

Original Research Article

Categorization of Morphometric Surface Through Morphometric Diversity Analysis in Kushkarni River Basin of Eastern India

ABSTRACT

Most of the previous work in morphometric dimension focuses on subbasin prioritization based on statistical analysis of the Morphometric parameters. Similarly such approach is also used for identifying ground water recharge zone, soil erosion susceptible zones etc. But present work attempts to build up and categorize morphometric surface of distinct identities and potentialities considering a 16 morphometric parameters as spatial data layers in Geographical information system environment. For doing this morphometric diversity model relative importance of the selected parameters is assessed and employed while building model. Ten distinct morphometric surface sub units have been identified and these are unique in terms of their terrain characteristics and cultural features.

Keywords: Morphometric surface, Weighting of parameters, Weighted linear combination (WLC), Drainage diversity model (DDM), Relief diversity model (RDM) and Morphometric diversity model (MDM).

1. INTRODUCTION

Landscape is an essentially visual phenomenon or as a particular constitution of topography, land use, vegetation cover and settlement pattern ^{1,2} and morphometric surface is one of the fundamental terrain base on which cultural and ecological conditions can be draped. Morphometric analysis includes a good number of quantitative indicators based on which terrain units can be recognized and each such terrain units provides a strong base of analyzing terrain processes and associated cultural fabrics ^{3,4}. A troop of scholar ⁵⁻¹¹ focused on morphometric characteristics of various drainage basins using GIS and remote sensing technique for terrain analysis in their studies. The parameters for this are flow directions, flow accumulation, upstream and downstream, stream link, stream network, stream order, and digital elevation models (DEMs) etc. ^{12,13}. Most of these studies emphasize segregated statistical analysis or mapping of the individual morphometric parameters. Some studies correlate morphometric parameters and potential ground water investigation ¹⁴⁻²⁰, recharge estimation ²¹⁻²³

, surface water ²⁴⁻²⁶ etc. Some works laid importance on sub basin priority for promising planning unit ²⁷⁻³⁰. The present work pursues how to indentify morphometric surface units using different morphometric parameters as spatial data layers. Primarily, drainage and relief morphometric surface are tried to recognize and finally morphometric surface is also being identified. Here attempt is also

35 being taken regarding prioritizing incorporated parameters considering their importance towards
36 bringing morphometric diversity.

37 Morphometric diversity analysis actually helps to find out some nearly homogenous landscape units
38 which are uniform in morphometric characteristics. Each unit can be considered as a homogenous
39 hydro-geomorphic spatial unit with unique nature and potential viability of land use. Landscape unit
40 with highly diversified morphometric characteristics is healthy in geomorphic processes and forms and
41 active in term of ongoing terrain processes. On the contrary, lowly diversified landscape unit is
42 characterized by relatively monotonous processes and forms. Each landscape unit is uniquely
43 potential for resources and economic activities. This fact becomes highly vivid when range of
44 morphometric differences is very high and size scale is very large. In case of small basin over
45 homogenous physiographic unit, it is not so clear and therefore, not so effective for dictating the LULC
46 characteristics^{31,32}. But some indirect influences can be streamlined. For example, morphometric
47 diversity unit has its potentiality to characterize soil loss processes, runoff processes, recharge
48 activities etc. These are often responsible for controlling LULC and livelihood opportunities.

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50 2. STUDY AREA

51 Kushkarni river (length: 35 km) basin, covering an area 132 sq km (see fig-1), is a sub basin of
52 Mayurakshi river system located mainly over the western part of Chottonagpur plateau fringe at
53 Birbhum district of West Bengal and Jamtara district of Jharkhand with 23°54' 36" N. to 24° N.
54 latitudes and 87°14'24" E. to 87°30' E. longitudes. The total basin area comes under rari tract
55 topography³³ with laterite soil formation³⁴ which is mainly received by flowing rivers from
56 Chottonagpur plateau. This river pours into Tilpara barrage which is located over master stream
57 Mayurakshi river³⁵. The elevation of this catchment varies 155 m. (at the source region) to 62 m. (at
58 the confluence region). Maximum area of the basin is occupied by rugged topography with an
59 average elevation of 108 metres. Average slope of the basin is 1–4 degree whereas it is <1 degree in
60 the confluence part of the basin measured as per Wentworth's method³⁶. A brief account about
61 some morphometric characteristics of Kushkarni river basin are as follows: total length of the stream
62 is 33.83 km., bifurcation ratio is 4.027, length of over land flow is 0.88, constant of channel
63 maintenance is 0.568, sinuosity is 1.33, form factor of the basin is 0.268, drainage density is 1.76
64 km/sq km. drainage texture is 4.36, drainage intensity is 3.75, hypsometric integral (HI) is 0.48,
65 relative relief is 93m., dissection index (DI) is 0.808, and ruggedness number is 0.062. The basin falls
66 under the hot and sub-humid monsoonal climatic region. The average annual rainfall is 1444.432 mm.
67 Maximum (82%) rainfall occurred in summer season June to September. There is a short rainy
68 season in spring, March to May due to nor'wester disturbance. The estimated runoff of this basin area
69 in monsoon time is 693.34 mm. which is also a significant factor for controlling soil erosion potentiality.

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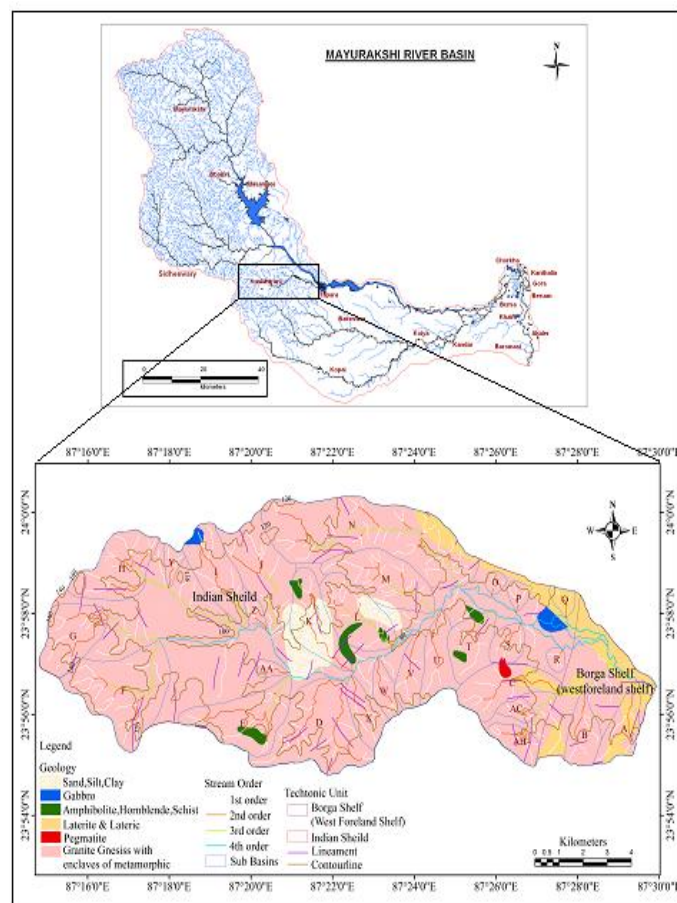


