

According to Beven 1979

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + C \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = C q_{\text{eff}}^{(x)}$$

where C is celerity (speed of propagation of disturbances)

Our equation derived from continuity and $V = V_0 \left(\frac{q}{q_{\text{ref}}}\right)^{\lambda_1} \left(\frac{A}{A_{\text{ref}}}\right)^{\lambda_2}$ where A is upstream basin area

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = \frac{V_0 \left(\frac{q}{q_{\text{ref}}}\right)^{\lambda_1} \left(\frac{A}{A_{\text{ref}}}\right)^{\lambda_2}}{(1 - \lambda_1) l} \left(q_{\text{int}} - Q + \sum Q_{\text{up}} \right)$$

Note that our equation integrates over the reach length ($\sim 500\text{m}$), but can be rewritten as

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = \frac{V_0 \left(\frac{q}{q_{\text{ref}}}\right)^{\lambda_1} \left(\frac{A}{A_{\text{ref}}}\right)^{\lambda_2}}{(1 - \lambda_1)} \left(\frac{[q_{\text{int}} + \sum Q_{\text{up}}] - Q}{l} \right)$$

the term in the parenthesis can be interpreted as $\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}$

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{V}{1 - \lambda_1}$$

* in our study $\lambda_1 = 0.3$ therefore $C = 1.43 V$