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1 **Hydro-Sediment-Morphodynamic Processes of the Baige Landslide-induced**
2 **Barrier Lake, Jinsha River, China**

3
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19
20 **Highlights:**

- 21 ● The 2018 Baige landslide-induced barrier lake on the Jinsha River is investigated
22 ● The whole process is well reconstructed by a single 2D model for the first time
23 ● An artificial flood channel effectively alleviated downstream flood risk
24 ● Grains drive water during landslide dam formation, but water governs the outburst
25 ● Effects of upstream inflow discharge and initial landslide volume are revealed
26

27 **Abstract**

28 A large landslide impacting a river may cause a multi-phase chain of hazards, comprising
29 landslide-generated waves, inundation as a barrier lake develops upstream a landslide dam
30 arising from rapid sediment deposition, and downstream flooding due to barrier lake outburst.
31 Two major landslides (each of volume $\sim 10^7 \text{ m}^3$) occurred successively on 10th October and
32 3rd November 2018 at Baige village, Tibet, China. Both landslides led to a natural dam that
33 completely blocked the Jinsha River, along with a barrier lake filled with upstream river
34 inflow. Although the first barrier lake breached naturally, a significant quantity of residual
35 material from the first landslide dam was left behind without being eroded. After the second
36 landslide occurred, a flood channel was urgently constructed to facilitate an artificial breach
37 of the barrier lake as it formed. The Baige landslide-induced barrier lake is unique as
38 triggered by two successive landslides and outbursts a mere five weeks apart. Here a
39 computational investigation is presented of the hydro-sediment-morphodynamic processes of
40 the Baige barrier lake, using a recent 2D double layer-averaged two-phase flow model. This
41 is the first modelling study of the whole field and whole processes for the formation and
42 outburst of a landslide-induced barrier lake as well as the resultant floods, without evoking
43 presumptions on dam breach (which have prevailed for decades and bear much uncertainty).
44 The computed results agree well with field observations in terms of landslide-generated
45 waves, landslide dam morphology, stage and discharge hydrographs at the dam site and
46 downstream flood hydrographs. The artificial flood channel is shown to be effective for
47 alleviating downstream inundation. Water and grain velocities are demonstrated to be distinct,
48 characterizing the primary role of grains in landslide dam and barrier lake formation and the
49 dominant role of water in barrier lake outburst and the resultant flood. Relatively low inflow
50 discharge and large initial landslide volume favour landslide dam and barrier lake formation,
51 but delay the outburst and downstream flood. The present 2D double layer-averaged
52 two-phase model holds great promise for assessing future landslide-induced multi-hazard
53 chains in rivers, and informing mitigation and adaptation strategies.

54 **Keywords:** landslide dam; landslide-generated waves; barrier lake outburst; flood;
55 hydro-sediment-morphodynamic processes; double layer-averaged two-phase flow model

56

57 **1. Introduction**

58 Landslides are common geophysical mass events in mountainous regions, especially
59 those with deep, narrow valleys (Costa and Schuster, 1988; Ermini and Casagli, 2003). A
60 landslide impacting a river often produces a multi-hazard chain comprising
61 landslide-generated waves, a landslide dam, a barrier lake, a lake outburst, and resultant
62 floods, leading to spatial-temporal amplification of hazard (Carpignano et al., 2009; Fan et al.,
63 2019a). More specifically, when a subaerial landslide impacts a narrow river valley, large
64 amplitude water waves and active sediment transport can be generated. Due to rapid
65 deposition of a huge amount of sediment, a landslide dam forms as the riverbed rapidly
66 aggrades and then emerges from the water (Costa and Schuster, 1988; Van Asch et al., 1999).
67 The resulting water waves may trigger further landslides and/or collapses of the opposite
68 riverbank, entraining additional sediment into the river and facilitating landslide dam
69 formation. As a consequence of sustained upstream inflow and significant water-level rise,
70 the water impounded by a landslide dam usually creates a barrier lake, which may inundate
71 upstream land and infrastructure. Owing to its rather loose structure, a landslide dam formed
72 by granular materials can easily burst, leading to destructive downstream floods. Such
73 outburst floods from a barrier lake consist of highly mobile water-sediment mixtures, capable
74 of traveling long distances (sometimes beyond 100 km) at high velocity (exceeding 10 km/hr).
75 These events can cause high numbers of casualties and severe infrastructural damage (Ermini
76 and Casagli, 2003; Shang et al., 2003; Dai et al., 2005), due to their sudden onset, high
77 magnitude discharge, long runout distance, and their tendency to flow along existing river
78 channels where humans and property are concentrated (Carrivick, 2010; Cui et al., 2013).

79 Typical historical examples include the landslide dam outburst events in June 1786 at
80 the Dadu River, Sichuan, China, which is reported to have caused more than 100,000
81 fatalities (Dai et al., 2005; Lee and Dai, 2011), in October 1999 at the Poerua River, New
82 Zealand (Davis et al., 2007), in April-June 2000 at the Yigong Zangpo River, Tibetan, China
83 (Delaney and Evans, 2015), in May 2008 at Tangjiashan, Sichuan, China due to the
84 Wenchuan earthquake (Xu et al., 2009), and in October 2018 at Yarlung Tsangpo River in
85 Tibetan Plateau, China due to ice-avalanche (Chen et al., 2020). More recently, two major
86 landslides occurred successively on 10 October and 3 November 2018 (Fan et al., 2019b),
87 which created a natural dam that completely blocked the Jinsha River, followed by a barrier
88 lake filled by upstream runoff. On 12 October, the first barrier lake breached naturally with a
89 peak discharge of about 10,000 m³/s (Cai et al., 2019). The residual landslide dam was
90 replenished with sediment from the second landslide on 3 November, forming a larger barrier
91 lake than the first. On 11 November, following the urgent construction of a flood channel, the
92 second barrier lake breached artificially with a peak discharge of 33,900 m³/s.

93 Modelling the whole-process chain of a landslide-induced barrier lake flood is important
94 for two reasons. First, knowledge of the chain is useful in assessing the hazard and risk of
95 potential future landslide-induced barrier lake flood events. This is both salient and timely,
96 noting that climate change is promoting increased instability of high mountain slopes and has
97 accelerated increasing trends in the amount, intensity, and occurrence frequency of extreme
98 precipitation (Donat et al., 2013), which are likely to trigger more landslides. Second, the
99 whole-process chain is key to improving our understanding of such earth surface processes
100 that are prohibitively difficult to observe in nature owing to their sheer complexity. Physically,

101 a typical landslide-induced multi-hazard chain involves two distinct but intertwined processes:
102 aggradation through sediment deposition during landslide dam and barrier lake formation;
103 and degradation induced by sediment erosion during a barrier lake outburst and the
104 subsequent floods. Previous studies have mostly focused on one or two components of the
105 whole-process chain, whereas little work has been done on the whole-process chain
106 modelling.

107 Landslide dam and barrier lake formation represent the first part of the whole-process
108 chain. In general, existing models for resolving landslide dam and barrier lake formation can
109 be divided into two categories: discrete models and continuum models. Typical discrete
110 models like Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics - SPH (Shi et al., 2016; Xu et al., 2020) and
111 Materials Point Method two-phase models (Bandara and Soga, 2015) can be directly used for
112 modelling landslide dam and barrier lake formation. Other examples include coupled Discrete
113 Element Method landslide models and fluid flow models based on computational fluid
114 dynamics (Zhao et al., 2017), Lattice-Boltzmann Method (Leonardi et al., 2016), as well as
115 coupled Discontinuous Deformation Analysis and SPH models (Wang et al., 2017, 2019). Yet,
116 excessive computational costs preclude applications of these models to real field-scale cases.
117 As far as continuum models are concerned, although 3D models are available (e.g., Hu et al.,
118 2020), double layer-averaged models hold great promise for resolving landslide dam and
119 barrier lake formation due to their ability to represent the two-way coupling between
120 landslide motions and water flows (Abadie et al., 2012) and to achieve a sensible balance
121 between theoretical integrity and applicability (Li et al., 2019). It should be emphasized that
122 double layer-averaged models are automatically applicable when there is only a single-layer

123 flow, either clear-water flow or water-sediment mixture flow. Recently, a 2D double
124 layer-averaged two-phase flow model (Li et al., 2020) has been proposed for landslide dam
125 and barrier lake formation, which employs one set of layer-averaged single-phase flow
126 equations to describe the upper clear-water flow layer and a second set of layer-averaged
127 two-phase flow equations to describe the subaerial or subaqueous water-sediment mixture
128 flow layer. This model incorporates multiple grain size, inter-phase and inter-grain size
129 interactions, unlike previous double layer-averaged models that involve a single-phase flow
130 assumption and assume a single grain size (e.g., Skvortsov and Bornhold, 2007; Liu and He,
131 2016; Si et al., 2018; Li et al., 2019) and that ignore mass exchange with the bed, sediment
132 mass conservation and steep slope effect (e.g., Skvortsov and Bornhold, 2007; Si et al., 2018).
133 It is noted that the double layer-averaged single-phase model by Liu and He (2016)
134 incorporated mass exchange with the bed, but incorrectly added a term for actual momentum
135 exchange with the bed (see statement by Cao et al. 2017), and assumed constant sediment
136 concentration, which is in conflict with the sediment mass conservation law.

137 Overtopping flow with subsequent dam erosion is the most common trigger for a barrier
138 lake outburst (Costa and Schuster, 1988). Over the past few decades, substantial effort has
139 been devoted to improving the understanding of the mechanisms underpinning a barrier lake
140 outburst and the subsequent flood (Cao et al., 2011b). Particular attention has been paid to
141 landslide dam breaching due to its governing role in the generation and propagation of the
142 downstream flooding. According to ASCE/EWRI (2011), dam breach models can be
143 categorized as parametric models, simplified physically based models, and detailed
144 physically based models. Parametric models are derived purely from data collected from a

145 series of documented breaching events (e.g., Walder and O'Connor, 1997; Xu and Zhang,
146 2009; Peng and Zhang, 2012). Simplified physically based models, such as NWS BREACH
147 (Fread, 1988), WinDAM (Temple et al., 2005), HR BREACH (Morris et al., 2009), DABA
148 (Chang and Zhang, 2010), and DLBreach (Wu, 2013), predict outflow hydrographs from a
149 breaching dam. The accuracy of such predictions hinges upon predefined model assumptions
150 (most critically, weir flow assumption) and physical input parameters. Detailed physically
151 based models (Wang and Bowles, 2006a, b; Faeh, 2007; Wang et al., 2008; Cao et al., 2011b,
152 c; Wu et al., 2012; Huang et al. 2012; Li et al. 2013) incorporate the physical mechanisms of
153 a dam breach. Discharge and stage hydrographs as well as breach development can be
154 resolved without predefining or constraining the evolution process. It is noted that in order to
155 predict outburst downstream floods, it is customary for the aforementioned parametric and
156 simplified physically-based dam breach models to be integrated with flood routing models,
157 e.g., FLO-2D (O'Brien et al., 1993), HEC-RAS (USACE, 2016), and BASEMENT (Vetsch et
158 al., 2018). In contrast, detailed physically based models can resolve flow and sediment
159 transport throughout the entire computational domain (ASCE/EWRI, 2011).

160 Integrated modelling refers to individual modelling of specific processes within a
161 whole-process chain, with sub-model outputs of a single process used at each subsequent step
162 as input to the next process sub-model. A general disadvantage of this approach is that
163 transitions between different processes are not straightforward (Worni et al., 2014), and one
164 sub-model output may not exactly fit the required input for the next sub-model. Concurrently,
165 integrated modelling hinges upon the capability of the sub-models involved. Liu and He
166 (2018) tried to model the whole-process chain of the Yigong landslide by integrating a double

167 layer-averaged single-phase model (Liu and He, 2016) for landslide dam and barrier lake
168 formation and a conventional single layer-averaged single-phase model (e.g., Cao et al., 2004)
169 for a dam breach and subsequent flood routing. Fan et al. (2020a) conducted an integrated
170 modelling study on the Baige landslide-induced multi-hazard chain using a MassFlow
171 sub-model for landslide movement, a DABA sub-model (Chang and Zhang, 2010) for dam
172 breaching, and a one-dimensional HEC-RAS sub-model for downstream flood routing.
173 Inevitably, the integrated model is constrained by the capability of each sub-model. For
174 instance, the MassFlow sub-model is a single layer-averaged single-phase flow model for
175 landslide movement, and so cannot resolve landslide-induced waves and barrier lake
176 formation that involve strong interactions between landslide motion and river flow.

177 Overall, a single state-of-the-art model that properly couples all physical processes is the
178 way forward (Worni et al., 2014). In this regard, a 2D double layer-averaged two-phase flow
179 model appears particularly attractive, noting that such a model has previously been applied
180 successfully to landslide dam and barrier lake formation caused by a landslide impacting a
181 river (Li et al., 2020), and that its single-phase predecessor was applied for a barrier lake
182 outburst and subsequent flood (Li et al., 2013). Here the hydro-sediment-morphodynamic
183 processes of the Baige landslide-induced multi-hazard chain are investigated using the model
184 of Li et al. (2020). First, we aim to benchmark the model against field observations of
185 landslide-generated waves, landslide dam morphology, stage and discharge hydrographs in
186 2018. The role of water and grains in the whole processes is evaluated. Second, we aim to
187 unravel the effects of inflow discharge and landslide volume on the multi-hazard chain as
188 unstable rock mass clusters in the source area of the Baige landslides may fail in the future,

189 characterizing potential for river damming and flooding (Fan et al., 2020a). To the authors'
190 knowledge, this is the first whole-field and whole-process modelling study of the Baige
191 landslide-induced multi-hazard chain using a single physically based model (Li et al., 2020),
192 unlike existing studies on a part of the whole-process chain (Hu et al., 2020; L. Zhang et al.,
193 2019; Zhong et al., 2020; Fan et al., 2020a). Most notably, the present work does not involve
194 presumptions regarding the onset of landslide dam outburst and of the breach/scour pattern
195 and discharge estimation by analogy to weir flow, which have prevailed for several decades
196 and bear excessive uncertainty.

197

198 **2. Baige barrier lake**

199 In 2018, the Jinsha River, the upper course of the Yangtze River, was blocked by two
200 successive landslides that occurred on 10 October and 3 November (Fig. 1). At 22:00 on 10
201 October (Beijing time, UTC + 8 throughout the paper), a large landslide occurred on the right
202 bank of the Jinsha River, at Baige village, located at the border between Sichuan Province
203 and Tibet Autonomous Region, China (98°42'17.98" E 31°4'56.41" N). The first landslide
204 had a total material volume of about 27.5 million m³ (Cai et al. 2019), the majority of which
205 formed a landslide dam of bed length ~1500 m and crest width ~ 700 m (Fig. 2a), aligned
206 stream-wise and transverse respectively with the river. The dam crest elevation ranged from
207 3005 m above mean sea level at the left bank to 2931 m at the right bank. This landslide dam
208 completely blocked the Jinsha River, for the first time in recent history. As the inflow
209 discharge reached 1680 m³/s (Cai et al., 2019), the water level rose rapidly, leading to the

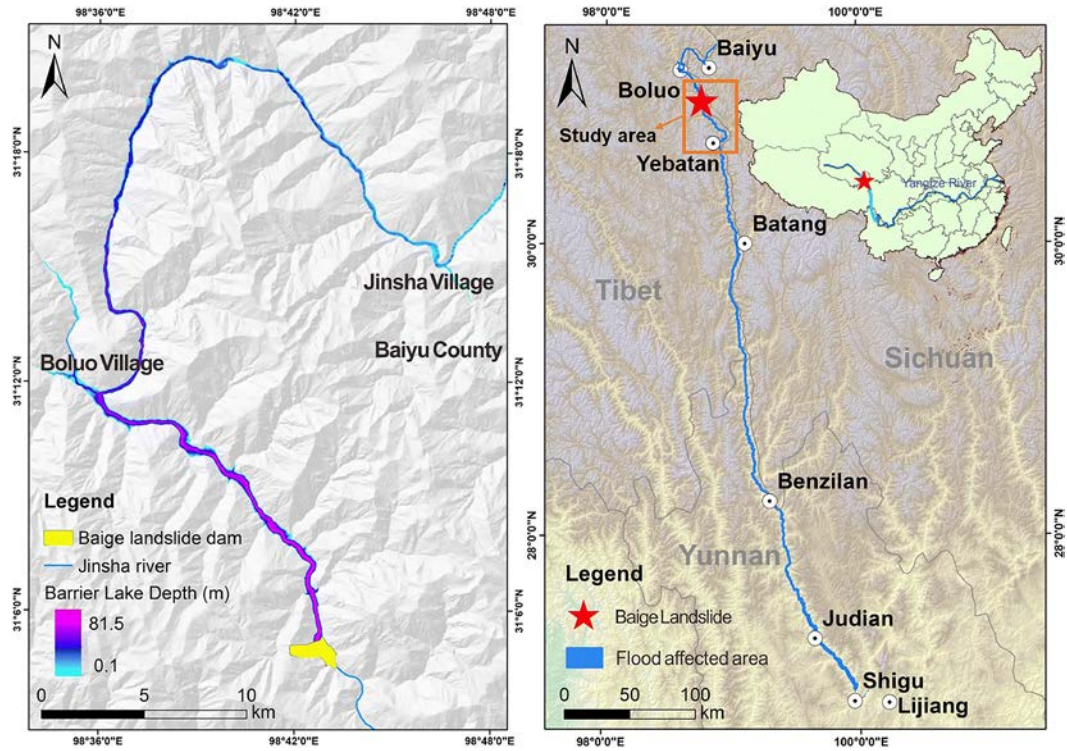
210 formation of a barrier lake, called the “10.10” Baige barrier lake. The landslide dam
211 overtopped naturally at 17:30, 12 October, and underwent breaching for about 21 hrs (Fig.
212 2b). Details of the breaching process have been documented as follows. The breaching flow
213 discharge was less than 100 m³/s before 20:00 on October 12. By 00:45 on October 13, the
214 water level in the barrier lake reached a maximum of 2932.7 m above mean sea level,
215 corresponding to a water storage volume of 290 million m³. The overflow increased
216 significantly after 01:00 on October 13. At 06:00 on October 13, the breaching flow peaked
217 at about 10,000 m³/s (Cai et al. 2019). Afterwards, the breaching flow gradually attenuated
218 and returned to base flow by about 14:00 on October 13. The natural breach of the “10.10”
219 Baige barrier lake resulted in a flood that caused huge damage to towns in its downstream
220 path. Many houses, roads, and bridges were damaged or even destroyed, and more than
221 20,000 people had to be evacuated.

