

# Data-Driven Observations for Water Resource Management

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# Project Objective

- The study will identify driving science and applied science (natural hazard) use cases that illustrate NOS concepts, focusing in particular on Hydrology science challenge use cases from the Western States Water Mission (WSWM). The study will identify relevant observing assets, models, and datasets that could be included in the testbed to support these use cases.



# Integrated Data-Driven Vision

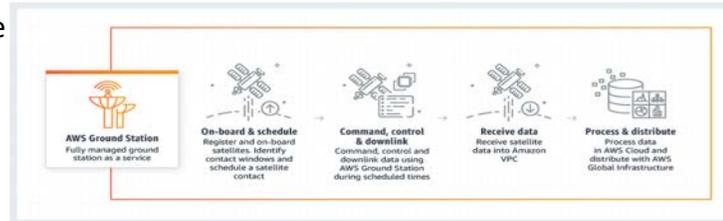
Constellations



Onboard Intelligence

Uplink/Downlink

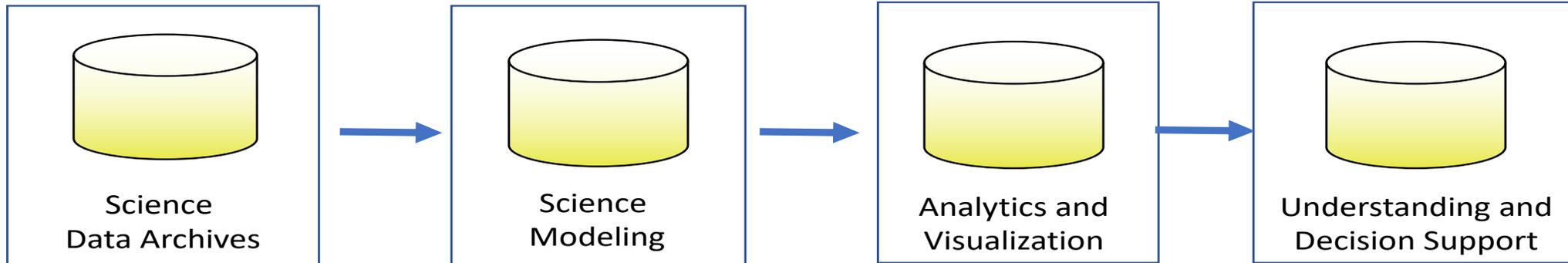
Ground Station as a Service  
On the Cloud



Processing



Planning

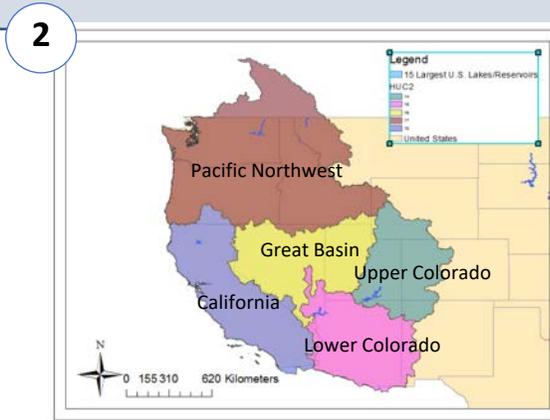


*Reduce Latency    Provide Traceability    Increase Efficiency*

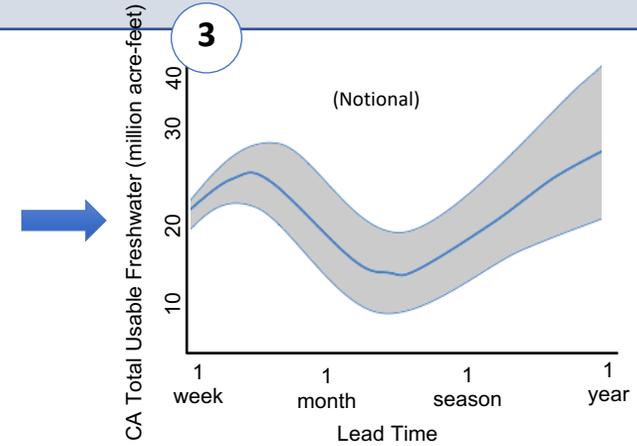
# WSWM at JPL: Realizing a Long-Term Vision



