

# Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Delta's

## FLOOD SURVEYS & FLOOD PROPAGATION

Thom Bogaard - T.A.Bogaard@tudelft.nl

Hillslope and landslide hydrology

Specialization:

Catchment hydrology, field measurements & experiments

Land degradation & Hydrology, Effect vegetation on landslide, Risk assessment



Responsible for CIE 5580: Ecology and Geomorphology

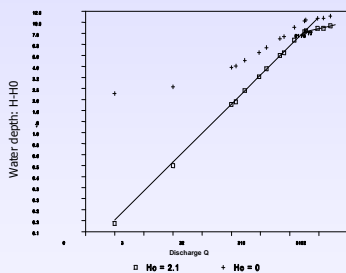
Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Delta's

## FLOOD SURVEYS & FLOOD PROPAGATION

- Occurrence of floods
- Hydrological routing vs hydraulic routing
- Reservoir routing
- Flood routing in natural channels

## Rating curve; stage discharge relationship

$$Q = a(H-H_0)^b$$



Rating curve in Limpopo river at Sicacate

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Delta's

## Occurrence of floods

### Murphy's law:

Extreme floods occur:

- at night
- on public holidays
- when communication lines are broken
- when roads are blocked
- when the car is in repair
- when the Director of Water Affairs is on holiday

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Delta's

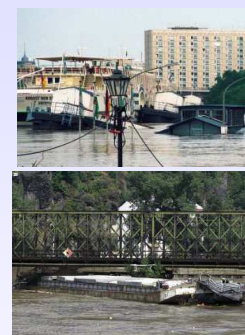
## Occurrence of floods

### Problems:

- Communication lines destroyed
- The pen of the recorder stopped, or the housing of the water level recorder submerged by the flood
- The reservoir of the raingauge overtopped, or the raingauge washed away by the flood
- The rating weir completely destroyed by the flood
- The bridge on which the recorder was installed blocked by debris
- While trying to measure the velocity, the current meter was caught by debris and lost

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Delta's


## Occurrence of floods






Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Delta's



### Flood surveys - floats



Trees, floating debris, etc

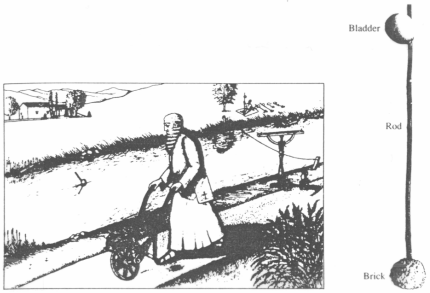




Cheap floats

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood surveys - floats

Float measurement

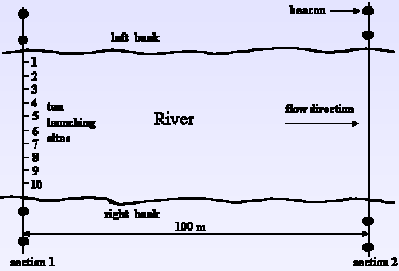


Bladder  
Rod  
Brick

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood surveys - floats

Float measurement



Left bank  
Right bank  
River  
Flow direction  
100 m  
section 1  
section 2

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood surveys - floats

**Advantages floats:**

- longitudinal integration
- correct vertical position
- quick survey technique
- floats are cheap
- easy to improvise
- debris no problem

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood surveys

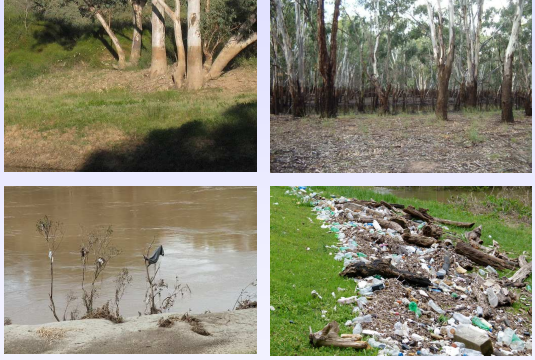
**Flood surveys:**

- discharge measurement using floats
- flood mark survey
- slope area method
- simplified slope area method
- interviews

during flood  
morning after  
historic floods

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood surveys



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Flood survey – slope area method

$$Q = C A \sqrt{R} \sqrt{S} = C K \sqrt{S}$$

$$K = \frac{\sum (A_i \sqrt{R_i})}{N}$$



A = cross-sectional area  
P = wetted perimeter  
R = A/P = hydraulic radius

Q = discharge [m<sup>3</sup>/s]  
C = Chezy's coefficient [m<sup>1/2</sup>/s]  
A = cross-sectional area [m<sup>2</sup>]  
R = hydraulic radius [m]  
S = longitudinal slope  
K = geometric conveyance [m<sup>2.5</sup>]

