



**Contribution of  
directly connected  
and isolated  
impervious areas**

Y. Seo et al.

# Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas to urban drainage network hydrographs

Y. Seo<sup>1</sup>, N.-J. Choi<sup>2</sup>, and A. R. Schmidt<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dankook University, Yongin, South Korea

<sup>2</sup>University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA

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Correspondence to: Y. Seo (yongwon.seo@gmail.com)

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Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

## Abstract

This paper addresses the mass balance error observed in runoff hydrographs in urban watersheds by introducing assumptions regarding the contribution of infiltrated rainfall from pervious areas and isolated impervious area (IIA) to the runoff hydrograph. Rainfall infiltrating into pervious areas has been assumed not to contribute to the runoff hydrograph until Hortonian excess rainfall occurs. However, mass balance analysis in an urban watershed indicates that rainfall infiltrated to pervious areas can contribute to direct runoff hydrograph, thereby offering an explanation for the long hydrograph tail commonly observed in runoff from urban storm sewers. In this study, a hydrologic analysis based on the width function is introduced, with two types of width functions obtained from both pervious and impervious areas, respectively. The width function can be regarded as the direct interpretation of the network response. These two width functions are derived to obtain distinct response functions for directly connected impervious areas (DCIA), IIA, and pervious areas. The results show significant improvement in the estimation of runoff hydrographs and suggest the need to consider the flow contribution from pervious areas to the runoff hydrograph. It also implies that additional contribution from flow paths through joints and cracks in sewer pipes needs to be taken into account to improve the estimation of runoff hydrographs in urban catchments.

## 1 Introduction

Recently, the connectivity of impervious areas in urban catchments received more attention in terms of hydrologic responses (Lee and Heaney, 2003; Han and Burian, 2009). The impervious area hydraulically connected to a inlet and routes directly to a storm water drainage system is referred to as directly connected impervious areas (DCIA) or effective impervious areas (hereafter, DCIA) (Han and Burian, 2009; Roy and Shuster, 2009). This subset of impervious surfaces in urban catchments may be responsible for the majority of stream alteration due to urbanization (Booth and Jackson,

**HESD**

10, 5605–5641, 2013

### Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



instantaneous unit hydrograph (GIUH) (Rodriguez-Iturbe and Valdes, 1979; Gupta et al., 1980). The GIUH demonstrated that when a unit instantaneous impulse is injected into a channel network, the distribution of arrival times at the basin outlet is affected both by the geomorphology of the catchment, such as stream drainage patterns, and the hydraulic characteristics of the channel flow, such as stream roughness (Franchini and O'Connell, 1996).

The GIUH approach takes geomorphologic dispersion into account separately by ordering channel networks according to the Strahler ordering scheme (Strahler, 1957), which is a method of classifying stream segment based on the number of tributaries upstream. In contrast, the width function approach incorporates the width function directly from the network, which captures the unique response of the catchment by representing the topology and the metrics of the channel network in a concise form (Moussa, 2008a,b). The width function is defined as follows (Troutman and Karlinger, 1985): with each point in a channel network we may associate a distance to the outlet of the basin, as measured longitudinally along the channel segments that water will actually follow in reaching the outlet. The width function is typically defined as the catchment area at a distance from the outlet (Moussa, 2008). The width function and the area function can be differently defined based on channelization (Lashermes and Foufoula-Georgiou, 2007), but the width function basically represents the distance–area function (Lee and Delleur, 1976). The width function approach is considerably simpler than the GIUH approach because it emphasizes the metric representation of the basin instead of the topologic one (Di Lazzaro, 2009). Mesa and Mifflin (1986) and Naden (1992) coupled the width function with the convective diffusion equation to evaluate the hydrodynamic dispersion represented by two parameters, celerity and longitudinal diffusivity. These parameters are dependent on the local slope, discharge and geometry of the channel, which implies that the parameter values can be physically determined (Franchini and O'Connell, 1996). The hydrologic response of a basin should be closely linked to the width function (Gupta and Waymire, 1983) and information about this response might be lost by grouping channel segments (Troutman and Karlinger, 1985).

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



**Contribution of  
directly connected  
and isolated  
impervious areas**

Y. Seo et al.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[⏪](#)[⏩](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Although width functions have been applied to rural areas, this work extends their use to urban catchments and further explores the quantification of contribution from pervious and impervious areas composing urban catchments. This paper suggests a framework using the instantaneous unit hydrograph based on the width function (WFIUH) in order to examine the contribution from pervious areas in urban catchments. Utilizing the spatial distribution of imperviousness, this study introduces two types of width function from pervious and impervious areas, respectively.

As mentioned earlier, this study incorporates the concept of DCIA and IIA to capture the flow characteristics in urban catchments. Lee and Heaney (2003) simulated the runoff hydrographs in urban areas with different methodologies to assess the area of DCIA and showed that the runoff hydrographs can be over-predicted if DCIA is not accurately estimated. IIA defines impervious areas that are indirectly connected to the drainage system and cause flows to be routed through pervious areas before Hortonian excess runoff occurs. DCIA accounts for no additional flow transition between the impervious areas and the network.

The key questions of this paper are: (a) to examine applicability of the WFIUH in urban drainage networks, incorporating unique characteristics of urban areas; (b) to investigate the hydrologic contribution of the precipitation infiltrated in pervious areas; and (c) to distinguish the contributions from DCIA, IIA and pervious areas to the flow discharge hydrograph in an urban catchment.

## 2 Methodology

The methodology section is composed of two parts; first, it describes the response function of the main drainage network based on WFIUH. Then, by introducing some assumptions and utilizing the width functions for both pervious and impervious areas, the response function for each land use is defined to produce the total response function at the outlet of an urban catchment.

## 2.1 Hydrologic response function of the main drainage network based on WFIUH

Van de Nes (1973) developed a distributed model and proposed a fundamental approach for defining the WFIUH, and derived the celerity and the dispersion coefficient for trapezoidal channel geometry. Naden (1992) suggested an approach based on the width function associated with the solution of the advection–diffusion equation in a natural river basin assuming wide rectangular channel geometry. However, the WFIUH has not been applied to urban drainage networks where finite channel geometry is dominant. In the case of a semi-infinite uniform channel fed by inflow at the upstream ( $x = 0$ ), the routing function is derived from the linear advection-diffusion equation given as follows (Van de Nes, 1973; Naden, 1992):

$$\frac{\partial Q_p}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 Q_p}{\partial x^2} - c \frac{\partial Q_p}{\partial x} \quad (1)$$

where  $Q_p$  is the flow perturbation ( $\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$ ),  $D$  is the diffusion coefficient ( $\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$ ),  $c$  is the celerity of the flood wave ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ),  $t$  is time (s) and  $x$  is distance from the upstream end (m). Assuming that the drainage network considered in this study consists of pipes with circular cross sections, the celerity and the diffusion coefficient can be derived as follows:

$$c = \left[ d_0 (1 - \cos \theta_1) - \frac{4}{3} R_1 \right] \frac{3v_1 d_0}{4B_1^2} \quad (2)$$

$$D = C_1 \frac{Q_1}{2S_0 B_1} \quad (3)$$

where

$$C_1 = 1 - \frac{F_1^2}{16} \left[ \frac{d_0^2}{B_1^2} \left( 1 - \cos \theta_1 - \frac{4R_1}{d_0} \right) \right]^2 \quad (4)$$

