



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

**APPLICATION OF HUTVEC HYDROLOGICAL MODEL
TO TWO MALAYSIAN WATERSHEDS**

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APPLICATION OF HuTVeC HYDROLOGICAL MODEL
TO TWO MALAYSIAN WATERSHEDS

By

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Thesis Submitted in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Science in the Faculty of Engineering
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Dedicated to my parents, brother, sister and my wife, Suee In



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia
in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science

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HuTVeC, an acronym for **H**umid **T**ropical **V**egetation and **C**limate hydrological model was developed by Amjad Nabi in 1997. This model includes the plant leaf dependent parameters such as the leaf area index, light extinction coefficient, canopy storage coefficient, etc., which are controlled by the vegetation type. The output of this model are the daily evapotranspiration, canopy storage and streamflow.

The input data required for this model includes daily rainfall, minimum and maximum temperatures, minimum and maximum relative humidity and sunshine hours. Daily streamflow data is also required for model calibration and validation.



Application of HuTVeC model was carried out in a 66 square kilometre Trolak watershed using continuous five-year data from 1982 to 1986. For model application to a bigger watershed, Tanjung Malim watershed with watershed area of 186 square kilometres was selected using continuous five-year data from 1988 to 1992.

The results of the model application show that HuTVeC model underestimated the streamflow in both watersheds with up to 38.5 % underestimation for Trolak watershed and up to 50.8% underestimation for Tanjung Malim watershed. From the analyses, these underestimated streamflow were due to overstated canopy interception by up to 5% and overstated transpiration of up to 9%. Better results were obtained when the maximum rainfall was used in place of average rainfall in the watershed.

It is also found that if the ratio of modelled canopy interception to rainfall and the ratio of modelled transpiration to rainfall were maintained below 20% and 40% respectively, the modelled results were deemed acceptable.

The study also found that HuTVeC model is able to produce annual streamflow for planning purposes with more than 60% probability that the modelled annual flow and observed annual are having the same mean with good correlation between monthly modelled flow and observed flow.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia
sebagai memenuhi keperluan Ijazah Master Sains

**APLIKASI MODEL HIDROLOGI HuTVeC
PADA DUA KAWASAN TADAHAN
DI MALAYSIA**

Oleh

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Februari 2000

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HuTVeC, singkatan untuk model hidrologi *Humid Tropical Vegetation and Climate* yang dibangunkan oleh Amjad Nabi in 1997. Model ini menggunakan parameter yang tertakluk kepada daun tumbuhan seperti indeks keluasan daun, angkali penghapusan cahaya, angkali simpanan kanopi yang kesemuanya dikawal oleh jenis tumbuhan. Output keluaran model ini termasuklah sejatpemeluhan harian, simpanan kanopi harian dan aliran sungai harian.

Input yang diperlukan dalam model ini termasuklah hujan harian, suhu minimum dan maksimum harian, kelembapan relatif minimum dan maksimum harian serta

jangkamas pancaran matahari harian. Data aliran sungai harian juga diperlukan bagi tujuan pengujian dan kepastian model.

Aplikasi model HuTVeC dijalankan dalam dua kawasan tadahan iaitu kawasan tadahan Trolak dengan menggunakan data sebanyak lima tahun daripada 1982 ke 1986. Aplikasi model ini juga dijalankan dalam kawasan tadahan yang lebih besar saiznya, iaitu kawasan tadahan Tanjung Malim dengan menggunakan data 1988 ke 1992.

Keputusan aplikasi model menunjukkan anggaran model sentiasa lebih rendah daripada keadaan sebenar dalam kedua-dua kawasan takungan dengan kekurangan sebanyak 38.5% pada kawasan tadahan Trolak dan 50.8% pada kawasan tadahan Tanjung Malim. Keputusan model dianggap boleh diterima sekiranya nisbah pintasan kanopi kepada hujan dan nisbah transpirasi kepada hujan masing-masing dikekalkan di bawah 20% dan 40%.

Kajian ini juga mendapati bahawa model HuTVeC berupaya menjanakan kadar aliran sungai tahunan bagi kegunaan perancangan dengan kebarangkalian aliran tahunan janaan model dan aliran tahunan diperhatikan mempunyai purata yang sama melebihi 60% serta korelasi di antara aliran bulanan yang baik.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
DEDICATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
APPROVAL SHEETS	viii
DECLARATION FORM	x
LISTS OF TABLES	xiv
LISTS OF FIGURES	xv
LISTS OF ABBREVIATIONS	xix
CHAPTER	
I INTRODUCTION	1
Background	1
Hydrology	2
Hydrological Model	2
HuTVeC Hydrological Model	4
Statement of the Problem	5
Objectives	7
II LITERATURE REVIEW	8
Introduction	8
Hydrological Model	8
Using Hydrological Model in Malaysia	10
HuTVeC Hydrological Model	12
Sub-Model of HuTVeC Hydrological Model	15
Interception Sub-Model	15
Evapotranspiration Sub-Model	17
III METHODOLOGY	20
Study Area	20
Background	20
Trolak Watershed	22
Tanjung Malim Watershed	25



