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Choice of a regional flood frequency distribution in the United Kingdom

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L-moment diagrams are popular tools in hydrology to ascertain a regional frequency model. A new bivariate extension of the well-known Hosking & Wallis goodness of fit (GOF) measure will be presented, with emphasis on the graphical interpretation of the test. New developments will be presented showing how the new GOF measure can be applied with a four parameter kappa distribution. Based on analysis of 564 pooling groups from the United Kingdom, results are presented demonstrating that a three-parameter version of the kappa distribution with a fixed value of the fourth parameter can provide a better description of the regional annual maximum flood data than both the Generalized Logistic (GLO) and the Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) distributions.