

CE 3354 ENGINEERING HYDROLOGY

LECTURE 16: UNIT HYDROGRAPHS

OUTLINE

- ES7 Solution Sketch
- HMS Workshop
 - Multiple Sub-Basins (using Lag Routing)

ES7 SOLUTION SKETCH

Problem 1 is to use two different unitgraphs and loss characteristics to estimate effects of urbanization in both volume produced and timing

1. An agricultural watershed was urbanized over a 20 year interval. A triangular one-hour unit hydrograph was developed for this watershed for an excess rainfall duration of one hour.

Before urbanization, the average infiltration rate and other losses was 0.30 in/hr.

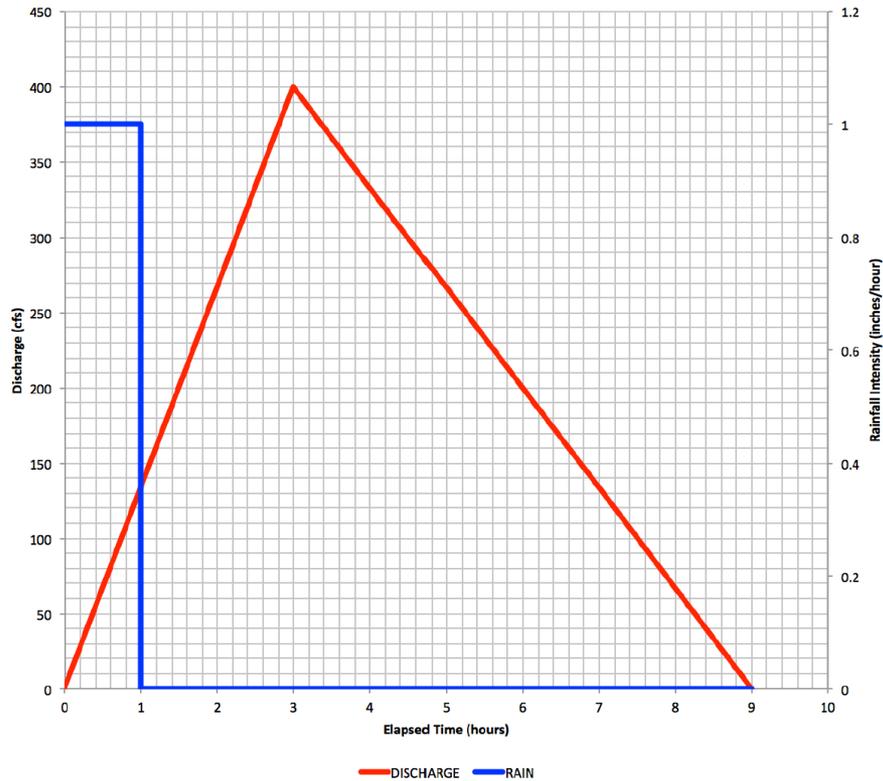
Figure 1 is the unit hydrograph had a peak discharge of 400 cfs/in occurring at 3 hours, and a base time of 9 hours.

After urbanization the loss rate was reduced to 0.15 in/hr and the peak discharge of the unit hydrograph was increased to 600 cfs/in occurring at 1 hour, and the base time was reduced to 6 hours. Figure 2 is the unit hydrography with a peak discharge of 600 cfs occurring at 1 hours, and a time base of 6 hours.

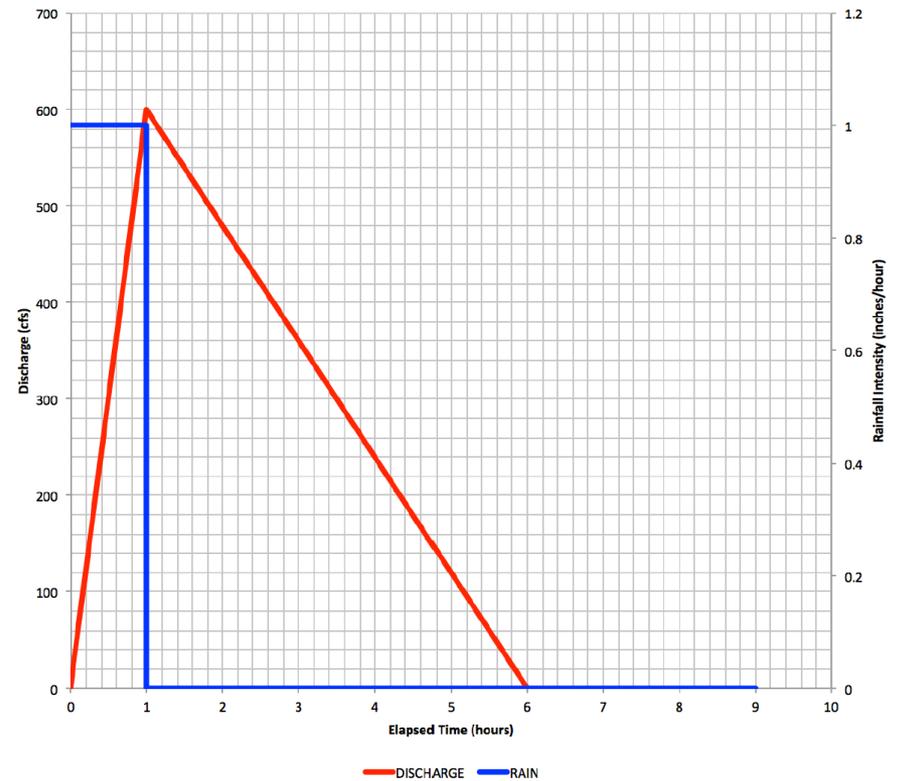
For a two hour storm in which 1 inch of rain fell in the first hour and 0.5 inch in the second hour, determine the direct runoff hydrographs before and after urbanization.¹

ES7 SOLUTION SKETCH

Problem 1 is to use two different unitgraphs and loss characteristics to estimate effects of urbanization in both volume produced and timing



Pre-Development

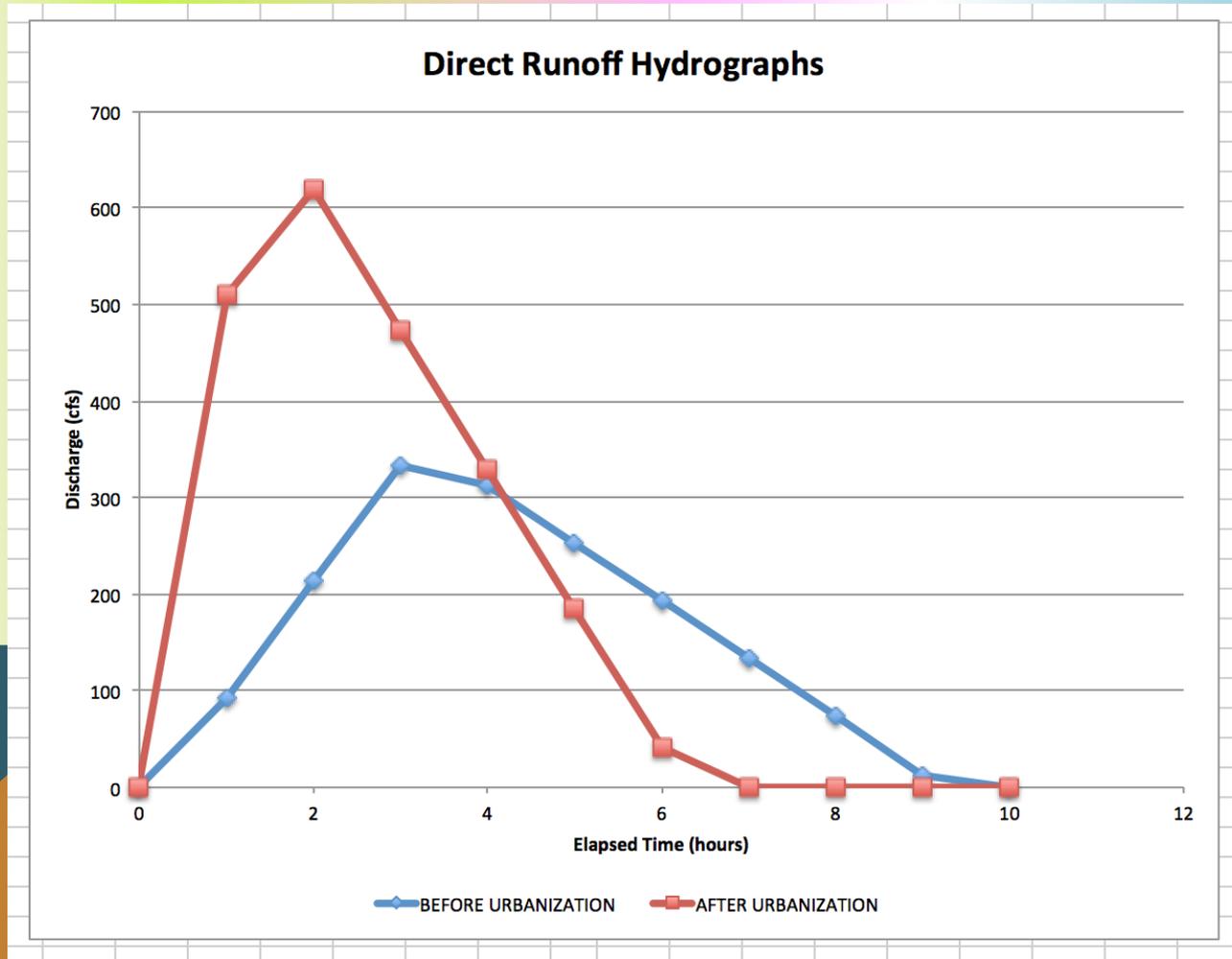


Post-Development

ES7 SOLUTION SKETCH

Problem 1 is to use two different unitgraphs and loss characteristics to estimate effects of urbanization in both volume produced and timing

Solution – build the linear system $[P][U]=[Q]$ plot the two cases for [New P]



ES7 SOLUTION SKETCH

Problem 2 is to construct a unitgraph from an observed storm using the linear regression approach

Solution

- Get volume balance using the loss model
- Build and solve the normal equations (the linear system $[[P]^T[P][P]^T]^{-1}[Q]=[U]$)
- Plot Result

ES7 SOLUTION SKETCH

Problem 2 is to construct a unitgraph from an observed storm using the linear regression approach

Solution

- Build and solve the normal equations (the linear system $[[P]^T[P][P]^T]^{-1}[Q]=[U]$)
- Negative values are an annoyance, try SOLVER to force non-negative solution (not much better)

