

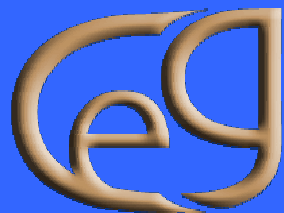


Building Knowledge for a Changing Climate

Precipitation Scenarios

Chris Kilsby

University of Newcastle



School of
Civil Engineering and Geosciences
water@newcastle

Time resolution

- hours and minutes, not days

Space resolution

- Specific to sites, not grid boxes

Properties

- realistic amounts, intensities, extremes
- seasonality
- long time series – multiple events

Stochastic rainfall modelling

- To achieve downscaling in time and space
- To generate long series
- To interface with CRU weather generator

Building on:

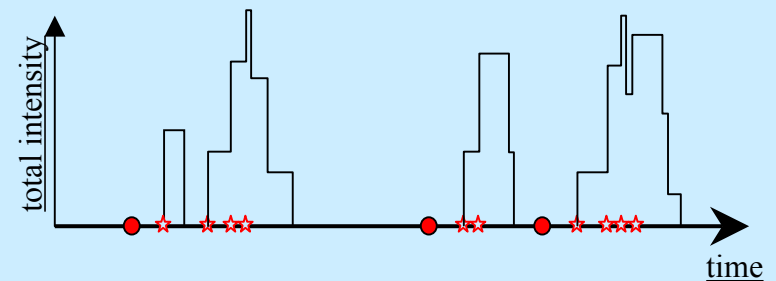
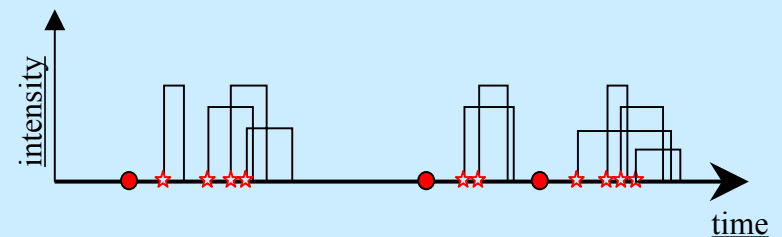
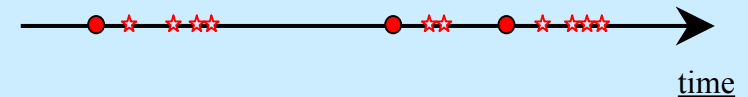
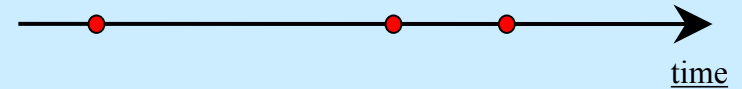
- UKCIP02 scenarios and UKMO climatology
- Consistency with the FEH extremes
- 15 years development at Newcastle
- The StormPac approach

The GNSRP model

- A stochastic rainfall modelling system
- Generalised Neyman-Scott Rectangular Pulses
- Can generate arbitrarily long series (e.g. 1000 years) of rainfall
- Applied to historic, control and future climates
- Reproduces key statistical properties of rainfall series, e.g. mean, variance, dry hours, 2, 5, 10, 25 year annual maxima);
- Time resolution of 1-hour or 1-day

Rainfall modelling

- Storm origins arrive in a Poisson process
- Each origin generates a random number of rain cells
- A rectangular pulse is associated with each rain cell
- The total rainfall at any time is the sum of all active rain cells

