

# SWAT 2018: Global Impacts and Future Horizons

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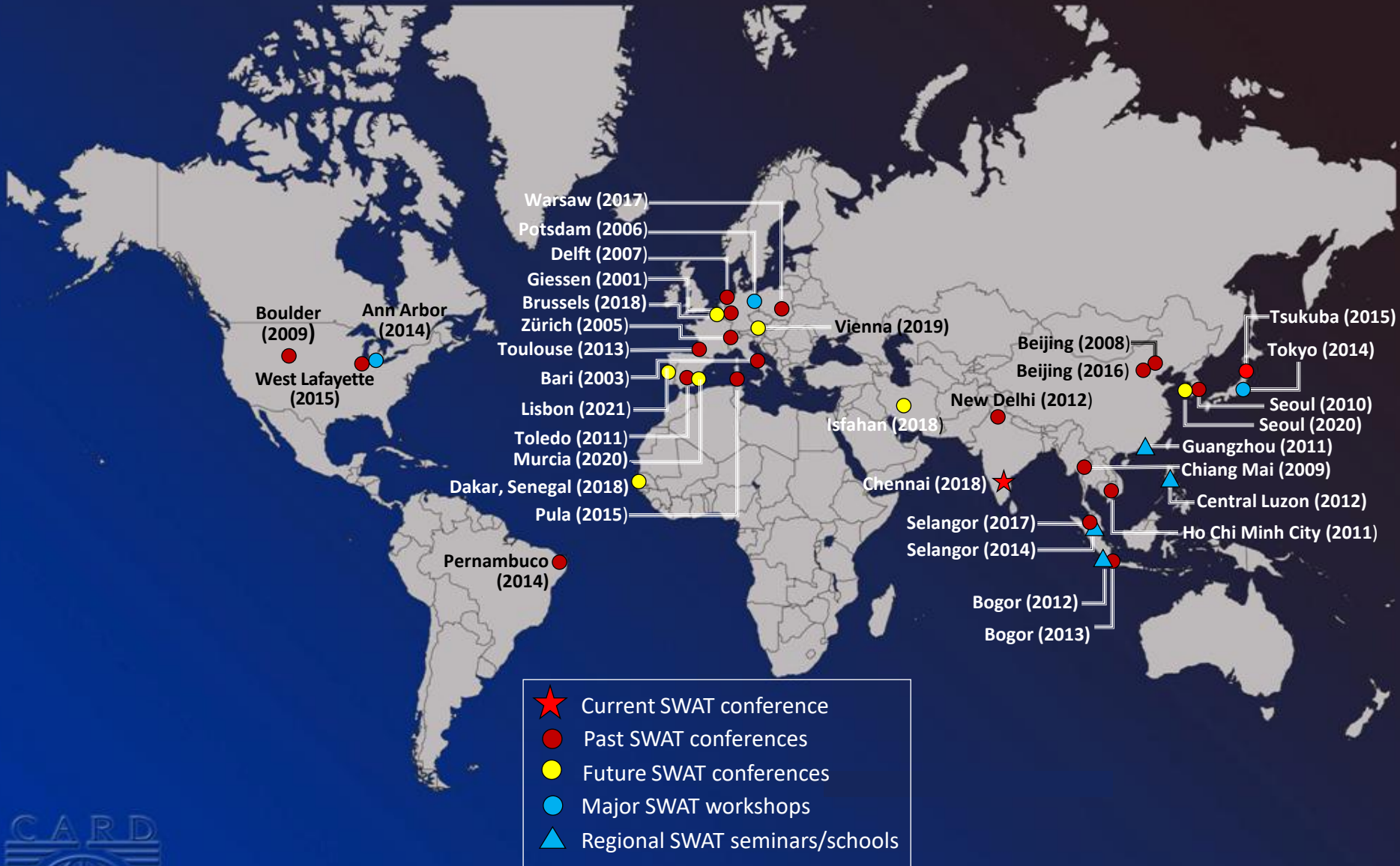


# Presentation Overview

- SWAT conferences & publication trends
- Influence of Moriasi et al. studies
  - example summaries of SWAT statistical results
  - use of “soft data” / example applications
- Asia application trends and example applications
- Concluding thoughts on Future Horizons

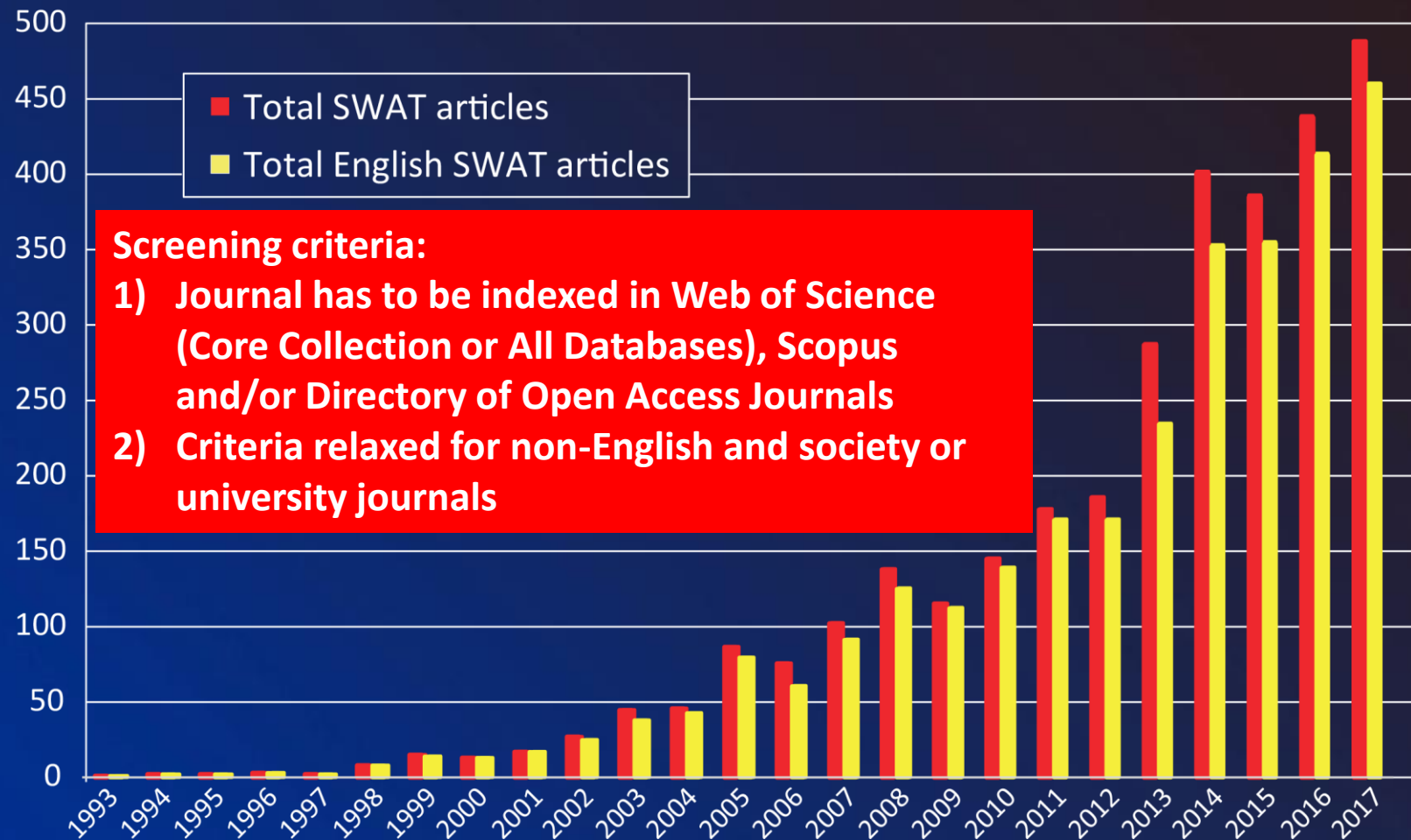


# Locations/Years of Past, Present & Future SWAT Events



# Trends in SWAT-related articles in SWAT Literature Database (September\_2017)

## Total Articles



Source: [https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat\\_articles/](https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat_articles/); data shown here includes both SWAT and modified SWAT applications as well as review articles (including literature citation analysis studies).

# Heistermann et al. 2014 Bibliometric Analysis

Analyzed ~1.9 million references cited in over 170,000 articles categorized in 80 Journals in the Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports Water Resources Category for 1965 to 2012

**“... the dominance of one topic is particularly remarkable: the use of watershed models and the related aspects of model calibration, evaluation, and uncertainty (ranks 7, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 21, 25).”**

11	Moriasi et al. 2007. Trans. ASABE
16	Gassman et al. 2007. Trans. ASABE
21	Arnold et al. 1998. J. Amer. Water Resources Assoc.

**Source: Heistermann et al. 2014. Increasing life expectancy of water resources literature. Water Resources Research. 50: 5019–5028. Doi:10.1002/2014WR015674.**

# Web of Science All-Time Top-Cited SWAT-Related Studies (January 8, 2018)

Authors	Year	Title	Journal (rank)	Citations	
				All Databases	Core Collection
Arnold et al.	1998	Large area hydrologic modeling and assessment - part 1: Model development	JAWRA (1)	2,650	<b>2,447</b>
Moriasi et al.	2007	Model evaluation guidelines for systematic quantification of accuracy in watershed simulations	Trans. ASABE (1)	2,528	<b>2,423</b>
Gassman et al.	2007	The Soil and Water Assessment Tool: Historical development, applications, and future research directions	Trans. ASABE (2)	1,064	1,004
Arnold & Fohrer	2005	SWAT2000: Current capabilities and research opportunities in applied watershed modelling	Hydrol. Proc. (6)	607	566



# Nexus Tools Platform: Popularity index $P_r$ for 352 Models

**SWAT  $P_r = 39.2$**   
**(no other hydrologic  
model  $P_r$  was close)**

Source: Mannschatz et al. 2016. Nexus Tools Platform: Web-based comparison of modelling tools for analysis of water-soil-waste nexus. Environ. Model. & Software. 76: 137–153.

# Moriasi et al. (2007; 2015)

## Suggested Streamflow NSE & R<sup>2</sup> Criteria

(NSE: Nash-Sutcliffe modeling efficiency)

Performance Rating	NSE Criteria (2007 Annual or Monthly)	NSE Criteria (2015 Annual, Monthly or Daily)	R <sup>2</sup> Criteria (2015 Annual, Monthly or Daily)
Very good	0.75 < NSE ≤ 1.00	0.80 < NSE ≤ 1.00	0.85 < R <sup>2</sup> ≤ 1.00
Good	0.65 < NSE ≤ 0.75	0.70 < NSE ≤ 0.80	0.75 < R <sup>2</sup> ≤ 0.85
Satisfactory	0.50 < NSE ≤ 0.65	0.50 < NSE ≤ 0.70	0.60 < R <sup>2</sup> ≤ 0.75
Unsatisfactory	NSE ≤ 0.50	NSE ≤ 0.50	R <sup>2</sup> ≤ 0.60

Sources: Moriasi et al. 2007. Transactions of the ASABE. 50(3): 885-900. Doi: 10.13031/2013.23153. & Moriasi et al. 2015. Transactions of the ASABE. 58(6): 1763-1785. Doi: 10.13031/trans.58.10715.





# Frequency of SWAT Daily Streamflow Statistical Results (combined from six review studies\*)

Frequency	Calibration		Validation	
	R <sup>2</sup>	NSE	R <sup>2</sup>	NSE
Total models	104	207	102	189
0.9 – 1.0	9	11	5	7
0.8 – 0.89	17	21	14	20
0.7 – 0.79	27	53	26	28
0.6 – 0.69	27	43	20	46
0.5 – 0.59	11	36	16	27
0.4 – 0.49	8	14	11	18
0.3 – 0.39	0	7	4	13
0.0 – 0.29	5	14	6	11
< 0.0	0	9	0	19

\* (1) Gassman et al. 2007. Trans. ASABE 50(4): 1211-1250 (2) Douglas-Mankin et al. 2010. Trans. ASABE 53(5): 1423-1431 (3) Tuppad et al. 2011. Trans. ASABE (4) Gassman et al. 2014. JEQ 43(1): 1-8 (5) Akhaven & Mehrabi, personal communication (statistics compiled for Iranian SWAT studies) (6) Tan, personal communication (statistics compiled for southeast Asian studies)

# Increasing Recognition for Checking Model Outputs with “Soft Data”

- Arnold et al. 2015. Hydrological processes and model representation: Impact of soft data on calibration. Transactions of the ASABE. 58(6): 1637-1660. Doi: 10.13031/trans.58.10710.
- Consider known water balance, vegetation biomass & other processes, literature data, expert opinion, etc. in evaluating model output
- SWAT CHECK: can identify possible input problems
  - <http://swat.tamu.edu/software/swat-check/>



# SWAT-VSA Approach

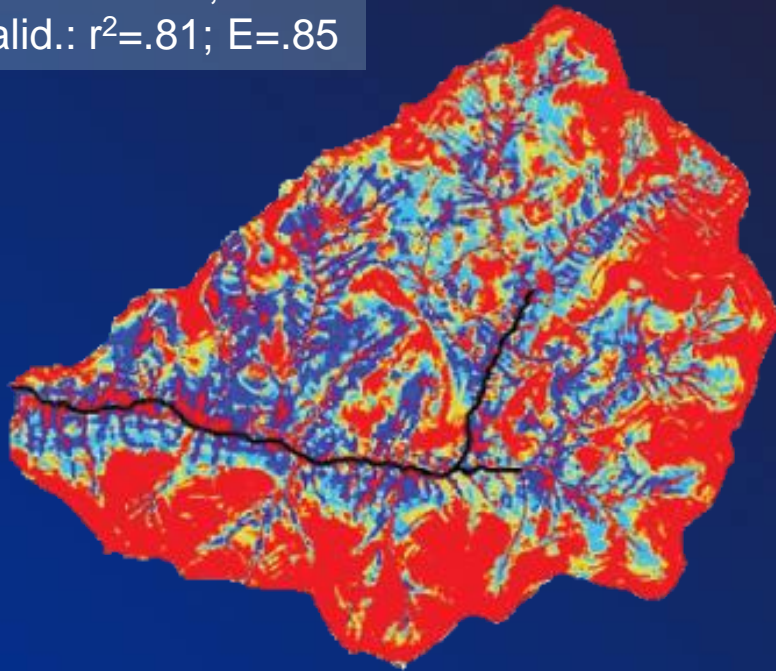
- Easton et al. 2008. Re-conceptualizing the Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) model to predict runoff from variable source areas. *J. Hydrol.* 348(3-4): 279-291.
- Sub-watershed in the Cannonsville Reservoir watershed in south central New York, U.S.
  - Dominated by “Variable Source Area” (VSA) or saturation excess hydrology
- Modified how the CN and available water content were defined (instead of model modification)



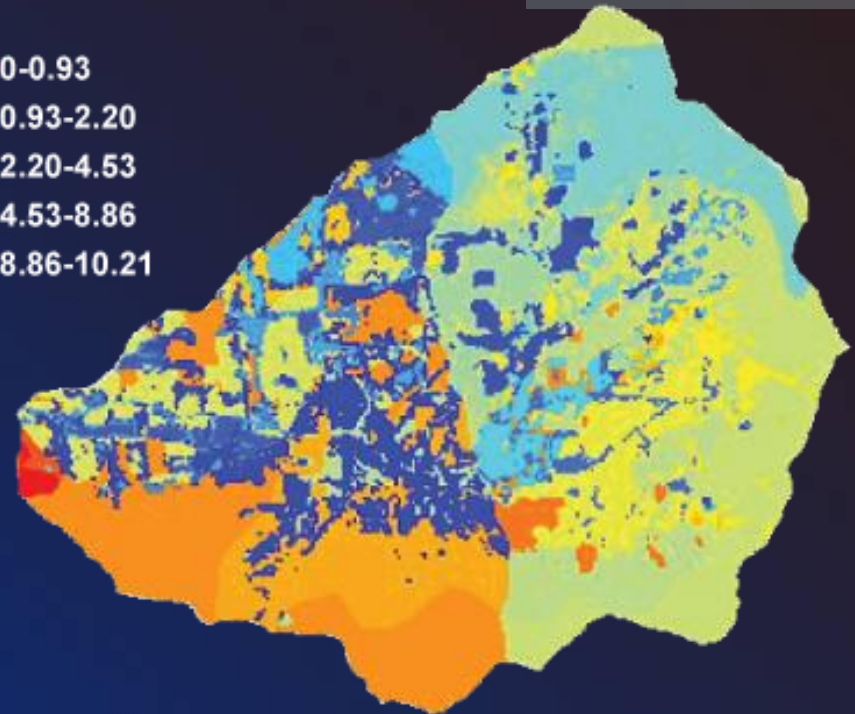
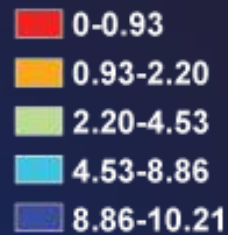
# SWAT-VSA RCN Approach

Calib.:  $r^2=.78$ ;  $E=.77$   
Valid.:  $r^2=.81$ ;  $E=.85$

Calib.:  $r^2=.78$ ;  $E=.79$   
Valid.:  $r^2=.80$ ;  $E=.84$



SWAT-VSA Runoff (mm)

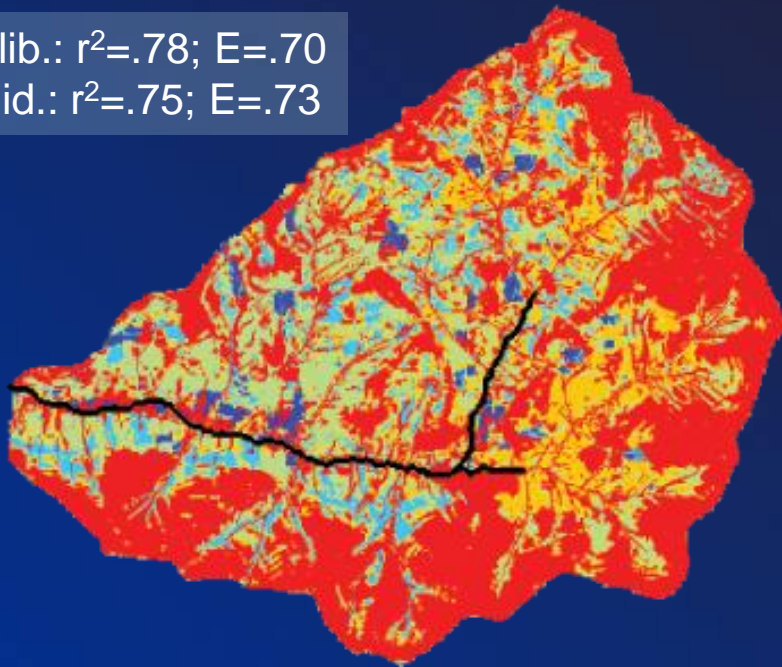


SWAT Runoff (mm)

Easton et al. 2008. Re-conceptualizing the soil and water assessment tool (SWAT) model to predict runoff from variable source areas. *Journal of Hydrology* 348(3-4): 279– 291.

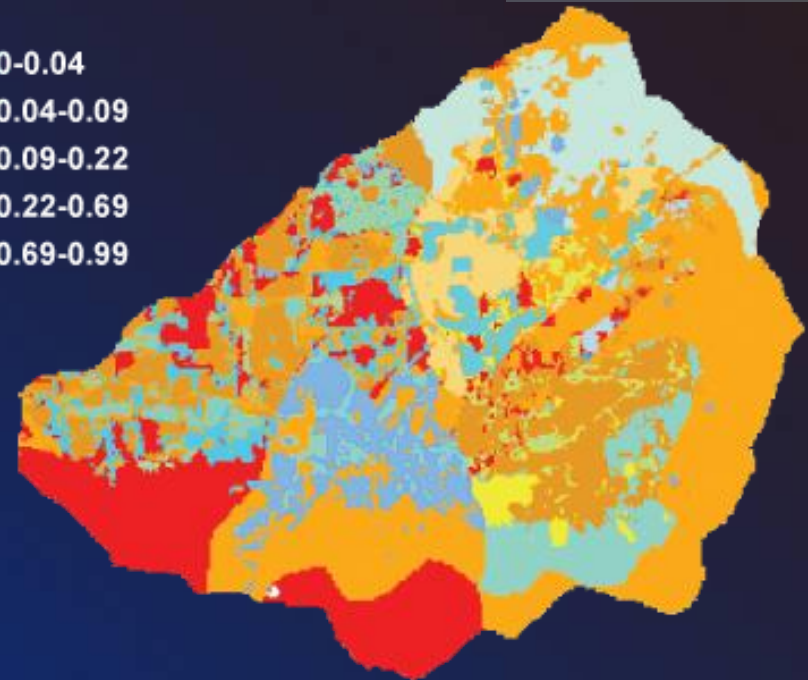
# SWAT-VSA RCN Approach

Calib.:  $r^2=.78$ ;  $E=.70$   
Valid.:  $r^2=.75$ ;  $E=.73$



SWAT-VSA Dissolved P (kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)

Calib.:  $r^2=.59$ ;  $E=.39$   
Valid.:  $r^2=.66$ ;  $E=.54$



SWAT Dissolved P (kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)

Easton et al. 2008. Re-conceptualizing the soil and water assessment tool (SWAT) model to predict runoff from variable source areas. *Journal of Hydrology* 348(3-4): 279– 291.

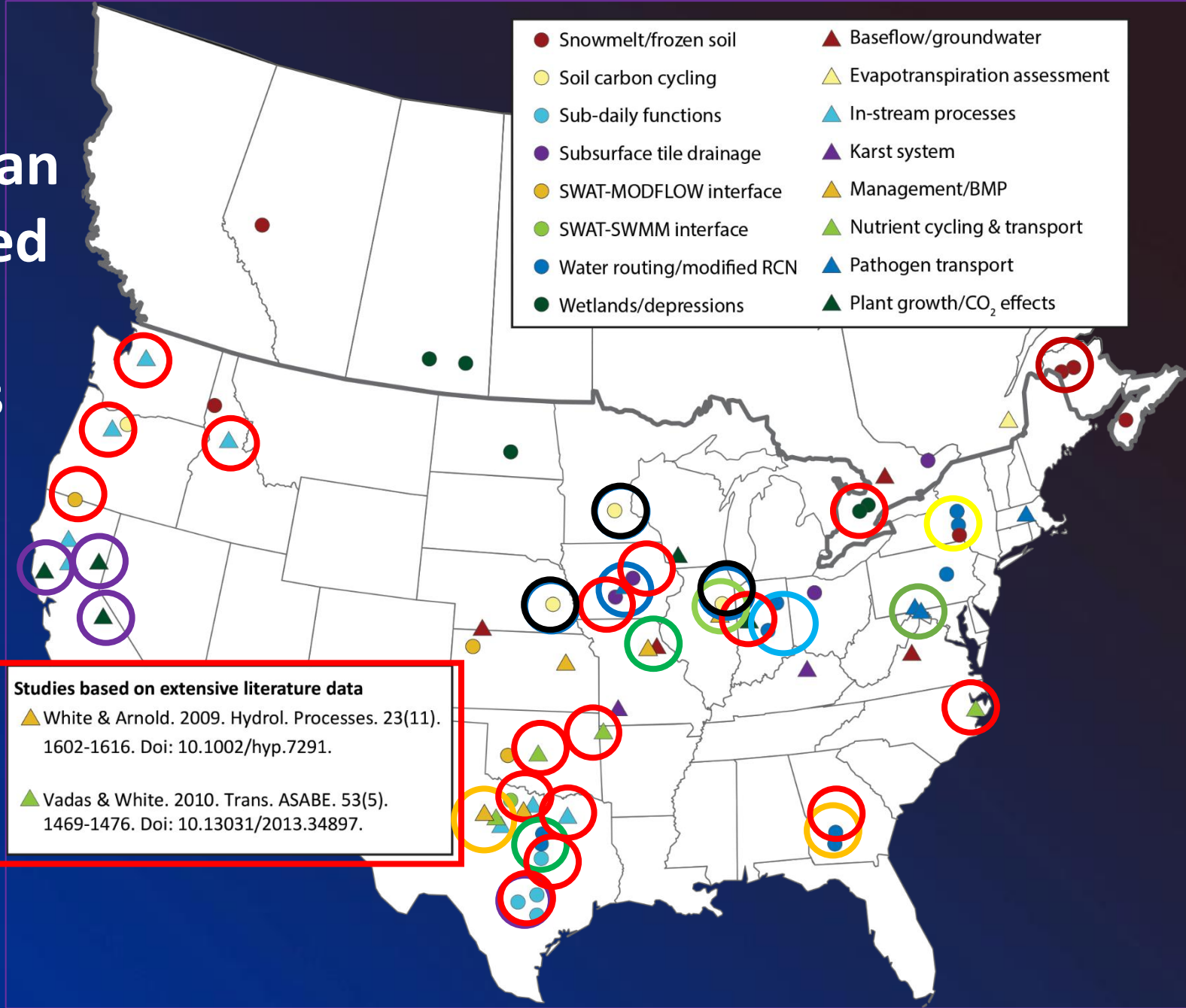
# North American Modified SWAT Models

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| ● Snowmelt/frozen soil       | ▲ Baseflow/groundwater                 |
| ● Soil carbon cycling        | ▲ Evapotranspiration assessment        |
| ● Sub-daily functions        | ▲ In-stream processes                  |
| ● Subsurface tile drainage   | ▲ Karst system                         |
| ● SWAT-MODFLOW interface     | ▲ Management/BMP                       |
| ● SWAT-SWMM interface        | ▲ Nutrient cycling & transport         |
| ● Water routing/modified RCN | ▲ Pathogen transport                   |
| ● Wetlands/depressions       | ▲ Plant growth/CO <sub>2</sub> effects |

**Studies based on extensive literature data**

▲ White & Arnold. 2009. *Hydrol. Processes*. 23(11). 1602-1616. Doi: 10.1002/hyp.7291.

▲ Vadas & White. 2010. *Trans. ASABE*. 53(5). 1469-1476. Doi: 10.13031/2013.34897.

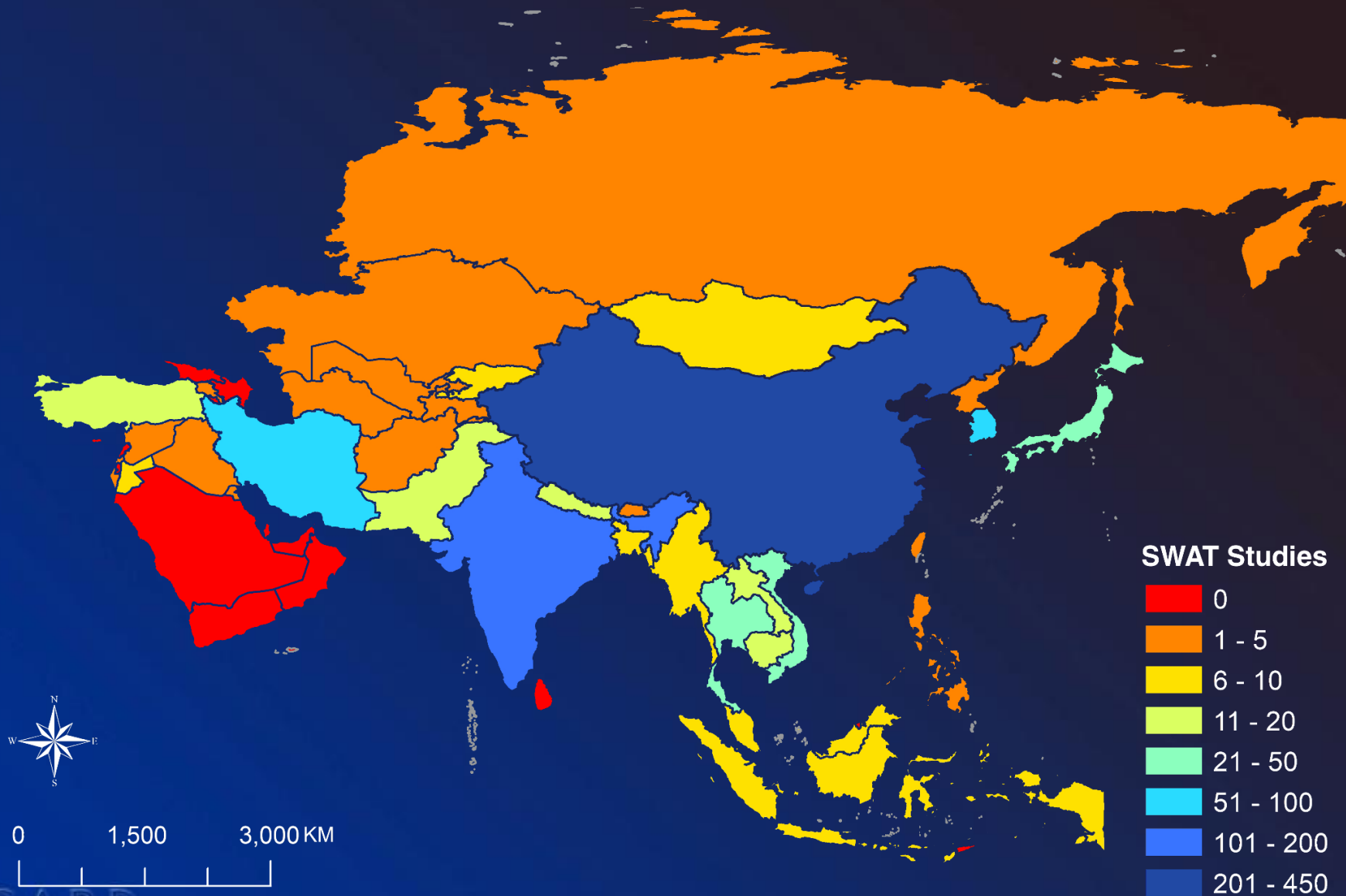


# Locations of SWAT-Related Events in Asia

Isfahan: May  
2018 conference



# Asia SWAT Studies Published in English



0 1,500 3,000 KM



Source: SWAT Literature Database ([https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat\\_articles/](https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat_articles/))

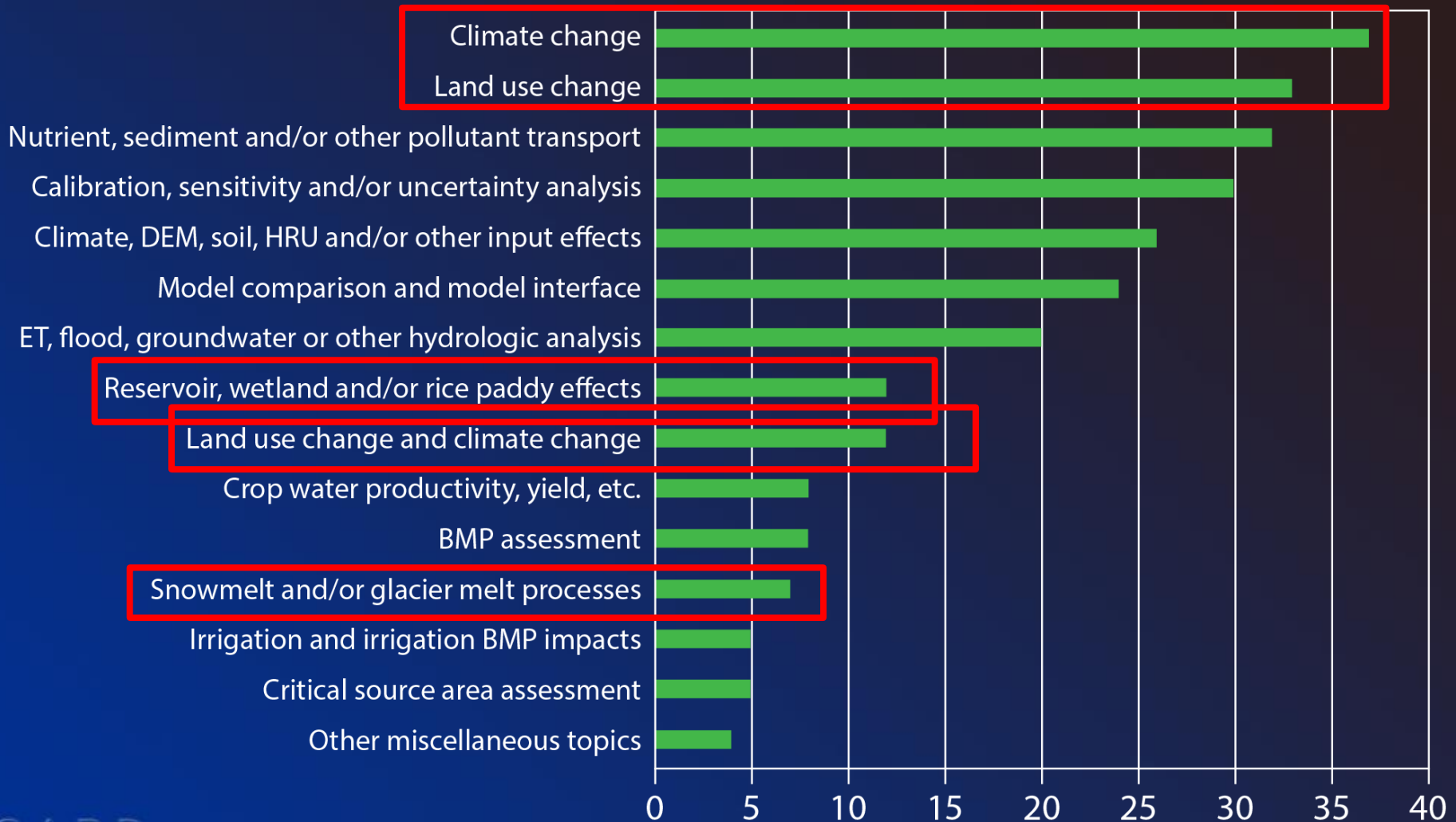


# Influence of Major SWAT Events on Southeast Asia Publishing Trends

Country	Year	Event	English Studies	
			<u>≤Year</u>	<u>&gt;Year</u>
Thailand	2009	Chiang Mai conference	1	27
Vietnam	2011	Ho Chi Minh City conference	4	31
Philippines	2012	Central Luzon Seminar/School	1	2
Indonesia	2012/ 2013	Bogor SWAT Seminar/School & Bogor SWAT Conference	0	10
Malaysia	2014	Selangor SWAT Seminar/School	3	7

Source: SWAT Literature Database ([https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat\\_articles/](https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat_articles/))

# China SWAT Application Trends (October, 2015)



Source: SWAT Literature Database ([https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat\\_articles/](https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat_articles/))



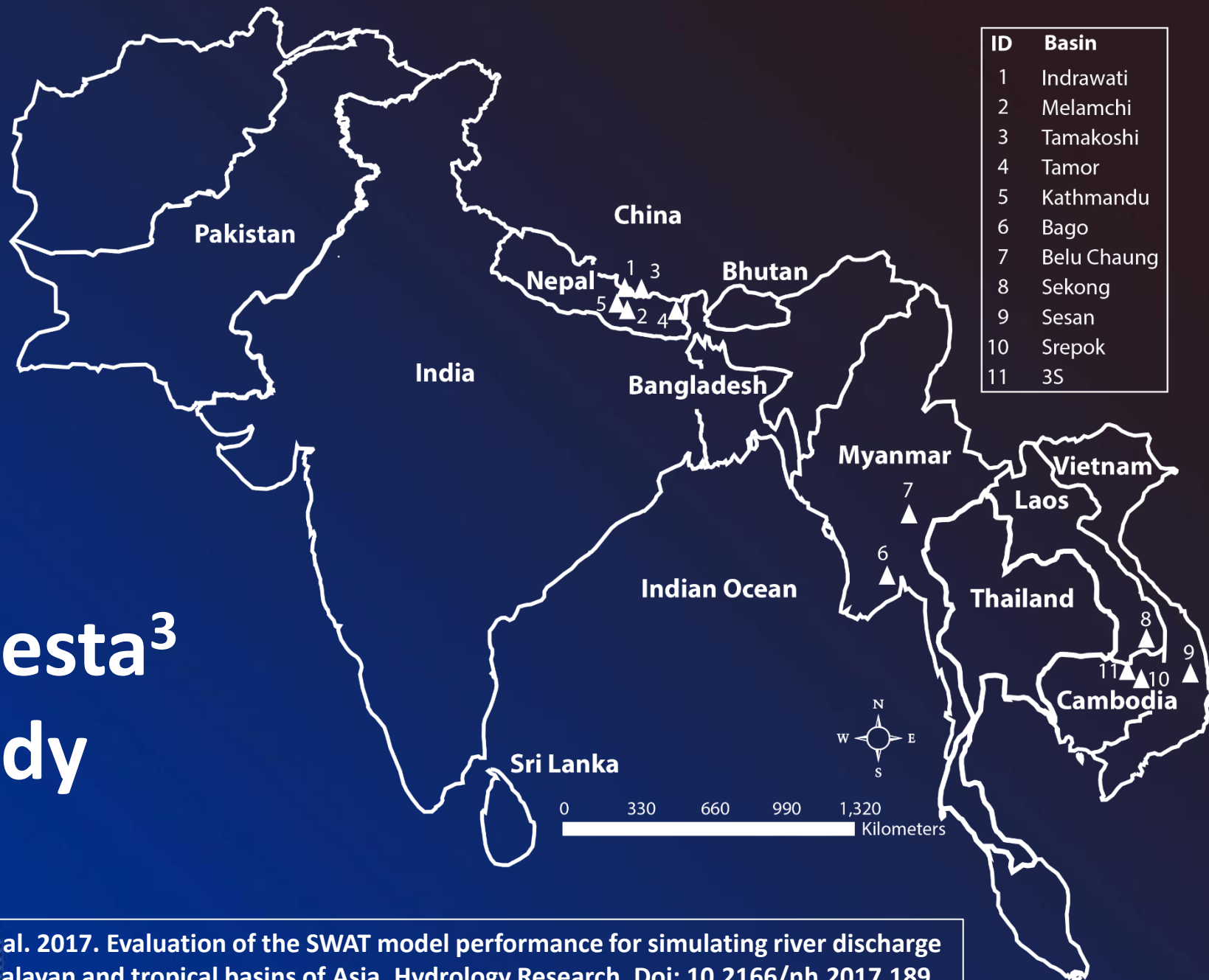
# Summary of “Indian Subcontinent” Studies (SWAT Literature Database)

Country	Total Studies	Climate Change	Hydrologic Testing	Other
Bangladesh	9	5	6	land use change (2)
Bhutan	5	5	5	land use change (1)
India	130	30	30	Model comparison or interface (15)
Nepal	20	14	14	snowmelt or glacier melt processes (3)
Pakistan	13	3	8	snowmelt or glacier melt processes (2)

Source: SWAT Literature Database ([https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat\\_articles/](https://www.card.iastate.edu/swat_articles/))

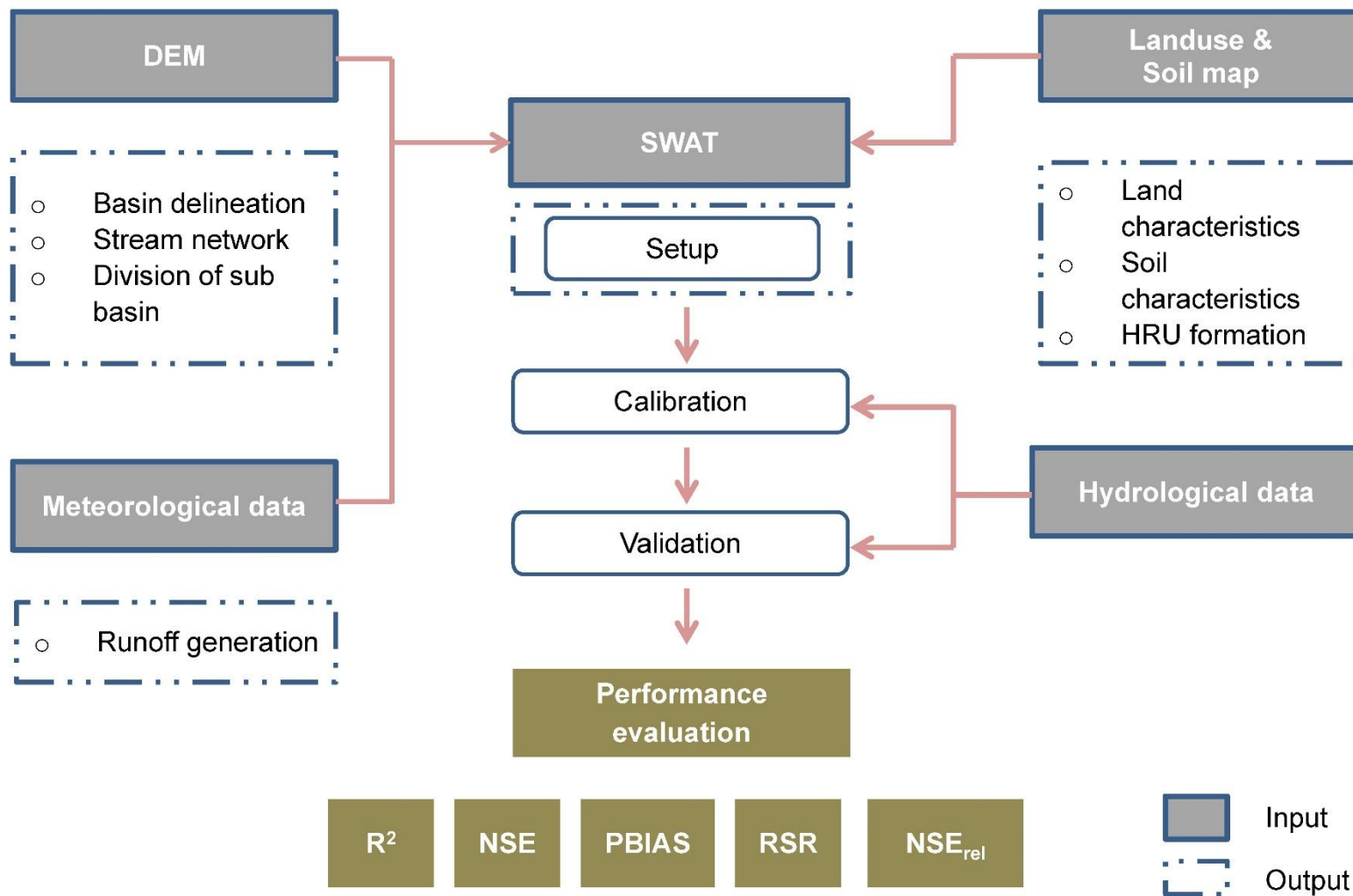


# Shrestha<sup>3</sup> Study



Shrestha et al. 2017. Evaluation of the SWAT model performance for simulating river discharge in the Himalayan and tropical basins of Asia. Hydrology Research. Doi: 10.2166/nh.2017.189 .

# Simulation Framework used by Shrestha<sup>3</sup>

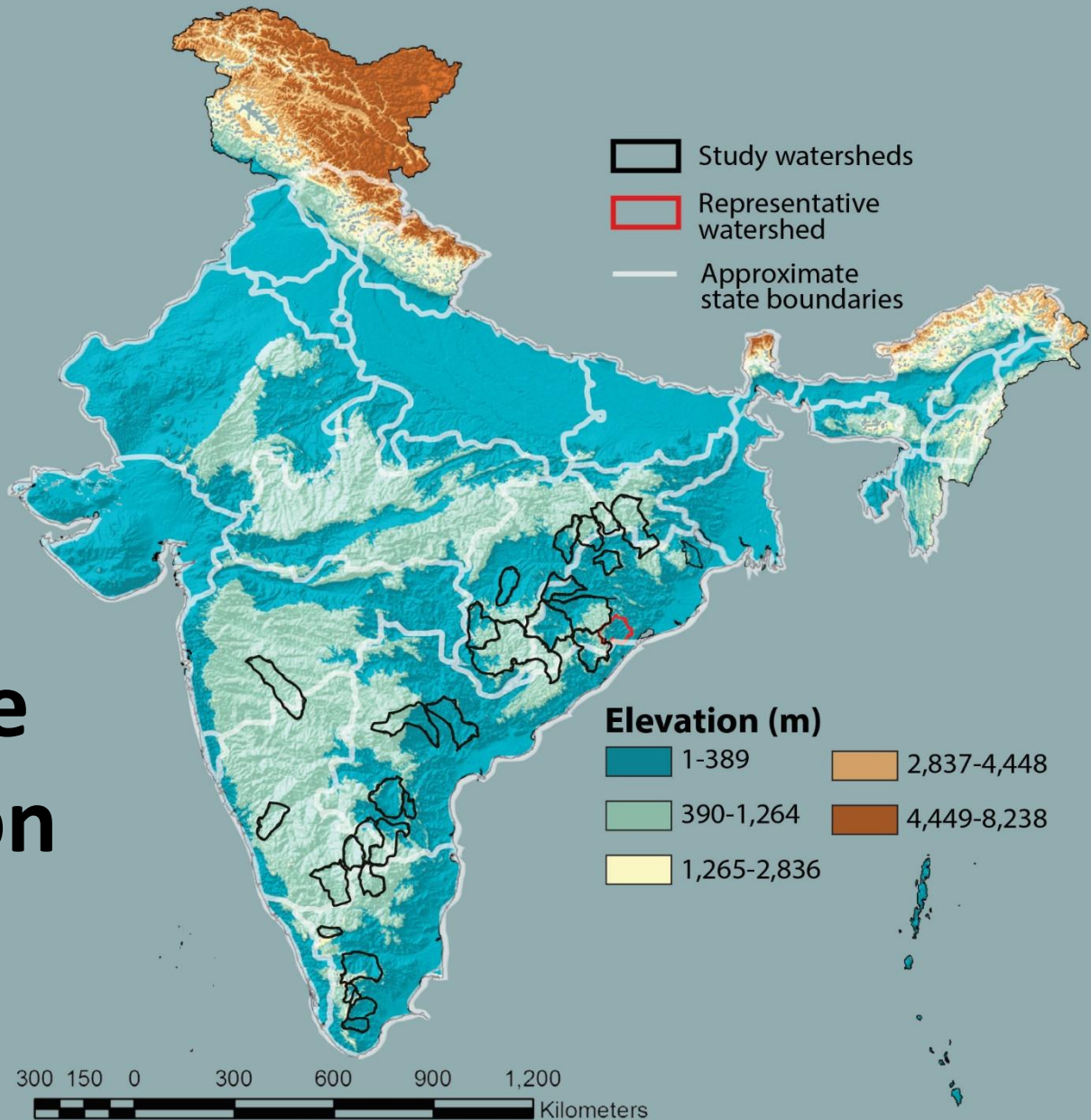


Shrestha et al. 2017. Evaluation of the SWAT model performance for simulating river discharge in the Himalayan and tropical basins of Asia. Hydrology Research. Doi: 10.2166/nh.2017.189 .

# Shresta<sup>3</sup> Findings

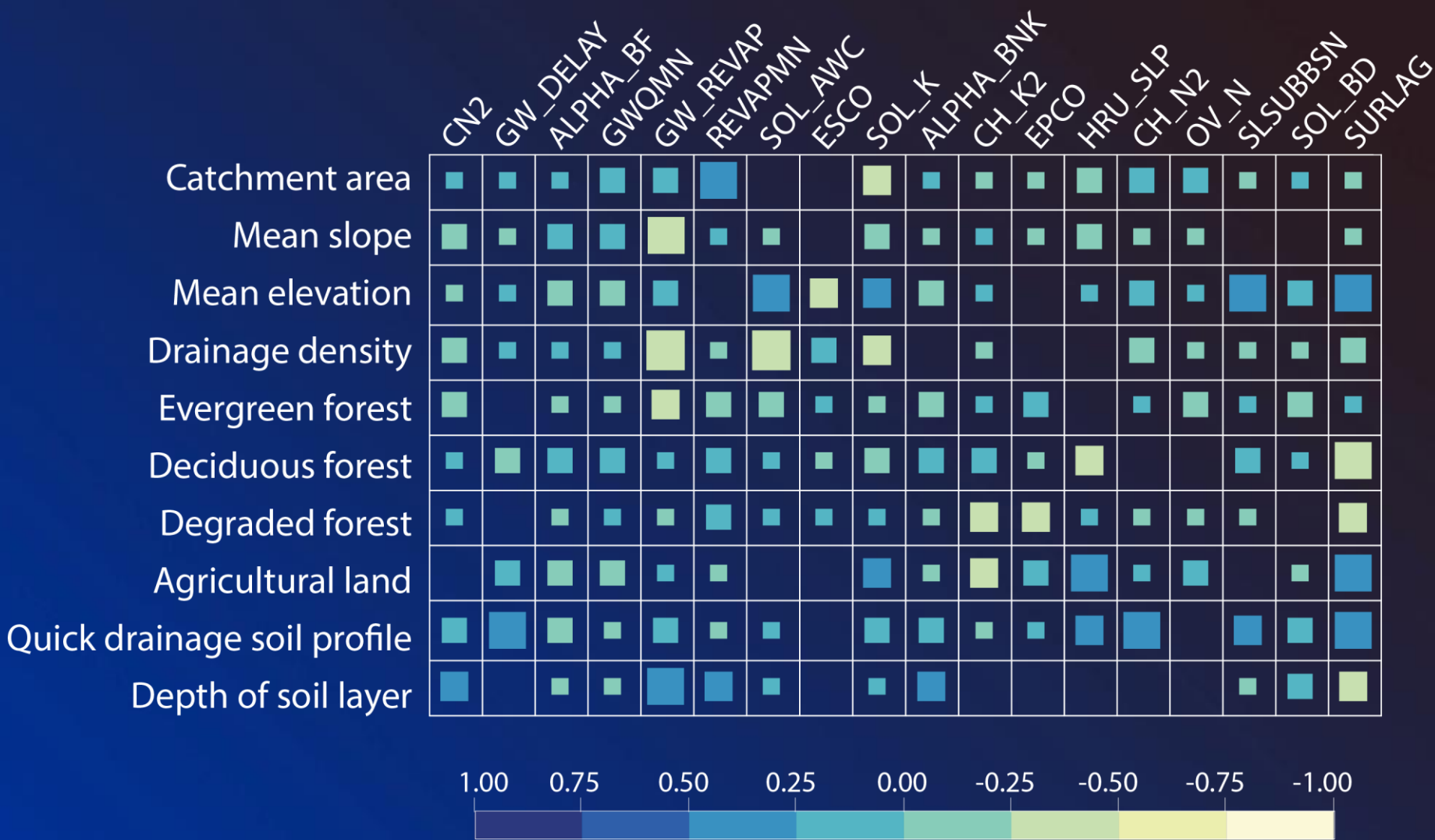
- SWAT was determined to be hydrologically applicable for both Himalayan and tropical systems
- Model streamflow performance was stronger for the Himalayan systems; e.g., daily calibration NSE range results:
  - Himalayan: 0.72 to 0.81
  - Tropical: 0.36 to 0.72
- The majority of SWAT simulations overpredicted low flow conditions or underpredicted peak discharge conditions

# India Study: Estimation of Streamflow in 32 Ungauged Watersheds Using Multiple Regionalization Techniques



Adapted from: Swain & Petra. 2017. Streamflow estimation in ungauged catchments using regionalization techniques. *J Hydrol.* 544: 420-433. Doi: 10.1016/j.jhydrol.2017.08.054

# Correlation Between SWAT & Watershed Characteristics

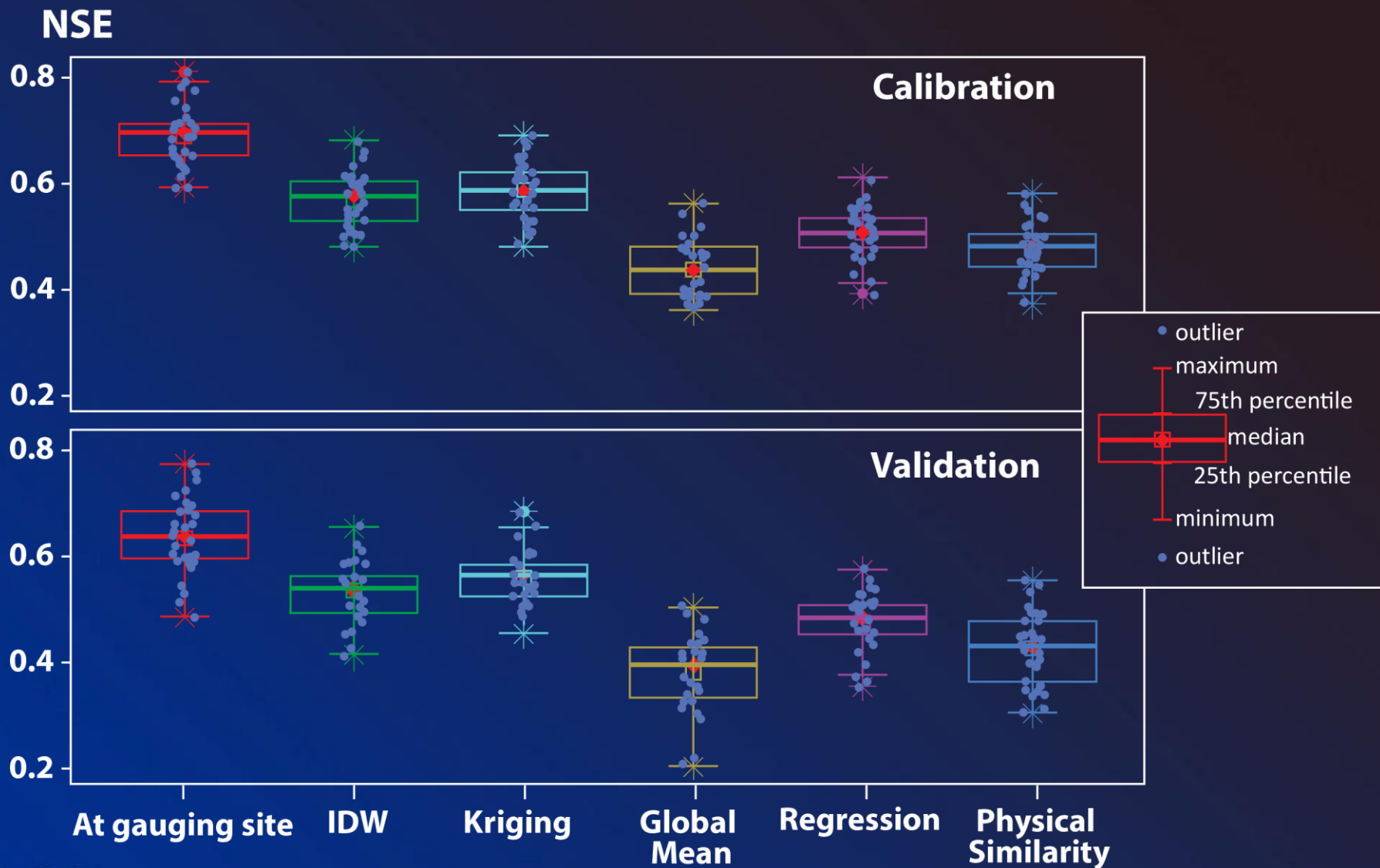


Adapted from: Swain & Petra. 2017. Streamflow estimation in ungauged catchments using regionalization techniques. *J Hydrol.* 544: 420-433. Doi: [10.1016/j.jhydrol.2017.08.054](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhydrol.2017.08.054)





