

Economic impacts of drought risks for water utilities through Severity-Duration-Frequency assessment under climate change scenarios

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Abstract

Climate change and increasing water demands show the need for implementing planning strategies for financial sustainability of sectors, which are highly dependent on water resources, such as water utility companies. The financial vulnerability of these companies increases considering water supply growth and low availability scenarios, resulting in less profits or economic bankrupt. Generally, methods to estimate financial impacts caused by drought are not as numerous and clear as those for floods due to the complex characteristics of the phenomenon. Therefore, we propose a new assessment to estimate the business interruption cost considering the uncertainties in the climate and urban demand projections in the medium and long term. The methodology integrates the semi-distributed hydrological simulation procedures linked to the Water Evaluation and Planning system (WEAP) under radiative climate forcing scenarios RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the regional climate model outputs Eta-INPE/MIROC5 and HadGEM-ES (RCM). The approach continues with the hydrological drought assessment "Severity-Duration-Frequency" (SDF), based on stationary and non-stationary water demand assumptions to establish the method's threshold levels. Likewise, the methodology defines a water tariff price delimited by the drought duration and the system's robustness analysis to determine revenue loss scenarios in the water utility, through planning periods: 2007-2040, 2041-2070, and 2071-2099. As a case study, the approach is applied to the Cantareira Water Supply System in the São Paulo Metropolitan Region (SPMR), the main water supply source for about 11 million people. The results show that the water-cost outputs based on Eta-MIROC5 present higher revenue losses in the company than those based on HadGEM-ES. Meanwhile, the relationship between RCP scenarios 4.5 and 8.5 showed lower variability compared to the analyzed climate-with-water demand scenarios. However, the Non-stationary demand (NSD)

35 trend imposed larger differences in the drought resilience financial gap, suggesting that the
36 demand-related uncertainty would be far greater than that associated with climate sensitivity.

37 **Key Words:** Climate change, Severity-Duration-Frequency assessment, Water utility revenue
38 losses, Hydrological droughts

39 1. Introduction

40 Climate change, population growth and uncontrolled urban/industrial development make
41 society more dependent on water (Montanari et al., 2013). The complex interaction between
42 meteorological, terrestrial and socio-economic water distribution schemes are the main factors
43 that define droughts (Lloyd-hughes, 2013; Van Loon et al., 2016b, 2016a; Wada et al., 2013).
44 Therefore, in order to address a potential drought scenario in the future with demand as a
45 determinant anthropogenic factor, society is required to rethink the way forward, mainly to
46 reduce its vulnerability by regulating its demand (Falkenmark and Lannerstad, 2004;
47 Kunreuther et al., 2013; Wanders and Wada, 2015).

48 Apparently, droughts may not be as apparent as floods, but have proven to be one of the most
49 complex risks due to their slow development, strong and long lasting impacts as well as broad
50 geographic coverage (Bressers and Bressers, 2016; Frick et al., 1990a; Smakhtin and Schipper,
51 2008; Van Lanen et al., 2013). Furthermore, various studies have shown that more severe and
52 prolonged droughts are expected for the future, leading to greater economic consequences,
53 environmental degradation and loss of human lives (Asadieh and Krakauer, 2017; Balbus,
54 2017; Berman et al., 2013; Freire-González et al., 2017; Prudhomme et al., 2014; Shi et al.,
55 2015; Stahl et al., 2016; Touma et al., 2015). Therefore, it is essential to create adequate risk
56 perception, aiming to reduce the risks, mitigate the impacts and build a more resilient-drought
57 community (Bachmair et al., 2016; Mishra and Singh, 2010; Nam et al., 2015).

58 The most visible impacts on the urban water supply are strongly related to hydrological
59 droughts and not directly to meteorological droughts (Bachmair et al., 2016; Van Lanen et al.,
60 2016). A hydrological drought is defined as a negative anomaly in surface and subsurface water
61 levels (Mishra and Singh, 2010; Van Loon, 2015; Wanders et al., 2017). These negative
62 anomalies on the surface, related to an excessive level of water demand can cause water systems
63 to collapse (Mehran et al., 2015; Van Loon et al., 2016b; Wanders and Wada, 2015). Therefore,
64 in this study we address hydrological droughts as the main driver of business interruption in the
65 water utility company, specifically when urban water demand exceeds the supply system offer
66 (Bressers and Bressers, 2016; Frick et al., 1990a, 1990b).

67 The definitions of drought losses (or drought costs) are not as clear as those regarding floods or
68 methods for estimating drought costs, although diverse, not as numerous as floods. (Freire-
69 González et al., 2017; Logar and van den Bergh, 2013; Meyer et al., 2013). In a comprehensive
70 review by Logar and van der Bergh (2012), the authors suggest a division of drought costs as
71 direct, indirect and non-market costs. Furthermore, Meyer et al. (2013) suggest extra categories,
72 differentiating Business interruption costs as primary tangible costs, although not configured as
73 “due to direct physical contact”. Despite a diversified range of methods presented by Meyer et
74 al. (2013) and Logar and van der Bergh (2012), several are either: for non-tangible or indirect
75 methods, specific for the agricultural sector or economy wide oriented (i.e. fit to a broader scale
76 application) which in our case would likely incur in less precise results. Regarding the
77 allocation of water companies by reduced water availability, several approaches seem to be
78 adequate, such as market valuation techniques or ex-post evaluations, that is, comparing
79 changes in GDP or changes in price between affected and unaffected years

80 In Brazil, from 2013 to 2015, the population of the Sao Paulo Metropolitan Region (SPMR)
81 experienced the most acute water crisis in its history (Coutinho et al., 2015; Nobre and
82 Marengo, 2016; Taffarello et al., 2016). According to the Federation of Industries of the State
83 of Sao Paulo (FIESP), it was estimated that 60,000 households, business and industrial sectors,
84 which represent almost 60% of the state's industrial GDP, were affected by a lack of water
85 (Marengo et al., 2015). Likewise, during 2014 and 2015, the Sao Paulo State Water Utility
86 Company (SABESP) recorded an average annual liquid net income reduction of approximately
87 63% compared to 2013, leading to a major financial crisis in the company (GESP, 2016;
88 SABESP, 2017a). To analyze the water utility drought impacts, several control strategies are
89 usually implemented as price-based policies that seek to change the user's consumption pattern
90 based on economic penalties or incentives (Buurman et al., 2017; Millerd, 1984; Rossi and
91 Cancelliere, 2013). However, the implementation of these strategies entails a great complexity
92 in their planning and high risks of economic impacts for the water company (SABESP, 2015;
93 Watts et al., 2012).

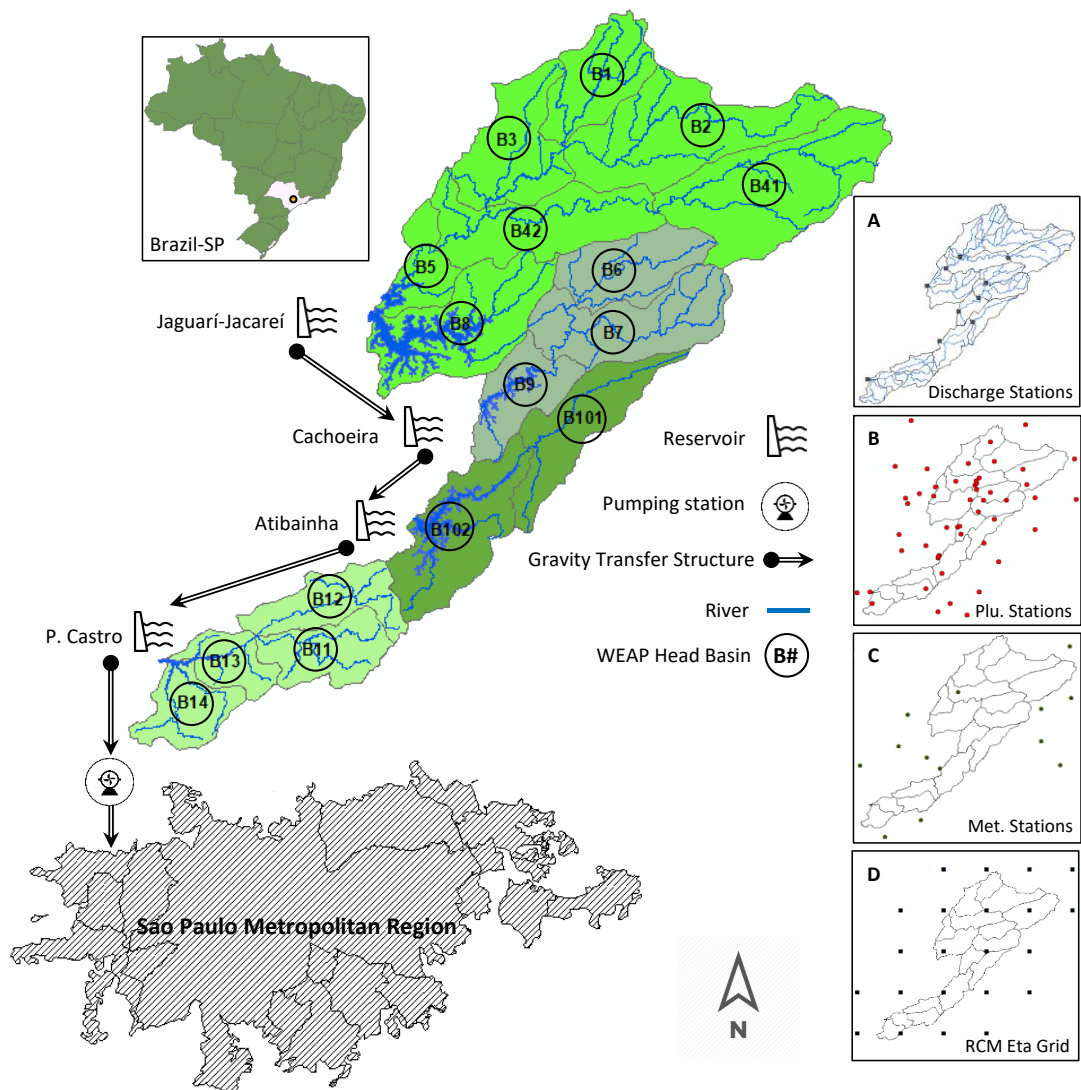
94 To deal with global change, understanding the interplay between multiple drivers of risks and
95 socioeconomic development is increasingly required to inform effective actions to manage new
96 drought risks and pursue sustainable development. However, as long as there are no systematic
97 and detailed studies on the assessment drought impacts on the regional economy, shaping
98 financial planning policies is a complex and uncertain task that must be reinforced. Therefore,
99 based on the drought Severity-Duration-Frequency characterization, we explore the water

100 utility company business interruption cost assessment by integrating an analysis framework
101 driven by climate change, water-demand scenarios and the supply system robustness. This
102 paper describes an academic exercise to manage drought financial planning, running the Eta-
103 INPE (RCM) outputs, through a semi-distributed hydrological model of the water supply
104 system developed using WEAP.

105 The sections of this article outline interconnected methods and criteria, explained as follows.
106 In Section 2, the text describes the study area and water crisis contextualization. Section 3
107 outlines the methodological approach starting with the hydrological modeling, characterization
108 of the droughts using the threshold level method, the formulation of the SDF curves of the
109 system and subsequently, the climatic, hydrological and economic aspects of the methodology.
110 In Section 4, the results and discussions are shown as financial drought planning scenarios.
111 Finally, in Section 5, the conclusions and recommendations are presented regarding the
112 proposed approach.

113 **2. Study area and water crisis contextualization.**

114 The Cantareira Water Supply System, hereafter referred to as the Cantareira System, is located
115 in South-East Brazil between the states of Sao Paulo and Minas Gerais. The rainy season in the
116 Cantareira System generally begins at the end of September and ends in March. In this period,
117 on average 72% of the rainfall in the region is accumulated (Marengo et al., 2015). In
118 hydrological terms, 2265 km² of drainage area into the system historically generates an annual
119 mean tributary discharge of 38.74 m³/s. Structurally, the system consists of the damming and
120 interconnection of five basins with a useful total storage volume of 988.8 hm³, arranged to
121 transfer water from the Piracicaba River Basin to the Upper Tietê Basin (Fig. 1). As a result,
122 the system had been configured to supply water to about 11 million people in the SPMR before
123 the last acute water crisis in 2013-15 (De Andrade, 2016; Marengo et al., 2015; Nobre et al.,
124 2016; Nobre and Marengo, 2016; PCJ/Comitês, 2016, 2006).



125
 126 **Figure 1.** System structure composition and catchment areas “Cantareira System”: Jaguari-Jacareí, Cachoeira,
 127 Atibainha and Paiva Castro watersheds. Panel A: Discharge gauge stations; Panel B: rainfall gauge stations; Panel
 128 C: Meteorological gauge stations and Panel D: Centroid of the Eta-INPE grid.

129 Previously in the SPMR, some severe water shortages were recorded. The first one was during
 130 1953-1954, then from 1962-1963 (Nobre et al., 2016), which apparently motivated the
 131 construction of the Cantareira System and the latest one was from 2000-2001 (Cavalcanti and
 132 Kousky, 2001). Thus, the system, designed to supply the increasing demand for water in the
 133 SPMR, began its partial operation in 1974 and its construction was completed in 1981 with a
 134 30-year permit to transfer up to 35 m³/s according to a periodic technical assessment (Mohor
 135 and Mendiondo, 2017). The Cantareira System is currently administered by SABESP, which
 136 mainly operates the water network in the SPRM, and the Government of Sao Paulo state is its
 137 main shareholder.