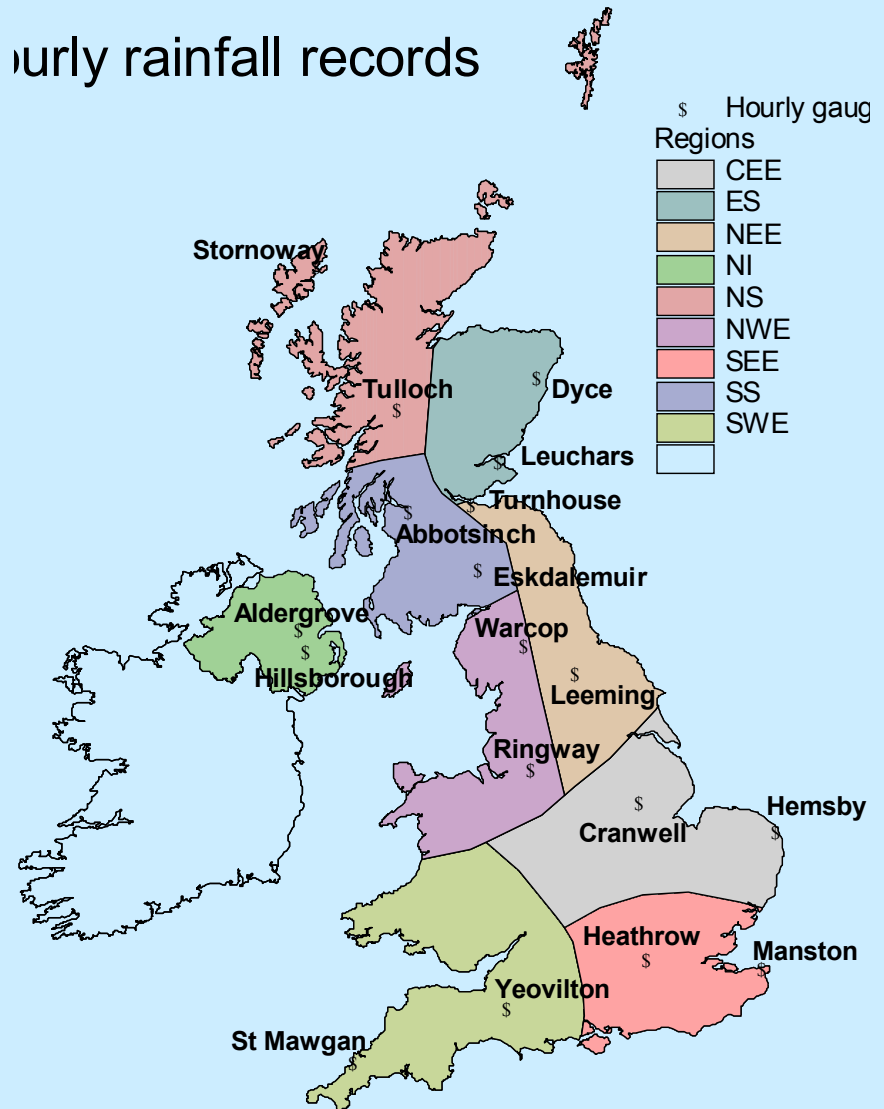


Historic case

- Set up the GNSRP model for the whole UK using the MetOffice/UKCIP 5-km climatology.
- Parameterise to match observed 1961-1990 rainfall:
 - means, variance, proportion dry hours etc
 - return period rainfalls - 2,5,10 or 25 year events using observed data and FEH DDF model

