



An Integrated Framework for Flow and Transport Modeling at Regional Scales

Ahmad A. Tavakoly
EWN, April 15, 2019

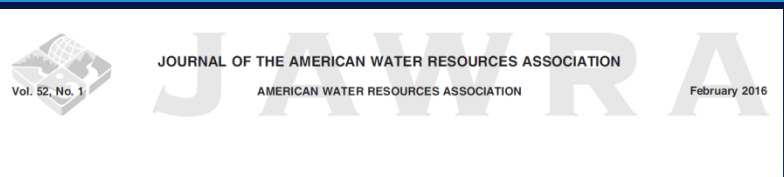
Main goal

This research explores the development of water flow and transport computation on large scale river networks



vector-based models more correctly follow the stream and watershed structure of the real landscape

Related Work



A GIS FRAMEWORK FOR REGIONAL MODELING TRANSPORT: CASE STUDY, SAN ANTONIO AND GUADALUPE BASINS

Ahmad A. Tavakoly, David R. Maidment, James W. McClelland, Claire Griffin, Cédric H. David, and Lisa Meyer



JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

ABSTRACT: This article presents a framework for integrating a regional based nitrogen dataset (Texas Anthropogenic Nitrogen Dataset, TX-AND) (Routing Application for Parallel computation of Discharge) to simulate transport in river networks containing thousands of reaches. A two-basin study in the San Antonio and Guadalupe basins during dry and wet years (2008 and 2009) is used to evaluate the framework. Results show that in both years the San Antonio basin delivered more TN to the coastal ocean than the Guadalupe basin. Activities including point sources, associated with the city of San Antonio, are identified as major contributors to TN transport. The Guadalupe basin lacks major metropolitan areas and is largely agricultural. Both basins delivered more TN to coastal waters than the more TN delivery (or the less TN removal).

(KEY TERMS: total nitrogen; geographic information system; river network; water hydrology; NHDPlus; Routing Application for Parallel computation)

Tavakoly, Ahmad A., David R. Maidment, James W. McClelland, Claire Griffin, Cédric H. David, and Lisa Meyer, 2016. A GIS Framework for Regional Modeling Transport: Case Study, San Antonio and Guadalupe Basins. *Journal of the American Water Resources Association* 52(1): 1-15. DOI: 10.1111/1752-1688.12355

CONTINENTAL-SCALE RIVER FLOW MODELING USING HIGH-RESOLUTION NHDPLUS DATASET

Ahmad A. Tavakoly, Alan D. Snow, Cédric H. David, Michael L. Yang, and Zong-Liang Yan

ABSTRACT: As a key component of the National Flood Interoperability Experiment, the continental scale river flow modeling of the Mississippi River from NHDPlus. The Routing Application for Parallel computation of Discharge (RAPID) model was used as input to RAPID. The VIC model on RAPID performance, the differences between the VIC-RAPID model and the impact of major dams on the streamflow when initial parameter values, especially the Muskingum K parameter, are taken into account. The statistical summary indicates the RAPID model performs well in the Upper and Lower Mississippi River Regions in comparison to the better performance of the VIC model. The model accuracy is considered in the modeling framework. In general, results show that the model performs well at the continental scale of the MRB.

(KEY TERMS: surface water hydrology; Continental River Transport; NHDPlus Dataset; rivers/streams; runoff.)

Ahmad A. Tavakoly, Alan D. Snow, Cédric H. David, Michael L. Yang, 2016. Continental-Scale River Flow Modeling of the Mississippi River Using NHDPlus Dataset. *Journal of the American Water Resources Association* 52(1): 1688-1700. DOI: 10.1111/1752-1688.12356



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Research papers

An integrated framework to model nitrate contaminants with interactions of agriculture, groundwater, and surface water at regional scales: The STICS-EauDyssée coupled models applied over the Seine River Basin

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Keywords: Nitrate flux; Surface-aquifer interactions; Regional scale modeling; Distributed hydrologic modeling; Seine River Basin

ABSTRACT

Nutrient enrichment from natural and anthropogenic activities is one of the major environmental pollution stressors. This study presents an integrated framework that couples a mesoscale atmospheric analysis system (SAFRAN), an agronomic model (STICS) and a distributed hydro(geo)logic model (EauDyssée) to estimate nitrogen flux at the regional scale. The EauDyssée modeling framework was developed to include nitrate transport from soils to rivers via surface runoff and stream-aquifer interactions. Further, an in-stream nitrate model was developed based on the large-scale river routing of the framework. The utility of the integrated framework was demonstrated on the Seine River Basin (SRB), which has an area of 88,000 square kilometers. The SRB is one of the most productive agricultural areas in France and encompasses the megacity of Paris. This basin is a complex hydroecosystem with multiple aquifers. The STICS-EauDyssée integrated framework was implemented for a long-term simulation covering 39 years (1971–2010) at a daily time step. Comparison of groundwater nitrate concentrations with observations showed an overall absolute bias of less than 10 mg/L. Model results showed that simulated nitrate flux to rivers highly depend on the inflow produced by surface and subsurface waters. Results also demonstrated that approximately 10% of leaching nitrate flux is delivered to the river network from stream-aquifer interactions. The statistical analysis indicates the modeling system performs better in the eastern region of the SRB in comparison to the western part of the basin, due to the hydrological complexity of the western part of the basin. Comparison of maximum nitrate concentration between dry and wet years (1990 and 2001) showed an increase of 60%, largely driven by more annual water yield in the wet year compared to the dry year.

Research scope

#1

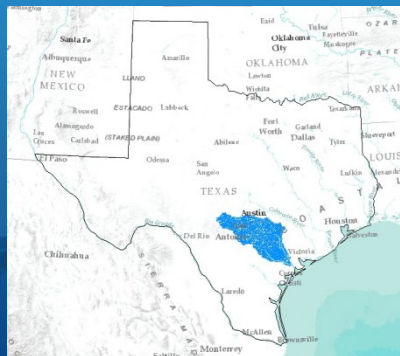
Steady-state flow and
transport modeling

