



## MORPHOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF TURSIQ BASIN EAST OF IRAQ USING REMOTE SENSING AND GIS TECHNIQUES

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### ABSTRACT

Generally, this study aims to show the possibility of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems Techniques in analysing the Morphometric Changes of Tursiq Basin. An advantage took from the different applications system to obtain the morphometric treatments to Tursiq Basin. The drainage pattern was dendrite of five orders and the relation between orders of streams and the numbers of streams was inversely. The morph-metric properties show the far away from circular shape and the closeness from rectangular shape which means the danger of floods is small. The basin texture of Tursiq Basin is (1.693v/km) and that regarded as rough basin texture

**KEYWORDS:** Tursiq Basin, Morphometric Analysis, Remote sensing, GIS, DEM.

### INTRODUCTION

Remote sensing techniques and geographic information system (GIS) techniques regarded as a one of the strongest modern techniques in extracting the morphometric properties throughout the capability in determining the shapes, dimensions, and gradients of the earth surface<sup>[1]</sup>. The study of morphometric properties represents one of the modern directions to study the basins. The morphometric properties are directly related to the natural factors such as water resources for the basins<sup>[2]</sup>. The morphometric studies helping determining the shape of basins and the earth appearances that developed according to the shape of the basin so that the river drainage basin is the essential unit to make the quantified researches<sup>[3]</sup>. The geographic and geomorphic characteristics of a drainage basin are important for hydrological investigations involving the assessment of groundwater potential, watershed management and environmental assessment<sup>[4]</sup>. The morph dynamic evaluation of drainage data provides a

quantitative explanation of basin geometry used to reveal the geological and geomorphic history of each drainage basin. This necessitates the analysis of various drainage parameters such as ordering of various streams, measurement of drainage area and perimeter, length of drainage channels, drainage density (Dd), stream frequency (Fs), bifurcation ratio (Rb), texture ratio (TR), Lemniscate Factor (K) and Channel Maintenance Constant (C) to predict the approximate behavior of the watersheds during periods of heavy rainfall<sup>[5]</sup>. The present study area is drained for a variety of agricultural fields, industrial purposes and also major source for the water supply to Marshes and groundwater.

### Describing Studied Area

The studied area is a basin located in the north-east t part of Iraq north-east of Al-kut City, which is bounded from the north-east by longitudes (45.44-46.24) and latitudes (33.5-33.35) as shown in figure (1).

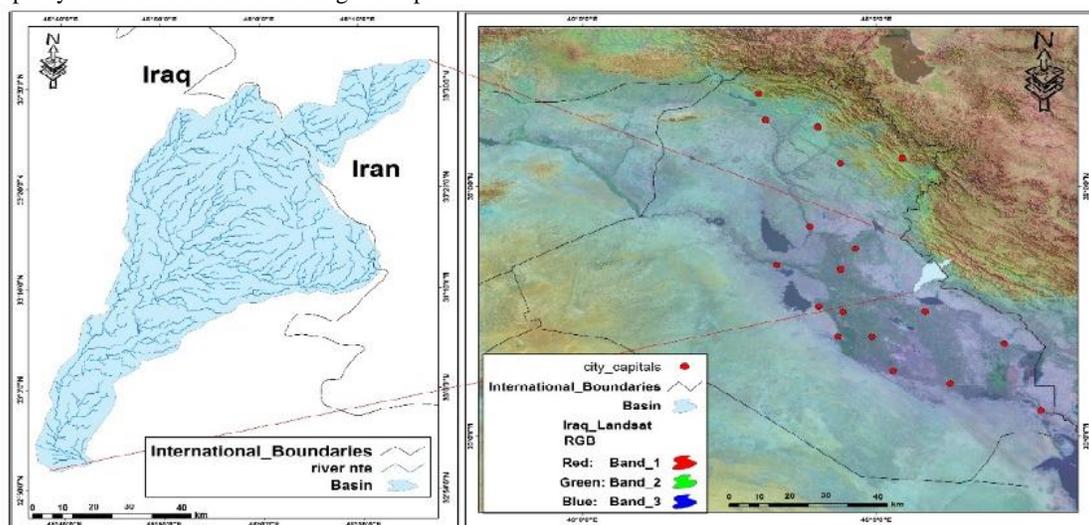


FIGURE 1: area of interest (Tursiq Basin)

### Geology of the Basin

The geological formation which emerged within the Wade Tursiq basin was only five times its geological time, Euphrates formation, the formation rocks form limestone, crystallized and well applied, Fatha formation the rocks of this composition occupy the southern Hemrin fold, generally consisting of a sequence of gypsum rocks, mud rocks and limestone rocks. In Jana Formation, Its various stone components are mostly brown sandstone and lead, as well as brown mudstone and reddish-brown stone, Mukdadiya Formation. It consists of several courses and is composed of a single course of sandstone, sandstone, clay stone and stone. Bai Hassan Formation Its components of different rocks are the travertine of sandstone, gravel, clay and sandstone as shown in figure (2).<sup>[6]</sup>.

