



# Land management scenario modeling for alleviating impacts on water resources

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September, 20. 2018



Soil & Water  
Assessment Tool

**SWAT**



**PEER**



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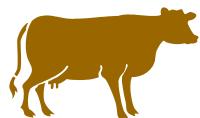
**Analysis of the main results and conclusion**

## The objectives of IMAS (*Integrated Modelling of Agricultural Scenarios*)

Why for the IMAS<sup>1</sup> decision making method ?

- ✓ Supply water managers with an integrated and **collaborative approach**
- ✓ Assess **land-use and farming systems** and agricultural practices

-> Thus, the **impact of land cover and plant cover on the nutrients, pesticide and hydrological transport** in the surface waters has to be defined with **spatialized parametrization** and the SWAT model calibrated on the most sensitive spatialized parameters



<sup>1</sup>(Vernier, Leccia-Phelpin et al. 2017)

- ✓ The **agricultural practices** defined by crop \* soil types are implemented and spatialized at the HRU level into mgt files through the **Generator of landuse version 2 (GenLU2)**
  
- ✓ **Sensitivity analysis, calibration and validation** are lead on a **large number of spatialized parameters**. Two non-intrusive programs are tested for sensitivity analysis and calibration/validation

## Objectives

## Methods

## Material

## Implementation

## Calibration

## Analysis

Parameters to calibrate

Sensitivity analysis, calibration & validation processes

Availability of obs. data

Hydrological par.

### Stream flow calibration

Calibrated hydrological parameters



Nitrate par.

### Nitrate Cc in fresh waters

Calibrated hydrological parameters  
Calibrated nitrate parameters



Plant growth par.

### Crop yields

Calibrated hydrological parameters  
Calibrated nitrate parameters  
Calibrated plant growth parameters



Pesticide par.

### Pesticide Cc in fresh waters

Calibrated hydrological parameters  
Calibrated nitrate parameters  
Calibrated plant growth parameters  
Calibrated pesticide parameters

4 gauging stations (2006 – 2012)  
+ 2 at the basin upstream (inland)

57 water quality stations  
for nitrate monitoring

Agricultural census refined  
at the soil type by expertise

### Water quality monitoring st. (#)

Glyphosate	32
Metolachlor	42
MCPA	44
Aclonifen	35
Chlorpyriphos-ethyl	44
Isoproturon	44
Mancozeb	15
Methaldehyde	32
Tebuconazole	35

## Methods of calibration of the SWAT model



- ✓ **The Sequential Uncertainty Fitting (SUFI2) algorithm part of SWAT-CUP**  
*(Abbaspour, 2013)*

