Assessing climate change impacts on the water resources in Pune, India, using downscaling and hydrologic modeling

Paul D. Wagner¹, Tim G. Reichenau¹, Shamita Kumar², Karl Schneider¹

¹ Hydrogeography and Climatology Research Group, Institute of Geography, University of Cologne, Germany

² Institute of Environment Education & Research, Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Pune, India



1. Future water shortage in India?

Limited water availability

Increasing water demand





How will climate change affect water resources?





1. Objectives

Develop a downscaling technique that generates consistent weather data.Assess impacts of climate change on the water resources.

1. Downscaling

Regional Climate Model (RCM)



2. Evaluate the impact of climate change scenario on the water resources





2. Study area: Rainfall variability



Paul D. Wagner

2

Institute of Geography

2. Methodology: Data

Measured Climate Data (1988 - 2008)

- > Temperature data for IMD weather station Pune
- > Rainfall data for 16 gauges within and near the study area
 - Interpolated to derive subbasin values





2. Methodology: Data

- **Regional Climate Model Data (COSMO-CLM)***
- > driven by global ocean-atmosphere model ECHAM5/MPIOM
- > applying IPCC emission scenario A1B
- > Spatial resolution: Six 0.25° grid cells
- Baseline period: 1960-2000
- Scenario period: 2001-2100
- Variables: Temperature and rainfall



* Kindly provided by Institute for Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, Goethe-University Frankfurt



2. Downscaling Methodology

Problems:

- 1. Coarse RCM data spatially variable rainfall distirbution
- 2. Climate variables are interdependent, a derived climate scenario should provide consistent variable values
- Solution:
 - Use measured data and rearrange it
 - with the help of the RCM scenario data
- Method:
- 2.1 Bias Correction of RCM Data
 2.2 Identification of similar weeks in RCM baseline period for RCM scenario period
 2.3 Rearranging measured data to represent the
 - scenario period using the similarity derived in 2.2



2.1 Bias Correction of RCM Data

Comparison of RCM and measured data for 13 baseline years





2.2 Identification of similar RCM weeks Identification of similar weeks in RCM baseline period for RCM scenario period







2.3 Rearranging measured data to represent the scenario period



University of Cologne Institute of Geography



2

3.1 Validation of the rearranged scenario

Temperature:

- 1. Representation of the mean monthly values of the baseline period
- 2. Representation of the temperature trend for the scenario period

Rainfall:

- 1. Representation of the mean monthly values of the baseline period
- 2. No trend for the scenario period



3.1.1 Assessment of the derived climatology



Comparison of original and rearranged measured data for the baseline period (13 years)



3.1.2 Scenario temperatures



Maximum temperature

Minimum temperature





3.1.2 Representation of the temperature trend



Original RCM Temperature Data (°C)

Underestimation of the RCM temperature trend in the periods 2060-79 and 2080-99

University of Cologne Institute of Geography



3.1.3 Scenario rainfall



University of Cologne Institute of Geography



3.2 Impact on the water balance

Assessment by using a hydrologic model setup for the catchment using the Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT)

(see Wagner et al. 2011, Wagner et al. 2012)



Impact on:
1. Reservoir storage
2. Runoff
3. Annual ET
4. Monthly ET

Wagner, P.D., Kumar, S., Fiener, P., Schneider, K., 2011. Hydrological Modeling with SWAT in a Monsoon-Driven Environment: Experience from the Western Ghats, India. *Transactions of the ASABE*, Vol. 54(5): 1783-1790.

Wagner, P.D., Fiener, P., Wilken, F., Kumar, S., Schneider, K., 2012. Comparison and evaluation of spatial interpolation schemes for daily rainfall in data scarce regions. *Journal of Hydrology*, accepted.



3.2.1 Impact on reservoir storage



University of Cologne Institute of Geography



3.2.2 Impact on Runoff







3

3.2.3 Impact on Runoff and ET



Year



20

3

3.2.4 Impact on the monthly ET





4. Conclusions

- Downscaling approach
 - Preserves consistent weather input
 - > Is limited to measured temperature range
 - Underestimates second half of the scenario period
- Climate change impacts on the water resources
 - Dry years have a pronounced impact on water availability
 - Increasing temperatures result in higher evapotranspiration
 - Not as pronounced as expected due to high percentage of direct runoff



Thank you very much for your attention!

Questions welcome...

We gratefully acknowledge support by a grant from the German National Academic Foundation.

We would like to thank Bodo Ahrens and Shakeel Asharaf of the Institute for Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences at the Goethe-University Frankfurt for providing the regional climate model data. We are grateful to IMD Pune, Water Resources Department Nashik, Khadakwasla Irrigation Division Pune, Groundwater Department Pune, Department of Agriculture Pune, NRSC Hyderabad, USGS and Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland and NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center for supplying environmental data, good cooperation and discussions.