
Simulation of manganese transport in groundwater using Visual MODFLOW: a case study from Xiangtan manganese ore area in central of China

Wenchao Xie^{1,2}, Bozhi Ren^{1,2*}, Andrew S. Hursthouse^{1,3}, Zhenghua Wang^{1,2}, Xin Luo^{1,2}

¹Hunan Provincial Key Laboratory of Shale Gas Resource Exploitation, Xiangtan, 411201, China

²School of Civil Engineering, Hunan University of Science and Technology, Xiangtan, 411201, China

³School of Computing, Engineering & Physical Sciences, University of the West of Scotland, Paisley PA1 2BE,

UK

Abstract: The release of metals from a mine tailings pond to groundwater is an important pathway to assess the environmental impact of mining residues and implications for wider environmental risk. We research on the impact of manganese ore area in Heling Town, Xiangtan City, Hunan Province, central China. The focus is to assess the migration of manganese (Mn) using the Visual MODFLOW model of groundwater flow and the MT3DMS software platform to model solute transport. The modelling objective focuses on evaluating the migration of the pollution plume of manganese over a 20 year time period. The results show the sustained release and transport of Mn from the tailing pond. The concentration of Mn in the central pollution halo is 1.97mg/L, and the maximum detectable range is at 2291m, with the concentration range exceeding the third level of national groundwater standard is 1280m. The result provides a basis for the development and utilization of the mining area and the pollution prediction and protection of the tailings pond.

Key words: numerical simulation; visual MODFLOW; solute transport; manganese tailings pond.

1.Intorduction

Since 2010, Chinese manganese ore import has exceeded 11 million tons, and reached 22 million tons in 2017. China has become the largest importer and consumer of manganese ore. China has a huge demand for manganese ore, but the domestic reserves of manganese ore are only one third of that of South Africa, which is rich in manganese ore resources. In addition, the grade of manganese ore mined in China is generally low, and the scale of manganese

29 deposits is mainly small and medium-sized, which results in the scattered distribution of
30 mining areas and the difficulty in mining and beneficiation management. In this case, the
31 disordered over mining of manganese ore resources in early China led to the further reduction
32 of manganese ore with low grade, and the serious environmental problems around the mining
33 area due to the lack of scientific management, there are huge hidden dangers. Although
34 manganese is one of the trace elements are needed by human body and takes part in many
35 enzymatic processes the human body, long-term excessive intake of manganese may lead to
36 Parkinson's disease, pneumonia, bronchitis [1], and reproductive and immune dysfunction
37 [2~4]. The tailings pond is formed from the solid waste accumulated during the long-term
38 mining, beneficiation and smelting of ore deposits. Under the combined action of rainfall
39 scouring and leaching, the heavy metal elements in tailings have various physical and
40 chemical reactions, such as diffusion, dispersion, desorption and dissociation, forming the
41 pollution source of tailings pond [5]. This material, driven by surface runoff migrates into the
42 subsurface [6,7] and enters the water environment of the surrounding areas leading to wider
43 potential exposure and risk to human health and economic development [8-10].

44 There is a lot of current interest in the wider environmental impact of residues from
45 mineral exploitation, in particular the large extensively worked deposits in China where
46 exposure levels and spatial extent are potentially very significant [11~14]. To try to mitigate
47 the threat, a number of studies have looked at the wider context to alleviate the threat of
48 tailings to the environment and protect the ecological environment [15~17]. A number of
49 numerical simulation methods have been applied to groundwater systems including
50 FDM(Finite Difference Method), FEM(Finite Element Method), BEM(Boundary Element
51 Method) and FAM(Finite Analytical Method), which have been successful in studying
52 seawater intrusion, land subsidence, reduction of groundwater levels, overexploitation and
53 pollution of groundwater [18~20]. At the same time, with the development of higher ability
54 data processing methods, the Visual MODFLOW programme has been developed by
55 Waterloo Hydrogeologic, Canada, based on the finite difference method basis of the original
56 MODFLOW software combined with modern visualization technology and is widely

57 acknowledged for its powerful visualization features and excellent software support. For
58 example, Khadri et al. established the groundwater flow model of Mahesh River basin in
59 India using MODFLOW software [21]; Xue et al. according to the hydrogeological conditions
60 and remote sensing information, the groundwater numerical model of zhuanlongwan mining
61 area in Mongolia is established [22]; Wang et al. used Visual MODFLOW to study the
62 migration of organic molecules and related nutrients in groundwater of a tailings pond [23].
63 Moreover, Podlase et al. studied the migration of nitrogen compounds in soil water system in
64 the valley agricultural area by establishing groundwater flow model in central Poland
65 [24]. Singh et al. used Visual MODFLOW to evaluate the performance of PRB. The results
66 show that PRB material can effectively reduce the diffusion ability of pollutants in
67 groundwater [25]. At present, numerical simulation is the main means to study groundwater
68 problems, and with the continuous emergence of groundwater problems in the world, it will
69 also promote researchers to explore the methods and applications of numerical simulation.

70 Our study is based on the manganese ore area of Heling Town, Xiangtan City, central
71 China, with a focus on Mn in leachate form tailing ponds in the area. Based on the software
72 platform of groundwater flow model Visual MODFLOW and solute transport model
73 MT3DMS, a three dimensional simulation is undertaken to predict the dynamics of Mn
74 release over a 20 year period.

75 **2. Material and Methods**

76 **2.1 Overview of the study area**

77 This study area is located in Heling Town, Yuhu District, Xiangtan city. It is located in
78 subtropical monsoon climate, with an average annual temperature of 17.8°C and an average
79 annual precipitation of 1656.6mm, of which the annual precipitation is concentrated in April
80 and August [26]. The tailing pond is found mainly in a mountainous area, close to residential
81 dwellings with a general slope from high in the northwest and low in the southeast. The total
82 area is about 205km², with the highest point at 340m above sea level only 35-40m from
83 residential dwellings. The aquifer thickness is uneven and the surrounding farmland and small
84 ponds in the area are predominantly supplied by precipitation. The strata in the study area can

85 be mainly divided into hard strata (mainly including phyllitic clay rock, moraine
86 conglomerate, chert rock, clay rock, limestone, etc.) and Quaternary loose sediments (mainly
87 including alluvium, deluvium and eluvium). The groundwater in the area is mainly in the
88 foundation rock and Quaternary sediments. The specific description is as follows:

