

**Geographically Weighted Regression (GWR):  
A Better Spatial Technique to Model Sediments  
Quality of Lake Okeechobee**

**FL-ASPRS Annual Meeting**

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# Outline

- I. Background
- II. Objectives
- III. Methodologies
- IV. Data exploration
- V. GWR models for total phosphorus (TP)
- VI. Conclusions

# I. Background

- Lake Okeechobee is the largest lake in the southeastern US with an area of 1730 km<sup>2</sup> and an average depth of 2.7 m;
- Lake Okeechobee has excessive phosphorus loads:
  - TP accumulated in mud sediments (44% of lake bottom)
  - Increased TP concentration in water column
  - Increased algal blooms
- It is critical to track the nutrient distribution and its changes over-time

## II. Objectives

- Develop optimal spatial models for TP in the lake sediments;
- Examine the spatial changes of TP (1988-2006);
- Calculate the amount of nutrients (TP), its spatial-temporal changes, and identify the hotspots.

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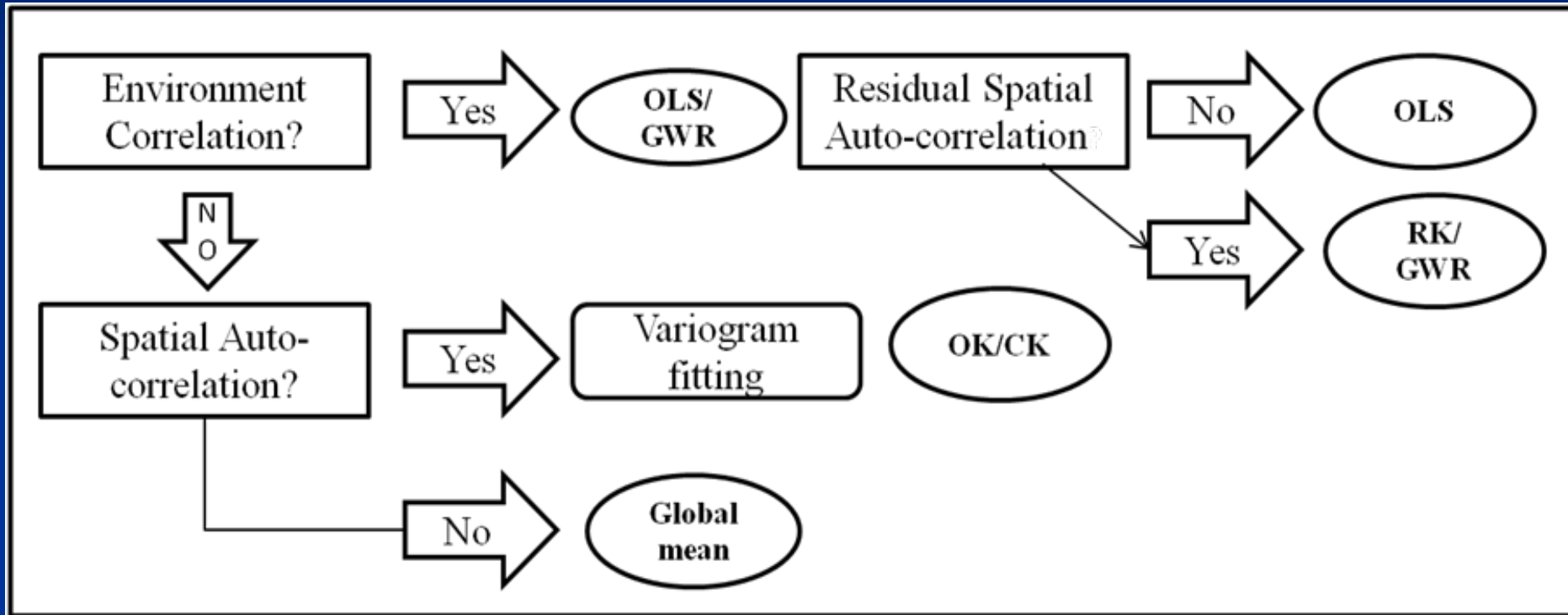
## III. Methodologies

- Changes of spatial modeling techniques
- Model selection & model accuracy
- Geographically Weighted Regression (GWR)
  - Weighting functions & bandwidth
  - Optimal bandwidth & nearest neighbors
  - Model performance

# Development of Spatial Modeling Techniques

- Great efforts have been made to develop generic and robust spatial interpolation techniques for many years;
- Kriging and its variants (from 1950s - )
- Environmental correlation (Regression) (1990s - )
  - Development of GIS and remote sensing technologies
- Hybrid models
  - Ancillary data is used to improve spatial prediction;
  - Good for non-stationary data;
  - Examples:
    - Regression-Kriging (RK) (late 1990s- )
    - Spatial regression (GWR) (2000s- )

# Geostatistical Model Selection Procedure



(OLS: ordinary least square, OK: ordinary kriging; CK: Co-kriging; RK: regression-kriging and GWR: geographically weighted regression)



## Model Accuracy and Comparison

- Use objective criteria to evaluate model errors, robustness and reliability

- Mean error:

$$ME = \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^l [\hat{z}(s_i) - Z^*(s_i)]; E\{ME\} = 0$$

- Root mean square error (RMSE):

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^l [\hat{z}(s_i) - Z^*(s_i)]^2}; E\{RMSE\} = \sigma(h = 0)$$

- Scatter plots of observed vs. predicted values

## What is GWR?

- GWR analyzes spatially varying relationships between the target variable and ancillary variables;
- Developed by Fotheringham and Brunson (2000, 2002)
- Based on the “First Law of Geography”: everything is related with everything else, but closer things are more related (Tobler 1970);
- $\beta_k$ s vary from location to location, and the interpolation can be expressed as:

$$y_i = \beta_0(u_i, v_i) + \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k(u_i, v_i) x_{ik}(u_i, v_i) + \varepsilon_i$$

$(u_i, v_i)$  is the coordinates of the  $i$ th observation

$\beta_k(u_i, v_i)$  is a realization of the function  $\beta_k(u, v)$  at point  $i$

## GWR vs. OLS

- OLS:
  - Global regression model
  - One equation, calibrated using data from all features
  - Relationships are fixed
- GWR:
  - Local regression model
  - One equation for every feature, calibrated using data from nearby features
  - Relationships are allowed to vary across the study area

