



SWAT+ Future Plans

Jeju Island 2025



My Plans

- I retired from the US Department of Agriculture on January 1, 2025 after 41 years
- I am currently Senior Research Scientist with Texas A&M
- Nancy and I plan to continue to support SWAT for several years



2010 International SWAT Conference & Workshops

DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF THE SWAT MODEL

2010 SWAT
Korea

August 2-3, 2010
SWAT Workshops
KICT, Ilsan, Korea

August 4-6, 2010
SWAT Conference
Mayfield Hotel, Seoul, Korea

Website: <http://2010swat.org>





Dr. Kim, Nam Won (1958~2022)

Senior Research Fellow, KICT

- Development and Application of SWAT-K model (more 100 publications)
- Contributed to the dissemination and expansion of the SWAT model in Korea
- SWAT-K selected as one of the Ministry of Science and ICT's Top 100 Excellent Achievements
- Hosted the 2010 International SWAT Conference in Seoul, with 300 participants
- Promoted the distribution of Korea's soil property database
- Adopted SWAT as the national model for groundwater recharge analysis
- Proposed water management strategies for Korea through integrated surface water-groundwater analysis



U.S. Visit for the Promotion of SWAT-K(2005, Texas)

제1회 SWAT-KOREA 컨퍼런스

제1회 **SWAT-KOREA 컨퍼런스**

한국건설기술연구원

한국건설기술연구원



Discussion on 2010 International



KICT remains committed to advancing and promoting the SWAT model through conti



Community Model

- Over 600 papers on SWAT development/improvements
- Most do not get included in our main version that is distributed
- With current software development tools (GitHub), multiple developers can efficiently collaborate
- Still need key developer(s) as gatekeeper
- Developers need to commit time to learn GitHub and coordinate with other developers



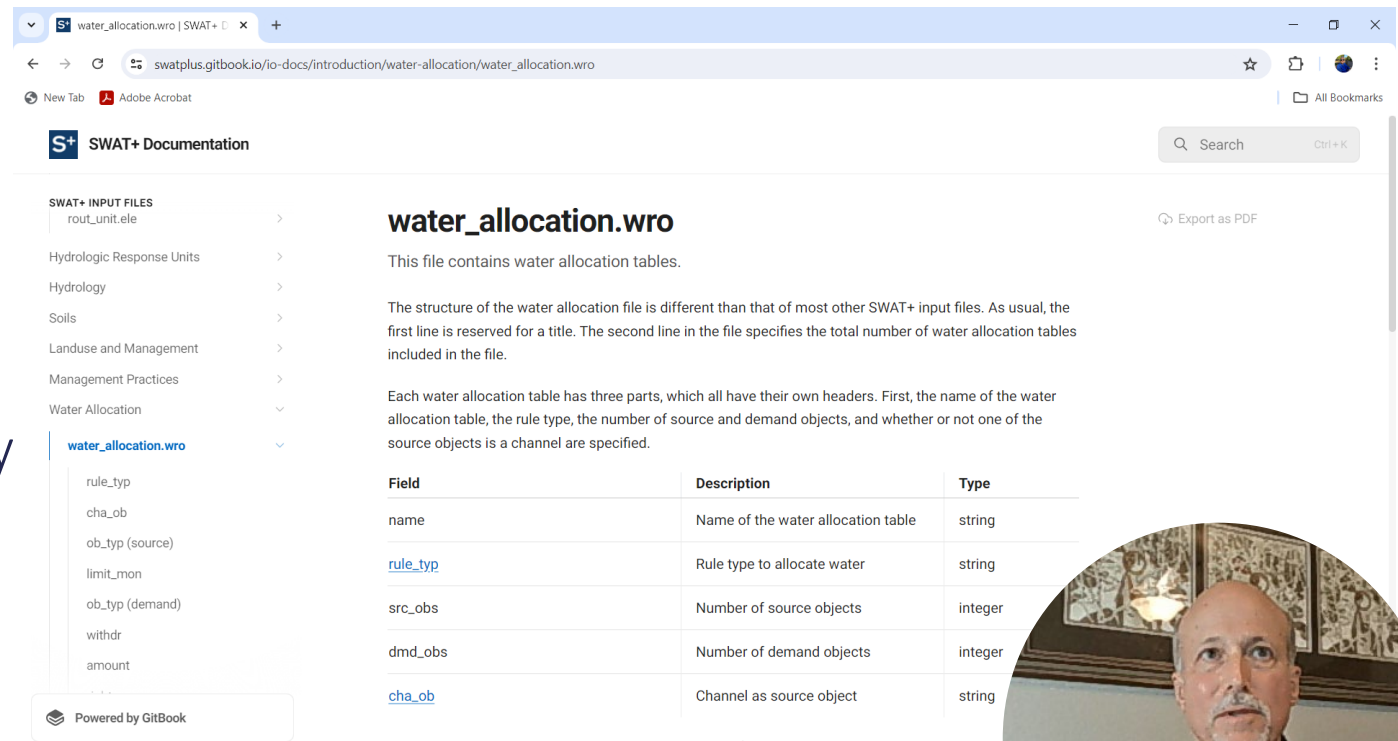
True Community Model

- Olaf David – Set up a SWAT+ GitHub site. Archive, compare and merge, document, automate output comparison with previous versions. Will require time and good communication between model developers.



Git Books

- Katrin Bieger (Katie Medoza) developed input/output documentation in GitBooks
- Translated the SWAT2012 theoretical documentation into Git Books
- Integrate theory and i/o and ultimately link code documentation
- Easy to update – multiple contributors



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the SWAT+ Documentation page for the file `water_allocation.wro`. The page is part of a GitBook structure, with a sidebar on the left showing a navigation menu. The main content area includes a title, a brief description, and a table detailing the structure of the water allocation file.

SWAT+ INPUT FILES

- rout_unit.ele
- Hydrologic Response Units
- Hydrology
- Soils
- Landuse and Management
- Management Practices
- Water Allocation
 - water_allocation.wro**
 - rule_typ
 - cha_ob
 - ob_typ (source)
 - limit_mon
 - ob_typ (demand)
 - withdr
 - amount

water_allocation.wro

This file contains water allocation tables.

The structure of the water allocation file is different than that of most other SWAT+ input files. As usual, the first line is reserved for a title. The second line in the file specifies the total number of water allocation tables included in the file.

Each water allocation table has three parts, which all have their own headers. First, the name of the water allocation table, the rule type, the number of source and demand objects, and whether or not one of the source objects is a channel are specified.

Field	Description	Type
name	Name of the water allocation table	string
rule_typ	Rule type to allocate water	string
src_obs	Number of source objects	integer
dmd_obs	Number of demand objects	integer
cha_ob	Channel as source object	string

Next the source objects and their monthly limits are defined. Source objects can be channels, res...



