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General Strategies with numeric modeling

Some insights and examples for complex settings

Praha, March 4th, 2019

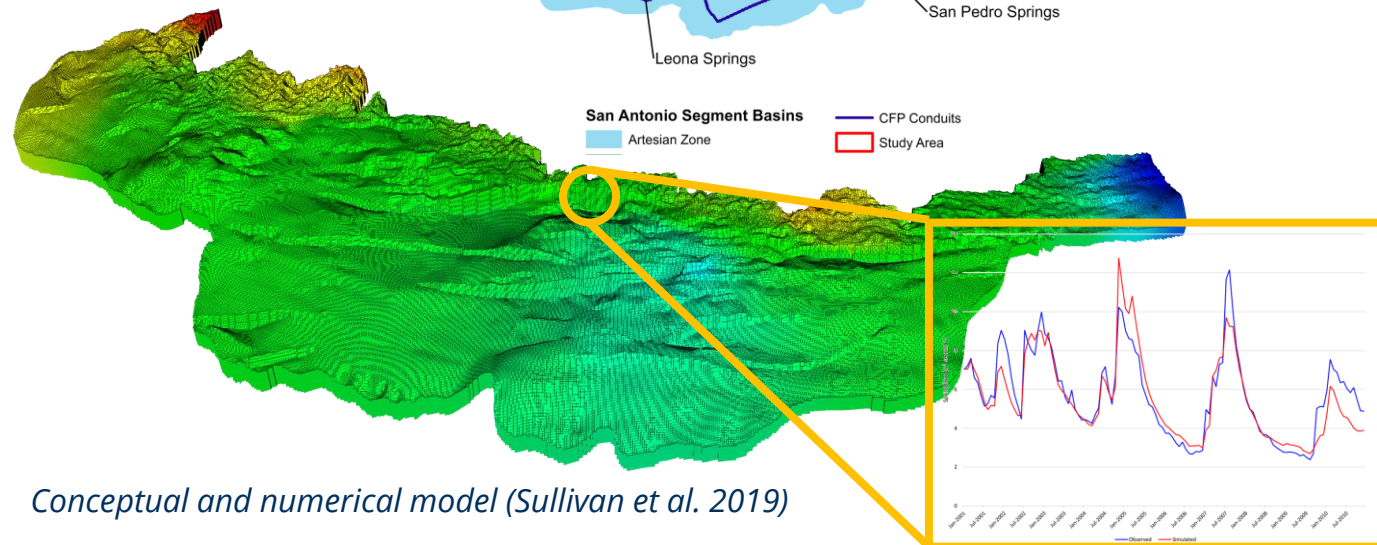
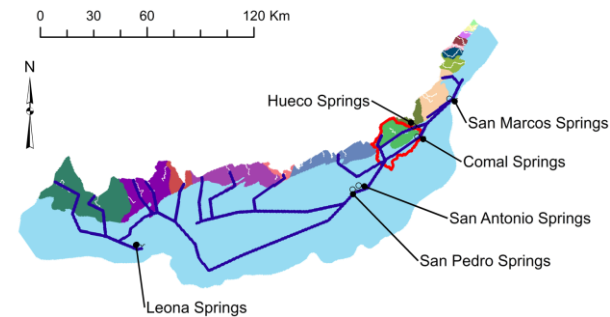
Investigation and Management of complex systems

Edwards Aquifer (Texas, US) = initial example for motivation

- very productive and important aquifer
- provides drinking water for > 2 million people, agriculture, and industry
- complex karstic system



Comal spring (karst outlet)



Conceptual and numerical model (Sullivan et al. 2019)

The model helps to predict and manage this water resource

Content

of the presentation

- **General workflow**
- Examples:
 - Lez catchment (France)
 - Sheshpeer spring (Iran)
- Conclusion and Outlook

General workflow

Numerical groundwater modeling

General workflow

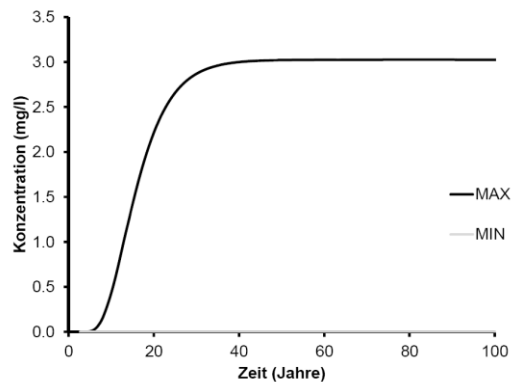
1) Question / Purpose

Starting point for modeling:

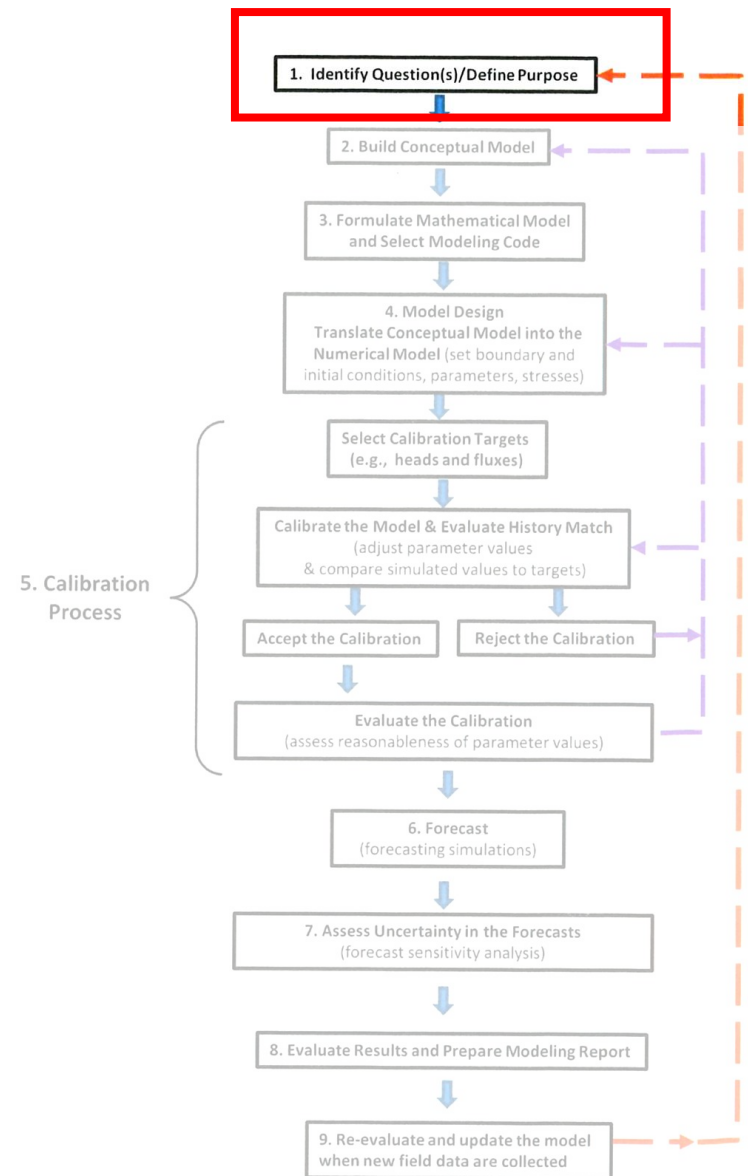
Question / Purpose

Typical purposes

- prediction
- parameter identification
- system understanding
- analysis / interpretation