222 About 3 weeks after the natural breach of the first barrier lake, a second landslide, caused
223 by reactivation of residual material left behind by the first landslide, occurred at the same site
224 at 17:15 on 3 November. Landslide material was deposited on the earlier natural breaching
225 channel and blocked the Jinsha River once again (Fig. 3a). The second landslide had an initial
226 volume of about 3.5 million m³, and an additional entrainment volume of about 8.5 million
227 m³. The average height of the new landslide dam was 50 m higher than its predecessor, and
228 its lowest crest elevation was approximately 2966 m above mean sea level. With an incoming
229 flow discharge of about 800 m³/s, the water level increased continuously, forming the
230 so-called “11.03” Baige barrier lake. As the second landslide had raised the overall height of
231 the landslide dam, the threat posed by the second barrier lake was higher than by the first lake.

232 To mitigate flood risk, an artificial flood channel, 220 m long, 15 m deep, 42 m top width,
233 and 3 m bottom width, was constructed at the lowest crest of the second landslide dam,
234 reducing its bed elevation to 2951 m (Fig. 3b). With this flood channel in place, the landslide
235 dam overtopped at 04:45 on 12 November, and the breaching process lasted over 50 hrs (Fig.
236 3c, d). The peak dam breach flow discharge reached 33,900 m³/s at 18:20 on 12 November.
237 At the dam site, the discharge returned to a base flow level by 08:00 on 14 November. The
238 outburst flood destroyed many bridges along the Jinsha river including the Old Zhubalong
239 Jinsha Bridge connecting a key highway between Sichuan and Tibet, inundated numerous
240 towns, and led to the urgent evacuation of over 100,000 people.

241 The study area of the present work extends from approximately 6 km upstream of the
242 Baige landslide dam site to Yebatan gauging station (54 km downstream of the Baige
243 landslide dam site), and includes a ~ 60 km long reach of the Jinsha river (Fig. 1).

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245

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Fig. 1. Location of Baige barrier lake, Jinsha River, China (adapted from Fan et al., 2020a):

247

(a) upstream areas inundated by barrier lake; (b) towns affected by downstream flooding (the

248

orange box indicates the study area).

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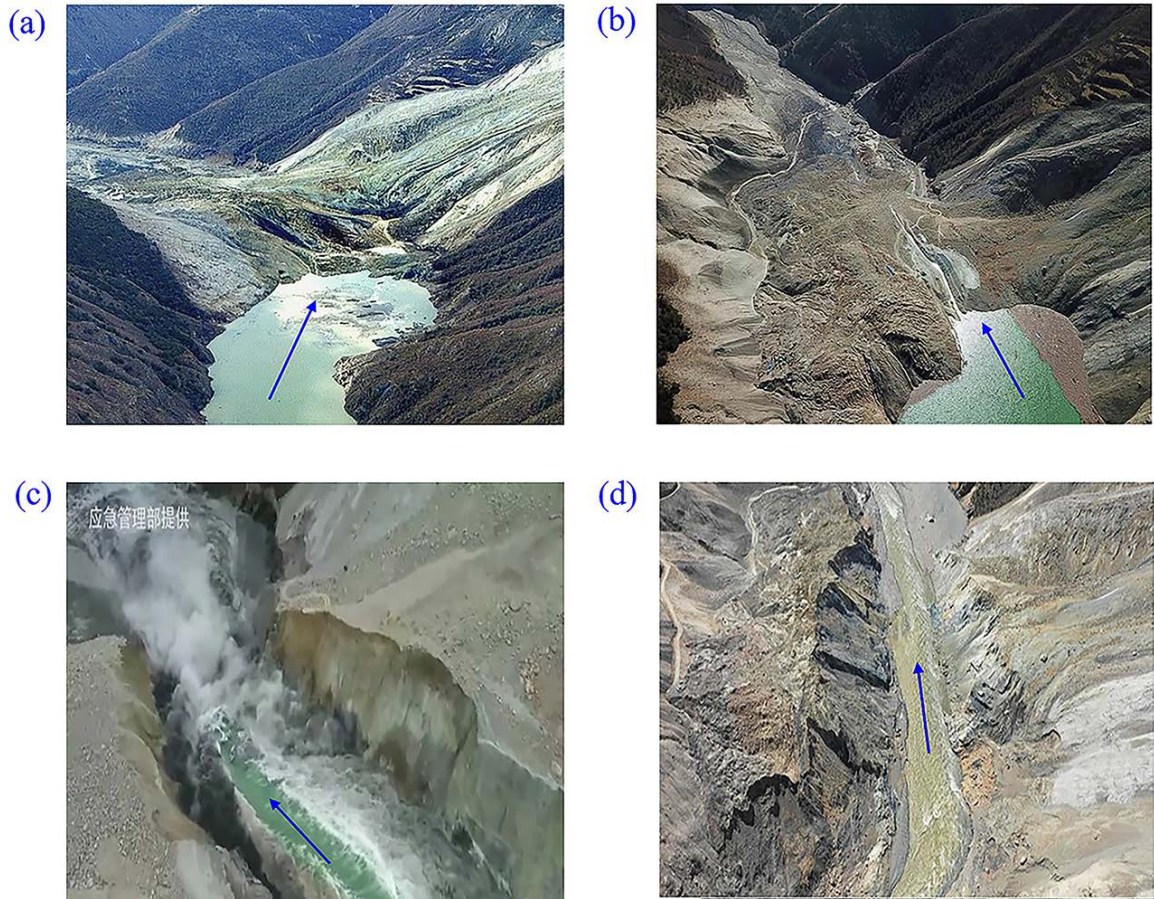
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Fig.2. “10.10” Baige barrier lake: (a) formation; (b) after breaching. (photo courtesy of Chinanews.com).



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Fig. 3. “11.03” Baige barrier lake: (a) formation; (b) with artificial flood channel; (c) during breaching; (d) after breaching (photo courtesy of a CCTV.com; b Red Star News; c Ministry of Emergency Management of China; d L. Zhang et al., 2019).

258

259 **3. Modelling method**

260 *3.1. Mathematical model*

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A recent state-of-the-art 2D double layer-averaged two-phase model (Li et al., 2020) is used to resolve the whole-process chain concerning the Baige events, commencing from landslide-generated waves, to landslide dam and barrier lake formation as the landslide impacted the Jinsha river, and thence to the outburst of the barrier lake and subsequent flood propagation downstream.

266 Li et al. (2020) provide a detailed description of the 2D double layer-averaged two-phase
267 flow model equations, model closure, and the numerical algorithm. Briefly, the model has
268 been constructed according to continuum mechanics principles, and explicitly incorporates
269 multiple grain sizes, sediment mass conservation, mass exchange with the bed, and interphase
270 and inter-grain size interactions. To close the model, a set of relationships is introduced to
271 determine shear stresses, water entrainment, interaction forces, and sediment exchange fluxes.
272 It should be noted that all the closure relations used in the double layer-averaged two-phase
273 flow model have been established in the general field of shallow water
274 hydro-sediment-morphodynamics. Although the model incorporates first-order factors, such
275 as gravitation, resistance, inter-phase and inter-grain size interactions, higher-order factors
276 such as non-Newtonian liquid viscous stress (Pudasaini, 2012), viscous particle resuspension
277 (Reeks and Hall, 2001) and shear-induced particle migration (Morris, 2009), are yet to be
278 included in the model.

279

280 *3.2. Model set-up*

281 In this study, in order to improve computational efficiency, the whole-process chain
282 concerning the Baige barrier lake events of 2018 has been divided into Phase I: “10.10”
283 Baige barrier lake event, and Phase II: “11.03” Baige barrier lake event. This is reasonable
284 given the more than three-week gap between the two events. For Phase I, the pre-sliding bed
285 topography was reconstructed using a 15m-resolution DEM (Digital Elevation Model). The
286 total duration of the Phase I simulation was 72 hrs, from 22:00 on 10 October to 22:00 on 13
287 October. For Phase II, the bed morphology resulting from the first event was used as the

288 initial bed topography. The total duration of the Phase II simulation was 260 hrs, from 17:15
289 on 3 November to 13:15 on 14 November. For each phase, time $t = 0$ s coincided with the
290 instant that the relevant landslide began to occur. The position and thickness of the initial
291 landslide body were estimated from the post-landslide field survey (Cai et al., 2019). Water
292 level elevation and velocity prior to landslide were determined by maintaining a constant
293 base flow at the inlet boundary. From the landslide deposit investigation by L. Zhang et al.
294 (2019), the bulk porosity $p = 0.45$, median grain size $d_{50} \approx 10$ mm, grain density $\rho_s =$
295 2700 kg/m^3 . According to the grain size distribution measured by L. Zhang et al. (2019), the
296 sediment mixture was separated into two size fractions: $d_1 = 1$ mm (60%) and $d_2 = 20$ mm
297 (40%), with mean diameter d_m of 8.6 mm.

298 The friction angle $\delta = 35^\circ$, the Manning coefficients for bed roughness $n_b = 0.04$
299 $\text{m}^{-1/3} \text{ s}$, interface roughness $n_w = 0.01 \text{ m}^{-1/3} \text{ s}$, the empirical weighting parameter $\varphi = 0.65$,
300 and the modification coefficient $\phi = 1$ were calibrated to the observed landslide dam
301 morphology and breaching flow discharge after the first landslide, and then directly applied
302 to the second barrier lake event. The inflow discharge of clear water (Q_i) was kept constant
303 throughout each phase of the simulation, i.e. $Q_i = 1680 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ for Phase I, and $Q_i = 800$
304 m^3/s for Phase II. The clear water velocity and layer thickness at the inlet were determined by
305 the method of characteristics. At the outlet, either the method of characteristics was used to
306 obtain updated values of the flow variables under subcritical flow conditions, or zero flow
307 variable gradients imposed for supercritical flows (Liang and Borthwick, 2009). Within the
308 time period considered, the landslides did not reach the computational boundaries, and so the
309 landslide boundary conditions were simply set at the initial static state. The overall

310 dimensions of the computational domain were 35 km × 20 km, and a fixed uniform mesh of
 311 spatial increment 20 m was adopted. The x - and y - directions are aligned north-south
 312 and east-west, respectively. The Courant number, Cr , was set to 0.4.

313 To quantify the error of a numerical solution as compared with measured data, the
 314 non-dimensional discrepancy is defined based on the L^1 norm

$$315 \quad L_f^1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \text{abs}(\bar{f}_i - \hat{f}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N \bar{f}_i} \quad (1)$$

316 where the symbol f represents physical variables such as bed deformation thickness and
 317 flow discharge; N is the number of measured data; \bar{f} denotes numerical solution,
 318 whereas \hat{f} represents measured data.

319

320 **4. Results**

321 *4.1. Phase I: the “10.10” Baige barrier lake event*

322 First, the Phase I “10.10” Baige barrier lake event is reconstructed, commencing from
 323 landslide-generated waves, and landslide dam and barrier lake formation, through to the
 324 barrier lake outburst and downstream flood propagation. Multiple anticipated scenarios
 325 concerning effects of inflow discharge and initial landslide volume are considered, and
 326 sensitivity analysis to evaluate the effects of bed friction coefficient $\tan \delta$ and Manning
 327 roughness coefficient n_b are conducted.

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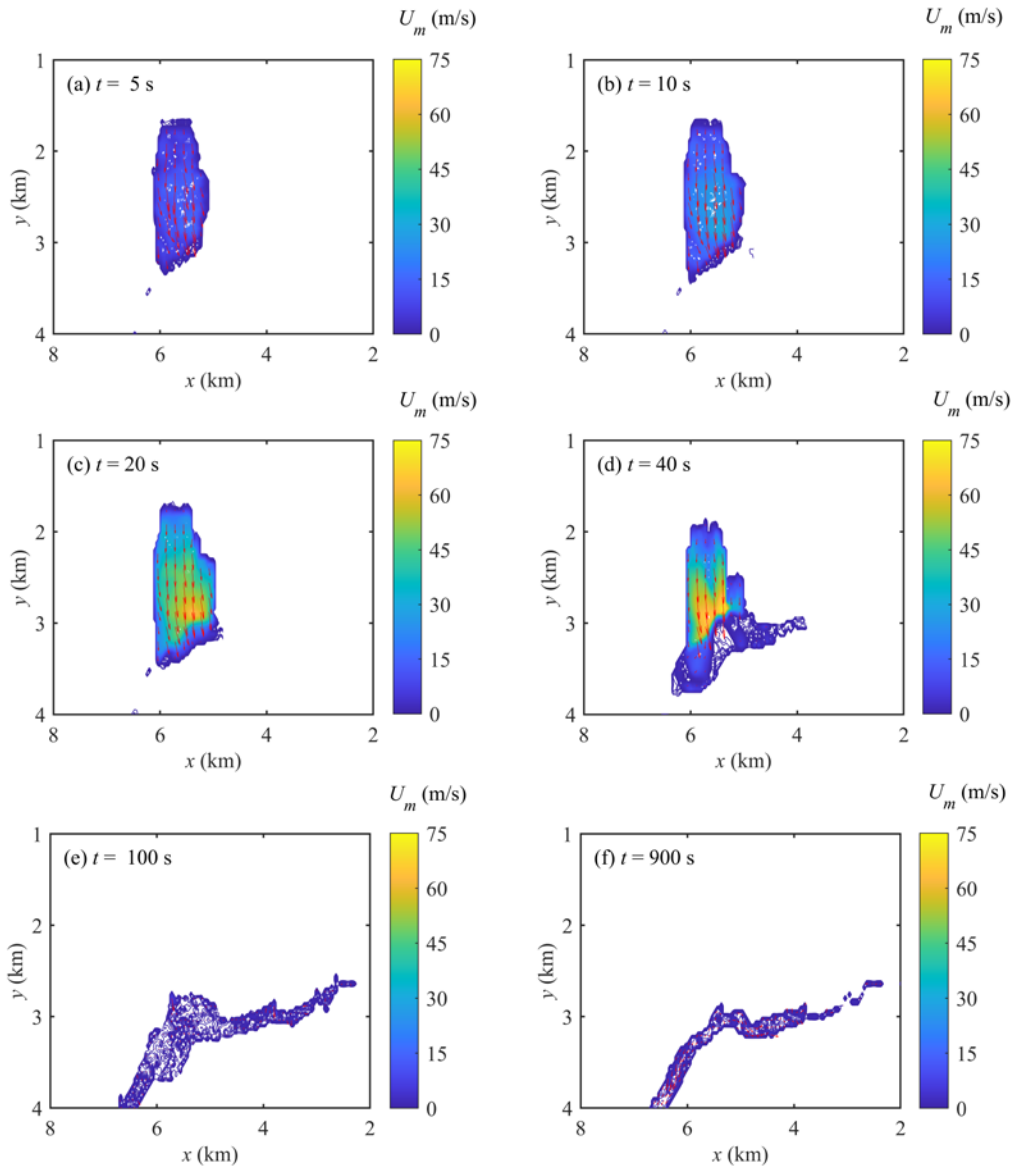
329 *4.1.1. Landslide movement and wave generation*

330 According to the field survey and analysis of broadband seismograms undertaken by Z.
331 Zhang et al. (2019), the peak velocity of the landslide during its runout was recorded at the
332 nearest seismological station within 100 s. Fig. 4 shows the predicted evolution of landslide
333 velocity U_m ($=\sqrt{u_m^2 + v_m^2}$, where u_m and v_m are the layer-averaged horizontal velocity
334 components of the water-sediment mixture in the landslide in the x - and y -directions.
335 After initiation, the sliding mass accelerates eastwards down the hillslope alongside the
336 Jinsha river, and first arrives at the water surface at $t = 20$ s when the landslide front has a
337 speed of approximately 62 m/s and has not yet reached its maximum (Fig. 4c). The rear of the
338 landslide continues to push the front further into the river channel. By $t = 40$ s, most of the
339 landslide material has impacted the river and is generating waves; meanwhile, the direction of
340 travel of the landslide material is diverted downstream with a maximum sliding mass speed
341 of approximately 72 m/s (Fig. 4d). The predicted maximum speed is close to alternative
342 computed results (≈ 75 m/s) by Hu et al. (2020) using Flow-3D software. Subsequently, the
343 landslide gradually decelerates, resulting in decreased landslide speed and thickness due to
344 rapid deposition of the landslide material (Fig. 4(e-f)). Notably, at $t = 100$ s, landslide
345 movement has almost come to a halt with its maximum speed falling below 2 m/s, echoing
346 the findings from the field survey and analysis of broadband seismogram signals (Z. Zhang et
347 al., 2019). By $t = 900$ s, the landslide thickness has almost vanished, indicating that most of
348 the landslide material has been deposited on the riverbed and a landslide dam formed.

