

# HOW THE ANDEAN TECTONICS AND DYNAMIC TOPOGRAPHY SHAPED THE LANDSCAPE EVOLUTION IN AMAZONIA: A NUMERICAL APPROACH

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<sup>\*</sup>[sacek@usp.br](mailto:sacek@usp.br)

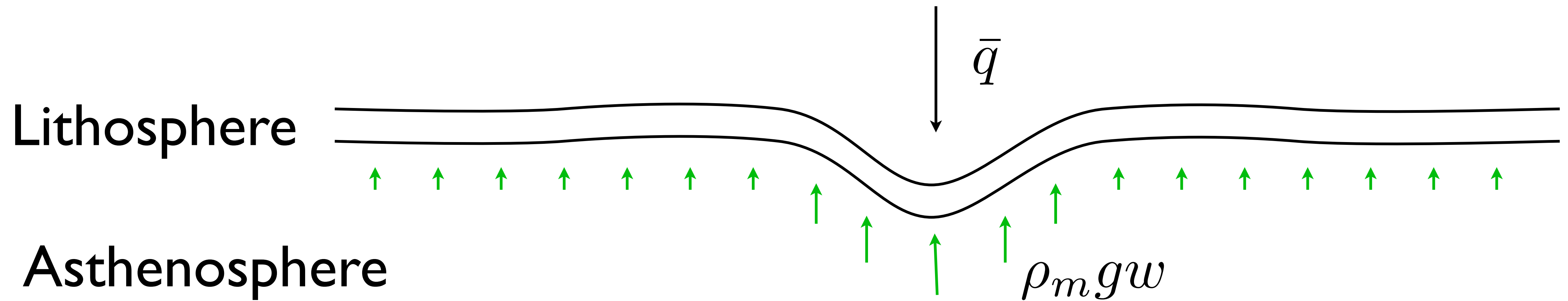
<sup>1</sup> Instituto de Astronomia, Geofísica e Ciências Atmosféricas

<sup>2</sup> Instituto de Geociências



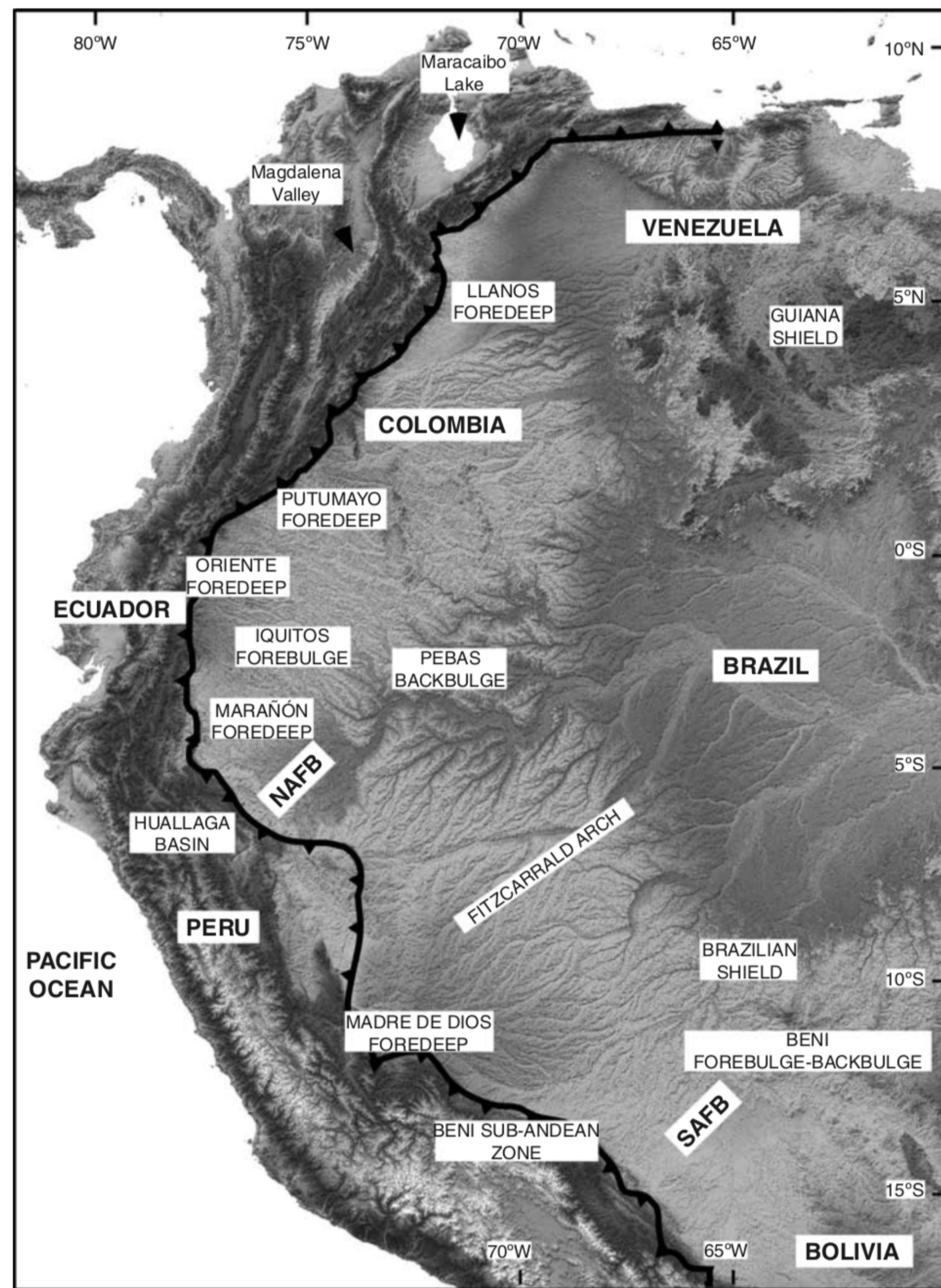
HOW CAN WE EXPLAIN VERTICAL  
MOVEMENTS OF THE SURFACE FAR  
FROM ACTIVE MARGINS?

# ***Flexure and Isostasy***

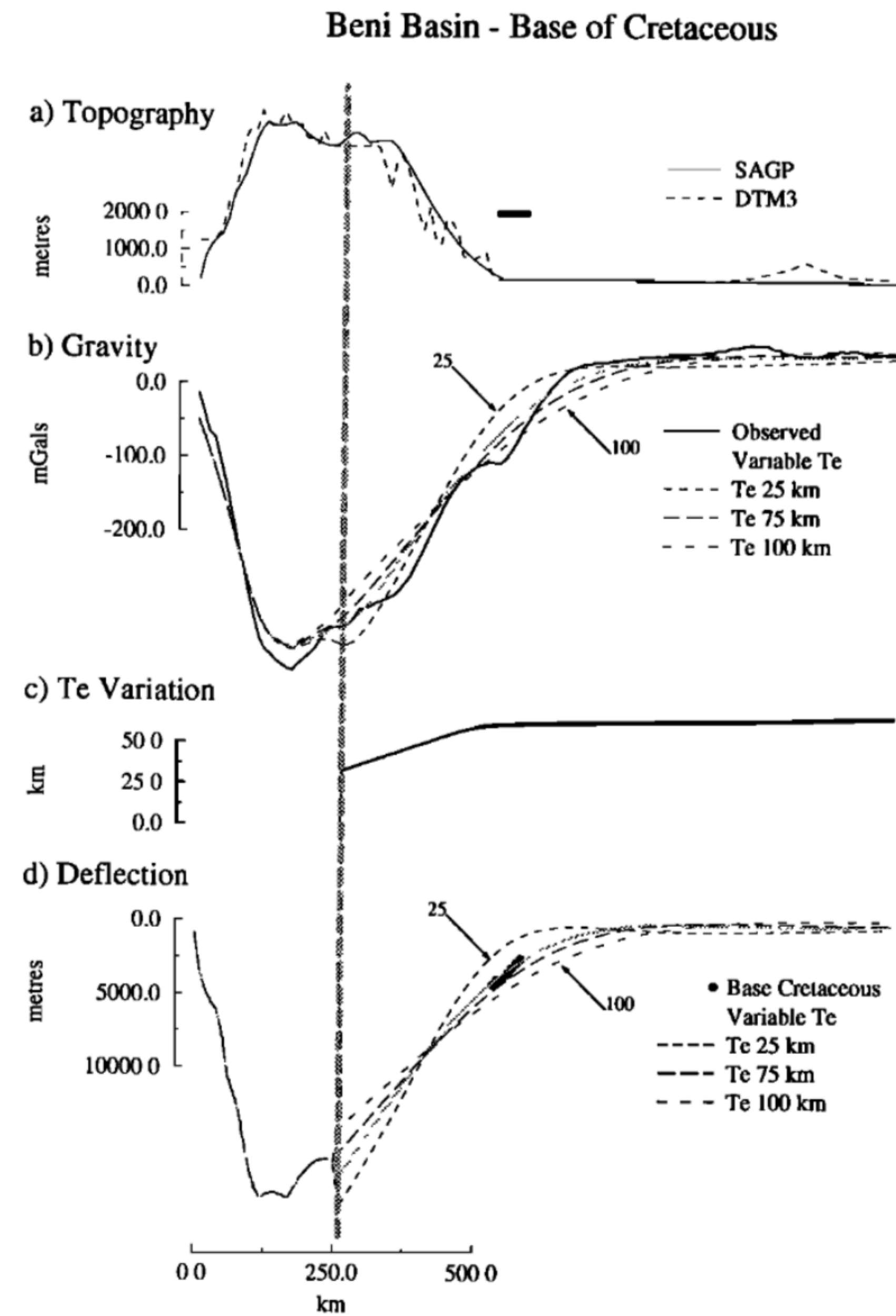


$$D = \frac{ET_e^3}{12(1 - \nu^2)}$$





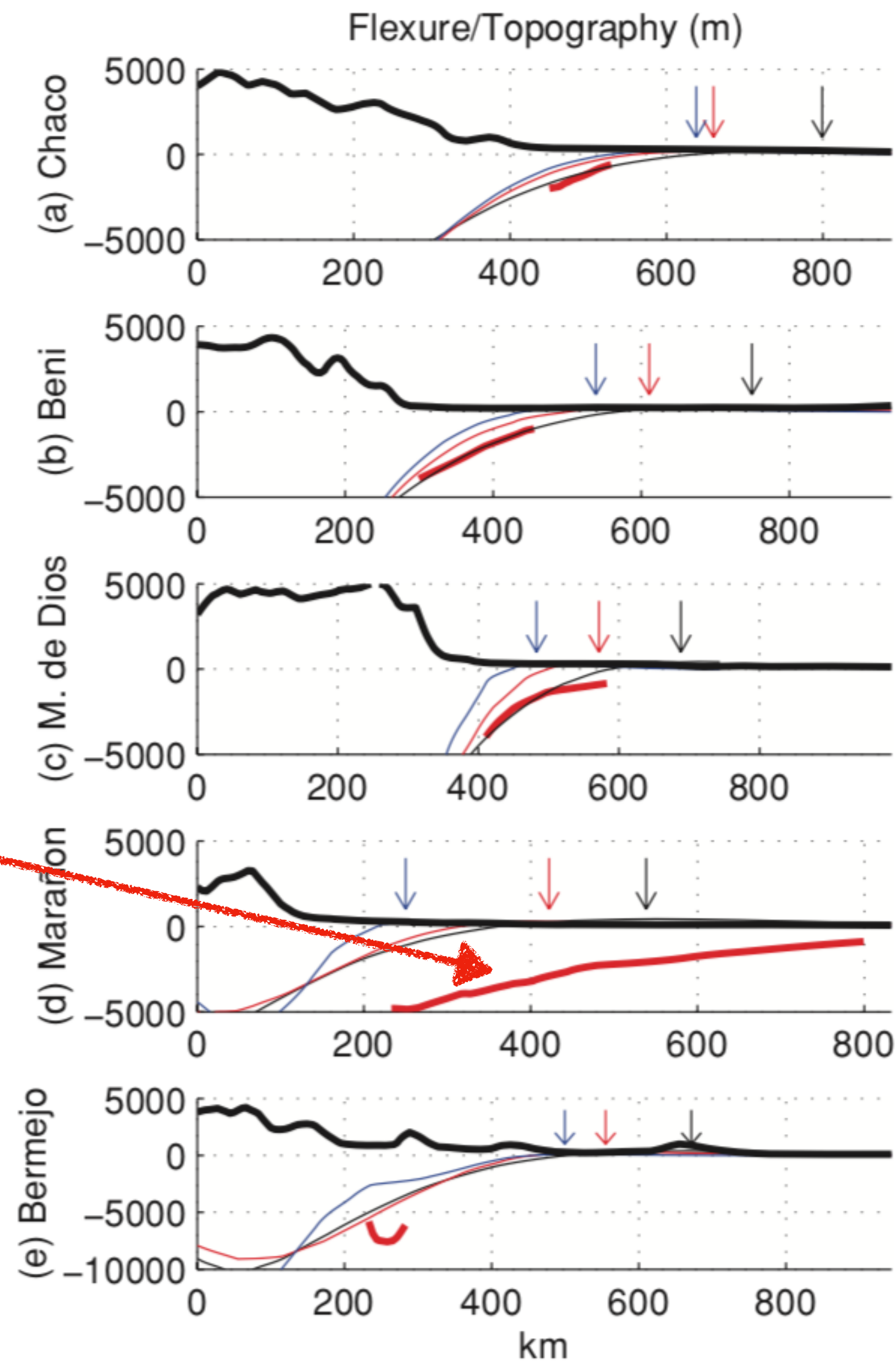
Roddaz et al. (2010)



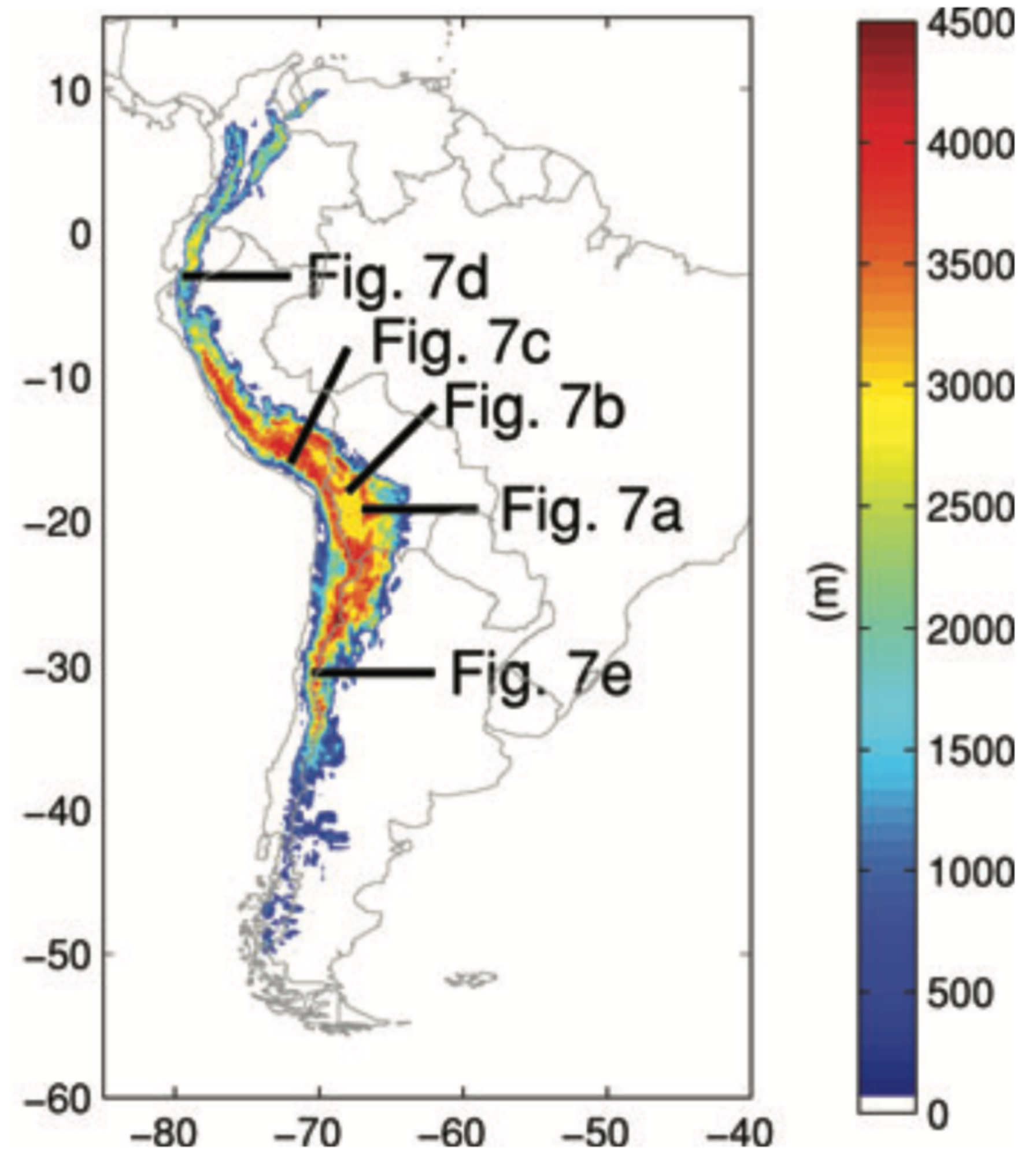
Stewart & Watts (1997)



Subsidence  
not explained  
by flexure



— Stewart & Watts 1997  
— Pérez-Gussinyé *et al.* 2007  
— Tassara *et al.* 2007

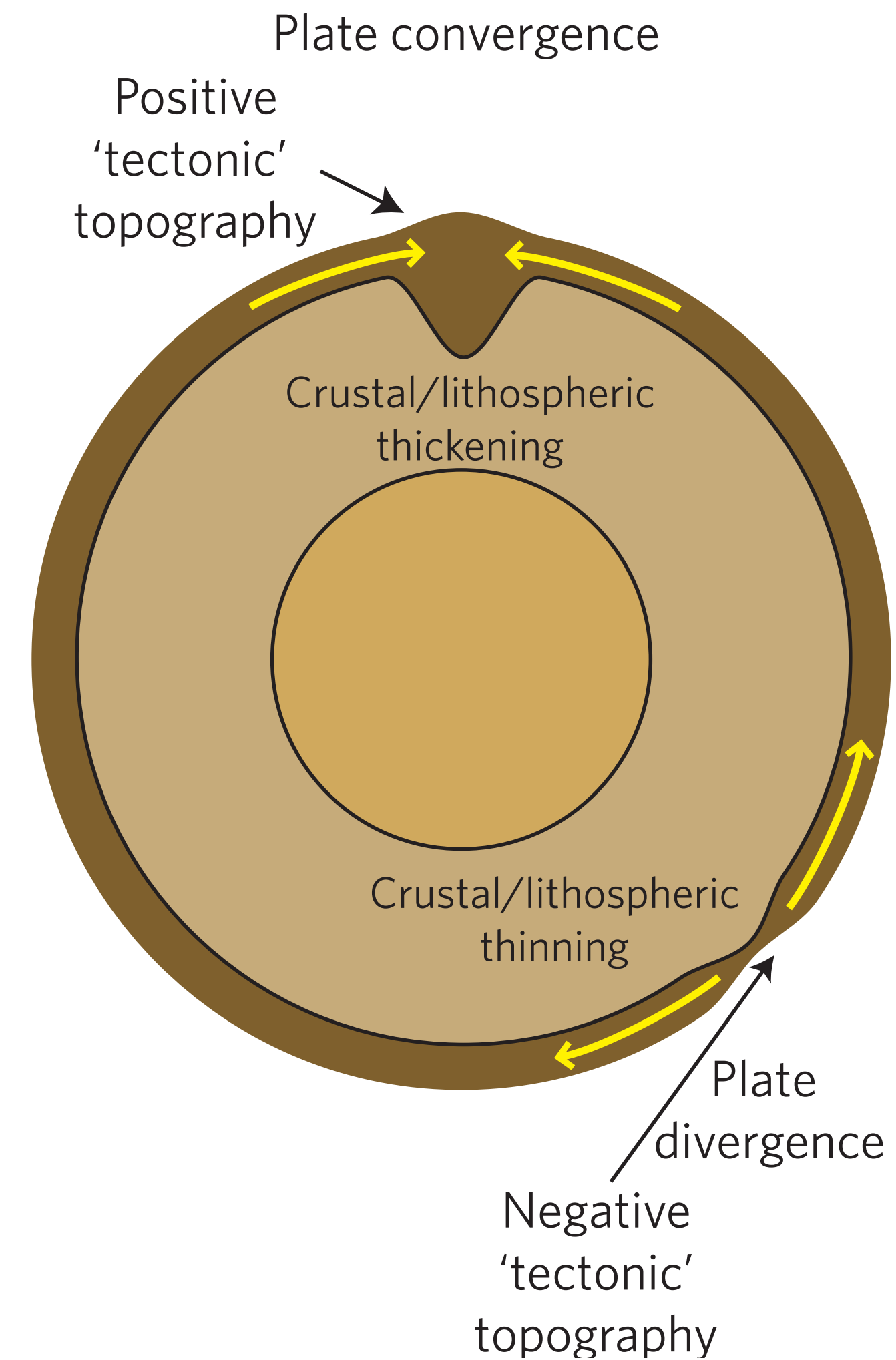
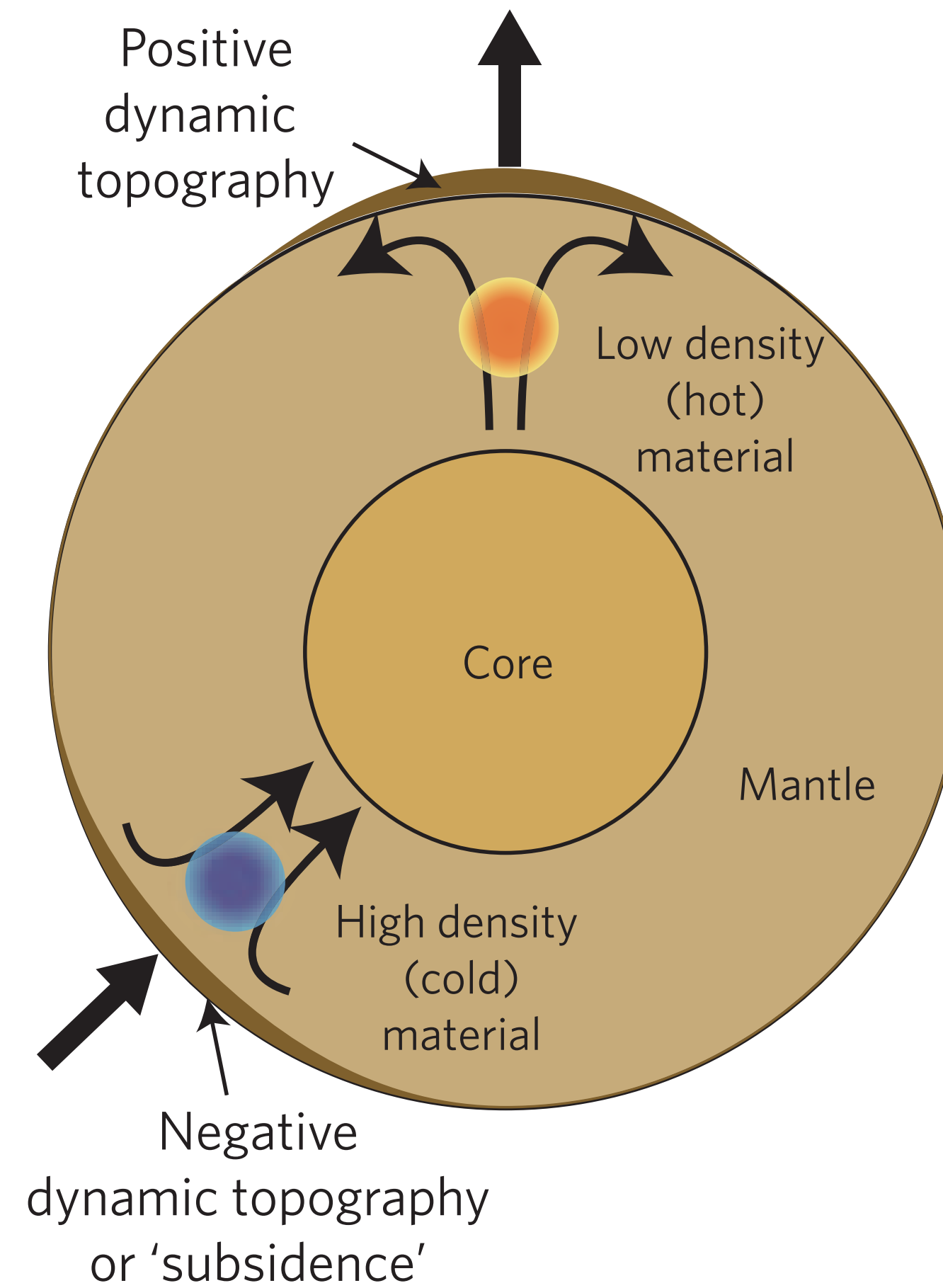


Sacek & Ussami (2009)