Prediction of solute concentration downstream from a contamination



Scheme from Anderson et al. 2015

General workflow

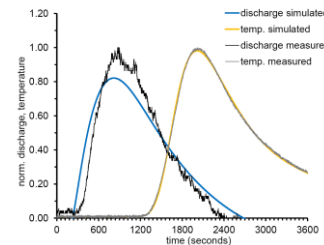
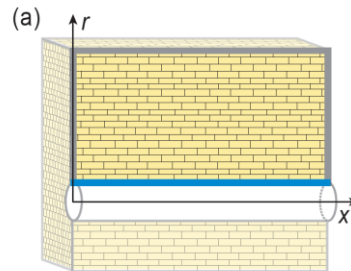
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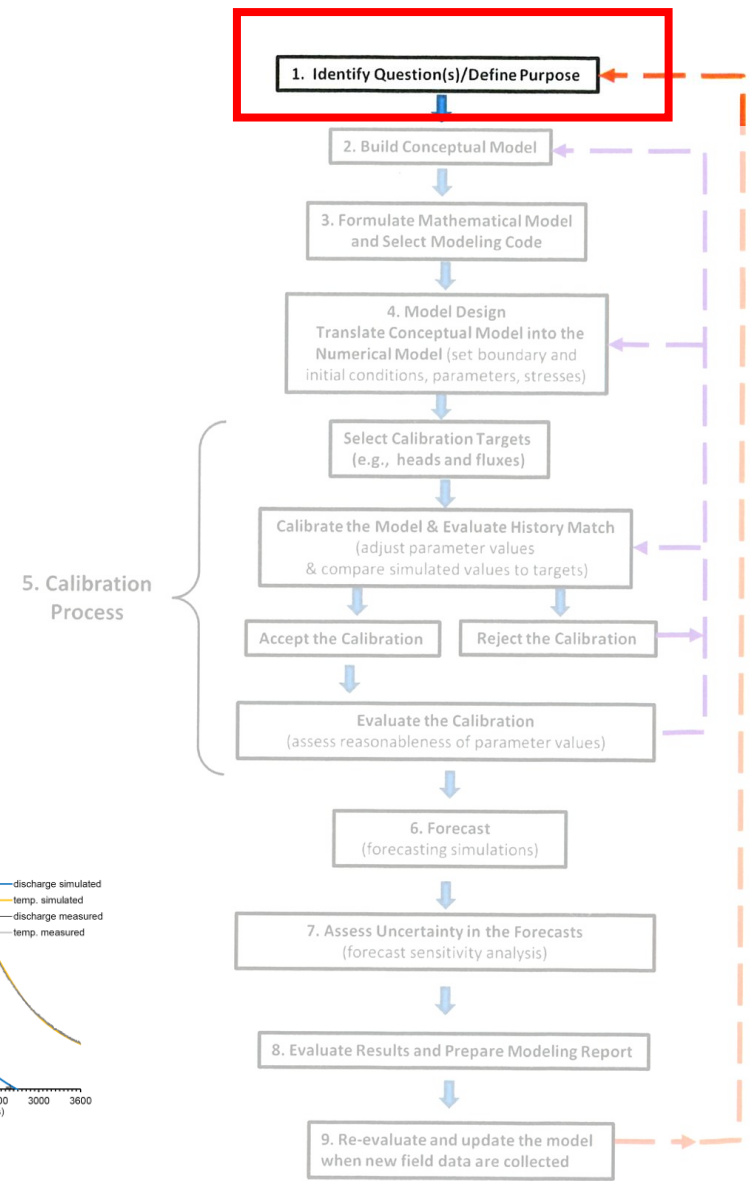
Question / Purpose

Typical purposes

- prediction
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Inverse parametrization with tracer testing at a karst system (Freiheit Spring, USA)



Scheme from Anderson et al. 2015

General workflow

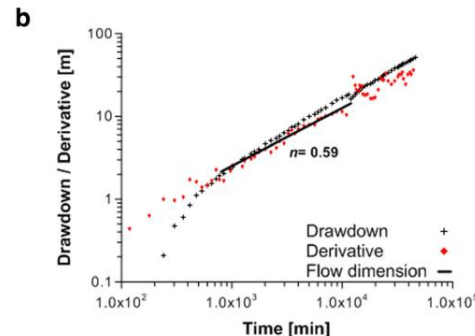
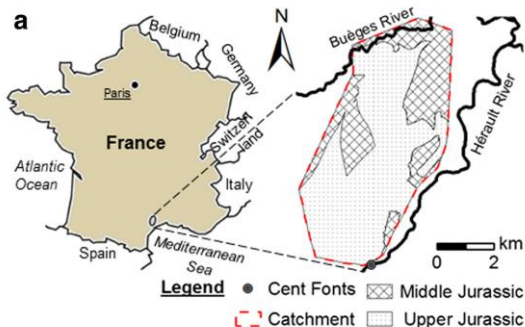
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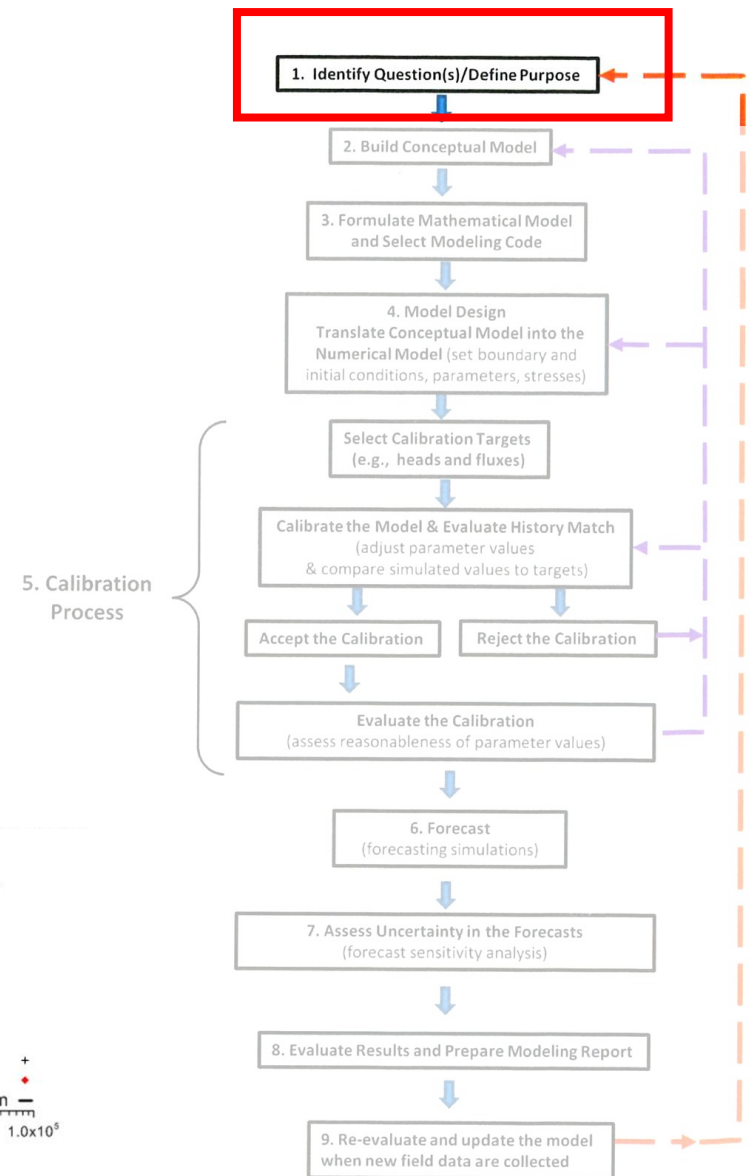
Question / Purpose

Typical purposes

- prediction
- parameter identification
- system understanding
- **analysis / interpretation**



Interpretation of hydraulic tests (e.g. pumping tests; Figures from Giese et al. 2017)



Scheme from Anderson et al. 2015

General workflow

2) Conceptual Model

Very important step

- qualitative system behavior (structure, boundaries)
- interpretation of (current) knowledge
- also: depict current uncertainty
- *further (suggested) reading: Bredehoeft 2005*

