# H33A-0964: Constructing Design Rainfall Hyetographs Using Trivariate Plackett Family of Copulas

Shih-Chieh Kao and Rao S. Govindaraju School of Civil Engineering, Purdue University



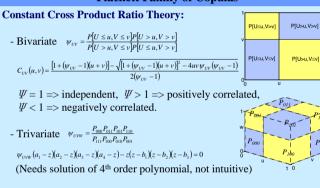
#### Introduction

Current risk-based hydrologic design is based on univariate analysis of rainfall, where durations are artificially prescribed. Multivariate stochastic analyses via copulas are receiving increasing attention for constructing joint distributions. However, there are limitations to extending copulas to trivariate and higher dimensions:

- · Difficulties in preserving all lower-level mutual dependencies
- Compatibility problem in multivariate statistics

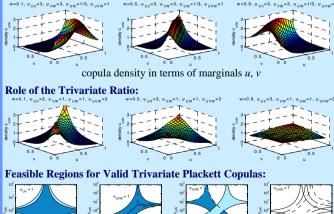
In this study, the Plackett family of copulas is examined and found to be a potential trivariate dependence model. It is applied to construct design rainfall hyetographs for several stations in Indiana.

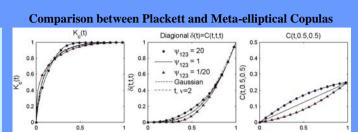
# **Plackett Family of Copulas**



#### Appearance of Trivariate Plackett Copulas:

\_\_\_\_\_ψ<sub>UVW</sub> = 1 \_\_\_\_ψ<sub>UVW</sub> = 5 or 1/5





#### **Construction of Trivariate Extreme Rainfall Distribution**

#### **Study Area and Date Source:**

- 53 COOP hourly precipitation stations in Indiana with record length greater than 50 years
- Minimum rainfall hiatus: 6 hours
- Approximately 4800 events per station

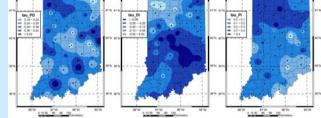
#### **Definition of Extreme Rainfall:**

- Annual maximum cumulative probability (AMP) definition for selecting annual series (Kao and Govindaraju, 2007)

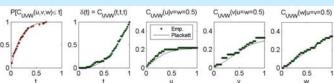
#### Selected Variables for Analysis:

- Depth, P (mm); Duration, D (hour); Peak intensity, I (mm/hour)
- Percent. time to peak,  $T_n$  (%)
- Percent. accumulation at each 10% temporal ordinates, A<sub>10</sub>, ..., A<sub>90</sub> (%)

#### Marginal Distribution:



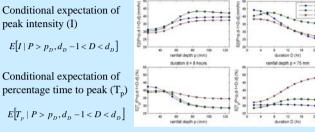
#### **Trivariate Dependence Structure:**



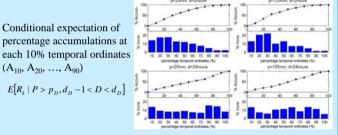
# **Design Rainfall Hyetographs**

Given design depth (P) and duration (D), the conditional expectations are computed to get the design hyperographs (rainfall temporal distributions)

# **Rainfall Peak Attributes:**



# **Temporal Accumulation Curves:**



- Peak intensity increases with total depth, decreases with duration
- Time to peak increases with duration, decreases with total depth

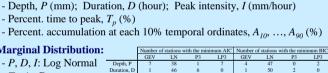
### **Summary and Conclusions**

- Plackett family of copulas, along with the underlying cross product ratio theory, is found to be a suitable trivariate dependence model in constructing rainfall temporal distribution.
- The feasibility region for Plackett parameters that would result in valid 3-copulas has been identified numerically in this study.
- Not every set of given bivariate dependencies have a corresponding valid 3-copula. The compatibility of given bivariate dependencies needs to be investigated.

### References

- Kao, S.-C., and R. S. Govindaraju (2007a), A Bivariate Frequency Analysis of Extreme Rainfall with Implications for Design, Journal of Geophysical Research, 112, D13119.
- Kao, S.-C. and R. S. Govindaraju (2007b), Trivariate Statistical Analysis of Extreme Rainfall Events via Plackett Family of Copulas, Water Resources Research, accepted for publication.

Contact Information: Rao S. Govindaraju (govind@purdue.edu), Shih-Chieh Kao (kao@purdue.edu)



-  $T_n, A_k$ : Beta Intensity.