New SWAT+ Developments

- Groundwater, salt, metals
- Water allocation
- Carbon
- Rice paddies
- National and Global Applications

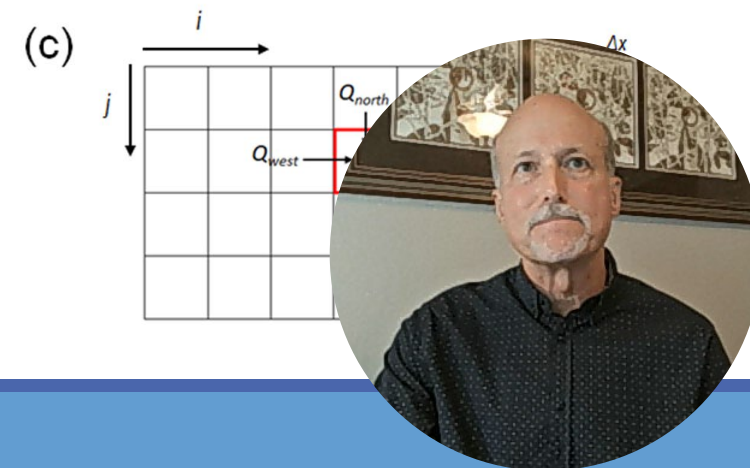
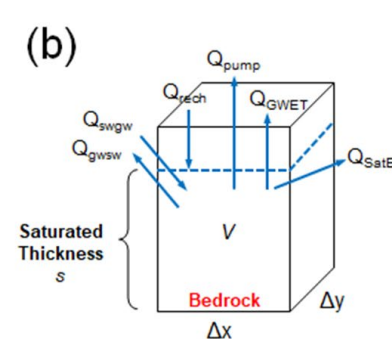
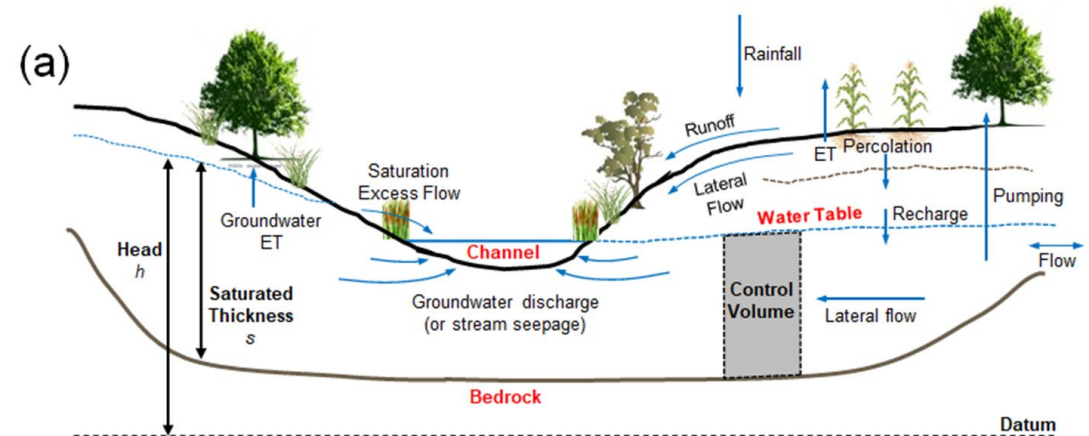


Groundwater Model

GWFLOW – Ryan Bailey

- Physically-based spatially-distributed groundwater flow module called *gwflow*
- Groundwater head and storage are solved using a water balance equation for each grid cell.
- Adds 2-3X to run times
- Interface and global data are available

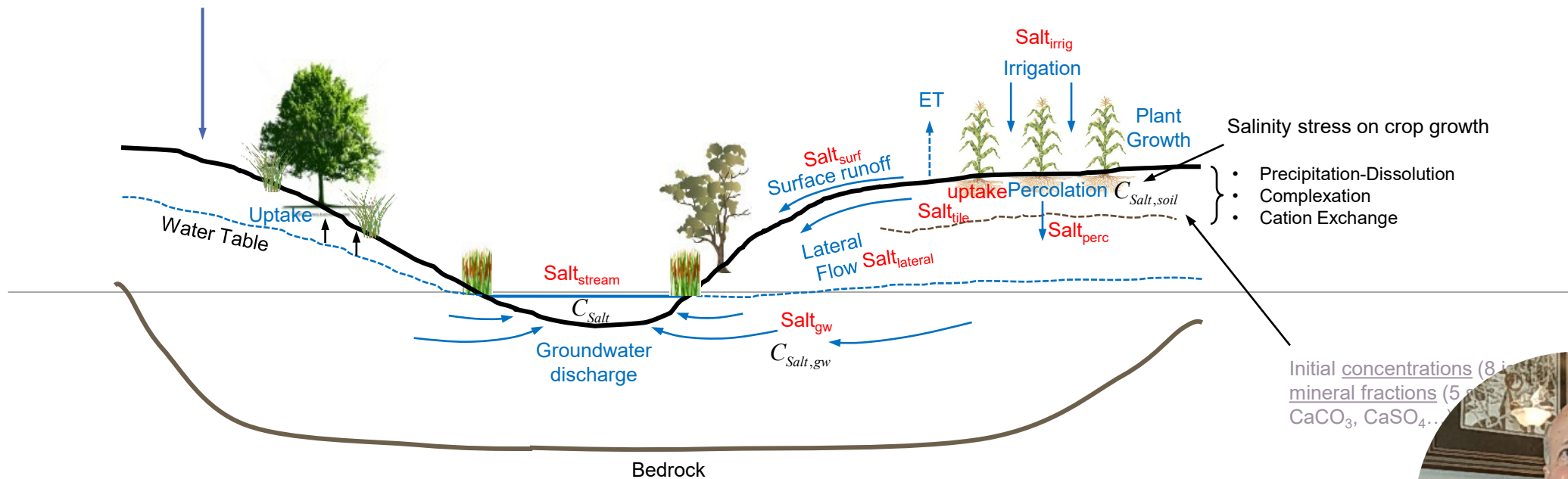
Ryan T Bailey, Katrin Bieger, Jeffrey G Arnold, David D Bosch
“A new physically-based spatially-distributed groundwater flow module for SWAT+”



