

# GROUNDWATER FLOW MODELING WITH UNCERTAIN DATA

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**ABSTRACT:** The joint model for surface and subsurface water interaction has been applied for the case of pumping well near small river. The variability of transmissivity has been assessed using fuzzy technics. The model has been applied for the case of 2-D hydrogeological river-aquifer interaction. The results show the importance of two fuzzy models for construction of the field of transmissivity in the examined area. On the base of expert knowledge and a set of fuzzy rules, this field would be constructed and used in numerical modeling.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The most complex problems concerning water supply require taking into account the integrity of surface and subsurface water.

The river flow is influenced from natural and artificial factors acting on the catchment area.

The groundwater extraction causes the reduction in water discharge downstream and temporary distribution of the river flow as well. This effect could be significant for small rivers during the low flow periods.

The modern approach requires to assess the influence of engineering structure on the environment. This is often the case of downstream hydropower dam station with hydropeaking unstable flow regime or extended water consumption for agriculture, farming or water supply. This unfavorable seasonal distribution is also related to the ecological integrity, physical aquatic habitat and the aquatic ecosystem dynamics.

For ecological purposes the threshold discharge must be ensured to protect the aquatic ecosystem of the river. It is obvious that rational use of water resources requires application of joint model for surface and

subsurface water. It is necessary especially for the case of pumping well near a small river, where the impact between river and groundwater is significant.

The uncertainty of some hydrogeological parameters reflects directly on the model results, so sensitivity analysis has to be implemented in the model.

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE JOINT MODEL

Two models are presented herein: unsteady model for simulation of hydrological process in the river and 2-D joint model for surface and subsurface dynamics.

An unsteady wave movement can be described by the equations for 1-D open channel flow known as St. Venant equation ( Piren-Seine, Rapport de synthese, 1989-92, vol. II ).

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \beta \frac{Q^2}{A} \right) + gA \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + gA (S_f - S) = 0 \quad (2)$$

where  $x$  is the distance in downstream direction,  $t$  is time,  $A$  is wetted cross-sectional area,  $h$  is the depth of the flow,  $S$  is bed slope of the channel,  $\beta$  is momentum correction coefficient ( $\approx 1$ ),  $S_f$  is friction slope,  $Q$  is the discharge. Because of their complexity the equations (1) and (2) are more rarely used in the joint models. Moreover in most natural rivers, there are some simple assumptions. If the inertial terms in the momentum equation are so small to be negligible in comparison with the bed slope term, the above two equations can be reduced to a convective-diffusion equation (Cunge, J.A. et al. 1985).

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = D \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial x^2} + cq \quad (3)$$

where  $c(x,t)$  is the velocity describing the translation characteristics of the wave,  $D$  is the diffusion coefficient,  $q$  is the lateral increment of discharge per unit length of  $x$  ( $q > 0$  in direction towards the river, otherwise- towards the riverbanks).

If both inertial and pressure forces are neglected, the St. Venant equations give the kinematic wave equation (Cunge, J.A. et al. 1985).

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (4)$$

Due to the physical nature of the hydrological process in the river convective-diffusion equation (3) was chosen for the description of the joint model. For assessment of the parameters  $D$  and  $c$  in (3) the following simplification are used:

$$c = \frac{1}{b} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial h} \quad (5)$$

$$D = \frac{Q}{2bS_f} \quad (6)$$

where  $b$  is the width of the river,  $D$  is the diffusion coefficient,  $S_f$  is the friction slope.

If the explicit scheme is applied, the stability condition must be satisfied:

$$C_0 = c \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq 1 \quad (7)$$

where  $C_0$  is the Courant number.

The implicit schemes are effective in overcoming the stability criterion or equivalent

ones. The following initial and boundary condition were used:

$$t=0 \quad Q(x,0)=Q_0 \quad (8)$$

The upper and the lower boundary conditions are as follows:

$$x=0 \quad Q(0,t)=Q(t) \quad (9)$$

$$x=L \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (10)$$

As a rule the rating curve can be used for determination of the head in the river flow:

$$Q = \alpha (h + h^*)^\beta \quad (11)$$

where  $h$  is the piezometric head in the river,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the coefficient of the curve.

