



# ***Infrastructure management***

*A summary of the research and its outcomes*

Flood Risk Management Research Dissemination Event  
FRMRC-NHRI Exchange Event  
Guangdong, 30 November 2011

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**Research Leader for Infrastructure Management**



**SAYERS**  
AND PARTNERS





- **Infrastructure management research**
  - The motivation
  - The science
- **Where next...**



Effective and efficient infrastructure management presents many problems:

- Flood control **systems are complex** combinations of levees, pumps, dams, channels etc
- **Future change** – climate, deterioration and land use influence risk
- **Budgets are limited** – requiring prioritisation and is required (\$2.2 trillion to fix, US – Steve Stockton, £20 billion sunk investment, England and Wales)



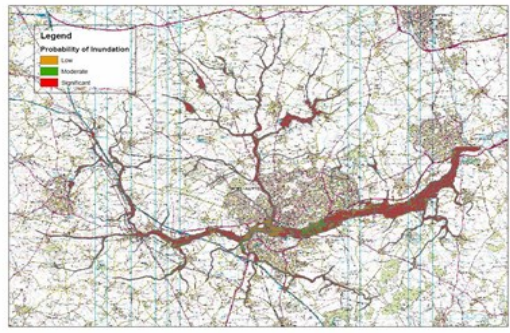


# Some difficult science questions....

A range of spatial and temporal scales of interest



All (national) Systems

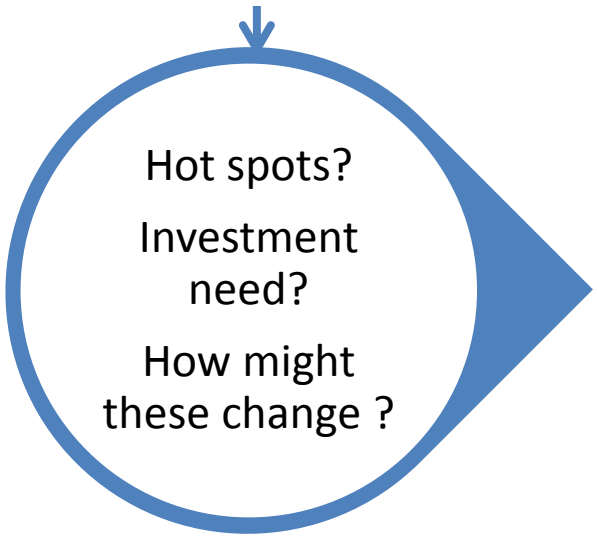


One Flood Risk Management System



One Asset

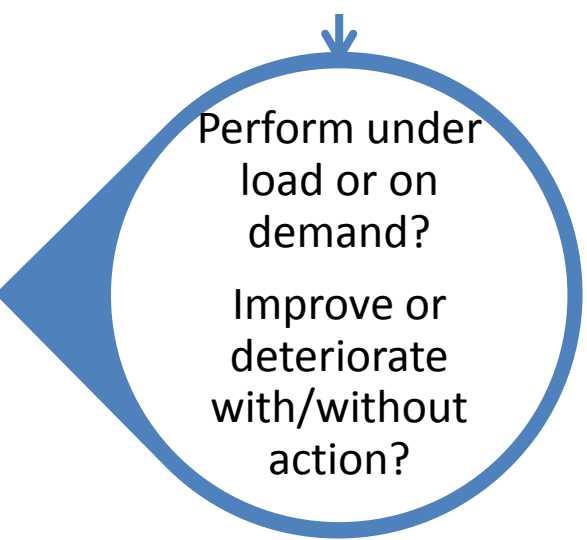
What are the national...



How will the system...

