## Fortran in Hydrometallurgy: Practice and Research

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- South African science council conducting research, development, and technology transfer for the minerals beneficiation sector
  - Established 1934 (87 years old)
  - Annual budget ~ R500M (€ 30M)
  - Diversified state, contract, and industry funding sources
  - Multiple technical and support divisions with field-specific expertise









# Engineering (metallurgy)









#### Hydrometallurgy: heap leaching



## A bit about hydrology





#### **Richards equation**

water content (vol water / vol total) hydraulic conductivity

# $\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot \left[ \mathbf{K} \cdot (\nabla h - \boldsymbol{e}_{Z}) \right] = 0$ suction head

 $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}_{s} K_{r}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  $h = h(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ 



- The easiest
- Space discretization: PDE to ODE
  - Simple domain
  - I am lazy...
  - ODE: LSODA
- LSODA:
  - Old
  - It works
  - Just 3 files to drop into the project (no CMAKE hell)
- What to do with Excel?



- C binding
- Modules
- OOP
- Passing internal functions as arguments
- Dynamic memory allocation
- Sadly no: coarrays.
- OpenMP: didn't improve the performance



