



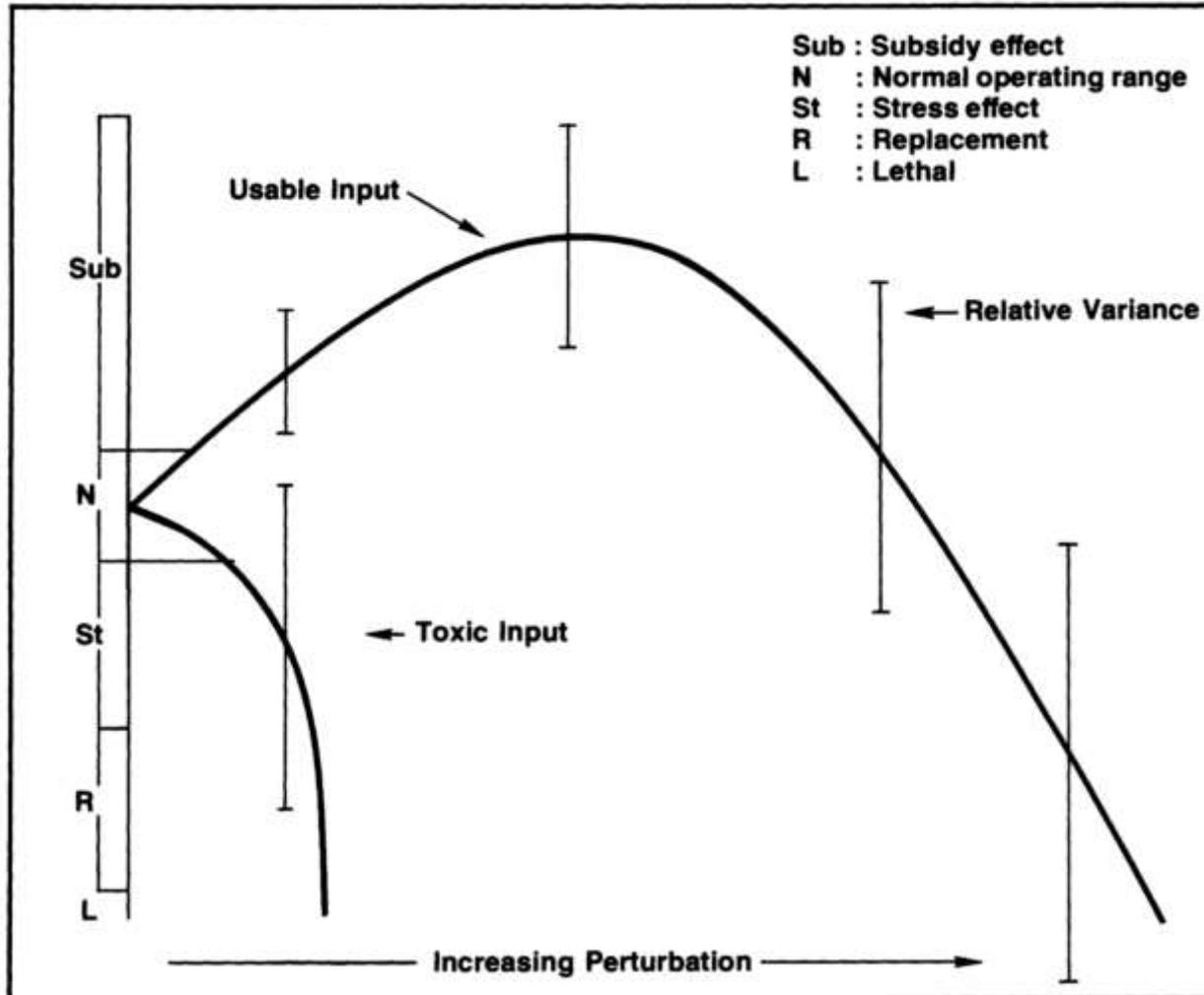
SHIFTING LONG-TERM BIOGEOCHEMICAL BASELINES: TESTING NUTRIENT SYNCHRONY WITH ENHANCED MARINE CONNECTIVITY IN COASTAL WETLAND ECOSYSTEMS

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Photo Credit: S. Davis

Perturbation Theory



Subsidy = favorable deflections

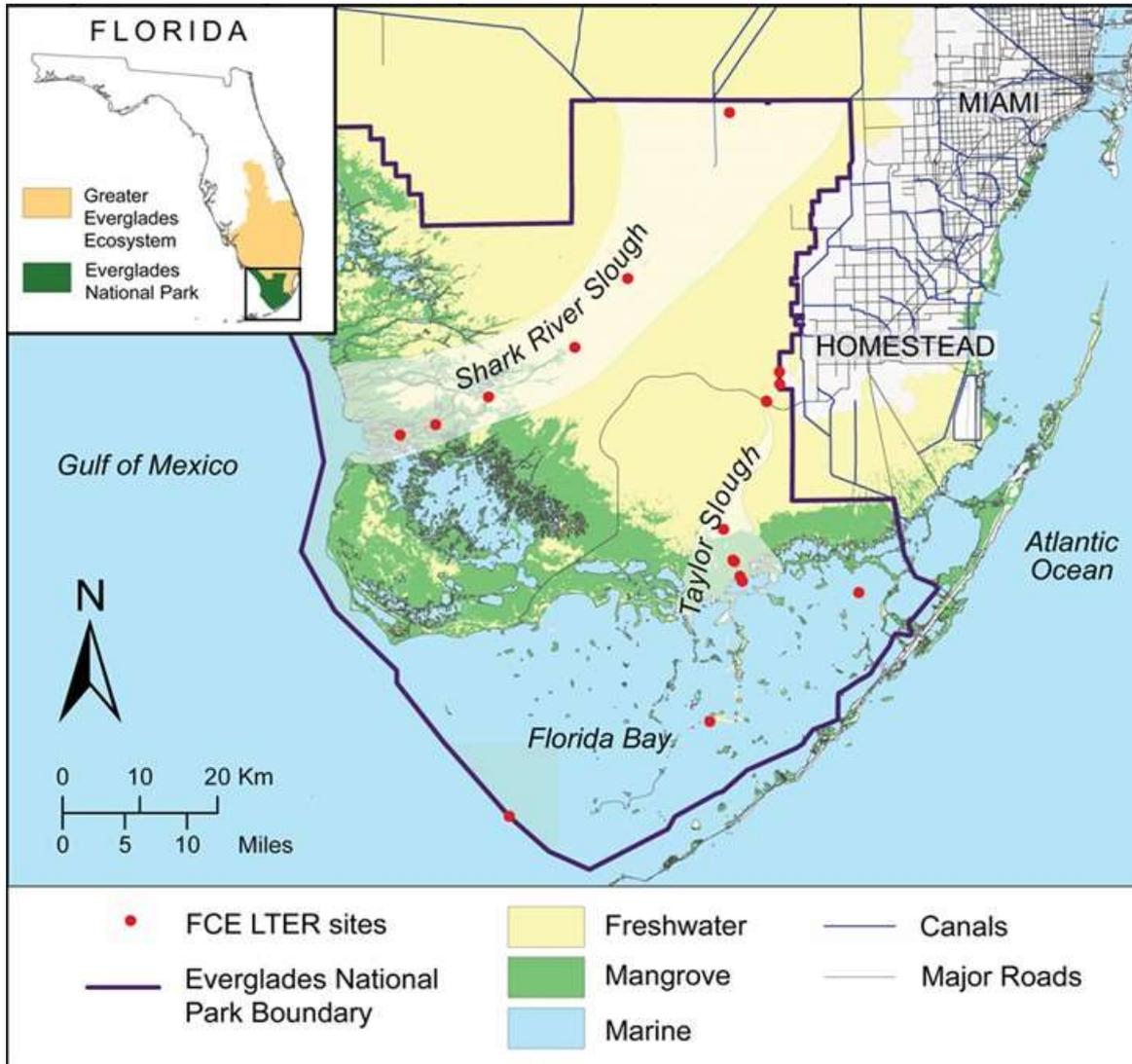
Stress = unfavorable deflections

(A)synchrony in Ecology: space and time

- Degree of **synchrony** among neighboring locations in a landscape indicate the relative influence of regional climate and hydrology (Baines et al. 2000 *Ecology*)
- Hydrologic and ecological connectivity among ecosystems integrate **spatial** and **temporal** variation in drivers and responses. (Jackson and Pringle 2010 *BioScience*)
- How do environmental fluctuations integrate **subsidy** and **stress** effects to explain spatiotemporal patterns of (a)synchrony among ecosystems (Moran effect)? (Moran 1953 *Aust. J. Zool.*)



