

Impacts of Climate Change on Drought Cascades in Central Asia Using A Novel Self-Evolutionary Complex Network Approach

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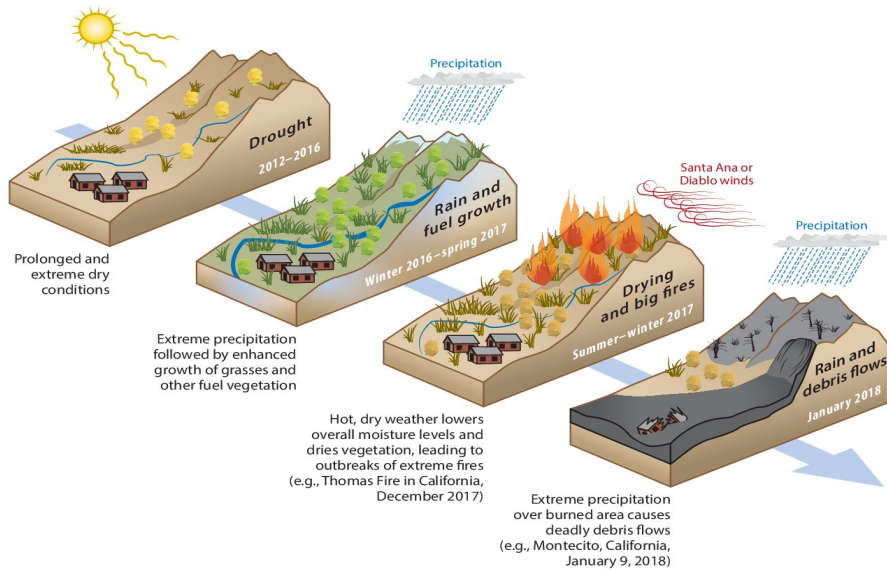
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6th May 2025



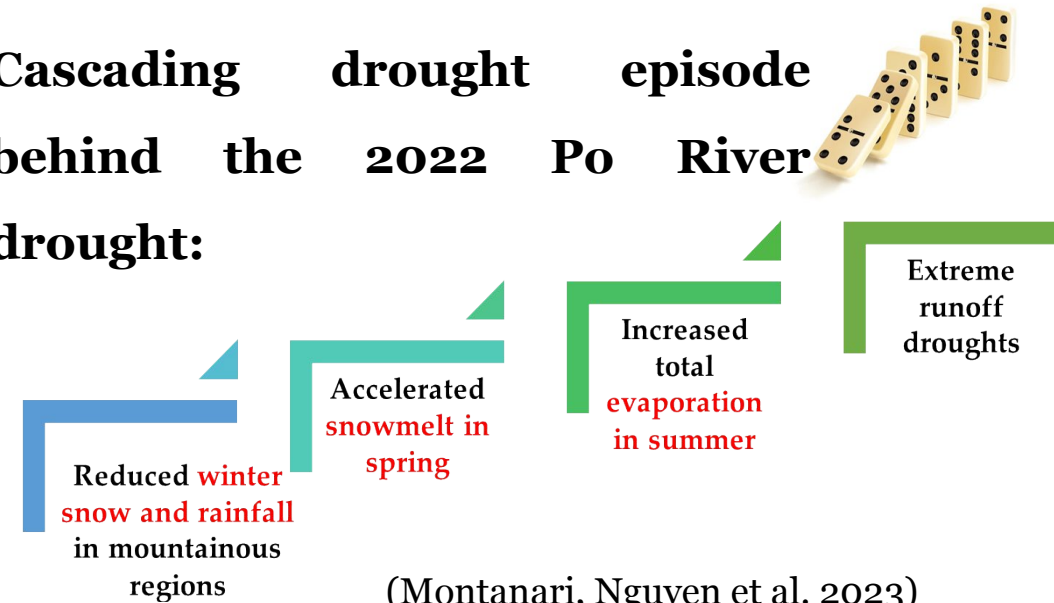
Motivation



AghaKouchak, A., Chiang, F., Huning, L.S., Love, C.A., Mallakpour, I., Mazdiyasni, O., Moftakhari, H., Papalexiou, S.M., Ragno, E. and Sadegh, M., 2020. Climate extremes and compound hazards in a warming world. *Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences*, 48: 519-548.

- More frequent cross-system contiguous drought episodes
- Extreme droughts occurred in 2018 and 2022.

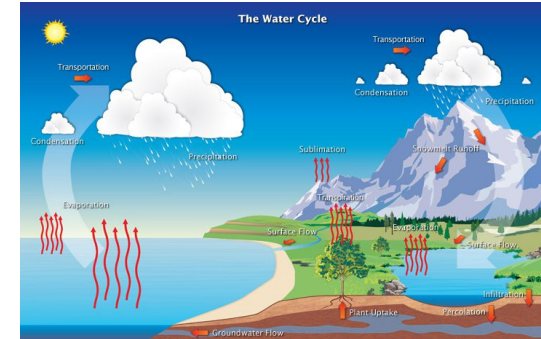
Cascading drought episode behind the 2022 Po River drought:



Motivation

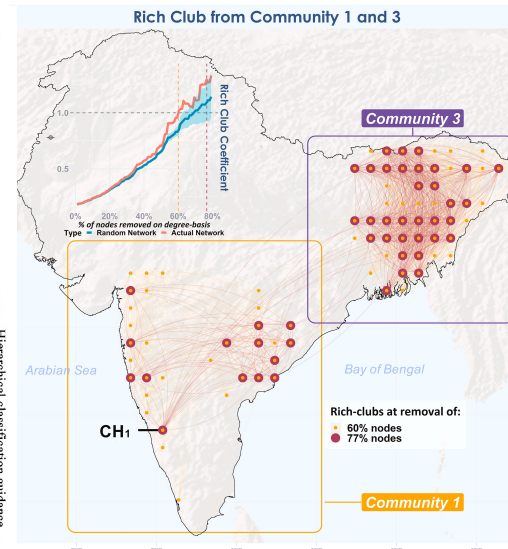
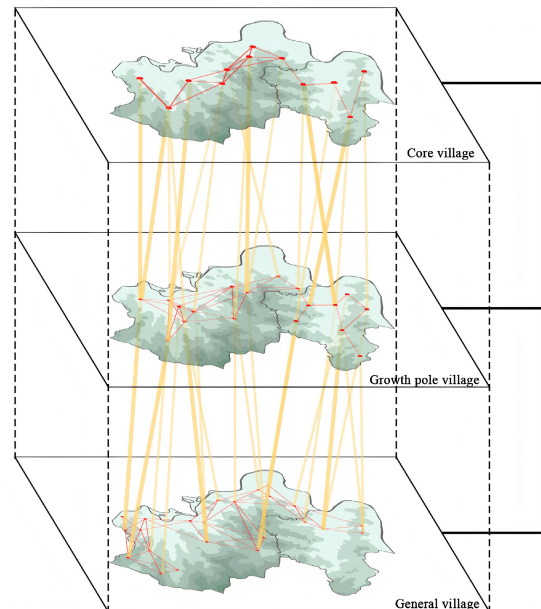
Challenge

- Long-ranged cross-spatiotemporal scales interaction
- Nonlinear interactions
- Feedback loops



Methodology- Hierarchical complex network

- Drought pixel-based interaction
- Holistic emergent pattern: spatial connectivity (e.g., drought hub)



(Muthuvel, Dineshkumar, 2024)

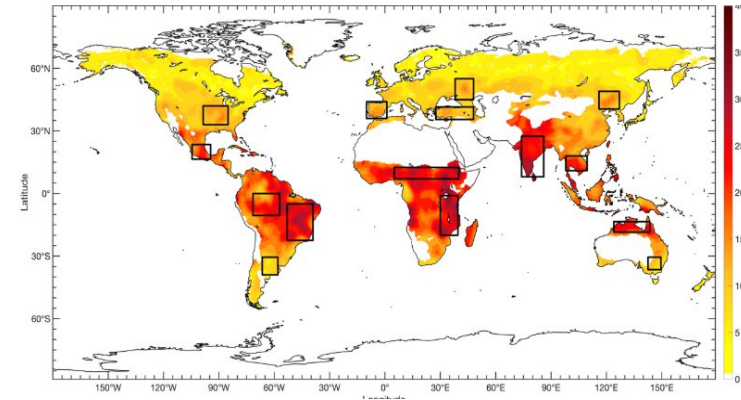
Limitations

- High dimensionality causes the difficulty in detecting long-term interaction.
- Cross-temporal interaction
- Detection the extreme events

Motivation & Objective

The impact climate change on droughts

- **Droughts features**
- **Drought type:** Flash droughts / Megadroughts
- **Drought evolution regimes:** e.g., Shift in water-limited or energy-limited regimes



Yuan, X., Wang, Y., Ji, P., Wu, P., Sheffield, J., and Otkin, J. A.: global transition to flash droughts under climate change, *Science*, 380, 187–191, <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abn6301>, 2023.

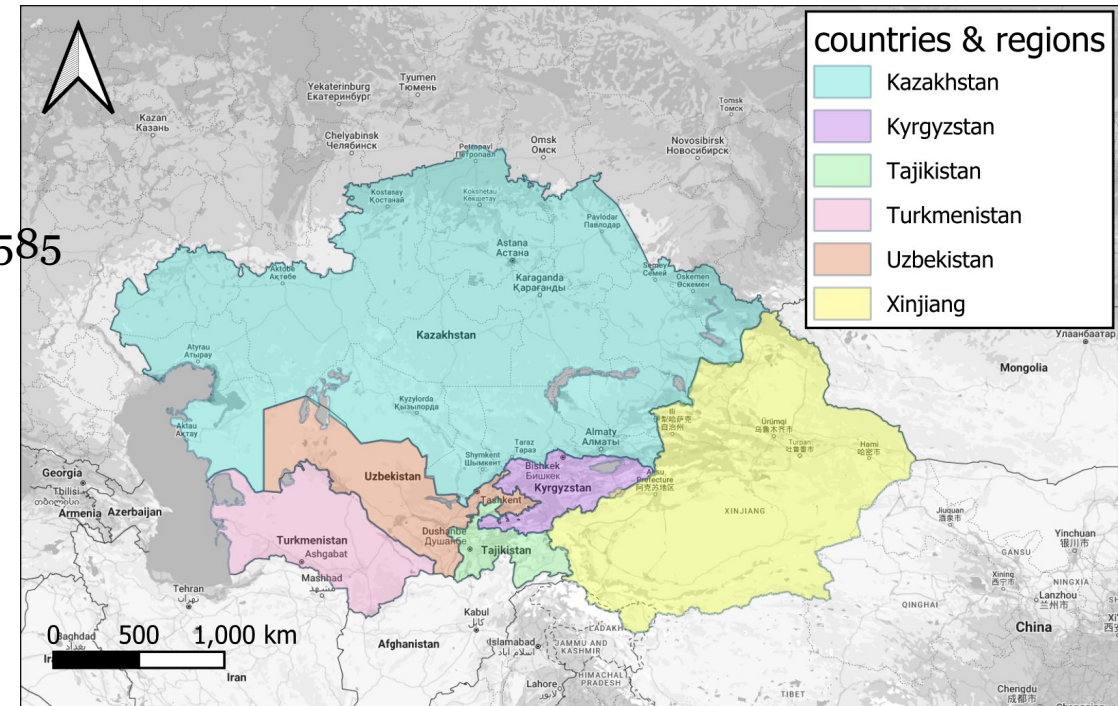
Can global warming accelerate the cascading interaction in cross-system drought evolution? (between precipitation and runoff drought events)

