



Balancing security, resilience, and sustainability of urban water supply services from local to global scales

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Motivation

- Cities are
 - home to the majority of the global population
 - the largest consumers of natural resources
 - the largest producers of CO₂ emissions and environmental pollution
 - drivers of socioeconomic innovation
 - faced with the impacts of climate change and other global change impacts
- Achieving global sustainability goals therefore requires governance strategies that provide urban livelihoods in a locally and globally sustainable way

Governance of urban water supply systems (UWSS) in three dimensions

1. **Security: Provision of water supply services to all citizens**

→ *state of the system (present condition)*

2. **Resilience: Response to and recovery from shocks**

→ *short-medium term system behavior*

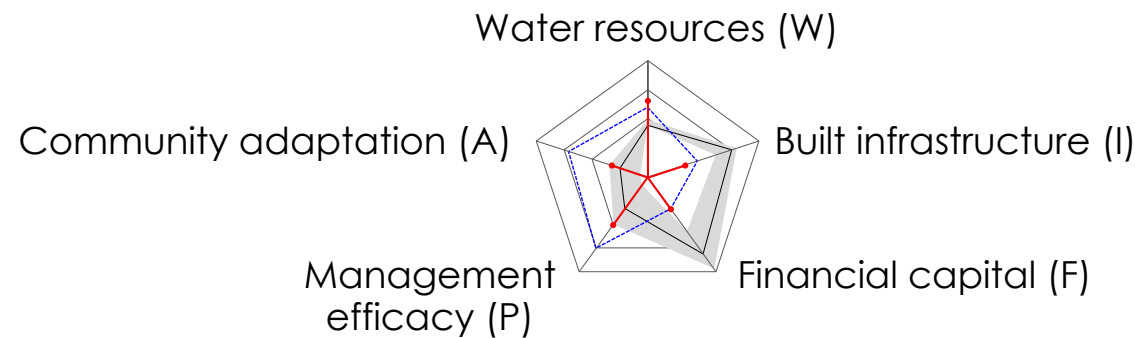
3. **Sustainability: Long-term viability of system functioning for**

economy, society, ecology → *ecosystem functioning is foundation for UWSS*

Governance of urban water supply systems (UWSS)

Security: More than water availability

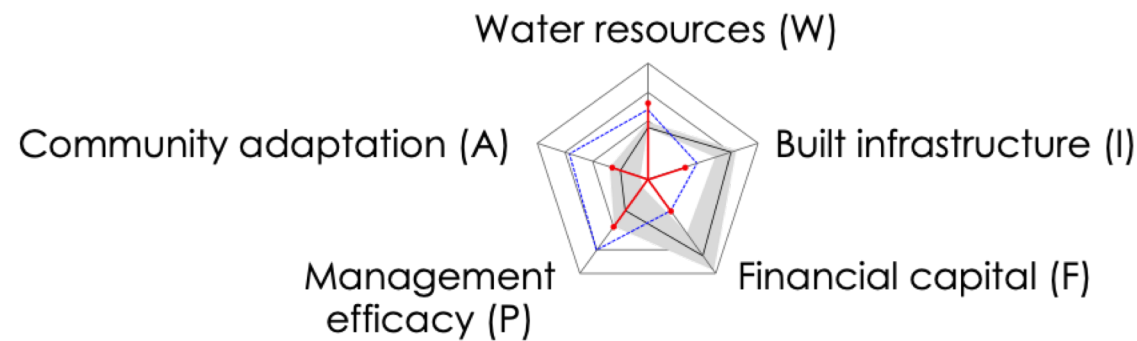
1. Security: *Provision of water supply services to all citizens*
→ **Integration of 5 capital availabilities**



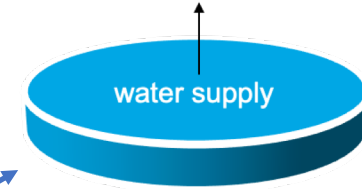
Governance of urban water supply systems (UWSS)

Security: More than water availability

1. Security: *Provision of water supply services to all citizens*
→ **Integration of 5 capital availabilities**



objective function:
performance of water supply services

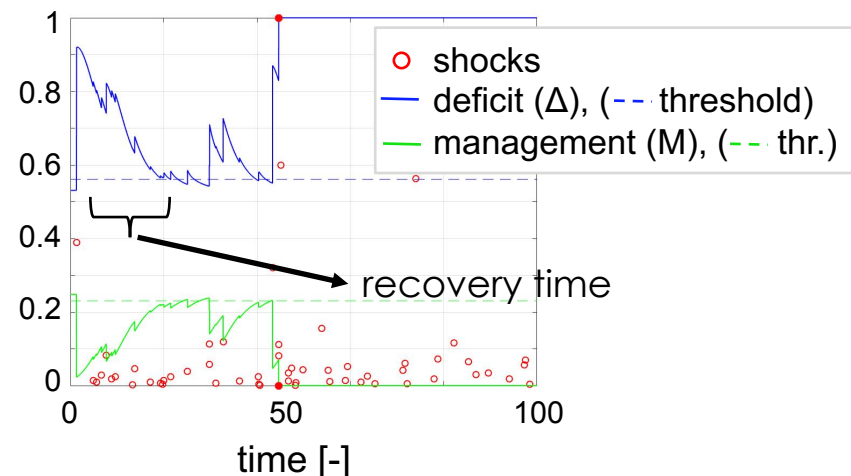
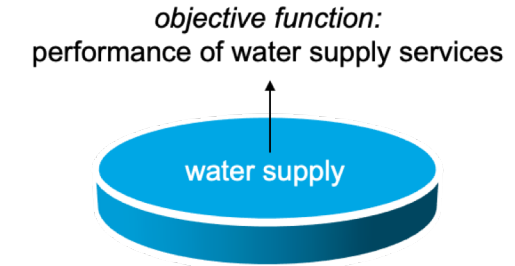


Governance of urban water supply systems (UWSS)

Resilience: Response to disturbances

1. Security: *Provision of water supply services to all citizens*
 → **Integration of 5 capital availabilities**

2. Resilience: *Response to and recovery from shocks*
 → **dynamic system behavior**

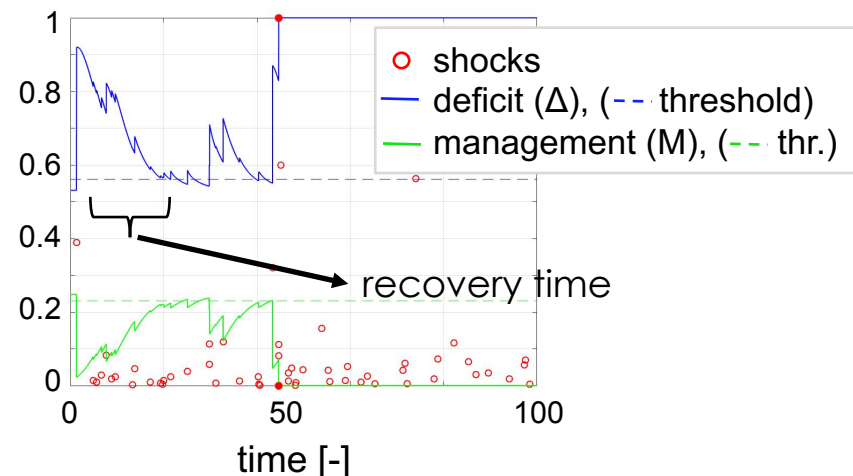


Governance of urban water supply systems (UWSS)

Resilience: Response to disturbances

1. Security: *Provision of water supply services to all citizens*
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2. Resilience: *Response to and recovery from shocks*
 → **dynamic system behavior: requires response across sectors**



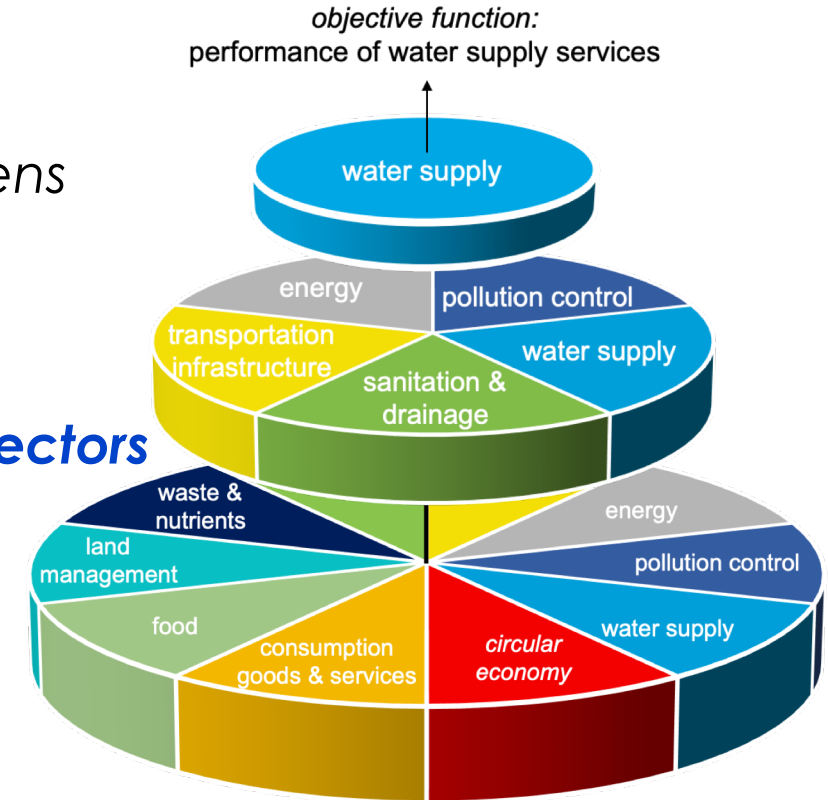
Governance of urban water supply systems (UWSS)

