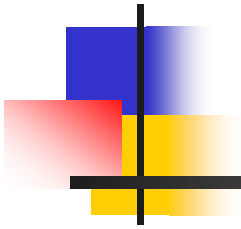


The Potential for Small Scale Hydropower Development in the U.S.

Lea Kosnik



Discussant: Paramita Sinha

**WEAI, Vancouver
June 2009**



Contribution

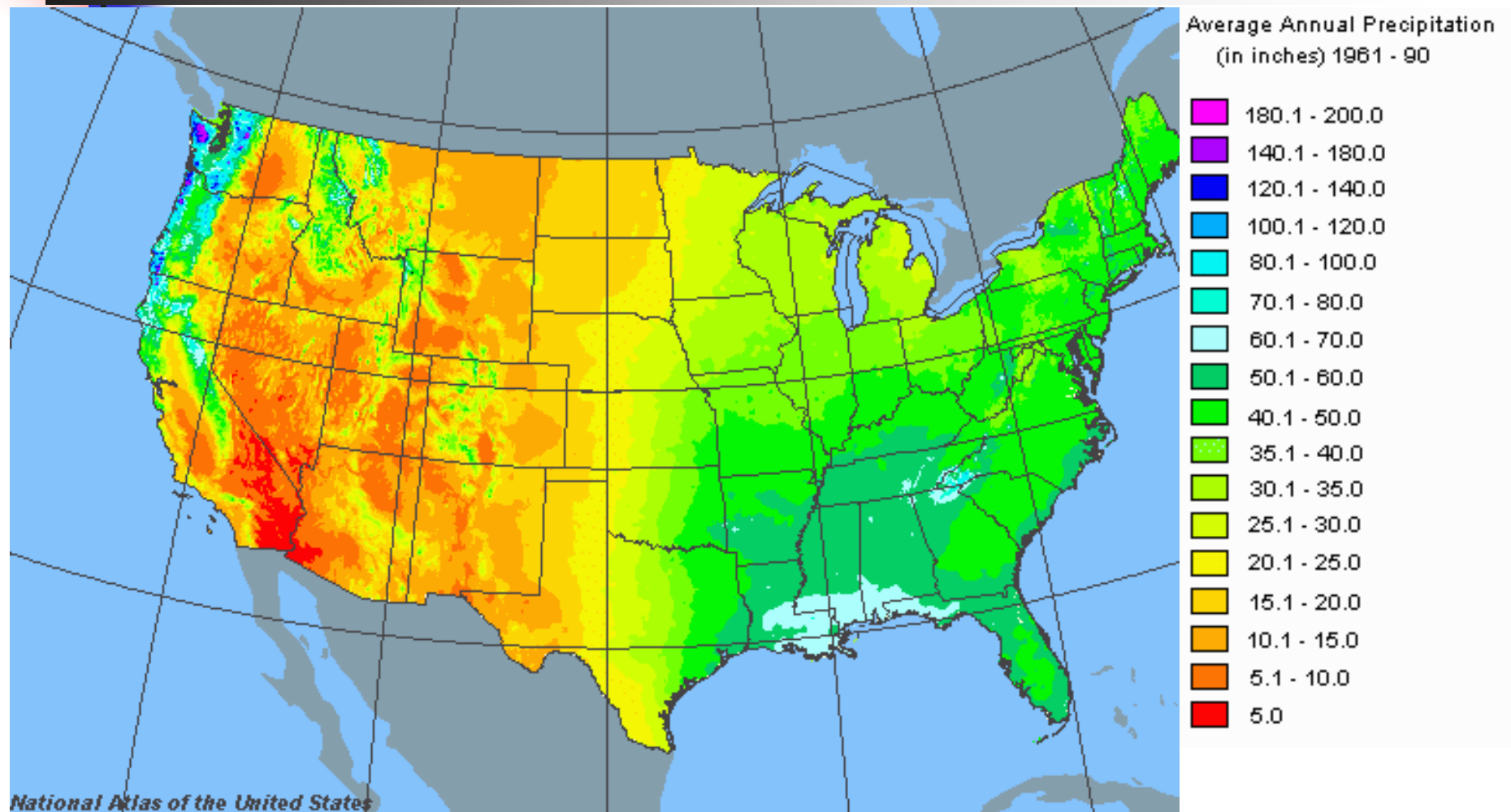
- Interesting and important question: Cost effectiveness of hydropower plants
- Most interesting - What scale of hydropower plants are cost effective (small/mini/micro)
- Variation in costs over states



Climate

- What are the climate and weather variables used (# of frost days at site mentioned)?
- What about precipitation? Look at results across states, some of the states with high costs seem to be drier states
- Water availability change under climate change?
- Would fluctuations in precipitation matter for cost effectiveness?

Annual Average Precipitation, 1961-1990





Cost Estimation

- Programs used: RI, Norway, England
- Equations used
- How do these programs compare in terms of
 - functional form assumptions
 - values of parameters



Additional Comments

- Intuition for results. e.g. DE: High costs
- Would be interesting to see descriptive statistics of variables used and the variation across states - help in interpretation of cost figures by state