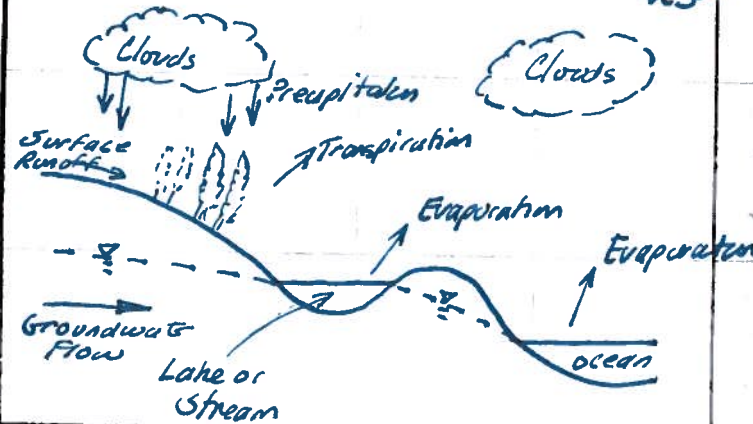


Hydrologic Cycle (pg 227-229) SUN



Global system that circulates water on the Earth.

- o sun supplies energy
- o water evaporates & transpires into atmosphere
- o Vapor condenses in clouds
- o condensation gains weight and drops (rain) ice (snow) falls as precipitation



• precipitation hits surface  
and either run into ground  
as infiltration or overland  
as surface runoff

Consider fig 7.1.1, pg 228

7.1.1 shows relative "fluxes"  
in different compartments

Roughly • 61% precipitation returns as

• evapo-transpiration

• 38% is surface runoff

• 1% is groundwater

At different locations the relative  
proportions can be quite different.

Usually talk in terms of  
watershed inches (or millimeters)



## Precipitation (pg 237-238)

- Water vapor in atmosphere condenses into drops
- Drops "fall" as precipitation (rainfall)

### • Processes

#### Orographic rain

- Air mass lifted by topographic feature

#### Cyclonic rain (frontal)

- Air mass lifted by invading cooler mass (front)



### Convective rain

- Air heated at surface and lifted by density gradient

### Rainfall measurements

- Point precipitation
  - Total gage (manually read)
  - Tipping bucket gage (automated)
- Radar DPA  
(Digital Precipitation Array)



## Rainfall Variability

### • Spatial Variability

- Rains different amounts at different locations
- Use averaging techniques to determine EUD

EUD = Equivalent Uniform depth.

- Use DPA when trying to consider spatial variability
- Problem  $\&$  scale dependent

## Precipitation

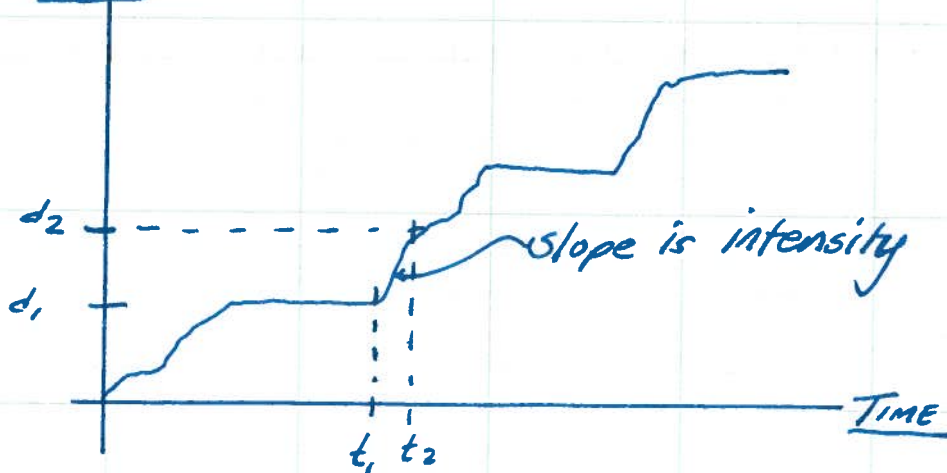
Four variables of interest

- 1) Space : average (equivalent) rainfall over area
- 2) Intensity: how hard it rains
- 3) Duration: how long at a given intensity
- 4) Frequency: how often at a given intensity & duration

## Point precipitation analysis

Data from a single gage is often useful for small project design

ACCUMULATED DEPTH



$$\text{Intensity} = \frac{d_2 - d_1}{t_2 - t_1} \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{d_2 - d_1}{t_2 - t_1}} \right\} \text{Slope of cumulative catch}$$

$$= \frac{\Delta d}{\Delta t}$$

$\Delta t$  is called the duration

$t$  is a critical design value.

