Technical note: Diagnostic efficiency – insights into model performance

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**Abstract.** Please use only the styles of this template (MS title, Authors, Affiliations, Correspondence, Normal for your text, and Headings 1–3). Figure 1 uses the style Caption and Fig. 1 is placed at the end of the manuscript. The same is applied to tables (Aman et al., 2014; Aman and Bman, 2015)

# 1 Introduction

* Evaluation of model performance to quantify the prediction skill
* Model calibration

Elaborate on well-established efficiency measures (Schaefli and Gupta, 2007;Knoben et al., 2019)

KGE (Gupta et al., 2009;Kling et al., 2012;Pool et al., 2018) and NSE (Nash and Sutcliffe, 1970) return numbers between −∞ and 1, but these numbers only provide limited insights into model performance

if my model performance is bad: where do the errors come from? What processes might not be captured by the model?

Diagnosing model performance by introducing a novel efficiency measure based on flow duration curve

Flow duration curve covers different processes (e.g. runoff generation, storage recession)

# 2 Methodology

Diagnostic efficiency (DE)

, (1)

where is Ut rutrum, sapien et vulputate molestie, augue velit consectetur lectus, bibendum porta justo odio lobortis ligula. In in urna nec arcu iaculis accumsan nec et quam. Integer ut orci mollis, varius justo vitae, pellentesque leo. Vestibulum eu finibus nisl. Cras ac arcu urna. Duis ut pellentesque urna. In placerat dictum urna ut interdum. Etiam vel nibh vulputate, scelerisque purus in, congue eros. Pellentesque at nisi at nunc sagittis cursus. Mauris euismod tellus at mi tempor, sit amet finibus ante tincidunt. Aenean id ornare neque. Cras ut sapien quis erat pretium ultricies. Integer vulputate ante nec elementum tristique. Ut.

, (2)

, (3)

, (4)

, (5)

, (6)

, (7)

, (8)

,

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,

,

Kling-Gupta Efficiency (KGE; Gupta et al., 2009)

, (9)

where …

, (10)

where …

Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE; Nash and Sutcliffe, 1970)

, (11)

where ..

# 3 Proof of concept

We used an observed streamflow time series from the CAMELS data set (Newman et al., 2015). Near-natural catchment and sufficiently long temporal coverage, could be any time series. In order to mimic model errors, we systematically manipulated the observed time series.

## 3.1 Mimicking errors

Two sources of errors…

Mimicking model errors:

1. Increase high flows – Decrease low flows: Multiplying the observed time series with a vector (1.5 … 0.5)
2. Decrease high flows – Increase low flows: Multiplying the observed time series with a vector (0.5 … 1.5)

Mimicking input data errors:

1. Positive offset: Multiplying the observed time series with a constant > 1
2. Negative offset: Multiplying the observed time series with a constant < 1

Temporal mismatch due to model errors and/or input data errors:

1. Shuffling: Randomizing the order of the observed time series

Combination of model errors and input data errors:

1. Decrease high flows – Increase low flows and negative offset
2. Decrease high flows – Increase low flows and positive offset
3. Increase high flows – Decrease low flows and negative offset
4. Increase high flows – Decrease low flows and positive offset

Benchmark against KGE and NSE:

1. Mean flow benchmark

Combination of model errors, input data errors and temporal mismatch:

1. Decrease high flows – Increase low flows, negative offset and shuffling
2. Decrease high flows – Increase low flows, positive offset and shuffling
3. Increase high flows – Decrease low flows, negative offset and shuffling
4. Increase high flows – Decrease low flows, positive offset and shuffling

Perfect simulation

(‘1’) Manipulated time series corresponds to observed time series

## 3.2 Real case example

## 3.3 Limitations

# 4 Conclusions

* tool for diagnostic model evaluation
* identfying orgin of errors visualizing the three components in a 2D-space
* Comparison to KGE and NSE
* advancing model development

