

Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Background

The Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse Model developed by Onof and Wang (2020) operates as a robust stochastic framework designed to simulate rainfall intensity effectively. By modelling the behavior of rainfall through a Poisson cluster point process, the model accounts for individual characteristics of rain cells and storm patterns, including storm rate (λ), cell rate (Φ), storm duration (κ), cell duration (α), and cell intensity (v). The parameters generated by the model of these characteristics can help identify trends in storm frequency and intensity and how these change through time.

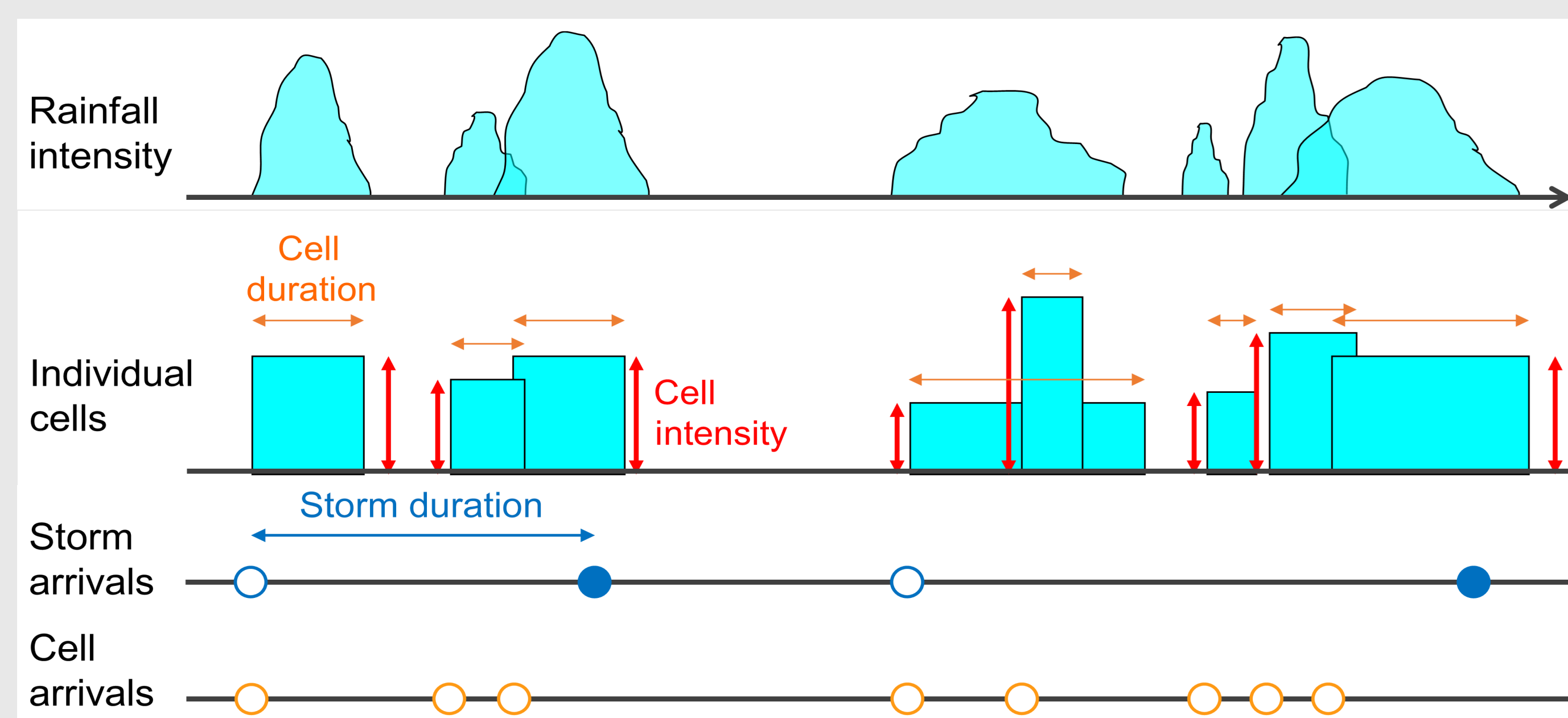
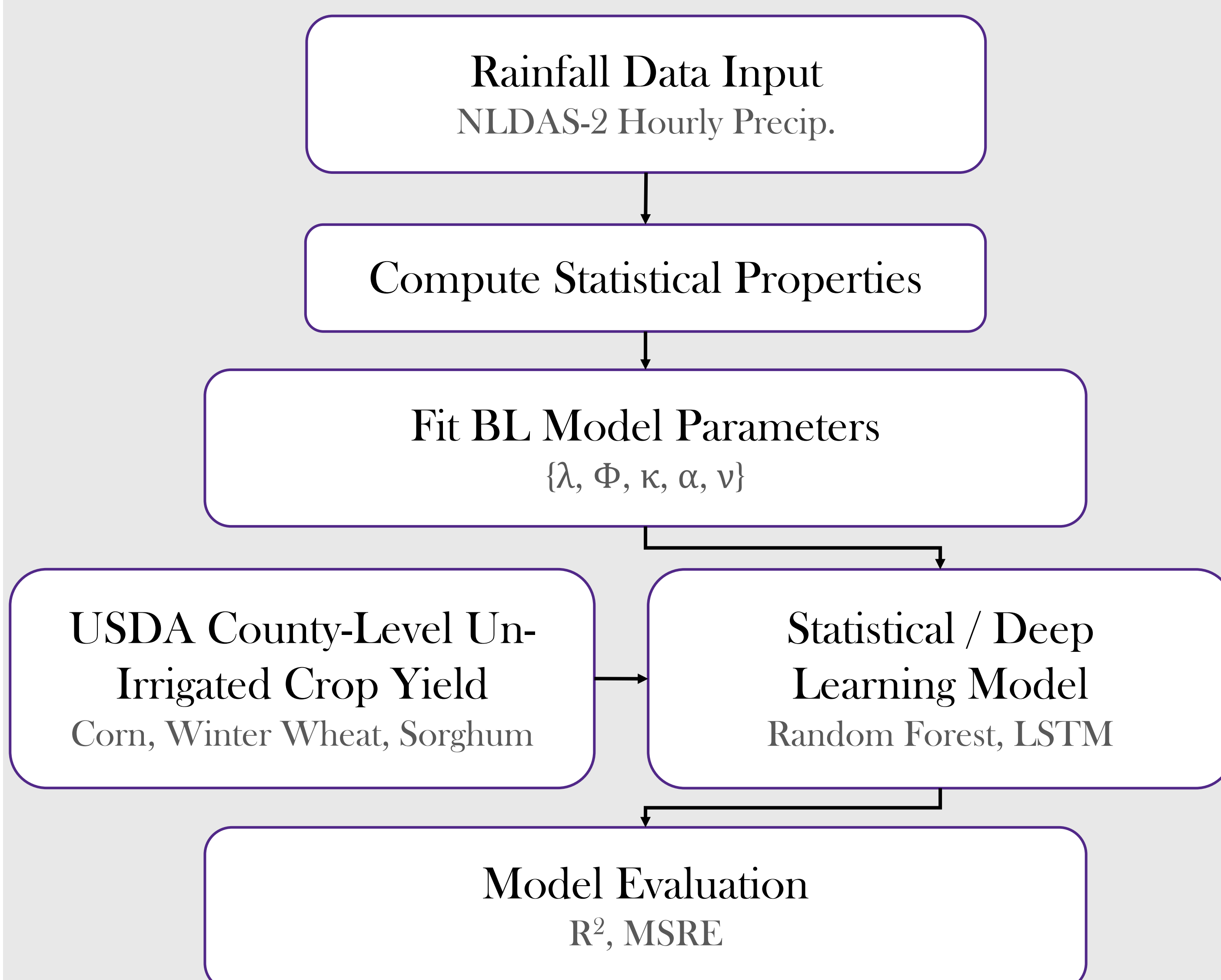


Figure 1) Illustration of the conceptualization of the Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse model (Onof and Wang 2020).

Methodology



Objective

Implemented Bartlett-Lewis Model for Finney County

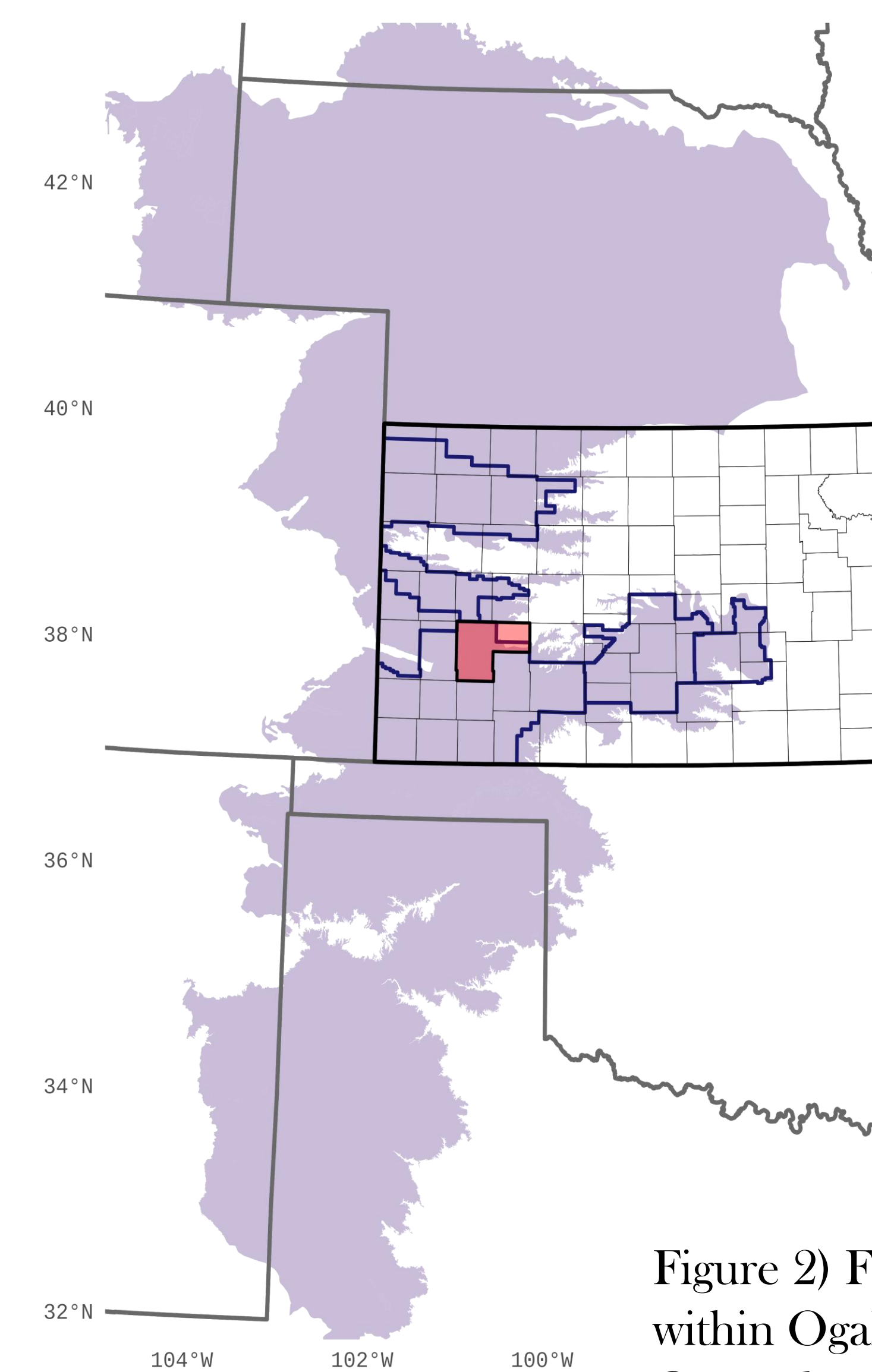


Figure 2) Finney County (red) located within Ogallala Aquifer region and Groundwater Management District 3.

to analyze trends in the generated parameters and model these parameters to predict unirrigated crop yield using sequential learning models such as Random Forest and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. Finally, compare the model predictive performance.

Model Performance

For validation, the last 10% of years were held out for testing. During training, Random Forest outperformed LSTM when modeling all crops together (RMSE = 3.860, $R^2 = 0.937$ vs. RMSE = 12.335, $R^2 = 0.356$). Both models showed decreased performance on the test set, with LSTM losing most predictive power. Random Forest maintained a reasonably high predictive performance (RMSE = 9.010, $R^2 = 0.521$). When modeling crops independently, both models were able to encompass the actual crop yield within their 95% confidence intervals for winter wheat but struggled with sorghum and corn.