General Climatic Characteristic	30
Rainfall	30
Temperature	30
Relative Humidity	31
Solar Radiation	31
Data Selection and Model Application	31
Stations Recognition and Data Acquisition	32
Rainfall Data	32
Streamflow Data	33
Other Climatic and Meteorological Data	33
Data Screening	34
Initial Screening	34
Double Mass Analysis	34
Rainfall-Runoff Ratio and Watershed Water Balance	37
Accepted Data	38
Model Calibration	39
Model Application	40
Trolak Watershed	41
Tanjung Malim Watershed	42
Analysis of Results-Statistical Analysis	42
Research Hypotheses	43
Model Calibration	44
Model Application	45
Student t-test / Student T-distribution	46
Correlation Analysis	47
IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	50
Introduction	50
Model Calibration	50
Model Application to Trolak Watershed	53
Results of Initial Model Application	53
Results of Maximum Rainfall Input	62
Statistical Analysis – Initial Model Application	67
Statistical Analysis – Modified Model Application	68
Model Application to Tanjung Malim Watershed	69
Results of Initial Model Application	69
Results of Maximum Rainfall Input	77
Statistical Analysis – Initial Model Application	83
Statistical Analysis – Modified Model Application	85
Overall Model Performance	86



V	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	90
	Summary	90
	Conclusions	91
	Recommendations	93
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	95
	APPENDICES	99
	BIODATA OF AUTHOR	106



LISTS OF TABLES

Table	Page
3.1 Comparison of watershed characteristics	29
3.2 Water balance calculations for Trolak and Tanjung Malim watersheds .	37
3.3 Categorisation of model application results	48
4.1 Model calibration results	52
4.2 Results of model application to Trolak watershed	54
4.3 Results of modified model application to Trolak watershed	62
4.4 Statistical analysis of modelling results for Trolak watershed	67
4.5 Statistical analysis of modified modelling results for Trolak watershed .	69
4.6 Results of model application to Tanjung Malim watershed	70
4.7 Results of modified model application to Tanjung Malim watershed	77
4.8 Statistical analysis of modelling results for Tanjung Malim watershed ..	83
4.9 Statistical analysis of modified modelling results for Tanjung Malim watershed	85



LISTS OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
2.1 Flow chart of a typical continuous, deterministic hydrological model ..	10
2.2 Schematic diagram of HuTVeC Hydrological Model	14
2.3 Relationship between depth of rainfall, interception storage and net rainfall with respect to time	17
3.1 Location plan of study areas	21
3.2 Elevation classes of Trolak watershed	23
3.3 River system and location of rainfall and streamflow stations for Trolak watershed	24
3.4 Elevation classes of Tanjung Malim watershed	27
3.5 River system and location of rainfall and streamflow stations for Tanjung Malim watershed	28
3.6 Double mass curves for Trolak watershed	36
3.7 Double mass curves for Tanjung Malim watershed	36
4.1 Model calibration – comparison of daily streamflow hydrographs between observed, lumped model and distributed model of Trolak watershed for 1993	51
4.2 Model calibration – comparison of mass curves between observed, lumped model and distributed model of Trolak watershed for 1993	51
4.3 Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1982	55
4.4 Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1982	55



4.5	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1983	56
4.6	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1983	56
4.7	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1984	57
4.8	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1984	57
4.9	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1985	58
4.10	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1985	58
4.11	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1986	59
4.12	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1986	59
4.13	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1984 using maximum rainfall	63
4.14	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1984 using maximum rainfall	63
4.15	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1985 using maximum rainfall	64
4.16	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1985 using maximum rainfall	64
4.17	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Trolak watershed for year 1986 using maximum rainfall	65
4.18	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Trolak watershed for year 1986 using maximum rainfall	65



4.19	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1988	71
4.20	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1988	71
4.21	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1989	72
4.22	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1989	72
4.23	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1990	73
4.24	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1990	73
4.25	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1991	74
4.26	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1991	74
4.27	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1992	75
4.28	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1992	75
4.29	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1989 using maximum rainfall	78
4.30	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1989 using maximum rainfall	78
4.31	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1990 using maximum rainfall	79



4.32	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1990 using maximum rainfall	79
4.33	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1991	80
4.34	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1991	80
4.35	Comparison of daily modelled and observed streamflow hydrographs of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1992 using maximum rainfall	81
4.36	Mass curves of rainfall, modelled flow and observed flow of Tanjung Malim watershed for year 1992 using maximum rainfall	81



