



POTSDAM INSTITUTE FOR
CLIMATE IMPACT RESEARCH

Eco-hydrological modeling

Fred F. Hattermann



Types of hydrological models

1 Physical representation of processes

Physically-based

- Processes based on physical equations, high data and computation demand
- Grid

Process-oriented

- Processes based on physical and empirical equations, medium data and computation demand
- HRUs (hydrological response units)

Empirical-statistical models

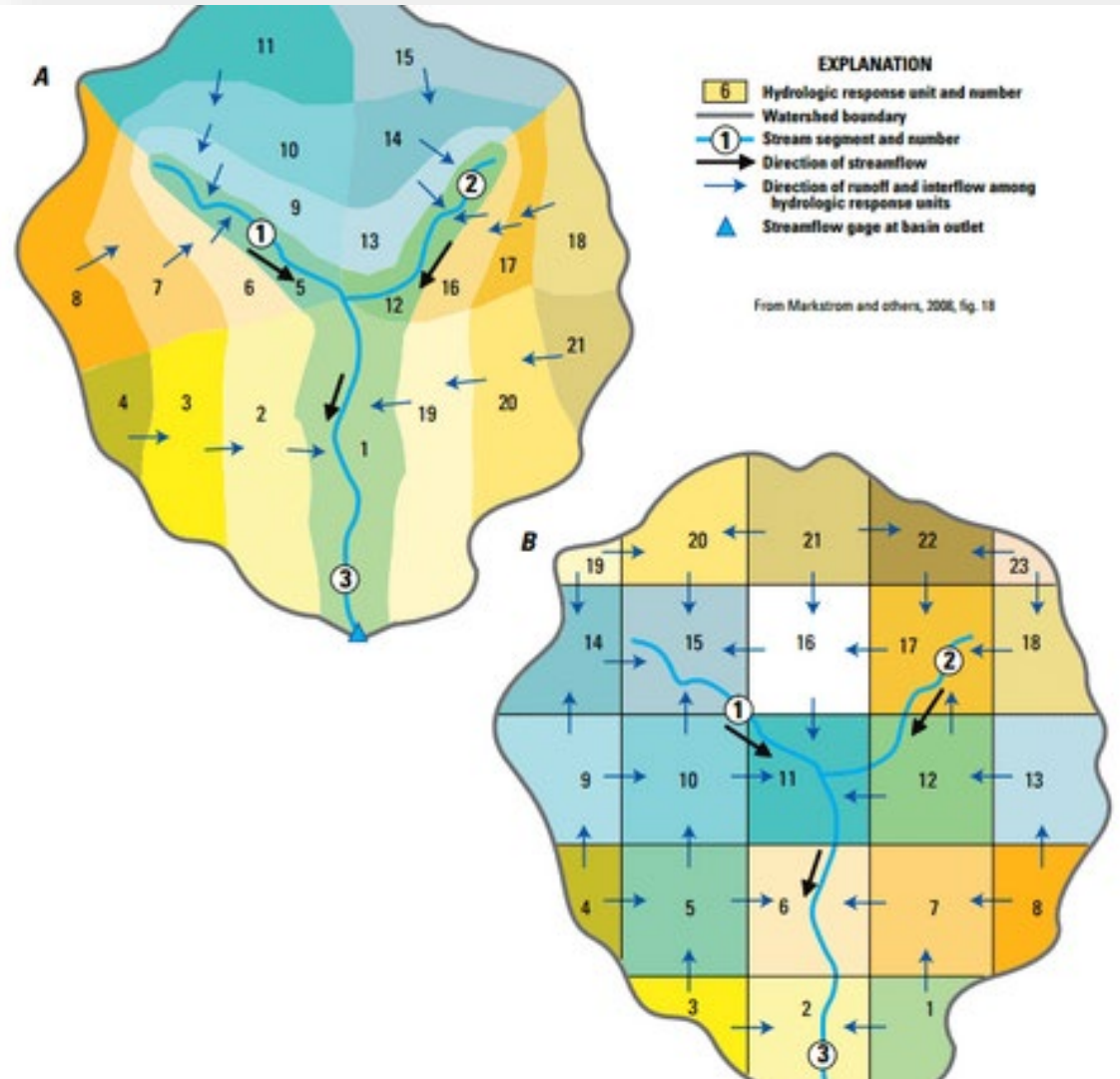
- Based on empirical equations
- Lumped



Types of hydrological models

1 Spatial disaggregation

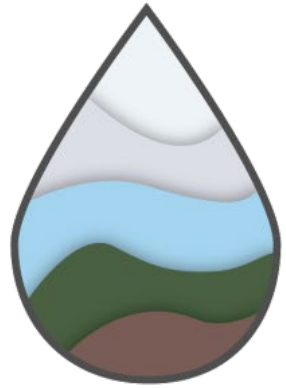
Hydrological
response units



Grid cells



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SWIM

Soil and Water Integrated Model

Introduction

Model structure

Stefan Liersch



SWIM

Soil and Water Integrated Model

Eco-hydrological model designed to

- Simulate processes at the catchment scale
- Simulation of water and nutrient fluxes
- Assess the impacts of
 - Climate change
 - Changed water resources management

Continuous development (5-10 developers)

- Adapted to new requirements
- Major developments over recent years to address water resources management (reservoirs, irrigation, water allocation...)



Modelling approach

Catchment-scale eco-hydrological model

Process-based

- Physical equations: evapotranspiration, percolation...
- Empirical approaches: curve number-based infiltration...
- Daily time step

Spatially semi-distributed

- Hydrological Response Units (HRUs)
- HRUs are laterally not connected

Mesoscale applications (>1000 km²)



based on



&

MATSALU



Eco-hydrological model

Natural processes

Weather / climate (input)

- Precipitation (rain & snow)
- Temperature, solar radiation, rel. humidity

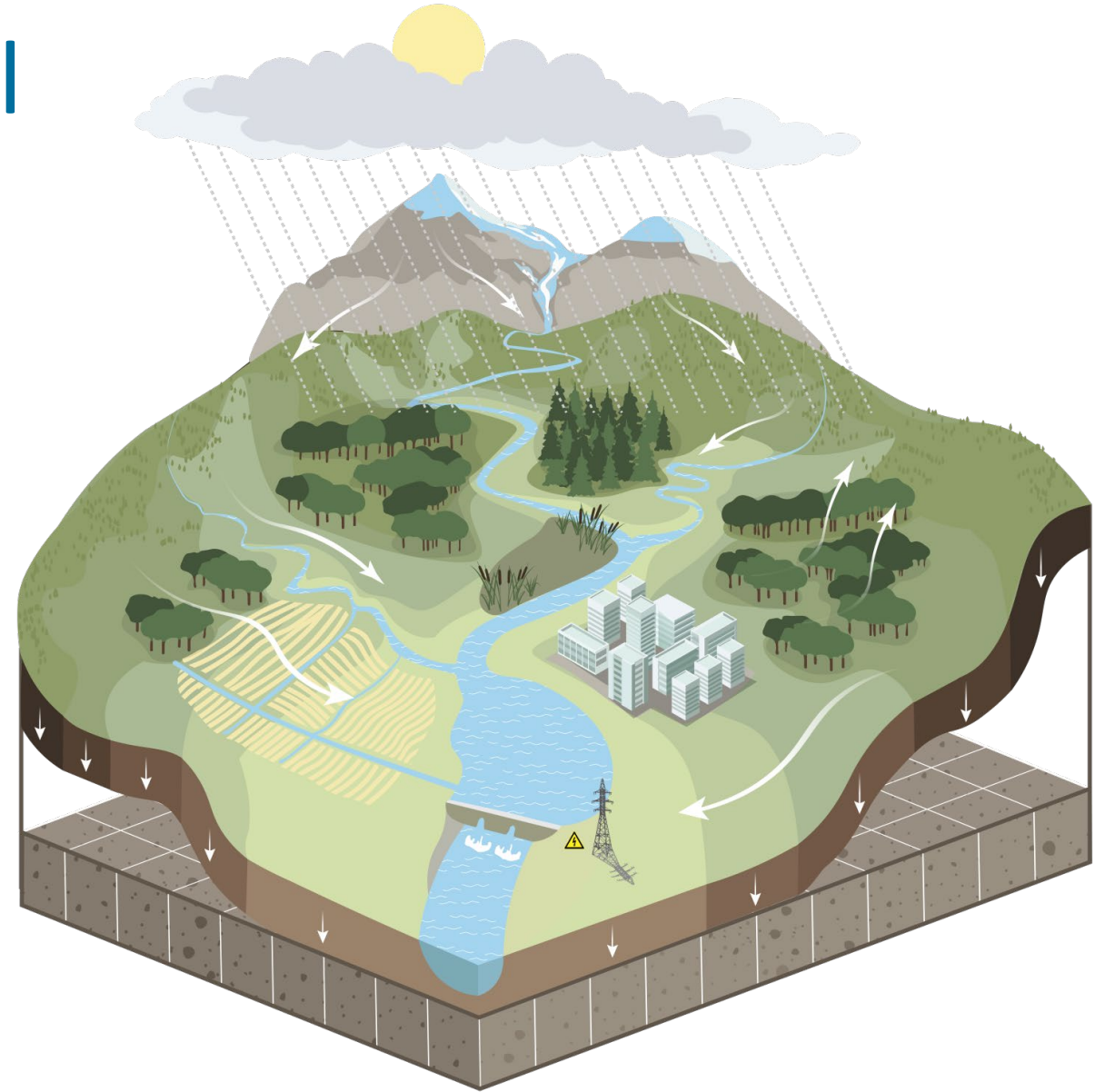
Hydrology

- Infiltration
- Runoff: surface, sub-surface, groundwater
- River discharge
- Evapotranspiration

