2022
ACTIVITY REPORT
Project-Team
LEMON

Littoral Environment: M0dels and Numerics

IN COLLABORATION WITH: HydroSciences Montpellier (HSM), Institut Montpellierain Alexander Grothendieck (IMAG)

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Creation of the Project-Team: 2019 January 01

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1 Team members, visitors, external collaborators

Research Scientist

- Antoine Rousseau [Team leader, INRIA, Researcher, HDR]

Faculty Members

- Carole Delenne [UNIV MONTPELLIER, Associate Professor, HDR]
- Pascal Finaud Guyot [UNIV MONTPELLIER, Associate Professor, HDR]
- Vincent Guinot [UNIV MONTPELLIER, Professor, HDR]
- Nicolas Meyer [UNIV MONTPELLIER, Associate Professor]
- Gwladys Toulemonde [UNIV MONTPELLIER, Associate Professor, HDR]

PhD Students

- Vita Ayoub [LIST]
- Yassine Bel Ghaddar [UNIV MONTPELLIER, CIFRE]
- Fadil Boodoo [UNIV MONTPELLIER]
- Alexis Boulin [UNIV COTE D’AZUR, from Mar 2022]
- Jose Daniel Galaz Mora [INRIA]
- Chloe Serre Combe [UNIV MONTPELLIER, from Sep 2022]
- Samuel Valiquette [CIRAD]

Interns and Apprentices

- Marc Hetier [Inria, from Aug 2022]

Administrative Assistant

- Cathy Desseaux [Inria, from Apr 2022]

2 Overall objectives

Coastal areas are increasingly threatened by global warming-induced sea level rise. At the same time, 60% of the world population lives in a 100 km wide coastal strip (80% within 30 km from the shore in French Brittany). This is why coastlines are concerned with many issues of various types: economical, ecological, social, political, etc. Coastal areas are natural interfaces between various media (e.g. wind/sea/sand/land). The physical processes acting on these media have very different time scales, hence the need to build complex systems coupling nonlinear partial differential equations and random processes to describe them. To address these crucial issues, LEMON is an interdisciplinary team working on the design, analysis and application of deterministic and stochastic models for inland and marine littoral processes, with an emphasis on both standalone models and hybrid systems.

The spot of Montpellier offers large opportunities:
Important academic research community Additionally to IMAG\(^1\) and HSM\(^2\), we interact with several local academic research partners. To mention but a few examples, we collaborate with UMR MISTEA (pollution and remediation of water resources) and UMR LISAH (hydrology in agricultural areas). Regular contacts are also maintained with UMR Geosciences (morphodynamics), UMR G-Eau (hydraulics, data assimilation and flood economy), UMR MARBEC (lagoon environment).

NUMEV Labex and MUSE project The LEMON members are involved in projects funded by the current NUMEV Labex and actively participate in new initiatives pertaining to sea and coast modelling, both through the recently awarded MUSE project in Montpellier and through external (national, European, international) calls.

Industrial and economic community From the transfer & innovation viewpoint, the team members already interact with several local partners such as Cereg Ingénierie, IRT Saint-Exupéry, Tour du Valat, Predict Services, Artilia, Montpellier Métropole and Berger-Levrault.

The general scope of the LEMON project-team is to develop mathematical and computational methods for the modelling of hydraulic and hydrodynamic processes. The mathematical tools used are deterministic (PDEs, ODEs) and/or probabilistic (extreme value theory). Applications range from regional oceanography to coastal management, including risk assessment for natural hazards on the coastline (submersion and urban floods, tsunamis, pollution).

LEMON is a common research team between HSM (UM, CNRS, IRD), IMAG (UM, CNRS) and Inria, whose faculty members have never been associated to Inria groups in the past. All fellows share a strong background in mathematical modelling, together with a taste for applications to the littoral environment. As reflected in the team contributions, the research conducted by LEMON is interdisciplinary\(^3\), thanks to the team members expertise (deterministic and stochastic modelling, computational and experimental aspects) and to regular collaborations with scientists from other domains. We believe this is both an originality and a strength for LEMON.

3 Research program

The team has three main scientific objectives. The first two are the development of new physical models and innovative mathematical methods for urban floods on the one hand and natural flows on the other hand. The third objective is to develop theoretical tools that can be used in the models serving the first two objectives. As mentioned above, the targeted applications cover PDE models and associated extreme events using a hierarchy of models of increasing complexity.

In each section, people involved in the project are listed in alphabetical order.

3.1 Urban Floods

In the context of climate change, the increase in urbanization, particularly in floodplains or near the seashore, could lead to an increase in vulnerability to flooding. Numerical models appear to be indispensable tools for predicting the impact of floods with different return periods and for evaluating mitigation and land-use planning policies [69].

Urban areas are characterized by significant variation in small-scale geometry and complex flows involving various phenomena [48, 49]. LEMON’s activities focus on the development of numerical models and methodologies, specifically designed for the urban context and for operational purposes.

3.1.1 Porosity models for upscaled urban flood modelling

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\(^1\)Institut Montpelliérain Alexander Grothendieck - UMR5149

\(^2\)HydroSciences Montpellier - UMR 5569 - Note that HSM number changed from 5569 to 5151 in January 2021

\(^3\)HSM UMR is a research unit affiliated to the National Institute for Sciences of the Universe (INSU) of CNRS, while the IMAG UMR is affiliated to the National Institute for Mathematical Sciences and their Interactions (INSMI).
**State of the Art** Simulating urban floods requires at least two-dimensional shallow water approaches and considerable computational power. Capturing the relevant hydraulic detail often requires computational cell sizes smaller than one meter. For instance, meshing a complete urban area with a sufficient accuracy would require $10^6$ to $10^8$ cells, and simulating one second often requires several CPU seconds. This makes the use of such models for crisis management impossible.

A new generation of models overcoming this issue has emerged over the last 20 years: porosity-based shallow water models. They are obtained by averaging the two-dimensional shallow water equations over large areas containing both water and a solid phase [44]. The size of a computational cell can be increased by a factor 10 to 50 compared to a 2D shallow water model, with CPU times reduced by 2 to 3 orders of magnitude [66]. While the research on porosity-based shallow water models has accelerated over the past decade [55, 80, 84, 56, 58, 66, 75, 76, 91, 92], a number of research issues remain pending.

**Four year research objectives** The research objectives are (i) to improve the upscaling of the flux and source term models to be embedded in porosity shallow water models and (ii) to validate these models against laboratory and in situ measurements. Improving the upscaled flux and source term models for urban applications requires that description of anisotropy in porosity models be improved to account for the preferential flows induced by building and street alignment. The description of the porosity embedded in the most widespread porosity approach, the so-called Integral Porosity model [80, 60], has been shown to provide an incomplete description of the connectivity properties of the urban medium. Firstly, the governing equations are strongly mesh-dependent because of consistency issues [60]. Secondly, the flux and source term models fail to reproduce the alignment with the main street axes in a number of situations [59]. Another path for improvement concerns the upscaling of obstacle-induced drag terms in the presence of complex geometries for which recent results suggest that the effects of microtopography on the flow cannot be upscaled using "classical" equation-of-state approaches, as done in most hydraulic models [57].

During this 4-year period, we will work to develop and validate improved flux and source term closures in the presence of strongly anisotropic urban geometries and in the presence of strongly variable topography. Validation will involve not only the comparison of porosity model outputs with refined flow simulation results, but also the validation against experimental data sets and real scale events. No experimental data set allowing for a sound validation of flux closures in porosity models can be found in the literature. Laboratory experiments will be developed specifically in view of the validation of porosity models. Such experiments will be set up and carried out in collaboration with the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL), that has an excellent track record in experimental hydraulics and the development of flow monitoring and data acquisition equipment. These activities will take place in the framework of the PoroCity Associate International Laboratory (see next paragraph).

**External collaborations**

- University of California Irvine (B. Sanders): the collaboration with UCI started in 2014 with research on the representation of urban anisotropic features in integral porosity models [66]. It has led to the development of the Dual Integral Porosity model [61]. Ongoing research focuses on improved representations of urban anisotropy in urban flood modelling.

- Université Catholique de Louvain - UCL (S. Soares-Frazão): UCL is one of the few places with experimental facilities allowing for the systematic, detailed validation of porosity models. The collaboration with UCL started in 2005 and will continue with the PoroCity Associate International Laboratory proposal. In this proposal, a four year research program is set up for the validation, development and parametrization of shallow water models with porosity.
3.1.2 Downscaling

**Participants:** Joao Guilherme Caldas Steinstraesser, Pascal Finaud-Guyot, Vincent Guinot, Antoine Rousseau, Gwladys Toulemonde.

**State of the Art** The assessment of urban flood risk in urban areas requires the knowledge of the flow variables with a resolution of typically 1 meter or less. In practice, such High Resolution (HR) knowledge is not available because the existing modelling tools are too slow and require too much manpower for operational applications. To give but one example, simulating an urban flood using standard shallow water models over a 1 km $\times$ 1 km urban area typically requires 10 CPU seconds to simulate 1 second. This issue can be overcome by operating Low Resolution (LR) models (such as porosity models), that are three orders of magnitudes as fast as HR models. The LR results will then be downscaled onto HR grids. This path has been little explored (if at all) in the field of shallow water modelling.

