mesh

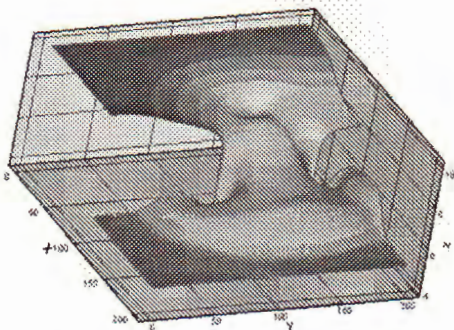


Fig. 8. Water surface at 7.3 sec. after dam-break (computed by IMECH\_2DBREAK)

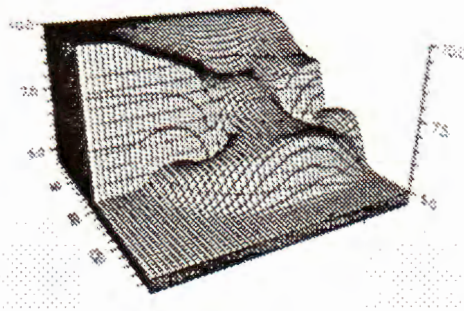


Fig. 9. Water surface at 5 sec. after dam-break (obtained in [2])

The “flood plain” is 2.3 m wide and 6.75 m long (Fig. 12). The variation of the water-depth with time were obtained with four capacitance probes. Fig. 13 presents the measured and computed water levels in the prober N2.