Consider that a 15-minute rainfall event produces:

one 15-minute duration event

six 10-minute duration "events"

11 5-minute duration "events" (3 5-minute<sup>in</sup> sequence)

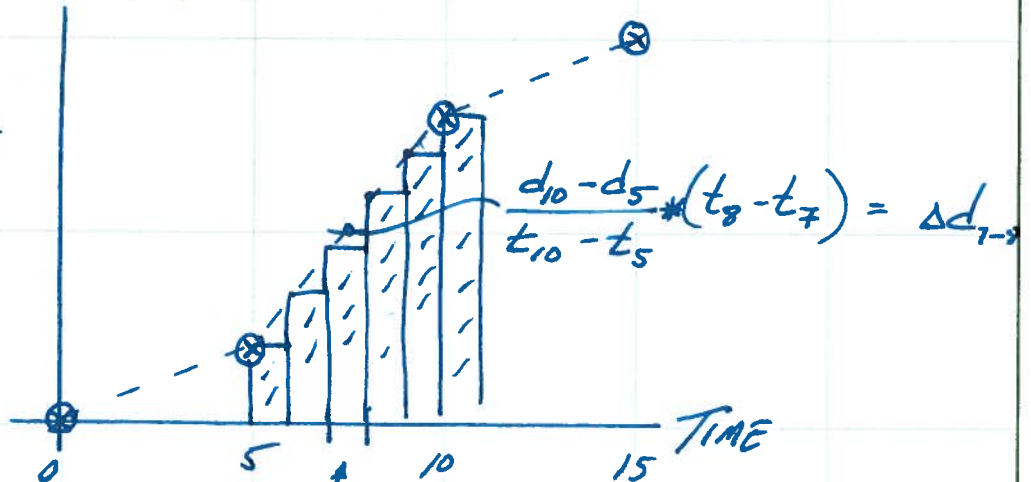
15 1-minute duration "events"

Typically - 15-minute is the smallest time interval usually available; sometimes 5-minute.

Any shorter is by differencing the signal

Acc. DEPTH

\*  
Rain gauges report "tips" - if data are uniform space in time, they have been "processed" at least once!



if interested in this minute, have to difference 5 & 10



Browser address bar: <http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/orders/cdo/390512.csv>

Navigation: Texas Tech U...lty & Staff U.S. Citizens... Case Status The Eco

http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/...

STATION	STATION_NAME	DATE	QGAG	QPCP	DATE	CATCH, HUNDRETHS-INCH	MISSING DATA CODE
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130101	00:00	23	-9999	
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130101	00:15	0,0		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130102	16:30	24	-9999	
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130109	17:15	25,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130109	18:30	26,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130109	19:30	27,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130109	20:00	28,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130109	20:30	29,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130109	20:45	30,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130109	21:15	31,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130110	04:45	32,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130131	23:45	32	-9999	
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130201	00:00	32	-9999	
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130201	00:15	0,0		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130212	04:00	34	-9999	
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130212	04:30	35,10		
COOP:415410	LUBBOCK	9 N TX US	20130212	05:00	36,10		

*Handwritten notes on table:*  
 - "YEAR" points to the date field.  
 - "Date" points to the time field.  
 - "CATCH, HUNDRETHS-INCH" points to the precipitation value.  
 - "MISSING DATA CODE" points to the -9999 value.  
 - A bracket on the right side of the table from 17:15 to 21:15 is labeled "January 9th storm".

↑ TYPICAL HISTORICAL DATA FROM NWS.  
 I CHOOSE LUBBOCK, 15-MINUTE PRECIP.

2-SERIES QGAG & QPCP

QGAG means 1/4 hour Fischer-Porter  
 gage values are used

QPCP is 1/4 hour gage values

In above screen capture units are in 1/100th  
 inches.



