

Bio-physical Modeling of a Free-flowing Everglades



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Outline of the talk

1. A bio-physically based model for changing landscapes
2. Validation using system-wide data
3. Relation to landscape functionality
4. How can bio-physically based model be used for forecasting and decision making?
 - High flow experimental application (DPM) in central Everglades
 - Design of Blue Shanty flow-way in WCA-3B?

Upscaled Bio-physically based Rate Law

$$q = H_{eff}^{5/3} S^{1/2}$$

$$H_{eff} = \frac{1}{N^{3/5}} h$$

$$q = \frac{1}{N} h^{5/3} S^{1/2}$$

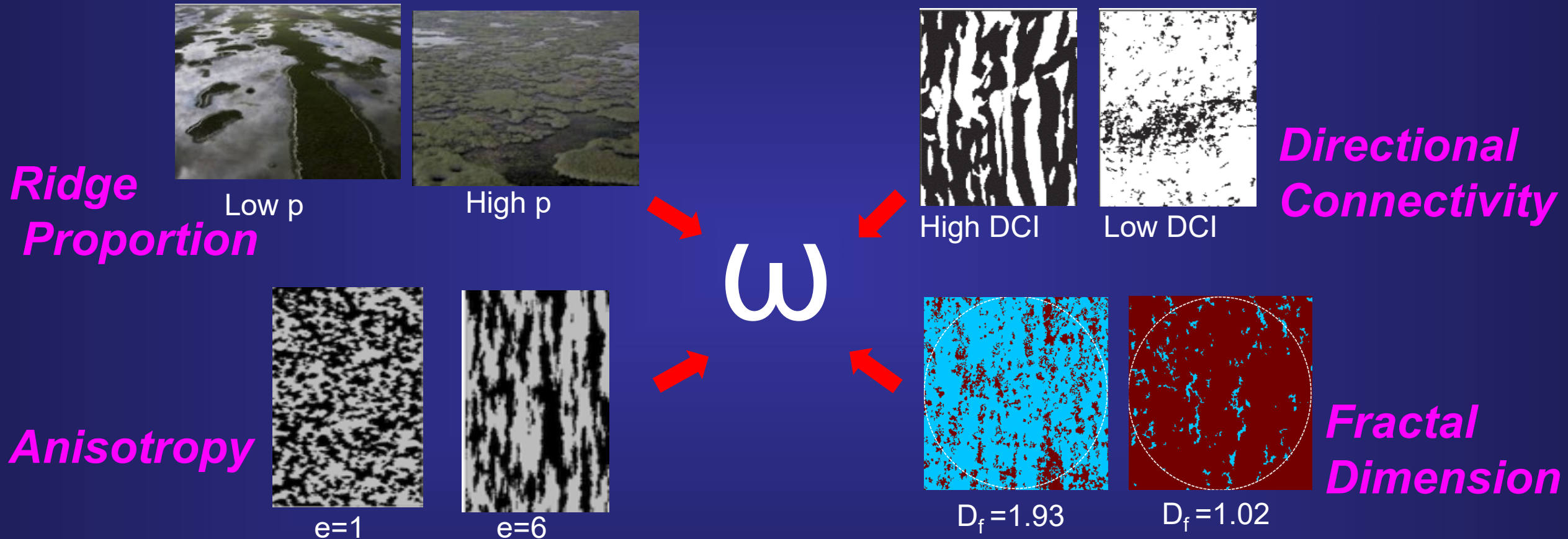
$$H_{eff} = \left[p \left(K_R (h - z_p) \right)^\omega + (1 - p) (K_S h)^\omega \right]^{1/\omega}$$

K : conductivity (i.e., $K = N^{-3/5}$),
 h : water depth in slough [L],
 S : surface water slope [],

N : Manning roughness [T L^{1/3}],
 p : ridge proportion [],
 z_p : ridge elevation [L],
 ω : landscape averaging exponent [],

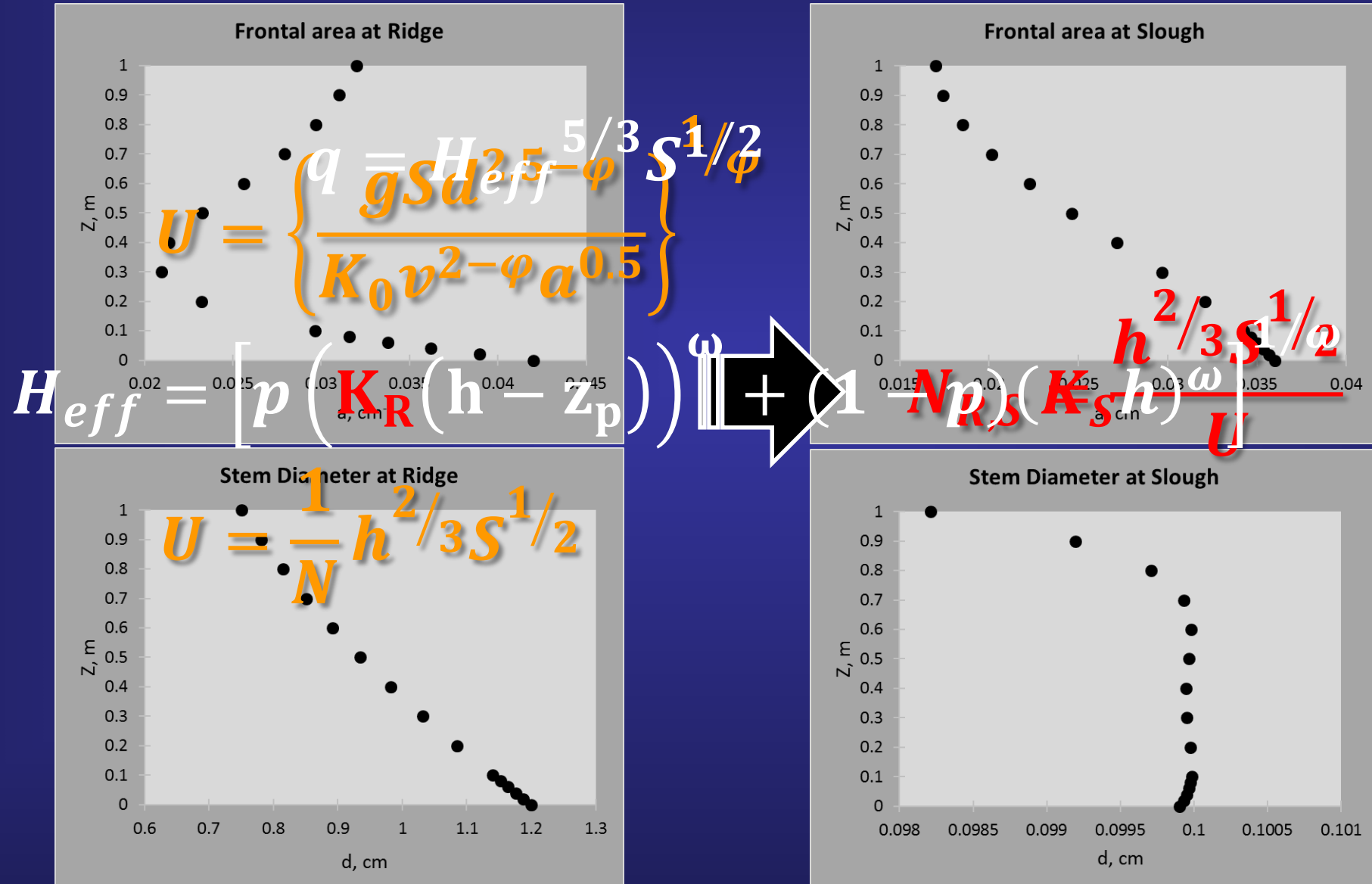
(Larsen et al., 2017)

