

# Improving modelling culture: Obstacles and opportunities

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## Harmonisation?

- > It was never the idea to achieve complete harmonisation in the sense that one model is appointed as 'the one and only'.
- > However: Many tools, procedures and datasets should be harmonised.
- > And: We should build upon the experiences of each other.



## The Harmonisation conferences:

> A platform for disseminating information on common tools, procedures and guidelines



## Central theme

- > We should make the most of our knowledge ensure that acquired knowledge is not forgotten, but used by the modelling community and included in the decision-making process.
- > How can we pool experiences and encourage re-use of our work?

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## The current situation

- > The situation is not optimal
- > Too much work is to some extent wasted



## A major challenge:

> How should we deal with the very large amount of information which is produced by the modelling community?



## Two aspects of the challenge

- > The challenge when you *seek information*
- > The challenge when you have the role as *information provider*



## Perspective of an information seeker

- > The information should match the problem at hand closely
- > The information should by no means be incorrect or misleading
- > Ideally
  - > it should point to possible solutions to your problem
  - it should make you aware of aspects to consider in choosing a solution
  - > it might include software tools or data
- > You don't want to miss important information



## Perspective of an information provider

- > You are *potentially* an information provider
- Maybe you have gained some experiences when you worked with a project.
- > Maybe you have finished a project.
- > You have information which could be of use to the modelling community.



## But...

> Nobody pays you to add information to the community pool!

# The "Funding obstacle"



## The result:

- > Valuable experiences are not communicated further.
- > Much work is to some extent wasted



### Can we overcome or bypass

"The funding obstacle"?



## Alternatives to funding

- > We should try to *bypass* the funding obstacle
- > How?



## The idea

- > It should require *only a small amount of extra effort* to contribute to the common pool of information.
- Nowadays the web offers a range of opportunities which make it easy to share information
- >

>



## Opportunities

# Resources and tools for information sharing on a practical level



## A relatively new, central tool

> Google Scholar



> "Google Scholar provides a simple way to broadly search for scholarly literature. Google Scholar helps you find relevant work across the world of scholarly research."



## Comparison with some more traditional search tools...

- > Web of Science
- > Scopus



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### COST 732 MODEL EVALUATION CASE STUDIES: APPROACH AND RESULTS

Edited by:

Michael Schatzmann, Helge Olesen and Jörg Franke

COST Action 732

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF MICROSCALE METEOROLOGICAL MODELS

February 22, 2010

cost 732 approach results



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Abstract: This paper looks at the application of Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) and integral approaches to the study of effects of obstacles on pollutant dispersion from a point source placed within an idealised urban area (MUST). This study is part of a modelling exercise within the COST Action 732. Numerical results are compared with wind tunnel data. We use the CFD code FLUENT and the dispersion model ADMS-Urban. The CFD model predicts concentrations more accurately than the integral model. However, both models results satisfy accepted statistical criteria, showing that those criteria should not be the only way of evaluating a model.

Document Type: Article

Language: English

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KeyWords Plus: STREET CANYONS; POLLUTANT DISPERSION; AIR-QUALITY; URBAN

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MUST experiment simulations using CFD and integral models R Buccolleri International Journal of Environment and, 2011 - Inderscience Page 1. 376 Int. J. Environment and Pollution, Vol. 44, Nos. 1/2/3/4, 2011 Copyright © 2011 Inderscience Enterprises Ltd. MUST experiment simulations using CFD and integral models Riccardo Buccolleri* Dipartimento di Informatica Related articles - All 7 versions	

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## Other 'opportunities' for the modelling community



## Wikipedia

### Restricted to 'encyclopaedic' articles



Many of the dispersion models developed by or accepted for use by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are accepted for use in many other countries as well. Those EPA models are grouped below into four categories.



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### Operational Street Pollution Model

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Operational Street Pollution Model (OSPM)** is an atmospheric dispersion model for simulating the dispersion of air pollutants in so-called street canyons. It was developed by the National Environmental Research Institute of Denmark, Department of Atmospheric Environment. For about 20 years, OSPM has been used in many countries for studying traffic pollution, performing analyses of field campaign measurements, studying efficiency of pollution abatement strategies, carrying out exposure assessments and as reference in comparisons to other models. OSPM is generally considered as state-of-the-art in practical street pollution modelling.

Contents [hide] 1 Description 2 See also 3 Further reading 4 References

### Description

In OSPM concentrations of traffic-emitted pollution is calculated using a combination of a plume model for the direct contribution and a box model for the recirculating part of the pollutants in the street.

The NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are calculated taking into account NO-NO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>3</sub> chemistry and the residence time of pollutants in the street. The model is designed to work with input and output in the form of one-hour averages.

The main principles in the model are depicted in *Figure 1* for the case of a wind direction nearly perpendicular to the street canyon. A receptor point in leeward position is affected by the direct plume showing considerably higher concentrations than a receptor in windward position being exposed to the less concentrated recirculating air.



Figure 1: Principal flow pattern inside a 🗗



## Specialised wiki on Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling

A Wiki provides something that we normally miss in the community of atmospheric dispersion professionals:

An easy possibility to provide feedback and pool our experiences with procedures, data sets and models related to our work.

