

VIC!

On the road to a pan-Canadian application of a hydrological/simple land surface model

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CANADA
Drainage Areas

Drainage Divides

— Ocean drainage area

Scale
0 125 250 375 km



Integrated Modelling
Program for Canada
Global Water Futures



GLOBAL WATER FUTURES
SOLUTIONS TO WATER THREATS
IN AN ERA OF GLOBAL CHANGE



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Global Institute for
Water Security
USASK.CA/WATER

GWF, IMPC and VIC

The Variable Infiltration Capacity (VIC) model was selected as a hydrologically-simple land surface model to be developed as part of GWF modeling efforts along side the more sophisticated models such as MESH.

The IMPC vision is to set up the VIC model for the major Canadian basins.

GWF core modeling: Kai Tsuruta (PCIC, VIC-GL); Julianne Mai (UW, Inter-comparison);

PhD student: Hongren Shen (UW, Inter-comparison);

Jefferson Wong (UofS, GIWS)

What have been done? (1) Assessment/improvement

We have reviewed +50 articles related to VIC

- Routing (reservoir/lakes) are generally not reported.
- Regionalization of the conceptual parameters is not well explored.
- Model parameters uncertainty and sensitivity are not well explored.
- Limited focus on model evaluation or validation.

Dive into the code and formulations

- To find exactly what the model does.

$$e = \frac{b}{1+b}$$

$$A = 1 - \left(1 - \frac{S}{S_s}\right)^e$$


$$S_s = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} D_i \theta_i$$

$$i_m = (1+b)S_s$$

$$i_0 = i_m \left(1 - (1-A)^{\frac{1}{b}}\right)$$

What have been done? (1) Assessment/improvement

```
[shg096@platolgn02 VIC-master]$ grep -irw VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR
tests/science/vic_parameters_42_compat.txt:VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR 0.1
docs/Documentation/Constants.md: | VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR |
|
samples/vic_parameters.txt:VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR 0.1
vic/vic_run/include/vic_def.h: double VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR; /**<
Coefficient multiplied by the LAI to determine the amount of water that can
be stored in the canopy */
vic/vic_run/src/vic_run.c:
param.VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR;
vic/drivers/cesm/bld/vic.constants.txt:# VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR 0.1
```

- Many hard coded values. $W_{\max} = \boxed{\text{VEG_LAI_WATER_FACTOR}} * LAI$


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Dive into the code and formulations

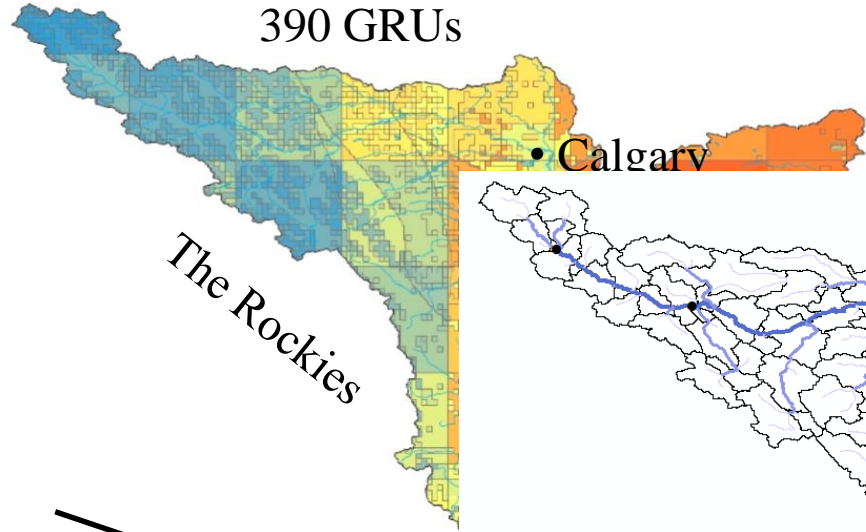
- To find exactly what the model does.
- Many hard coded values.
- Many assumptions.

What have been done? (2) Model set up

- Data is documented, metadata (collective efforts of Elvis Asong, Mohamed Elshamy, Amin Haghnegahdar, Kuljeet Keshav, Daniel Princz, Jefferson Wong)
- Many utilities have been developed.

