

What is the question we want to answer?

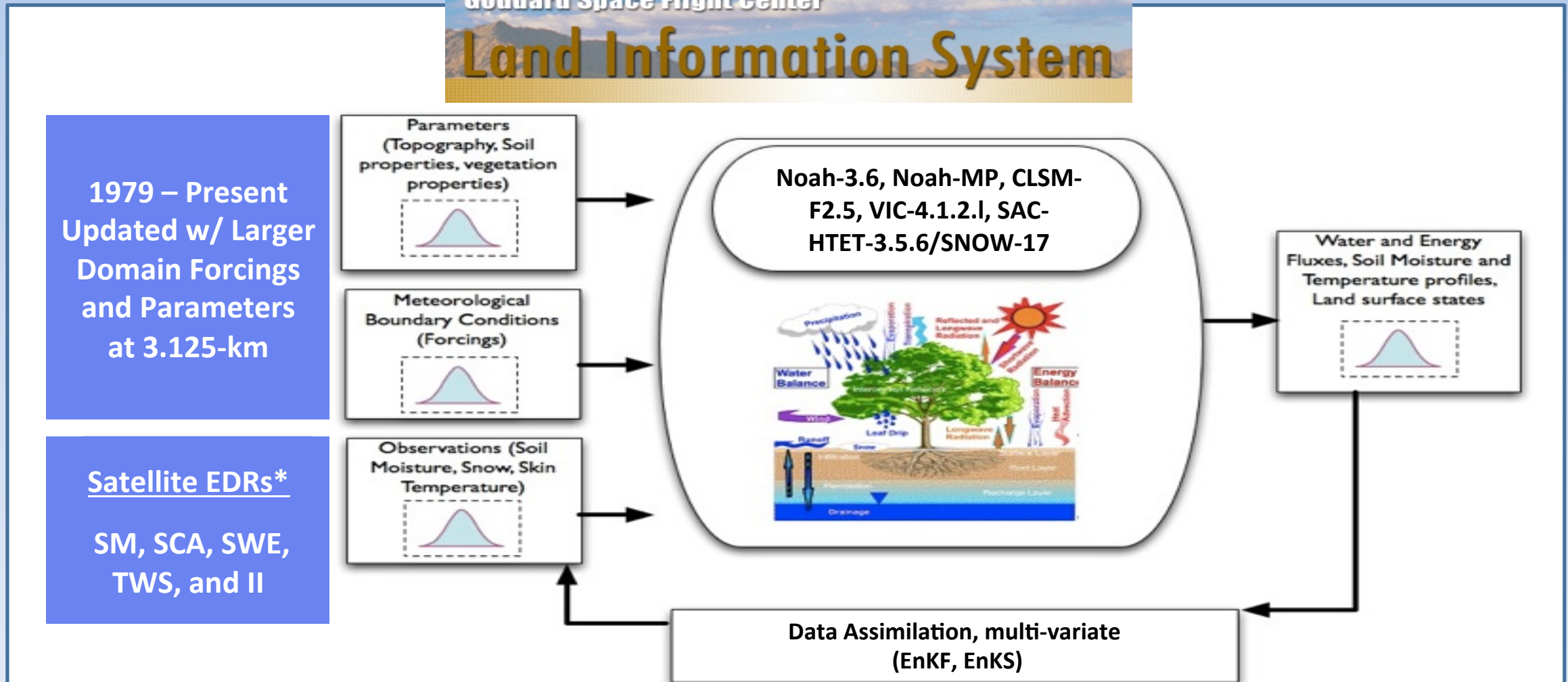
NASA/GSFC Land Information System (LIS) group

Christa Peters-Lidard, Sujay Kumar, David Mocko

NASA's Land Information System supports hyperresolution modeling, data assimilation, uncertainty estimation and benchmarking

