**GMS 10.4 Tutorial**

**MODAEM**

Analytic element modeling with MODAEM

Objectives
Illustrate the use of GMS for analytic element modeling with MODAEM.

**Prerequisite Tutorials**
- Feature Objects

**Required Components**
- Map Module
- MODAEM

**Time**
- 25–40 minutes
1 Introduction

MODAEM is a single-layer, steady-state analytic element groundwater flow model that has been enhanced for use with GMS. This tutorial introduces MODAEM and illustrates the use of GMS for analytic element modeling. This tutorial does not go into detail in explaining the analytic element method. For a more detailed explanation of analytic element modeling and MODAEM, refer to the MODAEM Help manual.

This tutorial will go over importing a background map, creating a conceptual model and defining the parameters, and finally running MODAEM for different conditions.

1.1 Description of Problem

This tutorial describes the use of GMS to model groundwater flow near the wellfield of Brazil, Indiana, USA. Brazil (population about 8,100) operates a wellfield about five miles east of town, in the floodplain of Big Walnut Creek (see Figure 1). The objectives of this model are to do the following:

- Model the 5-year capture zone for the wellfield for use in the Brazil wellhead protection effort.
- Examine the effects of the addition of a well to the wellfield.

The following figure shows the site location, along with the model boundaries. The wellfield is situated in the floodplain of Big Walnut Creek. The aquifer is composed of coarse gravel with an average hydraulic conductivity of 250 ft/d (60.9 m/d), deposited in a buried bedrock valley. Although the bedrock surrounding the valley is slightly permeable, it is not considered an important source of water. The thickness of the gravel aquifer in the valley varies from 10–80 feet (3.0–24.4 meters). At the wellfield, the
ground elevation is roughly 600 feet (183 meters), and the aquifer is roughly 60 feet (18.3 meters) thick.

![Model boundary](image)

**Figure 1** Model boundary

### 1.2 Getting Started

Do the following to get started:

1. If necessary, launch GMS.

2. If GMS is already running, select the File | New command to ensure that the program settings are restored to their default state.

### 2 Setting up the Model

#### 2.1 Importing the Background Map

The first step to create the model is to import a background image of the site being modeled. Use the image as a guide while creating points, arcs, and polygons to define features of the model.

1. Click Open to bring up the Open dialog.

2. Change the Files of type to “Images (*.tif;*.tiff;*.jpg;*.jpeg;*.png;*.sid;*.ecw)”. 
3. Browse to the `modaem` directory for this tutorial and select “brazil_topo.tif”.

4. Click **Open** to import the image and exit the **Open** dialog.

The background map should appear similar to Figure 2.

![Initial background map image](image)

**Figure 2** Initial background map image

### 2.2 Defining the Units

At this point, also define the units used in the conceptual model. The chosen units will be applied to edit fields in the GMS interface as of reminder of the proper units for each parameter.

1. Select **Edit | Units…** to open the **Units** dialog.

2. Click the button to the right of **Length** to open the **Display Projection** dialog.

3. In the **Vertical** section, select “Meters” from the **Units** drop-down.

4. Click **Set Projection…** next to **Global projection** to open the **Horizontal Projection** dialog.

5. In the lower section, verify that the entry for “UNIT” is set to “Meter, 1” (it should be near the end of the WKT entry).

6. Click **OK** to exit the **Horizontal Projection** dialog.
7. Click OK to exit the Display Projection dialog.

8. For Time, select “d” (for days) from the drop-down. Ignore the other units (they are not used for flow simulations).

9. Click OK to exit the Units dialog.

2.3 Creating the Conceptual Model

It is now possible to enter the model data. First, create a MODAEM conceptual model. Second, create coverages to define the boundary conditions and aquifer properties. The boundary of the model is shown in Figure 3.

1. In the Project Explorer, right-click on the empty space then, from the pop-up menu, select New | Conceptual Model… to open the Conceptual Model Properties dialog.

2. Change the Name to “Indiana”.

3. Change the Type to “MODAEM”.

4. Click OK to close the Conceptual Model Properties dialog.

5. Right-click on “Indiana” and select New Coverage… to open the Coverage Setup dialog.

6. Change the Coverage name to “Boundary”.

7. Select the Use to define model boundary option.

8. Click OK to close the Coverage Setup dialog.

9. Select “Boundary” to make it active.

10. Using the Create Arc tool, click out the boundary as shown in Figure 3 below.
2.4 Creating the Specified Head Arcs

By default, the arcs in a MODAEM boundary coverage are “no flow” boundaries. This means the arc’s type is set to “specified flow” and that the flow is set to 0. Next, add specified head arcs to this coverage. To create the specified head arcs, split the boundary arc into four separate arcs.

