

climate change initiative

# RIVER DISCHARGE

## WP 3.2: River discharge from altimeters and ancillary data



river  
discharge  
cci



Laetitia GAL

User Workshop

Météo-France, Toulouse

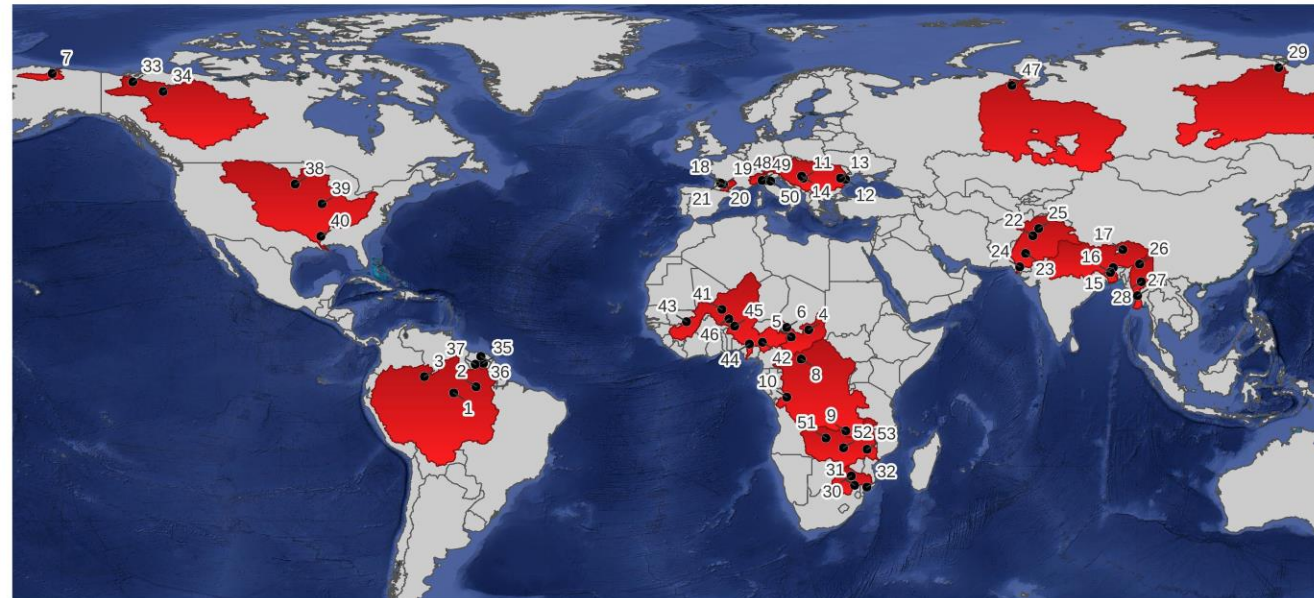
03-04 June 2024





# Objectives (1/1)

**Objective:** Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data



**18 basins**  
**54 stations**

- Selected Basins
- Selected Stations
- 1-AMAZON-OBIDOS
- 2-AMAZON-SAO-FELIPE
- 3-AMAZON-MANACAPURU
- 4-CHAD-NDJAMENA
- 5-CHAD-AM-TIMAN
- 6-CHAD-LAI
- 7-CHAD-GUELENGDENG
- 8-COLVILLE-UMIAT
- 9-CONGO-CHEMBE-FERRY
- 10-CONGO-BANGUI
- 11-CONGO-KINSHASA
- 12-DANUBE-BOGOJEVO
- 13-DANUBE-BAJA
- 14-DANUBE-LUNGOCI
- 15-DANUBE-CEATAL
- 16-GANGA-BRAHMAPUTRA-YANGCUN
- 17-GANGA-BRAHMAPUTRA-HARDINGE-BRIDGE
- 18-GANGA-BRAHMAPUTRA-BAHADURABAD
- 19-GARONNE-LAMAGISTERE
- 20-GARONNE-TONNEINS
- 21-GARONNE-MARMANDE
- 22-GARONNE-LA-REOLE
- 23-INDUS-KOTRI
- 24-INDUS-CHASHMA
- 25-INDUS-TARBELA
- 26-INDUS-GUDDU
- 27-IRRAWADDY-HKAMTI
- 28-IRRAWADDY-SAGAING
- 29-IRRAWADDY-PYAY
- 30-LENA-KYUSYUR
- 31-LIMPOPO-FINALE
- 32-LIMPOPO-BEITBRUG
- 33-LIMPOPO-SICACATE
- 34-MACKENZIE-ARCTIC-RED
- 35-MACKENZIE-NORMAN-WELLS
- 36-MARONI-LANGA-TABIKI
- 37-MARONI-DEGRAD-ROCHE
- 38-MARONI-TAPA
- 39-MISSISSIPPI-NEAR-BROOKINGS
- 40-MISSISSIPPI-VALLEY-CITY
- 41-MISSISSIPPI-VICKSBURG
- 42-NIGER-KOULIKORO
- 43-NIGER-NIAMEY
- 44-NIGER-LOKOJA
- 45-NIGER-MALANVILLE
- 46-NIGER-ANSONGO
- 47-NIGER-MAKURDI
- 48-OB-SALEKHARD
- 49-PO-PONTELAGOSCURO
- 50-PO-BORGFORTE
- 51-PO-PIACENZA
- 52-ZAMBEZI-KASAKA
- 53-ZAMBEZI-KABOMPO-PONTOON
- 54-ZAMBEZI-MATUNDO-CAIS



