Our panel

Prof Joseph Awange

Joseph joined the Department of Spatial Sciences in 2006 under a Curtin Research Fellowship and concurrently undertook the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt (AvH) Fellowship at the Geodetic Institute (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany) having been awarded the 2008-2011 Ludwig Leichhardt Memorial Fellowship for experienced researchers. In 2015, he won all three major Fellowship Awards: Alexander von Humboldt (Germany), Japan Society of Promotion of Science (Japan), and Brazil Frontier of Science (Brazil) to carry out research in those countries. Joseph also won the 2019 Alexander von Humboldt support in acknowledgment of his scientific achievements in his specific academic field and in recognition of his contribution towards scientific cooperation with German colleagues. He is currently a Professor of Environmental Geoinformatics at the School of Earth and Planetary Sciences (EPS; Spatial Sciences Discipline), Curtin University, Australia. In addition, Joseph is currently serving as (i) the Acquisition Manager for Springer Nature (world-leading research, educational and professional publisher) in charge of Earth Sciences, Geography, and Environment books and (ii), the Associate Editor of the top ranked Remote Sensing of Environment (Impact Factor (IF) 13.850; https://www.journals.elsevier.com/remote-sensing-of-environment) as well as Science of Remote Sensing.
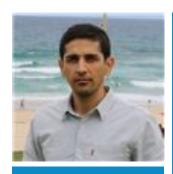
LinkedIn

Dr. Kexiang Hu

Dr. Kexiang Hu is an Assistant Researcher at the State Key Laboratory of Geohazard Prevention and Geoenvironment Protection, Chengdu University of Technology, China. He holds degrees in three distinct fields at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels: geology, GIS (Geographic Information Systems), and remote sensing. Since 2017, Dr. Kexiang Hu has primarily focused on groundwater spatio-temporal monitoring research, amassing extensive experience in this field. He earned his Ph.D. from Curtin University, Australia, in 2022, and has authored 7 high-impact SCI papers. His doctoral work received recognition within the academic community, culminating in him being honored with the 2022 Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Award for Postgraduate Student (Winner of Western Australia and the Oceanic regions). Currently, Dr. Hu Kexiang's research centers on the integration of knowledge from three domains: remote sensing, machine learning, and hydrogeology, aimed at developing precise, high-resolution, and interpretable machine learning models for groundwater. This research has the potential to benefit water resource management, ecological preservation, land development, and even geological hazard prevention.

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Our panel

Dr. Mehdi Khaki

After finishing his study on the application of satellite remote sensing in hydrology and geodesy during a MSc in 2014, Mehdi started his PhD in 2015 with Curtin University and finished it in 2018, focusing on the integrating satellite data products with hydrological models using advanced statistical methods. Mehdi's research is centred around the application of geodetic and remote sensing techniques and their integration with available models to improve the hydrological knowledge in various spatial scales, e.g., from medium- to large-scale river basins to a global scale. During his research, Mehdi has used a variety of satellite data products to study Earth and proposed new satellite data filtering, e.g., to account for satellite radar altimetry and the Gravity Recovery And Climate Experiment (GRACE) errors and to improve the quality of the data. The enhanced satellite products have been used for different objectives such as studying inland surface water variations, coastal water level changes, deriving gravity anomalies over areas without reliable ground measurements, and last but not least improving land hydrological models estimates.

University of Newcastle profile

Adam MacLeod

Adam is the program manager for AquaWatch Australia, being led by CSIRO. His background is in Electronic and System Engineering, though he has been working as a project manager over the last 12 years. Adam's recent projects include the radio telescopes SKA (Square Kilometre Array Observatory) as Senior System Engineer and ASKAP (Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder Telescope) as Project Manager. Before that Adam worked in satellite communications and electronics production. He is based in Adelaide.

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