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# Dam Breakdown and Response of Protection Dam, Case Scenarios of Mosul-Badush Dams, Northern Iraq

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**Keywords:**<br>Mosul Dam Failure; Badush Dam; Regulatory Dam; Reservoir.

#### *Highlights:*

- The first mathematical model of Breakdown Scenarios of Mosul.
- Estimating the Mosul Dam reservoir level before the breakdown.
- The program work limits ranged from minimum to maximum levels of the Mosul Dam reservoir at which the failure happened.

#### **A R T I C L E I N F O**



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**Abstract**: In this study, a program was built to simulate the sudden and complete collapse of the Mosul and Badush Dams behavior towards this collapse and predict the level at which the water will balance in the two dams after the collapse, compared to different levels at the Mosul Dam before the collapse. Two mathematical models were built as inputs to this program. The first predicted the water level in the Mosul Dam reservoir in terms of its storage volume before the collapse, and the second predicted the water level in the Badush reservoir after the collapse, according to the level in the Mosul reservoir before the collapse. For each collapse scenario, the program was organized according to sequential steps summarized assuming the water level in the Badush Dam reservoir when the level stabilizes, and from it determining the water volume in Badush reservoir based on the geometric analysis of the reservoir, then the volume of water transferred from Mosul reservoir to Badush reservoir, and thus the volume of water inside Mosul reservoir before the collapse. From the first mathematical model, the level of the Mosul Dam reservoir was determined before the collapse. The second mathematical model determined the level of the Badush Dam reservoir after the collapse. The results showed that the program has high flexibility in predicting what will happen in the Badush Dam reservoir after the collapse based on the water level in the Mosul Dam reservoir before it collapses and that the limits of the program's work extend from the minimum to the maximum level in Mosul Dam at which the failure can occur. Also, the storage volume in Mosul Dam will be distributed to the two reservoirs after the failure until the level stabilizes. Badush Dam, at a level of 330.4 m (a.s.l), can expand the maximum flood wave resulting from the total and sudden collapse of Mosul Dam at its maximum level of 333 m (a.s.l).

 $\overline{\bowtie}$ 



## **سيناريوهات انهيار سد الموصل واستجابة سد بادوش، شمالي العراق**

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#### **الخالصة**

في هذه الدراسة تم بناء برنامج لمحاكاة حالة االنهيار المفاجئ والكامل لسد الموصل، وسلوك سد بادوش تجاه هذا االنهيار والتنبؤ ب المنسوب الذي سيتوازن عنده السدان بعد ذلك االنهيار على مناسيب مختلفة من سد الموصل قبل االنهيار. تم بناء نموذجين رياضيين كمدخلات لهذا البرنامج، الأول للتنبؤ بمنسوب المياه في خزان سد الموصل بدلالة حجم التخزين فيه قبل الانهيار، والثاني للتنبؤ بمنسوب المياه في خزان بادوش بعد االنهيار، بداللة منسوب خزان الموصل قبل االنهيار. لكل سيناريو من سيناريوهات االنهيار تم تنظيم البرنامج وفق خطوات متسلسلة تلخصت بفرض منسوب المياه في خزان سد بادوش بعد االستقرار، ومنه تحديد حجم المياه في خزان بادوش بناءً على التحليل الجيومتري للخزان، ثم حجم المياه المنقولة من خزان الموصل إلى خزان بادوش، وبالتالي حجم المياه داخل خزان الموصل قبل االنهيار، ومن النموذج الرياضي األول، يتم تحديد منسوب خزان سد الموصل قبل االنهيار، ومن النموذج الرياضي الثاني، يتم تحديد منسوب خزان سد بادوش بعد االنهيار. أظهرت النتائج أن البرنامج يتمتع بمرونة عالية في التنبؤ بما سيحدث في خزان سد بادوش بعد الانهيار، من خلال منسوب المياه في خزان سد الموصل قبل الانهيار، وأن حدود عمل البرنامج تمتد من أدنى إلى أقصى مستوى في سد الموصل يمكن أن يحدث عنده االنهيار، وأن حجم التخزين في سد الموصل سيتم توزيعه على الخزانين بعد الانهيار حتى يستقر المستوى، وأن سد بادوش عند مستوى ٣٣٠,٤ م (ف م س ب)، يتسع لأقصىي موجة فيضان ناتجة عن الانهيار الكلي والمفاجئ لسد الموصل عند منسوبه الأقصىي البالغ ٣٣٣ م(ف.م.س.ب).

