



An Integrated Density-Dependent Flow and Solute Transport Model for Simulating Groundwater-Seawater Interaction and Nutrient Transport in Taoyuan Coastal Area.

Presenter: Huu-Duc Truong

Advisor: Shih-Jung Wang

Contents



Introduction



Methodology



Results



Conclusion



Future work

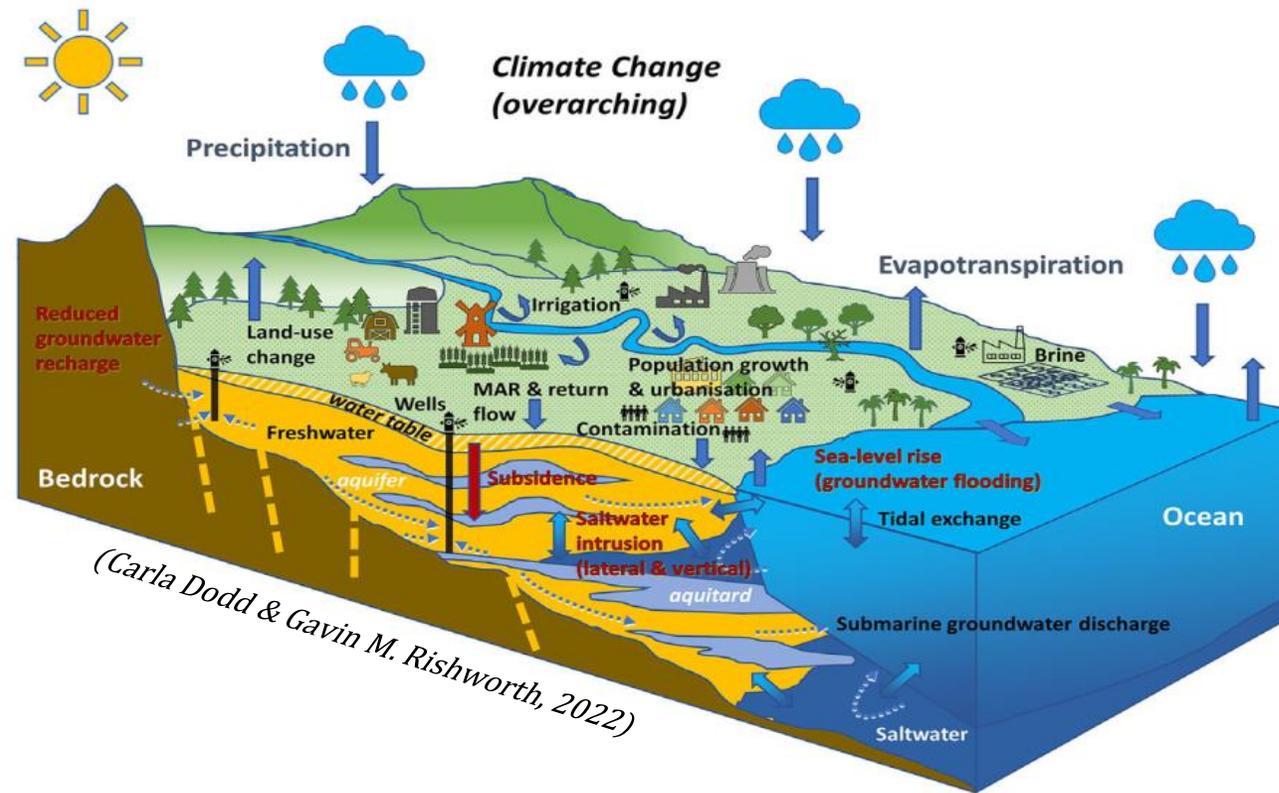


Fig: Groundwater resources and pollutant transport process in coastal area

- Groundwater is a critical natural resource required for human development, however its resources threatened by seawater intrusion and coastal pollution (Kemper 2004; Alley 2006).
- Overgrowth nutrients such as nitrate (NO_3^-) and phosphate (PO_4^{3-}), have the potential to **negatively impact** drinking water and the biota of coastal ecosystems (Duarte et al., 2010).

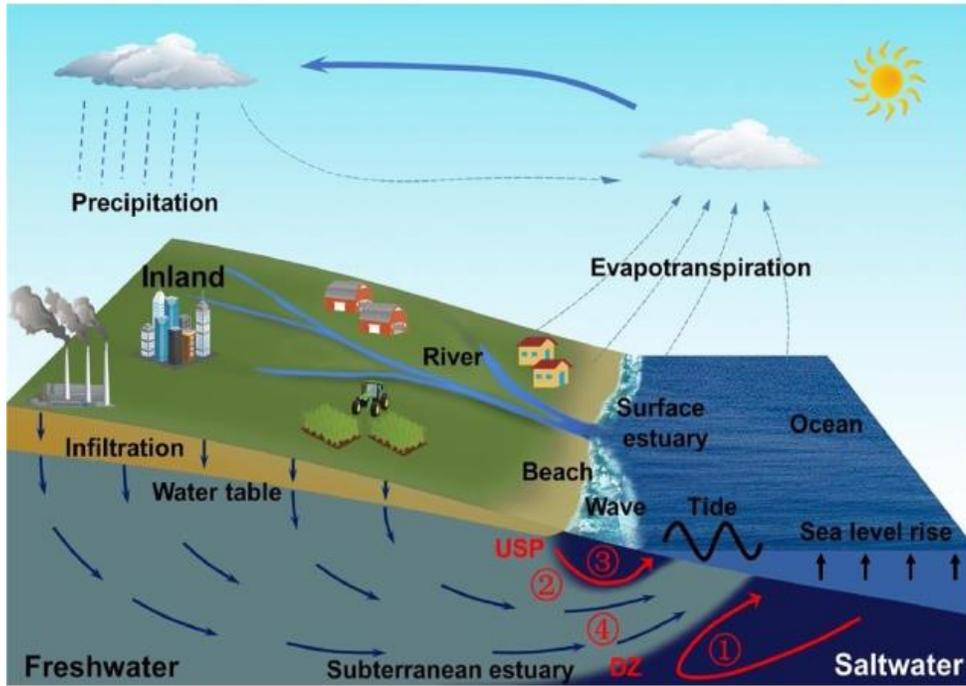


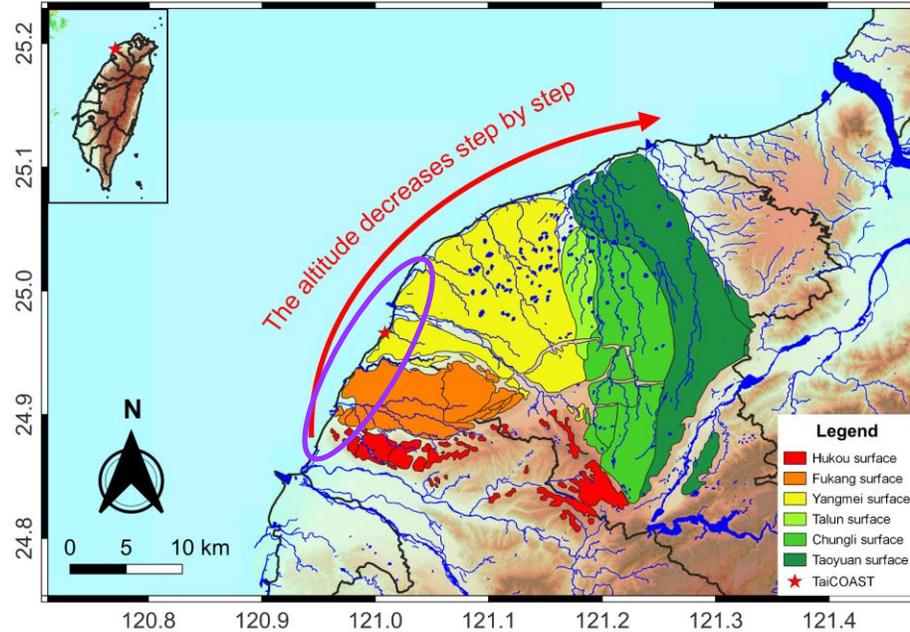
Fig: Submarine groundwater discharge contributes to transport pollution (Murgulet, 2021)



Fig: Point source and non-point source of pollution (www.breavardfl.gov)

- **Seawater - Groundwater interaction** are important natural processes of coastal areas that **controlling processes** such as **Submarine Groundwater Discharge (SGD)**, **Seawater intrusion**...
- SGD is hydrological process that effect directly to the transport of pollutants from land to sea, aggravate pollution in this area.

