

TopoSWAT: a ArcPy Toolbox to Improve the Spatial Representation of Soil Properties and Hydrology Using Topographically Derived Initialization Processes

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H₂O 18.01888

Hydrologic Flowpaths



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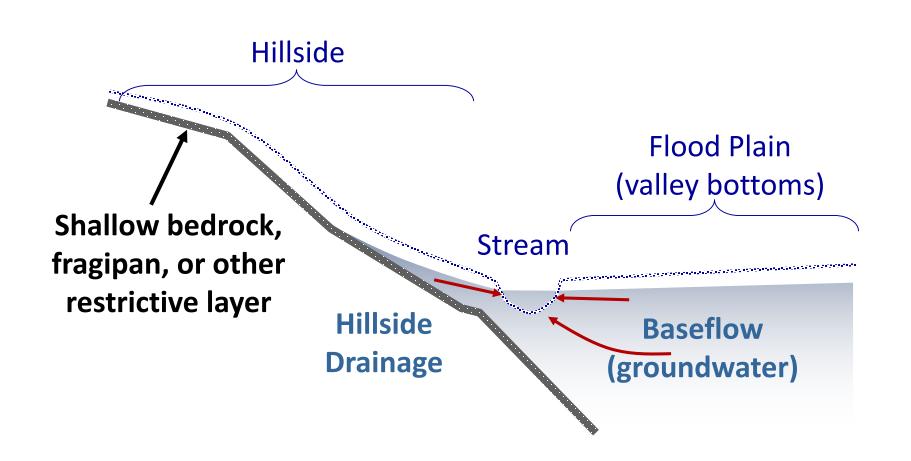
Outline

- Introduction to Topography, Soils, and TopoSWAT
- Variable Area Hydrology (VSA) Case
 - USDA WE-38, PA
- Hortonian Hydrology Case
 - Reisel, TX

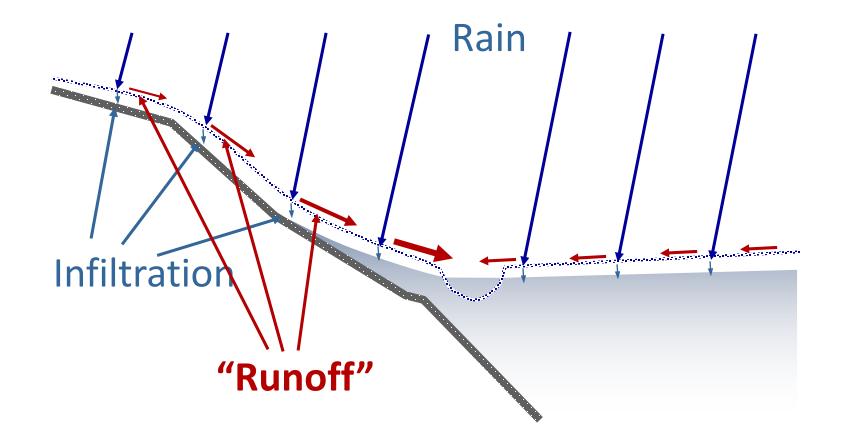
VirginiaTech

• What does this imply for modeling field management?

Hydrology....Two Paradigms

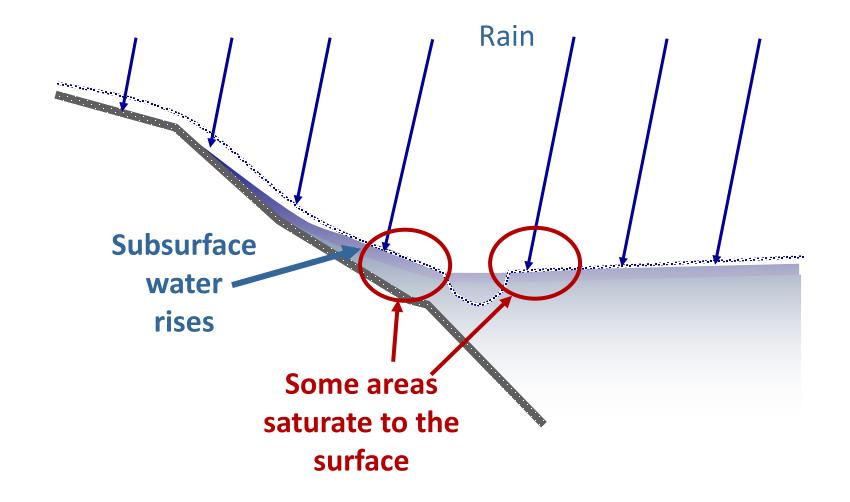


Infiltration Excess or Hortonian Runoff

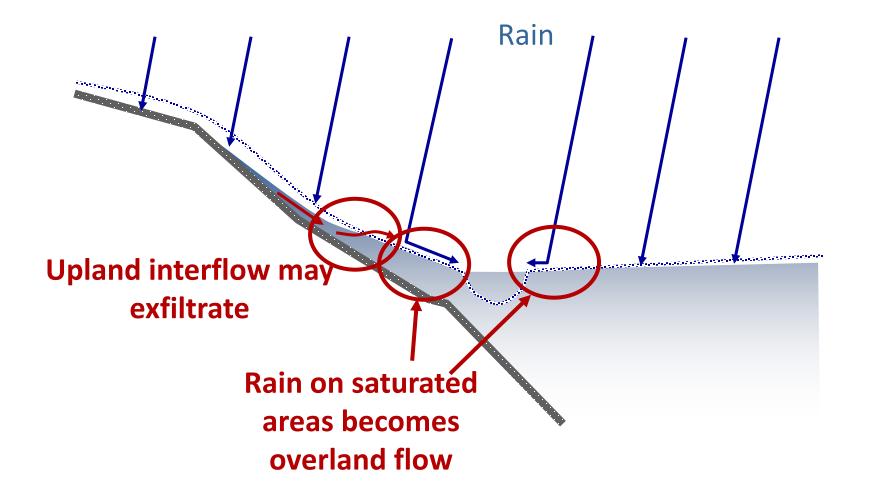




Saturation Excess Runoff



Saturation Excess Runoff



Watershed Science and Engineering

Dunne and Black. 1970. Water Resour. Res.

Variable Source Areas

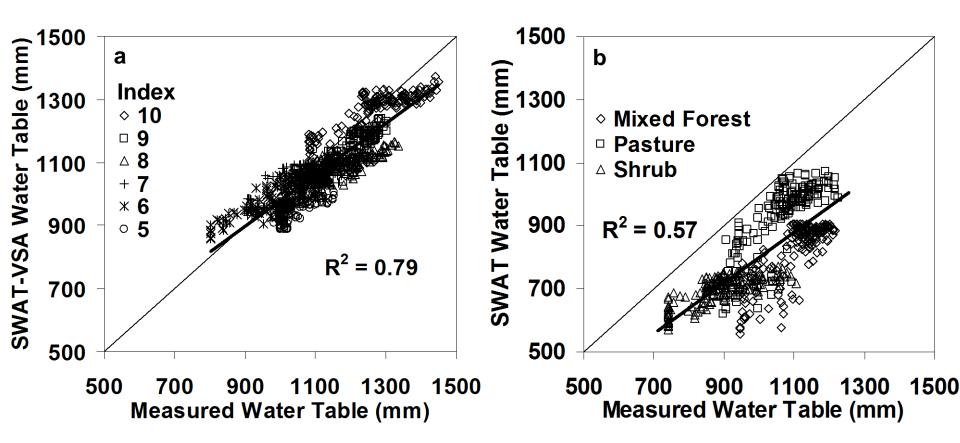


Watershed Science and Engineering



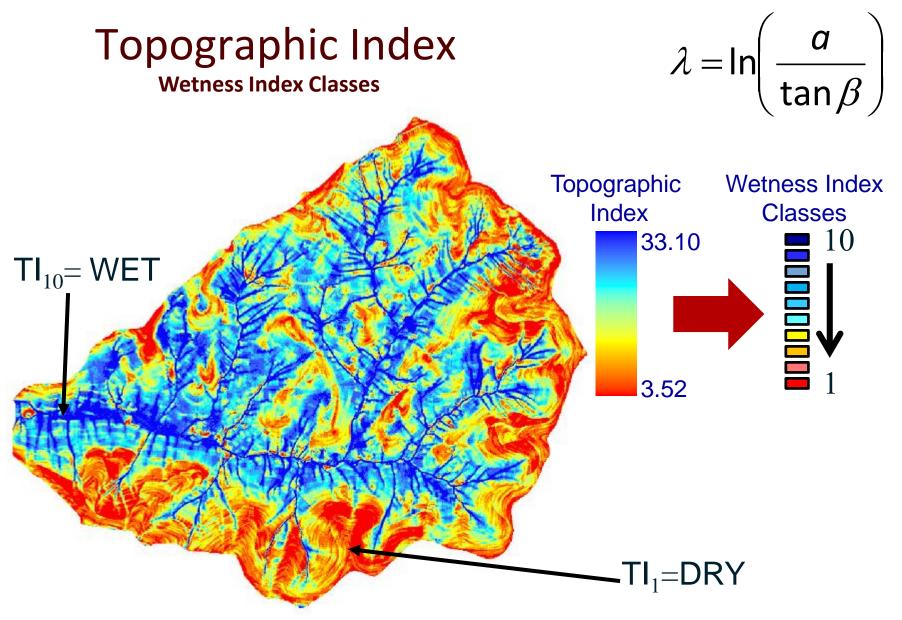
SWAT-VSA





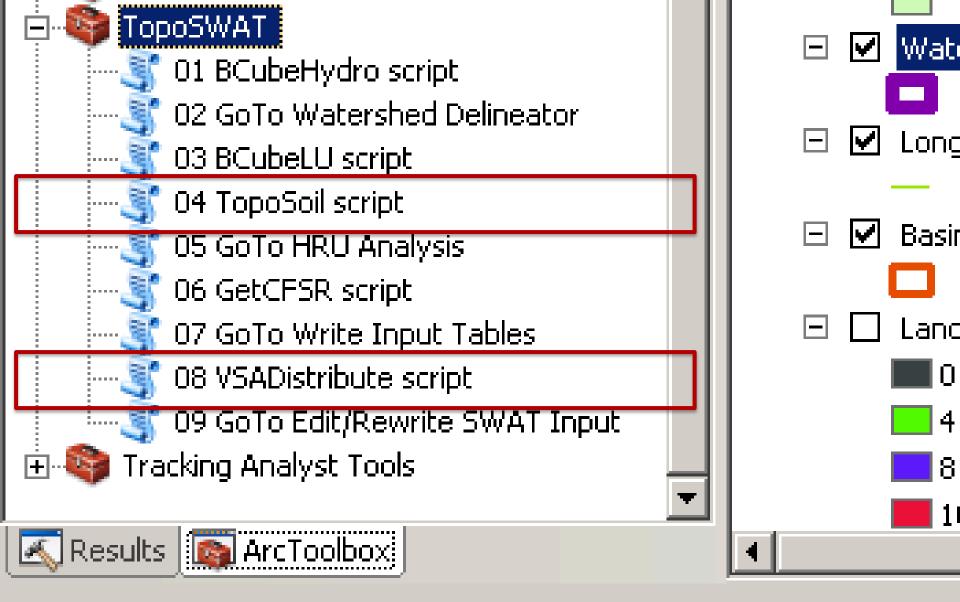
Easton et al. 2008. J. Hydrol





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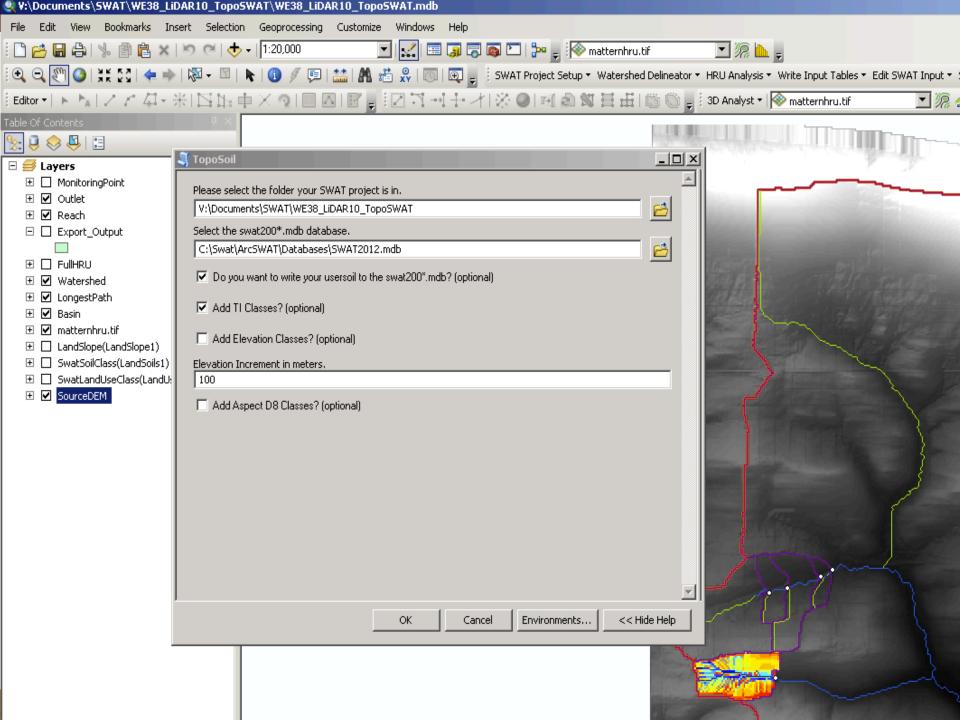
Easton et al. 2008. *J. Hydrol* Easton et al. 2011. *Hydrol. Proc*



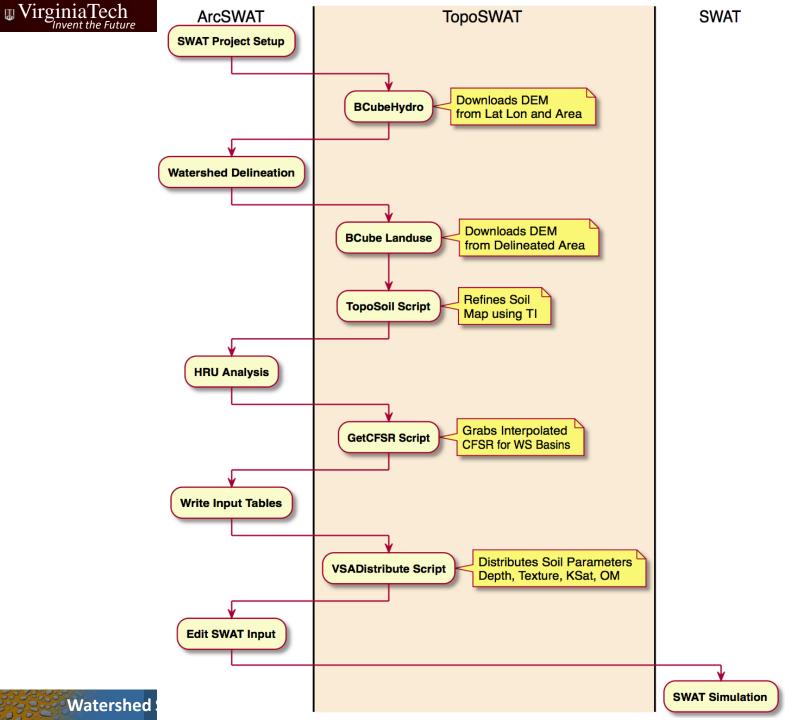
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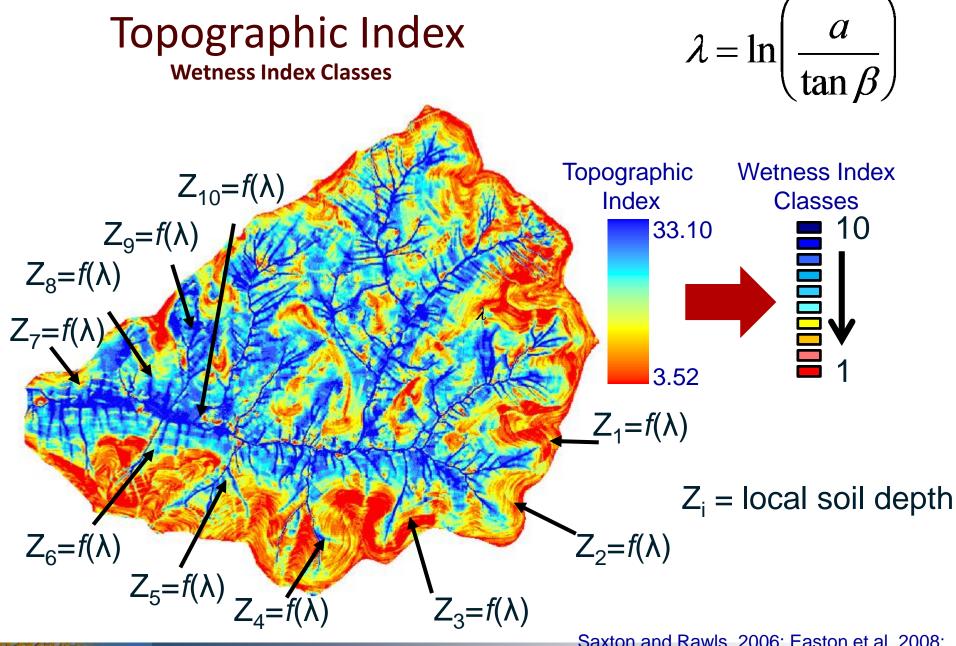
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Systems Engineering