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

where  $d_0$  is the diameter of the circular cross section (m),  $v_1$  is the initial flow velocity ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ),  $B_1$  ( $B = \partial A / \partial y$ ) is the initial water surface width (m),  $\theta_1$  is the initial angle of the water surface (rad),  $R_1$  is the initial hydraulic radius (m),  $S_0$  is the channel slope and  $F_1$  is the initial Froude number. When the coefficients  $D$  and  $c$  are constant, the solution to Eq. (1) with the boundary condition  $Q(0, t) = \delta(t)$ ,  $Q(x, 0) = 0$  and  $Q(\infty, t) = 0$ , is given as follows (Naden, 1992; Franchini and O'Connell, 1996; Da Ros and Borga, 1997):

$$u(x, t) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt^3}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x - ct)^2}{4Dt}\right] \quad (5)$$

where  $u(x, t)$  is the impulse response of the advection-diffusion equation, i.e. the time evolution of the discharge at a distance  $x$  from the upstream end when an instantaneous upstream impulse  $\delta(t)$  is introduced. With the unit impulse response,  $u(x, t)$  given as in Eq. (5), the Instantaneous Unit Hydrograph (IUH) of a catchment can be defined as follows (Da Ros and Borga, 1997):

$$h(t) = \int_0^{\infty} W(x) u(x, t) dx \quad (6)$$

where  $W(x)$  is the width function normalized by the total network length: the probability that a drop will fall at a flow distance in the interval  $[x, x + dx]$ . Then, from Eq. (5) the response from the network for discrete time interval can be written as (Da Ros and Borga, 1997)

$$h(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i\Delta x}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt^3}} W(i\Delta x) \exp\left[-\frac{(i\Delta x - ct)^2}{4Dt}\right] \Delta x \quad (7)$$

The diameter and the slope selected to calculate the celerity and the diffusion coefficient of the model are the catchment-representative values to capture the characteristics of the hydrodynamic dispersion. In this study, the flow in the main drainage network

is considered to be open channel flow with a circular cross section. The maximum flow rate for the circular cross section occurs at 0.8 of the pipe full depth:

$$Q_o = \frac{d_o^{8/3} S_o^{1/2}}{4n_o} \quad (8)$$

where  $Q_o$ ,  $d_o$ ,  $S_o$  and  $n_o$  are the peak discharge, diameter, bottom slope and the roughness at the outlet. The flow discharge at each pipe outlet is tested, and if it is greater than the  $Q_o$ , the difference between the actual and the maximum flow is delayed to the next time steps until the flow becomes smaller than  $Q_o$ .

## 2.2 WFIUH for pervious and impervious areas

In this paper, two width functions from both pervious and impervious areas are utilized to obtain the response function at the catchment outlet. The advantage of using two width functions is that response functions can be distinctively derived for both areas depending on the hydrodynamic properties (transition and diffusion coefficient) of corresponding areas. Moreover, we introduce two assumptions for pervious areas: a portion of infiltrated rainfall contributes to the discharge of the main drainage network (Assumption 1) and the remainder of infiltrated water percolates into aquifer which is eventually lost from the system (Assumption 2).

The drainage network and the corresponding width function are obtained in grid level. Figure 1 illustrates the framework of the approach proposed in this study where  $n$  represents a grid cell and the main drainage network is represented by thick solid arrows. This study utilizes Green and Ampt method (Green and Ampt, 1911) to estimate the infiltrated amount of rainfall as well as excess rainfall in pervious areas. The excess rainfall falling on impervious areas is assumed to be drained into the main drainage network immediately. Hence, the flow paths for impervious areas are identical to the main drainage network. Paths for pervious areas are divided into two; one for infiltrated and the other for excess rainfall. The first path is subsurface flow induced by the infiltration of rainfall. A portion of the infiltrated rainfall eventually contributes to the main

### Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



drainage network (Assumption 1). The second path taken by excess rainfall from pervious areas is same as the paths for flows from the impervious areas: the main drainage network. In Fig. 1, DCIA is presented as impervious areas (e.g. roadways and roofs with attached roof drains) where the runoff flows directly into the drainage system. In contrast, IIA is depicted as impervious areas where the runoff does not flow directly into the drainage system. Reduction of DCIA (increasing IIA) is one of the important concepts in land use practice and low impact development (EPA, 2011). In order to account for the different flow paths from pervious and impervious areas, the WFIUH defined by Eq. (6) can be written as following:

$$h_i(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{n_w} (W_i(j\Delta x) \cdot f(j\Delta x, t) \cdot g_j(t)) \Delta x \quad (9)$$

where  $i = 1$  for contribution from excess rainfall in DCIA,  $i = 2$  for excess rainfall in IIA,  $i = 3$  for excess rainfall in pervious areas (ExPerv), and  $i = 4$  for infiltrated rainfall in pervious areas (InPerv).  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are the same width functions obtained from impervious area and  $W_3$  and  $W_4$  are the same ones from pervious area, respectively.  $n_w$  is the maximum distance of the width function,  $j$  is distance index,  $f$  is a response function of the main drainage network, and  $g$  is a response function defined in a cell as shown in Fig. 1. From Eq. (5), the response from the main drainage network is given as

$$f(i\Delta x, t) = \frac{i\Delta x}{\sqrt{4\pi D_1 t^3}} \exp \left[ -\frac{(i\Delta x - c_1 t)^2}{4D_1 t} \right] \quad (10)$$

where  $c_1$  and  $D_1$  are transition and diffusion coefficient of the main drainage network. The response function in a cell,  $g_i$ , is from excess rainfall in DCIA, IIA, and pervious areas (ExPerv).

$$g_i(t = 0) = 1, \quad \text{otherwise} \quad 0, i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (11)$$

**Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas**

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



The response function  $g_4$  is from infiltrated rainfalls in pervious areas (InPerv) by Assumption 1. Mejia and Moglen (2010) assumed a two-parameter inverse Gaussian travel time distribution for both hillslopes and channels to derive a geomorphologic unit hydrograph for a natural watershed. In this study,  $g_4$  is assumed to have the same form with Eq. (5) which is a solution of an advection-diffusion equation.

$$g_i(t) = \frac{\Delta x}{4\sqrt{\pi D_2 t^3}} \exp\left[-\frac{(\Delta x - 2c_2 t)^2}{16D_2 t}\right]; i = 4 \quad (12)$$

where  $c_2$  and  $D_2$  are transition and diffusion coefficient of the flow path, through which the infiltrated rainfall in pervious areas contributes to the main drainage network. Given the total length of  $f$  and  $g$  as  $M_f$  and  $M_k$ , respectively, the convolution for discrete time steps can be obtained as

$$(f \cdot g)[k] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{m=0}^{\max(M_f, M_k)-1} f[m]g[k-m], 0 < k < M_f + M_k - 2 \quad (13)$$

The response at the outlet can be obtained as the sum of convolution of the response function from each area and the corresponding precipitation.

$$Q(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_c} h_i \cdot I_i \quad (14)$$

Excess rainfall and infiltrated rainfall for corresponding areas are defined in Table 1 where  $I_{\text{imperv}}$  denotes the excess rainfall amount considering depression storage only in impervious areas,  $I_{\text{ExPerv}}$  represents the excess rainfall considering depression storage as well as infiltration, and  $I_{\text{InPerv}}$  is infiltrated amount of rainfall. In Table 1,  $r_i$  is impervious ratio of the watershed and  $r_c$  is the area ratio of IIA divided by total impervious area.  $r_b$  is contributing ratio of infiltrated water to runoff by Assumption 2.