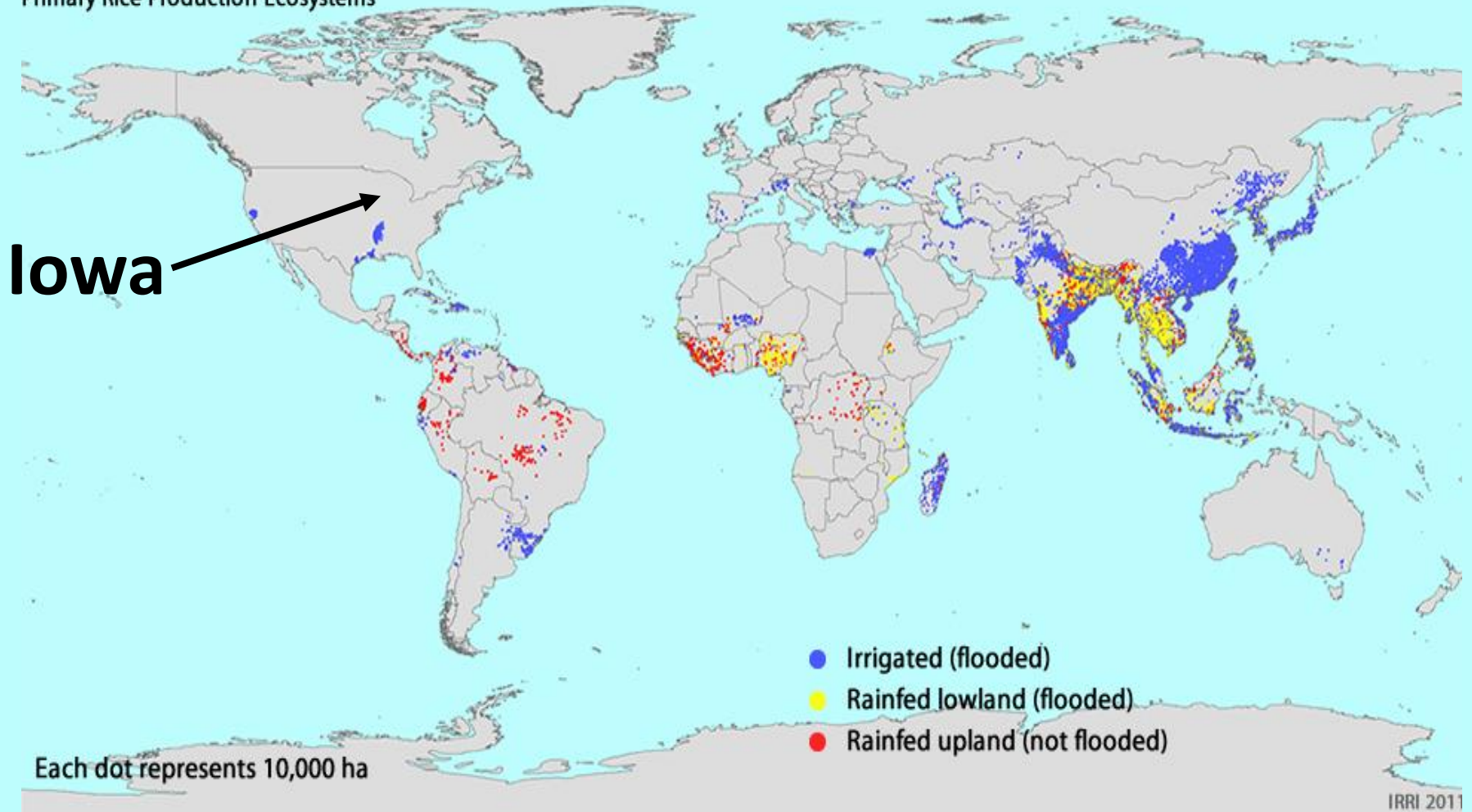
# Correlation Between SWAT & Watershed Characteristics



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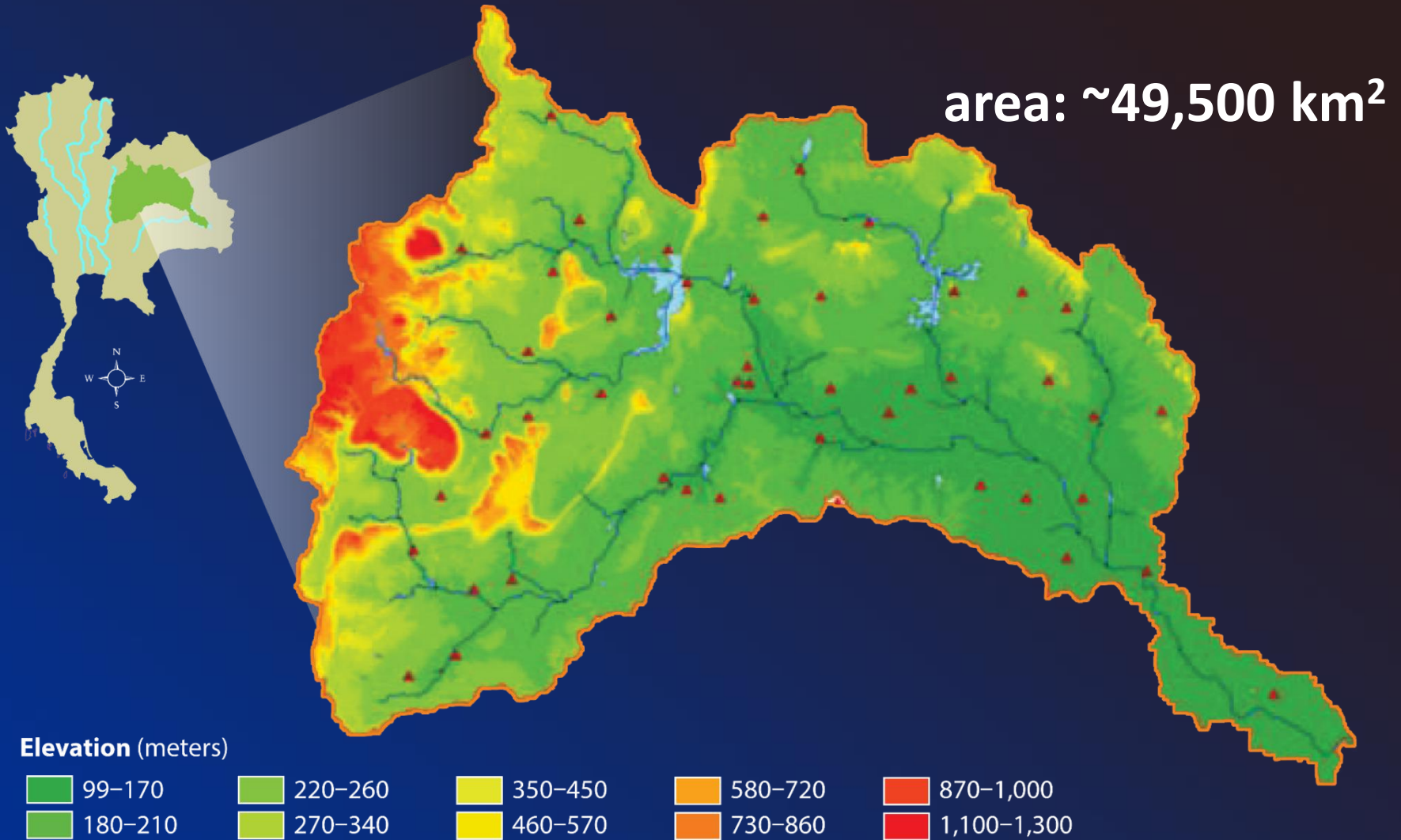
# Distribution of Global Rice Production

Primary Rice Production Ecosystems



Source: Rice Knowledge Bank: Submerged Soils for Rice Production. International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). Available at: <http://www.knowledgebank.irri.org/submergedsoils/index.php/rice-growing-environments/lesson-1>

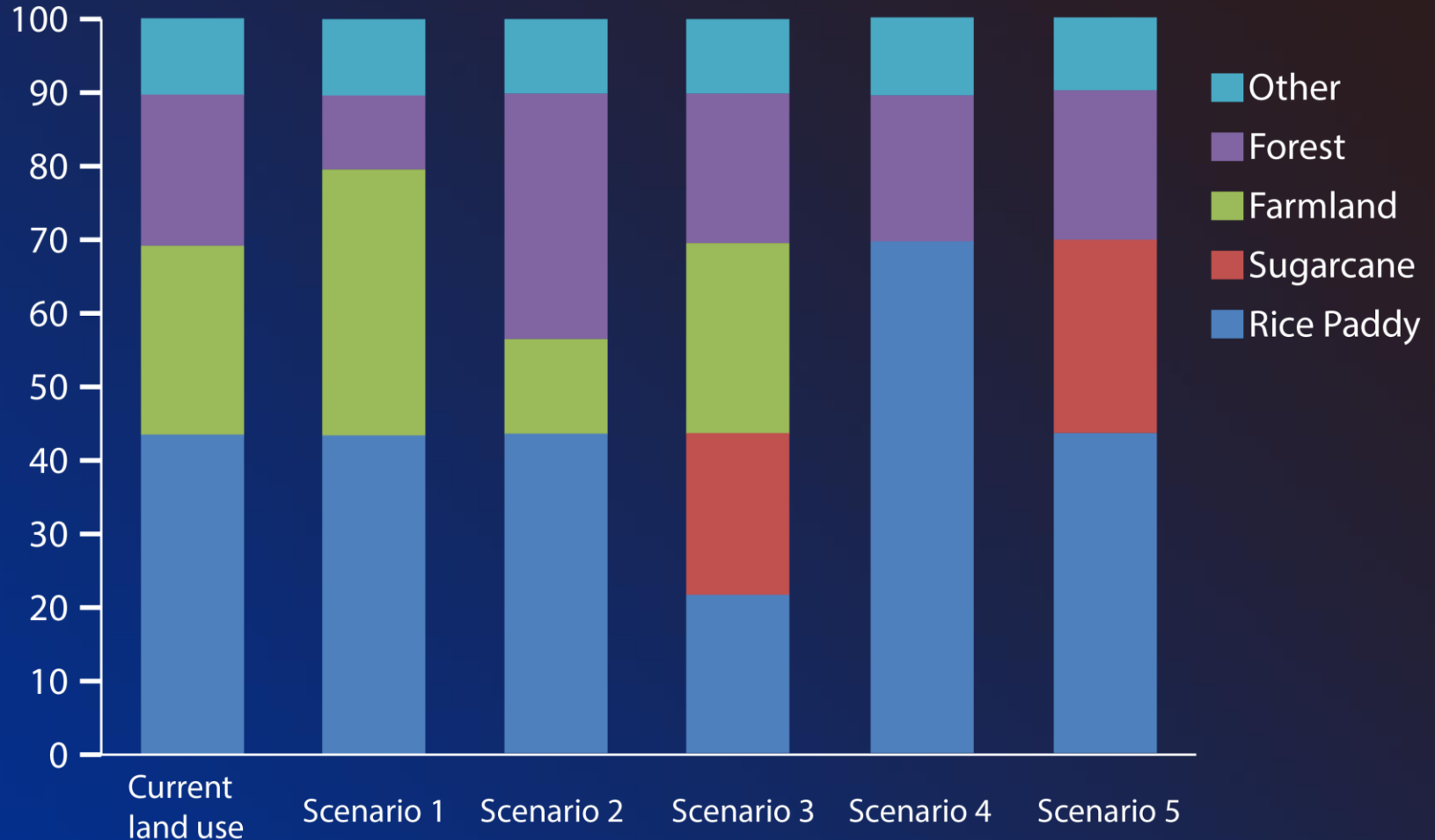
# Chi River Basin, Thailand SWAT application



Source: Homdee et al. Impacts of land cover changes on hydrologic responses: A case study of Chi River Basin, Thailand. Annual J. of Hydraulic Engr., JSCE. 55: S31-S36.

# Chi River Basin, Thailand SWAT application

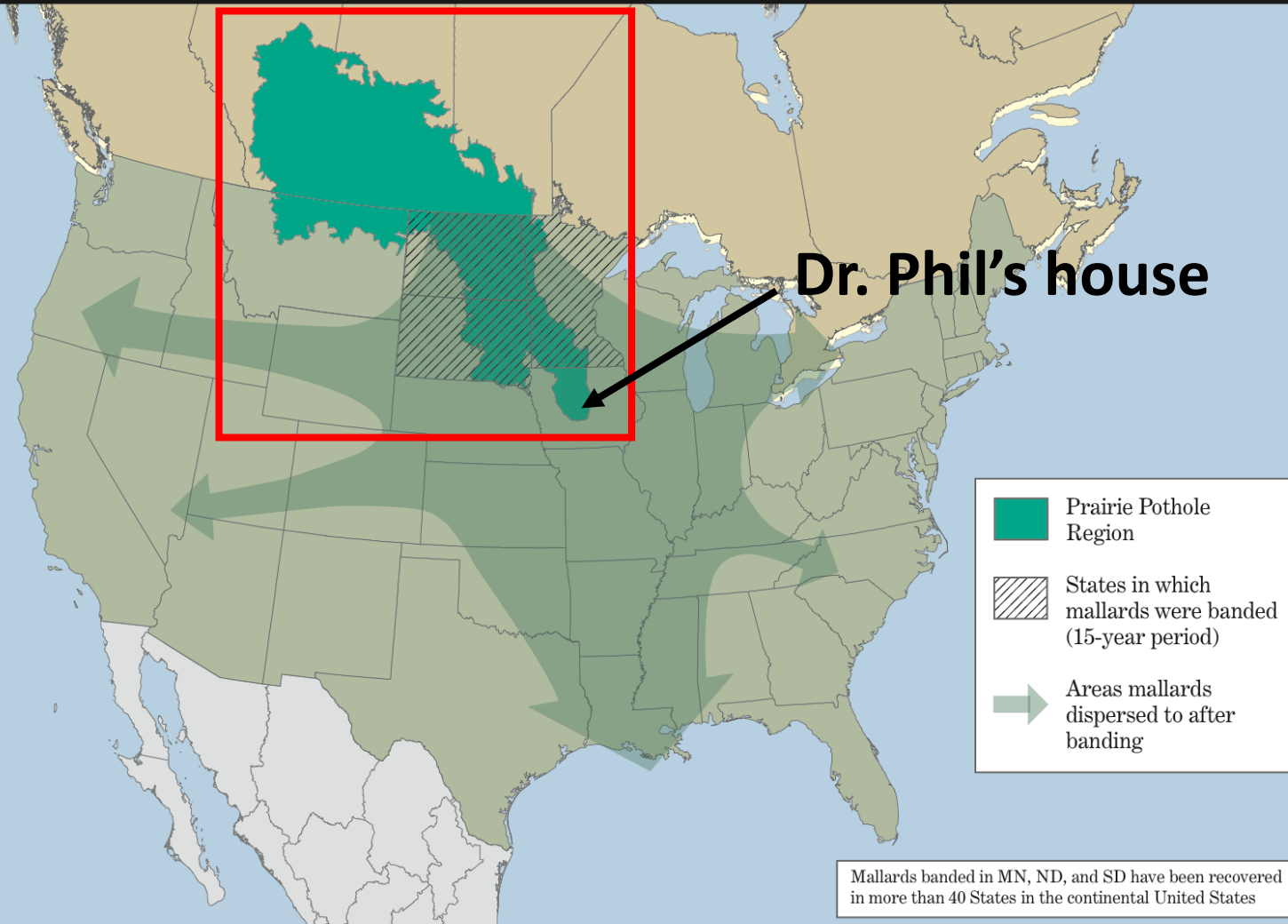
Percentage of Land Use Types



Source: Homdee et al. Impacts of land cover changes on hydrologic responses: A case study of Chi River Basin, Thailand. Annual J. of Hydraulic Engr., JSCE. 55: S31-S36.



# The Importance of the Prairie Pothole Region to National Waterfowl Populations



Source: Prairie Pothole Joint Venture. 2014. Available at: <http://ppjv.org/resources/maps>

# Examples of Potholes in North American Prairie Pothole Region



CARD

Sources: <http://www.plainsandprairiepotholeslcc.org/research-project/iowa-wetland-assessment-and-restorable-wetland-inventory/>;  
<http://academic.emporia.edu/aberjame/student/drake2/ppr.html#Introduction> ; & <http://outdoorsmidwest.wordpress.com/>

# Rice Related Parameters Mentioned in SWAT Documentation (2002 manual)

- EVLAI: LAI level that stops further evaporation from water surface for plants (e.g., rice) growing in ponded environment
- MGT\_OPT = 13: releases/impounds water in HRUs growing rice or other plants
- Description of the use of the pothole algorithms states that rice paddies are a similar type of hydrologic system and that the pothole algorithms should be used to simulate rice paddies

# Xie & Cui Modified SWAT Study in China

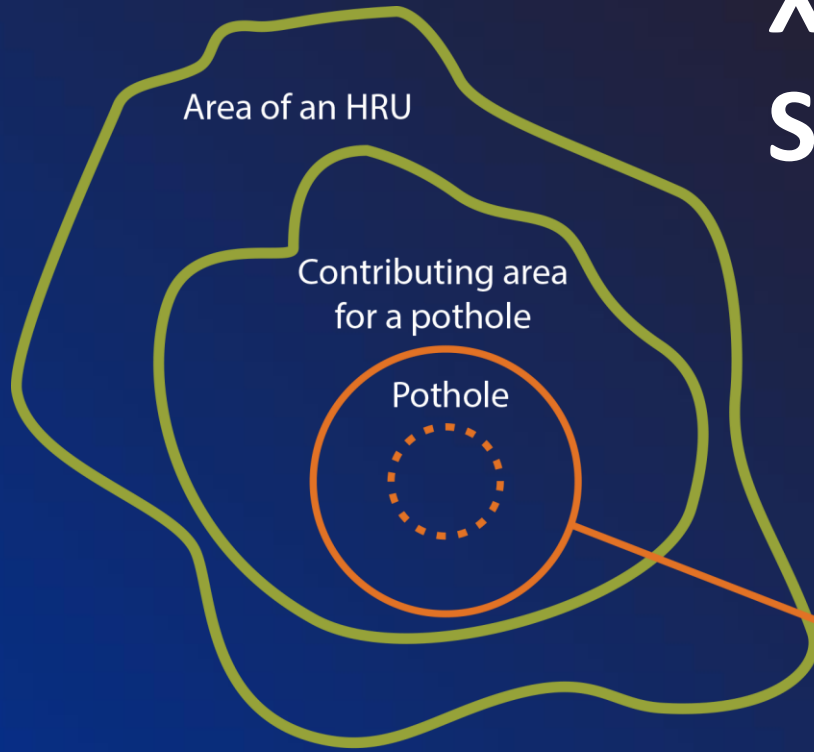


**~1,129 km<sup>2</sup> Zhanghe Irrigation District (ZID); 41% rice, 18% upland crops, 16% forest, 25% bare/water/urban**