### Data & Software Used

- 1 - Digital Elevation Model (DEM) of (30 m) resolution.
- 2- Satellite Image for the Region.
- 3- ArcGIS software (10.5).

### Extraction of Basin Boundaries

The DEM of the region must be extract to draw the drainage pattern. Firstly, a DEM were prepared and a polygon cover the basin were sketched to use it as a mask as shown in figure (2).

The polygon and the DEM were used as an input for the tool Extract by Mask using Arc GIS software. The result of the extraction is illustrated in figure (3).

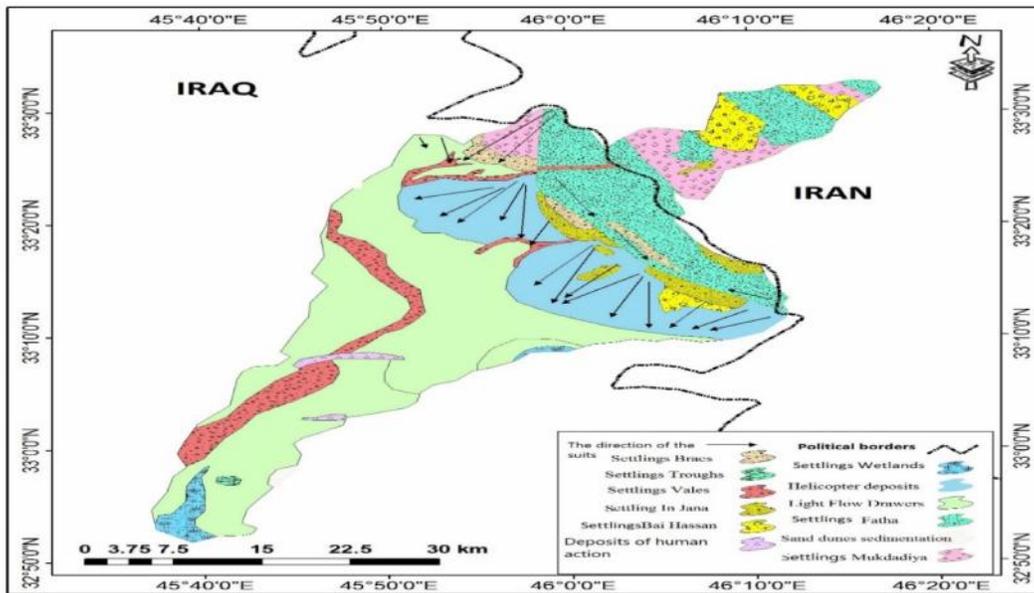


FIGURE 2: Geological study area (Tursiq Basin).