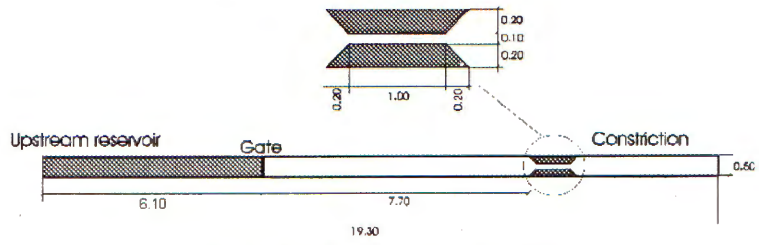


Fig. 10. Channel configuration

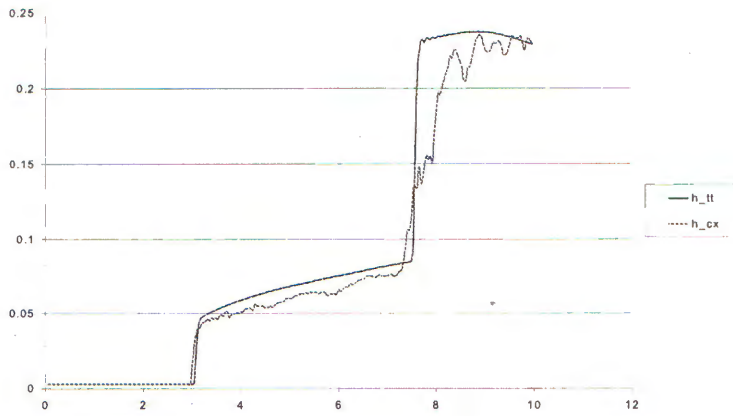


Fig. 11. The measured and computed water levels in the probe N2

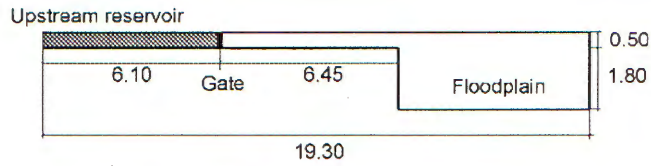


Fig. 12. Channel with floodplain

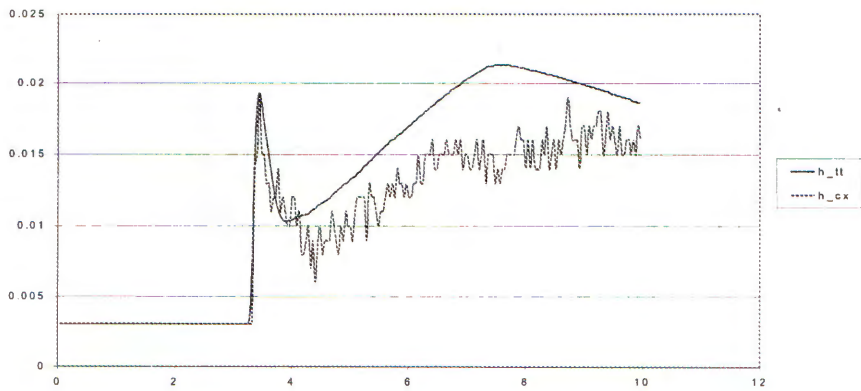


Fig. 13. The measured and computed water levels in the probe N2



## 4. SOFTWARE APPLICATION

### 4.1. Simulation of dyke break flows in Thanh-Ha region

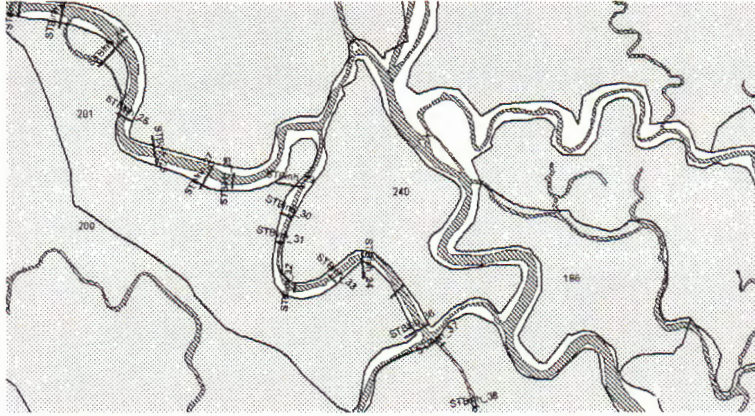


Fig. 14. The Thanh Ha region

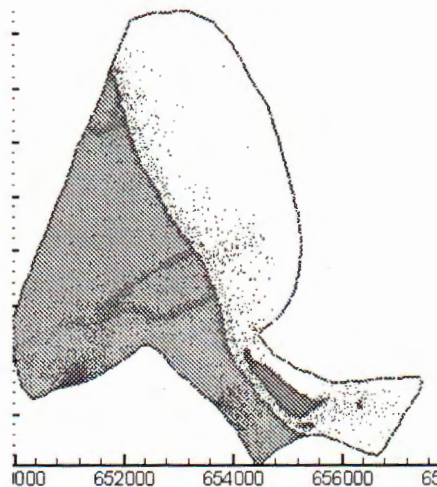


Fig. 15. Inundation in Thanh Ha region at 10 hours after the dyke breach

The geometry of the problem consists of a cell N240 in the Thai Binh river basin (Fig. 14). The area of that region is about 3100 ha. The region is relatively flat (the elevation of the land: 0.9 - 1.2 m), except some roads (the elevation of roads: 1.5 - 1.8 m.).

In the 1996 year flood 2 places (near the cross-sections STBINH\_32 and STBINH\_34) of the Thai Binh river dyke were broken. Fig. 15. presents the computational result of the inundation at 10 hours after the dyke breach. This result is agreed with the real inundation process in this region in the 1996 year flood.

### 4.2. Simulation of flow caused by an operation of the emergency spillway in Dong-Anh region

For the flood control in the Red and Thai Binh river system some emergency spillways are studied. One of them is the emergency spillway in Dong Anh region. This region

consists of 3 cells (N136, N137 and N154) in the Red river basin (Fig. 16). When extreme



Fig. 16. The Dong Anh region

floods occur, emergency spillways should be operated to avoid passive responses to dyke breakings and severe disasters. It means that the dyke elevation in spillway places will be suddenly decreased and flood water in the river system will overflow temporary dykes in riverbanks. So, operating emergency spillways in the extreme flood will accept certain damage levels but avoiding catastrophe.

The software IMECH\_2DBREAK can be used in simulation of an operation of the emergency spillway. Fig. 17. presents the computational result of the inundation at 5 hours after the operation of the emergency spillway in Dong Anh region.

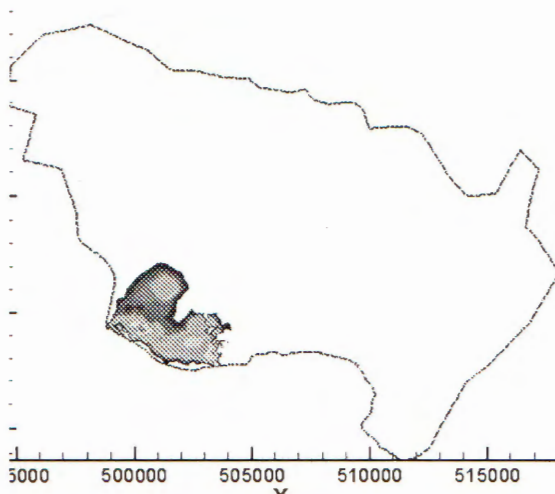


Fig. 17. Inundation in Dong Anh region at 5 hours after the operation of the emergency spillway

## 5. CONCLUSION

The results in the verification and in the application of IMECH\_2DBREAK show that the software is ready for simulations of the dam-break or the dyke-break flows in the cases when the regions are relatively flat.

