



Incorporating the logistic regression into a decision-centric assessment of climate change impacts on a complex river system

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Abstract. Climate change is a global stressor that can undermine water management policies developed with the assumption of stationary climate. While the response-surface-based assessments provided a new paradigm for formulating actionable adaptive solutions, the uncertainty associated with the stress tests poses challenges. To address the risks of unsatisfactory performances in a climate domain, this study proposed the incorporation of the logistic regression into a decision-centric framework. The proposed approach replaces the “response surfaces” of the performance metrics typically used for the decision-scaling framework with the “logistic surfaces” that describes the risk of system failures against predefined performance thresholds. As a case study, water supply and environmental reliabilities were assessed within the eco-engineering decision-scaling framework for a complex river basin in South Korea. Results showed that human-demand-only operations in the river basin could result in the water deficiency at a location requiring environmental flows. To reduce the environmental risks, the stakeholders could accept increasing risks of unsatisfactory water supply performance at the sub-basins with small water demands. This study suggests that the logistic surfaces could provide a computational efficiency to measure system robustness to climatic changes from multiple perspectives together with the risk information for decision-making processes.

globe to sustain human livelihood and activities, those assets have been traditionally managed by heuristic operation policies developed under the assumption of stationary climate (Cosgrove and Loucks, 2015; Cully et al., 2016). However, probabilistic behaviors of hydrological processes can be significantly altered by the warming atmosphere; therefore, the heuristic policies are expected to become increasingly vulnerable (Brown et al., 2015; Georgakakos et al., 2012).

When formulating management solutions to non-stationary climate for a water system, an essential step is to assess impacts of climate change on its performance. An established method for the impact assessment was to investigate outputs of relevant system models forced by projections of the general circulation models (GCMs) under hypothetical greenhouse gas (GHG) emission scenarios (e.g., Xu et al., 2015; Eum and Simonovic, 2010). This type of assessments takes the “predict-then-act” paradigm for which the first prerequisite is sufficiently reliable predictions. The GCM projections, however, are often biased by inappropriate model formulations and/or imperfectly understood physical processes (Stevens and Bony, 2013; Deser et al., 2012; Dufresne and Bony, 2008; Stainforth et al., 2005). Thus, they may contain unacceptable risk costs for policymakers (Brown et al., 2012), hindering utilization of GCM-led strategies (Weaver et al., 2013; Brown and Wilby, 2012).

To overcome the weakness of GCM-driven assessments in practical decision support, alternative frameworks within the “robust decision” paradigm have emerged (e.g., Hadka et al., 2015; Whateley et al., 2014; Lampert and Groves, 2010). These decision-centric approaches seek robust solutions that can minimize adverse effects of climatic stresses on given

1 Introduction

Climate change is a global stressor that poses prodigious challenges to long-term management of water resources. While water infrastructures have been constructed across the

hydrological systems. Examples include the decision scaling (Brown et al., 2012), the dynamic adaptive policy pathways (Haasnoot et al., 2013), the real option analysis (Woodward et al., 2014), the info-gap decision theory (Korteling et al., 2013), and the robust decision-making (Lampert and Groves, 2010), among others. Whereas the predict-then-act paradigm focuses on the most likely future conditions that can maximize expected utility, the decision-centric approaches pay attention to sensitivity (or vulnerability) of system performance to climatic stressors (Weaver et al., 2013; Brown et al., 2012). This paradigm accepts the irreducible uncertainty in climate predictions as an inevitable part of long-term planning and guides decision makers toward low-regret strategies for sustainable system performance under non-stationary climate.

Among the decision-centric frameworks, the assessments based on the response functions of system performance have provided convenience in defining decision thresholds at which adaptation actions are required (e.g., Kim et al., 2018; Steinschneider et al., 2015a; Turner et al., 2014; Whateley et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2012; Prudhomme et al., 2010). They developed the relationships between system performances and climatic stressors (hereafter referred to as the response surfaces) via stress tests. Then, GCM projections were employed to indicate future system performance on the response surfaces. The response-surface-based methods have been refined to consider spatially varying system performance (e.g., Schlef et al., 2018) and multiple management objectives within a hydrological system (e.g., Culley et al., 2016). They allowed efficient evaluation of climate change risks by simply comparing the performance metrics indicated by a collection of GCMs against predefined thresholds.

Nonetheless, uncertainty of the response surfaces cannot be neglected due to assumptions and simplifications associated with the stress tests. Kim et al. (2018), for instance, showed how climate change risks could be underestimated if a modeling scale was inappropriately chosen. Kay et al. (2014) emphasized the importance of uncertainty allowances being used alongside the response surfaces. Moreover, Steinschneider et al. (2015b) suggested that hydrological modeling and climatic variability may introduce uncertainty in the response surfaces as much as GCM projections. The prior studies imply that over-reliance on the response surfaces of general performance metrics may misguide users to inappropriate and/or untimely adaptation policies. Importantly, the response surfaces have usually been developed with climatic shifts defined by long-term changes in statistical moments of weather observations (e.g., Poff et al., 2016; Steinschneider et al., 2015a; Whateley et al., 2014; Turner et al., 2014), even though they might insufficiently explain variation in the chosen performance indicators. Whateley and Brown (2016) found that the performance variation in a water supply system can be attributed significantly to the internal climate variability over a time horizon of policy planning. In other words, even if a projected climatic shift indicates a sat-

isfactory performance on the response surface, the system of interest could still be subject to a considerable risk of unsatisfactory performance.

Due to the associated uncertainty, the response surface of general system performance needs to be treated in a probabilistic manner. A possible approach is to gauge the uncertainty via the Monte Carlo sampling of system performances per climate stress (e.g., Steinschneider et al., 2015b; Whateley and Brown, 2016). However, if a complex system model is employed with a large combination of climate stressors, this stochastic sampling approach would require expensive computational costs, even with modern computing power (Whateley et al., 2016). To explore the effect of internal climate variability with the exhaustive Monte Carlo sampling, the computational burden for the stress test would be multiplied many times.

In this work, therefore, an efficient approach was proposed to evaluate the risks of system failures within a decision-centric framework. We simply incorporated the logistic regression into typical stress tests for the response-surface-based assessments. This study shows that the response surface can be simply converted into a probabilistic domain by categorizing the performance samples from the stress tests against a threshold. As a case study, we provided here a slightly modified version of the eco-engineering decision-scaling framework (Poff et al., 2016) to explore the probabilities of system failures varying across a complex river system with two contrasting management purposes.

2 Methodology

2.1 Eco-engineering decision-scaling framework

The eco-engineering decision-scaling (EEDS) framework (Poff et al., 2016) expanded the decision scaling (Brown et al., 2012) to consider stakeholders' multifaceted interests in the response surfaces. Five iterative steps are required for this framework. Step 1 is to identify possible management options (e.g., upgrading operations and/or structural investments), to select indicators of ecological and engineering performances (e.g., water supply reliability and ecological vulnerability), and to define user-specific thresholds under which the system performs unacceptably. Step 2 is to build system models for the hypothetical stress tests. For water resource management, the system models may include a runoff model and a water allocation model. By exposing the system models to a wide range of hypothetical climatic stressors, ecological and engineering performances can be evaluated. In step 3, the response surfaces of engineering and ecological performances are developed with outcomes of the stress tests. For vulnerability analysis, the predefined thresholds are imposed on the response surfaces. Step 4 is to evaluate the management options with the size of the climatic zones satisfying the performance thresholds. In step 5, preferred de-

cisions for the management options can be made, or, if necessary, the assessment from step 1 to 4 can be repeated with new management options and/or different criteria.

In the EEDS framework, the key information would be the size of the climate zone mutually satisfying the engineering and ecological thresholds since it measures overall system robustness to climate stresses. Decision makers may prefer management options that can widen the mutual climate zone, if they are socio-economically viable. However, the system robustness is not the only criterion for selecting management options. In decision-making processes, questions can be raised such as “what if future climates will not fall within the mutual climate zone?” and “how much do risks of system failures still exist within the climate zone that expects satisfactory performances?” Those questions can be answered by incorporating the logistic regression and a collection of GCM projections into the EEDS framework.

2.2 Incorporating the logistic regression into the stress tests

The stress tests in step 3 for the EEDS framework are intended to find expected performances per given climate exposure. By comparing the obtained performances against a pre-defined threshold, the climate exposures applied to the stress tests can be categorized into binary outcomes (i.e., 1 for satisfactory performances and 0 for other cases). With no need for the homogeneity and normality assumptions, the logistic regression model allows the explanation of occurrences of the satisfactory performances with the sigmoid function of the climate exposures (x_i):

$$\pi = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots)]}, \quad (1)$$

where π is the probability of satisfactory performance and β_i is the regression coefficients. Thus, $1 - \pi$ becomes the probability of unsatisfactory performance.