Fig: 1 Study Area map

3. MATERIALS AND METHODS

For constructing morphoetric surface and its categorization, 18 associated parameters have been taken into consideration. All the parameters have been described in table 1. All these data layers have been developed from Toposheets (SOI), satellite imageries and SRTM DEM of United States Geological Survey (USGS).

Table 1: Parameters and description of parameters

Parameters	Description
Bifurcation ratio(Rb)	Ratio of number of stream segments of one order to the number of the next higher order ^[37]
Stream frequency (Sf)	Total number of streams/Basin area ^[38]
Drainage density (Dd)	Total stream length/Basin area ^[38]
Drainage Texture (Dt)	Total number of stream in all segments /Basin perimeter ^[38]
Drainage Intensity (Di)	Drainage frequency/drainage density; $Di = Sf / Dd$ ^[39]
Infiltration Number (In)	$In = Sf * Dd$ ^[39]
Areal symmetry (Aa)	Area of the low area of the stream/ Area of the more area of the stream ⁴⁰
Constant of Channel	$1/Drainage\ density$ ^[37]

Maintenance(CCM)	
Length of overland flow (Lof)	$1/Dd*0.5^{38}$
Form factor (Ff)	Basin area/Basin length ² [38]
Elevation (H)	Height at MSL.
Relief ratio(Rh)	Basin relief/Basin length [37]
Relative relief (Rhp)	Basin relief/(Perimeter × 100) ^[41]
Hypsometric Integral(Hi)	Ratio between Elevation and area
Average slope (s)	$\tan\theta = \frac{\text{relief between } E_1 \text{ and } E_2}{N \times 636.6}$ N=number of contour cuttings per miles or km., l=contour interval, 636.6=constant ^[36]
Ruggedness number (Rn)	Basin relief * Drainage density ^[42]
Dissection index (DI)	$DI = Dd * (H/1000)^{[43]}$
Hydraulic Gradient (Hg)	$Hg = (hc - hf)/D * 100^{[44]}$ hc=Height at source, hf=height at confluence D= Distance between source and confluence

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81 3.1 Methodology for Constructing Morphometric Models:

82 For identifying morphoetric surface and its categorization, three models have been constructed,
83 namely relief diversity model (RDM), drainage diversity model (DDM), morphometric diversity
84 model (MDM). Separately these have been made for illustrating distinct characters of the drainage
85 scape, relief scape and as a whole Morphometric surface. Another motto behind such approach is to
86 understand the role of drainage and relief parameters for bringing morphometric diversity over the
87 basin area. Fractal analysis, discriminant analysis etc. were previously used by different scholars
88 ^[45,46] for landscape identification, but present spatial approach can also be used for making such
89 differences over surface. Two methods have used for developing the all the models, 1st one is simple
90 Linear Combination (LC) method, where selected parameters are combined using raster calculator
91 tool of Arc GIS 9.3 and 2nd one is Weighted Linear Combination (WLC) method of Carver ^[47] and
92 Eastman ^[48] where combination of the parameters have done emphasizing their relative importance.
93 For calculating the weight of each parameter, PCA based correlation matrix is used and data
94 standardization for the same is done using equation 1 and 2. All the layers adopted here have been
95 converted into raster form because execution of compositing of layers is raster based. Two tier
96 weighting has been done for each layer. One is intra parameter ranking based on 10 point scale. Here
97 each parameter has been classified into 10 classes and maximum rank (e.g. 10) is provided to that
98 class having maximum diversity. Secondly, weight is assigned to each parameter based on their
99 relative importance to the aim. Weightage of each attribute has been defined objectively (see table 4
100 and 5) considering the degree of correlation of each driving factor with each other. The logic behind
101 this consideration is that highly correlated parameter maximally explains the spatial dissimilarity.
102 Normalization of respective weight (values of r for respective parameters) based on dimension index
103 has been done for considering it in a scientific scale. The result of each normalized value is called
104 attribute weight.

Expression of weight calculation is as follows:

$$w_j = \frac{a_{j_r}}{\sum_{j=1}^n j_r} \text{----- (Eq. 1)}$$

wj=weight of jth parameter; ajr= correlation coefficient of jth attribute; Σjr = summation of correlation of all jth variable.

Rank of all sub classes under each attribute is then multiplied by the defined weight of each individual attribute. This function can be presented using the following formula.

$$WLC = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} w_j \text{----- (Eq. 2)}$$

Where, aij= ith rank of jth attribute; wj= weightage of jth attribute.

This weighted linear combination has been done using raster calculator tool in Arc GIS environment.

Table 3 shows selected spatial data layers different models. Table 4 depicts the selected parameters for relief diversity model, their subclasses, subclass ranking and weight of the parameters. For drainage and overall morphometric diversity model, same type of process has been adopted but not described here separately. Table 5 shows logic behind 10 point scale distribution among the intra classes and normalization process for final weight generation. For example, slope is one of the parameters for this work. Here, 10 weight is assigned to highest degree of slope class because it causes maximum diversity over surface. Table 6 and 7 describe the same for drainage and morphometric diversity models.

Table 3: Name and number of parameters used for different diversity models.