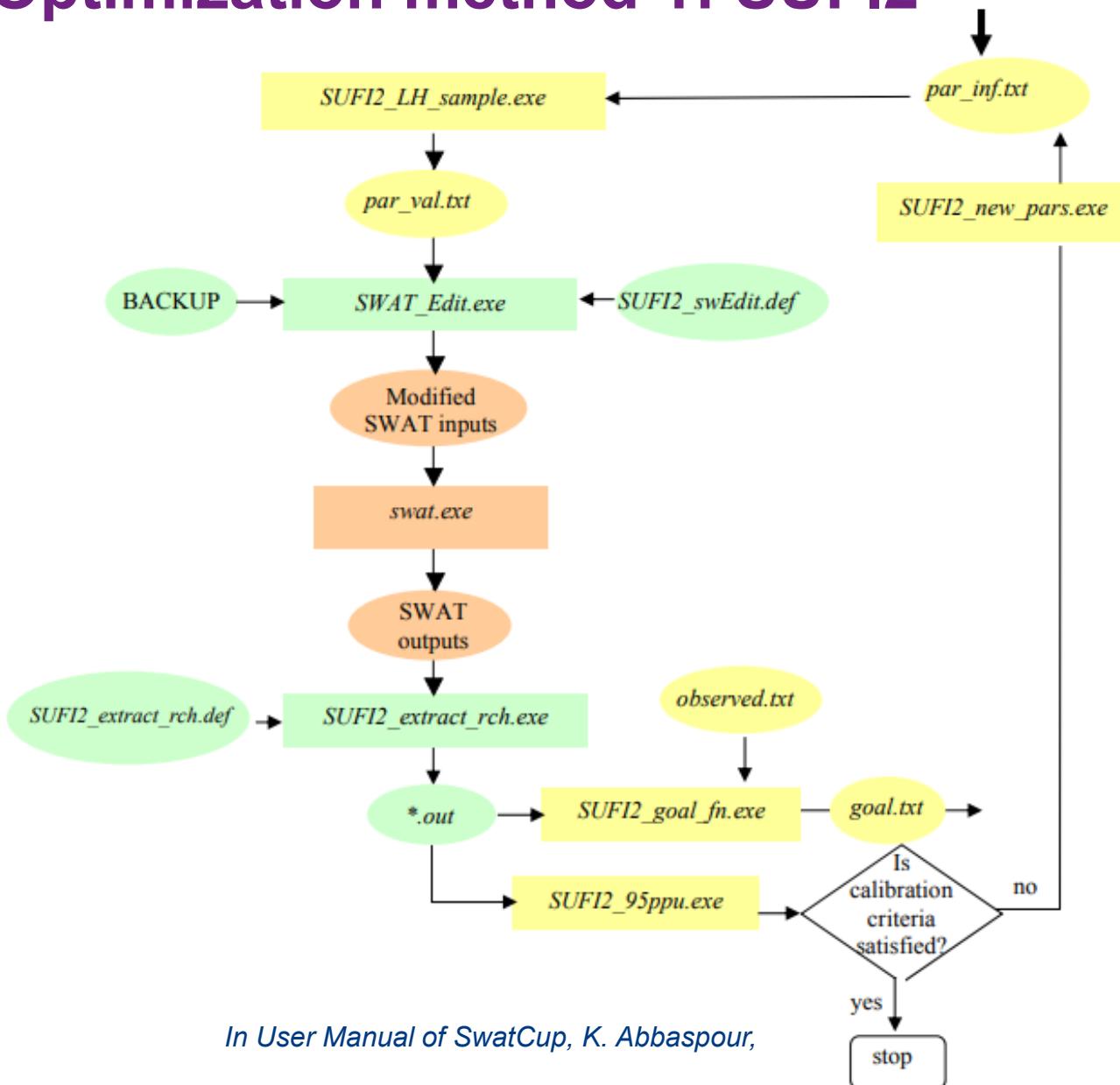


- ✓ **PEST: Parameter Estimation and Uncertainty Analysis (PEST) tool**  
*(Doherty, 2005)*

# Optimization method 1: SUFI2

Written by K. Abbaspour,  
dedicated to SWAT  
calibration and uncertainty  
analysis

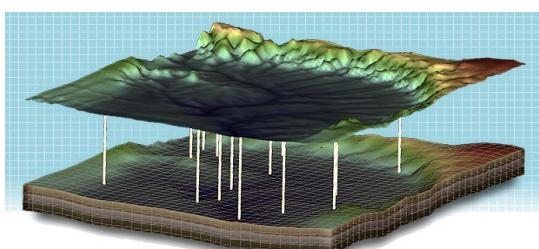
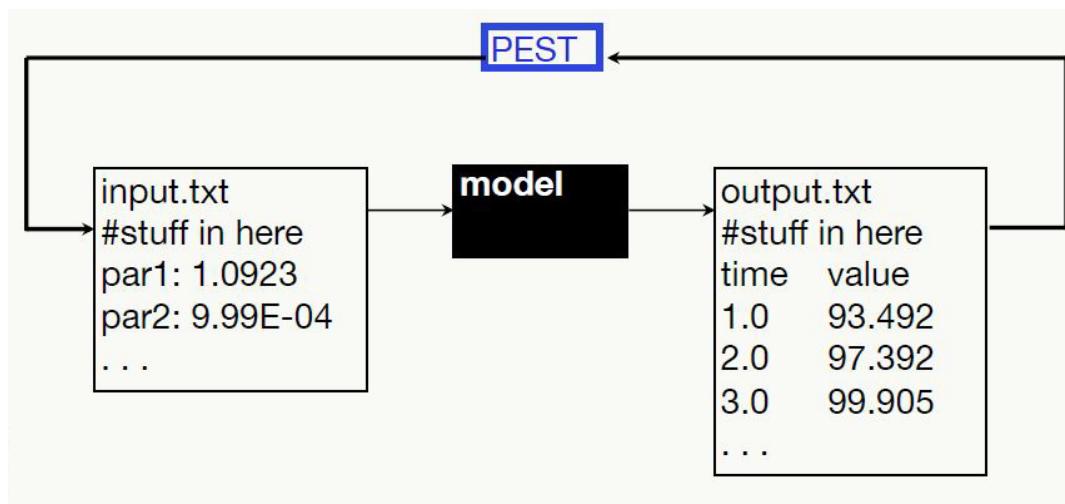
- copies and writes into SWAT model input files,
- reads SWAT model output
- executes SWAT and runs it many times (pleasingly parallel)



# Optimization method 2 : PEST (Parameter Estimator)

Written by J. Doherty, Model-independent parameter estimation code

- writes ASCII model input,
- reads ASCII model output
- Takes control of a model and runs it many, many times (pleasingly parallel)



