

# Creating Watersheds and Stream Networks

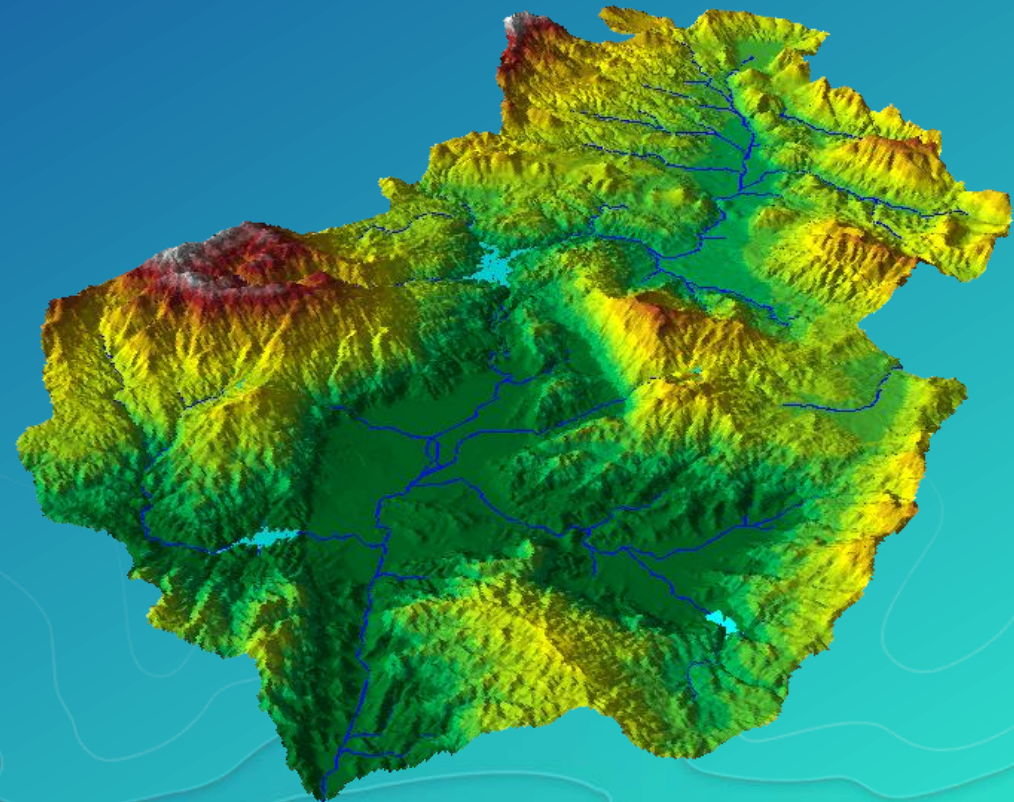
Neeraj Rajasekar

# Workshop overview

- Data
- Understanding the tools
- Demo

# Elevation Data

- Types
  - DEM : Digital Elevation Model “bare Earth”
  - DSM : Digital Surface Model
- Data Structure
  - Raster
  - TIN
  - Terrain





# Where do you get DEM data?

- **Sources**
  - **Global**
    - SRTM and HydroSHEDS - 30m and 90m
    - ASTER - 30m (*challenging for surface runoff modeling*)
  - **United States NED 30m, 10 m, and higher**
  - **Available in ArcGIS Online**
- **LiDAR, IfSAR**
- **Generated photogrammetrically**
- **Created with interpolation tools**
  - **especially TopoToRaster**