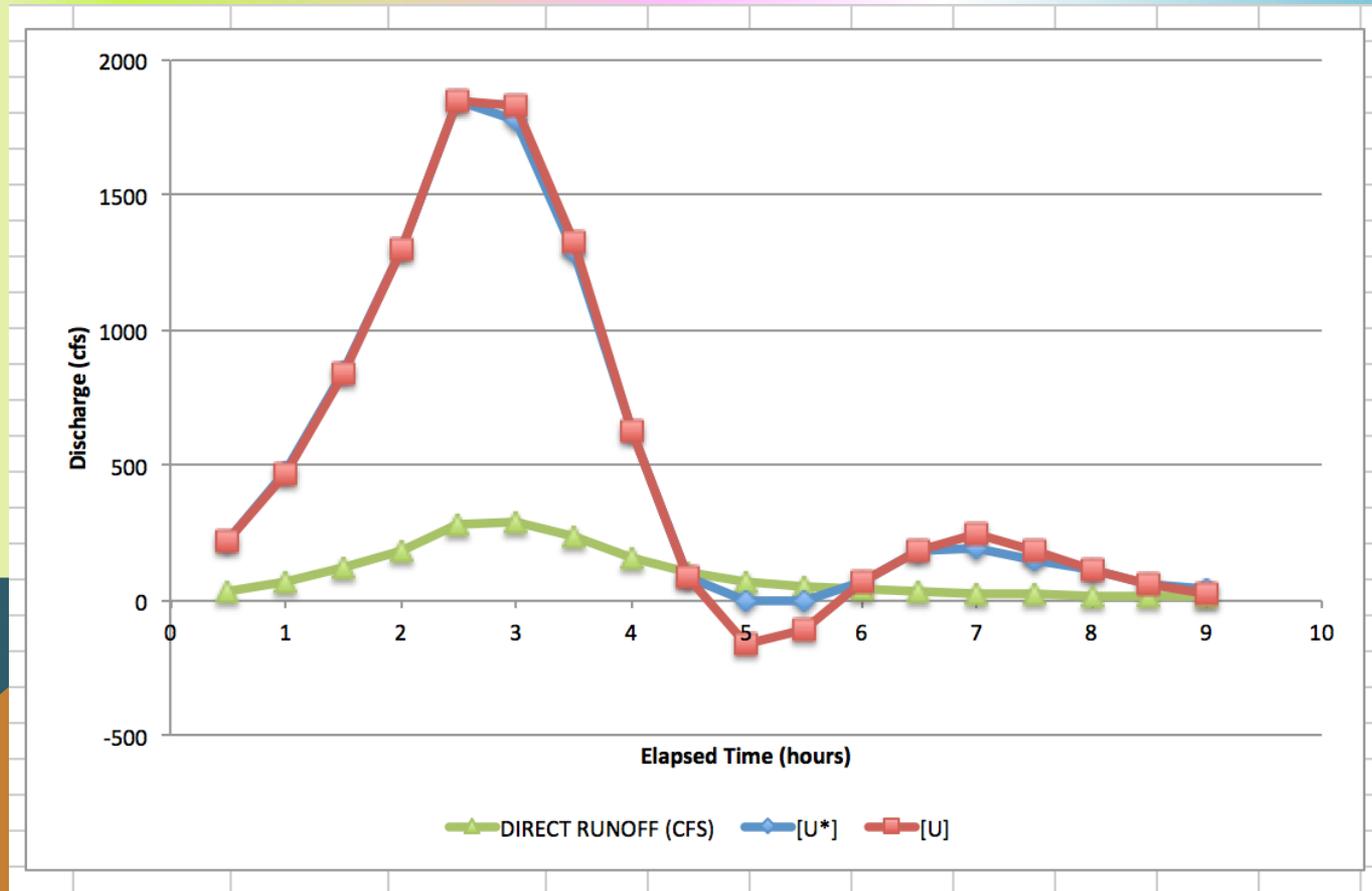
Negative UH weights -- try Solver			
	[U*]	[Q*-solver]	[SE]
	224.349	32.3817666	0.14574575
Solver:	479.713	69.2400865	5.01798769
1) Compute SE from $([P][U^*]-[Q_{obs}])$	850.148	122.70722	2.91460034
2) Compute SSE by sum(above)	1304.59	189.273066	0.07456485
3) Use solver to min SSE, by changing	1845.44	278.391811	0.36989355
3.A) Force NON-Negative [U*]	1782.74	283.241852	45.6725664
	1293.6	232.143616	23.5844655
	623.929	159.585644	0.17169086
	88.6252	108.000002	3.4982E-12
	0	92.6521668	426.511993
	0	67.7898147	190.158989
	71.6621	44.0000423	1.7859E-09
	182.663	32.999879	1.463E-08
	191.328	27.9999706	8.6238E-10
	150.269	22.0000078	6.1463E-11
	111.064	19.9999321	4.6098E-09
	60.6986	18.0000802	6.4268E-09
	42.079	16.0000567	3.2116E-09
		[SSE] =>	694.622498

ES7 SOLUTION SKETCH

Problem 2 is to construct a unitgraph from an observed storm using the linear regression approach

Solution

- Plot Result

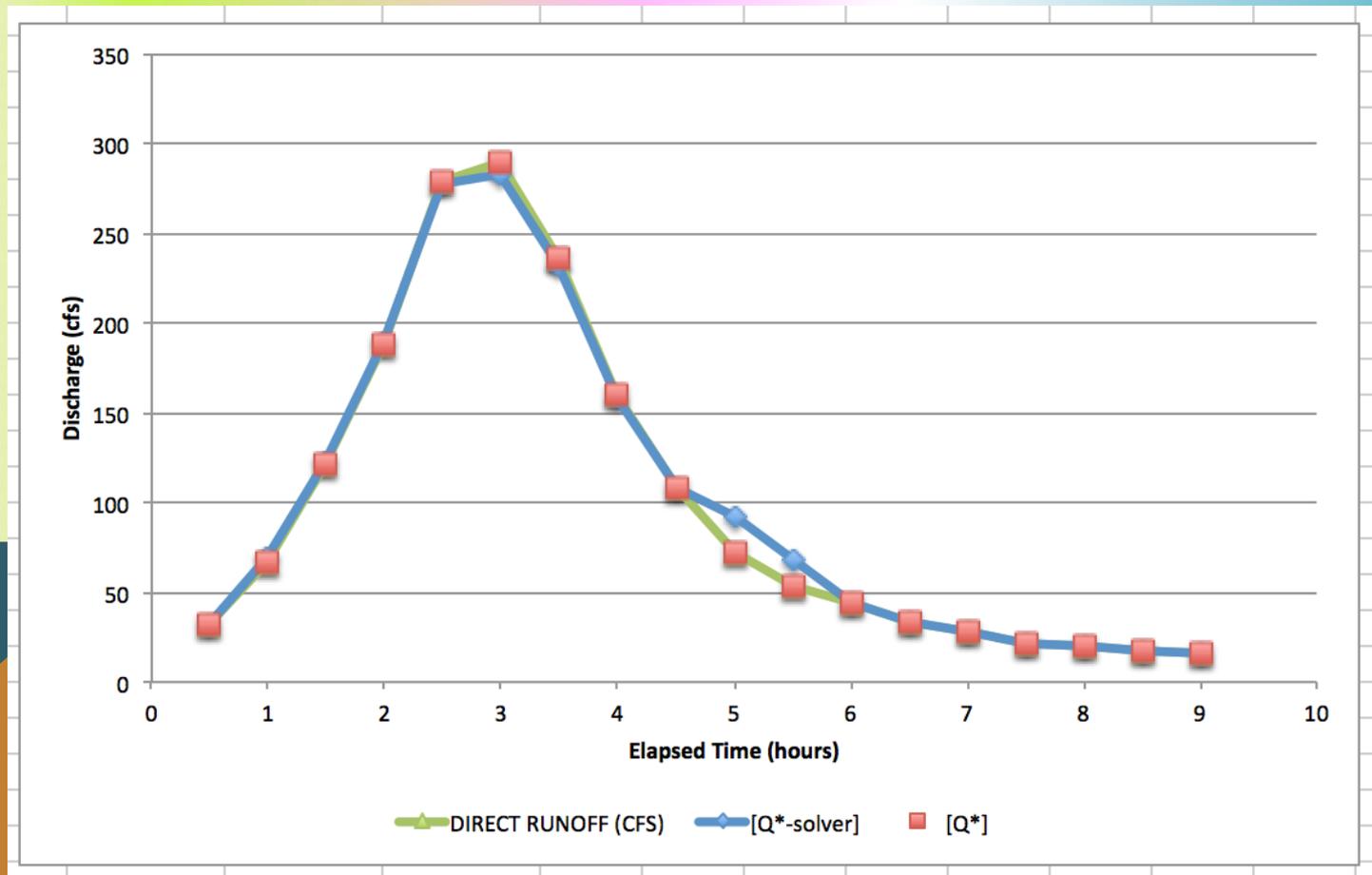


ES7 SOLUTION SKETCH

Problem 2 is to construct a unitgraph from an observed storm using the linear regression approach

Solution

- Plot Result: Both fit the observations OK



WHAT IS A UNIT HYDROGRAPH?

Streamflow from Rainfall by Unit-Graph Method

Observed runoff following isolated one-day rainfall forms basis of computation—Method applicable to rainfalls of any intensity or duration

By L. K. Sherman
Consulting Engineer, Randolph-Perkins Co.,
Chicago, Ill.

BY MAKING USE of a single observed hydrograph, one due to a storm lasting one day, it is possible to compute for the same watershed the runoff history corresponding to a rainfall of any duration or degree of intensity. From the known hydrograph the "unit" graph must be determined, representing 1 in. of runoff from a 24-hour rainfall. The daily ordinates of the unit graph can then be combined in accordance with the variation in daily precipitation figures so as to show the runoff from a storm of any length.

Following a storm, the hydrograph representing the flow in the main-stream channel shows the runoff increasing to a maximum point and then subsiding to the value it had before the storm. For a single storm the graph is generally of a triangular shape, with the falling stage taking never less and usually two or more times as long as the rising stage. For the same drainage area, however, there is a definite total flood period corresponding to a given rainfall, and all one-day rainfalls,

or 2 in., and the observed graph represents a 2-in. runoff applied in 24 hours. The unit graph for this area, then, is one having the same base but ordinates one-half as great as those on the observed graph. This is the procedure for determining a unit graph for any drainage area. The graph is a constant for any particular drainage area, but drainage areas of different physical characteristics give radically different forms.

A topography with steep slopes and few pondage pockets gives a graph with a high sharp peak and a short time period. A flat country with large pondage pockets gives a graph with a flat rounded peak and a long time period.

Application of unit graph

After a unit graph has been constructed for a particular area it may be used to compute a hydrograph of runoff for this area for any individual storm or sequence of storms of any duration or intensity over any period of time. The principle to use in applying the unit graph is to follow the summation process of nature. For example, consider a case where the unit graph

OPQ. A continued rain with the same daily depth of runoff produces successively the additional dotted graphs. At the end of the fifth day of such continuous rain, with uniform depths of runoff for each day, the runoff graph *OR* will be formed. The peak at *R* will be the maximum rate of runoff. Further

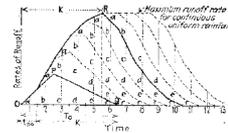


Fig. 1—Simple hydrograph of runoff from a continuous uniform rain, when the unit graph is triangular.

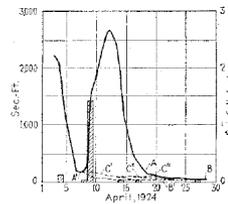
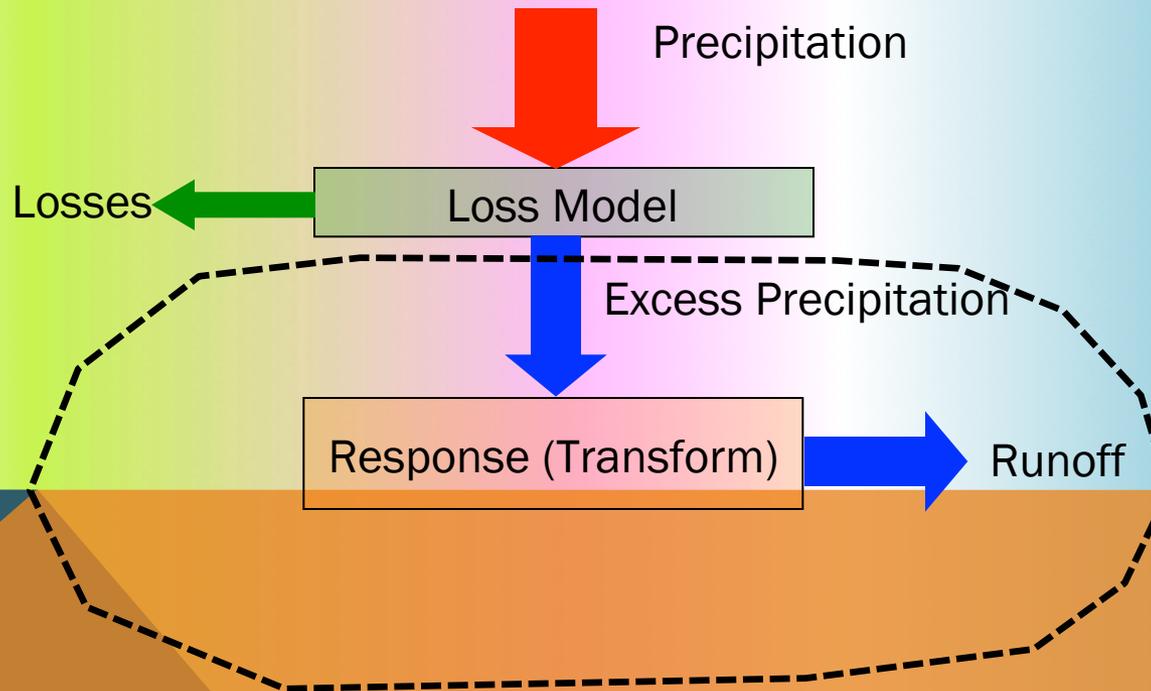


Fig. 2—At Plumfield, Ill., on the Big Muddy River, there was a fairly well-isolated rain of 1.42 in. on April 9, 1924, yielding a hydrograph with ordinates proportional to those of the unit graph.

