Hillslope hydrology modifications for better representation of variable source areas: SWAT-Hillslope

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### Introduction

- Perched aquifer forming above a relatively impervious soil layer plays a major role in hillslope hydrology.
  - Transmits subsurface flow laterally through the hillslope.
  - Controls soil saturation as the perched water table approaches the surface.
  - Provides water for plant use.
  - Influences biogeochemical transformations related to saturated conditions in soils.



Idealized hillslope profile according to SD approach. Water table saturates location 1, intersects the root zone at location 2, and is below the root zone at location 3.



Moisture Storage Capacity distribution functions commonly used in saturation-excess runoff models. Af (x-axis) is fraction of area of watershed with normalized storage capacity less than or equal to corresponding y-axis value. a) based on TOPMODEL topographic index. b) Pareto distributions with b=0.1, 1, and 10. c) based on USDA Curve number equation. D) empirical distribution as in AWBM model.



- Uses variable bucket approach for modeling soil water storage capacity
- Up to 10 subareas (wetness classes) of increasing capacity (represent the parameterization of storage capacity districution for the catchment)
- Basic wetness classification scheme: 1) perennial stream channel;
  2) perennial wetland; 3) seasonally saturated wetlands; 4) intermittent saturated ares; 5) rarely or never saturated areas



Varying water capacity distribution functions for different combinations of catchment wetness classes. a)catchment dominated by dry or intermittently saturated areas – storage capacity distribution like Topmodel. b)catchment dominated by perennial wetlands – storage capacity distribution like pareto distribution (b>1) or USDA CN equation.

| NAME   | UNITS   | DEFINITION                                    | USED IN                           |  |  |
|--|---------|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| New Parameters: Infiltration Excess runoff         |         |   |                                   |  |  |
| fsfactor   | None    | Frozen Soil adjustment factor for hydraulic   | readbsn.f, surq_greenampt.f       |  |  |
|  |         | conductivity in Green Ampt                    |                                   |  |  |
| hcfactor(mhru)                                     | None    | Adjustment factor for hydraulic conductivity  | readbsn.f, readhru.f              |  |  |
|  |         | in Green Ampt equation                        | surq_greenampt.f                  |  |  |
| sstmaxd  | mm H20  | Static depressional storage used in Green-    | readbsn.f, surq_greenampt.f       |  |  |
|  |         | ampt algorithm                                |                                   |  |  |
| New Parameters: Saturation Excess Runoff           |         |   |                                   |  |  |
| edc(weti)  | mm H20  | Effective Depth Coefficient: Maximum          | readbsn.f, hydroinit.f            |  |  |
|  |         | drainable water storage capacity. Defined at  |                                   |  |  |
|  |         | wetness class level. Input in basins.bsn      |                                   |  |  |
| edc_factor   | None    | Calibration factor adjusts all edc values     | readbsn.f, satdef.f, wtdepth.f    |  |  |
| effporfactor                                       | None    | Fraction of effective porosity that can hold  | readbsn.f, wtdepth.f, tileflow.f  |  |  |
|  |         | water under saturated conditions. Adjusts     |                                   |  |  |
|  |         | effective porosity.                           |                                   |  |  |
| latA   |         | Perched aquifer non-linear reservoir coeff    | Latflow.f                         |  |  |
| latB   |         | Perched aquifer non-linear reservoir coeff    | Latflow.f                         |  |  |
| perchst datum                                      | Mm H2O  | mean depth of perched aquifer drawn down      | readbsn.f, hydroinit.f, latflow.f |  |  |
|  |         | just to point where lateral flow from aquifer |                                   |  |  |
|  |         | ceases  |                                   |  |  |
| rechg_paf  | none    | Fraction of root zone percolation that        | readbsn.f, percmain.f, gwmod.f,   |  |  |
|  |         | recharges the perched aquifer                 | gw_no3.f                          |  |  |
| weti(mrhu)   | None    | Wetness index class (01-10) assigned to each  | readsol.f, hydro_init.f           |  |  |
|  |         | HRU. Read from .sol, embedded as characters   |                                   |  |  |
|  |         | 4 and 5 of soil name                          |                                   |  |  |
| New Parameters: Penman Monteith Evapotranspiration |         |   |                                   |  |  |
| leafIngth  | m       | average leaf/stem length in direction of wind | readbsn.f, etpot.f                |  |  |
|  |         | to calc boundary layer resistance in canevmax |                                   |  |  |
| saimax   | m^2/m^2 | maximum stem area index for HRU               | readbsn.f, canopyint.f, grow.f    |  |  |
| waco   | none    | Wind attenuation coefficient for vegetation   | readbsn.f, etpot.f                |  |  |
|  |         | with complete canopy cover                    |                                   |  |  |
| New Parameters: Othe                               | er      | •   | •                                 |  |  |
| lveno  | None    | Flag; if flag=1, use alternate format and     | readfile.f,header.f, headout.f,   |  |  |
|  |         | output variables in output files              | hruday.f, subday.f, rchday.f,     |  |  |
|  |         | (.bsn,.sub,hru,.rch); .std output also to     | bsnday.f, writed.f                |  |  |
|  |         | output.bsn                                    |                                   |  |  |

#### Parameters added to SWAT

#### Model Parameter changed in basin file

| Bacteria Parameter | New Parameter         |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| WDPQ               | EDC_FACTOR            |
| WGPQ               | RCHRG_PAF             |
| WDLPQ              | ALPHA_BF (basin-wide) |
| WGLPQ              | GW_DELAY (basin-wide) |
| WDPS               | LATA                  |
| WGPS               | LATB                  |
| WDLPS              | HCFACTOR              |
| WGLPS              | FSFACTOR              |
| BACTKDQ            | CANMX (basin-wide)    |
| THBACT             | WACO                  |
| WOF_P              | EFFPORFACTOR          |
|                    |                       |

SITE



#### **Streamflow Simulations**

| Time Scale | NSE  | R <sup>2</sup> |
|------------|------|----------------|
| Daily      | 0.67 | 0.68           |
| Monthly    | 0.83 | 0.86           |

#### **Streamflow Simulations**



DAY

#### **Streamflow Simulations**





# range of watersheds that have variable source hydrology

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