Vegetation

- Natural: forests, grasslands, savannah...
- Managed crops

Glaciers





Eco-hydrological model

Water and land management

Crop management

- Crop rotations
- Fertilization

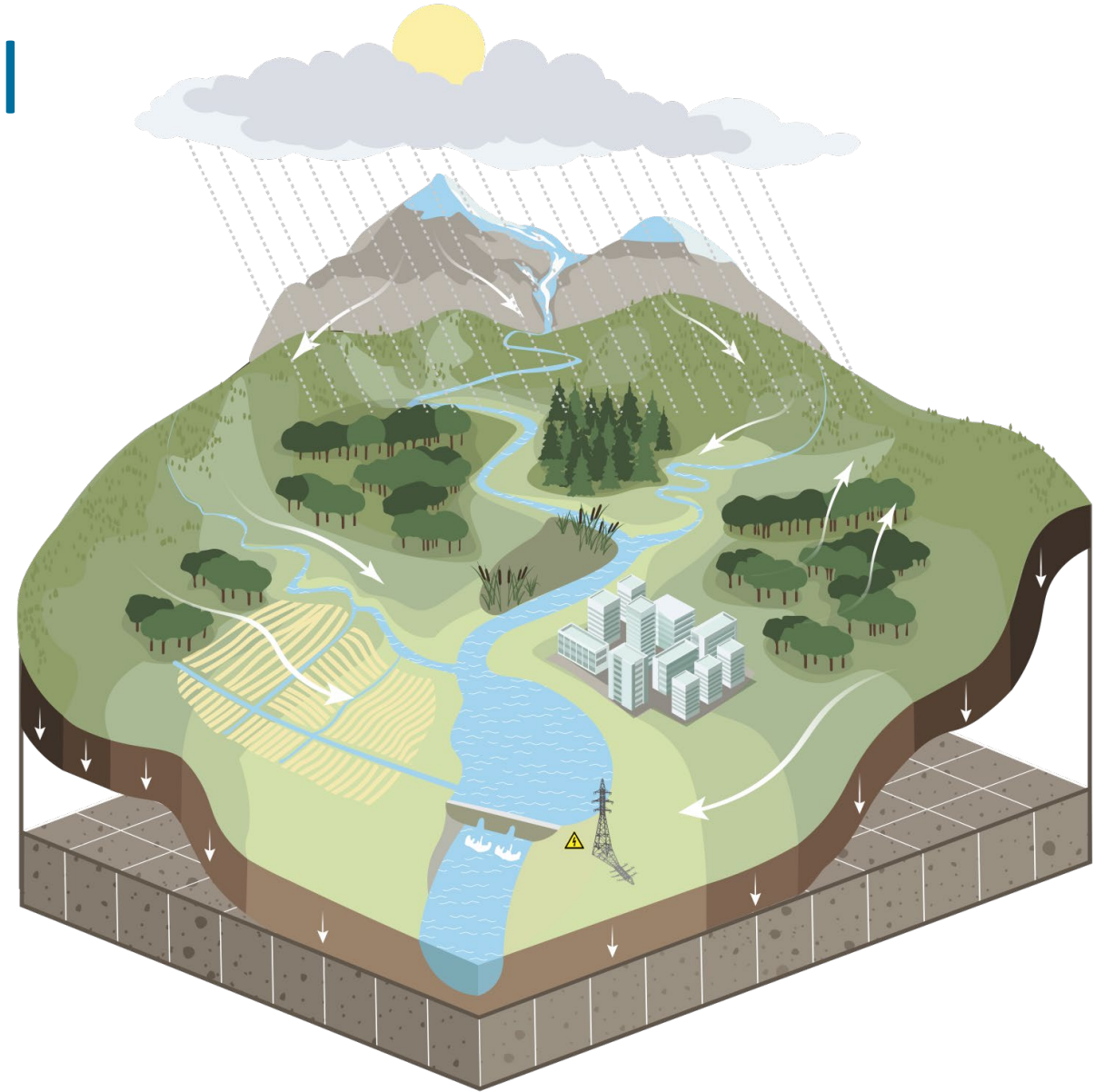
Irrigation

- Crop water demand / deficits
- Water use efficiency

Water allocation

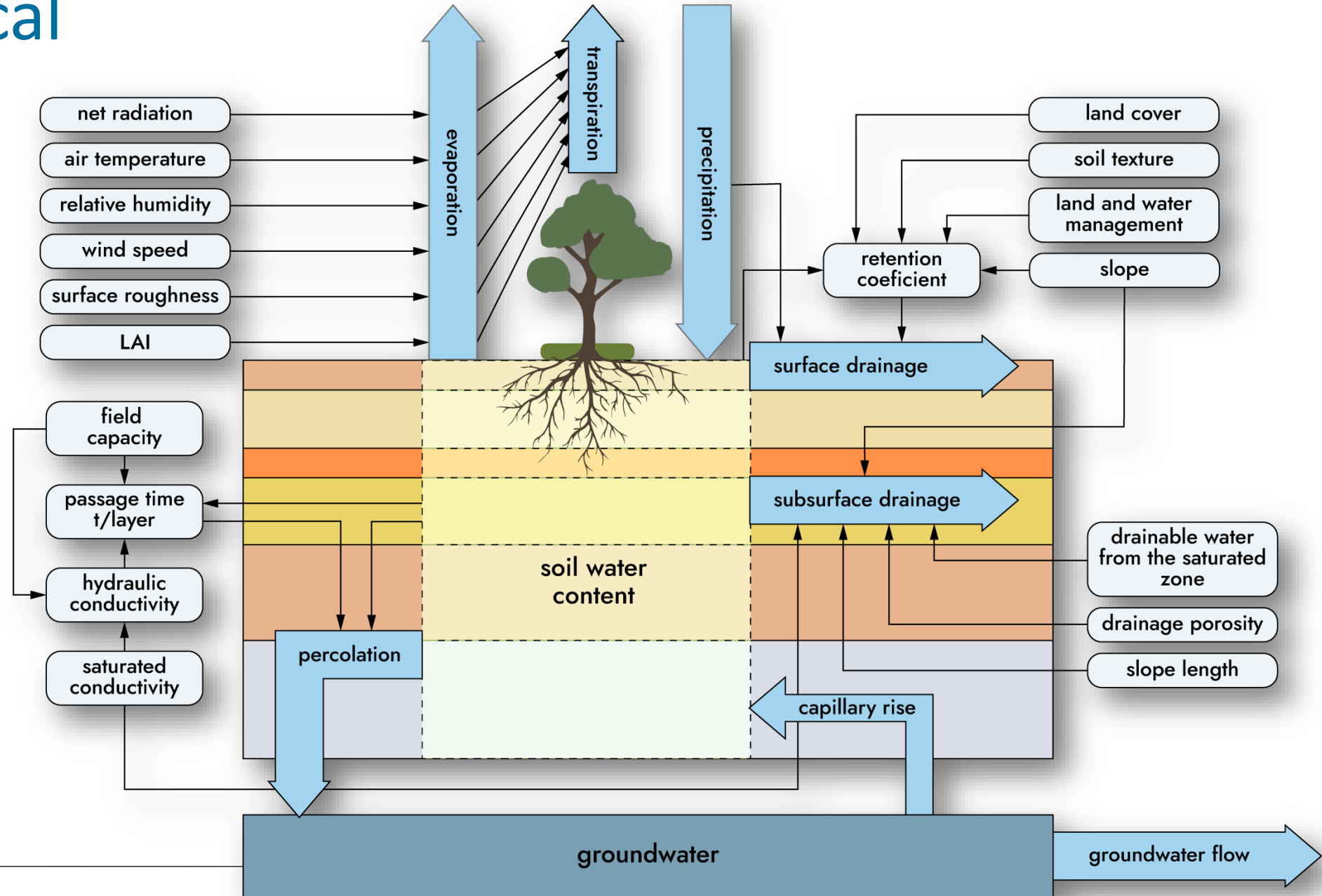
Reservoirs

- Hydropower
- Flood protection
- Water supply



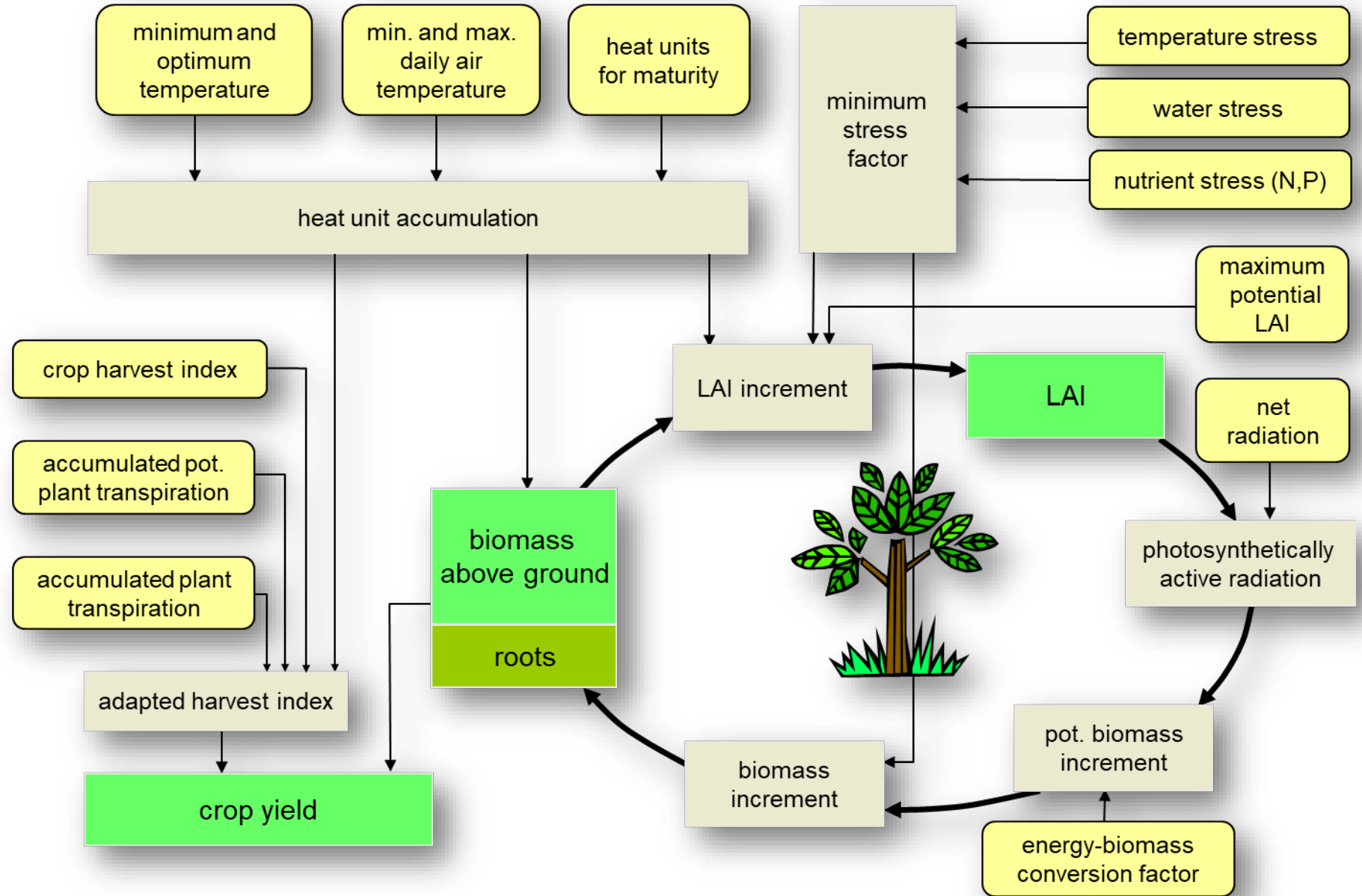


Hydrological processes





Plant processes





Spatial disaggregation in SWIM

3 levels

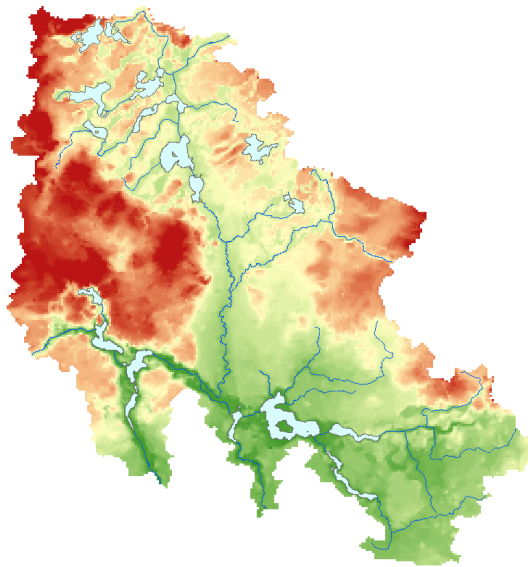
Basin



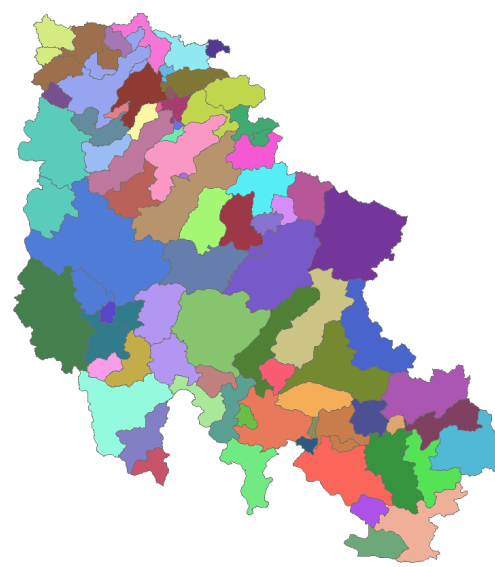
Sub-basins/



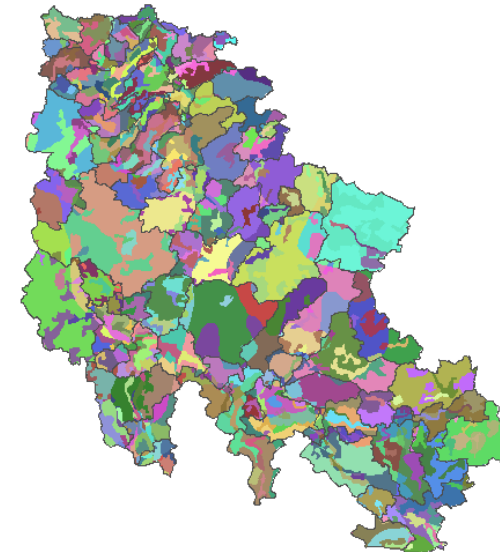
Hydrotopes (HRUs)



Routing in river
(water, N, P,
sediments)



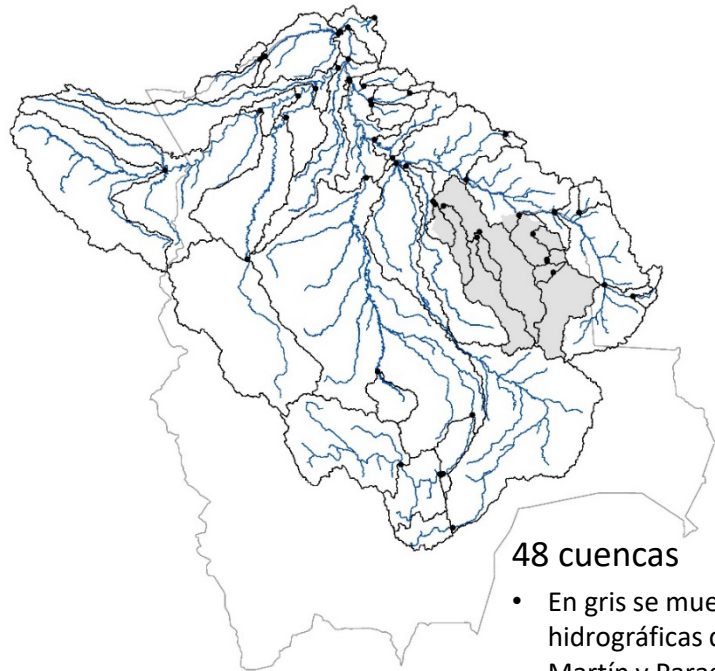