- ❑ Developing a **Density-Dependent Flow and Solute Transport Integrated model** capable of simulating seawater intrusion, SGD, and nutrient transport in coastal areas.
- ❑ **Discussing about the interaction processes between seawater and freshwater**, along with accompanying phenomena in coastal areas such as SGD and SI.
- ❑ Evaluating the impact of aquifer material complexity on solute transport in coastal aquifers



- The Datan Algal Reef is a unique biotic ecosystem that provides habitat for several threatened and endangered species.
- However approximately 75% of the reef, particularly in the northern region, has been damaged by industrial pollution over the past 50 years.

Taoyuan coastal area
and Datan Algal Reef



Polycyathus Chaishanensis (endemic coral species species)

- The fluid flow behavior in a porous matrix follows the equation adopted from fluid flow in porous media following Darcy's law (Darcy, 1856):

$$\mathbf{q} = \frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla p + \rho^* \mathbf{g} \nabla D) \quad (1)$$

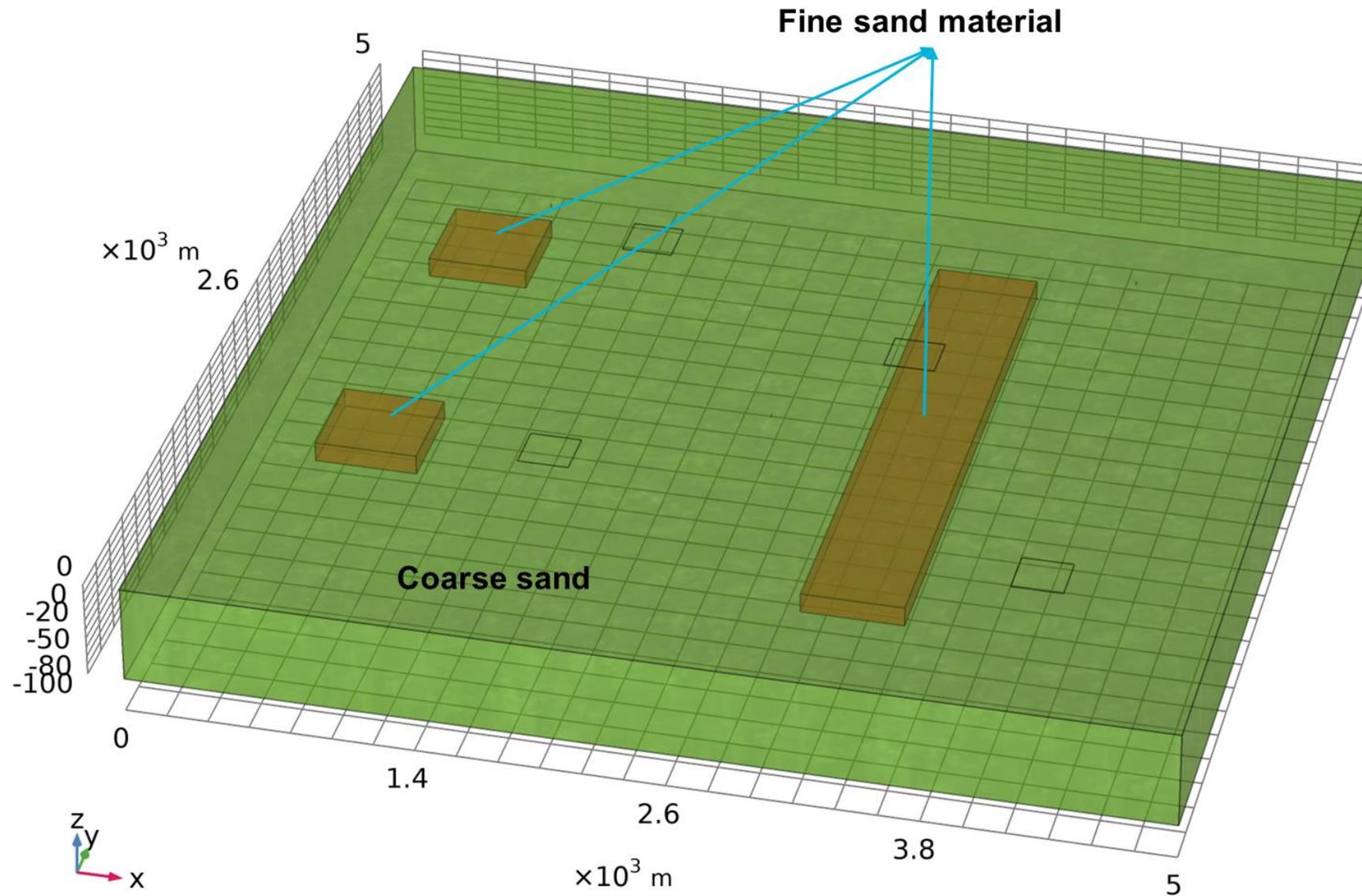
- Fluid density dependent salinity equation

$$\rho^* = \rho_f + \frac{\rho_c + \rho_f}{c_s - c_f} C_1 \quad (2)$$

- Solute transport equation:

$$\underbrace{n_e \left(1 + \frac{\rho_b K_d}{n_e} \right)}_{\text{Absorption}} \cdot \frac{\partial C_{1,2}}{\partial t} + \underbrace{q_i \nabla C_{1,2}}_{\text{Advection}} - \nabla \cdot \underbrace{[n_e (D_H + \nabla C_{1,2})]}_{\text{Diffusion}} = 0 \quad (3)$$

