Landforms of Urban Watersheds

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From the Sanitary City to the Sustainable City



Sanitary

Sustainable

Herrmann et al. 2016 Bioscience Herrmann et al. 2016 Sustainability

Watershed boundaries maintained through urbanization...



But major earth-movement is reshaping soils within those boundaries

Herrmann et al. 2017. *Plant and Soil* Herrmann, Schifman, and Shuster 2018. *PNAS* Schifman, Herrmann, and Shuster, in review

Geomorphic features

Morphometric landform type

Drainage network and basin characteristics

Hillslope-scale landforms										
Slope angle, local parameters										
100	10 ¹	10 ²	10 ³	104	10 ⁵ sp	10 ⁶ atial scale (m)			

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	Hillslope-scale landforms											
	Slope angle, local parameters											
	10 ⁰	10 ¹	10 ²	10 ³	104	10 ⁵ sr	10 ⁶ Datial scale (m)					
years	<u>Hyc</u>	<u>drologic</u>	<u>features</u>			Dischar flood hy	ge regime <i>,</i> /drograph					
days	Discharge concentrations, hydrograph											
hours	Hillslope-scale processes, e.g. overland flow											
minutes	Small scale processes, e.g. infiltration											
	10 ⁰	10 ¹	10 ²	10 ³	104	10 ⁵ sr	10 ⁶ batial scale (m)					

Figure redrawn from Anderson and Burt 1990 *Process Studies in Hillslope Hydrology*

Quantifying Constituent Landforms of Watersheds



Physical Geographic Divisions to Organize Urbanization's Effects on Landform





Examining Cleveland/Northeast Ohio



Examining Cleveland/Northeast Ohio



- Generate ArcHydro catchments with 3 m DEM
- Select Ist-3rd stream order catchments with mean slope <6%</p>
- Assign catchments to categories by dominant Land Use/Land Cover
 - I. Urban (N=112)
 - 2. Suburban (512)
 - 3. Exurban (556)
 - 4. Farmland (1848)
 - 5. Wildland (2189)



Model for Digital Classification of Hillslope Position



Fig. 10. Flow diagram for the calibrated, digital hillslope position model. Note that profile curvature was calculated as described by Wood (1996) and relative elevation was calculated as described by Miller (2014).

Miller and Schaetzel. 2015. SSSAJ 79:132-145

Two Factors Determining Emergent Patterns That I won't be separating



What We are Going to See

- I. Relative occurrence of hillslope positions across LULC classes
- 2. Differences in patchiness based on hillslope position polygon size across LULC classes







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Disclaimer: The views in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. D.L.H. held a postdoctoral research participant appointment administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education through Interagency Agreement No. (DW-8992433001) between the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.)

Thank you



Artwork by Lauren Bon; Phrase by Manuel Castells