	A	B	C	D
1	TIME-MIN	DEPTH-IN		
2	0	0		
3	15	0		
4	30	0		
5	45	0		
6	60	0		
7	75	0		
8	90	0		
9	105	0		
10	120	0		
11	135	0		
12	150	0		
13	165	0		
14	180	0		
15	195	0		
16	210	0		
17	225	0		
18	240	0		
19	255	0		
67	975	0		
68	990	0		
69	1005	0		
70	1020	0		
71	1035	0.25		
72	1050	0.25		
73	1065	0.25		
74	1080	0.25		
75	1095	0.25		
76	1110	0.51		
77	1125	0.51		
78	1140	0.51		
79	1155	0.51		
80	1170	0.78		
81	1185	0.78		
82	1200	1.06		
83	1215	1.06		
84	1230	1.35		
85	1245	1.65		
86	1260	1.65		
87	1275	1.96		
88	1290	1.96		
89	1305	1.96		
90	1320	1.96		
91	1335	1.96		
92	1350	1.96		
93	1365	1.96		
94	1380	1.96		
95	1395	1.96		
96	1410	1.96		
97	1425	1.96		
98	1440	1.96		
99				

↑  
24 hours  
of precipitation

lots of zeros

Consider the 97 rows of a time-depth series for the

9 JAN 2013 storm.

A tool to "automatically" analyze the data and find the maximum intensity.

The next sheet shows a script that reads the two

columns and then plots the data, then searches and finds the maximum intensity.



Suppose we want to "analyze" the January 9<sup>th</sup> storm.

First extract the data -

Put into a time series -

Convert incrementals into cumulative -

Analyze as needed -

Suppose wanted to find the largest intensity over any 15-minute interval for the January 9<sup>th</sup> storm?

Fairly easy by just looking -

largest increment is 0.31 inches at hour 21:15

$$\therefore \text{intensity} = \frac{0.31 \text{ inches}}{0.25 \text{ hrs}} = 1.24 \text{ inches/hour.}$$

However, sometimes the time series are too long to easily read - then we want a tool to search for the value.

For example, suppose the entire 24 hrs (in 15 minute intervals is supplied)

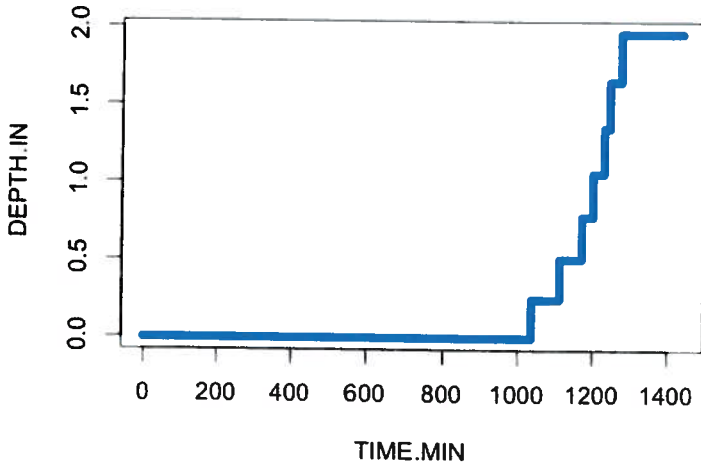
R Console

```
~/Desktop
> source("/Users/cleveland/Sites/module1/LubbockStorm.R")
```

[1] 0.31

Maximum Intensity for 15-minutes is 1.24 inches per hour

Quartz 2 [\*]



```
LubbockStorm
<functions>
# analysis lubbock 9 Jan 2013 rainfall
dummy<-read.csv("LubbockStorm.csv",header=T) #read
the data
# check that read is good
summary(dummy)
# attach column names
attach(dummy)
# plot the time series
plot(TIME.MIN,DEPTH.IN,type="s",lwd=5,col="blue")
# find the largest 15-minute incremental change
biggestchange <-0 # set biggest to zero to start
for (index in 2:length(DEPTH.IN)){
  test <- DEPTH.IN[index]-DEPTH.IN[index-1];
  if(test > biggestchange) biggestchange <- test;
}
print(biggestchange) # print result
# now convert into an intensity
intensity <- biggestchange/0.25
message("Maximum Intensity for 15-minutes is
",intensity," inches per hour")
```

message(... domain = NULL, appendLF = TRUE)