LISTS OF ABBREVIATIONS

%	percentage
γ	psychrometric constant
λ	latent heat of vaporisation
μ	populations mean
ρ	correlation coefficient
σ	population standard deviation
σ^2	population variance
\bar{X}	sample mean
S	sample standard deviation
S^2	sample variance
t	probability of Student t-test
U	Theil's coefficient
ET_a	actual evapotranspiration
ASCE	American Association of Civil Engineers
BASF	baseflow or groundwater flow
BFC	routing coefficient for groundwater reservoir
BLAI	base leaf area index
CCMX	maximum canopy conductance
CNMX	maximum canopy storage depth
CNSC	canopy storage depth
CSCF	rainfall interception storage coefficient
DAYL	day length
EVCN	evaporation from canopy
EXT	light extinction coefficient
GWS	groundwater storage
H	mean daily relative humidity
HuTVeC Model	Humid Tropical Vegetation and Climate Hydrological Model
INFL	infiltration
JPS	Department of Irrigation and Drainage (Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran)
LAFC	leaf area adjusting factor
LAI	leaf area index
m	meter
mm	millimetre
Mo.	modelled results
MMS	Malaysian Meteorological Services
MSAE	Malaysian Society of Agricultural Engineers
NRAN	net rainfall



Ob.	observed streamflow
R	sunshine hour
r_a	aerodynamic resistance
RAN	rainfall
r_c	resistance to water vapours
REMX	maximum available soil moisture capacity of recharge zone
Sg.	Sungai / river
sq. km	square kilometres
SRO	surface runoff
SUBF	subsurface flow
T	mean daily temperature
TRANS	transpiration
UPM	Universiti Putra Malaysia

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Background

Malaysia is rapidly developing, converting from an agricultural based nation to an industrial nation. With the developments, water resources become an important raw material that every sector is competing for. However, being an agricultural based nation, the government has set a 65% self-sufficient rice production and hence the required water for paddy irrigation should be made available at all time.

The water resources engineers are placed in a tight situation to allocate water with correct quantity and quality at the right time to the right users. This results in a growing demand for information related to the availability and spatial distribution of water resources. Besides that, the ability to predict or generate artificial flow sequences are important for use in rationalising decisions regarding the irrigation requirements, effects of climate changes, effects of land use changes, water supplies, flood control measures and the effects of natural or induced watershed.

Hydrology

Hydrology is an earth science, which encompasses the occurrence, distribution, movement, and properties of water of the earth and their environmental relations. The hydrological cycle on the other hand is a continuous process by which water is transported from the ocean to the atmosphere then to the land and back to the sea with many sub-cycles namely, the evaporation of inland water, precipitation over land, plants transpiration, ground water flow, etc.

Hydrological Model

Hydrological models are the mathematical models that are designed and set up to simulate the hydrological processes in a watershed. Simulation is defined as the mathematical description of the response of a hydrological cycle to a series of events during a selected time period. For example, simulation can mean calculating daily, monthly, seasonal or annual streamflow based on rainfall; or computing the discharge hydrograph resulting from a known or hypothetical storm; or filling in the missing values in a streamflow record.

Hydrological model can be used as a planning tool in large-scale applications such as for metropolitan master plans. Models for such system must be as simple and as flexible as possible. Data processing for planning applications is often a much more

important practical consideration than the level of sophistication of hydrological process modelling.

Hydrological models can be classified as descriptive and conceptual models. The former have the greatest applications and are of particular interest to practising hydrologists because they are designed to account for observed phenomena through empiricism and the use of basic fundamentals such as continuity assumptions. Conceptual models, on the other hand, rely heavily on theory to interpret the phenomena rather than to represent the physical process. Examples of such model are those based on probability theory.

Descriptive models that use deterministic methods to model the hydrologic behaviour of a watershed have become popular. Deterministic simulation describes the behaviour of the hydrologic cycle in terms of mathematical relations outlining the interactions of various phases of the hydrologic cycle. Frequently, the models are structured to simulate streamflow from a given rainfall amounts within the watershed boundaries.

Hydrological models are calibrated by comparing results of the simulation with existing records. Once the model is adjusted to fit the known period of data, additional period of streamflow can be generated.

The hydrological models that ignore spatial variation in parameters throughout an entire system are classified as lumped parameter models whereas the distributed parameter models account for behaviour variations from point to point throughout the system.

HuTVeC Hydrological Model

The HuTVeC hydrological model is an acronym for **H**umid **T**ropical **V**egetation and **C**limate hydrological model (Amjad Nabi, 1997). It is a deterministic, distributed and physically based hydrological model developed to check the climate change effects on streamflow for the humid tropical countries like Malaysia.

Taking into consideration the effects of land use and climate conditions to a watershed's hydrology, this model uses the rainfall abstraction concept and include three sub-models namely: i) the interception storage sub-model; ii) the evapotranspiration sub-model; and iii) streamflow sub-model.

Since HuTVeC model was designed to simulate the effects of climate changes on watershed streamflow, daily hydrological and meteorological data are among the input requirements of the model. Input data include: i) the daily rainfall data; ii) daily minimum and maximum temperature; iii) daily sunshine hours with empirical constants a and b that convert sunshine hours to short wave radiation; iv) daily