



1 **Study on Multi-water Sources Allocation Based on Multi-scenario potential**  
2 **tapping under Extreme Drought: An Example from the Yellow River Water**  
3 **Supply Area in Henan**

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15 **Abstract:** The water supply of water resources allocation under extreme drought is insufficient,  
16 and the limited available water resources make it urgent to tap the potential of water supply. In this  
17 paper, the Yellow River water supply area in Henan Province is taken as an example to study the  
18 multi-water source allocation under extreme drought. According to the Palmer Drought Severity  
19 Index (PDSI), the extreme drought years are selected, and the water supply and demand balance in  
20 the extreme drought years is analyzed, and the water shortage degree of each water supply area is  
21 obtained. In this paper, unconventional water, flood resource utilization and elastic exploitation of



22 groundwater are used as potential water sources. Different water supply scenarios are set up  
23 according to different potential tapping measures, and multi-scenario supply increase under  
24 extreme drought is explored. A multi-water source allocation model with the goal of minimizing  
25 water shortage is constructed, and a multi-scenario supply increase allocation scheme is proposed,  
26 which provides a basis for the study of water supply increase allocation to alleviate the drought  
27 degree of the the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan. Through the Multi-scenario potential  
28 tapping of multiple water sources, the existing potential water volume can be maximized, which is  
29 conducive to reducing the water supply pressure and water use restrictions of conventional water  
30 sources, improving the support capacity and guarantee capacity of water resources, and reducing  
31 the economic and social development bottlenecks caused by extreme drought.

32 **Keywords:** Multi-water sources allocation; Multi-scenario potential tapping; Palmer Drought  
33 Severity Index; the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan

#### 34 **Introduction**

35 Drought is a common and complex natural disaster. In the past 50 years, 34% of the people  
36 affected by natural disasters in the world have been affected by drought (WMO, 2021). The sixth  
37 assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (IPCC, 2021)  
38 pointed out: Climate change is exacerbating the uneven water cycle. High temperatures and  
39 multiple types of drought events are frequent in parallel, causing varying degrees of drought in  
40 many regions. In recent years, the dry and wet imbalance in the Yellow River Water Supply Area  
41 in Henan with monsoon climate characteristics. According to the “China Drought Disaster Data  
42 Set” (Zhu et al, 2018), the Yellow River Basin has staged 5~6 extreme droughts in the past 50  
43 years. The extreme drought events in the Yellow River Basin are staged every 10 years (Zhu et



44 al,2018; Zheng et al, 2022), which limits the development of industrial and agricultural production,  
45 life development, ecological environment and other aspects. With the development of social  
46 economy, the allocation of conventional water resources has been unable to meet the expected  
47 demand. The Ministry of Water Resources “Guidance on the Integration of Unconventional Water  
48 Resources into the Unified Allocation of Water Resources” (Zhou, 2017) emphasizes the  
49 importance of the potential research of unconventional water resources, so that it can play a  
50 guarantee role in the water resources allocation system, and requires the use of various means to  
51 expand the scope of allocation and increase the proportion of water distribution. Therefore, on the  
52 basis of the existing conventional water resources, it will be an important measure to alleviate the  
53 drought in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan by tapping the potential and increasing  
54 the supply, and integrating unconventional water, flood resources and elastic exploitation of  
55 groundwater into the water source system of water resources allocation.

56 In recent years, the theory and technology of conventional water resources allocation have  
57 become more mature, and the research on optimal allocation of water resources has attracted  
58 attention at home and abroad. Wang Yu et al. (2021) scientifically set the water diversion index in  
59 the river according to the incoming water situation, and at the same time consider fairness and  
60 efficiency, and increase the saved water supply to the provinces along the Yellow River; Yang  
61 Mingzhi et al. (2022) regarded social water use and natural hydrology as the research object,  
62 studied the feedback between the two processes, and developed a distributed allocation model  
63 based on the water cycle; Tan et al. (2018) took the unilateral water benefit as the objective  
64 function, considered the fractional programming and robust optimization at the same time, and  
65 established the water resources optimization model, which improved the utilization efficiency of



66 agricultural water; Ren et al. (2017) gave full play to the advantages of multi-objective fuzzy  
67 programming, constructed a multi-objective model of multiple benefits, rationally planned land  
68 use and irrigation water, and obtained an effective and fair irrigation plan; Aiming at the prediction  
69 of water supply and demand and its comprehensive value, Zhang et al. (2023) used the WRA  
70 model to study the coordination and stable development of each system, used the emergy analysis  
71 method to carry out quantitative analysis, reasonably calculated the base year and the planning  
72 year, and proposed a sustainable water distribution plan; Sperotto A et al. (2019) discussed the  
73 application of multi-scenario analysis method based on Bayesian network in water quality  
74 sustainability assessment under uncertain conditions. Razavi S et al. (2014) used a multi-scenario,  
75 multi-reservoir optimization method to evaluate these new control structures, and proposed an  
76 optimization model based on dynamic programming; Marques J et al. (2015) proposed a new ROs  
77 method to deal with the uncertainty and two conflicting objectives throughout the planning scope,  
78 and defined some new possible expansion areas for different scenarios; Banadkooki F B et al.  
79 (2022) discussed the optimal allocation of water resources in arid basins, analyzed 13 scenarios,  
80 and determined the optimal solution by comparing the results of GA and NSGA-II optimization  
81 techniques; Balla K M et al. (2020) established a multi-scenario MPC ( MS-MPC ) method to deal  
82 with the uncertainties of the expected inflow of urban drainage network ( UDN ). Most of the  
83 above studies use conventional water as the configuration water source. The water source  
84 configuration is relatively simple, and the scenario selection lacks consideration of multiple water  
85 sources. The optimization of the model and the improvement of the configuration method are  
86 limited. At present, the utilization of rainwater and other unconventional water sources in the  
87 Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan is only 465 million m<sup>3</sup> (2021 Annual “China Water



88 Resources Bulletin " released, 2018). Therefore, this paper will start from the perspective of  
89 tapping potential and increasing supply, and take unconventional water, flood resources and elastic  
90 exploitation of groundwater as new water sources to study the allocation of water resources in the  
91 Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan under extreme drought.