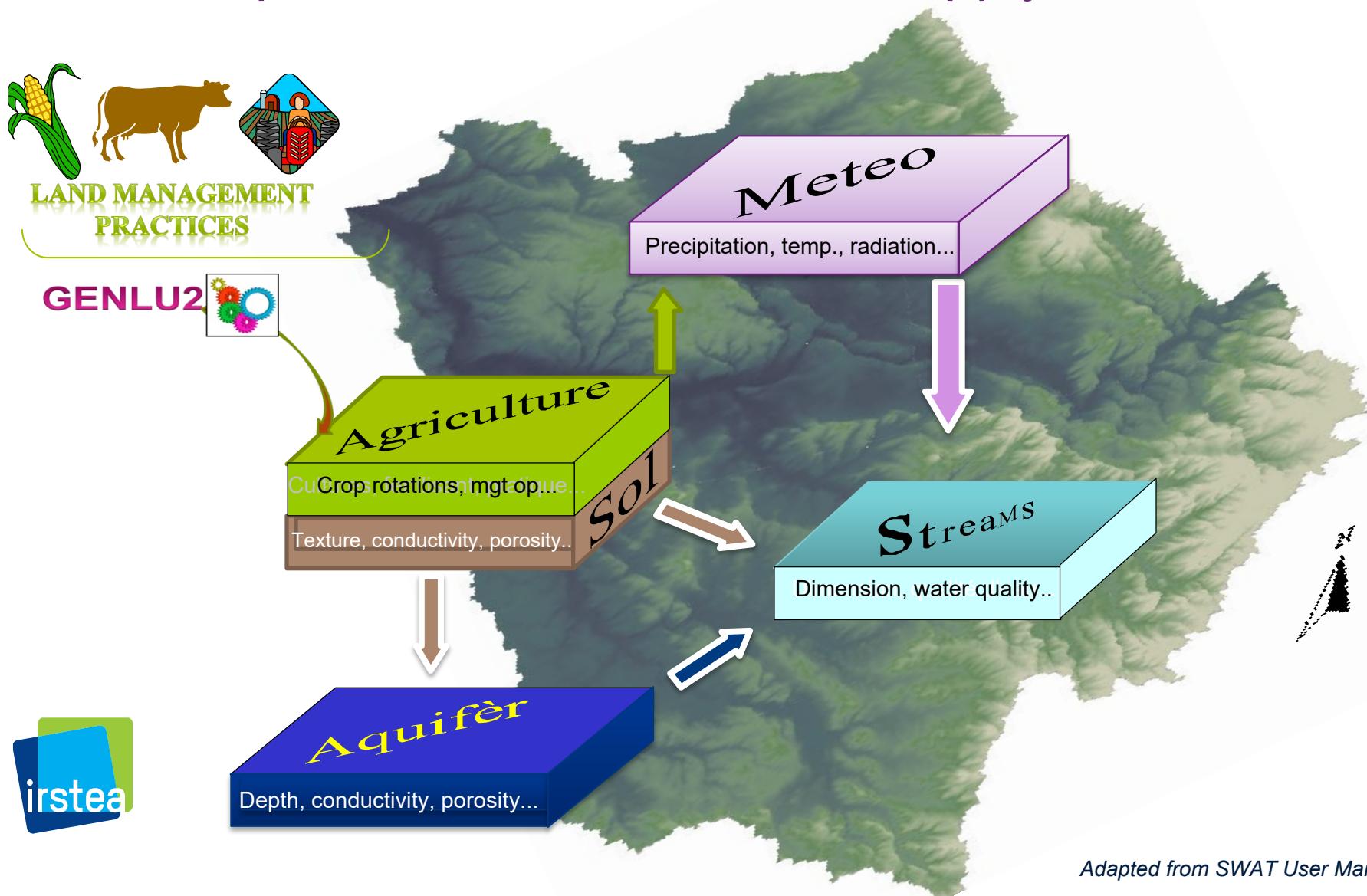
PEST is the industry standard software package for parameter estimation and uncertainty analysis of complex environmental and other computer models.

PEST is:

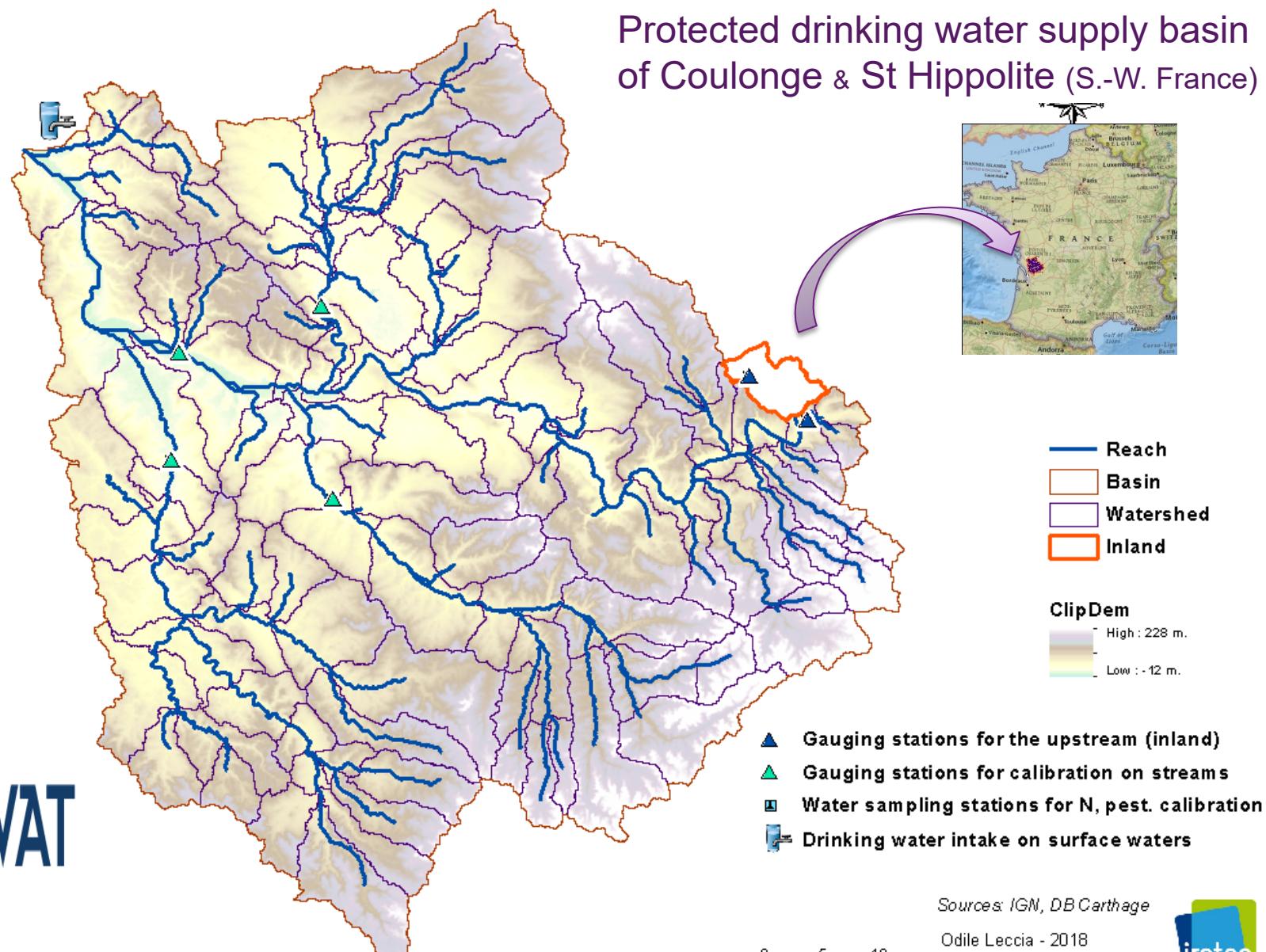
- state-of-the-art;
- comprehensively documented;
- accompanied by a plethora of utility programs that support its use in conjunction with widely-used groundwater and surface water models;
- free.

