

**HYDROLOGICAL MODELLING USING HEC-
HMS FOR KUANTAN RIVER BASIN**

**AHMAD AMIRUDDIN BIN MOHAMMAD
SHABRI**

B. ENG (HONS.) CIVIL ENGINEERING

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG



SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that I have checked this thesis and in my opinion, this thesis is adequate in terms of scope and quality for the award of the degree of Bachelor (Hons.) of Civil Engineering.

(Supervisor's Signature)

Full Name : MDM. NOOR SURAYA BINTI ROMALI

Position : LECTURER

Date : 25 JUNE 2018

(Co-supervisor's Signature)

Full Name :

Position :

Date :



STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at University Malaysia Pahang or any other institutions.

(Student's Signature)

Full Name : AHMAD AMIRUDDIN BIN MOHAMMAD SHABRI

ID Number : AA14068

Date : 25 JUNE 2018

HYDROLOGICAL MODELLING USING HEC-HMS FOR KUANTAN RIVER
BASIN

AHMAD AMIRUDDIN BIN MOHAMMAD SHABRI

Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements
for the award of the Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering

Faculty of Civil Engineering and Earth Resources

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

JUNE 2018

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In the name of Allah s.w.t The Most Gracious and Merciful.

First of all, I want to send my thankful to Allah for giving me pink of health, strength, patience and keep giving me determination to finish this study.

I want to thank my parents, Mr. Mohammad Shabri Bin Ramli and Mrs. Sharimah Binti Shaari for keep supporting me and giving me endlessly motivation in order to complete the degree in University Malaysia Pahang. In addition, I am also want to say thank to my siblings, Nor Amanina, Ahmad Shahir and Nor Izzati whereby who keep encouraging me.

Next, to my supervisor, Madam Noor Suraya Binti Romali, I want to give a thousand thanks for giving me all of the knowledge, understanding, providing me a lot of ideas and also for helping me to finish this study. Your contribution in leading me to success this project is really appreciated.

Lastly, not to forget, housemates, classmates and my lectures from faculty of civil engineering and earth resources, I would like to thank the people who willingly to involve in my study. May Allah s.w.t give you all a lot of blessings.

ABSTRACT

Unusual heavy rain that happens during Northeast monsoon between November to March may lead severe flood to the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia, including Kuantan River. This phenomenon gives a great impact to human being, can cause major damage to properties and may reduce the quality of human health. Hence, an attempt has been made to mitigate the impact of flooding using modelling approach. The application of Hydrologic Engineering Centre Hydrology Modelling System (HEC-HMS) software was used to estimate the flow hydrograph of Kuantan River Basin. The objectives are to develop a calibrated and validated rainfall-runoff model for Kuantan River Basin using HEC-HMS and to predict the peak flow and produce hydrograph for 2012 Kuantan flood event. The model was calibrated and validated using historical observed data that were taken from Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID). Event dated 04th September 2010 to 09th September 2010 was used in model calibration and two events dated 01st September 2010 to 06th September 2010 and 22nd February 2011 to 27th February 2011 respectively were used for validation process. Clark UH method was used to transform excess rainfall, whereby SCS Curve Number method was applied for calculating the losses and for estimating base flow, Constant Monthly method was used. Nash-Sutcliffe model efficiency was used to verify the model calibration and validation. The model efficiency for calibrated and validated model is 0.81 and 0.80 and 0.70 respectively, which is acceptable.

