



<https://life-adsorb.eu/fr/site>



Modelling hydraulics and fate of micropollutants in a variably saturated treatment wetland for urban stormwater

Ania Morvannou, Stéphane Troesch, Marie-Christine Gromaire, Nicolas Forquet

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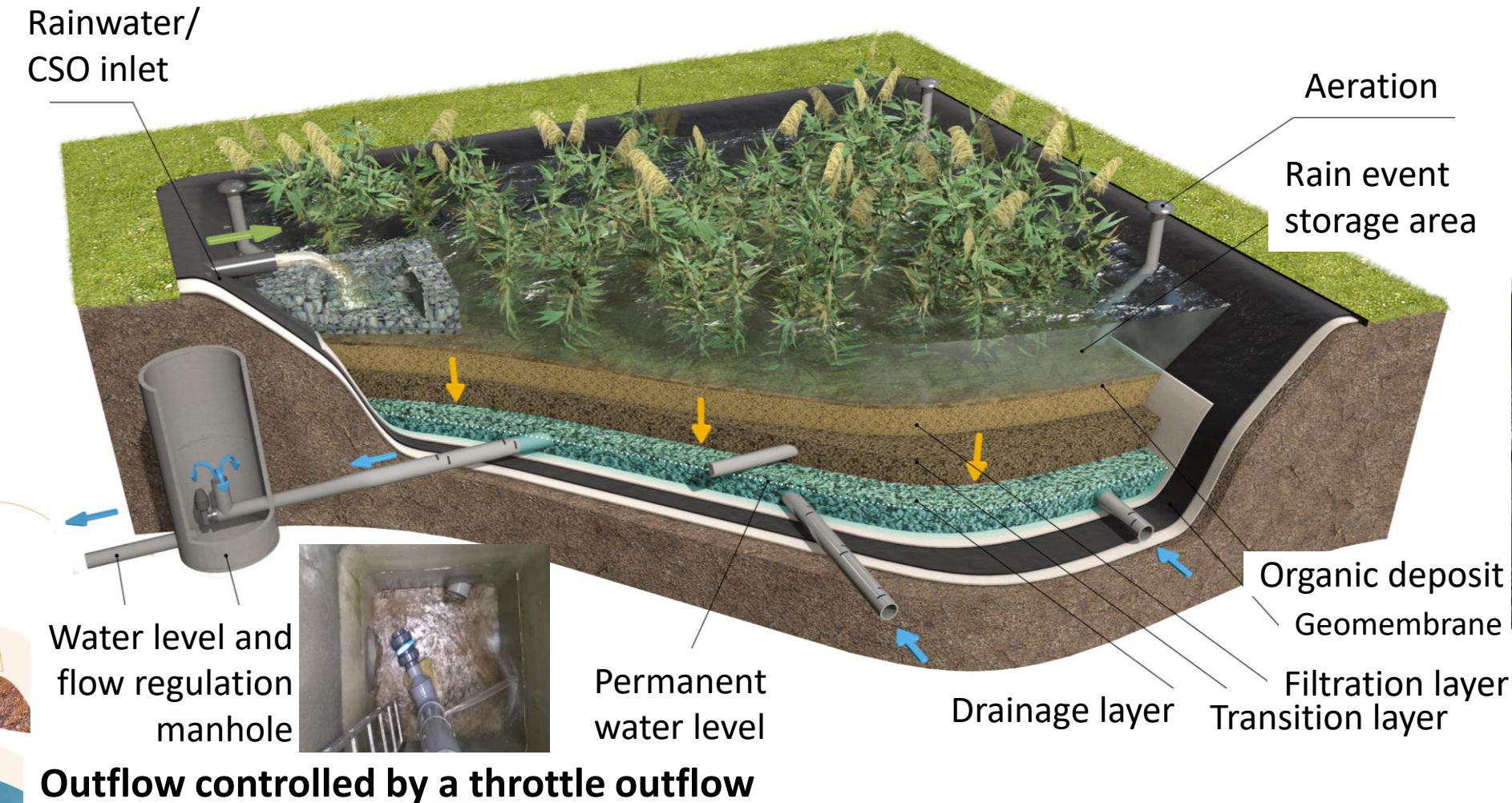


The HYDR'EPUR® System

Nature-based solution for runoff and CSO

20 references in France

	Removal efficiency (%)	Concentration out (mg/L)
DCO	60	50
MES	90	20



<https://ecobird.fr/>

The Life ADSORB project

<https://life-adsorb.eu/fr/site>

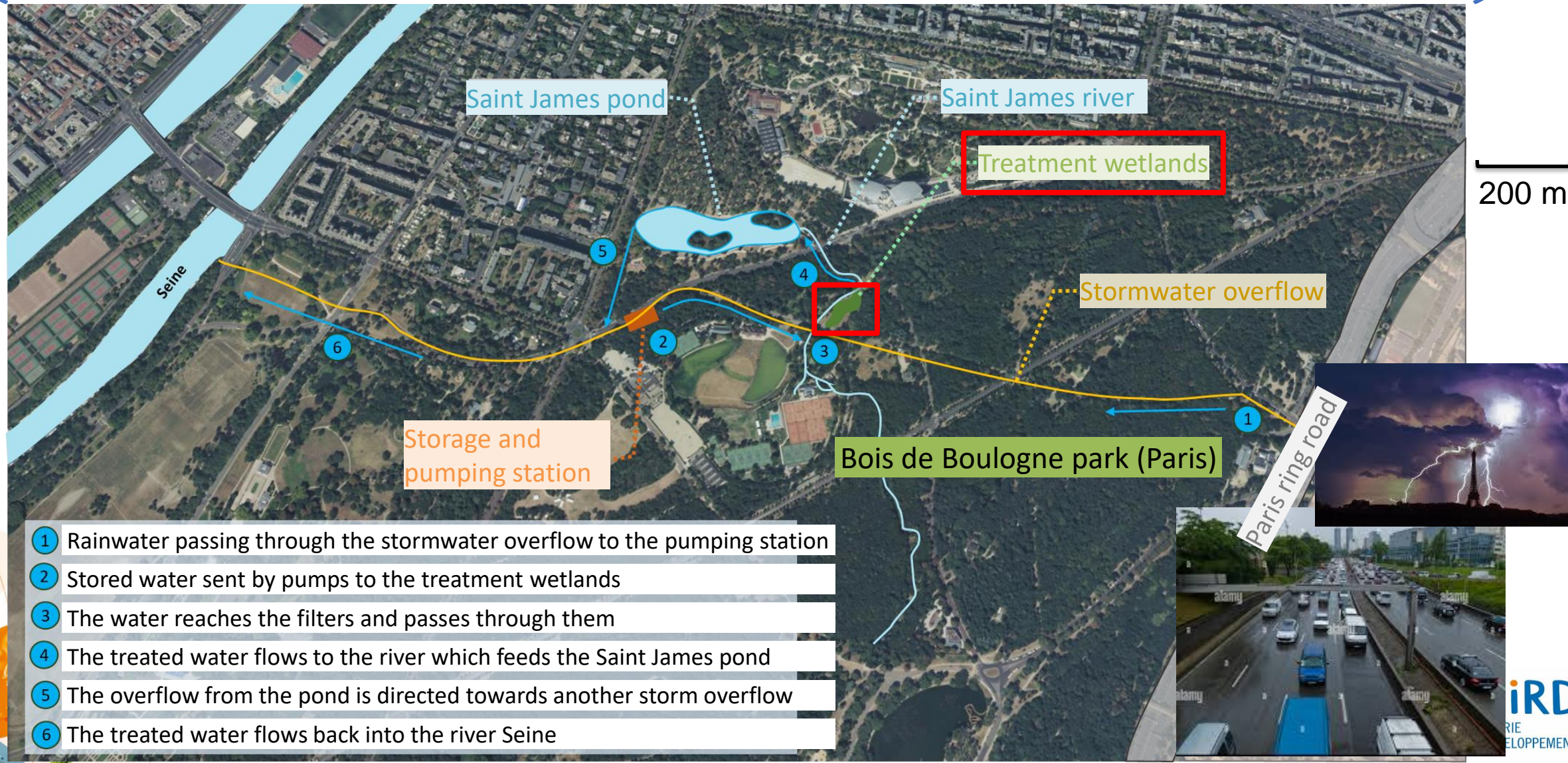
Main objectives

- Demonstrate the applicability of a treatment wetland to effectively reduce pollutant loads (TSS, metallic and organic micropollutants) from runoff water in a natural area
- Better understanding and identification of mechanisms and parameters influencing water flow, transport and fate of micropollutants → optimize design and operational

How can modelling contribute ?



