Projection of river discharge in Japan under climate change



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Motivations

- How will river discharge change under climate change?
- Where will hotspots of river discharge change come out in Japan?
- The change of river discharge will have effect on what?
- How do we adapt the change?

Method of Analysis

20km resolution GCM output

1km resolution distributed hydrologic model at Japanese catchments for 75 years runoff simulations e contraction of the contraction

Examine the changes of flood risks, drought risks, and the change of water resources.

GCM Projection data for runoff simulation



Hydrologic Flow Modeling



A flow direction map with 1 km spatial resolution is developed. Then, runoff is routed according to the flow direction map using one dimensional kinematic wave flow model.

1 km flow direction map using GTOPO 30



Flow direction modeling in Kanto region





Runoff projections using MRI-AM20km



Change of mean annual maximum hourly discharge



Change of standard deviation of annual maximum hourly discharge



Change of 100-year annual maximum hourly discharge



Quintiles of river discharge with 100-year return period estimated using GEV distribution.

Reason for the change of annual maximum hourly discharge



Design flood discharge for dam reservoir construction



Catchment Area (km²)

Maximum flood discharge at Kanto region



Change of water resources

Runoff simulations at Mogami River, Northern Japan



Change of monthly discharge in snow melting season



Change of annual snow fall



Change of monthly discharge in snow melting season



Drought Risk



Non-rainy day : daily rainfall is less than 1mm





Near future climate /Current climate



Change of the mean of the 10th daily discharge in ascending order in a year



Change of the 10-year 10th daily discharge in ascending order in a year using Weibull distribution





Future climate /Current climate Change of annual maximum non-rainy days and 10year 10th daily discharge in a year



Findings

- Clear changes of hourly flood peak discharge, daily drought discharge (last 10th discharge) and monthly discharge were detected;
- 2. For each discharge, the degree of the changes differs according to location; and
- 3. The changes appear in the near future climate experiment, which become clearer in the future climate experiment.

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Summary

Through the 75 years runoff simulations for Japanese catchments, the findings are summarized as follows:

- 1) A clear change of temporal and spatial discharge patterns appears;
- 2) The degree of the change differs according to location;
- 3) In northern Japan, river discharge for the future climate is smoothened because of the decrease of snow melting;
- In southern Japan, the flood peak discharge increases because of higher short term precipitation, which leads to the increase of flood risk;
- 5) In southern Japan, the 355th daily discharge in descending order in a year decreases, which leads to the increase of drought risk;
- 6) The discharge change appears in the near future climate experiment.