

# Simulating Environmental Changes Due to Marine Hydrokinetic Energy Installations

Scott C. James

E<sup>x</sup>ponent, Inc.

Irvine, CA

Craig Jones

Sea Engineering, Inc.

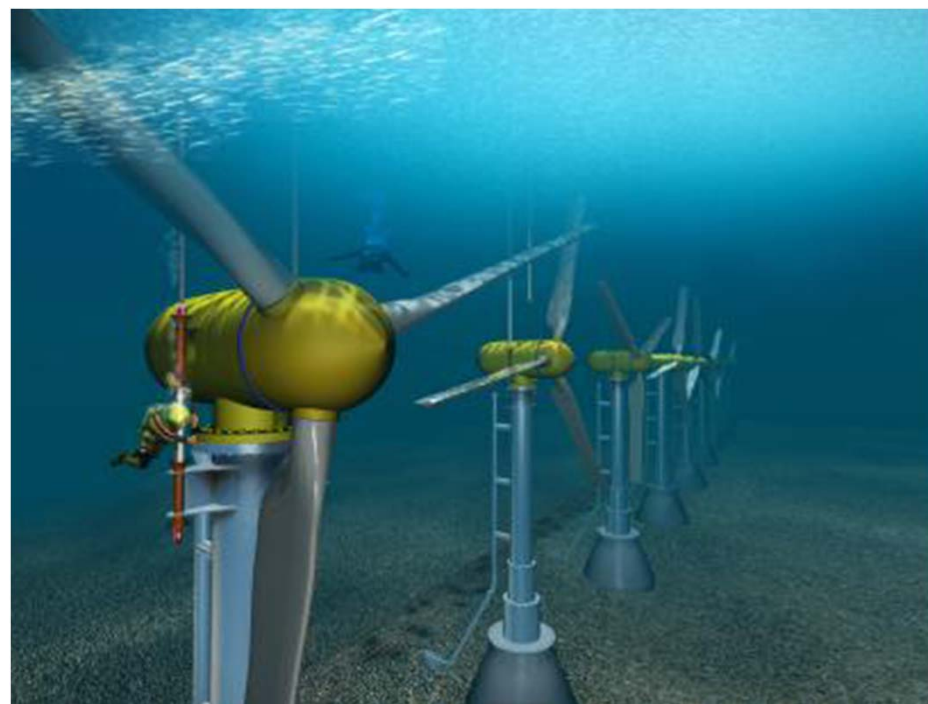
Santa Cruz, CA

Jesse Roberts

Sandia National Laboratories

Wind and Water Power Technologies

Albuquerque, NM



Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000





# Overview: Problems and Solutions

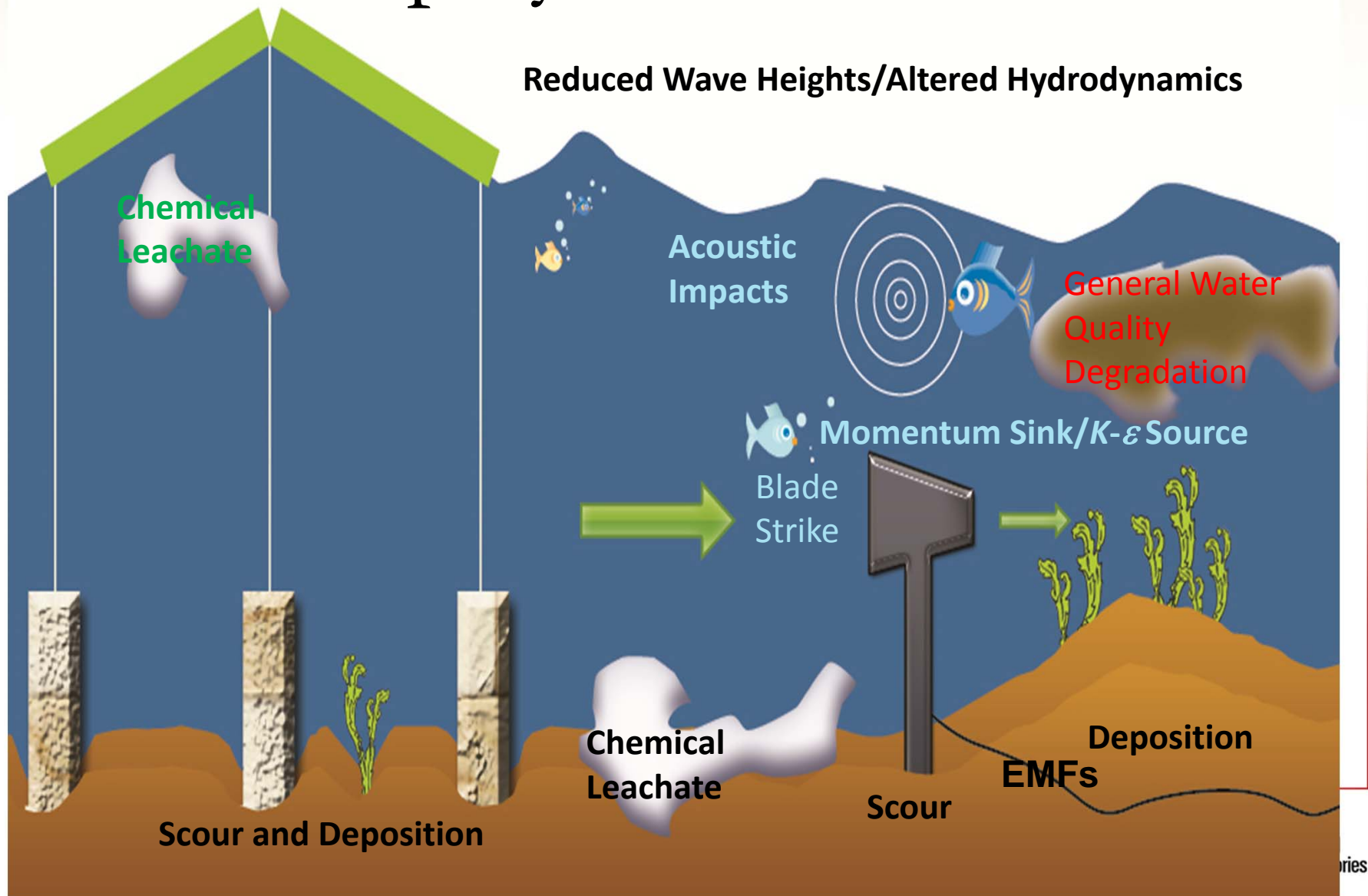


# MHK Concerns

- Economic
  - Capital costs
  - Operation and maintenance
  - Power-generation efficiency
  - Environmental cost — ???
- Ecological
  - Volumetric flow/tidal range
  - Sediment dynamics
  - Water quality



# Environmental Effects of MHK Deployment



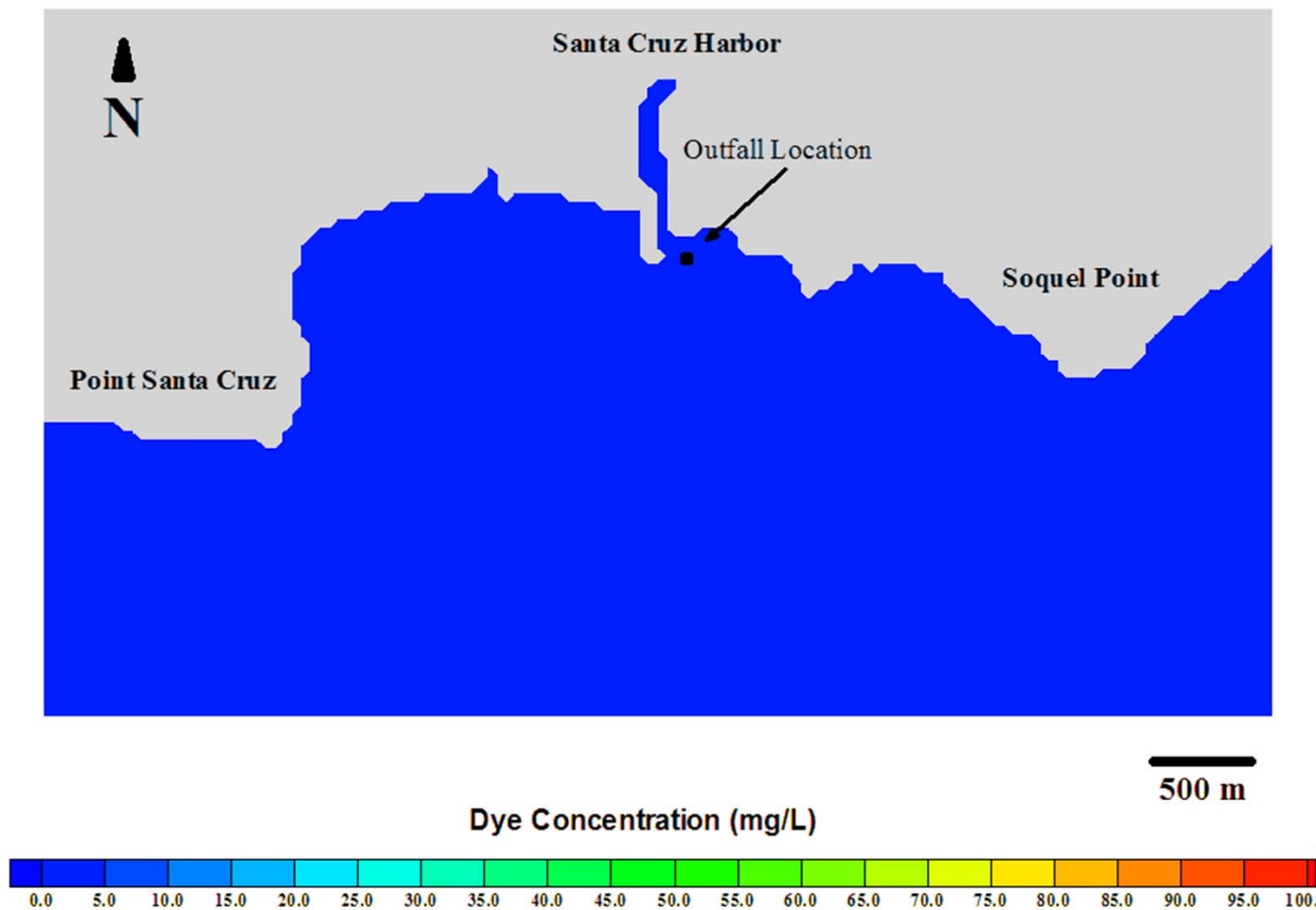


# EFDC – Flow and Transport

- EPA open-source code (formerly, now with Tetra Tech)
- Curvilinear orthogonal grid
- Coupled-equation solution
  - Mass conservation
  - Momentum conservation
  - $K-\varepsilon$  conservation
  - Temperature transport
  - Salinity transport
  - Dye transport

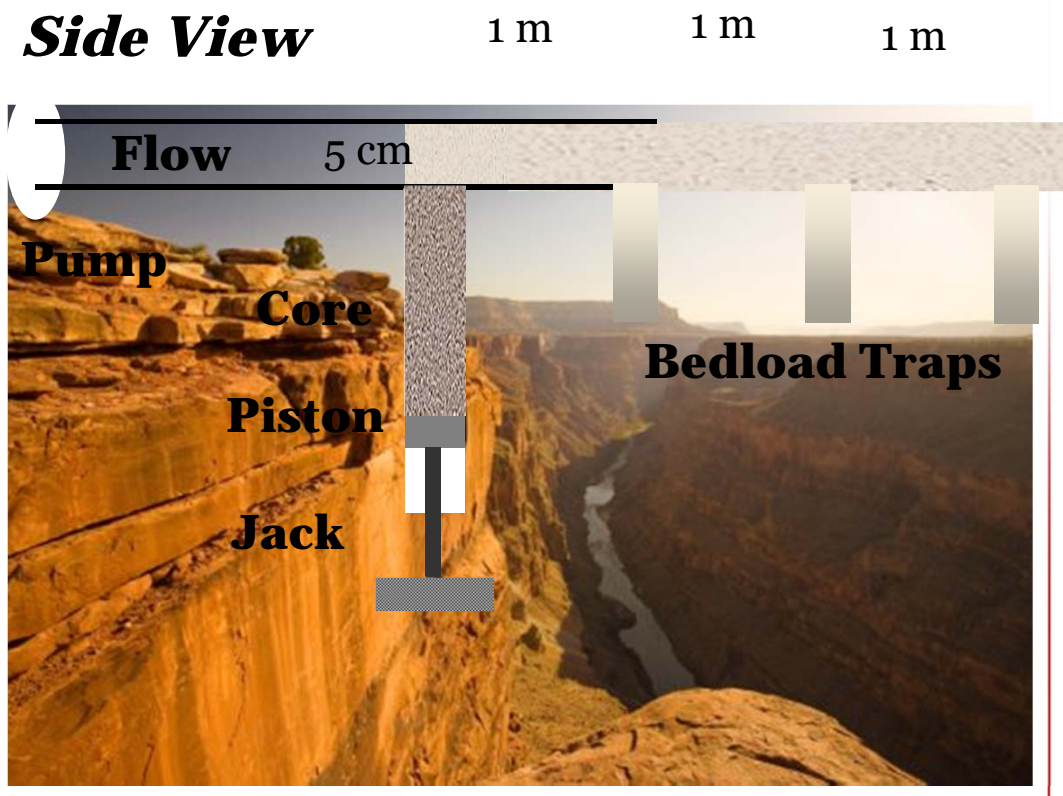


# Flow Model – Santa Cruz



# SEDZLJ – Sediment Dynamics

- Universal treatment of cohesive and noncohesive sediments
- Erosion based on site-specific SEDflume data
- Bedload and suspended load transport
- Bed-slope effects
- Bed armoring and consolidation