Florida Coastal Everglades Long Term Ecological Research



Subtropical freshwater
and estuarine wetlands

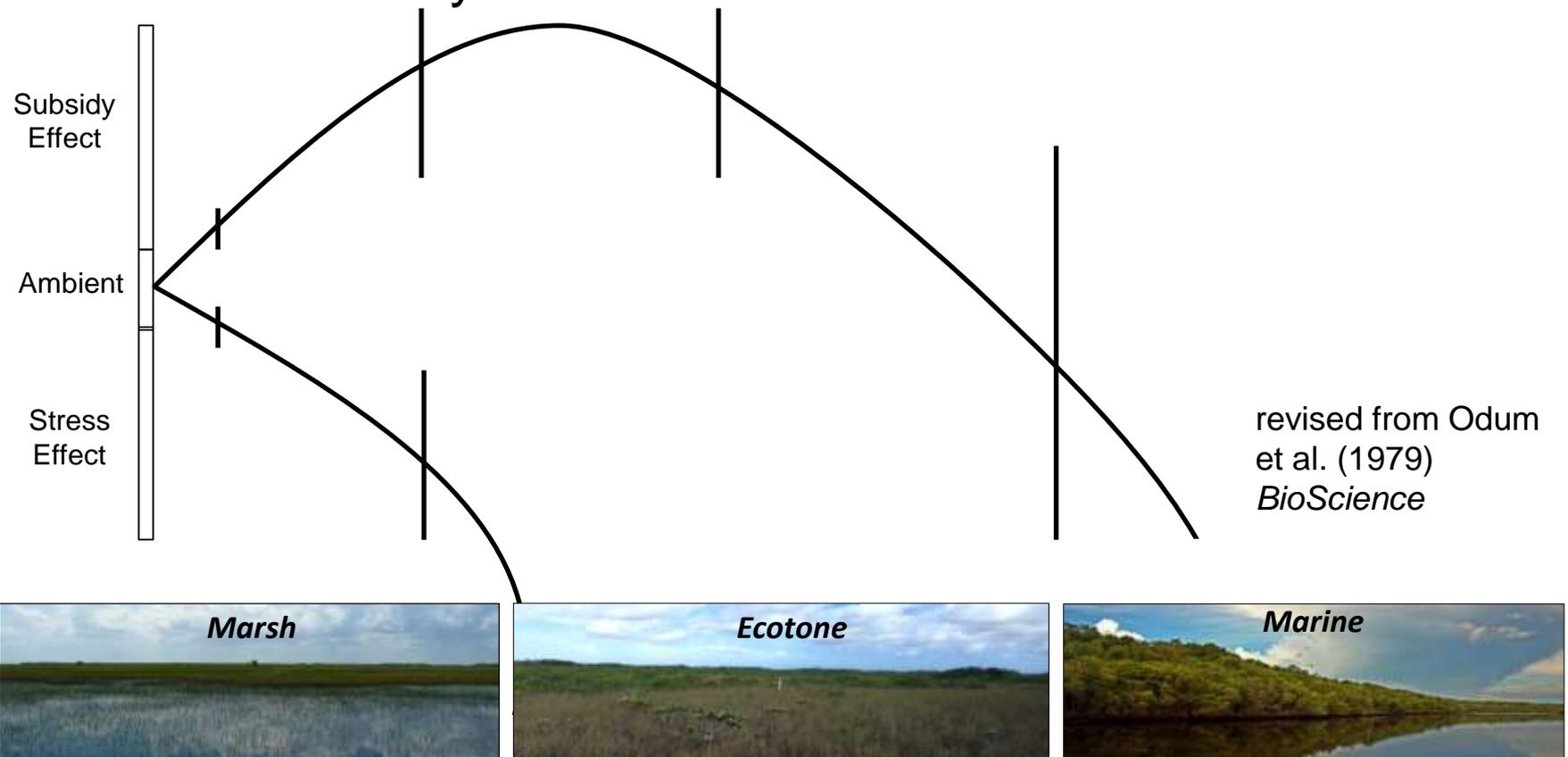
Extreme P-limitation

P sources:
freshwater – lower,
discrete seasonal load

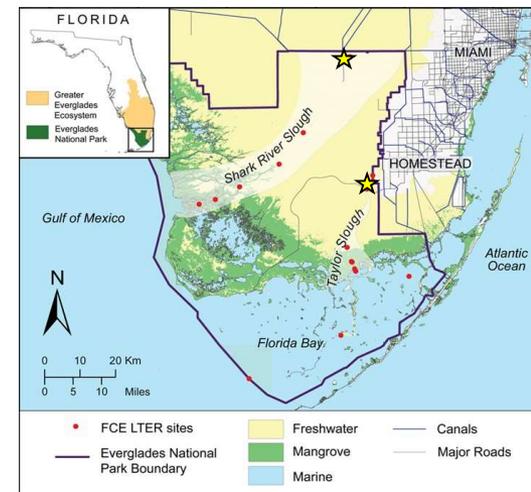
marine – higher, diffuse
seasonal, tidal, events

Balance of **fresh** and **marine** water on biogeochemistry

- 1) What are the spatiotemporal scales of P (a)synchrony?
- 2) What are the drivers of P (a)synchrony?
- 3) How does P (a)synchrony vary within/among ecosystems due to environmental fluctuations (Moran effect) and distance decay?

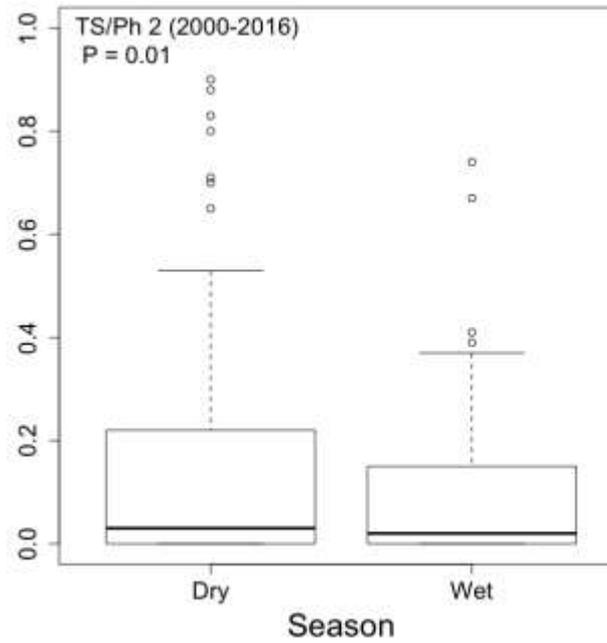
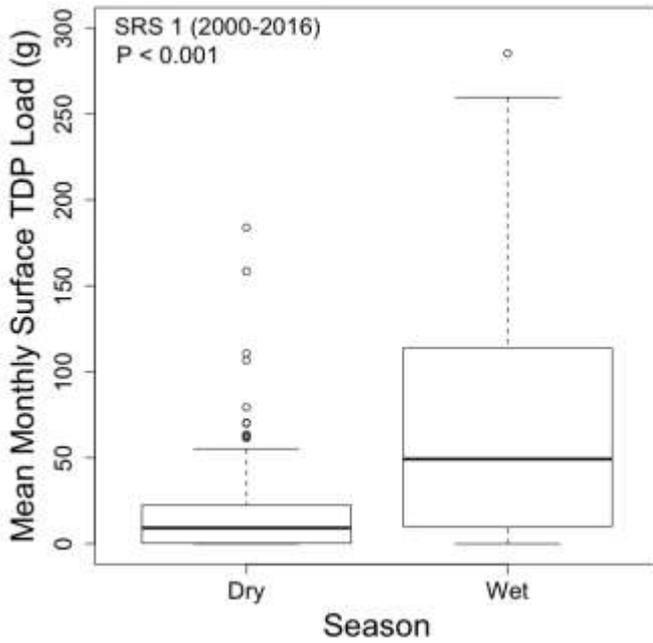


Freshwater P driven by wet-dry seasonality in flow load and drought-induced release.



Subsidy?

Stress?



Marsh



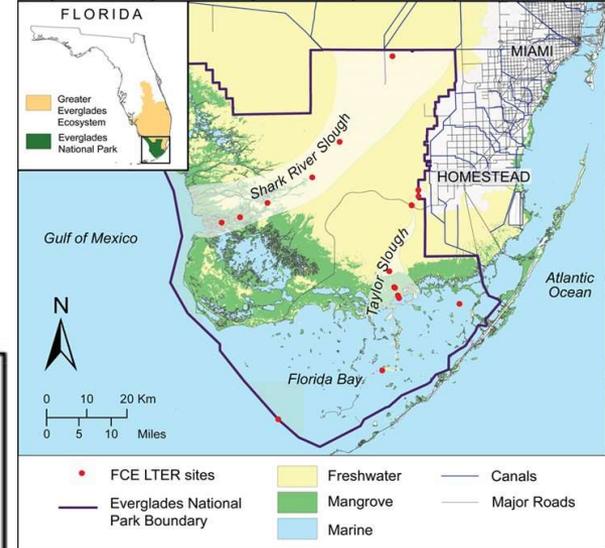
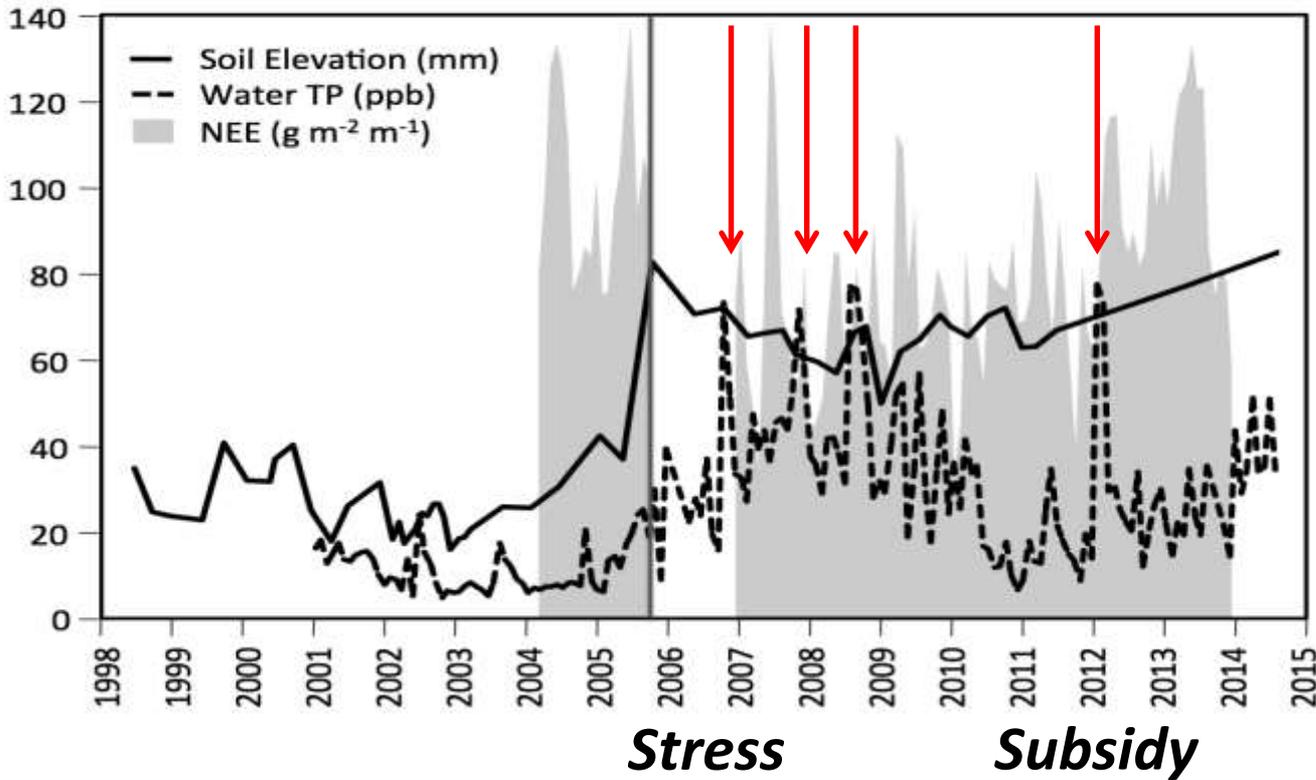
Ecotone



Marine

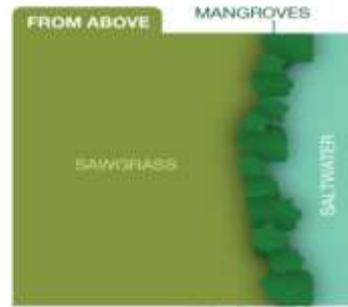
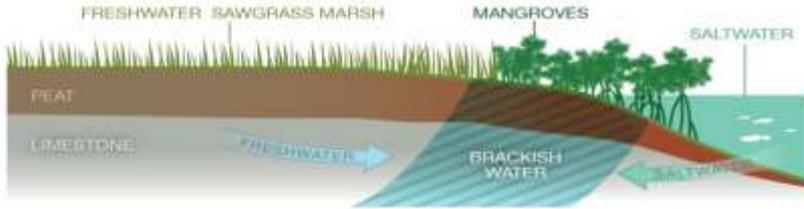
Strong marine forcings (tides, storms, SLR) increase TP and ecosystem resilience.

Hurricane Wilma
October 2005



1 Current

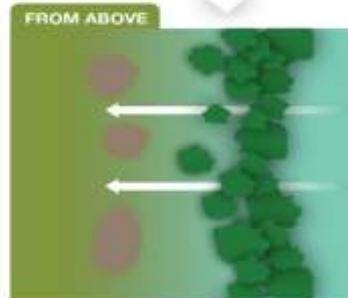
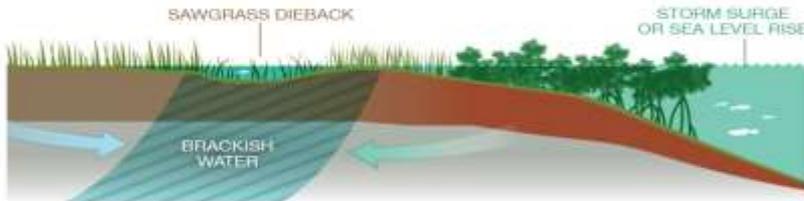
Sawgrass marsh builds peat soil on top of the limestone only in freshwater areas. Mangroves develop peat soil in saline and brackish conditions.



