



BD Hubs: Midwest: “SEEDCorn: Sustainable Enabling Environment for Data Collaboration”

Midwest Big Data Hub

Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem

One of four Big Data Regional Innovation Hubs (BD Hubs) funded by the National Science Foundation through award #1550320

Spoke Overview: **Water**, **Food**, **Energy** Nexus

Shashi Shekhar

McKnight Distinguished University Professor

University of Minnesota

www.cs.umn.edu/~shekhar

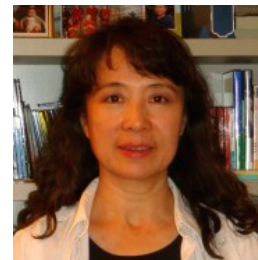
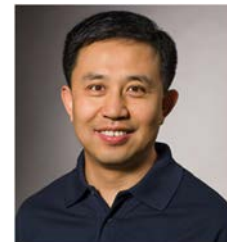
Midwest Big Data Hub

Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem



Core Team: FEW Spoke

- Klara Nahrstedt (UIUC) – MBDH leadership council
- Shashi Shekhar, **Jessica Hellman**, David Haynes (UMN)
- Shaowen Wang, Anand Padmanabhan, **Luis Rodriguez** (UIUC)
- Carol Song (Purdue U)
- **Aaron Packman** (NWU)
- **Adam Ward** (Indiana U)



Collaborators (Almost 40)