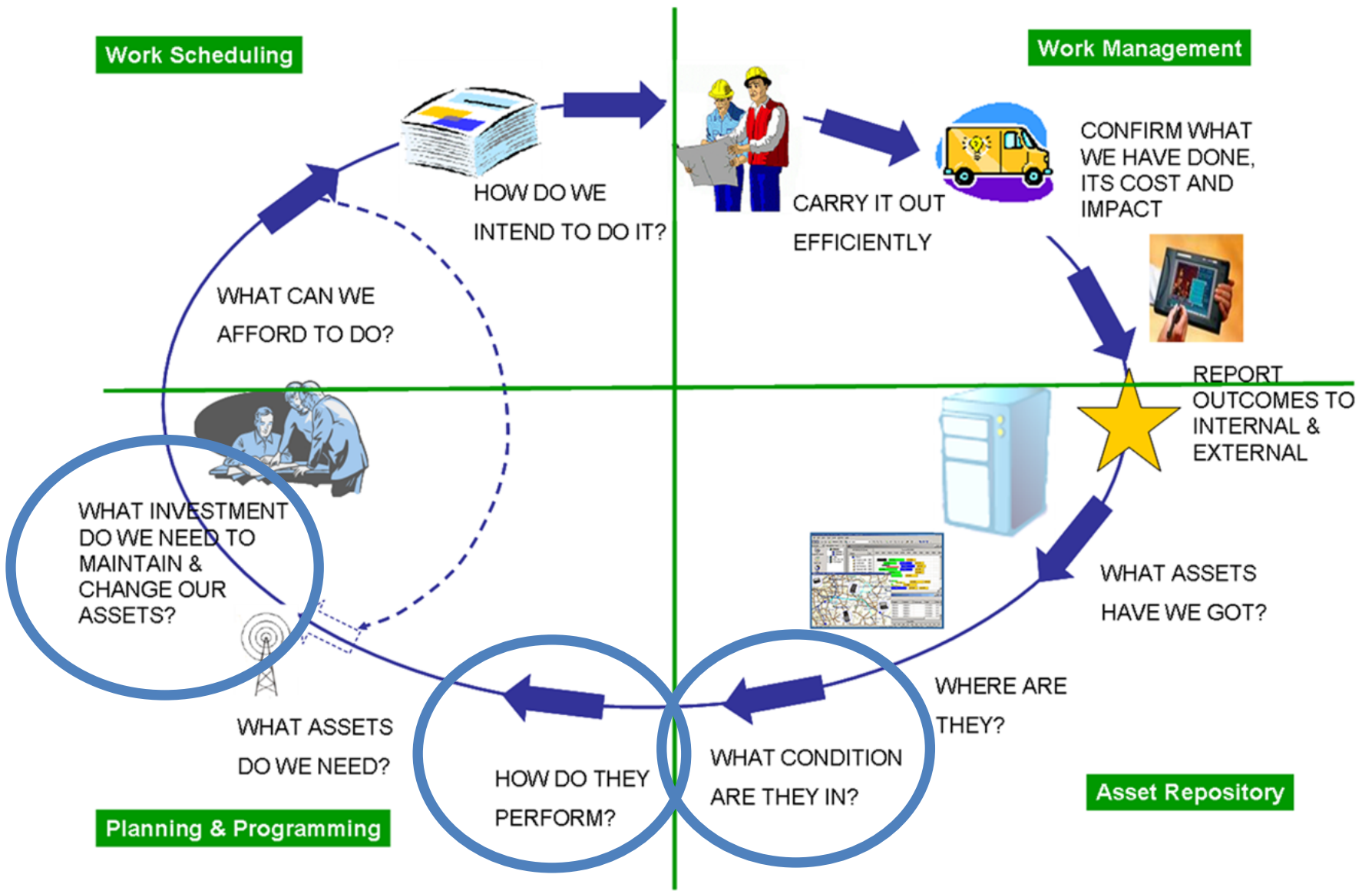


How will an asset...





# A clear role in supporting practice.....





# The science

- 1. Inspection** - integrating visual inspection and remote sensed data in the condition assessment process (WP4.2)
- 2. Individual asset performance** – Understanding underground/above ground gully connections (WP3.3), blockage potential (WP4.1), breach growth (WP4.4)
- 3. Asset system performance** – Integrating coastal and flood risk analysis and the dynamic performance beach\cliff assets (WP4.3)
- 4. Decision support** – Identifying optimum asset management (WP 1.7/WP 4.5)





## The aim

- To develop an approach to condition assessment that **supplements purely visual inspection** with routine **quantified measurement** (without significant cost increases).

### Embankment slopes

Condition 2: Good

General: Minor defects that will not reduce overall performance of the asset



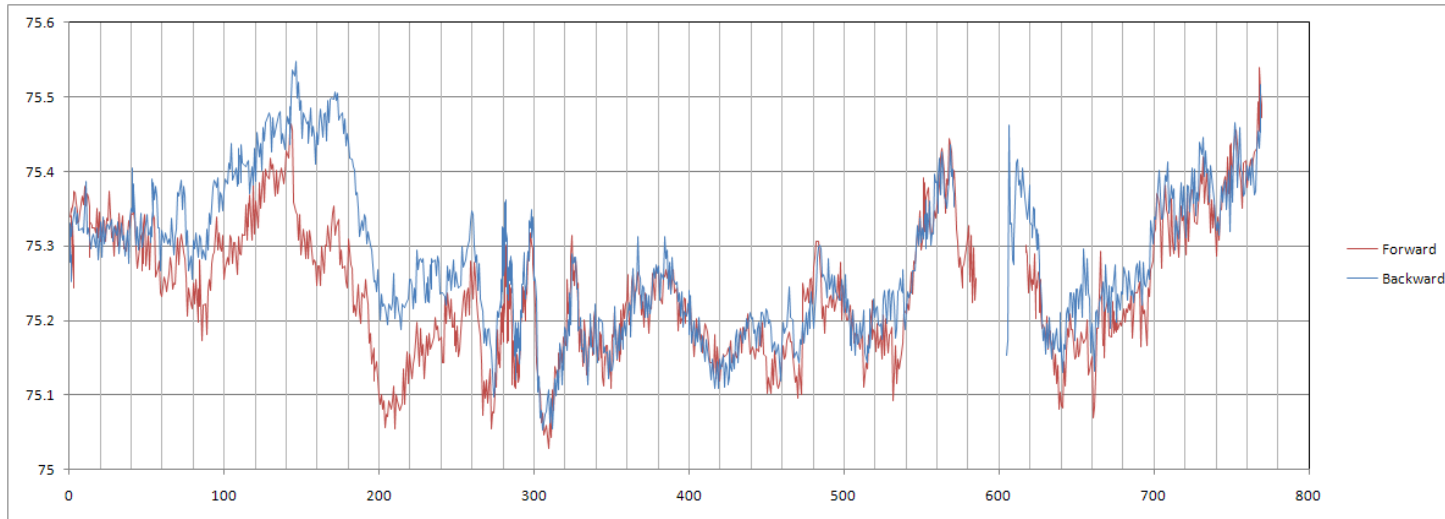
Specific description: In reasonable condition. Minor defects. Minor disparate animal burrows (in clay embankment). Stable side slopes well vegetated but may be non-uniform. Evidence of minor overtopping (see insert).