Type of model	Number of parameters	Name of the parameters
Relief diversity	10	Ruggedness number, dissection index, elevation, relative relief, relief ratio, slope, hydraulic gradient, regional sinuosity, asymmetry factor and bifurcation ratio
Drainage diversity	13	Drainage density, drainage frequency, Bifurcation ratio, relative relief, drainage intensity, drainage texture, regional sinuosity, junction frequency, constant channel maintenance, length of over land flow, infiltration number, form factor and ruggedness number.
Morphometric Diversity	16	Asymmetry, Stream Density, Stream Frequency, Drainage intensity, Dissection index, Drainage Texture, Form Factor, Hydraulic gradient(HG), Infiltration Number, Junction Frequency, Bifurcation Ratio, Relief Ratio, Relative Relief, Ruggedness Number, Elevation and Slope.

126 **Table 4: Example of Assigning Ranks and weight of the parameters for construction relief**
 127 **diversity model**

Parameters	Sub classes	Given rank	Weights of parameters	Parameters	Sub classes	Given rank	Weights of parameters
Dissection index	0.095-0.16	1	0.87	HG	0.26-0.57	1	0.52
	0.16-0.20	2			0.57-0.82	2	
	0.20-0.23	3			0.82-1.02	3	
	0.23-0.26	4			1.02-1.23	4	
	0.26-0.29	5			1.23-1.47	5	
	0.29-0.33	6			1.47-1.74	6	
	0.33-0.37	7			1.74-2.03	7	
	0.37-0.41	8			2.03-2.30	8	
	0.41-0.47	9			2.30-2.74	9	
	0.47-0.58	10			2.74-3.32	10	
Ruggedness number	0.00-0.005	1	0.77	Elevation	62-74	1	0.58
	0.005-0.011	2			74-83	2	
	0.11-0.015	3			83-91	3	
	0.015-0.19	4			91-99	4	
	0.19-0.024	5			99-106	5	
	0.024-0.029	6			106-113	6	
	0.029-0.034	7			113-121	7	
	0.034-0.041	8			121-129	8	
	0.041-0.05	9			129-138	9	
	0.05-0.063	10			138-155	10	
Relative relief	0	1	1	Sinuosity	0-1.06	10	0.32
	0-15	2			1.06-1.11	9	
	15-21	3			1.11-1.18	8	
	21-26	4			1.18-1.27	7	
	26-30	5			1.27-1.37	6	
	30-34	6			1.37-1.48	5	
	34-39	7			1.48-1.6	4	
	39-44	8			1.6-1.72	3	

Slope	44-48	9	0.79	Asymmetry Factor	1.72-1.86	2	0.59
	48-54	10			1.86-1.99	1	
	0-0.38	1			0.29-0.35	1	
	0.38-0.68	2			0.35-0.4	2	
	0.68-0.1	3			0.4-0.44	3	
	0.1-1.39	4			0.44-0.49	4	
	1.39-1.79	5			0.49-0.54	5	
	1.79-2.12	6			0.54-0.59	6	
	2.12-2.49	7			0.59-0.63	7	
	2.49-2.93	8			0.63-0.68	8	
Relief ratio	2.93-3.37	9	0.64	Bifurcation ratio	0.68-0.72	9	0.71
	3.37-4.05	10			0.72-0.78	10	
	0.003-0.011	1			1.94-2.29	1	
	0.011-0.022	2			2.29-2.73	2	
	0.022-0.038	3			2.73-3.18	3	
	0.038-0.055	4			3.18-3.54	4	
	0.055-0.073	5			3.54-3.83	5	
	0.073-0.089	6			3.83-4.22	6	
	0.089-0.11	7			4.22-4.69	7	
	0.11-0.12	8			4.69-5.17	8	
	0.12-0.14	9			5.17-5.62	9	
	0.14-0.15	10			5.62-6.08	10	

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130 **Table 5: Rank distribution, logic behind rank distribution, correlation score and weighted**
131 **score of Relief Diversity model.**

Parameters	Rank	Logic	Total correlation score(Xi)	Weighted score Xi/Ximax
Dissection index	10 rank at highly dissected area	Extreme dissected area is a very good indicator of relief diversity	4.03	0.87

Ruggedness number	10 rank at maximum rugged topography	More value of Ruggedness enhance the relief diversity	3.57	0.77
Relative relief	10 rank at highest relative relief	Highest value of relative relief increase the relief diversity	4.63	1
Slope	10 rank at steep slope	Greater value of slope promote the relief diversity	3.65	0.79
Relief Ratio	10 rank at maximum relief ratio	More value of relief ratio demarcated more relief diversity	2.95	0.64
HG	10 rank at highest value of Hydraulic gradient	Higher value of hydraulic gradient shows greater relief diversity	2.38	0.52
Elevation	10 rank at maximum relief	Greater value of relief indicate the more relief diversity	2.66	0.58
Sinuosity	10 rank at less sinuous region	Where sinuosity is low, relief diversity is high	1.49	0.32
Asymmetry Factor	10 rank at more value of asymmetry	More asymmetry shows more relief diversity	2.71	0.59
Bifurcation ratio	10 rank at highest value of Bifurcation ratio	Higher value of Bifurcation ratio denotes the greater relief diversity	3.30	0.71

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134 **Table 6 : Rank distribution, logic behind rank distribution, correlation score and weighted**
 135 **score of Drainage Diversity.**

Parameters	Rank	Logic	Total correlation score(Xi)	Weighted score Xi/Ximax
Drainage frequency	10 rank at maximum drainage frequency	Where drainage frequency is maximum Drainage diversity also maximum	5.40	0.914
Drainage density	10 rank at highest drainage density	High drainage density indicates higher drainage diversity.	5.91	1
constant channel maintenance(CCM)	10 rank at more CCM value	High CCM value favorable for more Drainage diversity	4.27	0.72
Drainage intensity	10 rank at greater intensity	Maximum Drainage Intensity lead to drainage diversity	3.04	0.52
Length of over land flow(Lof)	10 rank at maximum value of Lof	High Lof indicates higher drainage diversity	5.68	0.96
6.Drainage texture(Dt)	10 rank at maximum	high value of DT maximized drainage	5.57	0.94

7.Junction frequency	drainage texture 10 rank at highest junction frequency	diversity More junction frequency positively effect on drainage diversity	3.18	0.54
Regional sinuosity	10 rank at lowest sinuosity	Drainage diversity is greater at less sinuous river zone	1.60	0.27
Infiltration number(In)	10 rank at more IN	More In value indicates more drainage diversity	4.54	0.77
Bifurcation ratio(Rb)	10 rank at highest Bifurcation ratio	Frequently flood occurrence observed in high drainage diversity area.	3.40	0.58
Form factor(Ff)	10 rank at highest form factor	Higher value of form factor highlights the absolute drainage diversity	2.82	0.48
Relative relief	10 rank at highest relative relief	High elevation represent greater drainage diversity	2.97	0.50
Ruggedness number	10 rank at greater ruggedness number	Drainage diversity is high in rough topography	5.76	0.97