Key Landscape Metrics that Influence Flow Response



$$\omega = f(p, DCI, e, fd)$$

Model Roughness based on Vegetation Structure



How does Bio-physically based Model Compare?

Bio-physical Rate Law

$$q = H_{eff}^{5/3} S^{1/2}$$

$$H_{eff} = \left[p \left(K_R (h - z_p) \right)^\omega + (1 - p) (K_S h)^\omega \right]^{1/\omega}$$

Empirical Manning Rate Law

$$q = \frac{1}{n} h^{5/3} S^{1/2}$$

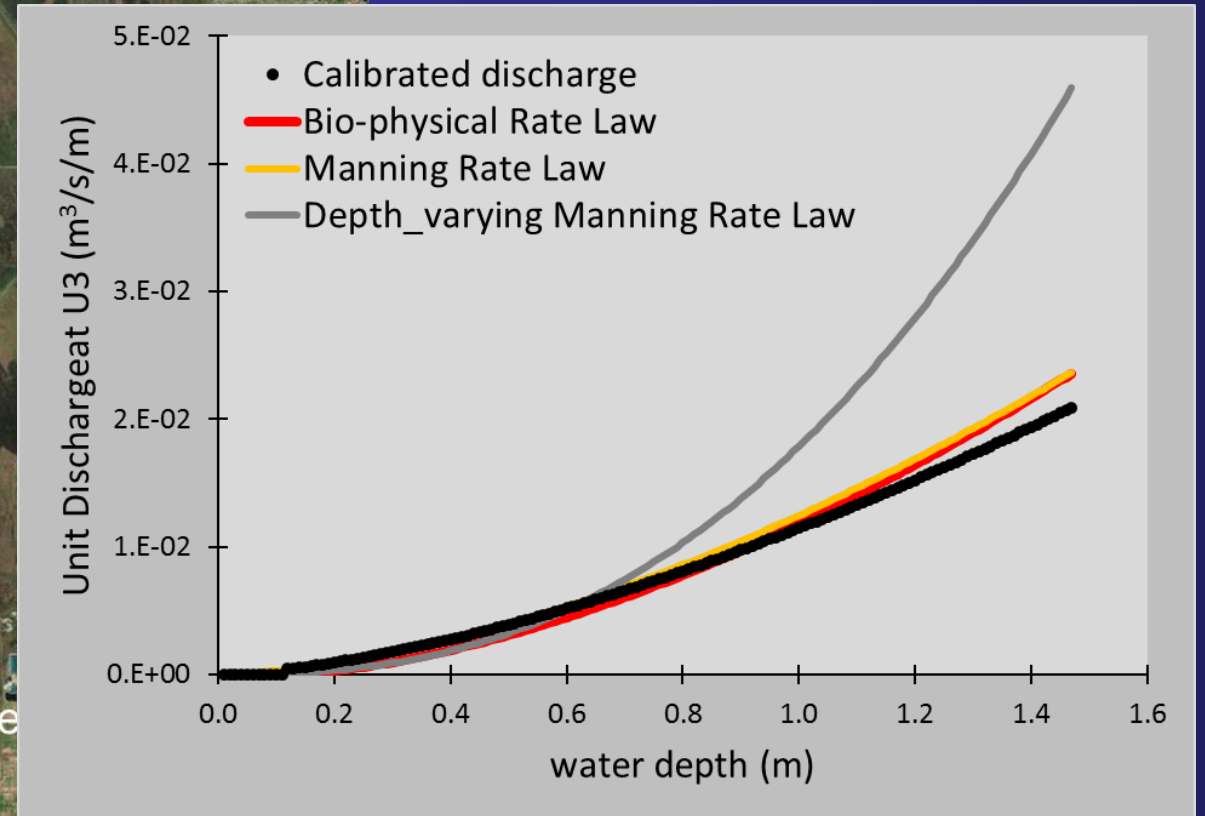
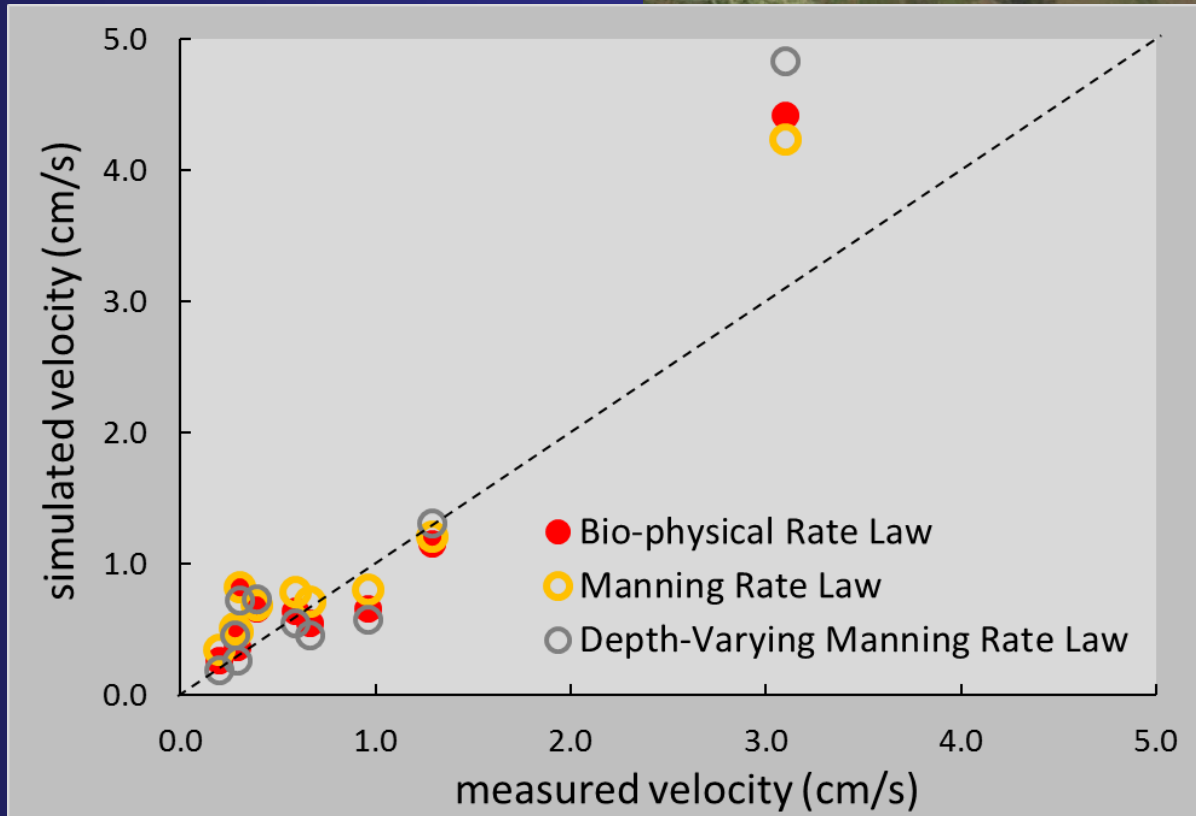
Empirical Depth-Varying Manning Rate Law (SFWMM, RSM)