Aggregation of
lateral flows



Water, N, P cycles
vegetation growth

SWIM - desagregación espacial (ejemplo de la cuenca del Amazonas boliviano)

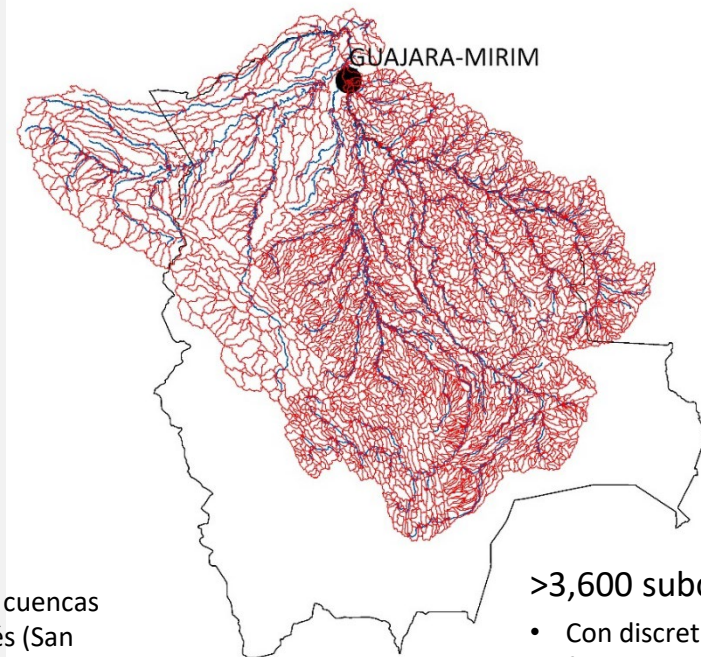
Escala de cuenca



48 cuencas

- En gris se muestra las cuencas hidrográficas de interés (San Martín y Paraguarí).
- Las estaciones de aforo en las regiones de estudio son hipotéticas

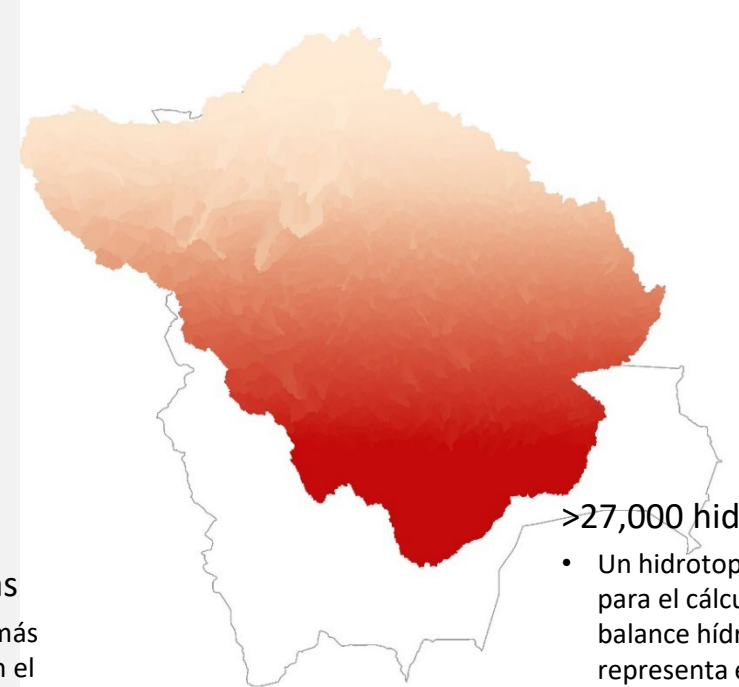
Escala de subcuencas



>3,600 subcuencas

- Con discretización más fina de la Cuenca en el área de aguas arriba de la estación hidrológica de Guajara-Mirim

Escala de hidrotopos



>27,000 hidrotopos

- Un hidrotopo es la base para el cálculo del balance hídrico y representa el área definido por la combinación única de uso de suelo y tipo de suelo