### 3 Application

#### 3.1 Study area

The test catchment: CDS-51 in this chapter is a part of the Calumet Tunnel and reservoir Plan (TARP) system in the Chicago area. TARP is a system of deep tunnels and reservoirs that captures combined sewer to relieve pollutant load and combined overflows to waterways in the area. Accurate estimation of the flow is crucial in operation of the entire system. CDS-51 is a highly-urbanized catchment, in which most of the drainage load is conveyed through the pipe network as shown in Fig. 2. The watershed captures storm and sanitary flows for a service area of 3.16 km<sup>2</sup>. The combined sewerage system of CDS-51 collects inflow from in excess of 800 inlets and conveys it to the outlet of the watershed via a network of 722 pipes ranging in diameter from 15 cm to 2.13 m in the most downstream area near the outlet. Dry weather flows are intercepted by two interceptor sewers, which convey flow to the Calumet Water Reclamation Plant. When the treatment plant reaches capacity, flow in the largest pipe is directed towards the combined sewer overflow (CSO) location and conveyed through the drop shaft that is located at the outlet of the catchment into the deep tunnel. Table 2 summarizes the diameters, lengths and slopes of the pipe network of CDS-51 according to Strahler ordering scheme (Strahler, 1957). From 2007 to 2011, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) used three acoustic flow meters to monitor the inflow from the catchment, the volume of flow partitioned to the CSO, and the amount of inflow entering the drop shaft connected to the deep tunnel at CDS-51.

#### 3.2 Detailed impervious map of CDS-51

One of the advantages of utilizing the width function for the IUH is that it incorporates the spatial distribution of the watershed properties (e.g. imperviousness) that significantly impact the model's estimation capability. The imperviousness ratio is an important factor in urban hydrology modeling. However, it is often given as an average value

## HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

### Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

for one catchment. Imperviousness ratios for sub-areas within a catchment are typically obtained by assigning impervious values corresponding to the type of land use in the sub-areas. Crosa-Rivarola (2008) investigated the spatial variability that can be found in urban catchments and made a detailed imperviousness map of CDS-51 based on land use obtained from three different sources and data processing filters: orthoimages with image processing filter, Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data with LIDAR filter, and street data with street filter. The final imperviousness map is shown in Fig. 3a. With the imperviousness map explicitly obtained from the orthoimagery, the imperviousness ratio is averaged for each grid cell as shown in Fig. 3b.

In this paper, two width functions from pervious and impervious areas are utilized to obtain the response function at the catchment outlet. These width functions are obtained by the fraction of impervious and pervious areas in a given cell and the corresponding drainage network. Figure 4 shows two resulting width functions for pervious and impervious areas obtained from spatial distribution of imperviousness ratio in Fig. 3b. The width functions in Fig. 4 are normalized by the total network length and presented as distance from the outlet of a catchment. The dashed line in Fig. 4 represents the catchment-average imperviousness ratio; this averaged line was used to divide the width functions for pervious and impervious areas. In CDS-51, the average imperiousness ratio does not greatly differ from the imperviousness ratio from the detailed map. However, it is possible that using the averaged value can cause uncertainty in the estimation of width functions depending on the spatial distribution of impervious areas.

In this paper, the area of DCIA is estimated from the detailed impervious map developed from orthoimagery (Crosa-Rivarola, 2008). The average diameter and slope of the drainage network shown in Table 2 are adopted to calculate the hydrodynamic properties of the main drainage network in CDS-51. The celerity,  $c_1$  and diffusion coefficient,  $D_1$  used for calculation of the response functions of the main drainage network are calculated by Eqs. (10) and (11) assuming 20 % of the pipe is initially full.

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

However, the flow path of the infiltrated water to the main drainage network is not explicitly identified for calculation of the delayed response function of pervious area,  $g_4$  as shown in Fig. 1. The infiltrated rainfall in pervious area takes subsurface flow paths to reach a main drainage network. Therefore, the transition coefficient (celerity) of the flow can be the same order of the saturated hydraulic conductivity of the soil; in this study  $10^{-3} \text{ ms}^{-1}$  is used based on the ranges of hydraulic conductivity for pervious areas (Bear, 1988). The two unknown parameters; the diffusion coefficient for delayed response from infiltrated amount of rainfall,  $D_2$  in Eq. (21) and the contributing ratio of infiltrated rainfall,  $r_b$  in Table 1 are calibrated using observed data.

Four sets of observed runoff hydrograph and precipitation data are used in this study as shown in Table 3. The flow meters and precipitation gages were operated by the USGS from 2007 to 2011 in order to monitor the flow discharge amount into the TARP dropshafts in Chicago. For Event 2 during August 2007, four rainfall gages operated by the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) surrounding CDS-51 are used because the precipitation records from the USGS gage are unavailable.

## 4 Results and discussion

### 4.1 Comparison with the observed flow

Two coefficients; transition and diffusion coefficient of infiltrated water are estimated to maximize the goodness of fit criteria; Nash–Sutcliffe model efficiency (Nash and Sutcliffe, 1970). Event 3 on January 2008 was used for calibration of parameters. Then, the calibrated values of parameters were used with all other storm events. The Nash–Sutcliffe efficiency,  $E$  ranges from  $-\infty$  to 1. If  $E$  is close to 1, the model better simulates the observation.

$$E = 1 - \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_o^t - Q_s^t)^2}{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_o^t - \overline{Q_o})^2} \quad (15)$$

where  $Q_o$  is observed discharge,  $Q_s$  is modeled discharge. Figure 5 shows the location of the estimated values of unknowns that maximize the model efficiency. The model efficiency indicates how accurately the model reproduces the observed results.

The contributing ratio of pervious area,  $r_b$  is estimated as 0.55; it implies that 55 % of infiltrated water eventually contributes to the runoff hydrograph. The parameter values estimated for CDS-51 are listed in Table 4.