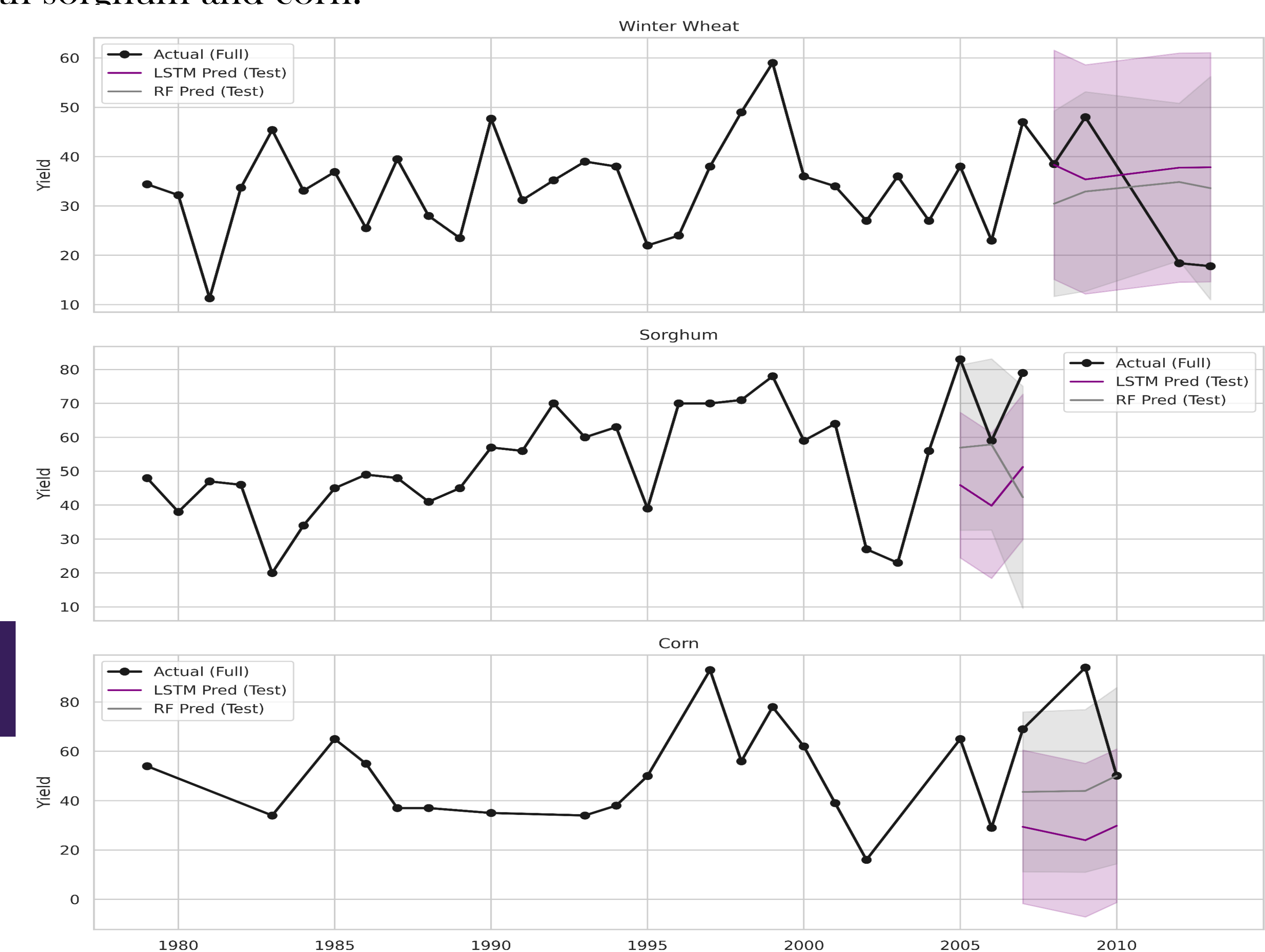
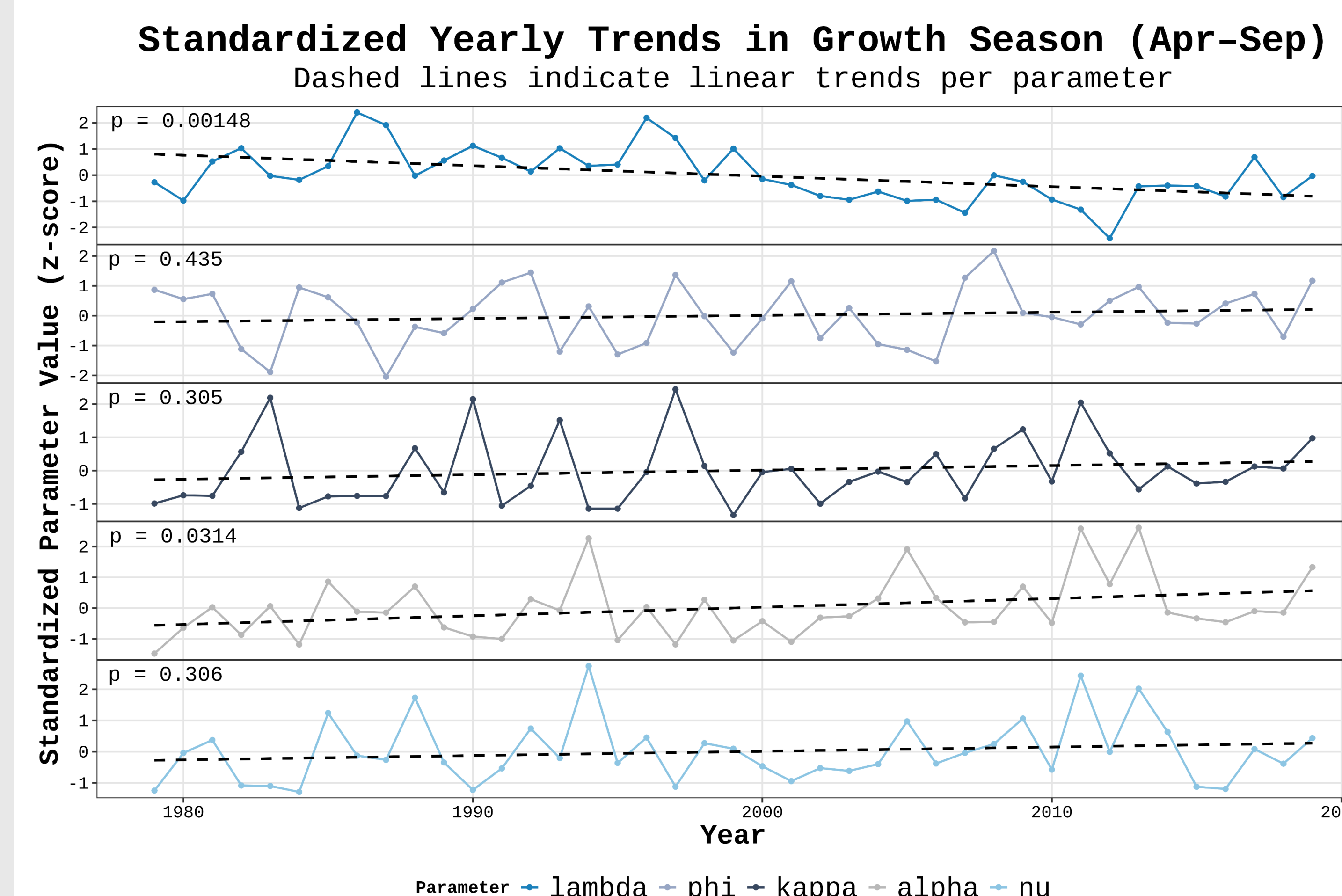


Figure 3) Predictive plot of LSTM and Random Forest Models, each with their respective predicted values and 95% confidence intervals for each crop.

Storm Parameter Analysis

Storm rate significantly decreased (P-value - 0.001) over the 40 span of the study. There was also a significant increase in cell duration (P-value - 0.03). Total precipitation through the 40 years did not see a significant change and remained consistent.



Finding

Although both models showed decreased performance on the held-out test set, Random Forest maintained reasonably high predictive power, whereas the LSTM model lost most of its predictive capability. This suggests that Random Forest generalizes better under conditions of limited data, a notable consideration for regions with small datasets like Finney County.

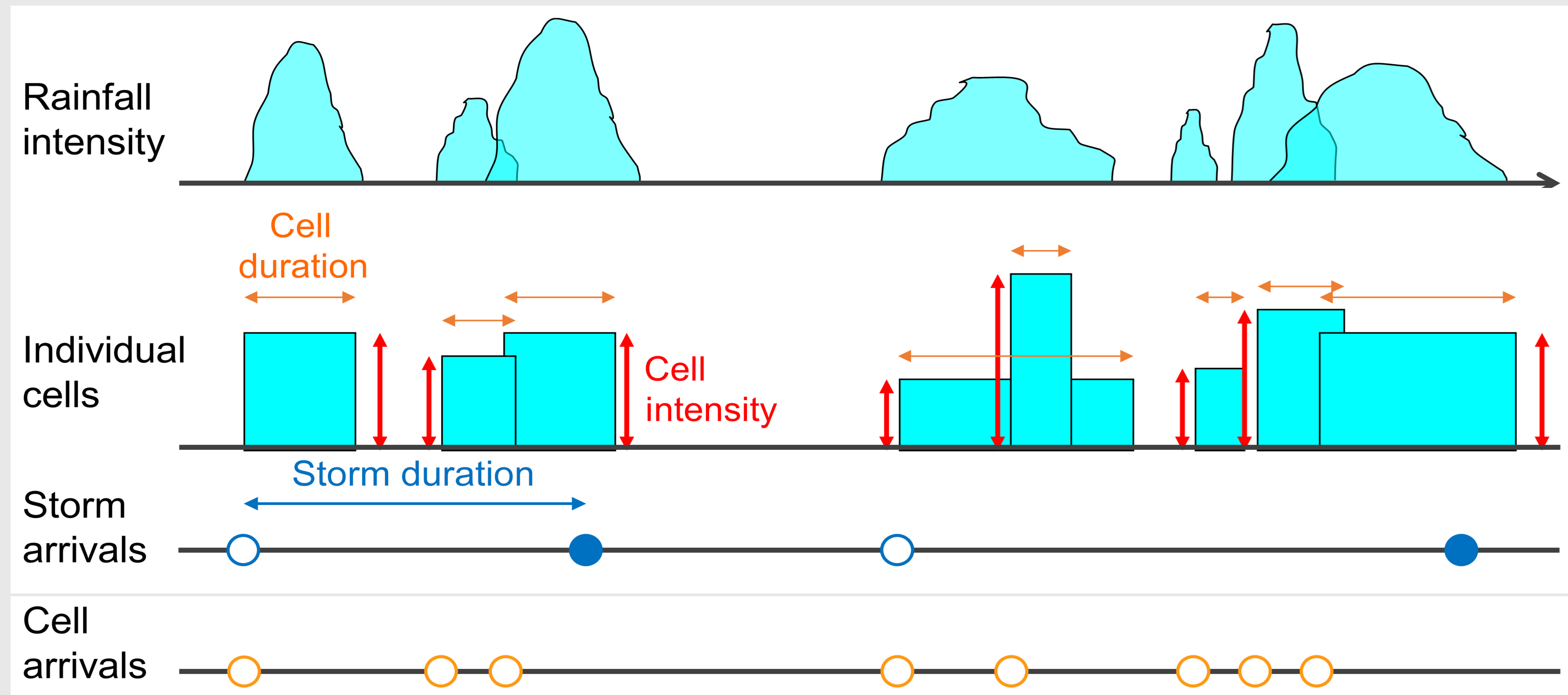
References

Onof, C., and Wang, L-P. (2020). Modelling rainfall with a Bartlett-Lewis process: new developments. *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.*, 24, 2791–2815, <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-24-2791-2020>.

Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University



Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Background

The Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse Model developed by Onof and Wang (2020) operates as a robust stochastic framework designed to simulate rainfall intensity effectively. By modelling the behavior of rainfall through a Poisson cluster point process, the model accounts for individual characteristics of rain cells and storm patterns, including storm rate (λ), cell rate (Φ), storm duration (κ), cell duration (α), and cell intensity (v). The parameters generated by the model of these characteristics can help identify trends in storm frequency and intensity and how these change through time.

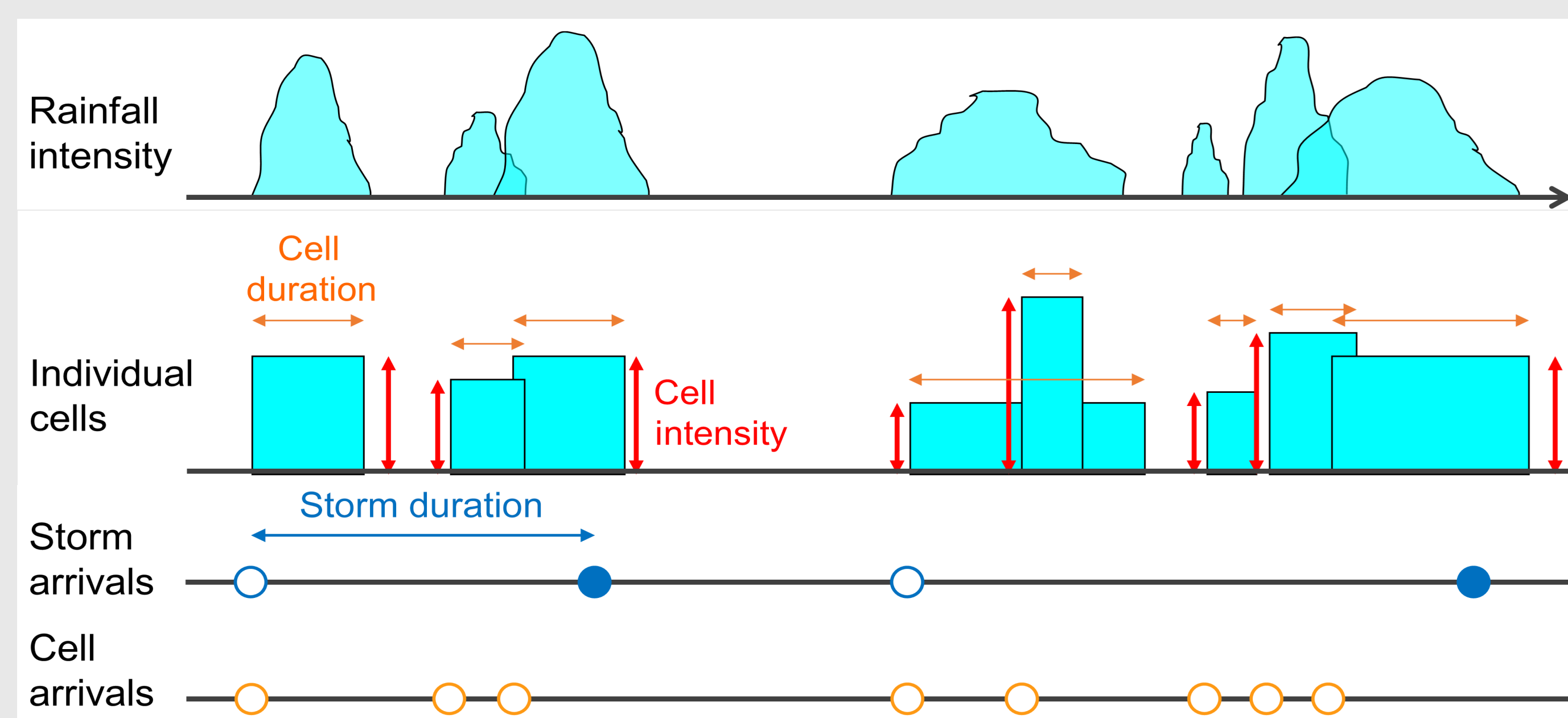
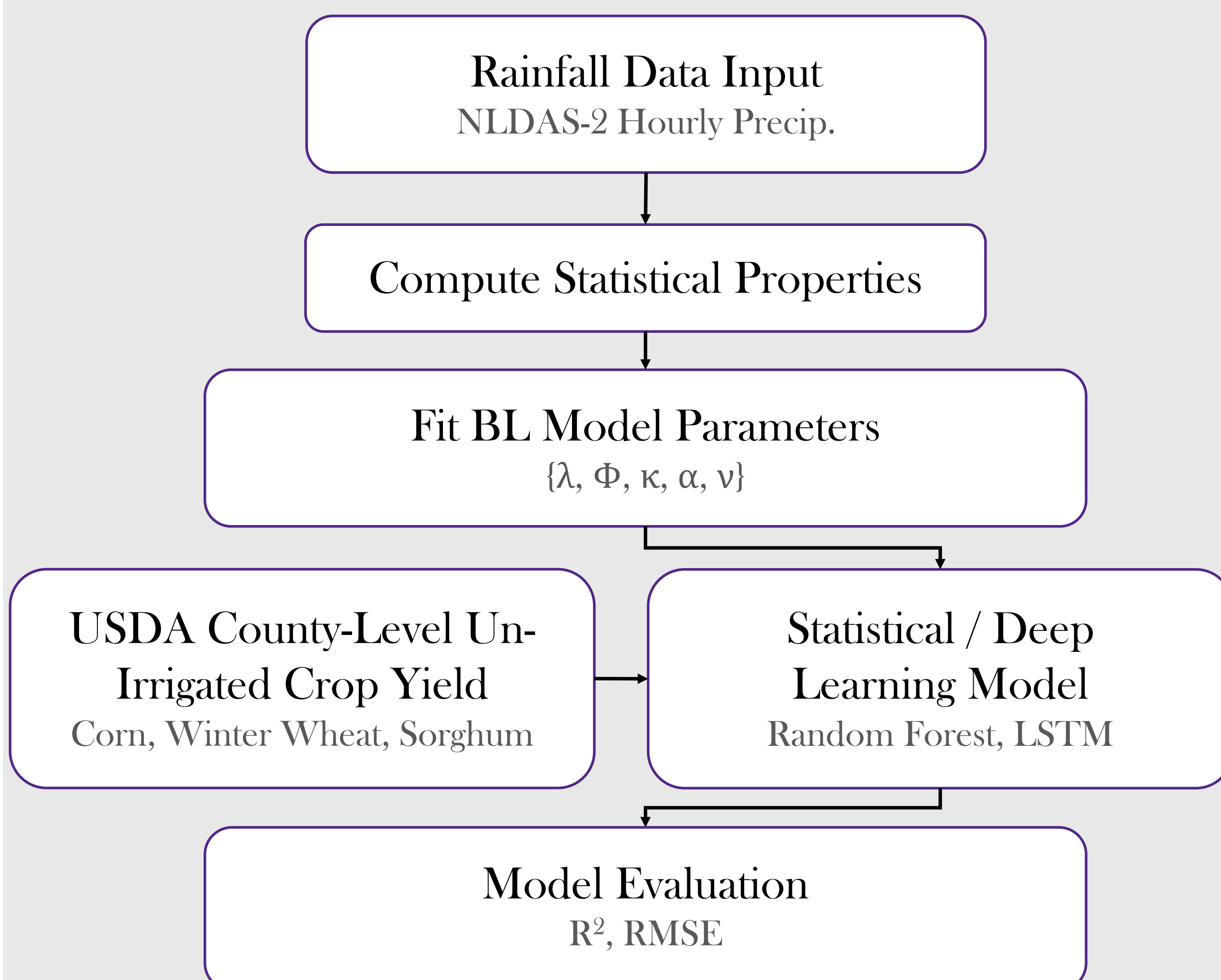


