Web Clips for hydroinformatics

Modelling applications are at the heart of hydroinformatics. Integration of GIS (Geographical Information Systems) components into various hydrological, hydraulic and environmental modelling systems is already moving from 'state of the art' into necessary practice. Future modelling applications, as well as many water resources analyses in general, will become more and more GIS based. Here are several web-sites related to general GIS and to integration of GIS with water and environmental studies:

http://www.gis.com (offers general introduction to GIS with many useful links to resources, software and educational material).

http://www.gislinx.com (many links to GIS resources including software).

http://www.tenlinks.com/MapGIS/products/biglist.htm (large GIS directory, listing many products and companies).

http://www.esri.com (ESRI–Environmental Systems Research Institute. World leader in GIS; you can find all the information about the latest ESRI products including water related models such as: hydrology model, water facilities model and others).

http://www.crwr.utexas.edu/giswr/index.shtml (Web site of the consortium for GIS and Water Resources, an initiative by the Center for Research in Water Resources of the University of Texas in Austin, and ESRI; important development in this area).

Hydroinformatics, as a sociotechnical discipline, cannot afford to stay out of the 'big discussion' about development and environment. One of the important water-related issues that came recently into focus in these discussions is dam construction. A report from the 'World Commission on Dams' published in November last year is largely considered as the most balanced view on this controversial topic so far. It has triggered different reactions from many governments, international organisations, consulting and engineering companies, and donor agencies. The report itself and links to many reactions are available at *http://www.dams.org*

Agent technology remains a hot research topic. Hydroinformatics may exploit this new paradigm even more in future. Here is a web-site that covers the field in all its breadth. It offers enough introductory material for newcomers as well as plenty of resources (documentation and software) for more experienced agent researchers: *http://agents.umbc.edu/*

Here is a free dictionary of computing praised by many ICT specialists and software developers. It contains over 130,000 cross-referenced terms from this field: *http://foldoc.doc.ic.ac.uk/foldoc/index.html*

At the end, trying to create a tradition initiated in the previous Web-clips section of our Journal, here is another candidate sentence for the championship in scientific incomprehensibility. This one is taken from Dr. Richard Kearney of University College, Dublin: 'Since thought is seen to be 'rhizomatic' rather than 'arboreal', the movement of differentiation and becoming is already imbued with its own positive trajectory.'

This and other examples of similar kind are available at *http://carmen.artsci.washington.edu/panop/home.htm*. This Web site also contains some interesting material on topics like cultural theory, critical theory, postmodernism, and especially the shaping of our contemporary culture by the new media, computers, and electronic communication.

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