#2

Dynamic flow and
transport modeling in
large scale

Modeling **mean annual
nitrogen loading**

Improve modeling of
**nitrate transport at large
river networks**

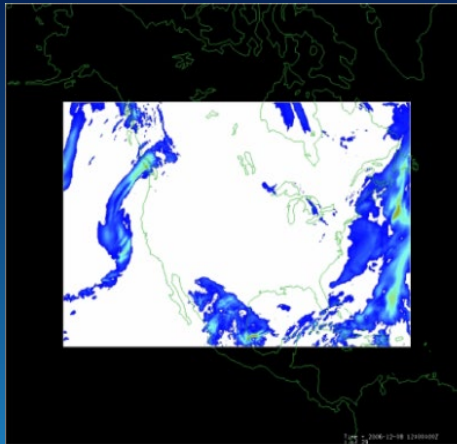


Texas: Sponsored study
region

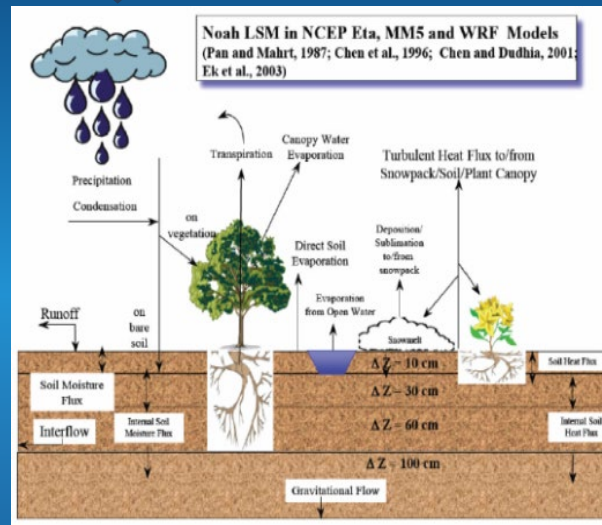


Seine basin: Collaboration
with MINES Paris Tech

Framework of Continental water dynamic modeling



Atmospheric
model or dataset

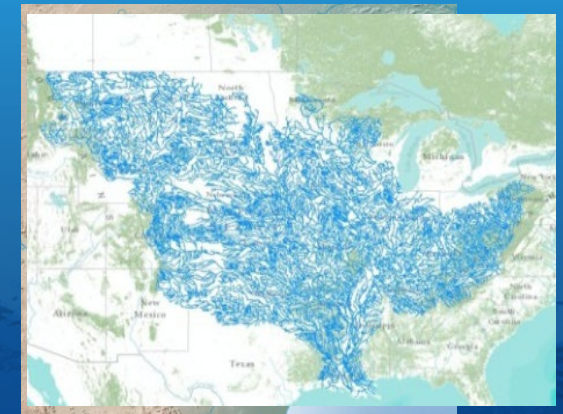
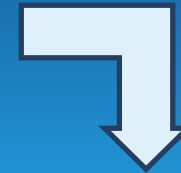


Land surface model

Continental scale : 1,200,000 river reaches

Regional scale: 65,000 river reaches

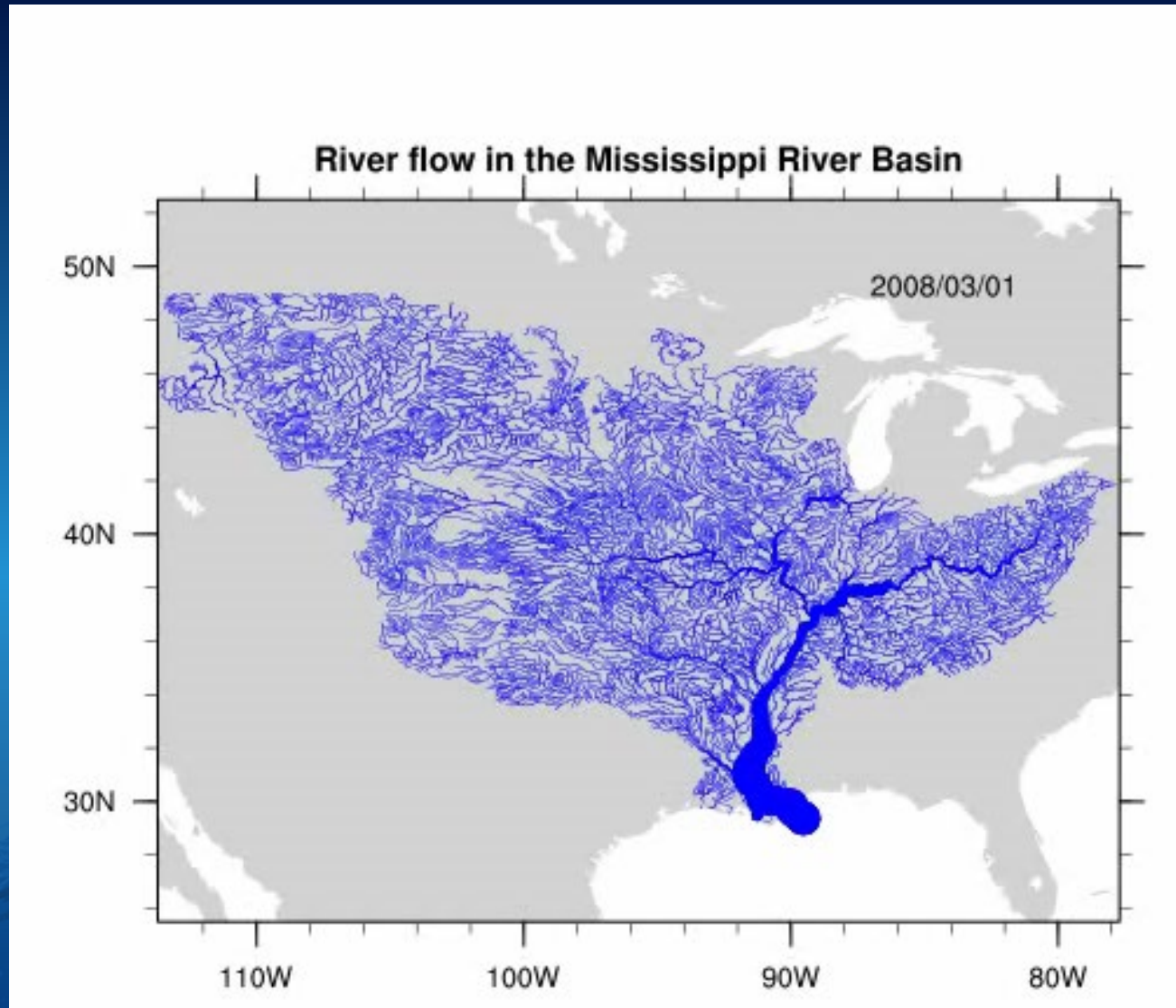
Moving forward from
regional scale river
modeling to continental
scale river modeling



Regional scale river modeling
David et al. (2013)