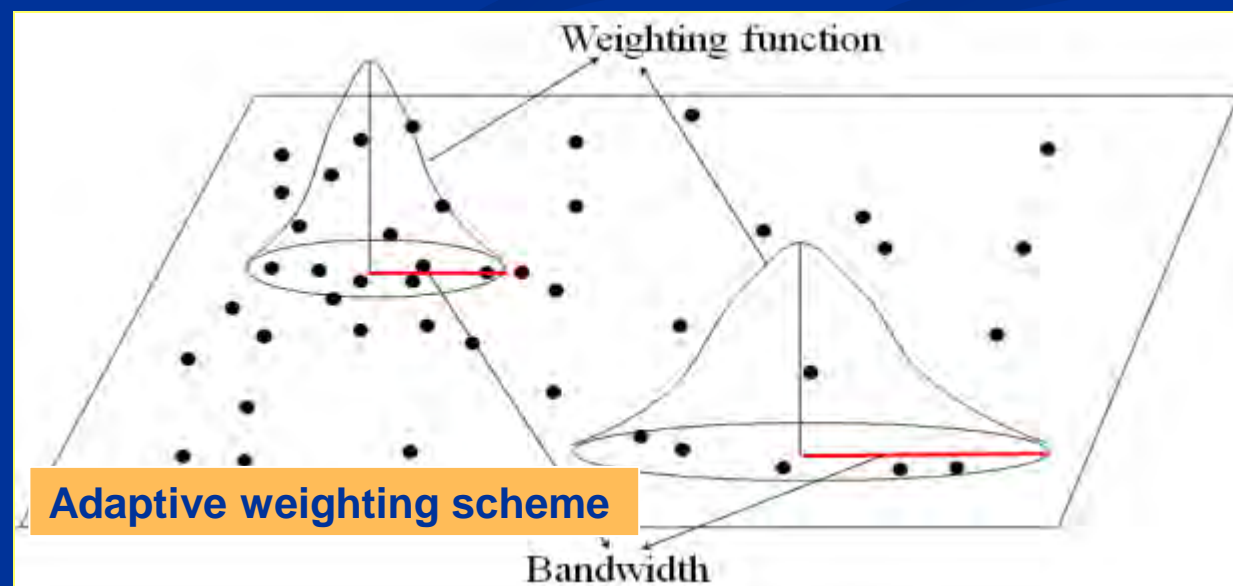
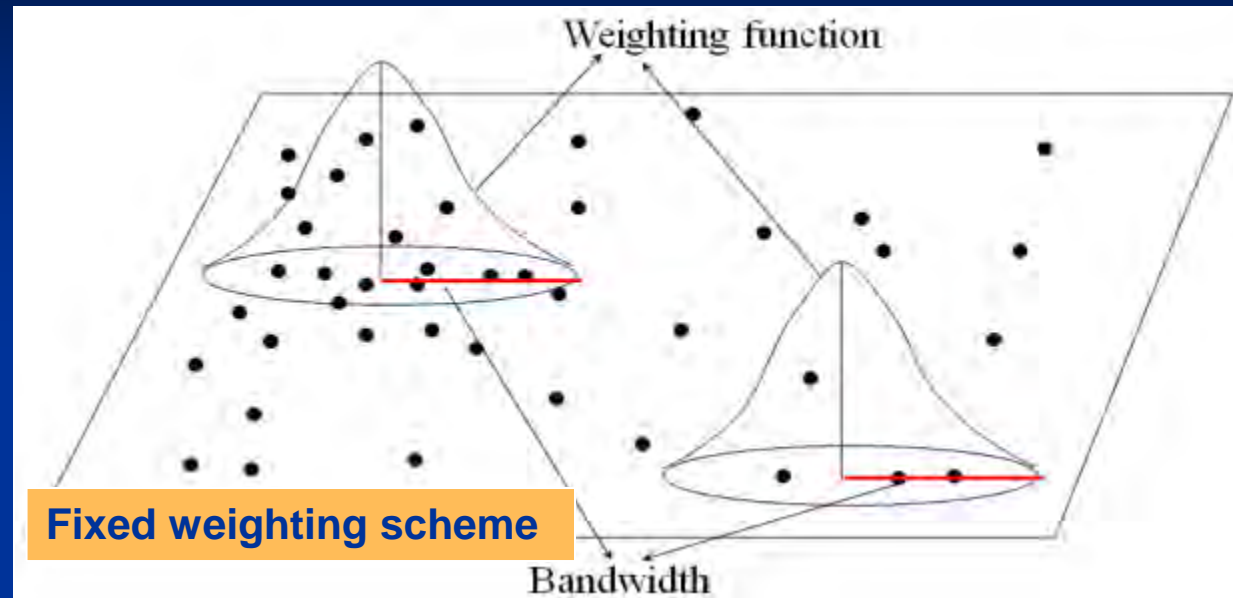
# GWR Weighting Schemes and Bandwidths

- Model parameters depend on weighting function and bandwidth
- Gaussian scheme:

$$w_{ij} = \exp \left[ -\frac{d_{ij}^2}{h^2} \right]$$

- Bi-square scheme:

$$w_{ij} = \begin{cases} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{d_{ij}}{h} \right)^2 \right]^2 & \text{if } d_{ij} < h \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



# Optimal Bandwidth/Neighbor Selection

- An optimal bandwidth (or nearest neighbors) can be selected by satisfying either
  - the least cross-validation (CV) score:

$$CV = \sum_{i=0}^n (y_i - y_{j \neq i})^2$$

- or least Akaike Information Criterion (AIC):

$$AIC_c = 2n \log_e(\hat{\sigma}) + n \log_e(2\pi) + n \left\{ \frac{n + \text{tr}(\mathbf{S})}{n - 2 - \text{tr}(\mathbf{S})} \right\}$$

# GWR Model Performance & Diagnosis

- The corrected AICc is the measure of goodness of fit for GWR models;
- AICc provides a measure of the information distance between the fitted model and the unknown 'true' model;
- AICc can be used to compare the global OLS model with a local GWR model;
- Other model performance indicators:
  - Sum of the squared residuals (SSR)
  - Sigma , and
  - $R^2$

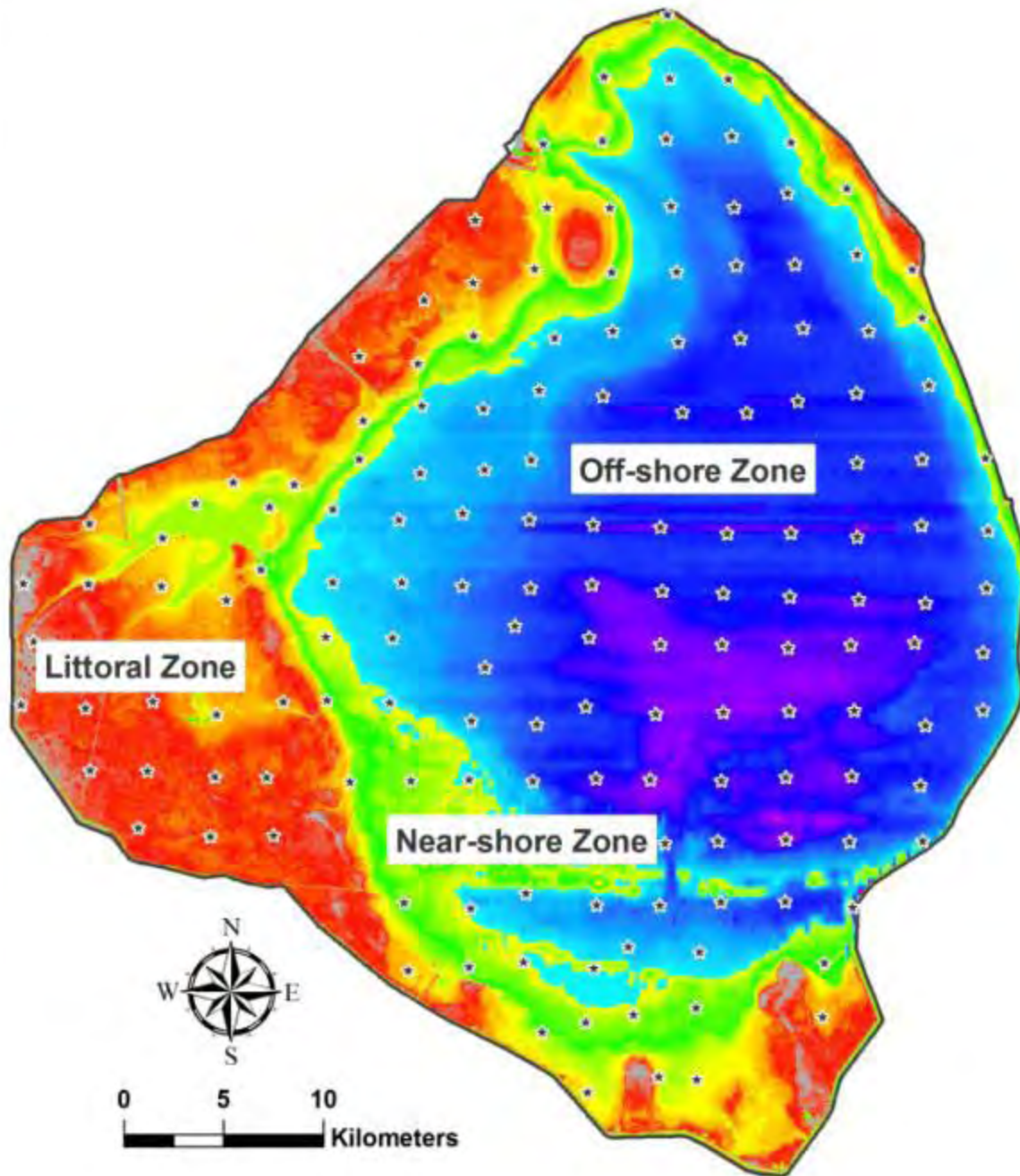
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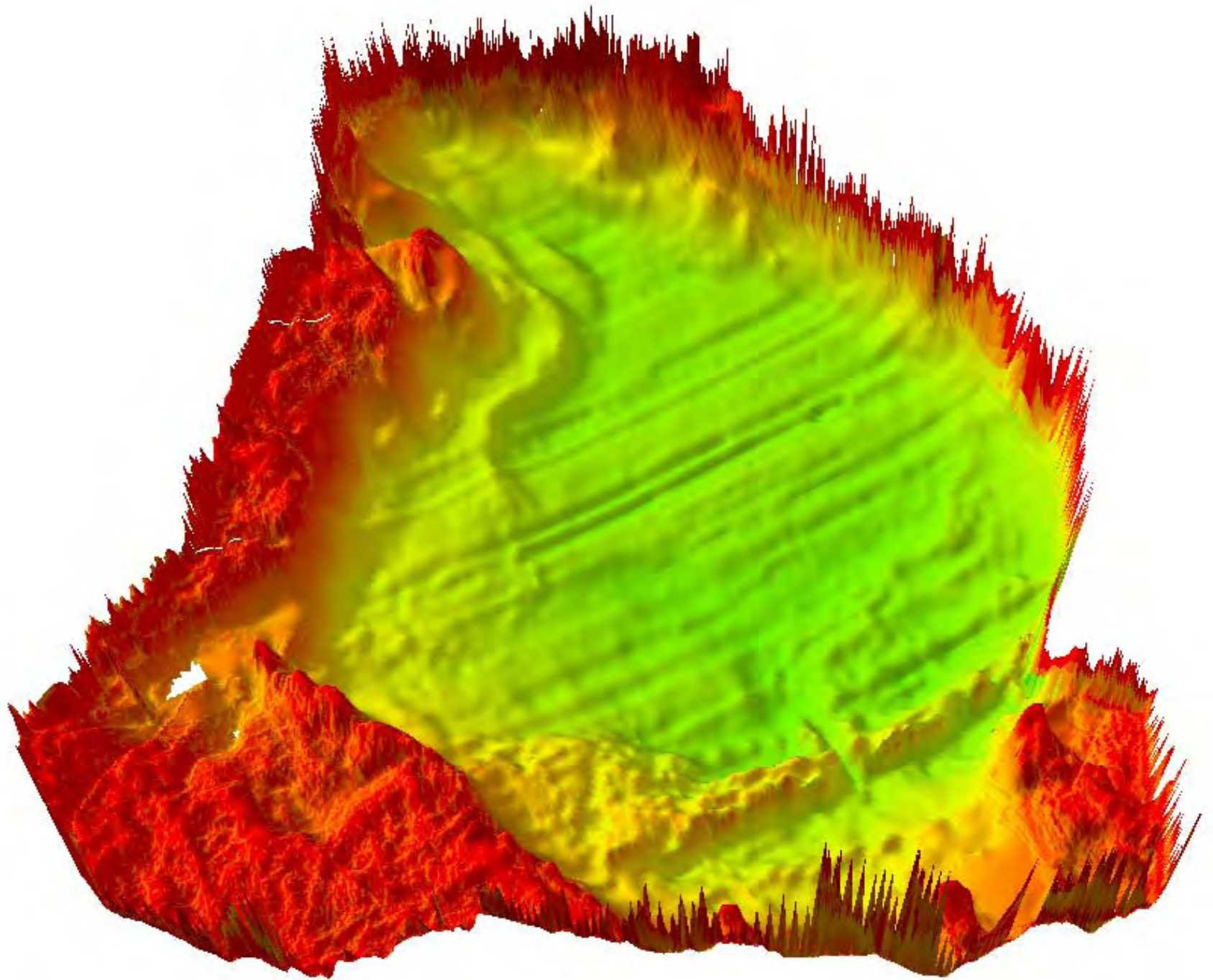
## IV. Data Exploration

