

# System dynamics modelling framework with specialized water management modules



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## Recent developments in system dynamic modelling allow integration and assessment of all the factors and processes that may impact water management at the mine site $\rightarrow$ Goldsim programming platform as an example

- It is possible to extend the water balance calculations to include dynamic and probabilistic (uncertainty and sensitivity analysis) simulations as well as mass balances of water quality and further to include also the geochemical transport and reactions in variably saturated porous media
- It is possible to extend, define and edit the water balance calculations for the varying planning and operational needs of different life cycle phases of the mining project
- It is possible to link and integrate databases and external programs like mineral process simulators, reactive, hydrochemical transport models, 3D surface, seepage and groundwater flow models etc. into the system platform and into the overall dynamic calculations
- It is possible to combine monitoring information into water balance modelling and to continuously update model predictions and parameters always when new measurements are available. It is possible to carry out multitask optimizations and with weather forecasts produce flow etc. forecasts
- It is possible to program own process modules like climate generators, detailed waste pile and tailing structures and processes, etc. and produce own mine-specific software with clientzspecific user interfaces and control panels

Water management on a mining operation begins with an understanding of where the water comes from and where it goes...

## The conventional water balance is deterministic and only about water flows...

The deduction of flows to and from the specific operating unit within the mine water circuit – to account for all inflows, outflows and losses across the unit and calculating the unknown flow as the balancing flow

F2= R7+R6+R5+R4+P2-P11-P4-E2-S2



- R4 runoff from natural ground
- R5 runoff from prepared ground
- R6 precipitation direct to the pond & wet tailings
- R7 runoff from dry tailings beach
- P2 discharge from thickener to tailings disposal facility
- P11 reclaim water from the tailings impoundment to the mill rikastushiekka-altaalta rikastamolle
- P4 water retained in the consolidated tailings mass
- E2 evaporation from the tailings pond & wet tailings
- F2 surface flow from the tailings pond to the collection pond at the water treatment plant
- S2 seepage from the tailings pond

Water management on a mining operation begins with an understanding of where the water comes from and where it goes...

## ...also in system dynamic programming

The deduction of flows to and from the specific operating ur within the mine water circuit – to account for all inflows, outflows and losses across the unit and calculating the unknown flow as the balancing flow



 $\triangleright f_x \triangleright$ 

Precip\_to\_Pool

#### F2= R7+R6+R5+R4+P2-P11-P4-E2-S2

**Tailings Facility** 

**R7** 

Pond

Watershed

R6

R5

**R4** 

# Water balance summary of flows is obtained simply by connecting flows from each sub-watershed sheet



5

# A modular approach to modelling water flow and **from** quality using Goldsim Platform and Programming

- GoldSim is a user-friendly, highly graphical, object-oriented program for programming and carrying out dynamic, probabilistic mine-specific water balance and mass balance simulations of each mine component and the mine site as a whole.
- Goldsim is based on the principle of mass balance. A body of water is modelled by the "reservoir" element in the model. Water quantity mass balance is always maintained
- Water quality is modelled by linking chemical loadings to the water balance. In Goldsim, the concentrations and transport of the concerned chemical species are modelled by the contaminant transport "cell" elements, which are linked with the corresponding water balance "reservoir" elements. Mass balance is always maintained for the "cell":.
- Goldsim has been developed to model complex environmental systems and has been extensively and successfully applied to simulate water resource management, mining operation, contaminant transport, and radioactive waste management. Yukon Goverment and Environment (2013): "Goldsim is a standard modelling tool in the water resources and mining industries".







## **User Interface for Climate Generator**



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## **Example output of probabilistic simulation**





01.09.2015



## WaterSmart → New Modules for the Mine-Site Wide Water Quantity and Quality Modelling Environment



## The development of new modules for the Mine-Site Wide Water Quantity and Quality Modelling Environment



Hydrogeochemical Modelling (calculations of water chemistry, water-mineral interactions, speciation of water...) with PHREEQC

 IF (SIMPLE MASS TRANSPORT and MIXING) THEN Goldsim contaminant transport tools

## ELSE (REACTIVE GEOCHEMISTRY -> PHREEQC)

- Aqueous Complexation
- Acid-base and Redox Reactions
- Cation Exchange Reactions
- Surface Adsorption Reactions (double layer...)
- Precipitation-Dissolution
- Reactions with Organic Matter and Effects of Bacteria
- Temperature and Pressure Changes,
- <sup>01.09.2</sup> Aqueous, Gas, Mineral, Flow /Transport Coupling...<sup>15</sup>

