

# Modeling aquifers and floodplains in global climate simulations : evaluation and impact

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# **Motivations**





- To take into account the possible impact on the simulated atmosphere and/or ocean
- How accurately do we simulate aquifers and floodplains ?
- Does it improve the rest of our hydrology?
- What is the impact on the simulated (present-day) climate?

# **Motivations**





- Why modeling groundwater in a climate model ?
  - To simulate its evolution in a changing climate
  - To take into account the possible impact on the simulated atmosphere and/or ocean

Same perspective for the modeling of floodplains

- How accurately do we simulate aquifers and floodplains ?
- Does it improve the rest of our hydrology?
- What is the impact on the simulated (present-day) climate ?

# Outline

#### **1.** Presentation of the model

- CNRM-CM6 climate model
- Aquifer scheme
- Flood model
- Simulations

#### 2. Validation/evaluation

- Validation in offline mode (land/river only)
- Evaluation in inline mode (coupled to the atmosphere)

#### **3. Impact on the simulated climate**

#### **Summary and outlook**



# The CNRM-CM 6 (CMIP6) climate model





#### Hydrology in ISBA-CTRIP New version (CNRM-CM6)



- 14-Layers explicit soil scheme Boone et al., 2000 Decharme et al., 2011 & 2013
- 12-Layers explicit snow scheme (mass and heat) & Soil Organic Carbon effects on soil properties Boone and Etchevers, 2001 Decharme et al., 2016
- Variable flow velocity and river network at 0.5° Decharme et al., 2011
- Two-dimensional diffusive aquifer allowing upward capillarity fluxes to the subsoil
  Vergnes et al., 2012a,b & 2014
- Floodplains dynamics with direct reevaporation, precipitation interception and soil re-infiltration Decharme et al., 2008 & 2012



# **Aquifer scheme**



(Vergnes et al. 2012, 2014)

Unconfined aquifers One layer Groundwater-river exchanges Q<sub>riv</sub> Lateral fluxes Q<sub>cell</sub> Coupling with ISBA Flux F

$$\omega \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{r^2 \cos(\phi)} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{T_{\theta}}{\cos(\phi)} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( T_{\phi} \cos(\phi) \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} \right) \right] + Q_{sb} - Q_{riv}$$
  
H : water table head (m)  
 $\omega$  : effective porosity  
T : transmissivity (m<sup>2</sup>/s)



# Aquifer scheme : coupling with the soil column





(d) Normalized accumulated (c) 30" topography distribution of topography m 0.25 160 0.20 140 Fraction 120 0.15 100 80 60 0.10 0.05 40 0.00 20 20 30 40 50 60 70 Topography (m)

 $f_{wtd}$  : fraction of the grid-cell affected by capillary rise.

$$F = f_{\rm wtd}F_T + (1 - f_{\rm wtd})F_N$$



(Vergnes et al. 2012, 2014)

# Aquifer basins and parameters development at a regional scale



# Aquifer basins

TABLE 1. Mean values of transmissivity and effective porosity taken from the

neters	Lithology	Transmissivity (m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Effective porosity
	Clay	$5.10^{-4}$	0.01
	Limestone	$5.10^{-3}$	0.03
	Chalk	$1.10^{-2}$	0.05
	Sandstone	$2.10^{-2}$	0.07
	Sand	$5.10^{-2}$	0.1



# Aquifer scheme validation at a regional scale







# **Flood model**



Addition of a flood reservoir in TRIP

 $\partial F / \partial = Qin - Qout + (Pf - If - Ef)$ 

**Qin**  $(kg/m^2)$ : Inflow from the river

**Qout** (kg/m<sup>2</sup>) : Outflow into the river

**Pf** (kg/m<sup>2</sup>) : Precipitation intercepted by the floodplain

**If** (kg/m<sup>2</sup>) : Inflitration of the flooded fraction of the ISBA grid cell

**Ef** (kg/m<sup>2</sup>) : Direct Evaporation

(Decharme et al., 2008 & 2012)



# **Simulations**

**Offline** (SURFEX-TRIP stand-alone)

TRIP 0.5° SURFEX 1°

1979-2010

Forcing : PGF

**CTL** : River routing, variable stream velocity (Manning)

**GW** : Vvar + Aquifer

**GW+FLD**: Vvar + Aquifer + Flood

*Inline* (coupling with the atmosphere)

TRIP 0.5° SURFEX ARPEGE-Climat T127 – 150 km

1979-2010 (5-year spin-up)

Coupling with ARPEGE-Climate

CTL

GW

**GW+FLD** 



#### **2. Validation and evaluation** Water Table Depths (WTD)



Model and data from Fan et al., 2013

GW simulations

#### **Terrestrial Water Storage (TWS)** Seasonal means



#### **TWS** Seasonal cycle





#### GRACE CTL-Offline GW-Offline GW+FLD-Offline

GW improves results The effect of floodplains depends on the region

#### **River discharge** Seasonal cycle





Observation CTRL-Offline GW-Offline GW+FLD-Offline

GW : generally improves the cycle

GW + FLD : even better

#### Inline simulations River discharge





#### Obs CTL-Inline GW-Inline GW+FLD-Inline

Inline discharge integrates error on the simulated precipitation

Improvement in almost every basin with GW, and sometimes even more so with GW+FLD.

# **River discharge**



# **3. Impact on the simulated climate** 2-meter daily max. temperature (JJA)



60S

90S

150W 120W

GW + flood

0

-0.5 0.5

30E 60E

1

90F 120F

2

3 4

90W 60W 30W

-2

-1

-3

- No impact of the aquifers
- Floodplains lead to a cooling

# **Precipitation (JJA)**



-0.5 -0.2 0.2 0.5

-2

-4

-1

2

4

1

### **Evapotranspiration changes**



#### **Floodplains effect** Infiltration or open water evaporation ?



## Summary

- An 2D-diffusive aquifer model and a floodplain scheme were added to the new version of the Land Surface Model ISBA-CTRIP.
- A first set of global climate simulations were performed with it.
- The simulated water table depths seem reasonnable.
- Offline (Land ony) evaluation show a moderate effect of aquifers and floodplains on Terrestrial Water Storage, but they do lead to an improvement of river discharge (seasonal cycles, as well as variability)
- The impact of the simulated aquifers on the climate is virtually Nonexistant in the summer. There is however an impact in winter (DJF) over Eastern Europe (not shown). The processes involved need further investigation.
  - The floodplains scheme leads to a cooling of maximum



# Outlook

- Further analysis of the results
- Run ensembles ?
- Assess the impact of groundwater at higher resolution (either globally or regionally)