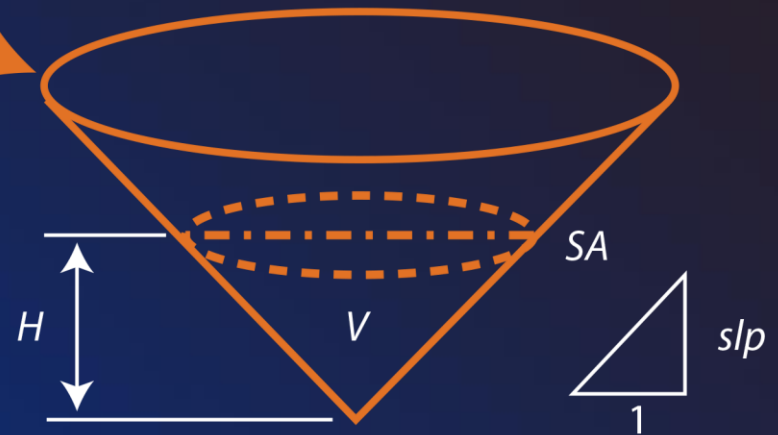




# Xie & Cui Schematic of SWAT Pothole Function



Cone shape of the pothole



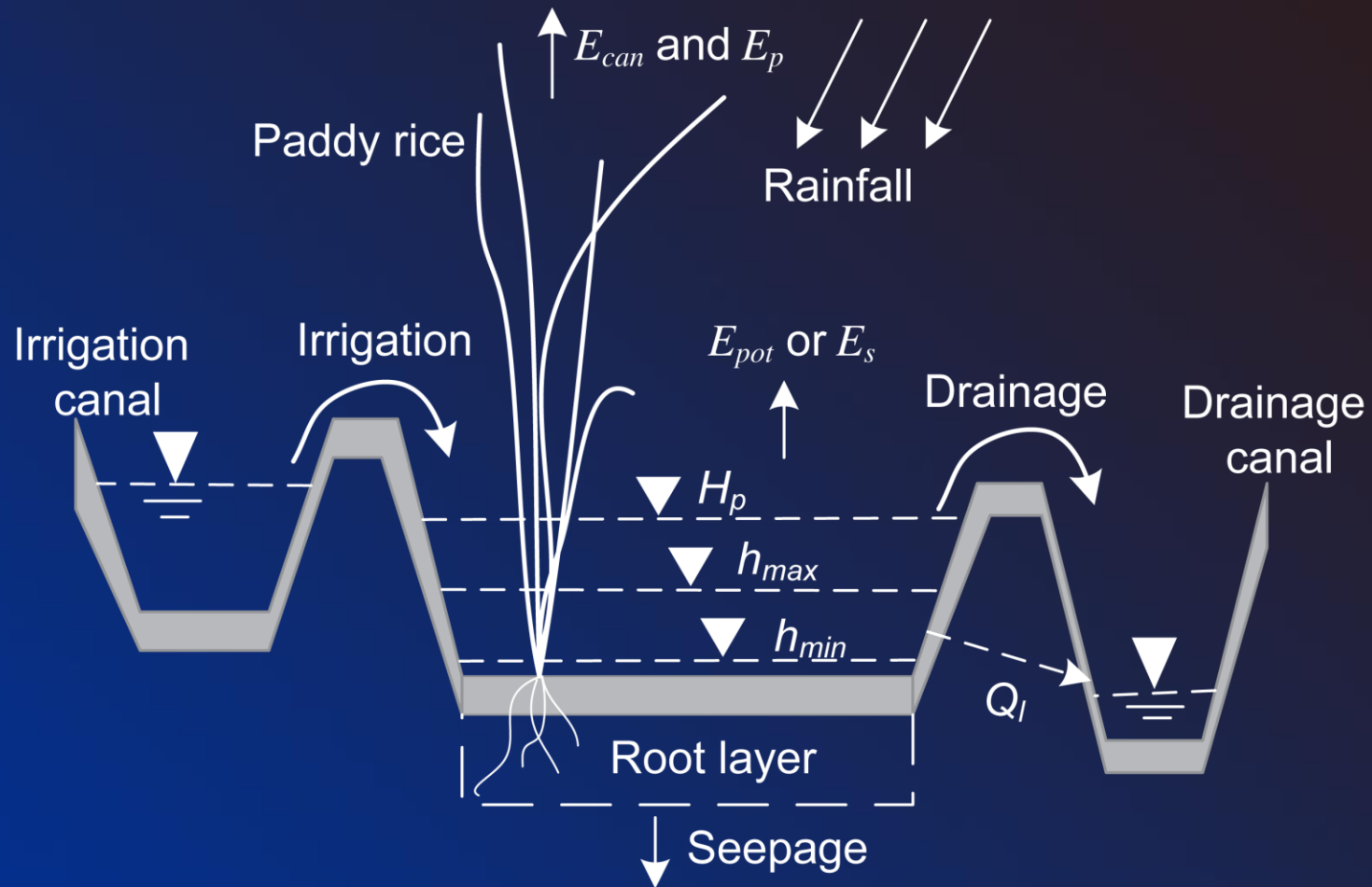
SA = Surface area of the water (ha)  
V = Volume of the water ( $m^3$ )  
H = Depth of the water (m)  
slp = Average slope of a specified HRU

Source: Xie & Cui 2011. Journal of Hydrology 396(1-2): 61-71. Doi: 10.1016/j.jhydrol.2010.10.032.

# Xie & Cui Modifications to SWAT

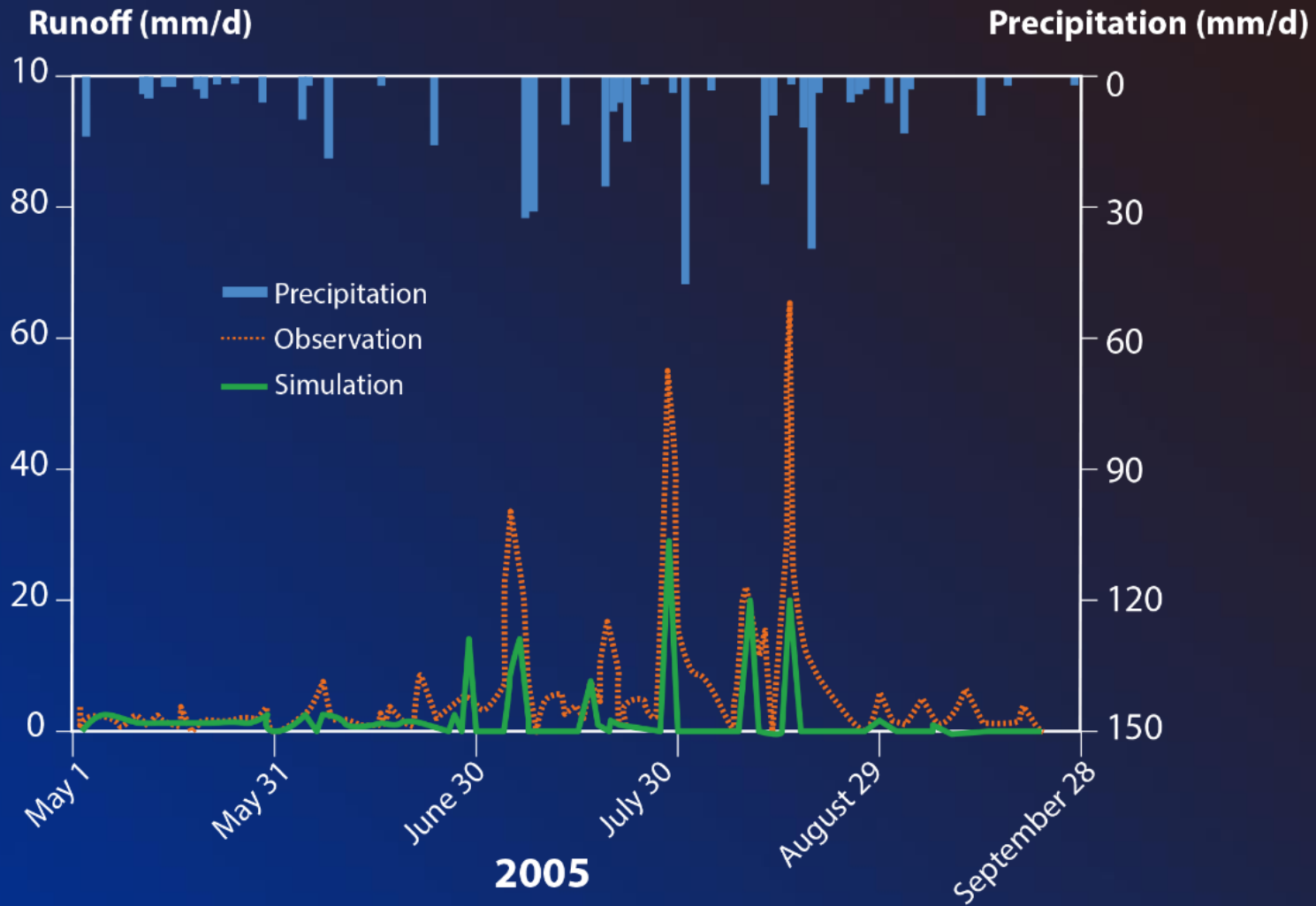
- Changed pothole shape from cone to cuboid, that also featured a constant surface area
- Introduced ET calculations that differentiated between dry and wet periods for a rice paddy
- Incorporated scheme to regulate paddy water depths via irrigation and drainage at different growth stages
  - as a function of three critical depths
- Added real-time irrigation from ponds

# Schematic of Rice Paddy Water Balance Dynamics

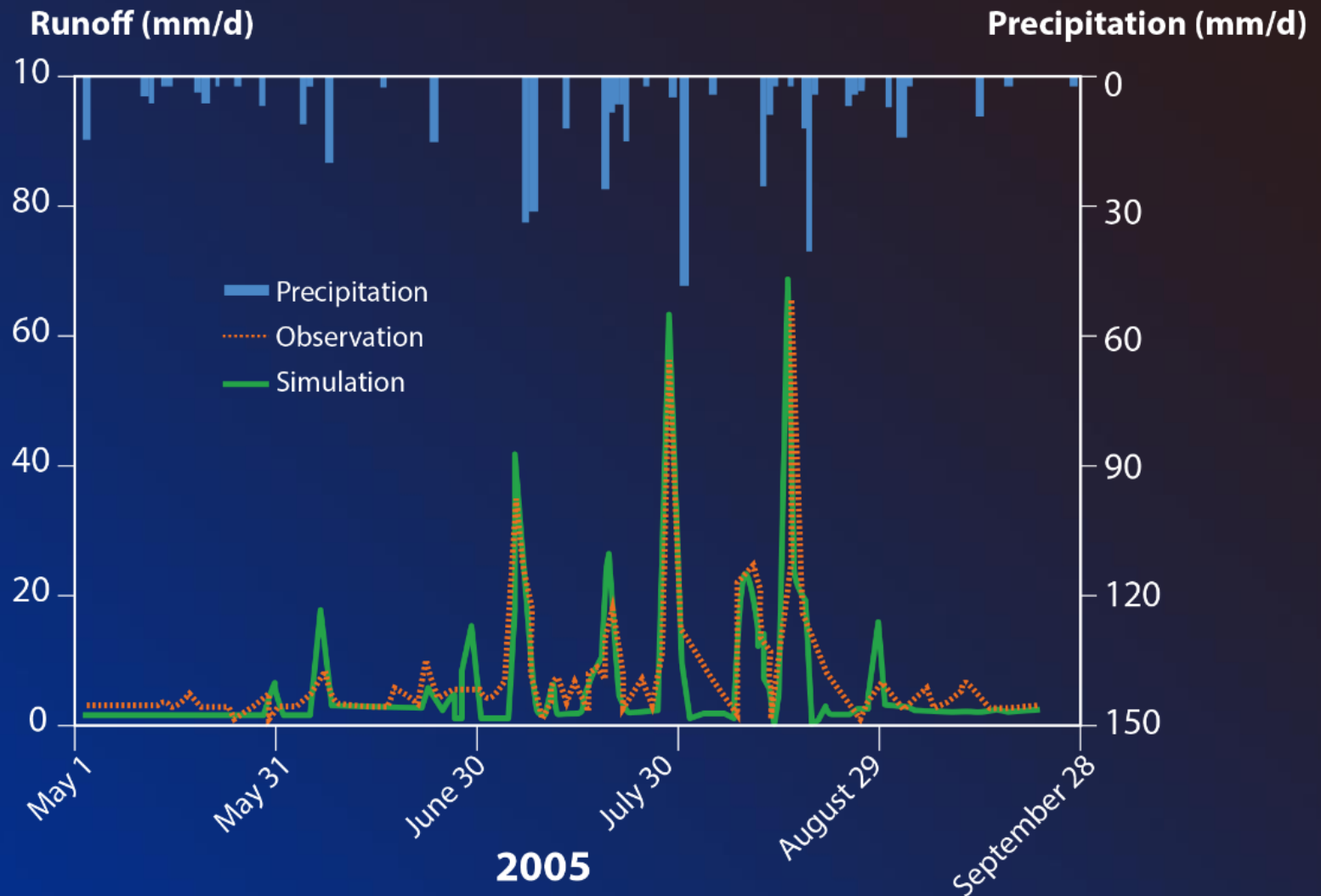


Source: Xie & Cui 2011. Journal of Hydrology 396(1-2): 61-71. Doi: 10.1016/j.jhydrol.2010.10.032.

# Streamflow Results for Original SWAT Model



# Streamflow Results for Modified SWAT Model



# Some Concluding Thoughts

- SWAT has proven to be a useful model worldwide and in Asia
- Testing results indicate that SWAT can accurately replicate streamflow, etc. for many different kinds of conditions.
  - but good statistics can mask problems
  - code and/or input modifications can be needed to achieve desired results
- Continued development of a variety of algorithms needed, e.g., rice paddy module