

# Soil hydrology

**Agnès Ducharne**  
UMR METIS, UPMC  
[agnes.ducharne@upmc.fr](mailto:agnes.ducharne@upmc.fr)



# Outline

## 1. Introduction

- Scope of this specific training

## 2. The multi-layer « CWRR » scheme

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

## 3. Forcing conditions

- Vegetation/LC, soil texture, slope

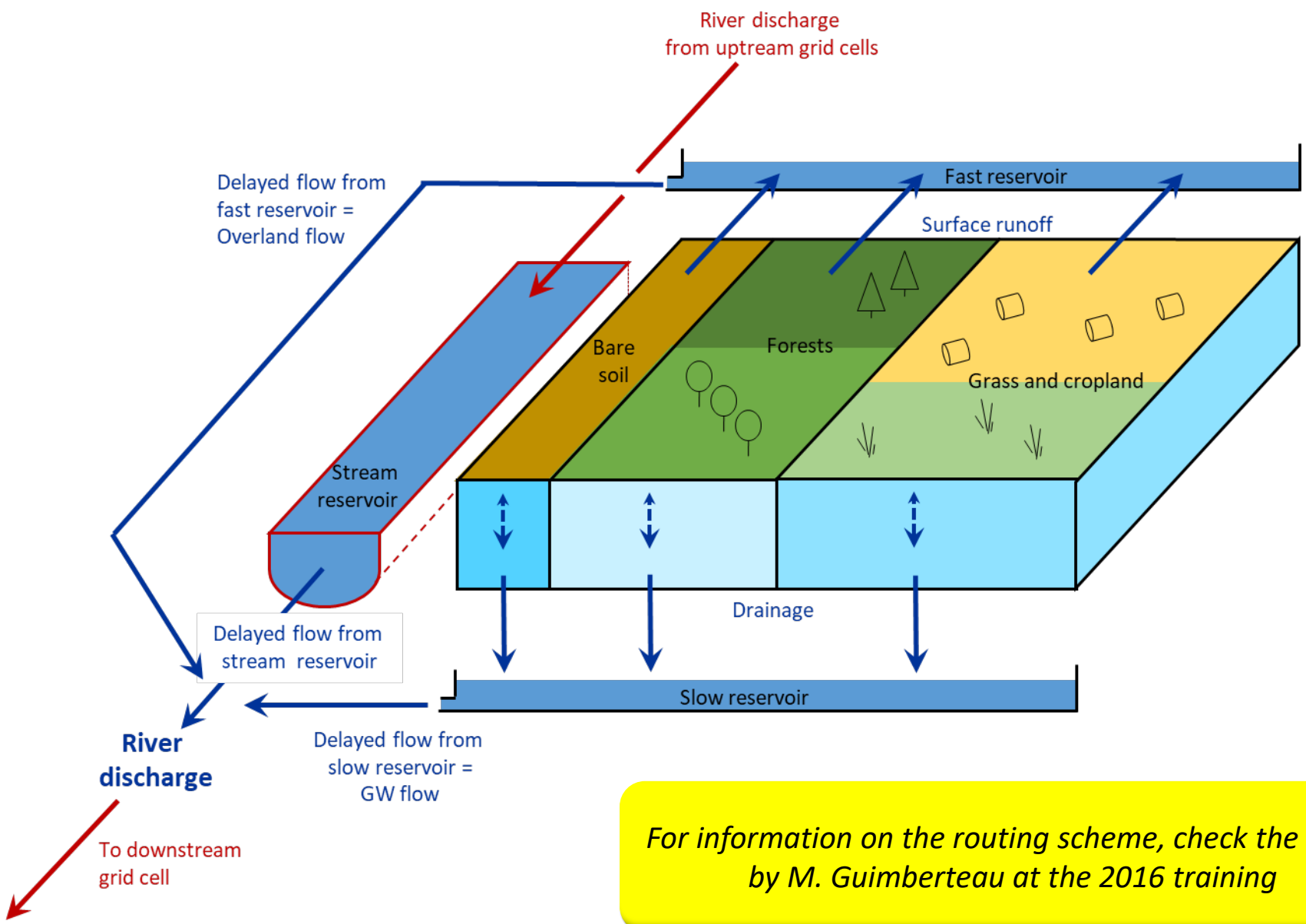
**More details on the Wiki**

[http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/attachment/wiki/Documentation/eqs\\_hydrol.pdf](http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/attachment/wiki/Documentation/eqs_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., 2019 ; Ducharne et al. in prep

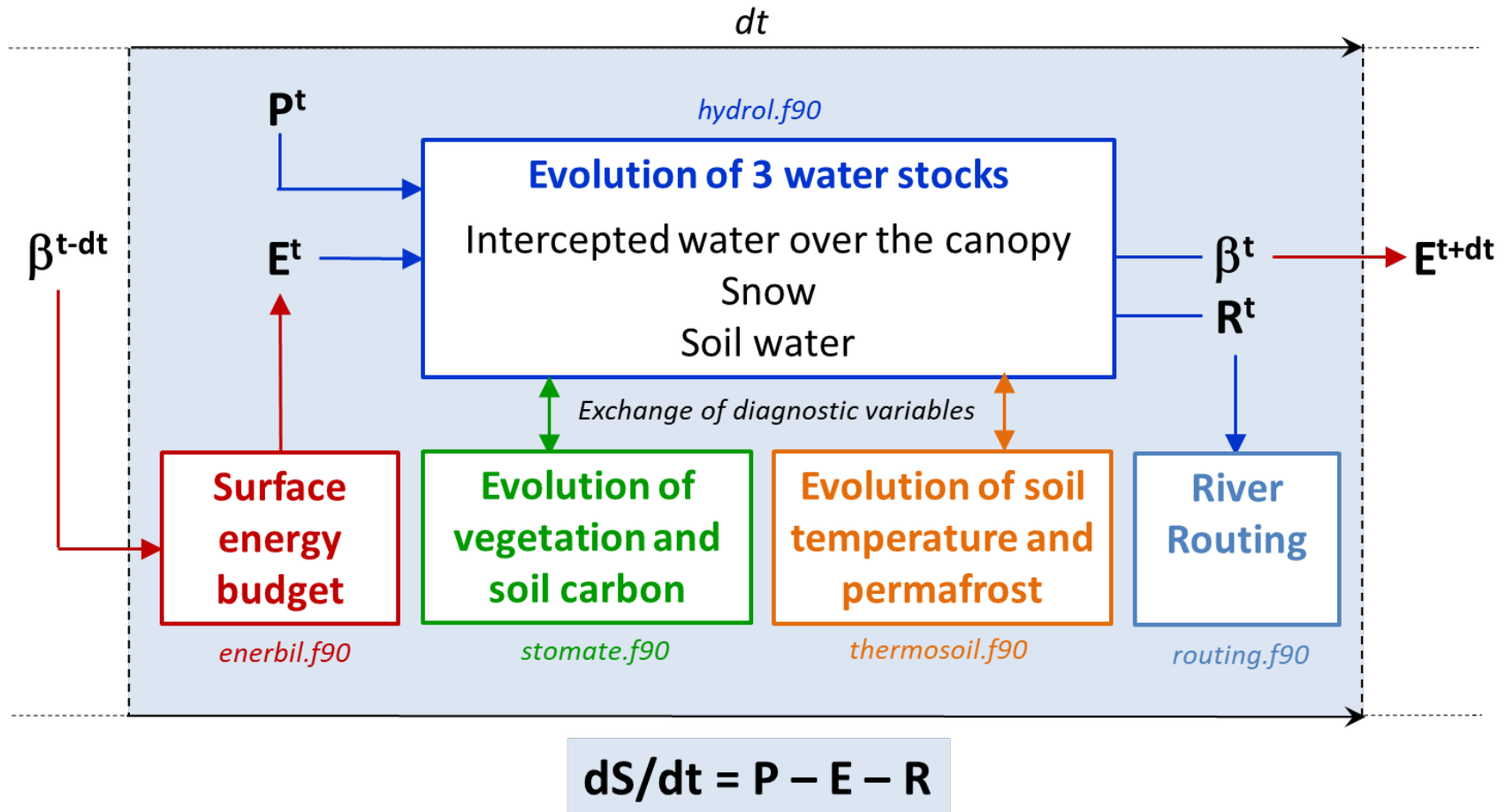
PhD theses : de Rosnay, 1999; d'Orgeval, 2006; Campoy, 2013

# Land surface hydrology



*For information on the routing scheme, check the slides by M. Guimberteau at the 2016 training*

# Soil hydrology and water budget

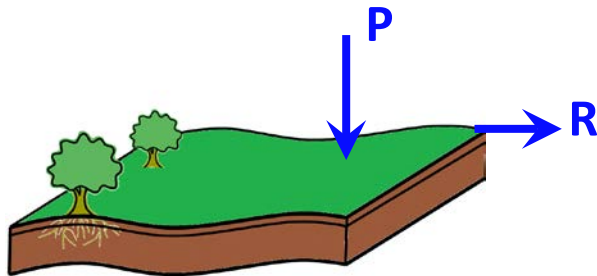


**We will focus on soil water and the related water fluxes (soil hydrology)**  
**No interception, no snow, no soil water freezing today**

# Two versions of soil hydrology

## Two-layer = Choisnel = ORC2

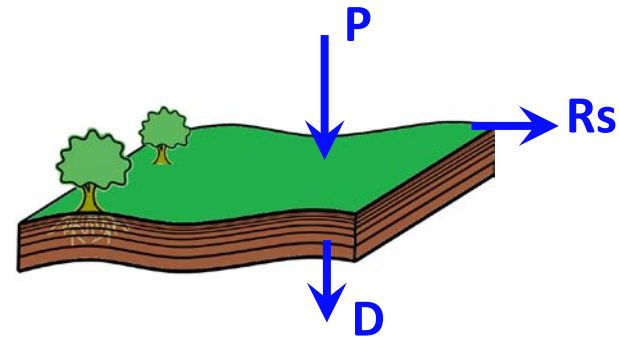
*Ducoudré et al., 1993; Ducharne et al., 1998;  
de Rosnay et al. 1998*



- **Conceptual description of soil moisture storage**
  - **2-m soil and 2-layers**
  - Top layer can vanish
  - Constant available water holding capacity (between FC and WP)
  - Runoff when saturation
  - No drainage from the soil
- We just diagnose a drainage as 95% of runoff for the routing scheme

## Multi-layer = CWRR = ORC11

*de Rosnay et al., 2002; d'Orgeval et al., 2008;  
Campoy et al., 2013*

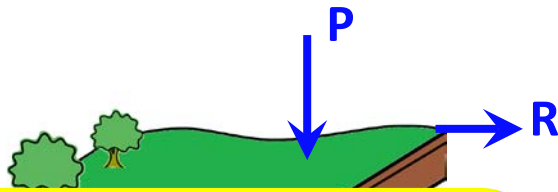


- **Physically-based description of soil water fluxes using Richards equation**
- **2-m soil and 11-layers**
- Formulation of Fokker-Planck
- Hydraulic properties based on van Genuchten-Mualem formulation
- Related parameter based on texture
- Surface runoff =  $P - E_{sol} - \text{Infiltration}$
- Free drainage at the bottom

# Two versions of soil hydrology

## Two-layer = Choisnel = ORC2

Ducoudré et al., 1993; Ducharne et al., 1998;  
de Rosnay et al. 1998



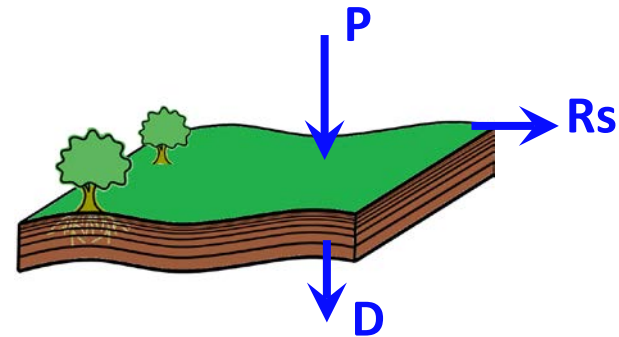
*It has been abandoned  
in the trunk  
and in branch*

*ORCHIDEE\_2\_2*

- 
- 
- 
- Constant available water holding capacity (between FC and WP)
- Runoff when saturation
- No drainage from the soil
- We just diagnose a drainage as 95% of runoff for the routing scheme

