# Land surface hydrology in ORCHIDEE

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# **Outline**

### 1. Introduction

Scope of this specific training

# 2. The multi-layer soil hydrology scheme

- Processes (soil moisture diffusion, boundary fluxes)
- Parameters and options

# 3. Forcing conditions

Vegetation / land cover, soil texture, slope

How to parameterize your simulations

#### More details on the Wiki

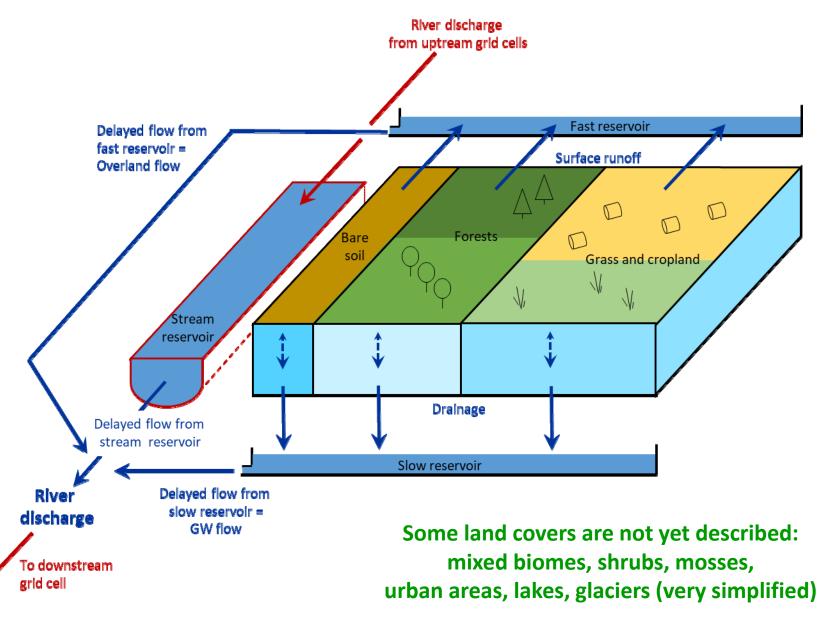
http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/attachment/wiki/Documentation/egs hydrol.pdf

Reference papers: de Rosnay et al., 2000; de Rosnay et al., 2002; d'Orgeval et al., 2008; Campoy et al., 2013 ; Tafasca et al., 2020

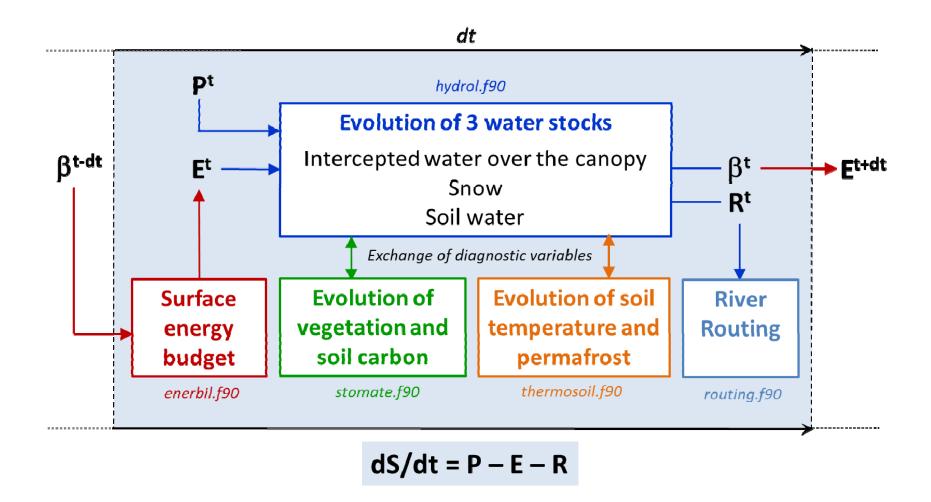
PhD theses: de Rosnay, 1999; d'Orgeval, 2006; Campoy, 2013; Tafasca, 2020

# 4. A glance at the routing scheme

# Land surface hydrology



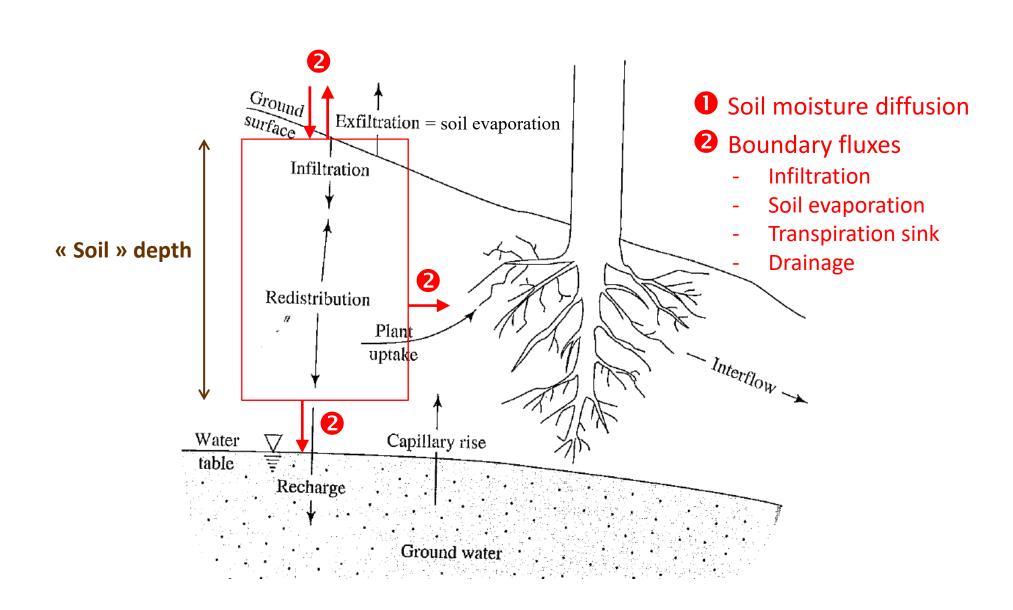
# Soil hydrology and water budget



We will focus on soil water and the related water fluxes (soil hydrology)

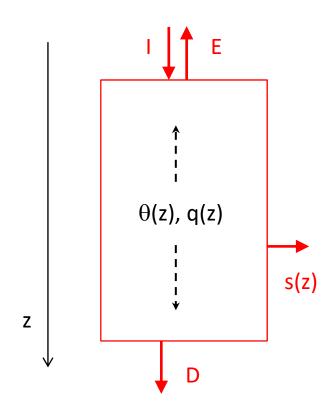
No interception, no snow, no soil water freezing today

# What is modeled?



# How is SM diffusion modeled?

1. We assume 1D vertical water flow below a flat surface



 $\theta$ : volumetric water content in m<sup>3</sup>.m<sup>-3</sup>

q: flux density in m. s-1

s: transpiration sink in m<sup>3</sup>.m<sup>-3</sup>.s<sup>-1</sup>

K: hydraulic conductivity in m.s<sup>-1</sup>

h: hydraulic potential in m

2. Continuity:

$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial q}{\partial z} = -s$$

3. Motion = diffusion equation because of low velocities in porous medium

Richards equation

$$q(z) = -K(z)\frac{\partial h}{\partial z}$$

4. Hydraulic head h quantifies the gravity and pressure potentials

$$h=$$
 -  $z+\psi$   $\psi$  is the matric potential (in m, <0)

5. K and  $\psi$  depend on  $\theta$  (unsaturated soils)

$$q(z) = -K(\theta) \left[ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} - 1 \right]$$

$$q(z) = -D(\theta)\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} + K(\theta)$$

$$D(\theta) = K(\theta) rac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta}$$
 D is the diffusivity (in m².s-¹)