89 (1) The underground water in the bedrock includes the fissure water in the Upper Sinian
90 siliceous layer and the pore fissure water in the Permian coarse-grained sandstone. The fissure
91 water in the Upper Sinian siliceous layer is mainly distributed in the north of the Xiannushan
92 anticline. The thickness distribution of the aquifer in the Upper Sinian siliceous layer is
93 uneven, generally 50-100 meters, but there are also more than 100 and less than 50 meters of
94 aquifer thickness. The rock of the aquifer is mainly composed of chert and claystone. The
95 lower part is dominated by claystone, with coarse particles and generally undeveloped
96 fissures; the upper part is a thick layered grouted rock layer, with relatively stable lithology
97 and no change within 1-2km along the strike. There are two types of fractures: one is
98 weathering fracture, the other is joint fracture. The upper part is dominated by weathering
99 fractures, and the lower part is dominated by layer fractures and joint fractures formed by
100 tectonic action. The depth of weathering fractures can reach 80 meters. Pore fissure water in
101 Permian coarse-grained sandstone is mainly distributed in the northeast of the mining area.
102 According to the field survey data, the particles of sandstone change from fine to coarse from
103 top to bottom. The upper fine-grained sandstone is clay like without water, and the lower
104 coarse-grained sandstone is intensively weathered with full of water. The impermeable
105 fine-grained sandstone weathering layer becomes the water resisting roof of the aquifer in this
106 area, so the water in the coarse-grained sandstone below is confined water.

107 (2) The groundwater in the Quaternary sediments includes pore water in the old
108 Quaternary loose gravel layer and pore water in the valley loose deposits. The pore water in
109 the old Quaternary loose gravel layer is mainly distributed near Xiangtan City in the southeast
110 of the study area. According to the survey data, the aquifer is 4.45~7.63 meters thick, with an
111 average of 5~6 meters. The lithology is from top to bottom: Clay pebble - pebble with gravel -
112 pebble with gravel. The water bearing gravel layer is buried below the surface of 6~8 meters.

113 The roof of the aquifer is impermeable sandy clay or clay with an elevation of 26.60~30.05
114 meters and a thickness of 2.78~3.35 meters. The floor of the aquifer is impermeable Tertiary
115 red sandstone. The pore water in the loose deposits of the valley is mainly distributed in the
116 wide valley bottom, with small area and relatively scattered. The lithology of the loose
117 deposits in the valley bottom is sandy clay, generally with less water, which is a weak
118 permeable layer. The groundwater aquifer in this area has poor water permeability and weak
119 groundwater circulation, so the groundwater pollution is hard to disperse.

120 The hydrogeological sketch map and section map of the study area are shown in Fig. 1
121 and Fig. 2 respectively. A series of wells were used as sampling points. There are 8 head
122 observation wells and 3 concentration observation wells on the site. The head value obtained
123 from the head observation wells is used to calibrate the water flow model. And data from the
124 concentration observation wells was used to collect information on Mn concentration in the
125 groundwater between 2012-2015, which is used to calibrate and adjust the solute transport
126 model.

127 **2.2 Mathematical model**

128 2.2.1 Mathematical model of groundwater flow

129 Groundwater flow varies in different time and space. Therefore, in order to reduce the
130 difficulty of simulation, the groundwater in the study area is defined as steady flow. In
131 addition, due to the variation in geological structure, the hydrogeological parameters are also
132 changed, so the study area is generalized as heterogeneous. The shallow aquifer can be
133 divided into different areas on the basis of numerous different parameters (such as
134 permeability coefficient). Owing to the difficulty of exploration, the relative aquiclude and
135 pressure bearing layer can be generalized into one type of permeability coefficient [27,28].
136 Consequently the conceptual model of groundwater hydrogeology in tailing area can be
137 generalized as heterogeneous isotropic stable groundwater seepage system. Based on the
138 current situation of the research area, the groundwater seepage model can be generalized as
139 heterogeneous isotropy. And the calculation formula is as follows [27]:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(K \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(K \frac{\partial H}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(K \frac{\partial H}{\partial z} \right) + W = S_s \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}, t > 0, (x, y, z) \in \Omega \\ H(x, y, z, t) \Big|_{S_1} = H_1(x, y, z, t), (x, y, z) \in S_1 \\ H(x, y, z, t) \Big|_{t=0} = H_0(x, y, z), t \geq 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (1)$$

140 Where: K is the permeability coefficient, in m/d; H is the water head, in m; W is the
 141 water flow in or out of the aquifer from the vertical direction in unit time and volume, with
 142 positive inflow and negative outflow; S_s is the water storage rate, and the total water released
 143 from the aquifer in unit volume when the water head is reduced by one unit, in L^{-1} ; H_0 is the
 144 initial water level, in m; H_1 is the first kind of boundary water head, in m.

145 2.2.2 Mathematical model of pollutant transport

146 Using the MT3DMS module of Visual MODFLOW to simulate the transport route and
 147 situation of solute in groundwater can be more intuitively expressed, and its calculation
 148 formula is as follows [29]:

$$n \frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(n D_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial x_j} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (n v_i C) - C' W \quad (2)$$

149 Where: C is the concentration of pollutants in aquifer, in mg / L; n is the effective
 150 porosity of aquifer; X_i is the spatial coordinate variable, in m; t is the time, in day; C' is the
 151 concentration of pollutants in source and sink terms, in mg / L; D_{ij} is the hydrodynamic
 152 dispersion coefficient, (L^2/d) ; W is the strength of surface source and sink terms, $m^3/(d \cdot m^2)$;
 153 V_i is the seepage velocity of groundwater (m/d).

154 The migration process of pollutants in groundwater is affected by many factors, such as
 155 convection, dispersion, adsorption, physical decay, biodegradation, chemical reaction and
 156 volatilization. However, due to the hidden characteristics of groundwater, it is difficult to
 157 study the migration process of pollutants in groundwater. Due to the main factor of pollutant
 158 migration in groundwater is convection dispersion, it will greatly reduce the difficulty and
 159 error of this research if only considering the convection dispersion effect of pollutants in
 160 groundwater. But the actual range of pollutant diffusion may be slightly smaller than the
 161 prediction range of numerical simulation.

162 Visual MODFLOW, developed by Waterloo Hydrogeologic, Canada, is a numerical
163 simulation software with underground water flow, seepage modeling and visualization
164 processing for solute transport. At present, it has been widely used by hydrogeological
165 researchers in the simulation and prediction of solute transport in underground water flow
166 field. In this study, Visual MODFLOW and MT3DMS were used to calculate the migration of
167 specific and the simulation of the migration under variable density water flow. The WHS
168 calculator with stable solution and fast convergence is selected to solve the groundwater flow
169 equation. The Generalized conjugate gradient (GCG) method and the upstream finite
170 difference (UFD) method are selected to solve the solute transport equation. Compared with
171 the iterative method, this method can set the maximum transport step length, use a relatively
172 short method to calculate the finite difference equation, and also has the advantage of
173 specifying the output time.

