

**EXHIBIT**  
**"A"**

**SECTION 2 – DETERMINATION OF STORM RUNOFF**

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# Drainage Criteria Manual

## SECTION 2 - DETERMINATION OF STORM RUNOFF

### SECTION 2 - DETERMINATION OF STORM RUNOFF

#### 2.1.0 GENERAL

If continuous records of the amounts of runoff from urban areas were as readily available as records of precipitation, they would provide the best source of data on which to base the design of storm drainage and flood protection systems. Unfortunately, such records are available in very few areas in sufficient quantity to permit an accurate prediction of the stormwater runoff. The accepted practice, therefore, is to relate runoff to rainfall, thereby providing a means for predicting the amount of runoff to be expected from urban watersheds at given recurrence intervals.

Numerous methods of rainfall runoff computations are available on which the design of storm drainage systems may be based. The method chosen is dependent upon the Engineer's technical familiarity and the size of the area to be analyzed. ~~Within~~ For the method chosen the Engineer will be responsible for making reasonable assumptions as to the development characteristics of the study area.

#### 2.2.0 EFFECTS OF URBANIZATION

It has long been recognized that urban development has a pronounced effect on the rate of runoff from a given rainfall event. The hydraulic efficiency of a drainage area is generally ~~improved by~~ increased as a byproduct of urbanization which in effect reduces the storage capacity of a watershed. This reduction of a watershed's storage capacity is a direct result of the elimination of ~~porous pervious~~ surfaces, small ponds, and holding areas. This comes about by the grading and paving of building sites, streets, drives, parking lots, and sidewalks and by construction of buildings and other facilities characteristic of urban development. The result of the improved hydraulic efficiency is illustrated graphically in Figure 2-1 in Appendix B of this Manual, which is a plot of the runoff rate versus time for the same storm with two different stages of watershed development.

#### 2.2.1 Design Assumptions ~~For~~for Stormflow Analysis

- A. When analyzing an area for channel design purposes, urbanization of the full watershed without detention ponds shall be assumed (except as noted in paragraph E. below). Zoning maps, future land use maps, and master plans should be used as aids in establishing the anticipated surface character of the ultimate development. The selection of design runoff coefficients and/or percent impervious cover factors are explained in the following discussions of runoff calculation.
- B. An exception to paragraph A. above may be granted if the channel is immediately downstream of a regional detention pond and written approval is obtained from the City Engineer Director of the Utilities and Environmental Services Department (hereinafter, the "UES Director").

- C. In designing a storm sewer system within a residential subdivision, full development of adjoining and interior tracts without detention must be assumed.
- D. In designing a storm sewer system within a commercial or multifamily subdivision, ~~25-year~~ stormflows can, at the Engineer's discretion, reflect the flow reduction anticipated by future detention ponds. This applies exclusively to the flows generated by those properties contained within the subdivision. Provisions for conveyance of the 1% annual chance (100-year) undetained flows within the right-of-way or drainage easements still apply (See Section 1.2.2CB).
- E. In the event the Engineer desires to incorporate the flow reduction benefits of existing upstream detention ponds, the following field investigations and hydrologic analysis will be required: (Please note that under no circumstances will the previously approved construction plans of the upstream ponds suffice as an adequate analysis. While the responsibility of the individual site or subdivision plans rests with the Engineer of record, any subsequent engineering analysis must assure that all the incorporated ponds work collectively.)
  1. A field survey of the existing physical characteristics of both the outlet structure and ponding volume. Any departure from the original Engineer's design must be accounted for. If a dual use for the detention pond exists, (e.g., storage of equipment) then this too should be accounted for.
  2. A comprehensive hydrologic analysis which simulates the attenuation of the contributing area ponds. This should not be limited to a linear additive analysis but rather a network of hydrographs which considers incremental timing of discharge and potential coincidence of outlet peaks.

2-F. For new developments on undeveloped properties that are included within a preliminary plat approved by the City after December 31, 2004 and prior to September 1, 2020 for which drainage infrastructure has been comprehensively designed and constructed for the approved preliminary plat area, the Engineer of Record will be required to use the RAI<sub>n</sub> for on-site runoff conveyance design. For these cases, where the existing system(s) may not completely accommodate the proposed design runoff to the City drainage standards when calculated by the RAI<sub>n</sub>, the City may still administratively approve the design as long as adverse flooding is not caused for the subject site or other landowners. Adverse flooding in this context will refer to flooding that causes identifiable damage to buildings or vehicles, or that harms people.

### 2.3.0 METHOD OF ANALYSIS

Numerous methods of rainfall-runoff computation are available on which the design of storm drainage and flood control systems may be based. The Rational Method ~~and the Variable Rainfall Intensity Method are accepted~~ is acceptable as adequate for drainage areas totaling 100 acres or less; ~~however, its use may be more problematic for the Engineer when Times of Concentration exceed 15 minutes and/or when complex hydrologic routing is required.~~ For larger drainage ~~systems areas,~~ the ~~Austin Standard Method or the Soil Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) hydrologic methods (available in TR-20, HEC-1 or the Tabular/Graphical methods)~~ should be used. Alternate methods of analysis may be used, provided any such alternate method has been generally accepted within the engineering community, is properly justified, and is approved by the UES Director. The

method of analysis must remain consistent when drainage areas are combined and the method which applies to the largest combined drainage area should be used. ~~Table 2-1 is to be used as a guide in determining some of the applicable methods for calculating storm runoff. The Engineer can use other methods but must have their acceptability approved by the City Engineer.~~

<b>Table 2-1 Storm Runoff Calculation Methods</b>	
<b>Contributing Area</b>	<b>Runoff Methods</b>
<del>Less than 100 Acres</del>	<del>Rational or VRIM<sup>1</sup> SCS Tabular/Graphical<sup>2</sup></del>
<del>100 Acres-400 Acres</del>	<del>SCS Tabular/Graphical<sup>5</sup> TR-20, HEC-1 or HEC-HMS</del>
<del>Greater than 400 Acres</del>	<del>SCS TR-20, HEC-1 or HEC-HMS</del>
<del>1. VRIM, Variable Rainfall Intensity Method in Section 2.4.5                  2. SCS, Tabular/Graphical and TR-20 Methods in Section 2.6.4                  3. It is recommended that the hand-calculated SCS Tabular Method not be used for areas greater than four hundred (400) acres due to the rigorous nature of the calculations and likelihood of error</del>	
<del>Source: City of Austin, Watershed Engineering Division</del>	

#### 2.4.0 RATIONAL METHOD

The Rational Method is based on the direct relationship between rainfall and runoff, and is expressed by the following equation:

$$Q_p = CiA \tag{Eq. 2-1}$$

Where:

$Q_p$  is defined as the peak runoff in cubic feet per second. Actually,  $Q_p$  is in units of inches per hour per acre. Since this rate of in/hr/ac differs from cubic feet per second by less than one (1) percent (1 in/hr/ac = 1.008 cfs), the more common units of cfs are used.

C is the coefficient of runoff representing the ratio of peak runoff rate " $Q_p$ " to average rainfall intensity rate "i" for a specified area "A".

i is the average intensity of rainfall in inches per hour for a period of time equal to the time of concentration ( $t_c$ ) for the drainage area to the point under consideration.

A is the area in acres contributing runoff to the point of design.

The following basic assumptions are associated with the Rational Method:

- A. The storm duration is equal to the time of concentration.
- B. The computed peak rate of runoff ~~to~~ at the design point is a function of the average rainfall rate during the time of concentration ~~to~~ at that point.
- C. The return period or frequency of the computed peak flow is the same as that for the design storm.
- D. The necessary basin characteristics can be identified and the runoff coefficient does not vary during a storm.
- E. Rainfall intensity is constant during the storm duration and spatially uniform for the area under analysis.

#### **2.4.1 Runoff Coefficient (C)**

The proportion of the total rainfall that will reach the drainage system depends on the imperviousness of the surface and the slope and ponding characteristics of the area. Impervious surfaces, such as asphalt pavements and roofs of buildings, will be subject to approximately one hundred (100) percent runoff (regardless of the slope). On-site inspections and aerial photographs may prove valuable in estimating the nature of the surfaces within the drainage area.

The runoff coefficient "C" in the Rational Formula is also dependent on the character of the soil. The type and condition of the soil determines its ability to absorb precipitation. The rate at which a soil absorbs precipitation generally decreases as the rainfall continues for an extended period of time. The soil infiltration rate is influenced by the presence of soil moisture (antecedent precipitation), the rainfall intensity, the proximity of the ground water table, the degree of soil compaction, the porosity of the subsoil, and ground slopes.

It should be noted that the runoff coefficient "C" is the variable of the Rational Method which is least susceptible to precise determination. A reasonable coefficient must be chosen to represent the integrated effects of infiltration, detention storage, evaporation, retention, flow routing and interception, all of which affect the time distribution and peak rate of runoff.

[Table 2-2~~1~~](#) presents recommended ranges for "C" values based on specific land use types.

