# Day 4: Other Stormwater Sampling Methods: Sediment Transport and Rainfall and Flow Monitoring

#### Mostly excerpted from:

Burton, G.A. Jr., and R. Pitt. Stormwater Effects Handbook: A Tool Box for Watershed Managers, Scientists, and Engineers. CRC Press, Inc., Boca Raton, FL . 2002. 911 pages Freely available at: http://unix.eng.ua.edu/~rpitt/Publications/BooksandReports/Stormwater%20Effects% 20Handbook%20by%20%20Burton%20and%20Pitt%20book/MainEDFS Book.html

Plus excerpts from various research projects

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Emeritus Cudworth Professor of Urban Water Systems Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL USA Other Stormwater Sampling Methods

- Sediment and trash transport in urban infrastructure
- Rainfall monitoring
- Flow monitoring
- Receiving water monitoring

# Sediment and Trash Transport in Urban Infrastructure

Mass balance measurements in the drainage system and at the outfall used to determine the fate and transport of the urban particulates. Much of the larger particulates that are not washed off are lost from the paved surfaces by fugitive dust by winds and traffic turbulence.



Measured fugitive dust losses from traffic (San Jose, Pitt 1979)				
Keyes, good asphalt	0.33 grams/vehicle-mi			
Keyes, oil and screens asphalt	18 grams/vehicle-mi			
Tropicana, good asphalt	2.5 grams/vehicle-mi			



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### **Bed-Load Samplers**

- Bed load is the material that travels in almost continuous contact with the stream bed.
- The simplest bed load samplers are box or basket samplers which are containers having open ends facing upstream.
- Bed load material bounces and rolls into the sampler and is trapped.
- Other types of bed load samplers consist of containers set into the sediment with slot openings about flush with the sediment surface.

# **Floatable Litter Sampling**

- Litter discharges from stormwater inlets can be captured and measured using baskets that are inserted in manholes below catchbasins
- The baskets are made of mesh and were 13 inches square and 36 inches high. The lower half of the baskets were made of ¼ inch mesh, while the upper half were of ½ inch mesh.
- The baskets were positioned on a wooden platform just beneath the catchbasin outlet pipe and were held in place with ropes, allowing removal without requiring entry into the manholes.





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# Bed load in storm drainage compromises about 4% of Madison area total solids discharges (WI DNR and USGS monitoring).



Particulate transport across grass directly monitored in controlled greenhouse studies



-1+1+1

## Suspended Solids Concentrations during Washoff Tests; Obvious "first-flush" from small paved areas







Other Sources of Sediment to Monroe St. Storm Sewer





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# Scour of Captured Sediment in Storm Drain Catchbasin Inlets

Three flow rates: 10, 5, and 2.5 LPS (160, 80, and 40 GPM)

Velocity measurements (Vx, Vy, and Vz)

Five overlying water depths above the sediment: 16, 36, 56, 76, and 96 cm



155 total points per test
30 velocity measurements at each point

#### **CFD Modeling to Calculate Scour/Design Variations**

Used CFD (Fluent 6.2 and Flow 3D) to determine scour from stormwater controls; results being used to expand WinSLAMM analyses after verification with full-scale physical model

This is an example of the effects of the way that water enters a sump on the depth of the water jet and resulting SCOUR



# **Physical and 3D-CFD Modeling** Scour tests of previously deposited sediment in sumps



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#### Hydrodynamic Tests Results: *z-velocities at different elevations*

The plunging water jet does not directly affect the flow at deeper locations. Velocity magnitudes are reduced in deeper water

Buoyancy generated in the impacting zone by the air entrainment also reduces the impacting effect. Secondary flows are responsible for the shear



process).

#### Experimental Description: Scour Tests











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# Hydrodynamic Tests Results: Air entrainment effect

Observations during the test showed that the air entrainment reduces the impacting effect of the plunging water jet.

component due to buoyancy.

calibration and simulation of sediment scour.









# Velocity and shear stress for different slopes and depths (2 ft pipe)

Depth/ Diameter ratio	Velocity (ft/sec) 0.1% slope	Shear stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> ) 0.1% slope	Velocity (ft/sec) 2% slope	Shear stress (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> ) 2% slope
0.1	0.91	0.0081	4.1	0.16
0.5	2.3	0.031	10	0.62
1.0	2.3	0.031	10	0.62

Pipes having small slopes allow particles >100  $\mu$ m to settle and form permanent deposits, while pipes with large slopes will likely have moving beds of larger material.

