

Research Article

# Runoff Estimation of Watershed in Hemavathy Basin using GIS based SCS-CN Method

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## Abstract

*Estimation and quantification of catchment surface runoff an important hydrologic variable used in most of the water resources applications watershed development and management problems. In this study, rainfall-runoff relationship of Hemavathy river basin is determined using Soil Conservation Services-Curve Number (SCS-CN) method for runoff estimation for ungauged watersheds. The important parameters considered include land use/land cover, soil, vegetation, drainage, precipitation, contour, slope, daily rainfall data. From the 11year daily rainfall data daily runoff was estimated using SCS CN equation considering antecedent moisture conditions. Daily runoff depth in the watershed was then computed using SCS-CN equation was later converted to runoff volume. It was observed in runoff potential of the watershed about 41% of area having high CN value interprets in more runoff. The runoff thus calculated was compared with gauged flow at dam site observed that regression coefficient is almost same for both estimated and observed data and an increase of about 15% in inflow data as per project authorities in the catchment which may be due to regenerated water from irrigation and presences of perennial streams in the catchment even during non-monsoon months there is inflow observed.*

**Keywords:** Antecedent Moisture Condition, Curve Number, GIS, Hydrologic Soil Group, SCS-CN, Surface Runoff.

## 1. Introduction

With the growing human population water demand for agriculture, domestic, industrial and other uses increased resulted in over-exploitation of water sources leading to declining water table levels. Rainfall patterns in the area are untimely and unpredictable, efficiently harvesting the rainwater is important to meet them, in sustainable manner by increasing water availability and recharging the water table in the process. The volume and rate of runoff depends on precipitation, watershed characteristics, soil type, land use and antecedent soil moisture. For efficient design, planning and management of river basin estimation of runoff magnitude is necessary. The remote sensing in runoff estimation provide an aid for estimating equation coefficients and model parameters. This research aimed at estimating the annual rainfall- runoff potential of Hemavathy river watershed by applying SCS-CN model with ArcGIS 10.1 software. This method includes several important properties of watershed namely soil permeability, land use and antecedent soil moisture condition (Ashish Pandey *et al*, 2004). Accurate assessment of run-off is a basic concept in most of the rainfall-runoff models, the run-off

measurements by gauging can only be regarded as an index of rainfall, to overcome some of these problems, remote sensing satellite data are of immense use (Dilip.G *et al*, 2001).Curve number model is more suitable for ungauged runoff in agricultural watersheds compared with other watersheds (Mishra, S. K *et al*, 2006).The combinations of SCS-CN model with Remote sensing and GIS help in the process of runoff estimation in efficient manner (Patil J.P *et al*, 2008).Understanding the distribution of precipitation in the hydrological cycle into runoff, evapotranspiration, infiltration is necessary for proper management and development strategy for efficient utilization of water resources generated. When it is desired to use water at rate in excess of the available discharge in the stream water stored in suitable locations during the period of high flow can be utilized during the period of low flows to maintain uniform flow as required.

## 2. Study area

The area selected for present study was Hemavathy catchment situated in Chickamagalur Hassan and Kodagu district lies geographically between 75°30'0" and 76°15'0" E longitude and 12°30'0" and 13°30'0" N latitude. It covers an area of 2855 Sq.km and shows a relief of 0.760 km. The length and width of the catchment is 74.057 km and 63.413 km respectively.

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### 3. Data and Methodology

A common base map was prepared using SOI Topo sheets which serve as control points in interpretation of remotely sensed data. Drainage map for the area was prepared using SOI Topo maps updated with recent remote sensed data and each stream assigned an order. Daily rainfall data for eleven years (2005-2015) was collected from Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre, Bangalore, IRS-P6 LISS III satellite data was used to prepare the landuse/landcover, soil