Figure 6 compares the estimated runoff hydrographs from the conventional approach (considering only Hortonian excess runoff and ignoring the contribution of infiltrated rainfall to the main drainage network) and the proposed approach (accounting for both Hortonian runoff and contribution of infiltrated rainfall) with the observed hydrograph. The conventional approach is based on the typical assumption that there is no runoff contribution from pervious areas before saturation to the main drainage network. It also assumes that 100% of impervious area of the watershed contributes to runoff without distinction between DCIA and IIA. As shown in Fig. 6, the conventional approach shows mass balance error. For example, if total rainfall amount is 100 % from the January 2008 storm (Fig. 6c), the loss from infiltration is calculated to be 46 %, the loss from depression storage is 3 %, and the resulting excess rainfall runoff is 51 %, which is considerably different from the actual runoff (70 %) from observation. It implies that part of the infiltrated amount of rainfall can eventually contribute to the runoff hydrograph. Figure 6 also shows improvement in the estimation of flow hydrograph, especially for the long tail when the contribution from infiltrated rainfall amount is accounted for; the proposed approach in this study. The goodness of fit is significantly increased when contribution from pervious areas before saturation is taken into account as shown in Table 5. Although the model efficiency,  $E$  for Event 1 is decreased

**Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas**

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page	
Abstract	Introduction
Conclusions	References
Tables	Figures
⏪	⏩
◀	▶
Back	Close
Full Screen / Esc	
Printer-friendly Version	
Interactive Discussion	

Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper | Discussion Paper



when contribution from pervious areas is considered, the model better simulates the long tail in the hydrograph.

## 4.2 Comparison with other models

Since most urban drainage systems are modeled using a dynamic pipe simulation program that solves full hydraulics, it is necessary to compare the results with one of these hydraulic modeling approaches and also other hydrologic models. The proposed approach in this study is compared with the results from two different hydraulic and hydrologic modeling approaches: US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Storm Water Management Model (SWMM) and Illinois Urban Hydrologic Model (IUHM) based on GIUH (Cantone et al., 2009; Cantone, 2010). Cantone (2011) compared the results from the detailed SWMM and IUHM and showed the IUHM's ability to predict the hydrograph with much less information compared to SWMM.

Figure 7a compares the resulting hydrographs from SWMM with the proposed approach in this study. The detailed SWMM of CDS-51 includes complete information of 722 pipes and conduits (Cantone et al., 2009; Cantone, 2010). In contrast, the lumped SWMM consists of one subcatchment and one conceptual conduit. As shown in Fig. 7a, the proposed approach in this study shows better estimates for the hydrographs of CDS-51 compared with the lumped SWMM as well as the detailed SWMM. Compared with the IUHM, the proposed approach shows better estimates in terms of the flow peak as well as the long tail observed in the hydrograph (Fig. 7b). The hydrographs from the conventional approach and IUHM are almost identical (Fig. 7b); it indicates that the performance of the conventional approach utilizing a width function is comparable with the IUHM. Therefore, it implies that the performances of other models considered in this study can be greatly improved and possibly show better performances compared with the proposed approach in this study by considering the effect of infiltrated amount of rainfall in pervious areas. However, the width function based approach stands out with the ability of discriminating pervious area from impervious area in urban catchments. The proposed method, WFIUH in this study is a semi-distributed approach

# HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



utilizing a width function. Therefore, it enables us to consider the spatial variability of precipitation as well as catchment properties, such as soil properties, land use, and imperviousness, which is an advantage of WFIUH compared to IUHM.

### 4.3 Quantifying the contributions from pervious and impervious areas to the runoff hydrographs

The modeling framework in urban catchments proposed in this study is able to quantify and differentiate the contributions from pervious and impervious areas. Figure 8a illustrates the contribution of pervious and impervious areas to total flow with time for the storm event on January 2008 (Event 3). The contribution from each area changes with time. For a short duration after the storm event starts, the contribution from impervious areas dominates. Then, the contribution from pervious areas starts to dominate afterwards. Figure 8b illustrates the variation of the contributing ratio with time. In order to quantify the contribution of the pervious and impervious areas to the runoff hydrographs in detail, additional model runs are performed with test rainfall events of a synthetic triangular hyetograph for CDS-51. The two test events have the same duration of 10 h but different maximum intensities of the rainfall;  $10 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$  with no excess rainfall and  $12 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$  with excess rainfall. The contribution of DCIA, IIA, ExPerv and InPerv can be separately quantified by Eq. (23). Figure 9 depicts the resulting flow discharges per unit area of DCIA, IIA, InPerv, and ExPerv, respectively. The results illustrate how the contribution ratio of each area changes with rainfall intensity and time. The results show that the contribution from DCIA dominates initially while the contribution from InPerv slowly increases with time. The contribution from DCIA shortly diminishes after the rainfall stops. While, the contribution from InPerv responses slowly and it results in a longer tail consequently. The slow response from InPerv mainly contributes to the long tail of the total discharge hydrograph. Before excess rainfall occurs, ExPerv and IIA do not contribute to flow discharge and the hydrograph is composed of contributions from DCIA and InPerv only (Fig. 9a). Once excess rainfall occurs, InPerv and IIA start to contribute the total runoff hydrograph (Fig. 9b). The contribution of DCIA, IIA,

### Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



and ExPerv grows at rates that are proportional to corresponding areas with increasing rainfall intensity.

IIA affects the runoff hydrograph especially before saturation occurs. Figure 10 compares the flow discharge per unit area with a synthetic triangular hyetograph without or with IIA. In case of IIA not being considered, impervious area (IA) is composed only with DCIA. When there is no IIA ( $r_c = 0$ ) (Fig. 10a), all impervious areas are regarded as DCIA which involves immediate response to the flow. However, when IIA composes 50% of IA ( $r_c = 0.5$ ), IIA does not contribute to the runoff hydrograph because the rainfall falling on IIA infiltrates before saturation occurs. As a result, Fig. 10b shows a reduced peak discharge and a thick and long tail compared with Fig. 10a, in which IIA is ignored. When the soil saturates and excess rainfall occurs, rainwater in IIA as well as saturated pervious areas (ExPerv) starts to contribute the runoff hydrograph (Fig. 11b). Once saturation occurs and rainwater in ExPerv and IIA start to contribute to runoff hydrograph, all the areas contribute to produce runoff. As shown in Fig. 11a, b, the peaks of hydrograph do not show much difference in case of rainfall intensity as  $12 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$ . However, IIA affects the shape of the hydrograph and also produces a thick and long tail compared to the case when it is ignored.

## 5 Conclusions

In this paper, WFIUH is adapted to account for the contribution of distinct pervious and impervious areas utilizing the spatial distribution of the imperviousness ratio in an urban catchment. Accounting for pervious and impervious areas separately enables to see the unique hydrodynamic properties for each contribution. This study introduces two assumptions regarding pervious area contribution to the hydrograph. First, a portion of infiltrated rainfall in pervious areas contributes to the runoff hydrograph before excess rainfall occurs. Second, rest of the infiltrated rainfall is lost out of the system. Explanation of the observed hydrograph can be improved significantly under this framework. Specifically, the suggested approach is able to reproduce the long tails observed

# HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

in the urban runoff hydrograph which could not be explained by the conventional approach that does not consider the contribution of infiltrated rainfall in pervious areas. The results show that as large as 55% of the infiltrated water eventually contributes to the direct runoff hydrograph in an urban catchment. The ratio of infiltrated water implies the characteristics and conditions of the combined sewage system, such as aging, illegal connections, drain material, and fractures of the conduits.