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Flood survey – simplified slope area method

$$\log Q = 0.188 + 1.33 \log A + 0.05 \log S - 0.056 (\log S)^2$$

Riggs (1976)

$$A = \frac{\sum A_i}{N}$$

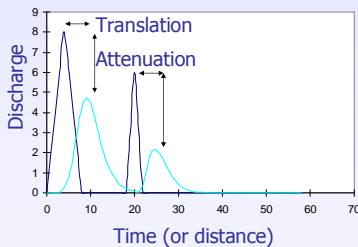
Q = discharge [m<sup>3</sup>/s]  
A = cross-sectional area [m<sup>2</sup>]  
S = longitudinal slope  
N = number of sections

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Routing

### Definition

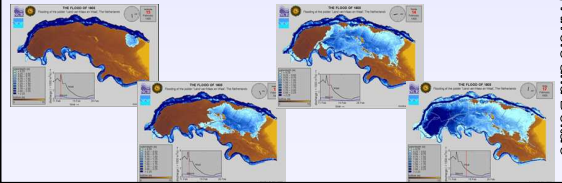
Channel routing is a mathematical method (model) to predict the changing magnitude, speed, and shape of a flood wave as it propagates through waterways such as canals, rivers, reservoirs, or estuaries (Fread, 1985)



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Routing

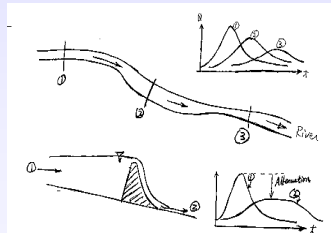
- A technique to compute the effect of system storage and system dynamics on the shape and movement of flow hydrographs along a watercourse.
- When the flow is a flood, then we have flood routing.
- Routing is used to predict the temporal and spatial distribution of flood wave (or hydrograph) as it travel along the channel.



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Routing

- Flood prediction, warning
- Reservoir design
- Flood plain delineation
- Watershed simulation
- ....



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Different Routings

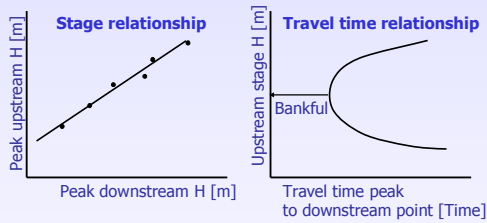
- **By Spatial and Temporal Variation:**
  - Lumped Flow Routing** – Flow is calculated as a function of time only at a fixed location in space.
  - Distributed Flow Routing** – Flow is calculated as a function of time and space in the system
- **By Governing Equations Used:**
  - Hydrologic Routing [conceptual]** - Employs continuity equation, along with an analytical or an assumed relationship between storage and discharge within a system, in the calculation.
  - Hydraulic Routing [physical]** – Use both continuity and momentum equations to describe unsteady, non-uniform flow in a flow system.
- **By Watercourse Type**
  - River Flow Routing
  - Reservoir Routing
  - Overland Flow Routing

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Hydrologic Routing

**Simple, non-storage routing:**  
Empirical gauging, Gauging relationships, Regression relationships

Direct relationship based on 'experience' between gauging stations



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Storage Routing

Continuity equation

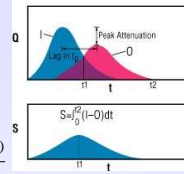
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = I_t - O_t$$

$$\frac{\Delta S}{\Delta t} = \frac{S_2 - S_1}{t_2 - t_1} = \bar{I} - \bar{O} = \frac{(I_1 + I_2)}{2} - \frac{(O_1 + O_2)}{2}$$

$$(S_2 + \frac{1}{2} O_2 \cdot \Delta t) = (S_1 + \frac{1}{2} O_1 \cdot \Delta t) + \frac{1}{2} (I_1 + I_2) \cdot \Delta t$$

1 equation with two unknowns:  $S_2$  and  $O_2$

Relationship S-O  $O = f(S)$

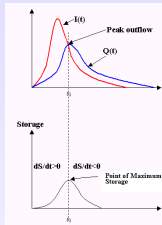
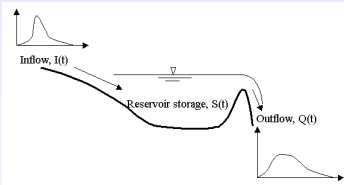


Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Storage Routing

One equation with two unknowns:  $S_2$  and  $O_2$   
Relationship S-O

- 1) Empirical relationship between S-O
- 2) Linear reservoir:  $S = k \cdot Q$
- 3)  $S = f(O) + f(I-O)$



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir Routing

Puls method= Storage routing = Level pool routing = Reservoir routing

- 1) Empirical relationship between S-O
- 2) Linear reservoir:  $S = k \cdot Q$

Incoming water is instantaneously redistributed as a water layer over the reservoir



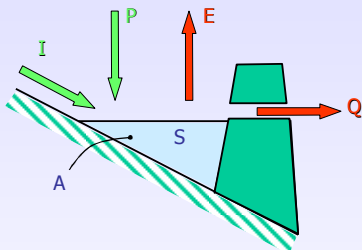
Three gorges dam: artist impression



Spirit reservoir dam near Wisconsin river

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

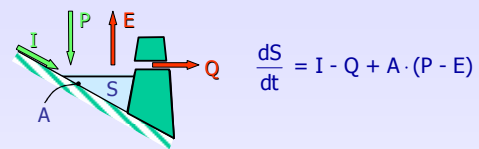
## Reservoir routing



$$\frac{dS}{dt} = I - Q + AP - AE$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir routing



$$S_1 = S_0 + (I - Q + A(P-E)) \cdot (t_1 - t_0)$$

$$A = A(H) \quad \begin{cases} A = A_0 + a(H-H_0)^b \\ A = A_0 \exp(b(H-H_0)) \end{cases}$$

$$S = \int_{H_0}^H A dH$$

$$Q = K(H-H_c)^c$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir routing

### Short term model, Flood routing:

Neglect P-E

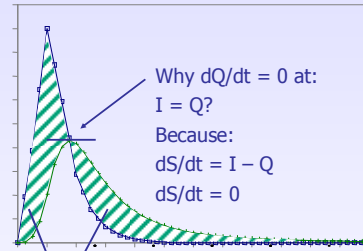
Predictor-Corrector:

1. Initial condition:  $H_0 = H_c$
2. Predictor:  $S_1^* = S_0 + (I - Q(H_0))\Delta t$
3.  $H_1^* = H(S_1^*) \rightarrow Q^* = K \left( \frac{H_1^* + H_0}{2} - H_c \right)$
4. Corrector:  $S_1 = S_0 + (I - Q^*)\Delta t$
5.  $H_1 = H(S_1)$
6. Possible iteration
7. Next time step

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir routing

When at  $t=0$  water level is at the spillway crest:



Why  $dQ/dt = 0$  at:  
 $I = Q$ ?  
 Because:  
 $dS/dt = I - Q$   
 $dS/dt = 0$

Surfaces are equal

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir routing

What happens when water level is NOT at the spillway crest ?

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir routing

### Long term model, Reservoir yield analysis:

$$S_1 = S_0 + (I - Q + A(P-E)) * (t_1 - t_0)$$

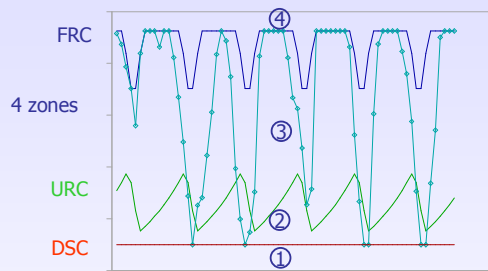
Q is draft (regulated) and flood discharge (unregulated)

Main questions:

What is the safe yield?

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir routing – yield analysis



FRC = Flood Rule Curve  
 URC = Utility Rule Curve  
 DSC = Dead Storage Curve

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Reservoir routing – yield analysis

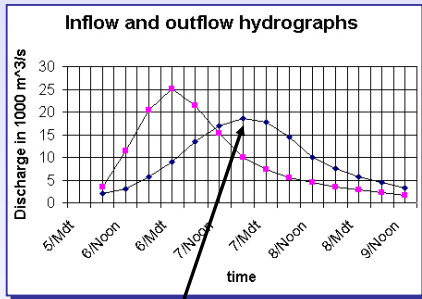
$$S_1 = S_0 + (I - Q + A(P-E)) * (t_1 - t_0)$$