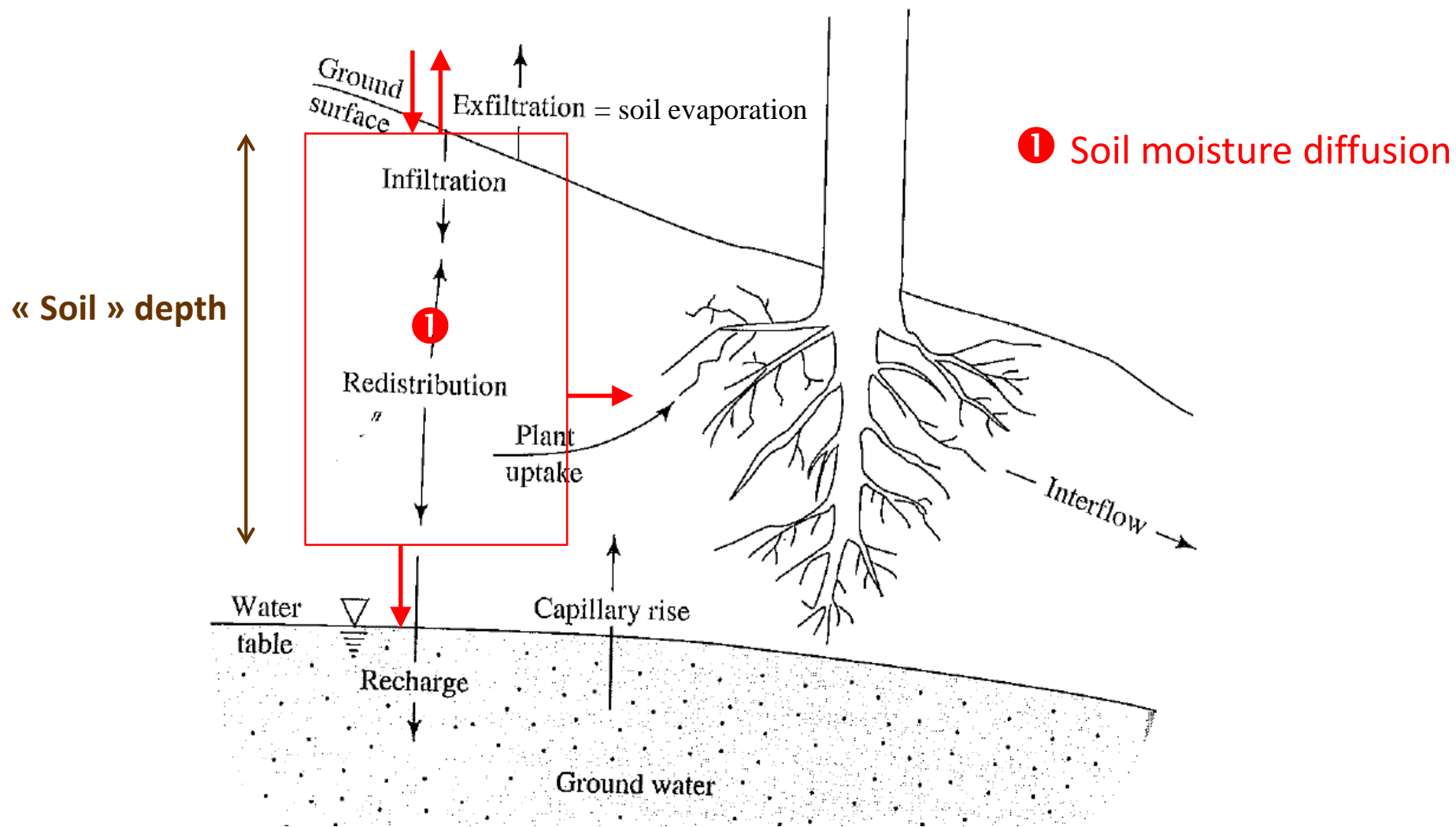
## Multi-layer = CWRR = ORC11

de Rosnay et al., 2002; d'Orgeval et al., 2008;  
Campoy et al., 2013

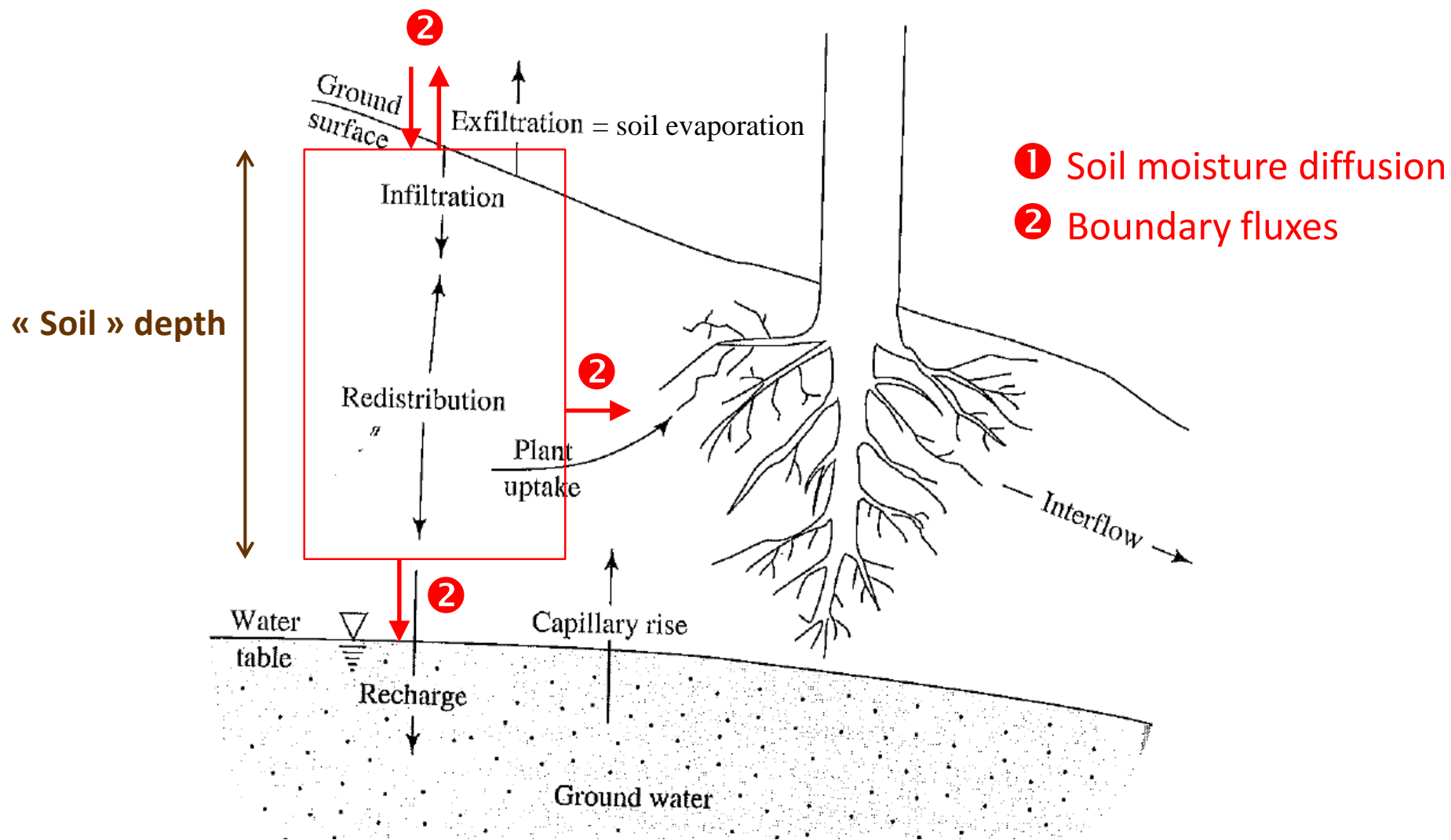


- **Physically-based description of soil water fluxes using Richards equation**
- **2-m soil and 11-layers**
- Formulation of Fokker-Planck
- Hydraulic properties based on van Genuchten-Mualem formulation
- Related parameter based on texture
- Surface runoff =  $P - E_{sol} - \text{Infiltration}$
- Free drainage at the bottom

# What is modeled ?



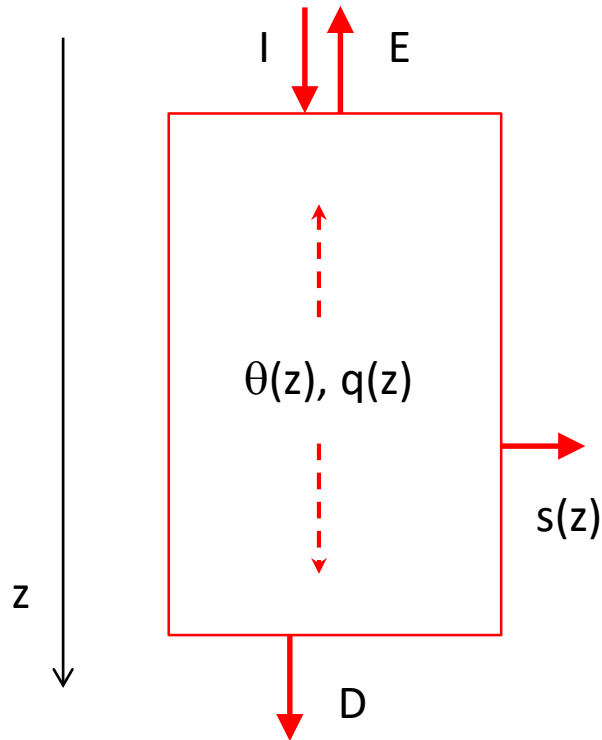
# What is modeled ?





# How is SM diffusion modeled ?

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



$\theta$  : volumetric water content in  $\text{m}^3.\text{m}^{-3}$

$q$  : flux density in  $\text{m}.\text{s}^{-1}$

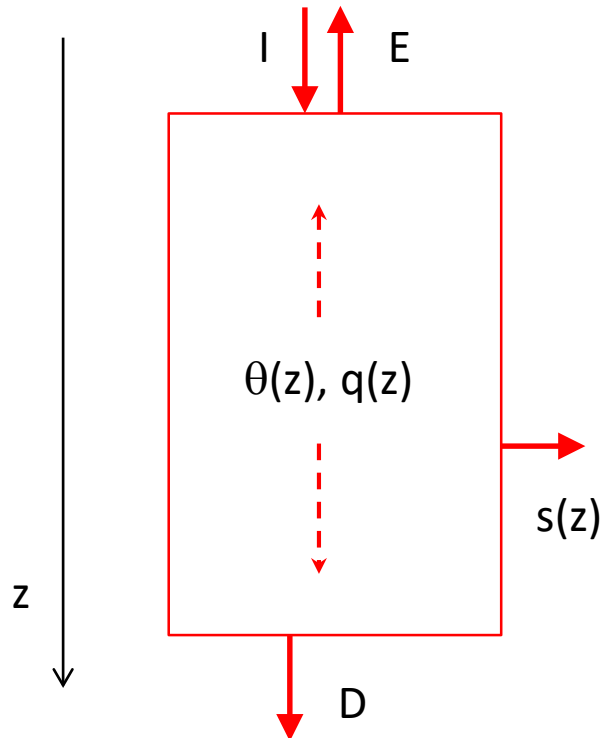
$h$  : hydraulic potential in  $\text{m}$

$K$  : hydraulic conductivity in  $\text{m}.\text{s}^{-1}$

$s$  : transpiration sink in  $\text{m}^3.\text{m}^{-3}.\text{s}^{-1}$

# How is SM diffusion modeled ?

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



2. Continuity :

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

$\theta$  : volumetric water content in  $\text{m}^3.\text{m}^{-3}$

$q$  : flux density in  $\text{m}.\text{s}^{-1}$

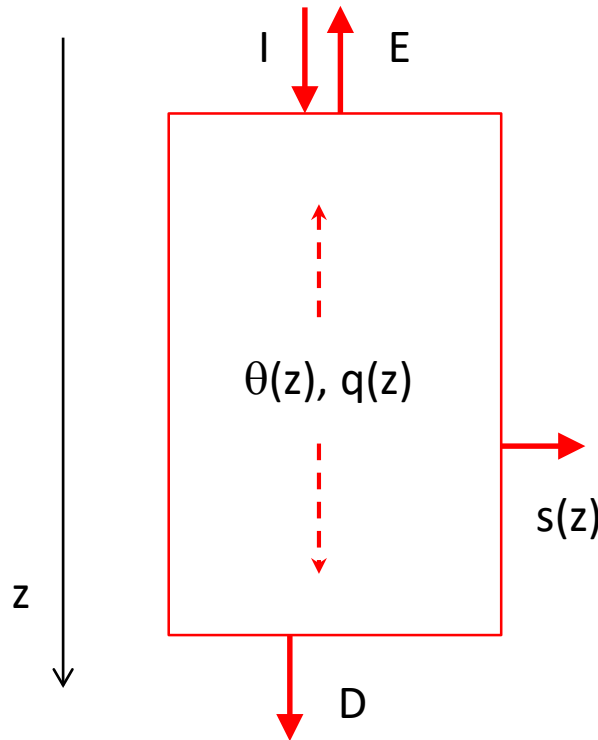
$h$  : hydraulic potential in  $\text{m}$

$K$  : hydraulic conductivity in  $\text{m}.\text{s}^{-1}$

$s$  : transpiration sink in  $\text{m}^3.\text{m}^{-3}.\text{s}^{-1}$

# How is SM diffusion modeled ?

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



2. Continuity :

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

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

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

Richards equation

$\theta$  : volumetric water content in  $\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$

$q$  : flux density in  $\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

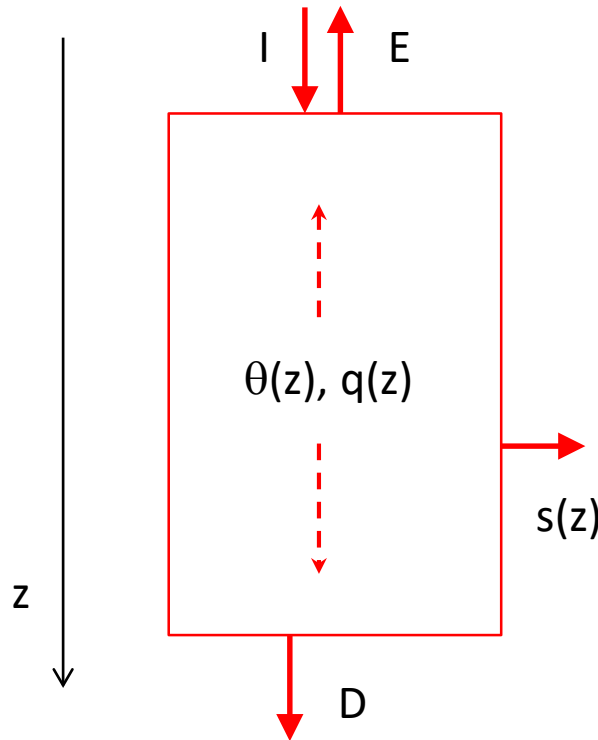
$h$  : hydraulic potential in  $\text{m}$

$K$  : hydraulic conductivity in  $\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

$s$  : transpiration sink in  $\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

# How is SM diffusion modeled ?

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



2. Continuity :

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

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

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

4. Hydraulic head  $h$  quantifies the gravity and pressure potentials

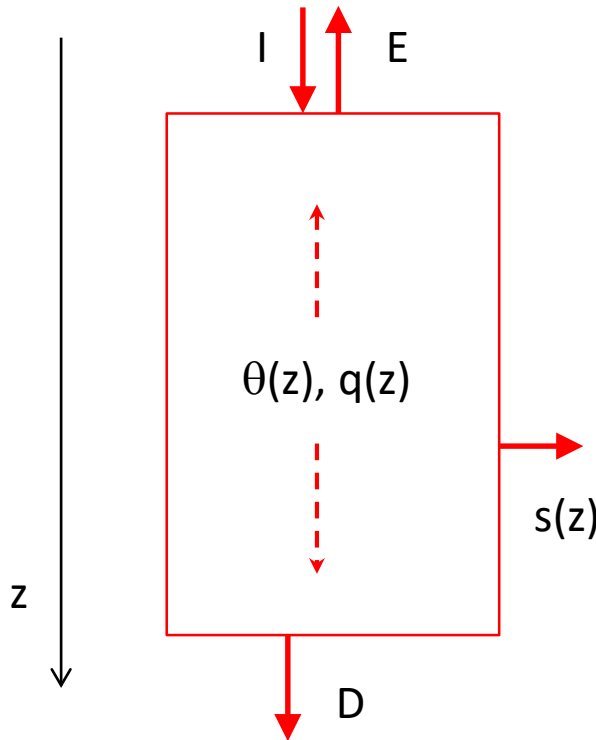
$$h = -z + \psi \quad \psi \text{ is the matric potential (in m, } <0)$$

Richards equation

- $\theta$  : volumetric water content in  $\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$
- $q$  : flux density in  $\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
- $h$  : hydraulic potential in  $\text{m}$
- $K$  : hydraulic conductivity in  $\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
- $s$  : transpiration sink in  $\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

# How is SM diffusion modeled ?

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



- θ : volumetric water content in  $\text{m}^3.\text{m}^{-3}$
- q : flux density in  $\text{m}.\text{s}^{-1}$
- h : hydraulic potential in m
- K : hydraulic conductivity in  $\text{m}.\text{s}^{-1}$
- s : transpiration sink in  $\text{m}^3.\text{m}^{-3}.\text{s}^{-1}$

2. Continuity :

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

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

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

4. Hydraulic head h quantifies the gravity and pressure potentials

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

5. K and ψ depend on θ (unsaturated soils)

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

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

$$D(\theta) = K(\theta) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta}$$