Convert Vertices to Nodes

1. Click Display Options to open the Display Options dialog.
2. Select “Map Data” from the list on the left.
3. On the Map tab, turn on Vertices.
4. Click OK to close the Display Options dialog.
5. Using the Select Objects tool while pressing the Shift key, select the four points (vertices and/or nodes) indicated in Figure 4.

Depending on how the boundary arc was created, one of the vertices shown in Figure 4 may actually be a node. In that case, the node can still be selected with the Select Vertex tool (though it is not necessary in this case).
Figure 4  Convert vertices to nodes

It may be necessary to insert additional vertices. This can be done by using the **Create Vertex** tool. Simply select the tool and then click on the arc in the desired location.

6. Select **Feature Objects | Vertices → Nodes** to convert all the selected vertices to nodes.

**Assigning Arcs**

1. Using the **Select Arcs** tool while pressing the *Shift* key, select the two new arcs that were created on the north and south of the boundary (Figure 5).

2. Click **Properties** to open the *Attribute Table* dialog.

3. In the *All* row, select “spec. head” from the drop-down.

4. Click **OK** to exit the *Attributes Table* dialog.

5. Using the **Select Points/Nodes** tool while pressing the *Shift* key, select both nodes on the northern specified head arc.

6. Click **Properties** to open the *Attribute Table* dialog.

7. Select “spec. head” from the *BC type* drop-down.

8. On the *All* row in the *Head* column, enter “182.0”.
9. Click **OK** to exit the *Attributes Table* dialog.

10. Repeat steps 5–9 for the nodes attached to the southern specified head arc, but enter “178.6” for the *Head* value.

![Specified head arcs](image)

*Figure 5 Specified head arcs*

### 2.5 Entering the Aquifer Properties

Next, enter the properties of the aquifer. Aquifer properties can be assigned to individual polygons, and also define properties for a background aquifer.

1. Select **MODAEM | Global Options**… to open the *MODAEM Global Options* dialog.

2. In the *Background aquifer properties* section, enter “170.0” as the *Base*.

3. Enter “18.0” as the *Thickness*

4. Enter “60.0” as the *Hyd. cond.*

5. Click **OK** to exit open the *MODAEM Global Options* dialog.

With a boundary coverage, a single polygon must define the aquifer being modeled.

6. Select **Feature Objects | Build Polygons**.
2.6 Saving the Project

It is now possible to run MODAEM. With other models in GMS, such as MODFLOW, it is required to save the changes to the project before running the model. Because MODAEM writes the data currently in memory to temporary files used to complete the model run, saving the changes in GMS before running MODAEM is not required. However, it is highly recommended to periodically save projects.

1. Select File | Save As… to open the Save As dialog.
2. Enter “brazil.gpr” as the File name and click Save to exit the Save As dialog.

2.7 Running MODAEM

Selecting the menu command MODAEM | Solve or by pressing the F5 key will initiate a MODAEM run. Once this command is executed, a dialog will appear showing the output from the MODAEM model.

1. Select MODAEM | Solve to launch the MODAEM model wrapper dialog.
2. When MODAEM is finished, click Close to exit the MODAEM model wrapper dialog.

Head contours should now appear inside the boundary coverage.

3. Click Contours to open the Dataset Contour Options – Map – MODAEM Head dialog.
4. In the Contour method section, select “Color Fill and Linear” from the first drop-down.
5. Change the Transparency value to “60”.
6. Click OK to close the Dataset Contour Options – Map – MODAEM Head dialog.

3 Creating the River

Now to add the river to the model.

1. Right-click on “Indiana” in the Project Explorer and select New Coverage… to open the Coverage Setup dialog.
2. Enter “River” as the Coverage name.
3. In the Source/Sink/BCs section, turn on River.
4. Click OK to exit the Coverage Setup dialog.
5. Select the **Create Arc** tool and click out the river arc starting near the northern specified head boundary and ending near the southern specified head boundary, as shown in Figure 6 below. Don’t extend the river beyond the boundary coverage.

![Figure 6  Modeling the river](image)

6. Using the **Select Arcs** tool, double-click on the river arc to open the **Attribute Table** dialog.

7. In the **Type** column of the spreadsheet, select “river” from the drop-down.

8. Enter “5000.0” in the **Cond. (m/d)** column.

9. Click **OK** to close the **Attributes Table** dialog.

10. Using the **Select Points/Nodes** tool, double-click on the river node at the northern end of the model to open the **Attribute Table** dialog.