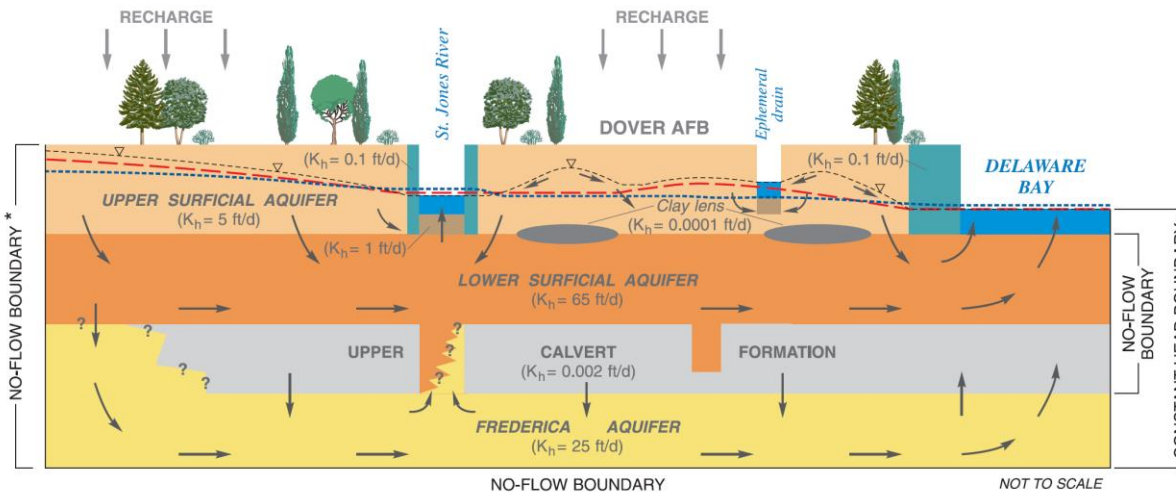
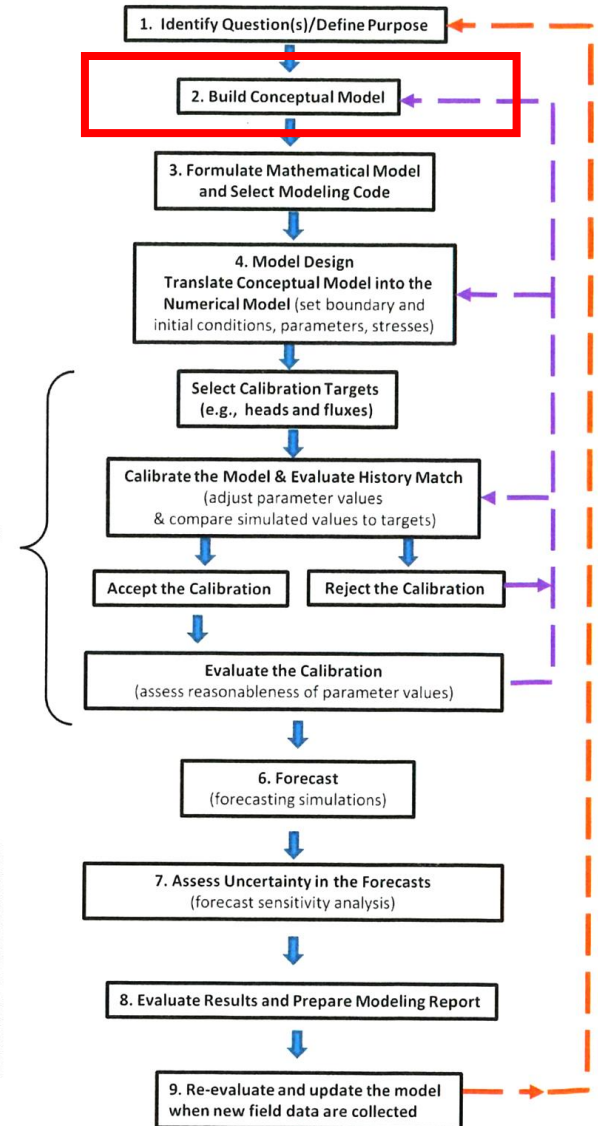


Figure: Example of a conceptual model (USGS WRIR 99-4224)

5. Calibration Process



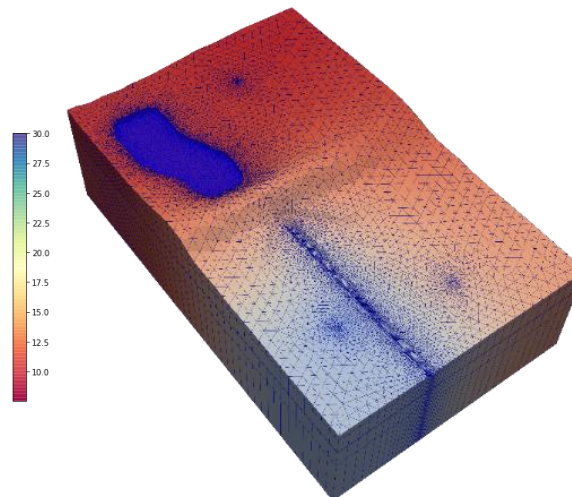
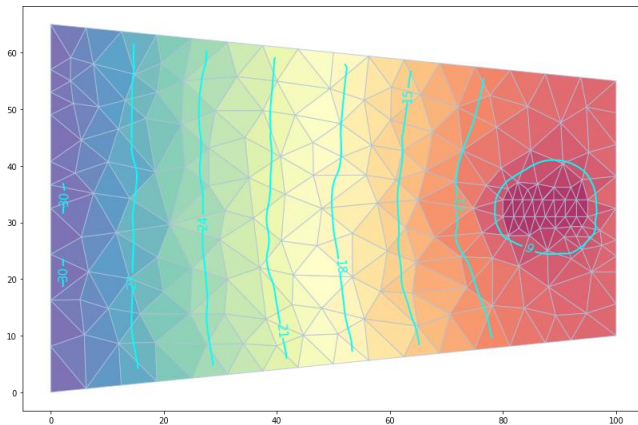
Scheme from Anderson et al. 2015

General workflow

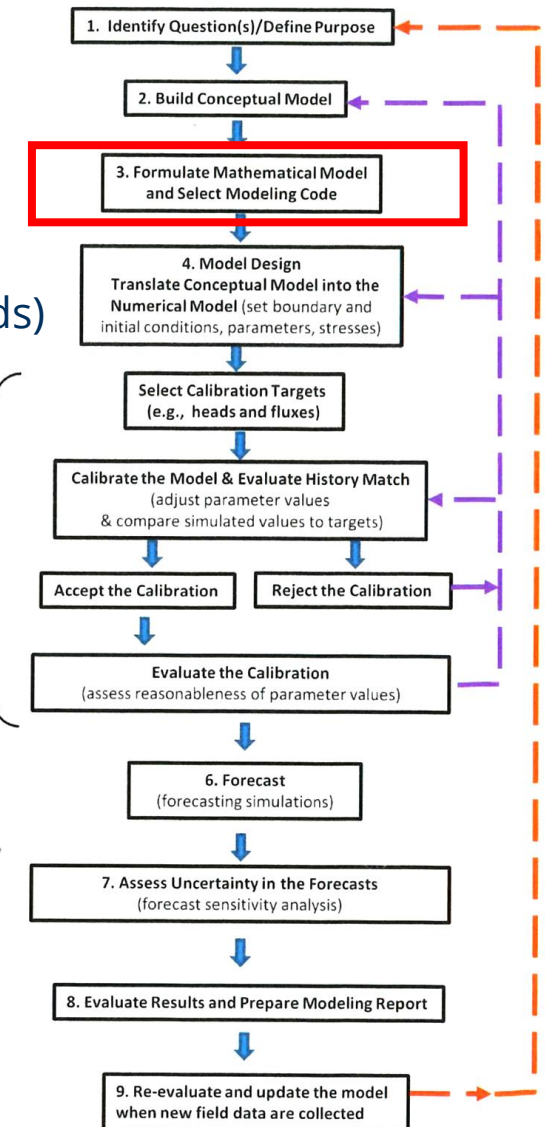
3) Mathematical Model

Quantitative Solution

- Various approaches possible (analytical / numerical methods)
- Intended to reflect the conceptual model (processes etc.)
- Wide range of software available (free & commercial)