**TABLE 2- 1**  
**RATIONAL METHOD RUNOFF COEFFICIENTS FOR COMPOSITE ANALYSIS**  
**Runoff Coefficient (C)**

<u>Character of Surface</u>	<u>Return Period</u>						
	<u>2 Years</u>	<u>5 Years</u>	<u>10 Years</u>	<u>25 Years</u>	<u>50 Years</u>	<u>100 Years</u>	<u>500 Years</u>
<b><u>DEVELOPED</u></b>							
<u>Asphaltic</u>	<u>0.73</u>	<u>0.77</u>	<u>0.81</u>	<u>0.86</u>	<u>0.90</u>	<u>0.95</u>	<u>1.00</u>
<u>Concrete</u>	<u>0.75</u>	<u>0.80</u>	<u>0.83</u>	<u>0.88</u>	<u>0.92</u>	<u>0.97</u>	<u>1.00</u>
<u>Grass Areas</u> ( <u>Lawns, Parks, etc.</u> )							
<u>Poor Condition*</u>							
<u>Flat, 0-2%</u>	<u>0.32</u>	<u>0.34</u>	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.44</u>	<u>0.47</u>	<u>0.58</u>
<u>Average, 2-7%</u>	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.43</u>	<u>0.46</u>	<u>0.49</u>	<u>0.53</u>	<u>0.61</u>
<u>Steep, over 7%</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.43</u>	<u>0.45</u>	<u>0.49</u>	<u>0.52</u>	<u>0.55</u>	<u>0.62</u>
<u>Fair Condition**</u>							
<u>Flat, 0-2%</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.28</u>	<u>0.30</u>	<u>0.34</u>	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.41</u>	<u>0.53</u>
<u>Average, 2-7%</u>	<u>0.33</u>	<u>0.36</u>	<u>0.38</u>	<u>0.42</u>	<u>0.45</u>	<u>0.49</u>	<u>0.58</u>
<u>Steep, over 7%</u>	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.42</u>	<u>0.46</u>	<u>0.49</u>	<u>0.53</u>	<u>0.60</u>
<u>Good Condition***</u>							
<u>Flat, 0-2%</u>	<u>0.21</u>	<u>0.23</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.29</u>	<u>0.32</u>	<u>0.36</u>	<u>0.49</u>
<u>Average, 2-7%</u>	<u>0.29</u>	<u>0.32</u>	<u>0.35</u>	<u>0.39</u>	<u>0.42</u>	<u>0.46</u>	<u>0.56</u>
<u>Steep, over 7%</u>	<u>0.34</u>	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.44</u>	<u>0.47</u>	<u>0.51</u>	<u>0.58</u>
<b><u>UNDEVELOPED</u></b>							
<u>Cultivated</u>							
<u>Flat, 0-2%</u>	<u>0.31</u>	<u>0.34</u>	<u>0.36</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.43</u>	<u>0.47</u>	<u>0.57</u>
<u>Average, 2-7%</u>	<u>0.35</u>	<u>0.38</u>	<u>0.41</u>	<u>0.44</u>	<u>0.48</u>	<u>0.51</u>	<u>0.60</u>
<u>Steep, over 7%</u>	<u>0.39</u>	<u>0.42</u>	<u>0.44</u>	<u>0.48</u>	<u>0.51</u>	<u>0.54</u>	<u>0.61</u>

**TABLE 2- 1 (Continued)**  
**RATIONAL METHOD RUNOFF COEFFICIENTS FOR COMPOSITE ANALYSIS**  
**Runoff Coefficient (C)**

<u>Character of Surface</u>	<u>Return Period</u>						
	<u>2 Years</u>	<u>5 Years</u>	<u>10 Years</u>	<u>25 Years</u>	<u>50 Years</u>	<u>100 Years</u>	<u>500 Years</u>
<u>Pasture/Range</u>							
<u>Flat, 0-2%</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.28</u>	<u>0.30</u>	<u>0.34</u>	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.41</u>	<u>0.53</u>
<u>Average, 2-7%</u>	<u>0.33</u>	<u>0.36</u>	<u>0.38</u>	<u>0.42</u>	<u>0.45</u>	<u>0.49</u>	<u>0.58</u>
<u>Steep, over 7%</u>	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.42</u>	<u>0.46</u>	<u>0.49</u>	<u>0.53</u>	<u>0.60</u>
<u>Forest/Woodlands</u>							
<u>Flat, 0-7%</u>	<u>0.22</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.28</u>	<u>0.31</u>	<u>0.35</u>	<u>0.39</u>	<u>0.48</u>
<u>Average, 2-7%</u>	<u>0.31</u>	<u>0.34</u>	<u>0.36</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>0.43</u>	<u>0.47</u>	<u>0.56</u>
<u>Steep, over 7%</u>	<u>0.35</u>	<u>0.39</u>	<u>0.41</u>	<u>0.45</u>	<u>0.48</u>	<u>0.52</u>	<u>0.58</u>
<b><u>Assumptions:</u></b>							
<p>1. <u>Composite "C" value for developed conditions (C<sub>DEV</sub>) = IC<sub>1</sub> + (1-I)C<sub>2</sub> where:</u>  <u>I = Impervious cover percentage (decimal value)</u>  <u>C<sub>1</sub> = "C" value for impervious cover</u>  <u>C<sub>2</sub> = "C" value for pervious cover</u></p>							
<p>2. <u>Maximum allowable impervious cover values may be limited by land use type; refer to applicable City of Round Rock Zoning and/or Development Ordinances</u></p>							
<b><u>Notes</u></b>							
<p>* <u>Grass cover less than 50 percent of the area.</u>  ** <u>Grass cover on 50 to 75 percent of the area.</u>  *** <u>Grass cover greater than 75 percent of the area.</u></p>							
<u>Source: 1. Rossmiller, R.L. "The Rational Formula Revisited."</u>							

## 2.4.2 Time of Concentration

The time of concentration is the time associated with the travel of runoff from an outer point which best represents the shape of the contributing areas for surface runoff to flow from the most remote point in the watershed to the point of interest. This applies to the most remote point in time, not necessarily the most remote point in distance. Runoff from a drainage area usually reaches a peak at the time when the entire area is contributing, in which case the time of concentration is the time for a drop of water to flow from the most remote point in the watershed to the point of interest. However, runoff may reach a peak prior to the time the entire drainage area is contributing if the area is irregularly shaped or if the land use characteristics differ significantly within the area. Sound engineering judgment should be used to determine a flow path representative of the drainage area and in the subsequent calculation of the time of concentration. The time of concentration at any point in a storm drainage system is a combination of the sheet flow (overland), the shallow concentrated flow and the channel flow, which may include storm sewers drains. The minimum time of concentration for any drainage area shall be five (5) minutes. Additionally, the minimum slope used for calculation of sheet and shallow flow travel time components should be 0.005 feet per foot (0.5%). The preferred procedure for estimating time of concentration is the NRCS method as described in NRCS's Technical Release 55 (TR-55). This method is outlined below. The overall time of concentration is calculated as the sum of the sheet, shallow concentrated and channel flow travel times; note that there may be multiple shallow concentrated and/or channel segments depending on the nature of the flow path.

$$T_c = T_{t(\text{sheet})} + T_{t(\text{shallow concentrated})} + T_{t(\text{channel})} \quad (\text{Eq. 2-2})$$

- A. **Sheet Flow.** Sheet flow is shallow flow over land surfaces, which usually occurs in the headwaters of streams. The Engineer should realize that sheet flow occurs for only very relatively short distances, especially in urbanized conditions. Urbanized areas are assumed to have sheet flow of three hundred (300) feet or less. For undeveloped conditions, sheet flow distances shall not exceed 300 feet; and sheet flow distances in excess of 150 feet may be relatively rare. Sheet Flow travel time for undeveloped conditions shall be calculated based on the surface characteristics prior to development, including any pre-existing impervious cover. Sheet flow distances for developed/urbanized conditions shall not exceed 150 feet, and typically should not exceed 100 feet except where adequate justification has been provided by the Engineer. Sheet Flow travel time for developed conditions shall be calculated based on the anticipated surface characteristics of the contemplated development, and the expected and/or existing surface characteristics of any contributing areas outside of the contemplated development. In some heavily urbanized drainage areas, sheet flow may essentially be non-existent in the headwater area. The following equation 2-2 has been developed for sheet flow of less than three hundred (300) feet. The NRCS TR-55 method employs Equation 2-3, which is a modified form kinematic wave equation, for the calculation of the Sheet Flow travel time.

$$t_c = \ln / (42s^{0.5}) \quad T_{t(\text{sheet})} = 0.42(nL)^{0.8} / \{(P_2)^{0.5}(s)^{0.4}\} \quad (\text{Eq. 2-23})$$

where,



$t_c = T_{t(\text{sheet})}$  = Time of concentration Sheet Flow travel time in minutes

L = Length of the reach in ft.

n = Manning's n (see [Table 2-32](#))

$P_2$  = 2-year, 24-hour rainfall in inches (from RAI<sub>n</sub> as discussed in Section 2.4.3)

s = Slope of the ground in ft/ft

- B. **Shallow Concentrated Flow.** After a maximum length as discussed in A above, of three hundred (300) feet sheet flow becomes collects in swales, small rills, and gullies and develops into shallow concentrated flow. Typically, shallow concentrated flow is not within well-defined channels and will have depths of 0.1 to 0.5 feet. The portion of the total time of concentration for due to shallow concentrated flows can be computed from Equations 2-34 and 2-5, which is as follows: These two equations are based on the solution of Manning's Equation with different assumptions for n (Manning's roughness coefficient) and r (hydraulic radius, ft.). For unpaved areas, n is 0.05 and r is 0.4; for paved areas, n is 0.025 and r is 0.2.

$$t_c = \frac{Ln}{(60s^{0.5})} \text{ Unpaved } T_{t(\text{shallow concentrated})} = L/\{(60)(16.1345)(s)^{0.5}\} \quad (\text{Eq. 2-34})$$

$$\text{Paved } T_{t(\text{shallow concentrated})} = L/\{(60)(20.3282)(s)^{0.5}\} \quad (\text{Eq. 2-5})$$

where,

$t_c = T_{t(\text{shallow concentrated})}$  = Time of concentration Shallow Concentrated Flow travel time in minutes

L = Length of the reach in ft.

n = Manning's n (see Table 2-3)

s = Slope of the Shallow Concentrated Flow path ground in ft/ft

- C. **Channel or Storm Sewer Flow.** The velocity in an open channel or a storm sewer drain not flowing full can be determined by using Manning's Equation. Channel velocities can also be determined by using backwater profiles. Usually For open channel flow, average flow velocity is usually determined by assuming a bank-full condition. Note that the channel flow component of the time of concentration may need to be divided into multiple segments in order to represent significant changes in channel characteristics. The details of using Manning's equation and selecting Manning's "n" values for channels can be obtained from [Section 6](#) of this Manual.