92 In this paper, the water resources allocation under different potential tapping scenarios under  
93 extreme drought is taken as the research focus, and the Palmer Drought Severity Index(PDSI) is  
94 taken as the research index to study the drought structure distribution and water shortage in  
95 extreme drought years. Based on the multi-scenario mining potential of multi-water sources, a  
96 water resources allocation model with the goal of minimizing water shortage is constructed.  
97 According to the water demand level and allocation principle, a multi-scenario allocation scheme  
98 is proposed to provide a strong basis for future research on drought control measures.

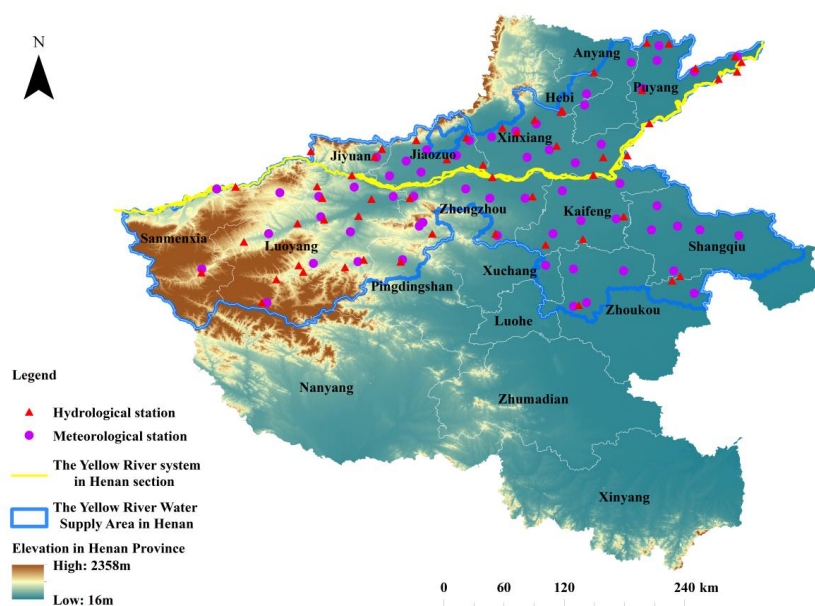
## 99 **1 Overview of the study area**

### 100 **1.1 Watershed generalization**

101 The Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan is located along the Yellow River, located in  
102 the northern part of Henan Province (Figure 1), accounting for nearly half of the area of Henan  
103 Province, the specific regional reference Table 1. The Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan  
104 contains 14 cities, some of which are not fully covered. At present, the total population of the  
105 Yellow River water supply area is about 69.8 million, and the urbanization rate is 54% (Du, Liu,  
106 and Hao, 2020). The effective irrigation area in the water supply area is 53.6 million mu, and the  
107 actual irrigation area is 47.8 million mu (Du, Liu, and Hao, 2020). The total amount of water  
108 supply in the cities of the Yellow River water supply area is reduced, and the unbalanced spatial  
109 and temporal precipitation leads to a large water gap in the southwest region (Yao et al, 2018). The



110 gap between flood season and non-flood season is prominent, and the proportion of flood season  
 111 inflow is relatively large (about 60%~70%) (Fang et al, 2019), and the runoff is mostly distributed  
 112 in mountainous areas(Sun, 2021). In recent years, the total amount of water used in the Yellow  
 113 River water supply area has been increasing, domestic water and ecological water use have  
 114 increased, industrial water and agricultural water use have generally declined, and the overall  
 115 drought situation in the region has continued (Sun, 2021).



116  
 117 Figure 1 The administrative division of the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan and the

118 map of meteorological and hydrological stations

119 Table 1 The specific division scope of the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan

Partition of water supply area	Specific scope	Partition	Specific scope
Zhengzhou division	Municipal district,Gongyi City,Xinyang City,Zhongmu County,Xinzheng City,Dengfeng City	Jiaozuo division	Qinyang City, Mengzhou City, Boai County, Wuzhi County, Wen County, Xiuwu County



Kaifeng division	Municipal districts, Qixian County, Weishi County, Lankao County, Tongxu County	Puyang division	municipal district, Fan County, Taiqian County, Puyang County, Qingfeng County, Nanle County
Luoyang division	Municipal district, Yanshi City, Mengjin County, Yiyang County, Luoning County, Yichuan County, Xin'an County, Luanchuan County, Song County, Ruyang County	Xuchang division	Yanling County
Pingdingshan division	Ruzhou City	Sanmenxia division	Municipal districts, Yima City, Mianchi County, Lushi County, Lingbao City
Anyang division	Hua County, Neihuang County	Shangqiu division	Municipal districts, Yucheng County, Zhecheng County, Xiayi County, Minquan County, Ningling County, Sui County
Hebi division	Xun County	Zhoukou division	Luyi County, Fugou County, Xihua County, Taikang County
Xinxiang division	Municipal district, Weihui City, Yanjin County, Fengqiu County, Changyuan County, Xinxiang County, Huojia County, Yuanyang County	Jiyuan division	Jiyuan demonstration area
Total	63 counties (cities, districts)		

120 **1.2 Basic information**

121 The data come from the Resource and Environmental Science and Data Center and the Henan  
 122 Provincial Water Resources Bulletin. The data of 59 meteorological stations in the Yellow River  
 123 Water Supply Area in Henan were collected. The data of precipitation, temperature and soil were  
 124 based on 58 years (1961-2018) monthly data.