- p Novel Self-Evolutionary Complex Network Approach
- p Dynamic cross-spatiotemporal scale interaction

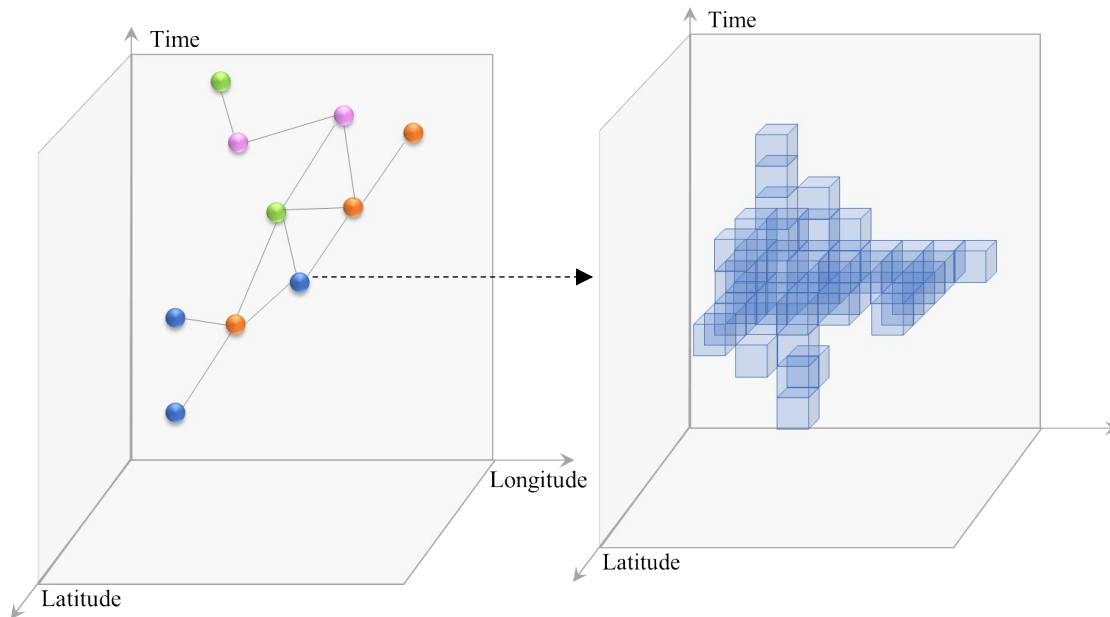
Datasets

ISIMIP3b

- **GCM:** GFDL-ESM4---- Precipitation (PCP)
- **HM:** WaterGAP2-2e--- Total runoff (Runoff)
- **Study period :** 1980 – 2100--- SSPs 126, 370, and 585
 - ✓ Historical: 1985-2015
 - ✓ Near Future: 2015-2045
 - ✓ Far Future: 2065-2095
- **Study area:** Central Asia

