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Another way to use PC/SWMM: - dynamic modeling of wave oscillations in a canal

by

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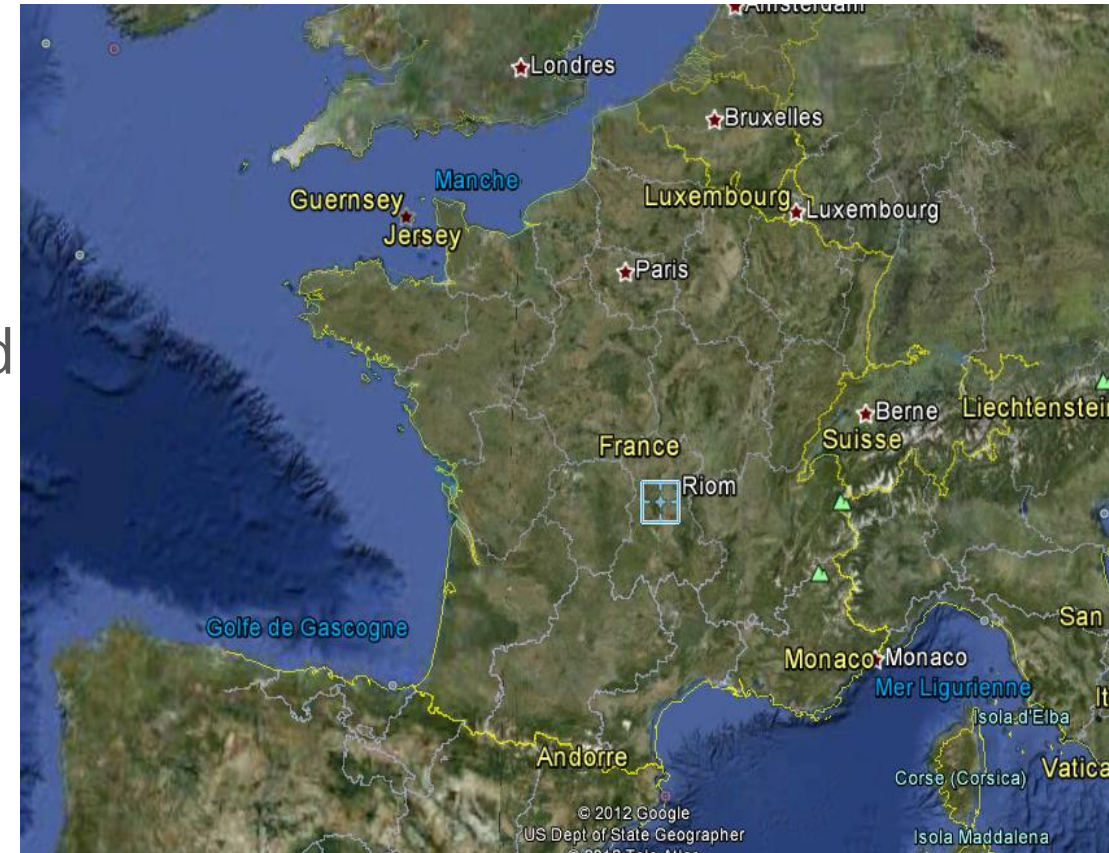
OUTLINE

- Introduction
 - Context
 - Objective
- Methodology and application
 - Model development
 - Model use
- Insights of the approach
- *Philosophy*



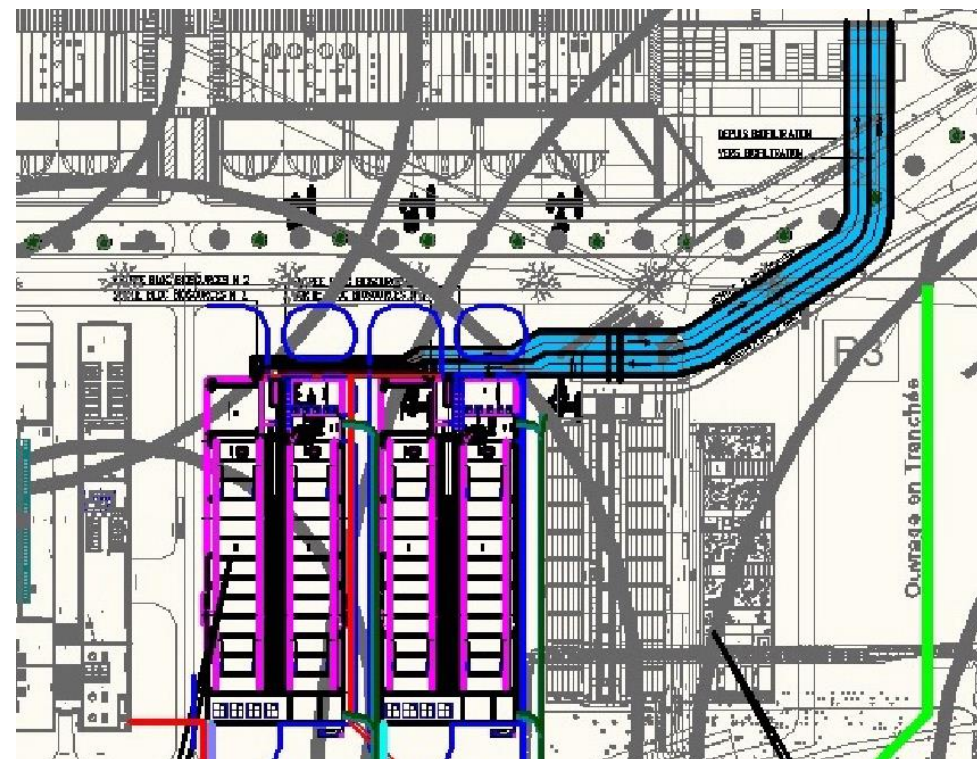
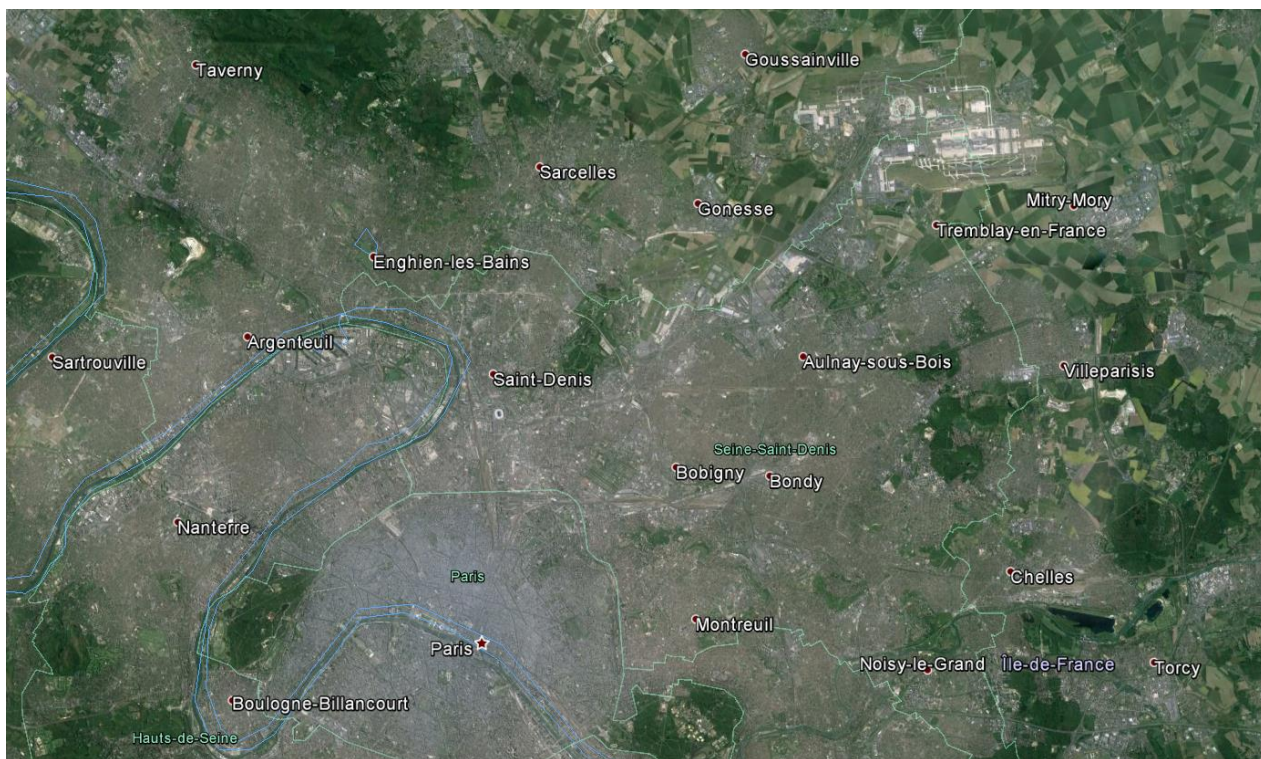
Context

