

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL TO**  
**“CAUSAL MODELLING OF HEAVY-TAILED VARIABLES AND**  
**CONFOUNDERS WITH APPLICATION TO RIVER FLOW”**

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## **S.1 Variables with Comparable Tails**

### **S.1.1 Non-Parametric Causal Tail Coefficient Estimator**

Figure S.1 shows the sample distributions of the non-parametric estimators  $\hat{\Gamma}_{1,2}$  and  $\hat{\Gamma}_{2,1}$  for all four causal structures, for the  $t_4$ , Pareto(1, 2) and LogN(0, 1) noise distributions, respectively. The true coefficient values  $\Gamma_{1,2}$  and  $\Gamma_{2,1}$  are obtained using (2). Figure S.2 shows the sample distribution of the coefficient difference estimator  $\hat{\Delta}_{1,2} := \hat{\Gamma}_{1,2} - \hat{\Gamma}_{2,1}$  for the  $t_4$  noise distribution.

### **S.1.2 LGPD Causal Tail Coefficient with Post-Fit and Constrained Fit Corrections**

Figure S.3 shows the sample distribution of  $\hat{\Gamma}_{1,2|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  and  $\hat{\Gamma}_{2,1|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  with the constrained fit, for a comparable confounder tail. Figure S.4 shows the sample distribution of  $\hat{\Gamma}_{1,2|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  and  $\hat{\Gamma}_{2,1|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  with post-fit correction for all four causal configurations, for the  $t_4$ , Pareto(1, 2) and LogN(0, 1) noise distributions.

## **S.2 Application Results for Competitors**

Table S.1 shows the causal coefficients between the discharge station pairs estimated using ICA-LiNGAM, with and without considering the average catchment precipitation variable.

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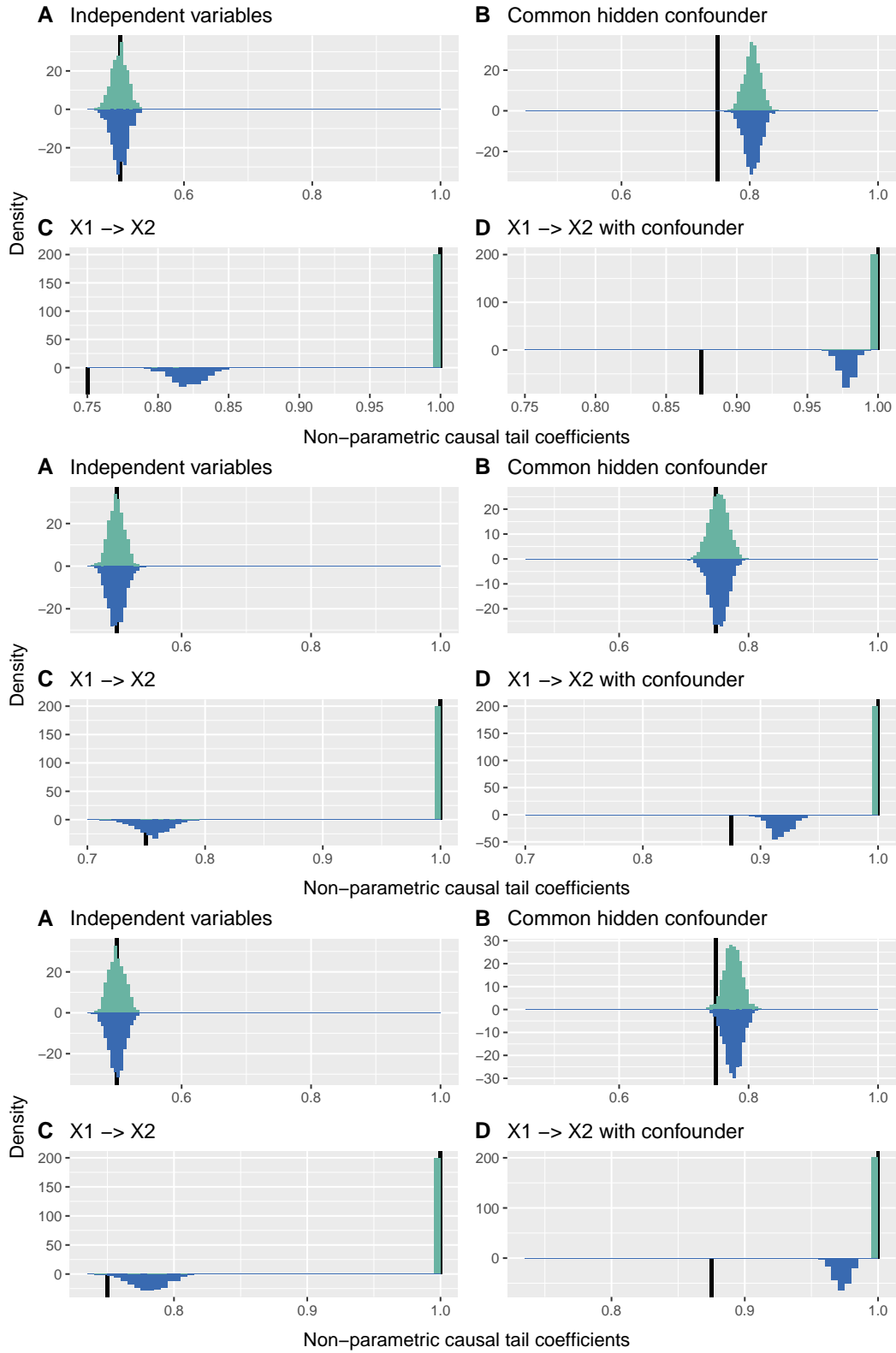