# Finite difference integration

• The differential equations of continuity and motion are solved using finite differences:

$$\frac{W_i(t+dt) - W_i(t)}{dt} = Q_{i-1}(t+dt) - Q_i(t+dt) - S_i$$

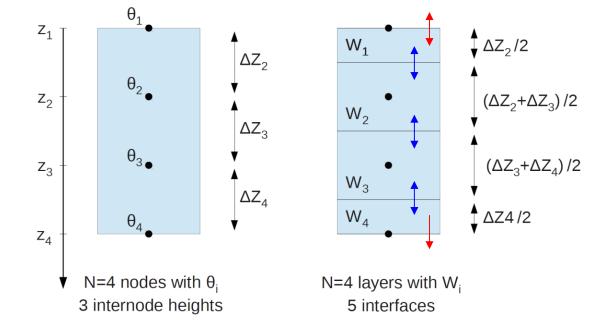
$$\frac{Q_i}{A} = -\frac{D(\theta_{i-1}) + D(\theta_i)}{2} \underbrace{\frac{\theta_i - \theta_{i-1}}{\Delta Z_i}} + \frac{K(\theta_{i-1}) + K(\theta_i)}{2}$$

Si = transpiration sink

A: grid-cell area

- The soil column is discretized using N **nodes**, where we calculate  $\theta$ **i**
- Each node is contained in one layer, with a total water content Wi
- The fluxes **Qi** are calculated at the **interface** between two layers

tridiagonal matrix



Wi is obtained by vertical integration of  $\theta(z)$  in layer i, assuming a linear variation of  $\theta(z)$  between 2 nodes

$$W_{i} = [\Delta Z_{i} (3 \theta_{i} + \theta_{i-1}) + \Delta Z_{i+1} (3 \theta_{i} + \theta_{i+1})]/8$$

$$W_{1} = [\Delta Z_{2} (3 \theta_{1} + \theta_{2})]/8$$

$$W_{N} = [\Delta Z_{N} (3 \theta_{N} + \theta_{N-1})]/8$$

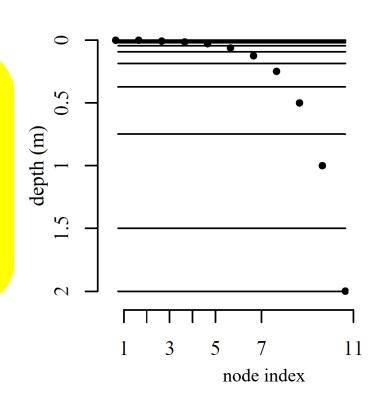
# **Vertical discretization**

- The vertical discretization must permit an accurate calculation of  $\theta$ i and the related water fluxes Qi
- We need thin layers where  $\theta$  is likely to exhibit sharp vertical gradients (to better approximate the local derivative)
- Vertical discretization and boundary conditions must be decided together!

### By default, in hydrol, we use:

- 2-m soil
- 11 nodes (layers) with geometric increase of internode distance

(cf. de Rosnay et al., 2000)



i	≈ hi (mm)	
1	1	
2	3	
3	6	
4	12	
5	23,5	
6	47	
7	94	
8	188	
9	375	
10	751	
11	500	

# **Vertical discretization**

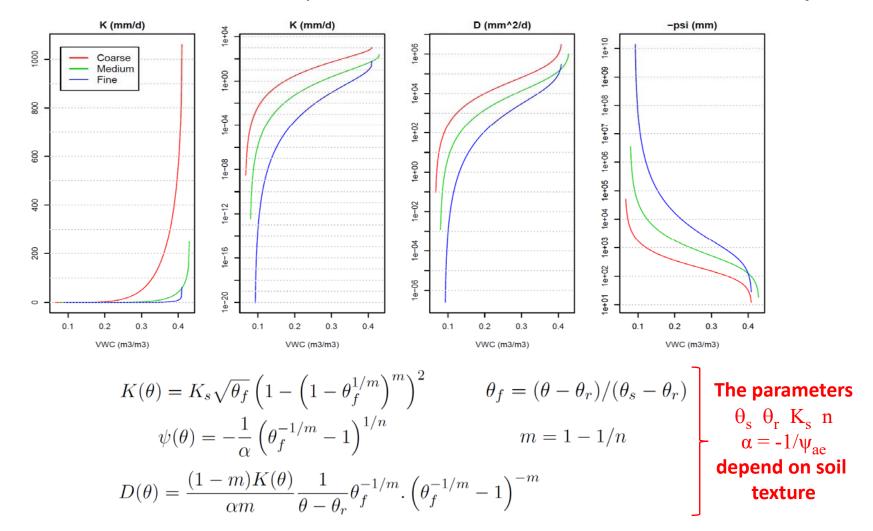
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### Alternative discretizations can be defined by externalized parameters (run.def)

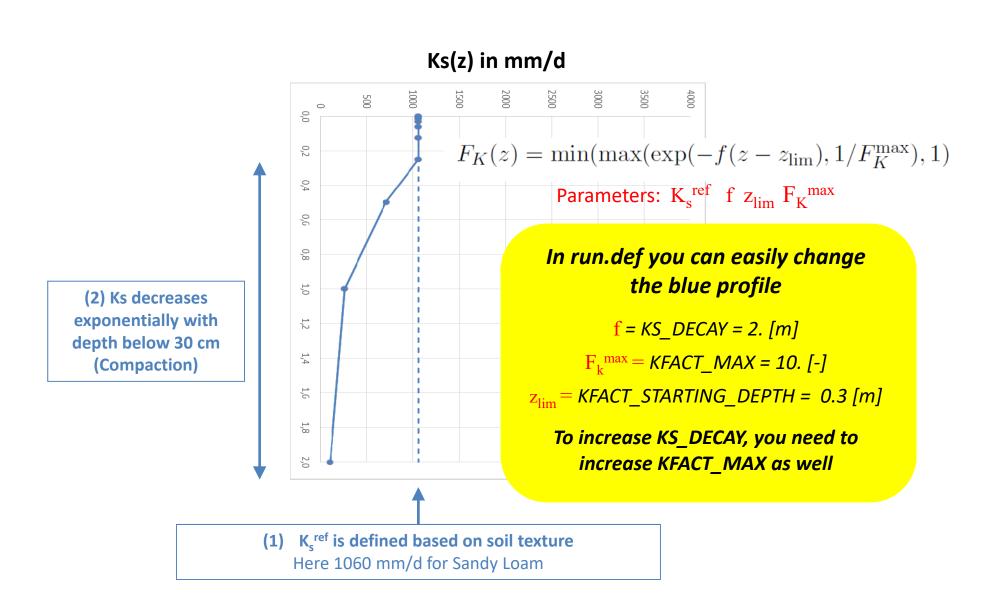
DEPTH_MAX_H	2.0	m	Maximum depth of soil moisture	Maximum depth of soil for soil moisture (CWRR).
DEPTH_MAX_T	10.0	m	Maximum depth of the soil thermodynamics	Maximum depth of soil for temperature.
DEPTH_TOPTHICK	9.77517107e-04	m	Thickness of upper most Layer	Thickness of top hydrology layer for soil moisture (CWRR).
DEPTH_CSTTHICK	DEPTH_MAX_H	m	Depth at which constant layer thickness start	Depth at which constant layer thickness start (smaller than zmaxh/2)
DEPTH_GEOM	DEPTH_MAX_H	m	Depth at which we resume geometrical increases for temperature	Depth at which the thickness increases again for temperature.