## Scour Tests Results: *Turbidity Time Series –* Sequential Flow rate

A decreasing exponential pattern was found in the turbidity time series for each flow rate at steady conditions.

The initial impact of the plunging water jet disturbs the sediment bed exposing all the particle sizes.

The impacting zone is stabilized by dispersion, and buoyancy (air entrainment). Steady state is reached.

Small particles are suspended and washed out creating a hole and leaving the large particles on the sediment bed surface.

The large particles create an armoring on the sediment surface bed which protects the small particles below from being scoured.



This Turbulent Time Series shows that the armoring is created exponentially over time.

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# **Rainfall and Flow Monitoring**

- It is essential that there be an accurate description of the system's hydrodynamics when assessing the effects of stormwater runoff on receiving waters.
- Flow represents the pollutant loading mechanism and its power and frequency of occurrence can degrade the physical habitat.
- One of the principal reasons there is a relatively poor understanding of stormwater runoff effects is due to the difficult logistics involved in measuring short-term, high flow events quickly and accurately.



Rainfall and flow monitoring critical components of receiving water study

#### **Rainfall Monitoring**

Rainfall Monitoring Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Tipping bucket rain gages	Most commonly used and available gage. Obtains high resolution rainfall intensity data. Relatively inexpensive for current versions of recording models.	Must be frequently calibrated and located adjacent to a standard rain gage (not usually done). Usually insufficient numbers of recording gages in most local networks.
Standard rain gages	Standard rain gage and most accurate. Can be heated and used for monitoring snowfall.	Does not obtain rain intensity information. Must be manually read at least once a day.
"Garden store" rain gages	Inexpensive and can be placed throughout a study area. Best use to supplement standard and tipping bucket rain gages.	Does not obtain rain intensity information. Must be manually read.
Radar rainfall measurements (such as NEXRAD)	High resolution data over a large area. Real-time measurements.	Most indicative of severe weather conditions. Can be very inaccurate and requires substantial calibration from standard rain gages. Only suitable for areas relatively close to a radar installation.

#### **Rainfall Monitoring**

- Rainfall data is very important when monitoring receiving water quality and quantity.
- Basic hydrology texts all contain excellent summaries of rainfall aspects of importance in runoff studies.



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#### Special Hydrology Tests in Urban Areas:

Pavement infiltration tests along interstate highway, Alabama. Test sites also had moisture sensors under the pavement and tipping-bucket rain gages (and extensive road safety!).



Highway pavement test sections undergoing laboratory percolation tests.











Source Area Flow Monitoring





Kansas City, MO, EPA Green Infrastructure and Combined Sewers demonstration project

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Other Stormwater Controls in Test Area



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Area-Velocity Sensors and Automatic Water Samplers



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Installation of pipe flume insert, flow sensor, and water sample intake into small diameter pipe.



sensor (and sample intake) into large diameter pipe, and equipment box.

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#### **Outfall and Pipe Flow Monitoring**

- In most cases, flow monitoring equipment available from the same vendor that supplied the automatic water samplers is selected.
- The best location is to use a special pre-fabricated manhole that contains a flume.
- Many flow measurement equipment vendors now offer simultaneous stage and velocity sensors. The velocity sensors directly measure the flow rate of the water.





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Relation between actual discharges determined using a rhodamine dye tracer and measured discharges, computed by water-level and velocity data, during free-flow conditions and actual runoff events (Selbig and Bannerman 2008)

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 The Cincinnati State college study area includes three drainage areas. The largest sub-watershed (in purple) is 335.5 acres which drains towards the Upstream Flow Meter with manhole. The additional drainage area between the Downstream Flow Meter and the Upstream Flow Meter is about 8% of the drainage area into the Upstream Flow Meter. Subtracting the upstream flows from the downstream flows to measure the flows from the campus area is very uncertain. The downstream monitoring flow was frequently less than the upstream flow due to poor installation location and inability to recalibrate, so these data were not able to be used.

Problems due to large diameter pipe at monitoring location and shallow flows having excessive depth measurement errors, in addition to close sources of other flows.





Large-scale performance monitoring at Kansas City, MO



 Runoff monitoring was conducted in the combined sewer system at several locations in the test and control watersheds. The detailed land development and land use information for the test and control watersheds enabled the verification of the water quantity portion of WinSLAMM using the site rainfall and runoff data. The figure shows the test and control watershed boundaries and the locations of the flow monitoring stations. Monitoring station S128-427 measures the flows portions of the control watershed; station S128-498 measures the flows from the test (pilot) watershed alone.