Figure 1) Illustration of the conceptualization of the Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse model (Onof and Wang 2020).

Methodology



Objective

Implemented Bartlett-Lewis Model for Finney County

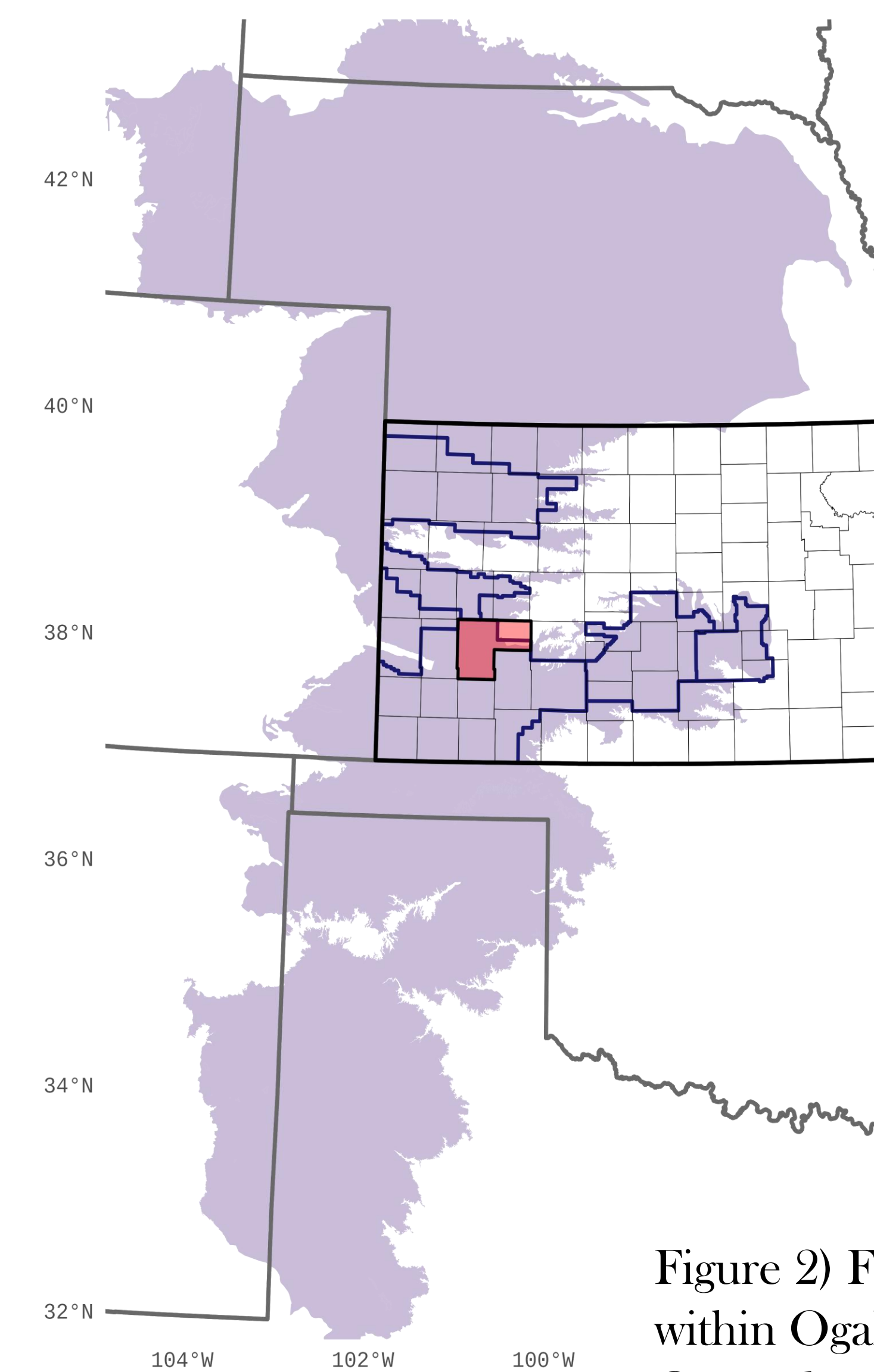
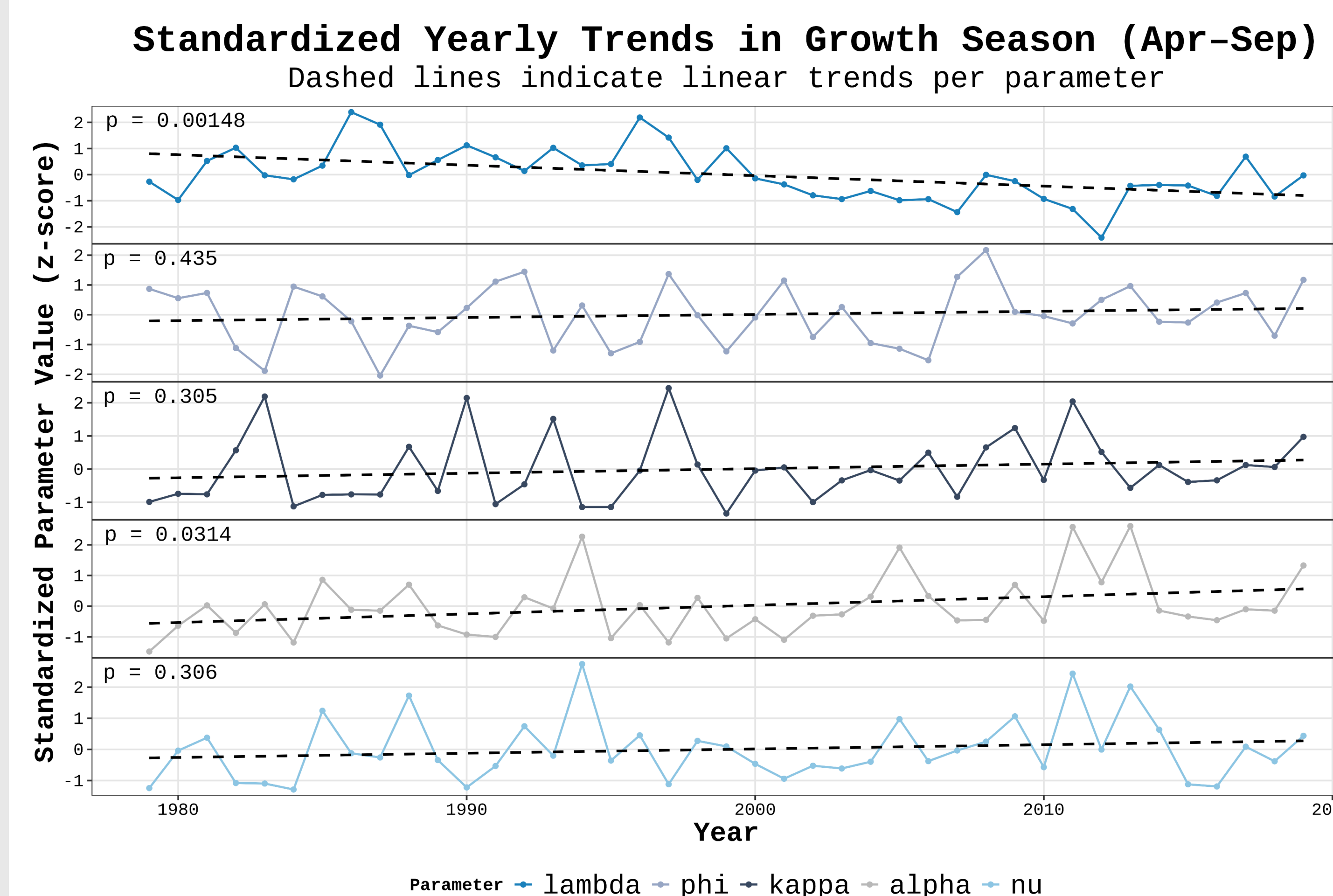


Figure 2) Finney County (red) located within Ogallala Aquifer region and Groundwater Management District 3.

to analyze trends in the generated parameters and model these parameters to predict unirrigated crop yield using sequential learning models such as Random Forest and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. Finally, compare the model predictive performance.

Storm Parameter Analysis

Storm rate significantly decreased (P-value - 0.001) over the 40 span of the study. There was also a significant increase in cell duration (P-value - 0.03). Total precipitation through the 40 years did not see a significant change and remained consistent.



Model Performance

For validation, the last 10% of years were held out for testing. During training, Random Forest outperformed LSTM when modeling all crops together (RMSE = 3.860, $R^2 = 0.937$ vs. RMSE = 12.335, $R^2 = 0.356$). Both models showed decreased performance on the test set, with LSTM losing most predictive power. Random Forest maintained a reasonably high predictive performance (RMSE = 9.010, $R^2 = 0.521$). When modeling crops independently, both models were able to encompass the actual crop yield within their 95% confidence intervals for winter wheat but struggled with sorghum and corn.

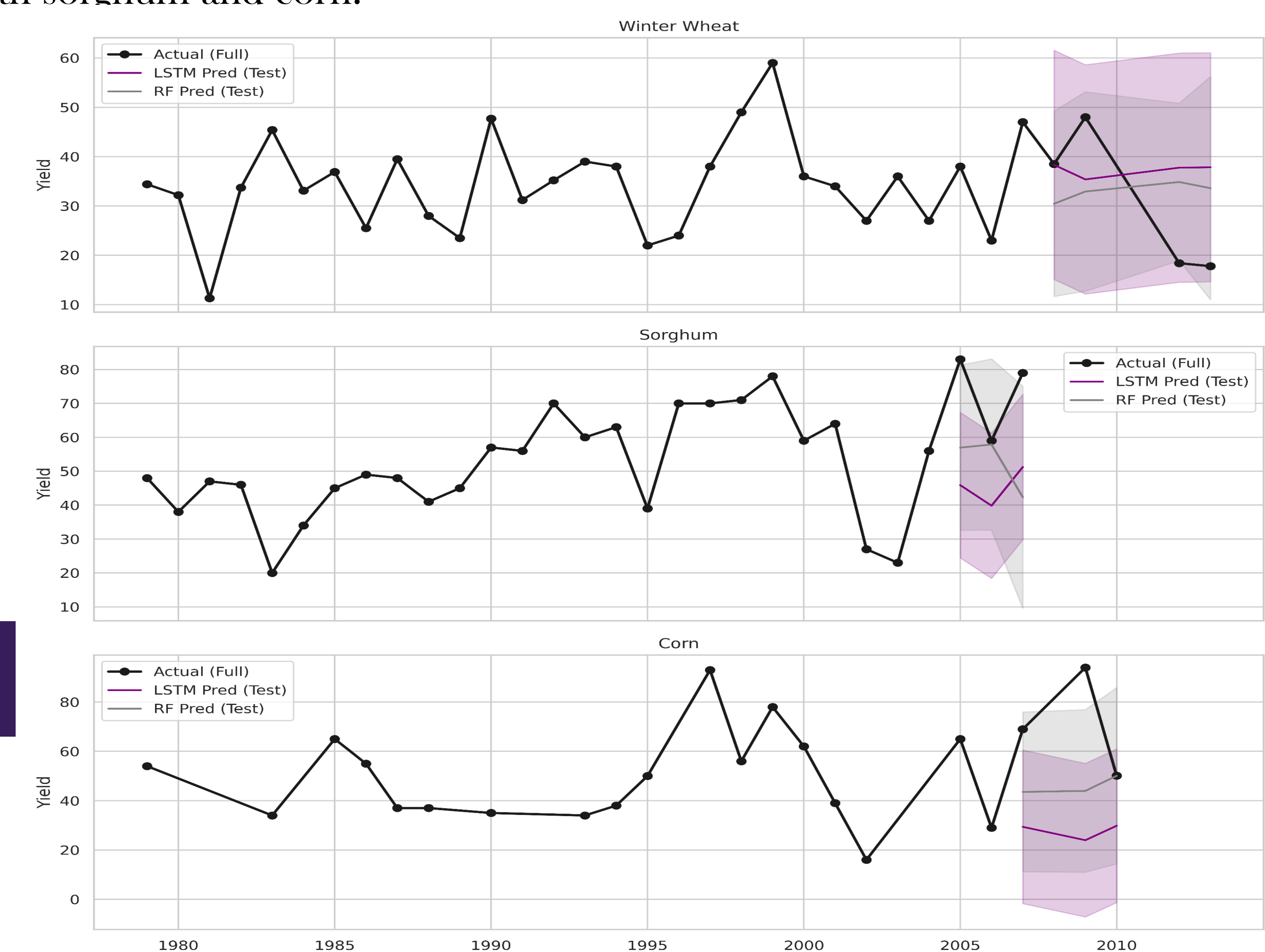


Figure 3) Predictive plot of LSTM and Random Forest Models, each with their respective predicted values and 95% confidence intervals for each crop.