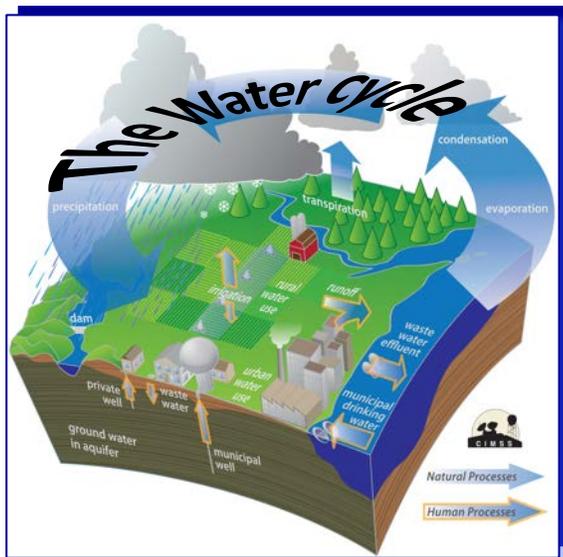
Observations



Coupled and Validated  
Computer Models



Estimates with  
Uncertainties



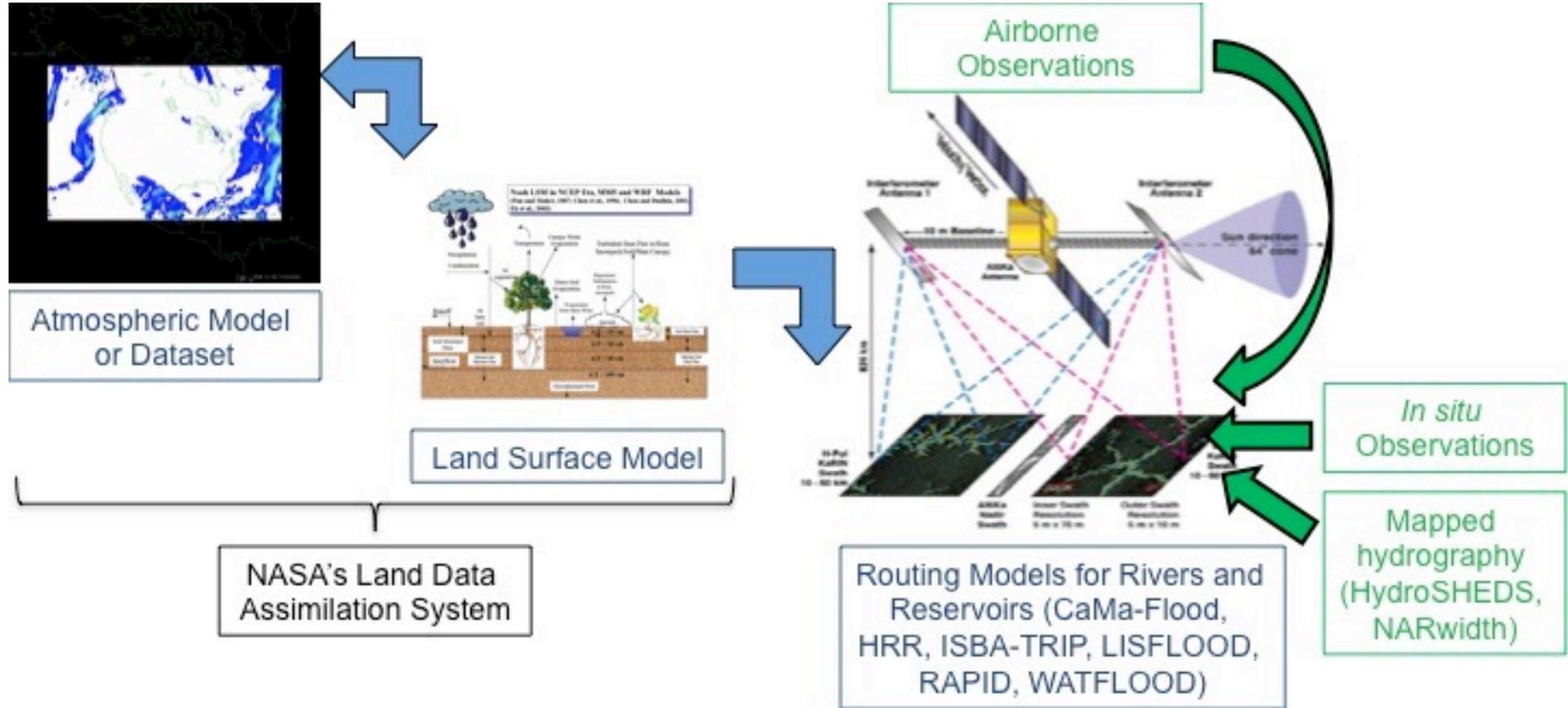
(Prospective customers)



