

# Hydrology in the Community Land Model

#### Sean Swenson Terrestrial Sciences Section







# The **Community Land Model** is a... ?

a) Hydrology model
b) Land Surface model
c) Terrestrial Processes model
d) Biogeochemical cycling model
e) Atmospheric lower boundary condition



# The movement of **water** is inextricably linked to the flow of **energy** and the life cycle of **vegetation**





The *modeling* of the movement of water is inextricably linked to the *modeling* of the flow of energy and the *modeling* of the life cycle of vegetation









## **The Water Balance**

# $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{R} + \Delta \mathbf{S}$

P = Precipitation E = Evapotranspiration R = Runoff S = Storage



# **Different Models, Different Foci**

## Flood Forecasting $\Rightarrow$ **R**

## NWP, Climate Prediction $\Rightarrow$ **E**

Drought Monitoring, Groundwater **⇒ S** 



# **Different Foci, Different Models**

**1-D** ⇒ Darcy Flow (Infiltration/Recharge)

### **2-D** $\Rightarrow$ River Routing

**3-D** ⇒ Saturated Flow (Groundwater)



# **CLM** is tasked with simulating *all* of these phenomena...

# ...therefore, *trade-offs* will be made.



# Precipitation

 $\Rightarrow$  Partitioning between rain and snow, or between stratiform and convective

⇒ Canopy interception, storage, and throughfall



# **Evaporation**

⇒ Evaporation from Soil / Canopy / Snow / Surface Water

⇒ Transpiration from vegetation







Runoff
 ⇒ Surface Runoff (Infiltration and/or
Saturation Excess)
 ⇒ Subsurface Runoff (Baseflow)
 ⇒ River Routing







# Storage

- ⇒ Soil Moisture
- ⇒ Groundwater and water table depth
- $\Rightarrow$  Perched water table
- ⇒ Canopy water
- ⇒ Surface water
- ⇒ Snow



#### **Storage Components**









# **Surface Processes**

- Precipitation partitioning
- Canopy hydrology
- Snow hydrology
- Surface runoff
- Infiltration
- Surface water (wetlands)
- Flooding
- River routing



# **Canopy Hydrology**

- Interception / throughfall
- Leaf water storage and wetted fraction
- Evaporation from leaf surfaces



Canopy Hydrology And Evapotranspiration Partitioning



# **Ground Evaporation:** 24%

**Canopy Evaporation:** 23%

**Transpiration:** 53%









### **Leaf Wetted Area**

Leaf Wetted Fraction





Canopy Hydrology And Evapotranspiration Partitioning



# **Ground Evaporation:** 21%

**Canopy Evaporation:** 18%

Transpiration: 61%



# **Snow Hydrology**

- Density of new snow.
- Interception and canopy storage
- Multi-layer structure
- Compaction and metamorphosis
- Radiative transfer including aerosol effects
- Fractional snow covered area
- Subgrid surface energy and moisture fluxes



## **Snow model**

Treats processes such as:

- Accumulation
- Snow melt and refreezing
- Snow aging
- Water transfer across layers
- Snow compaction:
  - destructive metamorphism due to wind
  - overburden
  - melt-freeze cyclesI
- Sublimation
- Aerosol deposition

Up to 5-layers of varying thickness





#### **Snow Radiative Transfer (SNICAR)**

- Snow darkening from deposited black carbon, mineral dust, and organic matter
- Vertically-resolved solar heating in the snowpack
- Snow aging (evolution of effective grain size) based on:
  - Snow temperature and temperature gradient
  - Snow density
  - Liquid water content and
  - Melt/freeze cycling





#### Fractional Snow Covered Area

- Describes sub-gridscale snow cover
- Based on snow water equivalent (SWE)
- Dependent on snow history
- Dependent on snow trajectory



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# **Subgrid Snowpack and Surface Fluxes**



# **CLM Canopy Snow Treatment**

• Introduced canopy snow storage variable, and related fluxes



Current Canopy Hydrology

Snow Veg. Implementation

# Evergreen Snow Interception Measurements

- More representative of in-situ snow canopy storage
- (previous snow albedo present only in freezing temps.