# The hydrodynamic parameters

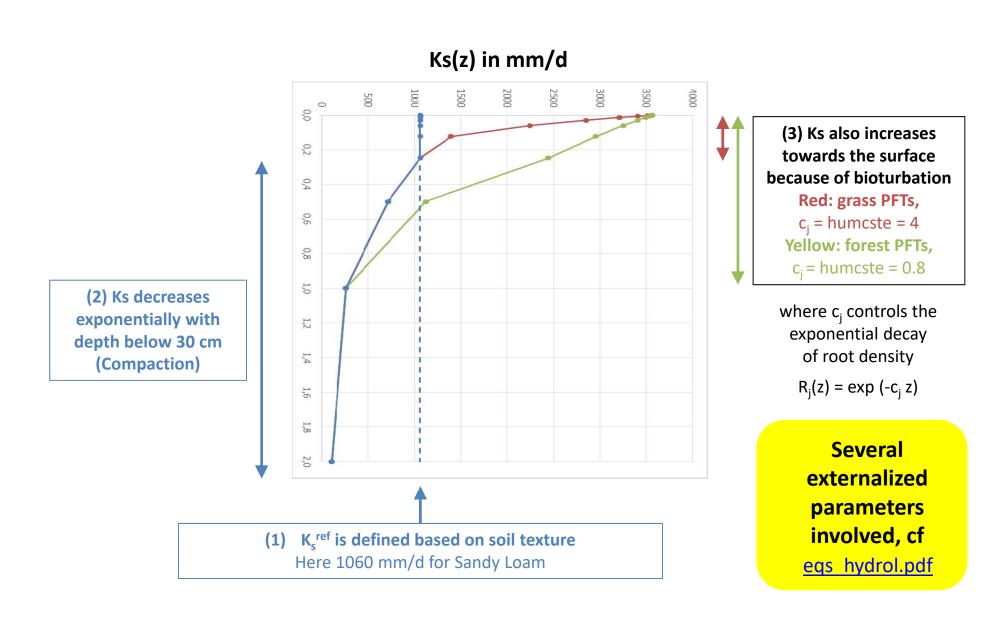
- K and D depend on saturated properties (measured on saturated soils) and on  $oldsymbol{ heta}$
- Their dependance on  $\theta$  is very non linear
- In ORCHIDEE, this is decribed by the so-called Van Genuchten-Mualem relationships:



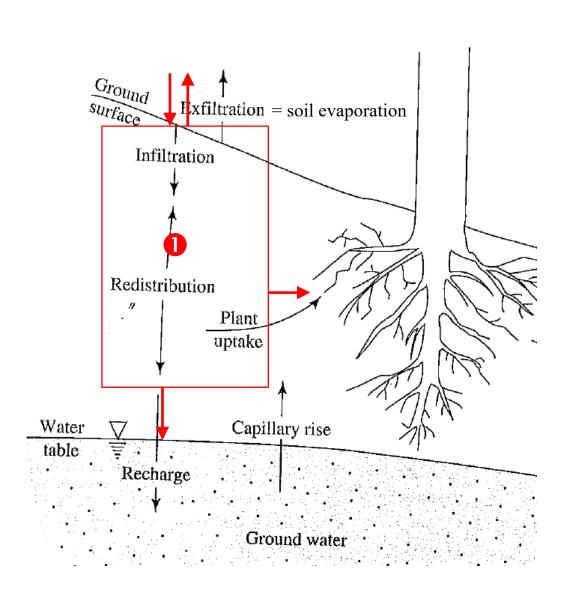
# Modifications of Ks with depth



# **Modifications of Ks with depth**

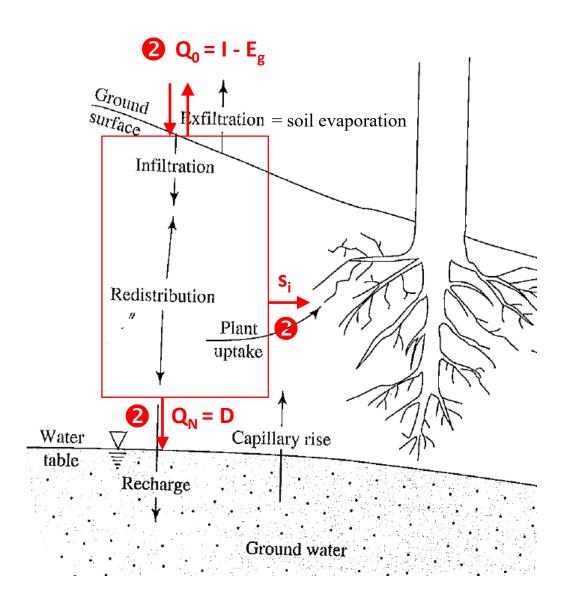


# To sum up water diffusion



- The soil is assumed to be unsaturated
- The prognostic variables are θi (at the nodes)
- They are updated simultaneously (by solving a tridiagonal matrix)
- Their evolution is driven by
  - the soil properties K(z) and D(z)
  - the vertical discretization (soil depth and layer definition)
  - four boundary fluxes

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  - the soil properties K(z) and D(z)
  - the vertical discretization (soil depth and layer definition)
  - four boundary fluxes
    - transpiration sink s<sub>i</sub>
    - top and bottom boundary conditions:

$$Q_0 = I - E_g$$
 and  $Q_N = D$ 

I: infiltration

**E**<sub>g</sub>: soil evaporation

D: drainage

Which all depend on soil moisture

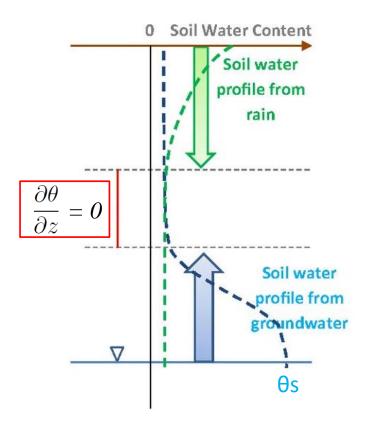
# **Drainage**

By default : 
$$Q_N$$

$$Q_N = K(\theta_N)$$

Based on the motion equation, this corresponds to a situation where  $\theta$  does not show any vertical variations below the modeled soil

$$q(z) = -D(\theta) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} + K(\theta)$$



### The code is also apt to use reduced drainage:

$$Q_N = F.K(\theta_N)$$
 F in [0,1]

F is externalized by FREE\_DRAIN\_COEF = 1.,1.,1.

#### With F=0, you get an impermeable bottom:

- like in a bucket scheme
- leading to build a water table

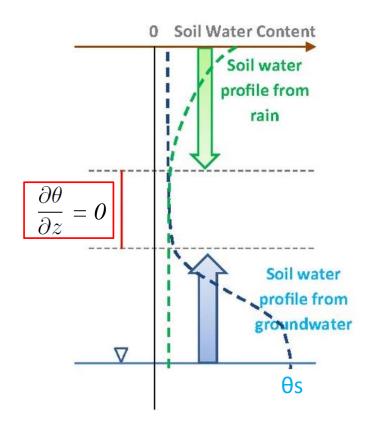
But you need to adapt the vertical discretization!