- Used to explain the time re-distribution of excess precipitation on a watershed
- Represents the response of the watershed at the outlet to a unit depth of EXCESS precipitation
 - EXCESS implies some kind of loss model is applied to the raw precipitation
 - Time re-distribution implies some kind of transfer behavior is applied
- L. K. Sherman 1932 is credited with seminal publication of the concept
 - Read the document in AdditionalReadings

RESPONSE MODEL

Response models convert the excess precipitation signal into a direct runoff hydrograph at the point of interest



CE 3354 ENGINEERING HYDROLOGY

LECTURE 16: HEC-HMS WORKSHOP - ASH CREEK EXAMPLE

PURPOSE

Illustrate using HEC-HMS to develop a multiple sub-basin model

- Include routing concepts

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learn how to use HMS to construct a multiple sub-basin model

Learn how to supply lag-routing data

Learn how to estimate lag-routing times

PROBLEM STATEMENT

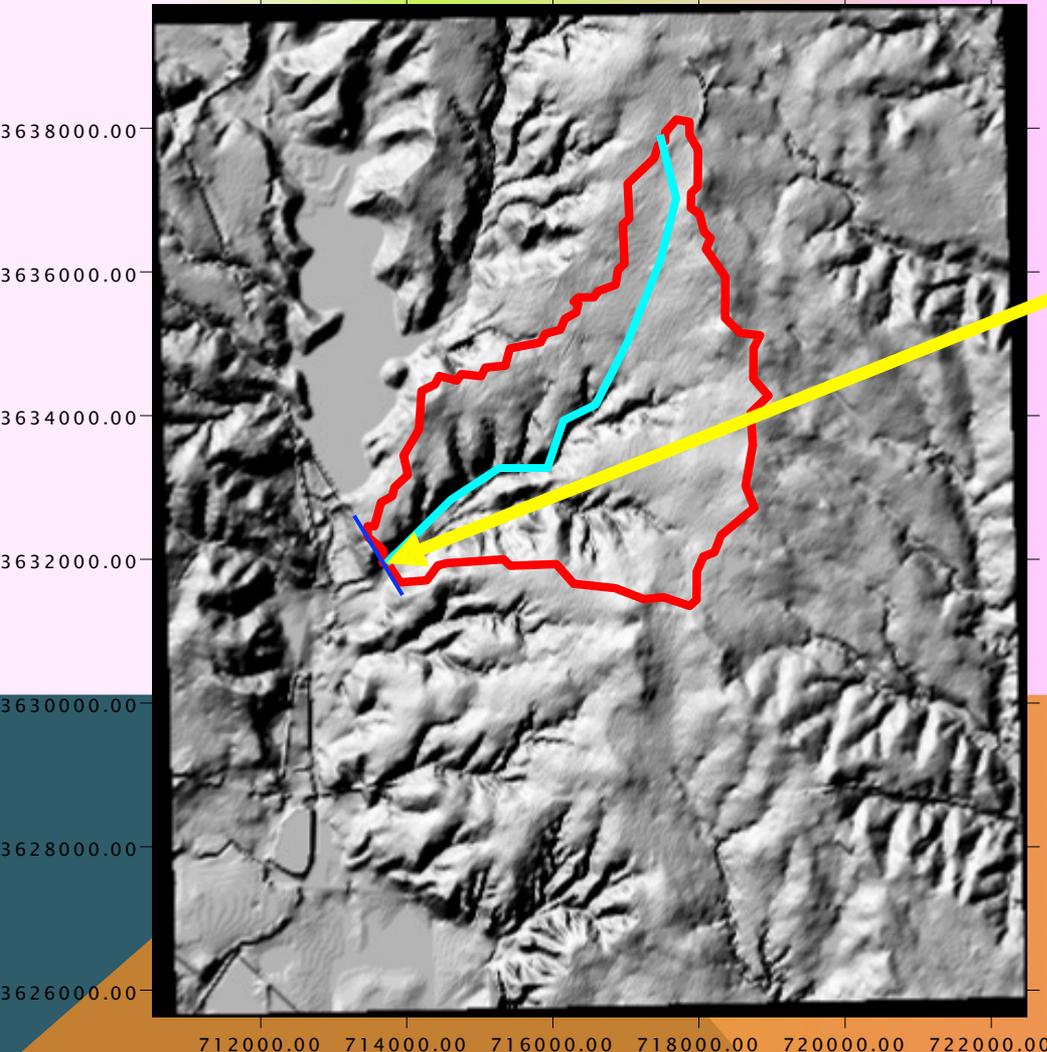
Simulate the response of the Ash Creek watershed at Highland Road for 20 May 1978 historical conditions.

- Use Example 3B as the base “model”
- Treat the watershed as comprised of multiple sub-basins.

BACKGROUND AND DATA

Watershed Outlet

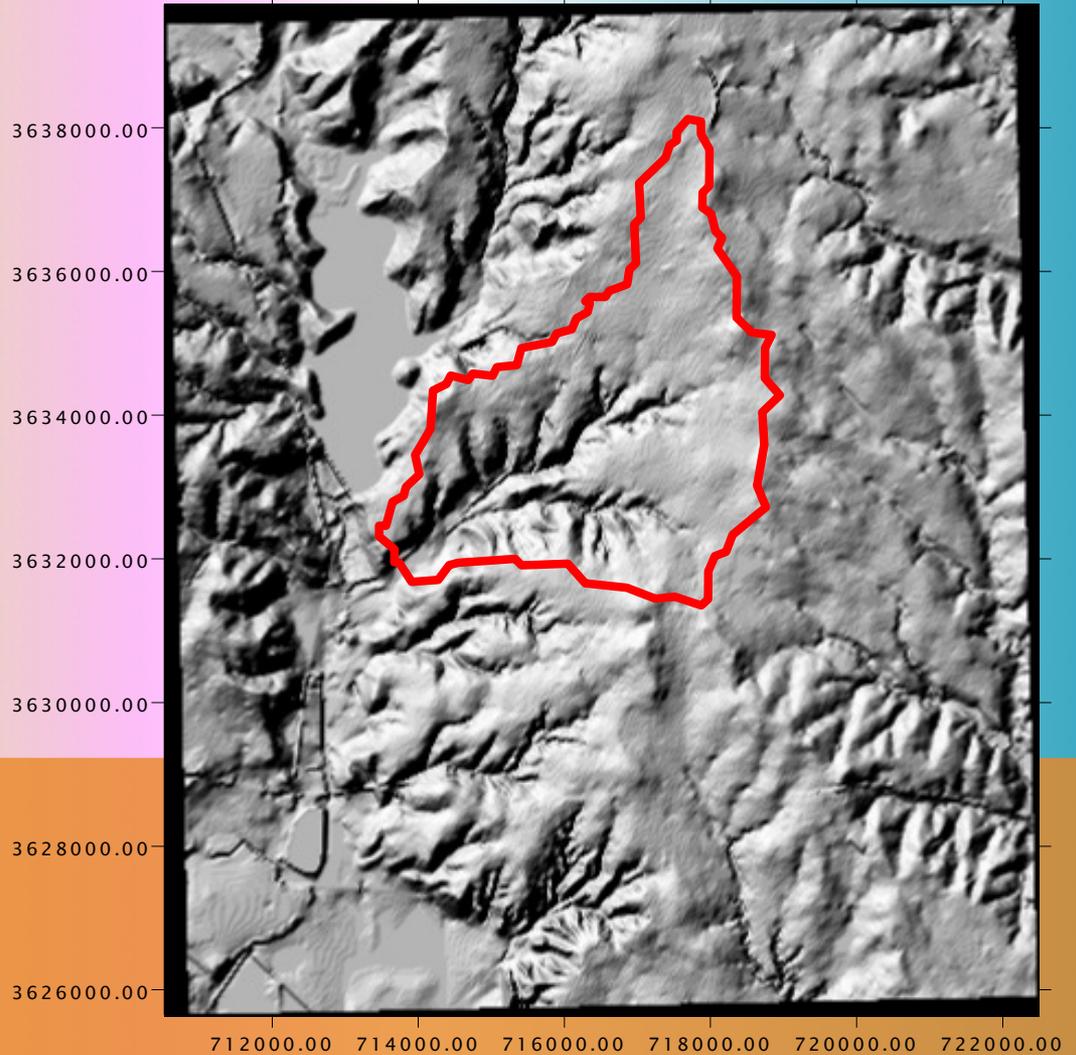
- Highland Road and Ash Creek, Dallas, TX.
- Area is residential subdivisions, light industrial parks, and some open parkland.
- White Rock Lake is water body to the North-West



PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Watershed Properties

- AREA=6.92 mi²
- MCL=5.416 mi
- MCS=0.005595
- CN=86
- R=0



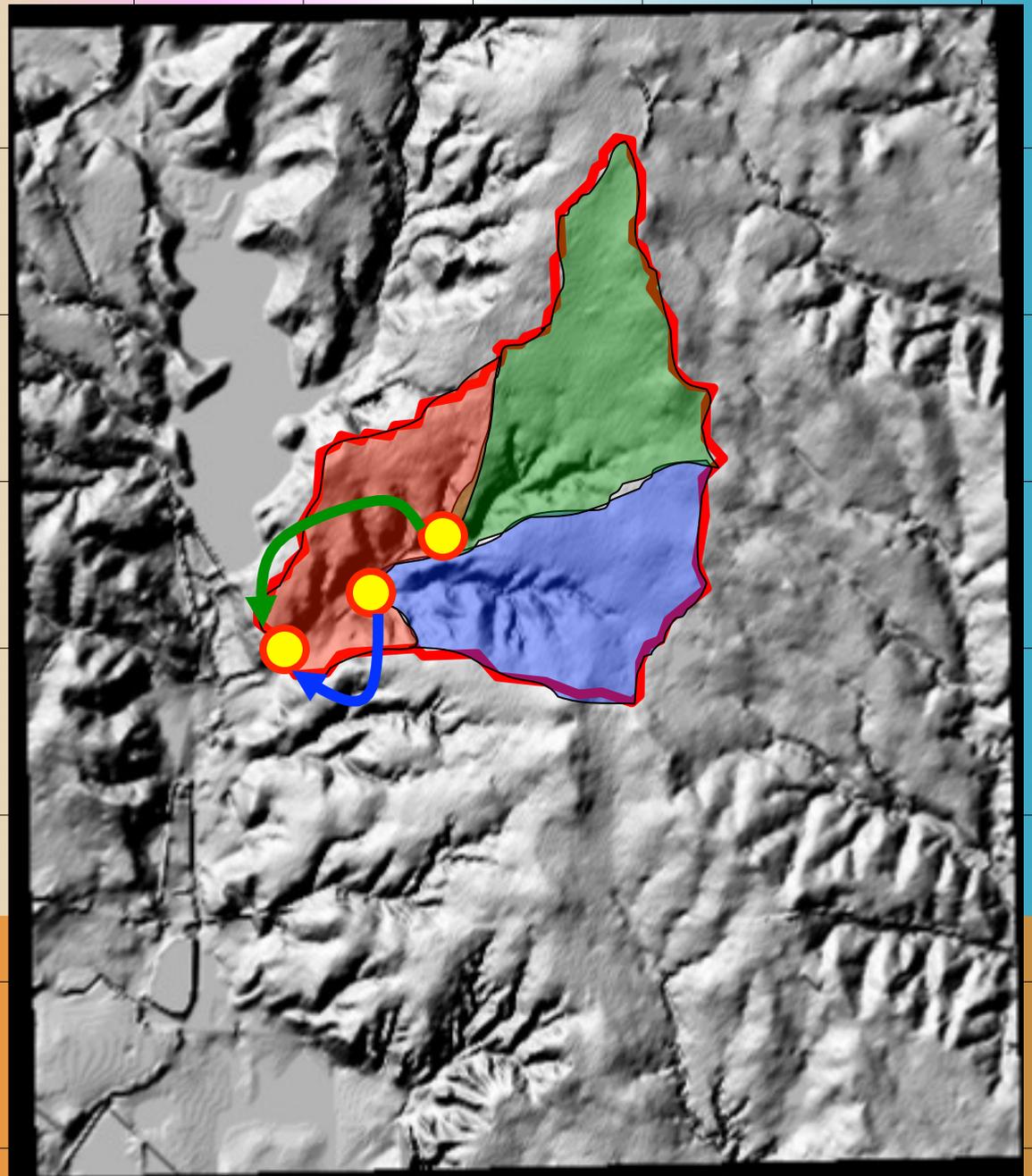
3638000.00

Consider the arbitrary scheme shown

- Green => Red
- Blue => Red

Green and Blue need to be routed to the outlet.

