



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

This is a repository copy of *Physical complexity to model morphological changes at a natural channel bend*.

White Rose Research Online URL for this paper:
<http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/103334/>

Version: Accepted Version

Article:

Guan, M, Wright, NG, Sleight, PA et al. (2 more authors) (2016) Physical complexity to model morphological changes at a natural channel bend. *Water Resources Research*, 52 (8). pp. 6348-6364. ISSN 0043-1397

<https://doi.org/10.1002/2015WR017917>

© 2016, American Geophysical Union. This is an author produced version of a paper published in *Water Resources Research*. Uploaded with permission from the publisher.

Reuse

Unless indicated otherwise, fulltext items are protected by copyright with all rights reserved. The copyright exception in section 29 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 allows the making of a single copy solely for the purpose of non-commercial research or private study within the limits of fair dealing. The publisher or other rights-holder may allow further reproduction and re-use of this version - refer to the White Rose Research Online record for this item. Where records identify the publisher as the copyright holder, users can verify any specific terms of use on the publisher's website.

Takedown

If you consider content in White Rose Research Online to be in breach of UK law, please notify us by emailing eprints@whiterose.ac.uk including the URL of the record and the reason for the withdrawal request.



eprints@whiterose.ac.uk
<https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/>

1 **Physical complexity to model morphological changes at a**
2 **natural channel bend**

3 **M. Guan^{1,2*}, N.G. Wright³, P.A. Sleight¹, S. Ahilan¹, R. Lamb^{4,5}**

4 ¹ School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, UK

5 ² Department of Geography, Loughborough University, Loughborough, LE11 3TU, UK

6 ³ Faculty of Technology, De Montfort University, Leicester, LE1 9BH, UK

7 ⁴ JBA Trust, Skipton, BD23 3AE, UK

8 ⁵ Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, LA1 4YQ

9

10 **Key Points:**

- 11 • We developed a 2D depth-averaged model for morphological changes at natural bends
- 12 • A secondary flow correction plays an crucial role in bar deformation at a bend
- 13 • Parameterisation of grain-size should be given a priority for morphological modelling

14

* Corresponding to: Dr. Mingfu Guan, Research Fellow at the School of Civil Engineering.
Email: mingfu.guan@hotmail.com

15 **Abstract:** This study developed a two-dimensional (2D) depth-averaged model for morphological
16 changes at natural bends by including a secondary flow correction. The model was tested in two
17 laboratory-scale events. A field study were further adopted to demonstrate the capability of the
18 model in predicting bed deformation at natural bends. Further, a series of scenarios with different
19 setups of sediment-related parameters were tested to explore the possibility of a 2D model to
20 simulate morphological changes at a natural bend, and to investigate how much physical
21 complexity is needed for reliable modelling. The results suggest that a 2D depth-averaged model
22 can reconstruct the hydrodynamic and morphological features at a bend reasonably provided
23 that the model addresses a secondary flow correction, and reasonably parameterise grain-sizes
24 within a channel in a pragmatic way. The factors, such as sediment transport formula and
25 roughness height, have relatively less significance on the bed change pattern at a bend. The
26 study reveals that the secondary flow effect and grain-size parameterisation should be given a
27 first priority among other parameters when modelling bed deformation at a natural bend using a
28 2D model.

29 **Keywords:** secondary flow, sediment transport, depth-integrated model, channel bend

30 **1. Introduction**

31 Morphological changes commonly occur with flows in natural systems over period of time and
32 changes are more produced during floods. In recent years, increasing attention has been paid to
33 numerical modelling of river hydrodynamics and morphodynamics, and a large number of
34 computational models have been developed [*Abad et al.*, 2008; *Guan et al.*, 2015a; *Li and Duffy*,
35 2011; *Wu*, 2004]. However, in contrast to straight channels, channel bends demonstrate much
36 more complex flow features due to the presence of helical (secondary) flows [*Blanckaert*, 2015;
37 *De Vriend*, 1977; *Johannesson and Parker*, 1989; *Odgaard*, 1986; *Song et al.*, 2012].
38 Consequently, there is a high demand to deal with such flow features to reasonably simulate bed
39 formation around channel bends. Three-dimensional (3D) models can be an option to predict bed
40 deformation in channel bends, because a 3D model can give more detailed computation of the
41 water flow field [*Bui and Rutschmann*, 2010; *Fischer-Antze et al.*, 2008; *Khosronejad et al.*, 2007;
42 *Wu et al.*, 2000]. Yet, the disadvantage of using a fully 3D model is that it costs over an order of

43 magnitude longer in computational time than a 2D model. More importantly, the 3D aspects of
44 the physical sediment-related knowledge are not well understood and established yet. Therefore,
45 a 2D model appears to be more attractive for engineering application and analysis. Most of the
46 existing 2D models for flow and bed deformation neglect 3D flow features by integrating the flow
47 in depth. This leads to under- or over-estimate hydrodynamics and morphodynamics at bends to
48 a certain extent. Accordingly, there is a necessity to reasonably depict 3D flow feature at bends.
49 Some studies have reported that it is a possible to model the secondary flow effect in 2D
50 hydrodynamic model by incorporating a dispersion term [[Ghamry and Steffler, 2002](#); [Song et al.,](#)
51 [2012](#)]. The inclusion of the secondary flow effect in 2D hydrodynamic model can lead to
52 reasonable predictions of the velocities at bends characterised by a higher value at outer bank
53 and a lower value at inner bank. Further there are some, but rare, examples of depth-averaged
54 flow models with suspended load or bedload or both considering a secondary flow (e.g.
55 [[Begnudelli et al., 2010](#); [Duan and Nanda, 2006](#); [Finnie et al., 1999](#); [Iwasaki et al., 2016](#);
56 [Langendoen et al., 2015](#); [Nicholas, 2013](#); [Wang et al., 2014](#)]). These studies emphasised the
57 effects of a secondary flow on hydrodynamics and bend evolution through laboratory tests.
58 Verhaar et al. [2008] reported that the effective test for the accuracy of a morphodynamic model
59 would be though comparison against a morphological survey of a river. However, field datasets
60 in a natural river are quite scarce, leaving in field testing of models to be challenging.

61 Moreover, unlike flood modelling over a fixed riverbed, flow modelling with river morphology
62 contains many empirical formulas and sediment-related parameters which might significantly
63 affect simulation of bed deformation at bends. Some studies have pointed out that sediment
64 composition impacts sediment transport and yield, thereby greatly affecting channel morphology
65 [[Waters and Curran, 2015](#)]. However, to spatially estimate grain sizes in reality is rather arbitrary
66 and likewise a difficult work because of the complexity of real riverbeds. Also, the sediment
67 transport formula is a vital parameter when calculating bed changes, but unfortunately, all the
68 existing functions have limited scope of application because of the empirically derived nature of
69 them all (e.g. [[Cheng, 2002](#); [Meyer-Peter and Müller, 1948](#); [van Rijn, 1984](#); [Wong and Parker,](#)
70 [2006](#)]). The secondary flow effects have been proven to affect both hydrodynamics and
71 morphodynamics at a flume bend. However, at a natural bend, important questions to ask are:

72 how does secondary flow affect morphological changes and what is the importance of secondary
73 flows on bed deformation compared to other sediment-related factors such as the method used
74 to calculate bed shear stress? These questions are far from being answered in existing studies.
75 Moreover, some studies (e.g. [Bohorquez et al., 2013](#); [Palmsten et al., 2015](#)) reported that
76 bedform as ripples and dunes in river bends can increase the effective roughness height and
77 total shear stress at both lab and field scales. It should be noted that in turn this can further affect
78 hydrodynamics and morphodynamics at the bend.

79 In this study, built on our previous model [[Guan et al., 2014](#)], a non-equilibrium sediment
80 transport model based on adaption length concept was developed for hydrodynamics and
81 morphodynamics at channel bends and tested in laboratory-scale events with a short time-scale.
82 The significance of a secondary flow on the geomorphological processes was explored based on
83 field survey dataset. Specifically, the research questions we are aiming to address are: (1) what
84 role does a secondary flow play in simulating hydrodynamics and morphodynamics at natural
85 bends? (2) How does the input of sediment-related parameters affect the modelled
86 morphodynamics? (3) Is it possible to reliably model morphodynamics at natural channel bends
87 using a 2D model? (4) How much physical complexity is needed?