Watershed Salt Transport

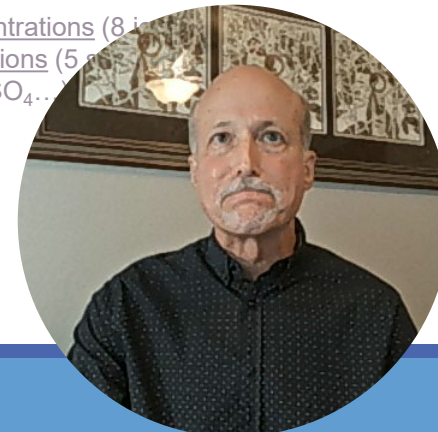
External Loadings

1. Atmospheric Deposition (rainfall)
2. Road Salt (winter weather)
3. Point Sources (e.g. WWTP, industry)



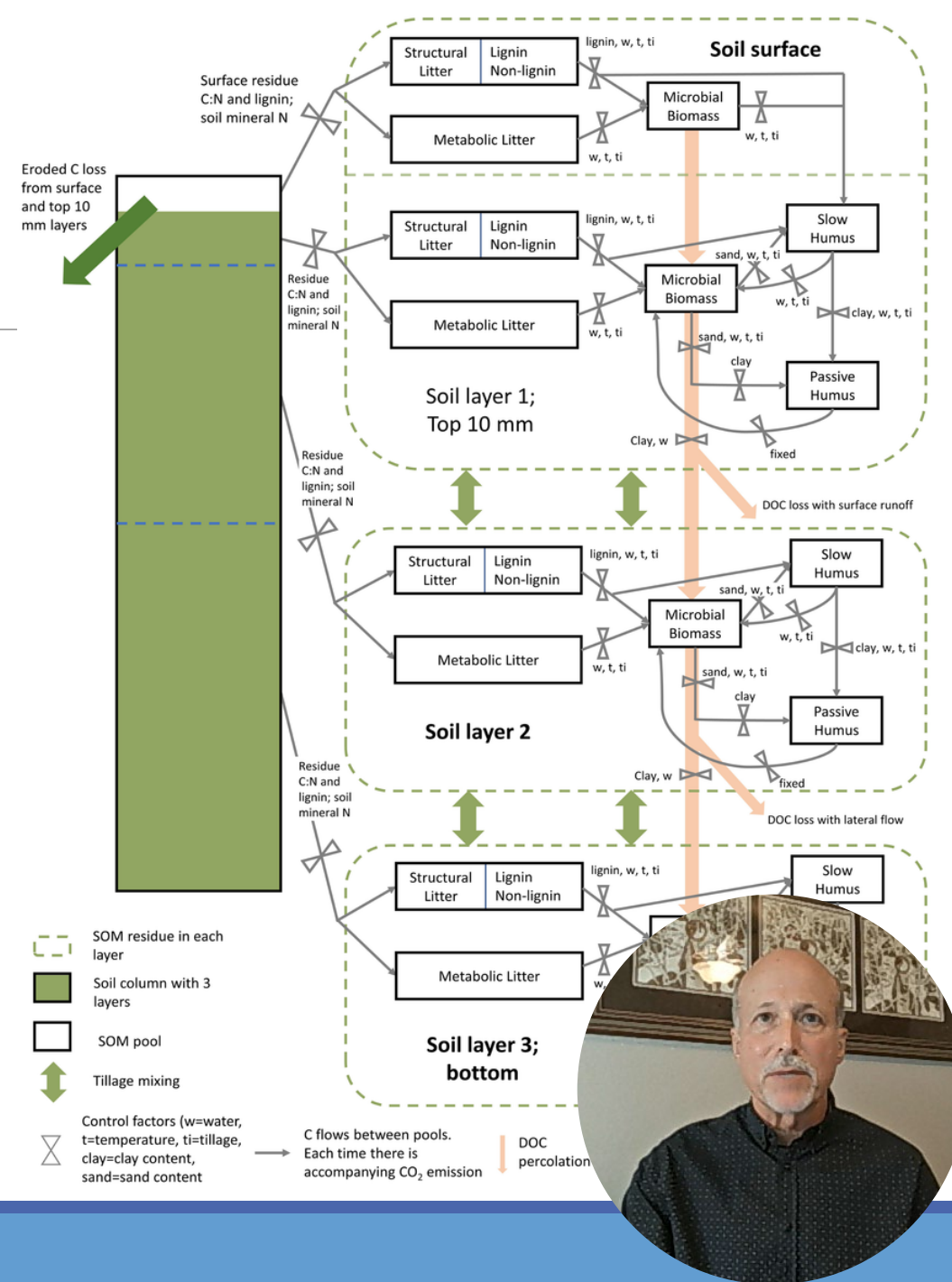
Salt = SO_4 , Ca, Mg, Na, K, Cl, CO_3 , HCO_3

Also: salt mass and concentration in reservoirs/ponds/wetlands



Carbon Model

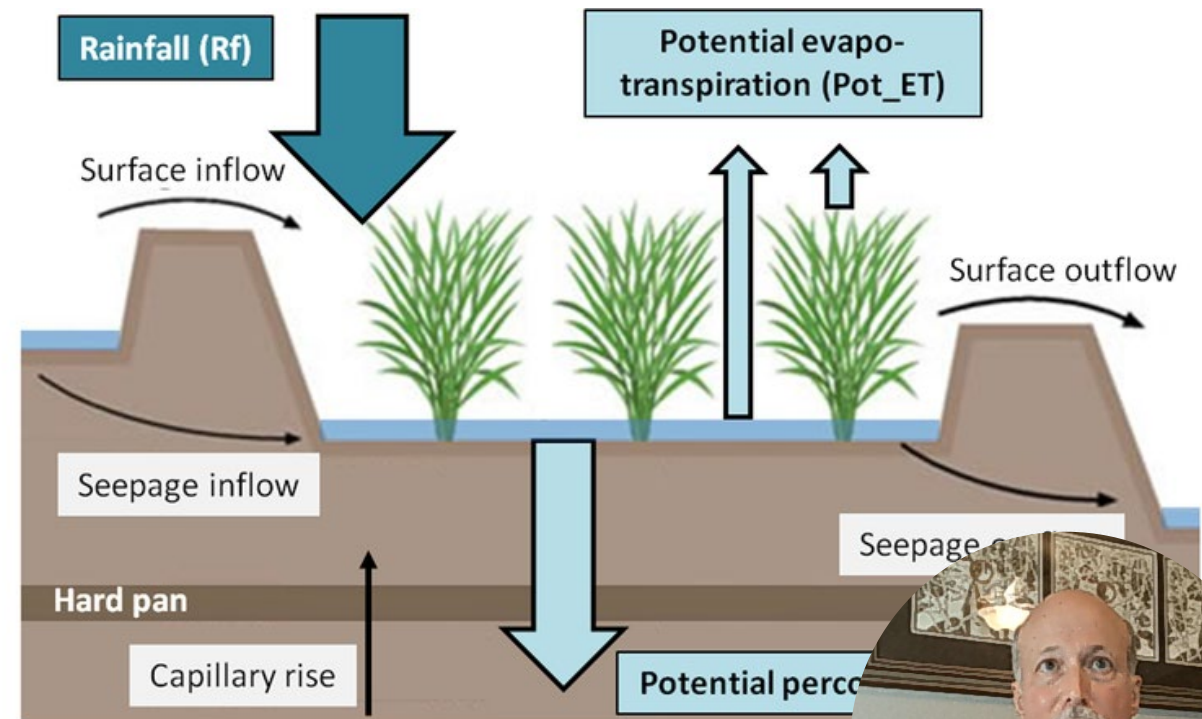
- Xuesong Zhang (USDA-ARS) developed and is supporting SWAT-C. Complete watershed carbon budget with transport in channels, reservoirs, and aquifers
- Soil carbon budget and sequestration and plant growth and management impacts are included in SWAT+
- SWAT+ carbon has been tested under different cropping systems, tillage treatments, and cover crops
- Future SWAT+ development will include complete watershed budget



