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# ASSIMILATION OF REMOTE SENSING- DERIVED FLOOD EXTENT AND SOIL MOISTURE DATA INTO COUPLED HYDROLOGICAL-HYDRAULIC MODELS



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## Research questions:

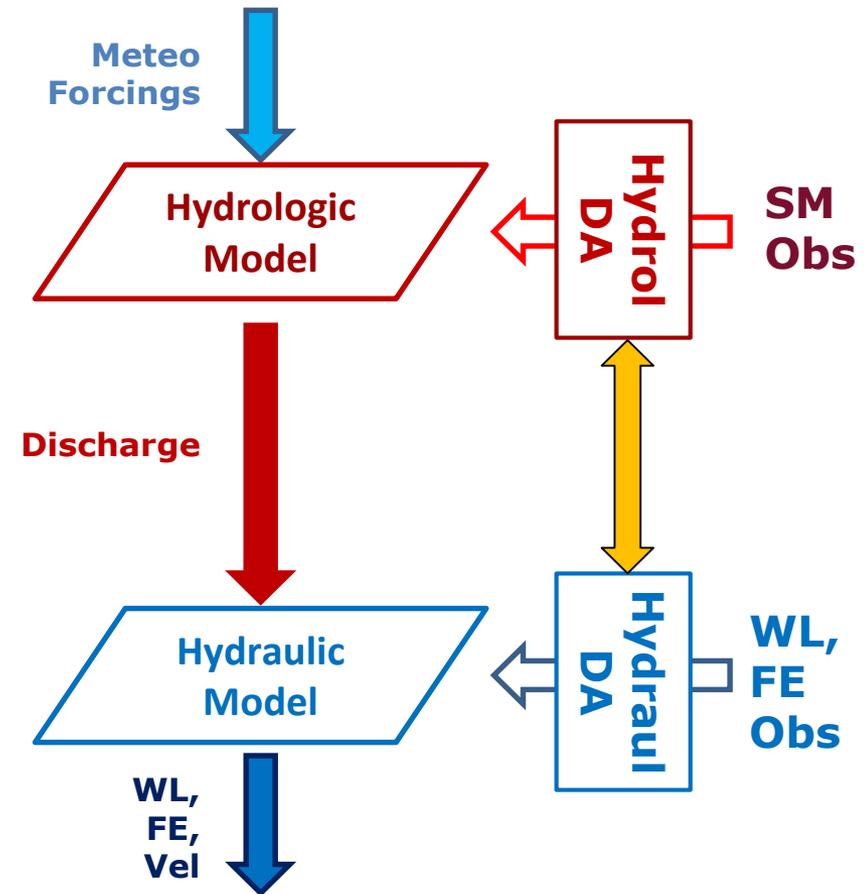
- How to combine remote sensing derived soil moisture and flood extent data with hydrologic-hydraulic models for improved streamflow predictions?
- What is the respective merit of soil moisture and flood extent data assimilation for streamflow predictions?



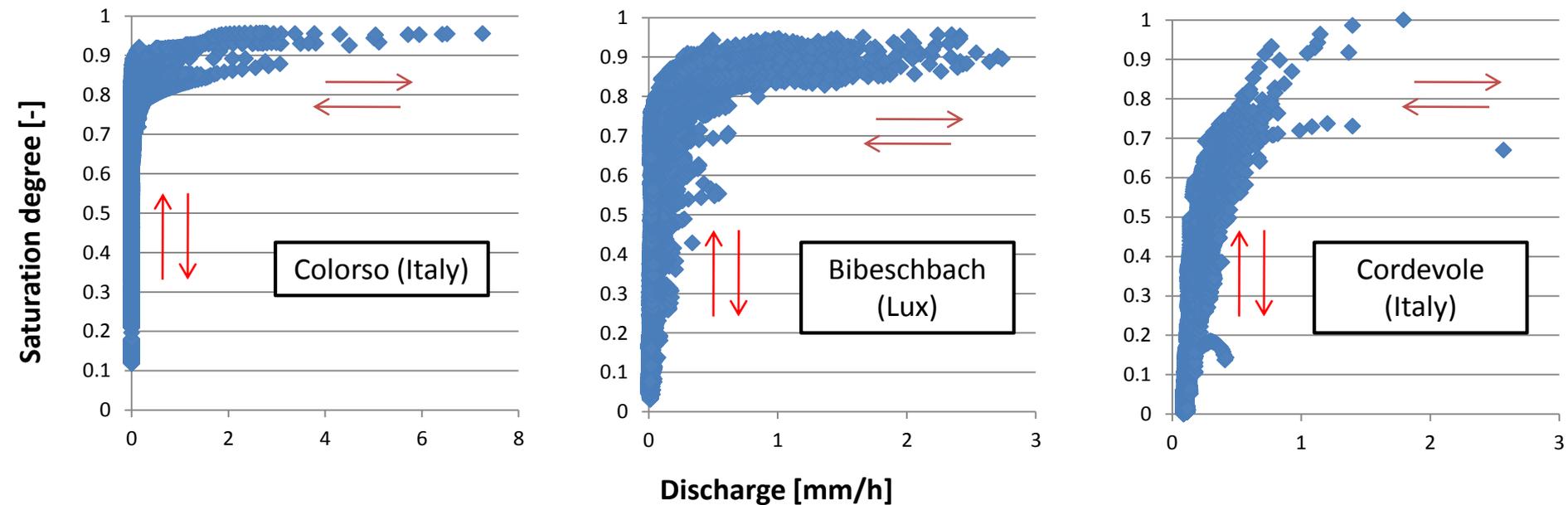
➤ **Hydrological and Hydraulic models represent different physical processes and take advantage of different types of observations.**

➤ **Different sensors are available and provide complementary information**

➤ **Hypothesis: assimilation of both data sets provides advantages for streamflow predictions**



## Rationale:



- Initiation of fast runoff is a threshold process that occurs when soil moisture rises above a critical threshold
- Soil moisture and water level variability are inversely correlated: potentially soil moisture and water level (or flood extent) observations are highly complementary

**1 Setup of model cascade**

**2 Ensemble generation**

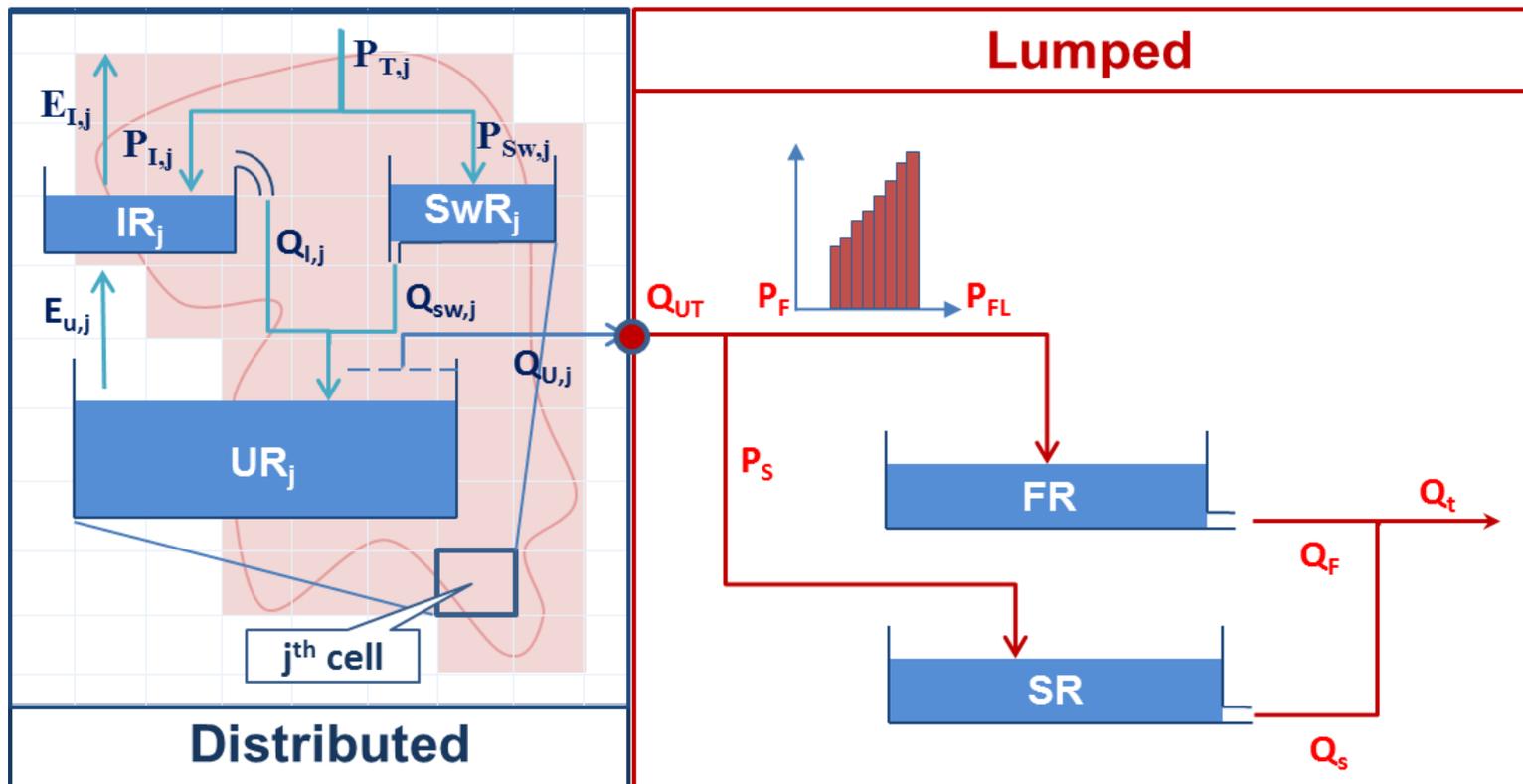
**3 Satellite data processing**

**4 Assimilation**





The model was set up using the **SuperFlex** (Fenicia et al., WRR, 2010) framework

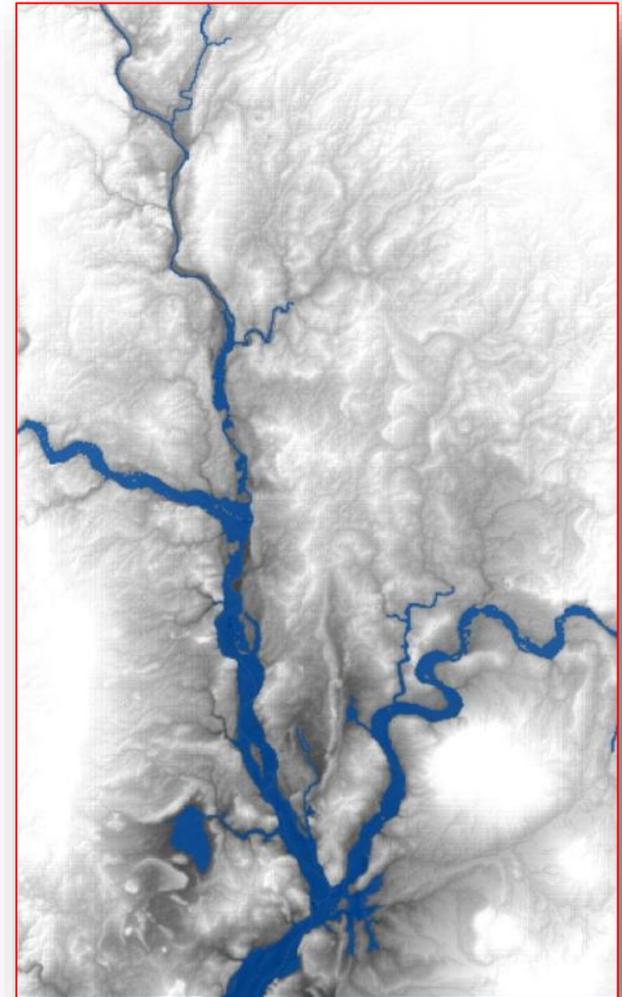


- **Model structure can be adapted to catchment properties and satellite data characteristics**
- **Calibration performed on the basis of in situ measurements or SM satellite observations**



## LISFLOOD-FP SubGrid

- Designed for modelling flood flows in larger catchments.
- Uses DEM file as geometry.
- Models 1D- 2D dimensional flows or fully 2D dimensional flows.
- **Calibration performed on the basis of in situ measurements or satellite observations**



Precipitation



Hydrol Mod

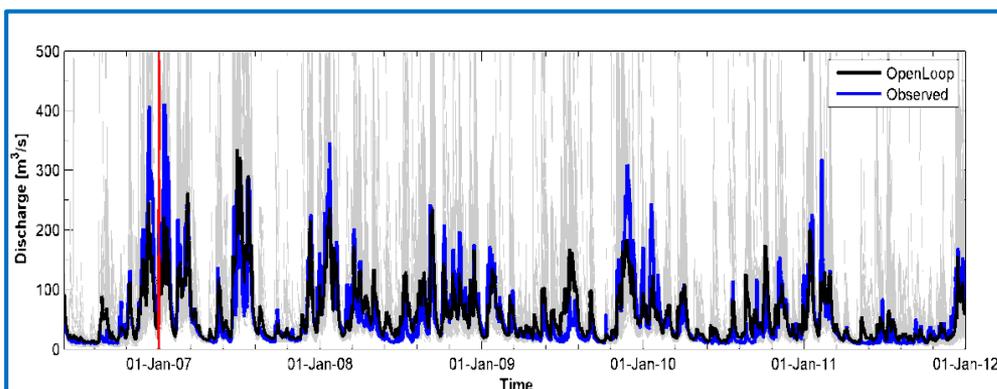
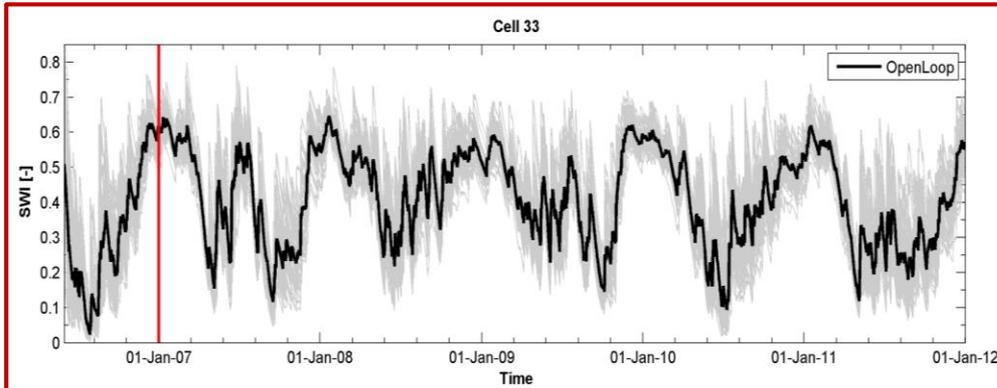
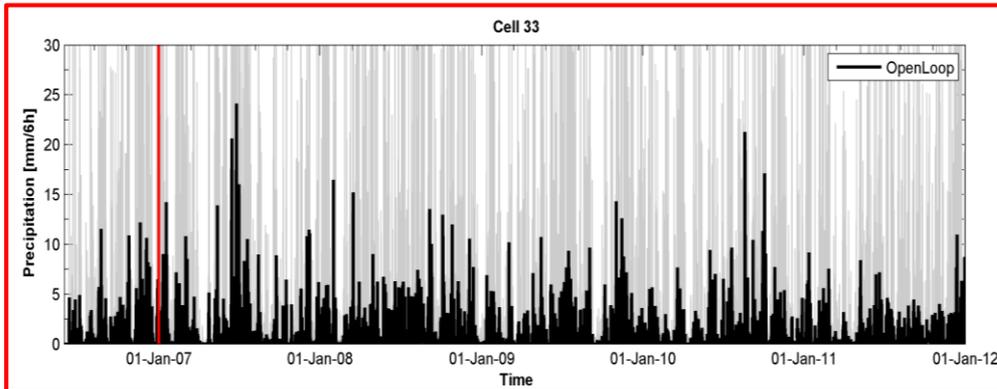
SWI