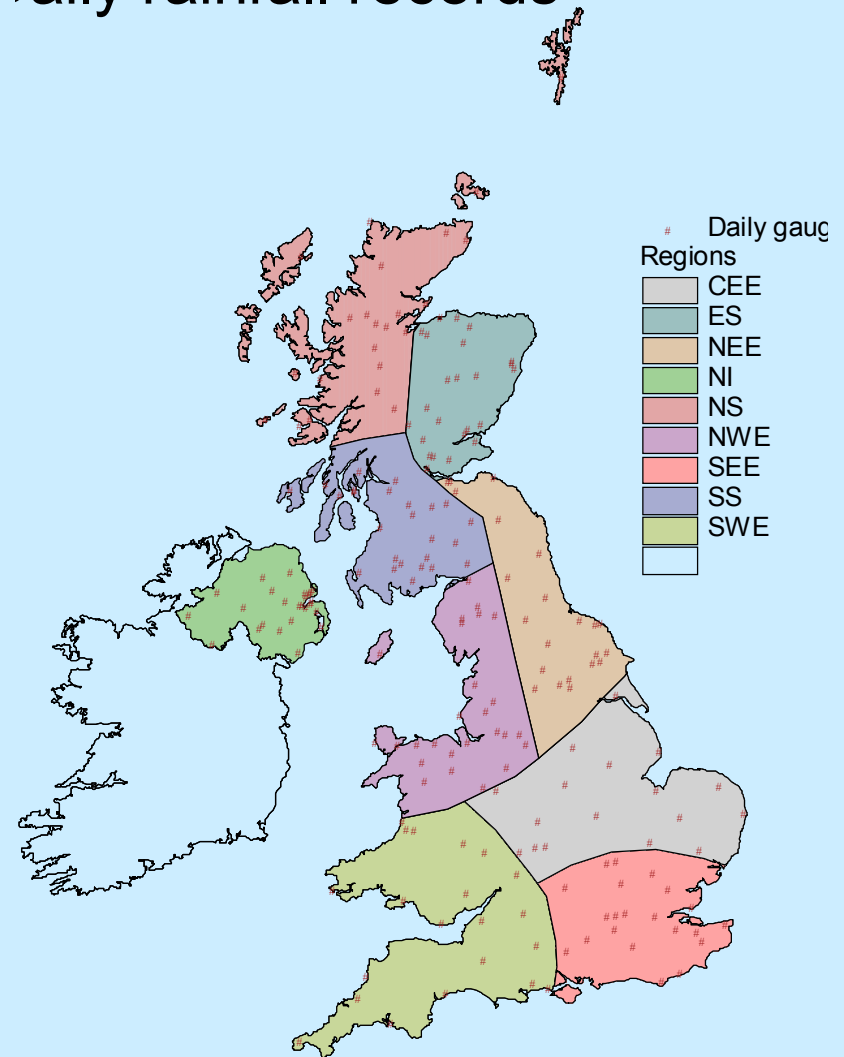
**18 sites
in 9 regions
> 10 years**

hourly rainfall records



204 sites
in 9 regions
40 years

daily rainfall records



Future climate

- Parameterise for the whole UK for future climates by using control and future output from HAdRM3

Sub-hourly resolution

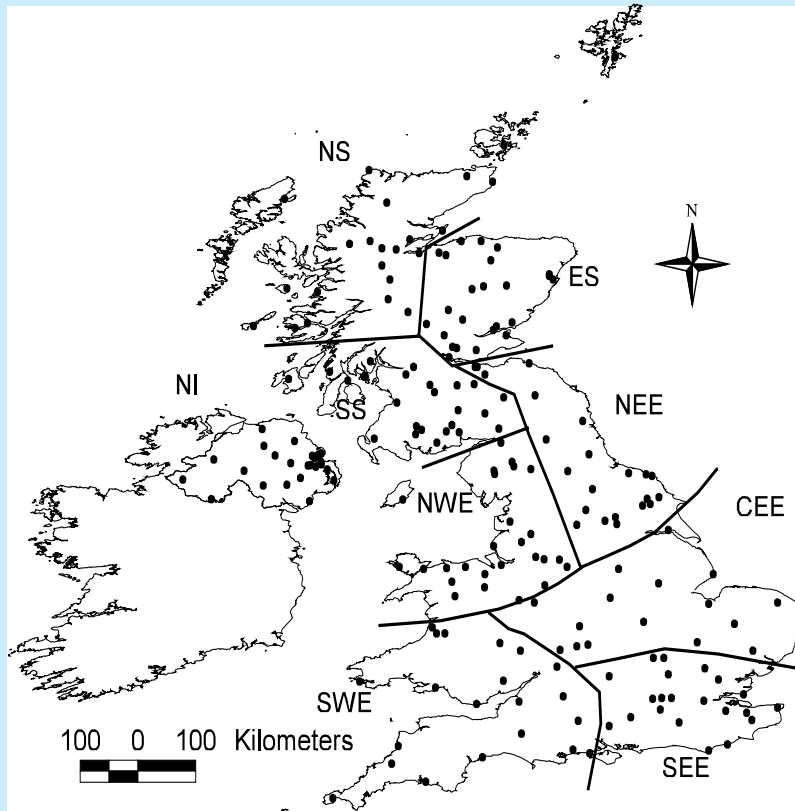
- Use cascade model to disaggregate data from 60 – 30 – 15 minute level
- Reliability to be established below 15 minute – depends on validation data