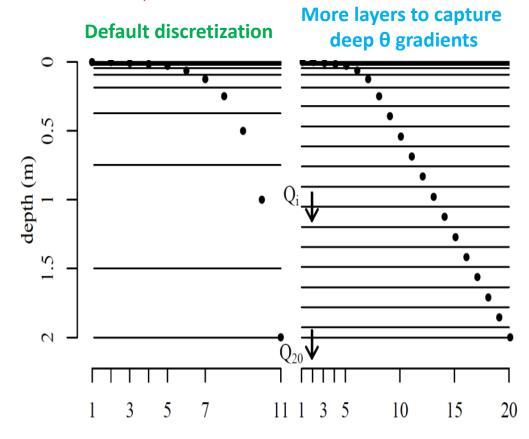
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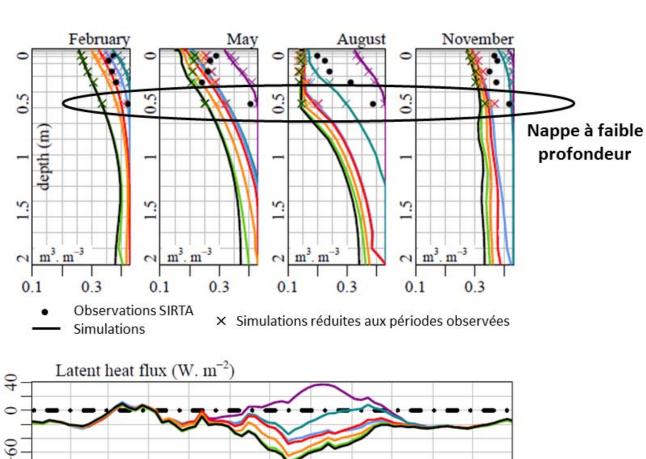


F

M

# **Drainage**

Simulations ORCHIDEE-LMDZ en zoomé-guidé au SIRTA Comparaison à des mesures locales

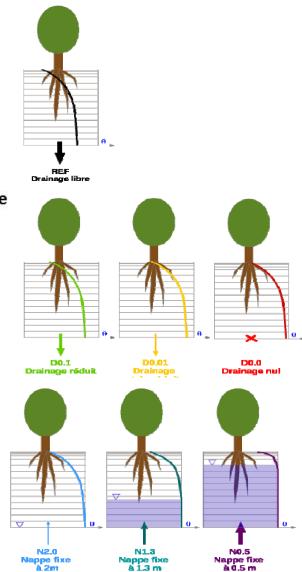


S

0

N

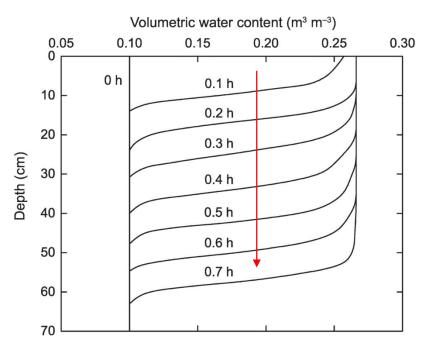
D



M

A

- At the soil surface, throughfall can either infiltrate or run off (surface runoff)
- The routing scheme can also produce water to infiltrate (return flow, irrigation, etc.)
- The modeling of infiltration relies on gravitational fluxes:  $q(z) = K(\theta)$  Soil absorption is neglected
- With wetting front propagation based on time splitting procedure and sub-grid-variability of K (because the grid-cells are large)



Idealized result from some field experiment

Iterative saturation of the layers from top to bottom

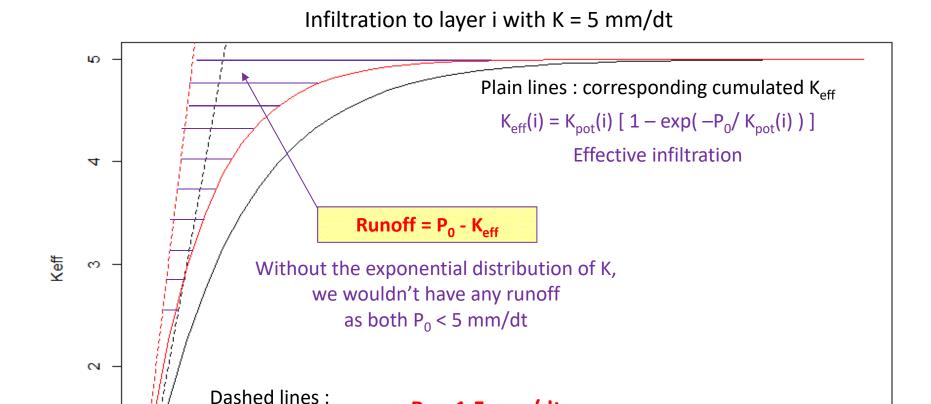
The infiltration rate in layer i depends  $K(\theta_i)$  but it is reduced to account for subgrid variability

We consider an exponential distribution of K with a mean of  $K(\theta_i)$ 

- K<sub>eff</sub> is the mean of K values < P<sub>0</sub>
- Runoff production where P<sub>0</sub> > K

The time to saturate a layer depends on  $K_{eff}$  and soil moisture deficit ( $W_{sat} - W$ )

Stop when P<sub>0</sub> fully infiltrated or time step is over



 $P_0 = 1.5 \text{ mm/dt}$ 

20

Time steps

30

40

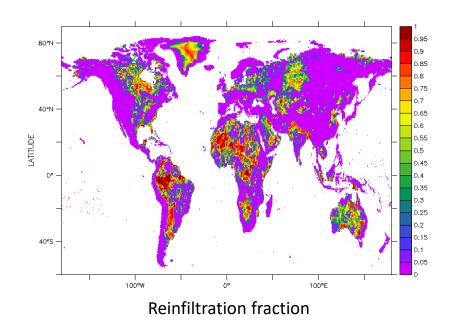
 $P_0 = 1 \text{ mm/dt}$ 

two input fluxes P<sub>0</sub>

10

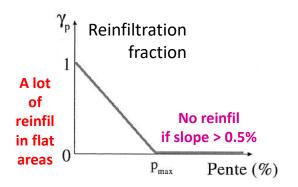
(cumulated)

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- With wetting front propagation based on time splitting procedure and sub-grid-variability of K (because the grid-cells are large)
- Surface runoff R<sub>s</sub><sup>pot</sup> can reinfiltrate in flat areas (ponding)

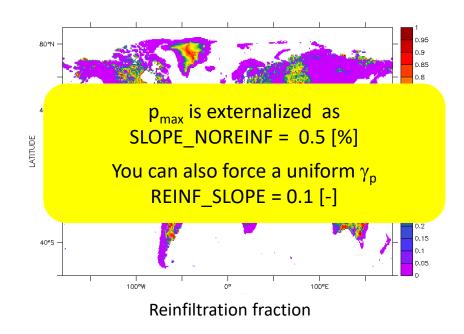


$$R_s^{pot} = \sum R_s(i) = P_0 - \sum K_{eff}(i)$$
Ponding fraction for future reinfiltration
 $\gamma_p R_s^{pot}$ 

**Effective surface runoff**  $R_s = (1-\gamma_p) R_s^{pot}$ 

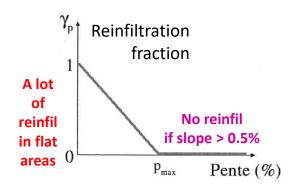


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**Effective surface runoff**  $R_s = (1-\gamma_p) R_s^{pot}$ 



# Soil evaporation (E<sub>g</sub>)

- 1. The soil evaporation involved in the surface boundary flux ( $Q_0 = I E_g$ ) is given by the energy budget, given water stress from previous time step
- 2. Another issue is to calculate the stress function  $\beta_g$  to calculate soil evaporation at the next time step
- 3. This is done in hydrol by a supply/demand approach based on the soil moisture at the end of the time step

E<sub>g</sub> can proceed at potential rate unless the soil cannot supply it

$$E_g = \min(E_{\text{pot}}^*, Q_{\text{up}})$$

$$E_{\text{pot}}^{*} = \frac{\rho}{r_a} \left( q_{\text{sat}}(T_w) - q_{\text{a}} \right) \leq E_{\text{pot}} = \frac{\rho}{r_a} \left( q_{\text{sat}}(T_s) - q_{\text{a}} \right)$$
$$\beta_g = E_g / E_{\text{pot}}$$

### $Q_{up}$ is calculated by 1 or 2 dummy integrations of the water diffusion,

- (a) We apply  $E^*_{pot}$  as a boundary flux at the top, and test if  $\theta_i$  remains above  $\theta_r$  If it does, then  $Q_{up} = E^*_{pot} = E_g$
- (b) Else, we force  $\theta_1 = \theta_r$  and this drives an upward flux: the surface value  $Q_0$  gives  $Q_{up}$