$$q = \frac{1}{A(POND^b)} h^{5/3} S^{1/2}$$

Bio-physical Model Validated at Key Research Sites

measured velocities at
WCA-3A, 3B, and ENP

calibrated discharges at WCA-2A



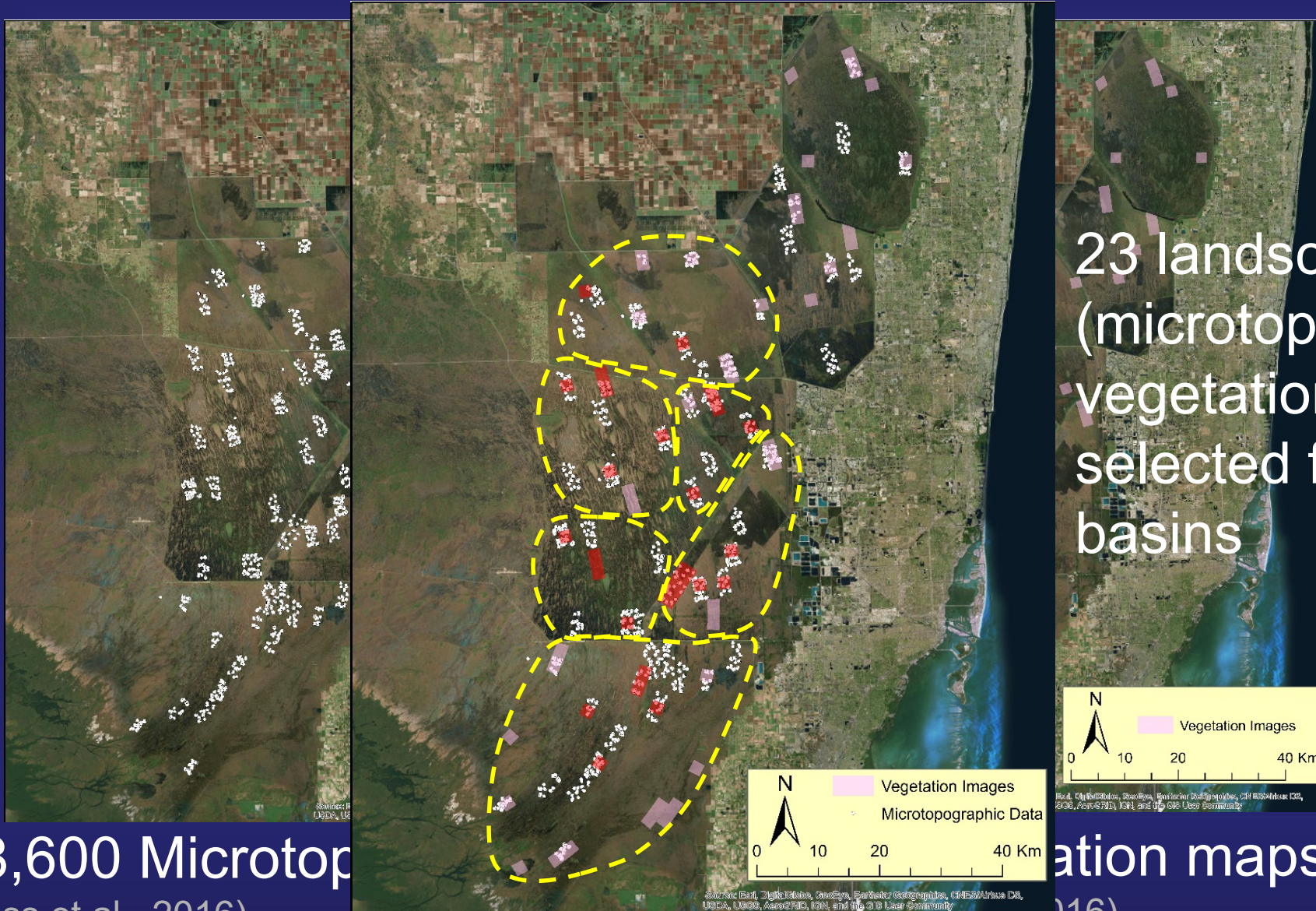
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- High-functioning ridge and slough supports productive food web and dispersal pathways in sloughs and refuge habitat in ridges
- Requires “bimodal” topography, e.g. low areas for sloughs and high areas for sawgrass ridges
- Also needs “right” degree of slough connectivity that slows water-level recession and concentrates prey during critical nesting period

