



# Climate/Health Modeling

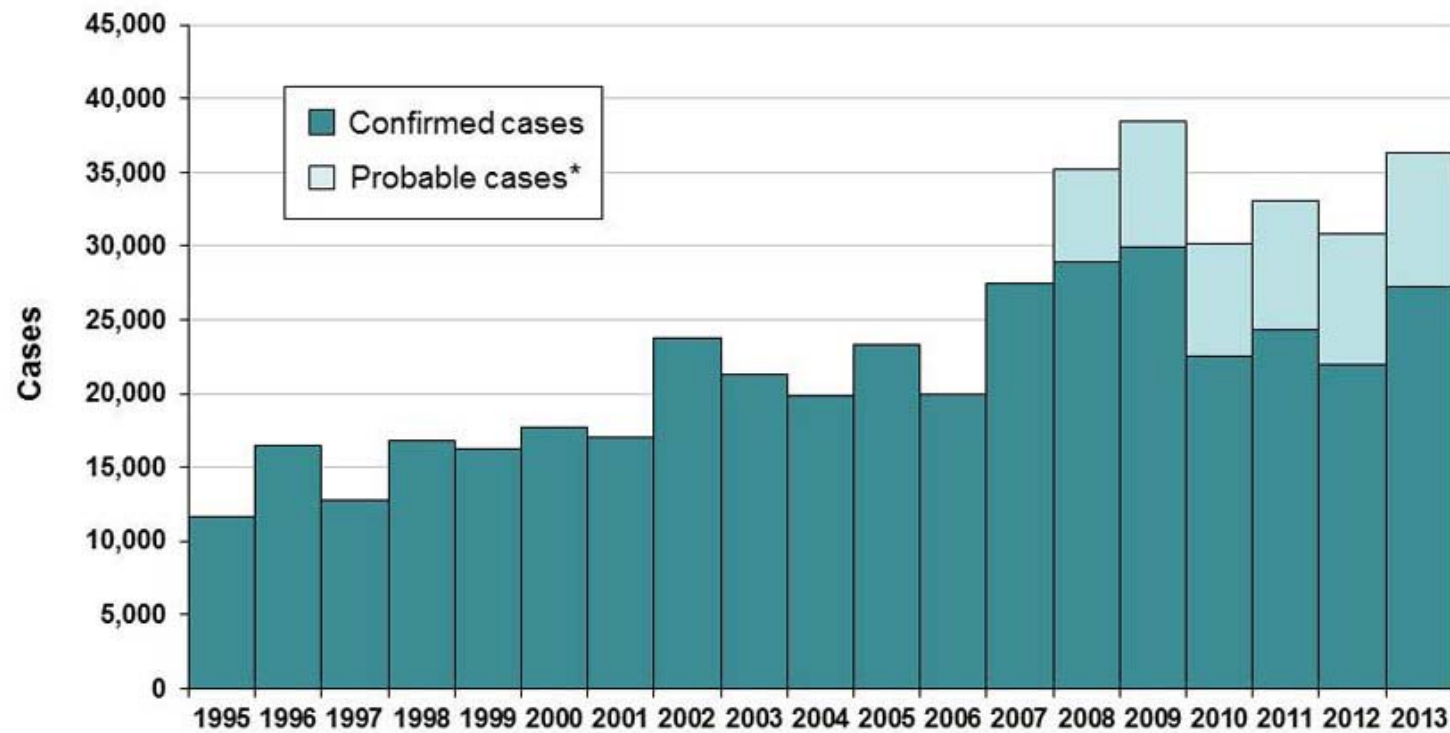
Ben Zaitchik

Johns Hopkins University

# A Guide to the Perplexed (abridged)

- Trends vs. variability
- Targets
- Memory
- MIP?
- Movement

# Trends vs. Variability



Lyme Disease

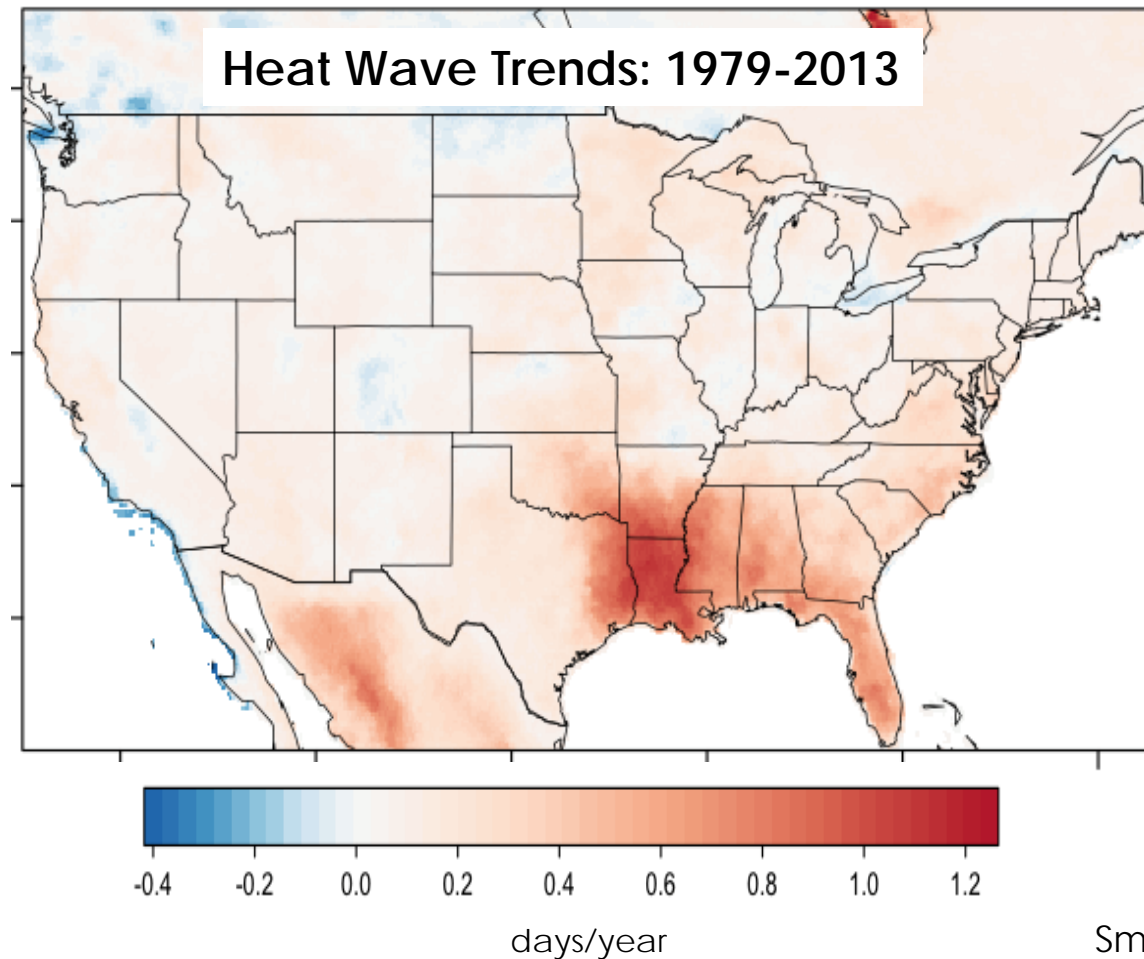


# Trends vs. Variability

Different:

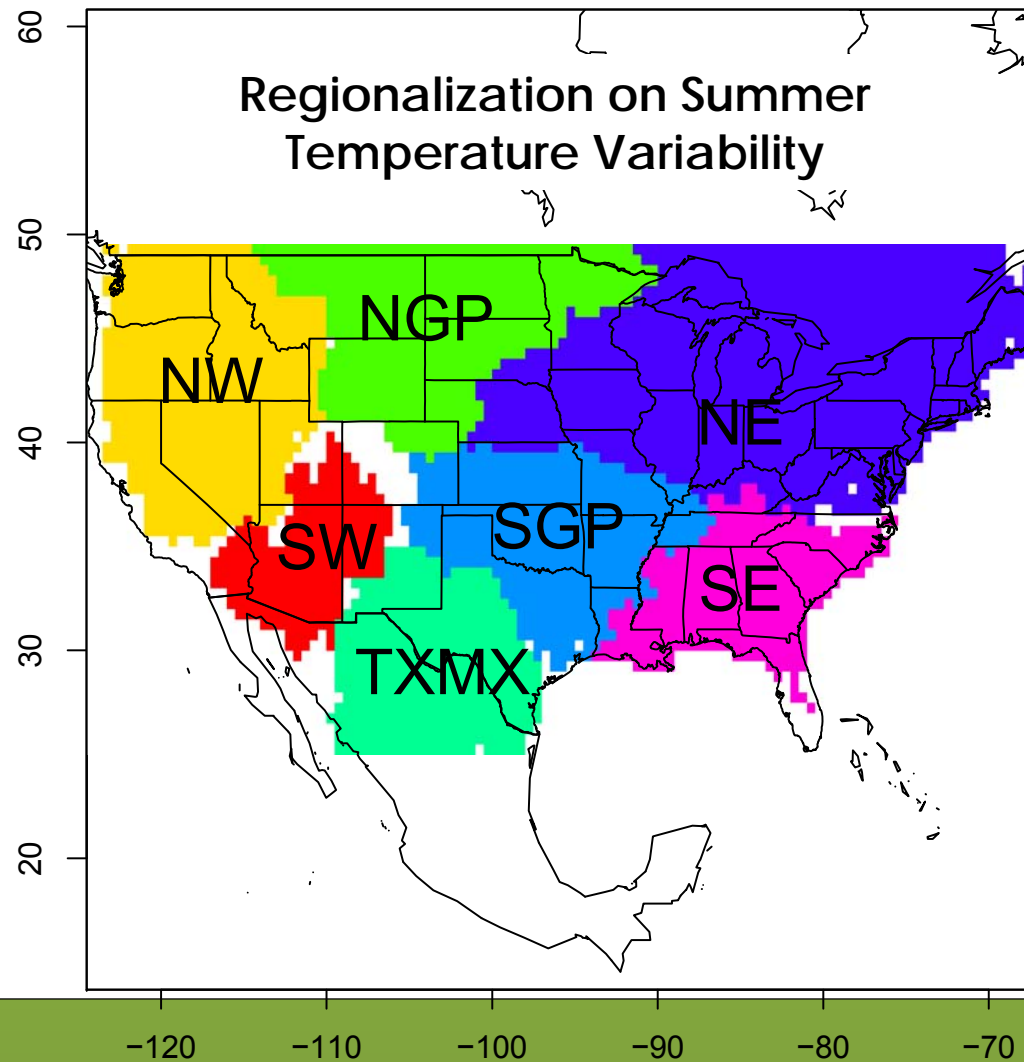
- decisions
- datasets
- modeling approaches
- uncertainties