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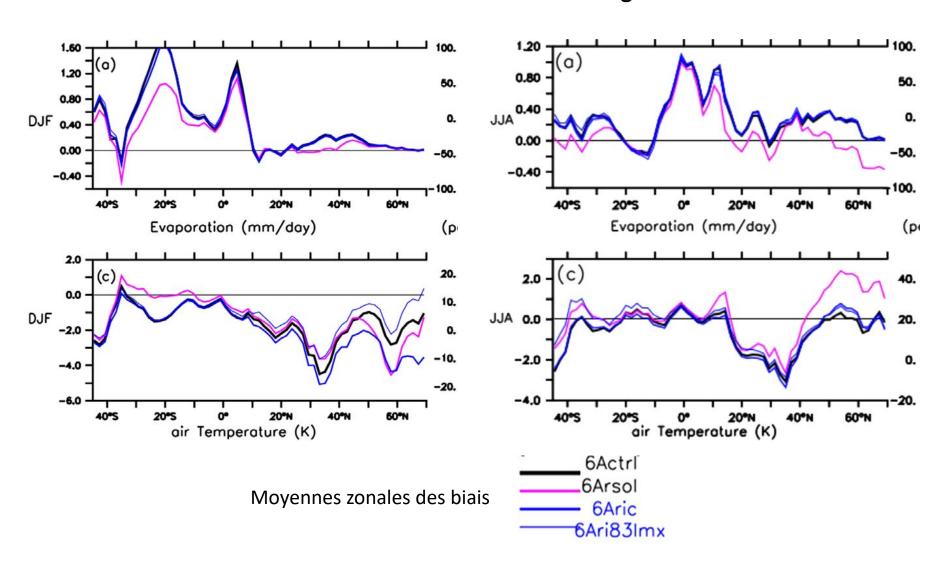
4. We can reduce the demand using a soil resistance (Sellers et al., 1992)

$$r_{\text{soil}} = \exp(8.206 - 4.255L/L_s)$$

$$E_g = \min_{\rho} \left( \frac{q_{sat}(T_w) - q_a}{r_a + r_{soil}}, Q_{up} \right)$$

The minimum is still found via 1 or 2 dummy integrations of the water diffusion

# Soil evaporation (Eg)

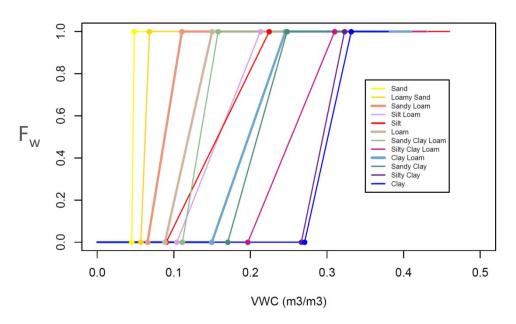


Cheruy et al., 2020 → simulations with LMDZOR to prepare CMIP6

# The transpiration sink

# The dependance of transpiration on soil moisture is conveyed by the water stress u<sub>s</sub>(i)

$$u_s(1)=0$$
  
 $u_s(i>1) = n_{root}(i) \cdot F_w(i)$   
 $F_w(i) = max(0,min(1, (W_i-W_w)/(W_%-W_w)))$ 



### W<sub>%</sub>: moisture at which us becomes 1 (no stress)

$$W_{\%} = W_{w} + p_{\%} AWC$$

The smaller W<sub>%</sub>, the smaller the water stress

### n<sub>root</sub>: mean root density in layer i

$$n_{\text{root}} = \int_{\text{hi}} R(z) dz / \int_{\text{htot}} R(z) dz$$

$$R(z) = \exp(-c_j z)$$

c<sub>i</sub> depends on the PFT

 $W_w$  = wilting point

W<sub>f</sub> = field capacity

Calculated based on VG parameters,

thus as a function of soil texture, with

$$\psi_{w} = -150000 \text{ m}$$

 $\psi_f$  = - 1000 m (-3000 m for sandy soils)

$$AWC = W_f - W_w$$

p<sub>%</sub> is externalized as
WETNESS\_TRANSPIR\_MAX
= 0.8, 0.8, ..., 0.8
(13 times as for soil texture classes)

# The transpiration sink

The dependance of transpiration on soil moisture is conveyed by  $u_s(i)$ 

$$T_r = \rho \left(1 - \frac{I}{I_{max}}\right) \frac{q_{sat}(T_s) - q_{air}}{r_a + r_c + r_{st}}$$

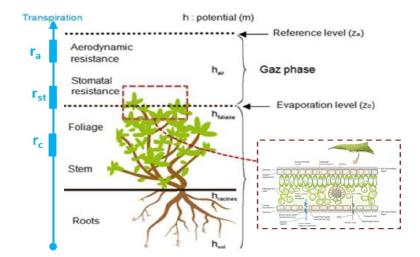
 $U_s = Σ_i u_s$  is used to calculate the stomatal resistance  $r_{st}$ 

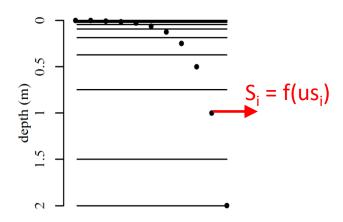
 $r_{st}$  also depends on light,  $CO_2$ , LAI, air temperature and vpd, and on nitrogen limitation in the trunk (CN)

In the code:  $U_s$  = humrel

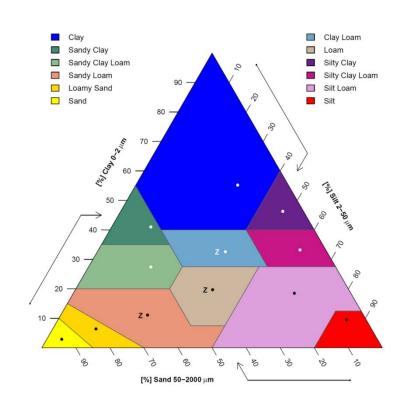
u<sub>s</sub> is used to distribute Tr between the soil layers

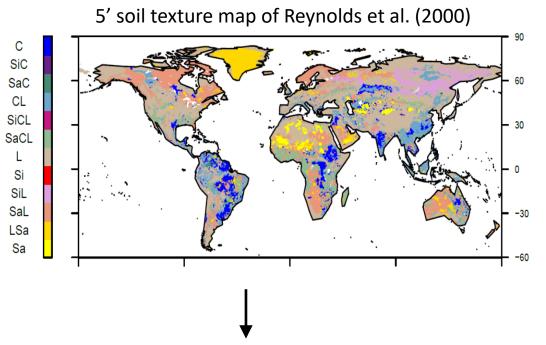
$$T_r = \Sigma S_i$$
 $U_s = \Sigma u s_i$ 
 $S_i = T_r u s_i / U_s$ 



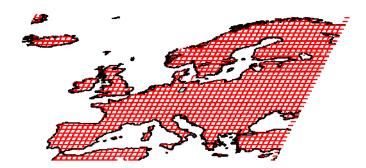


- In hydrol, the main soil properties are:
  - Van Genuchten parameters:  $\theta_s = \theta_r = K_s^{ref} = n = \alpha (= -1/\psi_{ae})$
  - derived field capacity and wilting point:  $\theta_{\mathbf{w}}$   $\theta_{\mathbf{f}}$
  - clay\_fraction for stomate, and thermal properties for thermosoil
- They are defined based on soil texture (in the real world, they can depend on other factors, as soil structure, OMC, etc.)
- Soil texture is defined by the % of sand, silt, clay particles in a soil sample (granulometry)
- It can be summarized by soil textural classes
- By default, ORCHIDEE reads texture from the 1°x1° map of Zobler (1986) with 3 USDA classes: Sandy Loam, Loam, Clay Loam
- Alternative soil maps with 12 USDA classes:
  - 1/12° map of Reynolds et al. (2000)
  - 0.5°map from SoilGrids (Hengl et al. 2014)
- In each grid-cell, we use the dominant texture