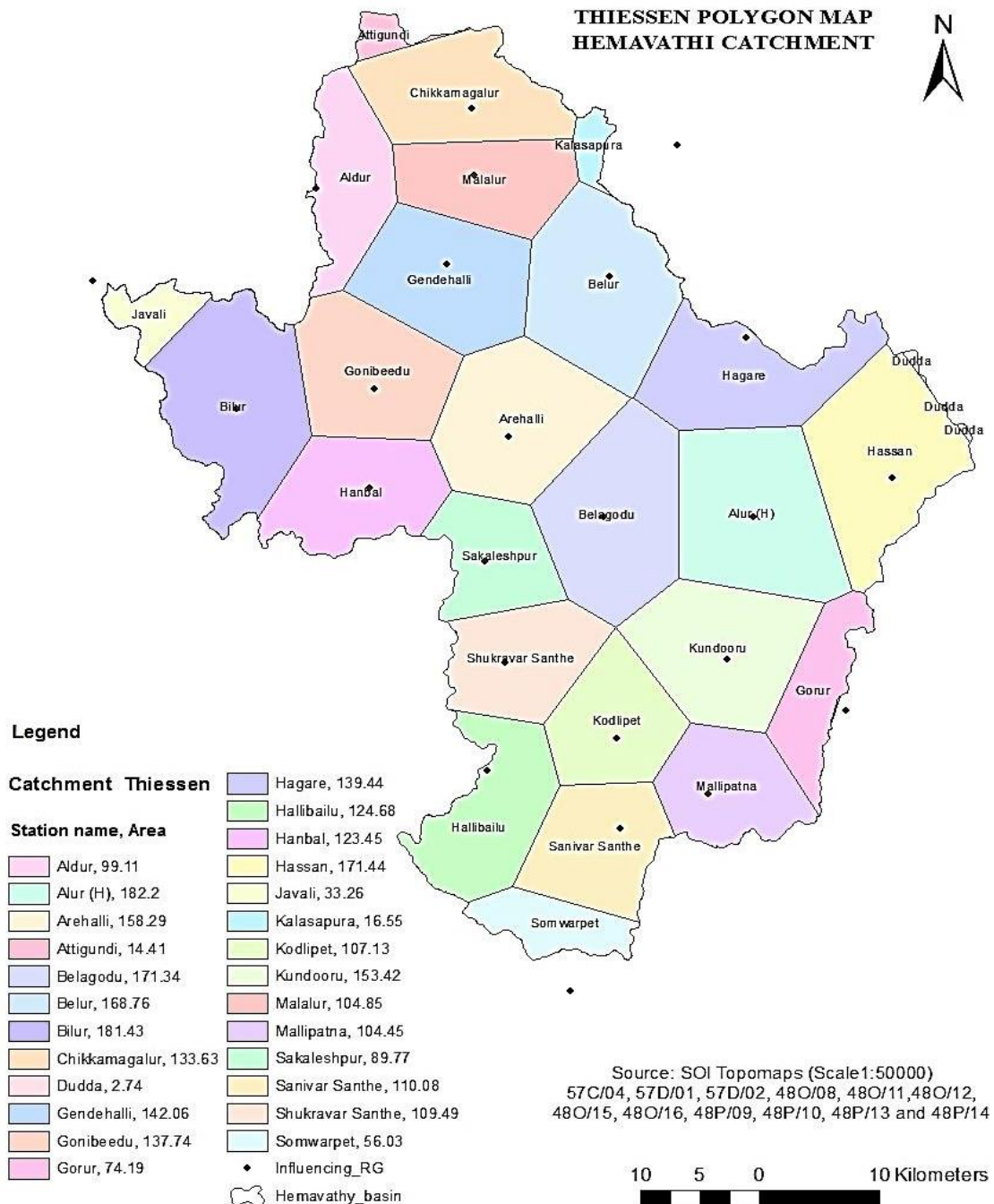
and drainage maps. soil map was classified into four hydrological soil groups, ArcGIS used to process cartosat DEM (digital elevation model) to describe drainage patterns of watershed. DEM is used to generate slope map that gives contour interval of 10m. The mean rainfall for the area was determined by means of Thiessen polygon method. Average yearly values of rainfall are shown in Table 1. Figure 1 shows the Thiessen polygon map for Hemavathy catchment. Mean rainfall was calculated for the catchment using Thiessen polygon method which is tabulated in Table 2

**Table 1** Mean rainfall for the catchment

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Average annual rainfall (mm)</b>	1443	1146	1003	1554	1875	1906	2176	1839	1874	1818	1748	1313	1913	1801	1513