- Interface from GNSRP model to CRU daily WG.
- Extend model to allow for changing proportion of convective/frontal rainfall in future climate

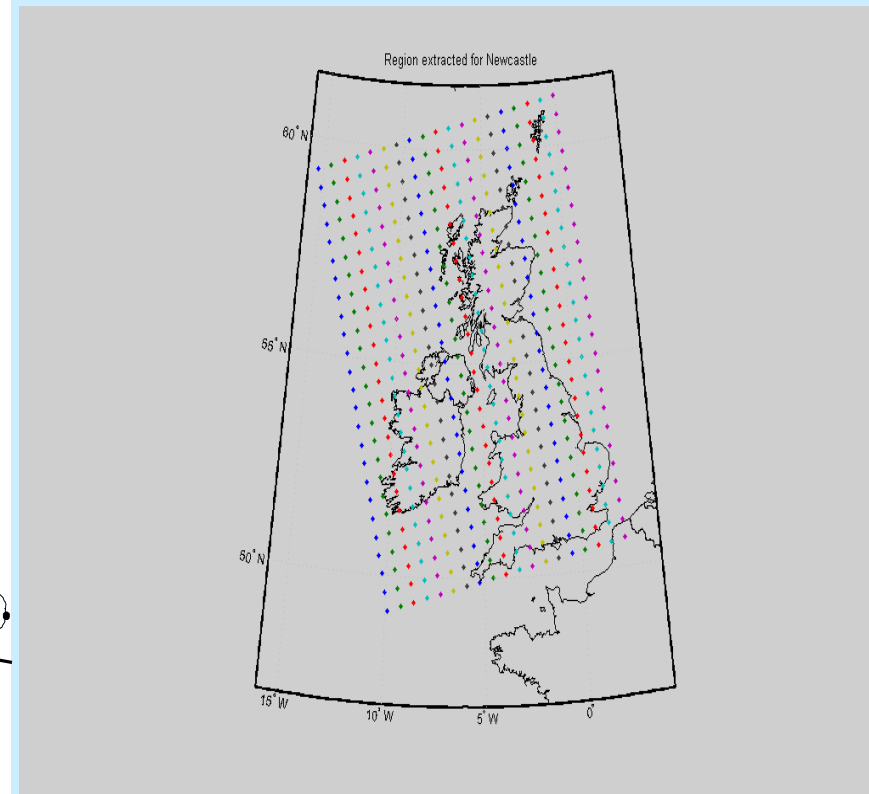
Rainfall model

- **for use by partners;**
- **within the project;**
- **to generate rainfall series;**
 - at any site in UK
 - arbitrary length
 - time resolution of 1-day, 1-hour and below
 - control and future climates
 - reproduces observed extreme rainfall (up to at least 25 year return period)