ABSTRAK

Hujan lebat yang tidak normal terjadi semasa Monsun Timur Laut diantara bulan November dan Mac boleh mengakibatkan banjir teruk di kawasan Pantai Timur Semenanjung Malaysia termasuk Sungai Kuantan. Fenomena ini akan memberi impak besar kepada kehidupan manusia, mengakibatkan kerosakan besar kepada harta benda dan akan mengurangkan kualiti kesihatan manusia. Oleh itu, satu kajian telah dijalankan untuk mengelakkan kerosakan yang disebabkan oleh banjir menggunakan pendekatan pemodelan. Aplikasi perisian Hydrologic Engineering Centre Hydrology Modeling System (HEC-HMS) telah digunakan untuk menganggarkan aliran hidograf untuk lembangan Sungai Kuantan. Objektifnya adalah untuk menghasilkan model hujan-air larian yang ditentukan dan disahkan untuk lembangan Sungai Kuantan menggunakan HEC-HMS dan untuk menjangkakan aliran kemuncak dan menghasilkan hidograf untuk peristiwa banjir di Kuantan pada tahun 2012. Model ini telah ditentukan dan disahkan menggunakan data yang diambil daripada Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran (JPS). Peristiwa bertarikh 04 September 2010 hingga 09 September 2010 digunakan dalam proses penentuan dan dua peristiwa bertarikh 01 September 2010 hingga 06 September 2010 dan 22 Februari 2011 hingga 27 Februari 2011 masing-masing telah digunakan untuk proses pengesahan. Kaedah Clark telah diguna pakai untuk mengubah lebihan hujan, dan kaedah SCS Curve Number telah dipakai untuk mengira kehilangan dan untuk menganggar aliran asas, kaedah Constant Monthly telah digunakan. Kecekapan model untuk model penuntukur ialah 0.81 manakala kecekapan model pengesahan ialah 0.80 dan 0.71 dimana kesemua nilai adalah diterima.

TABLE OF CONTENT

DECLARATION	
TITLE PAGE	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	iv
TABLE OF CONTENT	v
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	x
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of Study	1
1.2 Problem Statement	2
1.3 Objectives	2
1.4 Scope of Study	2
1.5 Significant of Study	3
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	4
2.1 Introduction	4
2.2 Hydrological Cycle	5
2.3 Watershed	6
2.4 Rainfall-runoff Relationship	7

2.4.1	Hydrograph	8
2.5	Rainfall	9
2.6	Runoff	10
2.6.1	Types of Runoff	11
2.6.2	Factor Affecting Runoff	12
2.6.2.1	Size, Shape and Slope	12
2.6.2.2	Land Use	13
2.6.2.3	Elevation of The Basin	13
2.7	Runoff Estimation	14
2.7.1	Rational Method	14
2.7.2	Time Area Method	14
2.7.3	Unit Hydrograph Method	15
2.8	Hydrological Simulation Model	16
2.8.1	MIKE SHE	16
2.8.2	Regional Storm Water Model (RSWM)	17
2.8.3	HEC-HMS	18
2.8.3.1	Hydrological Components	18
2.8.3.2	Losses Method	20
2.8.3.3	Transform Method	22
2.8.3.4	Base Flow Method	26
2.9	Model Accuracy	26
2.9.1	Coefficient of Determination (r^2)	26
2.9.2	Nash-Sutcliffe efficiency (E)	27

2.9.3	Index of Agreement (d)	28
2.9.4	Percent Bias (PBIAS)	28
2.9.5	RMSE-Observation and Standard Deviation Ratio (RSR)	29
CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY		31
3.1	Introduction	31
3.2	Study Area	33
3.3	Data Collection	33
3.4	HEC-HMS Modelling	34
3.4.1	Basin Modelling	35
3.4.2	Meteorologic Modelling	35
3.4.3	Control Specifications	35
3.4.4	Time Series Data	35
3.5	HEC-HMS Model Set-up	35
3.6	Model Simulation	37
3.6.1	Model Calibration	37
3.6.2	Model Verification	37
3.7	Model Accuracy	38
3.7.1	Nash–Sutcliffe Model Efficiency Coefficient	38
CHAPTER 4 RESULT AND DISCUSSION		39
4.1	Introduction	39
4.2	Basin Model	39
4.3	Rainfall-runoff Relationship Analysis	40
4.4	Analysis and Simulation	42

4.4.1	Model Parameters	42
4.4.1.1	Losses Method	43
4.4.1.2	Transform Method	43
4.4.1.3	Base Flow Method	43
4.5	Calibration	43
4.6	Validation	45
4.7	Model Efficiency	47
4.8	Kuantan Flood Event	47
CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION		50
5.1	Introduction	50
5.2	Conclusion	50
5.3	Recommendation	51
REFERENCES		52
APPENDIX A MODEL EFFICIENCY		55

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1	Rainfall and stream flow station for hydrological modelling	34
Table 3.2	Element parameters and methods set-up in HEC-HMS model	36
Table 4.1	Selected Events	40
Table 4.2	Parameter value of SCS Curve Number	43
Table 4.3	Parameter value of Clark UH	43
Table 4.4	Model efficiency calculation for calibration and validation	47
Table 4.5	Tested model parameter for 201 Kuantan Flood Event	48

