

Multivariable Control of Lake Levels and Stream Flows in the Namakan Reservoir/Rainy Lake Watershed

2016 International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Forum

March 10, 2016

Jeffrey Kantor

University of Notre Dame

Github: <http://jckantor.github.io/Rainy-Lake-Hydrology/>

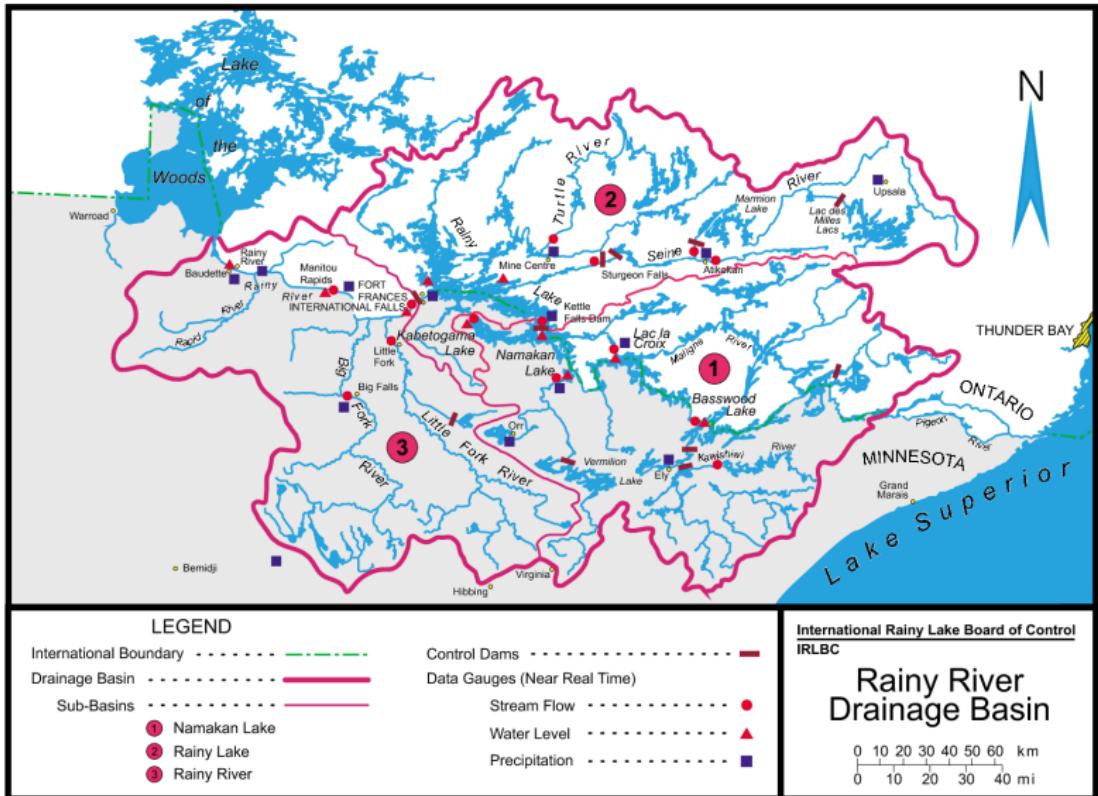
OVERVIEW

1. Why is Control so Difficult?
2. Implementing Rule Curves with Model Predictive Control
3. Assessment and Implications for Rule Curve Review



WHY IS CONTROL SO
DIFFICULT?

RAINY RIVER DRAINAGE BASIN



Source: International Rainy Lake Board of Control (now IRLWWB)

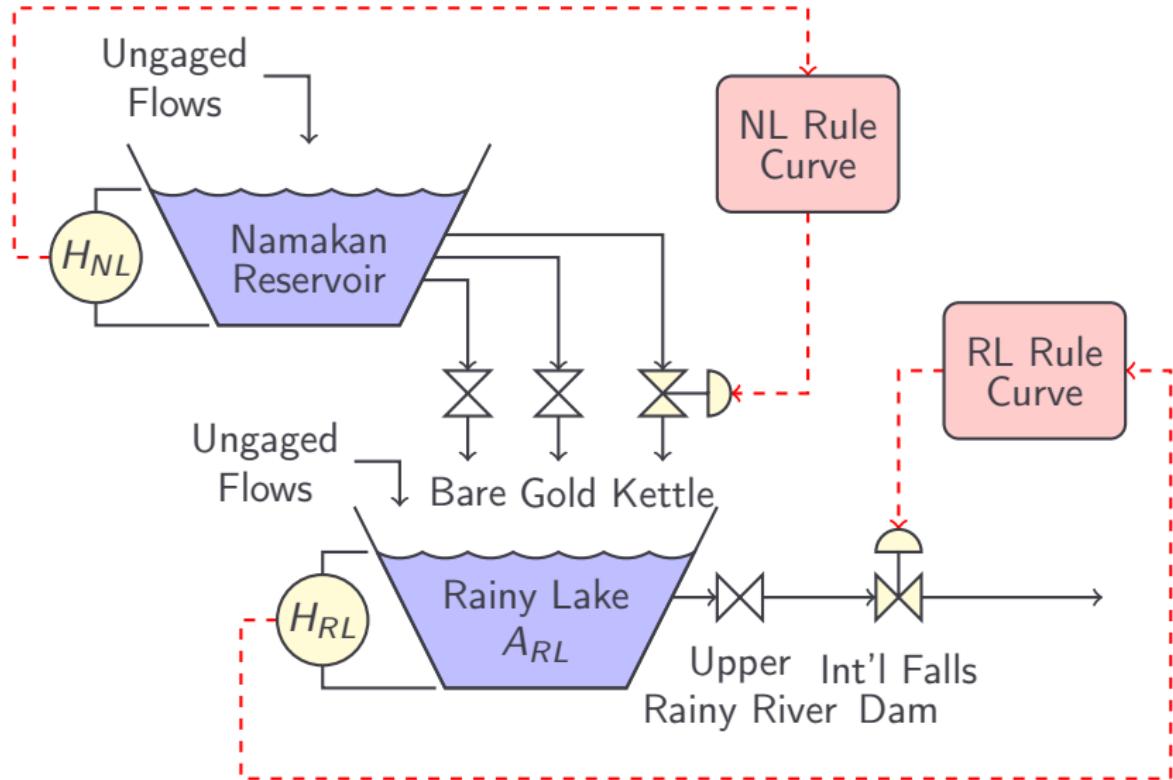
1993 FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- "To offset the potential for the proposed rule curve modifications to increase the frequency of spring flood events, the IJC should enforce the provision of its 1970 Supplemental Order requiring the dam operators to anticipate inflows and maximize the discharge capabilities of the dams to prevent emergency water levels.