- **Paris municipality Sewer system:**
Complex and amazing sewer – open to visit!
- 10 million people – and more to come
- Partly combined system – storm water collected
- One treatment plant → Located in the West of the city along the Seine river
- Environmental constraints - French water law →
One more biofiltration filter to construct
- **Need a powerful tool to dynamically represent and check flow conditions**



Context – Paris sewer system

Maximum flow of 45 m³/s arrives in the Achère treatment plant, *open concrete canal* conveys the water to the 3 pumps, 3 biofiltration systems treat 15 m³/s each



Objective

- Problem: in an electrical outage, is the canal at risk due to waves created by pump stoppage?
 - Possibility to re-design the treatment plant area
 - Check roughness impact (for future conditions)
- **Dynamic model built to check the flow conditions under such constraint**
 1. Development of model for the canal
 2. Calibration for steady state
 3. Implementation of the pump stoppage
- **PCSWMM was selected**

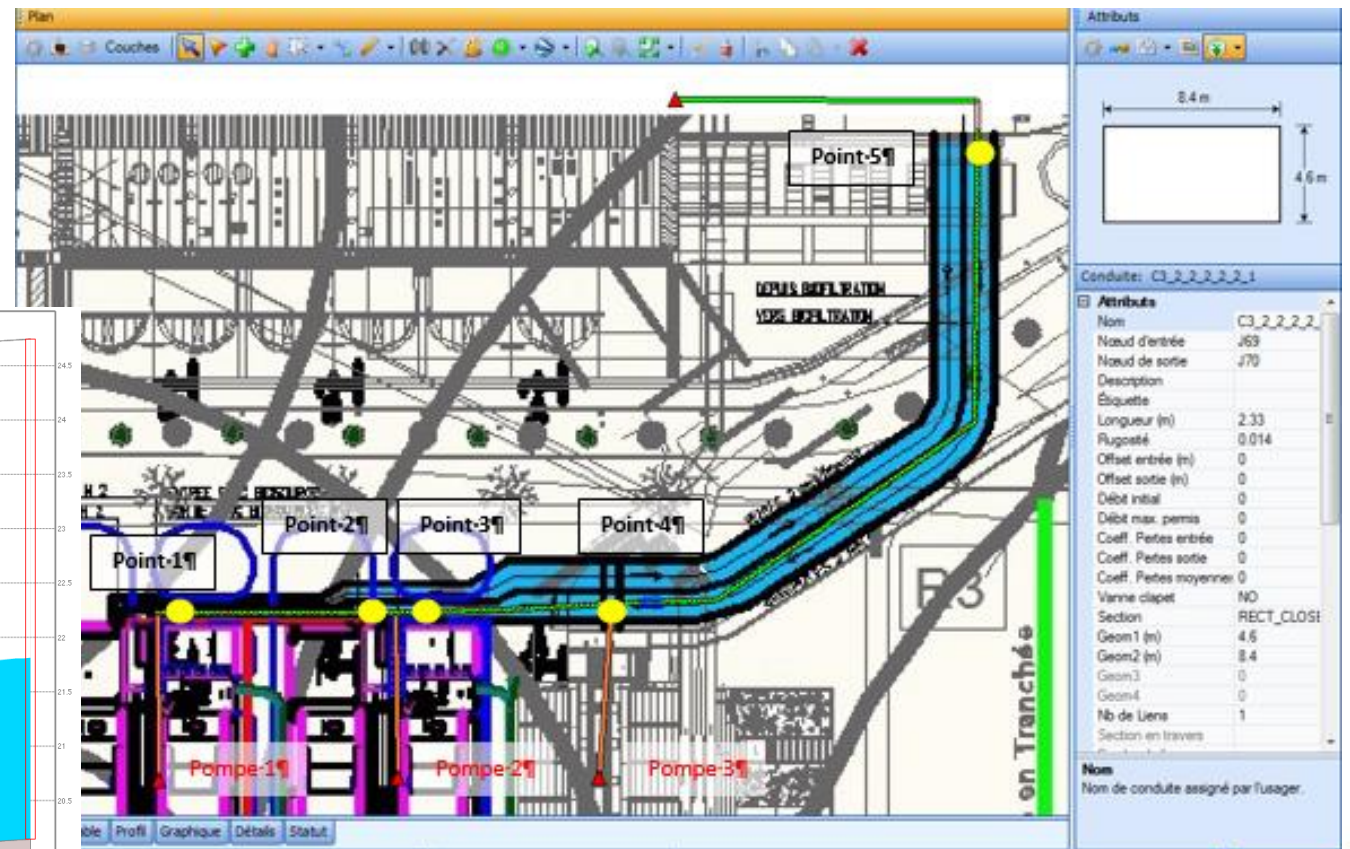
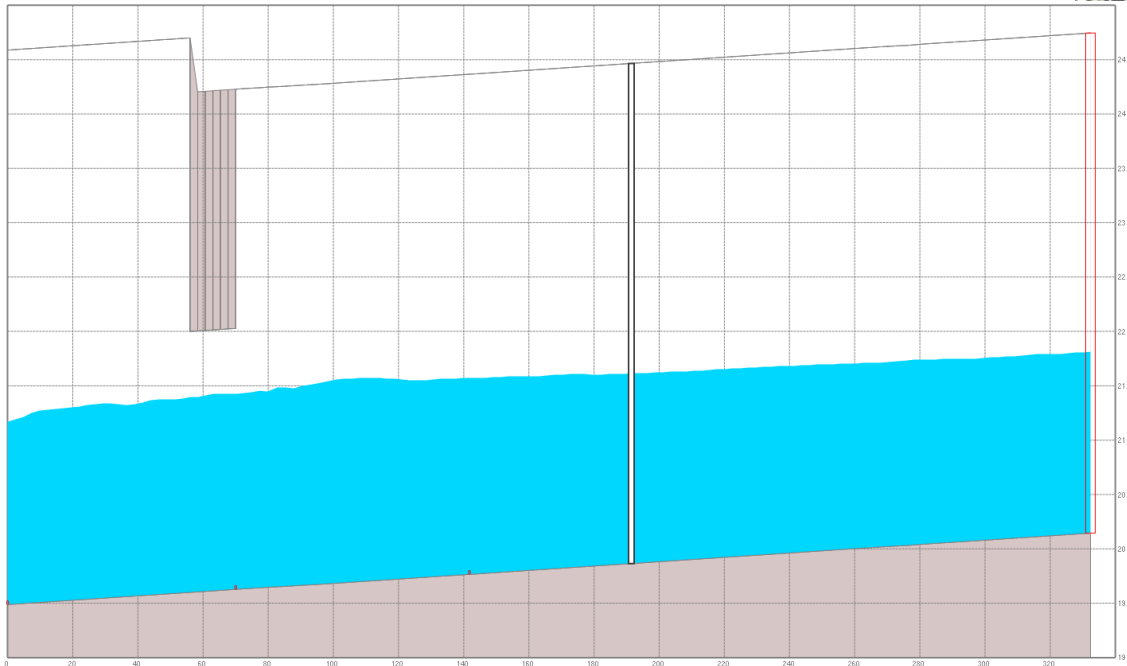