# Dynamic topography

## The many surface expressions of mantle dynamics

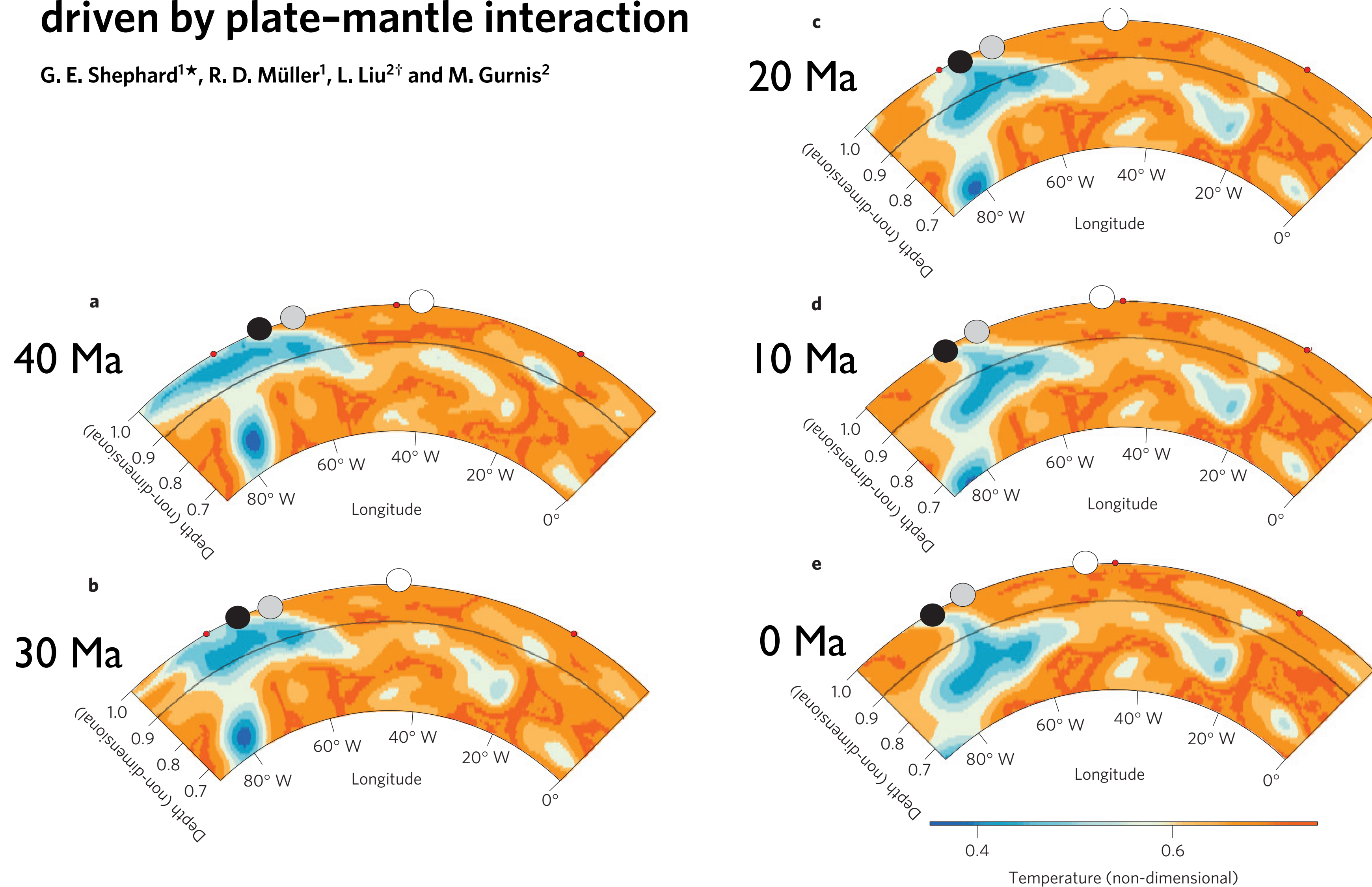
Jean Braun





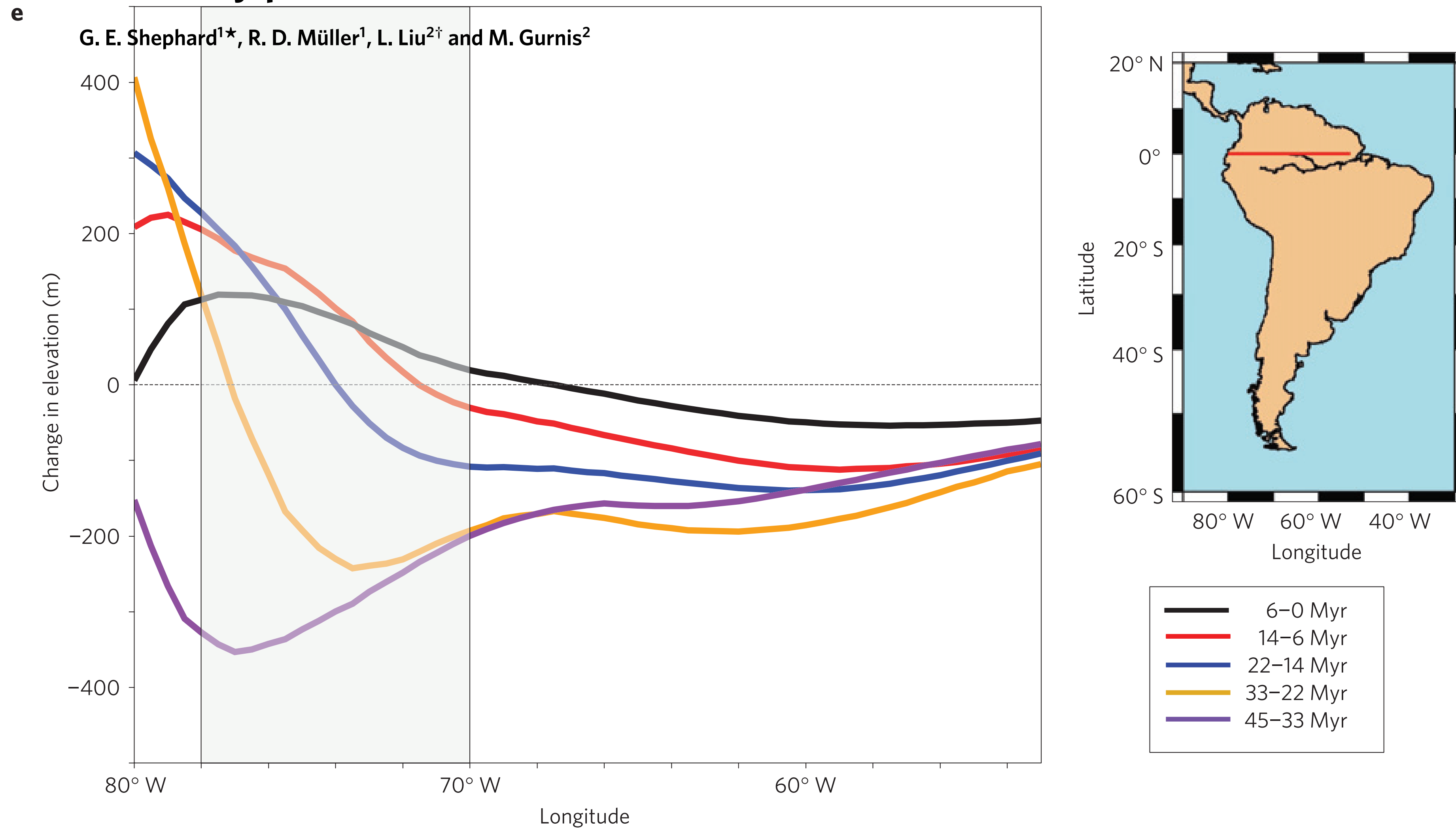
# Miocene drainage reversal of the Amazon River driven by plate–mantle interaction

G. E. Shephard<sup>1\*</sup>, R. D. Müller<sup>1</sup>, L. Liu<sup>2†</sup> and M. Gurnis<sup>2</sup>



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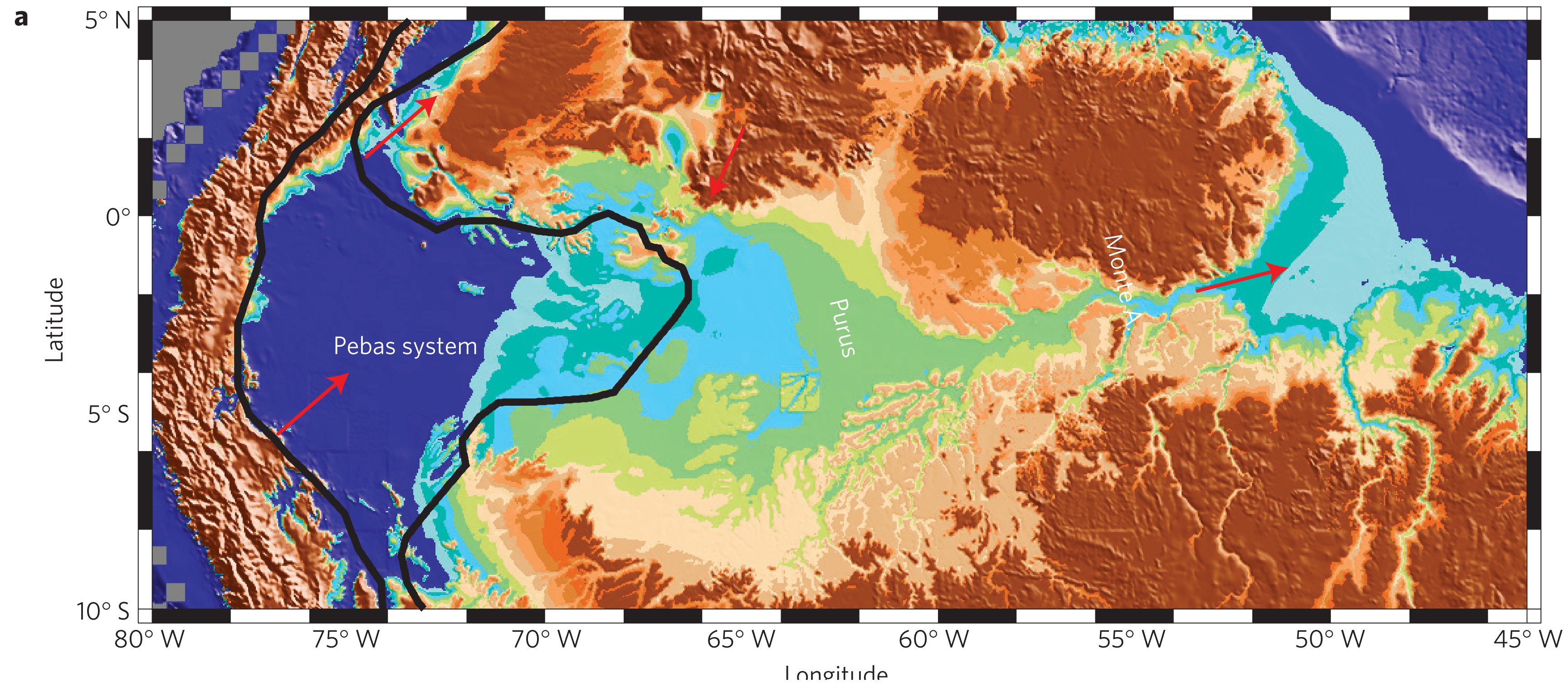




# Miocene drainage reversal of the Amazon River driven by plate–mantle interaction

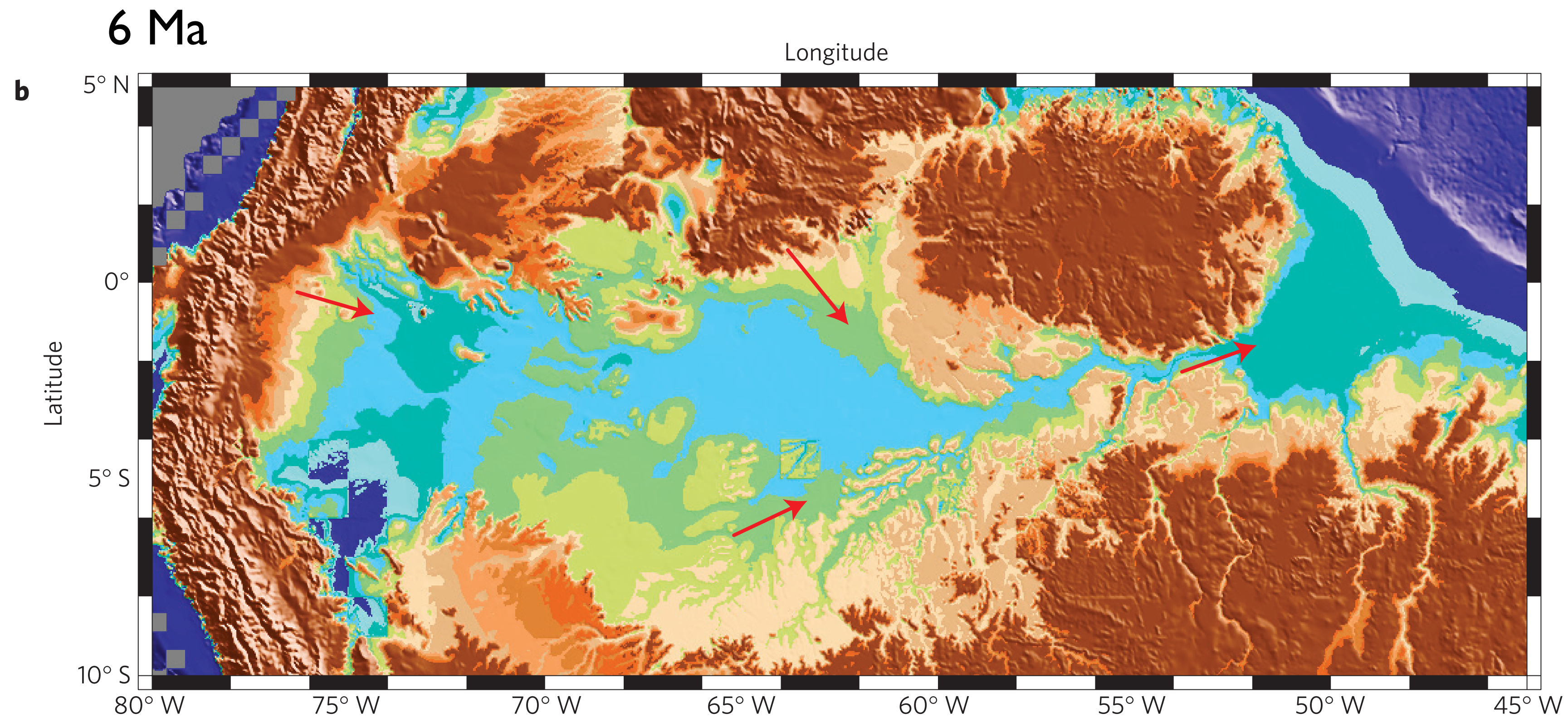
G. E. Shephard<sup>1\*</sup>, R. D. Müller<sup>1</sup>, L. Liu<sup>2†</sup> and M. Gurnis<sup>2</sup>

14 Ma



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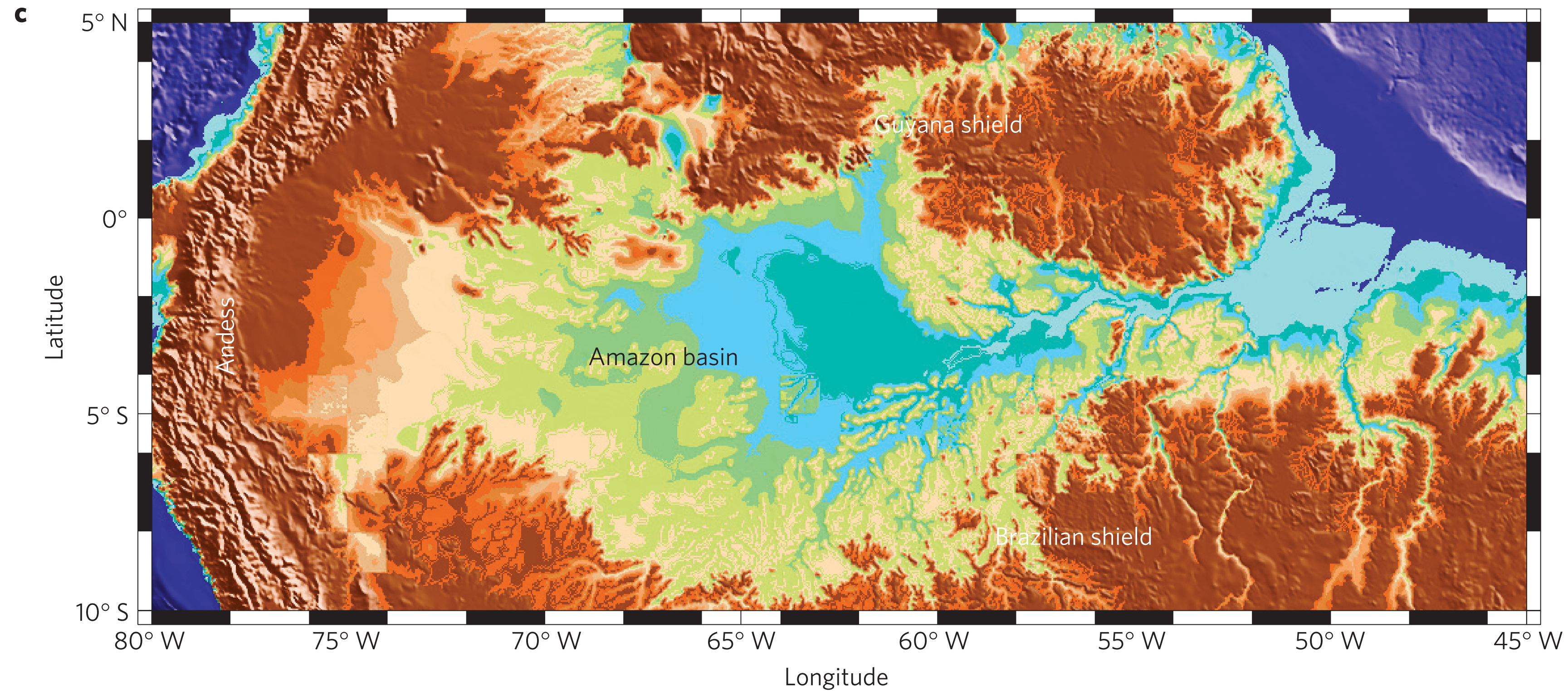




# Miocene drainage reversal of the Amazon River driven by plate–mantle interaction

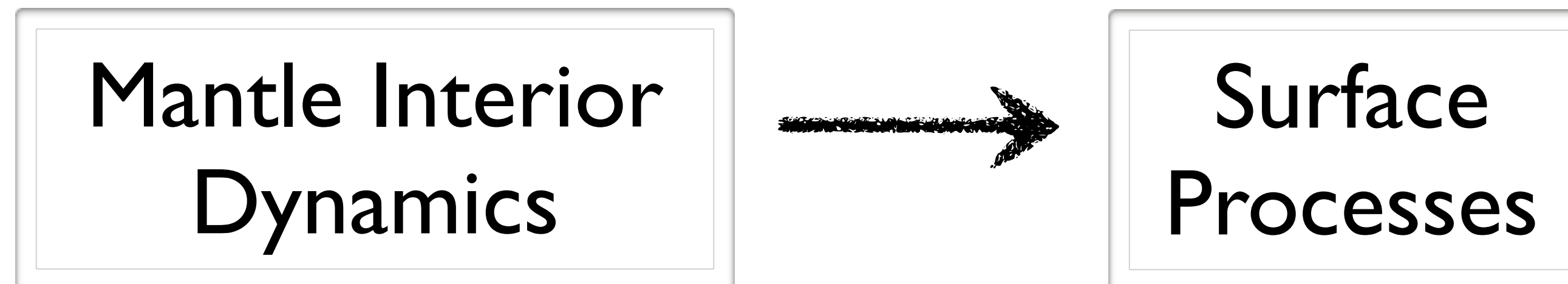
G. E. Shephard<sup>1\*</sup>, R. D. Müller<sup>1</sup>, L. Liu<sup>2†</sup> and M. Gurnis<sup>2</sup>

0 Ma



# Miocene drainage reversal of the Amazon River driven by plate–mantle interaction

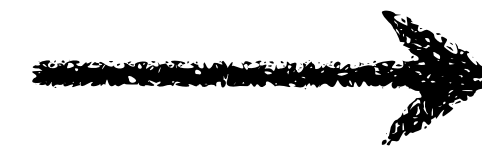
G. E. Shephard<sup>1\*</sup>, R. D. Müller<sup>1</sup>, L. Liu<sup>2†</sup> and M. Gurnis<sup>2</sup>



*Dynamic topography on a **static surface**, not affected by erosion/sedimentation.*



**Mantle Interior  
Dynamics**



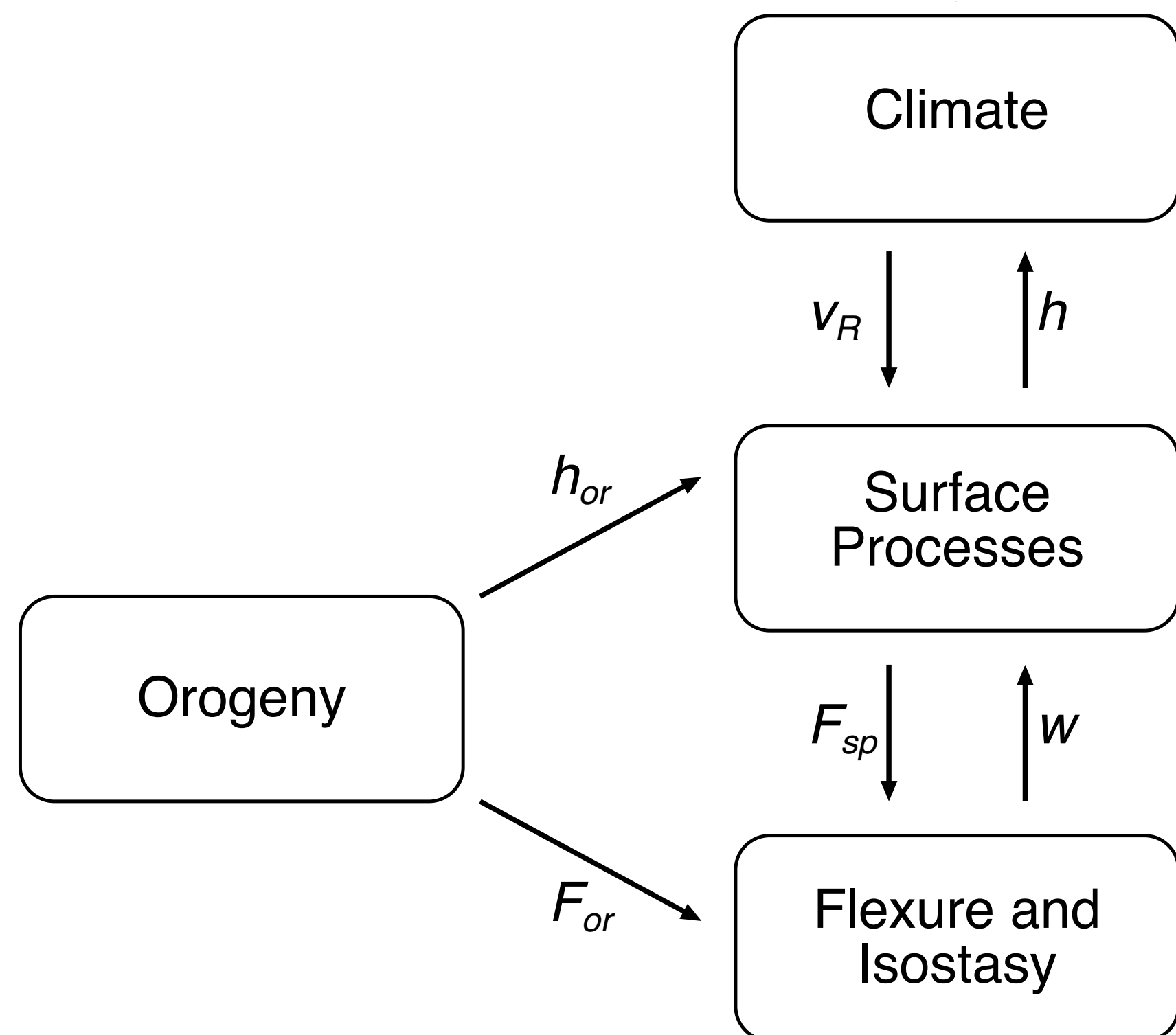
**Surface  
Processes**



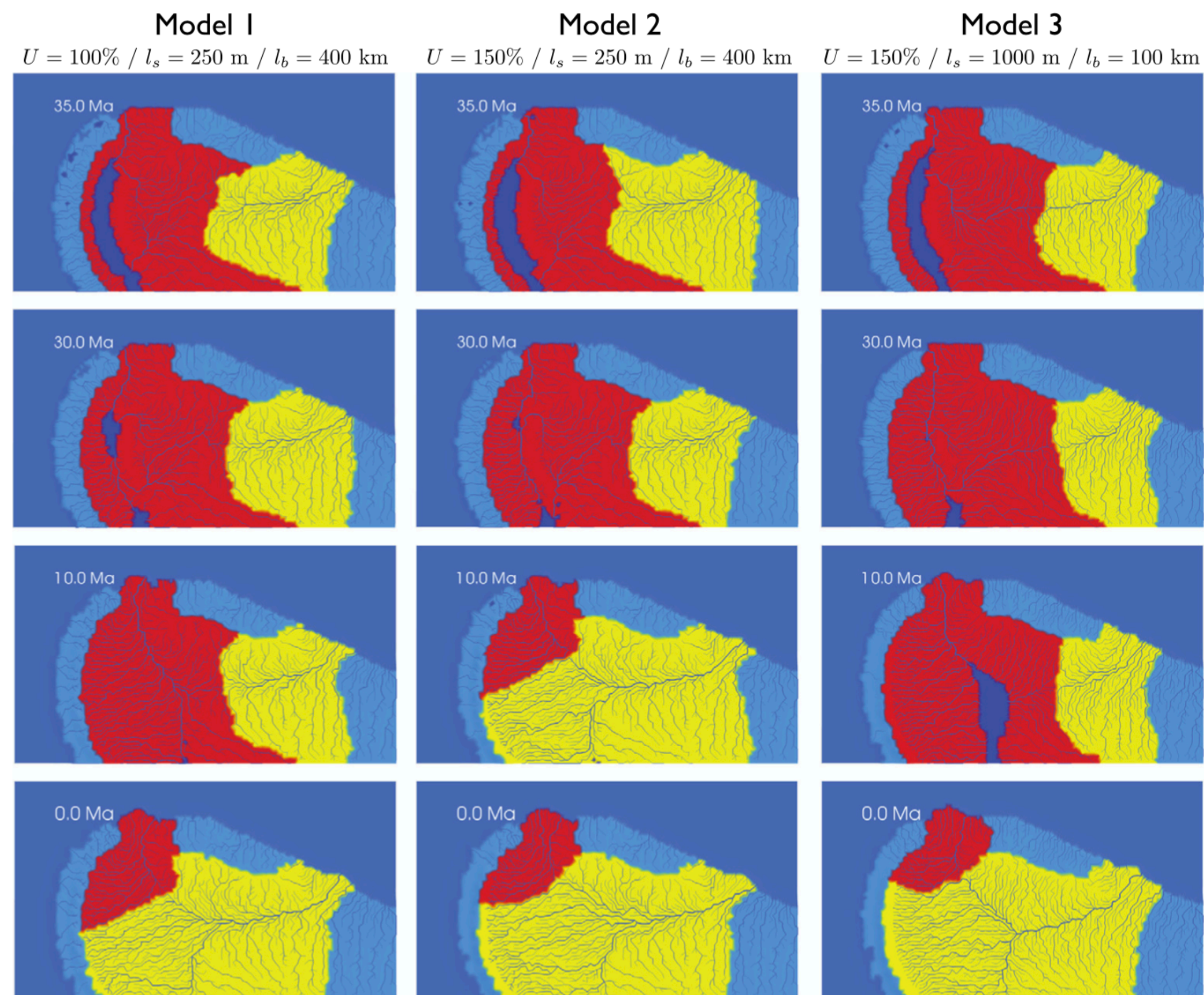


# Drainage reversal of the Amazon River due to the coupling of surface and lithospheric processes

Victor Sacek



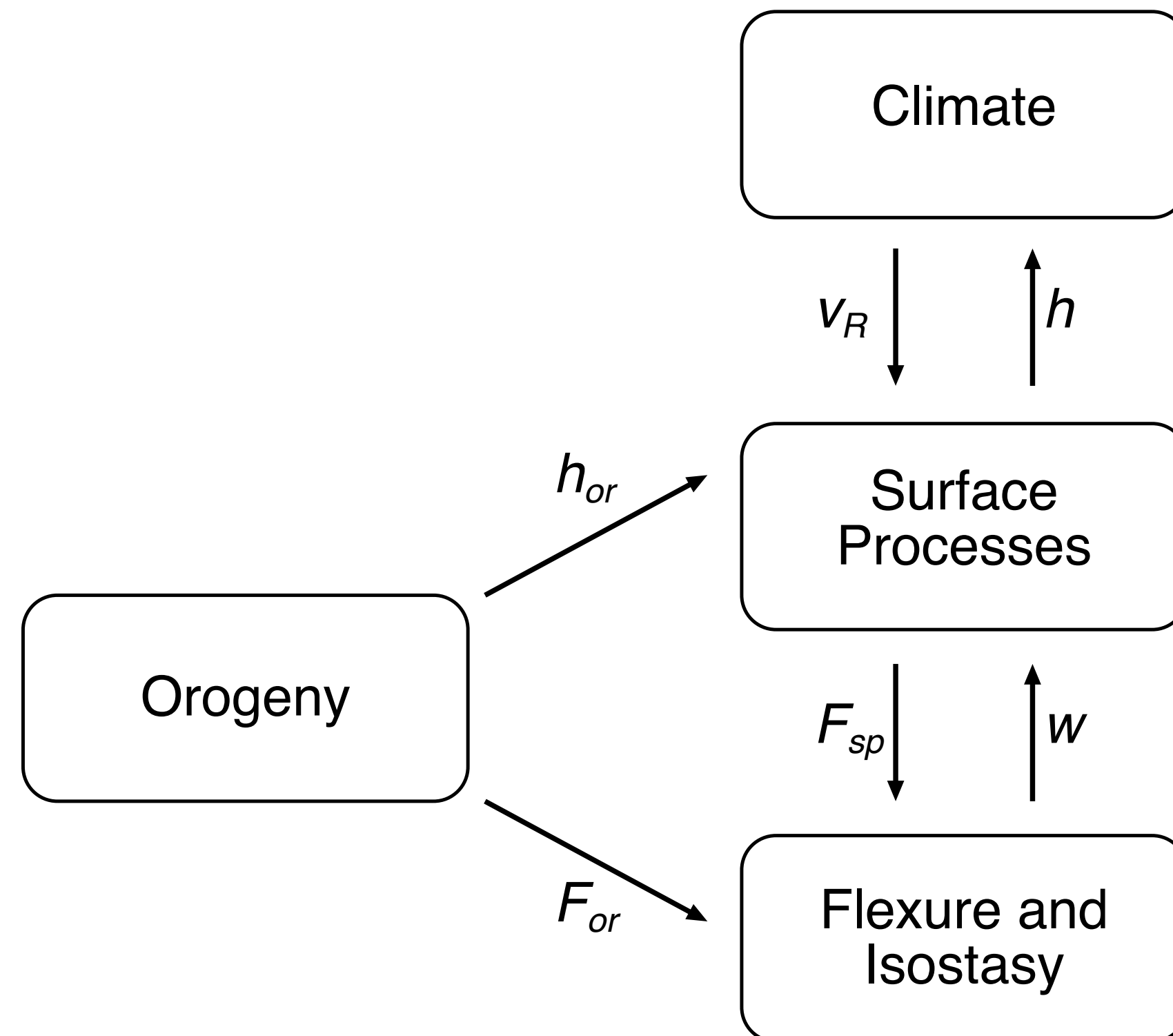
## *Tectono-sedimentary evolution of northern South America without dynamic topography.*





