

Interactive comment on “A history of the concept of time of concentration” by Keith J. Beven

Anonymous Referee #2

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This is a very well written paper of interesting content as a review, not as a scientific paper. The appendix is an interesting comparison of calculation methods but does not add new knowledge.

However, I think it is addressing a problem that does not really exist and is mis-titled. It is really a history of rainfall to runoff hydrograph construction and manipulation, and the discussion of Time of Concentration seems somewhat bolted on to the main content. The fact of the matter is that hydrologists have been using simplifying mathematics to describe rather complicated natural phenomena in practical ways for a great many years, and on the whole these have proved very useful. Yet the author seems to have an "axe to grind" about this particular issue.

I recommend that it is re-written to sound less perjorative and re-titled as an historical survey of rainfall to runoff modelling, and simply note in the text that the term "Time of

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Concentration" is badly used if taken too literally.

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comment