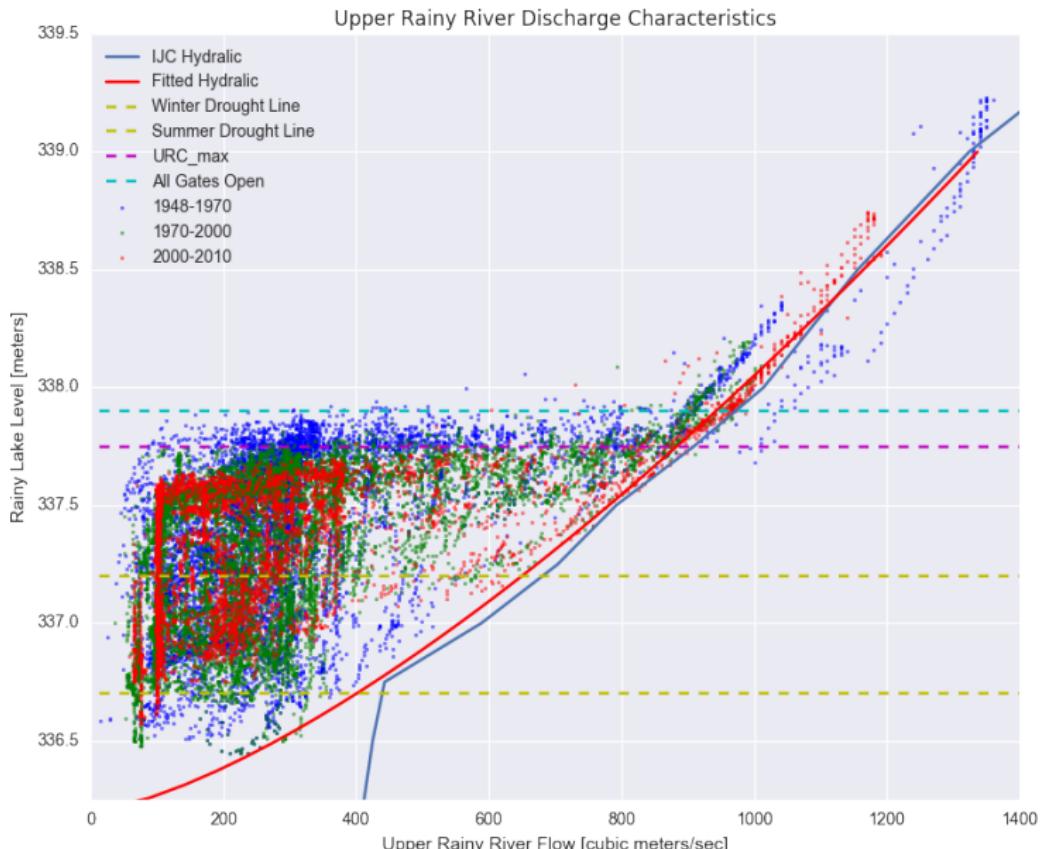
- "The Steering Committee believes that diligent use of the existing network of upstream lake level gauges and currently available hydrologic models can make this IJC mandate a reality and improve the accuracy and reliability of reservoir level control."

Source: Rainy Lake & Namakan Reservoir Water Level International Steering Committee, Final Report and Recommendations, November, 1993.

CURRENT PRACTICE

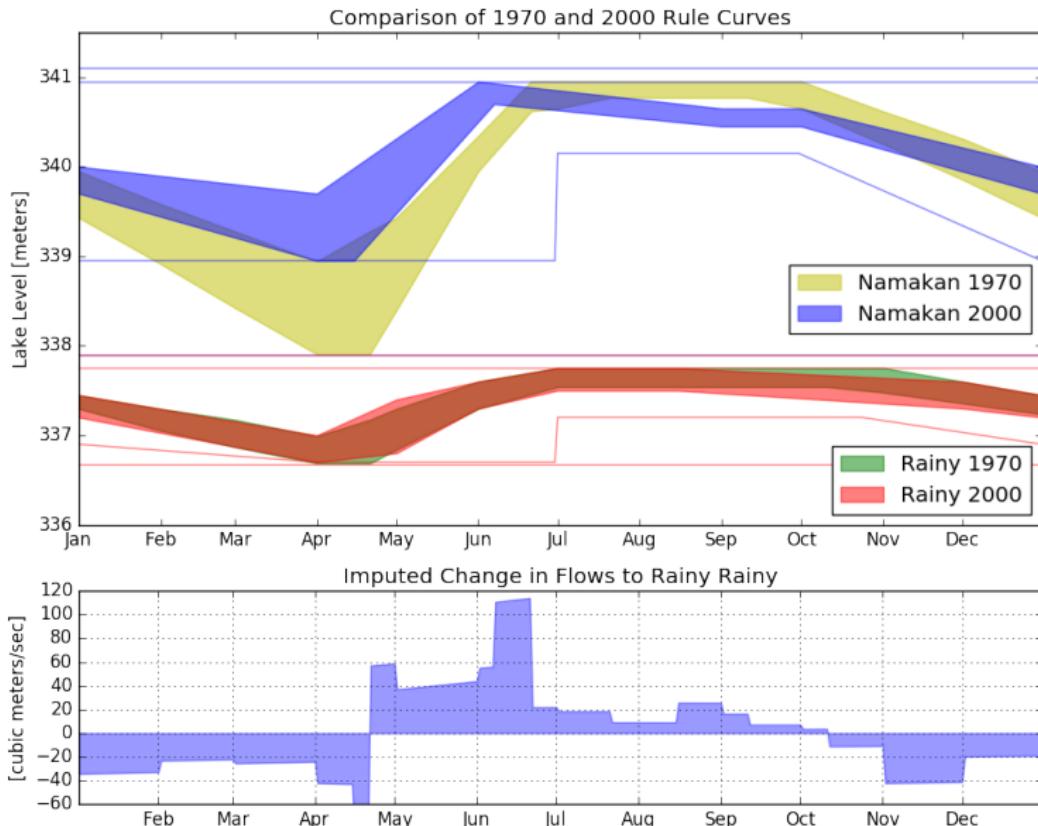


UPPER RAINY RIVER DISCHARGE CHARACTERISTICS



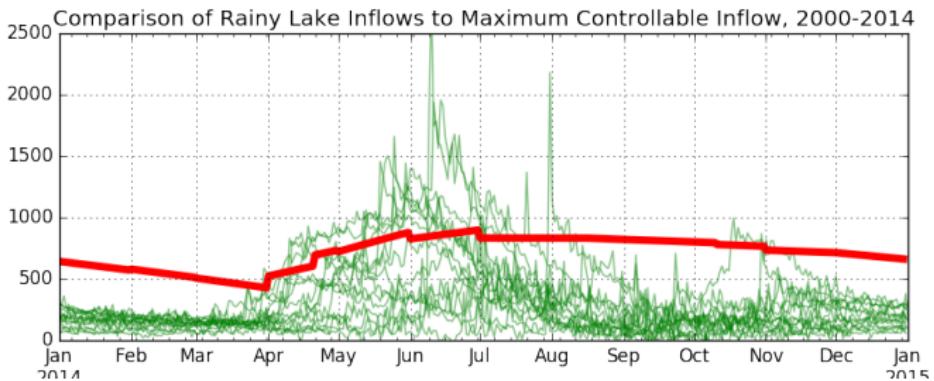
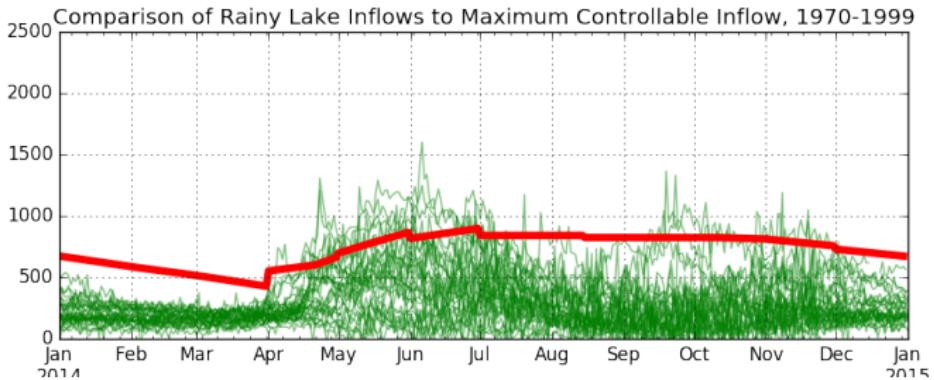
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

RULE CURVE CHANGES IN 2000



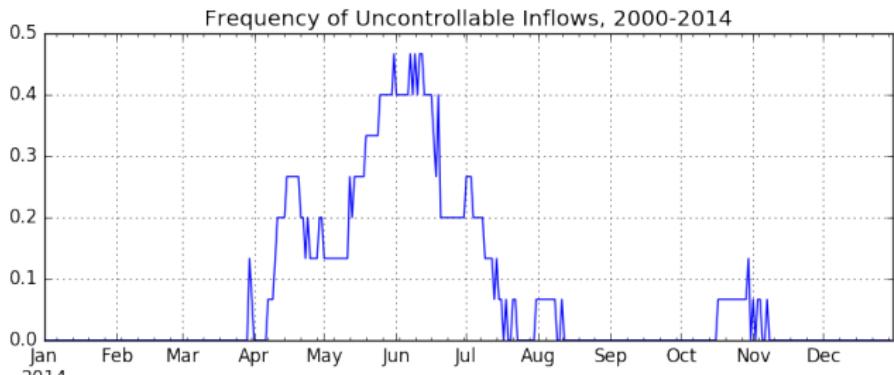
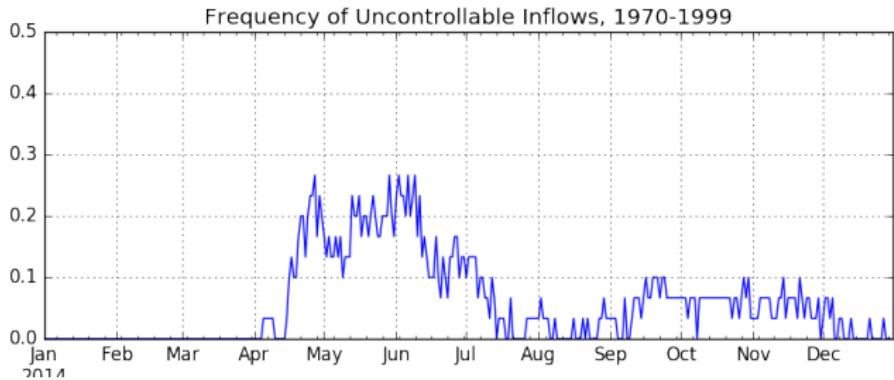
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

MAXIMUM CONTROLLABLE INFLOWS



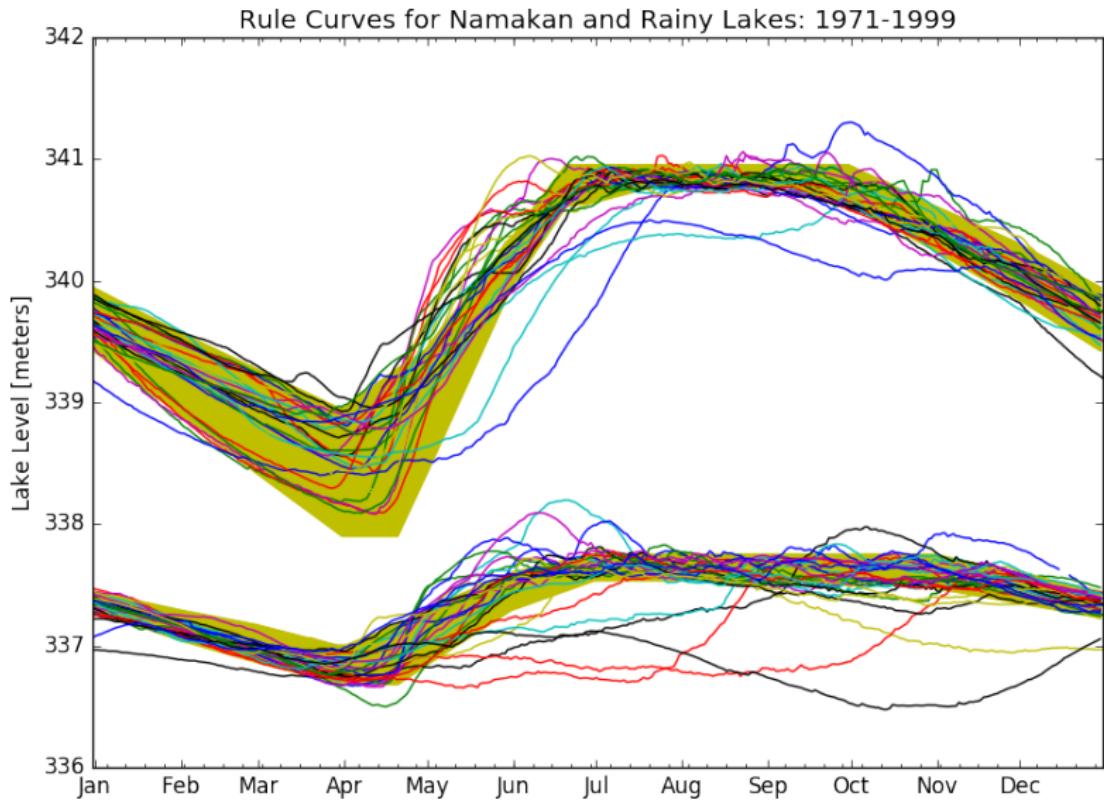
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

UNCONTROLLABLE INFLOW FREQUENCY



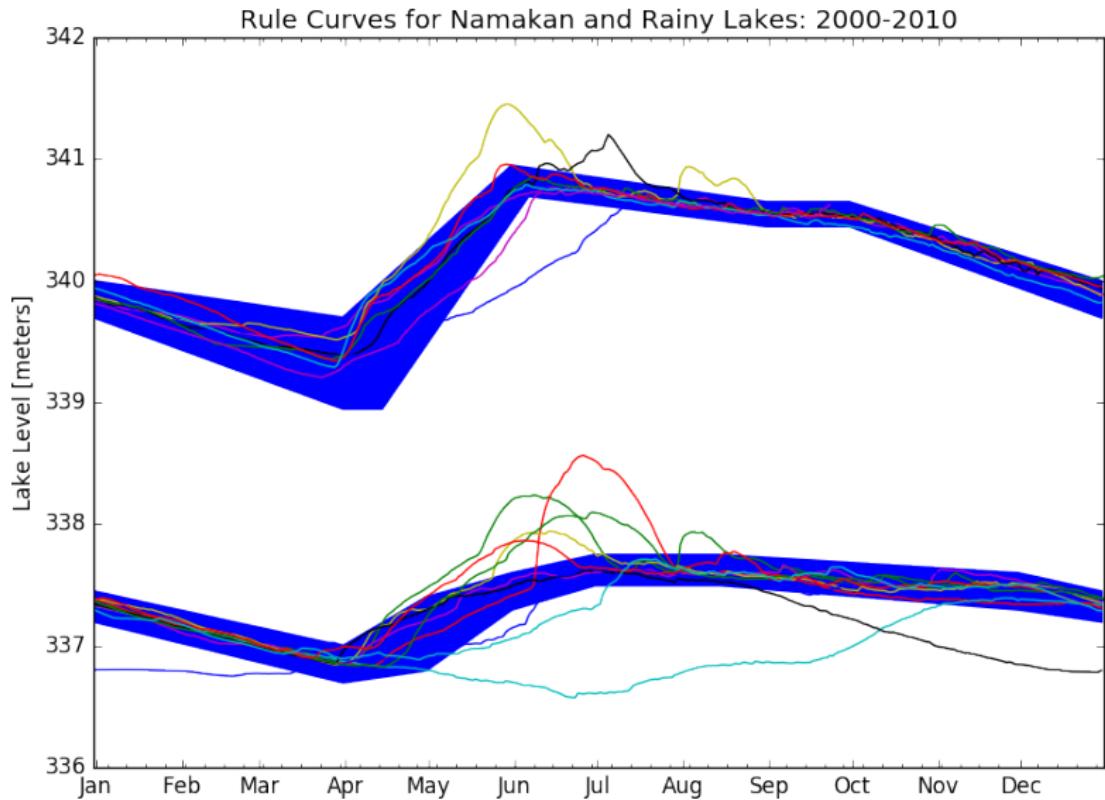
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE 1970–1999



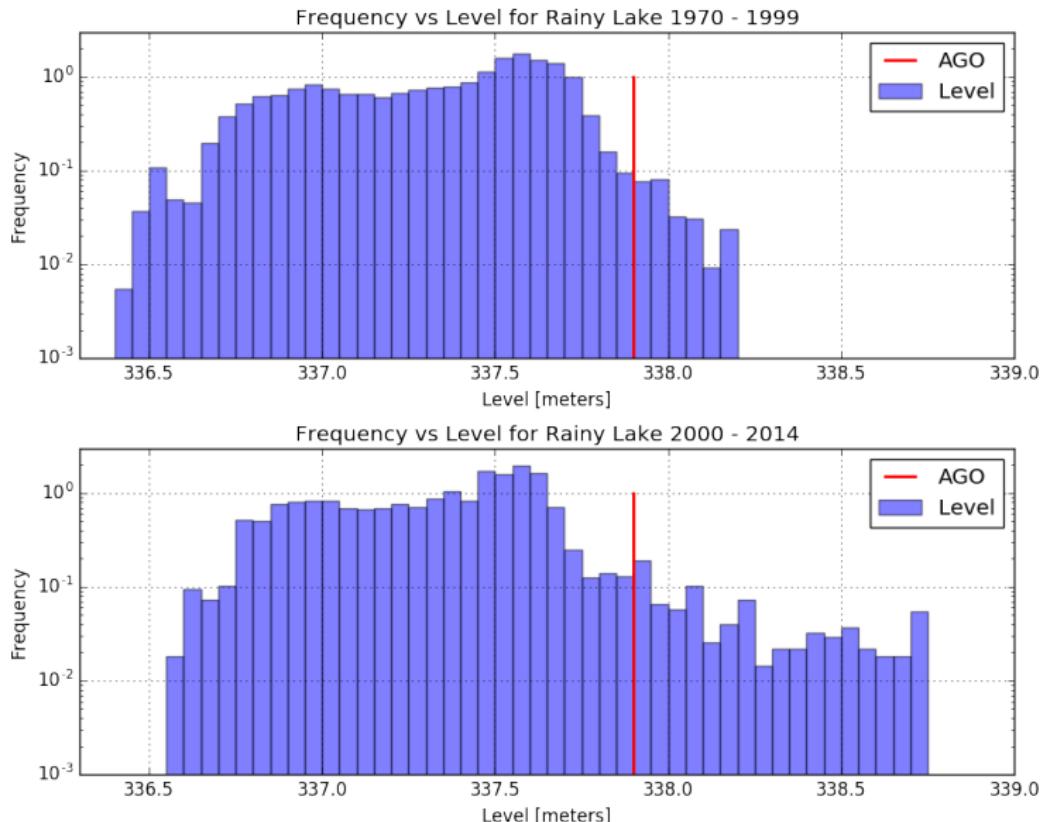
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE 2000–2014



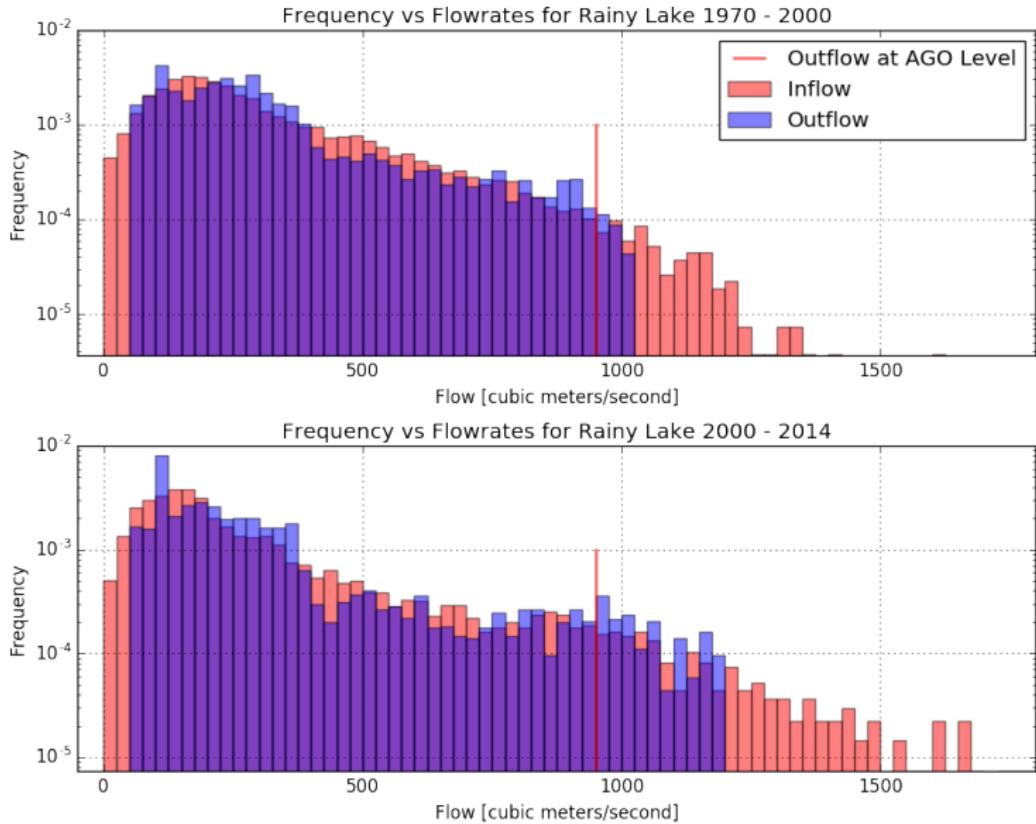
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE - RAINY LAKE LEVELS



Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE - INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS

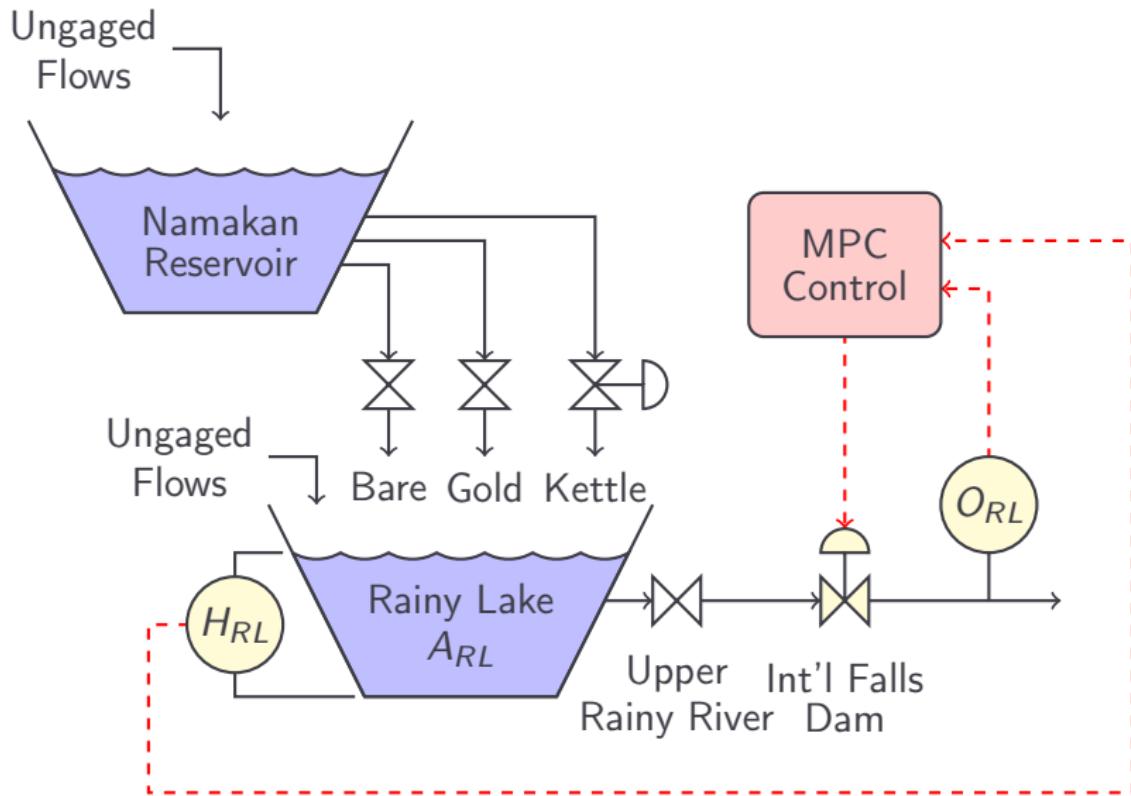


Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

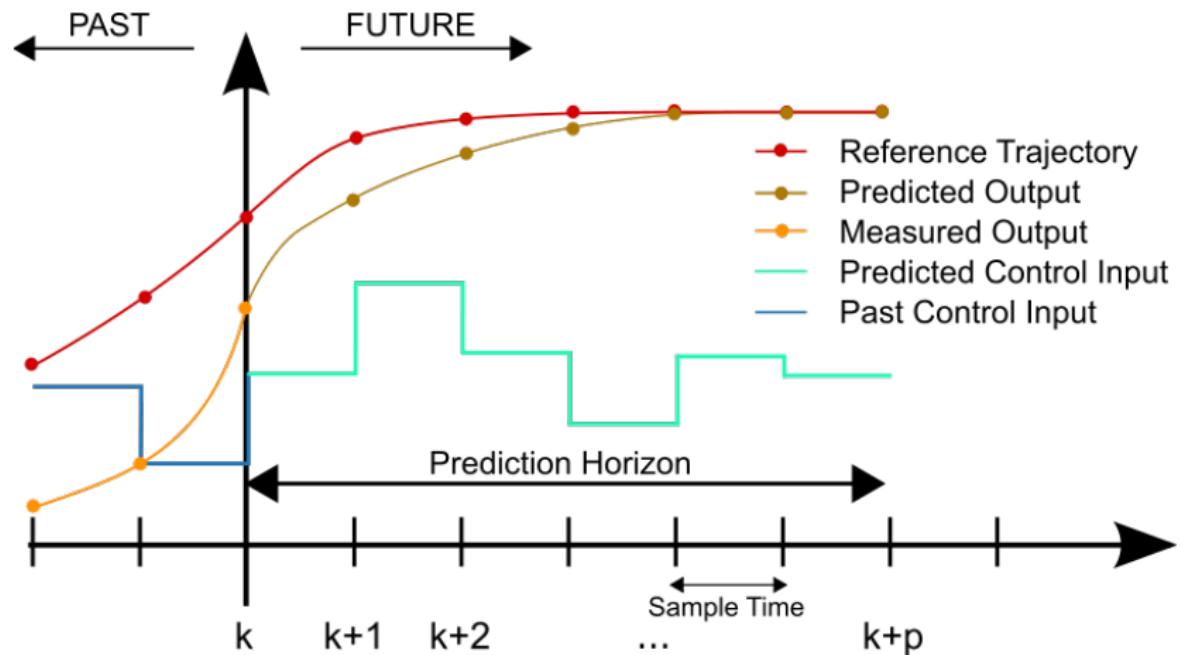


IMPLEMENTING RULE CURVES WITH MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL

MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL FOR RAINY LAKE



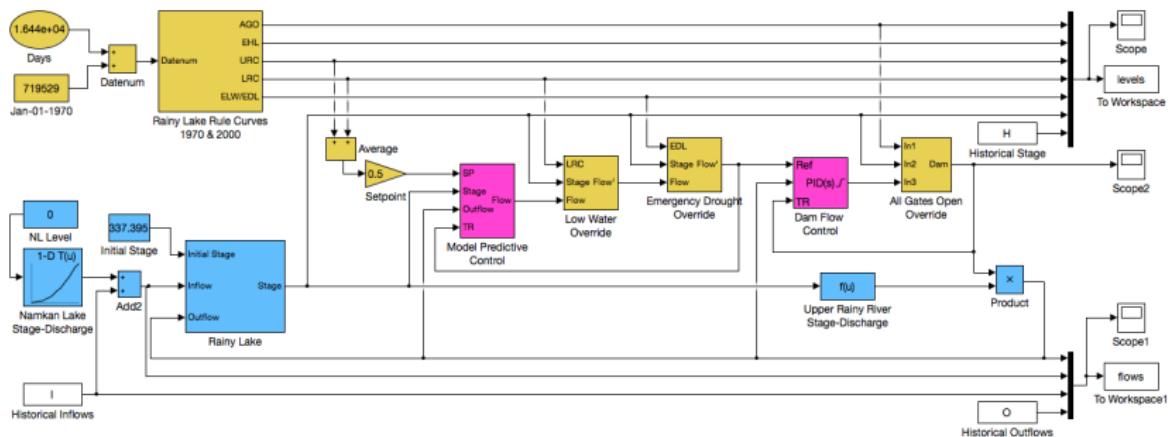
MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL



Source: Martin Behrendt

MATLAB/SIMULINK IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of 1970-2014 Rule Curves for Rainy Lake by Model Predictive Control



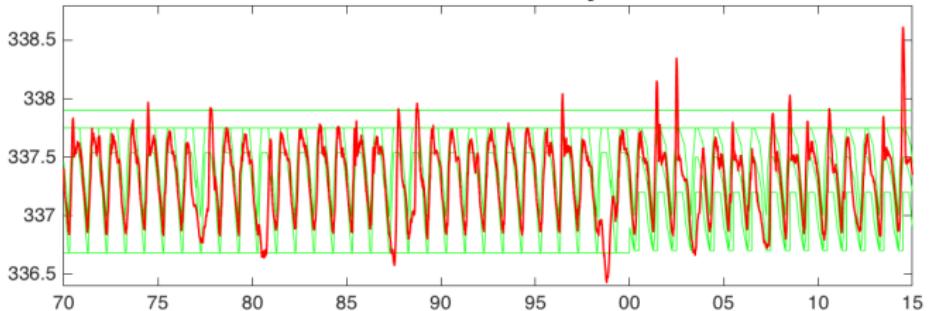
Source: Github Repository for this paper.

The background image shows a natural landscape with a river flowing from the left towards the right. The river is surrounded by dense green forests. In the foreground, there's a rocky shoreline with some low-lying green shrubs. The sky above is a clear blue with scattered white, fluffy clouds.

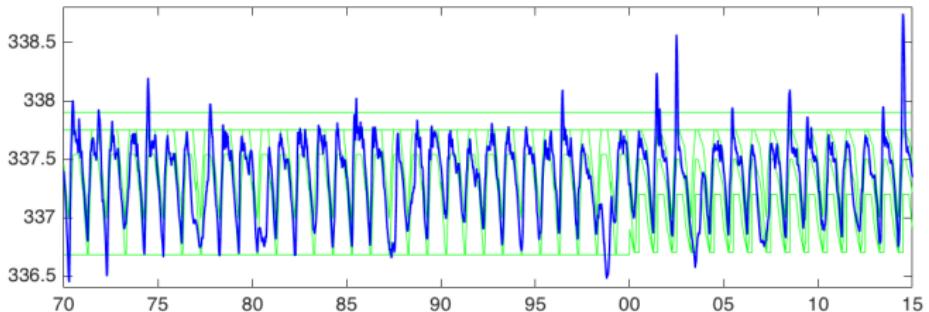
ASSESSMENT AND IMPLICATIONS FOR RULE CURVE REVIEW

SIMULATION RESULTS

Control Simulation for Rainy Lake Levels

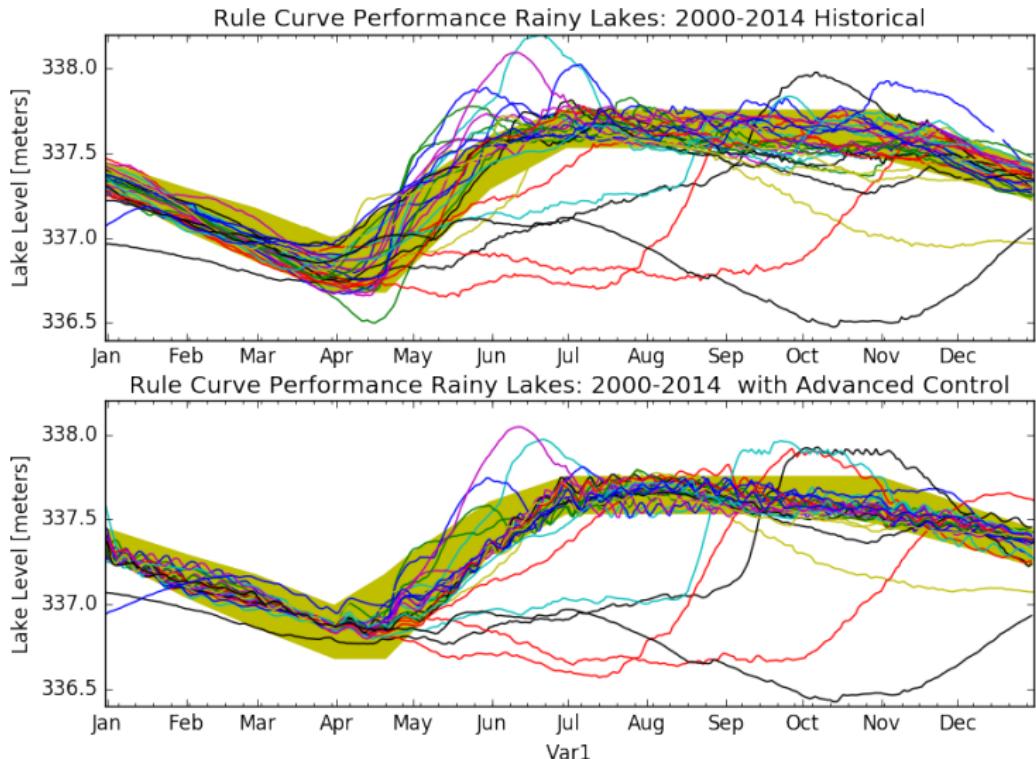


Historical Levels



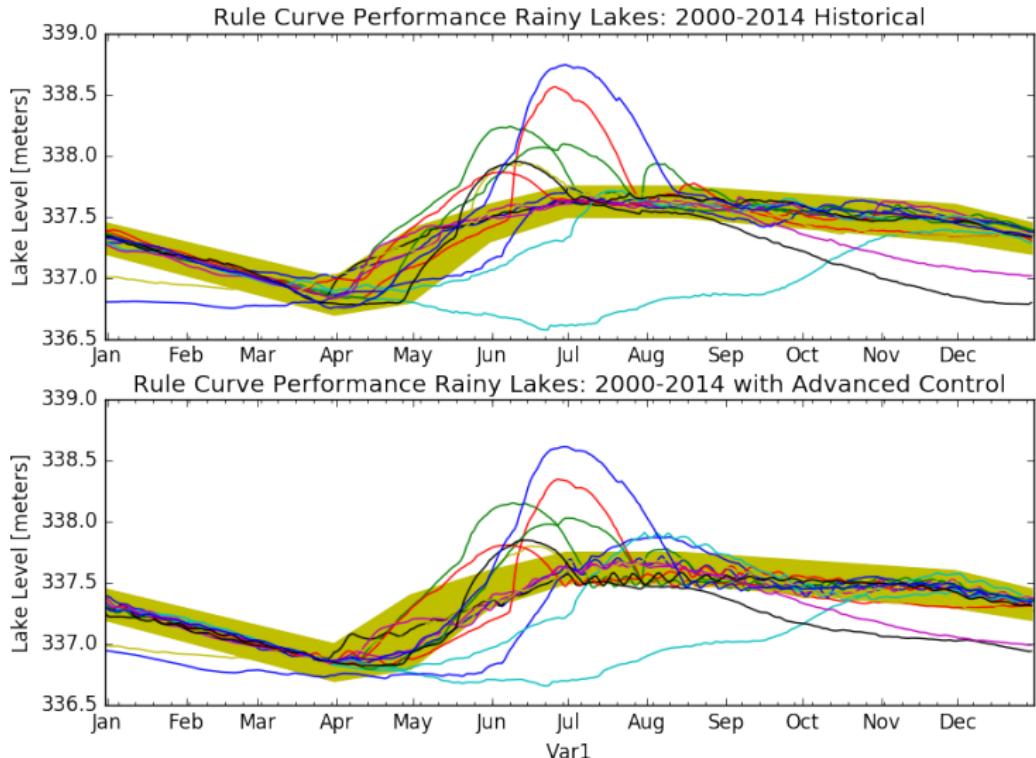
Source: Github Repository for this paper.

SIMULATION RESULTS



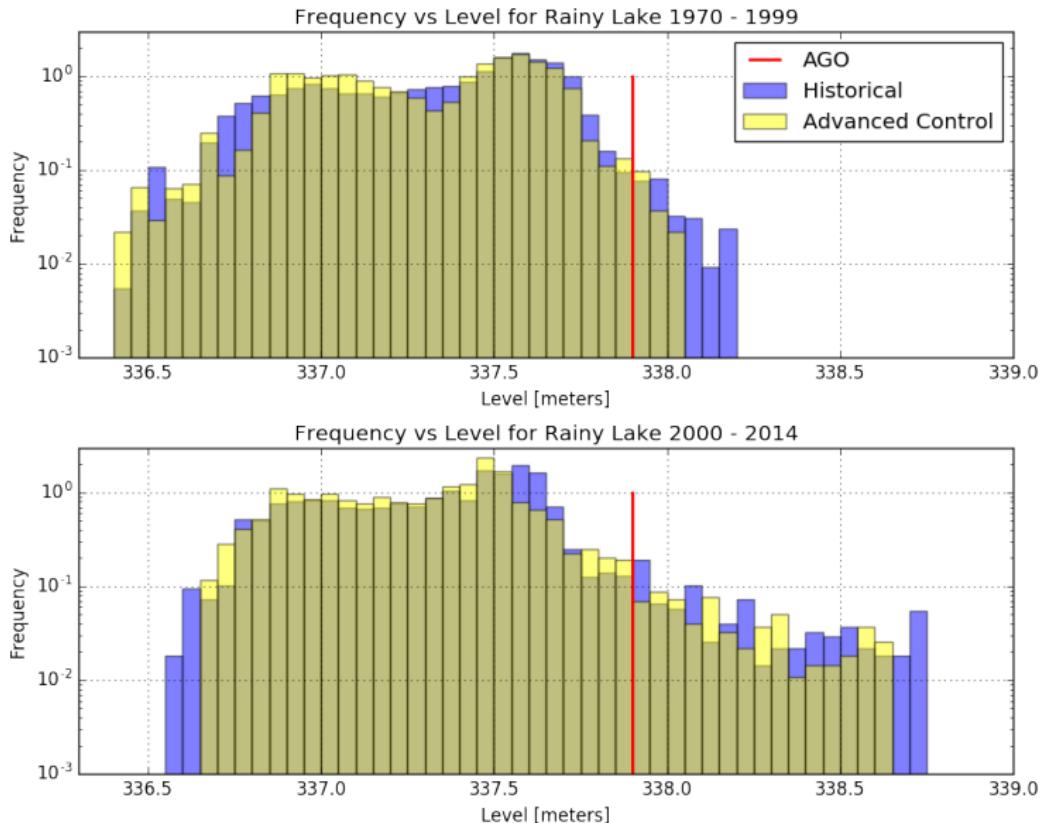
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

SIMULATION RESULTS



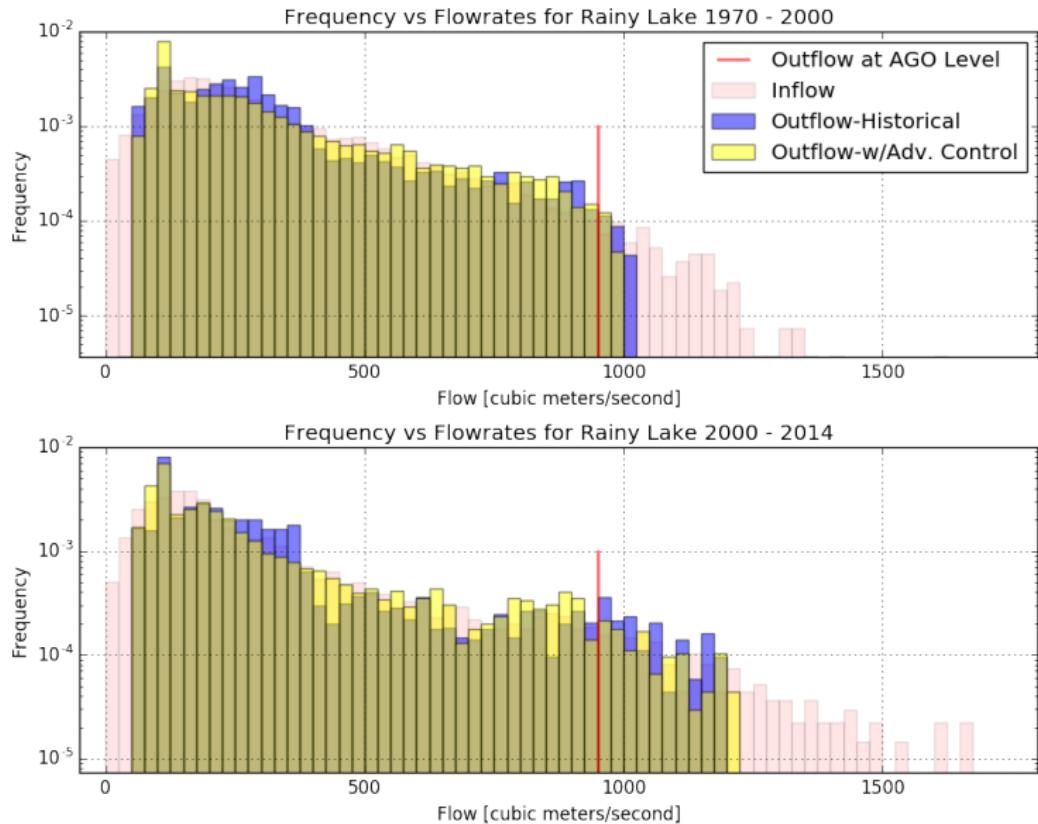
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

SIMULATION RESULTS - RAINY LAKE LEVELS



Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

SIMULATION RESULTS - INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS



Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

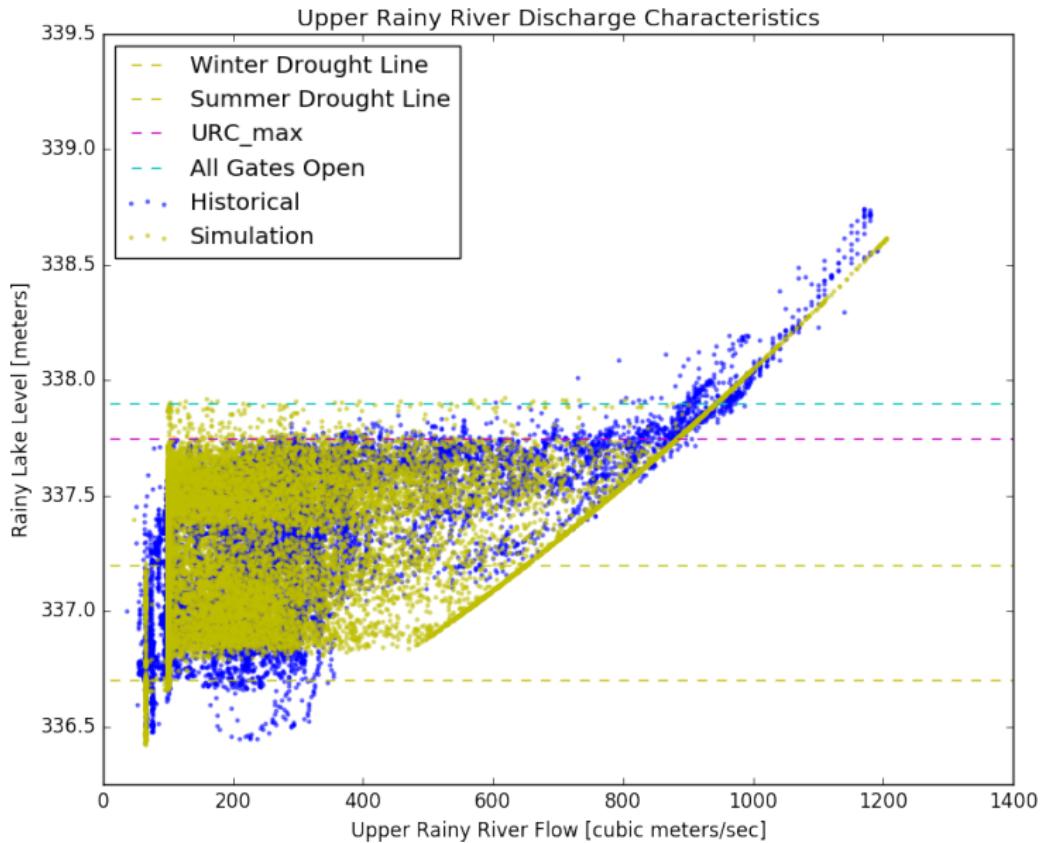
SUMMER HIGH WATER EVENTS (MAY–SEPTEMBER), 1970-99

	Historical	w/MPC
Rule Curve Exceeded		
Frequency	15.8%	6.5%
Median	0.07 m	0.08 m
95th Percentile	0.37 m	0.32 m
Emergency High Water		
Frequency	8.3%	5.0%
Median	0.06 m	0.07 m
95th Percentile	0.34 m	0.25 m
All Gates Open		
Frequency	2.4%	1.3%
Median	0.10 m	0.06 m
95th Percentile	0.29 m	0.14 m

SUMMER HIGH WATER EVENTS (MAY–SEPTEMBER), 2000–14

	Historical	w/MPC
Rule Curve Exceeded		
Frequency	18.0%	18.1%
Median	0.25 m	0.15 m
95th Percentile	0.91 m	0.78 m
Emergency High Water		
Frequency	14.6%	15.0%
Median	0.21 m	0.14 m
95th Percentile	0.94 m	0.80 m
All Gates Open		
Frequency	9.9%	7.3%
Median	0.20 m	0.23 m
95th Percentile	0.82 m	0.69 m

SIMULATION RESULTS - INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS



Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

CONCLUSIONS

The rule curve review needs to include control implementation within the scope of its work.

1. There is little evidence for "diligent use of existing network of upstream lake level gauges and currently available hydrological models can make this IJC mandate a reality and improve the accuracy and reliability of reservoir level control."
2. The 2000 rule curves are not a feasible mandate for level management on Rainy Lake. Namakan and Rainy Lake rule curves require 'harmonization'.
3. Consideration should be given to an integrated control strategy for flow control points on the Rainy-Lake of the Woods watershed coupled with significant rule curve revisions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Emmy Popovich, UG research assistant
- Nicole Mejias, UG research assistant
- Alan Hamlet, CEEES, Notre Dame
- Aaron Thompson, Directorate Environment Canada
- RLPOA Research and Technology Committee:
 - Tom Dougherty
 - Jim Yount
 - Bruce Walker
 - Howard Hansen
 - Tom Biondich
 - Kirk Skallman
 - Geo. Simmons
 - Tom Smith
 - Mike Williams
 - Jim Giauque
 - Mark Gagnier
 - Paul Anderson
 - Jason Lindquist
 - Eric Olson
 - Scott Klosner

The content of this presentation is the independent work product of the author conducted in compliance with policies on research and outside activities at the University of Notre Dame. No financial support has been received from any source.