## Drainage reversal of the Amazon River due to the coupling of surface and lithospheric processes

Victor Sacek



*Tectono-sedimentary evolution of northern South America without dynamic topography.*

*This numerical model shows that the Amazon drainage reversal during the Miocene was mainly guided by surface processes instead of dynamic topography due to mantle convection.*

*However, the proposed model fails to fully reproduce the spacial and temporal evolution of the Pebas system.*

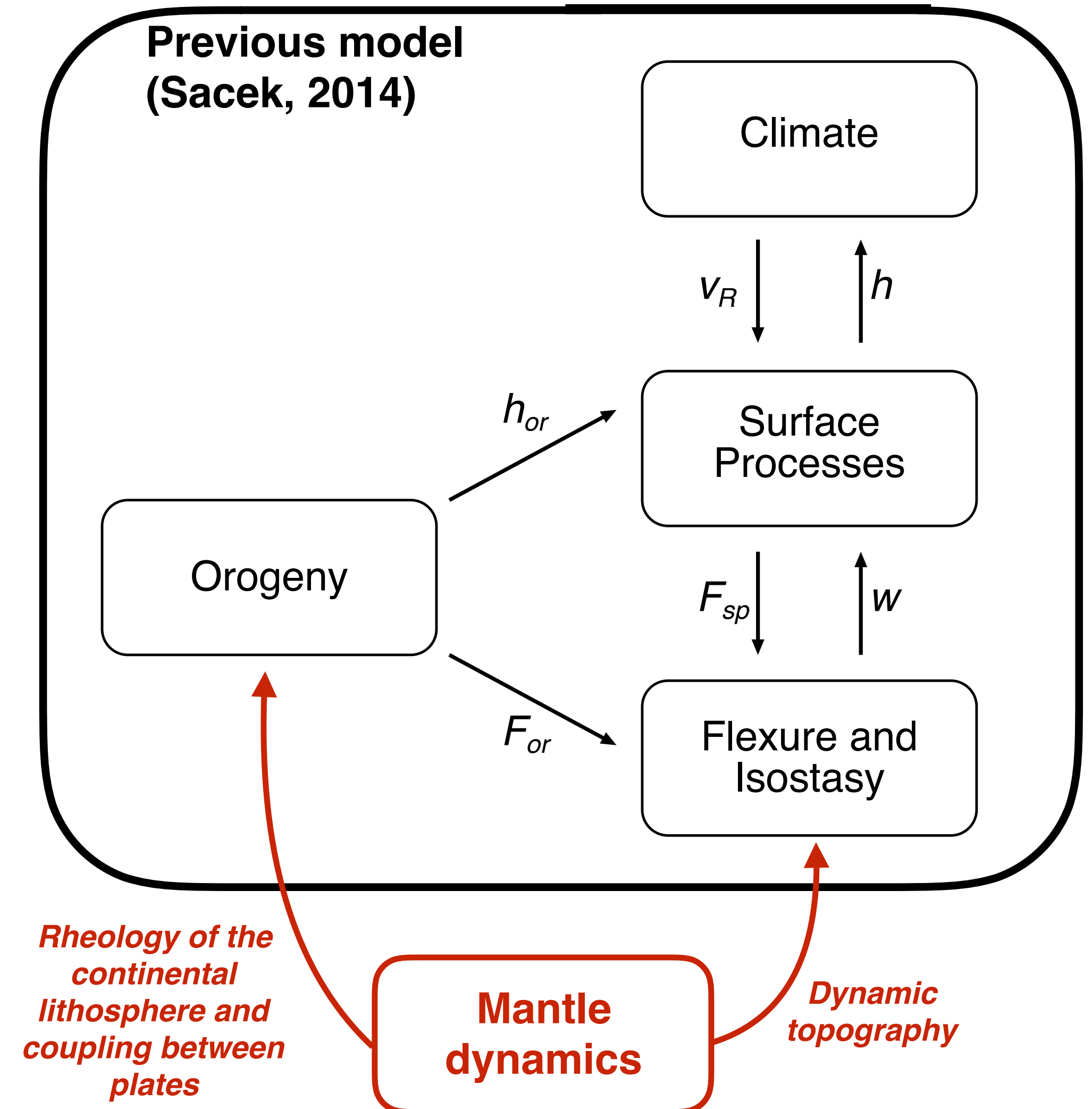


OPEN

# Andean Tectonics and Mantle Dynamics as a Pervasive Influence on Amazonian Ecosystem

Tacio Cordeiro Bicudo<sup>1\*</sup>, Victor Sacek<sup>1</sup>, Renato Paes de Almeida<sup>2</sup>, John M. Bates<sup>3</sup> & Camila Cherem Ribas<sup>4</sup>

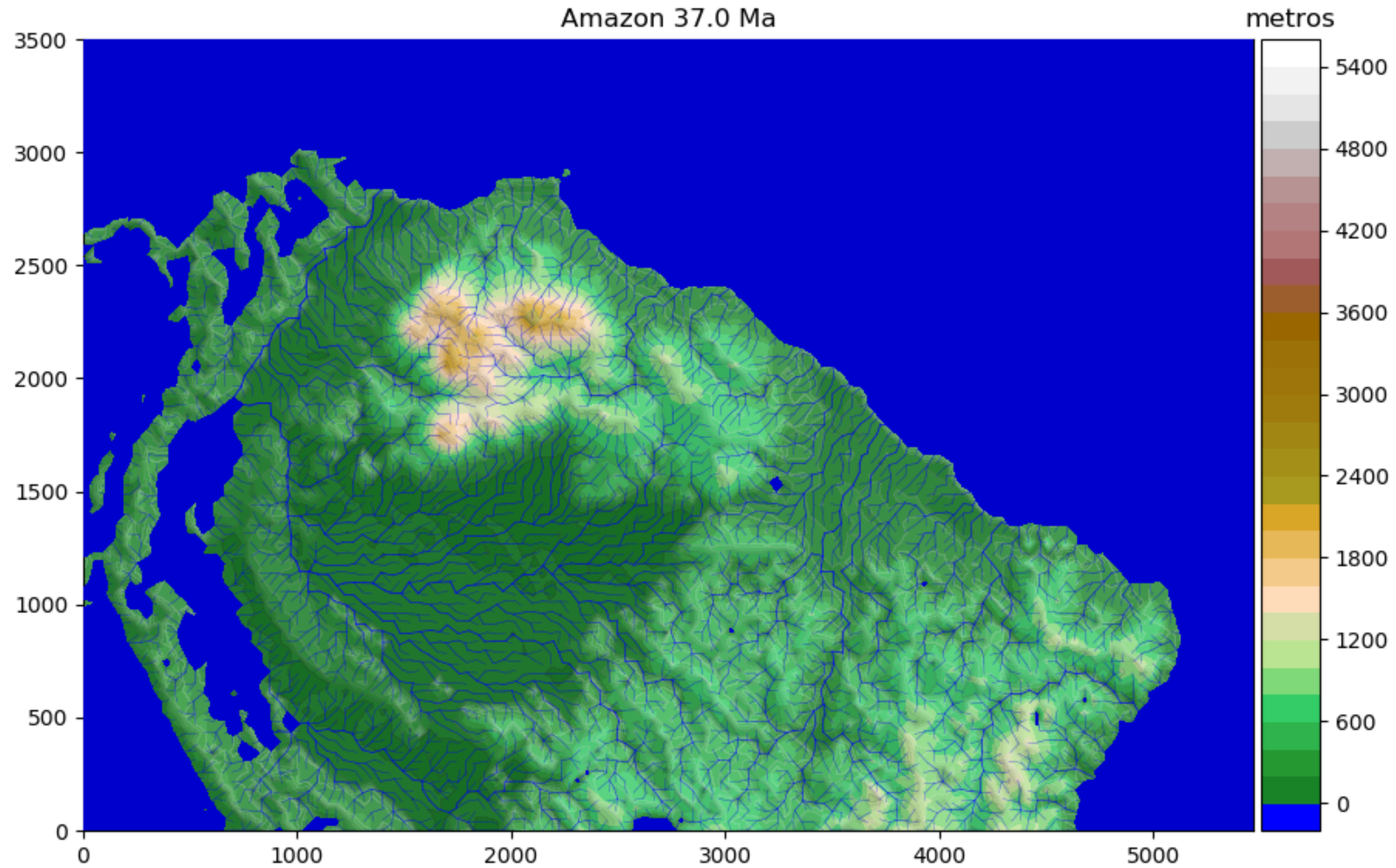
*Numerical forward models considering the tectonic evolution of the Andean topography, surface processes, mantle dynamics and their subsequent effects on the spatial and temporal distribution of subsidence, uplift and sedimentation patterns in lowland Amazonia.*





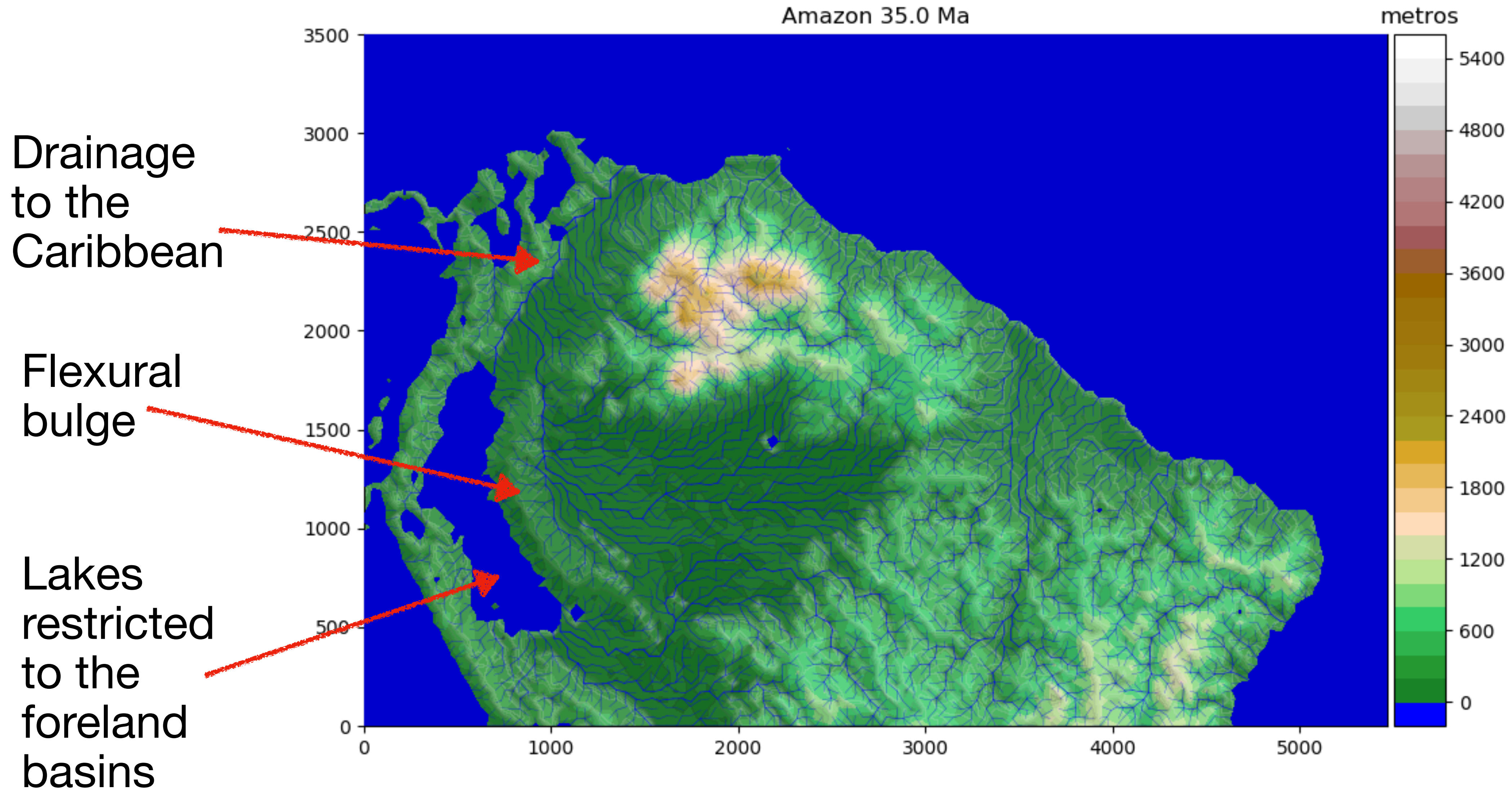
**Scenario without dynamic  
topography**

# Without dynamic topography



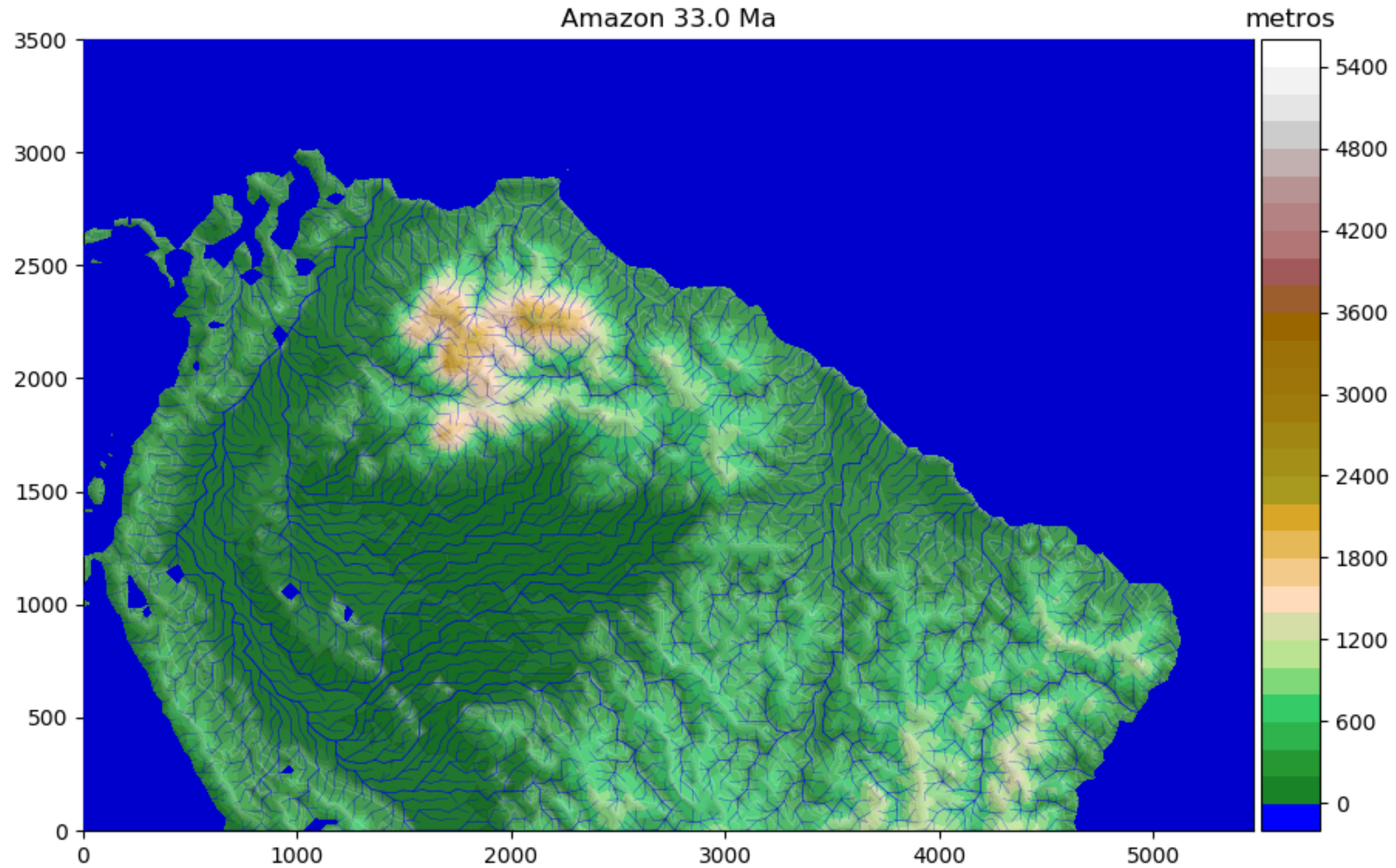


# Without dynamic topography



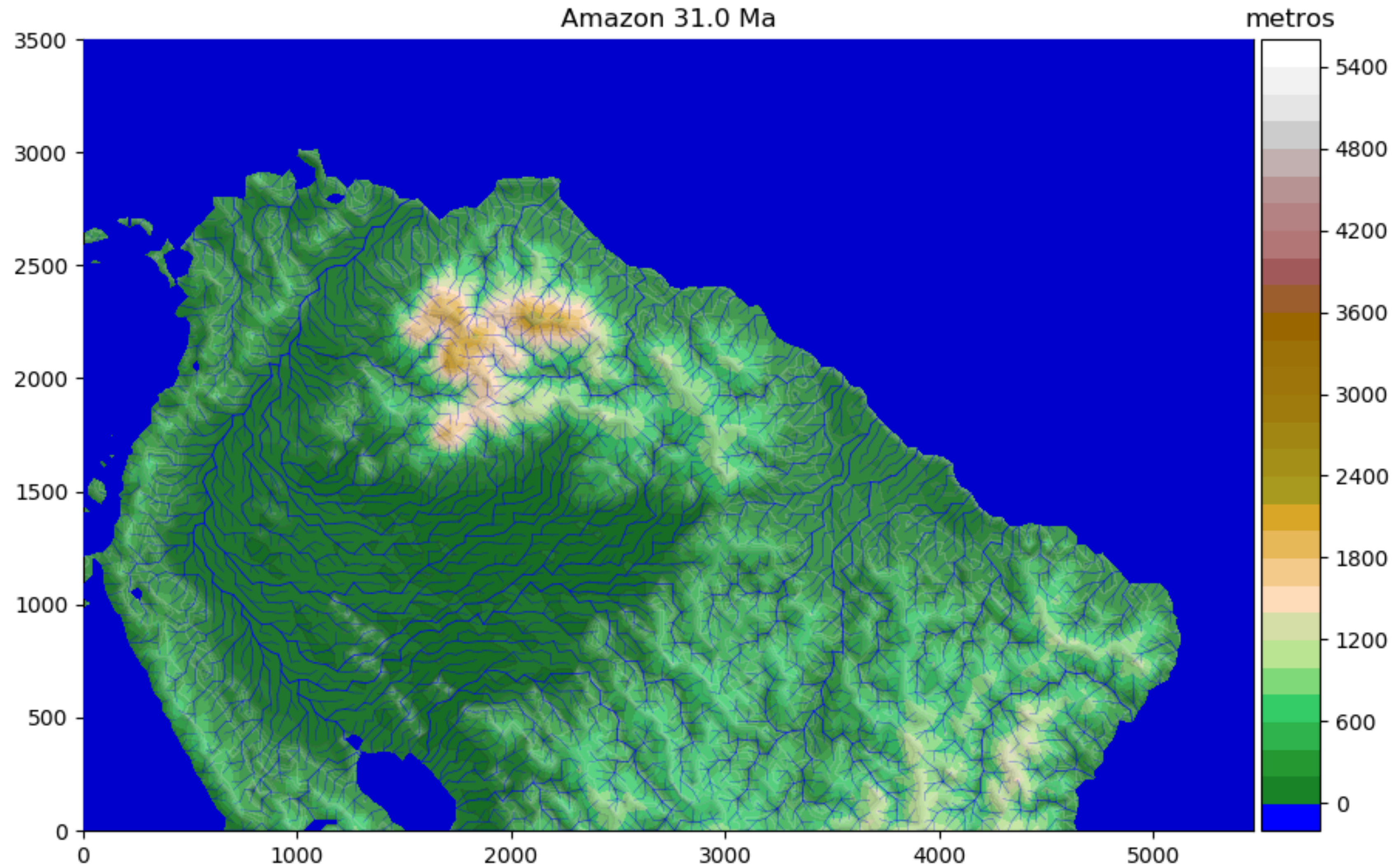


# Without dynamic topography



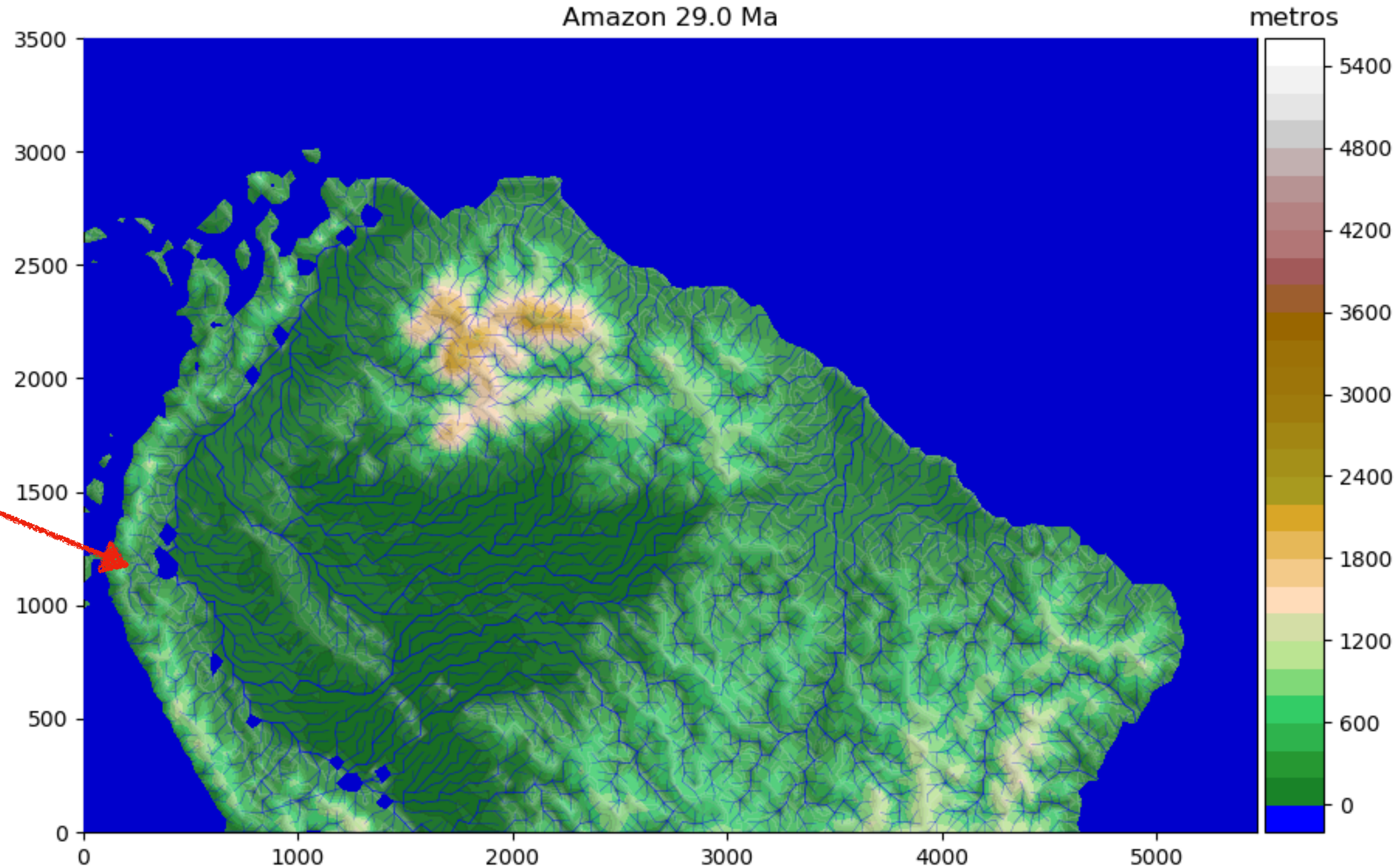


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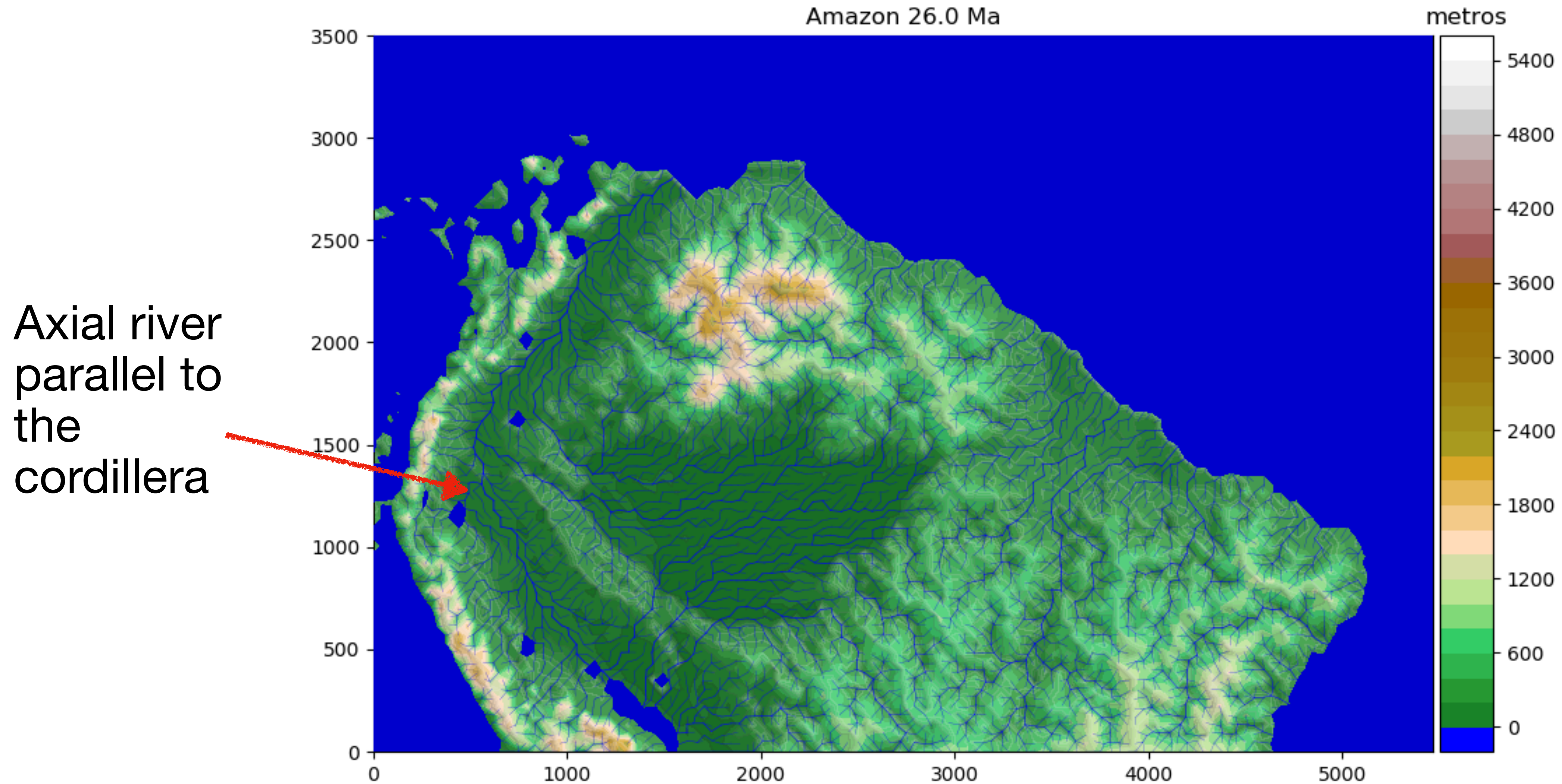