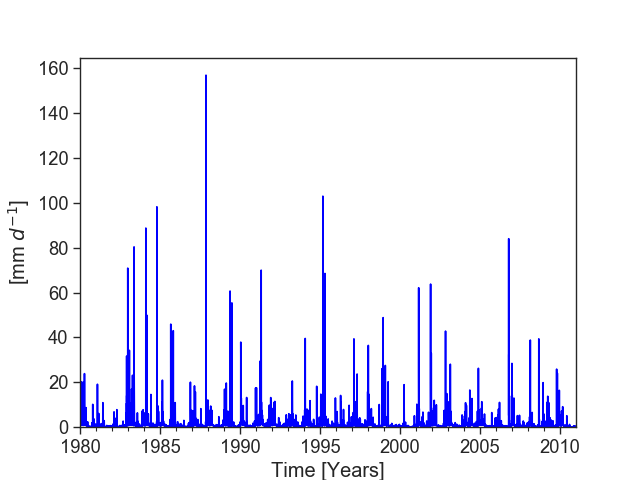


Figure 1: Observed streamflow time series

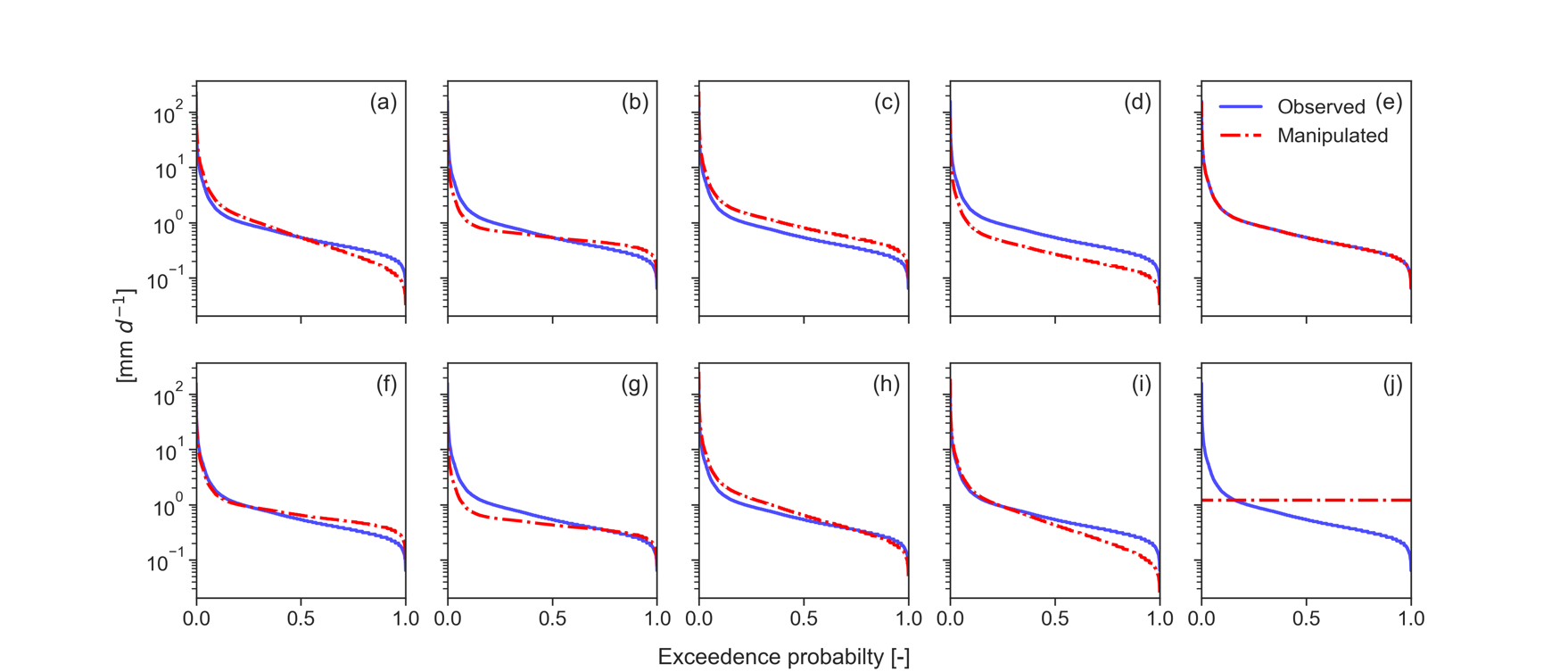


Figure 2: Flow duration curves of observed and manipulated streamflow time series