174 **2.3 Model establishment and calculation analysis**

175 2.3.1 Model generalization

176 According to the hydrogeological data and field survey, the model of the study area is
177 divided into phreatic water layer, aquiclude and confined layer. The aquifer groundwater in
178 the study area is mainly the groundwater in the bedrock of the higher altitude area, and the
179 groundwater in the bedrock includes the fissure water in the Upper Sinian siliceous layer and
180 the fissure water in the Permian coarse-grained sandstone [30]. The groundwater dynamics in
181 the region is mainly affected by the natural climate. Factors of human also play a role which
182 is becoming more and more intense. The atmospheric precipitation in the study area is the
183 main source of groundwater supply, however, the ponds and farmland in the area are rarely
184 connected with groundwater. The aquifer in the south is cut by the tributary of Xiangjiang
185 River. The roof of the aquifer is higher than the water level elevation of the tributary of
186 Xiangjiang River, and the groundwater is mostly discharged from the south. Therefore, the
187 main flow direction of groundwater is from the northern hills to the southern plain area. In
188 addition, groundwater discharge caused by mining and human activities can be generalized as
189 a pumping well.

190 The boundary conditions of numerical simulation are usually used to express the
191 physical conditions of seepage boundary, that is, the conditions that the head (or seepage flow)
192 should meet on the boundary of seepage area. Precipitation infiltration is the main source in
193 the study area and other supply items are much less significant, so the supply in the area is
194 generalized as precipitation supply. In the northern part of the area, there is basically no flow
195 exchange of groundwater, and the west, North and East are surrounded by mountains, with
196 atmospheric precipitation converging to the south along the terrain. Therefore, the western,
197 northern and eastern boundaries are generalized as zero flux boundaries. The overall terrain of
198 the study area is high in the northwest and low in the southeast. The infiltration of
199 atmospheric precipitation along with the groundwater flow is discharged to the tributary of
200 Xiangjiang River from the north to the south. The cutting aquifer of the tributary of
201 Xiangjiang River in the South can be generalized as a constant head boundary. The bottom of
202 the study area is the bedrock with weak water permeability, which is generalized as the water
203 resistant floor.

204 2.3.2 Main parameters of the model

205 In this study, the vertical movement of groundwater system is mainly inter aquifer flow,
206 and only the convection and dispersion of pollutants in groundwater flow are considered.

207 The main factors affecting the prediction accuracy of the model are hydrogeological
208 parameters and solute transport parameters. At present, in hydrogeological research, these
209 parameters are usually obtained by hydrogeological experiments or by using the empirical
210 values of hydrological survey. The hydrogeological parameters of the study area are
211 preliminarily obtained, according to the hydrogeological conditions survey of Xiangtan
212 Manganese ore area in Hunan Province [30], as well as hydrogeological manual (Second
213 Edition) and hydrogeological basis (Sixth Edition). Then, referring to the method proposed by
214 benhachmi et al. [31] the hydrogeological parameters of the model are obtained by adjusting
215 the parameters such as hydraulic conductivity and water storage rate, making the calculated
216 value of water head in the model matches the observed value. After the calibration of
217 groundwater flow model, it is necessary to calibrate the solute transport model. According to

218 the mathematical equation of solute transport, the solute transport is mainly affected by the
219 diffusion coefficient of pollutants and the recharge concentration of pollutants. Similar to the
220 calibration of flow model, the calibration of pollutant transport model is mainly through
221 adjusting the dispersion, until the concentration observation value is consistent with the
222 calculated value of the model [32].

223 The main hydrogeological parameters of the study area are shown in Table 1. Among
224 them, the hydraulic conductivity of the phreatic layer is divided into four zones, and the
225 aquiclude and the confined layer are respectively generalized into one zone(As shown in Fig.
226 3). In this simulation, the finite difference method is used to establish the flow model under
227 the Visual MODFLOW software, and the research area is divided into 63×70 grids.

228 **3. Results and Discussion**

229 **3.1 Model calibration and test**

230 The calibration and test of the model is an important step in the study of simulation
231 operation. Only after the accurate verification of the model can accurately predict the
232 concentration distribution of pollutants in the future [33]. There are 8 water head observation
233 wells and 3 concentration observation wells in the study area, as shown in Figure 1. Since the
234 established flow model has been described above as a stable flow model, it is considered that
235 the groundwater level in the study area is stable. Taking the log of the instantaneous water
236 level head observation as the groundwater level of this point for model verification, the results
237 obtained by repeatedly adjusting the parameters are shown in the figure 2. This shows the
238 difference between the observed value and the calculated value of No. 7 observation well is
239 6.08m, which is the maximum value, and the difference between the calculated value and the
240 observed value of No. 6 observation well is 0.1m, which is the minimum value. The average
241 error of 7 monitoring wells selected in this study is 2.848m, and the average absolute error is
242 3.313m, which meets the basic accuracy requirements for simulation.

243 Actually, the monitoring data from 2012 to 2015 are used for the observation data in the
244 concentration observation well. Through debugging the parameters in the model to correct the
245 model, and then using the monitoring data in the monitoring well to test the model, judge the

246 reliability of the precision of the model established by studying the consistency of the
247 observed value and the calculated value in the simulation test result (Fig. 4).

248 Fig. 5 is the fitting curve of three concentration observation wells in the study. Among
249 them, A, B and C correspond to No. 1, 2 and 3 concentration observation wells respectively.
250 The concentration observation well data in the figure basically conforms to the Visual
251 MODFLOW simulation curve, so the solute migration model can be used to predict the
252 migration concentration for Mn in groundwater in the future.

253 **3.2 Vector of groundwater flow and pathlines of particle**

254 The aquifer parameters and boundary conditions are input into the solute model of
255 groundwater, and the simulation results are obtained by using Visual MODFLOW software
256 and running the water flow module, modpath module and MT3DMS module at the same time.
257 Fig. 6 below is the output result of modpath module. It can be seen that the migration path of
258 solute in underground water is from the tailing pond along the vertical direction of water head
259 contour to the South tributary of Xiangjiang River.

260 **3.3 Solute transport**

261 Based on the established groundwater flow and solute transport model, the groundwater
262 pollutant manganese is predicted. The simulation time is set as 20 years, the maximum time
263 step is set as 200 days, the multiplier is 1.1, and the specified output time is 2, 4, 8, 10, 15 and
264 20 years respectively. The calculation results of selecting the first layer are shown in Fig. 7,
265 the calculation results of vertical solute migration obtained by taking the east-west direction
266 of the leakage as the profile are shown in Fig. 8, and the maximum solute migration distance
267 of different aquifers with time curve obtained by analyzing the data are shown in Fig. 9.