Enrutamiento de flujo en la red de drenaje

Agregación de los componentes del balance hídrico

Ciclo hidrológico, dinámica de la vegetación



Spatial data

GIS layers

Elevation, slope (DEM)

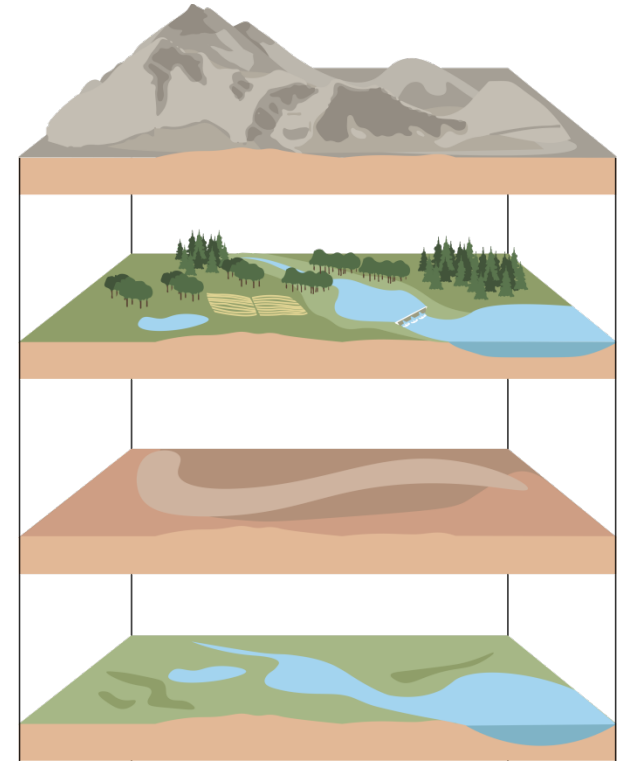
Land use / cover (LULC)

Natural, managed

Soils

Other

*Reservoirs, irrigation,
wetlands, glaciers, elevation*



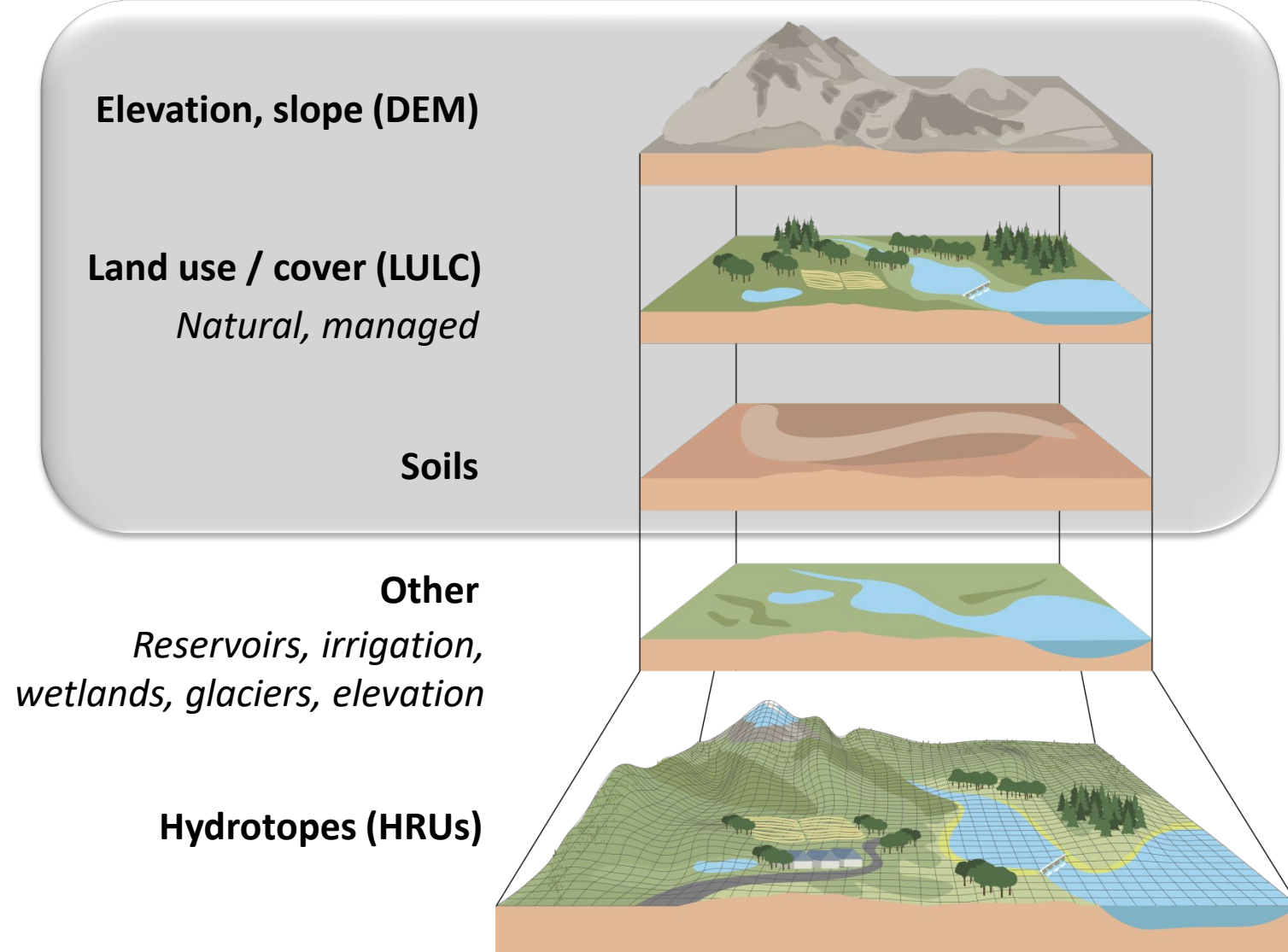


Spatial data

Basic GIS layers

Overlay in GIS

- HRUs
Hydrological Response Units
- SWIM input file: *.str





Spatial data

Optional GIS layers

Overlay in GIS

- HRUs
Hydrological Response Units
- SWIM input file: *.str

Optional layers

Elevation, slope (DEM)

Land use / cover (LULC)