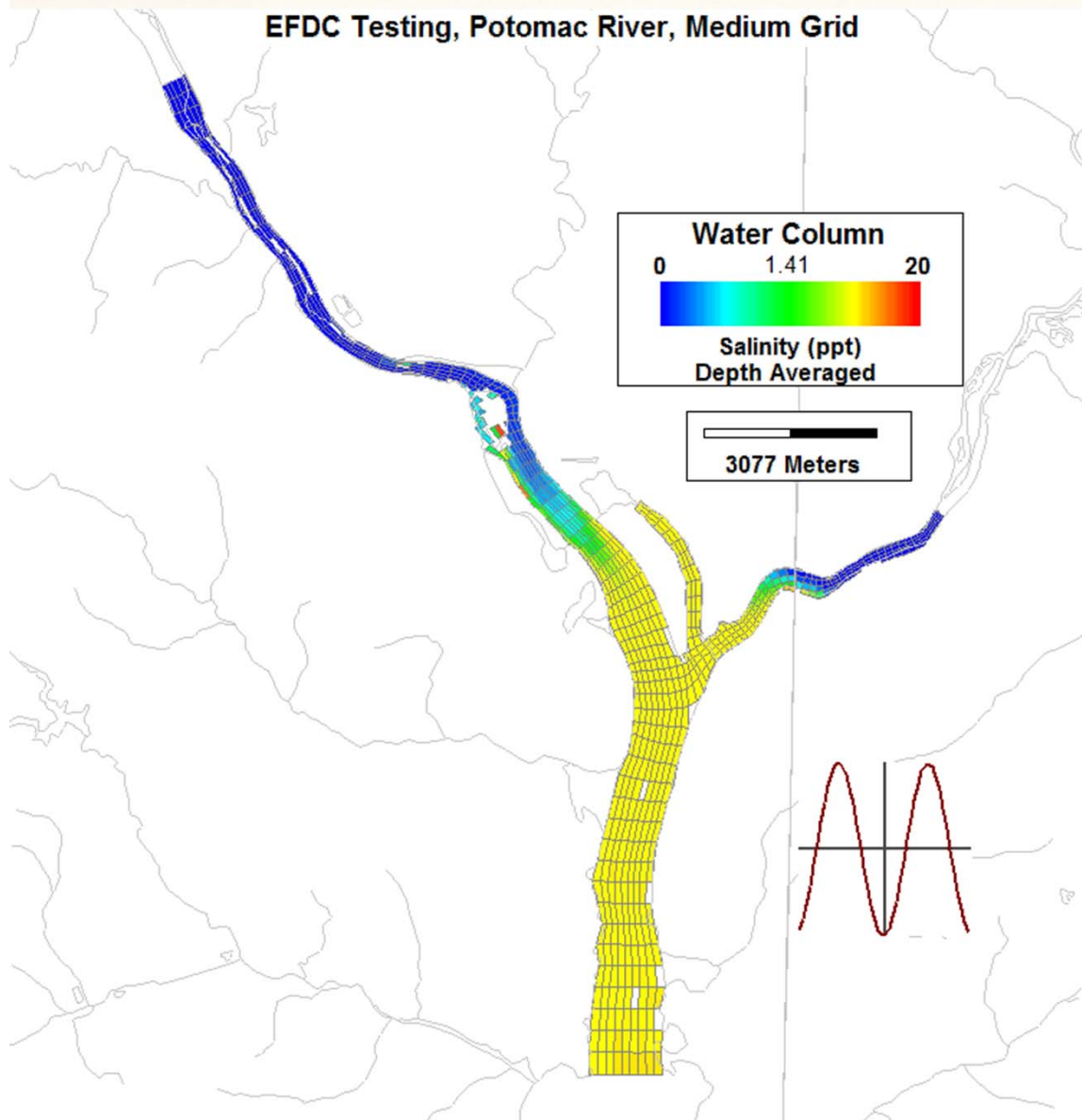


# Sediment Model – Cedar Lake

Total Suspended Sediment Concentraion (mg/L)



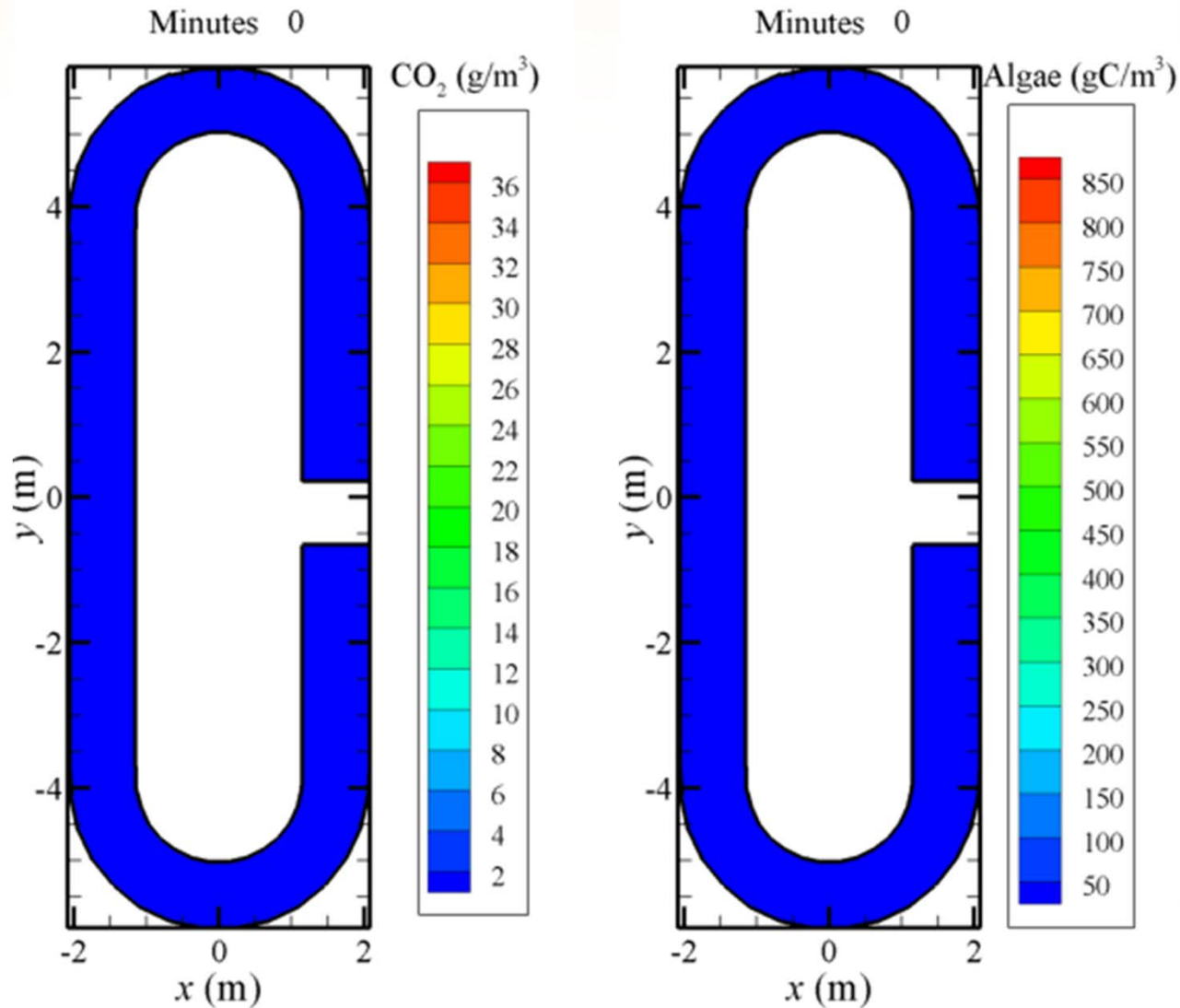
# CE-QUAL – Water Quality



- US Army Corps model
- 23 scalar water-quality parameters
- Kinetic reactions for:
  - Dissolved gases
    - $O_2$
    - $CO_2$
  - Algae growth
    - Cyanobacteria
    - Diatoms
    - Green algae
  - Nutrient cycles
    - Carbon
    - Nitrogen
    - Phosphorous
    - Silica



# Water-Quality Model – Algal Raceway



# MHK Energy Extraction

- MHK device energy extraction is manifest as
  - Decreased momentum
  - Altered (usually increased) turbulent kinetic energy
  - Increased turbulence dissipation rate (turbulent length scale)
- These quantities (momentum and  $K-\varepsilon$ ) are advected and dispersed downstream



# Momentum Sink

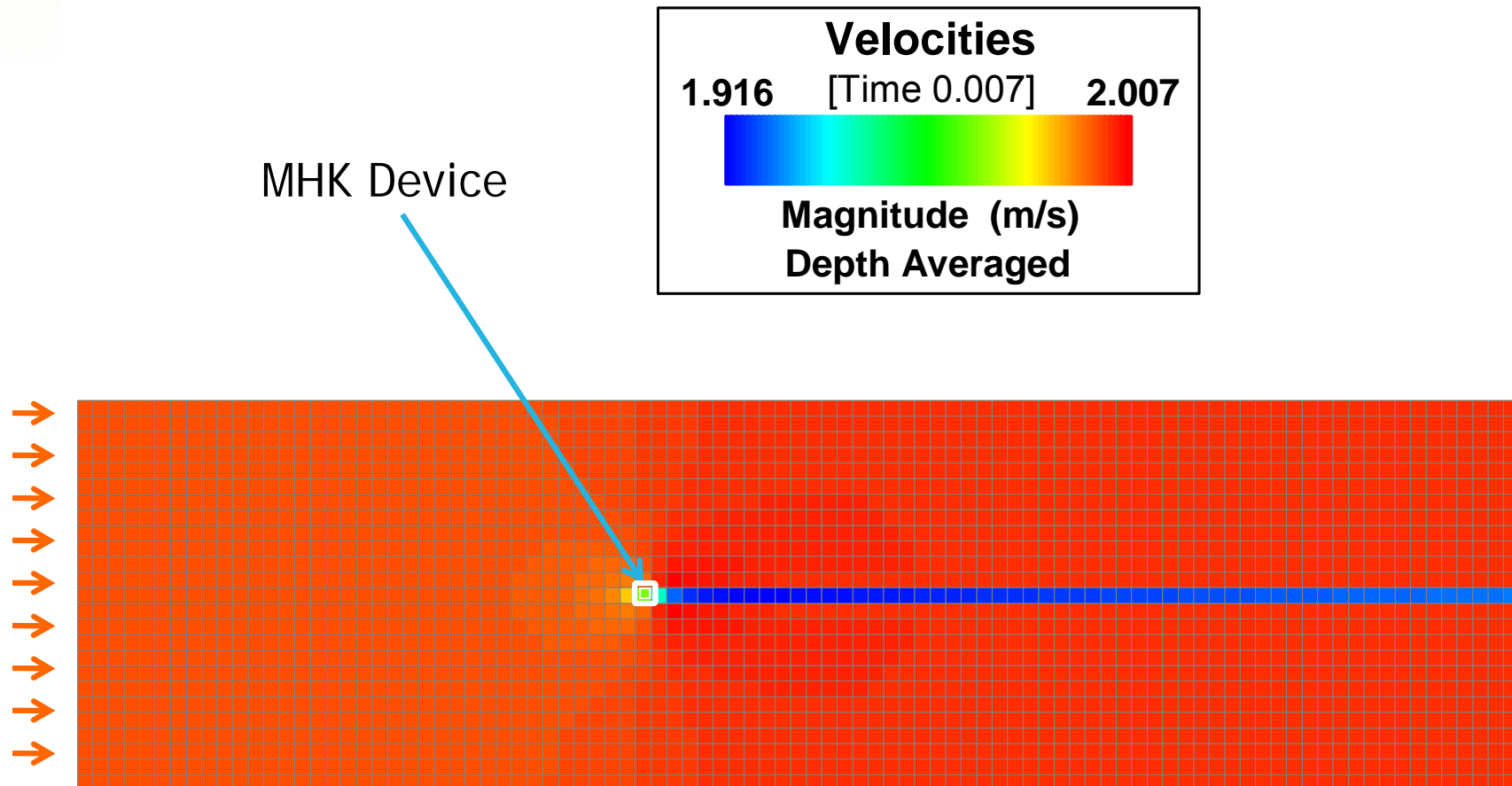
$$P_{\text{MHK}} = \frac{1}{2} C_T A_{\text{MHK}} \rho U^3$$

$$S_Q = -\frac{1}{2} C_T A_{\text{MHK}} U^2$$





# Single Turbine Model – Momentum Sink Only



- Overly persistent velocity defect



# $K$ — $\varepsilon$ Modifications

Empirical constants

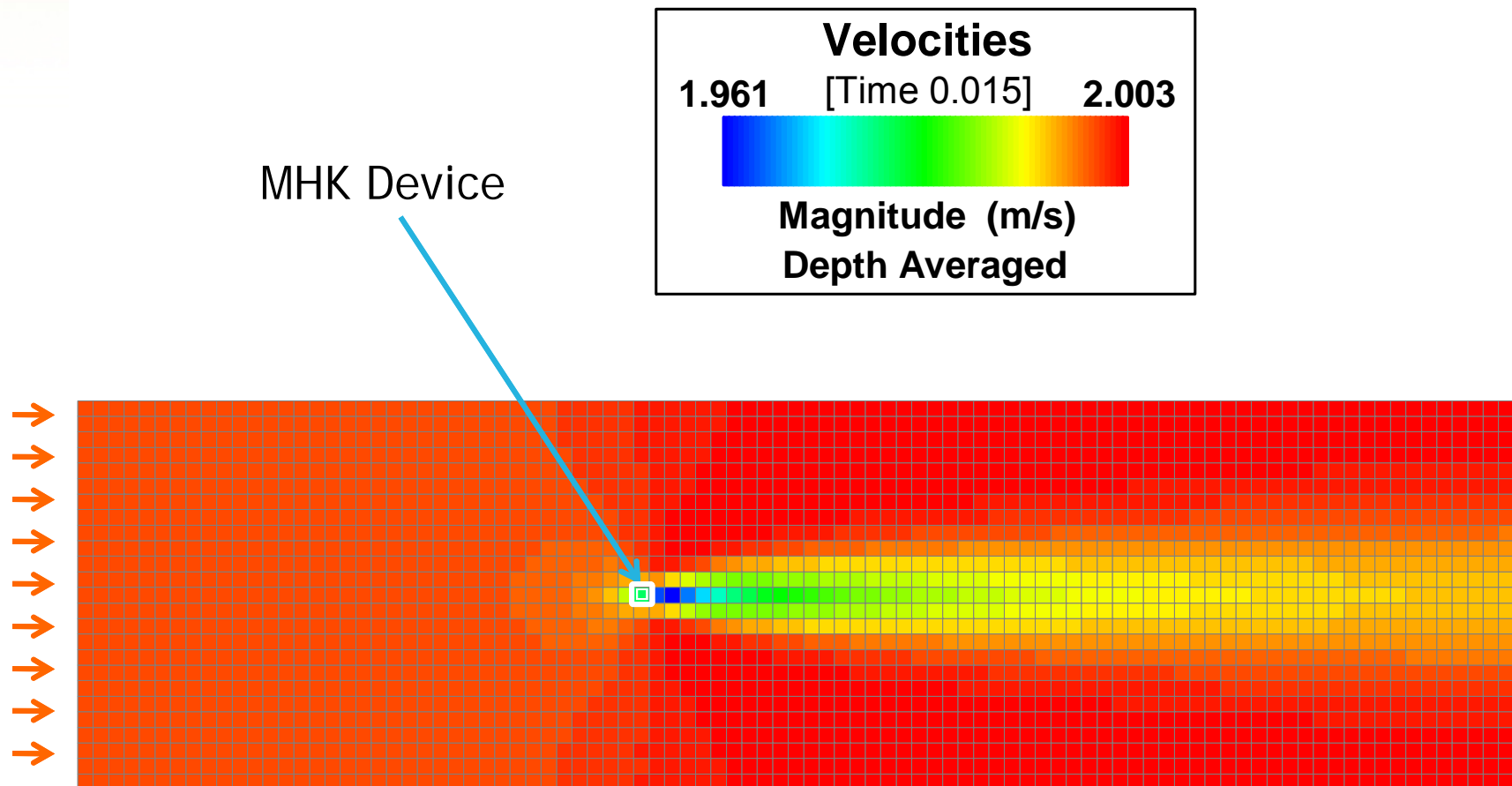
$$S_K = \frac{1}{2} C_T A_{\text{MHK}} \left( \beta_p U^3 - \beta_d UK \right)$$
$$S_\varepsilon = C_{\varepsilon 4} \frac{\varepsilon}{K} S_K$$

The diagram shows two equations. The first equation is  $S_K = \frac{1}{2} C_T A_{\text{MHK}} (\beta_p U^3 - \beta_d UK)$ . The second equation is  $S_\varepsilon = C_{\varepsilon 4} \frac{\varepsilon}{K} S_K$ . Red circles are drawn around the constants  $\beta_p$ ,  $\beta_d$ , and  $C_{\varepsilon 4}$ . Red arrows point from the text 'Empirical constants' to each of these three constants.

