

Fine-scale rainfall measurement and prediction to enhance urban pluvial flood control



Pilot location: Centrum, Rotterdam, NL

Monitoring

Rainfall

Rain gauges:

• 1 tipping bucket rain gauge 1 km far from district border, with 0.2 mm resolution and 1 min data sampling operated by Rotterdam City and equipped with wireless real-time communication devices.

Radars:

• The area is within the coverage of X-band and C-band radars operated by the TU Delft and KNMI respectively:

Specifications	X-Band*	C-band
Polarisation	Dual-polarisation	Horizontal
Doppler	Yes	No
Beam width	1,8°	1°
Frequency range	9,3 – 9,5 GHz	5,6 GHz
Spatial resolution	30 m	1 Km
Temporal resolution	1 minute scan	5 minute scan
Elevations	0°-90°	0,3°-25°

*The radar will be installed in autumn 2013, currently under tender procedure.

Water depth sensors

Sensors for water depth measurement in sewers will be installed.

The sensors will be pressure sensors: used at 0,35 bar or 0,7 bar range. All sensors will be equipped with wireless real-time











Spatial datasets

Digital Terrain Model (DTM)

The Municipality provided a set of AHN-2 layers cropped to the administrative limits of the city. This DEM was produced using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) of ground levels from an aerial platform.

The DEM is characterized by

- a spatial resolution of $0.5 \text{ m} \times 0.5 \text{ m}$,
- a vertical precision of 5 cm,
- a systematic error of 5 cm, a random error of 5 cm,
- a minimum precision under two standard deviations of 15 cm.

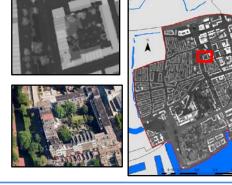


Figure 2: DTM

Urban pluvial flood models

A drainage urban pluvial flood model has been set up for the Centrum catchment using Sobek-urban 212:

- The sewer system is modelled in 1-dimension (1D) in Sobek Urban: it consists of 3036 manhole nodes (2832 of which are with runoff) and 11 external weirs, which serve as outflow. The nodes are connected by 3286 pipes. Among the latter, 4 are pressurized. There are also 2 external pumping stations transporting water to the WWTP and the river.
- The rainfall-runoff process is modelled in Sobek RR: runoff to the sewer system is computed by delay factor +losses+infiltration module, where the discharge into the system is computed as a function of rainfall and runoff factors, which in turn depend on slope, area and type of surface. According to Dutch guidelines [1], 12 different area types were set up with 12 associated values of runoff factors.
- The overland flow in the urban surface occurring in case of sewer overflow will be set up using the 2-dimensional Sobek module, where the continuity and momentum equations are solved by finite differences method in each cell of the surface grid.

The Sobek model is semi- distributed and in both 1D and 2D modules, the water flow is computed by solving the complete De Saint Venant equations: 1D continuity and 1D momentum equations for the Sewer Flow module, and 2D continuity equation and 2D momentum equations (for the x and y directions) in the 2D overland flow module.

[1] Module C2100 Rioleringsberekeningen, hydraulisch functioneren. Rioned, 2008.