Based on the two simple assumptions for pervious areas, this study also distinguishes the contribution from DCIA and IIA. By introducing DCIA and IIA, and dividing the runoff contribution from pervious areas into two components: infiltrated rainfall (InPerv) and excess rainfall (ExPerv), it was possible to quantify the contribution of each area. As a result, this approach shows the important role of IIA in that it reduces the direct runoff contribution from impervious areas to the total runoff hydrographs. The framework of this study strongly suggests the flow contribution from pervious areas to the total runoff hydrograph in urban areas is significant. Consequently, it shows that runoff prediction should account for the flow paths from pervious areas to the main drainage network in urban catchments.

*Acknowledgements.* This research was funded by Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. The authors thank Joshua P. Cantone for providing SWMM simulation results as references.

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## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

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## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

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# HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

[Title Page](#)

[Abstract](#)

[Introduction](#)

[Conclusions](#)

[References](#)

[Tables](#)

[Figures](#)

[⏪](#)

[⏩](#)

[◀](#)

[▶](#)

[Back](#)

[Close](#)

[Full Screen / Esc](#)

[Printer-friendly Version](#)

[Interactive Discussion](#)



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## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

**Table 1.** Precipitation for each contribution in urban catchments.

Contribution	Saturation condition	
	Before saturation	After saturation
DCIA	$I_1 = (1 - r_c) I_{\text{imperv}}$	$I_1 = (1 - r_c) I_{\text{imperv}}$
IIA	$I_2 = 0$	$I_2 = r_c I_{\text{imperv}}$
ExPerv	$I_3 = 0$	$I_3 = I_{\text{ExPerv}}$
InPerv	$I_4 = \left(1 + \frac{r_i r_c}{1 - r_i}\right) r_b I_{\text{InPerv}}$	$I_4 = r_b I_{\text{InPerv}}$

[Title Page](#)
[Abstract](#)
[Introduction](#)
[Conclusions](#)
[References](#)
[Tables](#)
[Figures](#)
[⏪](#)
[⏩](#)
[◀](#)
[▶](#)
[Back](#)
[Close](#)
[Full Screen / Esc](#)
[Printer-friendly Version](#)
[Interactive Discussion](#)

# HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

**Table 2.** Conduits of CDS-51 according to the Strahler ordering (Miller et al., 2009).

Order	No.	Diameter (m)		Length (m)		Bottom slope ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	
		Mean	Standard dev.	Mean	Standard dev.	Mean	Standard dev.
1	449	0.33	0.11	61.62	27.72	5.25	9.47
2	157	0.46	0.16	59.69	29.98	3.70	6.01
3	57	0.72	0.23	75.00	28.33	1.82	2.67
4	51	1.18	0.34	64.30	34.54	1.45	1.70
5	8	2.06	0.08	98.68	7.79	1.56	2.05

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[⏪](#)[⏩](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

# HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

**Table 3.** Four sets of observed hydrograph and precipitation.

Event	Starting date	Duration (h)	Flow data obtained from	Precipitation obtained from	Note
1	25 Apr 2007	24	USGS	USGS	
2	22 Aug 2007	28	USGS	ISWS	
3	7 Jan 2008	15	USGS	USGS	Parameter estimation
4	27 Apr 2009	33	USGS	USGS	

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[⏪](#)[⏩](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

# HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

**Table 4.** Parameter values estimated for CDS-51.

Catchment	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	$\Delta x$ (m)	Parameters					
			$c_1$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$D_1$ (m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	$r_i$	$r_c$	$D_2$ (10 <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	$r_b$
CDS-51	3.42	156	0.43	5.58	0.54	0.23	5.6	0.55

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

**Table 5.** Comparison between a runoff hydrograph considering contribution from impervious areas only and one that considers contribution from both pervious and impervious areas.

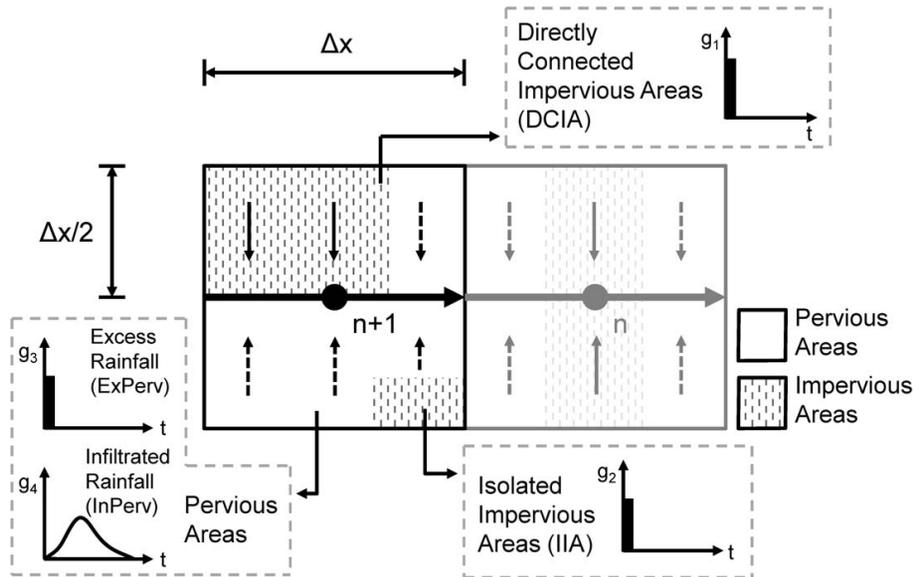
Event	Date	Hortonian excess flow only (conventional approach)			Contribution from both infiltrated rainfall and Hortonian excess flows (suggested approach)		
		$E^a$	Peak ratio <sup>b</sup>	Volume <sup>c</sup> ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3$ )	$E$	Peak ratio <sup>b</sup>	Volume <sup>c</sup> ( $10^6 \text{ m}^3$ )
1	25 Apr 2007	0.89	0.86	1.5	0.70	0.79	1.7
2	22 Aug 2007	0.21	1.18	1.6	0.47	1.05	2.3
3	7 Jan 2008	0.70	0.96	2.3	0.92	0.97	2.9
4	27 Apr 2009	0.72	0.90	1.4	0.90	0.70	1.6

<sup>a</sup> Nash–Sutcliffe model efficiency; <sup>b</sup>  $Q_{\text{max,observed}}/Q_{\text{max,simulated}}$ ; <sup>c</sup> Total volume of the discharge.

[Title Page](#)
[Abstract](#)
[Introduction](#)
[Conclusions](#)
[References](#)
[Tables](#)
[Figures](#)
[⏪](#)
[⏩](#)
[◀](#)
[▶](#)
[Back](#)
[Close](#)
[Full Screen / Esc](#)
[Printer-friendly Version](#)
[Interactive Discussion](#)


## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.