Katul, G. G., L. Mahrt, D. Poggi, and C. Sanz (2004),  
One- and two-equation models for canopy  
turbulence, *Boundary-Layer Meteorology*, 113, 81-109.



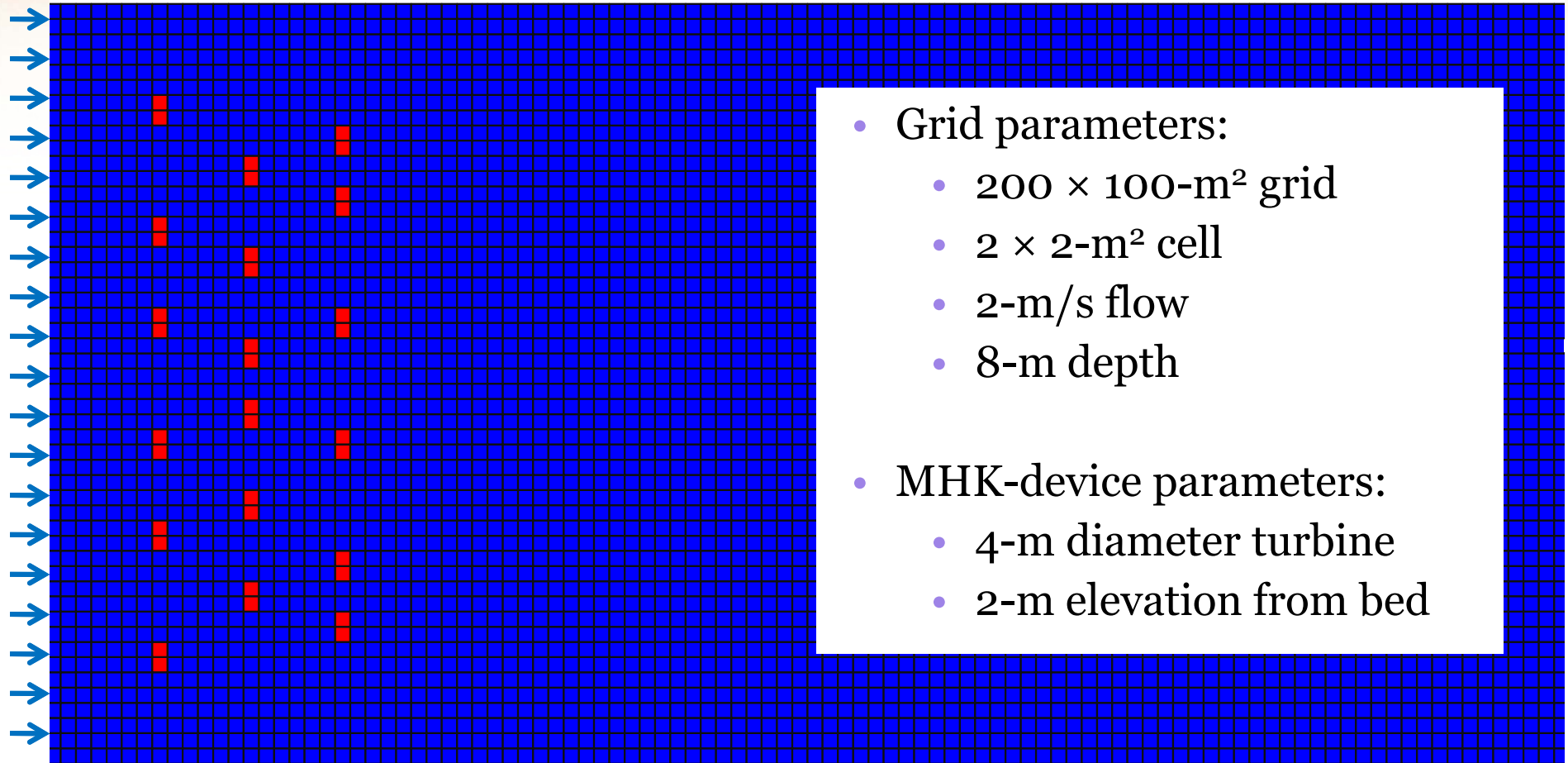
# Single Turbine Model – $K$ – $\varepsilon$ Sources Included



- Realistic fluid energy loss/wake behavior



# MHK Array – Device Locations



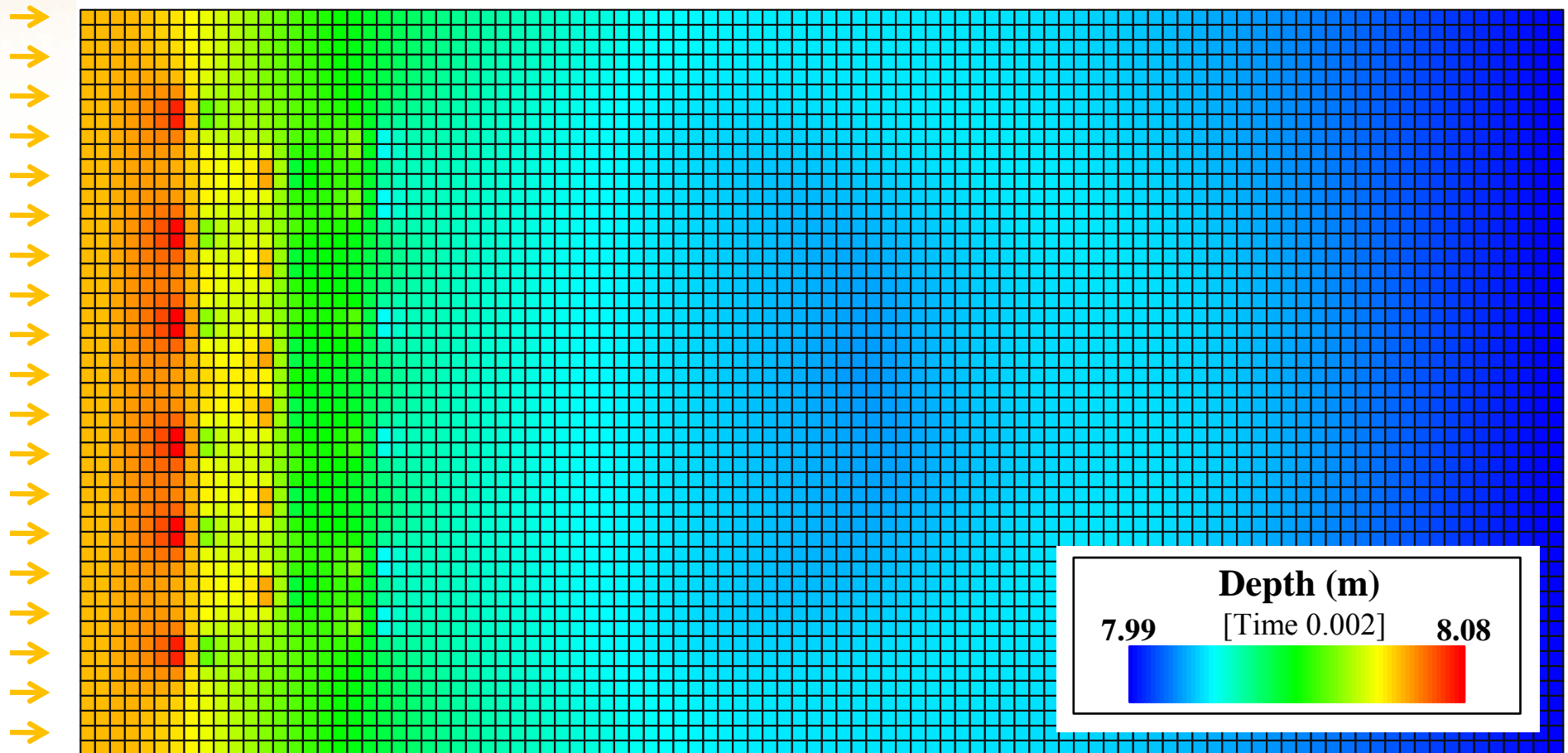
MHK devices: **red** cells

Hypothetical distribution to examine array behavior...





# Water Depths

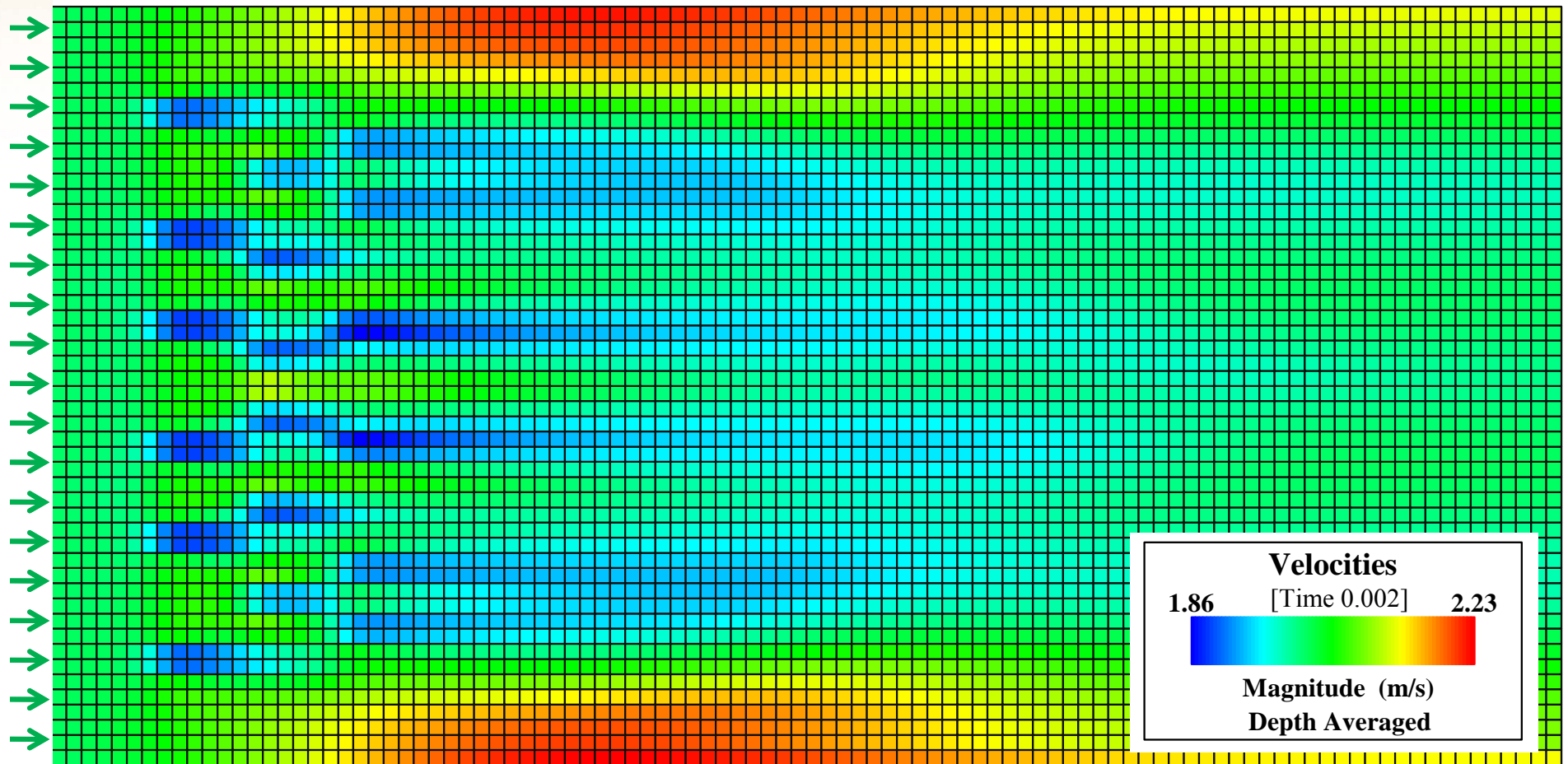


8.08 m (**red**) to 7.99 m (**blue**)

- MHK devices obstruct flow
- Fluid “back-up” and flow redistribution is evident
- Effects are most prominent in first row



