

# A comparison of global sensitivity analysis used in water systems



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## Outline

- Sensitivity Analysis (SA)
- Global Sensitivity Analysis (GSA)
  - Morris Screening
  - Standardized Regression Coefficient (SRC)
  - Extended Fourier Amplitude Sensitivity Testing (eFAST)
- GSA Comparison
- Conclusion



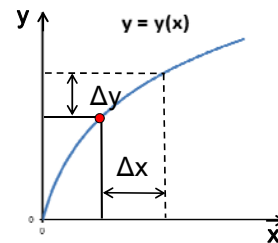
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## Sensitivity Analysis - SA

- What is SA?
  - How is the model output affected by the variation of model factors (parameters+inputs)?

- Sensitivity Index:  $IS_i = \Delta y / \Delta x$ 
  - $IS_i \gg 1$  : x is important
  - $IS_i \ll 1$  : x is non-influential



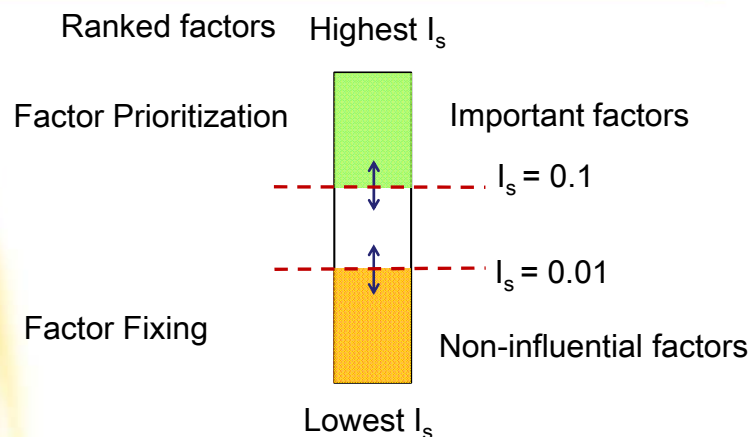
## Sensitivity Analysis – Uses of SA

- Model diagnosis
  - How is the model output affected by changes in the factor values?
- Identifiability analysis
  - Which subsets of factors are identifiable?
- Uncertainty analysis
  - How much does each (uncertain) factor contribute to the uncertainty in the model output

## Sensitivity Analysis – Objectives

- Factors prioritization
  - Identifying which factors have the greatest contribution to model output uncertainty
- Factors fixing
  - Identifying which factors are non-influential

## Sensitivity Analysis – Objectives

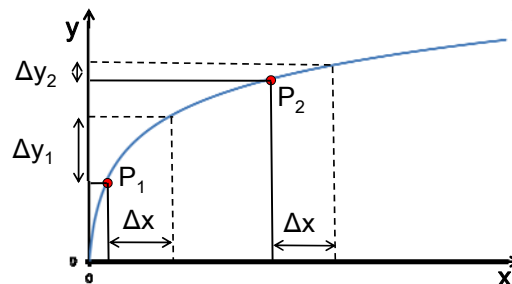


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## Global Sensitivity Analysis - GSA

- Why GSA? not LSA (Local SA)
- To have an overall idea of the sensitivity



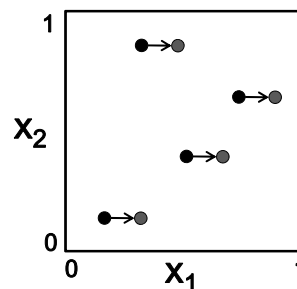
## Global Sensitivity Analysis - GSA

- 3 examples of GSA

GSA	Factors Prioritization	Factors Fixing
Morris		X
SRC	X	
eFAST	X	X

## Global Sensitivity Analysis – How?

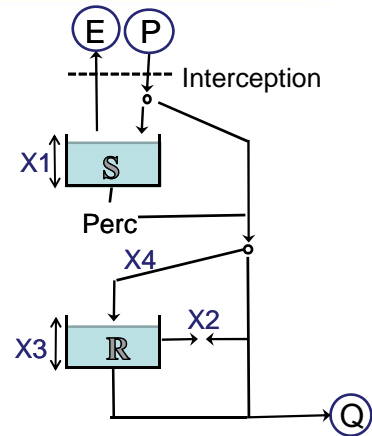
- Choose the output variable:  $y$ 
  - extreme value, average value, MSE, ...
- Define the factors space:  $\{x\}$
- Sample  $x_i$
- Run model
- Repeat simulation
- Replicate