Finding

Although both models showed decreased performance on the held-out test set, Random Forest maintained reasonably high predictive power, whereas the LSTM model lost most of its predictive capability. This suggests that Random Forest generalizes better under conditions of limited data, a notable consideration for regions with small datasets like Finney County.

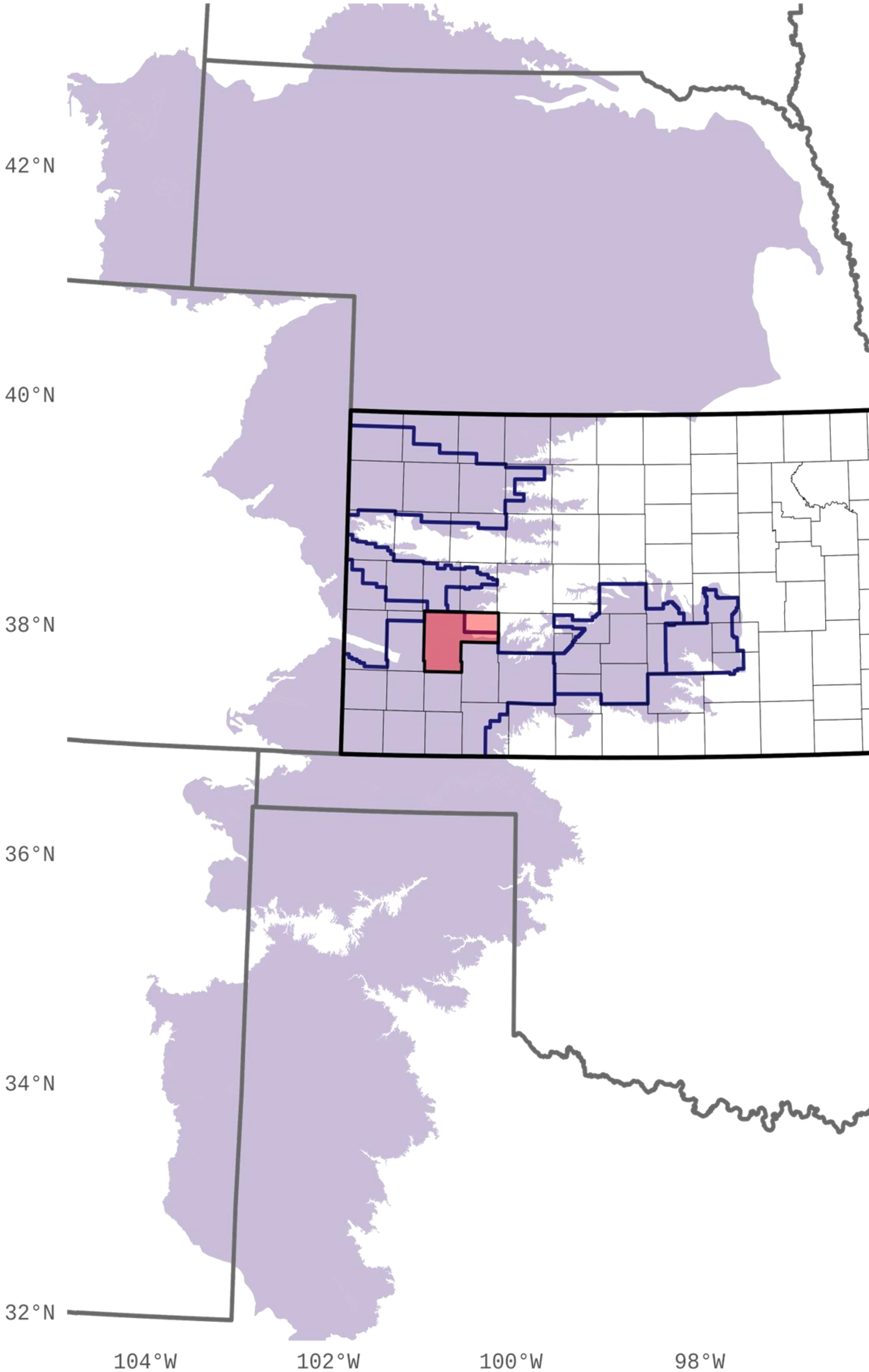
References

Onof, C., and Wang, L-P. (2020). Modelling rainfall with a Bartlett-Lewis process: new developments. Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci., 24, 2791–2815, <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-24-2791-2020>.

Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Departement of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University



Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Background

The Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse Model developed by Onof and Wang (2020) operates as a robust stochastic framework designed to simulate rainfall intensity effectively. By modelling the behavior of rainfall through a Poisson cluster point process, the model accounts for individual characteristics of rain cells and storm patterns, including storm rate (λ), cell rate (Φ), storm duration (κ), cell duration (α), and cell intensity (v). The parameters generated by the model of these characteristics can help identify trends in storm frequency and intensity and how these change through time.

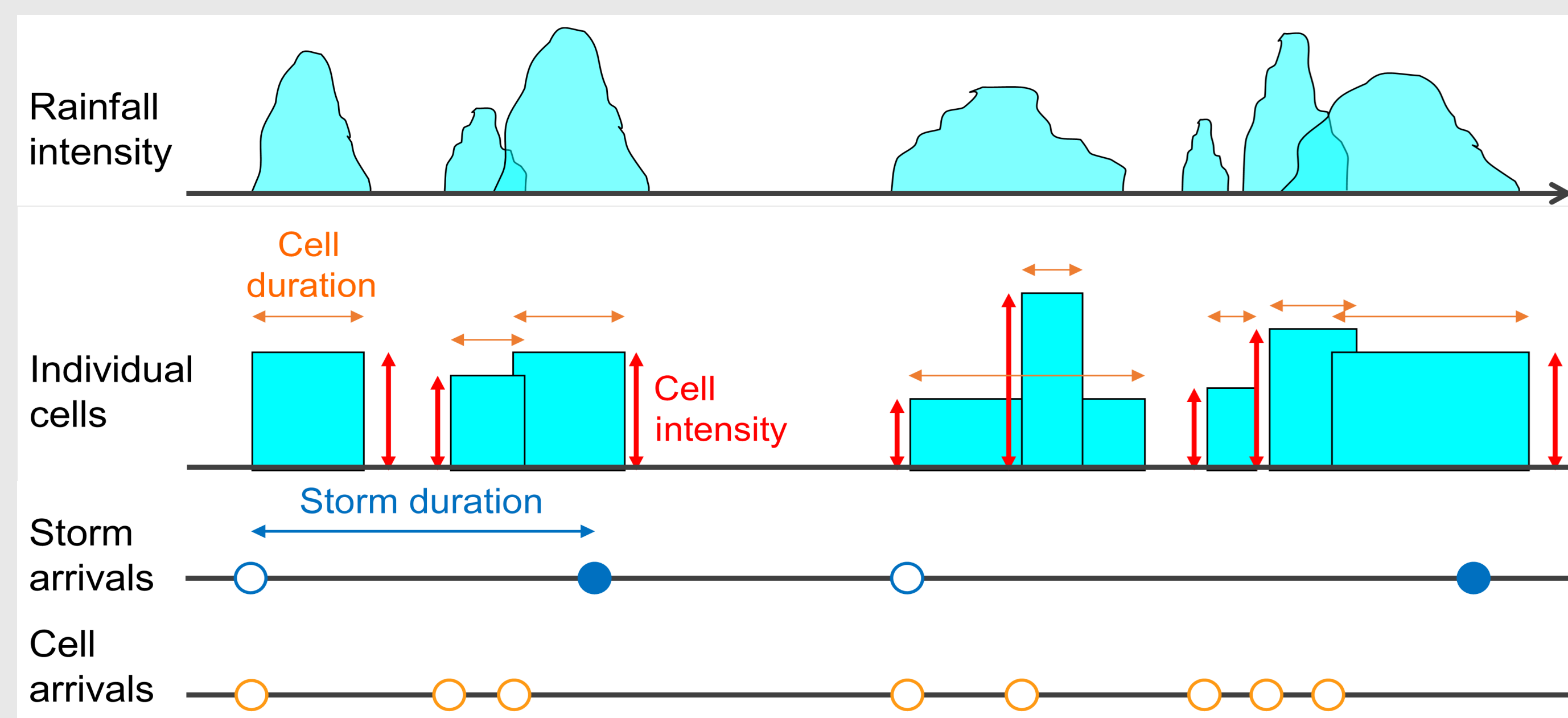
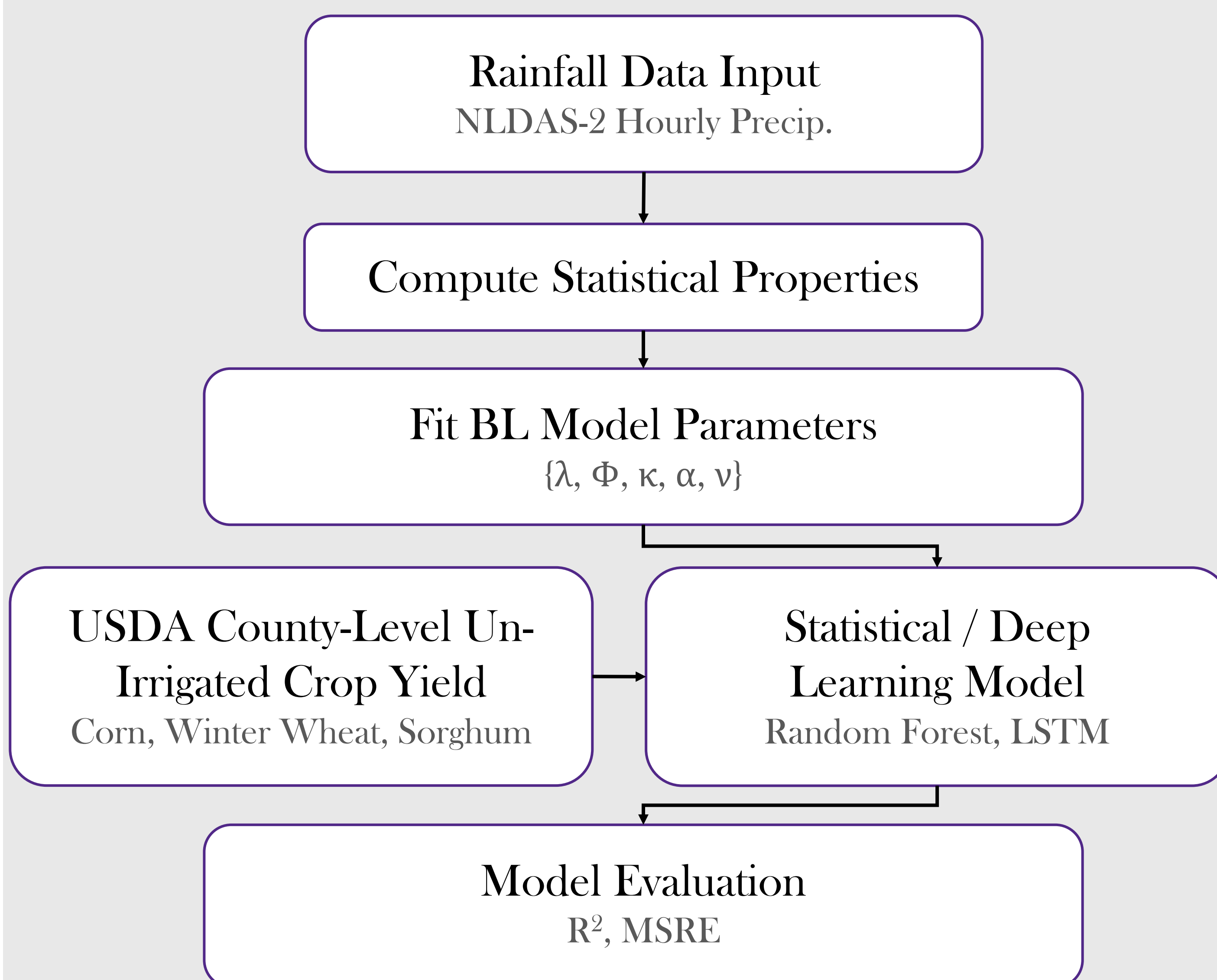


Figure 1) Illustration of the conceptualization of the Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse model (Onof and Wang 2020).

Methodology



Objective

Implemented Bartlett-Lewis Model for Finney County

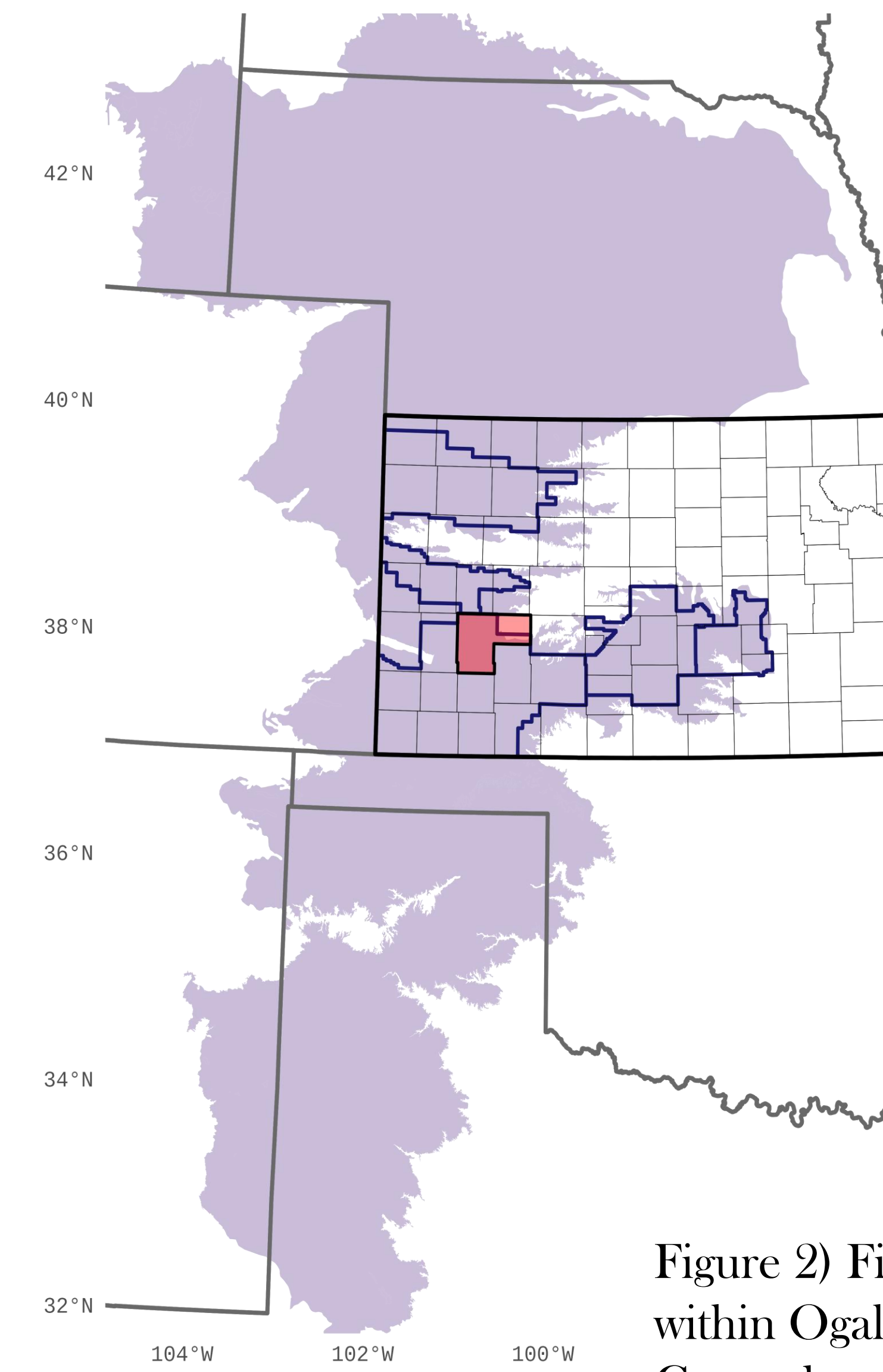
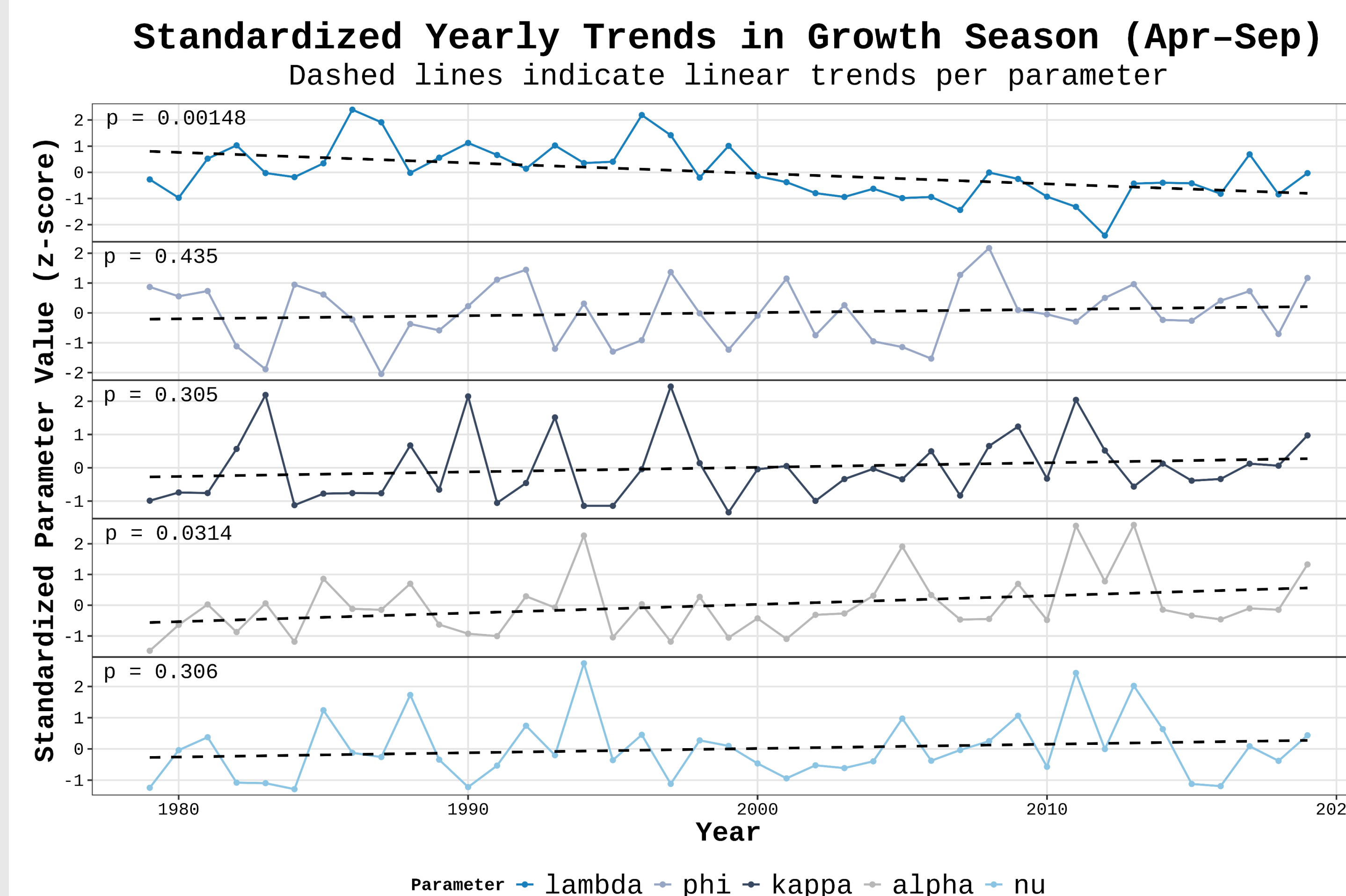


Figure 2) Finney County (red) located within Ogallala Aquifer region and Groundwater Management District 3.

to analyze trends in the generated parameters and model these parameters to predict unirrigated crop yield using sequential learning models such as Random Forest and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. Finally, compare the model predictive performance.

Storm Parameter Analysis

Storm rate significantly decreased (P-value - 0.001) over the 40 span of the study. There was also a significant increase in cell duration (P-value - 0.03). Total precipitation through the 40 years did not see a significant change and remained consistent.



Model Performance

For validation, the last 10% of years were held out for testing. During training, Random Forest outperformed LSTM when modeling all crops together (RMSE = 3.860, $R^2 = 0.937$ vs. RMSE = 12.335, $R^2 = 0.356$). Both models showed decreased performance on the test set, with LSTM losing most predictive power. Random Forest maintained a reasonably high predictive performance (RMSE = 9.010, $R^2 = 0.521$). When modeling crops independently, both models were able to encompass the actual crop yield within their 95% confidence intervals for winter wheat but struggled with sorghum and corn.

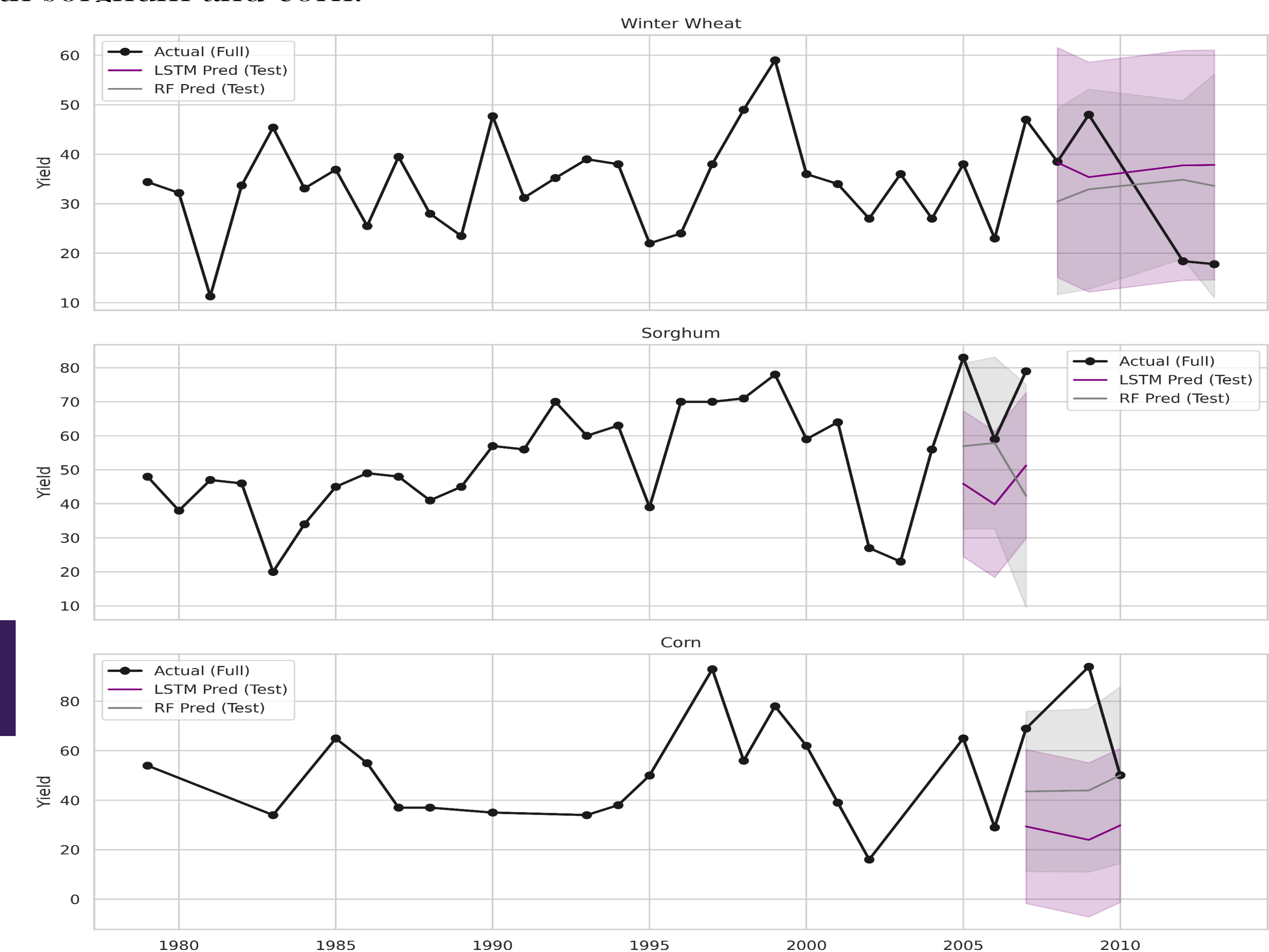


Figure 3) Predictive plot of LSTM and Random Forest Models, each with their respective predicted values and 95% confidence intervals for each crop.

Finding

Although both models showed decreased performance on the held-out test set, Random Forest maintained reasonably high predictive power, whereas the LSTM model lost most of its predictive capability. This suggests that Random Forest generalizes better under conditions of limited data, a notable consideration for regions with small datasets like Finney County.

References

Onof, C., and Wang, L.-P. (2020). Modelling rainfall with a Bartlett-Lewis process: new developments. *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.*, 24, 2791–2815, <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-24-2791-2020>.

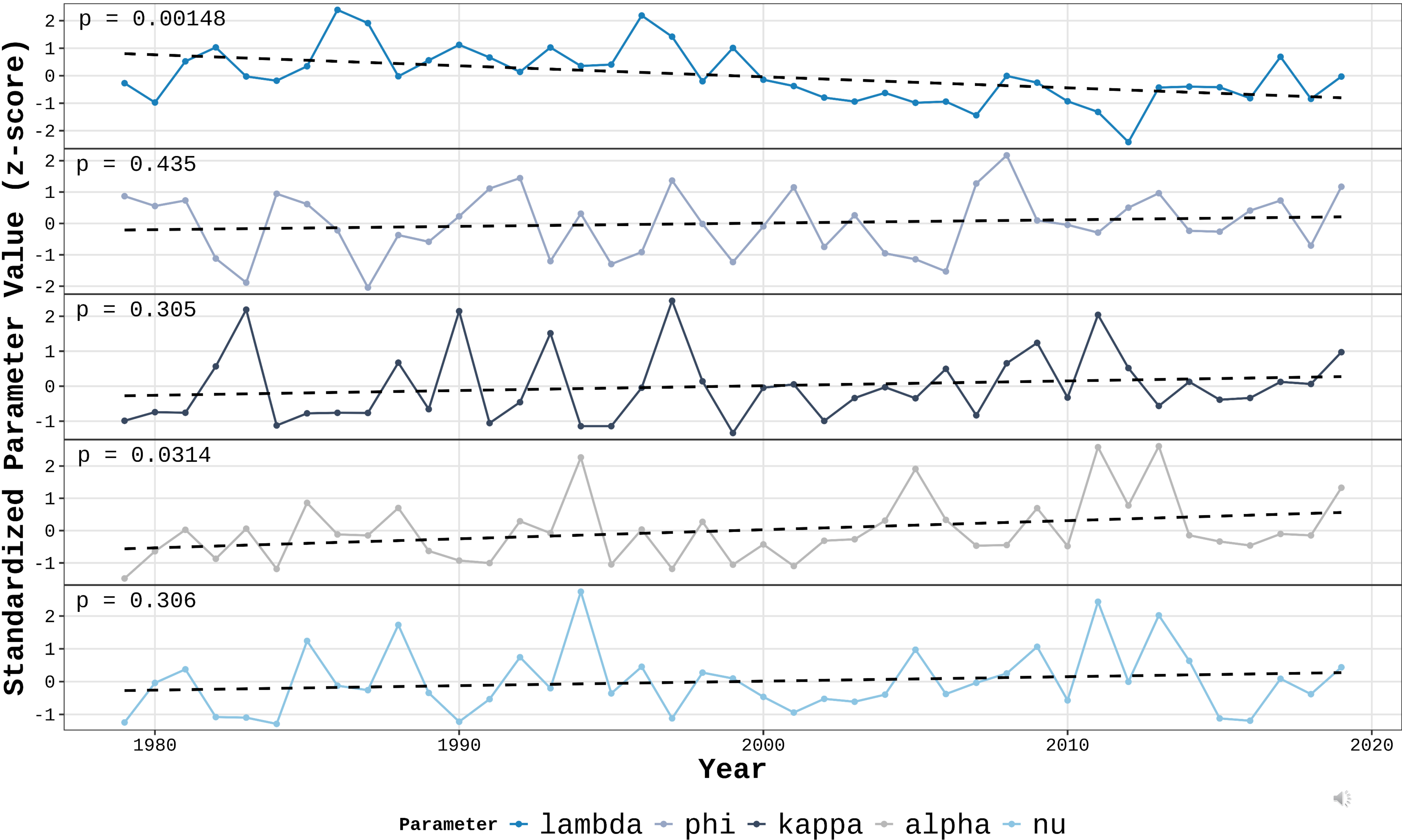
Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Standardized Yearly Trends in Growth Season (Apr–Sep)

Dashed lines indicate linear trends per parameter



Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Background

The Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse Model developed by Onof and Wang (2020) operates as a robust stochastic framework designed to simulate rainfall intensity effectively. By modelling the behavior of rainfall through a Poisson cluster point process, the model accounts for individual characteristics of rain cells and storm patterns, including storm rate (λ), cell rate (Φ), storm duration (κ), cell duration (α), and cell intensity (v). The parameters generated by the model of these characteristics can help identify trends in storm frequency and intensity and how these change through time.