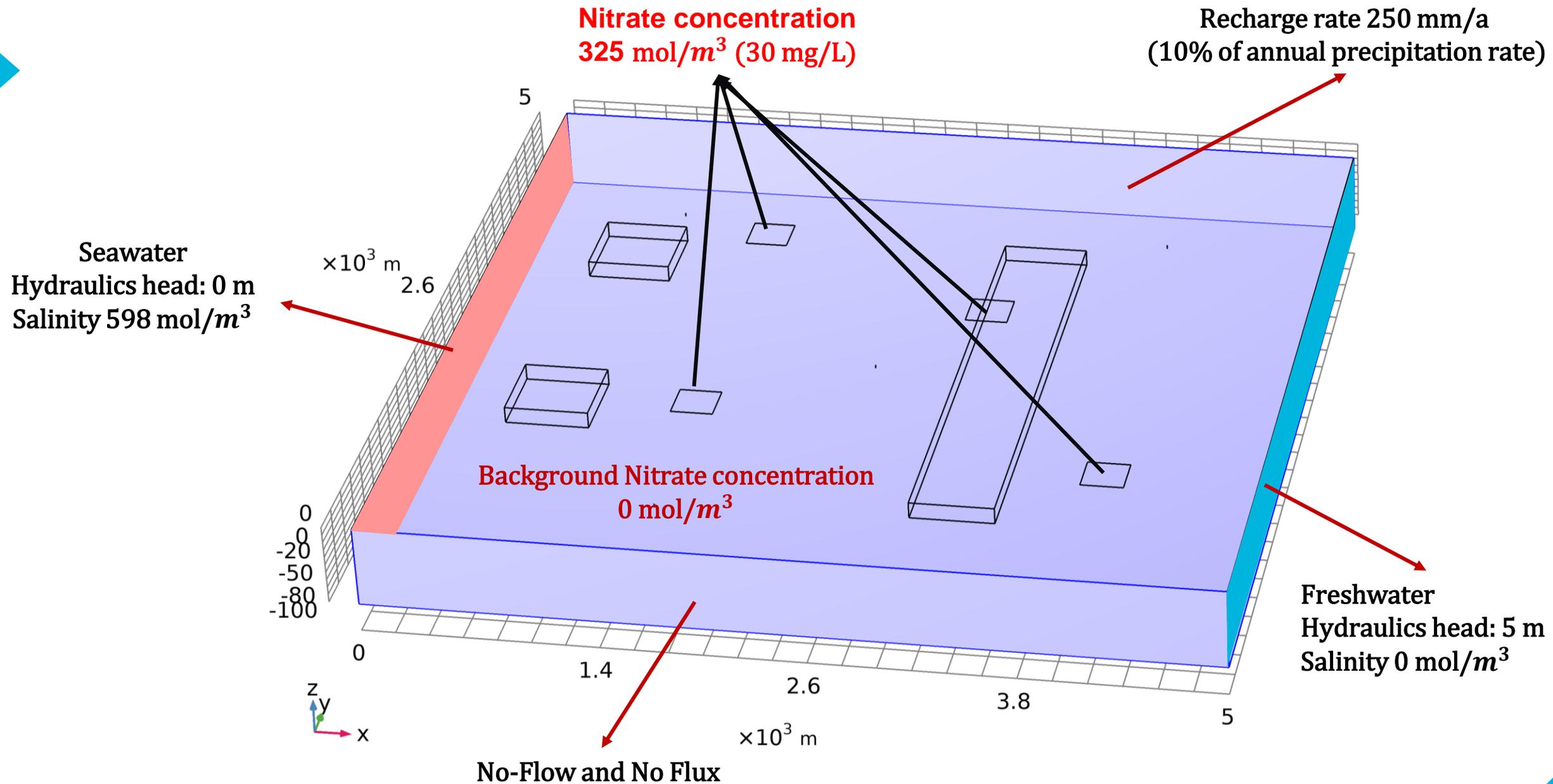
- Where D_H is the diffusion dispersion and ∇C_1 is the changed salinity of fluid, ∇C_2 is the changed Nitrate (NO_3) concentration of fluid; $1 + \frac{\rho_b K_d}{n_e}$ is retardation factor, ρ_b is Bulk density, K_d is linear sorption coefficient.



X:Y:Z = 5000:5000:100 m

Polluted Agricultural Zone: 250*250m

Hydraulic and Hydro-chemical Boundary Conditions



Scenario 1: Seawater – Freshwater interaction

- The steady state of model
- Seawater-freshwater transition and SGD estimation

Scenario 2: Effect of agriculture development on groundwater quality and SGD

- Simulate 30 years over development of agriculture and their effects on groundwater quality
- **Pump in turn of 4 production wells and All well** with pumping rate $4320 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$ for each well in the dry season

Scenario 3: Coastal development effect on coastal groundwater quality

- After 30 years agriculture developed, a part of agricultural land converted into industrial zone

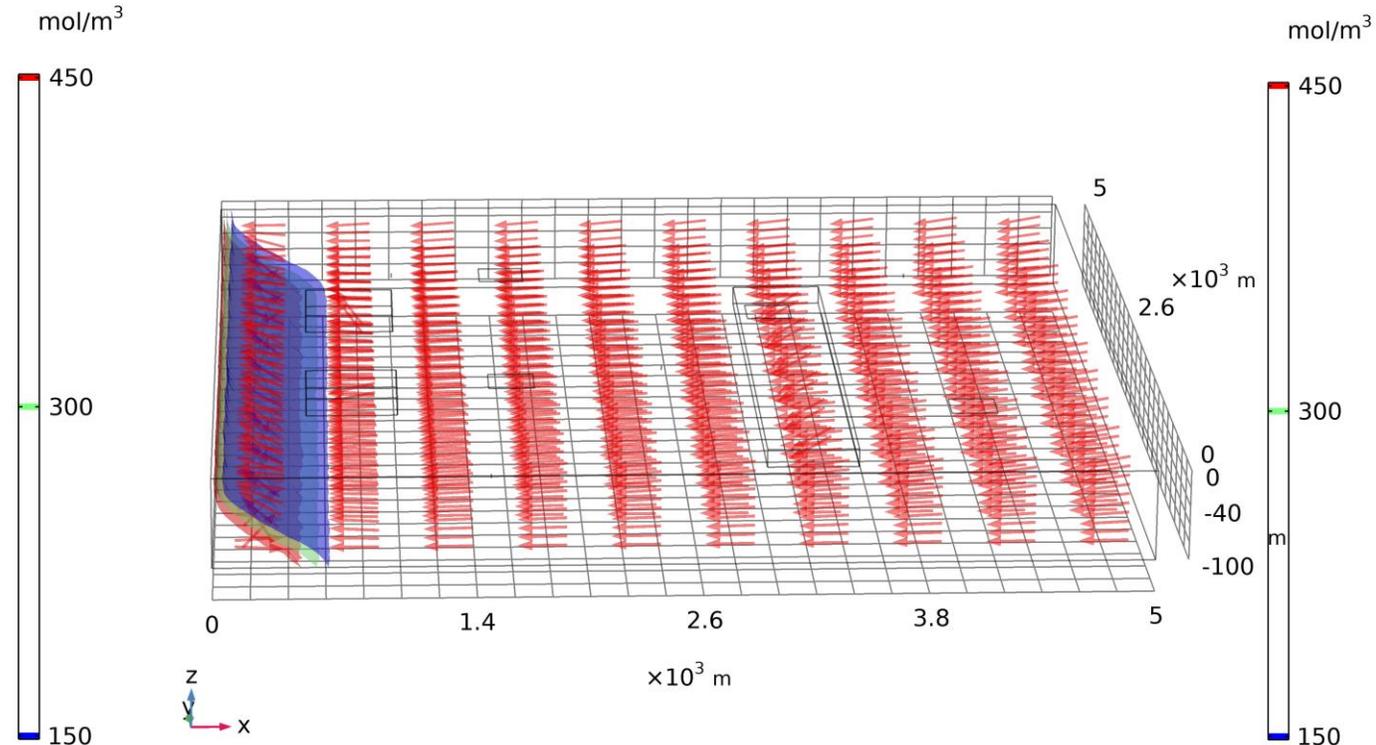
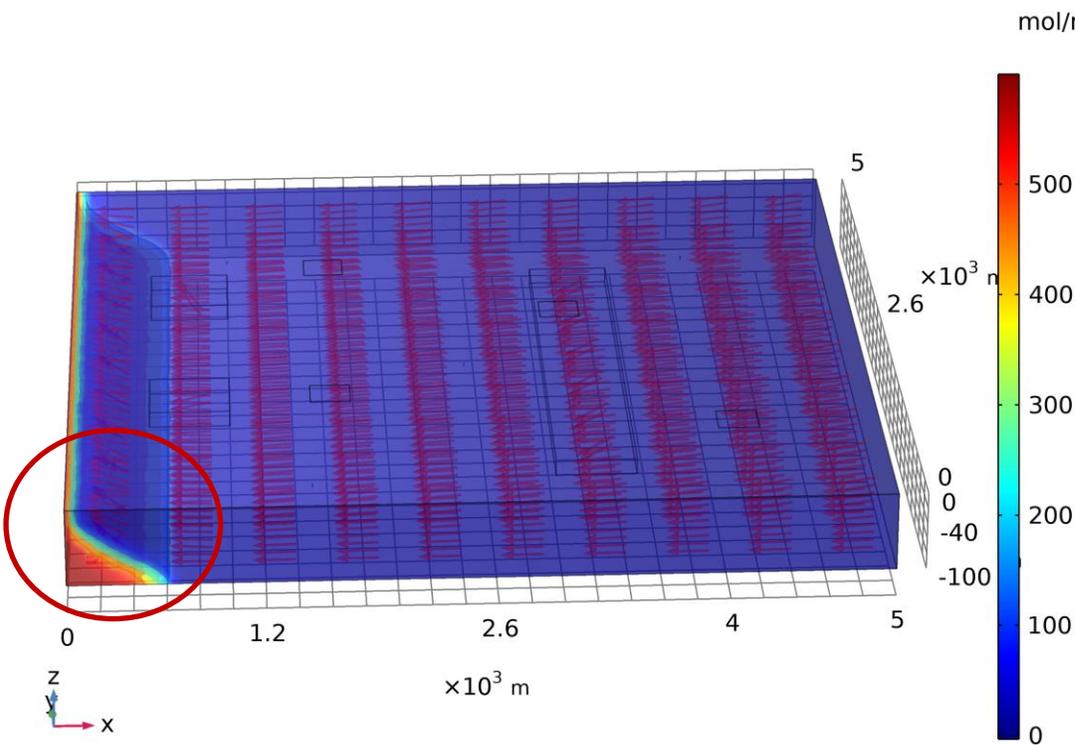
Table. Parameters setting