Sustainability: Long-term viability

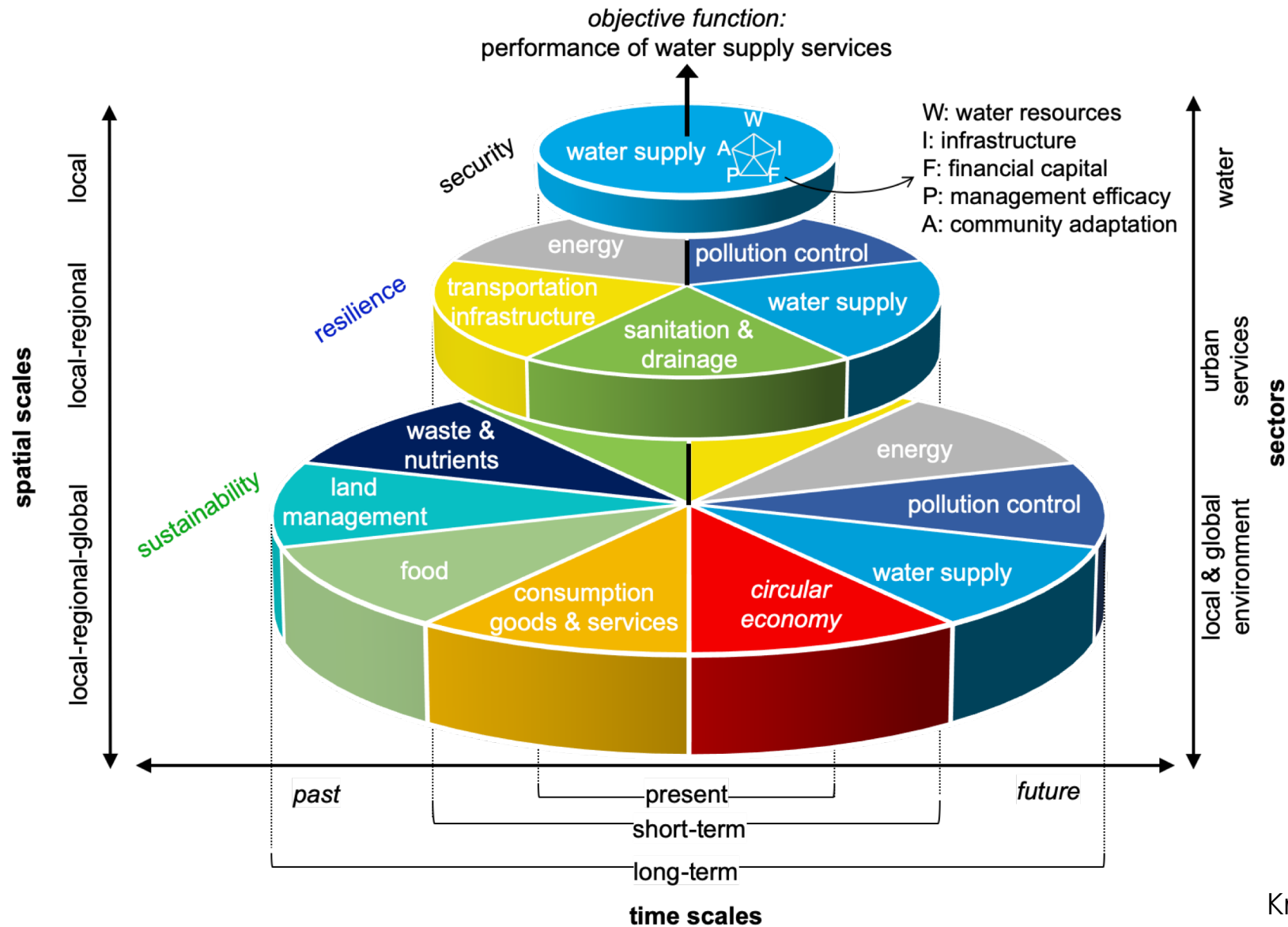
1. Security: *Provision of water supply services to all citizens*
 → **Integration of 5 capital availabilities**

2. Resilience: *Response to and recovery from shocks*
 → **dynamic system behavior: requires response across sectors**

3. Sustainability: *Long-term viability of system functioning for economy, society, ecology*
 → **integration across sectors, space, and temporal scales**

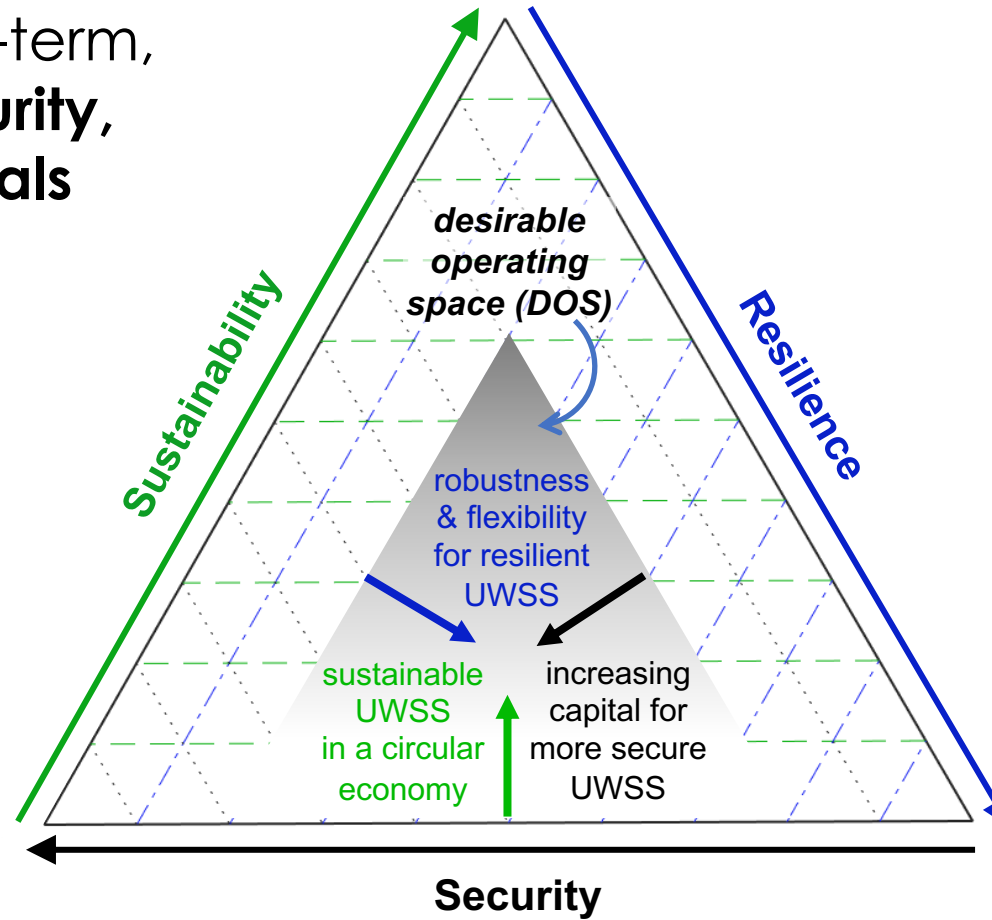


Framing security, resilience, and sustainability



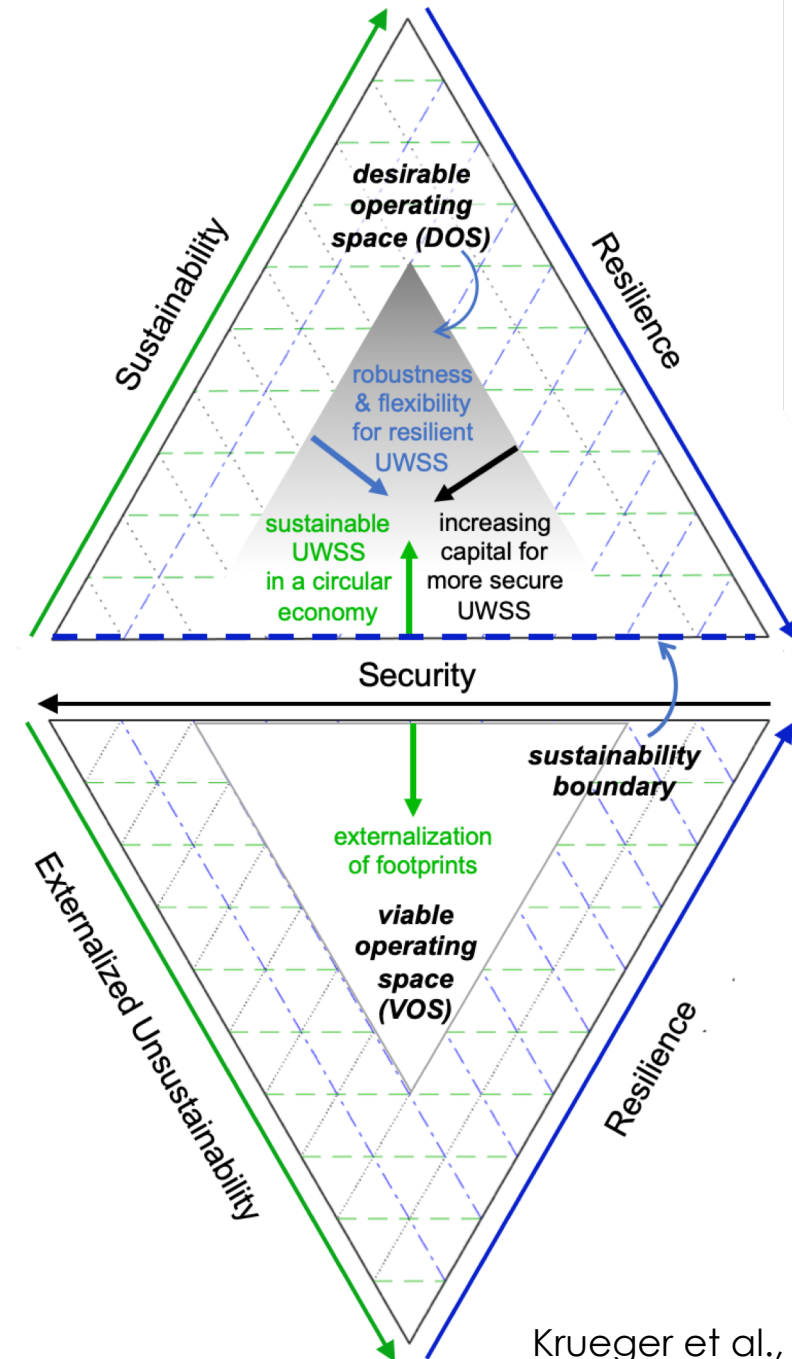
Balance

For UWSS to perform in the long-term, **governance must balance security, resilience, and sustainability goals**