**Fig. 1.** Response functions from excess rainfall and infiltrated rainfall contributing to runoff hydrographs.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

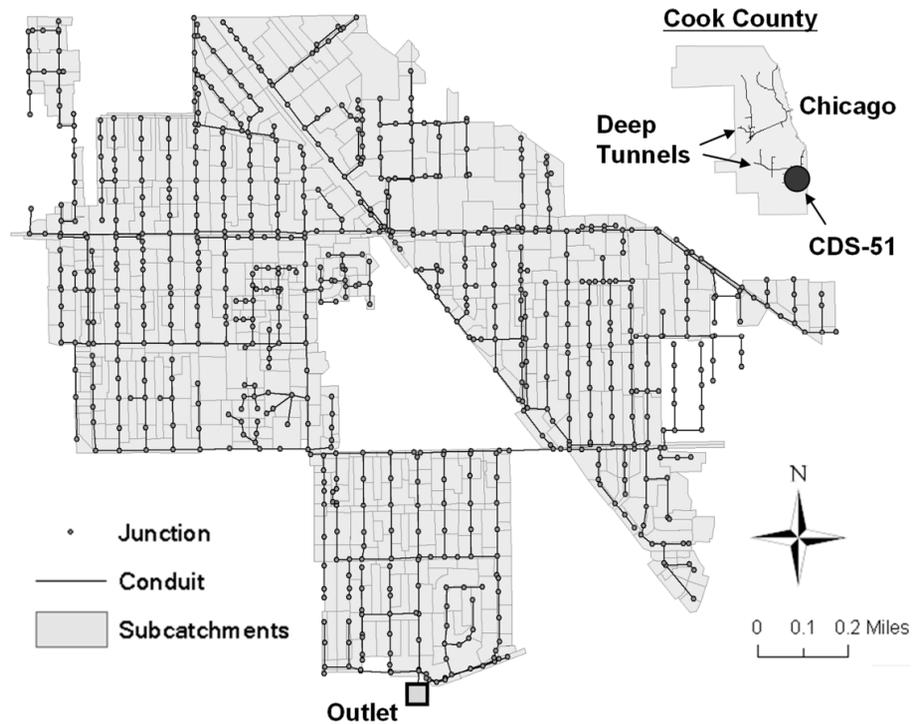
Interactive Discussion

# HESSD

10, 5605–5641, 2013

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.



**Fig. 2.** The drainage pipe network; CDS-51 in Chicago.

[Title Page](#)

[Abstract](#)

[Introduction](#)

[Conclusions](#)

[References](#)

[Tables](#)

[Figures](#)

[⏪](#)

[⏩](#)

[◀](#)

[▶](#)

[Back](#)

[Close](#)

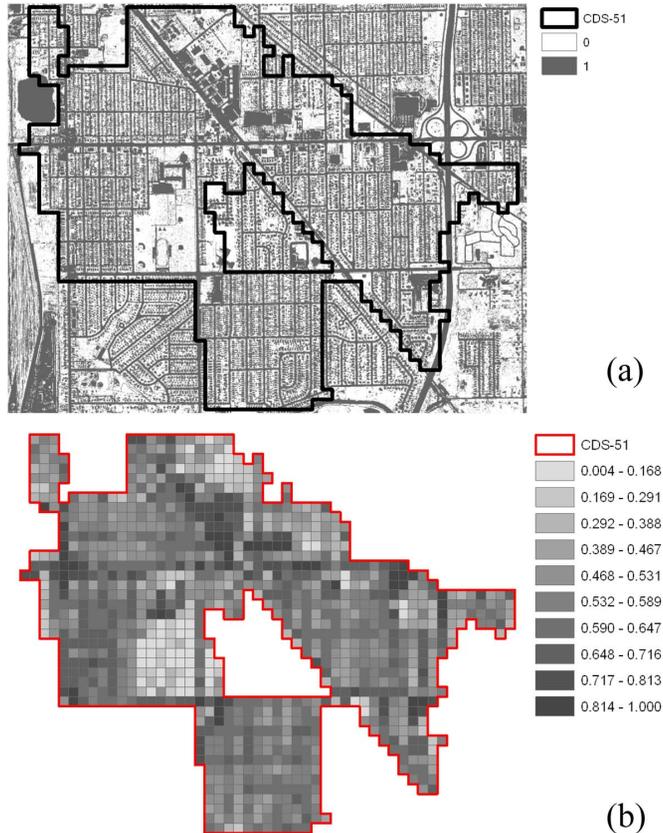
[Full Screen / Esc](#)

[Printer-friendly Version](#)

[Interactive Discussion](#)

Contribution of  
directly connected  
and isolated  
impervious areas

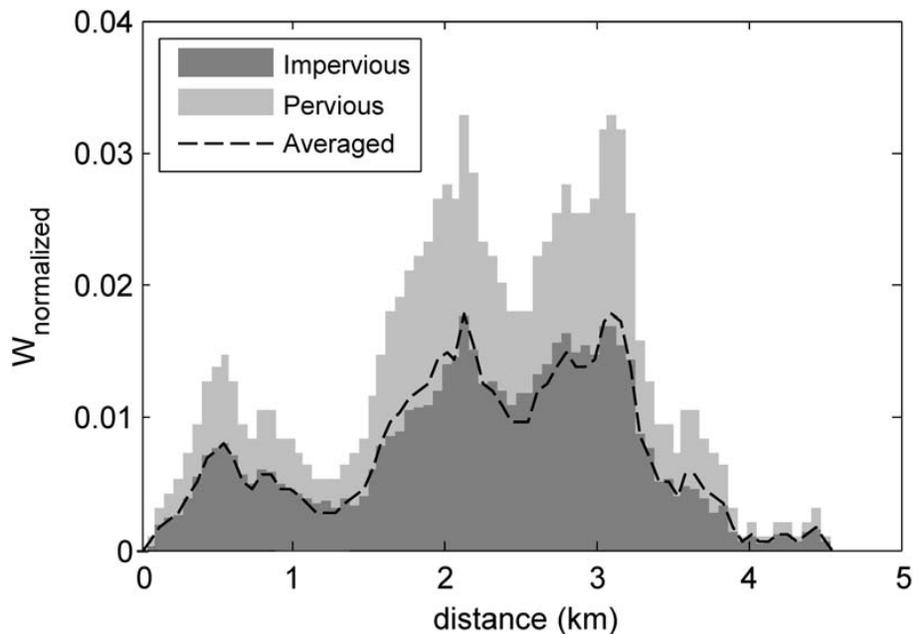
Y. Seo et al.



**Fig. 3.** Imperviousness map of CDS-51 (0 for pervious and 1 for impervious area): **(a)** from orthoimagery (Crosa-Rivarola, 2008); **(b)** imperviousness ratio averaged to each grid cell.