3626000.00

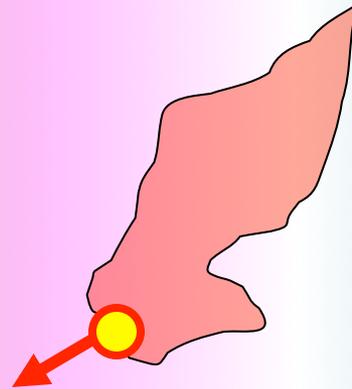


712000.00 714000.00 716000.00 718000.00 720000.00 722000.00

RED WATERSHED

Rainfall-Runoff for this sub- area directly to the outlet

- Unit hydrograph
 - AREA
 - T_c
- Loss model
 - CN



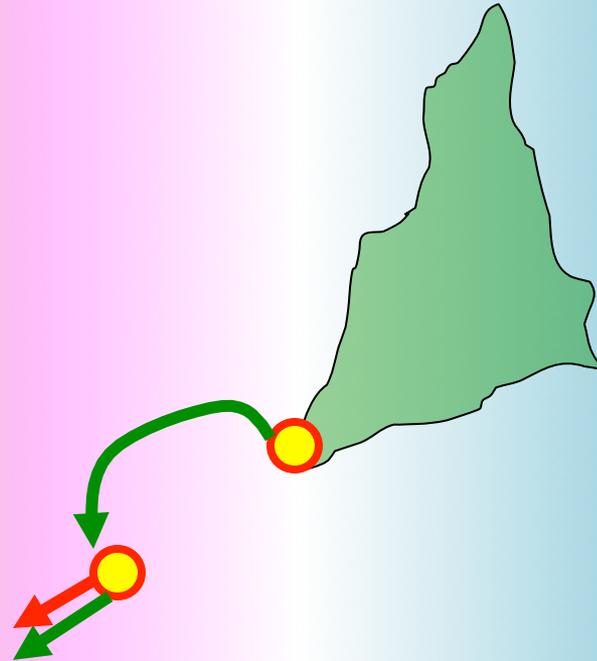
GREEN WATERSHED

Rainfall-runoff for this watershed directly to ITS outlet.

- Unit hydrograph
 - AREA
 - T_c
- Loss model
 - CN

Then “route” to the main outlet

- $T_{lag} = \text{Distance}/\text{Speed}$



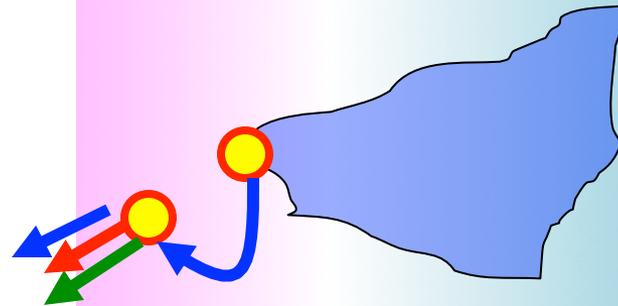
BLUE WATERSHED

Rainfall-runoff for this watershed directly to ITS outlet.

- Unit hydrograph
 - AREA
 - T_c
- Loss model
 - CN

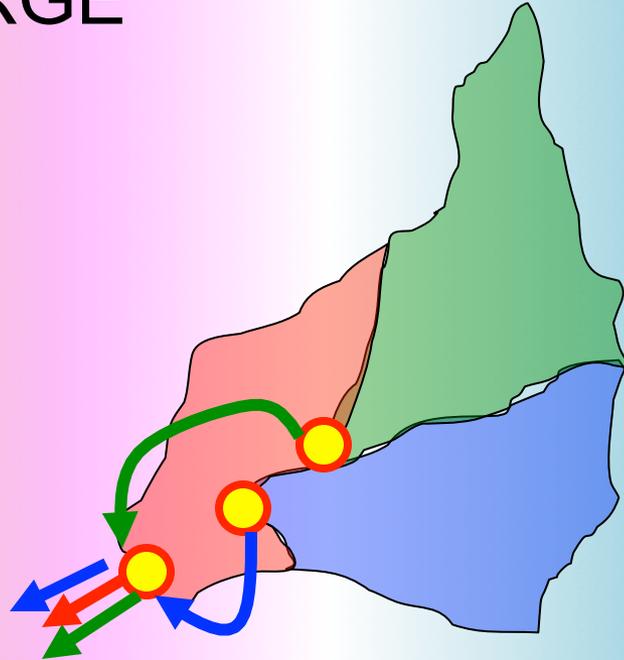
Then “route” to the main outlet

- $T_{lag} = \text{Distance}/\text{Speed}$



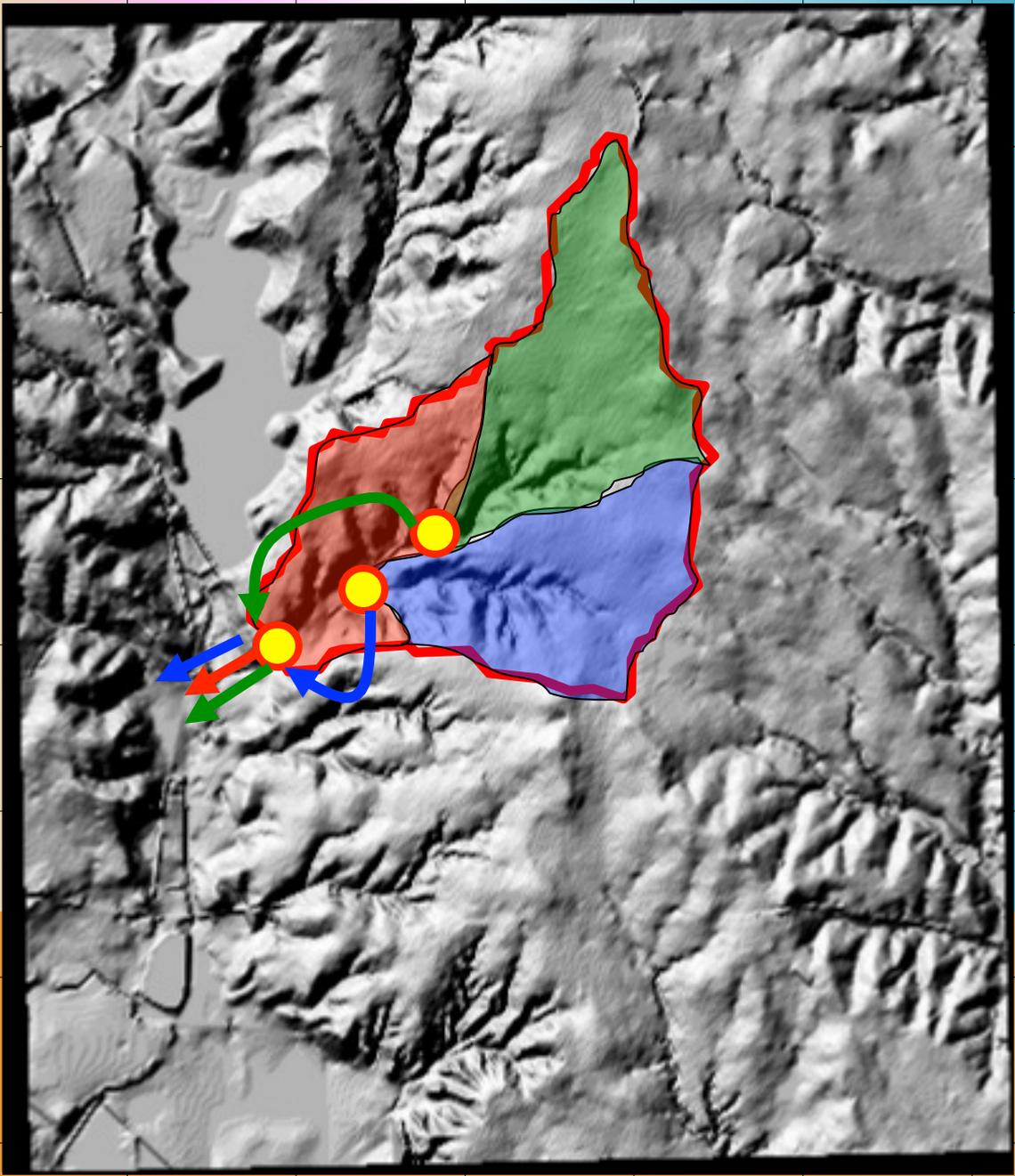
COMPOSITE DISCHARGE

**Contributions of
each watershed
combined at
the outlet for
the total
discharge**



**Prepare a
PDF base
map with
drawings
and use
measuring
tools.**

3638000.00
3636000.00
3634000.00
3632000.00
3630000.00
3628000.00
3626000.00

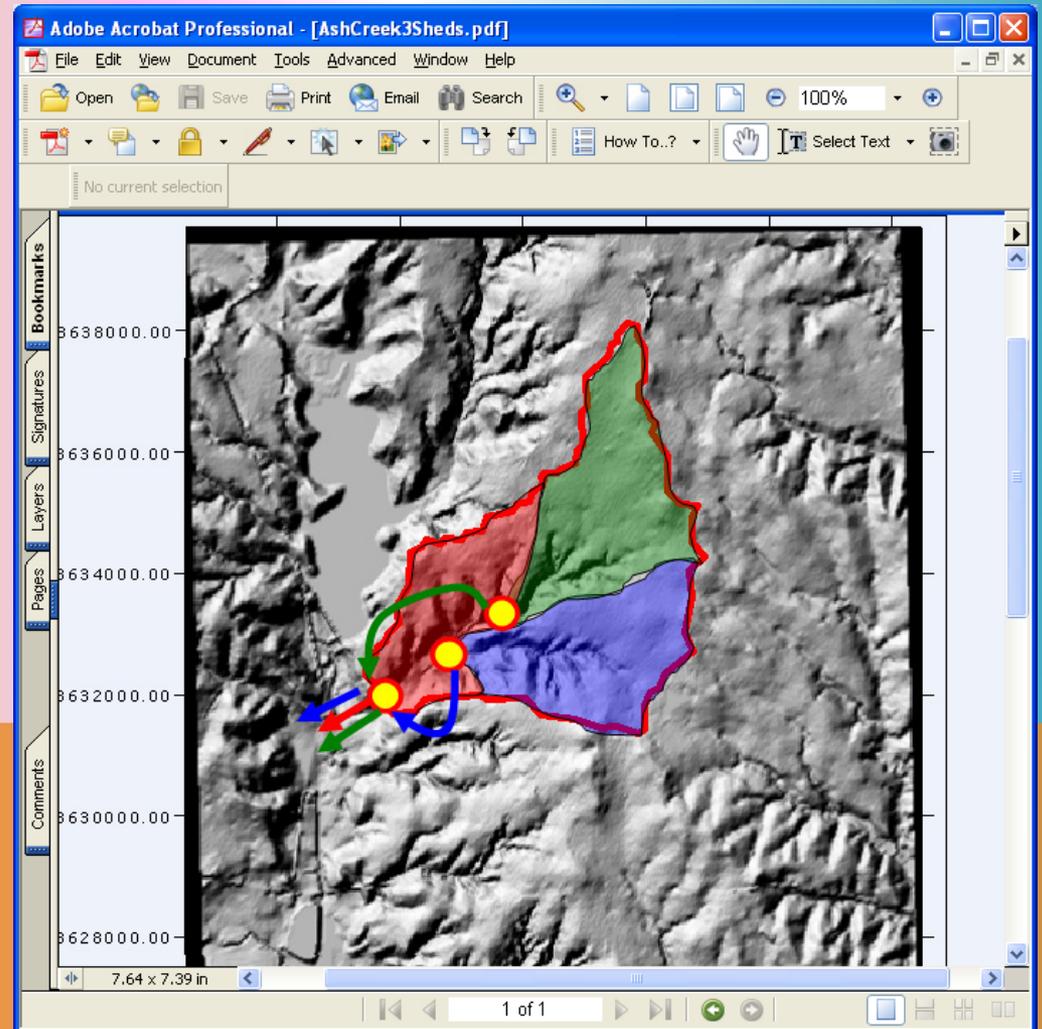


712000.00 714000.00 716000.00 718000.00 720000.00 722000.00

EXAMPLE 5

Use measuring tools in acrobat.