D is the diffusivity (in  $\text{m}^2.\text{s}^{-1}$ )

Richards equation

# Finite difference integration

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

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

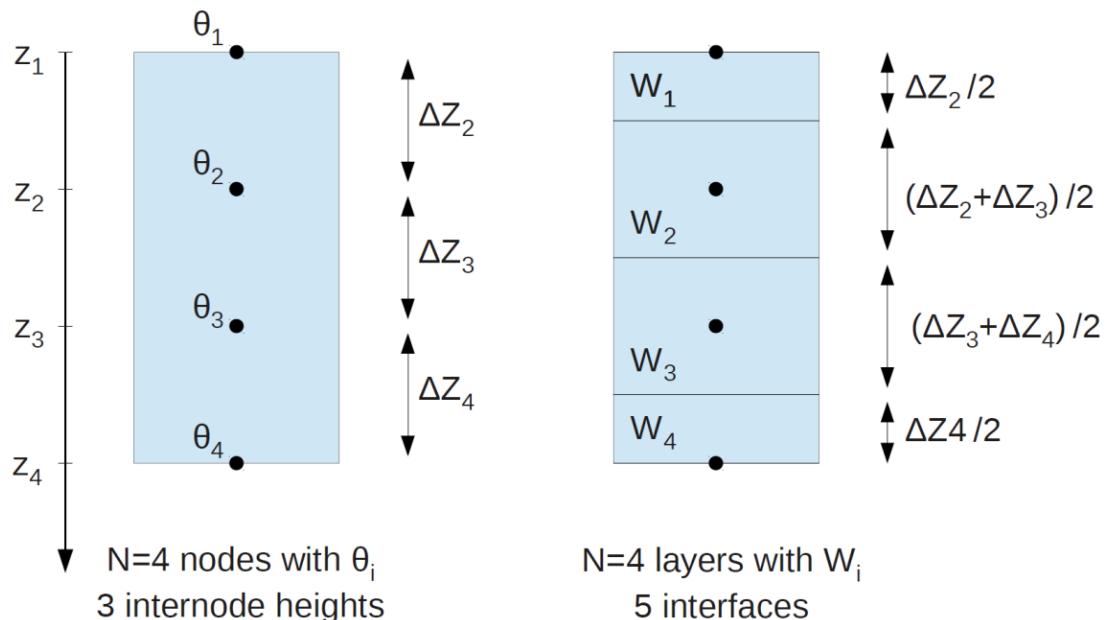
Si = transpiration sink

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

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

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

$$W_1 = [\Delta Z_2 (3\theta_1 + \theta_2)]/8$$

$$W_N = [\Delta Z_N (3\theta_N + \theta_{N-1})]/8$$

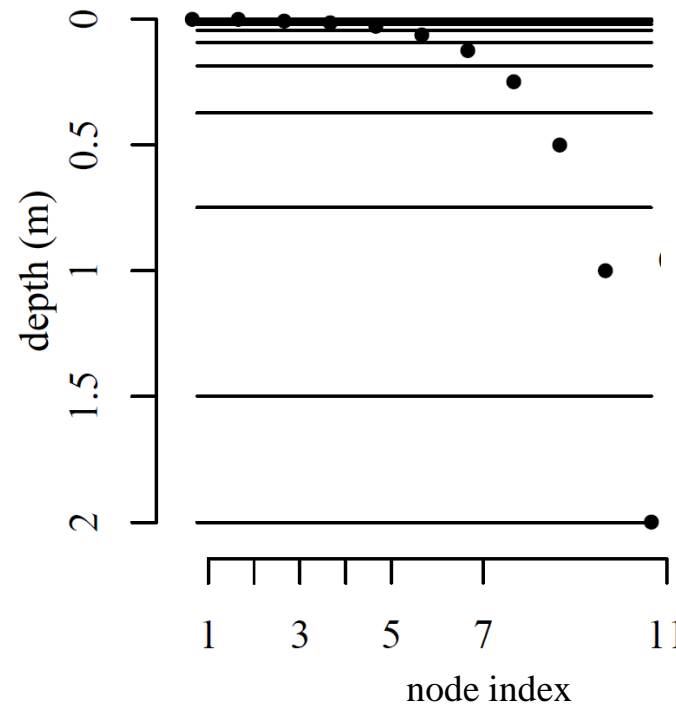
## Vertical discretization

- The vertical discretization must permit an accurate calculation of  $\theta_i$  and the related water fluxes  $Q_i$
- 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	$\approx h_i$ (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

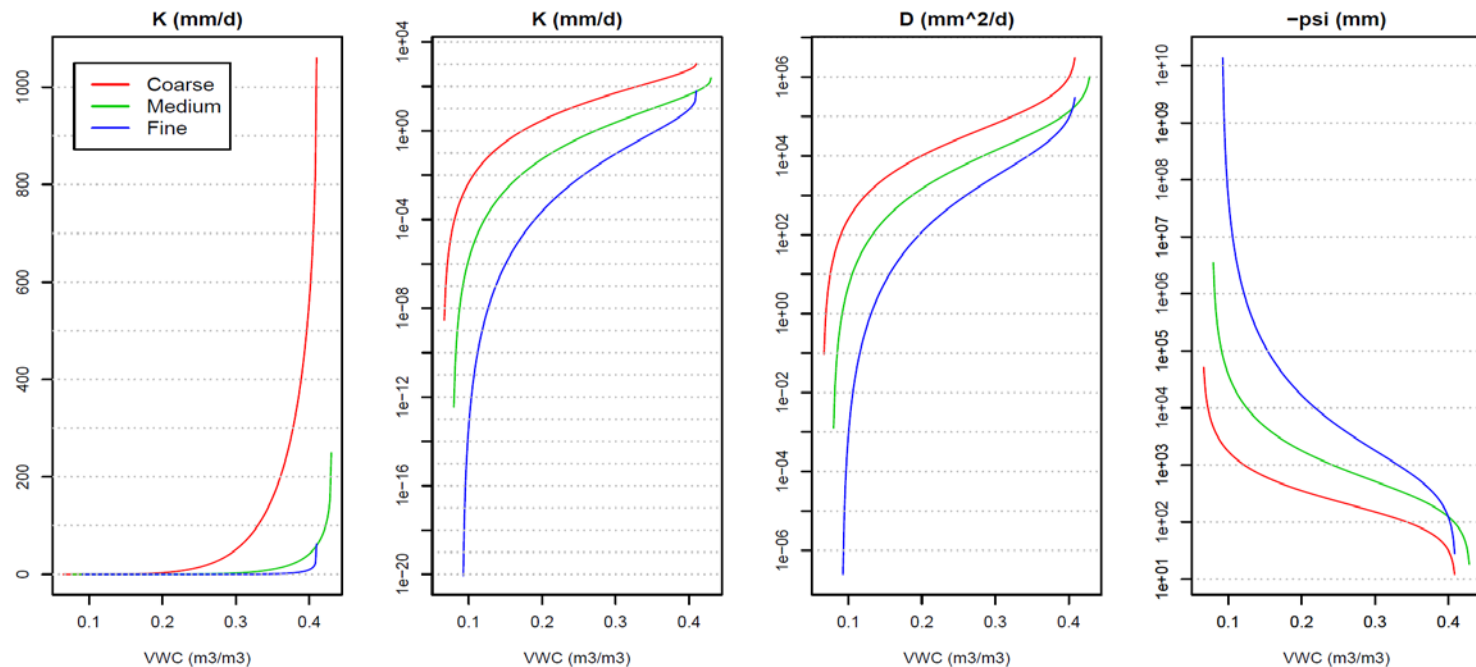
- The vertical discretization must permit an accurate calculation of  $\theta_i$  and the related water fluxes  $Q_i$
- We need thin layers where  $\theta$  is likely to exhibit sharp vertical gradients (to better approximate the local derivative)
- Vertical discretization and boundary conditions must be decided together !
- **Alternative discretizations can be defined by externalized parameters**

<b>DEPTH_MAX_H</b>	2.0 or 4.0 depending on hydrol_cwrr	m	Maximum depth of soil moisture	Maximum depth of soil for soil moisture (CWRR).
<b>DEPTH_MAX_T</b>	10.0	m	Maximum depth of the soil thermodynamics	Maximum depth of soil for temperature.
<b>DEPTH_TOPTHICK</b>	9.77517107e-04	m	Thickness of upper most Layer	Thickness of top hydrology layer for soil moisture (CWRR).
<b>DEPTH_CSTTHICK</b>	DEPTH_MAX_H	m	Depth at which constant layer thickness start	Depth at which constant layer thickness start (smaller than zmaxh/2)
<b>DEPTH_GEOM</b>	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  $\theta$**
- Their dependance on  $\theta$  is very non linear
- In ORCHIDEE, this is decribed by the so-called **Van Genuchten-Mualem relationships**:



$$K(\theta) = K_s \sqrt{\theta_f} \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \theta_f^{1/m} \right)^m \right)^2$$

$$\psi(\theta) = -\frac{1}{\alpha} \left( \theta_f^{-1/m} - 1 \right)^{1/n}$$

$$D(\theta) = \frac{(1-m)K(\theta)}{\alpha m} \frac{1}{\theta - \theta_r} \theta_f^{-1/m} \cdot \left( \theta_f^{-1/m} - 1 \right)^{-m}$$

$$\theta_f = (\theta - \theta_r) / (\theta_s - \theta_r)$$

$$m = 1 - 1/n$$

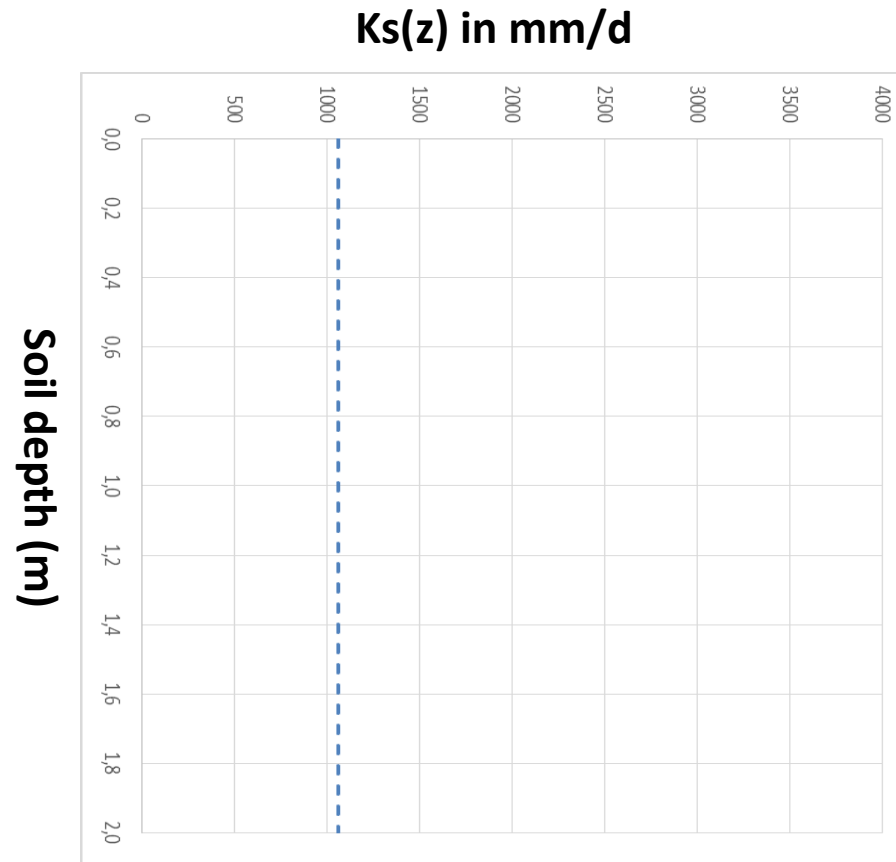
**The parameters**

$\theta_s$   $\theta_r$   $K_s$   $n$

$\alpha = -1/\psi_{ae}$

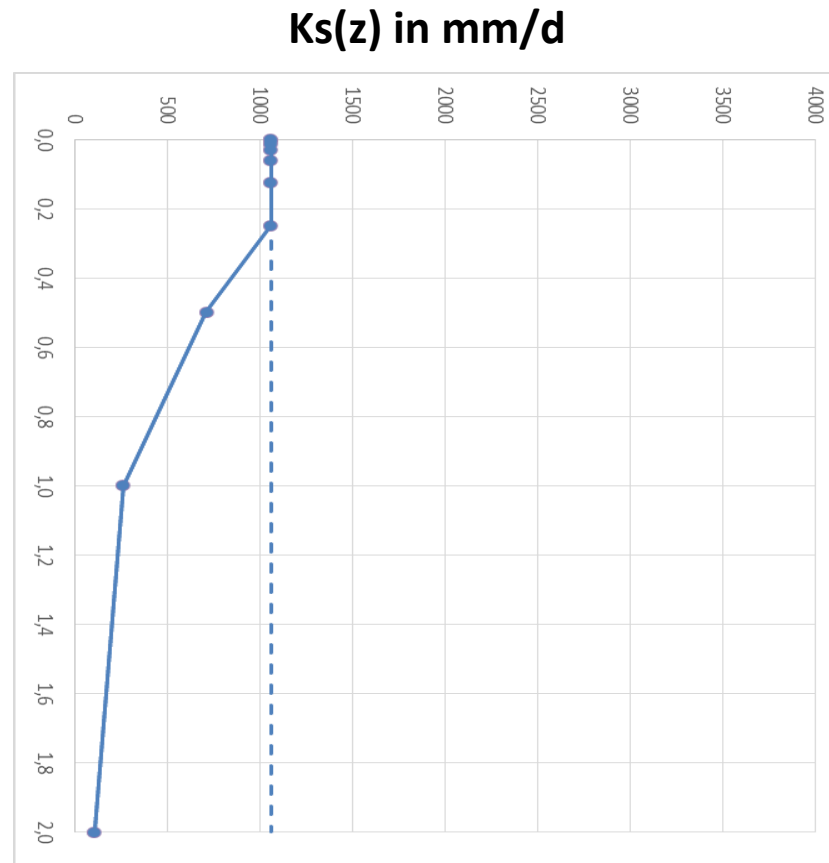
**depend on soil texture**

# Modifications of $K_s$ with depth



(1)  $K_s^{\text{ref}}$  is defined based on soil texture  
Here 1060 mm/d for Sandy Loam [Zobler class Coarse]