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1	The situation of Kuantan Town on 24 th December 2012	5
Figure 2.2	Hydrological cycle	6
Figure 2.3	The relationship between rainfall, infiltration and runoff	7
Figure 2.4	Hydrograph	9
Figure 2.5	Types of surface runoff	11
Figure 2.6	Unit Hydrograph	15
Figure 2.7	Schematic representation of the conceptual components in MIKE SHE	17
Figure 3.1	The flow chart of study methodology	32
Figure 3.2	Map of Kuantan River Basin	33
Figure 3.3	Bukit Kenau Station	34
Figure 3.4	SCS Curve Number editor	36
Figure 3.5	Clark UH editor	36
Figure 3.6	Constant Monthly editor	37
Figure 4.1	Conceptual of hydrological model at Kuantan River	40
Figure 4.2	Observed rainfall and stream flow data for 04 th September to 09 th September 2010	41
Figure 4.3	Observed rainfall and stream flow data for 01 st September to 06 th September 2010	41
Figure 4.4	Observed Rainfall and stream flow data for 22 nd February to 27 th February 2011	42
Figure 4.5	Observed and calibrated hydrograph for 04 th September to 09 th September 2010	44
Figure 4.6	Calibration result summary for 04 th September to 09 th September 2010	44
Figure 4.7	Observed and validated hydrograph for 01 st September to 06 th September 2010	45
Figure 4.8	Validation result summary for 01 st September to 06 th September 2010	45
Figure 4.9	Observed and validated hydrograph for 22 nd February to 27 th February 2011	46
Figure 4.10	Validation result summary for 22 nd February to 27 th February 2011	46
Figure 4.11	Hydrograph for 2012 Kuantan flood event	49
Figure 4.12	Result summary for 2012 Kuantan flood event	49

LIST OF SYMBOLS

S	Potential maximum retention after runoff starts
I_a	Initial abstraction
T_c	Time of concentration
R	Storage coefficient
A	Catchment area
L	Main stream length
T_{lag}	Snyder's standard lag
S_i	Incremental slope
N	Manning value
L_{ca}	Distance along the main water course from the gauging station to a point opposite the watershed centroid
C_t	Regional constant representing watershed slope and storage effects
Q_{ps}	Peak discharge
C_p	Regional constant, depending on the characteristic of the region
Q_{oi}	Observed flow at time
Q_{si}	Simulated flow at time
Q_A	Average observed flow
Q_j	Flow hydrograph ordinates
i_j	Rainfall excess hyetograph ordinates
A_j	Time area ordinates
j	Number of isochrone contributing to the outlet
m^3/s	Meter cube per second
mm	Milimeter
hr	Hour
i	Rainfall intensity
km	Kilometer
km^2	Kilometer square
r^2	Coefficient of determination
d	Index of agreement
Σ	Summation

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DID	Department of Irrigation Drainage
GIS	Geographic Information System
HEC-HMS	Hydrologic Engineering Centre - Hydrologic Modelling System
UH	Unit Hydrograph
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
CN	Curve Number
RSWM	Regional Storm Water Model
SMA	Soil Moisture Accounting
EI	Efficiency Index
ME	Model Efficiency
E	Nash-Sutcliffe Model Efficiency
RMSE	Root Mean Square Error
PBIAS	Percent BIAS
RSR	RMSE-Observation and Standard Deviation Ratio
STDEV	Standard Deviation

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

There are two types of flooding, which is flash floods and monsoon flooding (DID, 2000). In terms of hydrology, the main difference between the two flood categories is the time taken to release the level to return to normal levels of peak flood relief. Flash floods take a couple of hours to return to normal levels of expression compared to monsoon floods that take up to a month to get down to normal levels (Mohamad et al., 2012). Normally, if it is associated with the flood, people will relate the flooding occurred due to heavy rain which was not stop during the long period of time. For example, the floods occur on the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia, during the Northeast monsoon wind due to the unusual heavy rain.

The occurring floods may cause serious impacts and damages to people and also to the properties in flood prone areas. Flood mitigation is applied to reduce the risk from flooding. Traditionally, mitigation is divided into structural and non-structural measures. Structural measures such as dams, levees and flood walls can change the flood characteristics and reduce the probability of flood in the location of interest. Meanwhile, non-structural measures such as risk mapping, hazard forecasting, and flood modelling alter the impact of flooding but have no effect on flood characteristics (Minea et al., 2011).