Considering the mass balance of water in a volume of soil height  $b$  and two directions  $dx$  and  $dy$ , one obtains the continuity equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( T \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( T \frac{\partial H}{\partial y} \right) = S \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} \quad (12)$$

where  $S$  and  $T$  are the storage coefficient and the transmissivity of the aquifer,  $H$  is the piezometric head. For homogeneous isotropic soil,  $S$  and  $T$  are constant in a confined saturated aquifer.

The joint model presents a set of 2-D hydrogeological part with equation (12) attached to the river with hydrodynamic part-see equations(3),(11). The use of the transmissivities between nodes allows the anisotropy to be included (Kinzelbach, W. 1986).

To solve the nodal equations iteratively the IADI method ( Iterative Alternating Direction Implicite procedure ) was used with two tridiagonal systems:

$$A'_j H_{ij-1}(t+\Delta t) + B'_j H_{ij}(t+\Delta t) + C'_j H_{ij+1}(t+\Delta t) = D'_j \quad (13)$$

where  $j=1, NY$  and  $i=1, NX$

$$A_i H_{i-1j}(t+\Delta t) + B_i H_{ij}(t+\Delta t) + C_i H_{i+1j}(t+\Delta t) = D_i \quad (14)$$

After simplification the row-equations have the form:

$$H_{ij} + F_i H_{i+1j} = G_i \quad (15)$$

where  $F_i$  and  $G_i$  are recursively defined arrays as follows:

$$F_i = \frac{C_i}{B_i - A_i F_{i-1}}, \quad G_i = \frac{D_i - A_i G_{i-1}}{B_i - A_i F_{i-1}} \quad (16)$$

and,  $i=2, \text{NX}-1$

The solution of the system has the following form:

$$H_{\text{NXj}}(t + \Delta t) = G_{\text{NX}} \quad (17)$$

$$H_{ij}(t + \Delta t) = G_i - F_i H_{i+1,j}(t + \Delta t) \quad (18)$$

for  $i=\text{NX}-1, 2$

The similar form has the system of column equations.

### 3 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS FOR SEMI-CONFINED AQUIFER

The method for sensitivity assessment proposed by Guinot (1998) for the case of unconfined aquifer, is modified below for the case of confined or semi-confined aquifer.

The differential equation for two-dimensional modeling ( $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are coordinates of the field) of water movement in confined or semi-confined aquifer is:

$$\mu \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = T \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial x_i^2} \quad (19)$$

where  $H$  is the piezometric head,  $T$  is the transmissivity and  $\mu$  is the storage coefficient of the aquifer.

Any perturbation in transmissivity  $\tau$  will generate a perturbation in the solution  $\eta$ :

$$T' = T + \tau \quad (20)$$

$$H' = H + \eta \quad (21)$$

The perturbed solution still obeys Equation(19).

$$\mu \frac{\partial H'}{\partial t} = T' \frac{\partial^2 H'}{\partial x_i^2} \quad (22)$$

Subtracting Equation (19) from Equation (22) yields:

$$\mu \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} = (T + \tau) \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial x_i^2} + \tau \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial x_i^2} \quad (23)$$

The result equation is not a transport equation as it is for the case of unconfined aquifer.

For prescribed head-type boundary conditions, since the hydraulic head is assumed known exactly,  $\eta=0$  at the boundary. For the

boundary of prescribed flux the followings relations are valid:

$$(T + \tau) n_i \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\tau}{T} q \quad (24)$$

where  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the components of the vector normal to the boundary,  $q$  is prescribed flux.

The sensitivity of the result piezometric head  $H$  at point  $M$  to the value of the input parameter  $T$  at point  $N$  is defined as:

$$S_H^T = \frac{1}{A} \frac{\eta(M, t)}{\tau(N)} \quad (25)$$

where  $A$  is the area of the perturbed region.

$$\mu \frac{\partial S_H^T}{\partial t} = (T + \tau) \frac{\partial^2 S_H^T}{\partial x_i^2} + \tau \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial x_i^2} \frac{1}{A \tau(N)} \quad (26)$$

This equation allows making sensitivity analysis of transmissivity on computed heads.