Use operating rules:

1. Assume  $Q=D$
2. Apply water balance with  $A(H_0)$
3. Check rule curves
4. Redo water balance, if rule curves apply
5. Next time step

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

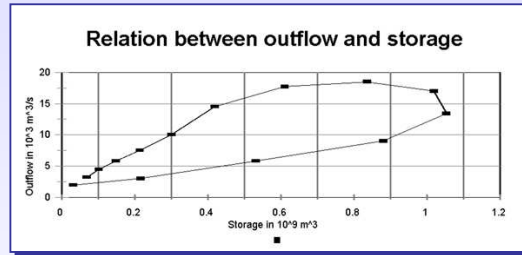
## Flood routing in natural channels



Outflow hydrograph not on recession inflow hydrograph!

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Flood routing in natural channels



So here there is no unequivocal relation between Q and S

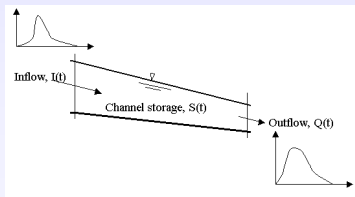
Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Muskingum Routing

- 1) Empirical relationship between S-O
- 2) Linear reservoir:  $S = k \cdot Q$
- 3)  $S = f(O) + f(I-O)$

In a river the storage is a function of both water upstream and downstream

$$S = f(H_{up}, H_{down})$$

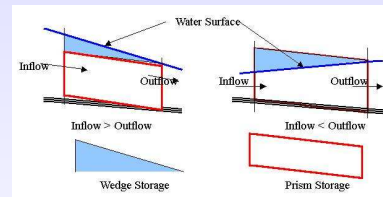


Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Muskingum Routing

In a river storage is a function of both water up- and downstream

$$S = f(H_{up}, H_{down})$$



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prism storage} &= f(O_t) \text{ and } I=O \\ \text{Wedge storage} &= f(I_t, O_t) \end{aligned} \quad \rightarrow \quad S = f_1(O) + f_2(I-O)$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Muskingum Routing

$$S = f_1(O) + f_2(I-O)$$

$$S_p = K O$$

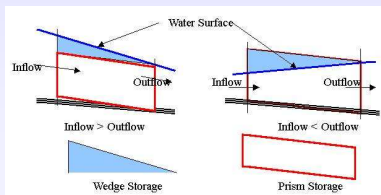
Prism Storage

$$S_w = K (I - O) X$$

Wedge Storage

$$S = K [X I + (1-X) O]$$

Combined



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Muskingum Routing

Substitute the storage equation

$$S = K[X I + (1-X)O]$$

into the continuity equation

$$\frac{S_{n+1} - S_n}{\Delta t} = \frac{I_n + I_{n+1}}{2} - \frac{Q_n + Q_{n+1}}{2}$$

yields

$$O_2 = C_0 I_2 + C_1 I_1 + C_2 O_1$$

$$C_0 = \frac{Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t} \quad C_1 = \frac{Kx + 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t} \quad C_2 = \frac{K - Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t}$$

$$\text{and } C_0 + C_1 + C_2 = 1$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Muskingum Routing

### Estimating K

- K can be estimated as the travel time through the reach.
- Estimate the travel time using the average flow and/or peak flow
- The travel time may be estimated using the kinematic travel time or a travel time based on Manning's equation
- Use slope of the  $XI + (1-X)O$  vs. S plot, K is slope of plot
- Optimise using fitting procedures

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

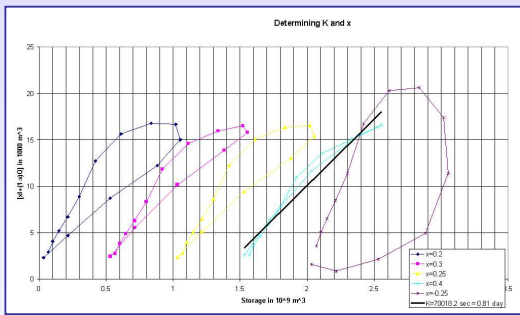
## Muskingum Routing

### Estimating X

- The parameter X is a weighting coefficient for inflow and outflow.
- The value of X should be between 0.0 and 0.5. Values of X = 0.2 to 0.3 are the most common for natural streams; however, values of 0.4 to 0.5 may be obtained for streams with little or no flood plains or storage effects
- The lower limit of X = 0.0 is indicative of a situation where inflow, I, has little or no effect on the storage
- A value of X = 0.5 represents equal weighting between inflow and outflow and would produce translation with little or no attenuation
- Use slope of the  $XI + (1-X)O$  vs. S plot; Best X is least looped
- Optimise using fitting procedures