Colorado River Basin

Stakeholders and Customers

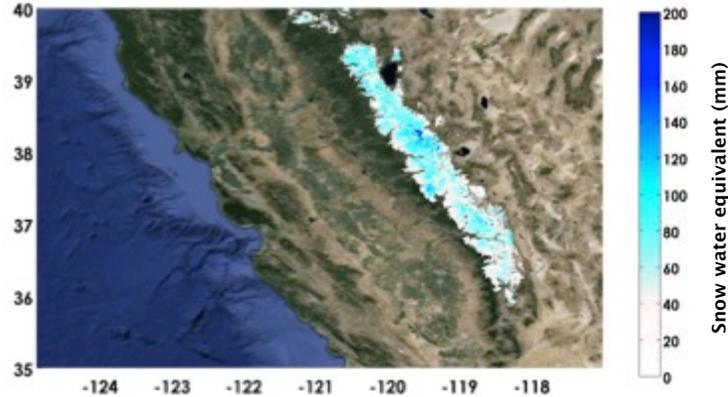
# Classic river modeling paradigm



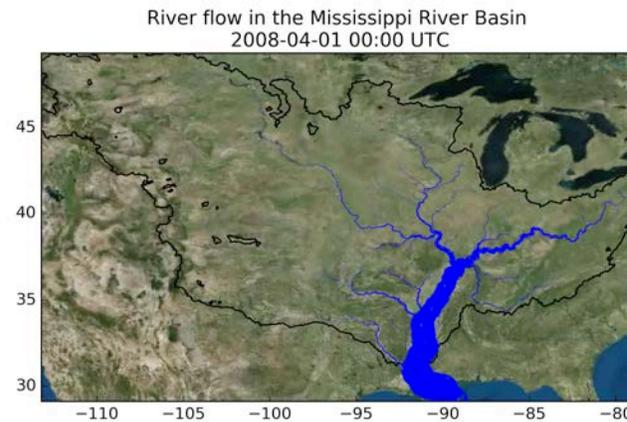
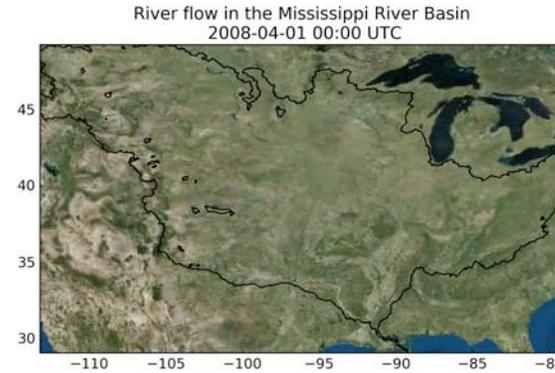
River Routing Models conserve mass.

# Value of Assimilation

Model



Observation (e.g., SWOT)



Assimilated data

<https://github.com/c-h-david/rrr>

***Observations add accuracy to model, but model also adds information to observations***

**THIS DRIVES DATA SCIENCE CHALLENGES: SCALABILITY, FUSION, UNCERTAINTY, ETC**

# A NOS Scenario: Observe Peak River Flow Events

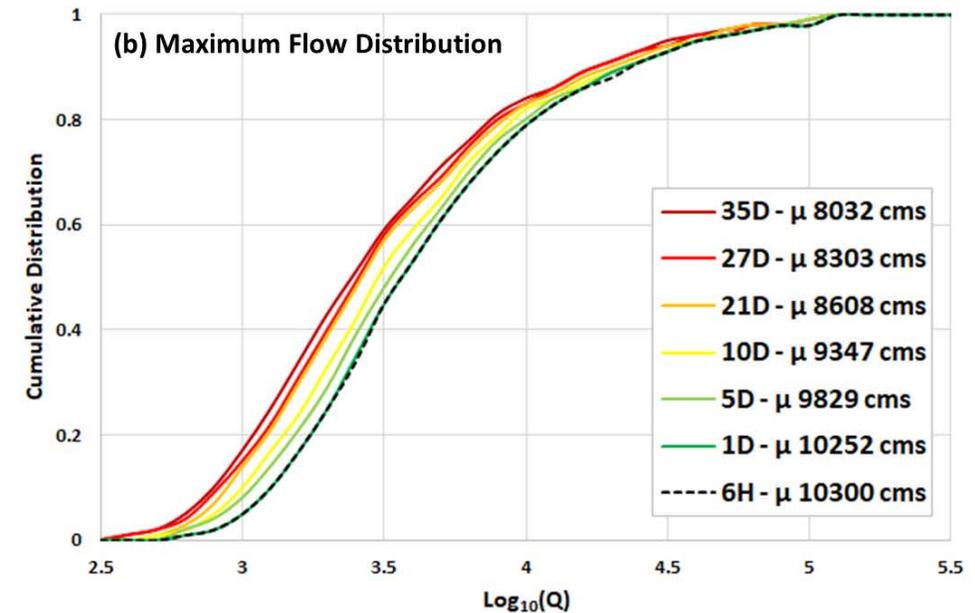
**Science Goal:** Observe river Peak Flow events.