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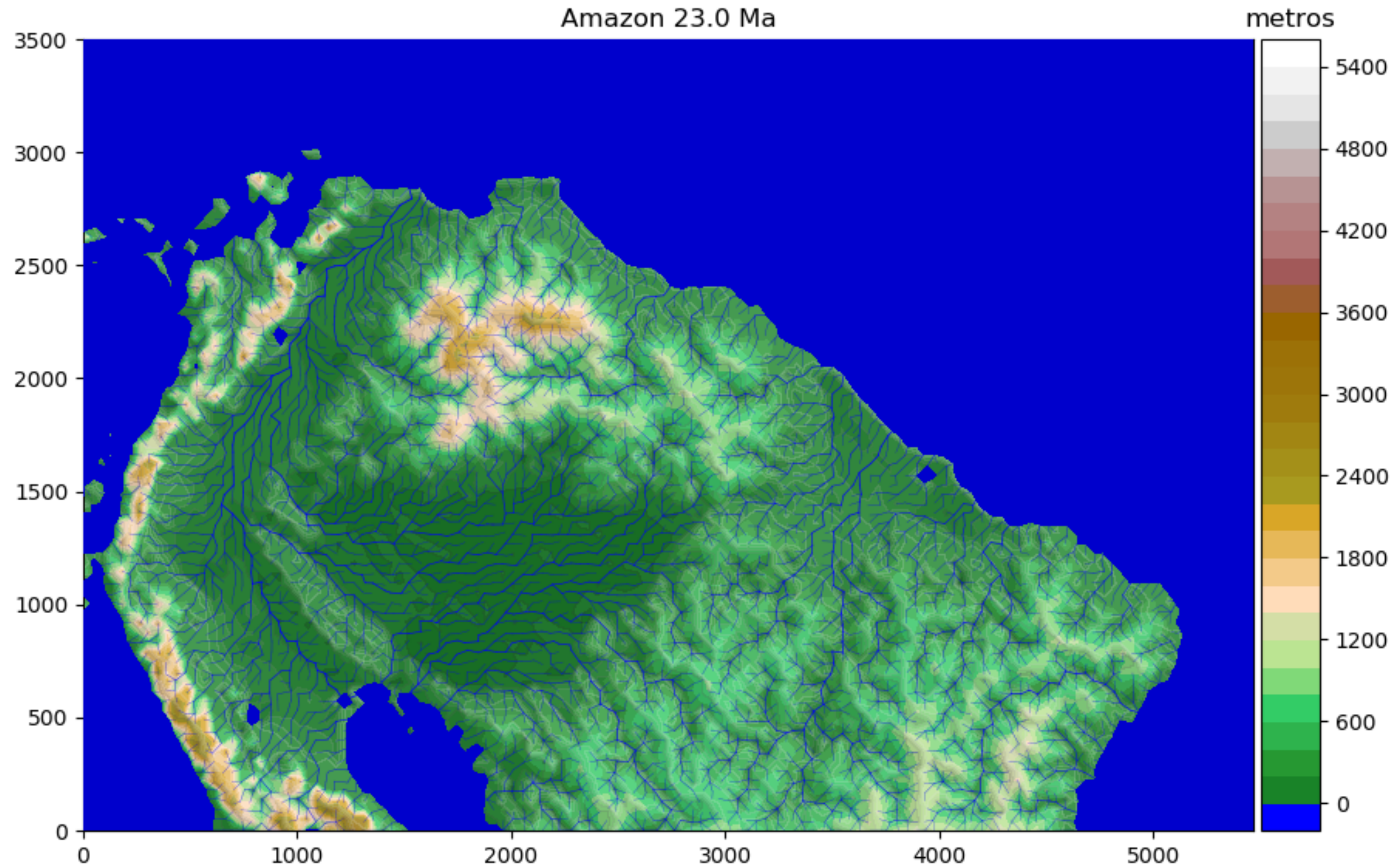


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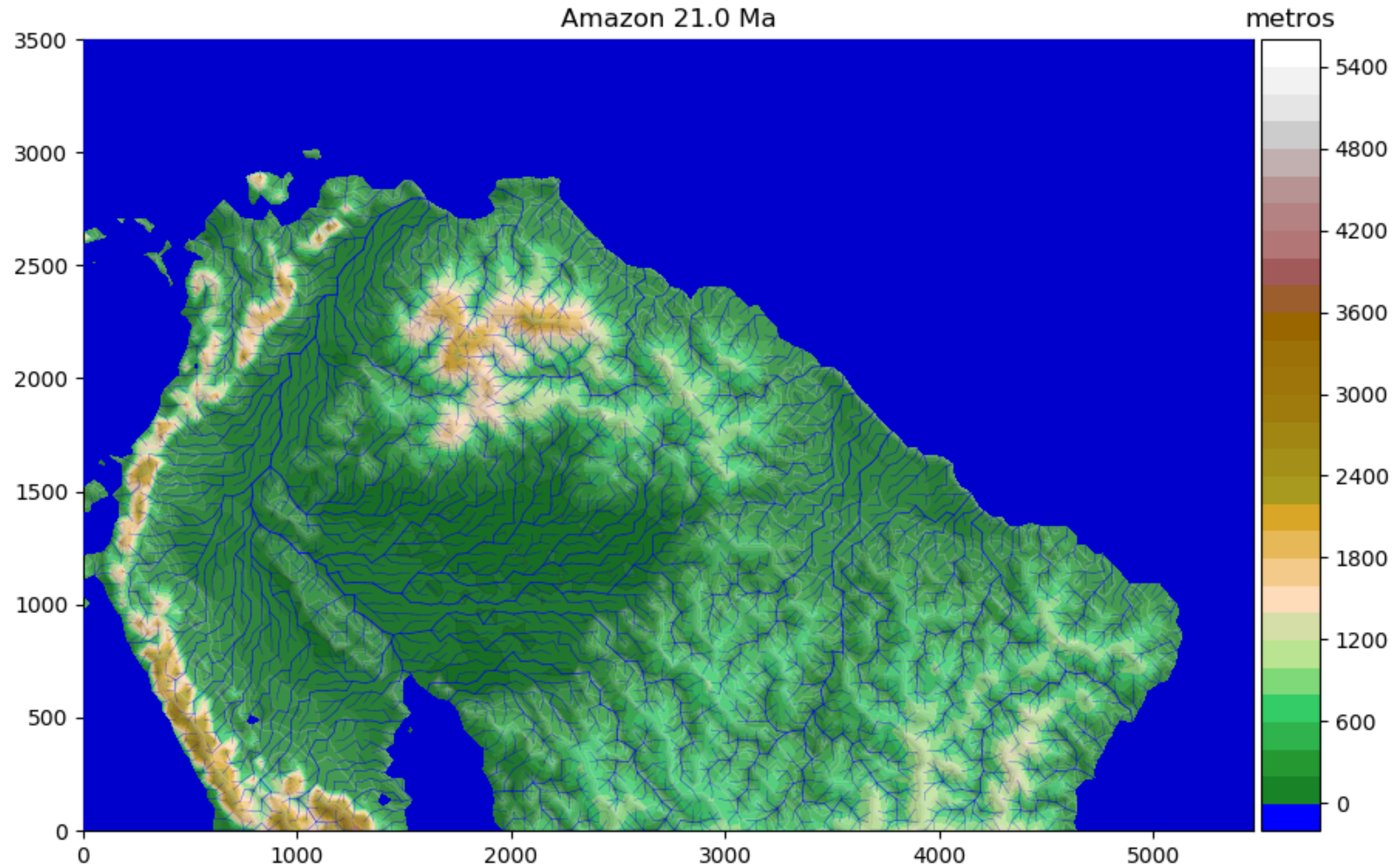


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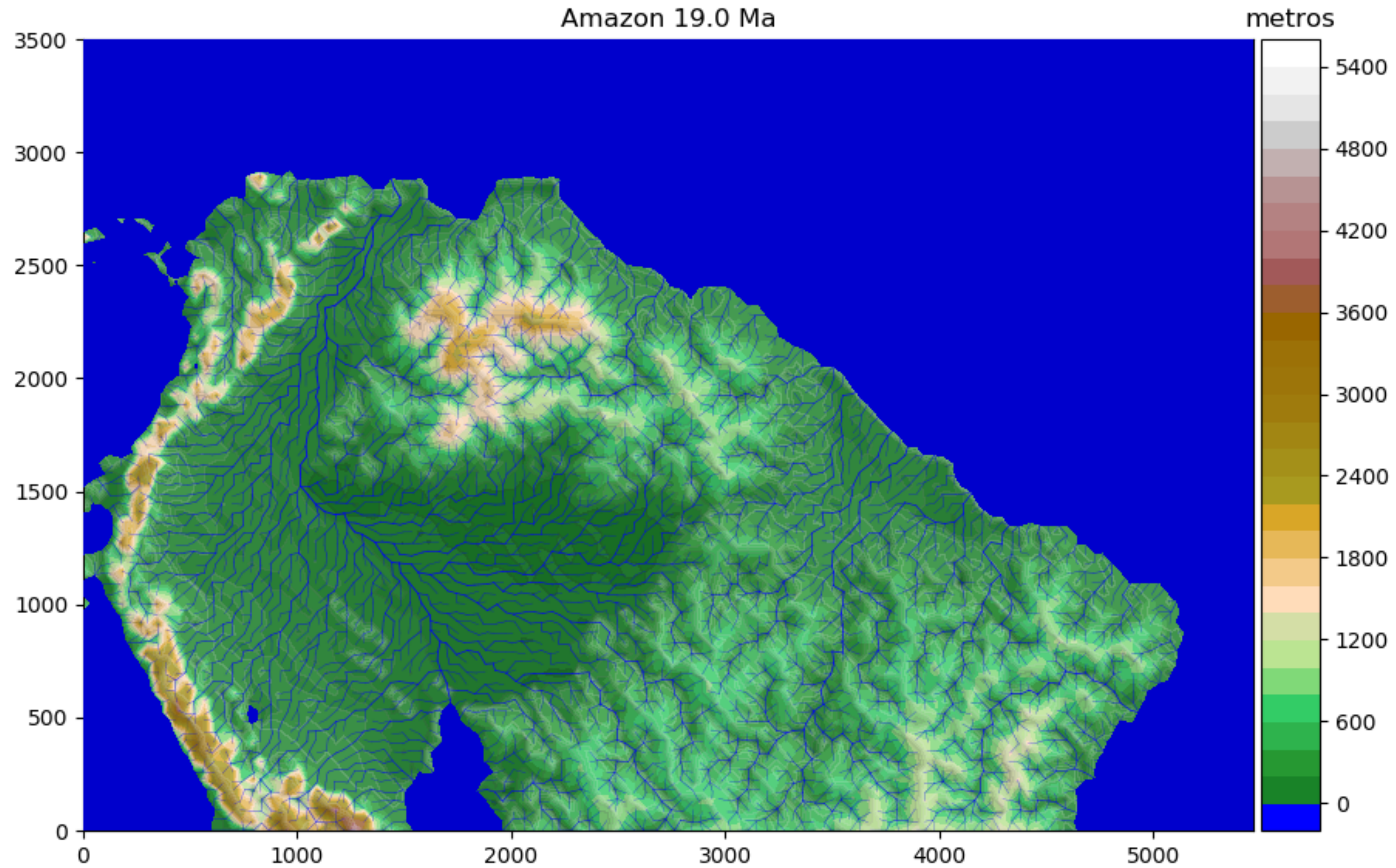


# Without dynamic topography



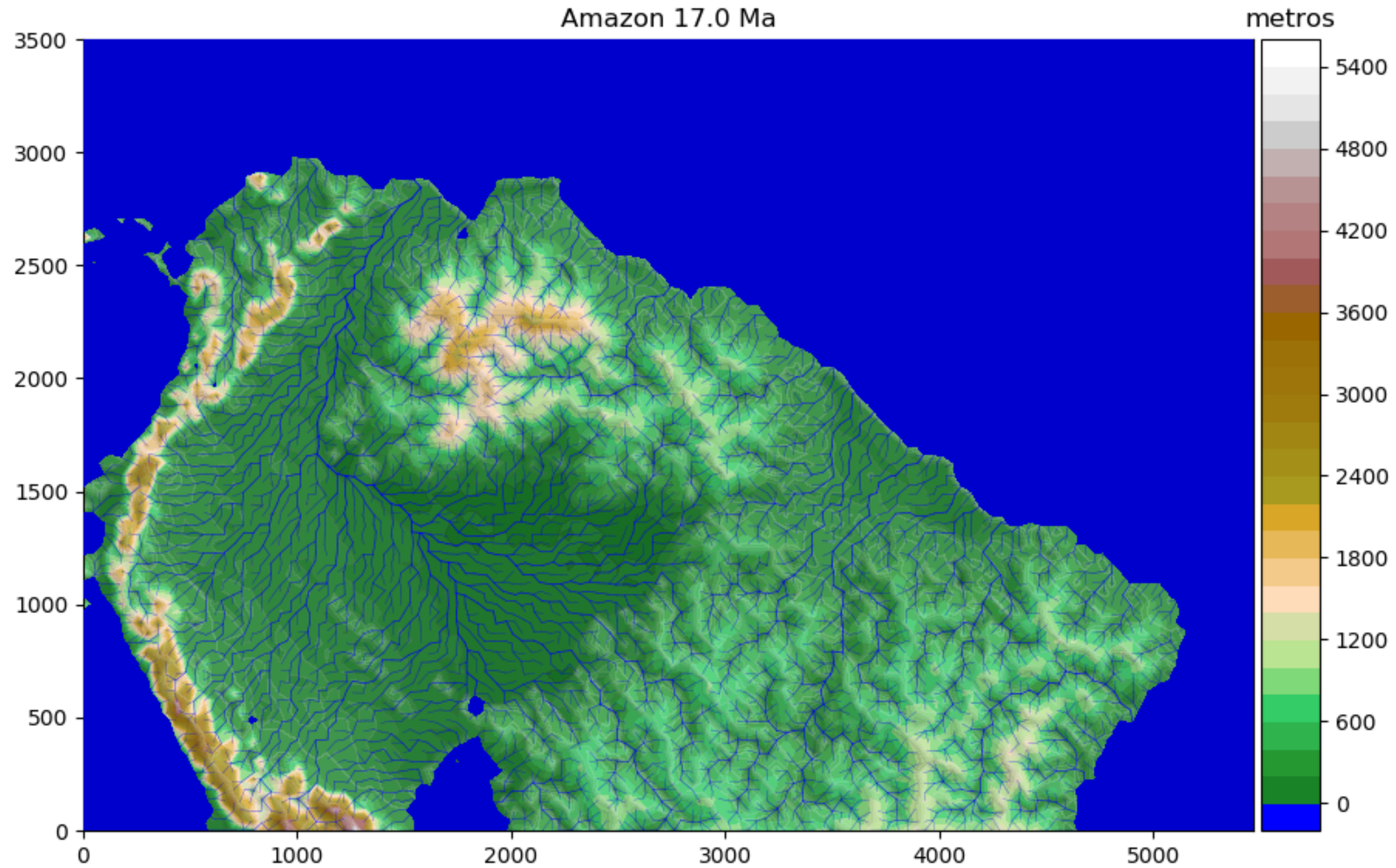


# Without dynamic topography



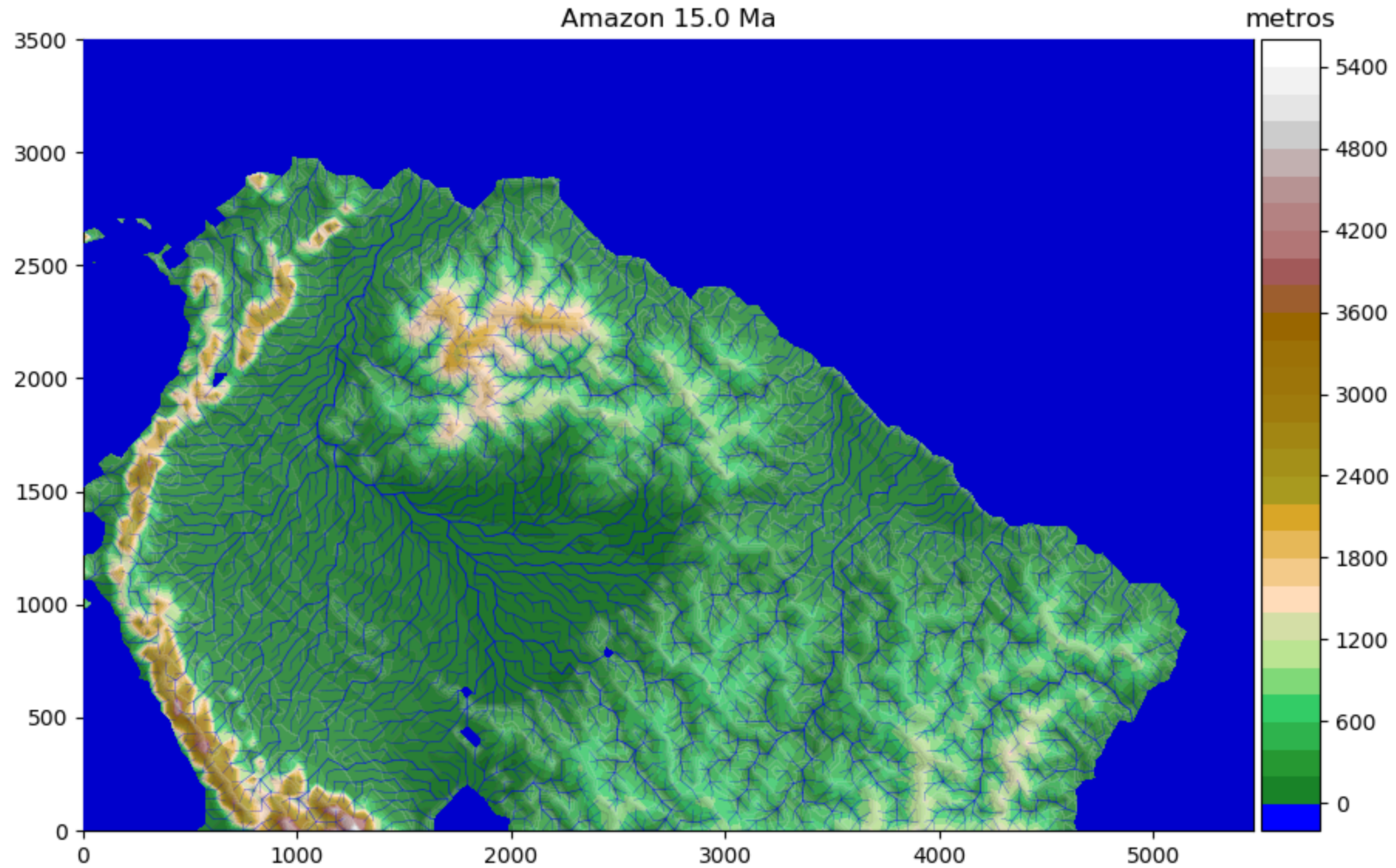


# Without dynamic topography



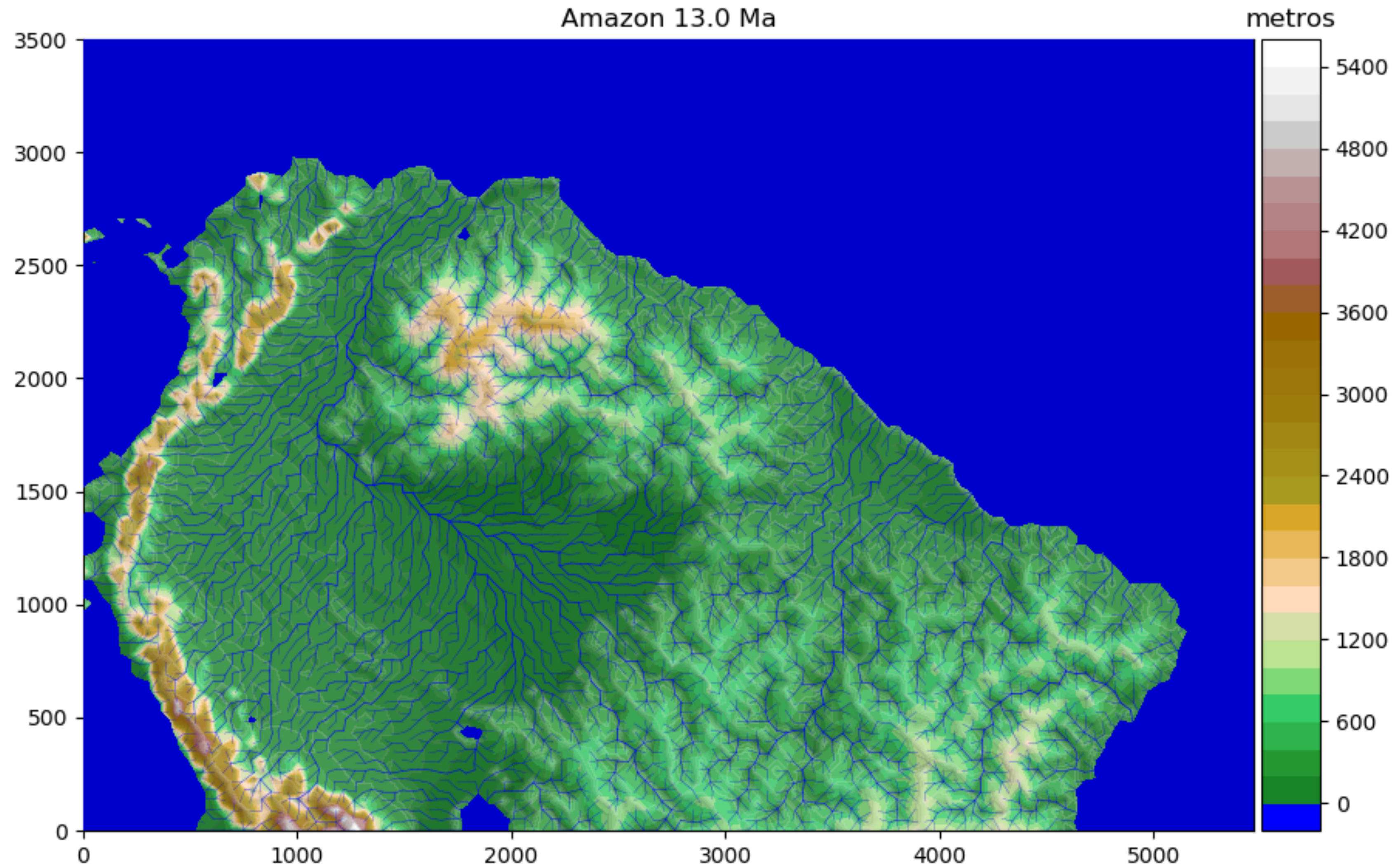


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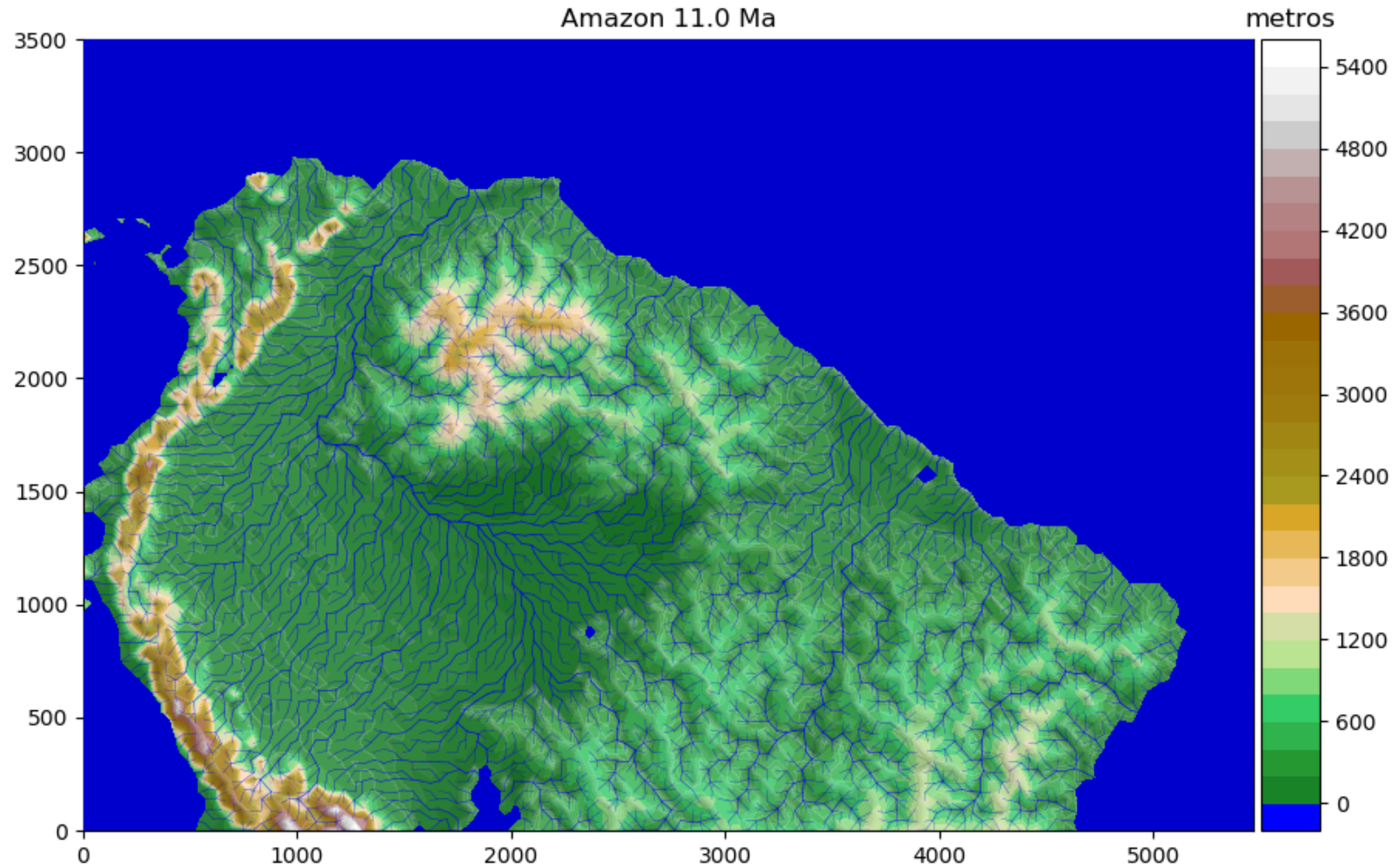