Application

- PCSWMM model development

- Canal dimensions:

- Length → 350 m
 - Width → 8.4 m
 - Height → from 4.6m, to 5.1, with part 2.4 m



Why PC/SWMM is a useful model

PC/SWMM is nifty for visualising long wave oscillations in a long, shallow, sloping canal

– even if results on small screens seem odd.



350m long narrow, shallow, sloping canal

- A long narrow, shallow, sloping canal, contains gates at each end and three large extraction pumps located in the canal near the lower end.
- Flows are large.
- When all five devices are closed a complex system of standing waves ensues, with components originating from each device.
- The problem is to explain the resulting oscillations.



For any non-routine application, such as canal oscillations, the choice of model merits care. Options include highly complex models. Three considerations are:

1. basic equations applicable
2. choice of model complexity
3. general modelling philosophy

First consideration: model equations

1D incompressible Navier-Stokes equations

$$\rho \left[\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + (V \cdot \nabla) V \right] = -\nabla p + \rho g + \mu \nabla^2 V$$

Change in
velocity with
time

Convective
term

Pressure term:
fluid flows in the
direction of
largest change in
pressure

Body force term:
external forces
that act on the
fluid such as
gravity,
electromagnetic
etc.

Viscosity
controlled
velocity
diffusion
term



SWMM5 momentum equations

Momentum equation

- 2D equations

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \mu \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) + g_x + F_x$$
$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \mu \left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \right) + g_y + F_y$$

- 1D Equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + g_x + F_x$$
$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \left(Q^2 / A \right)}{\partial x} = -gA \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} - gAS_f + \frac{uq_L}{2}$$

SWMM5 equation
with seepage q_L



SWMM5 1D unsteady flow equations

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \left(Q^2 / A \right)}{\partial x} = -gA \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} - gAS_f + \frac{uq_L}{2}$$

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

Note: In the S_f term, SWMM uses the Manning equation



Model applicability

- This is basic: can the motion be conceived as a mean bulk flow?
- Our problem involves turbulent flow of homogeneous water, for which flow velocity can indeed be expressed as bulk unit mean discharge (per unit cross-section area).
- Manning's equation was originally developed, as steady-state, for this condition.
- For unsteady gradually-varied flow and long-wave problems, SWMM has been widely proven.

Caveats: Model performance should be checked for:

- Known theoretical characteristics (e.g. reflectivity, celerities, shoaling, amplitudes)
- Available, reliable field observations
- Other models known to be accurate

- Uncertainty
- Sensitivity
- Calibration/optimal parameters
- Error

Second consideration: *Choice of model complexity*

- *Vide Occam's Razor*, we chose PCSWMM.
- Our PCSWMM video demonstrates complex surface wave interactions in a long narrow, shallow canal, when end gates and three large pumps are quickly shut.
- Naturally, more complex problems warrant more complex models.

Finite difference setup.

Solution along characteristics:

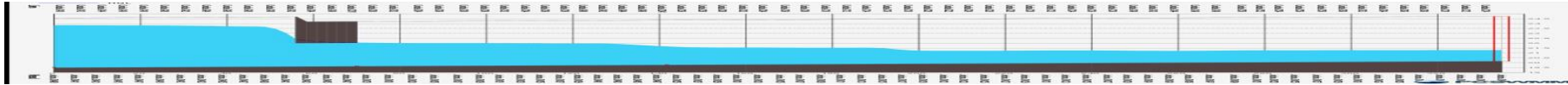
$$\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = \frac{dx}{dt} = \sqrt{gD}$$

Don't be confused by the distortion

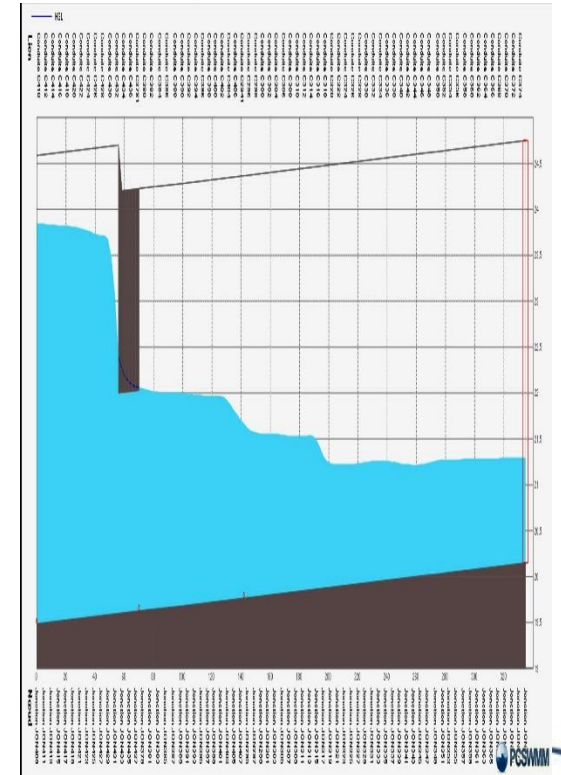
- For the dynamic plot, vertical distortion is $\sim 100:1$
($x = 340\text{m}$; $y = 4\text{m}$; $85:1$).
- Displays steep-fronted waves
- Visual impression of speed is also distorted.

Apparent wave steepness is an artefact of display distortion (so is celerity)

