



The value of hydrological ensemble predictions for reservoir inflow management

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- Reservoir management concerns...
 - I. operational hydrologists interested in forecasting hazardous events like floods for early warning and reservoir operation (safety & security)
 - II. planners searching to optimize the management of water resources systems (uses & conflicts) and to plan system's evolution at different space-time scales (basin/national/regional planning)

*Loire River @ Grangent
November 2008
Photo: EDF*



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- Objective
 - to investigate the benefits of using hydrological ensemble predictions for reservoir inflow management in terms of potential gain to hydropower production

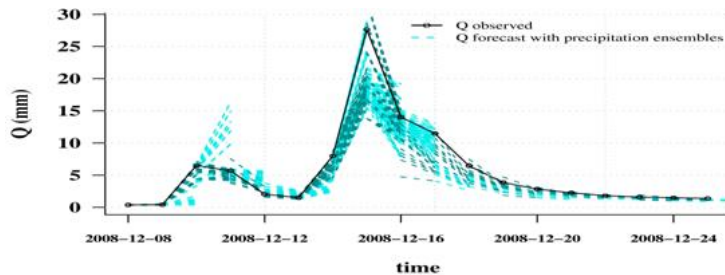


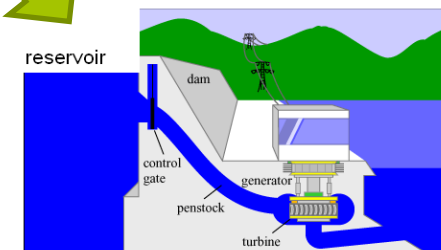
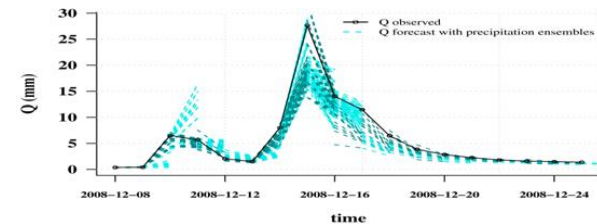
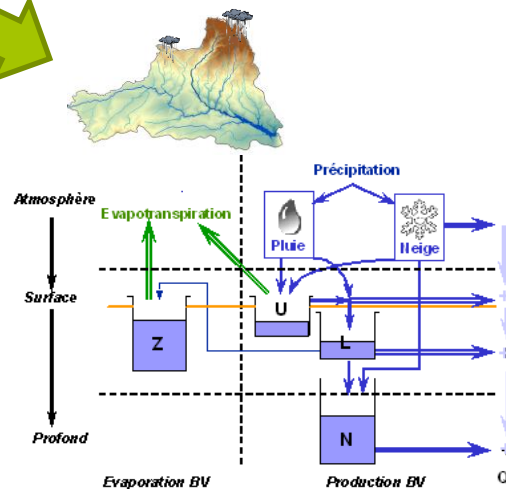
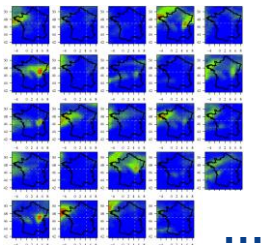
Photo: ENPC

Durance River @ Serre Ponçon
May 2008

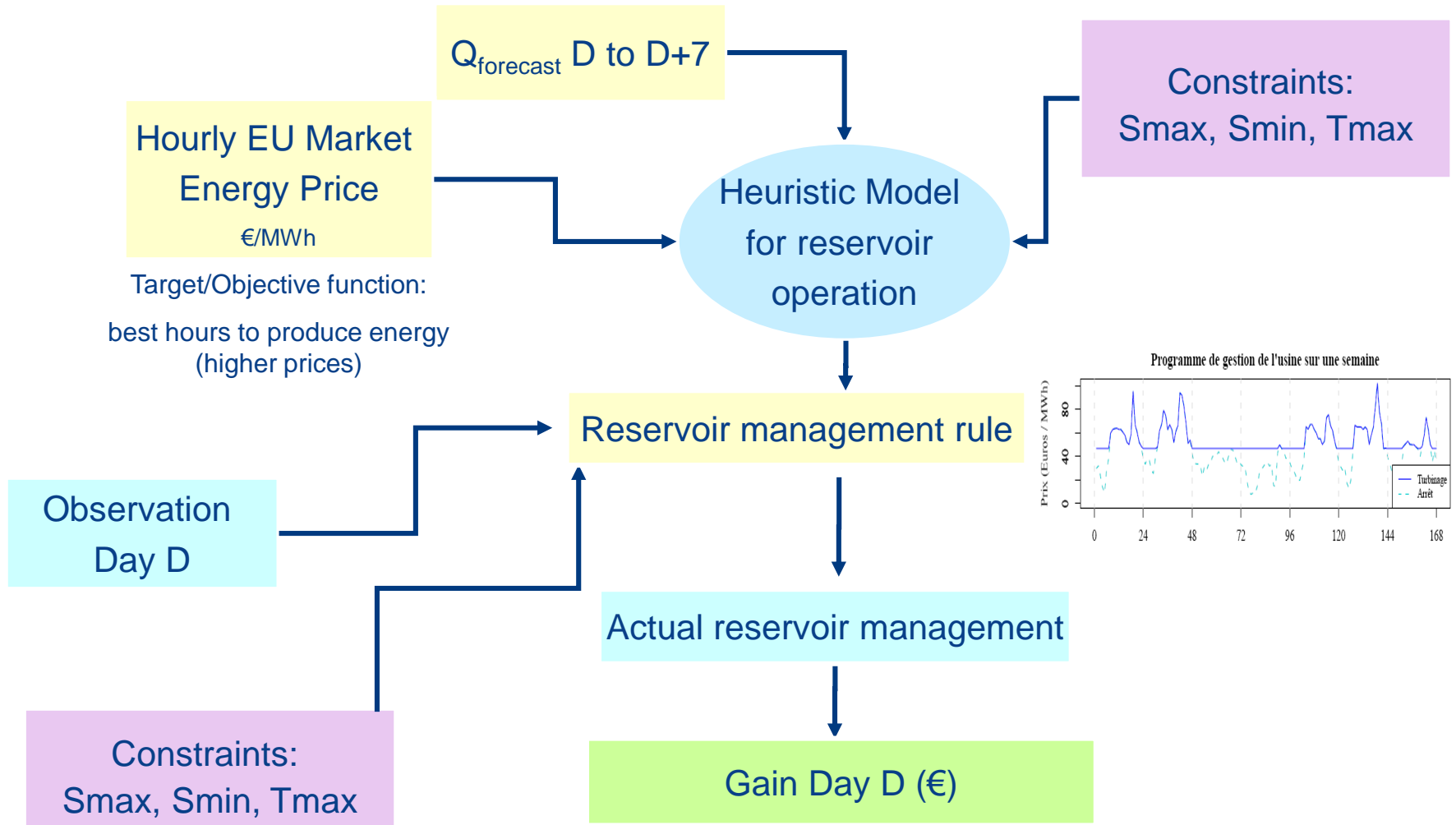
Photo: EDF

The value of hydrological ensemble predictions for reservoir inflow management

- Data & methods
 - ECMWF EPS as input to MORDOR hydrological model
 - Daily ensemble streamflow forecasts up to 7 days ahead
 - Heuristic model for reservoir operation
 - Hourly EU market energy prices (EPEX SPOT)

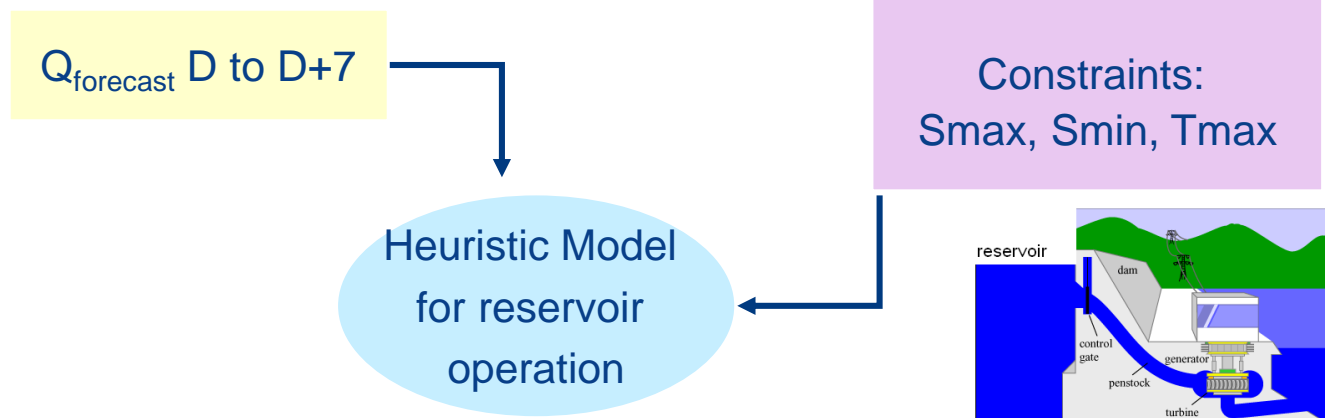


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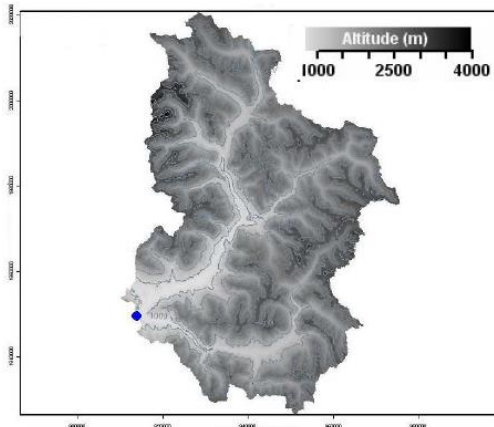
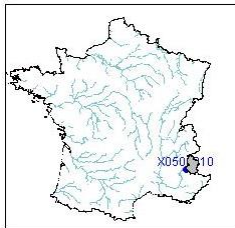
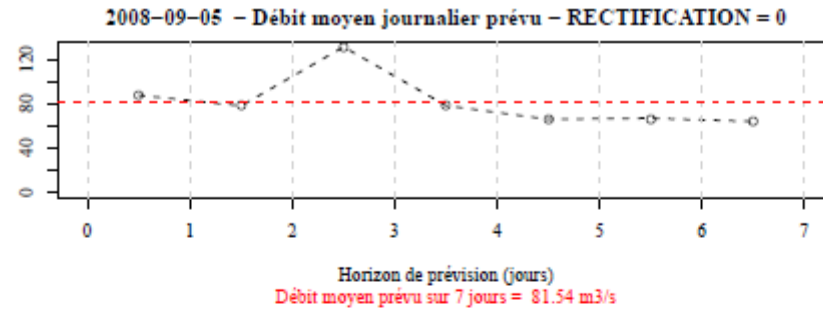
- Modelling of the power systems
 - Hydrological inflows: predictions over French catchments
 - Reservoirs: units of power production described by
 - Storage capacity coefficient (S_{max} , S_{min}): in days of mean daily flow of the catchment
 - Turbine capacity coefficient (T_{max}): maximum flow capacity (also related to the mean daily flow of the catchment)



Results: illustration for one day of single forecast (1/3)

- Sep 5th 2008:
Predicted inflow to
the Durance
reservoir for the
next 7 days

Q (m³/s)

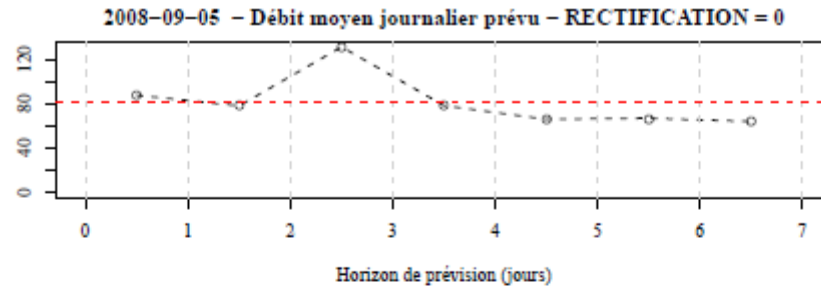


Results: illustration for one day of single forecast (1/3)

- Sep 5th 2008:
Predicted inflow to the Durance reservoir for the next 7 days
- Energy prices for the week
- Turbine capacity = 3 * mean daily flow of the catchment

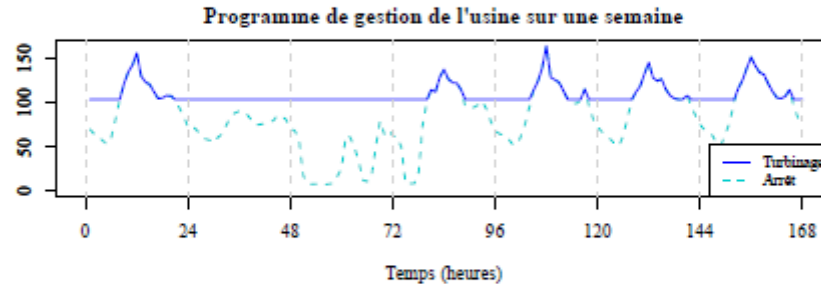


Q (m³/s)



Débit moyen prévu sur 7 jours = 81.54 m³/s

P
R
I
C
E
S



Prix seuil (s) E/MWh = 103.81

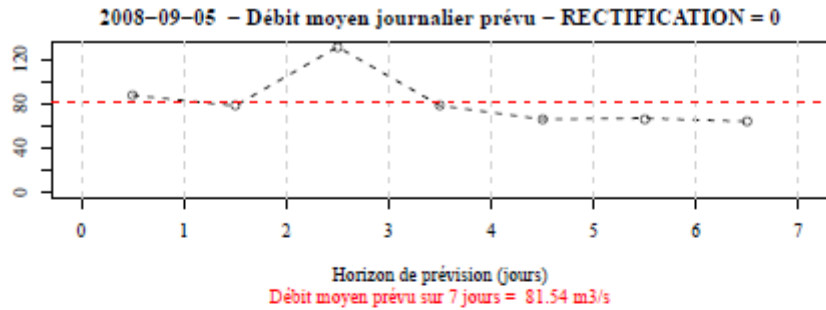
Indicator:
turbine
on/off

Results: illustration for one day of single forecast (1/3)

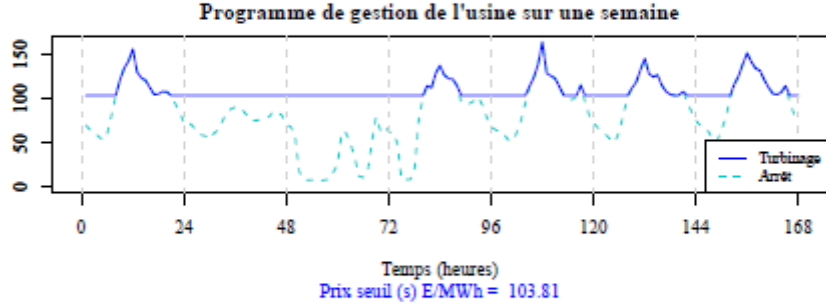
- Sep 5th 2008: Predicted inflow to the Durance reservoir for the next 7 days
- Energy prices for the week
- Turbine capacity = 3 * mean daily flow
- Reservoir capacity = 4 days of mean daily flow