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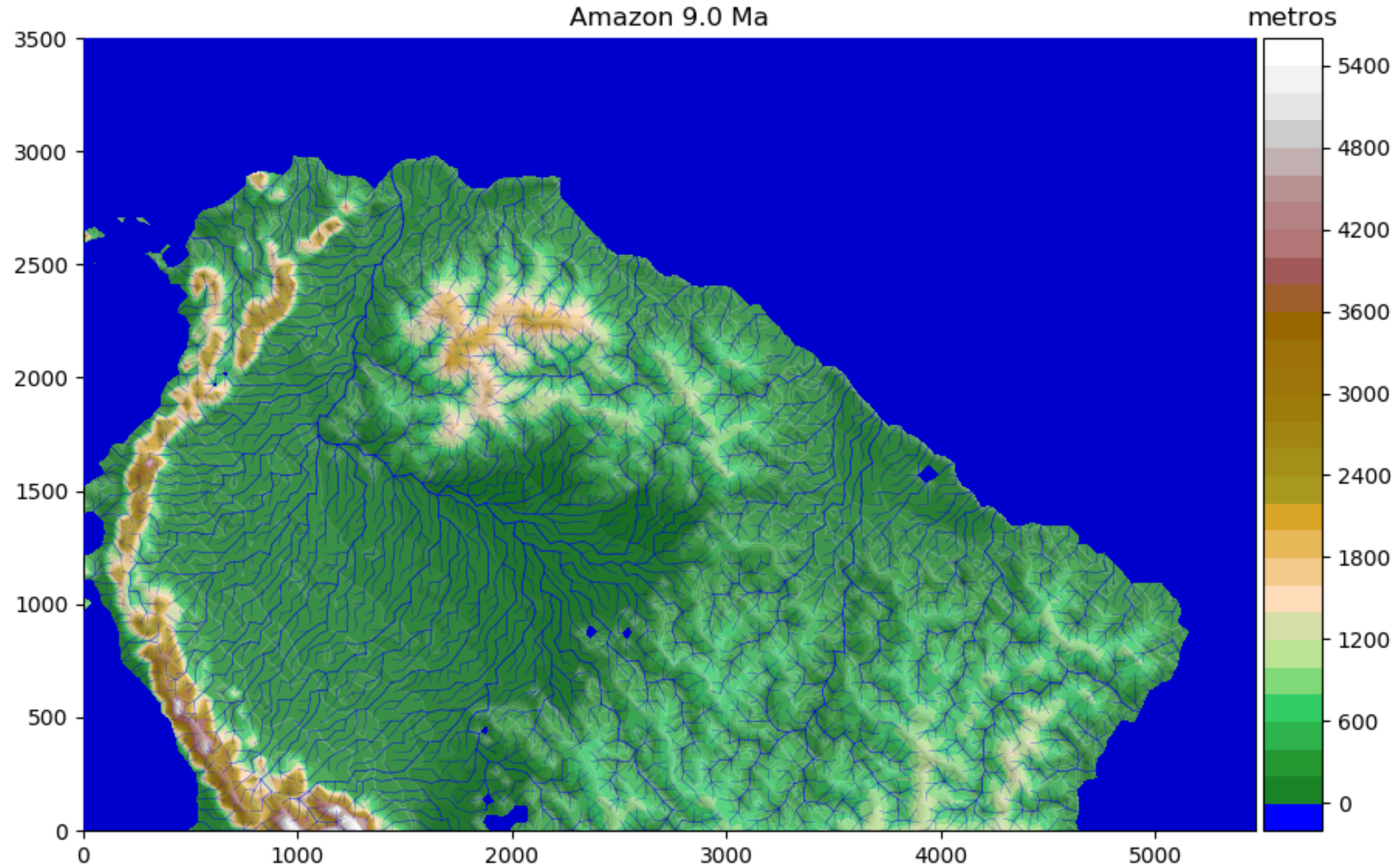


# Without dynamic topography



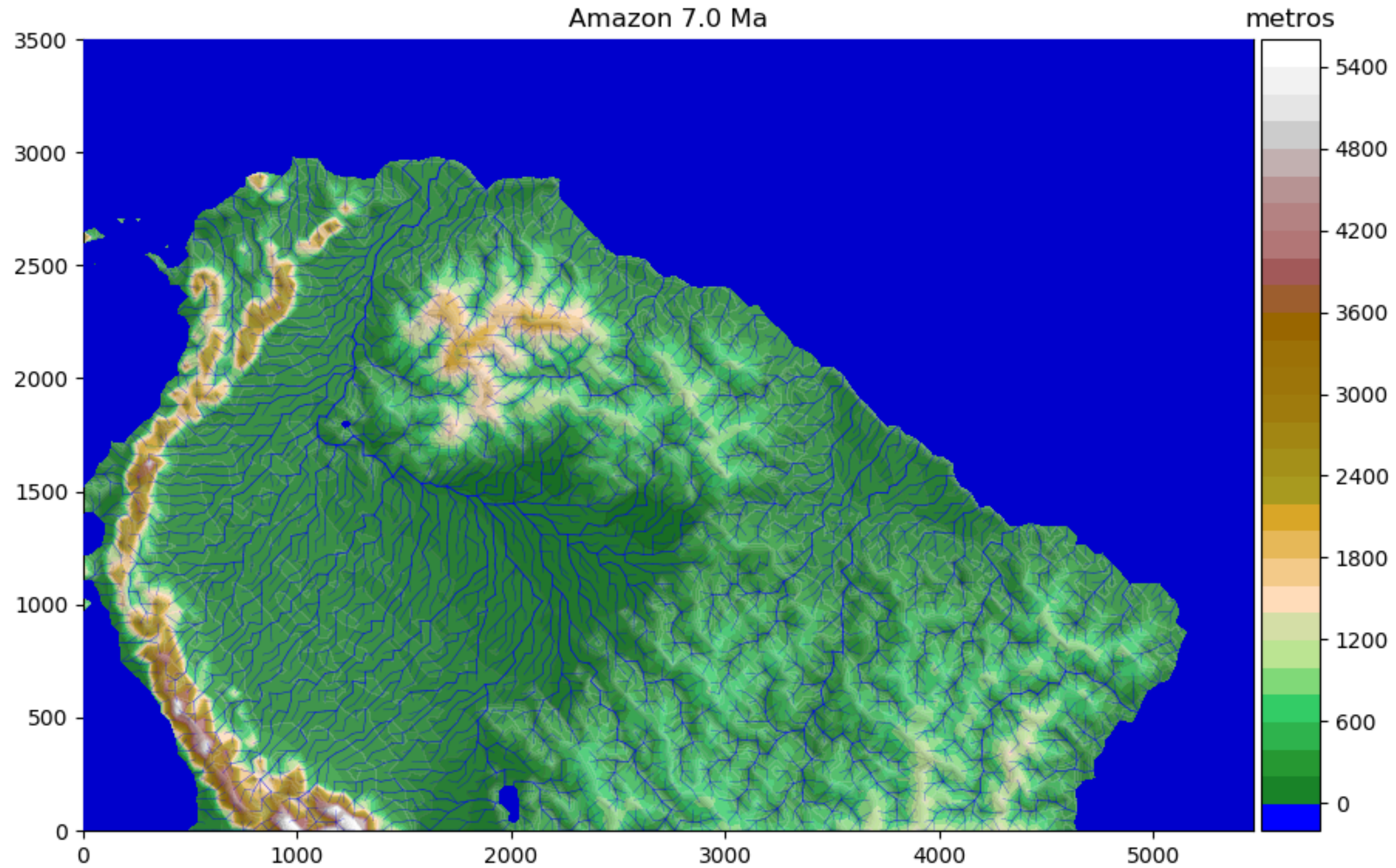


# Without dynamic topography





# Without dynamic topography





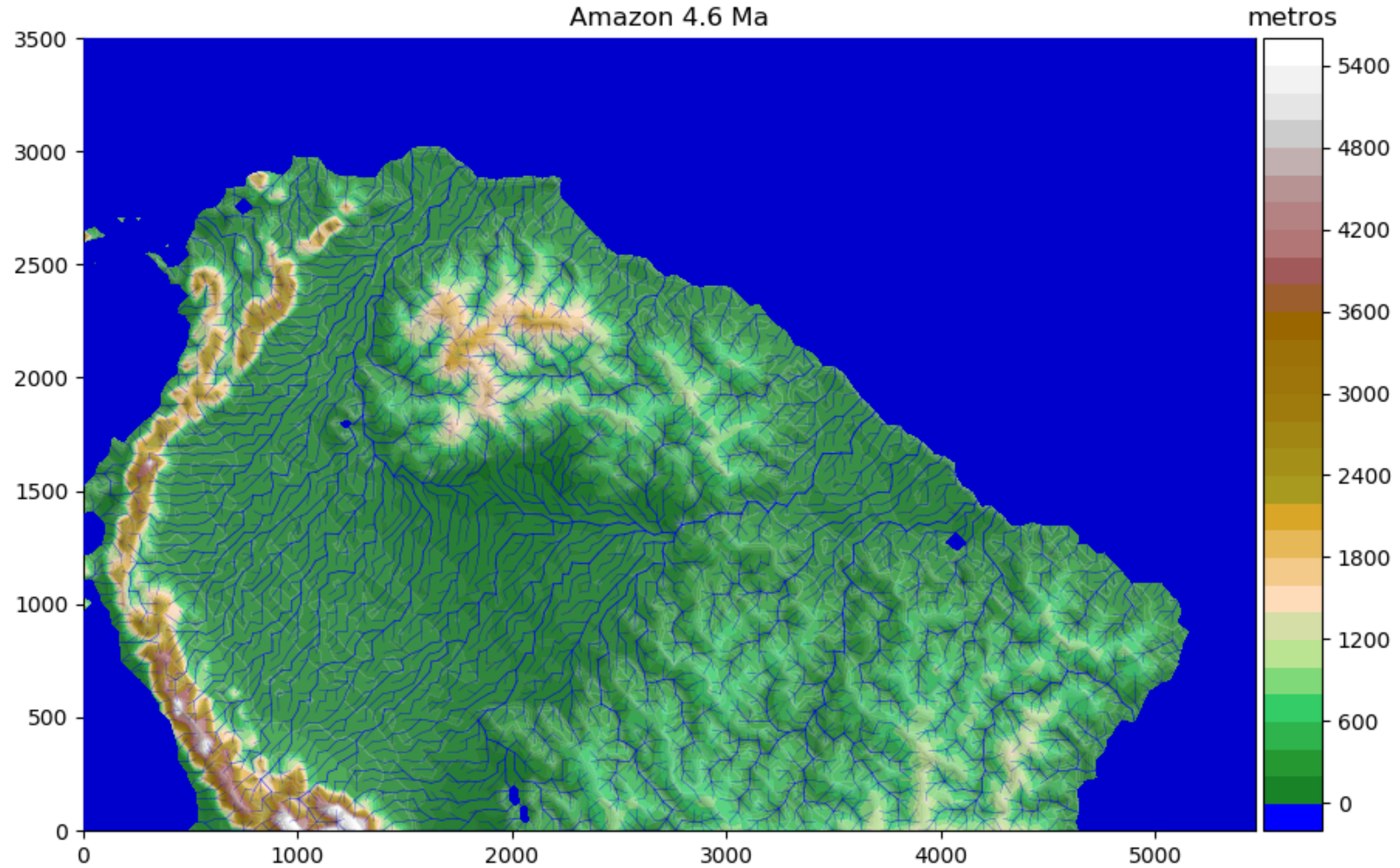
# Without dynamic topography



Initial connection of eastern  
and western Amazonia

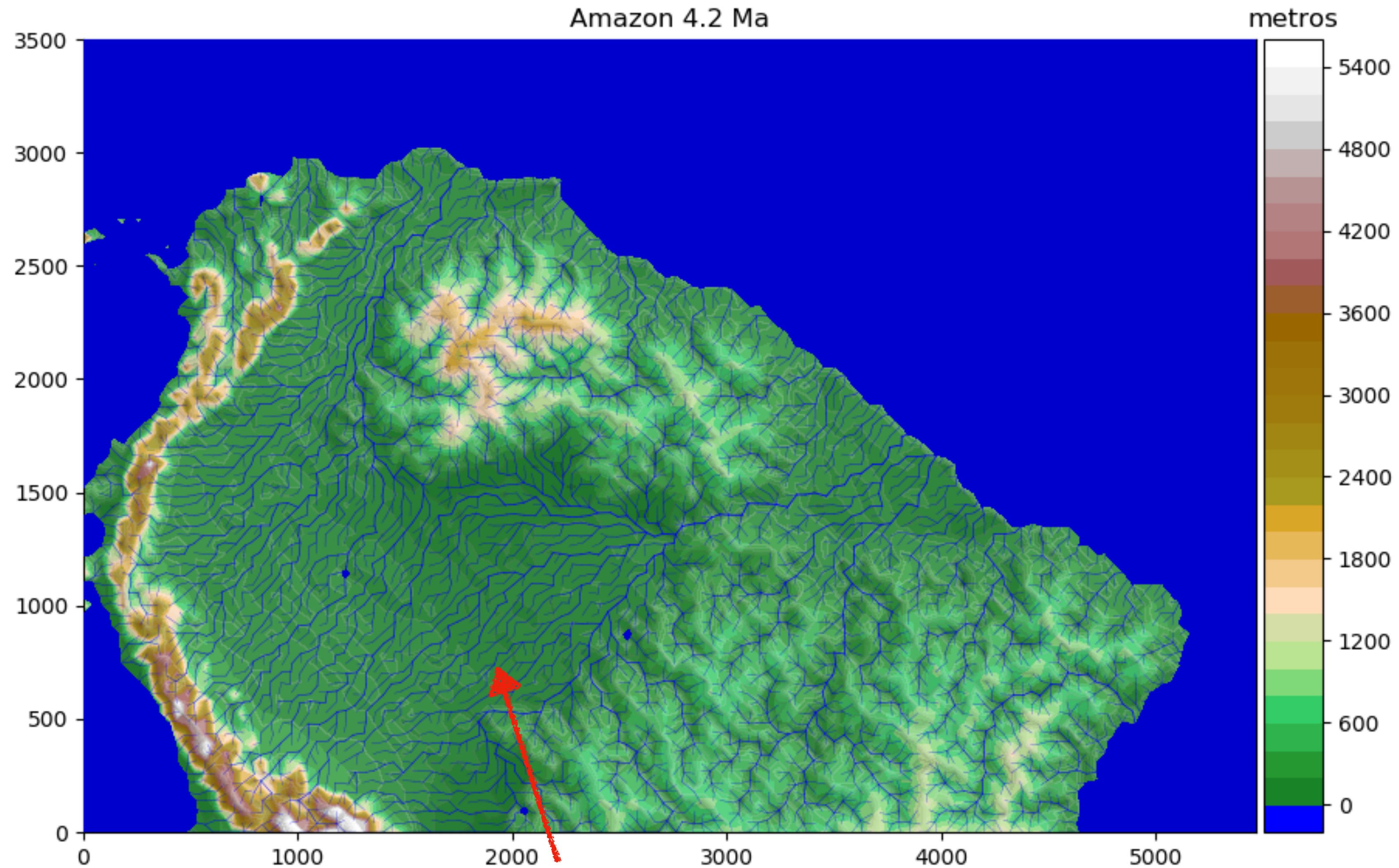


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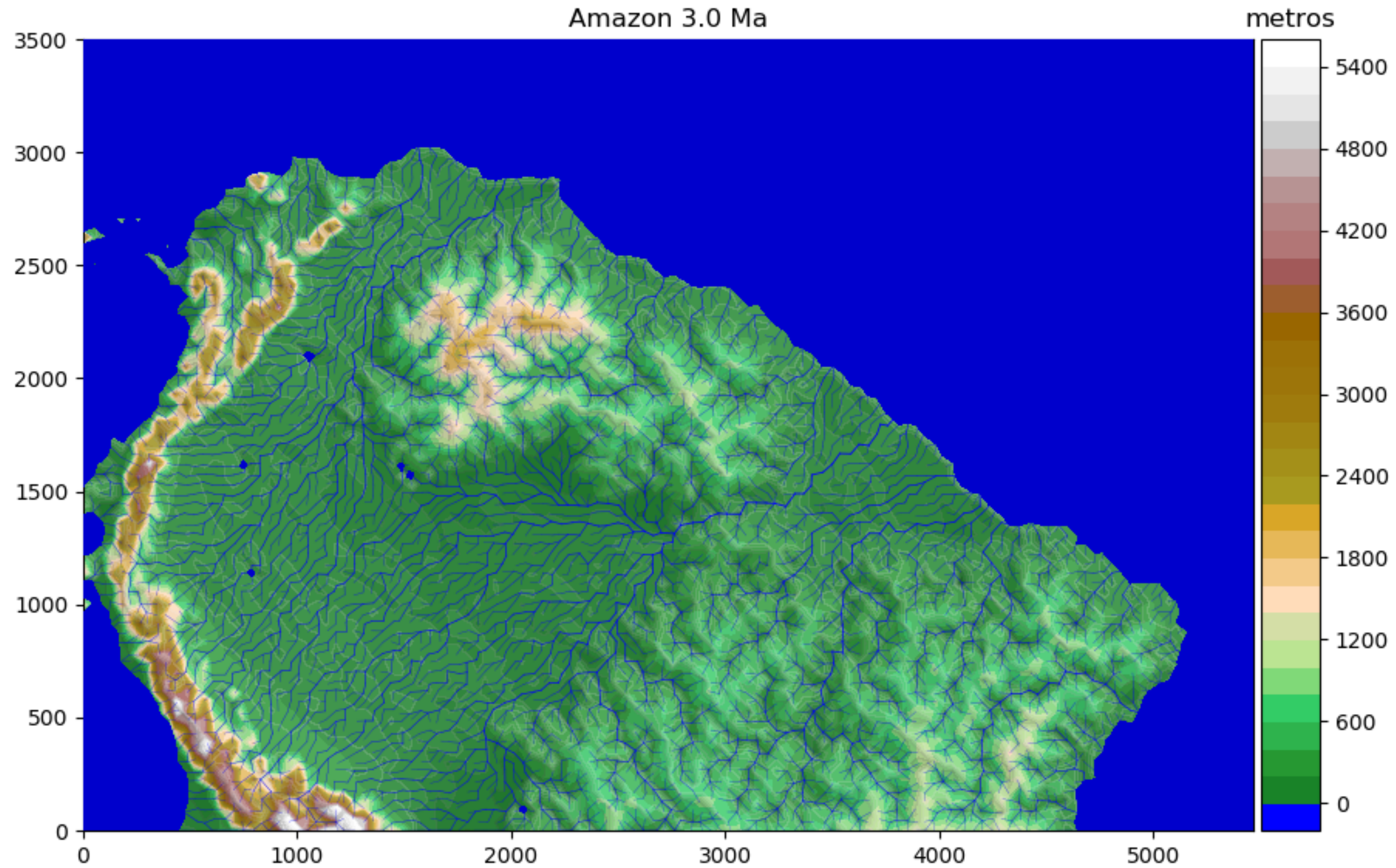


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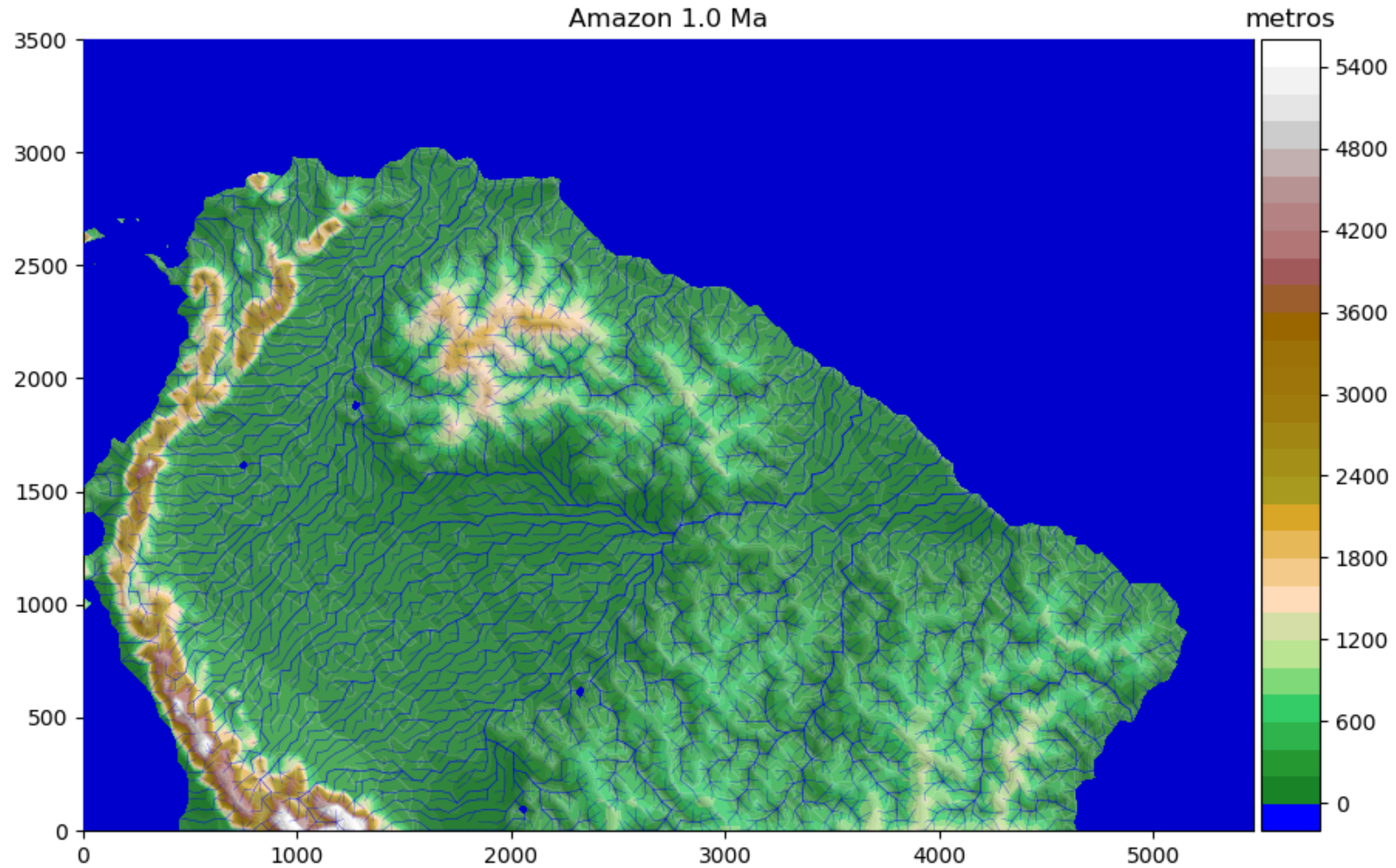