When two explanatory variables are chosen for x_i (e.g., changes in mean annual precipitation and temperature), it is possible to develop a two-dimensional surface to describe variation in π within a climate domain. Hereafter, the surface of π will be referred to as the logistic surface. In this study, the logistic surfaces were used for the steps 3 and 4 of the EEDS framework in lieu of the response surfaces. The following example shows how to assess the risk of system failures together with robustness to climate stresses for a complex water system.

3 Application: a case study for optimal water allocation in a complex water system

3.1 Study area

The case study area is the Geum River basin located in the western–central part of South Korea with a total area of

9915 km² (Fig. 1). The mean and the highest elevations in the river basin are 85 m and 1596 m a.s.l. (above sea level), respectively. The mean basin slope is 16.7 %. The total length of the main channel is approximately 402 km. The river basin has a semi-humid climate with monsoonal summer seasons. Wet air masses moving from the North Pacific usually make for hot and humid summer seasons, whereas winter seasons are dry and cold due to the Siberian high pressure. Approximately 60 %–70 % of annual precipitation falls in June to September (KMA, 2011); thus, rivers flow across the basin peaks in the middle of summer monsoon seasons. Snowmelt runoff minimally contributes to streamflow variations due to small winter precipitation (Bae et al., 2008).

The Geum River basin is officially divided into 14 sub-basins for administrative purposes along the geomorphological boundaries. The sub-basin areas vary between 120 and 1856 km², with an average of 708 km². 60 % of the entire river basin is covered by forests, while agricultural areas account for 18 %. The forest covers and agricultural lands within the 14 sub-basins occupy 33 %–83 % and 4.6–42 %, respectively. The sub-basins with relatively large agricultural lands tend to have small forest covers. The urban areas are 5.3 % of the river basin in total. According to the Korea Forest Service (<http://forest.go.kr>, last access: 11 October 2017), the soils across the Geum River basin have moderate to high infiltration capacity, implying that sub-surface runoff generations are dominant.

Human intervention affects the flow regimes in the Geum River basin. The main channel is regulated by two large dams serially connected for water supplies and flood controls. The Yongdam Dam located in the upper river basin has an effective storage capacity of 809 Mm³, while the Daecheong Dam at the middle of the main channel has a larger capacity of 1040 Mm³. Water storage in both dams is delivered to several sub-basins through water distribution systems developed for municipal and industrial (M & I) water demands, making non-geomorphological human-made connectivity between the sub-basins. The two large dams supply water to the demand sectors in outsides of the river basin through the distribution systems; hence, inter-basin water transfers may conflict with water demands within the river basin. During monsoon seasons, the Yongdam and Daecheong dams should reduce their storage limits by 137 and 250 Mm³ for flood control, respectively. In addition, many small-sized local reservoirs are widespread across the river basin to sustain irrigated agriculture (mostly for planting paddy rice). Though 95 % of the small reservoirs have minimal storage capacities below 1 Mm³, their gross capacity is more than 320 Mm³ and thus considerably alters natural flow regimes. The total storage capacities of the agricultural reservoirs in the 14 sub-basins are from 1.1 to 100.9 Mm³, with a median value of 12.5 Mm³. In each sub-basin, natural river flows and water transferred from the storage facilities (i.e., the agricultural reservoirs and dams) are consumed for agricultural, municipal, and industrial purposes. The water diverted for the M & I

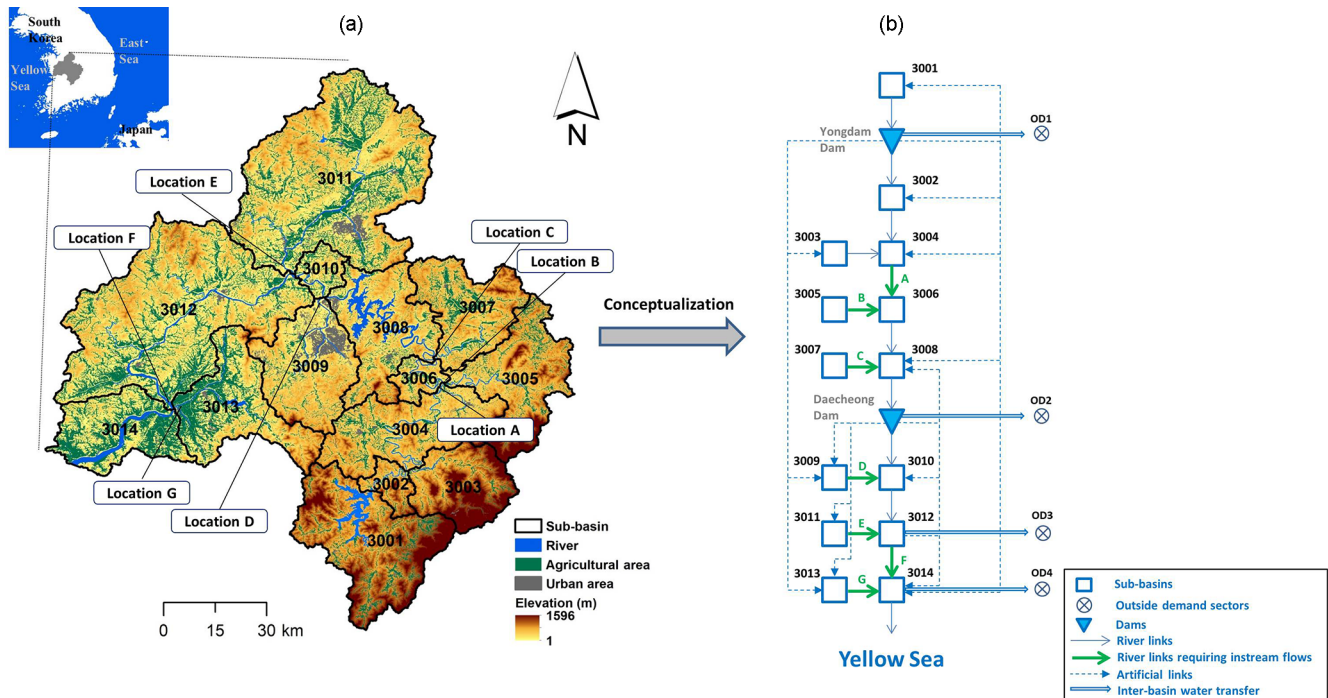


Figure 1. Layout of the Geum River basins (a) and the simplified node-and-link network for modeling water allocations (b).

demands could return to the rivers, becoming available water for lower demand sectors.

For water allocation modeling, we simplified the complex river system with a node-and-link network shown in Fig. 1. Each sub-basin was conceptualized as a node with natural water availability (i.e., natural runoff), storage capacity (i.e., water storage in the agricultural reservoirs), and water demands (i.e., agricultural and M&I water uses). The sub-basin nodes were connected by the stream links (the continuous lines). The two large dams were represented by the nodes only having storage capacities and were located between the two adjacent sub-basins accordingly. The outside water demand sectors were represented by nodes with no natural flows and zero storage capacities. The human-made connections between the dams and the sub-basins were conceptualized by separate links (the dashed lines) with conveyance limits.

3.2 Data collections

3.2.1 Climate and water demand data

We collected daily precipitation and maximum and minimum temperatures over South Korea at 3 km grid resolution for 1973–2015. The grid data were produced by interpolating synoptic observations at 60 stations in the automated surface observing system (ASOS) operated by the Korea Meteorological Administration. The point weather data were spatially interpolated by the parameter-elevation regressions on independent slopes model (PRISM; Daly et

al., 2008), and overestimated values were smoothed by the inverse distance method. Jung and Eum (2015) found improved performance of the combined method in South Korea via comparative evaluations to the original PRISM. For the case study, the collected grid data were spatially aggregated with the sub-basin boundaries. The aggregated daily precipitation and temperature were perturbed by a stochastic weather generator for the stress tests and were then used to generate streamflow at the sub-basin nodes. According to the grid data, the mean annual precipitation and temperature over the Geum River basin for 1976–1995 were 1245 mm and 11.7 °C, respectively. They have risen to 1325 mm (+6.4 %) and 12.2 °C (+0.5 °C) during 1996–2015, providing an indication that atmospheric water supply and demand gradually increase over time within the river basin.