- Radar for surface water height and extent
- Visual for surface water extent
- In situ for stream flow
- UAVs, airborne, etc. if available

**Challenge:** Peak events are short, and often occur between repeat passes.

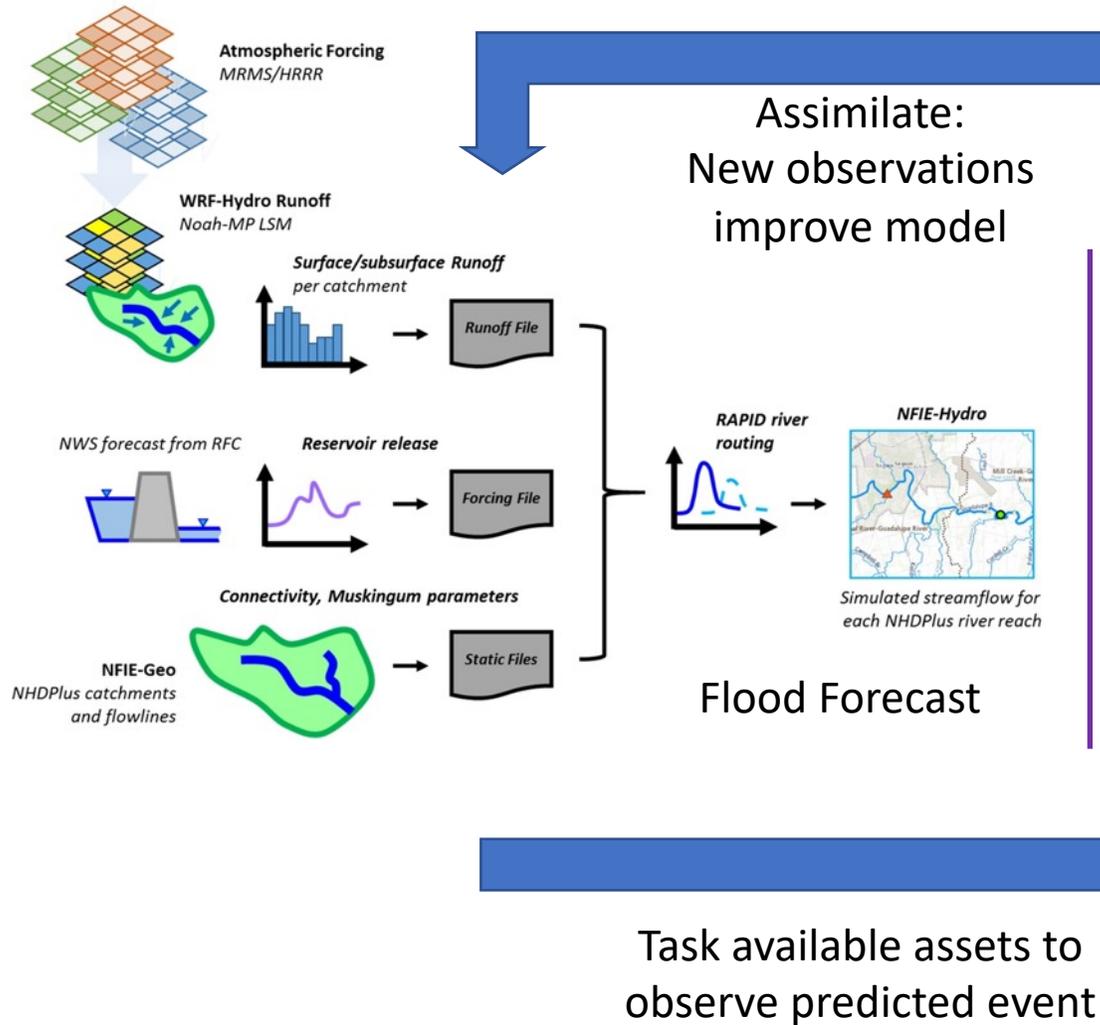
**Approach:** Retask based on model predicts.

- Use existing models to predict peak flow
- Retask one or more assets to observe.
- Select from assets that will be in position during event.
- Predict allows pre-positioning UAVs, airborne.

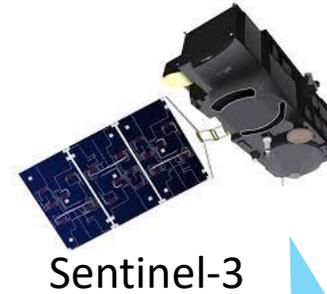


Max flow under-observed;  
higher uncertainty.

