Watbal3

import pylab

Layered Water Balance Model

Soil Water Fluxes

The I-D finite elements formulation of Richards' equation is frequently formulated as:

$$Q_{bl} = 1/2(K_u(j) + K_u(j+1))(rac{h(j) - h(j+1)}{1/2(\delta_z(j) + \delta_z(j+1)} - 1)$$

where Q_{bl} is the (upwards) flow across the bottom boundary of soil layer j,h is the average capillary pressure in a layer (here expressed as a positive value) and δ_z is the thickness of a layer.

```
var('j')
delzvec(j) = function('delzvec',j)  # thickness of layer j
ksatvec(j) = function('ksatvec',j)  # saturated hydraulic conductivity in
layer j
thetavec(j) = function('thetavec',j)  # volumetric soil moisture in layer j
suvec(j) = function('suvec',j)  # Saturation degree in layer j
pcapvec(j) = function('pcapvec',j)  # Matric suction in layer j
kunsatvec(j) = function('kunsatvec',j)  # Unsaturated hydraulic conductivity in
layer j
qblvec(j) = function('qblvec',j)  # Flow across the bottom boundary of
layer j (upwards)
```

```
# Classical formulation of flow across the bottom boundary of layer j (upwards)
eq_gbl = qblvec(j) == 1/2*(kunsatvec(j) + kunsatvec(j+1))*(-1 + (pcapvec(j) -
pcapvec(j+1))/(1/2*(delzvec(j) + delzvec(j+1))))
eq_gbl

qblvec(j) == -1/2*(2*(pcapvec(j + 1) - pcapvec(j))/(delzvec(j + 1)
delzvec(j)) + 1)*(kunsatvec(j + 1) + kunsatvec(j))

# Infiltration capacity
qinfc = (pcapvec(1)/(1/2*delzvec(1)) + 1)*ksatvec(1)
qinfc

(2*pcapvec(1)/delzvec(1) + 1)*ksatvec(1)
```

Matrix pressure head

```
thetarvec(j) = function('thetarvec',j)  # Residual soil moisture in layer j
thetasvec(j) = function('thetasvec',j)  # Saturated soil moisture in layer j
avgvec(j) = function('avgvec',j)  # van Genuchten parameter alpha in
layer j
mvgvec(j) = function('mvgvec',j)  # van Genuchten Parameter m in
layer j
```

```
nvgvec(j) = function('nvgvec',j)  # van Genuchten parameter n in
layer j
```

```
eq_theta_su = thetavec(j) == thetarvec(j) - suvec(j)*thetarvec(j) +
suvec(j)*thetasvec(j)
eq_theta_su

thetavec(j) == -suvec(j)*thetarvec(j) + suvec(j)*thetasvec(j) +
thetarvec(j)

# Infiltration capacity
qinfc = (pcapvec(1)/(1/2*delzvec(1)) + 1)*ksatvec(1)
qinfc

(2*pcapvec(1)/delzvec(1) + 1)*ksatvec(1)
```

Matrix pressure head after van Genuchten

```
thetarvec(j) = function('thetarvec',j)  # Residual soil moisture in layer j
thetasvec(j) = function('thetasvec',j)  # Saturated soil moisture in layer j
avgvec(j) = function('avgvec',j)  # van Genuchten parameter alpha in
layer j
mvgvec(j) = function('mvgvec',j)  # van Genuchten Parameter m in
layer j
nvgvec(j) = function('nvgvec',j)  # van Genuchten parameter n in
layer j
```

where I/avgvec has dimension of length, while mvg and nvg are related by:

```
eq_mvg = mvgvec(j) == 1 - (1/nvgvec(j))
eq_mvg

mvgvec(j) == -1/nvgvec(j) + 1
```

eq h can be solved for su(j) to obtain:

p1

```
eq suh
   suvec(j) == (1/((pcapvec(j))*avgvec(j))*nvgvec(j) + 1))*mvgvec(j)
#parameters for sandy loam
pars_sl = {avgvec(j):7.5, nvgvec(j):1.89,ksatvec(j):1.228*10^-5,
thetarvec(j):0.065, thetasvec(j):0.41}
pars_sl[mvgvec(j)] = eq_mvg.rhs().subs_expr(pars_sl)
pars_sl[delzvec(j)] = 0.5
pars_sl
    {delzvec(j): 0.500000000000000, avgvec(j): 7.5000000000000,
   thetarvec(j): 0.0650000000000000, mvgvec(j): 0.470899470899471,
   nvgvec(j): 1.8900000000000, thetasvec(j): 0.4100000000000,
   ksatvec(j): 0.0000122800000000000)
curve = eq_h.subs(eq_mvg).subs_expr(pars_sl).subs_expr(suvec(j) == x)
print curve.rhs()
p1 = plot(curve.rhs(), (x,0.01,1))
p1.axes_labels(['su','pcap (m)'])
p1.axes_range(0,1,0,10)
#p1.show(frame=True, axes=False)
```