## GR4J model

“rainfall-runoff” model  
(Perrin *et al*, 2003)

- Inputs:
  - P: Precipitation (rain)
  - E: Evapotranspiration
- Output:
  - Q: River Flow



## Global Sensitivity Analysis - Morris

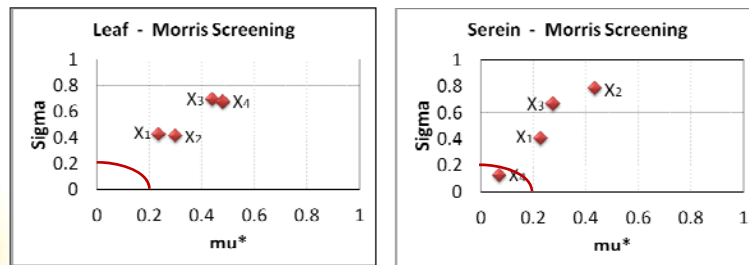
- Screening based method
- Sampling: one factor at a time
- Distribution of “elementary effects”

$$d_i(x_i) = \frac{y(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i + \Delta, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_k) - y(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_k)}{\Delta}$$

- Ranking of factors on two scales:
  - Importance:  $\mu^* = \text{mean}(|d_i|)$
  - Non-linearity and/or interactions:  $\sigma = \text{sd}(d_i)$

## Global Sensitivity Analysis - Morris

- Example: GR4J model – 2 catchments



- $X_4$  (Serein) non-influential: can be fixed

## Global Sensitivity Analysis - SRC

- Regression based method
- Linear regression on output simulations

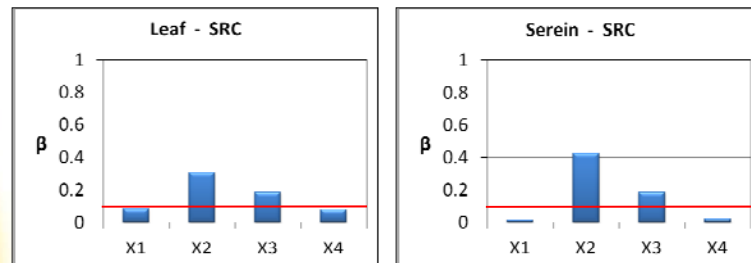
$$y = \sum b_i \cdot x_i + a$$

$$\beta_i = b_i \cdot \frac{\sigma_{x_i}}{\sigma_y} \quad \text{Standardised Regression Coefficients (SRC)}$$

- Analysis valid if  $R^2 > 0.7$  (Saltelli *et al.*, 2004) (Quasi-linear model)

## Global Sensitivity Analysis - SRC

- Regression method: SRC (Factors prioritization)



- $X_2$  and  $X_3$  are important: to be estimated

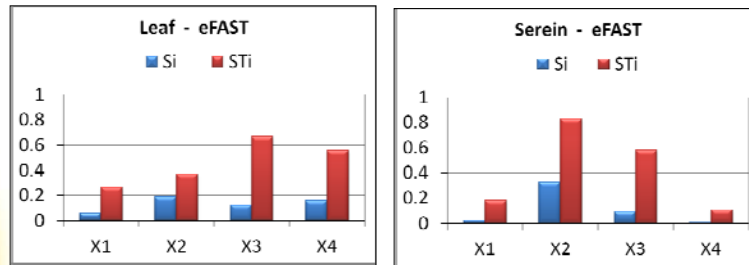
## Global Sensitivity Analysis - eFAST

- Variance based method
- First order effect of  $x_i$ :  $S_i$ 
  - gives the expected variance reduction if  $x_i$  was known perfectly (no variation)
- Total effect of  $x_i$ :  $S_{Ti}$ 
  - gives the expected fraction of the total variance that would be left if  $(\{x_{1...k}\} \setminus \{x_i\})$  were fixed
- Interaction:  $S_{Ti} - S_i$