125 **2 Selection of extreme drought years and setting of potential tapping scenarios**

126 **2.1 Selection of extreme drought years**

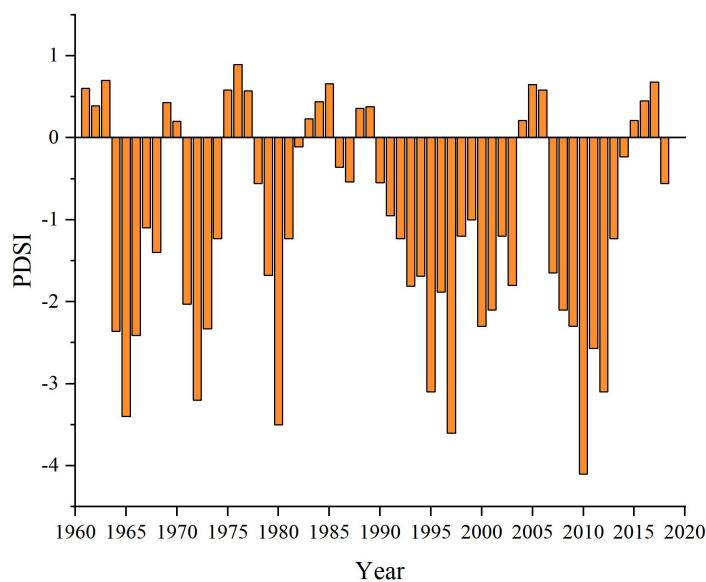
127 In this paper, the extreme drought years the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan are  
 128 selected according to the Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI). Figure 2 is the PDSI histogram  
 129 from 1961 to 2018, which reflects the drought change of the PDSI annual sequence in the Yellow  
 130 River Water Supply Area in Henan. According to the size of the PDSI value, the drought grade is



131 divided (Lu et al, 2022), as shown in Table 2.

132 Table 2 PDSI drought classification standard table

PDSI	Drought level	PDSI	Drought level
(-1, 1)	Normal	(-4, -3]	Serious drought
(-2, -1]	Light drought	(-∞, -4]	Extreme drought
(-3, -2]	Moderate drought		



133 Figure 2 The overall PDSI annual sequence histogram of

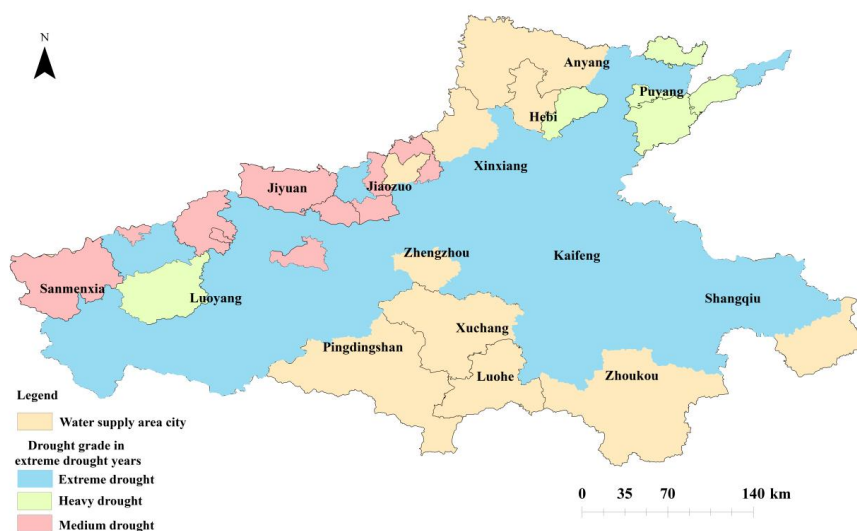
134 the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan

135 From the above Figure 2, it can be seen that from 1961 to 2018, there were many frequent  
136 drought years in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan as a whole. Among them, serious  
137 droughts occurred in 1965, 1972, 1980, 1995, 1997, 2010 and 2012, and serious droughts were  
138 staged every 10 or so. The degree of drought in 2010 reached the level of extreme drought, and the  
139 other years were mild drought or normal. Therefore, 2010 was selected as the extreme drought





140 year. The distribution of drought grade in each district of the Yellow River Water Supply Area in  
 141 Henan in 2010 is shown in Figure 3.



142  
 143 Figure 3 Distribution of drought grade in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan in 2010

144 It can be seen from Figure3 that, on the whole, the drought degree of the Yellow River Water  
 145 Supply Area in Henan reached the level of extreme drought in 2010. Extreme drought occurred in  
 146 48 of the 63 districts and counties, and severe drought or moderate drought occurred in the  
 147 remaining districts and counties (some districts and counties in Sanmenxia City, Jiyuan City,  
 148 Jiaozuo City, Luoyang City, Puyang City and Hebi City).

149 According to the water resources bulletin of Henan Province in 2010 and the “Water Quota”  
 150 (Qian, 2019), the supply and demand balance of the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan in  
 151 2010 was analyzed, as shown in Table 3.

152 Table 3 The Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan in 2010 supply and

153 demand balance analysis table Unit: hundred million m<sup>3</sup>

Partition of	Water demand in 2010	Water supply in 2010	Differentials	Water
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water supply area	Agriculture	Industry	Life	Ecology	Subtotal	Surface water	Ground water	Other water	Subtotal		shortage rate (%)
Zhengzhou division	3.49	4.78	4.69	4.12	17.07	4.72	6.92	0.24	11.88	-5.19	30.40
Kaifeng division	10.28	2.45	1.77	3.25	17.74	3.03	8.56	0	11.59	-6.15	34.67
Luoyang division	4.29	5.84	2.61	1.84	14.58	6.19	5.53	0	11.72	-2.86	19.61
Pingdingshan division	1.18	1.55	0.39	0.10	3.22	0.83	1.22	0	2.04	-1.18	36.66
Anyang division	7.10	1.21	0.87	1.39	10.56	1.75	4.65	0	6.40	-4.16	39.38
Hebi division	1.50	0.35	0.40	0.35	2.61	0.48	1.35	0	1.83	-0.78	29.87
Puyang division	11.94	3.06	1.28	1.05	17.33	7.54	4.95	0.30	12.79	-4.54	26.18
Xuchang division	1.04	0.49	0.28	0.22	2.03	0.37	0.65	0	1.02	-1.01	49.81
Sanmenxia division	1.31	1.50	0.86	0.56	4.23	2.17	1.37	0.03	3.58	-0.65	15.33
Shangqiu division	10.55	1.67	1.96	0.65	14.83	1.41	7.41	0	8.82	-6.01	40.52
Zhoukou division	8.11	1.52	1.65	0.42	11.71	0.45	7.61	0	8.06	-3.65	31.18
Jiyuan division	0.99	0.77	0.22	0.46	2.44	1.09	0.80	0.09	1.99	-0.45	18.34
Jiaozuo division	6.54	3.02	1.00	0.50	11.07	3.71	5.17	0	8.89	-2.18	19.66
Xinxiang division	12.25	2.04	1.77	1.16	17.21	4.85	5.61	0	10.46	-6.75	39.24
Total	80.56	30.24	19.74	16.08	146.62	38.60	61.81	0.66	101.07	-45.55	31.07