Key features: Light foreign objects present but not contributing to heave or erosion. No crest parallel cracking, no loss of fines. Stone revetment at toe in good condition – only minor movement. Minor pooling of water at toe of outer face but no uplift.

The Condition Inspection Manual,  
Environment Agency, UK



## Routinely quantified movement in the levee crest Utilizing Kinematic GPS as part of the visual inspection



(max diff 0.24m)

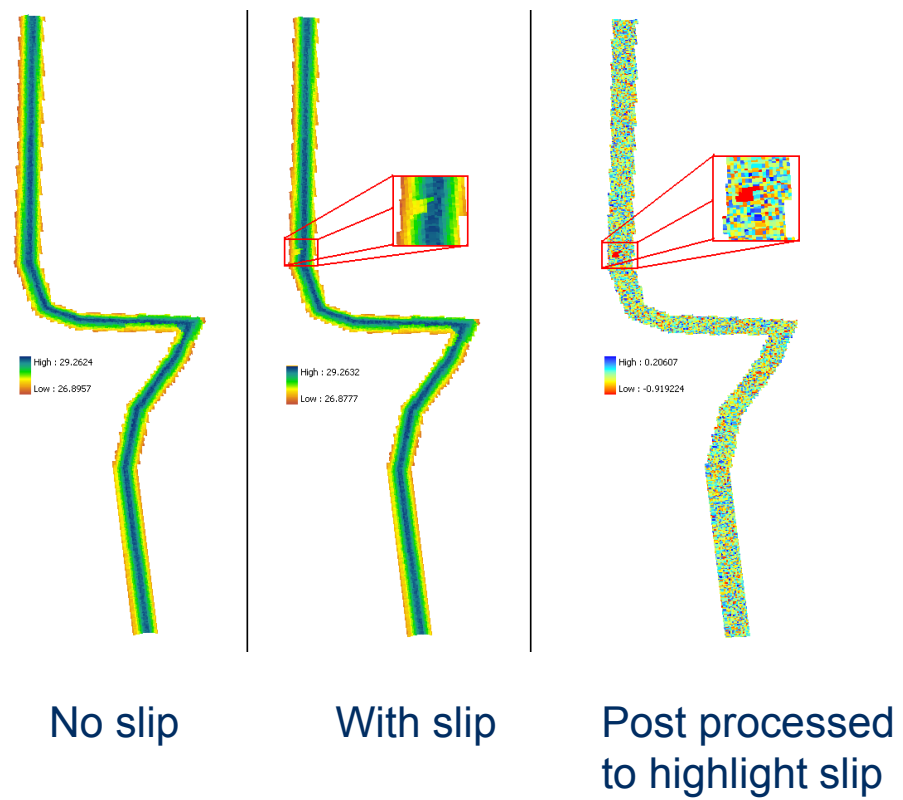


**Data Collection System (GPS in a back pack)**



## Can LiDAR be better used to identify surface movement in levees?

Simulation to explore required accuracy to support asset inspection



## Can simple measures help?

What inspection aids make a real difference?



**Summary Report** – linking supporting technologies and methodologies to their use in condition monitoring



# The science

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3. **Asset system performance** – Integrating coastal and flood risk analysis and the dynamic performance beach\cliff assets (WP4.3)
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# Gully performance (WP3.3)