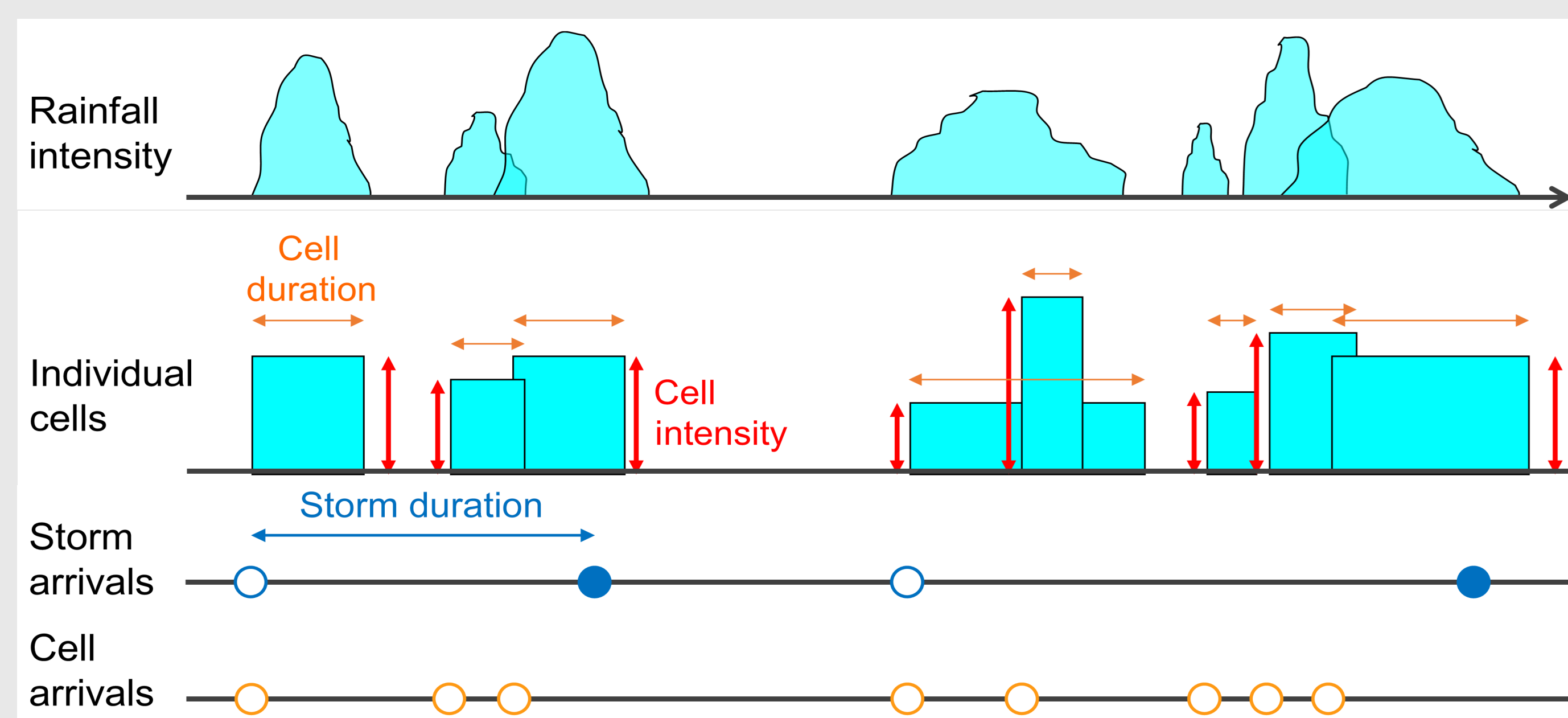
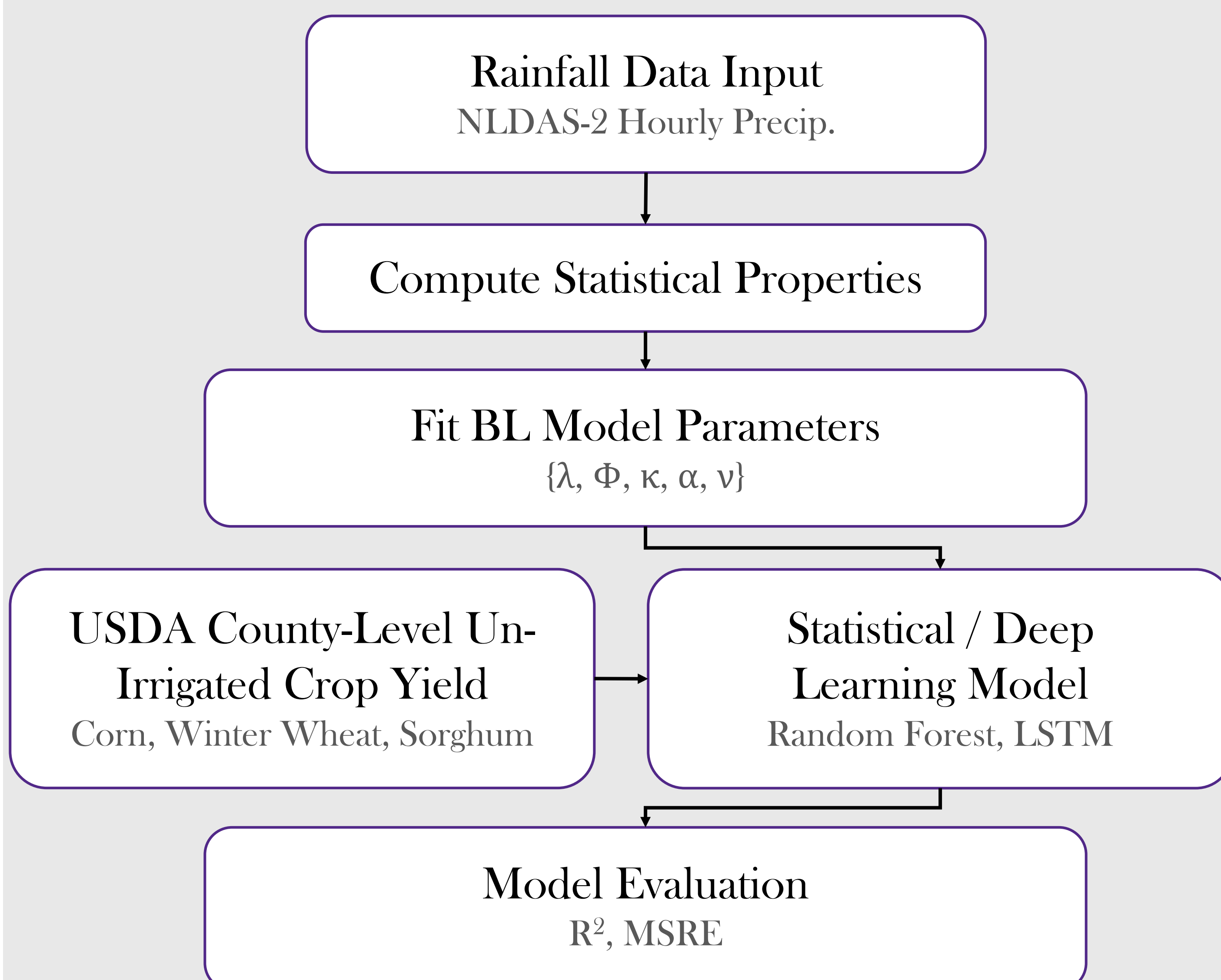


Figure 1) Illustration of the conceptualization of the Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse model (Onof and Wang 2020).

Methodology



Objective

Implemented Bartlett-Lewis Model for Finney County

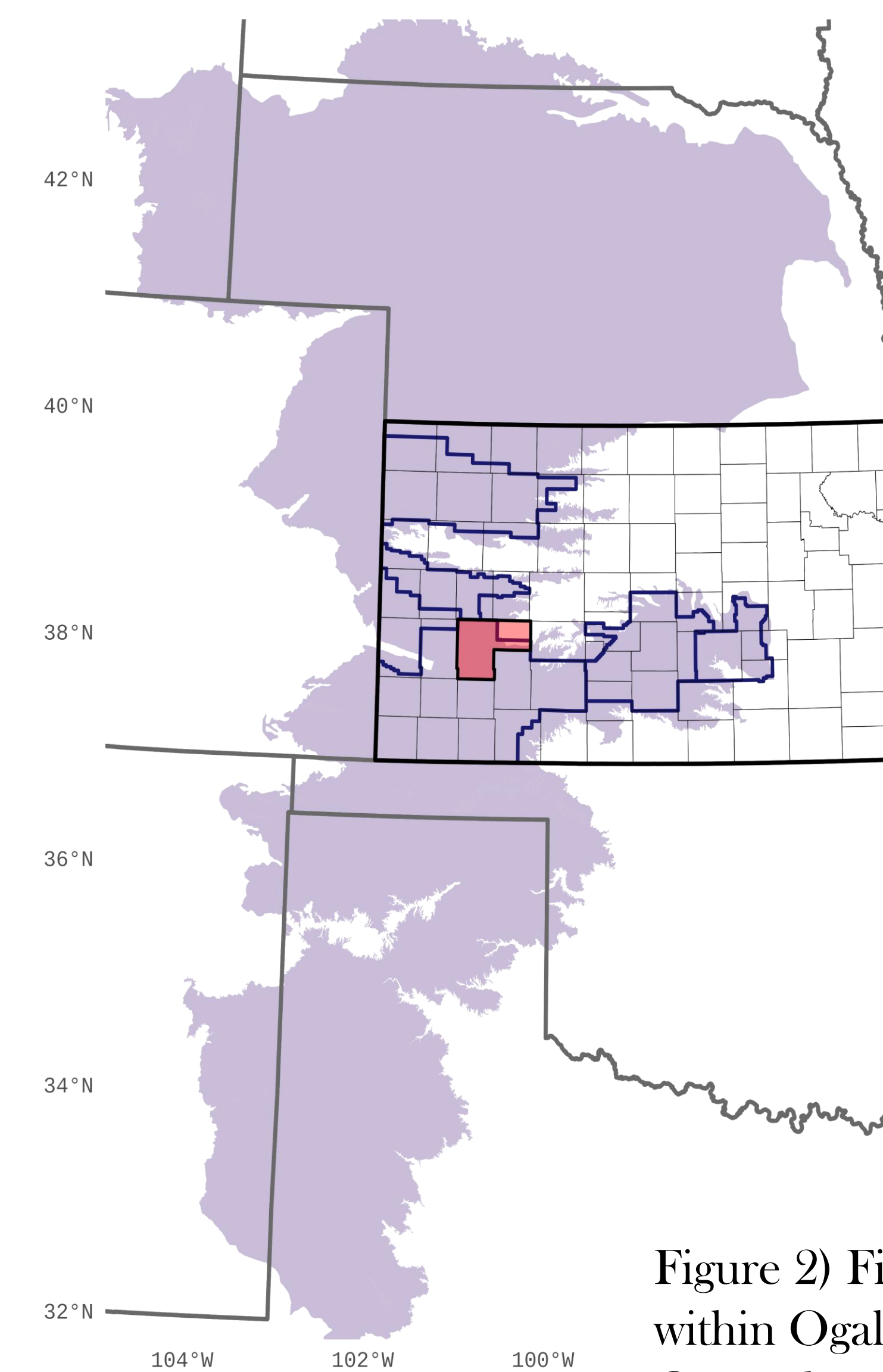


Figure 2) Finney County (red) located within Ogallala Aquifer region and Groundwater Management District 3.

to analyze trends in the generated parameters and model these parameters to predict unirrigated crop yield using sequential learning models such as Random Forest and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. Finally, compare the model predictive performance.

Model Performance

For validation, the last 10% of years were held out for testing. During training, Random Forest outperformed LSTM when modeling all crops together (RMSE = 3.860, $R^2 = 0.937$ vs. RMSE = 12.335, $R^2 = 0.356$). Both models showed decreased performance on the test set, with LSTM losing most predictive power. Random Forest maintained a reasonably high predictive performance (RMSE = 9.010, $R^2 = 0.521$). When modeling crops independently, both models were able to encompass the actual crop yield within their 95% confidence intervals for winter wheat but struggled with sorghum and corn.