The value of sensitivity for the flux boundary conditions is derived as

$$(T + \tau) n \frac{\partial S_H^T}{\partial x_i} = \frac{1}{AT} q \quad (27)$$

### 4 FUZZY MODELING OF THE FIELD OF TRANSMISSIVITY

In order to model water transport a proper knowledge of the soil hydraulic properties, namely the transmissivity function  $T(\cdot)$  is required. The task is to assess the field transmissivity in a certain area under given boundary conditions and imprecise knowledge of soil properties (e.g. porosity, grain distributions, etc.). Usually the distances between the point and the river are known exactly. In this case the transmissivity of the  $x$  coordinate is denoted by  $T_x$ , of the  $y$  coordinate - by  $T_y$  and by  $T_{xy}$  when the transmissivity is equal in both directions. These relations could be defined deterministically using the following equations:

$$T_x = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n k_i b_i f_{ix}}{\sum_{i=1}^n f_{ix}} \quad (28)$$

$$T_y = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n k_i b_i f_{iy}}{\sum_{i=1}^n f_{iy}} \quad (29)$$

$$T_{xy} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n k_i b_i f_{ixy}}{\sum_{i=1}^n f_{ixy}} \quad (30)$$

where  $k_i$  is the hydraulic conductivity in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  layer;  $b_i$  is the thickness of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  layer;  $f_{ix}$ ,  $f_{iy}$ ,  $f_{ixy}$ , are weight coefficients and  $i=1,n$  is the number of ground layers.

The expert information for the number, thickness and soil properties of the ground layers is quite vague. Therefore the resulting mean field transmissivity assessment by equations (28)-(30) is imprecise.

Hence the transmissivity could be defined in the terms of fuzzy linguistic model (FLM) consisting a set of  $R_i$ ,  $i=1,n$  "If-Then" linguistic rules:

$R_i$ : If the current point is on a distance  $b_i^*$  from the groundwater table, then the corresponding transmissivities are  $T_{ix}$ ,  $T_{iy}$ ,  $T_{ixy}$

where the distance  $b_i^*$  and field transmissivities  $T_{ix}$ ,  $T_{iy}$ ,  $T_{ixy}$ , for  $i=1,n$  are fuzzy sets. With expert knowledge for the soil and the thickness of the layers suitable fuzzy sets could be defined. They are implemented in the premise part of the rules  $R_i$  of the fuzzy model. The generalized bell membership function is preferred to define the premise fuzzy values of the following two case studies, which correspond to the realistic smooth changes of the ground layers. The field of transmissivity of every layer is estimated by corresponding equation (28),(29) or (30). Triangle symmetrical fuzzy sets are proposed on the base of obtained values. Every rule defines the real situation that the layer thickness is not exactly known. Its size and soil property varies by uncertain way, which defines different values of the transmissivity of the considered point. The centroid defuzzification method is applied.

In case that the conductivity values of all layers are known sufficient precisely the Takagi-Sugeno (TS) fuzzy model could be applied. It consists of a set of  $n$  rules with consequent parts defined by single tones (constant values) equal to the corresponding transmissivities.

Example 1: Using the procedure given above a four rule fuzzy linguistic model were defined for the case study of symmetrical position (Figure 1). The fuzzy value of the field of transmissivity is obtained for every given depth by max-min composition rule of inference. The same experimental data are used to define the TS fuzzy model (Figure 2). The obtained numerical results of distance point 0.1 [m] from groundwater table are presented on Table 1.

Table 1.

Model	$T_x$ [m <sup>2</sup> /d]	$T_y$ [m <sup>2</sup> /d]	$T_{xy}$ [m <sup>2</sup> /d]
FLM	1.93	2.23	1.64
TS model	1.9	2.21	1.6
*Deter. model	1.846	2.143	1.5575

\* Deterministic model by eqs. (28), (29), (30)

Example 2: Using the procedure given above a three rule fuzzy linguistic model and TS fuzzy model were defined for the case study of nonsymmetrical position. The numerical results of point on distance 0.1 [m] from groundwater table are shown on Table 2.

Table 2.

