

SWOT Discharge

The big picture



Hnd Oubanas, Mike Durand, Colin Gleason, Pierre-Olivier Malaterre and Kévin Larnier
On behalf of the **SWOT DAWG**

SWOT Discharge Algorithm Working Group



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Data

Here are datasets for use by the community.

Stage-discharge in situ data from Bangladesh

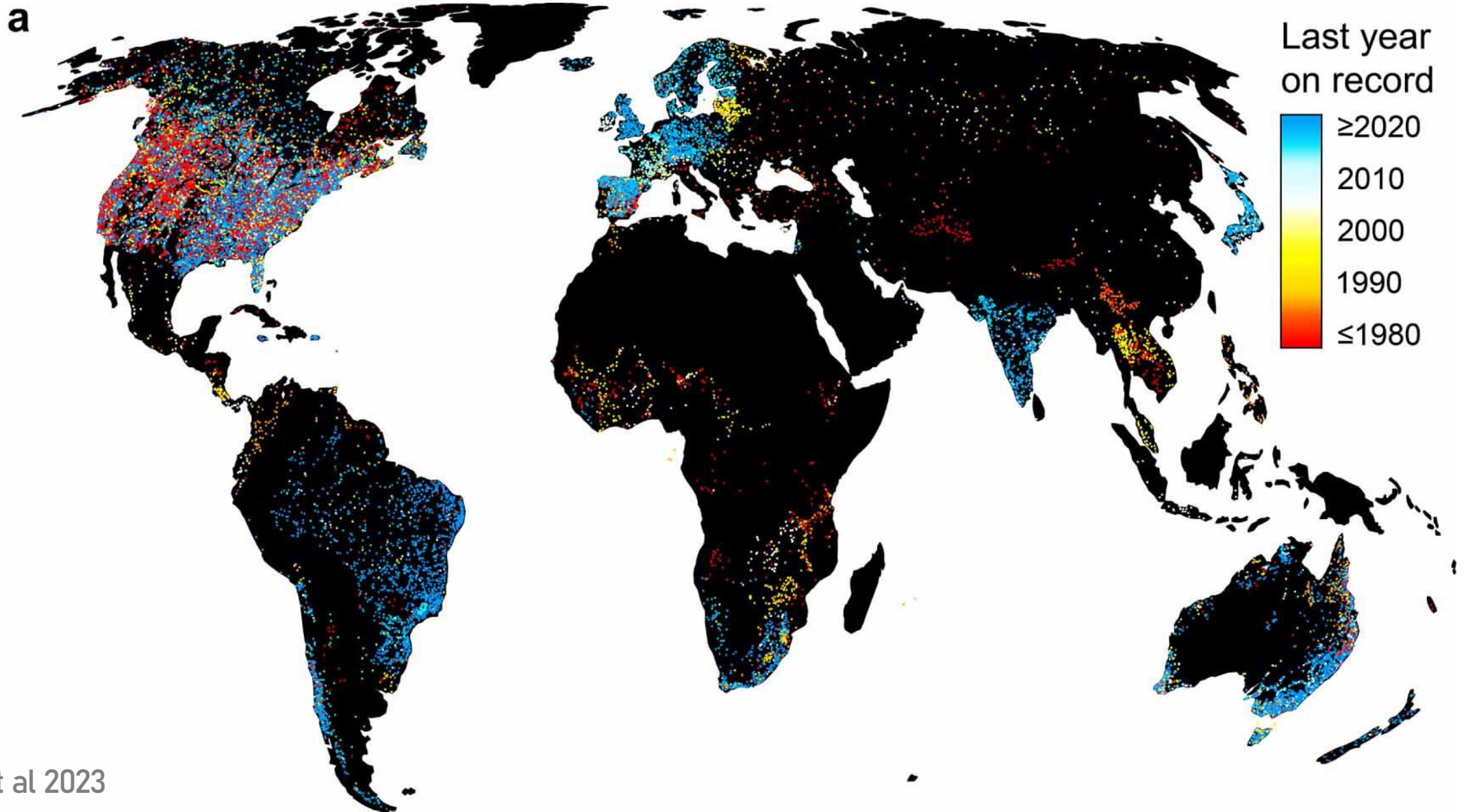
Data description (from Faisal Hossain): In followup to the SWOT Discharge WG telecon on May 15th, here is the database on current meter and ADCP-based Q measurement and

Recent Posts

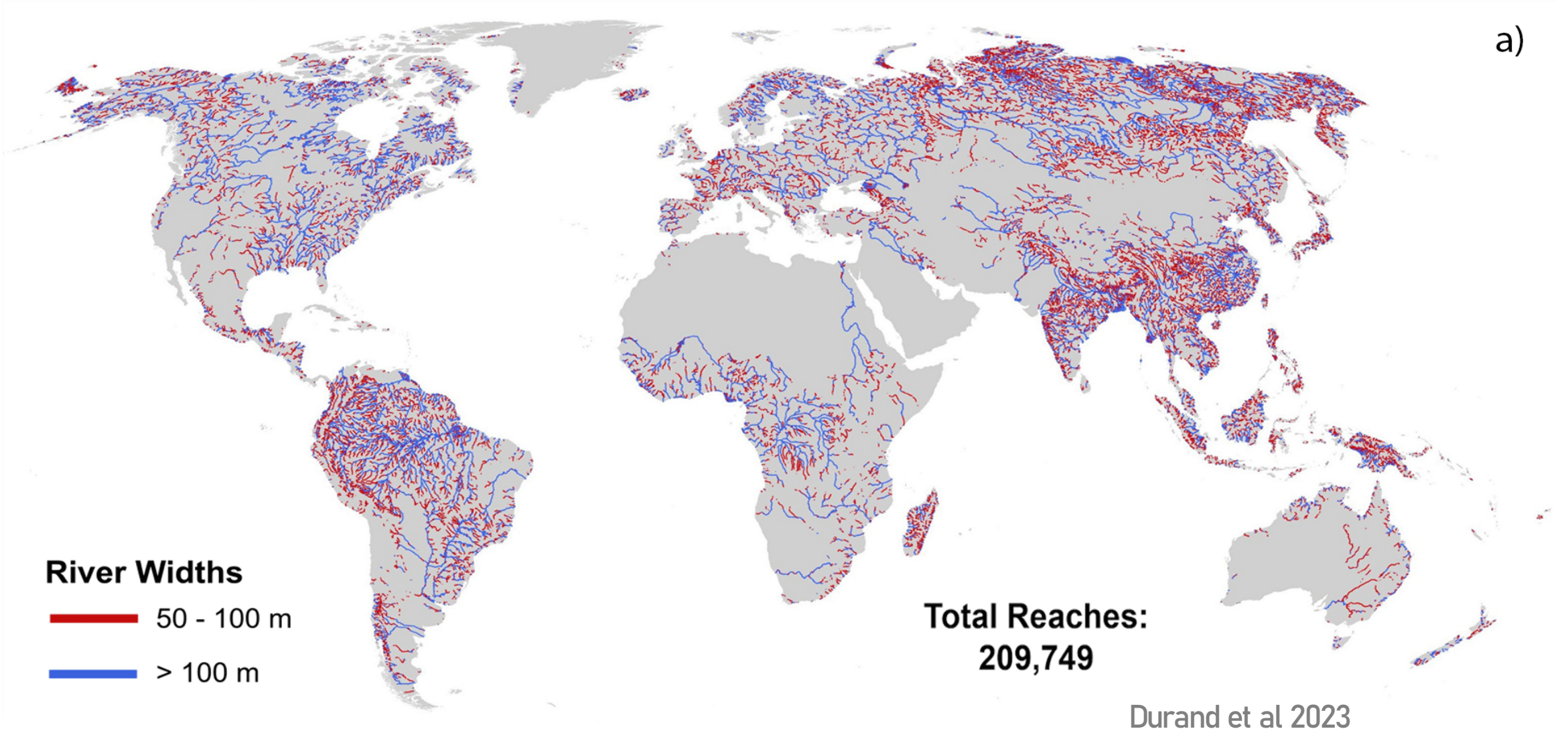
- [June 7 Meeting](#)
- [May 10 Meeting](#)
- [Flow laws – a hypothesis](#)
- [April 12 Meeting](#)
- [March 29 Meeting](#)

Recent Comments

Challenges : Ungauged Discharge



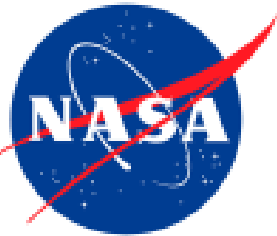
Challenges : Global Scale feasibility



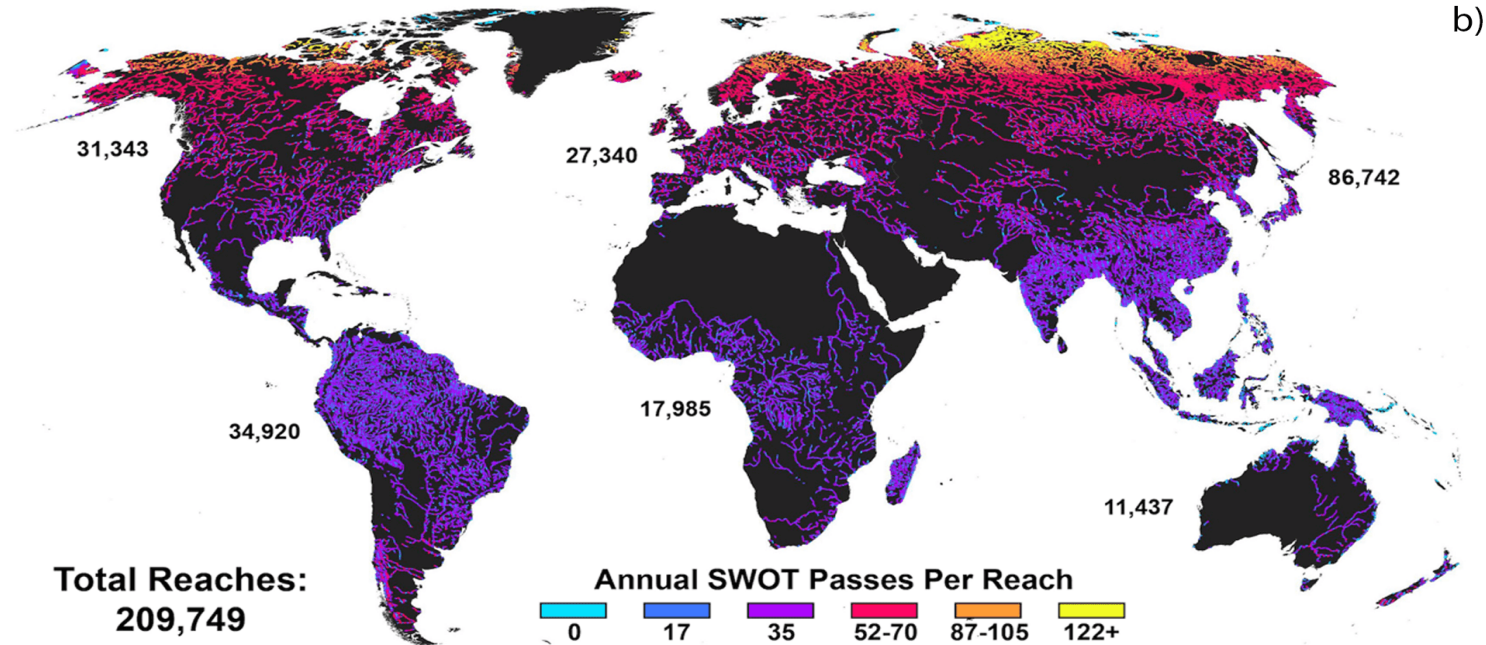
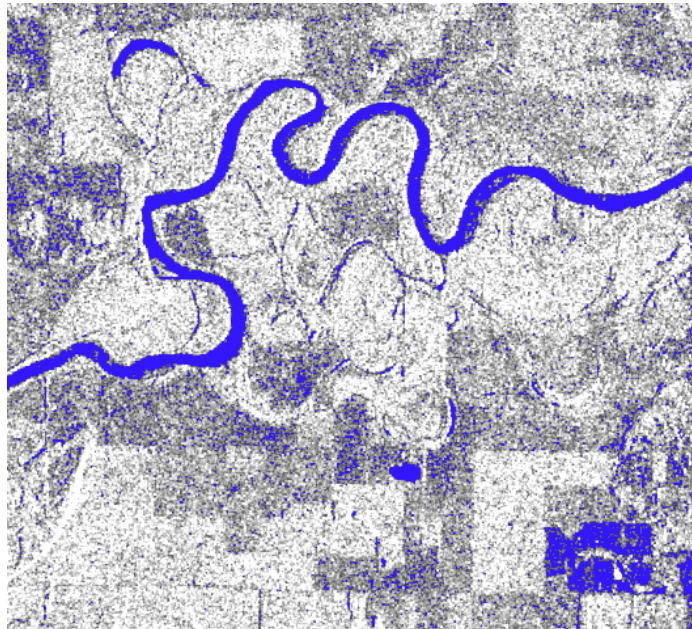
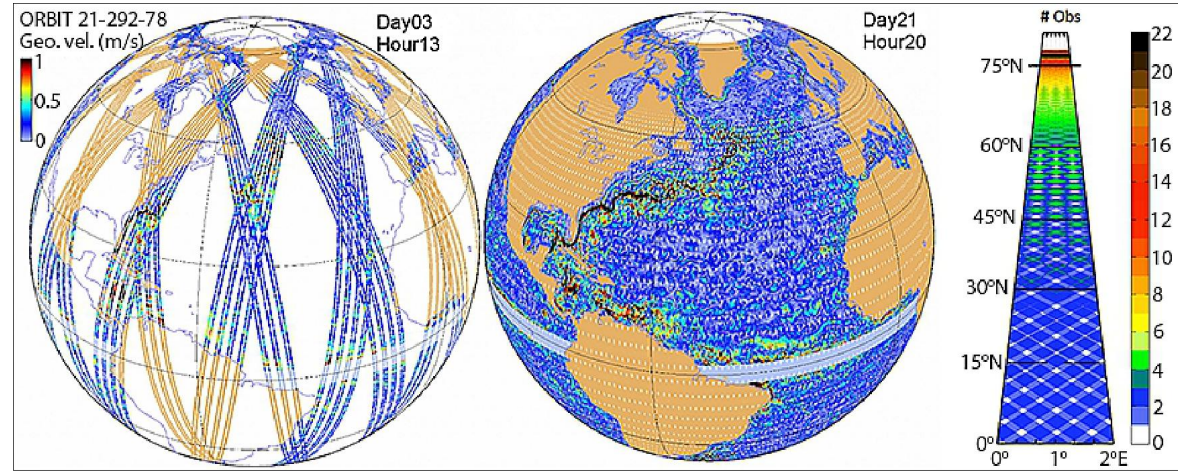
Challenges : Agencies Operational Framework

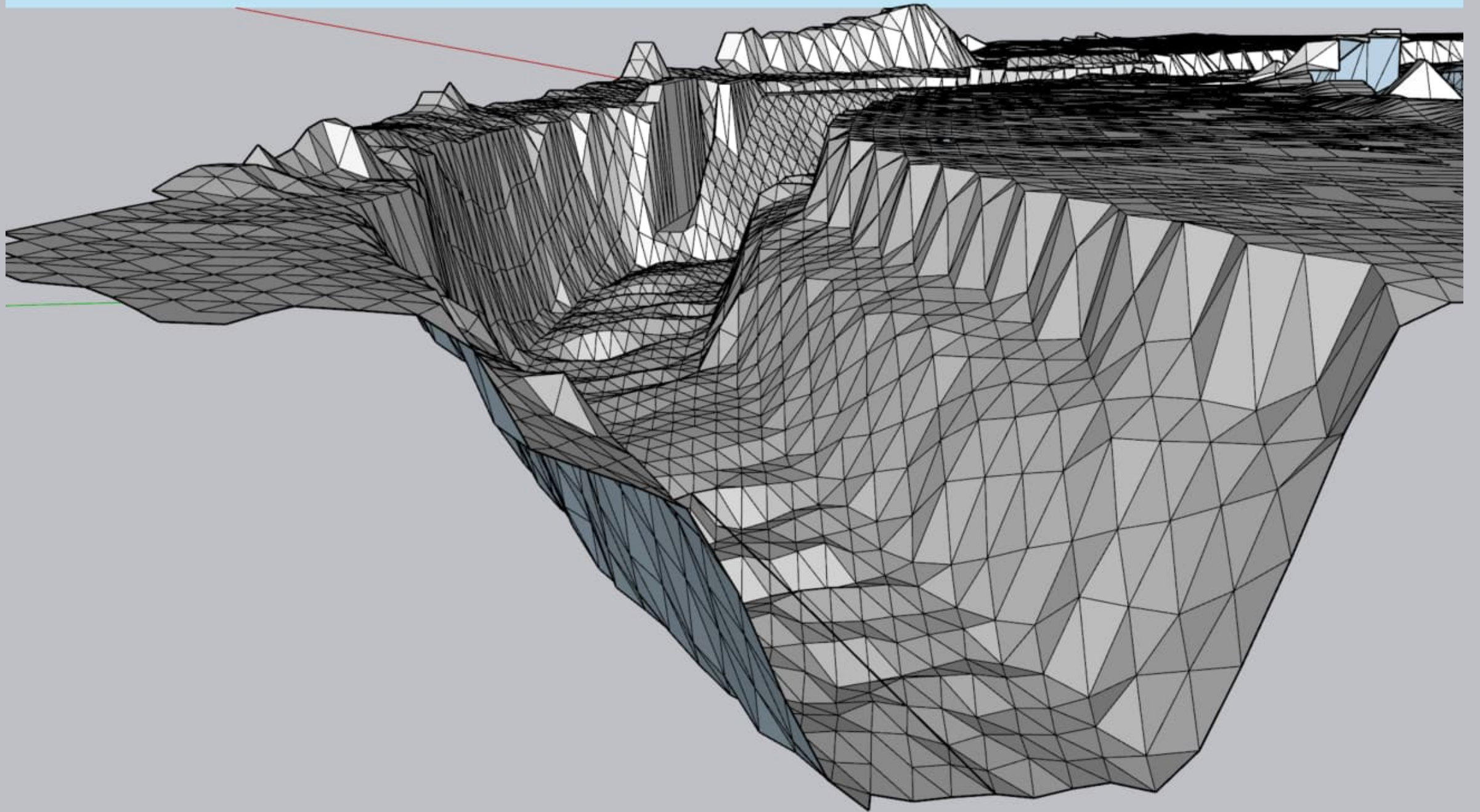
The screenshot shows the Podaac website interface. At the top left, there are logos for NASA EARTHDATA and Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology. The main header features the 'podaac' logo and the text 'Physical Oceanography Distributed Active Archive Center'. A navigation menu includes links for HOME, FIND DATA, ACCESS DATA, RESOURCES, ABOUT, HELP, and CLOUD DATA. A search bar is located on the right side of the menu. The main content area features a large image of the SWOT satellite in orbit over the Earth's surface. Below the image, the text 'Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT)' is displayed. At the bottom of the image, there are four icons with labels: SWOT MISSION, OCEAN, TERRESTRIAL HYDROSPHERE, and COAST.