The water demands for 2030 were taken as the reference demands to evaluate water allocation performance across the river basin. In South Korea, government-driven national water resources plans are legally developed for sustainable resource management for every 20-year period. The water resources plan for 2020 was first established in 2000 including water demand projections up to 2020 (MOCT, 2000) and has been revised three times to consider hydrologic and socio-economic changes since the initial version (MOCT, 2006; MLTM, 2011; MOLIT, 2016). In the third version of the water resources plan for 2020 (MOLIT, 2016), the water demands across South Korea were re-projected up to 2030. By an electronic correspondence (requested on 26 September 2017), we obtained the demand data projected

Table 1. Annual agricultural and M & I demands per demand node, and the minimum instream flows from the sub-basins corresponding to the seven locations.

	ID no.	Mean annual flow* (Mm ³ yr ⁻¹)	Agricultural demand (Mm ³ yr ⁻¹)	M & I demand (Mm ³ yr ⁻¹)	Total storage capacity (Mm ³)	Instream flow requirement (Mm ³ month ⁻¹)
Sub-basin node	3001	639.6	50.9	7.6	29.7	
	3002	97.3	4.0	0.4	1.0	
	3003	254.5	13.1	2.4	5.0	
	3004	498.6	50.5	15.8	10.1	8.9 (A)
	3005	382.8	42.3	5.1	14.9	6.6 (B)
	3006	82.6	9.2	3.3	6.8	
	3007	384.0	74.2	6.1	22.0	7.4 (C)
	3008	473.6	36.9	34.4	7.2	
	3009	465.8	31.5	208.5	7.0	6.7 (D)
	3010	92.2	19.3	16.4	0.2	20.8 (E)
	3011	1145.0	356.6	296.2	100.9	
	3012	1437.2	367.9	75.1	38.4	45.9 (F)
	3013	506.1	193.2	26.4	47.4	6.4 (G)
	3014	340.7	215.1	10.3	29.6	
Outside demand node	OD 1			20.6		
	OD 2			42.1		
	OD 3			5.1		
	OD 4			4.0		
Total		6800.0	1464.7	779.8	320.2	

* Natural runoff averaged over 20-year rainfall–runoff simulations with stochastic weather series containing zero climatic perturbations ($\Delta P_{\text{avg}} = 0\%$, $\Delta P_{\text{cv}} = 0\%$, and $\Delta T_{\text{avg}} = 0\%$) relative to 1996–2015. The letters A to G in the brackets are the corresponding instream flow locations.

to 2030 given at 10-day intervals for the sub-basins and the two outside nodes directly linked to sub-basins from the team leading the national water plan at the Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology. Among the three demand scenarios (high, medium, and low) given in MOLIT (2016), we chose the high-demand scenario from a conservative perspective. More details about the demand projections are available in MOLIT (2016). For simplicity, the M & I demands at the two outside nodes connected with the two dams were estimated by the water transfer records.

In addition, we collected the information of the minimum flow rates required for ecosystem sustainability, namely “instream flows” (Jowett, 1997), at seven locations within the river basin. The instream flows are determined by the experts’ investigations into water quality and ecological conditions in the vicinity of major rivers in South Korea and are officially announced by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MOLIT, 2016). Though the human water demands (i.e., agricultural and M & I uses) are the first priority of the local and regional authorities (MOLIT, 2016), they are recommended for considering the instream flows for environmental sustainability. Table 1 summarizes the agricultural and M & I demands for the year of 2030 and the instream flow requirements. For wa-

ter allocation modeling, the demand data at 10-day intervals were aggregated into monthly values.

3.2.2 Bias-corrected GCM projections

Daily precipitation and temperature projections of 25 GCMs (Table A1) were collected from the archive of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (Taylor et al., 2012). Two representative concentration pathways (RCPs), RCP4.5 and RCP8.5, were selected to assess the water supply capacity of the river basin for the upcoming 20-year period of 2020–2039. RCP4.5 and RCP8.5 were used frequently as scenarios of stabilized and increasing greenhouse gas concentrations in climate change studies (e.g., Yan et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2016; Moursi et al., 2017).

The 50 GCM projections (i.e., 25 GCMs \times 2 RCPs) were bias corrected by the de-trended quantile mapping (DQM; Bürger et al., 2013; Eum and Cannon, 2017) that can preserve raw climate change signals given by GCMs. The DQM removes the long-term mean change in projected values first. After applying the ordinary quantile mapping (QM; e.g., Hwang and Graham, 2013) to the de-trended values, the removed trend is reintroduced to the bias-corrected projections. The de-trending procedure may prevent the exaggeration of raw climate change signals, which is a typical drawback of

the ordinary QM. More details about DQM and related bias-correction methods are available in Bürger et al. (2013), Cannon et al. (2015), and Eum and Cannon (2017). To correct the 50 GCM projections toward the spatial averaged precipitation and temperatures over the Geum River basin, 1976–2005 and 2006–2099 were set as the reference and the projection periods, respectively.

3.3 Stress tests for water allocation performances

The stress tests were conducted for optimal water allocations in the node-and-link system. The 14 sub-basins are forced by atmospheric drivers (i.e., precipitation and temperature) to generate natural streamflow. The generated streamflows are regulated to meet the water demands and instream flow requirements. The operations should be constrained by geomorphological and management conditions. We used a conceptual runoff model and an optimization model for evaluating water supply and ecological performances with stochastic weather series perturbed by hypothetical climate stresses.

3.3.1 Generating climate-stress-induced weather series

The stochastic weather generator (WG) by Steinschneider and Brown (2013) was employed to produce plausible daily precipitation and temperature sequences with climatic perturbations (i.e., generating climate stresses). Several bottom-up assessments successfully used this model to evaluate performance of hydrologic systems under varying climate stresses (e.g., Whateley et al., 2014; Steinschneider et al., 2015b). The semi-parametric WG combines two stochastic models. The wavelet autoregressive model proposed by Kwon et al. (2007) first generates annual precipitation series spatially averaged within a region of interest for a desired length (20 years in this study). The wavelet components of the annual precipitation series are extended by the autoregressive model to embed the low-frequency structure inherent in observations. Then, daily weather series conditioned by the random annual precipitation are simulated by the Markovian bootstrap resampler of Apipattanavis et al. (2007). In this process, the daily observations are resampled by the k -nearest-neighbor scheme and the precipitation occurrence series generated by the standard Markovian process (e.g., Wilks, 1998). The weather data at multiple locations within the region of interest are sampled together for spatial coherence. For the final step, the mean and variance of stochastic precipitation series are adjusted by the ordinary QM to impose climatic perturbations stresses. The temperature series are simply perturbed by adding a temperature differential. Further in-depth details about the stochastic WG are found in Steinschneider and Brown (2013).

Using the stochastic WG, we generated 539 sets of 20-year-long precipitation and temperature time series perturbed by a combination of three climatic stresses for each set. Since each weather series was newly generated, the 539 stochastic

series contain different internal variations. The 539 perturbations were 11 changes in the average of daily precipitation, 7 changes in the coefficient of variance (CV) of daily precipitation, and seven increases in the mean temperature over the 20-year time horizons. The perturbations of mean precipitation were from -60% to $+40\%$ at 10% increments relative to the observations for 1973–2015, while the CV changes were from -40% to $+80\%$ at 20% increments. The temperature perturbations were from $+0$ to $+6^\circ\text{C}$ at 1°C increments. The 539 ($539 = 11 \times 7 \times 7$) sets of climate-stress-induced weather series were input to a rainfall–runoff model to quantify natural water flows at the sub-basins. To develop the logistic response surfaces, each weather series generated by the WG was represented with the mean annual precipitation (P_{avg}), the CV of daily precipitation (P_{cv}), and the mean annual temperature (T_{avg}) over the 20-year time horizon.

3.3.2 Simulating natural runoff at the sub-basin nodes

A simple rainfall–runoff model, GR4J (Perrin et al., 2003), was used to simulate natural flows at the sub-basins nodes. GR4J has been frequently employed in many studies under diverse climates, such as parameter regionalization (e.g., Oudin et al., 2010), predicting flow durations (e.g., Zhang et al., 2015), and low flow estimations (e.g. Demirel et al., 2015), among many others. GR4J uses four conceptual parameters to describe functional behaviors of a watershed in response to lumped precipitation and potential evapotranspiration (PET) inputs. The parameters implicitly explain soil water storage, groundwater exchange, routing storage, and excess runoff generations within a watershed. The parsimonious structure of GR4J poses a relatively small equifinality problem in parameter calibration and regionalization (Oudin et al., 2008; Perrin et al., 2010). Perrin et al. (2003) provides the computation procedures in detail.