# DEM Construction Considerations

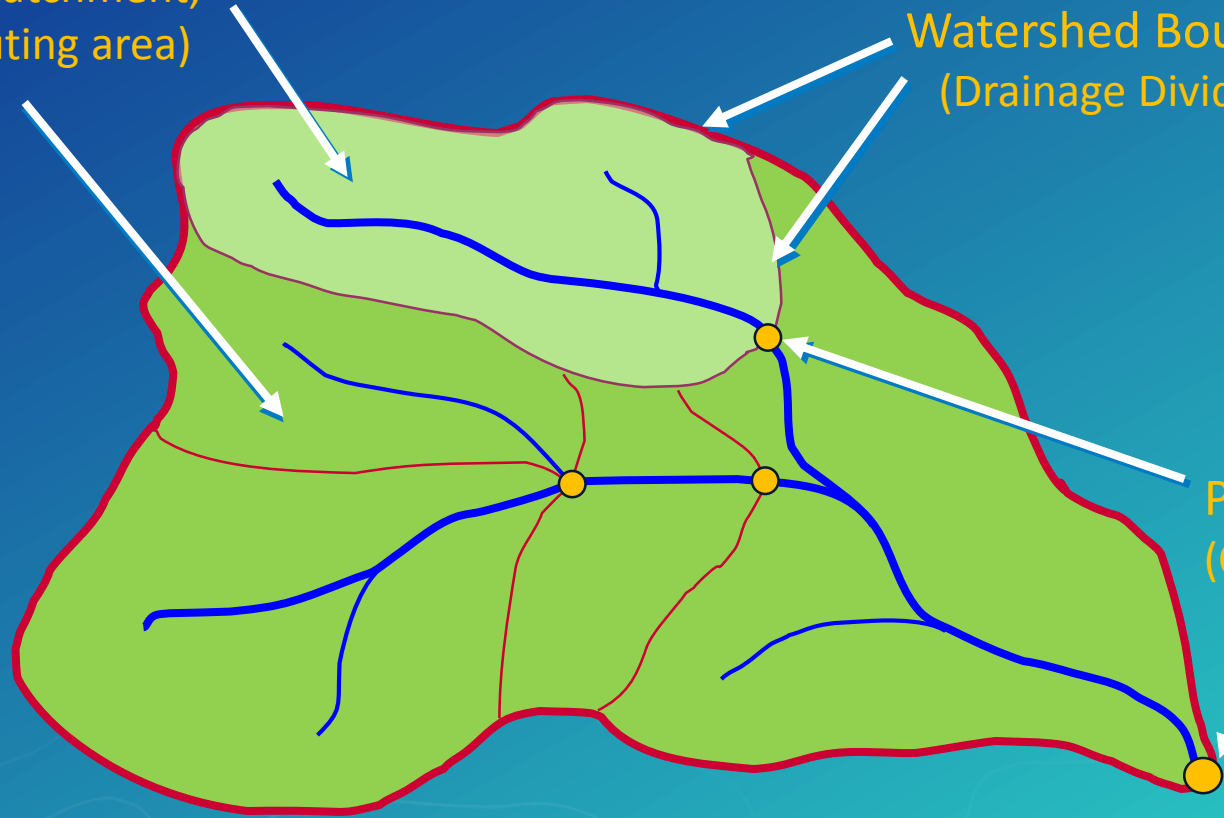
- **Extent**
- **Map Projection (use equal area)**
- **Cell size and Resolution**
  - *Must be appropriate for the landscape and scale being modeled.*
- **Source elevation data (accuracy, density, sampling)**
- **Interpolation techniques (use TopoToRaster)**
- **Special consideration for contour input**
  - TopoToRaster interpolator – works well with contours, creates hydrologically correct DEM

# Drainage System

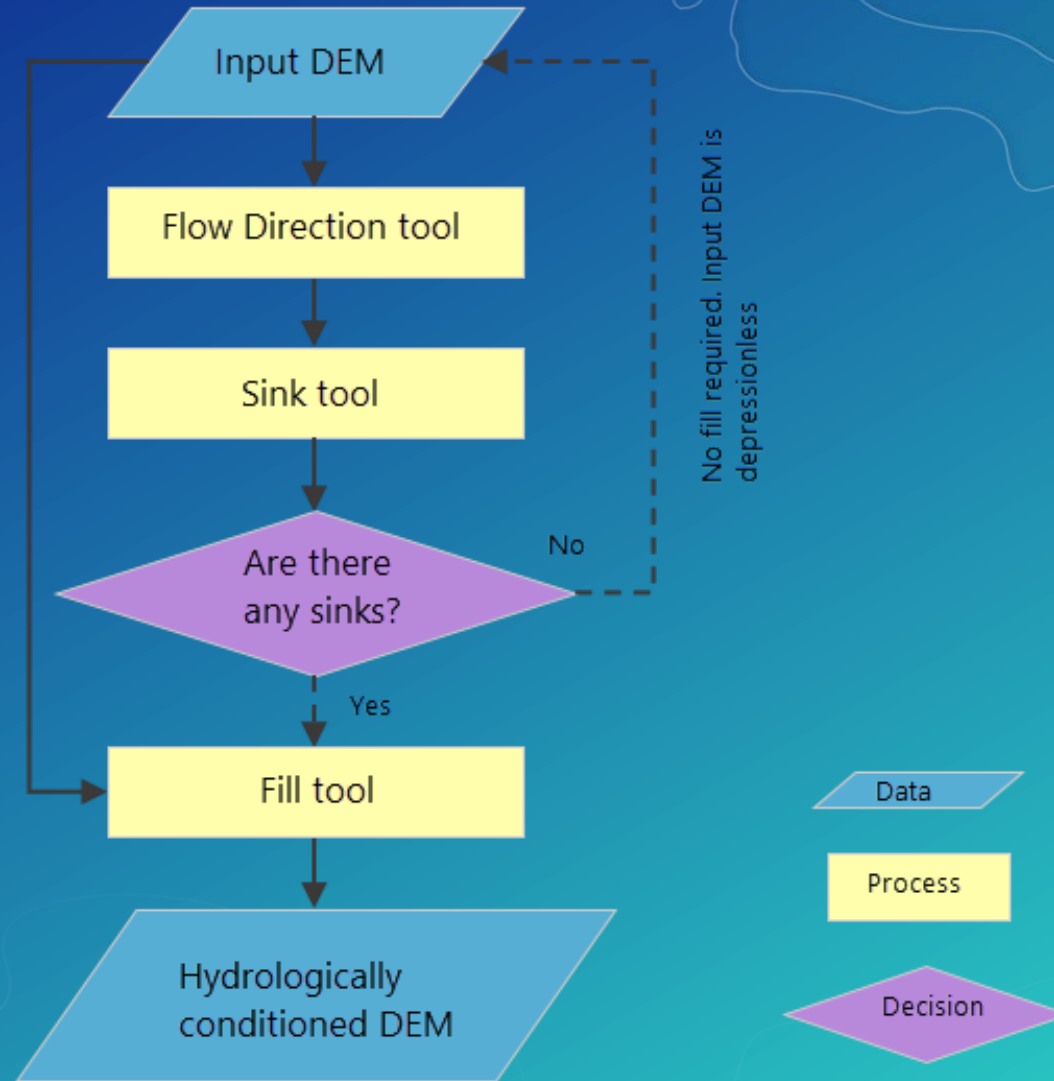
Watershed  
(Basin, Catchment,  
Contributing area)