88 **2. Model development**

89 **2.1. Depth-averaged flow and sediment transport model**

90 Building on the depth-averaged 2D flow and sediment transport model in the previous work
91 [[Guan et al., 2014](#), [Guan et al., 2015b](#), [Guan et al., 2016](#)], this study further incorporates turbulent
92 terms and dispersion terms representing the effects of a secondary flow. The original hydro-
93 morphodynamic model is detailed in [Guan et al. \[2014\]](#). The governing equations are written in a
94 conservative form as:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{E}}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{F}}}{\partial y} + \mathbf{S} \quad (1)$$

95 where

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} \eta \\ hu \\ hv \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{E} = \begin{bmatrix} hu \\ hu^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \\ huv \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{F} = \begin{bmatrix} hv \\ huv \\ hv^2 + \frac{1}{2}gh^2 \end{bmatrix}, \tilde{\mathbf{E}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ h(T_{xx} + D_{xx}) \\ h(T_{xy} + D_{xy}) \end{bmatrix}, \tilde{\mathbf{F}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ h(T_{yx} + D_{yx}) \\ h(T_{yy} + D_{yy}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ gh \left(-\frac{\partial z_b}{\partial x} - S_{fx} \right) + \frac{\Delta\rho u}{\rho} \frac{\partial z_b}{\partial t} [\alpha(1-p) - c] - \frac{\Delta\rho gh^2}{2\rho} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} - S_a \\ gh \left(-\frac{\partial z_b}{\partial y} - S_{fy} \right) + \frac{\Delta\rho v}{\rho} \frac{\partial z_b}{\partial t} [\alpha(1-p) - c] - \frac{\Delta\rho gh^2}{2\rho} \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} - S_b \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

97 where \mathbf{U} is the vector of conserved variables; \mathbf{E} , \mathbf{F} are the flux vectors of the flow in x and y
98 direction respectively, $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{F}}$ are the turbulent and dispersion vectors in x and y direction, and \mathbf{S} is
99 the vector of source terms; h = flow depth; z_b = bed elevation; η = water surface; u , v = the x and
100 y components of depth-averaged flow velocity respectively; T_{xx} , T_{xy} , T_{yx} and T_{yy} are the depth-
101 averaged turbulent stresses; D_{xx} , D_{xy} , D_{yx} and D_{yy} are the dispersion terms due to the effect of
102 secondary flow; p = sediment porosity; c = total volumetric concentration; ρ_s , ρ_w = densities of
103 sediment and water respectively; $\Delta\rho = \rho_s - \rho_w$; ρ = density of flow-sediment mixture; S_{fx} , S_{fy} are
104 frictional slopes in x and y direction; $\alpha = u_s/u$ = sediment-to-flow velocity ratio determined by Eqn.
105 [Greimann *et al.*, 2008]; S_a , S_d are additional terms related to the velocity ratio defined by Guan
106 *et al.* [2014].

$$S_a = \frac{\Delta\rho u}{\rho} (1 - \alpha) [c \nabla \cdot (h\mathbf{V}) - (h\mathbf{V}) \nabla \cdot \mathbf{C}]$$

$$S_b = \frac{\Delta\rho v}{\rho} (1 - \alpha) [c \nabla \cdot (h\mathbf{V}) - (h\mathbf{V}) \nabla \cdot \mathbf{C}] \quad (3)$$

109 where $\nabla = \vec{i}(\partial/\partial x) + \vec{j}(\partial/\partial y)$; \mathbf{C} is the sediment concentration vector defined by $\mathbf{C} = c(\vec{i} + \vec{j})$; \mathbf{V}
110 is the velocity vector defined by $\mathbf{V} = u\vec{i} + v\vec{j}$.

111 The governing equation of the i th size class is written considering the velocity ratio α by

$$\frac{\partial hc_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\alpha \partial huc_i}{\partial x} + \frac{\alpha \partial hvc_i}{\partial y} = -\frac{\alpha(q_{bi} - F_i q_{b^*i})}{L_i} \quad (4)$$

112 where c_i = volumetric bedload concentration of the i th size class; $q_{bi} = h\bar{U}c_i$ = real sediment
113 transport rate of the i th fraction; $\bar{U} = \sqrt{u^2 + v^2}$ is the depth-averaged velocity; q_{b^*i} = sediment
114 transport capacity of the i th fraction; F_i represents the proportion of i th grain-size fraction in total
115 moving sediment. The updating of F_i at each time step is conducted using the approach
116 presented by Wu [2004]. In Eq. (4), L_i is the non-equilibrium adaptation length of sediment

117 transport of the i th fraction, which is estimated using the formula in *Guan et al.* [2014]. The bed
 118 load transport vector (huc_i, hvc_i) in the mass conservation equation (Eq. 4) reflects the velocity
 119 vector, which is modified in the hydrodynamic equations (1) - (3) according to secondary flow
 120 effects. No bed slope correction is involved in computing the bed load transport. Turbulence and
 121 dispersion terms may have effects on the transport of sediment concentration; however, since
 122 the model is a bedload-dominant sheet flow model, these terms were not considered in this
 123 study.

124 Sediment transport formulae are commonly regarded as having poor accuracy, therefore, three
 125 different formulae are used here to demonstrate its sensitivity on modelled results, including the
 126 commonly-used equations *Meyer-Peter and Müller* [1948] (MPM) and *Cheng* [2002], as well as
 127 the equation by *Wilcock and Crowe* [2003] (WC2003) which was based on data derived from
 128 beds of heterogeneous sediment. The transport capacity is expressed by

$$q_{b*i} = \varphi \sqrt{g(\rho_s/\rho_w - 1)d_i^3} \quad (5)$$

129 where

$$130 \quad \varphi = 8(\theta_i - \theta_{cr,i})^{1.5} \text{ for MPM;}$$

$$131 \quad \varphi = 13\theta_i^{1.5} \exp(-0.05/\theta_i^{1.5}) \text{ for Cheng;}$$

$$132 \quad \varphi = \begin{cases} 0.002(\theta_i/\theta_{ri})^{7.5} & \theta_i/\theta_{ri} < 1.35 \\ 14 \left(1 - \frac{0.894}{\sqrt{\theta_i/\theta_{ri}}}\right)^{4.5} & \theta_i/\theta_{ri} \geq 1.35 \end{cases} \text{ for WC2003;}$$

133 where, θ_i is the dimensionless bed shear stress of i th fraction; $\theta_{cr,i}$ is critical dimensionless bed
 134 shear stress of i th fraction; θ_{ri} is the reference dimensionless bed shear stress defined by
 135 *Wilcock and Crowe* [2003] as

$$\theta_{ri} = \theta_{r,d50} \left(\frac{d_i}{d_{50}}\right)^b ;$$

$$\theta_{r,d50} = 0.021 + 0.015e^{-20F};$$

$$136 \quad b = \frac{0.67}{1 + \exp\left(1.5 - \frac{d_i}{d_{50}}\right)} \quad (6)$$

137 where F is the proportion of sediment in surface size distribution. To calculate the local bed shear
 138 stress, this study adopts the approach based on the quadratic stress law.

$$\tau_b = \rho C_d |\mathbf{V}| \mathbf{V} \quad (7)$$

139 where $C_d = g/C^2$, is a drag coefficient; the Chezy number (C) was determined using the Chezy
 140 and Nikuradse's function as,

$$C = 18 \log \left(\frac{12h}{k_s} \right) \quad (8)$$

141 where k_s is the Nikuradse's roughness height.

142 The morphological evolution is performed per grid cell at each time step to update the new bed
 143 elevation based on the results from Eq.(1) and Eq.(4). The governing equation is expressed as:

$$\frac{\partial z_b}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{1-p} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{(q_{bi} - F_i q_{b*i})}{L_i} \right] \quad (9)$$

144 where N is the number of sediment fractions.