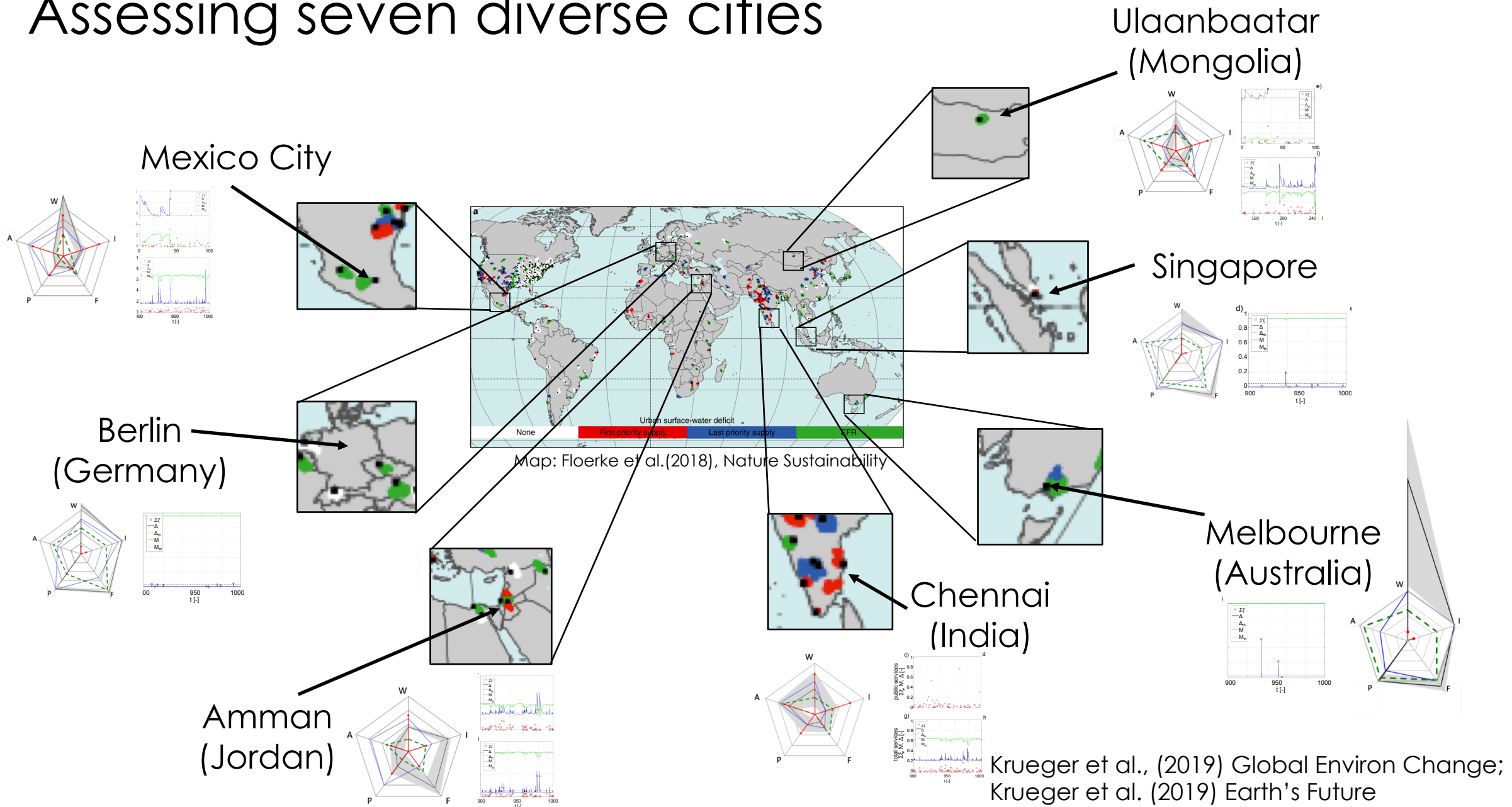


Externalization of costs

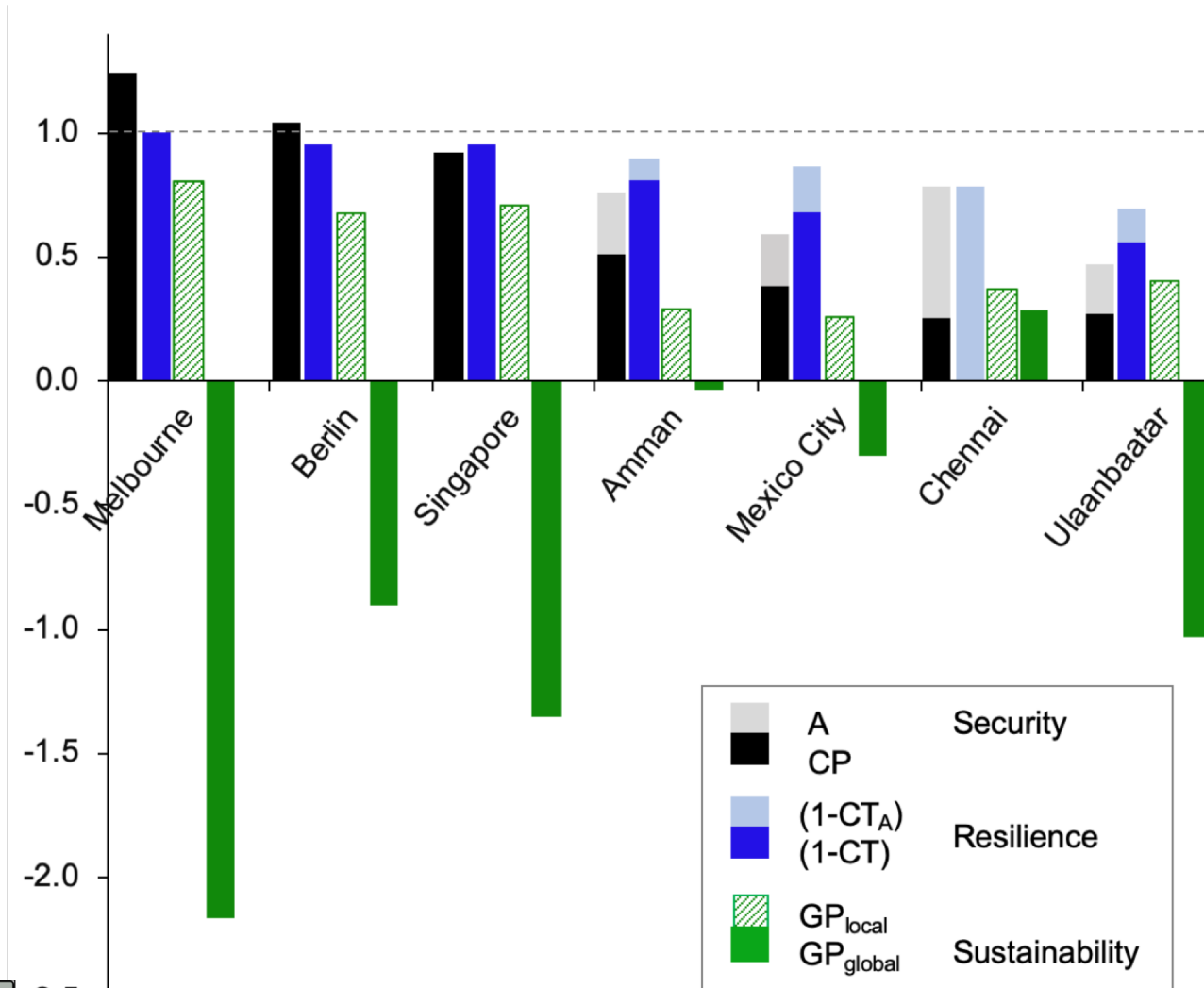
Instead, the environmental **costs of sustainable water supply are externalized**. E.g., protection of local catchment areas at the cost of overexploitation of global ecosystems, i.e., global water and ecological footprints exceed global carrying capacity (“Externalized Unusustainability”).



Assessing seven diverse cities



Aggregated results



Notes:

A = Community Adaptation

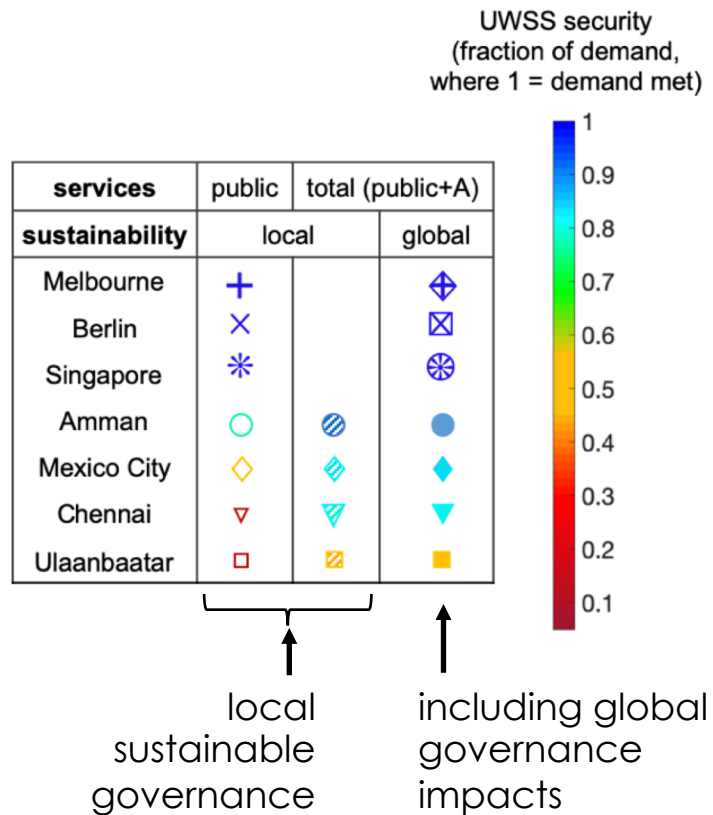
CP = Capital Availability ("Capital Portfolio"); see Krueger et al., 2019 (GEC)

CT = Mean crossing time below expected service deficit (fraction of total time).