Discharge

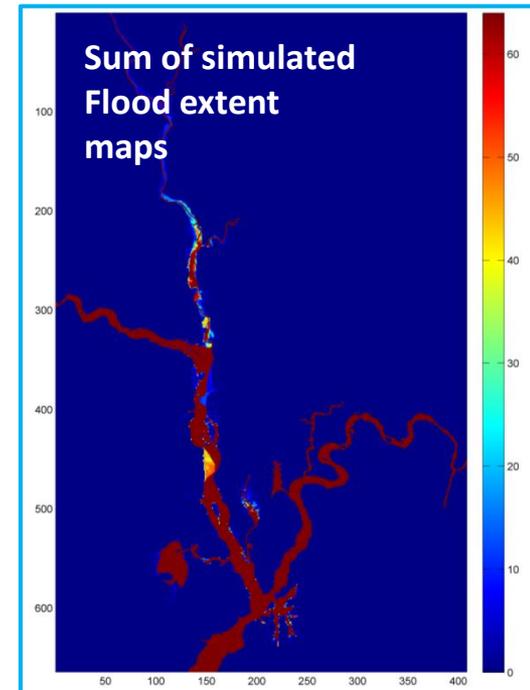


Hydraul Mod

Flood Extents



- 64 Particles
- Multiplicative Error randomly generated from lognormal distribution
- Ensemble of Discharge validated by the Ensemble Verification Measure of De Lannoy et al. (2006)





## RSD Soil Moisture

### ASCAT scatterometer

(METOP satellite)

- Daily image acquisition
- Spatial resolution 25 km
- C Band



## RSD Flood Extent

### Envisat ASAR W S

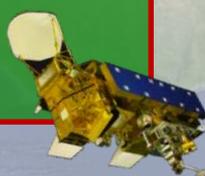
- Period Jun 2006 – Dec 2011
- Spatial resolution 150 m
- Mean revisit time ~ 7 days
- C Band



### AMSR-E radiometer

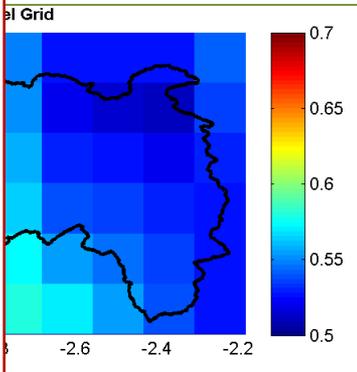
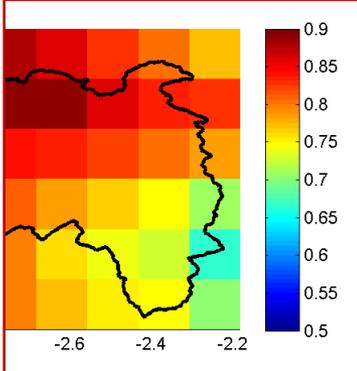
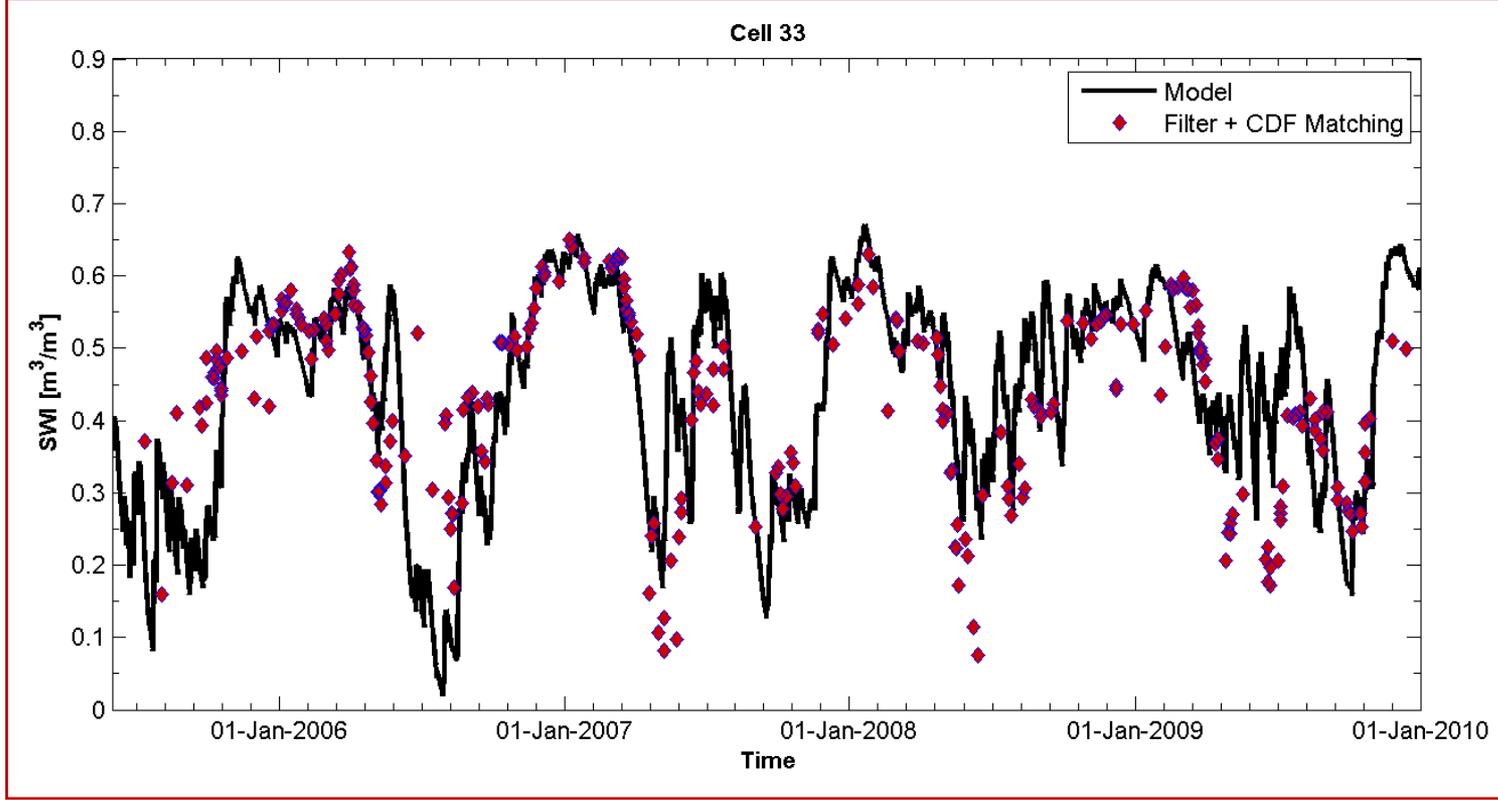
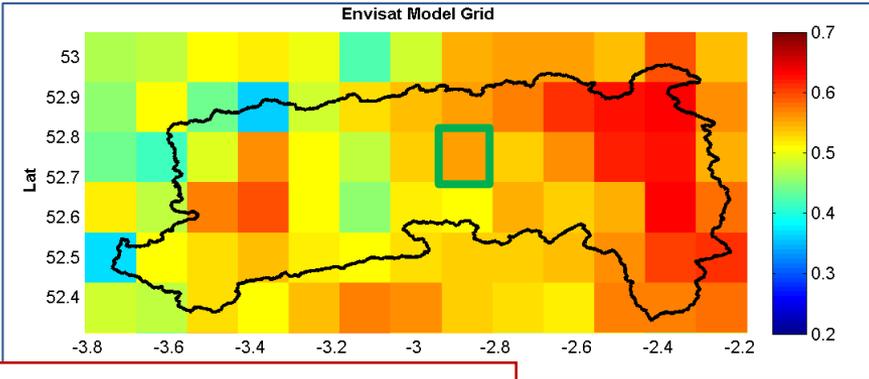
(AQUA satellite)

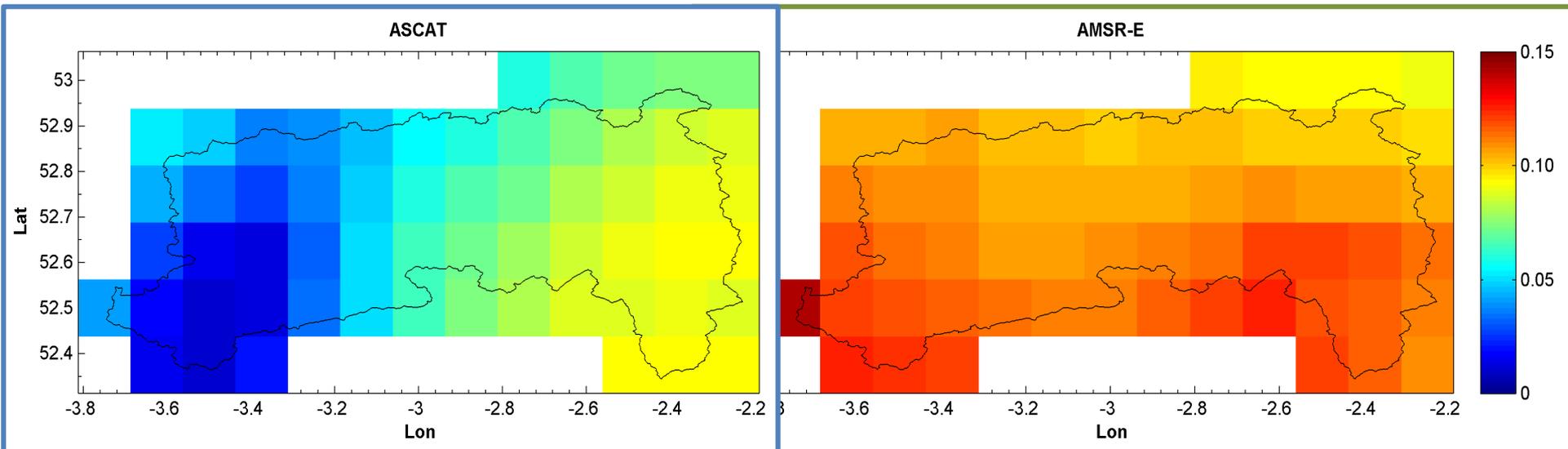
- Spatial resolution 0.25°
- Bi-Daily acquisition
- X and C band



- Snow Masking
- Upscale or Downscale to Model Grid
- From surface to Root Zone
- CDF Matching