**Four year research objectives** The team intends to explore two paths.

**Scale coupling approaches** A first approach consists in coupling the HR and LR models to achieve a faster computation by parallelizing the time stepping of the HR model, using the LR modelling results as a starting point for an iterative predictor-corrector procedure. This is the principle of para-real-based methods. Such methods are known to meet problems when hyperbolic problems (the class within which the shallow water equations fall) are dealt with. The research focuses on methods to improve the performance of para-real type approaches.

**Statistical/learning-based approaches** Coupling the LR and HR model is not a necessity. A second research path consists in training a data-driven method to reconstruct HR fields from LR fields using a number of precomputed scenarios. It can be expected that a method trained on a sufficiently wide range of hydraulic configurations will be able to downscale the flow variables even for flow configurations that have not been spanned in the training set. A number of research questions remain open.

- Can all flow configurations (e.g. smooth vs. discontinuous flows such as shocks) be handled with comparable accuracy by the downscaling method, or must some specific flow fields be treated by specific algorithms?
- Urban flood risk indicators are usually strongly nonlinear with respect to the flow variables. A research issue is: is it preferable to infer HR risk indicators directly from LR flow fields, or to downscale first the HR flow field from the LR flow field, then the HR risk indicator from the HR flow field?
- Do all upscaled models (e.g. a porosity-based model vs. a classical shallow water model) provide an equally good basis to downscaling?
- Different upscaled models are known to correctly represent different flow features (either the wave amplitude or the celerity). Do the HR inference from several upscaled models allow (i) to cope with bias in LR results; (ii) to infer the different features of the HR flow from the various upscaled models?

**External collaborations**

- since late 2019, LEMON has started a collaboration with IRT Saint-Exupéry on the hybridization of models and large amounts of data for the modelling of urban floods. Neural network can be a promising way to realize the downscaling.

3.1.3 Street-building exchange

**Participants:** Pascal Finaud-Guyot, Cécile Choley, Antoine Rousseau.
State of art  Classical practices for urban flood modelling consider the buildings as full or partial obstruction to the flow [82] but neglect in any case the street-building flow exchanges [87] although these exchanges can (i) create a flood retention within blocks and potential reduction of the peak discharge [52], (ii) produce secondary connection between streets through block and (iii) explain most part of the damages at the building scale [86, 34]. The lack of models to represent such a phenomenon forces, in coherence with an operational application for the classical approaches of management and characterization of flood risks, to assume that the water level inside the building is the same as in the immediate external neighborhood.

Four year research objectives  In the context of the PhD thesis of Cécile Choley, new modelling approaches accounting for the street-building exchanges during flood event are developed. First milestones are reached with the determination of discharge law through the opening based on detailed 3D simulations and the implementation of such law in the 2D modelling software SW2D-LEMON (see section 6). A sensitivity analysis of the model answer to the building parameters should allow to define the required level of precision in the building data for an operational purpose.

This first research paves the way to coupling between deterministic and stochastic modelling approaches to represent with a probability law the undetermined building parameters (resistance of a door, room organization within the building, ...). Similar approaches might be applied to car-jam effect during urban flood event.

External collaborations

- Icube Laboratory (G. Dellinger): this partnership focuses on the 3D modelling street-building exchanges and the production of experimental data to validate the numerical development in the context of the Cécile Choley PhD Thesis.

- INRAE, UMR G-Eau (F. Grelot): F. Grelot is recognized as an expert in flood damage estimation. The potential of the flow dynamic inside building to better characterize damages and risk is assessed in the context of David Nortes Martinez (INRAE) post doctoral research.

3.2 Natural flows

The natural processes that take place in the coastal zone are numerous, complex and often integrate different space and time scales. They therefore require adapted models, both in terms of mathematical descriptions (based on differential equations) but also in terms of statistical processing.

3.2.1 Depth-Dependent Porosity model

State of the Art  Simulating detailed free surface flows in wetlands requires considerable computational power and two-dimensional shallow water models are frequently needed. Typical issues arise when modelling wetlands and coastal lagoons, where large areas are often connected by an overwhelming number of narrow channels, obstructed by vegetation and a strongly variable bathymetry. Describing such channels with the level of detail required in a 2D model is impracticable.

A new generation of models overcoming this issue has emerged over the last 20 years: porosity-based shallow water models obtained by averaging the two-dimensional shallow water equations over large areas containing both water and a solid phase. In the specific fields of natural flows, Depth-Dependent Porosity (DDP) models have been designed to account for microtopography variation [44, 75, 76, 57].
Four year research objectives  DDP models pave the way for various operational applications, from local rainfall runoff on agricultural parcel to flood propagation in large catchment. However potential hyperbolicity loss can appear in the model for some particular parametrization [57].

The research objectives are:

- to generalize the DDP model for large scale modelling in which the parametrization may leads to hyperbolicity loss. The relationship between mesh and porosity fields have to be deeply investigated to determine either the mesh generation can avoid incoherent parametrization or numerical scheme have to be adapted to handle non-hyperbolic configurations.

- to adapt the DDP model for rainfall runoff on agricultural parcels. This implies to analyze the relationships between topographical data, discretisation scale and hydrodynamic results but also to do the upscaling of complementary physical processes (infiltration, sheet flow, ...).

- to improve the upscaling of obstacle-induced drag terms in the presence of complex geometries. Indeed, recent upscaling research results obtained by the LEMON team in collaboration with Tour du Valat suggest that the effects of microtopography on the flow cannot be upscaled using "classical" equation-of-state approaches, as done in most hydraulic models. A totally different approach must be proposed.

External collaborations

- Luxembourg Institute of Technology (R. Hostache): the collaboration with LIST started in 2018 with the project CASCADE funded by the Fond National de la Recherche du Luxembourg, and the co-direction of Vita Ayoub. The depth-dependent porosity model is applied to simulate the flooding of the Severn river (UK) during past events and validated against various measurements such as remotely sensed flood extents, and water levels at gauging stations.

- Tour du Valat (O. Boutron): the partnership with TdV focuses on the development and application of depth-dependent porosity models to the simulation of coastal lagoons, where the bathymetry and geometry is too complex to be represented using refined flow models.

- University of Tunis El Manar, Laboratory of Modelling in Hydraulics and Environment (M. Moussa): the partnership with M. Moussa focus on the co-supervision of tunisian PhD student for the use of DDP model to model rainfall-runoff on heavily monitored agricultural catchement.

- UMR LISAH (D. Feurer): UMR LISAH is responsible for on field runoff data measurement on the Kamech catchment (Tunisia).

3.2.2 Transport

Participants: Céline Casenave (INRAE Montpellier), Joseph Luis Kahn Casapia, Antoine Rousseau.

State of the Art  Water bodies such as lakes or coastal lagoons (possibly connected to the sea) located in high human activity areas are subject to various kinds of stress such as industrial pollution, high water demand or bacterial blooms caused by freshwater over-enrichment. For obvious environmental reasons, these water resources have to be protected, hence the need to better understand and possibly control such fragile ecosystems to eventually develop decision-making tools. From a modelling point of view, they share a common feature in that they all involve interacting biological and hydrological processes. According to [50], models may be classified into two main types: "minimal dynamic models" and "complex dynamic models". These two model types do not have the same objectives. While the former are more heuristic and rather depict the likelihood of considered processes, the latter are usually derived from fundamental laws of biochemistry or fluid dynamics. Of course, the latter require much

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more computational resources than the former. In addition, controlling such complex systems (usually governed by PDEs) is by far more difficult than controlling the simpler ODE-driven command systems. LEMON has already contributed both to the reduction of PDE models for the simulation of water confinement in coastal lagoons [51, 32] and to the improvement of ODE models in order to account for space-heterogeneity of bioremediation processes in water resources [30].

**Four year research objectives** In collaboration with colleagues from the ANR-ANSWER project and colleagues from INRAE, our ambition is to improve existing models of lagoon/marine ecosystems by integrating both accurate and numerically affordable coupled hydrobiological systems. A major challenge is to find an optimal trade-off between the level of detail in the description of the ecosystem and the level of complexity in terms of number of parameters (in particular regarding the governing equations for interspecies reactions). The model(s) should be able to reproduce the inter-annual variability of the observed dynamics of the ecosystem in response to meteorological forcing. This will require the adaptation of hydrodynamics equations to such time scales (reduced/upscaled models such as porosity shallow water models (see Section 3.1.1) will have to be considered) together with the coupling with the ecological models. At short time scales (i.e. the weekly time scale), accurate (but possibly CPU-consuming) 3D hydrodynamic models processes (describing thermal stratification, mixing, current velocity, sediment resuspension, wind waves...) are needed. On the longer term, it is intended to develop reduced models accounting for spatial heterogeneity.

Over the 4-year period, the team will focus on two main application projects:

- the ANR ANSWER project (2017-2021, with INRAE Montpellier and LEESU) focusing on the cyanobacteria dynamics in lagoons and lakes. A PhD student is co-advised by Antoine Rousseau in collaboration with Céline Casenave (INRAE, Montpellier).
- the long term collaboration with Alain Rapaport (INRAE Montpellier) will continue both on the bioremediation of water resources such as the Tunquen lagoon in Chile and with a new ongoing project on water reuse (converting wastewater into water that can be reused for other purposes such as irrigation of agricultural fields). Several projects are submitted to the ANR and local funding structures in Montpellier.