Canopy Interception of Unmodified CLM, Improved CLM, and Observation (mm)





# **Surface Water Processes**

- Surface runoff
- River routing
- Infiltration
- Surface water (wetlands)
- Flooding



# **River model**

- Routes runoff to the oceans
- Flow directions are obtained from an input dataset
- Calculates water volume and discharge





### Model for Scale Adaptive River Transport



Proudly Operated by Battelle Since 1965



- Hillslope routing accounts for event dynamics and impacts of overland flow on soil erosion, nutrient loading, etc.
- Sub-network routing: scale adaptive across different resolutions to reduce scale dependence
- Main channel routing: explicit estimation of in-stream status (velocity, water depth, etc).

(Li et al., JHM, 2013)



Microtopography PDF

#### (Subgrid-scale) Surface Water Storage

• Uses a statistical description of the **microtopography** to determine volume/area relations and connectivity

• When storage is large, inundated areas are well connected, and surface runoff is high.

• When storage is small, inundated areas are generally not connected, and surface runoff is low.





# **Subsurface Processes**

- Soil evaporation
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Rooting distribution and transpiration
- Soil moisture redistribution
- Recharge
- Groundwater and water table
- Lateral subsurface flow



# **Soil Moisture Redistribution**

- Hydrostatic equilibrium form of Richards equation
- Moisture form of Richards equation with adaptive sub-stepping



# Soil model

#### Treats processes such as:

- Soil moisture redistribution
  - Infiltration
  - Darcy flow
  - Recharge
- Soil moisture phase change
- Soil temperature redistribution

Default structure has 20 layers of variable thickness, spanning about 8 meters depth

• Thermal calculations use additional deep layers




a) Soil moisture (% saturation)

b) Soil temperature (°C)

Stippling indicates frozen soil



# Adaptive time stepping method for soil water distribution





### **Groundwater and Water Table Dynamics**

- bulk aquifer layer
- bedrock (zero vertical flux) lower boundary





#### zero flux



## **Soil Depth**

- deep soil / variable soil depth
- high vertical resolution soil



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#### PRELIMINARY GLOBAL MAP OF DTB ESTIMATES



#### **Overall Depth to Bedrock (~1 km resolution)**



Slide courtesy M.Brunke, U. Arizona



#### **Model Validation Tools**

Ideally, should be:

- Global
- Directly comparable to modeled process/state/flux
- Same spatial / temporal scale
- High accuracy
- Long record

In reality, no datasets meeting these criteria exist...







0.50

0.01

#### Soil Moisture Networks



#### Top panel: CLM soil moisture Bottom: Observed soil moisture





#### **River Discharge**





#### FLUXNET-MTE

Annual Mean Evapotranspiration

Top panel: FLUXNET-MTE Bottom: CLM





#### FLUXNET-MTE

Columbia River Basin Evapotranspiration

**Red: FLUXNET-MTE Blue/Green: CLM** 





#### **GRACE Total** Water Storage

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Mean Annual Amplitude of **Total Water Storage** 

**Top panel: GRACE Bottom: CLM** 





**GRACE Total** Water Storage

Columbia River Basin Total Water Storage

Red: GRACE Blue/Green: CLM





#### CLM Application Example: Anthropogenic Groundwater Withdrawal



Smoothed

GRACE - CLM4

NW Inde

Human-induced groundwater changes can be estimated by removing the CLM estimate of TWS from the GRACE estimate of TWS

GRACE TWSCLM TWSGroundwater





#### **Example I Effects of Parameter Change**





#### **Hydrologically Relevant Surface Data**





#### **Hydrologically Relevant Surface Data**





#### **Time Series**



Precipitation

































1.00

0.85 0.70 0.55 0.40

0.25

0.10

Water Table







The water table determines the fraction of the area that is saturated

## Saturated areas produce surface runoff



#### **Example: Effects of Modifying the Water Table**

## **ΔZWT = Qdrainage - Qrecharge**

#### **Qdrainage = A exp(-f z)**

#### **Qsurface = F exp(-g z) Pthroughfall**





Runoff







Water Table











### Example II Model Structural Change





#### **GRACE Water Storage Comparison**





#### **GRACE Water Storage Comparison**





#### **Spatially Variable Soil Depth**





#### **GRACE Water Storage Comparison**





#### **Current and Future Challenges**

- Subgrid heterogeneity and covariance of vegetation, soil moisture, surface water and snow
- Within-canopy turbulent fluxes
- Human management and withdrawals
- Groundwater dynamics
- Dynamic lakes
- Hydrological response to land cover change