Figure S.1: Histograms of  $\hat{\Gamma}_{1,2}$  (turquoise) and  $\hat{\Gamma}_{2,1}$  (blue) for  $t_4$  (top four panels),  $\text{Pareto}(1, 2)$  (middle four panels) and  $\text{LogN}(0, 1)$  (bottom four panels) distributed noise variables, for the four causal configurations. Half-lines (black) indicate  $\Gamma_{1,2}$  and  $\Gamma_{2,1}$ .

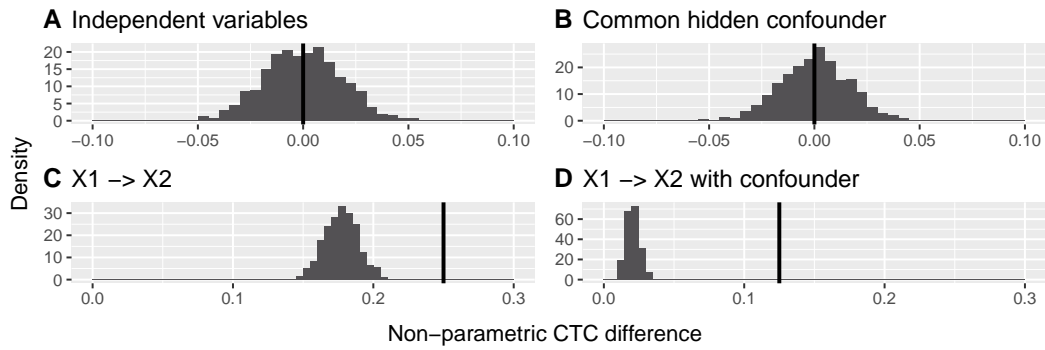


Figure S.2: Histogram of  $\hat{\Delta}_{1,2}$  for  $t_4$  distributed noise variables, for the four causal configurations. Lines indicate  $\Delta_{1,2} = \Gamma_{1,2} - \Gamma_{2,1}$ .