0.133333333333333333*(1/x^2.12359550561798 - 1)^0.529100529100529 pcap (m) 10 4 2 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 SU

The relative conductivity is given as:

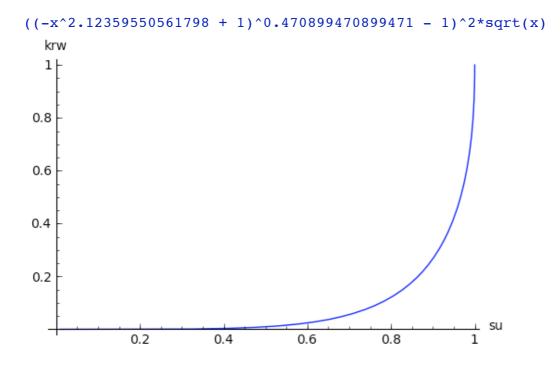
```
krwvec(j) = suvec(j)^(1/2)*(1 - (1 - suvec(j)^(1/mvgvec(j)))^mvgvec(j))^2
krwvec(j)

((-suvec(j)^(1/mvgvec(j)) + 1)^mvgvec(j) - 1)^2*sqrt(suvec(j))

eq_kunsat = kunsatvec(j) == ksatvec(j)*krwvec(j)
eq_kunsat

kunsatvec(j) == ((-suvec(j)^(1/mvgvec(j)) + 1)^mvgvec(j) -
1)^2*ksatvec(j)*sqrt(suvec(j))

curve = krwvec(j)*subs_expr(eq_mvg)*subs_expr(pars_sl)*subs_expr(suvec(j) == x)
print curve
p1 = plot(curve, (x,0.01,1))
p1.axes_labels(['su','krw'])
p1.axes_range(0,0.99,0,1)
p1
```



Seapage face flow

In the original VOM, seapage face flow was formulated as a function of the saturated area fraction (omgo = I - omgu) and ys, where

```
omgo == 1/2*(2*cz - 2*zr - sqrt((2*cz - zr)^2 - 2*(2*cz - zr)*ys +
2*ys*zr - zr^2))/(cz - zr)

or

omgu == yu/(cz - zr)
ys == cz - omgu * yu

var('yu omgo omgu ys cz zr zm cgs g0 spgfcf')
eq_omgu = omgu == yu/(cz - zr)
eq_ys = ys == cz - omqu * yu
```

```
soln = solve(eq_omgu.subs(solve(eq_ys,yu)[0]),omgu)
soln

[omgu == -sqrt(cz/(cz - zr) - ys/(cz - zr)), omgu == sqrt(cz/(cz -
zr) - ys/(cz - zr))]
```

```
eq_omgu1 = soln[1]; eq_omgu1
```

omgu == sqrt(cz/(cz - zr) - ys/(cz - zr))
eq_omgo = omgo == 1 - eq_omgul.rhs()
eq_omgo

```
\begin{array}{rcl} -\text{omgo} & \text{call} & \text{call
```

eq_omgo1 = omgo == 1/2*(2*cz - 2*zr - sqrt((2*cz - zr)^2 - 2*(2*cz - zr)*ys + 2*ys*zr - zr^2))/(cz - zr)
eq_spgfcf = spgfcf == ksatvec(j) * omgo / (cos(g0) * cgs) * 1/2 * (ys - zr)

```
assume(cz > zr, cz > ys, ys > zr)
```

```
eq_spgfcf.subs(eq_omgo).expand().factor()

spgfcf == 1/2*(sqrt(cz - zr) - sqrt(cz - ys))*(ys -
    zr)*ksatvec(j)/(sqrt(cz - zr)*cgs*cos(g0))

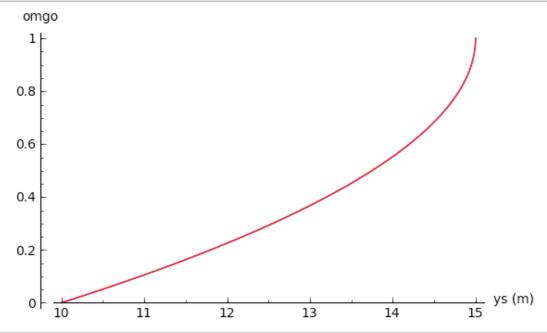
eq_spgfcf.subs(eq_omgo1)

spgfcf == 1/4*(ys - zr)*(2*cz - 2*zr - sqrt((2*cz - zr)^2 - 2*(2*c:
    - zr)*ys + 2*ys*zr - zr^2))*ksatvec(j)/((cz - zr)*cgs*cos(g0))
```

