



Confessions of an experimental hydrologist

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Progress in modeling streamflow generation processes is hampered by our inadequate conceptualization of the age, origin and pathway of storm runoff. In recent years, the dialog between experimentalist and modeler has improved. As a result, better model structures are being developed—ones that attempt to capture the dominant processes at a site. Similarly, better and stricter evaluation criteria are being used to evaluate and reject model structures. While these are promising developments, less attention has been paid to uncertainties in data and uncertainty in how we assemble mental constructs of disparate field information. This talk attempts to confess uncertainties in what we think we know, admit the things we don't know and point the way forward to things we really need to know, from the perspective of an experimental hydrologist.