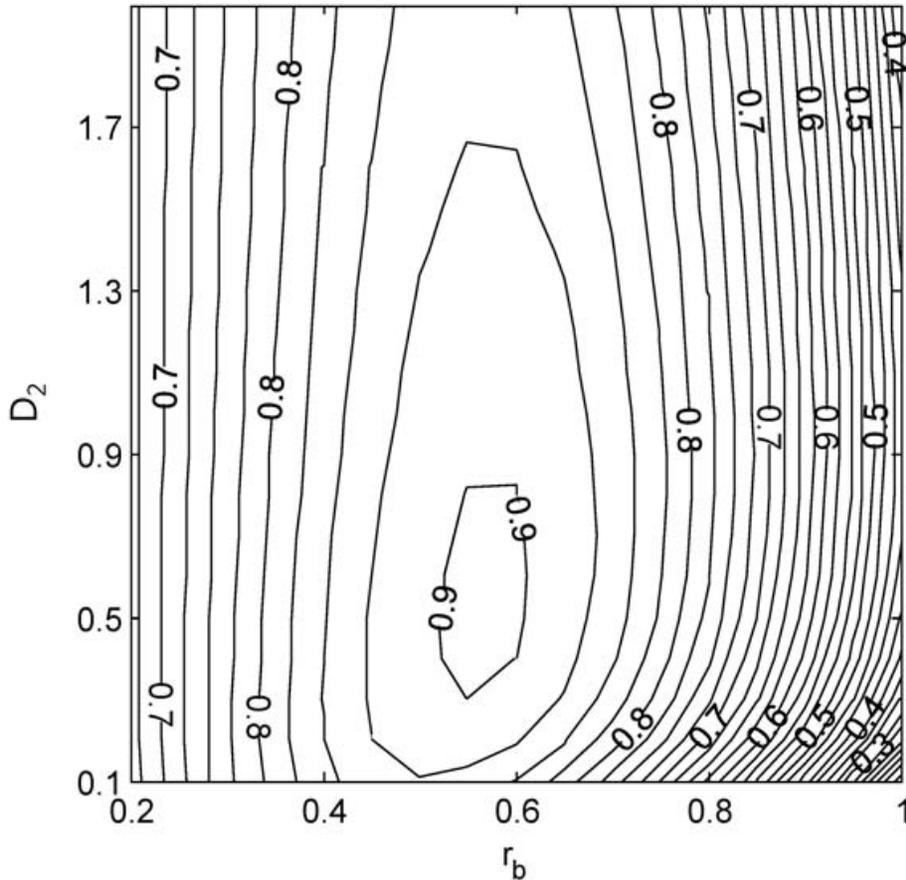
**Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas**

Y. Seo et al.



**Fig. 4.** Two width functions for pervious and impervious areas obtained from the imperviousness map in CDS-51 normalized by the total catchment area.

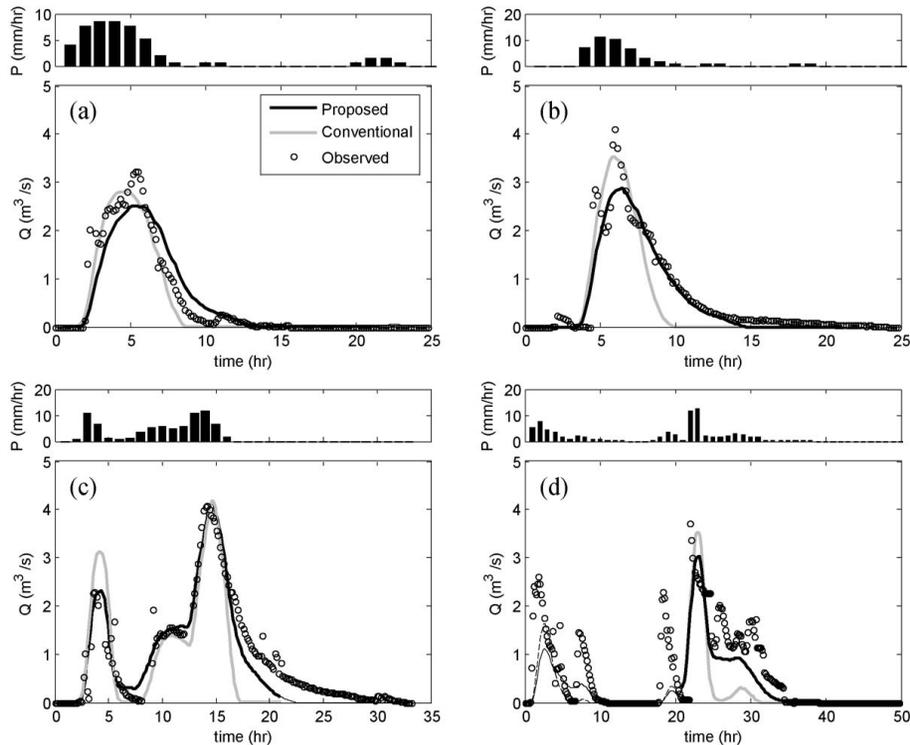
[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[⏪](#)[⏩](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)



**Fig. 5.** The model efficiency ( $E$ ) as a function of diffusion coefficient,  $D_2$  and contributing ratio of pervious area,  $r_b$ .

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

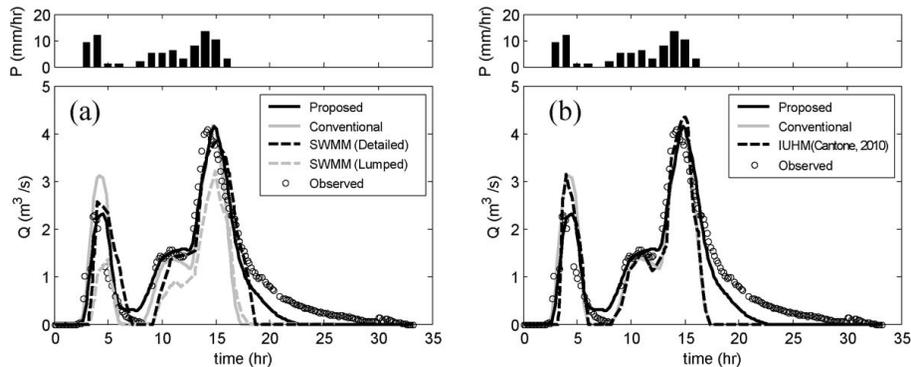


**Fig. 6.** Comparison of the conventional (considering Hortonian excess runoff only) and proposed (considering both Hortonian excess runoff and infiltrated rainfall) approaches with the observed hydrographs for the storms on: **(a)** April 2007; **(b)** August 2007; **(c)** January 2008; **(d)** April 2009.

[Title Page](#)
[Abstract](#)
[Introduction](#)
[Conclusions](#)
[References](#)
[Tables](#)
[Figures](#)
[⏪](#)
[⏩](#)
[⏴](#)
[⏵](#)
[Back](#)
[Close](#)
[Full Screen / Esc](#)
[Printer-friendly Version](#)
[Interactive Discussion](#)

**Contribution of  
directly connected  
and isolated  
impervious areas**

Y. Seo et al.

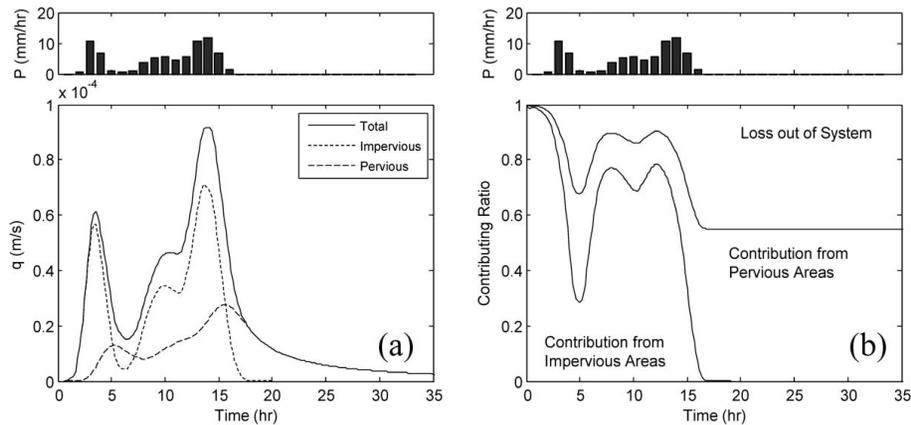


**Fig. 7.** Comparison of the conventional and proposed approaches with the observed hydrographs and **(a)** EPA SWMM model; **(b)** IUHM (Cantone, 2010) for the January 2008 storm.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[⏪](#)[⏩](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