- Known total area is 6.92 square miles, so we don't need a reference rectangle.
- The left axis is UTM and is in meters. So distances stragihforward

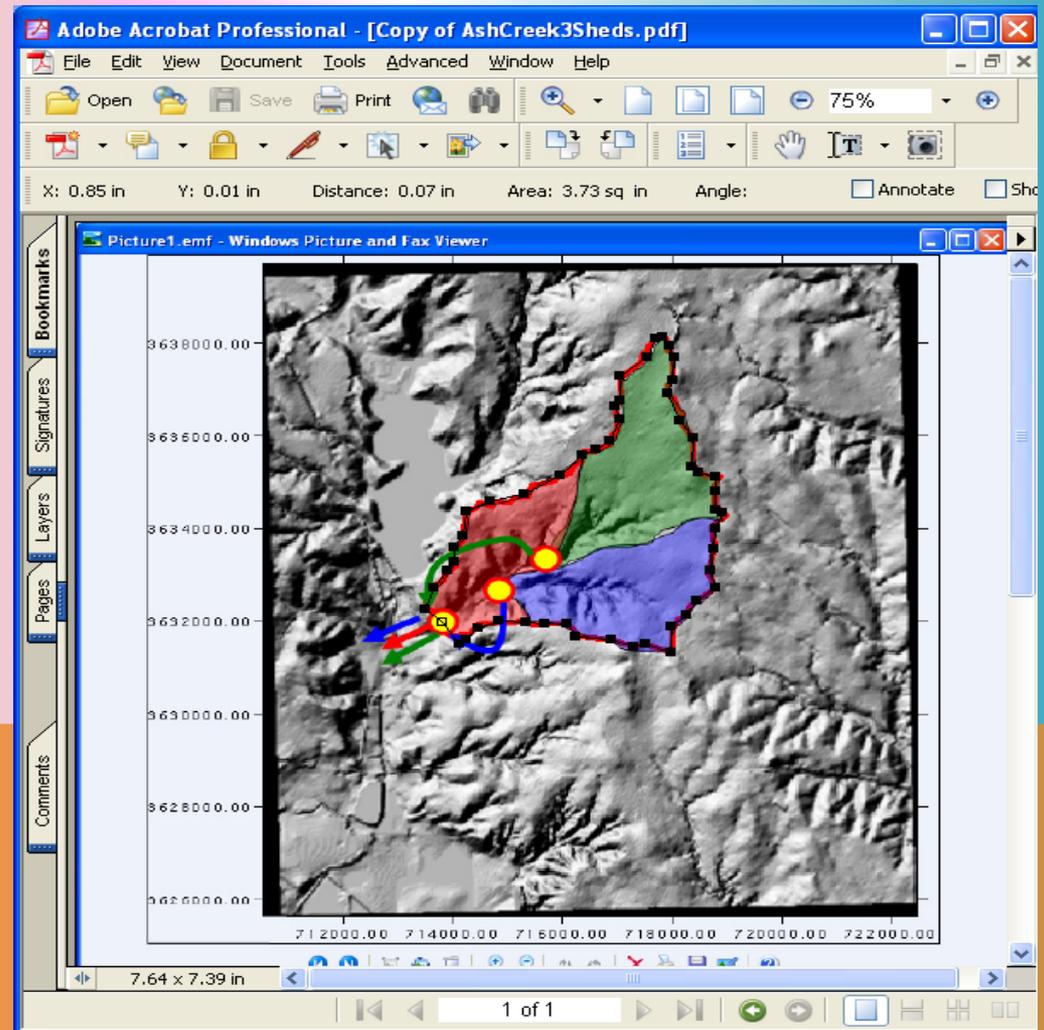


EXAMPLE 5

Use measuring tools in acrobat.

- $6.92 \text{ sq.mi} = 3.73 \text{ sq.in}$
- $2000 \text{ m} = 0.90 \text{ in}$ (horizontal axis)
- $2000 \text{ m} = 0.89 \text{ in}$ (vertical axis)

Use these measurements to scale the sub-areas and stream channel distances.



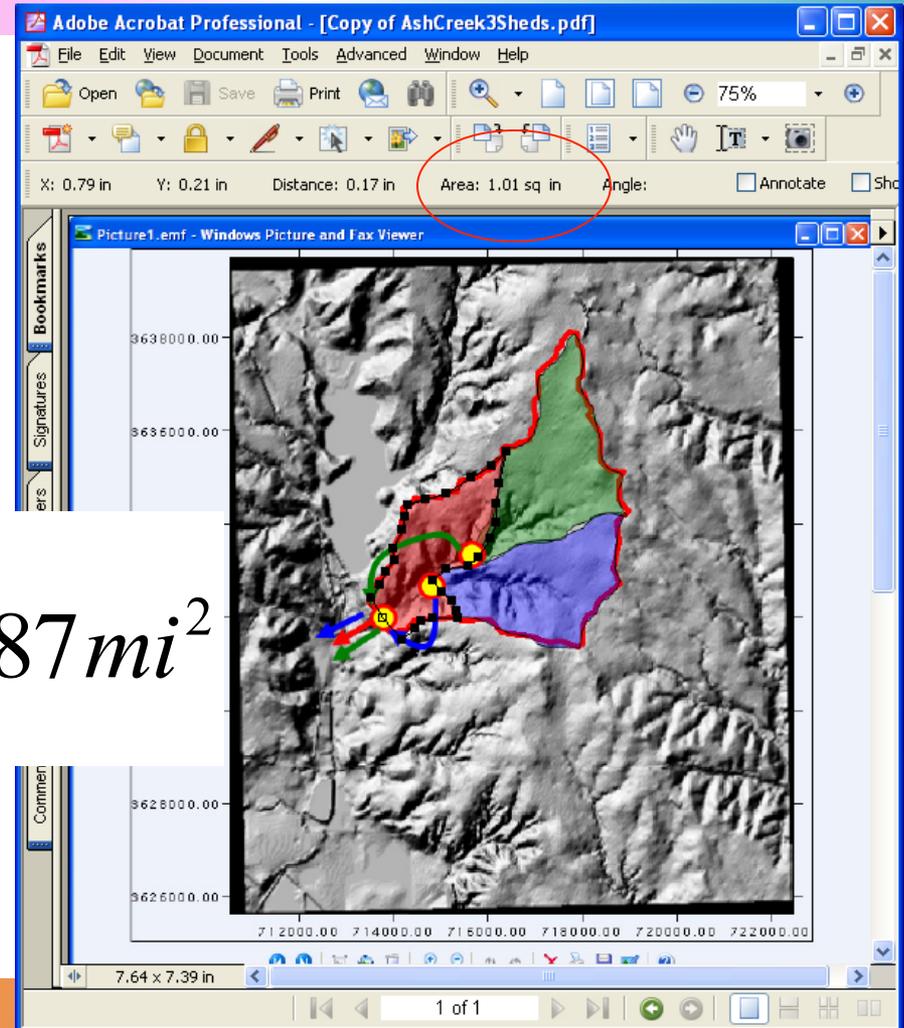
RED WATERSHED

Use measuring tools in acrobat.

- Area Measured = 1.01 sq.in.

Convert to sq. mi.

$$1.01in^2 \times \frac{6.92mi^2}{3.73in^2} = 1.87mi^2$$



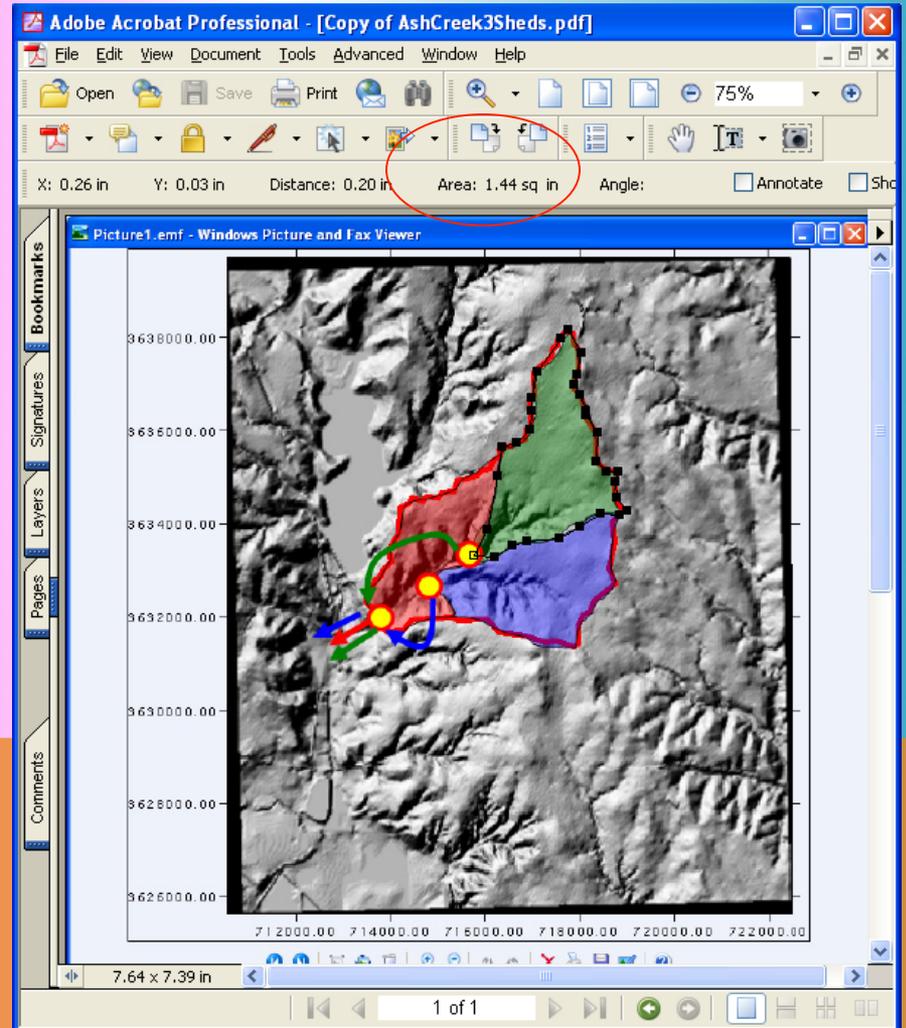
GREEN WATERSHED

Use measuring tools in acrobat.

- Measure = 1.44 sq.in.
- Convert to sq. mi.