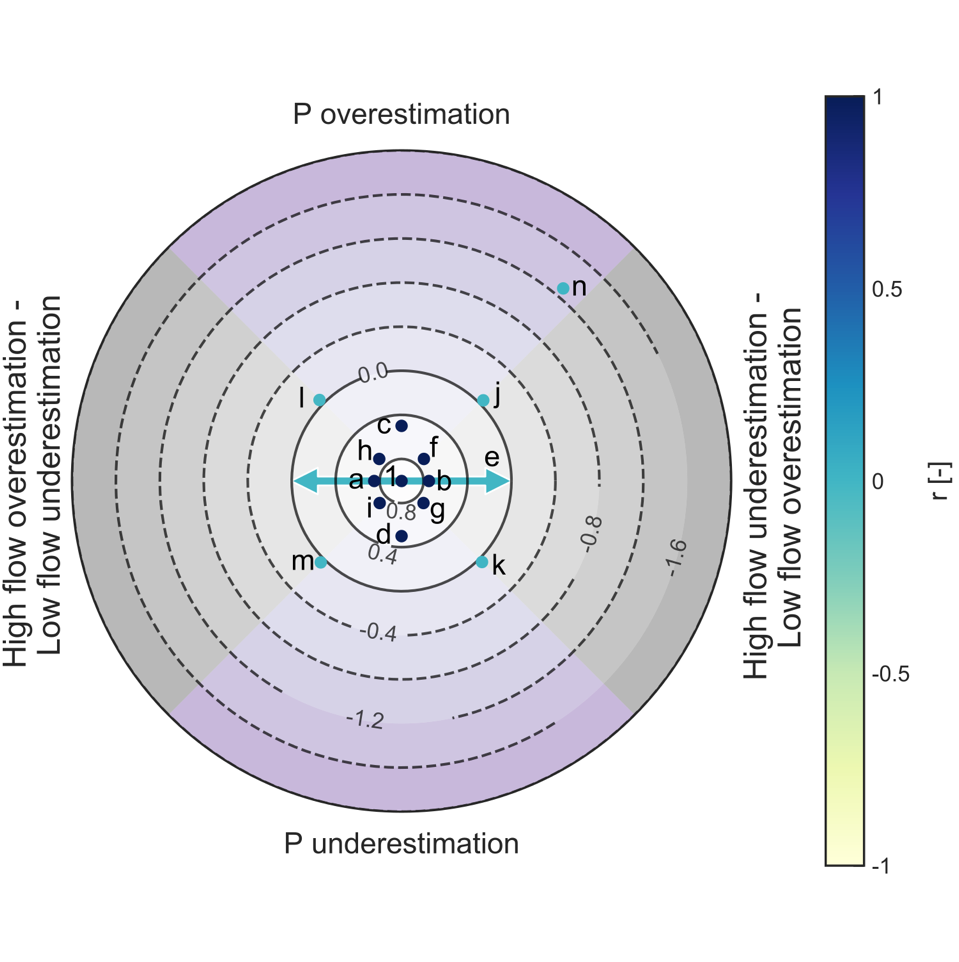


Figure 3: Diagnostic plot and mimicked errors

Table 1: DE, KGE and NSE for mimicked errors

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i | j | k | l | m | n | ‘1’ |
| DE | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.71 | 0.72 | 0.71 | 0.72 | -1.28 | -0.04 | -0.04 | -0.04 | -0.05 | 1 |
| KGE | 0.41 | 0.41 | 0.29 | 0.29 | 0 | 0.78 | 0.25 | 0.24 | 0.79 | -0.41 | -0.02 | -0.25 | -0.26 | -0.03 | 1 |
| NSE | 0.74 | 0.74 | 0.73 | 0.73 | -1 | 0.95 | 0.62 | 0.61 | 0.96 | 0 | -0.61 | -0.18 | -2.62 | -1.47 | 1 |

* Mean flow benchmark for DE is not constant
* NSE is not constant for synthetically generated errors
* Different ratios to produce same DE for 1., 2., and 3.