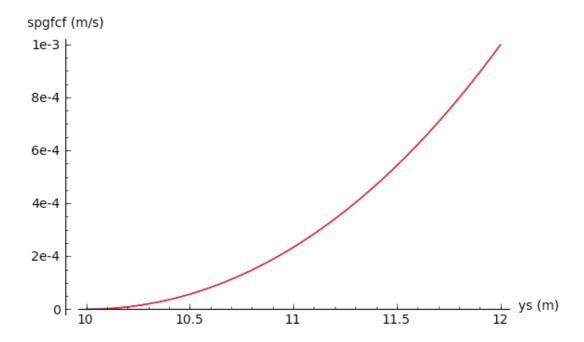
For Howard Springs, this gave the following relationship between the thickness of the saturated zone (ys) and runoff (spgfcf):

```
pars1 = {}
pars1[zr] = 10
pars1[cz] = 15
pars1[cgs] = 10
pars1[g0] = 0.033
pars1[ksatvec(j)] = 1.23e-5
```

```
P = plot(1 - eq_omgul.rhs().subs(pars1),(ys,10,15))
P += plot(eq_omgo.rhs().subs(pars1),(ys,10,15), rgbcolor = 'red')
P.axes_labels(['ys (m)','omgo'])
P
```

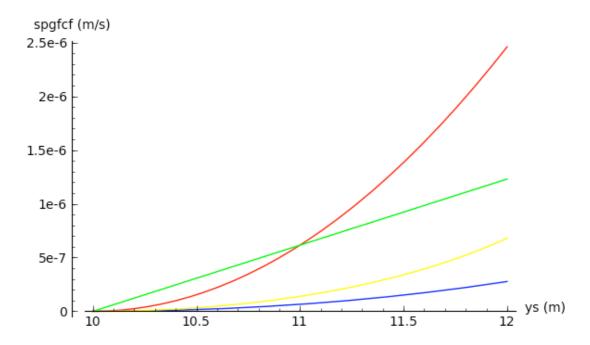


```
P = plot(3600*eq_spgfcf.rhs().subs(eq_omgo).subs(pars1), (ys,10,12))
P += plot(3600*eq_spgfcf.rhs().subs(eq_omgo1).subs(pars1), (ys,10,12), rgbcolor =
'red')
P.axes_labels(['ys (m)','spgfcf (m/s)'])
P
```



A more intuitive way of formulating runoff for a horizontal catchment with vertical channel walls would be a function of the head above channel elevation (centre of gravity = 0.5*(ys-zr)) and hydrol. cond. multiplied by the flow cross-section divided by a mean distance to channel:

P.axes labels(['ys (m)','spgfcf (m/s)'])



All of the alternative formulations would lead to larger runoff than the on in the original VOM based on Reggiani (2000). Therefore, we will adopt the original formulation:

```
eq_spgfcf.subs(eq_omgo)
spgfcf == -1/2*(sqrt(cz/(cz - zr) - ys/(cz - zr)) - 1)*(ys -
zr)*ksatvec(j)/(cgs*cos(g0))
```

Equilibrium soil moisture (θ)

No fluxes between soil layers occur if the following h(j) profile is achieved:

```
soln = solve(0 == eq_qbl.rhs(),pcapvec(j))
soln

[pcapvec(j) == 1/2*delzvec(j + 1) + 1/2*delzvec(j) + pcapvec(j + 1)
eq_heq = soln[0]
```