# Step 1 (1/3)



**Objective:** Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data

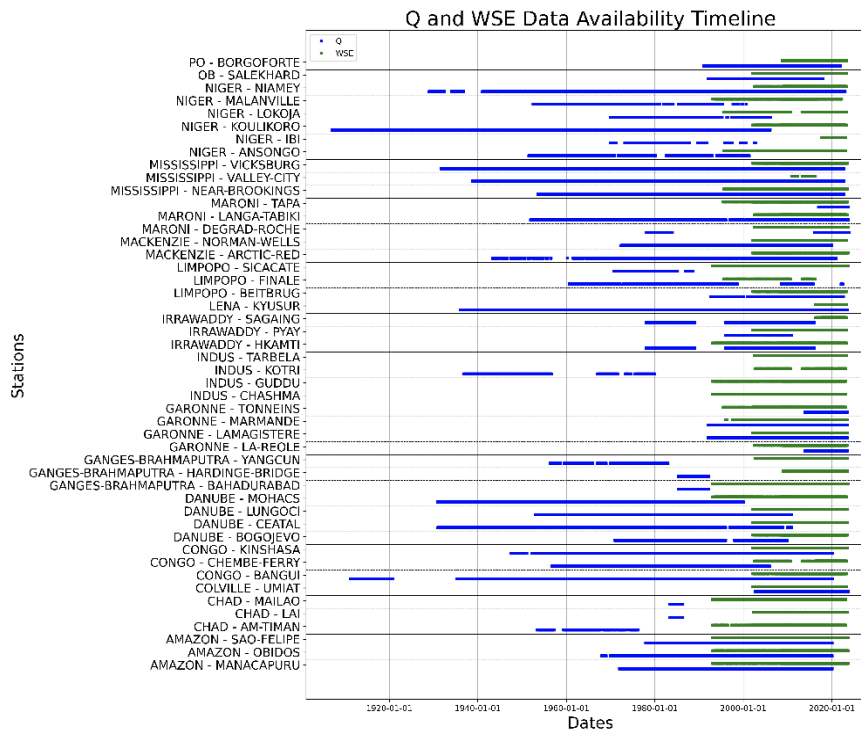
Compile all available data from in-situ and/or model discharge (Q) and merged WSE from altimeters (WP3.1)

**Step 1:**  
Define Cal/Val periods

**Step 2:**  
Compute Rating Curve

**Step 3:**  
Compute Uncertainties

**Step 4:**  
Compute long term River Discharge timeseries







# Step 1 (2/3)

**Objective: Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data**

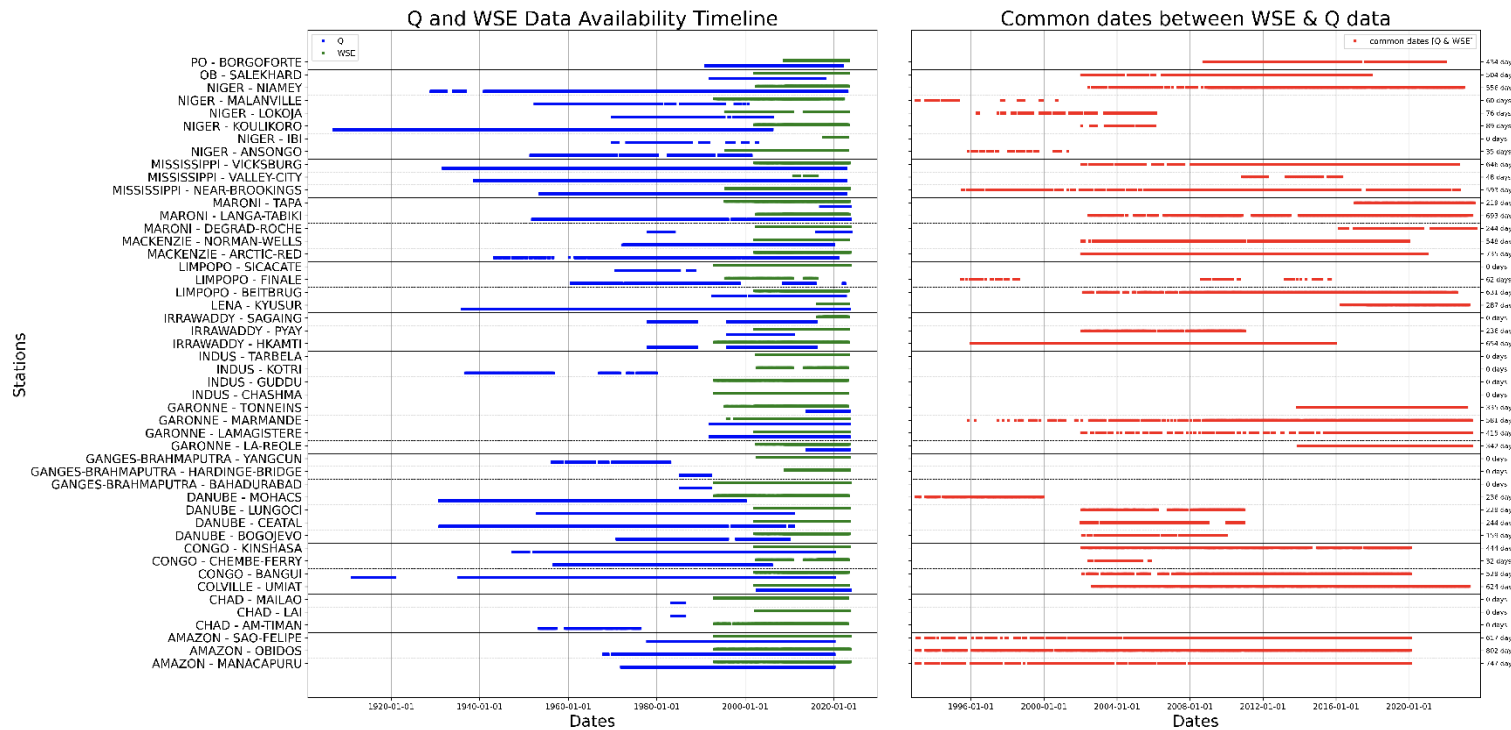
- Compile all available data from in-situ and/or model discharge (Q) and merged WSE from altimeters (WP3.1)
- Identify overlap data = Closest date with time gap < 24H between WSE and Q