Subscript A indicates modeled time series including community adaptation; see Krueger et al. 2019 (Earth's Future)

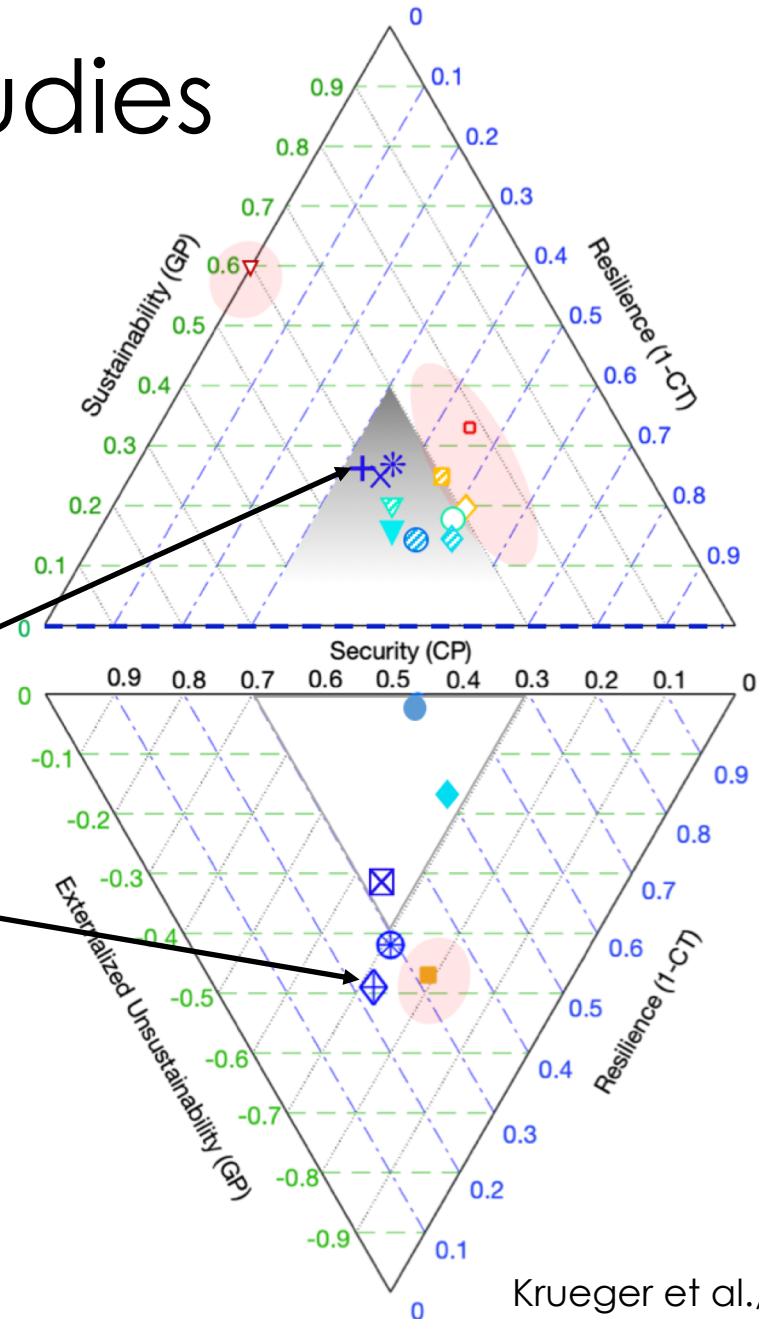
GP = Sustainable governance score ("Governance Portfolio"). Subscripts evaluate local sustainable management and global impacts