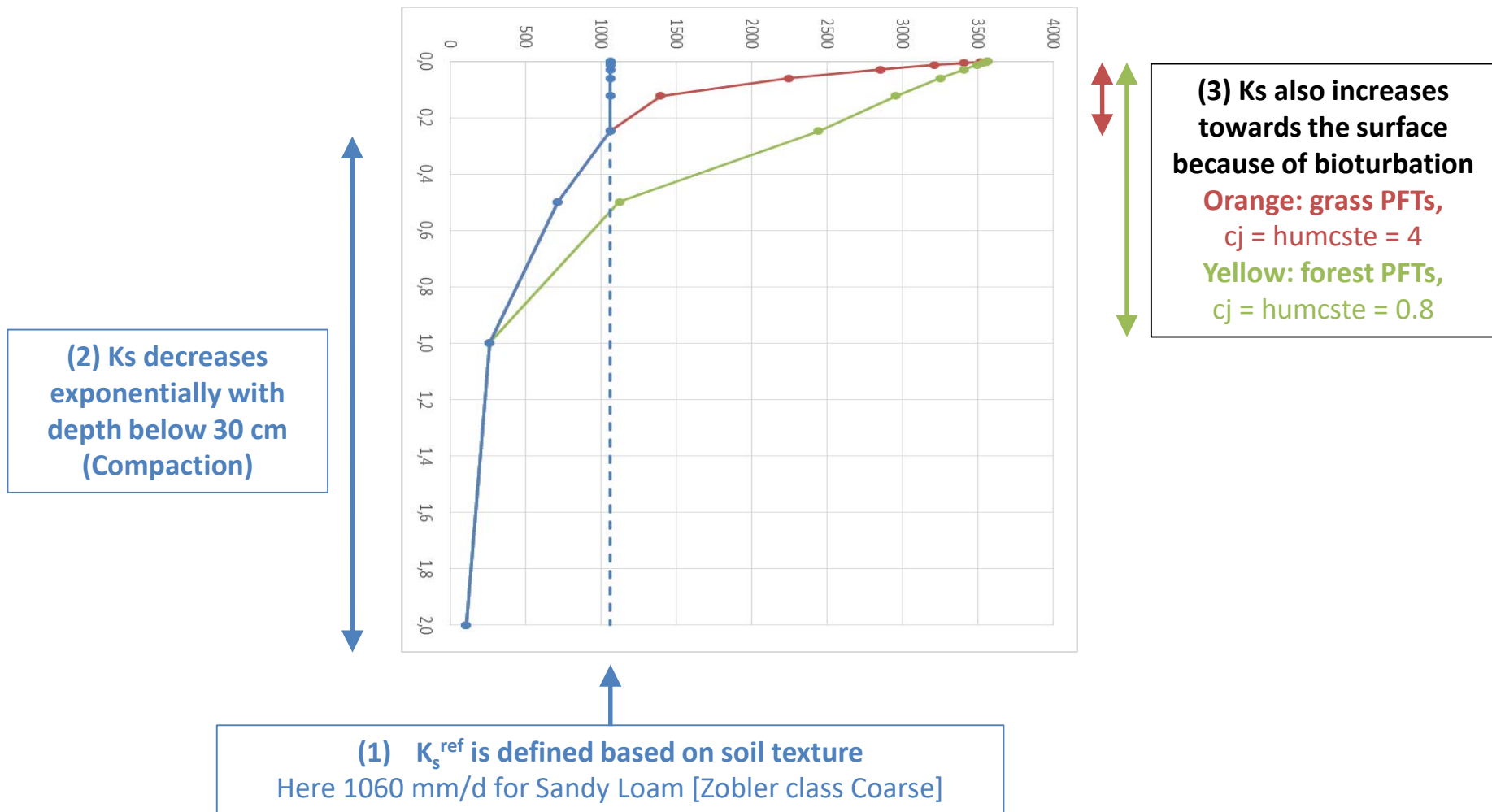
# Modifications of $K_s$ with depth



(2)  $K_s$  decreases exponentially with depth below 30 cm (Compaction)

(1)  $K_s^{ref}$  is defined based on soil texture  
Here 1060 mm/d for Sandy Loam [Zobler class Coarse]

# Modifications of $K_s$ with depth



# Modifications of Ks with depth



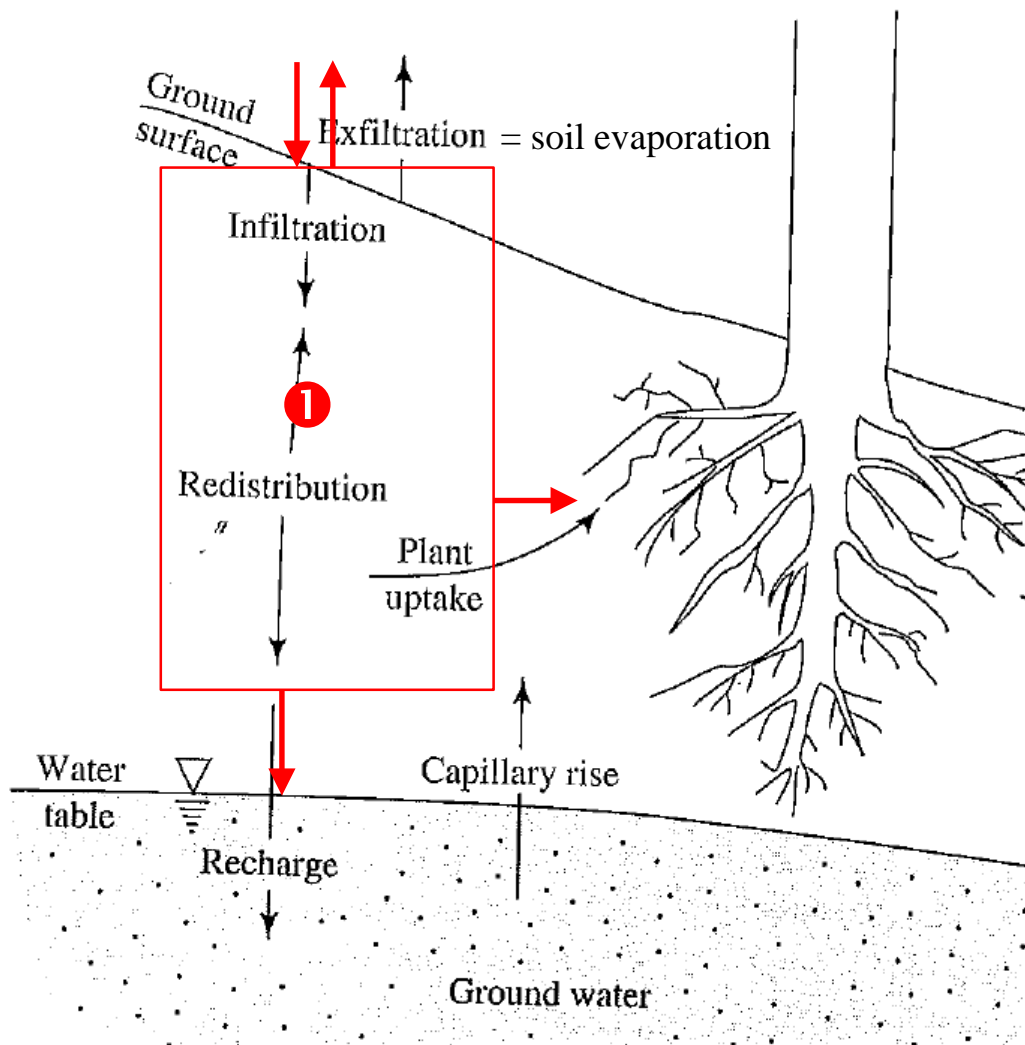
(2)  $K_s$  decreases exponentially with depth below  $z = 1060$  mm

increases surface perturbation PFTs,  $\alpha = 4$  forest PFTs,  $\alpha_j = \text{humcste} = 0.8$

All this is done in `hydrol_var_init`  
You can change the parameters in the `run.def`, as detailed in [http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/attachment/wiki/Documentation/egs\\_hydrol.pdf](http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/attachment/wiki/Documentation/egs_hydrol.pdf)

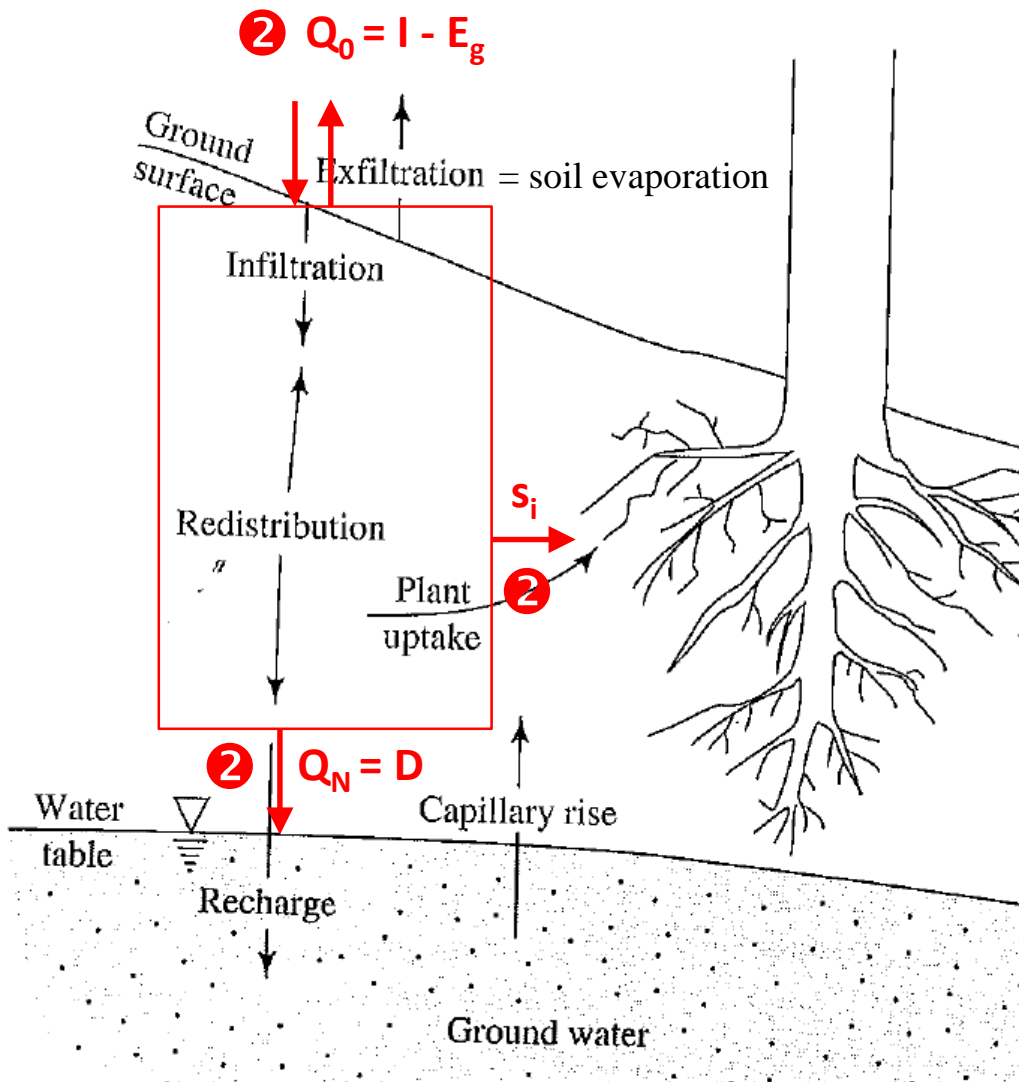
(1)  $K_s^{\text{ref}}$  is defined based on soil texture  
Here 1060 mm/d for Sandy Loam [Zobler class Coarse]

## To sum up water diffusion



- The soil is assumed to be **unsaturated**
- The prognostic variables are  $\theta_i$  (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 node position  $Z_i$ )
  - four boundary fluxes

## To sum up water diffusion



- The soil is assumed to be unsaturated
  - The prognostic variables are  $\theta_i$  (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 node position  $Z_i$ )
    - four boundary fluxes **2**
      - **transpiration sink  $s_i$**
      - **top and bottom boundary conditions:**
- $Q_0 = I - E_g$  and  $Q_N = D$**
- I: infiltration**
- $E_g$  : soil evaporation**
- D: drainage**

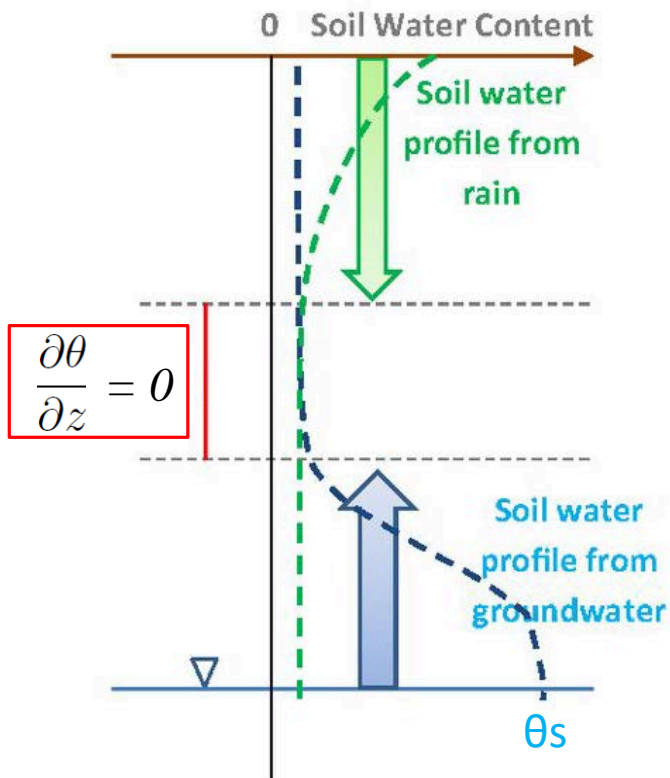
**Which all depend on soil moisture**

# Drainage

By default :  $Q_N = K(\theta_N)$

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

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



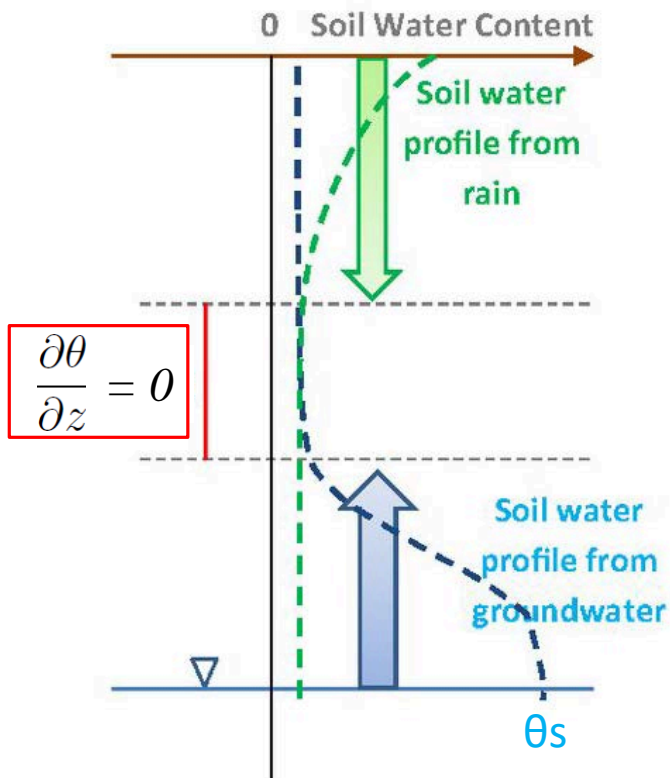


# Drainage

By default :  $Q_N = K(\theta_N)$

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 :