Parameters	Values	Unit
Fine sand porosity	0.395	-
Fine sand effective porosity	0.375	-
Fine sand density	2090	kg/m ³
Fine sand hydraulic conductivity	5×10^{-5}	m/s
Coarse sand porosity	0.385	-
Coarse sand effective porosity	0.380	-
Coarse sand density	1988	kg/m ³
Coarse sand hydraulic conductivity	6×10^{-4}	m/s
Fresh water density	1000	kg/m ³
Seawater density	1025	kg/m ³
Seawater salinity	35	PPT
Freshwater salinity	0	PPT
Dynamic viscosity	8.9×10^{-4}	Pa·s

Time=500 a

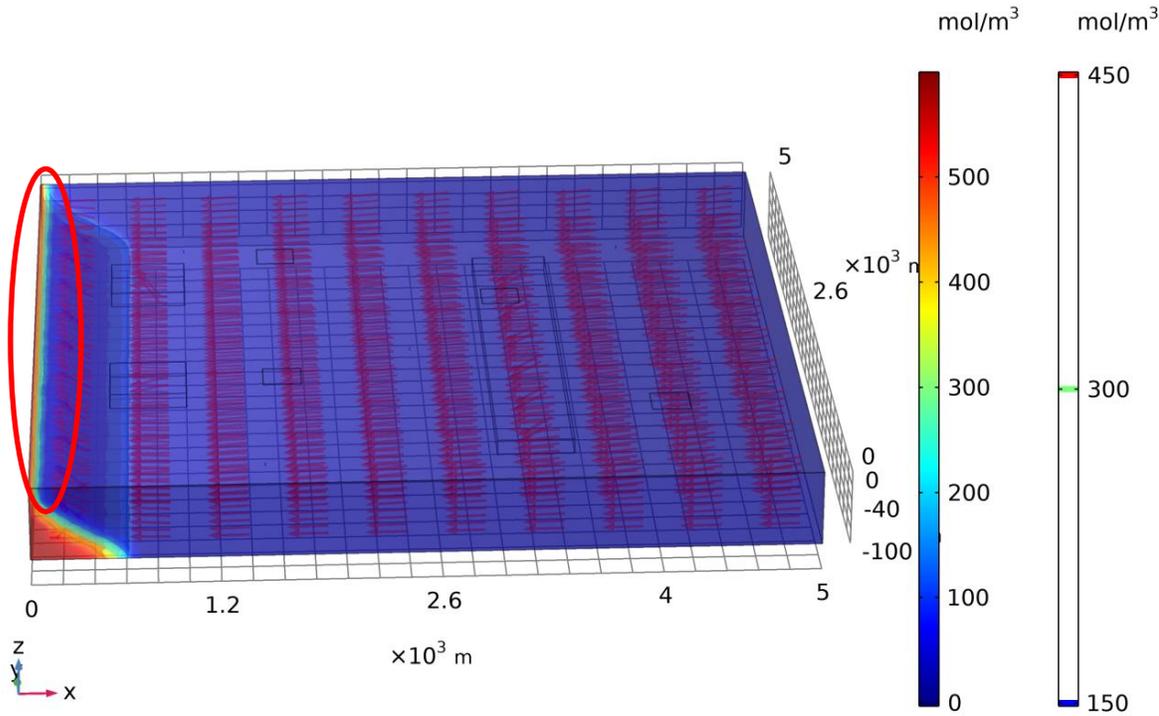
Time=500 a

Fluid Flow



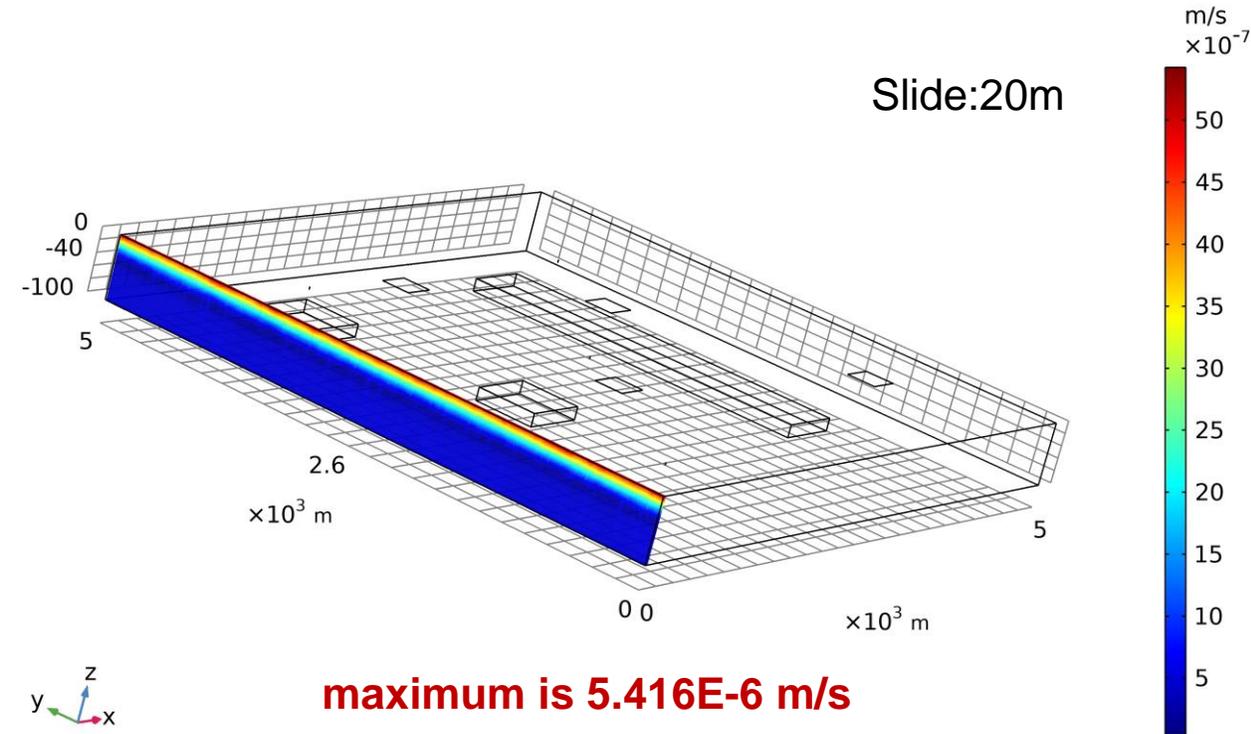
- Model reached steady-state condition after 500 years of simulation.
- Toe position (brackish water has salinity 150 mol/ m³) located around 610 m further inland