*In User Manual of PEST, J. Doherty*

# SWAT Implementation on a water supply catchment file



## Spatialization of the observed data

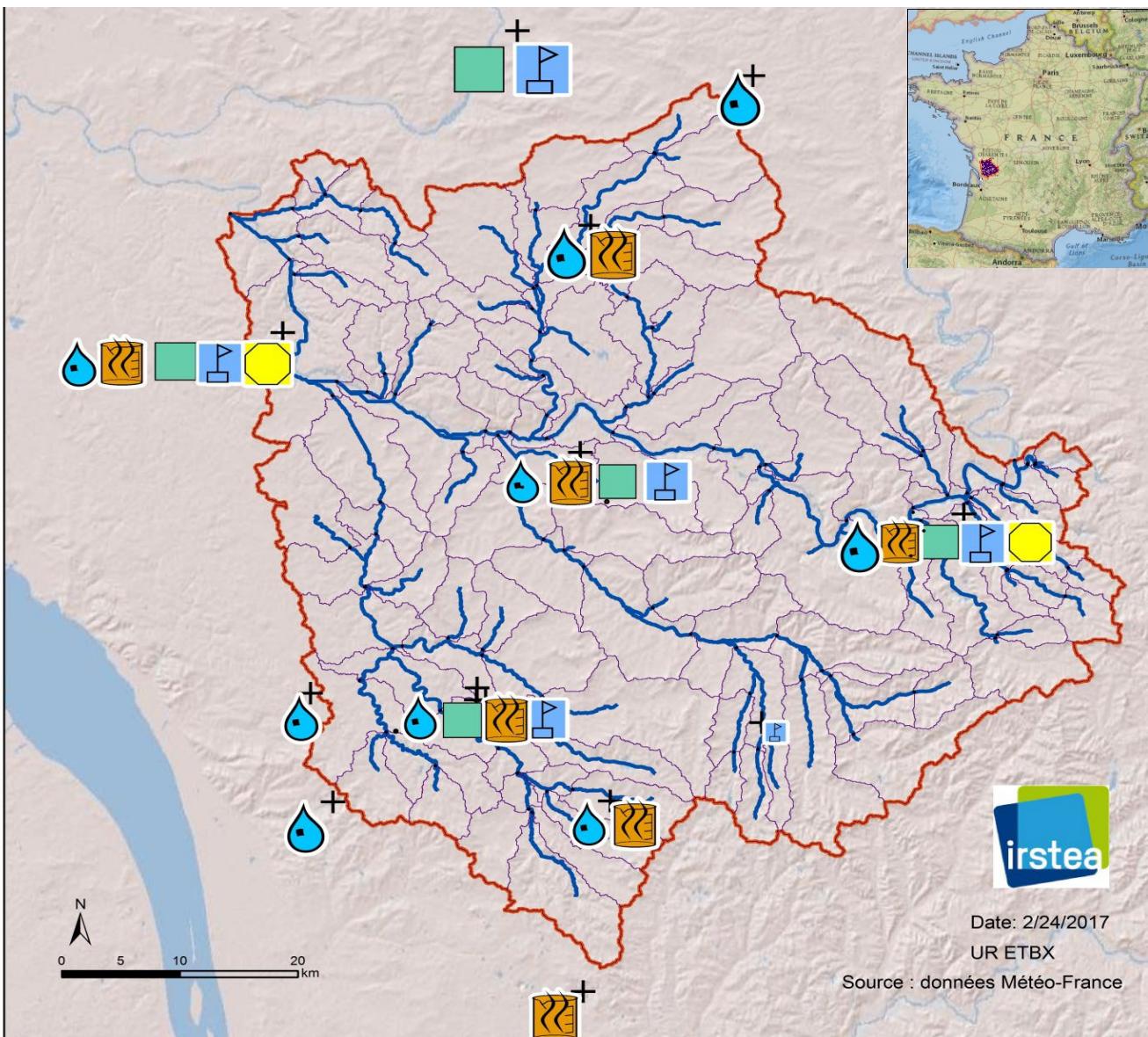


# Weather parameter spatialization

## Spatialization of daily time serie climate parameters

- Precipitation
- Temperatures (min/max)
- Humidity
- Solar radiation
- Wind speed

— Water streams  
—— Subbasins



# Calibration on hydrological parameters

Parameter	Physical explanation	Spatialisation	Number of par.
CN2	Initial SCS runoff curve number for soil moisture condition II	By soil type	9
CNOP	Updated Curve Number (CN2) in plant, tillage and harvest/ kill operations	By soil type for each crop growing on the HRU	100
CH_N1	Manning's value for the tributary channels	Uniform	1
GW_DELAY	Delay time for aquifer recharge	By contributory area at each station	4
ALPHA_BF	Baseflow alpha factor (1/days)	By contributory area at each station	4
GWQMN	Threshold depth of water in the shallow aquifer required for return flow to occur	By contributory area at each station	4
CHW2	Average width of main channel	Uniform	1
CHD	Depth of main channel	Uniform	1
CH_N2	Manning's value for the main channel	Uniform	1
ESCO	Soil evaporation compensation factor	By soil type	9
EPCO	Plant uptake compensation factor	Different for each crop rotation	37
MSK_X	Weighting factor to control impact of the storage time constant for low flow	Uniform	1
SURLAG	Surface runoff lag coefficient	Uniform	1
CANMX	Maximum canopy storage	Different for each crop rotation	37
OV_N	Manning's value for overland flow	Different for each crop rotation	37
SOL_KSAT	Saturated hydraulic conductivity	By soil type	9
SOL_AWC	Available water capacity of the soil layer	By soil type	9
SOL_BD	Moist bulk density	By soil type	9
SOL_Z	Depth from soil to bottom of layer	By soil type	9
BLAI	Maximum potential leaf area index	By crop	16
GW_REVAP	Groundwater « revap » coefficient	By contributory area at each station	4

# Calibration on nitrate parameters after spatialization

Parameter name	Physical explanation	Spatialization	Number of parameters
ANION_EXCL	Fraction of soil porosity from which anions are excluded	By soil type	9
CDN	Denitrification exponential rate coefficient	Uniform	1
CMN	Rate factor for humus mineralization of active organic nutrients	Uniform	1
ERORGN	Organic N enrichment ratio for loading with sediment	Uniform	1
HLIFE_NGW	Half-life of nitrate in the shallow aquifer (days)	By contributive area at each gauging station	4
NPERCO	Nitrate percolation coefficient	Uniform	1
N_UPDIS	Nitrate uptake distribution parameter	Uniform	1
RSDCO_PL	Residue decomposition coefficient	By crop type	16
SDNCO	Denitrification threshold water content	Uniform	1
SOL_CBN	Organic carbon content (% soil weight)	By soil type	9