$$1.44in^2 \times \frac{6.92mi^2}{3.73in^2} = 2.67mi^2$$

Distance from local outlet to the gage



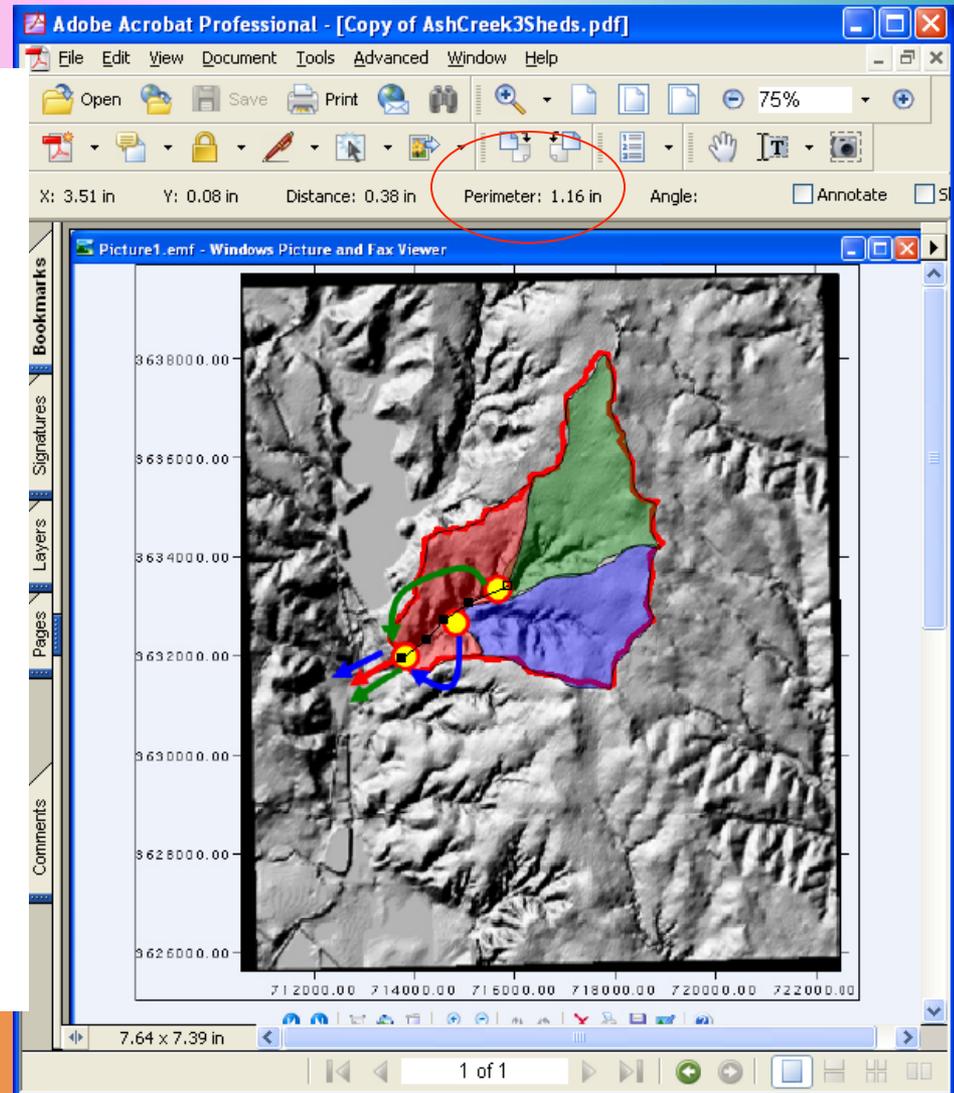
GREEN WATERSHED

Distance from local outlet to the gage

- Perimeter tool for polygon-type measurements
- Measure 1.16 in
- Convert

$$1.16in \times \frac{1000m}{0.90in} = 1288m$$

$$1288m \times \frac{3.28ft}{1m} = 4227ft$$



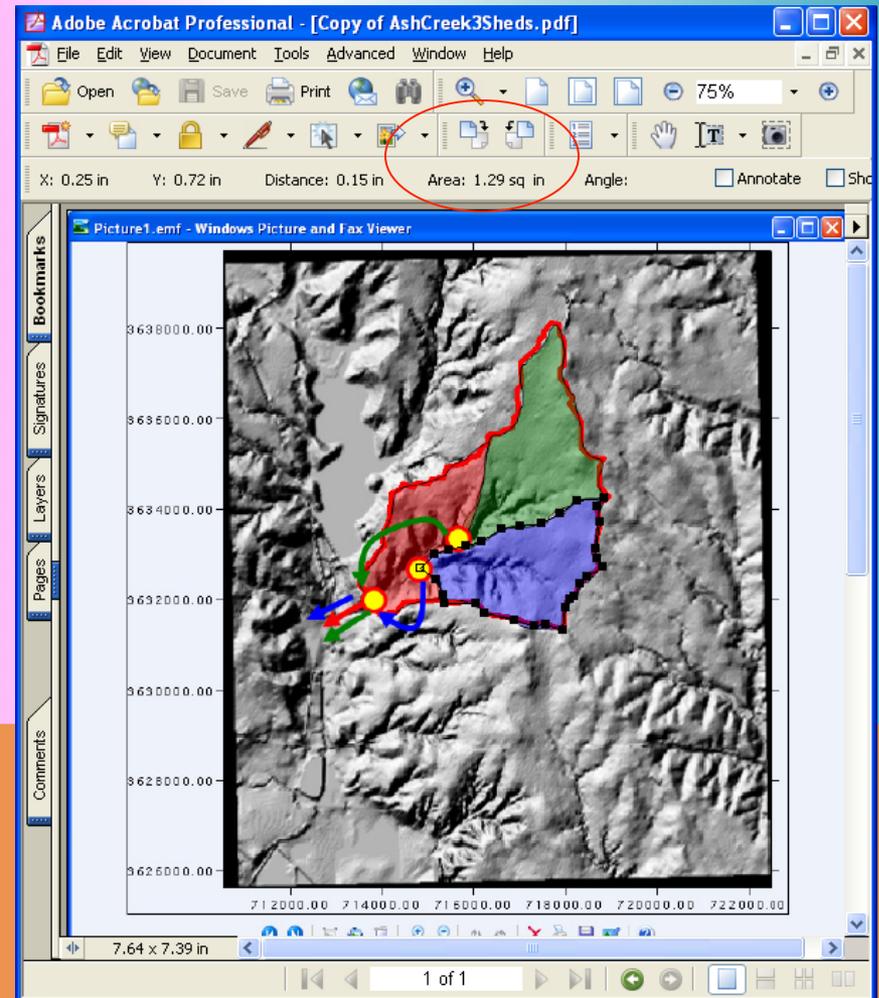
BLUE WATERSHED

Use measuring tools in acrobat.

- Measure = 1.44 sq.in.
- Convert to sq. mi.

$$1.29in^2 \times \frac{6.92mi^2}{3.73in^2} = 2.39mi^2$$

Distance from local outlet to the gage



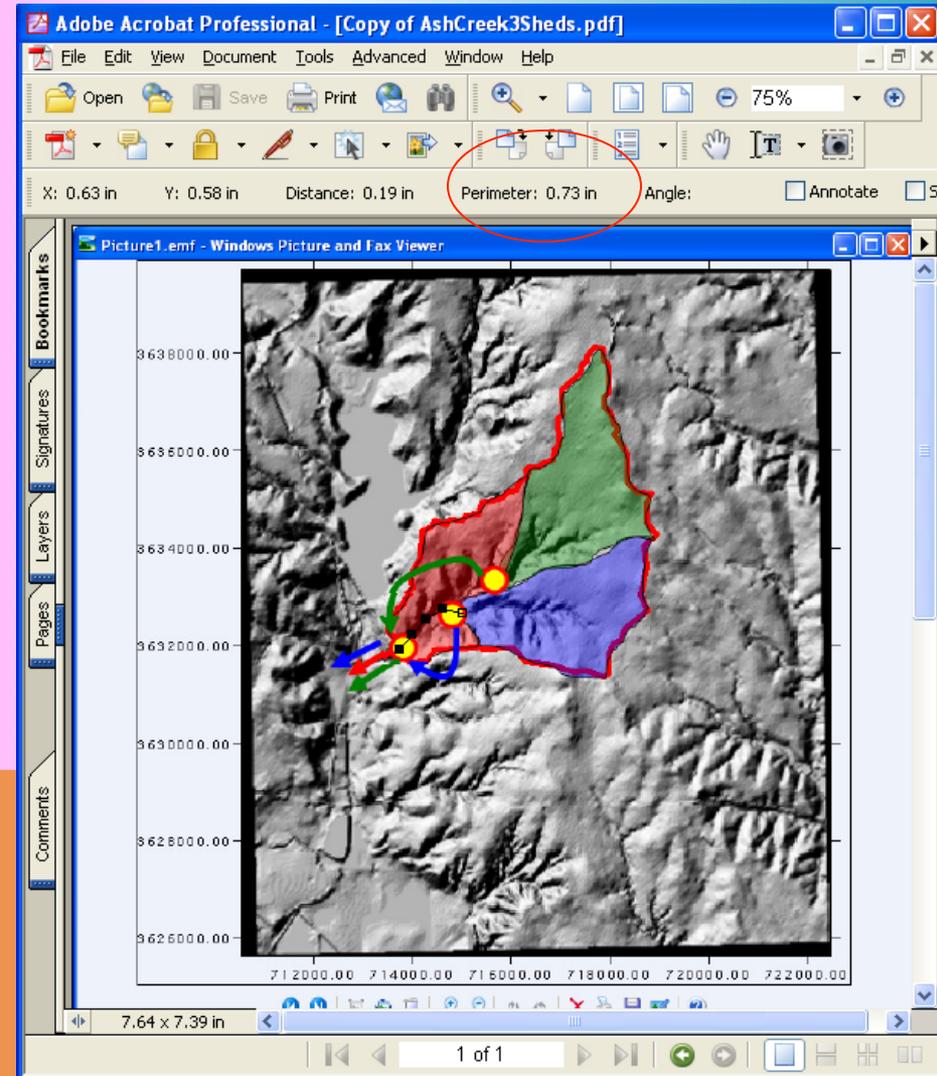
BLUE WATERSHED

Distance from local outlet to the gage

- Perimeter tool for polygon-type measurements
- Measure 0.73 in
- Convert

$$0.73in \times \frac{1000m}{0.90in} = 811m$$

$$811m \times \frac{3.28ft}{1m} = 2660ft$$



SUMMARIZE PROGRESS SO FAR

Sub-Basin ID	Property	Value
Red	AREA	1.87 sq.mi.
Red	CN	86
Red	Dist. To Outlet	0
Green	AREA	2.67sq.mi.
Green	CN	86
Green	Dist. To Outlet	4227ft
Blue	AREA	2.39sq.mi
Blue	CN	86
Blue	Dist. To Outlet	2660 ft

$$\sum A_{color} = 1.87 + 2.67 + 2.39 = 6.94mi^2$$

Close enough (less than 1% overage), but could adjust by multiply each by 0.997

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The two distances to the outlet would also need an estimate of slope.

As a way to keep the example brief enough for the module, we will just assume the slope is close to the MCL reported in the earlier examples, that is $S=0.0056$

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Now need to estimate the routing information.

This example is simple lag routing, so we need a travel time from each sub-basin to the main outlet.

TxDOT research report 0-4695-2 has a method to estimate such a time.

- Use the application example at back of the report

TIME-PARAMETER ESTIMATION FOR APPLICABLE TEXAS WATERSHEDS

Meghan C. Roussel¹, David B. Thompson², Xing Fang³,
Theodore G. Cleveland⁴, C. Amanda Garcia¹

¹U.S. Geological Survey, ²Texas Tech University,
³Lamar University, ⁴University of Houston

Submitted to
Texas Department of Transportation

Research Report 0-4696-2



Department of Civil Engineering
College of Engineering
Lamar University
Beaumont, Texas 77710-0024

ESTIMATE LAG TIME FOR ROUTING

Use the values to estimate the lag time for the routing step

$$T_{green} = 0.0078 * (4227)^{0.770} (0.0055)^{(-0.385)}$$

$$T_{blue} = 0.0078 * (2660)^{0.770} (0.0055)^{(-0.385)}$$

These produce values of 37 and 26 minutes.

Ready to build a HEC-HMS model

The Kirpich Method

For channel-flow component of runoff, the Kirpich (1940) equation is

$$T_c = KL^{0.770} S^{-0.385},$$

where T_c is the time of concentration, in minutes; K is a units conversion coefficient, in which $K = 0.0078$ for traditional units and $K = 0.0195$ for SI units; L is the channel-flow length, in feet or meters as dictated by K ; and S is the dimensionless main-channel slope.