# Depth-Averaged Velocities

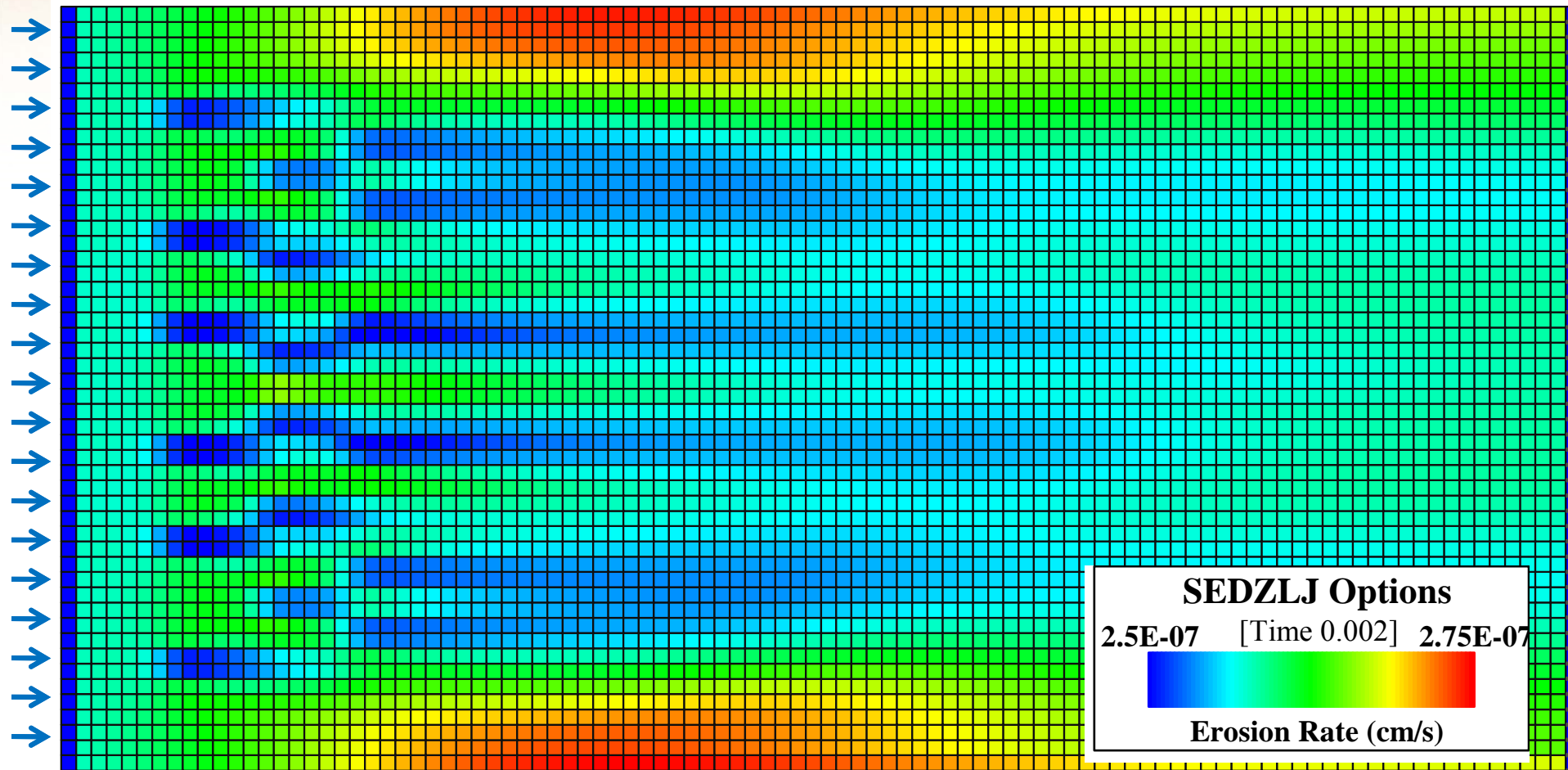


1.86 m/s (**blue**) to 2.23 m/s (**red**)

- MHK devices slow flow
- Diminishing returns – the first row extracts the most energy
- Flow seeks the path of least resistance



# Erosion Rates

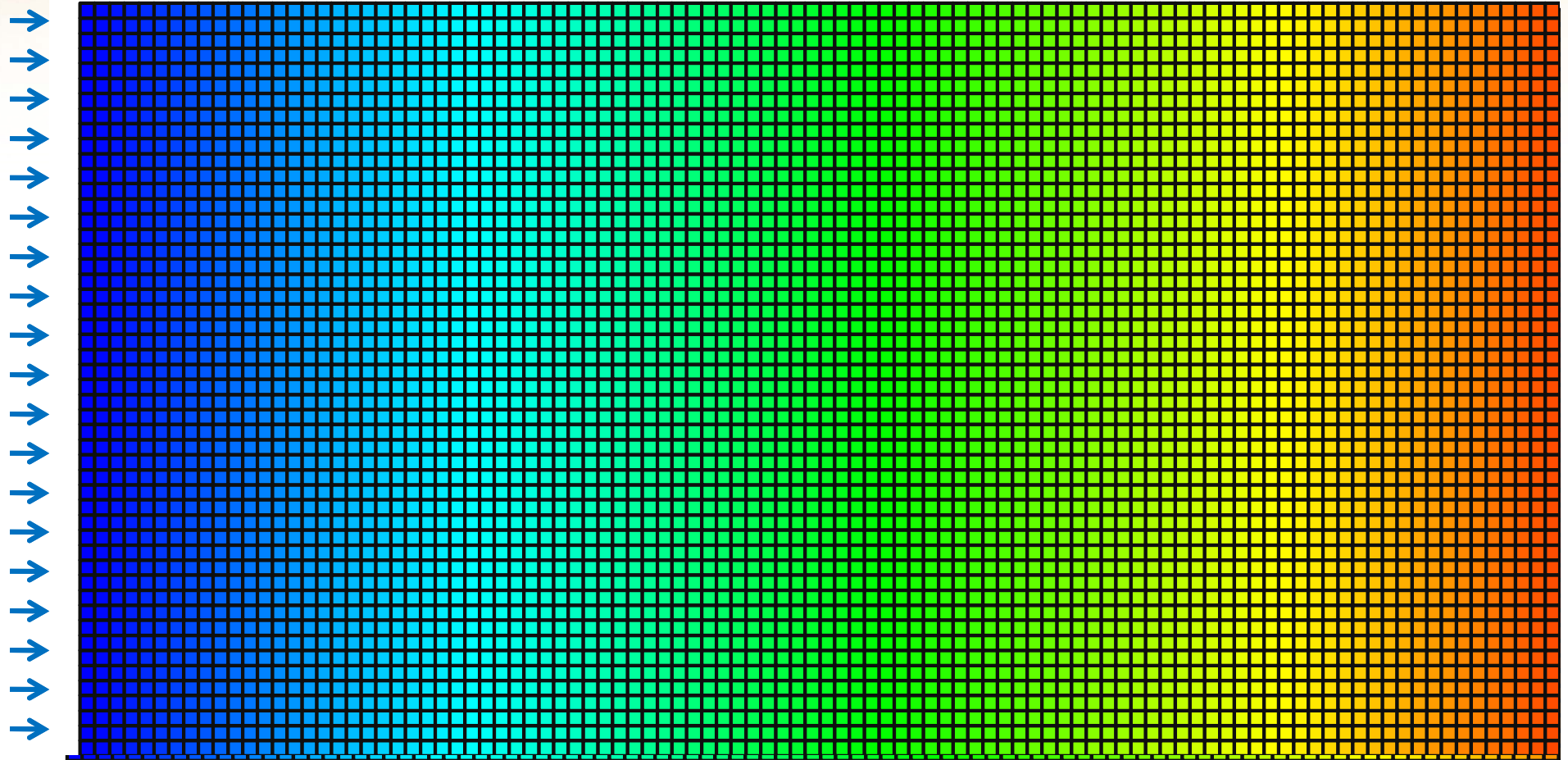


$2.50 \times 10^{-7}$  cm/s (**blue**) to  $2.75 \times 10^{-7}$  cm/s (**red**)

- Scouring patterns evident
- Benthic organisms may be sensitive to changing sediment composition



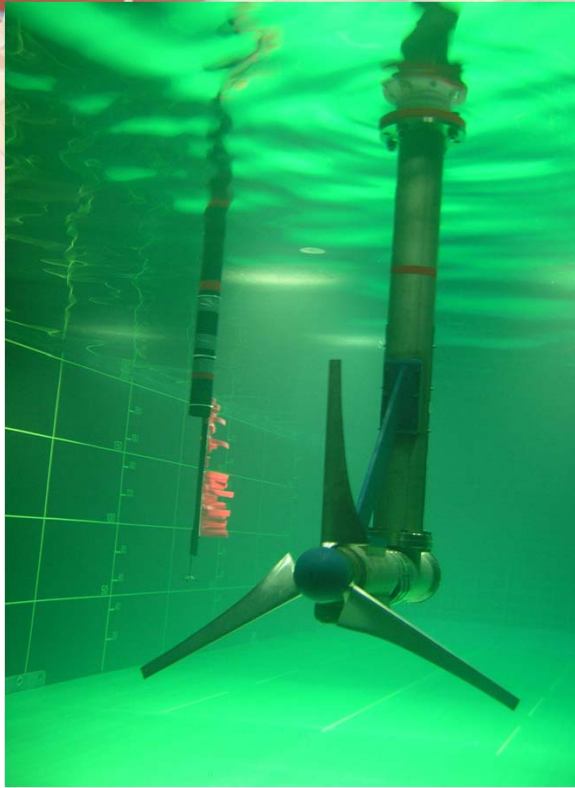
# Water Age



No Array

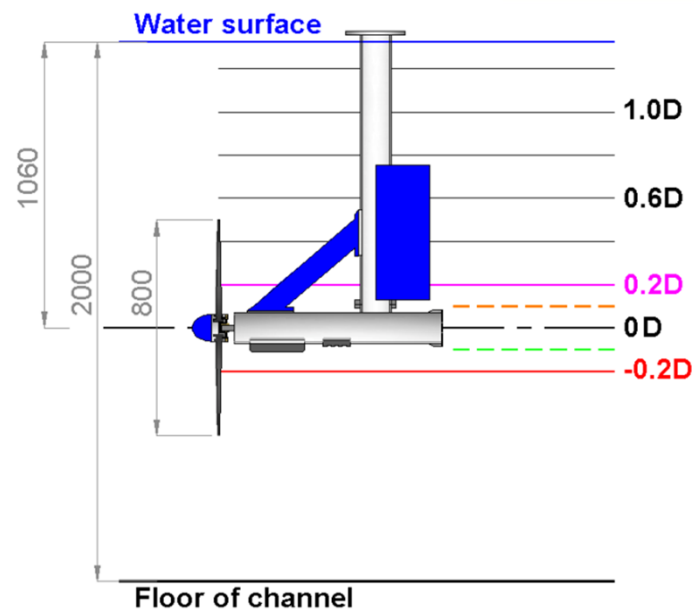
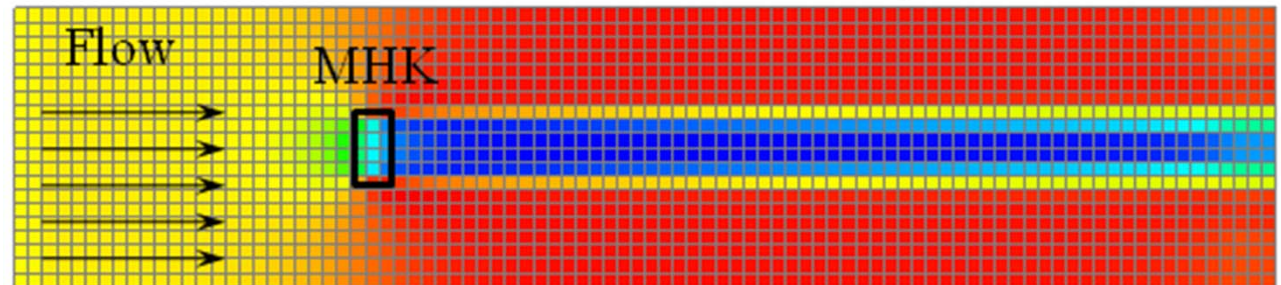
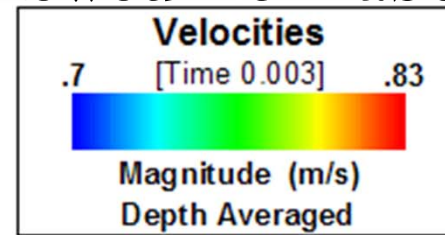