Watershed Boundaries  
(Drainage Divides)

Pour Points  
(Outlets)



# Function Processing



# Hydrologically Correct DEM

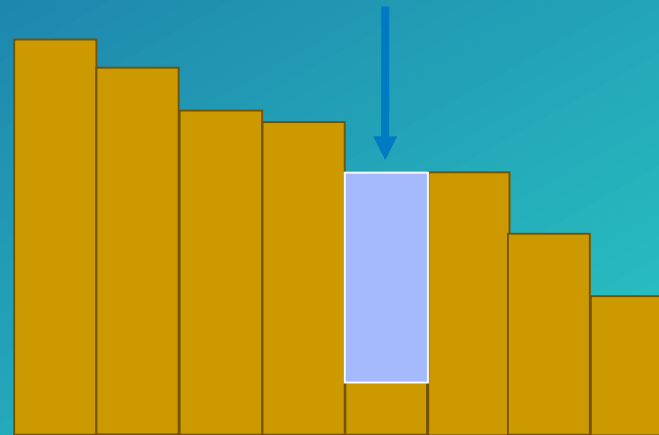
- **Sinks**
  - Some sinks are real
    - Do not fill in the Great Salt Lake
- **Streams in the correct place?**
  - To burn or not to burn...
- **Watershed boundaries in the correct place?**
  - To fence or not to fence...