For sandy loam, the equilibrium su above a saturated layer would thus be:

```
eq_suh.subs(eq_heq.subs_expr(pcapvec(j + 1) == 0, delzvec(j + 1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl)

suvec(j) == 0.297131909518541

# Equilibrium suvec in the old code
dummydepth = ys + delzvec(j) / 2
dummysu = (1 + (avgvec(j) * (dummydepth - ys)) ^ nvgvec(j)) ^ (-mvgvec(j))

dummysu.subs(pars_sl)

0.504217476108434
```

In the old code, equilibrium peap in the layer above the saturated one was assumed to be

=0.5*delzvec(j), while in the new code it is = delzvec(j):

```
eq_heq.subs_expr(pcapvec(j + 1) == 0, delzvec(j + 1) == delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl)
pcapvec(j) == 0.500000000000000
```

Position of the water table

Note that the finite elements formulation of Richards' equation leads to an equilibrium above a saturated layer if $\left(\frac{h(j+1)-h(j)}{1/2(\delta_z(j)+\delta_z(j+1)}-1\right)=0$

where h(j+1)=0. This would imply that water would flow into the saturated layer if h(j) was any lower. This again would imply that water could flow from an unsaturated layer into a layer that is already saturated! Equilibrium would be reached at:

```
pcapeqvec(j) = function('pcapeqvec',j)  # Equilibrium capillary head

soln = solve(0 == eq_qbl.rhs().subs_expr(pcapvec(j+1) == 0),pcapvec(j))
soln

[pcapvec(j) == 1/2*delzvec(j + 1) + 1/2*delzvec(j)]

eq_pcapeq = pcapeqvec(j) == soln[0].rhs()
eq_pcapeq

pcapeqvec(j) == 1/2*delzvec(j + 1) + 1/2*delzvec(j)

eq_pcapeq.rhs().subs_expr(delzvec(j+1) == delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl)
0.5000000000000000
```

Equilibrium su at which there would be no flow into the saturated layer below:

```
sueqvec(j) = function('sueqvec(j)',j)
eq_sueq1 = eq_suh.subs(pcapvec(j) == eq_pcapeq.rhs())
eq_sueq1

suvec(j) == (1/((1/2*(delzvec(j + 1) +
    delzvec(j))*avgvec(j))^nvgvec(j) + 1))^mvgvec(j)
```

Equilibrium θ at which there would be no flow into the saturated layer below:

```
thetaeqvec(j) = function('thetaeqvec',j)
eq_thetaeq1 = eq_theta_su.subs_expr(eq_suh.subs(pcapvec(j) == pcapeqvec(j)))
eq_thetaeq1

thetavec(j) == -(1/((avgvec(j)*pcapeqvec(j))^nvgvec(j) +
1))^mvgvec(j)*thetarvec(j) + (1/((avgvec(j)*pcapeqvec(j))^nvgvec(j) +
1))^mvgvec(j)*thetasvec(j) + thetarvec(j)
```

In sandy loam, if all layers are of the same thickness, this would give:

```
eq_thetaeq1.subs_expr(eq_pcapeq).subs_expr(delzvec(j + 1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl)
thetavec(j) == 0.167510508783897
```

This would be equivalent to a saturation degree of:

```
eq_suh.subs(pcapvec(j) == eq_pcapeq.rhs()).subs_expr(delzvec(j + 1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl)
suvec(j) == 0.297131909518541
```

For consistency with the formulation of unsaturated flow, we will formulate the position of the water table as a linear function between 0 at $pcap = pcap_{eq}$ and δ_z at pcap = 0.

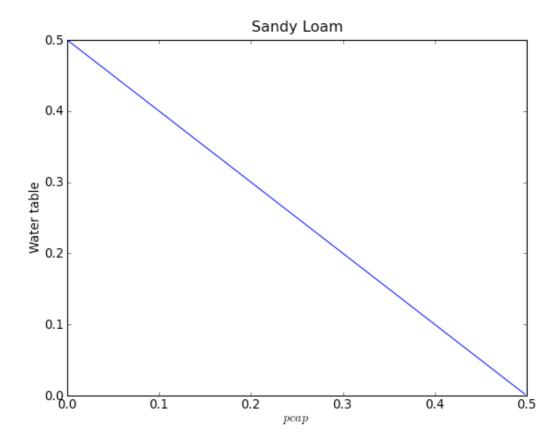
```
wt1(j) = function('wt1', j) # Thickness of saturated fraction in layer j
eq_wt1 = wt1(j) == delzvec(j) - delzvec(j)/eq_pcapeq.rhs()*pcapvec(j)
eq_wt1

wt1(j) == -2*delzvec(j)*pcapvec(j)/(delzvec(j + 1) + delzvec(j)) +
delzvec(j)
```