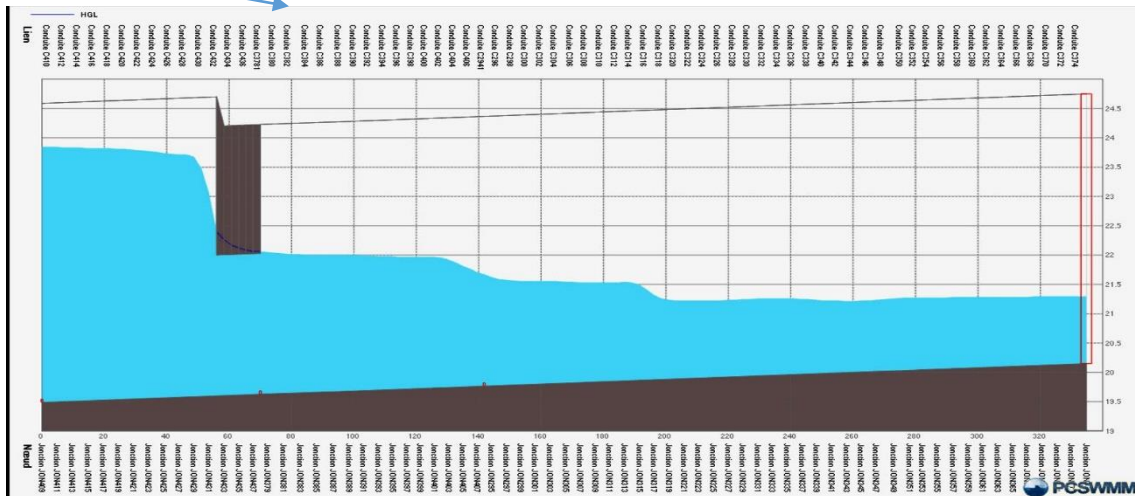
closer to reality



portrait screen



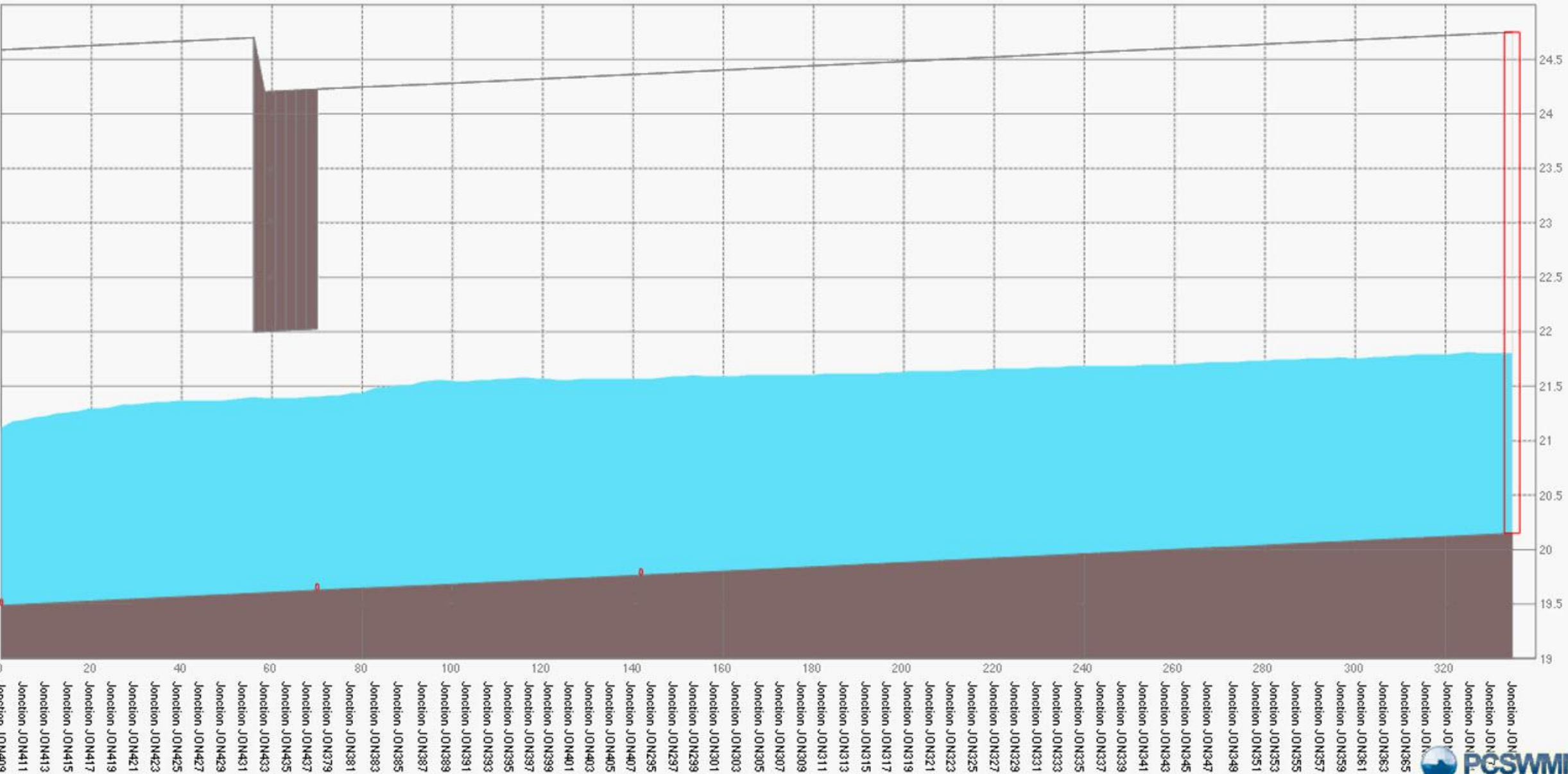
landscape screen



The dynamic waves video

The video displays:

- linear superposition,
- momentum effects against the downstream gate,
- three waves set up by closure of the three pumps,
- complete reflection,
- wave celerities,
- wave steepening due to shoaling depths.