Goddard Space Flight Center

Land Information System



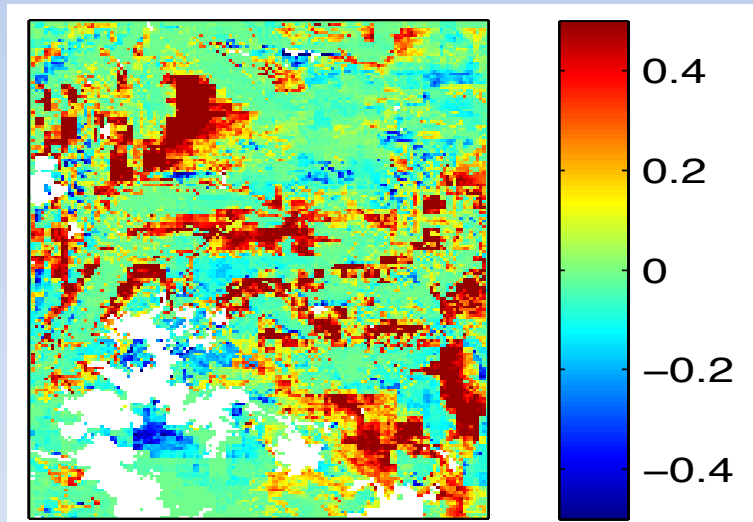
* Satellite-based Environmental Data Records (EDRs): soil moisture (SM), snow-covered area (SCA), snow water equivalent (SWE), terrestrial water storage (TWS), & irrigation intensity (II)

What is the value of remotely sensed snow observations for streamflow predictions?

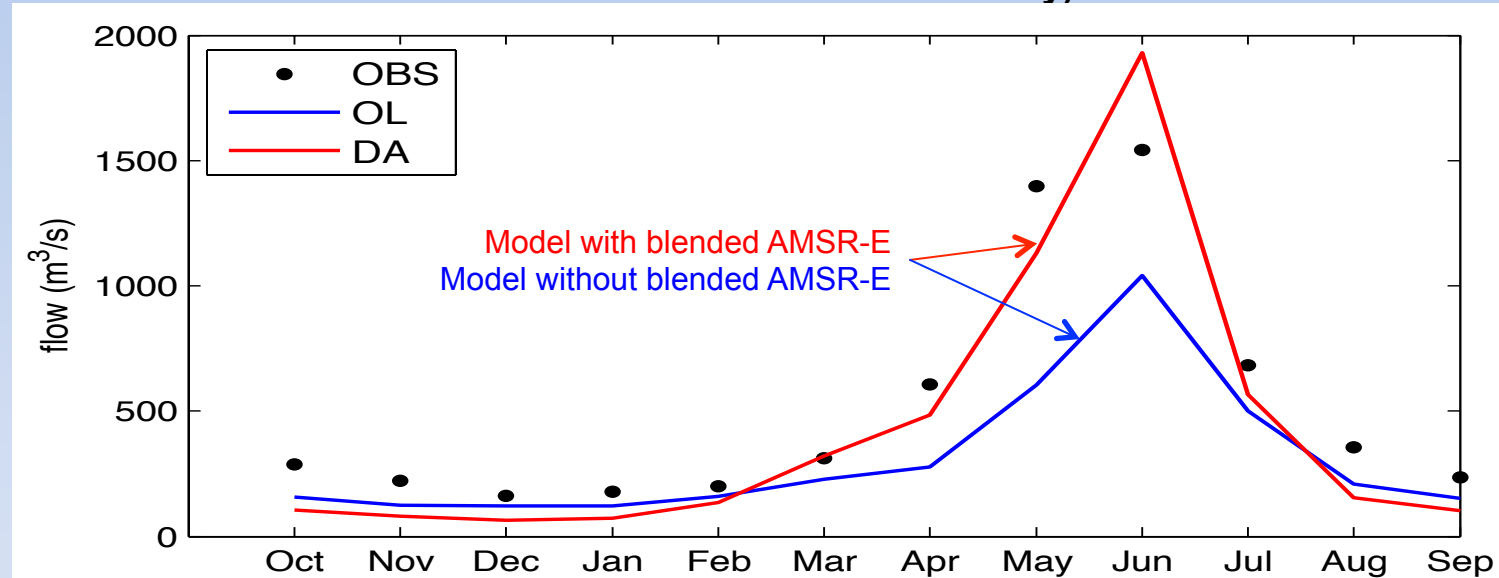
Yuqiong Liu, Christa Peters-Lidard, Sujay Kumar, Kristi Arsenault, and David Mocko