154 It can be seen from Table 3 that the total water demand the Yellow River Water Supply Area  
 155 in Henan is 14.662 billion m<sup>3</sup>, the total water supply is 10.107 billion m<sup>3</sup>, the total water shortage  
 156 is 4.555 billion m<sup>3</sup>, and the water shortage rate is 31.07%. In general, the supply and demand of  
 157 the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan is unbalanced in extreme drought years, and the  
 158 water shortage rate of 8 water supply areas exceeds 30%. In order to ensure the normal needs of  
 159 residents and the good ecological environment, it is urgent to tap the water supply potential of  
 160 unconventional water sources, flood water sources and elastic exploitation of groundwater.

161 **2.2 Potential tapping scenario setting**



162 On the basis of the structure of the original water supply source, the water source system is  
163 expanded and managed according to local conditions to maximize the supply capacity of water  
164 resources, such as expanding the construction of reclaimed water and rainwater harvesting  
165 projects, the appropriate adjustment of the flood limit water level of the reservoir, and improving  
166 the utilization rate of reclaimed water and sewage. The Multi-water sources allocation of different  
167 potential tapping scenarios is to study the potential of unconventional water sources, flood water  
168 resources and elastic exploitation of groundwater under extreme drought. According to different  
169 supply increase measures, it is divided into three water supply scenarios to study the  
170 multi-scenario supply increase under extreme drought, so as to realize the sustainability of water  
171 resources supply and the maintenance of ecological environment. The development potential of  
172 unconventional water sources is great. At present, the utilization form of unconventional water  
173 sources in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan is mainly rainwater harvesting. Under  
174 extreme drought conditions, it is necessary to increase the scale of rainwater harvesting facilities,  
175 improve the utilization efficiency of reclaimed water and sewage, and increase the utilization of  
176 mine water; In order to improve the accuracy of flood forecasting, it is necessary to increase the  
177 dam gate, make full use of natural depressions and artificial lakes, improve the water storage  
178 capacity of the water storage project, speed up the storage and set the scheduling rules  
179 scientifically, which is suitable for improving the normal water level of the reservoir, and the  
180 potential of increasing the supply of flood resources will be greatly improved; The elastic mining  
181 of groundwater is based on the unit water yield of the water source well and the spring flow to  
182 carry out water-rich zoning(Zhao and Zhao, 2014).As shown in Table 4, according to the strength  
183 of water-richness, different scenarios are tapped. According to the potential of supply increase



184 from small to large, it is divided into supply increase scenario 1, supply increase scenario 2 and  
 185 supply increase scenario 3 in turn. Different supply increase scenarios correspond to different  
 186 supply increase measures, as shown in Table 5.

187 Table 4 Division table of groundwater water abundance in  
 188 the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan

Regionalization basis	Partition			
	Weak water-rich area	Medium water-rich area	Strong water-rich area	Extremely strong water-rich area
Unit output of water source well(m <sup>3</sup> /h·m)	$q < 1$	$1 \leq q < 5$	$5 \leq q < 10$	$q > 10$
Flow capacity of spring (L/s)	$Q < 1$	$1 \leq Q < 10$	$10 \leq Q < 50$	$Q < 50$

189 Table 5 Measures for increasing supply of different potential water sources  
 190 under different supply scenarios

Additional supply scenario	Unconventional Water Tapping	Flood resource utilization	Elastic groundwater exploitation
Scenario 1	Increase the scale of rainwater harvesting facilities by 5%	Increase the scale of water storage project by 5%	Mining 15% of water source in strong water-rich area and extremely strong water-rich area
Scenario 2	Expand the scale of 5% rainwater harvesting facilities; reclaimed water and sewage utilization efficiency increased by 10%	Increase the scale of water storage project by 5%; reasonable setting to speed up the recovery scheduling rules	Mining 15% of the water source in the strong and extremely rich water area; mining and excavating 10% of the water source in the medium water-rich area
Scenario 3	Expand the scale of rainwater harvesting facilities by 5%;the utilization efficiency of reclaimed water and sewage is increased by 10%;increase the utilization ratio of mine water by 20%	Increase the scale of water storage project by 5%; reasonably set up the scheduling rules for accelerating the recovery of savings; dynamic adjustment of reservoir flood control level	Mining 15% of the water source in the strong and extremely rich water area; mining and excavating 10% of the water source in the medium-rich water area; mining 5% water source in weak water-rich area

191 **3 Study on Multi-water sources allocation of Multi-scenario potential tapping**

192 **3.1 Water source analysis of Multi-scenario potential tapping**



193 Based on the potential unconventional water volume, flood resource water volume and  
 194 groundwater volume, Multi-scenario potential tapping is carried out, In 2010, the potential water  
 195 volume of unconventional water in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan was 5.045  
 196 billion m<sup>3</sup>, the potential water volume of flood resources was 10.223 billion m<sup>3</sup>, and the potential  
 197 water volume of groundwater elastic exploitation was 9.660 billion m<sup>3</sup>.According to the  
 198 proportion of different potential water volume and potential total water volume, it is divided into  
 199 three different potential water source scenarios. The potential water volume and the comparison  
 200 before and after potential tapping are shown in Table 6.