Model informed by System-wide RECOVER Data

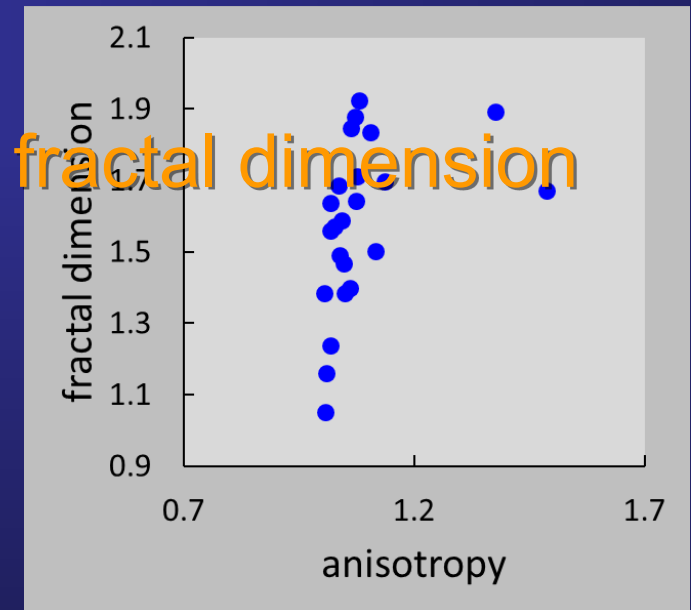
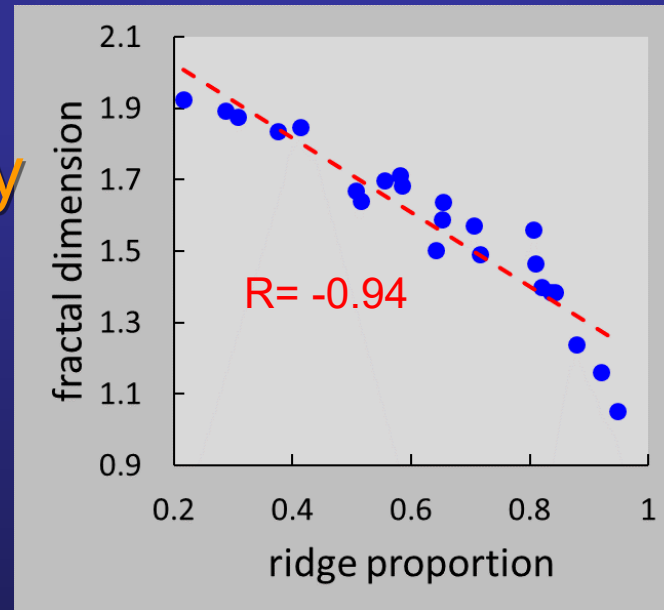
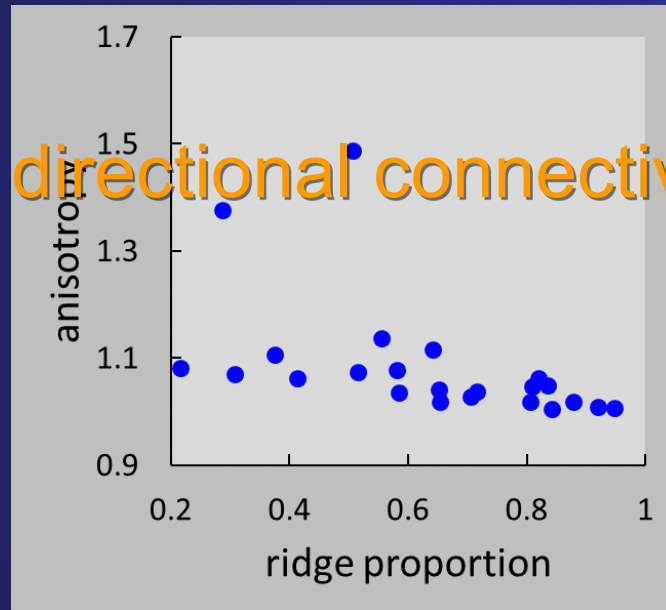
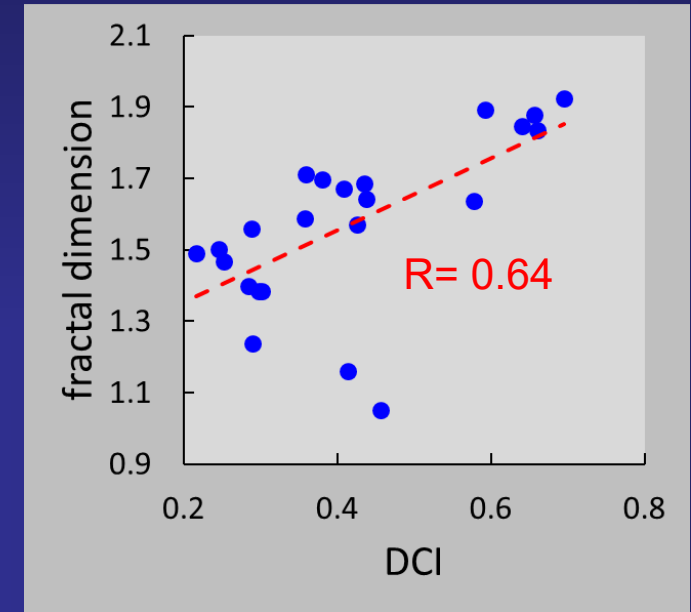
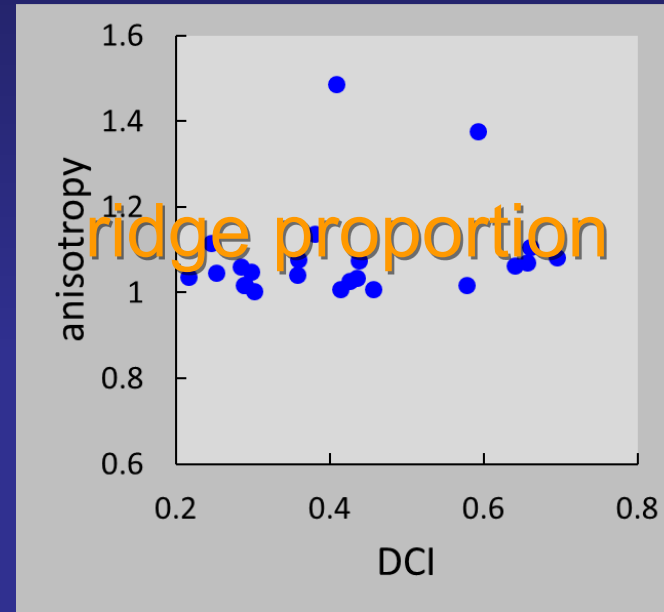
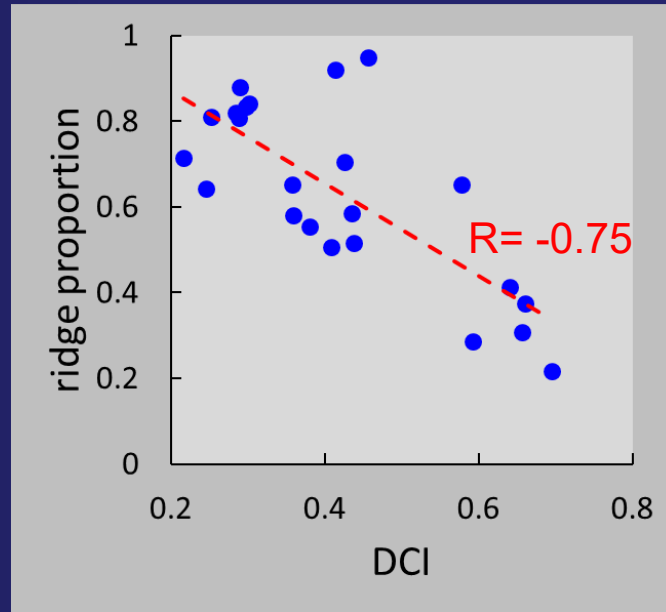