268 It can be seen from the figure that the pollution source diffuses in a point form and
269 continuously leaks into the groundwater, causing the groundwater pollution. In this case, it
270 can be inferred that the concentration of Mn pollutant in the waste enter into the groundwater
271 will increase with the passage of time. And the direction of migration of the pollution plume
272 is basically the same as the flow direction of groundwater, it is elliptical along the flow
273 direction of groundwater. The diffusion range of pollution plume in 0~8 years is faster than

274 that in 15~20 years. Therefore, with the expansion of the migration range, the diffusion speed
275 of pollution plume is gradually slowing down. In the second year, the concentration of
276 pollutants in the central area of the pollution halo was 0.42mg/L, for which the maximum
277 detectable range/migration distance is 1110m, and the longest distance for which the
278 concentration exceed the grade III standard for groundwater is 385m. In the eighth year of
279 simulation, the concentration of pollutants in the central area of pollution halo is 1.15mg/L, of
280 which the maximum range of pollution detection is 1612m, and the longest distance for
281 concentration exceed the grade III standard for groundwater is 822m. By the 15th year of
282 simulation, the concentration of pollutants in the central area of the pollution halo is 1.71mg/L,
283 for which the maximum range for detection is 1909m, and the longest distance for
284 concentration exceed the grade III standard for groundwater is 1182m. After 20 years of
285 simulation, the concentration of pollutants in the central area of pollution halo is 1.97mg/L,
286 for which the maximum detectable range/migration distance is 2291m, and the longest
287 distance for concentration exceed the grade III standard for groundwater is 1280m. This is the
288 furthest range for pollutant diffusion and shows migration to the southeast along the flow path.
289 It also shows steady migration towards the main Xiangjiang River.

290 In the vertical direction: it can be seen from the figure that the diffusion speed of
291 pollutants in the first 0~8 years is faster than that for the second 15~20 years. Therefore, with
292 the expansion of the migration range, the diffusion speed of pollution plume is gradually
293 slowing down. When the pollution plume spreads to the third layer of the model, the
294 migration speed is again accelerated. When the pollutants migrate to the 20th year, the highest
295 concentration of manganese in the first layer of groundwater reaches 1.8mg/L, which poses a
296 great threat to human health and ecological environment. In addition, the pollution speed of
297 the third layer is accelerating. If measures are not taken in time, a large area of pollution will
298 be caused to the groundwater system.

299 Among the measures that can be taken, it should be considered to pave the anti-seepage
300 cushion in the tailings accumulation area to reduce the infiltration of pollutants at first. At
301 present, HDPE anti-seepage membrane is commonly used to treat the tailings pond leakage.

302 In addition, drainage channels should be built around the tailings dump, to avoid the rainwater
303 runoff containing a large amount of pollutants into the surrounding environment under the
304 condition of high intensity precipitation. At the same time, appropriate measures can be taken
305 to purify the polluted groundwater. In a word, the treatment of groundwater pollution in the
306 tailing area should be based on the source treatment, to avoid long-term pollution of
307 groundwater by pollution sources, and timely assess the current situation of groundwater
308 pollution, so as to effectively ensure the safety of drinking water sources for residents.

309 **3.4 Uncertainty analysis**

310 Due to the special nature of groundwater, uncertainty analysis should be carried out in
311 the numerical simulation of groundwater. There are many factors causing uncertainty, some of
312 which can not be avoided, and some are caused by the limitations of research methods. The
313 following is a description of some uncertain factors generated in this study. In this study, only
314 a preliminary investigation and simulation of manganese in groundwater in Xiangtan
315 manganese ore area has been made. There may be some errors in the actual distribution of
316 manganese in groundwater and hydrogeological conditions. The accuracy of the simulation
317 results is affected by many factors, such as the location of the monitoring well, the monitoring
318 accuracy of the monitoring well and whether the model parameters are appropriate. These
319 uncertainties may cause deviation to the numerical simulation results of the study area, but
320 they do not mean that the simulation results are invalid. Therefore, it needs to be further
321 improved in the future work.

322 **4. Conclusion**

323 In this study, the manganese ore area of Heling Town, Xiangtan City, Hunan Province,
324 central China is used to study manganese pollution of groundwater. Based on Visual
325 MODFLOW and MT3DMS software platform, the migration of the pollution plume of Mn
326 over a 20 year period is predicted. The results are as follows: (1)Visual MODFLOW can
327 directly reflect the change of groundwater quality in space and time. Visualization approach
328 improves the assessment and understanding of complex 3 dimensional data. Establish and
329 calibrate groundwater flow model. The results show that the maximum difference between the

330 observed value of observation well and the calculated value of model is 6.08m. The average
331 absolute error is 3.313m and the overall correlation coefficient is 0.991, which basically meets
332 the requirements of accuracy for simulation; (2) The transport model for Mn in groundwater is
333 built in the MT3DMS module of Visual MODFLOW and its reliability is verified. In the 20th
334 year of the simulation, the pollution range reaches the maximum value, and the pollutant
335 concentration in the central area of the pollution halo is 1.97mg/L, in which the maximum
336 range in the horizontal direction is 2291m, and the longest distance for concentration exceed
337 the grade III standard for groundwater is 1280m. In the longitudinal direction, pollutants
338 spread to the confined aquifer and reach the confined layer, and the diffusion speed increases,
339 endangering the deep groundwater.

340 In this paper, the migration regularity of manganese in groundwater is studied, which
341 provides a direction for solving the problem of groundwater pollution in mining area. In
342 addition, the research method can provide basis for groundwater health risk assessment in
343 mining area, and avoid the occurrence of pollution accidents. Finally, the pollution prediction
344 is carried out for the areas with long-term pollution risk, so as to provide help for the
345 long-term sustainable development of groundwater.