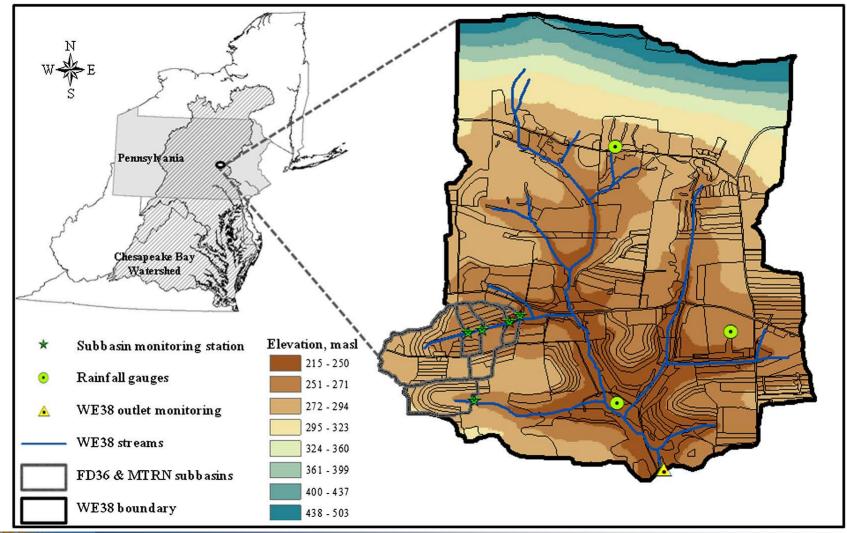
Watershed Science and Engineering

Saxton and Rawls, 2006; Easton et al. 2008; Collick et al. 2014; Fuka et al. 2015