# Trends vs. Variability: Heat waves



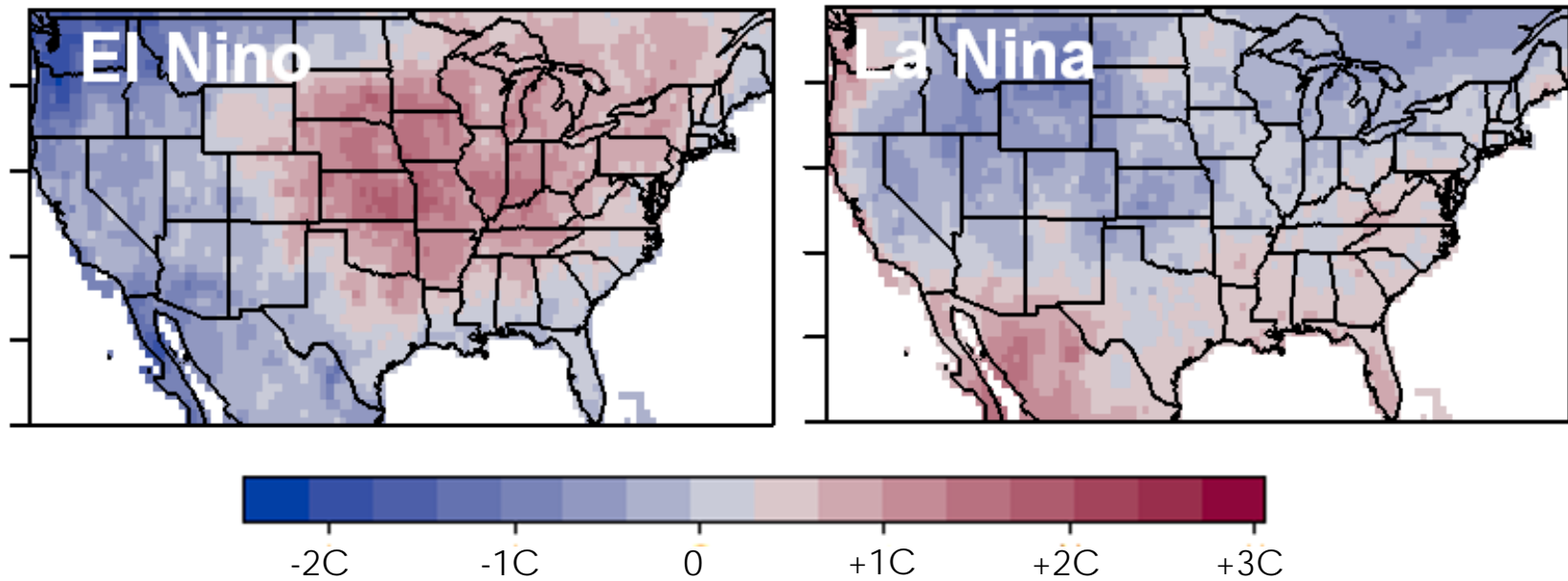
Smith et al. (2014)

# Trends vs. **Variability**: Heatwaves

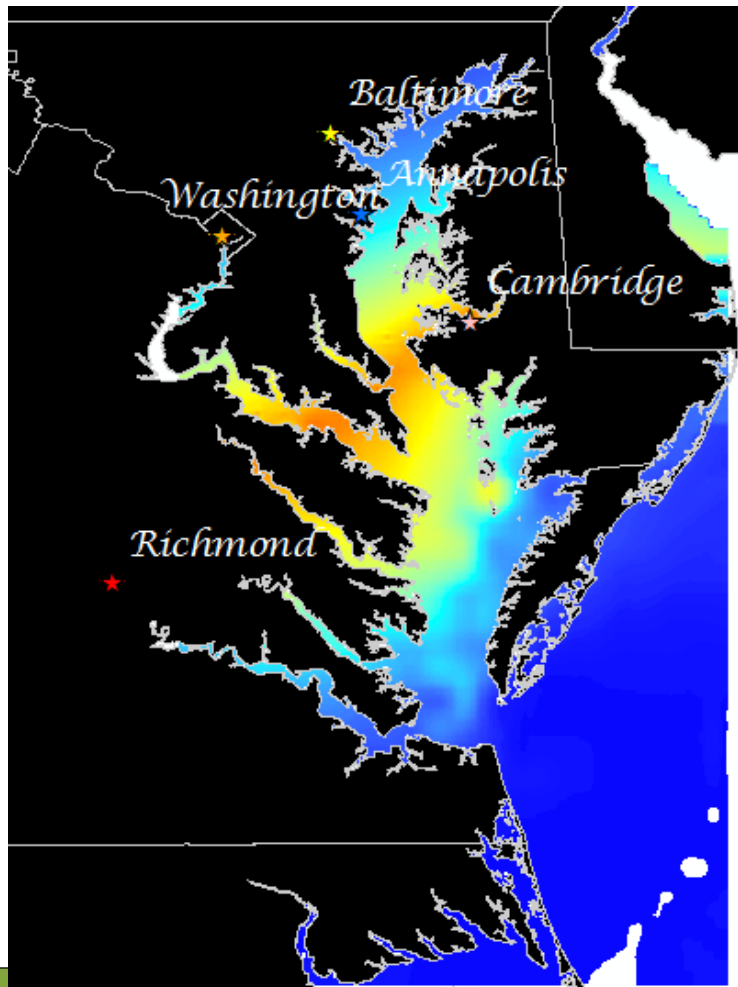


# Trends vs. **Variability**: Heat waves

## Summertime Temperature Composites



# Trends vs. Variability: *Vibrio*

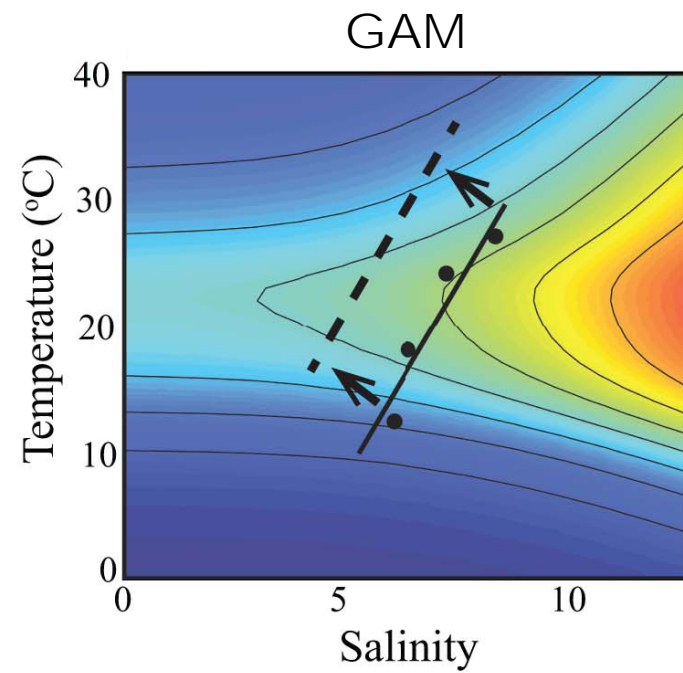
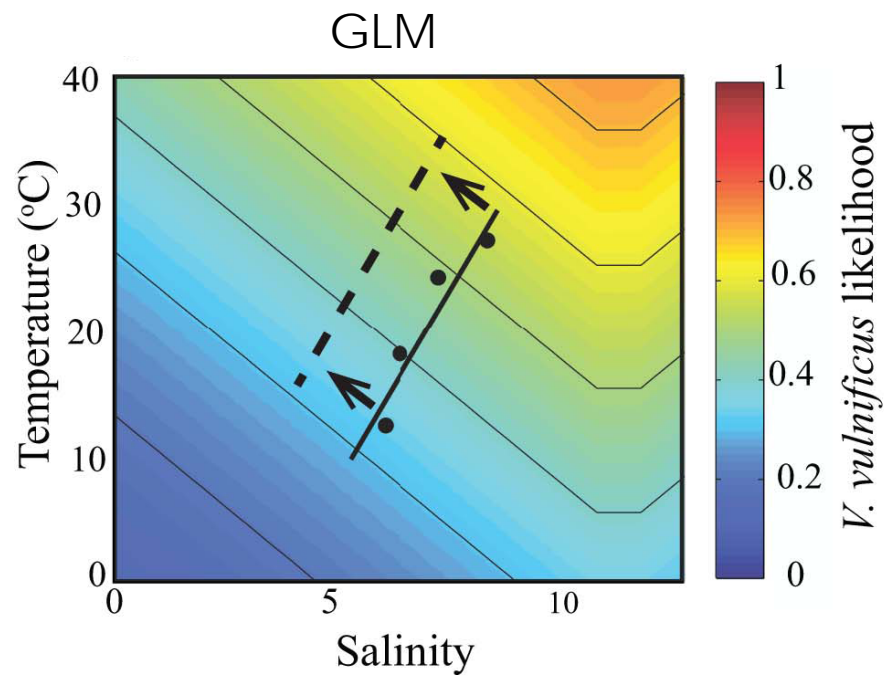