Rice Paddy Management

Rice Paddy

- Jaehak Jeong is leading the modeling effort. Phil Gassman helped assemble the international team
- Management – puddling, transplanting, nutrient and pesticide applications
- Dynamic changing of weir height
- Integrating with Water Allocation model

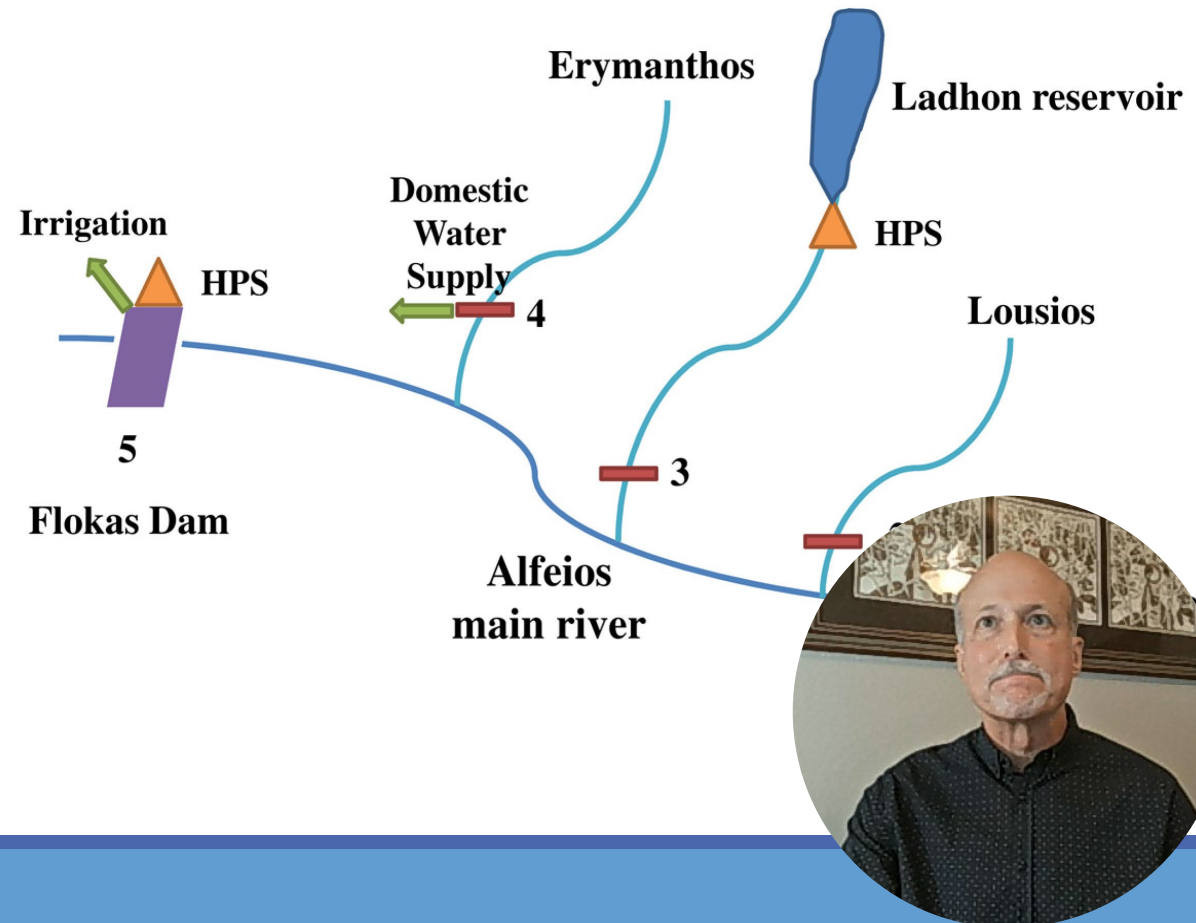


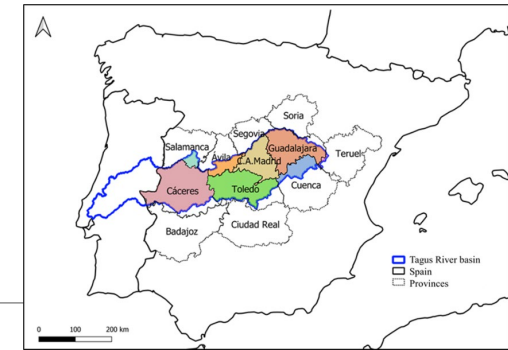
Demand Objects

- Municipal and Industrial – input constant daily amount or decision table to specify daily withdrawals
- HRUs for irrigation – based on irrigation demand. Triggered by water stress or soil moisture deficit in decision table.

Link to Sources

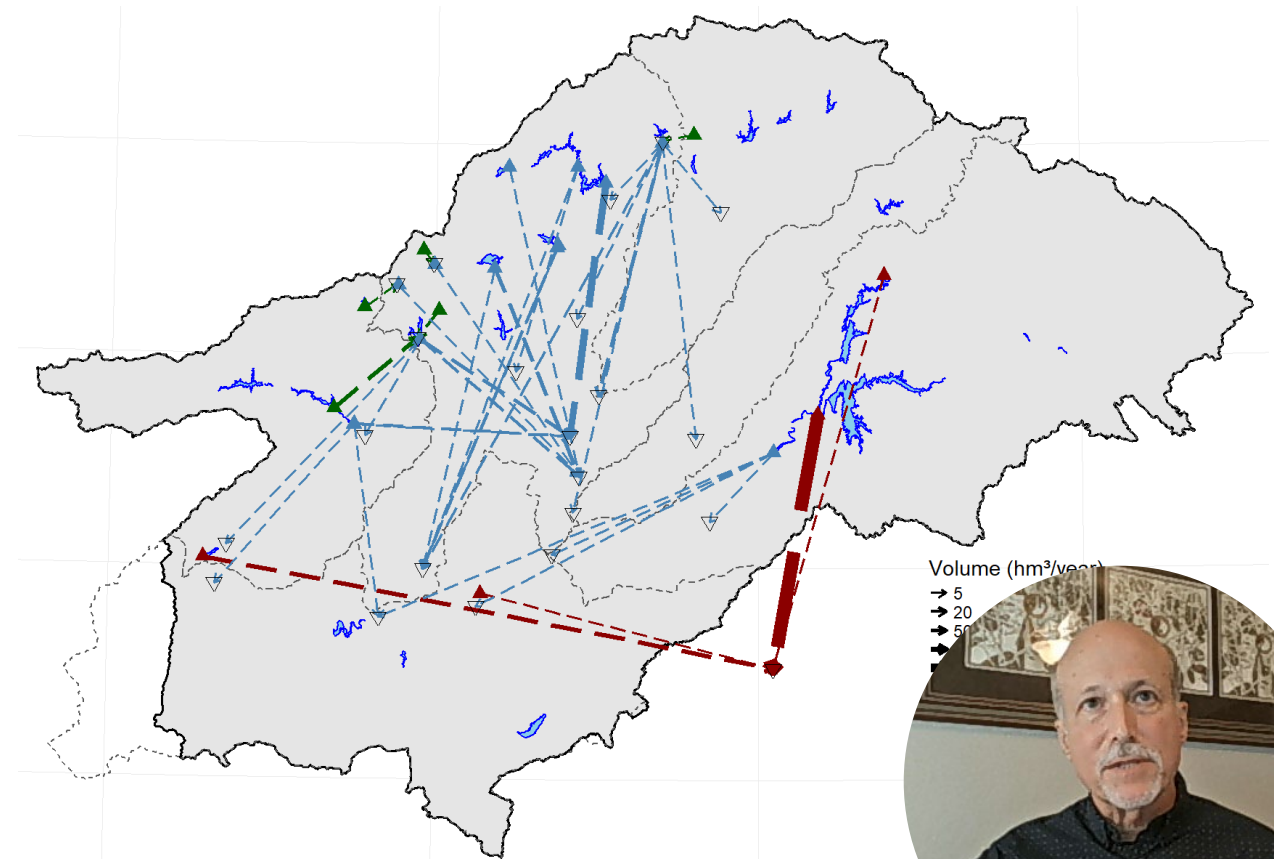
- Take water from multiple source objects – reservoirs, channels, aquifers
- Input fraction from each source – 75% gw, 25% res
- Can source compensate if other sources are limiting





Tagus River Basin in Spain

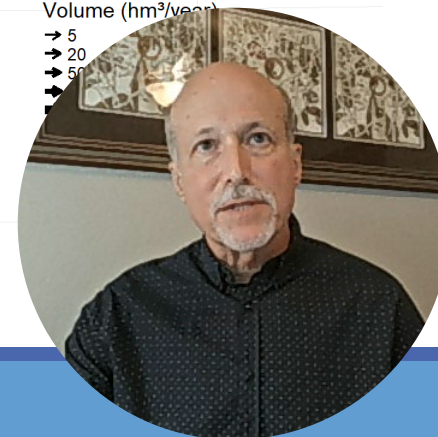
- 50 regulated reservoirs and 30 water transfers
- Divert water outside to southern Spain for irrigation
- Transfers for human consumption → 17 points (channels) were defined according to the WWTP discharge location and volumes



Alejandro Sanchez-Gomez

Sánchez-Gómez, A., Arnold, J.G., Bieger, K. *et al.* Modelling Water Management using SWAT+ : Application of Reservoirs Release Tables and the New Water Allocation Module in a Highly Managed River Basin. *Water Resour Manage* **39**, 2357–2399 (2025).

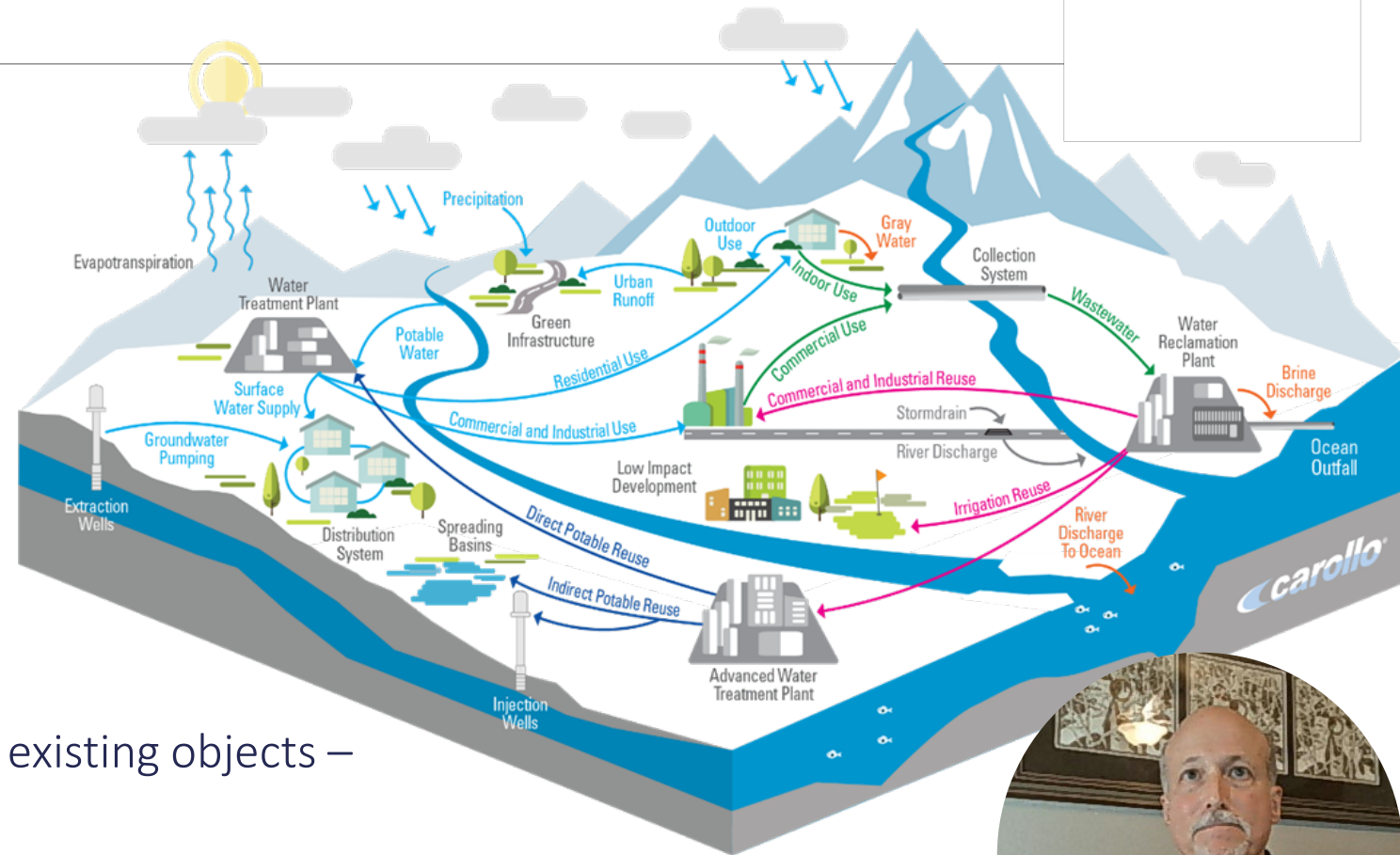
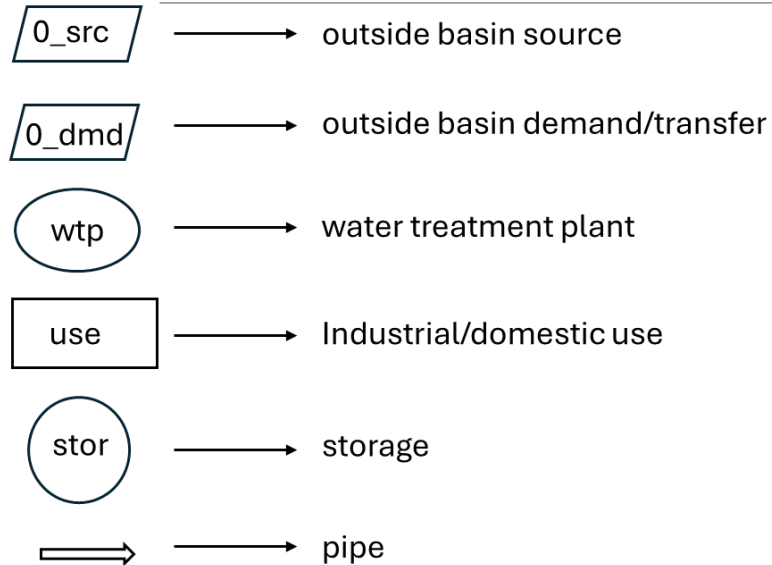
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11269-024-04071-9>



SWAT+

SOIL & WATER ASSESSMENT TOOL

Urban Water Allocation



Link to Sources

- Overlay and connect urban objects on existing objects – channels, reservoirs, hrus
- Specify WWTP and Use concentrations
- Integrated land use and water supply planning model



Manure Allocation

Status - Conceptual

- Cibin Raj – Penn State
- Started with Water Allocation module

Source Objects

- Feedlots, Confined Animal Feeding Operations
- Composting centers

Manure Applications

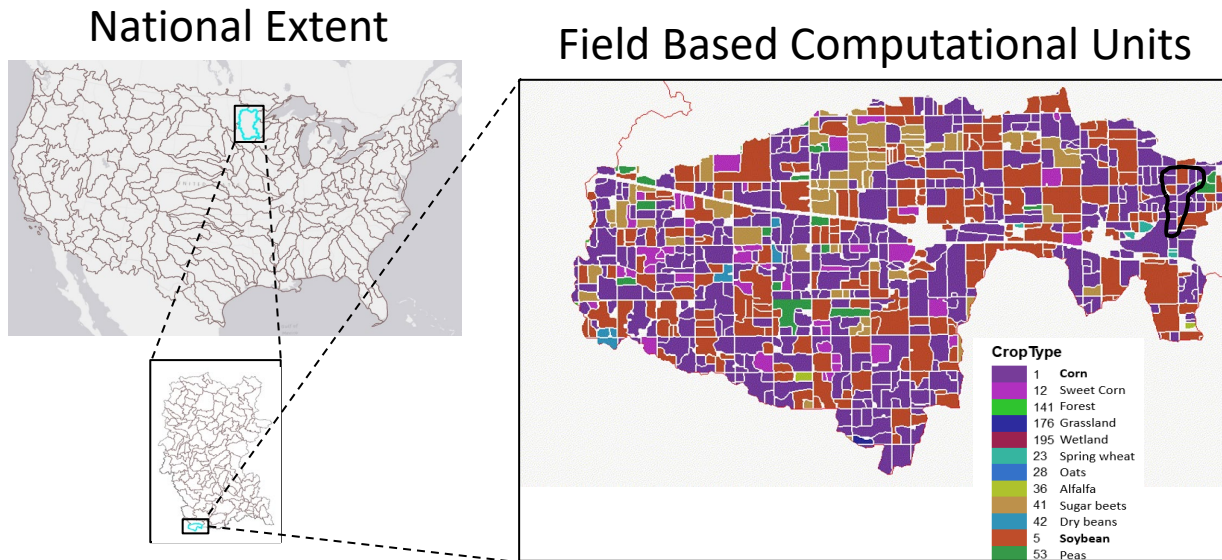
- Use decision tables to condition applications
- Condition on soil phosphorus concentrations
- Condition on distance from source