Envisat 0.0042°





**For all satellite products the open loop mean was assumed as reference**

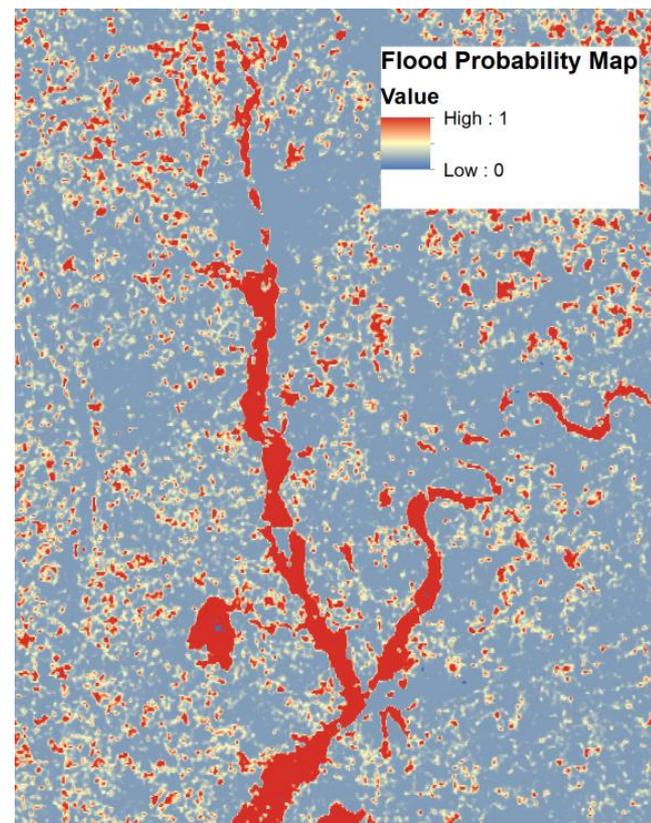
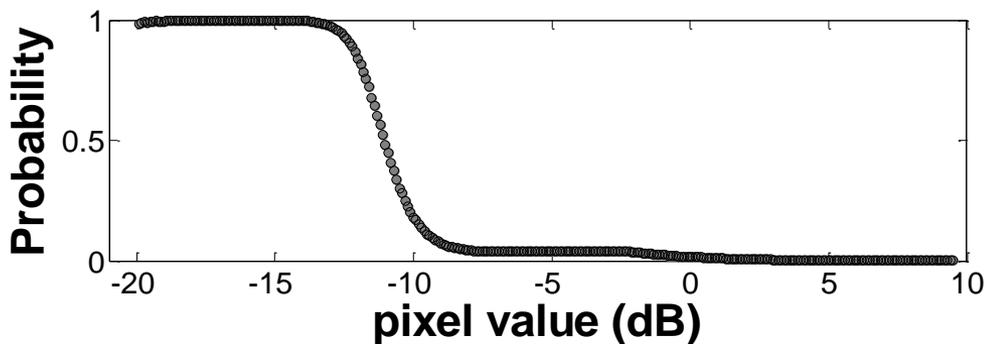
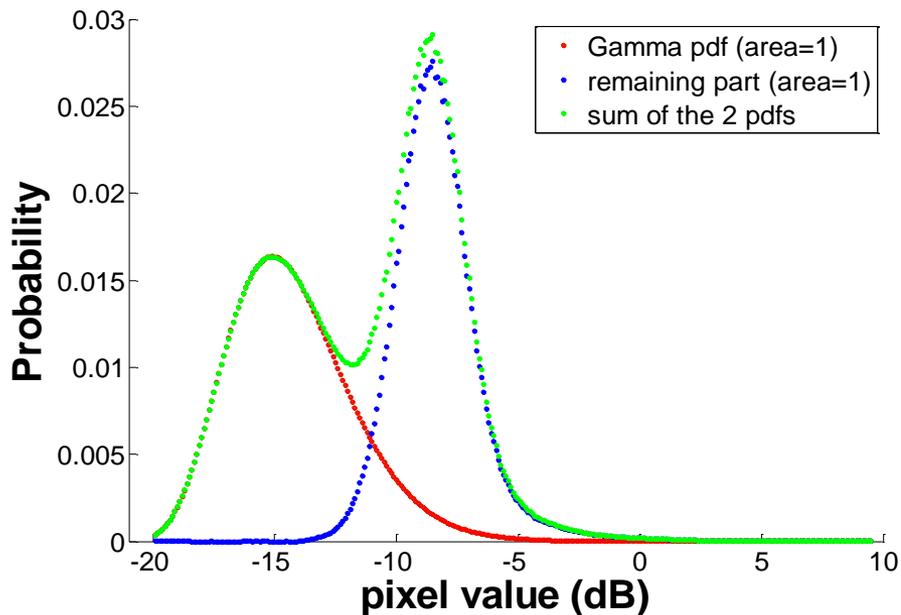
**The following triplet was considered:**

**Model-AMSRE-Ascat (Ascat and AMSRE error parameterization)**





## Probability of a pixel to be flooded knowing its backscatter



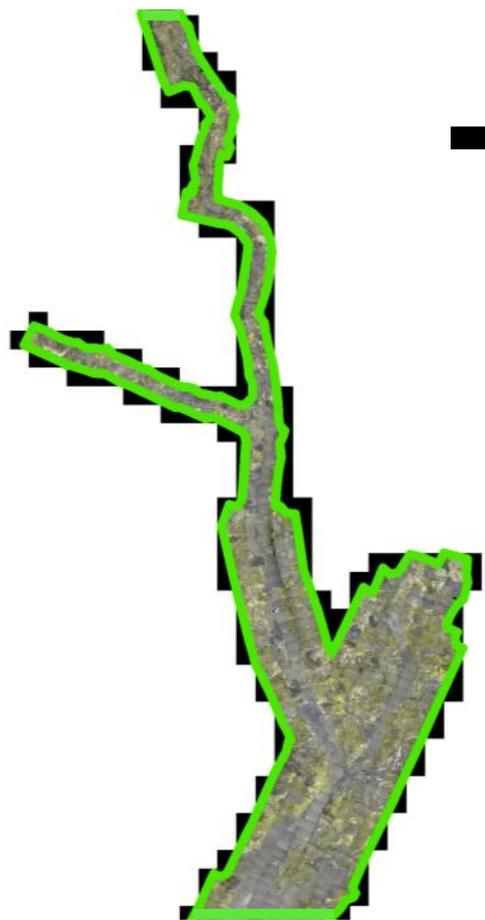
$$p(w|\sigma^0) = \frac{p(\sigma^0|w)p(w)}{p(\sigma^0|w)p(w) + p(\sigma^0|d)p(d)}$$

Giustarini et al., IEEE TGRS, 2013





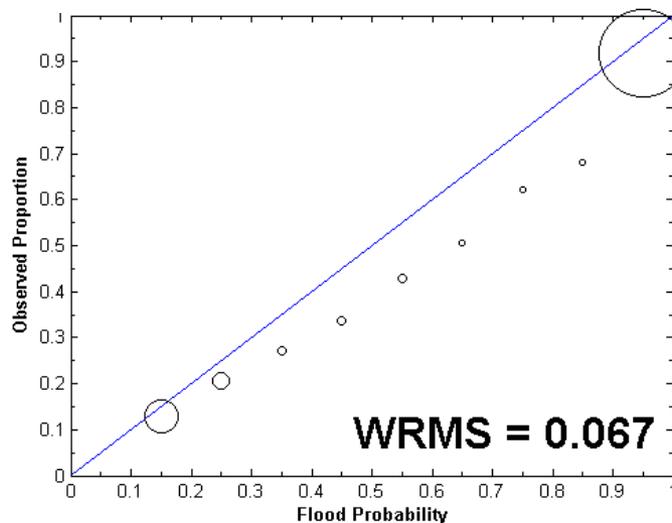
## Evaluation of results



Aerial photography (flood event on River Severn)



Flood extent obtained through photo-interpretation



Reliability diagram

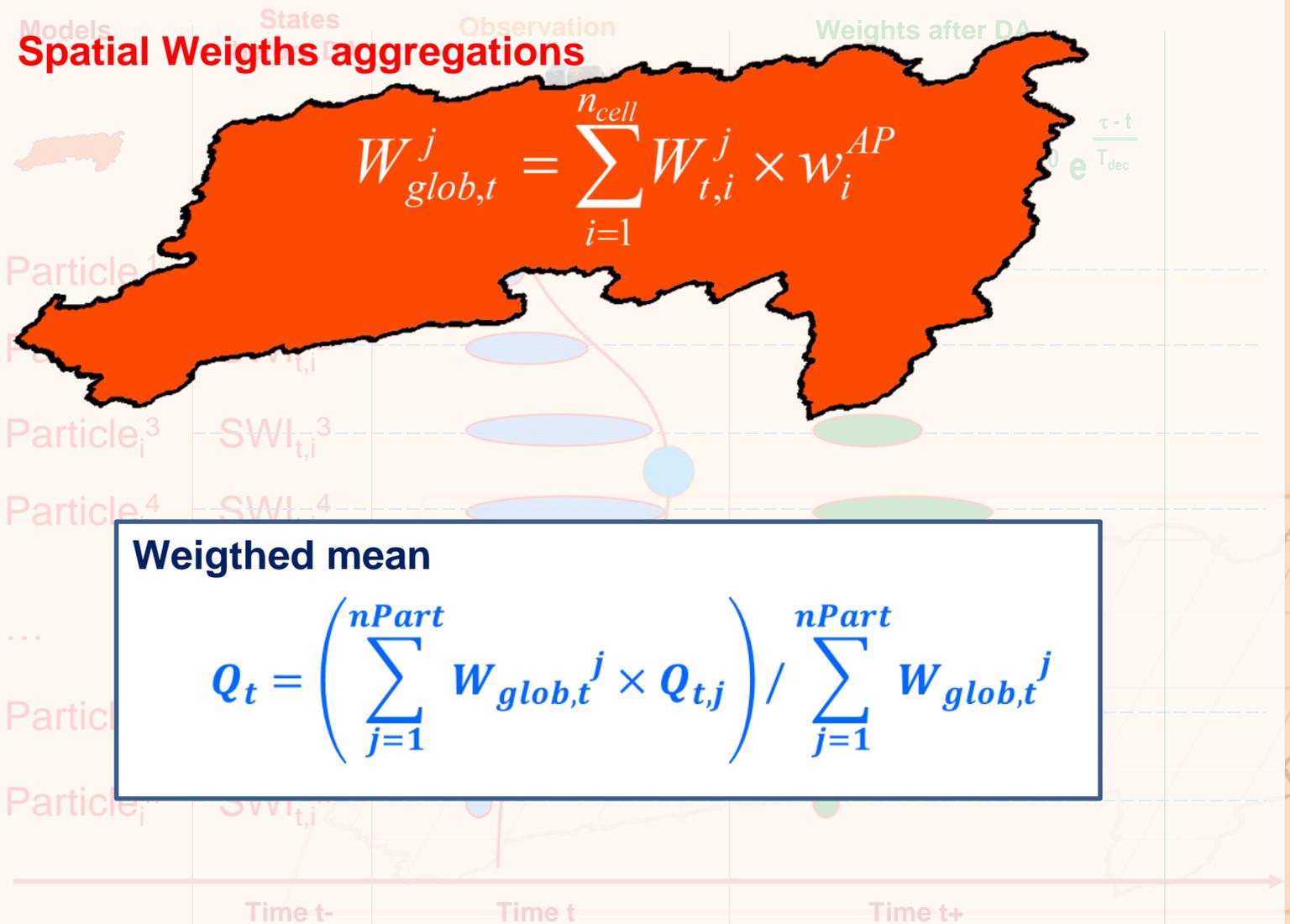




## Spatial Weights aggregations

$$W_{glob,t}^j = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{cell}} W_{t,i}^j \times W_i^{AP}$$

$$e^{-\frac{\tau-t}{T_{dec}}}$$



### Weighed mean

$$Q_t = \left( \sum_{j=1}^{nPart} W_{glob,t}^j \times Q_{t,j} \right) / \sum_{j=1}^{nPart} W_{glob,t}^j$$

Particle Filter





Assumption : binomial likelihood pdf  $p(k, n | \Theta) = \binom{k}{n} \Theta^k (1 - \Theta)^{n-k}$

k = # successes  
n = # trials

MOD<sub>t,i</sub>

1	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0

$$W_{1,1}^{t,i} = \Theta_{1,1}$$

Simulated Water pixel

$$W_{3,3}^{t,i} = 1 - \Theta_{3,3}$$

Simulated Dry pixel

 Satellite observation

$\Theta_{1,1}$	$\Theta_{1,2}$	$\Theta_{1,3}$
$\Theta_{2,1}$	$\Theta_{2,2}$	$\Theta_{2,3}$
$\Theta_{3,1}$	$\Theta_{3,2}$	$\Theta_{3,3}$

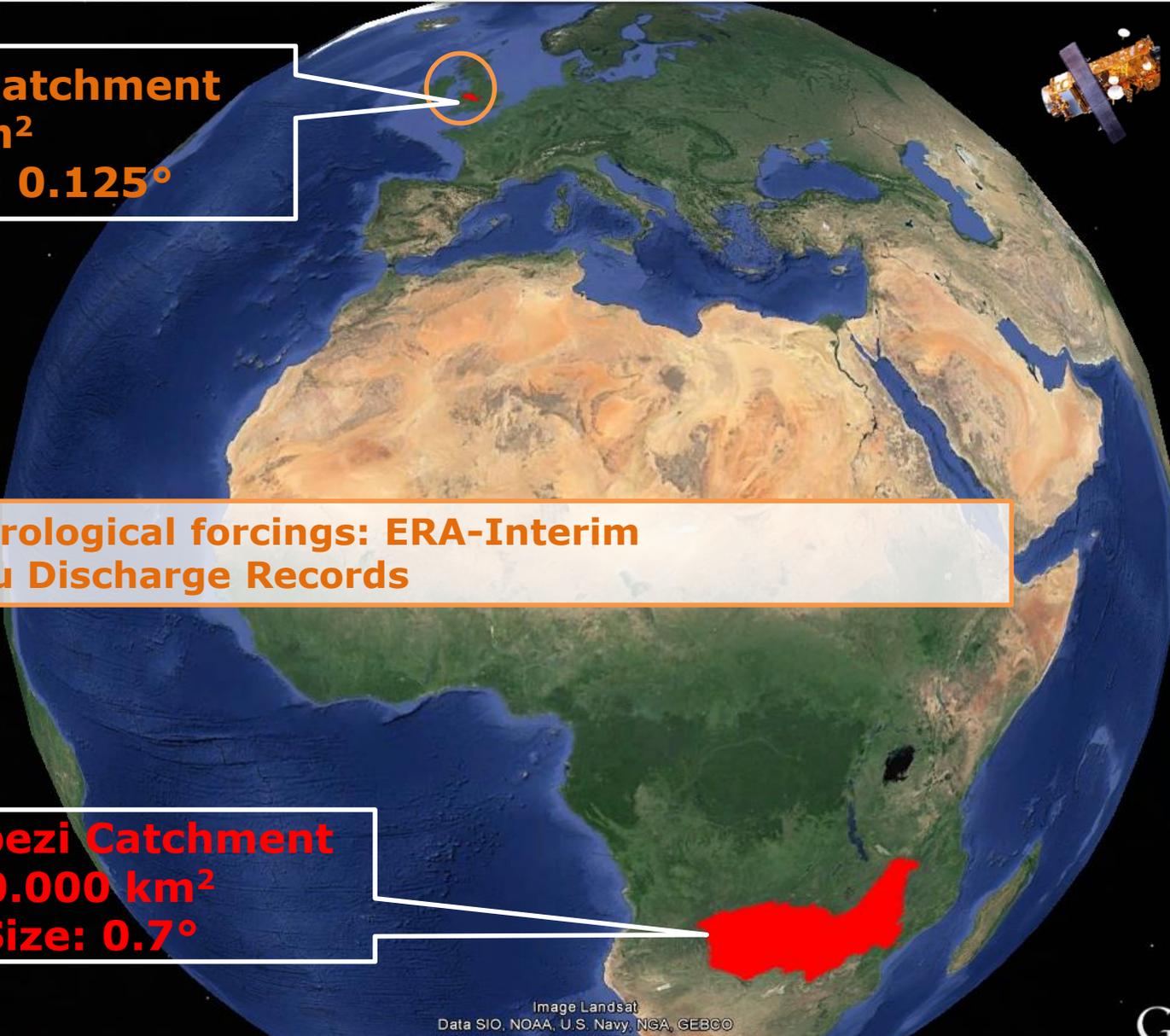


$w_{1,1}^{t,i}$	$w_{1,2}^{t,i}$	$w_{1,3}^{t,1}$
$w_{2,1}^{t,i}$	$w_{2,2}^{t,i}$	$w_{2,3}^{t,i}$
$w_{3,1}^{t,i}$	$w_{3,2}^{t,i}$	$w_{3,3}^{t,i}$