For full flow storm sewer drain flow under pressure conditions (pressure flow hydraulic grade line is higher than the lowest crown of a storm drain) the following equation should be applied:

$$V = Q/A \quad (\text{Eq. 2-46})$$

Where:

V = Average velocity, ft/s

Q = Design discharge, cfs

A = Cross-sectional area, ft<sup>2</sup>

**TABLE 2-2**  
**MANNING'S "n" FOR SHEET**  
**(OVERLAND) FLOW**

<u>Manning's "n"<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Surface Description</u>
<u>0.015</u>	<u>Concrete (rough or smoothed finish)</u>
<u>0.016</u>	<u>Asphalt</u>
<u>0.05</u>	<u>Fallow (no residue)</u>
<b><u>Cultivated Soils:</u></b>	
<u>0.06</u>	<u>Residue Cover ≤ 20%</u>
<u>0.17</u>	<u>Residue Cover &gt; 20%</u>
<b><u>Grass:</u></b>	
<u>0.15</u>	<u>Short-grass prairie 100% vegetated ground cover with areas of heavy vegetation (parks, green- belts, riparian areas etc.) dense under- growth</u>
<u>0.24</u>	<u>Dense grasses<sup>2</sup></u>
<u>0.41</u>	<u>Bermudagrass</u>
<u>0.13</u>	<u>Range (natural)</u>
<b><u>Woods:<sup>3</sup></u></b>	
<u>0.40</u>	<u>Light underbrush</u>
<u>0.80</u>	<u>Dense underbrush</u>
<b><u>Notes</u></b>	
<u><sup>1</sup> The Manning's n values are a composite from information compiled by Engman (1986).</u>	
<u><sup>2</sup> Includes species such as weeping lovegrass, bluegrass, buffalo grass, blue grama grass, and native grass mixtures.</u>	
<u><sup>3</sup> When selecting n, consider cover to a height of about 0.1 ft. This is the only part of the plant cover that will obstruct sheet flow.</u>	
<u>Source: City of Austin, Watershed Engineering Division</u>	

**TABLE 2-2**  
**RATIONAL METHOD RUNOFF COEFFICIENTS FOR COMPOSITE ANALYSIS**  
**Runoff Coefficient (C)**

Character of Surface	Return Period						
	2 Years	5 Years	10 Years	25 Years	50 Years	100 Years	500 Years
<i>DEVELOPED</i>							
Asphaltic	0.73	0.77	0.81	0.86	0.90	0.95	1.00
Concrete	0.75	0.80	0.83	0.88	0.92	0.97	1.00
<i>Grass Areas (Lawns, Parks, etc.)</i>							
<u>Poor Condition*</u>							
Flat, 0-2%	0.32	0.34	0.37	0.40	0.44	0.47	0.58
Average, 2-7%	0.37	0.40	0.43	0.46	0.49	0.53	0.61
Steep, over 7%	0.40	0.43	0.45	0.49	0.52	0.55	0.62
<u>Fair Condition**</u>							
Flat, 0-2%	0.25	0.28	0.30	0.34	0.37	0.41	0.53
Average, 2-7%	0.33	0.36	0.38	0.42	0.45	0.49	0.58
Steep, over 7%	0.37	0.40	0.42	0.46	0.49	0.53	0.60
<u>Good Condition***</u>							
Flat, 0-2%	0.21	0.23	0.25	0.29	0.32	0.36	0.49
Average, 2-7%	0.29	0.32	0.35	0.39	0.42	0.46	0.56
Steep, over 7%	0.34	0.37	0.40	0.44	0.47	0.51	0.58
<i>UNDEVELOPED</i>							
<u>Cultivated</u>							
Flat, 0-2%	0.31	0.34	0.36	0.40	0.43	0.47	0.57
Average, 2-7%	0.35	0.38	0.41	0.44	0.48	0.51	0.60
Steep, over 7%	0.39	0.42	0.44	0.48	0.51	0.54	0.61

<b>TABLE 2-2 (Continued)</b>							
<b>RATIONAL METHOD RUNOFF COEFFICIENTS FOR COMPOSITE ANALYSIS</b>							
<b>Runoff Coefficient (C)</b>							
<b>Character of Surface</b>	<b>Return Period</b>						
	<b>2 Years</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>10 Years</b>	<b>25 Years</b>	<b>50 Years</b>	<b>100 Year</b>	<b>500 Years</b>
<u>Pasture/Range</u>							
Flat, 0-2%	0.25	0.28	0.30	0.34	0.37	0.41	0.53
Average, 2-7%	0.33	0.36	0.38	0.42	0.45	0.49	0.58
Steep, over 7%	0.37	0.40	0.42	0.46	0.49	0.53	0.60
<u>Forest/Woodlands</u>							
Flat, 0-7%	0.22	0.25	0.28	0.31	0.35	0.39	0.48
Average, 2-7%	0.31	0.34	0.36	0.40	0.43	0.47	0.56
Steep, over 7%	0.35	0.39	0.41	0.45	0.48	0.52	0.58
<p>* Grass cover less than 50 percent of the area.  ** Grass cover on 50 to 75 percent of the area.  *** Grass cover larger than 75 percent of the area.</p>							
<p>Source: 1. Rossmiller, R.L. "The Rational Formula Revisited."  2. City of Austin, Watershed Engineering Division</p>							

<b>TABLE 2-3 MANNING'S "n" FOR OVERLAND FLOW AND SHALLOW CONCENTRATED FLOW</b>	
<b>Manning's "n"</b>	<b>Condition</b>
0.016	Concrete (rough or smoothed finish)
0.02	Asphalt
0.1	0-50% vegetated ground cover, remaining bare soil or rock outcrops, minimum brush or tree cover
0.2	50-90% vegetated ground cover, remaining bare soil or rock outcrops, minimum medium brush or tree cover
0.3	100% vegetated ground cover, medium-dense grasses (lawns, grassy fields etc.) medium brush or tree cover
0.6	100% vegetated ground cover with areas of heavy vegetation (parks, green belts, riparian areas etc.) dense under-growth
Source: City of Austin, Watershed Engineering Division	

### 2.4.3 Rainfall Intensity (i)

Rainfall intensity (i) is the average rainfall rate in inches per ~~hour, and~~ hour and is selected on the basis of design rainfall duration and design frequency of occurrence. The design duration is equal to the time of concentration for the drainage area under consideration. The design frequency of occurrence is a statistical variable which is established by design standards or chosen by the Engineer as a design parameter.

The selection of the frequency criteria is necessary before applying any hydrologic method. Storm drainage improvements in Round Rock must be designed to intercept and carry the runoff from a 4% Annual Chance {twenty-five (25) year} frequency storm, with an auxiliary or overflow system capable of carrying a 1% Annual Chance {one hundred (100) year} frequency storm.

The rainfall intensity used in the ~~rRational mMethod~~ is read from the intensity-duration-frequency curves based on the selected design frequency and design duration. The Austin intensity-duration-frequency curves, developed in 1975, used rainfall data recorded at the Austin Station of the U.S. National Weather Service. This data includes a forty-five (45) year record of rainfall for most durations from five (5) minutes to twenty-four

(24) hours and a seventy-four (74) year record of rainfall for the twenty four (24) hour duration. shall be based on the design frequency selected, and design duration determined, by the Engineer, subject to the approval of the UES Director, and shall be determined from the City of Round Rock Rainfall Application Instructions (RAIn) for hydrologic designs and analyses, as issued and amended by the UES Director.

The precipitation values for different frequency storms and durations are given in Table 2-5. The Austin intensity-duration-frequency curves are shown in Figure 2-2 in Appendix B of this Manual.

<b>Table 2-4 Precipitation Values in Austin (Inches)</b>							
<b>Duration- (Minutes)</b>	<b>Return Period</b>						
	<b>2 Years</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>10 Years</b>	<b>25 Years</b>	<b>50 Years</b>	<b>100 Years</b>	<b>500 Years</b>
5	.54	.64	.72	.82	.91	.99	1.23
10	.90	1.08	1.21	1.40	1.56	1.70	2.14
15	1.15	1.40	1.58	1.84	2.05	2.25	2.86
30	1.62	2.03	2.31	2.73	3.06	3.38	4.38
60	2.07	2.69	3.10	3.72	4.19	4.66	6.16
120	2.45	3.32	3.90	4.74	5.39	6.03	8.11
180	2.64	3.68	4.37	5.36	6.11	6.87	9.32
Source: City of Austin, Watershed Engineering Division							

The following equation represents mathematically the Austin intensity-duration-frequency curves:

$$i = a / (t + b)^c \quad \text{--- (Eq. 2-5)}$$

Where,

$i$  = Average rainfall intensity, inches per hour

$t$  = Storm duration, minutes

$a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  = Coefficients for different storm frequencies

The values for  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are listed in Table 2-5:

<b>Table 2-5 Austin Intensity-Duration-Frequency Curve Coefficients</b>			
<b>Storm Frequency</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>c</b>
2-year	106.29	16.81	0.9076
5-year	99.75	16.74	0.8327
10-year	96.84	15.88	0.7952
25-year	111.07	17.23	0.7815
50-year	119.51	17.32	0.7705
100-year	129.03	17.83	0.7625
500-year	160.57	19.64	0.7449
Source: City of Austin, Watershed Engineering Division			

The intensity-duration-frequency curves and the intensity-duration equations are applicable for all design frequencies shown and for storm durations from five (5) minutes to 3 hours. They are required for use in determining peak flows by the Rational Method or other appropriate methods.

#### 2.4.4 Drainage Area (A)

The size (acres) of the watershed needs to be determined for application of the Rational Method. The area may be determined through the use of topographic maps, supplemented by field surveys where topographic data has changed or where the contour interval is too great to distinguish the direction of flow. The drainage divide lines are determined by based on existing topography, but could be altered by proposed street layout, lot grading, structure configuration and orientation, and many other features that are created by result from the urbanization process.