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## Home page of the Atmospheric Dispersion Wiki

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Contents [show] Wiki addresses the international community of atmospheric dispersion modelers - primarily researchers, but also users of models. Its purpose is to <b>pool experier</b> gained by dispersion modelers during their work. Subjects - entry to the substance of the site <i>P</i> [cit Dispersion models Links to sites with models; comments on various types of models. Model evaluation Tool boxes; results of model evaluation exercises. Experimental data sets Links to sites with data sets; comments on data sets. Pet topics This is where you can contribute articles on your pet topics. Many experienced researchers have valuable experiences that should be communicated to others. International networks on atmospheric pollution information and links to activities such as the "Harmonisation initiative", FAIRMODE, ACCENT, CLEAR, COST 732, etc.) National Agencies, Organization and Institutes Here is where to find or contribute articles describing any national agencies, organizations and institutes that deal with atmospheric dispersion. User communities and national societies dealing with dispersion modeling. Links and issues of particular interest. Supplementary information Here is where to contribute or to look for miscellaneous dispersion modeling technical articles which do not fit into any of the above categories.	Home ZEdit 💌	70 PAGES ON IN Add a Page 0 Talk	Like 3 Search this wiki Q
Wiki on Atmospheric Dispersion Modeling         This wiki addresses the international community of atmospheric dispersion modelers - primarily researchers, but also users of models. Its purpose is to pool experier gained by dispersion modelers during their work.         Subjects - entry to the substance of the site relation of the site relation model evaluation a various types of models.         • Dispersion models Links to sites with models; comments on various types of models.         • Model evaluation Tool boxes; results of model evaluation exercises.         • Experimental data sets Links to sites with data sets; comments on data sets.         • Pet topics This is where you can contribute articles on your pet topics. Many experienced researchers have valuable experiences that should be communicated to others.         • International networks on atmospheric pollution Information and links to activities such as the "Harmonisation initiative", FAIRMODE, ACCENT, CLEAR, COST 732, etc.)         • National Agencies, Organization and Institutes Here is where to find or contribute articles describing any national agencies, organizations and institutes that deal with atmospheric dispersion.         • User communities and national societies dealing with dispersion modeling. Links and issues of particular interest.         • Supplementary information Here is where to contribute or to look for miscellaneous dispersion modeling technical articles which do not fit into any of the above categories.	Contents [show]		
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There are many web sites dedicated to atmospheric dispersion models. However, this site has the following unique qualities:

- In contrast to traditional web sites, it is possible for anyone to contribute easily to its contents. Therefore, the site has the potential to become more comprehensive than a site maintained by a single web master. Contributions can be actual information content, or links to material elsewhere on the Web.
- Warnings against pitfalls and common mistakes are of high interest. Researchers are encouraged to report on pitfalls they encounter, and which they would like to warn others against.





## Contributions

Contributions can be actual information content, or they can consist of links to material elsewhere on the web..



October 2011

## Problem about the Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling wiki

- > Very few contributors
- > Victim of the 'funding obstacle'?



## Future for the Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling wiki

- > Continues to exist
- > New host without annoying adds?
- Please contribute. Note Wiki is well suited to pool experiences on experimental data sets, because anybody can contribute with experiences, now and in future.
- Warnings against pitfalls and common mistakes are of high interest.



## Address of the Wiki on Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling

## AtmosphericDispersion.wikia.com

Forgot the address? Search for *Wiki Atmospheric Dispersion* 

- or go through <u>www.harmo.org</u>



## YouTube

- > A video repository
- Could be used for atmospheric dispersion experiments, model visualizations, educational videos illustrating physical phenoma like stack downwash etc.



## Atmospheric Dispersion mailing list

- > A list exists in the framework of Google groups. Established January 2011, approximately hundred subscribers.
- > http://groups.google.com/group/atmospheric-dispersion



## A cornerstone in our world:

> Scientific journals - now also several with open access



## LinkedIn www.linkedin.com

## > Has presently two relevant groups

- > Air Quality Dispersion Modeling
- > Air Quality and Emission testing network





#### Group Members in Your Network



Andrew Young







## LinkedIn and the "funding obstacle"

- > Despite the 'funding obstacle' LinkedIn groups are very much alive.
- LinkedIn groups on dispersion modelling have not yet caught on in Europe
- LinkedIn presents interesting opportunities but has also a potential to eat up your time



## The *Harmonisation* initiative...

- > <u>www.harmo.org</u> has a page entitled 'Related activities and tools'.
- > It contains all the links mentioned. The page will be extended with follow-up information

## To summarise

- > Use Google Scholar to search for information
- > Make sure your work is indexed by Google Scholar
- > Use Wikipedia where appropriate
- > Use the *Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling Wiki* where appropriate
- Consider also to use YouTube, the Atmospheric Dispersion mailing list and LinkedIn.
- > And of course: Scientific journals remain a corner stone.

See paper H14-259 or <u>www.harmo.org</u> for details