Hydrological Sciences Laboratory, Code 617, NASA/GSFC; University of Maryland, College Park; Science Applications International Corporation

Improvement in Snow Cover Probability of Detection (POD) When Assimilating Blended AMSR-E



Improvement in Streamflow When Assimilating Blended AMSR-E (Upper Colorado River at Lees Ferry)

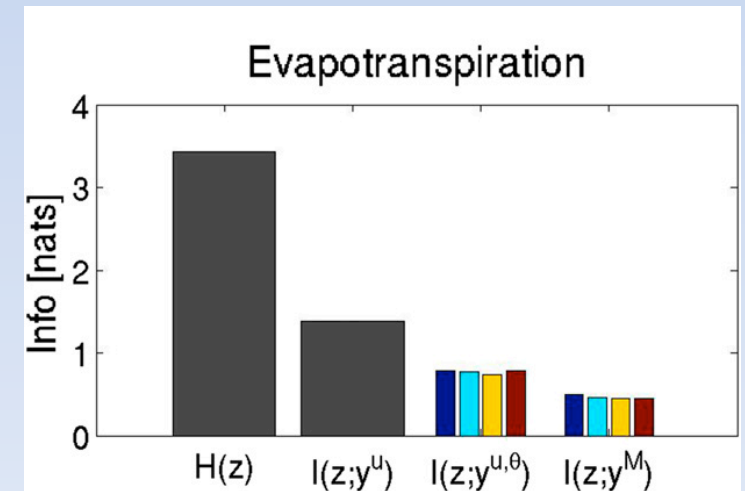
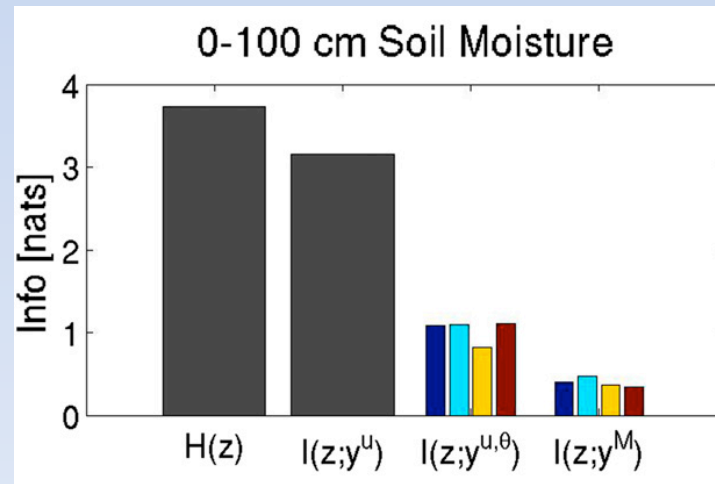
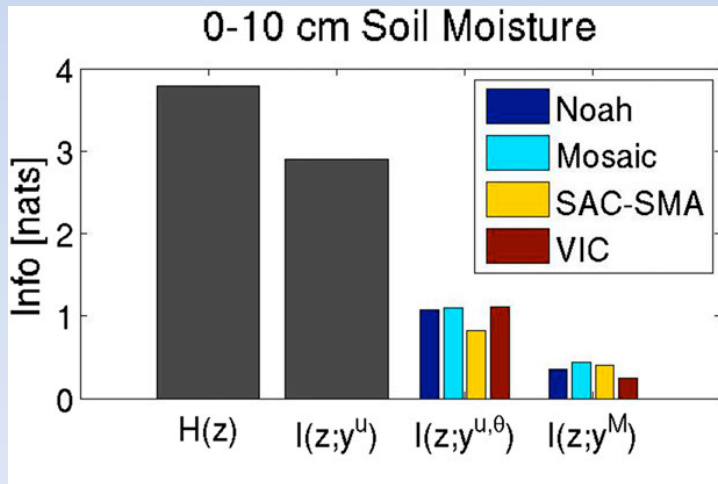
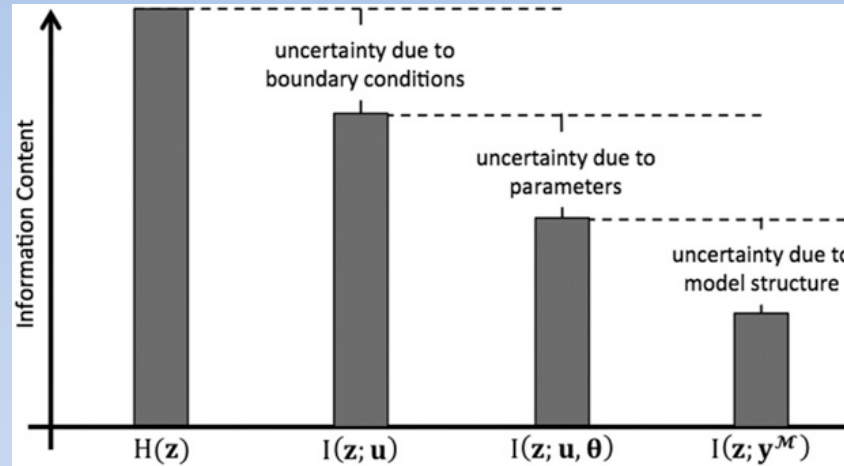


