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## Introducing empirical and probabilistic regional envelope curves into a mixed bounded distribution function

B. Guse<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Th. Hofherr<sup>2,3,4</sup>, and B. Merz<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Deutsches GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam GFZ, Section 5.4 – Hydrology, Telegrafenberg, 14473 Potsdam, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Center for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction Technology (CEDIA) Karlsruhe, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Institute for Meteorology and Climate Research, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), 76128 Karlsruhe, Germany

<sup>4</sup>Geo Risks Research, Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft, 80791 Germany

\* now at: Department of Hydrology and Water Resources Management, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Olshausenstrasse 40, 24098 Kiel, Germany

**Abstract.** A novel approach to consider additional spatial information in flood frequency analyses, especially for the estimation of discharge recurrence intervals larger than 100 years, is presented. For this purpose, large flood quantiles, i.e. pairs of a discharge and its corresponding recurrence interval, as well as an upper bound discharge, are combined within a mixed bounded distribution function. The large flood quantiles are derived using probabilistic regional envelope curves (PRECs) for all a pooling group. These PREC flood quantiles are introduced into a flood frequency analysis by assuming that they are representative of a range of recurrence intervals which is covered by PREC flood quantiles. For recurrence intervals above a certain inflection point, a Generalised Value (GEV) distribution function with a positive shape parameter is used. This GEV asymptotically approaches an upper bound derived from the empirical envelope curve. The resulting mixed distribution function is composed of two distribution functions which are connected at the inflection point.

This method is applied to 83 streamflow gauges in Saxony/Germany. The analysis illustrates that the presented mixed bounded distribution function adequately considers PREC flood quantiles as well as an upper bound discharge. The introduction of both into an at-site flood frequency analysis improves the quantile estimation. A sensitivity analysis reveals that the target recurrence interval of 1000 years, the flood quantile estimation is less sensitive to the selection of an empirical envelope curve than to the selection of PREC discharges and of the inflection point between the two bounded distribution functions.

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