Peat Collapse = Stress

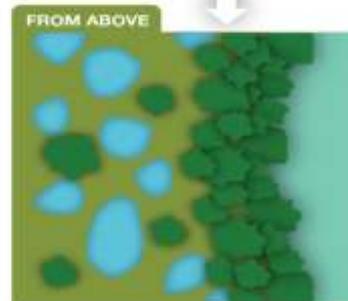
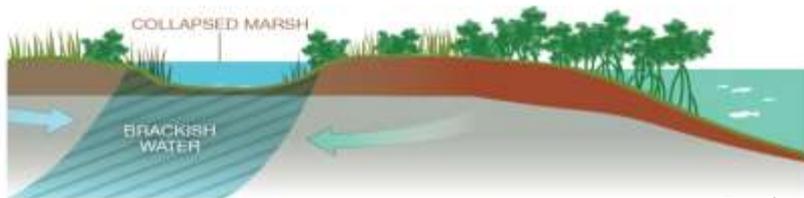
2 Saltwater Intrusion

Intrusion of saltwater causes sawgrass dieback and mangrove expansion. Freshwater peat soil begins to degrade with exposure to saltwater.



3 Peat Collapse

Freshwater peat collapses and the water is too deep for plants to become established. Mangroves established elsewhere help to re-stabilize soil.



Davis and Hernandez 2016 H2H Graphics



Marsh



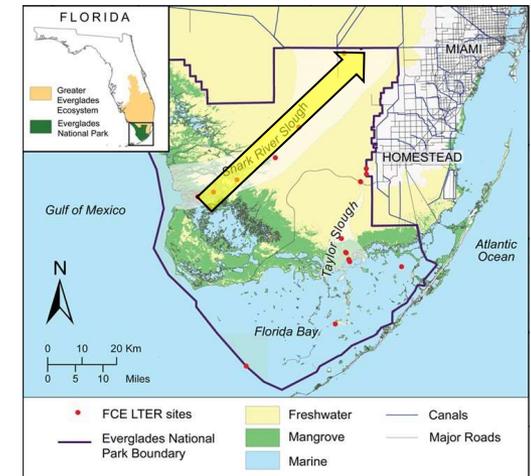
Ecotone



Marine

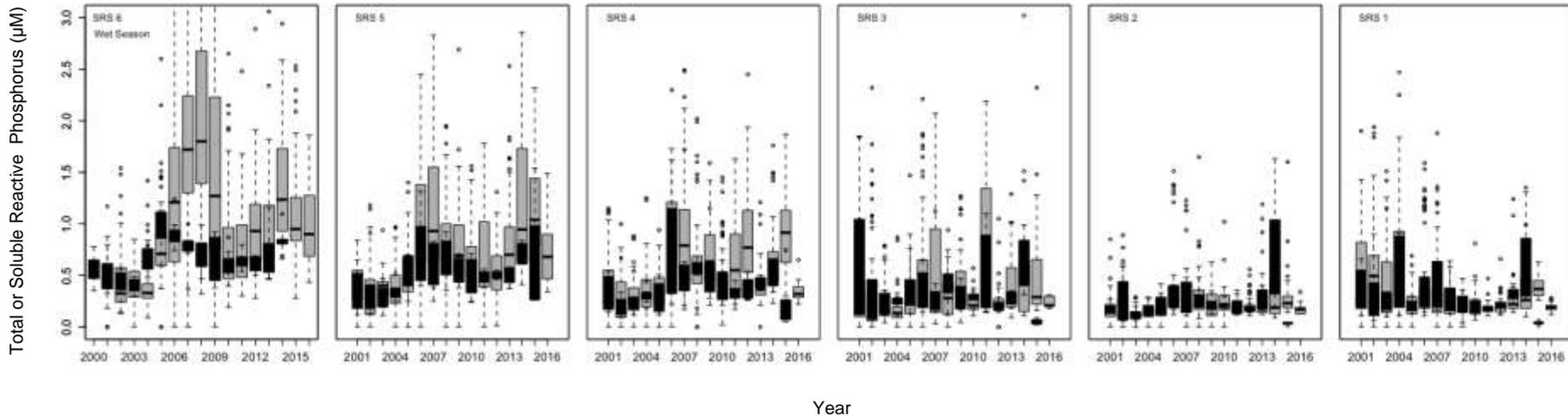
Shark River Slough (wet season):

- Surface brackish **TP** increased by up to 3× above **SRP** from 2005-2016.
- Estuarine P subsidizes marsh



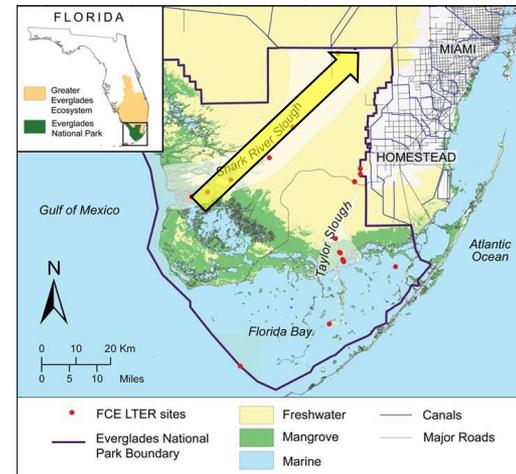
Estuarine

Freshwater



Shark River Slough (dry season):

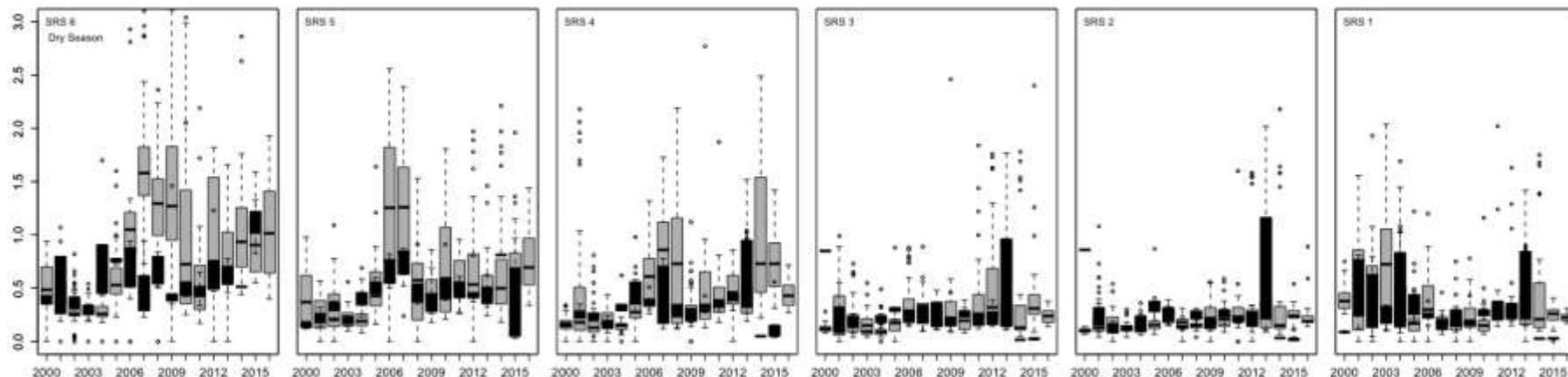
- Surface brackish **TP** increased by up to 2× above **SRP** from 2005-2016.
- Estuarine P subsidizes marsh
- Drought-induced P release in marsh



Estuarine

Freshwater

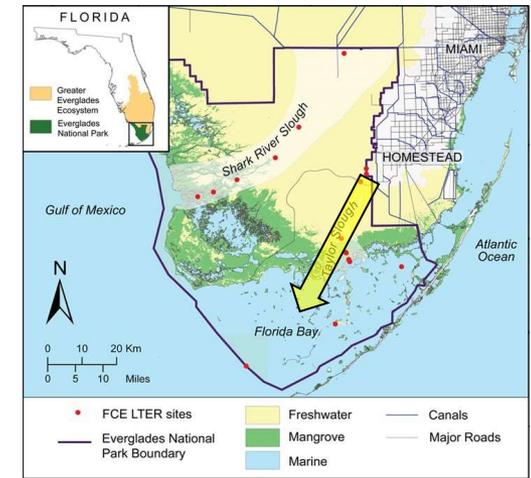
Total or Soluble Reactive Phosphorus (μM)



Year

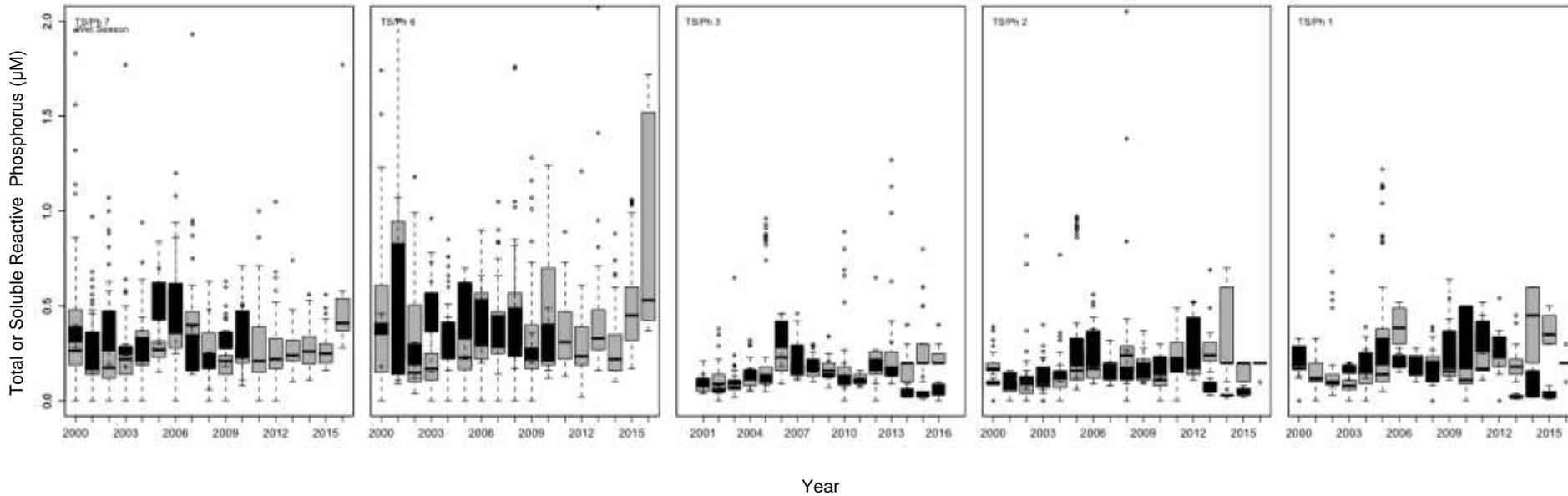
Taylor Slough (wet season):