5. Calibration Process



Figures: Examples of numerical models (based on MODFLOW6)

Scheme from Anderson et al. 2015

General workflow

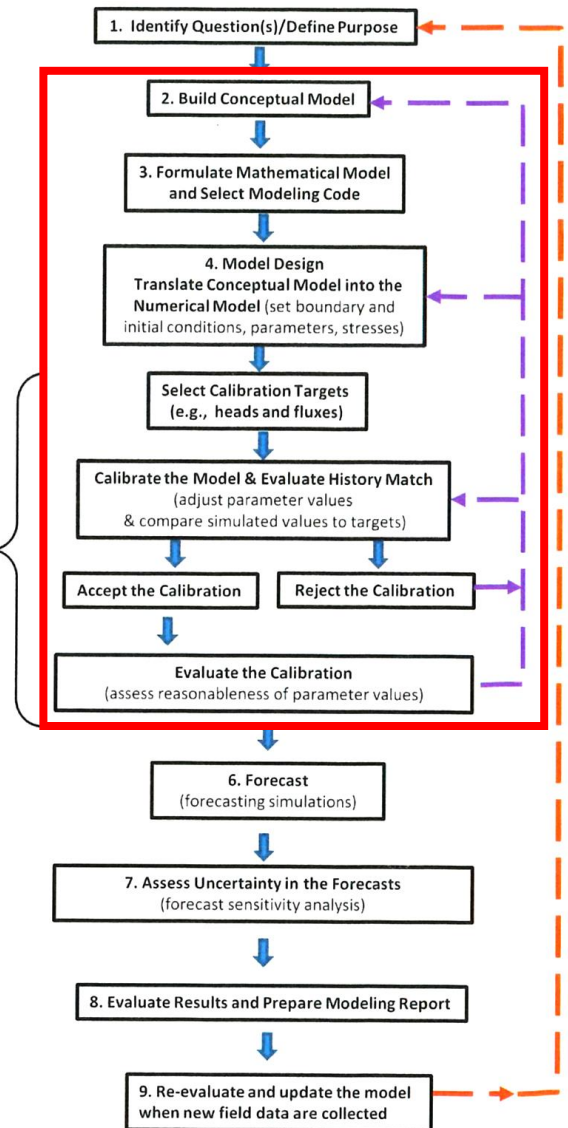
Subsequent steps

Calibration, Sensitivity and Uncertainty analysis

- Depending on the initial question / purpose (e.g. forecast)
- Iterative process with a feedback loop to previous steps

→ **Advanced methods for further analysis like PEST (e.g. automatic calibration & uncertainty analysis)**

5. Calibration Process



Scheme from Anderson et al. 2015

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Example

Lez karst spring (France)

Modification of conceptual model

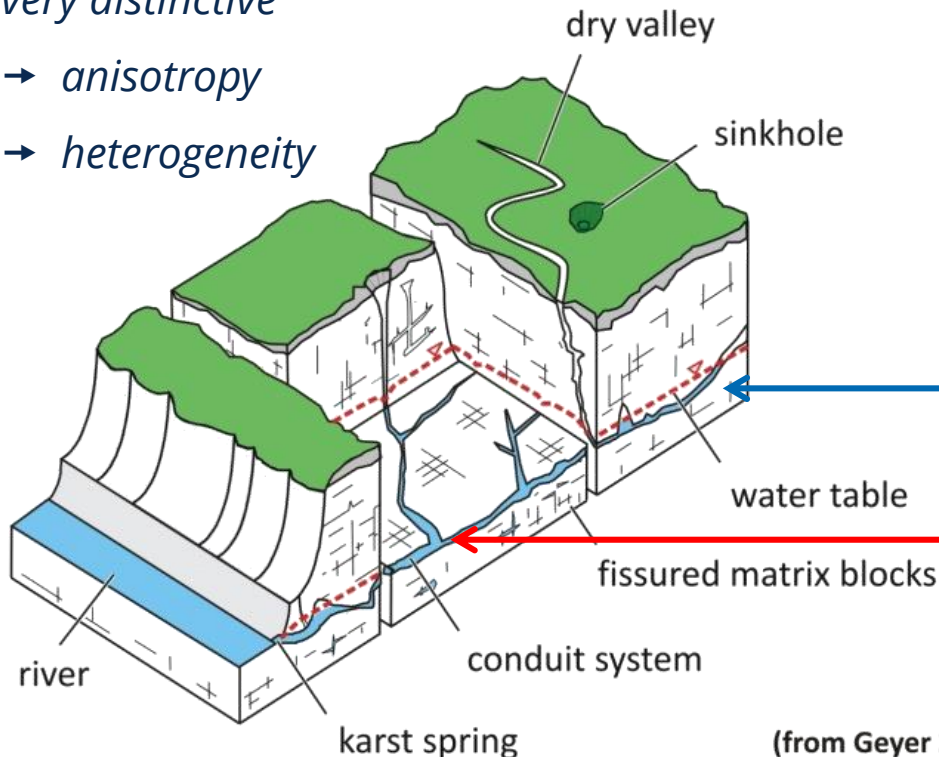
Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

Conceptualization of karstic systems

very distinctive

- *anisotropy*
- *heterogeneity*



Fractured porous rock matrix:

- low conductivity/large storage
- linear flow (**laminar**)

Karst conduits:

- large conductivity/low storage
- linear/nonlinear flow (**turbulent**)

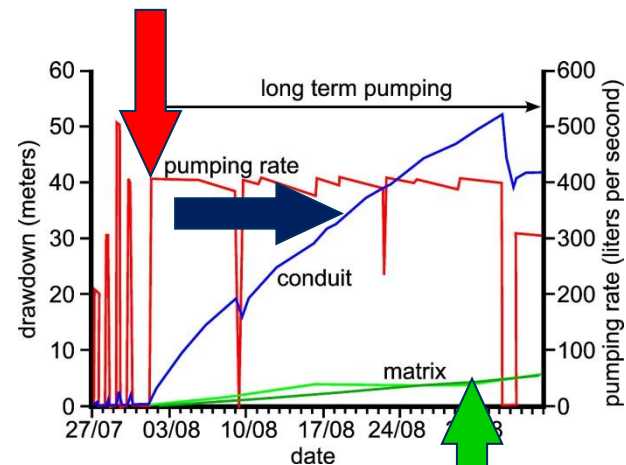
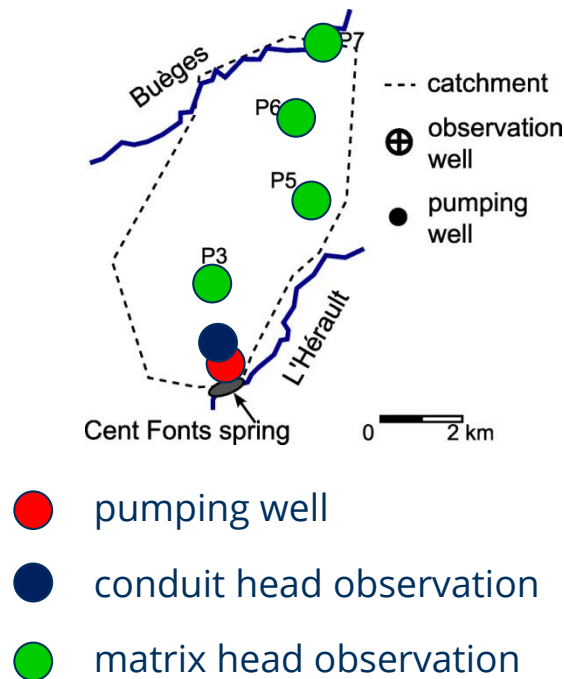
(from Geyer 2008)

Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

Karst characterization with artificial signals (high-capacity pumping)

- Lez aquifer (near Montpellier, South of France)
- high capacity pumping test was conducted to investigate the system (cost ~ 14 Mio. €)



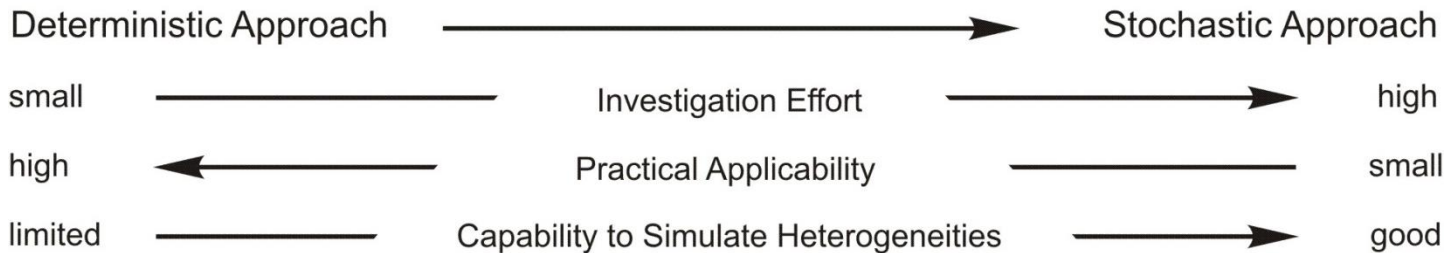
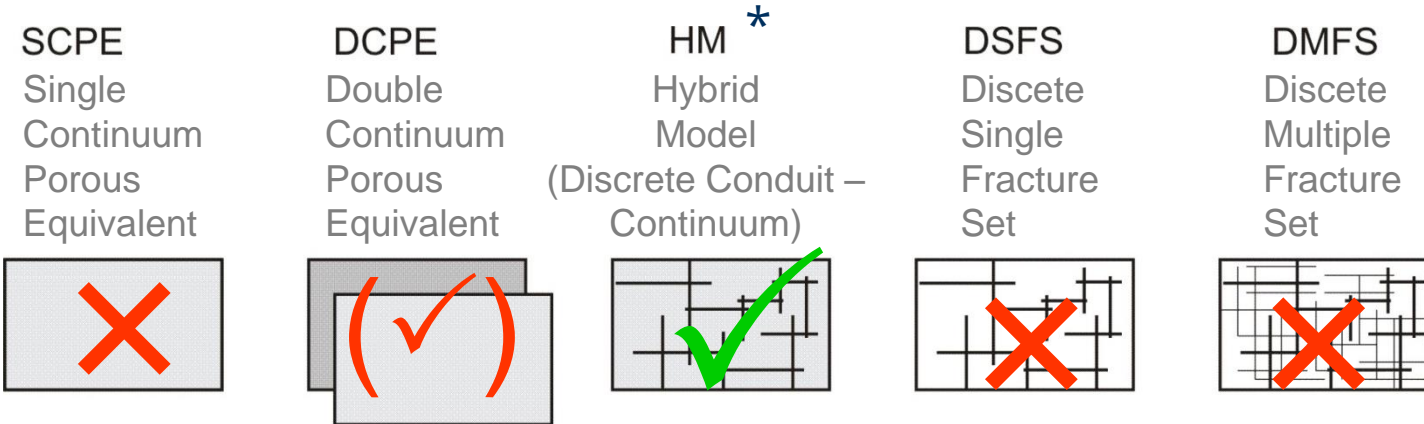
Data: Maréchal et al. 2008

→ temporal and spatial system reaction

Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

Approaches for mathematical models to account for karstic systems



* *considers turbulent flow in discrete karst conduits that interact with a laminar matrix continuum* (from Teutsch and Sauter 1991)

Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

Discrete Conduit – Continuum numerical model (Hybrid Modell Approach)

Matrix
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(K_{xx} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(K_{yy} \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(K_{zz} \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} \right) \pm W = S_s \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}$$

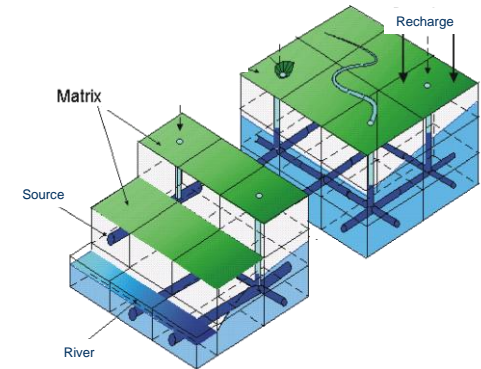
Conduit system

laminar
$$v = -\frac{d^2 g}{32 \nu} I$$
 Hagen Poiseuille

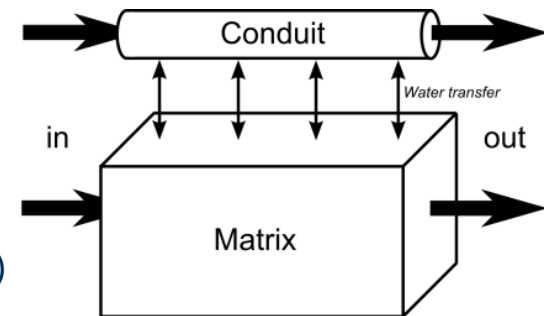
turbulent
$$v = 2 \log \left(\frac{k_c}{3.71d} + \frac{2.51\nu}{d\sqrt{2gdI}} \right) \sqrt{2gdI}$$
 Colebrook-White

Transfer
$$Q_{ex} = \alpha_{ex} (h_c - h_m)$$

Freely available software: MODFLOW-2005 Conduit Flow Process (CFP)



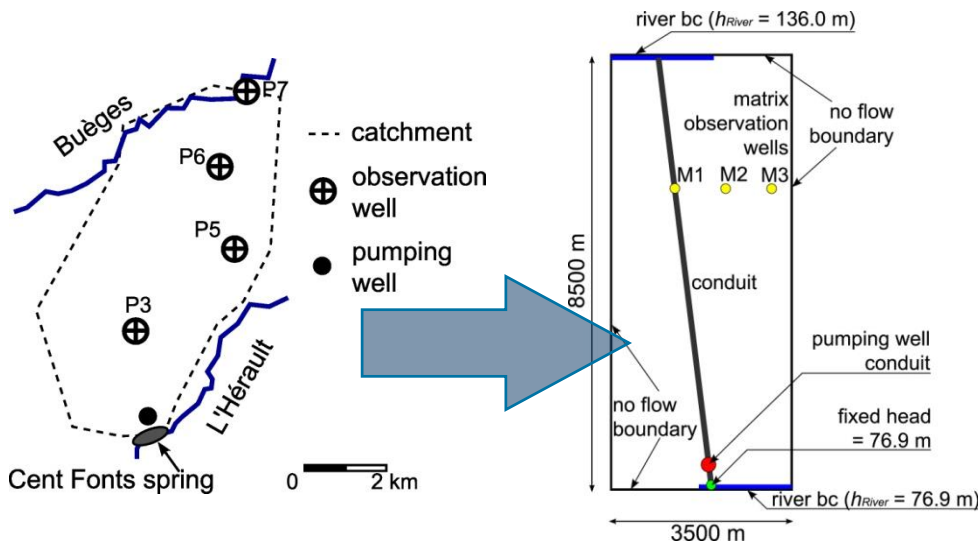
Karst aquifer scheme (Bauer 2002)



Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

Conceptual model → Idealized numerical model



some available data (e.g. Maréchal et al. 2008)

- main conduit diameter ~ 3.5 m
- Transmissivity $T_{matrix} 1.6E-5$ m²/s
- Storage $S_{matrix} 0.007$
- Buèges river loses ~ 0.015 m³/s
- Hérault inflow during pumping ~ 0.030 m³/s
- and more ...