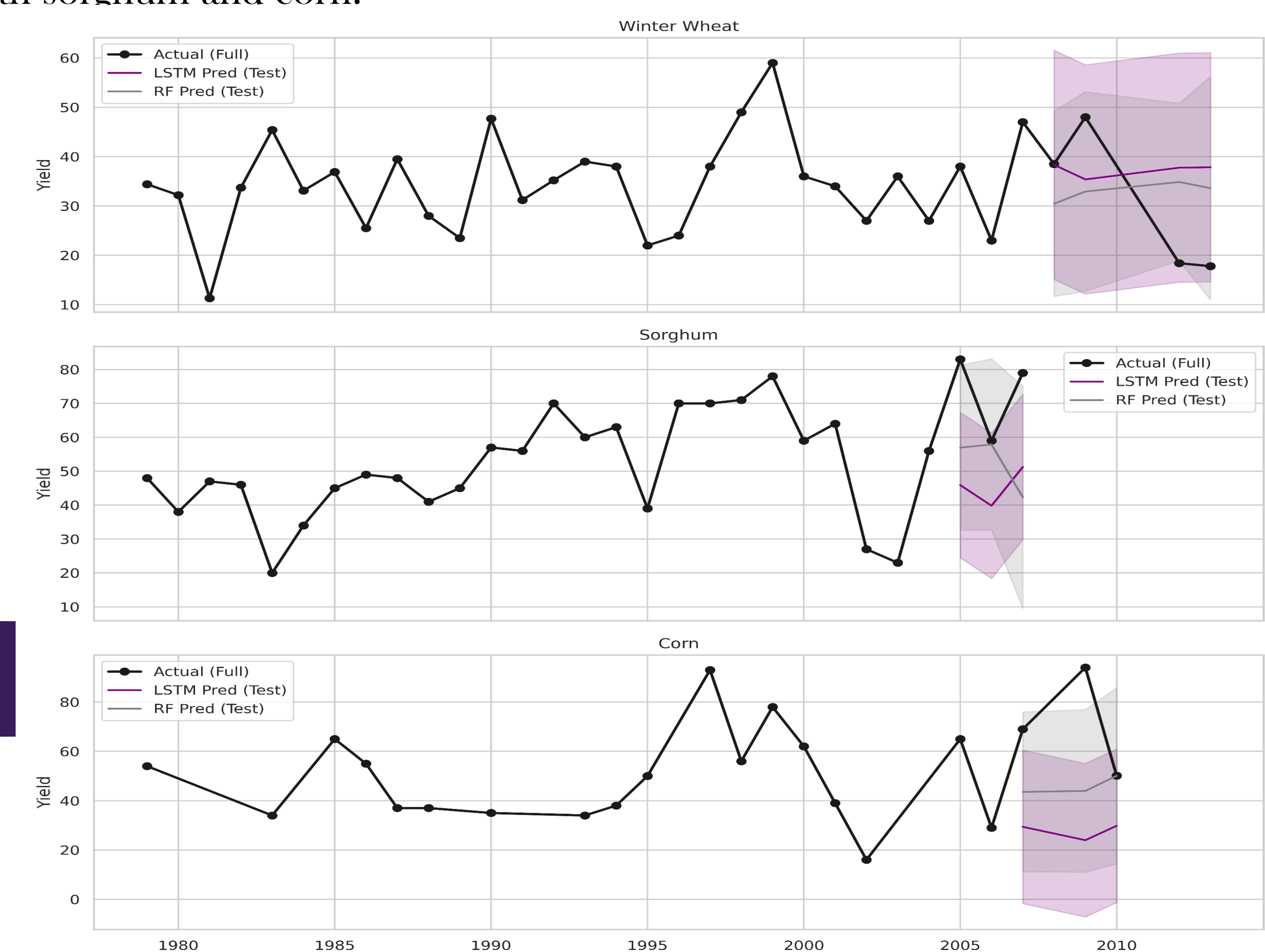
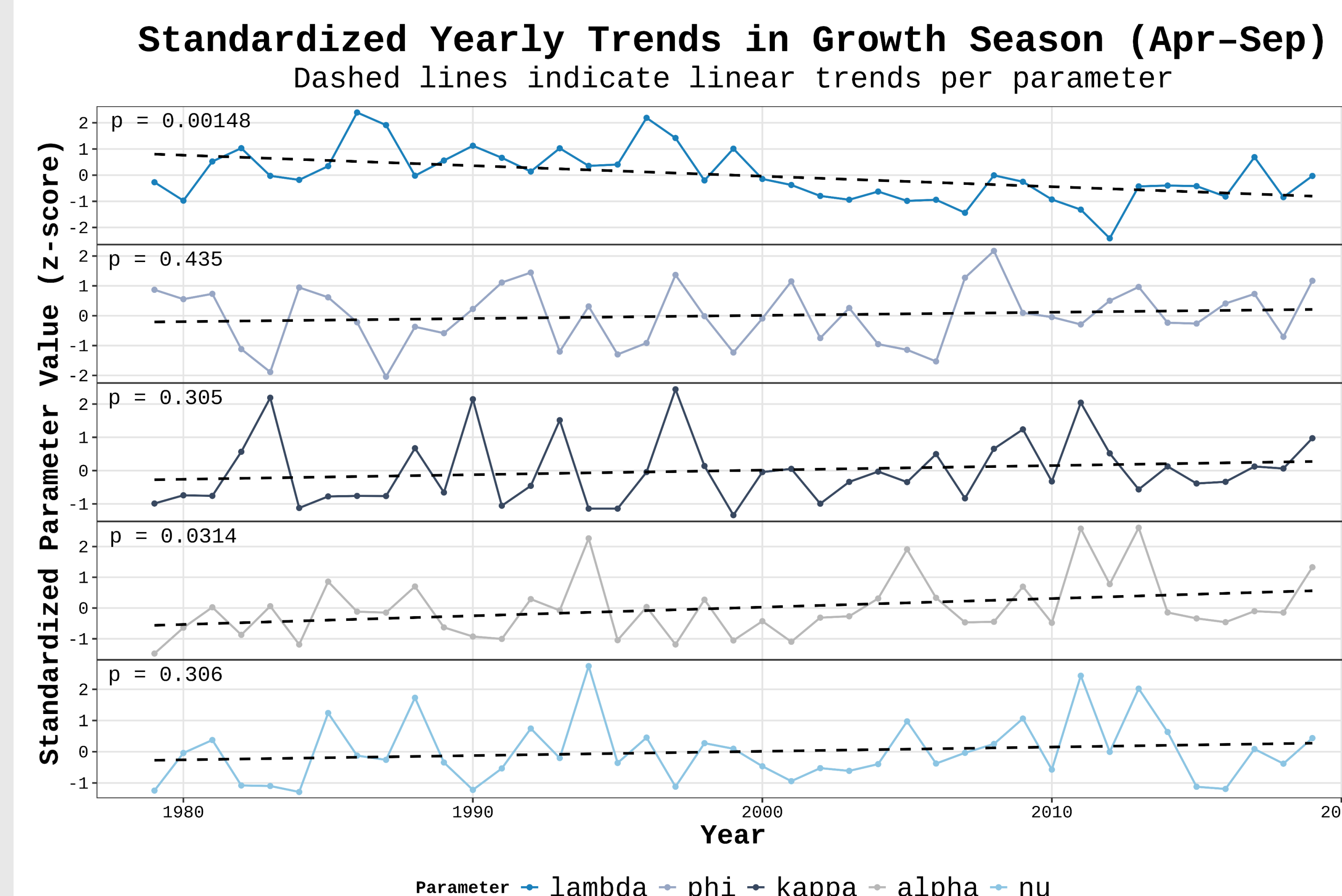


Figure 3) Predictive plot of LSTM and Random Forest Models, each with their respective predicted values and 95% confidence intervals for each crop.

Storm Parameter Analysis

Storm rate significantly decreased (P-value - 0.001) over the 40 span of the study. There was also a significant increase in cell duration (P-value - 0.03). Total precipitation through the 40 years did not see a significant change and remained consistent.



Finding

Although both models showed decreased performance on the held-out test set, Random Forest maintained reasonably high predictive power, whereas the LSTM model lost most of its predictive capability. This suggests that Random Forest generalizes better under conditions of limited data, a notable consideration for regions with small datasets like Finney County.

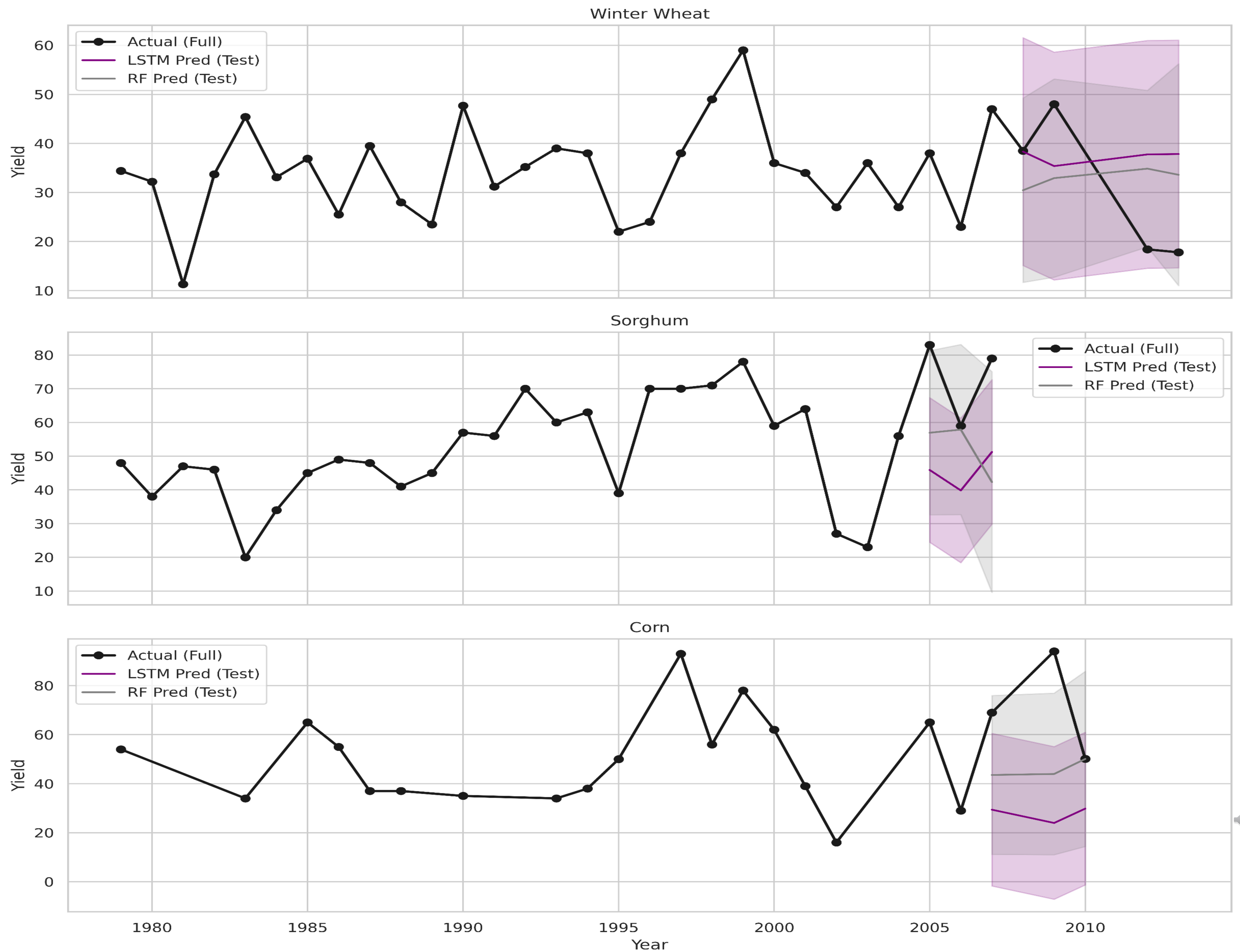
References

Onof, C., and Wang, L.-P. (2020). Modelling rainfall with a Bartlett-Lewis process: new developments. *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.*, 24, 2791–2815, <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-24-2791-2020>.

Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Departement of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University



Crop Predictive Modeling of Changing Precipitation Dynamics in Western Kansas

Isaac Smith¹ (isaacu92@ksu.edu), Xuan Xu¹, Micah Cameron-Harp²

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, ²Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Background

The Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse Model developed by Onof and Wang (2020) operates as a robust stochastic framework designed to simulate rainfall intensity effectively. By modelling the behavior of rainfall through a Poisson cluster point process, the model accounts for individual characteristics of rain cells and storm patterns, including storm rate (λ), cell rate (Φ), storm duration (κ), cell duration (α), and cell intensity (v). The parameters generated by the model of these characteristics can help identify trends in storm frequency and intensity and how these change through time.

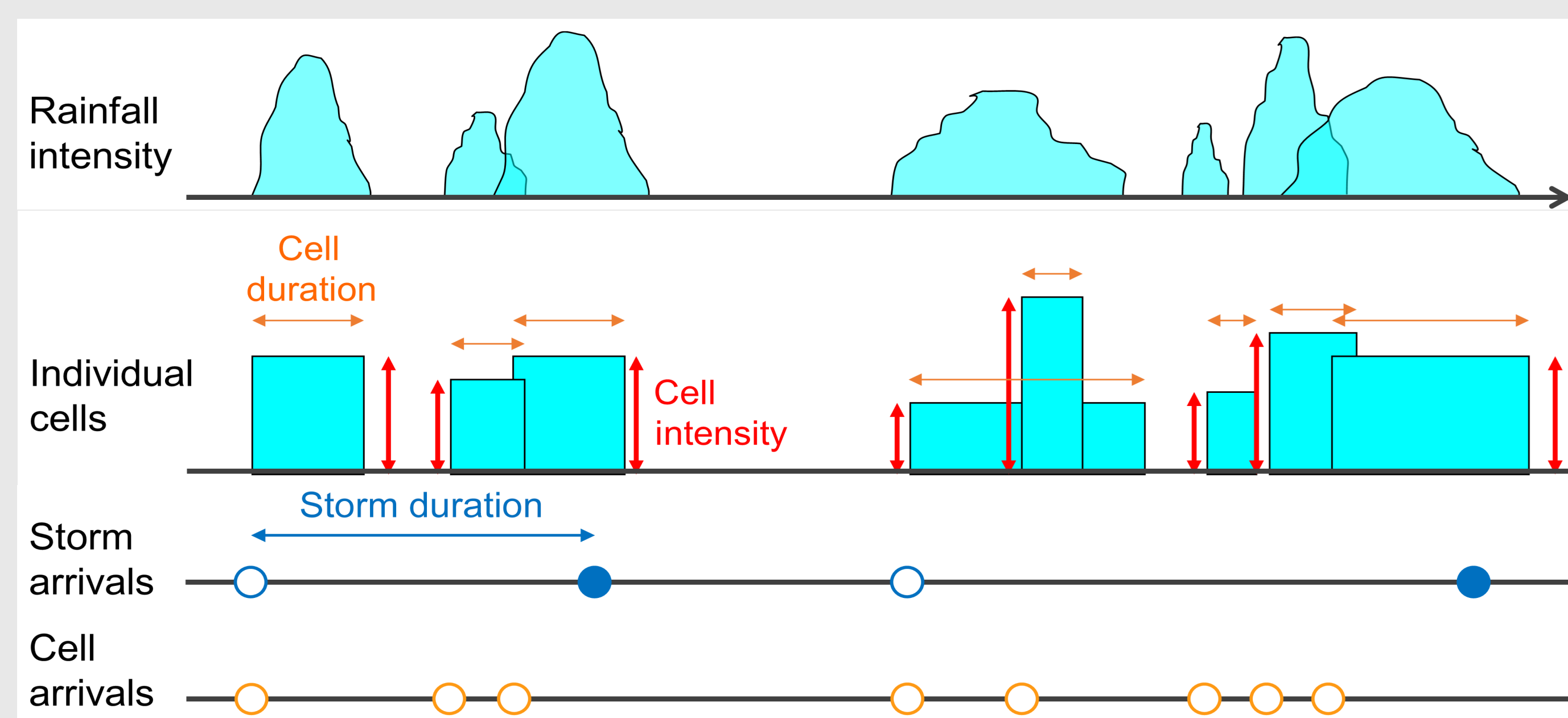
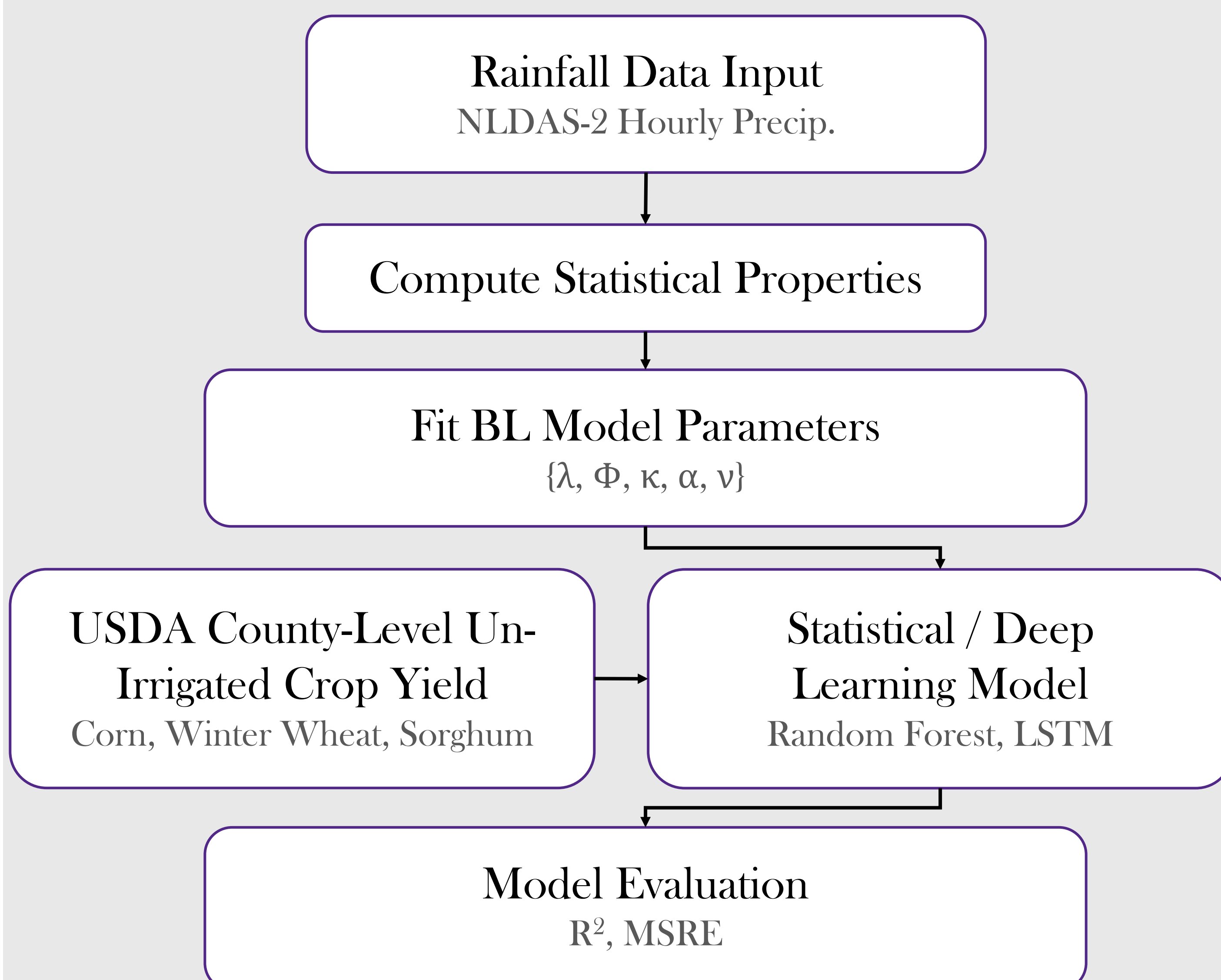


Figure 1) Illustration of the conceptualization of the Bartlett-Lewis Rectangular Pulse model (Onof and Wang 2020).

Methodology



Objective

Implemented Bartlett-Lewis Model for Finney County

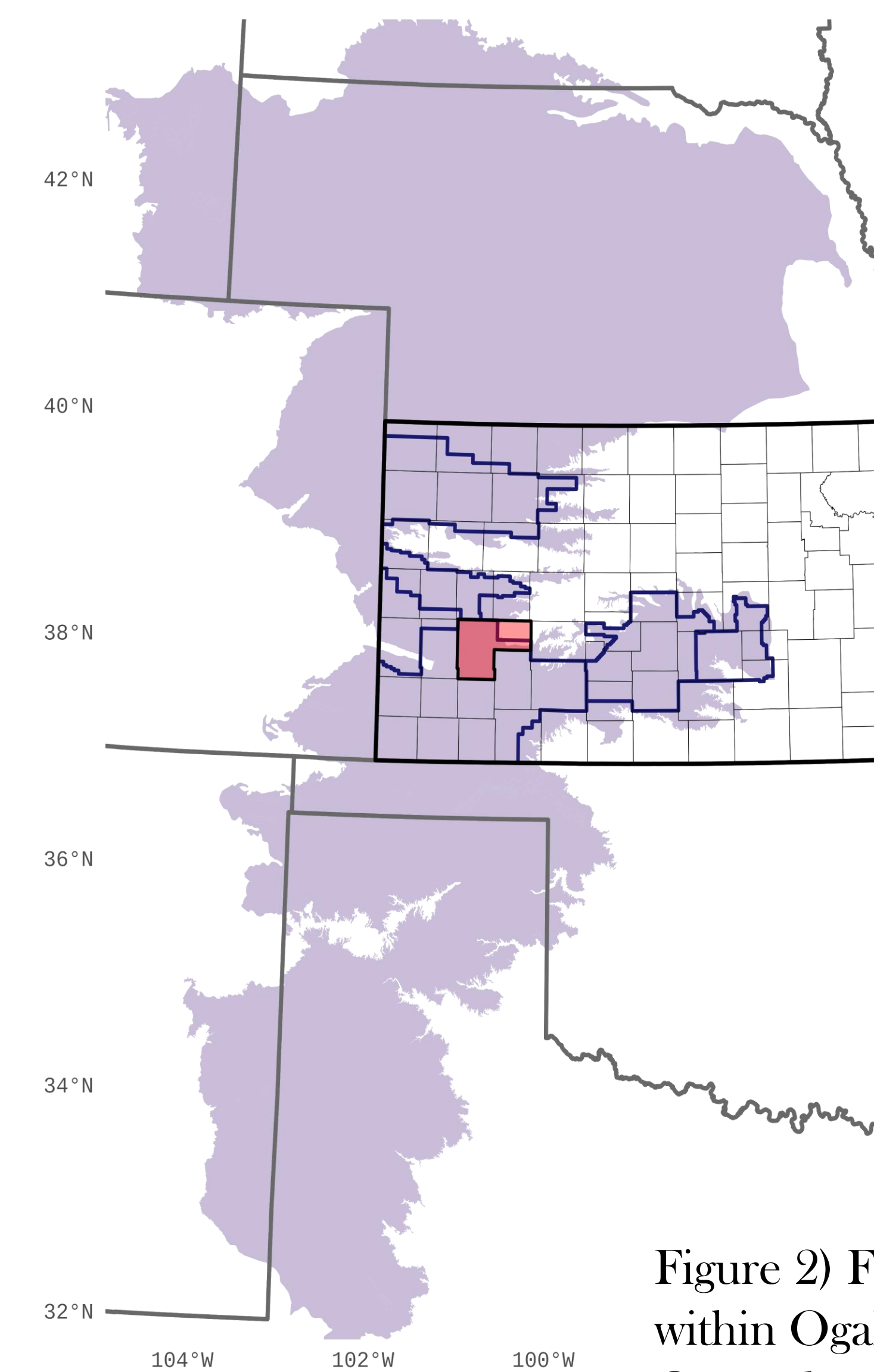
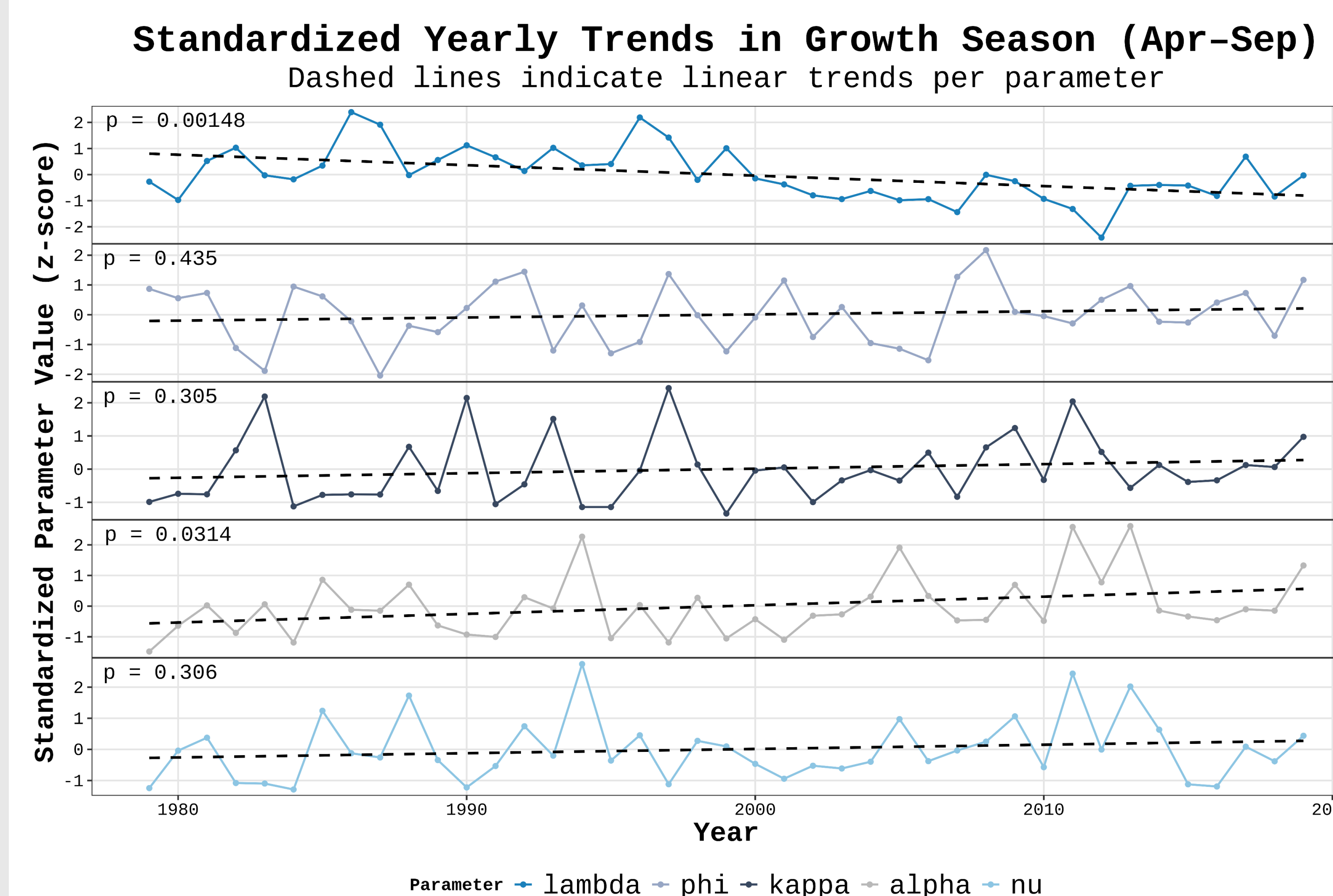


Figure 2) Finney County (red) located within Ogallala Aquifer region and Groundwater Management District 3.

to analyze trends in the generated parameters and model these parameters to predict unirrigated crop yield using sequential learning models such as Random Forest and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. Finally, compare the model predictive performance.

Storm Parameter Analysis

Storm rate significantly decreased (P-value - 0.001) over the 40 span of the study. There was also a significant increase in cell duration (P-value - 0.03). Total precipitation through the 40 years did not see a significant change and remained consistent.



Model Performance

For validation, the last 10% of years were held out for testing. During training, Random Forest outperformed LSTM when modeling all crops together (RMSE = 3.860, $R^2 = 0.937$ vs. RMSE = 12.335, $R^2 = 0.356$). Both models showed decreased performance on the test set, with LSTM losing most predictive power. Random Forest maintained a reasonably high predictive performance (RMSE = 9.010, $R^2 = 0.521$). When modeling crops independently, both models were able to encompass the actual crop yield within their 95% confidence intervals for winter wheat but struggled with sorghum and corn.

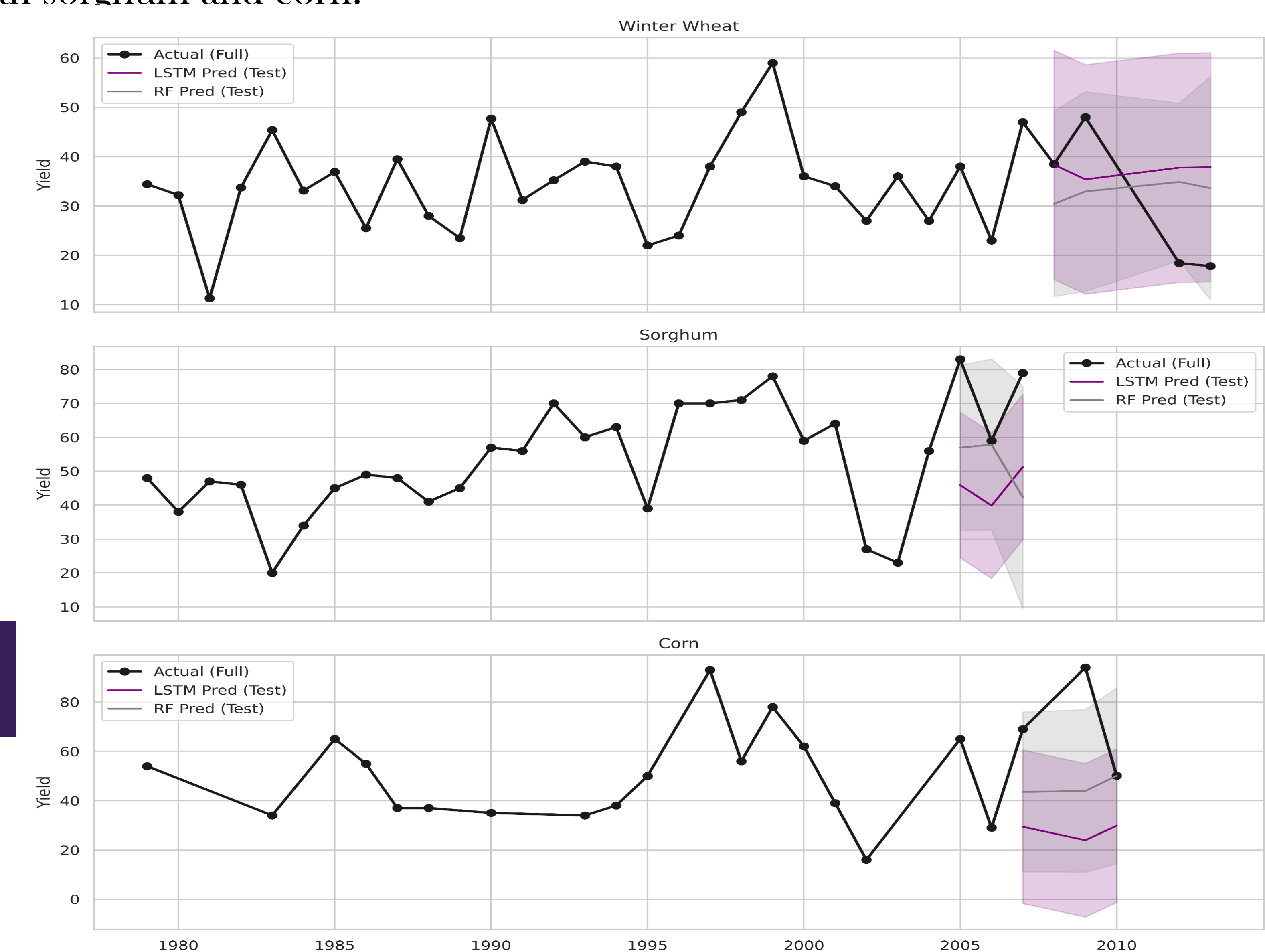


Figure 3) Predictive plot of LSTM and Random Forest Models, each with their respective predicted values and 95% confidence intervals for each crop.

Finding

Although both models showed decreased performance on the held-out test set, Random Forest maintained reasonably high predictive power, whereas the LSTM model lost most of its predictive capability. This suggests that Random Forest generalizes better under conditions of limited data, a notable consideration for regions with small datasets like Finney County.

References

Onof, C., and Wang, L.-P. (2020). Modelling rainfall with a Bartlett-Lewis process: new developments. *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.*, 24, 2791–2815, <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-24-2791-2020>.