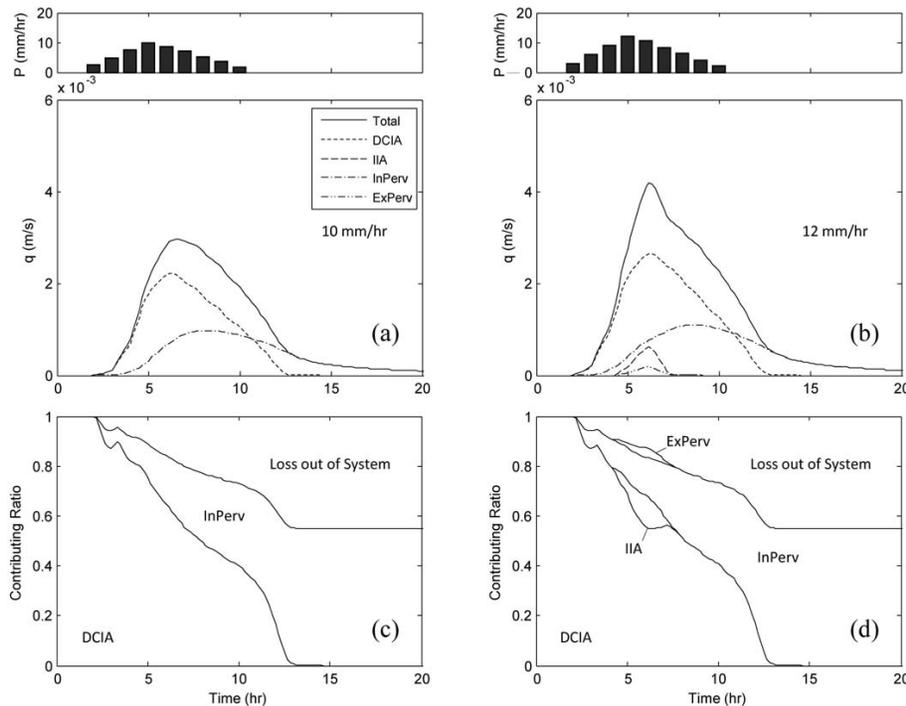
Y. Seo et al.



**Fig. 8.** Contribution from pervious and impervious areas for the storm on January 2008: **(a)** hydrographs for each region; **(b)** contributing ratio to total flow.

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.



**Fig. 9.** Flow discharge per unit area in CDS-51 with a triangular hyetograph and maximum intensity of **(a)**  $I = 10 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$ ; **(b)**  $I = 12 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$  and the contributing ratio of each area with **(c)**  $I = 10 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$ ; **(d)**  $I = 12 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$ .

[Title Page](#)

[Abstract](#) [Introduction](#)

[Conclusions](#) [References](#)

[Tables](#) [Figures](#)

[◀](#) [▶](#)

[◀](#) [▶](#)

[Back](#) [Close](#)

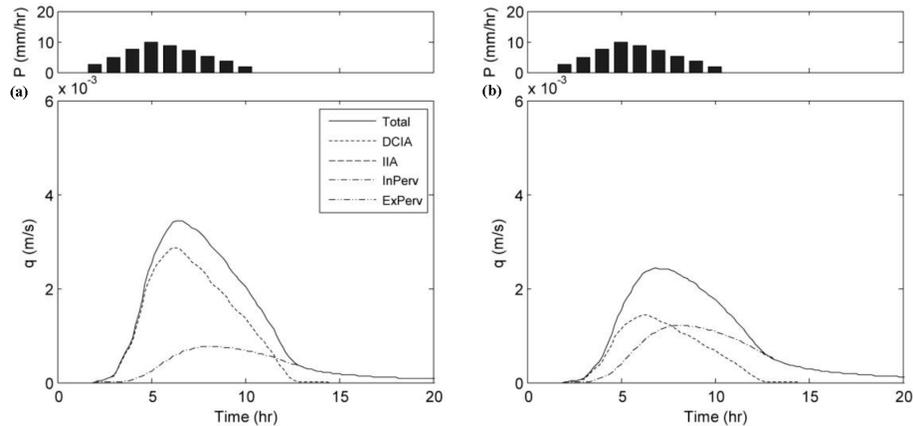
[Full Screen / Esc](#)

[Printer-friendly Version](#)

[Interactive Discussion](#)

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.

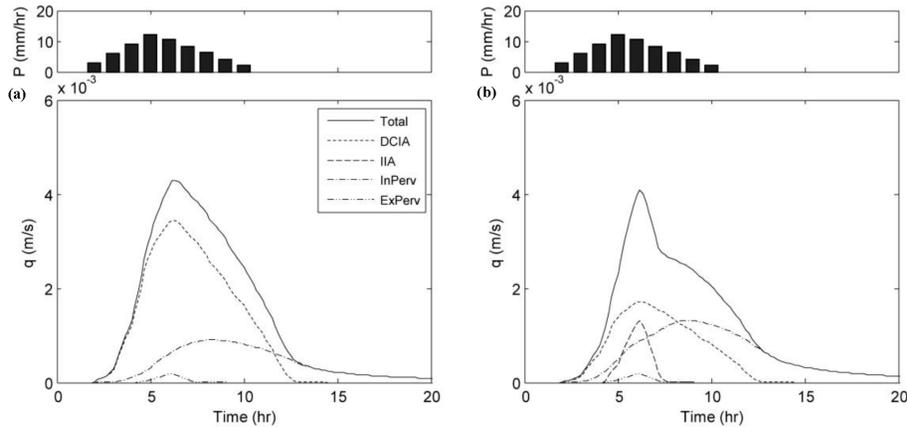


**Fig. 10.** Flow discharge per unit area in CDS-51 with a triangular hyetograph and maximum intensity of  $10 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$  when **(a)**  $r_c = 0$ ; **(b)**  $r_c = 0.5$ .

[Title Page](#)
[Abstract](#)
[Introduction](#)
[Conclusions](#)
[References](#)
[Tables](#)
[Figures](#)
[⏪](#)
[⏩](#)
[◀](#)
[▶](#)
[Back](#)
[Close](#)
[Full Screen / Esc](#)
[Printer-friendly Version](#)
[Interactive Discussion](#)

## Contribution of directly connected and isolated impervious areas

Y. Seo et al.



**Fig. 11.** Flow discharge per unit area in CDS-51 with a triangular hyetograph and maximum intensity of  $12 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$  when **(a)**  $r_c = 0$ ; **(b)**  $r_c = 0.5$ .

Title Page

Abstract Introduction

Conclusions References

Tables Figures

⏪ ⏩

◀ ▶

Back Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion