# Microsoft Research Faculty. Summit 2014 15TH ANNUAL

## Numerical Modeling of Ecohydrological Processes and Contaminant Transport Using Microsoft Azure Cloud



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## Three Grand Challenges in Hydrological Sciences

- Water Cycle: An Agent of Change
- Water and Life
- Clean Water for People and Ecosystems

– National Research Council (2012)

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE Hydrologic Sciences

> NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL of the nutrowic academies

## China Water Crisis: Water Scarcity & Water Pollution

Water Pollution Control Action Plan Trillion RMB

LETTERS I BOOKS I POLICY FORUM I EDUCATION FORUM I PERSPECTIVES



edited by Jennifer Sills

#### China's "Love Canal" Moment?

IN FEBRUARY 2013, A POSTING IN CHINA'S BURGEONING BLOGOSPHERE ACCUSED BUSINESS owners in Shandong Province of disposing waste water through injection wells and contaminating shallow groundwater (1). This seemingly innocuous message, describing a practice that is not uncommon, ignited a firestorm on the Internet (2). The outburst of condemnation and



**Call to action.** A child protests in the Love Canal neighborhood in 1978.

concern caught many observers by surprise and reached the uppermost echelon of the Chinese government (3). Du Ying, Vice Chair of the powerful National Development and Reform Commission, declared that "China needs a law specifically designed for groundwater protection" (4).

Groundwater provides about 20% of total water supplies for China, and 50 to 80% of water in water-scarce north and northwest regions of the country (5). However, the outlook for groundwater quality is bleak. According to the latest round of water well sampling in 2011 in more than 200 cities and administrative regions by China's Ministry of Land and Resources, fully 55% of more than 4700 samples indicated groundwater of category IV or V [on a scale of I to V from the best to poorest quality (6)]. Still, no one knows the true extent and severity of groundwater pollution in China.

It is imperative that the Chinese government move aggressively and assertively to combat groundwater pollution. The challenges and action of the United States and other developed countries should serve as an example.

The United States alone has spent hundreds of billions of dollars on detecting, monitoring, assessing, and remediating contaminated groundwater since the 1970s (7), when groundwater

- China Ministry of Environmental Protection, "National Quality Standard for Ground Water (GB/T 14848-93)" (1994).
- National Research Council, "Alternatives for managing the nation's complex contaminated groundwater sites" (National Academies Press, Washington, DC, 2012).

#### The True Challenge of Giant Marine Reserves

THE NEWS FOCUS STORY "GIANT MARINE reserves pose vast challenges" (C. Pala, 8 February, p. 640) discusses the potential role of large marine reserves in conserving pelagic species. We highlight three points that are misrepresented in the article.

First, the story describes tropical tuna stocks in the Indian Ocean as "depleted," implying that they are severely overexploited (1). Fishery overcapacity is certainly worrisome, but these stocks are not currently over-exploited (2). This clarification by no means precludes appropriate use of area-based management, but stock status is central to weighing different management options.

Second, the article claims that "mainstream marine biologists are more optimistic" about the efficacy of the Chagos Islands reserve because "tuna there don't necessarily swim vast distances." We disagree. Juvenile

## *Science* 340 May 17, 2013

#### C. Zheng & J. Liu

## Case Study 1: Numerical Modeling of Ecohydrological Processes in Heihe River Basin

## The second largest inland river basin In China

### Total Area: 130,000 km<sup>2</sup>









## Landscape of Heihe River Basin



Vertical profile in the mountains



## **Heihe Research Program**

- An on-going major research programme of National Natural Science Foundation of China (2011-2018)
- Conduct an integrative study of ecological and hydrologic processes in Heihe River Basin toward more sustainable water resources management
- Led by Prof. Cheng Guodong of Chinese Academy of Sciences and advised by an expert panel of multidisciplinary scientists
- 200 million RMB core funding (~32 million USD)

## **Overall Objectives**

 Integrate observation, experimentation, and modeling
 Improve predictive capability
 Increase water use efficiency

Toward more sustainable water resources in arid ecosystems



## HEIFLOW (Hydrological-Ecological Integrated watershed-scale FLOW model)

- Physically-based distributedparameter 3D numerical model
- Include all key components of the hydrological cycle
- 2D overland flow and river channel hydrodynamics
- Saturated/unsaturated zones
- 3D solute and heat transport
- Modules for agricultural crops and desert vegetation



## Heihe River Basin Geodatabase



#### Surface water :(2-D)

Waterbody (Polygon feature class): lake, ponds,

(swamps)

Waterline (Line feature class): streams, rivers WaterPoint (Point feature class): springs, water withdrawal/discharge locations Watershed (Polygen feature class): drainage areas

#### Groundwater: (2-D, 3-D)

Aquifer (Polygon feature class): confined and unconfined Well (Point feature class): monitoring, water supply, and irrigation wells

Borehole (Boreholelog Table): vertical data

Boreline and BorePoint: 3D (z-enbled) line and point

feature class

GeoArea, GeoPoint

## "Digital Heihe" Datasets

Aquifer

#### **DIGITAL RIVER BASIN** http://westdc.westgis.ac.cn/ Foundation data Landcover DEM, Topographic, Hydrological map Earth observation data Landsat, ASTER, QuickBird—— Thematic data Geology, Hydrology, Vegetation—— **Observation data** Meteorology, Hydrology, Groundwater-Geology control points **Experimental data** Field Survey, test—— Model data Radiation, Land assimilation, SWAT—— Hydrogeological map

## 3D View of Subsurface with Cross Sections

#### Legends

- Observation well
- Meteorological Station
- River
  - Glacier and snow
- Hydrogeological Units
  Quaternary aquifer
  - Quaternary aquit
  - Tertiary aquifer
  - Bedrock



Middle & Lower Heihe River Basin Model Domain: ~100,000 km<sup>2</sup>

Grid spacing: 1 km by 1 km Rows: 548 Columns: 404 Layers: 5

### Surface Water Model for Middle/Lower Heihe



### **Discretization and Parameter Zonation for Subsurface Model**



Layer 1	2	3	4	5
Unconfined aquifer	Aquitard 1	Shallow confined	Aquitard 2	Deep confined

## **HEIFLOW on the Cloud**





#### HPC on Microsoft Azure for ecohydrological modeling





#### Deployment of HPC on Azure for ecohydrological modeling



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#### Deployment of HPC on Azure for ecohydrological modeling

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#### **Model Calibration:**

- (a) Comparison between contour maps of computed and observed groundwater levels;
- (b) Comparison between computed and observed heads at monitoring wells;
- (c) Comparison of computed and observed streamflows and evapotranspiration



## **Simulated Evapotranspiration Dynamic Patterns (2000)**



## Element Model - Calibration

Table 1Comparison of Runtimes of One Model Run				
Computer	Time (s)			
Q6700 Core 2 Quad (2.66 GHz) GoGrid Cloud virtual machine Xeon (3.0 GHz) Q9650 Core 2 Quad (3.0 GHz) i7 (3.33 GHz)	85 81 73 71 58			



Rapid Communication/

#### Using a Cloud to Replenish Parched Groundwater Modeling Efforts

by Randall J. Hunt<sup>1</sup>, Joseph Luchette<sup>2</sup>, Willem A. Schreuder<sup>3</sup>, James O. Rumbaugh<sup>4</sup>, John Doherty<sup>5,6</sup>, Matthew J. Tonkin<sup>7</sup>, and Douglas B. Rumbaugh<sup>4</sup>



Comparison of parameter estimation runtimes obtained from a dedicated local desktop array and virtual machines run on the cloud

## Results of sensitivity analysis on Cloud



## Case Study 2: Thorium Reactive Transport Modeling

- Baotou tailings pond, one of the largest tailings in China piled above ground surfaces.
- Most productive "secondary mines", approximately 11 floors high!
- Of greatest concern is the potential for radioactive pollution of the Yellow River nearby which is the primary water source for 150 million people.



## **Modeling Contaminant Transport and Remediation**





Zheng 1990 Zheng and Wang 1999 Zheng 2010 Zheng et al. 2013

## **MT3DMS**

A Modular 3-D Multi-Species Transport Model for Simulation of Advection, Dispersion and Chemical Reactions of Contaminants in Groundwater Systems



A reactive multicomponent transport model for saturated porous media

## **MT3DMS-Based Transport Modeling Tools**



#### Conceptual model for acidic leachate attenuation



## Numerical model

- Transported chemical undergoes surface complexation, with mineral dissolution/precipitation.
- Governing equation:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (D_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial x_j}) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (v_i C) - \mathbf{R}$$

Single species transport model in MT3DMS with advection, multiple species reactive modeling in PHREEQC.



Porosity =0.3

Kz=0.04 m/d

#### **Architecture of Modeling Application on Azure**

## Job manager

- Communicate between Web portal and request queue.
- > Coordinating computation workloads.
- > Monitoring the execution status.

### Task queue

- Communicate among Job manager, Slave VMs and Dropbox/GUIs.
- Releasing computation-input/-output queues according to bat files.



### **Simulation Results**

**Conservative transport plumes** 



#### Thorium reactive transport plumes



FD, TVD, split-operator algorithm
 72 layers, 745 columns

## Sensitivities of thorium mass-fluxes into collection-trench to 24 hydrogeological parameters



## **Execution Time and Costs**



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## Thank You!



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