138 However, various studies have identified changes in rainfall trends and temperature extremes,
139 showing an increase in the intensity and frequency of days with heavy rainfall and longer
140 duration of hot dry periods between rainfall events in South America and southeast Brazil (Chou
141 et al., 2014b; Dufek and Ambrizzi, 2008; Haylock et al., 2006; J. A. Marengo et al., 2009; Jose
142 A. Marengo et al., 2009b, 2009a; Nobre et al., 2011; Zuffo, 2015). Although historically, the
143 SPRM study area is not affected by droughts of the same order of Northeast Brazil, the SPRM
144 is progressively becoming vulnerable to water shortages. Therefore, during the recent period of
145 the acute crisis 2013-2015, SABESP undertook reactive measures to control the consumption
146 in the SPMR, such as (Marengo et al., 2015): programmed water cut-offs; bonuses and penalties
147 to reduce and increase consumption, respectively; extraordinary increases of water tariff prices;
148 network pressure reduction; water use from the reservoirs' dead volume; social awareness
149 campaigns to inform people about shortages; and water distributed by tankers in the most
150 critical areas of the city to provide the Basic Water Requirement (BWR) for human needs.
151 Nevertheless, according to SABESP, there is a slow system recovery, which enables the
152 reestablishment of pre-crisis supply levels (SABESP, 2018a).

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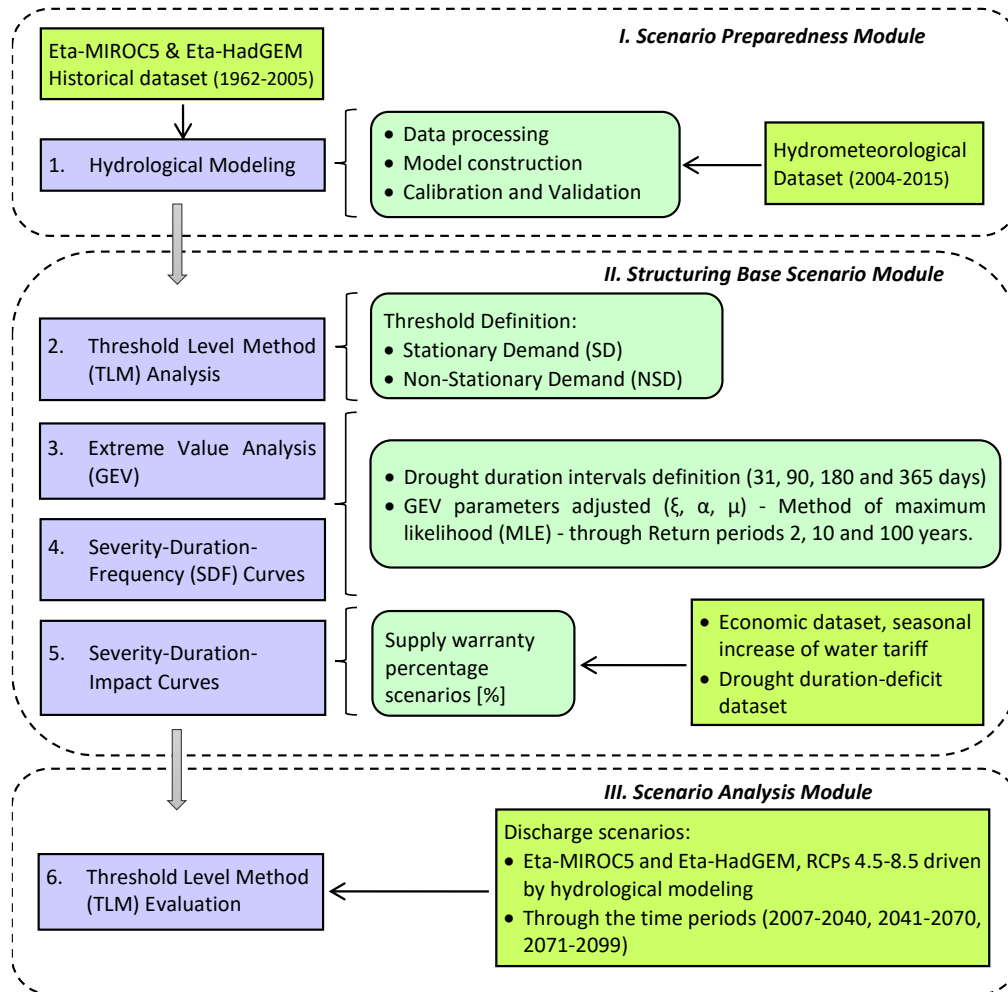
154 **3. Methodology**

155 The methodology was structured in three modules that are summarized in Figure 2. In the first
156 module, the hydrological simulation was approached by the Water Evaluation and Planning
157 tool (WEAP) (Yates et al., 2005a). The model was calibrated and validated based on the
158 available historical hydrometeorological information (2004-2015) for the study area. Then,
159 from the calibrated hydrological model and the RCM Eta-INPE historical period datasets, the
160 base discharge scenarios were estimated.

161 In the second module, following the Threshold Level Method (TLM), the "threshold" had to be
162 defined according to stationary and non-stationary assumptions of water demand in the SPMR.
163 Afterwards by analyzing the duration series and extreme deficits through GEV (Generalized
164 Extreme Value) distribution, the Severity-Duration-Frequency curves (SDF) were developed to
165 calculate the intra-annual deficit (J. H. Sung and Chung, 2014). To complete the second
166 module, the average water price and the Cantareira system robustness analysis is defined per
167 each cubic meter of deficit (Mens et al., 2015), as a function of the supply warranty time during
168 the hydrological drought events, to configure the baseline analysis scenarios.

169 The final module evaluates the Water Utility Company economic profit losses through the
170 baselines scenarios, under the hydrological scenarios developed with the model WEAP, driven

171 by the Eta-INPE RCPs scenarios (2007-2040, 2041-2070, 2071-2099), previously processed by
 172 the TLM approach. It should be clarified that, for the analysis under the non-stationary
 173 assumption, the growth of water consumption is represented in each projection time step, that
 174 is, 2005-2040 corresponds to 31 m³/s, 2041-2070 corresponds to 38 m³/s and 2071-2099
 175 corresponds to 43m³/s.



176
 177 **Figure 2.** Methodology flowchart and main inputs.

178 The results, presented as water utility company revenue losses were developed from a set of
 179 potential scenarios involving climate uncertainty, human triggering factors and the prediction
 180 under extreme theory (Baumgärtner and Strunz, 2014; Wanders and Wada, 2015). The
 181 methodology sought to provide a planning water-security support analysis in areas highly
 182 dependent on surface water resources.

183 **3.1. Hydrological projections**

184 Currently the RCM Eta-INPE (Brazilian National Institute for Space Research) plays an
 185 important role in providing information for local impact studies in Brazil and other areas in

186 South America (Chou et al., 2014b). In order to assess the uncertainties of climate change
187 impacts, the simulation results of the Eta-INPE model were used in this paper. The model is
188 nested within the GCMs MIROC5 and HADGEM2-ES, forced by two greenhouse gas
189 concentration scenarios (RCPs) 8.5 and 4.5 [W/m^2] used in AR5 (IPCC 5th Assessment
190 Report); with a horizontal grid size resolution of 20 km x 20 km and up to 38 vertical levels
191 through 30 years of time slices (periods) distributed as follows: 1961-2005 (as the baseline
192 period), 2007-2040, 2041-2070 and 2071-2099 (Chou et al., 2014a, 2014b; Prudhomme et al.,
193 2014). The climate projections of the Eta-INPE model were used to drive the WEAP Rainfall
194 Runoff Model-soil moisture method (World Bank, 2017; Yates et al., 2005a). The WEAP, is
195 an integrated water resource planning tool used to develop and assess scenarios that explore
196 physical changes (natural or anthropogenic) and has been widely used in various basins
197 throughout the world (Angarita et al., 2018; Bhave et al., 2014; Esteve et al., 2015; Foster and
198 Brozovic, 2018; Groves et al., 2008; Howells et al., 2013; Hund et al., 2018; Mousavi and
199 Anzab, 2017; Psomas et al., 2016; Purkey et al., 2008; Vicuña et al., 2011; Vicuna and Dracup,
200 2007; Yates et al., 2005b). Climate-driven models, such as WEAP provide dynamic tools by
201 incorporating hydroclimatological variables to analyze, in this case, a one-dimensional, quasi
202 physical water balance model, which depicts the semi-distributed hydrologic response through
203 the surface runoff, infiltration, evapotranspiration (Penman-Monteith equation), interflow,
204 percolation and base flow processes (Forni et al., 2016).

205 The hydrological model comprises 16 sub-basins with a spatial resolution ranging from 67 to
206 272 km^2 (see Figure 1), which defines the natural discharge produced by the Cantareira System.
207 The observed hydrologic data (discharge and rainfall) were taken from HIDROWEB (the
208 National Water Agency database [ANA]), SABESP and the São Paulo state Water and
209 Electricity Department [DAEE]. A network of 52 rain gauge stations and 11 discharge gauge
210 stations were configured, with inputs and outputs by a monthly time-step. On the other hand,
211 the meteorological data from 14 gauging stations (temperature, relative humidity, wind speed
212 and cloudiness fraction) were taken from the National Institute of Meteorology and Center for
213 Weather Forecasting and Climate Research (CPTEC) databases (see Figure 1: panels A, B, C
214 and D). For the basin characterization, we adopted the soil map from (De Oliveira et al., 1999)
215 (1:500,000) and the land use map of 2010 from (Molin et al., 2015) (1:60,000).

216 The hydrological model was calibrated using a mixed calibration process. A first approximation
217 of the calibration parameters was made by the Model-Independent Parameter Estimation &
218 Uncertainty Analysis software (PEST), automatic calibration tool in WEAP (Doherty and

219 Skahill, 2006; Seong et al., 2015; Skahill et al., 2009; Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI),
220 2016), and then the calibration parameters were refined using a manual adjustment technique.
221 In the modeling process, a two-year warm-up period from 2004 to 2005 was established, for
222 the calibration period from January 2006 to December 2010 and from January 2011 to August
223 2015 as the validation period. Although more extensive periods of calibration and validation
224 are suggested to better represent hydrological dynamics (Gibbs et al., 2018), the absence of
225 observed data restricted the extension of assessment periods. During this process, the following
226 variables were calibrated: Kc (Crop Coefficient), SWC (Soil Water Capacity), DWC (Deep
227 Water Capacity), RZC (Root Zone Conductivity), DC (Deep Conductivity) and PFD
228 (Preferential Flow Direction). The objective functions to measure model performance, widely
229 used in hydrologic applications, were the Volumetric Error Percent Bias (PBIAS), Standard
230 Deviation Ratio (SDR), Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE), NSE of the logarithmic of discharges
231 (NSE_{Log}) which is more sensitive to low-flows, Coefficient of determination (R^2) and
232 Volumetric Efficiency (VE), where the joint maximization of the NSE_{Log} and PBIAS criteria
233 was the objective function to measure model performance (Muleta, 2012).

234 The WEAP model was calibrated based on eleven discharge gauge stations (see Figure 1, panel
235 A) from the ANA-HIDROWEB dataset (www.ana.gov.br), four of these located at the reservoir
236 entrance of each sub-system (Jaguari-Jacareí, Cachoeira, Atibainha and Paiva Castro).
237 Cantareira's reservoirs (sub-systems) were set up as a single Equivalent System (ES), where
238 the specific water demands are considered (ANA and DAEE, 2004; PCJ/Comitês, 2006). This
239 ES can be expressed as follows:

$$240 \quad ES_{Cantareira} = \sum_i^n QN_i - \sum_i^n WD_i \quad \text{Equation 1.}$$

241 Where $ES_{Cantareira}$ is the available water for withdrawal from the system, QN is the natural
242 discharge from the reservoir i (sub-system) and WD is the specific water demand in each
243 reservoir (such as the reservoir downstream urban supply).

244 It is worth noting the sub-basins areas in this case are smaller than each cell of the adopted
245 climate model (400 km²) and although RCMs are an alternative to downscale the coarse
246 resolution GCM, often RCM outputs deviate from the observed climatological data (Kim et al.,
247 2015; Liersch et al., 2016; Smitha et al., 2018a). Therefore, in order to adjust the RCM output
248 dataset, the projections of the Eta-INPE scenarios had to be spatially relocated and bias
249 corrected from observed historical climate conditions (rain and temperature). For this, the
250 "Additive Corrections and Scaling" method was used, a simple approach that assumes the

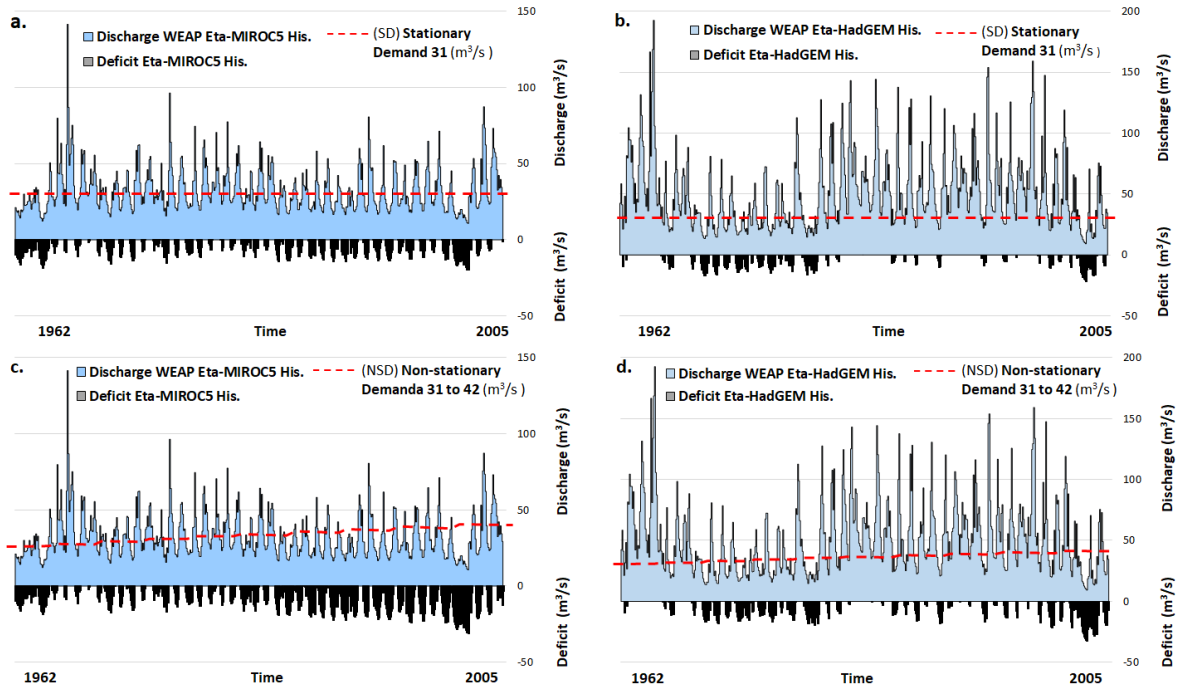
251 relative mean biases between observed data and model projections (Maraun and Widmann,
252 2018; Smitha et al., 2018b). The hydrological discharge projections 2007-2099 forced by
253 GCMs and RCPs scenarios can be seen in Appendix B (Fig. B-1).

