

# Evaluation of a semi-distributed model through an assessment of the spatial coherence of Intercatchment Groundwater Flows

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## ► To cite this version:

Alban de Lavenne, Guillaume Thirel, Vazken Andréassian, Charles Perrin, Maria-Helena Ramos. Evaluation of a semi-distributed model through an assessment of the spatial coherence of Intercatchment Groundwater Flows. EGU General Assembly 2016, Apr 2016, Vienna, Austria. Geophysical Research Abstracts, 18, pp.1, 2016. hal-02603536

## HAL Id: hal-02603536 https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02603536v1

Submitted on 16 May 2020

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We propose to evaluate two structures of a semidistributed model using spatial consistency of simulated intercatchment groundwater flows (IGF). The idea is that the water that is lost in one place should be recovered somewhere else within the catchment to guarantee a spatially consistent water balance in time.



The semi-distributed model GRSD is based on an implementation lumped daily GR5J model (5 parameters) on each of a subcatchment. GR5J is composed of two stores: a production store (capacity X1) and a routing store (capacity X3), which is filled by the output of a unit hydrograph (of time base X4). Two other parameters, X2 and X5, are used to quantify the IGF. Outflow simulations of upstream catchments are routed downstream using a streamflow celerity (parameter C).

# **EVALUATION OF A SEMI-DISTRIBUTED MODEL THROUGH AN ASSESSMENT OF THE SPATIAL CONSISTENCY OF INTERCATCHMENT GROUNDWATER FLOWS**





Two model structures are modelling intercatchment groundwater flow in a different way (figure left): **Structure 1:** Upstream simulations are directly routed downstream so they are not considered in IGF. **Structure 2:** Upstream simulations are filling the downstream routing reservoir, so it can be included in IGF.

# **Model structure 1**

# **Model structure 2**

# IGF spatial consistency

- The two model structures give totally different maps of intercatchment groundwater flows. - Structure 1: most of the catchments are leaking. - Structure 2: leakage concerns mostly upstream catchments whereas downstream catchments are gaining water (spatial consistency).

# Water balance analysis

- Structure 1: most of the water that is released to the groundwater is never recovered somewhere else. - Structure 2: enables to nearly close the water balance for one of the two calibration periods. - New constraints have to be found on the model structure and calibration in order to reinforce this spatial consistency.



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