In the case study, a proximity-based regionalization was applied for parameter identification because almost no natural streamflow observations are available at the outlets of the sub-basins. The operational inflow records at the Yongdam Dam were the only applicable observations for parameter calibration at the sub-basin 3001. For the other sub-basins, the parameter sets were transferred from neighboring watersheds assessed in Kim et al. (2017). Kim et al. (2017) comparatively assessed performance of the proximity-based parameter transfer in comparison to several alternative methods, concluding that spatial proximity captured functional similarity well between 45 gauged watersheds in South Korea. The mean Nash–Sutcliffe efficiency (NSE) was 0.53, with a standard deviation of 0.41, when transferring the parameter sets of five neighboring catchments calibrated with observed hydrographs (Kim et al., 2017). Hence, for the 13 sub-basins from 3002 to 3014, natural flows were simulated with the transferred parameter sets from five nearby gauged watersheds, while flows at the sub-basin 3001 were generated by the parameters calibrated against the inflow

data. The five runoff simulations were averaged for the sub-basins in which the regionalization scheme was used. The parameter set calibrated against the inflow records for the sub-basin 3001 yielded a NSE value of 0.62 for 2007–2015. The daily natural flows simulated by GR4J with the 539 climate-altered versions of the stochastic weather simulations were temporally aggregated at monthly values for water allocation modeling.

3.3.3 Water allocation modeling

The total water availability in the river basin during a certain month is water storage in the dams and reservoirs at the end of the previous month plus the natural flows at the sub-basins in the current month. Some of the available water is again kept in the storage facilities for supplying water in upcoming months. Thus, operators' decisions on water storage in each month recursively affect supply performance in the river basin through a 20-year period. A monthly sequential optimization model was used to determine amounts of the water storage and consumption at each sub-basin. The operators could minimize the water deficiency during a current month, while the water storage needs to be maximized for water supplies in upcoming months. We assumed that the two conflicting objectives are equally important for the operators. Hence, the objective function for determining water supplies and storage at the nodes for a particular month was

$$\text{Minimize } \frac{\sum D_i - \sum S_i}{\sum D_i} - \frac{\sum V_i - \sum C_i}{\sum C_i}, \quad (2)$$

$$D_i = DA_i + DM_i, \quad (3)$$

$$S_i = SA_i + SM_i, \quad (4)$$

where D_i is the total demand, S_i is the total supply, V_i is the water storage, and C_i is the storage capacity (C_i) at node i . SA_i and SM_i are agricultural, and M & I water supplied for agricultural (DA_i) and M & I demands (DM_i) at node i . The total water demand at each node (D_i) is the sum of agricultural demand (DA_i) and M & I demand (DM_i). Likewise, the water supply at each node is divided into agricultural supply (SA_i) and M & I supply (SM_i).

The monthly optimizations were subject to constraints. The water supply (S_i) to a demand node was limited by water availability, which is the sum of natural flow at the node in the current month, flows from other nodes via the stream and the human-made links in the current month, and water storage at the node in the previous month. Water surplus at the nodes was not allowed (i.e., $S_i \leq D_i$). The water remaining after supplies and storage at a sub-basin node should be discharged from the node through the channel network. The water storage at each node is constrained by its storage capacity ($V_i \leq C_i$). The water transfers through the human-made links were only supplied for M & I demands of destination nodes and were limited by the conveyance capac-

ity ($40 \text{ Mm}^3 \text{ month}^{-1}$). The agricultural and M & I demands were of equal priority in optimizations.

With 20-year-long natural flows per climatic perturbation, we determined SA_i , SM_i , and V_i month by month using the global optimization tool “fmincon” in the Matlab software. Since V_i values determined for a month become water availability for the next month, optimizations for 240 months interact sequentially. To consider the return flows, we followed the assumptions in the water plan for 2020 (MOLIT, 2016). Simply put, 65 % of the M & I water use at each node was assumed to return and become available water for following nodes, while no return flows after agricultural uses were considered in the water plan due to high water use efficiency.

3.3.4 Evaluating water supply and ecological performances

Using the optimized SA_i , SM_i , and V_i values, water supply performances at the demand nodes were measured for the given 20-year-long stress-imposed weather series. For each sub-basin node, we measured the water supply reliability ($\rho_{s,i}$) defined as the probability of satisfactory supply against 99 % of the monthly demands:

$$\rho_{s,i} = \text{prob}[S_i \geq 0.99 D_i]. \quad (5)$$

The amount of water passing through the seven locations with the instream flow requirements can be also calculated using the decision variables and the natural flows. The environmental reliability at an instream flow location j ($\rho_{e,j}$) was evaluated by the following:

$$\rho_{e,j} = \text{prob}[F_j \geq F_{\min,j}], \quad (6)$$

where F_j and $F_{\min,j}$ are the flow passing location j and the instream flows required for ecosystem sustainability at the location, respectively.

In total, water reliabilities at the 14 demand nodes (14 sub-basins) and the seven locations requiring instream flows were evaluated for each climatic perturbation. These 21 sets of performance indicators were used to develop the logistic response functions for each sub-basin node and instream flow location with corresponding climate stress. To develop the logistic surfaces, we assumed that the stakeholder-driven thresholds for $\rho_{s,i}$ and $\rho_{e,j}$ were 0.95 and 0.70, respectively. The 539 sets of P_{avg} , P_{cv} , and T_{avg} that represent the perturbed weather series were categorized into zero and one against the two thresholds for the logistic regressions.

4 Results

4.1 Water supply performance at the sub-basins

The stress tests that forced the system models (i.e., GR4J and the optimization model) with the perturbed weather series produced 539 sets of reliabilities for each sub-basin and

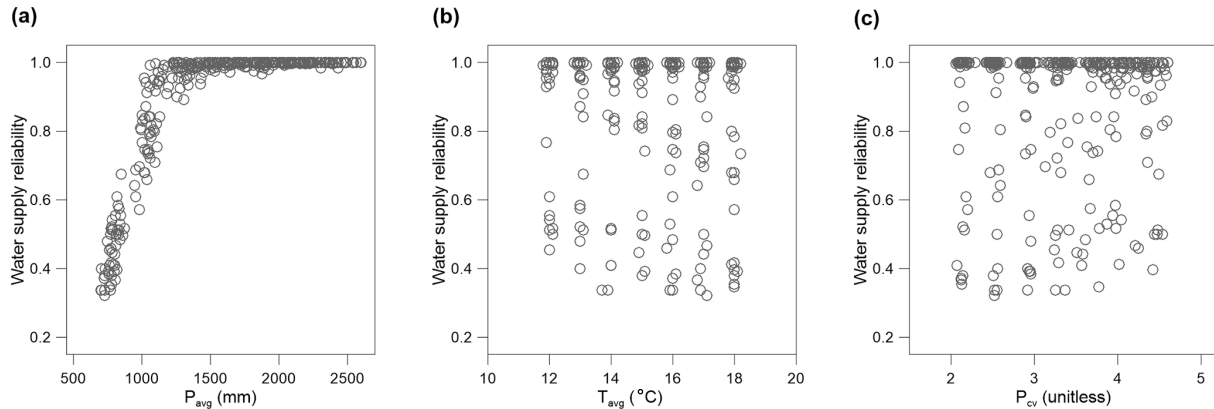


Figure 2. Scatter plots between the water supply reliability at the sub-basin 3001 and changes in (a) P_{avg} , (b) T_{avg} , and (c) P_{cv} collected from the stress tests driven by the 539 sets of stochastically generated stress-imposed weather series.

each location of instream flow. Figure 2 displays the scatter plots between water supply reliability (ρ_s) at the sub-basin 3001 and corresponding changes in P_{avg} , P_{cv} , and T_{avg} relative to 1996–2015. We preliminarily checked statistical significance of the explanatory variables using the multiple linear regressions. The changes in P_{avg} and T_{avg} were of very high significance to variation in the ρ_s values (p values $< 10^{-16}$), whereas the change in P_{cv} was insignificant (p value = 0.744). This indicates that the water supply reliability is generally determined by variations of the mean precipitation and temperature for a 20-year period. Though higher precipitation variability (P_{cv}) could generate more direct runoff across the river basin, storage capacities of the agricultural reservoirs and dams seem to nullify the impacts of P_{cv} changes on the variation in water supply reliability. The preliminary regression analysis led us to a hypothesis that changes in P_{avg} and T_{avg} could sufficiently capture the variation in water supply reliabilities across the river basin.