**Step 1:**  
Define Cal/Val periods

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# Step 1 (3/3)



**Objective: Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data**

Compile all available data from in-situ and/or model discharge (Q) and merged WSE from altimeters (WP3.1)

Identify overlap data = Closest date with time gap < 24H between WSE and Q

Divided common period into Calibration/Validation periods:

First 1/3 part : Validation period - Last 2/3 parts: Calibration period

CONDITION : If number of common date < 15 = no common period considered, all common data will be used for validation

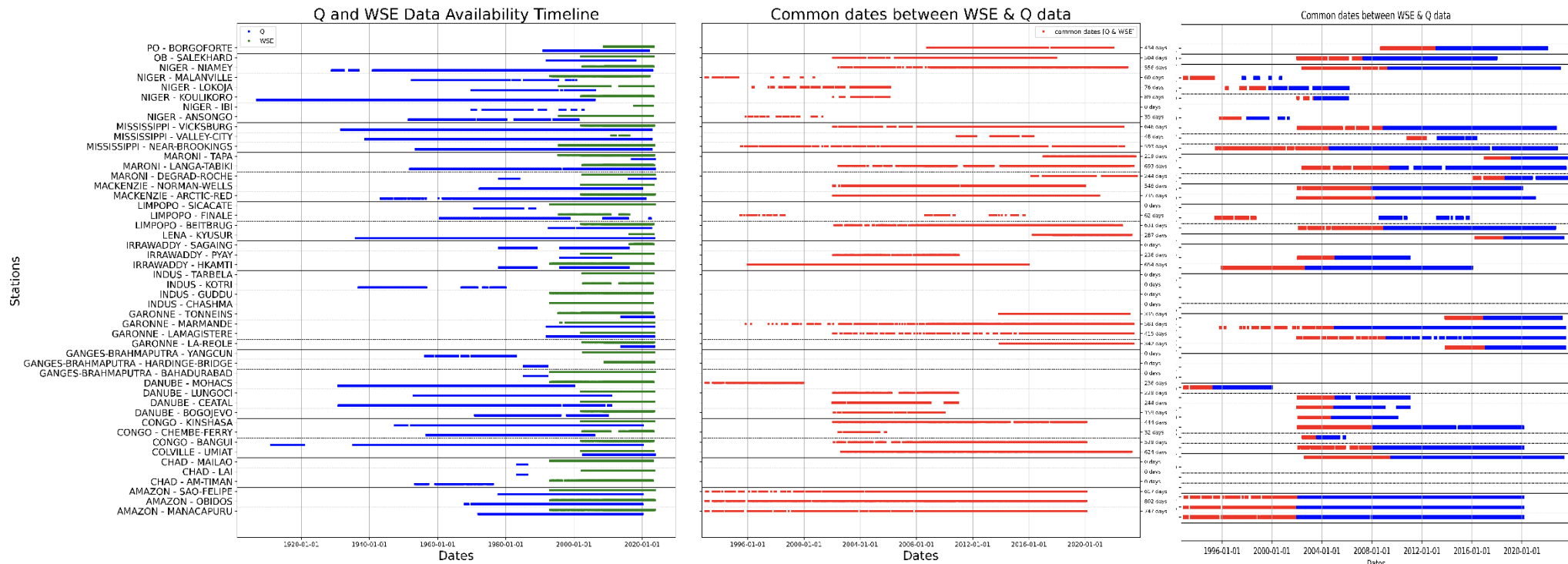
31 stations : time overlap  
4 stations : not enough time overlap  
19 stations : without time overlap

