Special Issue

Hydraulic Behavior of Karst Aquifers

Message from the Guest Editors

Karst aquifers constitute a fundamental resource for water supply. Their hydraulic characteristics are very different from other acquifer types as being formed by a complex conduit network, which is “immersed” in a low permeability fractured limestone volume. Besides, karstification processes leads to development of hierarchical conduit network within the aquifer, which causes the drainage to be converged to very specific points: The karst springs. Contributes from different karst areas of the world, dealing with the hydraulic behaviour of karst aquifers are welcome. The topic involves both classical hydraulic modelling adopted for karstic aquifers and recharge-discharge models, time series analyses, tracer tests, water geochemistry, isotope studies, etc. The aim is to provide local and general schemes of the water flow in karst aquifers, water table fluctuations and changes of hydraulic heads in the conduits during recharge and discharge periods resulting in different flow component types (either laminar or turbulent). Any hydraulic anomalies of karst aquifers connected to earthquakes, droughts, and man-made modifications are also included.

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In the context of global changes, the sustainable management of water cycles, going from global and regional water cycles to urban, industrial and agricultural water cycles, plays a very important role on the water resources and on their relationships with food, energy, biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and human health. *Water* invites authors to provide innovative original full articles, critical reviews and timely short communications and to propose special issues devoted to new technological and scientific domains and to interdisciplinary approaches of the water cycles. We ensure a critical review process and a quick turnaround between submission and final decision.

Editor-in-Chief

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