Time=500 a



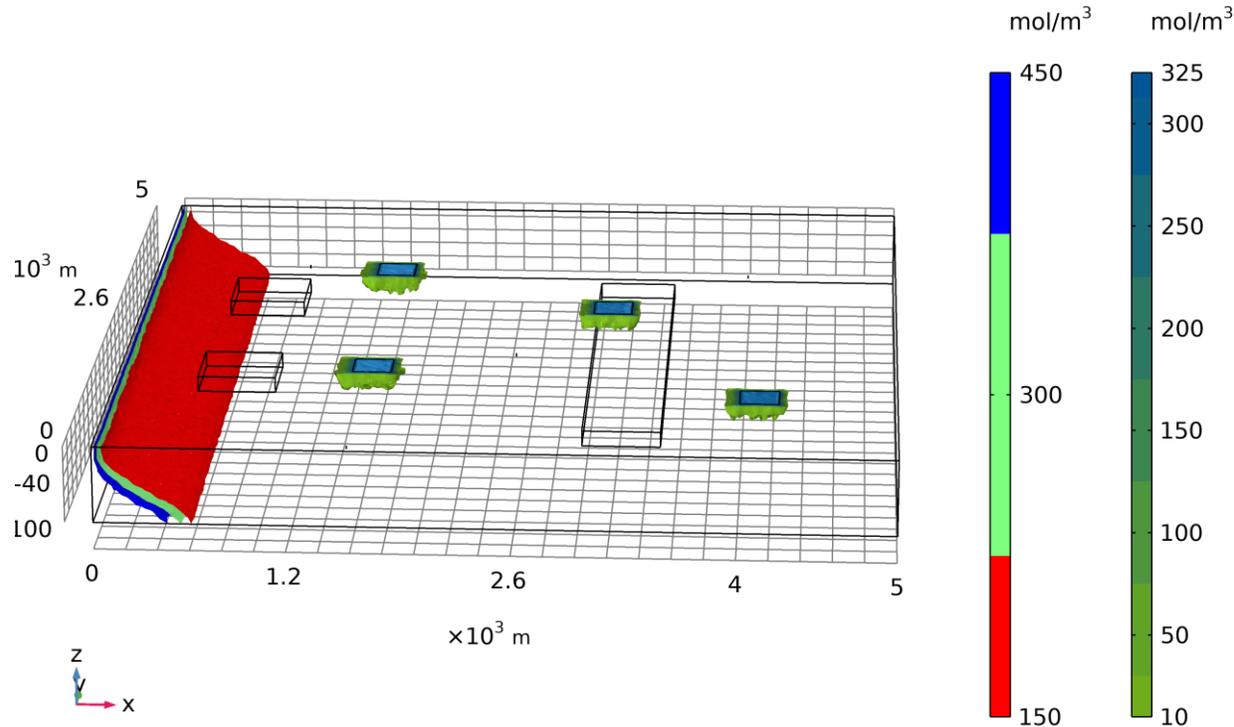
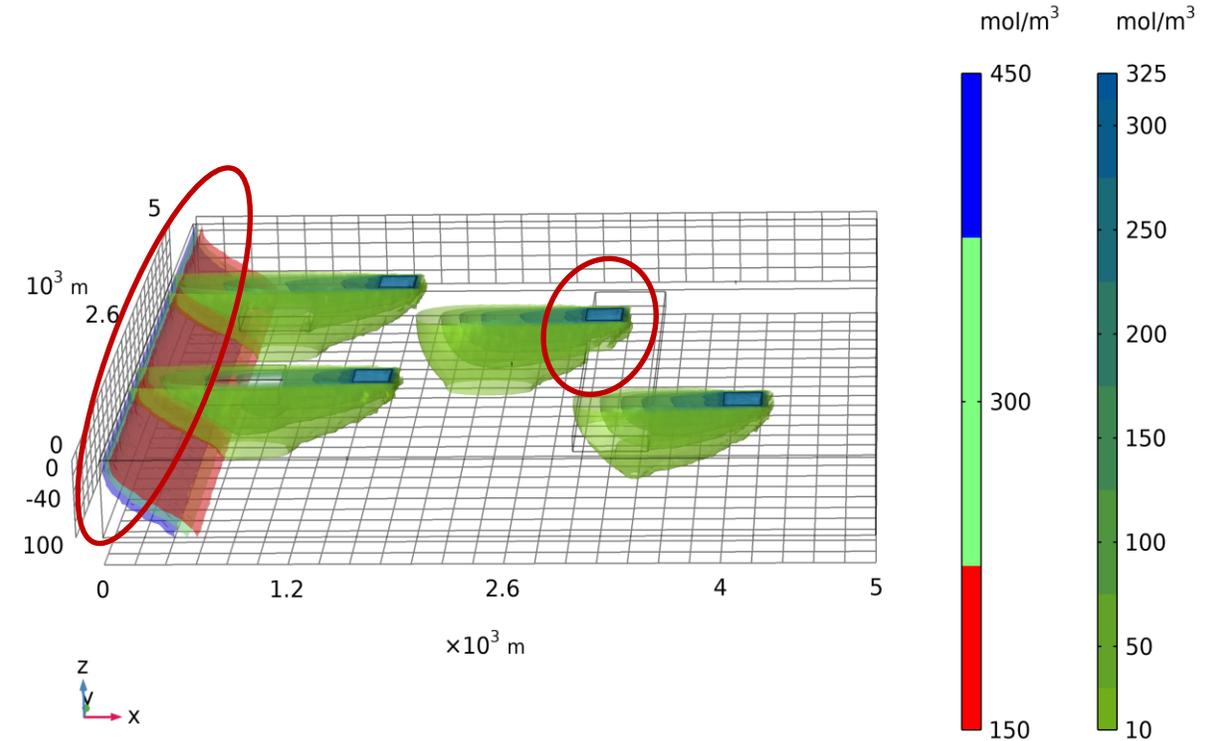
Time=500 a

Slice: Darcy's velocity magnitude (m/s)



- The interaction between seawater and groundwater **creates a transition zone where freshwater floats above seawater**, flowing along the top of the domain or SGD.
- The flow velocity is highest near the coastline, reaching a maximum of 5.416×10^{-6} m/s, and gradually decreases further inland.