349 After the landslide impacts the Jinsha River, the river surface is disturbed, generating
350 large waves. These landslide-generated waves are initially forced by inertia of the high-speed

351 sliding mass, with water displaced soon after the sliding mass crashes into the river channel.
352 Along with the sliding mass, the generated waves tend to run up the opposite bank in the
353 direction of the landslide run-out. After a landslide-generated wave moves to its maximum
354 elevation on the opposite bank, water then flows back into the watercourse. As evident in
355 Table 1, the computed results provide a satisfactory match to field observations by Cai et al.
356 (2019) of the maximum run-up elevation of the landslide-generated waves and the size of the
357 area affected by the waves on the opposite bank. Fig. 5 shows predicted water level
358 hydrographs at Points A, B, and C along the river course, which indicate the propagation of
359 landslide-generated waves downstream and upstream of the “10.10” Baige landslide in the
360 Jinsha River. The hydrographs indicate that the waves propagate as bores with steep front and
361 flattening rear. The maximum elevation of the water level at point B rise to 2950 m, exceeding
362 the initial water surface by about 90 m. The maximum water level reaches 2919 m at point A
363 and 2900 m at point C, indicating that the landslide-generated waves may produce more
364 serious hazards in the downstream zone. The initial rises in water level at points B and C
365 occur almost simultaneously, showing that the main entry position of the sliding mass is
366 situated in the near upstream zone.

367



368

369 **Fig. 4.** Phase I “10.10” Baige landslide impacting Jinsha river: model predictions of landslide
 370 velocity field at times $t =$ (a) 5 s, (b) 10 s, (c) 20 s, (d) 40 s, (e) 100 s, and (f) 900 s.

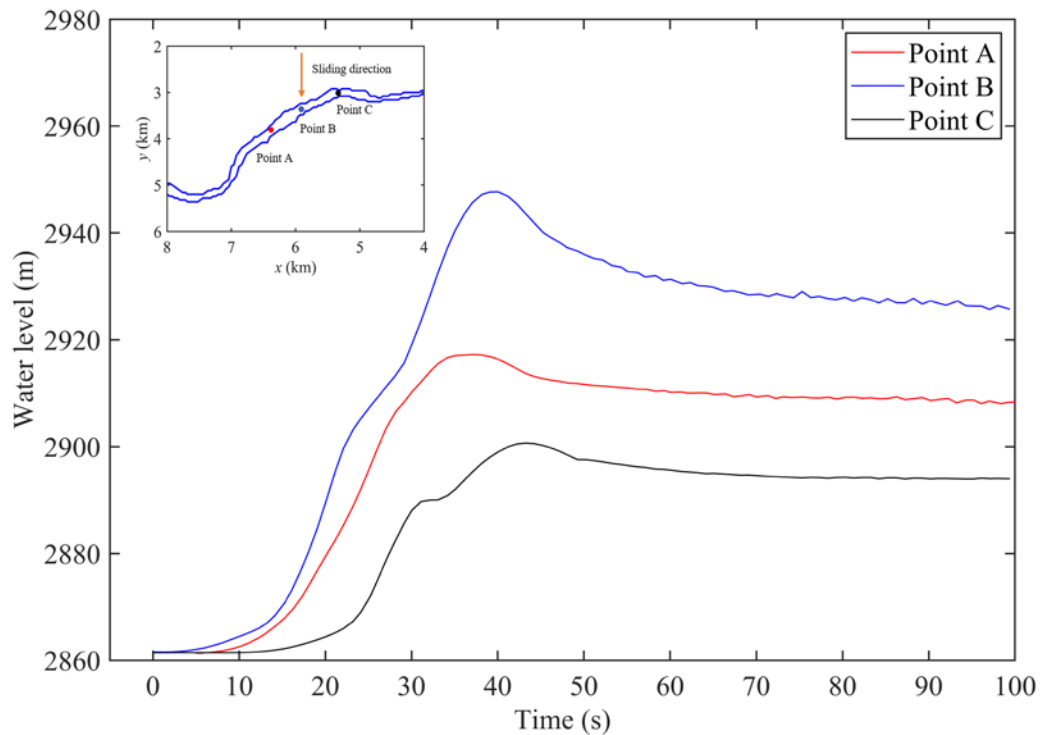
371

372 **Table 1** “10.10” Baige landslide-generated wave run-up on the opposite bank

| Results | Computed | Measured |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Maximum elevation (m) | 3051.8 | 3065 |
| Affected region | Length (m) | 1500 |
| | Area (10^4 m^2) | 37.6 |

373

* Observed data from Cai et al. (2019)



374

375 **Fig. 5.** Phase I “10.10” Baige landslide-generated waves: predicted water level hydrographs
 376 at three locations in the Jinsha river near Baige, Sichuan, China.

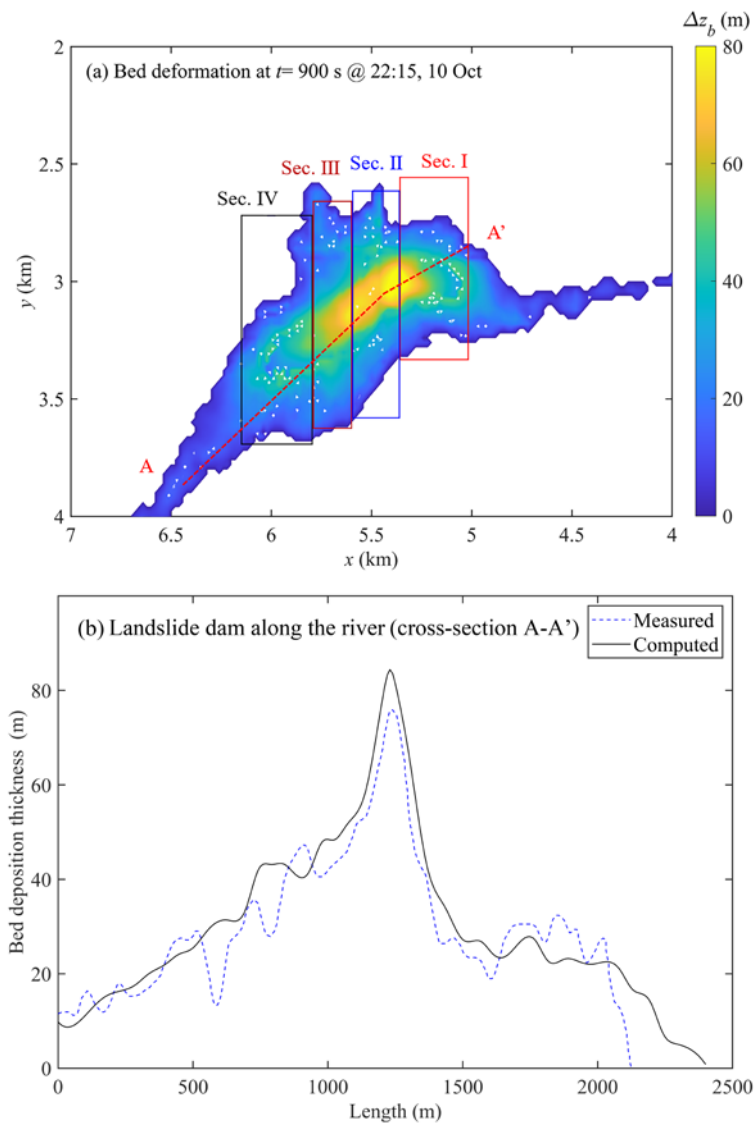
377

378 *4.1.2. Landslide dam and barrier lake formation*

379 Fig. 6(a) displays the landslide dam morphology, represented by deformation of the
 380 original bed, at $t = 900$ s. In general, the dam body is higher at the left bank than at the right
 381 bank. The landslide dam body is divided into four longitudinal sections (I, II, III, and IV) in
 382 the river flow direction, following Cai et al. (2019). Table 2 shows the consistent agreement
 383 obtained between the computed and measured elevations above sea level and lengths of the
 384 four longitudinal sections. Fig. 6(b) presents the predicted cross-section thickness profile at
 385 A-A' (Fig. 6a) of the landslide dam along the river, along with measured data from Fan et al.
 386 (2020a). Although discrepancies are appreciable between the present modelling and observed

387 data, the landslide dam morphology predicted by the present model is in good overall
 388 agreement with the measured data. In particular, the computed maximum dam height is 84.2
 389 m, slightly higher than the measured value of 81.4 m. Quantitatively, the value of the L^1
 390 norm for bed deposition thickness $L_{bd}^1 = 12.45\%$

391



392 **Fig. 6.** “10.10” Baige landslide dam geometry: (a) bed deformation at $t = 900$ s predicted
 393 by present model; and (b) cross-section profile of landslide dam in the original river
 394 stream-wise direction (A-A’): model prediction (solid line) and measured data from Fan et al.
 395 (2020a) (dashed line).
 396

397

398

Table 2 Summary of “10.10” Baige landslide dam morphology

| Section | Elevation (m) | | Length (m) | |
|---------|---------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | Computed | Measured* | Computed | Measured* |
| I | 2996~3012 | 2998~3005 | 410 | 412 |
| II | 2965~2978 | 2973~2977 | 220 | 206 |
| III | 2963~2981 | 2977 | 250 | 215 |
| IV | 2943~2953 | 2948~2951 | 450 | 421 |

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* Observed data from Cai et al. (2019)

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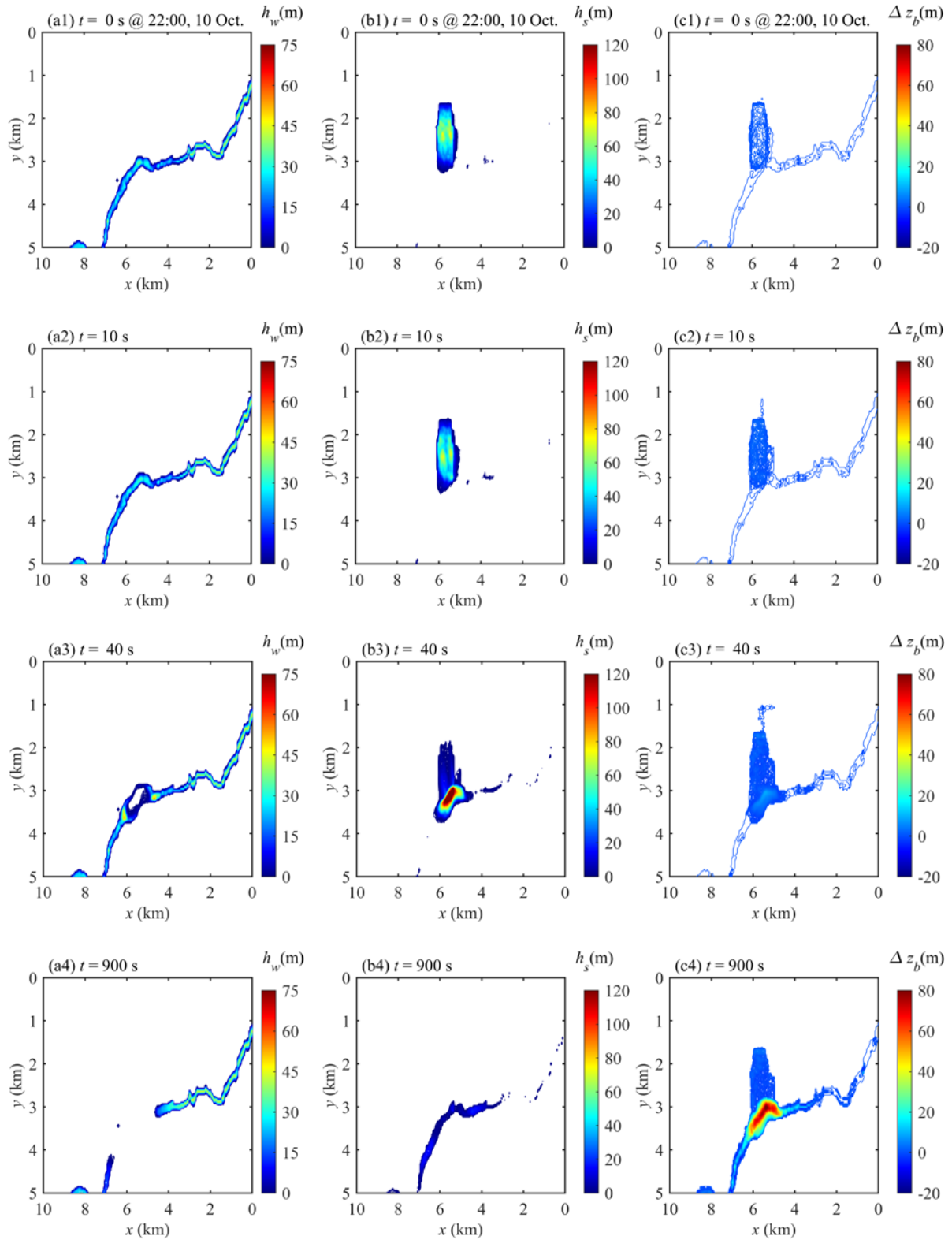
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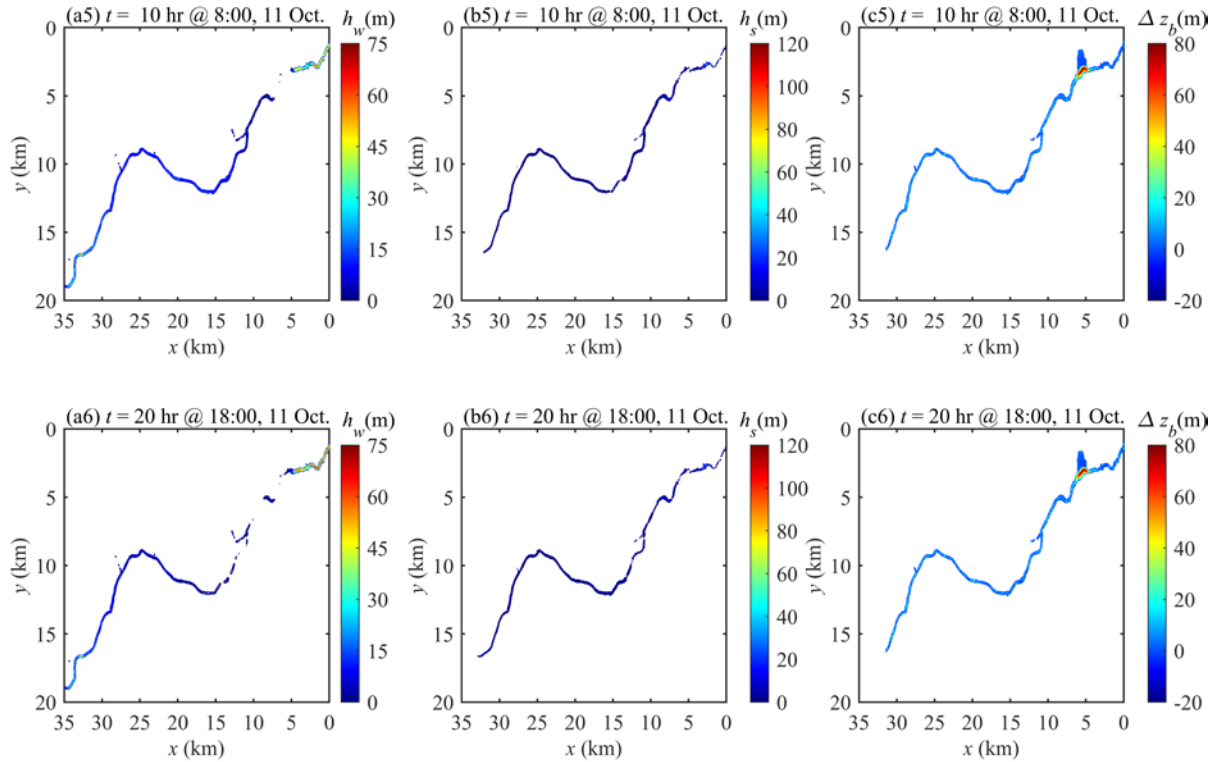
413