Spatial Weights aggregations

$$W^{i,t} = \sum_{j,k} w_{j,k}^{i,t}$$





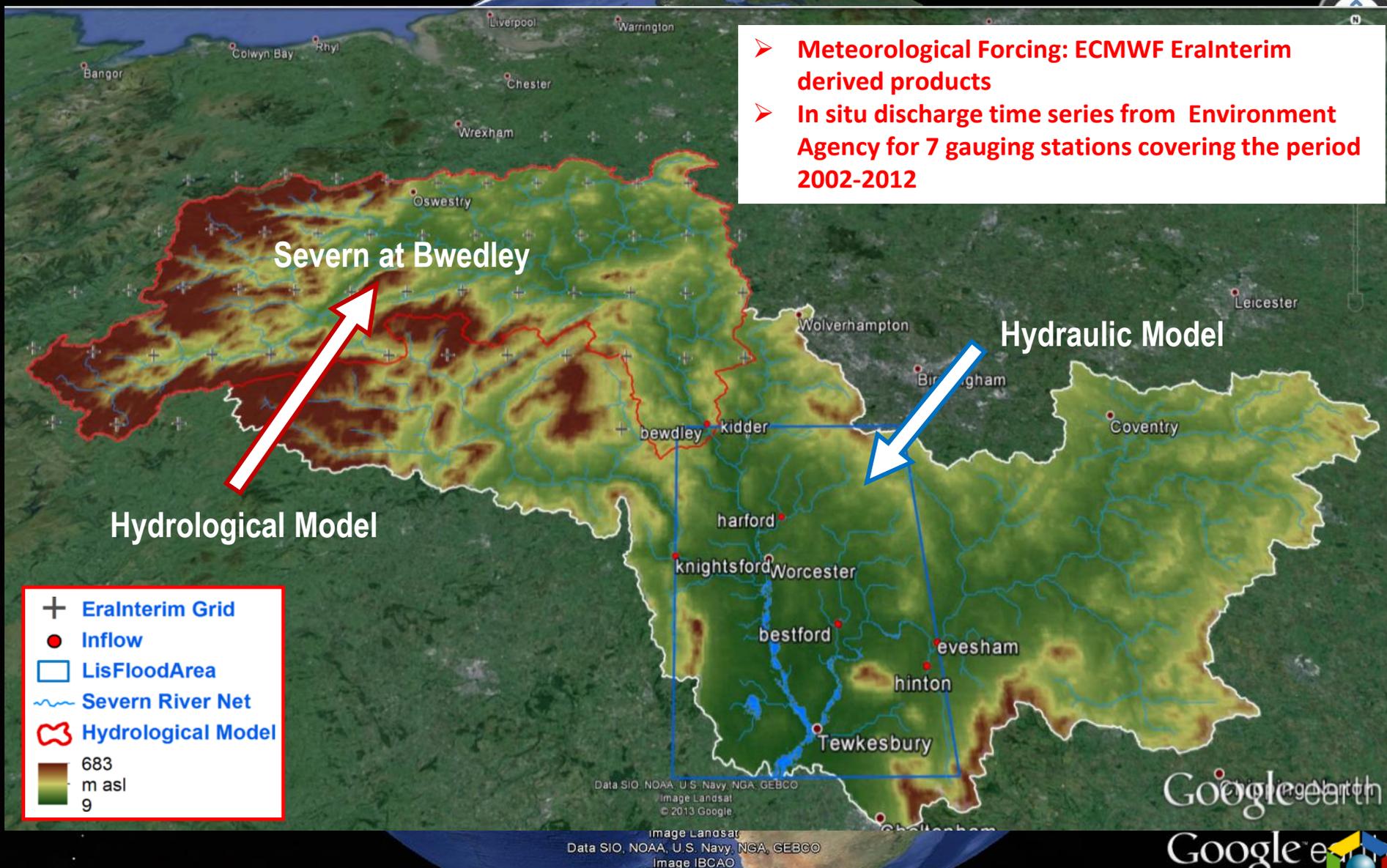
**Severn Catchment**  
**4.000 km<sup>2</sup>**  
**Cell size: 0.125°**

- Meteorological forcings: ERA-Interim
- In Situ Discharge Records

**Zambezi Catchment**  
**1.100.000 km<sup>2</sup>**  
**Cell Size: 0.7°**



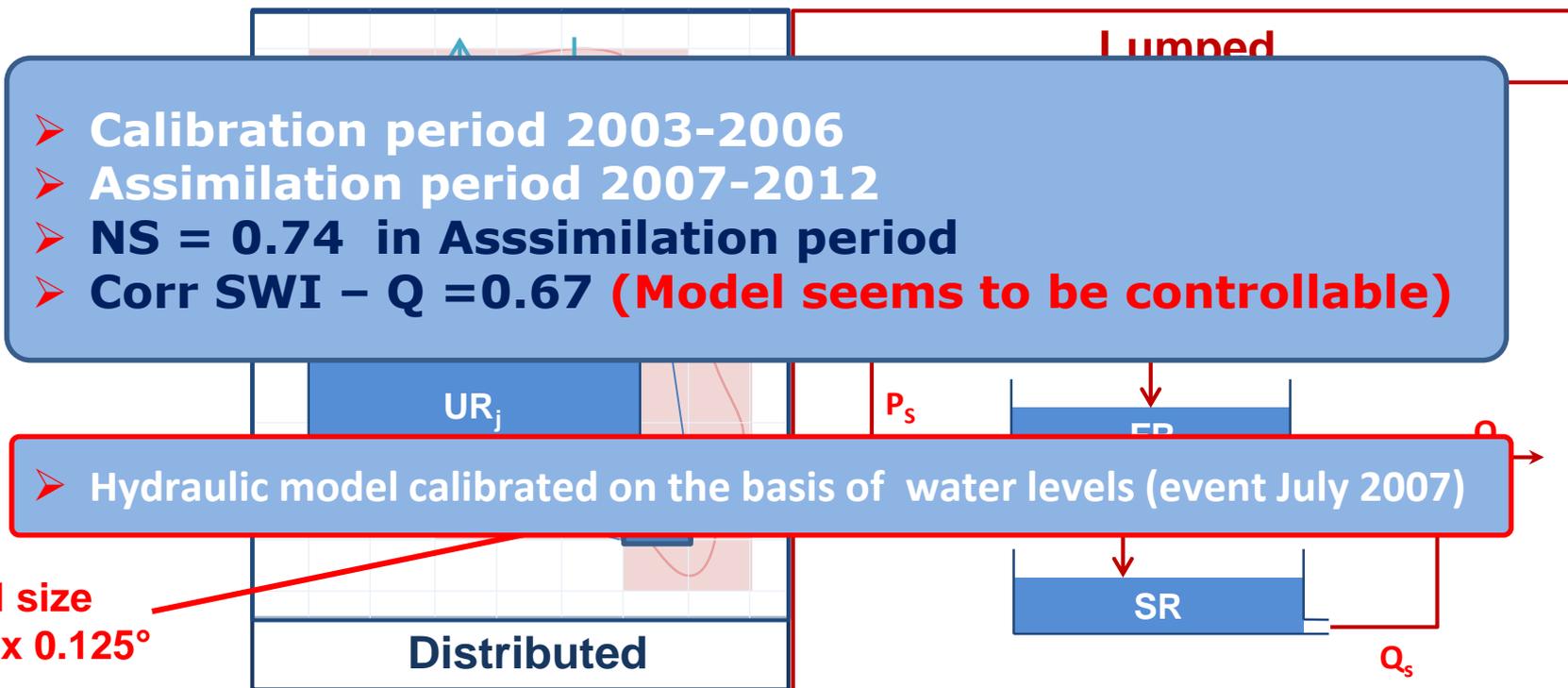
- **Meteorological Forcing: ECMWF EraInterim derived products**
- **In situ discharge time series from Environment Agency for 7 gauging stations covering the period 2002-2012**



- + EraInterim Grid
- Inflow
- LisFloodArea
- ~ Severn River Net
- ⊞ Hydrological Model
- 683 m asl
- 9

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
 Image Landsat  
 © 2013 Google  
 image Landsat  
 Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
 Image IBCAO



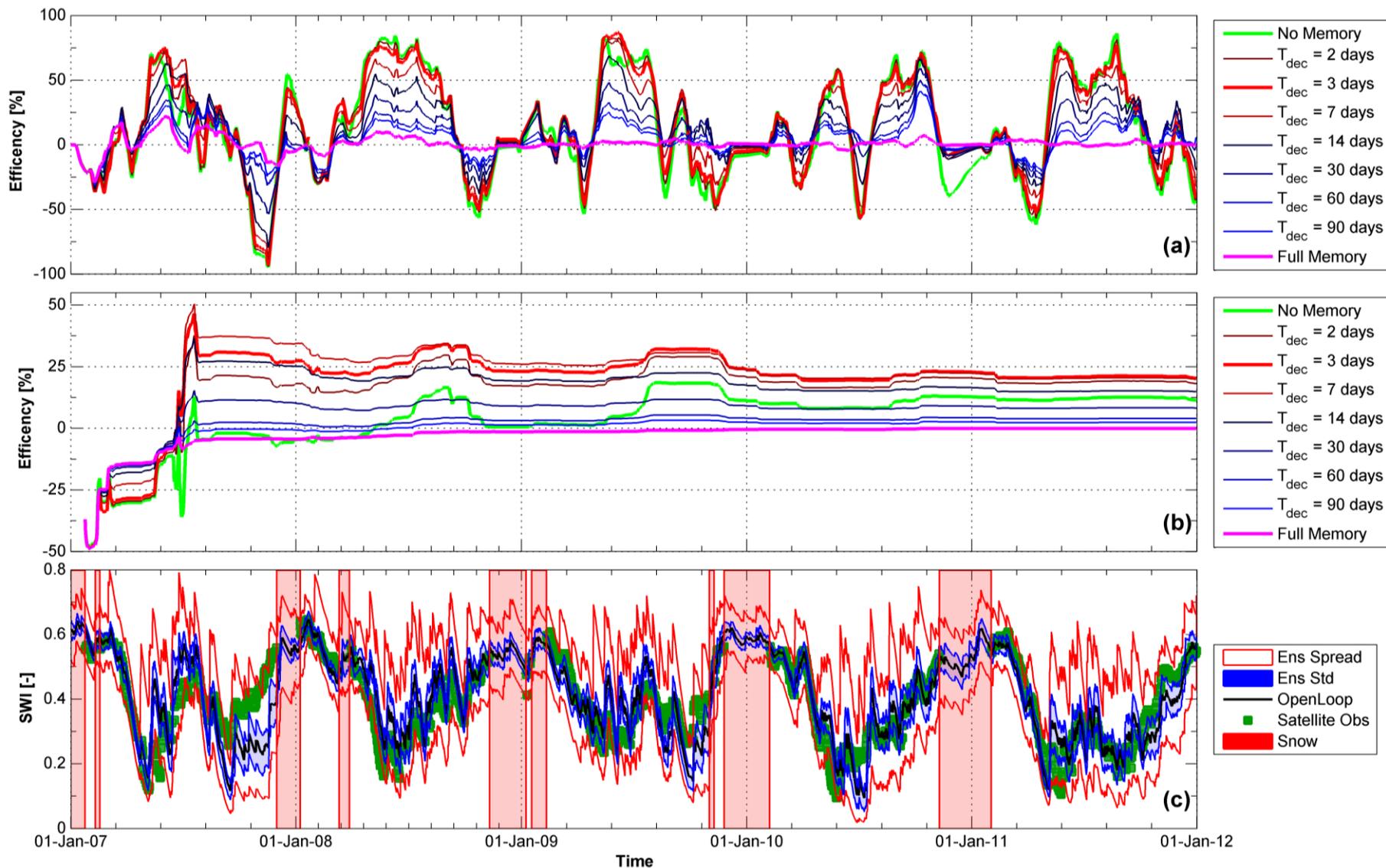


**4 Reservoirs and 10 parameters to calibrate**

### Meteorological forcings (Precipitation and Temperature):

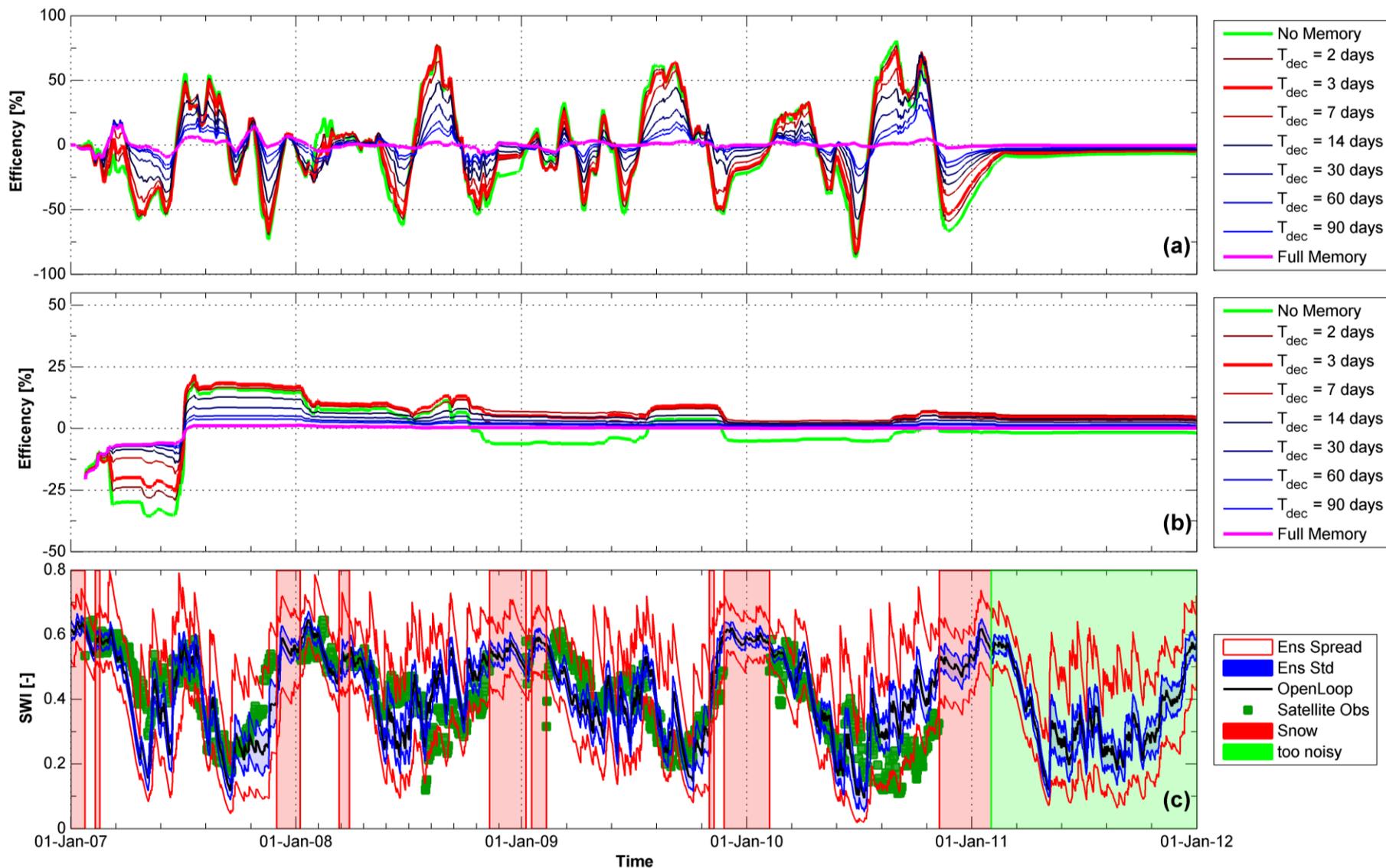
- ECMWF ERA Interim derived products with 6h time resolution;
- Precipitation spatially distributed;
- Evapotranspiration was computed using Hamon formula and lumped values of ERA Interim temperatures





