

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

MATH3001 Flood Analysis

Assessing and communicating mitigation of river floods to policy makers and the general public

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Discuss how your work fils within team

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this project are

(i) to analyse (river-gauge) data of 6-12 (more extreme) river floods in the UK as a team

(ii) to make a cost-effectiveness analysis for each based on flood-excess volume and flood policies

(iii) to communicate findings to policy makers and the public.

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.2. RELEVANT FIELDS

This project incorporates the following fields of mathematics:

- Computation (Python 3.2)
- Fluid Dynamics
- Financial (Cost-effect analysis)
- Error analysis
- Statistics

Other fields incorporated include Business and Politics.

outline

1.3. IMPORTANCE OF FLOODING

A flood is defined as "a great flowing or overflowing of water, especially over land not usually submerged."[1]

The frequency of extreme flooding in the UK has been predicted to increase with climate change. 17,000 properties were affected by flooding in the winter 2015-2016 in the north of the UK. December 2015 has been reported as the wettest month ever recorded [2] In 2017, flooding was a natural hazard identified as a major threat to the UK on the UK's Risk Register [3]

There are 4 main categories of flooding: fluvial (caused by a river bursting its banks), pluvial (caused by surface water run-off), coastal (caused by extreme tidal conditions) and reservoir (caused by dam failure) [4]

This project studies river floods. Fluvial, pluvial and reservoir flooding are in scope of this project whilst coastal flooding is out of scope.

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1.4. KEY DEFINITIONS, CONCEPTS & EQUATIONS

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The height of the river in meters.

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The height of the river in meters. h is recorded in-stitu on river using appropriate instrumentation.

 \bar{h} is the mean stage over the cross sectional area of the river. $\bar{h} \approx h$ as a river's free surfaces varies little along its cross sectional profile.

 h_t is the threshold height. This is defined as the stage for which $h>h_t$ is considered to be a flood. h_t is determined empirically by a review of historical data and field observations.

 h_{max} is the maximum stage during a defined time interval.

 h_m is the arithmetic mean of multiple measurements of h over a defined time interval defor N, Kantle and can be calculated using the following formula

$$h_m = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} h(t_k)$$

Where subscript k is the time index and denotes the time interval at which h was recorded.

1.4.2. Discharge Q/m³

A rating curve is a graph used in hydrology which shows the relationship between the discharge volume of a river $Q = Q(h) / m^3$ as a function of the stage h/m.

The rating curve equation for Q(h) has the following form

Invidenaire $Q(\hbar)=C_i(h-a_i)B_i$ Where C_i , a_i , B_i are parameters which have been fitted using historical data and insitu measurements of the river. The subscript i denotes the interval for the range of hvalues for which the parameters are valid.

 Q_{max}/m^3 is the maximum discharge of the river over a defined time interval. It can be measured directly or calculated using the rating curve equation.

 $Q_{max} = Q(h_{max})$

Joly 2x Q_{t} is the threshold discharge which is the volume of water for which $Q>Q_{t}$ is considered a flood. It can calculated using the rating curve equation.

 $Q_t = Q(h_t)$

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Formulas partif centerce: include tooten.



The discharge volume Q can be generated indirectly from measurements of the stage of river, using Q = Q(h), or measured directly using appropriate instrumentation.

Q(t)=Q(2(t)).

dependences!

1.4.3. Flood Effective Volume (FEV) V m³

The volume of water responsible for causing flooding. There are 3 methods for calculating V_o .

 T_f is the defined period of flooding and can be estimated using the times flood warnings were released and ended.

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Estimate 1, V₀₁

$$V_e \approx V_{e1} = (Q_{max} - Q_t) T_f$$

Where the defined time interval for Q_{max} is T_f . This estimate is appropriate if stage h and discharge Q data are available, but the frequency of measurements is considered to be significant in comparison to T_f .

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Estimate 2 , V_{e2}

$$V_e \approx V_{e2} = \sum_{k=1}^{N} (Q(h(t_k)) - Q_t) \Delta t$$

Where the subscript k denotes the time interval at which $h(t_k)$ is recorded and $\Delta t=t_{k+1}-t_k$, $\forall~t=0,1,...,N$

This estimate is appropriate if the frequency of measurements is considered to be less significant in comparison to $T_{\!f}$

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Estimate 3, V_{e3}

$$V_e \approx V_{e3} = T_f \frac{Q_{max}}{h_{max}} (h_m - h_t)$$

Where the time interval for h_m is T_f . This estimate is appropriate where automatic reading of river stage and rating curves are absent. T_f , Q_{max} , h_{max} , h_m , h_t can all be estimated.

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2. ASSESSMENT OF 3 YORKSHIRE RIVERS

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- 2.2. Aire
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3. ASSESSMENT OF RIVER OUSE

- 3.1. Rational for River Choice
- 3.2. Rational for Flood Event Choice
- 3.3. Analysis of Flood Events
- 3.4. Proposed work

4. FURTHER WORK NEEDED

4.1. FEV MODEL

4.1.1. Literature Review

A need for a literature has been identified. The material provided does not reference a literature review. Other models may already exist which could be improved. There may ou new submis scer be the opportunity to collaborate with other researchers who are also working on this at present.

4.1.2. Estimating h_t and T_f

There is no standardised or consistent way of estimating h_t and T_f . The empirical methods used to estimate these lead to uncertainties which propagate when the FEV is calculated.

4.1.3. Representativeness of Data

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The data used to calculate FEV are taken from a single monitoring station. The material reviewed does not discuss in detail how representative this could be of the flood experienced to local area. This could be improved by considering the locations the land between two monitoring stations.

4.1.4. Worst-case scenario

The material reviewed does not use the "worst-case scenario" approach. This approach takes the most undesired situation (e.g the upper bound of flooding). This can lead to mitigation strategies of all risk events simultaneously.

Expart.



4.2. ANALYSIS OF RIVER OUSE FLOOD EVENTS

5. REFERENCES

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