201 Table 6 The amount of potential tapping water in different scenarios and the comparison  
 202 table before and after potential tapping Unit: hundred million m<sup>3</sup>

Water supply scenario	Unconventional water		Flood resource utilization		Elastic groundwater exploitation		Total	
	Quantity of water	Percentage of total potential unconventional water	Quantity of water	Percentage of total potential unconventional water	Quantity of water	Percentage of total potential unconventional water		
Before digging potential	0.39	0.01%	0	0	0	0	0.39	
After digging potential	Scenario 1	5.05	10%	5.11	5%	4.83	5%	14.99
	Scenario 1	7.57	15%	10.22	10%	9.66	10%	27.45
	Scenario 1	10.09	20%	15.33	15%	14.49	15%	39.91

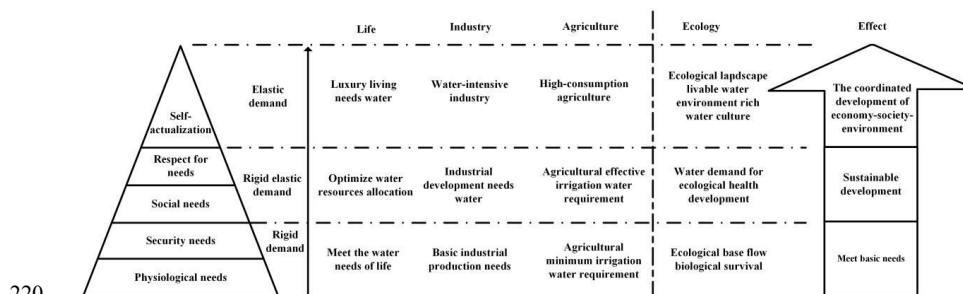
203 According to the Table 6, there is a great potential for the development of unconventional  
 204 water and flood water resources. The potential water of unconventional water sources in scenarios  
 205 1, 2 and 3 is 505 million m<sup>3</sup>, 757 million m<sup>3</sup> and 109 million m<sup>3</sup>; The amount of potential water in  
 206 flood resource tapping scenarios 1, 2 and 3 is 511 million m<sup>3</sup>, 1022 million m<sup>3</sup>, and 1.533 billion  
 207 m<sup>3</sup>. With the increase of excavation potential, the total water volume of water supply scenarios 1,  
 208 2 and 3 is 1.499 billion m<sup>3</sup>, 2.745 billion m<sup>3</sup> and 3.991 billion m<sup>3</sup>. Compared with before tapping  
 209 the potential, the available water supply has been greatly improved. The rational development and



210 utilization of unconventional water sources and flood water sources plays an important role in the  
 211 sustainable development of water resources in the future.

### 212 3.2 Water demand level division and configuration principle

213 Western sociologist Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory believes that human needs are  
 214 divided into five levels like a ladder, namely: physiological needs, security needs, social needs,  
 215 respect needs, and self-actualization needs. The more these needs are met, the stronger the sense of  
 216 well-being will be. Specific to the river basin, combined with the water demand characteristics of  
 217 various departments and development conditions in different regions, the life, industry, agriculture,  
 218 and ecological water demand processes are divided into three levels, namely rigid demand, rigid  
 219 elastic demand, and elastic demand, as shown in Figure 4.



220

221 Figure 4 Water demand level division diagram

222 The satisfaction of each water sector is the relationship between water users according to  
 223 their water demand status and water distribution. It is generally a subjective evaluation. It is the  
 224 happiness of water users after their needs are met. When the water demand of the water sector is  
 225 met. The more, the higher the satisfaction. The runoff volume and wet and dry years are different,  
 226 and the water demand level is different. The rigid water demand is the first priority in the  
 227 distribution water, and it will be difficult to recover the loss once it is destroyed. The rigid elastic  
 228 water demand is in the second priority in the water distribution, and the loss caused by water



229 shortage is recoverable; elastic water demand is the last consideration in water resources  
230 allocation. When the water distribution amount obtained by the water use department is at  
231 different water demand levels, the level of satisfaction is related to different water use departments.  
232 For example, in dry years and when the runoff is small, the water use department meets the basic  
233 needs. At this time, the satisfaction of the agricultural department is higher than that of the  
234 domestic, industrial and ecological water use departments.

235 The configuration of Multi-water sources allocation in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in  
236 Henan should follow the following principles:

237 (1) The principle of matching the type of potential water sources with the water use  
238 department. Under extreme drought conditions, groundwater sources are flexibly exploited for  
239 domestic water and some industrial water; unconventional water sources are mainly used for  
240 industrial water and landscape greening water; flood water resources are used for agricultural  
241 irrigation and ecological water use.

242 (2) Priority principle. Priority should be given to the protection of basic domestic water.  
243 Because the drought in the study area is mainly reflected in agriculture, agricultural water is put in  
244 the second place, and on this basis, industrial water and ecological water are considered in turn. At  
245 the same time, give priority to meet the rigid demand, and then ensure the rigid elastic water, and  
246 finally meet the elastic demand.

247 (3) The principle of fairness. Equal distribution is needed between individual water users and  
248 water users, and between partitions and regions in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan.  
249 Each district cooperates with each other and cooperates with the overall situation, and objectively  
250 has the same status to allocate water sources.



251 (4) The principle of total control. The development of groundwater elastic mining,  
252 unconventional water and flood water resources in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan  
253 should be matched with the carrying capacity of local water resources, reasonably control the  
254 polluting environmental industries and high-intensity water consumption industries, and  
255 strengthen the supervision of their total amount.

256 (5) The principle of sustainable use. In the case of widespread drought and complex water  
257 shortage structure in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan, a fair, effective, reasonable  
258 and scientific setting of the water distribution ratio between life, agriculture, industry and ecology  
259 is conducive to the benign maintenance of water resources regeneration mechanism and  
260 sustainability.