*Vibrio vulnificus* probability  
0.0 0.6

Urquhart et al. (2014)



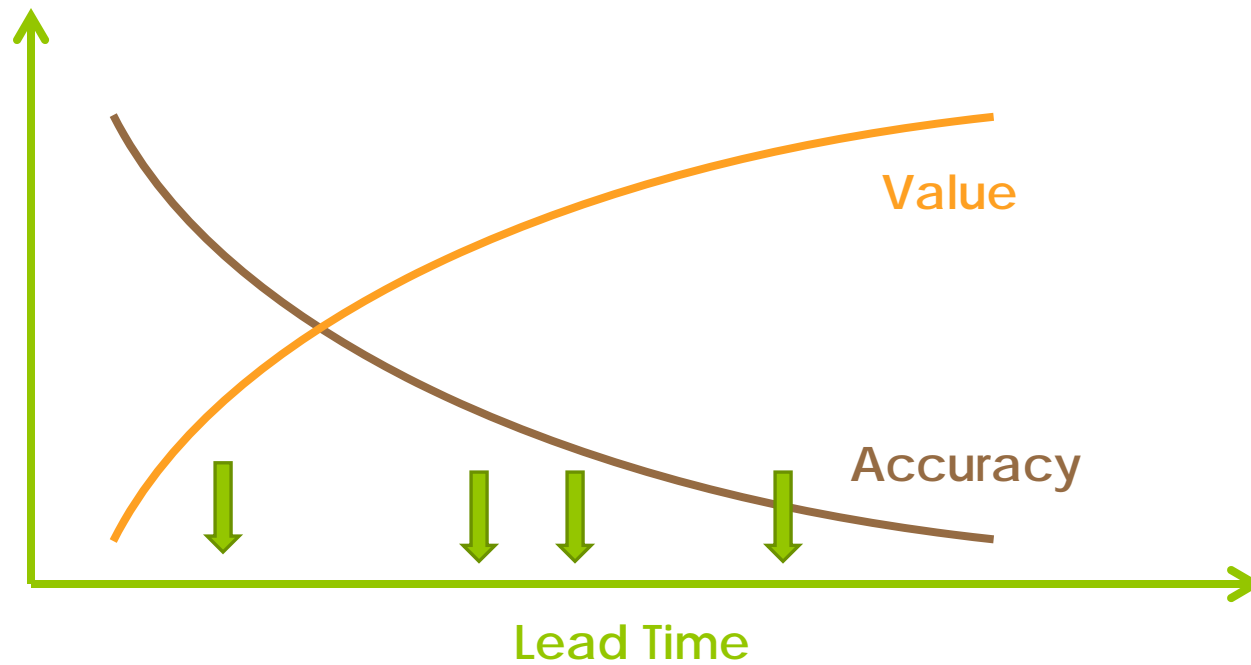
# Trends vs. Variability: *Vibrio*



# Targets

- Lead time
- Chain of analysis
- Performance metric

# Targets: lead time



# Targets: chain of analysis

Temperature,  
Rainfall

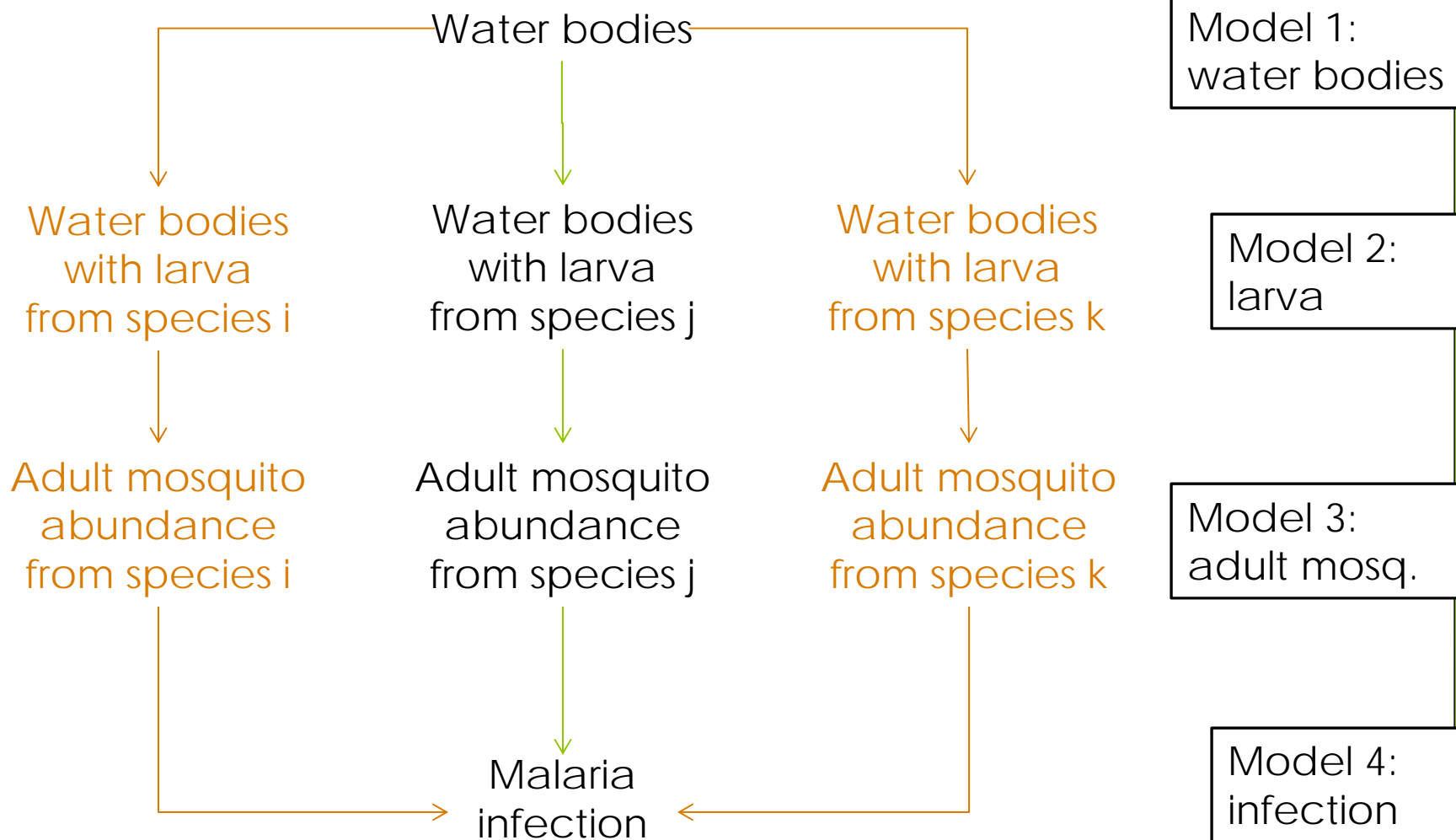
Soil Moisture,  
Vegetation Health

Vector  
Distribution

Transmission  
Risk



# Example: Hierarchical Bayesian model of Malaria risk



# Targets: chain of analysis

Temperature,  
Rainfall

Soil Moisture,  
Vegetation Health

Vector  
Distribution

Transmission  
Risk

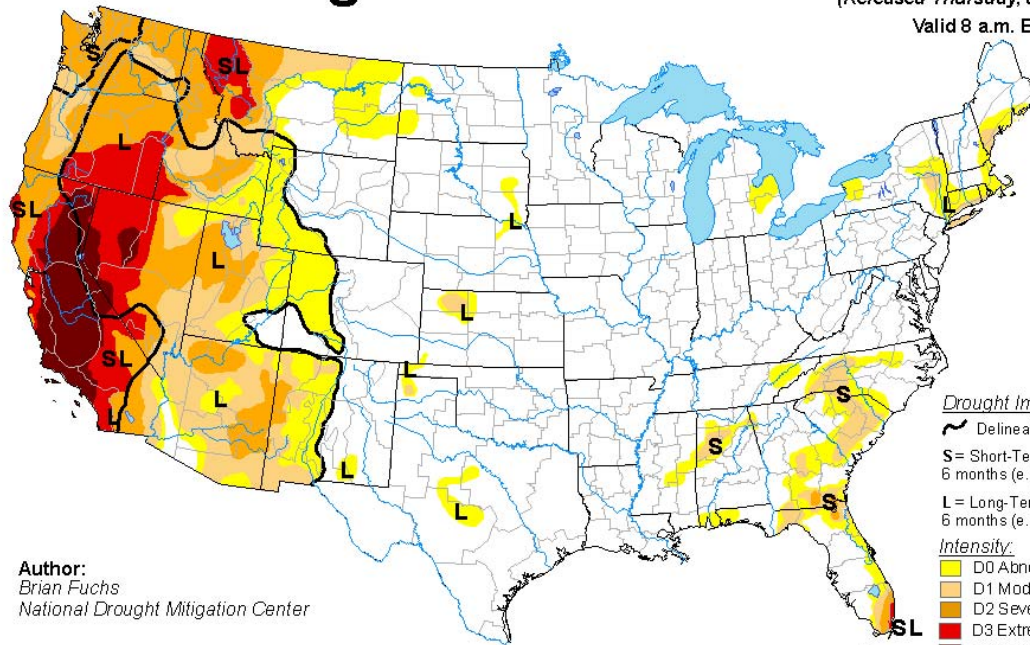


What suite of information is most useful for health officials?

