## Supplement of

# Predicting probabilities of streamflow intermittency across a temperate mesoscale catchment

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#### 10 S1 Soil maps

Spatial information on soils is obtained from homogenized soil maps of Luxembourg and Belgium (Table S1). Available data includes information on soil texture, drainage behaviour and soil profile (Table S2). Soil texture in the initial data source was grouped into different texture sets (*j*, Table 3) each holding up to 6 different texture classes. Values of saturated hydraulic

15 conductivity ( $K_s$ ) and field capacity ( $\theta_a$ ) were derived by pedotransfer functions from Carsel and Parrish (1988) for each texture class. Average  $K_s$  and  $\theta_a$  were calculated as  $\overline{K}_{s,j}$  and  $\overline{\theta}_{a,j}$  for each set of texture classes (*j*). The drainage information comprises 4 different classes including the categories "very well drained", "well drained", "moderately drained" and "poorly drained".

A class specific  $K_s$  and  $\theta_a$  was assigned to each drainage class of a texture set. We used the maximum  $K_s$  of the matrix texture

20 within a texture set for the drainage class "very well drained" and the minimum Ks of the matrix texture for the drainage class "poorly drained". Accordingly we assigned the minimum  $\theta_a$  within a texture set to the "very well drained" drainage class and the maximum  $\theta_a$  within a set to the "poorly drained" drainage class. Classes Values of  $\overline{K}_{s,j}$  and  $\overline{\theta}_{a,j}$ . were assigned to the "moderate and imperfect" drainage subclass.  $K_s$  for the class of "well drained" were calculated for each matrix texture subclass from the maximum and the average of the subclass *j* as:

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$$(max(K_{s,j}) + K_{s,j})/2$$
 (6)

Hence, we calculated the  $\theta_a$  for "well drained" as the average of minimum  $\theta_a$  and the  $\bar{\theta}_{a,j}$  of a texture set:

$$(\min(\theta_{a,i}) + \bar{\theta}_{a,i})/2 \tag{7}$$

The profile class was included as a horizon-correction factor to adjust the values to the measured effective hydraulic conductivities. For the horizon-correction we assume that soils with B-horizon drain slightly better than soils with Bt-horizon

and therefore have assigned a higher effective hydraulic conductivity. This assumption is based on unpublished field measurements from the CAOS research group (Catchments as Organized Systems, see. e.g. Zehe et al., 2014) which revealed the differences between identical soil classes having either B horizons or Bt horizons. Although studies focusing on alteration of hydraulic conductivity with clay illuviation in Bt horizons are rare the assumption is supported by several studies (e.g.

- 5 Alletto et al., 2006; Coquet et al., 2005; Ferrer Julià et al., 2004; Lavkulich and Arocena, 2011). Based on the available soil data from the Attert catchment soils without B/Bt-horizon are assumed to have the poorest drainage and therefore a lower hydraulic conductivity (Table S2). Including the horizon correction and drainage classes the calculated hydraulic conductivity is able to represent the order of magnitude found from field measurements of the saturated hydraulic conductivities  $K_{s,ef}$  measured by the CAOS research group. Following the assumptions for the  $K_s$  we included slight correction factors for  $\theta_a$
- 10 accounting for the presence or absence of the B/Bt-horizons.

Values for all permutations of subclasses (Table S2) of  $K_s$  as well as of  $\theta_a$  were calculated and mapped in raster format using ArcGIS resulting in predictor maps for  $K_s$  and  $\theta_a$ . Catchment average values were calculated for  $K_s$  as well as for  $\theta_a$  using Eq. 3. Some of the calculated  $K_s$  class permutation could be validated with the 400 soil texture and  $K_{s,ef}$  data available from the CAOS research group and were well within the range of the validation data. However, the validation data for many classes

15 contained only a small number of measurements and thus show a high deviation of measured values.

 Country
 Scale
 Reference

 Belgium
 1:20,000
 Public Service of Wallonie, 2007

 Luxembourg
 1:25,000
 Wagener et al. 1971, 1972, 1975; Puraye et al., 1980, 1988, 1995, 1998

 1:50,000
 Vermeire, 1967

 1:100,000
 Wagener et al., 1969

Table S1: References for all soil maps that have been homogenized for the Attert basin.

Class	Sub- class/Set	Soil Textures within a set	$\overline{K}_{s,j}$ . [cm/d]	$ar{ heta}_{a,j}$ [mm]
Matrix	А	silty soils, textural classes silt, Silt	29.45	
Texture j		loam,silt clay loam	56.45	233
	G	gravelly soils with matrix textural class		
		silt,silt loam, loam, loam, clay loam, silt	79.40	198
		clay loam, sandy clay loam, sandy loam		
	L	sandy-loamy soils, textural classes sandy	140.60	180
		loam, loam, silt loam		
	S	loamy-sandy soils, textural classes loamy	825.12	54
		sand, sandy loam		
	U	clayey soils, textural classes sandy clay,	12.91	116
		clay, silty clay		
	V	peat soils	825.12	54
			Value sel	ection
Drainage	В	very well drained	$max(K_{s,j})$	$min(\theta_{a,j})$
	b	well drained	$(max(K_{s,j}) + \overline{K}_{s,j})/2$	$(min(\theta_{a,j}) + \bar{\theta}_{a,j})/2$
	D	moderately drained	$\overline{K}_{s,j}$	$ar{ heta}_{a,j}$
	Ι	poorly drained	$min(K_{s,j})$	$max(\theta_{a,j})$
			Horizon-Correction	
			Factor	Correction Factor
Profile	a	with Bt horizon	0.5	1.2
	b	with B horizon	1	1.0
	В	with either B and/or Bt horizons	0.75	1.1
	р	without B horizon	0.5	0.8

### Table S2: Soil classification of the homogenized soil map for the Attert basin. Classes have been joined from sources in Table S1.



Figure S1: The hydraulic conductivity map (a) was derived from the homogenized soil maps by the procedure described in this supplement. Soil sample sites from the CAOS (Catchment As Organized Systems) soil data base are also shown in (a). This data set comprises 400 sampling sites. The upslope area averages of the hydraulic conductivity are shown in (b).

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