

# Integrated Modeling of Surface and Subsurface Compartments of Karst Hydrosystems

## HydroSciences Montpellier

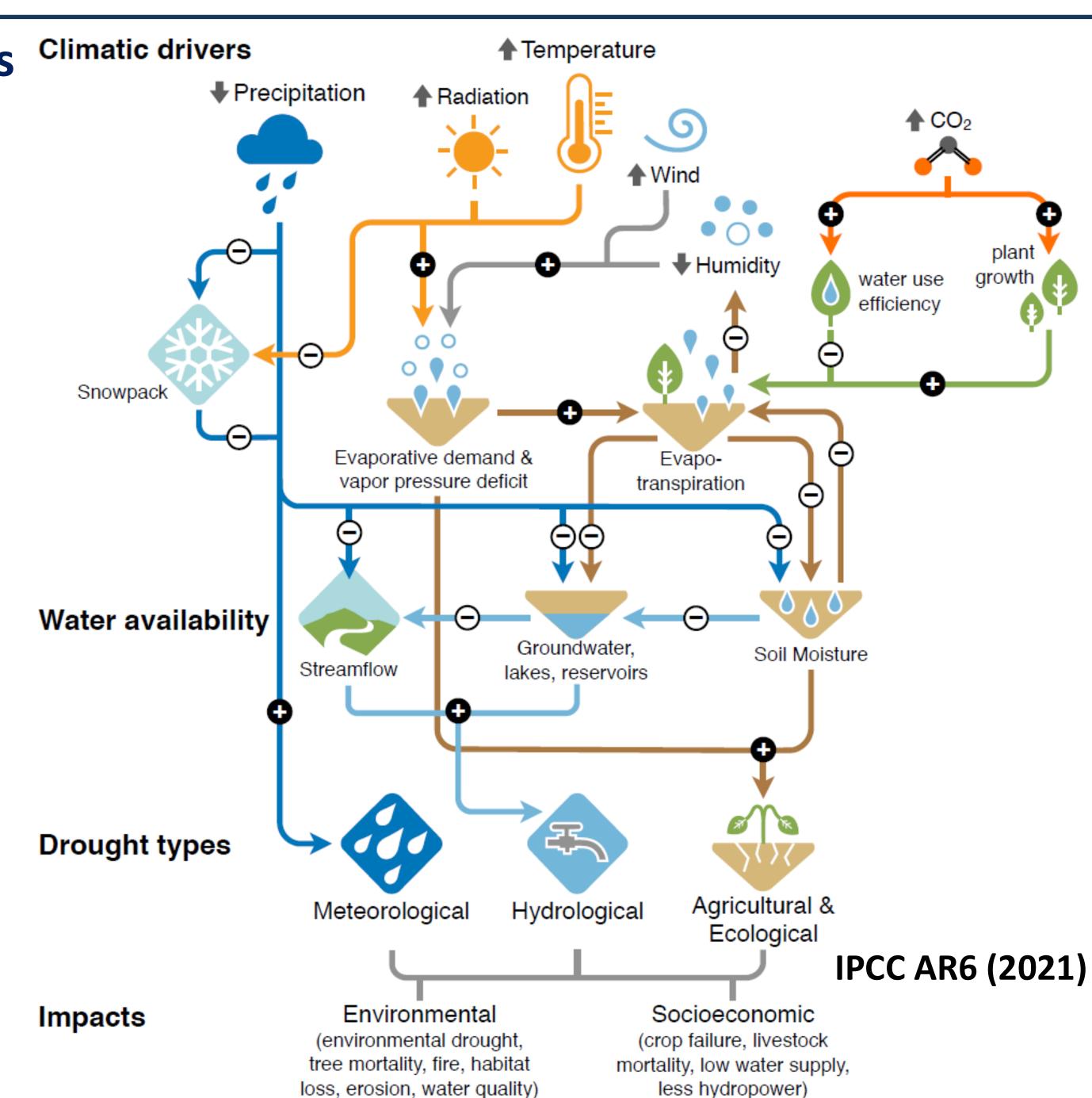
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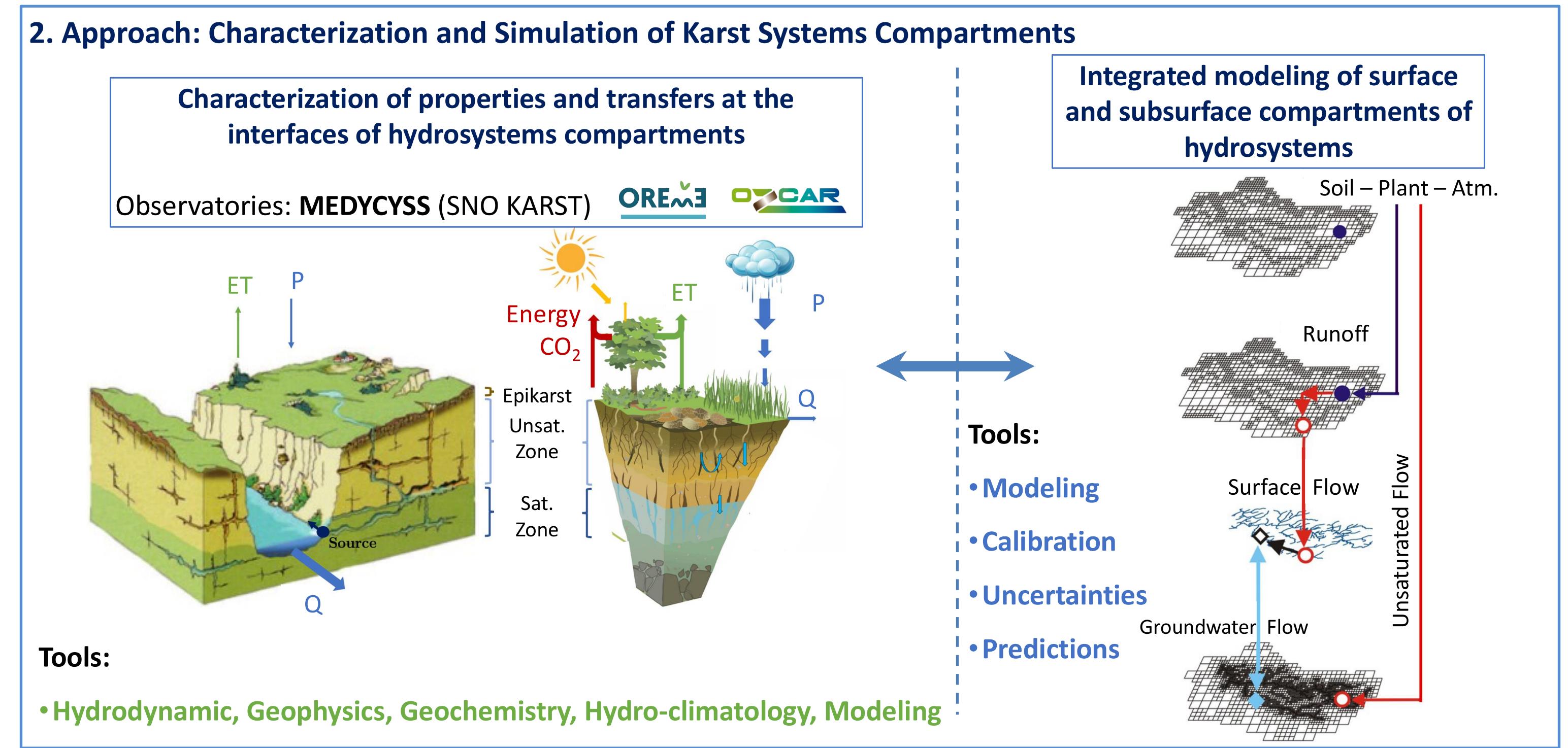
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Global changes affect the water resource of karst hydrosystems. In this context, tools must be developed to answer societal challenges. To overcome this issue, the integrated management of water resources must combine field approaches with the use of numerical models which consider the interactions between the different compartments of karst hydrosystems.

### 1. Water Resource Challenges in Mediterranean Karst Systems

- In a context of global change, climatic drivers have un strong impact on water availability, environmental and socioeconomic issues
- Mediterranean regions combine strong climatic constraints and important water needs
- The management of water resources in Mediterranean karst hydrosystems is one of the great challenges of our society
- The different reservoirs of karst hydrosystems are not isolated and must be studied as inter-connected components of the water cycle
- → Characterize and quantify processes between compartments of karst hydrosystems to integrate them into coupled models





#### 3. A Case Study of Importance: The Hérault Hydrosystem Rivers Hydroelectric stations Water supply for 350 000 people Dams Mean water withdrawals 1987-2010 (103.m3/year) Domestic use 3.7 M m3 of surface water and 3.3 M m3 of groundwater Agricultural use 0 – 10 10 - 1000 100 - 1000 75% of withdrawals depend on the karstic component O 1000 – 10,000 $\bigcirc$ 10,000 - 20,000 Granite and metamorphic schists Study site for a large scientific community Karst area Alluvial plain deposits