23 landscapes
(microtopography and
vegetation data & map)
selected for 6 sub-
basins

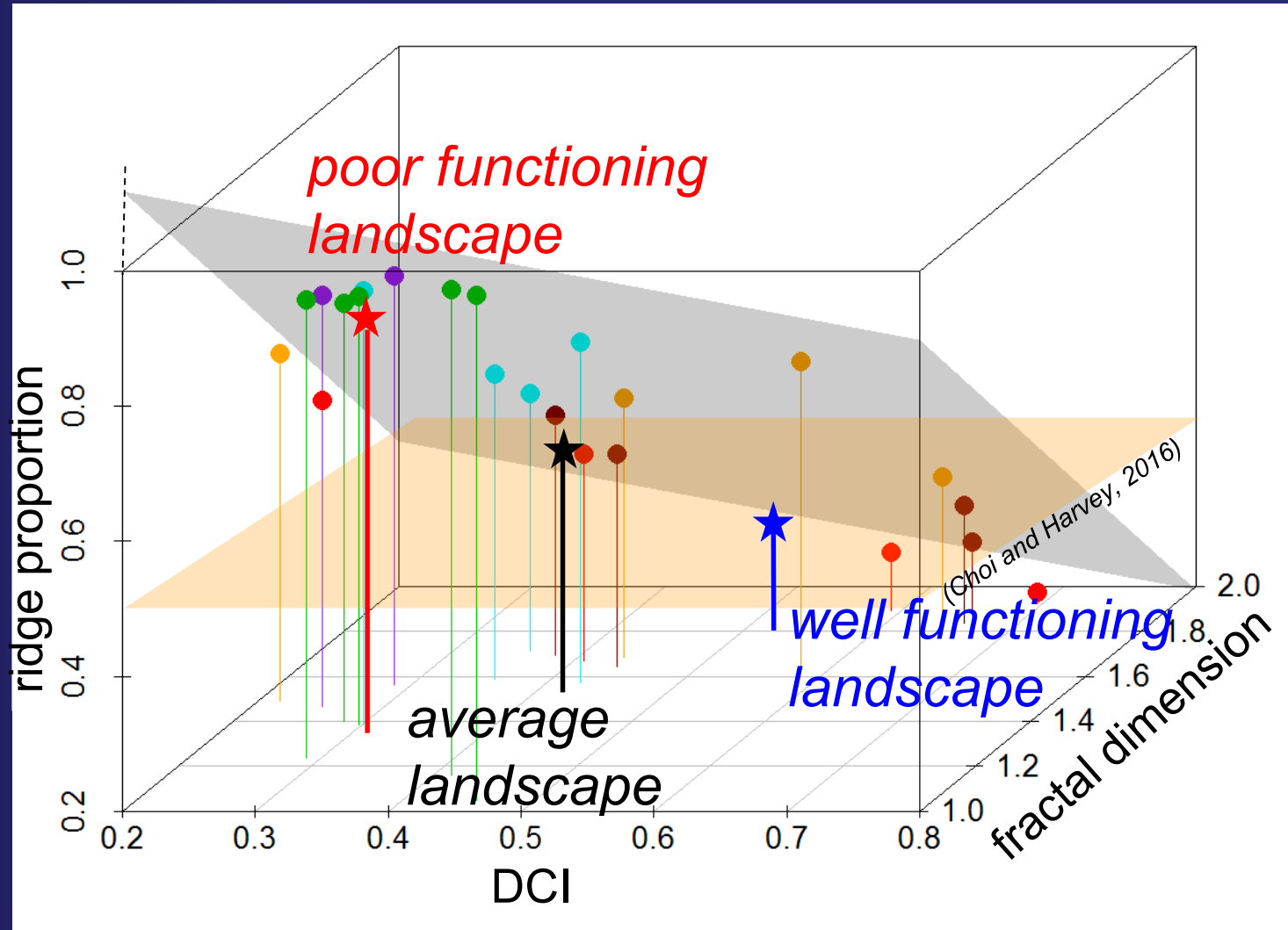
~8,600 Microtop
(Ross et al., 2016)

ation maps
(Ross et al., 2016)