Figure 3a illustrates the multiple regression function between the ρ_s values and changes in P_{avg} and T_{avg} (the coefficient of determination is 0.93) on which the collection of 50 GCM projections was overlaid. Most of the 50 GCMs expected that ρ_s at the sub-basin 3001 would be greater than 0.95 for 2020–2039. This type of response surfaces between expected performance and hypothetical climatic stresses have been commonly used in the decision-centric assessments (e.g., Brown et al., 2012; Whateley et al., 2014; Turner et al., 2014). Figure 3c indicates that ρ_s at the sub-basin 3001 could be less than 0.95 if P_{avg} decreases by approximately 30 %. The ρ_s values varied significantly even with zero decrease in P_{avg} , indicating that there might be the risk of unsatisfactory supply performance even with no changes in P_{avg} .

The risk of $\rho_s < 0.95$ could be evaluated by the logistic surface shown in Fig. 3b. The sigmoid functions fitted to the binary outcomes categorized against the threshold of $\rho_s > 0.95$ (Fig. 3d) could provide approximate probabili-

ties of $\rho_s > 0.95$ (hereafter referred to as π_{s95}) at the sub-basin 3001. π_{s95} declined with rising temperatures, since water availability was reduced by evaporation losses. The π_{s95} values indicated by the 50 GCMs ranged between 74 % and 99 % for 2020–2039. It should be noted that the climatic bound for $\rho_s = 0.95$ (dashed lines in Fig. 3a and b) has the risk of $\rho_s < 0.95$ as much as 40 %–60 % on the logistic surfaces. It seems that considerable risks of unsatisfactory performances still exist on the zone of satisfactory performance in Fig. 3a.

Likewise, we fitted the sigmoid functions to the binary outcomes against the threshold of $\rho_s > 0.95$ for the other sub-basins. Figure 4 displays the climatic bounds at which $\pi_{s95} = 95$ % for each sub-basin. The sub-basin 3001 was of the highest bound among the 14 sub-basins, indicating that the uppermost sub-basin is the most vulnerable to changes in P_{avg} and T_{avg} . 15 GCMs were located below the climate boundary of the sub-basin 3001. On the contrary, the boundary of the sub-basin 3012 was the lowest. For every GCM projection, π_{s95} at the sub-basin 3012 was larger than 99 %. The sub-basins with limited connections to the upper sub-basins tend to have higher climatic bounds of $\pi_{s95} = 95$ %. The lower sub-basins receiving streamflow generated by the upper sub-basins are likely to withstand stronger climate stresses, even though they have relatively large agricultural demands.

4.2 Environmental reliability against the instream flow requirements

We compared the modeled flows at the seven locations of instream flow against the minimum requirements and evaluated the environmental reliabilities (i.e., ρ_e) at each location. Figure 5 shows the box plots of ρ_e values at the seven locations in response to the 539 climate perturbations. While ρ_e values at all the locations decreased as climate became drier, the location E was the most vulnerable. Even with no changes in P_{avg} and T_{avg} , the outflows from the sub-

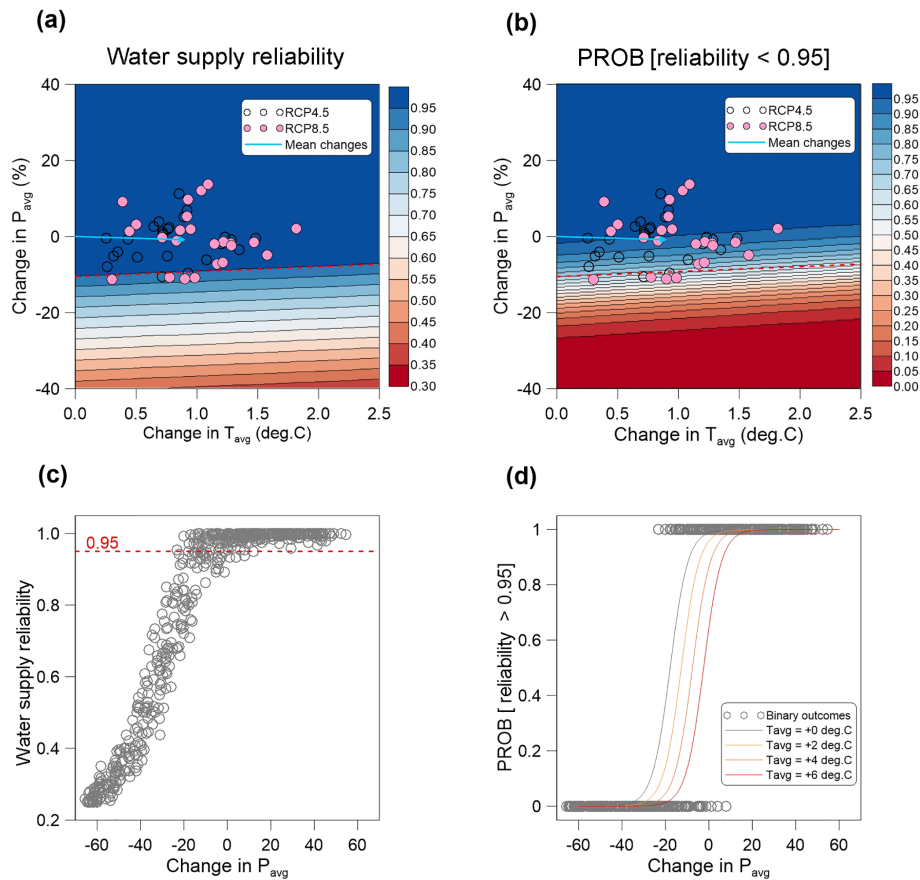


Figure 3. (a) Response surface of ρ_s at the sub-basin 3011, and (b) logistic response surface of the probability of $\rho_s > 0.95$. (c) The scatter plot between ρ_s and change in P_{avg} ; (d) the binary outcomes against the threshold of $\rho_s > 0.95$ and the sigmoid functions for the probability of $\rho_s > 0.95$. The empty and filled circles overlaid on (a) and (b) are the 50 GCM projections for 2020–2039. The dashed lines in (a) and (b) are the climatic bounds for the climatic threshold of $\rho_s = 0.95$. PROB stands for probability.

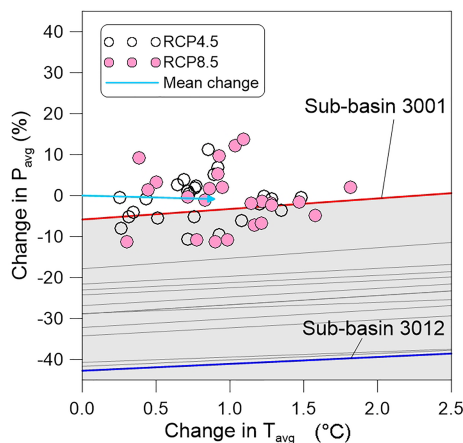


Figure 4. Climatic bounds for probability $[\rho_s > 0.95] = 95\%$ for the 14 sub-basins on which the 50 GCM projections for 2020–2039 were superimposed.

basin 3011 were often less than the minimum requirement, implying that ecosystems near the location E might be currently undermined by the large agricultural and M & I demands in the sub-basin 3011. If P_{avg} decreased by 20 % and T_{avg} rose by 3 °C, ρ_e at the location E would fall below 0.5. In contrast, streamflow at the location D perfectly satisfied the instream flow requirement under the same stress. Despite the second-largest M & I demands in the sub-basin 3009, water transfers from the two large dams could deliver sufficient water supplies. 65 % of the water supplies for M & I demand were supposed to return to the stream network and became streamflow to meet the instream flow requirement at the location D. Although both sub-basins 3009 and 3011 had limited geomorphological connectivity to the upper sub-basins, their demand components and linkages to the two large dams made the significant difference between their ρ_e values.

We developed the logistic response surfaces with binary outcomes against the threshold of $\rho_e > 0.70$ at which the instream flow requirement at the location E was satisfied in the optimization model under no climate stresses (i.e., no changes in P_{avg} and T_{avg} relative to 1996–2015); Fig. 6

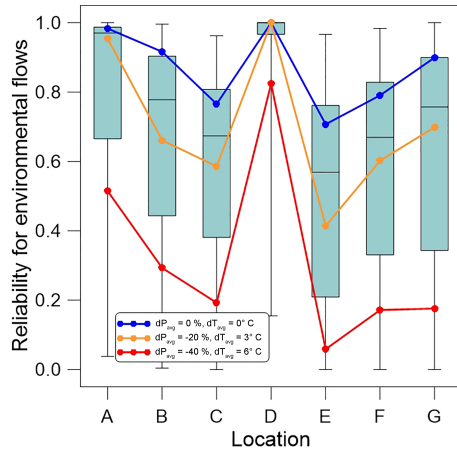


Figure 5. Reliability against the instream flow requirements at the seven locations obtained from the 539 sequential optimizations with stress-induced weather series. The blue, grey, and red lines connect the reliabilities at the seven locations under the three representative climatic stresses.

displays the climatic bounds at which the probability of $\rho_e > 0.70$ (hereafter referred to as π_{e70}) is 95 % for all the locations requiring instream flow. As expected, the bound for the location E was the highest, and the climate zone for $\pi_{e70} > 95$ % sensitively declines with rising T_{avg} . The bound for $\pi_{s95} = 95$ % at the sub-basin 3001 (black dashed line) was below the bounds for the locations E. The human-demand-only operations would increase the risks of ecosystem degradation near the locations E if climate becomes drier. The environmental risks at the locations E seem to be more sensitive to rising T_{avg} than the water supply risk at the sub-basin 3001. Only 5 out of the 50 GCMs for 2020–2039 (10 %) indicate $\pi_{e70} > 95$ % at the location E.