**Inflow Q=?**

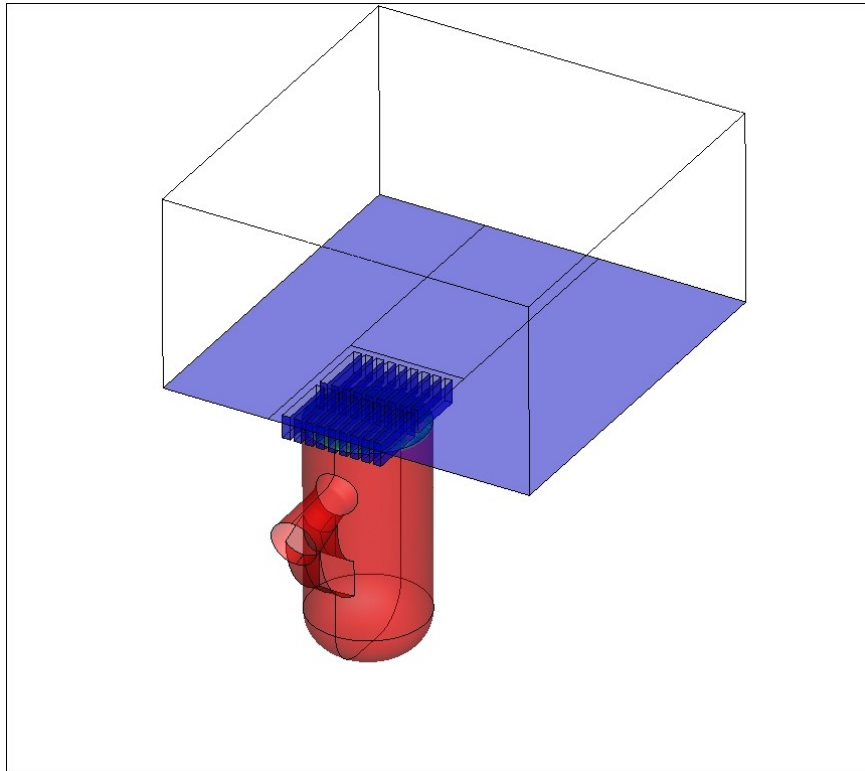


**Outflow Q=?**

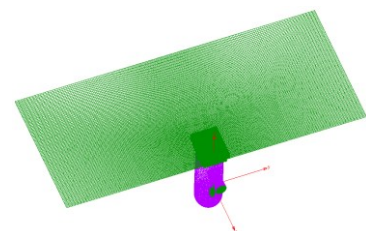
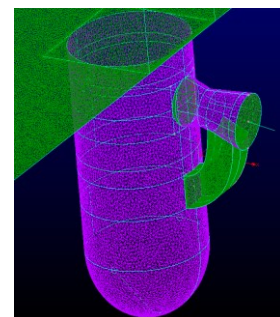




# Gully performance (WP3.3)



**Physical modelling**

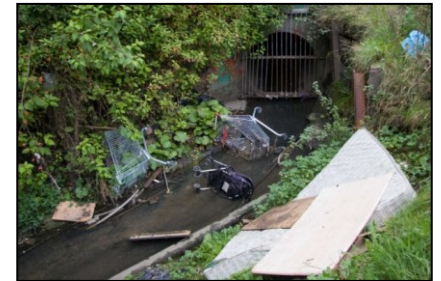


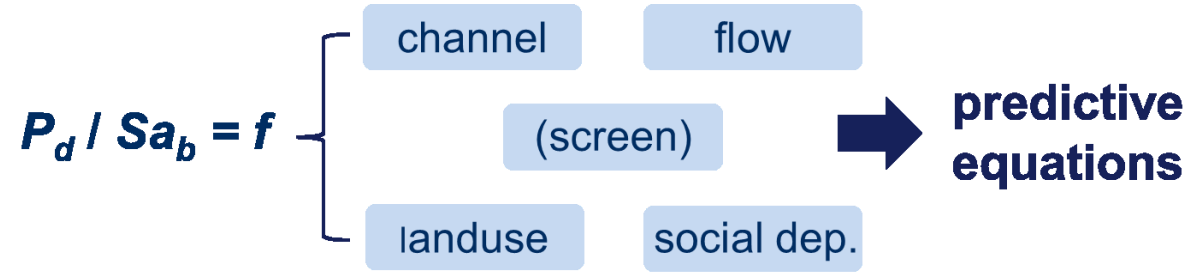
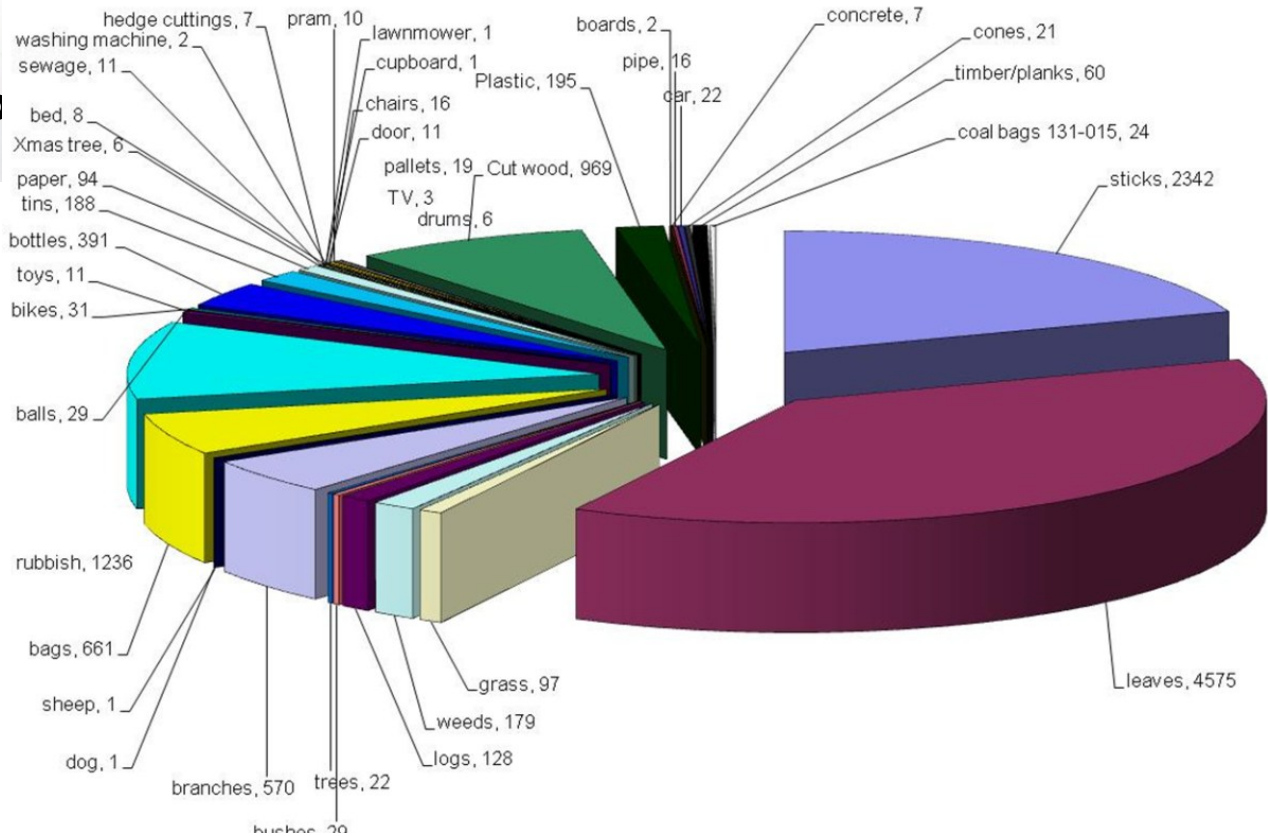
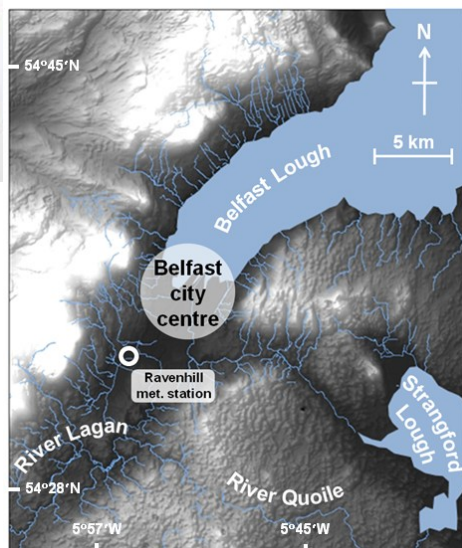
**3D simulation**