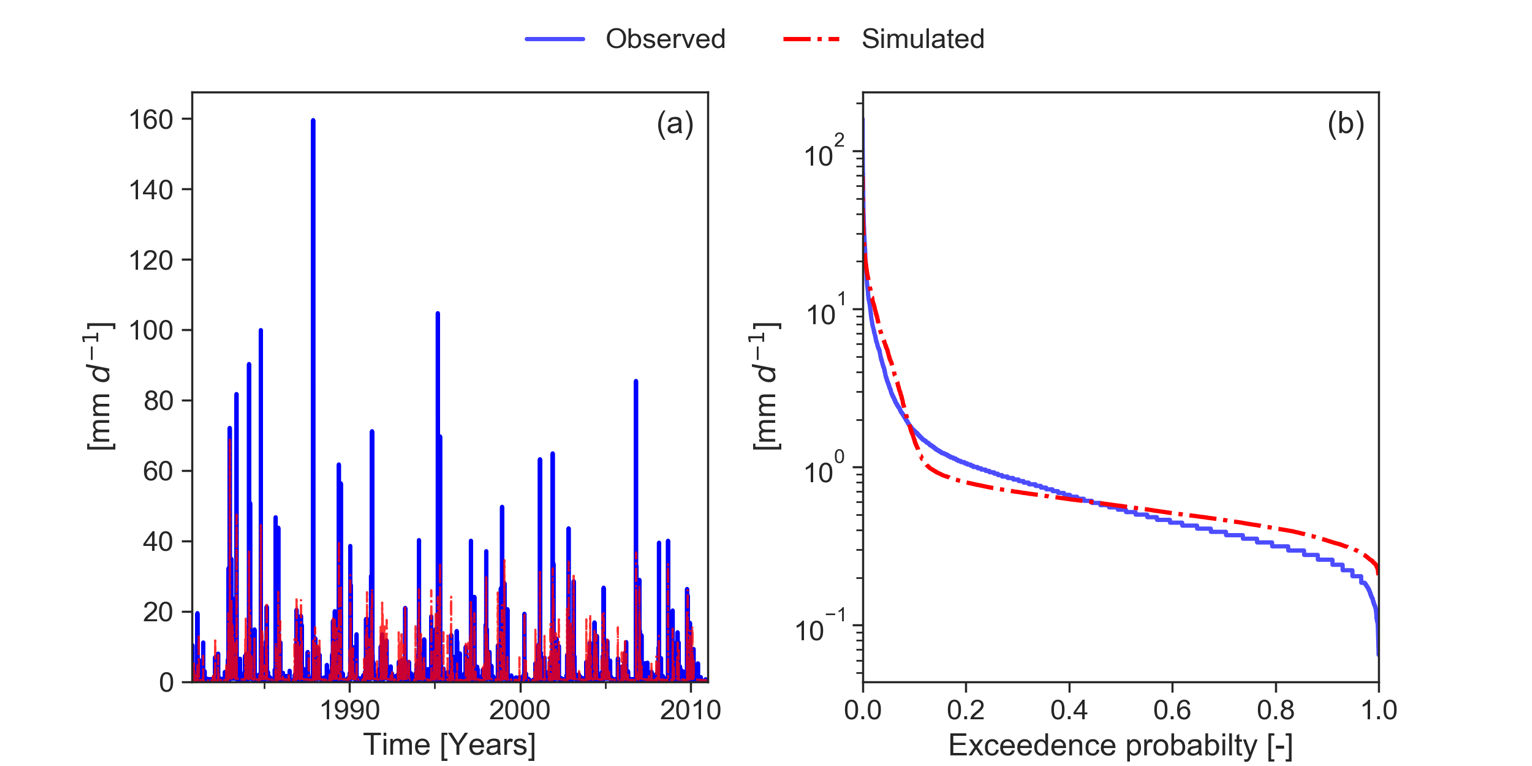


Figure 4: Simulated and observed streamflow of real case example (a) and the related flow duration curves (b)