**Table 2** Thiessen weights for the catchment

Sl No	Station Name	Area of Thiessen polygon (Sq.km)	Thiessen Weights
1	Hallibailu	124.68	0.043
2	Mallipatna	104.46	0.036
3	Dudda	2.74	0.001
4	Hagare	139.44	0.048
5	Bilur	181.43	0.062
6	Attigundi	14.41	0.005
7	Kalasapura	16.55	0.006
8	Sanivar Santhe	110.08	0.038
9	Kodlipet	107.13	0.037
10	Somwarpet	56.03	0.019
11	Kundooru	153.42	0.053
12	Shukravar Santhe	109.49	0.038
13	Gorur	74.19	0.025
14	Hassan	171.44	0.059
15	Belur	168.76	0.058
16	Belagodu	171.34	0.059
17	Arehalli	158.29	0.054
18	Alur (H)	182.20	0.063
19	Gendehalli	142.06	0.049
20	Sakaleshpur	89.77	0.031
21	Hanbal	123.45	0.042
22	Javali	33.26	0.011
23	Gonibeedu	137.74	0.047
24	Malalur	104.85	0.036
25	Chikkamagalur	133.63	0.046
26	Aldur	99.11	0.034



**Figure.1** Thiessen polygon map for Hemavathy catchment

### 3.1 Estimation of runoff

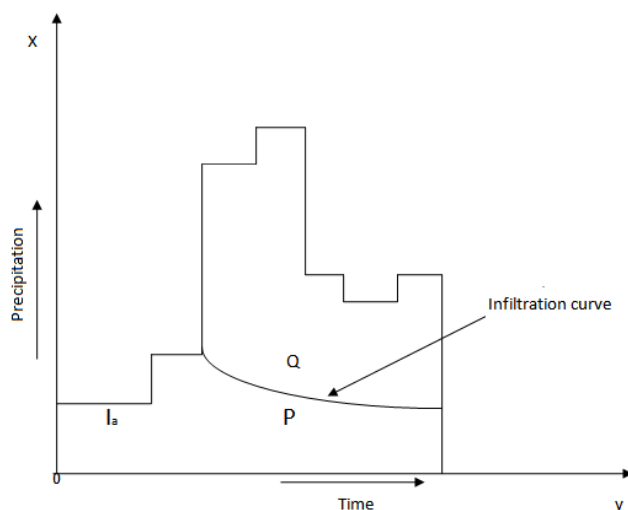
The SCS curve number method of runoff estimation of the river basin is based on the water balance equation and two fundamental hypotheses. Runoff estimation of the watershed is estimated sub watershed wise by dividing the basin area into 26 sub watersheds. Quantity of runoff is assessed after deducting initial abstraction retention, storage from the volume of precipitation Ratio of the actual direct runoff to potential runoff is expressed as;

$$\frac{Q}{P-I_a} = \frac{F}{S}$$

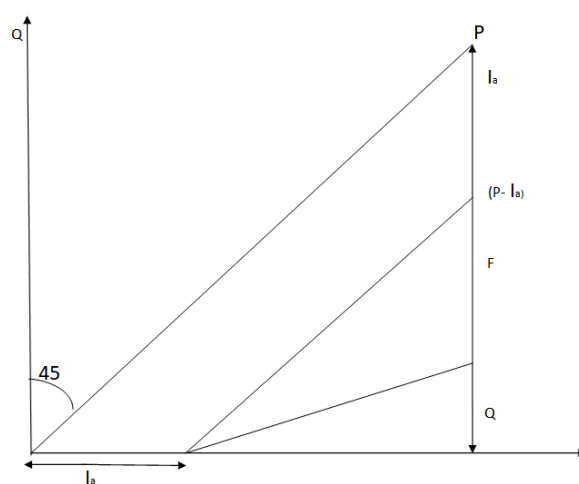
where  $Q$  is the actual runoff,  $P$  is the rainfall and  $F$  is the actual infiltration,  $I_a$  is the initial abstraction,  $S$  is the potential infiltration after the runoff begins ( $S > F$ ).  $F = (P - I_a) - Q$ , Runoff  $Q$  is calculated as

$$Q = \frac{(P-I_a)^2}{(P-I_a)+S}$$

The units of  $P$ ,  $Q$ ,  $I_a$ ,  $F$  are represented by mass curve which shows the Relation of  $Q$  versus  $P$ . **Figure 2** shows relationship between precipitation, runoff and retention, **Figure 3** shows Mass curve representation of the SCS rainfall runoff relationship.



**Fig.2** Relationship between precipitation, runoff & retention



**Fig 3** Mass curve representation of the SCS rainfall run off relationship

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