4.3 Consideration of the instream flow into water management

From the assessments with the logistic surfaces and the GCM projections, the environmental risk at the location E was likely to become an issue for 2020–2039. As an adaptation strategy, the instream flow could be considered in water management to be balanced between water supply and environmental risks. We modeled this management option by including the instream flow requirement at the location E in the objective function of the water allocation model as

$$\text{Minimize } \frac{\sum D_i - \sum S_i}{\sum D_i} - \frac{\sum V_i - \sum C_i}{\sum C_i} + w \frac{Q_{\min,E} - Q_E}{Q_{\min,E}}, \quad (7)$$

where $Q_{\min,E}$ and Q_E are the instream flow requirement and flow at the location E, respectively. w is a weight representing relative importance of the instream flow in water management. While the instream flow requirement at the location E could be treated as a constraint for optimizations, this approach may lead to no optimal solutions under severe climate

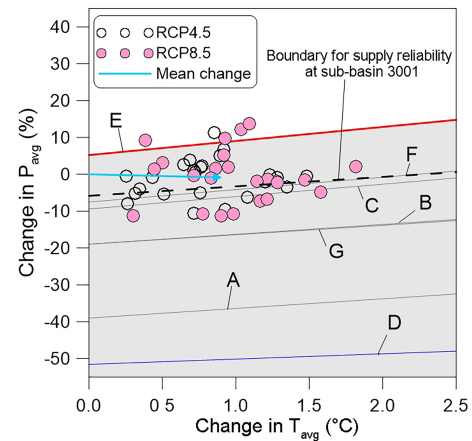


Figure 6. As in Fig. 4, but for the probability of $\rho_e > 0.70$ at the seven locations of instream flow.

stresses. Hence, it would be better to consider the instream flow requirement in the objective function for the stress tests.

Through trial and error experiments with the 539 climate perturbations, we found that ρ_e at the location E could considerably increase with a tiny w value. The sequential optimizations with $w = 0.01$ allowed us to have a fairly improved ρ_e value at the location E. However, we found that the improved ecological reliability at the location E was from substantial reduction in water supply reliability at the sub-basin 3002. Figure 7 illustrates the logistic models for water supply at the sub-basin 3002 and the instream flow requirement at the location E under the two operation options applied to the case study. The first operation only considered the given agricultural and M & I demands (O_1), whereas the deficit against the instream flow requirement was considered in the second option (O_2). By changing the operation objective from O_1 to O_2 , the risk of $\rho_e < 0.95$ at the sub-basin substantially increased at the sub-basin 3002. The risk of unsatisfactory water supply was found even with increasing P_{avg} under O_2 . Indeed, the water supply performance became much more sensitive to T_{avg} changes. Conversely, the risk of unsatisfactory ecological reliability at the location E substantially declined. This is because the optimization model could not increase discharge from the sub-basin 3011 for the instream flow requirement due to the high agricultural demands. Instead, the model forced an increase in outflows from the Yongdam Dam to meet the agricultural demands at the sub-basins 3012 and 3014 and the instream flow at the location E. It was inevitable to have deficient water supplies in the sub-basin 3002 with relatively small demands, even under optimized water allocations. In other words, minimizing the total water deficiency of the entire basin may force the local water deficit in the sub-basin 3002.

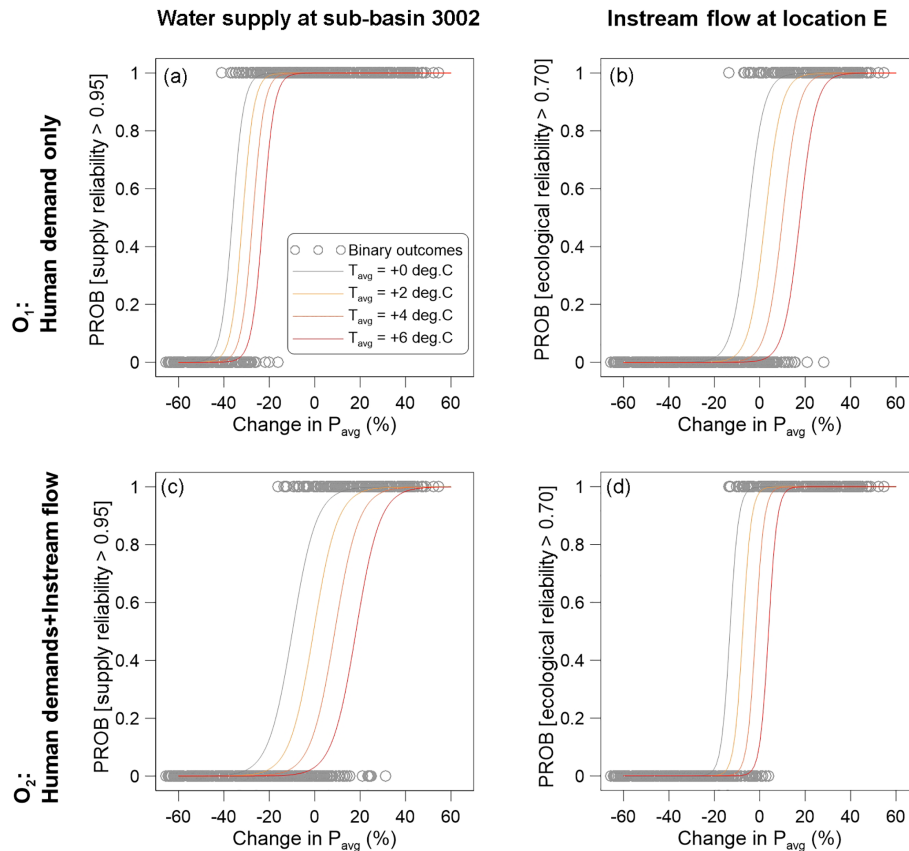


Figure 7. The logistic regression models for π_{s95} at the sub-basin 3002 (a, c) and π_{e70} at the location E (b, d) under the human-demand-only operation (a, b), and the operation considering human demands and instream flow together (c, d).

4.4 Validating the logistic models and assessing the management options with the EEDS framework

Since the sigmoid function is hypothetical, the logistic surfaces need to be validated to ensure their predictive performance. As an interval validation (i.e., reusing the 539 sets of performance samples for validation), the logistic models were evaluated with the bootstrap prognoses (Harrell et al., 1996). To measure the “optimism” of each logistic model, we used the Nagelkerke pseudo- R^2 (Nagelkerke, 1991; hereafter simply R^2) as the metric of predictive performance. The optimism of a regression model can be evaluated with performance differences between the original model and the models developed by bootstrap samples (with replacements). Hence, it indicates a potential performance loss when applying new samples to the original model. Together with the regression results, Table 2 summarizes the optimism estimated from 2000 bootstrap models. Most of the logistic models showed 0.9 or higher R^2 values, and the highest optimism was only 0.80 %. The internal validation implies that predictive performance of the logistic models seems acceptably high and robust. As an external validation (i.e., validation with out-of-sample data), we conducted additional stress tests of the river system with three arbitrary perturbations

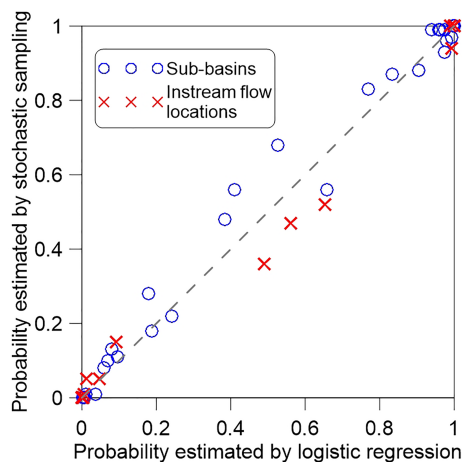
of $(-37.1 \%, +2.5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C})$, $(-27.7 \%, +1.3 \text{ }^\circ\text{C})$ and $(-13.6 \%, +0.6 \text{ }^\circ\text{C})$ for both P_{avg} and T_{avg} . The change in P_{cv} was fixed at a random value of +21 % because it was insignificant to the regression models. Then, 100 sets of 20-year-long weather series were generated for each perturbation using the stochastic WG, and the system models were forced by the generated weather series. By counting the cases satisfying $\rho_s > 0.95$ or $\rho_e > 0.70$ among the 100 simulations, the π_{s95} and π_{e70} estimates at the sub-basins and the instream flow locations were obtained for each perturbation. Figure 8 compares the π_{s95} and π_{e70} estimates from the stress tests against those estimated by the logistic models for the sub-basins and the instream flow locations. The probability estimates from the two methods seem to agree approximately. The median and the highest differences between the two estimates were 0.004 and 0.15, respectively.