**Step 1:**  
Define Cal/Val periods

**Step 2:**  
Compute Rating Curve

**Step 3:**  
Compute Uncertainties

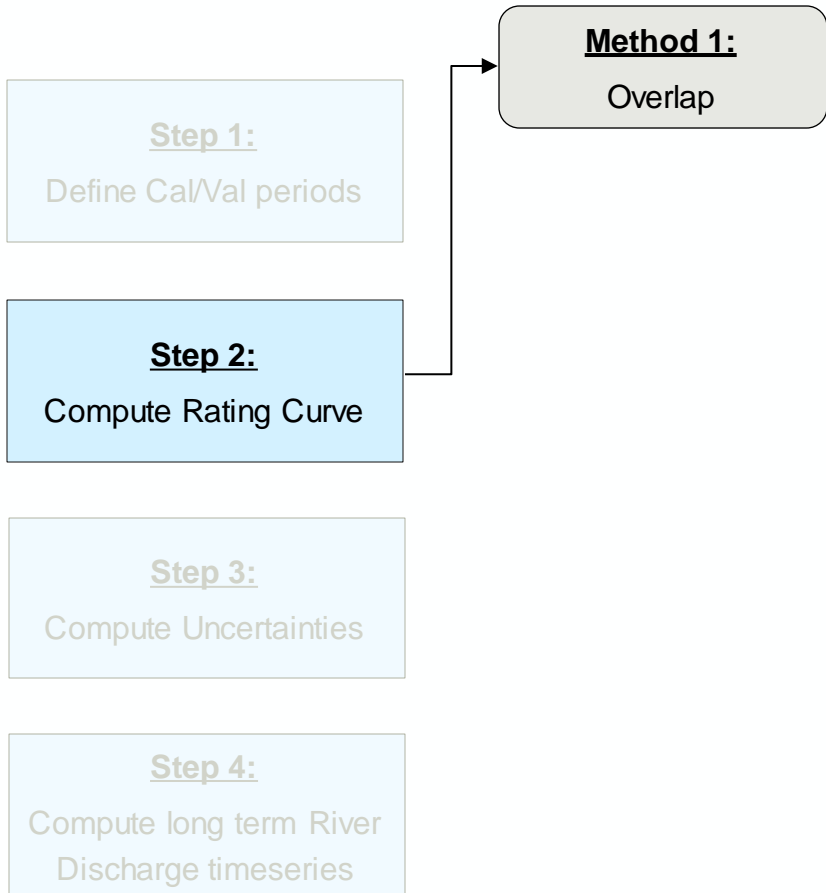
**Step 4:**  
Compute long term River Discharge timeseries





# Step 2 (1/3)

**Objective:** Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data



**Bayesian Approach** to compute Rating Curve between overlap WSE and Q:

- Probabilistic model :  $Q = a \cdot (h - z_0)^b$
- Prior distribution :  $a \in [0; 3000]$  -  $b \in [0; 5]$  -  $z_0 \in [\min(\text{WSE}) - 50; \min(\text{WSE})]$
- Parameters estimation through Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampling and the Metropolis-Hasting sampler "MH" algorithm





# Step 2 (2/3)

**Objective:** Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data

**Step 1:**  
Define Cal/Val periods

**Step 2:**  
Compute Rating Curve

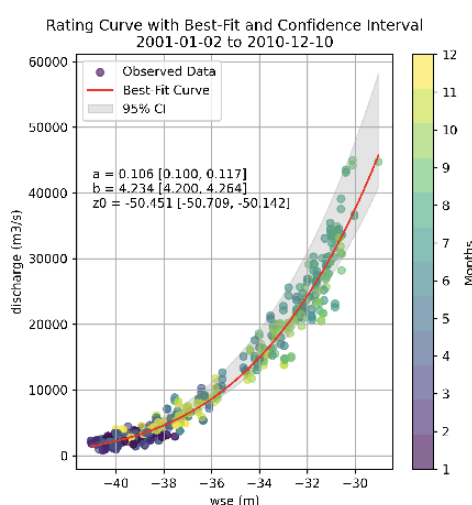
**Step 3:**  
Compute Uncertainties

**Step 4:**  
Compute long term River Discharge timeseries

**Method 1:**  
Overlap

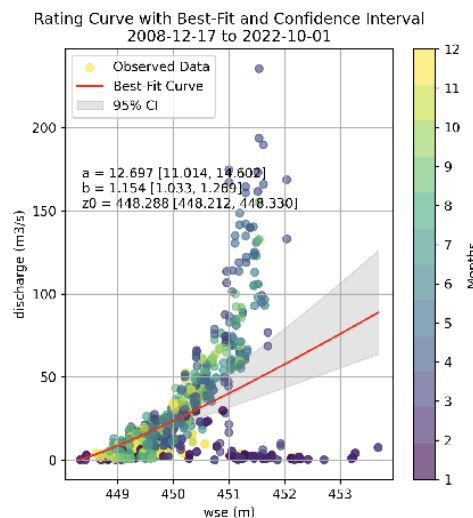
Case 1:

General



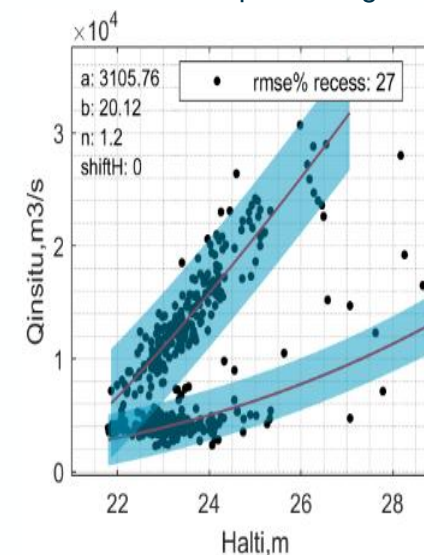
Case 2:

Frozen period time to time  
--> remove point based on temperature



Case 3:

Arctic basins  
--> Multiples rating curves





# Step 2 (3/3)

**Objective:** Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data

**Step 1:**  
Define Cal/Val periods

**Step 2:**  
Compute Rating Curve

**Step 3:**  
Compute Uncertainties

**Step 4:**  
Compute long term River Discharge timeseries

**Method 1:**  
Overlap

Case 1:

General

Case 2:

Frozen period time to time  
--> remove point based on temperature

Case 3:

Arctic basins  
--> Multiples rating curves

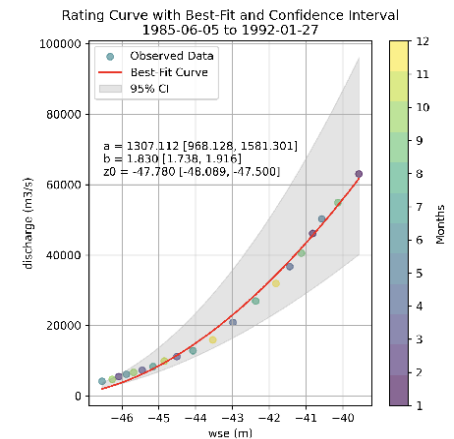
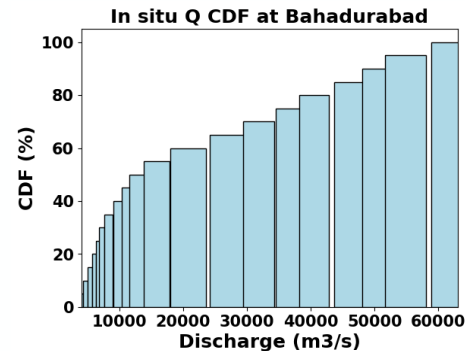
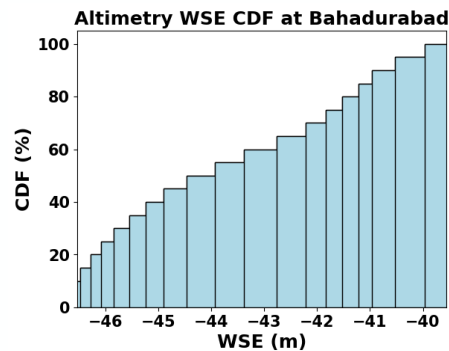
**Method 2:**  
No Overlap

**Bayesian Approach** to compute Rating Curve between overlap WSE and Q:

- Probabilistic model :  $Q = a \cdot (h - z_0)^b$
- Prior distribution :  $a \in [0; 3000]$  -  $b \in [0; 5]$  -  $z_0 \in [\min(\text{WSE}) - 50; \min(\text{WSE})]$
- Parameters estimation through Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampling and the Metropolis-Hasting sampler "MH" algorithm

**Quantile Approach** to compute Rating Curve between non-overlap WSE and Q (Tourian et al., 2013):

- Obtain quantile functions of WSE and discharge by sorting ascendingly and normalizing the sorted data using :  $P_i = K_i \div (N + 1)$
- Apply Bayesian approach to estimate rating curve parameters







# Step 3 (2/2)

**Objective:** Compute long-term discharge time series at selected locations from altimetry WSE and ancillary data

$$\partial(Q) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial a} \cdot \partial a\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial WSE} \cdot \partial WSE\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial b} \cdot \partial b\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial z0} \cdot \partial z0\right)^2}$$

$$\partial(Q) = \sqrt{\left((WSE - z0)^b \cdot \sigma a\right)^2 + \left(a \cdot b \cdot (WSE - z0)^{b-1} \cdot \sigma WSE\right)^2 + \left(a \cdot (WSE - z0)^b \cdot \ln(WSE - z0) \cdot \sigma b\right)^2 + \left(-a \cdot b \cdot (WSE - z0)^{b-1} \cdot \sigma z0\right)^2}$$

**WARNING :** independent variables !

### First prior of an end to end uncertainty budget

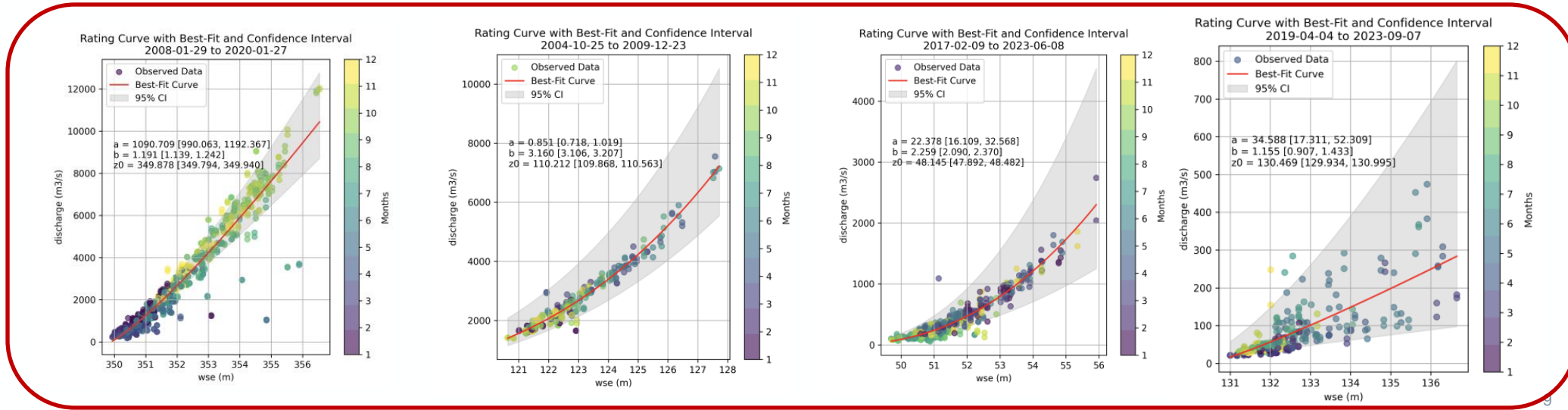
- Sd of power law's coefficients:
- Comes from Bayesian approach

**Step 1:**  
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# Step 3 (2/2)

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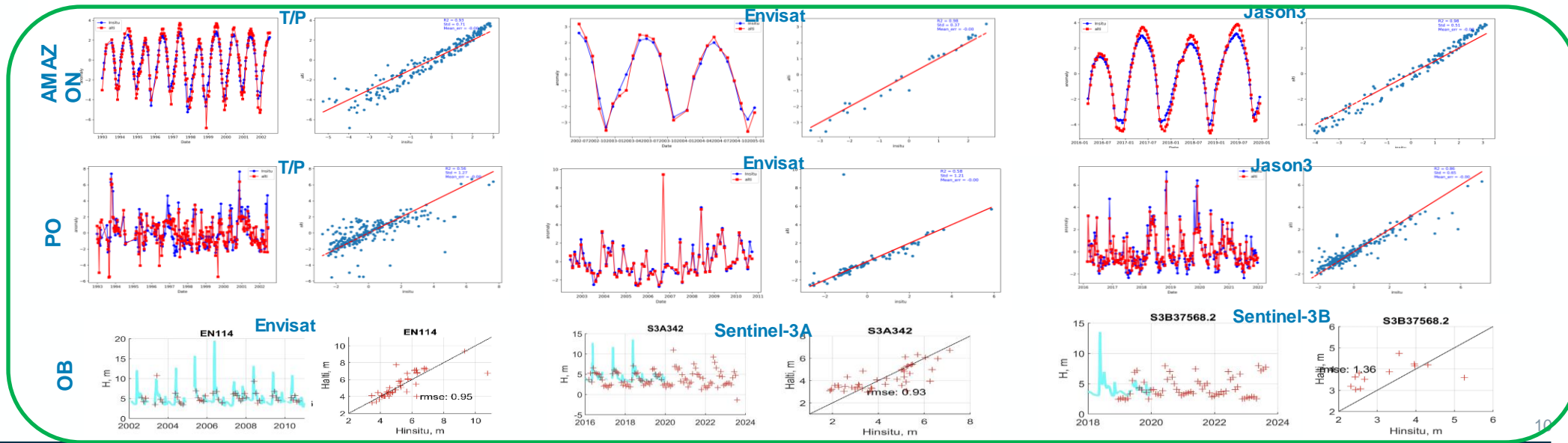
$$\partial(Q) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial a} \cdot \partial a\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial WSE} \cdot \partial WSE\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial b} \cdot \partial b\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial z0} \cdot \partial z0\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial(Q)}{\partial WSE} = \frac{\sqrt{\left((WSE - z0)^b \cdot \sigma a\right)^2 + \left(a \cdot b \cdot (WSE - z0)^{b-1} \cdot \sigma WSE\right)^2}}{\left(a \cdot (WSE - z0)^b \cdot \ln(WSE - z0) \cdot \sigma b\right)^2 + \left(-a \cdot b \cdot (WSE - z0)^{b-1} \cdot \sigma z0\right)^2}$$

**WARNING :** independent variables !

**First prior of an end to end uncertainty budget**

- Sd of power law's coefficients:
- Comes from Bayesian approach
- Sd of WSE:
- error per mission between WSE and In-situ water height anomalies









