

# Improving Global Optimization of Hydrologic Models

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### **Research Team and Collaborators!**



#### Dr. Jenny Jay, UCLA Dr. Tom Meixner, U of Arizona Dr. Laura Rademacher, U of Pacific



### **Global Hydrologic Fluxes**

#### (Oki and Kanae, 2006)



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# Future Uncertainty...



Will the hydrologic cycle intensify as a result of climate change ?

# **Research Themes**

### **Changing Hydrologic Cycle**

### o Wildfires

- Geochemical physical response
- Modeling post-fire runoff
- Contaminant transport

o Urbanization



- Energy and water fluxes in urbanized regions
- Partitioning of flow regimes in developing watersheds
- -Atmospheric deposition and impact on "fringe" watersheds
- o Climate Impacts on Watersheds
  - Evaluating quantity and quality changes
  - Ecosystem response
- o Improving tools for analysis/prediction
  - Remote sensing of land surface properties
    - MODIS ET model (stand-alone)
  - Model optimization and predictions
    - land surface and hydrologic (operational)



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### **Spatial and Temporal Process Scales**



Source Bloschl, 1996

# What Model? What Level of Complexity?



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# **Modeling Components**



### **NWS Operational Model: SAC-SMA**



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# **The Concept of Model Calibration**



### How much improvement is possible ?



# <u>Shuffled</u> <u>Complex</u> <u>Evolution</u> (SCE)

#### **Global Optimization Scheme**

Combines SIMPLEX search, genetic evolution,

shuffling (sharing) of complex information

**Requires:** 

Historical observations Objective function choice Parameter constraints

#### **PROCESS:**

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- 1. Define feasible parameter space
  - a. Create m complexes with n points in each complex
  - b. Randomly sample parameter space
- 2. Evolve each complex (using simplex method)
- 3. Shuffle complexes and re-search sample space
- 4. Determine if convergence criteria is satisfied "objective function threshold" – NSE, DRMS, etc
- 5. Loop through procedure until criteria met
- 6. Results in selection of single parameter set







### Generalized Likelihood Uncertainty Estimation (GLUE)

Global Method to Estimate Behavioral Parameter Sets Random parameter sampling, selection of thresholds, produces "prediction bounds"

**Requires:** 

Historical observations Selection of likelihood fx. Parameter constraints

#### **PROCESS:**

- 1. Define Feasible Parameter Space
- 2. Monte Carlo Simulations (Random, Latin Hypercube, etc.)
  - a. Randomly sample parameter space (10,000x)
  - b. Run model simulations with all par. sets
  - c. Calculate Likelihood (theoretical or "obj. fx")
- 3. Determine Behavioral & Non-behavioral Sets
  - a. Reject Non-behavioral via set "threshold" i.e. NSE> 0.3 cfs, DRMS < 0.5 mg/L
- 4. Cumulative Distribution Function
  - a. Select "prediction uncertainty"
    - 5 95 of cdf % (upper and lower bounds)







Beven, 1993

Goal: Improve post-fire prediction of watershed behavior (flooding, debris flows, groundwater recharge)

Incorporate advanced optimization techniques and alternative data (geochemical and remotely-sensed data) into operational modeling framework

### **Improving Post-fire Flow Predictions**

Limited work on "predicting" post-fire runoff at watershed scale (numerous plot-scale studies)

National Weather Service responsible for forecasting in burned watersheds

Can we improve performance / predictability of models? NWS - conceptual rainfall-runoff model USACE - HEC-HMS watershed model (variety modules) EPA - HSPF conceptual watershed model DHI - MIKE-SHE distributed physical model

### TOOLS??

Optimization Algorithms, Sensitivity Analysis, Data Assimilation, Remote Sensing Data, Field Observations

#### October, 2003 (NASA)

# **Regional Wildfires**

#### 2003

750,000 acres southern California 24 fatalities, numerous homes 2005

24,000 acres northwestern LA County

2006

160,000 acres LA and Ventura Counties (Day Fire-5<sup>th</sup> largest in CA history) 2007

240,000 acres Santa Barbara County (Zaca Fire-largest in CA history) 490,000 acres, 14 fatalities, >1500 homes in Regional Fires

# Impacts on Watersheds

- Loss of Vegetation
- Decreased evapotranspiration
- Increased net solar radiation
- Hydrophobic layer formation
- Decreased permeability (ash)
- Altered flowpaths
- Decreased water quality
- Increased erosion

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 Transport of metals and nutrients





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# **Post-fire Hydrologic Behavior**

How is the distribution of source waters (end-members) altered after fire?

Does the geochemical response support our current understanding of post-fire behavior?

Can we use insight from geochemical models to improve hydrologic models?



### 2003 Fires – San Bernardino Mountains



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#### Devil's Canyon – DC2 (West Fork), DC8 (outlet)



### **DC2: Pre and Post-fire Geochemistry**



End Member Mixing Analysis (EMMA): Stream water is a mixture of water from various sources (surface, lateral, baseflow, riparian, etc.) Each source has a unique geochemical signature (i.e. *end members*) Solutes used in EMMA are conservative End-members are time-invariant (when no LC change)

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) used to reduce dimensionality Simplifies data sets by linear transformation Chooses a new coordinate system based on correlation of the data Plot streamwater and end-member values in PCA space

→ Determine relative (%) contribution of end members (baseflow, overland flow, etc.) to stream water



Jung et al., (2008) Hydrological Processes (in review)

# **DC2: PCA-EMMA Development**



#### PRE-FIRE

### Three observable end-members at both sites **POST-FIRE**

Early storm events dominated by overland flow (supports knowledge!) Less soil water in interior point (reduced infiltration – supports!) Less GW at outlet (GW-dominated regime) – reduced infiltration is affecting this site differently (had less soil water influx originally)

