

The hydrological modeling with ORCHIDEE in the Amazon basin

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LSCE-PKU meeting Paris, 10/13/2014





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Dry-season length increases in the south since the 80's



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 - How important is the use of a physically-based soil hydrology model if compared to a simple bucket model to better represent hydrological storages and fluxes?
 - Will annual extreme flows be more severe during the middle/end of the 21st century than the present ones?

Soil hydrology schemes in ORCHIDEE



- Conceptual description of soil moisture storage
- 2 layers for a 2-m soil
- Constant available water holding capacity (wilt. point ↔ field capa.)
- Saturation-excess (Dunne runoff, R)
- Downard flux between the 2 layers
- No drainage

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- Physically-based description of soil water fluxes
- 11 layers for a 2-m soil
- Variable water storage capacity (res. wat. content ↔ sat.) depending on soil texture heterogeneity
- Infiltration-excess (Horton runoff, Rs)
- Fluxes between layers following Richards equation & Mualem-Van Genuchten model
- Gravitational drainage, D





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 Observations
 2LAY
 11LAY



01 1 1
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Guimberteau et al..GMD. 2014

Madeira Negro "Interbasi

Amazonas (OBI)

Xingu Ungauged



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LAI variation is small between the 2 simulations







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Conclusion

(1) Compared to the bucket scheme, the physically-based multilayer soil hydrology scheme:

- slightly improves the simulated water budget
- simulates better TWS anomalies
- sustains ET during the dry season in the south-east thanks to its higher soil water holding capacity => better representation of GPP

(2) A dry season length between 4 to 7 months in the Amazon basin is critical in distinguishing differences in water budget components and carbon flux dynamics simulated by the 2 soil hydrology schemes

Future changes in precipitation and impacts on extreme streamflow

- Delta downscaling method approach to produce climate change forcing based on GCMs results from AR4
 - > 3 scenarios: B1, A1B and A2
 - > 2 periods: 2046-2065 and 2079-2098
- Climatology of future anomalies added to the NCC forcing including ORE HYBAM precipitation
 - > delta method incorporates more realistic spatio-temporal patterns in precipitation
- ORCHIDEE forced by the different future climate forcings => climate change simulations



Future changes in precipitation and impacts on extreme streamflow



Number of GCMs out of eight that project a JJA precipitation increase

Mean relative change (%) of the **low flows** for 16 stations

- Southern sub-basins (with low runoff coefficients (R/P)) will become more responsive to precipitation change than the western sub-basins (with high runoff coefficients)
- Western and north-western sub-basins: more responsive to evaporation change

Guimberteau et al., ERL, 2013

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- (3) ORCHIDEE projects more severe low flows in the southern part of the basin for the middle of the century

ORCHIDEE and the Amazon basin:

evaluation of the model for future hydrology simulation



New precipitation dataset for the Amazon River basin



Mean annual relative bias of runoff (%)







Maximal fraction within the mesh (%)







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- (2) A dry season length between 4 to 7 months in the Amazon basin is critical in distinguishing differences in water budget components and carbon flux dynamics simulated by the 2 soil hydrology schemes
- (3) ORCHIDEE projects more severe low flows in the southern part of the basin for the middle of the century
- (4) The use of the ORE HYBAM precipitation dataset and the new spatial distribution of flooded areas improve the simulated hydrology