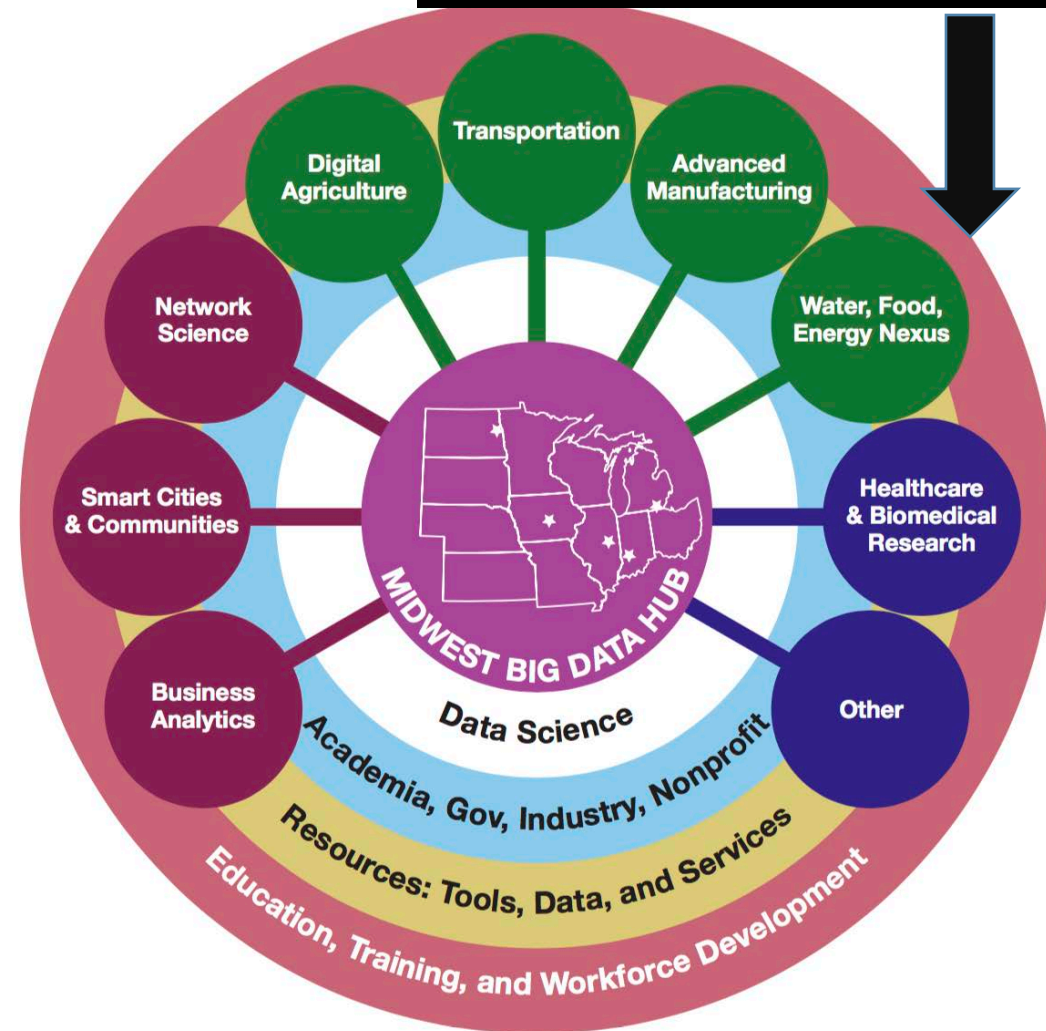
- Multi-sectoral

- Industry: IBM, Climate Corp, ...
- Govt: [Chicago Water District](#), USDOE:ANL, USGS, NCAR, ...
- NGO: Nature Conservancy, ...
- Academia: mid-west - Indiana U, NWU, Purdue, UIUC, UMN, NWU
- Academia outside midwest: Texas A&M U, U of Glasgow

- Multi-Disciplinary

- Big Data: TerraPop (Datanet), GABBS (DIBBS), CyberGIS
- Water: NWU, Indiana, UIUC (Civil / [Env. Eng.](#))
- Food: AgMIP/GABBS (Purdue), UMN [Food](#) Protection & Defense Inst., ...
- Energy: NWU Inst. For Sustainability and [Renewable Energy](#), ...
- Environment: Climate Corporation, NCAR, Minnesota Population Center, ...
- Education: UMN MS in Data Science, NWU STEM Education Partnership, ...

Context: FEW Spoke



- Midwest
 - **Water**: Largest freshwater reserves, e.g., Great Lakes.
 - **Food**: Leader in agricultural production, processing, transportation, distribution
 - **Energy**: Dominant Biofuel Supplier
- NSF Cross-Directorate Initiative
 - Research: Innovations for Food, Energy, Water Nexus (**INFEWS**)
 - Education: NRT solicitation listed INFEWS as a priority
 - Infrastructure & Community Building: Our Spoke

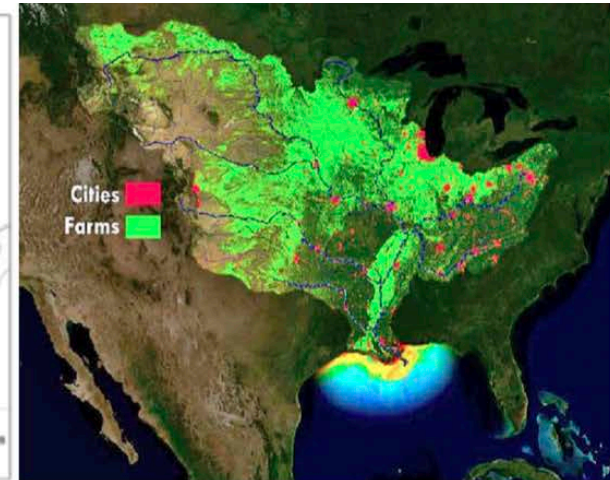
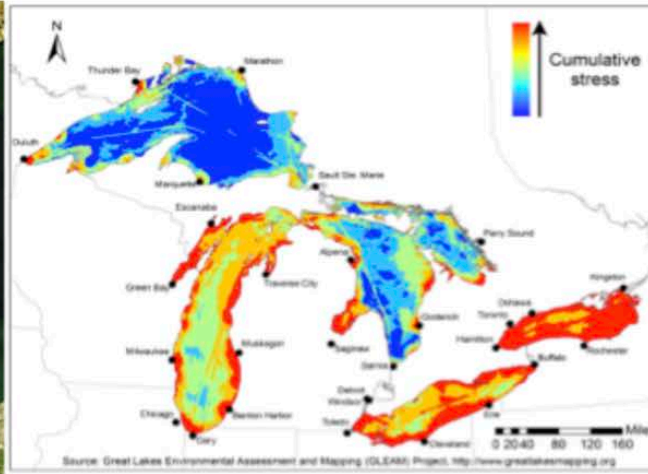
Midwest Big Data Hub

Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem



Motivation: FEW Spoke

- Piece-meal policies => unanticipated problems
 - Ex. Fertilizers affect Water quality (e.g., Great Lakes, Mississippi River)
 - Ex. Bio-fuel subsidy => Rise in food prices



- Crucial to understand interactions across Water, Food, Energy Systems
 - Not just for mid-west
 - National priority with initiatives from NSF, USDA USDOE, USGS, ...
 - Global priority with initiatives from U.N., ...

