Computational models in flood early warning systems

Krzhizhanovskaya, V.; Melnikova, N.; Shirshov, G.S.; Rusadi, F.I.; Belleman, R.G.; Lhomme, J.; Gouldby, B.P.; Topple, A.; Simm, J.

Published in:
Comprehensive flood risk management: research for policy and practice

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

UvA-DARE is a service provided by the library of the University of Amsterdam (http://dare.uva.nl)
We present computational models for flood early warning systems developed within the UrbanFlood European Union project. The models are used for prediction of dike failures and for flood risk assessment. The UrbanFlood early warning system monitors sensor networks installed in flood defences (dikes and levees), detects sensor signal abnormalities through an artificial intelligence module, calculates dike failure probability, and simulates possible scenarios of breaching, flood propagation, and city evacuation. Additionally, a Virtual Dike computational module has been developed for advanced research into dike reliability and potential failure mechanisms. The Virtual Dike is also used for training the artificial intelligence module on signal parameters induced by dike instabilities. All the relevant information and simulation results are fed into an interactive decision support system that helps dike managers and city authorities to make informed decisions in case of flood emergency and in routine dike quality assessment. Some developments have been reported in http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.procs.2011.04.012 and http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.procs.2011.04.084.

In this paper, we introduce a modelling workflow that includes modules for dike reliability analysis, dike breaching, breach discharge calculation, flood simulation, and evacuation planning. We focus on two models recently introduced into the system: (1) the HR-Breach model predicting the growth of dike breach and (2) the Life Safety Model simulating city evacuation scenarios. Finally, we present simulation results and a comparison of different dike stability models.

One of the critical issues in modelling is validation. Full-scale IJKDijk failure experiments and trusted modelling tools are used to develop, calibrate and validate simplified models for operational decision support systems requiring real-time response and quick analysis of multiple scenarios in critical flood situations. To achieve this goal, a number of models that simulate dike reliability have been compared.

Computational modules are invoked by workflow-based expert scenarios via the Common Information Space middleware. Compute-intensive models are run on a high-performance Cloud system of SARA supercomputing centre. This Cloud system provides dynamic resource allocation on demand, which is especially important in flood emergency situations.

This work is supported by EU FP7 project UrbanFlood #248767; by Leading Scientist Program of Russian Federation #11.G34.31.0019; and by BiGGrid project BG-020-10 #2010/01550/NCF with support from the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research.