The workshop session was thronged by 25 delegates and an enthusiastic and well-informed debate ensued. Most of the participants appeared to be dealing fairly easily with the more mundane problems of verification but a number of areas of common difficulties were discussed in detail.

o   Mixed catchments where the urban system receives a rural inflow were causing problems. WASSP-SIM is not designed to cover this situation and using it in these types of catchment will always be a fudge. The forthcoming WaPUG User Note No 10 will offer some interim guidance but the problem will only be resolved by the release of the next generation of simulation software.

o   Infiltration and the question of how to model it was causing problems to several delegates. There is no universal answer and each situation must be judged on its merits. One delegate had managed to formulate a relationship between SMD and infiltration rate for a catchment.

o   The modelling of tree-roots was discussed and the use of an appropriate roughness value suggested.

o   Several delegates were having problems with catchments which had spatially varied run-off parameters. WASSP-SIM cannot model this and while a fudget is available by running sub-catchments separately the problem will not be adequately answered until WALLRUS is released.

o   Problems with faulty flow survey data were discussed and it was emphasised that the validity of such data must be questioned if necessary. This highlighted the dangers of 'force-fighting' where the survey data is assumed to be absolutely correct.

o   The final area of confusion concerned which raingauge information to use. It was agreed that the use of the single raingauge closest to the average was most satisfactory.

The discussion ran over the time allotted and a longer session would have been welcomed.

RC
11.12.87