

# ***AN INCIPIENT UNCERTAINTY ANALYSIS IN HYDROLOGICAL MODELING ...***

**MARIO R. HERNÁNDEZ & FÉLIX FRANCÉS**

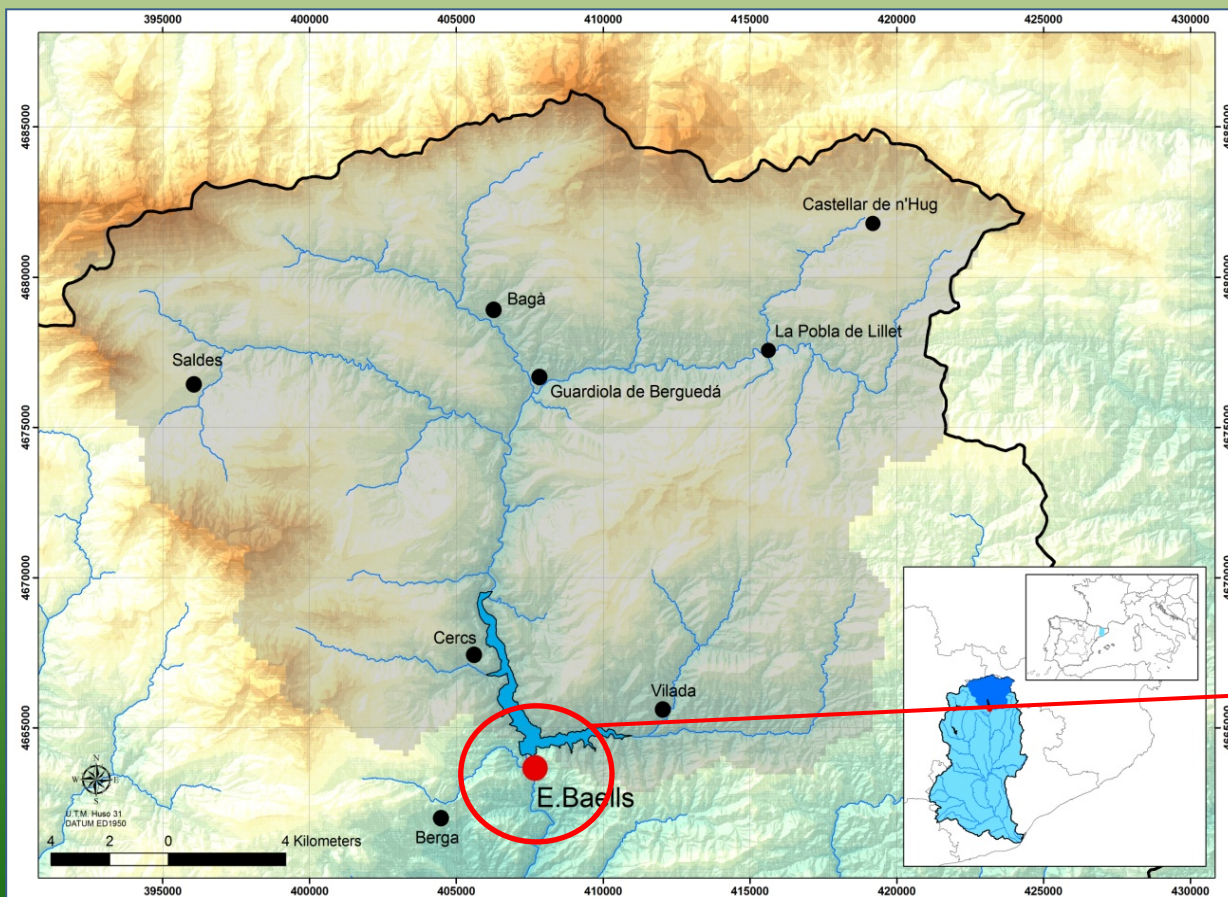
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Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain*

# The Basin

Name: La Baells Basin (High Llobregat River, Barcelona, Spain)

Area: 504 Km<sup>2</sup>

Mediterranean - High mountain climate (with Seasonal Snow)



## The Data

- Two Years of observed Stream Flow
- One previous Warm Up year
- Rain Series, Temp. (7 stations)