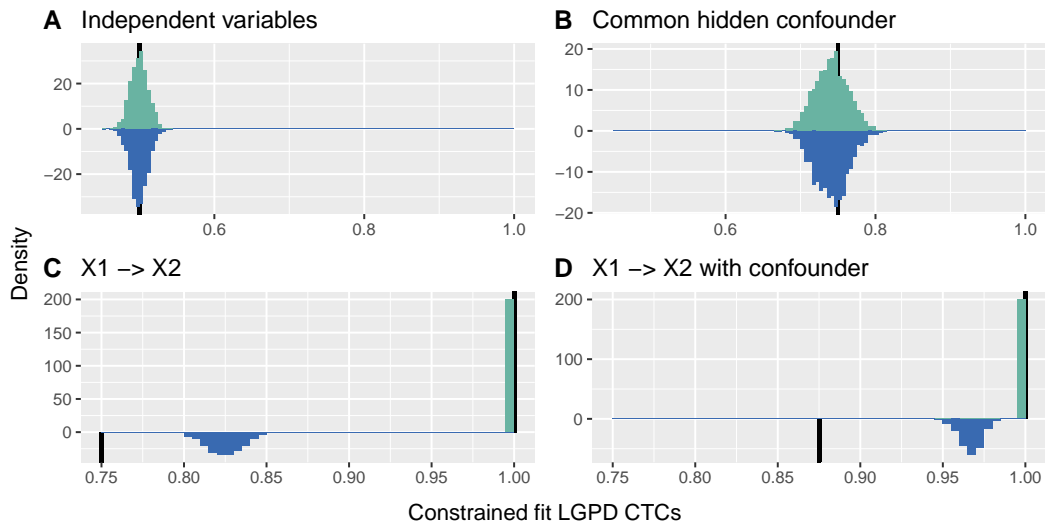


Figure S.3: Histograms of  $\hat{\Gamma}_{1,2|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  (turquoise) and  $\hat{\Gamma}_{2,1|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  (blue) with constrained fit for  $t_4$  distributed noise variables, for the four causal configurations. Half-lines (black) indicate  $\Gamma_{1,2}$  and  $\Gamma_{2,1}$ .

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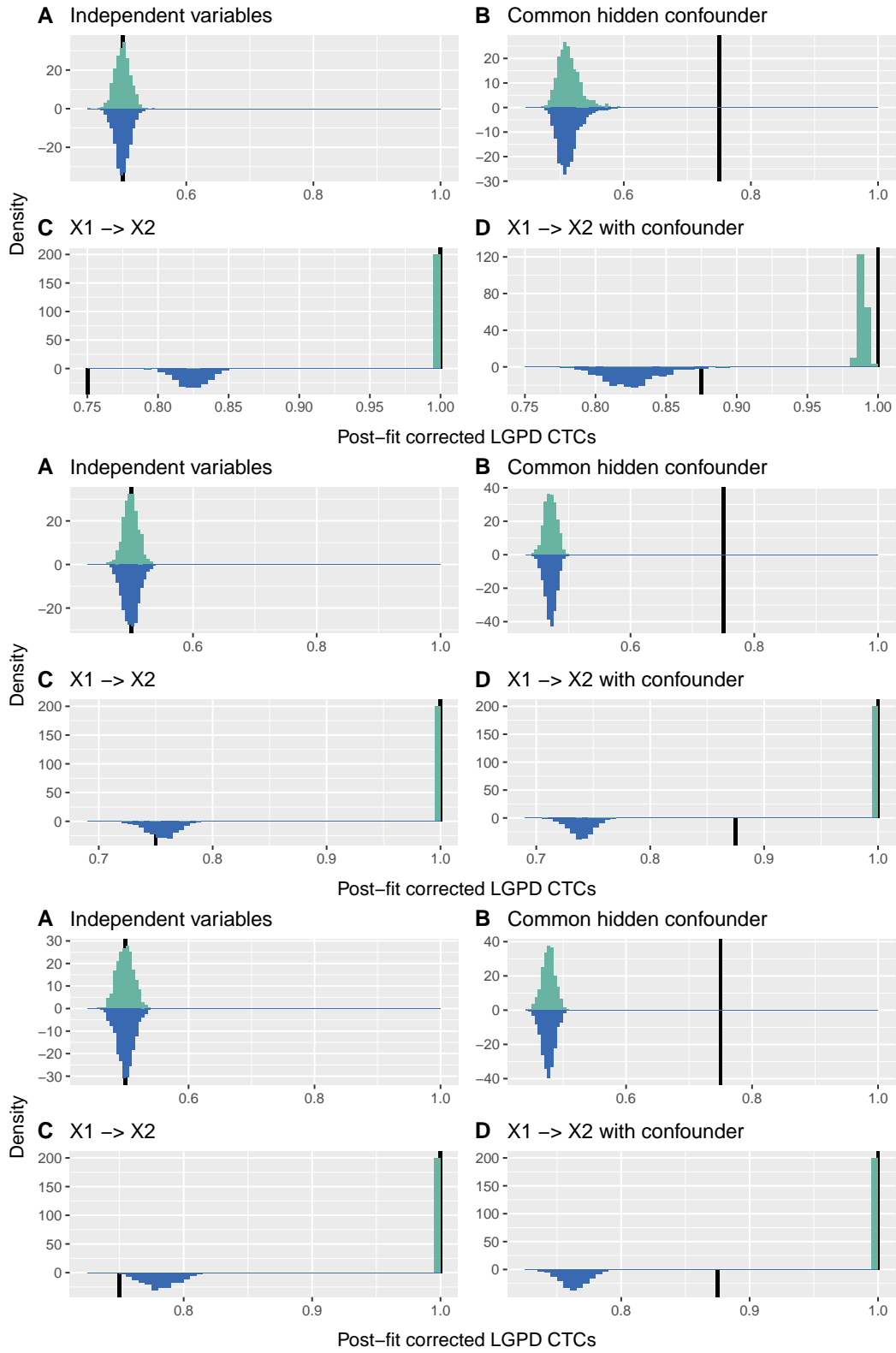