## KINETICS, THERMODYNAMIC DATABASES

For kinetic calculations a rate equation must be programmed in BASIC using keyword **RATES**. The rate is called with keyword **KINETICS** which can also pass parameters to the rate. The BASIC functions are explained under keyword **RATES** in the PHREEQC manual.

```
Kinetic quartz dissolution
RATES
Quartz
                              # rate name
-start
 #1 rem dQu/dt = -k * (1 - \Omega_{\text{outrts}}). k = 10<sup>-13.7</sup> mol/m2/s (25 C)
 #2 \text{ rem } parm(1) = A (m2), parm(2) = V (dm3) recalculate to mol/dm3/s
10 moles = parm(1) / parm(2) * (m/m0)^0.67 * 10^-13.7 * (1 - SR("Quartz"))
20 save moles * time
                              # integrate. save and time must be in rate definition
                              # moles count positive when added to solution
 -end
KINETICS
          # Sediment: 100% qu, grain size 0.1 mm, por 0.3, rho_qu 2.65 kg/dm3
Quartz
                              # rate name
 -formula SiO2
 -m0 102.7
                              # initial moles of quartz
 -parms 22.7 0.162
                              # parameters for rate eqn. Here:
      # Quartz surface area (m2/kg sediment), water filled porosity (dm3/kg sediment)
 -step 1.58e8 in 10 steps # 1.58e8 seconds = 5 years
                              # integration tolerance, default 1e-8 mol
-tol 1e-8
INCREMENTAL REACTIONS true # start integration from previous step
SOLUTION 1
USER GRAPH
-heading time Si; -axis titles years mmol/L
-axis scale y axis 0 0.12 0.02; -axis scale x axis 0 5
 -start
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20 graph y tot("Si")*1e3
-end
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Currently 6 databases are provided with PHREEQC, PHREEQC.DAT is the smallest. WATEQ4F.DAT has additional data for heavy metals, the 2 MINTEQ.DAT files have a few more organic chemicals, and LLNL.DAT is a huge database with many minerals and large-range, temperature dependent equilibrium constants. PHREEQD.DAT contains tracer diffusion coefficients for solute species. The databases contain lists under keywords:

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	-dw	9 210-9		# tracer	diffusion cos	afficient	(m <sup>2</sup> /g) at 250C
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### Linking fundamental geochemistry and empirical observations for water 777 quality predictions using GoldSim

Brent Usher<sup>1</sup>, Roald Strand<sup>1</sup>. Chris Strachotta<sup>1</sup>, Jim Jackson<sup>2</sup>

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#### *Figure 1* Overview of water auglity algorithm included in the model

Reactive HydroGeochemical Module (soil and water groundwater, waste rock, ore heaps, tailings...) Direct Linkage of PHREEQC model (mixing, reactions, water-mineral interactions...) through Dynamic Link Libraries (External DLL Element) with the Goldsim flows (coupling within each time step)

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HCO3 130 mg/L	
Ca 40 mg/L Data Source: None	
Fe 0.01 ma/L	
K 8 mg/L Save Results	
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Na 12 mg/L	
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## Example of Reactive HydroGeochemical Module -

### to investigate potential changes in pH and redox conditions and in buffering capacity as well as the hydrogeochemical processes related to tailings managem

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#### Geochemical Zones

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## Monitoring + Modelling (dynamic calibration, optimization, ensemble forecasting)

- Data-assimilation is an optimal approach to combine observations into water balance calculations
- "Data Driven" modelling is carried out using the Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF) method and stochastic simulation of predictive realizations (dynamic calibration for time-series results in a set of parameter values that is time dependent)
- EnKF can produce continuous updating of model predictions and parameters always when new measurements are available. The deviation between the model output and the measured data is reduced over the monitoring period.
- EnKF is integrated into Goldsim platform using its stochastic tools
- EnKF process produces automatically also uncertainty and sensitivity information

## Updating predictions, calibration as well as uncertainty and sensitivity analysis - Ensemble Kalman Filter process









## Process-specific user interface for mine-specific water balance calculations –

Hourly/daily timestep, the water produced from rainfall and from snowmelt is computed, superimposed on the calculated recession flow and transformed into hourly/daily discharge



## Together with EHP-tekniikka, Oulu we have innovated ways to integrate on-line flow measurements into updating model predictions and parameters as well as to produce flow forecasts

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Yara Siilinjärvi Site: Strategic Planning ("what if") Example -> estimations of needed pumping changes due to the expansion of the open pit area/volume

> GoldSim is used to simulate the accumulation of water in the pit and calculate the resulting water depth using a stage - area relationship. GoldSim can perform an inverse integral lookup on this table as well, which will allow you to estimate the elevation given the simulated volume.

## **System Dynamics Approach**



## – the integration of all needed water balance components into the common modelling and monitoring environment...

- Quantitative tool to evaluate the performance of the system and to test the logic of each mining subactivity – calculations should include all those processes of the mine site components where the water quantity and/or quality can change during different life cycle phases of the mining project
- Databases and spreadsheets can be integrated dynamically into the overall simulations – the effects of input-changes can be simulated on the fly
- it is possible to predict future behaviour, identify which factors have the greatest influence, answer "What-if?" questions, and evaluate alternatives (also through an optimization process)
- It is possible to link and integrate external process simulators, reactive, hydrothermochemical transport models, 3D surface, seepage and groundwater flow models etc. into the system platform and into the overall dynamic calculations
- Traceability and transparency (player/exe-versio for end-users without the Goldsim licence requirement; client-specific user interfaces and control panels
- Uncertainty and sensitivity analysis using the Monte Carlo tools
- Data assimilation: Execution of the updating of model parameters and predictions always when new measurements are available.