Balance for seven case studies

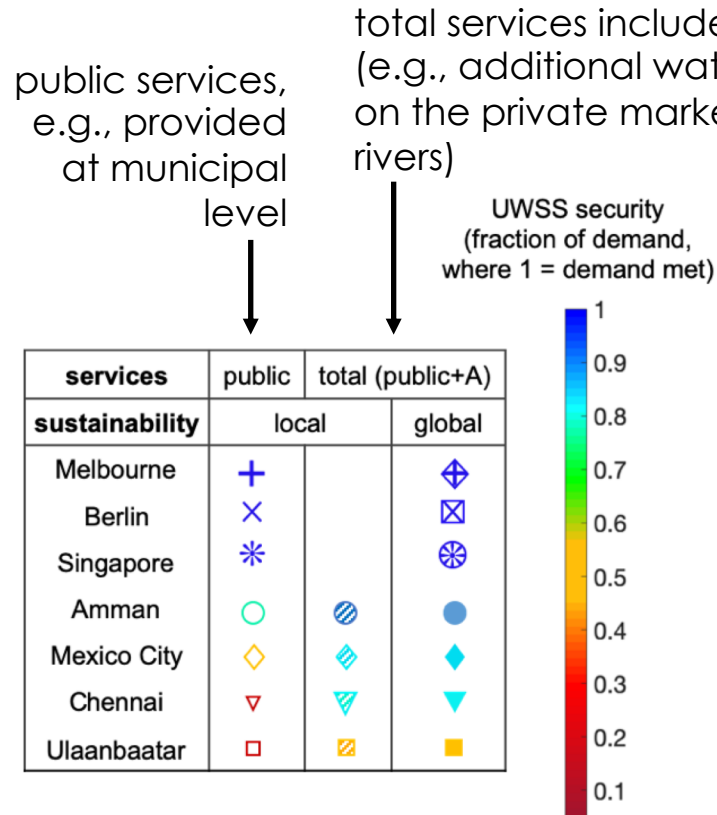


E.g., **Melbourne:**
locally balanced

large global impact =
globally highly unbalanced

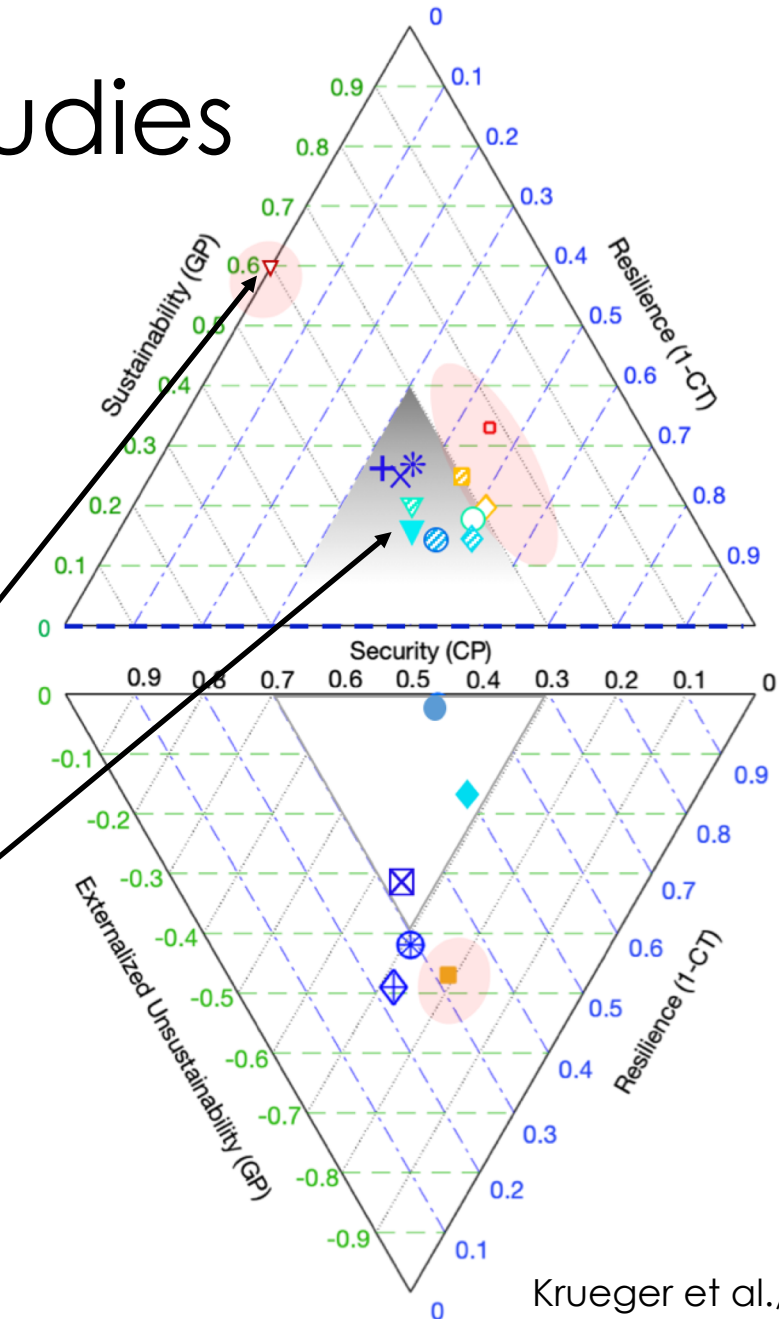


Balance for seven case studies

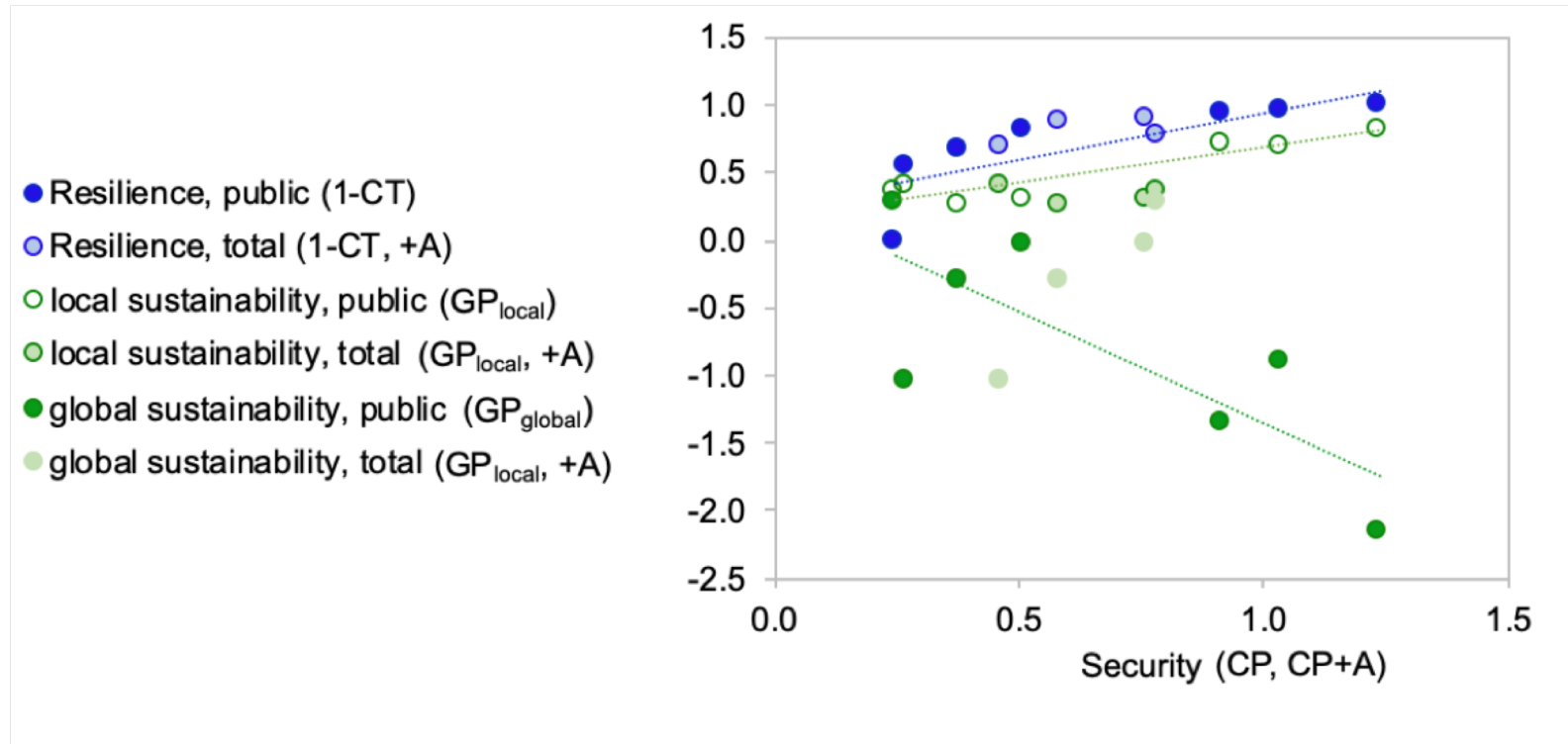


E.g., **Chennai:**
locally non-resilient (day
zero occurred twice within
two decades)

Community Adaptation (A)
has allowed system to
cope – until now

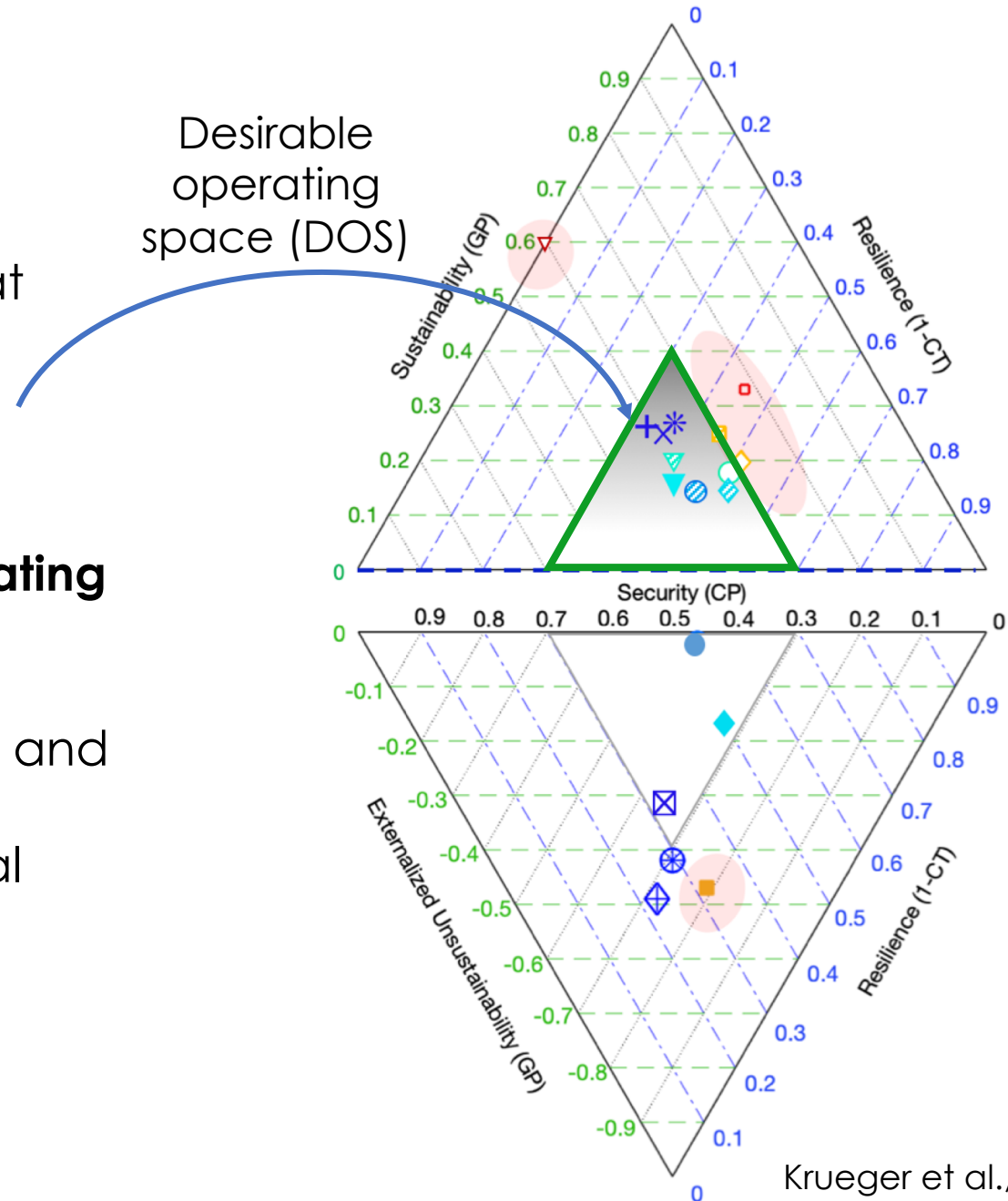


Current urban water trajectories make water-secure and resilient cities globally unsustainable



Conclusion

The well-being of citizens requires that **urban governance**, in general, and governance of urban water supply systems, specifically, **must balance between security, resilience, and sustainability within a desirable operating space (DOS)**. “Well-being” implies adequate services for all, ability to respond to and recover from shocks, and limiting impacts across space and avoiding intra- and inter-generational tradeoffs.





References:

Krueger E, Borchardt D, Jawitz JW, Rao PSC (2020): **Balancing Security, Resilience, and Sustainability of Urban Water Supply Services in a Desirable Operating Space**. *Environmental Research Letters*, 15 (3). [Online](#)

Krueger E, Jawitz JW, Borchardt D, Klammler H, Yang S, Zischg J, Rao PSC, 2019: **Resilience Dynamics of Urban Water Supply Security and Potential of Tipping Points**. *Earth's Future*, 7 (10), 1167-1191. [Online](#)

Krueger E, Borchardt D, Rao, PSC, 2019: **Quantifying Urban Water Supply Security Under Global Change**. *Global Environmental Change*, 56, 66-74. [Online](#)

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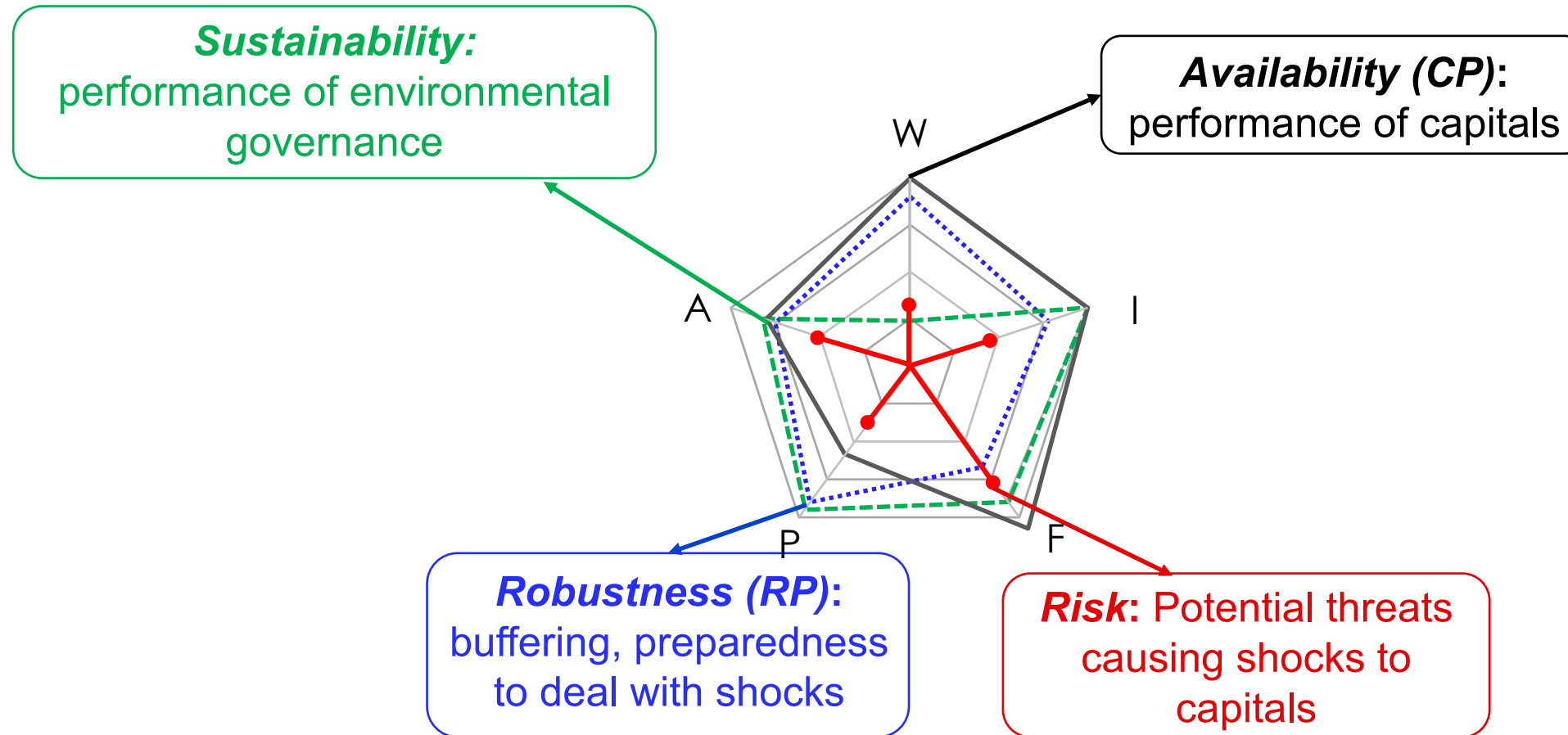
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Additional slides: Methodology