# Example: the USDM

## U.S. Drought Monitor

July 7, 2015  
(Released Thursday, Jul. 9, 2015)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:  
Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center

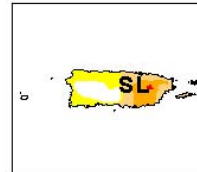
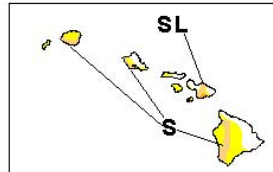
### Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

### Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

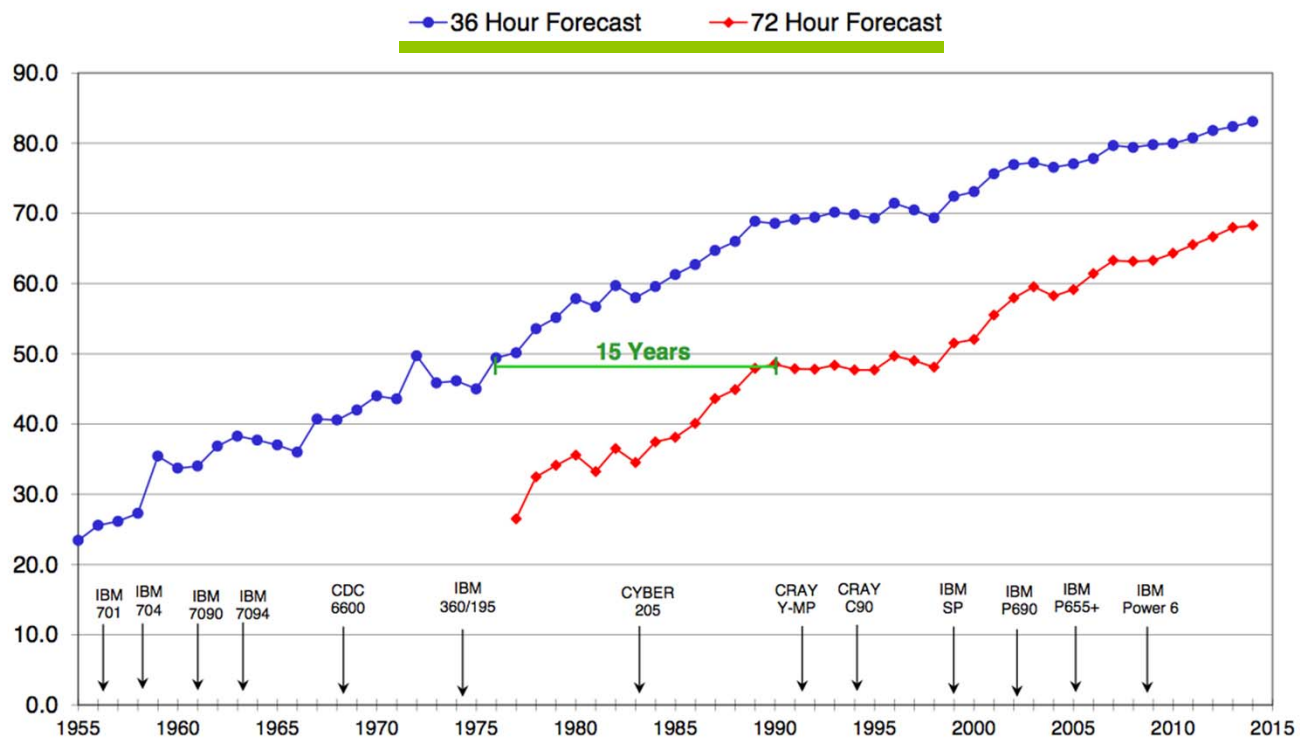


<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# Targets: performance metric



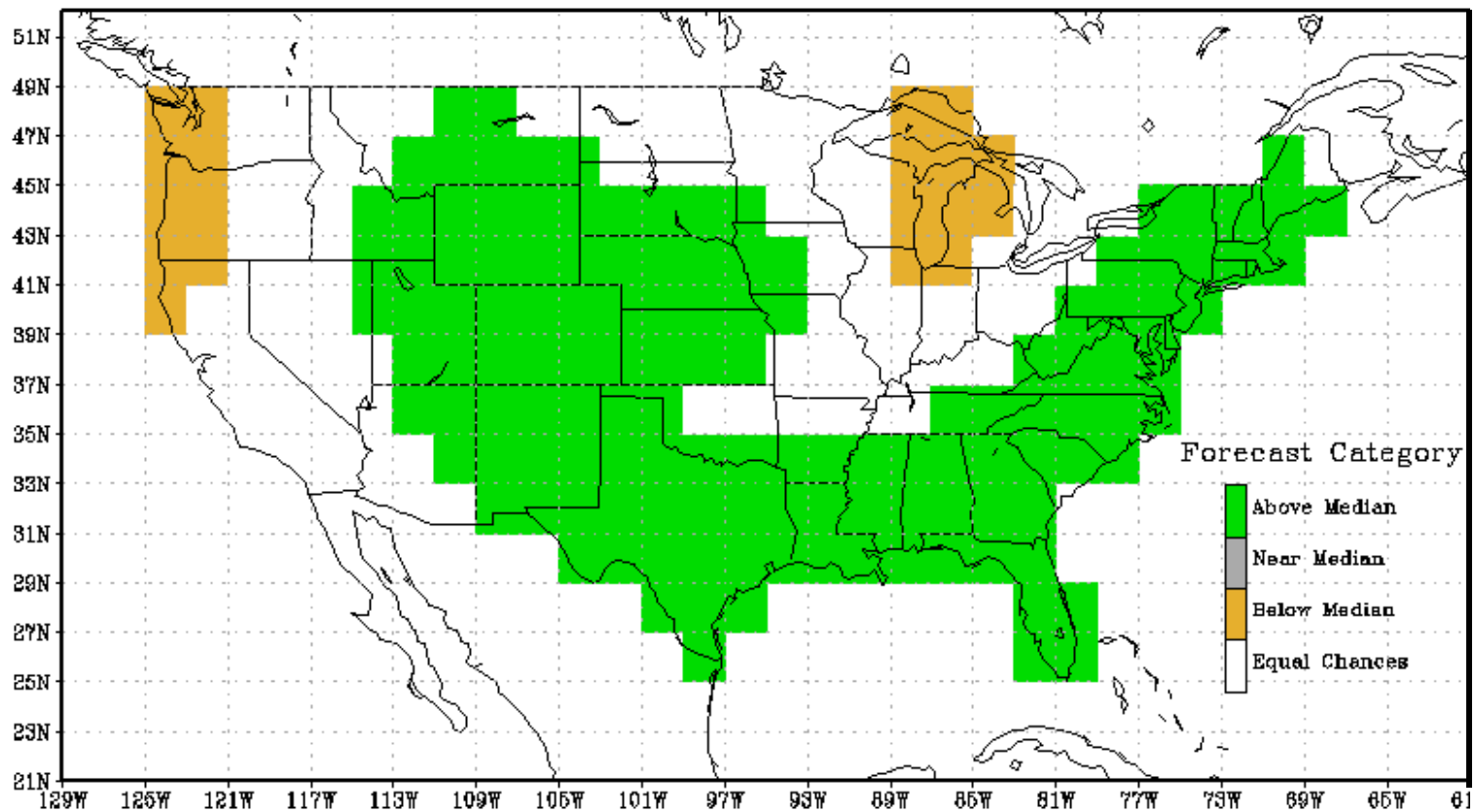
## NCEP Operational Forecast Skill 36 and 72 Hour Forecasts @ 500 MB over North America [100 \* (1-S1/70) Method]