- Surface **TP** and **SRP** low, similar, and variability brackish > freshwater



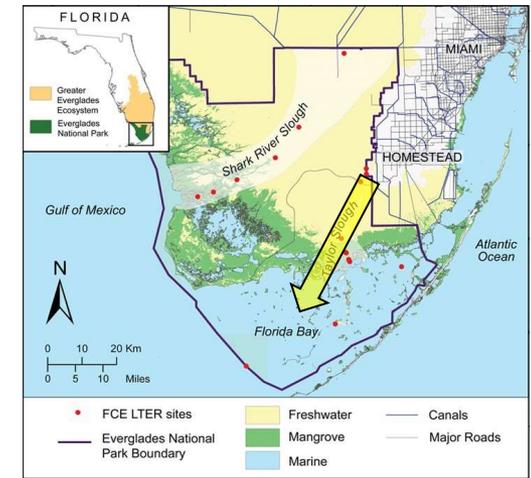
Estuarine

Freshwater



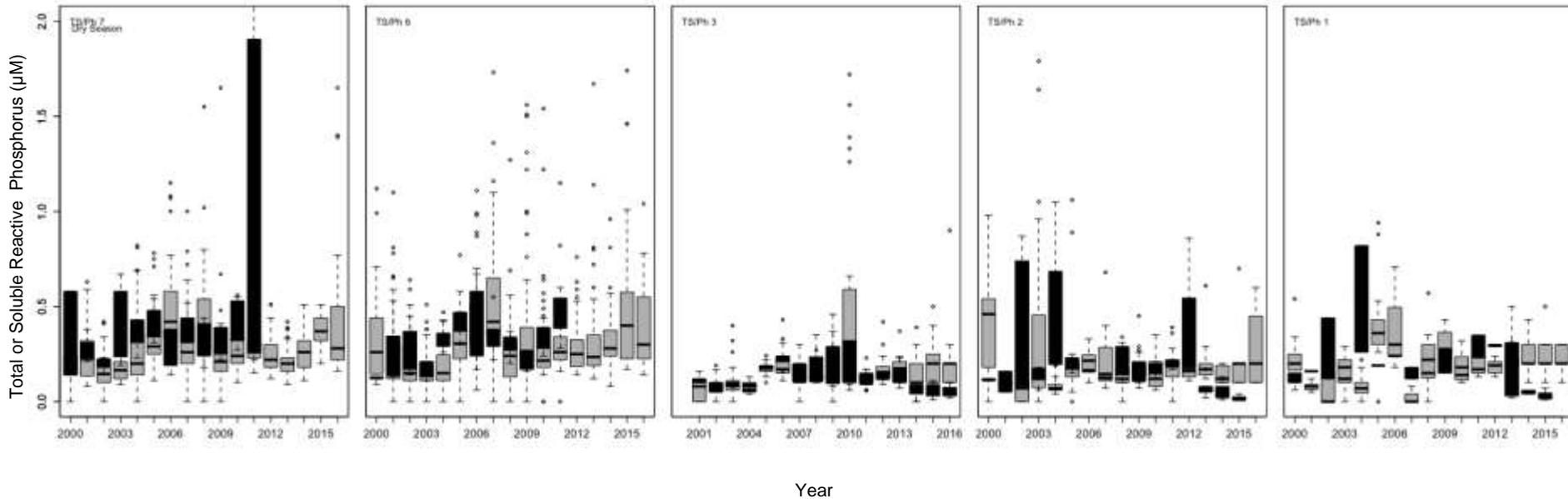
Taylor Slough (dry season):

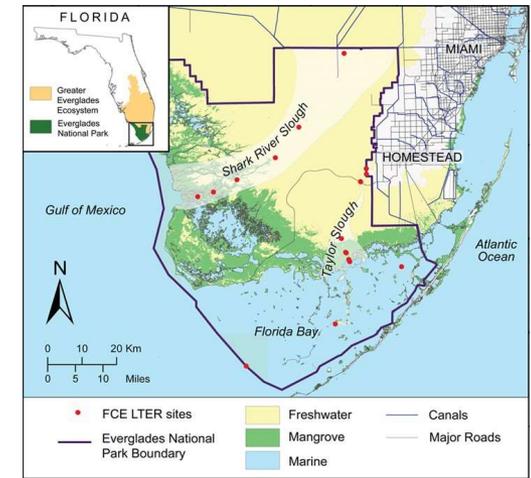
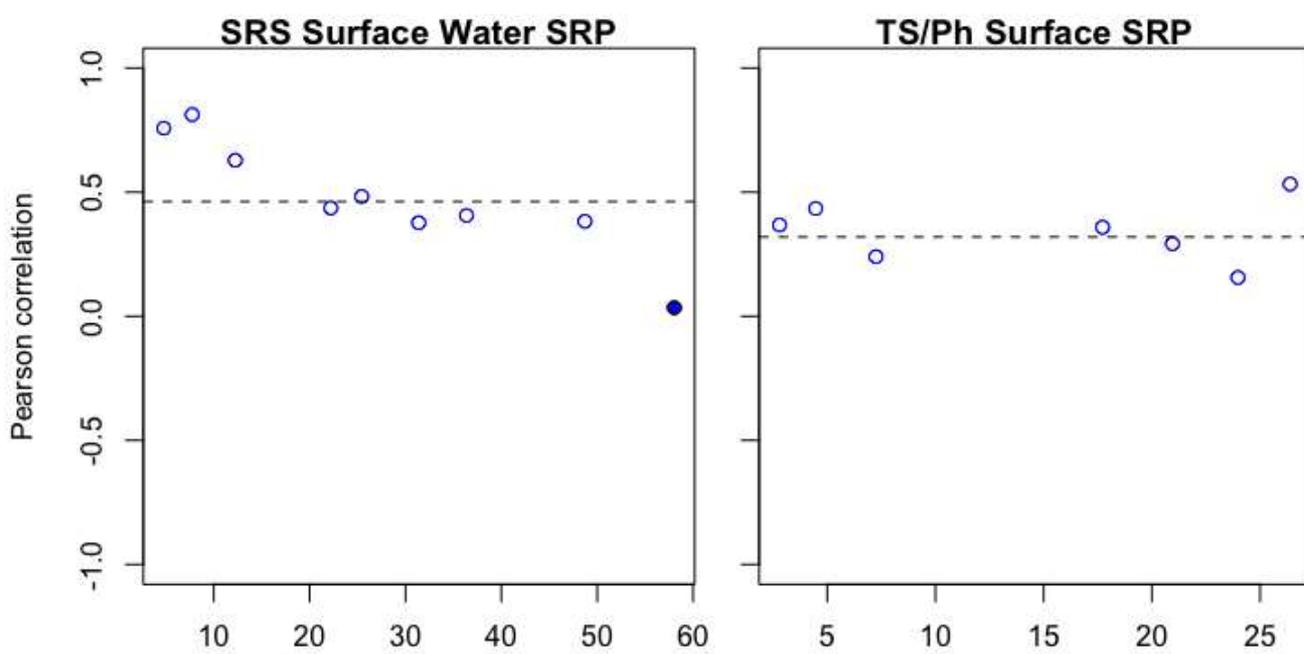
- Surface **TP** and **SRP** low, similar, and variability brackish > freshwater
- Groundwater upwelling and drought-induced P release