The Life ADSORB experimental site, in Paris

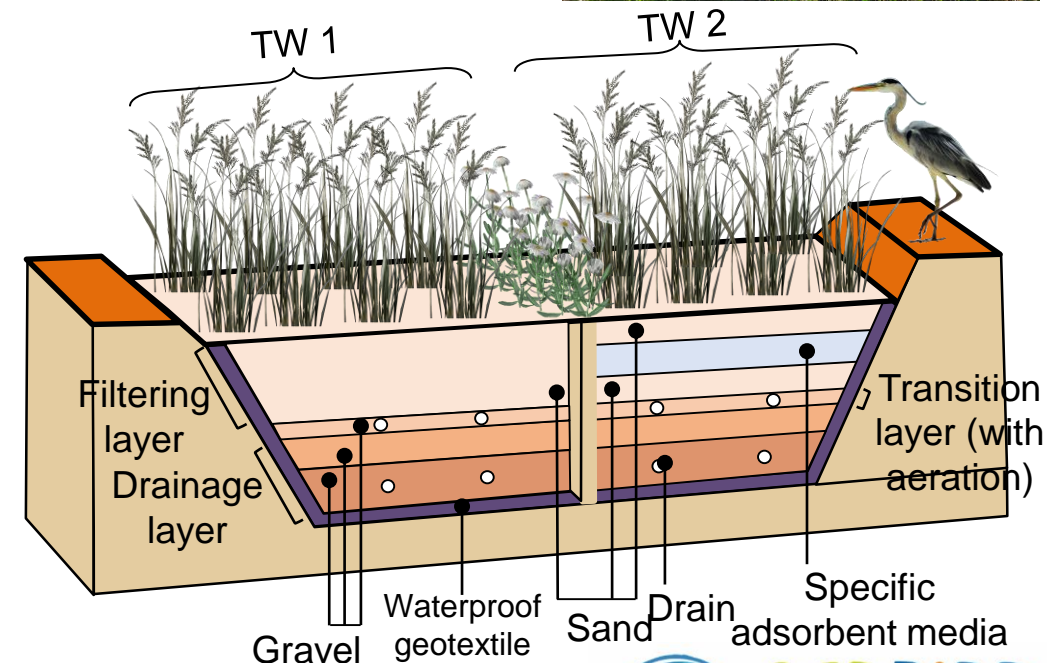


The treatment wetland pilots

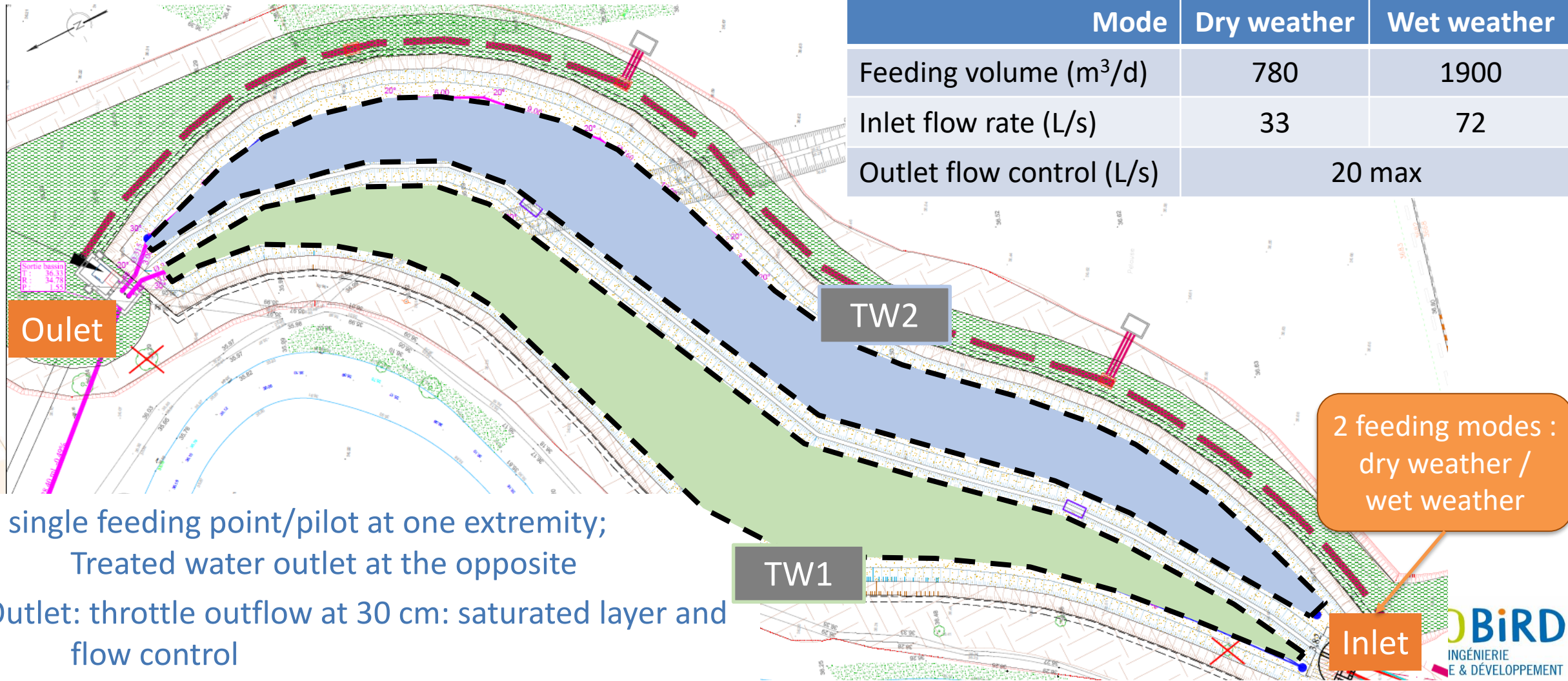
- 2 pilot TWs of 600 m²
- Treatment of runoff water; Metallic and organic micropollutants
- Similar configuration (100 m long, 1 m deep) and operation
Alternation every month
- Transition layer (10 cm) + drainage layer (50 cm)
- Single difference between the two pilots:
composition of the filtering layer



TW1: only sand (40 cm)
TW2: layer of specific adsorbent material (micropollutants, Rainclean®, 20 cm) between two layers of sand (10 cm each)



The treatment wetland pilots

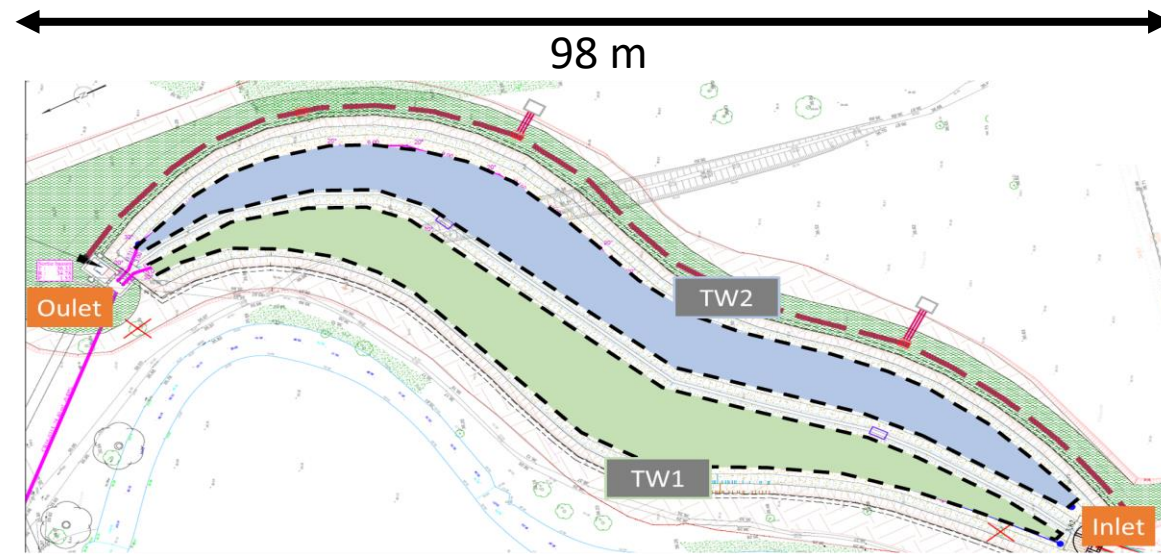
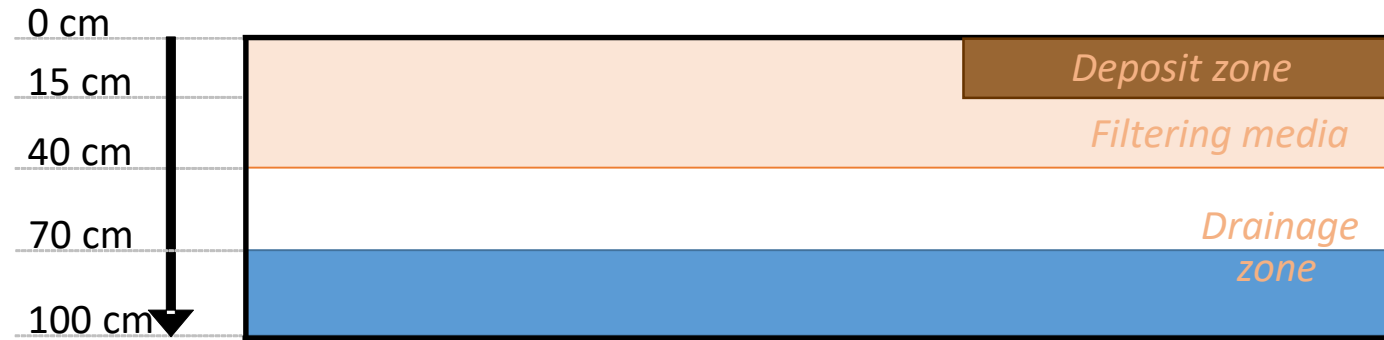


Objectives of the study

- Does the feeding and drainage specificities significantly influence the behaviour of the system ?
 1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling of a TW with a layer of specific adsorbent media for micropollutants
 2. Determination of the adsorption parameters to be applied in the mechanistic model