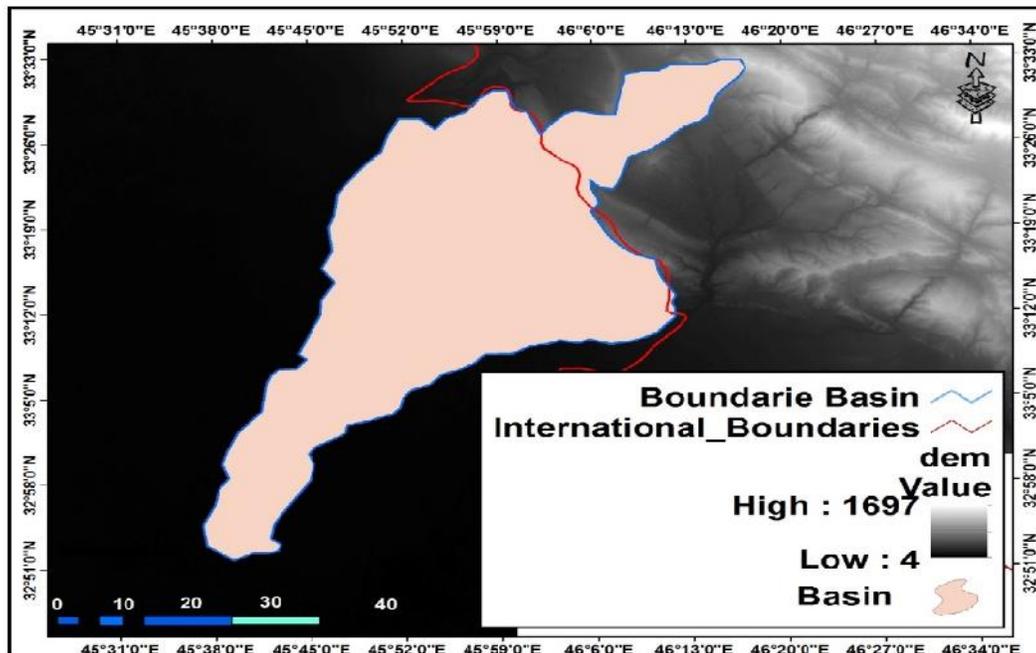


FIGURE 3: DEM & polygon of the basin Tursiq

**Morphometric properties of the basin**

Morphometric properties defined as the geometrical properties of the basin which include the area and the distances related to the basin and its tributaries. These measurements regarded as essential variables for the morphometric relations.

**Dimensions of studied basin**

Basin perimeter denoted by (P), it is measured in (Km). It is regarded as one of the essential morphometric variables, because it is related to many morphometric properties<sup>[7]</sup>. The perimeter of the basin can be found by using Spatial Analysis tool in ArcGIS software and depending on DEM, so, it is found that the perimeter of the basin is 259.29Km. The area of the basin is measured in square kilometers and it is denoted by (A). The area of the basin is 1691.07 Km<sup>2</sup>. Also, the width can be measured by determining the maximum width of the basin and

compared it with maximum length of drainages basins. It is also can be measured using equation (1)<sup>[8]</sup>.

In Eqn (1), Bw is the width of basin, A is area of the basin and L is length of the basin.

$$L = \frac{A(Km^2)}{Bw(Km)} \tag{1}$$

By applying equation (1) it is found that the width of studied basin is 38.609 Km, the length of the basin denoted by (L) and it is measured in (Km). It can be calculated by using the morphometric equation (1) All previous Dimensions of the basin are summarized in table (1)<sup>[9]</sup>.

**TABLE 1:** All dimensions and formal properties of studied basin

Tursiq Basin	Measurement
1691.07	Basin Areas km <sup>2</sup>
259.29	Basin perimeter km
20	Minimum Elevation m
1000	Maximum Elevation m
850.5	Average Elevation m
96.91	Basin Length km
43.799	Basin Width km
0.3167	Circularity factor
0.478	Elongation factor
0.3460	form factor
1.3884	Lemniscate factor
1.778	Compactness factor

**Form factor Ratio**

Quantitative expression of drainage basin outline form was made by through a form factor ratio (F) and it's measured by dividing the area of the basin by square of basin length as in equation (3)<sup>[10]</sup>.

In Eqn (2), F is the form factor (dimensionless), A is the area of basin and L is length of the basin.

$$F = \frac{A(Km^2)}{L^2(Km)} \tag{2}$$

In Eqn (3), C<sub>F</sub> is the Circularity ratio, A is the area of basin and P is the circumference of basin.

$$C_F = \frac{4\pi A}{P^2} \tag{3}$$

It is clear that the form factor is related to the length and area of the basin and that imply the format range between basin parts and regularity of its shape. The high value of the form factor reflect the closeness of basin shape from square or nearly spherical shape which mean quickly of transforming rainfall to floods, while low value of form factor closeness of basin shape from triangle shape. The form factor of Tursiq basin is (0.3460) which imply the expansion of the basin in source and tight in estuary which poses increasing the danger of floods.

**Basin circularity (Circularity ratio)**

Defined a dimensionless circularity ratio (Rc), and it's measured by dividing the area of the basin by area of

circle which has the same circumference of the basin as in equation (4)<sup>[11]</sup>.

In Eqn (4), E is the Elongation ratio, A is the area of basin and I. is Maximum basin length.

$$E_F = 2 \frac{\sqrt{A}}{L} \tag{4}$$

The closeness of the circularity ratio from (1) mean the shape of the basin nearly circular and vice versa [12]. The circularity ratio of the basin is (0.3167) which is small ratio and that reflect the estrangement of the basin form the circular shape.