# Sensitivity analysis

On 240 spatialized parameters

- 62 parameters with t-stat > 1
- 33 out of the 62 are CNOP<sup>(1)</sup> for each couple of crops\*soils

<sup>(1)</sup> CNOP: updated Curve Number (CN2) in plant, tillage and harvest/ kill operations



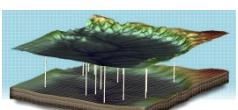
Parameter Name	t-Stat	P-Value	Parameter Name	t-Stat	P-Value
CNOP{..}.mgt	4.09	0.00	MSK_X.bsn	1.78	0.11
CANMX.hru	3.86	0.00	BLAI{..}.crop.dat	1.76	0.11
CNOP{..}.mgt	3.67	0.01	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.74	0.12
SOL_K(..).sol	3.41	0.01	SOL_BD(..).sol	1.71	0.12
CNOP{..}.mgt	3.26	0.01	CANMX.hru	1.69	0.13
BLAI{..}.crop.dat	3.09	0.01	GWQMN.gw	1.68	0.13
SOL_BD(..).sol	3.05	0.01	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.67	0.13
CANMX.hru	2.95	0.02	SURLAG.bsn	1.64	0.13
CNOP{..}.mgt	2.90	0.02	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.62	0.14
SOL_AWC(..).sol	2.86	0.02	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.60	0.14
CH_N2.rte	2.82	0.02	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.60	0.14
CNOP{..}.mgt	2.82	0.02	CANMX.hru	1.59	0.15
CANMX.hru	2.73	0.02	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.55	0.15
CNOP{..}.mgt	2.71	0.02	BLAI{..}.crop.dat	1.54	0.16
CNOP{..}.mgt	2.63	0.03	SOL_BD(..).sol	1.49	0.17
SOL_Z(..).sol	2.57	0.03	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.41	0.19
CANMX.hru	2.56	0.03	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.40	0.19
CH_D.rte	2.37	0.04	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.32	0.22
CNOP{..}.mgt	2.25	0.05	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.32	0.22
CNOP{..}.mgt	2.20	0.06	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.31	0.22
SOL_AWC(..).sol	2.18	0.06	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.31	0.22
SOL_Z(..).sol	2.16	0.06	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.26	0.24
CNOP{..}.mgt	2.00	0.08	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.26	0.24
SOL_K(..).sol	1.95	0.08	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.20	0.26
BLAI{..}.crop.dat	1.95	0.08	CANMX.hru	1.18	0.27
CNOP{..}.mgt	1.82	0.10	CN2.mgt	1.12	0.29
CNOP{..}.mgt	1.81	0.10	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.11	0.30
CNOP{..}.mgt	1.80	0.10	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.09	0.30
CNOP{..}.mgt	1.79	0.11	CNOP{..}.mgt	1.06	0.32
CNOP{..}.mgt	1.79	0.11	CANMX.hru	1.06	0.32
CN2.mgt			CN2.mgt	1.01	0.34
CNOP{..}.mgt			CNOP{..}.mgt	1.01	0.34

# Correlation matrix for 100 selected parameters

Nom param	BLAlvine	CNOPvine	CNOPprat	CNOPprat	CNOPrnge						
	Code PEST	113	1131	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1505	1507	155
BLAlvine	113	1.0E+00	-2.0E-01	4.4E-03	7.9E-03	1.4E-01	3.2E-03	-3.6E-02	4.4E-02	-7.6E-03	1.0E-01
CNOPvineChamp	1131	-2.0E-01	1.0E+00	-1.1E-01	1.1E-02	-5.4E-02	9.2E-03	-2.9E-02	-7.6E-02	-2.5E-02	3.0E-02
CNOPvineDHyLi	1133	4.4E-03	-1.1E-01	1.0E+00	-6.3E-04	-2.2E-02	1.9E-02	4.1E-02	-1.9E-02	-3.7E-02	4.3E-02
CNOPvineDsab	1134	7.9E-03	1.1E-02	-6.3E-04	1.0E+00	-8.5E-03	-1.3E-01	1.1E-02	5.4E-02	-7.0E-04	3.2E-02
CNOPvineGrMar	1135	1.4E-01	-5.4E-02	-2.2E-02	-8.5E-03	1.0E+00	-5.3E-02	-1.9E-01	3.2E-02	3.9E-02	-2.2E-02
CNOPvineGrSup	1136	3.2E-03	9.2E-03	1.9E-02	-1.3E-01	-5.3E-02	1.0E+00	5.7E-02	-1.8E-01	5.2E-02	-3.3E-02
CNOPvineTPBas	1137	-3.6E-02	-2.9E-02	4.1E-02	1.1E-02	-1.9E-01	5.7E-02	1.0E+00	-9.5E-02	5.0E-02	3.1E-02
CNOPpratGrMar	1505	4.4E-02	-7.6E-02	-1.9E-02	5.4E-02	3.2E-02	-1.8E-01	-9.5E-02	1.0E+00	-5.0E-01	1.3E-01
CNOPpratTPBas	1507	-7.6E-03	-2.5E-02	-3.7E-02	-7.0E-04	3.9E-02	5.2E-02	5.0E-02	-5.0E-01	1.0E+00	9.8E-02
CNOPrngeGrMar	155	1.0E-01	3.0E-02	4.3E-02	3.2E-02	-2.2E-02	-3.3E-02	3.1E-02	1.3E-01	9.8E-02	1.0E+00