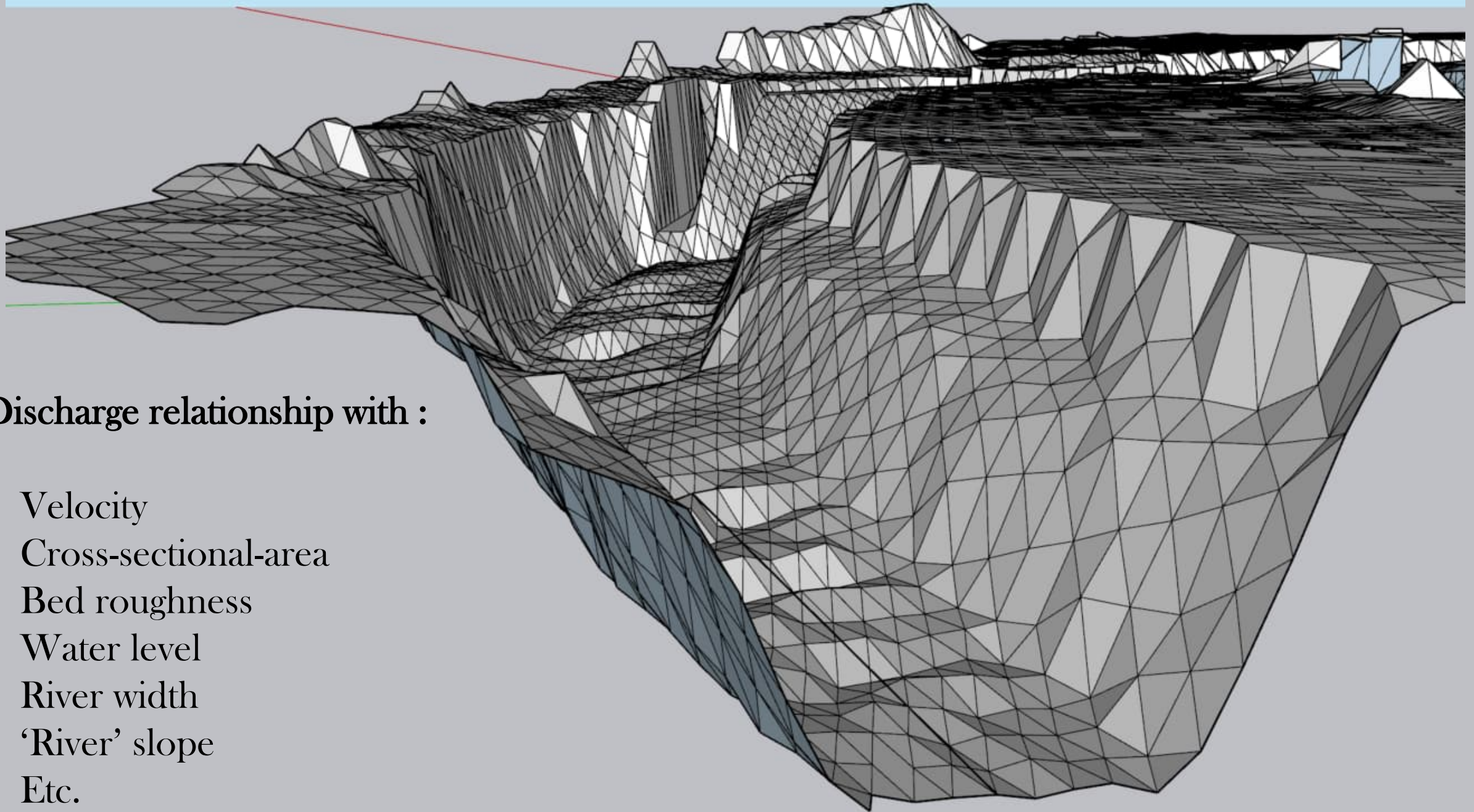
<https://podaac.jpl.nasa.gov/SWOT>



Challenges : Nature of SWOT Observations

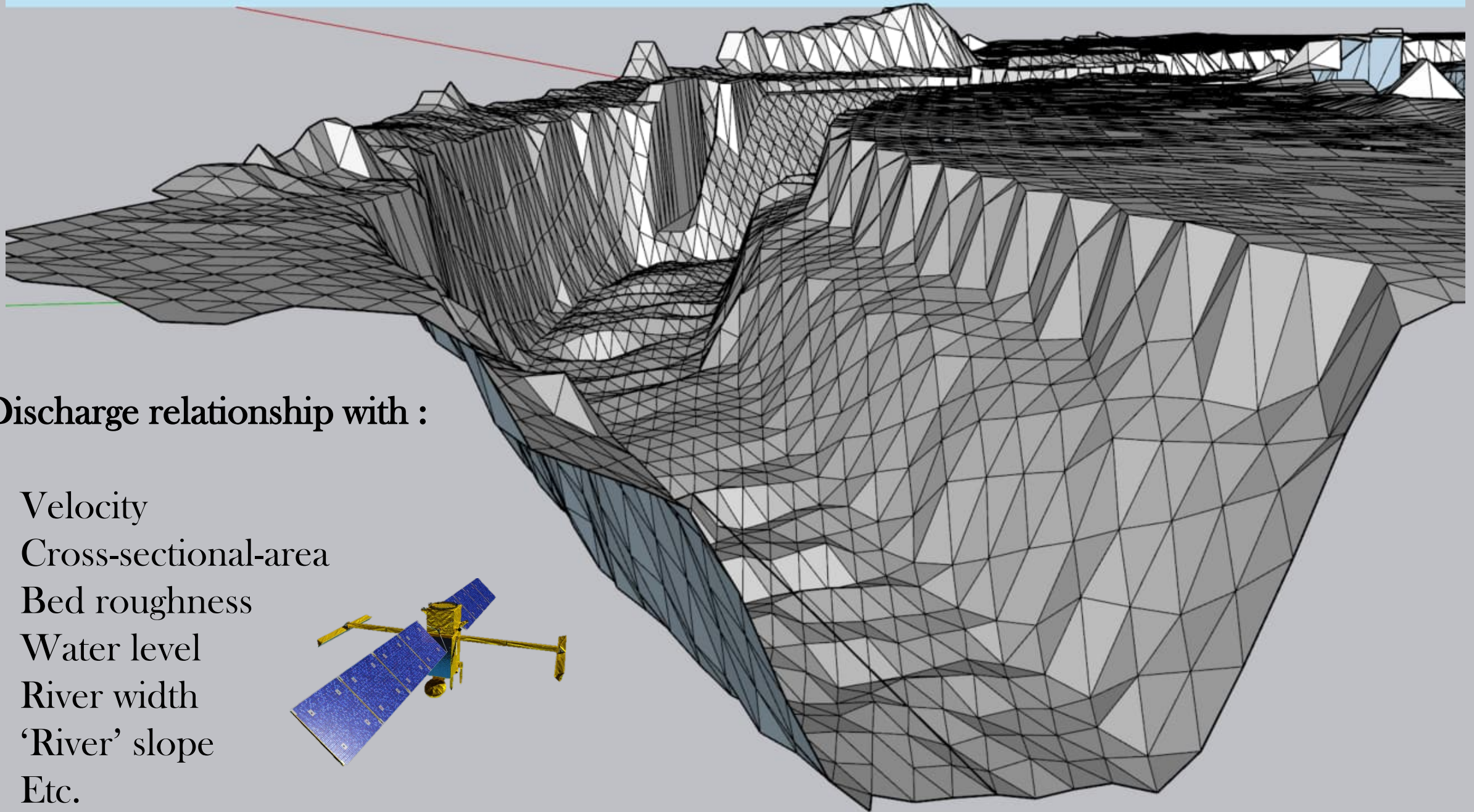






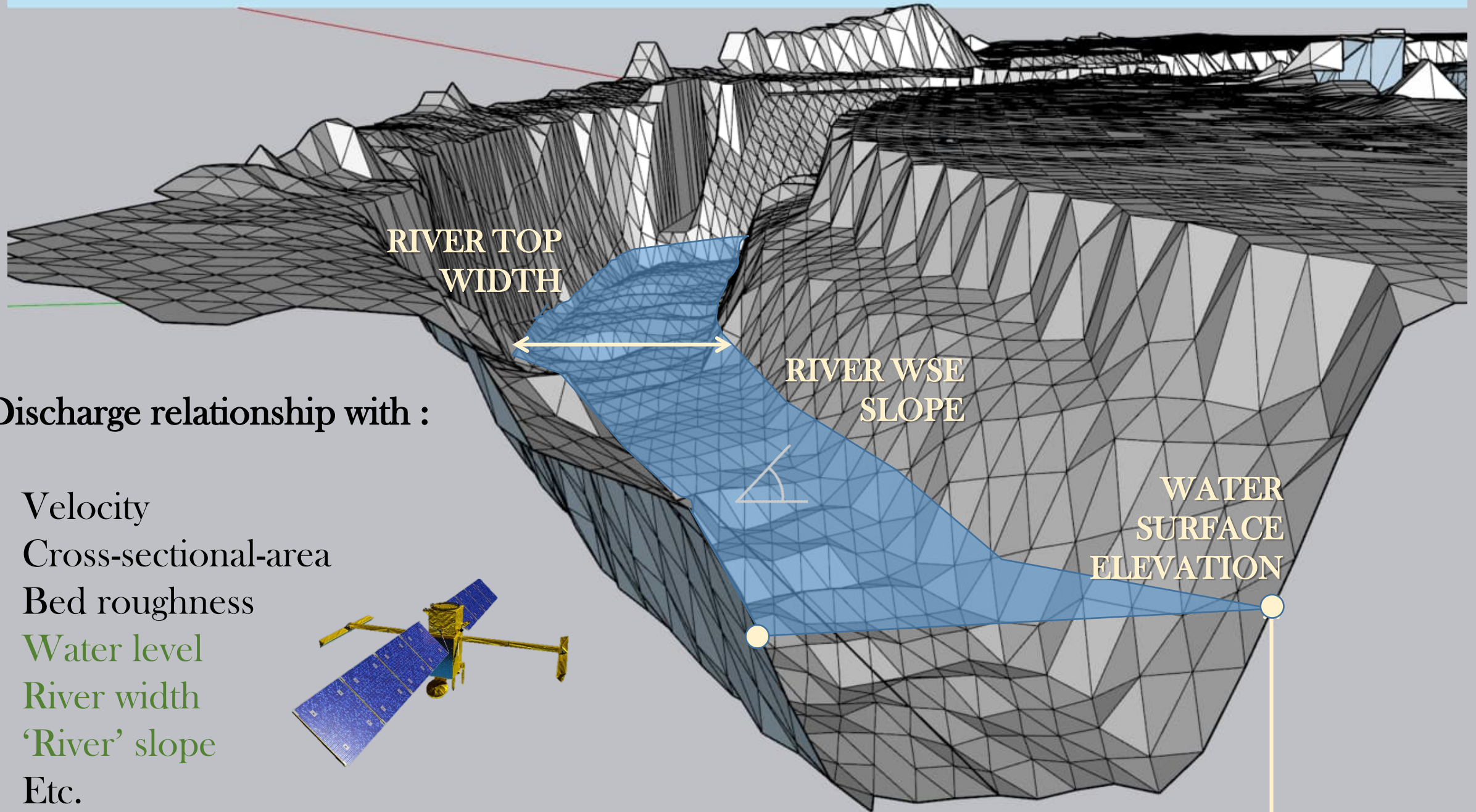
Discharge relationship with :

- Velocity
- Cross-sectional-area
- Bed roughness
- Water level
- River width
- 'River' slope
- Etc.



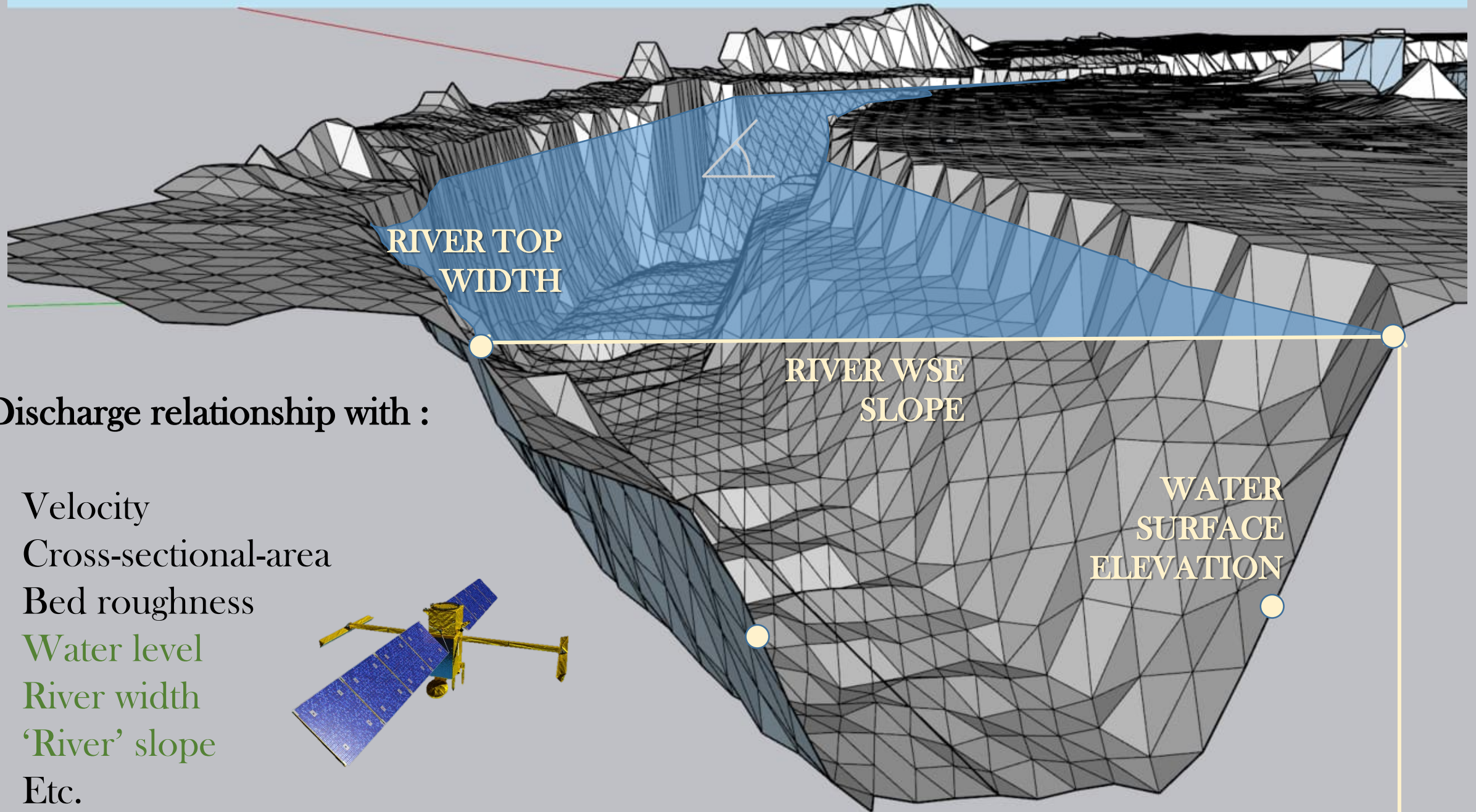
Discharge relationship with :

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- Velocity
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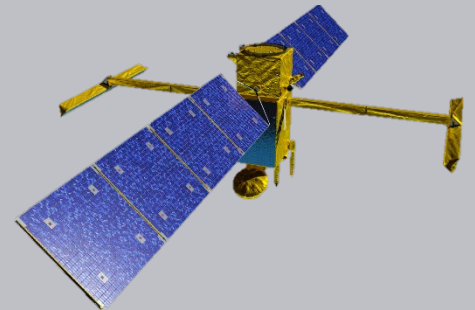
RIVER TOP
WIDTH

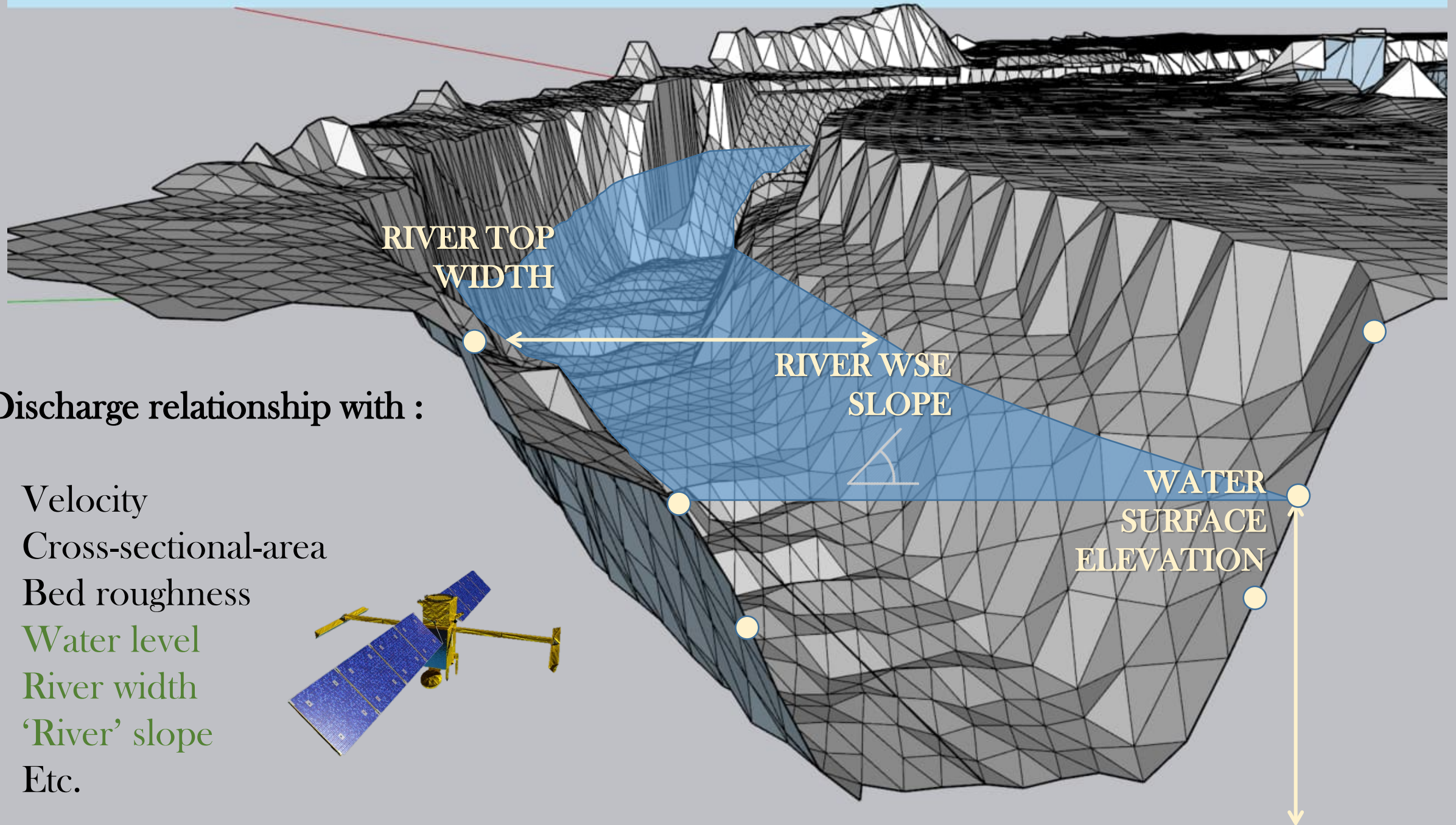
RIVER WSE
SLOPE

WATER
SURFACE
ELEVATION

Discharge relationship with :