## Improve understanding of:

- The **rate** at which debris arrives at structures
  - related to flow regime
- The **probability** of a blockage occurring
  - related to upstream driving variables
- The **extent** of any blockage - area 'blinded'
  - Related to screen properties





Data driven analysis – Case study from Belfast



## The aim

- What would happen if a levee breached?
- How might the breach grow?
- What volume and how fast would the inflow be?

## Currently

- Breach models are either, highly simplified, or complex to run requiring significant data.

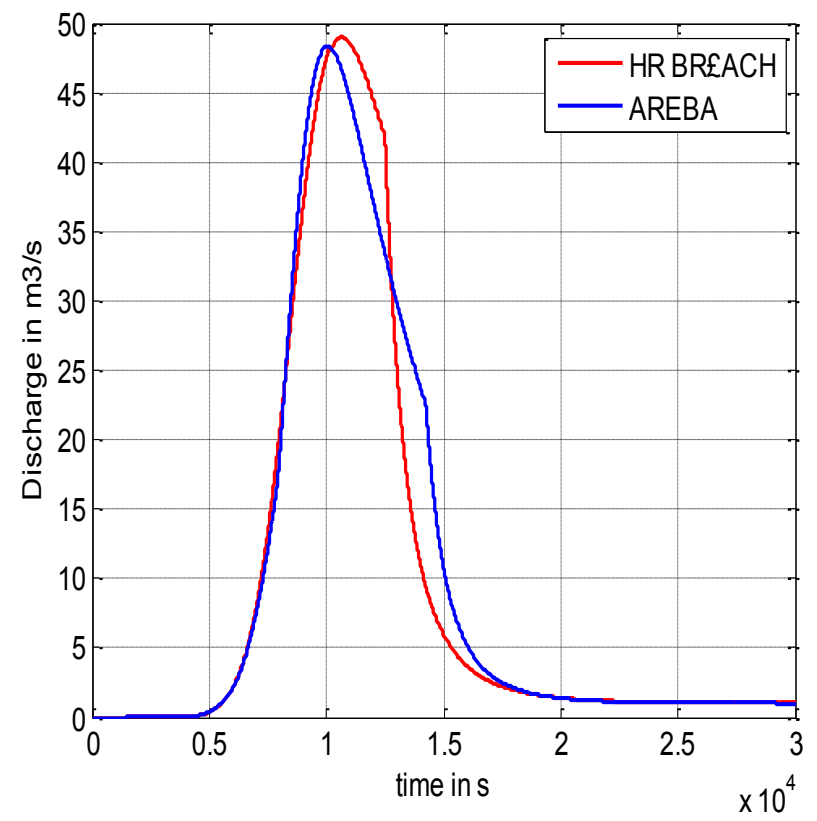


- FRMRC utilised information from field study collected through ([www.floodsite.net](http://www.floodsite.net) and [www.impact.net](http://www.impact.net))