Extraction of 10 \* 10 parameters out of 100 \* 100

In Rapport de stage, L. Santos



Model-Independent Parameter Estimation & Uncertainty Analysis  
PEST is the industry standard software package for parameter estimation and uncertainty analysis of complex environmental and other computer models.  
PEST has:  
• state-of-the-art;  
• interpretation documents;  
• comprehensive help system;  
• extensive user-defined options for use in conjunction with widely-used groundwater and surface water models;  
• fast.

➤ 33 out of the 62 are CNOP for each couple of crops\*soils

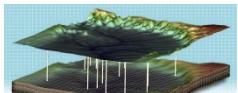
# Sensitivity analysis with PEST

→ With min. sensitivity  $10^{-3}$

→ Correlated parameters

(Absolute coefficient  $> 0.5$ )

Parameter_1	Parameter_2	Coeff	Abs Coef.
SOL_BD GrSup	SOL_AWC DHyLi	0.99	0.99
CHW2	SOL_KSAT ChamS	-0.88	0.88
SOL_BD ChamP	SOL_KSAT ChamP	-0.82	0.82
SOL_AWC GrMar	SOL_Z GrMar	0.82	0.82
ALPHA_BF Reste	GW_DELAY Reste	0.73	0.73
OV_Nrngrb	OV_Nvine	0.72	0.72
EPCOpppf	OV_Ncbot	0.71	0.71
SOL_AWC VaMaT	SOL_Z VaMaT	-0.65	0.65
OV_Nfrst	CNOPRnrgbDHyLi	0.65	0.65
BLAlvine	CANMXvine	-0.61	0.61
CNOPRnrgbChamP	CNOPSunfChamP	-0.61	0.61
CANMXprap	EPCOrngrb	0.6	0.6
EPCOvine	EPCOrngrb	-0.59	0.59
ALPHA_BF Né	SOL_Z ChamS	0.59	0.59
CNOPRngeGrMar	ESCO GrMar	-0.58	0.58
CNOPfrstTPBas	CNOPSunfTPBas	-0.56	0.56
ALPHA_BF Né	SOL_AWC VaMaT	0.55	0.55
SOL_AWC ChamS	CNOPSunfChamS	0.52	0.52
CNOPvineDHyLi	CNOPRngeVaMaT	-0.51	0.51
CNOPwcanChamP	CNOPSunfVaMaT	-0.51	0.51
CNOPpratGrMar	CNOPpratTPBas	-0.5	0.5
SOL_Z TPBas	SOL_BD TPBas	0.5	0.5



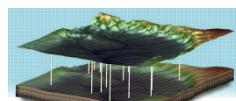
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PEST is:  

- open-source;
- cross-platform;
- accompanied by a portfolio of utility programs that support its use in conjunction with finite-difference and surface-water models;
- free.

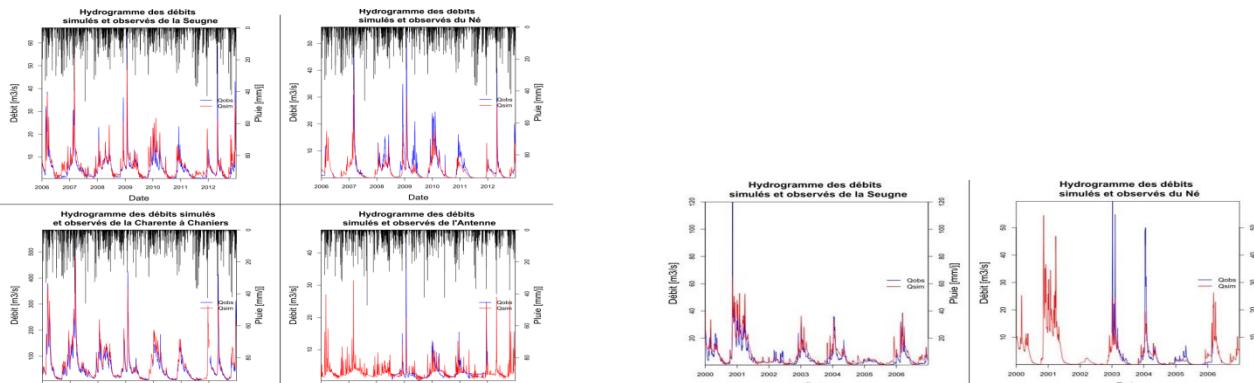
# SUFI2 vs PEST: Calibration & validation results

- Both methods produced acceptable fit at two stations with certain measures.
- They differ at two other stations with more doubts on the measures: SUFI performed better than PEST and vice versa.