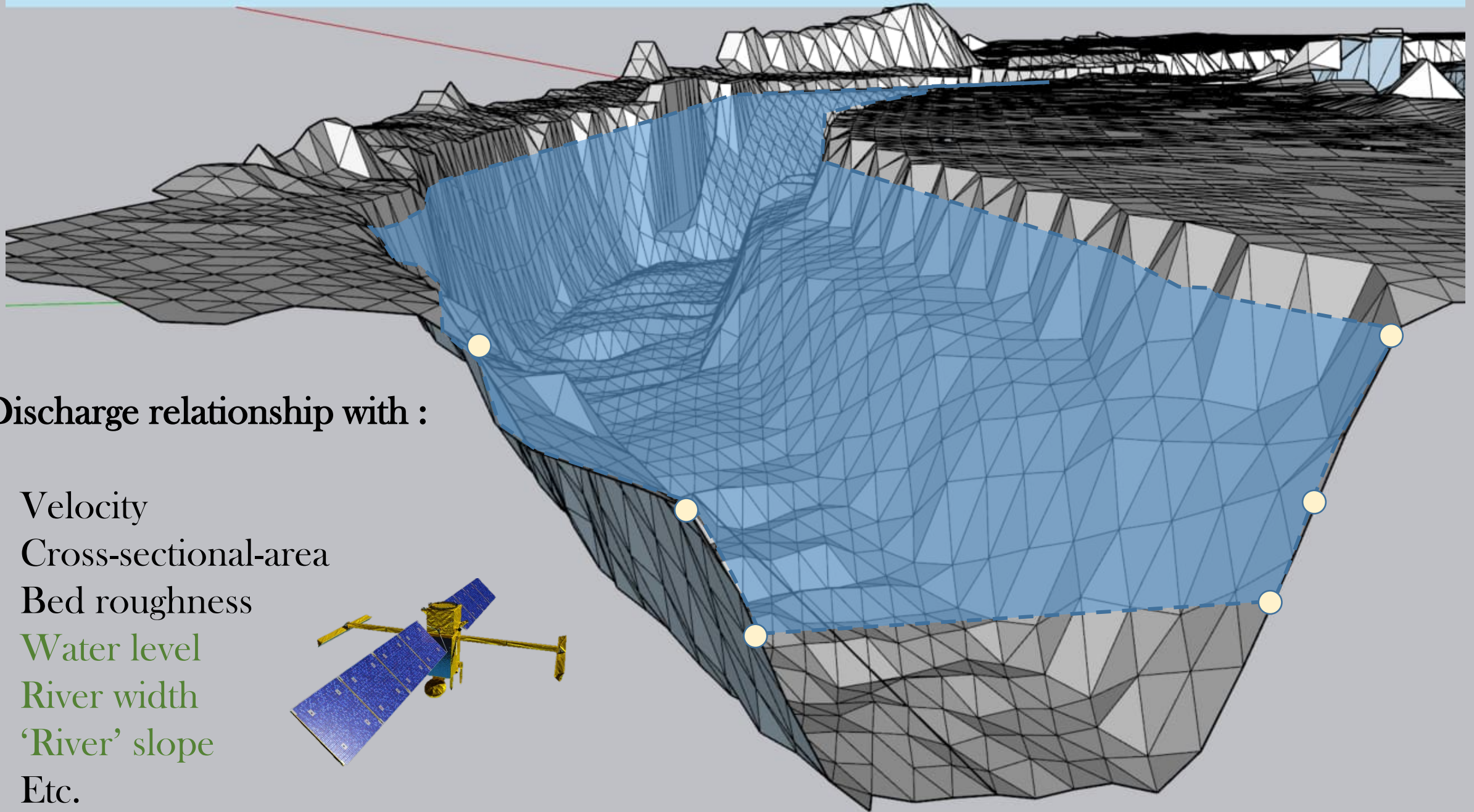
- Velocity
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- Etc.





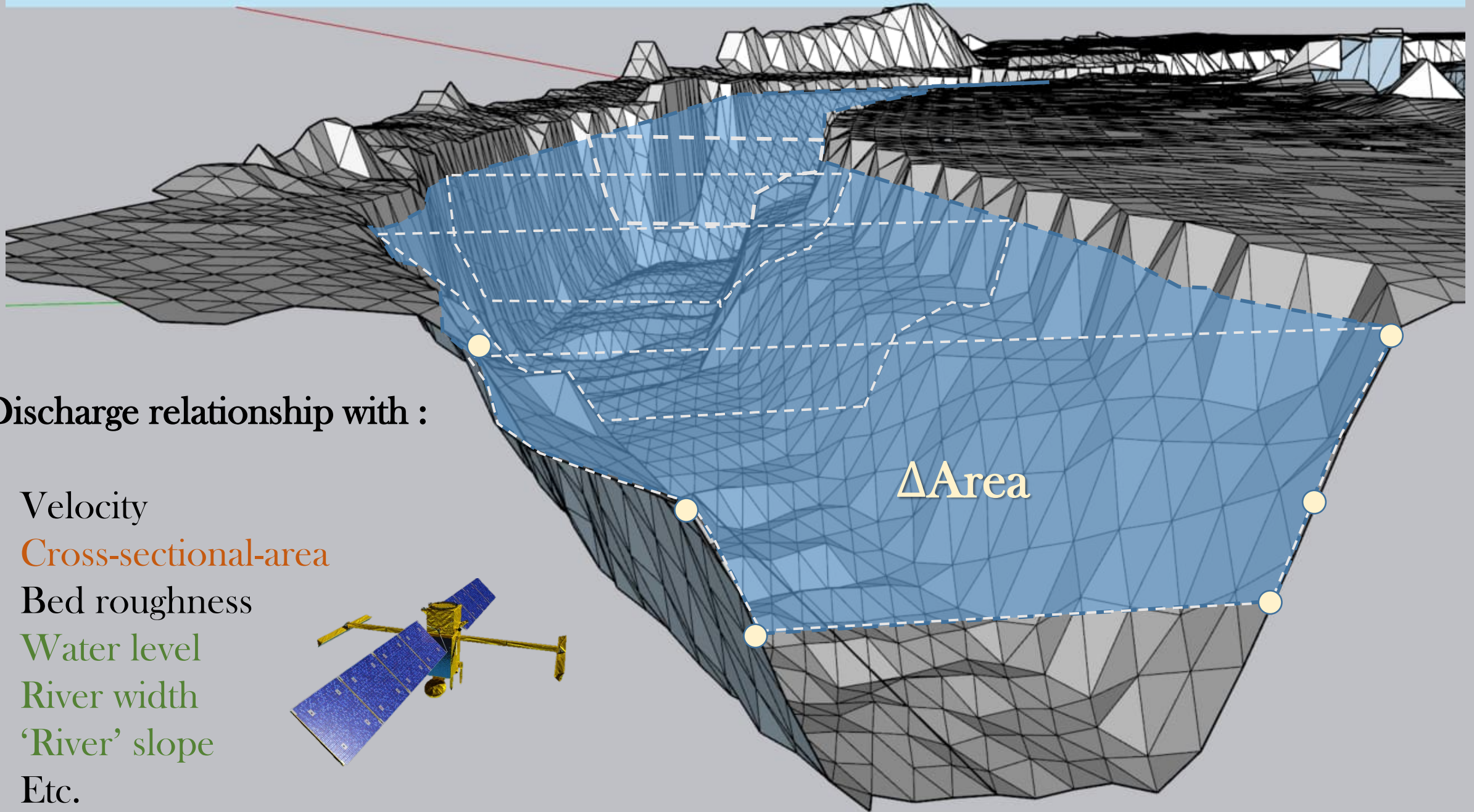
Discharge relationship with :

- Velocity
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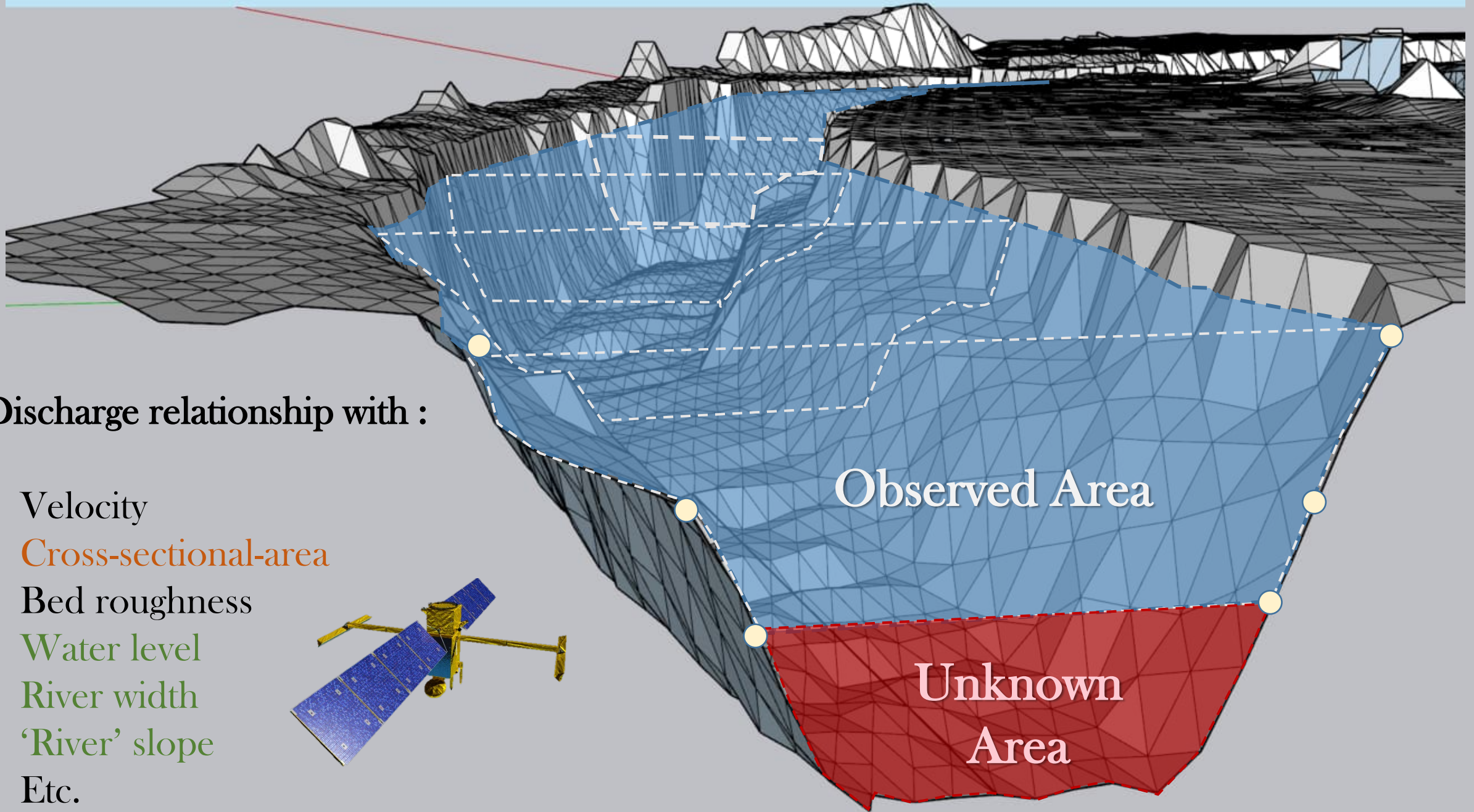
Discharge relationship with :

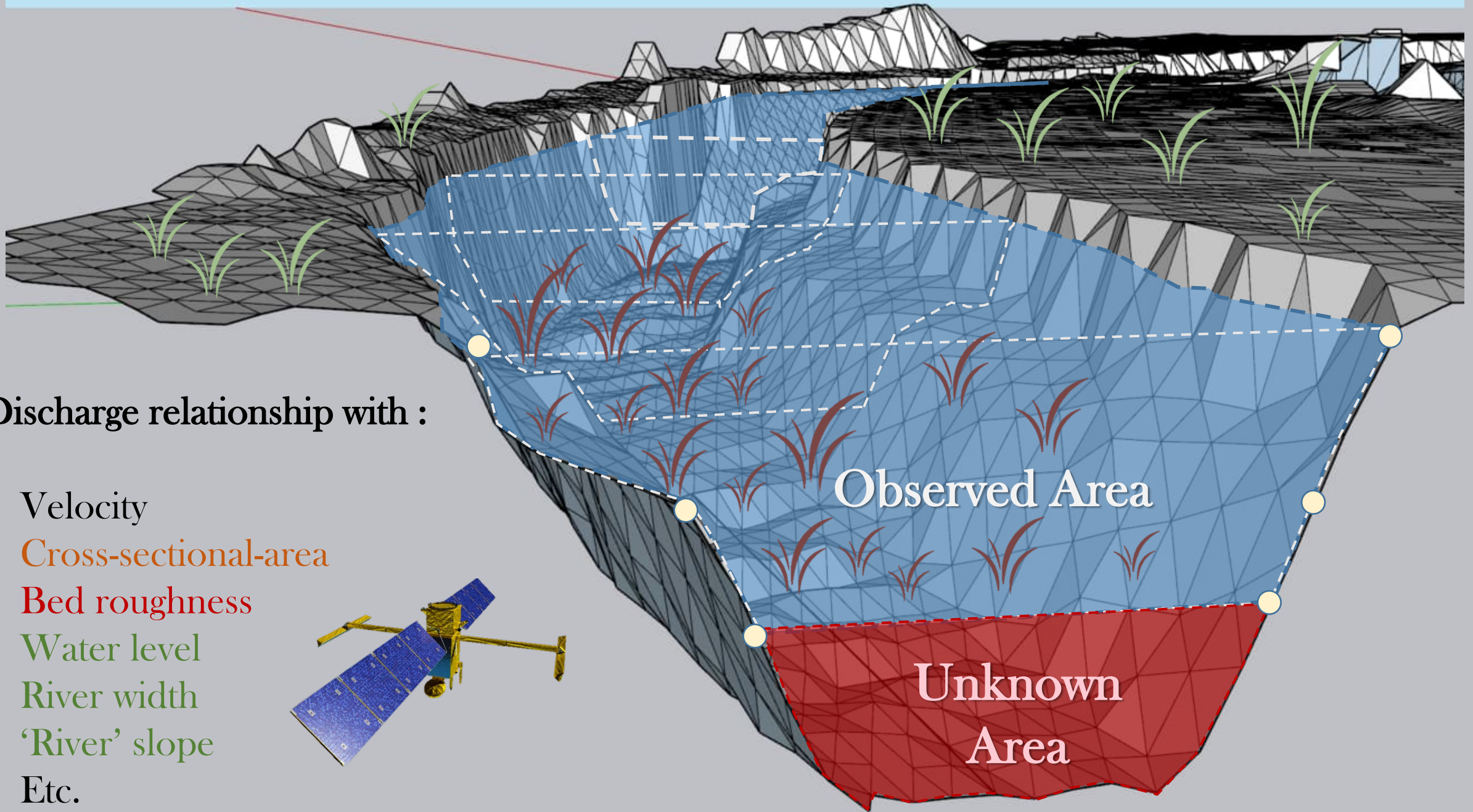
- Velocity
- Cross-sectional-area
- Bed roughness
- Water level
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- 'River' slope
- Etc.



Discharge relationship with :

- Velocity
- Cross-sectional-area
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- Etc.





Discharge relationship with :

- Velocity
- Cross-sectional-area
- Bed roughness
- Water level
- River width
- 'River' slope
- Etc.