Overview: Capital Portfolio Approach (CPA)



Overview: System Dynamics of Services

Model Input

- risk (Shock) Portfolio (SP)
- Capital Availability (CP)
- - - Robustness Portfolio (RP)

Stochastic shocks (ξ):

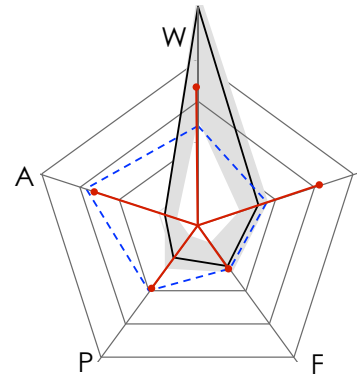
$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\xi_i - \pi_i) \delta(t - t_i) [1/T]$$

Service Deficit (Δ):

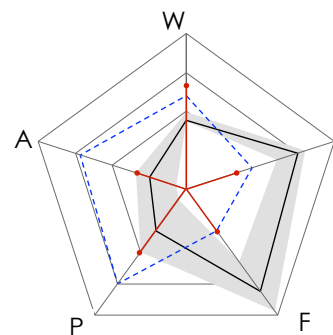
$$\frac{d\Delta}{dt} = (1 - \Delta)b - aM\Delta + \xi$$

Service management (M):

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = (1 - c_1\Delta)M(1 - M) - r \frac{M^n}{\beta^n + M^n} - c_2\xi$$

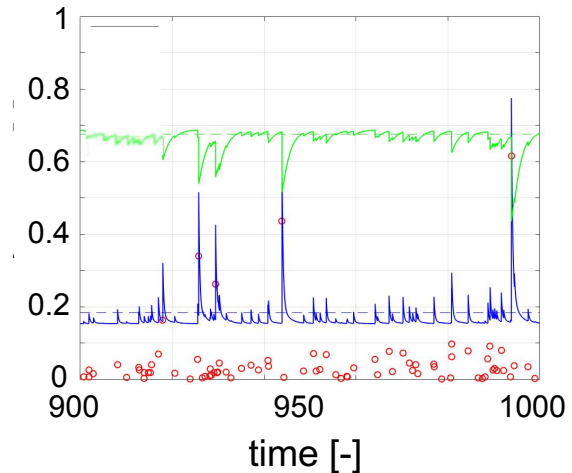
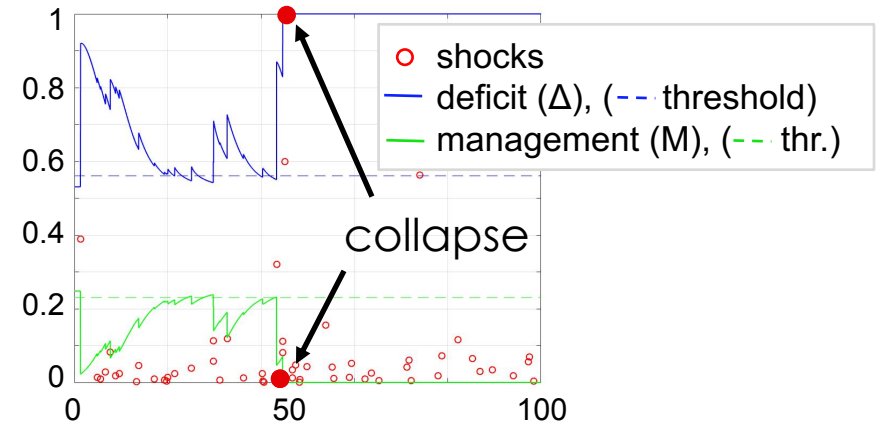


Mexico City_{public}

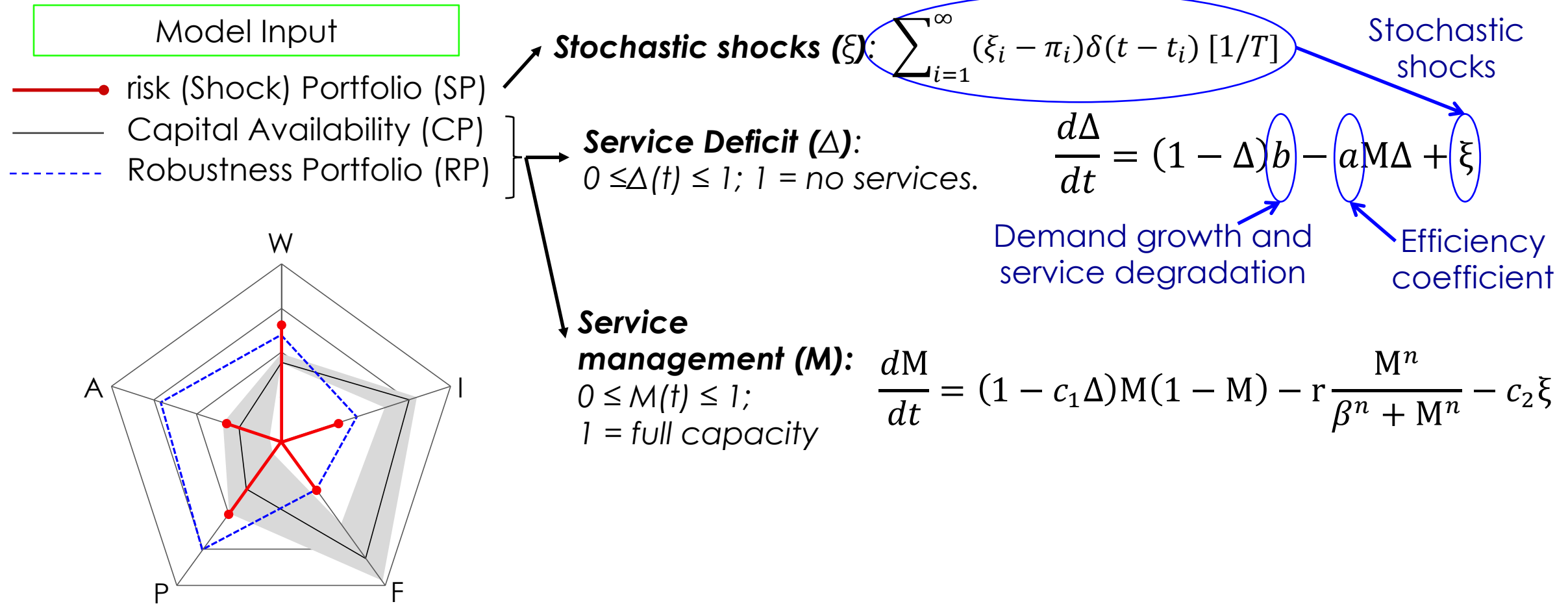


Amman_{total}

Time series



System Dynamics of Urban Water Supply Services



Krueger et al., 2019 (Earth's Future)

Model based on: Klammler et al., (2018) Env. Sys. Decis.

System Dynamics of Urban Water Supply Services

Model Input

- risk (Shock) Portfolio (SP)
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Stochastic shocks (ξ): $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\xi_i - \pi_i) \delta(t - t_i) [1/T]$

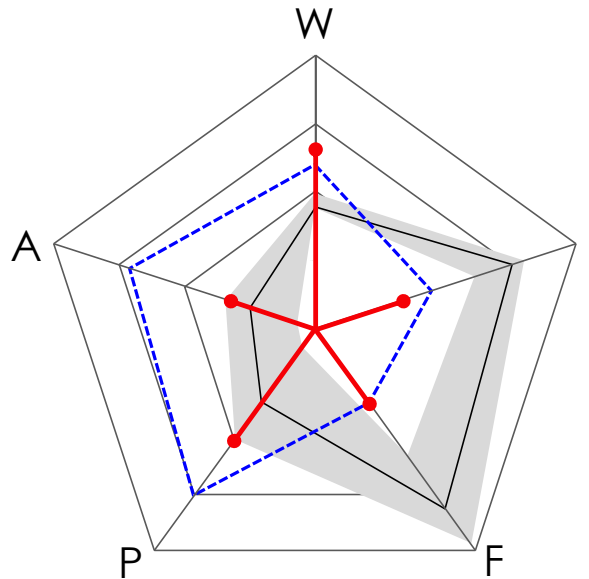
Service Deficit (Δ):
 $0 \leq \Delta(t) \leq 1$; 1 = no services.

$$\frac{d\Delta}{dt} = (1 - \Delta)b - aM\Delta + \xi$$

Service

management (M):
 $0 \leq M(t) \leq 1$;
 1 = full capacity

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = (1 - c_1\Delta)M(1 - M) - r \frac{M^n}{\beta^n + M^n} - c_2\xi$$