US National Model

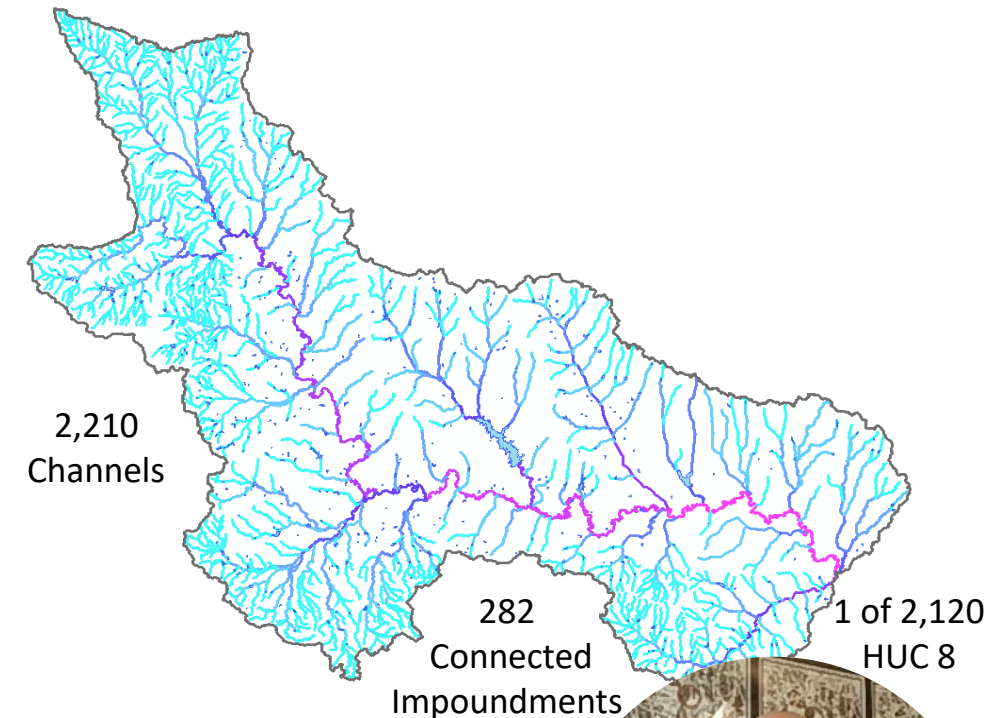
SWAT+
SOIL & WATER ASSESSMENT TOOL

- A highly detailed national modeling framework to predict the effects of land use and management on the environment.
- Joint ARS/NRCS/Texas A&M effort



Scope and Scale

- 2,120 SWAT+ Models
- 86,000 Subbasins
- 7.5 Million HRUs



- National Hydrography
million digitized reaches



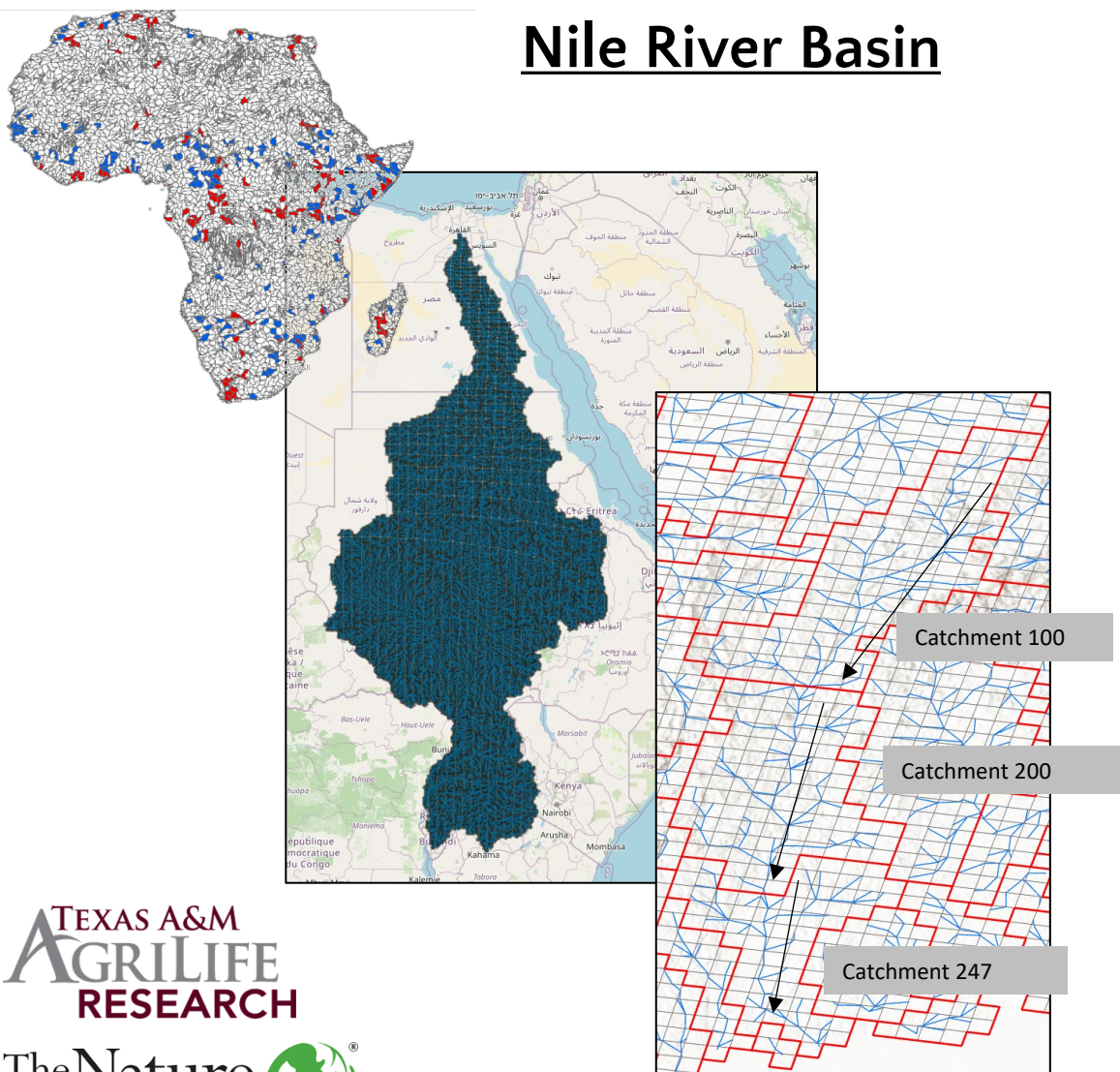
Predicted Streamflow, Sediment, Nitrogen, Phosphorus





Global Gridded SWAT 2012

Nile River Basin



Arun Bawa – leading the Temple team
Africa- available on Global HAWQS
<https://global.hawqs.tamu.edu>