254 3.2. SDF curve development

255 Following the flowchart of Figure 2, the Threshold Level Method (TLM) is traditionally used
256 to estimate hydrological drought events from continuous discharge time series (Wanders et al.,
257 2017). TLM was originally called ‘Crossing Theory Techniques’ and it is also referred to as
258 run-sum analysis (Hisdal et al., 2004; Nordin and Rosbjerg, 1970; Şen, 2015). Usually, different
259 criteria may be used to define the threshold in hydrological drought analysis by the TLM
260 approach (Rivera et al., 2017; Şen, 2015; Tosunoglu and Kisi, 2016). In this study, two monthly
261 desired-yield thresholds were implemented. They were defined from the pre-established water
262 demand in the system (Hisdal et al., 2004; J. H. Sung and Chung, 2014). Initially, a stationary
263 demand (SD) of 31 m³/s was defined as the historical average demand and another non-
264 stationary demand (NSD) of 31 to 42 m³/s over time was defined as a hypothesis representative
265 of the population growth in the SPRM (see Figure 3). These water demand values are consistent
266 with the ANA/DAEE, 2004 study, according to the record and projection scenarios of the
267 population growth of the IBGE¹. On the other hand, the continuous discharge series were
268 defined from the hydrological modelling result based on Eta-INPE historical dataset (baseline
269 period 1962-2005). From the results of the TLM approach in the Cantareira System, the baseline
270 (historical) scenario, based on Eta-MIROC5 model simulations, showed the greatest hydric
271 deficit under the two water demand scenarios analyzed (SD and NSD), see Figure 3.

272

¹ Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics: <http://www.ibge.gov.br/home/>



273
 274 **Figure 3.** TLM Evaluation from historical discharge WEAP-Eta (base line scenarios), under Stationary (SD) and
 275 Non-Stationary Demand (NSD) assumptions as the “threshold level”: a. 31 m³/s and Eta-MIROC5. b. 31 m³/s and
 276 Eta-HadGEM. c. 31 to 42 m³/s and Eta-MIROC5. d. 31 to 42 m³/s and Eta-HadGEM. Total River basin 2265 km².

277 Based on the time series of “severity” (or deficit, in m³) and duration (days) in the Cantareira
 278 System, obtained from TLM evaluation of the Eta-INPE historical scenarios (see Figure 3), the
 279 SDF curves were constructed. To estimate the return periods of drought events of a particular
 280 severity and duration, the block maxima GEV frequency analysis distribution was used. In this
 281 case, the GEV distribution is useful because it provides an expression that includes all three
 282 types of extreme value distributions (Tung et al., 2006).

283 In various studies addressing SDF curve development, the GEV distribution was consistent
 284 with the data sets of extremes, where distributions that use three parameters were required to
 285 express the upper tail data (J H Sung and Chung, 2014; Svensson et al., 2016; Todisco et al.,
 286 2013; Zaidman et al., 2003). On the other hand, it is suggested that for other durations of
 287 drought, other probability distribution functions can be explored (Dalezios et al., 2000;
 288 Razmkhah, 2016). However, in this study we took advantage of the versatility of the GEV
 289 distribution, considering its flexibility to fit a set of data through the expressions:

$$290 \quad F(x) = \exp \left[- \left\{ 1 + \xi \left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma} \right) \right\}^{1/\xi} \right] \quad \xi \neq 0 \quad \text{Equation 2.}$$

$$291 \quad F(x) = \exp \left[- \exp \left(- \frac{x-\mu}{\alpha} \right) \right] \quad \xi = 0 \quad \text{Equation 3.}$$

292 Where the cumulative distribution function $F(x)$ depends on μ as a location parameter, α as a
293 scale parameter and ξ as a shape parameter. Therefore, if, $\mu + \alpha/\xi \leq x \leq \infty$ for $\xi < 0$ is a Type III
294 (Weibull), $-\infty \leq x \leq \infty$ for $\xi = 0$ is a Type I (Gumbel), and $-\infty \leq x \leq \mu + \alpha/\xi$ for $\xi > 0$ is a Type
295 II (Fréchet) distribution (Stedinger et al., 1993).

296 In order to fill a considerable number of events per interval, droughts were classified into four
297 time intervals from 0 to 31, 0 to 90, 0 to 180 and 0 to 365 days. Thus, considering the adoption
298 of the GEV distribution, the model parameters ξ , α and μ for cumulative durations defined and
299 return periods of 2, 10 and 100 years were estimated using the Method of Maximum Likelihood
300 Estimator (MLE).

301 **3.3. Water price and Hydrological drought relationship**

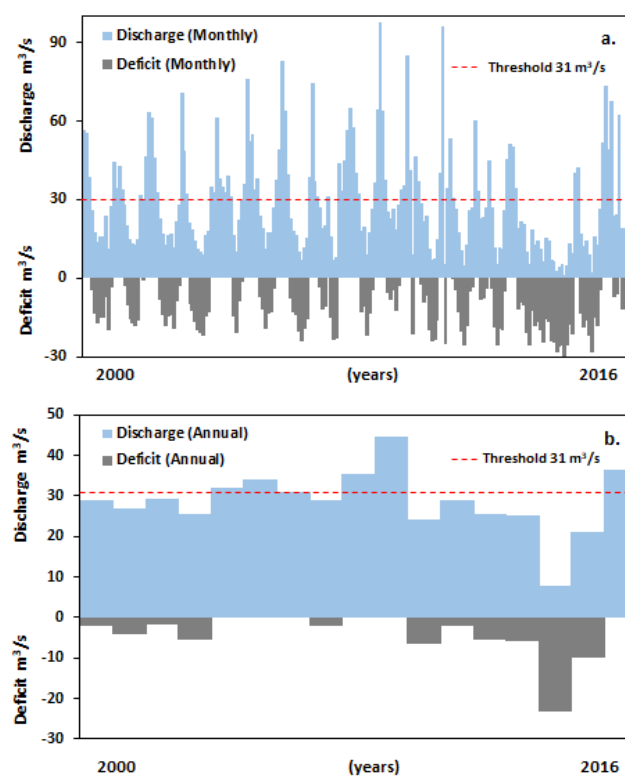
302 According to the flowchart in Figure 2, drought can be addressed as a somewhat unusual
303 economic phenomenon in that it affects both supply (the source) and demand (users), especially
304 in systems dependent on water from a single source (Moncur, 1987). As expected, episodes of
305 water scarcity pose technical, legal, social and economic problems for managers of urban water
306 systems. Traditionally to overcome these episodes, reservoirs play a key role in water supply
307 and demand management, providing security against hydrological extremes (Mehran et al.,
308 2015). **However, when the water deficit intensifies, the structural measures are not enough and**
309 **they must be accompanied by contingency measures, for example, water price regulation**
310 **instruments, implemented as an incentive for more efficient use** (Mechler et al., 2017) .

311 In Brazil, each state-owned sanitation company has its own water charging policy, where the
312 vast majority use block tariffs as a pricing policy, including SABESP (De Andrade Filho et al.,
313 2015; Mesquita and Ruiz, 2013; Ruijs et al., 2008). In Sao Paulo State, the tariff policy system
314 is regulated by Decree 41.446/96, also for services provided by SABESP. For the water tariff
315 setting, several factors are taken into account, such as service costs, debtors forecast, expenses
316 amortization, environmental and climatic conditions, quantity consumed, sectors and economic
317 condition of the user (SABESP, 1996). These sectors are divided into residential, industrial,
318 commercial or public, and the value that is charged for the service is always progressive. In
319 other words, there is a standard minimum consumption with a fixed value and, based on that,
320 such factors vary the consumption ranges (SABESP, 2018b). From the total water withdrawn
321 from the Cantareira System, urban use is predominant in SPRM, where approximately 49% of
322 the total is for household needs, 31% for industrial needs and 20% for irrigation
323 (Consórcio/PCJ, 2013). In this study, we consider the water-withdrawal for domestic and
324 industrial use in the SPMR, due to the direct dependence of these sectors on the SABESP water

325 supply network, as well as the supply priority that the domestic sector have according to
326 Brazilian law during drought periods (Lei N° 9.433 do GOBERNO DO BRASIL, 1997).

327 Figure 4 shows the TLM analysis with a constant threshold under the same discharge scenario
328 (SABESP 2000-2016), differentiated by the monthly and annual accumulation of the variable.
329 The monthly step represents the system's natural discharge without regulation ("a" in Figure
330 5), while the regulated discharge is represented by the annual aggregation of monthly natural
331 discharges ("b" in Figure 5). Assuming this, without the reservoir system ("a" case), with direct
332 water withdrawals (Threshold = 31 m³/s), the average accumulated deficit over these 17 years
333 would be 225% greater than with the reservoir system implemented ("b" case).

334 The TLM analysis (Figure 5) showed two hydrological drought periods in 2000-2003 and 2010-
335 2015: one with a lower and another with a higher deficit, respectively. While for the period
336 from 2004 to 2009, a series of smaller droughts in both magnitude and frequency could be
337 overcome by the reservoir system. On the other hand, in 2010-2015, the accumulated deficit,
338 under the regulated scenario, would exceed the useful storage in 70% while for the period 2000-
339 2003, the accumulated deficit only reached 43% of the system's useful storage capacity.
340 Therefore, it is clear that over a long period of deficit or strong multi-year droughts, the storage
341 system could be accompanied by other contingency complementary measures.



342
343 **Figure 4.** TLM analysis under two time step assumptions during, 2000-2016 period and Threshold equal to 31
344 m³/s. a) Monthly discharge and b) Annual discharge.

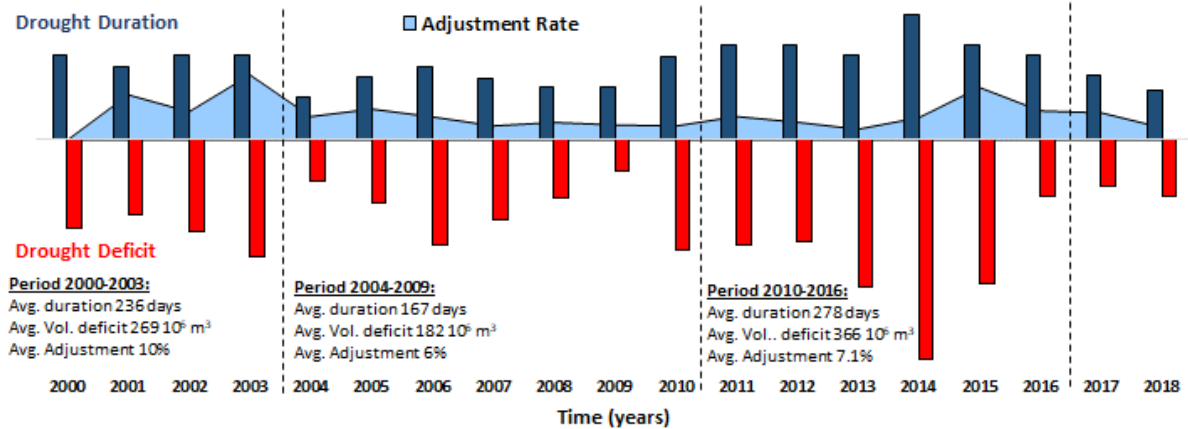
345 Urban drought management programs incur costs that must be assumed to overcome the water
346 crisis with equity (Molinos-Senante and Donoso, 2016). SABESP in the SPMR, for example,
347 through price-based policies² controlled the consumption rates of water users when the
348 hydrological deficit scenarios were presented in the Cantareira System (Iglesias and Blanco,
349 2008; Millerd, 1984; SABESP, 2018c, 1996). Therefore, during the 2014/2015 drought in
350 SPRM, reactive economic contingencies were implemented, such as increased water tariffs,
351 extra fees and price incentives, which had a detrimental effect on the company's profit margin,
352 which provides the water resource (GESP, 2016; SABESP, 2017a, 2016a).

353 However, the financial exposure does not always exhibit a strong correlation with weather
354 indices (Zeff and Characklis, 2013). We established a drought revenue loss cost estimation
355 based on the Market Price method (Meyer et al., 2013). To do this, we developed an empirical
356 relationship between the water price (impacts) and drought duration (severity) (Bachmair et al.,
357 2016; Grafton and Ward, 2008; Hou et al., 2018; Mens et al., 2015). Based on the TLM
358 approach, the monthly discharge time series and a constant threshold (31 m³/s) from 2000 to
359 2018 (Figure 5) was analyzed; aiming to associate the drought characteristics with the
360 adjustment rates of the SABESP database. On one hand, the upper part of Figure 5 shows the
361 drought duration and the annual tariff adjustment with a Pearson correlation coefficient " r_{xy} " of
362 0.481 between them. On the other hand, the lower part represents the deficit volume for each
363 drought duration. In this case, the Pearson correlation coefficient between drought duration and
364 tariff adjustment showed an " r_{xy} " value of 0.453.

