

Dr. Suleman Y. Mohamia Dept. of Geography FIT, Minner 2015.

THE NIGERIA ASSOCIATION OF HYDROLOGICAL SCIENCES (NAHS)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE EDO 2018

Theme: Water, Energy, Food and Environment (WEFE) Linkages

Edited by: J.O Ehiorobo, A.I Agbonaye, C.N Emeribe, O.C. Izinyon

New Senate Chambers, University of Benin 9th - 12th October, 2018

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TREND ANALYSIS OF EXTREME RAINFALL EVENTS FOR DECISION-MAKING IN NORTH-WEST NIGERIA

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Abstract

Global climate change have trigger extreme rainfall events leading to meteorological hazards around the world. This paper examines the trends in extreme rainfall from five (6) synoptic stations in North-West Nigeria for a period of 35 years (1981-2015). Daily rainfall data acquired from Nigeria Meteorological Agency were converted into indices (heavy, very heavy, extremely heavy rainfall days, one day maximum rainfall amount and five days maximum rainfall amount). Statistical tests of Mann-Kendall Test (MK), based on a non-parametric approach to trend detection were used to evaluate the possible trend in the derived indices. Results showed significant positive trends in the five indices at Kano and Katsina station. The insignificant positive trends were detected in the indices across other station with exception to Gusau for heavy, very heavy rainfall days and Yelwa for five days maximum rainfall amount where the trends were negative. The trends were attributed to a possible change in climate. It is recommended that similar research, utilising longer-term data extending to entire Nigeria, to facilitate generalisation of the outcome of this finding

Keywords: rainfall trends, extreme rainfall, Mann-Kendall

Bacground to the Study

The global climate change has been linked to anthropogenic activities (Kyei-baffour, 2017) and is an issues of international importance at the contemporay time. The global climate change associated to anthropogenic activities remain a major challenge for mankind (Stott et al., 2016) as well as natural ecosystems. Although precipitation extreme could occur under normal climate conditions (Zhang, et al., 2017), recent studies (Han, et al., 2014; Kug & Ahn, 2013; Sibanda, et al., 2017) suggest that rising extreme precipitation events are linked with global warming. This is understood to bring about an increased in atmospheric moisture content. The extreme precipitation events is therefore a pointer to understanding of global climate change.

Due to importance of extreme precipitation and their effects on ecological systems and society have lead to global attentions in the field of science of climate change and other related decipline. For example (Zhang et al., 2017) found that precipitation indices have experienced increasing trend in the central Asia, (Croitoru, et al., 2015) found a dominant increasing trend for the number of isolated days with moderate and heavy precipitation in Romania, (Chen, et al., 2017) found a positive trends in indices of extreme precipitation in Hunan Province, central south China, in Mali (Kyei-baffour, 2017) found significant positive and positive insignificant increase in extreme precipitation indices, (Ongoma, et al., 2016) found insignificant declining trends in extrmr precipitation indices, (Marofi, et al., 2011) showed significant trends in extreme precipitation indices in Iran and (Libanda, et al., 2017) showed significant increase in extreme precipitation indices. These findings suggested that extreme precipitation for different have varied regionally around the world (Mei et al., 2018) and this futher support the need for localised studies.

In the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of Nigeria have experienced extreme rainfall In the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the North-West part of the recent time (2012 and 2018) the recent time (201 events resulting to flooding with significant impact on sections and flood prevention support decision-making processes associated with water resource management and flood prevention support decision-making processes associated with water resonant of etreme rainfall. This under changing environments at a local scales require contemporary assessment of etreme rainfall. This under changing environments at a local scales require contemporary rainfall patterns is assess to provide study cover the North-West part of Nigeria. The trends of extreme rainfall patterns is assess to provide essential information in developing new management strategies for policy makers.

2.0 Research Methodology

2.1 The Study Area

The location of North-West part Nigeria is represented in Figure 1. The zones lie between Longitudes 40 8'E and 6° 54'E and Latitudes 10° 00'N and 13° 58'N. The weather observation stations located in the study area are Sokoto, Yelwa, Gusau, Katsina, Kano, and Kaduna respectively.