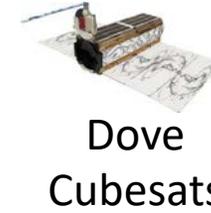
# NOS Observations of Peak River Flow



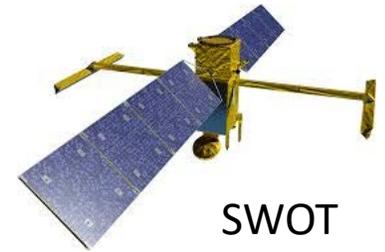
Radar Altimetry  
Surface water height



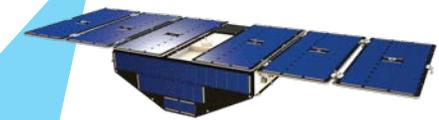
Visual  
Surface water extent



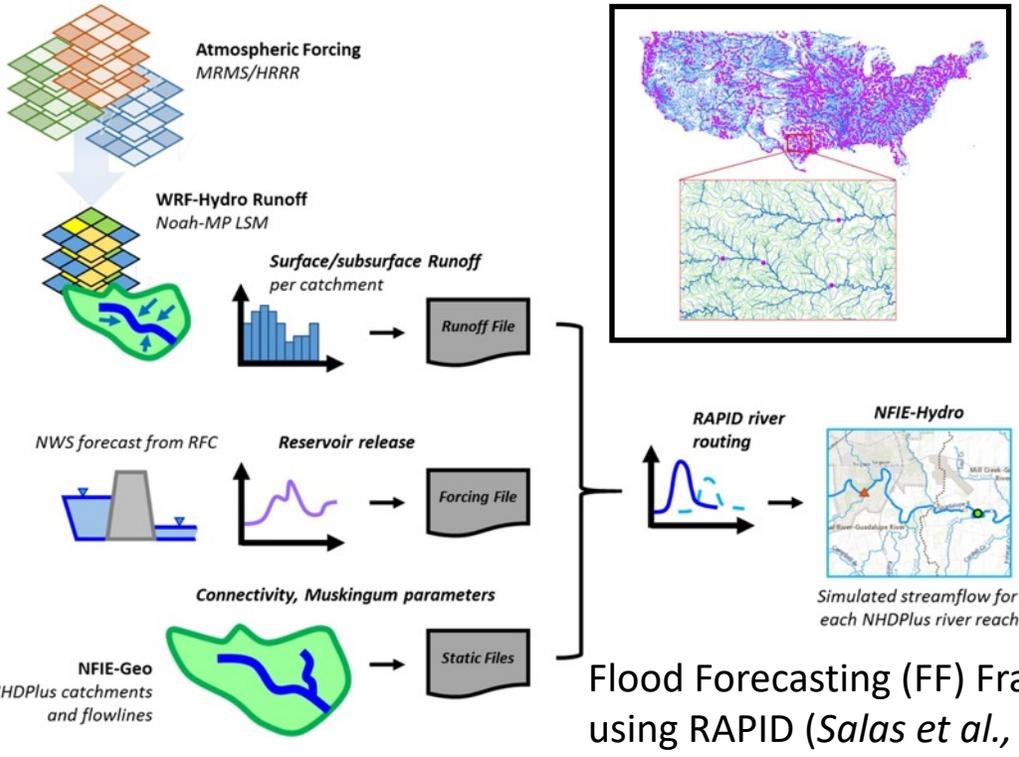
Altimeter  
Interferometer  
Radiometer



CYGNSS  
cubesats



# Computer forecasts of river flow increasingly being produced at continental/global scales using NASA's RAPID

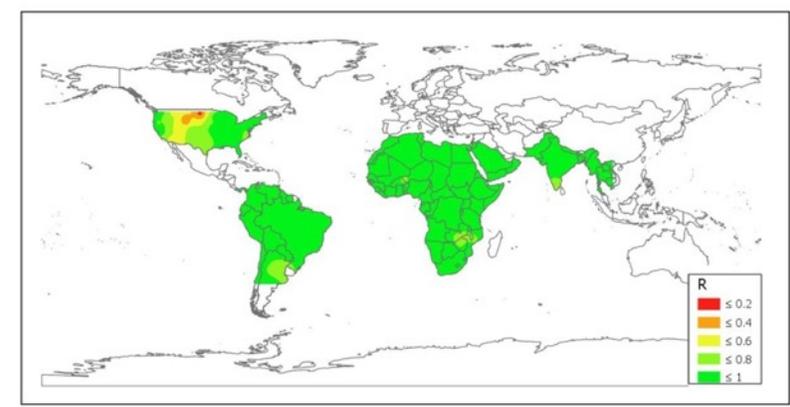
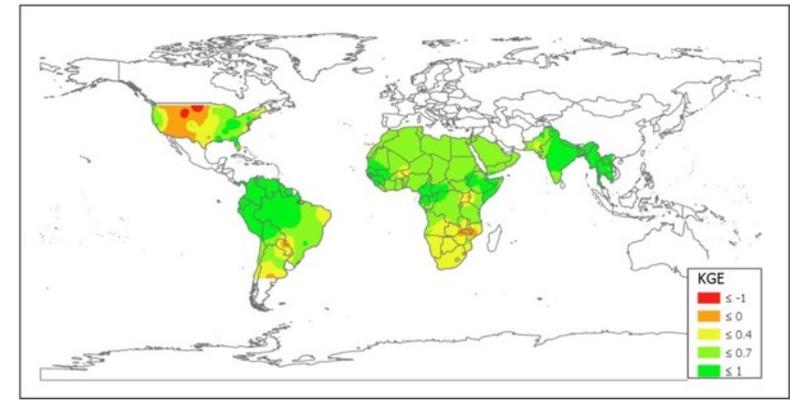


