

# Synthetic unit hydrograph

## Example Problem

Use Snyder's method to develop a UH for the area of 100mi<sup>2</sup> described below. Sketch the appropriate shape. What duration rainfall does this correspond to?

$$C_t = 1.8, \quad L = 18\text{mi},$$

$$C_p = 0.6, \quad L_c = 10\text{mi}$$

### Calculate $t_p$

$$\begin{aligned} t_p &= C_t(LL_C)^{0.3} \\ &= 1.8(18 \cdot 10)^{0.3} \text{ hr}, \\ &= \mathbf{8.6 \text{ hr}} \end{aligned}$$

Since this is a small watershed,

$$\begin{aligned} T_b &\approx 4t_p = 4(8.6) \\ &= \mathbf{34.4 \text{ hr}} \end{aligned}$$

### Calculate $Q_p$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_p &= 640(c_p)(A)/t_p \\ &= 640(0.6)(100)/8.6 \\ &= \mathbf{4465 \text{ cfs}} \end{aligned}$$

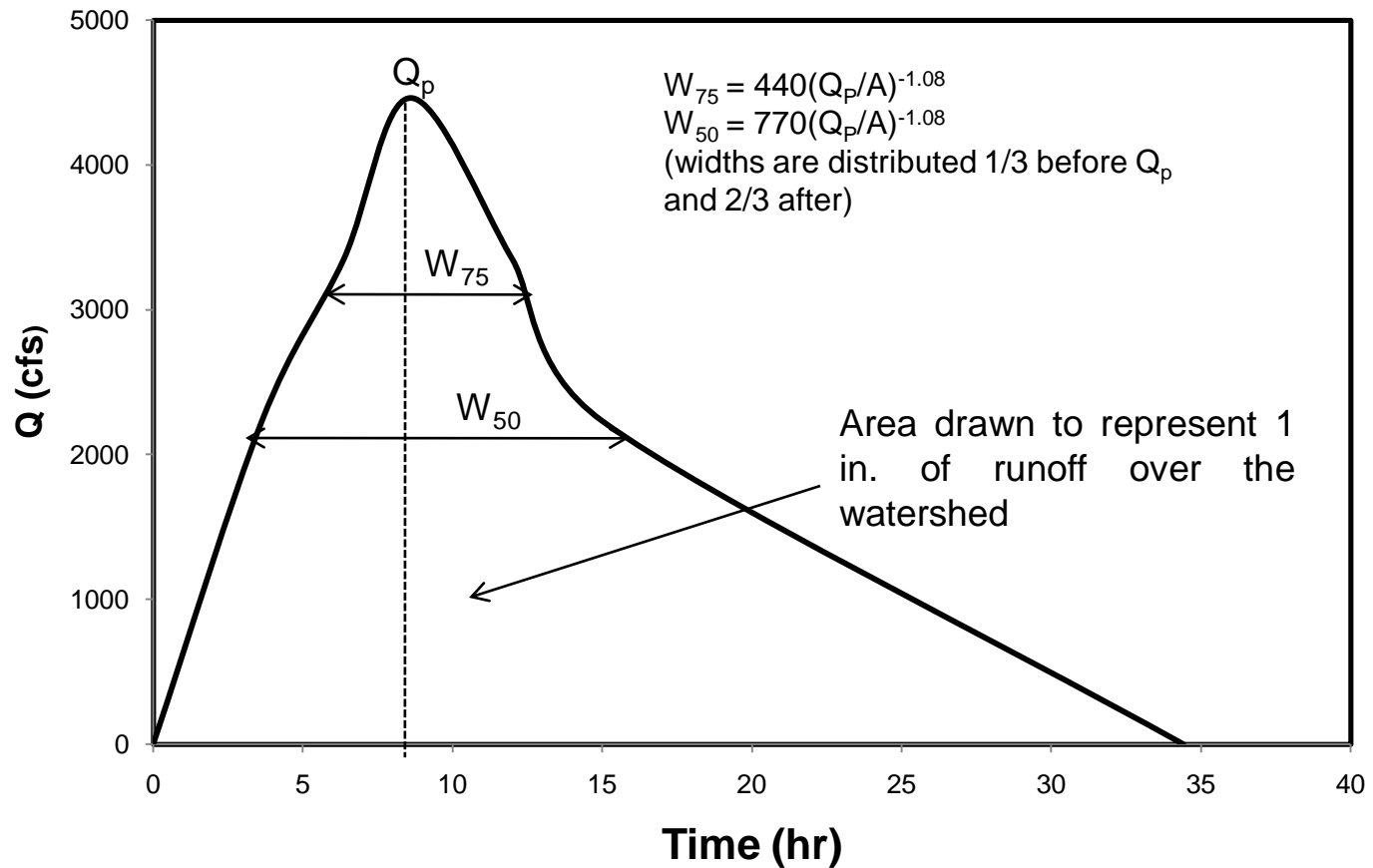
### Duration of rainfall

$$\begin{aligned} D &= t_p/5.5 \text{ hr} \\ &= 8.6/5.5 \text{ hr} \\ &= \mathbf{1.6 \text{ hr}} \end{aligned}$$

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## Example Problem

Contd...



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## Example Problem

Use the SCS method to develop a UH for the area of 10 mi<sup>2</sup> described below.  
Use rainfall duration of  $D = 2$  hr