**External collaborations**

- ANR ANSWER consortium: Céline Casenave (UMR MISTEA, INRAE Montpellier), Brigitte Vinçon-Leite (UM LEESU, ENPC), Jean-François Humbert (UMR IEES, UPMC). ANSWER is a French-Chinese collaborative project that focuses on the modelling and simulation of eutrophic lake ecosystems to study the impact of anthropogenic environmental changes on the proliferation of cyanobacteria. Worldwide, the current environmental situation is preoccupying: man-driven water needs increase, while the quality of the available resources is deteriorating due to pollution of various kinds and to hydric stress. In particular, the eutrophication of lentic ecosystems due to excessive inputs of nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) has become a major problem because it promotes cyanobacteria blooms, which disrupt the functioning and the uses of the ecosystems.
- A. Rousseau has a long lasting collaboration with Alain Rapaport (UMR MISTEA, INRAE Montpellier) and Héctor Ramirez (CMM, Université du Chili).

**3.2.3 Multiscale ocean models**

<table>
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<tr>
<td>João Guilherme Caldas Steinstraesser, Jose Daniel Galaz Mora, Antoine Rousseau.</td>
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The expertise of LEMON in this scientific domain is more in the introduction and analysis of new boundary conditions for ocean modelling systems, that can be tested on academical home-designed test cases. This is at the core of Antoine Rousseau's contributions over the past years. The real implementation, within operational ocean models, has to be done thanks to external collaborations which have already started with LEMON (see below).
State of the Art  In physical oceanography, all operational models - regardless of the scale they apply to - are derived from the complete equations of geophysical fluid dynamics. Depending on the considered process properties (nonlinearity, scale) and the available computational power, the original equations are adapted with some simplifying hypotheses. The reader can refer to [79, 70] for a hierarchical presentation of such models.

In the shoaling zone, the hydrostatic approximation that is used in most large scales models (high sea) cannot be used without a massive loss of accuracy. In particular, shallow water models are inappropriate to describe the physical processes that occur in this zone (see Figure 1). This is why Boussinesq-type models are preferred [67]. They embed dispersive terms that allow for shoaling and other bathymetry effects. Since the pioneering works of Green and Naghdi [54], numerous theoretical and numerical studies have been delivered by the "mathematical oceanography" community, more specifically in France (see the works of Lannes, Marche, Sainte-Marie, Bresch, etc.). The corresponding numerical models (BOSZ, WaveBox) must thus be integrated in any reasonable nearshore modelling platform.

![Figure 1: Deep sea, shoaling, and breaking zones.](image)

However, these models cannot simply replace all previous models everywhere in the ocean: dispersive models are useless away from the shore and it is known that wave breaking cannot be simulated using Boussinesq-type equations. Hence the need to couple these models with others. Some work has been done in this direction with a multi-level nesting using software packages such as ROMS, but to the best of our knowledge, all the "boxes" rely on the same governing equations with different grid resolutions. A real coupling between different models is a more difficult task since different models may have different mathematical properties, as shown in the work by Eric Blayo and Antoine Rousseau on shallow water modelling [33].

Four year research objectives  Starting from the knowledge acquired in the collaboration with Eric Blayo on model coupling using domain decomposition techniques, our ambition is to propose theoretical and numerical tools in order to incorporate nearshore ocean models into large complex systems including several space and time scales. This is one of the scientific objectives of the Inria challenge SURF, led by Arthur Vidard (Inria Grenoble). Two complementary research directions are considered:

Dispersive vs non-dispersive shallow water models  As depicted in Figure 1, Boussinesq-type models (embedding dispersive effects) should be used in the so-called shoaling zone. The coupling with classical deep-sea / shallow water models has to be done such that all the processes in Figure 1 are correctly modelled (by different equations), with a reduced numerical cost. As a first guess, we think that Schwarz-type methods (widely used by the DDM community) could be good candidates, in particular when the interface locations are well-known. Moving interfaces (depending on the flow,
the bathymetry and naturally the wind and all external forcings) is a more challenging objective
that will be tackled after the first step (known interface) is achieved.

**spectral vs time-domain models** In the context of mathematical modelling and numerical simulation
for the marine energy, we want to build a coupled numerical model that would be able to simulate
wave propagation in domains covering both off-shore regions, where spectral models are used, and
nearshore regions, better described by nonlinear dispersive (Boussinesq-type) models.
While spectral models work with a statistical and phase-averaged description of the waves, solving
the evolution of its energy spectrum, Boussinesq-type models are phase-resolving and solves
nonlinear dispersive shallow water equations for physical variables (surface elevation and velocity)
in the time domain. Furthermore, the time and space scales are very different: they are much
larger in the case of spectral models, which justifies their use for modelling off-shore propagation
over large time frames. Moreover, important small scale phenomena in nearshore areas are better
captured by Boussinesq models, in which the time step is limited by the CFL condition.
From a mathematical and modelling point of view, this task mainly consists in working on the
boundary conditions of each model, managing the simultaneous use of spectral and time series
data, while studying transparent boundary conditions for the models and developing domain
decomposition approaches to improve the exchange of information.

**External collaborations**

- **Eric Blayo** is the former scientific leader of team MOISE in Grenoble, where Antoine Rousseau was
  first recruited. Eric Blayo and Antoine Rousseau have co-advised 3 PhDs and continue to work
together on coupling methods in hydrodynamics, especially in the framework of the COMODO
ANR network.

- In the framework of its collaboration with **MERIC**, Antoine Rousseau and Joao Guilherme Caldas
  Steinstraesser collaborate with the consortium DiMe (ANR-FEM project), and more particularly
  with Jean-François Filipot ans Volker Roeber for the coupling of spectral and time-domain methods.

- José Galaz's PhD is part of Inria’s SURF challenge, which involves the AIRSEA, ANGE, CARDAMOM,
  FLUMINANCE and LEMON project teams. José’s thesis is co-directed by Maria Kazolea (CAR-
  DAMOM).

**3.3 Methodological developments**

In addition to the application-driven sections, the team also works on the following theoretical questions.
They are clearly connected to the above-mentioned scientific issues but do not correspond to a specific
application or process.

**3.3.1 Statistical approaches for extreme values**

| Participants | Alexis Boulin, Nicolas Meyer, Gwladys Toulemonde, Samuel Valiquette. |

**State of the Art** Max-stable random fields [83, 81, 64, 41, 73] are the natural limit models for spatial
maximum data and have spawned a very rich literature. An overview of typical approaches to modelling
maxima is due to [43]. Physical interpretation of simulated data from such models can be discussed.
An alternative to the max-stable framework are models for threshold exceedances. Processes called
GPD processes, which appear as a generalization of the univariate formalism of the high thresholds
exceeding a threshold based on the GPD, have been proposed [47, 89]. Strong advantages of these
thresholding techniques are their capability to exploit more information from the data and explicitly
model the original event data. However, the asymptotic dependence stability in these limiting processes
for maximum and threshold exceedance tends to be overly restrictive when asymptotic dependence
strength decreases at high levels and may ultimately vanish in the case of asymptotic independence.
Such behaviors appear to be characteristic for many real-world data sets such as precipitation fields \cite{42, 88}. This has motivated the development of more flexible dependence models such as max-mixtures of max-stable and asymptotically independent processes \cite{94, 29} for maxima data, and Gaussian scale mixture processes \cite{74, 63} for threshold exceedances. These models can accommodate asymptotic dependence, asymptotic independence and Gaussian dependence with a smooth transition.

Extreme events also generally present a temporal dependence \cite{90}. Developing flexible space-time models for extremes is crucial for characterizing the temporal persistence of extreme events spanning several time steps; such models are important for short-term prediction in applications such as the forecasting of wind power and for extreme event scenario generators providing inputs to impact models, for instance in hydrology and agriculture. Currently, only few models are available from the statistical literature (see for instance \cite{39, 40, 62}) and remain difficult to interpret.

**Four year research objectives** The objective is to extend state-of-the-art methodology with respect to three important aspects:

1. adapting well-studied spatial modelling techniques for extreme events based on asymptotically justified models for threshold exceedances to the space-time setup;
2. replacing restrictive parametric dependence modelling by semiparametric or nonparametric approaches;
3. proposing more flexible spatial models in terms of asymmetry or in terms of dependence. This means being able to capture the strength of potentially decreasing extremal dependence when moving towards higher values, which requires developing models that allow for so-called asymptotic independence.

**External collaborations** In a natural way, the Cerise and Fraise project\(^5\) members are the main collaborators for developing and studying new stochastic models for extremes.

- More specifically, research with Jean-Noel Bacro (IMAG, UM), Carlo Gaetan (DAIS, Italy) and Thomas Opitz (BioSP, MIA, INRAE) focuses on relaxing dependence hypothesis.
- The asymmetry issue and generalization of some Copula-based models are studied with Elena Dimartino, Thomas Laloe et Olivier Winterberger.

### 3.3.2 Stochastic methods for rainfall-forcing

**Participants:**

Carole Delenne, Vincent Guinot, Nicolas Meyer, Chloé Serre Combe, Gwladys Toulemonde

**State of the Art** Reproducing optimally realistic spatio-temporal rainfall fields is of salient importance to the forcing of hydrodynamic models. This challenging task requires combining intense, usual and dry weather events. Far from being straightforward, this combination of extreme and non-extreme scenarios requires a realistic modelling of the transitions between normal and extreme periods. \cite{71} have proposed, in a univariate framework, a statistical model that can serve as a generator and that takes into account low, moderate and intense precipitation. In the same vein, \cite{93} developed a bivariate model. However, its extension to a spatial framework remains a challenge. Existing spatial precipitation stochastic generators are generally based on Gaussian spatial processes \cite{31, 68}, that are not adapted to generate extreme rainfall events. Recent advances in spatio-temporal extremes modelling based on generalized Pareto processes \cite{47, 89} and semi-parametric simulation techniques \cite{36} are very promising and could form the base for relevant developments in our framework.