- **Sediments Data**
  - 170 sediment core samples taken in 1988, 1998 and 2006
  - Mud thickness and nutrients (TP, TN, TC, Fe, Ca, etc)
  - Mud density
- **Digital Elevation Model**
  - Lake bathymetry data (2008), and LIDAR (2007-2008)
  - Bathymetry & LiDAR data integration
- **Data summarization and characteristics**
  - Distribution
  - Trends
  - Correlations

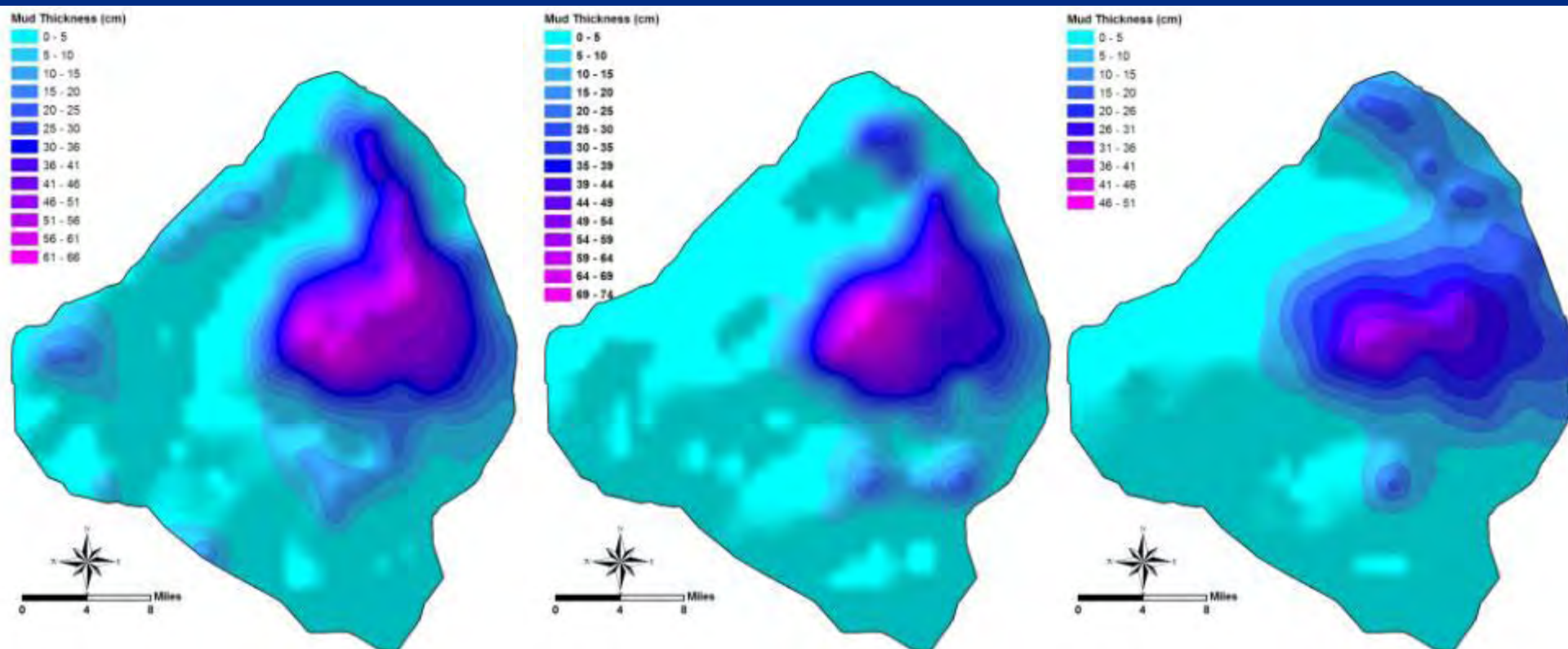




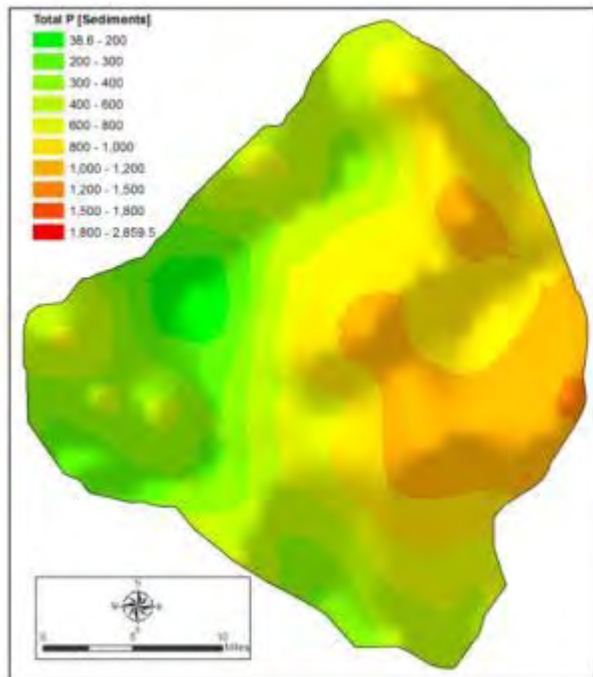
Bathymetry,  
eco-zones and  
sample sites  
Lake Okeechobee