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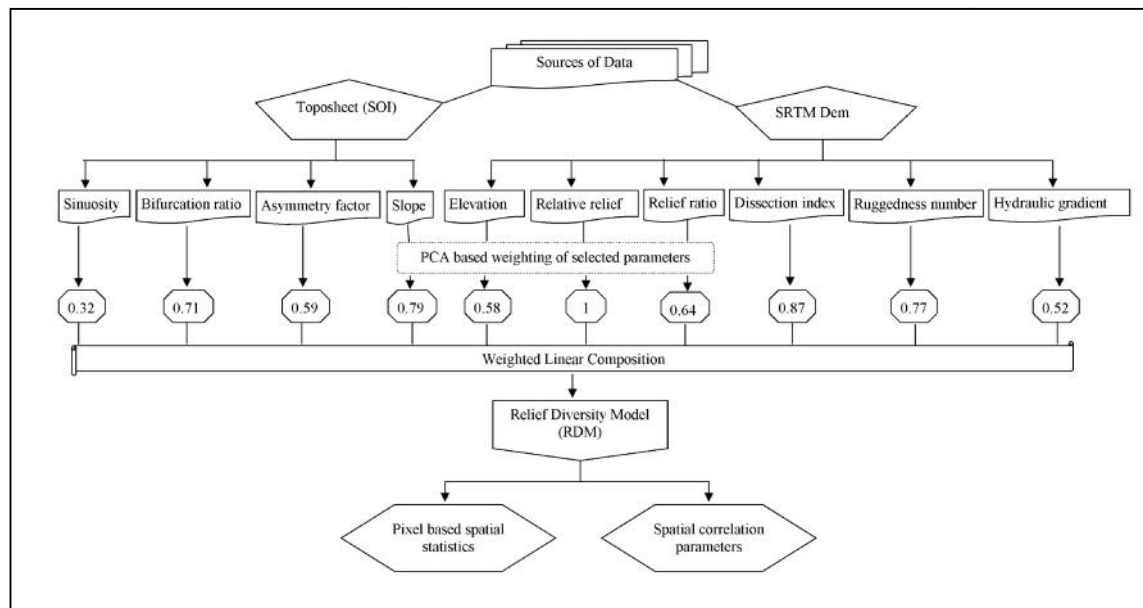
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138 **Table 7: Rank distribution, logic behind rank distribution, correlation score and weighted**
 139 **score of Morphometric Diversity.**

Parameters	Rank	Logic	Total correlation score (Xi)	Weighted score (Xi/Xi max)
Asymmetry	10 rank at high asymmetric value	High asymmetric value increase morphometric diversity	3.89	0.62
Drainage Density	10 rank at highest stream density	High stream density indicates higher morphometric diversity.	5.28	0.84
Stream Frequency	10 rank at maximum stream frequency	Where stream frequency is maximum morphometric diversity also maximum	5.17	0.83
Drainage intensity	10 rank at greater intensity	greater Drainage Intensity lead to more diversity	2.80	0.45
Dissection index	10 rank at higher dissected value	More dissected zone indicates more morphometric diversity	5.06	0.81
Drainage Texture	10 rank at maximum drainage texture	high value of drainage texture maximized morphometric diversity	5.05	0.81
Form Factor	10 rank at highest form factor	Higher value of form factor highlights morphometric variety	3.84	0.61
Hydraulic gradient	10 rank at greater Hg value	More Hg value enhance the differentiation of morphometric diversity	3.07	0.49
Infiltration Number	10 rank at more IN value	More In value indicates more morphometric diversity	4.11	0.65
Junction	10 rank at highest	More junction frequency	4.27	0.68

Frequency	junction frequency	positively effect on morphometric diversity		
Bifurcation Ratio	10 rank at highest Bifurcation ratio	Frequently flood occurrence observed in high morphometric diversity area.	5.38	0.86
Relief Ratio	10 rank at highest relief ratio	High relief ratio represent greater morphometric diversity	4.05	0.65
Relative Relief	10 rank at highest relative relief	High relative relief indicates higher morphometric diversity	5.74	0.91
Ruggedness Number	10 rank at greater ruggedness number	morphometric diversity is high in rough topography	6.27	1
Slope	10 rank at steep slope	Steep slope positively control morphometric diversity	4.22	0.67
Elevation	10 rank at high elevation	Morphometric diversity influenced by high elevation	4.41	0.70

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Fig: 2 Flow Diagram

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In figure 2 detail methodological flow for constructing relief diversity model has been made. For other cases same approaches have been adopted as shown here but the parameters are different.

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4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

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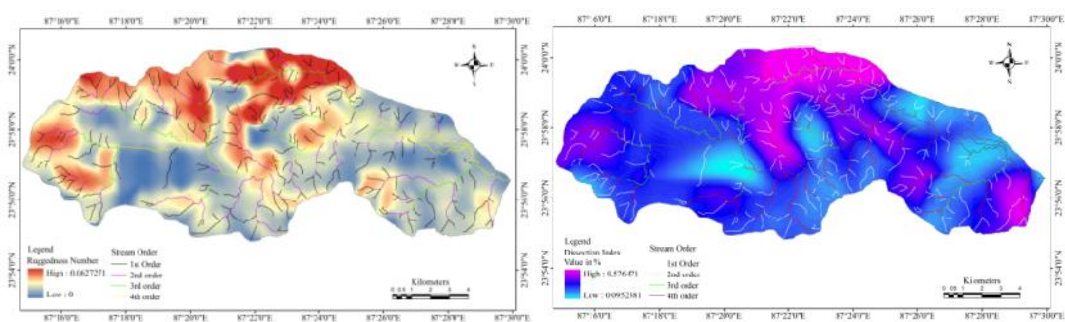
4.1 Spatial data layers used for the models

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Figure 3 (A-S) represent different spatial data layers used for different diversity model. Different data layers behaves differently. For example in case of ruggedness number, relative relief, drainage density, intensity, frequency these are high in the upper catchment of the basin whereas it low in the same area i.e. form factor, bifurcation ratio and relief ratio. In the same way differential behavior is also noticeable at the middle and lower catchment of the basin.