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\(^5\)Cerise (2016-2018) and Fraise (2019-2021) (see 9.3) are research program funded by LEFE MANU (Mathematical and Numerical methods) of the CNRS and led by Gwladys Toulemonde.
**Four year research objectives**  The purpose is to develop stochastic methods for the simulation of realistic spatio-temporal processes integrating extreme events. Two steps are identified. The first one is about the simulation of events of extreme nature and the second one concerns the combination of extreme and non extreme events in order to build complete, realistic precipitation time series. As far as the first step is concerned, a first task is to understand and to model the space-time structure of hydrological extremes such as those observed in the French Mediterranean basin, that is known for its intense rainfall events (Cevenol episodes), which have recently received increased attention. We will propose modelling approaches based on the exceedance, which allows the simulated fields to be interpreted as events. Parametric, semi-parametric and non-parametric approaches are currently under consideration. They would allow a number of scientific locks to be removed. Examples of such locks are e.g. accounting for the temporal dimension and for various dependence structures (asymptotic dependence or asymptotic independence possibly depending on the dimension and/or the distance considered). Methodological aspects are detailed in Section 3.3.1. The second step, which is not straightforward, consists in combining different spatio-temporal simulations in order to help to ultimately develop a stochastic precipitation generator capable of producing full precipitation fields, including dry and non-extreme wet periods.

**External collaborations**  The Cerise (2016-2018) and Fraise (2019-2021) projects (see 9.3), led by Gwladys Toulemonde, are funded by the action MANU (MAtematical and Numerical methods) of the CNRS LEFE program 

**3.3.3 Exploitation of heterogeneous data to improve model inputs**

Numerical modelling requires data acquisition at several steps such as model validation, parameter assessment and practical implementation for operational use. The following two paths for research are devoted to data exploitation for hydraulic models: from data assimilation for model calibration to heterogeneous data fusion for a better knowledge of geometries and forcings.

**a. Parametrization of shallow water models with porosity**

| Participants: | Carole Delenne, Pascal Finaud-Guyot, Vincent Guinot, Antoine Rousseau. |

**State of the Art**  Model benchmarking against laboratory experiments is an essential step and is an integral part of the team's strategy. However, scale model experiments may have several drawbacks: (i) experiments are very expensive and extremely time-consuming, (ii) experiments cannot always be replicated, and measurement have precision and reliability limitations, (iii) dimensional similarity (in terms of geometry and flow characteristic variables such as Froude or Reynolds numbers) cannot always be preserved.

An ideal way to obtain data would be to carry out in situ measurements. But this would be too costly at the scale of studied systems, not to mention the fact that field may become impracticable during flood periods.

Geographical and remote sensing data are becoming widely available with high spatial and temporal resolutions. Several recent studies have shown that flood extents can be extracted from optical or radar images [53], for example: to characterize the flood dynamics of great rivers [72], to monitor temporary ponds [85], but also to calibrate hydrodynamics models and assess roughness parameters (e.g. [95]).

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6 Les Enveloppes Fluides et l’Environnement
Upscaled models developed in LEMON (see 3.1.1 and 3.2.1) embed new parameters that reflect the statistical properties of the medium geometry and the subgrid topography. New methods are thus to be developed to characterize such properties from remote sensing and geographical data.

**Four year research objectives**  
This research line consists in deriving methods and algorithms for the determination of upscaled model parameters from geodata.

For applications in urban areas, it is intended to extract information on the porosity parameters from National geographical survey databases largely available in developed countries. Such databases usually incorporate separate layers for roads, buildings, parking lots, yards, etc. Most of the information is stored in vector form, which can be expected to make the treatment of urban anisotropic properties easier than with a raster format. In developing countries, data is made increasingly available over the world thanks to crowdsourcing (e.g. OpenStreetMap) the required level of detail sometimes not available in vector format, especially in suburban areas, where lawns, parks and other vegetated areas, that may also contribute to flood propagation and storage, are not always mapped. In this context, the necessary information can be extracted from aerial and/or satellite images, that are widely available and the spatial resolution of which improves constantly, using supervised classification approaches.

For applications in great rivers the main objective is to develop an efficient framework for optimally integrating remote sensing derived flood information to compensate the lack of observation related to riverbed bathymetry and river discharge. The effective integration of such remote sensing-derived flood information into hydraulic models remains a critical issue. In partnership with R. Hostache (LIST), we will investigate new ways for making use of Satellite Earth Observation data (i.e. flooded areas and water level estimates derived from Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) data collections) for retrieving uncertain model parameters and boundary conditions. The method will be developed and validated using synthetically generated data sets as well as real-event data retrieved from the European Space Agency’s archives. Extensive testing will be carried out in a number of high magnitude events recorded over the Severn (United Kingdom) and Zambezi (Mozambique) floodplain areas.

In wetlands applications, connectivity between different ponds is highly dependent on the free surface elevation, thus conditioning the presence of a flow. Characterizing such connectivity requires that topographical variations be known with high accuracy. Despite the increased availability of direct topographic measurements from LiDARS on riverine systems, data collection remains costly when wide areas are involved. Data acquisition may also be difficult when poorly accessible areas are dealt with. If the amount of topographic points is limited, information on elevation contour lines can be easily extracted from the flood dynamics visible in simple SAR or optical images. A challenge is thus to use such data in order to estimate continuous topography on the floodplain combining topographic sampling points and located contour lines the levels of which are unknown or uncertain.

**External collaborations**

- A first attempt for topography reconstruction in wetlands was done in collaboration with J.-S. Bailly (LISAH) in 2016 [45]. We have reactivated this research track within the 4-year period [5].

- Porosity model calibration for application on great rivers will be done in the framework of CASCADE project in collaboration with R. Hostache (LIST).

**b. Data fusion and completion**

**Participants:** Alexis Boulin, Carole Delenne, Vincent Guinot, Nicolas Meyer, Antoine Rousseau, Gwladys Toulemonde.

**State of the Art**  
Assuming that a given hydrodynamic models is deemed to perform satisfactorily, this is far from being sufficient for its practical application. Accurate information is required concerning the overall geometry of the area under study and model parametrization is a necessary step towards the operational use. Moreover, the considered flow models are deterministic and must be conditioned by
some forcings, such as rainfall events. When large areas are considered, data acquisition may turn out prohibitive in terms of cost and time, not to mention the fact that information is sometimes not accessible directly on the field. To give but one example, how can the roughness of an underground sewer pipe be measured? A strategy should be established to benefit from all the possible sources of information in order to gather data into a geographical database, along with confidence indexes.

The assumption is made that even hardly accessible information often exists. This stems from the increasing availability of remote-sensing data, to the crowd-sourcing of geographical databases, including the inexhaustible source of information provided by the Internet. However, information remains quite fragmented and stored in various formats: images, vector shapes, texts, etc.

This path of research began with the Cart’Eaux project (2015-2018), that aims to produce regular and complete mapping of urban wastewater system. Contrary to drinkable water networks, the knowledge of sewer pipe location is not straightforward, even in developed countries. Over the past century, it was common practice for public service providers to install, operate and repair their networks separately [78]. Now local authorities are confronted with the task of combining data produced by different parts, having distinct formats, variable precision and granularity [37].

Four year research objectives The overall objective of this research line is to develop methodologies to gather various types of data in the aim of producing an accurate mapping of the studied systems for hydrodynamics models.

Concerning wastewater networks, the methodology applied consists in inferring the shape of the network from a partial dataset of manhole covers that can be detected from aerial images [77, 38]. Since manhole covers positions are expected to be known with low accuracy (positional uncertainty, detection errors), a stochastic algorithm is set up to provide a set of probable network geometries [35]. As more information is required for hydraulic modelling than the simple mapping of the network (slopes, diameters, materials, etc.), text mining techniques such as used in [65] are particularly interesting to extract characteristics from data posted on the Web or available through governmental or specific databases. Using an appropriate keyword list, thematic entities are identified and linked to the surrounding spatial and temporal entities in order to ease the burden of data collection. It is clear at this stage that obtaining numerical values on specific pipes will be challenging. Thus, when no information is found, decision rules will be used to assign acceptable numerical values to enable the final hydraulic modelling.

Concerning rain inputs, instrumental configurations often present sparsity and do not correspond to the required spatiotemporal resolutions (on the order of km and hour, or even 100 meters and a few minutes in urban environments). To overcome this problem, LEMON contributes to the establishment of an urban observatory. This observatory creates a dense network of about twenty rain gauges on the Triolet campus of the University of Montpellier and surrounding areas at extremely fine spatial and temporal resolutions never achieved in the region until now. Other data sources can be used to complement the information provided by the observation network. Combining these heterogeneous, multi-source, multi spatial and temporal resolution data is a difficult task, rain being one of the most complex climatic processes due to (i) its binary nature (presence/absence), (ii) the importance of aggregation of strong values over space and time (floods), and (iii) the strong variations that can appear even at very small spatial and temporal scales. This data aggregation step is nevertheless essential because the quality and resolution of the data will determine the quality of the synthetic rainfall that can be simulated.