Assimilating AMSR-E snow depth data blended with in-situ snow observations while incorporating terrain aspect and MODIS snow cover leads to considerably improved snow and streamflow predictions in the Upper Colorado River Basin.

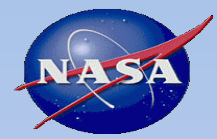
Liu, Y., C. D. Peters-Lidard, S. V. Kumar, K. R. Arsenault, and D. M. Mocko. 2015. "Blending satellite-based snow depth products with in situ observations for streamflow predictions in the Upper Colorado River Basin." *Water Resour. Res.* 51 (2): 1182-1202 [10.1002/2014WR016606]

Liu, Y., C. D. Peters-Lidard, S. Kumar, J. L. Foster, M. Shaw, Y. Tian, and G. M. Fall, 2013. Assimilating satellite-based snow depth and snow cover products for improving snow predictions in Alaska, *Adv. Water Resour.*, 54, 208-227.

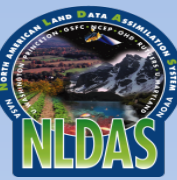
What are sources of uncertainty?: Benchmarking



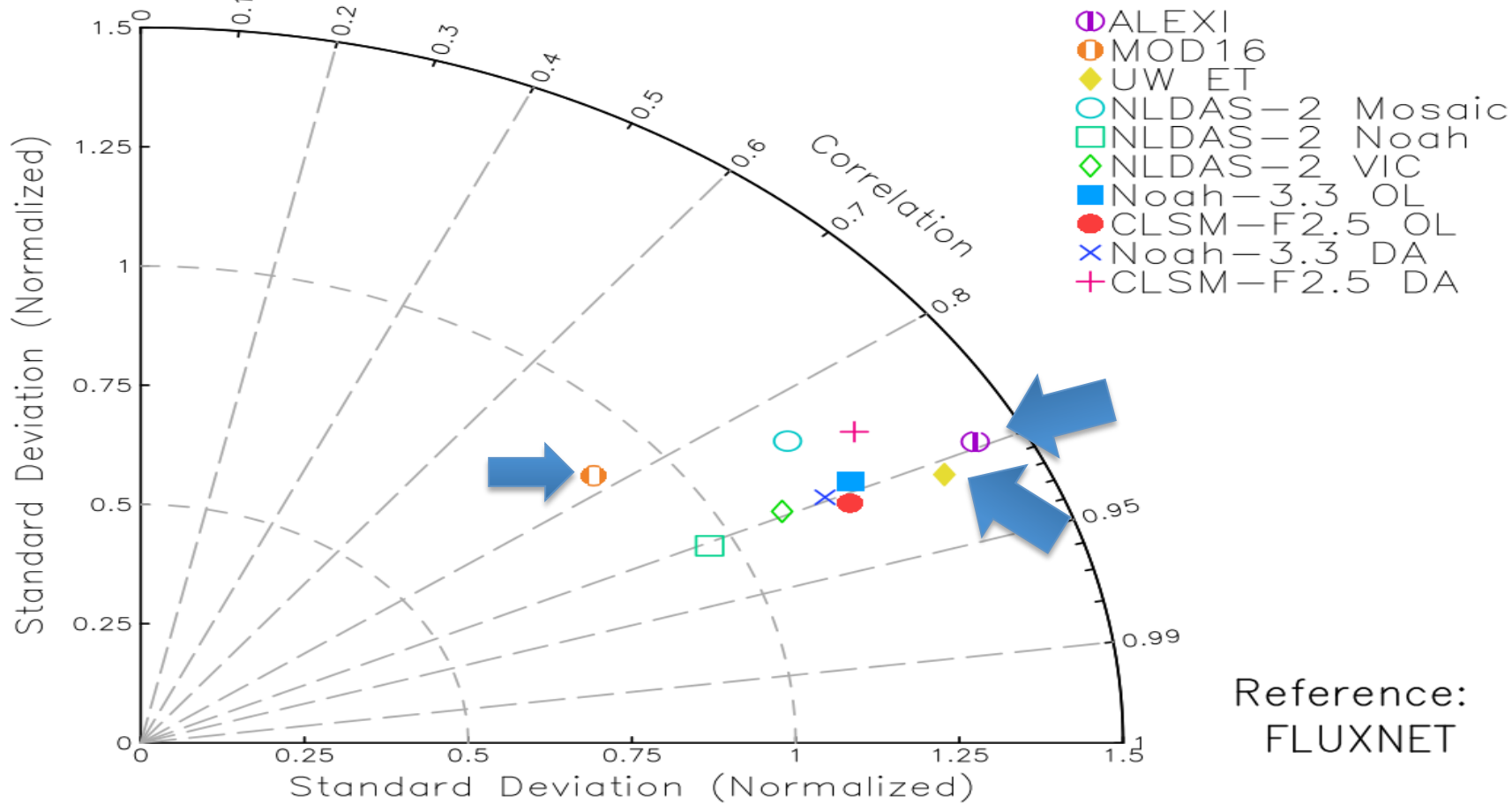
Nearing, Grey S., David M. Mocko, Christa D. Peters-Lidard, Sujay V. Kumar, and Youlong Xia, 2016: Benchmarking NLDAS-2 Soil Moisture and Evapotranspiration to Separate Uncertainty Contributions Journal of Hydrometeorology, 17:3, 745-759 , DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/JHM-D-15-0063.1>.



Benchmarking requires observations



Latent Heat Flux (2001–2008) 25.5–49.0 North



Taylor diagram using FLUXNET product as reference dataset.