# Targets: performance metric

Categorical Precipitation Official Forecast  
Issued: May 2015 Valid: June 2015



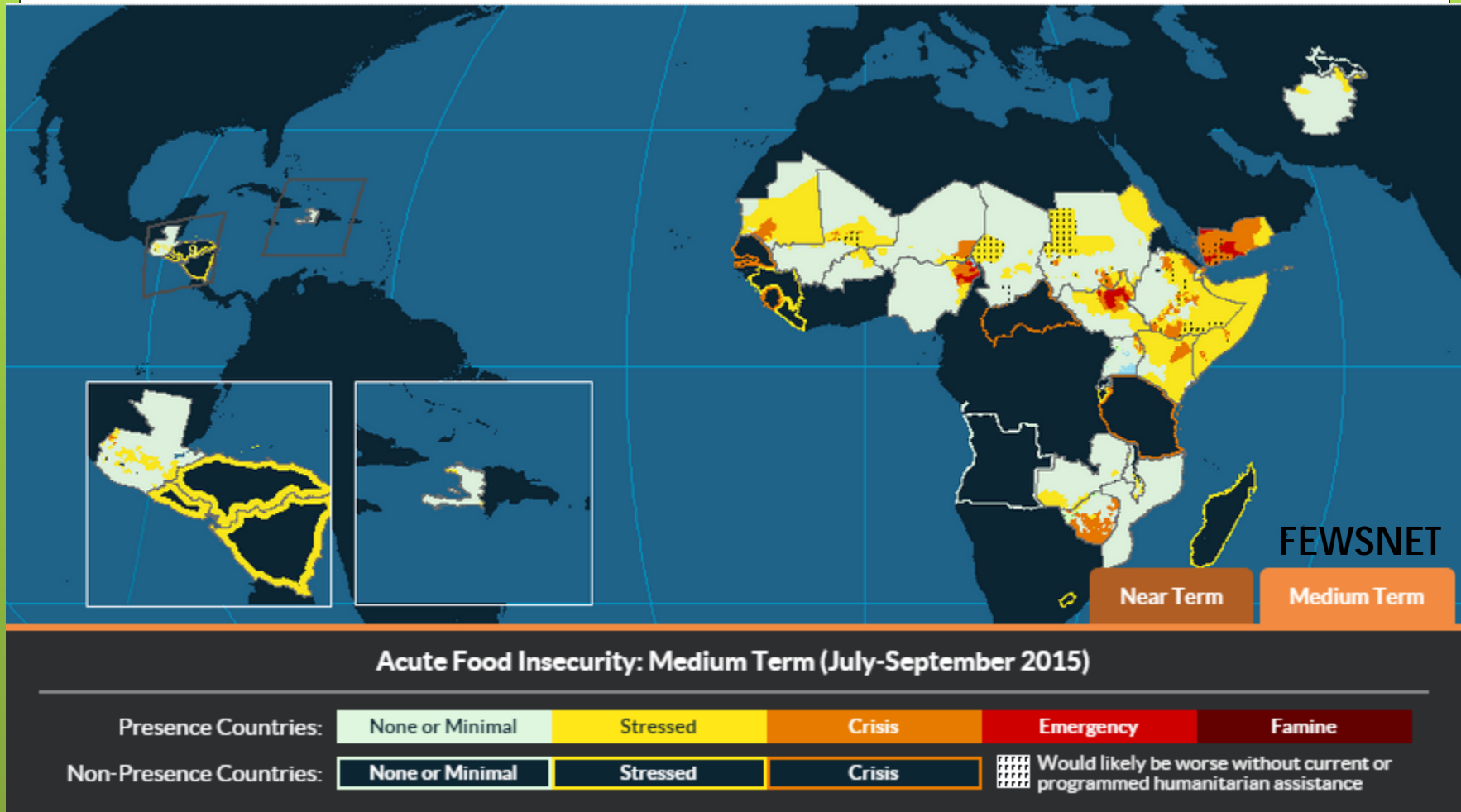
# The Persistence of Memory

- Seasonal forecasts don't necessarily require climate forecasts

# Memory: Infectious Disease

- Murray Valley Encephalitis Virus (MVEV) can be predicted using satellite observations at **2 month lead**
- In our Amazon malaria risk model, satellite rainfall rate is most predictive at **10 week lead**.
- Rift Valley Fever warnings in East Africa make use of satellite observations **integrated over 3 months**.
- For hantavirus, seasonal rainfall anomalies can influence cases **two or more years** later.
- Cholera dynamics have been related to precipitation at lead times **from days to seasons**.

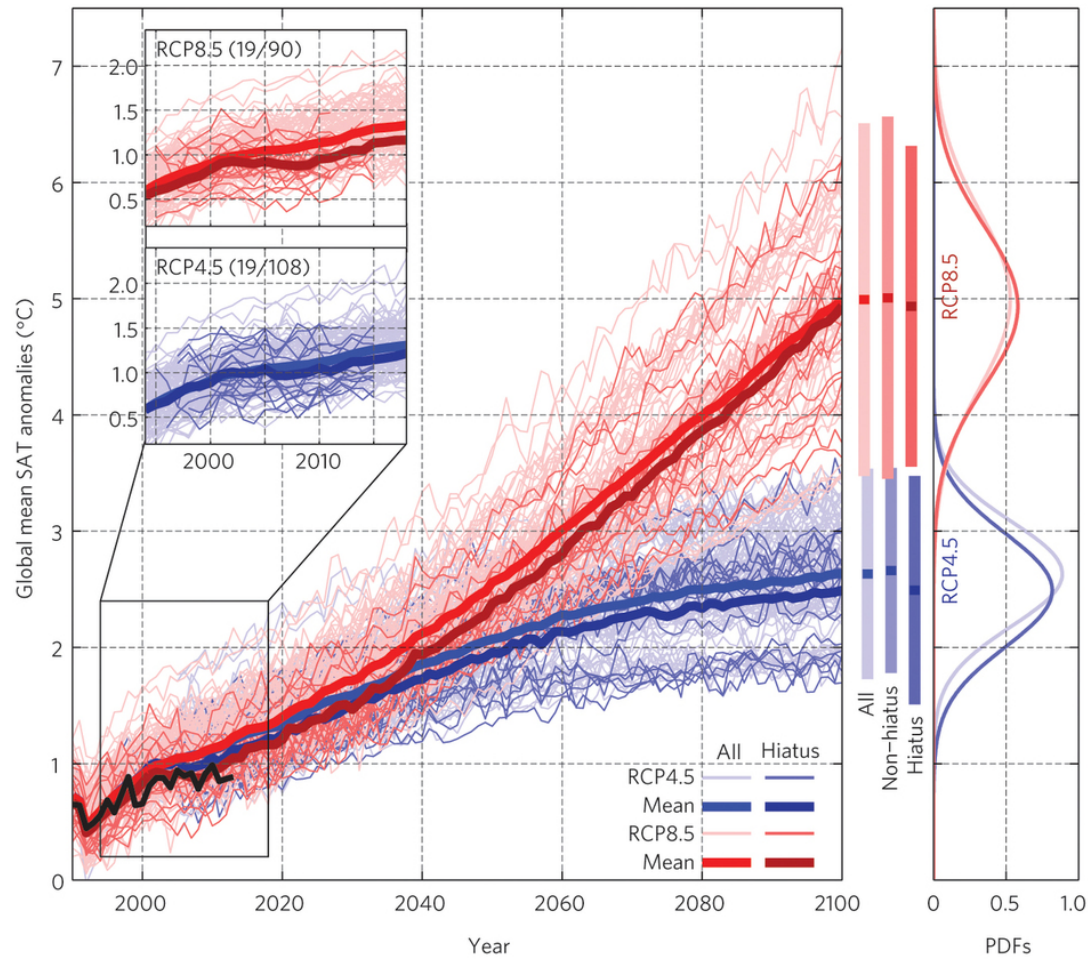
# Memory: Food Insecurity



# Memory: Food Insecurity

- Current climate observation + past performance [operational]
- Current climate observation + food system models [-operational]
- Large scale dynamical model + statistical regression [experimental]
- Fully dynamical seasonal forecast [experimental]

# To MIP or not to MIP



# MIP

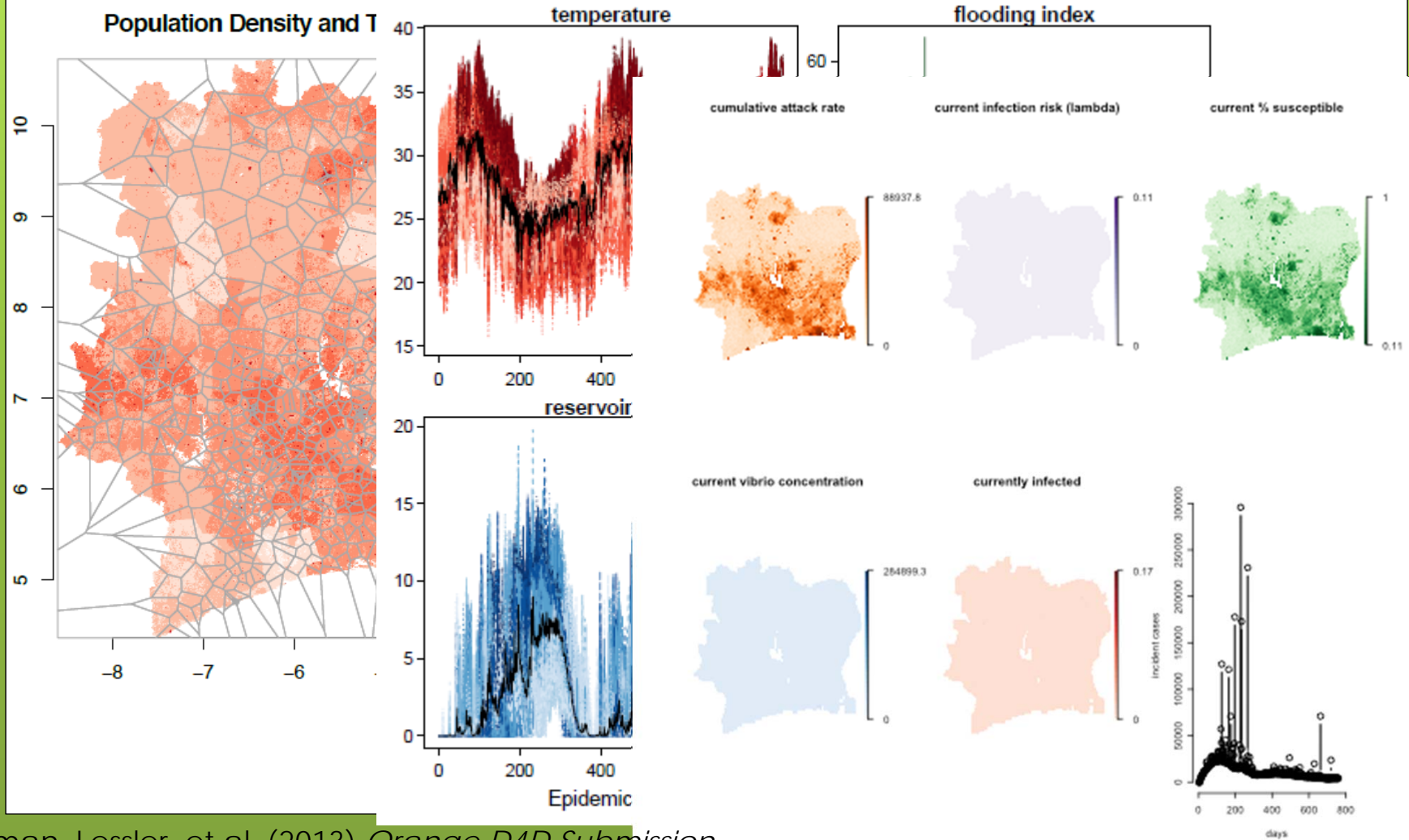
- MIP vs. model challenges
- What would a VectorMIP look like?
- What are the science questions?