The internal and external validations led us to believe that the logistic surfaces could be acceptable for impact assessments using the bias-corrected GCM projections. By overlapping the logistic models, we could assess the two operation options applied in the case study for all the sub-basins and the instream flow locations simultaneously (Fig. 9). For the assessment, we used the boundaries of $\pi_{s95} = 95 \%$ and

Table 2. The summary of logistic regressions and internal validations. The explanatory variables were statistically significant (p values $< 10^{-3}$) for all the regression models.

		O_1 : human-demand-only operation					O_2 : considering the instream flow at E				
		Regression coefficients			R^2 ^a	Optimism ^b	Regression coefficients			R^2	Optimism
		Intersect	ΔP_{avg} (%)	ΔT_{avg} (°C)			Intersect	ΔP_{avg} (%)	ΔT_{avg} (°C)		
Sub-basin	3001	4.38	0.245	−0.630	0.91	0.0023	3.55	0.234	−0.529	0.90	0.0027
	3002	14.5	0.401	−0.900	0.93	0.0035	1.86	0.189	−0.883	0.86	0.0029
	3003	12.8	0.368	−0.776	0.94	0.0035	10.3	0.312	−0.605	0.92	0.0035
	3004	14.1	0.388	−0.872	0.93	0.0037	13.1	0.363	−0.760	0.93	0.0034
	3005	12.3	0.405	−0.724	0.94	0.0034	12.9	0.426	−0.806	0.94	0.0031
	3006	16.8	0.430	−0.922	0.93	0.0033	13.6	0.354	−0.812	0.92	0.0032
	3007	8.97	0.338	−0.866	0.94	0.0025	7.42	0.295	−0.812	0.93	0.0025
	3008	21.0	0.528	−1.03	0.94	0.0036	18.2	0.465	−0.954	0.94	0.0037
	3009	10.3	0.302	−0.527	0.91	0.0031	10.3	0.302	−0.527	0.91	0.0037
	3010	23.6	0.507	−0.654	0.94	0.0038	22.5	0.470	−0.761	0.93	0.0041
	3011	11.2	0.383	−0.736	0.94	0.0030	11.9	0.410	−0.765	0.94	0.0028
	3012	24.0	0.493	−0.825	0.93	0.0045	22.5	0.458	−0.790	0.92	0.0042
	3013	11.4	0.292	−0.396	0.90	0.0036	11.0	0.284	−0.384	0.90	0.0038
	3014	21.2	0.439	−0.690	0.92	0.0040	21.9	0.448	−0.729	0.92	0.0039
Instream flow locations	A	28.1	0.644	−1.69	0.96	0.0015	27.6	0.634	−1.67	0.96	0.0019
	B	11.1	0.432	−1.11	0.95	0.0028	10.7	0.423	−1.00	0.95	0.0027
	C	6.43	0.370	−1.25	0.94	0.0033	6.51	0.399	−1.31	0.94	0.0028
	D	25.9	0.445	−0.638	0.85	0.0068	21.1	0.402	−0.49	0.88	0.0052
	E	1.47	0.282	−1.08	0.90	0.0033	7.02	0.533	−1.51	0.96	0.0016
	F	5.44	0.332	−1.12	0.93	0.0032	6.52	0.385	−1.32	0.94	0.0023
	G	14.1	0.591	−1.58	0.97	0.0017	13.0	0.547	−1.38	0.97	0.0022

^a Nagelkerke pseudo- R^2 . ^b Mean performance loss in Nagelkerke pseudo- R^2 evaluated using 2000 bootstrap models.

**Figure 8.** 1 : 1 plots between the probability estimates from the stochastic sampling and those from the logistic regressions for the case study. The probabilities of satisfactory performance at the 14 sub-basins and the seven instream flow locations were estimated by the 100 Monte Carlo simulations for each climatic perturbation. The number of points for comparison to the logistic models becomes 63 (3 (perturbations) \times 21 (locations) = 63.)

$\pi_{e70} = 95\%$. With the logistic surfaces, the system robustness to climate change could be measured in the same manner proposed in the original EEDS framework (Poff et al., 2016). Comparing Fig. 9b and e indicates that considering the instream flow in the objective function significantly lowered the climatic bound of $\pi_{e70} = 95\%$ at the location E, thereby widening the climatic zone within which all the locations mutually satisfy $\pi_{e70} > 95\%$. However, in the trade-off, the bound of $\pi_{s95} = 95\%$ for the sub-basin 3002 moved upward, narrowing the climatic zone mutually satisfying $\pi_{s95} > 95\%$ for all the demand nodes. Overall, the climatic zone mutually satisfying $\pi_{s95} > 95\%$ and $\pi_{e70} > 95\%$ for all the sub-basins and instream flow locations was expected to decrease when the instream flow requirement at the location E was considered. Based on the reduced mutual climate zone, considering the environmental requirement in operations would slightly decrease overall system robustness to climate stresses.

In summary, water supply reliabilities at the sub-basins 3001 and 3002 would be the most vulnerable to climate stresses. The highest environmental risks from climate change would be found at the locations E in terms of the instream flow requirements. To reduce the environmental

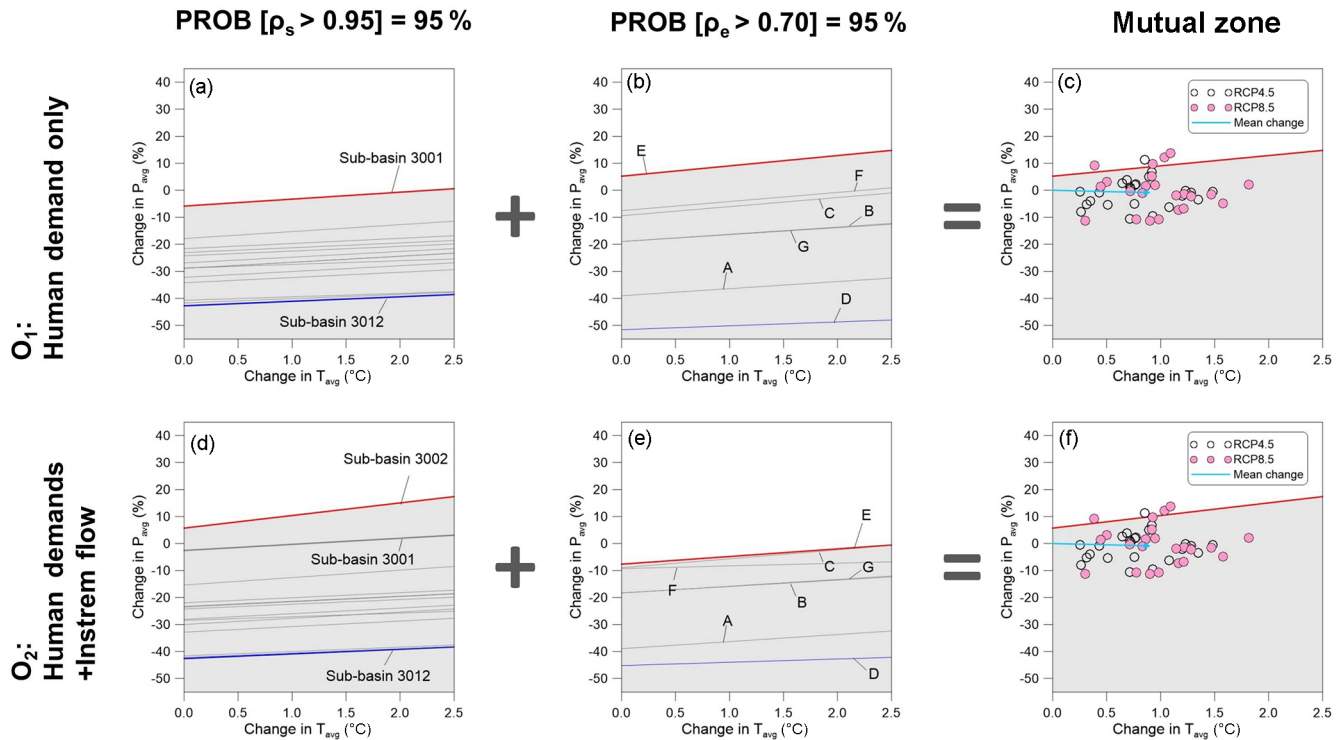


Figure 9. Climatic bounds for $\pi_{s95} = 95\%$ (a, d) and $\pi_{e70} = 95\%$ (b, e), and the bound mutually satisfying both criteria (c, f) under the human-demand-only operations (a–c) in comparison to the operations considering the instream flows at the location E (d–f). The empty and filled circles are the 50 GCM projections for 2020–2039.

risk at the location E, fairly increasing risks of $\rho_s \leq 0.95$ at the sub-basin 3002 should be accepted. Only 4 out of the 50 GCMs indicated $\pi_{s95} > 0.95$.