11. Enter “182.0” as the **Head**.

12. Enter “179.0” as the **Elev**.

13. Click **OK** to exit the **Attribute Table** dialog.
14. Repeat steps 10-13 for the southern river node, but enter “178.6” for the Head and “175.6” for the Elev.

3.1 Running MODAEM

It is now possible to run MODAEM again.

1. Select MODAEM | Solve to launch the MODAEM model wrapper dialog.
2. When MODAEM is finished, click Close to exit the MODAEM model wrapper dialog.

Notice some change in the head contours, particularly around the river arc.

4 Adding Recharge

Now to add recharge to the model.

1. Right-click on the “Boundary” coverage and select the Duplicate command.
2. Double-click on “Copy of Boundary” to bring up the Coverage Setup dialog.
3. Change the Coverage Name to “Recharge”.
4. In the Sources/Sinks/BCs section, turn off Specified Head and Specified Flow.
5. In the Areal Properties section, turn on Recharge.
6. Click OK to exit the Coverage Setup dialog.
7. Using the Select Polygons tool, double-click on the polygon to open the Attribute Table dialog.
8. Enter “.00042” as the Recharge (m/d).
9. Click OK to exit the Attribute Table dialog.

4.1 Running MODAEM

It is now possible to run MODAEM again.

1. Select MODAEM | Solve to launch the MODAEM model wrapper dialog.
2. When MODAEM is finished, click Close to exit the MODAEM model wrapper dialog.

Notice some change in the head contours.
5 Wells

5.1 Production Wells

Now to import production wells from a tab-delimited text file.

1. Right-click on “Indiana” and select New Coverage… to open the Coverage Setup dialog.
2. Change the Coverage name to “Wells”.
3. Under the Source/Sink/BCs section, turn on the Wells option.
4. Click OK to exit the Coverage Setup dialog.
5. Click Open to bring up the Open dialog.
6. Select “All Files (*.*) from the Files of type drop-down.
7. Select “prod_wells.txt” and click Open to exit the Open dialog and open the Step 1 of 2 page of the Text Import Wizard dialog.
8. Below the first section, turn on Heading row.
9. Click Next to go to the Step 2 of 2 page of the Text Import Wizard dialog.
10. Select “Well data” from the GMS data type drop-down.
11. In the File preview section, select “X” from the Type drop-down in the first column.
12. Select “Y” from the Type drop-down in the second column.
13. Select “Flow Rate” from the Type drop-down in the third column.
14. Click Finish to exit the Text Import Wizard dialog.

There may be some difficulty in seeing the wells. If desired, the color of the well symbol can be changed in the Display Options dialog by clicking on the Display Options macro and selecting the desired color for Well in the Coverage section.

5.2 Observation Wells

Before running MODAEM again, import field-measured head values.

1. Right-click on “Indiana” in the Project Explorer and select New Coverage… to open the Coverage Setup dialog.
2. Enter “Observation” as the Coverage name.
3. Under the Observation Points section, turn on the Head option.
4. Click **OK** to exit the *New Coverage* dialog.

5. Click **Open** to bring up the *Open* dialog.

6. Select “well_head.txt” and click **Open** to exit the Open dialog and bring up the *Step 1 of 2* page of the *Text Import Wizard* dialog.

7. Below the first section, turn on *Heading row*.

8. Click **Next** to go to the *Step 2 of 2* page of the *Text Import Wizard*.

9. Select “Observation data” from the *GMS data type* drop-down.

10. In the *File preview* section, select “Name” from the *Type* drop-down in the first column.

11. Select “X” from the *Type* drop-down in the second column.

12. Select “Y” from the *Type* drop-down of the third column.

13. Select “Obs. Head” from the *Type* drop-down of the fourth column.

14. Click **Finish** to exit the *Text Import Wizard* dialog.

The observation targets should appear.

### 5.3 Running MODAEM

Now to run MODAEM again.

1. Select **MODAEM** | **Solve** to launch the *MODAEM* model wrapper dialog.

2. When **MODAEM** is finished, click **Close** to exit the *MODAEM* model wrapper dialog.

The project should appear similar to Figure 7.
6  Conclusion

This concludes the “MODAEM” tutorial. The following key concepts were discussed and demonstrated:

- MODAEM is an analytic element model that uses points, arcs, and polygons to compute solutions.
- The Map module is used to construct conceptual models using feature objects (points, arcs and polygons).
- Feature objects are grouped into coverages. Only one coverage can be active, and only the active coverage can be edited.