**1 Streamflow Gauging Station**

# The (deterministic) Hydrologic Model

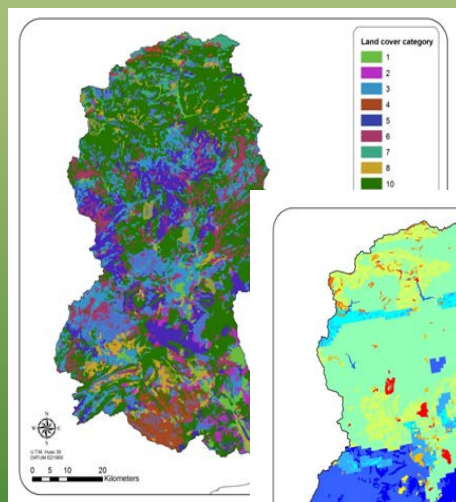
Name: TETIS (<http://lluvia.dihma.upv.es/EN/software/software.html>)



Model Type: Distributed Conceptual Model

Parameters: Split-parameter structure

“Split-parameter structure for the automatic calibration of distributed hydrological models.” Francés, F., Vélez, I., and Vélez, J. (2007). *Journal of Hydrology*, 332(1-2), 226–240.

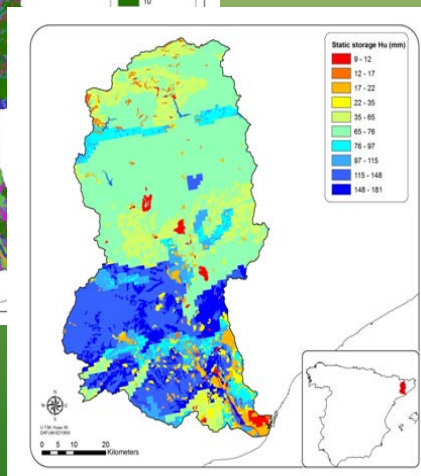


x FC1

Parameters to calibrate are,

Effective Parameters:

Not physically based, but  
With physical Meaning



x FC2



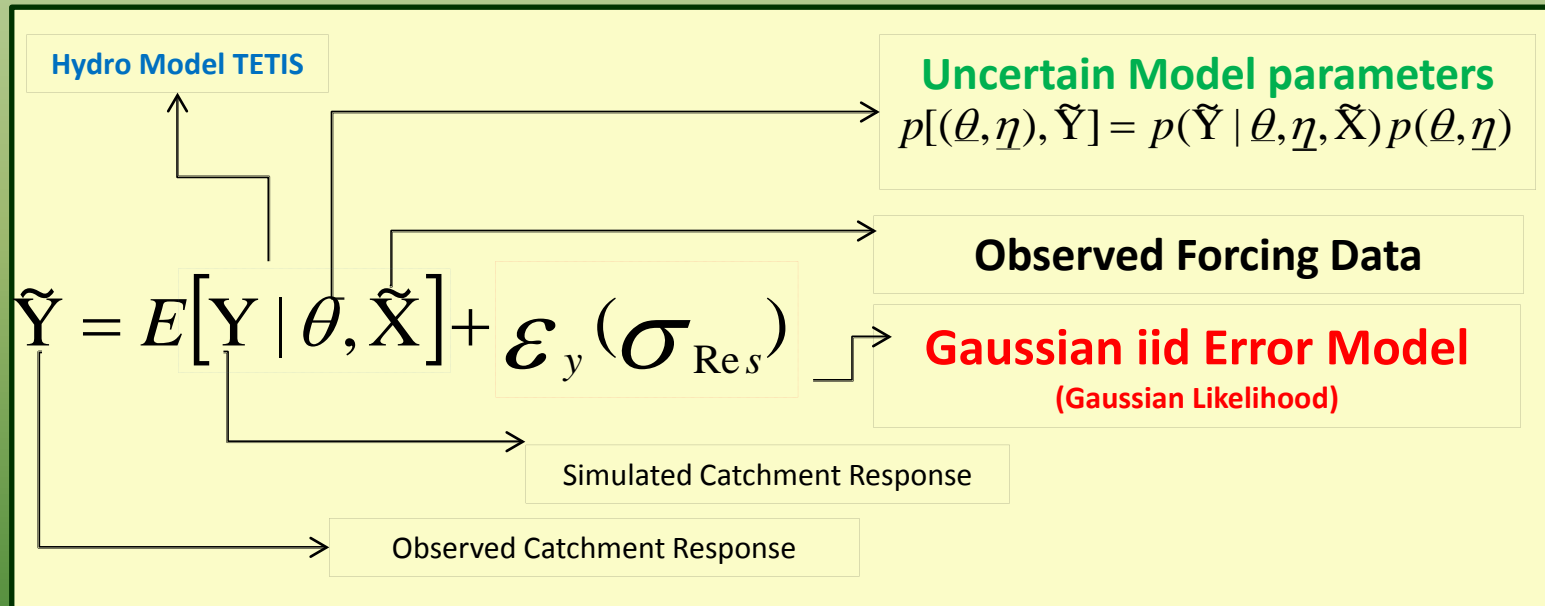
x FC12

# Calibration of Parameters

Traditional Estimation Criterion:

Minimizing SSR or RMSE or ... another Least Squares Approach

Bayesian Formal Equivalent Approach with Lumped Total Error:



Sampling Process of Parameters:

MCMC ADAPTIVE METHOD (DREAM; Vrugt & Braak)

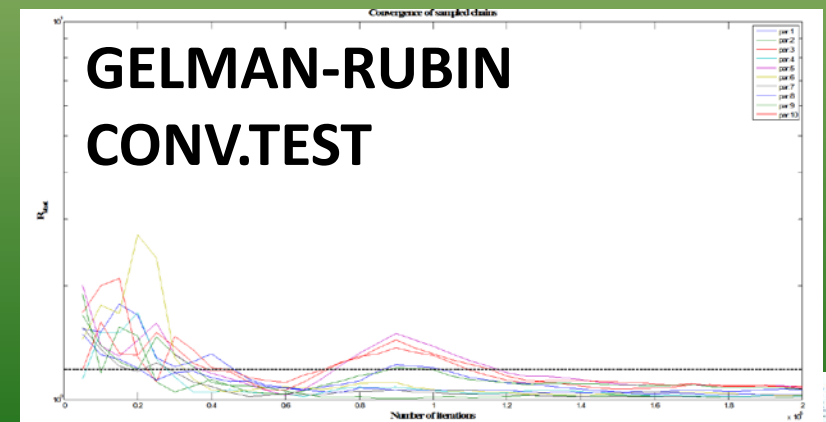
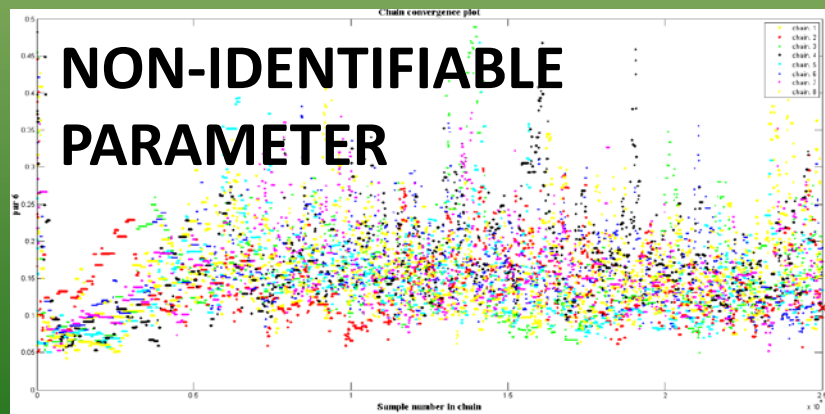
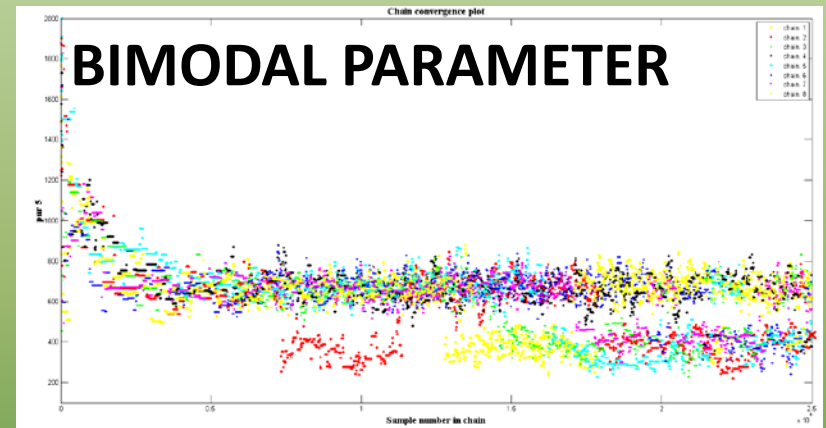
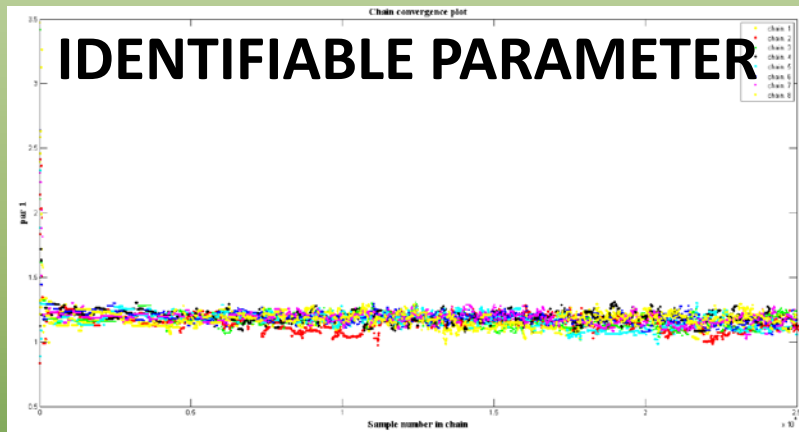
31.250 MCMC SIMULATIONS