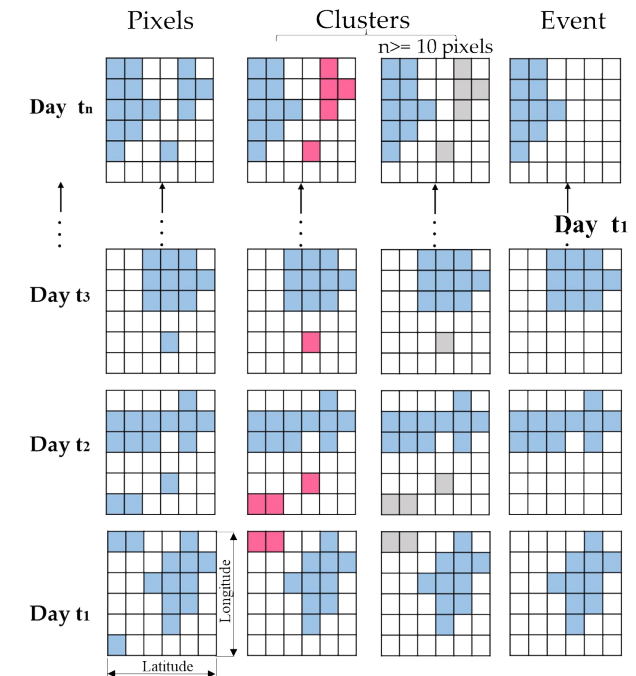


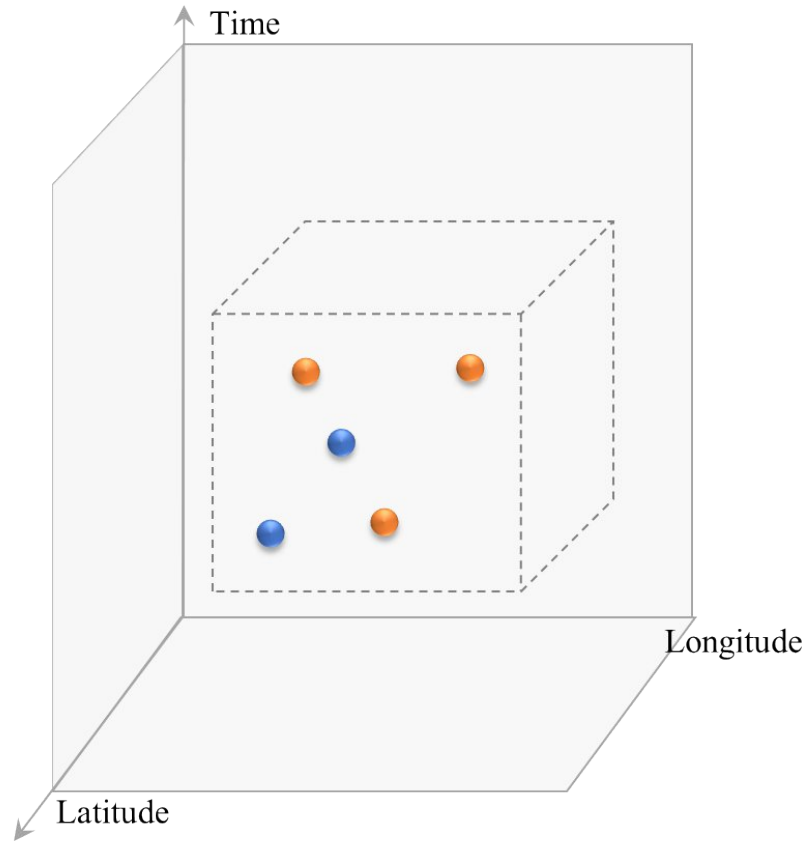
Novel Self-Evolutionary Complex Network



1. Nodes- 3D drought events

- a) Drought pixels: SPI, SRI
- b) Drought cluster
- c) Drought events

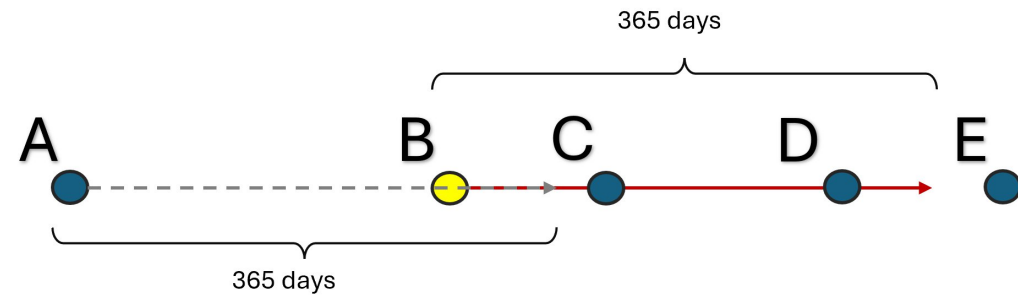




2. Linkage-- Boundary

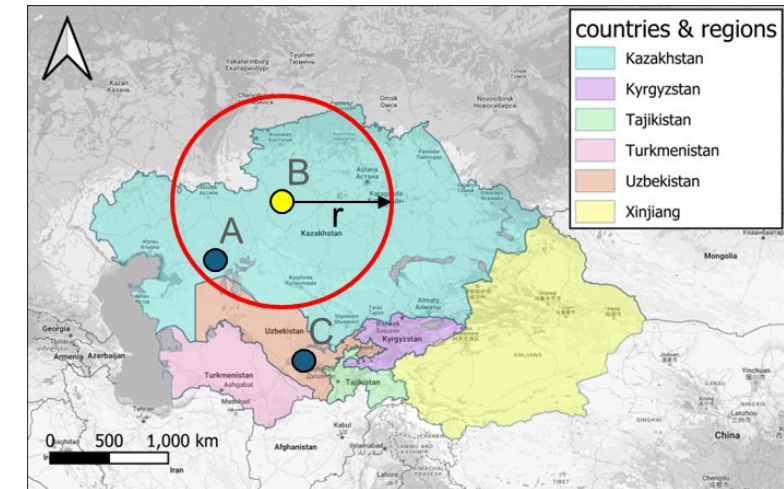
a) Temporal Boundary:

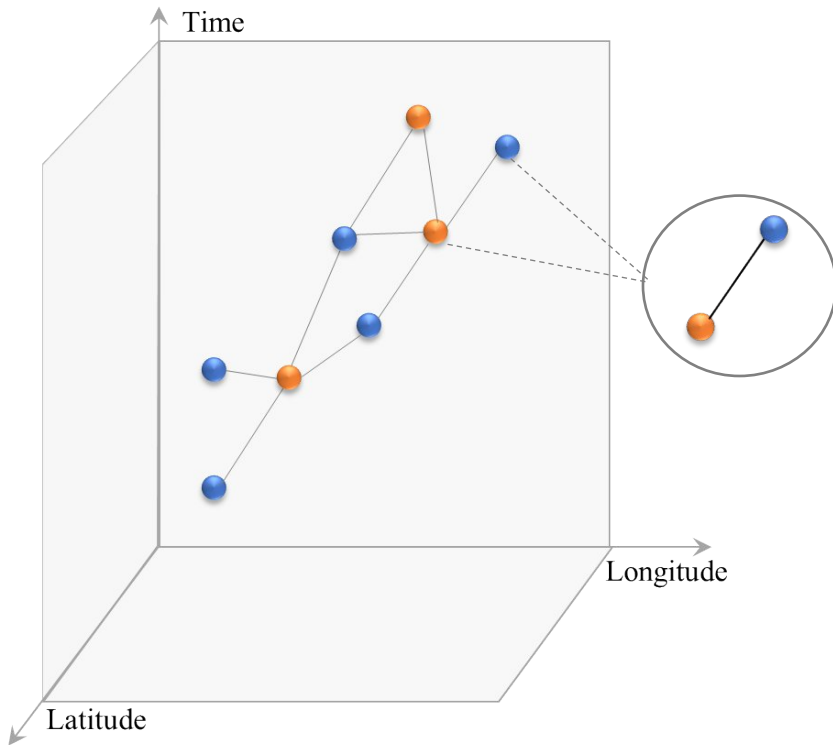
- Up to 12 months between Precipitation and Runoff Drought



b) Spatial Boundary:

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{0.2 * Total_Area}{\pi}}$$





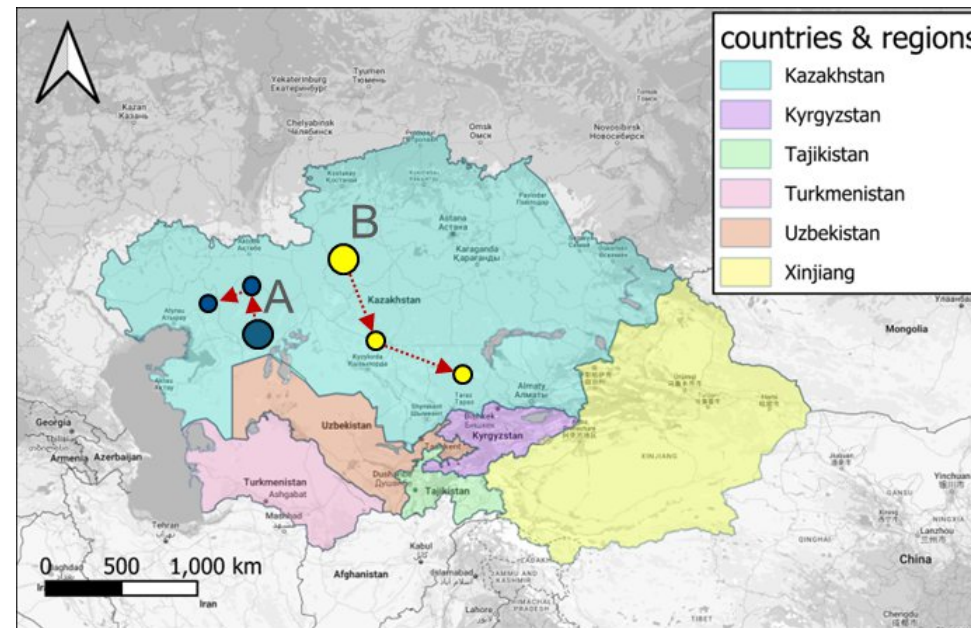
2. Linkage- spatiotemporal progression similarity

Criterion 1:

Difference in movement direction:

$$\Delta Direction_{Start-Max} \leq \pm 45^\circ$$

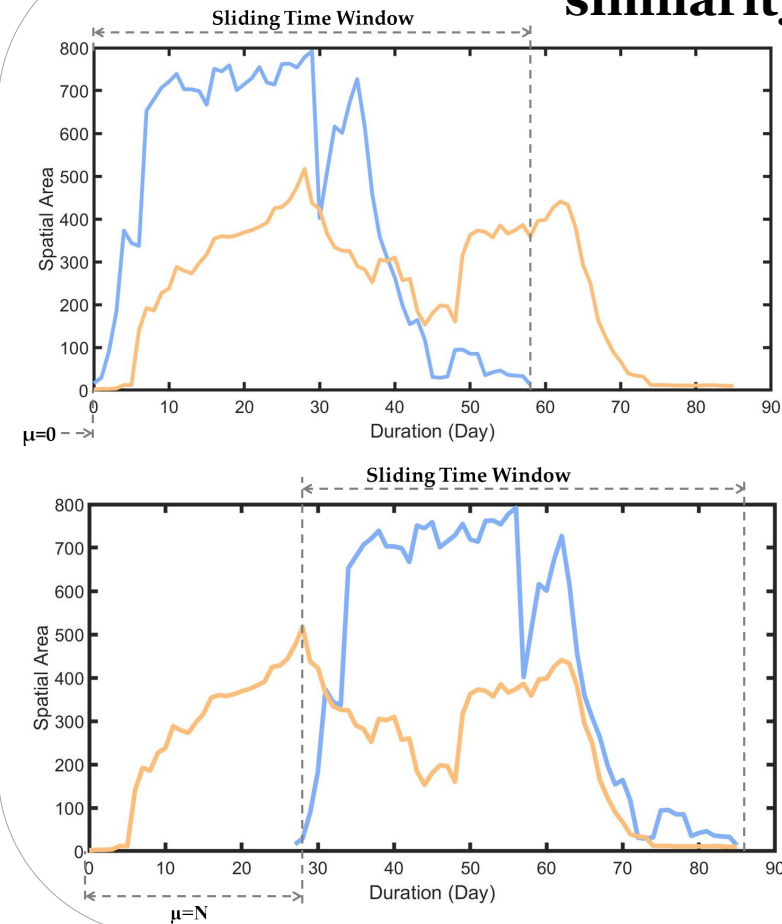
$$\Delta Direction_{Max-End} \leq \pm 45^\circ$$