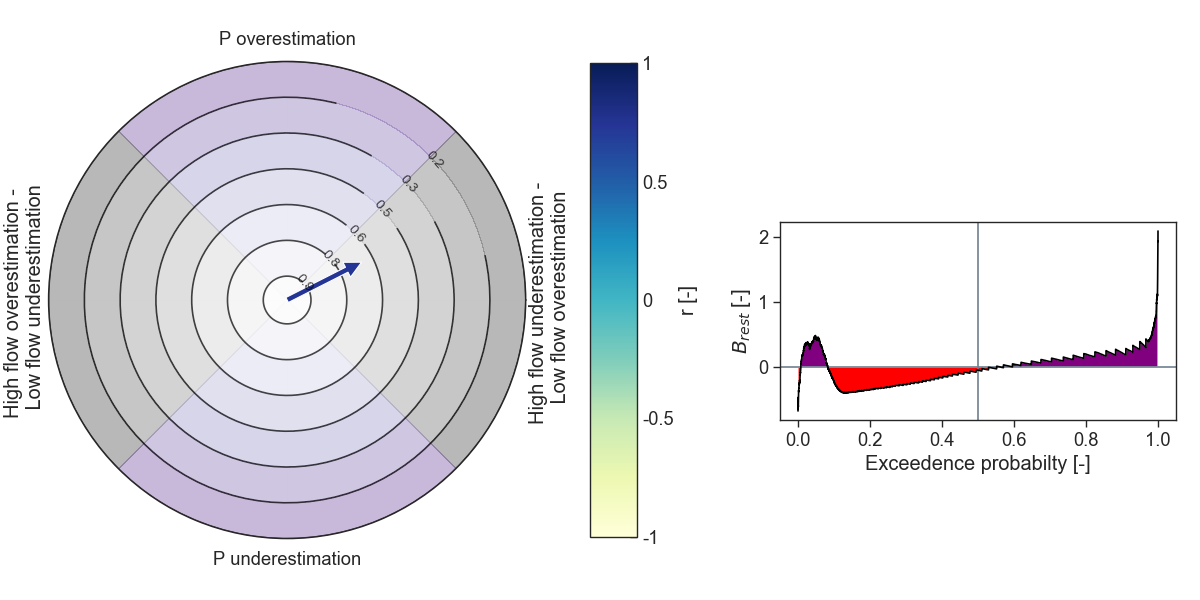


Figure 5: Diagnostic plot for real case example