(31.250 X 8 = 250.000) LIKELIHOOD EVALUATIONS (PARALLEL!!!!)

# Calibration of Parameters

Sampling Process of Parameters:  
MCMC ADAPTIVE METHOD (DREAM; Vrugt & Braak)

Evolution of the 8 Chains ...



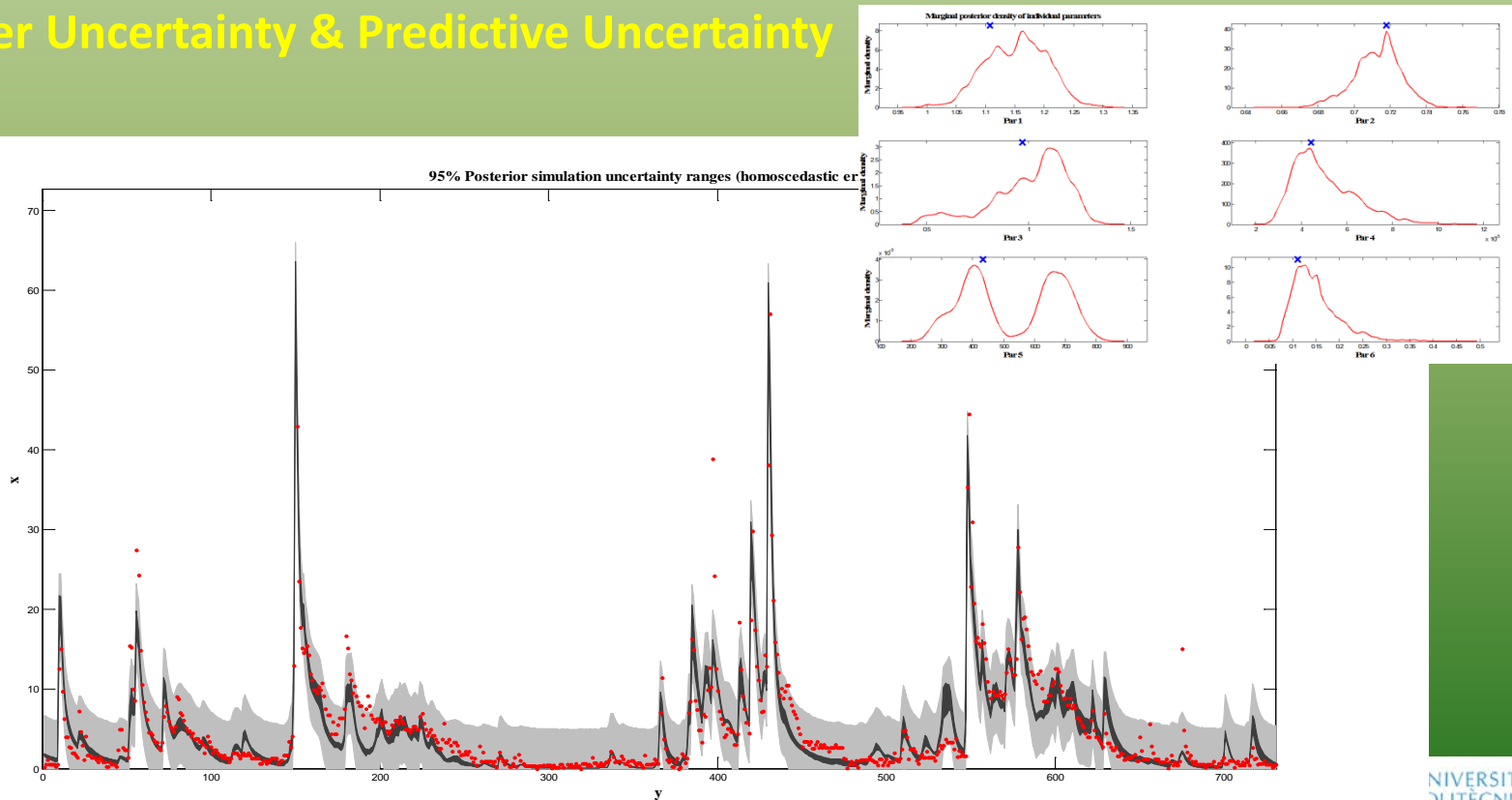
# Calibration of Parameters

## Traditional Criterion

MCMC Sampling Process of 12 Hydrologic Parameters:

Considering a constant variance of Residuals like a Nuisance Parameter

Parameter Uncertainty & Predictive Uncertainty



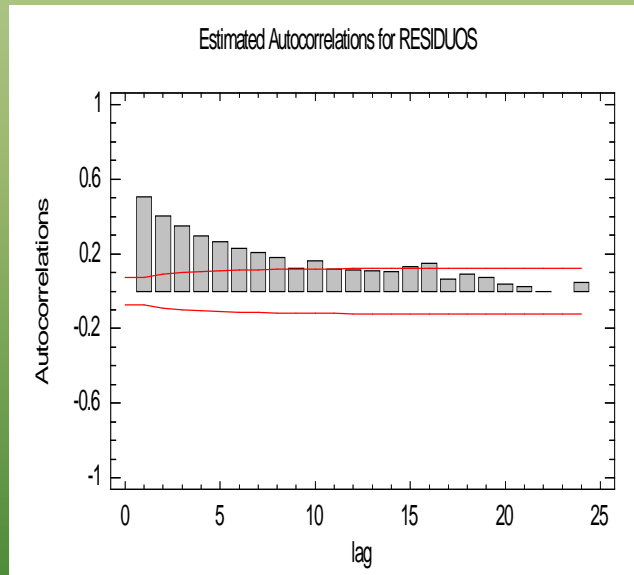
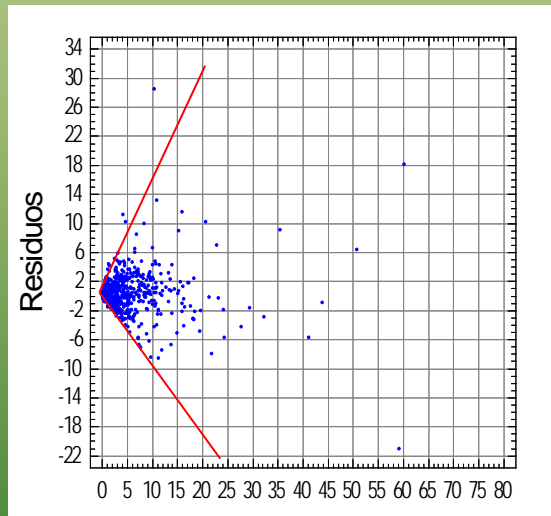
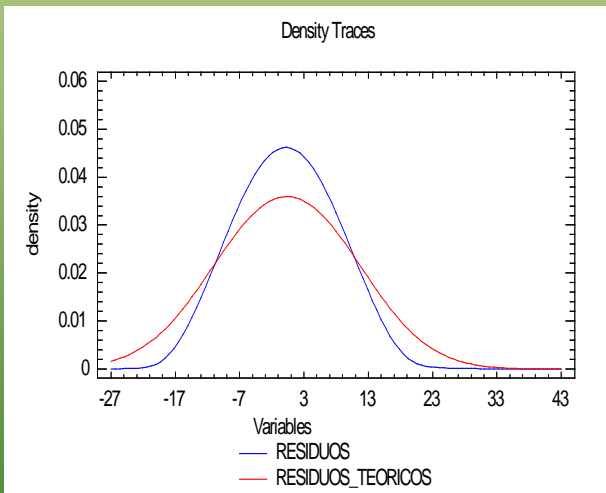
# Problems Encountered

## 1- Testing the Residuals...

GAUSSIAN ERRORS ??