ASCAT

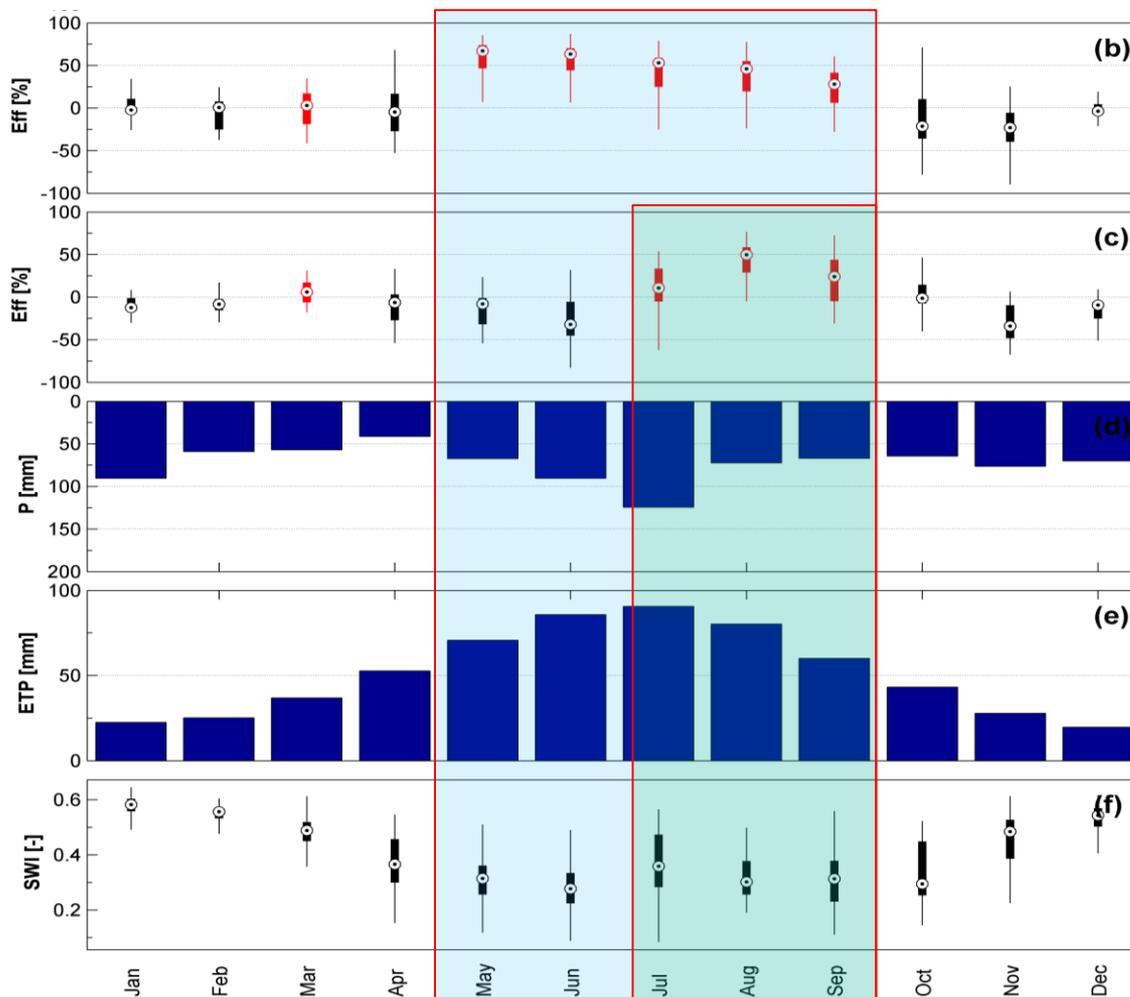






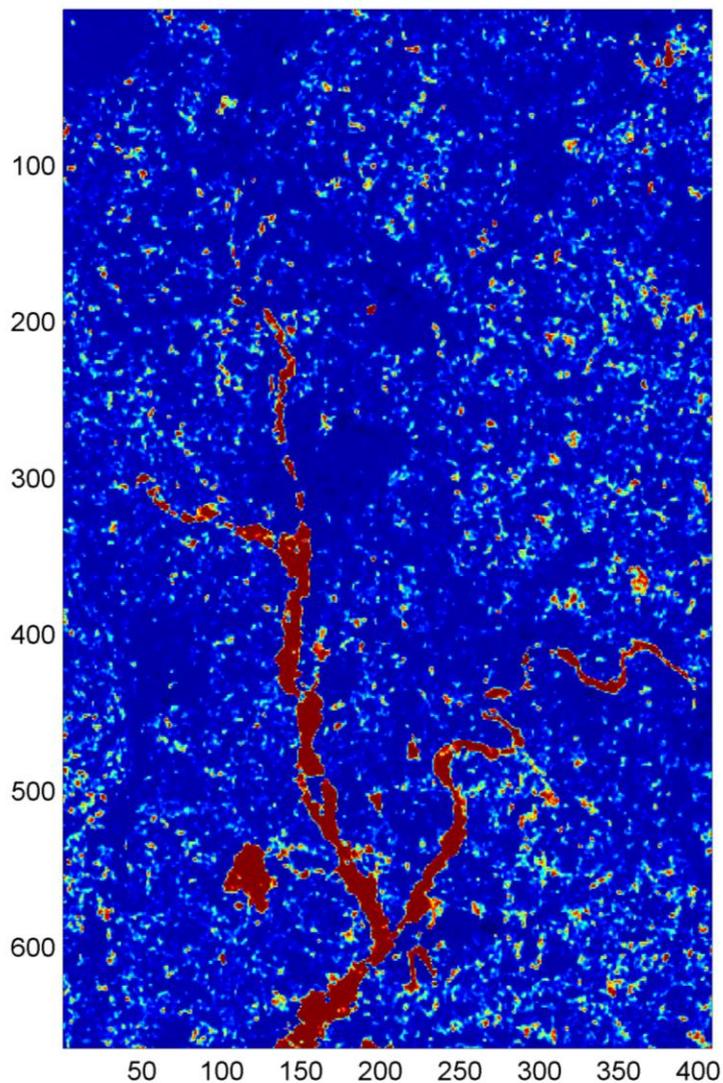
Ascat

AMSR-E

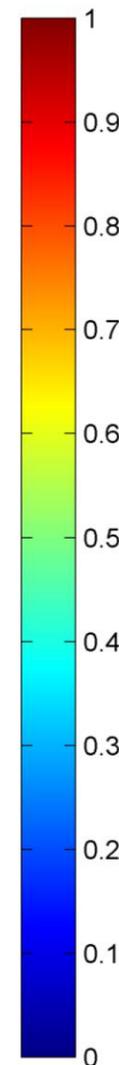
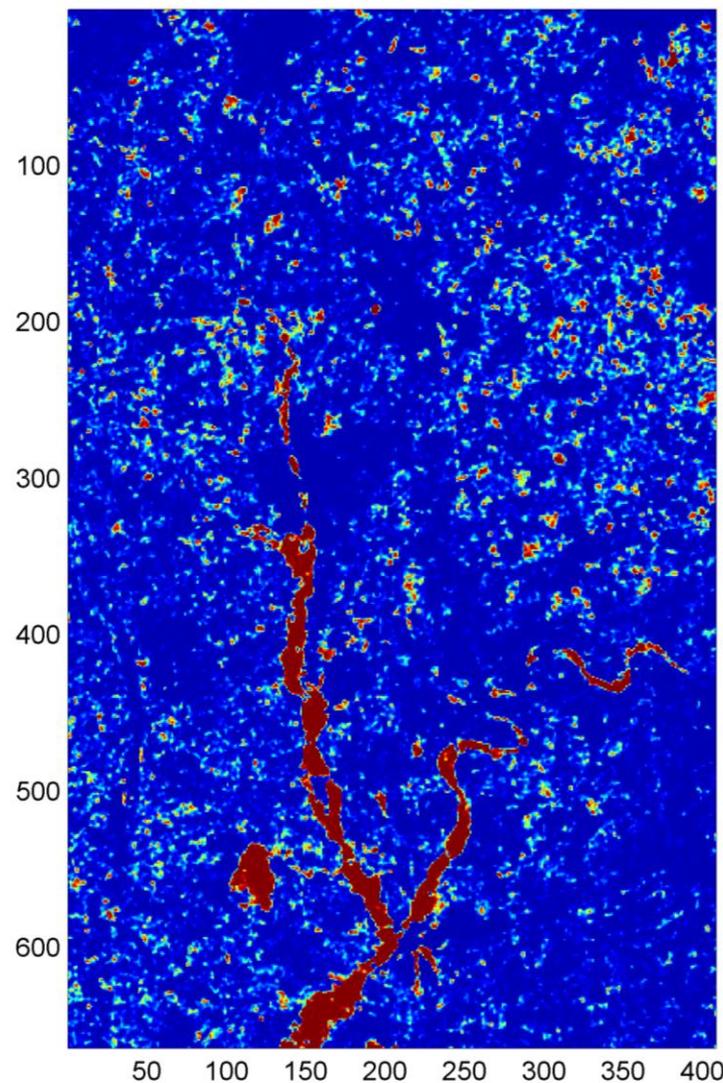




### Flood Prob Map 23-July-2007 10:27

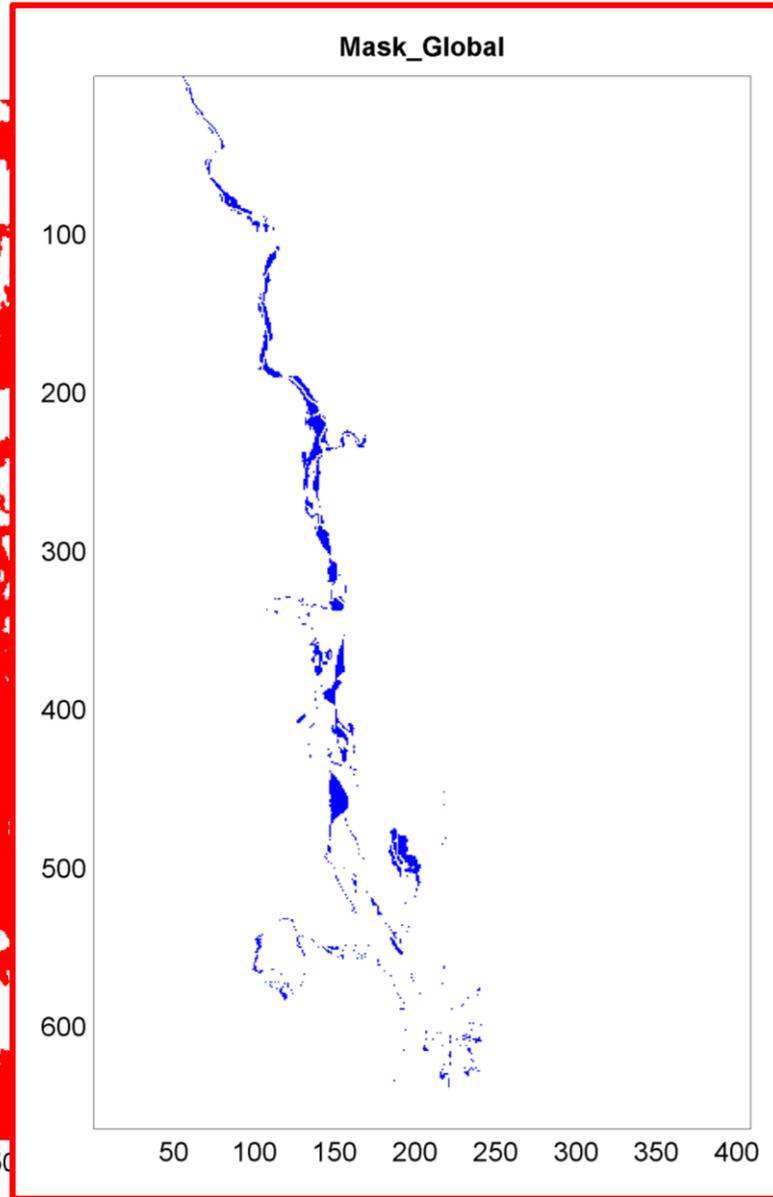
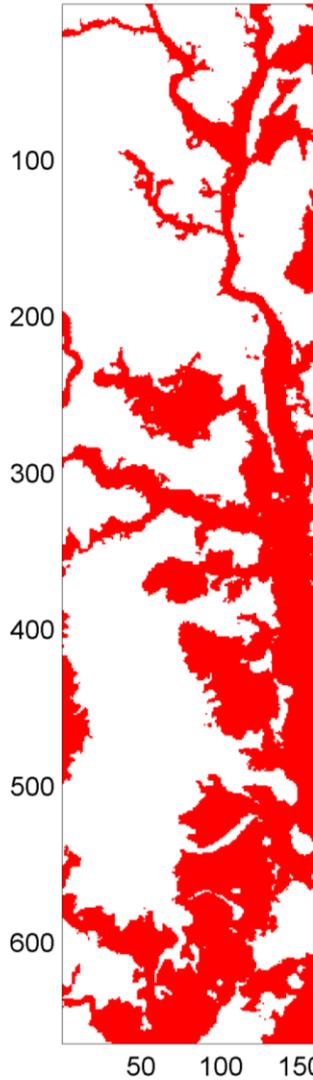