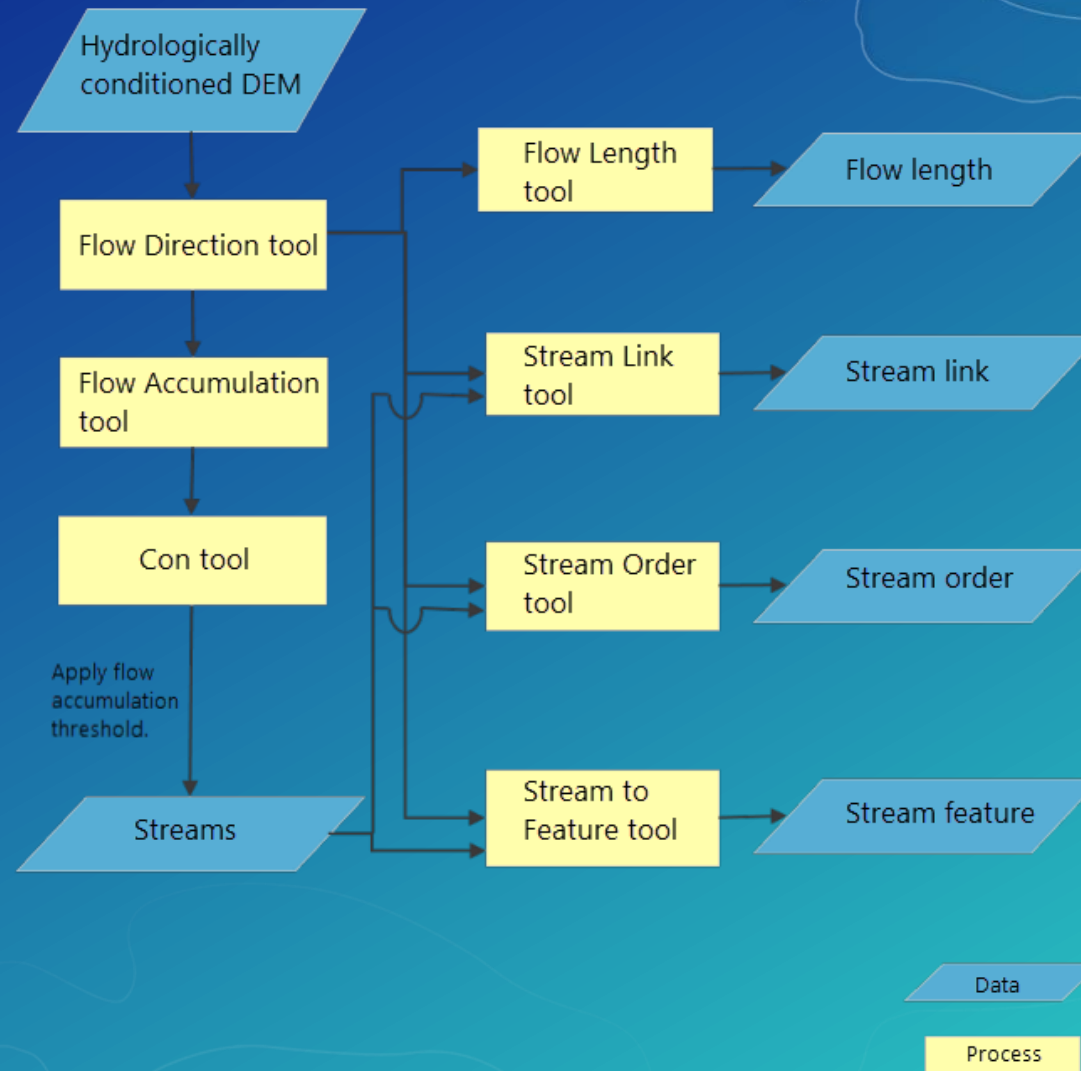
# DEM Errors – Sinks and Spikes

- Sinks: when sinks are (or are not) sinks
- E.g. Lakes, depressions, karst and glacial landscapes
  - Global fill
  - Dealing with internal basins
  - Selective fill
    - Depth
    - Area

Filled sink



# Function Processing



# Flow Direction

78	72	69	71	58	49
74	67	56	49	46	50
69	53	44	37	38	48
64	58	55	22	31	24
68	61	47	21	16	19
74	53	34	12	11	12

Elevation



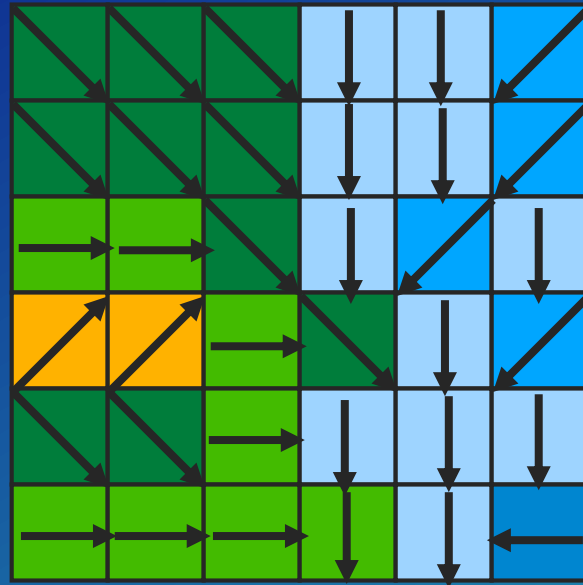
2	2	2	4	4	8
2	2	2	4	4	8
1	1	2	4	8	4
128	128	1	2	4	8
2	2	1	4	4	4
1	1	1	1	4	16

Flow Direction

32	64	128
16		1
8	4	2

Direction Coding

# Flow Accumulation

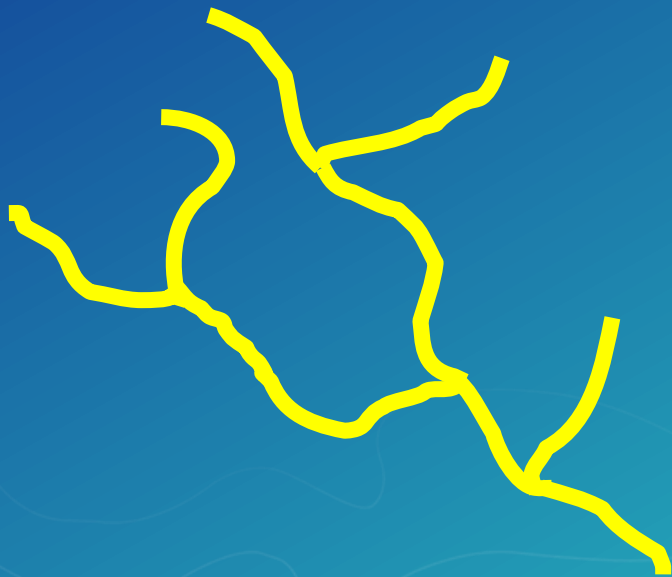


0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	2	2	0
0	3	7	5	4	0
0	0	0	20	0	1
0	0	0	1	24	0
0	2	4	7	35	2