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Flood routing in natural channels



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Flood routing in natural channels

### Muskingum equation:

$$S = K[xI + (1-x)Q]$$

Because  $dS/dt = I - Q$ :

$$I - Q = \frac{dS}{dt} = K \left[ x \frac{dI}{dt} + (1-x) \frac{dQ}{dt} \right]$$

If  $I = Q$ , then:

$$x = \frac{dQ/dt}{dQ/dt - dI/dt}$$

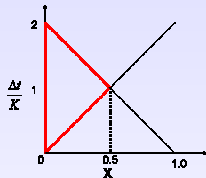
Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Muskingum Routing

### Feasible region for Muskingum model parameter

$$\frac{1}{2(1-x)} \leq \frac{K}{\Delta t} \leq \frac{1}{2x}$$

Feasible region



Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

## Muskingum Routing

### Conditions:

Courant number

$$C = \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} = \frac{\Delta t}{K} \leq 1$$

Physical boundaries of x

$$0 \leq x \leq 0.5$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas



### Muskingum Routing

#### Notes for Muskingum routing

- The method may produce negative flows in the initial portion of the hydrograph
- Additionally, it is recommended that the method be limited to moderate to slow rising hydrographs being routed through mild to steep sloping channels
- The method is not applicable to steeply rising hydrographs such as dam breaks
- Finally, this method also neglects variable backwater effects caused by downstream dams, constrictions, bridges, and tidal influences

### Muskingum Example Problem

- A portion of the inflow hydrograph to a reach of channel is given below. If the travel time is  $K=1$  unit and the weighting factor is  $X=0.30$ , then find the outflow from the reach for the period shown below:

Time	Inflow	$C_0I_2$	$C_1I_1$	$C_2O_1$	Outflow
0	3				3
1	5				
2	10				
3	8				
4	6				
5	5				

$$C_0 = -\frac{Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t} \quad C_1 = \frac{Kx + 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t} \quad C_2 = \frac{K - Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t}$$

### Muskingum Example Problem

- The first step is to determine the coefficients in this problem
- The calculations for each of the coefficients is given below:

$$C_0 = -\frac{Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t} \quad C_0 = -((1*0.30) - (0.5*1)) / ((1-(1*0.30) + (0.5*1)) = 0.167$$

$$C_1 = \frac{Kx + 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t} \quad C_1 = ((1*0.30) + (0.5*1)) / ((1-(1*0.30) + (0.5*1)) = 0.667$$

$$C_2 = \frac{K - Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t} \quad C_2 = (1 - (1*0.30) - (0.5*1)) / ((1-(1*0.30) + (0.5*1)) = 0.167$$

- Therefore the coefficients in this problem are:
- $C_0 = 0.167$
  - $C_1 = 0.667$
  - $C_2 = 0.167$

### Muskingum Example Problem

- The three columns now can be calculated.
- $C_0I_2 = 0.167 * 5 = 0.835$
- $C_1I_1 = 0.667 * 3 = 2.00$
- $C_2O_1 = 0.167 * 3 = 0.501$

Time	Inflow	$C_0I_2$	$C_1I_1$	$C_2O_1$	Outflow
0	3	0.835	2.00	0.501	3
1	5	0.835	2.00	0.501	
2	10				
3	8				
4	6				
5	5				

### Muskingum Example Problem

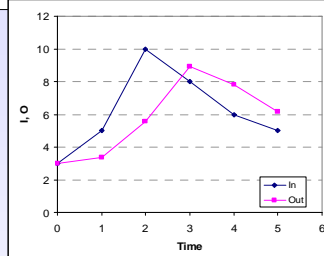
- Next the three columns are added to determine the outflow at time equal 1 hour.
- $0.835 + 2.00 + 0.501 = 3.34$

Time	Inflow	$C_0I_2$	$C_1I_1$	$C_2O_1$	Outflow
0	3	0.835	2.00	0.501	3
1	5				3.34
2	10				
3	8				
4	6				
5	5				

- This can be repeated until the table is complete

Time	Inflow	$C_0I_2$	$C_1I_1$	$C_2O_1$	Outflow
0	3	0.835	2.00	0.501	3
1	5	0.835	2.00	0.501	3.34
2	10	1.34	6.67	0.93	5.57
3	8	1.00	5.34	1.49	8.94
4	6	0.835	4.00	1.31	7.83
5	5	0.835	3.34	1.03	6.14