In the cases of varying bottom the simulations of the dam-break or the dyke-break flows are difficult problems and we shall study those problems in the future.

**Acknowledgments.** The authors express their gratitude to the National Foundation for Natural science (MOST) for the financial supports to prepare this paper.

## REFERENCES

1. P. A. Sleigh, P. H. Gaskell, M. Berzins and N. G. Wright, An unstructured Finite Volume Algorithm for predicting Flow in Rivers and Estuaries, *Computers & Fluids* **27** (1998) 479-508.
2. K. Anastasiou and C. T. Chan, Solution of the 2D Shallow Water Equations using the Finite Volume Method on Unstructured Triangular Meshes, *Int. J. for Num. Meth. in Fluids* **24** (1997) 1225-1245.
3. P. Brufau, M. E. Vazquez-Cendom and Garcia-Navarro, A Numerical Model for Flooding and Drying of Irregular Domains, *Int. J. for Num. Meth. in Fluids* **39** (2002) 247-275.
4. Tran Gia Lich, Le Kim Luan, Boundary Conditions for the Two-dimensionnal Saint-Venant equation system, *J. Appl. Math, Modelling* **16** (1992) 498-502.
5. S. Guillou and K. D. Nguyen, An improved technique for solving two-dimensional shallow-water problems, *Int. J. for Num. Meth. in Fluids* **29** (1999) 465-483.
6. Dan Nguyen, Dartus D., Diep Nguyen Van, New Development of Overland, 1-D and 2-D Hydraulic Models for Flood Control in the Red River Delta, *Journal of Advances in Natural Sciences* **5** (2004).
7. P. L. Roe, Approximate Riemann Solvers, Parameter Vectors, and Difference Schemes, *J. Comput. Physics* **43** (1981) 357-372.
8. A. Bermudez and M. E. Vazquez, Upwind Methods for Hyperbolic Conservation Laws with Source Terms, *Comput. Fluids* **23** (1994) 1049-1071.
9. N. Goutal and F. Maurel, Proceedings of the 2 Workshop on Dam-Break Wave Simulation, Technical report HE-43/97/016/A, Electricite de France, *Departement Laboratoire National d'Hydraulique Fluviale*, 1997.
10. R. J. Fennema and M. H. Chaudhry, Explicit Methods for 2D Transient Free-surface Flows, *J. Hydraul. Eng. ASCE* **116** (1990) 1013-1034.
11. F. Alcrudo and P. Garcia-Navarro, A High-resolution Godunov-type Schem in Finite Volumes for the 2D Shallow -water Equations, *Int. J. for Num. Meth. in Fluids* **16** (1993) 489-505.
12. TELEMAC - 2D Version 5.0, *Validation Document*, July, 2000.
13. A. Ritter, *Die Fortpflanzung der wasserwellen*, Z. Verdeut. Ing 36, 1892
14. Concerted Action on Dam-Break Modelling (CADAM), [www.hrwallingford.co.uk/projects/CADAM](http://www.hrwallingford.co.uk/projects/CADAM).

Received January 16, 2007

## **XÂY DỰNG, KIỂM ĐỊNH PHẦN MỀM CHO DÒNG VỠ ĐẬP 2 CHIỀU VÀ MỘT SỐ ÁP DỤNG**

Bài báo này nghiên cứu việc áp dụng phương pháp thể tích hữu hạn trong giải số hệ phương trình nước nông 2 triệu. Bài báo gồm 3 phần. Phần 1 mô tả tóm tắt cơ sở lý thuyết về kỹ thuật của Roe cho phương pháp thể tích hữu hạn trong phần mềm vỡ đập 2 chiều IMECH\_2DBREAK. Phần 2 giới thiệu kết quả kiểm định IMECH\_2DBREAK qua một số bài toán mẫu do các phòng thủy lực lớn của châu Âu đề xuất. Phần 3 trình bày một số kết quả áp dụng IMECH\_2DBREAK để mô phỏng ngập lụt trên đồng bằng sông Hồng sông Thái Bình khi xảy ra sự cố vỡ đê.