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

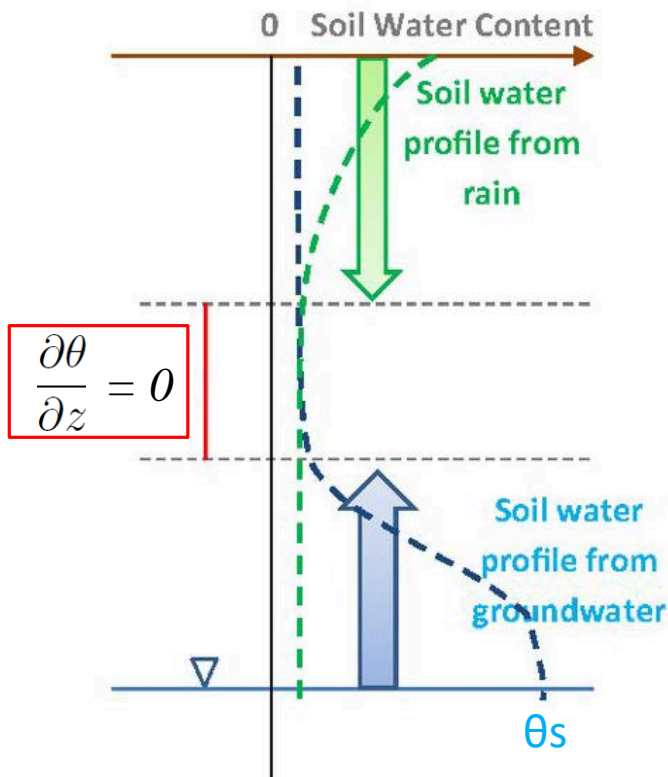
F is externalized by `free_drain_coef (1,1,1)`

# Drainage

By default :  $Q_N = K(\theta_N)$

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 :

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

F is externalized by **free\_drain\_coef (1,1,1)**

With  $F=1$ , you get an impermeable bottom:

- like in the Choisnel scheme
- leading to build a water table

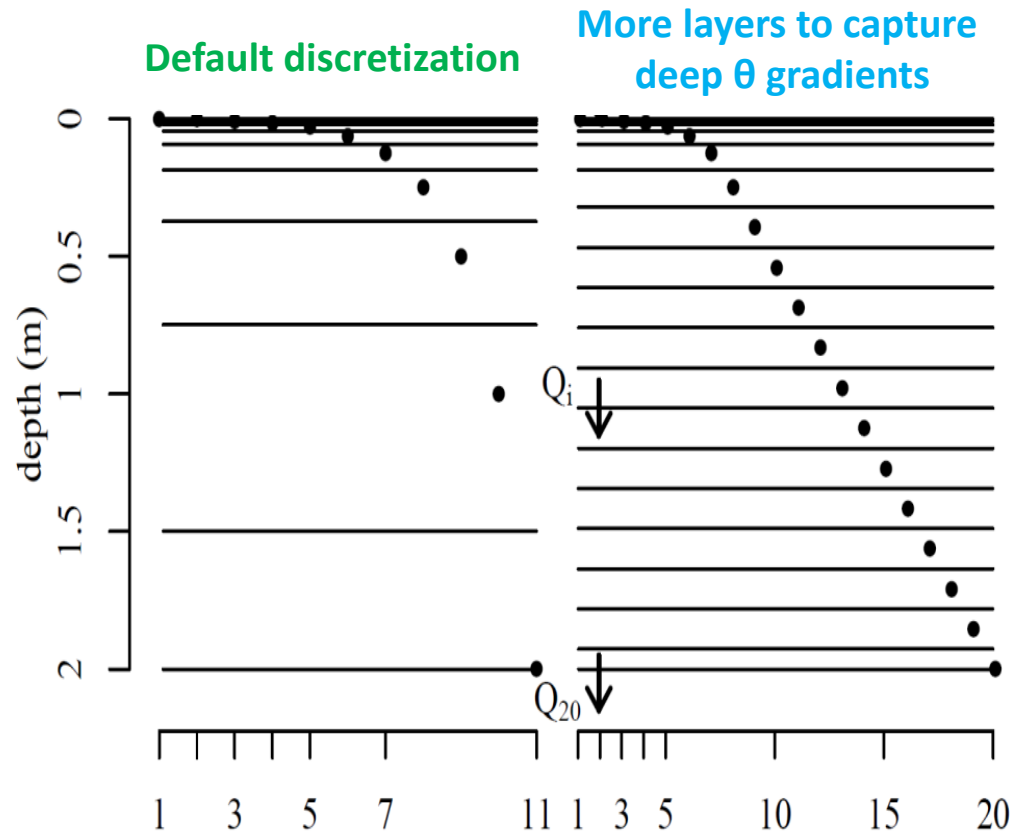
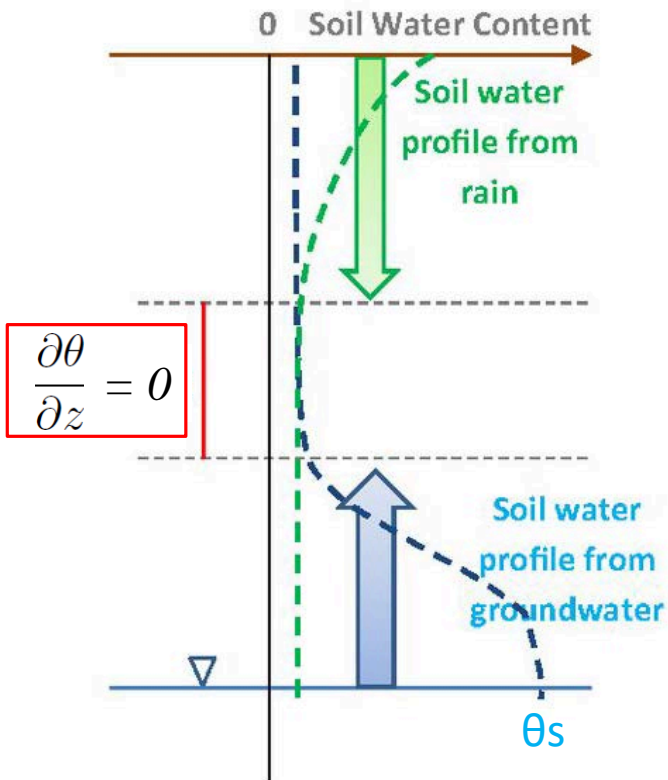
**But you need to adapt the vertical discretization!**

# Drainage

By default :  $Q_N = K(\theta_N)$

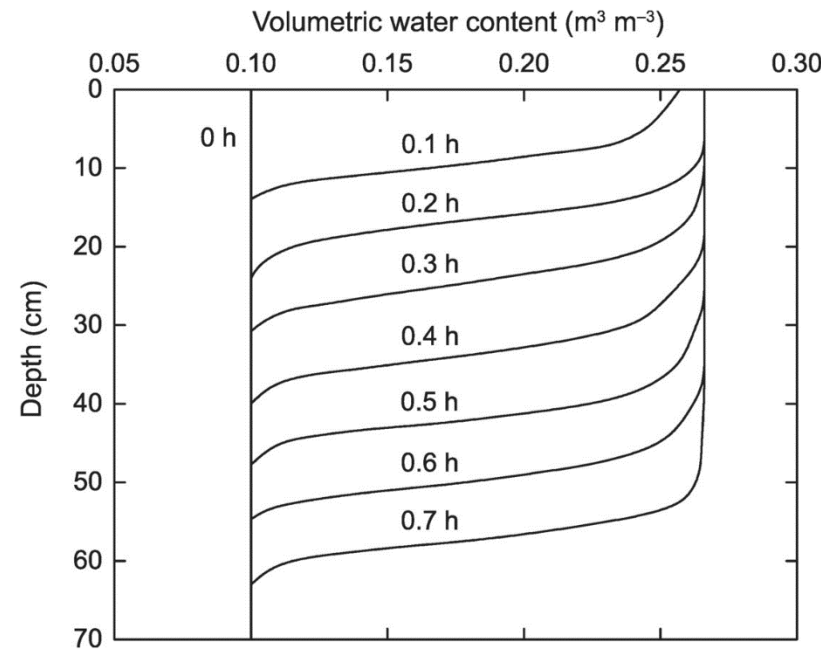
Based on the motion equation, this corresponds to a situation where  $\theta$  does not show any vertical variations below the modeled soil

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



# Infiltration (and surface runoff)

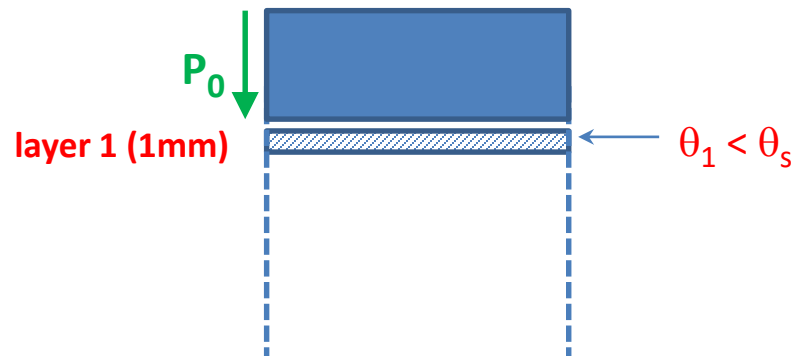
- At the soil surface, throughfall can either infiltrate or run off (surface runoff)
  - The routing scheme can also produce water to infiltrate (return flow, irrigation, etc.)
  - The modeling of infiltration relies on gravitational fluxes:  $q(z) = -K(\theta)$
  - With **wetting front propagation based on time splitting procedure and sub-grid-variability**
- }  $P_0$   
Soil absorption is neglected



$dt = 30$  minutes in forced mode

# Infiltration (and surface runoff)

- 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.)
- }  $P_0$
- The modeling of infiltration relies on gravitational fluxes:  $q(z) = -K(\theta)$
  - With **wetting front propagation based on time splitting procedure and sub-grid-variability**
- Soil absorption is neglected
1. Direct infiltration of  $P_0$  to the top soil layer (1-mm deep)



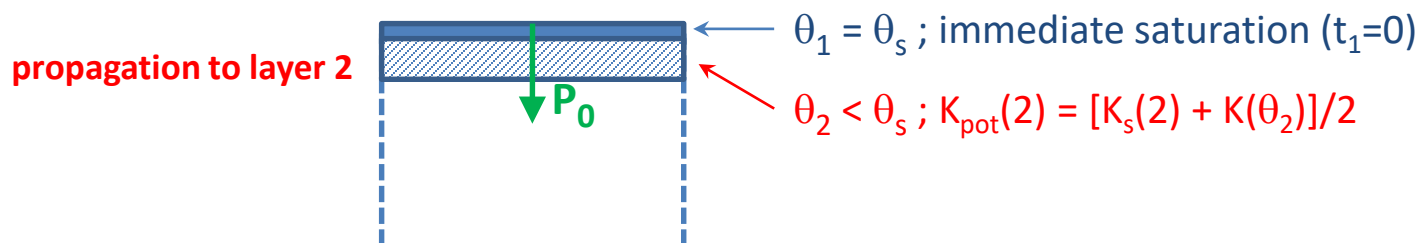
# Infiltration (and surface runoff)

- 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:  $q(z) = -K(\theta)$
- With **wetting front propagation based on time splitting procedure and sub-grid-variability**

Soil absorption is neglected

$P_0$

1. Direct infiltration of  $P_0$  to the top soil layer (1-mm deep)
2. If  $P_0$  is sufficient, infiltration to the lowest layers



**Reduction from  $K_{pot}$  to  $K_{eff}$  because subgrid variability**

$$K_{eff}(2) = K_{pot}(2) [ 1 - \exp( -P_0 / K_{pot}(2) ) ]$$

$$R_s(2) = P_0 - K_{eff}(2)$$

$\theta_2$  increased up to  $\theta_s$

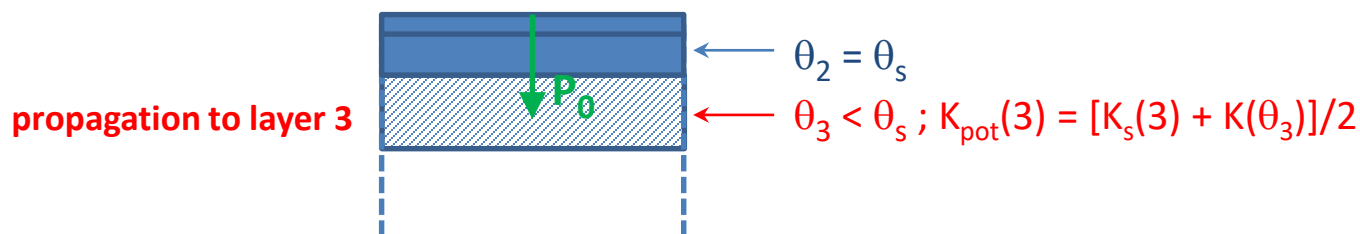
$$t_2 = h_2 (\theta_s - \theta_2) / K_{eff}(2)$$

We consider an exponential distribution of  $K$  with a mean of  $K_{pot}$

- $K_{eff}$  is the mean of  $K$  values  $< P_0$
- Runoff production where  $P_0 > K$

# Infiltration (and surface runoff)

- 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.)
- }  $P_0$
- 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**
- Direct infiltration of  $P_0$  to the top soil layer (1-mm deep)
  - If  $P_0$  is sufficient, infiltration to the lowest layers



## Reduction from $K_{pot}$ to $K_{eff}$ because subgrid variability

$$K_{eff}(3) = K_{pot}(3) [ 1 - \exp( -P_0 / K_{pot}(3) ) ]$$

$$R_s(3) = P_0 - K_{eff}(3)$$

$$\theta_3 \text{ updated up to } \theta_s$$

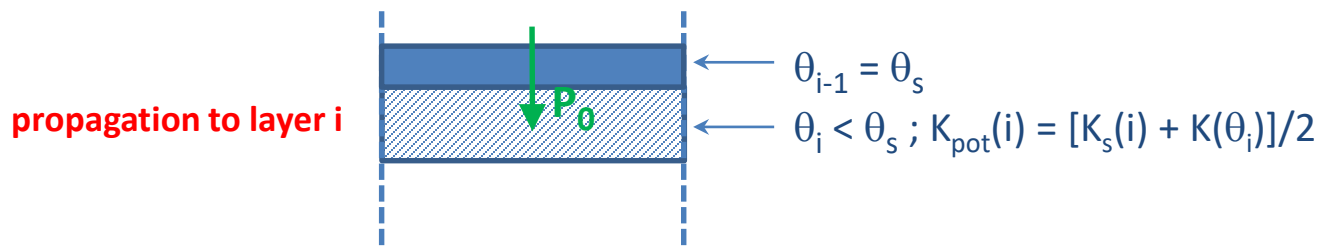
$$t_3 = h_3 (\theta_s - \theta_3) / K_{eff}(3)$$