Q (m³/s)

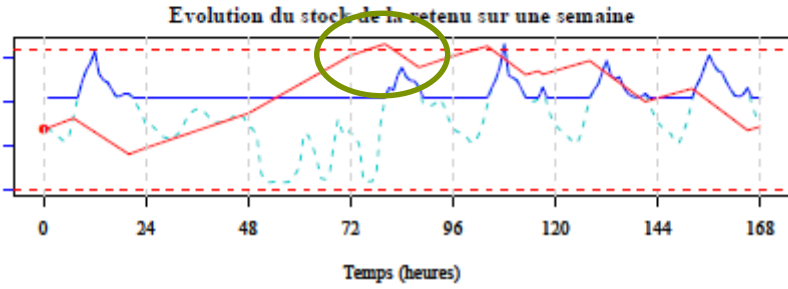


P
R
I
C
E
S



Indicator:
turbine
on/off

S
T
O
R
A
G
E

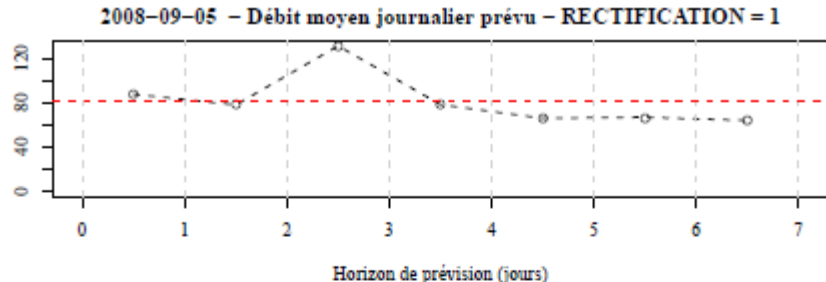


S_{max}
S_{min} = 0

Results: illustration for one day of single forecast (2/3)

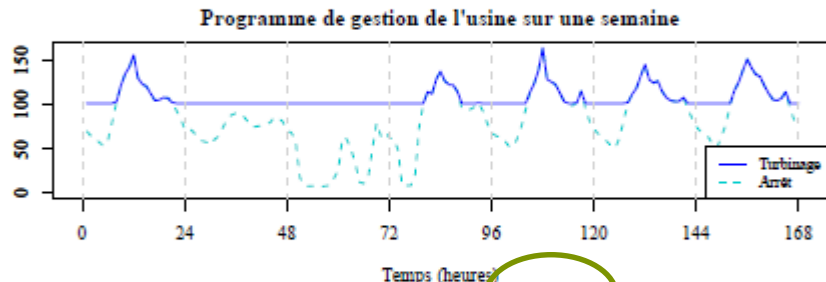
- Sep 5th 2008:
Predicted inflow to the Durance reservoir for the next 7 days
- Energy prices for the week
- Turbine capacity = 3 * mean daily flow
- Reservoir capacity = 4 days of mean daily flow

Q (m³/s)



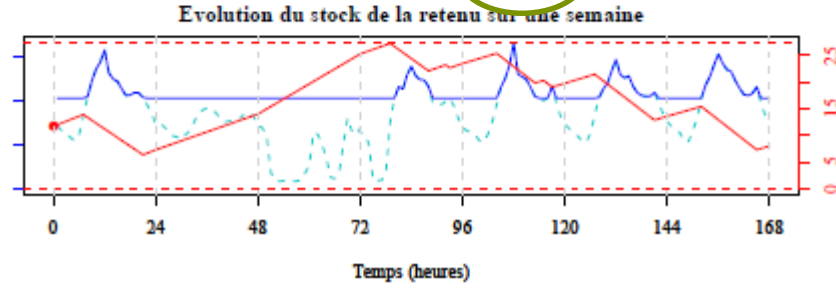
Horizon de prévision (jours)
Débit moyen prévu sur 7 jours = 81.54 m³/s