# Without dynamic topography





# Without dynamic topography





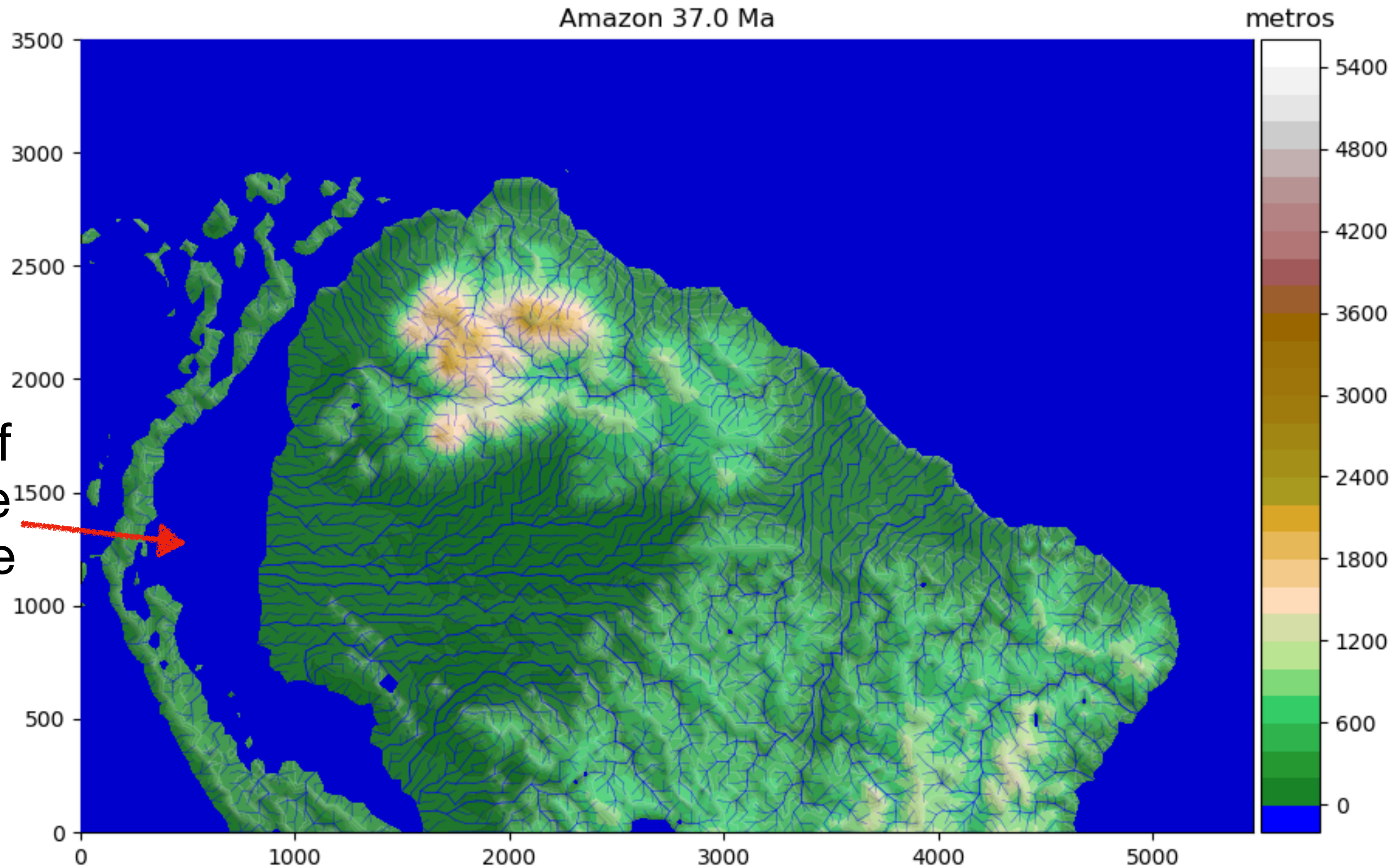
# Scenario with dynamic topography

dynamic topography maps through time  
calculated by Flament et al. (2015)



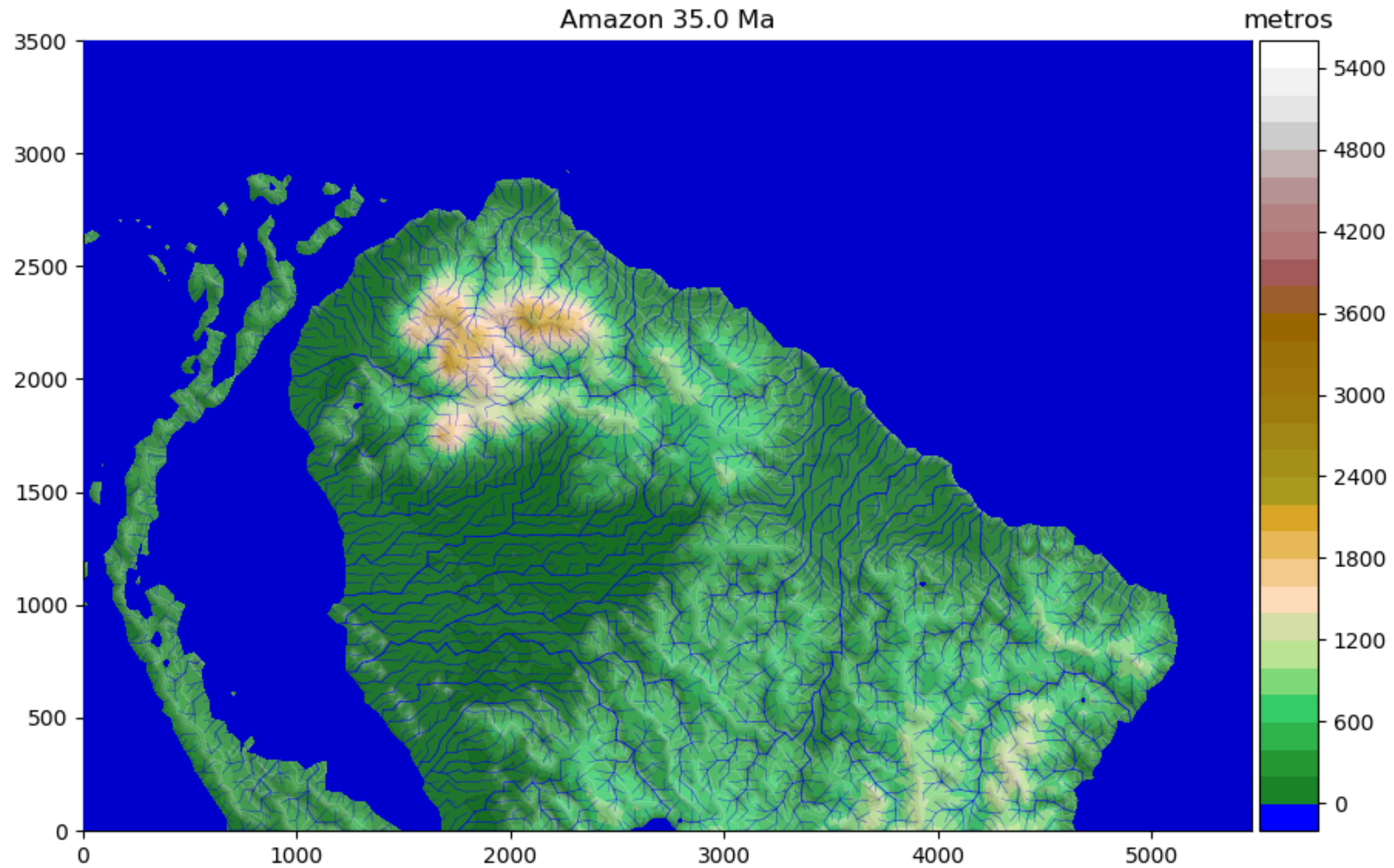
# With dynamic topography

Broader  
aquatic  
environment  
due to the  
amplification of  
the subsidence  
due to negative  
dynamic  
topography





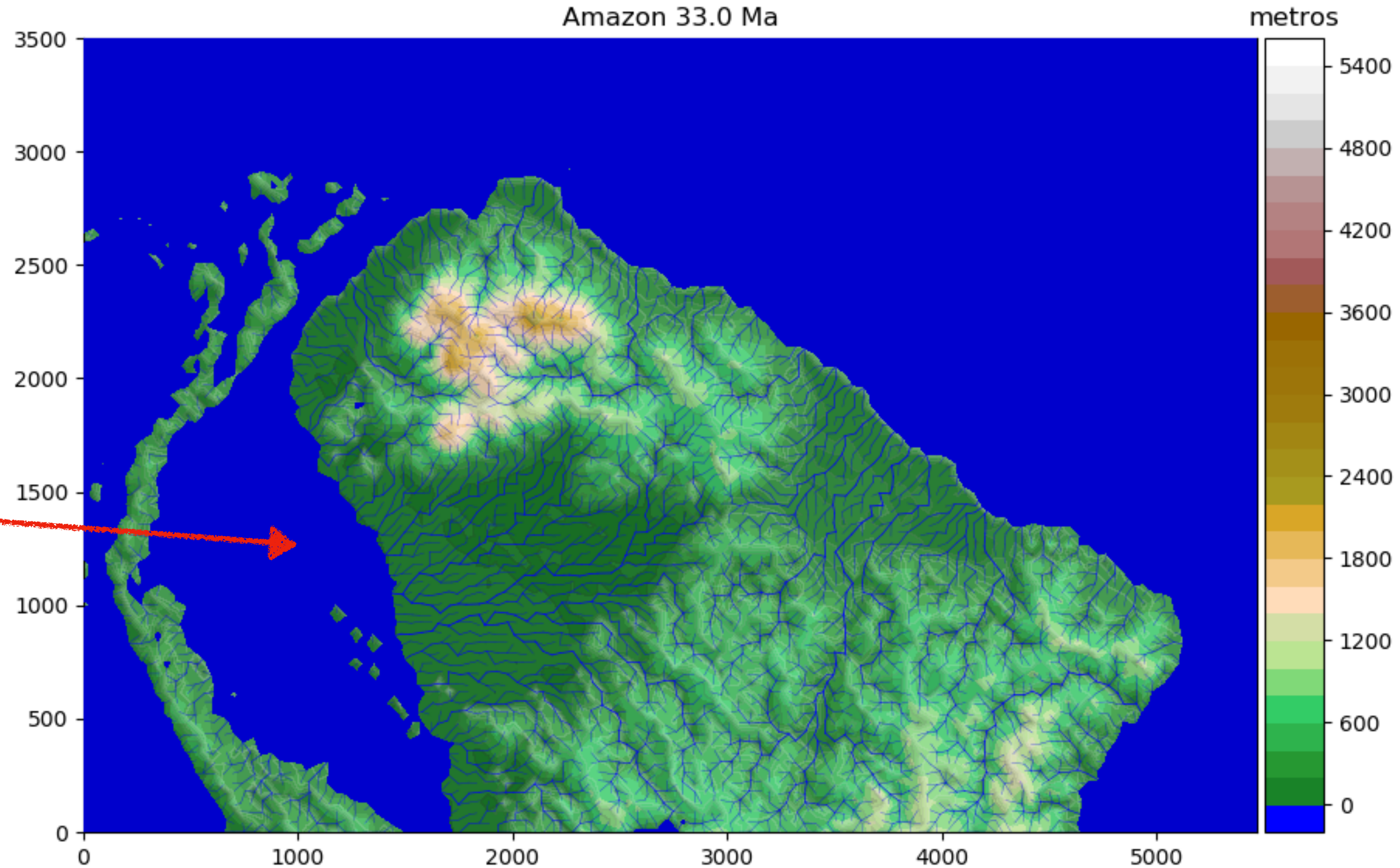
# With dynamic topography





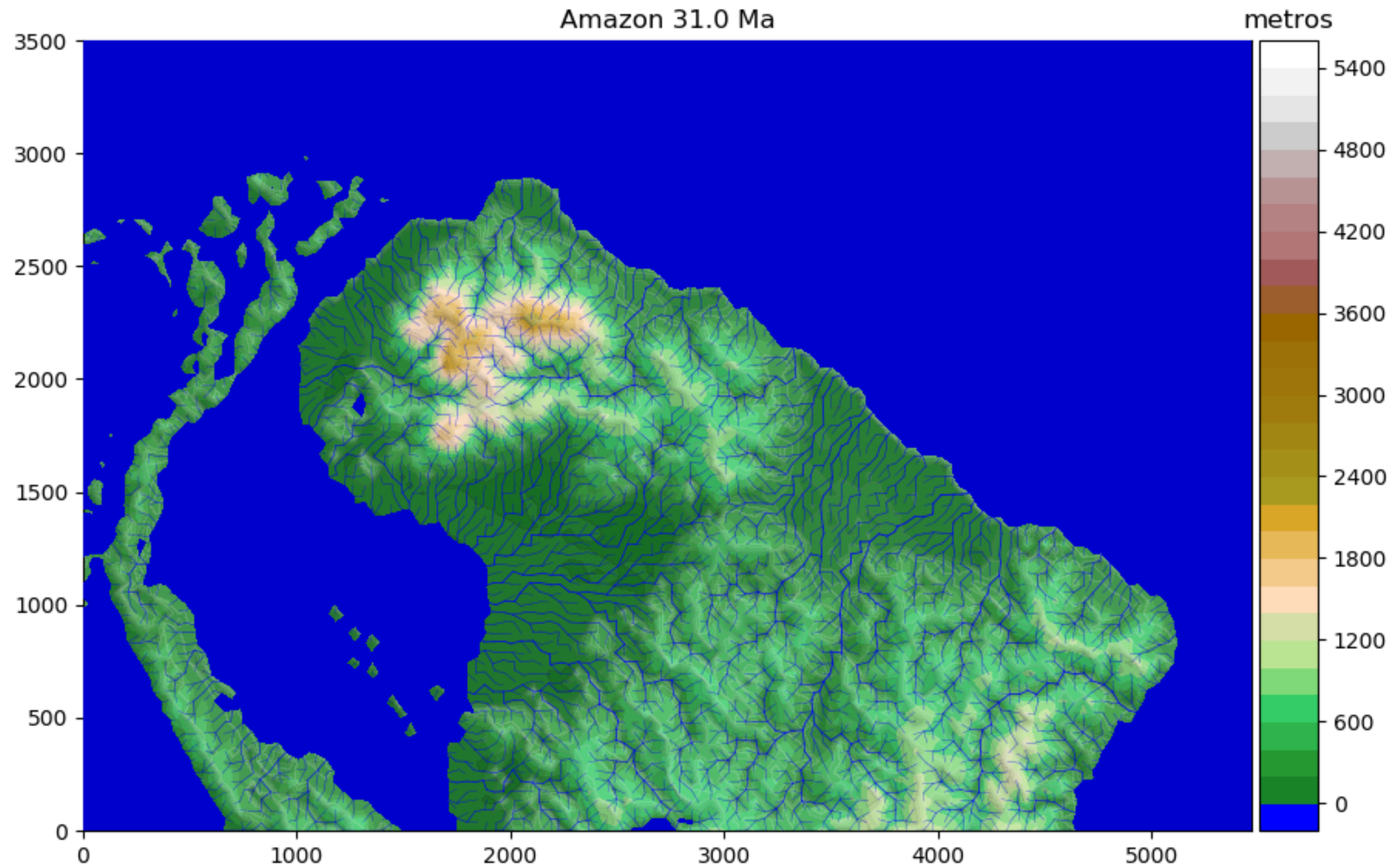
# With dynamic topography

Eastward  
expansion of  
the aquatic  
environment  
(Pebas  
System?)