NSF INFEWS Data Science Workshop

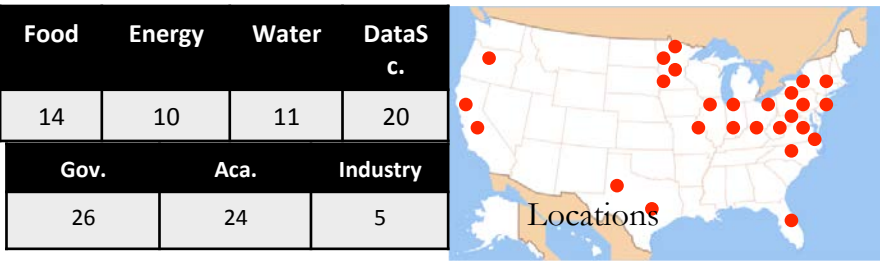
(@ USDA NIFA, Oct. 5th-6th, 2015; Shekhar, Mulla, & Schmoldt; www.spatial.cs.umn.edu/few)



Goals:

- Design compelling visions, Identify gaps
- Develop a research agenda

55 Participants (Data-driven FEW & Data Sciences)

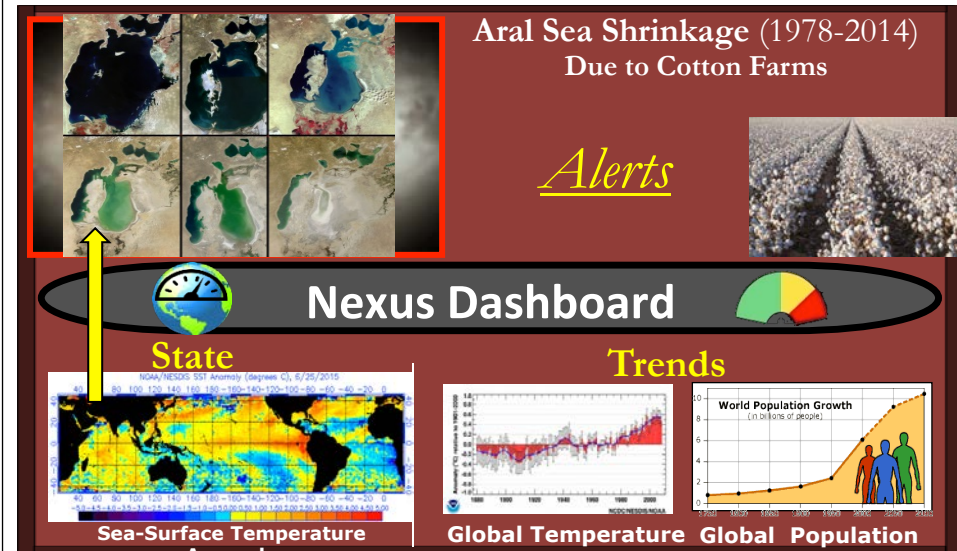


Finding 1: Data & Data Science are crucial!

- Understand problems, connections, impacts
- Monitor FEW resources, and trends to detect risks
- Support decision and policy making
- Communicate with public and stakeholders

Finding 2: However, there are show-stopper gaps.

1. Data Gaps: No global water & energy census, Heterogeneous data formats & collection protocols
2. Data Science (DS) Gaps: Current DS methods are inadequate for spatio-temporal-network FEW data.