# References

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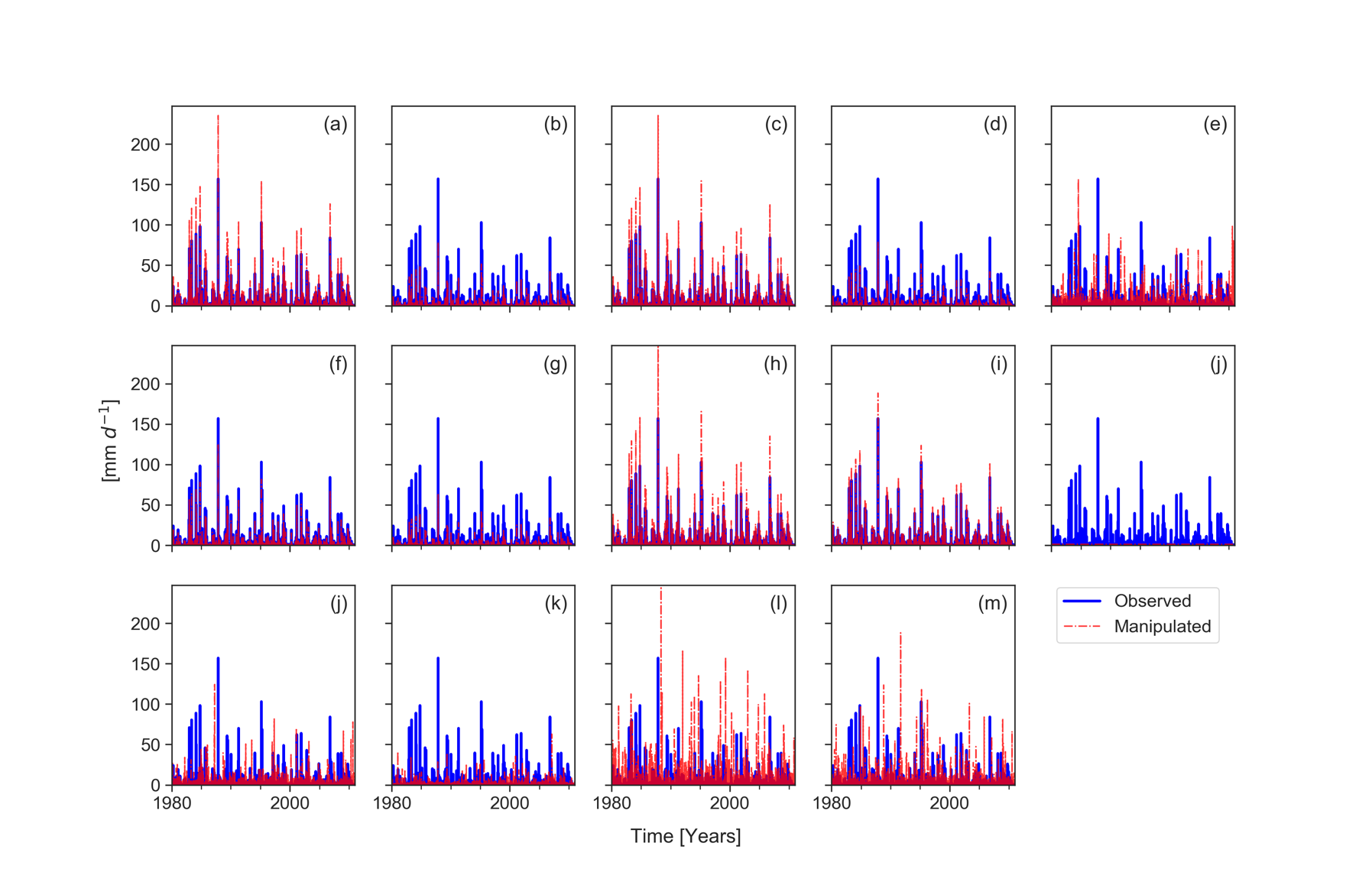


Figure A1: Time series of observed and manipulated streamflow

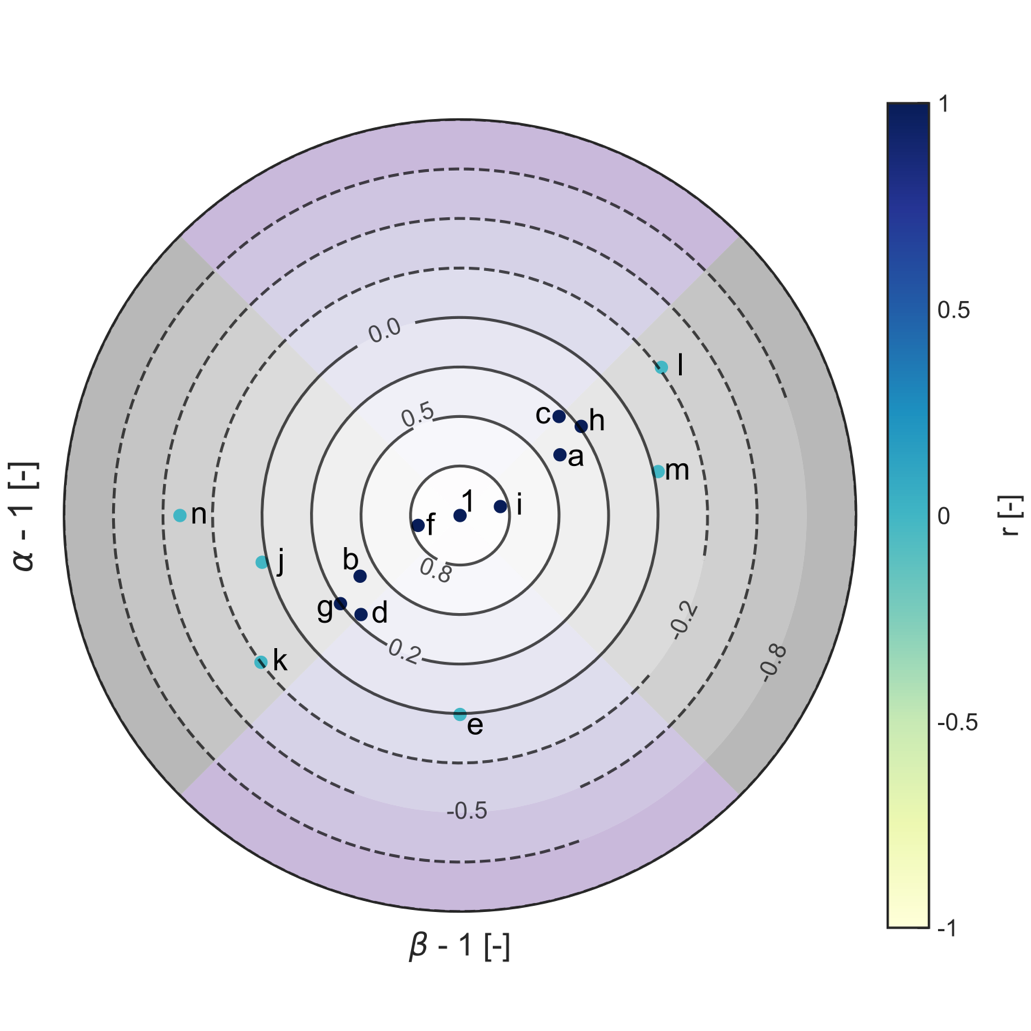


Figure A2: Polar plot of KGE