145 **2.2. Formulation of secondary flow**

146 The depth-averaged turbulent stresses are determined by the Boussinesq approximation which
 147 has been widely used in the past (e.g. [Abad et al., 2008; Begnudelli et al., 2010; Wu, 2004]).
 148 Many studies have reported that the effects of a secondary flow can be well formulated through
 149 including dispersion terms in the governing equations of the 2D flow model [Begnudelli et al.,
 150 2010; [Duan and Nanda, 2006](#); [Lane, 1998](#); [Song et al., 2012](#)]. The dispersion terms are
 151 generally delivered from the difference of the depth-averaged velocity and the vertical varying
 152 velocity. They are expressed as:

$$D_{xx} = \frac{1}{h} \int_{z_0}^{z_0+h} [u(z) - u]^2 dz \quad (10a)$$

$$D_{xy} = D_{yx} = \frac{1}{h} \int_{z_0}^{z_0+h} [u(z) - u] [v(z) - v] dz \quad (10b)$$

$$D_{yy} = \frac{1}{h} \int_{z_0}^{z_0+h} [v(z) - v]^2 dz \quad (10c)$$

153 where z_0 is the zero velocity level; $u(z)$, $v(z)$ represents the x and y components of the vertically
 154 varying velocity respectively, u , v are the depth-averaged flow velocity in x and y direction
 155 respectively. To calculate the vertical varying velocity both in the streamwise and transverse
 156 directions, a number of approaches have been proposed (e.g. [De Vriend, 1977; Guymer, 1998;
 157 Odgaard, 1986; Wu et al., 2005]). This study employed Odgaard's equation because of its
 158 robustness and simplicity. De Vriend's equation was also used to verify the difference caused by
 159 the choice of the different formulations for the vertical streamwise and transverse velocity.
 160 Odgaard's equation was proposed based on the linear transverse velocity profiles over the
 161 depth. The longitudinal and transverse velocities are given as [Odgaard, 1986]:

$$u_l(z) = U \frac{m+1}{m} \xi^{1/m} \quad (11a)$$

$$u_t(z) = 2v_s \left(\xi - \frac{1}{2} \right), \quad v_s = U \frac{2m+1}{2\kappa^2 m} \frac{h}{r_c} \quad (11b)$$

162 where $u_l(z)$, $u_t(z)$ are the longitudinal and transverse velocity components in the streamline
 163 coordinates, respectively; U is the depth-averaged longitudinal velocity; $m = \kappa C/g^{0.5}$ and $\kappa = 0.41$
 164 is von Karman's constant; v_s represents the transverse velocity at the free surface; $\xi = (z-z_0)/h$ is
 165 dimensionless distance from the bed; r_c is the radius of channel curvature which can be
 166 measured from the outside of the bankfull channel to the intersection point of two lines that
 167 perpendicularly bisect the tangent lines of each curve departure point. In real-world cases, it can
 168 be measured based on the GIS base map. For a channel with multiple bends, similar measured
 169 method can be adopted. Following the study [Begnudelli et al., 2010], integration of Eqs. (10)
 170 using the velocity profiles Eq. (11) yields:

$$D_{ll} = \frac{U^2}{m(2+m)}; \quad D_{lt} = D_{tl} = \frac{Uv_s}{1+2m}; \quad D_{tt} = \frac{v_s^2}{3} \quad (12)$$

171 For de Vriend's equation, the velocity distribution over the depth was derived by adopting a
 172 perturbation method. The depth-averaged method was used to simplify the 3D curved channel
 173 problems into 2D problems, which gave reasonable predictions of velocity and depth. Afterwards,
 174 the model has been widely applied [Lien et al., 1999; Song et al., 2012]. Following [Lien et al.,
 175 1999], the dispersion terms are written in the streamline coordinates as:

$$D_{ll} = \frac{U^2}{m^2}; D_{lt} = D_{tl} = \frac{UV}{m^2} + \frac{hU^2}{r_c \kappa^2} FF1; D_{tt} = \frac{V^2}{m^2} + \frac{2hUV}{r_c \kappa^2} FF1 + \frac{h^2 U^2}{r_c^2 \kappa^4} FF2 \quad (13)$$

176 where V are the depth-averaged transverse velocity in the streamline coordinates, respectively;

$$FF1 = \int_0^1 (1 + \ln \xi) f_s(\xi) d\xi; FF2 = \int_0^1 f_s^2(\xi) d\xi$$

$$177 \quad f_m(\xi) = 1 + \frac{1}{m}(1 + \ln \xi); f_s(\xi) = 2F_1(\xi) + \frac{1}{m}F_2(\xi) - 2\left(1 - \frac{1}{m}\right)f_m(\xi)$$

$$178 \quad F_1(\xi) = \int_0^1 \frac{\ln \xi}{\xi-1} d\xi; F_2(\xi) = \int_0^1 \frac{\ln^2 \xi}{\xi-1} d\xi$$

179 Defining the angle of the depth-averaged velocity vector measured counter-clockwise from
180 the x direction as φ , the dispersion terms (Eq. 12 and Eq. 13) in the curvilinear coordinates
181 can then be converted to the Cartesian coordinate system by:

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_{xx} & D_{xy} \\ D_{yx} & D_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{M}(\varphi) \begin{bmatrix} D_{ll} & D_{lt} \\ D_{tl} & D_{tt} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}^T(\varphi)$$

182 where $\mathbf{M}(\varphi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \varphi & -\sin \varphi \\ \sin \varphi & \cos \varphi \end{bmatrix}$, such that

$$D_{xx} = D_{ll} \cos^2 \varphi - 2D_{lt} \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + D_{tt} \sin^2 \varphi \quad (14a)$$

$$D_{xy} = (D_{ll} - D_{tt}) \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + D_{lt}(\cos^2 \varphi - \sin^2 \varphi) \quad (14b)$$

$$D_{yy} = D_{ll} \sin^2 \varphi + 2D_{lt} \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + D_{tt} \cos^2 \varphi \quad (14c)$$

183 Eqs.(14a-c) are formulated for the effect of secondary flow which is included in the governing
184 equations of the flow model.

185 **2.3. Numerical solution**

186 The model (Eqs. (1), (4) and (9)) is solved numerically by a well-balanced Godunov-type finite
187 volume method (FVM) based on Cartesian coordinates and details can be found by referring to
188 the previous publications [[Guan et al., 2013; 2014](#)]. The homogenous flux approach was used to
189 address the bed slope source term treatment and wetting/drying. To update the variables in each
190 cell, the following equation is used.

$$191 \quad \mathbf{U}_{i,j}^{n+1} = \mathbf{U}_{i,j}^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (\mathbf{E}_{i,j}^* - \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{i,j}^*) - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta y} (\mathbf{F}_{i,j}^* - \tilde{\mathbf{F}}_{i,j}^*) + \Delta t \mathbf{S}_{i,j} \quad (15)$$

192 where the vector $\mathbf{E}_{i,j}^* = \mathbf{E}_{i+1/2,j}^* - \mathbf{E}_{i-1/2,j}^*$, $\mathbf{F}_{i,j}^* = \mathbf{F}_{i,j+1/2}^* - \mathbf{F}_{i,j-1/2}^*$ are the difference of the fluxes
 193 at the left and right interfaces of the cell (i, j) in the x and y direction; $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{i,j}^*$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{F}}_{i,j}^*$ represents the
 194 flux difference of turbulent and dispersion stresses at the left and right interfaces of the cell (i, j)
 195 in the x and y direction; Δt , Δx , Δy are the time step, cell size in the x and y direction,
 196 respectively. To calculate the inter-cell numerical fluxes of the flow model, a weighted average
 197 flux (WAF) of total variation diminishing (TVD) method is employed with a flux limiter function.
 198 The TVD-WAF scheme is second-order accurate in space and time by solving the conventional
 199 Riemann problem associated with the first-order Godunov scheme. A detailed description can be
 200 found in [Guan et al., 2013]. Similar to updating the hydrodynamic variables, the sediment
 201 concentration is updated at the same cell and time step based on the sediment inter-cell flux \mathbf{C}^*
 202 as follows,

$$203 \quad c_{i,j}^{t+\Delta t} = c_{i,j}^t - \alpha \left[\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \left(c_{i+1/2,j}^* - c_{i-1/2,j}^* \right) + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta y} \left(c_{i,j+1/2}^* - c_{i,j-1/2}^* \right) \right] + \Delta t S_{c(i,j)} \quad (16)$$