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Tables 1

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Table 1 main hydrogeological conditions in the study area

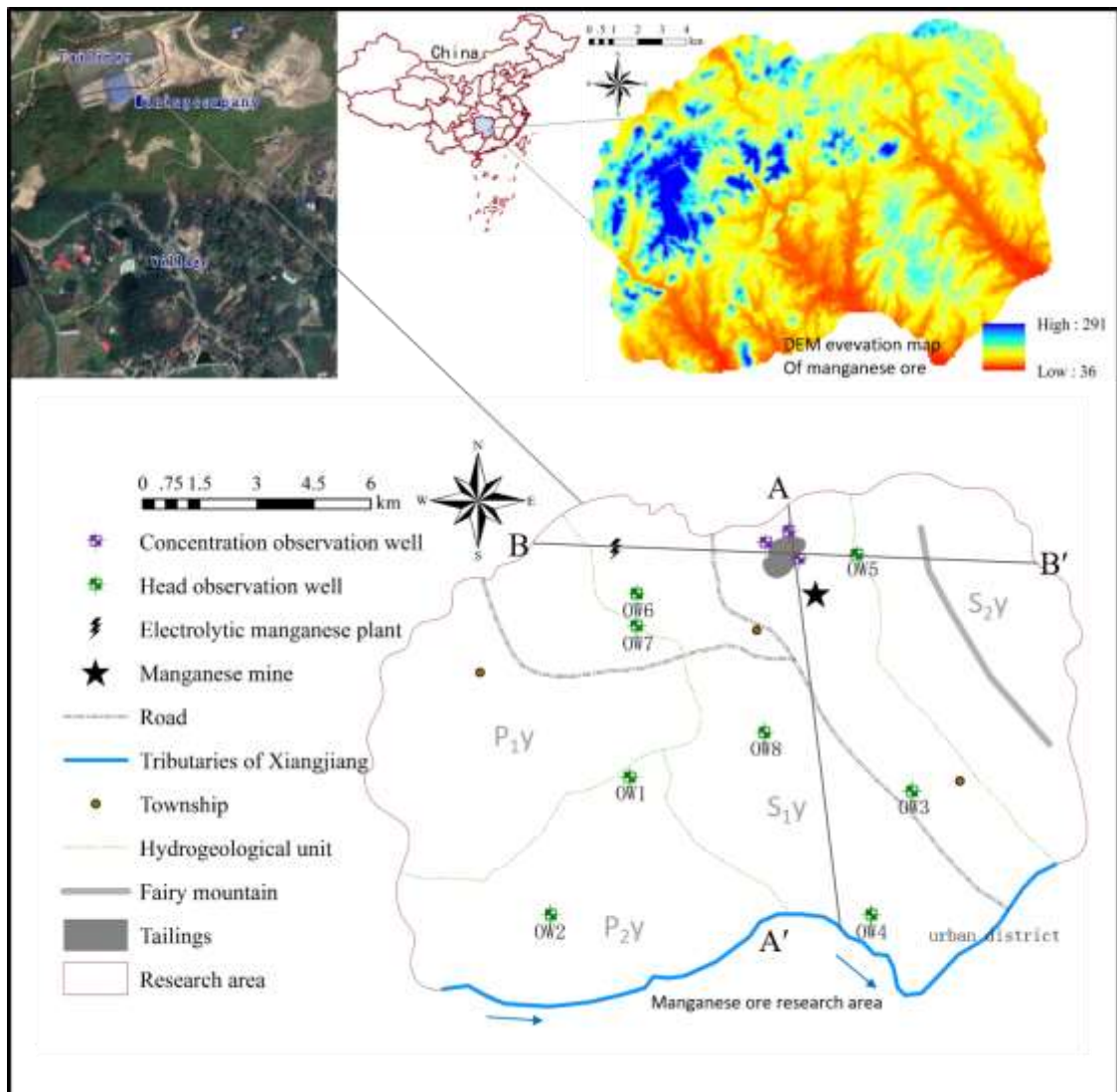
| Partition name | hydraulic conductivity /(m·d ⁻¹) | total porosity | Sy | Ss/ (m) | longitudinal dispersion α_L |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|------|-----------------------|--|
| P _{1y} | 0.56 | | 0.16 | 1.23×10^{-3} | 0.381 |
| P _{2y} | 0.67 | | 0.13 | 1.08×10^{-3} | 0.343 |
| S _{1y} | 1.78 | | 0.14 | 1.16×10^{-3} | 0.384 |
| S _{2y} | 0.84 | 0.3 | 0.14 | 1.14×10^{-3} | 0.363 |
| Relative aquiclude | 2×10^{-5} | | 0.12 | 1.07×10^{-3} | 0.315 |
| confined aquifer | 1.5 | | 0.15 | 1.25×10^{-3} | 0.333 |

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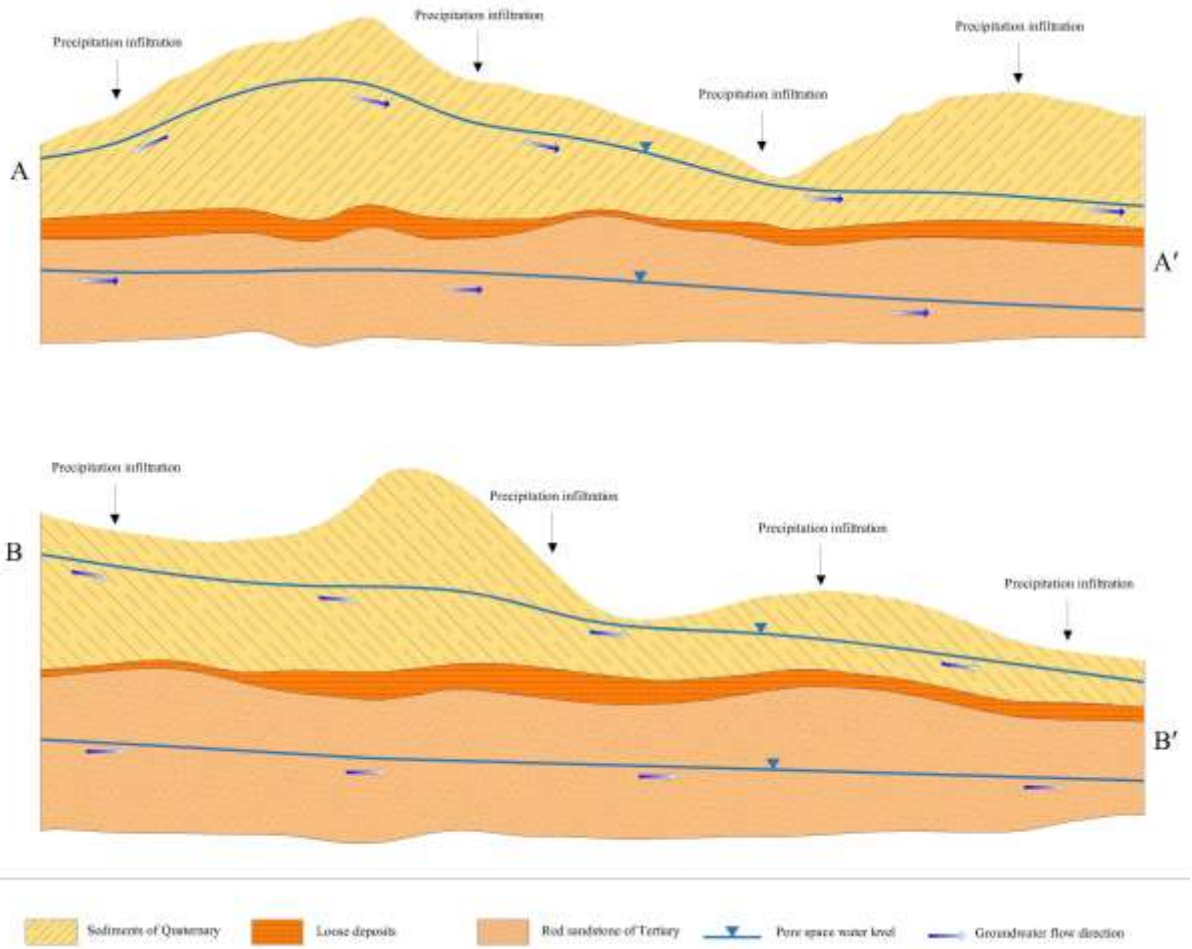
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Fig. 1 Geological-hydrogeological map of the study area in the Xiangtan manganese ore of Hunan Province (China)