In any case, the confidence associated to each piece of data, be it directly measured or reached from a roundabout route, should be assessed and taken into account in the modelling process. This can be done by generating a set of probable inputs (geometry, boundary conditions, forcing, etc.) yielding simulation results along with the associated uncertainty.

Combining heterogeneous data for a better knowledge of studied systems raises the question of data fusion. What is the reality when contradictory information is collected from different sources? Dealing with spatial information, offset are quite frequent between different geographical data layers; pattern comparison approaches should be developed to judge whether two pieces of information represented by two elements close to each other are in reality identical, complementary, or contradictory.

3.3.4 Numerical methods for porosity models
Participants: Vincent Guinot, Pascal Finaud-Guyot.

State of the Art  Porosity-based shallow water models are governed by hyperbolic systems of conservation laws. The most widespread method used to solve such systems is the finite volume approach. The fluxes are computed by solving Riemann problems at the cell interfaces. This requires that the wave propagation properties stemming from the governing equations be known with sufficient accuracy. Most porosity models, however, are governed by non-standard hyperbolic systems.

Firstly, the most recently developed Dual Integral Porosity (DIP) models include a momentum source term involving the divergence of the momentum fluxes [61]. This source term is not active in all situations but takes effect only when positive waves are involved [56, 59]. The consequence is a discontinuous flux tensor and discontinuous wave propagation properties. The consequences of this on the existence and uniqueness of solutions to initial value problems (especially the Riemann problem) are not known, or are the consequences for the accuracy of the numerical methods used to solve this new type of equations.

Secondly, most applications of these models involve anisotropic porosity fields [66, 80]. Such anisotropy can be modelled using $2 \times 2$ porosity tensors, with principal directions that are not aligned with those of the Riemann problems in two dimensions of space. The solution of such Riemann problems has not been investigated yet. Moreover, the governing equations not being invariant by rotation, their solution on unstructured grids is not straightforward.

Thirdly, the Riemann-based finite volume solution of the governing equations require that the Riemann problem be solved in the presence of a porosity discontinuity. While recent work [46] has addressed the issue for the single porosity equations, similar work remains to be done for integral- and multiple porosity-based models.

Four year research objectives  The four year research objectives are the following:

- investigate the properties of the analytical solutions of the Riemann problem for a continuous, anisotropic porosity field,

- extend the properties of such analytical solutions to discontinuous porosity fields,

- derive accurate and CPU-efficient approximate Riemann solvers for the solution of the conservation form of the porosity equations.

External collaborations  Owing to the limited staff of the LEMON team, external collaborations will be sought with researchers in applied mathematics. Examples of researchers working in the field are

- Minh Le, Saint Venant laboratory, Chatou (France): numerical methods for shallow water flows, experience with the 2D, finite element/finite volume-based Telemac2D system.

- M.E. Vazquez-Cendon, Univ. Santiago da Compostela (Spain): finite volume methods for shallow water hydrodynamics and transport, developed Riemann solvers for the single porosity equations.


- O. Delestre, Univ. Côte d’Azur (France): development of numerical methods for shallow water flows (source term treatment, etc.)

- F. Benkhaldoun, Univ. Paris 13 (France): development of Riemann solvers for the porous shallow water equations.
4 Application domains

4.1 Overview
The protection of coastal areas around the world has become an important issue of concern, including within the scientific community. The coastline is defined as the physical separation between the sea or ocean on one hand and the inland on the other, but these two worlds are in fact intertwined, which contributes to the difficulty of their modelling, both from a physical and statistical point of view.

4.2 Coastal Oceanography
Wave propagation models in the nearshore zone have evolved significantly over the last 15 years, with contributions that increasingly take into account effects related to variations of bathymetry, hence the non-hydrostatic nature of the flow. These models, very specific to the coastal zone, must be able to be coupled (together and with external models) so as to allow wave propagation numerical models to be integrated into numerical forecasting platforms, both in oceanography and in flood risk management.

4.3 Urban Floods
Due to climate change and rising sea levels, more and more cities are facing the risk of flooding. Whether they are in coastal areas or near rivers, these areas, which are inherently highly artificial and therefore poorly resistant to rising water levels, require different types of numerical models for flood risk: accurate (and potentially costly) models for land use planning, but also fast models, which can be run in real time, for crisis management.

4.4 Hasard and Risk Assessment
Modelling and risk assessment are at the heart of environmental science. Whether the events considered are of natural or anthropogenic origin, their economic, ecological or human impacts are too important to be neglected. By definition, the more extreme an event is, the lower its frequency of occurrence and therefore the less data available to characterize it. Hence the importance of using statistical tools dedicated to the modelling of extreme events, in order to provide risk management tools that are as safe and effective as possible.

5 Social and environmental responsibility

5.1 Footprint of research activities
As for all Inria teams, the many calculations we perform (on our personal computers or on dedicated clusters) do have an environmental cost. This cost is linked both to the resources needed to manufacture the machines we use, and to the energy consumed to run them.

LEMON members are aware of the climate emergency and are participating in actions on this subject. For example, Pascal Finaud-Guyot is involved in the “sustainable development and social responsibility” working group at Polytech Montpellier and in “energy footprint reduction” working group at HSM with Carole Delenne.

5.2 Impact of research results
Our research activities have a twofold impact in terms of environmental responsibility:

- the research carried out in the field of renewable energy contributes to the increase of decarbonized energy (especially through the team’s activities in Chile, in collaboration with the MERIC center of excellence).
• in addition, given the climate change already underway, the team's work in environmental risk assessment and management contributes to better anticipation of natural hazards which, unfortunately, will continue to occur in the coming decades.

6 New software and platforms

6.1 New software

6.1.1 SW2D-Lemon

Name: Shallow Water 2D - Lemon C++ software

Keywords: Numerical simulations, Shallow water equations, Upscaling, Finite volume methods

Scientific Description: SW2D-LEMON (SW2D for Shallow Water 2D) is developed by the LEMON research team in Montpellier. SW2D-LEMON is a multi-model software focusing on shallow water-based models. It includes an unprecedented collection of upscaled (porosity) models used for shallow water equations and transport-reaction processes. Porosity models are obtained by averaging the two-dimensional shallow water equations over large areas containing both a water and a solid phase. The size of a computational cell can be increased by a factor 10 to 50 compared to a 2D shallow water model, with CPU times reduced by 2 to 3 orders of magnitude. Applications include urban flood simulations as well as flows over complex topography. Besides the standard shallow water equations (the default model), several porosity models are included in the platform: (i) Single Porosity, (ii) Dual Integral Porosity, and (iii) Depth-dependent Porosity model. Various flow processes (friction, head losses, wind, momentum diffusion, precipitation/infiltration) can be included in a modular way by activating specific execution flags. Several examples are included to illustrate the potential of SW2D.

Functional Description: Urban floods are usually simulated using two-dimensional shallow water models. A correct representation of the urban geometry and hydraulics would require that the average computational cell size be between 0.1 m and 1 m. The meshing and computation costs make the simulation of entire districts/conurbations impracticable in the current state of computer technology. An alternative approach consists in upscaling the shallow water equations using averaging techniques. This leads to introducing storage and conveyance porosities, as well as additional source terms, in the mass and momentum balance equations. Various versions of porosity-based shallow water models have been proposed in the literature. The Shallow Water 2 Dimensions (SW2D) computational code embeds various finite volume discretizations of these models. It uses fully unstructured meshes with arbitrary numbers of edges. The key features of the models and numerical techniques embedded in SW2D are: - specific momentum/energy dissipation models that are active only under transient conditions. Such models, that are not present in classical shallow water models, stem from the upscaling of the shallow water equations and prove essential in modeling the features of fast urban flow transients accurately - modified HLLC solvers for an improved discretization of the momentum source terms stemming from porosity gradients - higher-order reconstruction techniques that allow for faster and more stable calculations in the presence of wetting/drying fronts.

Release Contributions: - binary file for educational purposes (including documentation) first release - remove dependency with former package geo through mc.inria.fr ## version 0.8.1 - 04/02/2021 - now using dtk-forge (packages should be more homogeneous) (220) - fixed frequency refresh for simulation (246) - fixed using the control bar before finish breaking the results (249) - fixed spurious call to close (247) - added help menu (238) - forbid loading settings during simulation (244) ## version 0.8.0a - 28/01/2021 - logging now appears in the GUI sw2dModeler (212) - you can extract values at chosen time using a dedicated text file (217) - added various scripts and examples (230) - output file name changed (224)

News of the Year: In 2022, some new tests were included, and most of the work consisted of the development of the following 2 tasks: - code refactoring: all dependencies with Qt have been removed
and the code has been significantly lightened. Its install procedure is much simpler and does not require any non-standard external libraries. Portability (MacOS, Windows and Linux) and ease of installation are improved - addition of logjam transport: as part of Marc Hétier's Master's internship, a new logjam transport functionality has been added, with management of contacts between objects in limited quantities.

URL: https://sw2d.inria.fr/

Publications: hal-01884110, hal-01878242, hal-01582224, hal-01541070, hal-01465071, hal-01118743, hal-02269526, hal-02269564, hal-03224056, hal-03224050, hal-02903282

Contact: Antoine Rousseau

Participants: Vincent Guinot, Antoine Rousseau, Carole Delenne, Pascal Finaud Guyot, Joao Guilherme Caldas Steinstraesser, Marc Hetier

Partner: Université de Montpellier

6.1.2 tsunamilab

Name: TsunamiLab

Keywords: Tsunamis, GPGPU, Dissemination, Web

Functional Description: TsunamiLab is an interactive tsunami simulation and visualization platform that teaches and raises awareness about tsunamis through interactive experiences. It allows science communicators, teachers, students and science enthusiasts to create virtual tsunamis or recreate historical tsunamis, and study their features in various digital and augmented reality formats.