Scenario 2-1: 30 years of agricultural development without pumping

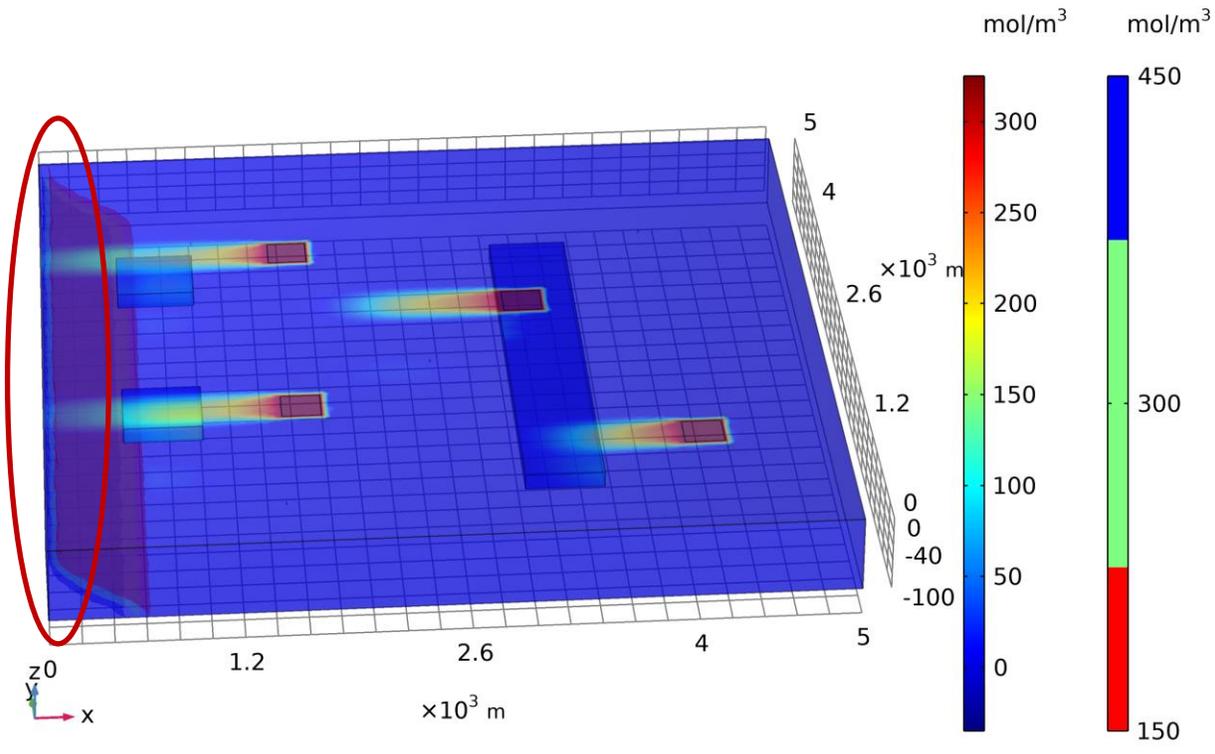
Time=1 a Nitrate concentration (mol/m³) and Salinity concentration (mol/m³) in scenario 1Time=30 a Nitrate concentration (mol/m³) and Salinity concentration (mol/m³) in scenario 1

- After 30 years of simulation, nutrient pollutants from agricultural areas have spread extensively, infiltrating the aquifer and being transported along groundwater flow.
- Fine sand has lower permeability and porosity, causing nitrate to accumulate within the material, which significantly affects its transport behavior.

3. Results

Surface view

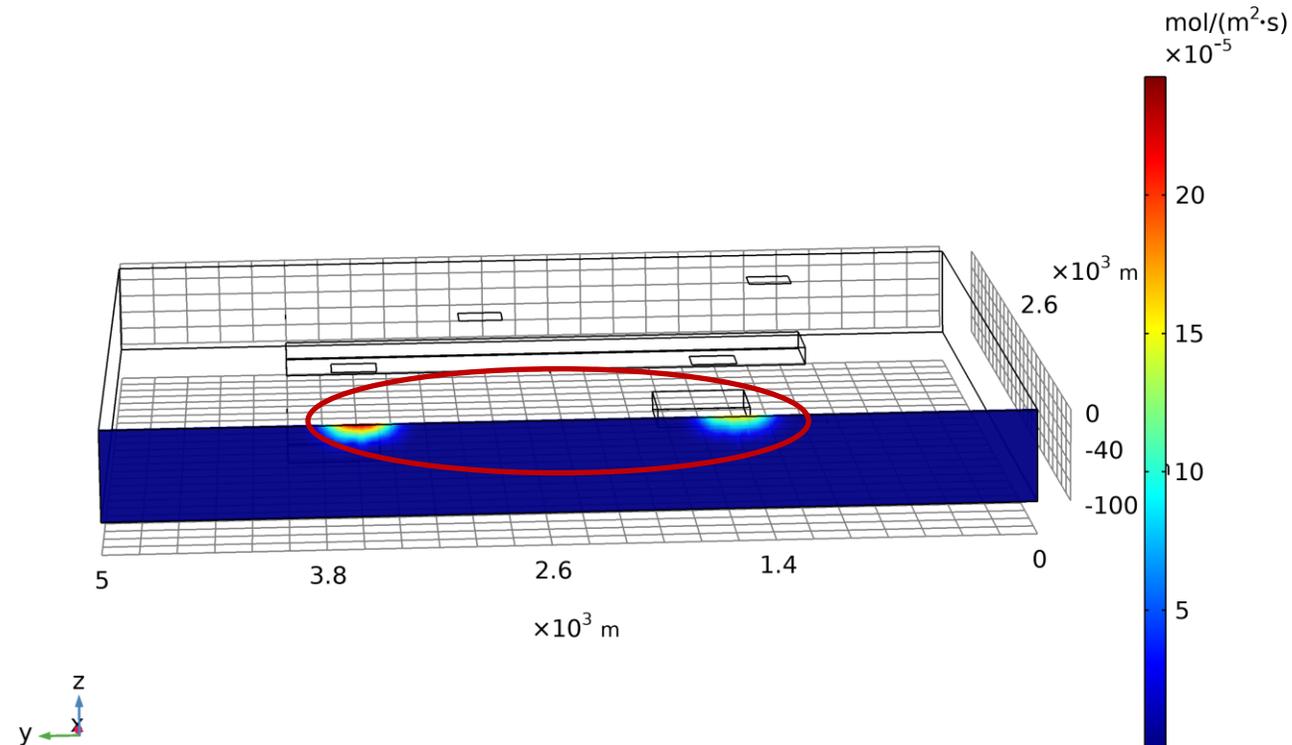
Time=30 a Nitrate concentration (mol/m³) and Salinity concentration (mol/m³) in scenario 1



Slide view

Time=30 a

Slice: Total flux magnitude (mol/(m²*s))