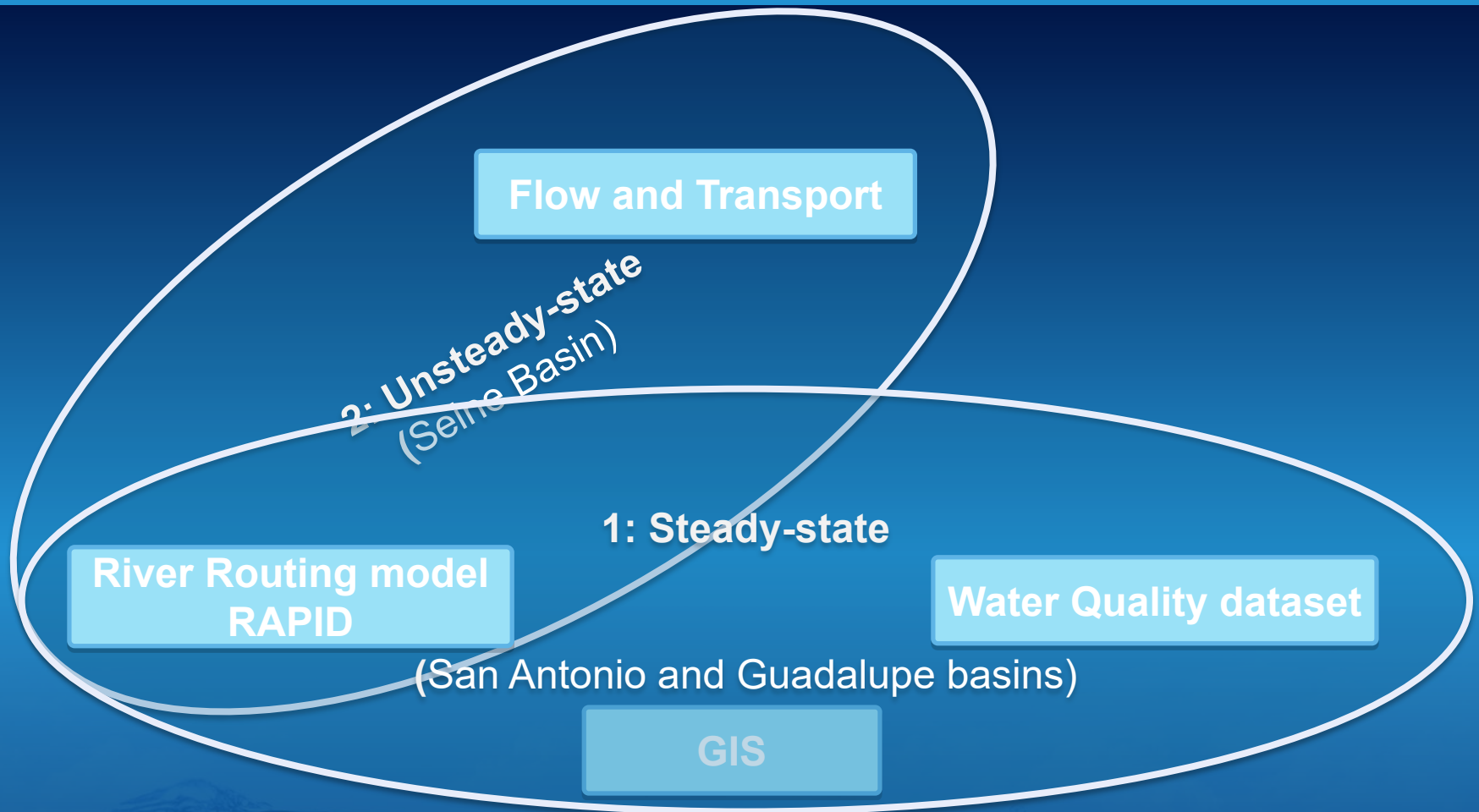
Flow in the Mississippi River Basin

March to May 2008

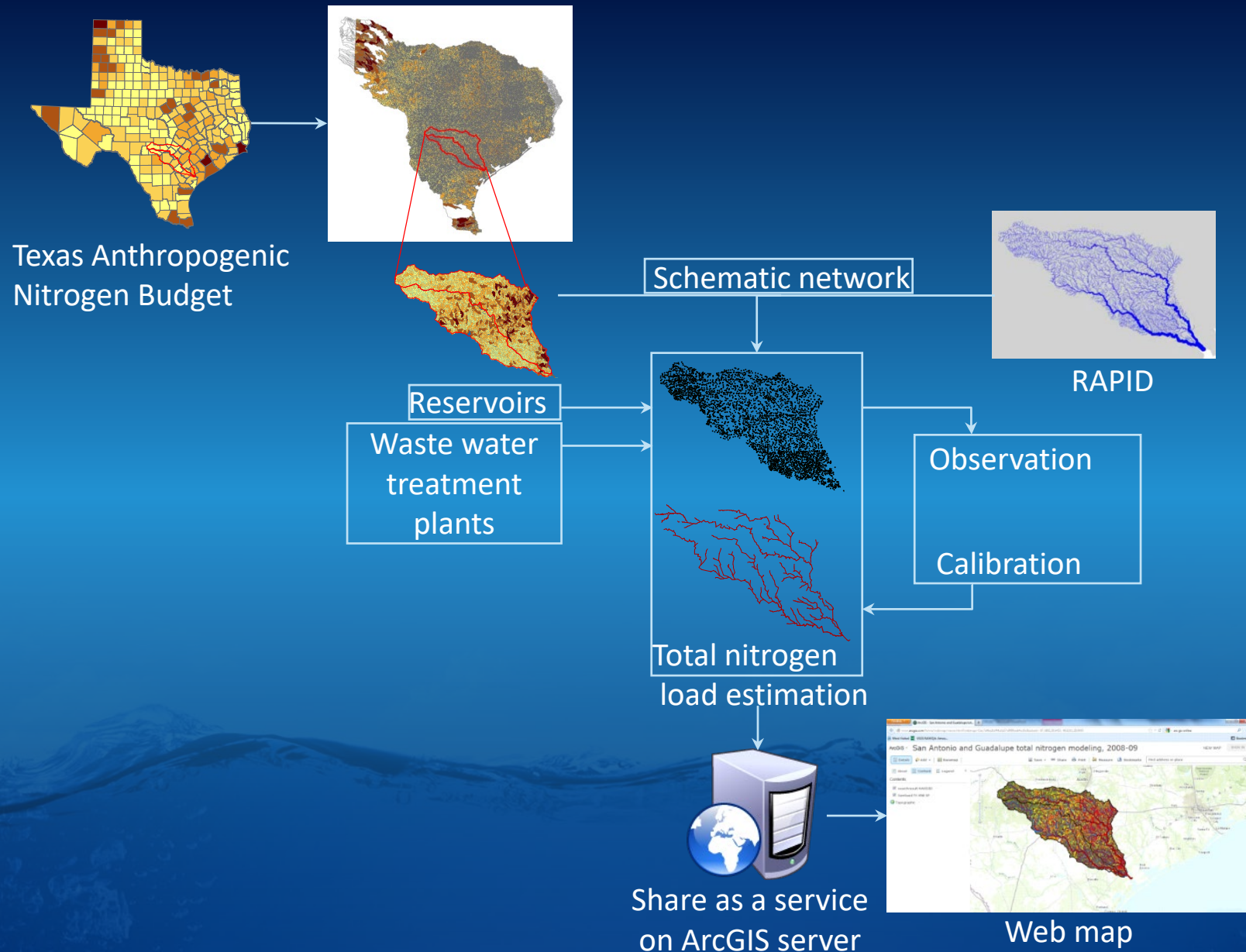


Tavakoly et al. (2012, 2017)