Gauging station	PEST		SUFI2	
	NSE of log Q	NSE of natural Q	NSE of natural Q	R <sup>2</sup>
Antenne_SBV_23	0.33	0.43	0.50	0.64
Charente_SBV_26	0.85	0.67	0.83	0.85
Né_SBV_59	0.84	0.73	0.57	0.71
Seugne_SBV_54 lembeyre	0.70	0.74	0.65	0.70



PEST is the industry standard software package for parameter estimation and uncertainty analysis of hydrologic models. It is a model-independent Parameter Estimation and Uncertainty Analysis (PEST) tool.  
 • state-of-the-art:  
 • comprehensively documented;  
 • provides a graphical user interface and many programs that support its use in conjunction with widely-used groundwater and surface-water models;  
 • free.



## Calibrated parameters

## Calibration and validation process

## Results (ex.)

### Hydrological parameters

#### Stream flow calibration

Calibrated hydrological parameters

### Nitrate parameters

#### Nitrate Cc in fresh waters

Calibrated hydrological parameters  
Calibrated nitrate parameters

### Plant growth parameters

#### Crop yields

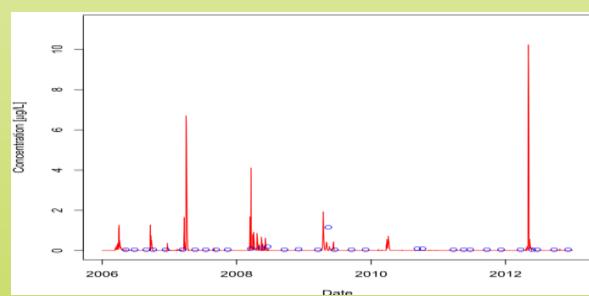
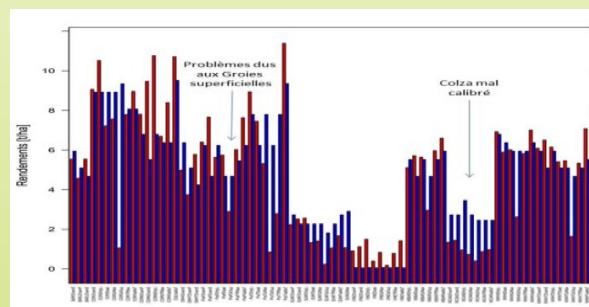
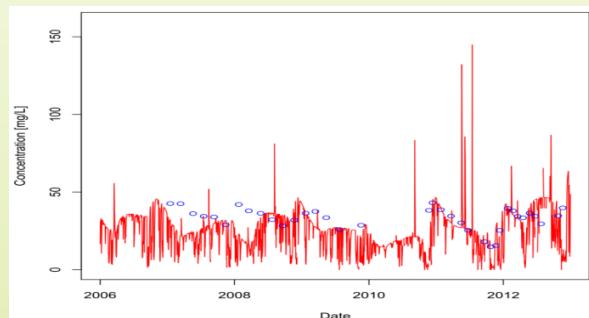
Calibrated hydrological parameters  
Calibrated nitrate parameters  
Calibrated plant growth parameters

### Pesticide parameters

#### Pesticide Cc in fresh waters

Calibrated hydrological parameters  
Calibrated nitrate parameters  
Calibrated plant growth parameters  
Calibrated pesticide parameters

Gauging stations	Calibration (1995 – 2005) NSE	Validation (2006-2012) NSE
Antenne	0.34	0.43
Charente	0.85	0.67
Né	0.84	0.73
Seugne	0.70	0.74



## Main features PEST vs SUFI2

From this work, we found out that both are able to handle large number of parameters for calibration, validation and sensitivity analysis.

In terms of implementation time, PEST needs time of data computing so as to get it adapted to the SWAT model

SUFI2 has an ergonomic interface and enables to get visualization (hydrographs and dotty plots)

In terms of computation time SUFI2 was faster than PEST



Some options are available in PEST : Stream calibration on neperian logarithms



## In conclusion, a few learnings

This soil\*crop discretization has generated a high number parameters used for calibration validation.

→ Risk of equifinality, of over-fitting and the need for soft data

- ❖ Strong parameter interdependence

=> Numerical optimization but also expert knowledge

- 
- The importance of sampling, of parametrization when calibrating
  - The necessary role of sensitivity analysis



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PEST is:  
• state-of-the-art;  
• comprehensively documented;  
• accompanied by a platform-independent companion that supports its use in conjunction with groundwater and surface water models;  
• comprehensive;  
• free.

# Thank you !

## ***Special acknowledgements :***

- ❖ Léonard Santos, hydrologist
- ❖ Françoise Vernier, agronomist
- ❖ Jean-Marie Lescot, agro-economist

