

# Analisi di sensitività di simulazioni numeriche idealizzate in terreno complesso attraverso variazioni dei parametri superficiali

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## Abstract

A sensitivity analysis has been carried out for different case studies concerning the **Noah-mp** land surface parametrization in the framework of the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) model. In order to assess the importance of the sensitivity to different parameters, simulations have been performed using an idealized valley geometry, at first comparing **different vegetation types** and subsequently comparing a **homogeneous** and an **heterogeneous** land cover domain. The sensitivity analysis is performed using the **Morris method** which allows to evaluate the importance of the different parameters evaluated. The analysis has been carried out with the aid of the matlab **SAFE** toolbox, which has been shown in literature to be an efficient tool for Global Sensitivity studies.

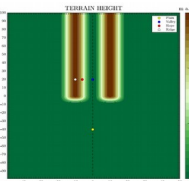
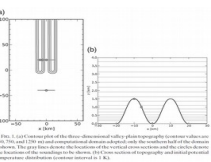
## Introduction

### NOAH-MP

#### PARAMETERS STUDIED:

- HVT: top of canopy
- LAI: leaf area index
- MAXSMC: porosity, saturated value of soil moisture
- ZOMVT: momentum roughness length
- EG: ground emissivity
- ALBSATnir: saturated soil albedo in near-infrared band
- ALBSATvis: saturated soil albedo in visible band

### SETUP

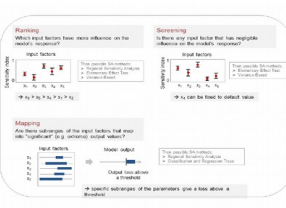
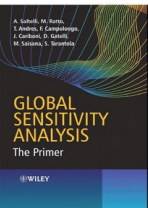


Duration: 72 h  
Start date: 20/03/2105 06:00:00  
Spin-up: 48 h  
Area collocation: LAT: 46° N, LON: 11° E  
Orientation: W-E along x axis, S-N along y axis  
W-E grid points: 100  
S-N grid points: 200  
Vertical eta\_levels: 65  
Single W-E cell: 1000 m  
Single S-N cell: 1000 m  
Single time step: 60 s  
W-E length: 100 km  
S-N length: 200 km  
Z length: 12 km

Physics:  
Micro-physics: absent  
Longwave scheme: RRTM  
Shortwave scheme: Dudhia  
Surface layer scheme: MYNN  
Land surface model: NOAHMP  
Boundary layer scheme: MYNN2.5  
Slope radiation: present  
Shading effects: present  
Radiative Transfer scheme: Modified two-streams (NOAHMP)

Boundary conditions:  
W-E: symmetric  
S-N: symmetric  
Potential temperature:  
 $\theta(z) = \theta_0 + \Gamma z + \Delta \theta \exp(-\beta z)$   
 $\theta_0 = 280 \text{ K}$ ,  $\Gamma = 3.2 \text{ K km}^{-1}$ ,  $\Delta \theta = 5 \text{ K}$ ,  $\beta = 0.002 \text{ m}^{-1}$

## SENSITIVITY



- Morris Method OAT derives measures of global sensitivity from a set of **local derivatives (Elementary Effects)** connecting **input perturbations and model output**:

$$EE_i = \frac{f(p_i + \Delta p_i) - f(p_i)}{\Delta p_i}$$

$$\mu_i^* = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N |EE_{ij}^*|$$

- Sobol indices derive from decomposing the variance of a scalar model output into variances associated to individual parameters (First order) and parameters interaction (Total order):

$$V = \sum_{j=1}^p V_j + \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^p V_{jk} + \dots + V_{12\dots p}$$

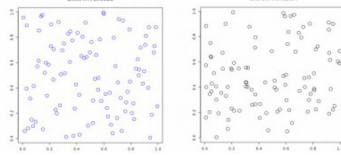
$$S_j = V_j/V, \text{ First Order index}$$

$$S_{Tj} = 1 - V_{-j}/V, \text{ Total Order Index (interactions)}$$

## Methodology

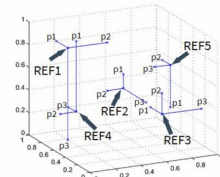
### SAMPLING

The chosen method to sample the parameter values is the Latin Hypercube Sampling which combines the strengths of a **stratified and random** sampling to ensure that all regions of the parameter space are represented in the sample.



### DESIGN

A radial design is implemented, which means that a number of reference states are decided beforehand, and all the parameters are perturbed from each of those reference points.