Potentially Transformative Research Agenda:

- National FEW Nexus Observatory & Dashboard for chokepoint monitoring, alerts, warnings
- Novel Physics-aware Data Science for mining nexus patterns in multi-scale spatio-temporal-network data despite non-stationarity, auto-correlation, uncertainty, etc.
- Scalable tools for consensus Geo-design via participative planning with nexus observations and policy projections
- An INFEWS data science community to address crucial gaps, and shape next-generation Data Science

Midwest Big Data Hub

Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem

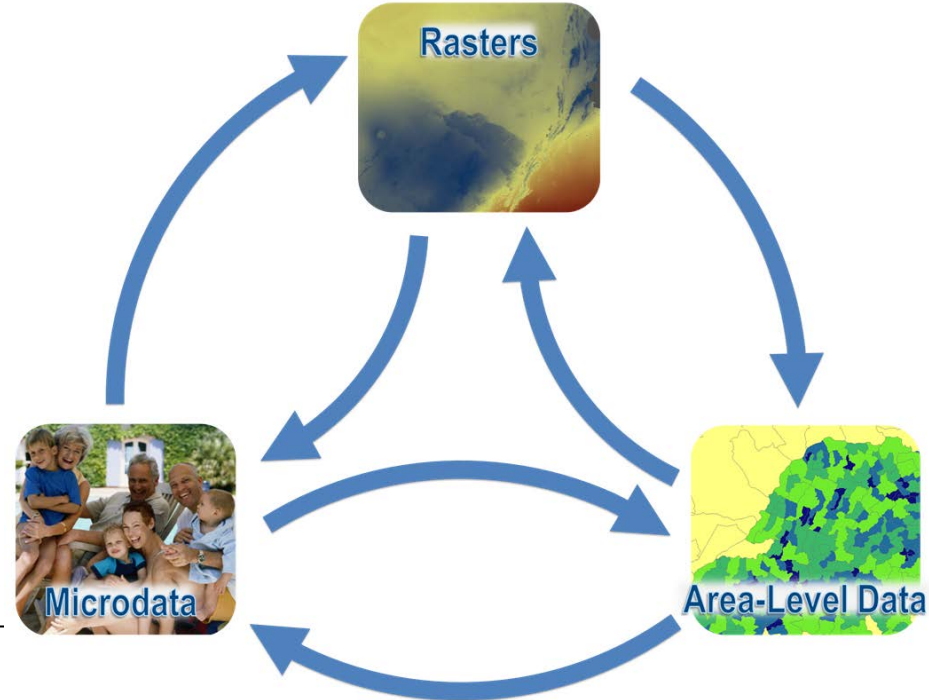


Related Work

- Challenge:
 - **Spatial** nature of FEW datasets.
 - Popular BD tools (e.g. MapReduce, Spark) inadequate for Spatial Data
- State of Spatial BD Tools
 - **Siloed with small user communities**
 - Ex. Minnesota Population Center: **TerraPop**
 - Ex.: GABBS for Agriculture Model Inter-comparison(AgMIP)
 - Ex. CyberGIS, SpatialHadoop
- Note:
 - Lightning talk on GABBS and CyberGIS
 - **We welcome interest in spatial tools from all spokes**

Terra Populus: Integrated Data on Population & Environment

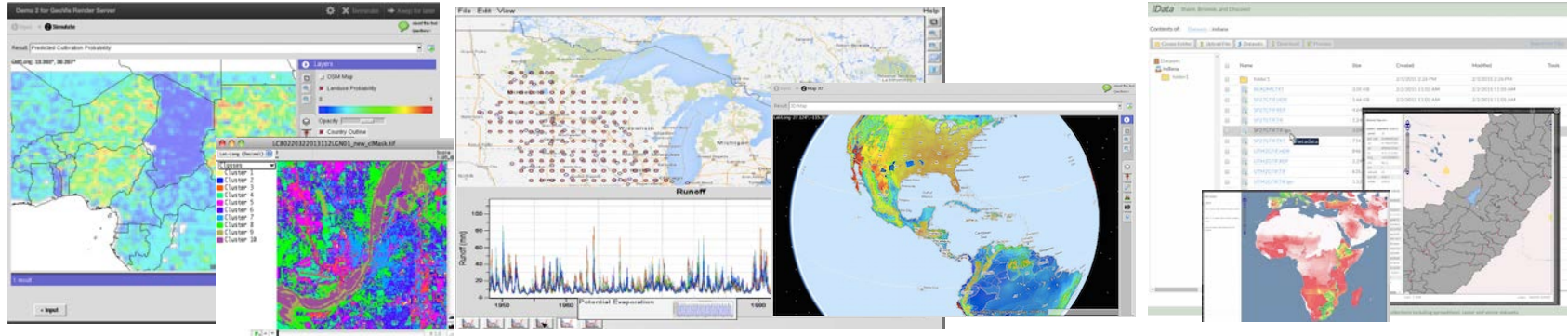
- Goal: Enable investigation of human impacts and vulnerability
- Integrated data related to
 - agriculture, land cover, climate, and population
- Curated collection
 - global population and environmental data
 - linked to locations
- Location-based integration
 - Raster
 - Vector
 - microdata