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• The monitored stage-discharge relationship in the combined sewer was plotted and compared to basic plots based on Manning's equation as part of the QA/QC process. These data were obtained from an area-velocity sensor that reports the discharge (flow) directly, using a calculated flow cross-sectional area based on the stage value multiplied by the measured velocity value. Figure 4.35 shows the stage-discharge at UMKC01 (downstream of the 100 ac pilot study area). This figure was plotted using the separately recorded stage and flow data. As shown on this figure, changing Manning's roughness coefficient "n" values were used to account for the varying n values with depth and the observed stage-discharge relationship (basic Camp's curve relationships) (0.0082 to 0.012). This plot shows three regions of data observations. The "main sequence" includes almost all of the data and was fitted using reasonable n roughness values that slightly varied with depth. Most of the data group 1 were observed during the "before construction" period. The reduced discharge values for these stage observations were therefore deemed incorrect for unknown reasons. The stage values for group 2 represent surcharged conditions, being greater than the 42" pipe diameter. These six surcharged pressure recorded stage values were therefore readjusted to 42". The stage observations in group 2 were therefore changed to 42" and full-flowing discharge values were assigned for these data. The stage values for the observations in group 1 were also applied to the Manning's equation with the calibrated n roughness values. In all, only about 3% of the measured flows were modified at UMKC01. Figure 4.36 shows the final set of 48 stage-discharge values for all observations at this monitoring location.





Prepare individual storm event data summaries that are coordinated with the rain data for each monitoring point, including:

- start/end time of rain,
- rain duration,
- antecedent dry days,
- total rain,
- pipe-flow start/end time,
- total pipe-flow discharge volume,
- total runoff,
- peak and average flow discharge
- peak and average rain intensity, R<sub>v</sub> (the ratio of runoff to rainfall depth).
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# **Urban Area Hydrograph Characteristics**

- Observed Urban Area Hydrographs
- Modeling Hydrographs in Urban Areas
- Calculated WinTR-55 Hydrographs
- Hydrograph Characteristics used in WinSLAMM
- Analyses of Observed Urban Hydrograph Shapes for Stormwater **Quality Analyses**

# **Observed Urban Hydrographs**

Evaluated about 550 different urban area hydrographs from 8 watersheds (1, 1a, 2, and 3 rain distributions and B soils to pavement)

Location	Land use	area (acres)	directly connected impervious	# of events monitored
Bellevue, WA				
Surrey Downs	Resid, med. den.	95	17 %	196
Lake Hills	Resid, med. den.	102	17	201
San Jose, CA				
Keyes	Resid, med. den.	92	30	6
Tropicana	Resid, med. den.	195	25	8
Toronto, Ontario				
Thistledowns	Resid, med. den.	96	21	35
Emery	Industrial	381	42	60
Tuscaloosa, AL				
City Hall	Institutional/com	0.9	100	31
BamaBelle	Commercial	0.9	68	17

# **Observed Runoff Characteristics**

	Monitored	Observed	<b>Observed CN</b>	peak/avg
	rains (in,	Rv (avg)	(range)	flow ratio
	range)			(avg)
Bellevue, WA				
Surrey Downs	0.03 - 4.38	0.18	64 - 100	4.4
Lake Hills	0.02 - 3.69	0.21	73 - 100	5.4
San Jose, CA				
Keyes	0.01 - 1.06	0.10	88 - 100	3.2
Tropicana	0.01 - 1.08	0.59	95 - 100	3.8
Toronto, Ontario				
Thistledowns	0.03 - 1.01	0.17	84 - 99	4.0
Emery	0.03 - 1.0	0.23	87 - 99	3.1
Tuscaloosa, AL				
City Hall	0.02 - 3.2	0.60	95 - 99	4.2
BamaBelle	0.1 - 1.9	0.80	94 - 100	5.5

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# Rains Ranged from Small and Simple:











# NRCS Dimensionless Unit Hydrograph and Triangular Hydrograph



# WinTR-55 Calculated Hydrographs

	WinTR55 using actual CN value and 1 inch rain		
	peak/avg flow rate ratio	runoff/rain duration ratio	
Bellevue, WA			
Surrey Downs	1.7	0.71	
Lake Hills	2.5	0.75	
San Jose, CA			
Keyes	5.8	0.67	
Tropicana	8.3	0.92	
Toronto, Ontario			
Thistledowns	9.7	0.58	
Emery	9.5	0.58	
Fuscaloosa, AL			
City Hall	6.4	0.09	
BamaBelle	4.9	0.09	





The variation in each rain/land use group can be described using a Monte Carlo stochastic modeling approach for long-tem continuous simulations.