Flood warning system and hydrological and hydraulic modelling is the examples of non-structural measures. The advantage of the flood warning system is to identify the amount of time available for residents to implement emergency measures to protect valuables or to evacuate the area during serious flood event, while the hydrological modelling is used for stream flow forecast. The application of non-structural mitigation

measures has been given more attention nowadays. Thus, a study on flood modelling is compelling as an effort to minimise the impact of flooding and as a reference in the future.

1.2 Problem Statement

Flooding problem faced in Sungai Kuantan was very worrying. This problem happened because Pahang is one of the states that related to the effects of the Northeast Monsoon which occurs from November to March every year (D/iya et al., 2014). On December 2012, Pahang was involved in a major flood, which affecting more than 10,000 people and caused serious effect to the traffic congestion including the Kuantan city (The Star Online, 2012). During the flood, more than 300 residents from several areas in Kuantan had to be evacuated to a few relief centres.

Efforts have to be done to mitigate and minimised the impact of flooding. Nowadays, non-structural flood mitigation measures are the preferable options compared to the structural measures. Therefore, an attempt has been made to perform a hydrological modelling study at Sungai Kuantan to predict the flood discharge during the 2012 flood event. The 2012 flood hydrograph will later be used in the future flood modelling works as the input to hydraulic model.

1.3 Objectives

The main objectives of this study are:

- i) To develop a calibrated and validated rainfall-runoff model for Kuantan River Basin using HEC-HMS.
- ii) To predict peak flow and produce hydrograph for 2012 Kuantan flood event.

1.4 Scope of Study

The selected study area is Sungai Kuantan which is roughly 93.44 km in length and covers about 1679 km² area. But, the study analysis only covered 430 km² and 36.2 km river length. The area of 430 km² is not including the area for Chereh Dam, which is

152 km² in overall because the construction of the dam was finished in July 2008. Some sets of storms events use in this study are after the Chereh Dam was constructed, so it was necessary to use 430 km² for the area.

The scope includes the river basin network that was established by using the Arc GIS software and the analysis was performed using HEC-HMS model. Besides that, the rainfall data and stream flow data from the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) from year 2008 until 2012 was used. This study developed a calibrated and validated hydrological model to predict the peak discharge of 2012 Kuantan flood.

1.5 Significant of Study

The developed rainfall-runoff model for Sungai Kuantan can be a guideline to improve the drainage system for river basin and human activities can be controlled to prevent flood. In addition, it is important to know the stream flow data and runoff capacity to estimate the potential of flood during raining time. The hydrological model can be used for the design of drainage of basin based on the hydrological pattern. The output hydrograph is useful for further flood modelling studies of Kuantan River Basin.

REFERENCES

- Abustan, I., Sulaiman, A. H., Wahid, N. A., & Baharudin, F. (2008). Determination of Rainfall-Runoff Characteristics in An Urban Area : Sungai Kerayong Catchment , Kuala Lumpur. *11th International Conference on Urban Drainage, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK*, pp. 1–10.
- BBC. (2014). Rivers - Hydrographs. Retrieved March 23, 2018, from <http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/education/int/geog/rivers/hydrographs/>
- Cunderlik, J. M. (2009). Calibration, verification, and sensitivity analysis of the HEC-HMS hydrologic model. *Assessment of Water Resources Risk and Vulnerability to Changing Climatic Conditions*, (August), pp. 1–10.
- D/iya, S. G., Gasim, M. B., Toriman, M. E., & Abdullahi, M. G. (2014). Floods in Malaysia: Historical Reviews, Causes, Effects and Mtigations Approach. *International Journal of Interdisciplinary Research and Innovations*, 2(4), pp. 59–65.
- DID. (2000), *Urban stormwater management manual for Malaysia*, Kuala Lumpur: Department of Irrigation and Drainage, Malaysia.
- DID. (2010), *Urban stormwater management manual for Malaysia*, Kuala Lumpur: Department of Irrigation and Drainage, Malaysia.
- DID. (2012), *Urban stormwater management manual for Malaysia*, Kuala Lumpur: Department of Irrigation and Drainage, Malaysia.
- Halwatura, D. & Najim, M. M. M. (2013). Application of the HEC-HMS model for runoff simulation in a tropical catchment. *Environmental Modelling and Software*, 46, pp. 155–162.
- Hasan, Z. A., Hamidon, N., & Suffian, D. M. (2009). Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) : Hydrologic Modelling Using HEC-HMS for Sungai Kurau Basin, Perak, 45(6), pp. 593–605.
- Kang, K., & Merwade, V. (2011). Development and application of a storage-release based distributed hydrologic model using GIS. *Journal of Hydrology*, 403(1–2), pp. 1–13.
- Krause, P., Boyle, D. P., & Bäse, F. (2005). Advances in Geosciences Comparison of different efficiency criteria for hydrological model assessment. *Advances in*

Geosciences, 5(89), pp. 89–97.