### Flood Prob Map 23-July-2007 21:53





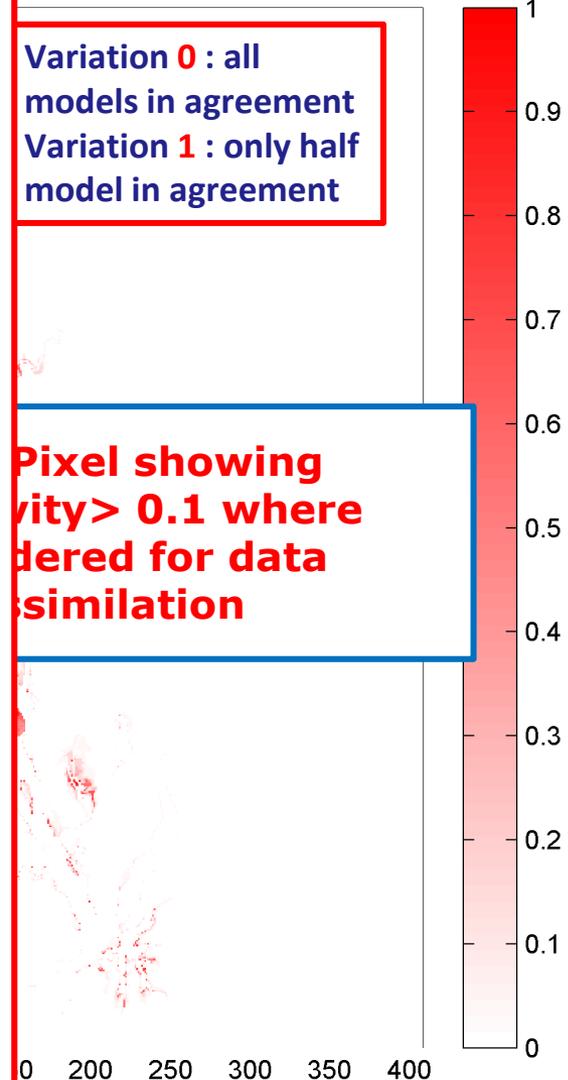
DEM Information



## Sensitivity Index

**Variation 0** : all models in agreement  
**Variation 1** : only half model in agreement

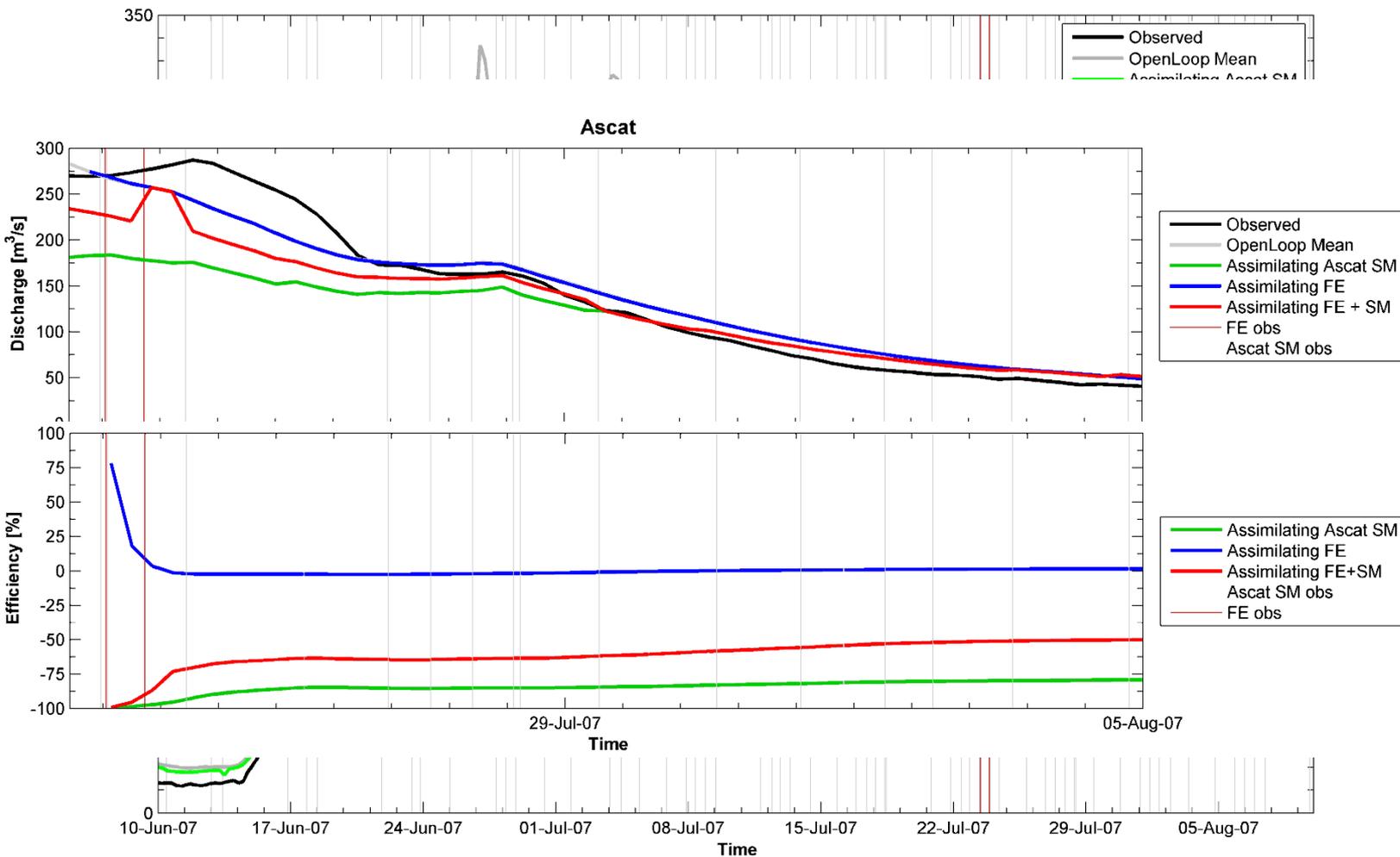
**Pixel showing sensitivity > 0.1 where considered for data assimilation**



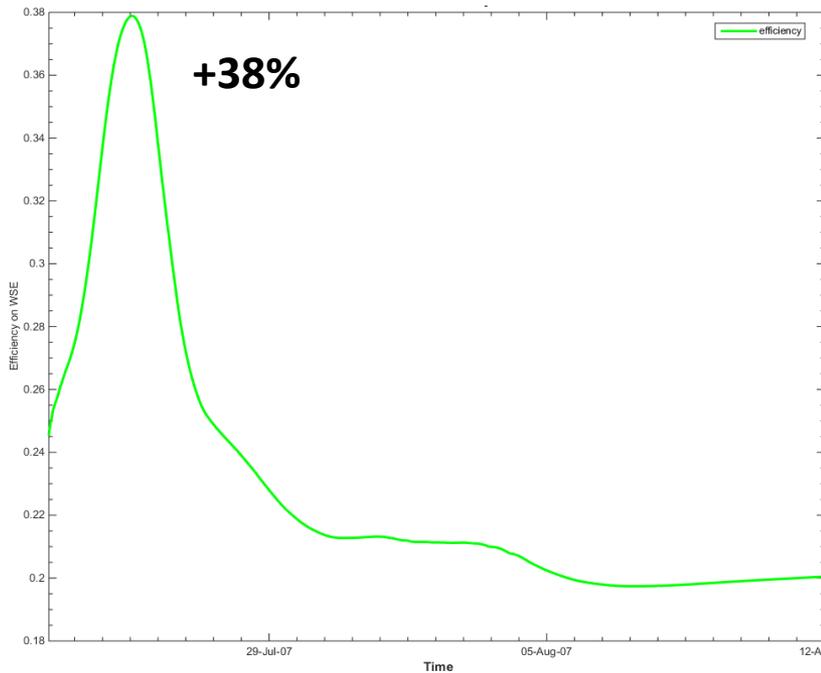


## Bewdley (upstream boundary)

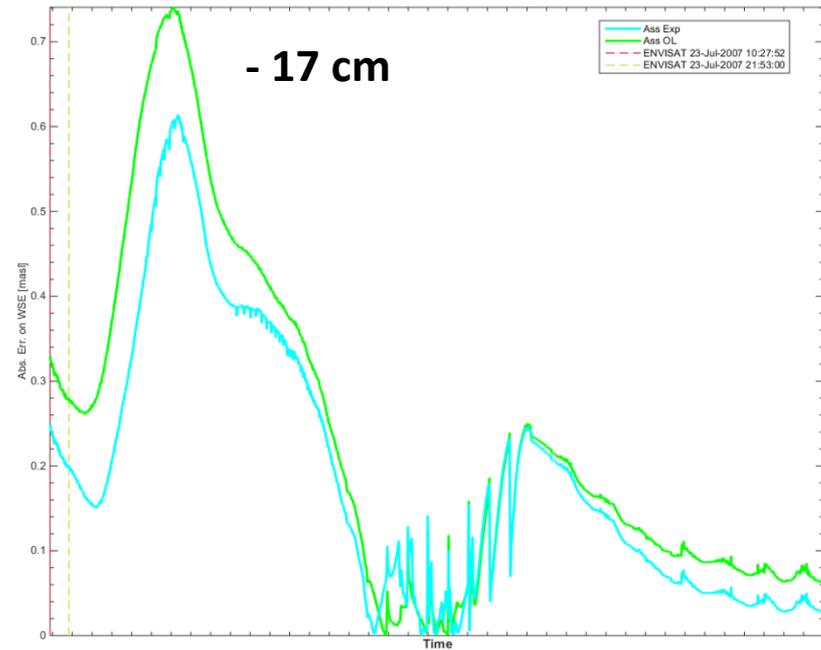
ENVISAT FE + AscSat SM



## Saxons Lode (intermediate gauge)



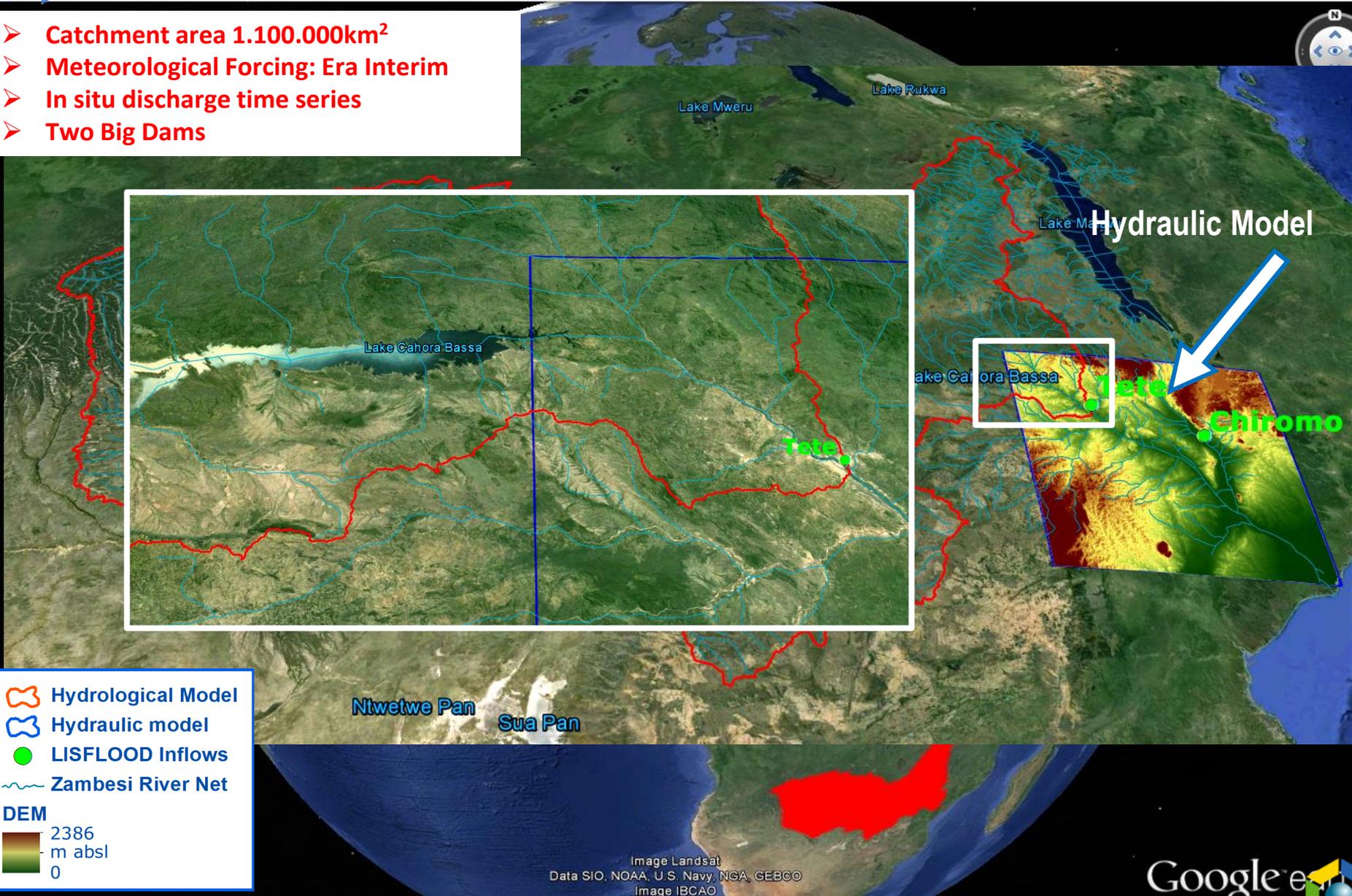
Efficiency on water elevation



Absolute error on water elevation



- Catchment area 1.100.000km<sup>2</sup>
- Meteorological Forcing: Era Interim
- In situ discharge time series
- Two Big Dams