# Step 4 (1/2)



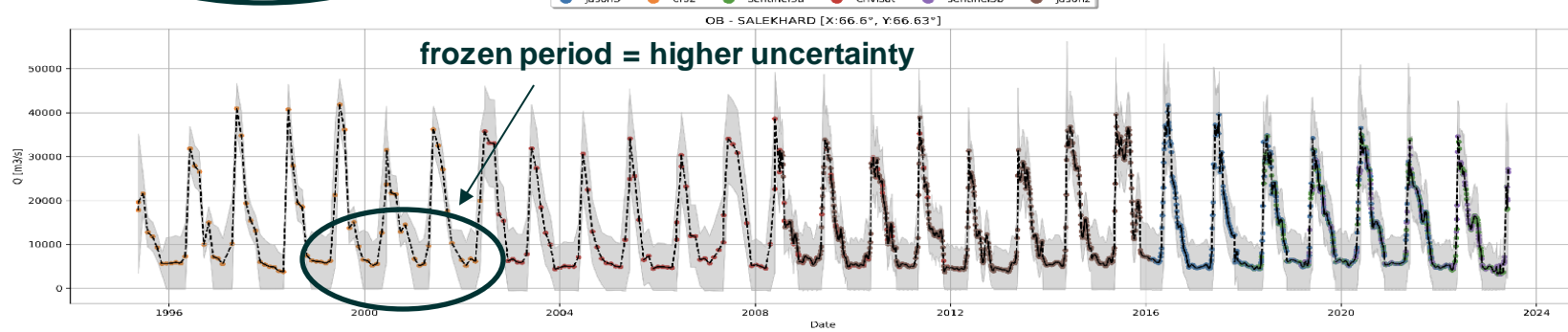
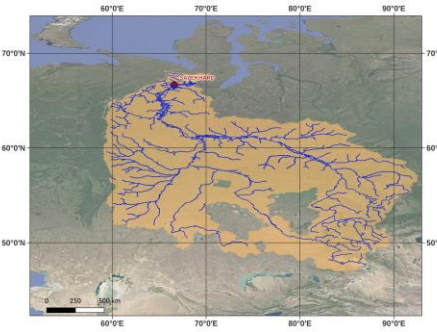
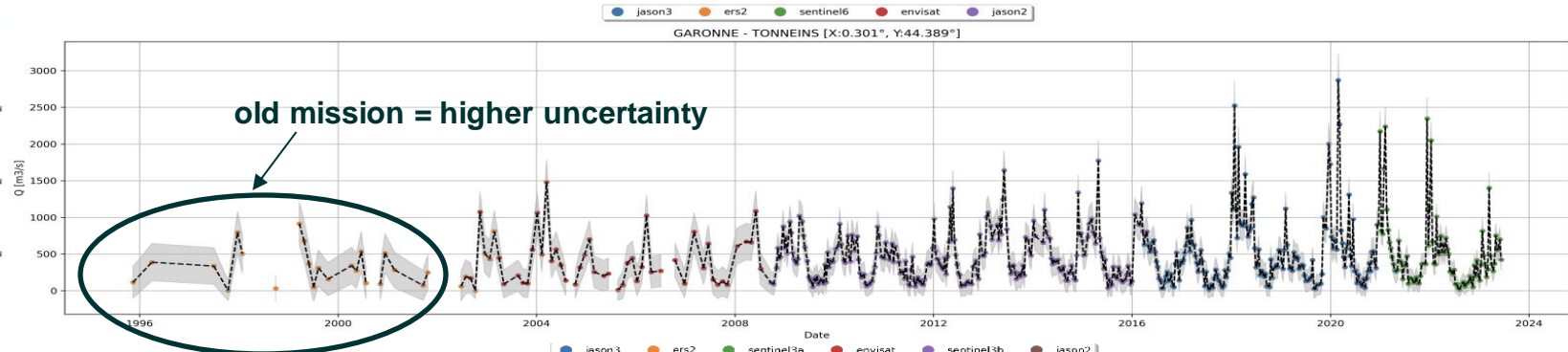
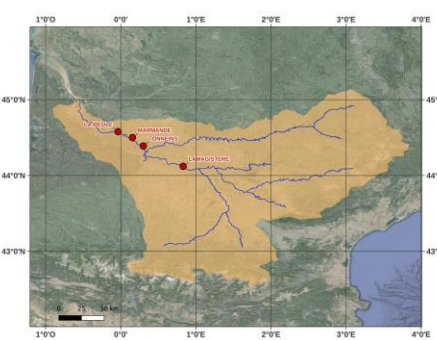
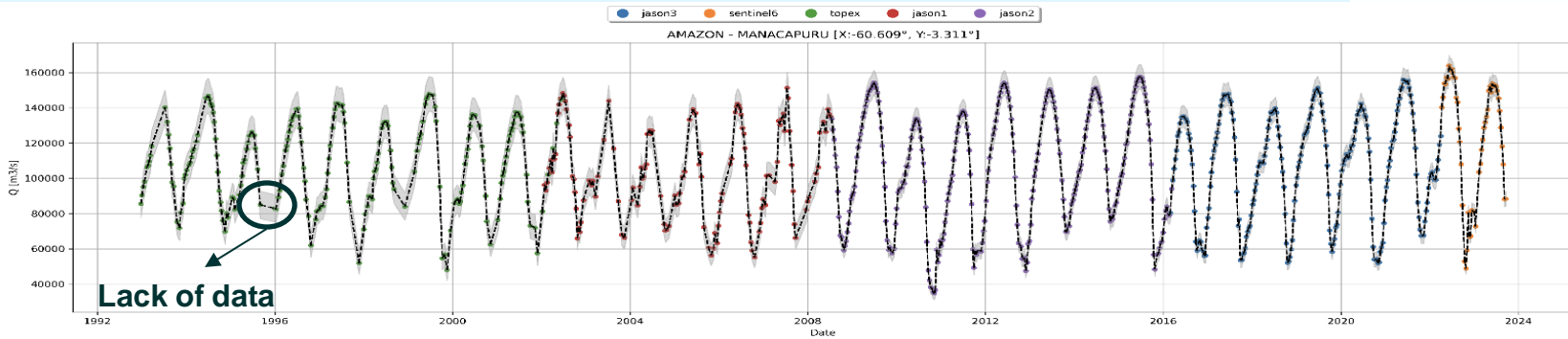
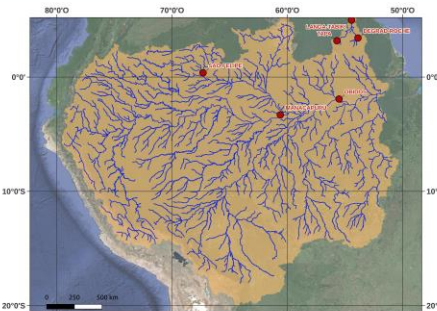
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# Step 4 (2/2)