G · A · B · B · S

geospatial data analysis building blocks



Modeling & Analysis

Explore and visualize data

Share & Publish

Geospatial data and computing building blocks – NSF DIBBS project

- Geospatial data processing, analysis and visualization support inside HUBzero
- Map library, Rapid Tool Development API (Rappture) with geospatial extension for developing online applications without web programming
- Online data management system linked to user tools
- DIY online interactive tool and data publishing (with DOI), publications linked to viewers and interactive tools



Platform for Scientific Collaboration

Research

Education

Midwest



Computing Resources

High-performance

High-throughput

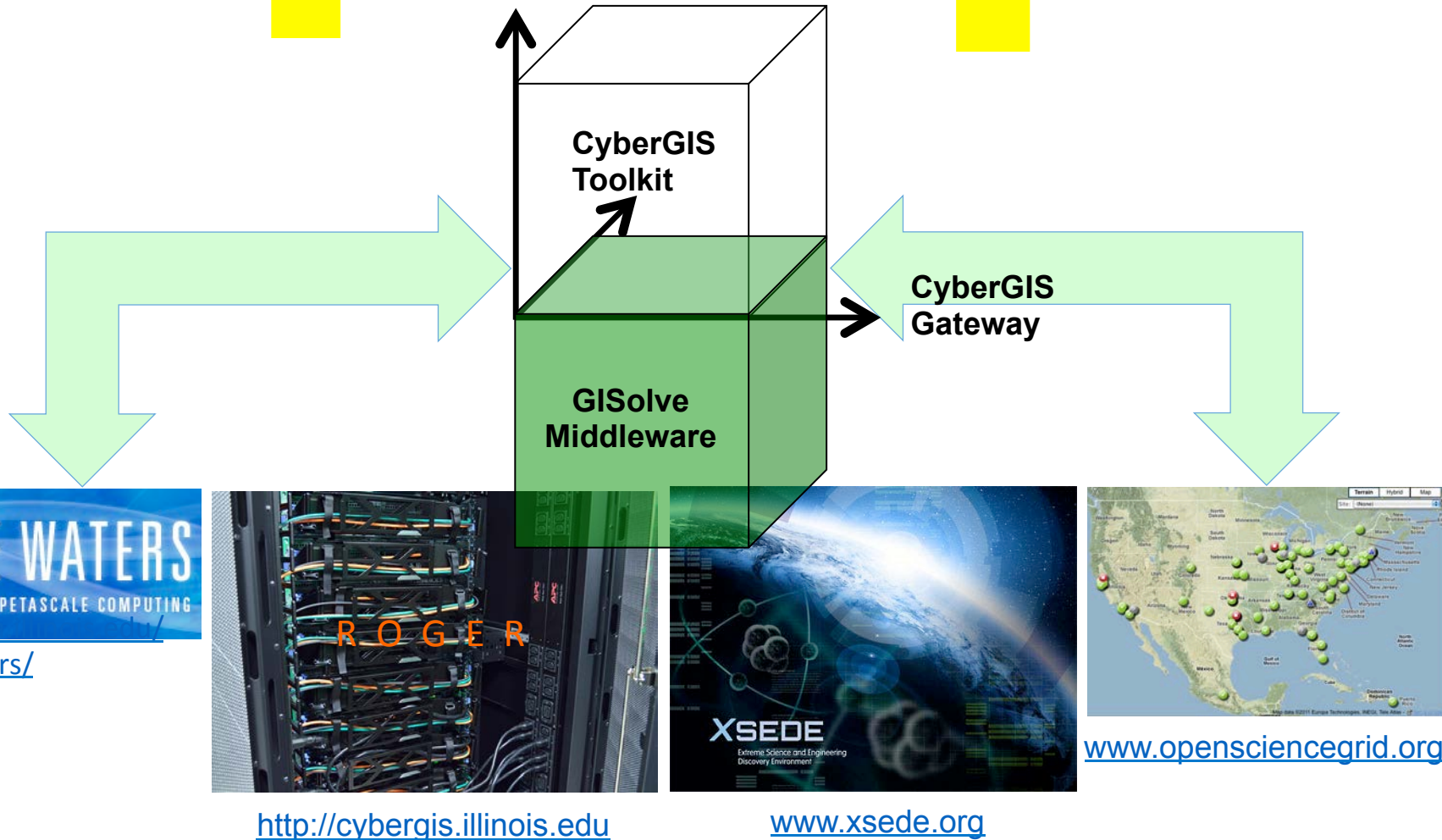
Cloud

GeoVis
Renderer



Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem

Geospatial Discovery and Innovation



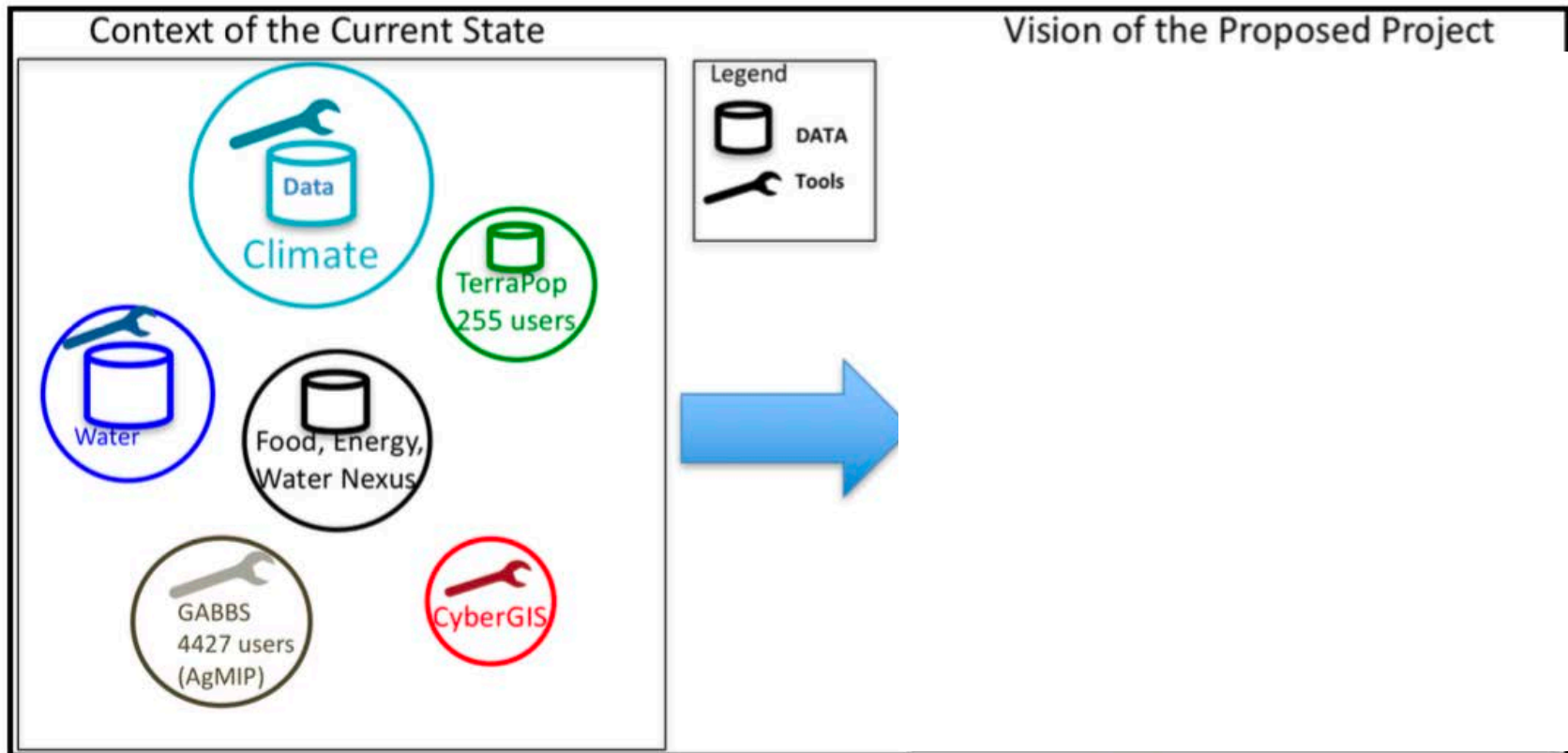
Midwest Big Data Hub

Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem



Spoke Mission & Vision

- Grow and Connect Communities
 - Producers and Consumers of FEW Nexus Data, Tool, Services