**Elongation ratio**

Used an elongation ratio (E) and it's measured by dividing a diameter of circle its area equal to area of the basin by maximum basin length. If the ratio is less than 1 .The basin shape is close to the rectangular shape, while larger than 1ratio indicate to estrangement from rectangular shape and closeness from circular shape. The elongation ratio represented by equation (5)<sup>[13]</sup>.

In Eqn (5), L<sub>F</sub> is Lemniscate factor, L: Maximum basin length and A is the Area of basin.

$$L_F = \frac{L^2}{4A} \tag{5}$$

The elongation ratio of the basin is (0.478) which indicate the elongation of the basin and that compatible with form and circular factors.

**Lemniscate Factor**

Lemniscate Factor is denoted by (K), and it is measured by dividing the square of basin length by 4 times the area of the basin as in equation (6) [14].

In Eqn (6), C is compactness factor, P is the perimeter of basin and M is the circumference of a circle has the same area of basin.

$$C = \frac{P}{2\sqrt{M\pi}} \quad (6)$$

Lemniscate factor indicate to the similarity between the shape of the basin and pear shape, because most of the basins tend to have pear-shaped rather than the completely circular shape[6]. The high values of this factor indicate the increasing in the elongation of the basin, while the low values indicate to the flattening of the basin which causes increasing in length and numbers of low order streams. Lemniscate factor of the basin was (1.3884) and that mean the basin is closest to the elongation.

**Compactness factor**

It is another factor to emphasizing the estrangement of the basin from circular shape. As this factor estrangement from 1, the basin will be of more elongation[15]. The

compactness factor is denoted by (C) and can be measured by equation (7). has the same area of basin.

In Eqn (7),  $R_b$  the Bifurcation Ratio, Nu is the number of streams for a certain order and Nu +1 is the number of steams for order post Nu.

$$R_b = \frac{Nu}{Nu + 1} \quad (7)$$

The compactness factor of the basin is (1.778) and this value indicates to closeness of the basin shape from the elongation. All previous factors of the basin are summarized in table (1).

**Morphometric properties of water net**

It is the properties of a set of tributaries and valleys that comprise drainage basin.

**Drawing the drainage pattern**

Drainage pattern can be drawn from digital elevation model (DEM), and by using ArcMap software as in figure (4) which illustrate the main steps for drawing drainage pattern [16]. The hydrology tools of ArcMap were used to model the flow of water across a surface. When modeling the flow of water, we may want to know where the water came from and where it is going. After drawing the drainage pattern of the studied basin depending on Strahler method, it is observed that the basin has a dendritic drainage pattern of five orders as shown in figure (5).