2. Linkage- spatiotemporal progression similarity

Criterion 2: Area correlation

- The daily area variation
 - Detrended cross-correlation method (DCCA)
 - Detrended fluctuation analysis (DFA)
-
- The time delay is calculated by the **actual time lag where the correlation measured by DCCA exceeds 0.5** between PCP droughts and the corresponding runoff drought events.



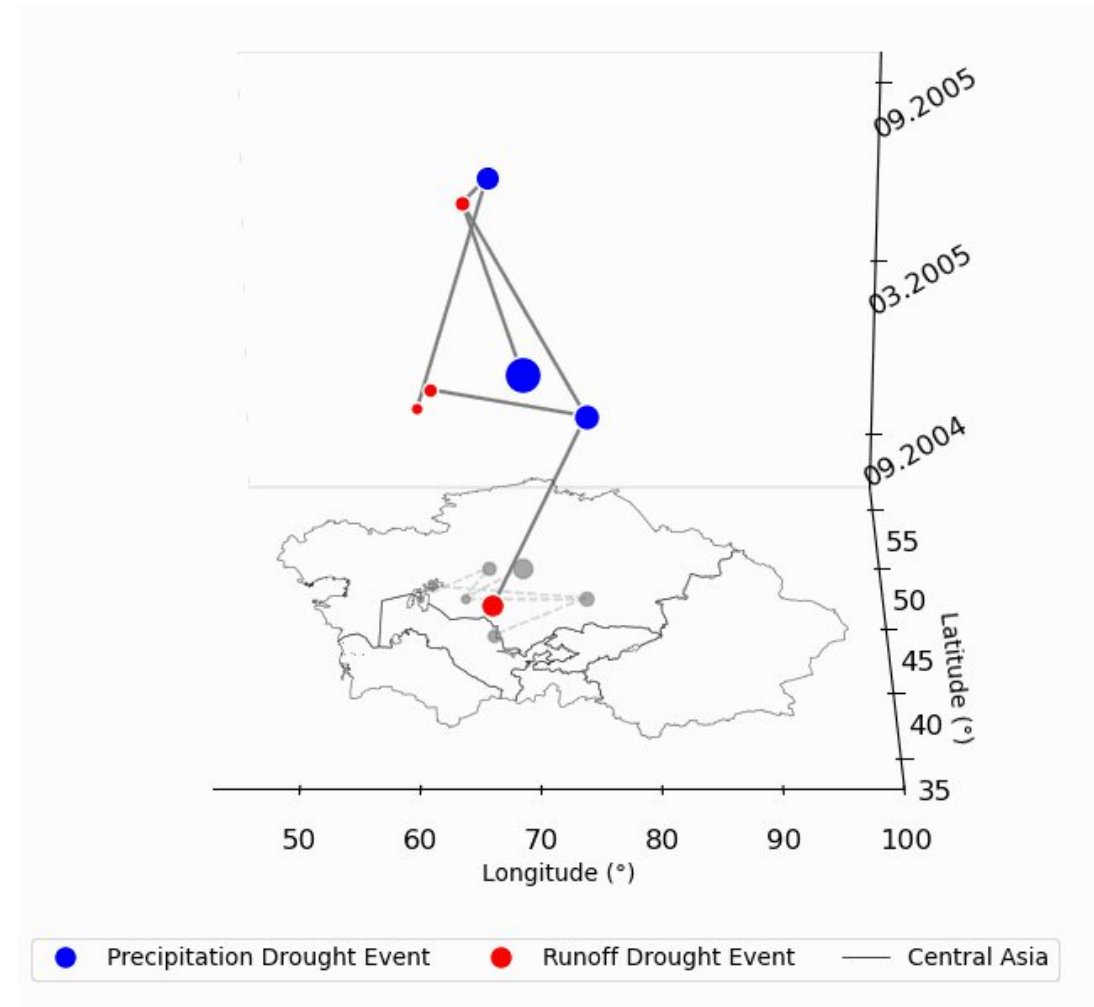
1. Nodes-3D drought events

- a) Drought pixels: *SPI, SRI*
- b) Drought cluster
- c) Drought events

2. Linkage

- a) Temporal Boundary:
- b) Spatial boundary:
- c) Propagation direction:
- d) Area correlation:

3. Network Construction

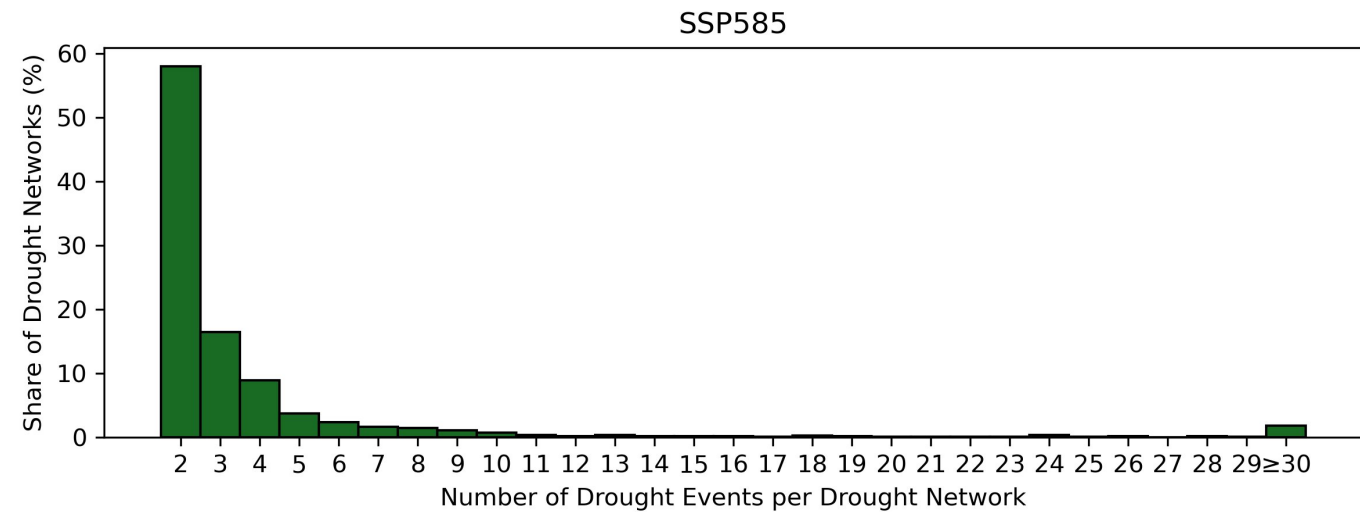
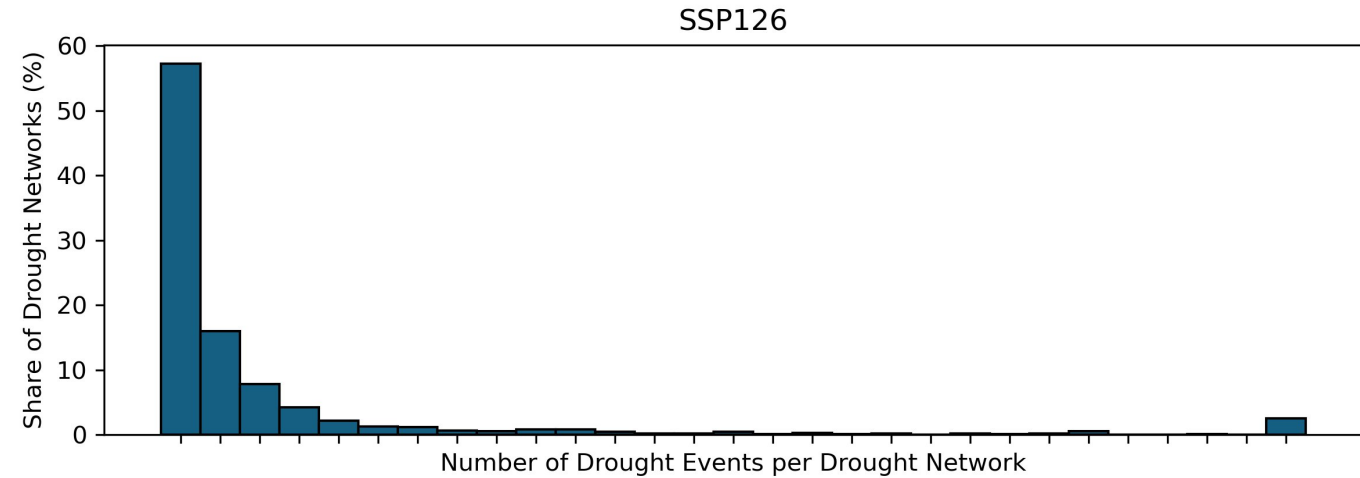
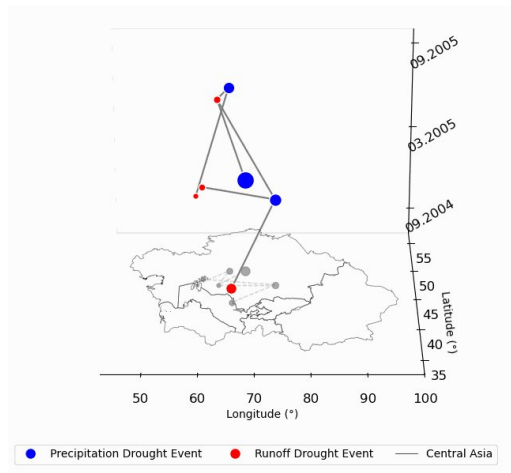


Preliminary result

- Number of cross-system drought Continuum:

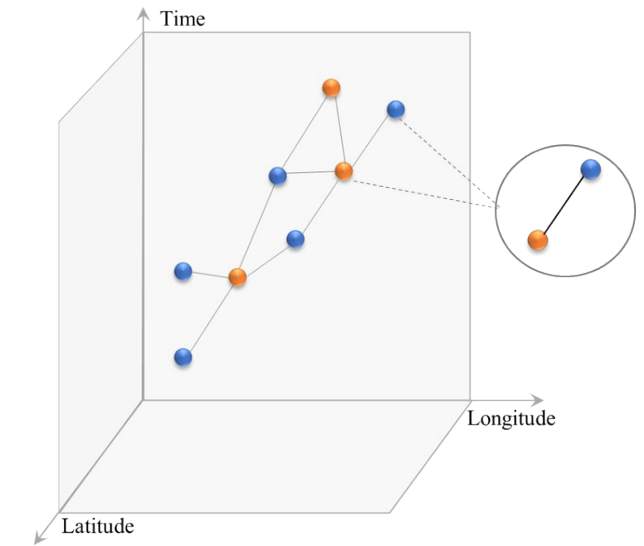
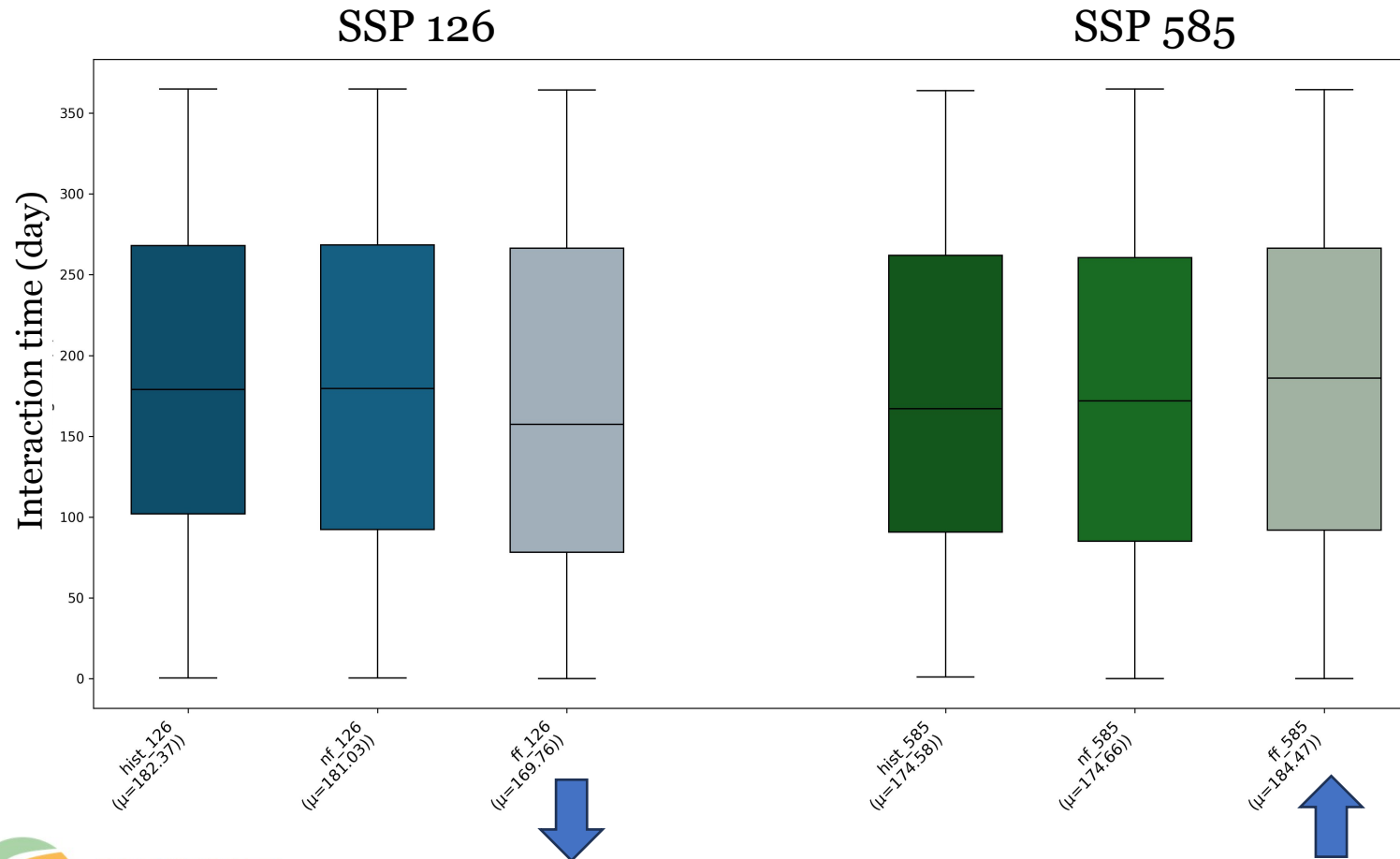
SSP126: 953

SSP 585: 971



Preliminary result

- Interaction time in the cascading drought continuums



Historical: 1985-2015

Near Future: 2015-2045

Far Future: 2065-2095

- p Novel Self-Evolutionary Complex Network Approach
 - Long-range cross-spatiotemporal interactions
 - Dimension reduction

- p Drought Continuum:
 - More drought continuums in SSP585 compared to the SSP126.
 - SSP126: **Acceleration of cascading interactions reflected by the shorter interaction time**
 - SSP585: **Deceleration of cascading interactions**

Plan at the next stage:

- Cross-multiple sectors
- Further quantification of dynamic cross-spatiotemporal scale interaction

Thanks for your attention !