# And yet it moves

- Vectors are on the move: ecological range is often larger than observed distribution
- People are on the move: travel, settlement, and migration
- Behaviors change (humans, animals, and vectors)



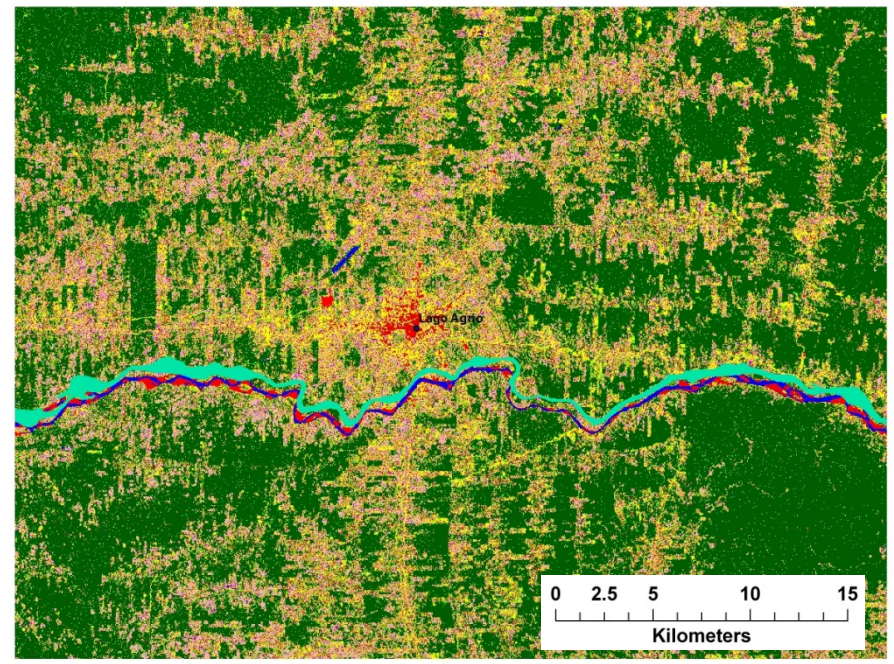
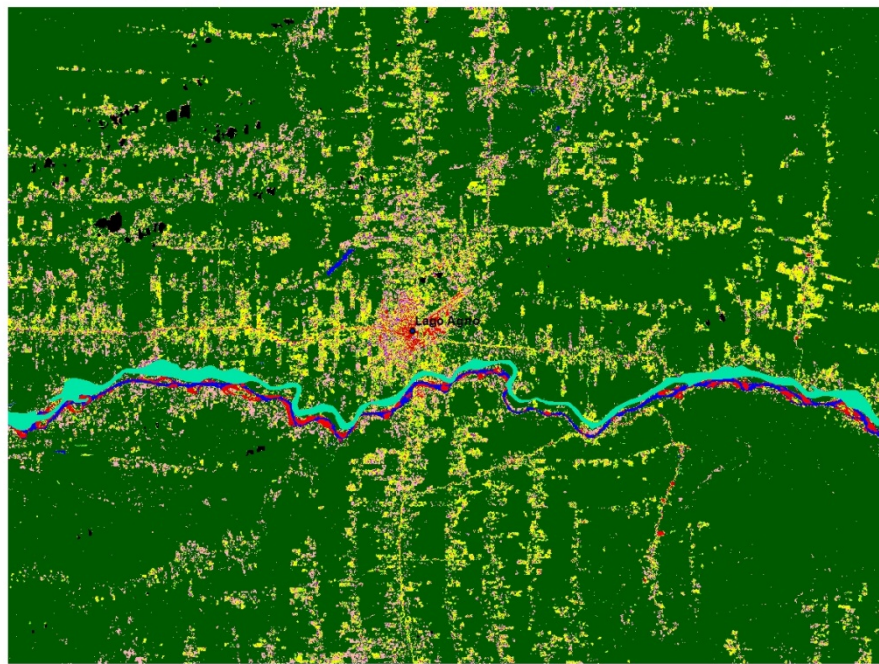
# Travel



