gional Assessment of hydrological response patterns in Denmark

·I.Müller-Wohlfeil, H. L. Iversen, S.E. Larsen and B. Kronvang
tional Environmental Research Institute, Vejlsøvej 25, 8600 Silkeborg, DK

e assessment of river discharge and nutrient loads in Denmark suffers from t
:t that runoff measured at gauging stations reflects properties of which only so
ı be directly related to data available at the catchment scale. Other factors, such
ıinage and drinking water abstraction, as well as subsurface flows crossi
ɔographic catchment boundaries cannot be detected directly. The main aim of c
ɔject was to identify runoff patterns for different regions in Denmark and to det
ɔse catchments where runoff deviates from those patterns. To this end v
culated the climatic water balance (precipitation minus potent
apotranspiration) for more than 150 basins during the period 1989-1997. We th
:formed statistical analyses of flow duration curves for those catchments whe
er discharge was either lower than the climatic water balance or almost as high
:cipitation. River discharge from these catchments may be influenced by drinki
ter abstraction, tile drainage, sealed surfaces or a significant difference betwe
: location of the topographic watershed and the groundwater catchm
ındaries. As a next step we compared the results of the statistical analyses of riv
charge from these catchments with those from adjacent catchments with a simi
:tribution of and use, soils, and climate and where runoff to a larger exte
ɔresents the result of natural process within the topographic catchment. Th

erall procedure is regarded as a first step towards regionalising runoff behaviour
nmark and assessing river discharge at newly established gauging stations.