#### **1.INTRODUCTION**

Mosul dam is located more than 50 km northnorthwest of Mosul city, while Badush dam is located about 40 km to the south of Mosul dam and about 15 km northwest of Mosul city. The regulatory dam is in the middle of the river, reaching between the two dams. Fig. 1 shows the three dams' locations. The traditional reservoir routing is the calculation of the inputs, outputs, and storage difference and their change with time, so the reservoir routing is a mathematical procedure to calculate the changes over time in the volume and behavior of the flood wave movement through the reservoir from the wave entry to the reservoir then to the dam  $\lceil 1 \rceil$ .

**الكلمات الدالة:** فشل سد الموصل، سد بادوش، السد التنظيمي، خزان .



**Fig. 1** Location of the Three Studied Dams.



Many mathematical and numerical models derive and solve flood problems on riverbanks. These models draw plans to protect the cities and villages near the river banks; however, the appropriate model must be chosen according to the nature of the available data. Also, these models may take a long time to prepare and get results, so the user must be careful when using each form [2]. Many traditional usable types of reservoir flood simulation were published  $\begin{bmatrix} 3, & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . There are many methodologies and models to simulate the Mosul dam breakdown, but not assuming the building of the Badush dam as a protection dam  $[5, 6]$ . In this study, a new methodology was developed to simulate the reservoirs of the main storage dam (Mosul Dam), the protection dam (Badush Dam), the river reaching between the two dams, and the regulation dam in the middle of this reach, according to geometric data analysis, in the case of Mosul Dam breakdown to reserve the permanence of the protection dam against the possible failure of main storage dam  $[7, 8]$ . The immersion and then the damage will cover part or all of the river reach and its banks restricted between the dam expected to breakdown and the protection dam [9-12]. The limits of immersion can be determined or estimated through hypothetical scenarios to simulate the flood wave resulting from the breakdown. Many studies dealt with hypotheses, scenarios of the breakdown, and models to simulate the Mosul Dam collapse  $[5, 6, 13 - 20]$ . All of these studies did not assume the existence of Badush Dam as a protection dam, while only the study of Mohammed-Ali and Khairallah [21] simulated the flood risk in the Tigris River downstream to the present study area, particularly the city of Tikrit, using HEC-RAS software, and identified the areas most exposed to flooding to develop a plan to manage the potential flood risks. The Mosul Dam's sudden collapse and the flood wave's movement towards the Badush Dam may decrease its stability, especially its earth parts, its shoulders, and the extent of its foundations [22]. The most important data required in the reservoir simulation is the relationship between the input flow and the volume, and the water level inside the reservoir is the relationship between volume and level with the outflow. As for the channel routing, the flow hydrograph is predicted in several segments on the reach, depending on the inflow and outflow between upstream and downstream sections. The case of the Mosul Dam breakdown will be studied through several scenarios for different levels to preserve the dam and evaluate the Badush Dam's behavior as a protection dam facing each breakdown hypothesis. The relationship of storage volume with the level will be adopted in Mosul Dam,

and geometric data will be adopted to determine the relationship of level with volume and vice versa for Badush Dam .

#### **2.METHODOLOGY**

#### *2.1.Breakdown Case Hypotheses*

The following hypotheses were adopted when the breakdown occurred. These hypotheses are not arbitrary; they are scientifically supported and justified.