Midwest Big Data Hub

Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem



Data, Tools, Services

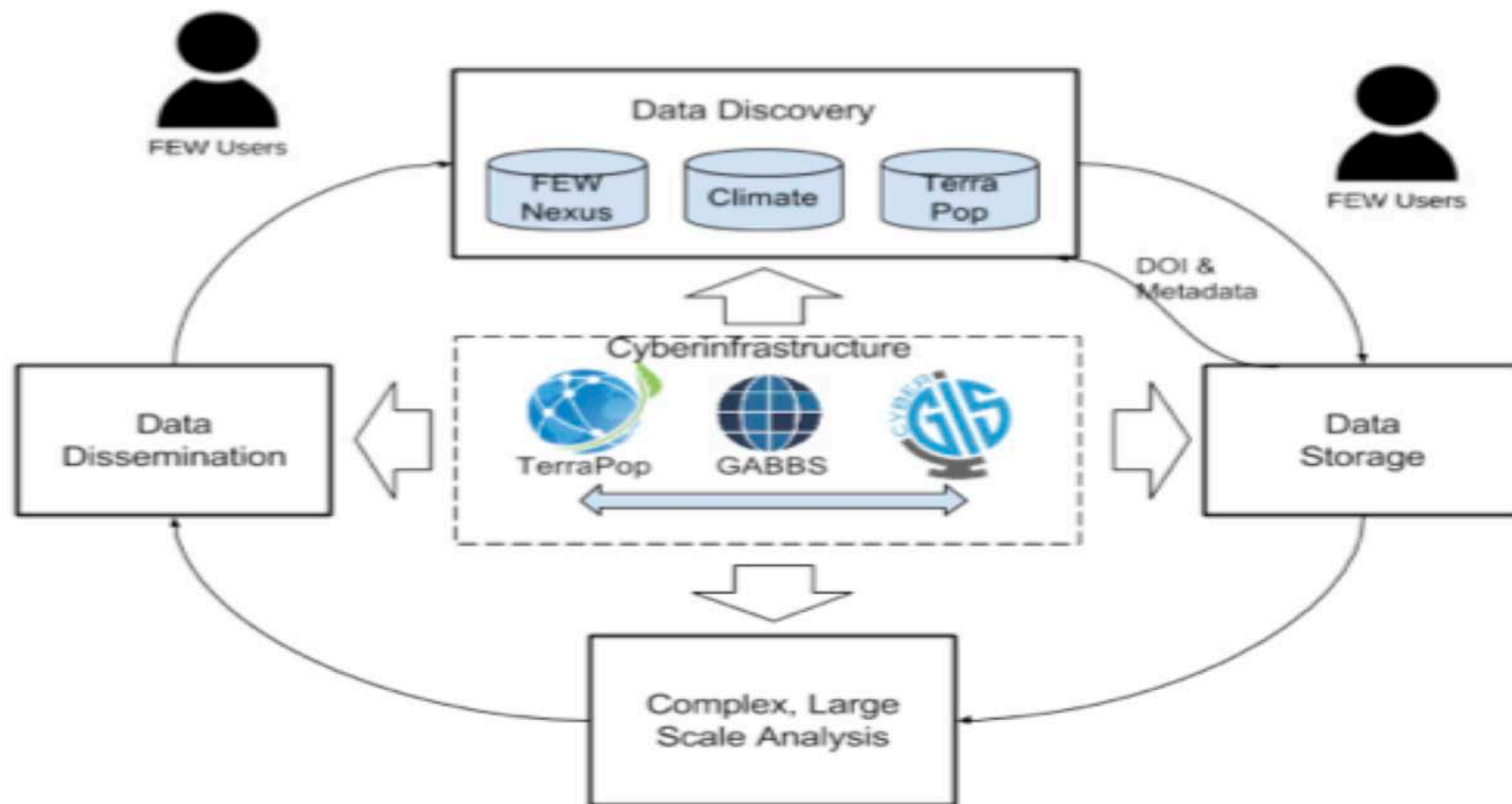


Figure 4: Integration of TerraPop, GABBS, and CyberGIS (Best in color)