Observed Area

Unknown Area

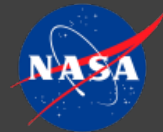
Example of the “Official” Discharge Product :

$$Q_i = \frac{1}{n} (\bar{A} + A'_t)^{\frac{5}{3}} W_i^{-\frac{2}{3}} S_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Example of the “Official” Discharge Product :



$$Q_i = \frac{1}{n} (\bar{A} + A'_t)^{\frac{5}{3}} W_i^{-\frac{2}{3}} S_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



CENTRE NATIONAL D'ÉTUDES SPATIALES

SWOT
Discharge
Algorithms

SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS



SIC4DVar

METROMAN

Hi2VDI

SAD

MOMMA

geoBAM

Global SWOT Discharge
(by-product DAWG/ST)

Official Product \bar{A} and n

INRAE



GS
GROUP

USGS

SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS

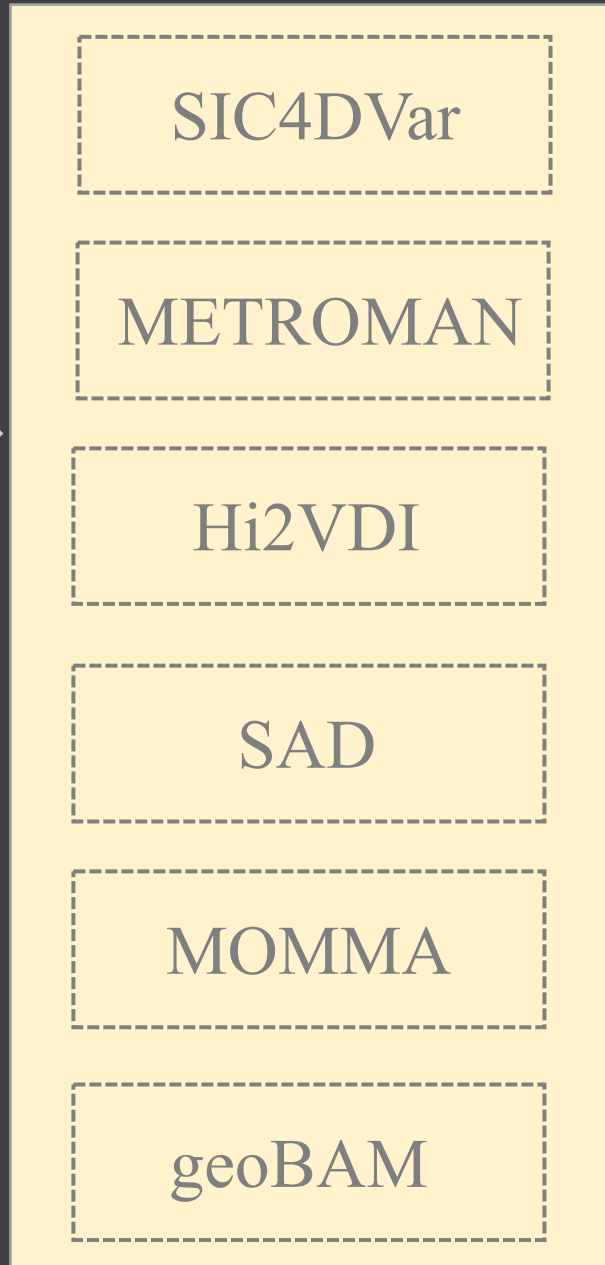


INRAE



GS GROUP

USGS



Global SWOT Discharge
(by-product DAWG/ST)



Official Product \bar{A} and n

SWOT



Flow Laws

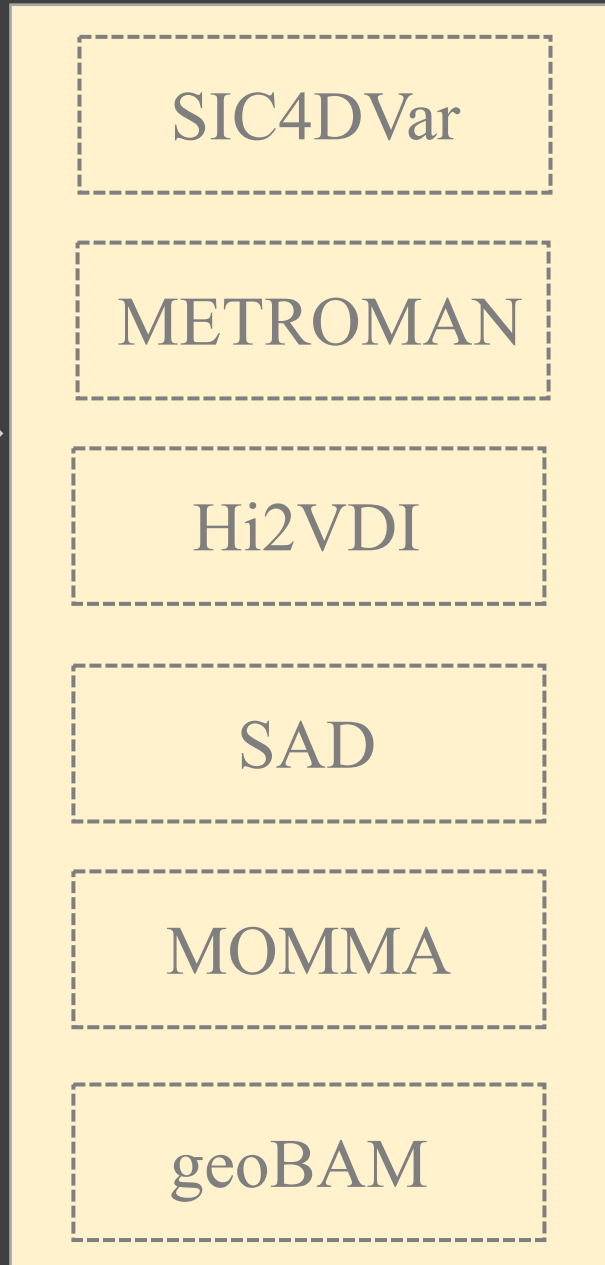


'Official'
SWOT Discharge



SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS

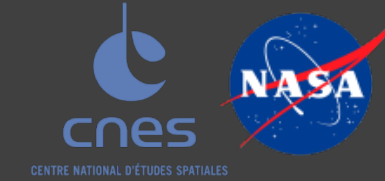


Global SWOT Discharge
(by-product DAWG/ST)



Official Product \bar{A} and n

SWOT



Flow Laws



'Official'
SWOT Discharge

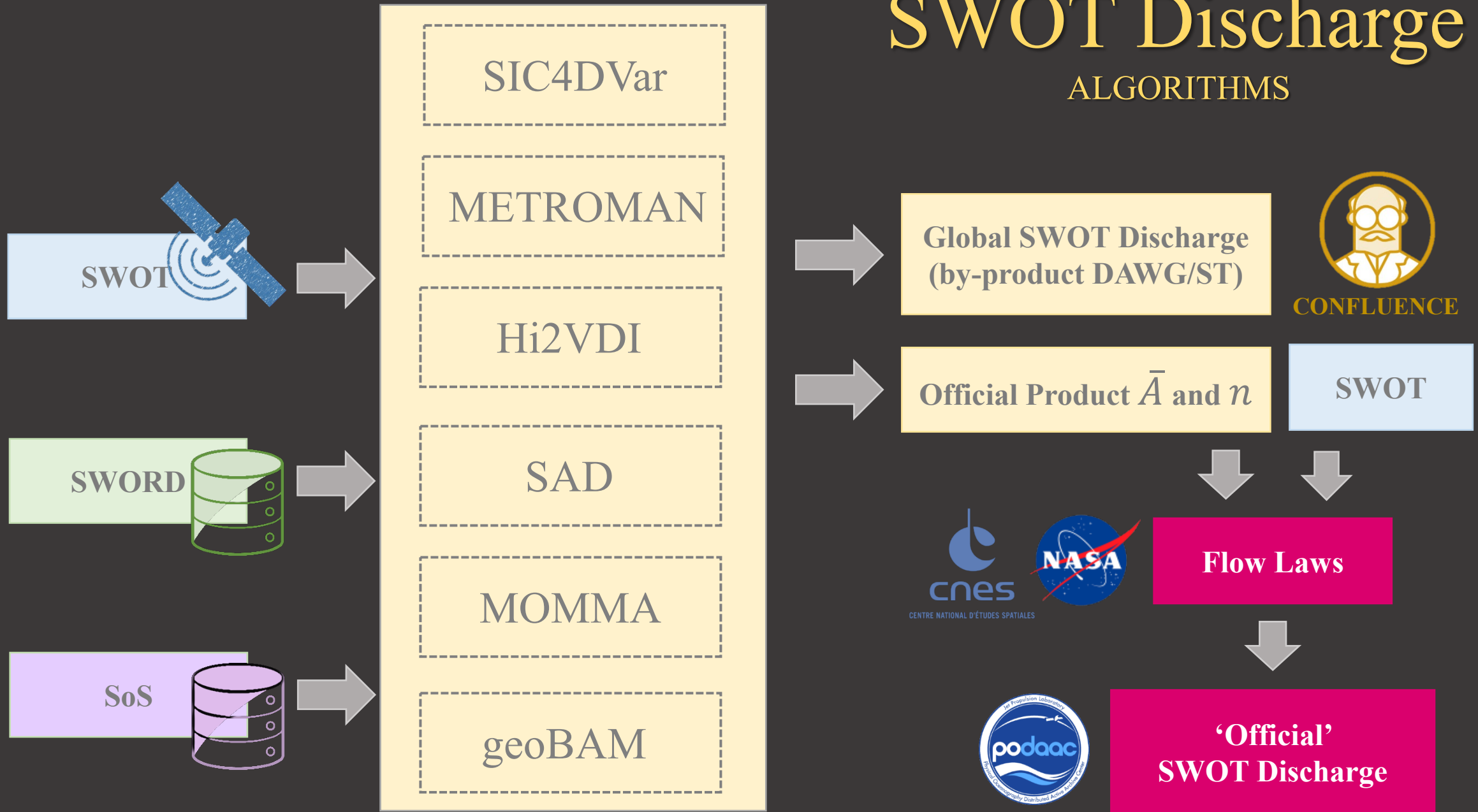
GAUGED and **FULLY UNGAUGED** basins

Problem under high **uncertainty**

Strong **equifinality**

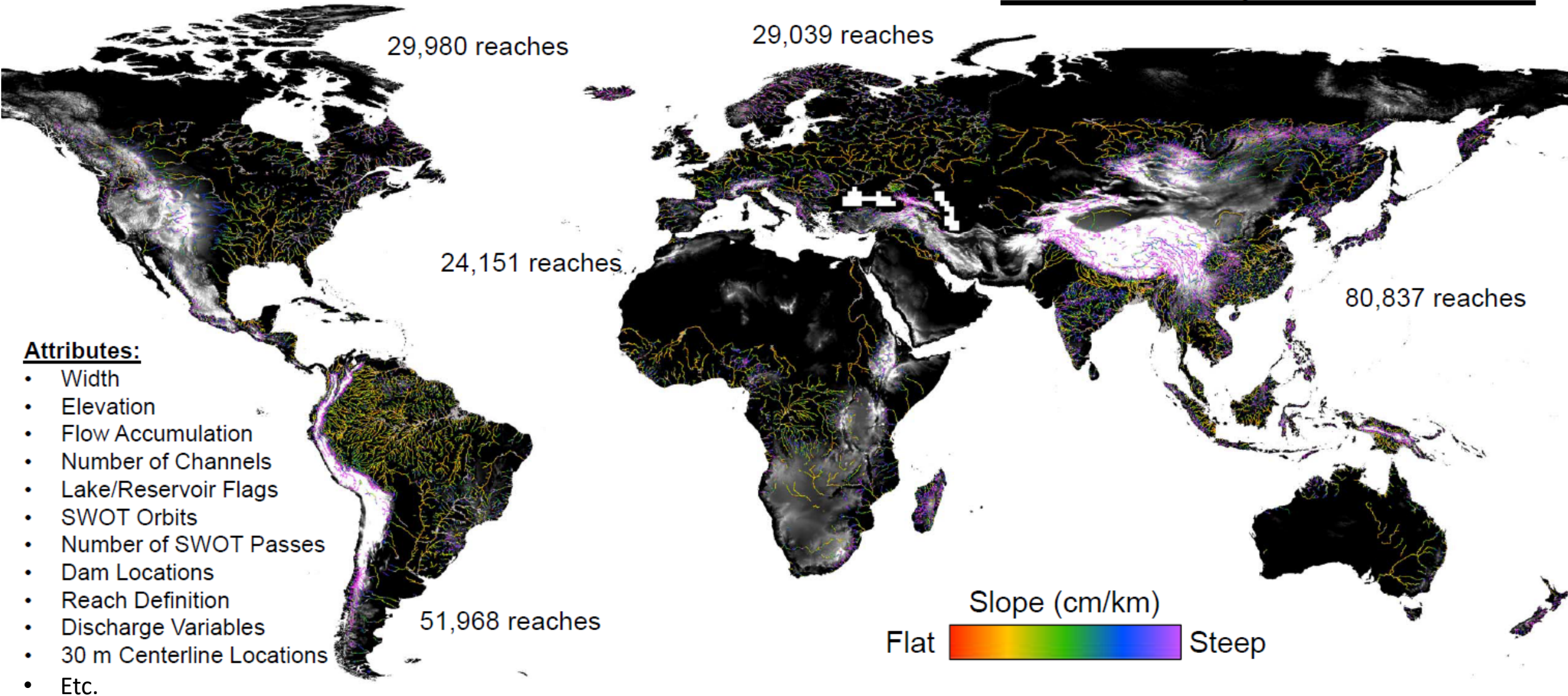
SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS



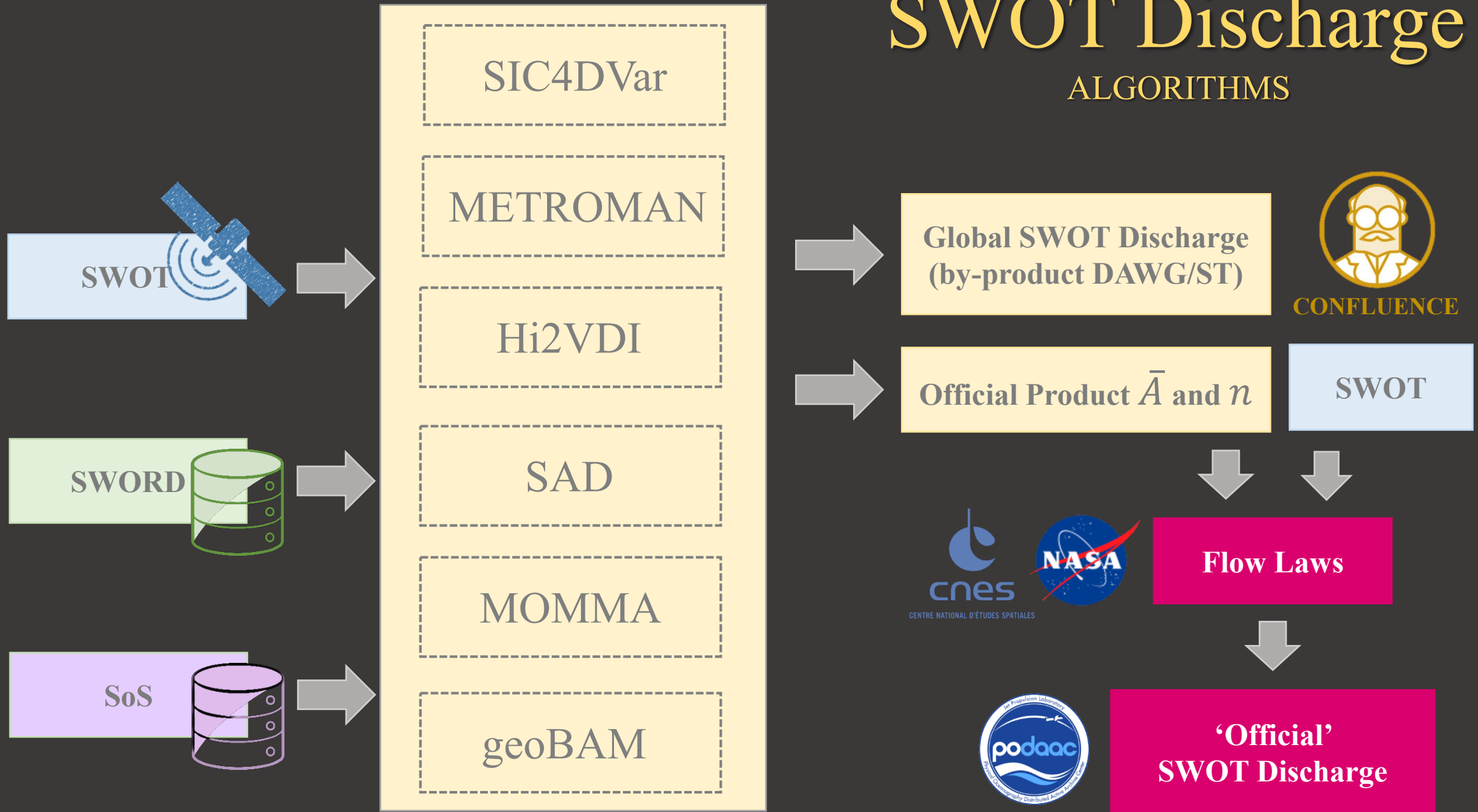
SWOT a priori River Database (SWORD)

GRWL + SRTM/HydroSHEDs + GRanD



SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS



McFLI

Mass Conserved Flow
Law Inversion

SIC4DVar

METROMAN

Hi2VDI

SAD

MOMMA

geoBAM

SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS

DEVELOPERS



- ❖ **MetroMan:** M. Durand (OSU)
- ❖ **geoBAM:** C. Gleason (UMASS)

McFLI

Mass Conserved Flow
Law Inversion

Calibration using
flow laws

SIC4DVar

METROMAN

Hi2VDI

SAD

MOMMA

geoBAM

SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS

DEVELOPERS



- ❖ **MetroMan:** M. Durand (OSU)
- ❖ **geoBAM:** C. Gleason (UMASS)
- ❖ **MOMMA:** R. Dudley (USG)

McFLI

Mass Conserved Flow
Law Inversion

Calibration using
flow laws

Data Assimilation
using Hydraulic
Models

SIC4DVar

METROMAN

Hi2VDI

SAD

MOMMA

geoBAM

SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS

DEVELOPERS



- ❖ **MetroMan**: M. Durand (OSU)
- ❖ **geoBAM**: C. Gleason (UMASS)
- ❖ **MOMMA**: R. Dudley (USG)
- ❖ **Hi2VDI**: K. Larnier, J. Monnier, P.-A. Garambois
- ❖ **SAD**: K. Andreadis
- ❖ **SIC4DVar**: I. Gejadze, H. Oubanas, P.-O. Malaterre

McFLI

Mass Conserved Flow
Law Inversion

Calibration using
flow laws

Data Assimilation
using Hydraulic
Models

Machine Learning
(surrogate)

SIC4DVar

METROMAN

Hi2VDI

SAD

MOMMA

geoBAM

SWOT Discharge

ALGORITHMS

DEVELOPERS



- ❖ **MetroMan:** M. Durand (OSU)
- ❖ **geoBAM:** C. Gleason (UMASS)
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SWOT Discharge

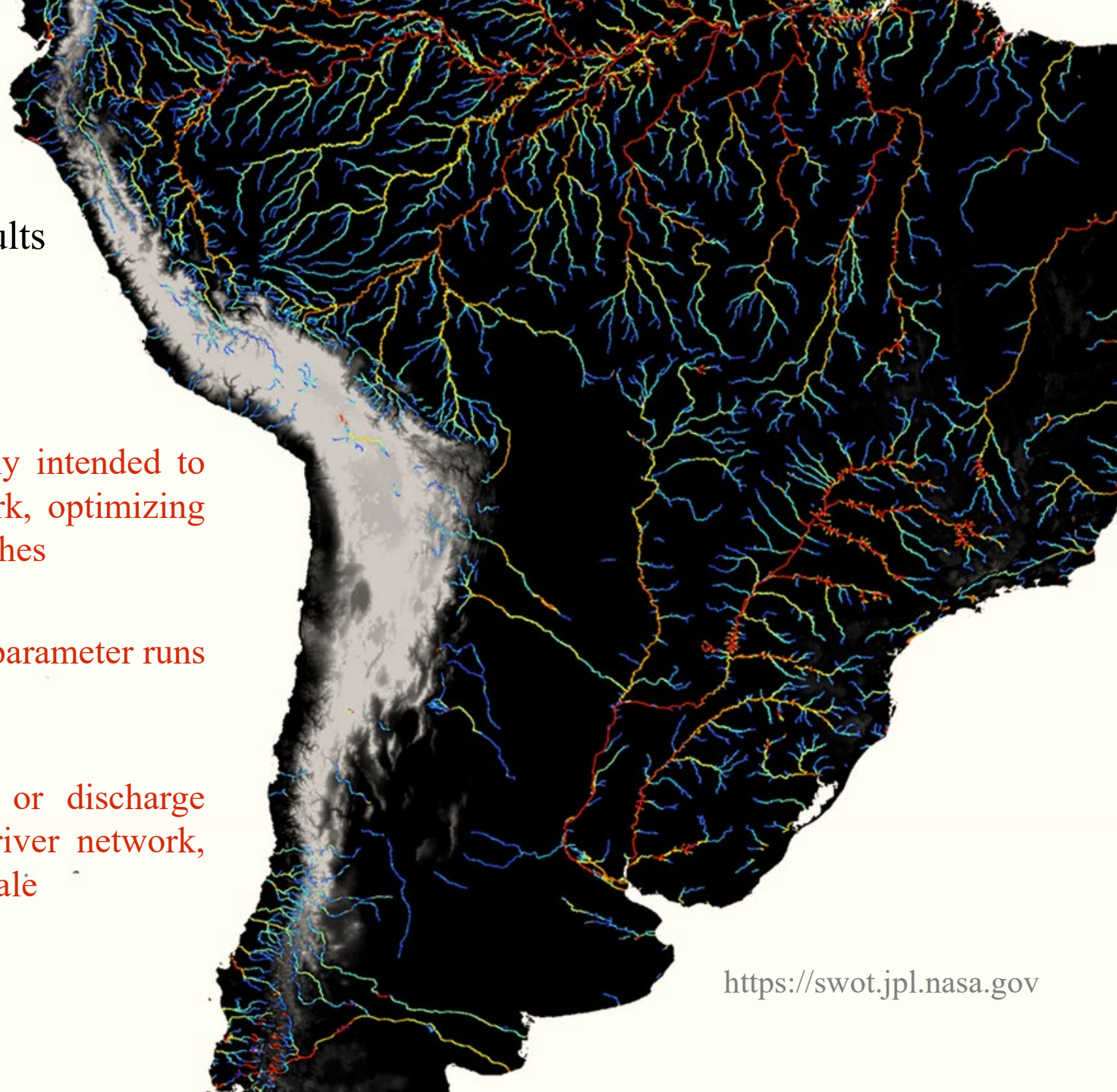
ALGORITHMS

Algorithm	Theoretical basis	SWOT data	Method
geoBAM	Hydraulic geometry + Manning's eq.	Water surface width (W), slope (S), cross-sectional area anomaly (dA)	Bayes
MetroMan	Manning's eq. w/o Q	Water surface height (H), W, S, dA	Bayes
Hi2VDI	1D Saint-Venant + Manning's eq.	H, W, S, δA	Assimilation Machine Learning
SAD	Gradually varied flow + Manning's eq. + hydraulic geometry	H, W, S	Assimilation
SIC4DVAR	1D Saint-Venant	H, W, S	Assimilation
MOMMA	Empirical form of Manning's eq.	H, W, S	Calibration

INTEGRATOR

“Integrators” make discharge algorithm results consistent across entire river networks.

- McFLI and VDA algorithms are generally intended to run across a small part of a river network, optimizing hydraulic parameters over just several reaches
- How to ensure consistency across McFLI parameter runs in different parts of the basin?
- Integrators take estimates of discharge or discharge parameters at different places within a river network, and ensure they obey continuity at large scale



<https://swot.jpl.nasa.gov>

Steady flow optimization integrator (SFOI*)

McFLI and DA are generally too computational expensive to run across entire river networks. How to avoid mass imbalance at tributary junctions from inconsistent retrievals?

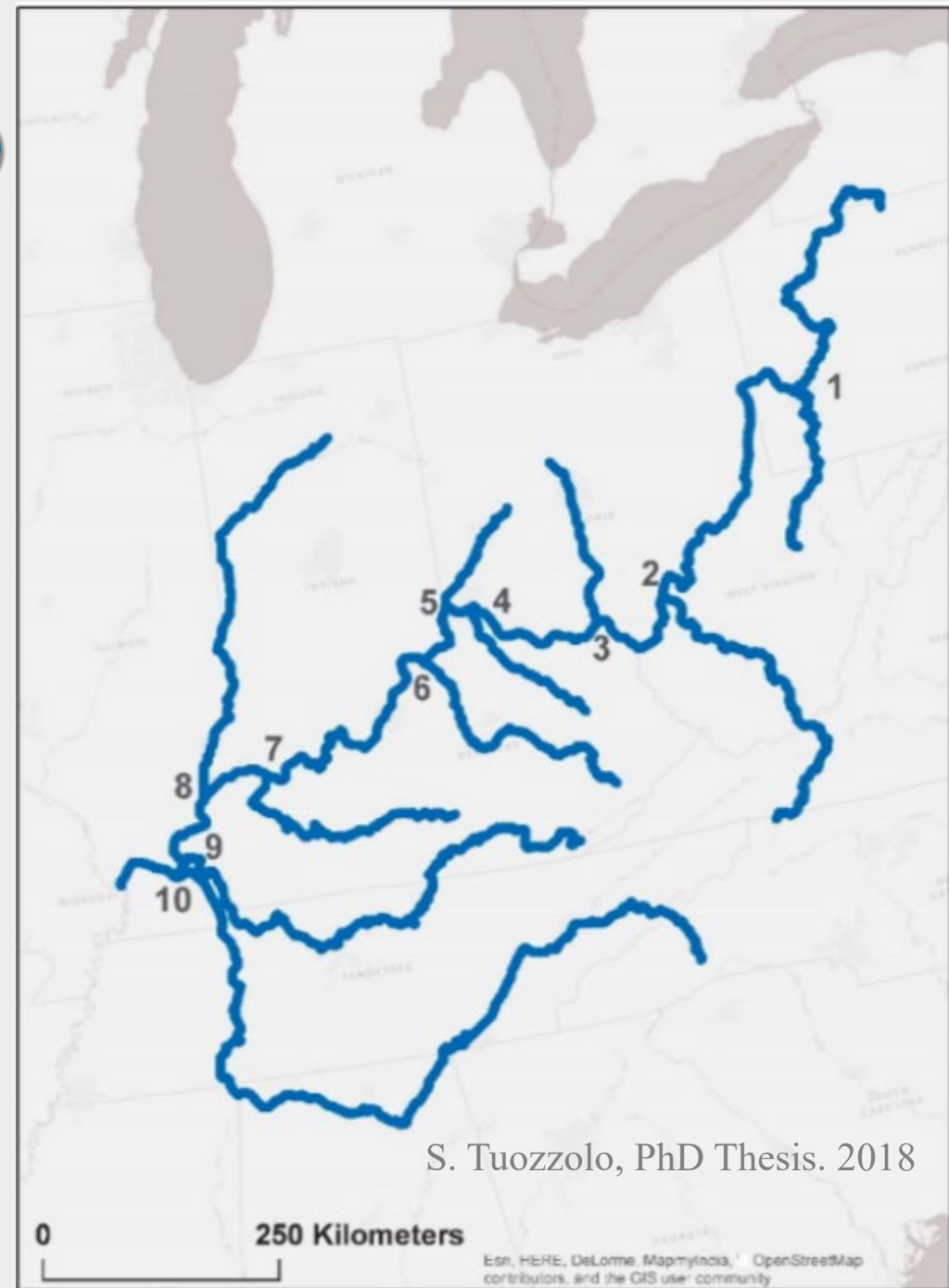
$$\min_Q \sum_{reaches} \left[\frac{Q - \hat{Q}}{\sigma_Q} \right]^2$$

\hat{Q} : Estimated Q from SWOT discharge algorithms.

Subject to : $Q_{in,1} + Q_{in,2} = Q_{out}$

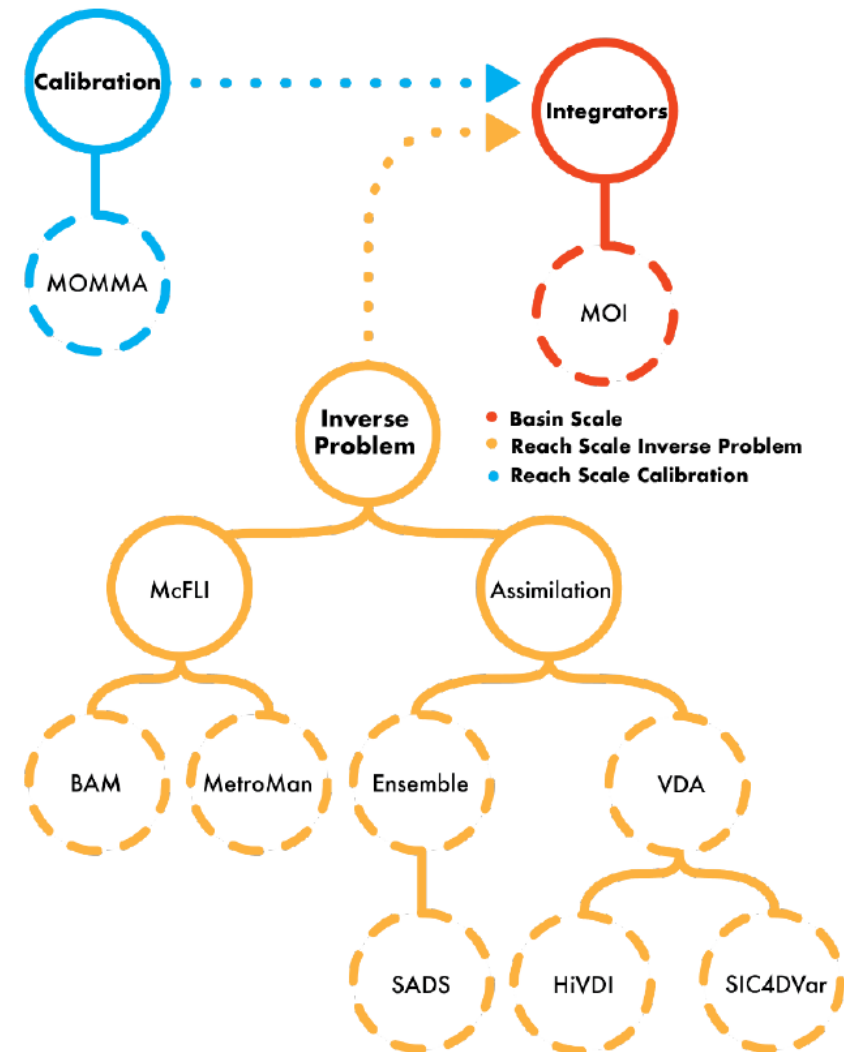
Step 1: Estimate Q for steady flow conditions (currently using mean flow and 33rd percentile)

Step 2: Back out the flow law parameters for each algorithm that match the steady flow estimates.