Figure S.4: Histograms of  $\hat{\Gamma}_{1,2|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  (turquoise) and  $\hat{\Gamma}_{2,1|H}^{\text{GPD}}$  (blue) with post-fit correction for  $t_4$  (top four panels), Pareto(1, 2) (middle four panels) and LogN(0, 1) (bottom four panels) distributed noise variables, for the four causal configurations. Half-lines (black) indicate  $\Gamma_{1,2}$  and  $\Gamma_{2,1}$ .

Table S.1: Linear causal coefficients for the discharge station pairs estimated with the ICA-LiNGAM algorithm using either the station pair only (LiNGAM, two variables) or the station pair and precipitation (LiNGAM- $H$ , three variables). Non-null values indicate significant causal effects. The arrows indicate the estimated direct causal directions between the stations.

Stations	Pair type	LiNGAM	LiNGAM- $H$
43-62	causal	1.92 $\rightarrow$	2.02 $\rightarrow$
42-63	causal	2.08 $\rightarrow$	2.21 $\rightarrow$
36-63	causal	3.29 $\rightarrow$	3.61 $\rightarrow$
24-61	causal	2.96 $\rightarrow$	3.03 $\rightarrow$
44-61	causal	2.66 $\rightarrow$	2.83 $\rightarrow$
22-38	causal	2.35 $\rightarrow$	2.35 $\rightarrow$
22-35	causal	2.55 $\rightarrow$	2.55 $\rightarrow$
30-45	non-caus.	0.84 $\rightarrow$	0.87 $\rightarrow$
36-39	non-caus.	0.66 $\leftarrow$	0.66 $\leftarrow$
42-34	non-caus.	1.39 $\leftarrow$	1.29 $\leftarrow$
42-34*	non-caus.	1.39 $\leftarrow$	1.39 $\leftarrow$
32-33	non-caus.	0.59 $\rightarrow$	0.54 $\rightarrow$
62-63	non-caus.	1.02 $\rightarrow$	1.05 $\rightarrow$
57-60	non-caus.	0.68 $\rightarrow$	0.67 $\rightarrow$
13-14	non-caus.	0.50 $\leftarrow$	1.10 $\rightarrow$
17-22	non-caus.	1.80 $\rightarrow$	1.69 $\rightarrow$
12-21	non-caus.	1.04 $\rightarrow$	1.08 $\rightarrow$
26-28	non-caus.	0.75 $\leftarrow$	0.72 $\leftarrow$
27-31	non-caus.	0.54 $\rightarrow$	0.66 $\rightarrow$
23-39	non-caus.	0.25 $\rightarrow$	0.18 $\rightarrow$
23-35	non-caus.	0.42 $\rightarrow$	0.36 $\rightarrow$