## New in FRMRC (AREBA)

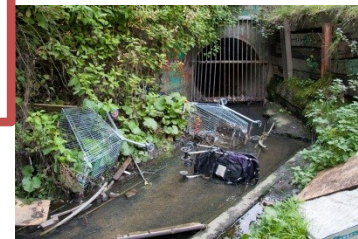
- Simple, fast to run but credible
- Analytical equations used to solve
  - Surface erosion
  - Headcut
  - Piping
- Embankments only





## The science

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## The science

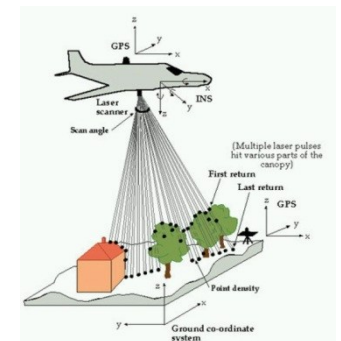
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Engineers face a doubt as to which action to take:

- **Where?** – Improvement to which asset would yield the greatest risk reduction?
- **When?** - Is action required now, or can investment be postponed?
- **How?** – What standard is appropriate, should land be secured for future widening / construction ?

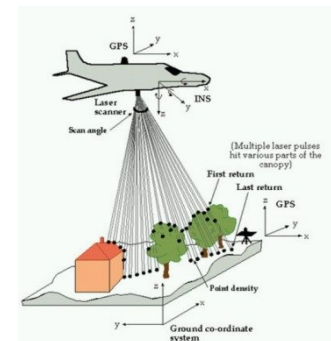




Infrastructure planning decisions can be supported by:

## Quantified flood risk analysis and option exploration

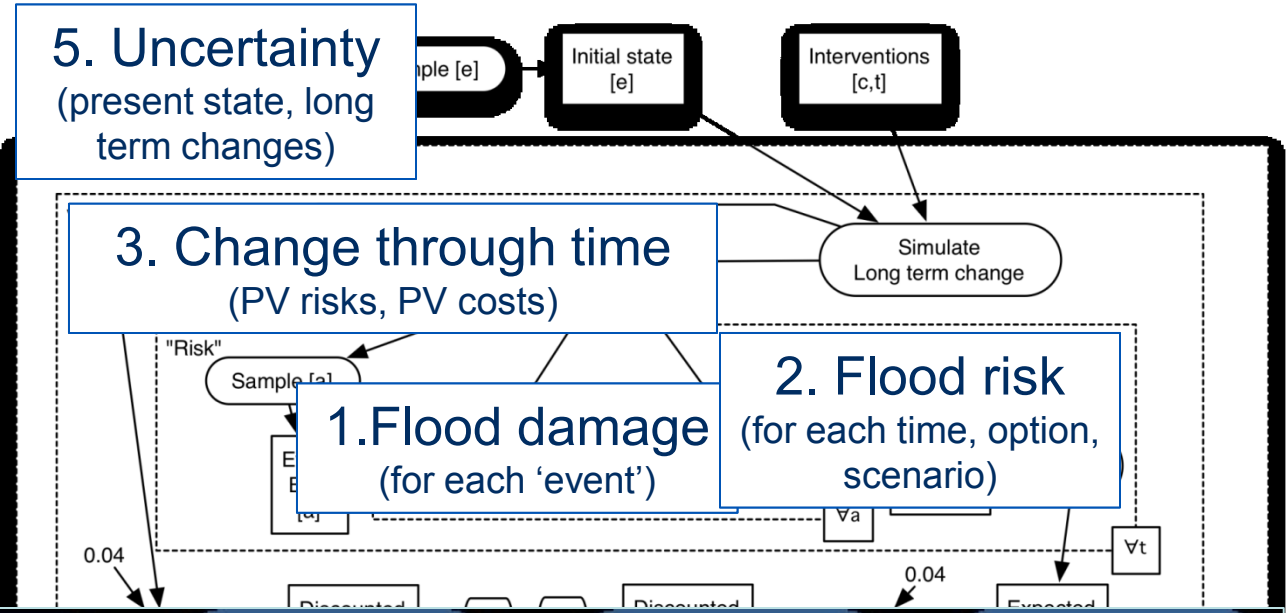
- ... for a series of infrastructure options
- ... which may be implemented at various times in the future
- ... whose cost is state-dependent
- ... under conditions of long term change
- ... in order to generate aggregate performance metrics which are used to compare options
- ... and identify solutions that are *optimal, robust...*





# Framework of analysis (WP1.7)

- A logical framework developed for system analysis to enable robustness and optimisation within an efficient



<p>Chance of the source event occurring</p>	<p>Performance of the intervening system</p>	<p>Probability of flooding</p>	<p>Associated consequences</p>	<p>Residual Risk</p>
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## 6. Visualisation