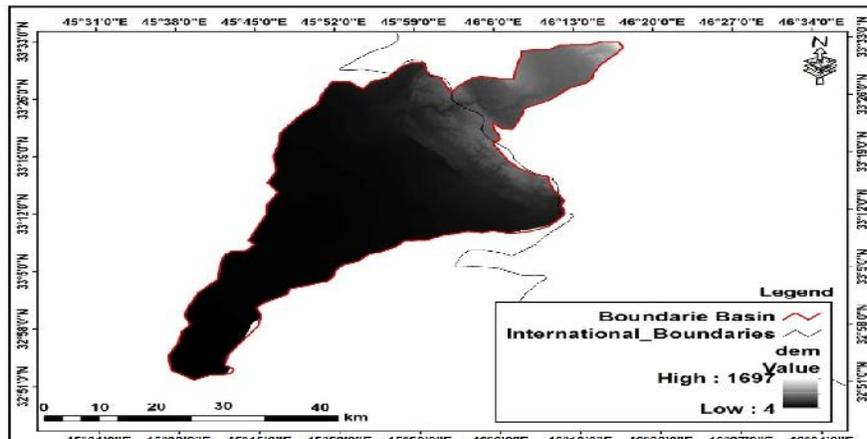


FIGURE 4: DEM for studied basin

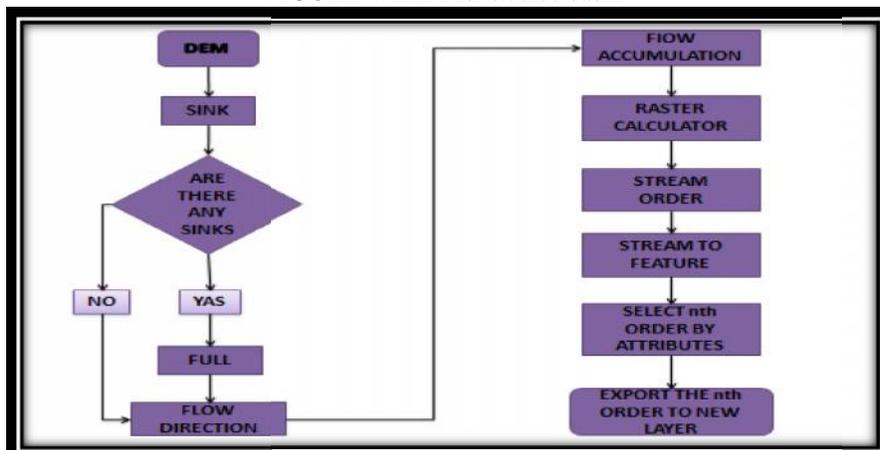


FIGURE 5: The main steps for drawing drainage pattern

**Bifurcation Ratio**

The term bifurcation ratio is denoted by (Rb), and it is given by equation (8) [10]:

In Eqn (8),  $F_s$  is the stream frequency,  $N_u$  is the Number of streams and  $A_u$  is the Area of basin.

$$F_s = \frac{\sum N_u}{A_u (Km^2)} \tag{8}$$

It is defined as the ratio between the numbers of streams for a certain order to the number of streams for an order follow the previous order [15]. The increasing of bifurcation ratio lead to increasing the dangerous of floods during high rainfall. Table 3 summarizes the bifurcation ratios for each order [17].

**Streams Frequency**

Stream frequency or channel frequency is denoted by ( $F_s$ ). It is measured by dividing the sum of streams number by the area of the basin as in equation (9) [18].

In Eqn (8),  $D_d$  is the drainage density,  $L_u$  is sum of streams lengths and  $A_u$  is the area of basin.

$$D_d = \frac{\sum L_u}{A_u (Km^2)} \tag{9}$$

The high values of streams frequency indicate the existence of a large number of tributaries, which increase

the capability of grouping the water as surface runoff. On the other hand, the low value of streams frequency indicate a small number of tributaries which decrease the chance of surface runoff and increase the infiltration of water to the underground water [19]. The streams frequency of studied area was (0.259), which regarded as relatively low value and that means decreasing of surface runoff.

**Drainage Density**

The study of land topography for the draining water regarded as one of the studies which illustrate the operation of diversity and changing from one region to another according to climate, weather, rock nature, and rock structure. The drainage density it is denoted by ( $D_d$ ) and it's measured by.

The drainage density indicates the breaks in region. The drainage density of the basin (0.791)Km/Km<sup>2</sup>.

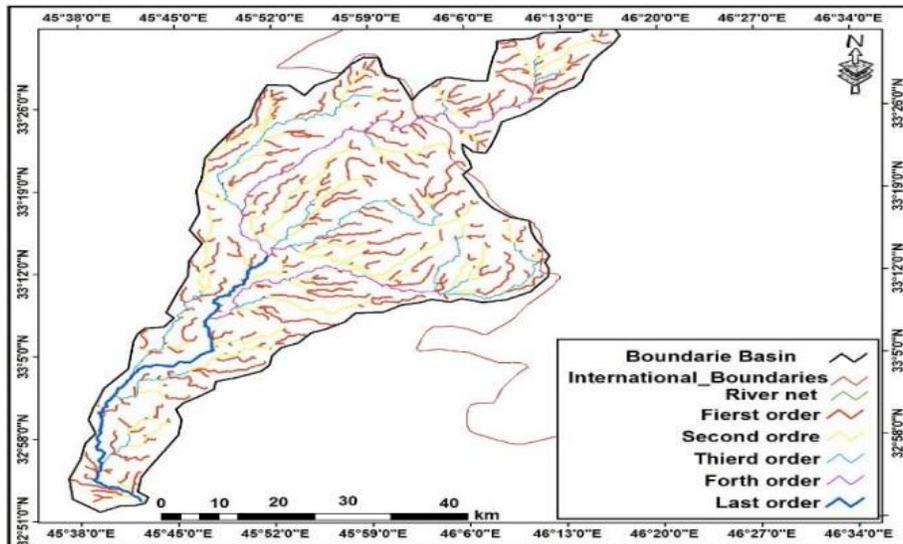
**Channel Maintenance Constant**

Channel Maintenance Constant is denoted by ( $C$ ) and it's measured by equation (10) [21].

The channel maintenance constant of the basin is (1.363Km), and that indicates there is no area of basin hasn't water net in the future. Table (2) summarizes the Morphometric factors of studied basin.