204 where t represents the time; S_c is the source term shown in the right hand side of Eq.(4). The
 205 sediment flux \mathbf{C}^* is calculated using the following equation,

$$\mathbf{C}^* = c^*(\vec{i} + \vec{j}) = \begin{cases} (\mathbf{E}_{lr}^*|_1 \vec{i} + \mathbf{F}_{lr}^*|_1 \vec{j}) c_l & S_* \geq 0 \\ (\mathbf{E}_{lr}^*|_1 \vec{i} + \mathbf{F}_{lr}^*|_1 \vec{j}) c_r & S_* < 0 \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

206 where c_l and c_r are the volumetric sediment concentration at the left and right cells; $\mathbf{E}_{lr}^*|_1, \mathbf{F}_{lr}^*|_1$
 207 represent the first component of the flow intercell flux calculated by the TVD-WAF scheme in the
 208 x and y directions, respectively; S_* denotes the middle wave speed calculated by using equation
 209 recommended by [Toro, 2001]. A variable time step Δt , adapted to local flow conditions, is
 210 calculated at each time step based on a fixed courant number ($CFL=0.6$ here) for stability.

211 3. Study site

212 The study domain is a short reach of River Greta which is located in Keswick (UK) (Fig.1a). The
 213 river reach is approximately 160 m long and the channel width varies from 10 m to 40 m. Field
 214 evidence showed that morphological changes occurred at the sharp bend during flood periods.
 215 Thus, the in-channel deposited sediments have to be dredged regularly. Field surveys at 16
 216 cross sections (Fig.1a) were conducted before and after a flooding year by the Environment

217 Agency. The scarce field dataset was exploited to validate the capability of the developed 2D
218 model in modelling bar formation at the natural bend. Digital Terrain Models (DTMs) with 1m×1m
219 resolution were constructed based on the measured raw point data from August 2005 and July
220 2006 to represent the bed terrain before and after the flooding period 2005-2006. The
221 hydrograph data with a 15 minutes interval was measured in the Low Briery station, upstream of
222 the study site from January 2005 to July 2006 (Fig.1c). It is shown that most of the time the flow
223 discharge is smaller than 30m³/s. Field evidence demonstrates that the geomorphological
224 changes induced by low flows are insignificant. Thus this study only focuses on the flood events
225 greater than a threshold to save computational time. Both 30m³/s and 40m³/s were used as the
226 threshold to test model sensitivity to this value.

227 According to the field observation, the riverbed is composed of a wide range of sediment
228 particles including gravel and boulder. It was estimated as being composed of multiple groups of
229 sediments with the diameters of 0.02 m (30%), 0.04 m (40%), and 0.06 m (30%). To explore the
230 importance of grain-size parameterisation, a single constant value 0.03 m was also used in R8
231 (Table 1). As the estimation of curvature radius in reality may have some errors, two scenarios
232 with the radius of 60 m and 80 m were modelled in order to explore its sensitivity. Table 1 shows
233 the setup of each runs. Therein, H1 denotes the flows greater than 40m³/s; H2 denotes the flows
234 greater than 30m³/s. The model sensitivity to the inflow discharges was evaluated and the result
235 implies that the recorded flows lower than 40 m³/s only have an insignificant contribution to bed
236 aggradation and degradation. Thus, the inflow over 40 m³/s is sufficient for the application case.

237

238 **4. Results**

239 **4.1. Model validation in flume cases**

240 In this section, two flume cases are tested to verify the capability of the model in simulating
241 flow dynamics [[De Vriend and Koch, 1978](#)] and bed changes [[Odgaard and Bergs, 1988](#)].

242 **4.1.1 De Vriend and Koch (1978)**

243 This experiment was conducted by *De Vriend and Koch* [1978] to investigate the steady flow of
244 water in a curved flume where the bed configuration was set as expected in a natural river bend.
245 The flume consists of a 38 m straight section followed by a 90° bend with a radius of curvature of
246 50 m (Fig.2a). In the straight reach (entrance to B0), the channel was prismatic, with a parabolic
247 cross section and a zero longitudinal slope. From B0 to C0, the bed is changed from a parabolic
248 cross section to a cross section with a point bar near the inner wall and a deeper channel near
249 the outer wall. Then cross-sections from C1 to E0 are the same as C0, with a longitudinal slope
250 of 0.0003. The flume width was 6 m. More details about the experiment can be found in *De*
251 *Vriend and Koch* [1978].

252 For simulation, the flume is discretised by rectangular meshes with a size 0.2 m × 0.2 m. A fixed
253 Courant number of 0.6 is used. Following the experiment, the bed is fixed uneven bed, and the
254 Nikuradse roughness height k is equal to 0.001 m. The scenario with an input discharge of 0.463
255 m³/s was modelled. The flow depth at the upstream boundary of the channel was kept constant
256 0.26 m (yielding average velocity of about 0.4 m/s). Clearly, Fig.2(b, c, d) indicates that the
257 velocity near the outer bank increase and it decreases near the inner bank due to the secondary
258 flow correction. At B1, the Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) for the two scenarios shows slightly
259 difference, but RMSE with the secondary flow correction clearly becomes smaller at C1 and D1
260 which is located at the middle of the bend. This means that the model with an inclusion of
261 secondary flow terms improves the predication of velocity profiles at the bend. Overall, the
262 simulated velocities are in good agreement with the measured results. This case verifies the
263 capability the model in simulating velocities at a bend.

264 **4.1.2 Odgaard and Bergs (1988)**

265 The experiment was performed in an 180° curved flume in the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic
266 Research by [*Odgaard and Bergs*, 1988], and the bed geometry and sediment material was
267 described below: two 20 m long straight reaches were connected by a 180 bend with 13.11 m
268 radius, and the cross-section was trapezoidal and vertical side walls with 2.44 m wide; the

269 channel was initially covered by sand with a 0.23 m thick layer and median diameter of 0.3 mm.
 270 Flow conditions include: the discharge was 0.153 m³/s at upstream inlet, water level at the outlet
 271 is 0.38 m above the channel bottom, and the centreline average flow depth and velocity are 0.15
 272 m and 0.45 m/s, respectively. More details about the experiment can be found in *Odgaard and*
 273 *Bergs* [1988].

274 For simulation, the flume is discretised by uniform meshes with a size of 0.04 m × 0.04 m. Fixed
 275 courant number of 0.6 is used. The Darcy frictional factor $f=0.067$ is used following *Odgaard and*
 276 *Bergs* [1988]. The model is run until flow and sediment reaches a steady state. Following
 277 Bohorquez and Ancey (2016), we evaluated the model's performance using the Root Mean
 278 Squared Error (RMSE) and the Brier Skill Score (BSS) as:

$$BSS = 1 - \frac{\sum_1^N (z_i^{mes} - z_i^{num})^2}{\sum_1^N (z_i^{mes} - z_{i,t=0}^{mes})^2} \quad (18)$$

279 where superscripts num and mes refer to numerical and measured bed elevation, respectively,
 280 and N is the total number of point data. Eq. (18) compares errors in the model outputs with a
 281 reference "prediction", assumed to be the initial bed level [*Abderrezzak and Paquier, 2009*]. Fig.3
 282 demonstrates the measured and simulated bed profiles with RMSE and BSS at four cross-
 283 sections. It is clear that the model with secondary flow effects predicts the changes in the bend
 284 reasonably well. At the cross-section of $\theta=45^\circ$, BSS reaches 0.963, which demonstrates an
 285 excellent fit. BSS at the other three cross-sections is in a range of 0.4 to 0.6, which means a
 286 fairly good agreement between modelled and measured results. Overall, the bed profiles are well
 287 predicted with a common feature, which is that the bed at outer bank is eroded and deposition
 288 occurs at the inner bank. This test case indicates that our model can predict bed deformation in
 289 a flume bend reasonably well.