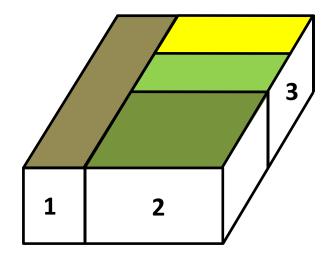
**Dominant texture in each ORCHIDEE grid-cell:**defining the hydraulic properties



### Sub-grid scale heterogenity:

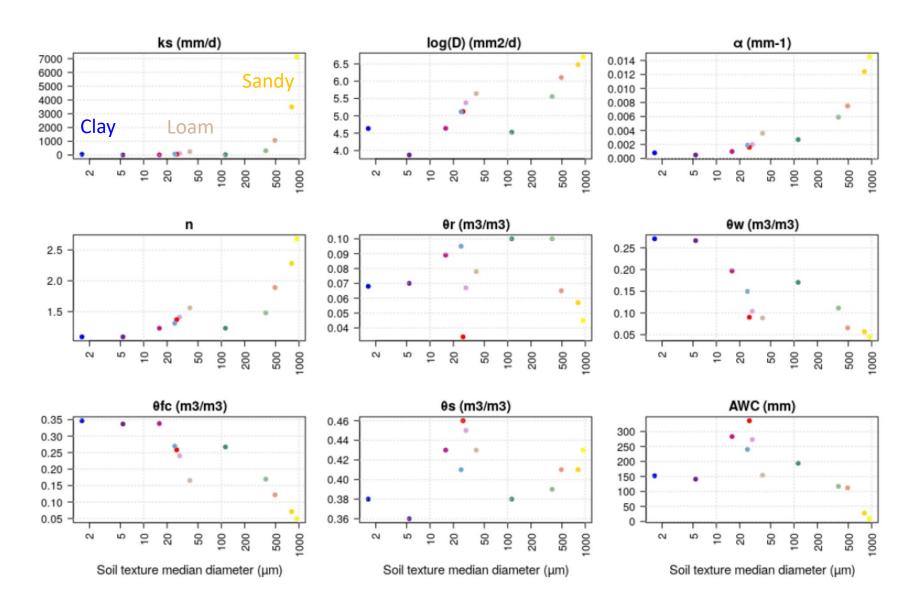
3 soil columns based on PFTs with independent water budget

but same texture



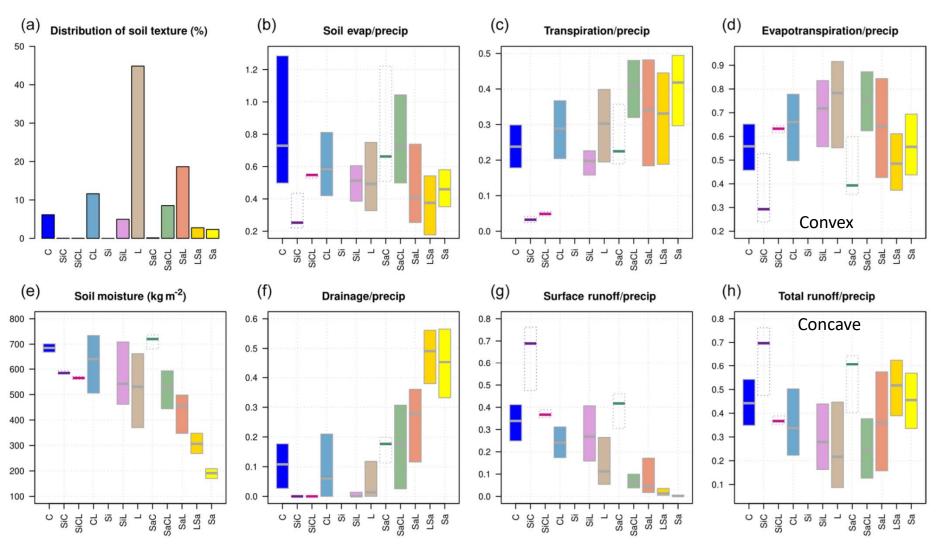
1: Bare soil PFT 2: All Forest PFTs

3: All grassland and cropland PFTs

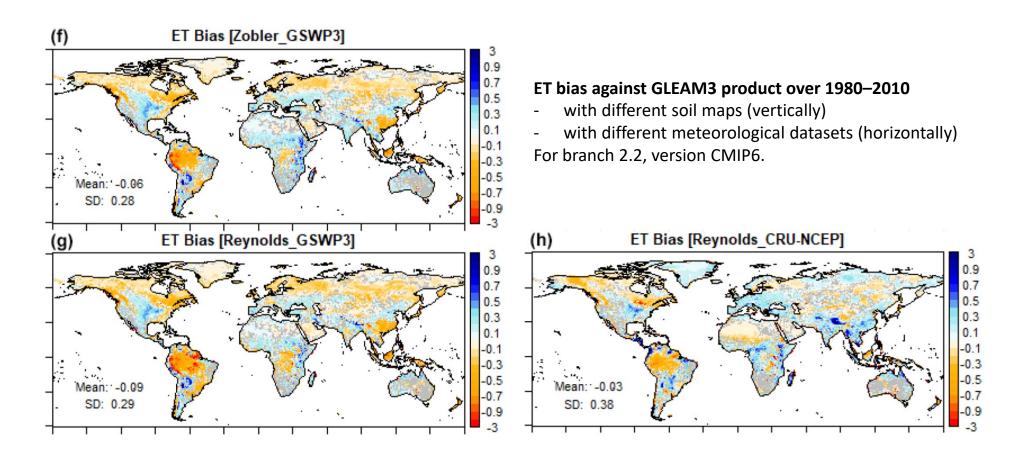


#### 3. Forcing conditions

# The role of soil texture

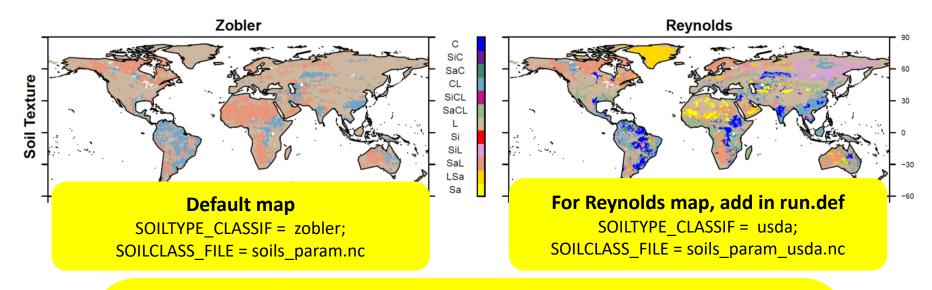


Variability of simulated variables over land surface (excluding Antarctica and Greenland) within each soil texture class. Reynolds soil map, with GSWP3 meteorological forcing over 1980–2010.