Linsley, R.K., Kohler, M.A., Paulhus, J.L., (1958). *Hydrology for Engineers*. McGraw-Hill, New York, pp. 151-155.

Minea, G., & Zaharia, L. (2011). Structural and Non-Structural Measures for Flood Risk Mitigation in the Bâsca River Catchment (Romania). *Forum Geografic*, X(1), pp. 157–166.

Mohamad, S., Hashim, N. M., Aiyub, K., & Toriman, M. E. (2012). Flash flood and community's response at Sg. Lembing, Pahang. *Advances in Natural and Applied Sciences*, 6(1), pp. 19–25.

Moriasi, D. N., Arnold, J. G., Van Liew, M. W., Bingner, R. L., Harmel, R. D., & Veith, T. L. (2007). Model Evaluation Guidelines for Systematic Quantification of Accuracy in Watershed Simulations. *Transactions of the ASABE*, 50(3), pp. 885–900.

Mrs Conrad. (2014). AS Hydrology. Retrieved March 23, 2018, from <https://kisialevelgeography.wordpress.com/as-hydrology/>

Nash, J. E., & Sutcliffe, J. V. (1970). River Flow Forecasting Through Conceptual Models Part I-a Discussion of Principles. *Journal of Hydrology*, 10, pp. 282–290.

Pearson K., 1896. Mathematical contributions to the theory of evolution. III. Regression, heredity, and panmixia. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society Ser. A* 187, pp. 253–318.

Ragunath, H. M. (2006). *Hydrology: Principles, Analysis and Design*. 2nd Edition. New Age International (P) Limited, Publisher.

Rahman, P. B. K., & Nasir, K. A. B. M. (2014). The Effect of Land Changes Towards in Sg . Pandan, pp. 328–343.

Rathod, P., Borse, K., & Manekar, V. L. (2015). Simulation of Rainfall - Runoff Process Using HEC-HMS (Case Study : Tapi River , India). *20th International Conference on Hydraulics, Water Resources and River Engineering*, pp. 17–19.

Razi, M. A., Ariffin, J., Tahir, W., & Arish, N. A. (2010). Flood Estimation Studies using Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS) for Johor River, Malaysia. *Journal of Applied Science*, 10(11), pp. 930-939.

- Sandu, M. A., & Virsta, A. (2015). Applicability of MIKE SHE to Simulate Hydrology in Argesel River Catchment. *Agriculture and Agricultural Science Procedia*, 6, pp. 517–524.
- Singh, J., Knapp, H. V., Arnold, J. G., & Demissie, M. (2005). Hydrological modeling of the Iroquois River watershed using HSPF and SWAT. *Journal of the American Water Resources Association*, 41(2), pp. 343–360.
- Snyder, F.F. (1938) Synthetic unit graphs. *Trans. Amer. Geophys. Un.* 19.
- Suhaila, J. & Jemain, A. A. (2007). Fitting Daily Rainfall Amount in Malaysia Using the Normal Transform Distribution. *Journal of Applied Science*, 7(14), pp. 1880-1886.
- Sulaiman, W. N. A., A, H., & Rosli, M. H. (2010). Identification of Flood Source Areas in Pahang Environment Asia. *Environment Asia*, (special issue), pp. 73–78.
- The Star Online. (2012). Kuantan hit by one of the worst floods in decades - Nation | The Star Online. Retrieved June 21, 2018, from <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2012/12/24/kuantan-hit-by-one-of-the-worst-floods-in-decades/>
- Township, R. (2007). A Regional Stormwater Management Plan For Pleasant Run And Holland Brook Watersheds. *Princeton Hydro, LLC*, pp. 4-6.
- Willmot, C. J. (1981): On the validation of models, *Physical Geography*, 2, pp. 184–194.