Model	$T_x$ [m <sup>2</sup> /d]	$T_y$ [m <sup>2</sup> /d]	$T_{xy}$ [m <sup>2</sup> /d]
FLM	4.95	5.45	4.15
TS model	4.8	5.35	3.83
*Deter. model	4.55	5.14	3.531

\* Deterministic model by eqs. (28), (29), (30)

The main advantage of the fuzzy models approach consists in overcoming of the need of large amount of field experiments. On the base of expert knowledge and a set of fuzzy rules two type fuzzy models of the transmissivity field could be constructed.

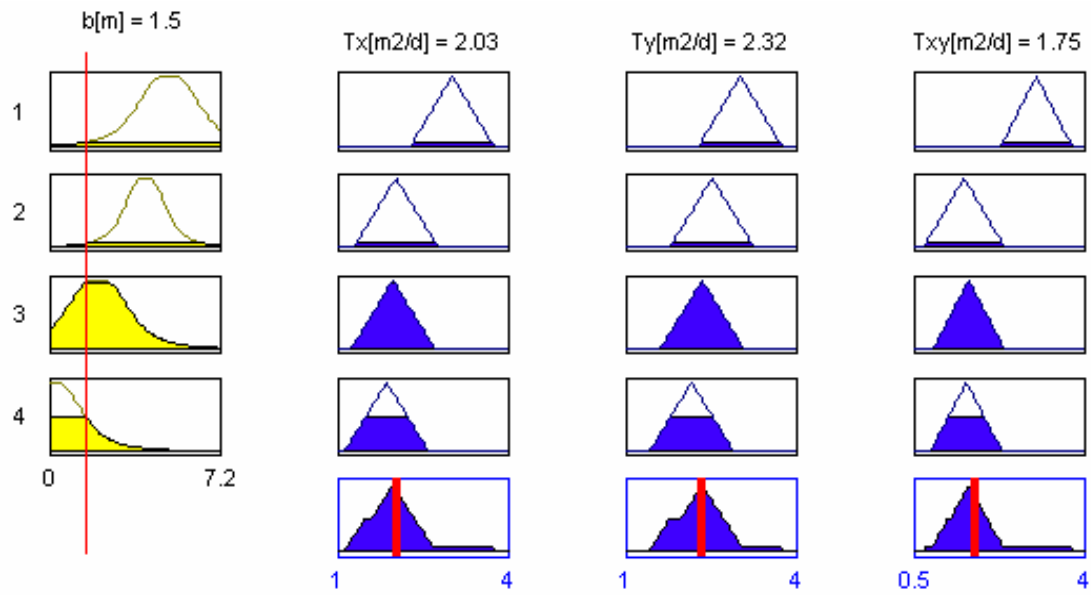


Figure 1: View rules of fuzzy linguistic model applied on point depth 1.5 [m] from groundwater table.