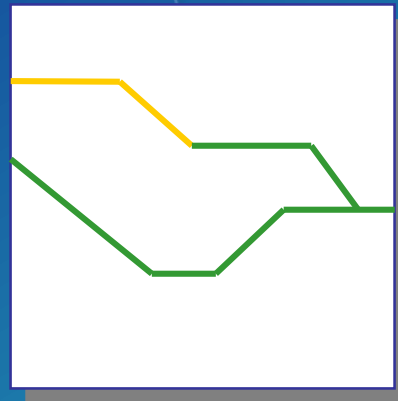
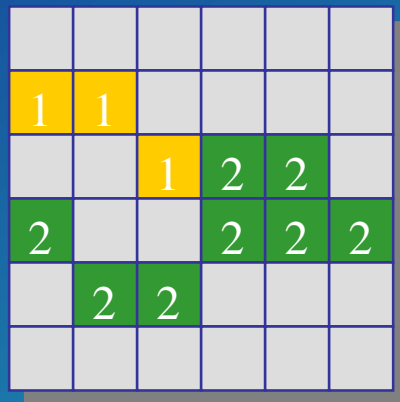
## Stream Link

- Assign a unique value to each stream segment.
  - Can be used as input to Watershed tool

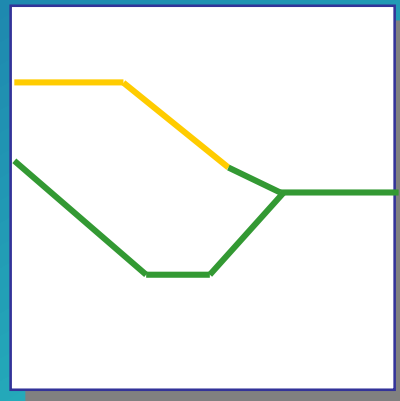


# Creating Vector Streams

Value = No Data

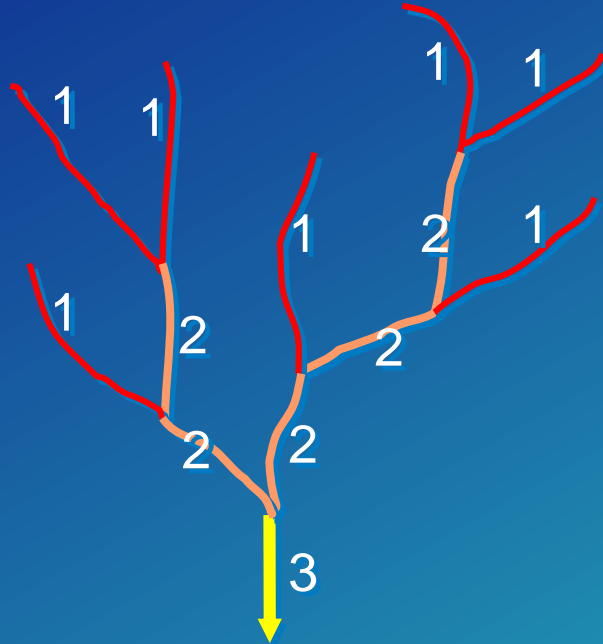