HOMOSCEDÁSTIC RESIDUALS ??

INDEPENDENCE IN RESIDUALS???



**2- Symmetrical and equal-spread Uncertainty Bands with respect to Expectation leads to negative flows**

# Bayesian Calibration of Parameters

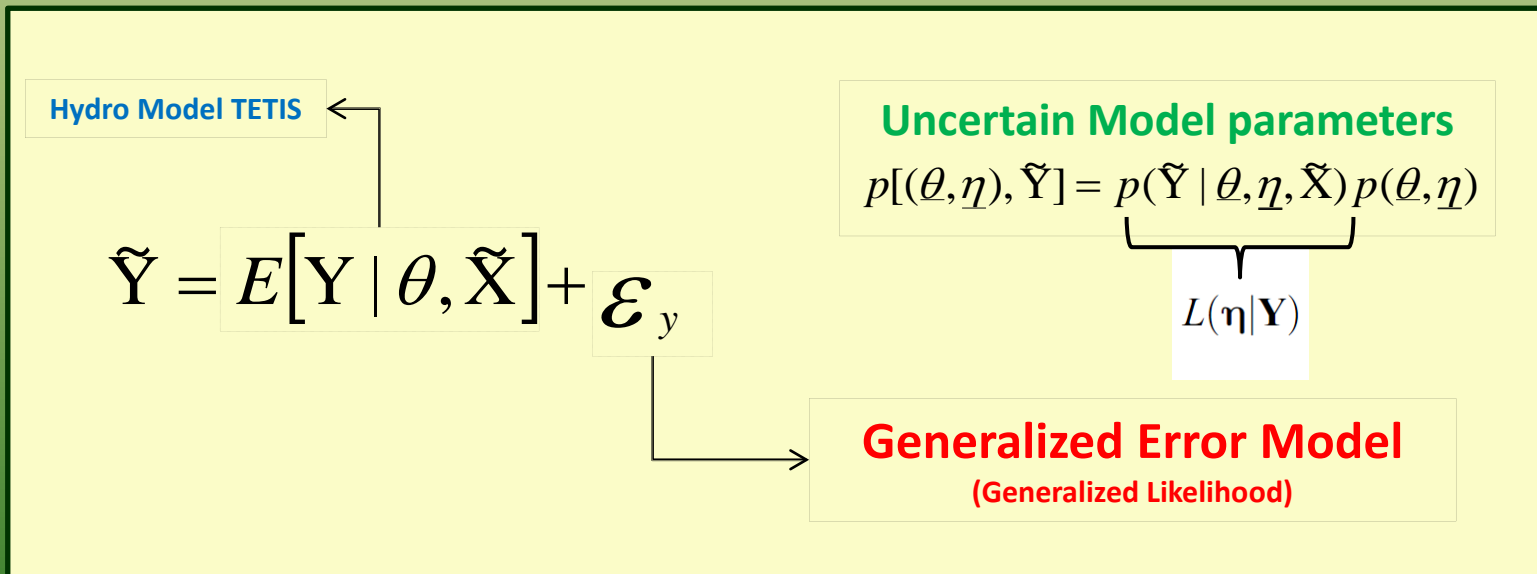
Bayesian Formal Estimation : **Minimizing  $-\log(\text{GL})$**

**GL: Generalized Likelihood (Vrugt & Schoups)**

$$L(\eta|\mathbf{Y}) = n \log \frac{2\sigma_\xi \omega_\beta}{\xi + \xi^{-1}} - \sum_{t=1}^n \log \sigma_t - c_\beta \sum_{t=1}^n |a_{\xi,t}|^{2/(1+\beta)}$$

...that can take into account Residuals Not Gaussian i.i.d:

- Heteroscedastic Residuals
- Autocorrelation
- Kurtosis and Skewness of errors distribution