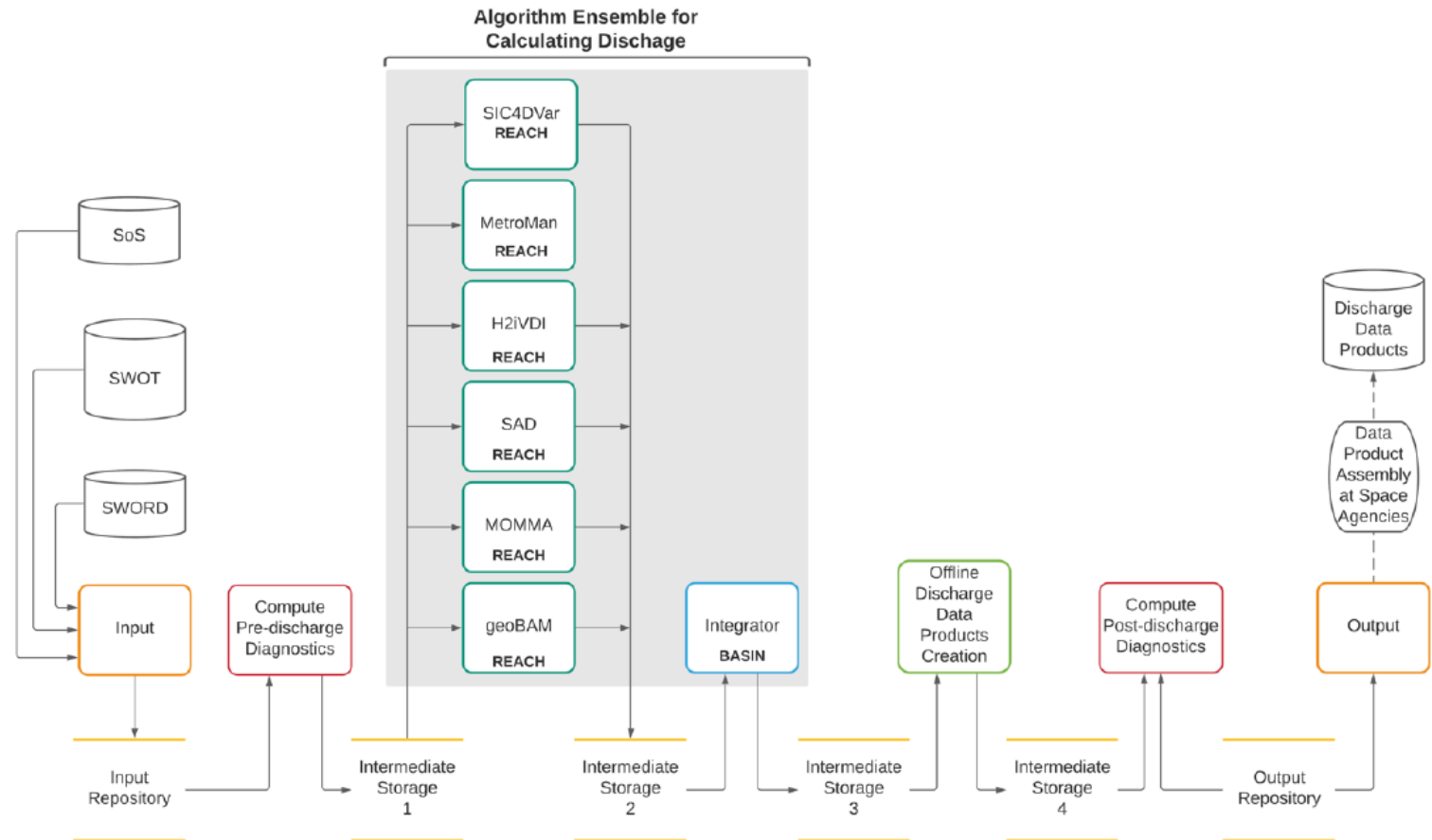


* SFOI used to be called MOI

CONFLUENCE



CONFLUENCE



Durand et al. 2023

Courtesy : Nikki Tebaldi

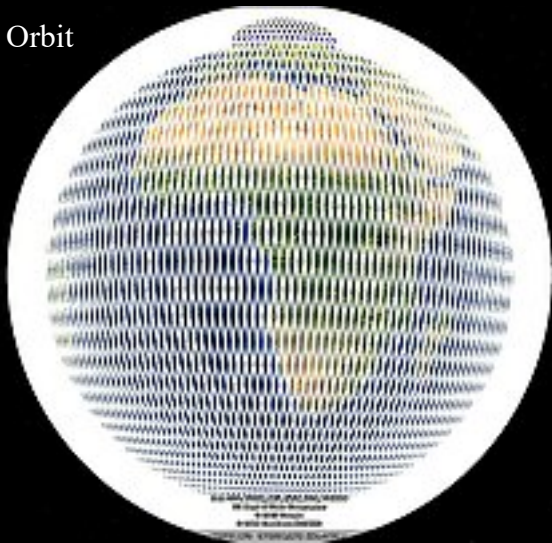


CALVAL Orbit



Google

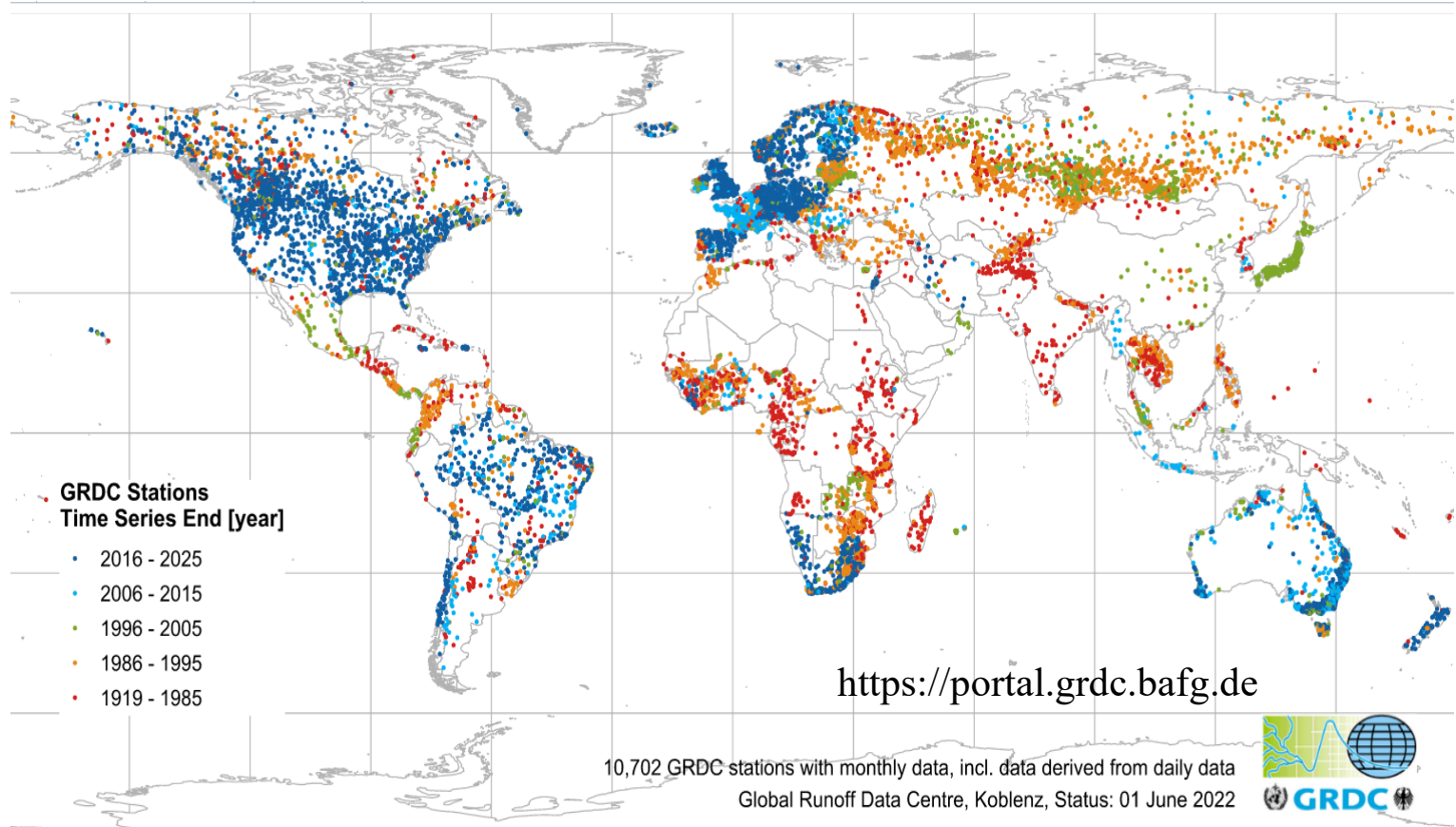
NOMINAL Orbit



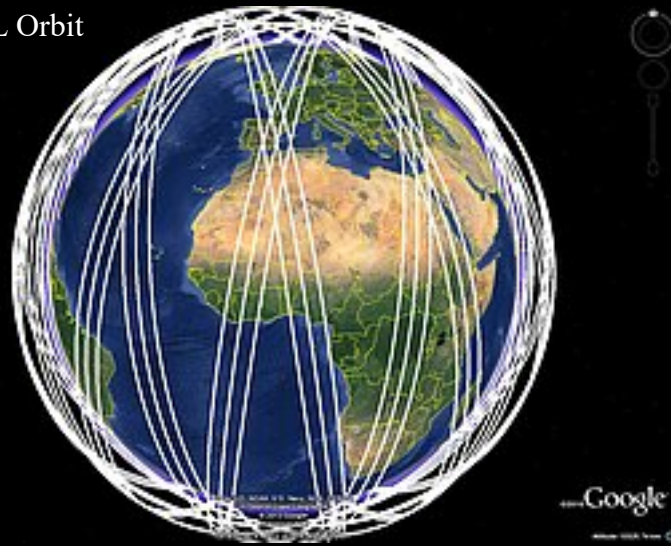
Google

<https://aviso.altimetry.fr>

Two Discharge Branches

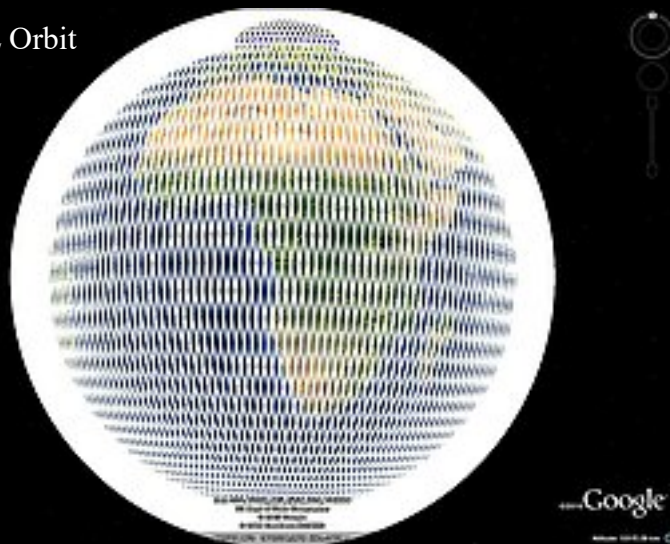


CALVAL Orbit



Google

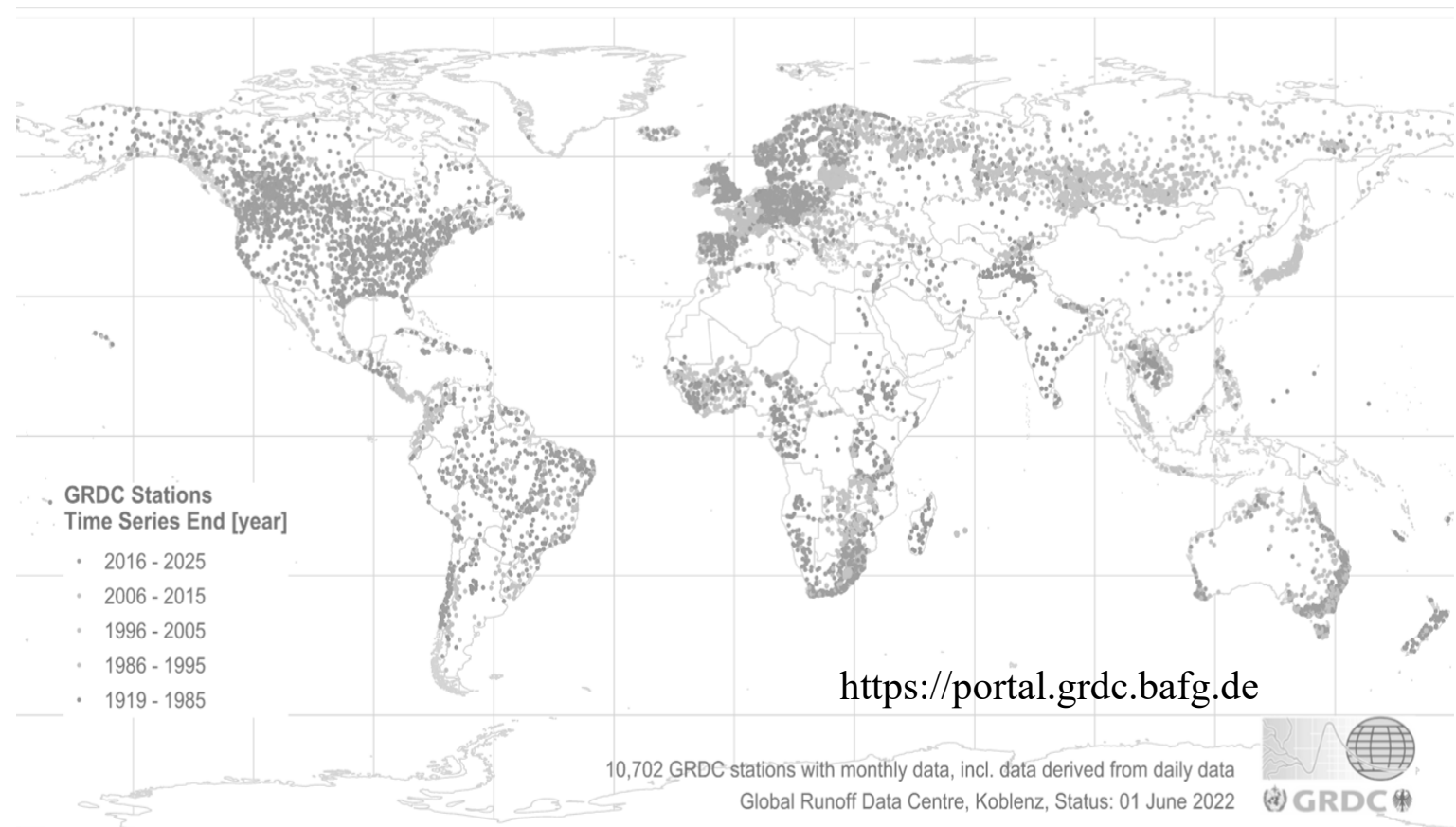
NOMINAL Orbit



Google

<https://aviso.altimetry.fr>

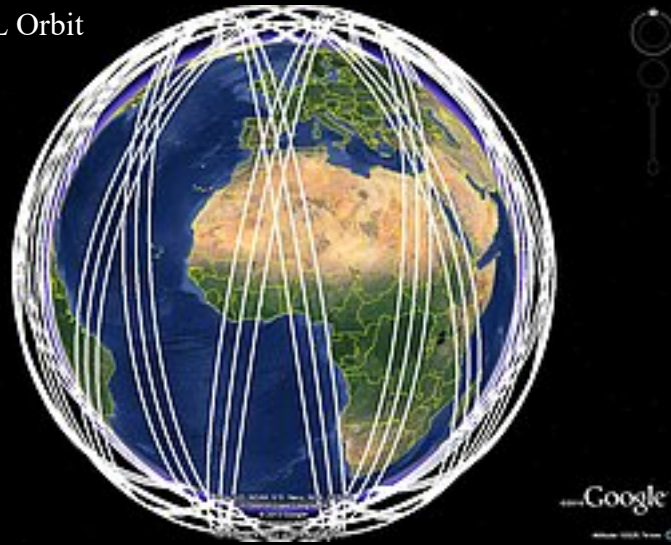
Two Discharge Branches



1. Gage-unconstrained: **DOES NOT USE** stream gage data to constrain SWOT discharge.

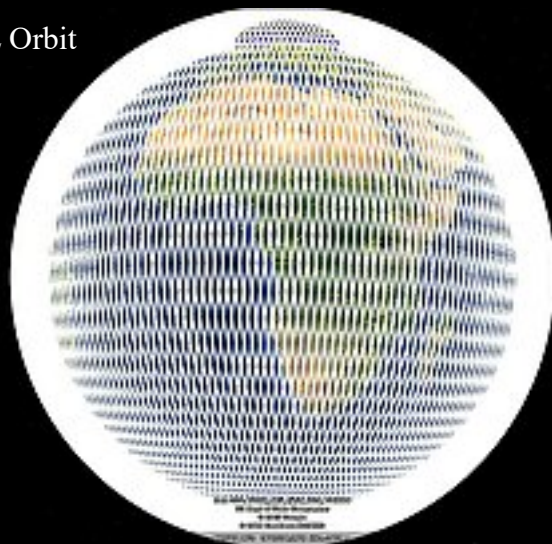
Two Discharge Branches

CALVAL Orbit

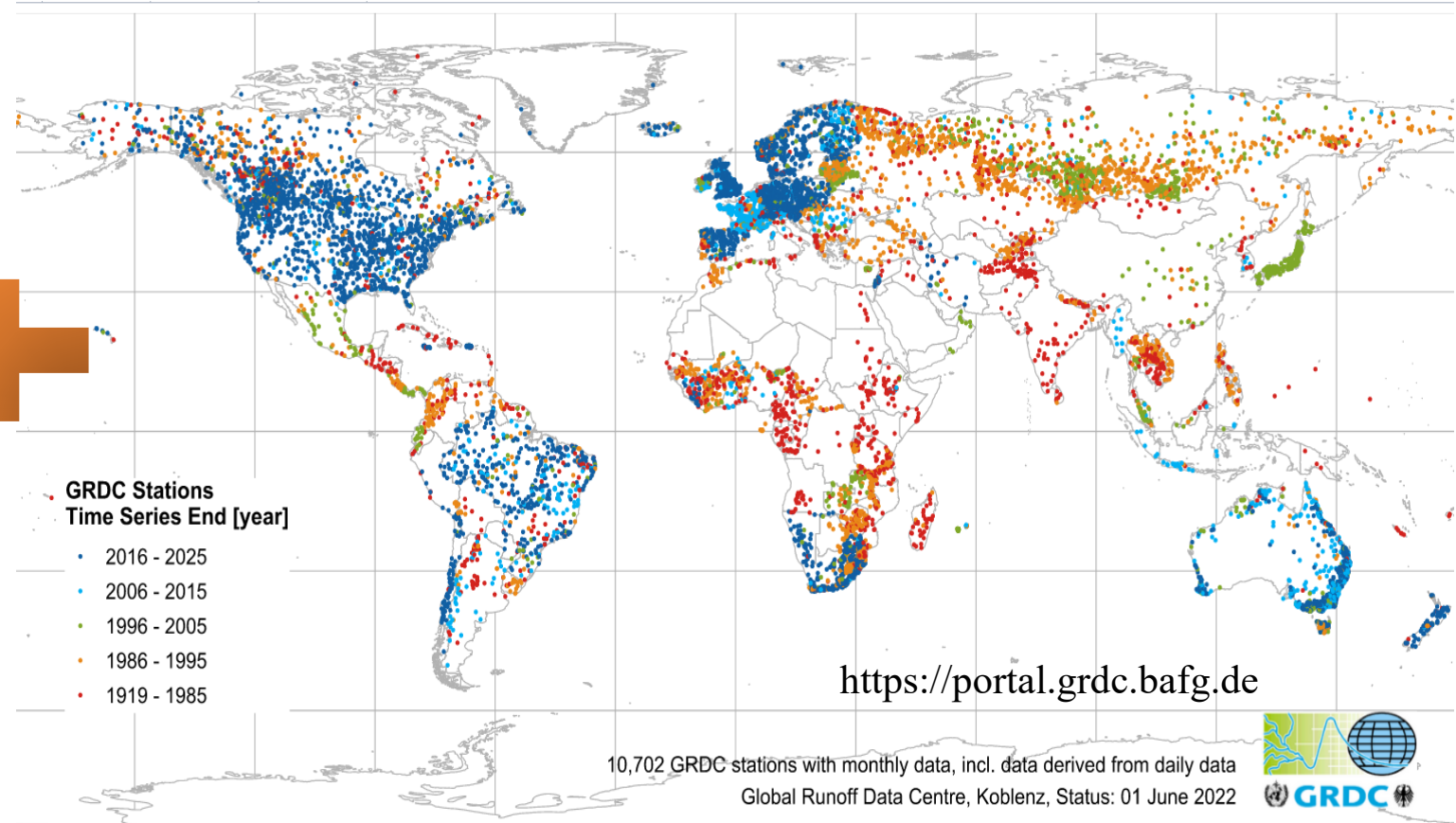


Google

NOMINAL Orbit



Google

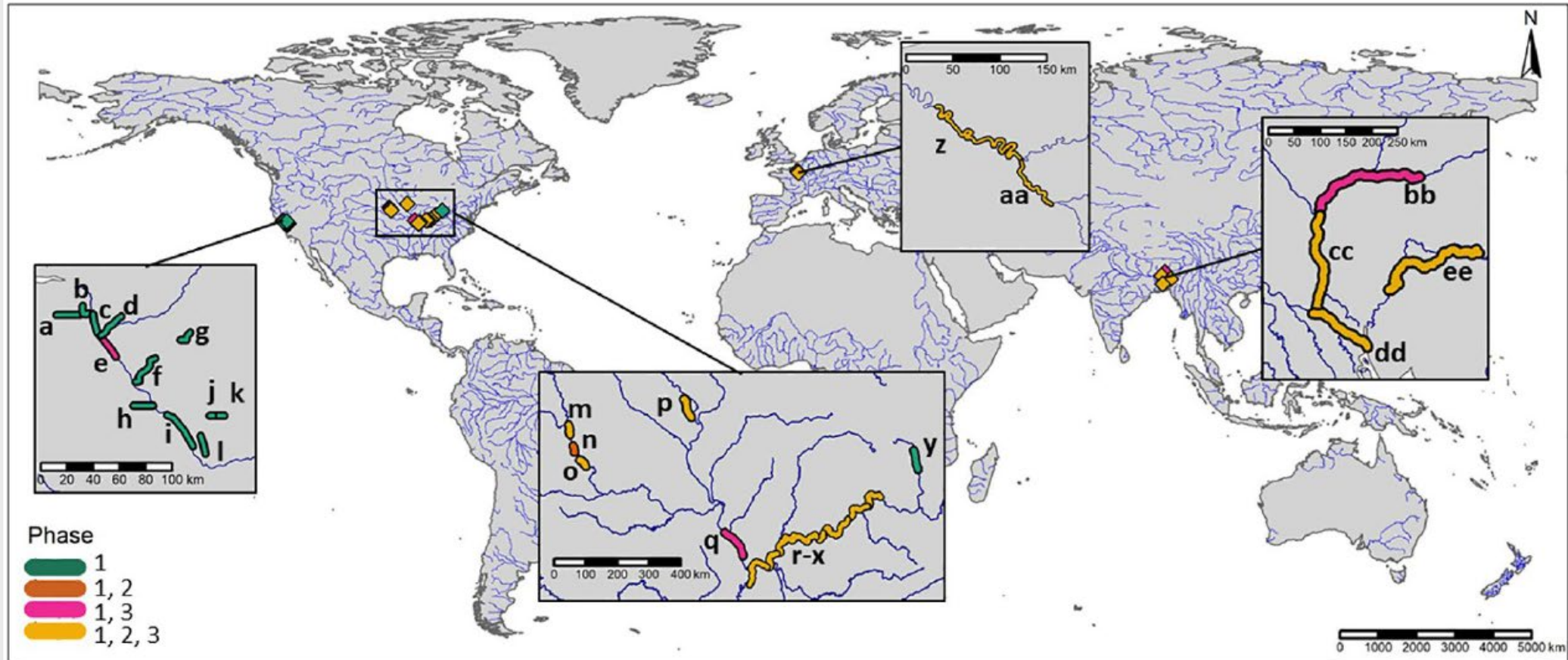


1. Gage-unconstrained: **DOES NOT USE** stream gage data to constrain SWOT discharge.
2. Gage-constrained: **USES** stream gage data to constrain SWOT discharge (SWOT Algorithms).