In Eqn (9),  $C$  is the Channel Maintenance Constant,  $D_d$  is the drainage density.

$$C = \frac{1}{D_d} = \frac{A_u (Km^2)}{\sum L_u} \tag{10}$$



**FIGURE 6:** Orders of streams

**RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

The mathematical morphometric equations have been applied in this study to obtain the values of morphometric variables as in (schematic features, net features and features of Tursiq Basin topography). Basin of Tursiq river ending in fifth class according to Strahler classification, the basin is one of the biggest basins, and the basin space about (1691.07km<sup>2</sup>) and in surroundings at (259.29km), crosswise of the basin is (43.799 km) and lengthwise at (96.91 km). Basin consist of (439) sub-grades, starting from first grade and ending of fifth grade, where we found that the number of first grade riverbed is (327) grade. The

number of second grade riverbed is (81) grade. The number of third grade riverbed is (22) grade. The number of fourth grade riverbed is (8) grade. Finally, fifth grade riverbed is one grade. So, the totaling of all grades of the long riverbeds (1338.29km) for all grades, mainly drainage patterns classified of arboreal to semi arboreal. Basin Properties contain of contrast or divergence of formalism, cadastral and morphologies properties and Drainage network properties, and network of drainage. The Morphometric properties of basin at Tursiq Basin according to natural factors of basin. The shapes of the drainage generally were dendritic to semi-dendritic. It is

clear from the studying of the morphometric Analysis properties that the basin tend to the elongation more than the circular shape and that is proven from the circularity ratio (0.316) which indicates the estrangement from the circular shape. While the elongation ratio (0.478) indicates the elongation in basin, and that is proven from the other morphometric factors such as (compactness factor, Lemniscate factor, and from factor). The Drainage Density of Tursiq r basin reaches to (0.791 km/km<sup>2</sup>) and that mean for all (0.791 km) from the longest riverbeds of Drainage network of Tursiq Basin taken a space about (1

km<sup>2</sup>). The texture of the basin was (1.693 v/km) and for that it is considered as rough because it has (1.693) valleys per kilometer. After drawing the drainage pattern of studied basin, it is clear from morphometric factors of water network that the basin has a lot of breaks which increase the number of tributaries, and distribute of these tributaries randomly throughout the basin. From the studying of morphometric properties of the basin and water network, it is clear that the basin in the dangerous of floods.

**TABLE 2:** Morphometric factors of studied basin

Tursiq Basin	Measurement
13336.4	Stream order Length
0.791	Drainage Density
0.259	Streams Frequency
1.363	Channel Maintenance Constant km
51.03	The length of the mains km

**TABLE 3:** Numbers of streams and Bifurcation Ratio for each order

	Order	Number	Percentage %	Rb	Length(km)	Percentage%
Tursiq Basin	1	327	74.4	-----	676.939	50.58
	2	81	18.4	4.03	333.527	24.29
	3	22	13.9	3.68	165.52	12.37
	4	8	8.89	2.75	102.36	7.64
	5	1	2.29	8	59.674	4.45
	Aggregate	439	117.88	18.46	1338.29	99.99

## CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATION

Generally, this study aims to show the possibility of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems Techniques to analyzing the Morphometric Changes of Tursiq Basin. An advantage took from the different applications system to obtain the morphometric treatments to Tursiq Basin. This study neglect the ratio of generalization that affect the morphometric measurements in classical methods by using accurate data of a high local clarity degree represented by Digital Elevation Model instead of paper topographic maps. The Digital Elevation Model helped us in drawing the water drainage net accurately and clearly, that led to get results which was distinctive of accuracy than the results of morphometric analysis, and saved time and effort, The study concluded the following results: -

- 1) The maximum high level in Tursiq Basin River reached at (1000 m) above sea level, while the minimum high level of basin reaches at (20 m).
- 2) The formalism properties of Tursiq Basin (Form factor, Circular factor, Elongation ratio, Lemniscate Factor and Compactness factor) are refer to the basin living outside of circular form and closing to rectangular form, so that mean the risks of floods happened are in a small percentage happen, and the line of water network of basin are irregular extension, but in zigzag form and clearly.
- 3) This study will help the locals to use water resources for a constant growth in the area of drainage basin, and to know the amounts of water drainage and deposits that held by side streams of the basin and deposit as economical deposits like soil (for agriculture) and quarries of sand and gravels (for building).

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