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415

Fig. 7 shows the landslide dam and barrier lake formation process due to the “10.10” Baige landslide impacting the Jinsha river as the water layer depth h_w , landslide layer thickness h_s , and bed deformation Δz_b evolve with time. The landslide first accelerates down the hillslope ramp (Figs. 7 a1-a2, b1-b2), then directly crashing into the river, and forcing the water to run up the opposite bank while generating large water waves (Figs. 7 a3, b3 and c3). Later, most of the landslide material is rapidly deposited on the riverbed, forming a landslide dam (Figs. 7 a4, b4 and c4). Meanwhile, water waves significantly erode the opposite riverbank (Fig. 7 c4), entraining more sediment into the river and further facilitating landslide dam formation. Soon after the landslide dam forms, a barrier lake is created due to the river blockage, and the volume of this lake gradually increases thereafter due to the sustained upstream inflow, as shown in Figs. 7(a5 and a6). During this stage, waves propagate back and forth upstream of the dam, affected by a combination of the sustained river inflow and the sudden arrival of the dam. By contrast, waves downstream of the landslide dam exhibit one-way propagation downstream adding to riverbed erosion.





417

418 **Fig. 7.** “10.10” Baige landslide dam and barrier lake formation: (a1-a6) depth of water layer;
 419 (b1-b6) landslide thickness; and (c1-c6) bed deformation.

420

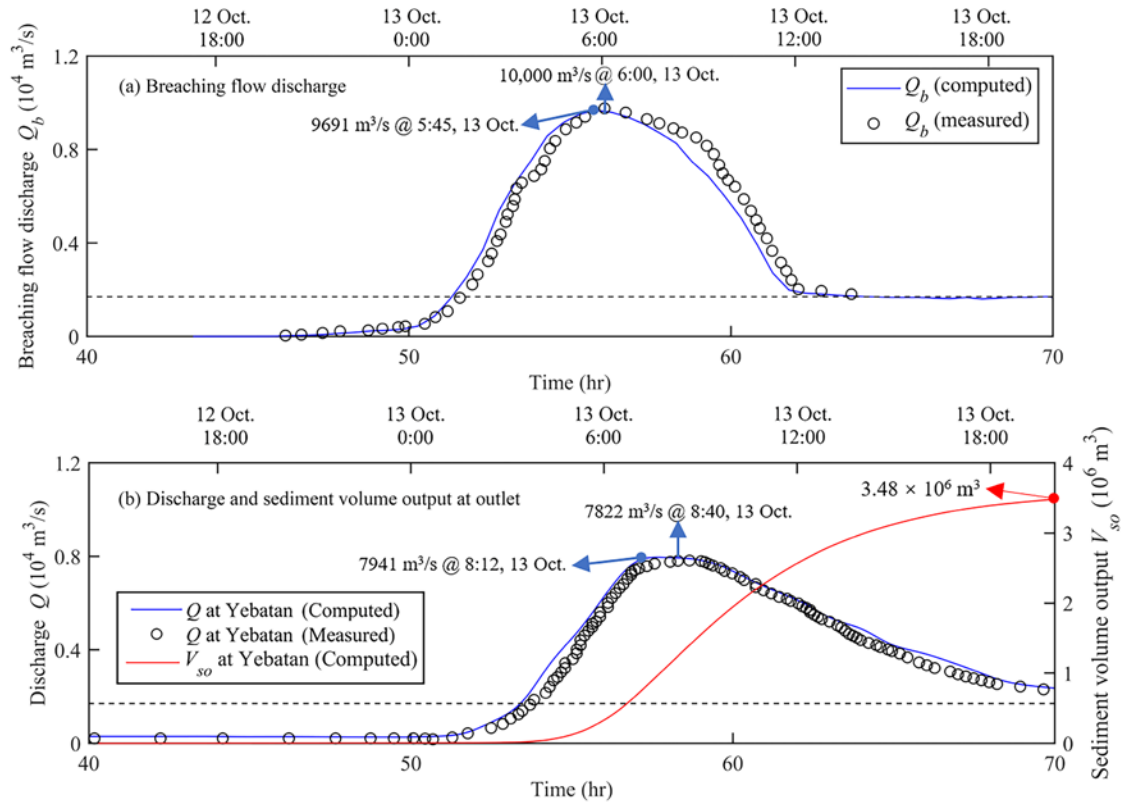
421 *4.1.3. Barrier lake outburst and the resultant flood*

422 The “10.10” Baige landslide dam was overtopped naturally at 17:30, 12 October. This
 423 overtopping flow increased drastically at midnight (00:00, 13 October), reached a peak value
 424 of approximately 10,000 m³/s at about 06:00 on 13 October, and returned to base flow at
 425 14:30 on 13 October. Fig. 8(a) shows the excellent agreement obtained between the predicted
 426 breach flow hydrograph with the observed data reported by Cai et al. (2019). The predicted
 427 peak discharge of 9691 m³/s occurs at 05:45 on 13 October, and is slightly below the
 428 observed peak of 10,000 m³/s and 15 mins earlier than the observed time (06:00 on 13
 429 October). The present model offers improved accuracy over simplified physically-based
 430 models (such as that of L. Zhang et al., 2019). Fig. 8(b) presents computed and measured

431 discharge hydrographs at the downstream gauging station at Yebatan, along with computed
432 sediment volume output time series. Again, the model predictions closely match the measured
433 data. It can be seen that the peak discharge is attenuated along the river. At Yebatan, the
434 predicted peak discharge is 7941 m³/s at 8:12 on 13 October, whereas the observed maximum
435 discharge is 7822 m³/s at 8:40 on 13 October. Thereafter, the discharge gradually reduces to
436 base flow. By the end of “10.10” Baige barrier lake event, it is estimated that 3.48×10^6 m³ of
437 sediments have been flushed downstream due to the outburst flood, thus the bulk aggradation
438 in the river course between Baige dam site and Yebatan amounts to 2.4×10^7 m³ [= 2.75×10^7
439 m³ (total volume of “10.10” Baige landslide) – 3.48×10^6 m³ (sediment volume output)]. The
440 L^1 norms for breaching flow discharge hydrograph $L_{Q_b}^1$ and flow discharge hydrograph at
441 Yebatan gauging station L_Q^1 are respectively 15.3% and 16.25%.

442 Fig. 9 presents the simulated time series of water levels at the barrier lake and several
443 sites downstream of the landslide dam. Due to bursting of the barrier lake, its water level,
444 indicated by the dashed line, decreases by over 27 m, which is consistent with the observed
445 value in excess of 20 m reported by media. Water levels at locations downstream of the
446 landslide dam site generally experience a sharp increase due to the arrival of the outburst
447 flood and then a relatively flatter decrease with time. Similar to the peak discharge (Fig. 8),
448 the amplitude of water level rise becomes increasingly attenuated with distance along the
449 river (the value decreases from 28 m at a location 5 km downstream of the dam to 13.5 m at
450 Yebatan).

451



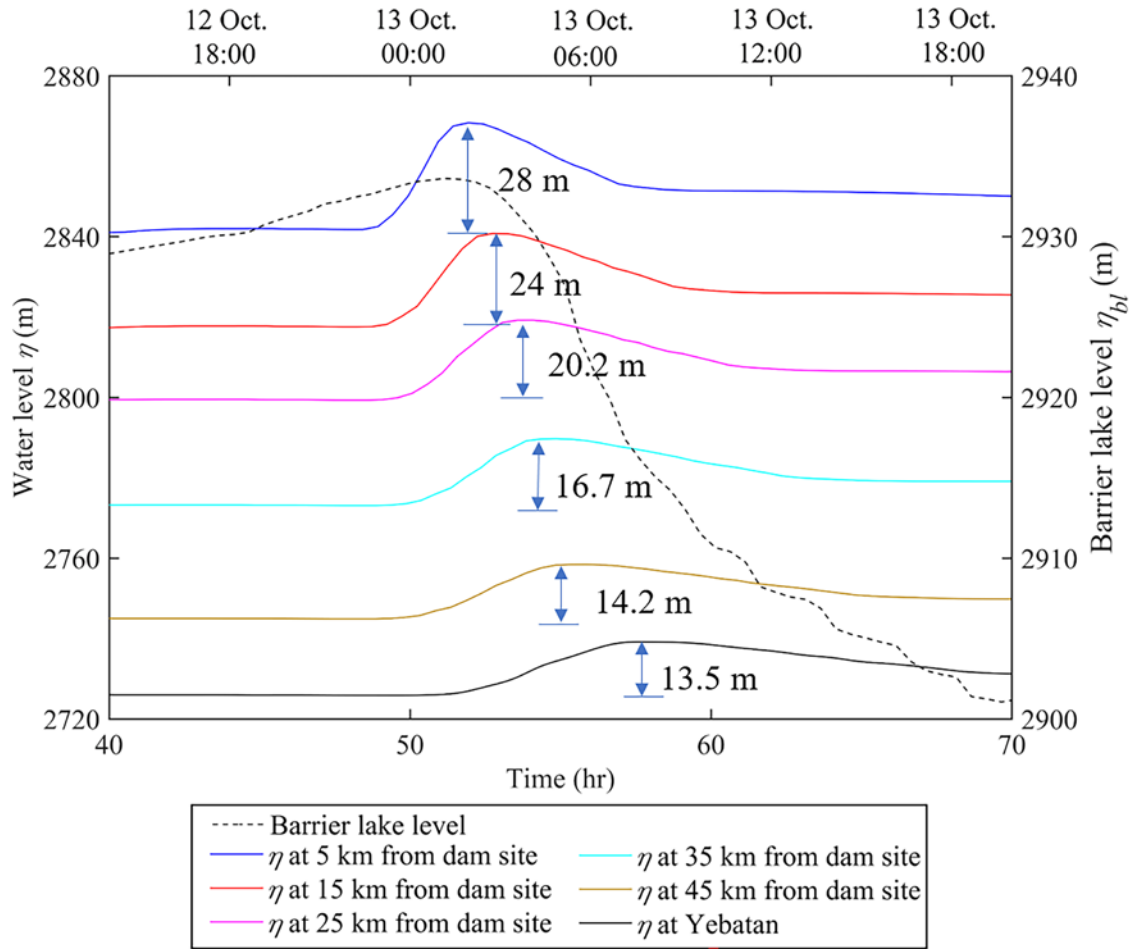
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453

Fig. 8. (a) Breaching flow discharge hydrograph and (b) flow discharge hydrograph and sediment volume output time series at the Yabatan gauging station: model predictions (solid lines) and measured data from Cai et al. (2019) (open black circles).

455

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Fig. 9. Water level time series at the barrier lake and selected sites downstream of the “10.10” Baige landslide dam.