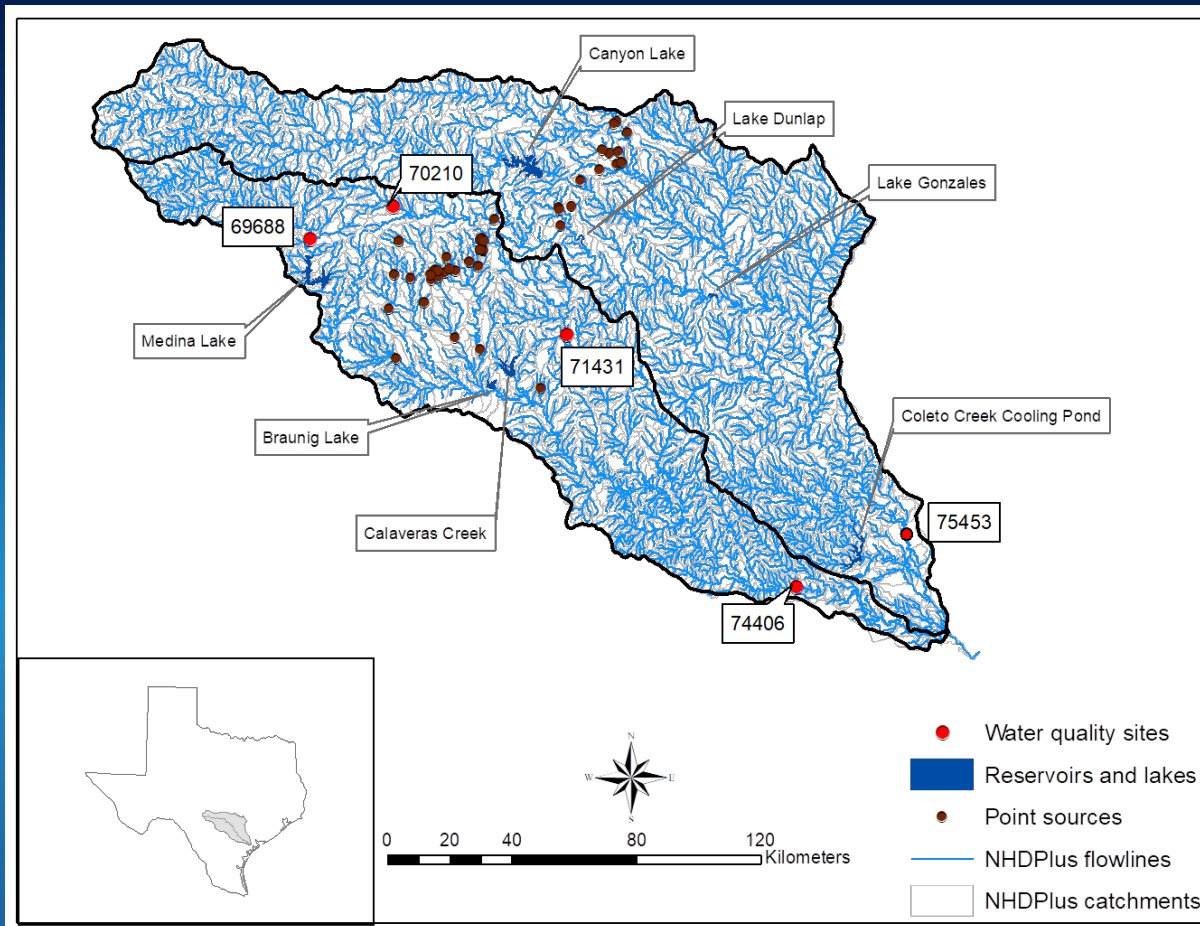
Steady-state flow and transport modeling



GIS-based steady-state modeling framework



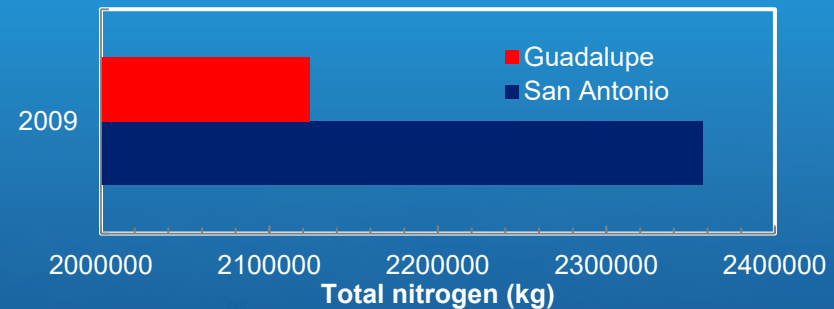
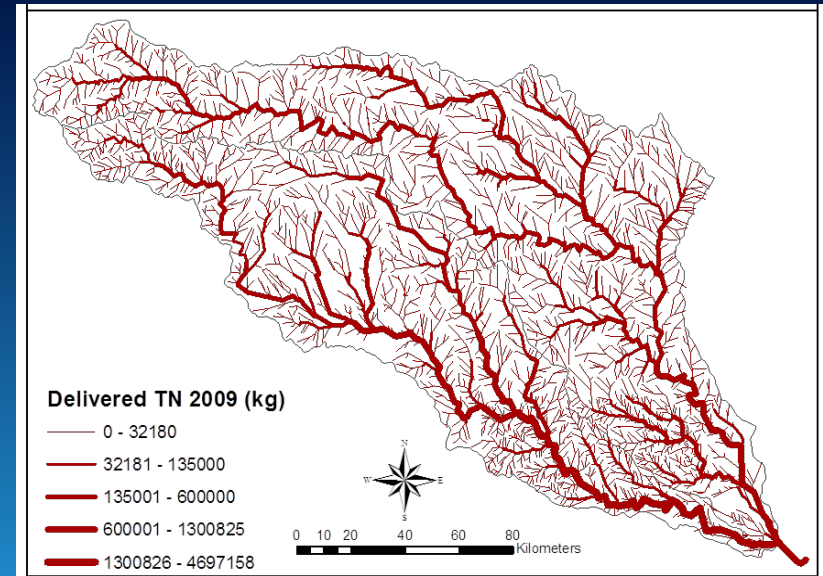
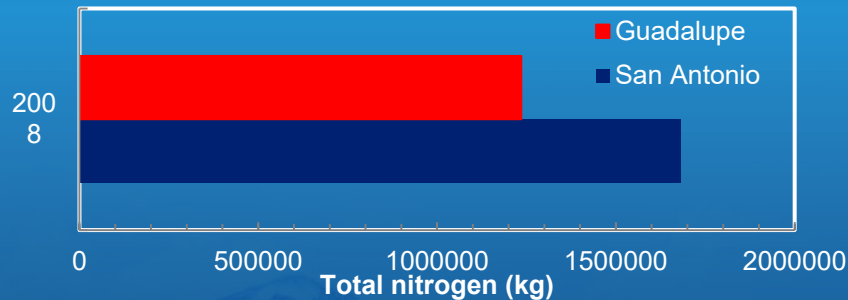
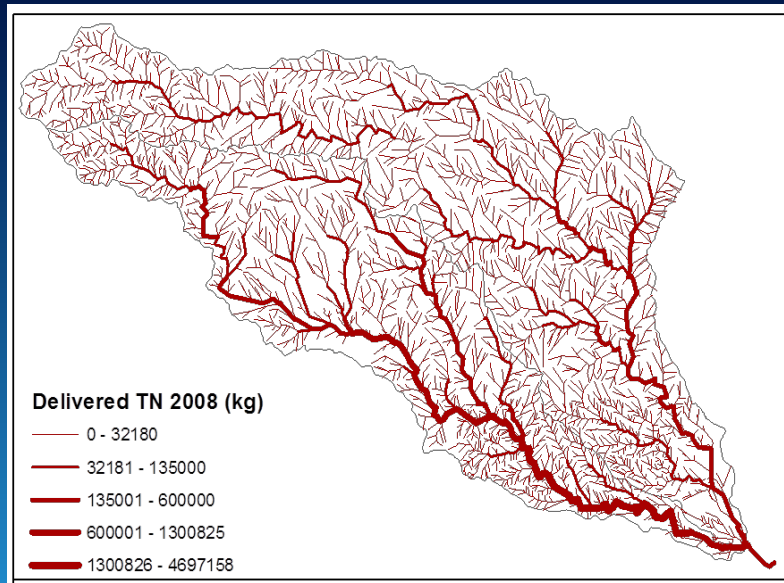
Point sources, Reservoirs and lakes