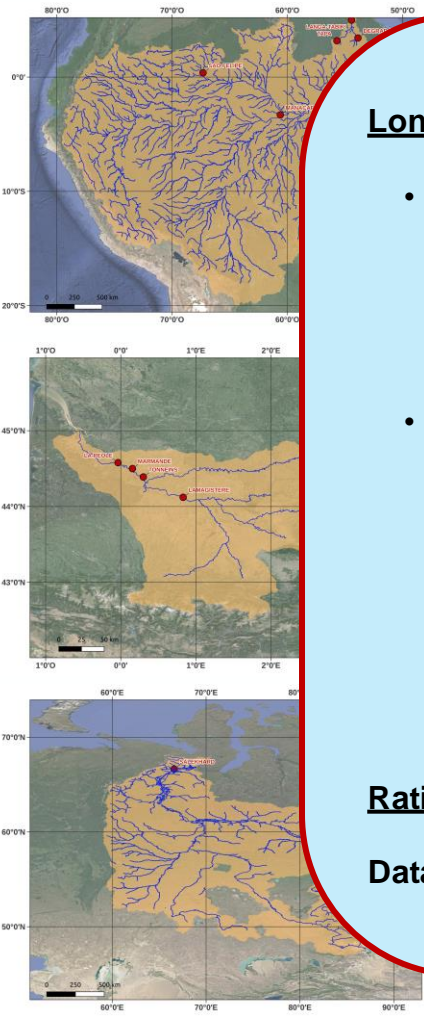
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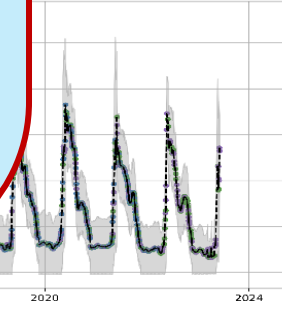
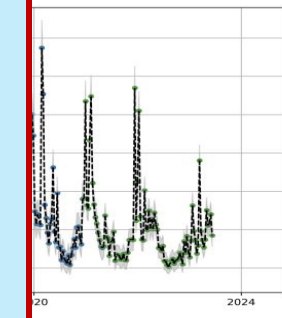
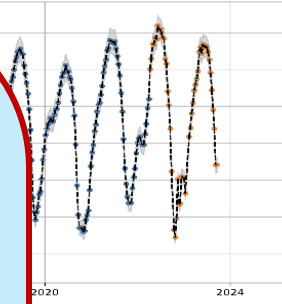
## Long term altimetry-based river discharge (RD) have been computed over 50 stations (/ 54)

- Missing stations:
  - 3 stations with no in-situ discharge data (Indus)
  - 1 station with no WSE timeseries (Chad)
- Number of years between 1<sup>st</sup> and last dates in time series:
  - 4 RD time series ≤ 7 years
  - 5 RD time series = 15 years
  - 24 RD time series = 21 years
  - 17 RD time series ~30 years

**Rating curve's coefficients available here :** <https://zenodo.org/records/10804708>

**Data have been provided in CSV format and NetCDF format on CEDA platform**

Legend: jason3, sentinel6, topeX, jason1, jason2  
AMAZON - MANACAPURU [X:-60.609°, Y:-3.311°]





# river discharge cci

[climate.esa.int/projects/river-discharge](https://climate.esa.int/projects/river-discharge)