Application

An example (shown below) illustrating

START HMS BUILD A MODEL

- New
- Can also
 - Import from another model

Verify the import

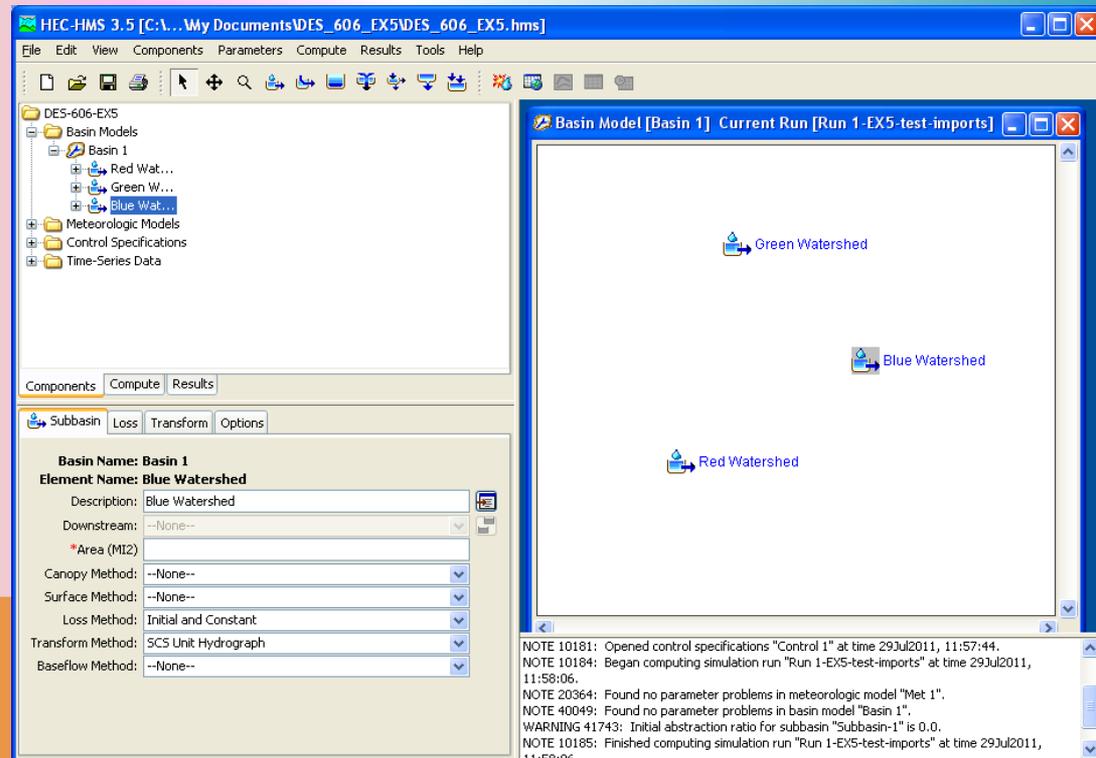
- Run and look for errors

The screenshot displays the HEC-HMS 3.5 software interface. The title bar indicates the file path: [C:\...My Documents\DES_606_EX5\DES_606_EX5.hms]. The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Components, Parameters, Compute, Results, Tools, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations and simulation control. The left pane shows a project tree with folders: DES-606-EX5, Basin Models, Basin 1, Subbasin-1, Meteorologic Models, Control Specifications, and Time-Series Data. The right pane shows a map view with a subbasin icon labeled 'Subbasin-1'. The bottom panel is titled 'Subbasin' and contains configuration options for 'Basin Name: Basin 1' and 'Element Name: Subbasin-1'. The configuration fields include: Description (empty), Downstream (set to --None--), *Area (MI²) (6.92), Canopy Method (set to --None--), Surface Method (set to --None--), Loss Method (SCS Curve Number), Transform Method (SCS Unit Hydrograph), and Baseflow Method (set to --None--). The bottom right corner shows a log window with the following text: NOTE 10181: Opened control specifications "Control 1" at time 29Jul2011, 11:57:06. NOTE 10184: Began computing simulation run "Run 1-EX5-test-imports" at time 29Jul2011, 11:58:06. NOTE 20364: Found no parameter problems in meteorologic model "Met 1". NOTE 40049: Found no parameter problems in basin model "Basin 1". WARNING 41743: Initial abstraction ratio for subbasin "Subbasin-1" is 0.0. NOTE 10185: Finished computing simulation run "Run 1-EX5-test-imports" at time 29Jul2011, 11:58:06.

EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Modify the basin model

- Three sub-basins.



EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Modify the basin model

- Three sub-basins.
- Create routing elements (reaches)

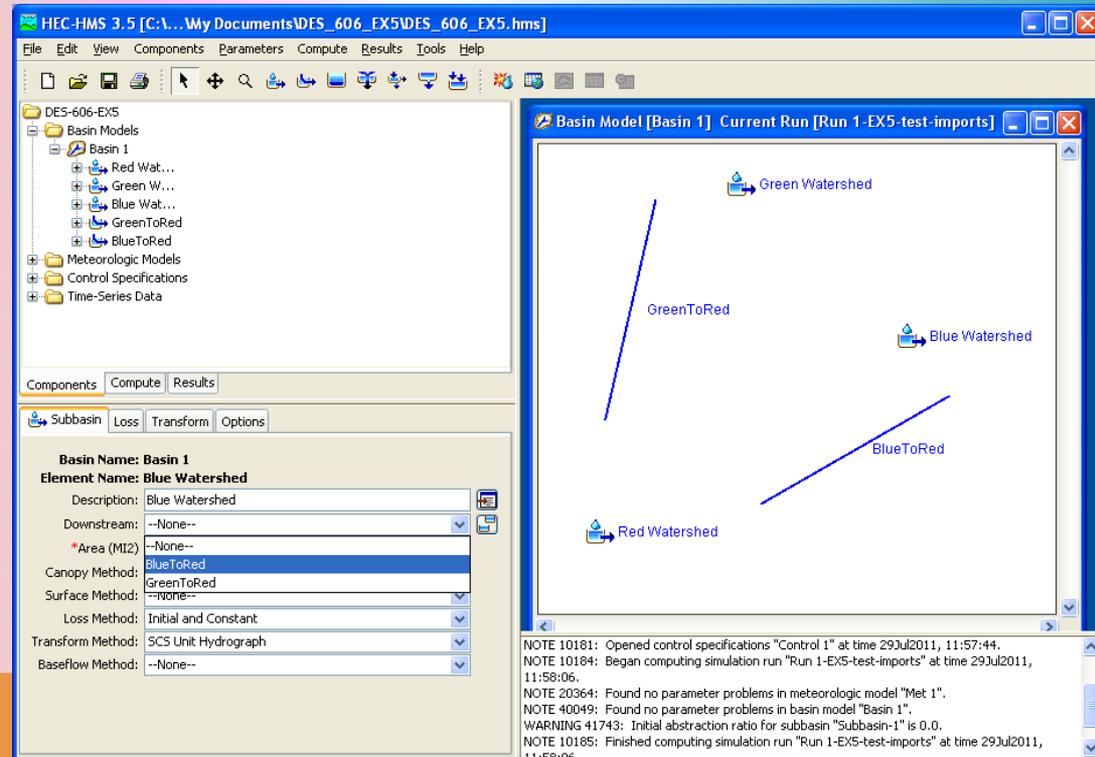
The screenshot displays the HEC-HMS 3.5 software interface. The main window is titled "HEC-HMS 3.5 [C:\...My Documents\DES_606_EX5\DES_606_EX5.hms]". The interface is divided into several panes:

- Left Pane (Project Tree):** Shows a hierarchical view of the project "DES-606-EX5". Under "Basin Models", there is a "Basin 1" folder containing sub-basins: "Red Wat...", "Green W...", "Blue Wat...", "GreenToRed", and "BlueToRed". Other folders include "Meteorologic Models", "Control Specifications", and "Time-Series Data".
- Bottom Left Pane (Configuration):** Shows the configuration for "Basin Name: Basin 1" and "Element Name: Blue Watershed". The configuration includes fields for "Description: Blue Watershed", "Downstream: --None--", "*Area (MI2)", "Canopy Method: --None--", "Surface Method: --None--", "Loss Method: Initial and Constant", "Transform Method: SCS Unit Hydrograph", and "Baseflow Method: --None--".
- Right Pane (Basin Model Diagram):** Shows a diagram of the basin model. It features three sub-basins: "Green Watershed", "Blue Watershed", and "Red Watershed". Two routing elements, "GreenToRed" and "BlueToRed", are shown as blue lines connecting the sub-basins.
- Bottom Right Pane (Simulation Log):** Displays a log of simulation events. The log includes the following entries:
 - NOTE 10181: Opened control specifications "Control 1" at time 29Jul2011, 11:57:44.
 - NOTE 10184: Began computing simulation run "Run 1-EX5-test-imports" at time 29Jul2011 11:58:06.
 - NOTE 20364: Found no parameter problems in meteorologic model "Met 1".
 - NOTE 40049: Found no parameter problems in basin model "Basin 1".
 - WARNING 41743: Initial abstraction ratio for subbasin "Subbasin-1" is 0.0.
 - NOTE 10185: Finished computing simulation run "Run 1-EX5-test-imports" at time 29Jul2011 11:58:06.

EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Reaches

- Not connected, will supply connectivity in various “downstream” specifications.



EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Reaches

- Have Green and Blue reaches connected to their upstream elements, but they cannot connect to a watershed element
- Use a “Junction” element.

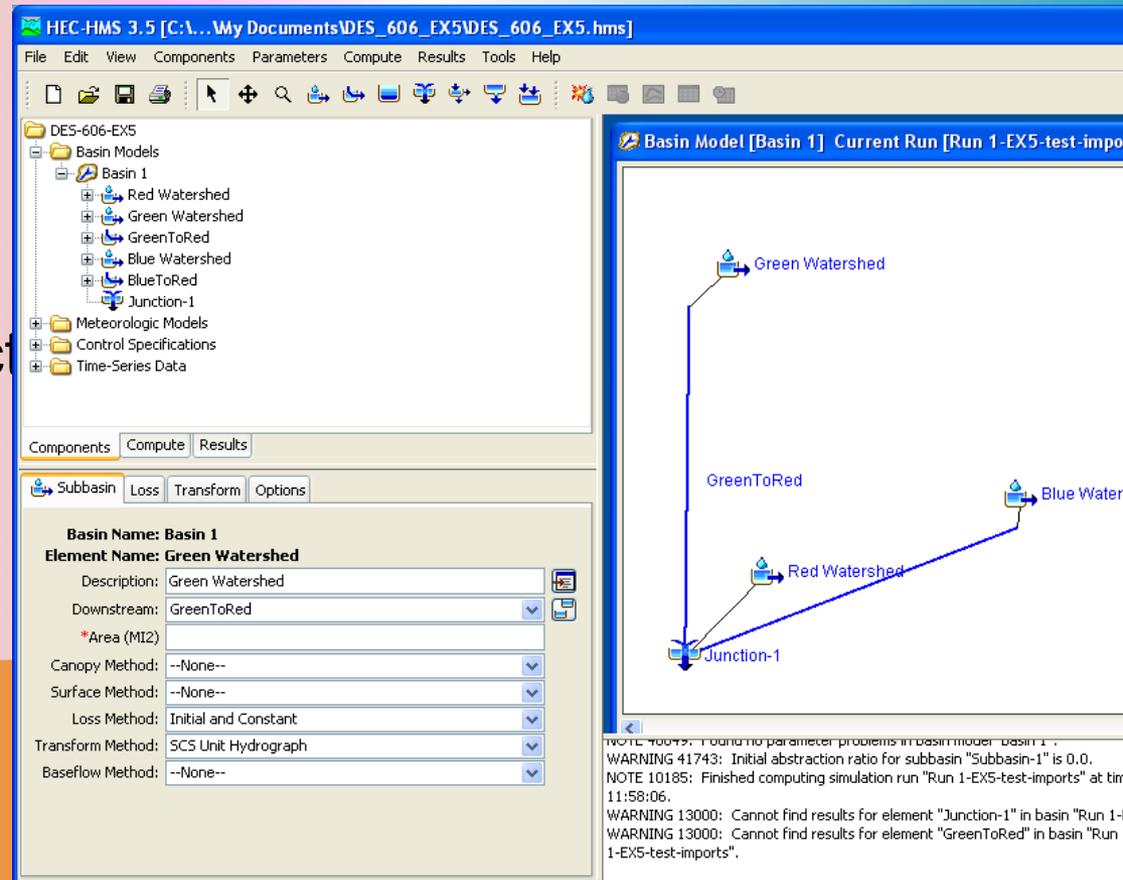
The screenshot displays the HEC-HMS 3.5 software interface. The main window is titled "HEC-HMS 3.5 [C:\...My Documents\DES_606_EX5\DES_606_EX5.hms]". The interface is divided into several panes:

- Project Tree (Left):** Shows a hierarchical view of the model. Under "Basin Models", "Basin 1" is expanded, showing sub-elements: "Red Wat...", "Green Watershed", "GreenToRed", "Blue Watershed", and "BlueToRed". Other categories include "Meteorologic Models", "Control Specifications", and "Time-Series Data".
- Basin Model Properties (Bottom Left):** A configuration panel for "Basin 1" with the following settings:
 - Name: Basin 1
 - Description: (empty)
 - Grid Cell File: (empty)
 - Local Flow: No
 - Flow Ratios: No
 - Replace Missing: No
 - Unit System: U.S. Customary
 - Sediment: No
 - Water Quality: No
- Basin Model Diagram (Right):** A schematic diagram showing the reach structure. It features three watershed elements: "Red Watershed" at the bottom, "Green Watershed" at the top left, and "Blue Watershed" at the top right. Two reach elements, "GreenToRed" and "BlueToRed", are shown as blue lines connecting the upstream watersheds to the downstream "Red Watershed".
- Log Window (Bottom Right):** Displays simulation output messages:
 - 11:58:06. NOTE 20364: Found no parameter problems in meteorologic model "Met 1"
 - NOTE 40049: Found no parameter problems in basin model "Basin 1".
 - WARNING 41743: Initial abstraction ratio for subbasin "Subbasin-1" is 0.0.
 - NOTE 10185: Finished computing simulation run "Run 1-EX5-test-imports" at 11:58:06.
 - WARNING 13000: Cannot find results for element "Junction-1" in basin "RU

EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Connection Diagram

- After a bit of fussing, here is our hydrologic system.
- Watersheds (G&B) connect downstream to their reaches, than connect to the junction.
- Watershed (R) connects directly to the junction



EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Now parameterize each element.