Peak to Average Flow Rate Ratios

	<0.10 in (<2.5 mm) rains	0.10 to 0.29 in (2.5 to 7.4 mm) rains	0.30 to 4.4 in (7.5 to 120 mm) rains
Number of Observations	172	172	206
Minimum	1.0	1.0	1.1
Maximum	8.3	22	20
Average	2.7	4.2	5.4
COV	0.55	0.65	0.66





# **Runoff to Rain Duration Ratios**

	Residential and Commercial Areas	Industrial Areas
Number of observations	447	60
Minimum	0.16	0.78
Maximum	5.0	16
Average	1.0	2.5
COV	0.63	1.0

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# **Urban Hydrology Conclusions**

- Uncalibrated, or partially calibrated runoff models (such as only for annual runoff volume) likely greatly distort the actual hydrograph shapes in urban areas, especially for small to moderate-sized events.
- Smaller events are under-represented and larger events are over-predicted to balance long-term flows.
- Greatly affects flow-duration analyses for habitat assessment.

# **Runoff to Rain Duration Ratios**



Again, the variation in each land use group can be described using a Monte Carlo stochastic modeling approach for long-tem continuous simulations.

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# Urban Hydrology Conclusions (cont.)

- Simple models cannot match the hydrograph shape and commonly use the same mechanisms for all rains.
- More complex models can be appropriately calibrated to represent a wide range of rains and watershed conditions.
- However, if uncalibrated (and use "traditional" model parameters representative of drainage design), even these better models will distort the flow-duration relationship (usually by greatly over-predicting the peak to average runoff ratio, especially for the smaller rains).

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#### **Stream and Pipe Flow Monitoring Using Tracers**

- The most precise method of stream current measurements is through the use of tracers.
- This method is especially important when measuring flows in areas having karst conditions where surface waters frequently lose and/or gain substantial flows to and from underground flows.
- A single upstream dye injection location and multiple downstream sampling stations through the study area are used in this situation.
- Tracers are also needed if there is an obviously large fraction of inter-bed flow, or if the stream flow is very turbulent.
- The flow in very shallow streams, especially when the stream is cobble-lined, is
  also very difficult to monitor with current meters, requiring the use of tracers.
- Another common use of tracers is when measuring the transport and diffusion
   of a discharge into a receiving water.



## **Stream Flow Monitoring Methods**

- The drift method is simply watching and timing debris floating down the stream. This velocity is then multiplied by the estimated or measured stream cross-sectional area to obtain the stream discharge rate. Of course, this method is usually the least accurate of available flow estimation methods. The accuracy can be improved by choosing drift material that floats barely under the stream surface (such as an orange).
- The most traditional method of flow measurements is by using a mechanical current meter. This method requires a current meter and simple surveying equipment. The stream discharge is measured at a selected cross section, usually selected along a relatively straight stretch (about 10 stream widths downstream from any major bends).

Current meter flow monitoring requires that the stream be divided into several sections. About 10 sections that are from 1 to several feet wide are usually adequate, depending on overall stream width. The depth of the stream is measured at each section edge, and the water current velocity is measured in a vertical profile in the center of each section. The average velocities in each section are multiplied by the section areas to obtain the discharge rates for each section. These are then summed to obtain the total stream discharge.





We have found that most urban receiving water sediments are composed of clay particles, with very little large material. It is critical that sediment control device performance studies conduct mass balances of the sediment in the local drainage systems and receiving water bodies to better understand the benefit of the captured material.





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Interstitial water in urban sediments highly contaminated and directly affected by contaminated



Toxicity tests using stormwater find much of the toxicity associated with small particulates, not just filtered portions of the water.





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Side-stream bioassay tests show chronic toxicity after about 1 to 2 weeks of exposure to urban stream water, and no 96-hr toxicity





# Conclusions

- Understanding sediment sources and transport in urban areas requires many nested tests and experiments at different locations and scales, from source areas to receiving water sediments.
- Urban hydrology also requires a similar nested approach at different scales. Most traditional hydrology assumptions are poorly applicable to small and intermediate urban-area storms and associated problems.

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