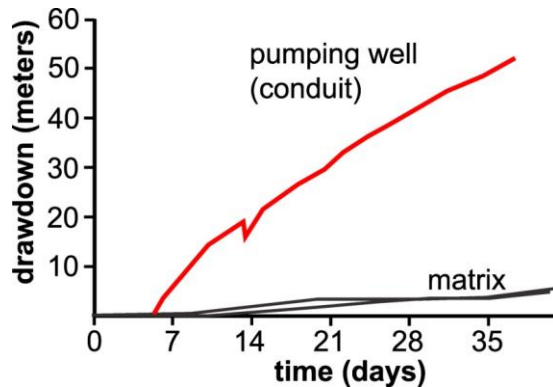
Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

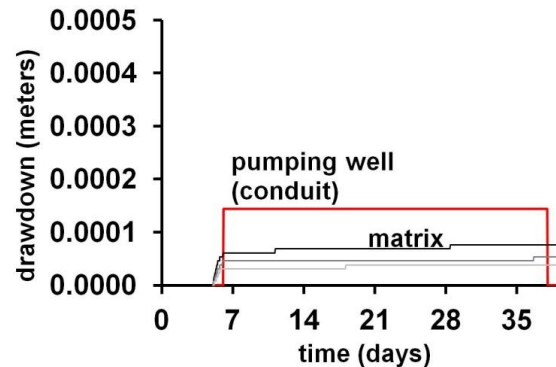
Calibration results with the initial numerical model

Initial results

observed

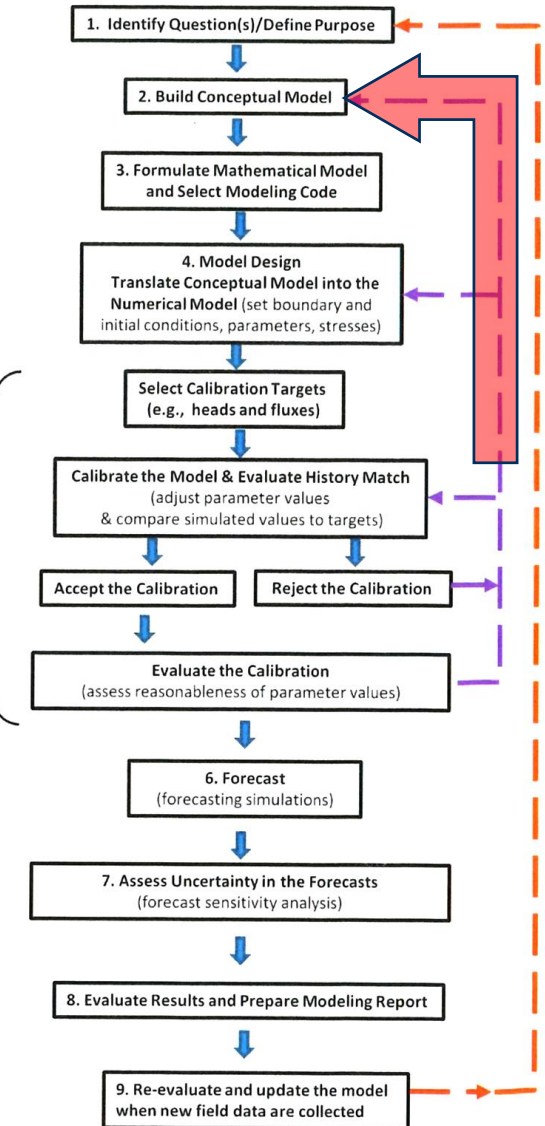


simulated



5. Calibration Process

→ necessary revision of the conceptual model to reflect the driving processes **because the initial model lack some processes**



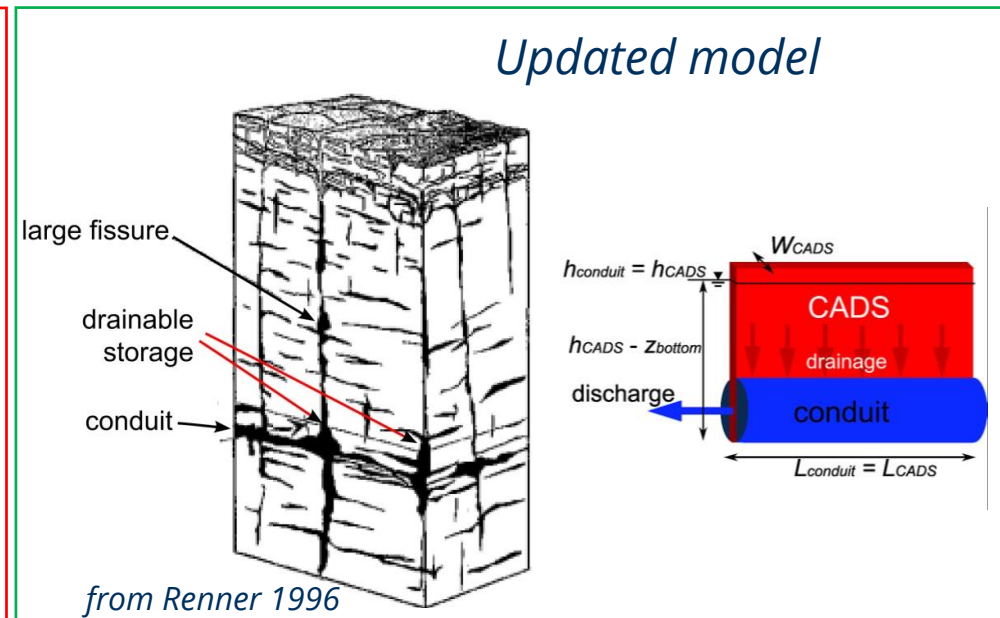
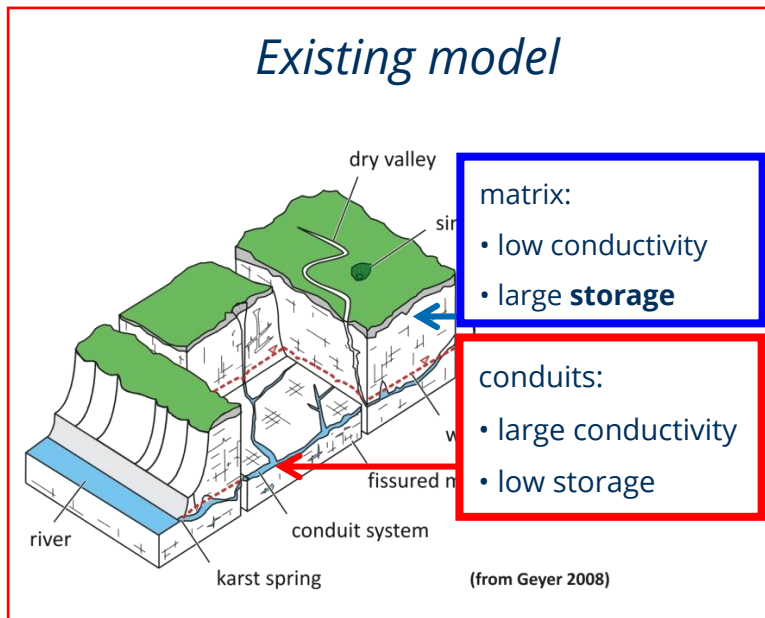
Scheme from Anderson et al. 2015

Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

Enhancement of the mathematical model – consideration of an additional process

- existing model: **storage** mainly provided by the **matrix**, no storage from the conduit system
- updated model: additional (fast reacting) storage associated with conduits (e.g. large fractures, caves)



→ Addition of drainable storage to conduits as already depicted in the concept of Renner 1996

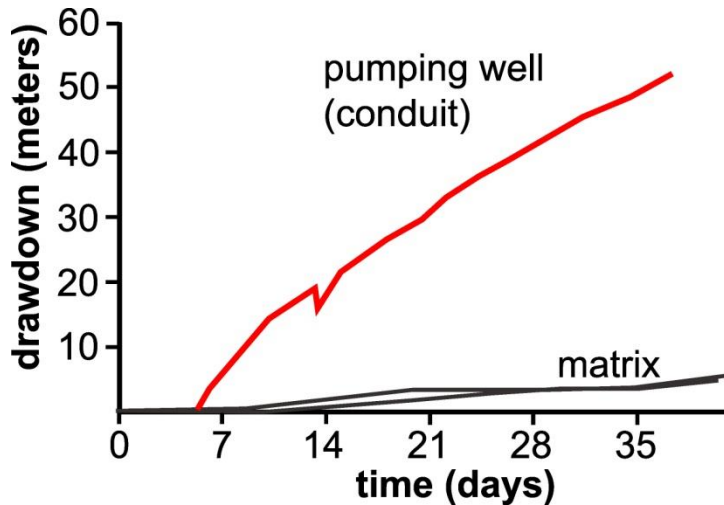
Example: Lez karst spring

Evaluation of large scale pumping

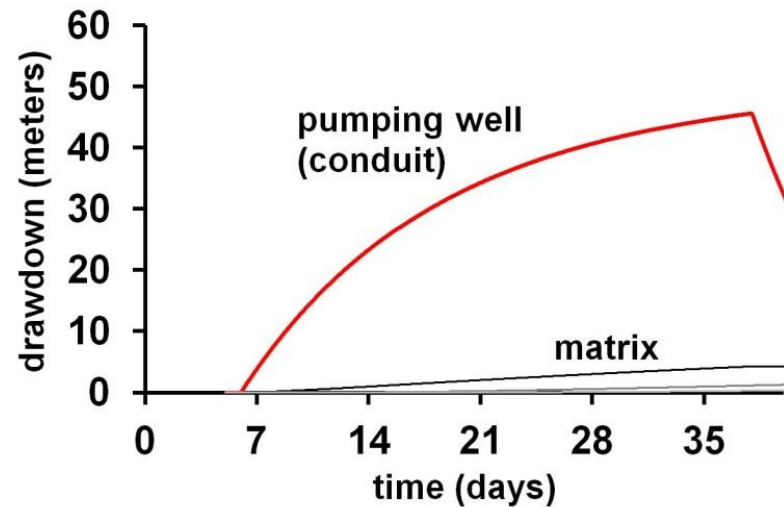
Calibration results with the enhanced numerical model

Preliminary results

observed



simulated



→ the (enhanced) numerical model can reflect the processes (ready for a refined calibration)

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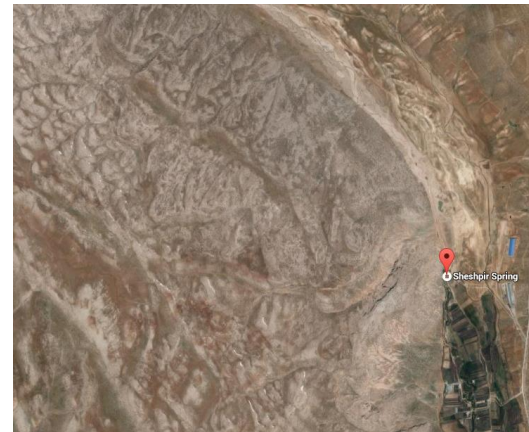
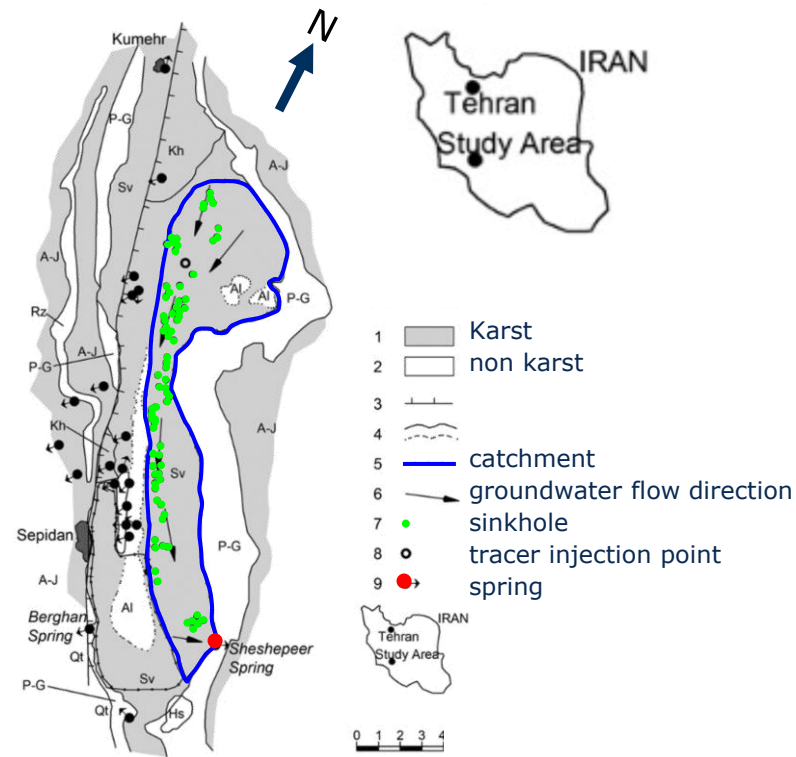
Sheshper spring Iran

Multi-criteria-optimization

Example: Sheshpeer spring

Karst characterization with multiple signals

Example: Sheshpeer Catchment, Iran



from
Google maps

Figure from Raeisi 2010

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General strategies with numeric modeling

Conclusion and Outlook

General strategies with numeric modeling

Conclusion and Outlook

Development trends

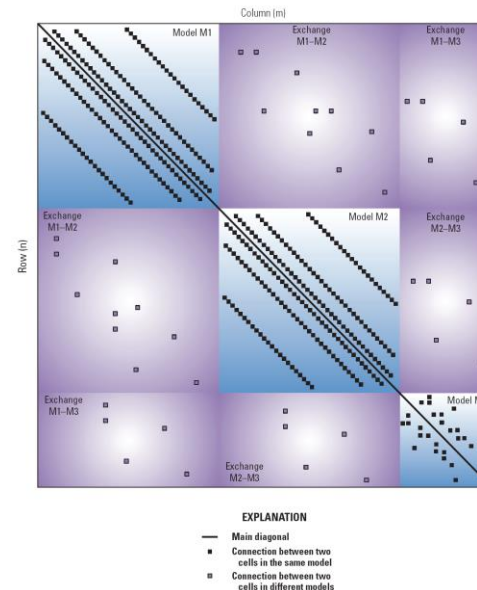
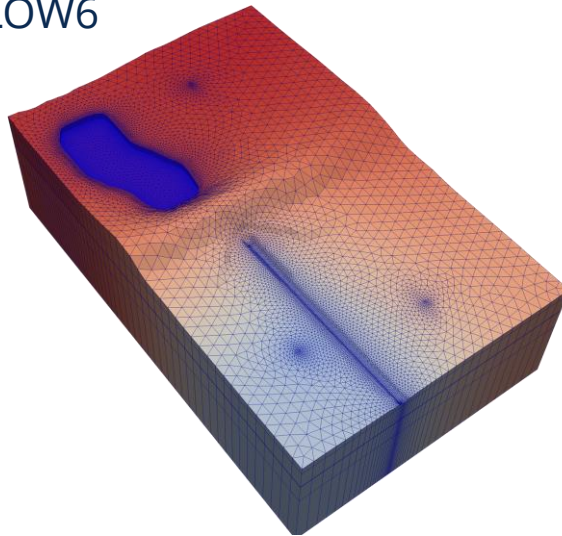
- Increasing computing power
- Increasing connection and networking
- Data: Improved access and increasing amount