The influence of the soil texture map is much smaller than the one of the atmospheric forcing

Soil hydraulic and thermal properties are defined from soil texture, with 13 classes (12 USDA + Clay Oxisols)



You can also force the value of soil properties, which will be uniform

Minimum setting, here to force using the 1st texture class (Sand)

IMPOSE\_SOILT = y

You can further change the value of some / all soil hydraulic parameters

# KS\_IMP ([mm/d] ): saturated conductivity (0-dim mode) {IMPOSE\_SOILT}

KS\_IMP = 1000. (instead of 7128 mm/d for Sand)

Also possible for MCS IMP, MCR IMP, NVAN IMP, AVAN IMP, MCFC IMP, MCW IMP

# Other controls of soil parameters

#### All that has been said before about texture is for MINERAL soils (no organic matter)

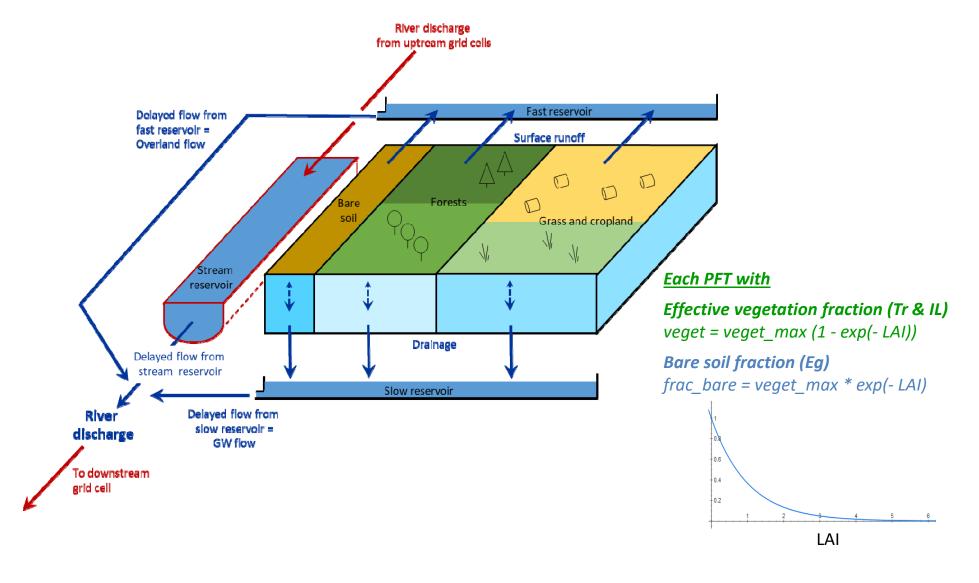
- This is the default in the trunk
- If you set OK\_SOIL\_CARBON\_DISCRETIZATION = y then
  - $\theta_s$  and  $K_s^{ref}$  will depend on soil organic carbon but only for thermosoil (not for hydrol)  $\rightarrow$  This is a bug and it is being corrected
  - The other soil parameters ( $\theta_r$ , n,  $\alpha = -1/\psi_{ae}$ ) do not depend on soil organic carbon as in MICT (Guimberteau, Zhu, et al., 2018)

### Soil freezing also impacts soil hydraulic and thermic parameters (accounted for in trunk)

- Reduced  $\theta_s$  and  $K_s^{ref}$
- Impacts on infiltration, water redistrinution, and all water fluxes

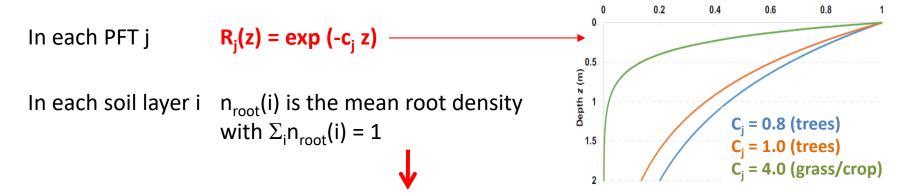
# Interactions with the vegetation/LC

1. Horizontally, PFTs define soil tiles with independent water budget (below ground tiling)



# Interactions with the vegetation/LC

2. Vertically, ORCHIDEE defines a root density profile



It controls:

(1) the water stress us on transpiration in each soil layer i

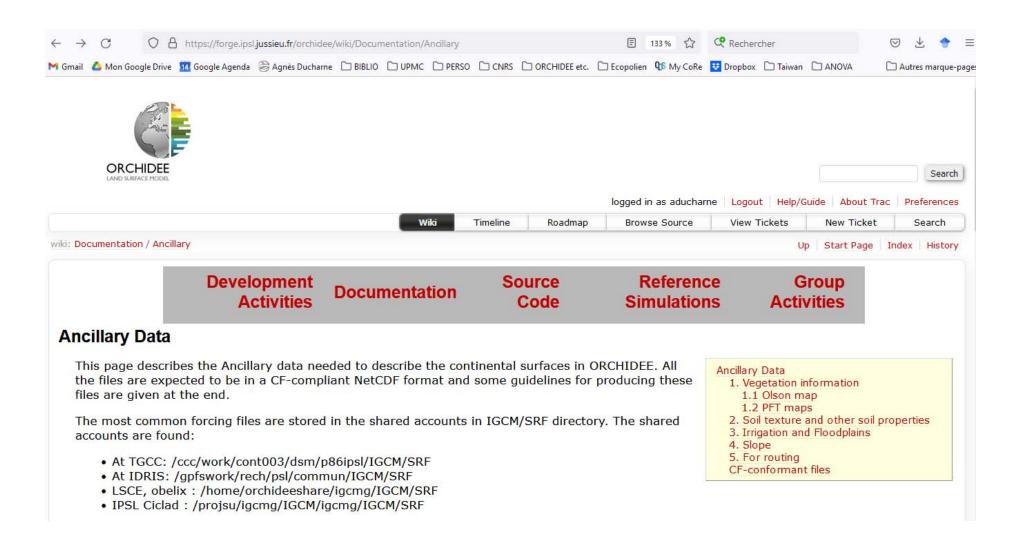
$$u_i \neq n_{\text{root}}(i) \max(0, \min(1, (W_i - W_w)/(W_\% - W_w)))$$

(2) the increase of Ks towards the surface

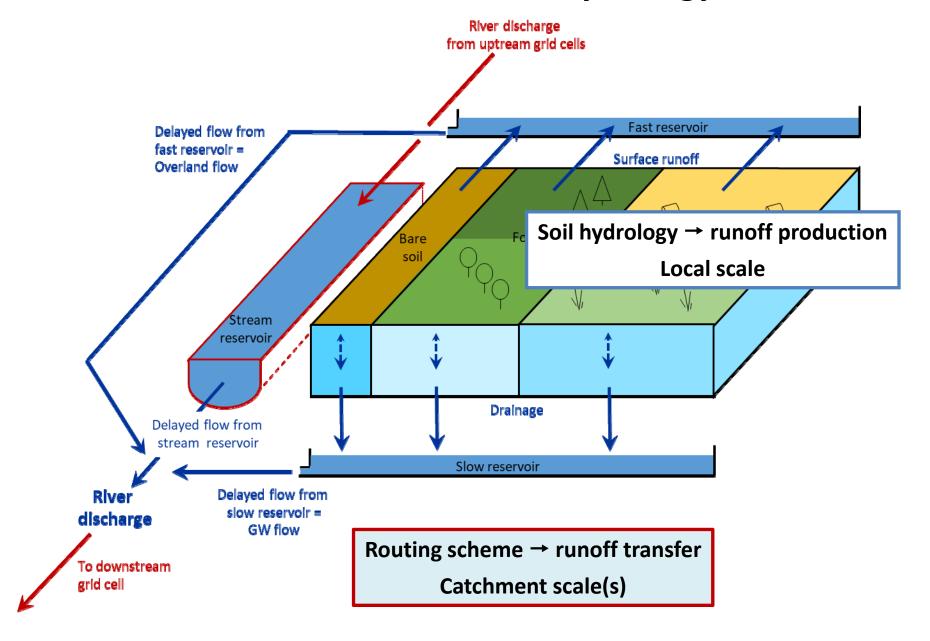
In the code, c<sub>i</sub> is called humcste and defined in constantes\_mtc.f90