# Model Verification

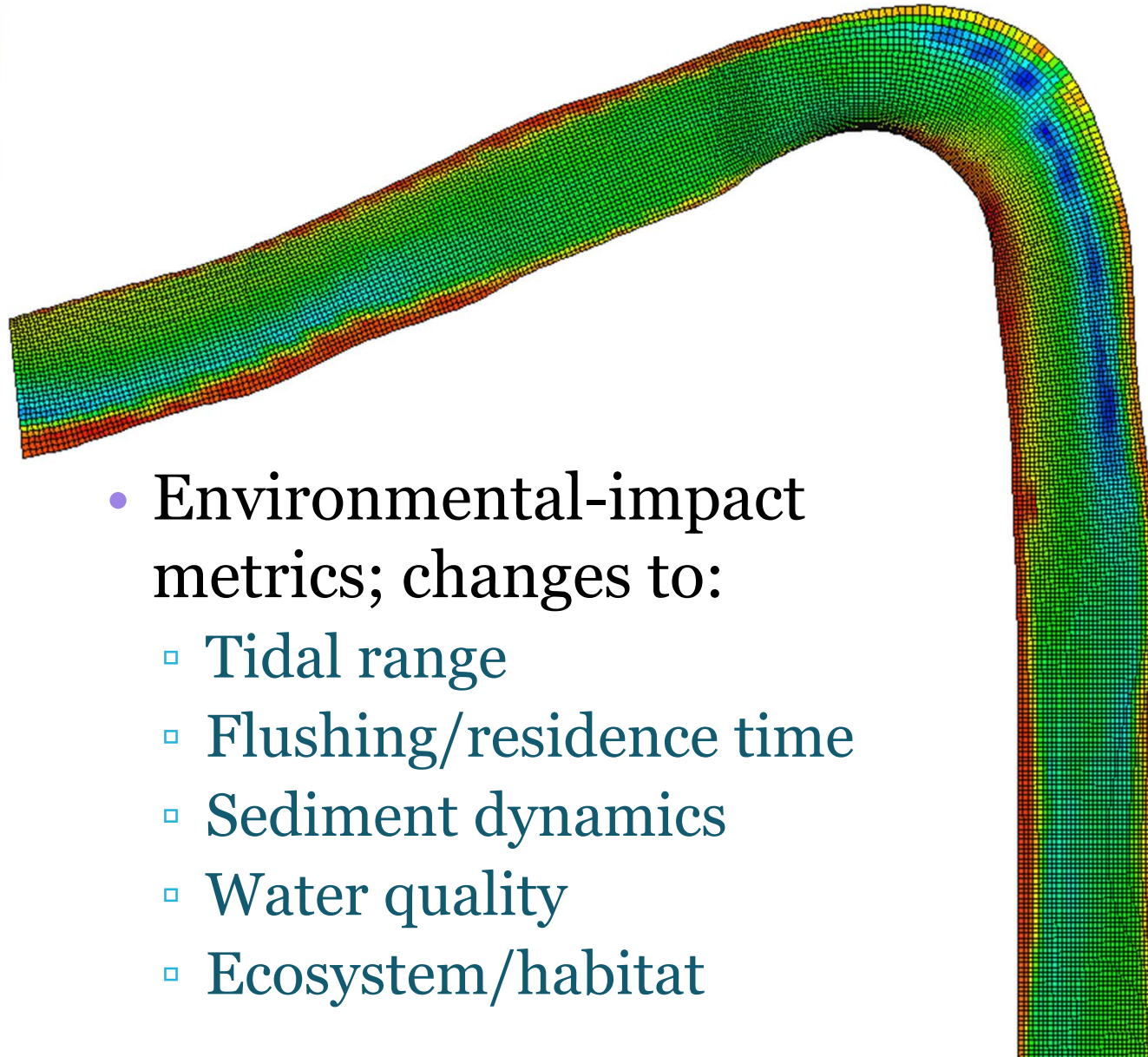
Viewed from above



Parameter	Value
$\beta_p$	0.05
$\beta_d$	2.5
$C_{\varepsilon 4}$	10
$C_{PB}$	5



# Future Studies

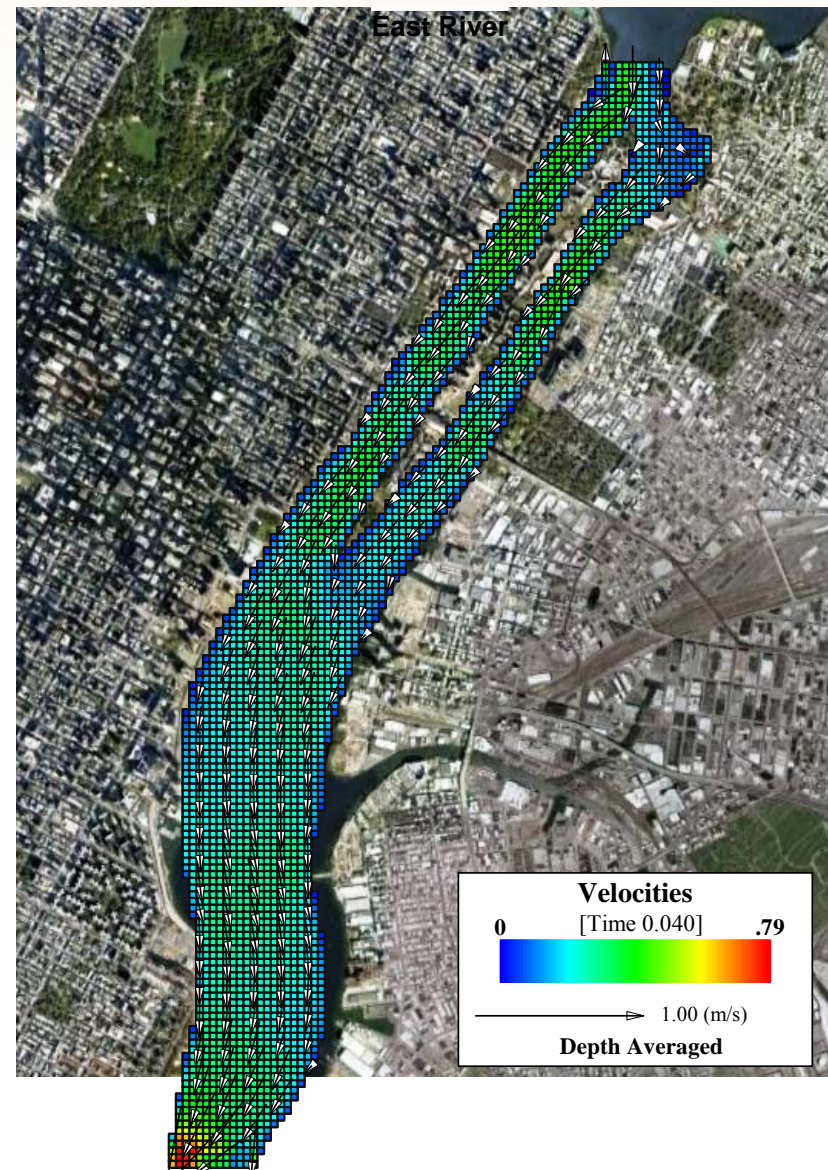
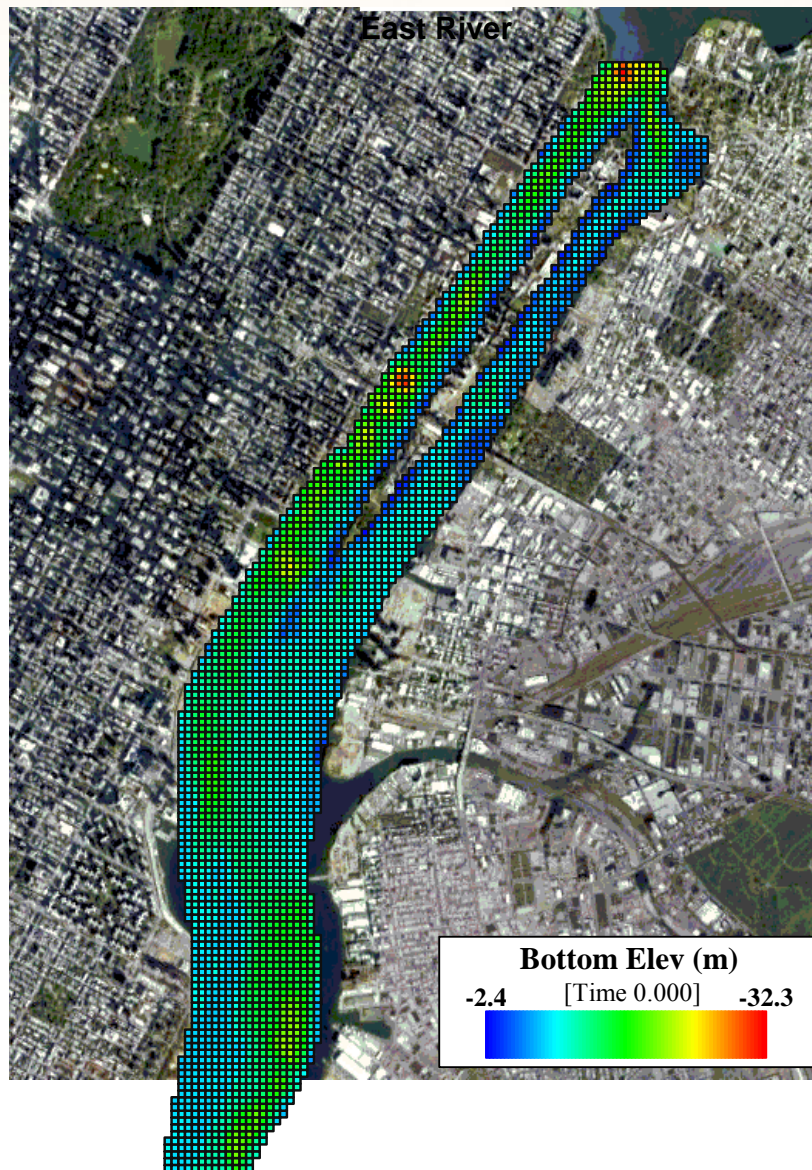


- Environmental-impact metrics; changes to:
  - Tidal range
  - Flushing/residence time
  - Sediment dynamics
  - Water quality
  - Ecosystem/habitat

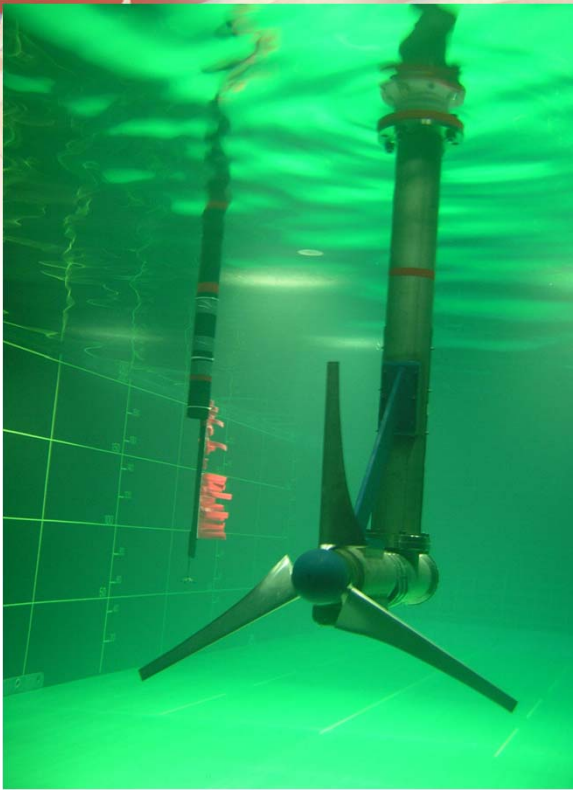




# East River Model

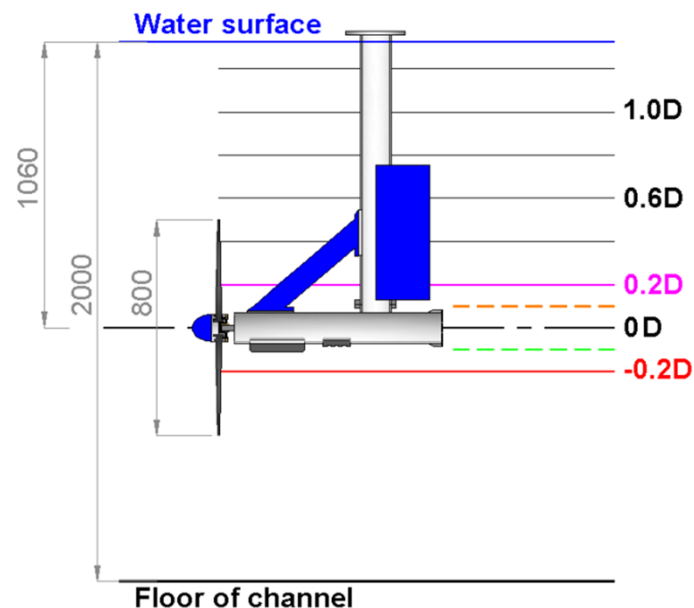
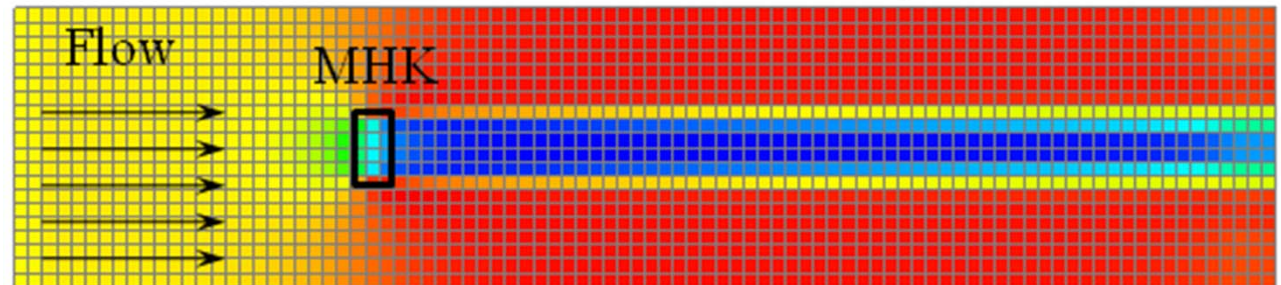
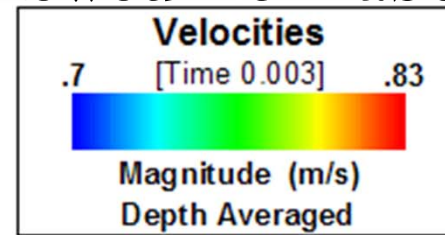