Seven lakes and reservoirs

53 point sources: 37 in the San Antonio basin and 16 in the Guadalupe basin

Spatial variation of in-stream TN



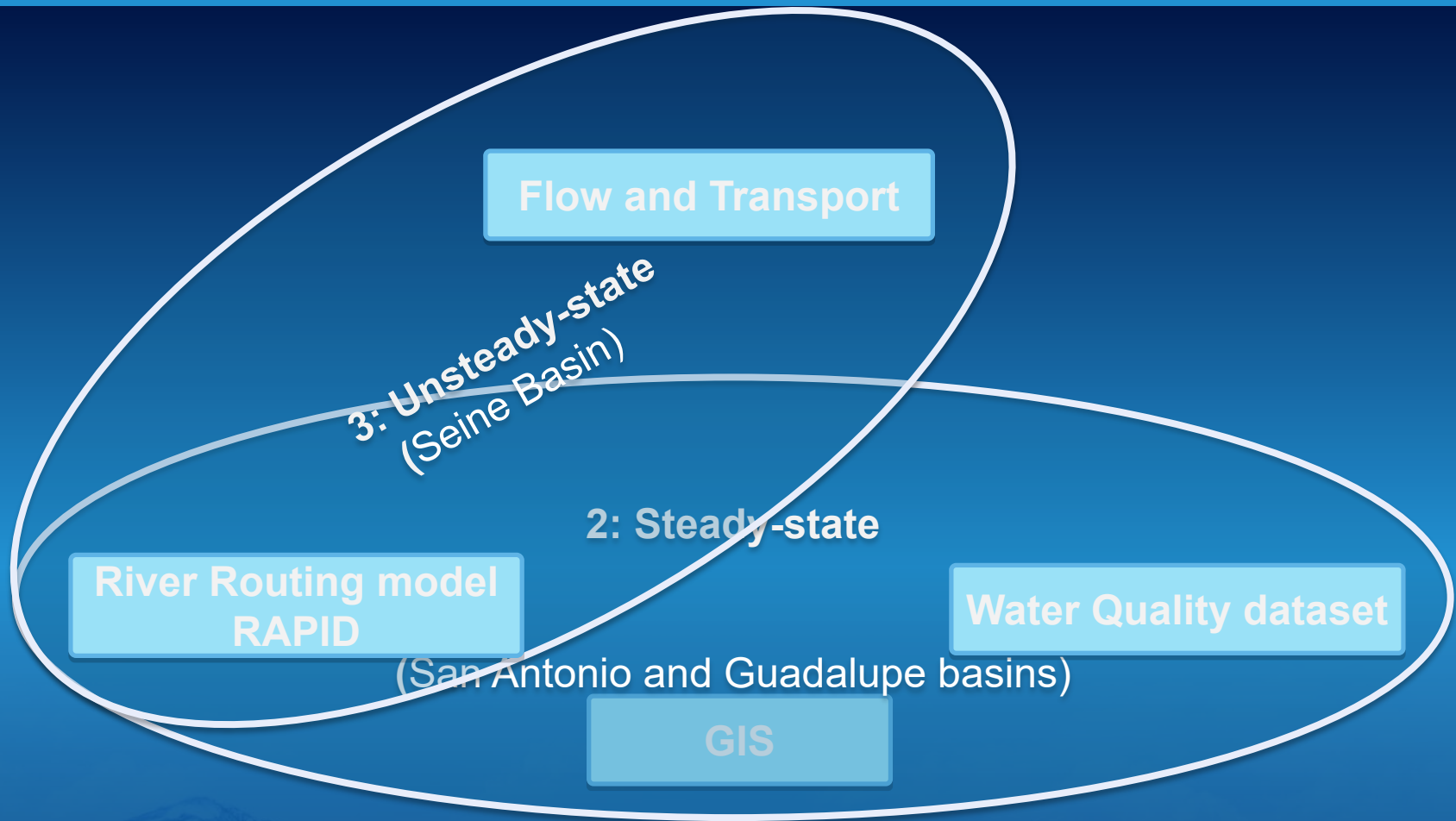
The San Antonio basin delivers 26% more TN load than the Guadalupe basin in a 2008
The San Antonio basin delivers 10% more than the Guadalupe basin's contribution in 2009