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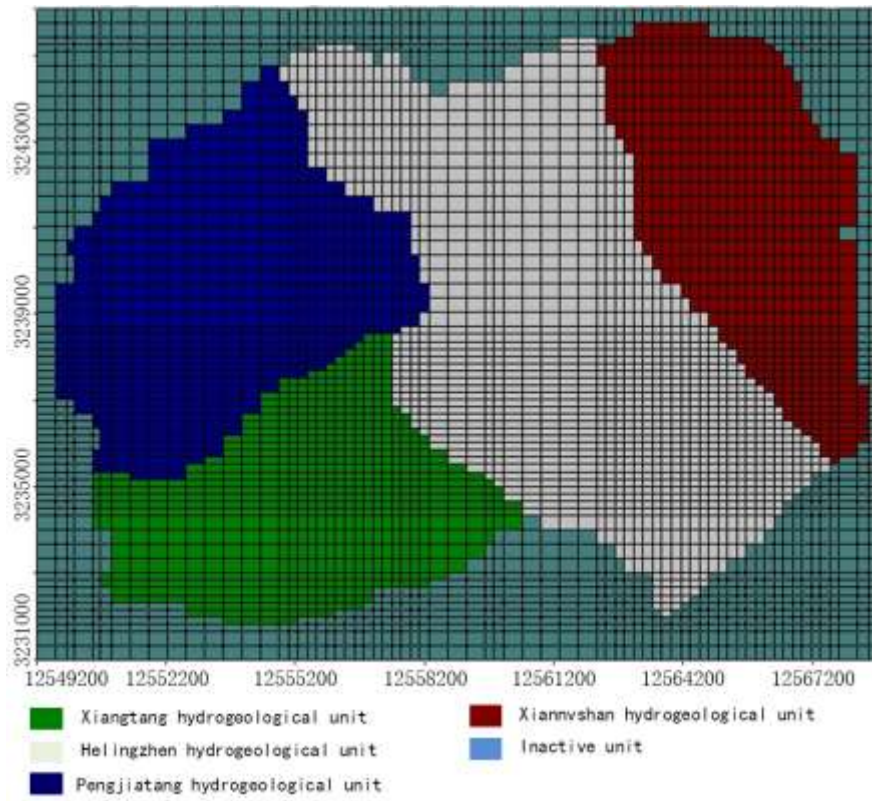


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Fig. 2 Cross-sections A–A' and B–B' of the geometrical-structural and aquifer groundwater system in the study area (Figure 1 shows cross-section locations)

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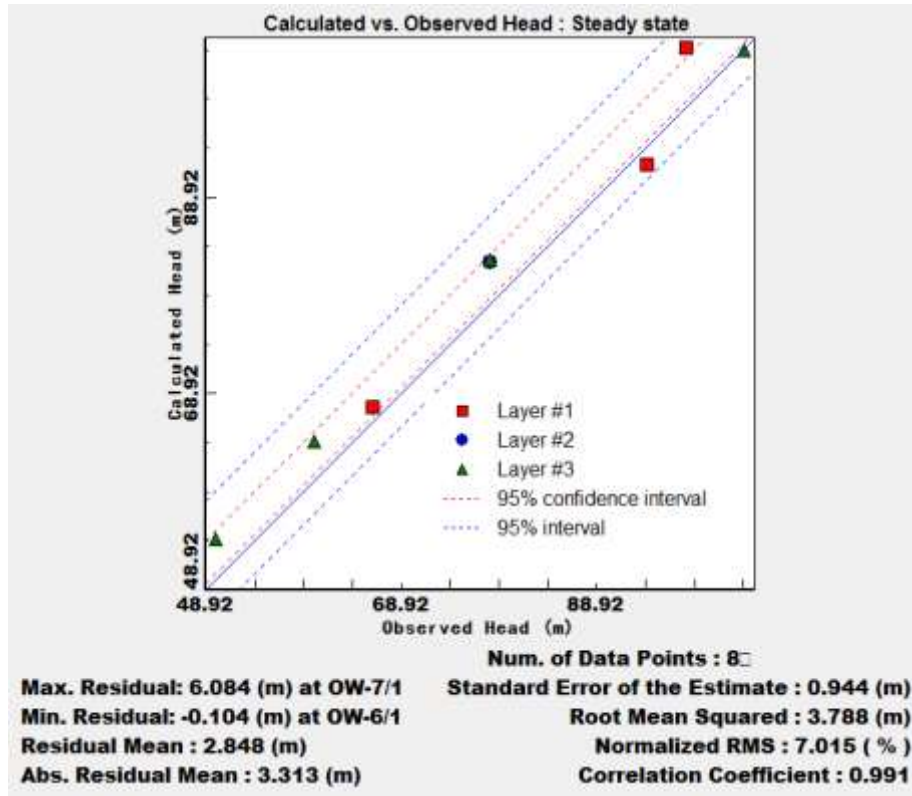
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Fig.3 Division of hydraulic conductivity of aquifer in the study area

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Fig. 4 matching results of monitoring well water level and simulated water level