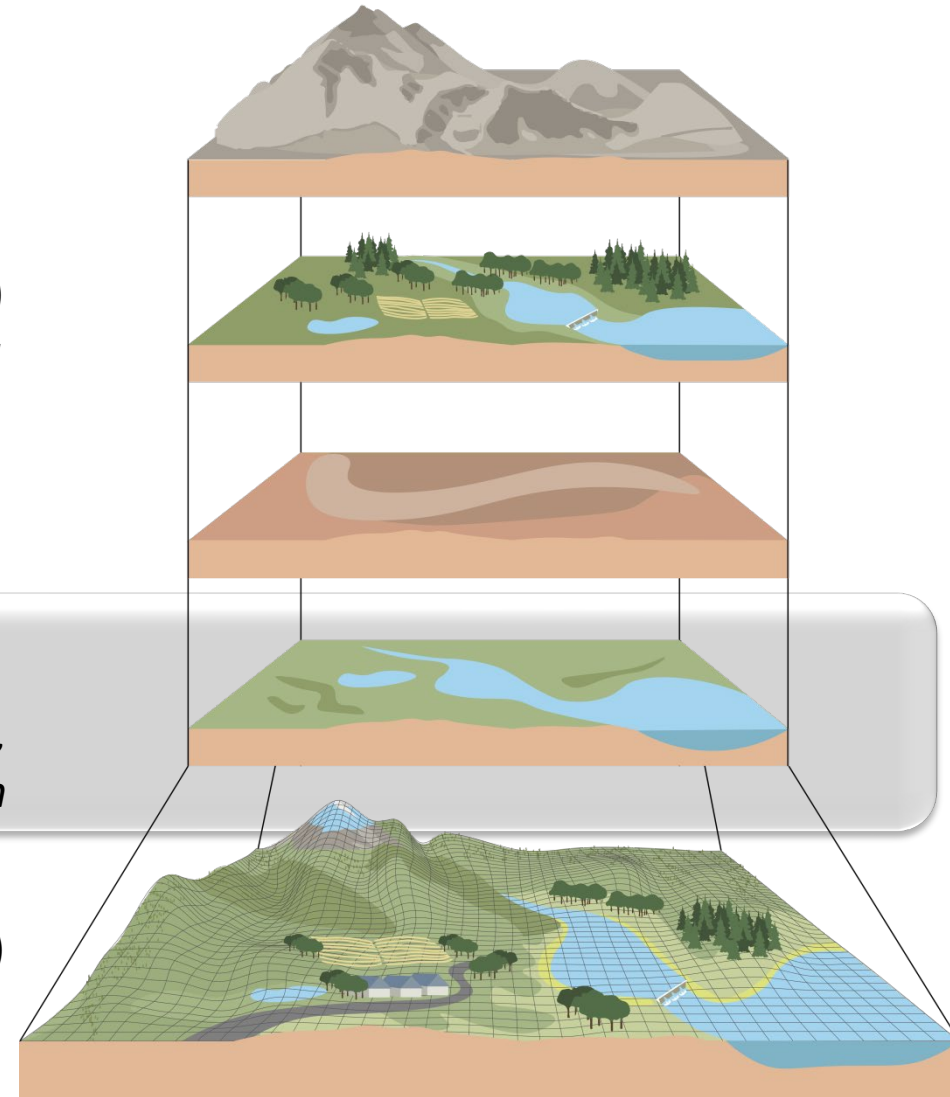
Natural, managed

Soils

Other

*Reservoirs, irrigation,
wetlands, glaciers, elevation*

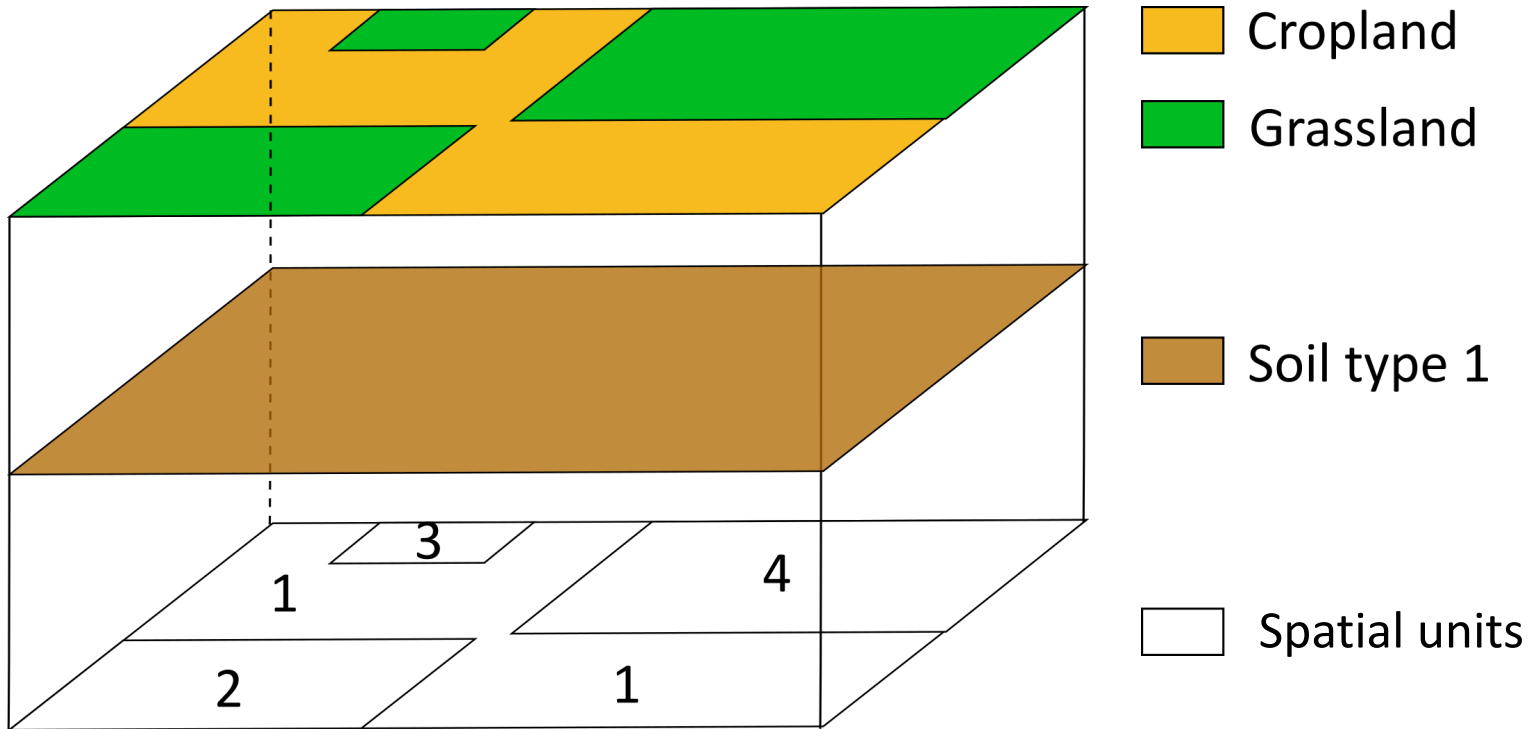
Hydrotopes (HRUs)





HRU

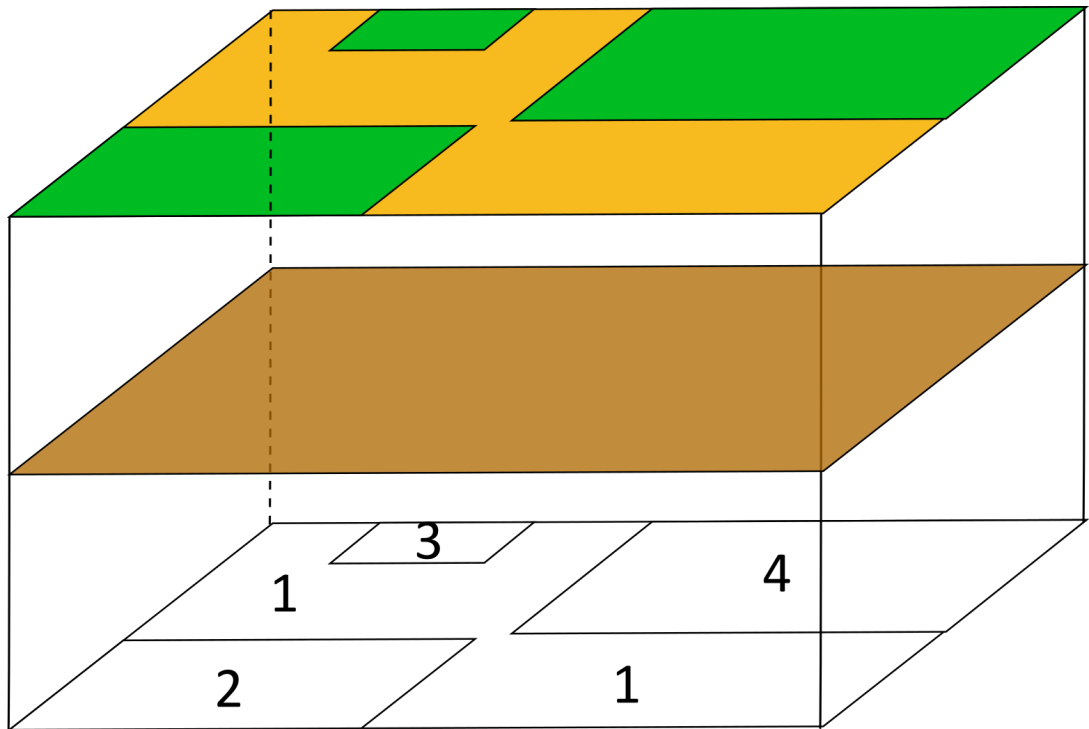
Hydrological Response Unit





HRU

Hydrological Response Unit



 Cropland

 Grassland

 Soil type 1

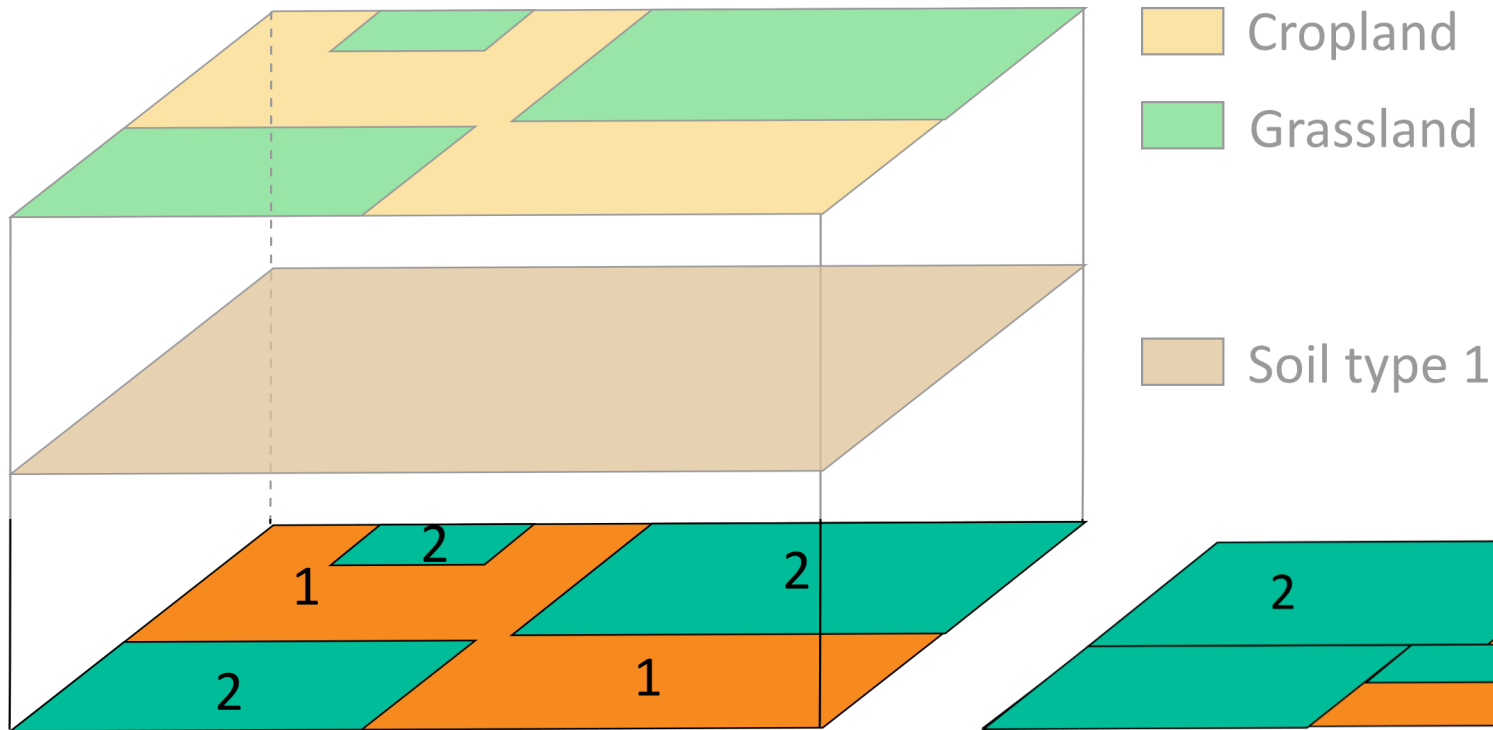
 HRUs
4 spatial units

4 lines in *.str file

SUB	LU	SOIL	...	AREA
1	5	1		40000
1	8	1		10000
1	8	1		22000
1	8	1		28000

HRU, Lumping units with same properties

Computationally efficient



2 lines in *.str file

SUB	LU	SOIL	...	AREA
1	5	1		40000
1	8	1		60000

Spatial units lumped together

HRU 1 = 40% of sub-basin area

HRU 2 = 60% of sub-basin area



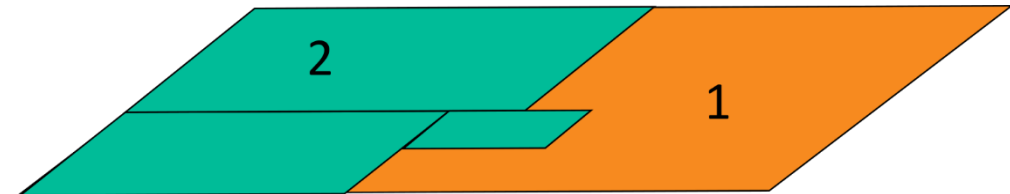
HRU

Hydrological Response Unit

Smallest unit / entity within a sub-basin

Lumped product

- Laterally not connected
- Area-weighted products...
- Routing at the sub-basin level



$$Q_{\text{sub}} = Q_{\text{HRU1}} * 0.4 + Q_{\text{HRU2}} * 0.6$$

0.4 and 0.6 = fraction of HRU area in sub-basin



The model itself

Is simply a...