- 1. The breakdown occurs during the water surplus (wet) period, between December and April, according to the Iraqi climatic conditions.
- 2. The complete and sudden breakdown represents the harshest hypothesis, and all other hypotheses are less dangerous, wide, and fast because the transfer of water mass from the Mosul Dam reservoir to the Badush Dam reservoir will be as fast as possible. It will flood a larger area than the breakdown partial case.
- 3. Twenty-eight hypothetical water levels reached in the Badush Dam reservoir after the breakdown occurred, starting from 256 m.a.s.l to 310 m.a.s.l., with an interval of 2 meters between one level to another, corresponding to the levels of the Mosul Dam at the moment of breakdown that will be calculated from the program prepared to achieve the methodology. Each selected level represents an independent scenario and has a response calculated in the Mosul and Badush Dams.
- 4. The Badush and Regulatory Dams are at their maximum operational levels. The corresponding volumes are 15,000,000 (about fifteen million cubic meters) in the regulatory dam reservoir, and 264,875,073 (about two hundred and sixty-five million cubic meters) in the Badush dam reservoir already existed at the moment of breakdown, based on this hypothesis is also the harshest hypothesis.
- 5. The water mass movement hypothesis was adopted without considering the time taken for the movement of this mass until reaching the moment of balance, based on the fact that the presence of the protection dam restricts the water mass movement and its movement is inaccessible towards the downstream and does not a threat the population areas, noting that the water mass transfer is gradual and not instantaneous.
- 6. Residential areas located at levels lower than the maximum flood level of Badush Dam, resulting from the Mosul Dam failure, were evacuated to alternative locations before the failure began.

#### *2.2.Mathematical Models Derived to Simulate the Breakdown*

Two mathematical models were derived, and a polynomial regression analysis was conducted in this study using the level-volume data of the Mosul Dam and the DEM-based geometric data of the Badush Dam. Dependent variable Y can be used as a function of (N) predictor variables X1, X2,..., XN, as in Eq.  $(1)$  [23].

$$
Y = \alpha \cdot + \alpha_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 X_2^2 + \alpha_3 X_3^3 + \dots + \alpha_N X_N^N
$$
 (1)

where Y= Level in Mosul reservoir (m.a.s.l.) in Eq. (2), and Y= Level achieved in Badush Dam reservoir after the breakdown (m.a.s.l.) in Eq.(3). While  $X =$  Volume in Mosul reservoir  $(m<sup>3</sup>)$  in Eq. (2), and X= Level in Mosul Dam reservoir at the moment of breakdown (m.a.s.l) in Eq. (3). The GRAPHER 13 statistical software used for the polynomial fitting of these equations: The first predicts the water level in the Mosul Dam reservoir in terms of its storage volume before the collapse,

Eq. (2). and Fig. 2. The second predicts the water level in the Badush reservoir after the collapse according to the level in Mosul reservoir before the collapse, Eq. (3). and Fig. 3. The limits of Eq. (1) are the levels from 250 to 343.2 (m.a.s.l), which are the operational limits of the Mosul Dam reservoir.

$$
Y = 259.27 + 3.4310^{-8}X - 1.20 \times 10^{-17}X^2 - 2.34 \times 10^{-27}X^3 + 2.36 \times 10^{-37}X^4 + 1.16 \times 10^{-47}X^5 - 2.20 \times 10^{-58}X^6
$$
 (2)  
X= Volume in Mozilla reservoir (m3)  
Y= Level in Mozilla reservoir (m.a.s.l.)  
where  
Y= Level Achieved in Badush Dam reservoir

after the breakdown (m.a.s.l.), and X= Level in Mosul Dam reservoir at the moment of breakdown (m.a.s.l).

$$
Y = 24146.80 - 302.37 X + 1.42 X2 - 0.229X3 + 2.3010-6X4
$$
 (3)









#### *2.3.Procedure to Simulate Mosul Dam Breakdown*

The geometric analysis of the Badush Dam reservoir was adopted as a basis for the relationship between the water level and the water volume in the reservoir. The EXCEL program was built to simulate the Mosul Dam breakdown and the response of the Badush

Dam against this case. The program steps can be summarized in a flowchart, as shown in Fig.4.