*SGD carries approximately $2.427E-4$ Mol/(m²*s) Nitrate to shoreline .*

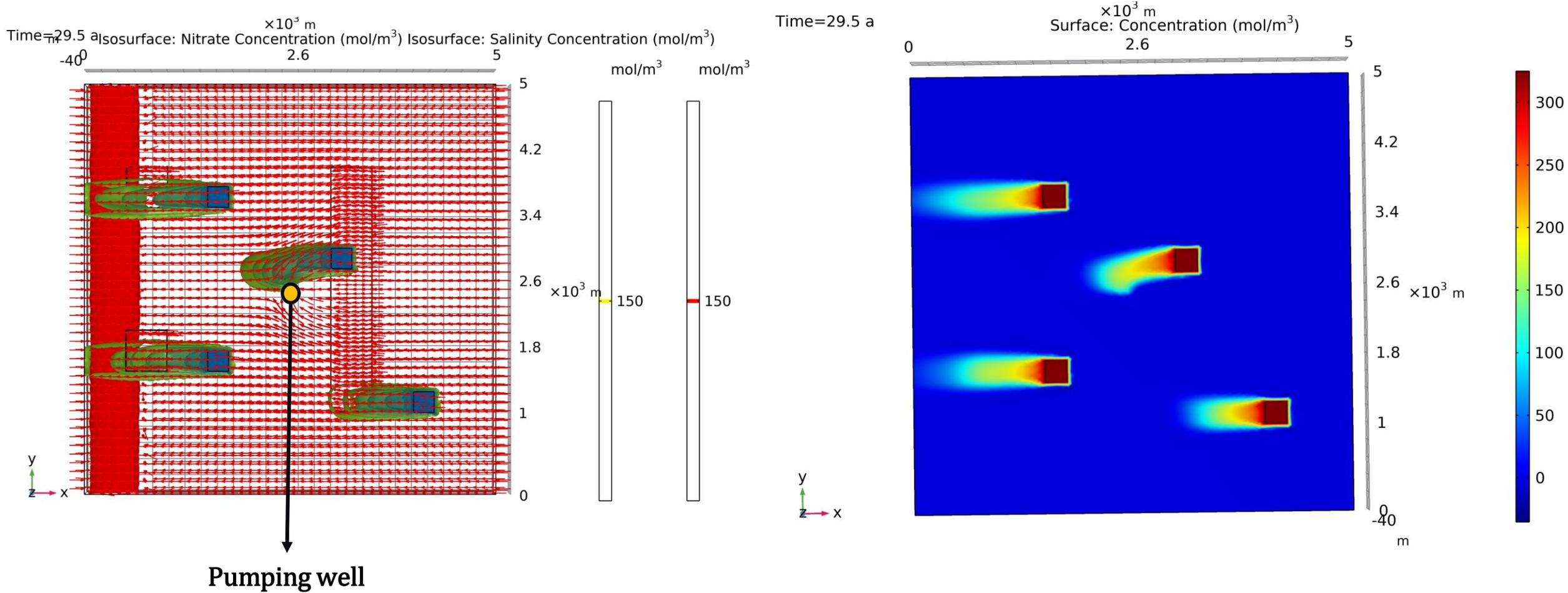
- The SGD process carries nitrate from the bottom of the domain to the surface, resulting in a **higher nitrate flux at the top** compared to deeper zone.

3. Results

Effect of pumping and agriculture pollution on groundwater quality

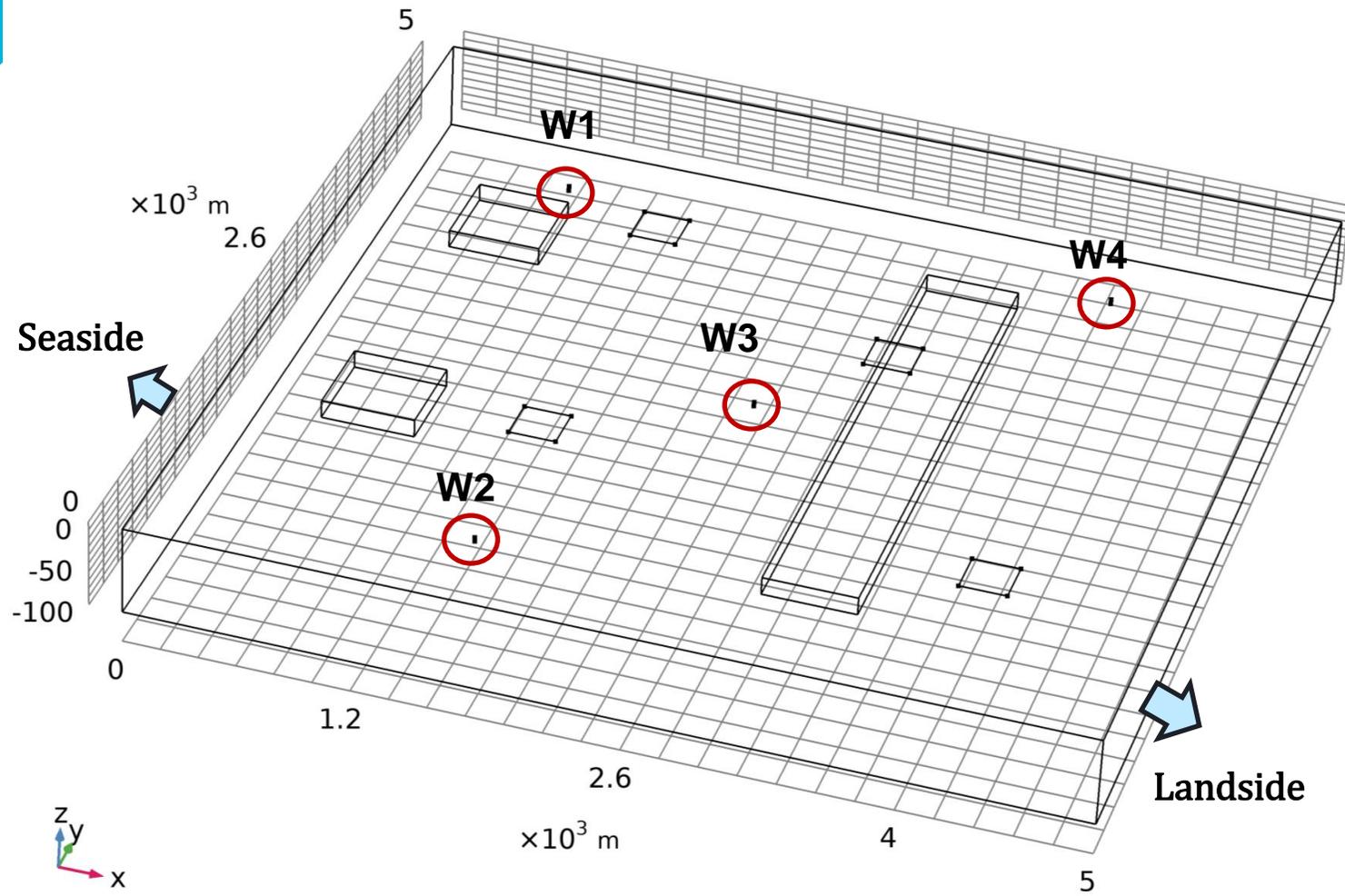
Scenario 2-2: 30 years agriculture development with pumping

Open production well W3, with pumping rate $4320 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$, in 6 months of dry season



