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INSIGHTS INTO KARSTIC SYSTEMS THROUGH INVERSE APPLICATION OF DISCRETE CONDUIT-CONTINUUM MODELS

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Motivation dry valley Characterization of karst systems sinkhole strong heterogeneity epikarst anisotropy vadose zone highly variable, non-linear flow phreatic zone water table fissured matrix blocks conduit system river **Question:** karst spring (from Geyer 2008)

→ gaining insight through inverse modelling (dependent on available data)?



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Motivation

Characterization of karst systems

Example: Sheshpeer Catchment, Iran







from Google maps

congress

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Motivation

Characterization of karst systems

Example: Sheshpeer Catchment, Iran

Measured data (spring)

- discharge
- temperature
- electrical conductivity
- tracer concentration





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Modelling Approach

Discrete Conduit-Continuum model – flow process

Based on MODFLOW-2005 Conduit Flow Process (CFP)



quantifying groundwater flow

matrix: 3D groundwater flow (Darcy) conduits: 1D laminar / turbulent pipe flow (Darcy-Weisbach) head-dependent water transfer between matrix and conduits $Q_{ex} = \alpha_{ex}(h_c - h_m)$ Conduit Associated Drainable Storage CADS (directly linked to conduits)





Modelling Approach

Discrete Conduit-Continuum model – transport process

Based on Conduit Aquifer Void Evolution (CAVE)

- heat and solute transport
- 1D advection with physically based Taylor dispersion, diffusive boundary layer
- 1D radial diffusion / heat conduction around conduit



transport considers flow state (laminar / turbulent), for example Taylor dispersion:

- laminar $D = \frac{1}{2}$
- turbulent $D = 10.1rv_{\star}$
- D = Taylor dispersion coefficient
 - = conduit radius

 D_{Diff} = diffusion coefficient in water

- v = velocity
- v_* = friction velocity





Inverse parameterization with multiple signals

Large scale: Sheshpeer system (Iran)









Inverse parameterization with multiple signals





Inverse parameterization with multiple signals

Large scale: Sheshpeer system (Iran)

Simplified realistic models - example: effects of conduit structure (red cells)





Inverse parameterization with multiple signals

Large scale: Sheshpeer system (Iran)

Simplified realistic models - example: effects of conduit structure - calibration with PEST



discharge

solutes (tracer)

temperature

conduit structure 4 supported





Inverse parameterization with multiple signals

Large scale: Sheshpeer system (Iran)

Simplified realistic models – next stage: parameters refined





- 1. Vertical saturated conductivity (VKS)
- 2. Saturated water content (*THTS*)
- 3. Direct recharge component (CADS-RCH)
- 4. Water temperature $(T_{Dir.rech.})$
- 5. Hydraulic conductivity (*K*)
- 6. Specific yield (S_{γ})
- 7. Exchange coefficient (α_{ex})
- 8. Conduit diameter (d_c)
- 9. Conduit tortuosity (τ_c)
- 10. Wall roughness (k_c)
- 11. Width of CADS (W_{CADS})





Inverse parameterization with multiple signals

Large scale: Sheshpeer system (Iran)

Simplified realistic models – next stage: Results



variation 4c is statistically supported





Conclusions and Outlook

Conclusions

MODFLOW based discrete conduit-continuum flow and transport model

- → approach works at 1st and 2nd level for Sheshpeer catchment
- → best model (4c) cannot be proved to represent "the truth" but is only found to be superior to other models tested
- → proposed approach needs considerable amount of reliable data

Outlook

- → develop "detailed realistic models" (3rd level of approach) for Sheshpeer catchment (maybe after additional field work)
- → improve code performance: optimized discretization (trade-off between Taylor dispersion and numerical dispersion)
- → try applications with diffuse pollution (e.g. nitrates)
- → coupling with integrated hydrologic flow models

Merci pour votre attention!