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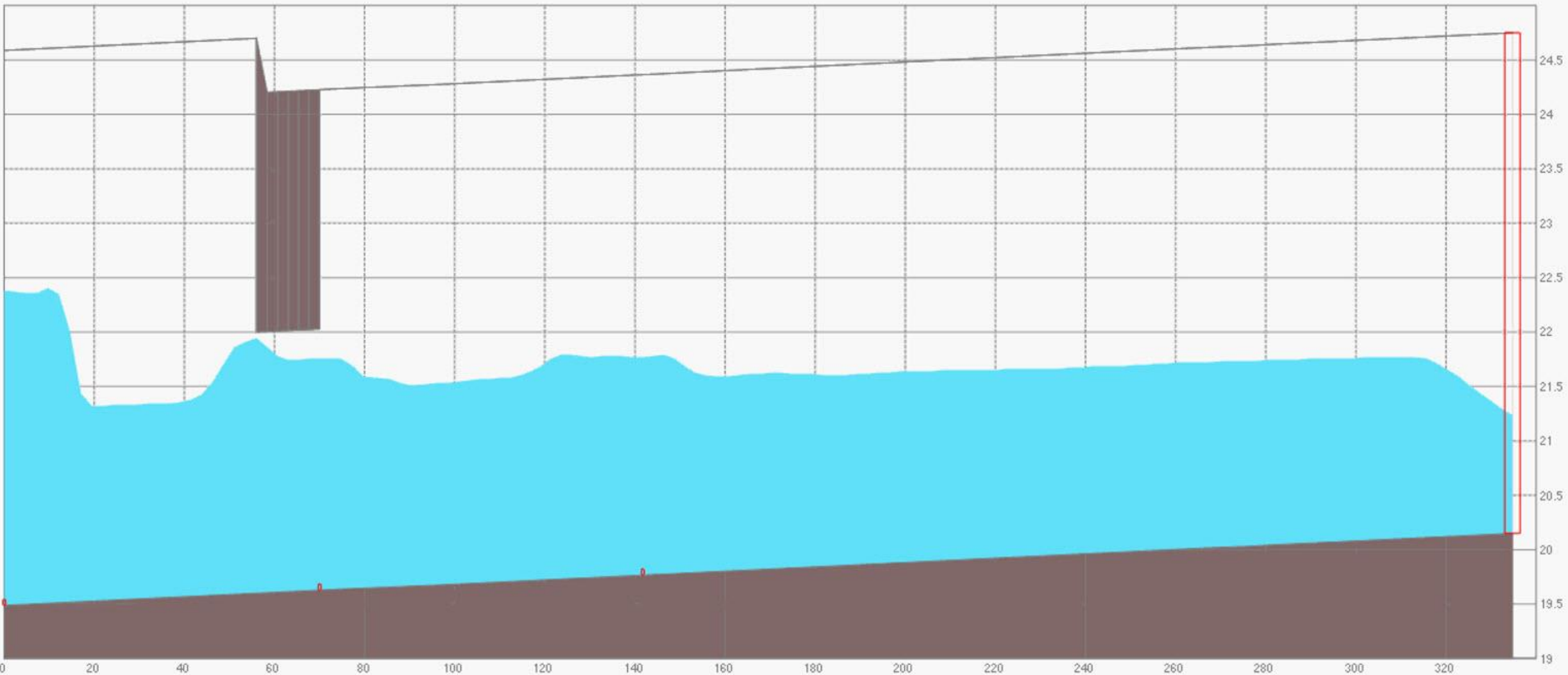
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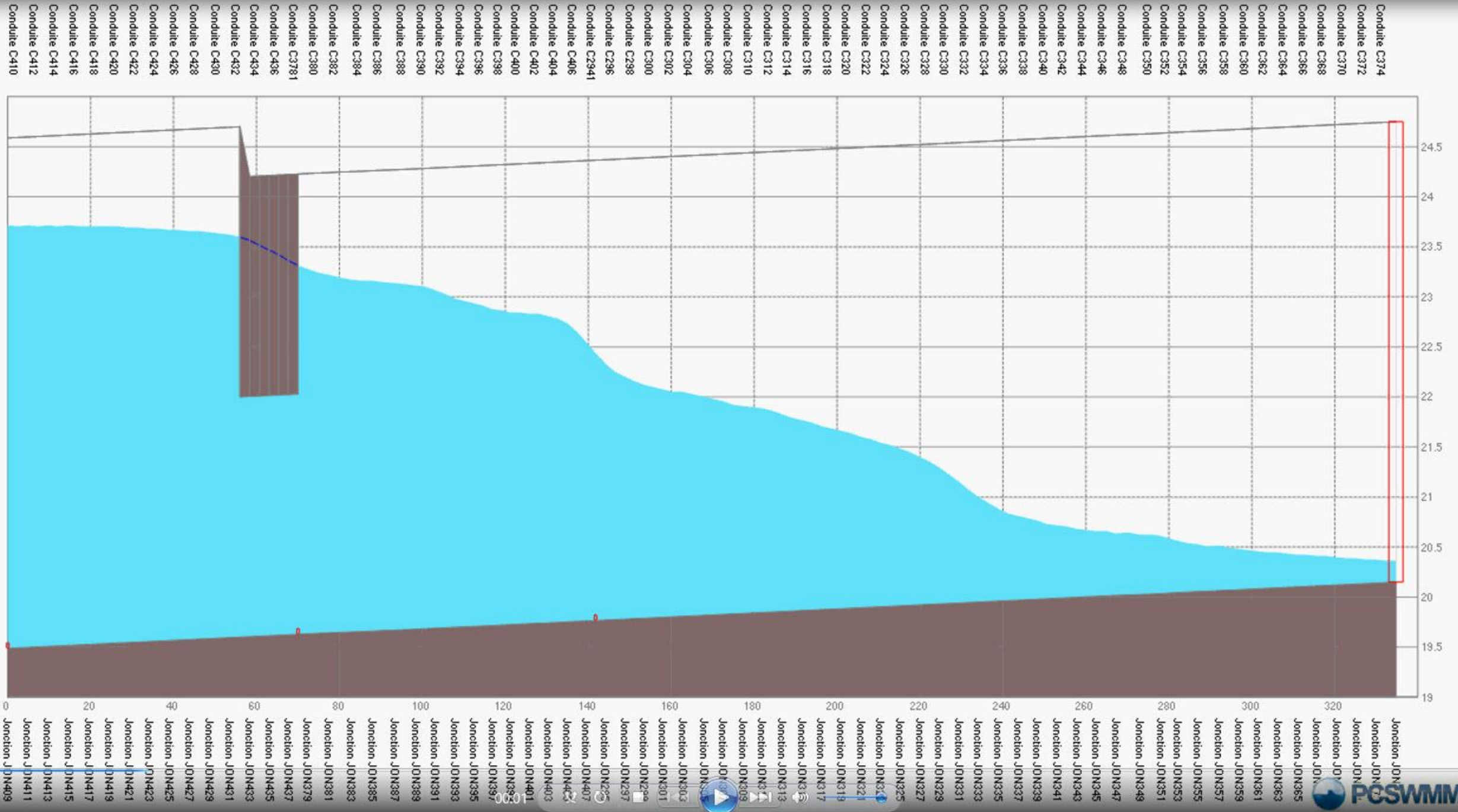