$$C_t = 1.8, \quad L = 5 \text{ mi},$$

$$C_p = 0.6, \quad L_c = 2 \text{ mi}$$

The watershed consist CN = 78 and the average slope in the watershed is 100 ft/mi. Sketch the resulting SCS triangular hydrograph .

### Solution

Find  $t_p$  by the eq.

$$t_p = \frac{L^{0.8} \left( \frac{1000}{\text{CN}} - 9 \right)^{0.7}}{19000y^{0.5}}$$

Convert  $L = 5 \text{ mi}$ , or  $(5 * 5280 \text{ ft/mi}) = 26400 \text{ ft}$ .

Slope is 100 ft/mi, so  $y = (100 \text{ ft/mi}) (1 \text{ mi}/5280 \text{ ft})(100\%) = 1.9\%$

Substituting these values in eq. of  $t_p$ , we get  $t_p = 3.36 \text{ hr}$

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Contd...

Find  $T_R$  using eq.

$$T_R = \frac{D}{2} + t_p$$

Given rainfall duration is 2 hr,  $T_R = 4.36$  hr, the rise of the hydrograph

Then find  $Q_p$  using the eq, given  $A = 10 \text{ mi}^2$

$$Q_p = \frac{484A}{T_R} . \text{ Hence } Q_p = 1.110 \text{ cfs}$$

To complete the graph, it is also necessary to know the time of fall B. The volume is known to be 1 in. of direct runoff over the watershed.

So,  $\text{Vol.} = (10 \text{ mi}^2) (5280 \text{ ft/mi})^2 (\text{ac}/43560 \text{ ft}^2) (1 \text{ in.}) = 6400 \text{ ac-in}$

Hence from eq.