Data processor

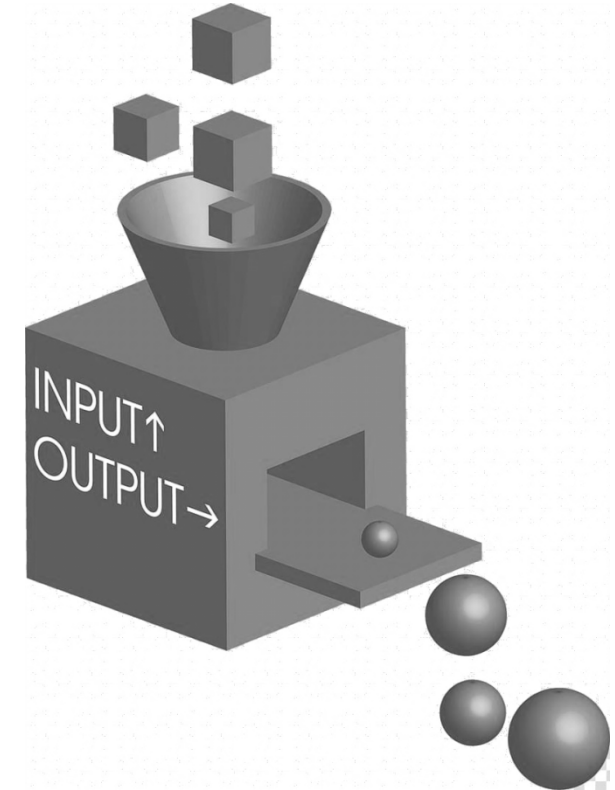
- Reading input → producing output

Input

- ASCII text files (readable / editable in a text editor)
- Produced during GIS (and other) pre-processing
- Representing spatio-temporal data

Output

- ASCII text files (readable / editable in a text editor)
- Time series
- GIS reclassification files at HRU level



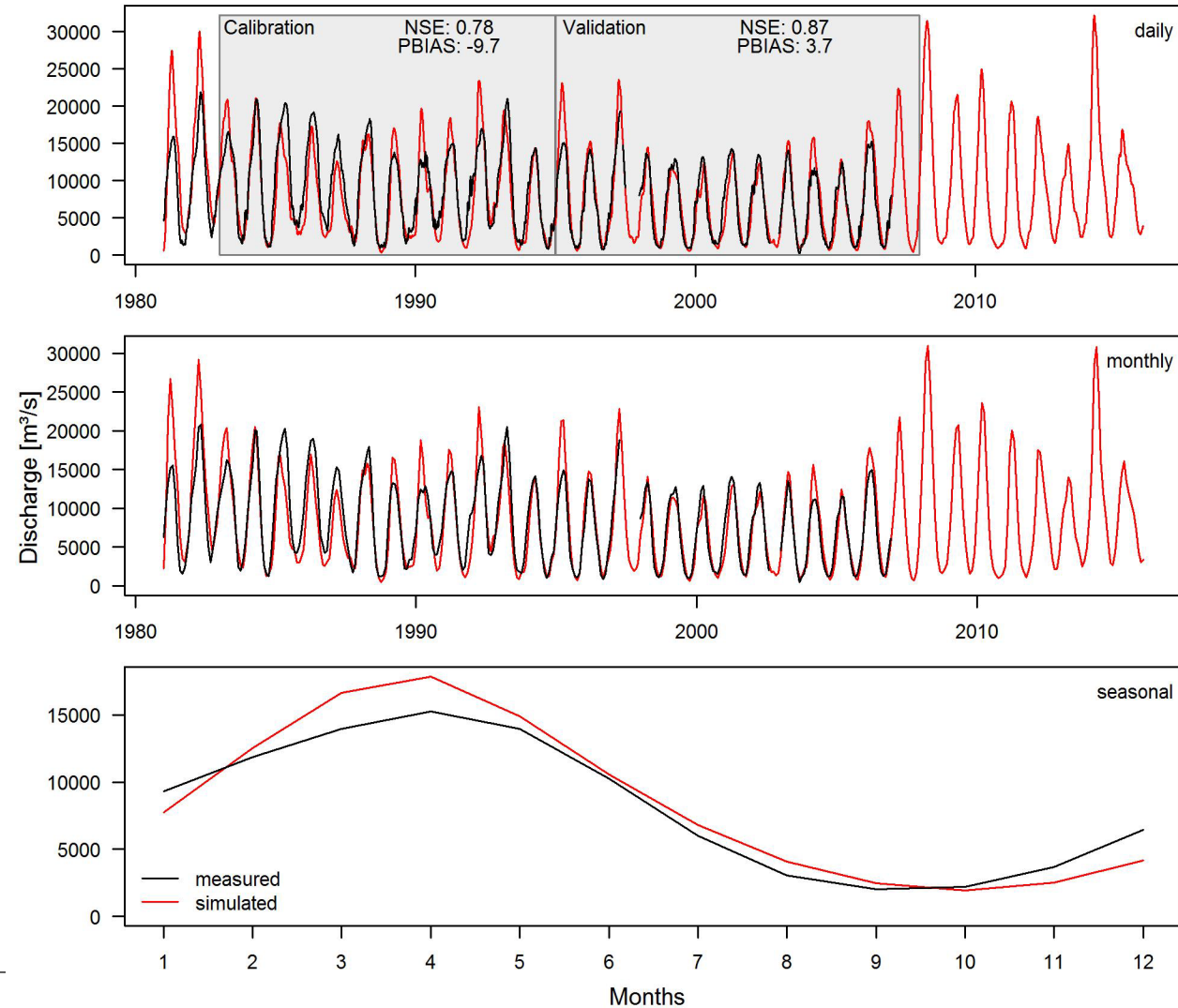
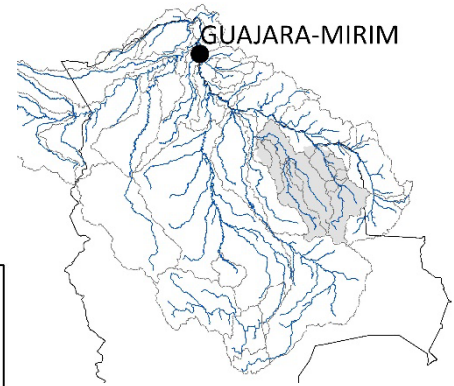
<https://p7.hiclipart.com/>