We consider an exponential distribution of  $K$  with a mean of  $K_{pot}$

- $K_{eff}$  is the mean of  $K$  values  $< P_0$
- Runoff production where  $P_0 > K$

# Infiltration (and surface runoff)

- 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.)
- }  $P_0$
- The modeling of infiltration relies on gravitational fluxes:  $q(z) = -K(\theta)$
  - With **wetting front propagation based on time splitting procedure and sub-grid-variability**
- Soil absorption is neglected
1. Direct infiltration of  $P_0$  to the top soil layer (1-mm deep)
  2. If  $P_0$  is sufficient, infiltration to the lowest layers



$$K_{eff}(i) = K_{pot}(i) [ 1 - \exp( -P_0 / K_{pot}(i) ) ]$$

$$R_s(i) = P_0 - K_{eff}(i)$$

$\theta_3$  increased up to  $\theta_s$

$$t_3 = h_3 (\theta_s - \theta_3) / K_{eff}(3)$$

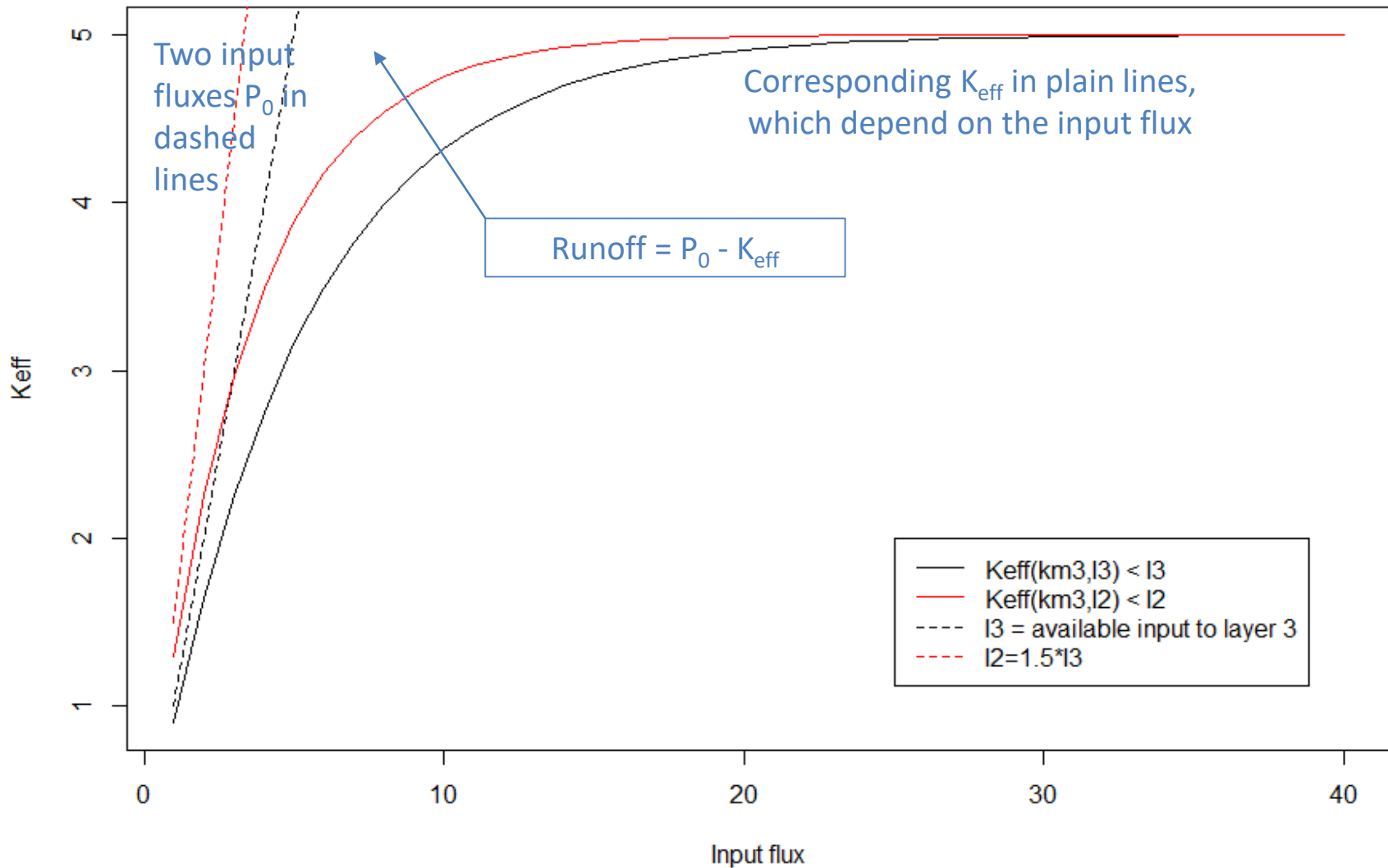
**Loop on layers i until  $P_1$  fully processed or  $\sum t_i = dt$**

$$R_s^{pot} = \sum R_s(i)$$



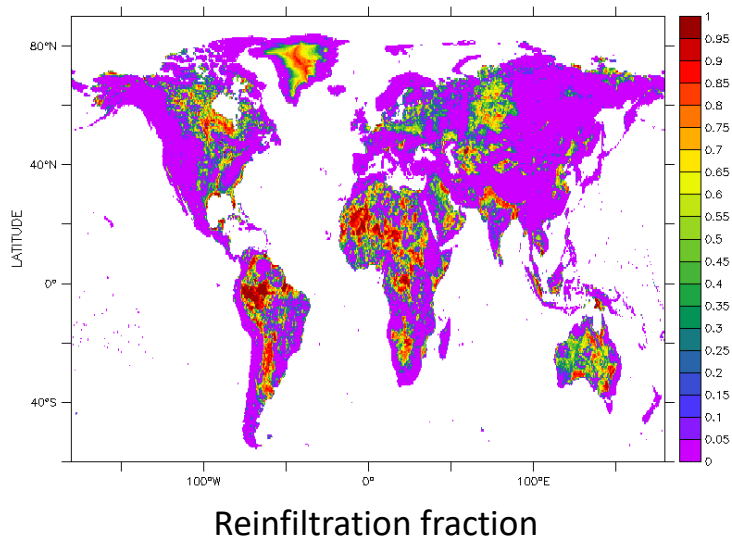
# Infiltration (and surface runoff)

Infiltration to layer i with  $K_{pot} = 5 \text{ mm/d}$



# Infiltration (and surface runoff)

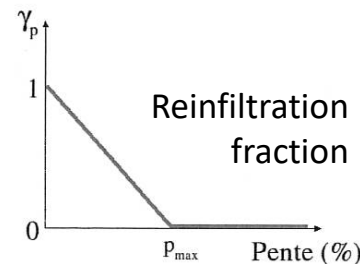
- At the soil surface, throughfall can either infiltrate or run off (surface runoff)
  - The routing scheme can also produce water to infiltrate (return flow, irrigation, etc.)
  - The modeling of infiltration relies on gravitational fluxes:  $q(z) = -K(\theta)$
  - With **wetting front propagation based on time splitting procedure and sub-grid-variability**
- }  $P_0$   
Soil absorption is neglected
1. Direct infiltration of  $P_0$  to the top soil layer (1-mm deep)
  2. If  $P_0$  is sufficient, infiltration to the lowest layers
  3. Possible **reinfiltration** of surface runoff in flat areas (ponding)



$$R_s^{pot} = \sum R_s(i) = P_0 - \sum I_i$$

$$\gamma_p R_s^{pot} \rightarrow P_0^{t+dt}$$

$$R_s = (1 - \gamma_p) R_s^{pot}$$



*In the code :*  
 $\gamma_p = \text{reinf\_slope}$   
 $p_{\max} = 0.5\%$

## Soil evaporation ( $E_g$ )

1. The soil evaporation involved in the surface boundary flux ( $Q_0 = I - E_g$ ) is given by the energy budget
2. **The issue in hydrol is to calculate the stress function  $\beta_g$  to calculate soil evaporation at the next time step**
3. **This is done by a supply/demand approach based on the soil moisture at the end of the time step**
4. **Supply/demand:  $E_g$  can proceed at potential rate unless this dries the soil out**

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

## Soil evaporation ( $E_g$ )

1. The soil evaporation involved in the surface boundary flux ( $Q_0 = I - E_g$ ) is given by the energy budget
2. **The issue in hydrol is to calculate the stress function  $\beta_g$  to calculate soil evaporation at the next time step**
3. **This is done by a supply/demand approach based on the soil moisture at the end of the time step**
4. **Supply/demand:  $E_g$  can proceed at potential rate unless this dries the soil out**

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

$$E_{\text{pot}}^* = \frac{\rho}{r_a} (q_{\text{sat}}(T_w) - q_a) < E_{\text{pot}} = \frac{\rho}{r_a} (q_{\text{sat}}(T_s) - q_a)$$

$$\beta_g = E_g / E_{\text{pot}}$$

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

(a) We apply  $E_{\text{pot}}^*$  as a boundary flux at the top, and test if  $\theta_1$  remains above  $\theta_r$

If it does, then  $Q_{\text{up}} = E_{\text{pot}}^* = E_g$

(b) Else, we force  $\theta_1 = \theta_r$  and this drives an upward flux: the surface value  $Q_0$  gives  $Q_{\text{up}}$

## Soil evaporation ( $E_g$ )

1. The soil evaporation involved in the surface boundary flux ( $Q_0 = I - E_g$ ) is given by the energy budget
2. **The issue in hydrol is to calculate the stress function  $\beta_g$  to calculate soil evaporation at the next time step**
3. **This is done by a supply/demand approach based on the soil moisture at the end of the time step**
4. **Supply/demand:  $E_g$  can proceed at potential rate unless this dries the soil out**
5. **Since r3975, we can reduce the demand using a soil resistance (Sellers et al., 1992)**

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

$L$  is the soil moisture in the 4 top layers  
 $L_s$  is the equivalent at saturation

***In run.def :***  
 DO\_ROIL = y  
 (default = n)

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

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

# The transpiration sink

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

$$u_s(1)=0$$

$$u_s(i>1) = n_{\text{root}}(i) \cdot F_w(i)$$

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

$n_{\text{root}}$  : mean root density in layer i

$$n_{\text{root}} = \int_{h_i} R(z) dz / \int_{h_{\text{tot}}} R(z) dz$$

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

$c_j$  depends on the PFT

$W_w$  = wilting point

$W_f$  = field capacity

$$\text{AWC} = W_f - W_w$$

$W_{\%}$  : moisture at which  $u_s$  becomes 1 (no stress)

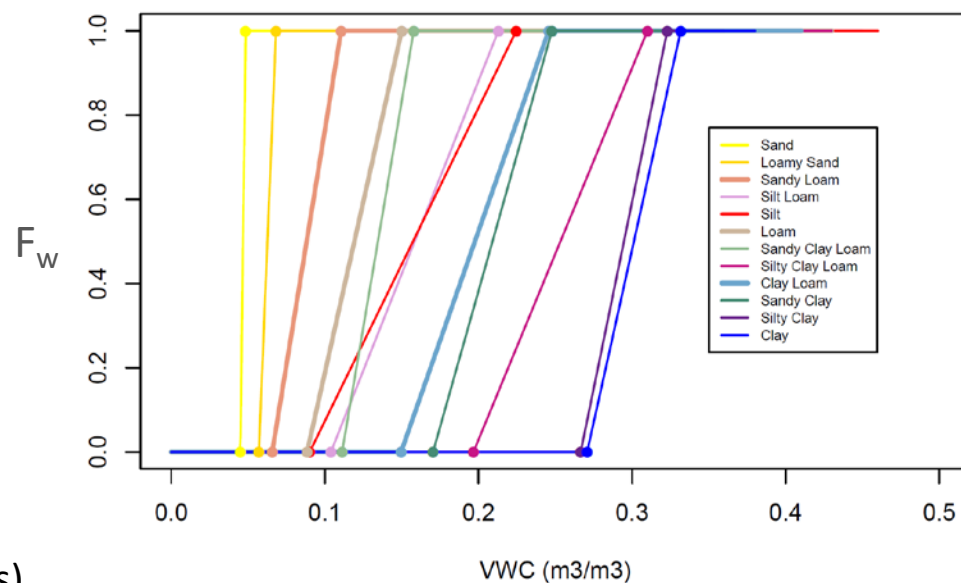
$$W_{\%} = W_w + p_{\%} \text{AWC}$$

In *constantes\_mtc.f90*:

$$c_j = \text{humcste}$$

In *constantes\_soil.f90*:

$$p_{\%} = \text{pcent} = (/ 0.8, 0.8, 0.8 /)$$



# The transpiration sink

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

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

1  $U_s = \sum_i u_s$  is used to calculate the stomatal resistance  $r_{st}$

$r_c$  also depends on light,  $CO_2$ , LAI, air temperature and vpd, and nitrogen limitation in the new trunk (CN)

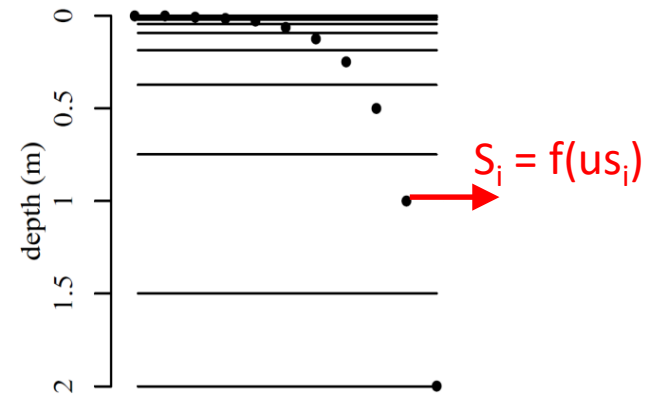
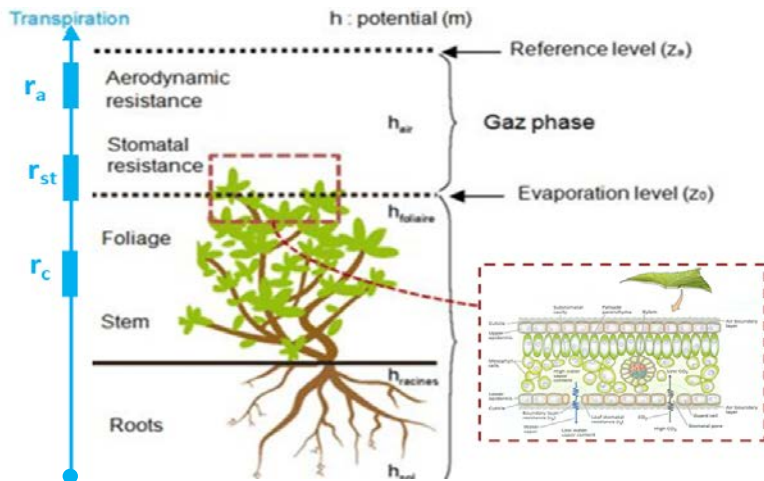
In the code :  
 $U_s = \text{humrel}$

2  $u_s$  is used to distribute  $T_r$  between the soil layers

$$T_r = \sum S_i$$

$$U_s = \sum u_s i$$

$$S_i = T_r u_s i / U_s$$



## New diagnostics

- **TWBR = Total water budget residu** (in  $\text{kg}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ) to check water conservation

$$\text{TWBR} = dS/dt - (P - E - R)$$

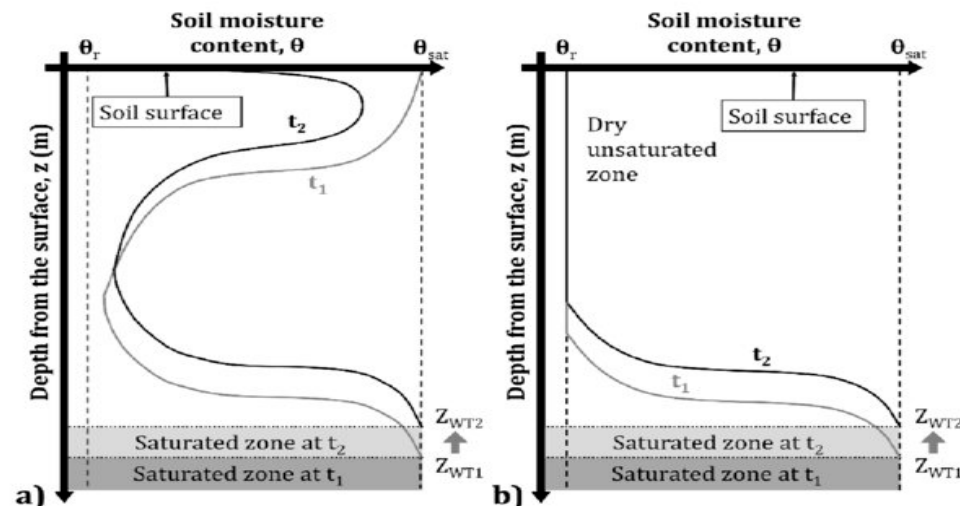
*S includes intercepted water and snow*

Typical values are  $< 10^{-5}$  mm/d or less

- **wtd = water table depth** (m), defined in each soiltile as the depth of deepest saturated node overlaid by an unsaturated node.