P
R
I
C
E
S



Temps (heures)
Prix seuil (s) €/MWh = 101.99

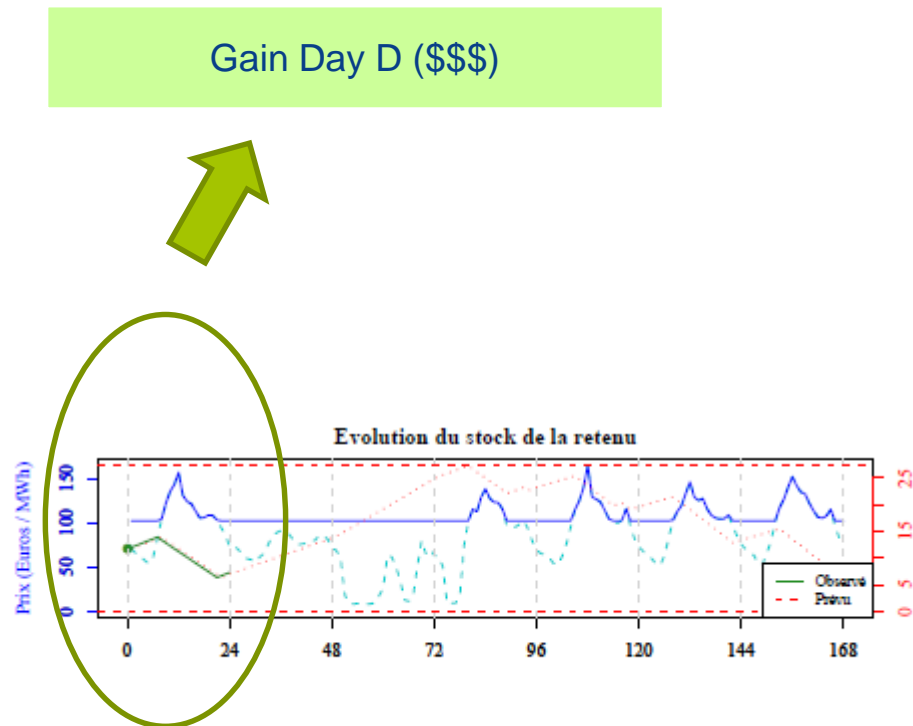
S
T
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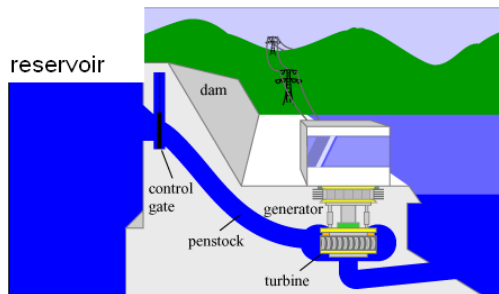
Smax
OK!!
Smin = 0

Results: illustration for one day of single forecast (3/3)