-  Hydrological Model
-  Hydraulic model
-  LISFLOOD Inflows
-  Zambezi River Net

**DEM**

2386  
m absl  
0

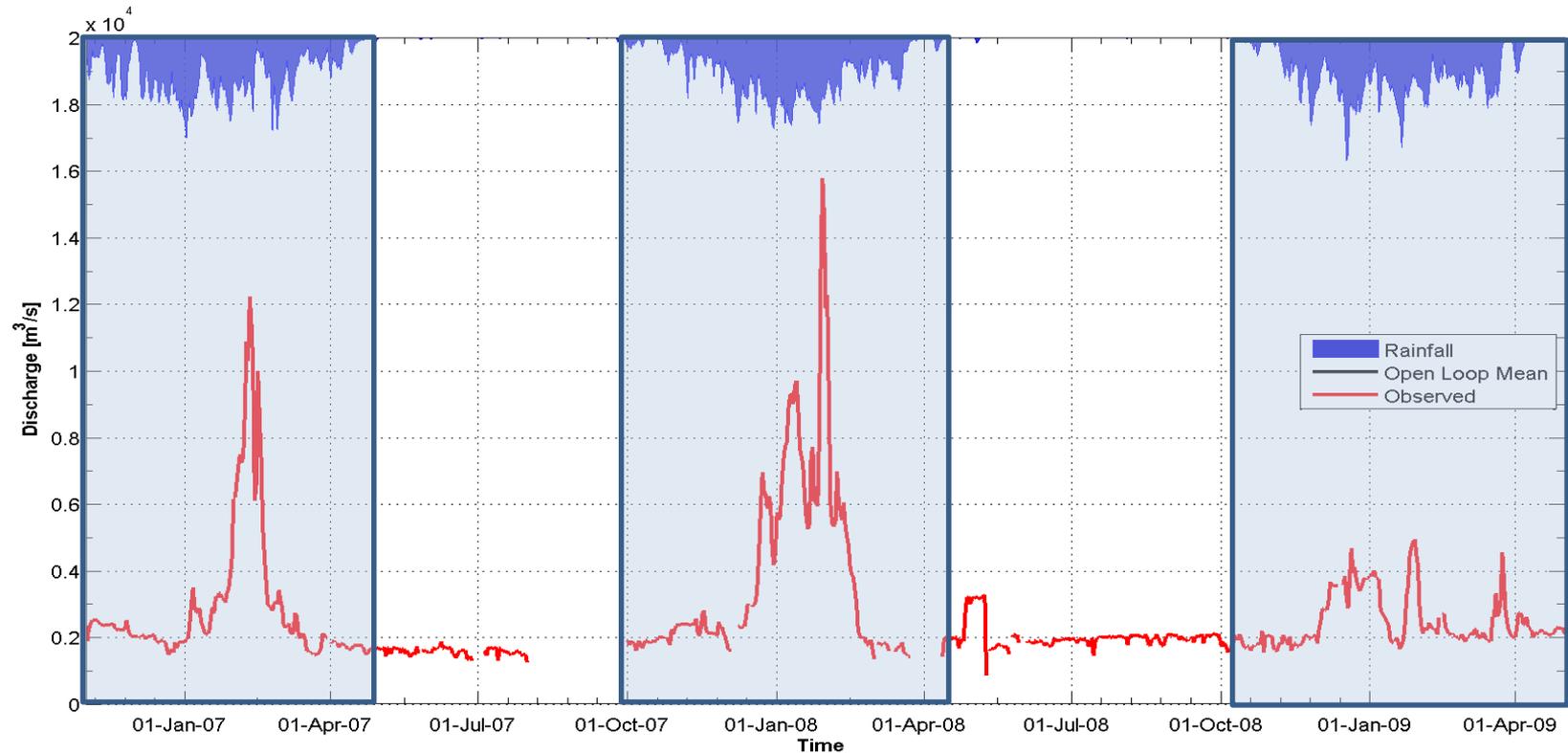
Image Landsat  
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image IBCAO

# Rain Season from October to April

## Effects Cahora Bassa Dam

**Near constant base flow during the dry period**

**Different response during floods**





- Calibration period Nov 2006 - Apr 2008
- Assimilation period Oct 2006 - Dec 2009
- Simulated period Jun 2003 - Dec 2012
- NS = 0.66
- Corr SWI - Q = 0.83

- Hydraulic Model calibrated by NASA by using water levels extract from the ICESAT image acquired on 13 March 2007

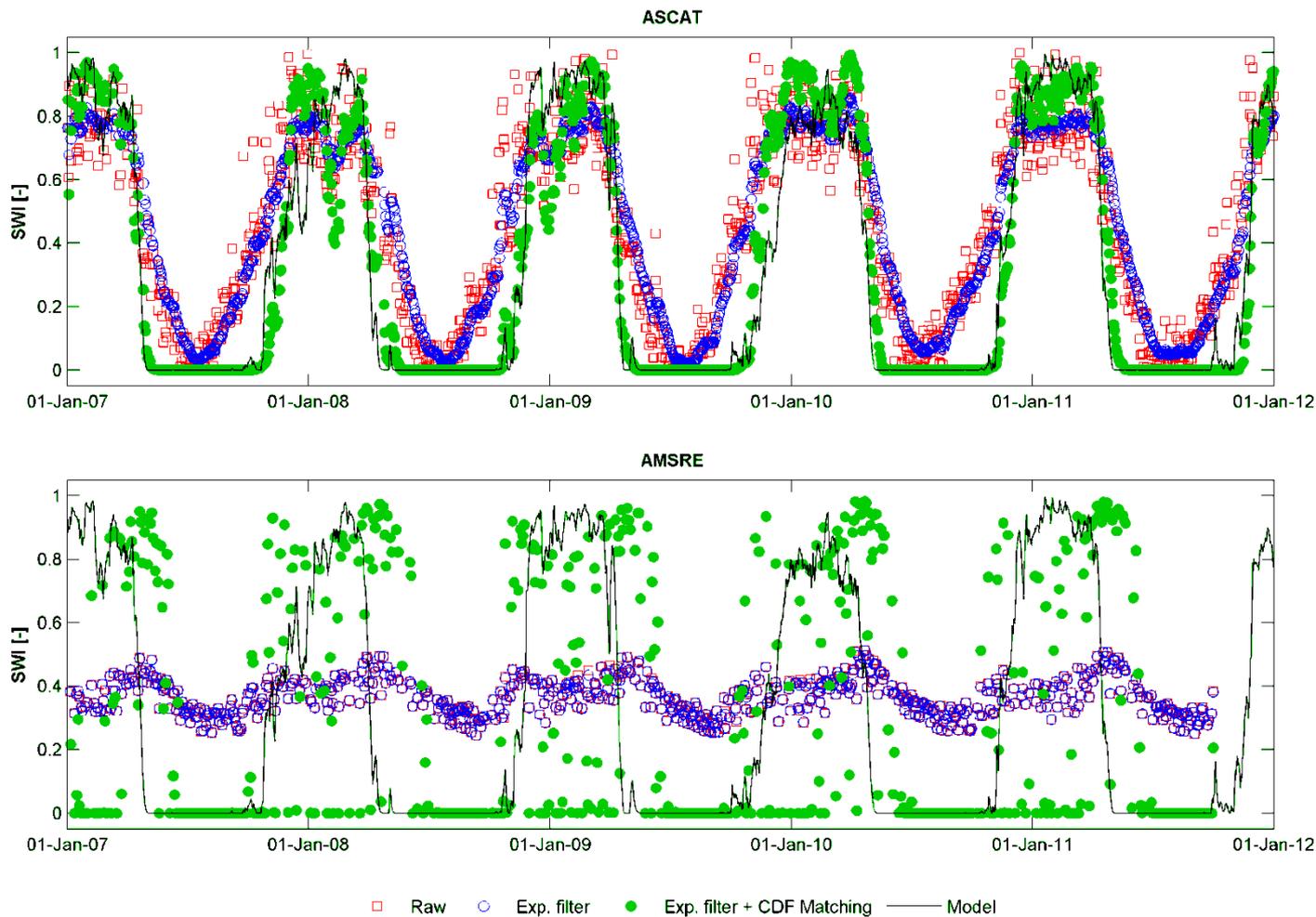
### Meteorological forcings (Precipitation and Temperature):

- ERA Interim total precipitation and temperature
- 1 day time resolution;
- Evapotranspiration was computed using Hamon