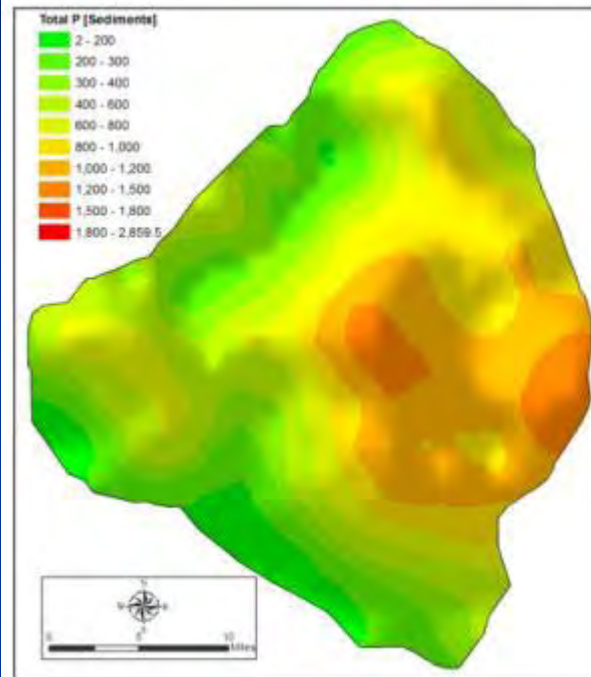
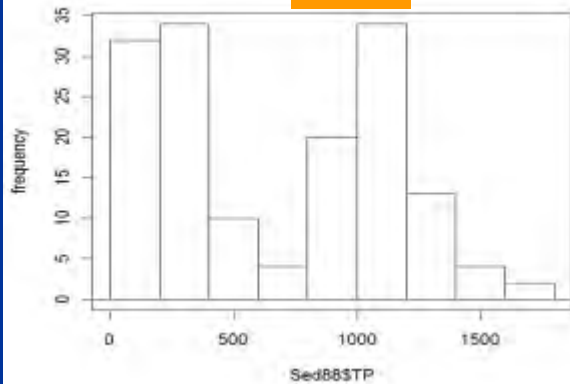
# Mud Thickness Variation Using OK



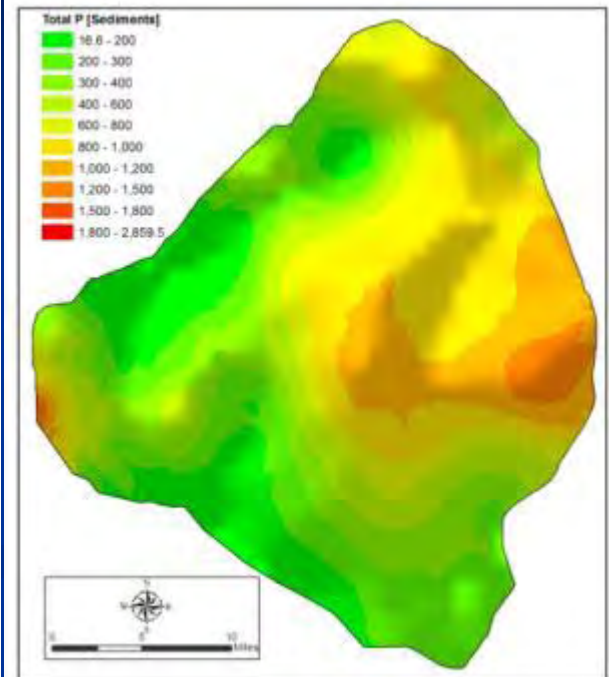
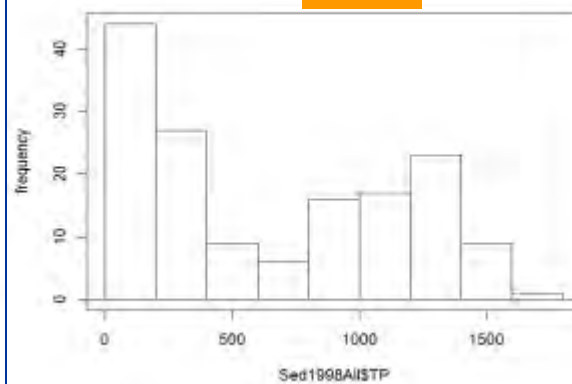
# TP Histograms and Maps Using OK



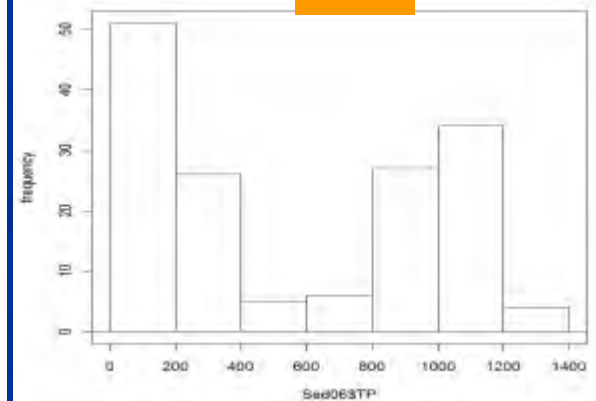
1988



1998

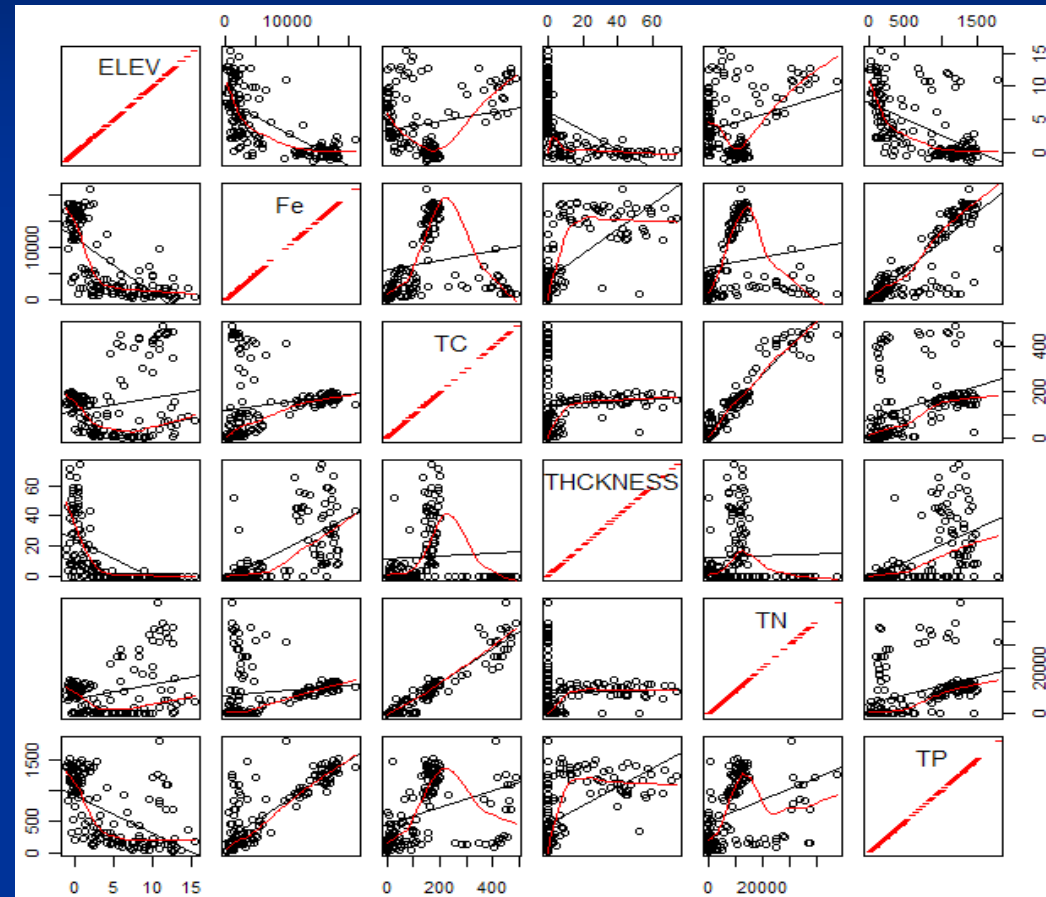


2006



# Explore Relationship Using Scatter Plot Matrix

- TP
  - ❖ Strong positive correlation with Fe
  - ❖ Weak positive correlation with mud thickness and TC
  - ❖ Weak negative with site elevation
- All these similar correlations exist in all 3 data sets



1998 data

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## V. GWR Model Calibration & Validation

- First identify the best OLS regression models using the ArcGIS OLS Tool;
- Then perform GWR analysis using the ArcGIS GWR Tool;
- Compare the fit/performance of the OLS & GWR models using  $R^2$  and AICc;
- Select the best GWR sub models for validation.