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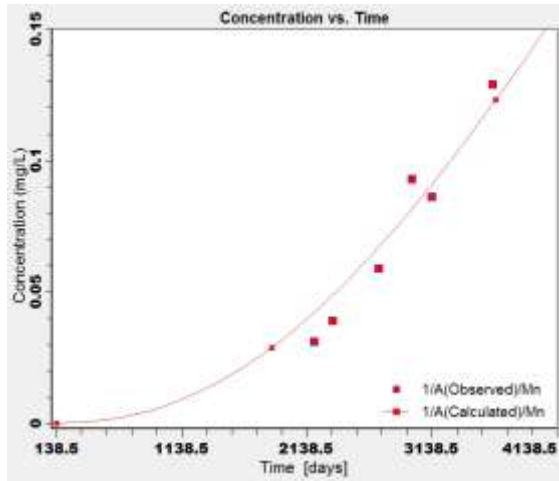
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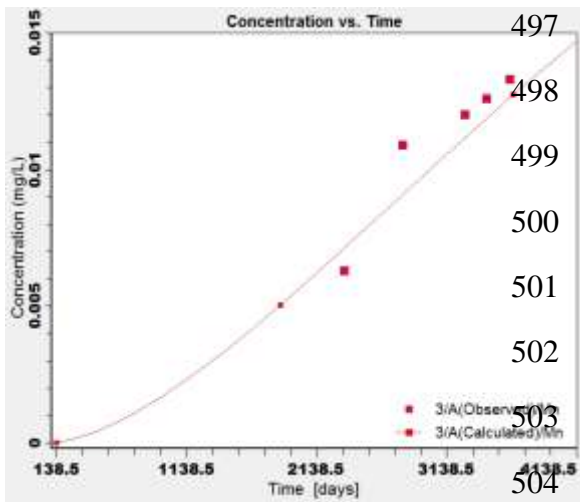
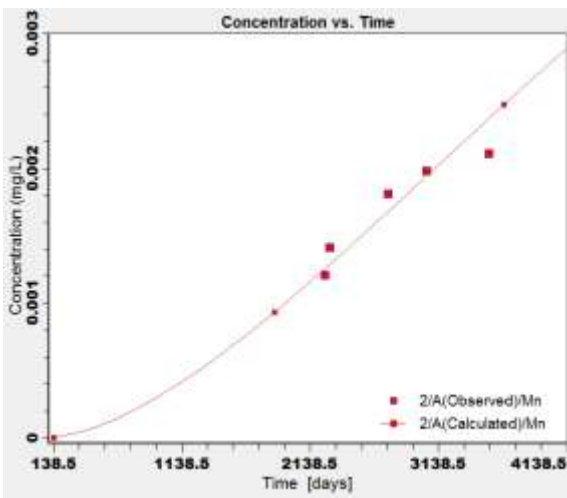
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Fig. 5 observed and calculated values of Mn concentration in groundwater. a. No.1

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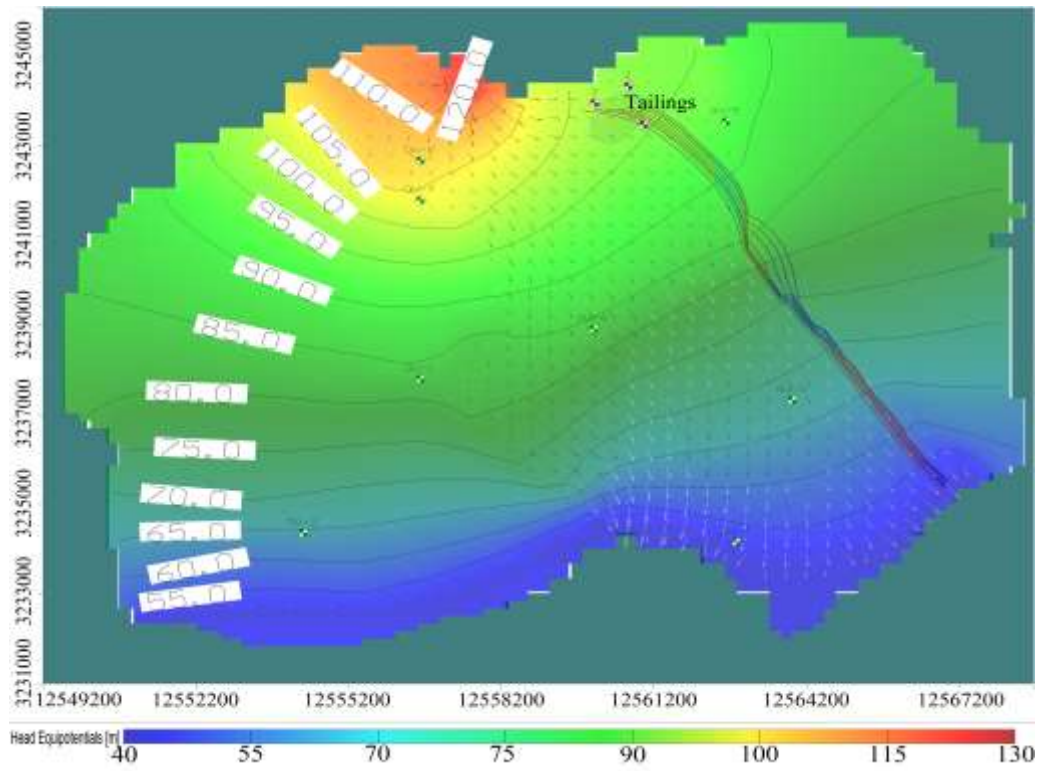
concentration monitoring well, b. No.2 concentration monitoring well, c. No.3 concentration