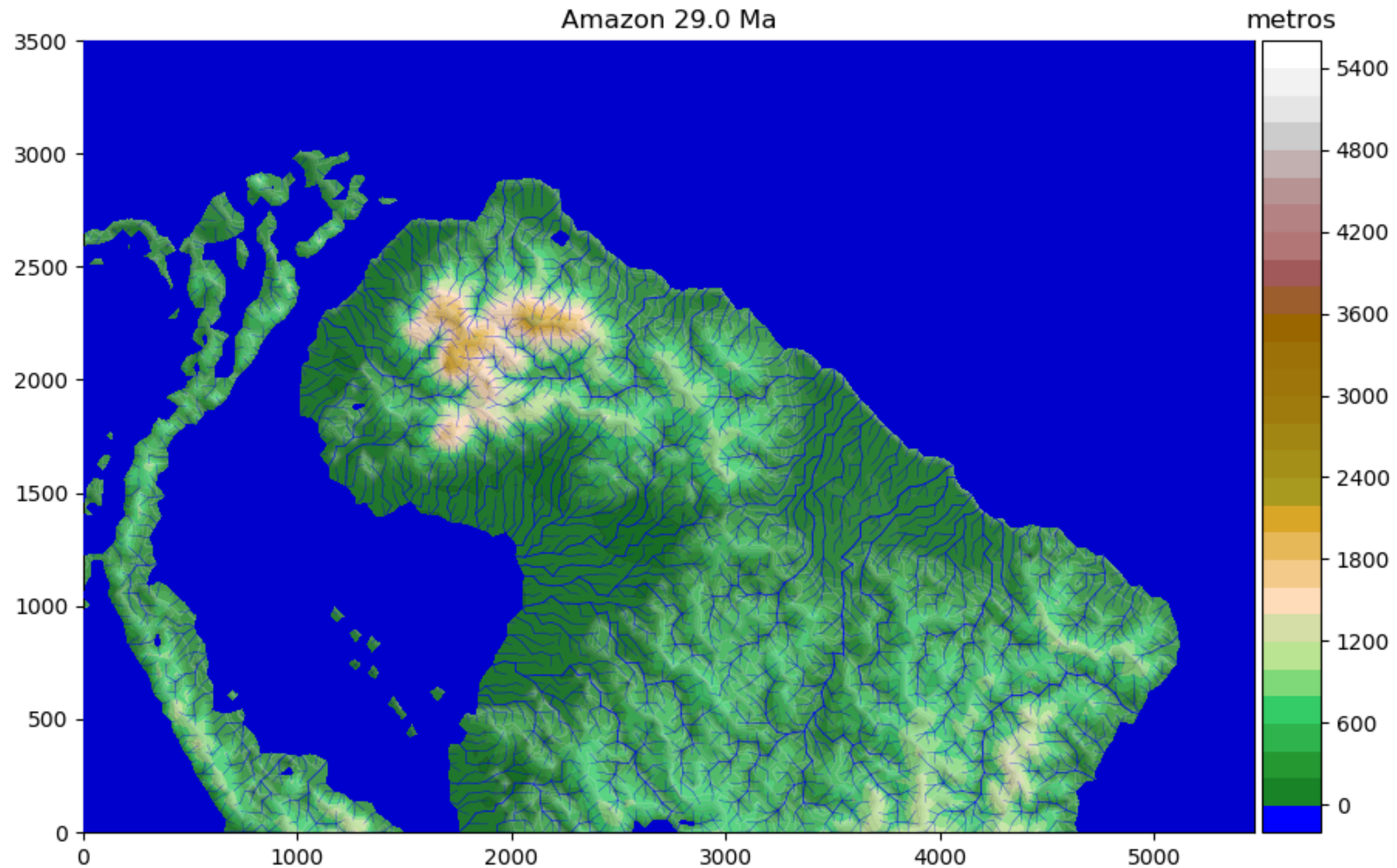


# With dynamic topography



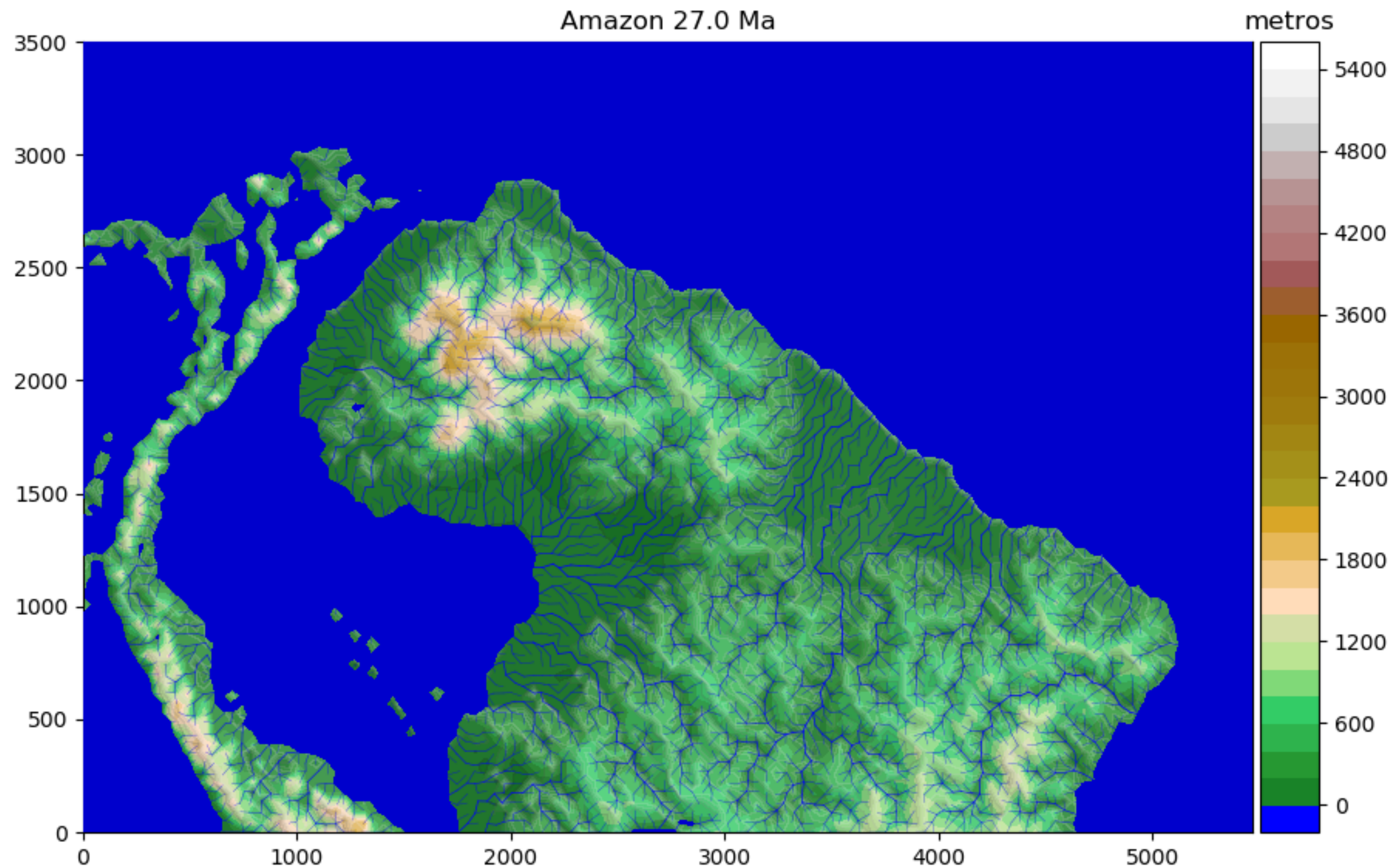


# With dynamic topography



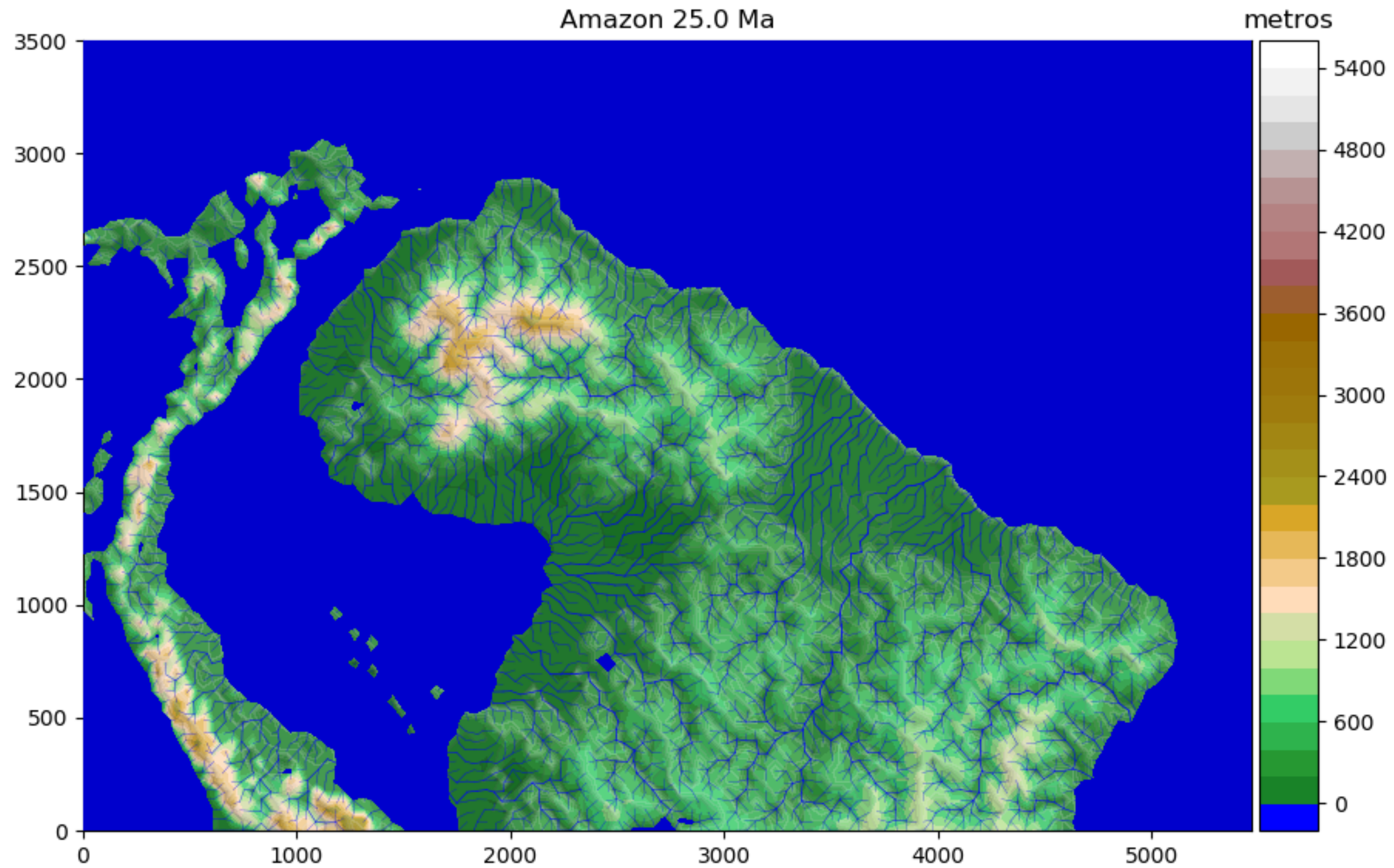


# With dynamic topography





# With dynamic topography



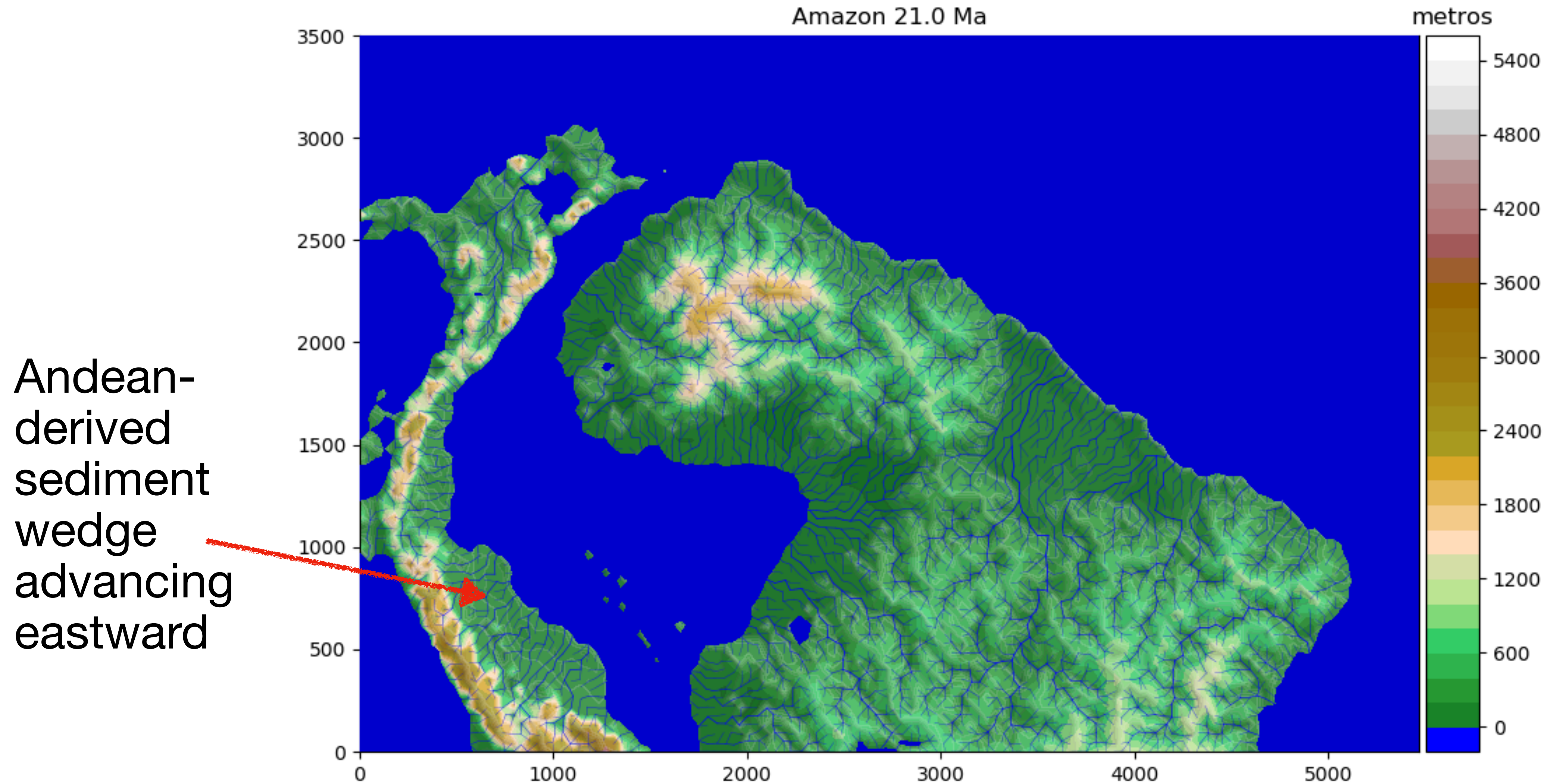


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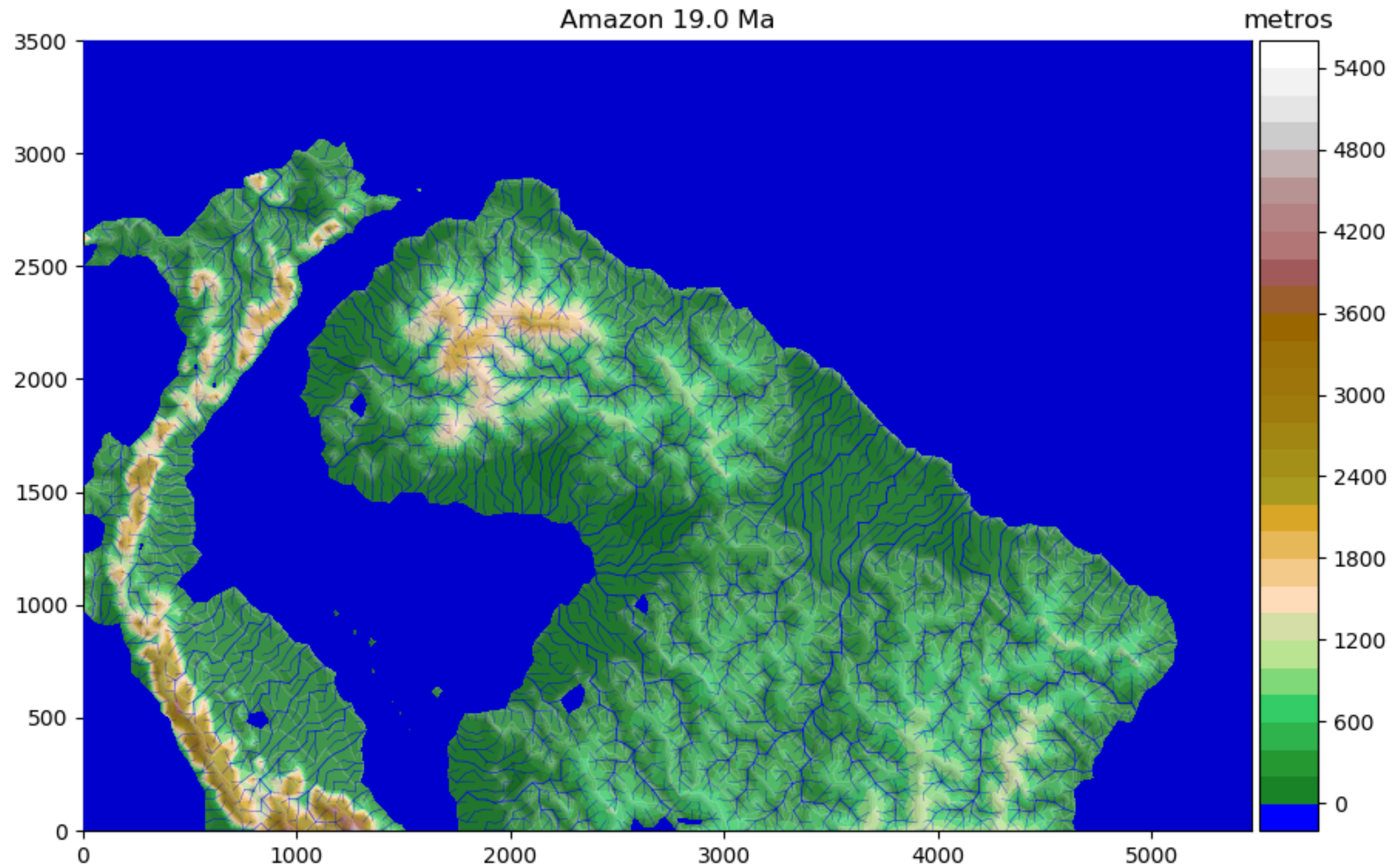


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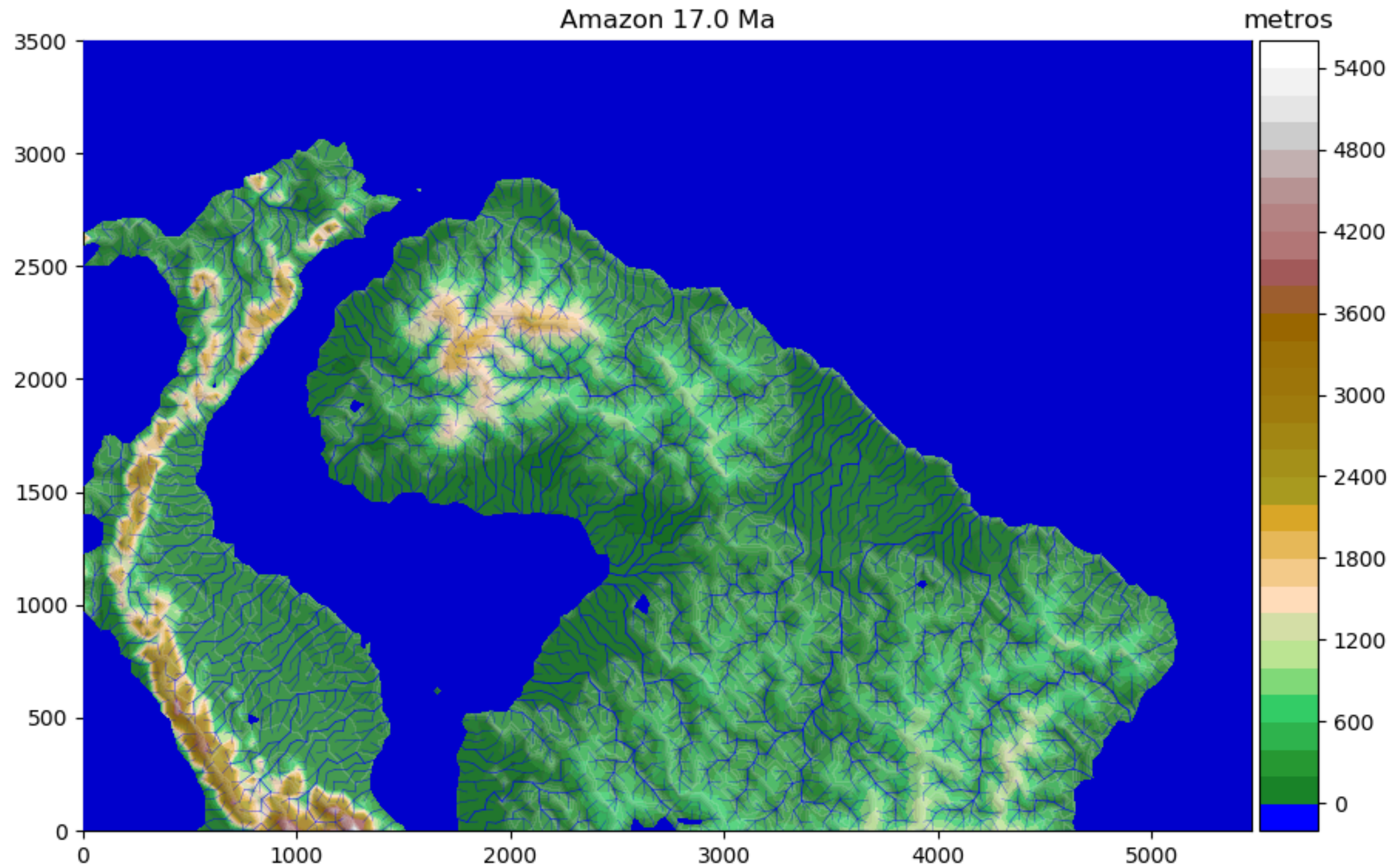


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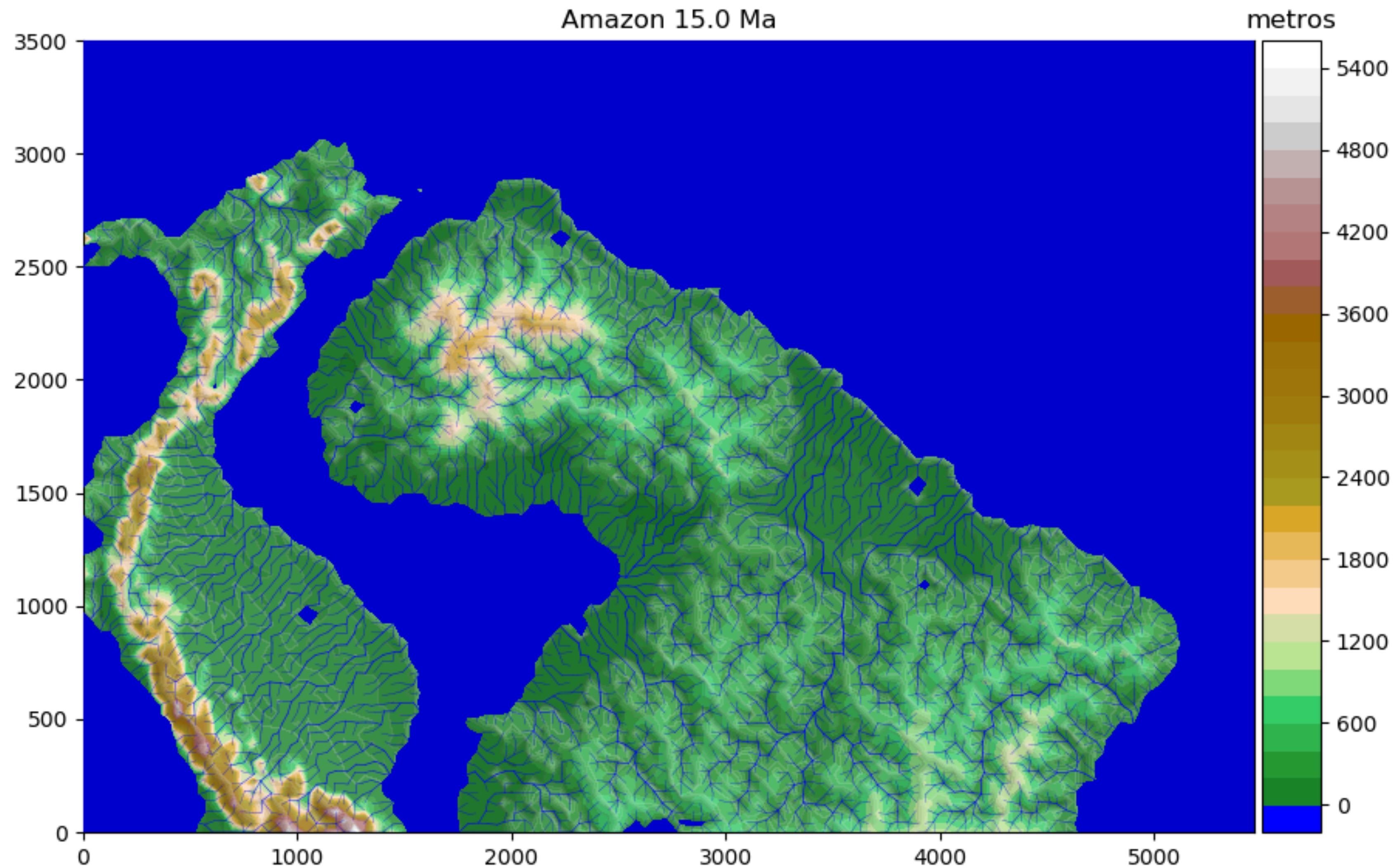


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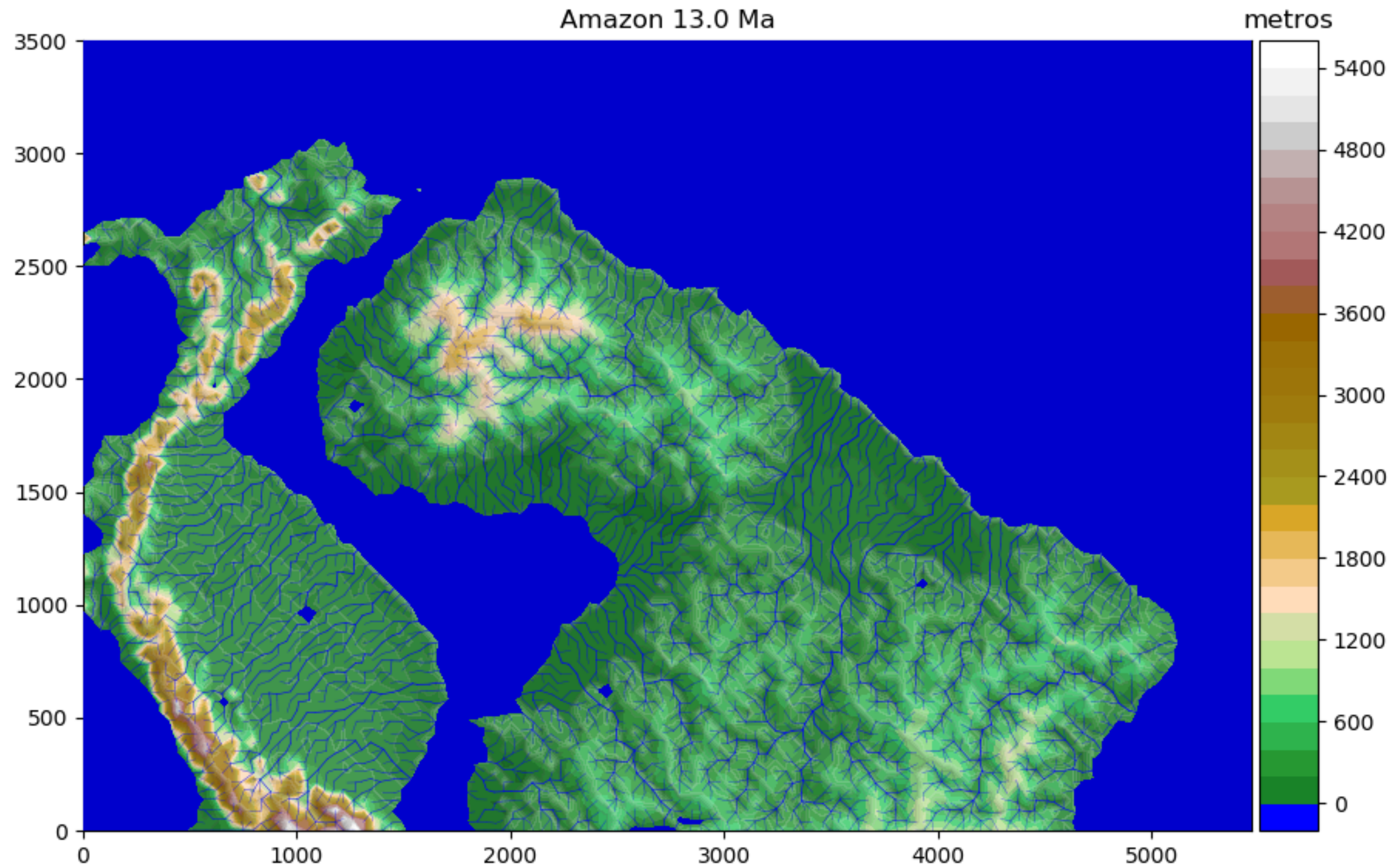


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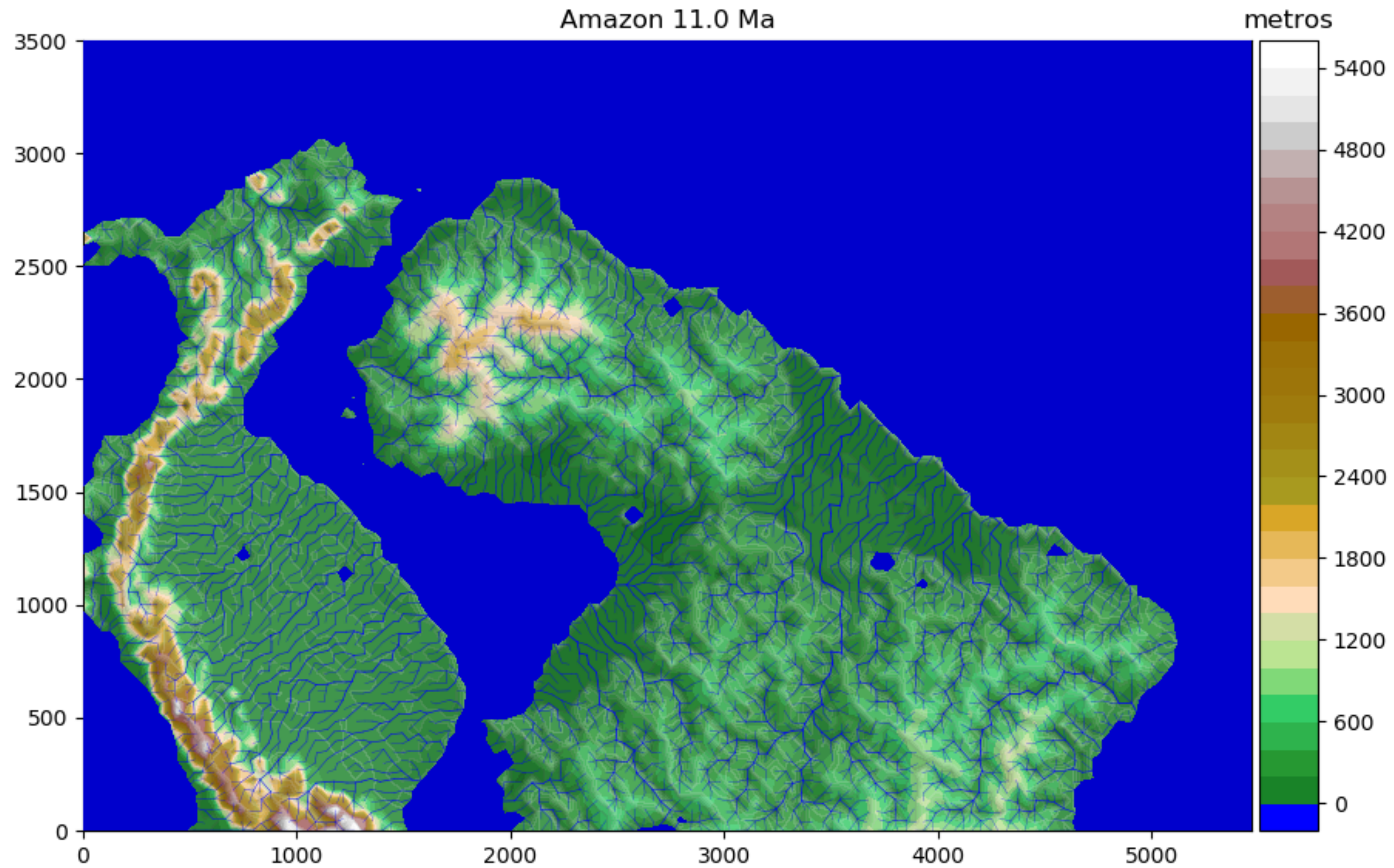


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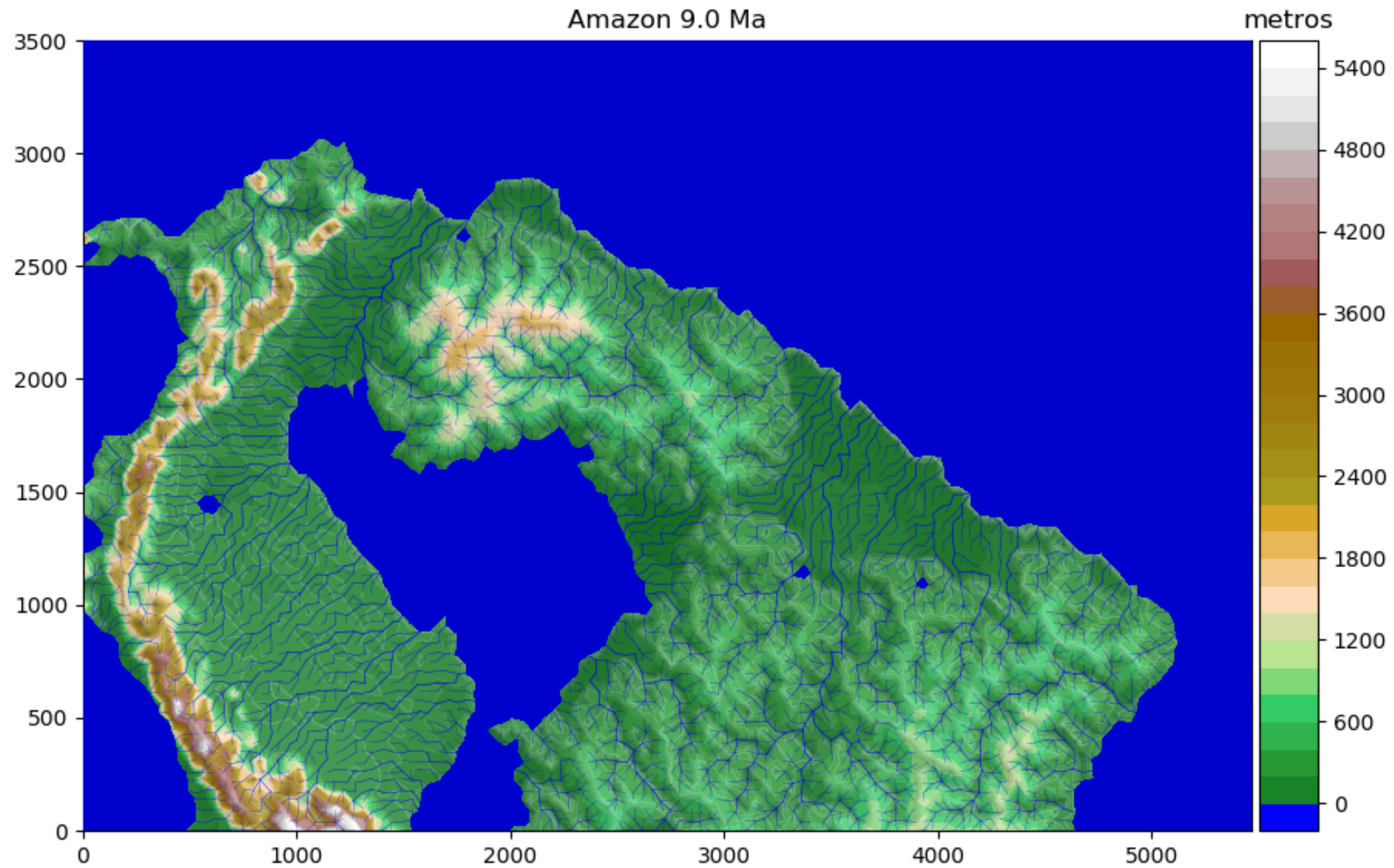


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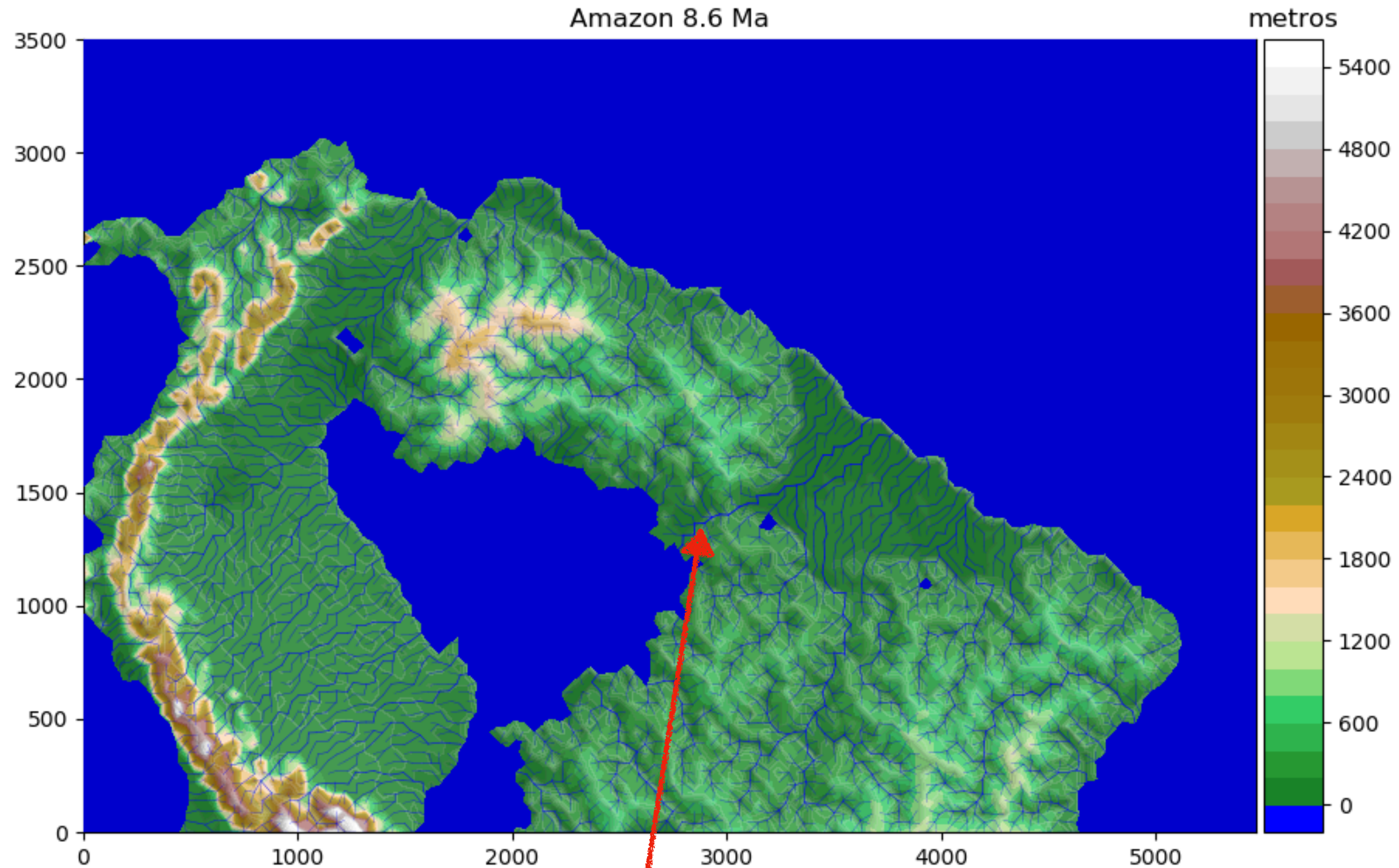