- Purple points show current NWS FF locations
- Blue lines show the potential extent of FF using this framework, which includes the flow routing using RAPID

## Nationwide Flood Forecasting

## Global-Scale Flood Forecasting

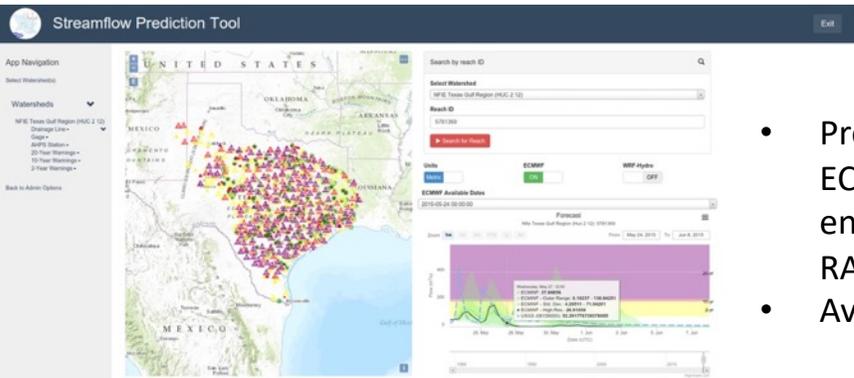
- Accuracies indicate the ERA-RAPID produced similar forecast as operational GloFAS
- Resolution of ERA-RAPID in much higher than GloFAS, allows the regional FF



Comparison of Global-Scale FF using ECMWF/ERA-RAPID and Operational GloFAS (Qiao et al., 2019)

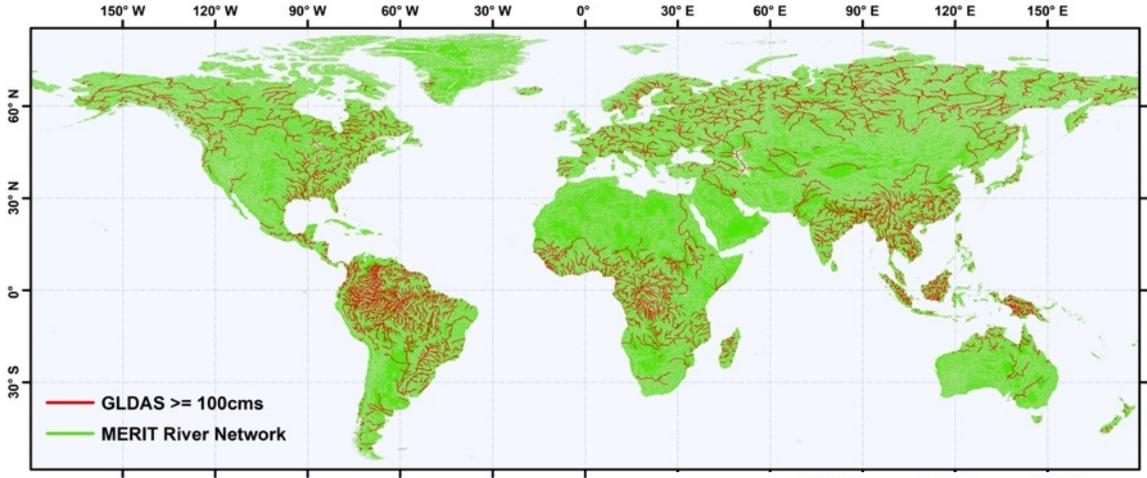
## Nationwide Flood Forecasting

- Previously Snow et al. (2016) used the ECMWF reanalysis and forecast ensembles to forecast flood using the RAPID model.
- Available through Tethys of BYU



Generated Flood Alert using RAPID Simulated Flow (Snow et al., 2016)