The major climatic feature of the region is the alternating wet and dry seasons called, rainy and dry seasons (Garba, et al., 2018). The location of inter-tropical discontinuity (ITD) determine season over the study area. The ITD position is influence by the two air mass of Tropical Maritime (mT) and Tropical Continental (cT). The ITD travels northwards between January and August over Nigeria and retreat southward from frontier of the Sahara desert after August (Ifabiyi & Ojoye, 2013). The rainy season in this area is related with the late start and early termination. The beginning and end are additionally described by damaging storms, which affect life and property (Abdulkadir, et al., 2013). The seasonal and latitudinal variations influence daily and average temperature ranges.

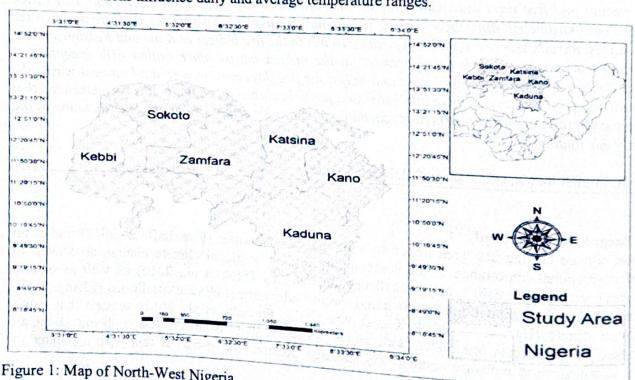


Figure 1: Map of North-West Nigeria Sources: adapted from (Garba, et al., 2018)

2.2 The Data used

The daily rainfall data from Kaduna, Yelwa, Kano, Gusau, Sokoto, and Katsina being globally referenced meteorological stations was acquired from Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) for a period of 35

Indices for extreme Rainfall 2.3

To improve a constant perspective on observed change climate and weather extremes, ETCCDI (Experiment) has defined. Team on Climate Change Detection and Indices) has defined a core set of descriptive indices of extremes indices of extremes indices. The indices describe special characteristics of extremes including amplitude, frequency and persistence The core set includes 27 extreme indices for precipitation and temperature. In this paper, five (5) indices on extreme precipitation were used (Table 2). All the indices were calculated by employing RClimDex software.

Table 1. ETCCDI precipitation-related extreme indices adapted for this study

Acronym	Name of the index	Description	Unit		
210	Heavy precipitation days	Annual number of days with ≥ 0 mm/day	Days		
20	Very heavy precipitation	Annual number of days with ≥20 mm/day	Days		
R25 Extremely heavy Annual number of days when precipitation days precipitation ≥25 mm					
	ax 1-day precipitation	Annual maximum 1-day	mm		
amo	unt p	recipitation Annual maximum consecutive mm			

Trend Analysis

The data analysis was done using the Mann-Kendall (MK) test. It is a non-parametric approach originally used by Mann, (1945) and modified by Kendall, (1975). The significant levels at α = 0.001, 0.01, 0.05, and 0.1 was taken as thresholds to classify the significance of upward and downward trends. The MK test is a non-parametric test commonly used to detect significant trends in hydrological and meteorological time series (Oguntunde, et al., 2014; He, et al., 2015; Kundu, Ket al., 2015) as a standard. The MK is distribution-free and does not assume any special form for the distribution function of the data, the test has low sensitivity to abrupt breaks due to inhomogeneous time series.

Results and Discussion

General changes in extreme precipitation based on all indices used 3.

Trends were calculated for each of the selected 5 indices datasets. The number of negative trend, positive trend, and significant trends was expressed as a percentage of all examined indices (Table 2). As a general overview, increasing trends are the most frequent, with 80% in R10, R20, and RX5 while 100% in R25 and RX1 respectively. In 40% of the indices, we have detected significant postive trend in R10, R20, R25 and RX1 respectively. The RX5 reveals 60% significant trends.

Table 2. Basic parcent of Trends

% of station		tions with % of stations Sig negtive trends	s with % of stations with Sig positive trends		
negative t	rends positive trends		0	40	
COLUMN TO		80	0	40	
R10	20	80	0	40	
R20	20	100	0	40	
R25	0	100	0	60	
RX1	0	80	0		
RX5	20	(0)			

Source: Author's Computation (2018)

The trends in extreme rainfall indices is represented in Table 3. The changes in statges of heavy rainfall to extremely heavy rainfall is associated with the destruction of property, especially in areas which are prone to flash floods (Ongoma et al., 2016). The Mann-Kendall trends is a count of days when rainfall \geq 10 mm, ≥R20 mm, ≥R25 mm, maximum one day (RX1) rainfall amount and five days (RX5) rainfall amount.