## Statistically Significant Regression Models

- Best regression models identified using OLS
  - ❖ TP vs. Total Fe
  - ❖ TP vs. Mud Thickness (Th) and Elevation (Elev)
- Perform GWR model analysis for these models

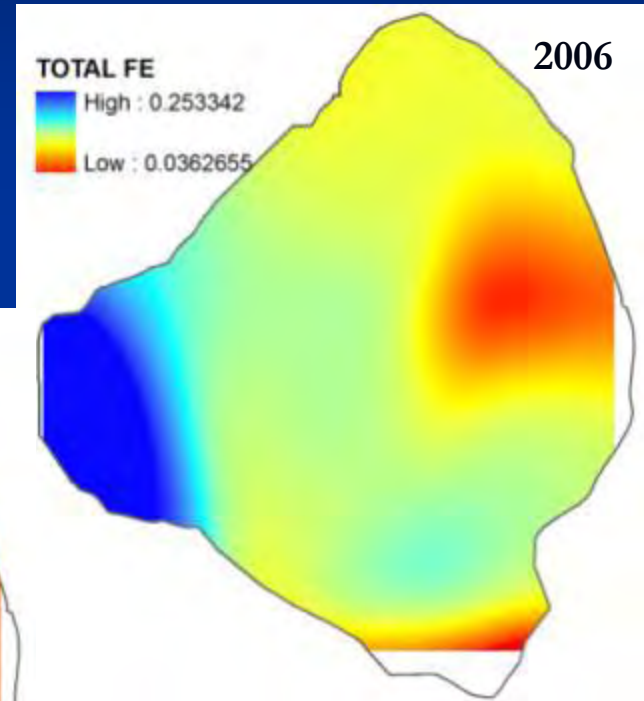
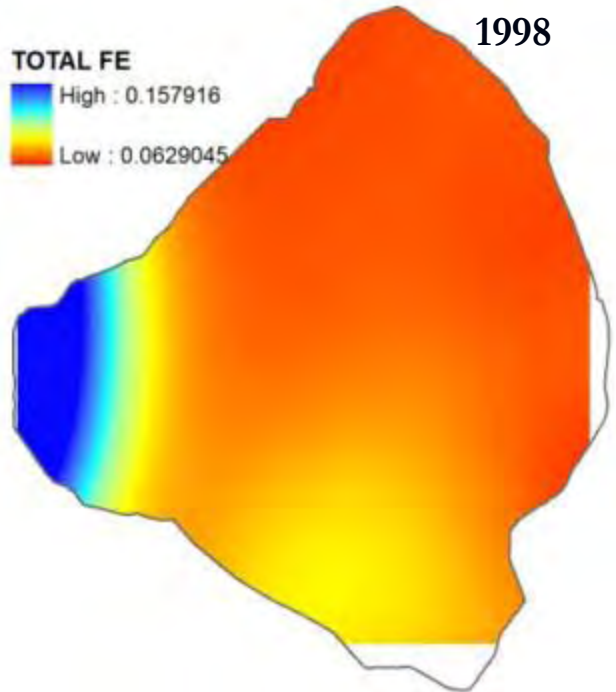
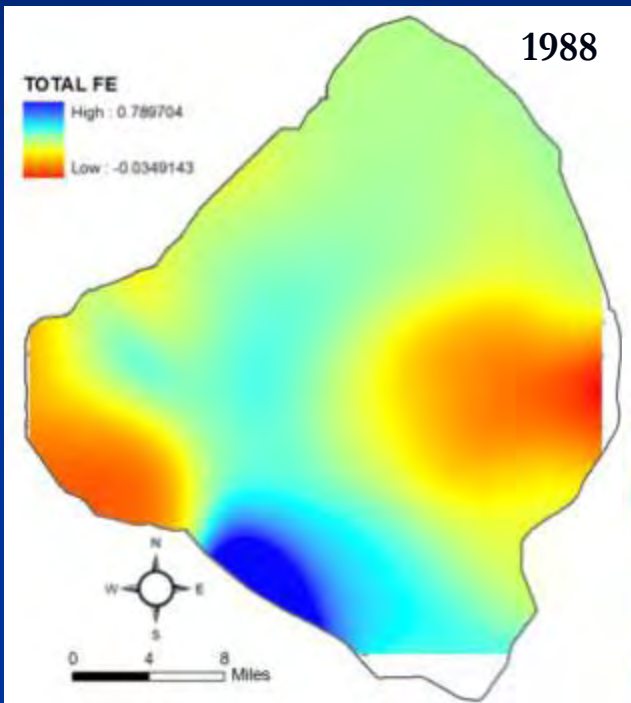


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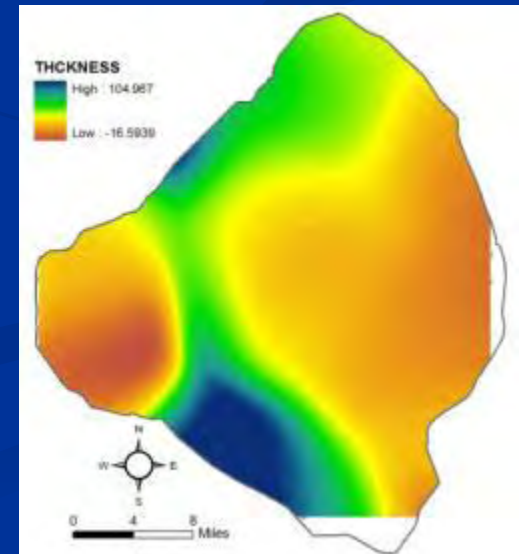
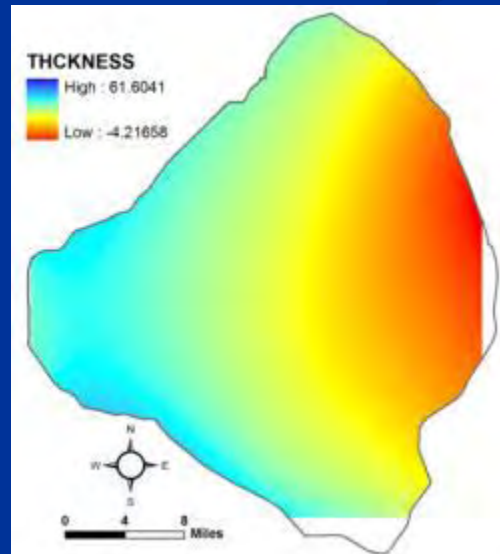
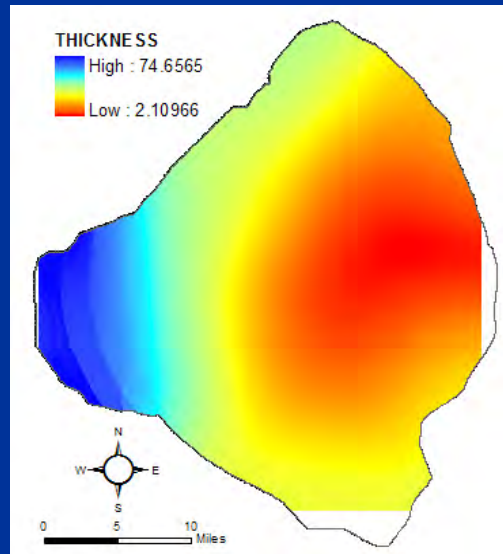
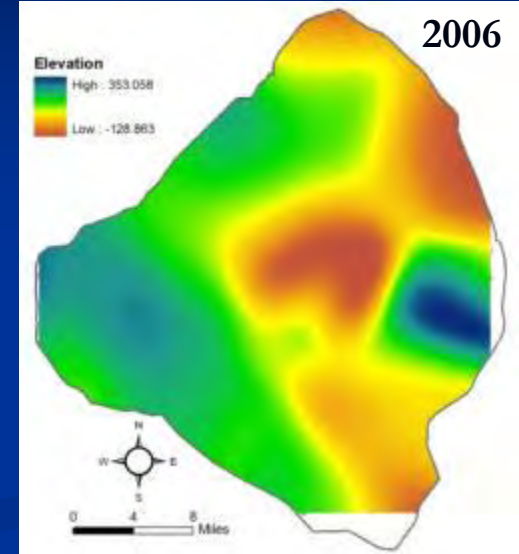
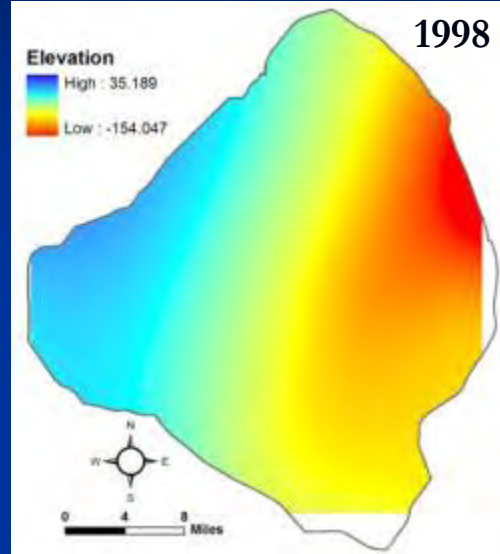
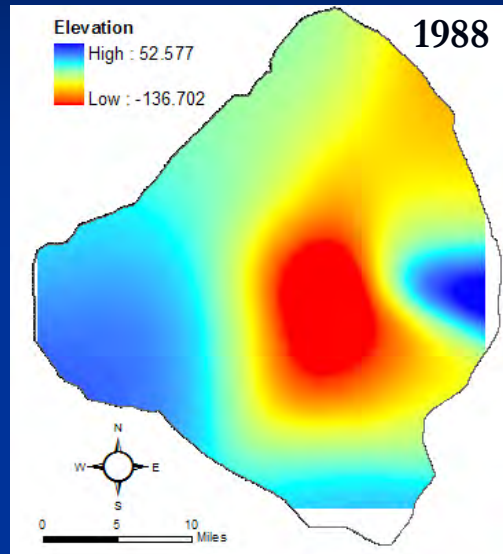
GWR (TP vs. Fe) Model

	GWR Models	Adaptive CV	Adaptive AIC	Fixed CV	Fixed AIC
2006	Neighbours	32	38	<b>25048.46</b>	28060.8468
	ResidualSquares	1474546	1559401.91	<b>1370525</b>	1479068.08
	Sigma	125.7934	127.1493	<b>125.8744</b>	127.5319
	AICc	1442.359	1442.0453	<b>1445.878</b>	1445.1828
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.9322	0.9283	<b>0.937</b>	0.932
	R <sup>2</sup> Adjusted	0.9178	0.916	<b>0.9176</b>	0.9155
1998	Neighbours	114	46	2583312.66	<b>38985.12</b>
	ResidualSquares	5721282	4772089.89	5851677.26	<b>4754339</b>
	Sigma	228.3922	219.3559	228.5793	<b>217.7004</b>
	AICc	1566.658	1563.9183	1566.1879	<b>1560.323</b>
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.818	0.8482	0.8138	<b>0.8487</b>
	R <sup>2</sup> Adjusted	0.8124	0.827	0.8121	<b>0.8296</b>
1988	Neighbours	13	38	<b>21433.62</b>	24336.93
	ResidualSquares	2256157	4669867.28	<b>3403058</b>	3809536.23
	Sigma	189.9278	220.3011	<b>205.7668</b>	210.1373
	AICc	1582.818	1567.6434	<b>1564.545</b>	1563.3411
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.9067	0.8069	<b>0.8593</b>	0.8424
	R <sup>2</sup> Adjusted	0.8314	0.7732	<b>0.8021</b>	0.7936

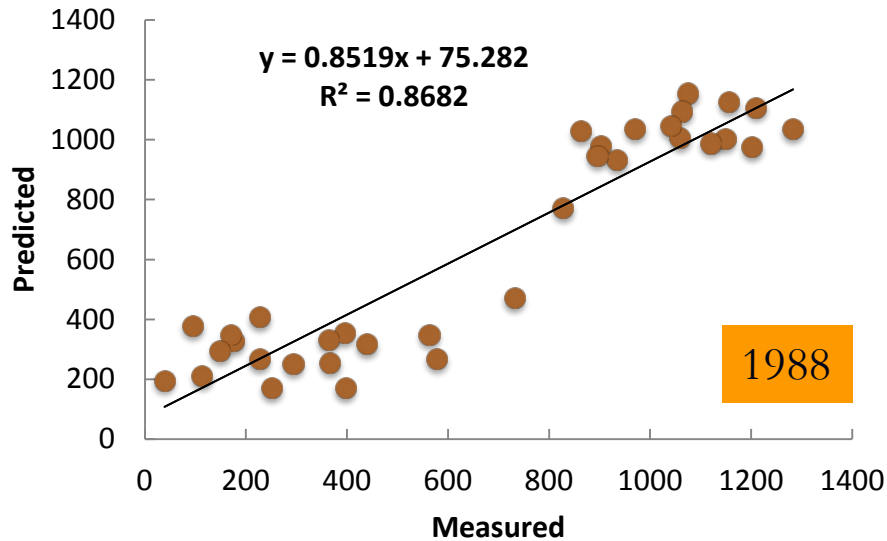
# Coefficient Maps of GWR (TP vs. Fe) Model



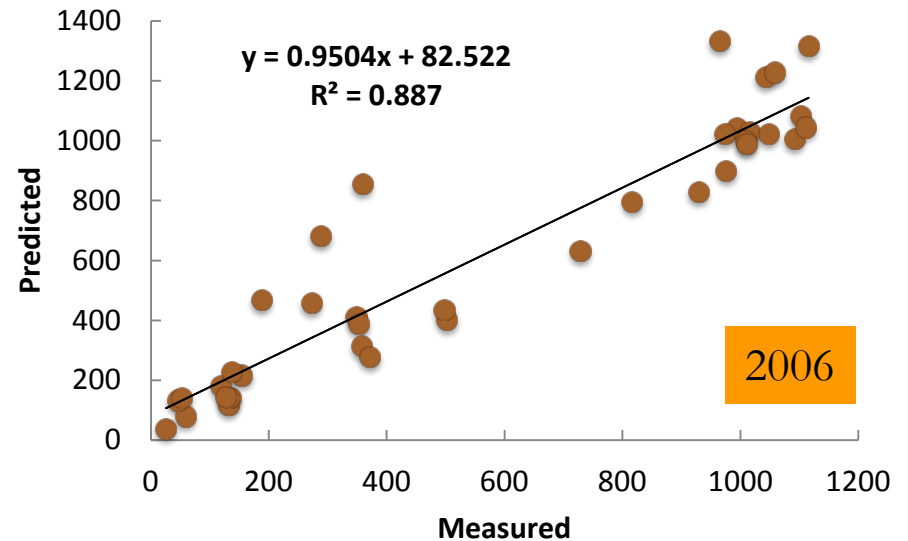
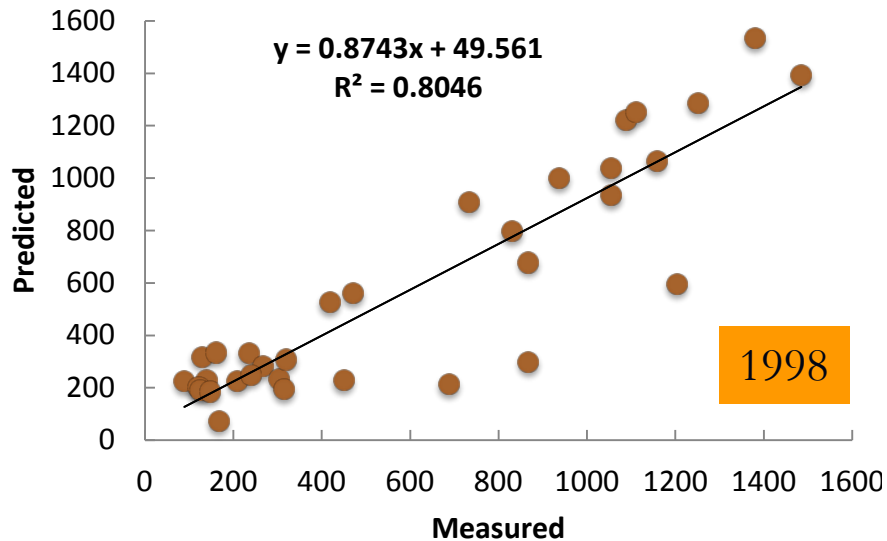
# Coefficient Maps of GWR (TP vs. Th & Elev)