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monitoring well

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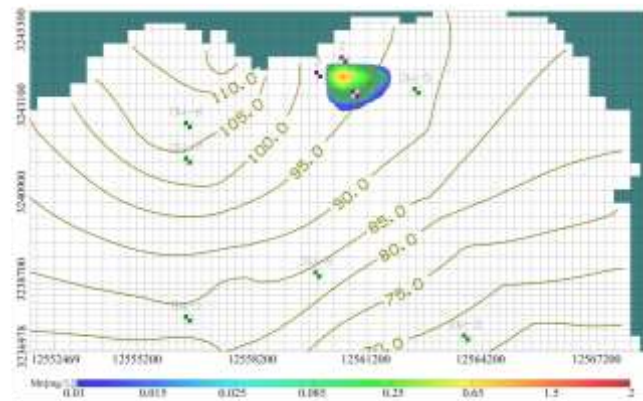
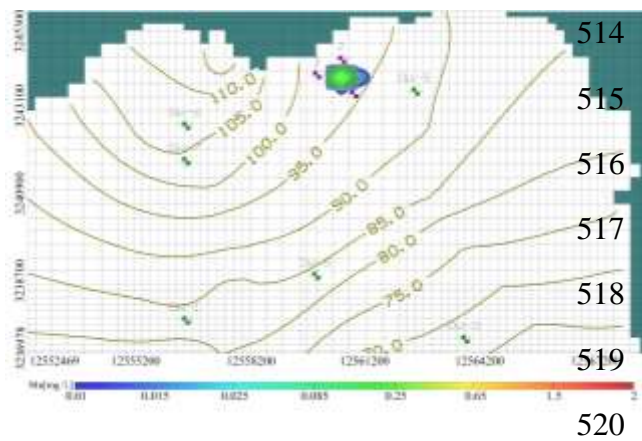
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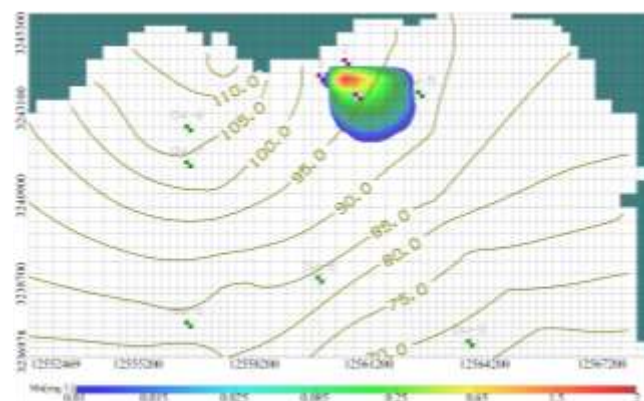
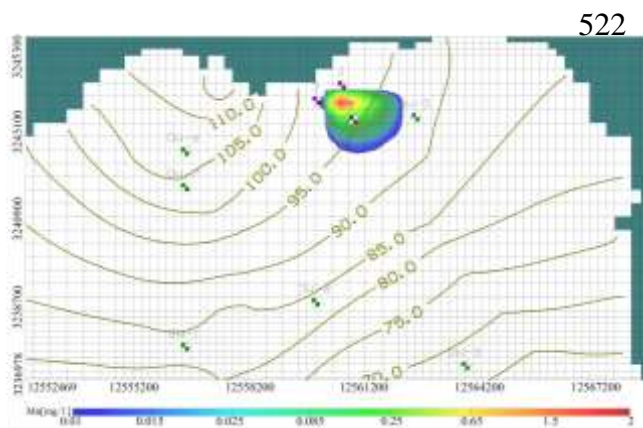
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Fig. 6 Trace and vector map of study area



521 Mn migration in the 2nd year

Mn migration in the 8th year



523 Mn migration in the 15th year

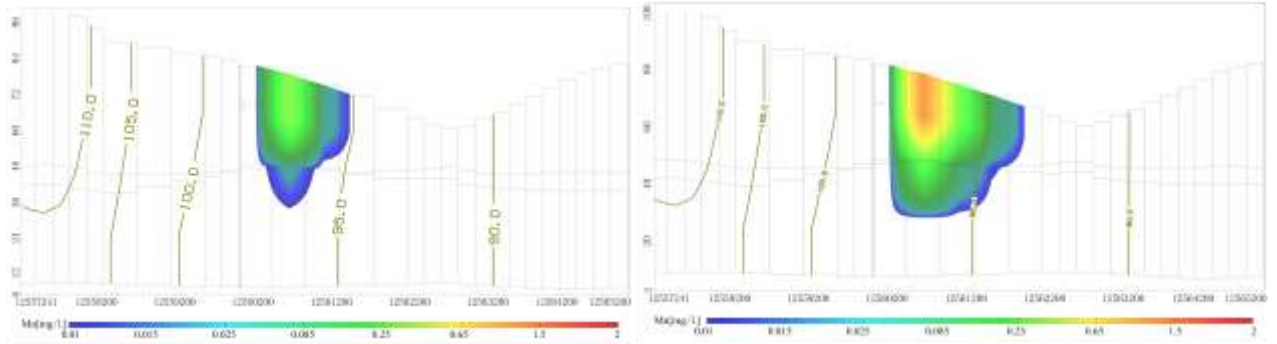
Mn migration in the 20th year

524 Fig. 7 Prediction of manganese migration in groundwater within 20 years (0.01mg/L is
525 the laboratory detection limit)

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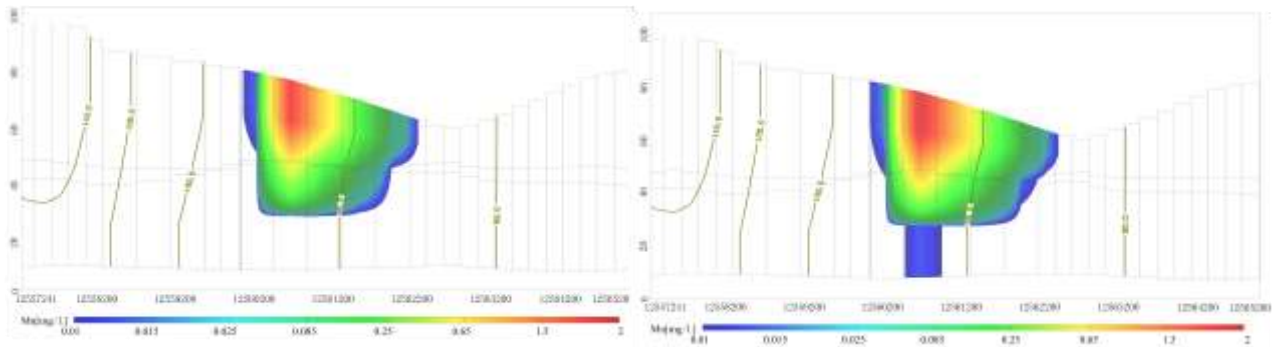
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530 Mn migration in the 2nd year

Mn migration in the 8th year



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532 Mn migration in the 15th year

Mn migration in the 20th year

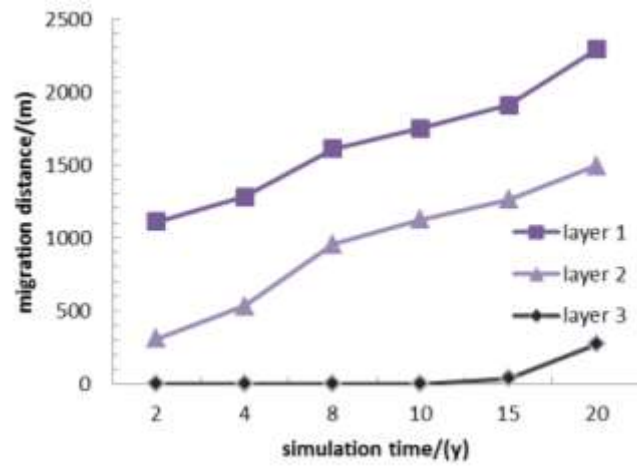
533 Fig. 8 Prediction of vertical migration of manganese in groundwater system within 20

534 years (0.01mg/L is the laboratory detection limit)

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Fig. 9 Broken line of the furthest detectable distance of Mn in groundwater

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