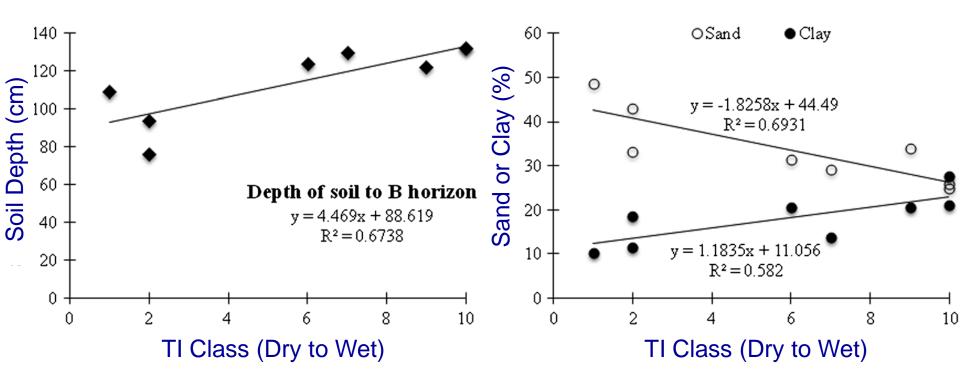


Variable Source Area Hydrology USDA WE38, PA



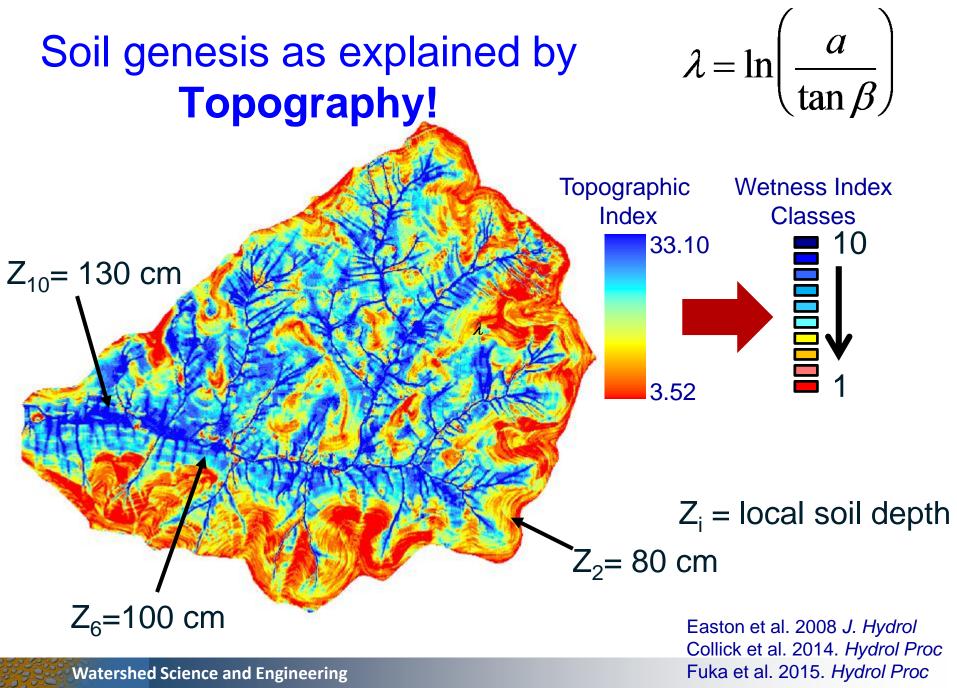
Watershed Science and Engineering

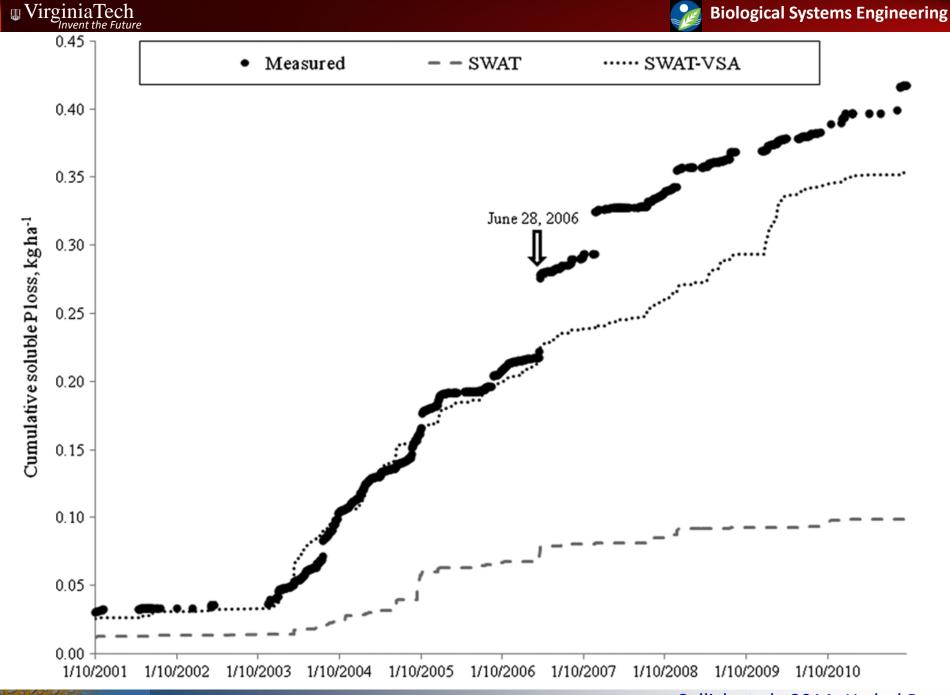
Topography to explain soil depth and fractions