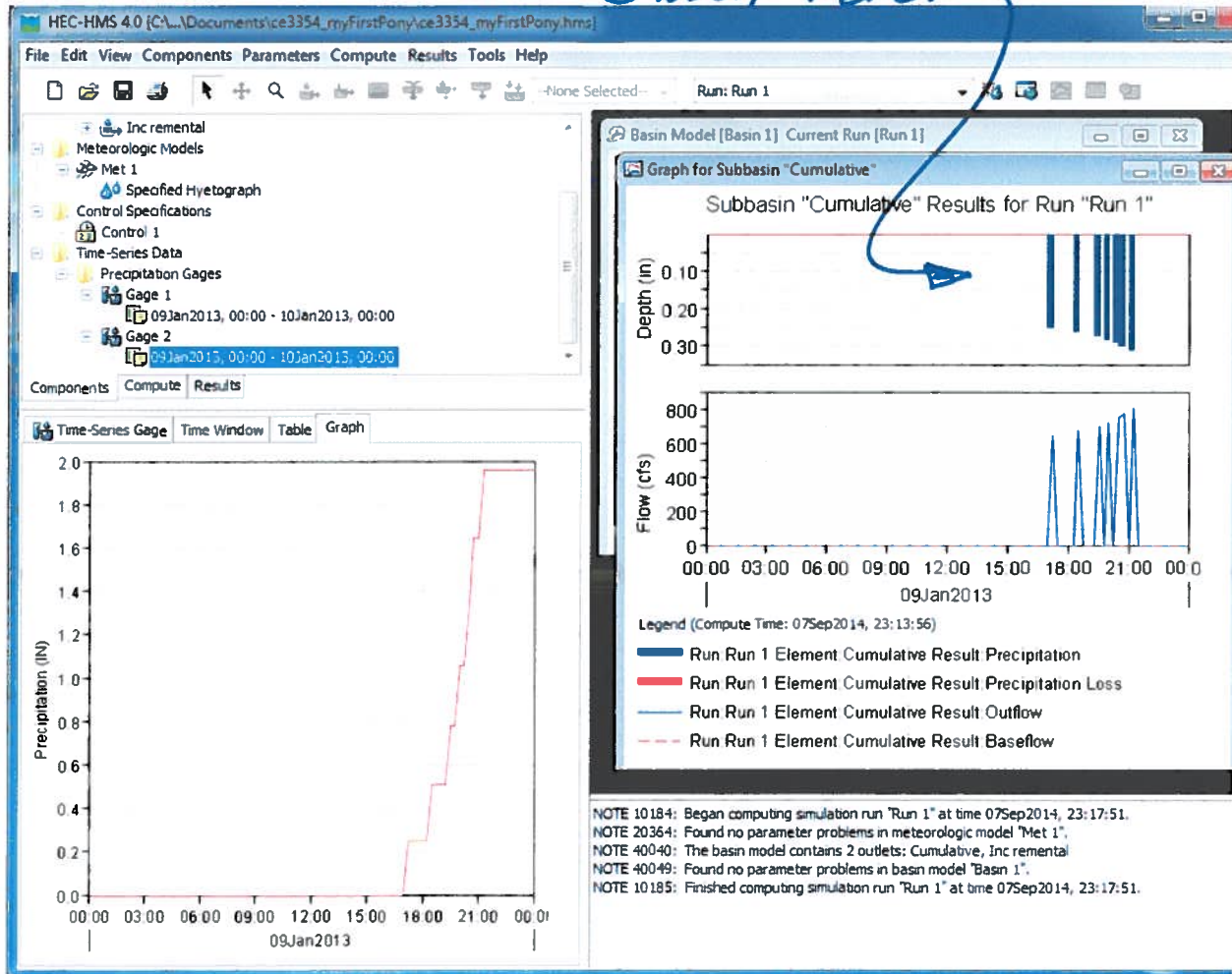
The script above is typical - often software can make the conversions. HEC-HMS has ability to do the conversions.

Cleveland  
CE3354  
7/7

Here is same data entered into HEC-HMS.

Notice that the cumulative plots look the same (they should)

The incremental plot is shown here



Hms does not directly compute peak intensity (but it can be tricked - using a basin area of  $1/640 \text{ mi}^2$ , the peak discharge in cfs will be peak intensity in in/hr - in this case 1.25 in/hr which is pretty close to 1.24 in/hr.)