The results reveals positive trends in R10 for all the rain guage stations with exception to Gusau rrainfall.

The results reveals positive trends in R10 at R-The results reveals positive trends in R10 for all the rain guage station which depict negative trends. The study detected significant trends in R10 at Kano and guage station which depict negative trends. The study detected significant trends in R10 at Kano and guage station which depict negative trends. The study detected significant with exception Gusau station that Kano and the Katsina stations. The R20 indicates positive trends in R20 were detected at Kano and the Ka reveals negative trends. The significant positive trends in R20 were detected at reveals negative trends. The significant positive trends in the studied stations. Significant positive trend is detected at stations. The R25 reveals positive trends in all the studied stations. Significant positive trend is detected at stations. The R25 reveals positive trends in all the studied stations. The R25 reveals positive trends in all the studied at Kano, Katsina and Sokoto stations. The findings of this study are consitent to those found in other studies Kano, Katsina and Sokoto stations. The findings of this study are consitent to those found in other studies Kano, Katsina and Sokoto stations. The findings of this study and College across the world (Mishra, et al., 2012; Croitoru et al., 2015; Guan, et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2017; Mukherjee, et al., 2018;)

-Kenda	R20	is Test	R25		RX1	0.14	RX5	1.08
-0.16		-0.69	Land St.	0.03	1 53	0.14	0.62	
	0.7		1.34					
2.25*		3.63**	*4.14**	**4.62*	**3./8*		2 /2*	
	2.92**		2.27*		1.16	0.07*	2.43	2.02*
1.1		0.83		1.4				The second second
1.1		0.93		1.43				-0.06
	-0.16 2.25* 1.1	R20 -0.16 0.7 2.25* 2.92** 1.1	R20 -0.16 0.7 2.25* 3.63** 2.92** 1.1 0.83	R20 R25 -0.16 0.7 1.34 2.25* 3.63***4.14** 2.92** 2.27* 1.1 0.83 1.1 0.93	R20 R25 -0.16	-0.16 -0.69 0.03 0.7 1.34 1.53 2.25* 3.63***4.14***4.62***3.78** 2.92** 2.27* 1.16 1.1 0.83 1.4 1.1 0.93 1.43	R20 R25 0.14 -0.16 0.7 1.34 1.53 2.25* 3.63***4.14***4.62***3.78** 2.92** 2.27* 1.16 1.1 0.83 1.4 2.37* 1.1 0.93 1.43 1.19	R20 R23 0.14 -0.16 0.7 1.34 1.53 2.25* 3.63***4.14***4.62***3.78** 2.92** 2.27* 1.16 2.37* 1.1 0.83 1.4 2.37*

trend at $\alpha = 0.05$, + Significant trend at $\alpha = 0.1$

Source: Author's Computation (2018)

4. Conclusion

In this study the trend of five (5) of rainfall extremes during 1981-2015 in North-West Nigeria, based on daily rainfall records from six (6) synoptic stations were analysed. The MK test, were employed for data analysis. The results show number of heavy, very heavy and extremely heavy wet days increaseing insignificantly in some stations and significantly in other stations. R10 show an overall increase in heavy rainfall in all stations except Gusau. The changes remained insignificant throughout the study period except Kano and Katsina where significant changes were detected. Similarly, very heavy rainfall (R20) and extremely heavy rainfall (R25) are observed to increase during the study period. The maximum one day and five days rainfall amount in a year showed increasing trends across the study area. It is worth noting that Kano station revealed consistent significant trend in all the indices. The trends in the indices could increase water availbility in the environment. The number of days at which the heavy rainfall occur is also on the rise. The increasing trends could triger flood with consequence on life and properties. A positive trends in indices has been linked increase is a possible indicator of climate change in the region (Ongoma et al., 2016). This findings is critical to water resources management agency. It is recommended that similar research, utilising longer- term observed data extending to entire Nigeria, to facilitate

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