3. Results

Effect of pumping and agriculture pollution on groundwater quality



Production well for agriculture

Table. SGD quantitative and Nitrate transport to the aquifer

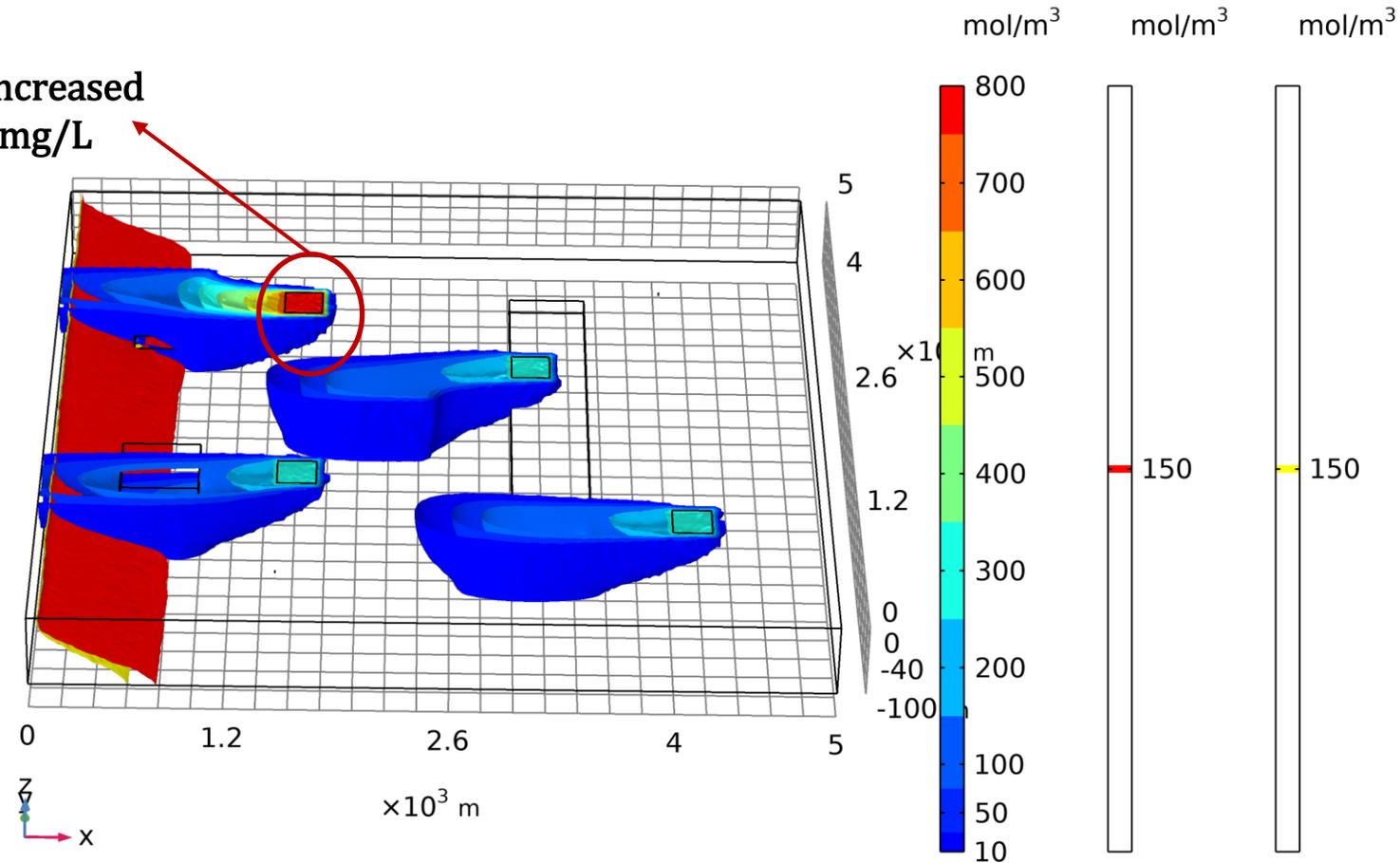
Pumping well	SGD (m/s)	Nitrate flux (mol/m ² .s)
Steady State	5.41E-6	2.427E-4
Pumping at well W1	5.30E-6	1.87E-4
Pumping at well W2	5.39E-6	2.12E-4
Pumping at well W3	5.33E-6	2.049E-4
Pumping at well W4	5.39E-6	2.187E-4
Pumping at all well	4.85E-6	6.5E-5

3. Results

Scenario 3: Effect of industrial development to groundwater quality

Time=19.5 a Isosurface: Concentration (mol/m³) Isosurface: Concentration (mol/m³)

Nitrate leakage into environment increased from industrial area to 75 from 30 mg/L



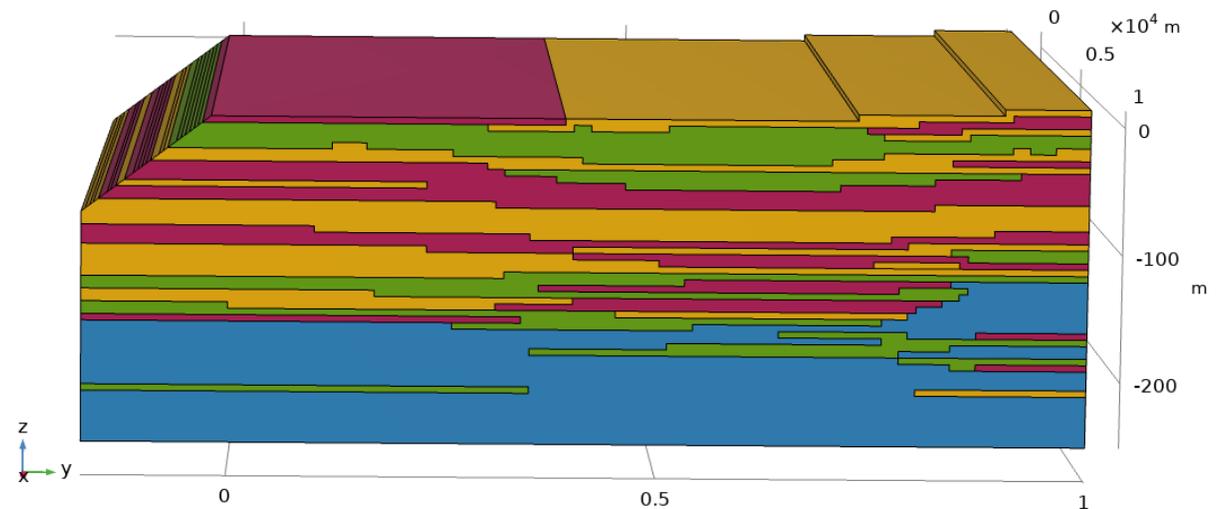
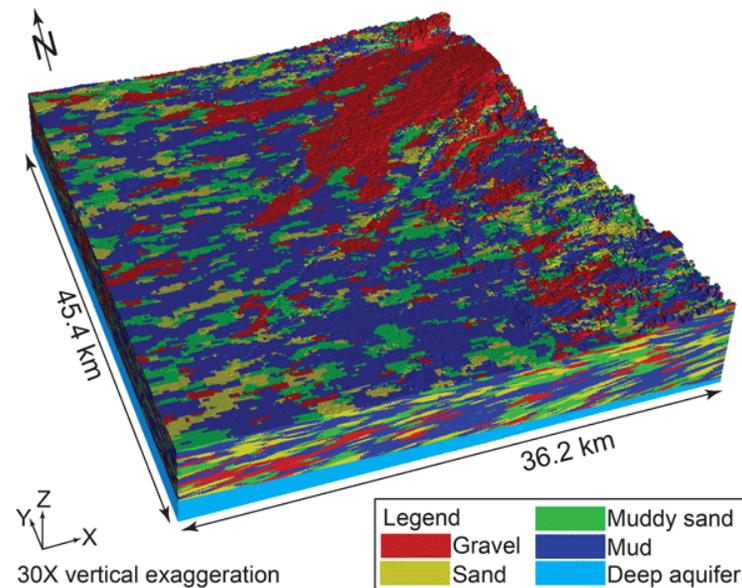
- After 30 years of agricultural development, the area gradually transformed into industrial development. In 20 years, a former agricultural area transformed into an industrial zone.
- Nitrate flux rate increase $3.27E-4$ (mol/m².s) (pump all is $6.5E-5$) and SGD become $4.838E-6$ m/s.

4. Conclusions

- The density-dependent flow and solute transport integrated model, **capable of simulating SGD, SI, and Nutrient pollution (NO₃, NH₄, PO₄...) dissolved oxides (e.g., FeO_x, MnO_x...)**, provides an effective tool for developing coastal water resource management scenarios.
- The groundwater-seawater interaction, along with hydrological mechanisms such as SGD and aquifer material **directly impacts the transport of pollutants within aquifers.**
- **Lower permeability and porosity materials**, such as fine sand, can impede nitrate transport, leading to its **accumulation within the matrix or acting as a barrier** to further movement

5. Future works

- The complexities of the geological landscape are not fully accounted for, and detailed values for the absorption process are missing; therefore, future models will be improved.
- The concentration of eutrophic substances in the coastal area is influenced by river transport, necessitating the development of another surface water model to simulate the transport of pollutants by rivers and streams.



Thanks for your attention