Using measured pedon data from ARS long term watershed

Collick et al. 2014. Hydrol Proc

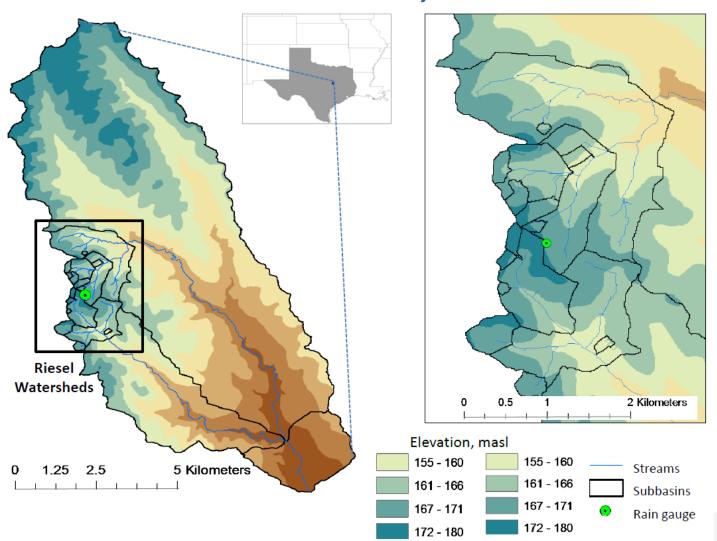




Collick et al., 2014. Hydrol Proc

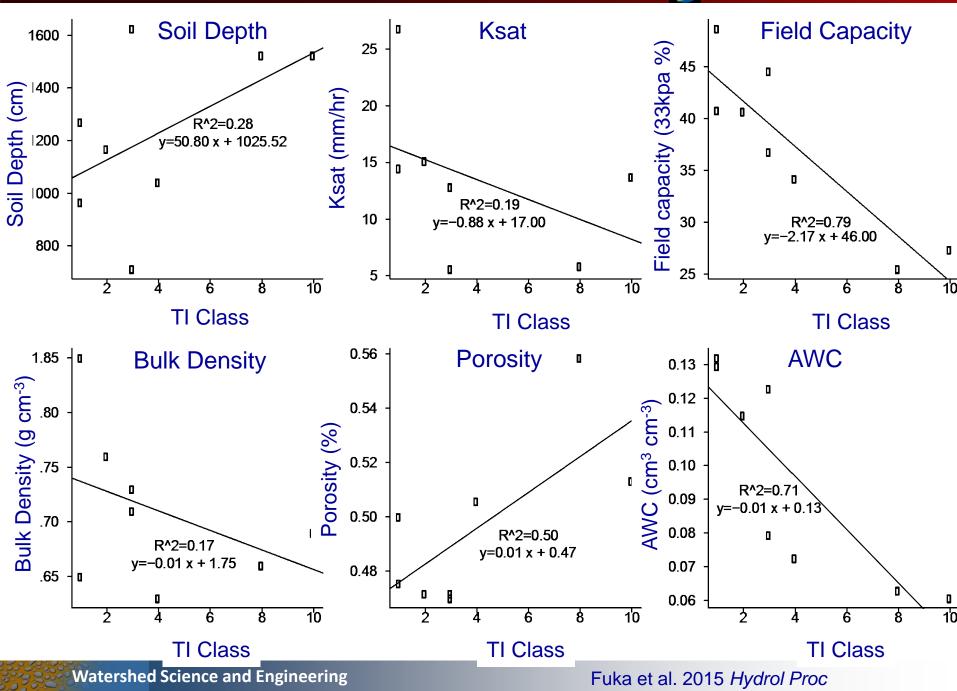


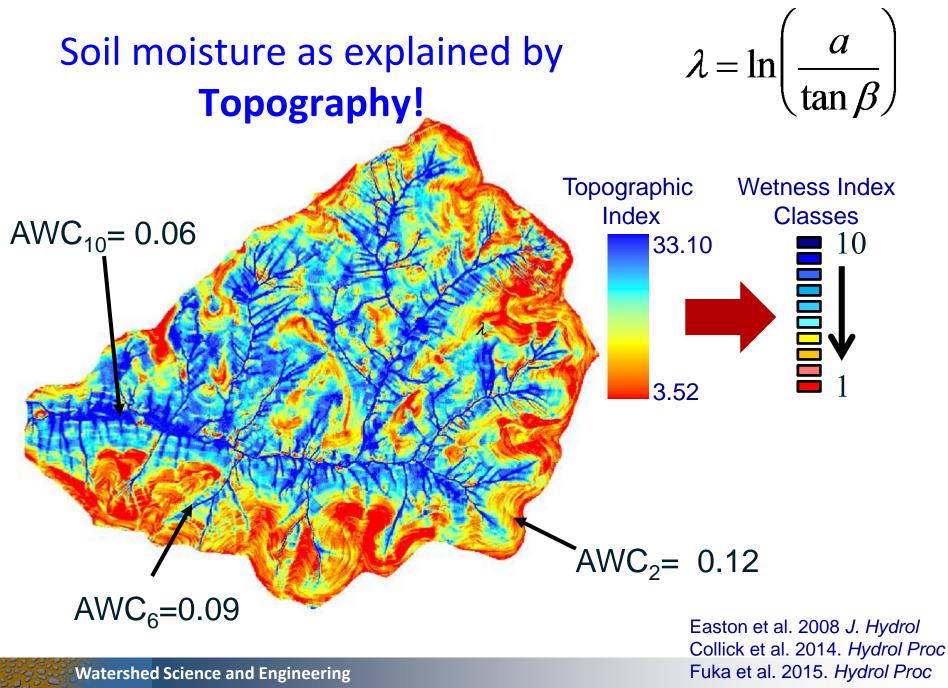
Hortonian Dominated Systems Riesel, TX



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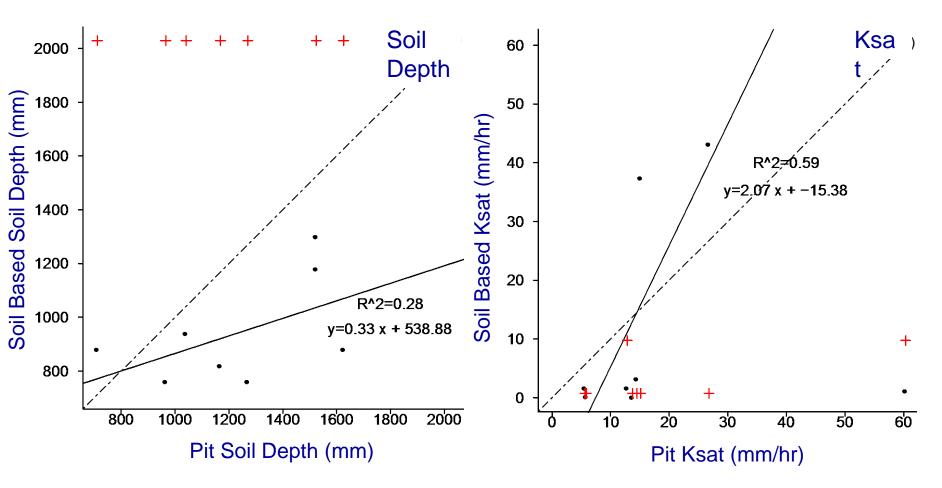








How does SSURGO perform?



TI adjusted FAO Soils (•) vs base SSURGO Soils (+)

Fuka et al. 2015 Hydrol Proc

III Virginia'

Discussion

- TI initialization exhibited strong correlations with field level measurements
 - Resulted in improved predictions of field level contaminant transport, particularly for phosphorus
- SSURGO initialization captured soil properties and the hydrologic response poorly
 - Sometimes under predicting and sometimes over predicting, in part due to the overestimated soil depth and AWC
- These results indicate that adjusting model parameters based on topography can result in more accurate soil characterization and improve model performance at the field scale