### 261 3.3 Model construction

262 (1) Taking the minimum water shortage as the objective function:

$$263 \quad \min Z_p = \sum_c^h \sum_d^l (W_{c,p} - W_{d,p}) \quad (1)$$

264 Where  $Z_p$  is the total water deficit in the scenario of enemy  $p$ , hundred million  $m^3$ ,  $p =$   
265  $(1, 2, 3)$ ;  $W_c$  is the water supply of type  $i$  users in scenario  $p$ , hundred million  $m^3$ ,  $c =$   
266  $(1,2,3... h)$ ;  $W_j$  is the water demand of type  $d$  user in type  $p$  scenario, hundred million  
267  $m^3$ ,  $d = (1,2,3... l)$ .

268 (2) Constraint conditions

269 Constraints of available water supply and water demand:

$$270 \quad \sum_i^m W_i \leq W_G \quad (2)$$

$$271 \quad \sum_j^n W_j \leq W_X \quad (3)$$





272 
$$W_G = W_B + W_D + W_C + W_H \quad (4)$$

273 
$$W_X = W_S + W_Y + W_N + W_T \quad (5)$$

274 In the formula,  $W_G$  is the total amount of water available, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $W_B$  is the available  
 275 water supply of surface water, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $W_D$  is the available water supply of groundwater,  
 276 billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $W_X$  is the total water demand, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $W_S$  is the total amount of domestic water  
 277 demand, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $W_Y$  is the total amount of industrial water demand, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $W_N$  is the  
 278 total amount of agricultural water demand, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $W_T$  is the total ecological water demand,  
 279 billion m<sup>3</sup>.

280 Unconventional water and flood water resources constraints:

281 
$$\sum_r^a W_{C_{p,r}} \leq W_{C_0} \quad (6)$$

282 
$$\sum_k^b W_{H_{p,k}} \leq W_{H_0} \quad (7)$$

283 
$$\frac{\sum_r^a W_{C_{p,r}} + \sum_k^b W_{H_{p,k}}}{W_G} \geq \alpha \quad (8)$$

284 In the formula,  $W_{C_{p,r}}$  is the unconventional water supply of type  $r$  users in scenario  $p$ ,  
 285 billion m<sup>3</sup>,  $r = (1, 2, 3, \dots, a)$ ;  $W_{C_0}$  is the original unconventional water supply, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  
 286  $W_{H_{p,k}}$  is the amount of water supply for flood water resources of the type  $k$  user in the  $p$  th  
 287 scenario, billion m<sup>3</sup>,  $k = (1, 2, 3, \dots, b)$ ;  $W_{H_0}$  for the original flood water resources, water  
 288 supply, billion m<sup>3</sup>;  $\alpha$  is the reasonable proportion coefficient of unconventional water and flood  
 289 water resources.

290 Priority constraint. The order of water supply is as follows:

291 
$$W_1 > W_2 > W_3 > W_4 \quad (9)$$



292 
$$W_I > W_{II} > W_{III} \quad (10)$$

293  $W_I$  is the order of domestic water supply;  $W_2$  the order of supply for agriculture;  $W_3$  is the  
294 order of industrial water supply;  $W_4$  is the order of ecological water supply;  $W_I$  is the order of  
295 rigid water demand;  $W_{II}$  is the order of rigid elastic water demand;  $W_{III}$  is the order of elastic  
296 water demand.

297 Groundwater depth constraint:

298

299 
$$D_e \geq D_f \quad (11)$$

300 In the formula,  $D_0$  is the average groundwater depth of the e region, m;  $D_f$  is the maximum  
301 allowable groundwater depth in zone f, m.

302 The minimum ecological flow constraint is:

303 
$$E_{g,t} < H_{g,t} \quad (12)$$

304 In the formula,  $E_{g,t}$  and  $H_{g,t}$  are the minimum ecological flow and the actual flow in the t  
305 period of the g ecological control section, m<sup>3</sup>/s.

306 Non-negative constraints: All variables are greater than or equal to 0.

#### 307 4 Scenario configuration scheme analysis

##### 308 4.1 Scheme calculation

309 According to the distribution of water shortage and drought grade in each area of the Yellow  
310 River Water Supply Area in Henan in extreme drought years, the model is solved according to the  
311 configuration principle and water use constraint conditions. The solution process is based on three  
312 different water supply scenarios to obtain three schemes for increasing supply. The configuration  
313 results are shown in Table 7



314 Table 7 Results table of water resources allocation in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in

315 Henan Unit: hundred million m<sup>3</sup>

Type of water supply	Life			Industry			Ecology		
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Zhengzhou division	4.69	4.69	4.69	3.34	3.88	4.45	2.56	3.11	3.61
Kaifeng division	1.77	1.77	1.77	1.71	1.99	2.28	2.02	2.45	2.85
Luoyang division	2.61	2.61	2.61	4.08	4.74	5.43	1.14	1.39	1.62
Pingdingshan division	0.39	0.39	0.39	1.08	1.26	1.44	0.06	0.08	0.09
Anyang division	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.84	0.98	1.12	0.86	1.05	1.22
Hebi division	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.25	0.29	0.33	0.22	0.27	0.31
Puyang division	1.28	1.28	1.28	2.14	2.48	2.84	0.65	0.79	0.92
Xuchang division	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.34	0.4	0.46	0.14	0.17	0.2
Sanmenxia division	0.86	0.86	0.86	1.05	1.22	1.39	0.35	0.42	0.49
Shangqiu division	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.17	1.36	1.55	0.41	0.49	0.57
Zhoukou division	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.07	1.24	1.42	0.26	0.32	0.37
Jiyuan division	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.54	0.62	0.71	0.28	0.34	0.4
Jiaozuo division	1	1	1	2.11	2.45	2.81	0.31	0.38	0.44
Xinxiang division	1.77	1.77	1.77	1.43	1.66	1.9	0.72	0.88	1.02
Total	19.74	19.74	19.74	21.14	24.56	28.14	9.99	12.13	14.11