#### *2.4. Breakdown Scenario Program*

A program was built to predict what would happen in the protection dam (Badush) reservoir at the moment of the Mosul Dam breakdown, Table 1.









1. Supposed water level in Badush dam after breakdown (m.a.s.l)

2. Water volume in Badush dam after breakdown m<sup>3</sup> (according to the data of volume-level derived from the DEM of Badush dam).

3. Water volume moved from Mosul to Badush dams (m3)

4. Water level in Mosul after the breakdown dam (the same level in Badush) (m.a.s.l)

5. Water volume remaining in Mosul dam after breakdown (m3)

6. Water volume in Mosul dam before breakdown (m3)

7. Water level in Mosul before failure (m.a.s.l). from Eq. 2.

8. Assumed water level in Mosul dam Before breakdown (m.a.s.l)

9. Predicted water level in Badush dam after (m.a.s.l) from Eq. 3.



#### **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The dams may breakdown as a result of inaccurate selection of the site on which the dam was built, i.e., lack of integration of all kinds of site investigations, design deficiency<br>or defect, inappropriate geotechnical or defect, inappropriate characteristics of the rocks or soil of the foundations' zone (as expected for Mosul Dam), a lack of site preparation works before construction such as grouting (grouting) works within the zone of the foundations, an executive defect during the implementation of concrete or aggregate works, an operational defect due to the policy of filling and emptying, negligence or a lack of maintenance and periodic monitoring, seismic or volcanic activity in or near the dam or the reserve site, or a deliberate act of sabotage as happens in wars or terrorist acts. In the present study, a hypothetical program was developed for the water mass to move after the collapse from the reservoir of the Mosul Dam to be distributed over the two reservoirs until it is balanced at one mutual level upstream of the Badush Dam. The program mentioned in Table 1. simulated the breakdown in the following steps:

- 1- Input the hypothetical water level in Badush Dam reservoir after the breakdown of Mosul dam within the limits of (256-310) (m.a.s.l) with two-meter intervals between a selected level to another, Table 2.
- 2- Input the storage volume in the Badush Dam reservoir in the second column, corresponding to each level in the first column, according to the results of the DEM-based geometric analysis of the Badush Dam.
- 3- Calculating the water transferred volume from the Mosul Dam reservoir to the Badush Dam reservoir (third column), which raises the level from the state before the breakdown to the assumed level in column 1 after subtracting the operational volume that is already presented in Badush Dam reservoir before the breakdown, which is (264875073 m3) about two hundred and fifty million cubic meters of the volume in the second column corresponding to the assumed level.
- 4- Input the level in Mosul Dam after the breakdown (fourth column), which is the same level in Badush Dam, on the basis that the volume of water will be transferred to the Badush reservoir until the level stabilizes. The two reservoirs merge, and part of the reserve remains in the Mosul reservoir (communicating vessels law).
- 5- Input the volume of water remaining in the Mosul reservoir (the fifth column) from a level-volume data table of the Mosul Dam.
- Calculating the water volume present in the Mosul Dam reservoir before the breakdown (the sixth column) by adding the volume of water remaining in the reservoir (fifth column) to the volume of water that moved to the Badush Dam reservoir (the third column).
- 7- Estimating the Mosul Dam reservoir level before the breakdown for each scenario (seventh column), using the mathematical equation of volume level mentioned in Eq. 2 and Fig. 2, which was developed to predict the level in terms of the volume in the sixth column, as the equation was built using data Level-volume of Mosul Dam.
- 8- Developing a mathematical equation to predict the water level in the Badush reservoir after the breakdown using the data of the first and seventh columns, as in Eq. 3 and Fig. 3, and setting selected levels from the levels of Mosul Dam at the moment of breakdown in the eighth column, and substituting the equation in the ninth column to predict the levels that will be achieved in the Badush Dam reservoir after the breakdown, as shown in Fig. 5.
- 9- Determine the maximum mutual level of the two reservoirs after the breakdown (about 300.4 m.a.s.l), which ensures the maximum storage capacity of the Mosul Dam reservoir reached about 330 m.a.s.l according to the program data, which is the most important result of this simulation scenarios.