What have been done? (2) Models

390 GRUs



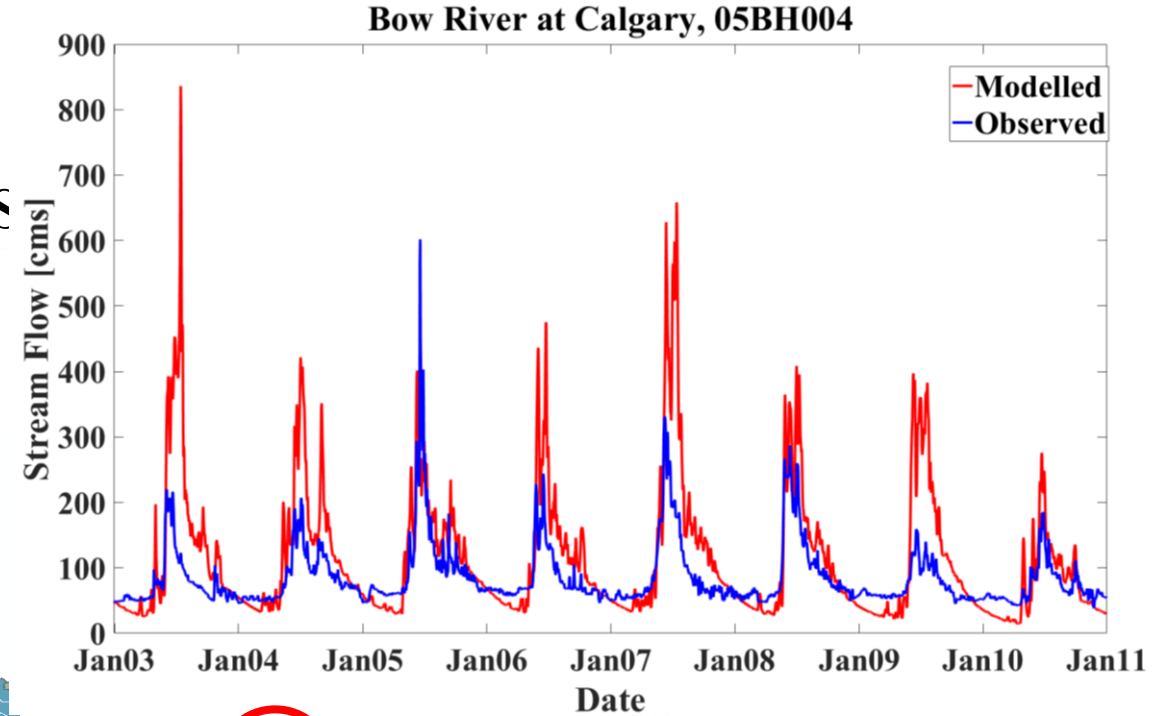
The Rockies

VIC-GRUs

August 2005
Runoff + base-flow
[mm/month]



RAVEN routing
River network and sub-basins
based on Hydrologically-
conditioned DEM (90 meters)



RAVEN routing

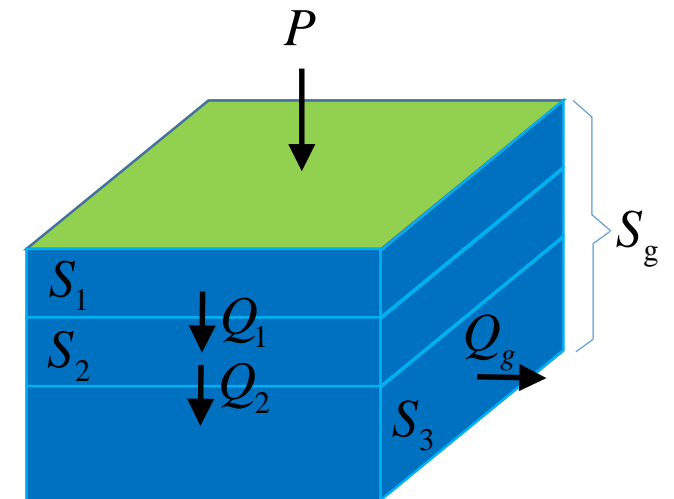
(Thanks to
Ming Han, Juliane Mai,
James Craig, Bryan Tolson)

What will be done? (3) Optimization, Sensitivity and Uncertainty Analysis

- Constraint-based calibration/optimization
- OSTRICH
- VARS

What will be done? (4) Scenarios of Change

- To be continued...



What have been done? (5) Communication <http://gwf-demo.usask.ca/seventhversion/>

(Thanks to
Ehsan Sotoodeh, Carl Gutwin,
Hayley Carlson, Amin Haghnegahdar,
Juliane Mai)