## Global Sensitivity Analysis - eFAST

- eFAST: Factors prioritization ( $S_i$ ) & fixing ( $S_{Ti}$ )



- $X_1$  (Leaf),  $X_1, X_4$  (Serein): not important (blue bars)
- They cannot be fixed (red bars)

## Global Sensitivity Analysis

- Number of required simulation runs to reach convergence (of parameter groups)

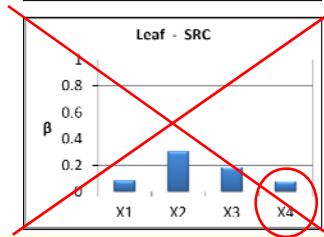
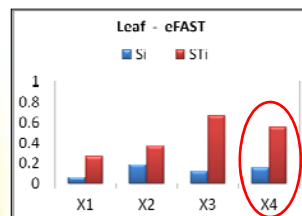
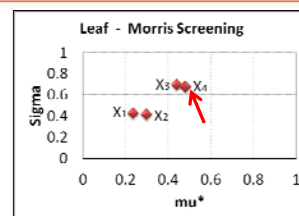
	N° factors	GSA		
		Morris	SRC	eFAST
<b>Suggested</b>	<b>k</b>	<b>[4-8]*(k+1)</b>	<b>[500-1000]</b>	<b>[500-1000]*k</b>
GR4J	4	50*(k+1)	1000	1000*k
MORDOR10	10	100*(k+1)	5000	2000*k

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## GSA Comparison – GR4J

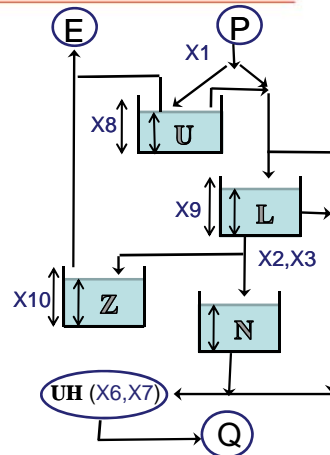
- SRC  
 $R^2 = 0.14 < 0.7$



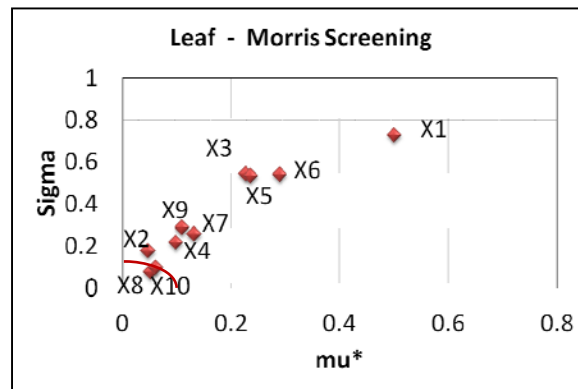
## MORDOR10 model

“rainfall-runoff” model  
(Paquet, 2004)

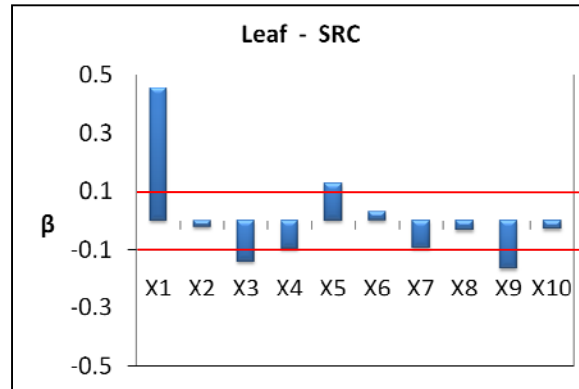
- Inputs:  
P: Precipitation (rain)  
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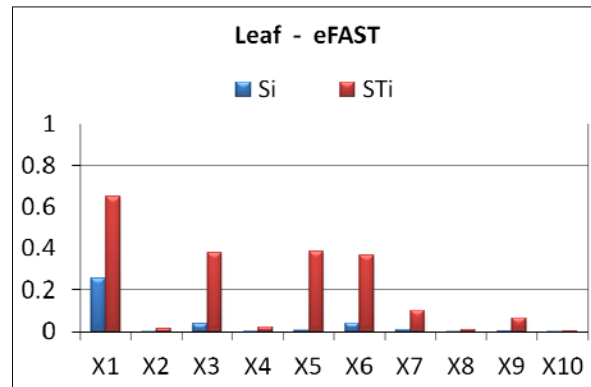
## Morris – MORDOR10