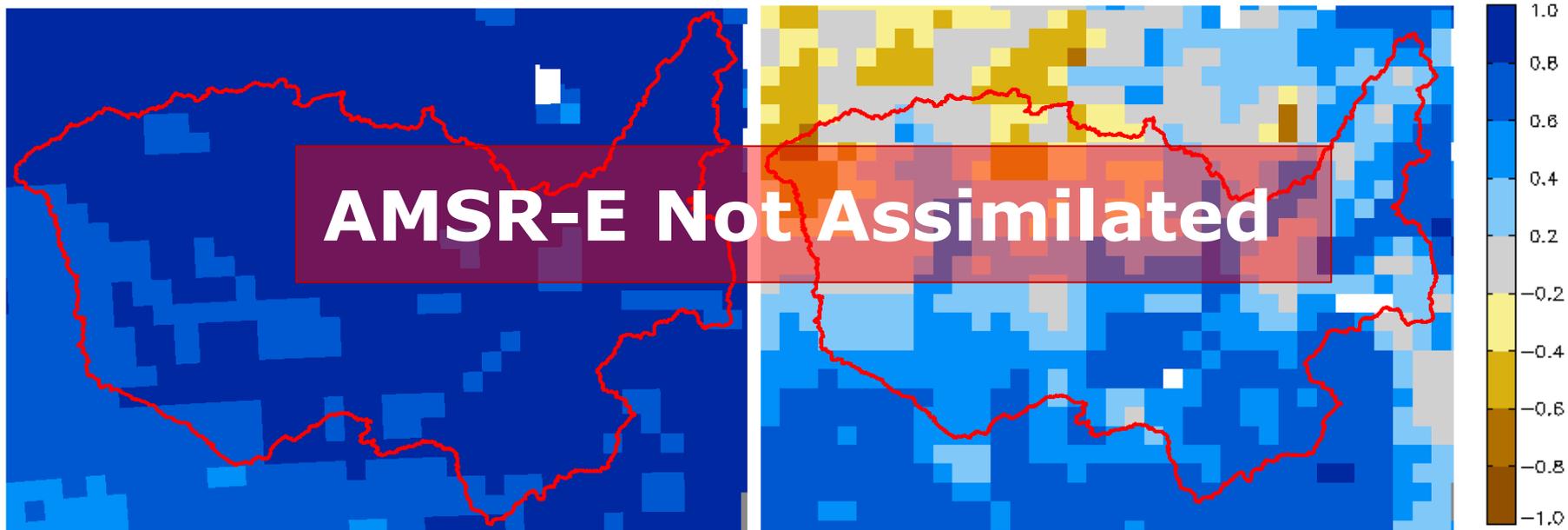


## Remote sensing-derived soil moisture





## AMSR-E Climatology



Correlation ASCAT Era Interim

Correlation AMSR-E Era Interim

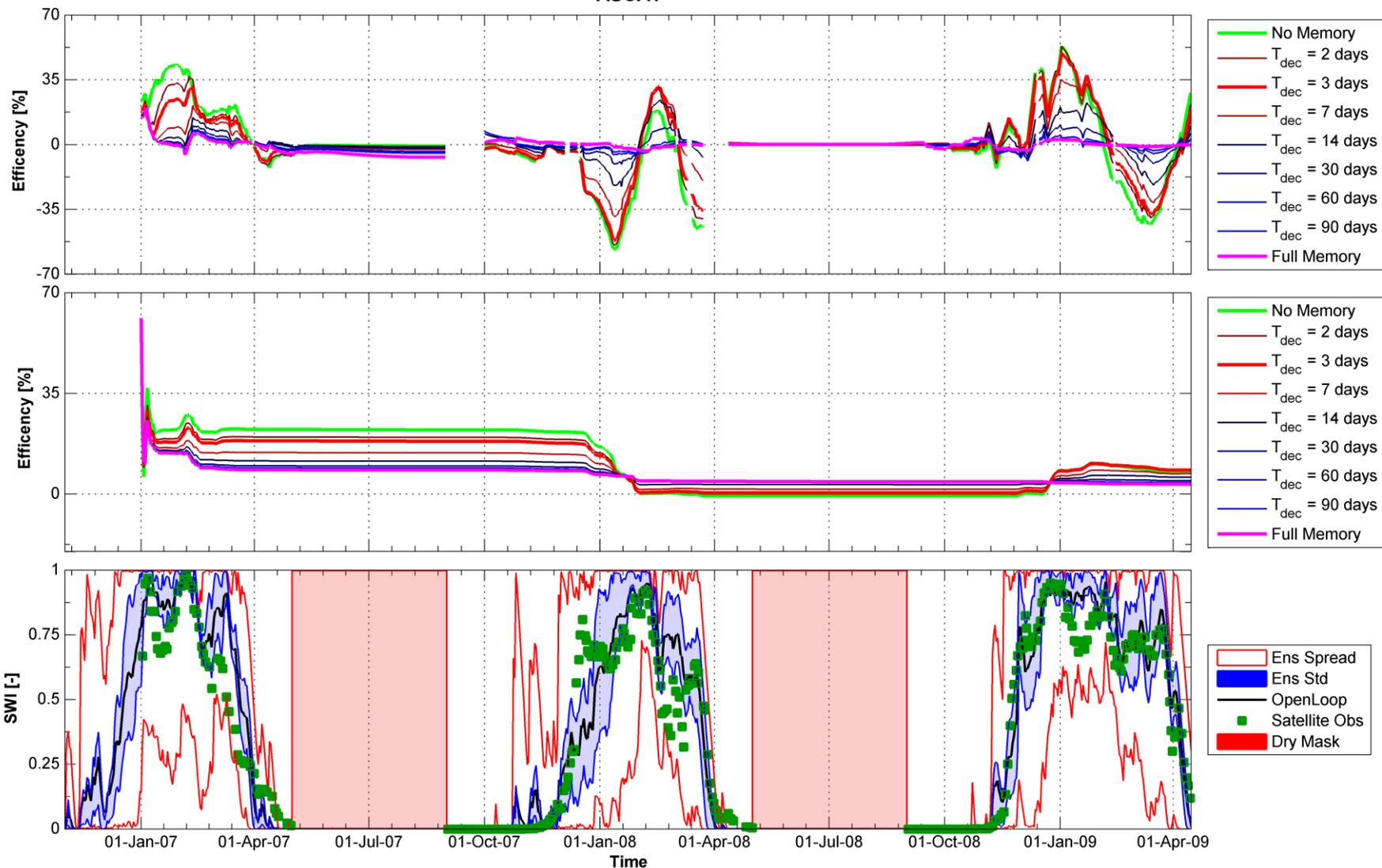
Source: Dorigo et al., HESS 2010





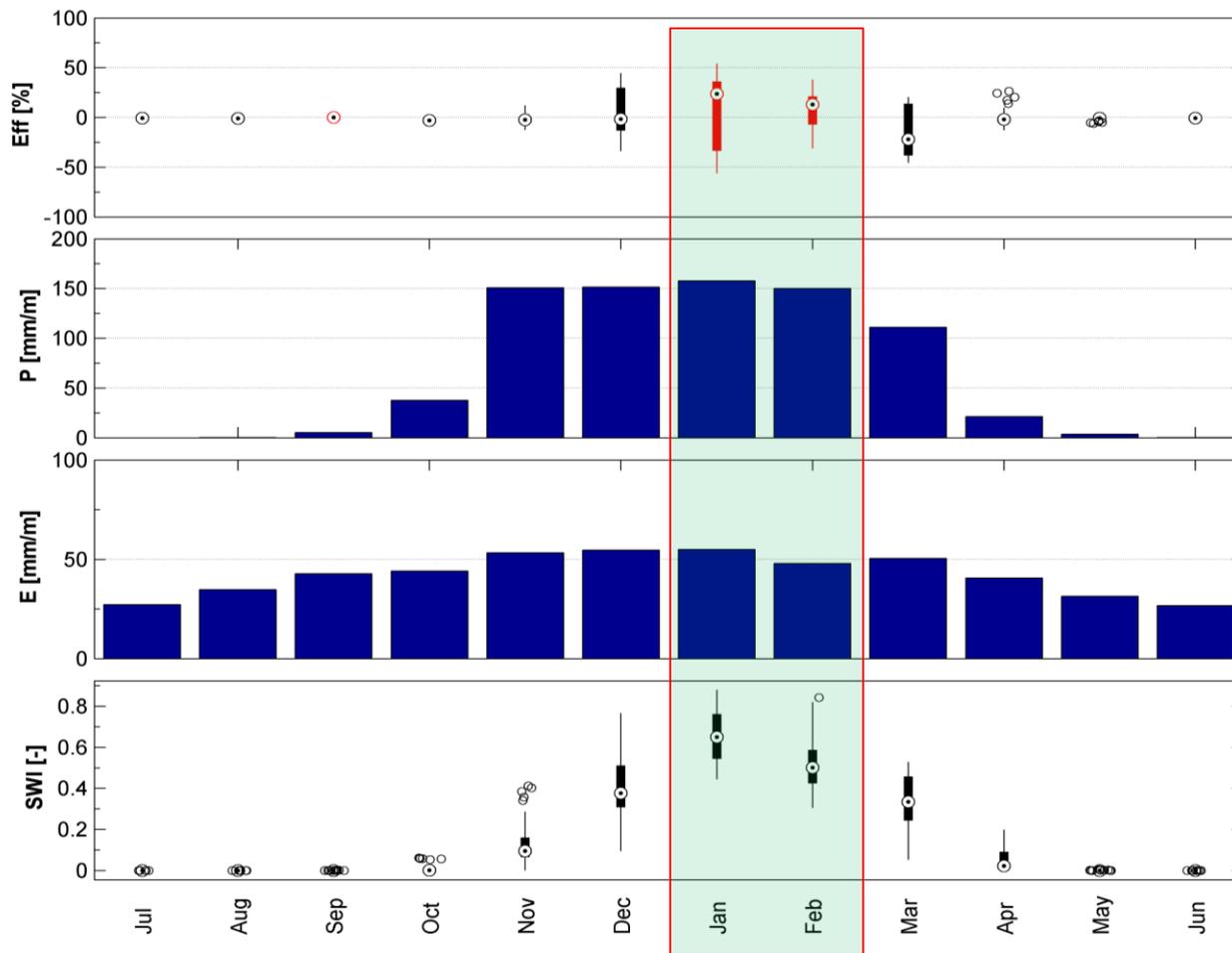
ASCAT

### ASCAT



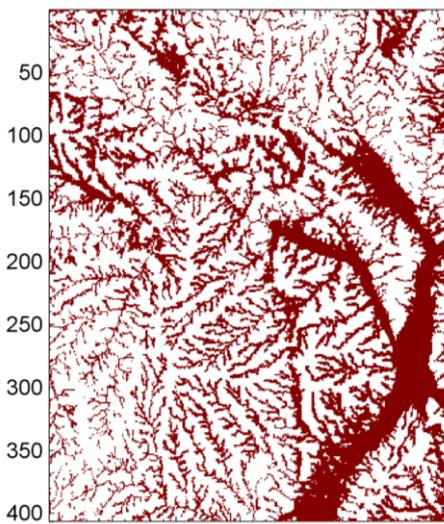


## ASCAT

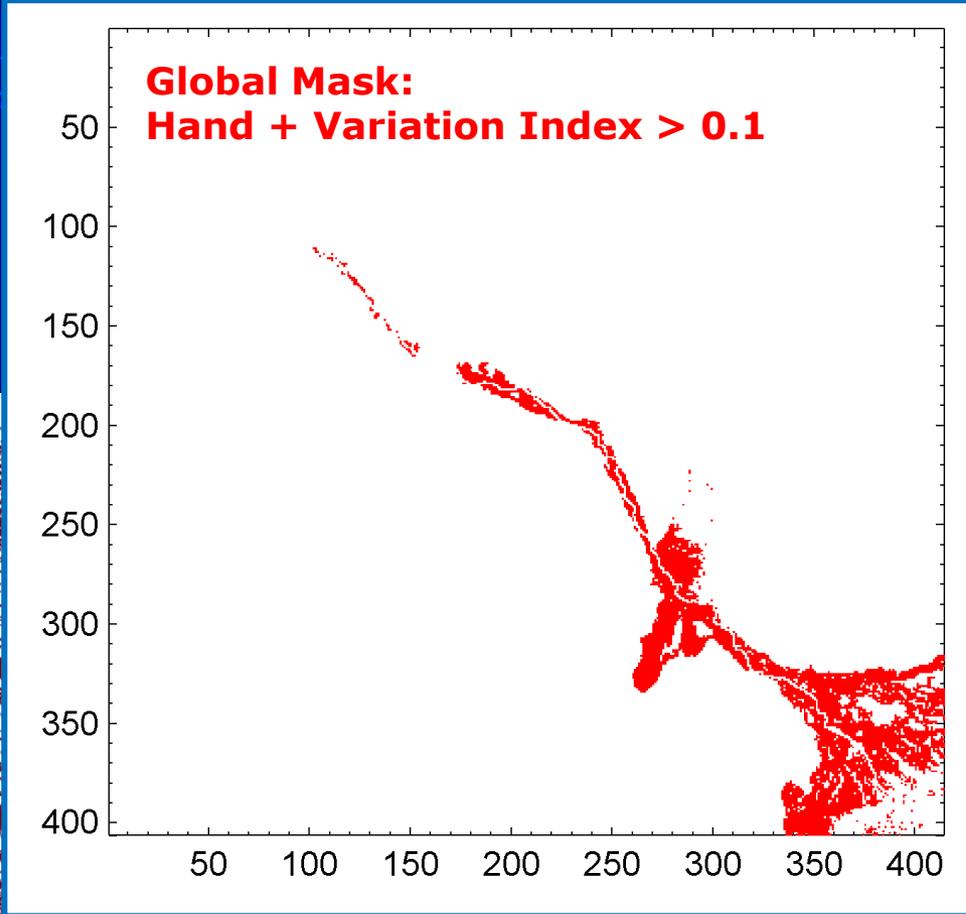




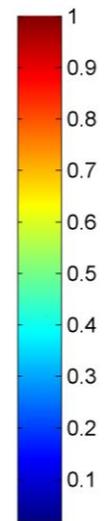
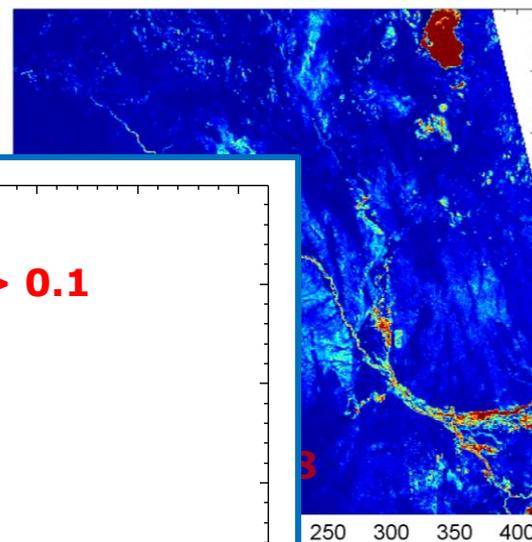
05-Feb-2008



Hand Mask 15 m



Variation Index



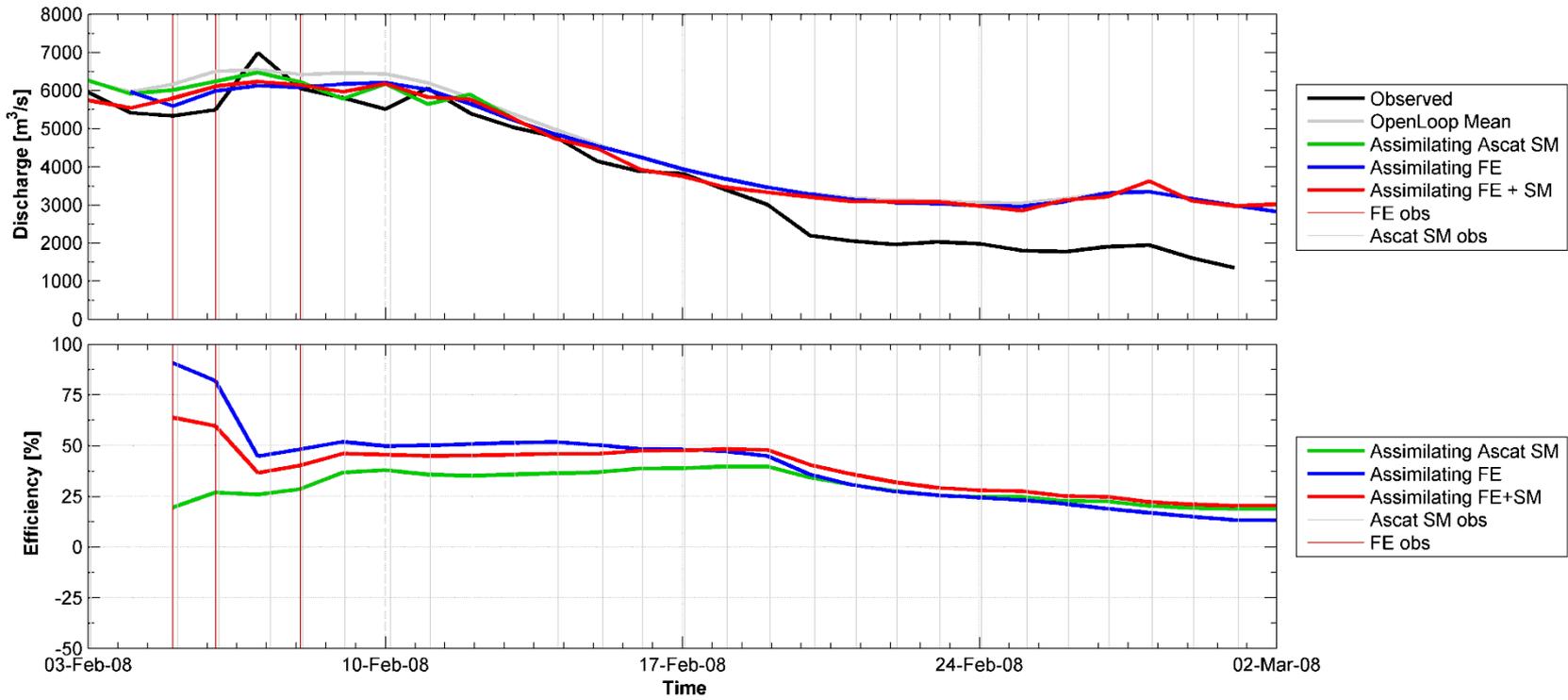
250 300 350 400

50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 0





## ENVISAT FE & ASCAT SM



- **The assimilation of RSD soil moisture products improves discharge predictions in specific time periods (“wet and warm”).**
- **The efficiency further depends on the satellite product, filter settings and the climatology of the catchment.**
- **The assimilation of FE outperforms SM data assimilation during storm events (when soils are saturated).**
- **RSD FE and SM provide complementary information for discharge predictions and a combination of both data sets is advantageous.**



**On practically all levels improvements are necessary and possible:**

- **Improve parameterisation of observing errors (e.g. autocorrelation structure, temporal and spatial variability)**
- **Further improve commensurability between models and data (necessary to fit model structures to characteristics of satellite data)**
- **Reduce existing time delay between data acquisition and higher level data dissemination (e.g. by developing fully automatic processing chains)**
- **Improvement of data assimilation schemes (e.g. feedbacks between models)**
- **Test with additional data: Sentinel-1, Cosmo Skymed, TerraSAR-X, Radarsat, ALOS, SMOS, SMAP**
- **Continue testing approach in contrasting regions across the Earth with multiple models**

