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Authors: Bathrellos, G., Asspciate Professor, UPATRAS, Skilodimou. H., Laboratory and Teaching Staff, UPATRAS

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Abstract

Karst is the term used to describe a unique type of landscape, which has a particular hydrology and includes characteristic surface and subsurface landforms. Karst landscape is created by the dissolution of karst rocks. Karst areas can be found around the world and many people live in them because they contribute to the economy of an area. The study of karst may offer to the understanding of karst environments, their fragility and their value for human development. This book examines karst environments, their significance and main problems. Each chapter is accompanied by theory comprehension questions and/or laboratory exercises. In the first chapter, the definitions concerning the science of karst, its spatial distribution and the karst landscape are presented. In the second chapter karst rocks and karst processes are described. The third chapter analyzes the surface and subsurface runoff of the karst regions. In the fourth chapter, the base level, and the depth of the karstification are examined. The fifth chapter deals with the small features of surface karst forms and specifically with karren. In the sixth chapter, the main surface karst macroforms are recorded. The seventh chapter examines subsurface karst formations. In the eighth chapter, the main classifications of caves are presented. The ninth chapter deals with the relationship between climate and karst. The tenth chapter focuses on human activities in karst regions. The eleventh chapter analyzes karst natural hazards. Finally, in the twelfth chapter, the anthropogenic hazards influencing the surface and subsurface karst are described.



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