## Challenge

- To loop through this process many times to identity an optimal flood risk management strategy (taking account of uncertainty in future climate change)

## Case study on the River Dodder



Total: 158  
defences group  
in a small  
number of  
reaches

### Legend

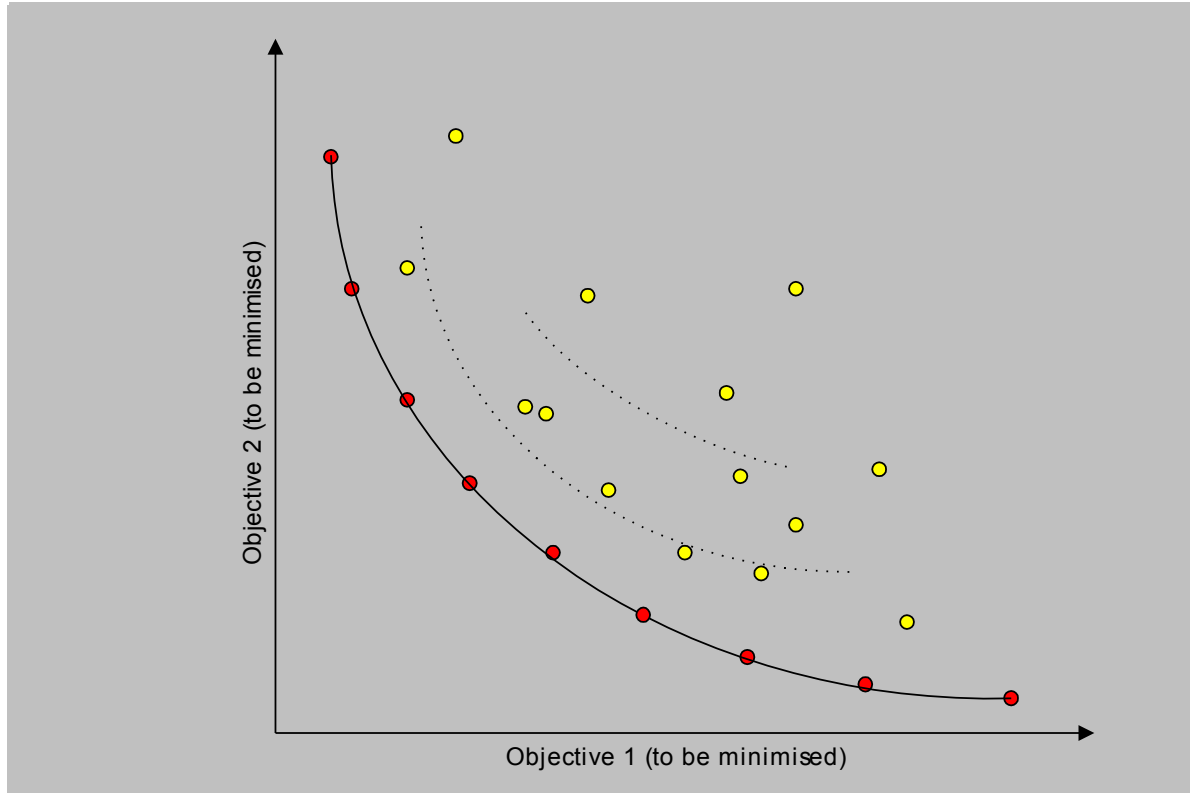
- High Ground
- B&M vertical wall
- Turf Embankment