TsunamiLab-Pool: Using cameras and projectors, the "pool" format allows children and adults to interact with their own hands, gathered around the circular screen. This allows the instructor to teach and engage several children simultaneously, in a way that is entertaining for all.

Web Platform: The platform's website allows anyone to simulate historical tsunamis, observe how they propagated in the ocean, and test what would have happened if they had been of greater or lesser magnitude.

Hologram: Through a prism, a holographic image makes it possible to observe the impact in different parts of the world at the same time.

Large Touch Screen: Support for large touch screens allows teachers to observe and explain phenomena in an engaging way in front of a group of students.

News of the Year: In 2022, TsunamiLab was permanently installed in the museum of the Cité du Numérique, in Sophia-Antipolis, as part of the activities of Terra Numerica.

URL: http://www.tsunamilab.cl

Publications: hal-02112763, hal-03514473

Contact: Jose Daniel Galaz Mora

Participants: Jose Daniel Galaz Mora, Antoine Rousseau

Partners: Cigiden, Inria Chile

7 New results

7.1 Urban Floods

7.1.1 Street-building exchange
Flood impact assessment in urban context: coupling hydraulic and economic models at a fine scale

**Participants:** Pascal Finaud-Guyot, Cécile Choley.

**Collaboration:** Frédéric Grelot (UMR G-Eau, Montpellier).

We use the Richelieu district of the city of Nîmes, in the south of France to illustrate our work, taking as reference the 1988 event. We couple hydraulic and economic models to simulate water depths following i) a classical approach of building treatment and ii) an alternative approach explicitly taking into account street-building flow exchanges. The simulated water depths are then fed to the economic model, allowing us to determine, by comparing scenarios, possible bias and its magnitude. The Preliminary results show significant differences in water levels inside buildings compared to outside. In terms of damage, at the district level, not taking into account street-building flows leads to an overestimation of material damage. These results invite us to carry out complementary analyses at higher levels of resolution, by considering the dynamics of the flows inside the buildings and their repercussion in terms of material damage but also of danger.

This work has been presented in [12] and [11].

7.1.2 Porosity models for upscaled urban flood modelling

Self-similar solutions of shallow water equations with porosity

**Participants:** Carole Delenne, Vincent Guinot.

**Collaboration:** Sandra Soares-Frazão (UC Louvain).

Simulated free surface transients in periodic urban layouts have been reported to be self-similar in the space-time domain when averaged on the scale of the building period. Such self-similarity is incompatible with the head loss model formulae used in most porosity-based shallow water models. Verifying it experimentally is thus of salient importance. In [6], new dam-break flow laboratory experiments are reported, where two different configurations of idealized periodic buildings layouts are explored. A space-time analysis of the experimental water level fields validates the self-similar character of the flow. Simulating the experiment using the two-dimensional shallow water model also yields self-similar period-averaged flow solutions. Then, the Single Porosity (SP), Integral Porosity (IP) and Dual Integral Porosity (DIP) models are applied. Although all three models behave in a similar fashion when the storage and connectivity porosities are close to each other, the DIP model is the one that upscales best the refined 2D solution.

7.1.3 Downscaling

Neural networks and boosted trees for multiscale shallow water equations

**Participants:** Kilian Bakong, Vincent Guinot, Antoine Rousseau, Gwladys Toulemonde.
During K. Bakong’s internship, supported by IRT Saint-Exupery, we considered downscaling algorithms for shallow water flows thanks to artificial intelligence techniques. Neural networks and boosted trees are used for the simulation of high resolution flow variables computed from low resolution inputs. Various numerical configurations are addressed, with or without using principle component analysis to reduce the computational coast of training and forecasting steps. This work has been published in [2].

7.2 Natural flows

7.2.1 Large scale floods

A porosity-based flood inundation modelling approach for enabling faster large scale simulations

Participants: Carole Delenne, Vita Ayoub.

Collaboration: Renaud Hostache (UMR Espace-Dev, Montpellier).

In [1], we propose and evaluate a modelling framework based on the shallow water 2D model with depth-dependent porosity enabling to represent floodplain and riverbed topography through porosity functions. To enable a careful and meaningful evaluation of the model, we set up a 2D classical model and use it as a benchmark. We also exploit ground truth data and remote sensing derived flood inundation maps to evaluate the proposed modelling framework and use as test cases the 2007 and 2012 flood events of the river Severn. Our empirical results demonstrate a high performance and low computational cost of the proposed model for fast flood simulations at a large scale.

7.2.2 Transport

Solute transport in heterogeneous model porous media under different flow rates: Experimental and modelling study

Participants: Vincent Guinot.

Collaboration: Samer Majdalani (HSM Montpellier).

In [7] we focus on solute transport behaviour in a Model Heterogeneous Porous Medium (MHPM) under different flow rates. We report tracer experiments under stationary hydraulic conditions, with 7 different stationary flow rates spanning two orders of magnitude. Several replicates are carried out on several MHPMs, allowing for a sound statistical assessment of experimental imprecision. The experimental BreakThrough Curves (BTCs) exhibit a dual transport mode in agreement with previously-reported field scale experiments. This dual transport mode is shown to be flow-rate independent under a suitable variable change, with the BTCs superposing in the limit of experimental uncertainty. The experiment is modelled using a classical Multi-Region Advection-Dispersion (MRAD) model with only two mobile regions. We present a flow rate independent reformulation of the MRAD model that that allows both water and solute continuity to be preserved during the calibration process. Assuming a linear dependence of the dispersion and exchange coefficients on the flow rate is shown to yield satisfactory model behaviour. This confirms the linearity of the dispersion coefficient with respect to the flow rate, often suggested in the literature, over a wide range of flow conditions.
Solute transport in dual conduit structure

Participants: Vincent Guinot.

Collaboration: Chaoqi Wang (HSM Montpellier), Samer Majdalani (HSM Montpellier), Hervé Jourde (HSM Montpellier).

A typical karst aquifer configuration is the multiple conduit structure. However, it remains to be investigated how the aperture distributions and the flow rate should influence the transport process in the multiple conduit structures. To better understand the transport process in the multiple conduit structures, 11 lab-scale dual-conduit structures are manufactured by varying the apertures of the two conduits (h1 and h2 denote the aperture width of the shorter conduit and the longer conduit respectively). Solute transport experiments of three different flow rates are conducted on these structures. As the flow rate increases, the dual-conduit structures are more likely to present dual-peaked BTCs. The 11 structures make one exhaustive representation of the possible aperture combination of the dual-conduit structures and the transport experiments have been conducted by three flow rates (varying by 2 degrees of magnitude), so the experimental results constitute a detailed material that should improve the understanding of transport processes in such structures. In [8], two numerical models, Weighted Sum Advection–Dispersion Equation (WSADE) and Dual Region Mobile Immobile Model (DRMIM), are applied to fit the experimental BTCs in order to obtain some insight into the actual solute-transport processes by exploring the calibrated model parameters. Considering the possible effect of solute detention, we initially applied the DRMIM model. This DRMIM better replicated the experimental BTCs than the WSADE. This study suggests the karst community shall take the DRMIM as one candidate transport model for characterizing the dual-peaked BTCs obtained in karst aquifers.

7.3 Methodological developments

7.3.1 Statistical approaches for extreme values

Non-parametric estimator of a multivariate madogram for missing-data and extreme value framework

Participants: Gwladys Toulemonde, Alexis Boulin.

Collaboration: Elena Di Bernardino (Université de Côte d’Azur), Thomas Laloé (Université de Côte d’Azur).

The modelling of dependence between maxima is an important subject in several applications in risk analysis. To this aim, the extreme value copula function, characterised via the madogram, can be used as a margin-free description of the dependence structure. From a practical point of view, the family of extreme value distributions is very rich and arise naturally as the limiting distribution of properly normalised component-wise maxima. We investigate the nonparametric estimation of the madogram where data are completely missing at random. We provide the functional central limit theorem for the considered multivariate madogram correctly normalized, towards a tight Gaussian process for which the covariance function depends on the probabilities of missing. Explicit formula for the asymptotic variance is also given. Our results are illustrated in a finite sample setting with a simulation study. This work is published in [4] and presented in [9].
Multivariate sparse clustering for extremes

**Participants:** Nicolas Meyer.

**Collaboration:** Olivier Wintenberger (Sorbonne U).

The concept of sparse regular variation introduced in [24] allows to infer the tail dependence of a random vector. This approach relies on the Euclidean projection onto the simplex which better exhibits the sparsity structure of the tail of the random vector than the standard methods. We develop a procedure based on a rigorous methodology aims at capturing clusters of extremal coordinates of this vector. It also includes the identification of the threshold above which the values taken by \( X \) are considered as extreme. We provide an efficient and scalable algorithm called MUSCLE which is applied to numerical examples and real-world data, such as wind speed data.