# GWR (TP vs. Fe) Validation Results

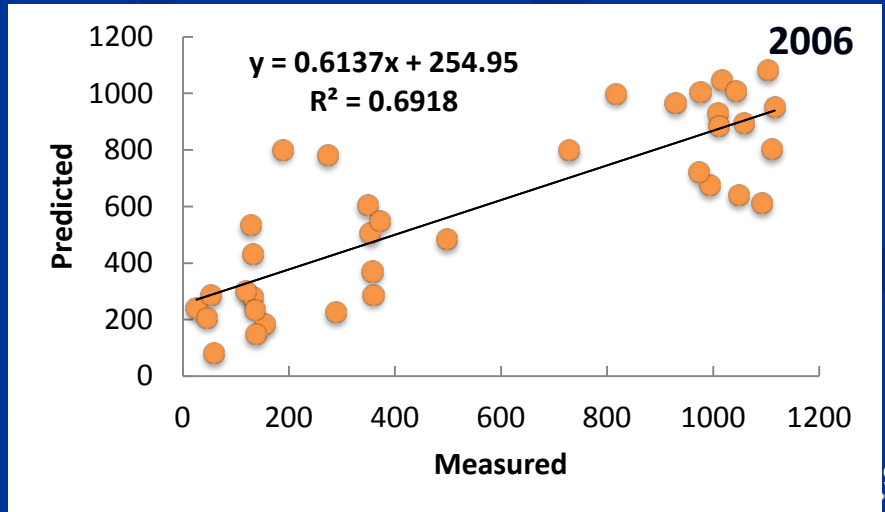
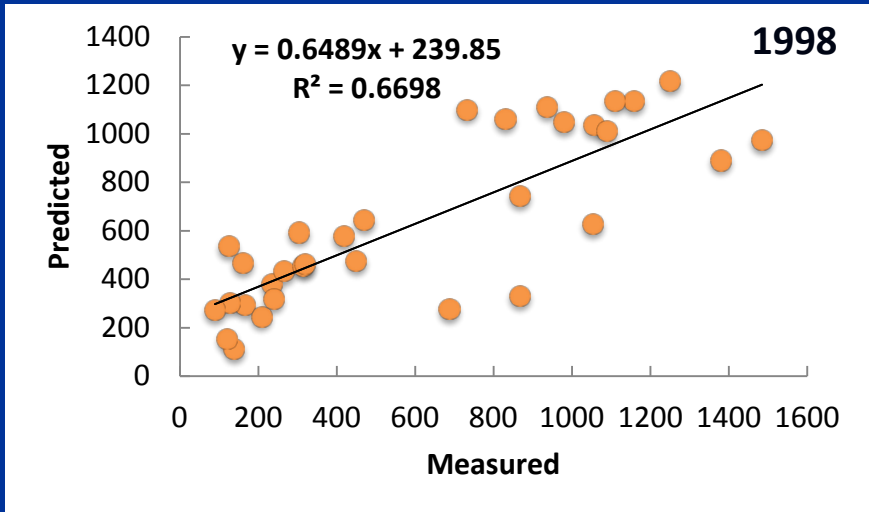
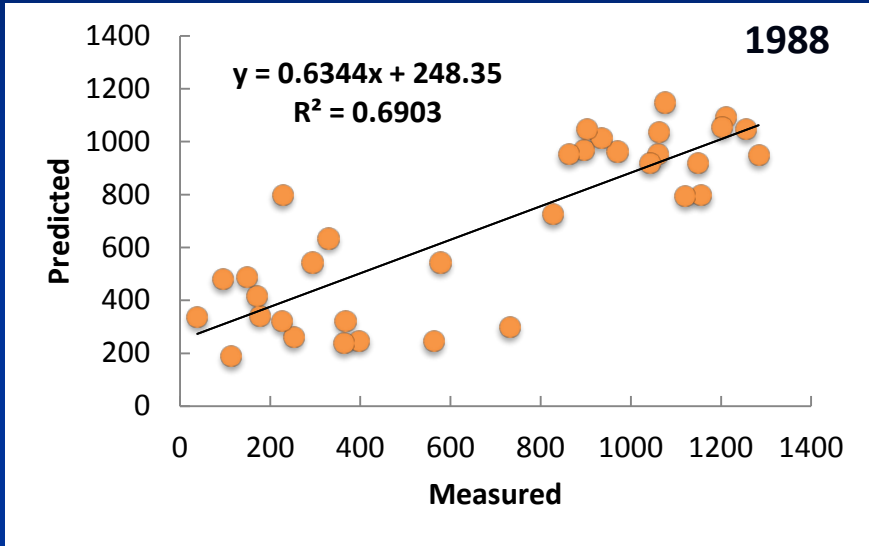


Scatter plots of observed and measured values at validation sites



# GWR (TP vs. Th & Elev) Validation Result

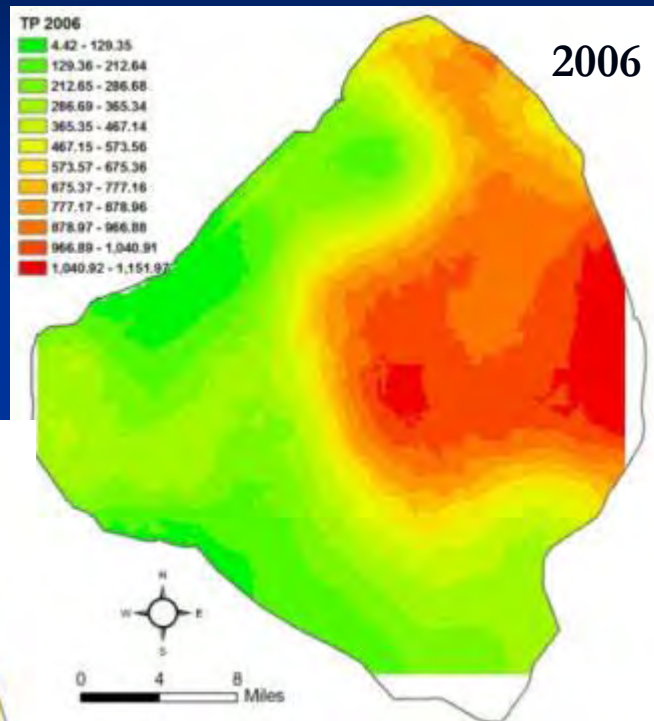
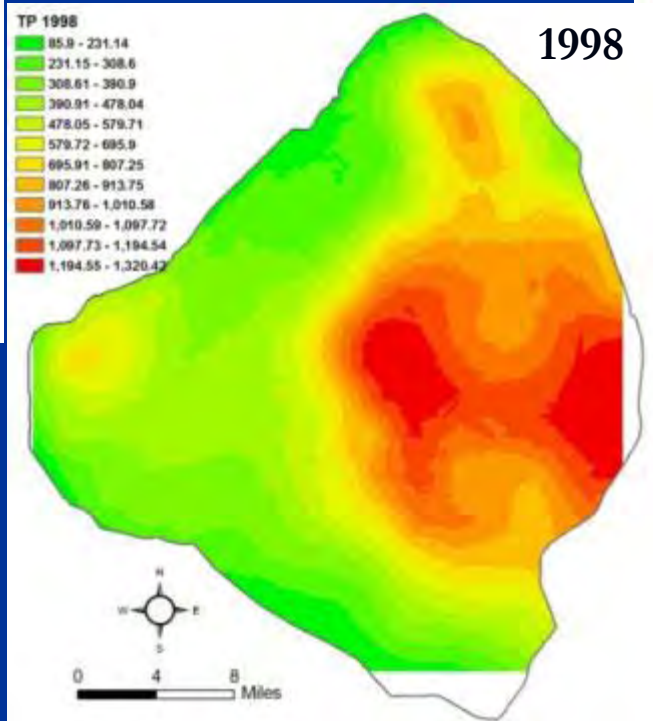
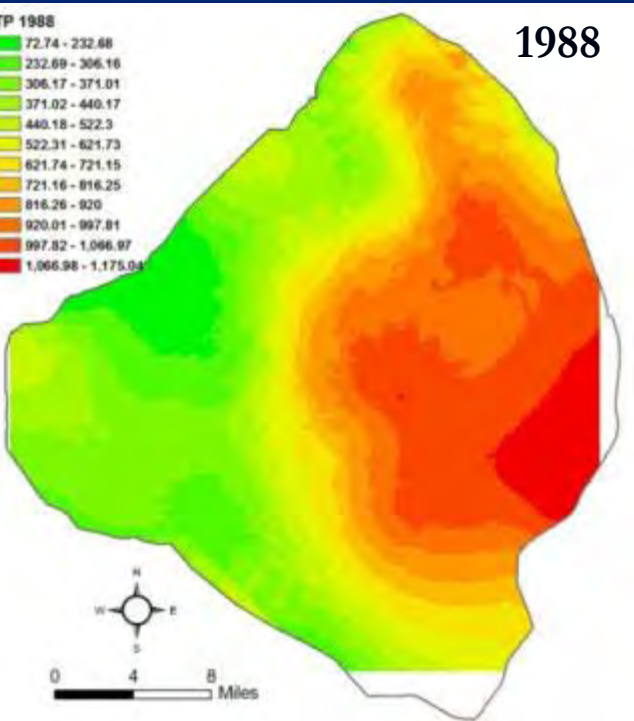
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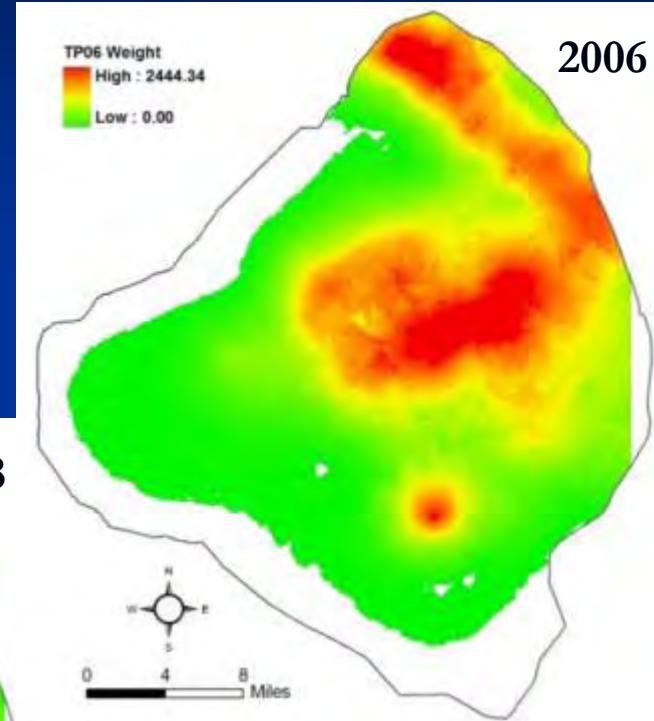
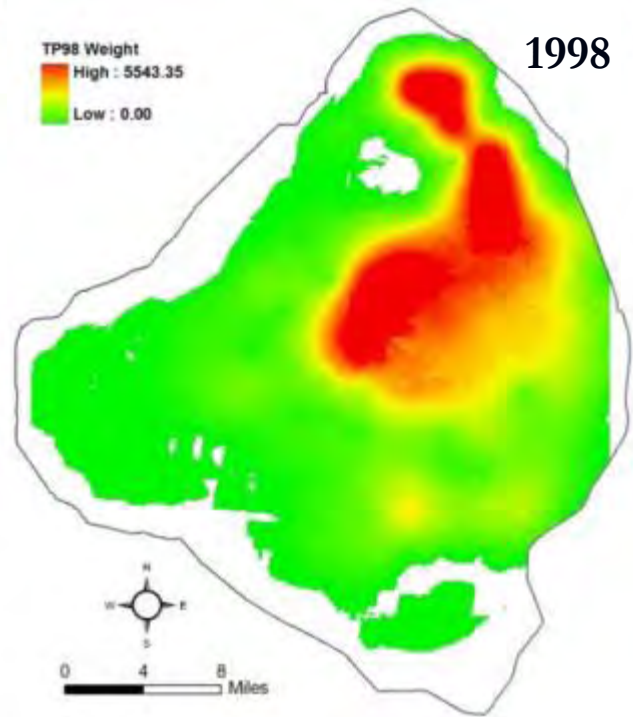
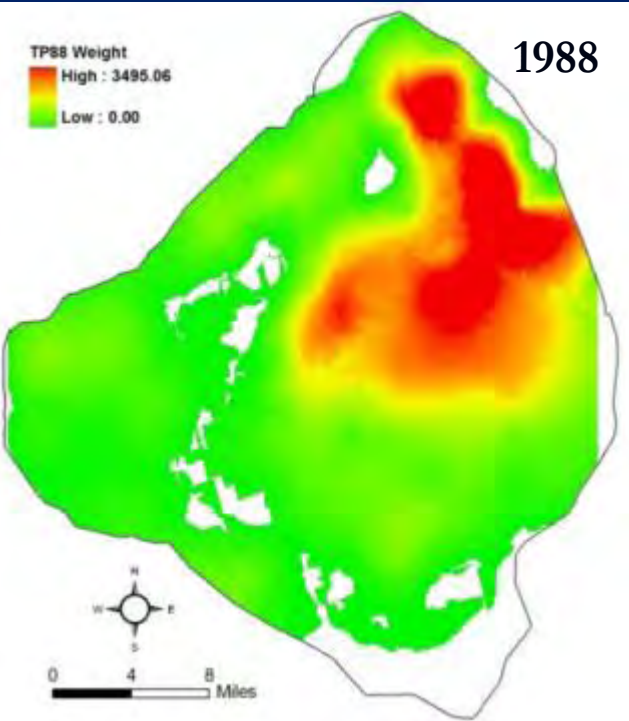
## Model Accuracy and Comparison for TP