Limits
replenishment of M
when Δ

Max.
depletion rate

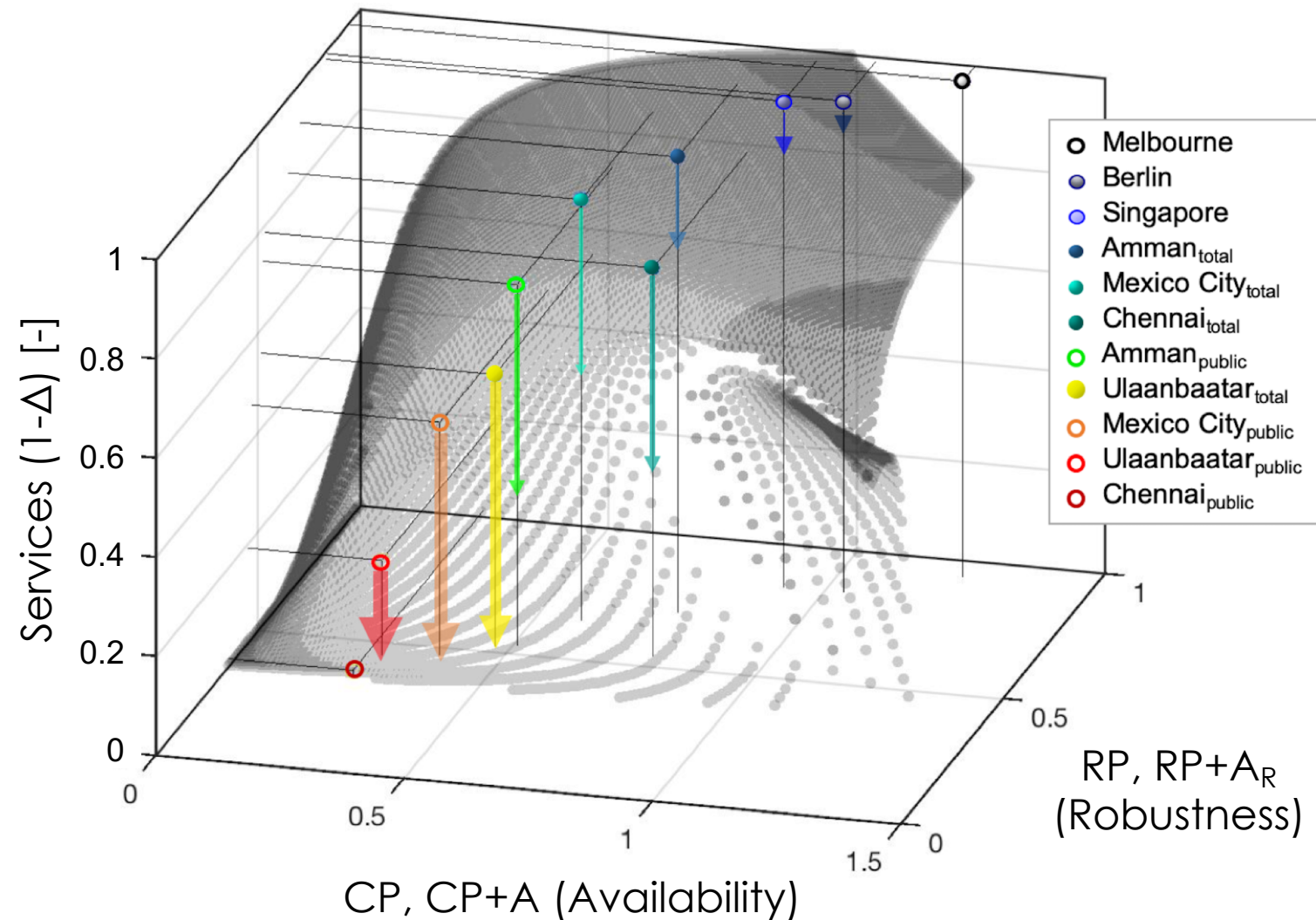
shape and scale of
degradation curve

Direct impact
of shocks on M

Krueger et al., 2019 (Earth's Future)

Model based on: Klammler et al., (2018) Env. Sys. Decis.

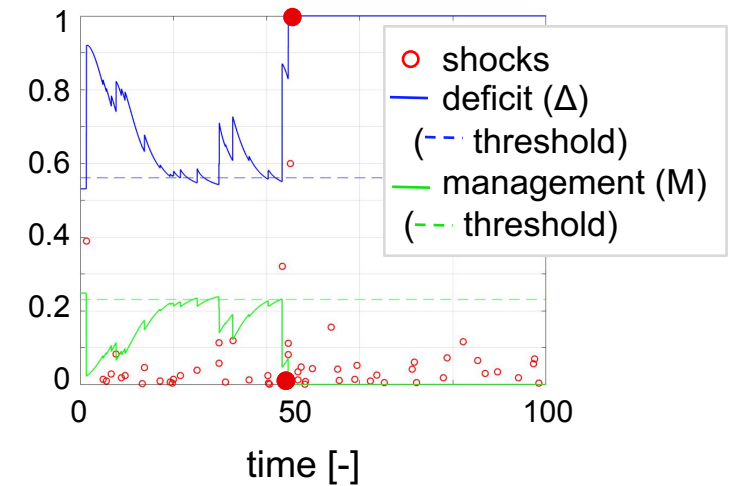
Resilience Landscape



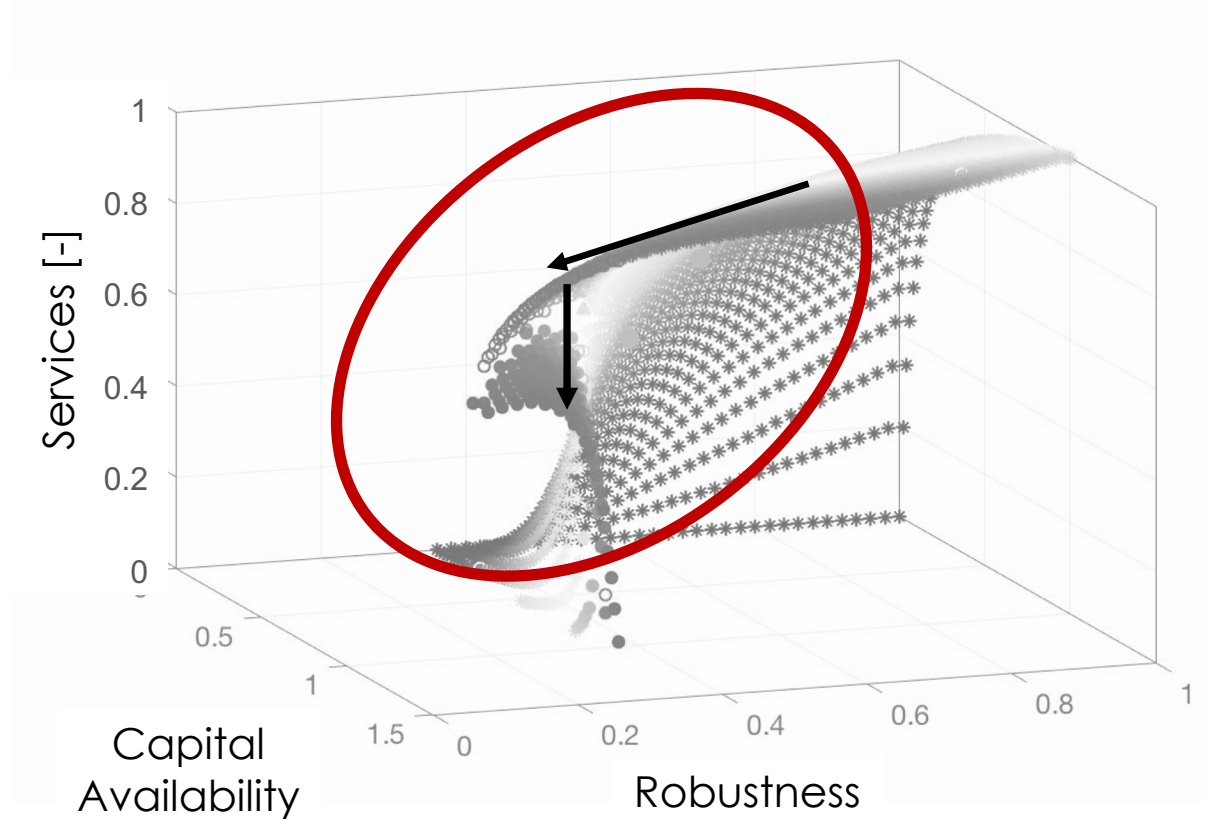
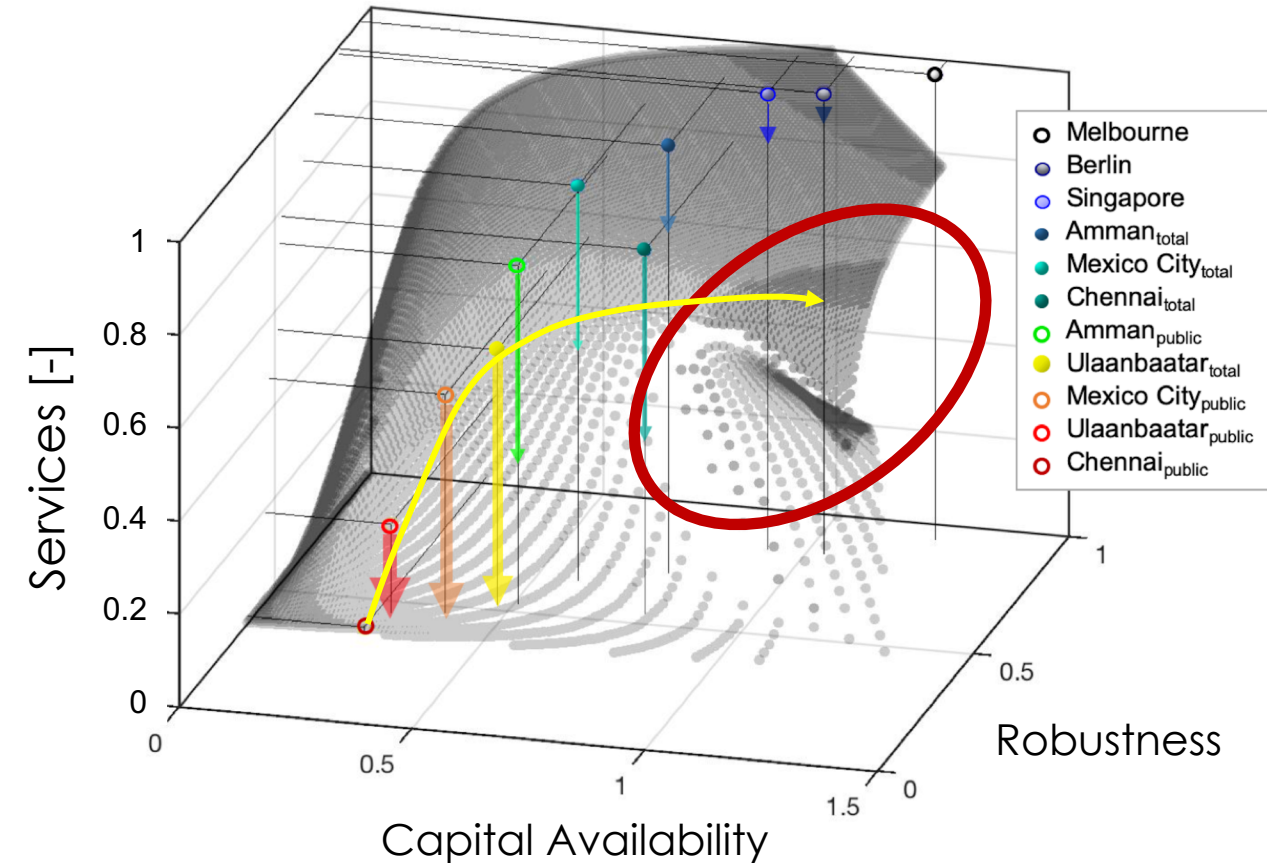
Dynamics:

↓ length: max. shock impact on M

↓ width: crossing time avg. Δ



Tipping points ?



Quantification of Capital Portfolio

→ $\underline{W=1}$:
No water stress. Available water resources
 $\geq 100\text{m}^3\text{cap}^{-1}\text{y}^{-1}$.

Water resources (W)

Water Availability (W)

category	Threshold ($\text{m}^3\text{cap}^{-1}\text{y}^{-1}$)	W
no stress	>100	>1
scarcity	100-50	1-0.5
water stress	50-25	0.5-0.25
high water stress	<25	<0.25

Water resources robustness (W_R)

attribute	no stress (4)	low stress (3)	stress (2)	high stress (1)	score
storage-to-flow	>0.6	0.6-0.3	0.3-0.2	<0.2	1-4
import dependence	<0.15	0.15-0.25	0.25-0.5	>0.5	1-4
use-to-resource	<0.1	0.1-0.2	0.2-0.4	>0.4	1-4
water quality	precautionary principle	source control & polluter pays	emissions regulations	monitoring	0-4
source diversity	multiple types	two sources & types	one type	one source	1-4

$W_R: \Sigma(\text{scores})/20$

Sustainable water governance (G_W)

attribute	score
Ecological Footprint (EFP)	
Water Footprint (WFP_{global})	
$G_{\text{wglobal}} = 1 - (EFP + WFP)/2$	
Water Reach (WD)	
Recycled/Reused Water (Fraction)	
Renewable energy use in WS	
$G_{\text{Wlocal}}: \Sigma(\text{scores})/3$	

Krueger et al., (2019) GEC
Krueger et al., (2020) ERL

Attribute	score
Fraction of waste water treated	(0-1)
Degree of modularity	(0-1)
Fraction of pop. covered by sanitation	(0-1)
Reuse of storm- and wastewater	(0-1)
Energy production from waste/wastewater	(0-1)
Nutrient reuse from sewage sludge	(0/1)
$G_I = \Sigma(\text{scores})/6$	

Infrastructure robustness (I_R)

category	infrastructure robustness metric	score
operation and maintenance	anticipatory maintenance	(1/0)
	emergency solution for power failures	(1/0)
	inter-sector coordination	(1/0)
	continuous water supply	(1/0)
	monitoring system for leakage detection	(1/0)
physical constraints	average materials age < 50 yrs	(1/0)
	redundancy of critical nodes	(1/0)
	decentralized sources	(1/0)
	possibility of emergency zone isolation	(1/0)
$I_R = \Sigma(\text{scores})/9$		

Infrastructure (I)

Infrastructure Availability (I)

$$\rightarrow I = \text{connection rate} * (1 - \text{leakage}) - q * W_{\text{drink}}$$

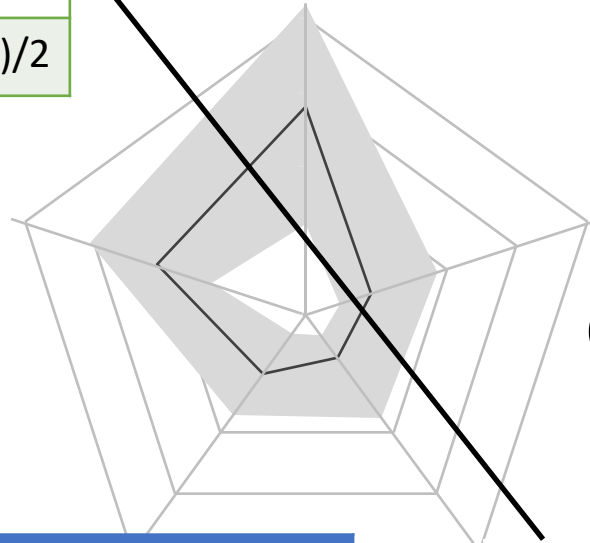
leakage: fraction of water lost

W_{Drink} : fraction of drinking water demand
 q : coefficient (1=treatment required, 0=water delivered at drinking water quality)

$\rightarrow I=1$:
 Capacity to deliver all available water resources at drinking water quality to all households at demanded volumes.

Sustainable Financial Governance (G_F)

Attribute	score
Cost recovery > 90%	(1/0)
Financial Dependence ((FDI+ODA/GNI)	(0-1)
$G_F = (1 - FDM + CR) / 2$	



Financial robustness (F_R)

Attribute	score (1=present, 0=absent)
Dependence on int. donors for infrastructure investment < 50%	(1/0)
Is medium – high income city (available income for unexpected expenditures)	(1/0)
energy autonomy is > 50%	(1/0)
$F_R = \Sigma(\text{scores}) / 3$	

Financial capital (F)

Financial Availability (F)

$$F = \frac{\text{annual water sector income}}{\text{annual water sector expenditure}} * I$$

→ $F=1$:

Water sector budget (income over spending) is sufficient to operate and maintain fully functional infrastructure system.

Attribute	score
Centralization of information	(0-1)
Participatory management	(1/0)
Cross-sector management: sanitation, drainage, energy & industry, mobility, recreation, agriculture, amenities planning, education	Avg. (1/0)
$G_M = \Sigma(\text{scores})/3$	

→ $P=1$:
Efficient, flexible, and accountable water governance institutions with adequate complexity.

Management Efficacy (P)

Category	Attribute	score (1=present, 0=absent)
institutional efficiency	clear structure with communication protocols for information sharing	1 / 0
	feedback-loops	1 / 0
	mechanisms for inter-sector coordination	1 / 0
	training & innovations for resilience and sustainability	1 / 0
accountability	mechanisms for participatory decision-making/management	1 / 0
	mechanisms for follow-up of customer complaints	1 / 0
	integrity: Corruption Perception Index > 50	1 / 0
	administrative losses < 10%	1 / 0
regulatory complexity	urban-urban / urban-rural strategies	1 / 0
	transboundary agreements	1 / 0
	mechanisms for groundwater management	1 / 0
	mechanisms for surface water management	1 / 0
		$P_R = \Sigma(\text{scores})/12$

Management Efficacy (P)

→ Robustness of Management Power (P_R)

- 1) emergency operations planning
- 2) capacity to improvise, innovate, expand operations
- 3) national support programs for disaster recovery
- 4) City ranking

→ $A = 1$:

Services are fully covered by community adaptation; public services = 0.

Community Adaptation (A)

Capital Availability (A)

$$A = \frac{W_{extra}}{D} + supply\ gap * \left(1 - \frac{W_{public} + W_{extra}}{D}\right) + q * W_{drink}$$

W_{extra} : additional water accessed by the community through private measures [m^3y^{-1}]

D : demand [m^3y^{-1}]

supply gap: intermittence [days/days]

W_{public} : water delivered at household level (W-leakage)

W_{Drink} : fraction of drinking water demand/total demand

q : coefficient (1=treatment required, 0=water delivered at drinking water quality)

Community Robustness (A_R)

attribute	score
is medium - high income city (<i>median</i> household income)	(1/0)
access to alternative water services (e.g. private market)	(1/0)
storage capacity > 7days	(1/0)
access to information for emergency response	(1/0)
active community structures	(1/0)
water treatment before drinking	(1/0)
direct access to water sources (e.g., wells, rivers, etc.)	(1/0)
$A_R = \Sigma(\text{scores})/7$	

Sustainable Governance of Community Adaptation (G_A)

Attribute	score
Environmental awareness	(1/0)
Demand management	(1/0)
Community engagement	(1/0)
Inequality	(0-1)
$G_A = \Sigma(\text{scores})/4$	

Risk profile

Risk category	Risk type description	Susceptible capital	experience/ potential threat
Geological and geographic hazards	earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, landslides	I A	0/1
	land subsidence caused by local groundwater over-exploitation impacting infrastructure degradation	I	0/1
Socio-economic and geo-political threats	socio-economic/political changes/ unforeseen high immigration rates	W I F P A	0/1
	immediate threat of war/terrorism	W I F P A	0/1
	experiences competition for resources	W P	0/1
	immediate threat exists/has been subject to economic crises	F P A	0/1
	illegal tapping into water pipes occurs	I	0/1
Contamination hazard	risk from industrial spills exists (upstream industry)	W I A	0/1
	has risk of epidemic incidents through degraded infrastructure (can occur in combination with floods)/ potential of groundwater degradation from intensive farming and lack of sanitary infrastructure	W I A	0/1
Climate and weather-related hazards	Flood/drought risk	W	0/1
	extreme temperatures (freezing and bursting of pipes)	I	0/1
	risk of storms and wildfires with potential of damaging infrastructure	I	0/1