Sought from the soil bottom: if a part of the soil is saturated but underlaid with unsaturated nodes, it is not considered as a water table.

If the bottom node is not saturated, the water table depth is set to undef.





# Which maps are used for soil hydrology?

Google Agenda - février 20... GroupActivities/Training... Documentation/Ancillary... UMR Sisyphe : Agnès Ducharn... HESSD - Weak sensitivity... pierer weill cat

https://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/wiki/Documentation/Ancillary

ORCHIDEE LAND SURFACE MODEL

logged in as aducharne | Logout | Help/Guide | About Trac | Preferences

Wiki | Timeline | Roadmap | Browse Source | View Tickets | New Ticket | Search

wiki: [Documentation](#) / [Ancillary](#) | Up | [Start Page](#) | [Index](#) | [History](#)

**Development Activities** | **Documentation** | **Source Code** | **Reference Simulations** | **Group Activities**

## Ancillary Data

This page describes the Ancillary data needed to describe the continental surfaces in ORCHIDEE. All the files are expected to be in a CF-compliant NetCDF format and some guidelines for producing these files are given at the end.

The most common forcing files are stored in the shared accounts in IGCM/SRF directory. The shared accounts are found:

- At TGCC: /ccc/work/cont003/dsm/p86ipsl/IGCM
- At IDRIS:
  - On the ada machine: /workgpfs/rech/psl/rpsl035/IGCM
  - On the ergon machine: /u/rech/psl/rpsl035/IGCM
- LSCE, obelix : /home/orchideeshare/igcmg/IGCM
- IPSL Ciudad : /prodigfs/ipslfs/igcmg/IGCM
- At the web by DODS : <http://dods.ipsl.jussieu.fr/igcmg/IGCM>

**Ancillary Data**

1. **Vegetation information**
  - 1.1 Olson map
  - 1.2 PFT maps
2. **Soil texture and color data**
3. **Irrigation and Floodplains**
4. **Slope**
5. **For routing**
6. **For river discharge comparison with GRDC dataset CF-conformant files**

### 1. Vegetation information

ORCHIDEE model can read vegetation map based on Olson categories or on PFT categories. When a PFT map is used as an input, the parameter **land\_use** in the .def file should be set to TRUE, else to FALSE.

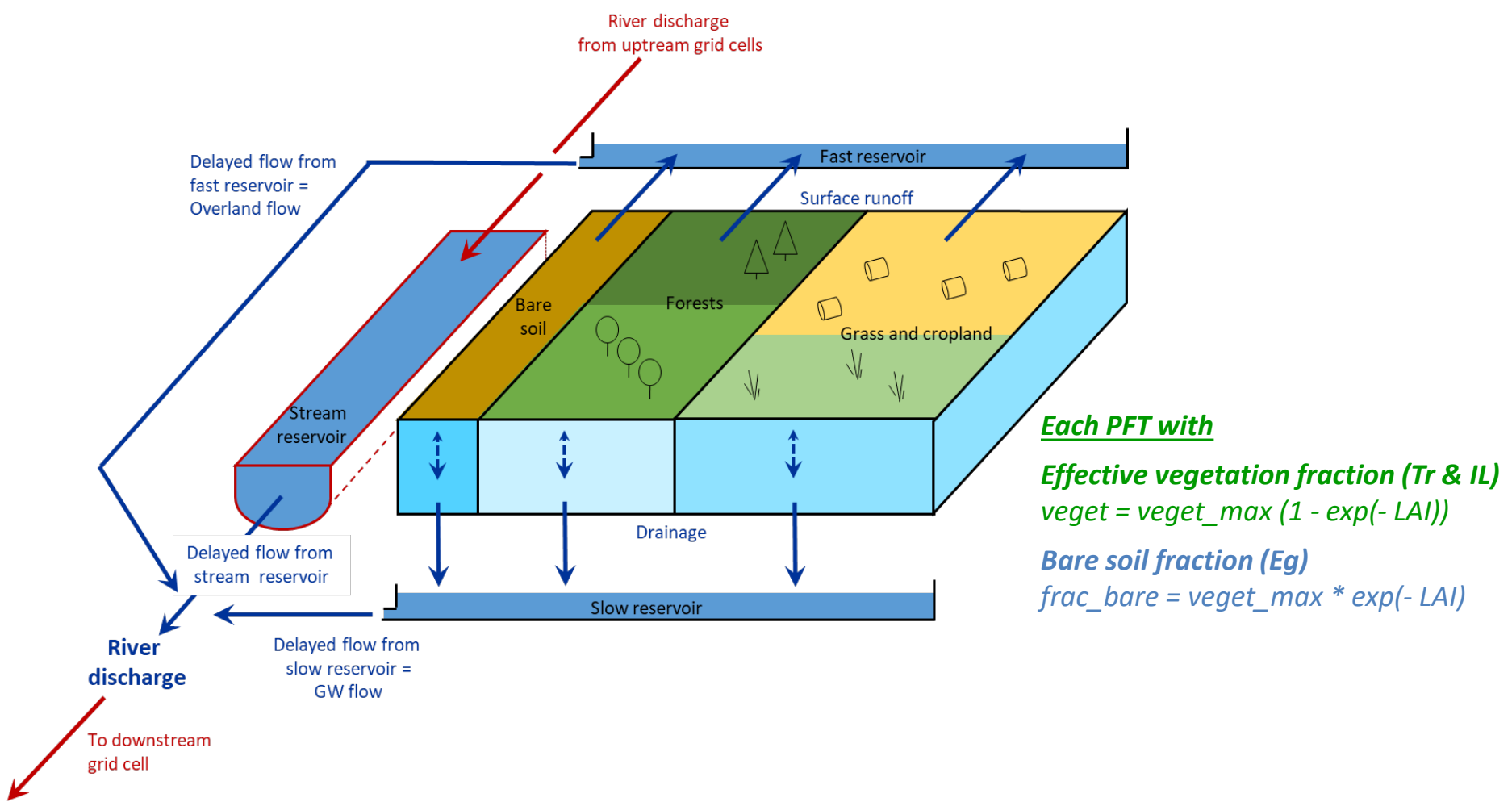
#### 1.1 Olson map

A map at 5km resolution on a Goode homolosine projection with the dominant Olson class has been generated by Nicolas Viovy based on a 1km IGBP map. The map is available on the common repository of ORCHIDEE forcing files on CCRT, IDRIS and other platforms. It is also available [here](#). This map contains 94 land categories. The conversion from Olson to PFT categories is done within the code of ORCHIDEE. Up to the version 1.9.5.2, there was a bug when converting Olson category 79 (warm C4 woody savanna). It was distributed into tropical broad-leaved raingreen (40%) and C3 grass (40%) while it should have been tropical broad-leaved raingreen (40%) and C4 grass (40%). This bug has been fixed in the version 1.9.6.

#### 1.2 PFT maps

# 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

In each PFT j  $R_j(z) = \exp(-c_j z)$

In each soil layer i  $n_{\text{root}}(i)$  is the mean root density  
with  $\sum_i n_{\text{root}}(i) = 1$



**It controls:**

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

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

**(2) the increase of Ks towards the surface**

# Interactions with the vegetation/LC

## 2. Vertically, ORCHIDEE defines a root density profile

In each PFT  $j$   $R_j(z) = \exp(-c_j z)$

In each soil layer  $i$   $n_{\text{root}}(i)$  is the mean root density  
with  $\sum_i n_{\text{root}}(i) = 1$



It controls:

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

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

(2) the increase of  $K_s$  towards the surface

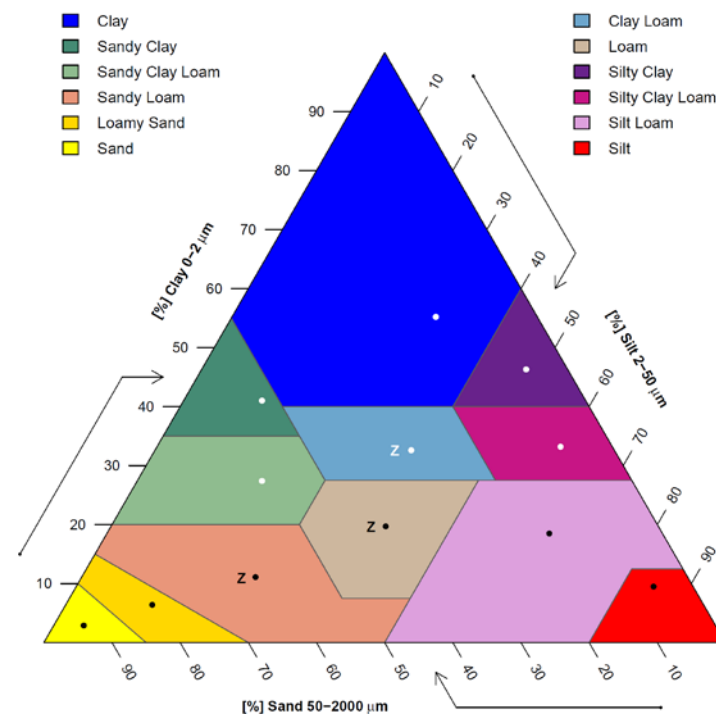
In the code,  $c_j$  is called `humcste` and defined in `constantes_mtc.f90`

It can be « externalized », with default values depending on soil hydrology/depth

```
REAL(r_std), PARAMETER, DIMENSION(nvmc) :: humcste_cwrr = &
  & (/ 5.0, 0.8, 0.8, 1.0, 0.8, 0.8, 1.0, &
  & 1.0, 0.8, 4.0, 4.0, 4.0 /)
!! Values for dpu_max = 2.0
```

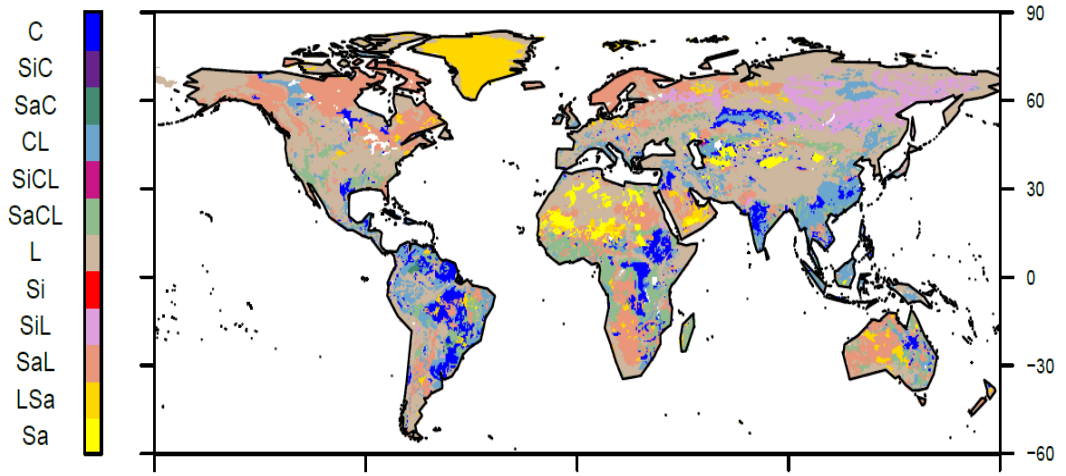
# The role of soil texture

- In hydrol, the main soil properties are:  $\theta_s$   $\theta_r$   $K_s^{ref}$   $n$   $\alpha (= -1/\psi_{ae})$   $\theta_w$   $\theta_f$
- clay\_fraction is a parameter for stomate
- 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** (granulometric composition)
- **Soil texture can be summarized by soil textural classes**
- By default, ORCHIDEE reads texture from the  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  map of Zobler (1986) **with 3 USDA classes**:  
Sandy Loam , Loam , Clay Loam
- Alternative soil map:  $1/12^\circ$  USDA map of Reynolds et al. (2000) **with 12 USDA classes**
- In each grid-cell, we use the dominant texture

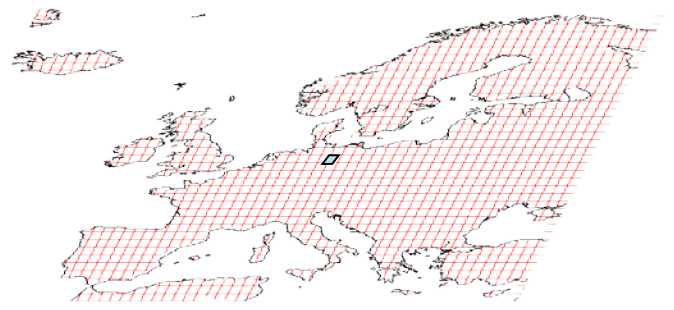


# The role of soil texture

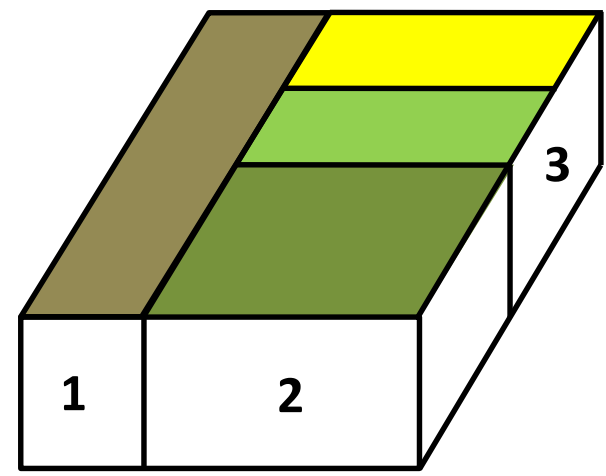
5' soil texture map of Reynolds et al. (2000)