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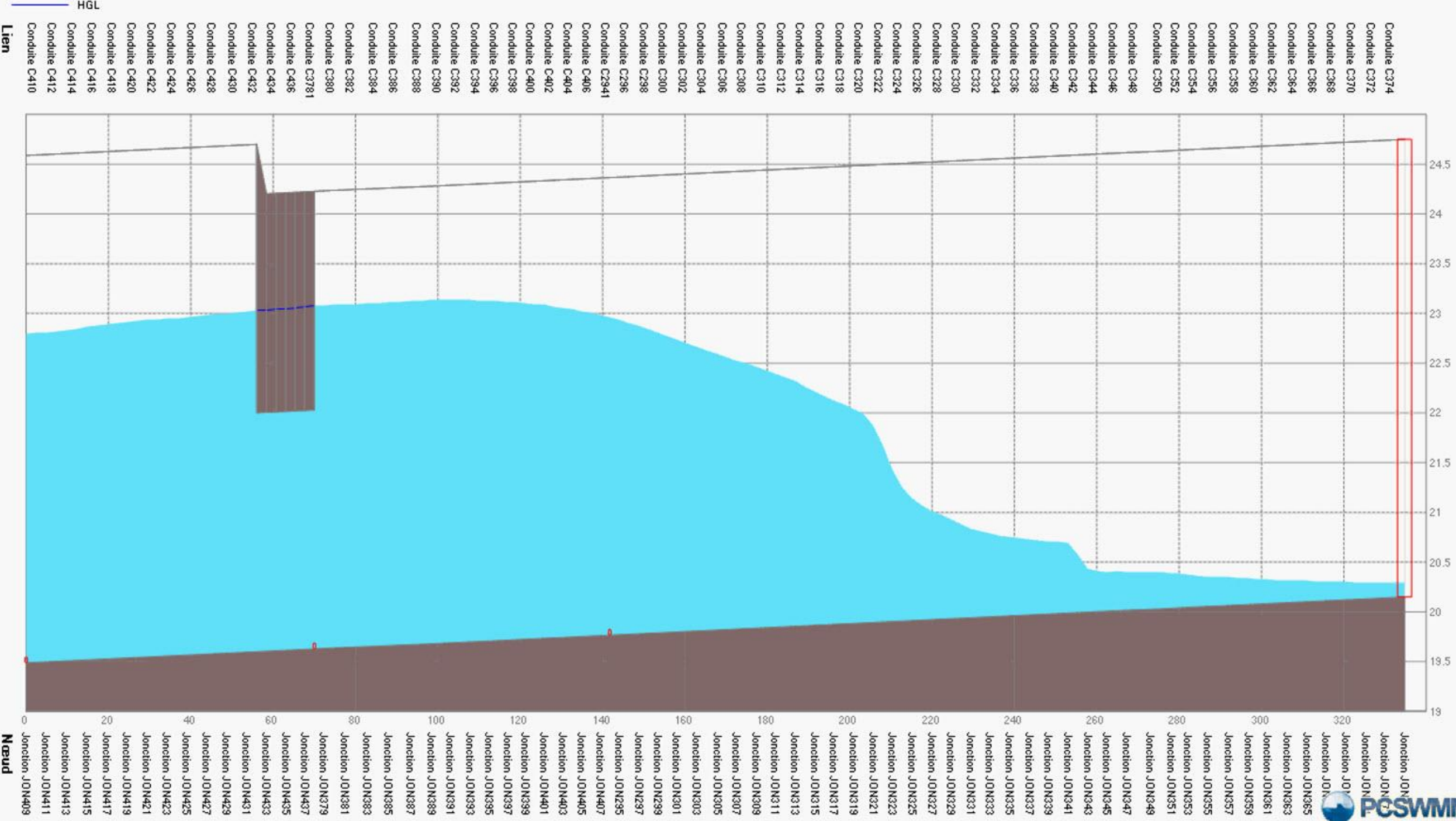
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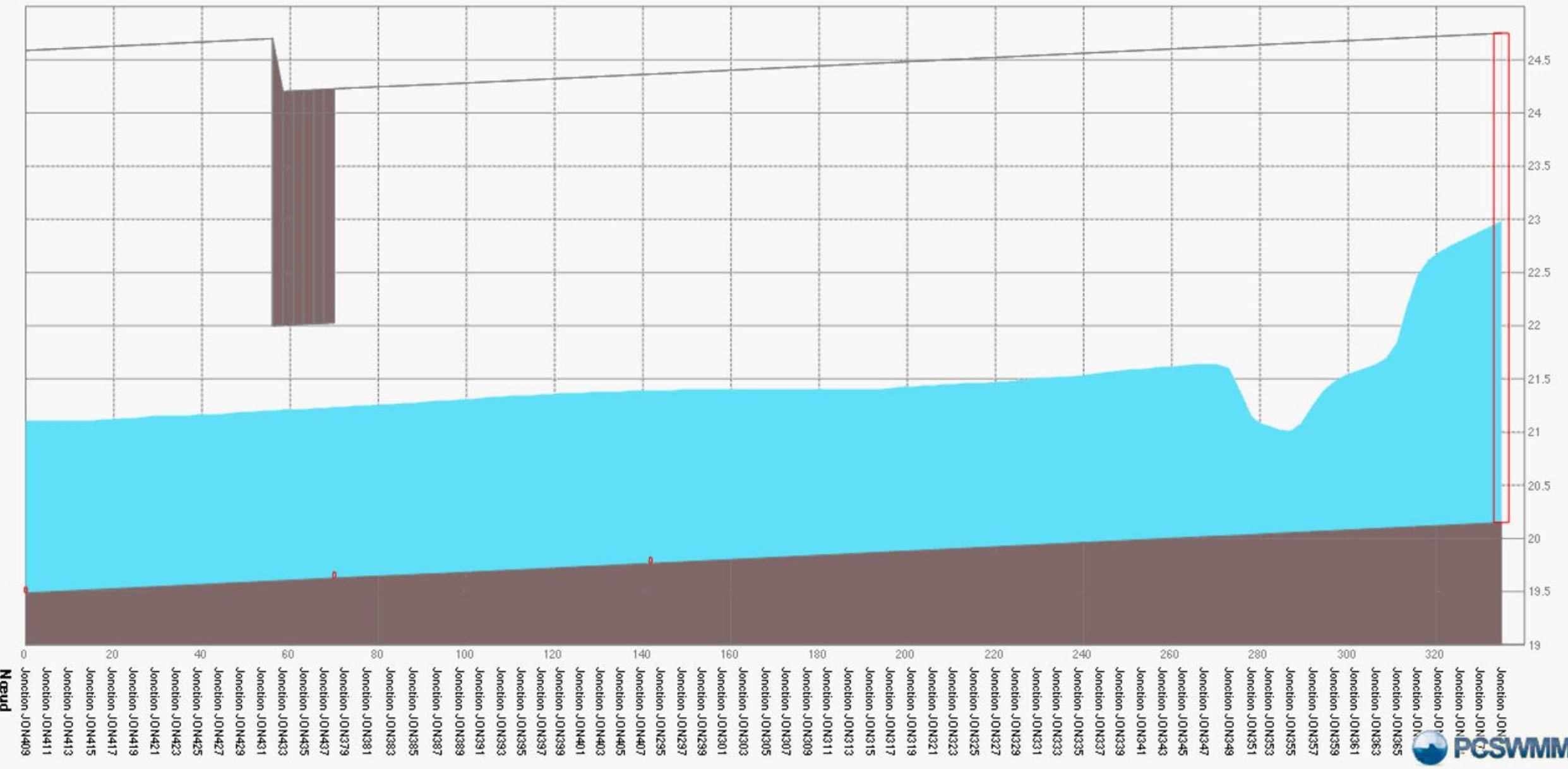