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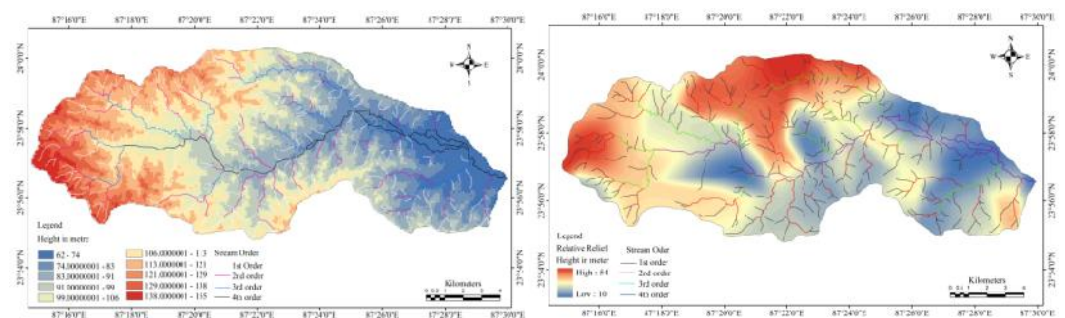


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(A) Ruggedness Number

(B) Dissection Index

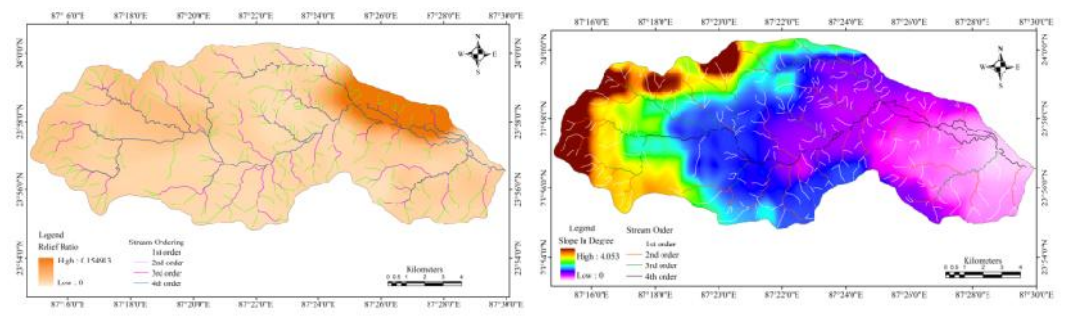


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(C) Elevation Map

(D) Relative Relief

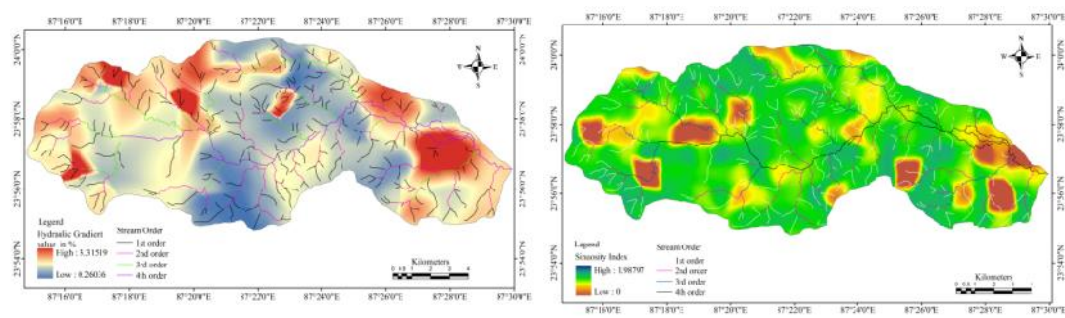


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(E) Relief Ratio

(F) Slope

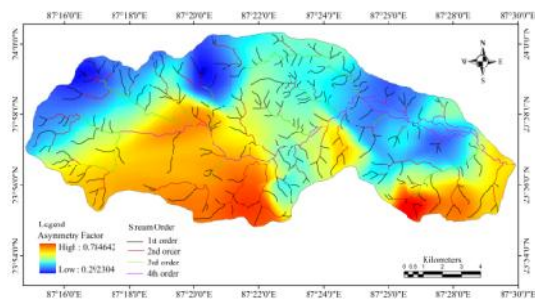


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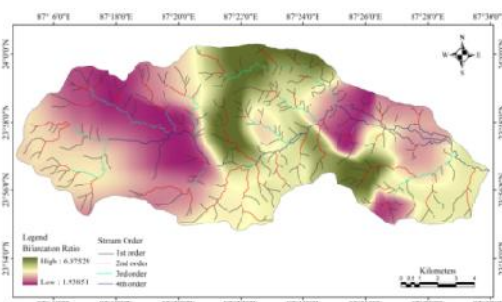
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(G) Hydraulic Gradient