# Model Verification

Viewed from above

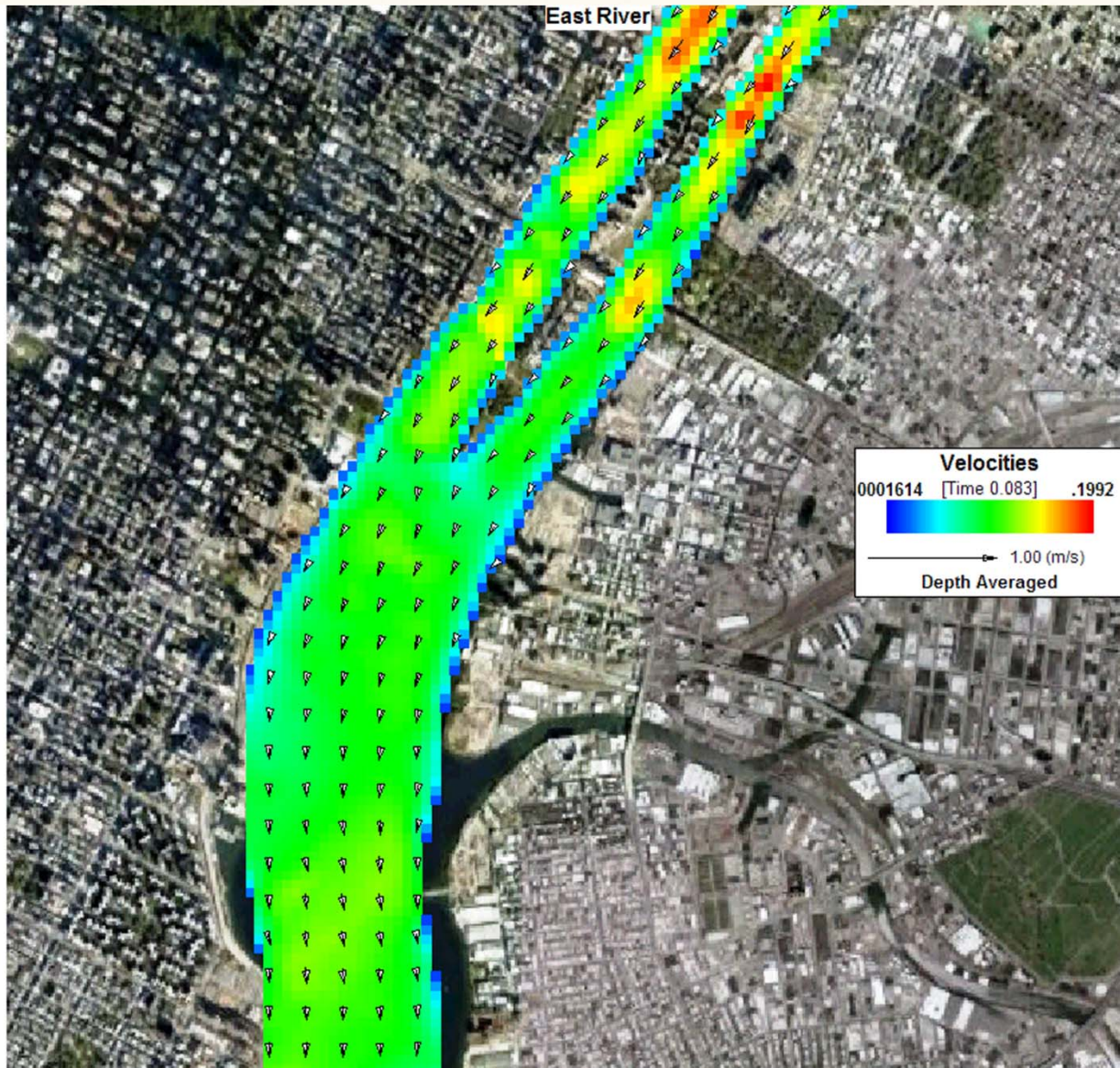


Parameter	Value
$\beta_p$	0.05
$\beta_d$	2.5
$C_{\varepsilon 4}$	10

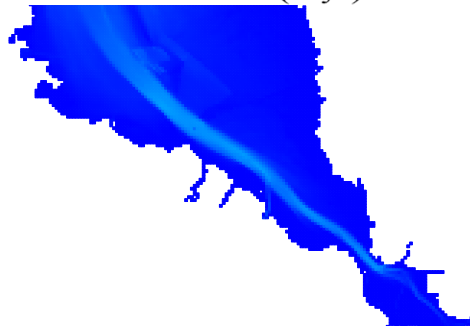
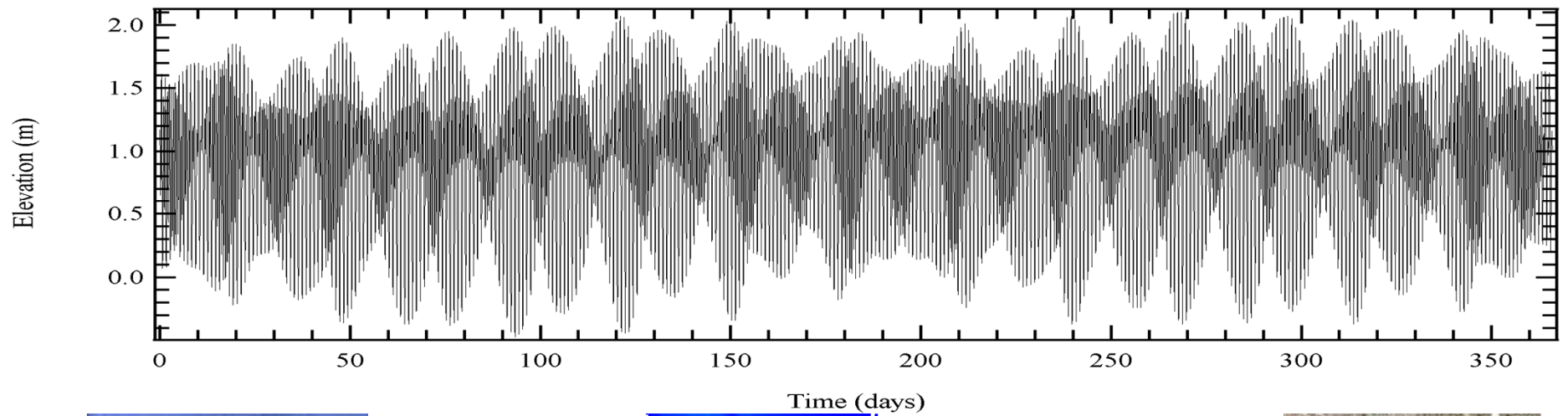
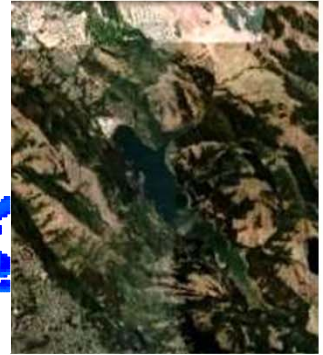
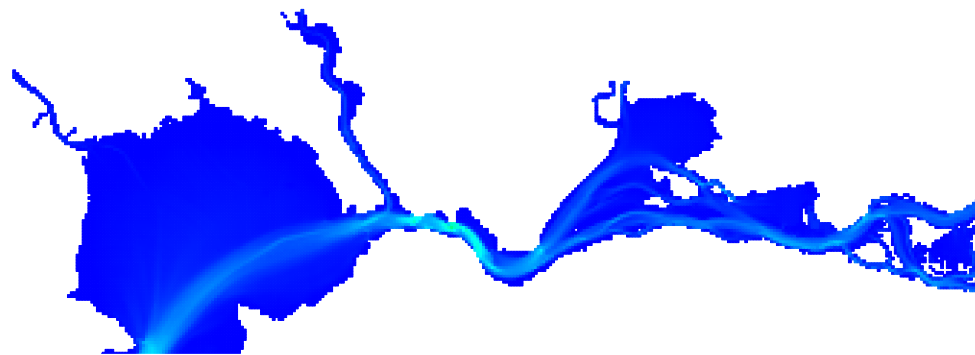




# East River Model

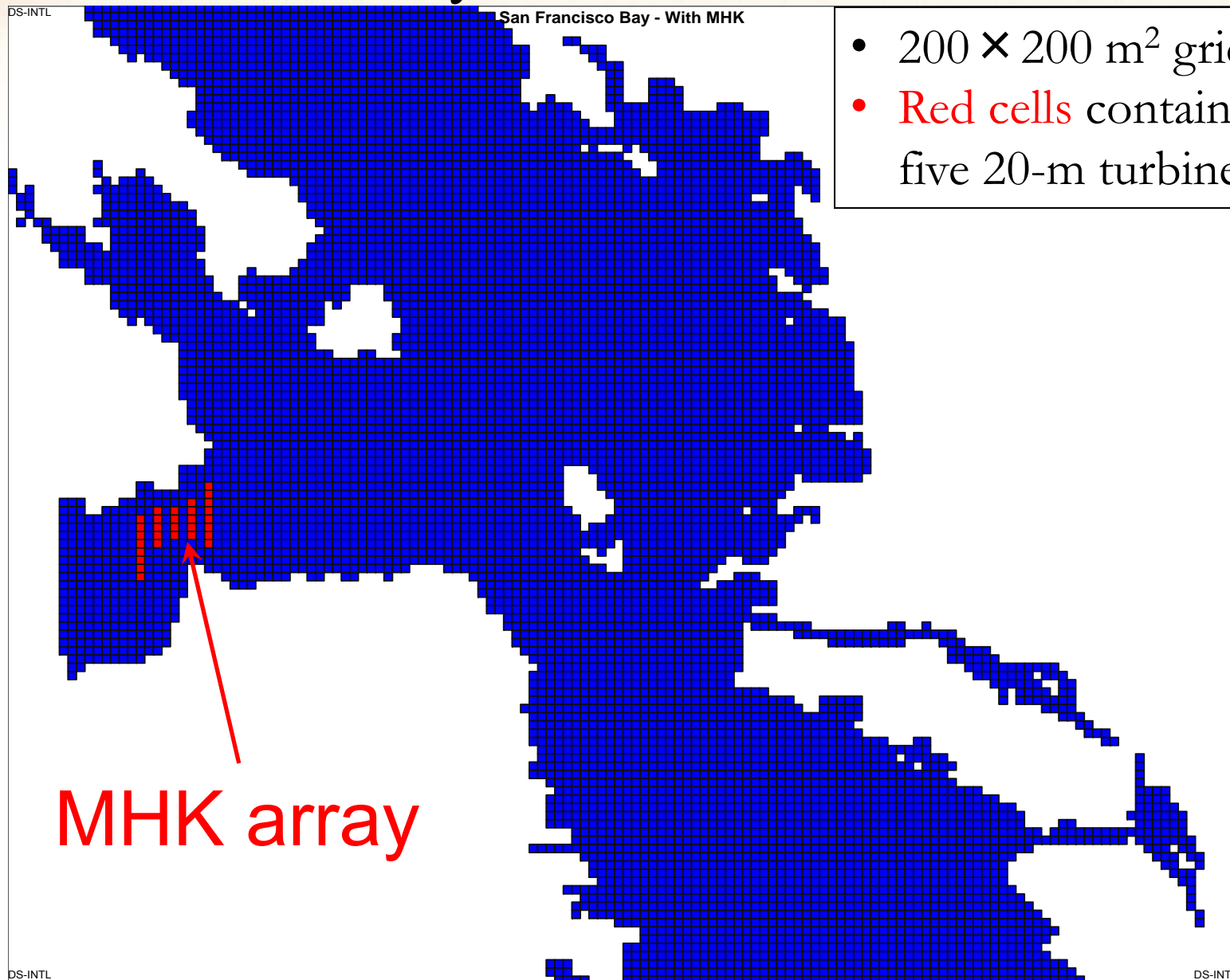


# San Francisco Bay Model





# MHK Array

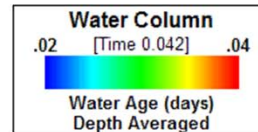


# San Francisco Bay Model – Water Age

DS-INTL

San Francisco Bay

DS-INTL

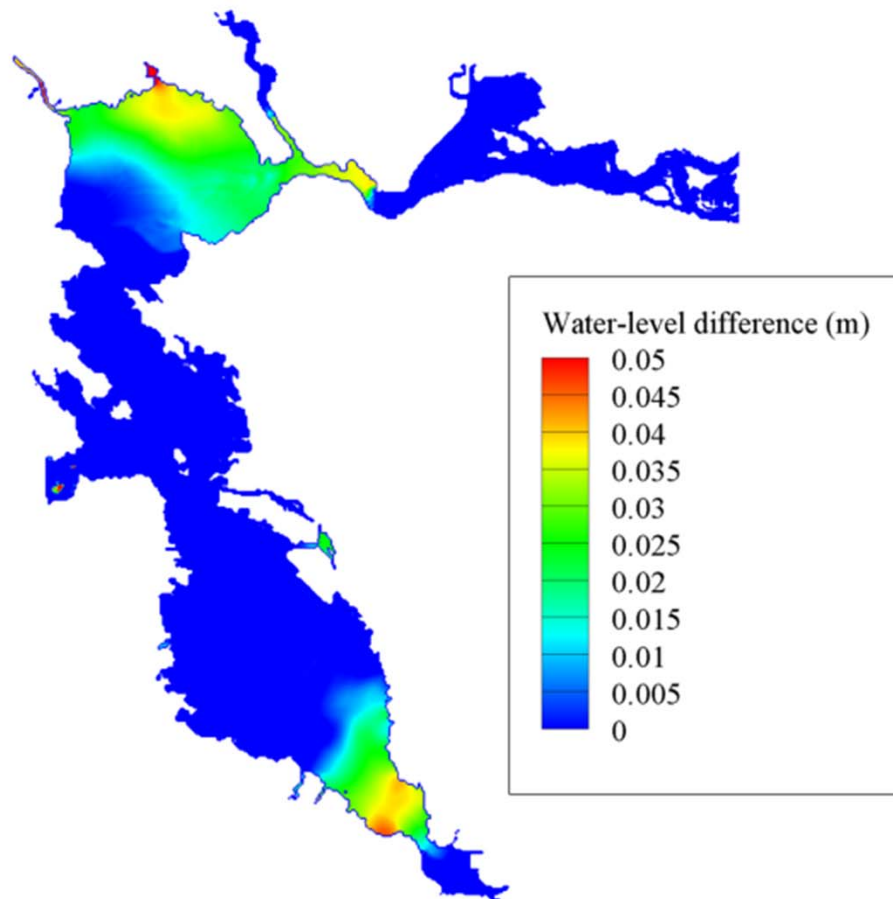


DS-INTL

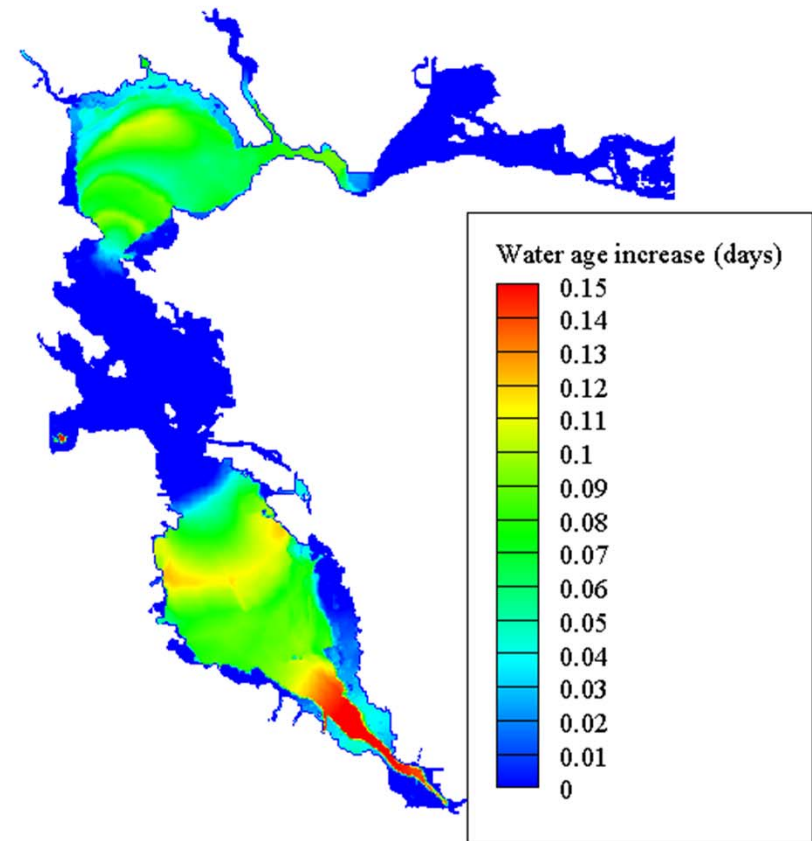
DS-INTL

# Changes (Tidal Range and Water Age)

Tidal amplitude



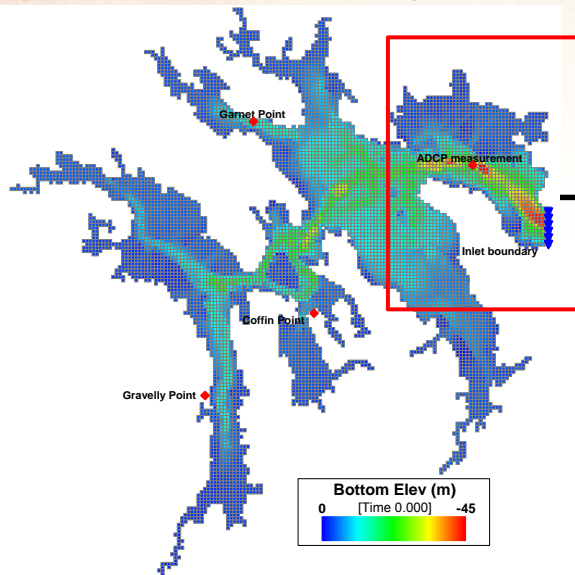
Water age (after 30 days)