This would give the following relation between pcap and the position of the water table in the bottom layer:

```
%hide
pcapvals = srange(0,eq_pcapeq.rhs().subs_expr(delzvec(j+1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl).n(),0.001)
wtvals = [eq_wt1.rhs().subs_expr(delzvec(j+1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl).subs_expr(pcapvec(j) == dummy).n() for dummy in
pcapvals]

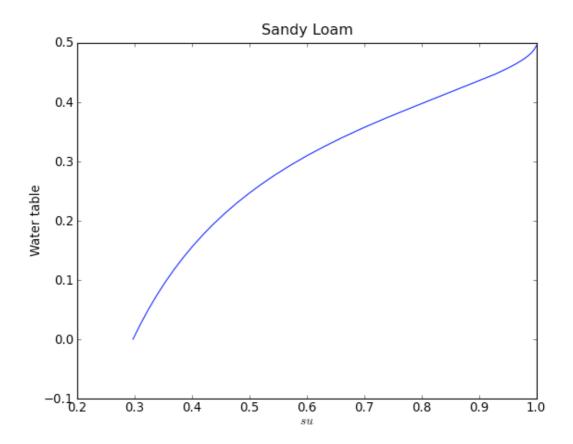
pylab.clf()
pylab.figure(1)
pylab.plot(pcapvals,wtvals)
#pylab.ylim(0.45,0.5)
pylab.title('Sandy Loam')
pylab.xlabel("$pcap$") # label the axes
pylab.ylabel("Water table")
pylab.savefig('foo.png',dpi = 80) # fire!
pylab.close()
```



As a function of su:

```
%hide
suvals = srange(eq_suh.rhs().subs_expr(pcapvec(j) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl).n(),1,0.001)
wtsuvals = [eq_wt1.rhs().subs_expr(delzvec(j+1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs_expr(eq_h).subs_expr(suvec(j) == dummy).subs(pars_sl).n() for
dummy in suvals]

pylab.figure(1)
pylab.plot(suvals,wtsuvals)
#pylab.ylim(0.45,0.5)
pylab.title('Sandy Loam')
pylab.xlabel("$su$") # label the axes
pylab.ylabel("Water table")
pylab.savefig('foo.png',dpi = 80) # fire!
pylab.close()
```



As a function of θ :

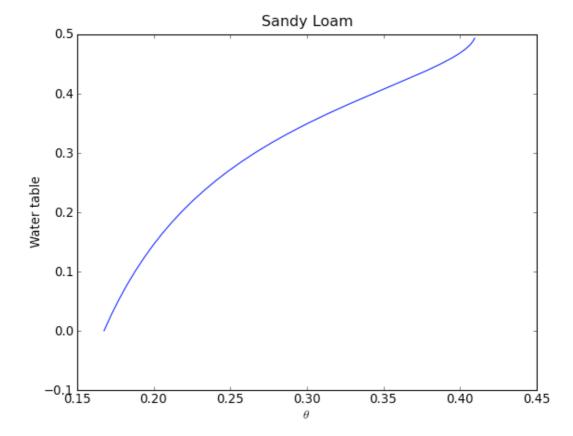
thetavals]

```
eq_wt1.subs_expr(eq_h).subs_expr(eq_su_theta)
    wt1(j) == -2*((-(thetavec(j) - thetarvec(j)))/(thetarvec(j) -
    thetasvec(j)))^(-1/mvgvec(j)) -
    1)^{(1/\text{nvgvec}(j))*\text{delzvec}(j)/((\text{delzvec}(j+1)+
    delzvec(j))*avgvec(j)) + delzvec(j)
thetavals = srange(eq suh.rhs().subs expr(pcapvec(j) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars sl).n(),1,0.001)
eq wt1.rhs().subs expr(eq h).subs expr(eq su theta).subs expr(delzvec(j+1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars sl)
    -0.133333333333333*(1/(2.89855072463768*thetavec(j) -
    0.188405797101449)^2.12359550561798 - 1)^0.529100529100529 +
    0.500000000000000
var('dummy')
val_thetaeq = (eq_thetaeq1.subs_expr(eq_pcapeq).subs_expr(delzvec(j + 1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl).rhs()).n()
val thetas = thetasvec(j).subs(pars sl).n()
thetavals = srange(val_thetaeq,val_thetas,0.001)
wtthetavals =
```