Estuarine

Freshwater

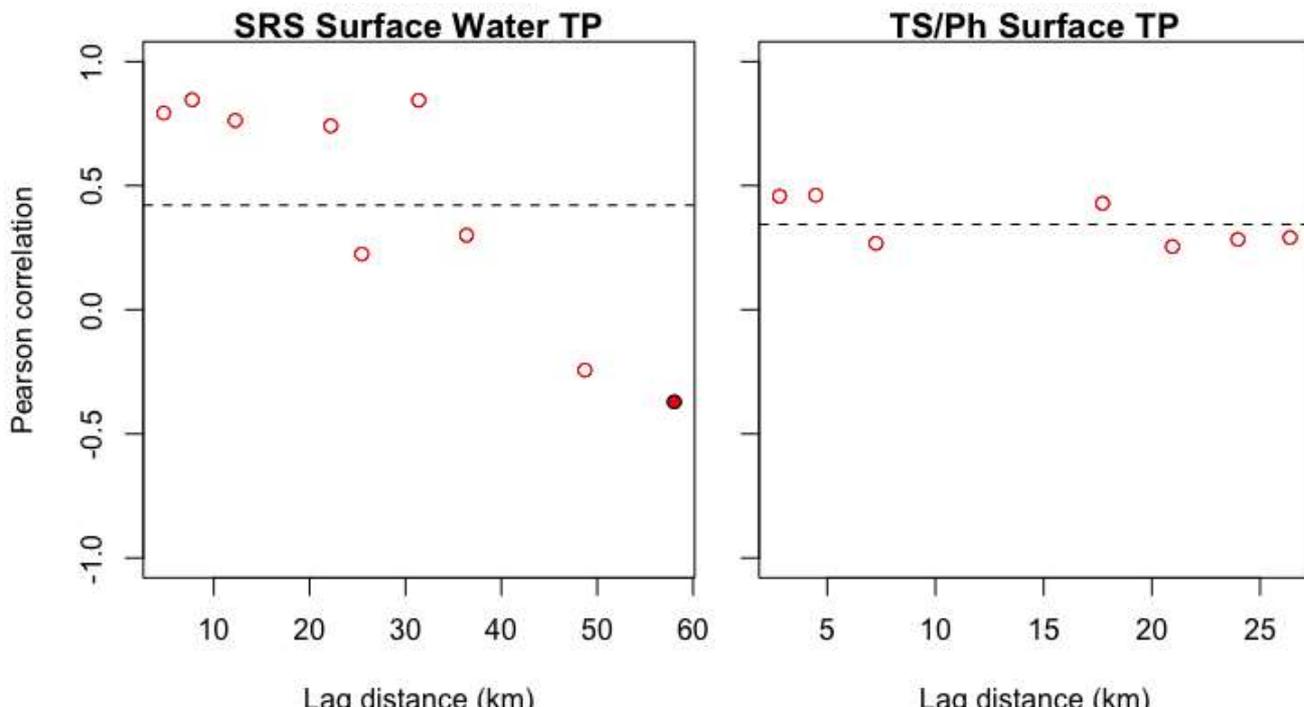


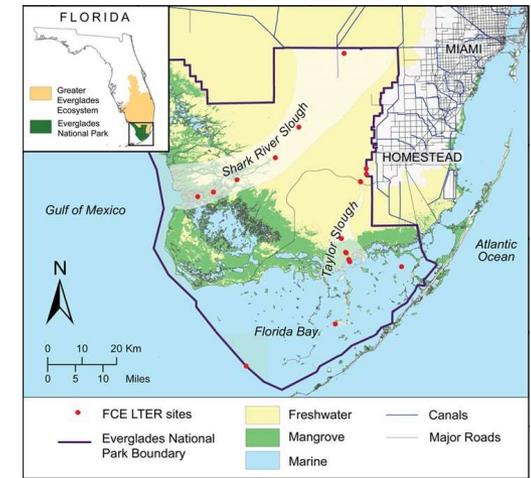
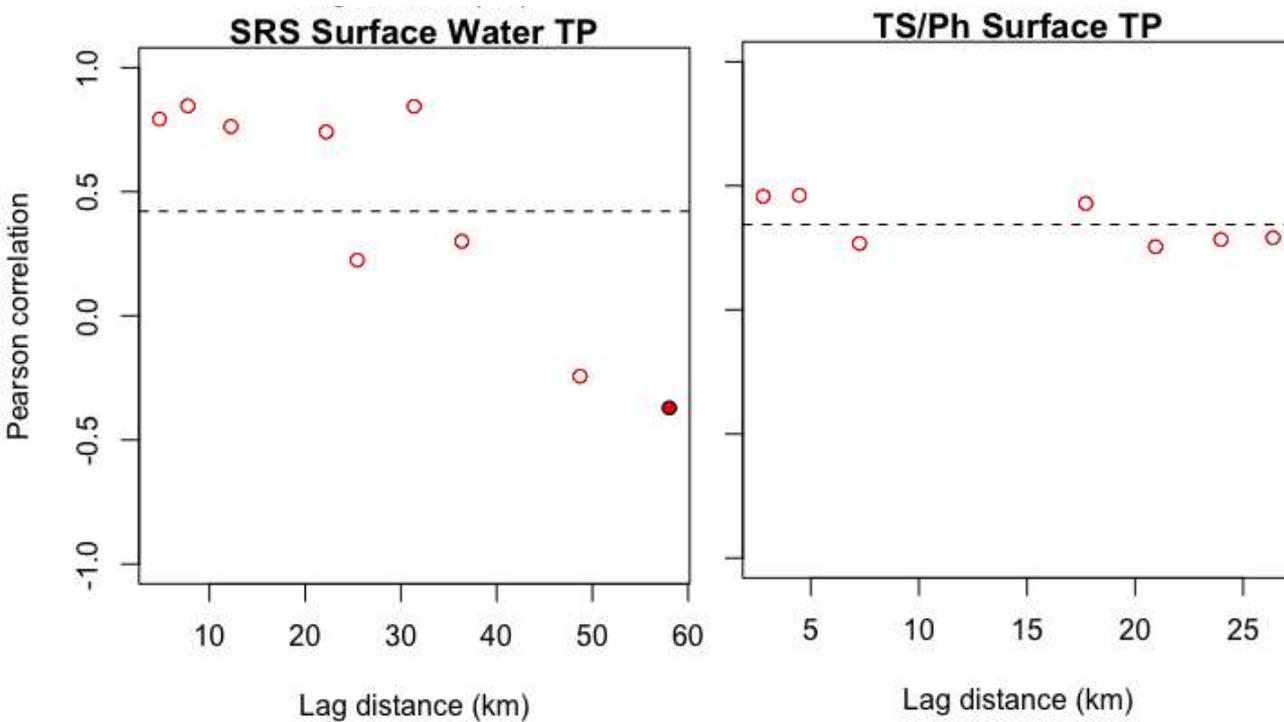
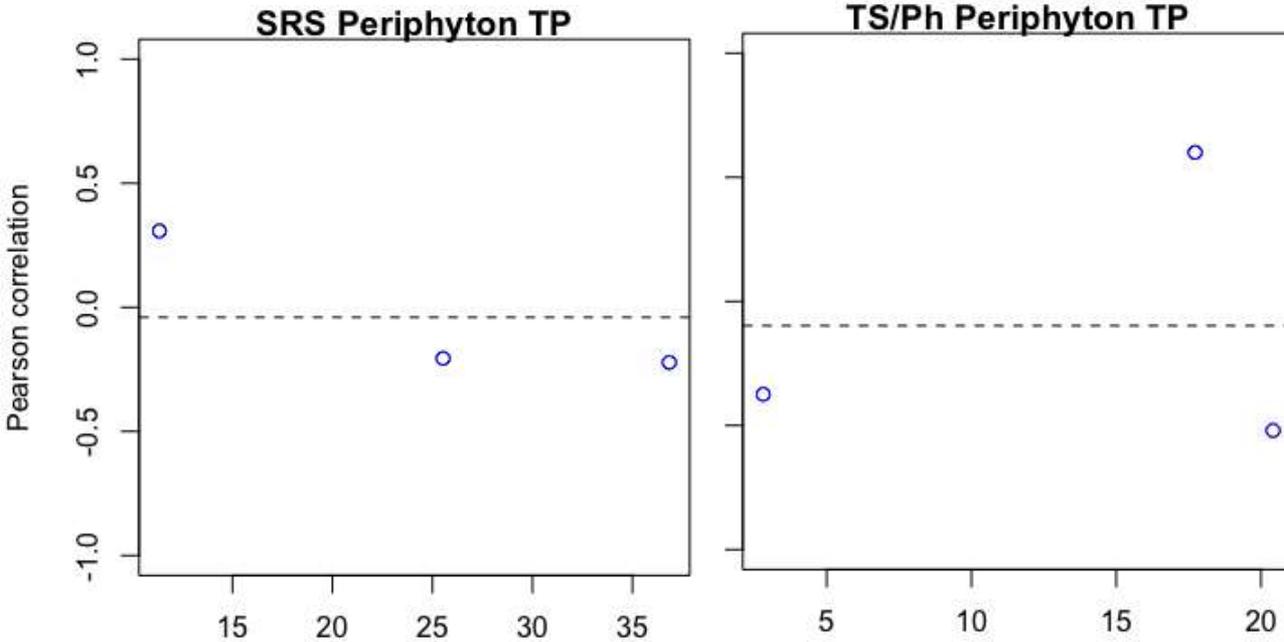


Spatial synchrony:

Surface SRP and
Surface TP

SRS asynchronous
TS/Ph synchronous

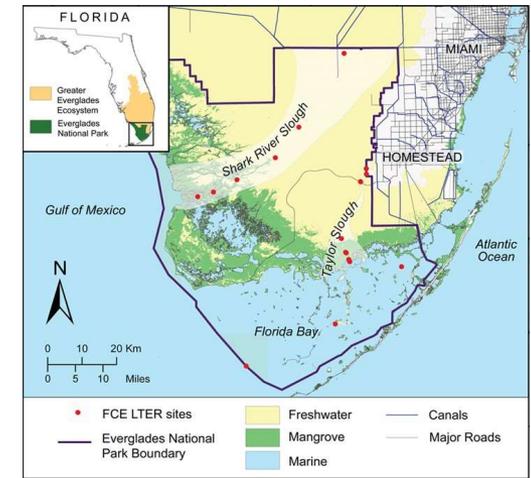
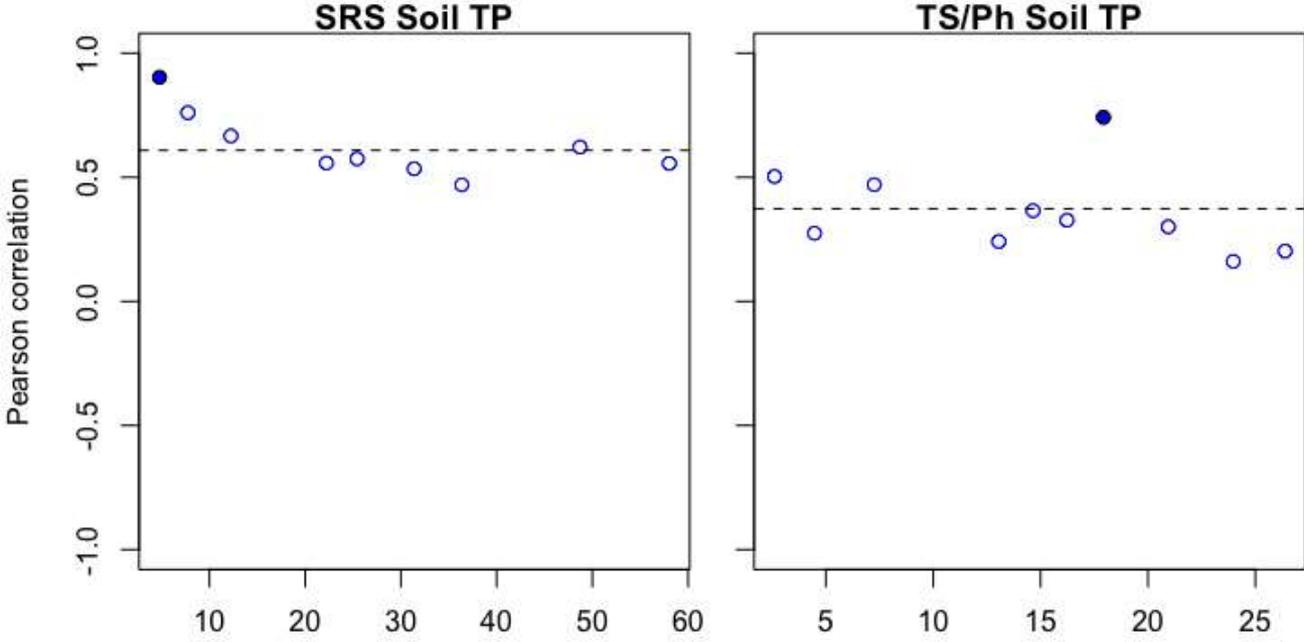




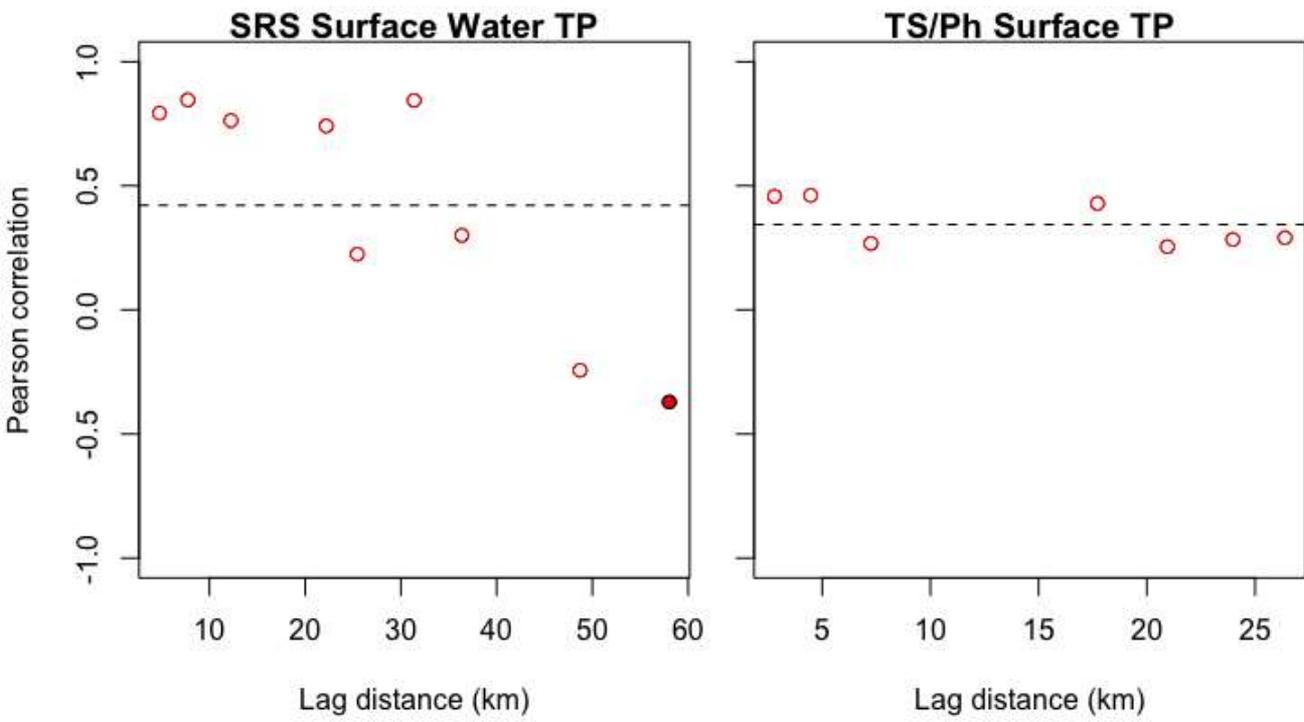
Spatial synchrony:

Periphyton TP and **Surface TP**

SRS and TS/Ph asynchronous

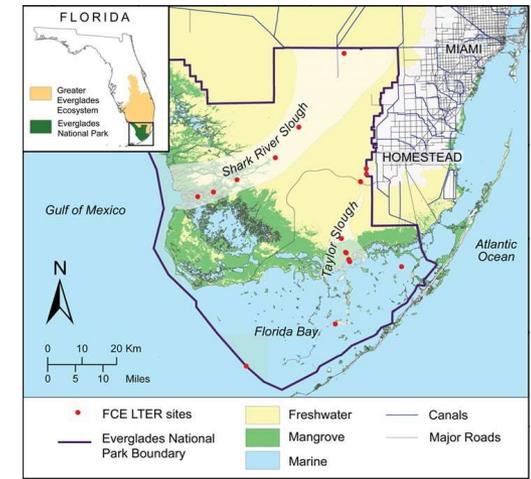
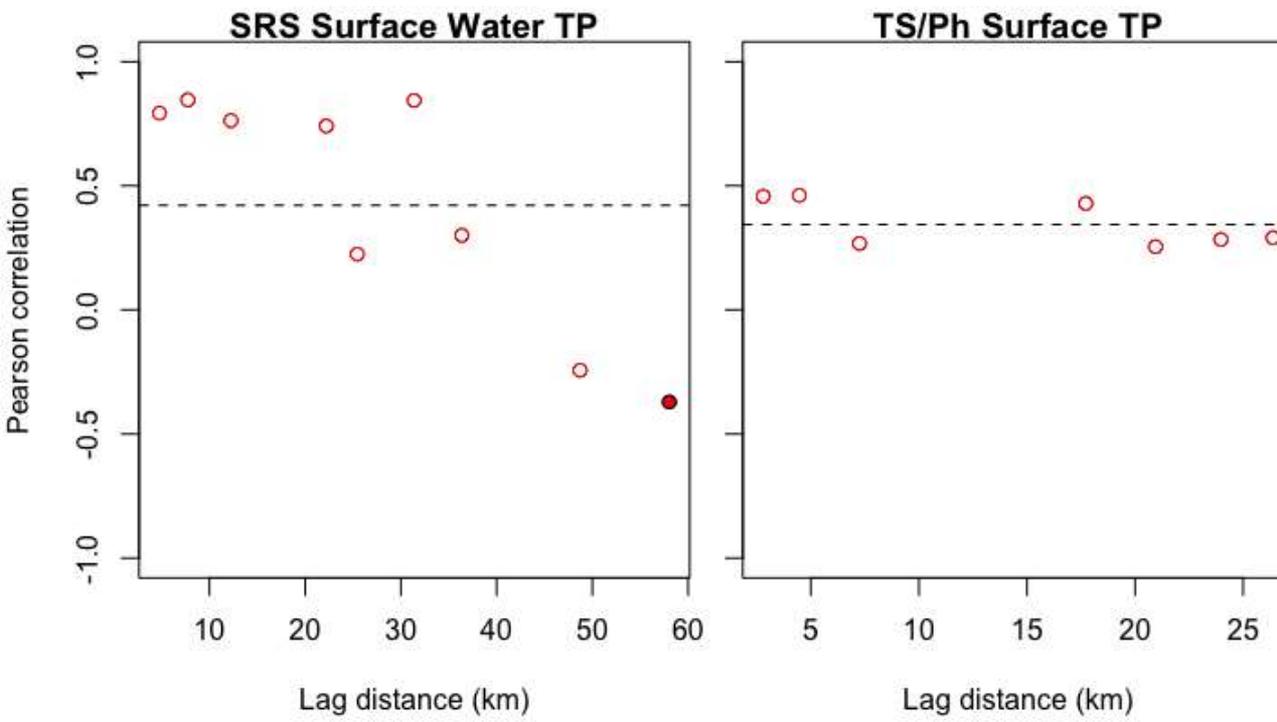
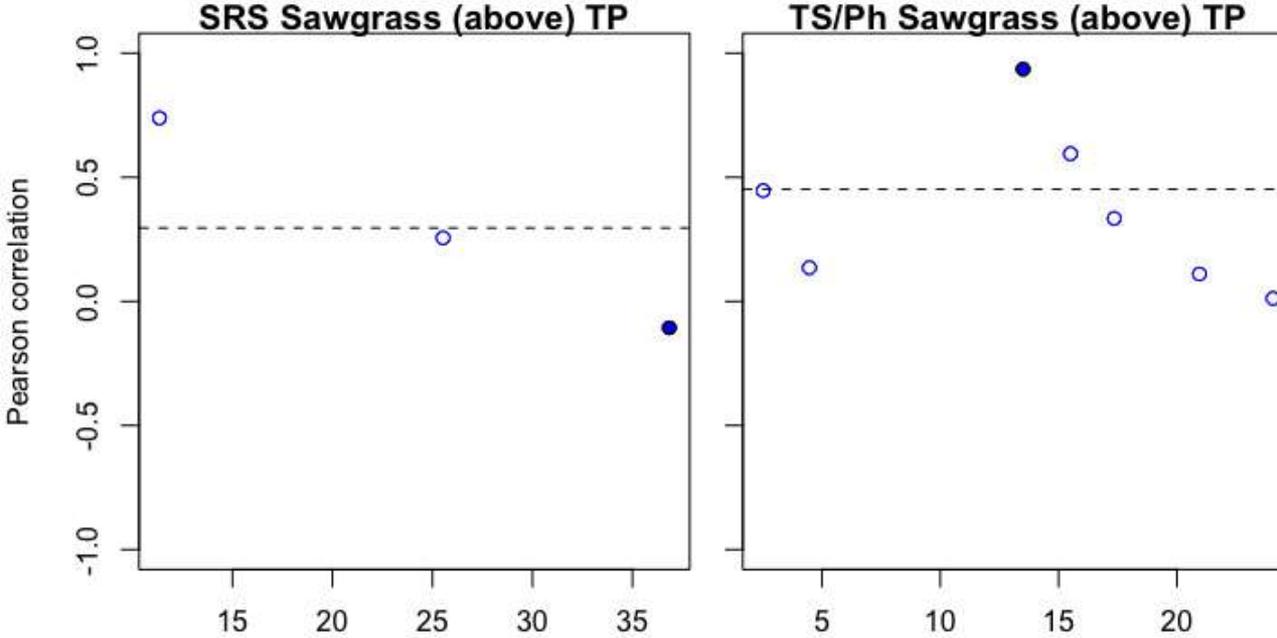


Spatial synchrony:



Soil TP and **Surface TP**

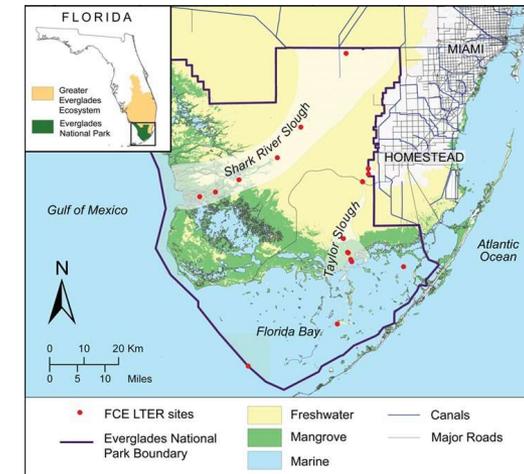
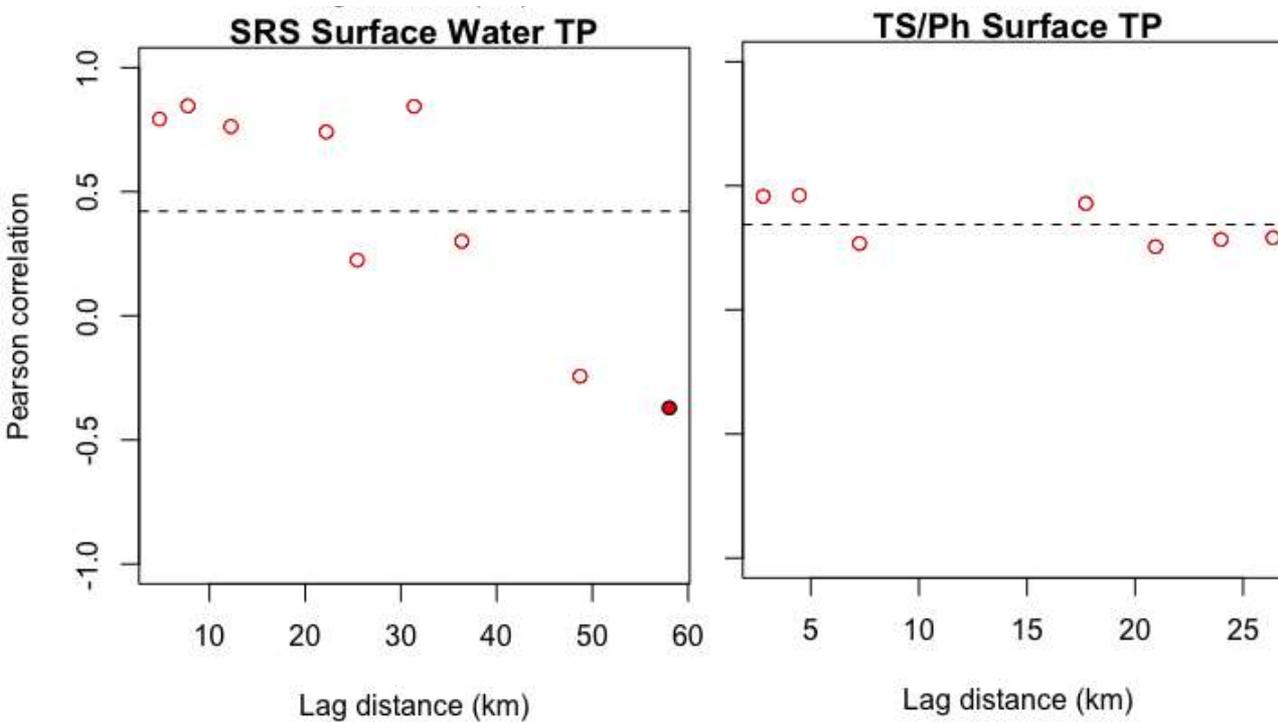
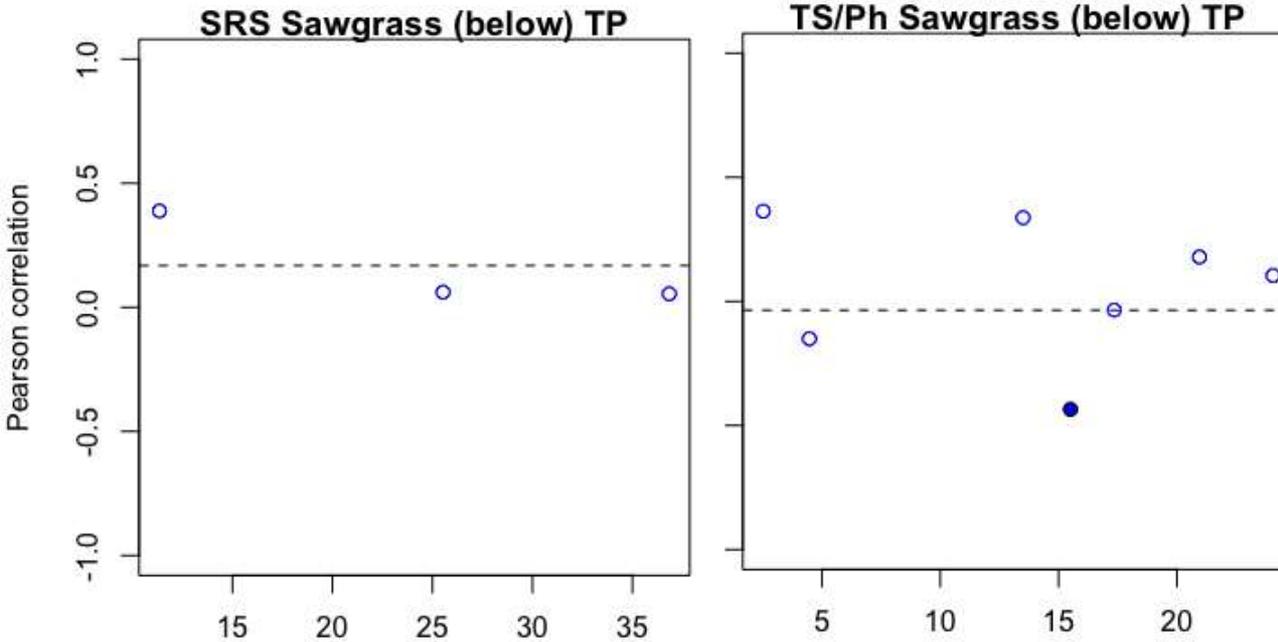
SRS asynchronous
TS/Ph asynchronous



