Engineering Hydrology

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SECOND EDITION

Macmillan Education

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First edition 1969
Second edition 1974

Published by
THE MACMILLAN PRESS LTD
London and Basingstoke
Associated companies in New York Dublin
Melbourne Johannesburg and Madras
SBN 333 17443 7

ISBN 978-0-333-17443-2 ISBN 978-1-349-02417-9 (eBook)
DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-02417-9

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Preface to the Second Edition

This book has been written for engineering students and junior engineers who are learning about hydrology for the first time.

It is designed to introduce the reader to the elements of the subject and to the underlying theories, to show how these are modified in practice, and to describe the techniques which give answers in particular cases.

Most texts of this nature are American in origin and tend to be based exclusively on North American data and practice. This book still relies heavily on the American development of hydrology but also freely uses British and European data and references.

This edition has been revised and enlarged to provide more readily available information about rainfall in the British Isles, and in particular intensity–duration–frequency relationships. Recent work in the United Kingdom on consumptive use and infiltration has been incorporated and the section on stream gauging and flow measurement expanded. The opportunity has been taken to improve and update the references, to adopt SI units more uniformly throughout (though still not completely) and to correct many of the errors of the first edition. In this latter respect, I am particularly grateful to correspondents from many parts of the world.

To improve the book when used as an undergraduate text, a selection of problems has been given at the end of the main text, to allow readers to use the techniques described in the text.

I must record my appreciation of the advice and help received from many people during the book's preparation.

Manchester, 1974

E. M. WILSON