

# Stochastic Modeling of Daily Rainfall Process in a Non-Stationary Context

Sarah El Outayek, Ph.D. Candidate
Supervisor: Prof. Van-Thanh-Van Nguyen
McGill University

Project 1-4

**NSERC Canadian FloodNet 3rd Annual General Meeting** 

June 27- 28, 2017



## **Outline**

• **Objective:** Stochastic Modeling of Extreme Rainfall Events

- Methodology: Stochastic Approach: MCME model
  - Results
- Future work:
  - Linking with Climate Variables

• Conclusion



## **Objective**

#### Stochastic Modeling of Daily Rainfall Processes in a Non-Stationary Context

- Stochastic Approach
  - Another modelling technique besides the statistical approach

- Will take full daily rainfall series as input
  - Will generate accurate synthetic series





## **METHODOLOGY**

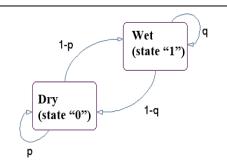
Stochastic Approach: MCME model



#### MCME model

- MCME = Markov Chain Mixed Exponential
- 2 components:
  - 1) Rainfall Occurrence: Markov chain
  - 2) Rainfall Amount: Mixed Exponential Distribution

#### 1st order 2-state Markov Chain



#### Mixed Exponential Distribution

$$f(x) = \left(\frac{p}{\mu_1}\right)e^{-x/\mu_1} + \left(\frac{1-p}{\mu_2}\right)e^{-x/\mu_2}$$

$$\begin{cases} x > 0 \\ p: mixing \ probability; \ 0$$

- Seasonality variation accounted by Fourier Series
- The Shuffled Complex Evolution (SCE) technique was used for global optimization of the maximum likelihood





### MCME model



**MCME** model



Similar statistical properties as the observed series

Observed Series

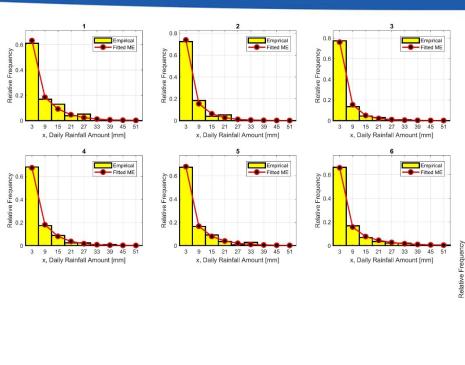
100 Synthetic Series





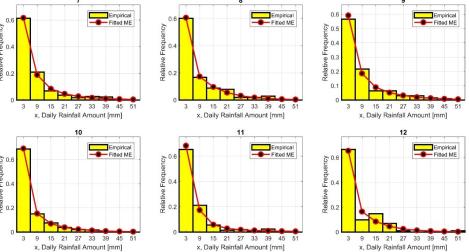
#### Results

# Monthly histograms of the observed series with the fitted theoretical mixed exponential distribution



Dorval Station

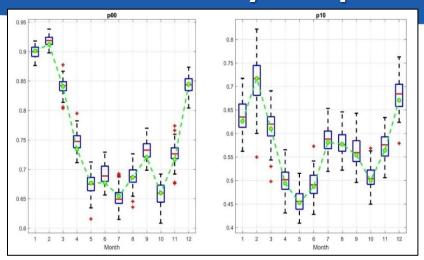
Observed data: 31-year daily data;
1985-2015





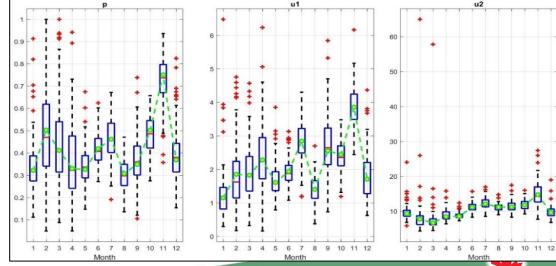
### Results

#### Monthly boxplots of parameters variation



Markov chain parameters

Mixed Exponential parameters







# MCME model Model Evaluation

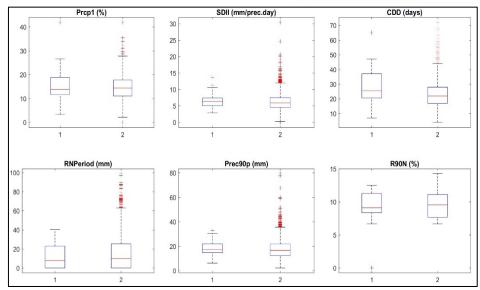
Rainfall Property	Index	Definition	Unit
Frequency	Prcp1	Percentage of wet days (Threshold≥1 mm)	%
Intensity	SDII	Mean precipitation amount at wet days	mm
Extremes	CDD	Maximum number of consecutive dry days	days
	R3Days	Maximum 3-days precipitation total	mm
	Prec90p	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile of rain day amount	mm
	R90N	% days with precipitation > 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	%

(Gachon et al., 2005)

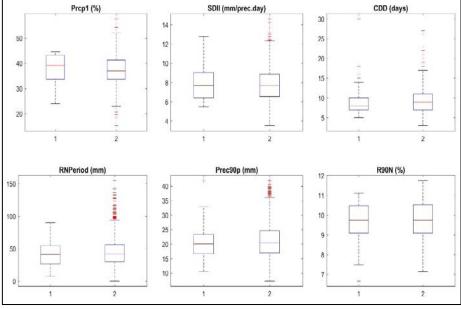




# Results Model Evaluation



Winter indices- 1: Observed – 2: Simulated



Summer indices- 1: Observed – 2: Simulated







# **FUTURE WORK**

Linking with Climate Variables



#### **Future Work**

One statistical downscaling technique:

#### Stochastic Weather Generators

- Example: LARS-WG
  - Generates <u>synthetic daily time series</u> of climate variables, statistically identical to the observed series, taking into account <u>Achange</u> between the **baseline period** and the selected **future** period

#### **Future Challenges:**

- Linking MCME with Global Climate Models
- Comparing with LARS-WG
- But, how to account for **non-stationarity**??



#### Conclusion

- Main Objective:
  - New Methodologies for Updating IDF curves
- The stochastic approach is adopted
- The MCME is developed to generate synthetic rainfall series statistically identical to the observed ones
- Including the climate variables in the MCME model will help taking into consideration the climate change





# **THANK YOU!**

Questions?