290 **4.2. Application to a natural bend of River Greta**

291 **4.2.1 Effect of a secondary flow on hydrodynamics**

292 Fig.4a demonstrates a reasonable predication of the model in modelling water stage at the outlet.
 293 The velocity profiles in Fig.4 (b-e) have clearly shown that the secondary flow correction lead to

294 the velocity increase at the outer bank and decrease at the inner bank. The higher velocity
295 occurs near the outer bank around the bend (e.g. at cs2-2, cs3-3 and cs4-4). Quantitatively, the
296 change in the value of the peak velocity is rather insignificant. The peak velocity is only
297 decreased by 1% - 5% at the four cross-sections. However, it is clear that the velocity is re-
298 distributed due to the presence of the secondary flow effect. This must lead to the redistribution
299 of bed shear stress at the bend which is a fundamental driver of morphological change. Fig.4f
300 indicates that the bed shear stress around the bend (0-16 N/m²) is clearly smaller than that at
301 both upstream and downstream locations where the high value is in a range of 24-36 N/m². It is
302 shown that the bed shear stress with a secondary flow correction is slightly smaller around the
303 bend and at the upstream of the bend; also, the bed shear stress at the outer bank increases
304 from 8-12 N/m² to 12-16 N/m², and it decreases from 8-12 N/m² to 4-8 N/m² at the inner bank.

305 **4.2.2 Effect of a secondary flow on morphodynamics**

306 The effect of a secondary flow on hydrodynamics must lead to the modification of post-flood bed
307 deformation because all the sediment-related formulations are calculated based on the
308 hydrodynamics, e.g. bed shear stress, sediment transport rate and capacity. To verify the effect
309 of a secondary flow correction on morphological changes, the results of R1, R2, R3, and R9
310 (Table 1) are demonstrated in Fig.5. It indicates that without the secondary flow effect (R1), the
311 deposition mainly occurs in two regions: the outer bank toe and the inner bank at the
312 downstream of the bend. The deposition in both regions appears to be equally significant. This
313 contradicts with the common understanding on alluvial processes at a bend. For the specific
314 event here, the velocity and the bed shear stress are reduced at the bend due to the widening of
315 the channel. This seems be a reason that results in the deposition at the outer bank toe.
316 However, with the secondary flow effect, R2, R3 and R9 predicts a bar formation with a larger
317 size at the inner bank, and the deposition at the outer bank toe is notably alleviated. As shown in
318 Fig.5, the difference between R1 and R2, R3, R9 further verifies that a secondary flow correction
319 reduces the deposition at the outer bank toe, e.g. the reduction is in a range of 0-0.45 m for R3,
320 and increases bar formation at the inner bank (0-0.45 m for R3). Further, the bar location is
321 approaching the bend in contrast to that for R1 without the secondary flow correction. The

322 difference of R2 and R3 indicates that for a smaller radius (R3: $r = 60$ m) which means the bend
323 is sharper, the deposition depth and area at the outer bank toe will further become smaller, and
324 meanwhile an increase of deposition depth occurs at the inner bank (R3-R2). With the same
325 curvature radius, R3 and R4 adopt two different equations to calculate the secondary flow
326 correction. Overall, both approaches improve the bar formation at the bend in comparison to R1
327 without a secondary flow correction. However, Odgaard equation predicts a slightly larger bar,
328 and a smaller amount of deposition at the outer bank toe than deVriend equation. It should be
329 noted that the differences, R3-R2 and R9-R3, appear to be less significant than those between
330 R1 and R2, R3, R9. This implies that in spite of some sensitivity, a secondary flow plays a
331 significant role in morphological changes at the natural bend, which has also been emphasised
332 by some studies (e.g. [\[Wang et al., 2014\]](#)).

333 **4.2.3 Morphological sensitivity to uncertainty variables**

334 Sediment transport formulae generally have limitations for application in reality because of their
335 empirical derivation. The formulae of MPM, Cheng and WC2003 were used here to test the
336 model sensitivity to the choice of this parameter. The results and comparison in Fig.6 indicates
337 that the three formulae predict a similar bar formation at the bend in terms of both deposition
338 pattern and location. The bar predicted by MPM and Cheng shows minor differences in a range
339 of -0.15 m to 0.15 m. Compared to the two formulae, WC2003 predicts a relative larger bar at the
340 bend. However, the difference is quite insignificant in comparison to bed changes. This manifests
341 that the effects of the formula choice do not affect the deposition pattern and volume significantly.
342 Therefore, this parameter is considered to be a less important variable deciding the bed erosion
343 and deposition.

344 Fig.7 indicates that R6 predicts the largest bar formation at the inner bank of the bend among
345 R3, R5 and R6 which have a roughness height of 0.03 m, 0.04 m and 0.05 m respectively. The
346 differences between each other clearly demonstrate that the bar size expands with the increase
347 of roughness height, whilst the deposition area at the outer bank toe decreases, and meanwhile
348 the erosion area becomes more severe. According to Eq.(7), the bed shear stress is altered due
349 to the changes in roughness height. This causes a change of the quantification of the

350 aggradation and degradation within the channel. However, the roughness height alters the
351 overall value of in-channel bed shear stress, which differs from the secondary flow effect which
352 re-distributes the bed shear stress at the bend without significant changes in value. This is a
353 main cause that all runs (R3, R5 and R6) with the secondary flow effect perform more reasonably
354 in comparison to R1.

355 To emphasise the importance of the parameterisation of sediment particles, R8 with a constant
356 median grain-size was implemented and compared to R6 with multiple grain-sizes. Fig.8 shows
357 that the deposition predicted by R8 significantly differ from the simulation by R6. Specifically, the
358 constant grain parameterisation results in a much smaller bar formation at the inner bank of the
359 bend, and meanwhile much more deposition at the outer bank toe. Also at the channel exit R8
360 gains more erosion than R6. Both deposition areas have equivalent amount of degradation. This
361 feature of bed changes at the bend is similar to that predicted by R1 without a secondary flow
362 correction. This implies that grain-size parameterisation is significant for the modelled
363 morphological changes at the bend, not only in the bar size, but also the distribution pattern of
364 bed changes. The results show that the simulated morphodynamics are sensitive to the grain-
365 size parameterisation. Accordingly, to parameterise the spatial grain-size in a practical way is
366 highly important for good prediction of the morphodynamics at a bend. The grain-size
367 parameterisation is as important as the inclusion of the secondary flow effect.

368 From the viewpoint of temporal changes in bed elevation, Fig.9 indicates that the bed changes
369 for R4, R5, R6 and R10 have same tendency at each point. Specifically, the bed elevation
370 increase and decrease in a synchronous manner despite the fact that the change magnitude
371 differs from each scenario. This implies that sediment transport formula and roughness height
372 pose more significant impact on the quantification of bend changes, but less on the
373 characteristics of aggradation and degradation. Without the secondary flow correction, R1 shows
374 a clear different tendency in bed changes at the four points, particularly at the point 1, point 2 and
375 point 3, despite the fact that it predicts similar feature of bed change at initial time. Therefore,
376 sediment transport pathway of R1 clearly differs from that of other runs with a secondary flow
377 correction, resulting the post-flood bed elevation being much different. Regarding R8 with a

378 single constant grain-size ($d_{50} = 0.03\text{m}$), the temporal changes in bed elevation are also greatly
379 different from R4-R6 and R10. For instance, the bed elevation at point 1 and point 2 does not
380 change but remain constant after the first major flooding, i.e. sediment transport reaches an
381 equilibrium state to the flow. It indicates that grain-size parameterisation is critical for the
382 morphodynamics at the bend apart from the secondary flow effect. Additionally, it should be
383 noted that the simulated bed changes by all runs have a similar tendency at the four points
384 during the first stage of the flooding (before the vertical line in Fig.9). The differences after the
385 line become increasingly significant.