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[eq_wt1.rhs().subs_expr(eq_h).subs_expr(eq_su_theta).subs_expr(delzvec(j+1) ==
delzvec(j)).subs(pars_sl).subs_expr(thetavec(j) == dummy).n() for dummy in

```
%hide
pylab.figure(1)
pylab.plot(thetavals,wtthetavals)
#pylab.ylim(0.45,0.5)
pylab.title('Sandy Loam')
pylab.xlabel("$\\theta$") # label the axes
pylab.ylabel("Water table")
pylab.savefig('foo.png',dpi = 80) # fire!
pylab.close()
```



The non-linearity between θ and the water table will lead to a stepwise change of the recession curve as the water table moves from one layer to the next. The steps would become less visible as the layer thickness is decreased.

Change in state variables

The soil moisture in each layer changes as a function of the fluxes. In the top soil layer, soil evaporation and infiltration have to be considered in addition to root water uptake and unsaturated flow, while in the bottom layer seepage face flow has to be considered. To relate volumetric fluxes to changes in the saturation degree, we need to consider the $su(\theta)$ function and the thickness of each layer.

```
eq_su_theta
suvec(j) == -(thetavec(j) - thetarvec(j))/(thetarvec(j) -
thetasvec(j))

iovec(j) = function('iovec',j)  # input - output in each soil layer
ruptkvec(j) = function('ruptkvec',j)  # root water uptake by perennial veg
```

ruptkgvec(j) = function('ruptkgvec',j) # root water uptake by seasonal veg

Overflowing layers

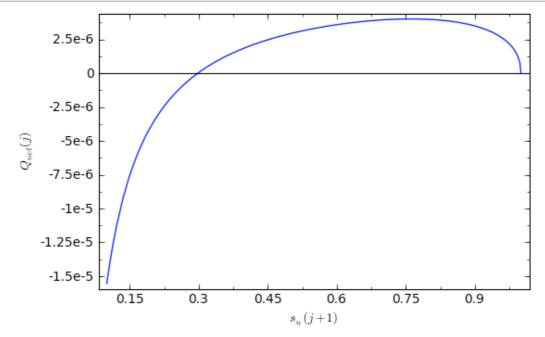
thetarvec(j)