Table 7 Schedule



Type of water supply	Agriculture			Subtotal			Water deficit		
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Zhengzhou division	2.82	3.12	3.42	13.41	14.8	16.17	3.66	2.27	0.9
Kaifeng division	8.32	9.2	10.08	13.82	15.41	16.98	3.92	2.33	0.76
Luoyang division	3.47	3.84	4.21	11.31	12.58	13.87	3.27	2	0.71
Pingdingshan division	0.95	1.06	1.16	2.49	2.78	3.08	0.73	0.44	0.14
Anyang division	5.74	6.35	6.96	8.32	9.25	10.17	2.24	1.31	0.39
Hebi division	1.21	1.34	1.47	2.08	2.29	2.51	0.53	0.32	0.1
Puyang division	9.66	10.68	11.71	13.73	15.24	16.75	3.6	2.09	0.57
Xuchang division	0.84	0.93	1.02	1.61	1.78	1.96	0.43	0.25	0.08
Sanmenxia division	1.06	1.17	1.28	3.31	3.67	4.03	0.91	0.56	0.2
Shangqiu division	8.54	9.44	10.35	12.07	13.25	14.43	2.76	1.58	0.39
Zhoukou division	6.57	7.26	7.96	9.54	10.47	11.39	2.17	1.24	0.32
Jiyuan division	0.8	0.89	0.97	1.84	2.07	2.3	0.6	0.36	0.13
Jiaozuo division	5.3	5.86	6.42	8.72	9.69	10.67	2.34	1.38	0.4
Xinxiang division	9.91	10.96	12.01	13.83	15.27	16.7	3.38	1.95	0.52
Total	65.21	72.11	79.01	116.08	128.54	141	30.53	18.07	5.61

316 According to Table 7, based on different potential tapping levels, the configuration schemes  
 317 of different scenarios are obtained. With the increase of the proportion of water supply in the  
 318 potential tapping water, the water shortage in each partition is significantly reduced, and the water  
 319 supply and demand are close to balance. Under different water supply scenarios, the total water



320 supply in the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan increased from 11.07 billion m<sup>3</sup> to 11.608  
321 billion m<sup>3</sup>, 12.854 billion m<sup>3</sup>, and 14.100 billion m<sup>3</sup>, respectively, and the total water shortage  
322 decreased from 4.555 billion m<sup>3</sup> to 3.053 billion m<sup>3</sup>, 18.07 billion m<sup>3</sup>, and 5.61 billion m<sup>3</sup>.

#### 323 **4.2 Discussion of the scheme**

##### 324 (1) Comparative analysis of tapping potential water

325 According to the water resources bulletin of Henan Province in 2010, in addition to  
326 conventional water, the water supply volume of unconventional water in Henan Province in 2010  
327 was 39 million m<sup>3</sup>. In this paper, through the excavation of the potential water volume of  
328 unconventional water, the potential water volume of flood resources and the elastic exploitation of  
329 groundwater in 2010, the total water volume of potential exploitation based on different potential  
330 exploitation scenarios was 1.499 billion m<sup>3</sup>, 2.745 billion m<sup>3</sup> and 3.991 billion m<sup>3</sup>, respectively.  
331 Therefore, the effect of tapping potential and increasing supply in the Yellow River Water Supply  
332 Area in Henan is obvious.

##### 333 (2) Comparative analysis of department water supply

334 The water supply data of the water resources bulletin department of Henan Province in 2010  
335 are compared with the results of the three scenarios after tapping the potential, as shown in Table 8.  
336 After the allocation, compared with the water resources bulletin of Henan Province in 2010, the  
337 water supply under different scenarios increased, which alleviated the water pressure of various  
338 departments and realized the improvement of social and economic benefits and the benign  
339 development of ecological environment.

340 Table 8 Comparative analysis table of department water supply after tapping potential

341 Unit: hundred million m<sup>3</sup>



Department	Life	Industry	Zoology	Agriculture	Total water supply quantity	Total water requirement	
Henan Water Resources Bulletin 2010	19.74	19.38	8.98	52.97	101.07		
After digging potential	Scenario 1	19.74	21.14	9.99	65.21	116.08	146.62
	Scenario 2	19.74	24.56	12.13	72.11	128.54	146.62
	Scenario 3	19.74	28.14	14.11	79.01	141.00	146.62

342 (3) Mitigation analysis of water shortage

343 The comparative analysis of the water shortage results of each water supply scenario is  
 344 shown in Table 9. On the whole, the water shortage situation in the Yellow River Water Supply  
 345 Area in Henan has been significantly improved compared with that before tapping the potential.  
 346 Under different supply scenarios, the average water shortage in the water supply area decreased  
 347 from 325 million m<sup>3</sup> to 218 million m<sup>3</sup>, 129 million m<sup>3</sup> and 40 million m<sup>3</sup> respectively. The overall  
 348 water shortage rate decreased from 31.07% to 20.83%, 12.33% and 3.83%, respectively. Among  
 349 them, there is no water shortage in domestic water. Through the potential tapping of multiple  
 350 scenarios, the water shortage rate of industrial water decreased from 35.90% to 30.09%, 18.78%  
 351 and 6.94% respectively. The water shortage rate of ecological water decreased from 44.12% to  
 352 37.87%, 24.56% and 12.25%, respectively; The water shortage rate of agricultural water decreased  
 353 from 34.25% to 19.05%, 10.49% and 1.92% respectively. After Multi-scenario potential tapping,  
 354 the water shortage rate of each department (except domestic water) has been greatly reduced, but  
 355 there is still a shortage of water in industrial water, ecological water and agricultural water. In the  
 356 future, it is urgent to deepen the excavation of unconventional water sources and flood water  
 357 sources, so that the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan has sustainable water resources  
 358 support.