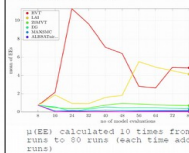
### SIMULATIONS

INPUT	HVT	MAXSMC	LAI	ALBSATnir	ALBSATvis	EG	REF1
1.19	19.98	0.55	3.30	0.15	0.27	0.85	REF1
0.01	19.98	0.55	3.30	0.15	0.27	0.85	OAT1
1.19	27.87	0.55	3.30	0.15	0.27	0.85	REF2
1.19	19.98	0.70	3.30	0.15	0.27	0.85	OAT2
1.19	19.98	0.55	2.26	0.15	0.27	0.85	REF3
1.19	19.98	0.55	3.30	0.07	0.27	0.85	OAT3
1.19	19.98	0.55	3.30	0.15	0.40	0.85	REF4
1.19	19.98	0.55	3.30	0.15	0.27	0.97	OAT4
0.67	15.42	0.42	2.63	0.08	0.12	0.82	REF5
0.67	15.42	0.42	2.63	0.08	0.12	0.82	OAT5
0.67	26.33	0.42	2.63	0.08	0.12	0.82	REF6
0.67	15.42	0.64	2.63	0.08	0.12	0.82	OAT6
0.67	15.42	0.42	2.47	0.08	0.12	0.82	REF7
0.67	15.42	0.42	2.63	0.24	0.12	0.82	OAT7

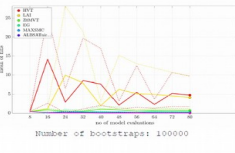
7 PARAMETERS (k=7)  
10 REFERENCE STATES (r=10)  
In a single complete set of simulations (REF+OAT) each parameter has one perturbed value (p=1) and k unperturbed values  
EACH SET HAS: k+p runs  
TOTAL RUNS r(k+p)=80

### POST-PROCESS

**Convergence analysis of  $\mu(EE)$**   
Repeat computations using a decreasing number of samples to assess if convergence was reached within the available dataset:



**Bootstrap method for confidence bounds**  
Repeat convergence analysis using bootstrapping (i.e. resampling and then computing over random sub-samples) to derive confidence bounds:



## Results

The different vegetation types considered clusters into two different kinds of behaviours (Figure 1) which display velocity differences up to 2.5 m/s in the first part of the day for both slope and valley winds and dampen out when the solar forcing fades. Differences in temperatures are most relevant over the slope in the katabatic phase. The heterogeneous case study (Figure 2) shows that local differences of the same order of magnitude of the mean values of wind and temperature can arise.

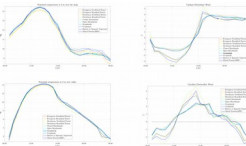


Figure 1: daily time series of a) slope temperature; b) slope wind; c) valley temperature; d) along-valley wind;

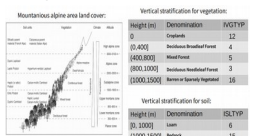


Figure 2: the heterogeneous land-cover configuration used to schematize a typical Alpine valley

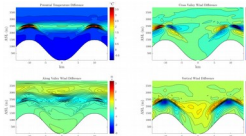


Figure 3: difference between homogeneous and heterogeneous scenario for temperature and velocities in all the 3 directions

Figure 4 shows different phases of the daily valley circulation to highlight the spatial distribution of the variations in u,v,w induced by the perturbation of HVT and LAI. Differences involves the ridge plumes, the slope flows and the inner valley boundary layer height. The ranking of the parameters studied with the Morris method is showed in Figure 5.

### OUTPUT RESPONSE CROSS-SECTIONS

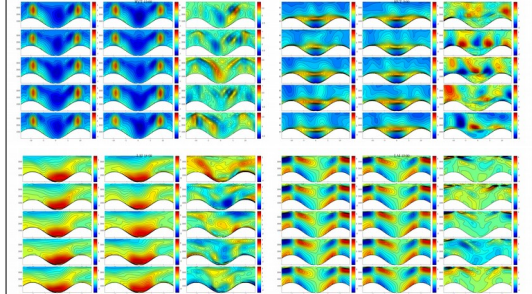


Figure 4: Each of the four panels show as first column the reference states output, as second column the output with the perturbed parameter and as third column the difference between the two representing the elementary perturbation of the output. Top left: perturbation of w by change in HVT; top right: perturbation of v by change in HVT; bottom left: perturbation of v by change in LAI; bottom right: perturbation of u by change in LAI.

### SCREENING

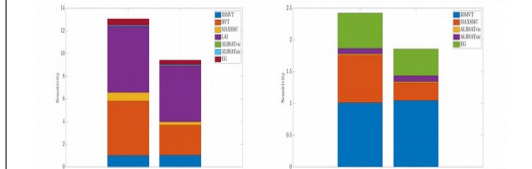


Figure 5: a) the stacked bars show the 2 most prominent parameters b) plotting the remaining parameters allows to detect the less influent ones

## Conclusions

Based on the nature of the method and the results gathered until now, we can use the Morris method as a screening tool to assess the following:

- Which parameters are **non-influential**
- Which parameters are **the most influential**
- Which parameters **cannot be considered non-influential** in some of the scenario considered

## Future directions

- Extensions of the work could be centered around these topics:
  - A higher number of **simulations** would reduce uncertainty
  - A higher number of **parameters** would include more interactions but also more realism to the scenarios
  - Different **ranges** of values would allow a mapping analysis and permit comparison with other works
  - Different kinds of **variables** involved (latent heat flux, sensible heat flux etc.) would focus to more general subprocesses like heat exchange
- Implementation of a **hybrid methodology** (screening phase with Morris - ranking phase with Sobol) could be tried to gain more quantitative results
- Differences in parameters **spatial distribution** inside the simulation domain would test out the findings provided by this study in a more realistic scenario

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