It is externalized as HYDROL\_HUMCSTE

# Which maps are used for hydrology?

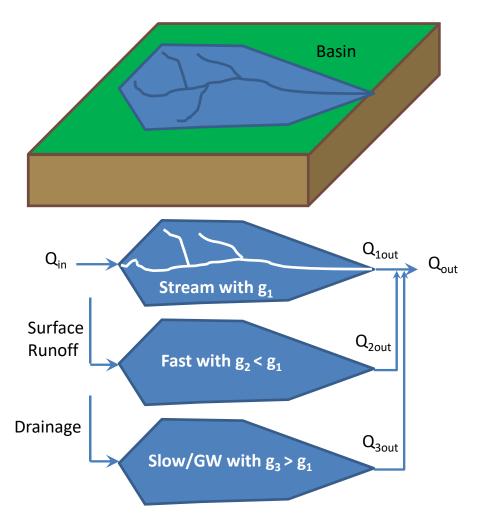


# Soil vs « catchment » hydrology

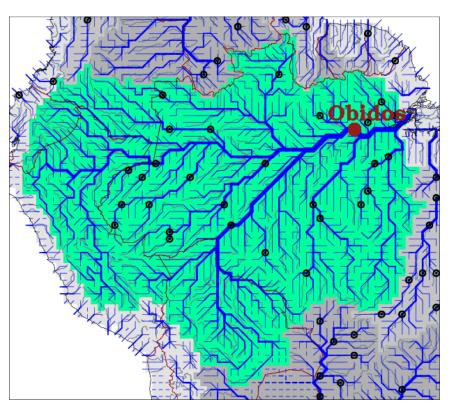


# Overview of the standard version

Separate basins/HTUs in each grid-cell with 3 reservoirs for streams, hillslopes and GW



# Cascade of stream reservoirs along the river network



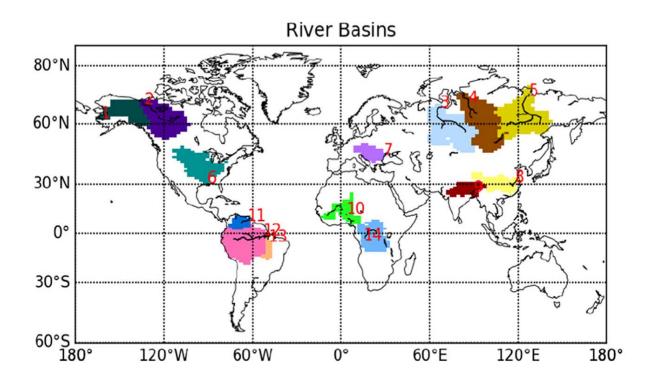
River network based on 0.5° topography

Residence times  $\tau_i = g_i \Delta x / Vslope$ 

Polcher 2003; Ngo-Duc et al. 2007; Guimberteau et al., 2012

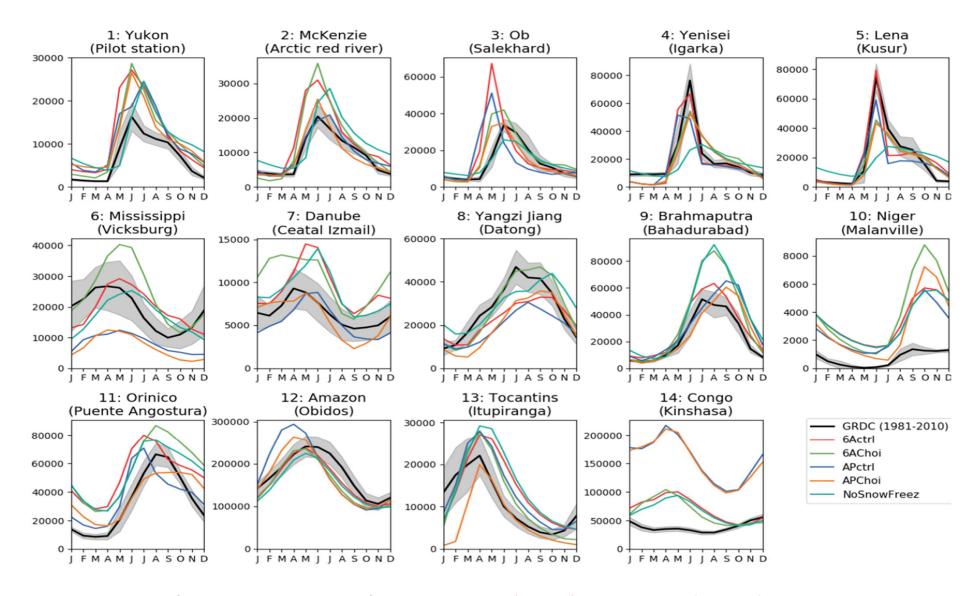
# **Results for CMIP6**

- Land-atmosphere simulations over 1981-2010 with prescribed SST from AMIP
- Resolution 144 x 143 (2.5x1.25°) x 79
- Comparison of IPSL-CM6A (6Actrl) to IPSL-CM5 (APchoi) and other configurations
- River discharge at the outlet of 14 major river basins against observed record (GRDC)



Cheruy et al., 2020

#### 4. A glance at the routing scheme

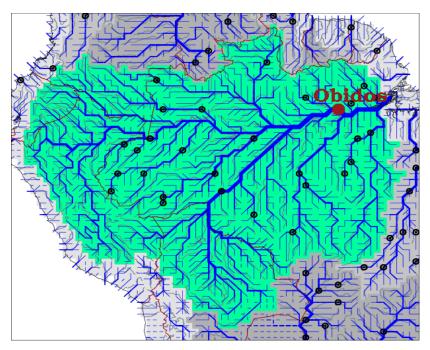


Improvement of **simulated discharge** from IPSL-CM6A (6Actrl) to IPSL-CM5 (APchoi) in most river basins Mostly related to improvements of simulated precipitation

+ Freezing in Yenisei and Lena

# Work in progress for a higher resolution routing

River network based on **0.5° topography** 



**Trunk or Branch 2.2** 

Only valid if ORCHIDEE resolution ≥ 0.5°

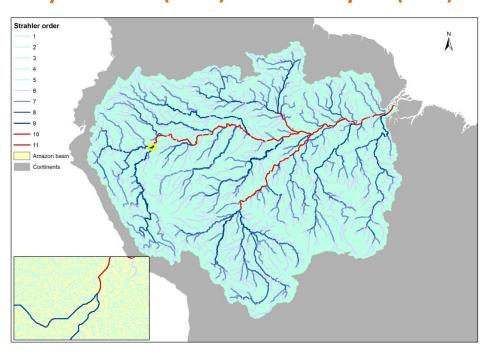
Residence times in the three reservoirs

By default, independent from ORCHIDEE resolution

But can be defined in run.def

**Options for irrigation and flooding** 

Higher resolution river network based on **HydroSHEDS (1 km) or MERIT-Hydro (2km)** 



Branch 2.2

2 different versions of the routing scheme able to deal with the high resolution topography

EVALUATION WORK IN PROGRESS before merge in the trunk

# Soil hydrology in a nutshell

- During a time step, the soil hydrology scheme :
  - Updates the soil moisture as a function of precipitation and evapotranspiration
  - Calculates the related fluxes (infiltration, surface runoff, drainage)
  - Calculates the water stresses for transpiration and soil evaporation of the next time step
  - Calculates some soil moisture metrics for thermosoil and stomate
- The equations can be complex, but the parametrization is intended to work without intervention
  - Default input maps are defined in COMP/sechiba.card
  - Defaults parameters are defined in PARAM/run.def and code
  - Lots of debugging over the past years
- You can adapt the behavior of the soil hydrology scheme
  - Easy: change externalised parameters in PARAM/run.def
  - A bit less easy: use different input maps (you need to comply to the format)
  - More difficult: change the code (welcome to orchidee-dev!)
- Routing scheme OK for resolutions ≥ 0.5°
  - More infos on the slides of M. Guimberteau, Training of 2016