Discharge, observed vs. simulated

Guajara-Mirim

Average daily Q



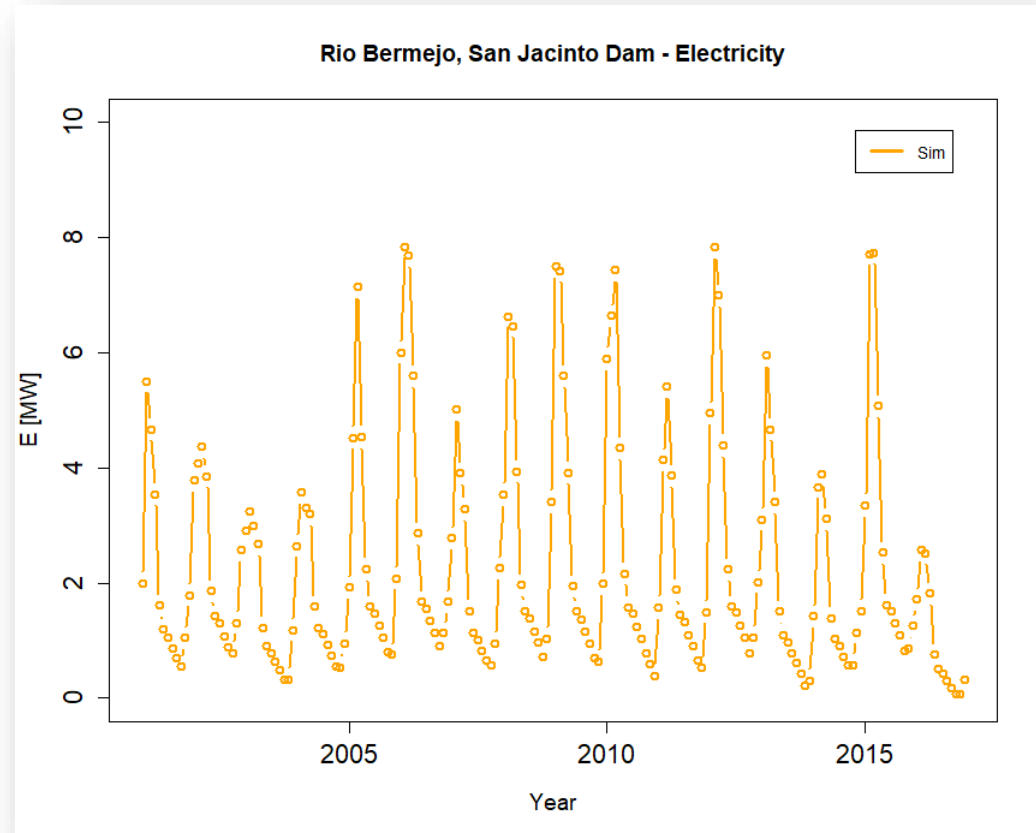


Hydropower potential

SSP126, ISIMIP3b, 8 GCMs

San Jacinto Dam

- Rio Bermejo
- Tarija

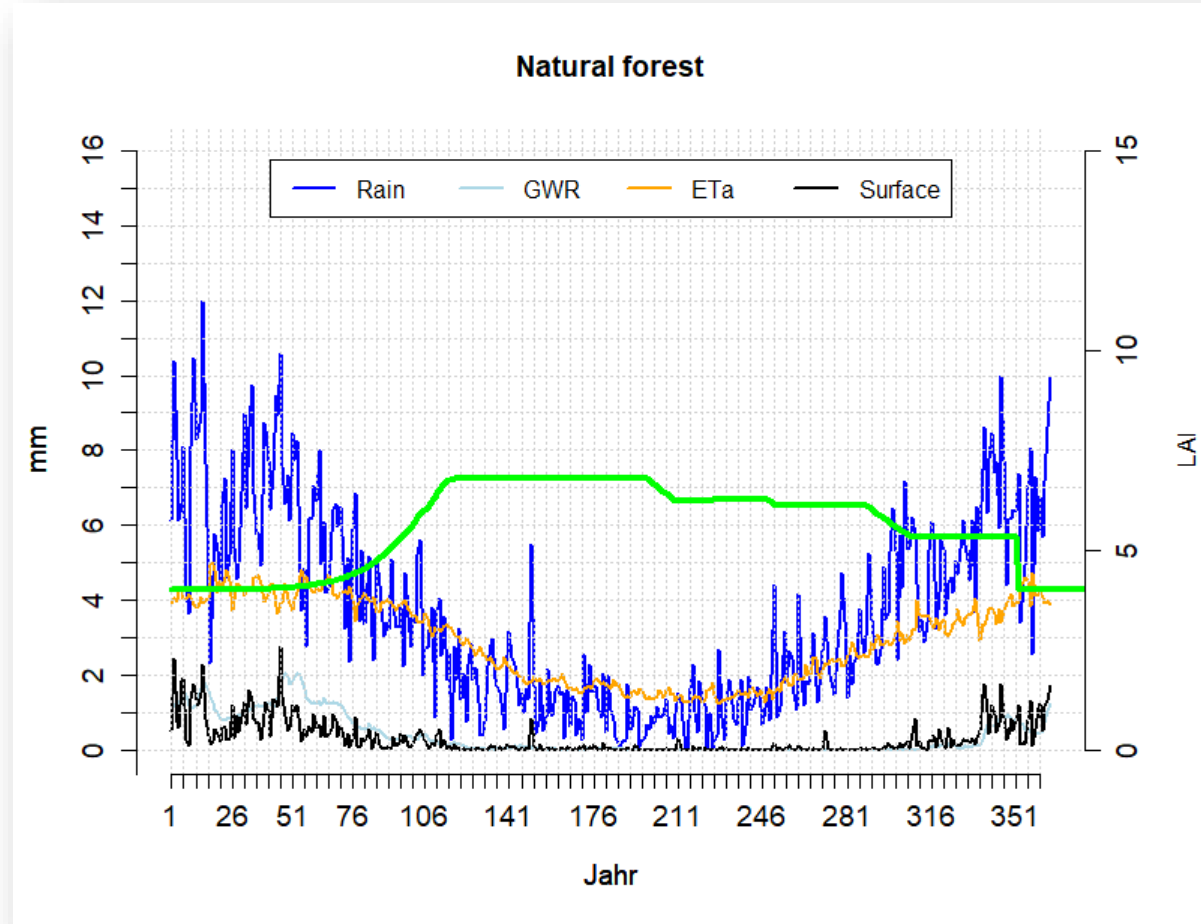




Some HRU output

Bagré irrigation site, WFDE5

- Precipitation
- Water stress
- Irrigation
- Leaf area index
- Percolation
- Biomass
- Root depth
- ...





Spatial output

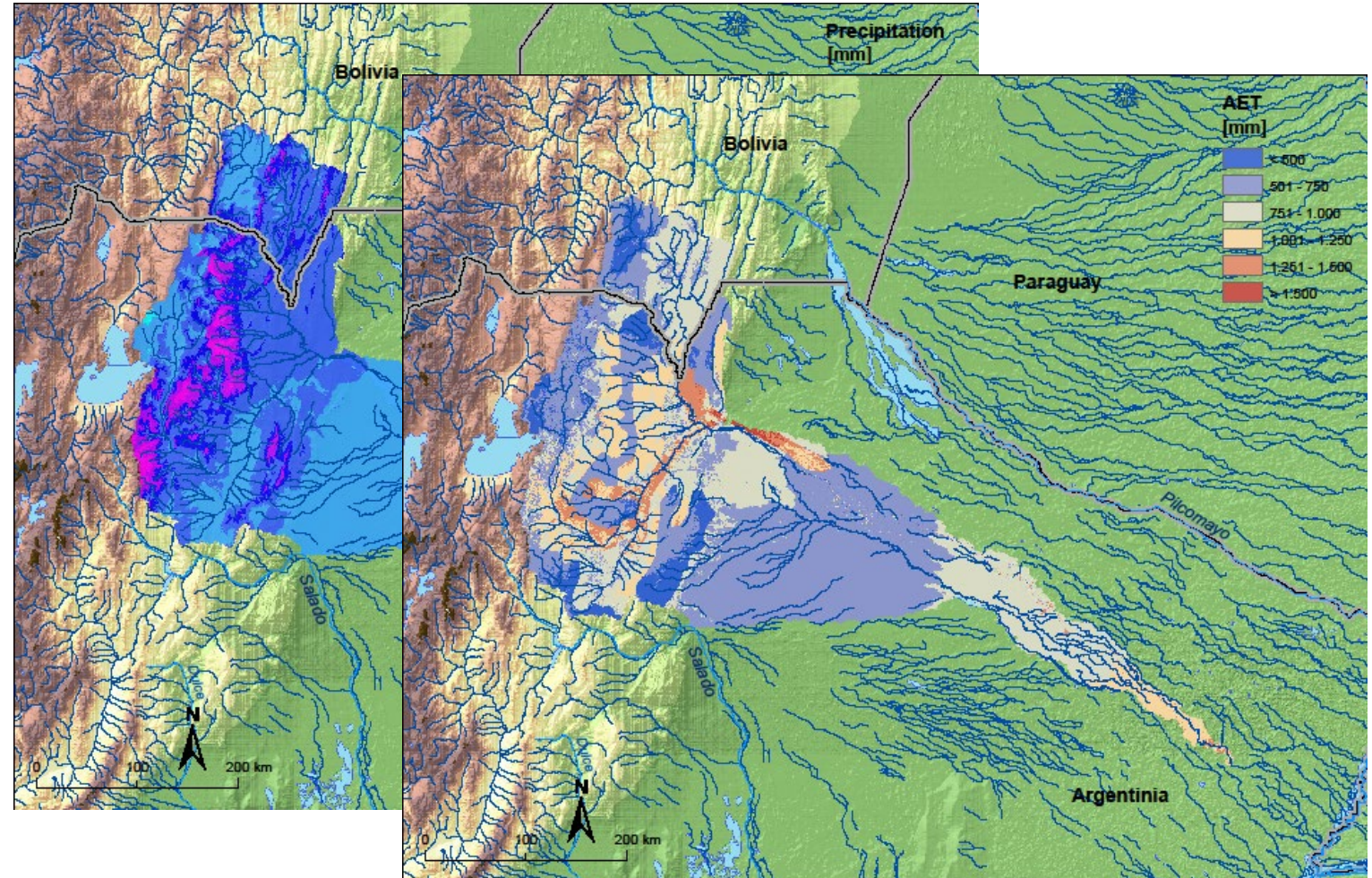
Tarija, ISIMIP3b

ETa change (example)