StreamToFeature

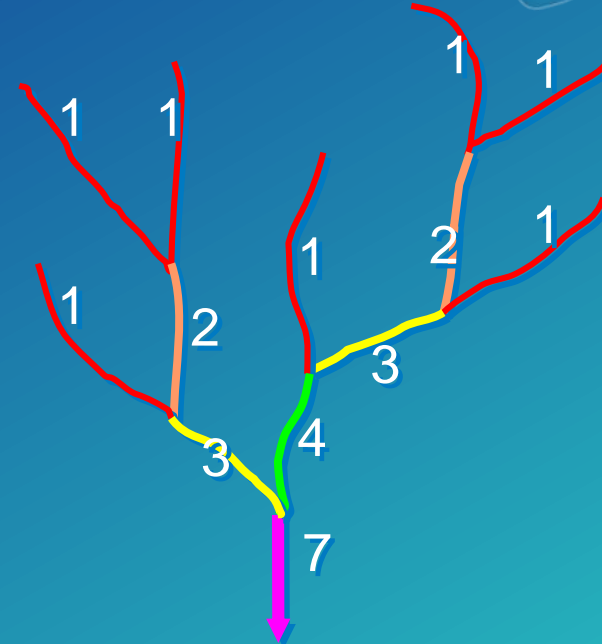


RasterToFeature

# Stream Ordering



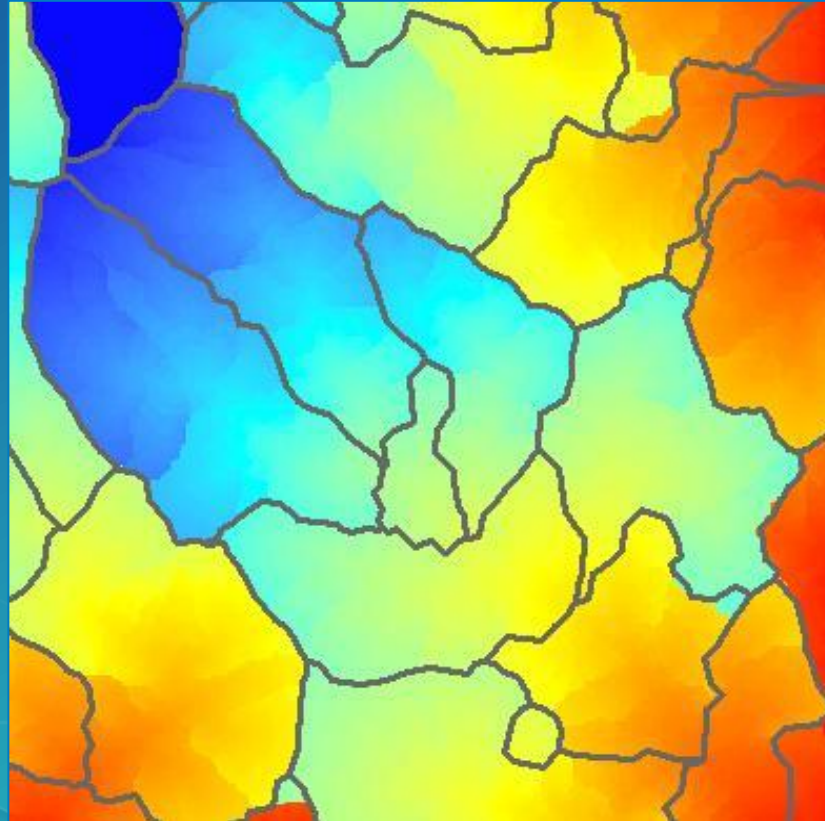
Strahler



Shreve

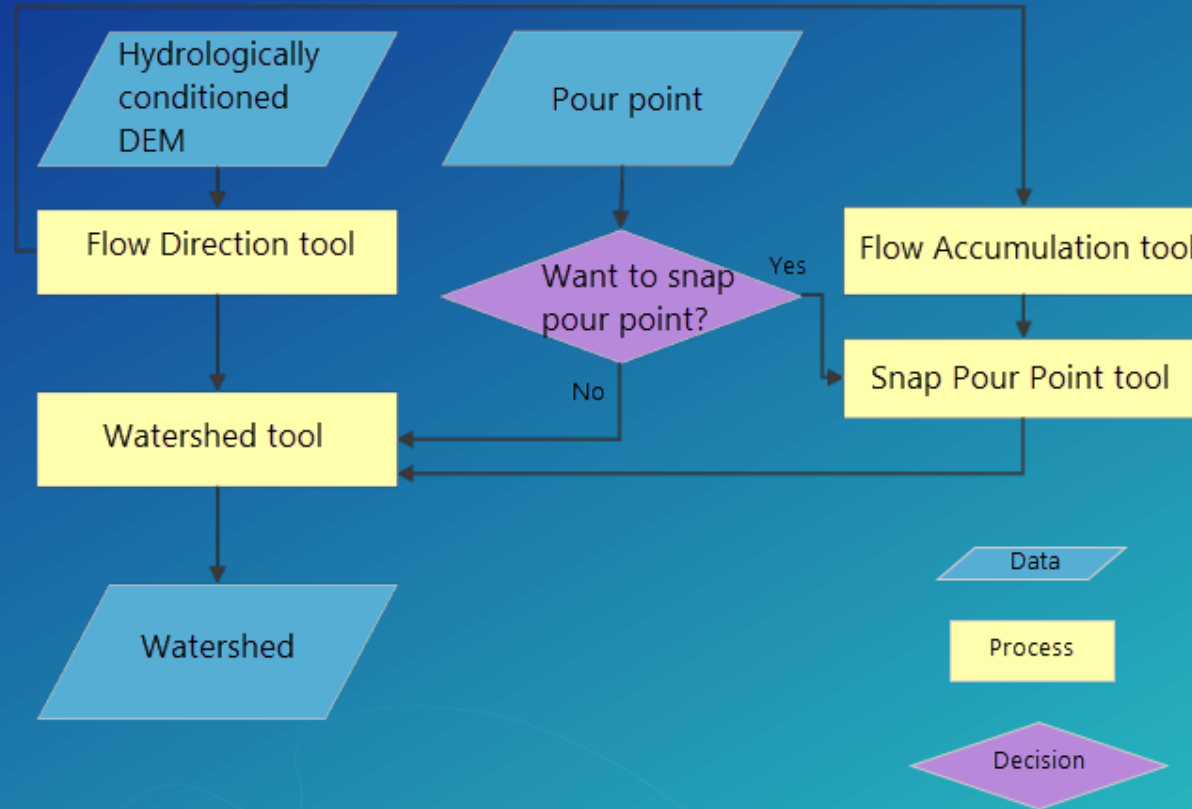
## Flow Length

- Calculate the length of the upstream or downstream flow path from each cell.