ALEXI, MOD16, and UW ET compared to FLUXNET are shown.

NLDAS-2 LSMs shown with open marks.

Noah-3.3/CLSM-F2.5 OL runs shown with closed marks.

Noah-3.3/CLSM-F2.5 DA runs shown with “X” and “+”.

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- Limitations:** 1) Insufficient number/quality of precipitation gauges and streamflow monitoring sites in western U.S. and Canada (especially high-terrain regions)
2) Incomplete consideration of surface water and of anthropogenic water usage/diversions (irrigation, reservoirs, floodplains, etc.)
3) Insufficient high resolution observations for model evaluation and benchmarking.

- Objectives/Tasks:** 1) Higher resolution LSMs with improved forcing/observations (such as the next phase of NLDAS, including a larger domain) using the Land Information System (LIS)
2) Integrated multivariate hydrologic data assimilation to improve over data poor regions as well as to capture natural/anthropogenic heterogeneity (soil moisture, snow, GRACE, SWOT)
3) Improved physical modeling capabilities (ET, floodplains, river stage, lakes, etc.)

- Benefits:** 1) Improved drought monitoring as well as initial conditions for forecast models
2) Higher-quality datasets for water availability trends and indicators (e.g., NCA-LDAS)

Other critical issues: Soil texture and parameter databases, model calibration/optimization