Subbasin: 10 km X 10 km

Catchment: ~10,000 km²

HRUs: 6 HRUs in each subbasin

DEM: SRTM 90m

Landcover: GlobCover 2009

Soil: FAO HWSD

Weather: CHIRPS & CHIRTS

Calibration- MODIS

ET/monthly/subbasin

Validation: GRDC stream Dis



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
RESEARCH

The Nature
Conservancy 

SWAT+ Global Model

Set up using CoSWAT Framework

Framework Automatically pulls Data



Aster DEM

ESA Land Use

FAO Soil



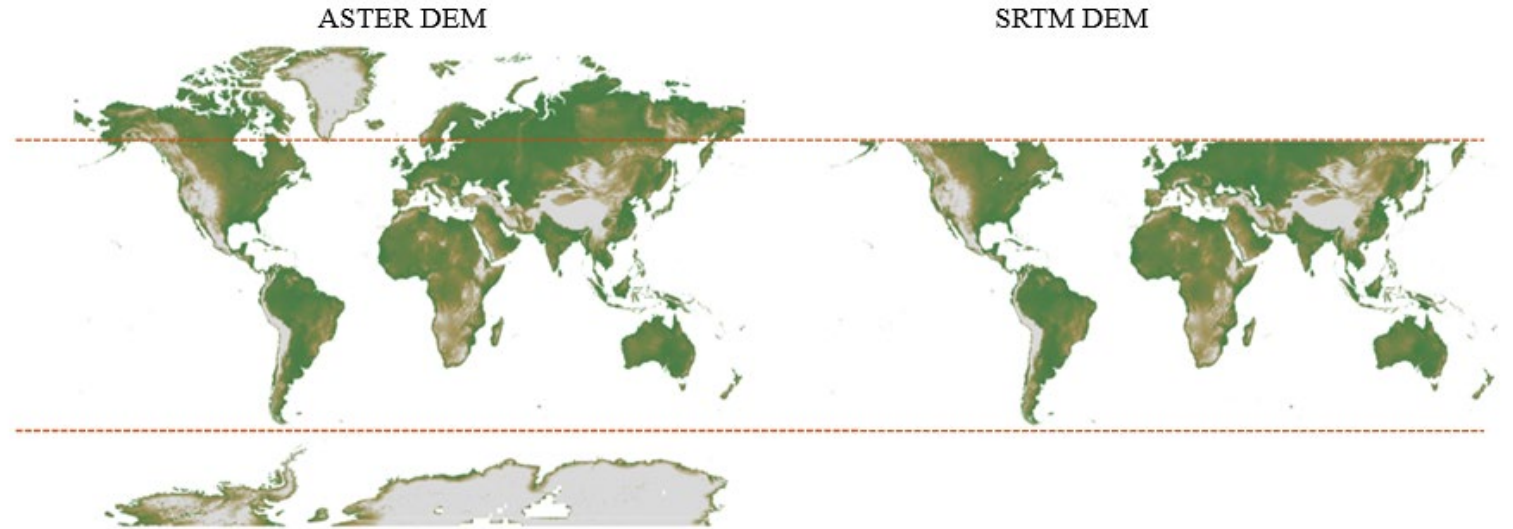
Weather Forcing from ISIMIP

2km resolution available
(1km in works) – about 3m HRUs

James Celray – leading the Temple team

Ann van Griensven

A High-Resolution Global SWAT+ Hydrological Model for Impact Studies. Celray James Chawanda, Ann van Griensven, Albert Nkwasa, Jose Pablo Teran Orsini, Jaehak Jeong, Soon-Kun Choi, Raghavan Srinivasan, Jeffrey G. Arnold



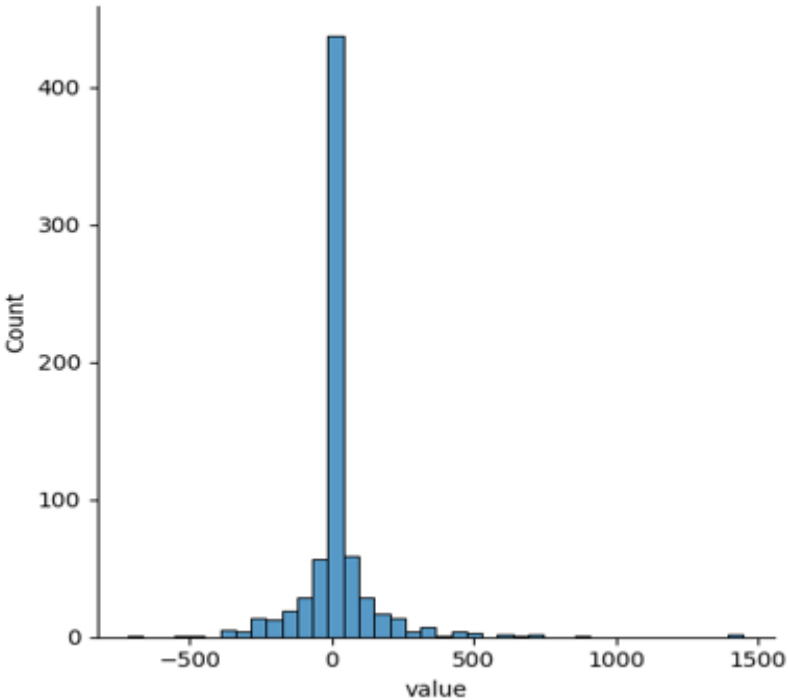
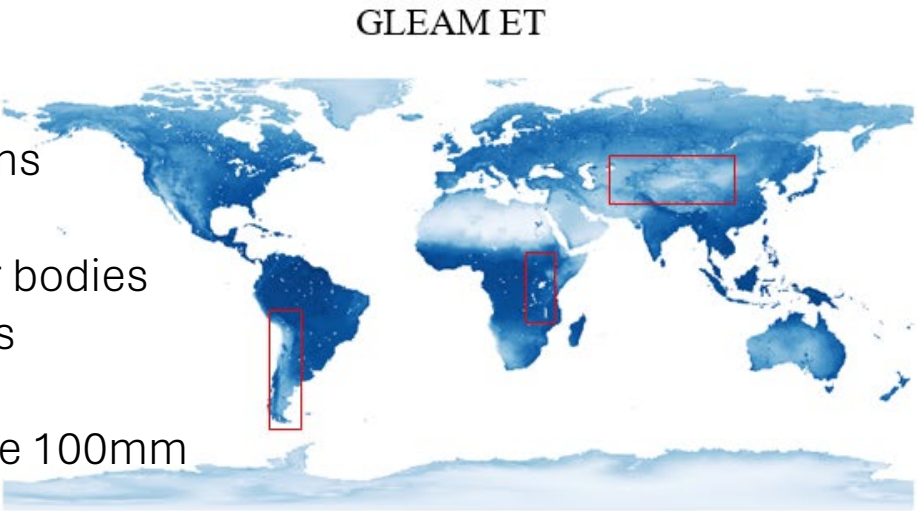
SWAT+ Global Model

Default performance

Captures ET Spatial Patterns

Struggles in large water bodies
and mountainous areas

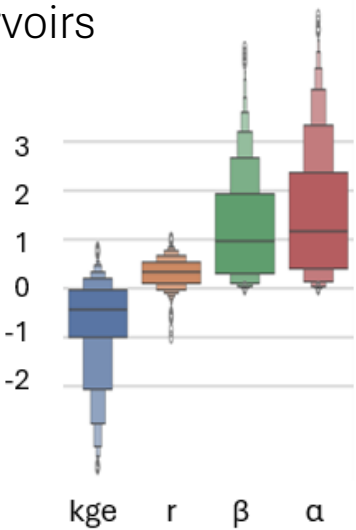
78.54% within the range 100mm
ET difference



Good performance upstream of reservoirs

No Reservoirs in version

No Calibration





Thank you – I
appreciate everyone's
efforts and
collaboration