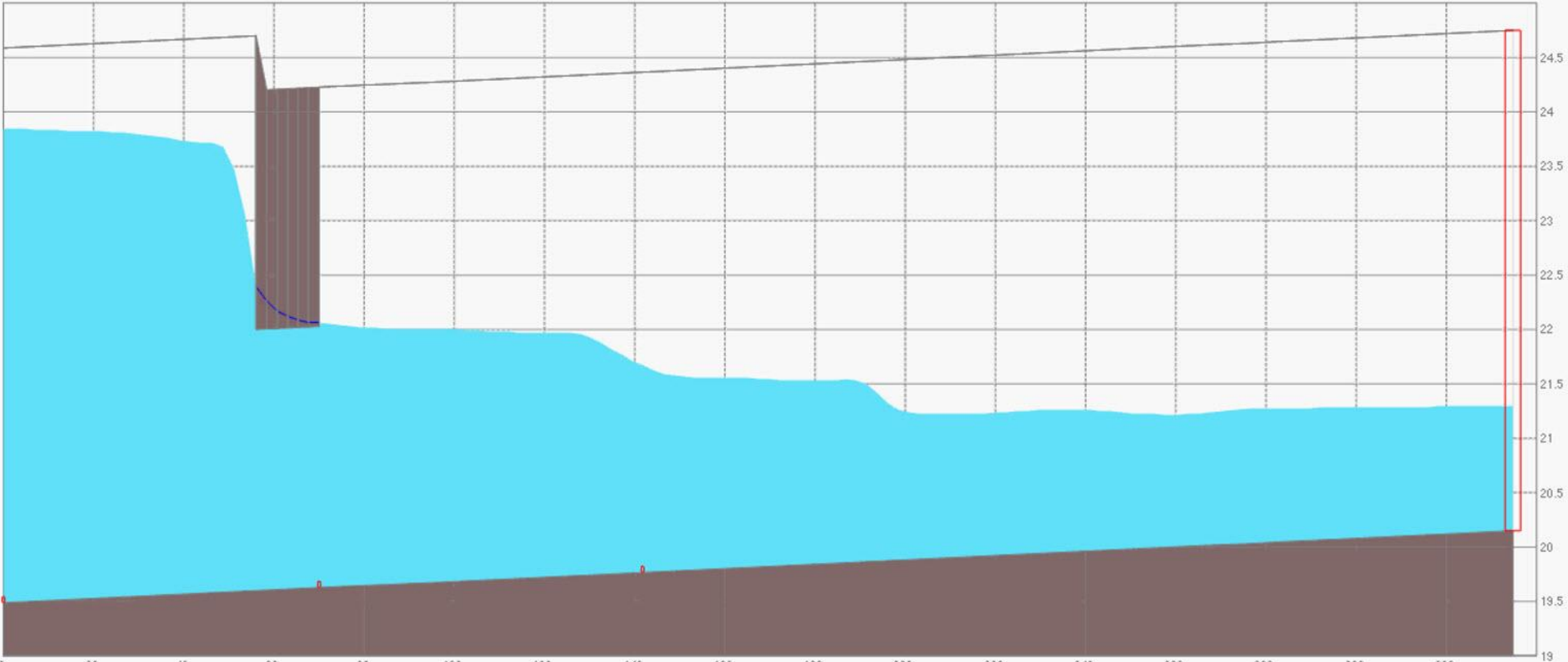
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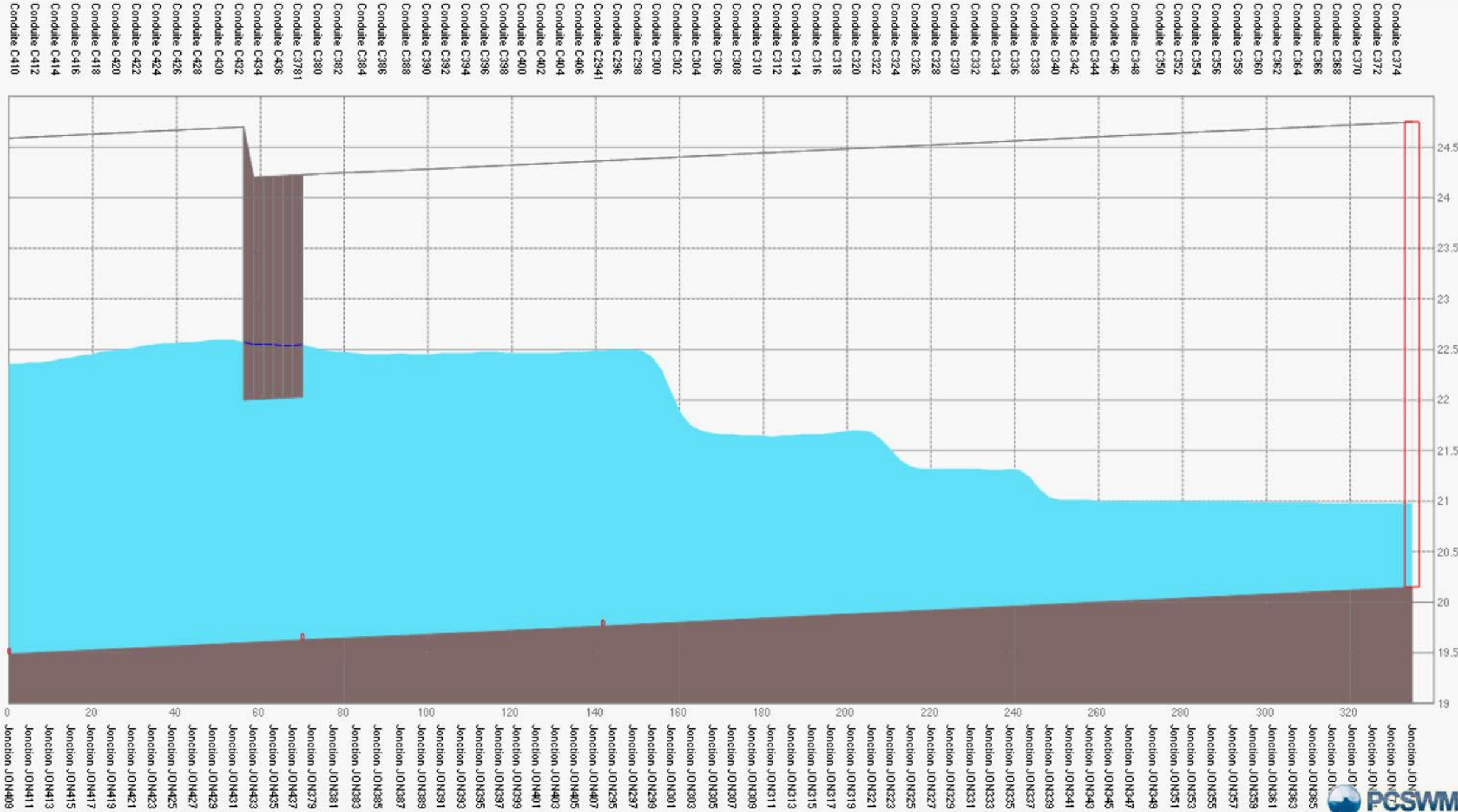