The San Antonio basin is affected more substantially by urban activities

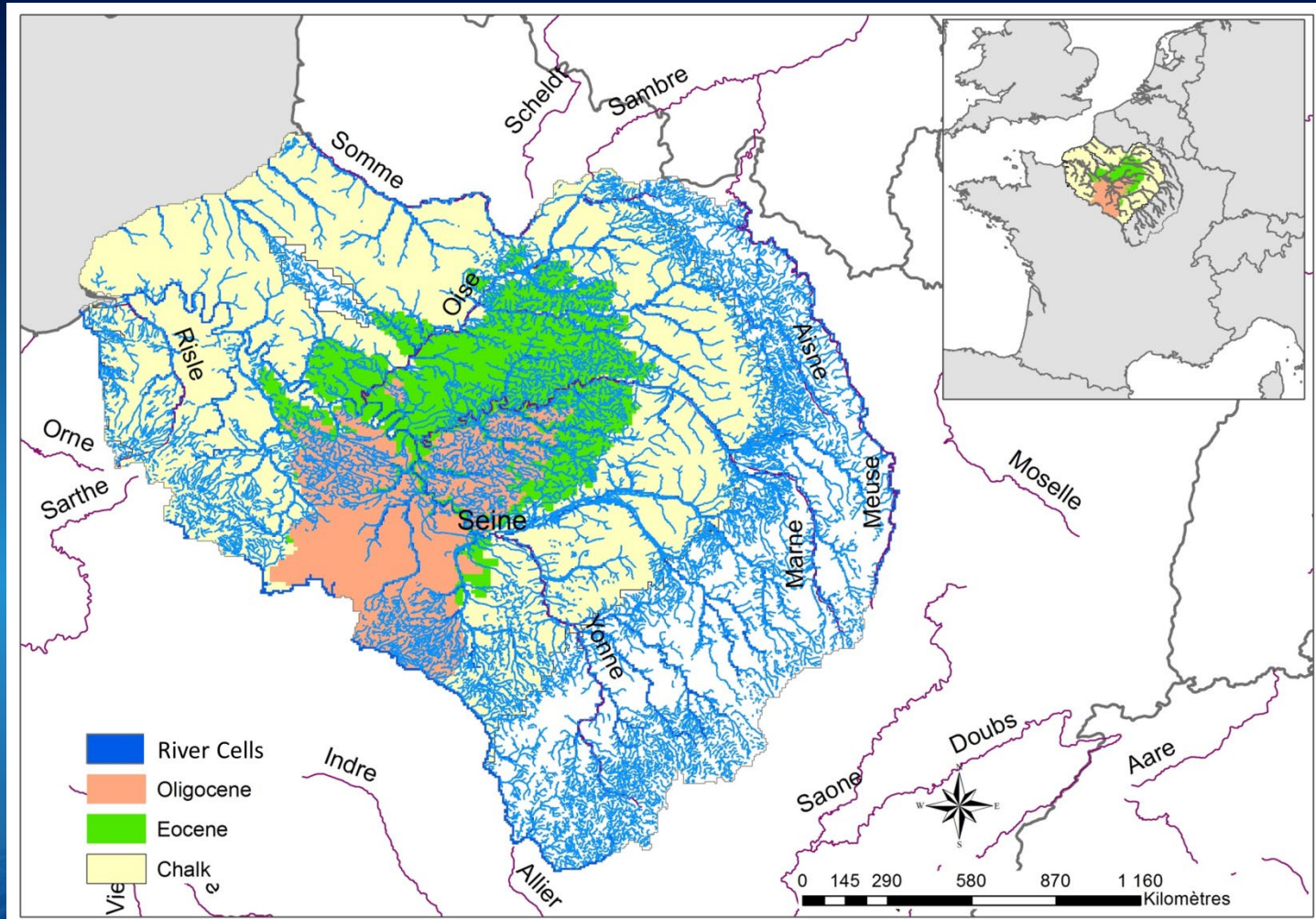
Results

- ✓ GIS framework can be applied to represent a spatial distribution of flow and water quality factors in a large river network with *thousands of river segment*
- ✓ Spatially intense pollutant modeling *can be implemented* within GIS, but it is hard to make it fully dynamic
 - The San Antonio basin contributed more TN than the Guadalupe basin
 - Both basins delivered more TN to the Gulf of Mexico in 2009 than in 2008

Dynamic flow and transport modeling



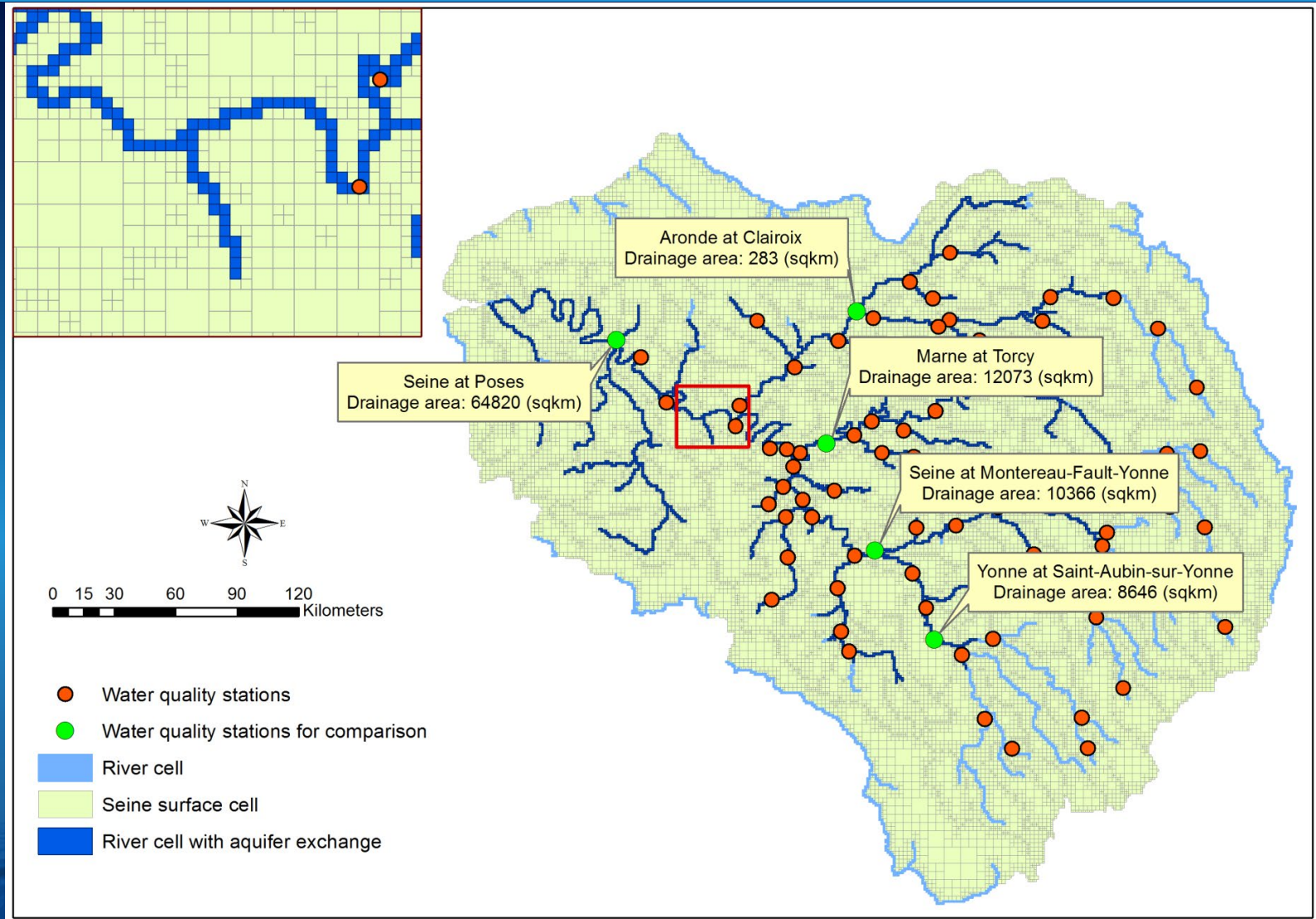
Seine River Basin



Simulation time period: 39 years (1979-2010) with daily time step for nitrate modeling