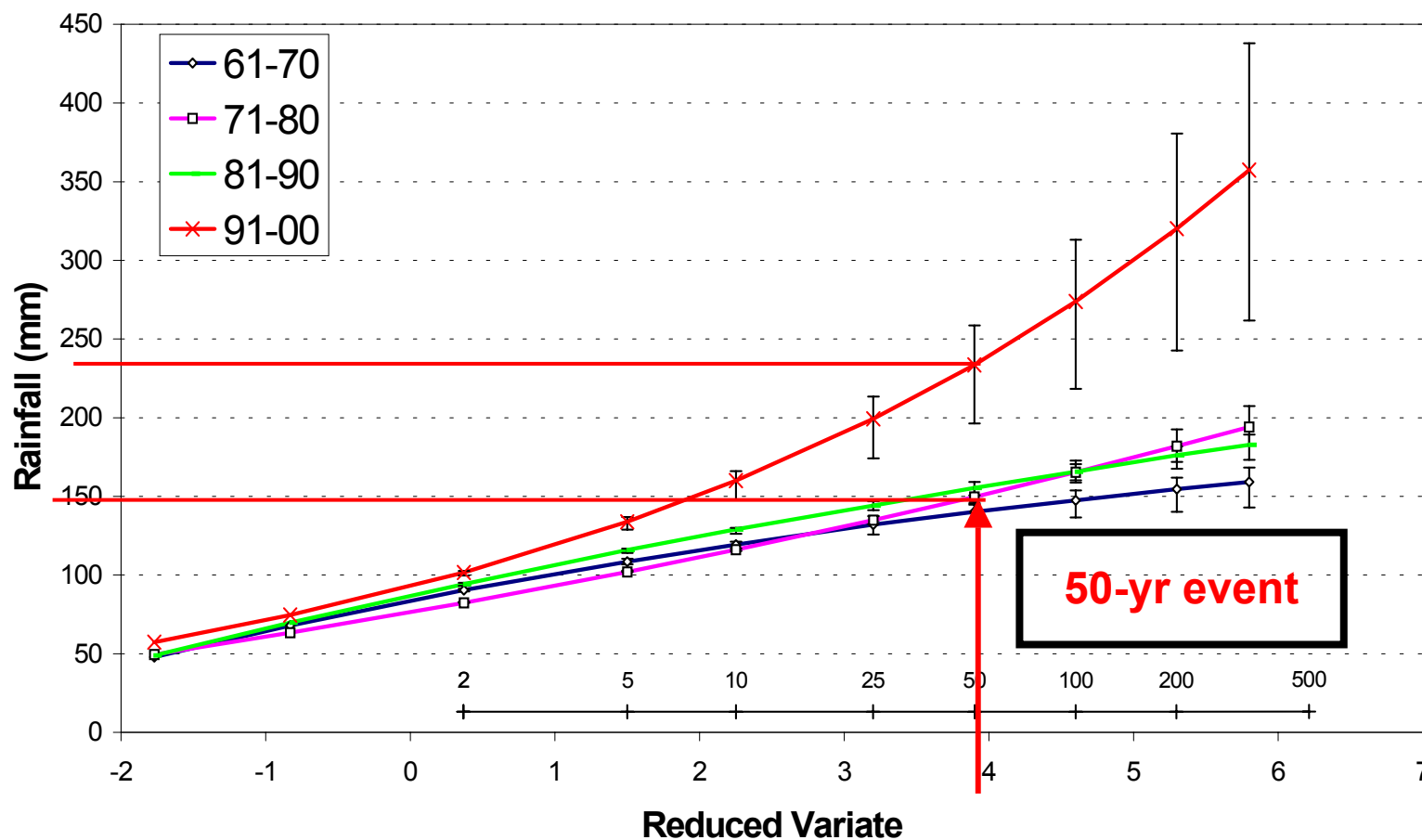
Observed daily rainfall data 1961-2000



Daily rainfall data from RCMs 1961-1990 and 2070-2100



East Scotland 10-day

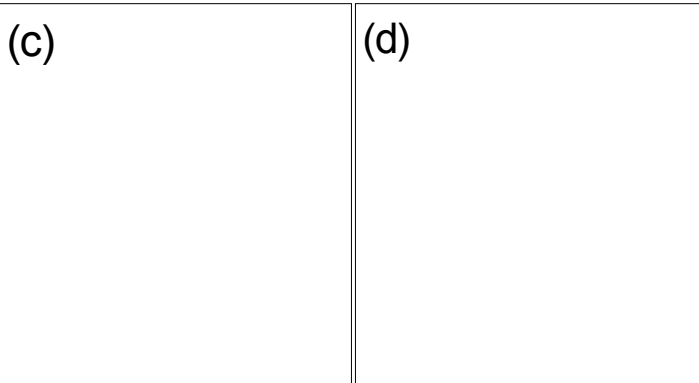


What does this mean for the UK?

Change in recurrence interval for a 50-year event in 1961-1990 during 1991-2000

ES	1 in 8 year
SS	1 in 11 year
NS	1 in 25 year
NWE	1 in 25 year
NEE	1 in 25 year

Future projections



- (a) and (b) show HadRM2 projected % change in magnitude of 10-yr and 50-yr 1 day event during 2080-2100
- (c) and (d) show same for HadRM3 (UKCIP02) scenarios