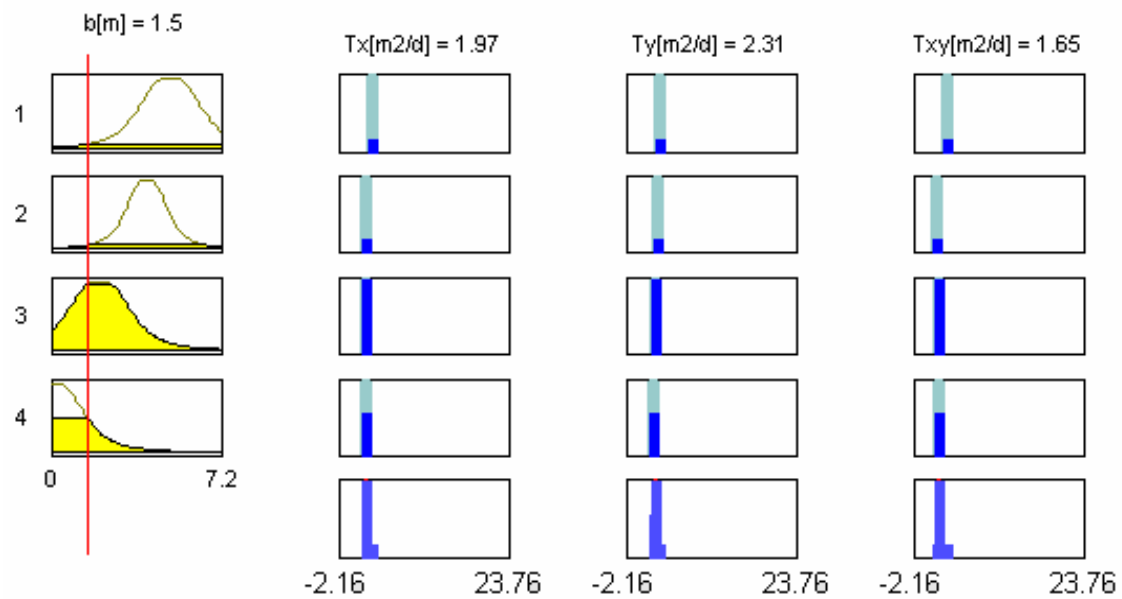


Figure 2: View rules of TS fuzzy model applied on point depth 1.5[m] from groundwater table.

## 5 RESULTS

The model was applied for the layered soil profile near the river. The initial conditions are given by:

$$t=0, H(x,y,0)=H_0(x,y)$$

for all indices  $i=1,\dots,NX$  and  $j=1,\dots,NY$

Boundary conditions for unconfined aquifer are shown in figure 3.

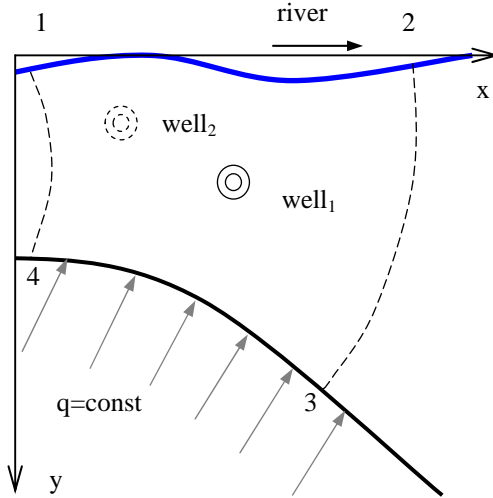


Figure 3: Boundary conditions for joint model:

1-2 First kind boundaries with prescribed

head:  $H_0(x,y)=f(t)$ , for every  $t$

1-4 Second kind with zero flux

2-3 Second kind with zero flux

4-3 Third kind with leakage boundary  
(semi-impervious)

Using the methodology, given by Guinot, (Guinot, V. ,1998) first of all the water head table was computed by means of equations (13) – (18).

The river influence over the aquifer was added with equation (3) and appropriate initial and boundary conditions. Instead of hydraulic conductivity, the transmissivity field was used for assessment of the hydraulic head. The layered soil profile in  $(x-z)$  and  $(y-z)$  direction is shown in figure 4 with different weight coefficient, according to the type of soil and different anisotropy. Numerical solutions for series of time discretisation are presented in figures 5, 6 and 7 for two possible sites of the well.

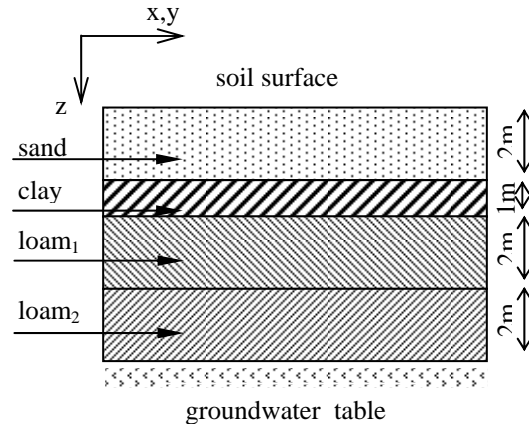


Figure 4: Soil structure near the river.

Table 3.

Soil	Height cm	Conduc tivity cmd <sup>-1</sup>	weight		
			$f_{ix}$	$f_{iy}$	$f_{ixy}$
Sand	200	150	0.4	0.5	0.25
Clay	100	3	0.2	0.1	0.25
Loam <sub>1</sub>	200	90	0.2	0.2	0.25
Loam <sub>2</sub>	200	70	0.2	0.2	0.25

A comparison between the head calculation taking into account the transmissivity field instead of hydraulic conductivity in a given point, confirms the conclusion that the value of information is lower in orthogonal direction to the flow.