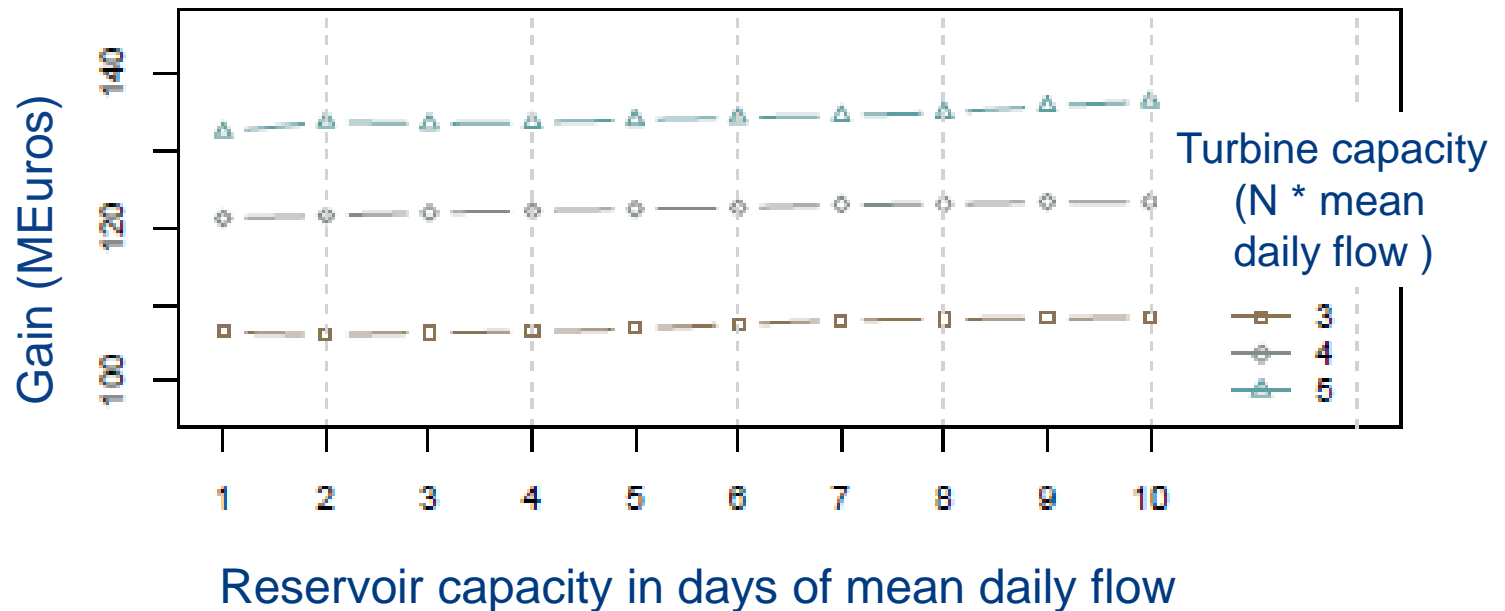
- Sep 5th 2008:
Predicted inflow to the Durance reservoir for the next 7 days
- Energy prices for the week
- Turbine capacity = 3 * mean daily flow
- Reservoir capacity = 4 days of mean daily flow
- Run the observed flows through the management rule (24h)