Test/Validation Cases

- Test Cases : 19 Rivers (Benchmark 1)
- Blind Test Cases : 32 Rivers (Benchmark 2)

Test case name	Hydraulic model	Width (m)	Number of cross-sections	Length (km)	Simulation length (days)	WBM (m ³ /s)	True (m ³ /s)	1	2	3	Reference
1 Ash Slough	HEC-RAS	56	53	7.7	12	36	38	X			Rogers (2014)
2 Berenda Slough	HEC-RAS	43	62	11.4	12	36	16	X			Rogers (2014)
3 Brahmaputra	HEC-RAS	2,275	39	250.0	107	5,162	2,039	X		X	Maswood and Hossain (2016)
4 Chowchilla Canal	HEC-RAS	78	74	26.1	12	36	21	X			Rogers (2014)
5 Fresno River	HEC-RAS	52	61	16.2	12	46	52	X			Rogers (2014)
6 Grant Line Canal	HEC-RAS	200	34	12.5	12	244	212	X			Rogers (2014)
7 Iowa River	HEC-RAS	157	201	32.3	366	147	158	X	X	X	Gilles et al. (2012)
8 Jamuna	HEC-RAS	5 066	39	224.7	250	16 623	20 974	X	X	X	Maswood and Hossain (2016)
9 Kushiyara	HEC-R										
10 Mariposa Bypass	HEC-R										
11 Merced River	HEC-R										
12 Middle River	HEC-R										
13 Mississippi	HEC-R										
14 Missouri upstream	HEC-R										
15 Missouri midsection	HEC-R										
16 Missouri downstream	HEC-R										
17 Ohio section 1	HEC-R										
18 Ohio section 2	HEC-R										
19 Ohio section 3	HEC-R										
20 Ohio section 4	HEC-R										
21 Ohio section 5	HEC-R										
22 Ohio section 7	HEC-R										
23 Ohio section 8	HEC-R										
24 Olentangy	HEC-R										
25 Padma	HEC-R										
26 San Joaquin	HEC-R										
27 San Joaquin 2	HEC-R										
28 Seine Downstream	ProSe										
29 Seine Upstream	ProSe										
30 Stanislaus River	HEC-RAS	114	55	24.3	12	155	101	X			Rogers (2014)
31 Tuolumne River	HEC-RAS	386	32	10.0	12	155	228	X			Rogers (2014)



Test/Validation Cases

- Test Cases : 19 Rivers (Benchmark 1)
- Blind Test Cases : 32 Rivers (Benchmark 2)

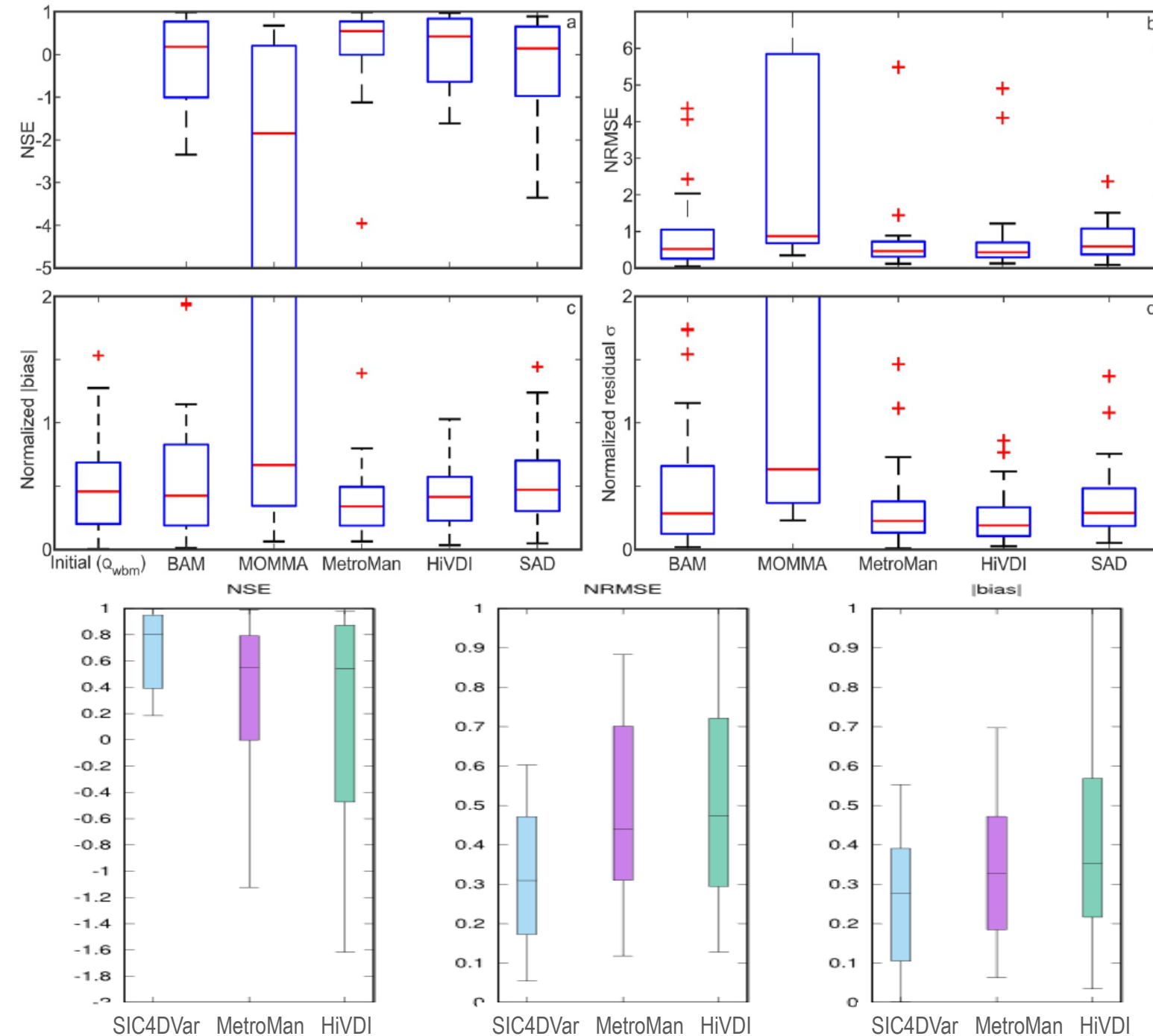
- Rivers of various hydraulic conditions, including braided and multi-channel rivers, dam effects, backwater, and other effects.

- Temporal dynamics usually captured, but oftentimes, large biases were present.

- Results are **not sensitive** to temporal sampling and observation error (intrinsic to SWOT), but **are sensitive** to how accurate modified Manning's equation fits true discharge.

Frasson et al. 2021

Gejadze et al. 2022



OHIO Verify Experiment

- SWOT-like observations.
- SWOT temporal frequency and spatial distribution.
- Realistic representation of the errors.
- Test Cases: 215 River reaches.
- Sets of reaches (from 2 to 10).
- 16 USGS stations

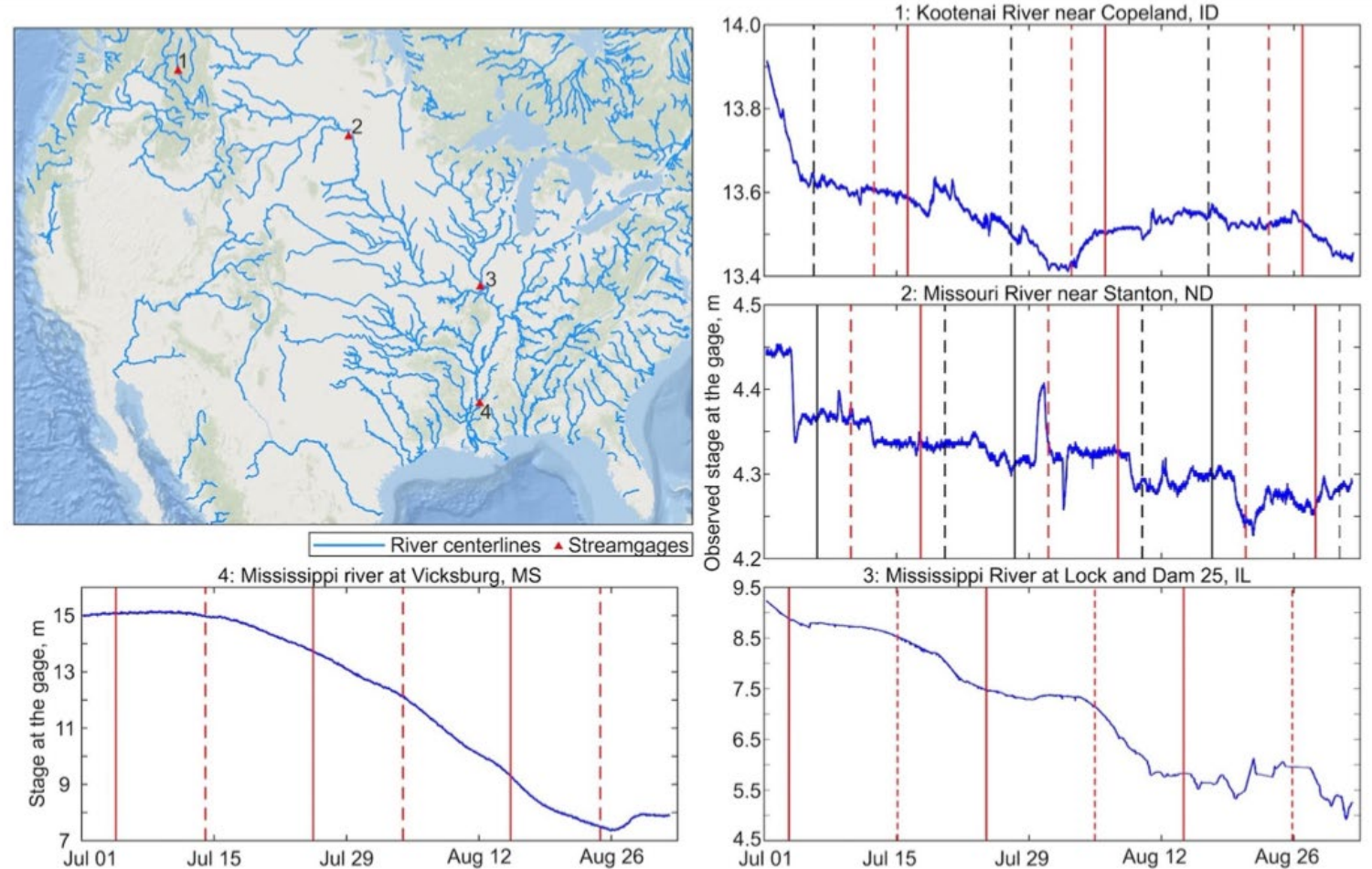


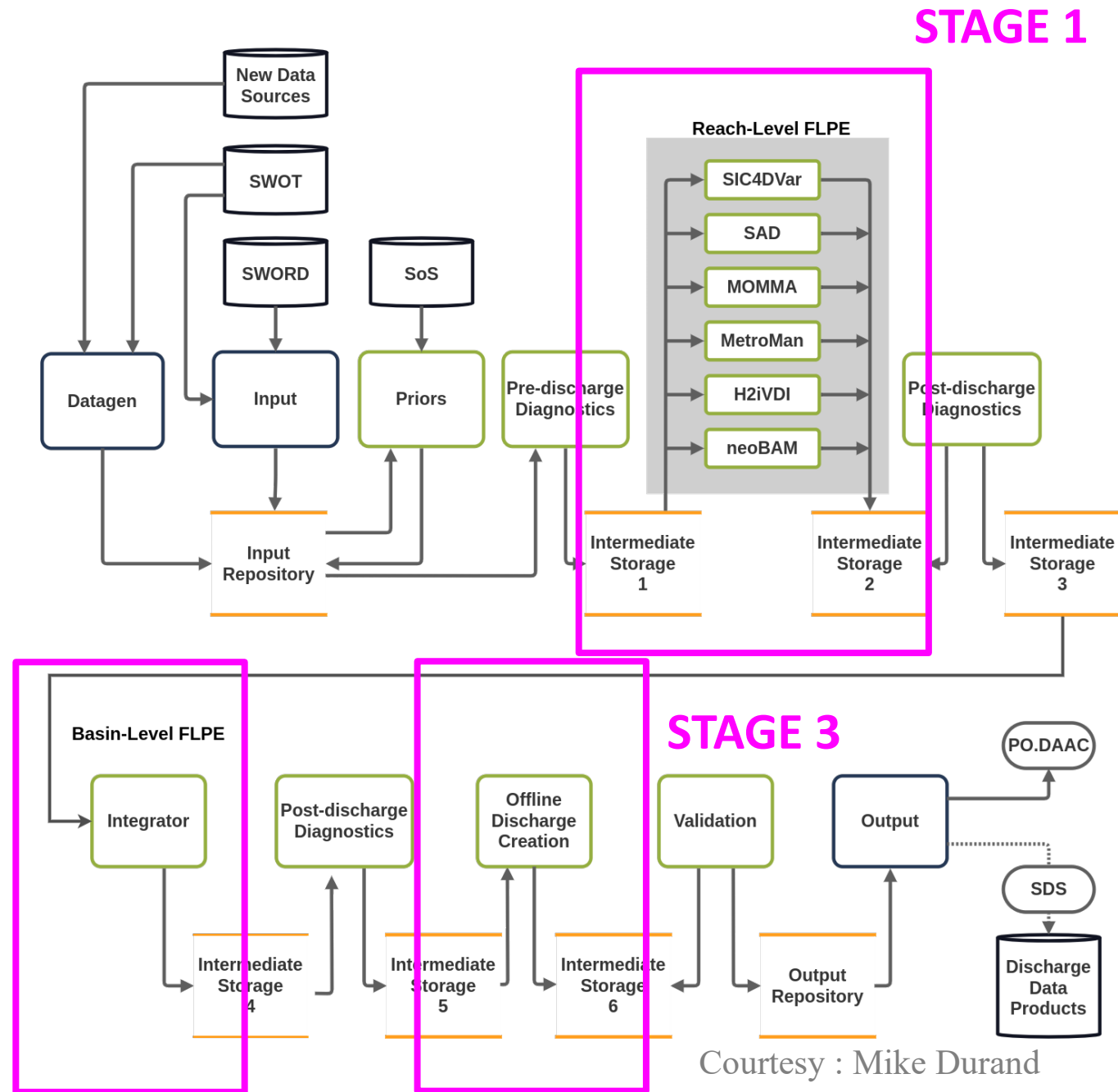
Figure 4. Illustration of Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) temporal sampling at four arbitrary gages (see panels 1–4) in the United States (see map for gage locations), adapted from Frasson (2021). The vertical lines indicate SWOT overpass timing, where each pass is represented by a different line style. The timing of each pass assumes an arbitrary mission start day of January 1 chosen for illustration purposes.

Confluence run status: Proposed Nomenclature

- Stage 1: Reach-scale FLPE
- Stage 2: Basin-scale FLPE (Integrator)
- Stage 3: “Offline” Discharge creation: Use Flow Laws, flow law parameters (from stage 2) and SWOT observations

Note: Confluence’s “offline” module mimics the discharge creation by the SDS

Confluence Data Flow Diagram



Courtesy : Mike Durand

Stage 1 & 2

Table 2
Example Flow Law Parameter Estimates for Seven Reaches on the Mississippi River for the Gage-Constrained Branch of the Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) Discharge Estimates

HiVDI	Reach-scale flow law parameters			Basin-scale flow law parameters				
	Abar	alpha	beta	Abar	alpha	beta		
Reach #								
74270100211	2,774.84	85.35	-0.05	2,825.41	679.80	-0.84		
74270100221	BAM	Db	<i>n</i>	<i>r</i>	A0	<i>n</i>	-	
74270100231	Reach #							
74270100191	74270100211	8.33	0.02	5.07	4,617.83	0.01	-	
74270100171	74270100221	-	-	-	5,520.33	0.01	-	
74270100151	74270100231							
74270100131	MetroMan		Abar	Ninf	<i>b</i>	Abar	ninf	<i>b</i>
	74270100191							
	74270100171							
	74270100151	74270100211	10,848.53	0.03	1.04	9,045.63	392.21	-4.76
	74270100151	74270100221	10,548.05	0.03	1.50	10,556.17	37.07	-3.25
	74270100131	74270100231	11,107.28	0.03	1.75	8,832.68	3,759.82	-5.48
		74270100191	11,073.69	0.03	0.92	11,112.76	0.43	-0.89
		74270100171	11,298.95	0.03	1.06	11,333.25	1.62	-1.54
		74270100151	9,027.99	0.03	0.64	9,043.53	0.070	0.14
		74270100131	11,305.57	0.03	1.61	10,434.40	3,741.31	-4.97

Stage 3 : Gauge-constrained

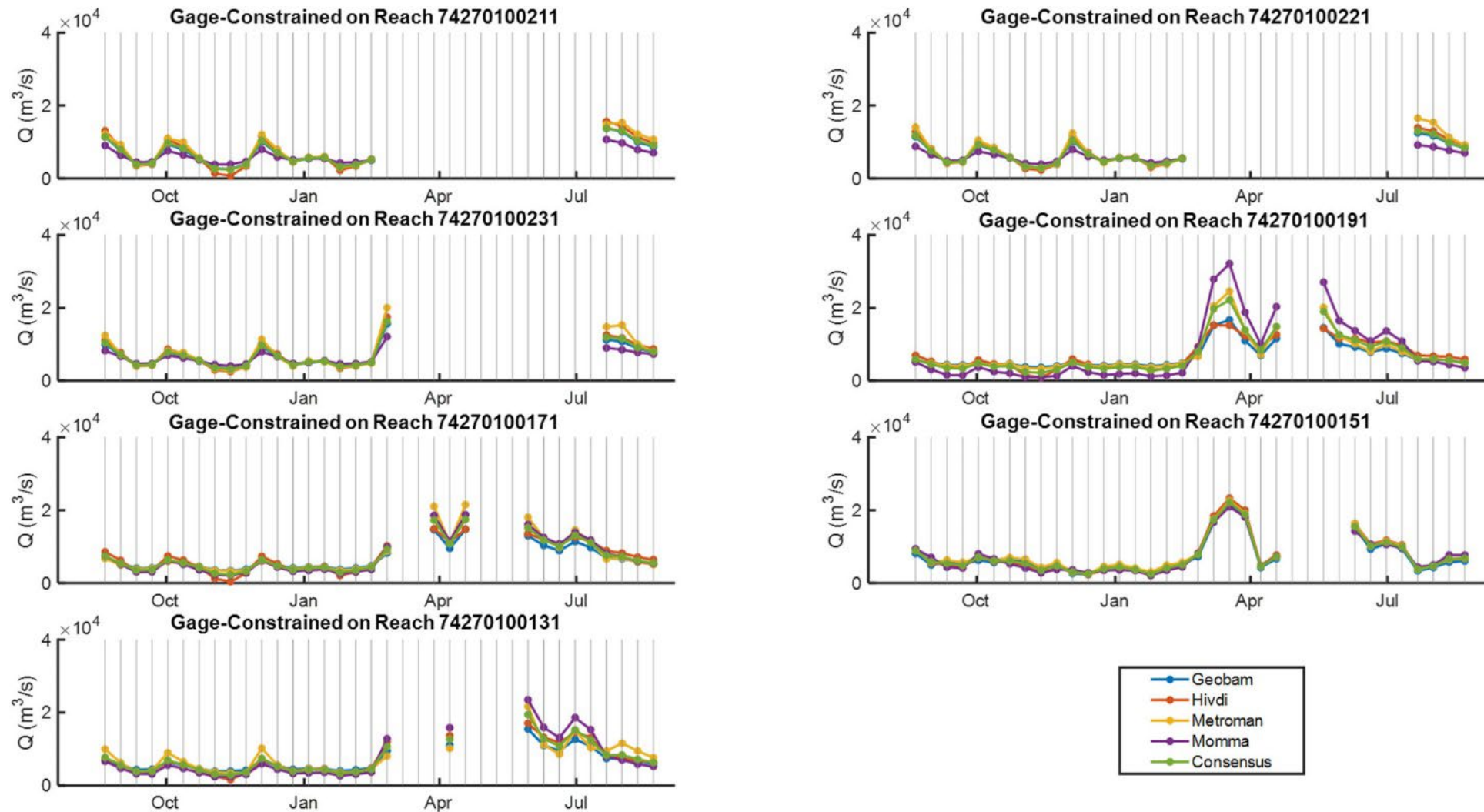


Figure 7. Example simulated Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) discharge (Q) results mimicking Agency-led data products for seven reaches on the Mississippi River Branch (i.e., either gage-constrained or unconstrained) and SWOT mission river database (SWORD) reach IDs are shown in titles of each subplot. The various colored lines indicate each flow law parameter estimation algorithm, and are labeled in the figure legend. Note that some values exceed Y axis limit.