365 From the calculated correlation coefficients, a T-student significance test with an alpha of 5%
366 was implemented. Based on the test, it was found that the adjustment rate and the water deficit
367 present a high to medium significance, despite having a lower correlation coefficient. However,
368 in this study the drought duration was assumed as the feature to relate with water price, due to
369 the frequency analysis of the series of annual maxima. Even though the correlation coefficient
370 values showed relatively low values, the use of these drought characteristics may be useful
371 given the lack of information regarding drought and its economic impacts on the study area.

² Database "percentage rate increase" 2001-2018 SABESP:

<http://www.sabesp.com.br/CalandraWeb/CalandraRedirect/?temp=4&proj=investidoresnovo&pub=T&db=&docid=9AA0FF2088FBF0A8832570DF006DE413&docidPai=AB82F8DBCD12AE488325768C0052105E&pai=filho10>



372

373 **Figure 5.** Empirical relationship between Cantareira System drought duration “blue-bar in days” [derived from
 374 monthly average discharge analysis], Cantareira System drought deficit “red-bar in 10^6-m^3 ” and annual price
 375 adjustment rates under variate hydrological conditions in percentage.

376 From the recent drought events in SPMR, which significantly affected the water supply i.e in
 377 2000/2001 (Cavalcanti and Kousky, 2001) - 2013/2015 (Nobre et al., 2016) and the TLM
 378 analysis that showed some degree of correlation between annual events and priced adjustment
 379 rates, an empirical system analysis robustness against the drought duration was proposed (Mens
 380 et al., 2015). Our robustness analysis is based on the assumption of the main impacts derived
 381 from water supply problems in the SPRM, which appear to be related with medium to prolonged
 382 duration events and medium to high severity (up to 365 days or two consecutive annual cycles).
 383 Therefore, three priced-adjustment vs. drought duration scenarios were established (see Figure
 384 E-2 in the supplementary material). First, 100% water availability. In this scenario, the
 385 reservoir network is not essential to ensure water supply (drought duration between 0 and 90
 386 days). Second, the water availability with supply warranty and dependence on the storage
 387 system. In this scenario, the reservoir network provides resilience during droughts of smaller
 388 magnitudes and duration (drought duration between 90 and 180 days). Third, stored water
 389 shortage and forced interruption of supply. In this scenario, the water deficit prevails with extra
 390 fees and other savings measures (drought duration between 90 and 365 days).

391 Since the water price formation study is not part of this work as it entails a complex
 392 microeconomic analysis (Garrido, 2005), we adopted the average prices of water (Bulk Water
 393 Tariff, 2016) in the SPMR, for the Domestic and Industrial sectors (SABESP, 2016b).
 394 Therefore, based on the previous analysis (Figure 6), the following was adopted: First, during
 395 the most severe droughts, an increase in the water tariff for the following period is expected.
 396 Second, on the contrary, when the smaller deficits are overcome with the water stored in the
 397 system, the increase in tariffs is a consequence of the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) and

398 other tariff updates according to the law (SABESP, 2016b). Thus, the approach requires some
 399 additional assumptions explained as follows:

- 400 i. Based on the current average prices for the domestic and industrial sectors, a base-water-
 401 price was established to analyze US\$ 3.38 per m³, assuming that this value is given
 402 considering normal supply conditions or 100% water availability,
- 403 ii. From the SDF curve construction intervals (cumulative drought duration) and three
 404 class intervals of the annual tariff adjustment (min. 6% to max. 17%, see Figure E-1 in
 405 appendix E), the water prices were established (see Table 1).

406 **Table 1. Main assumptions for establishing the tariff water price according to the drought duration.**

Drought Duration Interval (days*)	Water Tariff Adjustment adopted (%)	Average price (US\$/ m ³)	Cantareira System robustness characteristics scenarios
From 0 to 31	0	3.38	100% water availability base scenario
From 0 to 90	6	3.58	100% water availability
From 0 to 180	10	3.71	Water availability with storage dependency
From 0 to 365	17	3.95	Water deficit (multi-year droughts)

407 * Cumulative drought duration

408 Table 1 represents the inelastic behavior of the Price Elasticity of Demand (PED) showing
 409 closer intervals as water supplies are reduced due to drought and higher prices imposed to try
 410 to reduce demands. Hence a successful price-based rationing policy requires a progressive
 411 increase if the demand becomes predominantly inelastic (Mays and Tung, 2002), as the
 412 proposed hypothesis establishes in this case. More studies of price elasticity and water scarcity
 413 can be found in (Freire-González et al., 2017; Mansur and Olmstead, 2012; Ruijs et al., 2008).

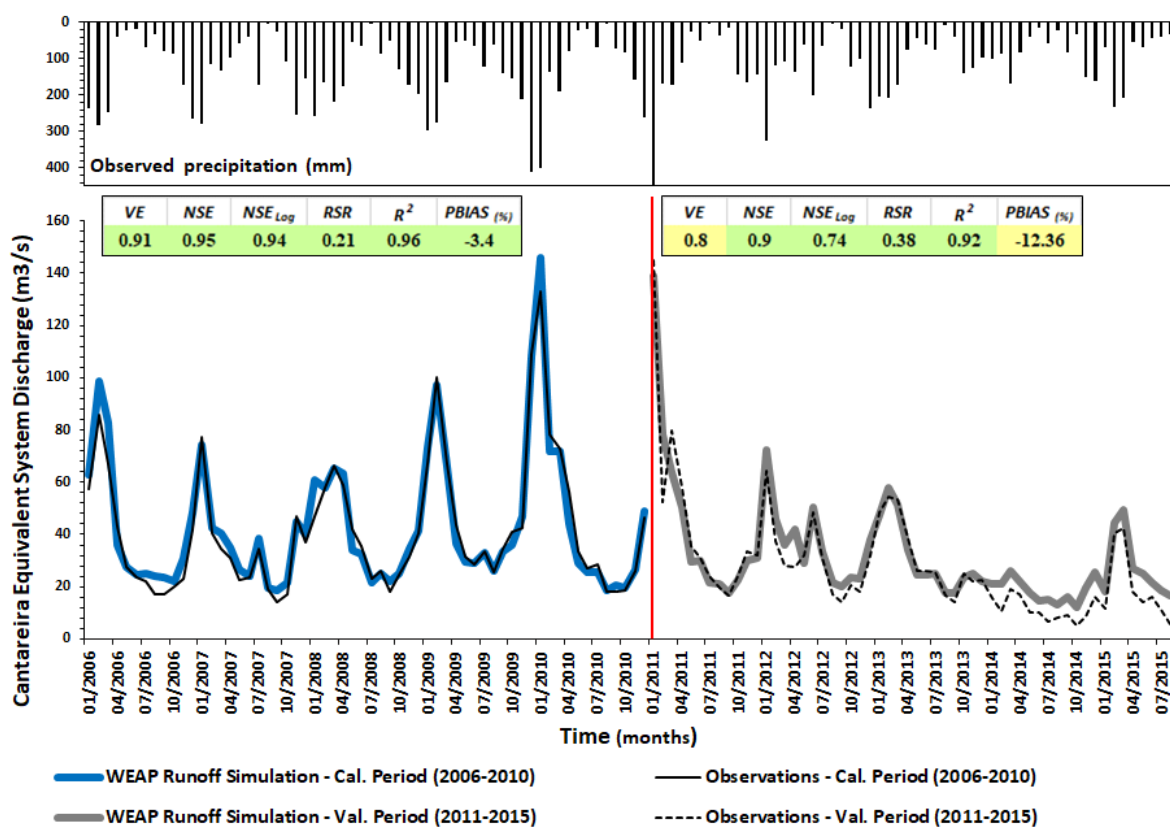
414 The final step of the methodology (see Figure 2) defines the calculation of the drought impacts
 415 through the management horizons (2007-2040, 2041-2070 and 2071-2099). This calculation
 416 was carried out for the cumulative drought periods greater than 180 days, considering that from
 417 this duration, the supply begins to show an important dependence of the Cantareira reservoir
 418 System.

419 **4. Results and discussions**

420 **4.1. Hydrological modeling**

421 The hydrological model structure performed in monthly time steps and was calibrated-validated
 422 following the described procedure in Section 3.1. To improve the calibration procedure,
 423 multiple statistical evaluation criteria were used (Gibbs et al., 2018; Kumarasamy and Belmont,
 424 2017). This is important because analyzing multiple statistics can provide an overall view of
 425 the model based on a comprehensive set of indexes on the parameters representing the statistics
 426 of the mean and extreme values of the hydrograph (Moriassi et al., 2007).

427 The equivalent system hydrograph for calibration and validation periods are shown in Figure
 428 6. The colors in Figure 6 represent the classifications suggested by (Moriassi et al., 2007) and
 429 are as follows: green for “very good” ($NSE > 0.75$; $PBIAS < \pm 10\%$; $RSR < 0.50$), yellow for
 430 “good or satisfactory” ($0.75 > NSE > 0.5$; $\pm 10\% < PBIAS < \pm 25\%$; $0.50 < RSR < 0.60$), red for
 431 “unsatisfactory” ($NSE < 0.5$; $PBIAS > \pm 25\%$; $RSR > 0.70$). Moreover, the correlation
 432 coefficient (R^2) and the VE criterion values close to 1.0 mean that the prediction dispersion is
 433 equal to that of the observation (Krause and Boyle, 2005; Muleta, 2012). It is important to note
 434 that in the validation period (2011-2015), most of the recent drought event were simulated with
 435 an acceptable performance, although there is a tendency to overestimate periods of low flow.

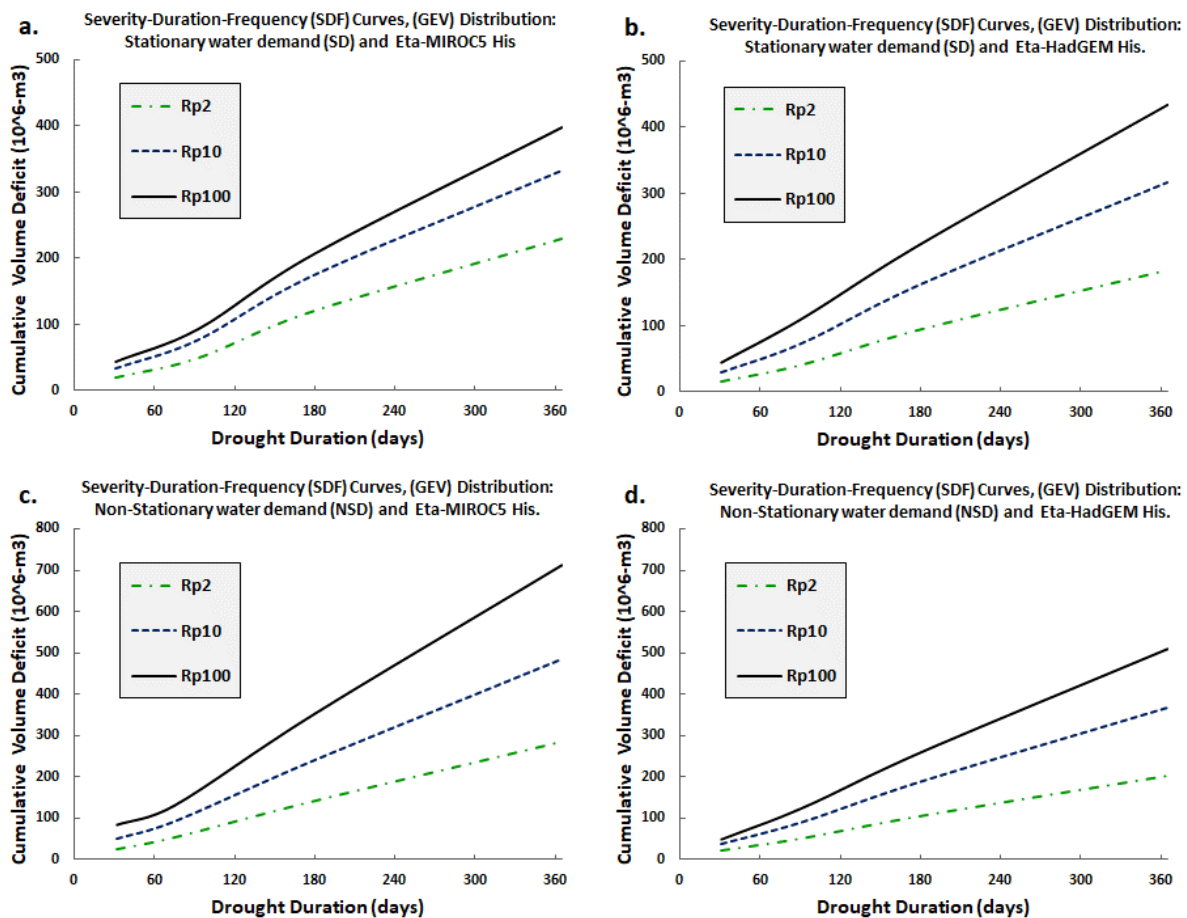


436
 437 **Figure 6.** WEAP Hydrographs Cantareira Equivalent System (ES) performance criteria for Calibration (2006 -
 438 2010) - Validation (2011 – 2015) periods. The calibration and validation performance criteria for each sub-basin
 439 in the system can be found in the “Complementary Material” - Appendix A. – Table A-1.

440 Individual watershed hydrological modelling performance ratings are presented in Appendix-
 441 A, Table A-1. Moreover, several statistical criteria were considered in the evaluation of the
 442 calibration process, where each criterion covers a different aspect of the resulting hydrograph.
 443 Five sub-basins were modeled within the Jaguarí-Jacareí sub-system (Sub B-F28, B-F23, B-
 444 F25, Jaguarí and Jacareí). This five sub-system represents approximately 46% of the total
 445 available water and showed the best modelling performance statistics, compared to the other
 446 subsystems.

447 **4.2. SDF curves**

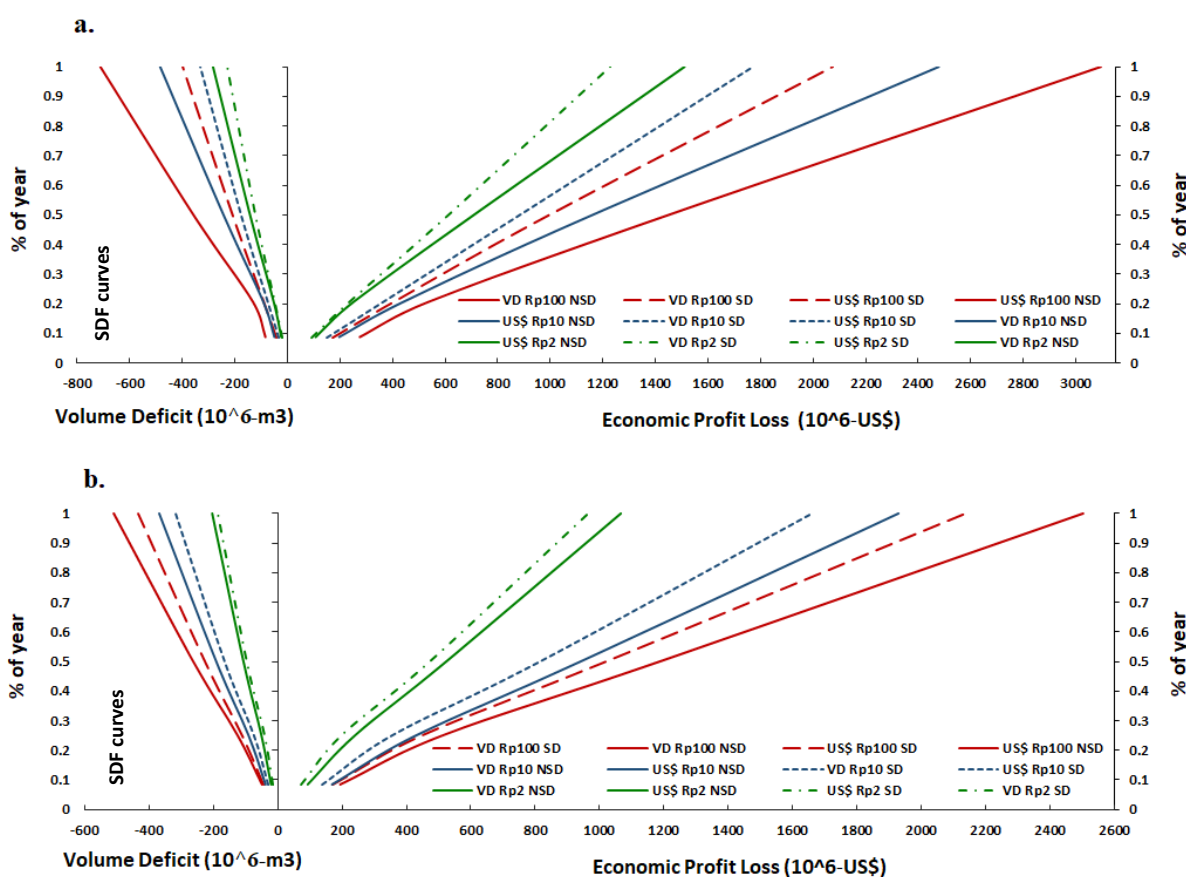
448 Using the traditional frequency analysis, the severity-duration-frequency curves for two
 449 threshold levels and two discharges (from Historical_RCMs WEAP outputs) were developed
 450 as shown in Fig. 7. For the SDF curves configuration, the Generalized Extreme Values (GEV)
 451 function was used. It can, therefore be observed from the SDF results that according to the fit
 452 data set (Appendix C), the shape parameter (ξ) varies with the drought duration, therefore for a
 453 drought interval of more than 180 days, the Probability Distribution Function (PDF) Type I
 454 presents a better fit, even for the two proposed demand scenarios. On the other hand, droughts
 455 with duration intervals of less than 90 days, under stationary and non-stationary demand
 456 scenarios, had a better fit to FDP Type III (see Tables D-1 to D-4 in Appendix D). Moreover,
 457 the fit diagnostic plots "Empirical quantile vs Model quantile" (QQ-plot) and "Return level vs
 458 Return period" (RR-plot) show the relationship between the model, the data fit and prediction
 459 capacity (Appendix C). Therefore, in terms of the quantiles, the QQ-plot shows the data trend
 460 to follow the model line in most cases. While the predictive capacity of the model, represented
 461 by the RR-plot, shows a decrease as the return period increases.



462

463 **Figure 7.** SDF curves under stationary and non-stationary demand assumptions and historical discharge WEAP-
 464 Eta scenarios: a. (SD) 31 m³/s and Eta-MIROC5. b. (SD) 31 m³/s and Eta-HadGEM. c. (NSD) 31 to 42 m³/s and
 465 Eta-MIROC5. d. (NSD) 31 to 42 m³/s and Eta-HadGEM.

466 Based on the relationship between the Cantareira System Drought-Cost-Robustness curve (see
 467 details in Figure E-2 supplementary material) and the SDF curves (see Figure 7), the base
 468 functions of Severity-Duration-Impact of drought were built to estimate the base-line scenarios
 469 of damage cost in the water utility company. These scenarios are shown in Figure 8, under
 470 different recurrence events (Rp scenarios), climate projections (RCPs – RCMs) and demand
 471 variability scenarios (SD – NSD). Each pair of lines in Figure 8 (continuous and dashed), show
 472 a range of uncertainty associated with the considered change drivers.



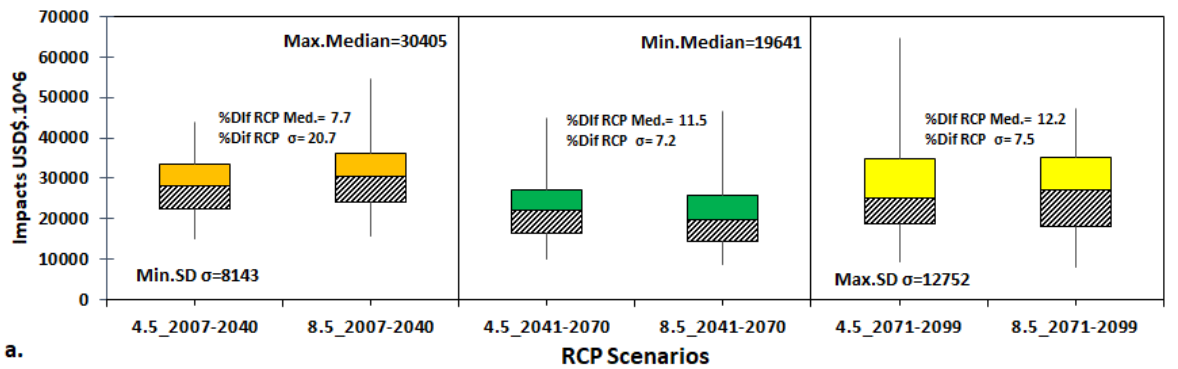
473
 474 **Figure 8.** Severity-Duration-Impact curves. Sector **a.** Severity-Duration-Frequency-Profit Loss under the
 475 historical *Eta-MIROC5* scenario. Sector **b.** Severity-Duration-Frequency-Profit Loss under the historical *Eta-*
 476 *HadGEM* scenario. Note: *SD* and *NSD* are the stationary or non-stationary demands, respectively; “*VD*” is the
 477 volume deficit, under return period of 2, 10 and 100 years; % of year is the drought event duration in relation to one
 478 year.

479 4.3. Economic impacts under climate change

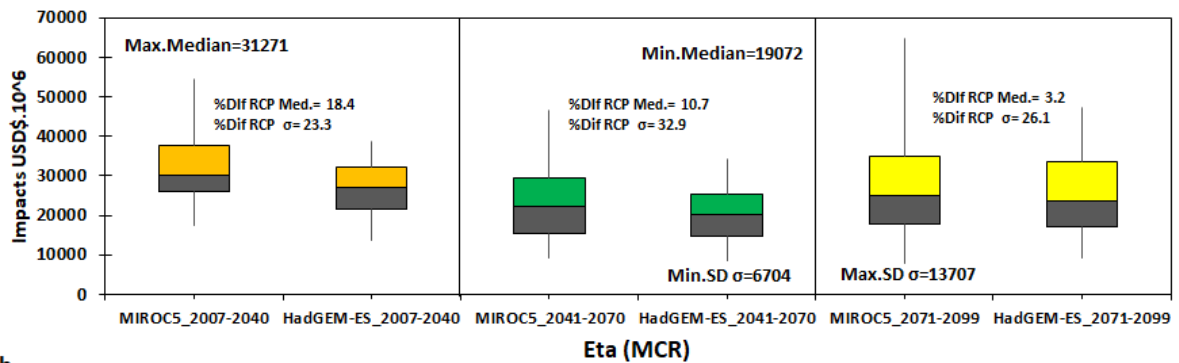
480 The results describe the net present value (NPV) of the potential economic impacts produced
 481 by hydrological drought durations greater than 180 days. These impacts are presented
 482 considering the climate, demand, severity and recurrence scenarios during the analysis periods:

483 2007-2040, 2041-2070 and 2071-2099. The evaluation of the drought's economic impact in the
484 water company showed in general, revenue losses per analysis period between 0.003% and
485 0.021% related to the GDP in the SPMR in 2017 (SEADE, 2018). This relatively low range of
486 percentage revenue losses is, in fact, significant for the regional economy since SPMR accounts
487 for approximately 18% of the Brazilian GDP.

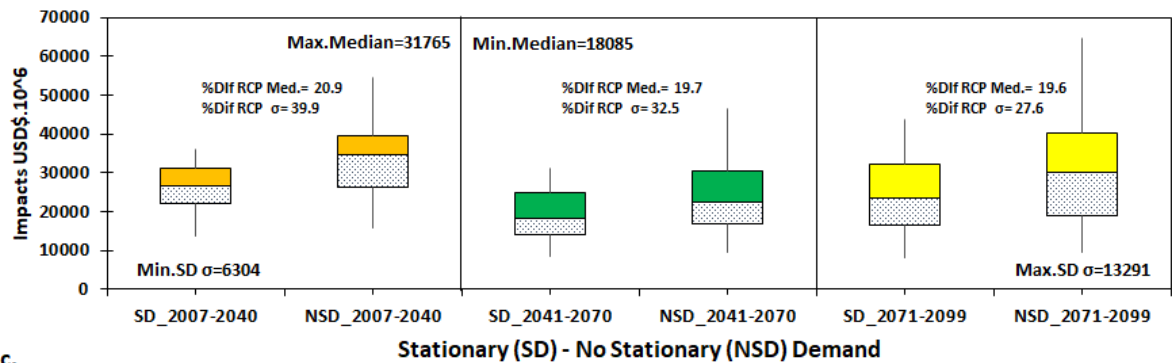
488 Figure 9 shows the economic impacts on the water utility company under an analysis that
489 independently discriminates radiation scenarios (RCP), GCM and water demand. Figure 9 also
490 compares the relative difference between scenarios and time periods, using the median statistic
491 and standard deviation, the latter as a measure of dispersion. In general, the results in Figure 9
492 reveal that under the driver water demand, the most propitious scenarios are configured for the
493 generation of greater economic impacts (on average), followed by radiation and GCM drivers,
494 respectively. Likewise, in Sector "a", the impacts analyzed under RCP scenarios 4.5 and 8.5
495 showed a low difference percentage in variability and median. This can be explained from the
496 study by Chou et al. 2014, where the Eta-INPE results establishes that, in the future, there is no
497 clear trend in the average precipitation and during the summer, the time series show a trend for
498 a reduction in precipitation in both emission scenarios, RCP 8.5 and 4.5. While for sector "b"
499 (RCM), the outputs nested in Eta-MIROC5 presented higher revenue losses in the company
500 than those based on HadGEM-ES. This difference can be attributed to the annual cycle of
501 precipitation, which shows that the ETA-INPE simulations driven by MIROC5 produces
502 generally less precipitations during the dry season, therefore the water deficit during this period
503 will be more critical (Chou et al 2014a). Finally, sector "c", where the Non-stationary demand
504 (NSD) trend imposed the larger differences in the magnitude and variability percentage impacts
505 (human influences), suggesting that the demand-related (population growth) uncertainty would
506 be far greater than that associated with climate sensitivity.



a.



b.



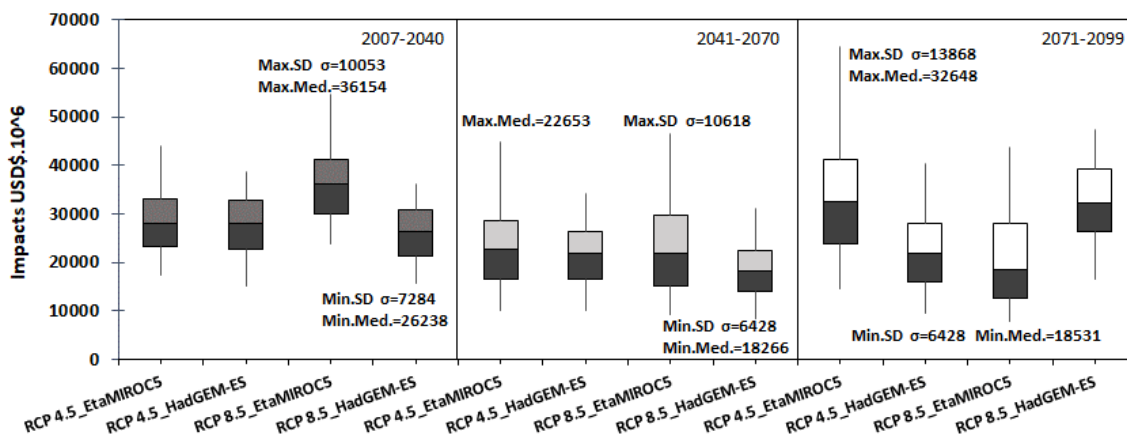
c.

508

509 **Figure 9.** Impacts and relative differences between scenarios in median 50th percentile (Med.) and standard
 510 deviation (σ). Sector “a”: Impacts based on RCP scenarios. Sector “b”: Impacts based on RCM scenarios. Sector
 511 “c”: Impacts based on demand scenarios. Through analysis periods, Orange (2007-2040), Green (2041-2070) and
 512 Yellow (2071-2099).

513 Under a different grouping configuration for the analysis of the results (see Figure 10), the
 514 impacts assessment was conditioned by the scenarios joint study of climate forcing (Eta-GCM)
 515 and radiation (RCP). Based on this scheme, it was found that the largest economic impact was
 516 represented by the Eta-MIROC5_4.5 climate-forcing scenario, while smaller impacts (on
 517 average) were observed in the Eta-HadGEM-ES_4.5 scenario. In addition, the Eta-MIROC5
 518 scenario showed the maximum values of the median 50th percentile (Max.Med.) and standard
 519 deviation (Max.SD) between the set of time period panels, which concludes that the climate

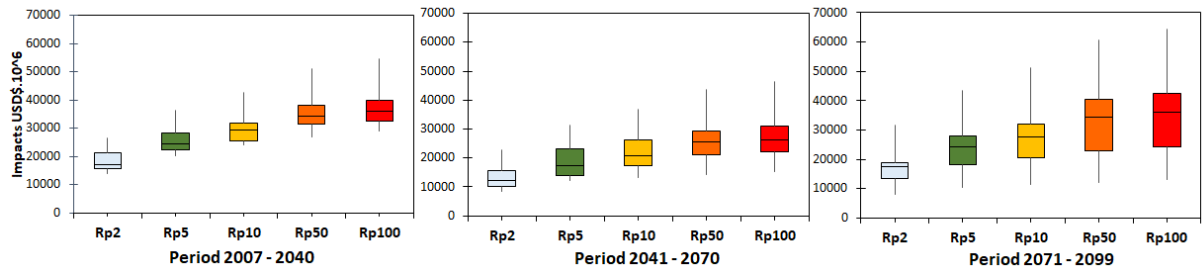
520 forcing based on the MIROC5 model is the main driver of the impacts and variability between
 521 analyzed climate drivers (GCM).



522
 523 **Figure 10.** Economic impacts comparison between Eta-INPE_RCP_GCM based scenarios throughout the
 524 projection time period: first panel 2007-2040, second panel 2041-2070 and third panel 2071-2099.

525 Figure 11 describes a third results analysis scheme. In this case, the impacts are evaluated based
 526 on the return periods. In the box plot of Figure 13, an increasing tendency of the dispersion is
 527 observed in the measure in which the projected time horizon is more distant, probably due to
 528 the greater uncertainty in future climate projections (Cubasch et al., 2001). On the other hand,
 529 the higher periods of return reflect impacts of greater magnitude, as expected.

530 In all cases, the average economic impacts projected for the period 2040-2071 presented lower
 531 values compared with the other two periods analyzed. According to a study by Lyra et al. (2017)
 532 in which the most recent Eta-INPE model simulations were performed at more detailed scales,
 533 the annual total precipitation (PRCPTOT) and maximum number of consecutive days with
 534 precipitation (CDD - CWD) indexes for the Sao Paulo region showed better results in terms of
 535 favoring water availability during this period. On the contrary, the period 2007-2040 presented
 536 the greatest economic impacts (evidence of the recent water crisis) with the lowest dispersion
 537 (less uncertainty) in relation to the other projected time periods. While the projection of the
 538 2071-2099 period showed an impact magnitude close to the 2007-2040 period, given that both
 539 Eta-INPE simulations intensify the reduction of precipitation toward the end of the century in
 540 Southeast Brazil, with an annual rainfall reduction above 40% and a reduction of precipitation
 541 extremes (Chou et al., 2014a; Lyra et al., 2017).



542

543 **Figure 11.** Drought impact variability between return period scenarios during the projection periods: first panel
 544 2007-2040, second panel 2041-2070 and third panel 2071-2099.

545 **4.4. Considerations on Uncertainties**

546 The methodology adopted here includes a model chain, typical in exercises of hydrological
 547 regime projection through hydrologic modelling under climate change projections (Fowler et
 548 al., 2007; Jones, 2000; Wilby and Harris, 2006). This model chain incorporates several sources
 549 of uncertainty such as those listed by Honti et al. (2014) and Jobst et al., (2018): 1) the climate
 550 model; 2) the downscaling method or an RCM application, the latter as in our work; 3) the
 551 hydrological model, and (4) the inherent modeling uncertainty of coupling different climate-
 552 hydrology spatiotemporal scales.

553 In this case, the systematic analysis of change drivers (uncertainty sources) offers a set of results
 554 around potential scenarios to frame uncertainty (Refsgaard et al., 2007; Rodrigues et al., 2015)
 555 while the drivers sensitivity analysis is proposed as a part of the results in this study. Montanari
 556 (2007), however, advocates that some methods commonly used for uncertainty assessment do
 557 not address uncertainty, but only model sensitivity. Moreover, although some studies indicate
 558 that the climate projections surpass the hydrological uncertainties (Bates et al., 2008; Nóbrega
 559 et al., 2011), Honti et al. (2014) reinforces that different methods of uncertainty assessment
 560 may lead to different conclusions.

561 Our methodology also included a drought indicator development, through the TLM approach,
 562 demand scenarios and a drought cost estimation based on the Market Price method. (Hou et
 563 al., 2018; Mens et al., 2015). Results showed that drought deficits are influenced not only by
 564 the modeled inflows at a lumped scale, throughout the period of 2007-2099, but also in our case
 565 study by the reservoir operation. In fact, the spatially-combined operation of existing reservoirs
 566 may be different from our considerations, adopting an “equivalent system” (ES) without a
 567 future layout change. On the one hand, the system demand scenarios are based on current
 568 (historical period 2004-2016, (SABESP, 2017b)) best knowledge information, and the adoption
 569 of two scenarios aimed at giving a broader, realistic view of the different possible outcomes

570 due to expected population growth (ANA and DAEE, 2004; IBGE, 2018). On the other hand,
571 the economic loss estimation, based on the aforementioned drought event measures, does not
572 incorporate eventual market changes, currency changes or even subsidies. Conversely, our loss
573 estimation assumes that those economic measures, i.e. water tariff adjustments were and would
574 continue being adopted by the water utility, as a trigger determinant once the drought hazard
575 happened. Because this triggering factor would temporarily occur either promptly or slowly,
576 when structural measures were not enough to secure water supply under eventual hydro-
577 meteorological conditions and water demand, uncertainties in cost analysis could increase.

578 **5. Conclusions and recommendations**

579 This paper developed a methodology with application to assess economic impacts of drought
580 risks for water utilities through an **assessment** under climate and water demand scenarios. **In**
581 **this example,** the SDF framework has linked climate, hydrology and economy factors, using
582 Sao Paulo Metropolitan Region dependence on the Cantareira Water Supply System, Brazil. In
583 this paper, we consider these results preliminary, but with valuable information for a water
584 utility interested in the drought risk losses.

585 Methodologically, first we characterized the hydrological droughts through the SDF curves,
586 from the hydrological modeling by the baseline period of the RCM. Second, the SDF was
587 coupled with a local water demand development based on the supply warranty time percentage
588 during the drought events. Under these assumptions, an empirical drought economic impact
589 curve was setup, representing the Water Utility Company profit losses due to the impossibility
590 of supplying demand during hydrological drought periods. **Additionally, our results could elicit**
591 **further implications for drought risk reduction and management.**

592 **The main results of the methodology implemented were: the great financial vulnerability of the**
593 **water utility company of the SPMR against the hydrological drought. Possibly the maximum**
594 **supply capacity of the system is reaching its limit due to the growing demand and the new**
595 **challenges represented by climate change. The main driver of economic impacts under the**
596 **analysis scheme turned out to be the water demand dynamics. The Eta-MIROC5 scenario**
597 **proved to be primarily responsible for the economic impacts compared to other climate drivers.**
598 **Comparatively, the RCP 4.5 and 8.5 radiation scenarios showed no major difference between**
599 **them. The scenario of projected impacts for the period 2071-2040 showed the greatest**
600 **dispersion among time scenarios, while the closest scenario 2007-2041 showed less dispersion**
601 **and greater impacts on average. The WEAP model proved to be a versatile tool for the**

602 construction-calibration-validation process of the model, when it is implemented in climate
603 impact studies. The approach for the characterization of the drought "TLM" showed to be a tool
604 easily applicable to describe quantitative changes in hydrological drought during long periods
605 with change in water demands (Thresholds).

606 On one hand, this SDF framework could help analyze the impacts from key drivers, such as
607 climate, land use and water withdrawal rates in complex or recurrent drought patterns. In
608 addition, this SDF framework could link interdisciplinary studies, with broader relationships in
609 relation to water security, energy security and food security. Thus, we recommend future
610 research of the SDF framework linked to: Palmer's drought indices (Rossato et al., 2017); a
611 model-based framework to disaster management (Horita et al., 2017); an ecosystem-based
612 assessment for Eco-hydrological modelling (Taffarello et al., 2018); effectiveness of drought
613 securitization under climate change scenarios (Mohor and Mendiondo, 2017). Moreover, the
614 SDF framework is capable of integrating actions towards: dynamic price incentive programs
615 related to wise human-water co-evolution patterns; water-sensitive programs under deep
616 cultural features; socio-hydrological observatories for water security; feasibility analysis of the
617 economic impacts of implementing new technologies for water economy and flow
618 measurement; leakage control; detecting and legalizing illegal connections and water reuse,
619 among others. Furthermore, dissimilarities pointed out from climate scenarios (see Figure 11)
620 would suggest a set of possibilities to face the uncertainty. For instance, the SDF framework
621 would guide the decision-making of water utility profits to cope with economic impacts of
622 drought risks in the long and medium term. In addition, the expected profit loss over the long-
623 term would serve as the initial estimate for financial contingency arrangements as insurance
624 schemes or community contingency funds. In general, the SDF framework developed here can
625 be proposed as a planning tool to mitigating drought-related revenue losses, as well as being
626 useful for the development of water resource securitization strategy in sectors that depend on
627 water to sustain their economies.

628 The following should be considered for further studies to strengthen decision-making based on
629 results of the tool: despite having achieved an acceptable performance, the inclusion of more
630 gauge stations could not only improve calibration performance but also cover a larger sample
631 space of events, increasing the confidence of projections. Introduce a direct measure of the
632 economic impacts resulting from multi-year deficits of annual duration not entire, although, the
633 methodology can assimilate multiple consecutive years and entire deficits, the cumulative
634 impacts would be underestimated. On the other hand, in order to have a methodological

635 comparative standard, more regional studies of SDF curves need to be implemented,
636 considering the spatialized analysis and broader statistics methods. Finally, it is a fact that the
637 reliability of SDF curve estimates depend on the quality and extent of the records used, or in
638 this case, the capacity of regional climate models to reproduce the observed distribution of
639 extreme events.

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650

651 **Detailed information is available in the Supplementary Material.**

652

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1078

1 **Complementary Material.**

2 **A. Appendix.**

3 The performance criteria described below have been used in this study to test how well the
4 calibrated model fits the observed data. These evaluation statistics have been selected based on
5 recommendations in the literature (Moriassi et al., 2007; Muleta, 2012).

6

7 **Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE)**

$$8 \quad NSE = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (S_i - O_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^N (S_i - O_{mean})^2} \quad \text{Equation A-1.}$$

9 Where, “ S_i ” is the model simulated output and “ O_i ” observed hydrologic variable.

10

11 **Volumetric Efficiency (VE)**

$$12 \quad VE = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N |S_i - O_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^N O_i} \quad \text{Equation A-2.}$$

13 **Ratio of Standard Deviation of Observations to RMS (RSR)**

$$14 \quad RSR = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (S_i - O_i)^2}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (S_i - O_{mean})^2}} \quad \text{Equation A-3.}$$

15 **Percent bias (PBIAS)**

$$16 \quad PBIAS = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (O_i - S_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N O_i} \cdot 100 \quad \text{Equation A-4.}$$

17 **Coefficient of Determination (R^2)**

$$18 \quad R^2 = \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N [O_i - O_{mean}] \cdot [S_i - S_{mean}]}{\{\sum_{i=1}^N [O_i - O_{mean}]^2\}^{0.5} \cdot \{\sum_{i=1}^N [S_i - S_{mean}]^2\}^{0.5}} \right)^2 \quad \text{Equation A-5.}$$

19

20 Cantareira basins performance criteria for Calibration and Validation periods. *Cal. =
21 Calibration period and Val. = Validation period, are shown in the Table A-1. The classification
22 of colors are as follows: green for “very good” ($NSE > 0.75$; $PBIAS < \pm 10\%$; $RSR < 0.50$),
23 yellow for “good or satisfactory” ($0.75 > NSE > 0.5$; $\pm 10\% < PBIAS < \pm 25\%$; $0.50 < RSR <$
24 0.60), red for “unsatisfactory” ($NSE < 0.5$; $PBIAS > \pm 25\%$; $RSR > 0.70$). Moreover, the

25 correlation coefficient (R^2) and the VE criterion values close to 1.0 mean that the prediction
 26 dispersion is equal to that of the observation.

27 **Table A-1.** Performance criteria results on the Cantareira modeled basins.