Results: sensitivity to system's characteristics

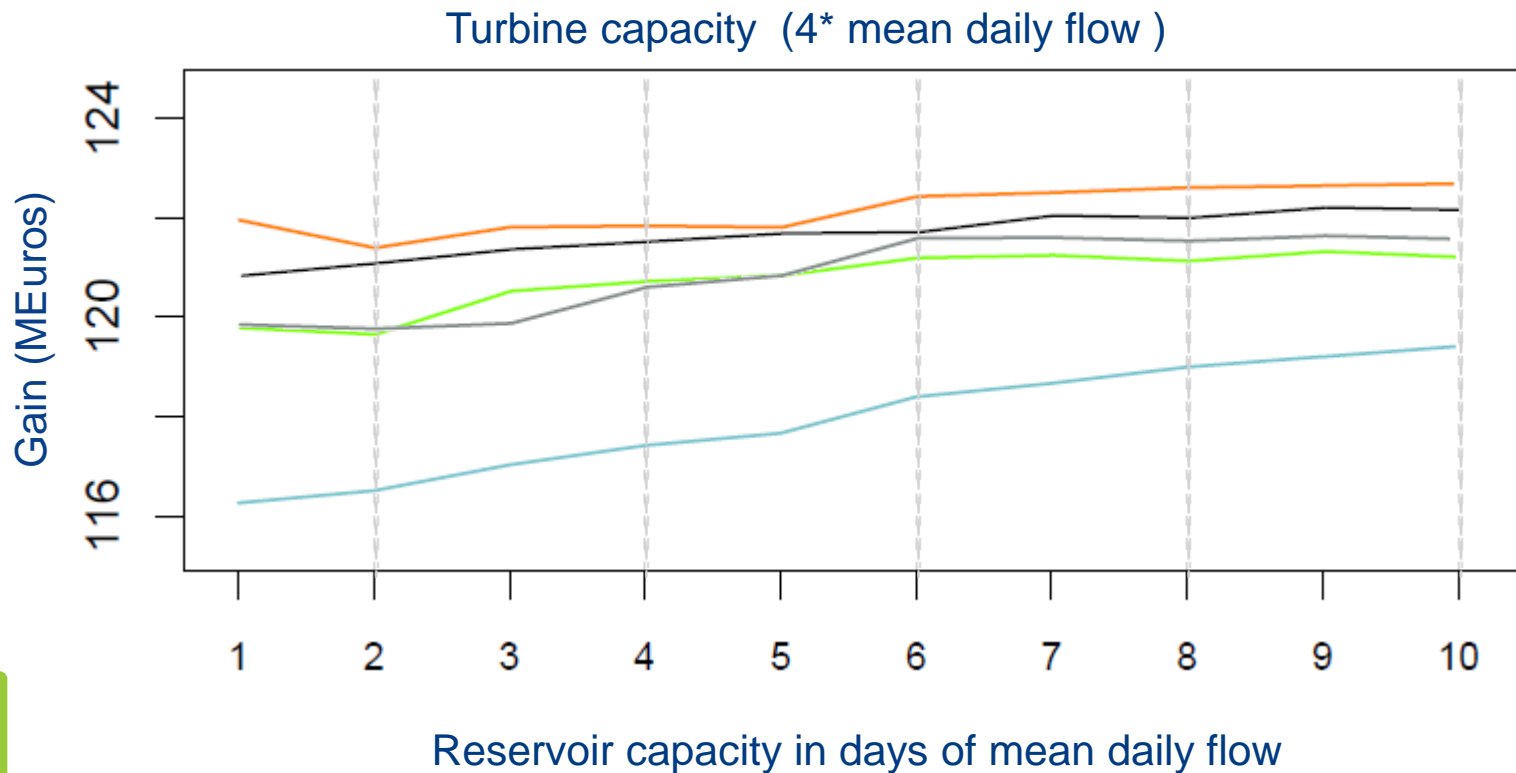
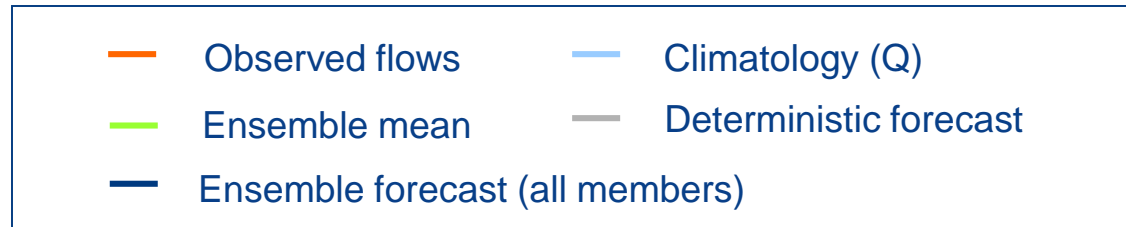


Forecasts: Ensemble forecasts (2005 – 2008)



Results: over a 4-year period

- Different types of forecasts:





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- Summary
 - An adaptable tool: heuristic algorithm connected with simulation model for reservoir rules under constraints
 - Different inflow scenarios
 - Different characteristics of reservoir & power system
 - The relative economic gains of using hydrometeorological ensemble forecasts comparatively to no forecasts at all (i.e., only climatological information) can potentially result in an average gain of 5% (over hundreds of M€).
 - Further studies
 - Improve the use of the probabilistic information from ensembles,
 - Impact of post-processing on energy production (quality \Leftrightarrow usefulness)

Thank you!

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On the economic value of hydrological ensemble forecasts

Posted on [January 31, 2014](#) by [Marie-Amélie Boucher](#), [Maria-Helena Ramos](#) and [Ioanna Zalachori](#)

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