Stage 3: Gauge-Unconstrained

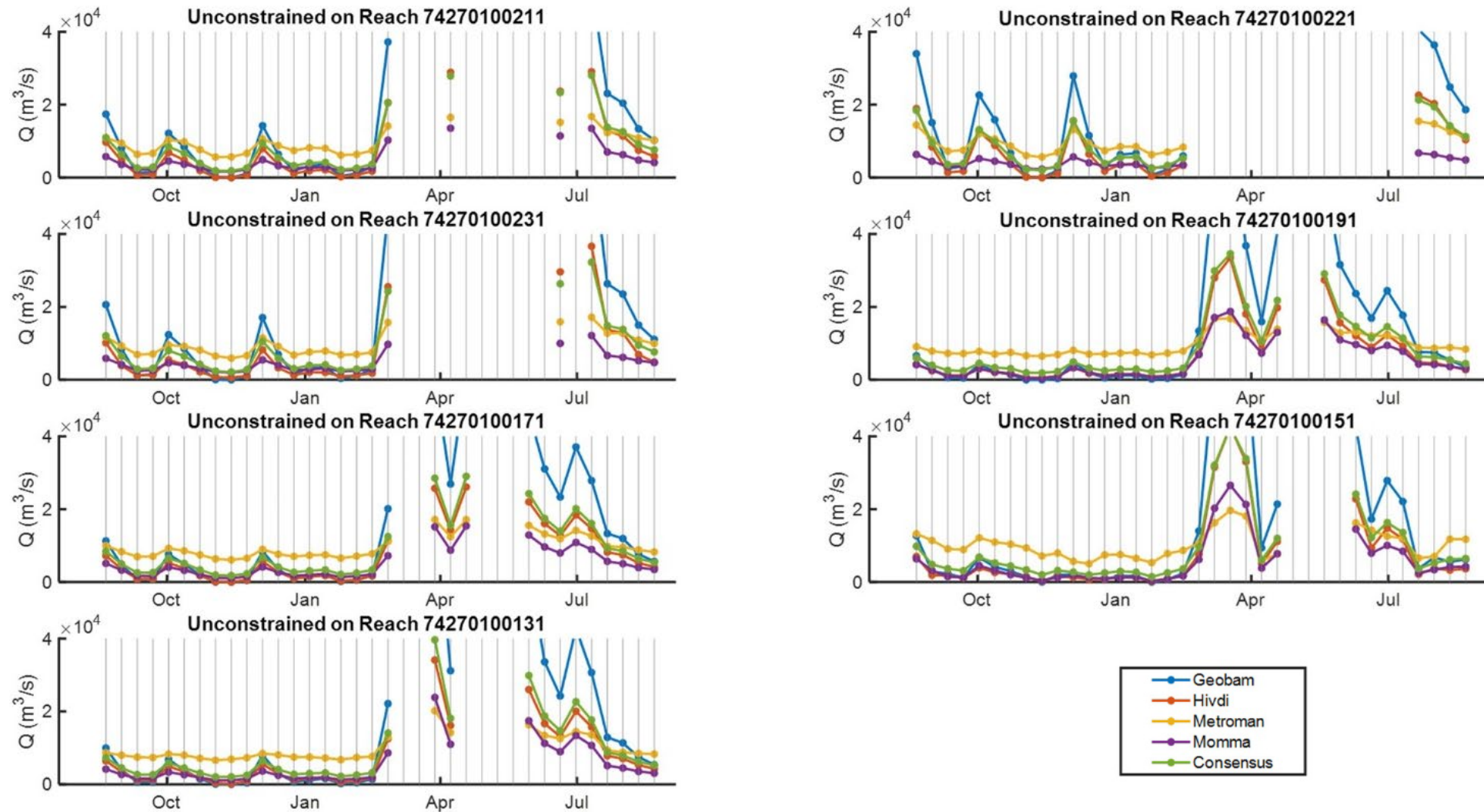


Figure 7. Example simulated Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) discharge (Q) results mimicking Agency-led data products for seven reaches on the Mississippi River. Branch (i.e., either gage-constrained or unconstrained) and SWOT mission river database (SWORD) reach IDs are shown in titles of each subplot. The various colored lines indicate each flow law parameter estimation algorithm, and are labeled in the figure legend. Note that some values exceed Y axis limit.

SWOT CALVAL

Steve will reveal the first results



Directions



Directions

Know *SWOT* better :

Improve *SWOT* discharge algorithms based on *SWOT* data



Directions

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Improve *SWOT* discharge algorithms based on *SWOT* data

Learn from *SWOT* about *Water*

What *SWOT* tells us about daily dynamics

What *SWOT* reveals about inland water uses

How *SWOT* monitors large rivers

How *SWOT* captures small rivers and tributaries

Quantify *SWOT* accuracy and uncertainty in discharge



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Quantify *SWOT* accuracy and uncertainty in discharge

Make use of *SWOT* to :

Complement other satellite missions.

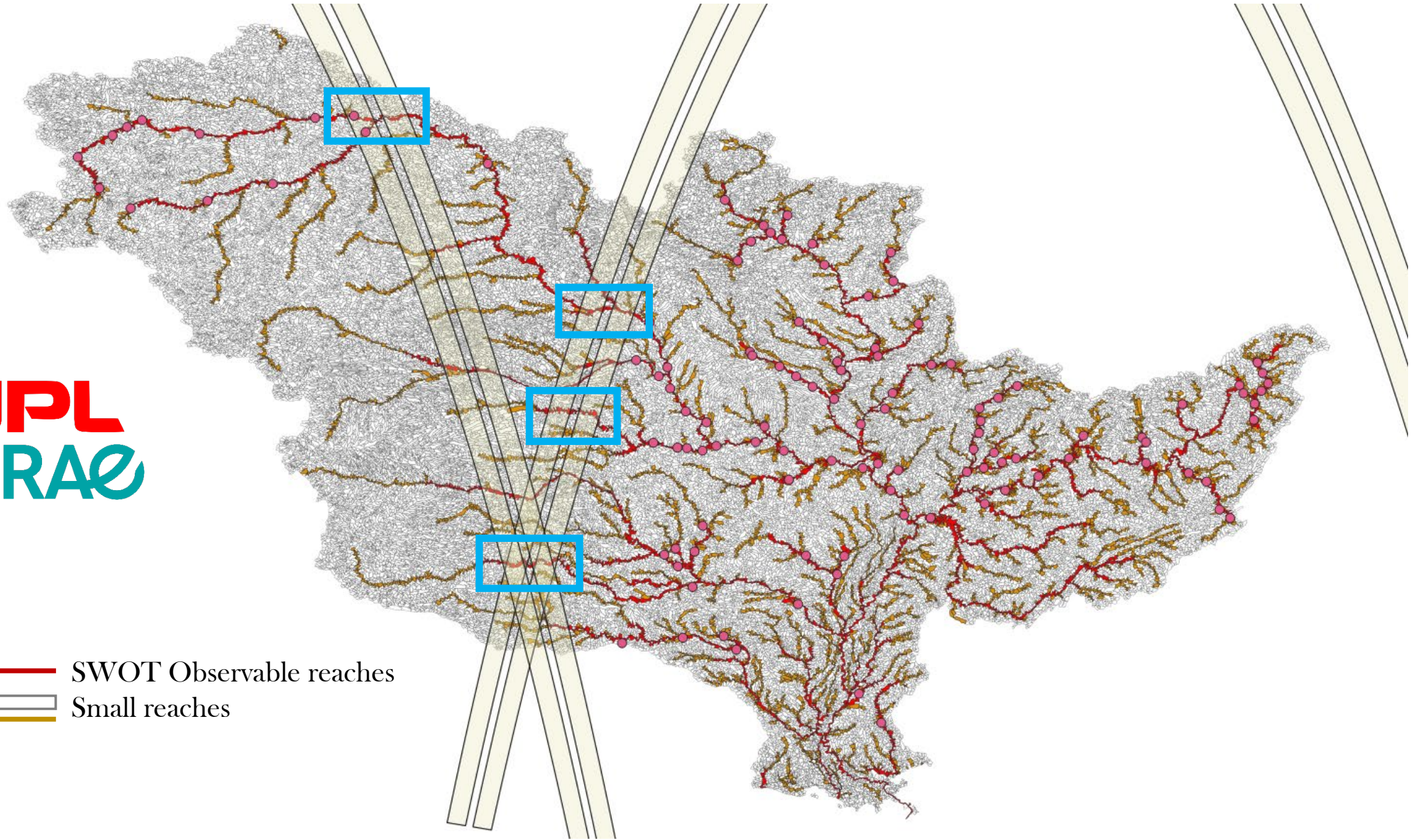
Know about smaller rivers (not observed by *SWOT*).

DAWG hand in hand with Global Modelling

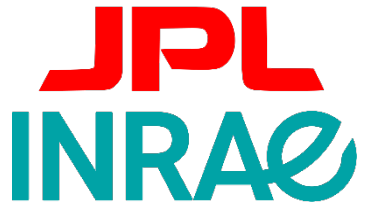


JPL
INRAE

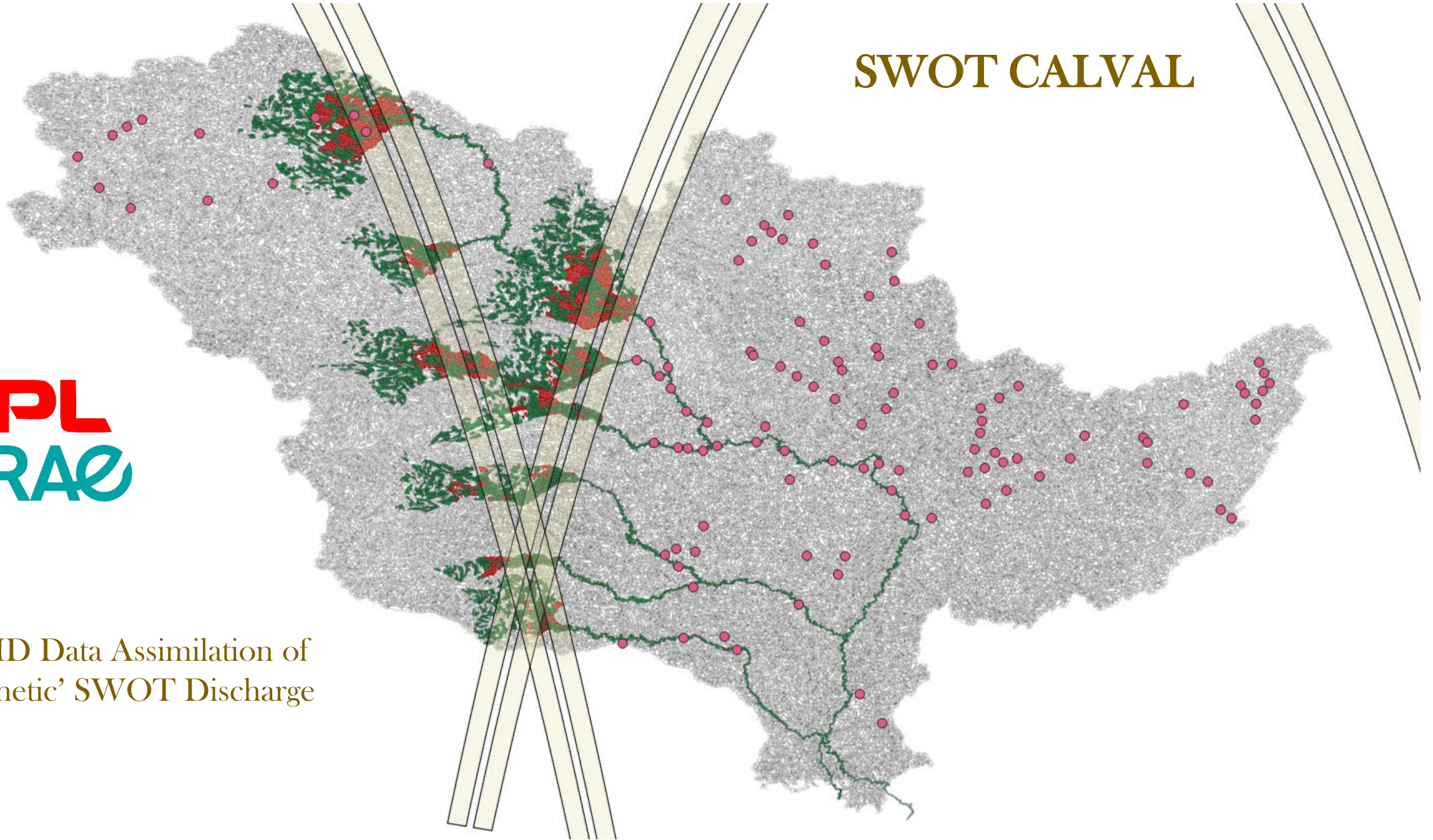
— SWOT Observable reaches
— Small reaches



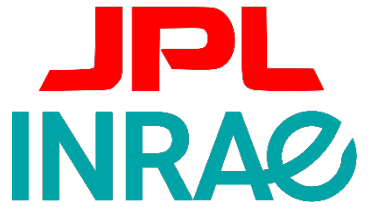
SWOT CALVAL



RAPID Data Assimilation of
'Synthetic' SWOT Discharge

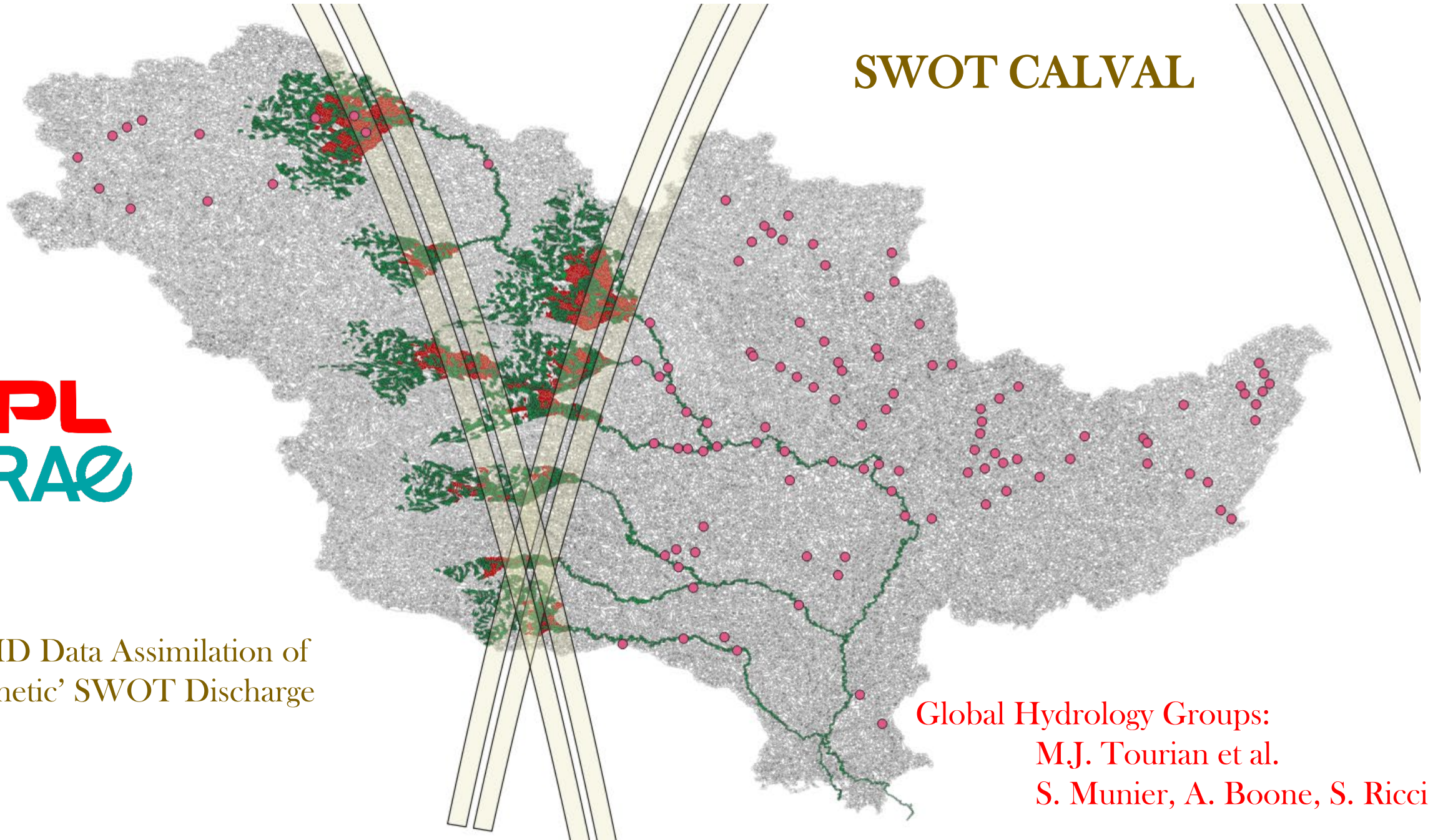


SWOT CALVAL



RAPID Data Assimilation of
'Synthetic' SWOT Discharge

Global Hydrology Groups:
M.J. Tourian et al.
S. Munier, A. Boone, S. Ricci
...



Merci!

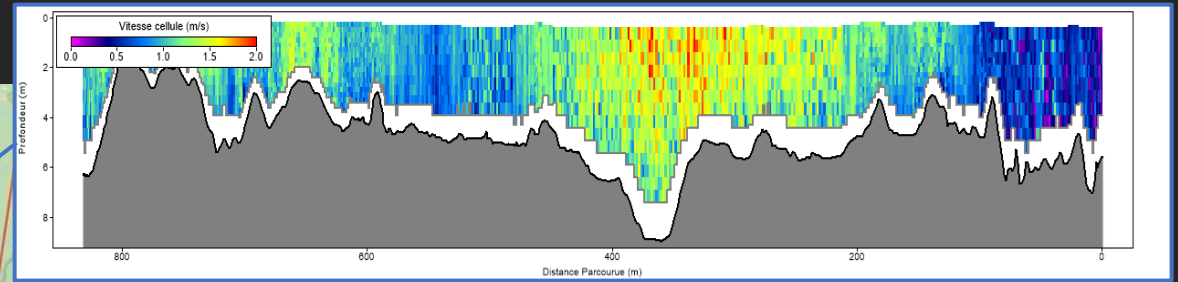
Acknowledgments :

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SWOT DAWG Members





EXTRA SLIDES



Maroni River – French Guyana, 2019