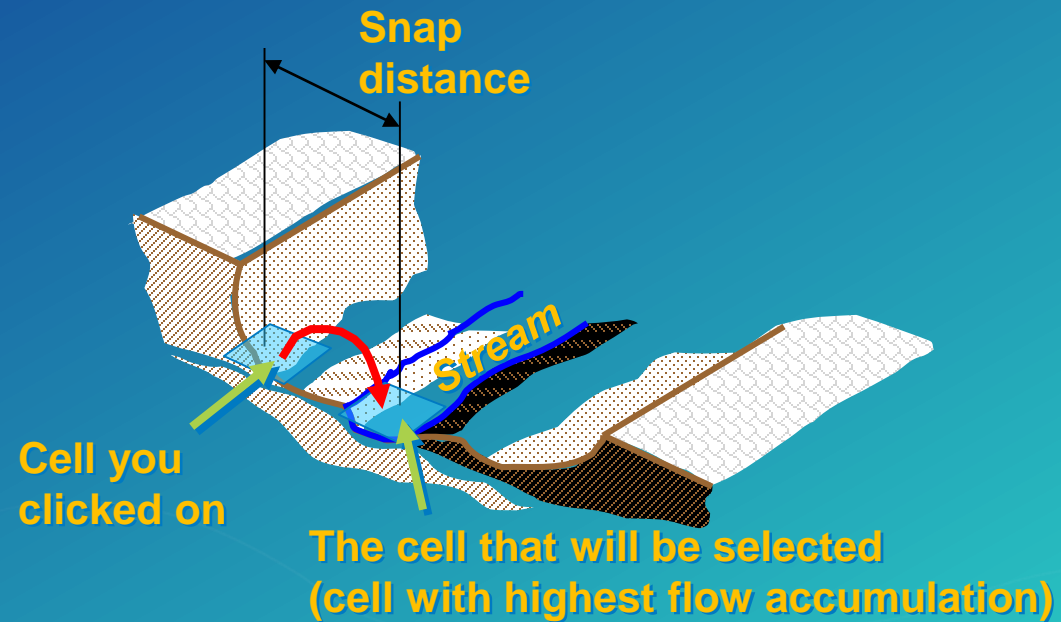


# Function Processing



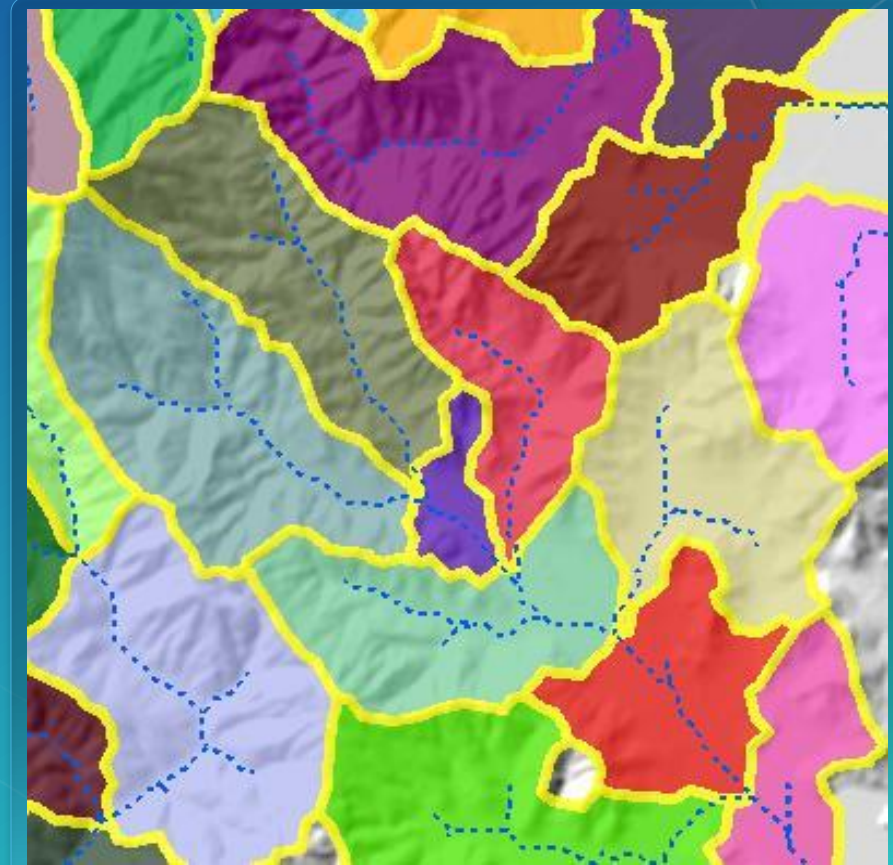
# Snapping Pour Points

- Use the Snap Pour Point tool to snap the “pour point” of a watershed to the cell of highest flow accumulation within a neighborhood.
  - Prevents accidental creation of tiny watersheds on channel side slopes.