Key Bio-physical Metrics from 23 RECOVER sites

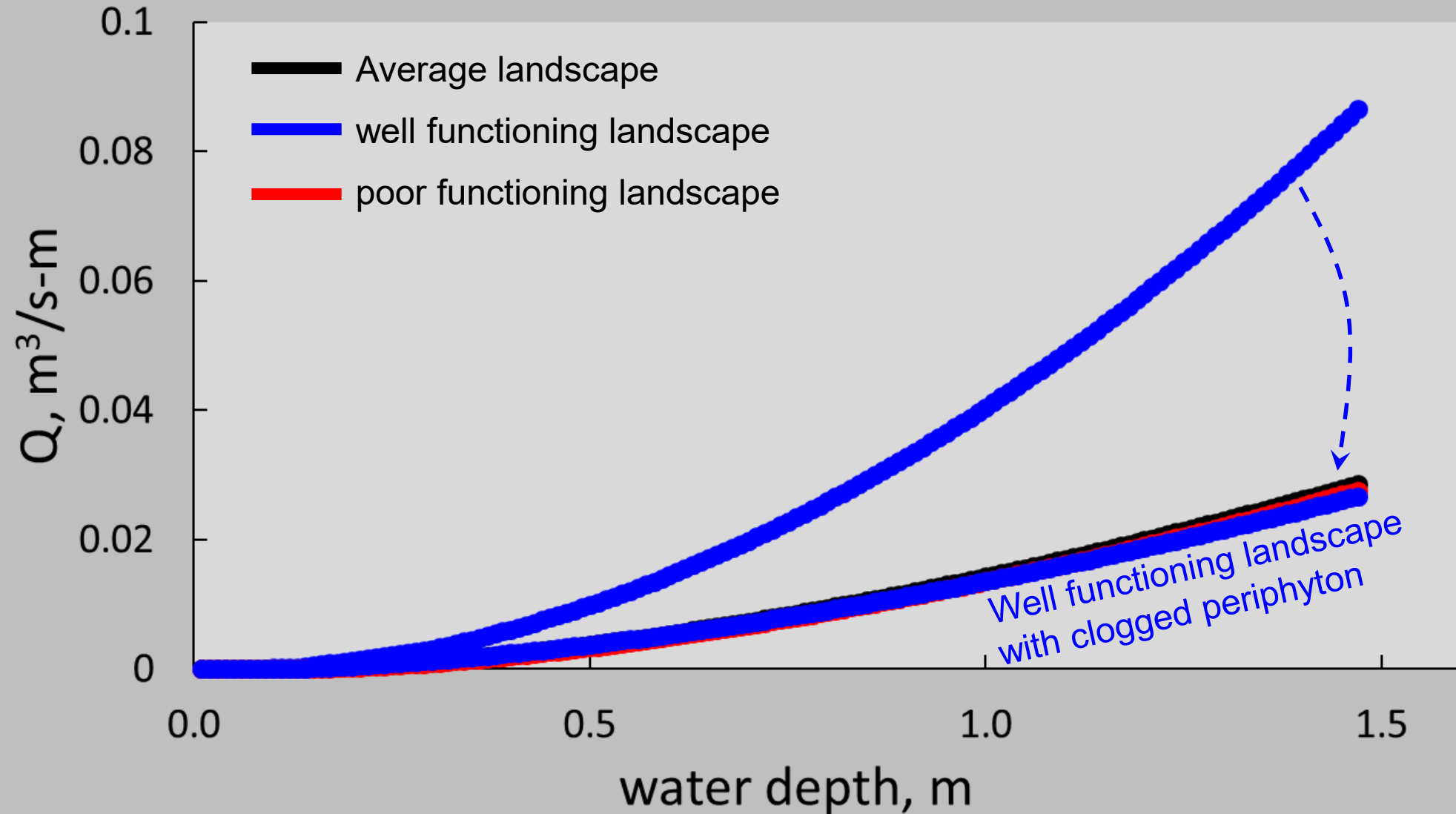


System-wide Landscape is mostly Poor Functioning

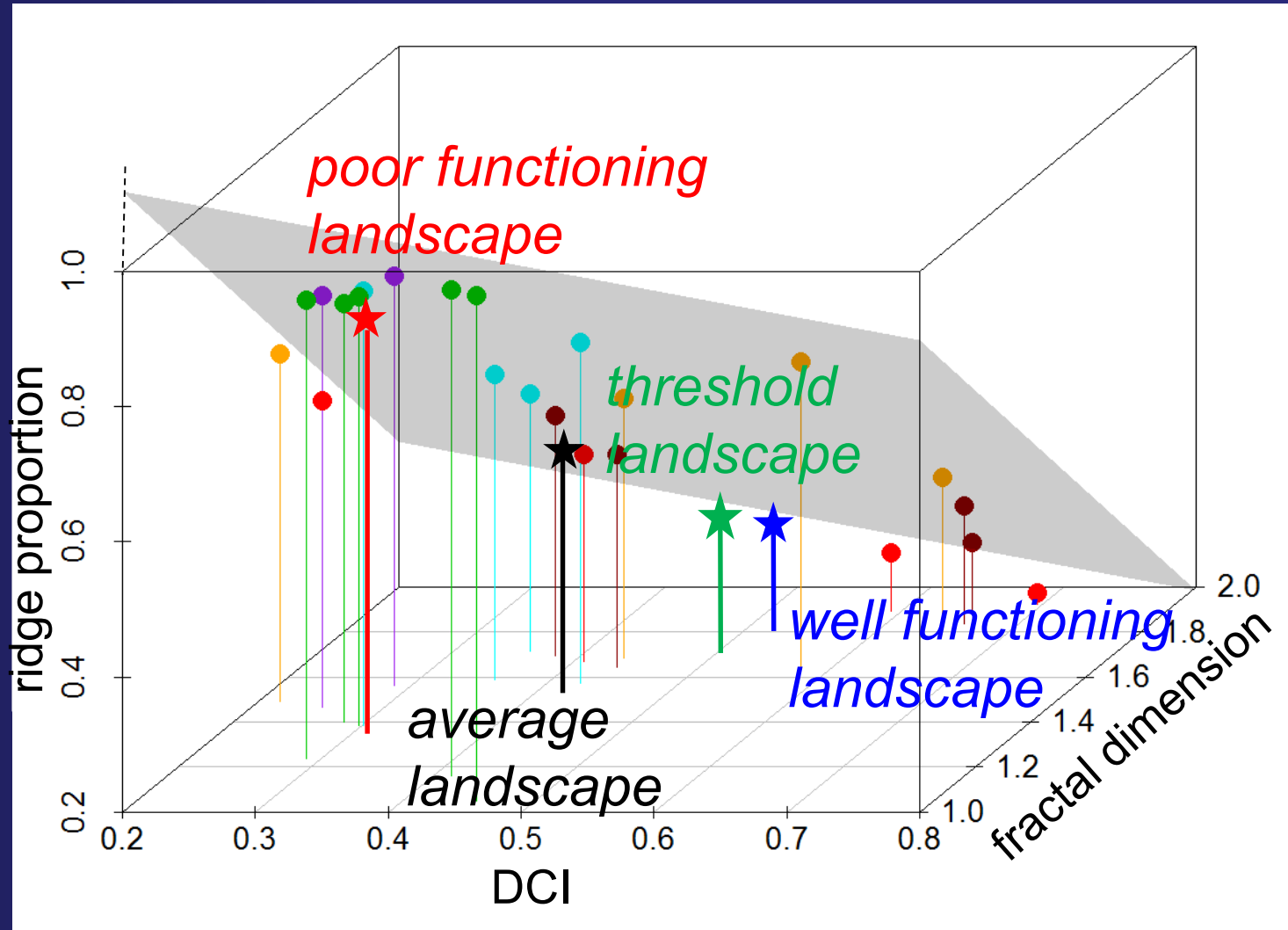


- WCA-3A_North
- WCA-3A_Central West
- WCA-3A_Central East
- WCA-3A_Central South
- WCA-3B
- ENP