# A Preliminary Global-Scale Flood Alert methodology was developed using the same modeling approach

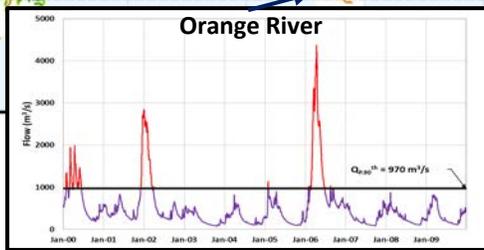
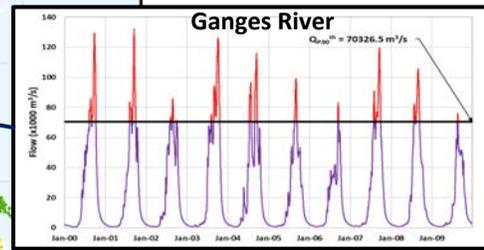
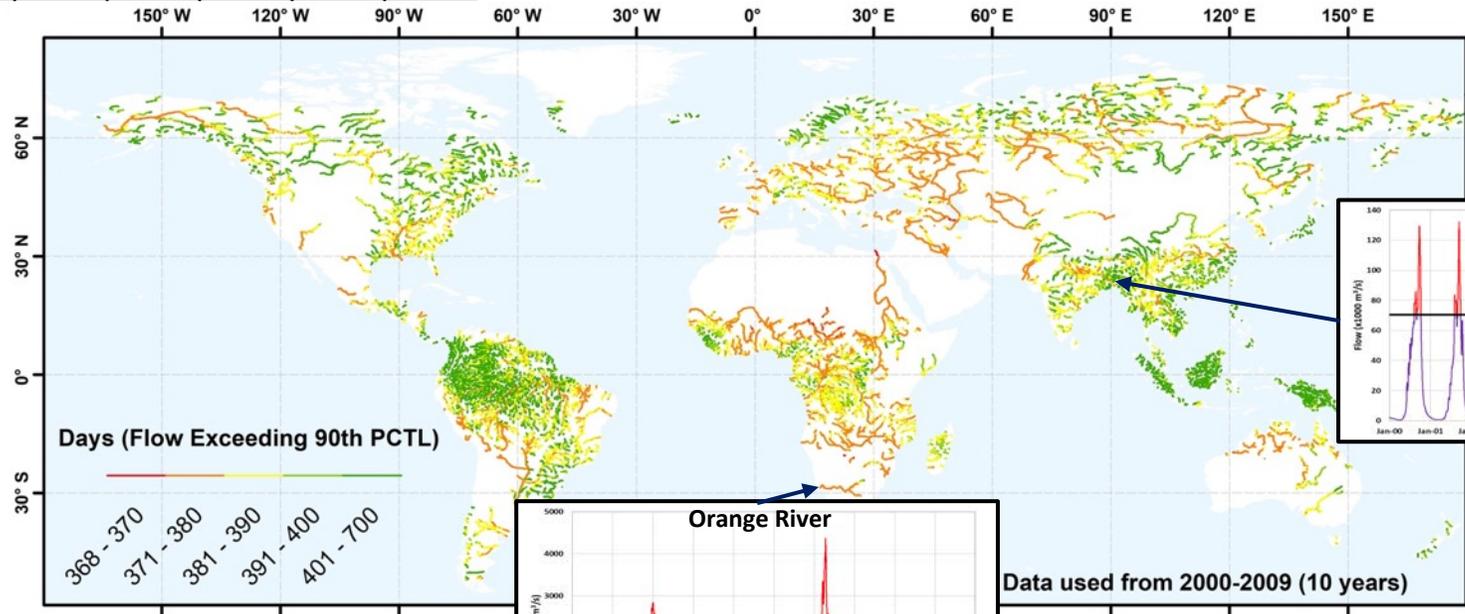


## Global-Scale 10-Years (2000-2009) Retrospective Flow for Large River Systems:

- Flow at 2.94 million river reaches (MERIT River Network; *Lin et al., 2019*) were simulated using RAPID model
- GLDASv2.1 LSM runoff data were used as the input (publicly available)
- The largest 123,583 river reaches were selected (in red) based on long term mean discharge (i.e., where  $Q_{\text{mean}} \geq 100 \text{ m}^3/\text{sec}$ )

## Flow Exceeding 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile:

- Number of days when flow exceeds the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile at any one 6-hourly time step: shows some characteristics of flooding patterns globally
- Near tropic and arctic, 90<sup>th</sup> percentile exceedance of flow is spread over numerous days indicating “flashier” flood events, while mid latitudes floods are of longer duration
- This 90<sup>th</sup> percentile flow approach can be used to generate “triggers” for flood alerts globally using existing forecasting systems