If a saturated layer is between another saturated layer above and an unsaturated layer below, it can happen that the equations will still lead to a net water uptake into the saturated layer:

```
eq\_qbottom
    qblvec(j) == 1/2*(2*((suvec(j)^(-1/mvgvec(j)) -
    1)^{(1/\text{nvgvec}(j))/\text{avgvec}(j)} - (\text{suvec}(j + 1)^{(-1/\text{mvgvec}(j + 1))} -
    1)^{(1/\text{nvgvec}(j+1))/\text{avgvec}(j+1))/(\text{delzvec}(j+1)+\text{delzvec}(j))}
    1)*(((-suvec(j + 1)^(1/mvgvec(j + 1)) + 1)^mvgvec(j + 1) -
    1)^2*ksatvec(j + 1)*sqrt(suvec(j + 1)) + ((-suvec(j)^(1/mvgvec(j)))
    1)^mvgvec(j) - 1)^2*ksatvec(j)*sqrt(suvec(j)))
eq_qtop = (eq_qbl.subs_expr(eq_h, eq_h(j = j + 1),eq_kunsat, eq_kunsat(j = j +
1))).subs_expr(j == j - 1)
eq_qtop
    qblvec(j - 1) == -1/2*(2*((suvec(j)^(-1/mvgvec(j)) - 1/mvgvec(j)))
    1)^{(1/\text{nvgvec}(j))/\text{avgvec}(j)} - (\text{suvec}(j-1)^{(-1/\text{mvgvec}(j-1))} - (\text{suvec}(j-1)^{(-1/\text{mvgvec}(j-1))})
    1)^{(1/\text{nvgvec}(j-1))/\text{avgvec}(j-1))/(\text{delzvec}(j-1) + \text{delzvec}(j))}
    1)*(((-suvec(j - 1)^(1/mvgvec(j - 1)) + 1)^mvgvec(j - 1) -
    1)^2*ksatvec(j - 1)*sqrt(suvec(j - 1)) + ((-suvec(j)^(1/mvgvec(j)))
    1)^mvgvec(j) - 1)^2*ksatvec(j)*sqrt(suvec(j)))
eq_qbl.subs_expr(pcapvec == x).rhs()
    1/2*(2*(x - pcapvec(j + 1))/(delzvec(j + 1) + delzvec(j)) -
    1)*(kunsatvec(j + 1) + kunsatvec(j))
net_qbl(j) = eq_qbottom.rhs() - eq_qtop.rhs()
net_qbl(j)
```

```
1/2*(2*((suvec(j)^{(-1/mvgvec(j))} - 1)^{(1/nvgvec(j))/avgvec(j)} -
          (suvec(j - 1)^{(-1/mvgvec(j - 1))} - 1)^{(1/nvgvec(j - 1))/avgvec(j - 1)}
          1))/(delzvec(j - 1) + delzvec(j)) + 1)*(((-suvec(j - 1)^(1/mvgvec(j)))
          -1)) + 1)^m vgvec(j - 1) - 1)^2 *ksatvec(j - 1)*sqrt(suvec(j - 1))
          ((-suvec(j)^{(1/mvgvec(j))} + 1)^{mvgvec(j)} -
          1)^2*ksatvec(j)*sqrt(suvec(j))) + 1/2*(2*((suvec(j))^(-1/mvgvec(j)))
          1)^{(1/\text{nvgvec}(j))/\text{avgvec}(j)} - (\text{suvec}(j+1)^{(-1/\text{mvgvec}(j+1))} - (\text{suvec}(j+1)^{(-1/\text{mvgvec}(j+1))})
          1)^{(1/\text{nvgvec}(j+1))/\text{avgvec}(j+1))/(\text{delzvec}(j+1)+\text{delzvec}(j))}
          1)*(((-suvec(j + 1)^(1/mvgvec(j + 1)) + 1)^mvgvec(j + 1) -
          1)^2*ksatvec(j + 1)*sqrt(suvec(j + 1)) + ((-suvec(j)^(1/mvgvec(j)))
          1)^mvgvec(j) - 1)^2*ksatvec(j)*sqrt(suvec(j)))
var('delz')
test = (net_qbl(j).subs_expr(mvgvec(j - 1) == mvgvec(j), mvgvec(j + 1) == mvgvec(j), mvgvec(j
mvgvec(j), nvgvec(j-1) == nvgvec(j), nvgvec(j+1) == nvgvec(j), avgvec(j-1)
== avgvec(j),avgvec(j + 1) == avgvec(j), ksatvec(j - 1) == ksatvec(j), ksatvec(j
+ 1) == ksatvec(j), delzvec(j - 1) == delz, delzvec(j + 1) == delz, suvec(j - 1)
== 1, suvec(j) == 1, suvec(j + 1) == x))
          (0^{\text{mvgvec}}(j) - 1)^{2}ksatvec(j) - 1/2*(2*((x^{-1/\text{mvgvec}}(j)) - 1/2*)
          1)^{(1/n \vee q \vee ec(j))/a \vee q \vee ec(j)} - 0^{(1/n \vee q \vee ec(j))/a \vee q \vee ec(j))/(delz +
          delzvec(j)) + 1)*(((-x^(1/mvgvec(j)) + 1)^mvgvec(j)) -
          1)^2*sqrt(x)*ksatvec(j) + (0^mvgvec(j) - 1)^2*ksatvec(j))
test.subs_expr(pars_sl)(delz = 0.5)(x = 0.9)
          3.50069401157976e-6
P = plot(test.subs_expr(pars_sl)(delz = 0.5),(x,0.1,1),frame = True)
```

```
P = plot(test.subs_expr(pars_sl)(delz = 0.5),(x,0.1,1),frame = True) \\ P.axes_labels(['$s_u(j + 1)$','$Q_{net}(j)$']) \\ P
```



The above plot demonstrates that there would be a net flow of water into the saturated layer j if layer j+1 has saturation contents between 0.3 and <1.0. This is caused by the fact that the decrease in unsaturated hydraulic conductivity with decreasing soil moisture offsets the increase in matric potential gradient, so that the downwards flow out of the saturated layer initially decreases with decreasing soil moisture below.

```
P = plot((eq_kunsat.subs_expr(eq_suh).subs_expr(pars_sl).subs_expr(pcapvec(j) ==
```

```
x).rhs()),(x,0.0001,1))
P.axes_labels(['pcap (m)', 'kunsat (m/s)'])
P
```