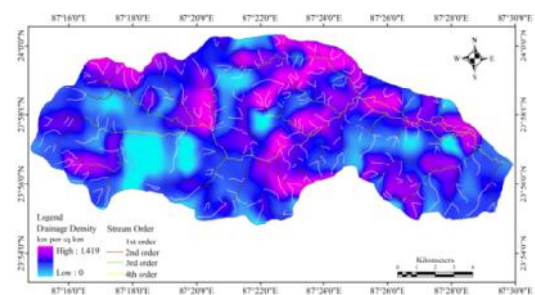
(H) Sinuosity Index



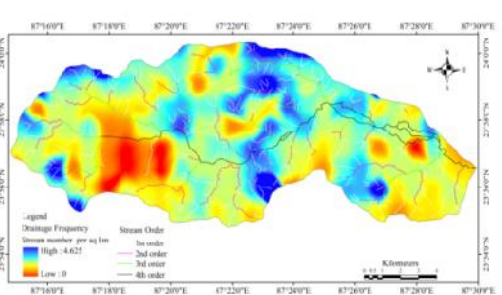
(I) Asymmetry Factor



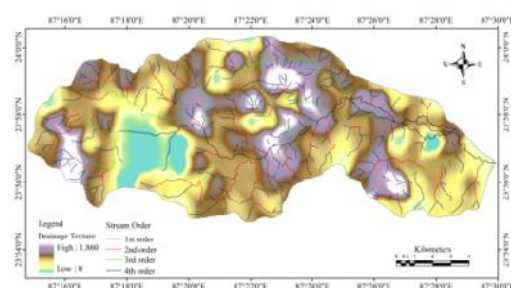
(J) Bifurcation Ratio



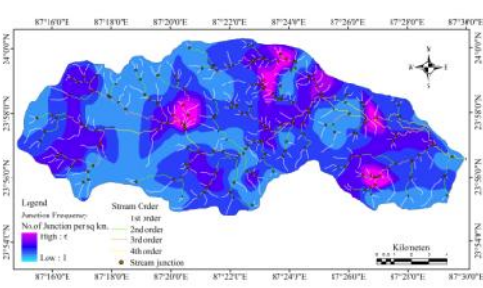
(K) Drainage Density



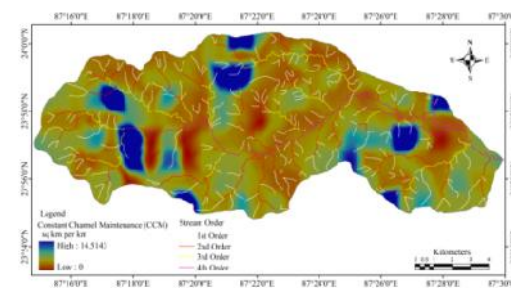
(L) Drainage Frequency



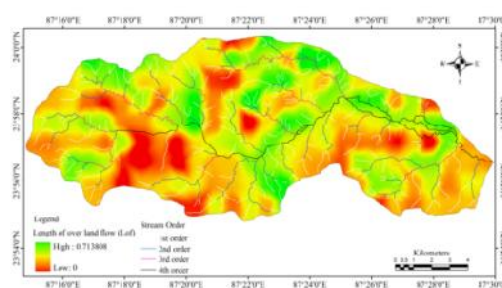
(M) Drainage Texture



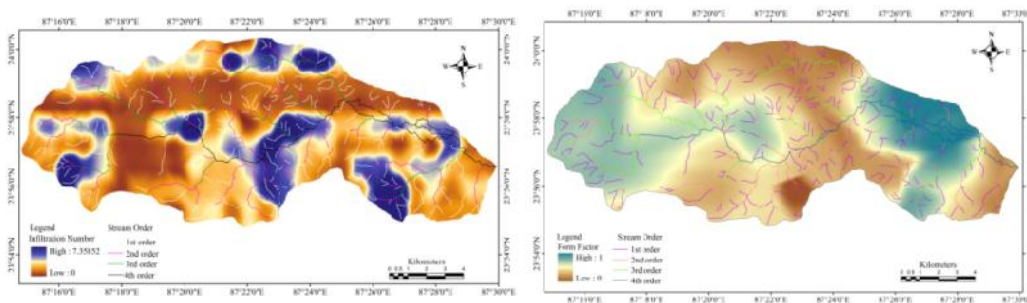
(N) Junction Frequency



(O) Constant Channel Maintenance

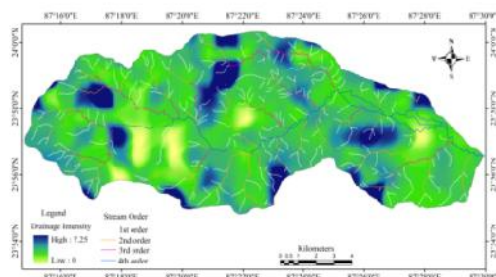


(P) Length of Over Land Flow



(Q) Infiltration Number

(R) Form Factor



(S) Drainage Intensity

Fig 3 (A –S) shows the spatial data layers for constructing the models. The parameters which are used for constructing the three models are described separately in table 3 -5.

3.2 Relief diversity model (RDM)

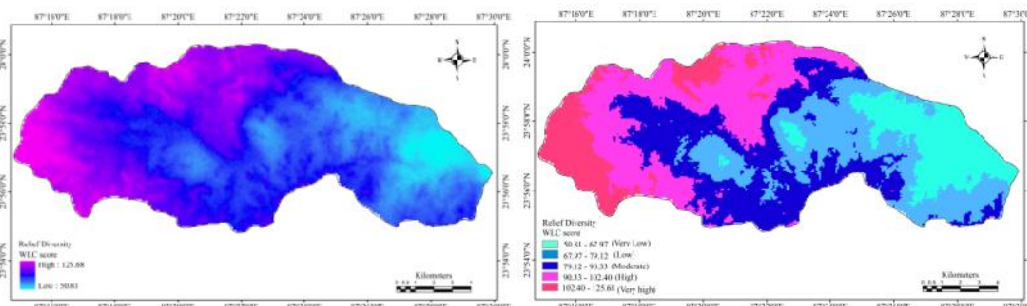


Fig 4 (a) Weighted Relief Diversity

(b) Weighted Classified Relief Diversity

PCA based weights composite equation for Relief Diversity

$$\text{RDM} = (\text{Rn} \times 0.87) + (\text{DI} \times 0.77) + (\text{Rhp} \times 1) + (\text{S} \times 0.79) + (\text{Rh} \times 0.64) + (\text{Hg} \times 0.52) + (\text{H} \times 0.58) + (\text{Si} \times 0.32) + (\text{Aa} \times 0.59) + (\text{Rb} \times 0.71)$$

.....(Eq.3)

184 **Table 8: Area and percentage of area under different weighted Relief Diversity classes.**

Relief diversity status	WLC score	Area extent (sq.km)	% of total area
Very low	50.81 - 67.97	24.88	14.47
Low	67.97 - 79.12	38.37	22.30
Moderate	79.13 - 90.34	46.65	27.12
High	90.34- 102.40	41.80	24.30
Very High	102.40- 125.68	20.30	11.81

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186 Relief diversity model mainly is constructed for identifying the unique geomorphological surface based
 187 on relief characteristics in the river basin. Equation 3 represents the concise weighted linear
 188 combination model of relief diversity. Figure 4(a) shows that very high relief diversity is found at the
 189 upper catchment of the basin where ruggedness number, dissection index, elevation, relative relief
 190 and slope are high. In this area, average slope is 2.02%, DI is 3.625, ruggedness number is 0.031.
 191 Such conditions indicate that the landscape unit is characterized by greater soil erosion potentiality,
 192 less chance of ground water recharge etc. Due to having greater potentiality of top soil loss, there will
 193 be paucity of soil nutrients and therefore, agriculturally this region will not be potential enough. Tree
 194 feeling incidents will be more frequent in this area. Out of the total area 11.81% area is found under
 195 very high relief diversity zone (table 8). In case of very low relief diversity, it is found at the lower
 196 catchment of the basin where ruggedness number, dissection index, elevation, relative relief, and
 197 slope are low. Out of the total area 14.47% area is come under very low relief diversity zone. This
 198 region usually will be highly potential for agricultural activities due to greater potentiality of soil
 199 moisture and less susceptibility to soil erosion. Surface and sub surface water potentiality also will
 200 support such economic activities.