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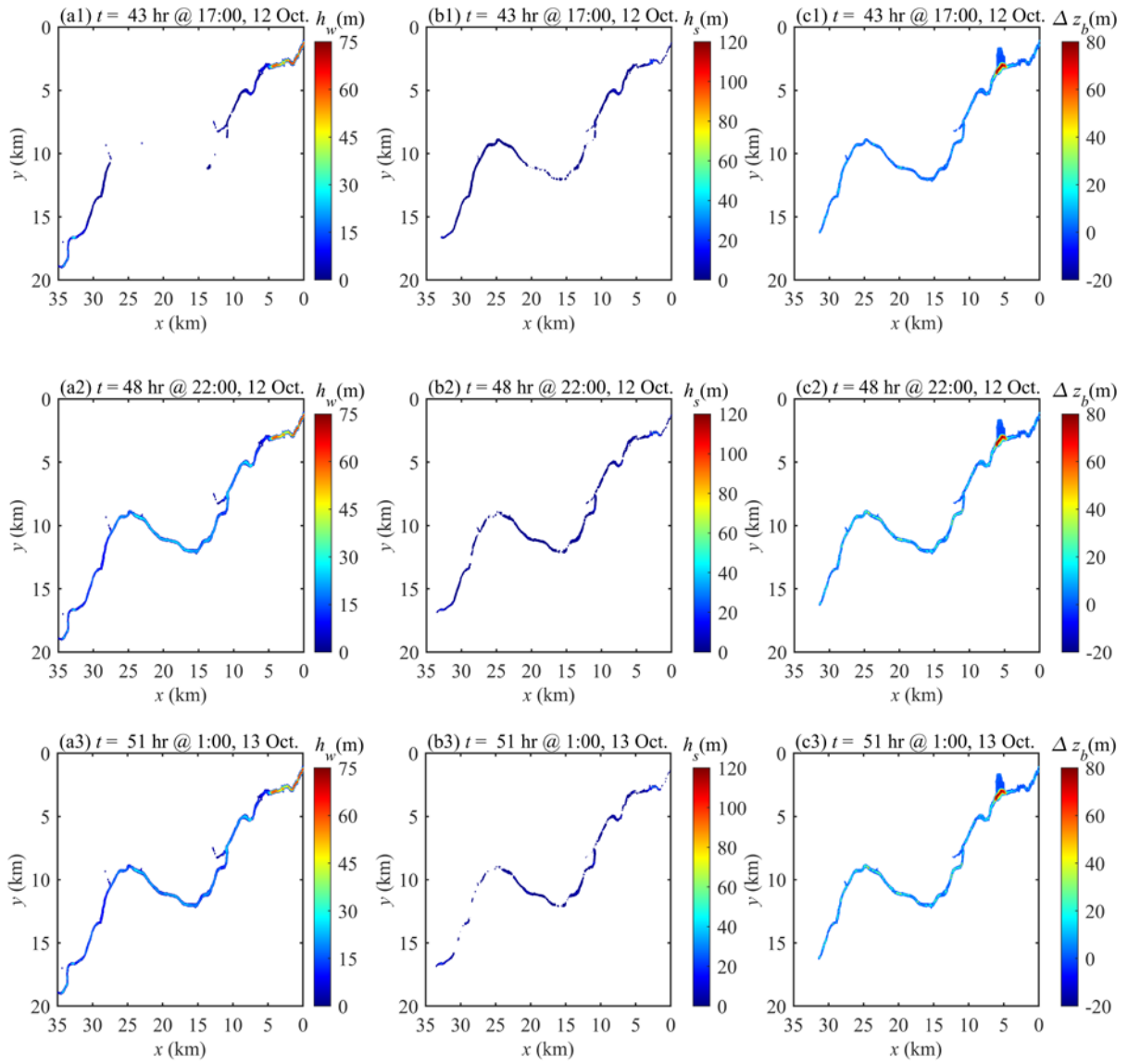
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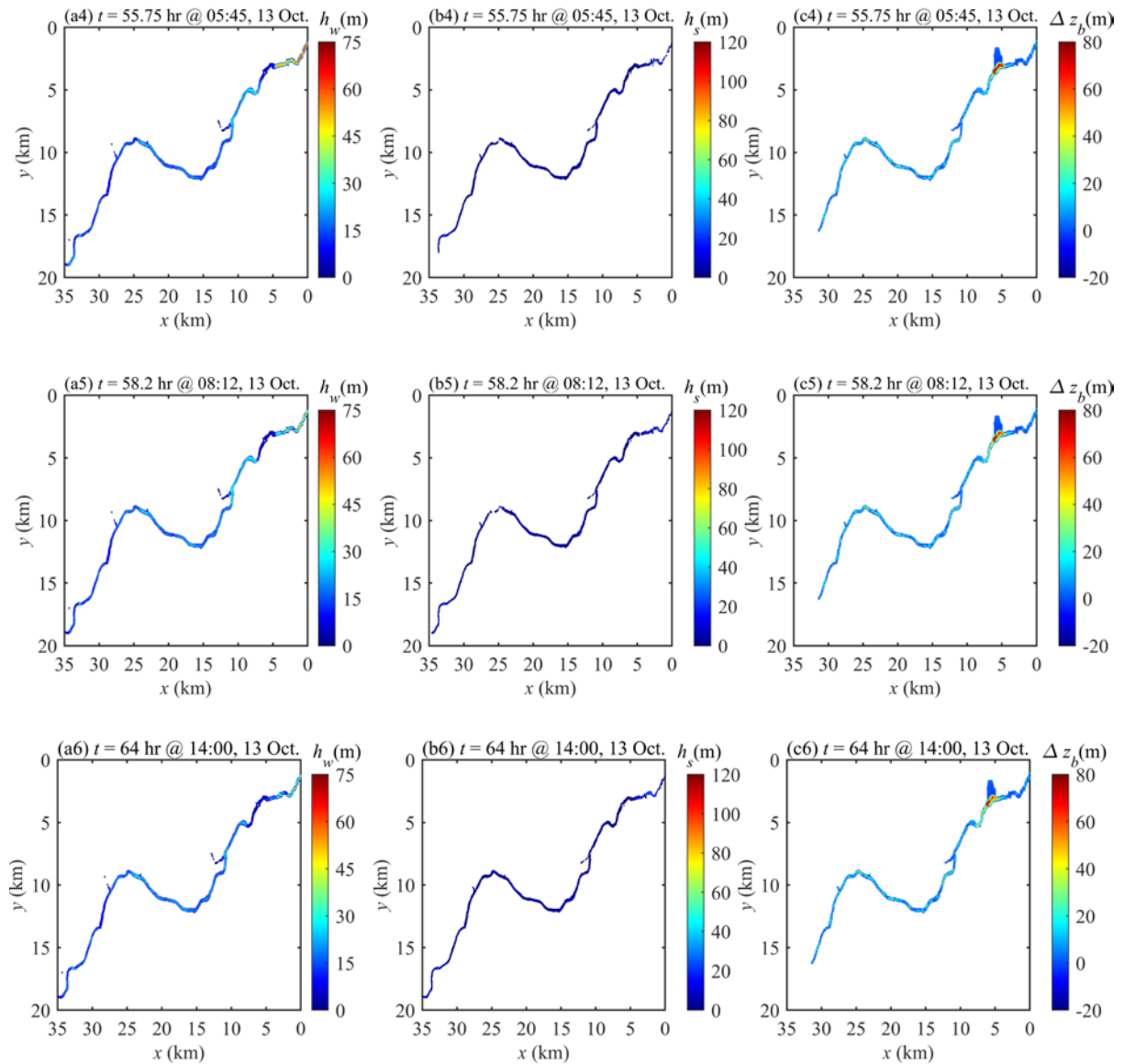
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Fig. 10 presents contour plots of the water depth, sediment layer thickness, and changes to bed elevation at different times throughout the barrier lake outburst and subsequent flood processes. Once the barrier lake fills with upstream river inflow, the lake’s water level exceeds the crest of the dam and overtopping begins (Fig. 10a1, $t = 43$ hr at 17: 00 on 12 October), and the landslide dam body is slightly eroded (Fig. 10c1). The predicted time of first overtopping is half-hour earlier than measured. Five hours after overtopping commences ($t = 48$ hr at 22: 00 on 12 October), the breaching flow reaches Yebatan and the Jinsha river

468 downstream of the landslide dam resumes flowing with a rather low discharge (Fig. 10a2).
469 Meanwhile, the overtopping flow gradually erodes the downstream face of the landslide dam
470 (Fig. 10c2). Subsequently, the overtopping flow rapidly increases (Fig. 8), attaining a value
471 almost equal to the upstream inflow discharge by $t = 51$ hr at 01: 00 on 13 October and
472 peaking at $t = 55.75$ hr at 05: 45 on 13 October. During this stage, the water depth
473 downstream of the landslide dam significantly increases, while its upstream counterpart
474 accordingly decreases (Fig. 10(a3-a4)). Within a further two and half hours, the peak
475 discharge arrives at Yebatan (Fig. 10a5). Meanwhile the landslide dam is eroded remarkably,
476 leading to a significant decrease in its crest elevation (Fig. 10(c3-c5)). After time $t = 64$ hr at
477 14: 00 on 13 October, a new river channel forms and the Jinsha river resumes base flow, and
478 is unable to erode further the landslide dam, thus terminating the dam breach process (Fig.
479 10(a6, b6 and c6)).

480





482
 483 **Fig. 10.** “10.10” Landslide-induced barrier lake outburst and the resultant flood: (a1-a6)
 484 depth of water layer; (b1-b6) water-sediment mixture thickness; and (c1-c6) bed deformation.
 485 (a1, b1 and c1) Landslide dam is overtopped naturally and dam breach commences. (a2, b2
 486 and c2) Breaching flow arrives at Yebatan. (a3, b3 and c3) Breaching flow discharge is
 487 almost equivalent to upstream inflow discharge. (a4, b4 and c4) Breaching flow peaks. (a5,
 488 b5 and c5) Peak breaching flow arrives at Yebatan. (a6, b6 and c6) Jinsha river resumes its
 489 base flow and the dam breach process terminates.

490

491

492 4.1.4 Interphase interactions

493 Interphase interactions are evaluated by means of relative velocities. Physically,
494 interphase interactions quantify momentum and energy transfers between grains and fluid
495 (Shan and Zhao, 2014), and hence characterize wave hydrodynamics and sediment transport
496 arising from granular landslides impacting water bodies (Zitti et al., 2016; Miller et al., 2017).
497 Based on laboratory-scale case studies, Li et al. (2020) revealed that grains play a key role in
498 driving water movement during the formation of a landslide dam and its associated barrier
499 lake. However, the subsequent dam breaching process has not yet been fully resolved. Here
500 U_{fs} and V_{fs} are defined as longitudinal (x -axis) and transverse (y -axis) velocity
501 differences between the water phase of the water-sediment mixture flow layer and the
502 sediment phase of a given size Accordingly, $U_{fs} = u_f - u_{sk}$ and $V_{fs} = v_f - v_{sk}$, where u_f
503 and v_f are the layer-averaged velocity components of the water phase in the water-sediment
504 mixture flow layer; and u_{sk} and v_{sk} are the size-specific layer-averaged velocity
505 components of the sediment phase in the water-sediment mixture flow layer. Fig. 11 displays
506 the velocity differences between the water and size-specific sediment phases in the transverse
507 direction, and Fig. 12 shows their counterparts in the longitudinal direction. Specifically, Figs.
508 11 (a1-a3 and b1-b3) and Fig. 12 (a1-a3 and b1-b3) depict the barrier lake formation process,
509 whereas the remaining subplots refer to the barrier lake outburst and subsequent flood.

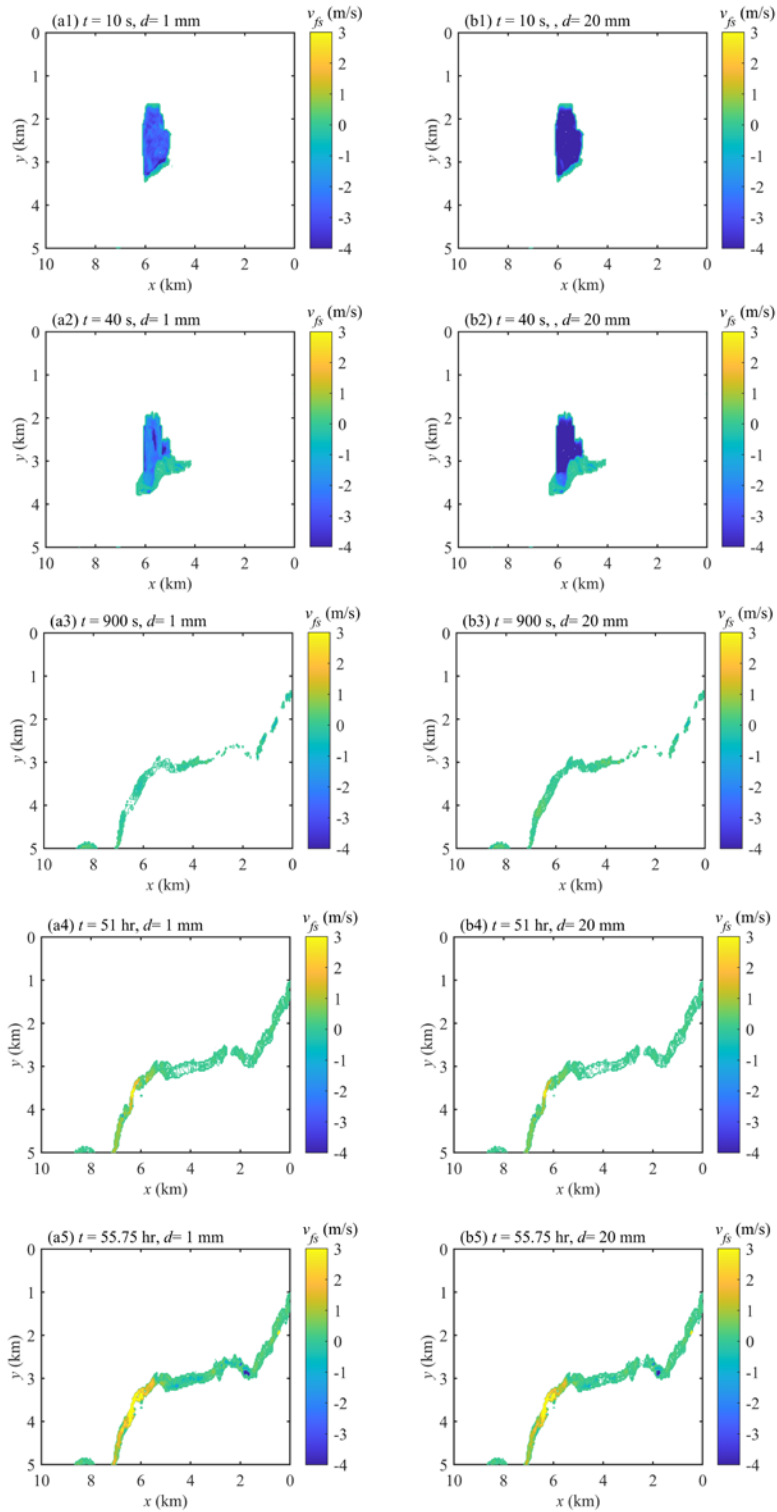
510 During barrier lake formation, as seen in Figs. 11 (a1-a3 and b1-b3) and Figs. 12 (a1-a3
511 and b1-b3), sediment grains play a primary role in driving water movement, echoing the
512 finding from a laboratory-scale study by Li et al. (2020). Specifically, the grains generally
513 have higher speed than the water phase in both the transverse and longitudinal directions.

514 Comparatively, the magnitude of velocity difference in the transverse direction (V_{fs}) is
515 significantly greater than that in the longitudinal direction (U_{fs}). Furthermore, coarse grains
516 move approximately 30% - 40% faster than fine grains in the transverse direction (Fig.
517 11(a1-a2)), whereas the velocity difference shrinks to 10%-20% in the longitudinal direction
518 (Fig. 12(a1-a2)). By $t = 900$ s, as a landslide dam forms due to material deposition, the
519 velocity differences between the water and sediment phases almost vanish.

520 By contrast, the reverse behaviour occurs during the succeeding processes, as water
521 governs grain movement. Figs. 11 (a4-a5 and b4-b5) and Figs. 12 (a4-a5 and b4-b5) show
522 that the water phase generally exhibits higher speed than the grains, and that fine grains move
523 faster than coarse grains. Although measured data are unavailable to verify quantitatively the
524 computed results, the present finding is qualitatively consistent with existing experimental
525 fluvial process observations (Wilcock, 1997) and field data (Drake et al., 1988; Ferguson and
526 Wathen, 1998; Lenzi, 2004); this further demonstrates the satisfactory performance of the
527 present model.

528 Figs. 11 and 12 collectively show that water and grain velocities are distinct, thus
529 characterizing the primary role of grains in driving water movement during landslide dam
530 and barrier lake formation and the governing role of water in driving grain movement during
531 barrier lake outburst and the subsequent flood. Overall, these results imply that a double
532 layer-averaged two-phase flow model is warranted.

533



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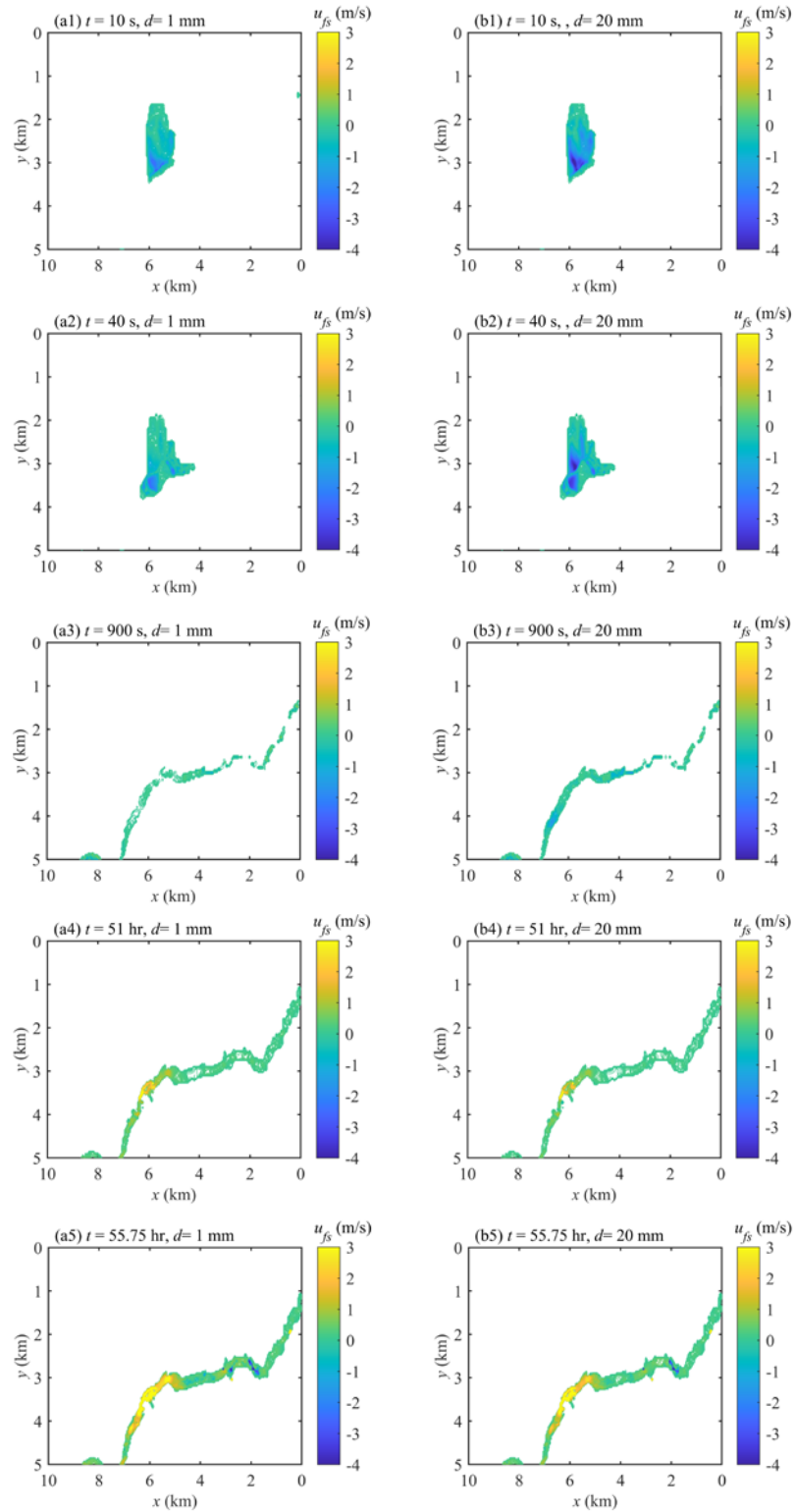
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Fig. 11. Contour plots of velocity difference between water and sediment phases of the water-sediment mixture flow layer in the transverse (y – axis) direction at different times from 10 s to 55.75 hr after the start of the “10.10” Baige landslide: a1–a5 with $d = 1$ mm; and b1–b5 with $d = 20$ mm.



540

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Fig. 12. Contour plots of velocity difference between water and sediment phases of the water-sediment mixture flow layer in the longitudinal (x –axis) direction at different times from 10 s to 55.75 hr after the start of the “10.10” Baige landslide, a1-a5 with $d = 1$ mm, and b1-b5 with $d = 20$ mm.

545

546 *4.1.5. Effects of inflow discharge and landslide volume*

547 Laboratory-scale case studies have found that smaller river flow discharge and larger
548 landslide volume favour landslide dam and barrier lake formation (Li et al., 2020). Here, two
549 series of extended numerical cases, designed according to the Phase I “10.10” Baige barrier
550 lake event, are used to investigate the effects of inflow discharge and landslide volume on a
551 landslide-induced multi-hazard chain. This is sensible given that potentially unstable rock
552 mass clusters have been discovered in the source area of the Baige landslides, suggesting
553 possible future failures with the potential for river damming and flooding (Fan et al. 2020a).

554 *4.1.5.1. Inflow discharge (Series I tests)*

555 Runoff variations in the upper tributaries of the Jinsha River are vulnerable to climate
556 change (Wu et al., 2020). It is therefore useful to explore the impacts of different upstream
557 inflow discharges on the landslide-induced multi-hazard chain. Here, the inflow discharge is
558 tuned by 25% (i.e., $1680 \pm 420 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), and the corresponding results are displayed in Table 3
559 and Fig. 13. As the inflow discharge increases, the time taken to form a landslide dam
560 increases and the dam height decreases. This is consistent with the observation by Li et al.
561 (2020) that small river discharge is conducive to barrier lake formation. In the present
562 simulations, the time taken to overtop the dam drops substantially from 50.3 hr to 43 hr, and
563 further to 36.5 hr, as the inflow discharge increases from $1260 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ to $1680 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, and further
564 to $2100 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$. From these, corresponding marked reductions in the time available to evacuate
565 downstream residents may be inferred. Therefore, the risk arising from a barrier lake outburst
566 would be significantly amplified if the barrier lake was created in the rainy season. The

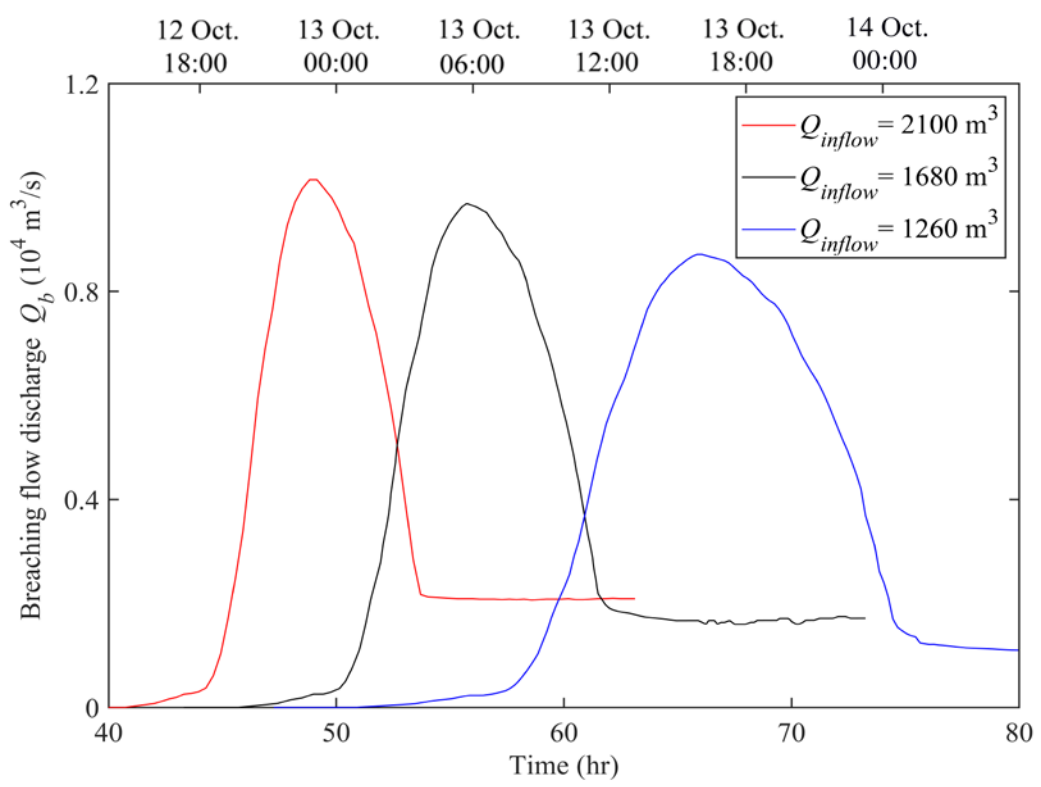
567 simulations also indicate that after the dam overtops naturally, the subsequent peak breach
 568 flow discharge increases for higher inflow discharge (Table 3 and Fig. 13). Consequently, the
 569 larger the inflow discharge, the more rapidly the dam is eroded and the shorter the total
 570 breach duration.

571

572 **Table 3** Predicted effect of inflow discharge on landslide dam formation, overtopping, and
 573 breaching processes (Series 1 tests)

| Results | “10.10” Baige landslide | Series 1-1 | Series 1-2 |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Q_{inflow} | Q_{inflow} | Q_{inflow} |
| | (m ³ /s) | (m ³ /s) | (m ³ /s) |
| | 1680 | 2100 | 1260 |
| Time to form landslide dam (s) | 900 | 1230 | 765 |
| Maximum dam height (m) | 84.2 | 76.5 | 87.2 |
| Time to overtop dam (hr) | 43 | 36.5 | 50.2 |
| Total breach duration (hr) | 21 | 18.5 | 23 |
| Peak discharge at dam site (m ³ /s) | 9691 | 10006 | 8724 |

574



575

576 **Fig. 13.** Model predictions of breaching flow discharge hydrographs for three different Jinsha
 577 river inflow discharges.

578

579 *4.1.5.2. Initial landslide volume (Series 2 tests)*

580 For landslide-induced risk assessment, it is of great importance to obtain a measure of the
 581 landslide magnitude, e.g., through estimating the volume of landslide materials involved
 582 (Corominas et al., 2014; Fan et al., 2020b). Although the position and movement of a
 583 landslide can be successfully captured by advanced techniques like remote sensing (Zhang et
 584 al., 2020), quantification of the initial volume of a landslide nevertheless involves
 585 considerable uncertainty. With this in mind, Series 2 simulations have been undertaken to
 586 investigate the sensitivity of the results to the initial landslide volume, which is altered by
 587 $\pm 50\%$ of the original volume of $27.5 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$. Table 4 summarizes the results from the Series
 588 2 simulations, whereas Fig. 14 displays the breaching flow hydrograph under different initial
 589 landslide volumes. In accordance with Li et al. (2020), a larger initial landslide volume
 590 favours barrier lake formation as the time to form a landslide dam decreases and the
 591 maximum dam height increases. Hence, the time taken to overtop the dam increases as the
 592 initial landslide volume increases. Subsequently, the breaching process is postponed and the
 593 total breach duration extended. Yet, the peak discharge at the dam site just slightly increases.

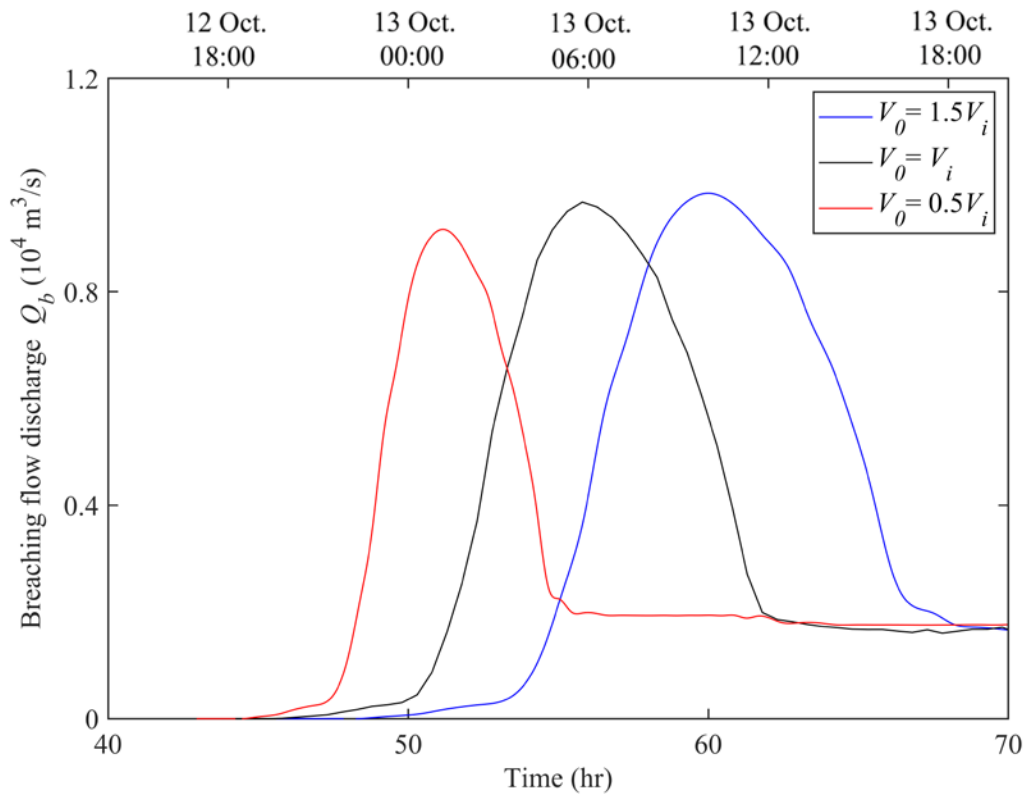
594

595 **Table 4** Predicted effect of inflow landslide volume on landslide dam formation, overtopping,
 596 and breaching processes (Series 2 tests)

| Results | “10.10” Baige landslide | Series 2-1 | Series 2-2 |
|---------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| | V_0 | V_0 | V_0 |
| | | | |

| | (10^6 m^3) | (10^6 m^3) | (10^6 m^3) |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | 27.5 | 41.25 | 13.75 |
| Time to form landslide dam (s) | 900 | 700 | 1356 |
| Maximum dam height (m) | 84.2 | 90.2 | 74.5 |
| Time to overtop dam (hr) | 43 | 45.3 | 40.5 |
| Total breach duration (hr) | 21 | 23.7 | 16.5 |
| Peak discharge at dam site (m^3/s) | 9691 | 9845 | 9170 |

597



598

599 **Fig. 14.** Model predictions of breaching flow discharge hydrographs for three different initial
600 landslide volumes.

601

602 The above analysis clearly demonstrates that whereas small inflow discharge and large
603 initial landslide volume favour landslide dam and barrier lake formation, they delay the
604 subsequent barrier lake outburst and the resultant flood downstream. From a physical
605 perspective, the formation of a landslide dam and its associated barrier lake generally reflects
606 an aggradation process, whereas the barrier lake outburst and subsequent flood are

607 characterized by an opposing degradation process. The present model properly
608 accommodates these two distinct but intertwined physical processes, thus facilitating
609 improved understanding of the complicated physical mechanisms leading to a
610 landslide-induced barrier lake outburst flood as a multi-hazard causal chain.

611

612 *4.1.6 Sensitivity analysis*

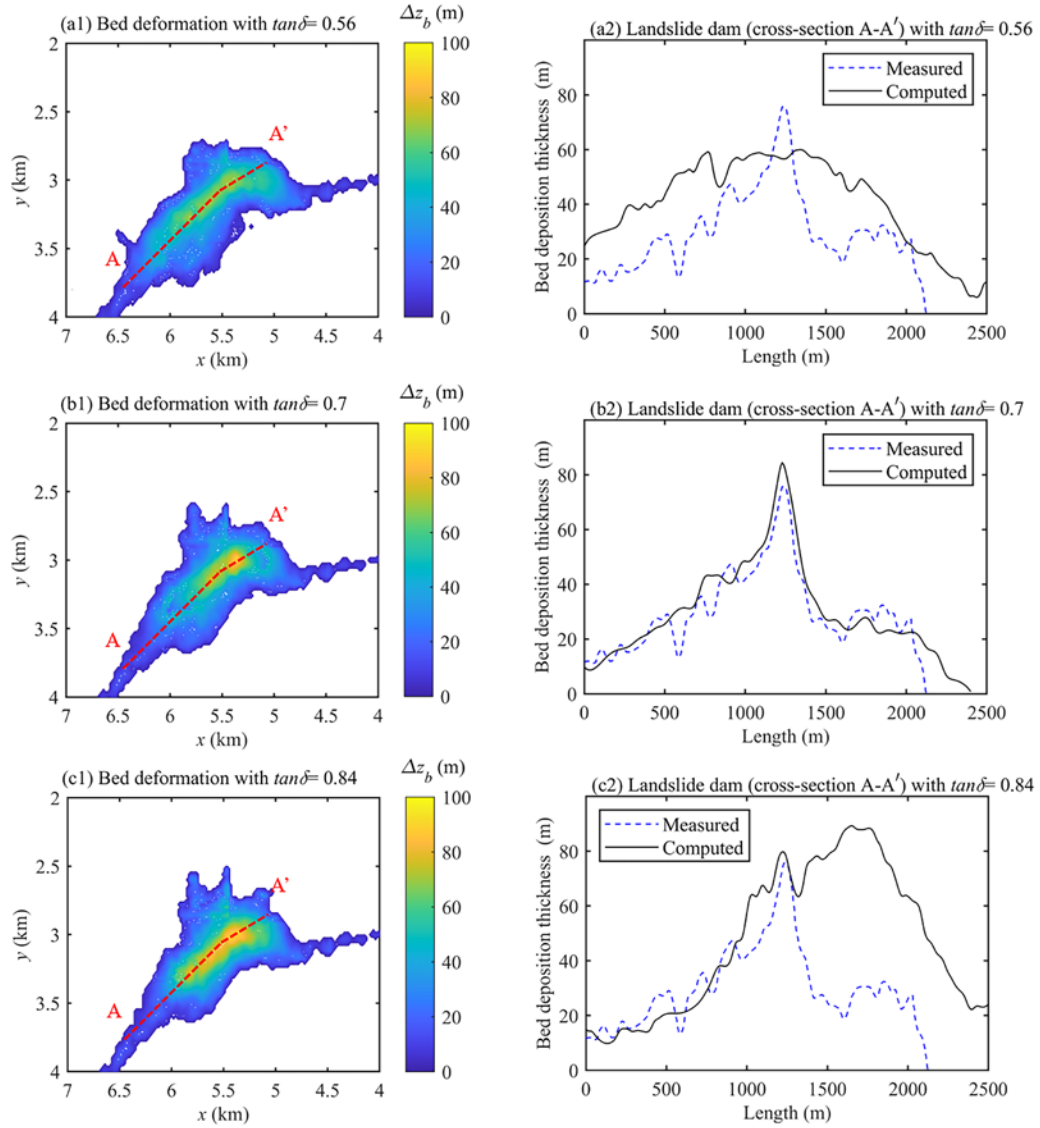
613 Furthermore, numerical tests are conducted to evaluate the sensitivity of the model
614 results to two model parameters, i.e., bed friction coefficient $\tan\delta$ and Manning bed
615 roughness coefficient n_b , which are separately embedded in the empirical relationships for
616 the solid and fluid resistance components of the lower sediment-laden flow layer. In addition,
617 the Manning bed roughness coefficient n_b is also involved in the bottom resistance of the
618 clear-water flow layer (Li et al., 2020). Specifically, the Manning bed roughness coefficient
619 n_b and the bed friction coefficient $\tan\delta$ are tuned by 25% of the adopted value (i.e.,
620 $n_b = 0.04 \pm 0.01 \text{ m}^{-1/3} \text{ s}$; $\tan\delta = 0.7 \pm 0.14$). In general, the results with tuned parameters in
621 conventional ranges are qualitatively similar to those shown above when compared with the
622 measured data.

623 Shown in Figs. 15 and 16 are the computed landslide dam morphology, corresponding to
624 different values of n_b and $\tan\delta$. Clearly, the computed results are more sensitive to the
625 value of bed friction coefficient $\tan\delta$ as compared to that of Manning bed roughness
626 coefficient n_b . Most notably, the sensitivity to n_b is considerably constrained compared
627 with that to $\tan\delta$. Typically, as the value of $\tan\delta$ increase from 0.56 to 0.84, the value of

628 maximum dam height increases from 59.2 m to 89.5 m. By contrast, in response to the
629 change of n_b , their counterparts almost remain unchanged. This difference in behavior
630 further demonstrates the primary role of grains in driving water movement during landslide
631 dam and barrier lake formation.

632 Fig. 17(a) shows the impact of $\tan \delta$ on breaching flow discharge. As shown in Fig. 15,
633 a larger value of $\tan \delta$ leads to a higher maximum dam height. Consequently, the time taken
634 to overtop the dam increases and the subsequent breaching process is postponed. These
635 simulations also indicate that the peak breaching flow discharge increases for a larger value
636 of $\tan \delta$. Specifically, with $\tan \delta = 0.56$, the peak discharge is 8732 m³/s occurring at $t =$
637 49.6 hr, whereas with $\tan \delta = 0.84$, the peak discharge increases to 10170 m³/s, postponing to
638 $t = 61.88$ hr. Fig. 17(b) illustrates the effect of n_b . Despite its marginal impact on landslide
639 dam morphology, a larger value of n_b leads to a larger peak discharge and an earlier
640 occurrence. Specifically, with n_b increasing from 0.03 to 0.05 m^{-1/3} s, the peak discharge
641 increases from 8700 m³/s to 10400 m³/s and its timing is advanced from $t = 61.3$ hr to $t =$
642 51.6 hr.

643



644

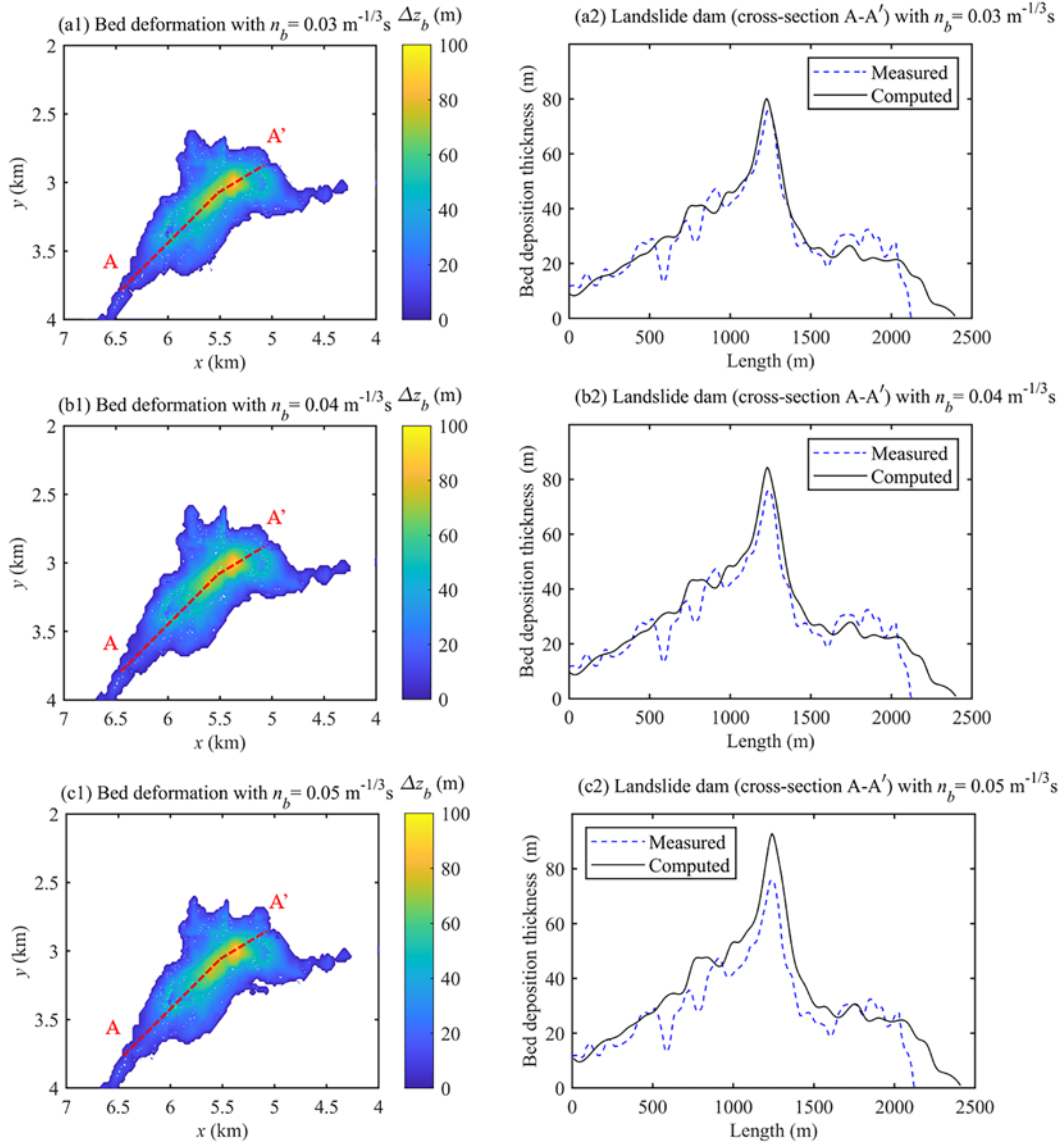
645 **Fig. 15.** “10.10” Baige landslide dam morphology assuming different bed friction coefficient

646 $\tan \delta$ (a1-a3) bed deformation at $t = 900$ s predicted by present model; and (b1-b3)

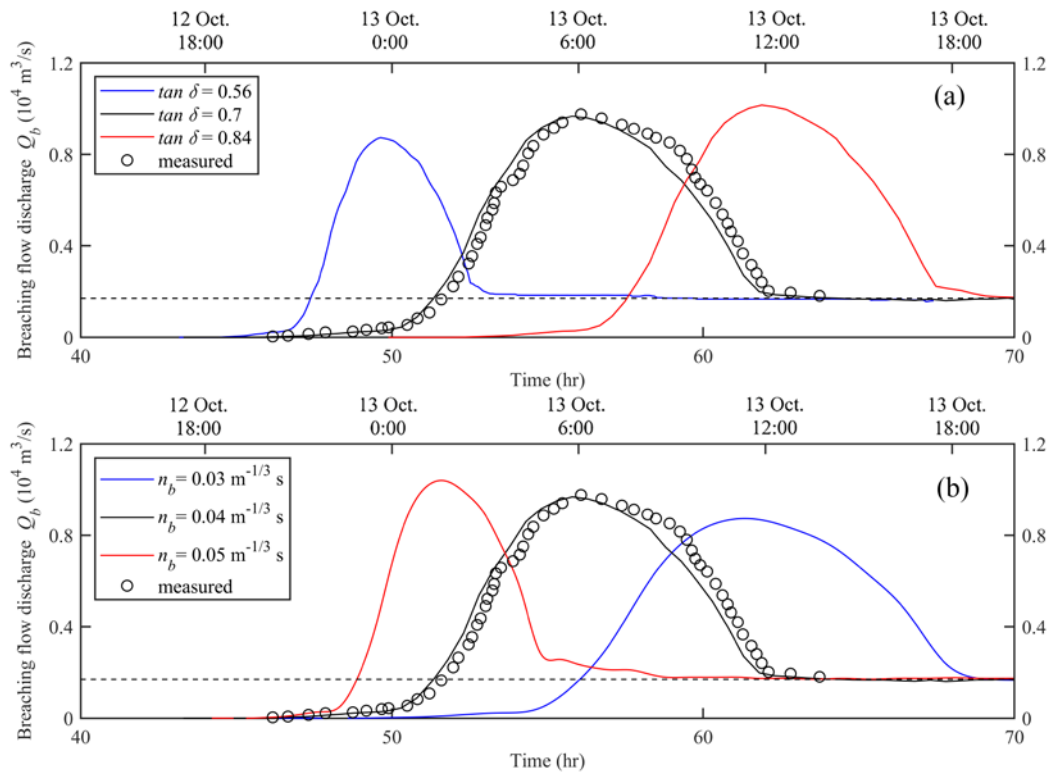
647 cross-section profile of landslide dam in the original river stream-wise direction (A-A’):

648 model prediction (solid line) and measured data from Fan et al. (2020a) (dashed line).

649



650
 651 **Fig. 16.** “10.10” Baige landslide dam morphology assuming different Manning roughness
 652 coefficient n_b (a1-a3) bed deformation at $t = 900$ s predicted by present model; and
 653 (b1-b3) cross-section profile of landslide dam in the original river stream-wise direction
 654 (A-A’): model prediction (solid line) and measured data from Fan et al. (2020a) (dashed line).
 655



656
 657 **Fig. 17.** Model predictions (solid lines) of breaching flow discharge hydrographs assuming (a)
 658 different bed friction coefficient $\tan \delta$; and (b) different Manning roughness coefficient n_b
 659 and measured data (open circles) from Cai et al. (2019).

660

661 *4.2. Phase II: “11.03” Baige barrier lake event*

662 We now revisit the Phase II “11.03” Baige barrier lake event. This second landslide dam
 663 formed on residual material from the first landslide dam, causing the barrier lake to triple in
 664 volume. To reduce downstream flood risk due to barrier lake outburst, an artificial flood
 665 channel was urgently constructed, with a total of 85,000 m³ of soil and rock excavated (Cai et
 666 al., 2019).

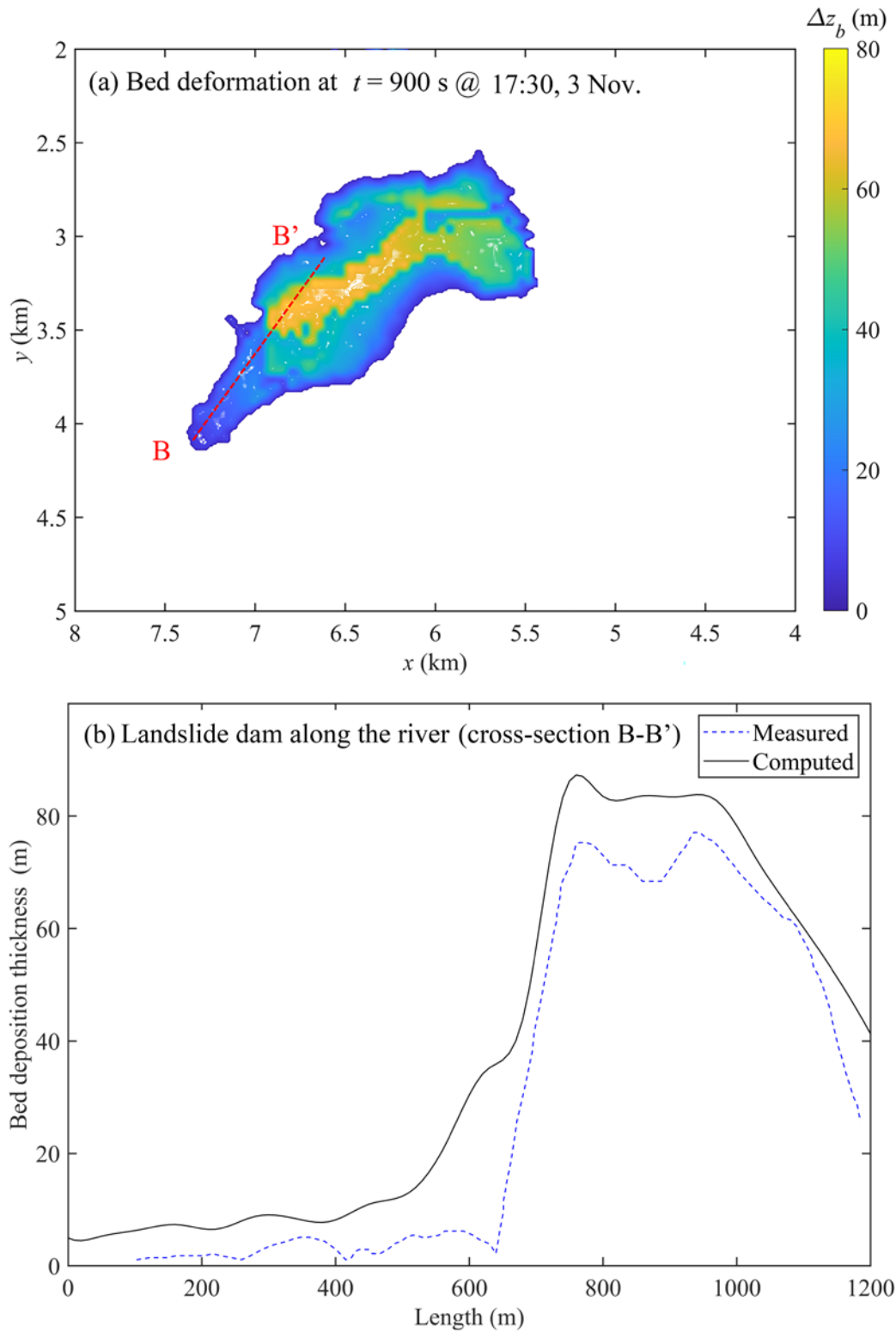
667 Fig. 18(a) shows the landslide dam morphology as represented by the bed deformation at
 668 $t = 900$ s (noting that $t = 0$ s is now set to the start of the “11.03” landslide). Similar to its
 669 predecessor due to the first landslide (Fig. 6), the height of the second landslide dam is higher
 670 on the upstream relative to the downstream side with respect to the Jinsha river. Fig. 18(b)

671 presents predicted and observed cross-section profiles of the landslide dam taken in a
672 longitudinal direction approximately along the river (B-B', see Fig. 18a). The L^1 norm for
673 bed deposition thickness $L_{bd}^1 = 22.38\%$. The present model predictions are in reasonable
674 agreement with observed data, except for a general overprediction of the bed deposition layer
675 thickness.

676 Fig. 19 presents discharge hydrographs and water level time series at the landslide dam
677 site and the Yebatan station. Although quantitative differences between the model predictions
678 and field observations are inevitable, the computed discharges and water levels are reasonably
679 consistent with those reported by Cai et al. (2019). The model predicts a peak breach
680 discharge of 32,787 m³/s, occurring at 17:28 on 13 November, a difference in maximum
681 discharge of 3.2% and occurrence time of < 1 hr compared to the observed data. The
682 predicted water level time history at the dam site is remarkably close to the measured series at
683 Boluo station, 20 km upstream of the dam, until the barrier lake outburst occurs, after which
684 the predicted result at the dam site is appreciably lower than that measured at Boluo. This
685 behaviour arises because the water level at the Baige landslide dam site was almost
686 equivalent to that at Boluo while the barrier lake is full, but was appreciably lower than that
687 at Boluo after the barrier lake outburst occurred. Fig. 19(b) compares predicted and measured
688 discharge hydrographs at Yebatan, the downstream station, along with computed sediment
689 volume output time series. Similar to the results obtained for Phase II (Fig. 8), the peak
690 discharge attenuates as the wave travels along the river. At Yebatan, the peak discharge is
691 predicted to occur at 19:10 on 13 November, with a value of 26,817 m³/s, whereas the
692 observed maximum discharge is 28,057 m³/s at 19:50 on 13 November. Subsequently, the

693 Jinsha river gradually reverts to base flow. The corresponding L^1 norms for breaching flow
694 discharge hydrography $L_{Q_b}^1$ and flow discharge hydrograph at Yebatan gauging station L_Q^1
695 are 23.22% and 25.47% respectively. At the end of “11.03” Baige barrier lake event,
696 approximately $5.96 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ of sediments have been carried away through Yebatan.
697 Consequently, an addition $6.04 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ of sediment [= $12 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ (total volume of “11.03”
698 Baige landslide) – $5.96 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ (sediment volume output)] has been deposited in the river
699 channel between dam site and Yebatan.

700



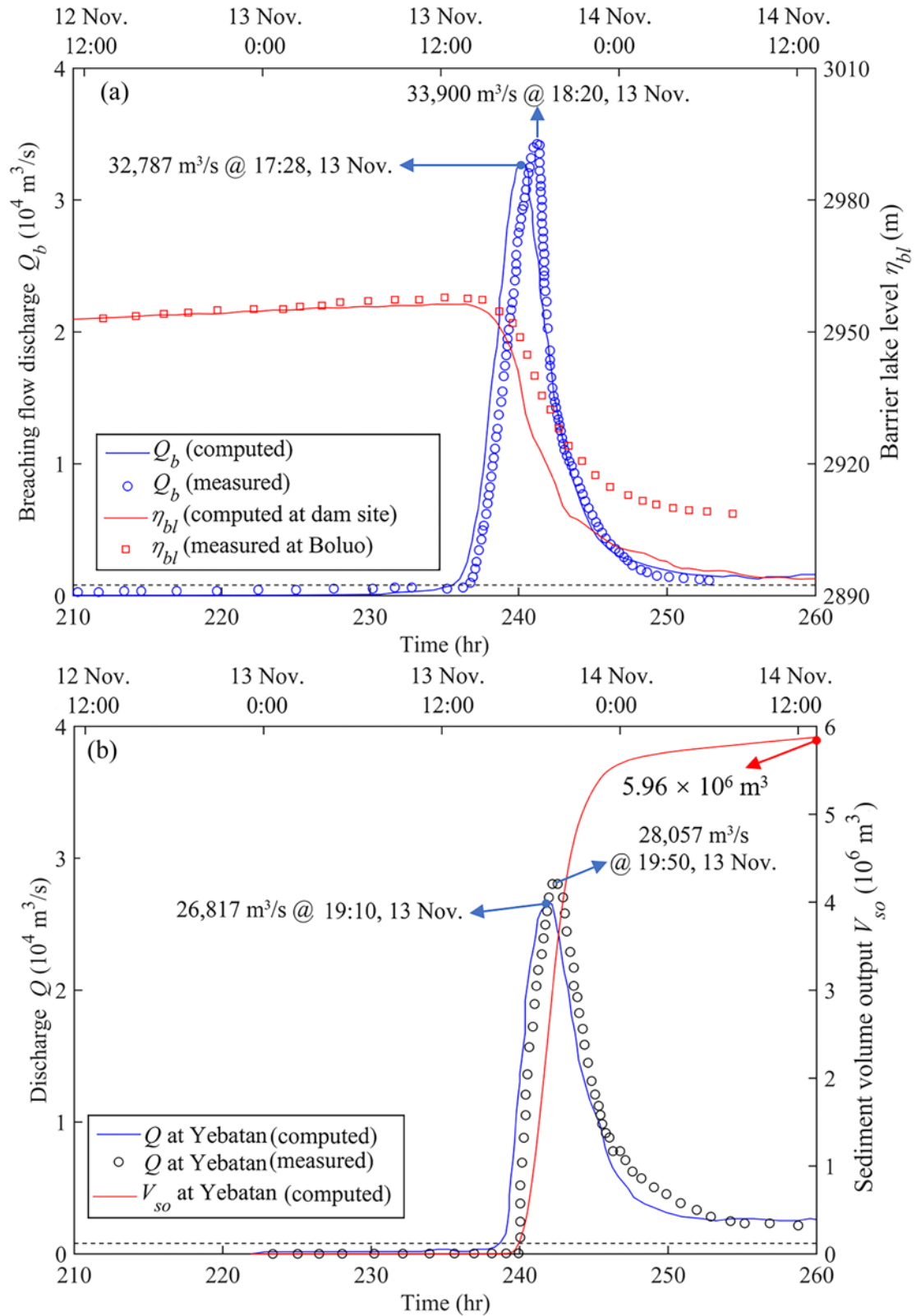
701

702 **Fig. 18.** “11.03” Baige landslide dam geometry: (a) predicted bed deformation contours at

703 $t = 900$ s; and (b) predicted (solid line) and measured (dashed line, Fan et al. 2020a)

704 cross-sectional profiles of the landslide dam in a longitudinal direction along the river (B-B’).

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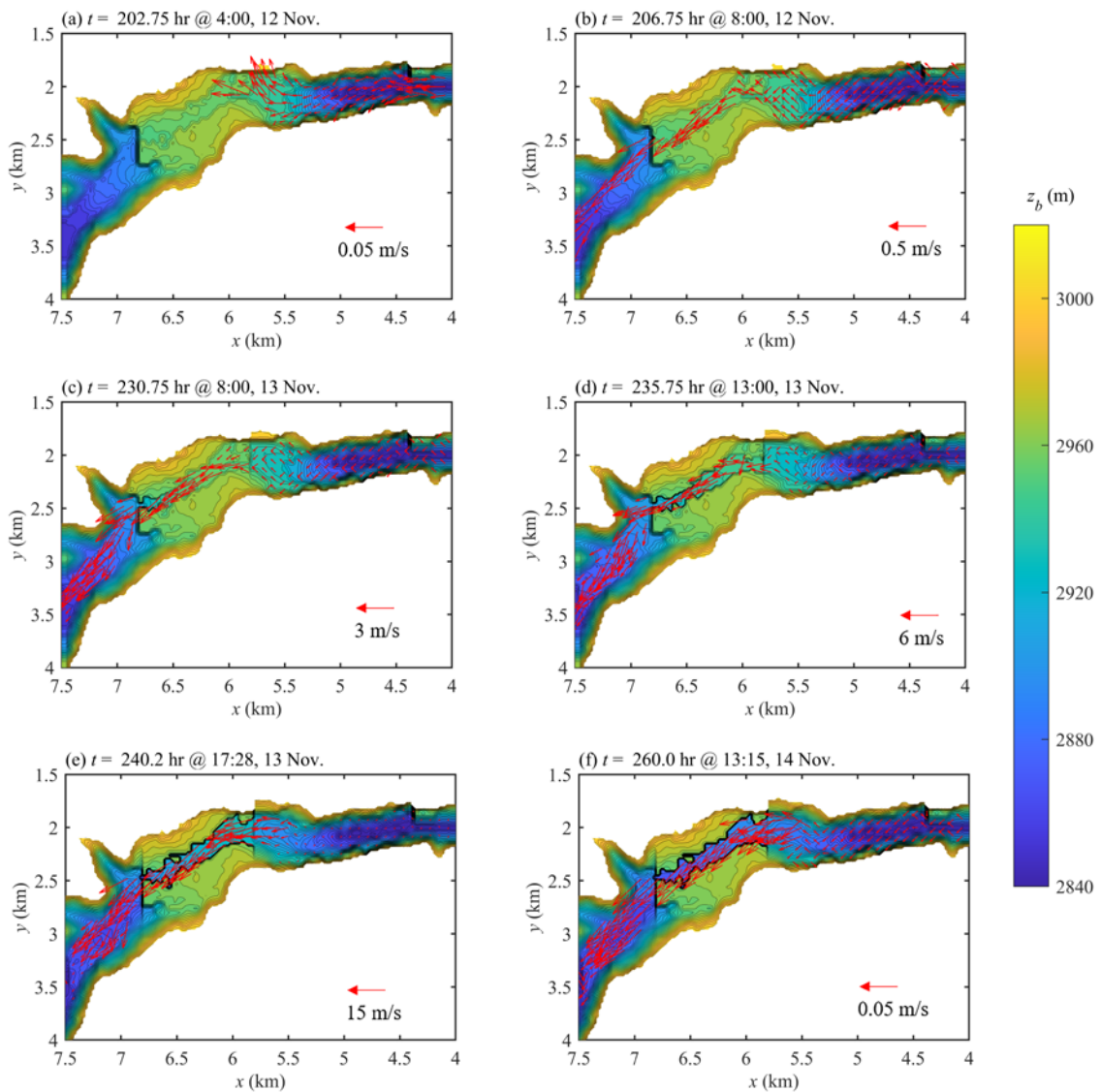


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Fig. 19. (a) Breaching flow discharge hydrograph and water level time series at the “11.03” Baige landslide dam site; (b) flow discharge hydrograph and sediment volume output series at Yebatan (the downstream station): model predictions (solid lines) and measured data (open circles).

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Fig. 20 presents contour plots of the evolution of the dam breach with instantaneous flow velocity vectors superimposed. At $t = 202.75$ hr at 4:00 on 12 November (Fig. 20a), the water level of the barrier lake rises above the bed level of the artificial flood channel and overtopping commences. The overtopping flow then traverses the dam crest as an almost uniform sheet. The breach channel hardly widens, while the main dam body slightly erodes (Fig. 20b). During the next stage, breach channel enlarges slowly over a relatively long period (about 24 hrs). Meanwhile, the steepest section of the downstream face of the dam experiences significant erosion (Fig. 20c), which causes the flow velocity to increase locally. The resultant rapid flow in this steep section entrains further sediment and intensive scouring rapidly propagates backward toward the upstream area (Fig. 20d). Such headward erosion raises the breaching flow discharge (Fig. 19), leading to progressive vertical and horizontal enlargement of the breach channel (Fig. 20d and e). In general, breach deepening is associated with steepening of the sidewalls that may collapse once a critical failure angle is exceeded, leading to breach widening. In addition, the river channel downstream of the landslide dam accretes sediment scoured from the dam. The model indicates that high flow speeds, up to 15 m/s occur as the breaching flow discharge increases. Accordingly, both flow speed and bed erosion decrease as the barrier lake water level decreases and the river flow returns to base flow (Fig. 20f).



731

732 **Fig. 20.** “11.03” Baige landslide dam breach evolution depicted as bed deformation contours

733 and superimposed flow velocity vectors at post-landslide times, $t =$: (a) 202.75 hr; (b) 206.75

734 hr; (c) 230.75 hr; (d) 235.75 hr; (e) 240.2 hr; and (f) 260.0 hr.

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736 A further scenario is now considered for the case of the second landslide dam in the

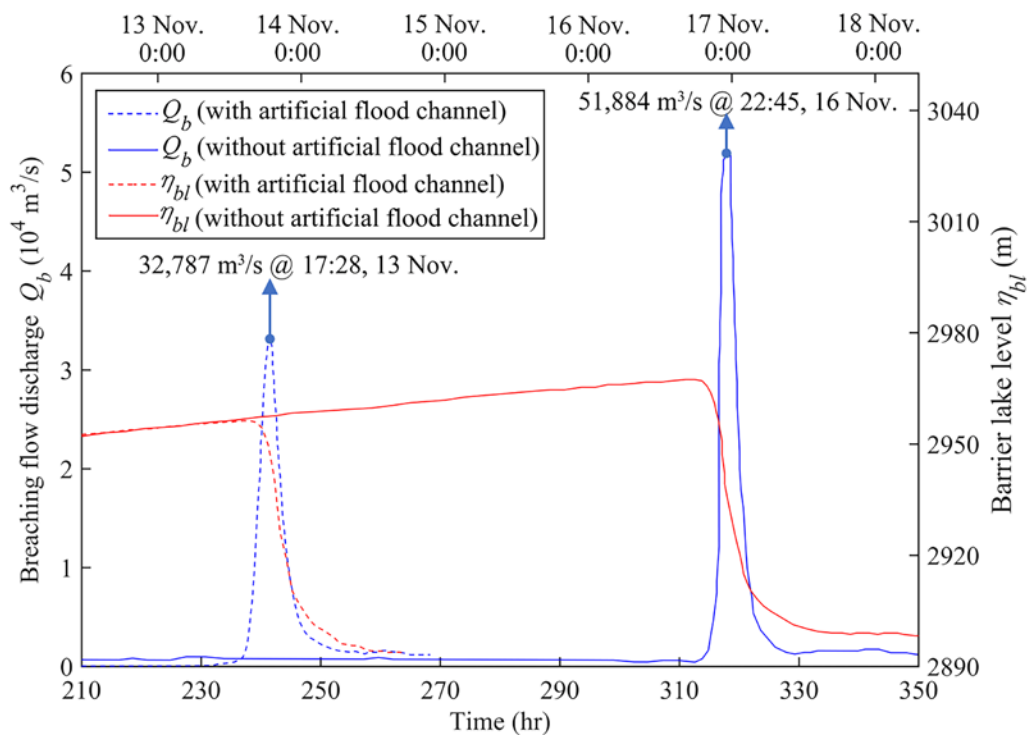
737 absence of an artificial flood channel. The computation automatically terminated once the

738 river flow returned to base flow. Fig. 21 displays the predicted breach flow discharge

739 hydrograph and barrier lake level time series. In the absence of an artificial flood channel, the

740 breaching process is significantly delayed, the peak discharge much larger, and the barrier
 741 lake level raised. This finding is qualitatively consistent with experimental observations from
 742 another landslide dam failure (Cao et al., 2011a). For a constant inflow discharge of 800 m³/s,
 743 the model estimates that 3 more days will be taken to fill the barrier lake and overtop the
 744 landslide dam (than for the case with the artificial channel present). In the absence of the
 745 channel, the model predicts that the peak breaching flow discharge would reach 51,884 m³/s
 746 (an increase of 58.2%) at 22:45 on 16 November, and the maximum water level of the barrier
 747 lake would attain 2967.5 m (an increase of 11.2 m). As would be expected, the model predicts
 748 that construction of an artificial flood channel would significantly alleviate downstream flood
 749 risk.

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751

752 **Fig. 21.** Model predictions of breaching flow discharge hydrographs (blue) and barrier lake
 753 level time series (red): scenario with artificial flood channel (dashed lines); and scenario
 754 without an artificial flood channel (solid lines).

755

756 Table 5 summarizes the L^1 values of the model prediction for Baige barrier lake events,
757 which quantitatively demonstrate that the computed results are in good agreement with the
758 measured data. Furthermore, it shows that the error of the numerical solution accumulates
759 and propagates within Phase I, from landslide dam and barrier lake formation, through to
760 barrier lake outburst and downstream flooding, then extending to Phase II, in which a further
761 propagation and accumulation can be observed.

762

763 **Table 5** Summary of L^1 norms of model prediction for Baige barrier lake events

| L^1 | Phase I | Phase II |
|---|---------|----------|
| Landslide dam morphology L_{bd}^1 | 12.45% | 22.38% |
| Breaching flow discharge hydrograph $L_{Q_b}^1$ | 15.31% | 23.22% |
| Flow discharge hydrograph at Yebatan L_Q^1 | 15.85% | 25.47% |

764

765 **5. Conclusions**

766 The Baige barrier lake events of 2018 offers unique insight into landslide-induced
767 multi-hazard chains that could produce catastrophic disasters extending far beyond the source
768 zone. Based on a recent 2D double layer-averaged two-phase flow model, we reconstruct the
769 whole process of the Baige barrier lake outburst flood within a single model run,
770 encompassing landslide-generated waves, landslide dam and barrier lake formation, the
771 barrier lake outburst, and the subsequent downstream flood. In terms of landslide-generated

772 waves, landslide dam morphology, stage time series and discharge hydrographs at the dam
773 site and a downstream gauging station, the present model solutions are in good agreement
774 with field observations. Construction of an artificial flood channel at the dam crest is
775 demonstrated to be an effective mitigation strategy for downstream flood risk arising from a
776 barrier lake outburst. The present work reveals the primary role of grains in landslide dam
777 formation and also the dominant role of water in the barrier lake outburst and the resultant
778 flood. Moreover, whilst small river flow discharge and large initial landslide volume favour
779 landslide dam and barrier lake formation, they delay the occurrence time of the barrier lake
780 outburst and its subsequent flood.

781 The present modelling framework offers considerable promise for assessing
782 landslide-induced multi-hazard chains, and informing mitigation and adaptation strategies.
783 Such an approach is particularly timely, given the increased instability of high mountain
784 slopes and the accelerating trends in extreme precipitation amount, intensity and frequency of
785 occurrence due to climate change, which are likely to trigger increasing numbers of
786 landslides in the future. The modelling framework would achieve high computational
787 efficiency by implementation of unstructured grids, parallel architecture and adaptive
788 local-time-step techniques, thus supporting timely decision making in emergency response
789 operation. Inevitably, the model incurs uncertainty arising from incomplete knowledge of the
790 estimates of mass exchanges between the landslide and the bed, and interface and bed
791 resistances. Therefore, systematic fundamental investigations are therefore recommended into
792 the mechanisms associated with these exchanges and resistances.

793

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796

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