General strategies with numeric modeling

Conclusion and Outlook

Development of the numerical flow model MODFLOW (open source & state of the art)

- MODFLOW6



MODFLOW6: flexible finite-volume discretization and flexible coupling of several models (figures from MODFLOW6 documentation)

- flexible spatial discretization (control finite volume)
- coupling of several models (one solution matrix for several models)

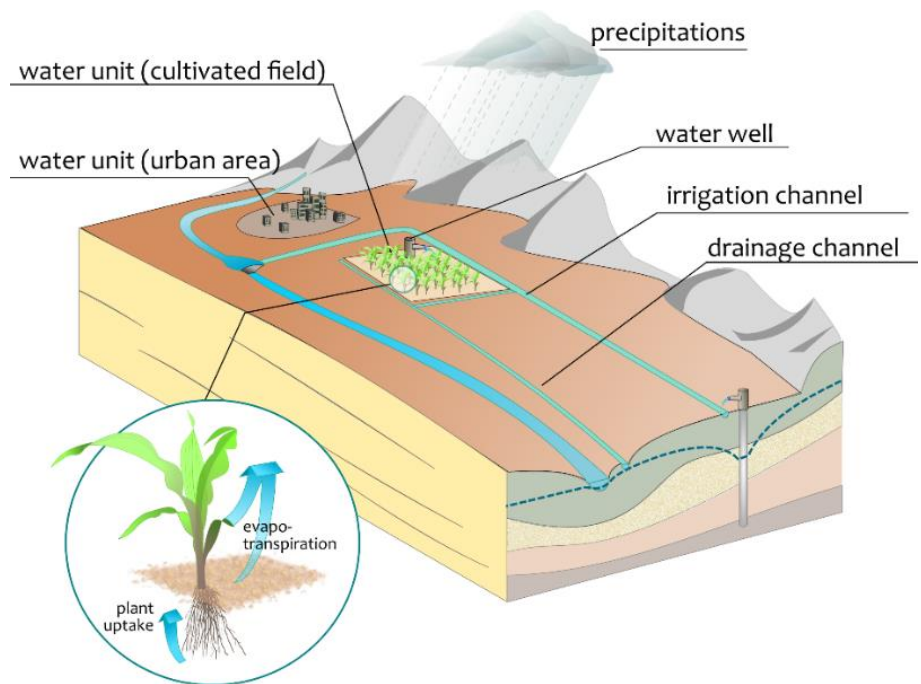
General strategies with numeric modeling

Conclusion and Outlook

Development of the numerical flow model MODFLOW (open source & state of the art)

- MODFLOW6
- MODFLOW One-Water-Hydrologic-Modell (OWHM2)

- reflects the overall hydrologic cycle
- several processes (agriculture, unsaturated zone, streams etc.)



MODFLOW-OWHM: integrated hydrologic model

General strategies with numeric modeling

Conclusion and Outlook

Development of the numerical flow model MODFLOW (open source & state of the art)

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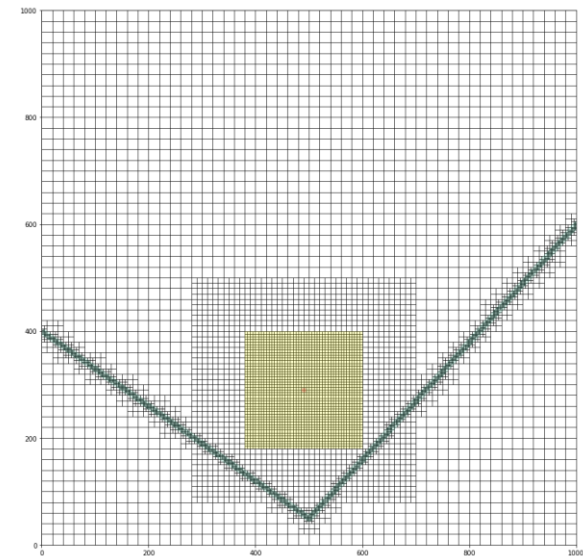
Development of Pre- and Postprocessing

- Script based (Python, FloPy)

Plot the Grid

```
In [12]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(15, 15))
ax = fig.add_subplot(1, 1, aspect='equal')
g.plot(ax, linesdash=[0,5])
flopy.plot.plot_shapefile(rf2hp, ax=ax, facecolor='yellow', edgecolor='none', alpha=0.2)
flopy.plot.plot_shapefile(rf1hp, ax=ax, linesdash=[0,5], alpha=0.2)
flopy.plot.plot_shapefile(rf0hp, ax=ax, facecolor='red', radius=4, alpha=0.2)
```

Out[12]: <matplotlib.collections.PatchCollection at 0xbdd40fd>



General strategies with numeric modeling

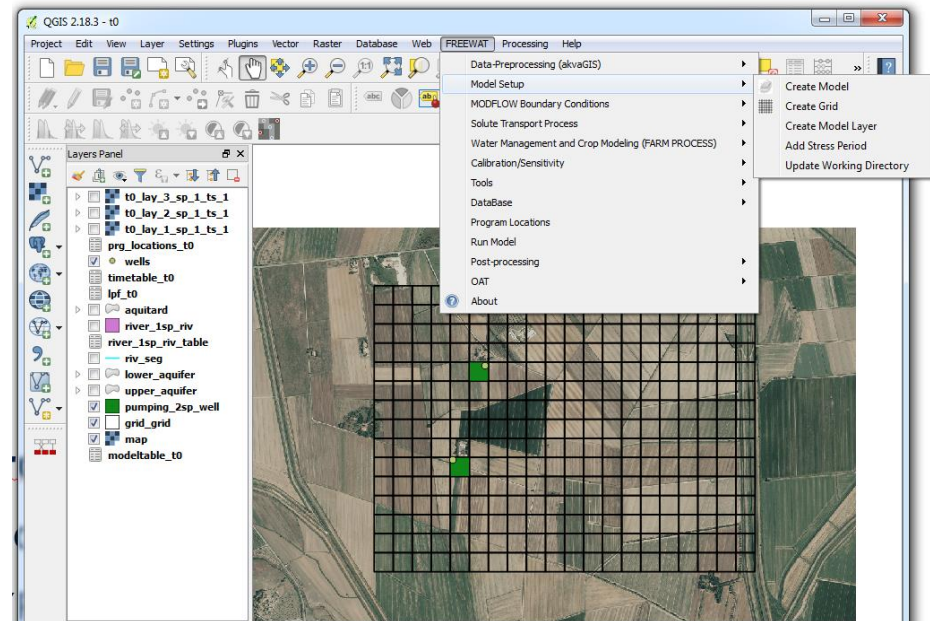
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Development of Pre- and Postprocessing

- Script based (Python, FloPy)
- Integration in GIS (QGIS; FREEWAT)



References and some further readings

- Sullivan, T. P., Gao, Y., Reimann, T.: Nitrate Transport in a Karst Aquifer: Numerical Model Development and Source Evaluation. *Journal of Hydrology*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhydrol.2019.03.078>.
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- Anderson, Mary P.; Woessner, William W.; Hunt, Randall J. (2015): Applied groundwater modeling. Simulation of flow and advective transport. Second Edition. Amsterdam: Elsevier.
- Bredehoeft, John (2005): The conceptualization model problem? Surprise. In: *Hydrogeol J* 13 (1), S. 37–46. DOI: 10.1007/s10040-004-0430-5.

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