# **Evaluation of Developed EMMA Model**



# **NWS Operational Model: SAC-SMA**



### **Incorporating Geochemical Data in Modeling**



# **DC8** Pre-fire SCE

Q transformed [mm] L

0.5

0.9

0.8

0.7

[um] 0.6 0.5 0.4

0.2

0.1

õ 0.3

#### **One-Step:** RMSE



#### Hydrograph Separation Method

Total Flow

300

Observed

Predicted

200 250

Time (day)

Lower Zone Flow

Time [day]

100 150

50



- Improved Qtotal (lower Bias) with additional data
- Slight change in baseflow performance
- Only 8 data points but better match of flow behavior

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# DC8 Post-fire SCE

#### One-Step: RMSE

#### Hydrograph Separation Method



- Incorporation of additional data reduces bias in all components
- Q total bias also reduced

# DC8 Pre-fire GLUE



# **DC8** Post-fire GLUE



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# Integration of Remotely-sensed obervations Incorporate high-resolution data into hydrologic models Additional source of information and optimization data



### Potential Evapotranspiration (PET) Model

• Priestley-Taylor's equation

$$LE = \alpha (Rn - G) \frac{\Delta}{\Delta + \gamma}$$

- $\Delta$  the derivative of saturated vapor pressure (pa/K)
- $\gamma$  psychrometric constant (Pa/K)
- $\alpha$  Priestly-Taylor parameter (1.26 in wet surface areas)



Kim and Hogue (2007) Journal of Hydrometeorology in press



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### **Algorithm Flow Chart**



13 MODIS variables  $\rightarrow$  1km Potential Evapotranspiration Product



### **Validation Sites**

#### Selected four sites across the United States that have required variables for our study





Calculated Potential Evaporation (mm/day)

	Bondville (IL)	Goodwin (MS)	Audubon (AZ)	Westville (OK)
R <sup>2</sup>	0.88	0.84	0.78	0.87
Bias	-1.63	3.14	1.05	6.67
RMSE	55.74	61.3	45.01	52.2

	Bondville (IL)	Goodwin (MS)	Audubon (AZ)	Westville (OK)
R <sup>2</sup>	0.9	0.88	0.86	0.9
Bias	-0.67	-0.28	-2.05	-0.07
RMSE	1.56	1.68	1.37	1.43

15

20



### Daily Time Series of PET – Initial Study Sites



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#### **MODIS Enhanced Vegetation Index (EVI) in City Creek (CA)**



#### Potential Evapotranspiration for City Creek (CA)



#### **Next step = integration of time-series into hydrologic models**



#### **Regional-scale PET Estimation**

Los Angeles – CA 01/06/2006 Local Time : 11:05 Los Angeles Santa Monica 100 Potential Evaporation (mm/day) 0.0 - 4.0 1 - 8.2 8.3 - 8.4 8.5 - 8.8 10.1 - 13.0 13.1 - 18.0 UCLA

#### Comparison to ground-based CIMIS PET



Site	RMSE	Bias	Correlation
	(mm/day)	(mm/day)	
Santa Monica	5.448	5.713	0.932
Glendale	1.497	1.261	0.955
Monrovia	0.561	0.061	0.934
Pomona	1.225	1.072	0.945
Long Beach	0.916	0.236	0.674
Claremont	0.482	0.076	0.950
Irvine	0.458	-0.131	0.931

\* Bias = MODIS derived PE-CIMIS PE

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THEME of our work: Integrate evolving data streams (hydrologic, geochemical, remotely-sensed) into hydrologic models to better understand and predict hydrologic response to change (wildfire, urbanization, climate)...

Need for long-term, quality observational networks (ground and remotely-sensed)

Need for novel approaches to incorporate new data into models and "validate" and "improve" existing parameterizations



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University of California Center for Water Resources



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### Hydrology and Water Resources at UCLA

Faculty - Prof. William Yeh, Prof. Steve Margulis Adjuncts – Prof. Kendall, Prof. Sun

#### **Research Areas**

#### Surface Water Hydrology

Rainfall-runoff and land surface modeling

Watershed land-cover change studies

Remote sensing of land surface parameters and processes

Hydrometeorology and land-atmosphere interactions

#### Groundwater Hydrology

Numerical simulation of groundwater flow and contaminant transport Inverse problems and experimental design

Modeling and optimization of seawater intrusion barriers

#### Water Resources Engineering

Optimization of large scale water resource systems

Conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater



**The M.S. program** offers two options: i) 9 month comprehensive exam plan, and ii) a thesis option for those interested in research.

**The Ph.D. program** offers students the opportunity to perform in depth original research in the area of hydrology and water resources engineering, while obtaining breadth in other areas of study (e.g. environmental engineering, atmospheric science, geography, applied math, etc.).



### **Questions ?**



### **Application to Post-fire Systems**

City Creek Burn Severity



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# **Regionalized Sensitivity Analysis (RSA)**

- Global Sensitivity
- Monte-Carlo sampling of parameter space (16 pars)
  - All parameters randomly sampled at the same time (allows for parameter interaction)
  - 30,000 parameter sets
- Partitioning of response (threshold NSE > 0.3)

$$NSE = 1 - \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{N} (pred - obs)^{2}}{\sum_{t=1}^{N} (obs - \overline{obs})^{2}}$$

- Behavioral (acceptable)
- Non-behavioral (unacceptable)
- Rescaling with behavioral sets and division into ten equal sets



# **Pre-fire Parameter Sensitivity**



# **Post-fire Parameter Sensitivity**