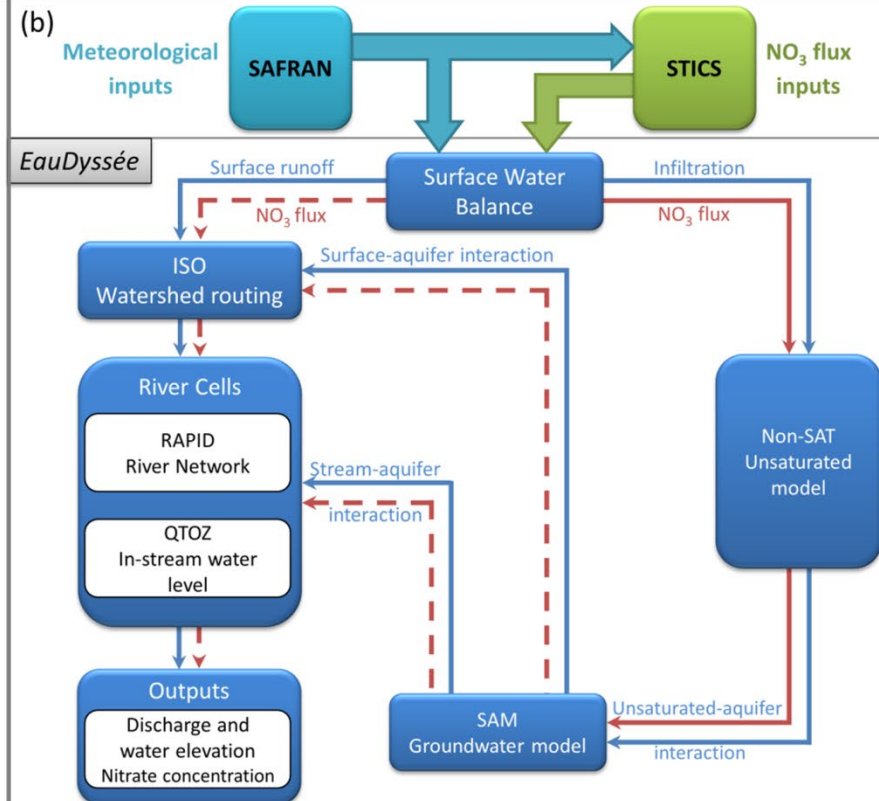
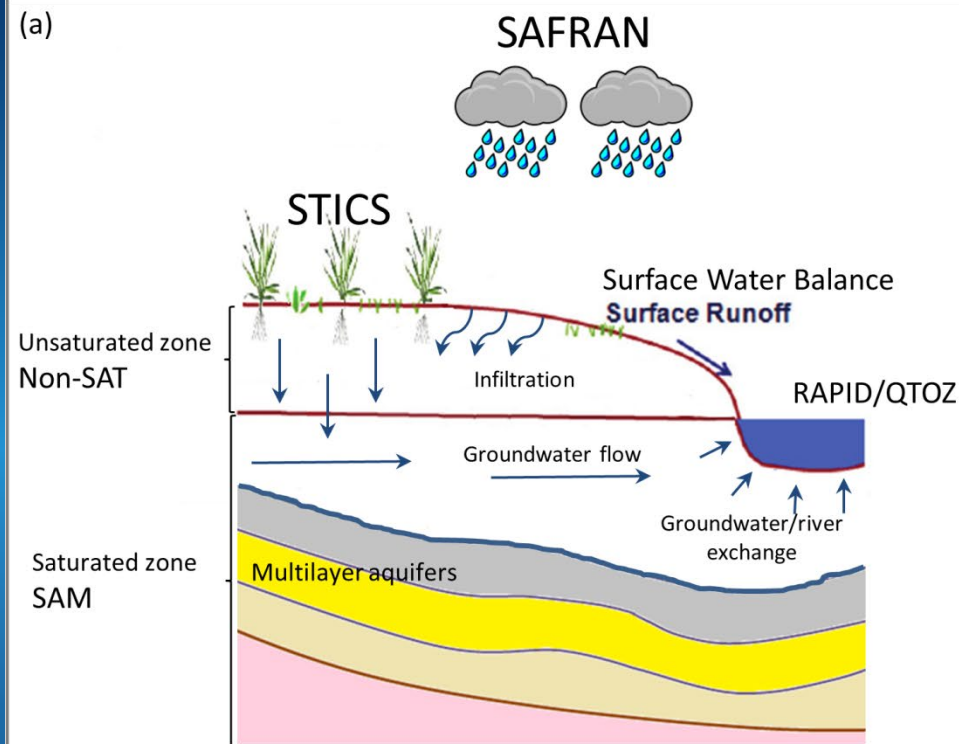
Total area: 80,500 km²

Seine River network and water quality stations

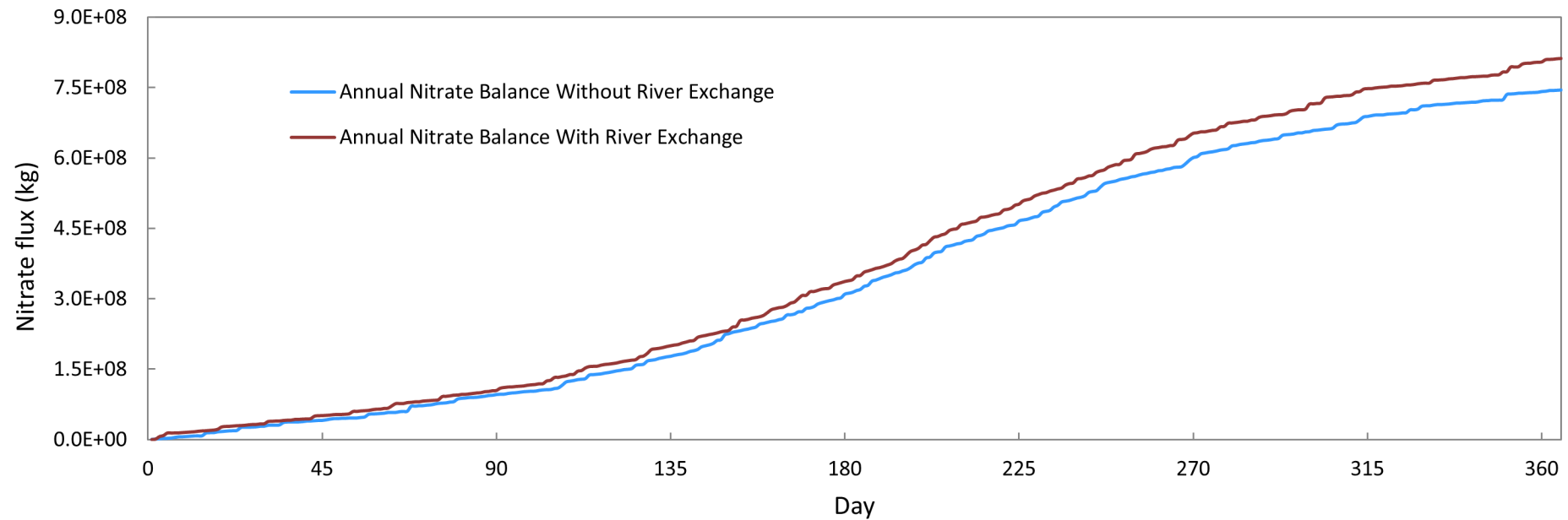


6481 river grid-cells, 72 stations with more than 150 water quality sampling dates