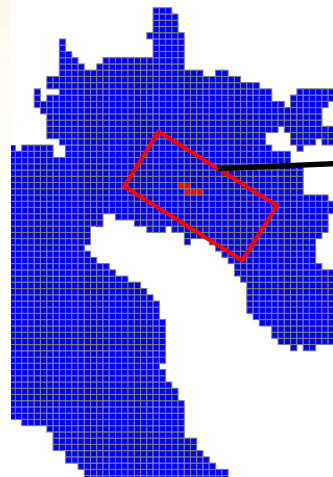


# Cobscook Bay Model - Demonstration

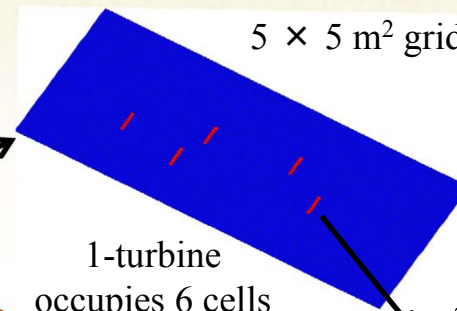
100 × 100-m<sup>2</sup> grid



5 Turbines (1/cell)

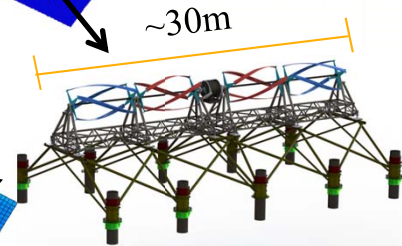
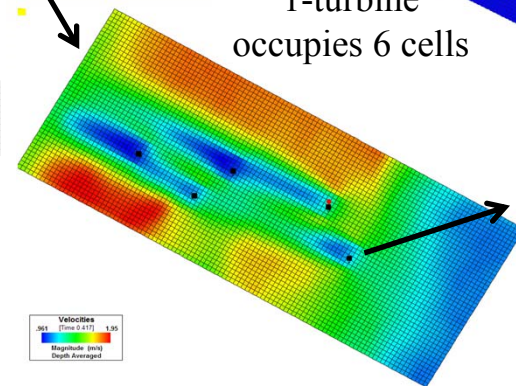


5 × 5 m<sup>2</sup> grid



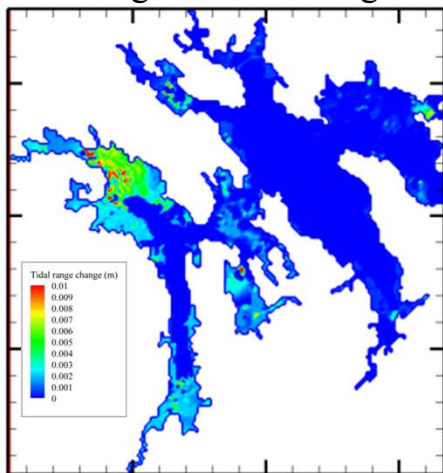
1-turbine occupies 6 cells

~30m

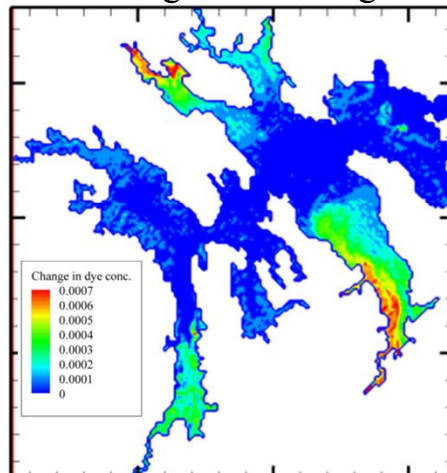


Effects of 5 Turbines is Negligible

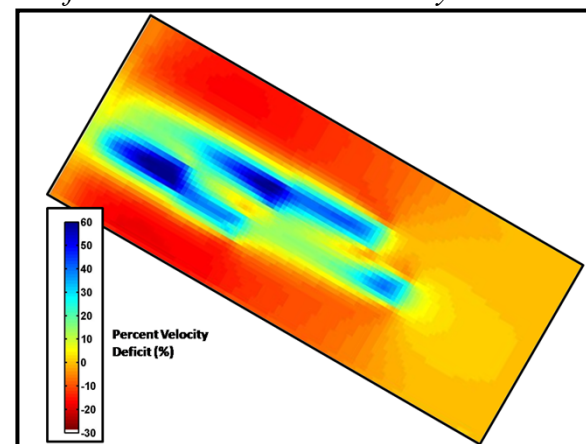
Change in Tidal Range



Change in Flushing



Velocity Change Map (without – with turbines)  
*Informs fish behavior and sediment dynamics modeling*

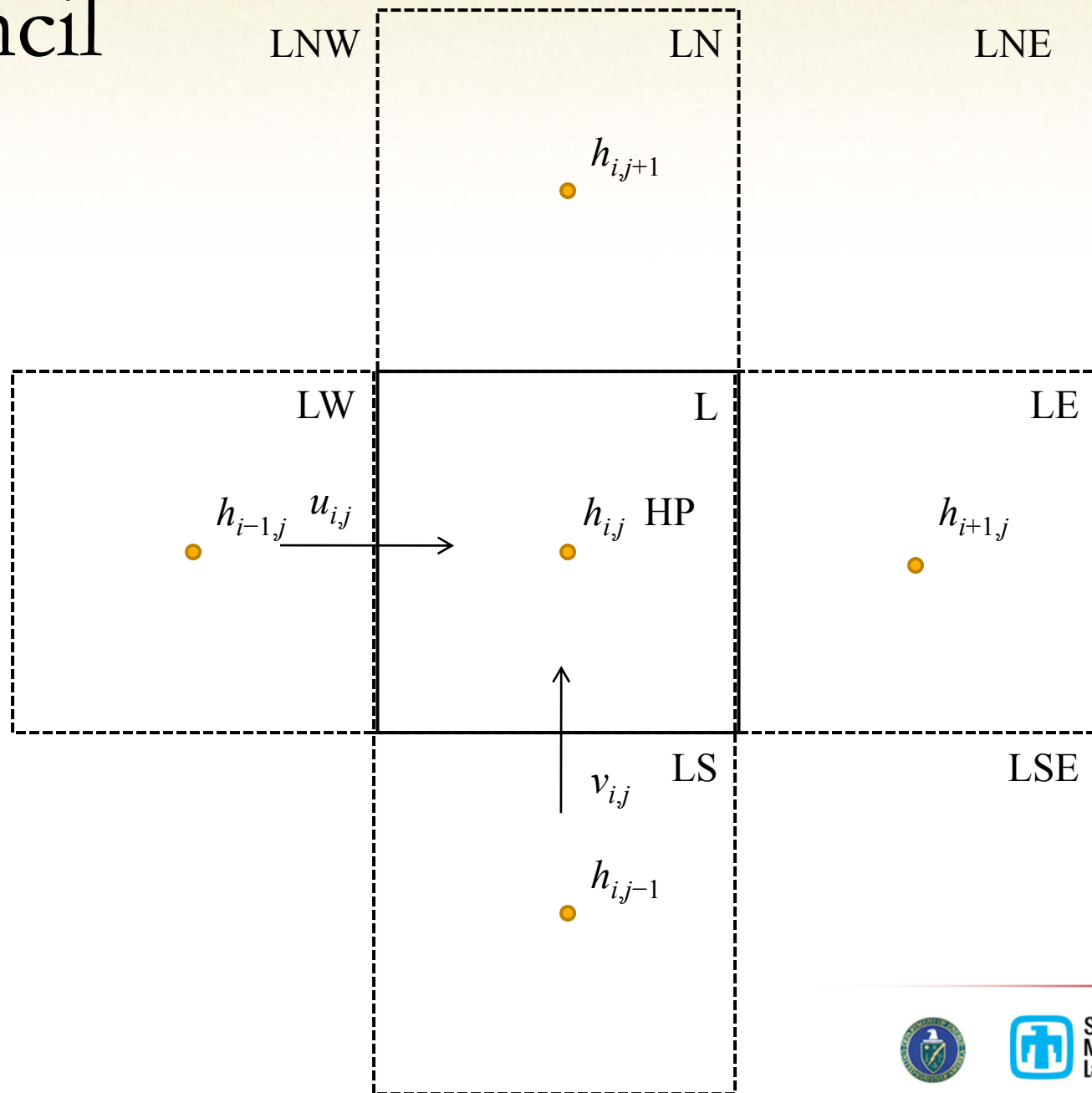


Sandia  
National  
Laboratories

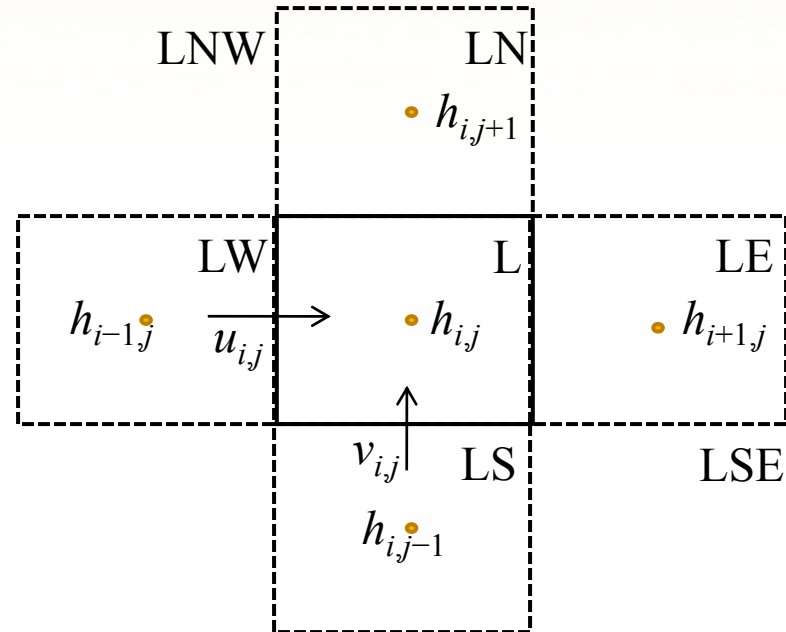
# Model Specifics



# FD Stencil



# Velocity Stencil



- Cell-centered velocities:

$$u = \frac{1}{2}(u_L + u_{LE})$$

$$v = \frac{1}{2}(v_L + v_{LN})$$

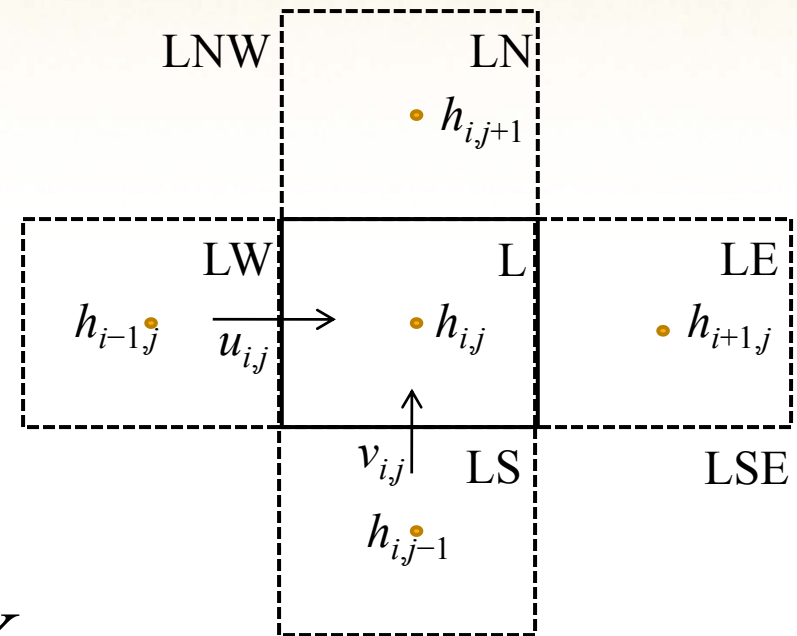
- Face speeds:

$$u = \sqrt{\left[\frac{1}{4}(u_L + u_{LE} + u_{LS} + u_{LSE})^2 + v_L^2\right]} \text{ (south)}$$

$$v = \sqrt{\left[u_L^2 + \frac{1}{4}(v_L + v_{LW} + v_{LN} + v_{LNW})^2\right]} \text{ (west)}$$



# Forces from MHK Devices



- Forces are applied at faces (not cell centers)
- Cell-centered force from MHK are distributed across both faces of the cell by area weight
- Force is measured in units of  $\text{m}^4/\text{s}^2$  (multiply this by density later to get Newtons)
- Power per unit density is:  $P_{\text{MHK}} = \frac{1}{2} C_T A_{\text{MHK}} |q| q^2 \text{ (m}^5/\text{s}^2\text{)}$





# Internal/External Solutions

- There are internal- and external-mode solutions in EFDC; the internal mode is layer-based and the external is (water) column-based
- Sum of forces on internal mode is zero, but unequal forces (shear, MHK, vegetation, etc.) are applied to each layer to “rearrange” the flow
- MHK forces will act on the water column as a whole through the external mode solution