386 **4.2.4 Comparison to the observations**

387 Field measurements of the 16 cross sections after the flooding year from 08-2005 to 07-2006
388 were conducted. The DTM was constructed based on the field measurements in July 2006, and
389 the deposition at the bend was generated by comparing the constructed DTMs before and after
390 the flood period. Fig.10 demonstrates that the model with a secondary flow correction predicts
391 the bar formation in general agreement with the measurement, including the location and pattern
392 of the deposited bar which is located at the inner bank from cs1-1 to the exit of the channel. The
393 simulated deposition depth is in a range of 0.0-0.69 m which has a same magnitude to the
394 observed deposition. A comparison at four cross-sections also shows that the 2D model predicts
395 a similar profile shape with the measurement, i.e. deposition mainly occurs at the inner bank of
396 the bend, whereas the simulated deposition is less than the observation. This confirms that the
397 2D depth-averaged model has the capability of predicting the bar formation at the natural bend if
398 including a secondary flow correction. However, the simulated bar size is smaller the observed
399 one which is approximately 0.8 times larger. It is found that net erosion is observed in reality at
400 the circular region of the inner bank which is different from the modelled bed. Also, at cs5-5 the
401 model predicts severe erosion (0.44 m) at the outer bank toe of the bend, where no erosion is
402 observed during field measurement. The differences are attributed to a number of reasons which
403 will be discussed below.

404 **5. Discussion**

405 **5.1. Field measurements**

406 It is always difficult to obtain field measurements of river geometry after the in real-world flood
407 events. The original dataset of channel geometry was provided by the Environment Agency, in a
408 format of raw point data at 16 cross sections (Fig.1a). DTMs before and after the flooding period
409 were constructed based on the raw point data in order to conduct 2D modelling. To analyse the
410 differences of DTMs (DoD) before and after the flooding, it is found that the total erosion volume
411 is approximately 888 m³ during the flooding year, while the total deposition volume of sediment
412 reaches about 955 m³, which is 67 m³ larger than the erosion volume. In general, the deposited
413 sediment comes from the local eroded sediment provided that there are no extra sediment
414 sources. Therefore, it is likely that there is upstream sediment flux entering the studied reach.
415 However, it is difficult to estimate this sediment flux. Moreover, Fig. 10 demonstrates a wide
416 extent of bed erosion in the circular area, but nearly no erosion in the main channel near the
417 outer bank. The distribution of bed shear stress shows that this area has a lower bed shear
418 stress than surrounding area, and the main channel has a higher bed shear stress than the two
419 sides of the channel. The observed erosion in this area seems not to be caused by the flooding,
420 but very likely by a sudden avalanching naturally or human interventions because the time
421 interval of the measurement is nearly one year. Therefore, we consider that the 2D model can
422 predict the bar formation reasonably well because: (1) the time scale between the measurement
423 and the simulation is different, the time interval between the two DEMs before and after the flood
424 is 1 year, yet the simulation time is only 60 h flooding, so there must be extra interventions on the
425 bed; (2) sediment flux from upstream is unable to be well quantified; (3) accurate
426 parameterisation of sediment transport cannot be performed yet, such as sediment composition,
427 viscosity, as well as sediment transport capacity.

428 **5.2. Physical complexity to model morphological changes at a bend**

429 This paper developed a depth-averaged 2D hydro-morphodynamic model with a secondary flow
430 correction which is validated in two small-scale experiments. The model was applied to model

431 bar formation at a natural bend based on annual field survey data. Not only the secondary flow
432 effect, but also a number of parameters were evaluated in order to explore the importance of
433 each on morphodynamics in the curved channel.

434 For hydrodynamics, similar to the findings by the existing studies [*Lien et al.*, 1999; *Song et al.*,
435 2012], a secondary flow correction increases the velocity at the outer bank, but decreases it at
436 the inner bank, leading to a higher velocity near the outer bank of the bend. The re-distribution of
437 the velocity field further causes a change of bed shear stress in distribution which drives the bed
438 change pattern to be changed. The above comparison among R1, R2, R3 and R9 indicates that
439 a secondary flow correction plays a vital role in terms of both distribution and quantification of
440 bed aggradation and degradation at the bend. For the scenario without secondary flow effects, it
441 is unlikely to predict a reasonable bar formulation. The deposition at the outer bank toe appears
442 to be equally significant to the deposition at the inner bank area. The inclusion of a secondary
443 flow correction dramatically improves the prediction of bar formation which is in general
444 agreement to field survey data despite the fact that the bar size and the deposition at the outer
445 bank toe are affected by a number of parameters. It has been reported that sediment-related
446 parameters are crucial factors affecting sediment transport and thereby morphological changes.
447 This raises a question that how important these parameters are in comparison to the secondary
448 flow effect.

449 Although sediment transport formulae are regarded as having poor accuracy, the above results
450 manifest that empirical-based sediment transport formulae do not result in huge difference to the
451 modelled bed changes. MPM, Cheng and WC2003 predict highly similar bar pattern, but slightly
452 different bar size. This does not imply that the three functions are accurate because the empirical
453 formulae always have limitations in application. This indicates that sediment transport functions
454 likely affects the quantification of bed changes, but the feature of erosion and deposition is hardly
455 influenced. Therefore, the importance of this variable is much less than the secondary flow
456 effects. The impact of roughness height is to increase or decrease the flow velocity and water
457 depth with an equal magnitude in the whole area, resulting in an overall change in bed shear
458 stress, but not influencing the distribution feature at the bend. Thus, R3, R5, and R6 with different

459 roughness height predict morphological changes with a similar feature but different bar size.
460 Similar to sediment transport formula, roughness height cannot affect the feature of bed
461 changes, but determine how much sediment is eroded and deposited. However, it is found that
462 the parameterisation of grain-size has significant effects on the volume and location of bed
463 changes at the bend. Provided that the representative size of sediment materials within channel
464 is properly parameterised, it is likely that the model even with secondary flow effects cannot
465 reasonably predict morphodynamics at a natural bend (e.g. the simulated bed changes by R9).
466 The fundamental reason is that grain-size parameterisation has direct impact on a number of
467 factors, such as settling velocity of a particle, threshold of incipient motion, dimensionless bed
468 shear stress, and sediment transport capacity. The change in each factor can lead to a
469 modification of bed erosion and deposition. For a bed constituted by a wide range of grain-sizes,
470 a single constant grain-size apparently misrepresents the real situation, which will lead to two
471 bars at the bend (R8). The bar at the outer bank was significantly over-predicted in comparison
472 to the observed deposition (Fig.10b). Thus, it is crucial to parameterise grain-sizes spatially
473 varying to model morphological changes at a natural curved channel. This factor is equally
474 important with a secondary flow correction. Moreover, this study found that bed changes have a
475 similar feature in spite of the difference in depth at the rising climb of the first flood which has the
476 highest peak ($128 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) (Fig.9). This denotes that a rapid flood can induce a rapid bed response,
477 where the main flow is more dominant than the secondary flow effect. Thus during this period,
478 the secondary flow seems not to have significant impact on bed changes. In the sequent flood
479 with smaller discharge, secondary flow effects appear to be increasingly important on modifying
480 the distribution of bed erosion and deposition.

481 Whether a 2D model can simulate hydrodynamics and morphodynamics in a curved channel has
482 been controversial. Some studies [*Alho and Mäkinen, 2010*; *Kasvi et al., 2015*; *Lane et al., 1999*]
483 reported that a 2D model could predict the bed deformations reasonably well in a curved channel
484 event without the inclusion of a secondary flow correction due to the major role of main flows.
485 However, it is argued by [*Kasvi et al., 2013*] that the morphodynamics at the inner bank cannot
486 be predicted by a 2D model with a secondary flow correction. In contrast, the study presented

487 here clearly demonstrates that at a natural bend where secondary flow plays an important role, a
488 2D model is capable of predicting the morphodynamics ahead, however it is required that the 2D
489 model calculates the secondary flow effect and reasonably parameterises varying grain-size. The
490 secondary flow effect has a first priority importance in comparison to other parameters. The well-
491 known factors such as sediment transport formula and roughness height influences the
492 quantification of bed changes but do not alter the feature of morphological changes at the bend.
493 Therefore, the choice of the factors is considered to have less priority during model
494 parameterisation.