### Muskingum Example Problem



Time	Inflow	$C_0I_2$	$C_1I_1$	$C_2O_1$	Outflow
0	3	0.835	2.00	0.501	3
1	5	1.67	3.34	0.557	3.34
2	10	1.34	6.67	0.93	5.57
3	8	1.00	5.34	1.49	8.94
4	6	0.835	4.00	1.31	7.83
5	5		3.34	1.03	6.14

### Flood routing in natural channels

Muskingum-Cunge equations:

$$K = \frac{\Delta x}{c}$$

$$c = \frac{dq}{dh} \approx 1.67\bar{v}$$

$$x = 0.5 \left( 1 - \frac{q}{S_b c \Delta x} \right) \approx 0.5 \left( 1 - 0.6 \frac{h}{S_b \Delta x} \right)$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood routing in natural channels

Muskingum routing equation:

$$Q_2 = c_0 I_2 + c_1 I_1 + c_2 Q_1$$

$$c_0 = \frac{Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t}$$

$$c_1 = \frac{Kx + 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{K - Kx - 0.5\Delta t}{K - Kx + 0.5\Delta t}$$

$$c_0 + c_1 + c_2 = 1$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood routing in natural channels

Date	Hour	I, m <sup>3</sup> /s	c <sub>0</sub> I <sub>2</sub>	c <sub>1</sub> I <sub>1</sub>	c <sub>2</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	O, m <sup>3</sup> /s
4/9	6 a.m.	1000	...	...	...	1000
	Noon	2400	-408	530	640	762
	6 p.m.	3900	-663	1272	488	1097
	Midnight	5000	-850	2067	702	1919
4/10	6 a.m.	4900	-833	2650	1228	3045
	Noon	4000	-680	2597	1949	3866

$$c_0 = -0.17; c_1 = 0.53; c_2 = 0.64$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Flood routing in natural channels

Local Inflow:

Four-point method:

$$Q_2 = c_0 I_2 + c_1 I_1 + c_2 Q_1 + c_3 Q_L$$

$$c_3 = \frac{2\Delta t / K}{2(1-x) + \Delta t / K} \quad \text{is sum of } c_0 \text{ and } c_1$$

Three parameter Muskingum method:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = I(1+\alpha) - Q$$

$$S = K[x(1+\alpha)I + (1-x)Q]$$

Hydrology of Catchments, Rivers and Deltas

### Hydraulic routing

Hydraulic Routing [physical] – Use both continuity and momentum equations to describe unsteady, non-uniform flow in a flow system.

Momentum equation is the St. Venant equation

$$S_f = S_o - \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} - \frac{v}{g} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{l}{g} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \quad \text{Unsteady - Nonuniform}$$

$$S_f = S_o - \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} - \frac{v}{g} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \quad \text{Steady - Nonuniform}$$

$$S_f = S_o - \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \quad \text{Diffusion or non-inertial}$$

$$S_f = S_o \quad \text{Kinematic}$$

### Muskingum – Cunge routing

If you have no data to flood waves to determine K and X, they can be approximated using:

$$K \approx \frac{\Delta x}{c} \approx \frac{\Delta x}{m \cdot v} \quad X \approx \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{Q}{BS_o c \Delta x} \right)$$

Q (discharge), B (width), and c (wave celerity) are best taken as the average values over the  $\Delta x$  reach and  $\Delta t$  time step

m, v are constant throughout the routing trajectory. K, X are constant.  $\Delta t < t_r/5$

This is a combination of hydrologic and hydraulic routing.

Channel routing is a mathematical method (model) to predict the changing magnitude, speed, and shape of a flood wave as it propagates through waterways such as canals, rivers, reservoirs, or estuaries (Fread, 1985)

Hydrologic Routing [conceptual] - Employs continuity equation, along with an analytical or an assumed relationship between storage and discharge within a system, in the calculation.

Hydraulic Routing [physical] – Use both continuity and momentum equations to describe unsteady, non-uniform flow in a flow system.



Kinematic wave – energy equation assuming no pressure and acceleration terms

Dynamic wave – energy equation assuming no acceleration terms

## FLOOD SURVEYS & FLOOD PROPAGATION

- Occurrence of floods
- Hydrological routing vs hydraulic routing
- Reservoir routing
- Flood routing in natural channels