	Models	OK	OLS (Fe)	GWR (Fe)	OLS (Th, Elev)	GWR (Th, Elev)
2006	Mean Error	-27.4	31.19	-30.19	40.21	20.82
	RMSE	331	169.96	204.61	325.23	307.6
	NRMSE	26.09	13.4	16.13	25.64	24.25
1998	Mean Error	-89.5	136.93	132.81	106.64	100.58
	RMSE	415.1	374.75	359.83	442.98	389.38
	NRMSE	23.18	20.92	20.09	24.73	21.74
1988	Mean Error	-41.7	110.94	109.59	64.15	24.39
	RMSE	402.1	368.36	375.88	371.97	234.34
	NRMSE	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.22	0.14

# TP concentration Using GWR (TP vs. Fe)



# TP Weight Distribution Using GWR (TP vs. Fe)





## TP Weights (mt) & Changes

Model	Ordinary Kriging			GWR (TP vs Fe)			GWR (TP vs. Th & Elev)			Average
Year	Weight	Change	%	Weight	Change	%	Weight	Change	%	Weight
1988	42,500			42,000			44,300			42,933
1998	58,900	16,400	39%	60,400	18,400	44%	61,100	16,800	38%	60,133
2006	41,400	-17,500	-30%	41,000	-19,400	-32%	40,100	-21,000	-34%	40,833

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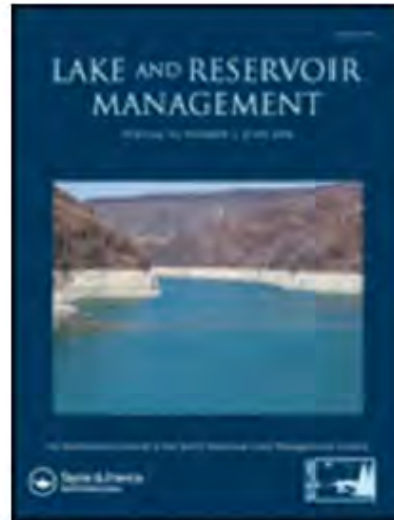
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## Conclusions

- GWR (TP vs. Fe) and GWR (TP vs. Thick & Elevation) models were most accurate based on RMSE;
- GWR models use both spatial auto-correlation and correlation between TP and independent variables, which improves the model performance;
- Ordinary Kriging (OK) models use only spatial autocorrelation data, which were weak in Lake Okeechobee and produced higher RMSE;

## Conclusions (cont.)

- The two best GWR models were used to calculate TP concentrations and TP mass. The TP mass:
  - increased about 38% - 44% from 1988 to 1998 and
  - decreased about 30% - 34% from 1998 to 2006;
- The TP decline from 1998 to 2006 is likely a result of hurricanes that stirred up the sediments which were then discharged from the lake in 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons.



## **Geographically Weighted Regression: A Better Spatial Technique to Model Sediment Quality in Lake Okeechobee**

# QUESTIONS?

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# Where the Phosphorus Comes From

## Kissimmee Basin

1979-2005	30 %
1996-2005	33 %
2003-2005	35 %

## Northeast Inflows (C-38 to Canal Point)

1979-2005	33 %
1996-2005	27 %
2003-2005	24 %

## Northwest Inflows (C-38 to Moore Haven)

1979-2005	29 %
1996-2005	33 %
2003-2005	39 %

Lake  
Okeechobee

## Southern Inflows (Moore Haven to Canal Point)

1979-2005	9.2 %
1996-2005	6.8 %
2003-2005	2.4 %

# Where the Phosphorus Goes

Based on 1996-2005 data



**St Lucie Estuary**  
30 %

Lake  
Okeechobee

**To the Everglades  
STAs**  
14 %

**Caloosahatchee Estuary**  
26 %

**Agriculture**  
29 %



## Major References

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- Fisher, M. M., K. R. Reddy, and R. T. James. 2001. Long-term changes in the sediment chemistry of a large shallow subtropical lake. *Lake and Reservoir Management* 17: 217-232.
- Yan, Y. and R. Thomas James, Spatial-Temporal Modeling of Sediments From 1988 to 2006 Lake Okeechobee, Florida. South Florida GIS Expo2008
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