495 **6. Conclusion**

496 This study developed a depth-averaged 2D non-equilibrium sediment transport model with an
497 inclusion of a secondary flow correction, and the model was tested in two small-scale
498 experiments and a one-year morphodynamic event at a natural bend. A number of parameters
499 potentially influencing the bar formation at the natural bend were evaluated through a series of
500 simulations. Specific conclusions can be drawn:

- 501 • The 2D non-equilibrium sediment transport model is capable of predicting hydraulics and
502 bed changes at laboratory-scale reasonably well.
- 503 • Secondary flow correction terms in a 2D model affect bend hydraulics, and thereby also
504 bar formation. Thus the treatment of these terms should be given a priority during
505 morphodynamic modelling at a bend. The turbulent terms are also important for curved
506 channel (Begnudelli et al., 2010).
- 507 • Results indicate that grain-size parameterisation has the most significant effects on
508 morphological changes, both in terms of bar size and pattern. Distributed and non-
509 uniform grain parameterisation is vital for accurate prediction.
- 510 • The feature of bed changes is hardly affected by choice of sediment transport formulae,
511 thus we consider it has a lower priority during simulation.

- 512 • The roughness parameters have an impact on bed shear stress of a similar order of
513 magnitude within the whole area. This leads to changing bar size but not bar distribution
514 at a bend.
- 515 • A depth-averaged 2D model could be used with some confidence for modelling channel
516 hydraulics and morphology at a natural bend provided that secondary flow features are
517 corrected and grain size parameterisation are undertaken. Considering the advantages of
518 2D models in saving computational time compared to 3D models, 2D models would be
519 provide sufficiently reliable simulation of morphodynamics at a natural bend.
- 520 • The annual bar formations at the natural bend were predicted reasonably well by the 2D
521 model described. This further indicates the capability of 2D models for simulating
522 morphodynamics at a natural-scale bend.

523 **Acknowledgements**

524 MG would like to thank the financial support for his research in the University of Leeds. The
525 Keswick case study dataset was provided by the Environment Agency, England. We would like
526 to thank David Brown, Helen Reid and Peter Spencer for their help in making this data and
527 background information available. Environment Agency data can be requested
528 from Inforequests.cmbInc@environment-agency.gov.uk.

529 **Reference**

- 530 Abad, J. D., G. C. Buscaglia, and M. H. Garcia (2008), 2D stream hydrodynamic, sediment transport
531 and bed morphology model for engineering applications, *Hydrological Processes*, 22(10), 1443-
532 1459.
- 533 Alho, P., and J. Mäkinen (2010), Hydraulic parameter estimations of a 2D model validated with
534 sedimentological findings in the point bar environment, *Hydrological Processes*, 24(18), 2578-
535 2593.
- 536 Begnudelli, L., A. Valiani, and B. F. Sanders (2010), A balanced treatment of secondary currents,
537 turbulence and dispersion in a depth-integrated hydrodynamic and bed deformation model for
538 channel bends, *Advances in Water Resources*, 33(1), 17-33.

539 [Blanckaert, K. \(2015\), Flow separation at convex banks in open channels, *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*,](#)
540 [779, 432-467.](#)

541 [Bohorquez, P., F. García-García, F. Pérez-Valera, and C. Martínez-Sánchez \(2013\), Unsteady two-](#)
542 [dimensional paleohydraulic reconstruction of extreme floods over the last 4000 yr in Segura](#)
543 [River, southeast Spain, *Journal of Hydrology*, 477, 229-239.](#)

544 [Bui, M. D., and P. Rutschmann \(2010\), Numerical modelling of non-equilibrium graded sediment](#)
545 [transport in a curved open channel, *Computers & Geosciences*, 36\(6\), 792-800.](#)

546 [Cheng, N. \(2002\), Exponential Formula for Bedload Transport, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*,](#)
547 [128\(10\), 942-946.](#)

548 [De Vriend, H. J. \(1977\), A Mathematical Model Of Steady Flow In Curved Shallow Channels, *Journal*](#)
549 [of *Hydraulic Research*, 15\(1\), 37-54.](#)

550 [De Vriend, H. J., and F. G. Koch \(1978\), flow of water in a curved open channel with a fixed uneven](#)
551 [bed, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands.](#)

552 [Duan, J. G., and S. K. Nanda \(2006\), Two-dimensional depth-averaged model simulation of](#)
553 [suspended sediment concentration distribution in a groyne field, *Journal of Hydrology*, 327\(3-4\),](#)
554 [426-437.](#)

555 [El kadi Abderrezzak, K., and A. Paquier \(2009\), One-dimensional numerical modeling of sediment](#)
556 [transport and bed deformation in open channels, *Water Resources Research*, 45, W05404.](#)

557 [Finnie, J., B. Donnell, J. Letter, and R. Bernard \(1999\), Secondary Flow Correction for Depth-](#)
558 [Averaged Flow Calculations, *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*, 125\(7\), 848-863.](#)

559 [Fischer-Antze, T., N. R. B. Olsen, and D. Gutknecht \(2008\), Three-dimensional CFD modeling of](#)
560 [morphological bed changes in the Danube River, *Water Resources Research*, 44\(9\), W09422.](#)

561 [Ghamry, H. K., and P. M. Steffler \(2002\), Two dimensional vertically averaged and moment equations](#)
562 [for rapidly varied flows, *Journal of Hydraulic Research*, 40\(5\), 579-587.](#)

563 [Greimann, B., Y. Lai, and J. C. Huang \(2008\), Two-dimensional total sediment load model equations,](#)
564 [Journal of Hydraulic Engineering-ASCE, 134\(8\), 1142-1146.](#)

565 [Guan, M., N. Wright, and P. Sleight \(2013\), A robust 2D shallow water model for solving flow over](#)
566 [complex topography using homogenous flux method, *International Journal for Numerical Methods*](#)
567 [in *Fluids*, 73\(3\), 225-249.](#)

568 Guan, M., N. Wright, and P. Sleight (2014), 2D Process based morphodynamic model for flooding by
569 noncohesive dyke breach, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, 140(7).

570 [Guan, M., N. Wright, and P. Sleight \(2015a\), Multimode morphodynamic model for sediment-laden](#)
571 [flows and geomorphic impacts, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, 141\(6\).](#)

572 [Guan, M., N.G. Wright, P.A. Sleight, and J.L. Carrivick \(2015b\), Assessment of hydro-morphodynamic](#)
573 [modelling and geomorphological impacts of a sediment-charged jökulhlaup, at Sólheimajökull,](#)
574 [Iceland. *Journal Hydrology*, 530, 336–349.](#)

575 [Guan, M., J.L. Carrivick, N.G. Wright, P.A. Sleight, and K.E. Staines \(2016\), Quantifying the combined](#)
576 [effects of multiple extreme floods on river channel geometry and on flood hazards, *Journal of*](#)
577 [Hydrology](#), 538, 256–268

578 [Guymer, I. \(1998\), Longitudinal Dispersion in Sinuous Channel with Changes in Shape, *Journal of*](#)
579 [Hydraulic Engineering](#), 124(1), 33-40.

580 [Iwasaki, T., Shimizu, Y., and Kimura, I. \(2016\), Numerical simulation of bar and bank erosion in a](#)
581 [vegetated floodplain: A case study in the Otofuke River. *Advances in Water Resources*, 93, 118-](#)
582 [134.](#)

583 [Johannesson, H., and G. Parker \(1989\), Velocity Redistribution in Meandering Rivers, *Journal of*](#)
584 [Hydraulic Engineering](#), 115(8), 1019-1039.