Landscape Function - Flow Response Threshold



Landscape Functionality Response Surface

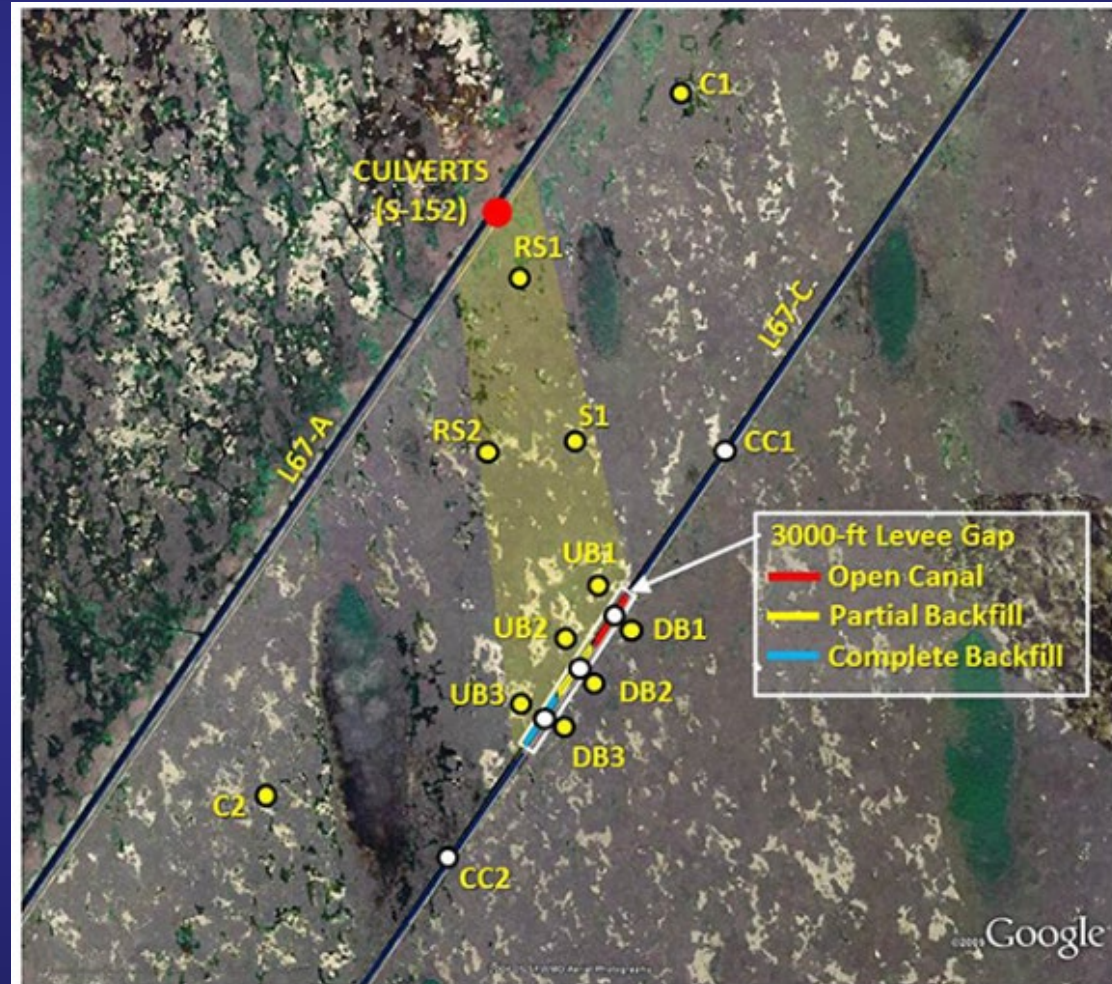
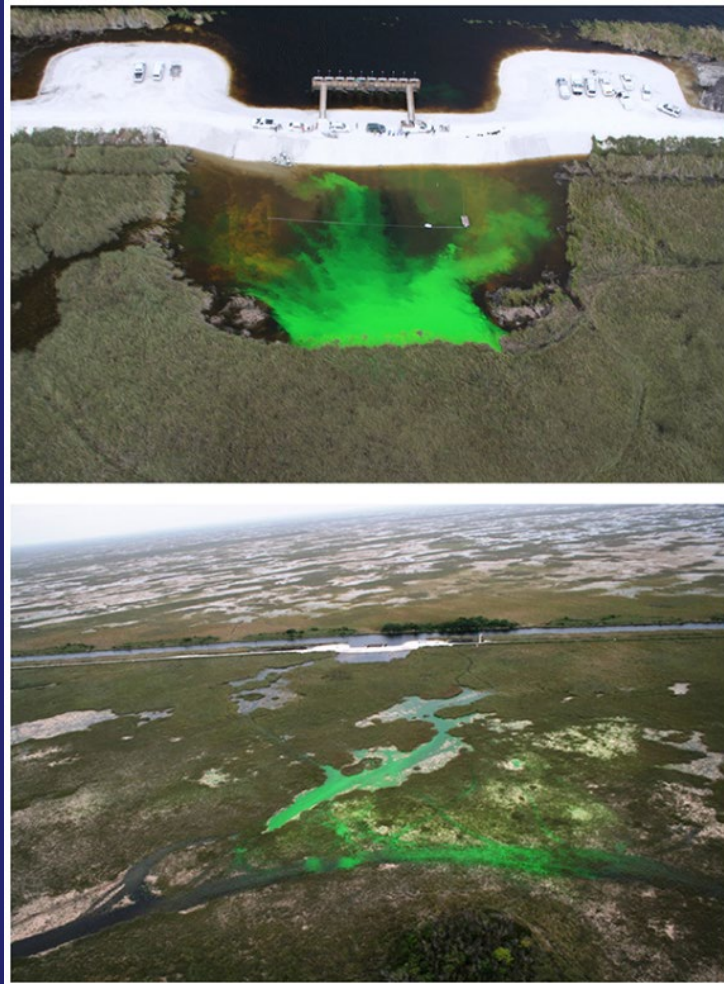