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



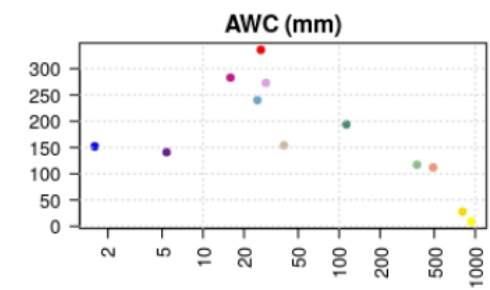
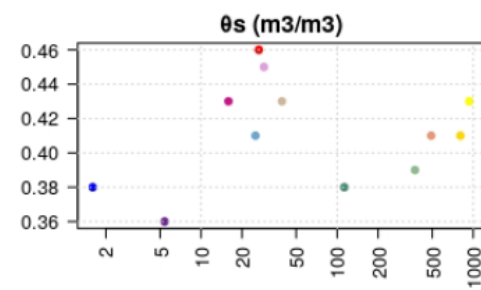
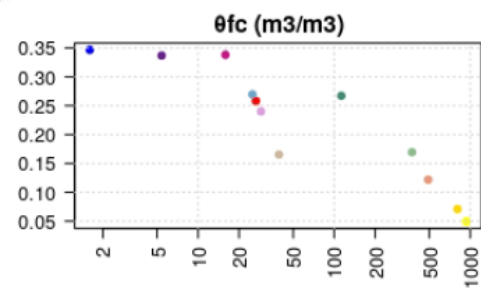
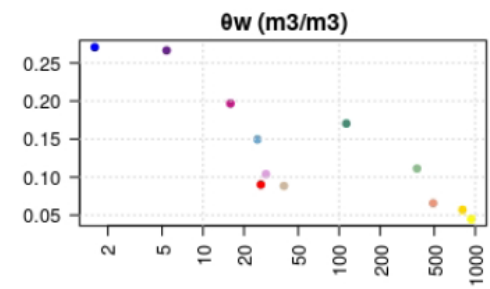
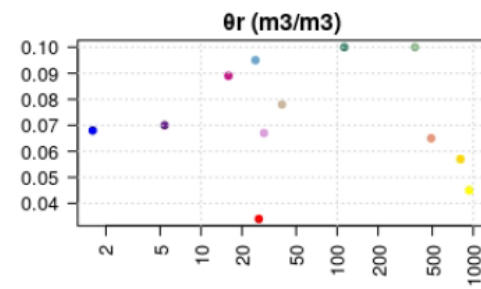
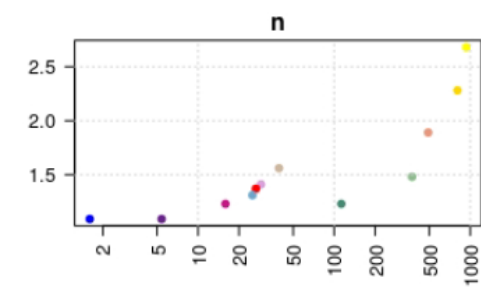
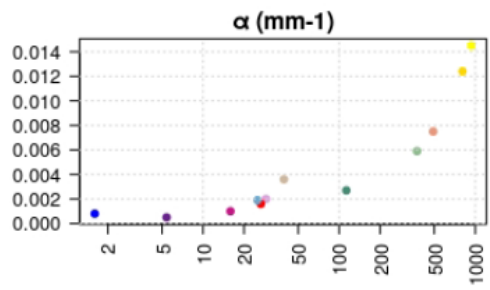
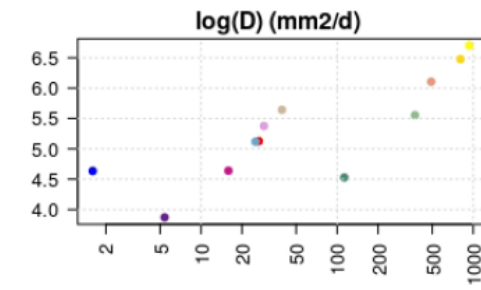
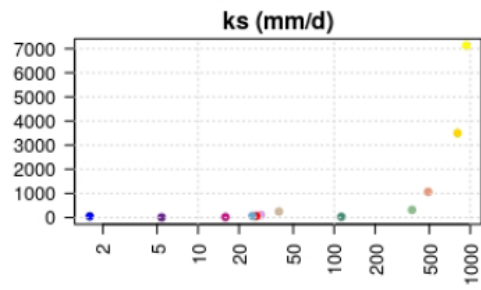
**Sub-grid scale heterogeneity:**  
3 soil columns based on PFTs  
with independent water budget  
**but same texture**



- 1: Bare soil PFT
- 2: All Forest PFTs
- 3: All grassland and cropland PFTs

# The role of soil texture

- In hydrol, the main soil properties are:  $\theta_s$   $\theta_r$   $K_s^{ref}$   $m$   $\alpha=1/\psi_{ae}$   $\theta_w$   $\theta_f$
- They are defined based on soil texture



Soil texture median diameter ( $\mu m$ )

Soil texture median diameter ( $\mu m$ )

Soil texture median diameter ( $\mu m$ )

## The role of soil texture

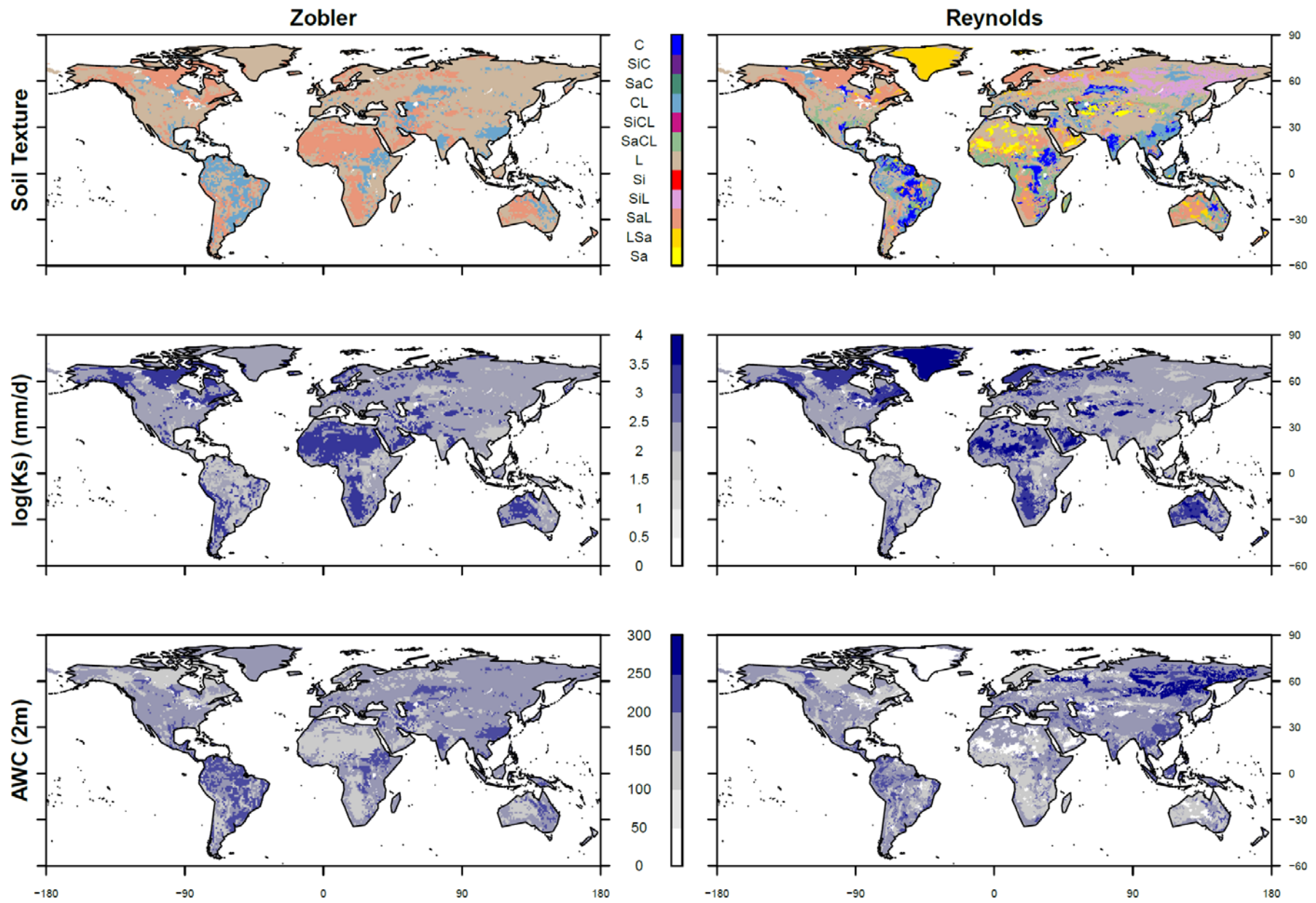
- In hydrol, the main soil properties are:  $\theta_s$   $\theta_r$   $K_s^{\text{ref}}$   $m$   $\alpha=1/\psi_{ae}$   $\theta_w$   $\theta_f$
- They are defined based on soil texture

### *Three ways of defining soil texture in run.def*

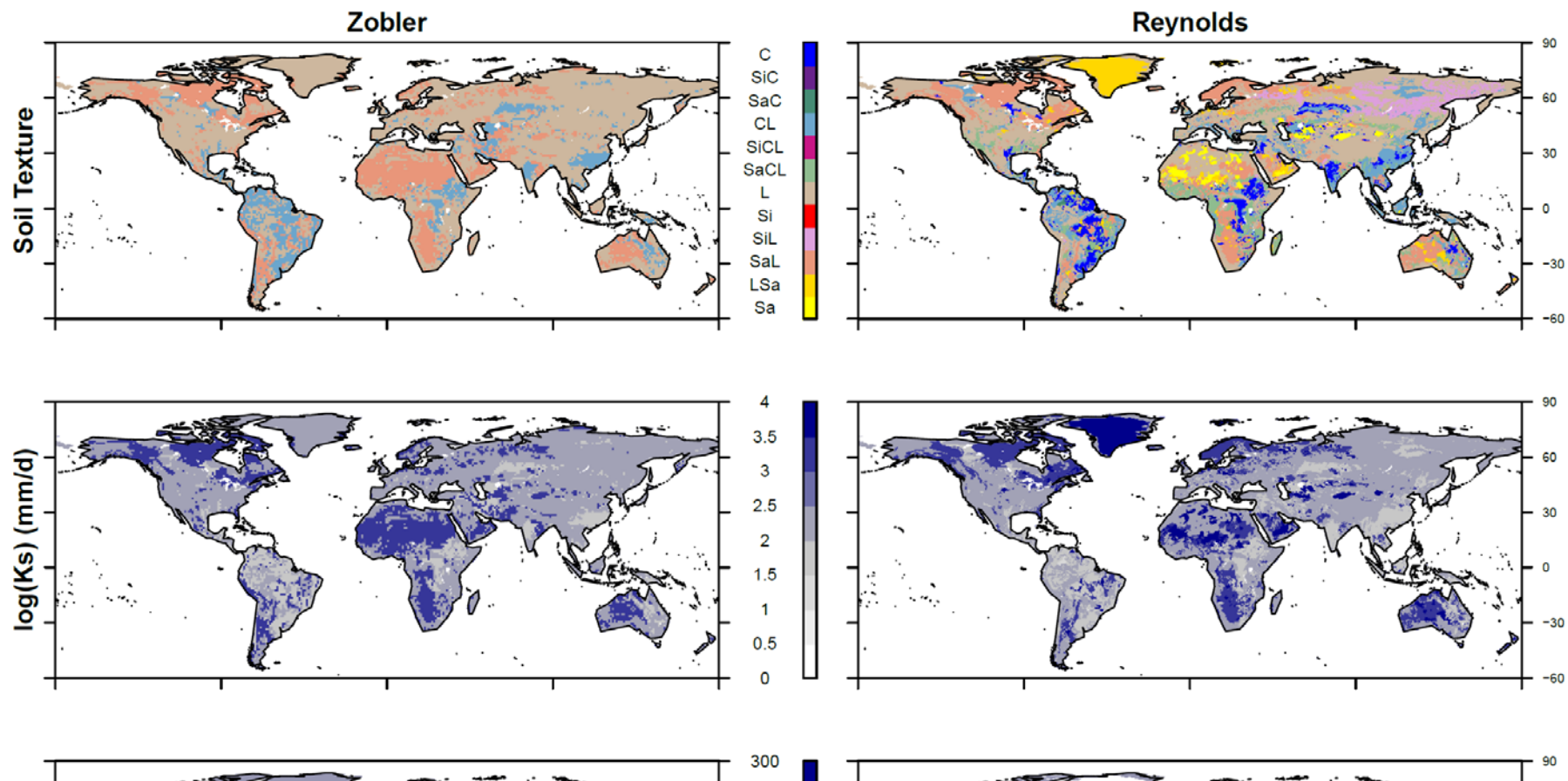
1. Default keywords: SOILTYPE\_CLASSIF = zobler; SOILCLASS\_FILE = soils\_param.nc
2. For Reynolds : SOILTYPE\_CLASSIF = usda ; SOILCLASS\_FILE = soils\_param\_usda.nc
3. IMPVEG=y, IMPSOIL=y, SOIL\_FRACTION = (x,y,z, etc.)
  - x,y,z are areal fraction allocated to the soil textural classes defined by your selected map
  - x,y,z are not % sand, silt, clay defining your soil's texture, despite the fact that this option is primarily intended for 0D simulations
  - to get the soil properties of one texture class, set SOIL\_FRACTION = (1,0,0, ...0...), and use the externalization to redefine the 1st value of the vectors defining soil properties



# The role of soil texture



# The role of soil texture



The impact of these maps on the water fluxes simulated by ORCHIDEE is analyzed in  
**Tafasca et al. 2019, HESSD**

<https://www.hydrol-earth-syst-sci-discuss.net/hess-2019-305/>

# Soil hydrology in a nutshell

- **During a time step, the soil hydrology scheme :**
  - Updates the soil moisture
  - 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
  - Lot of debugging over the past years
- **You can adapt the behavior of the 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!)

**Thank you for your attention**  
**Questions ?**



**ORCHIDEE**  
LAND SURFACE MODEL