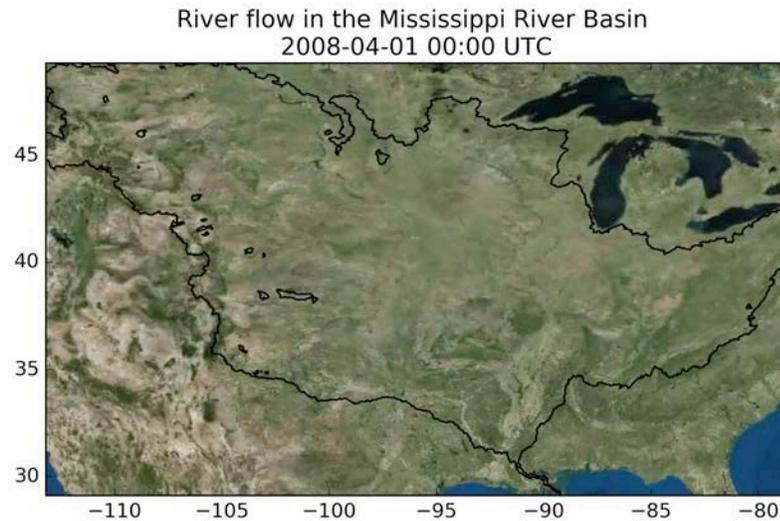
Data used from 2000-2009 (10 years)

# References

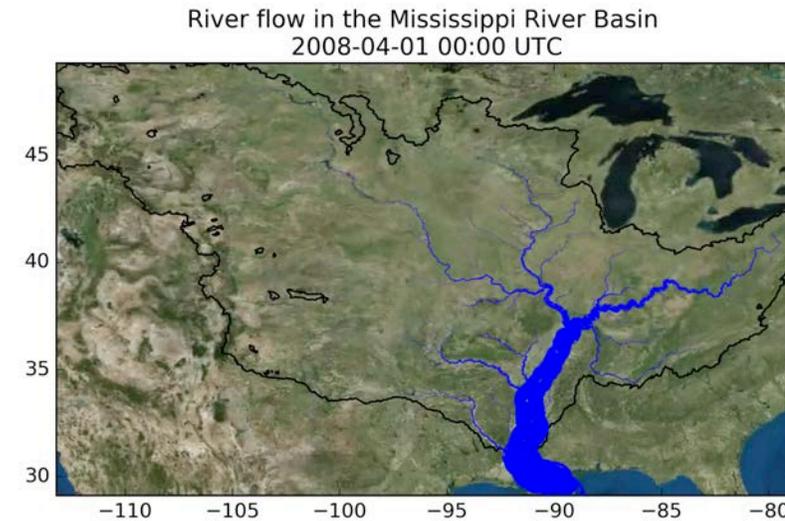
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Thank You!

# future goal: assimilation of SWOT data when SWOT launches to fill in space/time blanks



SWOT data



Assimilated in a river model

**Challenge:** data assimilation methods need a way to relate errors in observed variables to errors in the corrected variables

- Generated various datasets in Western United States and worldwide
  - 700K rivers (20 years, 3 hours daily)
  - 3M rivers (~3 years e hours daily)
- Developed by Cedric David
- We are using this data to support some proposed development with Steve Chien's task.

# Sources of errors in river discharge

- Input error (runoff)
- Model structural error (flow wave equation)
- Parameter error (e.g. propagation time)

Considerations  
Involved in Evaluating  
Mathematical Modeling of  
Urban Hydrologic Systems

By DAVID R. DAWDY

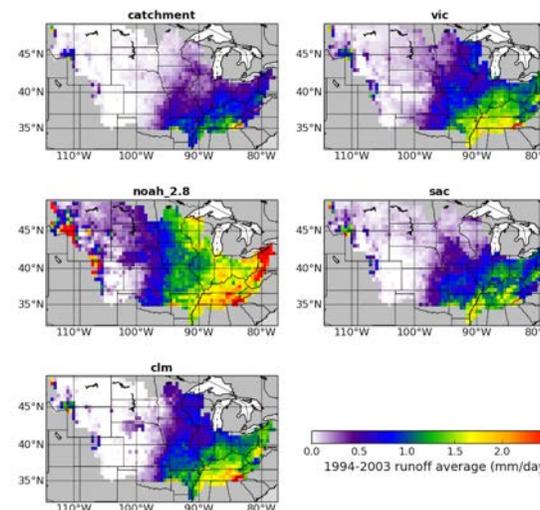
HYDROLOGIC EFFECTS OF URBAN GROWTH

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WATER-SUPPLY PAPER 1591-D

Dawdy (1969)



A healthy literature exist on river discharge error, surprisingly relatively little exists on the impact of runoff error on discharge error, such knowledge is needed to assimilate discharge into runoff.



Runoff is uncertain  
(from D. Lettenmaier)

## Geophysical Research Letters

RESEARCH LETTER  
10.1029/2019GL083342

Analytical Propagation of Runoff Uncertainty  
Into Discharge Uncertainty Through a Large  
River Network

Cédric H. David<sup>1</sup>, Jonathan M. Hobbs<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Turmon<sup>1</sup>, Charlotte M. Emery<sup>1</sup>,  
John T. Reager<sup>1</sup>, and James S. Famiglietti<sup>1,2</sup>

### Key Points:

- We present the first analytical equations for propagating runoff uncertainty into discharge uncertainty through a river network

Credit: Cedric David