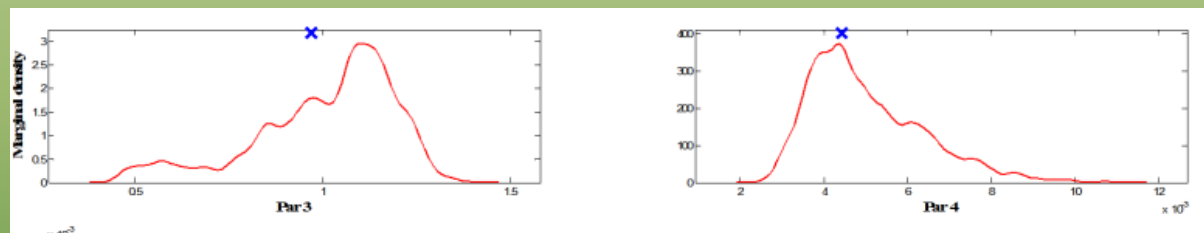


# Bayesian Calibration of Parameters Generalized Likelihood

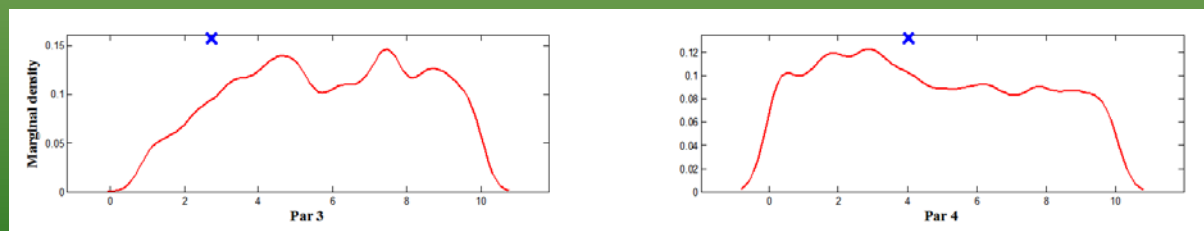
## Problems Encountered

1 – Some Parameters of Hydro Model have degenerated in Not-Identifiable Parameters

Gauss. Lik.



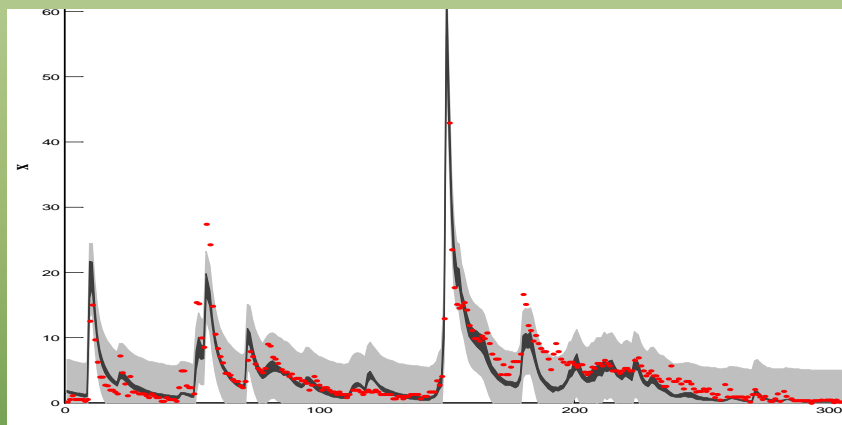
General. Lik.



## Bayesian Calibration of Parameters Generalized Likelihood

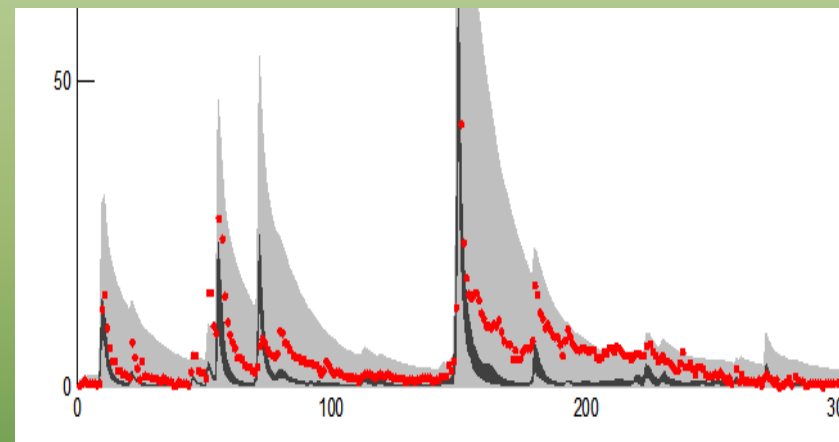
# Problems Encountered

2 – The Error Model has taken more responsibility in the fitting to the data set.  
Consequently the hydrological model has a worse performance.