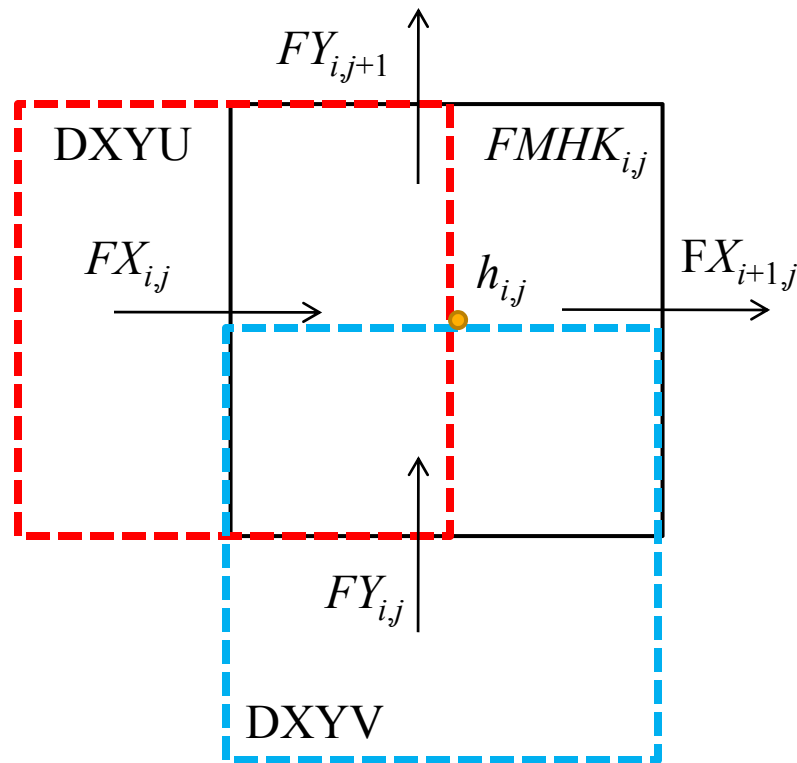


# Force on a Cell Face

- Face-centered areas used for force calculations:

Area for U-face =  $DXYU$

Area for V-face =  $DXYV$



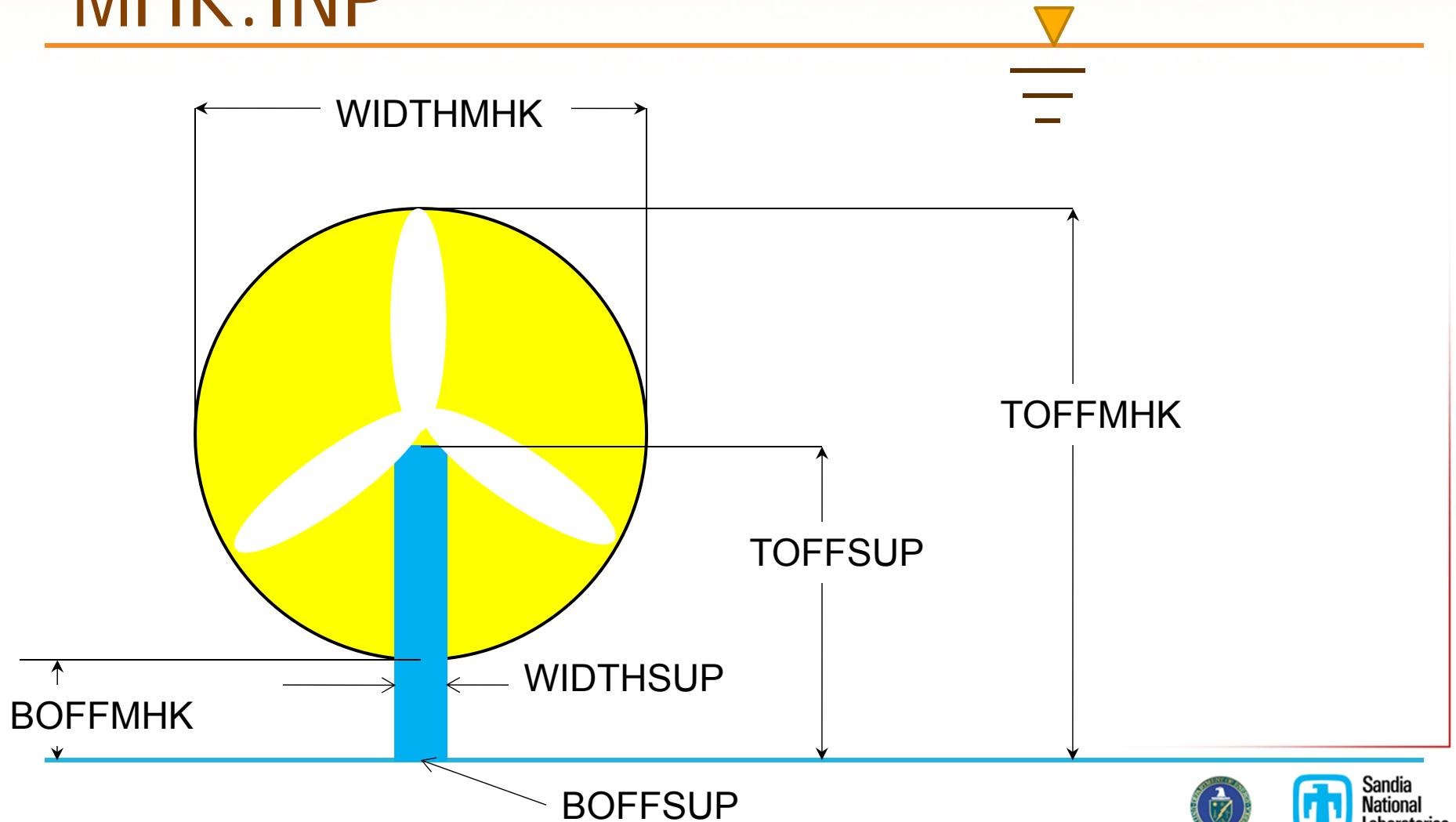
# MHK.INP

- C WIDTHMHK is the width of MHK device type
- C WIDTHSUP is the width of MHK support structure type
- C BOFFMHK is the bottom offset of the MHK device type (how far from the bottom)
- C BOFFSUP is the bottom offset of the MHK support structure type
- C TOFFMHK is the top offset of the MHK device type
- C TOFFSUP is the top offset of the MHK support structure type
- C CTMHK is the thrust coefficient of MHK device type
- C CDSUP is the coefficient of power dissipation of MHK support structure type
- C VMINCUT is the minimum velocity cut-in for MHK device type power curve
- C VMAXCUT is the maximum velocity cut-out for MHK device type power curve
- C DENMHK is the number of MHK devices in a cell

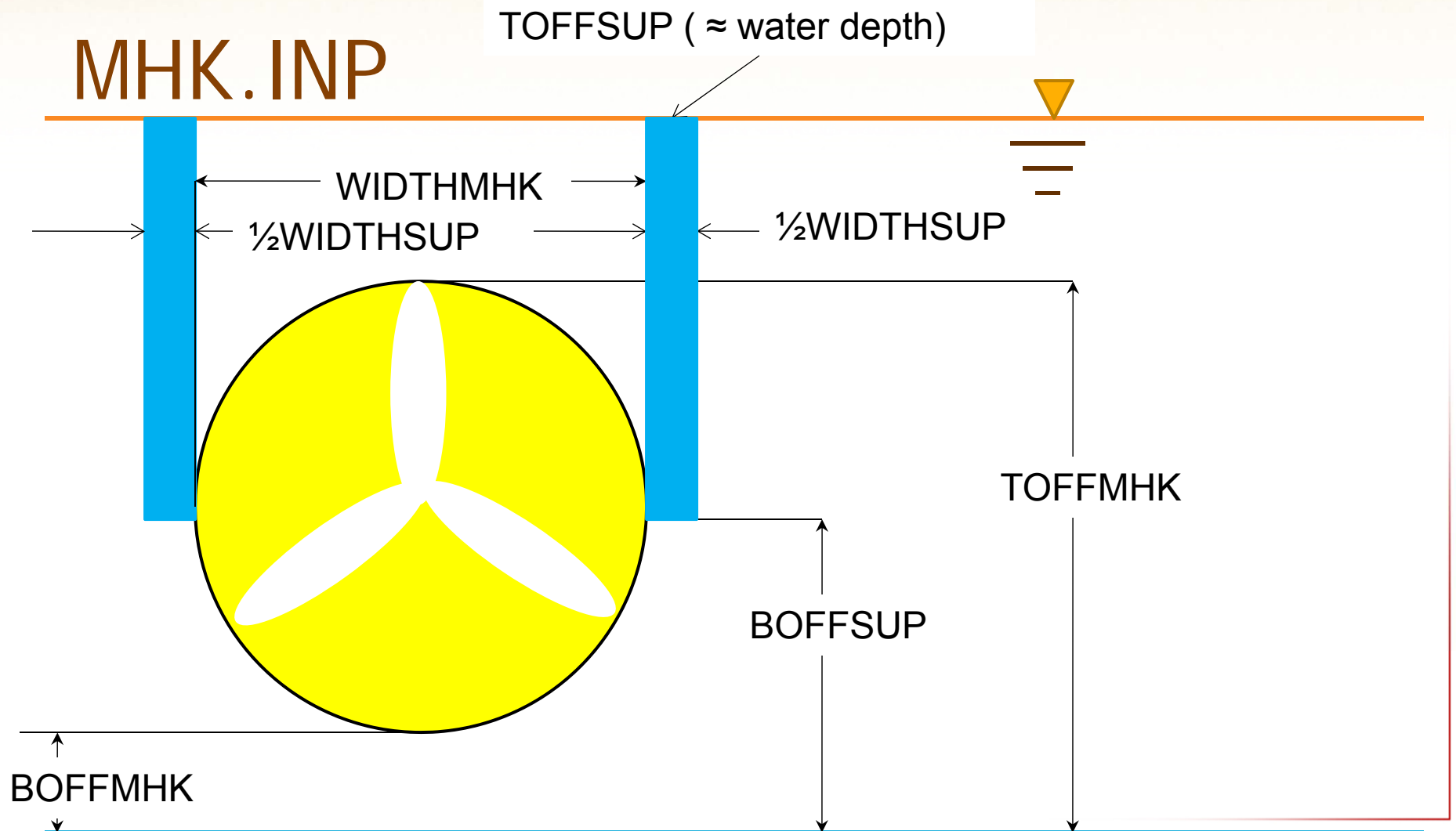


# Bottom Mounted

MHK.INP



# Top Mounted

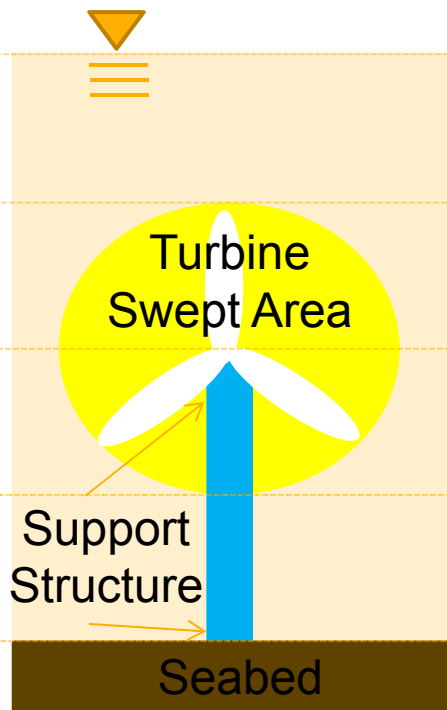
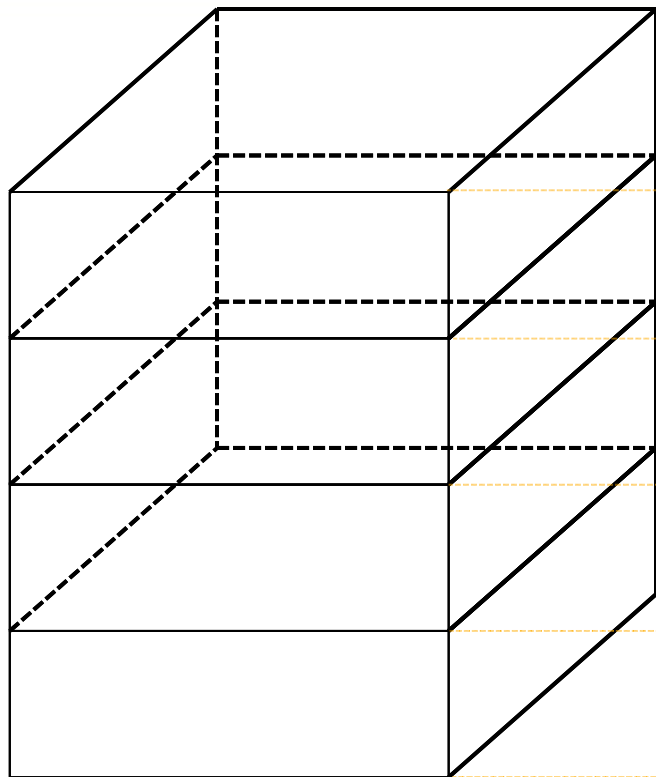




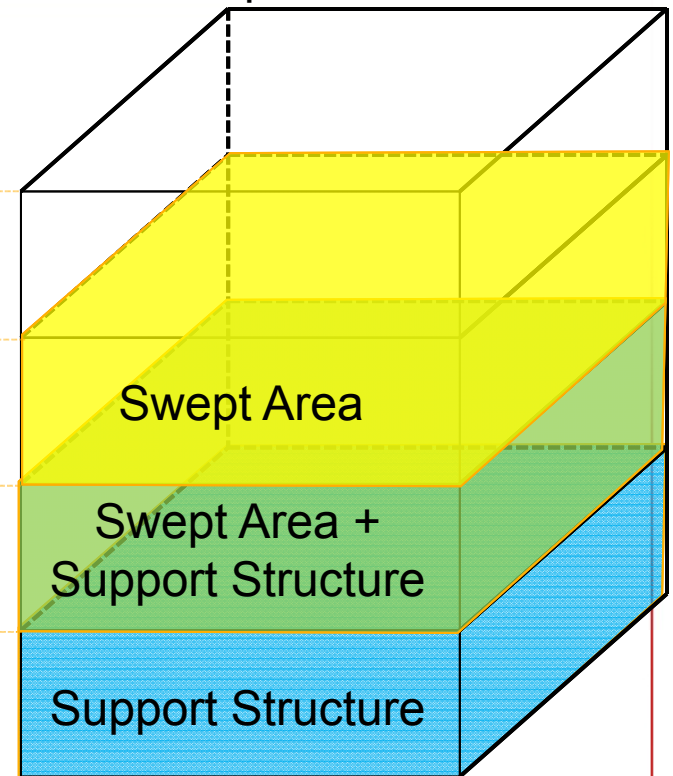
# MHK-Module Porous Approximation

- MHK can be represented with multiple cells or contained within a single cell
- MHK can occupy an entire cell or a fraction of a cell

Hydrodynamic Model Grid



Hydrodynamic Model Grid  
+  
SNL-EFDC Turbine  
Representation





# Exponent<sup>®</sup>

Engineering and Scientific Consulting

Scott James  
sjames@exponent.com  
949-242-6036