1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling

Conceptual model

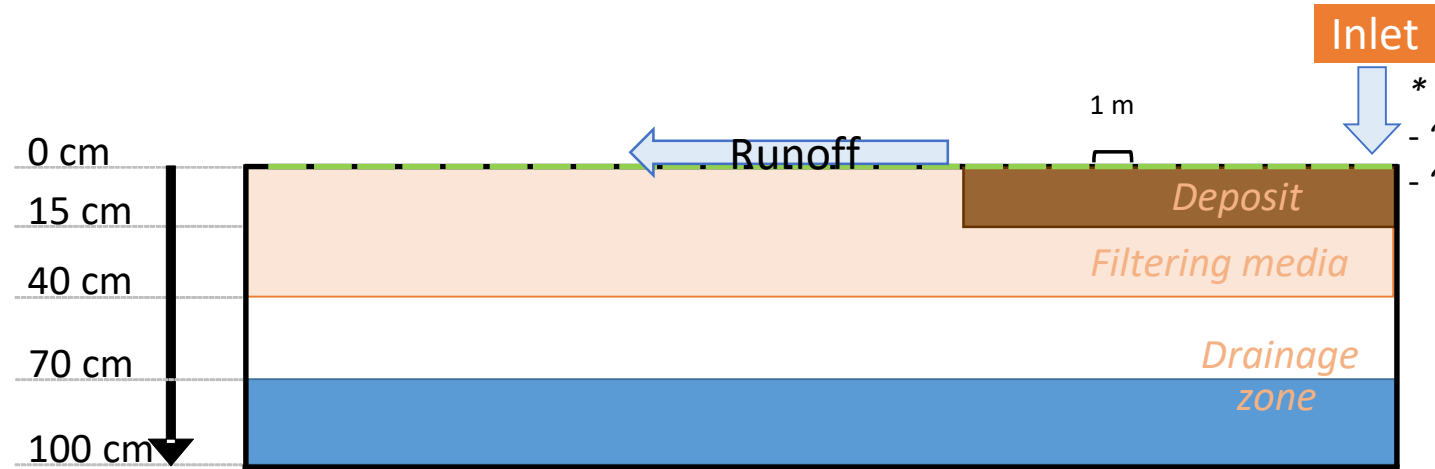


1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling

Conceptual model

3 models

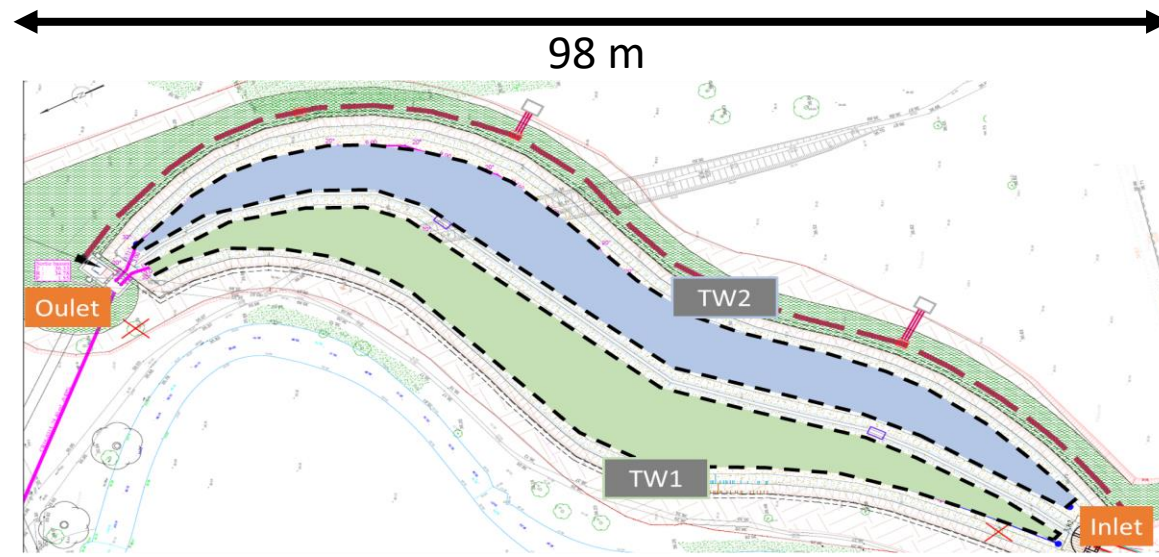
1. Surface flow
(Matlab)



* Time-varying boundary condition
- "Pressure head" when water supply
- "No flow" when no water supply

Boundary conditions

- No flux
- Pressure head
- Flux



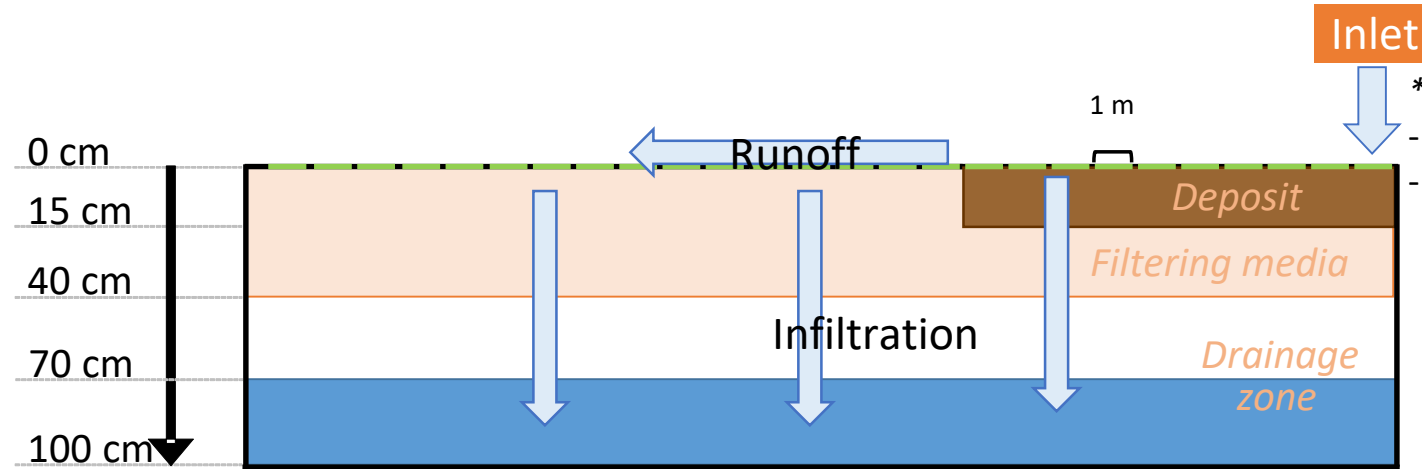
1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling

Conceptual model

3 models

1. Surface flow
(Matlab)

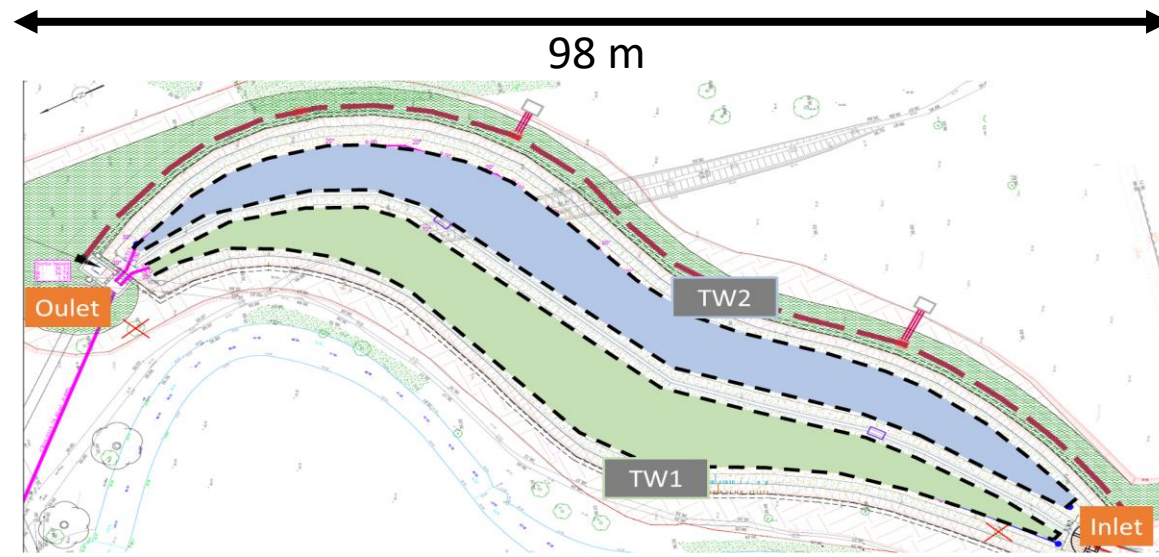
2. Water flow
inside the filter
(COMSOL)



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- "No flow" when no water supply