### Gauss. Lik.

the Hydro. model is working to fit the data



### General. Lik.

the Hydro. model is not working to fit the data, and delegates in the Error Model to obtain the maximum likelihood

**NEXT STEP: Testing conclusions of “Pitfalls and improvements in the joint inference of heteroscedasticity and autocorrelation in hydrological model calibration (G. Evin , D.Kavetski et al. 2013) “**

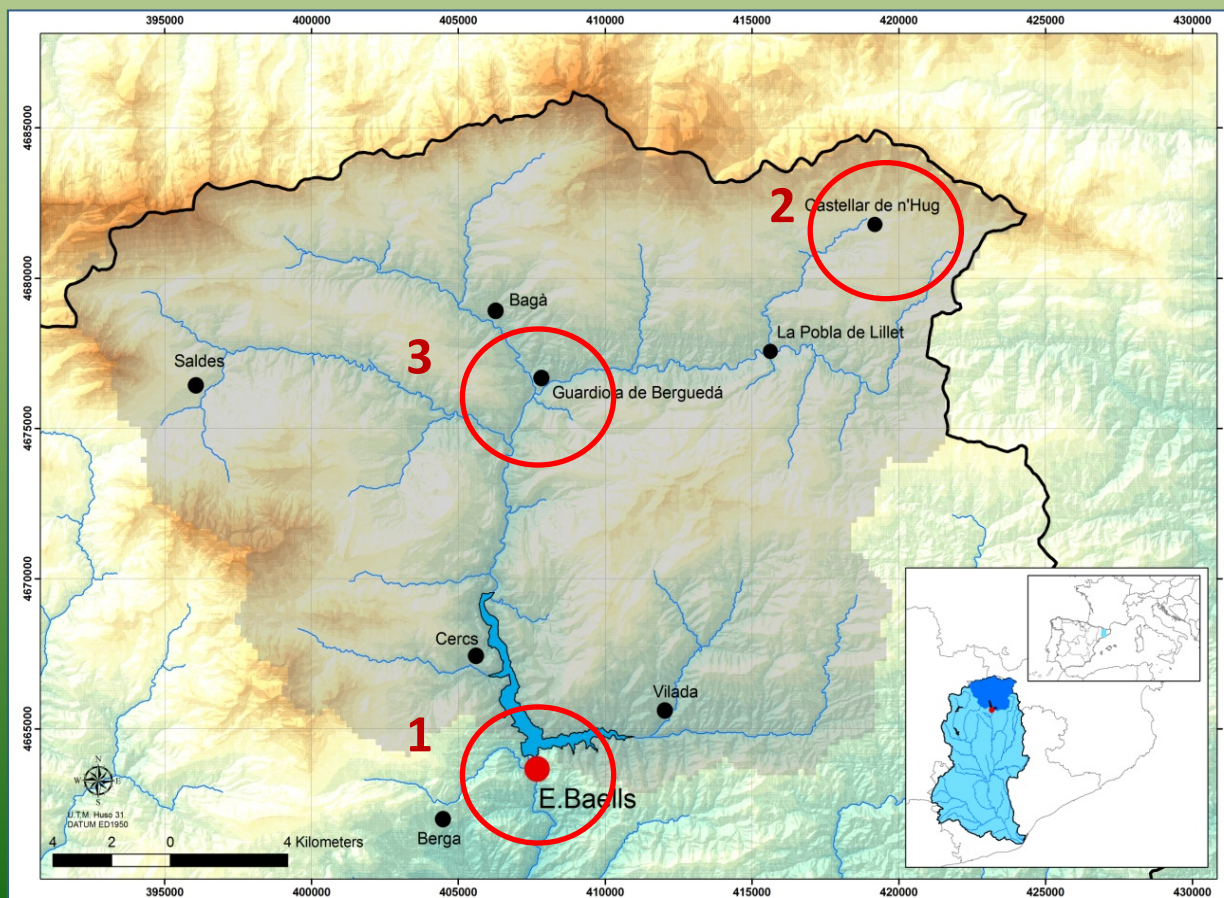
## Bayesian Calibration of Parameters Generalized Likelihood

# Challenges Encountered

How Can I use the information of several Gauging Stations ?

First Approach: **Sum Log Likelihoods**

Then...: **Test the independence between residuals of the distinct gauge stations**





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# ***THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION***

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**eawag**  
aquatic research

5th Summer School in Environmental Systems Analysis  
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