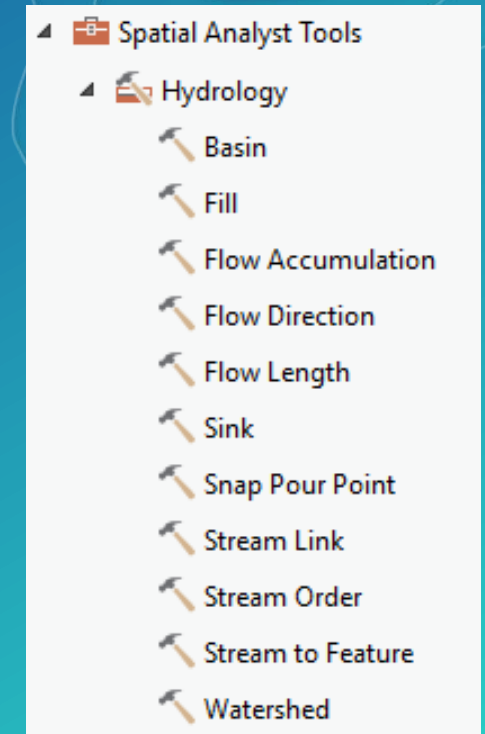
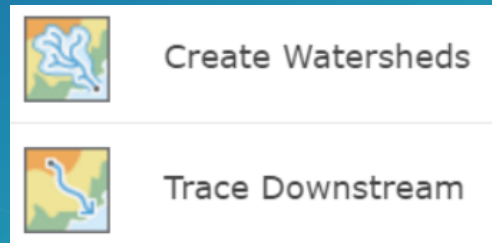
# Watershed Delineation

- Identify the contributing area to a cell or group of cells.



# Where is this functionality?

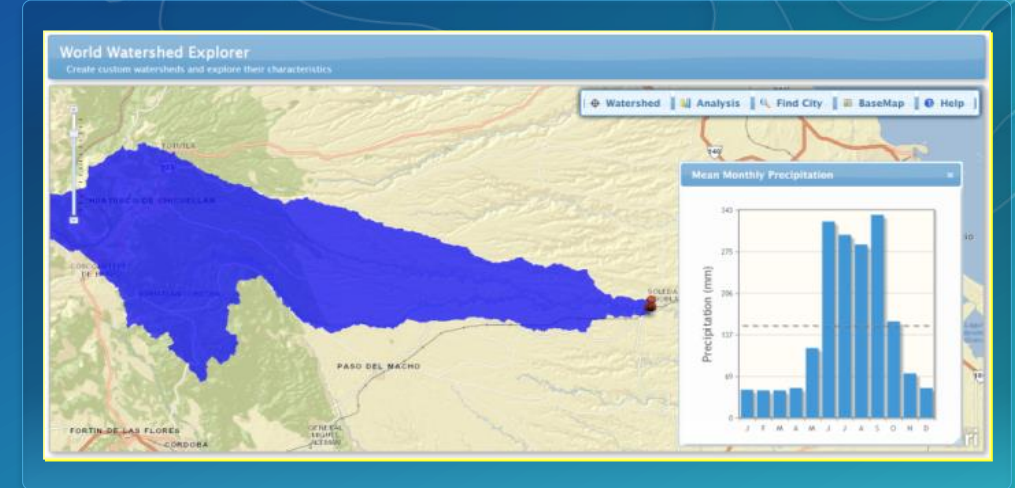
- Tools in the Spatial Analyst Toolbox
- Sample tools, models, workflows and Arc Hydro tools are available in GeoNet and Geoprocessing tool gallery
- Web hosted Watershed Delineation and Trace Downstream in:
  - ArcMap and Pro as Ready to User Services
  - ArcGIS Online Analytics
  - Web AppBuilder





# Hosted Hydro Analysis Services

- Watershed Delineation Service
- Trace Downstream Service
- Profile Service
- Elevation Summary Statistics



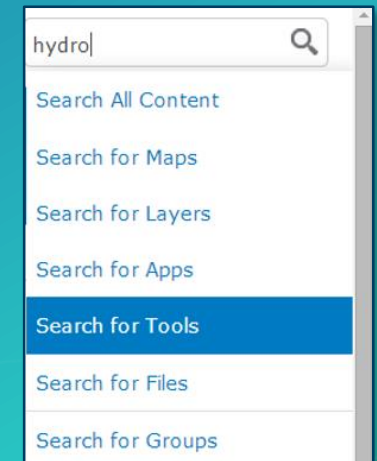
## Source

US – based upon 30 m elevation and vectors derived from NHDPlus V2

Global – based upon 90 m elevation from HydroSHEDS

*New contributions welcome through Community Maps...*

<https://blogs.esri.com/esri/arcgis/2014/07/11/introducing-esri-world-elevation-services/>



# Please Take Our Survey on the Esri Events App!

**Download the Esri Events app and find your event**



**Select the session you attended**



**Scroll down to find the survey**



**Complete Answers and Select "Submit"**





esri

THE  
SCIENCE  
OF  
WHERE