#### Example 2-1

An urbanized watershed is shown oin the following figure. Three types of flow conditions exist between the most distant point in the watershed and the outlet. The calculation of time of concentration and travel time in each reach is as follows:



<u>Reach</u>	<u>Description of Flow</u>	<u>Slope (%)</u>	<u>Length (Ft.)</u>	<u>Drainage Area No. and Acreage</u>	<u>"n" Value/ Surface Type</u>
<u>A to B</u>	<u>Sheet flow (lawn)</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>DA-1 (3 acres)</u>	<u>0.3 (dense/Bermuda grasses)</u>
<u>B to C</u>	<u>Shallow concentrated flow (gutter)</u>	<u>2.0</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>DA-2 (20 acres)</u>	<u>Paved</u>
<u>C to D</u>	<u>Channel Flow (Storm drain with inlets; Dia.= 3 feet)</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>DA-3 (30 acres)</u>	<u>0.015</u>

For reaches A-B and B-C, the travel time of concentration can be calculated from Equations 2-23 and 2-35.

$$\begin{aligned}
 t_c(A-B) &= 300(0.3)/42(s)^{0.5} \\
 &= 2.14/(0.045)^{0.5} \\
 &= 10.1 \text{ min.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{t(A-B)} &= 0.42(0.3 \times 50)^{0.8}/(P_2)^{0.5}(0.018)^{0.4} \\
 &= 18.282/(P_2)^{0.5} \text{ min.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 t_c(B-C) &= 840(0.016)/60(s)^{0.5} \\
 &= 0.22/(0.02)^{0.5} \\
 &= 1.6 \text{ min.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{t(B-C)} &= 840/(60)(20.3282)(0.02)^{0.5} \\
 &= 4.87 \text{ min.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The flow velocity in reach C-D needs to be calculated from Manning's Equation, using the assumption of full pipe flow, as follows:

$$V_{C-D} = (1.49/n) R^{0.67} S^{0.50}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&= (1.49/n) (D/4)^{0.67} 0.67 s^{0.5} 0.5 \\
&= (1.49/0.015) (3/4)^{0.67} 0.67 (0.015)^{0.5} 0.5 \\
&= 10.04 \text{ ft/s}
\end{aligned}$$

The channel flow travel time is calculated by dividing the length by the velocity and dividing by 60 to convert to minutes:

$$\begin{aligned}
T_{t(C-D)} &= 1200/(10.04)(60) \\
&= 1.99 \text{ min.}
\end{aligned}$$

The total time of concentration is calculated by adding all of the calculated sheet flow, shallow concentrated flow, and channel flow components:

$$\begin{aligned}
T_c &= T_{t(\text{sheet})} + T_{t(\text{shallow concentrated})} + T_{t(\text{channel})} \\
&= T_{t(A-B)} + T_{t(B-C)} + T_{t(C-D)} \\
&= 18.282/(P_2)^{0.5} + 4.87 + 1.99 \\
&= [18.282/(P_2)^{0.5} + 6.86] \text{ (minutes)}
\end{aligned}$$

Time of concentration in decimal minutes may be used but rounding to the nearest whole number of minutes (greater than or equal to 5) is generally acceptable.

For this example, Drainage Area DA-1 (traversed by reach A-B) is a grassed lawn area in fair condition, Drainage Area DA-2 (traversed by reach B-C) is commercial development composed of 76% impervious (concrete paved) area and 24% pervious grassed (good condition, average slope) area, and Drainage Area DA-3 (traversed by reach C-D) is an industrial development composed of 68% impervious (concrete paved) area and 32% pervious grassed (good condition, average slope) area.

The composite runoff coefficients (C) for Drainage Areas DA-2 and DA-3 are calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{DA-2} &= (0.76)(0.97) + (1-0.76)(0.46) \\
&= (0.76)(0.97) + (0.24)(0.46) \\
&= 0.8476 \\
&\text{Use } 0.85
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{DA-3} &= (0.68)(0.97) + (1-0.68)(0.46) \\
 &= (0.68)(0.97) + (0.32)(0.46) \\
 &= 0.8068 \\
 &\text{Use } 0.81
 \end{aligned}$$

The runoff coefficients (C) for the three (3) areas are given as follows for the 1% Annual Chance (100-year) storm event. The time of concentration ( $t_c$ ) is calculated by dividing the length by the velocity:

<u>DRAINAGE AREA (Reach)</u>	<u>Reach Length (ft.)</u>	<u>Velocity (fps)</u>	<u><math>t_c</math> (min)</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Area (acres)</u>
<u>DA-1 (A-B)</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>--</u>	<u><math>18.282/(P_2)^{0.5}</math></u>	<u>0.41</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>DA-2 (B-C)</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>4.87</u>	<u>0.85</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>DA-3 (C-D)</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>10.0</u>	<u>1.99</u>	<u>0.81</u>	<u>30</u>
			<u>TOTAL <math>18.282/(P_2)^{0.5}+7</math></u>	<u>WEIGHTED AVERAGE 0.80</u>	<u>TOTAL 53</u>

<u>Reach</u>	<u>Length (ft.)</u>	<u>Velocity (fps)</u>	<u><math>t_c</math> (min)</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Area (acre)</u>
<u>A-B</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>10.1</u>	<u>0.41</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>B-C</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>1.6</u>	<u>0.85</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>C-D</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>10.0</u>	<u>2.0</u>	<u>0.81</u>	<u>30</u>
			<u>13.7</u>		<u>53</u>

The intensity (i) of the 1% Annual Chance (100-year) storm rainfall event is obtained from the RAIn as discussed in Section 2.4.3 (from Figure 2-2 in Appendix B of this Manual) for 13.7 minutes = 9.2 inches per hour.

The composite weighted average runoff coefficient (C) =  $(0.41 \times 3 + 0.85 \times 20 + 0.81 \times 30)/53 = 0.80$  Thus the peak flow  $Q_{dp} = C \times i \times A = 0.80 \times 9.2 \text{ i (in/hr)} \times 53 \text{ acre} = 390 Q_p \text{ cfs}$

## 2.4.5 Variable Rainfall Intensity Method

The Variable Rainfall Intensity Method is one of the methodologies which uses the peak flow ( $Q_p$ ) calculated from the Rational Method to develop the hypothetical storm hydrographs. The detailed information on this method can be found in the Bibliography, Item 2-5 of this Manual. The following example illustrates the application of the variable rainfall intensity method technique in constructing a ten (10)-year design storm hydrograph.

### Example 2-2

#### Variable Rainfall Intensity Method

Given: A drainage area, when fully developed, will have the following characteristics:

Drainage area = one hundred (100) acres

Runoff coefficient  $C = 0.45$

Design rainfall frequency: ten (10)-year

Austin rainfall intensity-duration-frequency curves ([Figure 2-2](#) in Appendix B of this Manual)

Time of concentration = forty (40) minutes.

Find: The ten (10)-year design storm and resulting flood hydrograph.

Solution: The solution is outlined in Table 2-6 which shows the development of the design ten (10)-year frequency storm and Table 2-7 which shows the computation of the design

ten (10)-year flood hydrograph.

The computation procedures for Table 2-6 are explained as follows:

Column 1:—Duration (minutes) = length of storm.

Column 2:—Rainfall Intensity read from [Figure 2-2](#) in Appendix B of this manual corresponding to the duration time in Column 1.

Column 3:—Accumulated Depth (inches) = total precipitation for storm of specified duration (from Table 2-11).

Column 4:—Incremental Depth (inches) = difference in total precipitation between specified duration and duration of five (5) minutes less than specified duration (e.g.,  $P_{35}$  minutes -  $P_{30}$  minutes).

Column 5:—Incremental Intensity (inches/hour) = Incremental Depth (inches)  $\times$  (60 minutes/hour)/(five (5) minutes).

**Table 2-6  
Development Of A Ten (10) Year Frequency Storm**

<b>Duration- (Min) (1)</b>	<b>Intensity (In/hr) (2)</b>	<b>Accumulated Depth (In) (3)</b>	<b>Incremental Depth (In) (4)</b>	<b>Incremental Intensity (In/hr) (5)</b>
5	8.64	.034	0.34	.41
10			0.36	.43
15	6.16	.108	.038	.46
20			.04	.48
25	5.00	.19	.04	.48
30			.05	.60
35	4.30	.29	.05	.60
40			.06	.72
45	3.73	.41	.06	.72
50			.07	.84
55	3.33	.56	.08	.96
60			.09	1.08
65	3.00	.76	.11	1.32
70			.13	1.56

75	2.74	1.07	.18	2.16
<b>Table 2-6 (Continued)</b> <b>Development Of A Ten (10) Year Frequency Storm</b>				
<b>Duration- (Min) (1)</b>	<b>Intensity (In/hr) (2)</b>	<b>Accumulated Depth (In) (3)</b>	<b>Incremental Depth (In)- (4)</b>	<b>Incremental Intensity (In/hr) (5)</b>
80			.24	2.88
85	2.50	1.67	.36	4.32
90			.72	8.64
95	2.32	2.89	.5	6.0
100			.29	3.48
105	2.17	3.38	.20	2.4
110			.15	1.8
115	2.05	3.65	.12	1.44
120			.1	1.2
125	1.94	3.83	.08	.96
130			.08	.96
135	1.85	3.98	.07	.84
140			.06	.72
145	1.77	4.09	.05	.60
150			.05	.60
155	1.69	4.19	.05	.60
160			.04	.48
165	1.62	4.27	.04	.48
170			.04	.48
175	1.56	4.34	.03	.36
180			.03	.36
185	1.50	4.38		.36

Table 2-7 illustrates the computed 10 year flood hydrograph for the drainage area described in Table 2-6. Referring to Table 2-7, the columns are identified and computed as follows:

Column 1: Time (minutes) = time from the beginning of the storm.

Column 2:  $i$  (inches/hour) = incremental intensities (from Table 2-6).

Column 3: Sum ( $i$ ) = summation of all incremental intensities to the specified time.

Column 4: "Sum" ( $i$  lagged) = column 3 displaced a total time equal to the time of concentration for the area producing this hydrograph.

Column 5: (3) - (4) = column 3 - column 4.

Column 6:  $q_{tc}$  = column 5 divided by the number of time increments in the time of concentration for the area producing this hydrograph. This column expresses the average intensity over a period of time equal to the time of concentration for the area producing this hydrograph, as measured at the specified chronological time.

Column 7:  $Q$  (cubic feet per second) = column 6 x " $C$ " x  $A$  (for the area producing this hydrograph). This column is for the rising limb calculation.

Column 8: Time Folded - revised times and flows for falling limb of hydrograph; falling limb is mirror image of rising limb, but expanded to twice the length. Intermediate values can be linearly interpolated from neighboring values, since five (5) minute increments doubled to ten (10) minute increments leave out intervening values.

The computations were stopped in column 7 when the rising limb of the hydrograph reached its peak value. At this point, the time scale can be folded as shown in column 8. Doubling the time increments for the falling limb serves to double the volume that would have been under that portion of the runoff hydrograph. The volume under the entire discharge hydrograph will be three (3) times that under the rising limb.

With this assumption, the volume of runoff expressed as a percentage from an area with a runoff coefficient of 0.45 becomes approximately sixty seven and one half (67.5) percent rather than forty five (45) percent of the rainfall. In this procedure the  $C$  value from the Rational Method formula represents the ratio of the peak runoff to the average rainfall intensity rate for a period equal to the time of concentration and not a simple runoff to rainfall ratio.

**Table 2-7  
Runoff Computations From A 100 Acre  
Area With A Time Of Concentration Of  
40 Minutes And C = 0.45**

<b>Time- (Min) (1)</b>	<b>I<sub>10</sub> (In/Hr) (2)</b>	<b>Sum I<sub>10</sub> (3)</b>	<b>Sum-I<sub>10</sub> (Lagged 40-min) (4)</b>	<b>Time- (3)-(4) (5)</b>	<b>Q<sub>40</sub> (In/Hr)- (6)</b>	<b>Q (cfs) (7)</b>	<b>Folded (8)</b>
0							330
5	0.41	0.41		.41	.05	2.3	320
10	0.43	0.84		.84	.10	4.5	310
15	0.46	1.3		1.3	.16	7.2	300
20	0.48	1.78		1.78	.22	9.9	290
25	0.48	2.26		2.26	.28	12.6	280
30	0.6	2.86		2.86	.36	16.2	270
35	0.6	3.46		3.46	.43	19.3	260
40	0.72	4.18		4.18	.52	23.4	250
45	0.72	4.9	.41	4.5	.56	25.2	240
50	0.84	5.7	.84	4.9	.61	27.4	230
55	0.96	6.7	1.3	5.4	.67	30.1	220
60	1.08	7.8	1.78	6.0	.75	33.7	210
65	1.32	9.1	2.26	6.8	.85	38.2	200
70	1.56	10.7	2.86	7.8	.97	43.6	190

**Table 2-7 (Continued)**  
**Runoff Computations From A 100 Acre**  
**Area With A Time Of Concentration Of**  
**40 Minutes And C = 0.45**

<b>Time- (Min) (1)</b>	<b>I<sub>10</sub> (In/Hr) (2)</b>	<b>Sum I<sub>10</sub> (3)</b>	<b>Sum-I<sub>10</sub> (Lagged 40-min) (4)</b>	<b>Time- (3)-(4) (5)</b>	<b>Q<sub>40</sub> (In/Hr)- (6)</b>	<b>Q (cfs) (7)</b>	<b>Folded (8)</b>
75	2.16	12.8	3.46	9.3	1.16	52.2	180
80	2.88	15.7	4.18	11.5	1.44	64.8	170
85	4.32	20.0	4.9	15.1	1.89	85.1	160
90	8.64	28.7	5.7	23.0	2.87	129.1	150
95	6.0	34.7	6.7	28.0	3.5	157.5	140
100	3.48	38.1	7.8	30.3	3.8	171.0	130
105	2.4	40.5	9.1	31.4	3.92	176.4	120
110	1.8	42.3	10.7	31.6	3.95	177.7	(peak)
115	1.44	43.8	12.8	31.0	3.87	174.1	

### **2.5.0 SOIL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE METHODS**

The Soil Natural Resources Conservation Service (SNRCS) hydrologic methods ~~is have been~~ widely used by engineers and hydrologists for analyses of small urban watersheds. ~~These~~ This methods ~~resulted from is based on~~ extensive analytical work using a wide range of statistical data concerning storm patterns, rainfall-runoff characteristics and many hydrologic observations in the United States. ~~The SCS utilizes a twenty-four (24) hour storm duration, which is considered to be acceptable for the Austin area; however, the design storm most representative of the Austin area has a three (3) hour duration. It should be noted that if the SCS storms are applied, the Type III distribution should be used.~~



The NRCS methods can be applied to urban drainage areas of any size. ~~A brief explanation of the~~ The primary parameters required to calculate a runoff hydrograph with the method include the rainfall depth, rainfall distribution, runoff curve numbers, time of concentration, and drainage area. ~~the tabular and graphical methods and the TR-20 method are introduced in this Section. The Supplemental Section 2.7.0 for the Soil Conservation Service hydrology includes the rainfall-runoff relationship and the dimensionless Unit Hydrograph.~~ For detailed information regarding the NRCS method, the user is referred to the following Soil Conservation Service NRCS publications. These can be obtained from the Natural Resources Conservation Service at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/>. They are:

NEH-4: "Hydrology," Section 4, National Engineering Handbook

~~TR-20: Computer Program for Project Formulation, Hydrology~~

TR-55: Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds

TP-149: A Method for Estimating Volume and Rate of Runoff in Small Watersheds

The Hydrologic Engineering Center - Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS) computer programs include the ability to apply the NRCS method and may be downloaded from the US Army Corps of Engineers website at <http://www.hec.usace.army.mil/>.

### **2.5.1 Austin Three (3) Hour Storm Rainfall Distributions Rainfall Distribution**

~~The three (3) hour design storm duration for Austin was selected after consideration of rainfall-runoff data and watershed flow conveyance properties in the Austin area. This determination was made in 1977 with the derivation of the Austin Standard Method. Table 2-8 is a listing of the cumulative rainfall values for six (6) and three (3) hour storms with various return frequencies. Table 2-9 gives the incremental rainfall values for both five (5) and ten (10) minute increments. Tables 2-8 and 2-9 are given for use in the TR-20, and HEC-HMS programs.~~

The 24-hour frequency storm for use with the NRCS method is hereby adopted by the City. Rainfall depth-duration-frequency values, meteorological parameters, guidance on time-step selection, and other direction regarding application of rainfall for the NRCS method/use of HEC-HMS shall be determined from the City of Round Rock Rainfall Application Instructions (RAIn) for hydrologic designs and analyses, as issued and amended by the UES Director.

### **2.5.2 Soil Natural Resources Conservation Service Runoff Curve Numbers**

The Soil Conservation Service (SNRCS) has developed an index, the runoff curve number (CN), to represent the combined hydrologic effect of soil type, land use, agricultural land treatment class, hydrologic condition, and antecedent soil moisture. These watershed factors have the most significant impact in estimating the volume of runoff, and can be assessed from soil surveys, site investigations and land use maps.

The curve number CN is an indication of the runoff-producing potential ~~of the drainage area runoff~~ for a given antecedent soil moisture condition, and it ranges in value from zero (0) to one hundred (100). The SNRCS runoff curve numbers CN's are grouped into three (3) antecedent soil moisture conditions -- Antecedent Moisture Runoff Condition (ARC) I, Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC II and Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC III. Values of runoff curve numbers for all three (3) conditions may be computed following guidelines in "Hydrology, Section 4," National Engineering Handbook Part 630, Chapter 10, of the

National Engineering Handbook. Antecedent Moisture Condition-ARC I is the dry soil condition and Antecedent Moisture Condition- ARC III is the wet soil condition. Antecedent Moisture Condition-ARC II is normally considered to be the average condition. The Antecedent Runoff Condition (ARC) was previously referred to as the Antecedent Moisture Condition (AMC) in older NRCS publications.

**Table 2-8  
Austin Three (3) Hour Design Storm Distributions  
Cumulative Values (inches)**

<b>Time- (Minutes)</b>	<b>2-Year</b>	<b>5-Year</b>	<b>10-Year</b>	<b>25-Year</b>	<b>50-Year</b>	<b>100-Year</b>
5	0.013	0.025	0.034	0.044	0.052	0.064
10	0.027	0.052	0.070	0.091	0.108	0.13
15	0.042	0.081	0.108	0.14	0.17	0.19
20	0.059	0.112	0.15	0.19	0.23	0.27
25	0.077	0.15	0.19	0.25	0.30	0.34
30	0.097	0.18	0.24	0.31	0.37	0.43
35	0.12	0.22	0.29	0.38	0.44	0.52
40	0.15	0.27	0.35	0.45	0.53	0.61
45	0.17	0.32	0.41	0.53	0.62	0.72
50	0.21	0.37	0.48	0.62	0.73	0.84
55	0.25	0.44	0.56	0.72	0.84	0.98
60	0.30	0.51	0.65	0.84	0.98	1.13
65	0.36	0.60	0.76	0.98	1.14	1.31
70	0.43	0.71	0.90	1.15	1.33	1.53
75	0.54	0.86	1.07	1.36	1.57	1.80
80	0.69	1.06	1.31	1.65	1.90	2.17

**Table 2-8 (Continued)  
Austin Three (3) Hour Design Storm Distributions  
Cumulative Values (inches)**

<b>Time- (Minutes)</b>	<b>2-Year</b>	<b>5-Year</b>	<b>10-Year</b>	<b>25-Year</b>	<b>50-Year</b>	<b>100-Year</b>
85	0.94	1.39	1.67	2.19	2.40	2.72
90	1.48	2.03	2.39	3.01	3.31	3.71
95	1.84	2.47	2.89	3.53	3.96	4.43
100	2.03	2.72	3.18	3.88	4.35	4.87
105	2.16	2.89	3.38	4.13	4.63	5.18
110	2.24	3.02	3.53	4.32	4.85	5.43
115	2.31	3.12	3.65	4.47	5.03	5.63
120	2.36	3.20	3.75	4.60	5.17	5.79
125	2.41	3.27	3.84	4.71	5.30	5.94
130	2.44	3.33	3.91	4.80	5.41	6.06
135	2.47	3.38	3.98	4.89	5.51	6.17
140	2.50	3.43	4.04	4.96	5.60	6.28
145	2.52	3.47	4.09	5.03	5.68	6.37
150	2.55	3.51	4.14	5.10	5.75	6.46
155	2.56	3.54	4.19	5.16	5.82	6.54
160	2.58	3.57	4.23	5.21	5.89	6.61

**Table 2-8 (Continued)**  
**Austin Three (3) Hour Design Storm Distributions**  
**Cumulative Values (inches)**

<b>Time- (Minutes)</b>	<b>2-Year</b>	<b>5-Year</b>	<b>10-Year</b>	<b>25-Year</b>	<b>50-Year</b>	<b>100-Year</b>
165	2.60	3.60	4.27	5.26	5.95	6.68
170	2.61	3.63	4.30	5.31	6.00	6.75
175	2.63	3.66	4.34	5.36	6.06	6.81
180	2.64	3.68	4.37	5.40	6.11	6.87

Note: These values must be entered as total, not incremental, values in a rainfall-runoff model

Source: City of Austin, Watershed Engineering Division

**Table 2-9  
Austin Three (3) Hour Design Storm Distributions  
Incremental Values (inches) 5 & 10 Minute Patterns**

Time (Minutes)	2-year		5-year		10-year		25-year		50-year		100-year	
	5-min.	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5-min	10 min.	5-min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5-min	10 min.
0	0		0		0		0		0		0	
5	0.013		0.025		0.034		0.044		0.052		0.061	
10	0.014	0.028	0.027	0.053	0.036	0.071	0.047	0.093	0.056	0.110	0.064	0.126
15	0.015		0.029		0.038		0.050		0.058		0.068	
20	0.017	0.033	0.031	0.061	0.041	0.081	0.053	0.104	0.062	0.123	0.073	0.143
25	0.018		0.034		0.044		0.057		0.067		0.077	
30	0.020	0.039	0.037	0.072	0.047	0.093	0.061	0.121	0.072	0.141	0.083	0.163
35	0.023		0.040		0.051		0.067		0.077		0.089	
40	0.025	0.049	0.044	0.086	0.057	0.111	0.073	0.142	0.085	0.166	0.098	0.192
45	0.029		0.049		0.063		0.080		0.094		0.108	
50	0.034	0.065	0.056	0.106	0.070	0.136	0.089	0.174	0.104	0.203	0.119	0.232
55	0.04		0.064		0.079		0.101		0.117		0.135	
60	0.048	0.091	0.075	0.144	0.092	0.178	0.117	0.226	0.135	0.261	0.154	0.298
65	0.059		0.090		0.109		0.138		0.159		0.181	
70	0.076	0.143	0.112	0.212	0.134	0.255	0.168	0.319	0.192	0.367	0.219	0.417

**Table 2-9 (Continued)**  
**Austin Three (3) Hour Design Storm Distributions-**  
**Incremental Values (inches) 5 & 10 Minute Patterns**

Time- (Minutes)	2-year		5-year		10-year		25-year		50-year		100-year	
	5 min.	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.
75	0.104		0.146		0.172		0.214		0.244		0.275	
80	0.153	0.277	0.205	0.376	0.238	0.438	0.291	0.538	0.329	0.610	0.369	0.685
85	0.254		0.324		0.368		0.540		0.494		0.549	
90	0.540	0.896	0.640	1.077	0.720	1.214	0.820	1.340	0.910	1.558	0.990	1.703
95	0.356		0.437		0.494		0.520		0.648		0.713	
100	0.193	0.447	0.253	0.577	0.290	0.658	0.352	0.852	0.398	0.892	0.443	0.992
105	0.124		0.171		0.200		0.247		0.281		0.316	
110	0.088	0.192	0.127	0.273	0.151	0.323	0.189	0.403	0.216	0.460	0.244	0.519
115	0.067		0.100		0.121		0.151		0.175		0.198	
120	0.053	0.112	0.082	0.172	0.100	0.209	0.127	0.265	0.146	0.305	0.167	0.348
125	0.043		0.069		0.086		0.109		0.126		0.144	
130	0.036	0.076	0.060	0.124	0.075	0.154	0.096	0.197	0.111	0.228	0.124	0.259
135	0.031		0.052		0.066		0.085		0.099		0.113	
140	0.027	0.056	0.047	0.096	0.059	0.122	0.076	0.156	0.089	0.183	0.102	0.210

**Table 2-9 (Continued)**  
**Austin Three (3) Hour Design Storm Distributions-**  
**Incremental Values (inches) 5 & 10 Minute Patterns**

Time- (Minutes)	2-year		5-year		10-year		25-year		50-year		100-year	
	5 min.	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.	5 min	10 min.
145	0.024		0.042		0.054		0.069		0.081		0.094	
150	0.024	0.044	0.038	0.078	0.050	0.101	0.064	0.131	0.075	0.152	0.087	0.176
155	0.019		0.035		0.046		0.060		0.069		0.080	
160	0.017	0.035	0.032	0.066	0.042	0.086	0.055	0.112	0.065	0.132	0.074	0.151
165	0.016		0.030		0.040		0.051		0.061		0.070	
170	0.015	0.030	0.028	0.057	0.037	0.075	0.048	0.098	0.057	0.113	0.066	0.134
175	0.014		0.026		0.035		0.046		0.054		0.062	
180	0.013	0.026	0.024	0.049	0.033	0.067	0.043	0.087	0.051	0.103	0.059	0.120

However, studies of hydrologic data indicate that Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC II is not necessarily representative of the average condition throughout Texas. Instead, investigations have shown that the average condition ranges from Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC I in west Texas to between Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC II and Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC III in east Texas. The NRCS curve number values given in Table 2-10 3 are for an Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC II. If it is desired to change to an Antecedent Moisture Condition ARC I or ARC III, the adjustments given in TR-55 or "Hydrology, Section 4," Part 630, Chapter 10 of the National Engineering Handbook should be used. Justification must be provided for the selection of an ARC other than ARC II.

The SNRCS has classified more than four thousand (4,000) soils into four (4) hydrologic groups, identified by the letters A, B, C, and D, to represent watershed characteristics.

Group A: (Low runoff potential). Soils having a high infiltration rate even when thoroughly wetted and consisting chiefly of deep, well-drained to excessively drained sands or gravels.



Group B: Soils having a moderate infiltration rate when thoroughly wetted and consisting chiefly of moderately deep to deep, moderately well to well-drained soils with moderately fine to moderately coarse texture.

Group C: Soils having a slow infiltration rate when thoroughly wetted and consisting chiefly of soils with a layer that impedes downward movement of water or soil with moderately fine to fine texture.

Group D: (High runoff potential). Soils having a very slow infiltration rate when thoroughly wetted and consisting chiefly of clay soils with a high swelling potential, soils with a permanent high water table, soils with a claypan or clay layer at or near the surface and shallow soils over nearly impervious material.

~~The list of most soils in the United States along with their hydrologic soil classification is given in the TR-55 publication. The minimum infiltration rates for the four (4) soil groups are:~~

<u>Group</u>	<u>Minimum Infiltration Rate (in/hr)</u>
A	<del>0.30–0.45</del>
B	<del>0.15–0.30</del>
C	<del>0.05–0.15</del>
D	<del>0.00–0.05</del>

Table 2-43 lists the ~~curve numbers~~ CN's for the four (4) soil groups under various land uses, land treatment and hydrologic conditions. Any CN climatic adjustment factor(s) allowed within the City of Round Rock shall be as specified in the City of Round Rock Rainfall Application Instructions (RAIn) for hydrologic designs and analyses, as issued and amended by the UES Director. CN's for future (fully developed) conditions should be based on estimated maximum future impervious cover and/or any maximum allowable impervious cover for land uses as prescribed in City of Round Rock Zoning and/or Development Ordinances, if applicable. When calculating future (fully developed) peak runoff rates it is recommended that the undeveloped CN and the maximum impervious cover be used as input parameters. In order to determine the soil classifications in the Round Rock area, the SNRCS Soil Survey of Williamson or Travis County, Texas should be used. Digital versions of these soil datasets are available online at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/survey/>.

**Table 2- 3**  
**NRCS Runoff Curve Numbers (CN's) for Urban Areas and Agricultural Lands**  
**(assuming ARC II condition)**

<u>Cover Description</u>		<u>CN for Hydrologic Soil Group</u>			
<u>Cover type and Hydrologic Condition</u>	<u>Average % Impervious Area1</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>
<b><u>Fully developed urban areas (vegetation established)</u></b>					
<i><u>Open space (lawns, parks, golf courses, cemeteries, etc.)<sup>2</sup></u></i>					
<u>Poor condition (grass cover &lt;50%)</u>		<u>68</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>89</u>
<u>Fair condition (grass cover 50% to 75%)</u>		<u>49</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>84</u>
<u>Good condition (grass cover &gt; 75%)</u>		<u>39</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>80</u>
<i><u>Impervious areas</u></i>					
<u>Paved parking lots, roofs, driveways, etc. (excluding right of way)</u>		<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>
<i><u>Streets and Roads</u></i>					
<u>Paved; curbs and storms drains (excluding right of way)</u>		<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>
<u>Paved open ditches (including right of way)</u>		<u>83</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>93</u>
<u>Gravel (including right of way)</u>		<u>76</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>91</u>
<u>Dirt (including right of way)</u>		<u>72</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>89</u>
<i><u>Urban districts</u></i>					
<u>Commercial and business</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>95</u>
<u>Industrial</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>93</u>
<b><u>Developing urban areas</u></b>					
<u>Newly graded areas (pervious areas only, no vegetation)</u>		<u>77</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>94</u>

**Table 2- 3 (Continued)**  
**NRCS Runoff Curve Numbers (CN's) for Urban Areas and Agricultural Lands**  
**(assuming ARC II condition)**

<u>Cover Description</u>		<u>CN for Hydrologic Soil Group</u>			
<u>Cover type and Hydrologic Condition</u>	<u>Average % Impervious Area<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>
<b><u>Residential districts by average lot size</u></b>					
<u>1/8 acre or less (town houses)</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>92</u>
<u>1/4 acre</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>87</u>
<u>1/3 acre</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>86</u>
<u>1/2 acre</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>85</u>
<u>1 acre</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>84</u>
<u>2 acres</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>82</u>
<b><u>Agricultural lands</u></b>					
<u>Pasture, grassland, or range- continuous forage for grazing<sup>3</sup></u>					
<u>Poor</u>		<u>68</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>89</u>
<u>Fair</u>		<u>49</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>84</u>
<u>Good</u>		<u>39</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>80</u>
<u>Meadow-continuous grass, protected from grazing and generally mowed for hay</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>78</u>
<u>Brush - brush-weed-grass mixture with brush the major element<sup>4</sup></u>					
<u>Poor</u>		<u>48</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>83</u>
<u>Fair</u>		<u>35</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>77</u>
<u>Good</u>		<u>30<sup>7</sup></u>	<u>48</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>73</u>
<u>Woods - grass combination (orchard or tree farm)<sup>5</sup></u>					
<u>Poor</u>		<u>57</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>86</u>
<u>Fair</u>		<u>43</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>82</u>
<u>Good</u>		<u>32</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>79</u>
<u>Woods<sup>6</sup></u>					
<u>Poor</u>		<u>45</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>83</u>
<u>Fair</u>		<u>36</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>79</u>
<u>Good</u>		<u>30<sup>7</sup></u>	<u>55</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>77</u>

**Table 2- 3 (Continued)**  
**NRCS Runoff Curve Numbers (CN's) for Urban Areas and Agricultural Lands**  
**(assuming ARC II condition)**

<u>Cover Description</u>		<u>CN for Hydrologic Soil Group</u>			
<u>Cover type and Hydrologic Condition</u>	<u>Average % Impervious Area<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>
<u>Farmsteads - buildings, lanes, driveways and surrounding lots</u>		<u>59</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>86</u>

**Notes**

- 1 The average percent impervious area shown was used to develop the composite CN's. Other assumptions are as follows: impervious areas are directly connected to the drainage system; impervious areas have a CN of ninety-eight (98) and pervious areas are considered equivalent to open space in good hydrologic condition. CN's for other combinations of conditions may be computed using methods in NRCS TR-55 Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds.
- 2 CN's shown are equivalent to those of pasture. Composite CN's may be computed for other combinations of open space cover type.
- 3 Poor: less than 50 percent ground cover or heavily grazed with no mulch.  
Fair: 50 to 75 percent ground cover and not heavily grazed.  
Good: greater than 75 percent ground cover and lightly or only occasionally grazed.
- 4 Poor: less than 50 percent ground cover.  
Fair: 50 to 75 percent ground cover.  
Good: greater than 75 percent ground cover.
- 5 CN's shown were computed for areas with 50 percent woods and 50 percent grass (pasture) cover. Other combinations of conditions may be computed from the CN's for woods and pasture.
- 6 Poor: Forest litter, small trees & brush are destroyed by heavy grazing or regular burning.  
Fair: Woods are grazed but not burned, and some forest litter covers the soil.  
Good: Woods are protected from grazing, & litter and brush adequately cover the soil.
- 7 Actual CN is less than 30; use CN = 30 for runoff computations.

Source: NRCS TR-55: Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds

Table 2-10 SCS Runoff Curve Numbers for Urban Areas and Agricultural Lands					
Cover Description		Curve Numbers for Hydrologic Soil Group			
Cover type and Hydrologic Condition	Average % Impervious Area <sup>1</sup>	A	B	C	D
<i>Fully developed urban areas (vegetation established)</i>					
Open space (lawns, parks, golf courses, cemeteries, etc.)					
Poor condition (grass		68	79	86	89
50%)		49	69	79	84
Fair condition (grass cover 50% to 75%) Good condition (grass cover 75%)		39	61	74	80
Impervious areas:- Paved parking lots, roofs, driveways, etc. (excluding right of way)		98	98	98	98
Streets and roads:- Paved; curbs and storms sewers (excluding right of way)		98	98	98	98
Paved open ditches (including right of way)		83	89	92	93
Gravel (including right of way)		76	85	89	93
Dirt (including right of way)		72	82	87	93
Urban districts: Commercial and business Industrial	85 72	89 81	92 88	94 91	95 93

Table 2-10 (Continued)					
SCS Runoff Curve Numbers for Urban Areas and Agricultural Lands					
Cover Description		Curve Numbers for Hydrologic Soil Group			
Cover type and Hydrologic Condition	Average % Impervious Area <sup>1</sup>	A	B	C	D
Residential districts by average lot size:					
1/8 acre or less (town houses)	65	77	85	90	92
1/4 acre	38	61	75	83	87
1/3 acre	30	57	72	81	86
1/2 acre	25	54	70	80	85
1 acre	20	51	68	79	84
2 acres	12	46	65	77	82
<i>Developing urban areas</i>					
Newly graded areas (pervious areas only, no vegetation)		77	86	91	94
<i>Agricultural lands</i>					
Grassland, or range-continuous forage for grazing <sup>2</sup>	Poor Fair Good	68 49 39	79 69 61	86 79 74	89 84 80
Meadow-continuous-grass, protected from grazing and generally mowed for hay		30	58	71	78
Brush—brush-weed-grass mixture with brush the major element <sup>3</sup>	Poor Fair Good	48 35 30	67 56 48	77 70 65	83 77 73
Woods—grass combination (orchard or tree farm). <sup>4</sup>	Poor Fair Good	57 43 32	73 65 58	82 76 72	86 82 79
Woods <sup>5</sup>	Poor Fair Good	45 36 30	66 60 55	77 73 70	83 79 77

**Table 2-10 (Continued)**  
**SCS Runoff Curve Numbers for Urban Areas and Agricultural Lands**

<b>Cover Description</b>		<b>Curve Numbers for Hydrologic Soil Group</b>			
<b>Cover type and Hydrologic Condition</b>	<b>Average % Impervious Area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
Farmsteads—buildings, lanes, driveways and surrounding lots		59	74	82	86

<sup>1</sup> The average percent impervious area shown was used to develop the composite curve numbers. Other assumptions are as follows: impervious areas are directly connected to the drainage system, impervious areas have a curve number of ninety eight (98) and pervious areas are considered equivalent to open space in good hydrologic condition.

<sup>2</sup> Poor: less than 50 percent ground cover or heavily grazed with no mulch.  
 Fair: 0 to 75 percent ground cover and not heavily grazed.  
 Good: greater than 75 percent ground cover and lightly or only occasionally grazed.

<sup>3</sup> Poor: less than 50 percent ground cover.  
 Fair: 50 to 75 percent ground cover.  
 Good: greater than 75 percent ground cover.

<sup>4</sup> Curve numbers shown were computed for areas with 50 percent woods and 50 percent grass (pasture) cover. Other combinations of conditions may be computed from the curve numbers for woods and pasture.

<sup>5</sup> Poor: Forest litter, small trees and brush are destroyed by heavy grazing or regular burning.  
 Fair: Woods are grazed but not burned, and some forest litter covers the soil.  
 Good: Woods are protected from grazing, and litter and brush adequately cover the soil.

Source: Soil Conservation Service. TR-55: Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds

### 2.5.3 Time of Concentration

The procedures for estimating time of concentration for the ~~SNRCS~~ method are described in the ~~SNRCS's~~ Technical Release 55 (TR-55) and in Section 2.4.2 of this manual. Three (3) types of flow (sheet flow, shallow concentrated flow and channel flow) are considered. Table 2-2 shall be used for determination of sheet flow Manning's roughness coefficients rather than the table in TR-55.

In hydrograph analysis, the time of concentration ~~is~~ can be defined as the time from the end of excess rainfall to the point of inflection on the falling limb of the hydrograph. The time of concentration determines the shape of the runoff hydrograph. ~~The time of concentration determines the shape of the runoff hydrograph.~~ Times of concentration are required for the existing and developed conditions to adequately model the impact of the development on stormwater runoff. The methodology presented in TR-55 provides a reasonable approach for the estimation of time of concentration. The lag time, defined as the time between the center of mass of excess rainfall to the runoff peak, is typically used in the HEC-HMS implementation of the NRCS methodology. The lag time can be estimated with Equation 2-8:

$$T_{lag} = (0.6)(T_c) \quad (\text{Eq. 2-8})$$

~~In general, times of concentration for the developed condition should be calculated based on conservative assumptions concerning that consider the expected increased hydraulic efficiency expected with an ultimate developed condition. Times of concentration should be representative of the overall drainage area, not simply based on the longest flow path. Sheet flow lengths should be carefully examined and properly justified. For instance, while sheet flow for existing conditions is typically limited to three hundred (300) feet, sheet flow for developed conditions should be limited to one hundred fifty (150) feet. Additionally, the minimum slope used for calculation of sheet and shallow concentrated flow travel time components should be 0.005 feet per foot (0.5%).~~

### 2.5.4 Peak Flow Calculation

~~The SCS has presented several methods for computing runoff hydrographs for drainage areas. The Tabular, Graphical and TR-20 methods are considered acceptable for the Austin area. The parameters required to calculate the hydrograph are the rainfall distribution, runoff curve numbers, time of concentration and drainage area.~~

~~A. **Tabular Method.** The Tabular Method can be used to develop composite flood hydrographs at any point within a watershed by dividing the watershed into subareas. The method is useful for watersheds where runoff hydrographs are needed from nonhomogeneous areas, i.e., the watershed can be divided into homogeneous subareas. It is especially applicable for estimating the effects of land use change in a portion of the watershed. It should be noted that the tables in the TR-55 publication for the tabular method are based on the SCS twenty-four (24) hour rainfall distributions. The engineer should apply those tables corresponding to a Type III rainfall distribution which is acceptable for the Austin area.~~

~~The basic requirement for use of this method is the tabular discharge values for the different types of storm distributions. The tabular discharge values in csm/in (cubic feet of discharge per second per square mile of watershed per inch of runoff) are given in~~



TR-55 for a range of times of concentration from one tenth (0.1) to two (2) hours and reach travel times of zero (0) to three (3) hours. The discharge values were developed from the TR-20 program by computing hydrographs for a one square mile drainage area at selected times of concentration and routing them through stream reaches with the range of travel times indicated.

The other input needed to develop the composite flood hydrograph includes the total runoff volume ( $Q_v$ ) and the drainage area ( $A_m$ ). The equation for calculating the flow at any time is:

$$q = q_t A_m Q_v \quad \text{(Eq. 2-6)}$$

where,

$q$  = Hydrograph ordinate at hydrograph time  $t$ , cfs

$q_t$  = Individual value read from the tabular discharge tables, CSM/inch

$A_m$  = Drainage area of individual subwatershed,  $mi^2$

$Q_v$  = Total runoff volume, inches.

The composite flood hydrograph is obtained by submission of the individual subarea hydrographs at each time step. For measuring runoff from a nonhomogeneous watershed, the subdivision of the watershed into relatively homogeneous subareas is required. For additional information regarding the Tabular method the SCS publication TR-55 should be consulted.

**B. Graphical Method.** As in the Tabular Method the Graphical Method is based on hydrograph analyses using the TR-20 computer program. The Graphical Method provides a determination of peak discharge only. If a hydrograph is needed or watershed subdivision is required, use the Tabular or TR-20 methods. The TR-55 lists in detail the limitations of the Graphical Method and the engineer should be well aware of these before proceeding. The input requirements for the Graphical Method are as follows:

1.  $t_c$  (hrs)

2. Drainage Area ( $mi^2$ )

3. Type III rainfall distribution

4. 24-hr. rainfall (in.)

5. CN

The peak discharge equation for the graphical method is:

$$q_p = q_u A_m Q \quad \text{(Eq. 2-7)}$$

\* $q_p$  = peak discharge (cfs)

$q_u$  = unit peak discharge (csm/in)

$A_m$  = drainage area ( $mi^2$ )

$Q$  = runoff (in)

\*Note the original SCS equation also has an  $F_p$  factor for pond and swamp conditions. This has been omitted since it is not applicable to the Austin region.



results. The new arithmetic expression becomes:

$$F/S = Q/(P - I_a) \quad (\text{Eq. S-4})$$

where  $F \leq S$ , and  $Q \leq (P - I_a)$ . The total retention for a storm consists of  $I_a$  and  $F$ . The total potential maximum retention (as  $P$  gets very large) consists of  $I_a$  and  $S$ .

The actual runoff is:

$$Q = ((P - I_a) + S) \quad (\text{Eq. S-5})$$

The initial abstraction ( $I_a$ ) is a function of land use, treatment and condition, interception, infiltration, depression storage, and antecedent soil moisture. An empirical analysis performed by the SCS found that the initial abstraction is estimated as:

$$I_a = 0.2 S \quad (\text{Eq. S-6})$$

Thus, the runoff volume ( $Q$ ) can be obtained from the volume of precipitation ( $P$ ) and potential maximum retention ( $S$ ) as follows:

$$Q = (P - 0.2 S)^2 / (P + 0.8 S) \quad (\text{Eq. S-7})$$

Empirical studies indicate that  $S$  is a function of the curve number as follows:

$$S = (1000/CN) - 10 \quad (\text{Eq. S-8})$$

Therefore, the runoff volume can be determined as a function of precipitation volume and curve number.

### 2.6.2 Soil Conservation Service Dimensionless Unit Hydrograph

To estimate the peak discharge and establish a runoff hydrograph in the SCS methods, the concept of a dimensionless unit hydrograph is applied. The SCS dimensionless unit hydrograph was derived from analysis of a large number of unit hydrographs developed using gage data from watersheds of a wide range in size and geographical location. The dimensionless unit hydrograph has ordinate values expressed in a dimensionless ratio  $q/q_p$  and abscissa values of  $t/T_p$ , where  $q_p$  is the peak discharge at time  $T_p$  and  $q$  is the discharge at time  $t$ . [Figure 2-3](#) in Appendix B of this Manual shows the shape of the dimensionless unit hydrograph. At the same time, the mass curve is also illustrated in [Figure 2-3](#) in Appendix B of this manual with coordinates of  $Q_a/Q$  vs  $t/t_p$ , in which  $Q_a$  is the accumulated volume at time  $t$ , and  $Q$  is the total volume. Table 2-11 lists dimensionless discharge ratios and mass curve ratios for dimensionless time ratios for use in calculating unit hydrographs and mass curves.

The curvilinear unit hydrograph can be approximated by an equivalent triangular unit hydrograph, as shown by dotted lines in [Figure 2-3](#) in Appendix B of this Manual. The

area under the rising limb (before time  $T_p$ ) of the two (2) unit hydrographs are the same. The time base of the dimensionless unit hydrograph is five (5) times the time-to-peak ( $T_p$ ), while the time base of the triangular unit hydrograph is only 2.67 times the time-to-peak ( $T_p$ ). The transformation of curvilinear unit hydrograph to triangular unit hydrograph provides a solution for the peak flow.

A. **Derivation of Peak Flow.** The area under the triangular unit hydrograph on [Figure 2-3](#) in Appendix B of this Manual equals the volume of direct runoff  $Q$ , which can be calculated by:

$$Q = q_p(T_p + T_r)/2 \quad \text{(Eq. S-9)}$$

where,

$Q$  = Direct runoff, inches

$T_p$  = Time to peak, hours

$T_r$  = Recession time, hours

$q_p$  = Peak discharge, inches per hour

The runoff  $Q$  derived from this equation is the same as estimated by Equation S-7.

By Equation S-9, the peak discharge  $q_p$  can be solved as:

$$q_p = 2Q/(T_p + T_r) \quad \text{(Eq. S-10)}$$

$$\text{Let } K = 2/(1 + (T_r/T_p)) \quad \text{(Eq. S-11)}$$

$$\text{therefore, } q_p = KQ/T_p \quad \text{(Eq. S-12)}$$

where,  $Q$  = Direct runoff, inches

$T_p$  = Time to peak, hours

$T_r$  = Recession time, hours

$q_p$  = Peak discharge, inches per hour

In making the conversion from inches per hour to cubic feet per second and putting the equation in terms ordinarily used, including drainage area ( $A$ ) in square miles, and time ( $T$ ) in hours, equation S-12 becomes the general equation:

$$q_p = (645.33 KAQ)/T_p \quad \text{(Eq. S-13)}$$

Where  $q_p$  is peak discharge in cubic feet per second and the conversion factor 645.33 is the rate required to discharge one (1) inch of excess rainfall from one (1) square mile in one (1) hour.

The relationship of the triangular unit hydrograph, shows that  $T_r = 1.67 T_p$  and gives  $K = 0.75$  by Equation S-11. Then substituting into equation S-13 gives:

$$q_p = 484 A Q/T_p \quad \text{(Eq. S-14)}$$

Since the volume under the rising side of the triangular unit hydrograph is equal to

the volume under the rising side of the curvilinear dimensionless unit hydrograph in Figure 2-3 in Appendix B of this Manual, the constant 484, or peak rate factor, is valid for calculation of the peak discharge for the dimensionless unit hydrograph.

<b>Table 2-11</b> <b>Ratios for Soil Conservation Service Dimensionless Unit Hydrograph and mass Curve</b>		
<b>Time Ratios (<math>t/T_p</math>)</b>	<b>Discharge Ratios (<math>q/q_p</math>)</b>	<b>Mass Curve Ratios (<math>Q_a/Q</math>)</b>
0.0	.000	.001
0.1	.030	.004
0.2	.100	.006
0.3	.190	.012
0.4	.310	.035
0.5	.470	.065
0.6	.660	.107
0.7	.820	.163
0.8	.930	.228
0.9	.990	.300
1.0	1.000	.375
1.1	.990	.450
1.2	.930	.522
1.3	.860	.589
1.4	.780	.650
1.5	.680	.700
1.6	.560	.751
1.7	.460	.790
1.8	.390	.822
1.9	.330	.849
2.0	.280	.871
2.2	.207	.908

**Table 2-11 (Continued)**  
**Ratios for Soil Conservation Service Dimensionless Unit**  
**Hydrograph and mass Curve**

<b>Time Ratios (<math>t/T_p</math>)</b>	<b>Discharge Ratios (<math>q/q_p</math>)</b>	<b>Mass Curve Ratios (<math>Q_a/Q</math>)</b>
2.4	.147	.934
2.6	.107	.953
2.8	.077	.967
3.0	.055	.977
3.2	.040	.984
3.4	.029	.989
3.6	.021	.993
3.8	.015	.995
4.0	.011	.997
4.5	.005	.999
5.0	.000	1.000

Source: Soil Conservation Service. TR-55 Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds.