

# Level and Flow Control for a Complex Watershed

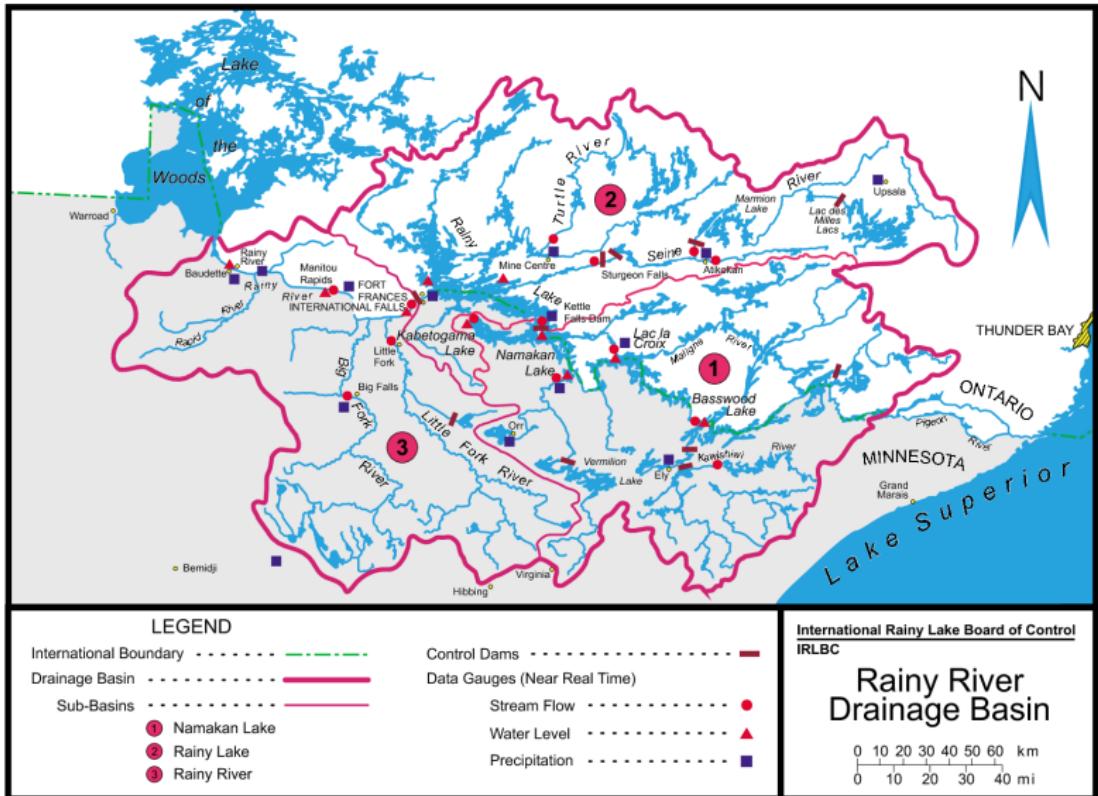
2016 International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Forum  
March 14, 2016

Jeffrey Kantor

University of Notre Dame

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

# RAINY RIVER DRAINAGE BASIN



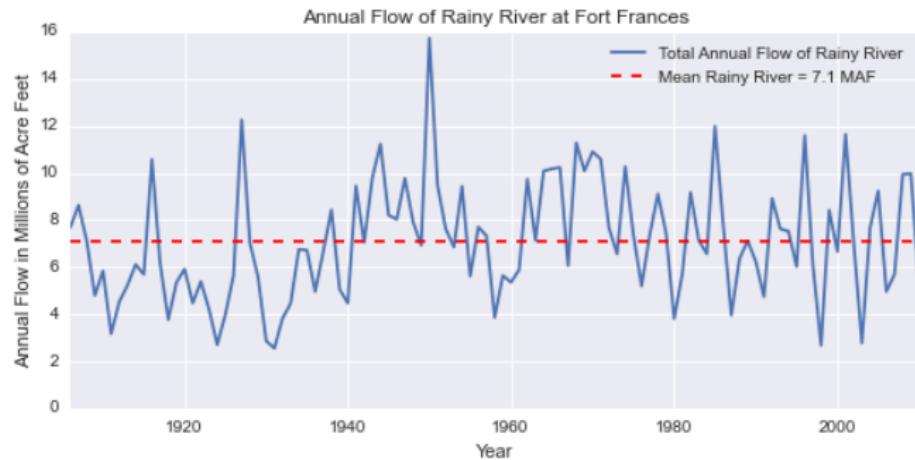
Source: International Rainy Lake Board of Control (now IRLWWB)

# WATER FLOW NAMAKAN RESERVOIR THROUGH RAINY LAKE



Source: US National Park Service

# RAINY RIVER MEAN ANNUAL FLOW



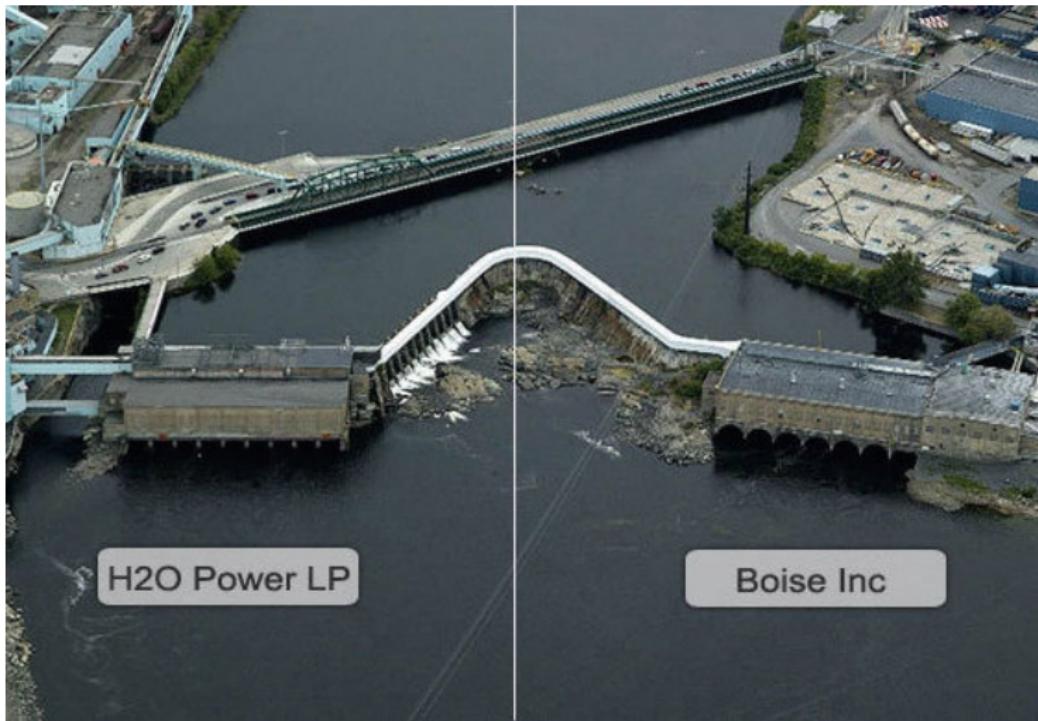
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

	Million Acre-Feet/year
Rainy River at Fort Frances	7.1
Mississippi at St. Anthony Falls	8.7
Lake Mead Release at Hoover Dam	9.6
California, All managed Water	40

# BOTTLENECK AT RAINY RIVER



# BOTTLENECK AT RAINY RIVER



# SUMMER FLOODING 2014



Photo by Bob King ([rking@duluthnews.com](mailto:rking@duluthnews.com))



<sup>0</sup>Photo by WCCO, CBS Minnesota



Photo by John Meyers, Duluth News Tribune

1987 LOW WATER YEAR



Photo by Larry Kec

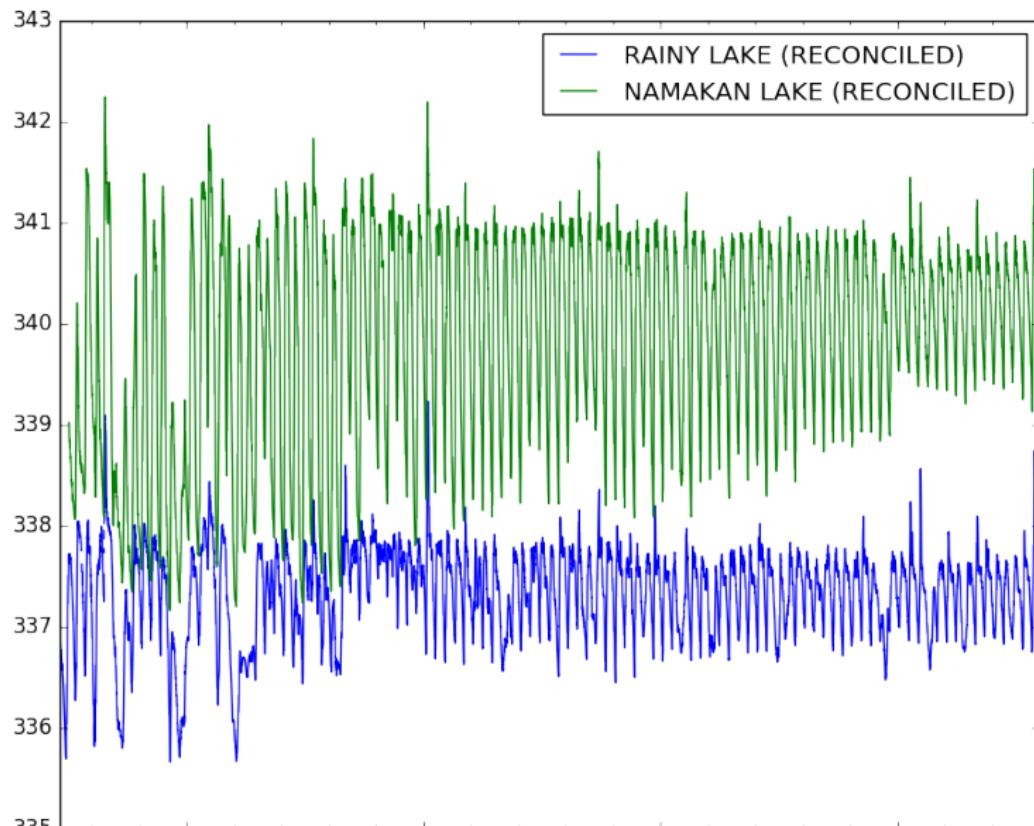
# IMPACT ON 2015 WILD RICE PRODUCTION



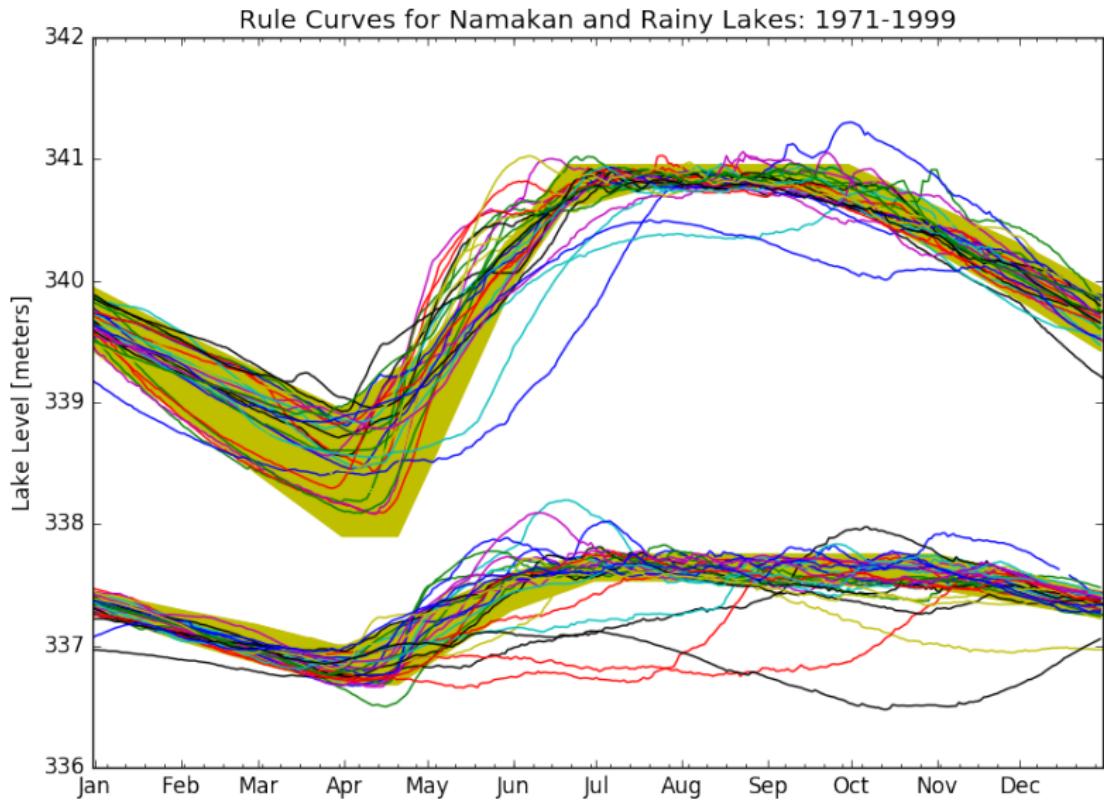


# RAINY LAKE AND NAMAKAN LAKE LEVELS 1911–

Clearly see three rule curve regimes ...

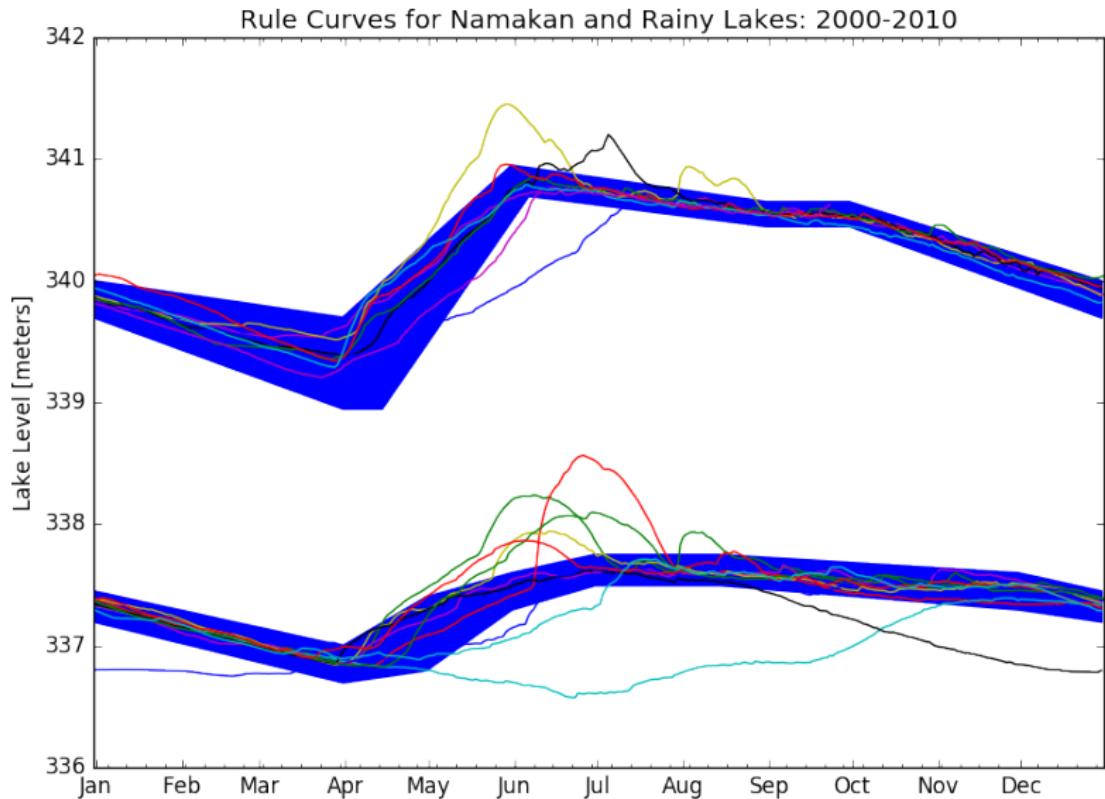


# RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE 1970–1999



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

# RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE 2000–2010



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

## SUMMER HIGH WATER EVENTS (MAY–SEPTEMBER)

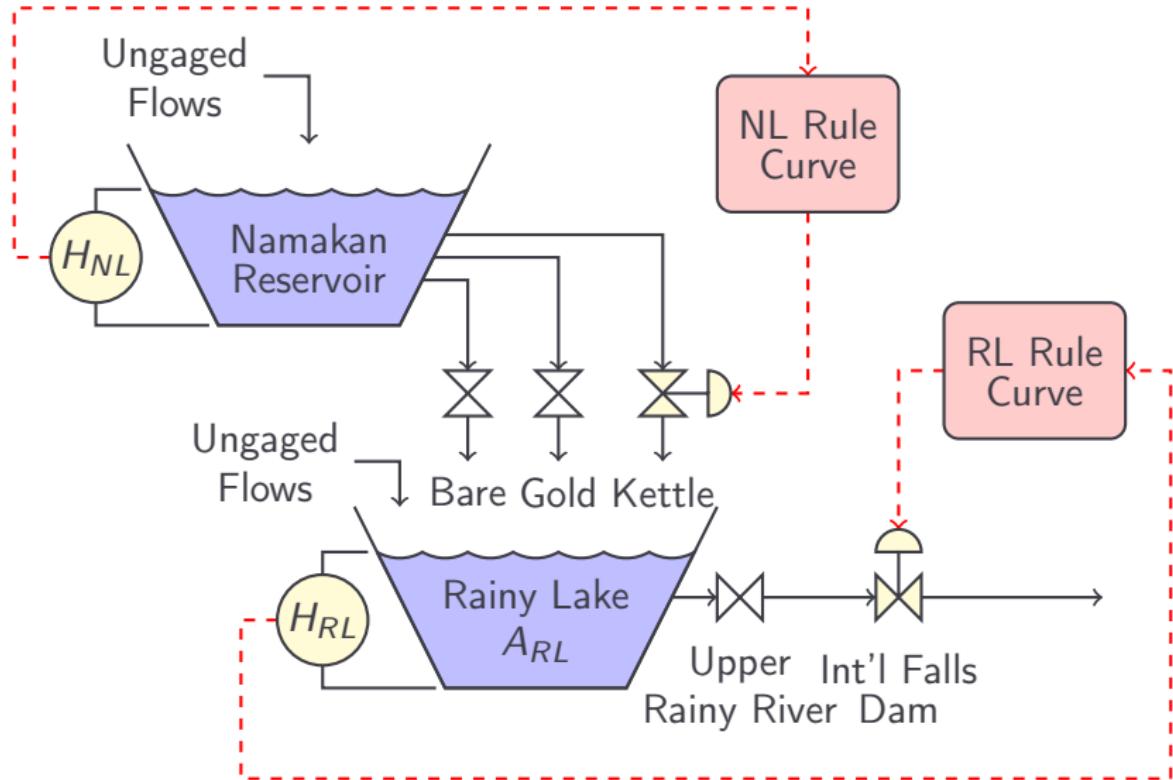
	1971–1999	2000–2010
	4437 days	1683 days
Rule Curve Exceeded		
Frequency	14.8%	17.8%
Median	0.07 m	0.23 m
95th Percentile	0.38 m	0.70 m
Emergency High Water		
Frequency	7.6%	13.7%
Median	0.05 m	0.19 m
95th Percentile	0.36 m	0.71 m
All Gates Open		
Frequency	1.9%	8.7%
Median	0.12 m	0.17 m
95th Percentile	0.29 m	0.62 m

## 1993 FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

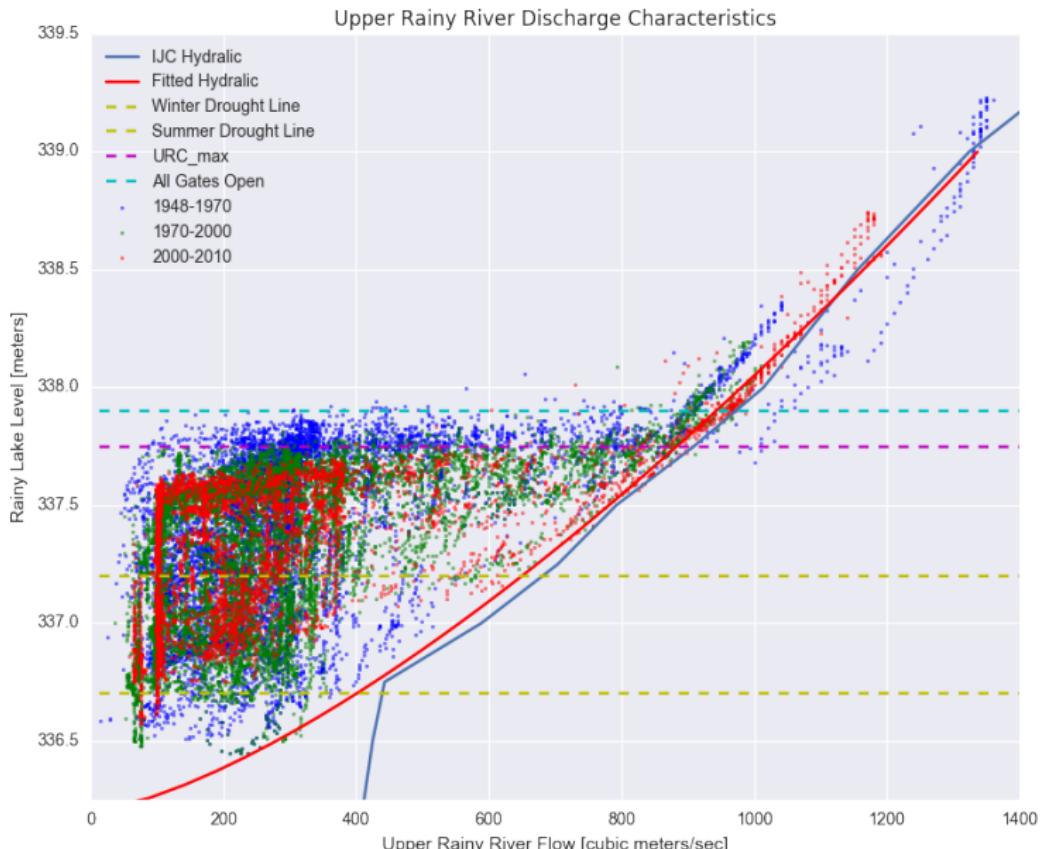
- "To offset the potential for the proposed rule curve modifications to increase the frequency of spring flood events, the IJC should enforce the provision of its 1970 Supplemental Order requiring the dam operators to anticipate inflows and maximize the discharge capabilities of the dams to prevent emergency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

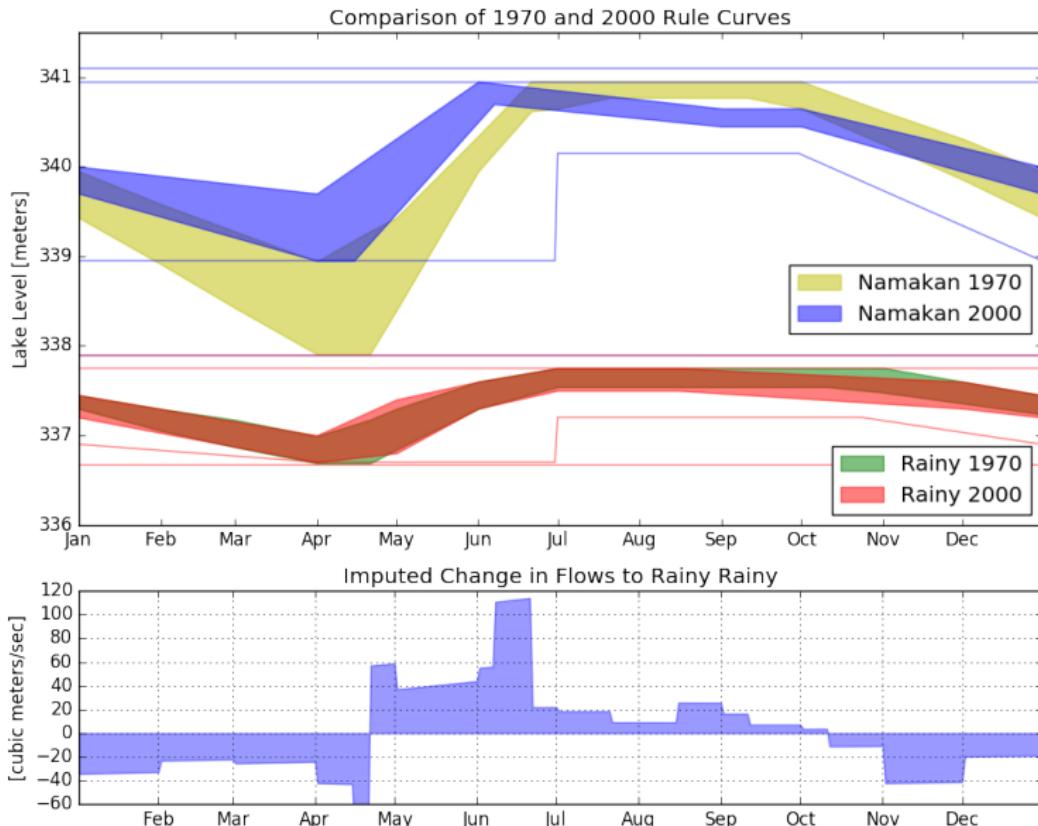


# UPPER RAINY RIVER DISCHARGE CHARACTERISTICS



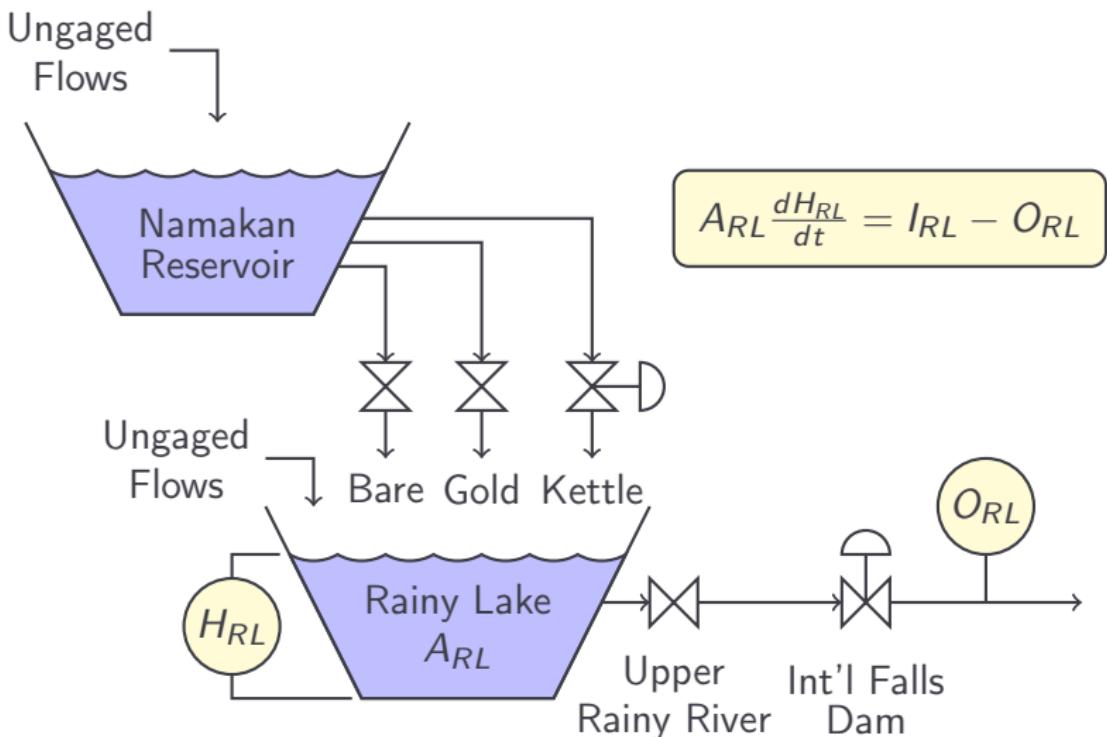
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

# RULE CURVE CHANGES IN 2000



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

# ESTIMATING RAINY LAKE INFLOWS



# RAINY LAKE MEASUREMENT MODEL

**Lake Model:**  $H$ ,  $I$ ,  $O$  are lake level, inflow, and outflow

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} H_{RL}(k+1) \\ I_{RL}(k+1) \\ O_{RL}(k+1) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(k+1)} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{\Delta t}{A_{RL}} & -\frac{\Delta t}{A_{RL}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} H_{RL}(k) \\ I_{RL}(k) \\ O_{RL}(k) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(k)} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ w_I(k) \\ w_O(k) \end{bmatrix}}_{w(k) \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\iota}, \mathcal{Q})}$$

where  $w_I(k)$ ,  $w_O(k)$  are random i.i.d. flow increments.

**Measurement model:** Given level and outflow measurements

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} y_H(k) \\ y_O(k) \end{bmatrix}}_{y(k)} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_C \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} H_{RL}(k) \\ I_{RL}(k) \\ O_{RL}(k) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(k)} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v_H(k) \\ v_O(k) \end{bmatrix}}_{v(k) \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\iota}, \mathcal{R})}$$

measurement noise  $v(k)$  is an i.i.d. random variable.

## EXTENDED KALMAN FILTER

**State Update:** Given state estimate  $x'(k|k-1)$  and covariance estimate  $P(k-1|k-1)$

$$x'(k|k-1) = Ax'(k-1|k-1)$$

$$P(k|k-1) = AP(k-1|k-1)A^T + Q$$

**Measurement Update:** Given estimates  $x'(k|k-1)$ ,  $P(k|k-1)$

$$S(k) = CP(k|k-1)C^T + R$$

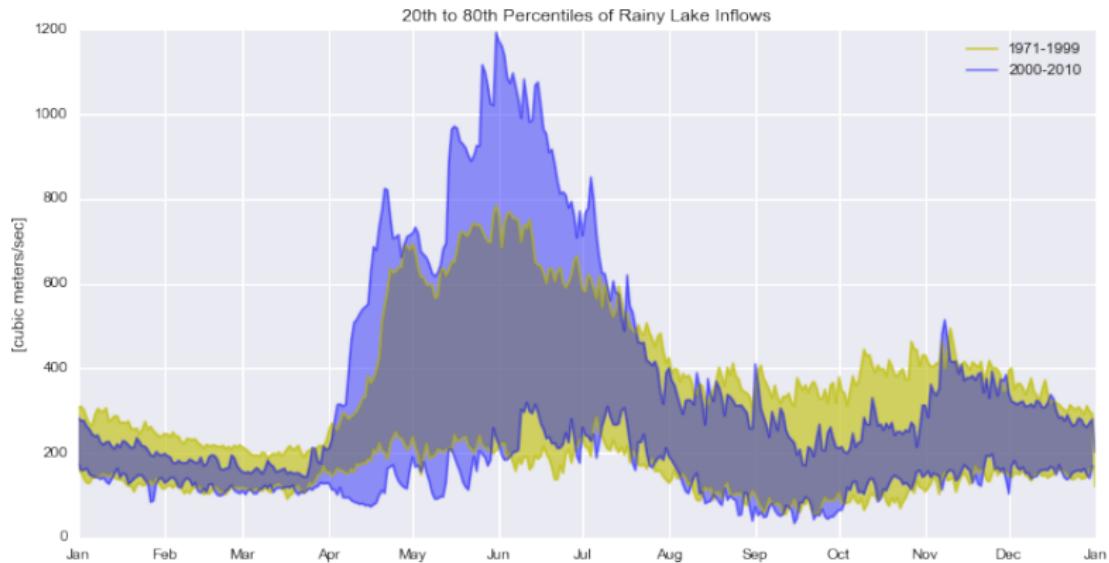
$$K(k) = P(k|k-1)C^T S^{-1}(k)$$

for state and covariance updates

$$x'(k|k) = x'(k|k-1) + K(k) [y(k) - Cx'(k|k-1)]$$

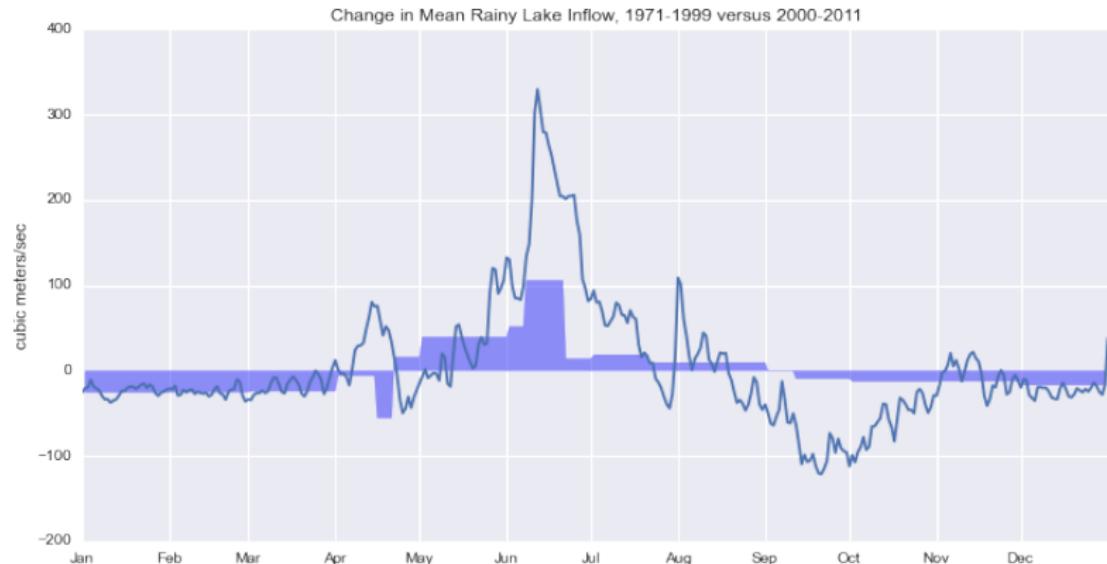
$$P(k|k) = P(k|k-1) - K(k)S(k)K^T(k)$$

# RAINY LAKE INFLOWS, 1970-1999 VS 2000-2010



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

# CHANGE IN INFLOW TO RAINY LAKE, 1979-99 VS 2000-10

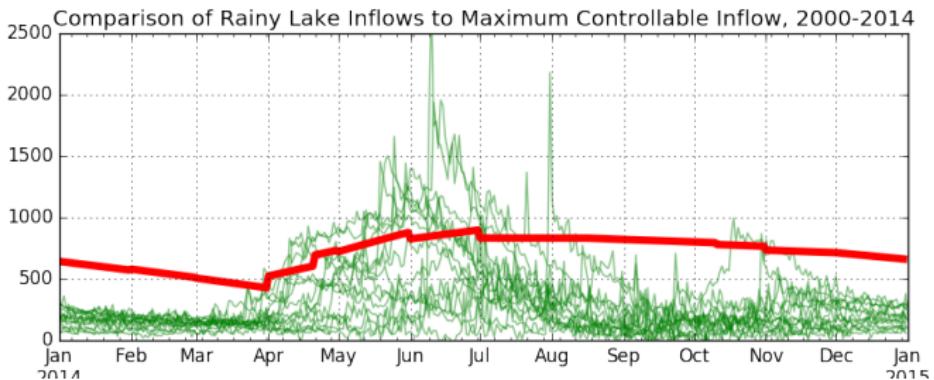
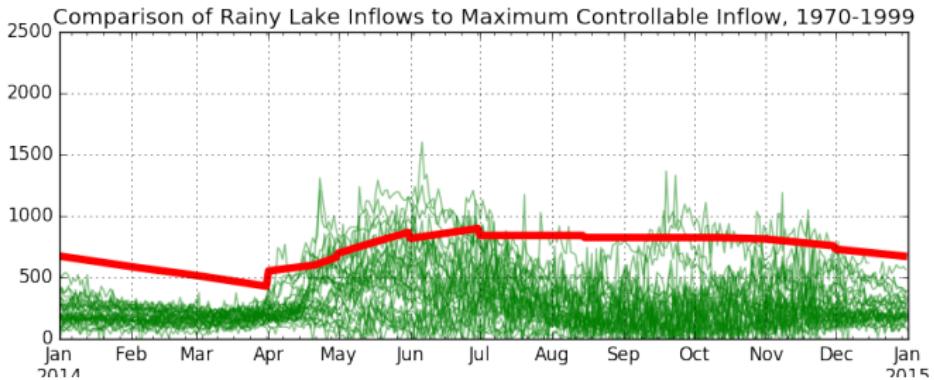


Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

## IMPACT OF THE RULE CURVE CHANGE, 1970 - 2000

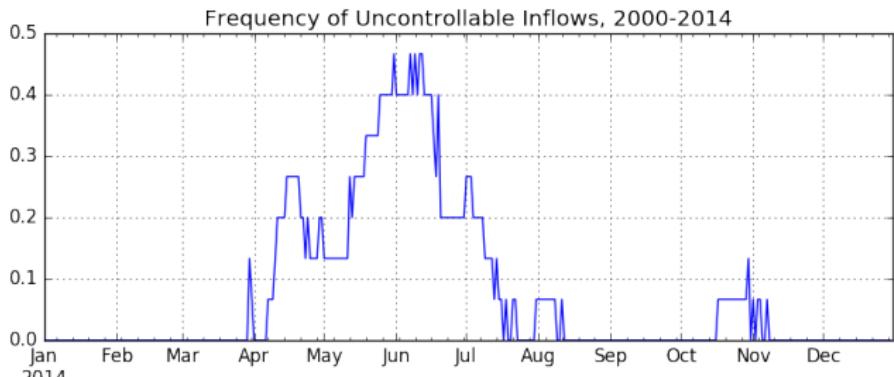
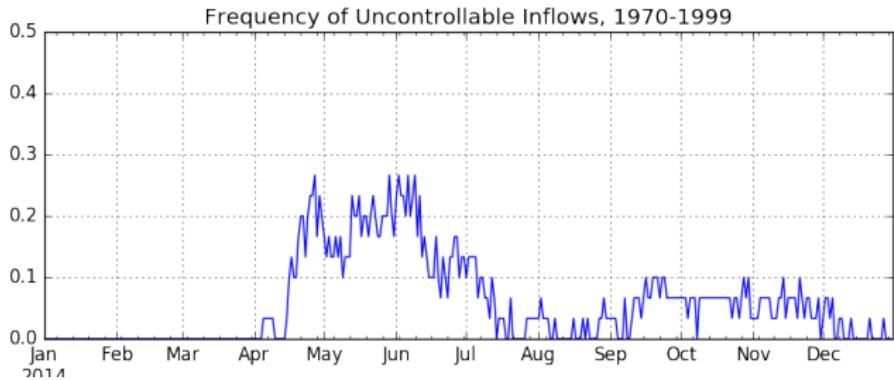
1. Displaces winter inflow to Rainy Lake from winter to summer months.
2. Flow constrictions in Upper Rainy River lead to water level increases in May/June.

# MAXIMUM CONTROLLABLE INFLOWS



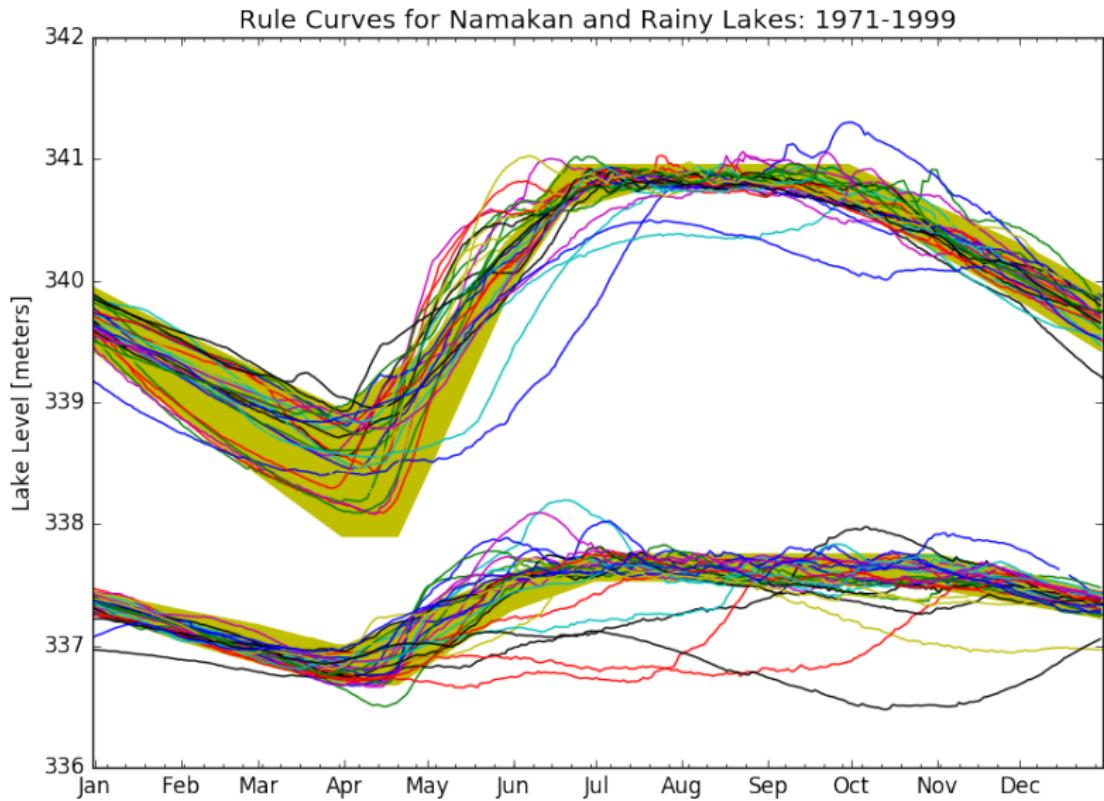
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

# UNCONTROLLABLE INFLOW FREQUENCY



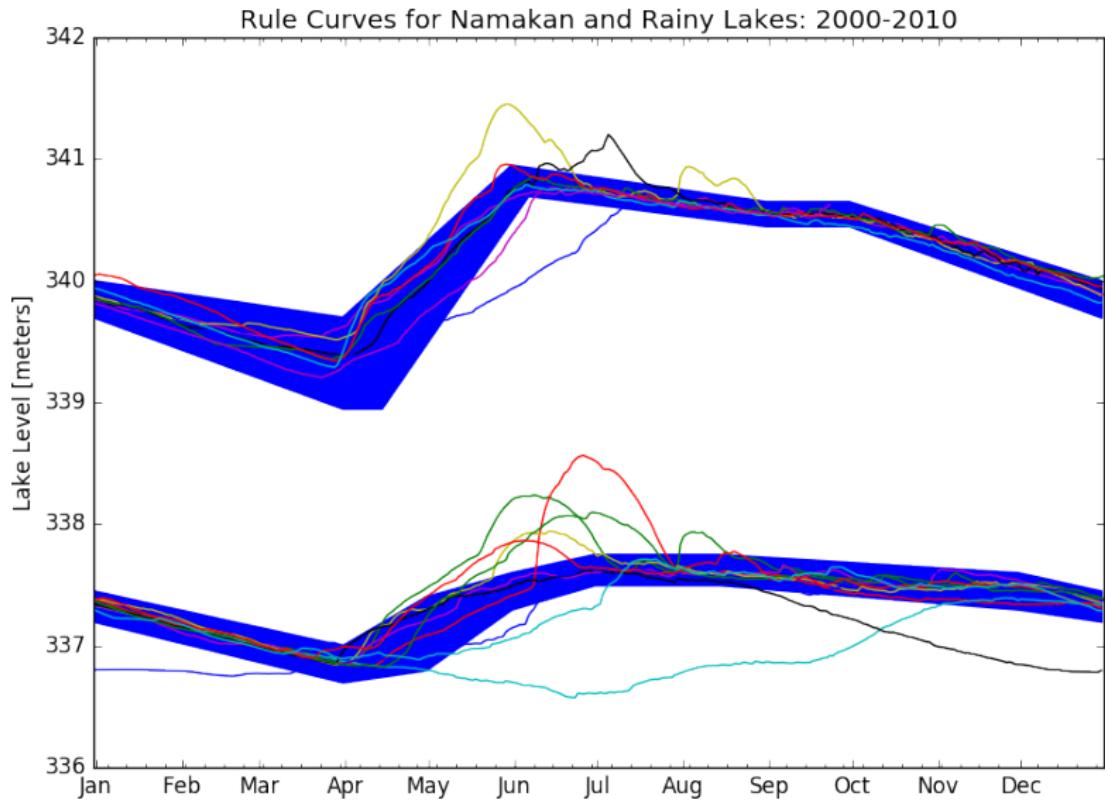
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

# RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE 1970–1999



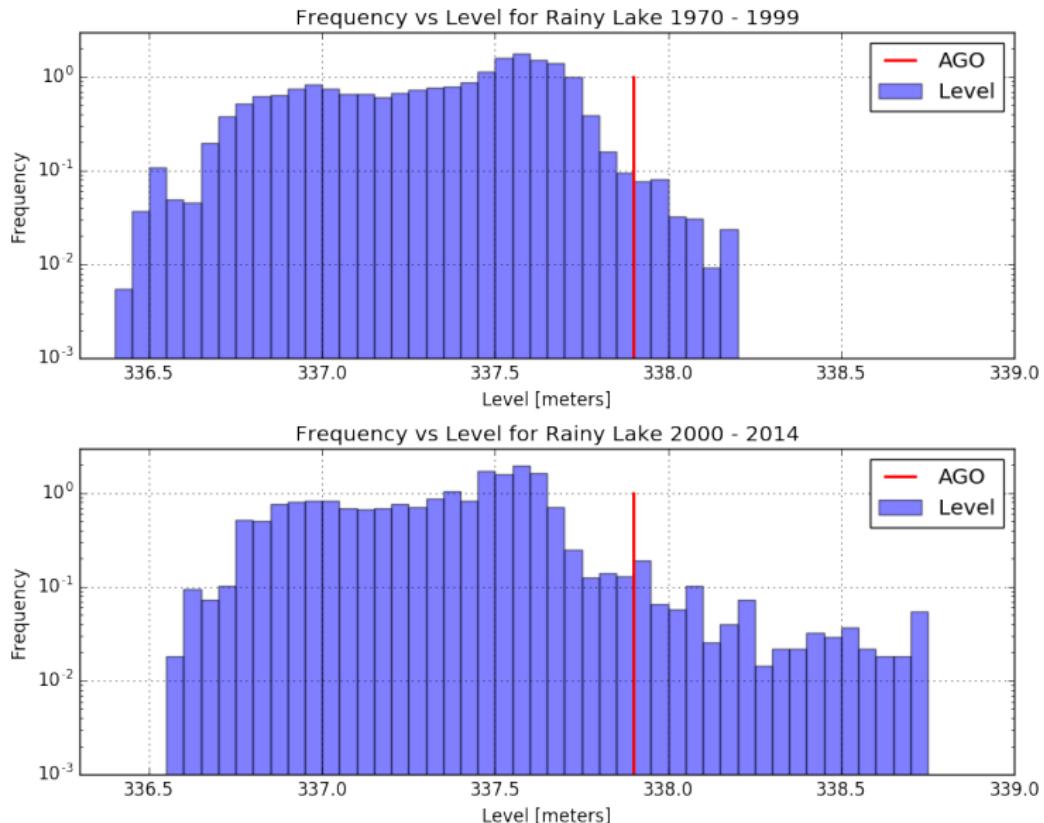
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

# RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE 2000–2014



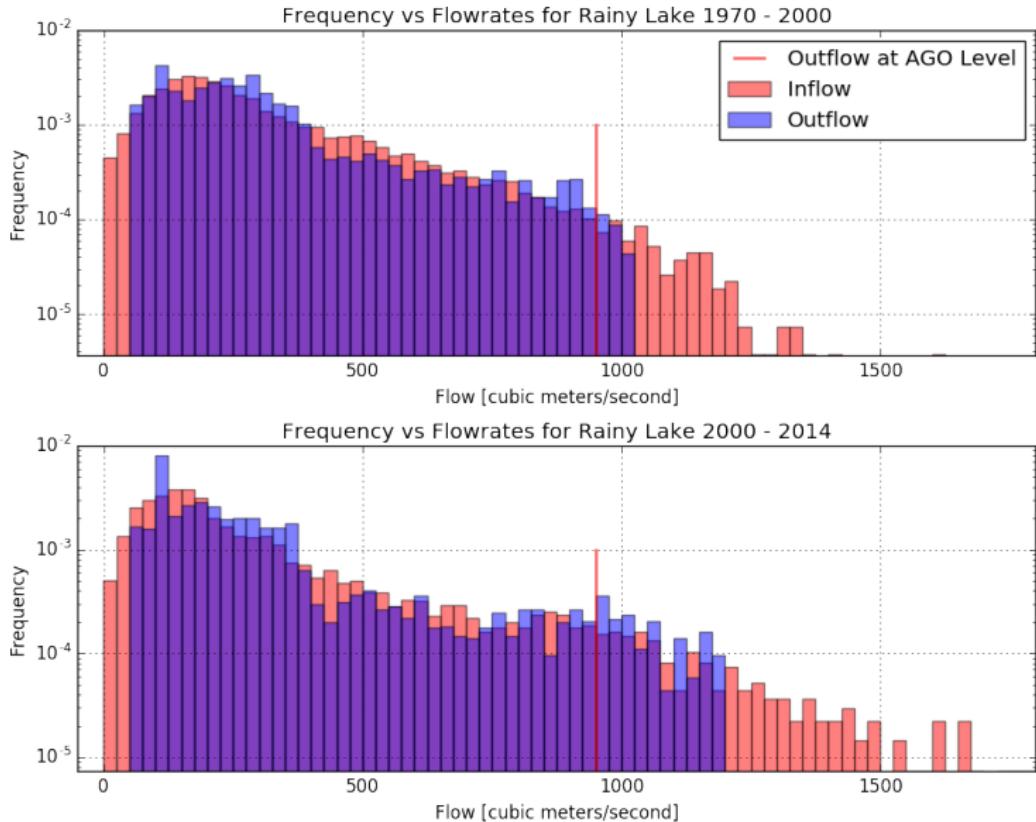
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

# RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE - RAINY LAKE LEVELS



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

# RULE CURVE PERFORMANCE - INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS

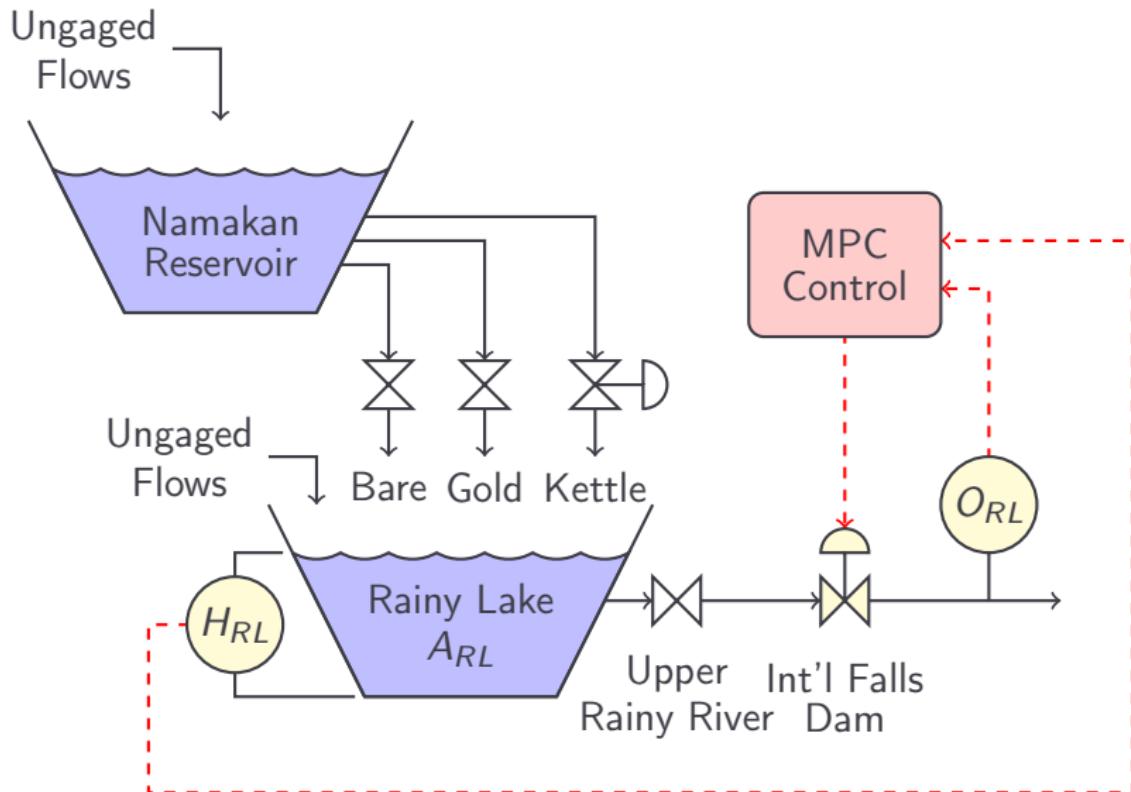


Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

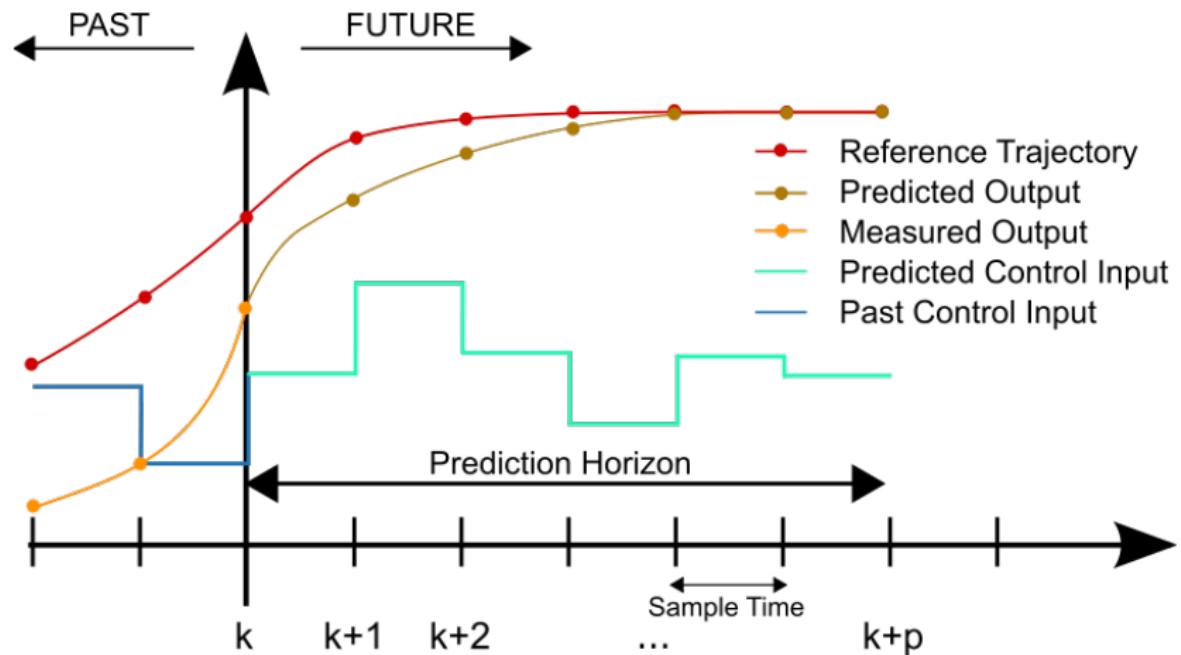


# IMPLEMENTING RULE CURVES WITH MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL

# MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL FOR RAINY LAKE



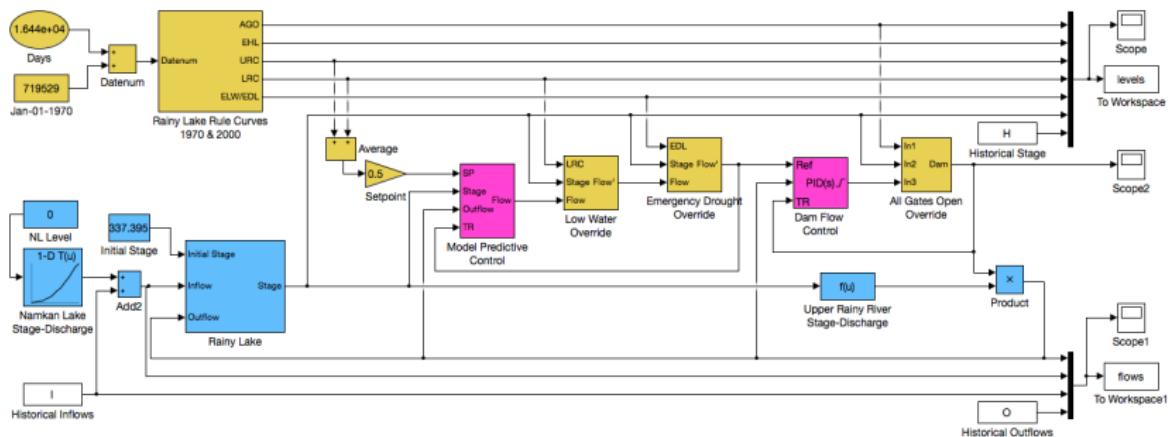
# MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL



Source: Martin Behrendt

# MATLAB/SIMULINK IMPLEMENTATION

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



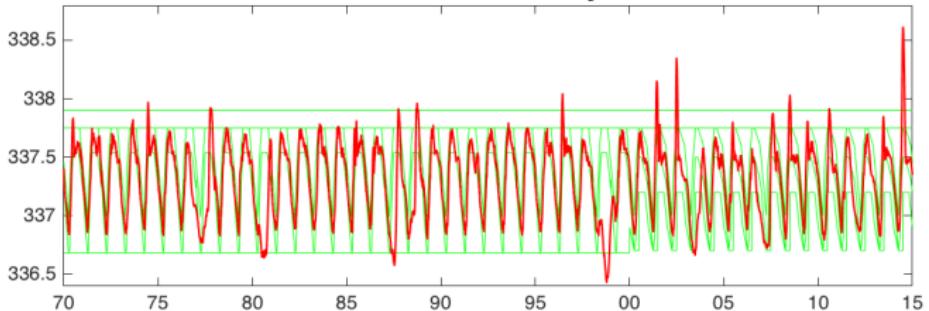
Source: Github Repository for this paper.

The background image shows a wide river or lake surrounded by dense evergreen forests. The water is dark blue in the upper reaches and becomes turbulent with white foam as it flows over a rocky waterfall in the foreground. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue with scattered white, puffy clouds.

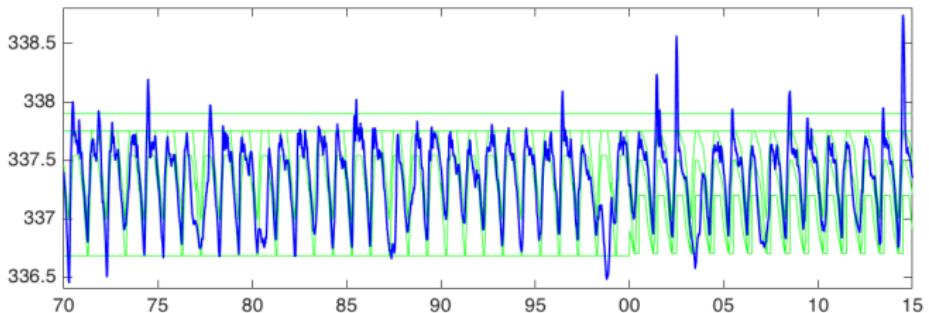
# ASSESSMENT AND IMPLICATIONS FOR RULE CURVE REVIEW

# SIMULATION RESULTS

**Control Simulation for Rainy Lake Levels**

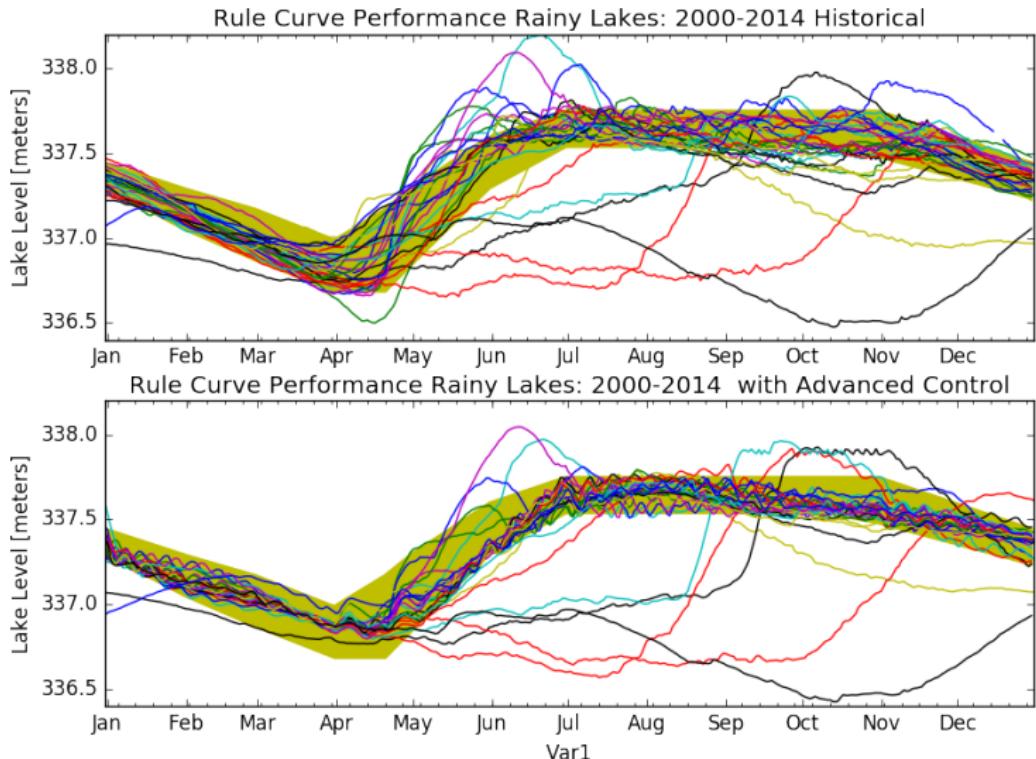


**Historical Levels**



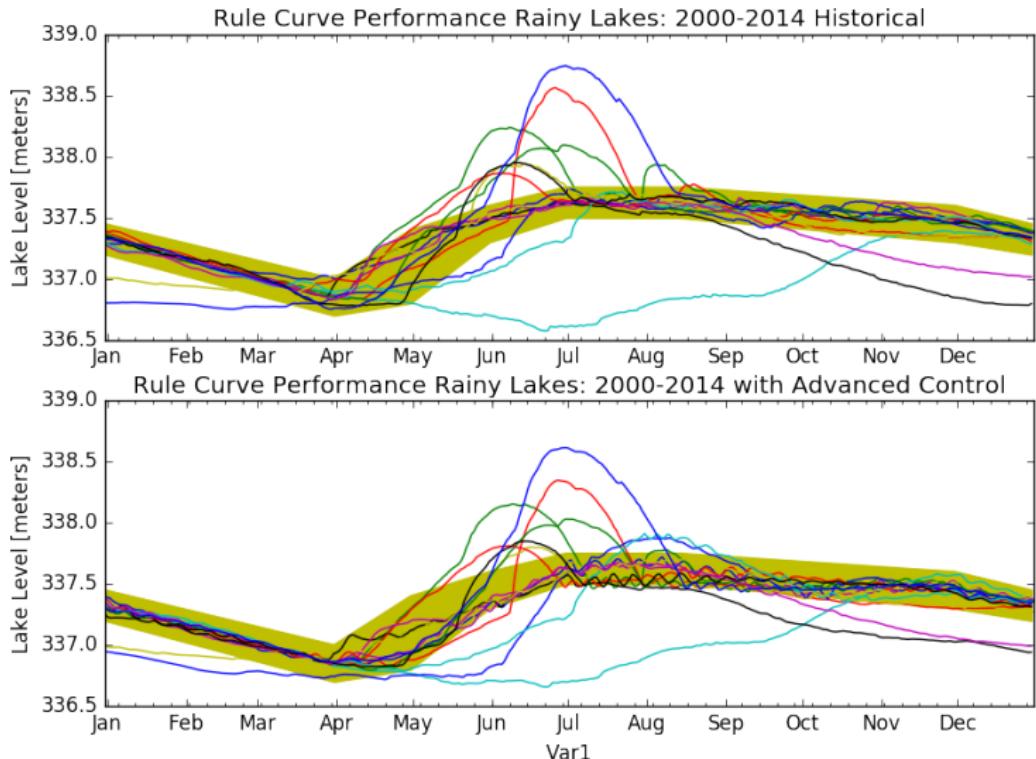
Source: Github Repository for this paper.

# SIMULATION RESULTS



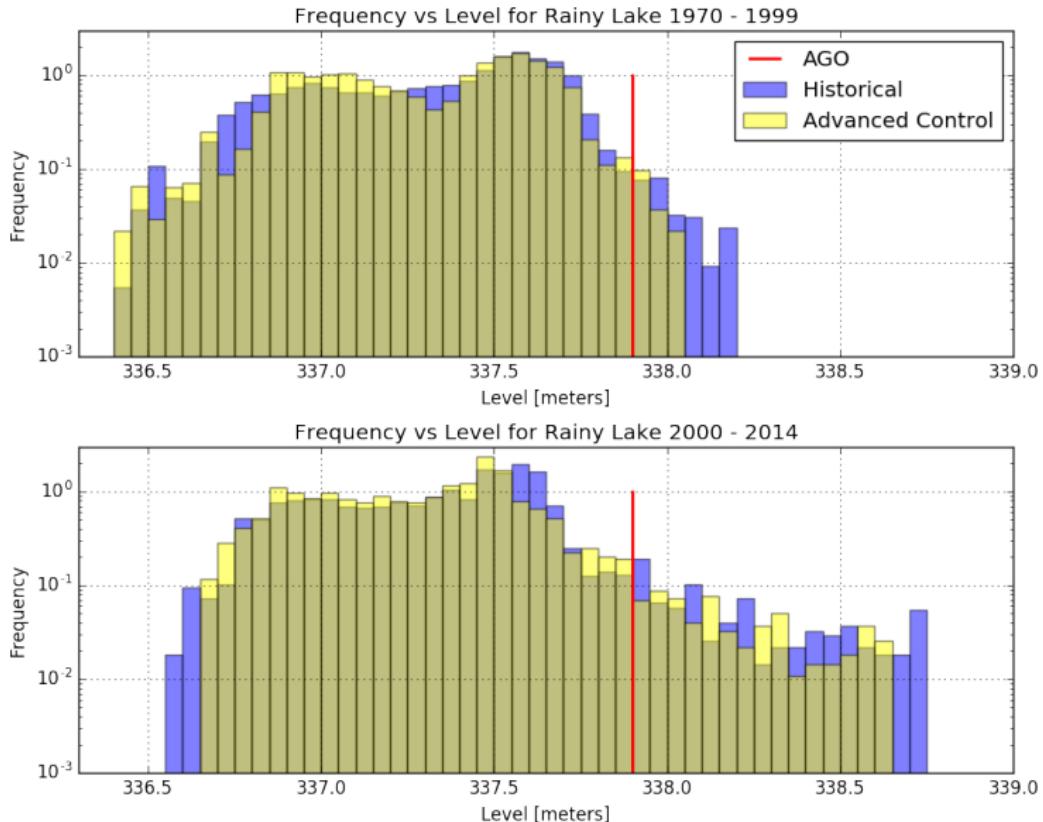
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

# SIMULATION RESULTS



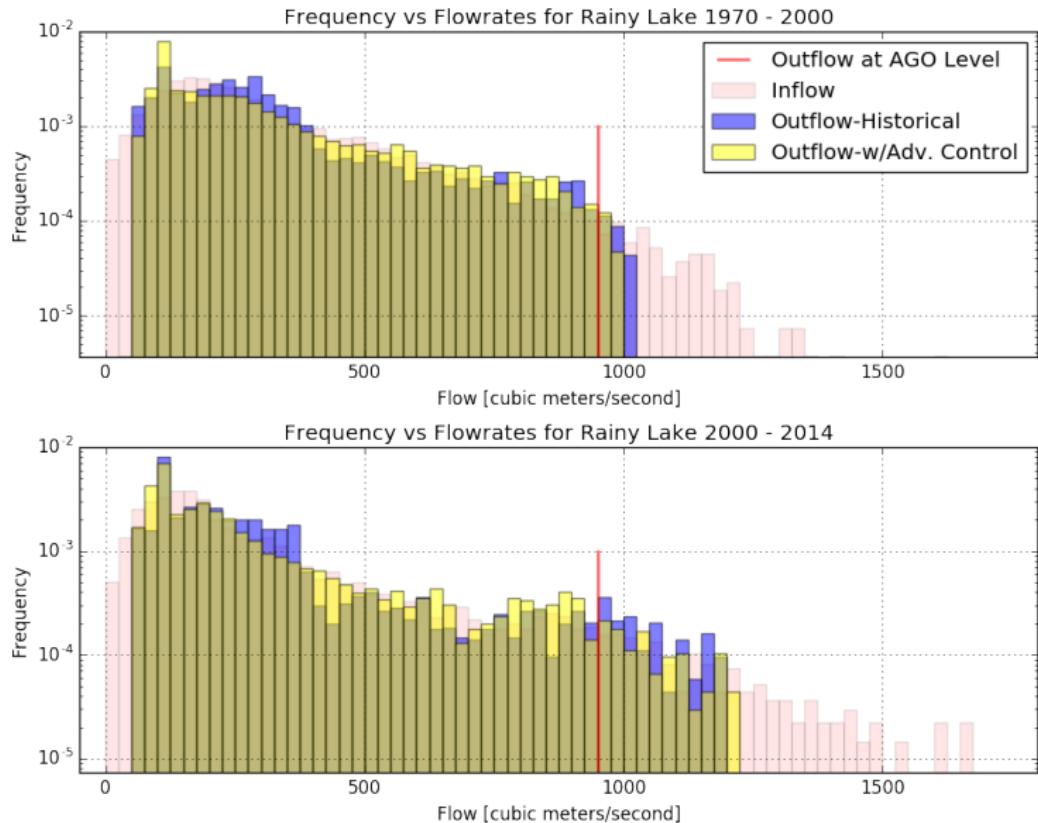
Source: [Github Repository for this paper.](#)

# SIMULATION RESULTS - RAINY LAKE LEVELS



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

# SIMULATION RESULTS - INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS



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

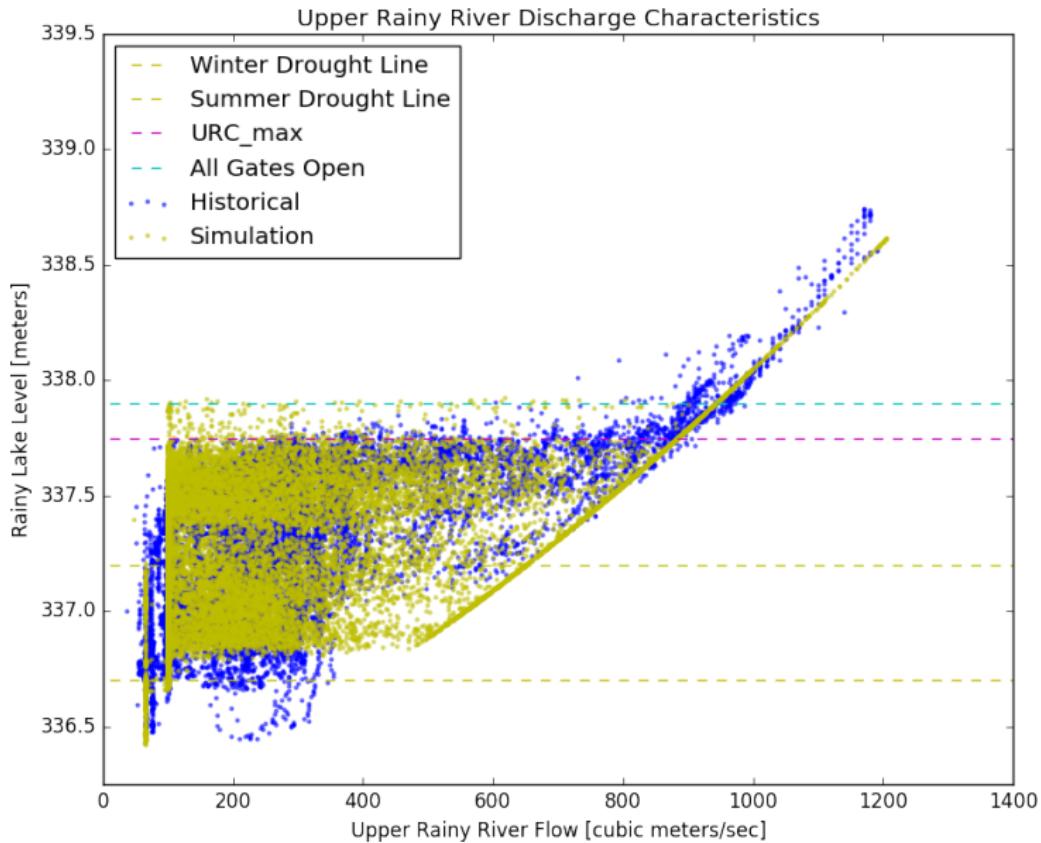
# SUMMER HIGH WATER EVENTS (MAY–SEPTEMBER), 1970-99

	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
<b>Rule Curve Exceeded</b>		
Frequency	18.0%	18.1%
Median	0.25 m	0.15 m
95th Percentile	0.91 m	0.78 m
<b>Emergency High Water</b>		
Frequency	14.6%	15.0%
Median	0.21 m	0.14 m
95th Percentile	0.94 m	0.80 m
<b>All Gates Open</b>		
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.

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