201 **3.3 Drainage diversity model (DDM)**

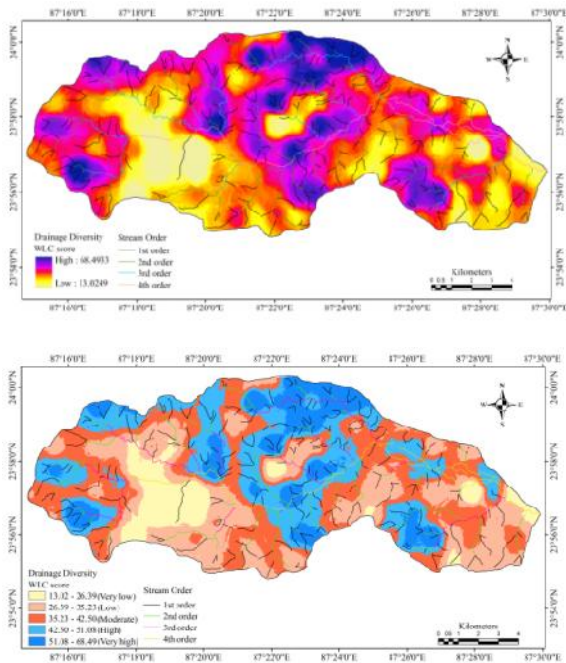


Fig 5 (a) Weighted Composite Drainage Diversity (b) Weighted Composite Classified Drainage Diversity

PCA based weights composite equation for Drainage Diversity.

$$DDM = (Sf \cdot 0.91) + (Dd \cdot 1) + (CCM \cdot 0.72) + (Di \cdot 0.52) + (Lof \cdot 0.96) + (Dt \cdot 0.94) + (Jf \cdot 0.54) + (Si \cdot 0.27) + (In \cdot 0.77) + (Rb \cdot 0.58) + (Ff \cdot 0.48) + (Rhp \cdot 0.50) + (Rn \cdot 0.97) \dots \dots \dots (Eq. 4)$$

Table 9: Area and percentage of area under different Weighted Drainage Diversity classes.

Drainage Diversity	WLC score	Area extent (sq.km)	% of total area
Very low	13.02 - 26.40	14.85	8.63
Low	26.40 - 35.23	45.72	26.58
Moderate	35.23 - 42.50	50.18	29.18
High	42.50 - 51.09	40.14	23.34
Very High	51.09 - 68.49	21.11	12.27

Drainage diversity model has been prepared for identifying unique drainage landscape unit. Equation 4 depicts weighted linear composite model for drainage diversity model. Figure 5(a) and 5(b) respectively illustrated the drainage diversity model in continuous and classified form. Very high drainage diversity is observed at middle and upper catchment of the basin where drainage density (1-1.49 km/sq.km), drainage frequency (3.20-4.625 stream/sq.km), drainage texture (0.732-1.860/sq.km.), length of over land flow (0.340-0.713) and ruggedness number (0.048-0.0627) is high. Table 9 shows that out of the total area of the basin 12.27% area falls under very high drainage diversity zone. This zone is characterized by large number of 1st and 2nd order streams and therefore highly prone to soil loss. Constant erosion activities in this region are not also suitable for agriculture activities and construction of settlement. It causes frequent felling of trees. Very low drainage diversity

is observed at the lower catchment of the basin where drainage diversity, drainage texture, drainage frequency and ruggedness number are very low. Out of the total area 8.63% area (Table 9) comes under very low drainage diversity zone. Dominance of rills and gullies accelerate the erosion process and natural deforestation.

3.4 Morphometric Diversity models (MDM)

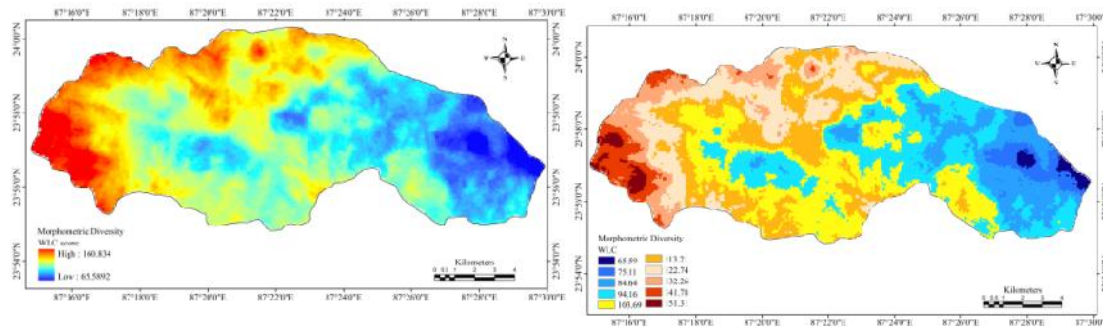


Fig 6 (a) Weighted Morphometric Diversity (b) Weighted classified Morphometric Diversity

PCA based weights composite equation for Morphometric Diversity.

$$\text{MDM} = (Aa \cdot 0.62) + (Dd \cdot 0.84) + (Sf \cdot 0.83) + (Di \cdot 0.45) + (Dt \cdot 0.81) + (Ff \cdot 0.61) + (Hg \cdot 0.49) + (In \cdot 0.68) + (Rb \cdot 0.86) + (Rh \cdot 0.65) + (Rhp \cdot 0.91) + (Rn \cdot 1) + (S \cdot 0.67) + (H \cdot 0.70) \dots \dots \dots (\text{Eq. 5})$$

Table 10: Area and percentage of area under different Morphometric diversity classes.