Watersheds	Area (km ²)	VE		NSE		RSR		PBIAS (%)		NSE _{Log}		R ²	
		Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.
Sub B-F28	269.0	0.79	0.72	0.74	0.52	0.49	0.57	1.64	4.89	0.69	0.69	0.74	0.53
Sub B-F23	508.4	0.83	0.8	0.87	0.86	0.38	0.38	9.52	5.58	0.78	0.85	0.9	0.88
Sub B-F25	179.5	0.87	0.77	0.93	0.84	0.27	0.42	5.45	-9.54	0.91	0.78	0.94	0.86
Jaguari	67.8	0.88	0.72	0.93	0.84	0.27	0.48	-3.3	-21.1	0.89	0.61	0.93	0.9

28

Watersheds	Area (km ²)	VE		NSE		RSR		PBIAS (%)		NSE _{Log}		R ²	
		Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.
Jacareí	201.0	0.8	0.75	0.71	0.87	0.44	0.42	2.08	-1.54	0.49	0.75	0.79	0.87

29

Watersheds	Area (km ²)	VE		NSE		RSR		PBIAS (%)		NSE _{Log}		R ²	
		Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.
Sub B-F24	172.8	0.83	0.78	0.85	0.76	0.41	0.47	-9.91	10.5	0.83	0.79	0.89	0.82
Sub B-F30	119.7	0.92	0.85	0.85	0.73	0.36	0.5	1.54	2.56	0.84	0.79	0.86	0.73
Cachoeira	97.1	0.71	0.70	0.78	0.81	0.5	0.53	-20.3	-13.5	0.58	0.53	0.87	0.85

30

Watersheds	Area (km ²)	VE		NSE		RSR		PBIAS (%)		NSE _{Log}		R ²	
		Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.
Sub B-F34	135.5	0.85	0.84	0.53	0.35	0.7	0.68	14.6	2.59	0.42	0.38	0.84	0.69
Atibainha	176.2	0.80	0.72	0.75	0.74	0.44	0.53	9.41	-12.2	0.77	0.66	0.83	0.85

31

Watersheds	Area (km ²)	VE		NSE		RSR		PBIAS (%)		NSE _{Log}		R ²	
		Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Val.	Val.	Cal.	Val.	Cal.	Val.
P. Castro	333.7	0.81	0.78	0.73	0.72	0.58	0.53	-2.81	8.54	0.67	0.63	0.9	0.74

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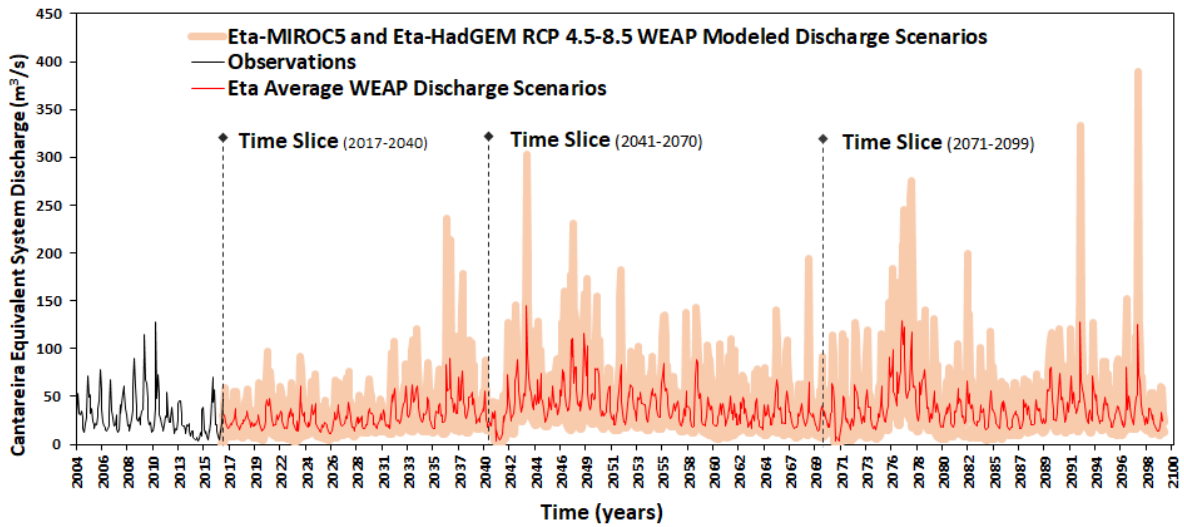
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39

40 **B. Appendix**

41 Fig. 3.5-1 shows that in the future there is no clear trend in the average discharge, since in some
42 periods the curve exhibits an increase and in other periods a decrease. In addition, the average
43 discharge per time period showed higher values during the 2041-2070 scenarios. On the other
44 hand, the average discharge per model showed higher values in the Eta/HadGEM model results
45 compared to the Eta/MIROC5 model.

46

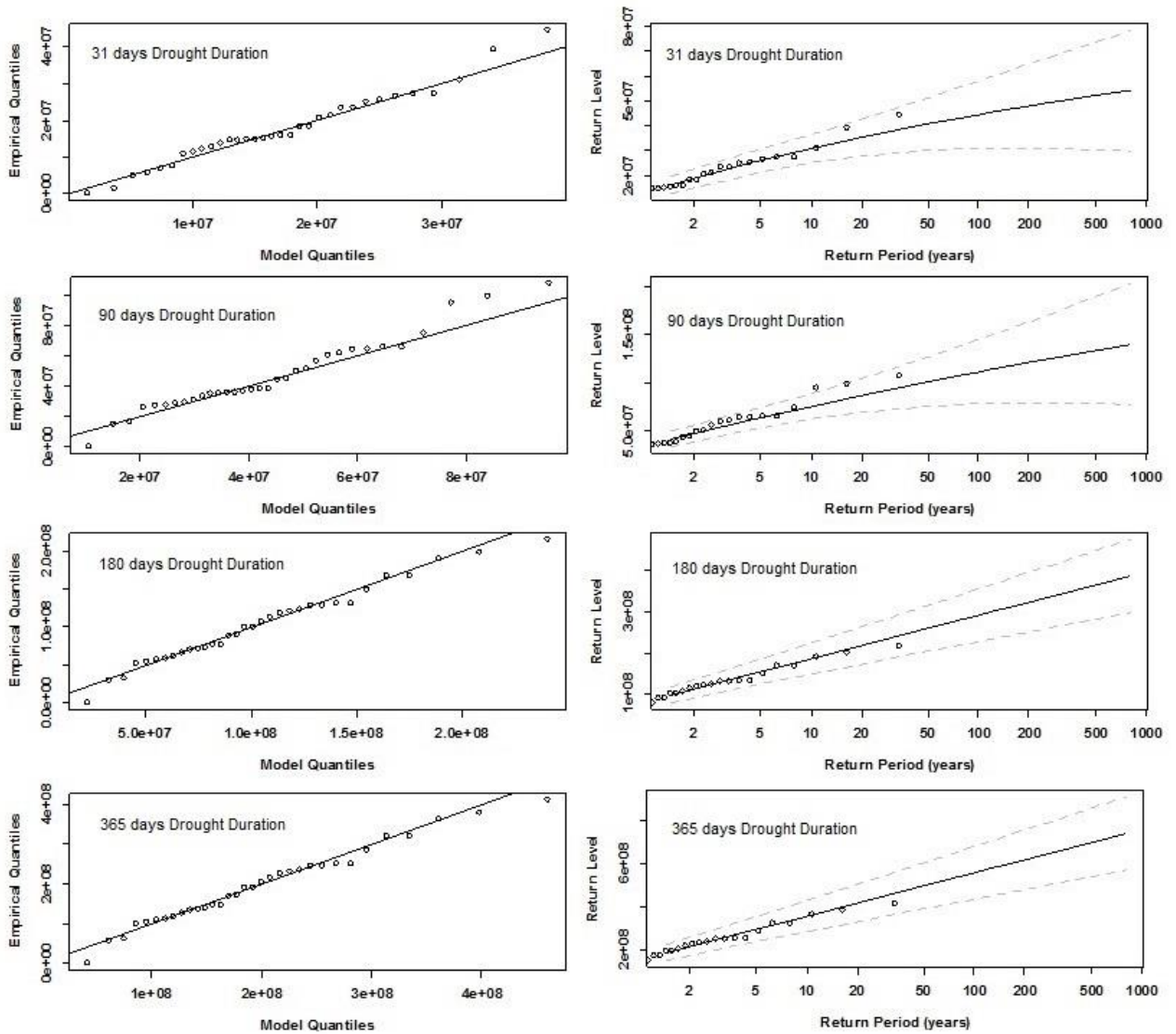


47

48 **Figure B-1.** Discharge projection scenarios modeled in WEAP, driven by RCM Eta-MIROC5 and Eta-HadGEM
49 under RCP 4.5 - 8.5 scenarios.

50 **C. Appendix.**

51 Fit diagnostic plot of Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) distribution.



52

53 **Figure C-1.** Diagnostic plots for stationary GEV model under historical Eta-HadGEM scenario and stationarity
54 demand (monthly drought duration intervals): Left panel QQ-plot in [m³]; Right panel, return level [m³] vs return
55 period plot.

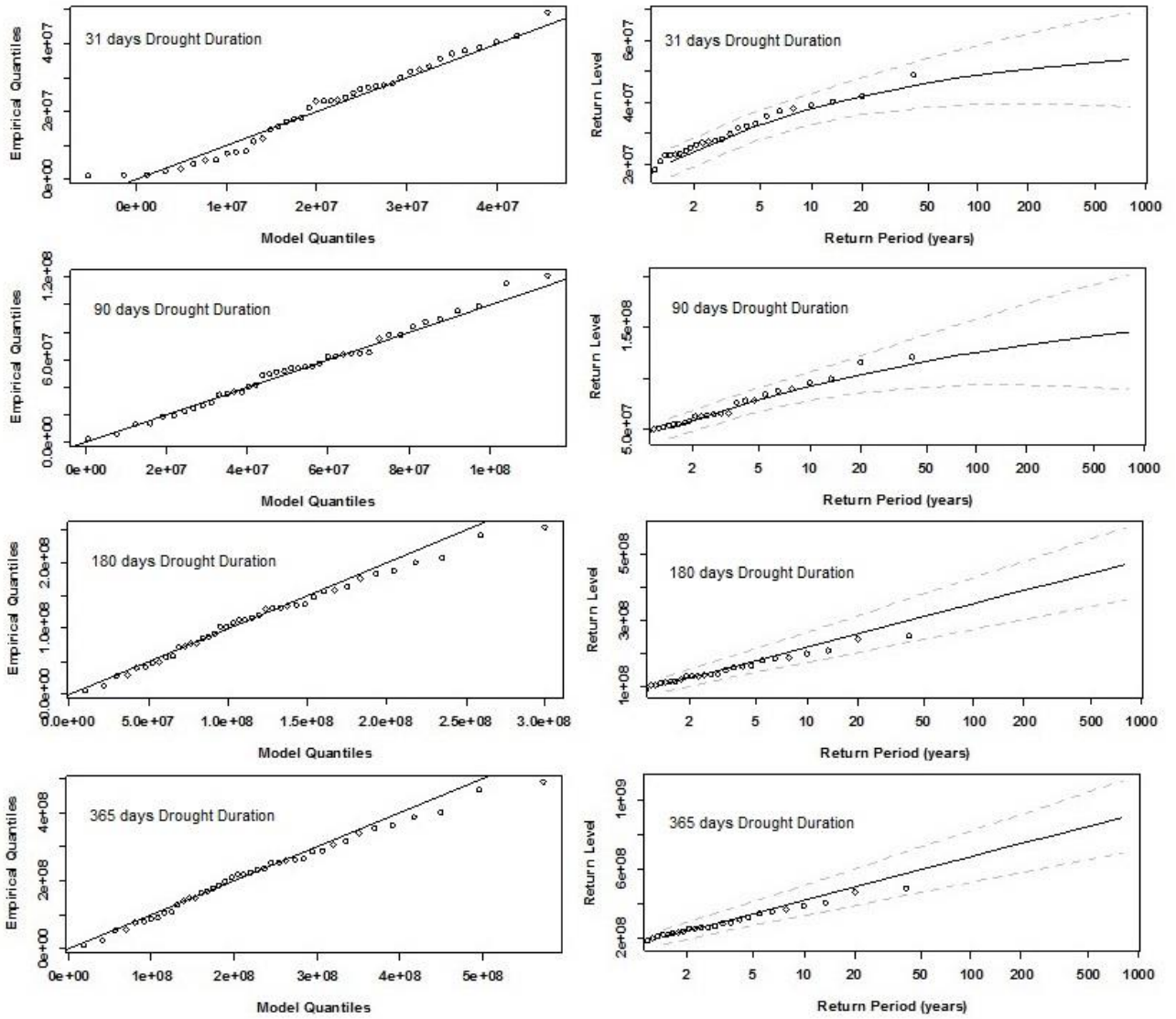
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61

62 **Figure C-2.** Diagnostic plots for stationary GEV model under historical Eta-HadGEM scenario and non-
 63 stationarity demand (monthly drought duration intervals): Left panel QQ-plot [m³]; Right panel [m³], return level
 64 vs return period plot.

65

66

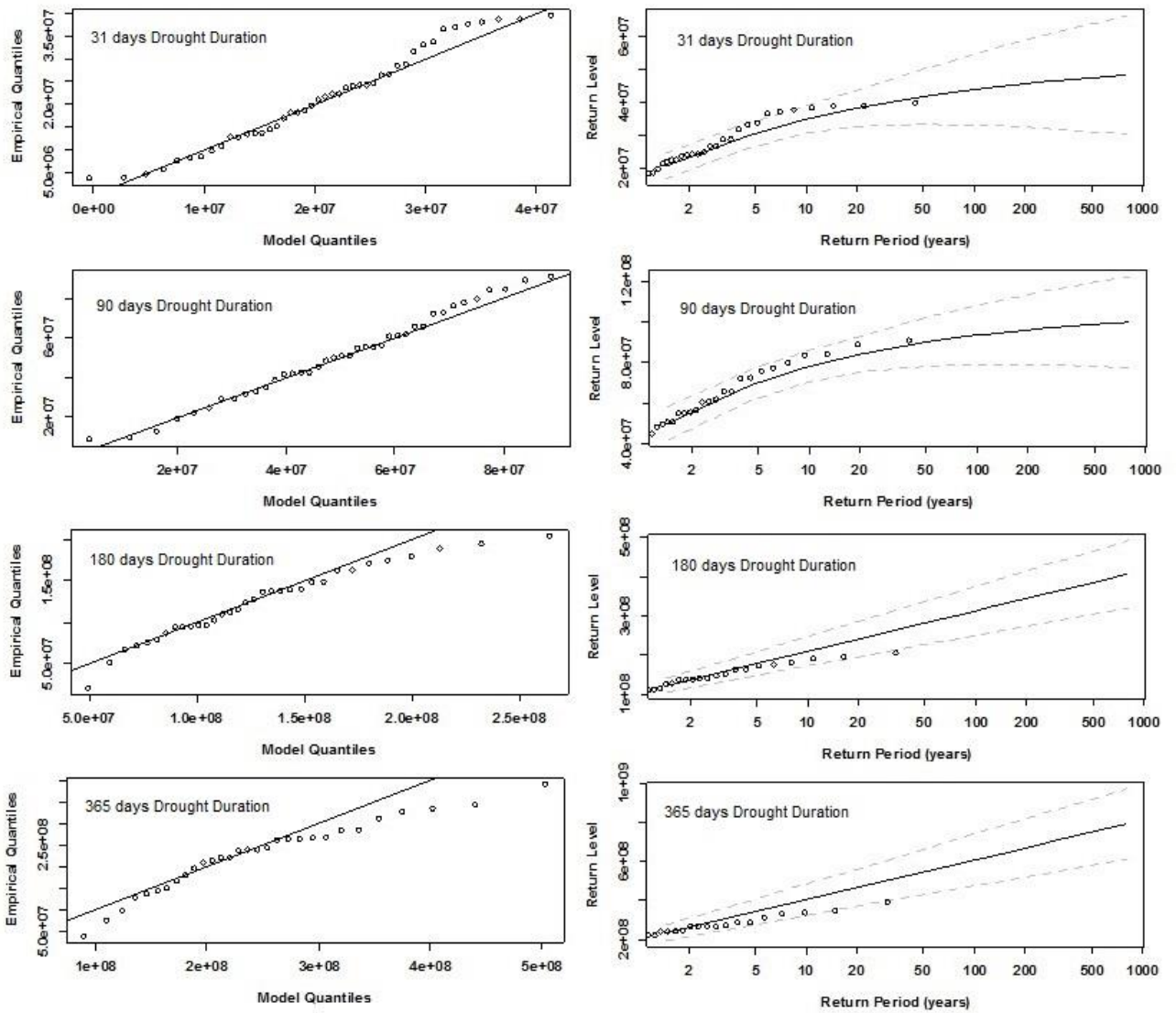
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72

73 **Figure C-3.** Diagnostic plots for stationary GEV model under historical Eta-MIROC5 scenario and stationarity
 74 demand (monthly drought duration intervals): Left panel QQ-plot [m³]; Right panel, return level [m³] vs return
 75 period plot.

76

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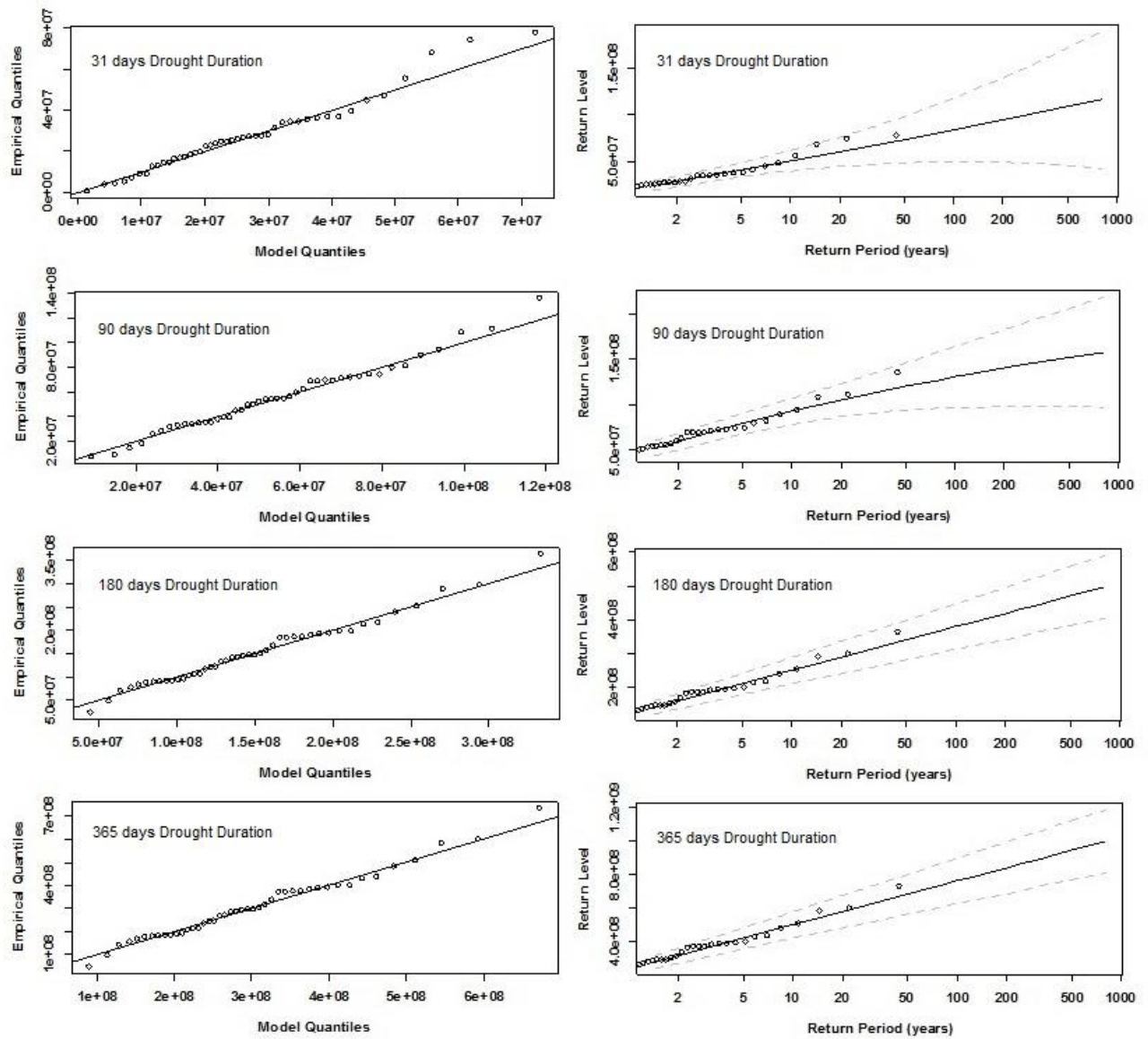
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84 **Figure C-4.** Diagnostic plots for stationary GEV model under historical Eta-MIROC5 scenario and non-
 85 stationarity demand (monthly drought duration intervals): Left panel QQ-plot [m³]; Right panel, return level [m³]
 86 vs return period plot.

87

88

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94 **D. Appendix.**

95

96 **Table D-1.** Adjusted parameters GEV distribution Adjusted for SDF curve under Eta-MIROC5. Hist.-Stationary
97 Demand scenario.

Drought Duration	EtaMIROC5 Hist. Stationary Demand			Negative Log-Likelihood
	Location (μ)	Scale (σ)	Shape (ξ)	
31 days	1.69E+07	1.06E+07	-2.88E-01	773.50
90 days	4.25E+07	2.29E+07	-3.67E-01	714.02
180 days	1.06E+08	4.48E+07	0.00E+00	629.90
365 days	2.00E+08	8.86E+07	0.00E+00	592.68

98

99 **Table D-2.** Adjusted parameters GEV distribution Adjusted for SDF curve under Eta-MIROC5. Hist.-Non-
100 Stationary Demand scenario.

Drought Duration	EtaMIROC5 Hist. Non-Stationary Demand			Negative Log-Likelihood
	Location (μ)	Scale (σ)	Shape (ξ)	
31 days	1.90E+07	1.33E+07	2.74E-02	791.25
90 days	4.36E+07	2.40E+07	-1.07E-01	813.71
180 days	1.20E+08	5.62E+07	0.00E+00	853.50
365 days	2.42E+08	1.13E+08	0.00E+00	884.40

101

102 **Table D-3.** Adjusted parameters GEV distribution Adjusted for SDF curve under Eta-HadGEM. Hist.-Stationary
103 Demand scenario.

Drought Duration	EtaHADGEM-ES Hist. Stationary Demand			Negative Log-Likelihood
	Location (μ)	Scale (σ)	Shape (ξ)	
31 days	1.33E+07	8.64E+06	-1.10E-01	576.79
90 days	3.53E+07	1.88E+07	-5.54E-02	605.61
180 days	8.00E+07	4.56E+07	0.00E+00	631.75
365 days	1.53E+08	8.73E+07	0.00E+00	653.16

104

105 **Table D-4.** Adjusted parameters GEV distribution Adjusted for SDF curve under Eta-HadGEM. Hist.-Non-
106 Stationary Demand scenario.

Drought Duration	EtaHADGEM-ES Hist. Non-Stationary Demand			Negative Log-Likelihood
	Location (μ)	Scale (σ)	Shape (ξ)	
31 days	1.62E+07	1.32E+07	-3.04E-01	728.85
90 days	4.13E+07	2.71E+07	-1.84E-01	761.14
180 days	8.63E+07	5.73E+07	0.00E+00	792.70
365 days	1.65E+08	1.10E+08	0.00E+00	819.49

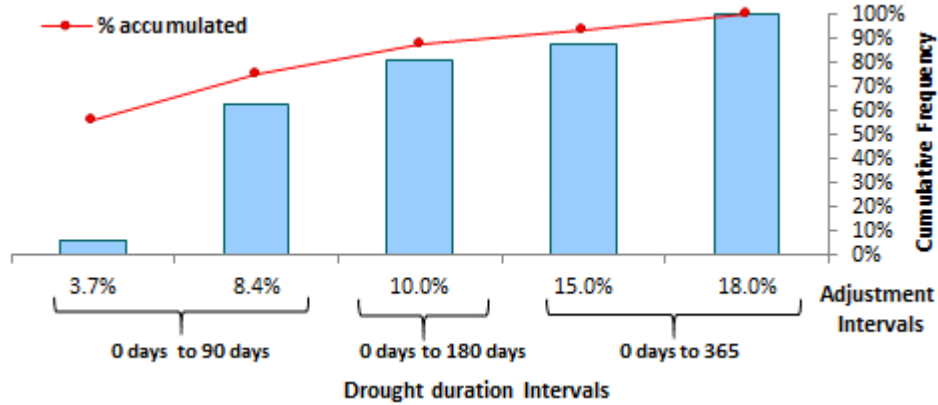
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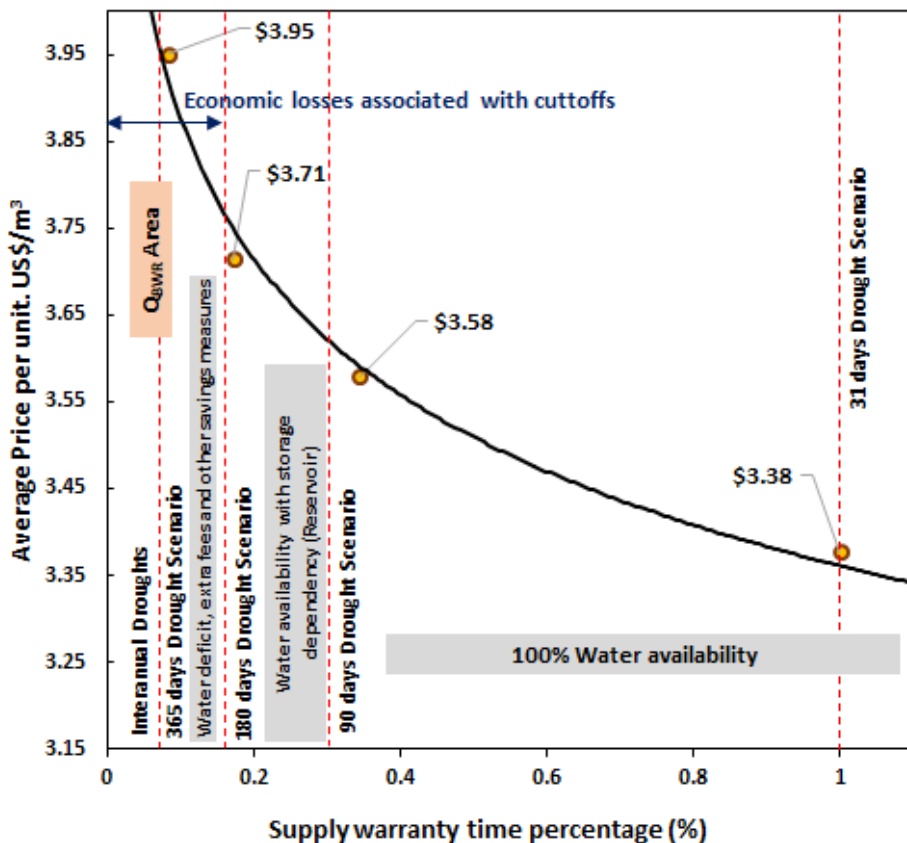
110 **E. Appendix**

111 Histogram for the SABESP tariff adjustment data series during the period 2000-2016 (Figure
 112 E-1) and Cantareira System Drought-Cost-Robustness curve (Figure E-2).



113

114 **Figure E-1.** Relationship assumptions between Drought duration intervals and water tariff adjustments. Series
 115 structure: 16 data in total; first interval 1 frequency, second interval 9 frequencies, third interval 3 frequencies,
 116 fourth interval 1 frequency and fifth interval 2 frequencies; average 7.85%, minimum 3.7% and maximum 18.9%.



117

118 **Figure E-2.** Cantareira System Drought-Cost-Robustness curve, based on the water price and drought duration.
 119 The supply warranty time is a defined index for the construction of the drought impact curve. In this case, the
 120 drought impact curve describe the relationship between the duration of the drought (supply guarantee time), the
 121 water price adjustment rate and the system robustness. Supply warranty time is the ration between 100% Supply
 122 warranty time during 31 days and the Analysis Scenario of Supply warranty time (days). For example, 31
 123 days/31days=1; 31days/90days=0.34; and 31days/180days=0.17 and 31 days/365 days=0.084.