- Reference:
1984-2014

Spatial output

- Precipitation
- ETp, ETa
- Surface Q
- GW recharge
- Soil water index





SWIM code

Fortran programming language

Redesign of SWIM code

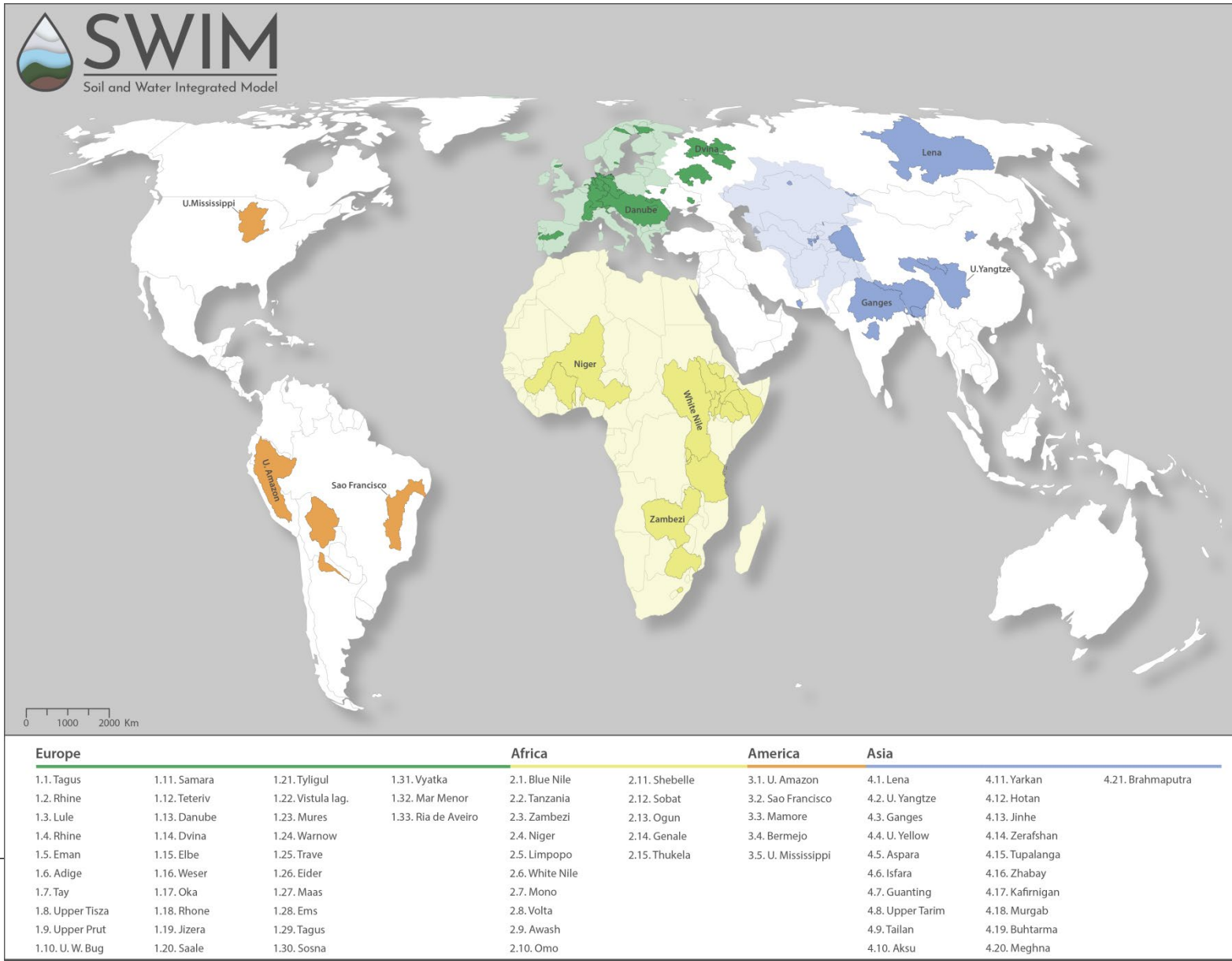
- Conversion of the code into a modular structure (Fortran 90 / 95)
- Fully open source some time in 2022

Simulation (execution) time

- Mainly depending on number of HRUs
- Volta model (~9800 HRUs): 140 years ~3 hours or ~1 min / year



Worldwide applications

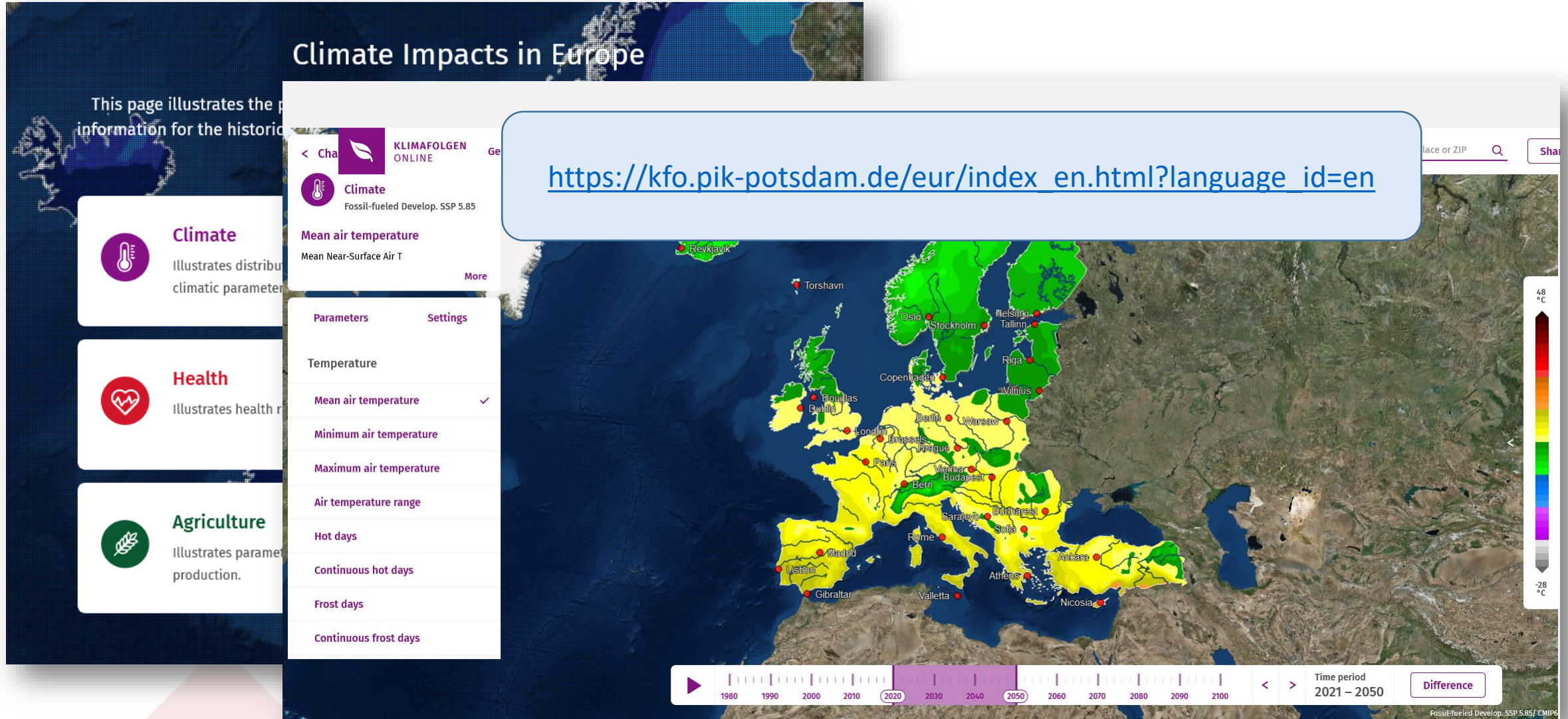




Literature

Model description

- Krysanova, V., Müller-Wohlfeil, D.I. & A. Becker (1998). Development and test of a spatially distributed hydrological/water quality model for mesoscale watersheds. *Ecological Modelling*, 106, 261-289.
- Hattermann, F. F., Huang, S., Koch, H. (2015): Climate change impacts on hydrology and water resources. - *Meteorologische Zeitschrift*, 24, 2, 201-211.
- Krysanova, V., Hattermann, F., Huang, S., Hesse, C., Vetter, T., Liersch, S., Koch, H. & Z. W. Kundzewicz (2015). Modelling climate and land use change impacts with SWIM: lessons learnt from multiple applications. *Hydrological Sciences Journal*, 60, 606-635.





WEPP Water Erosion Prediction

Link: <https://wepp.cloud/weppcloud/>

1. Land use 43 – mixed forest and Forest Silt-Loam Soil
2. Land use 83 – small grain and Forest Silt-Loam Soil
3. Land use 83 – small grain and Forest High Sev Fire Sandy Loam

Apply WEPP to investigate the relevance of vegetation cover

Example 1: Erosion and water balance under forest cover

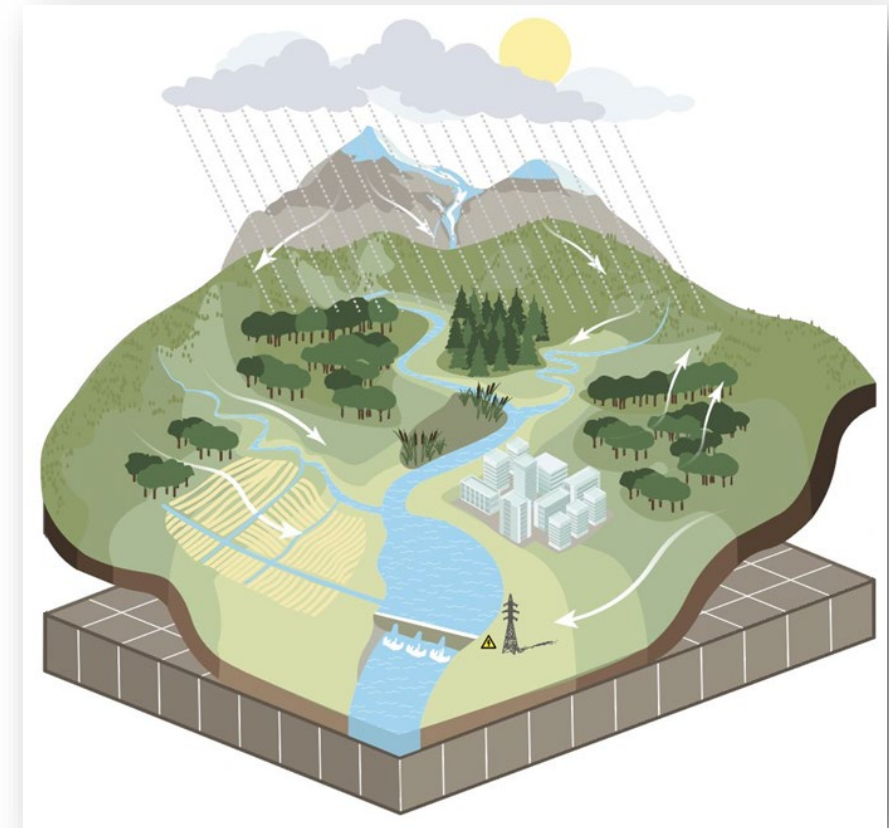
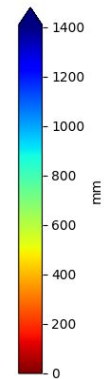
Example 2: Erosion and water balance under agriculture

Link: <https://wepp.cloud/weppcloud/>



Rese

Reference: Run 39: EOBs baseline





Climate change impacts

Apply SWIM to investigate impacts of climate scenarios:

Example 1: Calibrate model

Example 2: Do climate scenario runs