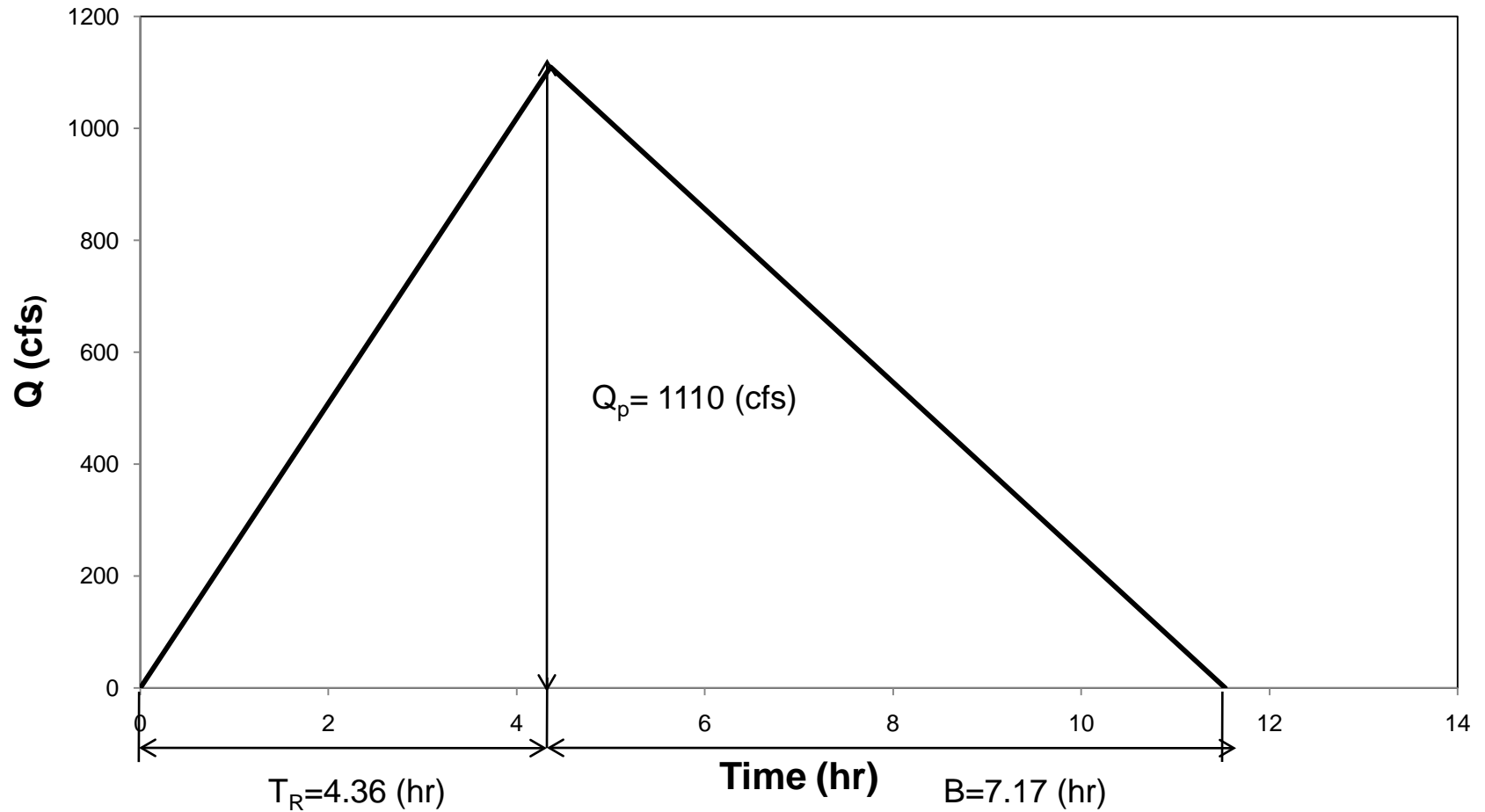
$$\text{Vol} = \frac{Q_p T_R}{2} + \frac{Q_p B}{2}$$

$$B = 7.17 \text{ hr}$$

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## Example Problem

Contd...



## Exercise problems

1. The stream flows due to three successive storms of 2.9, 4.9 and 3.9 cm of 6 hours duration each on a basin are given below. The area of the basin is  $118.8 \text{ km}^2$ . Assuming a constant base flow of 20 cumec, derive a 6-hour unit hydrograph for the basin. An average storm loss of 0.15 cm/hr can be assumed (Hint :- Use UH convolution method)

Time (hr)	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33
Flow (cumec)	20	50	92	140	199	202	204	144	84	45	29	20

## Exercise problems

Contd...

2. The ordinates of a 4-hour unit hydrograph for a particular basin are given below. Derive the ordinates of (i) the S-curve hydrograph, and (ii) the 2-hour unit hydrograph, and plot them, area of the basin is  $630 \text{ km}^2$

Time (hr)	Discharge (cumec)
0	0
2	25
4	100
6	160
8	190
10	170
12	110

Time (hr)	Discharge (cumec)
14	70
16	30
18	20
20	6
22	1.5
24	0

## Exercise problems

Contd...

3. The following are the ordinates of the 9-hour unit hydrograph for the entire catchment of the river Damodar up to Tenughat dam site: and the catchment characteristics are ,  $A = 4480 \text{ km}^2$ ,  $L = 318 \text{ km}$ ,  $L_{ca} = 198 \text{ km}$ . Derive a 3-hour unit hydrograph for the catchment area of river Damodar up to the head of Tenughat reservoir, given the catchment characteristics as,  $A = 3780 \text{ km}^2$ ,  $L = 284 \text{ km}$ ,  $L_{ca} = 184 \text{ km}$ . Use Snyder's approach with necessary modifications for the shape of the hydrograph.

Time (hr)	0	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
Flow (cumec)	0	69	1000	210	118	74	46	26	13	4	0