Morphometric Diversity	WLC score	Pixel count	Area extent (sq.km)	% of total area
1 (Lowest)	65.59-75.11	225	1.72222	1.00
2	75.11-84.64	724	5.54172	3.22
3	84.64-94.16	2593	19.84763	11.54
4	94.16-103.69	4206	32.19403	18.72
5	103.69-113.21	4983	38.14143	22.17
6	113.21-122.74	3880	29.69872	17.26
7	122.74-132.26	3220	24.64688	14.33
8	132.26-141.78	1509	11.55035	6.71
9	141.78-151.31	858	6.567398	3.82
10 (Highest)	151.31-160.84	273	2.089627	1.21
Total		22471	172	100

Incorporating all the Morphometric parameters finally diversity in Morphometric surface has been constructed (Eq. 5). Figure 6(a and b) show continuous WLC and classified WLC model for morphometric diversity model respectively. Classified model highlights ten distinct morphometric surfaces with distinct morphometric characters (Fig. 6b). Table 10 represents the area under different morphometric diversity classes, where 1.21% area comes under very high and 1.00% area comes under very low diversity surface. Highly diversified morphometric surface is geomorphological picturesque but accelerated rill and gully action is majorly responsible for high rate soil erosion, fast

rate tree felling etc^[35]. Soil erosion rate of this area is 6-18 tons/ha/year as per the estimation of Jha and Kapat^[49]. Least diversified surface mainly comes under relatively depressed surface at the confluence region where deposition action is more active triggered by back thrust of flow due to rise of water level in Tilpara barrage^[50]. This surface is submerged seasonally during monsoon period. Table 11 briefly describes the statistics of different morphometric parameters in different morphometric diversity zones. From this table one can assume the differences of different morphometric surface units.

Table 11 Parameter Clustering

Morphometric Diversity	Dd	Rh p	Rn	DI	C C M	Si	Di	In	D t	L of	S	S f	H g	Hi	Ff	R b	Rh	H
1	0-0.32	10-13	0-006	0.09-0.1	0-6	1-1.98	0.05	0-05	0-05	0-02	0	0-05	1.5-2	0.35-0.45	0.1-0.52	2-3.5	0-0.01	62-65
2	0.05-0.46	12-16	0.002-0.003	0.09-0.3	0-5	1.4-1.9	0.03-1	0-2.5	0.5-0.9	0.1-0.2	0-1	0.5-1.2	1.6-2.9	0.39-0.42	0.75-0.89	2-4.2	0.01-0.05	63-69
3	0.2-1	13-20	0.002-0.004	0.1-0.45	3-13	1.1-3.9	0.08-0.35	1-5	0.5-1.1	0.1-0.3	0-1	0.2-0.5	1.2-2.1	0.36-0.46	0.12-0.56	1-9.5	0.02-0.05	63-75
4	0.1-1.2	12-22	0.003-0.006	0.02-0.42	0-7	0.4-1.5	0.01-0.55	1-5	0.1-0.5	0-3	0-1	0.5-1.4	0.26-1	0.36-0.56	0.12-0.45	2-5.2	0.02-0.15	75-83
5	0.6-1.3	15-25	0.005-0.006	0.09-0.3	4-3	0.1-3.6	0.05-0.65	2-5	0.5-0.6	0-1	0-1	0.1-0.3	1-3	0.28-0.46	0.38-0.54	2-5.5	0.02-0.06	80-100
6	0.7-1.35	20-45	0.007-0.006	0.2-0.4	2-8	0.0-0.8	2-6	1-4.5	0.6-1.4	0-2	0-5	0.1-0.4	2-3	0.4-0.5	0.45-0.9	3-5.7	0.06-0.07	78-115
7	0.8-1.39	35-54	0.001-0.006	0.3-0.56	3-5	0.1-1.6	2-7.1	3-7.4	0.7-1.7	0-0.7	2-3.5	0.2-0.3	1-3	0.3-0.51	0.2-0.9	2-6	0.05-0.6	10-121
8	0.65-1.36	40-50	0.002-0.004	0.35-0.46	3-1	0.2-1.1	4-2	4-7.2	0.7-1.6	0-0.6	3-4	2-4	1-3	0.35-0.49	0.45-1	3-5.1	0.04-0.07	11-132
9	0.7-	30-	0.0	0.3	2-	0.	5-	3-	1.	0.	3.	2.	2.	0.	0.	5.	0.0	12

	1.39	53	3-0.5 2	6-0.5 1	7	1-0. 9	7. 1	7. 1	2-1. 8	5-0. 7	5-4. 1	1-4. 5	9-3. 33	45- 51	65- 0	1-5 6	6-0.0 8	0-14 0
10	0.9- 1.40	25- 54	0.0 2-	0.2 9-	2. 5-	0. 15	4. 5-	3. 5-	1. 3-	0. 5-	3. 6-	2. 6-	3. 0-	0. 42	0. 63	5- 5.	0.0 6-	13 5-
			0.0 56	0.5 0	2. 8	0. -	4. 7	3. 7.	1. 1.	0. 0.	3. 4.	2. 4.	3. 3.	0. -	0. -	5- 8	0.0 0.0	15 5
						5				1				55	1			

3.5 Spatial Association among the RDM, DDM and MDM

Correlation matrix has been carried out among three above mentioned diversity model to know the role of drainage and relief parameters for making the surface diversified. Table 12 shows relief diversity and morphometric diversity are strongly correlated as the correlation value is 0.94 and drainage diversity is positively correlated with RDM and MDM as the correlation values are 0.445 and 0.207 respectively. From this correlation structure, it is clear that for bringing morphometric diversity, relief parameters play stronger role than drainage diversity and drainage diversity of the landscape is also controlled by relief diversity.

Table 12: Correlation among three models

	Relief diversity	Drainage diversity	Morphometric diversity
Relief diversity	1	0.207	0.940
Drainage diversity		1	0.445
Morphometric diversity			1

4. CONCLUSION

From the analysis of three models different unique drainage, relief and morphometric surface have been recognized. Each unit can be treated as unique in terms of terrain processes and forms. These are also distinct in connection with potentiality for developing its own characteristics assemblages cultural landscapes. Distinguished terrain processes, soil catena, soil loss, water retaining capacity, recharge, surface water availability and runoff characters characterizes the economic activities of the study area specially agricultural activities. So, not only for categorizing morphological units but also for devising economic landscaping such units are important.

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