Boundary conditions

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- Pressure head
- Flux



1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling

Conceptual model

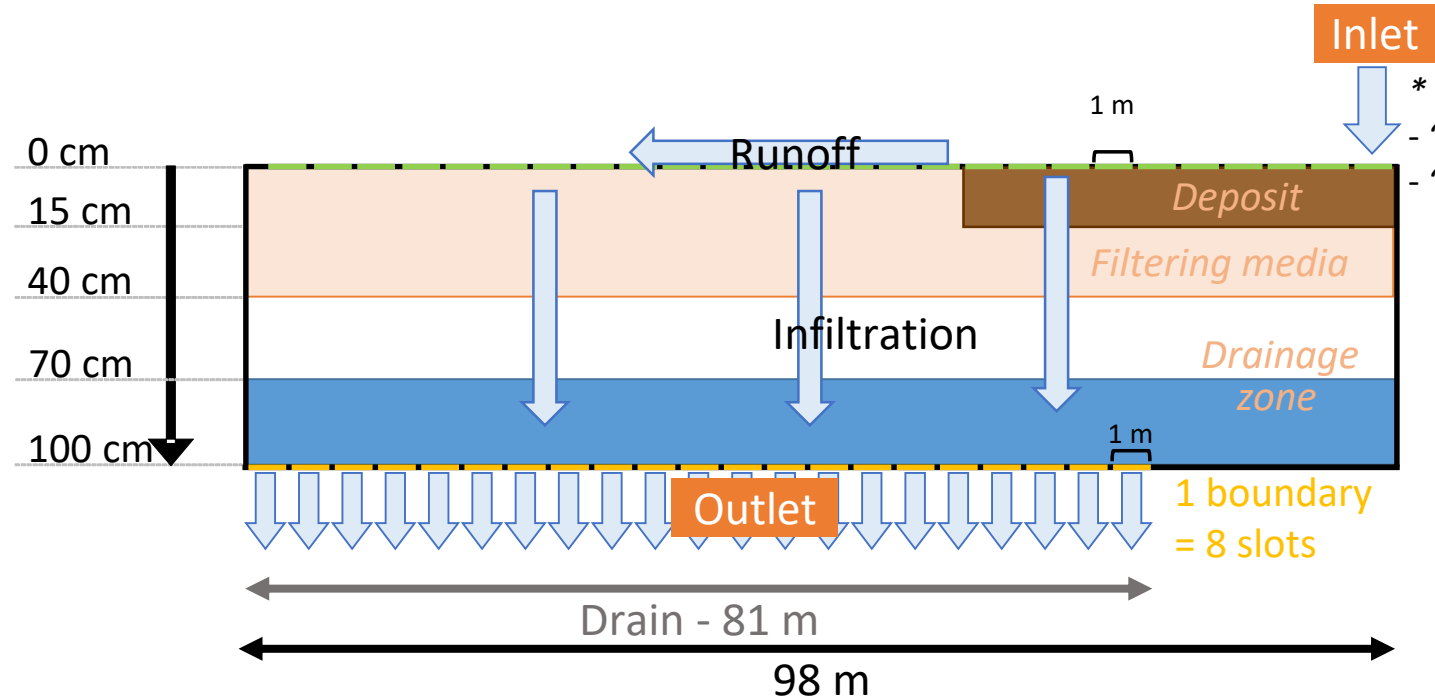
3 models

1. Surface flow
(Matlab)

2. Water flow
inside the filter
(COMSOL)

3. Drain (Matlab)

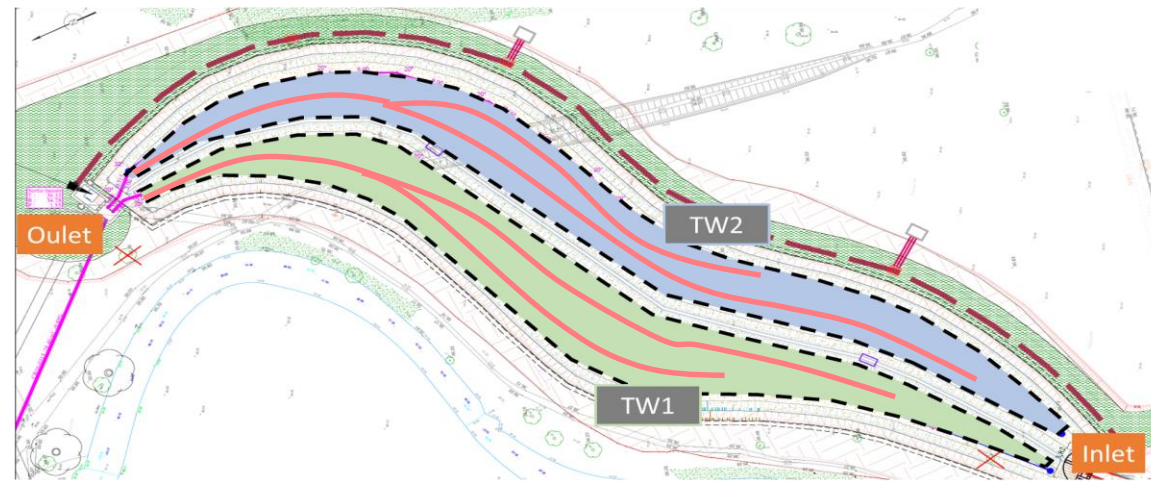
Significant pressure
head losses in the drain
that cannot be ignored



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1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling

Conceptual model

3 models

1. Surface flow
(Matlab)

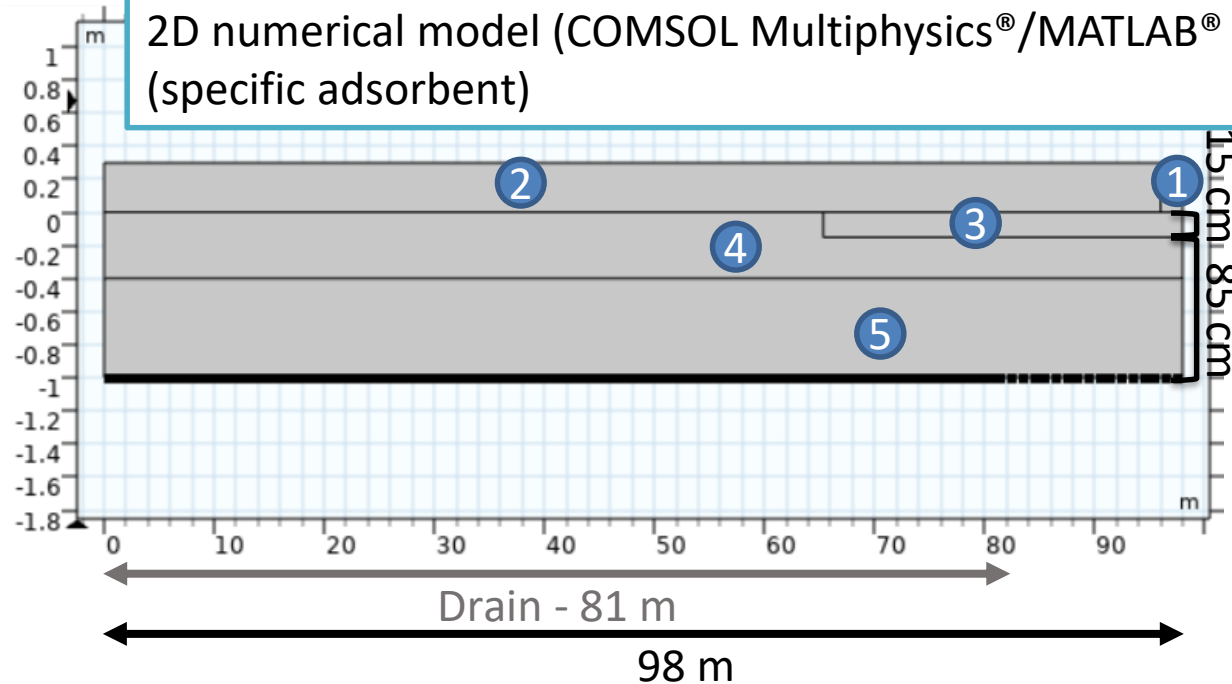
2. Water flow
inside the filter
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3. Drain (Matlab)

COUPLING

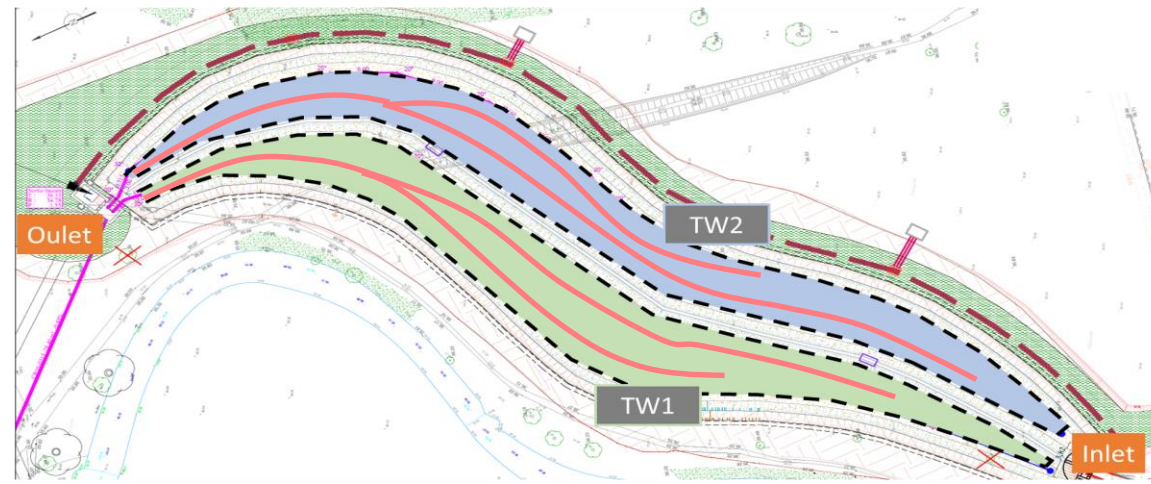
Significant pressure
head losses in the drain
that cannot be ignored

2D numerical model (COMSOL Multiphysics®/MATLAB® Livelink™) of TW2
(specific adsorbent)



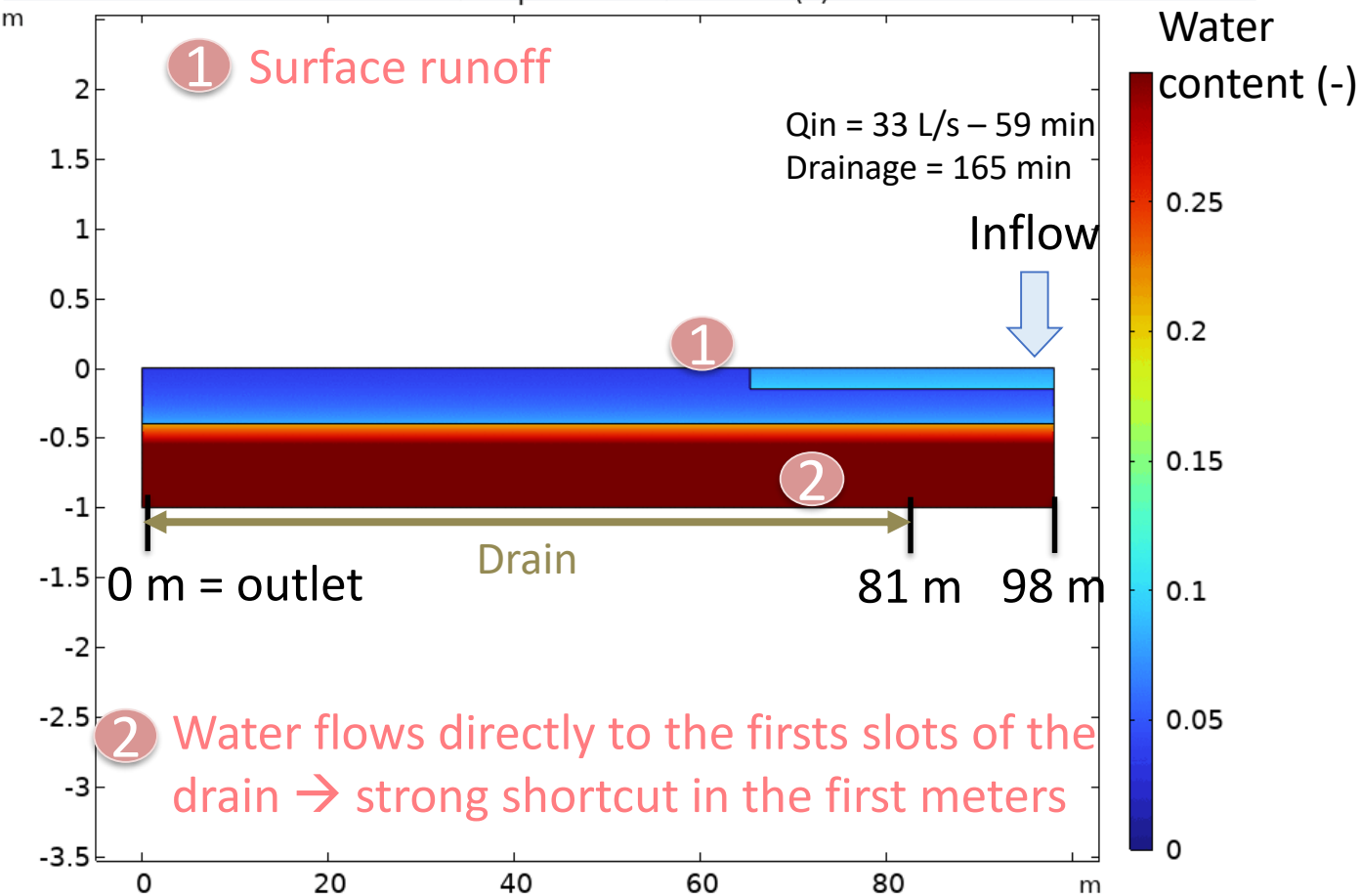
- ① Water inlet area
- ② Surface flow area
- ③ Deposit area
- ④ Filtration area
- ⑤ Drainage area

- 1. Dry weather
- 2. Drainage (Wet weather)



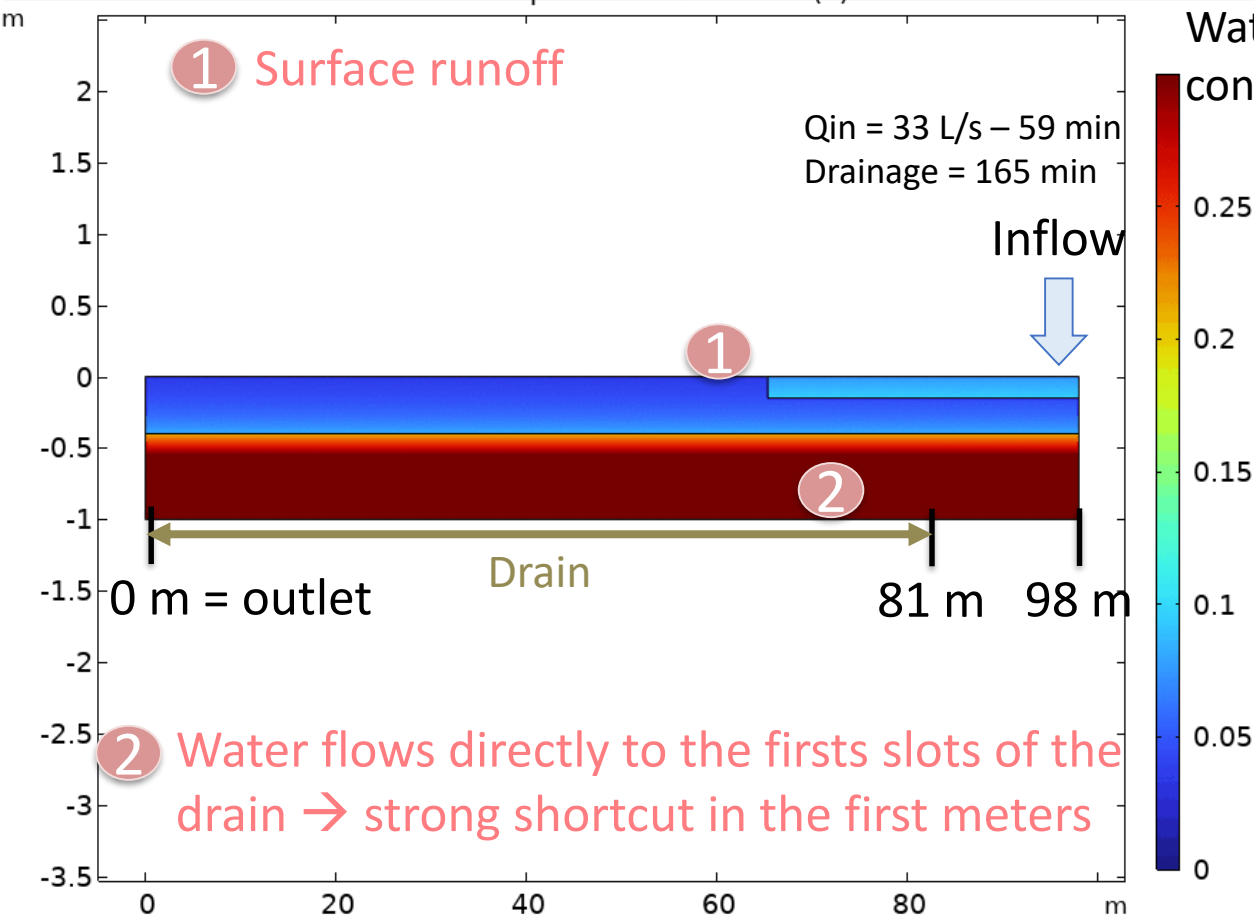
1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling

Dry weather

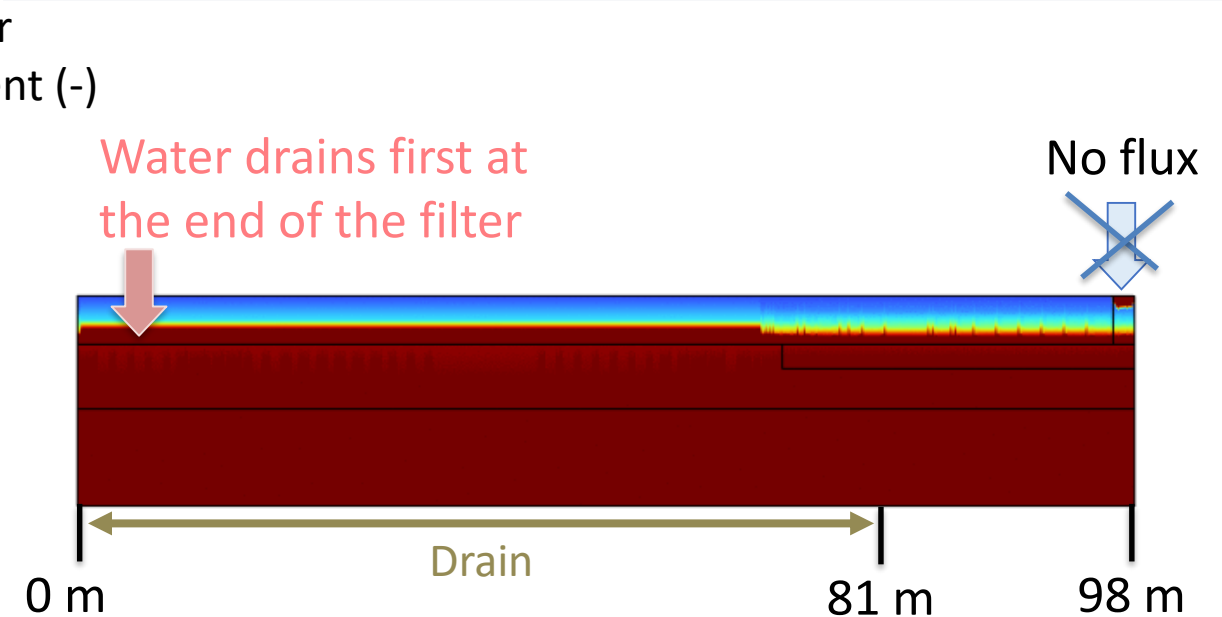


1. Mechanistic hydraulic modelling

Dry weather



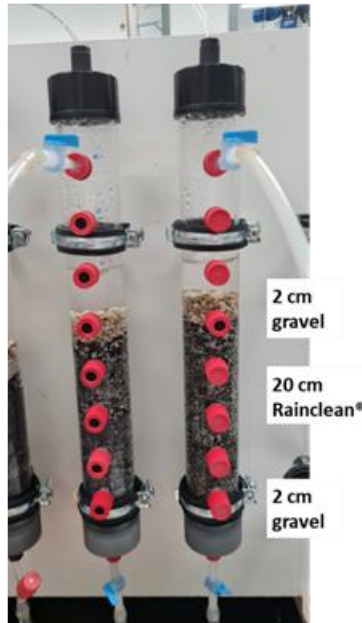
Drainage phase (Wet weather)



With higher water flow at the inlet → the filter fills up and the entire drain used until the filter completely full → drainage phase

2. Adsorption parameters

- ◆ Determination of the adsorption parameters to be applied in the mechanistic model
 - Batch experiments → Isotherm and kinetics coefficients
 - Columns experiments



Columns Rainclean

Input of Cu / Zn

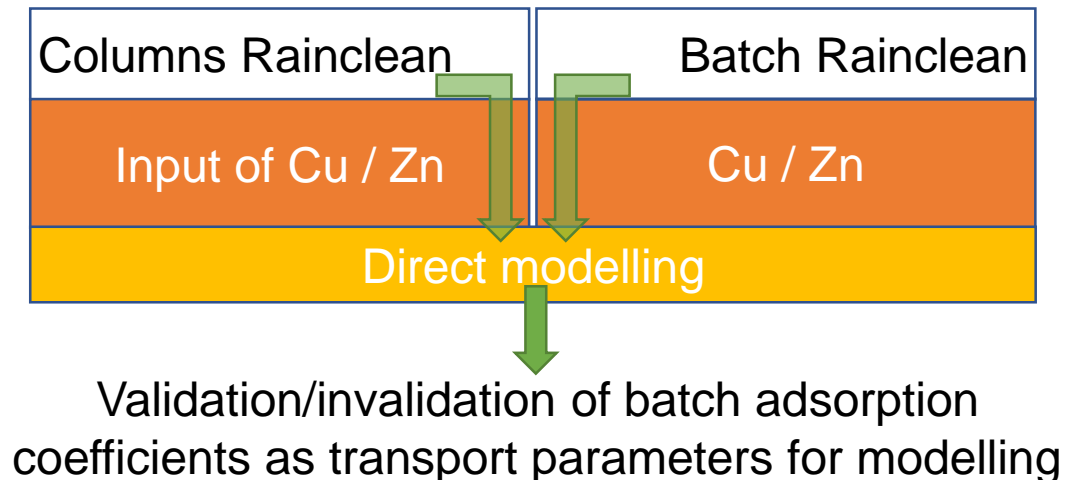
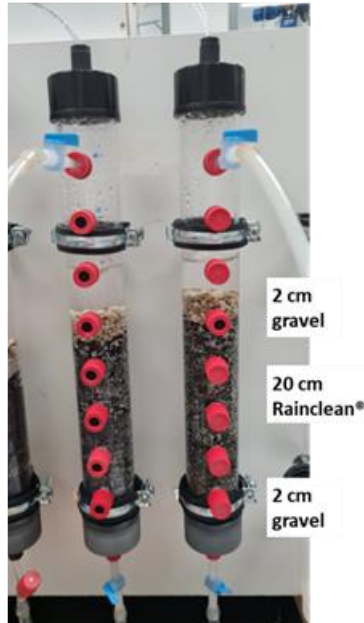
Batch Rainclean

Cu / Zn



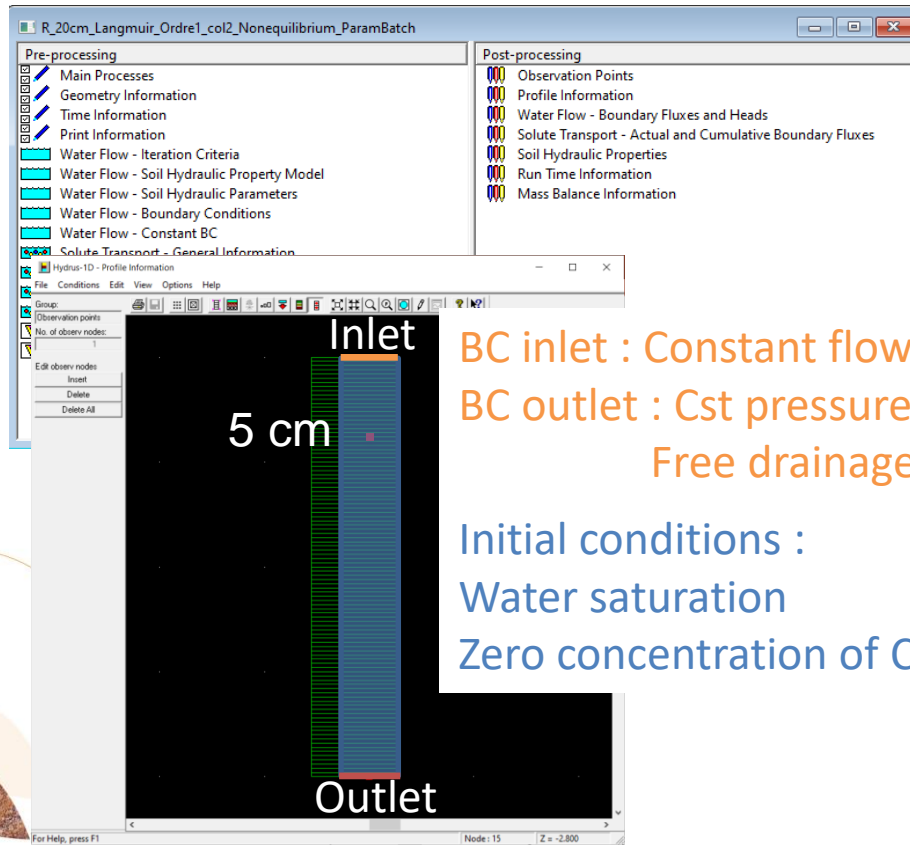
2. Adsorption parameters

- Determination of the adsorption parameters to be applied in the mechanistic model
 - Batch experiments → Isotherm and kinetics coefficients
 - Columns experiments
- Are the results obtained in batch conditions representative of the behaviour of micropollutants in columns? Can batch values be used directly in the model?



2. Adsorption parameters

HYDRUS-1D model – DIRECT MODELLING WITH BATCH VALUES



BC inlet : Constant flow (water/Cu&Zn)

BC outlet : Cst pressure (water);
Free drainage (Cu&Zn)

Initial conditions :

Water saturation

Zero concentration of Cu&Zn

	Kinetic		Isotherm	
	Pseudo-first order		Langmuir	
	k_1 (mn ⁻¹)		qm (mg/g)	K_L (L/mg)
Cu	2.03E-02	Cu	1481	1.55E-02
Zn	4.76E-03	Zn	835	2.93E-02

	Column 1	Column 2
Longitudinal dispersion (cm)	3.29	2.47
Interstitial flow rate (cm/min)	0.60	0.63
Water content at saturation θ_s (-)	0.56	
Applied Cu concentration (µg/L)	Variable (moy = 279.2)	
Applied Zn concentration (µg/L)	Variable (moy = 134.4)	

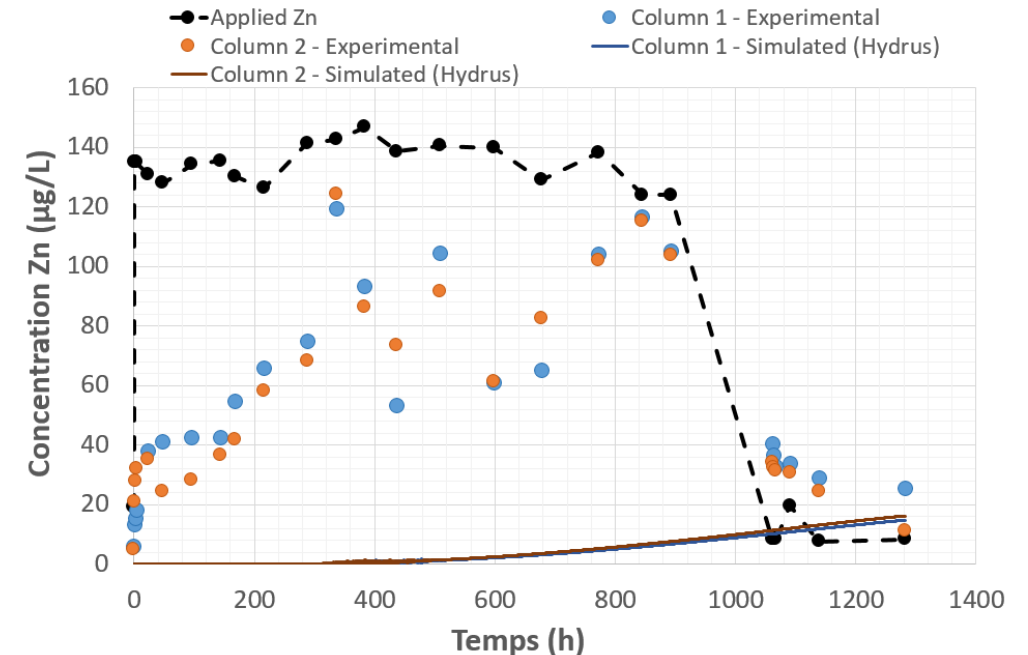
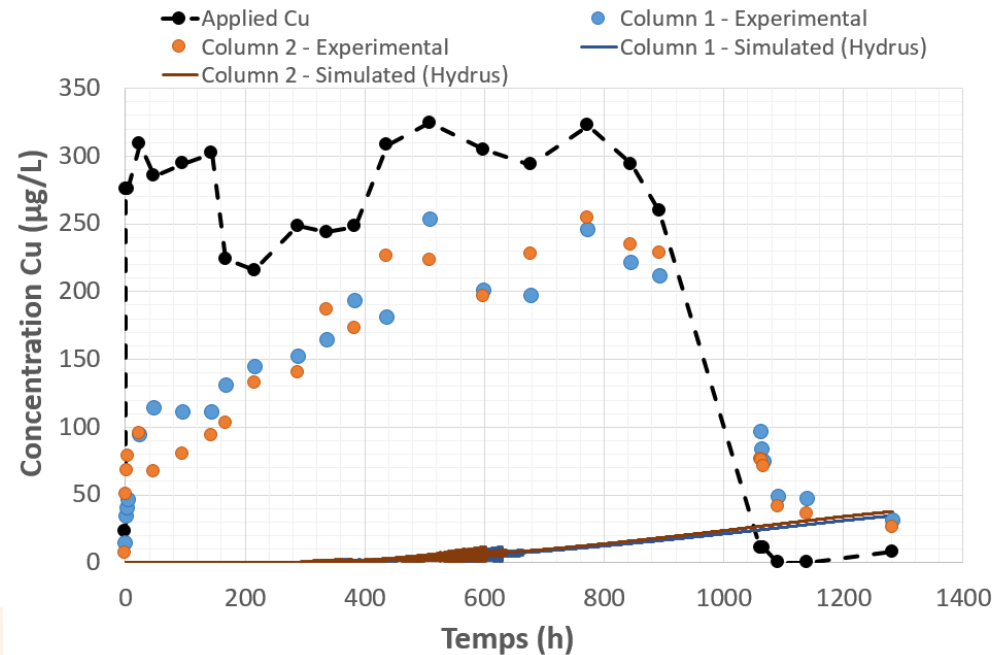
Application of pseudo-first-order kinetic/Langmuir isotherm

2. Adsorption parameters

Direct modelling – 5 cm Rainclean/Cu

Direct modelling – 5 cm Rainclean/Zn

Parameters estimated by BATCH

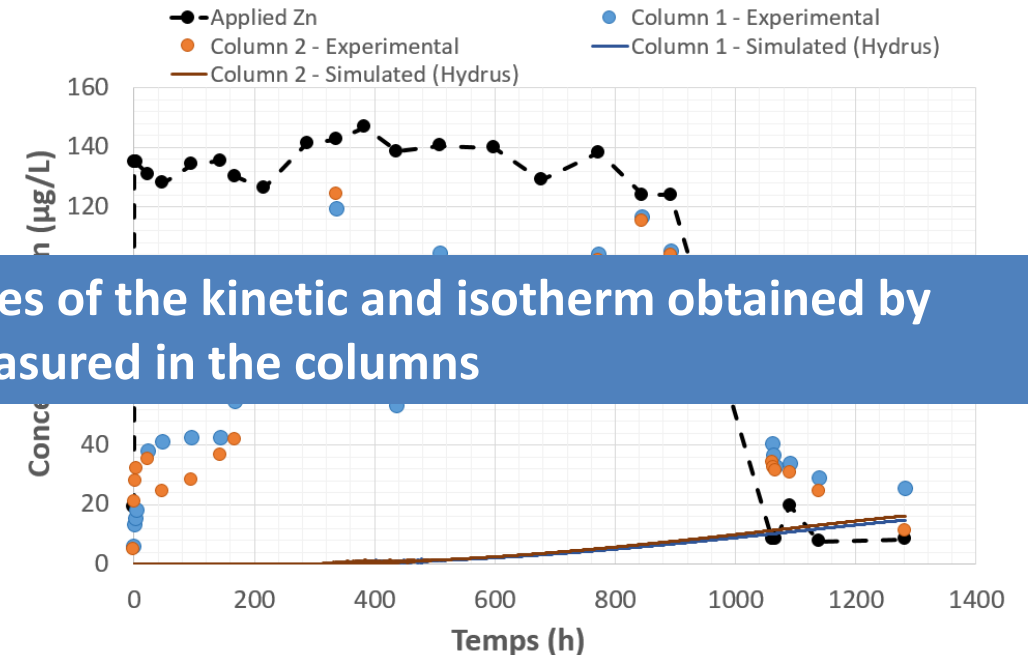
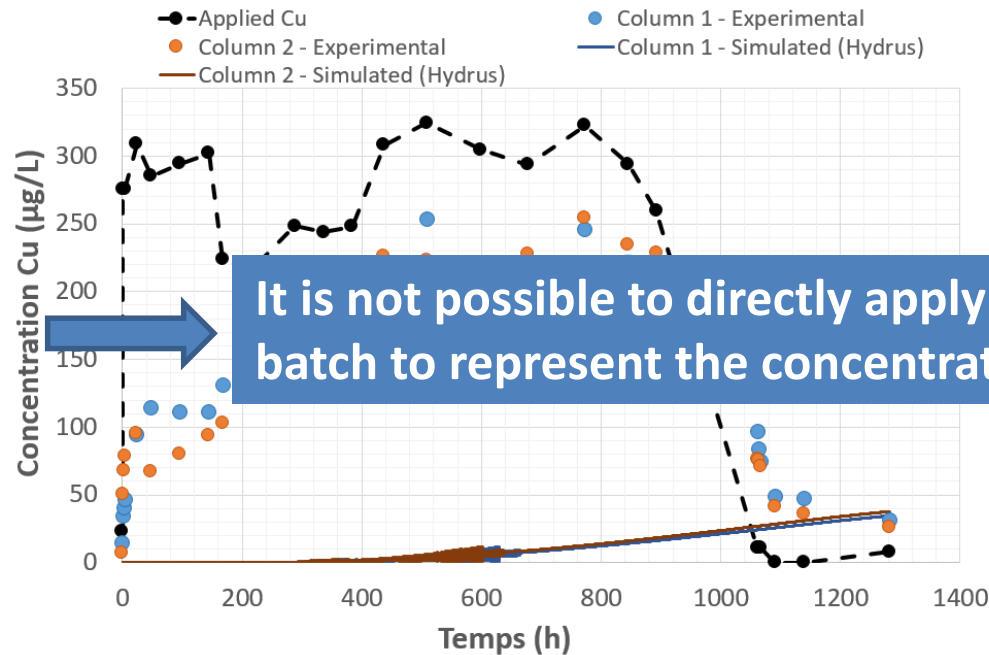


2. Adsorption parameters

Direct modelling – 5 cm Rainclean/Cu

Direct modelling – 5 cm Rainclean/Zn

Parameters estimated by BATCH

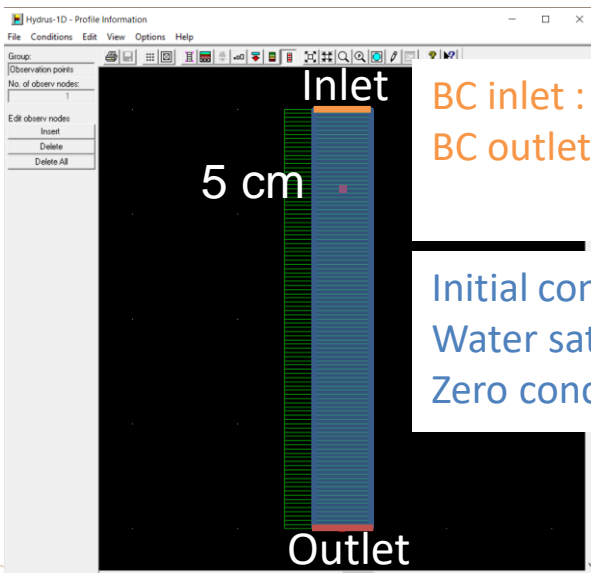


It is not possible to directly apply the values of the kinetic and isotherm obtained by batch to represent the concentrations measured in the columns

2. Adsorption parameters

HYDRUS-1D model – INVERSE MODELLING

- Inversion of results obtained at a depth of 5 cm
- Initial values = values of kinetic and isotherm parameters obtained by batch



BC inlet : Constant flow (water/Cu&Zn)
BC outlet : Cst pressure (water);
Free drainage (Cu&Zn)

Initial conditions :
Water saturation
Zero concentration of Cu&Zn

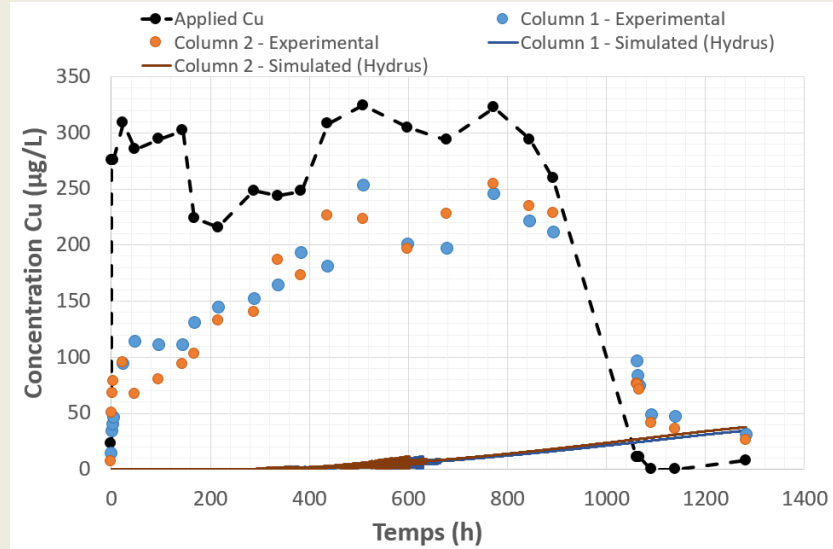
	Kinetic		Isotherm	
	Pseudo-first order		Langmuir	
	k_1 (mn ⁻¹)		qm (mg/g)	K_L (L/mg)
Cu	2.03E-02	Cu	1481	1.55E-02
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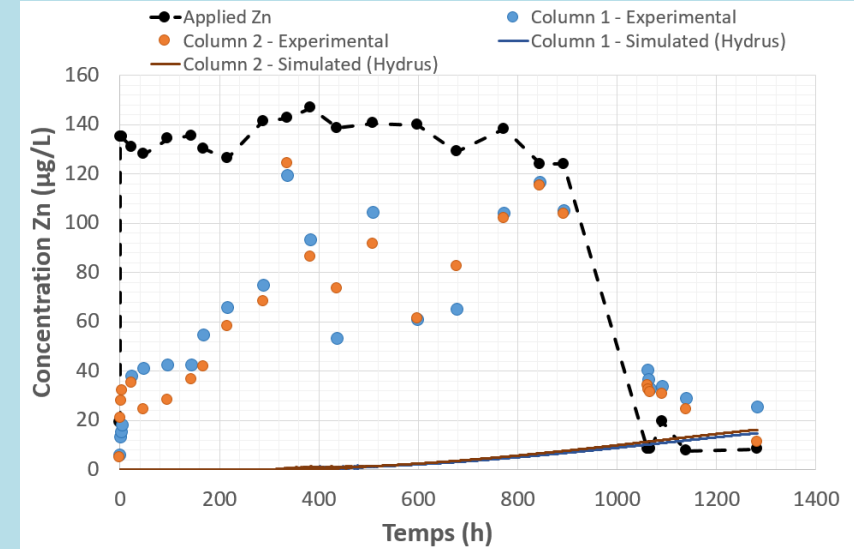
Simultaneous estimation of:
kinetic parameter: k_1 ,
Langmuir isotherm parameters: qm and K_L
For each column and each metal

5 cm Rainclean/Cu

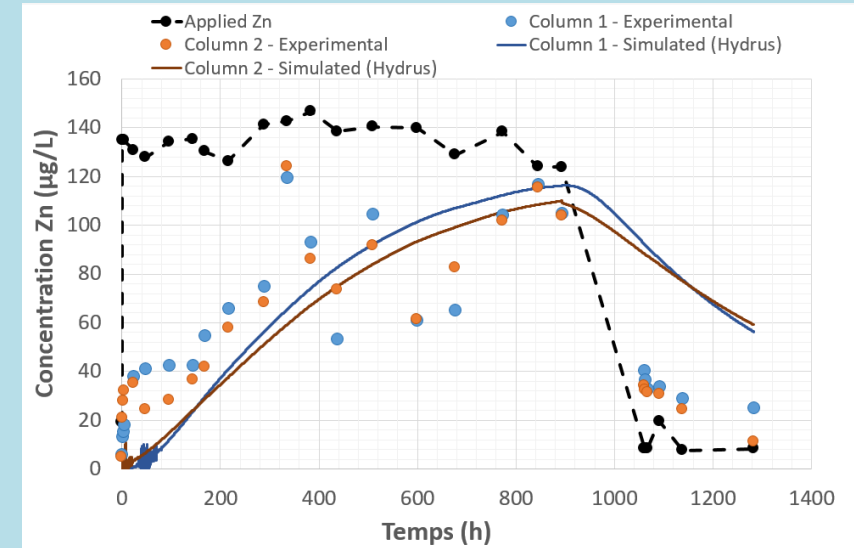
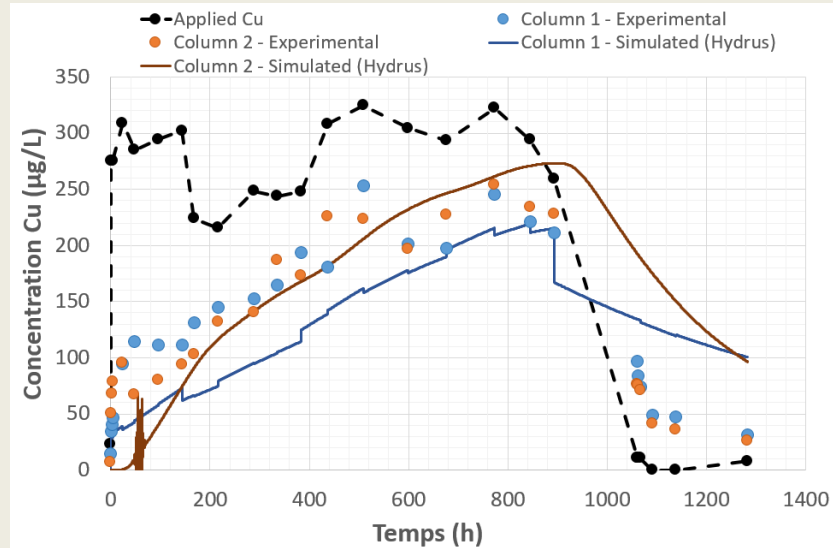
Parameters estimated by BATCH



5 cm Rainclean/Zn



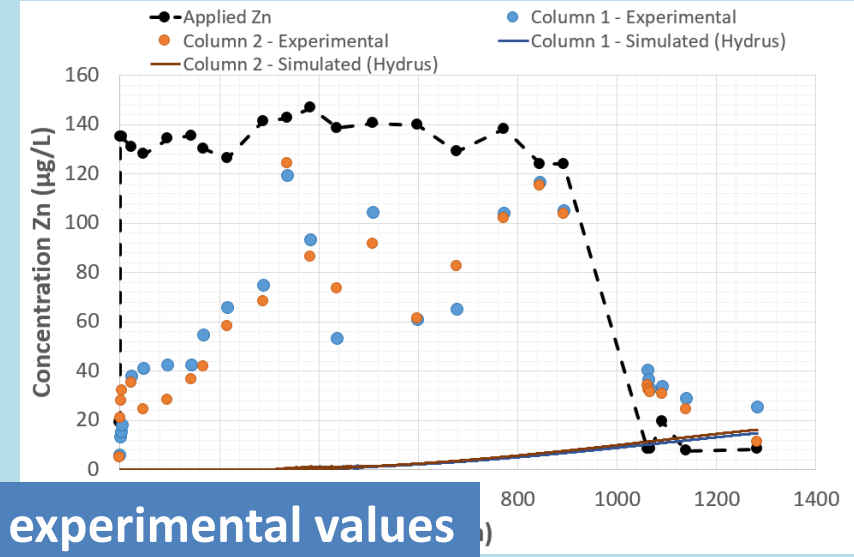
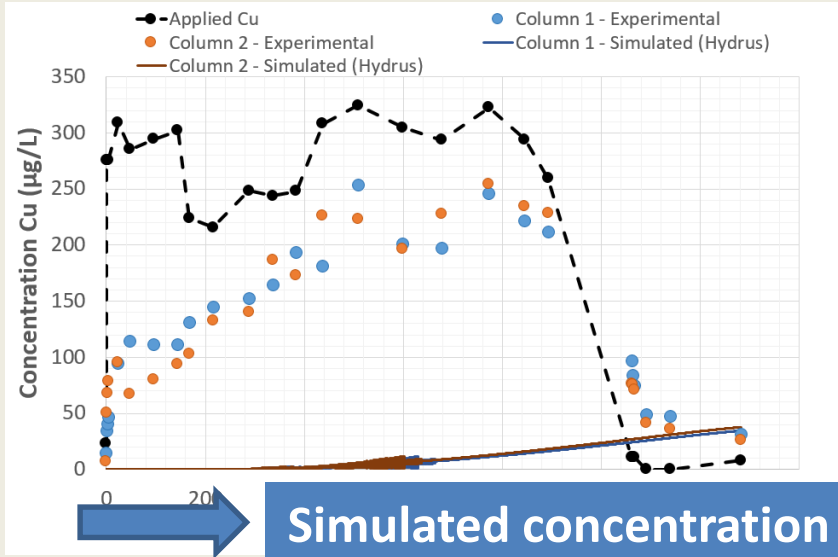
Parameters estimated by INVERSE MODELLING



5 cm Rainclean/Cu

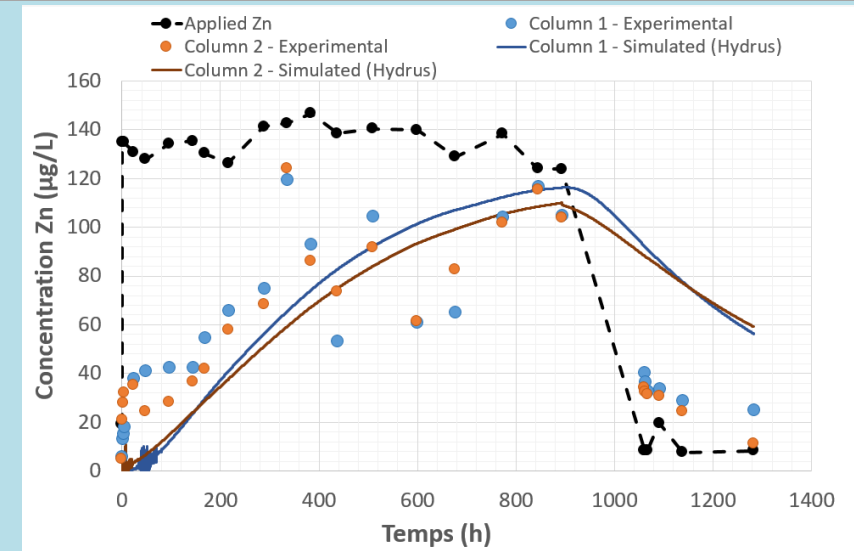
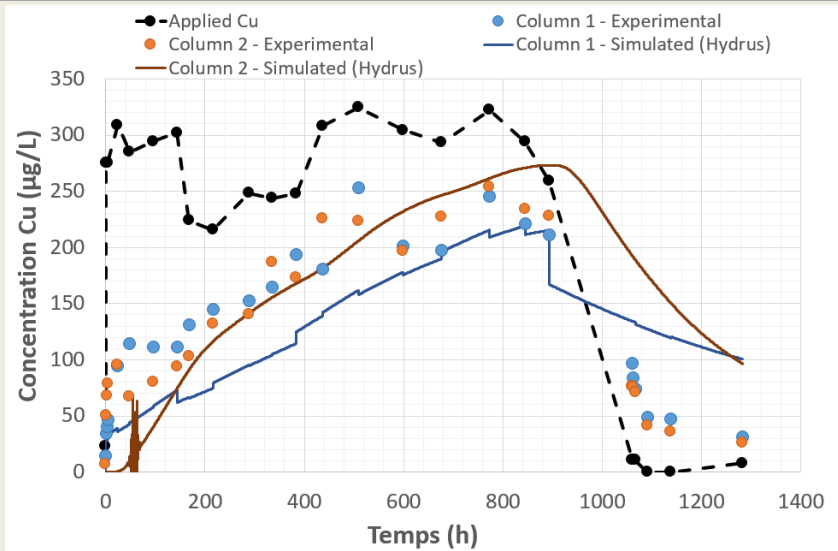
5 cm Rainclean/Zn

Parameters estimated by BATCH



Simulated concentration values close to experimental values

Parameters estimated by INVERSE MODELLING



Conclusions

- With the 2D model: we know which parts of the filter are solicited by the flow and therefore where the micropollutants will be retained
- The problem with this approach: a calculation code representative of the complexity of the system BUT costly in terms of calculation time (! Long term) → Surrogate model
- This approach will facilitate the design of TWs that treat the micropollutants contained in stormwater and CSO
- Batch adsorption values cannot be directly extrapolated to variably saturated porous media → need for experiments representing operating conditions closer to those found in TWs (columns)
- To be continued: modelling of the removal of micropollutants by adsorption and biodegradation



**Thank you
for your attention**