# Multiobjective Optimisation - The Pareto Front

## Optimisation

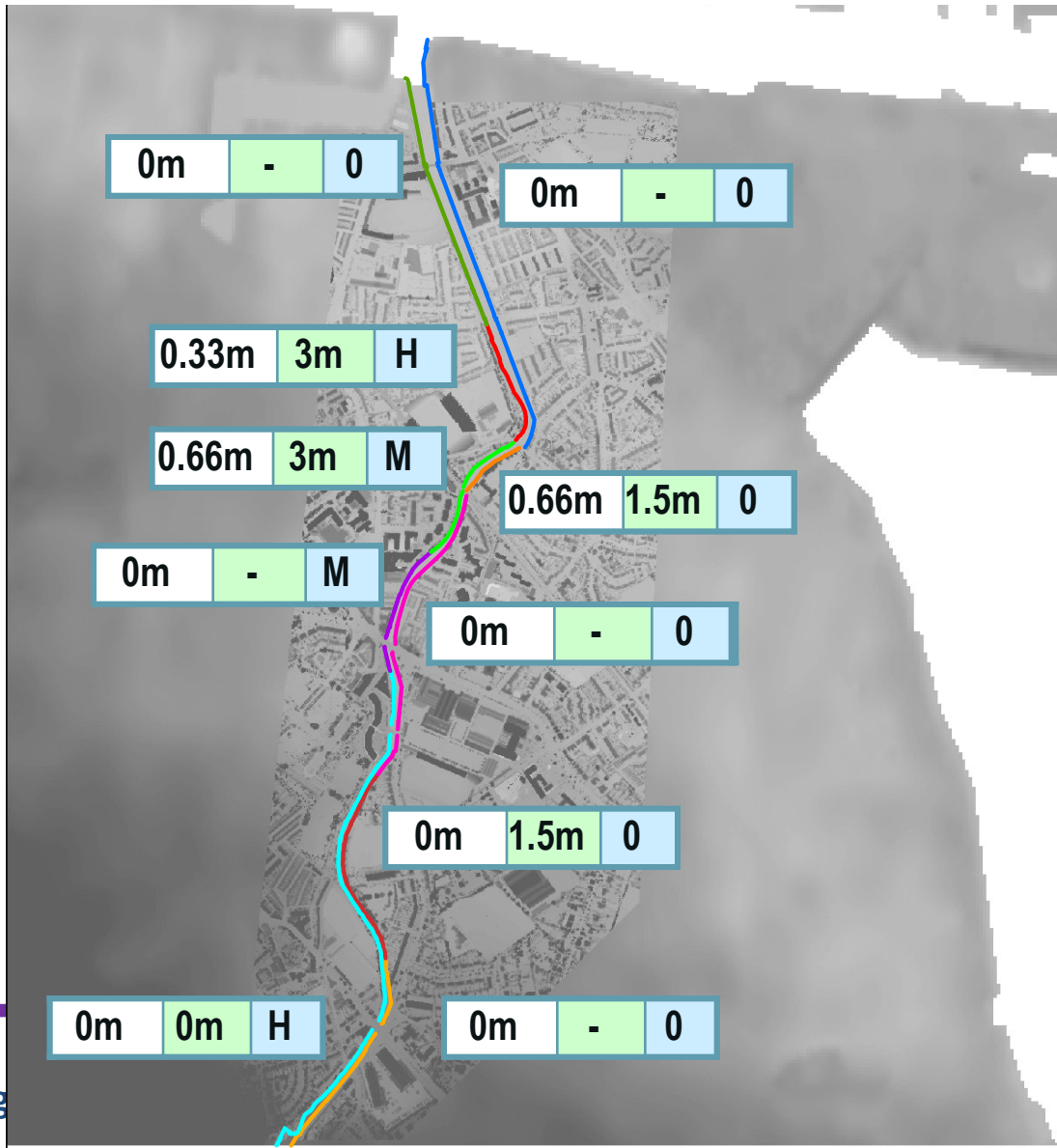
- Possible interventions strategies automatically generated using a GA.
- Performance of each assessed against given criteria (e.g. cost and benefits)
- Invariably a set of optimal solutions is discovered (i.e. a **Pareto set**)





## The results

- Strategy with the highest Net Present Value (NPV)



**Actions at 2025**  
**Actions at 2075**

RCL	WB	M
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### Legend

- G1 (Green)
- G2 (Red)
- G3 (Light Green)
- G4 (Purple)
- G5 (Cyan)
- G6 (Blue)
- G7 (Orange)
- G8 (Pink)
- G9 (Dark Red)
- G10 (Yellow)



## Where next...

Promoting linkage with researcher and practitioners to aim future development and take-up

Much is already finding its way into practice:

- UK – Through TE2100
- USA – USACE (comparing approaches in St Paul)
- China – GIWP / WWF





## Some key outputs

### Books

Thomas Telford Book

**Flood defence infrastructure management and design** – Due for release Spring  
Next year (edited Sayers)

### CIRIA TN

II – Culvert Blockage, Visual inspection methods

### Papers

Many journal papers and conference papers

### Tools

Proof of concept – e.g. AREBA, optimisation methods, risk analysis frameworks  
([www.refame.org](http://www.refame.org))

### Data

Base datasets in blockage (plus various model runs).

### Practitioner and specific outreach events

Advances in asset management – A workshop for practitioners (4 Oct 2011)

Science of asset management - A workshop for international scientific  
exchange (9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2011)

Exchange workshops in Australia (SWP4), **China**, Ireland and Scotland



**1. W.P4.1 Flood risks associated with debris at structures**

- The University of Nottingham and Herriot Watt University, working with HR Wallingford, JBA and Royal Haskoning

**2. WP4.2 Performance based inspection of flood defences**

- The University of Nottingham, working with Dr Mervyn Bramley (independent) and HR Wallingford

**3. WP4.3 Integration of coastal flood and erosion risk models**

- HR Wallingford, working with Halcrow, and co-workshops with SWP2

**4. WP4.4 Breach size – rapid methods for assessment**

- Oxford University working with HR Wallingford- linked with SWP2

**5. WP 4.5 Optimisation of investment strategies**

- HR Wallingford and Royal Haskoning

**6. WP 3.3 Gully performance – connecting above and below ground system**

- Universities of Exeter and Sheffield

**7. Computer support for infrastructure planning decisions**

- Universities of Newcastle and Oxford



The research reported in this presentation was conducted as part of the Flood Risk Management Research Consortium with support from the:

- **Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council**
- **Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs/Environment Agency Joint Research Programme**
- **United Kingdom Water Industry Research**
- **Office of Public Works Dublin**
- **Northern Ireland Rivers Agency**

Data were provided by the EA and the Ordnance Survey.



### See the Website

[www.floodrisk.org.uk](http://www.floodrisk.org.uk)

### Contacts

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