ON THE FLOOD AND INUNDATION MANAGEMENT OF HO CHI MINH CITY, VIET NAM

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September 5th, 2013
Ho Chi Minh City, the economic capital of Viet Nam experiences 20-30 (urban) flood events annually.

Tidal flooding in Binh Tanh district, November 2011.
Viet Nam: Within the top five of countries potentially most affected by climate change. (Daspupta et al., 2008)

Ho Chi Minh City: Ranked within the top ten cities worldwide in terms of exposed population affected by climate change. (Nicholls et al., 2008)

Ho Chi Minh City: Accounts for 23% of GDP and 20% of foreign direct investments. (ADB, 2010)

Frequent flooding hampers the fast development of HCMC.

Increasing HCMC’s flood resilience is eminent.
Study area of the FIM-project
Flood risk reduction with measures

4 Strategies
- Reference
- MARD-plan (12 gates, 172 km embankment)
- MARD-variant
- Soai Rap barrier

4 Scenario’s
- Urban Planning (2025)
- Land subsidence (forecast 2025, 2050)
- Climate Change (SLR, rain)
- Control level gates

4 reference years: 2010, 2025, 2050, 2100

Land subsidence 2025 forecast
Threats / forcing factors

- Three large rivers
- Intense rainfall on the city
- High tides
Need for probabilistic risk analysis

265 communities

Set of measures (ADB, 2009)

241 communities

We developed a framework for probabilistic analysis to assess flood hazards of all combinations, i.e. strategies, scenarios, reference years.
Probabilistic model setup

Rainfall

Discharges
- Dong Nai
- Saigon
- Vam Co

Sea level

Hydrodynamic model HCMC

Water levels and Inundation depths

measure

damage
Some challenges in the risk modelling:

- Large number of threats
- Seasonal variation of risk
- Statistics for extremes and regular events
- Correlation between river discharges
- Different time scales (river vs sea)
- Non-stationary input series (sea level)
GEV-fit of the observed water level at station Vam Kenh

GEV-fit of the detrended water level at station Vam Kenh

Detrending increases the 10yr tidal level with 7cm
Forcing statistics: rainfall, monthly pattern

- Flood risk varies per month
- Different for rainfall and sea water level
- This needs to be taken into account in the simulations
Combining forcing variables

local water level influenced by 2 variables: river discharge and sea water level
Selected method: numerical integration

X-variables:
- Rainfall
- Sea water level
- Saigon river discharge
- Vam Co river discharge
- Dong Nai river discharge
- Each grid cell represents a combination of realisations of the 5 X-variables:

- Each grid cell can be seen as an “event”

- For each event/grid cell, a numerical model run is carried out to determine flood levels

- 2016 model runs for 1 case
**Sobek model set up**

- Catchment area ~2100 km\(^2\)
- > 2.250 km of rivers, channels, and drains
- Hydrological processes schematized with NAM
Multiple batch runs: database with model results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current situation</th>
<th>Measure 1</th>
<th>Measure 2</th>
<th>Subsidence scenario</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event/Run 1</td>
<td>Event/Run 1</td>
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N=2016
Multi-Criteria analysis criteria:

- Technical and hydraulic performance
- Environmental impacts
- Socio-economic impacts
- Costs and benefits
Conclusions

- A successful application of the probabilistic framework for flood hazard and risk assessment of flood management strategies for HCMC.

- The frameworks’ results support the selection of a preferred flood management strategy to increase HCMC’s flood resilience.

- The probabilistic nature of the framework enables the quantification of expected annual damage.

- Mitigating measures could be compared with expected annual damage reduction as various strategies assessed with the model.

- The framework has specific added value for deltaic areas, where multiple flood forcing factors interact.