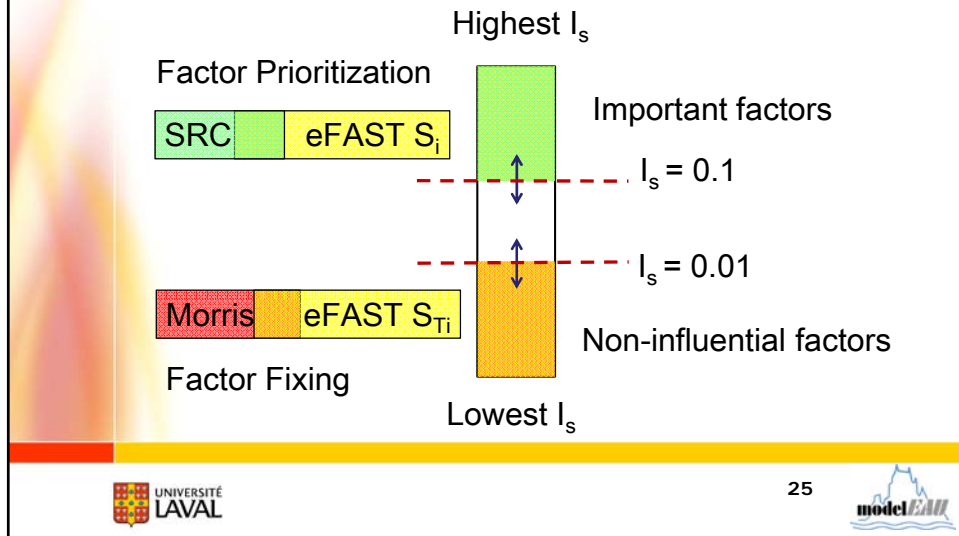
## SRC – MORDOR10



## eFAST – MORDOR10

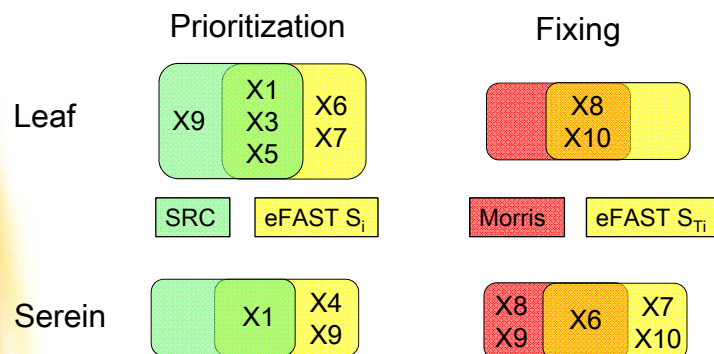


## GSA Comparison - MORDOR10



## GSA Comparison – MORDOR10

- Hydrology: 10 factors



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## Conclusion

- GSA: how output is affected by model factors?
- SRC and eFAST ( $S_i$ ) are used for factors prioritization: most important factors
- Morris and eFAST ( $S_{Ti}$ ) are used for factor fixing: non-influential factors

## Conclusion

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- GSA results are case study dependent
- GSA methods don't always give the same grouping of factors
- A number of method settings needs study:
  - Number of simulations needed (convergence)
  - Cut-off values for grouping