- Watersheds
- Reaches

Discover that we now need to re-estimate the watershed response times, as each sub-basin is now smaller.

The screenshot displays the HEC-HMS 3.5 software interface. The main window is titled "DES-606-EX5" and shows a project tree on the left with folders for "Basin Models", "Meteorologic Models", "Control Specifications", and "Time-Series Data". Under "Basin Models", there is a "Basin 1" folder containing "Red Watershed", "Green Watershed", "GreenToRed", "Blue Watershed", "BlueToRed", and "Junction-1".

The "Components" tab is active, showing the "Subbasin" configuration for "Basin 1". The "Element Name" is "Green Watershed". The "Description" is "Green Watershed". The "Downstream" is "GreenToRed". The "Area (MI2)" field is empty. The "Canopy Method" is "--None--". The "Surface Method" is "--None--". The "Loss Method" is "Initial and Constant". The "Transform Method" is "SCS Unit Hydrograph". The "Baseflow Method" is "--None--".

The "Results" tab is also visible, showing a simulation diagram. The diagram illustrates the flow path from "Green Watershed" to "GreenToRed", then to "Red Watershed", and finally to "Blue Watershed". A "Junction-1" is shown at the start of the flow path. The diagram is titled "Basin Model [Basin 1] Current Run [Run 1-EX5-test-imports]".

The bottom of the window shows a log window with the following text:

```
NOTE 10043: Found no parameter problems in basin model "Basin 1".  
WARNING 41743: Initial abstraction ratio for subbasin "Subbasin-1" is 0.0.  
NOTE 10185: Finished computing simulation run "Run 1-EX5-test-imports" at time 11:58:06.  
WARNING 13000: Cannot find results for element "Junction-1" in basin "Run 1-EX5-test-imports".  
WARNING 13000: Cannot find results for element "GreenToRed" in basin "Run 1-EX5-test-imports".
```

EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Discover that we now need to re-estimate the watershed response times, as each sub-basin is now smaller.

- Use our methods for these “new” times

Resulting times are:

- RED: 41 minutes
- GREEN: 49 minutes
- BLUE: 46 minutes

EXAMPLE 6 – CLONE A PRIOR MODEL

Enter these times into the respective sub-basin Transform models

Update the Meteorological Model

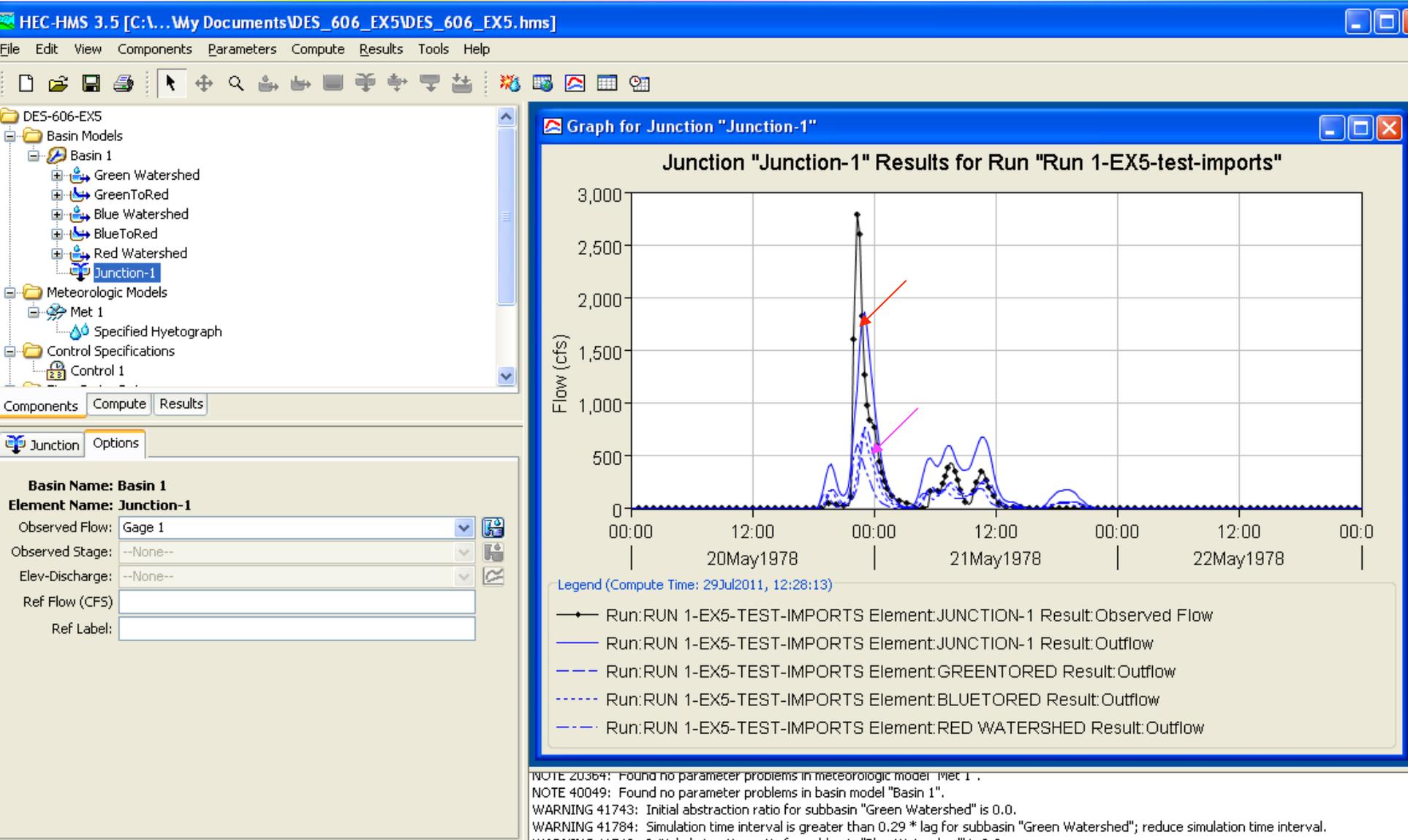
- Need all 3 sub-basins receiving rain from Gage 1

Move the “observed” flow to the junction so we can examine the output of the combined hydrographs.

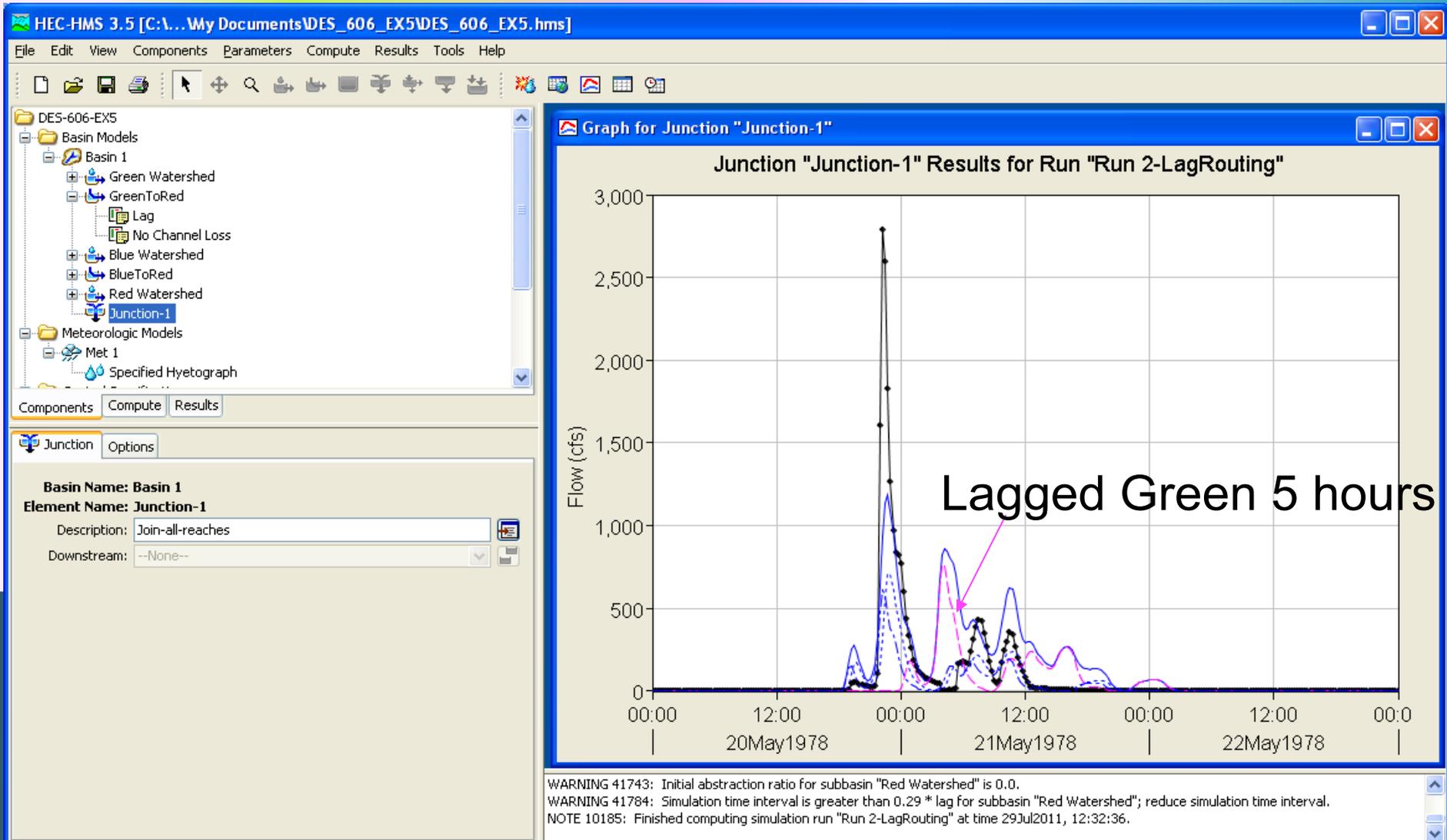
Run the model and diagnose warnings/errors

- Forgot to update the Loss models for the 2 new watersheds, so go back and fix and retry.
- Clean run, lets examine the output.

EXAMPLE 6 – LAG ROUTING



LONG ROUTING LAG GREENTORED



HEC-HMS EXAMPLE 6

Learning Summary

- Configured a multiple sub-basin model.
 - Introduce the “junction” element
 - Introduce the “reach” element
- Used external tools to measure sub-basin sizes and routing distances.
 - Calculations to determine scaled watershed areas
 - Calculations to determine routing distances (for lag routing)

HEC-HMS EXAMPLE 6

Learning Summary

- Used 0-4696-2 report to estimate lag routing time parameters.
 - Kerby-Kirpich variant.
 - Calculations to estimate lag times
- Used 0-4696-2 (“rule of thumb”) to estimate revised watershed characteristic times.
 - Sub-basins are smaller than original single-basin model, response time must be adjusted!
- The model here is almost the same layout as the Hardin Creek case except:
 - SCS reservoirs on North and West
 - Reservoir at the crossing**BUT CLOSE**

HEC-HMS EXAMPLE 6

Learning Summary

- Updated model components and ran several diagnosis tests
 - Run the model and let the program identify missing components
 - Go back to component editor and fix the missing items.
- Run the “multiple-basin” model and interpret results.

HEC-HMS EXAMPLE 6

Closing Remarks

- Examples 4 and 5 provide illustrations of how to construct and populate input for most HEC-HMS situations the analyst is likely to encounter.
- These examples are pedagogical in intent.

HEC-HMS requires a lot of external (to the program) thinking and preparation

- Assemble data reports before modeling if at all possible.

HEC-HMS EXAMPLE 6

Learn more

- HEC HMS user manual
- FHWA-NHI-02-001 Highway Hydrology

Next module

- Parametric Unit Hydrographs