Choice of mixture Poisson models based on Extreme value theory

**Participants:** Samuel Valiquette, Gwladys Toulemonde.

**Collaboration:** Jean Peyhardi (UM), Eric Marchand (Univ Sherbrooke), Fredéric Mortier (CIRAD).

Count data are omnipresent in many applied fields, often with overdispersion due to an excess of zeroes or extreme values. With mixtures of Poisson distributions representing an elegant and appealing modelling strategy, we focus in [25] on the challenging problem of identifying a suitable mixing distribution and study how extreme value theory can be used. We propose an original strategy to select the most appropriate candidate among three categories: Fréchet, Gumbel and pseudo-Gumbel. Such an approach is presented with the aid of a decision tree and evaluated with numerical simulations.

Generalized Pareto vectors for flexible peaks-over-threshold modeling

**Participants:** Gwladys Toulemonde.

**Collaboration:** Carlo Gaetan (Venice), Thomas Opitz (Inrae), Jean-Noël Bacro (UM).

A flexible multivariate threshold exceedances modeling is defined based on componentwise ratios between any two independent random vectors with exponential and Gamma marginal distributions. This construction allows flexibility in terms of extremal bivariate dependence. More precisely, asymptotic dependence and independence are possible, as well as hybrid situations. Two useful parametric model classes will be presented. One of the two, based on Gamma convolution models, will be illustrated through a simulation study. Good performance is shown for likelihood-based estimation of summaries of bivariate extremal dependence for several scenarios. This work has been presented in [15] and is submitted in [19].
7.3.2 Coupling

Coupling dispersive and non-dispersive shallow water models

**Participants:** Antoine Rousseau, José Galaz.

**Collaboration:** Maria Kazolea (Inria CARDAMOM).

In a recently submitted paper [22], we derive transmission operators for coupling linear Green-Naghdi equations (LGNE) with linear shallow water equations (LSWE) - the heterogeneous case - or for coupling LGNE with LGNE - the homogeneous case. We derive them from a domain decomposition method (Neumann-Dirichlet) of the linear Euler equations by applying the same vertical-averaging process and truncation of the asymptotic expansion of the velocity field used in the derivation of the equations. We find that the new asymptotic transmission conditions also correspond to Neumann and Dirichlet operators. In the homogeneous case the method has the same convergence condition as the parent domain decomposition method but leads to a solution that is different from the monodomain solution due to a term of order one. In the heterogeneous case the Neumann-Dirichlet operators translate into a simple interpolation across the interface, with an extra term of order 2 in space. We show numerically that in this case the method introduces oscillations whose amplitude grows as the mesh is refined, thus leading to an unstable scheme.

7.3.3 Model parametrization

Endoreic waterbodies delineation from remote-sensing as a tool for immersed surface topography.

**Participants:** Carole Delenne, Antoine Rousseau.

**Collaboration:** Jean-Stephane Bailly (INRAE), Olivier Boutron (Tour du Valat), Renaud Hostache (UMR Espace-Dev, Montpellier).

This path for research was initiated several years ago in collaboration with J. S. Bailly (LISAH). We recently came up with a methodology developed on synthetic data and published in Geosciences and Remote Sensing Letters [5]. Since several decades, it becomes possible to delineate waterbodies and their dynamics from optical or radar images, that are now available at high spatial and temporal resolutions. We present here an interpolation approach that takes benefits from this waterbodies delineation which consist in endoreic areas, in isovalue contourlines to improve topography estimation classically obtained from measurement points only. The approach, based on a minimisation problem, uses Thin Plate Spline interpolation functions, whose coefficient are determined along with the unknown water level of each curve. Results obtained on a generated topography show that this approach, applied with three contour-line curves, yields a lower root mean square error with only one measurement point as the one obtained with nine points and the classical approach. The real-case application to the Rascaillan pond, was made possible by the collaboration with Olivier Boutron from Tour du Valat and Renaud Hostache from LIST. It shows that this approach can easily be implemented using widely available data such as Sentinel images, yielding a large decrease of the root mean square error between the interpolated topography and the reference Lidar acquisition, even using only two satellite images.

7.3.4 Heterogeneous data
Towards a generic fusion framework for underground networks involving model-driven engineering domain

**Participants:** Carole Delenne, Yassine Bel Ghaddar.

**Collaboration:** Abderrahmane Serial (Berger Levrault), Ahlame Begdouri (USMBA - Université Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah).

In [3] we propose a generic data modelling for the fusion of sewerage networks data. Our meta-model supports imperfection modelling at data-source level as well as at network object position and attribute levels, allowing thus formal fusion operations to be conducted efficiently and reliably. To validate our meta-model, we implemented it using data analysis and reengineering platform called Moose, and we conducted a test on the town of Prades-le-Lez (France). We took into account three data-sources providing information on the node positions of the sewerage network: i) the official network map as semi-structured source; ii) a high resolution aerial image database and iii) a Google Street View database as unstructured sources. As result, we were able to reliably perform data monitoring and visualization requests on real heterogeneous multi-source data related to a specific sewerage network.

7.3.5 Numerical methods for hyperbolic systems of equations

**Large CFL explicit scheme for hyperbolic systems**

**Participants:** Vincent Guinot, Antoine Rousseau.

In [23], a large CFL algorithm is presented for the explicit, finite volume solution of hyperbolic systems of conservation laws. The Riemann problems used in the flux computation are determined using averaging kernels that extend over several computational cells. The usual Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy stability constraint is replaced with a constraint involving the kernel support size. This makes the method unconditionally stable with respect to the size of the computational cells, allowing the computational mesh to be refined locally to an arbitrary degree without altering solution stability. The practical implementation of the method is detailed for the shallow water equations with topographical source term. Computational examples report applications of the method to the linear advection, Burgers and shallow water equations. In the case of sharp bottom discontinuities, the need for improved, well-balanced discretizations of the geometric source term is acknowledged.

8 Bilateral contracts and grants with industry

8.1 Bilateral Contracts with Industry

8.1.1 Berger-Levrault

**Participants:** Carole Delenne.

The research collaboration convention, signed with Berger-Levrault company in the framework of Yassine Belghaddar thesis (CIFRE ANRT France/Maroc), has ended in December 2022.
8.1.2 LIST

Participants: Carole Delenne.

The research collaboration convention, signed with Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST) in the framework of Vita Ayoub thesis (CASCADE Project), has ended in November 2022.

9 Partnerships and cooperations

9.1 International initiatives

9.1.1 Participation in other International Programs

Participants: Pascal Finaud-Guyot, Vincent Guinot.

Pascal Finaud-Guyot and Vincent Guinot are members of the French-Tunisian International Laboratory Naïla, 2016-2023. The laboratory research focuses on the management of the water resources in agricultural Tunisian catchment. In this context, LEMON members develop DDP model for fine scale runoff modelling to better understand the agricultural practices-soil erosion interactions.

9.2 European initiatives

9.2.1 Other european programs/initiatives

Participants: Carole Delenne.

Carole Delenne is a member of the CASCADE project (Combining earth observation with a large scale model cascade for assessing flood hazard at high spatial resolution) lead by Renaud Hostache from (Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology) and funded by Fonds National de la Recherche Luxembourg. The CASCADE project aims at developing a Satellite Earth Observation (SEO)-based modelling framework that enables an assessment of flood hazard at large scale and high spatial resolution. The project intends to unlock the potential offered by recent developments in terms of high performance computing, parsimonious and efficient hydrological and hydraulic models, as well as the availability of globally coherent remote sensing data. By using SEO data and other globally and freely available data sets as default data for driving and parameterizing the model, the project aims at developing a modelling solution that is no longer relying entirely on the availability of long records of reliable in situ observations. Such developments are considered a pre-requisite for hydrology-related disaster risk reduction worldwide.

9.3 National initiatives

Participants: Carole Delenne, Pascal Finaud Guyot, Antoine Rousseau, Gwladys Toulemonde.

Pascal Finaud-Guyot and Antoine Rousseau are members of ANR MUFFINS - Multiscale Flood Forecasting with Innovating Solutions - led by Pierre-André Garambois (INRAe) including the following partners: IMT, Univ Eiffel, Cerema IMFT, CCR, Météo/SPCME, SCHAPI.

The objective of the MUFFINS project is to develop new accurate and computationally efficient
flood forecasting approaches, enabling transferring information between modelings (meteorology-hydrology-hydraulic-damage) and scales (from local runoff generation over areas lesser than 1km² to flood propagation on catchments of thousands km²), and taking advantage of innovative data (in situ, remote observation, opportunistic) to reduce forecasts uncertainties.

Carole Delenne is a member (+co-leader of several tasks and a WP) of ANR CROQUIIS - Collecting, Representing, Completing, merging and Querying heterogeneous and Uncertain wastewater and stormwater network data - led by Salem Benferhat (CRIL) and funded in 2022. In this project, we refer to data of different nature such as geographical databases, various types of images, digital/analogue maps, intervention reports, etc. Heterogeneity also refers to the imperfection of the available information where data may be unreliable, imprecise, incomplete, dynamic and conflicting. One of the objectives of CROQUIIS is to answer the need for establishing a methodological framework to collect, complete, centralize, update and archive data. Approaches based on Machine Learning (ML) techniques enhanced with basic additional knowledge will be developed along with knowledge-driven query answering and reasoning mechanisms to infer new data needed for hydraulic modelling. In particular, we aim to develop an enhanced query answering tool that should be easily integrated into existing information systems in order to fully exploit available resources and to better exploit meta information such as uncertainty.