**Fig. 5** Sketch Diagram to Explain the Method of Calculations of Water Levels in Mosul and Badush Dams before and after the Breakdown of Mosul Dam.

**Table 2** Outputs of the Program to Simulate the Flood Wave Resulting from the Breakdown of Mosul Dam, according to the Scenarios Prepared for 52 Hypothetical Levels of the Dam at the Moment of Breakdown.



1. Assumed water level in the Badush Dam after breakdown (m.a.s.l) 2. Water volume in Badush dam after breakdown (m3) (according to the data of volume-level derived from the DEM of Badush dam).

3. Water volume moved from the Mosul to Badush dams (m3)

4. Water level in the Mosul Dam after the dam breakdown(m.a.s.l) 5. Water volume remaining in the Mosul Dam after breakdown (m3)

6. Water volume in Mosul dam before breakdown (m3)<br>7. Water level in the Mosul Dam before failure (m.a.s.l). from Eq. 2.

8. Assumed water level in the Mosul Dam Before breakdown (m.a.s.l)

Predicted water level in the Badush Dam after (m.a.s.l) from Eq.

When predicting the levels that will be achieved in Badush Dam reservoir, after the breakdown at specific levels in Mosul Dam reservoir in each of the scenarios, six of these levels were derived from digital elevation models of Badush Dam reservoir area and converted into shape files and inundation maps for the post-breakdown stage as in Figs.  $(6-11)$ .



Resulting from the Scenario of the Breakdown of the Mosul Dam at a Level of 276.26 .







Resulting from the Scenario of the Breakdown of Mosul Dam at a Level of 295.56.



**Fig. 9** The Spatial Extension of Badush Reservoir at a Level of 280.66 (m.a.s.l) Resulting from the Scenario of the Breakdown of Mosul Dam at a Level of 306.4.



Fig. 10 The Spatial Extension of Badush Reservoir at a Level of 290.58 (m.a.s.l) Resulting from the Scenario of the Breakdown of Mosul Dam at a Level of 317.54.



Resulting from the Scenario of the Breakdown of Mosul Dam at a Level of 326.97.

The areas of villages partially or entirely submerged were also calculated at selected levels from the immersion levels and tabulated in Table 3. The increase in these areas was also represented graphically with increasing

immersion levels, as in Fig. 12, then converting the table data into a gradual inundation map with an increase of level, as in Fig. 13.



**Fig. 12** Cumulative Inundation Areas for Villages Partially or Entirely Submerged in the Badush Dam Reservoir, Resulting from Six Breakdown Scenarios for the Mosul Dam Reservoir.



**Fig. 13** Cumulative Inundation Areas Map for Villages are Partially or Entirely Submerged in the Badush Dam Reservoir, Resulting from Six Breakdown Scenarios for the Mosul Dam Reservoir.

**Table 3** Inundation Areas (m<sup>2</sup>) for Villages are Partially or Entirely Submerged within Six Different Levels in the Badush Dam Reservoir, Resulting from Six Breakdown Scenarios for the Mosul Dam Reservoir.



#### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

The results indicated that the program and scenarios had high flexibility in predicting what would happen in the Badush Dam reservoir after the breakdown of the Mosul Dam, according to the water level in the Mosul Dam reservoir before the failure. The program work limits ranged from minimum to maximum levels of the Mosul Dam reservoir at which the failure happened. The storage volume in Mosul Dam was redistributed to the two reservoirs after the failure until the level stabilized. Badush Dam, at a level of 330.4 m (a.s.l), can accommodate the maximum flood wave resulting from the total and sudden collapse of Mosul Dam at its maximum level of 333 m (a.s.l). Through the ideas presented in this paper, it is possible to recommend adopting this procedure to simulate the hypothesis of the collapse of other dams and the response of protection dams. Also, it is recommended to develop the approved EXCEL program into special software to simulate the protection dams' behavior against the storage dams' collapse.

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