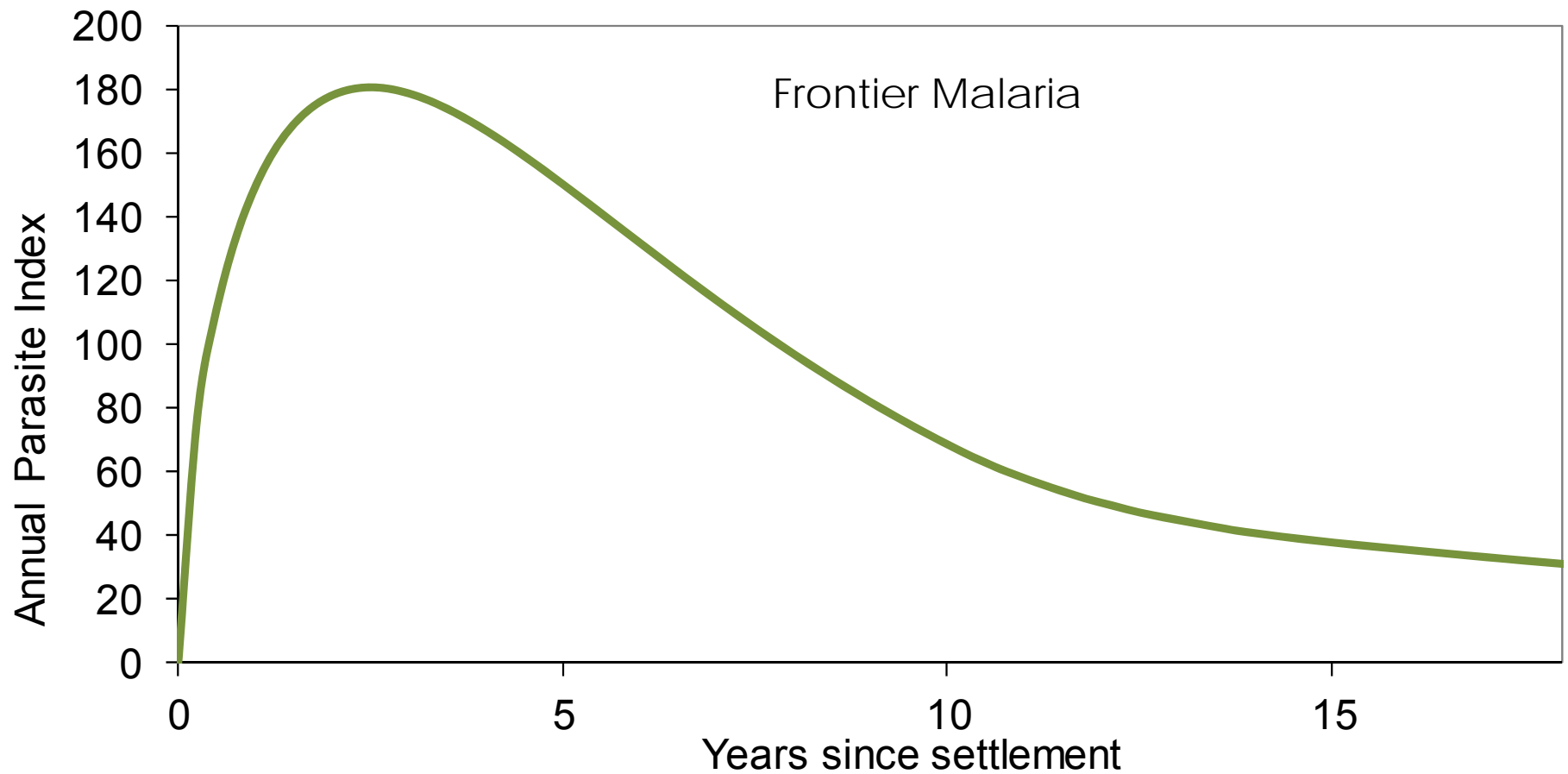
# Settlement & Migration

1986

2002

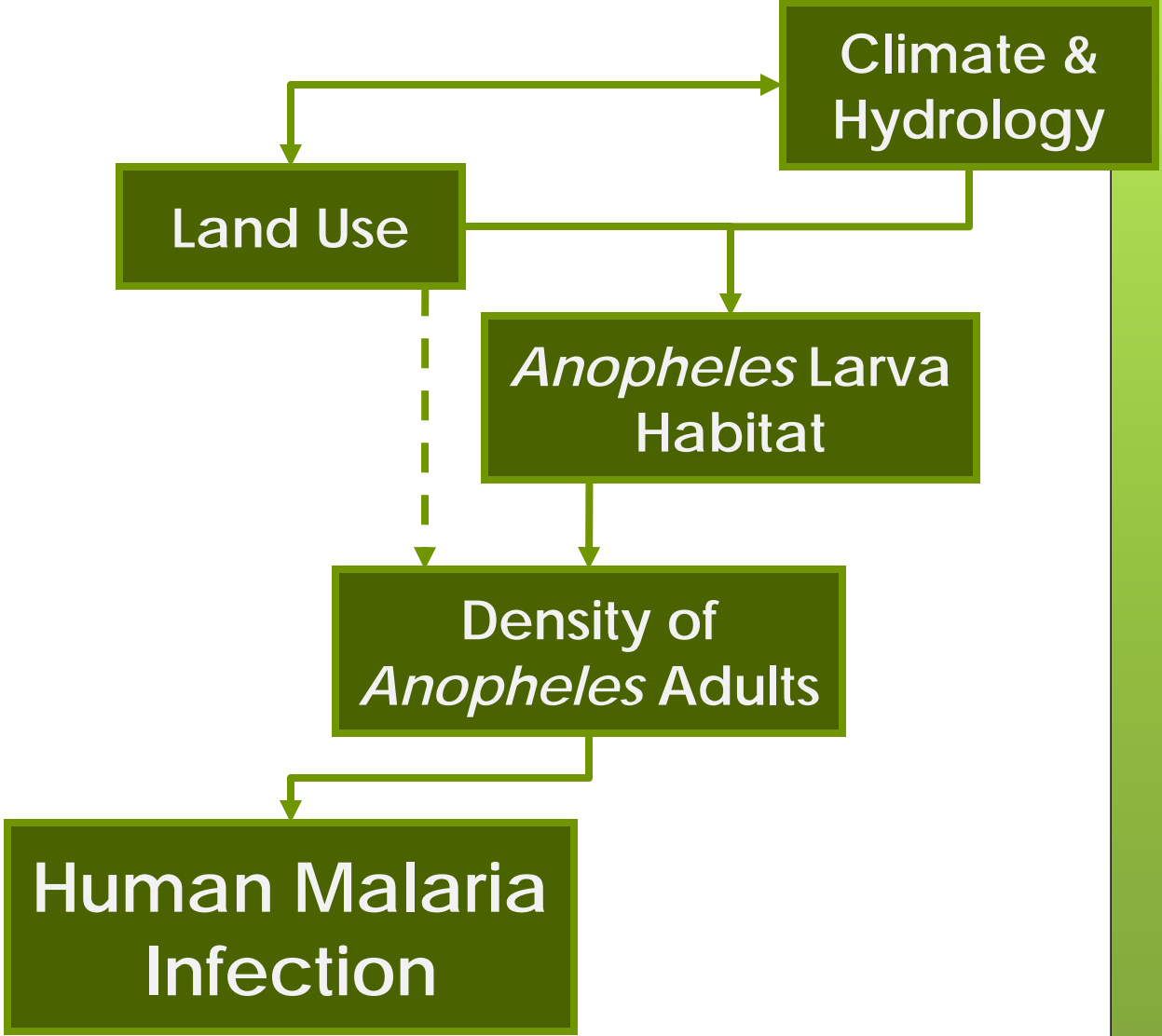
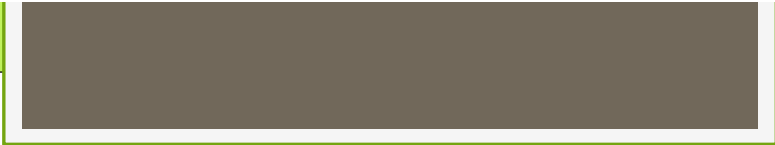