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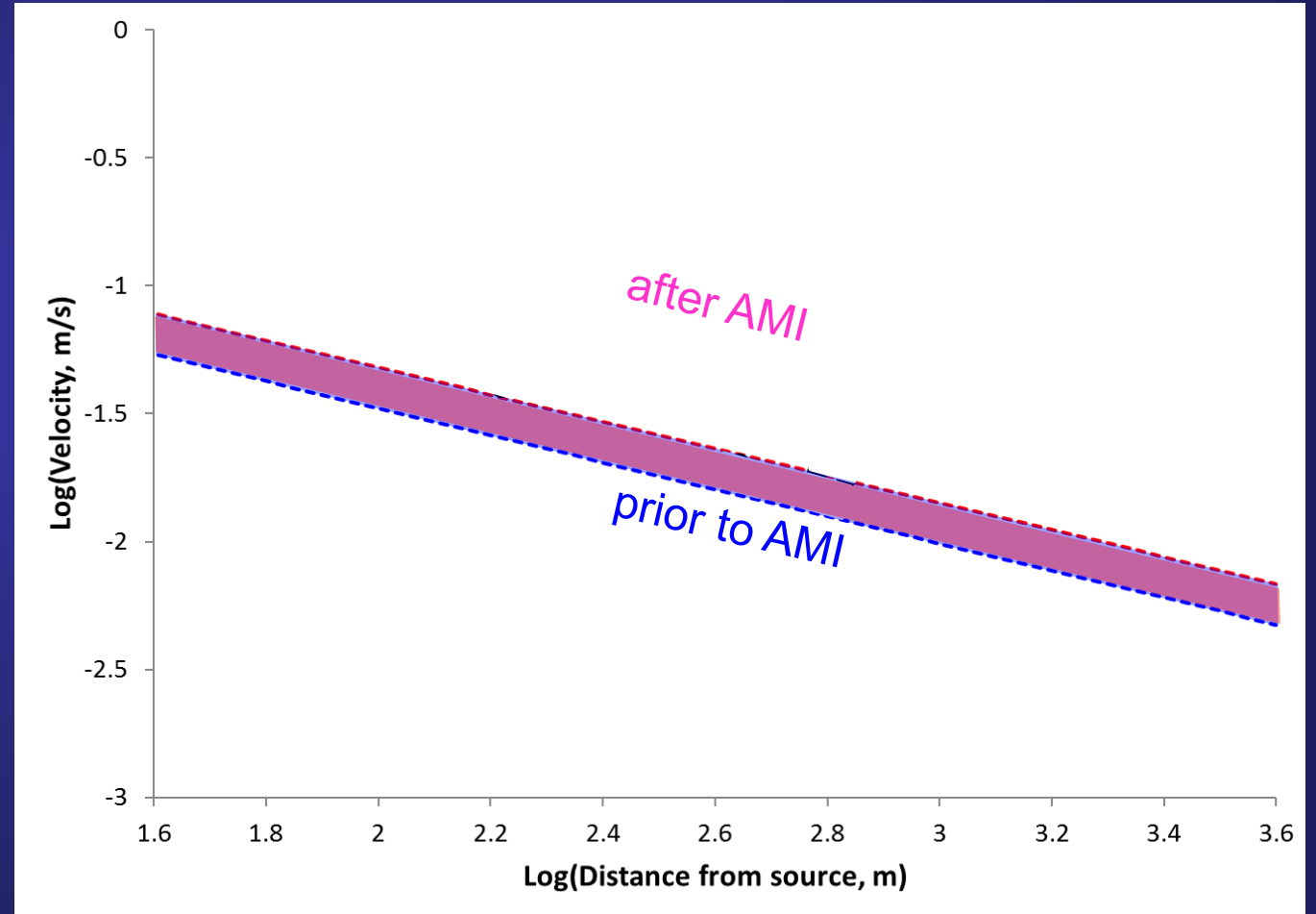
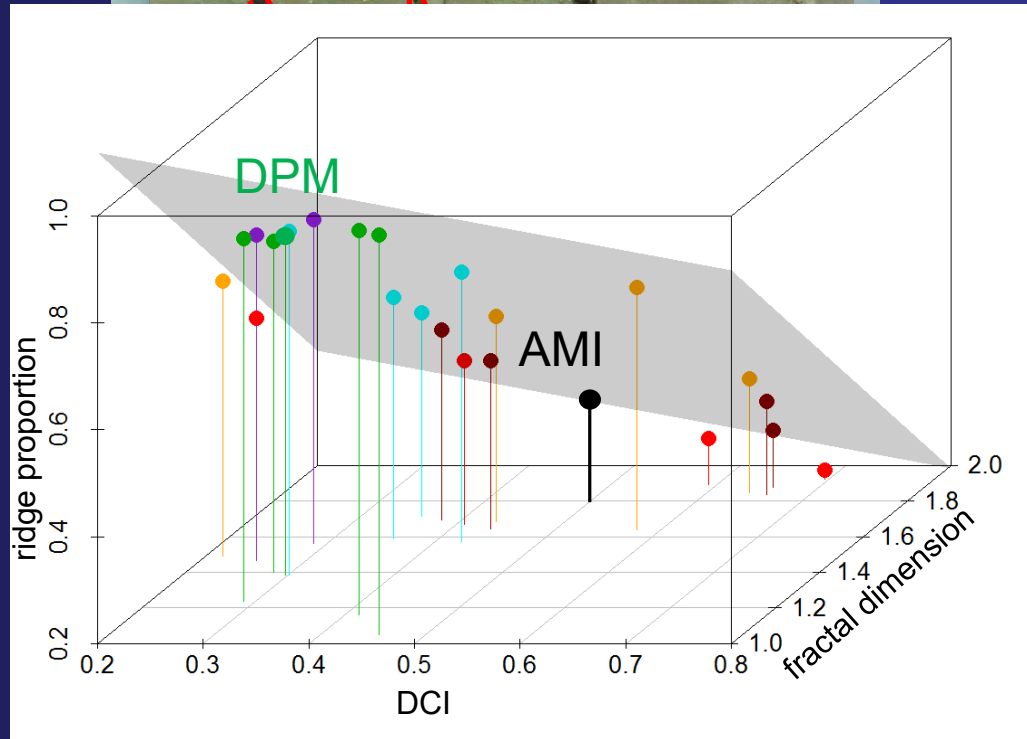
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Application: Model DPM Flow Enhancement Experiments



Predict Velocity Increase with Improving Landscape



AMI project leads C. Saunders and C. Zweig (SFWMD)

Conclusions

- Bio-physically based model explicitly considers flow (and depth) adjustments in a changing landscape
 - useful for forecasting and adaptive management
- Vegetation drag, ridge proportion, fractal dimension, and directional connectivity are the key metrics controlling the flow
- Empirical models of Everglades hydrology can easily be upgraded through coupling with bio-physically based model
 - Proof of concepts underway in DPM and Blue Shanty flow-way
 - Future remotely-sensed data collection and RECOVER-style ground-truthing