Eau-Dyssée modeling platform

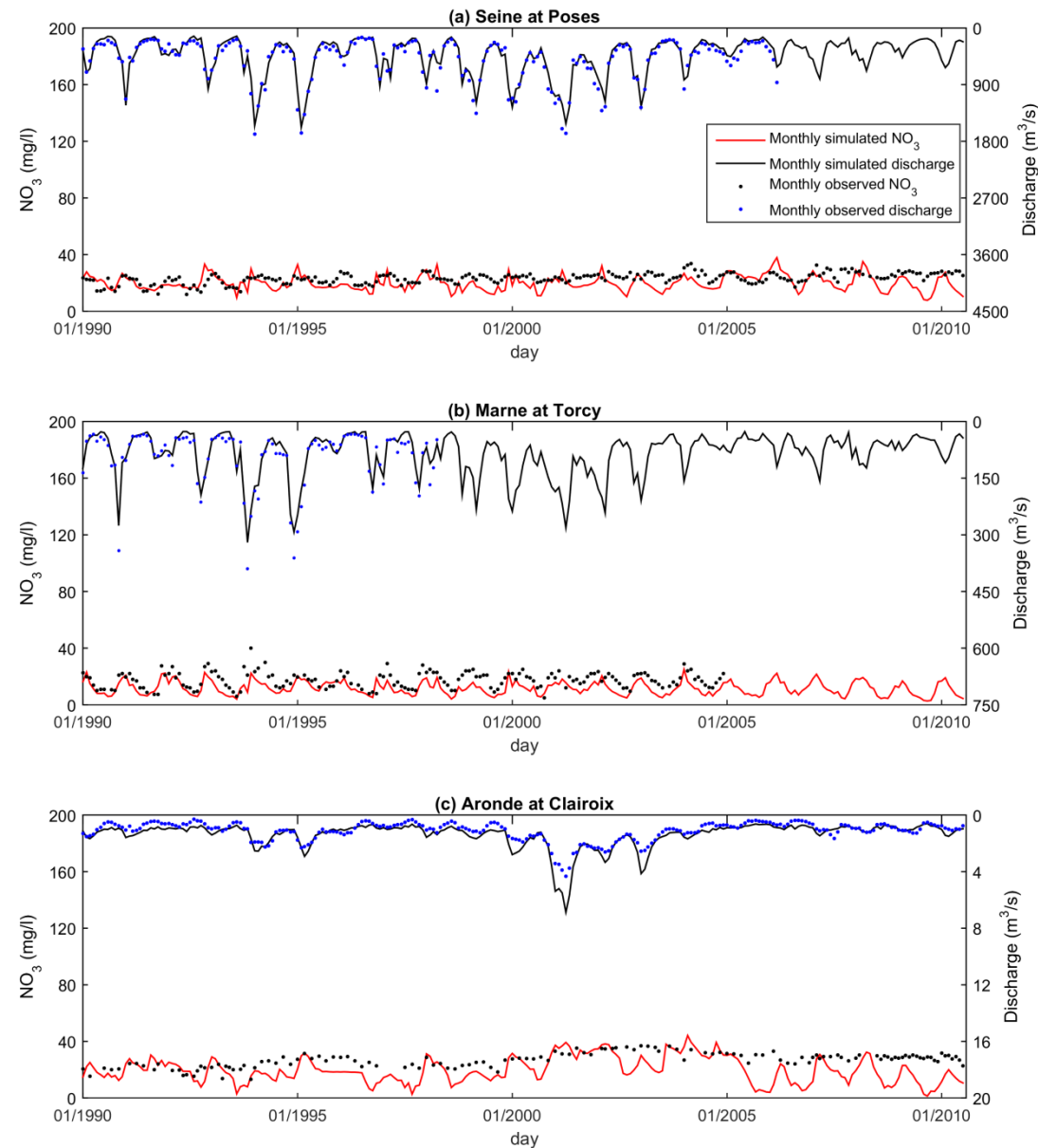


Annual average nitrate balance

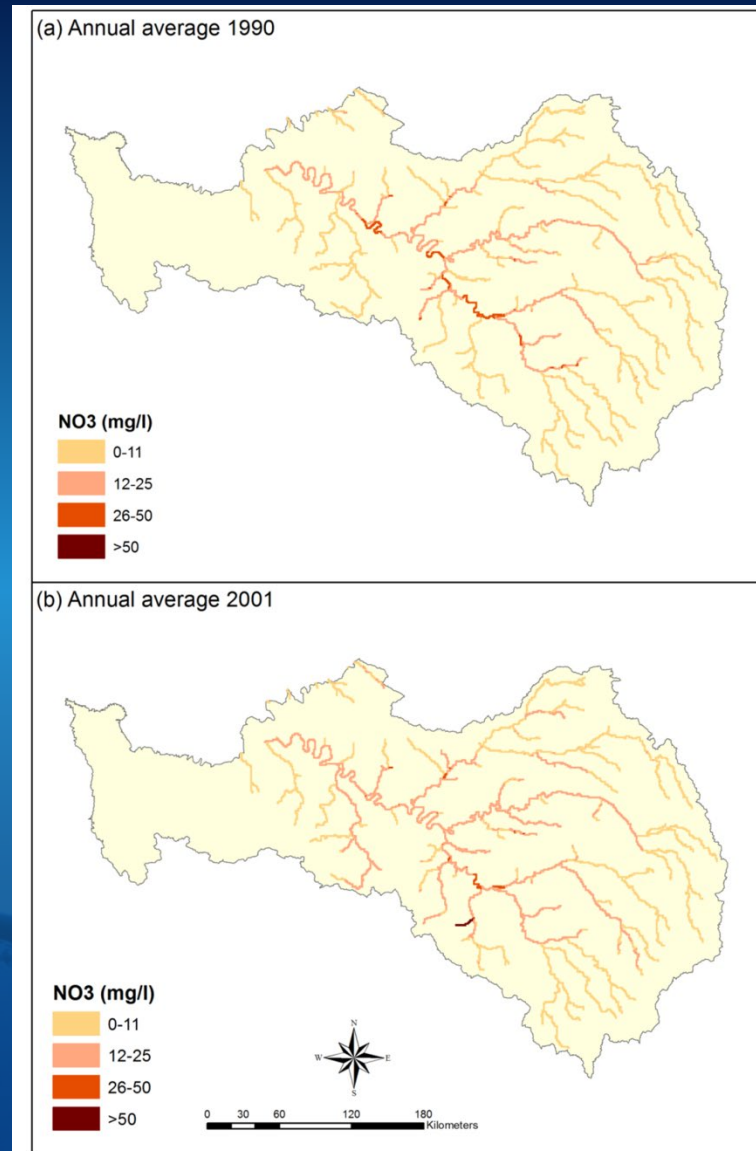


Approximately 10% of nitrate flux is delivered to the river network from aquifers

Seasonal comparison of simulated and observed nitrate



Annual Spatial Variation of Nitrate Concentration



Results

- The simulated results compared favorably to the measured data on an mean annual basis
- Model results showed that simulated nitrate highly depends on the inflow produced by surface and subsurface waters
- Variation of mean annual nitrate from year to year can be explained by the hydrologic regime of that year

Questions



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