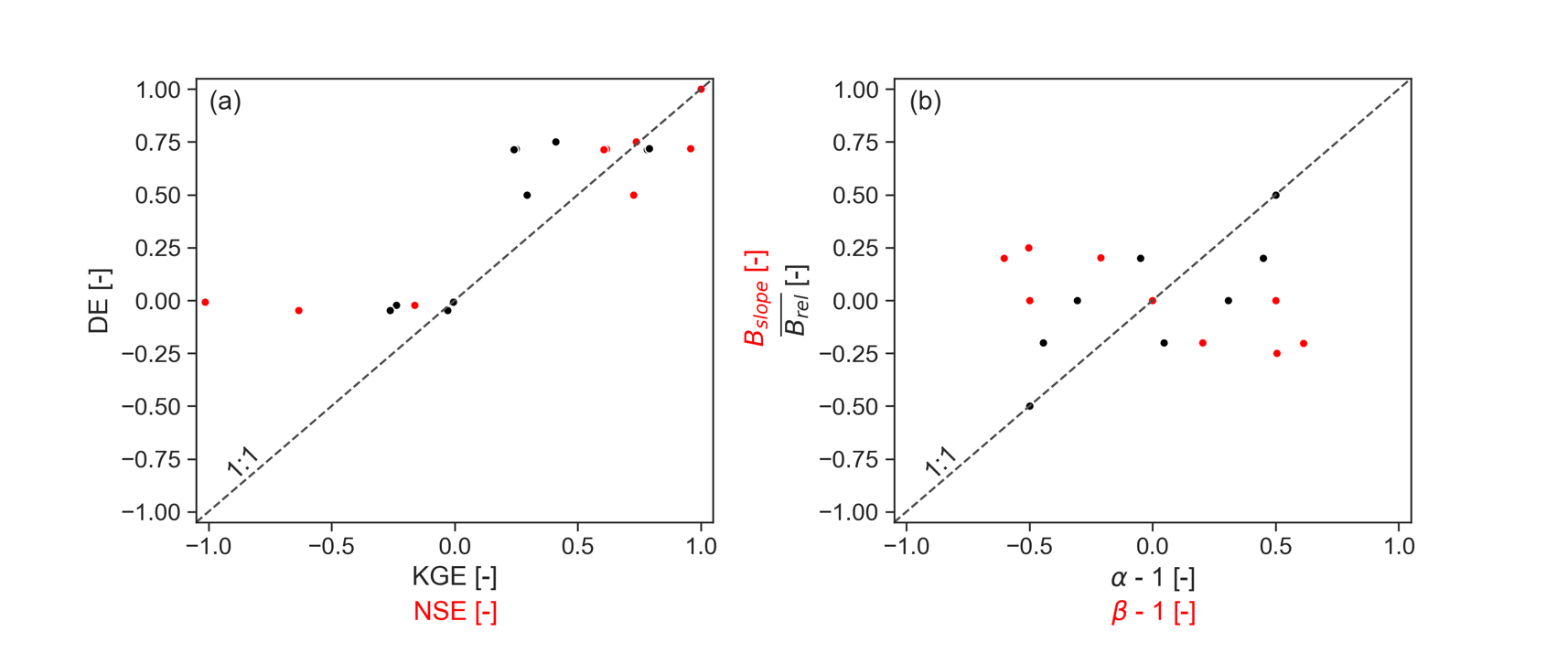


Figure A3: Scatterplot

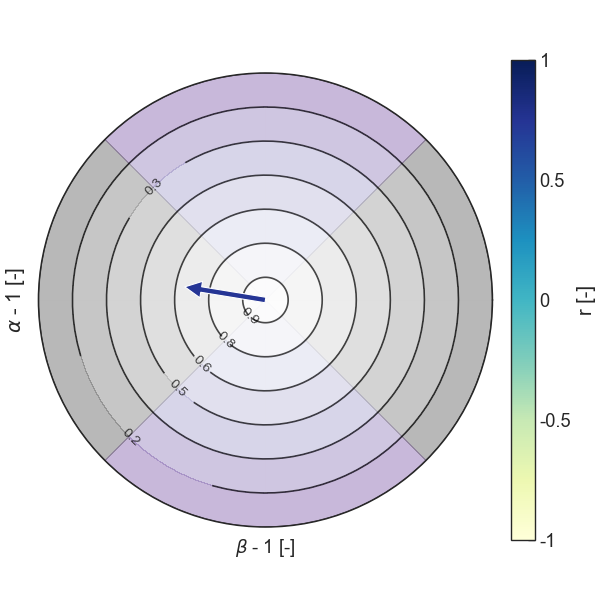


Figure A4: Polar plot of KGE for real case example