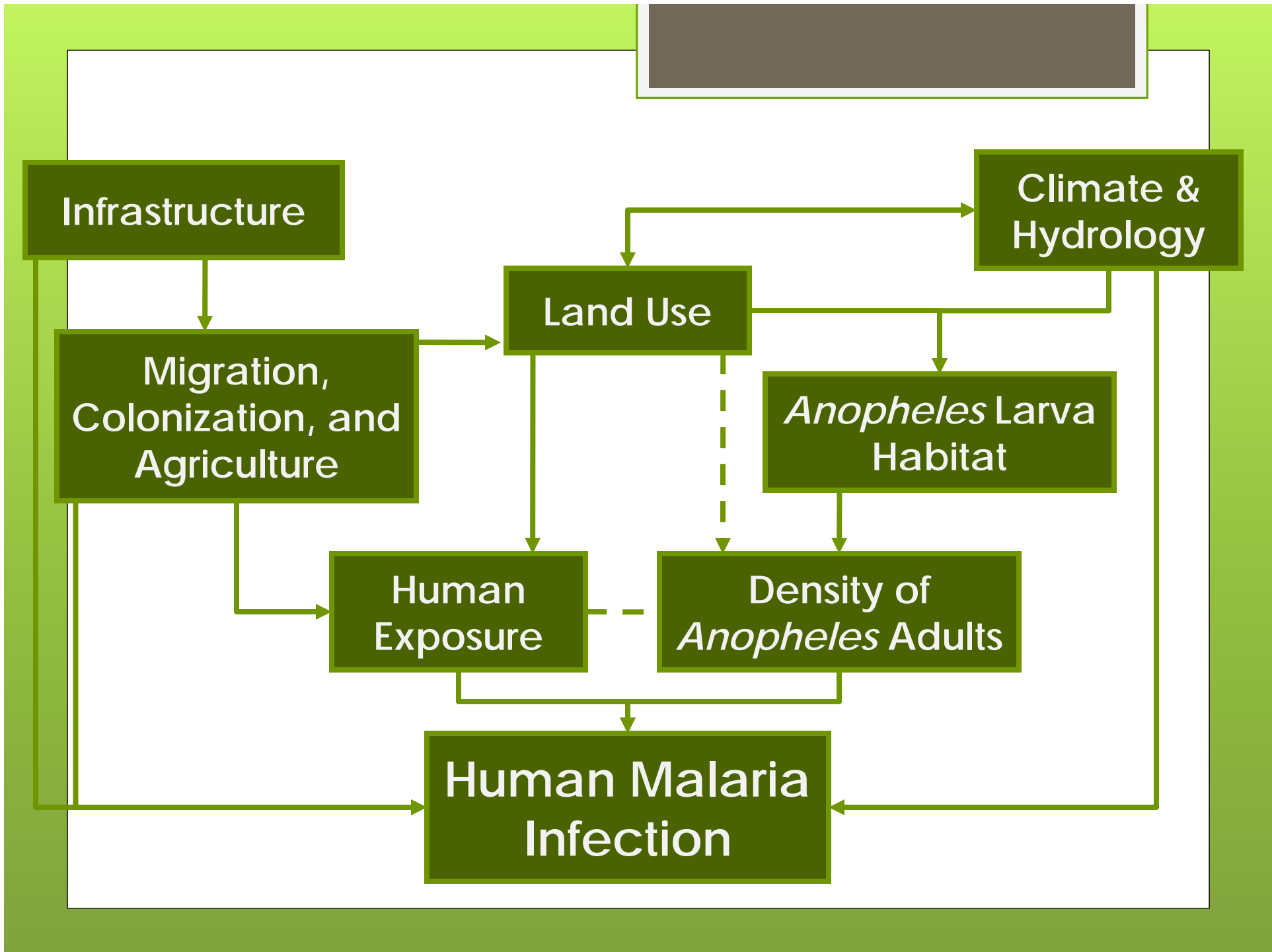
# Settlement & Migration



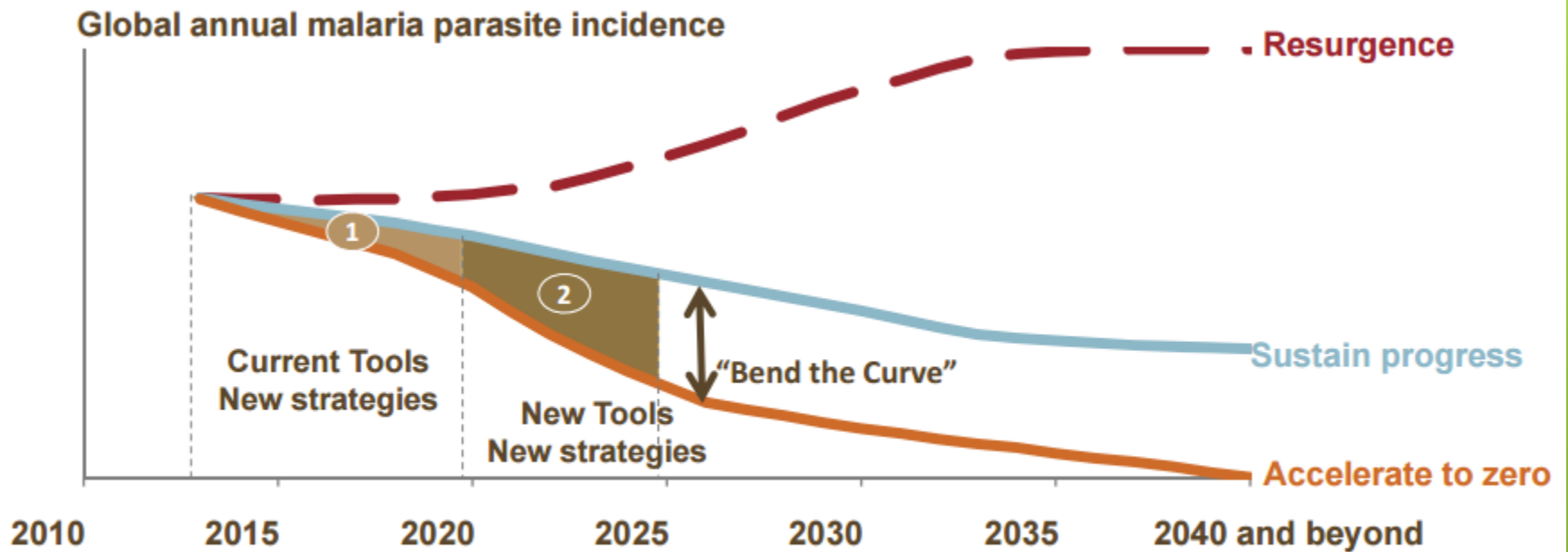
Climate &  
Hydrology

Human Malaria  
Infection

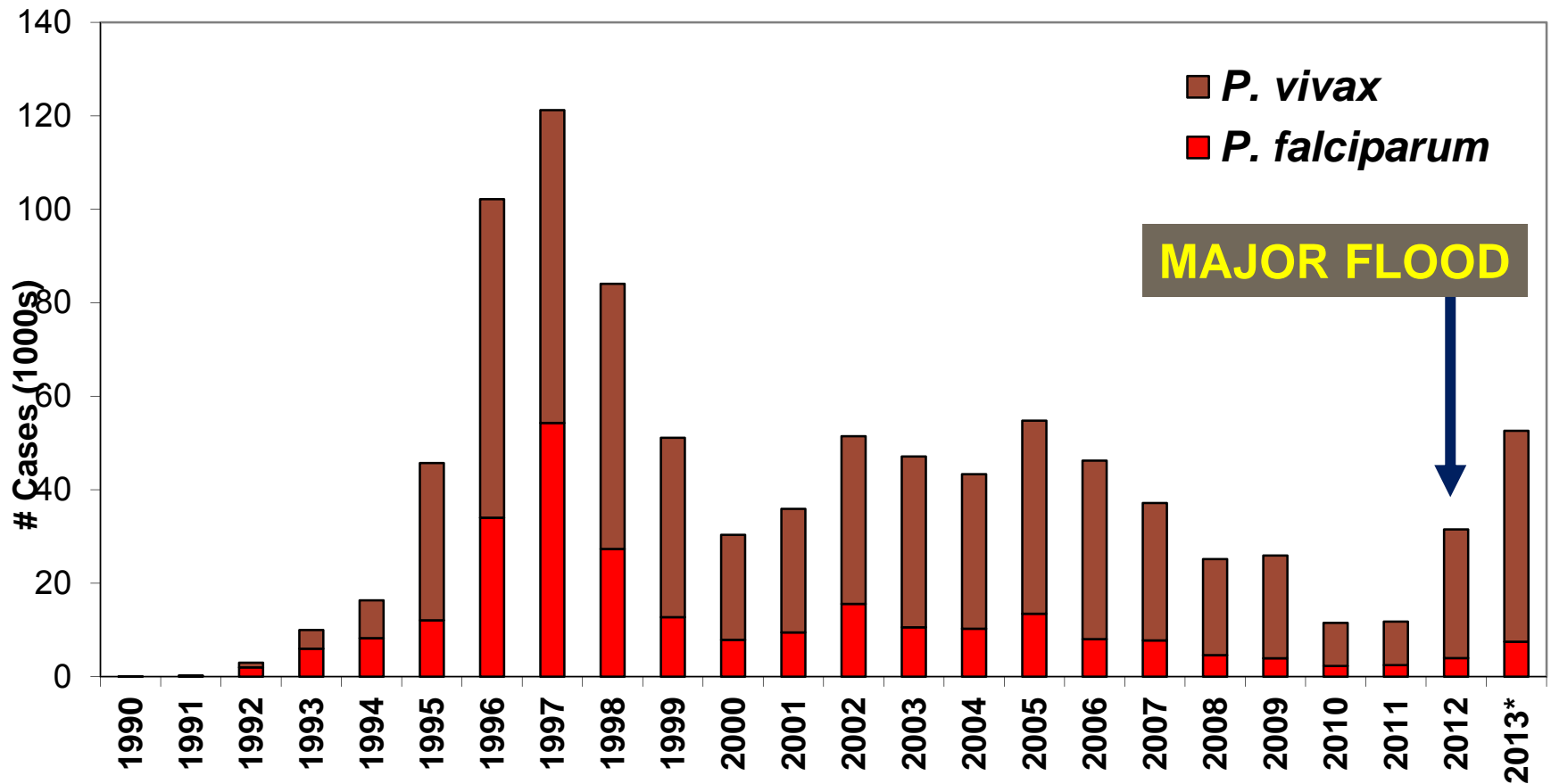




# Behavioral Change



# Reported Malaria, Loreto Province 1990-2013



## Highest Deforestation Rate in Peru

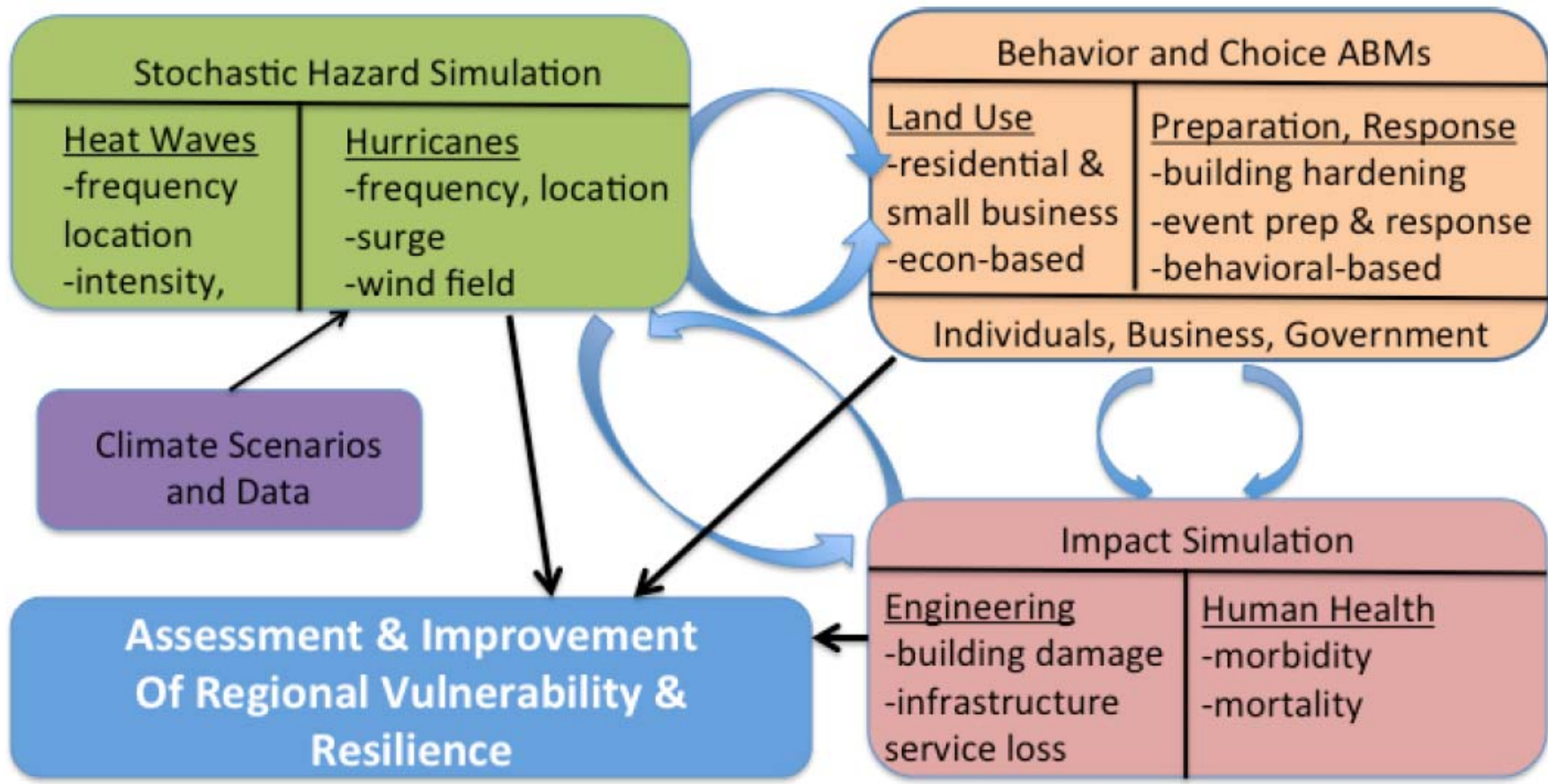
Iquitos-Nauta Road Paving & Fujimori logging concessions

## Roll Back Malaria

2<sup>nd</sup> highest increase in the Amazon to 2006, Major decline to 2011



# Behavioral Change



# A Guide to the Perplexed

- There are opportunities for **projection** and **prediction**, but the opportunities differ
- Actionable information can be found **throughout the analysis chain**
- “Forecast” has **multiple meanings**
- **It can be useful to plan a MIP**, even if we don't pursue it
- **Change matters**, and we can address it



**Thank You**