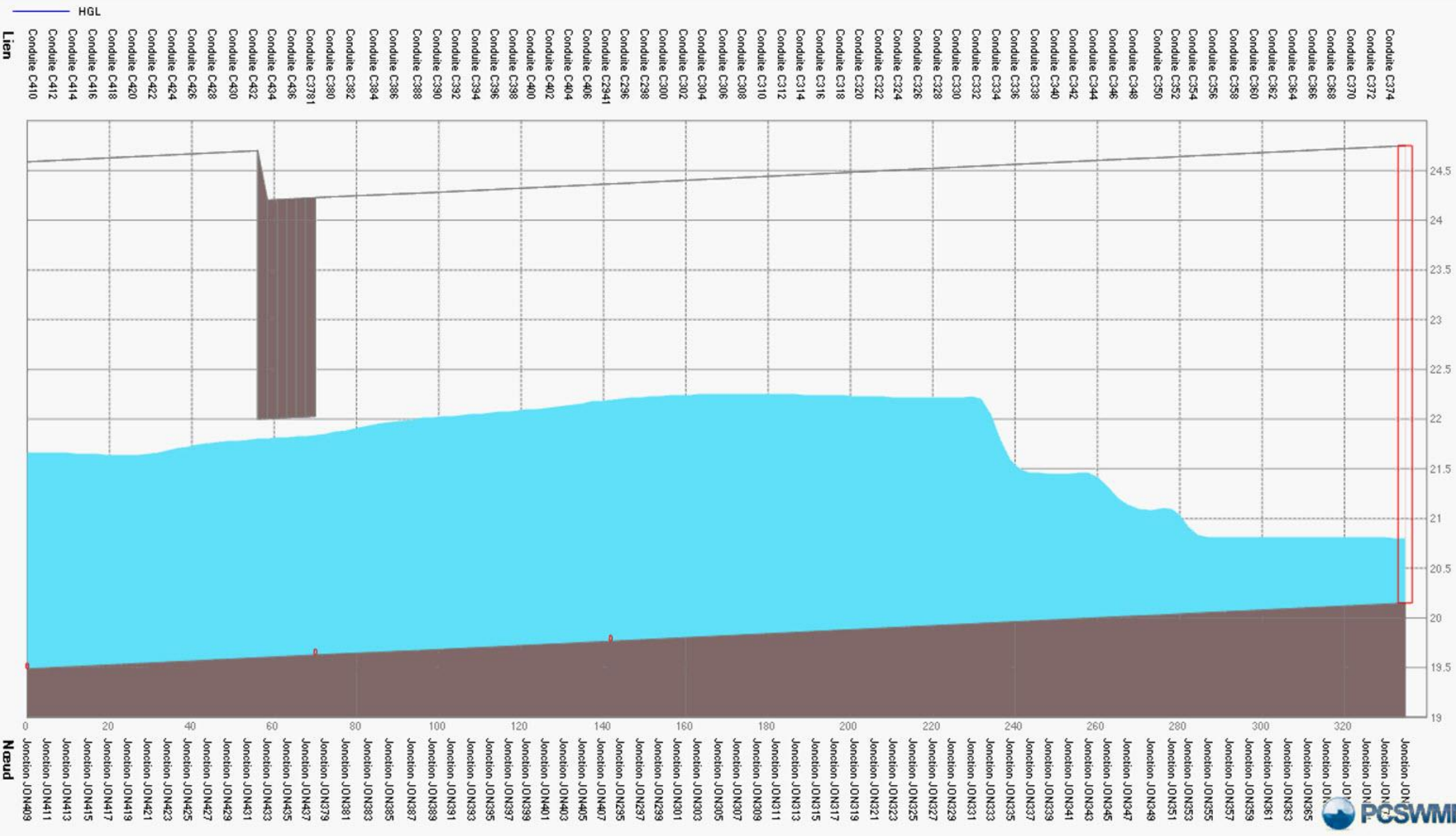


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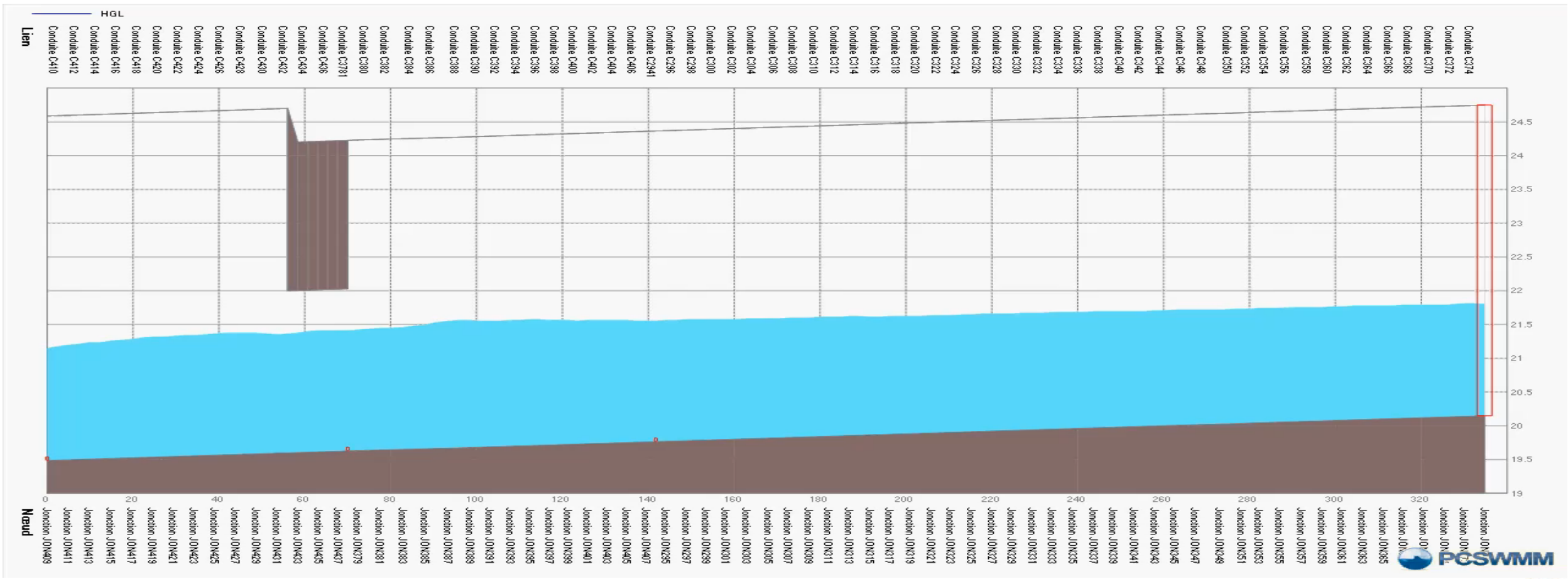








Computed dynamic hydraulic grade line



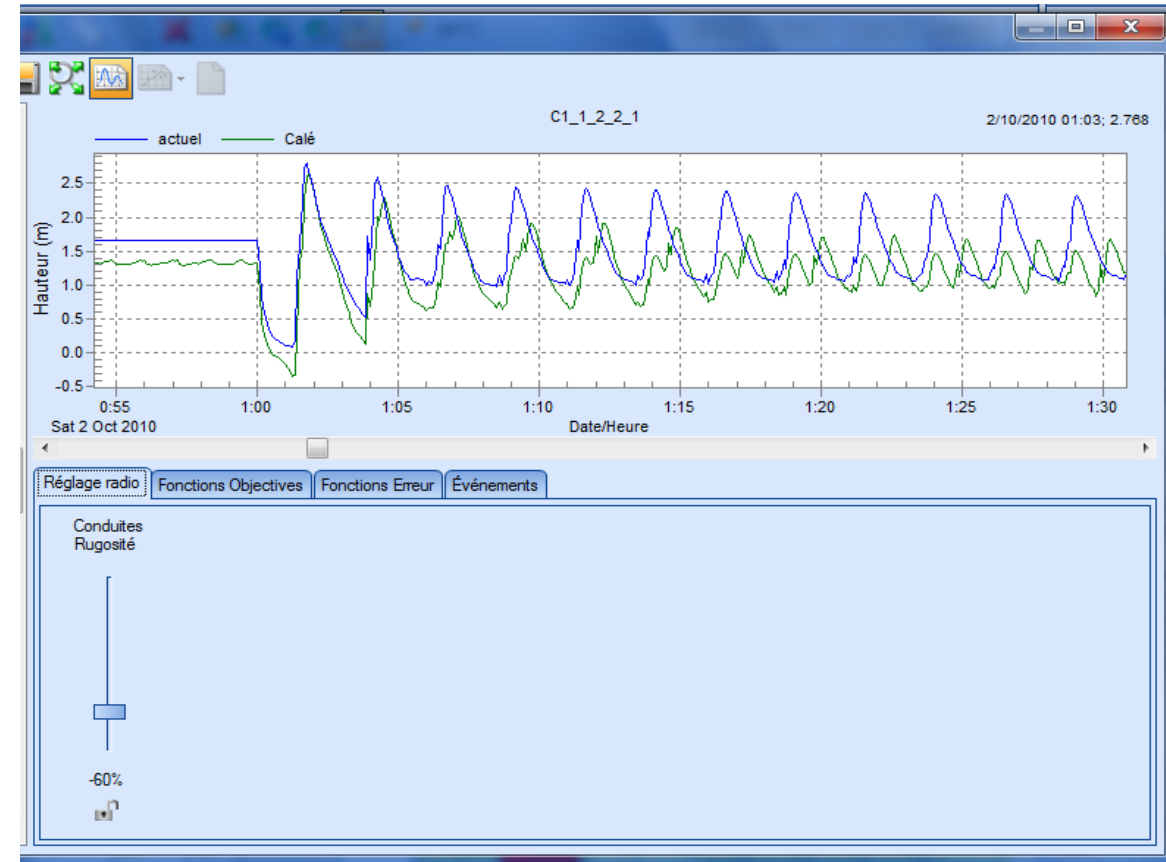
3rd consideration a post-script: choice of PC/SWMM5

Occam's Razor recommends a model with few uncertain parameters; so that when the parameters are optimised the model is readily testable. For models with impressive but insensitive processes, e.g. turbulent diffusion, G.E. Box warns that redundant complexity indicates *poor engineering*. Any number of unnecessarily complex models can be equally well calibrated, due to the large number of uncertain parameters, but inference is then co-opted by side issues of minor processes.

Conclusion

Successful approach – model was essential to:

- Better understand the sewerwater flow in critical conditions:
 - Part of the canal under pressure (1m)
- Sensitivity analysis:
 - Impact of the roughness
- Communication tool for a complex subject:
 - Results help understanding and decisions



So PC/SWMM is
niftier than most
folks think!

Thanks...