359 Table 9 Comparison table of water shortage results before and after tapping the potential of  
 360 the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan Unit: hundred million m<sup>3</sup>



Analysis index	Domestic water shortage rate (%)	Industrial water shortage rate (%)	Ecological water shortage rate (%)	Agricultural water shortage rate (%)	Mean value of water shortage in each district	Water shortage rate (%)	
Before digging potential	0	35.90	44.12	34.25	3.25	31.07	
After digging potential	Scenario 1	0	30.09	37.87	19.05	2.18	20.83
	Scenario 2	0	18.78	24.56	10.49	1.29	12.33
	Scenario 3	0	6.94	12.25	1.92	0.40	3.83

361 (4) Configuration effect of multi-level water demand

362 Based on three water demand levels (rigid demand, rigid elastic demand and elastic demand),  
 363 this paper explores the potential of multiple water sources. Different water supply scenarios  
 364 correspond to different water demand levels. Water supply scenarios 1, 2 and 3 correspond to rigid  
 365 demand, rigid elastic demand and elastic demand respectively, and a multi-level water demand  
 366 configuration scheme is obtained. Table 10 shows the water demand satisfaction under different  
 367 water demand conditions. Through the increase of different potential tapping scenarios, the overall  
 368 satisfaction rates of rigid demand, rigid elastic demand and elastic demand have reached 79.17,  
 369 87.67 and 96.17 respectively. Specifically, under the condition of rigid water demand, the  
 370 satisfaction rates of domestic water demand, industrial water demand, ecological water demand  
 371 and agricultural water demand are 100%, 69.91%, 62.13% and 80.95% respectively. Under the  
 372 condition of rigid elastic demand, the satisfaction rates of domestic water demand, industrial water  
 373 demand, ecological water demand and agricultural water demand are 100%, 81.22%, 75.44% and  
 374 89.51% respectively. Under the condition of elastic demand, the satisfaction rates of domestic  
 375 water demand, industrial water demand, ecological water demand and agricultural water demand  
 376 are 100%, 93.06%, 87.75% and 98.08% respectively. Based on different potential tapping  
 377 scenarios corresponding to different water demand levels, in the future, water demand can be  
 378 considered to be hierarchical to achieve precise potential tapping and supply increase and



379 scientific configuration.

380 Table 10 is the unit of water demand satisfaction under different water demand conditions: %

Analysis index		Domestic water demand satisfaction rate	Industrial water demand satisfaction rate	Ecological water demand satisfaction rate	Agricultural water demand satisfaction rate	The average water demand satisfaction rate of each district
Water requirement levels	Rigid demand	100	69.91	62.13	80.95	79.17
	Rigid elastic demand	100	81.22	75.44	89.51	87.67
	Elastic demand	100	93.06	87.75	98.08	96.17

381 **4.3 Discussion**

382 In terms of research results, the total water demand in extreme drought years in this paper is  
383 146.62 billion m<sup>3</sup>, and the total water supply in water supply scenarios 1,2 and 3 is 116.08 billion  
384 m<sup>3</sup>,128.54 billion m<sup>3</sup> and 141.00 billion m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. Similar to the research results of other  
385 scholars,(Sun X, 2021: Wang X, 2024) due to the different spatial scales, water supply structures  
386 and methods of research, the results are different.

387 In terms of research methods, this paper constructs a model with the minimum water shortage  
388 as the goal, and uses genetic algorithm and dynamic programming to calculate the configuration  
389 model. The limited objective function and constraint conditions in the multi-water source  
390 configuration model are difficult to fully consider the current situation and development  
391 requirements of the water supply area. In the future, it is necessary to improve the applicability of  
392 multi-water source users and configuration models, and at the same time, it is necessary to  
393 comprehensively consider high-quality development goals such as economic growth, water supply





394 safety, and ecological health.

395 In terms of research perspective, this paper takes the multi-water source potential tapping and

396 multi-scenario supply increase configuration in extreme drought years as the research highlights.

397 The water supply sources mainly include unconventional water, flood resource water source and

398 groundwater elastic mining water source. Through the potential tapping of different measures, the

399 drought situation in the water supply area has been greatly alleviated. However, there are water

400 supply safety problems in the exploitation of flood resource water and groundwater, especially the

401 realization of flood resource through the regulation of reservoir flood limit water level, which

402 makes the contradiction between benefit and flood control safety. In the future, we can consider

403 vigorously exploiting unconventional water sources to achieve the reduction of water supply risk

404 and the benign maintenance of ecological environment.

## 405 **5 Conclusion**

406 Aiming at the problem of multi-resource allocation under extreme drought the Yellow River

407 Water Supply Area in Henan, this paper sets different water supply scenarios through different

408 potential tapping measures, constructs a Multi-water sources allocation model based on multiple

409 scenarios, and proposes three schemes for increasing supply. The main conclusions of this paper

410 are as follows: (1) Under extreme drought, the amount of potential tapping water has been

411 significantly improved through different scenarios of potential tapping measures. The amount of

412 potential tapping water in the three scenarios is 1.499 billion m<sup>3</sup>, 2.745 billion m<sup>3</sup> and 3.991

413 billion m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. The potential of unconventional water and flood resources the Yellow

414 River Water Supply Area in Henan is great. The results of potential tapping provide practical value

415 for the study of reasonable potential tapping of unconventional water sources. (2) After the



416 allocation, the overall water shortage degree of the Yellow River Water Supply Area in Henan has  
417 been significantly alleviated. Under different water supply scenarios, the total water shortage has  
418 been reduced from 4.555 billion m<sup>3</sup> to 3.054 billion m<sup>3</sup>, 1.808 billion m<sup>3</sup> and 5.62 billion m<sup>3</sup>,  
419 respectively. The overall water shortage rate decreased from 31.07% to 20.83%, 12.33% and  
420 3.83%. (3) At present, the potential of groundwater is very limited, and the potential space of  
421 unconventional water source and flood resource water source is very large. Under different  
422 scenarios, the sum of the potential water volume of unconventional water source and flood  
423 resource water source and the total water supply before the potential is more than 10%. Under  
424 extreme drought conditions, this paper studies the water resources allocation of Multi-scenario  
425 potential tapping and increasing supply. In the actual water distribution, the water quality of the  
426 water distribution is subject to various complex requirements and restrictions, such as different  
427 water users have different water quality requirements. In the future research, the joint allocation of  
428 water quantity and water quality can be further considered.

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460 These data are ArcGIS data, is the original data, need to be processed to use.



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