The main results in this section are received using numerical analysis with IADI method and the conclusions of fuzzy modeling in two directions of the layered soil structure (see table 3 ). The more general results would be obtained by means of sensitivity analysis as it is mentioned in section 4. The difference between FLM and deterministic model is approximately 17-18% maximum for  $T_{xy}$  model and 8% for  $T_x$  model. This difference decreases in  $y$ -direction (see table 1,2). Numerical results for three typical cases are presented in figures 5, 6 and 7.

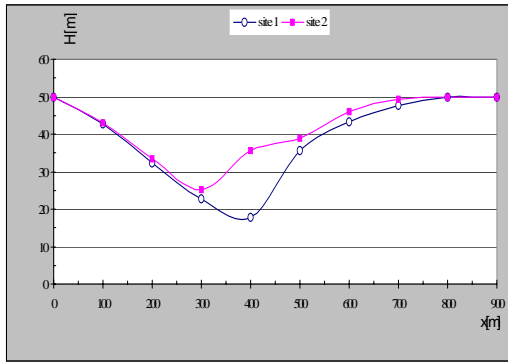


Figure 5: Results for head with symmetrical transmissivity  $T_{xy}$  for  $T=3000\text{sec}$  according to FLM model site 1 -  $T_{xy}=1.64\text{m}^2\text{d}^{-1}$  site 2 -  $T_{xy}=4.15\text{m}^2\text{d}^{-1}$

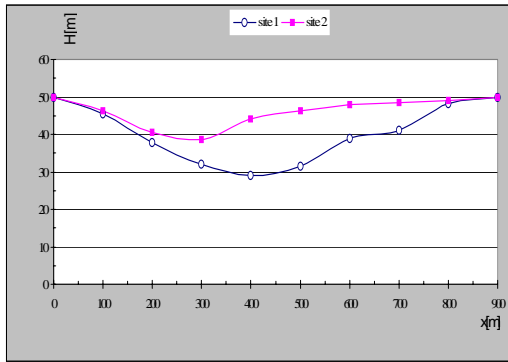


Figure 6: Results for head with symmetrical transmissivity  $T_{xy}$  for  $T=1000\text{sec}$  according to FLM model site 1 -  $T_{xy}=1.64\text{m}^2\text{d}^{-1}$  site 2 -  $T_{xy}=4.15\text{m}^2\text{d}^{-1}$

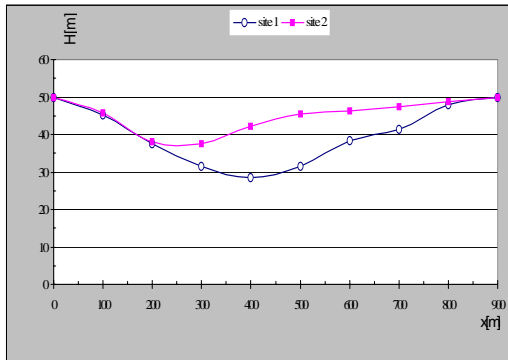


Figure 7: Results for head with asymmetrical transmissivity  $T_x$  for  $T=1000\text{sec}$  according to FLM model site 1 -  $T_x=1.93\text{m}^2\text{d}^{-1}$  site 2 -  $T_x=4.95\text{m}^2\text{d}^{-1}$

## 6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The numerical analysis proposed here is implemented for the case of unconfined aquifer. The field of transmissivity is examined by fuzzy technics and the main results are introduced in 2-D numerical model for the aquifer. Three models for transmissivity are compared and the results confirm the fact that deterministic modeling with equations (28), (29) and (30) can be implemented for numerical solution with maximum error of 18%. This error is too big for layered anisotropic soil and decreases for evenly distributed transmissivity. The Takagi-Sugeno (TS) fuzzy model could be used for homogenous soil structure when the conductivity of the layer is known sufficient precisely.

Sensitivity analysis for unconfined aquifer proposed by Guinot (1998) is modified for the case of confined or semi-confined aquifer. An appropriate numerical solution has to be applied to the governing equations (26), (27) in  $x$ ,  $y$  direction. This is not the case of linear transport equation. The present approach is open for further discussions directed to working out of the more general method for sensitivity analysis in both cases of confined (semi-confined) and unconfined aquifers.

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