5 Discussion and conclusions

5.1 Use of the logistic surfaces for the EEDS framework

The response surfaces allowed users to estimate expected performances of hydrologic systems in response to climate stressors, providing convenience in promptly evaluating many GCM projections (e.g., Turner et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2012; Prudhomme et al., 2010). Nevertheless, they could provide insufficient probabilistic information needed for decision-making processes. A possible approach for evaluating the risk of unsatisfactory performances was to count the GCM projections satisfying a predefined threshold (e.g., Moursi et al., 2017; Brown et al., 2012). However, the GCM counts are highly dependent on the size of the GCM collections. Even in the case that all the GCMs in users' hands fall within the favorable climate zone on the response surfaces, it does not guarantee that future system performance will be satisfactory at 100 % confidence.

The logistic response surface could supplement this weakness of the ordinary response surfaces. It enables the direct

evaluation of the risk of system failures from a single climate projection. The probability estimates from the logistic surfaces can play a role in risk-based decision-making, particularly when an adaptive solution is targeted at a particular climate prediction (e.g., resizing infrastructures for a reference climate condition). The logistic surface developed for the adaptive solution may directly provide the risk of system failures under the climate prediction. Since it requires no more than a simple conversion of the sampled performance metrics, the logistic regression allows a probabilistic evaluation of system performance in a very efficient manner. If a complex hydrologic system is assessed within the bottom-up framework, a typical approach such as an exhaustive Monte Carlo sampling may not be preferred for uncertainty analysis due to expensive computational costs. In such a case, the logistic surfaces may become an alternative for simply assessing the associated risks.

The external validation of the logistic models (Fig. 8) implies that the effect of interval climatic variability might be measured in a collective manner, despite the varying climatic perturbations of the weather series. Even though the perturbations were different, the same probabilistic structure would be inherent in all the generated weather series. This might allow the logistic models to collectively capture the effect of internal climate variability from the 539 weather series having different climate alterations. Thus, uncertainty asso-

ciated with the stress tests could be in part gauged with the simple regression approach. However, this also implies that the external validation might be imperfect, and hence a more rigorous stress test and validation would be necessary to improve reliability of the response-surface-based assessment. Given the large uncertainty associated with climatic variability, a single stochastic structure might be insufficient for developing and validating the logistic and response surfaces. If affordable, multiple WGs should be employed with a large number of stochastic generations.

The EEDS framework (Poff et al., 2016) integrates the responsive behaviors of multiple performance metrics into a single climate space. By measuring the size of the climate zone mutually satisfying the multiple criteria, decision makers can perceive the robustness of system performance with conflicting interests. The decision makers may select solutions that can widen the mutual climate zone for robust adaptations to climate change. Poff et al. (2016) provided a prominent example that assessed adaptation costs and potential environmental risks with this framework in order to find the most robust strategies in a dam site to climate change. In this study, we showed the advantage of this framework to explore performances at many subcomponents of a large system in a single climate domain.

One difference between this study and Poff et al. (2016) is that we used the logistic climate bounds to measure the size of the mutual climate zone satisfying the multiple probabilistic thresholds. Since the original EEDS framework was focused on expected performances, a question can be raised as to “what if no climate projections fall within the mutual climate zone?” In this case, stakeholders may perceive unacceptable risks even though an adaptive solution can enlarge the mutual climate zone for multiple criteria. By its nature, the EEDS considering multiple criteria should have a narrower acceptable climate zone than single-criterion assessments. If the logistic response surfaces were employed instead, users can simultaneously measure how much system robustness can be obtained from an adaptive solution and how much the risks of unsatisfactory performances are indicated by climate projections. They may be necessary information for decision-making processes.

5.2 Limitations

There are several caveats in the case study. First, the monthly operations to balance between water scarcity and storage might be only a part of operators’ interests. The stakeholders in practice may have conflicting interests (e.g., reducing flood risks vs. increasing water storage) rather than taking actions toward the single objective. Thus, this study should be deemed a special case focused on the maximum supply reliability under the given operational objectives. A validated simulation model for water allocation will be needed for a more realistic application.

Second, it was unavoidable for us to use many simplifications and assumptions for modeling optimal water managements in the study river basin with complicated features (e.g., monthly dam operations and simple temperature perturbations). Given the substantial uncertainty sources associated with system models, the risks of system failures might be greater than our assessments. The logistic surfaces in this work would only consider the impacts of internal climatic variability on system performances.

5.3 Conclusions

In this study, we proposed incorporating the logistic regression into a decision-centric framework for probabilistic impact assessments. The proposed approach requires no more stress tests than typical response-surface-based assessments, albeit some validation is needed. Thus, it may be an efficient method to support risk-based decision-making processes. The following conclusions are worth emphasizing:

1. The logistic surfaces can provide convenience in exploring potential risks of system failures when a predefined threshold is available, while the response surface can show system performance. On the logistic surfaces, the risk of system failures could be directly indicated by individual GCMs.
2. Within the eco-engineering decision-scaling framework, the logistic surfaces can be flexibly used to evaluate robustness of hydrological systems to climate stressors. Multi-faceted stakeholder interests can be considered in a domain of probability.
3. The case study for the Geum River basin in South Korea provides an assessment in which the human-demand-only operations would make the ecosystems increasingly vulnerable. To consider the instream flow requirement in operations for 2020–2039, risks of insufficient water supply should increase at the upper sub-basins with small water demands.

Data availability. The data required to reproduce the results are available upon request from the authors (d.kim@apcc21.org, sj-choi@kict.re.kr).

Appendix A: The information of general circulation models

Table A1. List of the selected GCMs for the impact assessment under the RCP4.5 and 8.5 scenarios.

no.	Model name	Resolution (degree)	Producing institution
1	CMCC-CM	0.750×0.748	Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici
2	CCSM4	1.250×0.942	National Center for Atmospheric Research
3	CESM1-BGC	1.250×0.942	
4	CESM1-CAM5	1.250×0.942	
5	MRI-CGCM3	1.125×1.122	Meteorological Research Institute
6	CNRM-CM5	1.406×1.401	Centre National de Recherches Météorologiques
7	HadGEM2-AO	1.875×1.250	Met Office Hadley Centre
8	HadGEM2-CC	1.875×1.250	
9	HadGEM2-ES	1.875×1.250	
10	INM-CM4	2.000×1.500	Institute for Numerical Mathematics
11	IPSL-CM5A-MR	2.500×1.268	Institut Pierre Simon Laplace
12	MPI-ESM-LR	1.875×1.865	Max Planck Institute for Meteorology (MPI-M)
13	MPI-ESM-MR	1.875×1.865	
14	FGOALS-s2	2.813×1.659	LASG, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences
15	NorESM1-M	2.500×1.895	Norwegian Climate Centre
16	GFDL-ESM2G	2.500×2.023	Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory
17	GFDL-ESM2M	2.500×2.023	
18	BCC-CSM1-1	2.813×2.791	Beijing Climate Center, China Meteorological Administration
19	BCC-CSM1-1-M	1.125×1.122	
20	IPSL-CM5A-LR	3.750×1.895	Institut Pierre Simon Laplace
21	IPSL-CM5B-LR	3.750×1.895	
22	MIROC5	1.406×1.401	Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, National Institute for Environmental Studies, and Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology
23	MIROC-ESM-CHEM	2.813×2.791	
24	MIROC-ESM	2.813×2.791	
25	CanESM2	2.813×2.791	Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis

Author contributions. DK provided the main idea for this work and drafted the manuscript. DK, JAC, and SC designed the case study and participated in discussion of the results. All the authors contributed to revision of the paper.

Competing interests. The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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