Activities: FEW Spoke

- **Past and Ongoing**

- [Capitol Hill Presentation](#), House Ag Committee Reception on “Deconstructing Precision Agriculture” (Shekhar, 3/15)
- [NSF Workshop](#) to Identify Interdisciplinary Data Science Approaches and Challenges to Enhance Understanding of Interactions of Food Systems with Energy and Water Systems (Shekhar, 10/15)
- Symposium S-E2 (Towards a Food-Energy-Water Nexus Data and Data Science Community”, NCSE 2016 Conference (Shekhar, Rodriguez, ..., 1/16)
- [BDSpokes proposal](#) Big Data Community for the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems (Core Team, 2/16)
- [MBDH/CCC](#) Call for Proposal to engage Young Researchers (Nahrstedt, 3/16)
- TerraPop, CyberGIS, GABBS education and outreach activities (Lightning Talks)

- **Upcoming**

- CyberGIS [Curriculum](#) Workshop (Wang, 4/16)
- Michigan State U Symposium on Climate-Food-Energy-Water Nexus (Shekhar, 4/16)
- CCC/CRA Symposium on Computing Research: Addressing [National Priorities](#) and Societal Needs (Nahrstedt, Shekhar, 5/16)

No	Expertise	Expertise	Name	Expertise	Name	Affiliation
1	BD: Industry	19	FEWS: Food, Water Science Kaiyu Guan	30	BD: Big Data Computation	Claudia Neuhauser Minnesota Supercomputing Institute, University of Minnesota
2	FEWS: Industry			31	FEWS: Educational Program – STEM Study and Outreach	Amy D. Pratt Office of STEM Education Partnerships, Northwestern University
3	FEWS: Government			32	FEWS: Educational Program	Stephen W. Searcy Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Texas A & M University
4	FEWS: Government			33	FEWS: Environmental Sustainability Industrial Affiliate Program	Timothy Smith NorthStar Initiative for Sustainable Enterprise, Institute on Environment, UMN
5	FEWS: Local Government	20	FEWS: Industrial Affiliate Program Brian Herm	34	FEWS: National Laboratory	Seth W. Snyder Argonne National Laboratory
6	FEWS: NGO	21	FEWS: Industrial Affiliate Program Thomas He	35	FEWS: Energy, Water Science	Ashlynn S. Stillwell Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Illinois
7	FEWS: International			36	BD: Educational Program	Goce Trajcevski Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Northwestern University
8	BD: Big Data Community Building	22	FEWS: Food, Environment Science Matthew H	37	BD: Geospatial Big data Analytics	Raju Vatsavai Center for Geospatial Analytics, North Carolina State University
9	FEWS: Industrial Affiliate Program	23	FEWS: International, Industrial Affiliate Program James W. Jo	38	FEWS: Water Science, Sustainability	Peter W. Voorhees Northwestern-Argonne Institute for Science and Engineering
10	BD: Educational Program	24	FEWS: Educational Program, Economics Madhu Kha	39	FEWS: Social and Behavioral Science	Moiria Zellner College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, University of Illinois
11	BD: Educational Program					
12	FEWS: Climate Science	25	FEWS: Food, Agricultural Science Amy Kirche			
13	FEWS: Environmental Science	26	FEWS: Water Science, Hydrology Praveen Ku			
14	FEWS and Big Data Science	27	BD: Climate Science Vipin Kuma			
15	FEWS: Water Science	28	FEWS: Food, Agricultural Science Stephen P.			
16	FEWS: Sustainability					
17	FEWS: Water Science, Hydrology	29	FEWS: Food, Water Science Venkatesh I			
18	FEWS: Sustainability and Energy					

Midwest Big Data Hub

Accelerating the Big Data Innovation Ecosystem

