

Analysing the Uncertainty from using Different Representations of Physical Processes in Inundation

N.G. Wright, School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds, N.G.Wright@leeds.ac.uk

1. N.G. Wright, School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
2. T. Willis, School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
3. P.A. Sleight, School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

The paper will present analysis of the uncertainty that arises from using different physical representations and how this compares to uncertainties due to input parameters. Using the LISFLOOD-FP code we use an approach based on a diffusion wave, an approach that incorporates excludes the advection term in the shallow water equations and a Godunov-based approach that solves the full two-dimensional shallow water equations. By using these representations within the same code we can make direct comparison of the models. The various models are then run in a Monte Carlo framework to study the effects and make comparisons to effects from parameter uncertainty. A case study in Glasgow, Scotland will be presented. This case study has been used as a benchmark in research by a number of authors and in a study by the Environment Agency for England and Wales. The results show that physical representation has a significant impact, but that this effect cannot be entirely separated from parameter uncertainty. Therefore the modelling parameter space is complex and all parameters contribute to uncertainty overall.