Spatial synchrony:

Sawgrass (above) TP and **Surface TP**

SRS and TS/Ph asynchronous

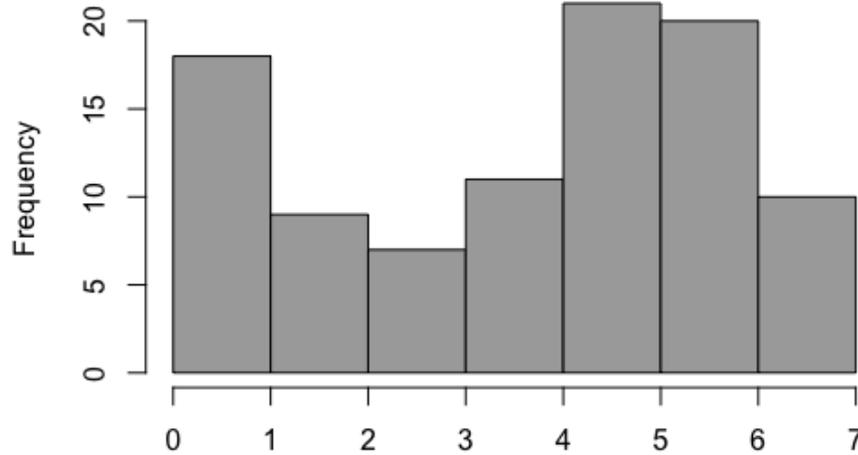


Spatial synchrony:

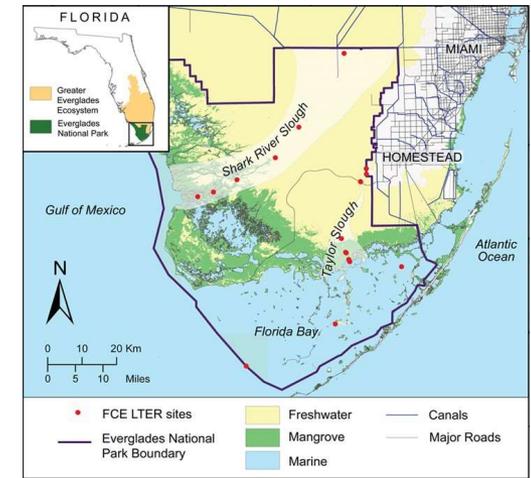
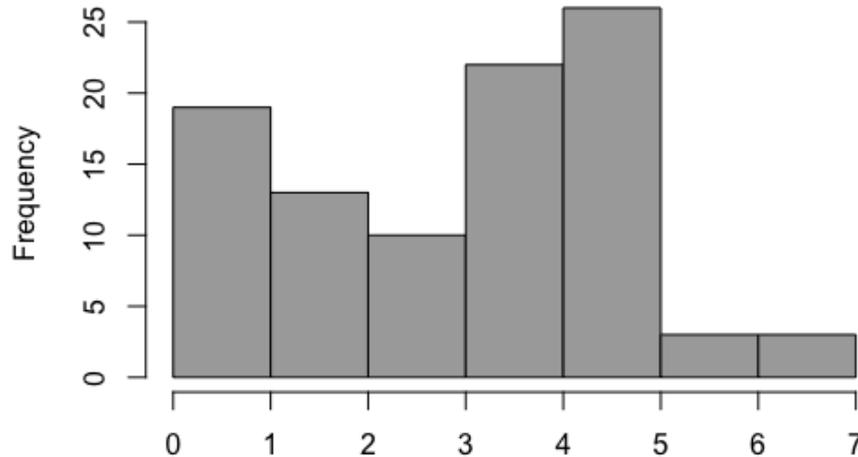
Sawgrass (below) TP and **Surface TP**

SRS and TS/Ph asynchronous

SRS TP Phase Differences



TS/Ph TP Phase Differences

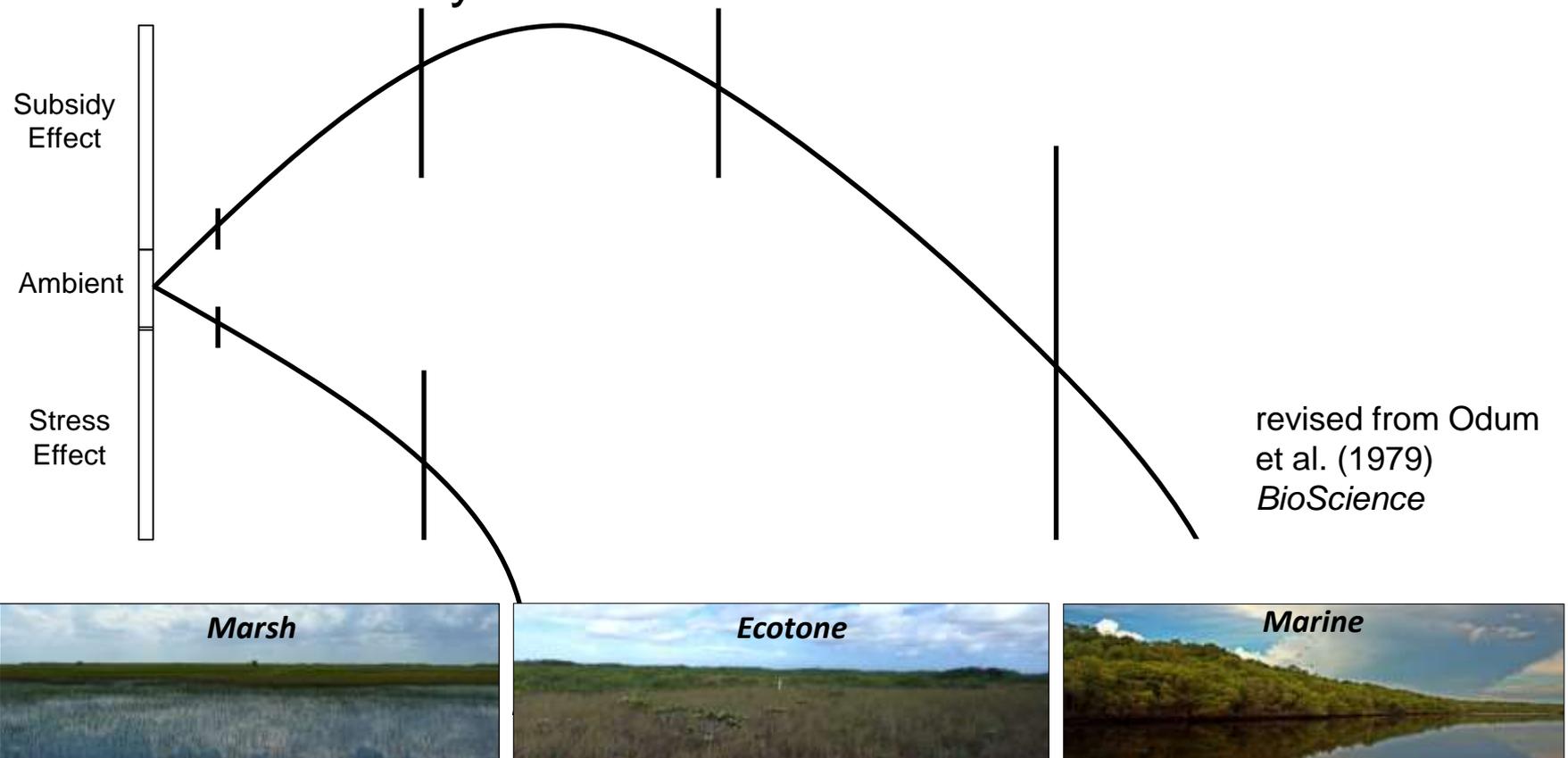


Temporal synchrony:
Surface TP and **Plant-Soil TP** for SRS and TS/Ph are not *phase-locked* (max. – min. phase)

Heterogeneity in temporal variance of TP indicates plant-soil TP storage

Balance of **fresh** and **marine** water on biogeochemistry

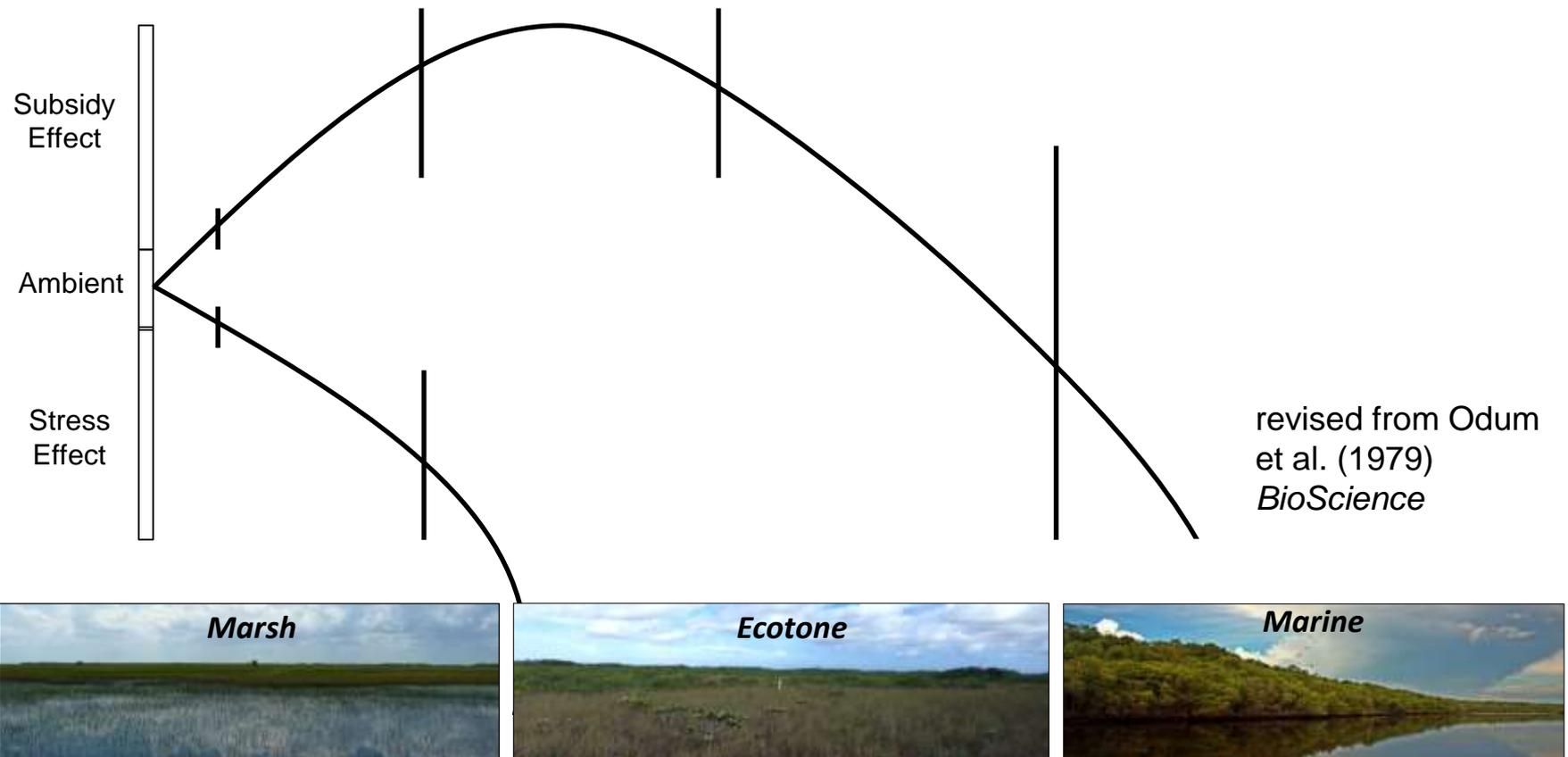
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Balance of **fresh** and **marine** water on biogeochemistry

1) What are the spatiotemporal scales of P (a)synchrony?

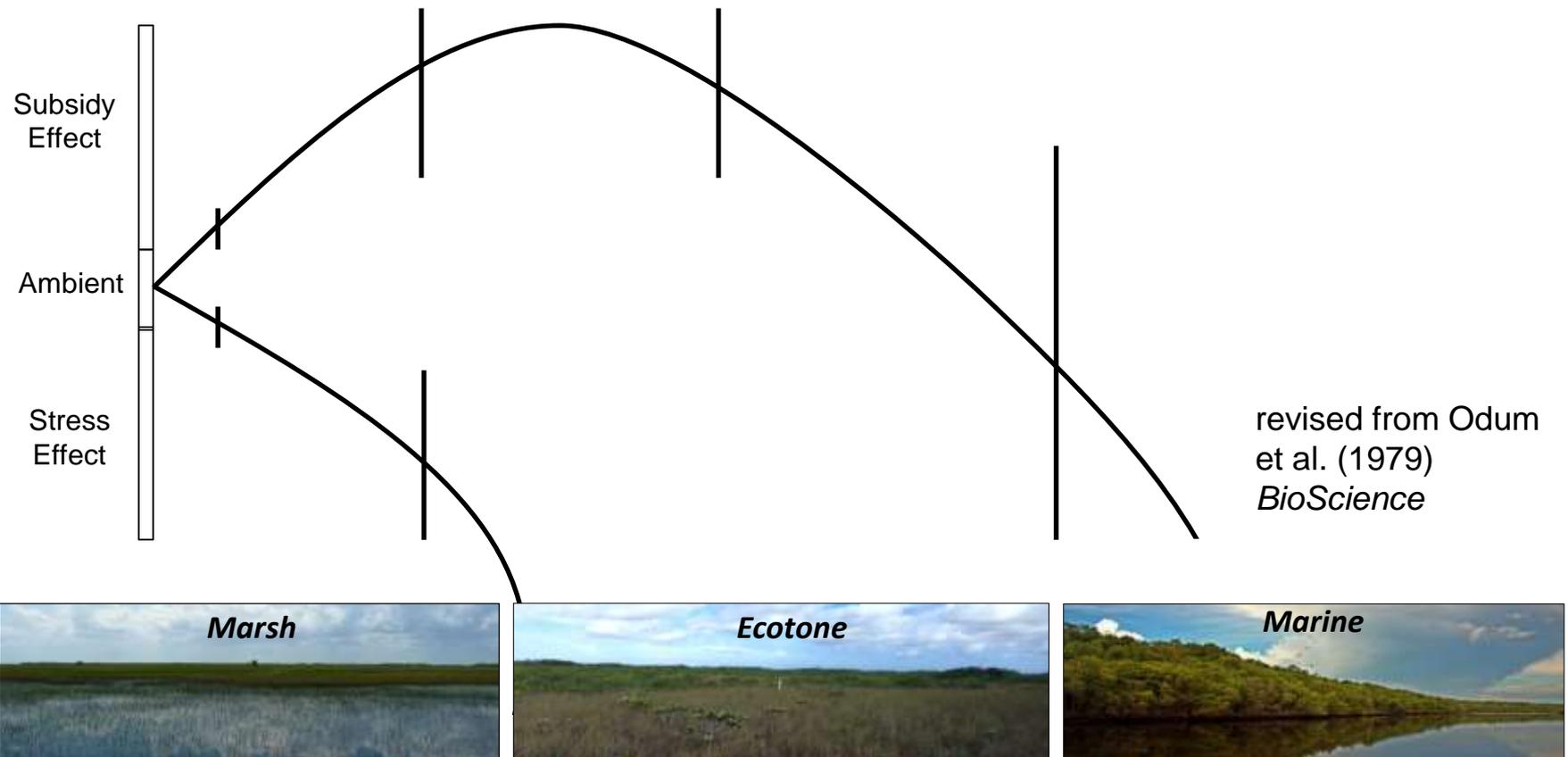
- SRS: synchrony estuarine-freshwater ecotone
- TS: asynchrony ecotone vs. estuary & marsh



Balance of **fresh** and **marine** water on biogeochemistry

2) What are the drivers of P (a)synchrony?

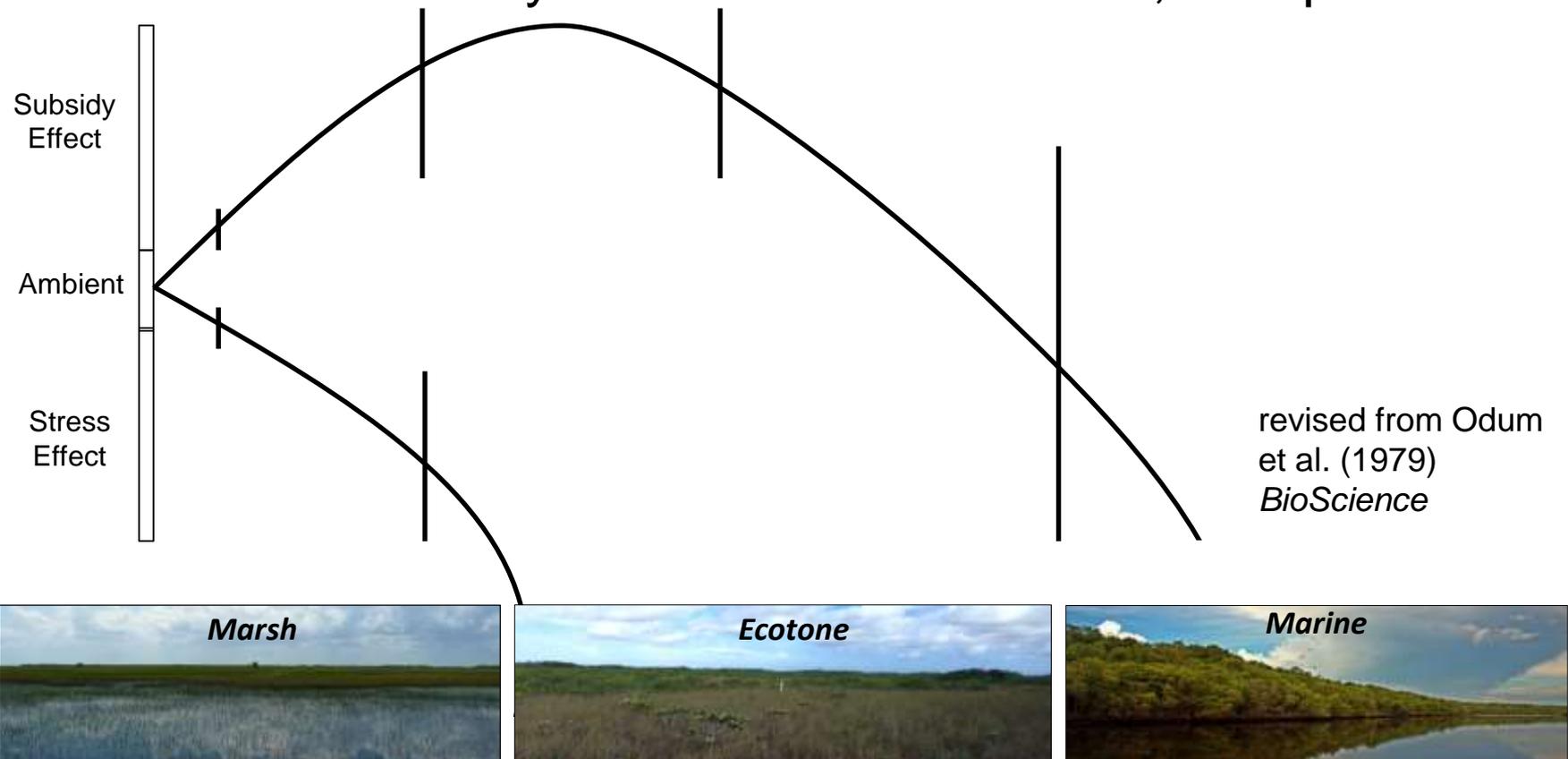
- Marine transgression and drought in freshwater marshes
- Freshwater restoration?



Balance of fresh and marine water on biogeochemistry

3) How does P (a)synchrony vary within/among across ecosystems due to environmental fluctuations (Moran effect) and distance decay?

- Plant-soil TP storage drives differences in phases
- Distance decay of surface TP $SRS > TS$, less plant-soil



Acknowledgements

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