Gwladys Toulemonde is member of the ANR project Gambas (PI Frédéric Mortier, Cirad), 2019-2023. The project GAMBAS focuses on joint species distribution models. These models can provide a better understanding and more accurate predictions of species distributions based on environmental variables while taking into account the effects of all other co-occurring species (e.g. competition).

Gwladys Toulemonde is member of the ANR project McLaren (PI Thomas Laloé, Université Côte d'Azur), 2020-2024. The project McLaren focuses on Machine Learning and risk evaluation.

Gwladys Toulemonde is head of a project (2019-2022) funded by INSU via the action MANU (MAtematical and NUmerical methods) of the LEFE program. This project, called Fraise, is focused on rainfall forcing by stochastic simulation for hydrological impact studies from dry periods to extreme events. The consortium involved in this project is larger than the Cerise one (14 researchers from 8 partners: AgroParisTech, CNRS, INRAE, Inria, IRD, Université de Lyon 1, Université de Montpellier and the University of Venice in Italy).

10 Dissemination

10.1 Promoting scientific activities


10.1.1 Scientific events: organisation

Member of the organizing committees

- Gwladys Toulemonde is member of the organizing committee of the workshop Machine learning and uncertainties in climate simulations (thematic semester Henri Lebesgue, 2022).

- Gwladys Toulemonde is member of the scientific committee of the CIMPA School "Probabilistic and statistical modelling with applications in epidemiology and environment", 2021-2022, Madagascar (partially virtual).

- Antoine Rousseau wisas member of the organizing committee of the EmRSim2022 Conference (Roscoff)
10.1.2 Scientific events: selection

Member of the conference program committees

- Gwladys Toulemonde is member of the scientific committee of the Journées MAS (SMAI) 2022

10.1.3 Journal

Reviewer - reviewing activities

- Carole Delenne is a reviewer for several Journals such as Journal of Hydraulic Research, Water, Computers Environment and Urban Systems (1 to 3 manuscripts/year).
- Vincent Guinot is a reviewer for Journal of Hydrology, Advances in Water Resources, Mathematical Problems in Engineering (3 manuscripts/year).
- Nicolas Meyer is a reviewer for Electronic journal of probability, Annals of statistics, Annals of applied statistics, Extremes, Bernoulli (1 manuscript/year)
- Antoine Rousseau is a reviewer for Journal of Hydrology and Environmental Modelling & Assessment (2 manuscripts/year), DCDS-S (1 manuscript/year) and Mathematical Modelling and Numerical Analysis (ESAIM: M2AN, 1 manuscript/year).

10.1.4 Invited talks

- Alexis Boulin gave a talk in the 15th International Conference of the ERCIM WG on Computational and Methodological Statistics (London), see [9].
- Nicolas Meyer gave a talk at the « Journées IMAG-IMT » entitled « Studying the external behavior of dependent data : the extremal coefficient ».
- Nicolas Meyer gave a talk at the CMStatistics 2022 Conference entitled « Multivariate sparse clustering for extremes ».
- Gwladys Toulemonde gave a talk in the 15th International Conference of the ERCIM WG on Computational and Methodological Statistics (London), see [15].

10.1.5 Scientific expertise

- Antoine Rousseau is member of the scientific board of Fondation Blaise Pascal.
- Antoine Rousseau is member of the international scientific board of the Climat-AmSud program.

10.1.6 Research administration

- Carole Delenne is elected member of the Ecole Doctorale GAIA board.
- Vincent Guinot is head of the "Eau dans la Ville" cross-disciplinary research group at HSM (20 staff members) and of the Urban Observatory of HSM.
- Vincent Guinot is a member of the board for scientific strategy at HSM.
- Antoine Rousseau is head of the LEMON team at Inria CRI-SAM (6 staff members).
- Antoine Rousseau is a member of the Inria CRI-SAM steering board (Comité des Projets).
• Antoine Rousseau is a member of the Inria CRI-SAM scientific board (Bureau du Comité des Projets).

• Gwladys Toulemonde is elected member of a local committee (commission de section) relative to the CNU section 26.

• Gwladys Toulemonde is elected member of the MIPS Scientific Department (Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics and Systems), a component of the University of Montpellier.

• Gwladys Toulemonde is vice-president of the French Statistical Society (Société Française de Statistique, SFdS).

• Gwladys Toulemonde is elected member of the French Statistical Society board (Société Française de Statistique, SFdS).

• Gwladys Toulemonde is elected member of Environment group of the French Statistical Society board (Société Française de Statistique, SFdS).

• Gwladys Toulemonde is elected member of the liaison committee of the MAS Group (Modélisation Aléatoire et Statistique), SMAI (Société de Mathématiques Appliquées et Industrielles).

10.2 Teaching - Supervision - Juries


10.2.1 Academic involvement / responsibilities

5 UM-affiliated members of LEMON are Academics, for a total teaching load of approximately 1000 hrs/year.

Moreover, these members undertook significant administrative duties (approx. 1000 hrs) in 2021:

• Carole Delenne is Program coordinator (Year 3) of the "Eau et Génie Civil - EGC" (Water & Civil Engineering) engineering program at Polytech Montpellier.

• Pascal Finaud-Guyot is Program coordinator (Year 2) and Sustainable Development coordinator for the EGC engineering program at Polytech Montpellier.

• Vincent Guinot is Head of the EGC Academic department at Polytech Montpellier.

• Gwladys Toulemonde is appointed Admissions office coordinator at Polytech Montpellier (500+ students/ year).

10.2.2 Supervision

PhD defended this year:

• Vita Ayoub, "Assimilation of satellite derived flood information for better parameterizing and controlling large scale hydraulic models over data scarce areas", November 2018, Carole Delenne and R. Hostache (LIST, Luxembourg).

• Yassine Belghaddar, "Data fusion for urban network mapping. Application to sanitation networks", May 2019, Carole Delenne and A. Begdouri (LSIA, Fès, Morocco).
PhD in progress:


- José Daniel Galaz Mora, "Coupling near shore wave models", Feb 2021, Antoine Rousseau and Maria Kazolea (Inria Bordeaux).

- Samuel Valiquette, "Modélisation multivariée de données de comptage en présence d’excès de zéros et de surdispersion", sept. 2020, Gwladys Toulemonde, F. Mortier, E. Marchand (Cirad, Université de Montpellier, Université de Sherbrooke).

- Alexis Boulin, "Méthodes de clustering spatial de séries temporelles fondées sur une dépendance extrême", Sept 2021, Gwladys Toulemonde, T. Laloë, E. Di Bernadino (Université de Montpellier, Université Côte d’Azur).

- Cécile Choley, "Numerical study of the street-building exchange during urban floods", Nov, Pascal Finaud-Guyot and R. Mosé (Université de Strasbourg).

- Fadil Boodoo, "Hydrodynamic model and artificial intelligence for a flood forecasting system", Jan 2021, Carole Delenne and Renaud Hostache (Université de Montpellier).

10.2.3 Juries

- Carole Delenne was reviewer for Leo Pujol’s PhD (Univ. Strasbourg, 2022)
- Carole Delenne was member of Celine Casenave’s HDR (Univ. Montpellier, 2022)
- Carole Delenne was member of Christina Orieschnig’s PhD (Univ. Montpellier, 2022)
- Carole Delenne was member of the recruitment panel for an associated professor at IMFT/INP Toulouse (2022)
- Antoine Rousseau was member of the Inria Junior Researcher (CRCN/ISFP) comittee in Grenoble
- Antoine Rousseau was reviewer (and member of the committee) for Emilie Duval’s PhD (Univ Grenoble, 2022)
- Gwladys Toulemonde was member of Said Obakrim’s PhD (Univ Rennes 1, 2022)

10.3 Popularization

Participants: Carole Delenne, Antoine Rousseau, José Galaz.

10.3.1 Internal or external Inria responsibilities

- Antoine Rousseau is member of the scientific board of Fondation Blaise Pascal.
- Antoine Rousseau is co-editor of the national blog binaire, published by Le Monde.
- Gwladys Toulemonde is involved in the board of Animath since october, 2019, representing the SFdS.
- Gwladys Toulemonde is a member of the organizing committee of the Forum Emploi Math (FEM 2019, 2020) and co-coordinator of the event in 2021 and 2022.
- Gwladys Toulemonde is a member of the organizing committee of the Salon de la culture et des jeux mathématiques since 2020.
10.3.2 Articles and contents

- Carole Delenne, Vincent Guinot and Gwladys Toulemonde co-published in "Pour la Science" and Interstices, [27]

10.3.3 Education

- Carole Delenne participated several times in the reception of secondary school students in the framework of Digi'Filles (ISDM, Univ Montpellier): children's version of the “fresque du climat”, water cycle.

- Gwladys Toulemonde is involved in the board of the CFEM (commission française pour l’enseignement des mathématiques) since October 2019, representing the SFdS.

10.3.4 Interventions

- José Galz gave a lecture "Tsunamilab, une plateforme numérique interactive pour créer des tsunamis" at the "Feria de la Science" (Chile, 2022).

- Nicolas Meyer gave a one-day course at IHP Paris on « Statistical methods for multivariate extremes » during an « Atelier de la SFDS ».

11 Scientific production

11.1 Publications of the year

**International journals**


Conferences without proceedings


Scientific book chapters


Edition (books, proceedings, special issue of a journal)


Reports & preprints


Other scientific publications


11.2 Other

Scientific popularization


Educational activities


11.3 Cited publications