585 [Kasvi, E., P. Alho, M. Vaaja, H. Hyypä, and J. Hyypä \(2013\), Spatial and temporal distribution of](#)
586 [fluvio-morphological processes on a meander point bar during a flood event *Hydrology Research*,](#)
587 [44\(6\), 1022–1039](#)

588 [Kasvi, E., P. Alho, E. Lotsari, Y. Wang, A. Kukko, H. Hyypä, and J. Hyypä \(2015\), Two-dimensional](#)
589 [and three-dimensional computational models in hydrodynamic and morphodynamic](#)
590 [reconstructions of a river bend: sensitivity and functionality, *Hydrological Processes*, 29\(6\), 1604-](#)
591 [1629.](#)

592 [Khosronejad, A., C. Rennie, S. Salehi Neyshabouri, and R. Townsend \(2007\), 3D Numerical modeling](#)
593 [of flow and sediment transport in laboratory channel bends, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*,](#)
594 [133\(10\), 1123-1134.](#)

595 [Lane, S. N. \(1998\), Hydraulic modelling in hydrology and geomorphology: a review of high resolution](#)
596 [approaches, *Hydrological Processes*, 12\(8\), 1131-1150.](#)

597 [Lane, S. N., K. F. Bradbrook, K. S. Richards, P. A. Biron, and A. G. Roy \(1999\), The application of](#)
598 [computational fluid dynamics to natural river channels: three-dimensional versus two-dimensional](#)
599 [approaches, *Geomorphology*, 29\(1–2\), 1-20.](#)

600 [Langendoen, E. J., A. Mendoza, J. D. Abad, P. Tassi, D. Wang, R. Ata, K. El kadi Abderrezzak, and](#)
601 [J.-M. Hervouet \(2015\), Improved numerical modeling of morphodynamics of rivers with steep](#)
602 [banks, *Advances in Water Resources*.](#)

603 [Li, S. C., and C. J. Duffy \(2011\), Fully coupled approach to modeling shallow water flow, sediment](#)
604 [transport, and bed evolution in rivers, *Water Resources Research*, 47.](#)

605 [Lien, H., T. Hsieh, J. Yang, and K. Yeh \(1999\), Bend-Flow Simulation Using 2D Depth-Averaged](#)
606 [Model, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, 125\(10\), 1097-1108.](#)

607 [Meyer-Peter, E., and R. Müller \(1948\), Formulas for bed load transport, 39–64 pp, Stockholm,](#)
608 [Sweden.](#)

609 [Nicholas, A. P. \(2013\), Modelling the continuum of river channel patterns, *Earth Surface Processes*](#)
610 [and *Landforms*, 38\(10\), 1187-1196.](#)

611 [Odgaard, A. \(1986\), Meander Flow Model. I: Development, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, 112\(12\),](#)
612 [1117-1135.](#)

613 [Odgaard, A., and M. Bergs \(1988\), Flow processes in a curved alluvial channel, *Water Resources*](#)
614 [Research, 24\(1\), 45-56.](#)

615 [Palmsten, M. L., J. L. Kozarek, and J. Calantoni \(2015\), Video observations of bed form](#)
616 [morphodynamics in a meander bend, *Water Resources Research*, 51\(9\), 7238-7257.](#)

617 [Song, C. G., I. W. Seo, and Y. D. Kim \(2012\), Analysis of secondary current effect in the modeling of](#)
618 [shallow flow in open channels, *Advances in Water Resources*, 41\(0\), 29-48.](#)

619 [Toro, E. F. \(2001\), *Shock-Capturing Methods for Free-Surface Shallow Flows* 326 pp., John Wiley](#)
620 [& Sons, LTD.](#)

621 [van Rijn, L. C. \(1984\), Sediment transport part I, bed load transport, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering-*](#)
622 [ASCE, 110\(10\), 1431-1456.](#)

623 [Verhaar, P. M., P. M. Biron, R. I. Ferguson, and T. B. Hoey \(2008\), A modified morphodynamic model](#)
624 [for investigating the response of rivers to short-term climate change, *Geomorphology*, 101\(4\),](#)
625 [674-682.](#)

626 [Wang, D., P. Tassi, K. E. Abderrezzak, A. Mendoza, J. D. Abad, and E. Langendoen \(2014\), 2D and](#)
627 [3D numerical simulations of morphodynamics structures in large-amplitude meanders, in *River*](#)
628 [Flow 2014](#), edited, pp. 1105-1111, CRC Press.

629 [Waters, K. A., and J. C. Curran \(2015\), Linking bed morphology changes of two sediment mixtures to](#)
630 [sediment transport predictions in unsteady flows, *Water Resources Research*, 51\(4\), 2724-2741.](#)

631 [Wilcock, P., and J. Crowe \(2003\), Surface-based Transport Model for Mixed-Size Sediment, *Journal*](#)
632 [of *Hydraulic Engineering*, 129\(2\), 120-128.](#)

633 [Wong, M., and G. Parker \(2006\), Reanalysis and Correction of Bed-Load Relation of Meyer-Peter and](#)
634 [Müller Using Their Own Database, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering-ASCE*, 132\(11\), 1159-1168.](#)

635 [Wu, W. \(2004\), Depth-averaged two-dimensional numerical modeling of unsteady flow and](#)
636 [nonuniform sediment transport in open channels, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering-ASCE*,](#)
637 [130\(10\), 1013-1024.](#)

638 [Wu, W., W. Rodi, and T. Wenka \(2000\), 3D numerical modeling of flow and sediment transport in](#)
639 [open channels, *Journal of Hydraulic Engineering*, 126\(1\), 4-15.](#)

640 [Wu, W., F. D. Shields, S. J. Bennett, and S. S. Y. Wang \(2005\), A depth-averaged two-dimensional](#)
641 [model for flow, sediment transport, and bed topography in curved channels with riparian](#)
642 [vegetation, *Water Resources Research*, 41\(3\), W03015.](#)

643

644

645 **Figure captions**

646 Fig. 1. (a) The study reach with the 16 cross sections, (b) the constructed DTM before flooding (1 m×1
647 m), and (c) the inflow hydrograph recorded at the Low Briery gauge station

648 Fig.2. (a) flume bed geometry and the location of cross sections; and the comparison of measured
649 and simulated velocity profiles with and without secondary flow effects at 0.4 h in the (b) B1, (c)
650 C1 and (d) D1

651 Fig.3 Comparisons of measured and simulated bed changes as cross-sections (a) $\theta=45^\circ$, (b) $\theta=90^\circ$,
652 (c) $\theta=135^\circ$, (d) $\theta=180^\circ$

653 Fig.4. (a) modelled (R1) and measured water stages at the p5; (b – e) simulated velocity profiles at Q
654 = $70 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ without (R1) and with (R3) the secondary flow effect at four cross-sections cs1-1, cs2-
655 2, cs3-3, and cs5-5, for each cross section, the outer bank is in the left hand side, and the inner
656 bank is in the right hand side; (f) bed shear stress at $Q = 70 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ without (R1) and with (R3)
657 secondary flows.

658 Fig.5. The simulated bed erosion and deposition around the bend of R1, R2, R3 and R9, and the
659 difference between each other; for R1, R2, R3 and R9, negative value denotes erosion depth,
660 positive value represents deposition.

661 Fig.6. The simulated bed changes and the difference of R3, R4 and R10

662 Fig.7. The simulated bed changes of R3, R5 and R6, and the difference of each other at the bend

663 Fig.8. The simulated bed changes with multiple grain-sizes (R6) and single constant grain-size (R8),
664 and the difference of the two runs

665 Fig.9. Temporal changes of bed elevation for R1, R4-6, and R8 at four points around the bend

666 Fig.10. (a) Simulated deposition (R6) and (b) measured deposition, and bed profiles at four cross-
667 sections cs1-1, cs2-2, cs3-3 and cs5-5, note: R1 and R6 represents the results without and with
668 secondary flow correction

Table 1 Setup of the modelled runs

Run	Nikuradse k_s	Curvature radius (m)	Secondary flows		Bedload formula			inflow	Grain size
			Odgaard	deVriend	MPM	Cheng	WC2003		
R1	0.03	x	x	x	√	x	x	H1	multiple
R2	0.03	80	√	x	√	x	x	H1	multiple
R3	0.03	60	√	x	√	x	x	H1	multiple
R4	0.03	60	√	x	x	√	x	H1	multiple
R5	0.04	60	√	x	√	x	x	H1	multiple
R6	0.05	60	√	x	√	x	x	H1	multiple
R7	0.04	60	√	x	√	x	x	H2	multiple
R8	0.05	60	√	x	√	x	x	H1	single
R9	0.03	60	x	√	x	x	x	H1	multiple
R10	0.03	60	√	x	√	x	√	H1	multiple



