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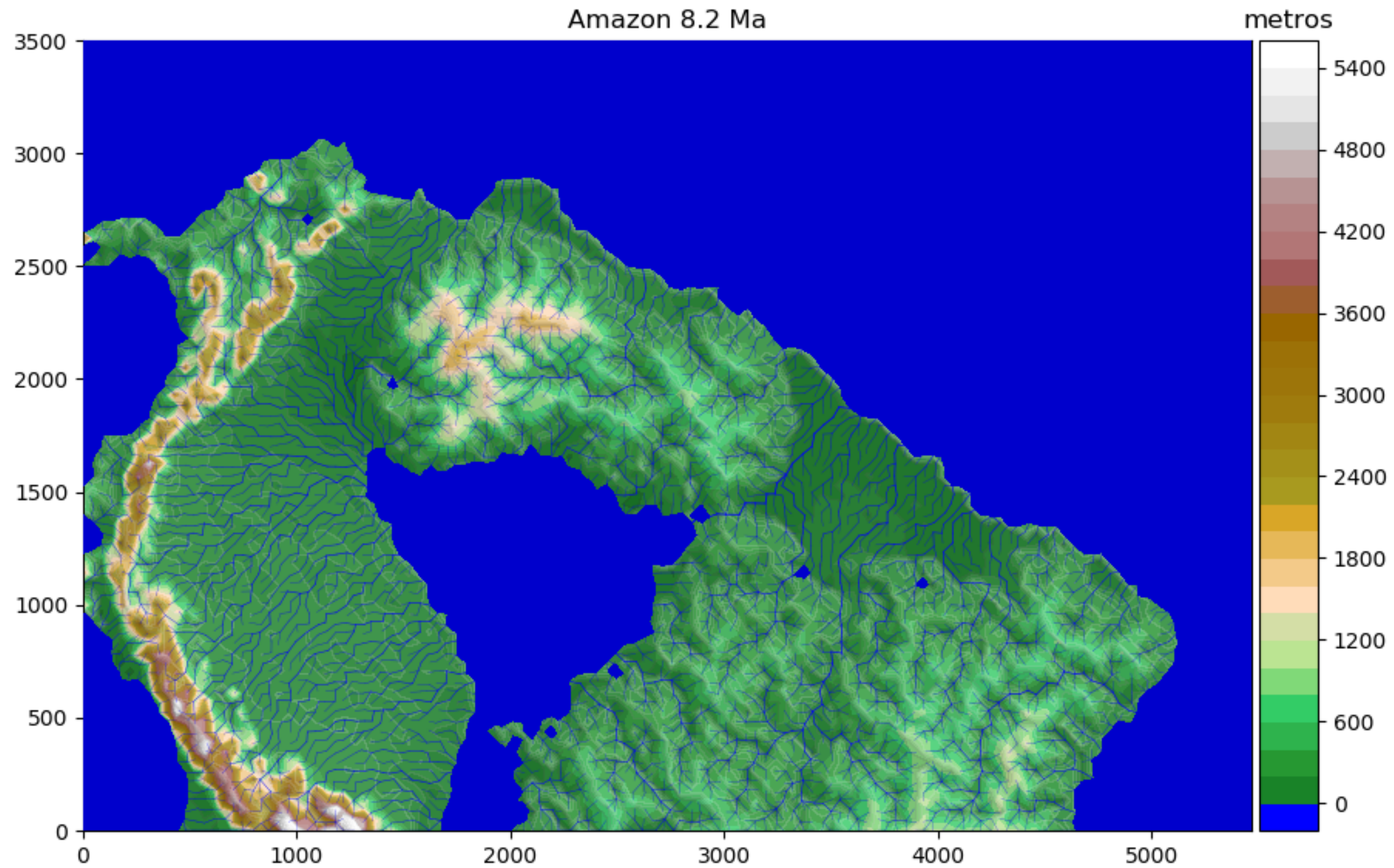
# With dynamic topography



Initial connection of eastern  
and western Amazonia

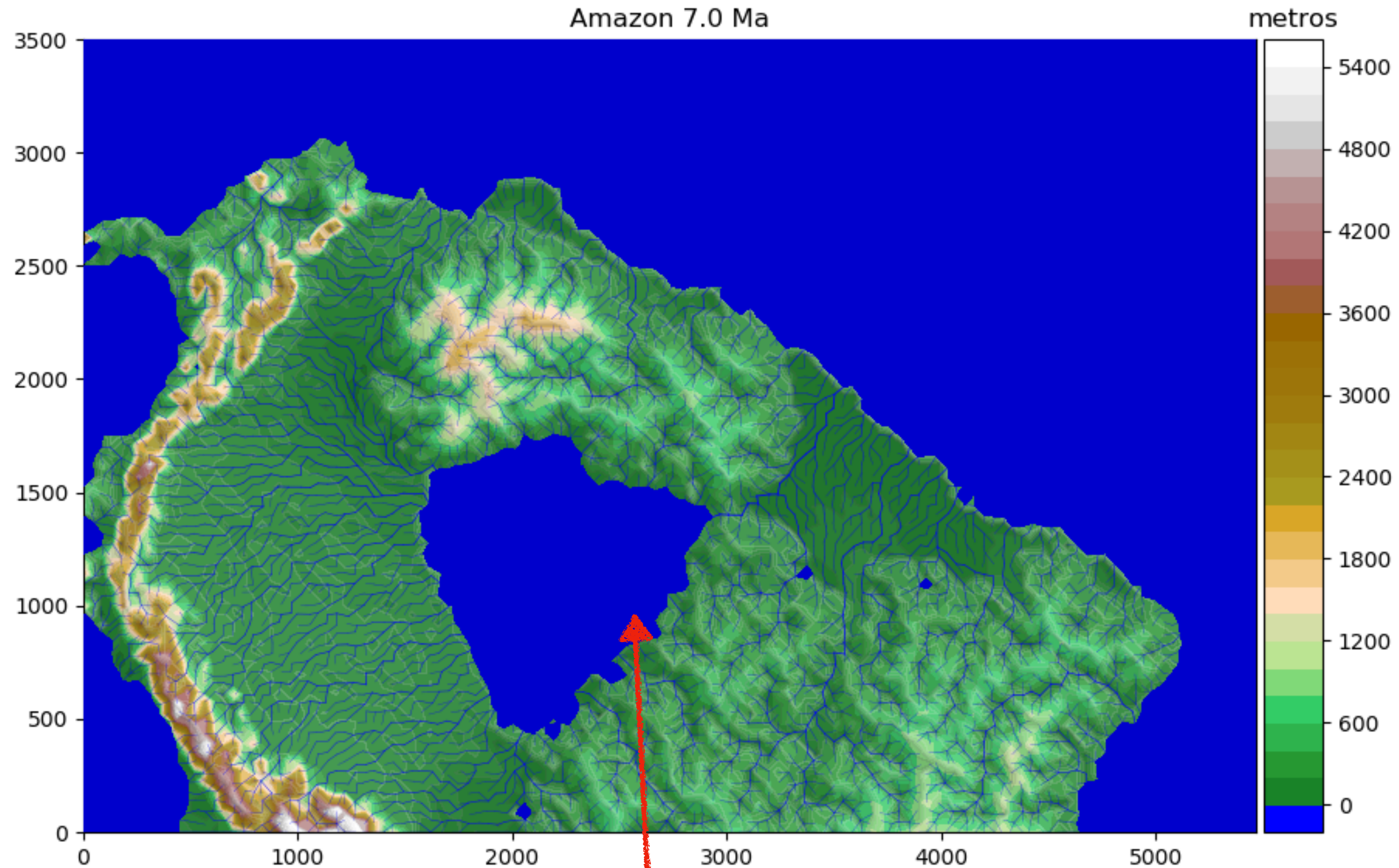


# With dynamic topography





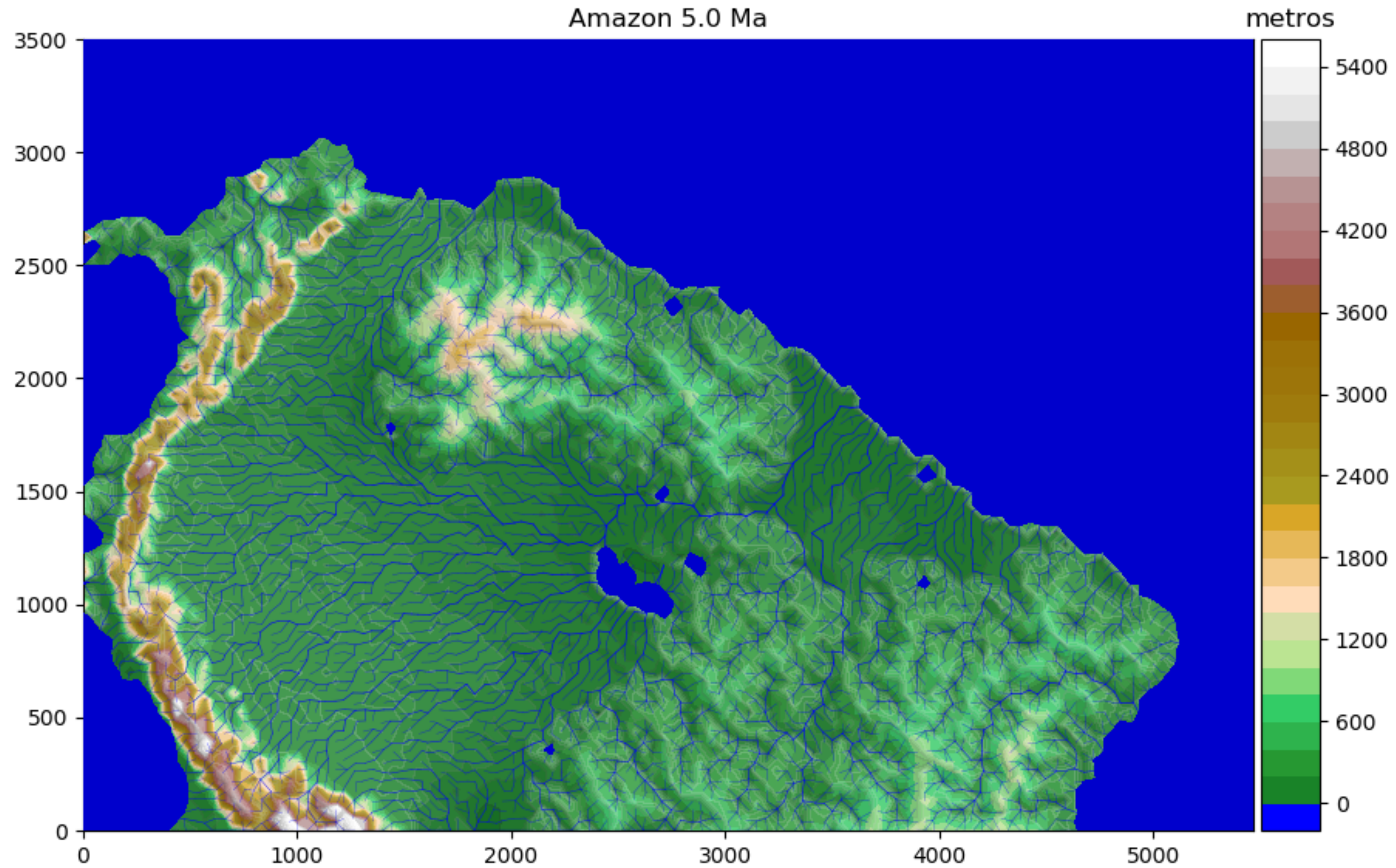
# With dynamic topography



Large aquatic  
environment shrinks

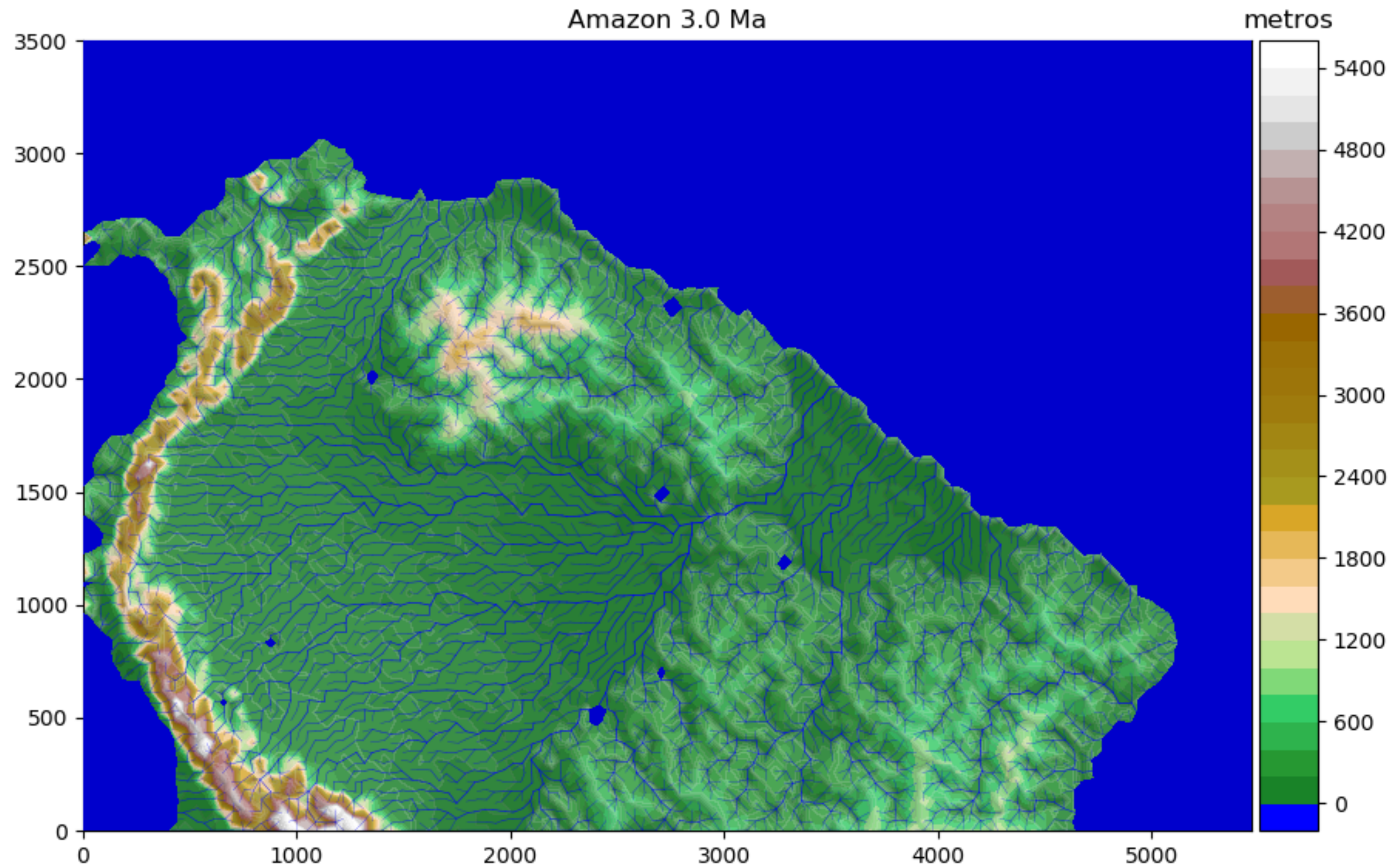


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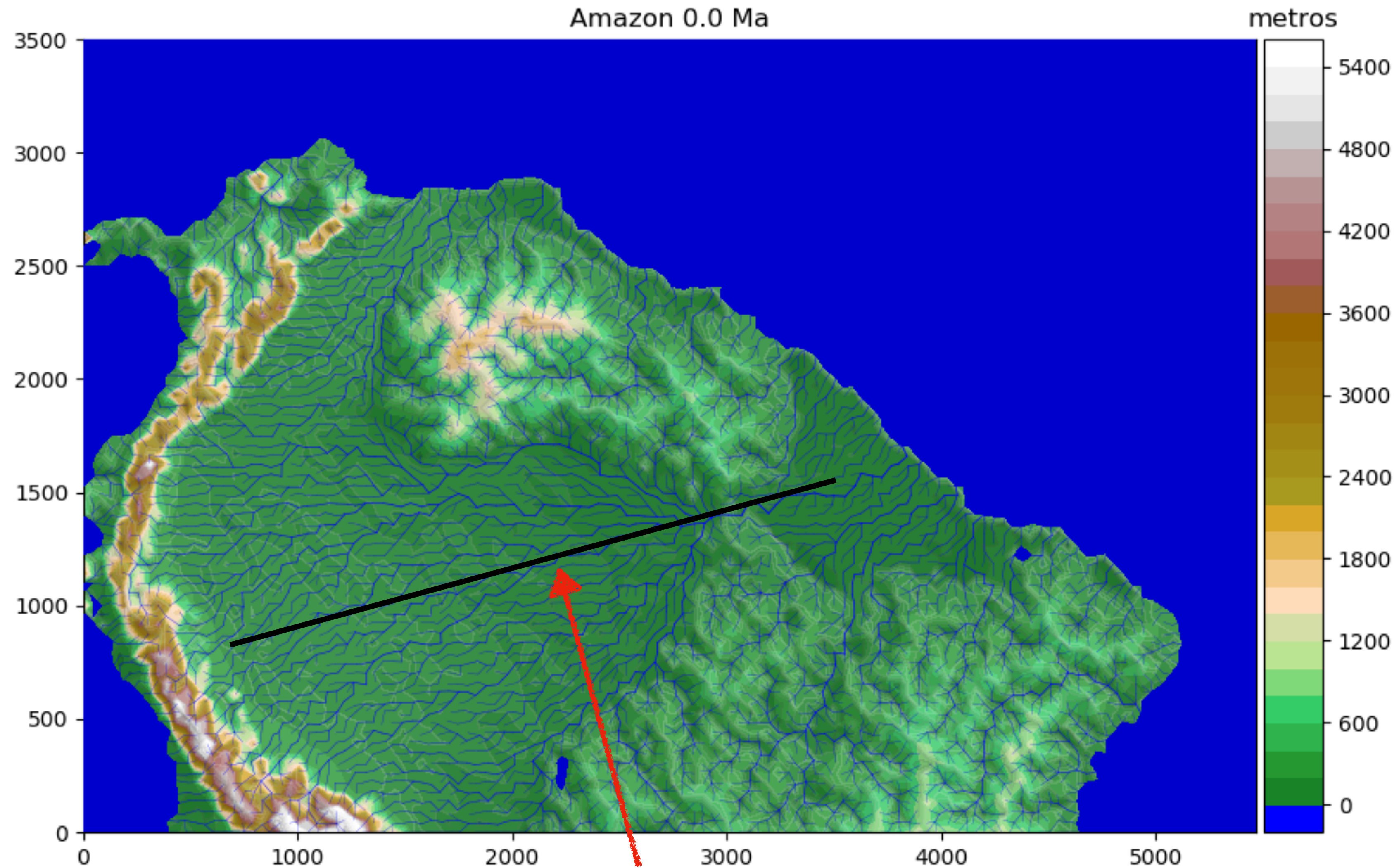


# With dynamic topography





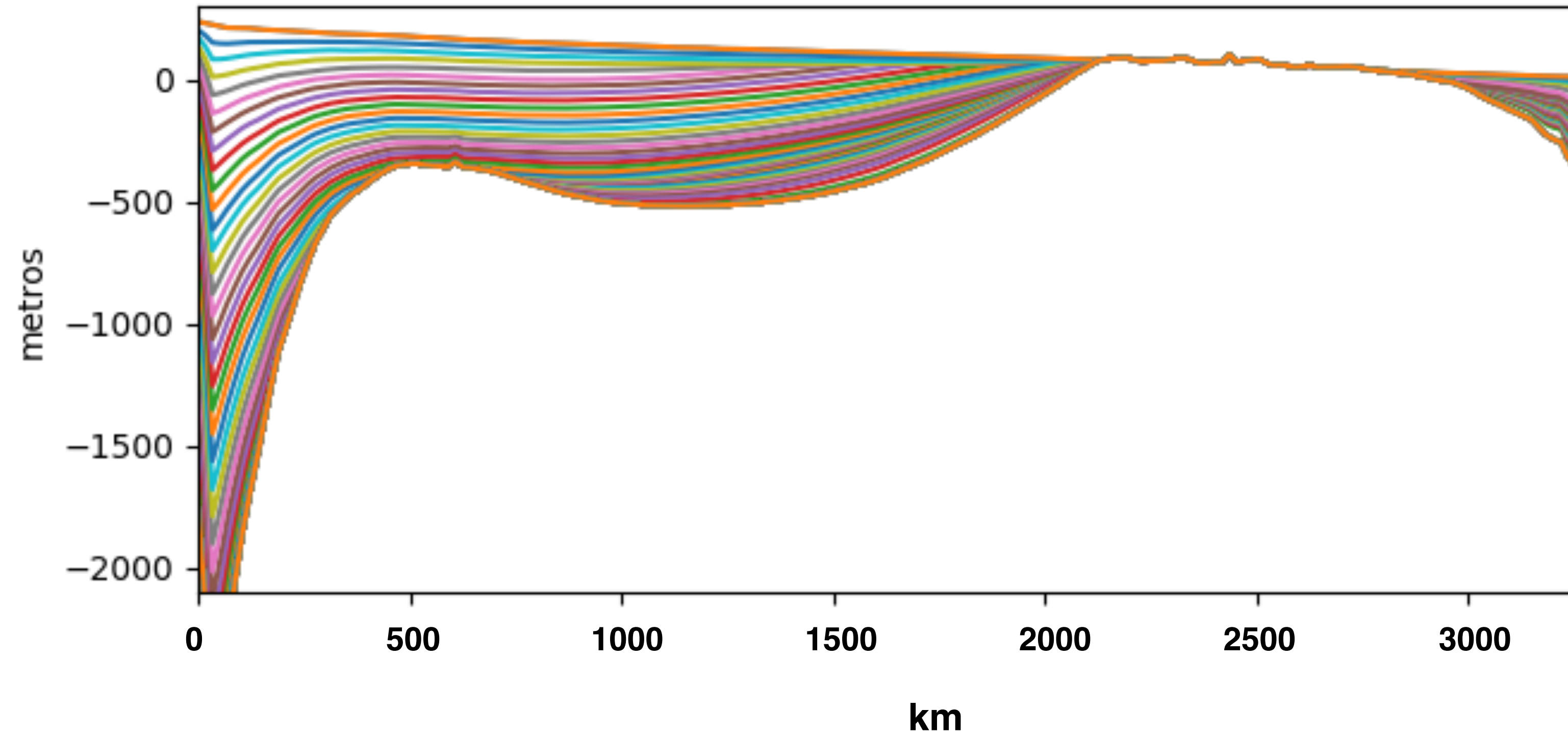
# With dynamic topography



Stratigraphic section of the  
following slides



# Without dynamic topography

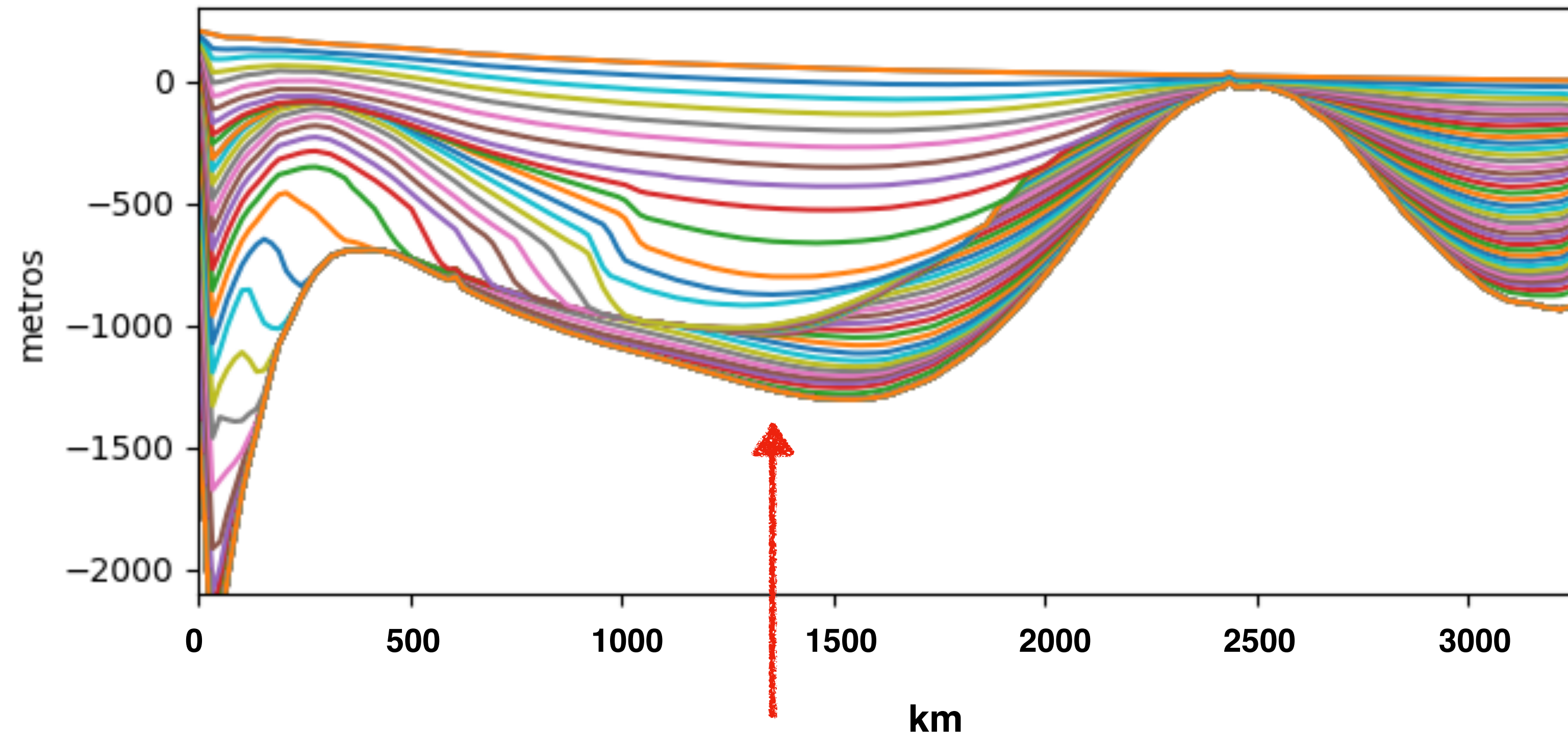


Different colors mark the sediments deposited in intervals of one million years.



# With dynamic topography

(based on the maps from Shephard et al. 2010)



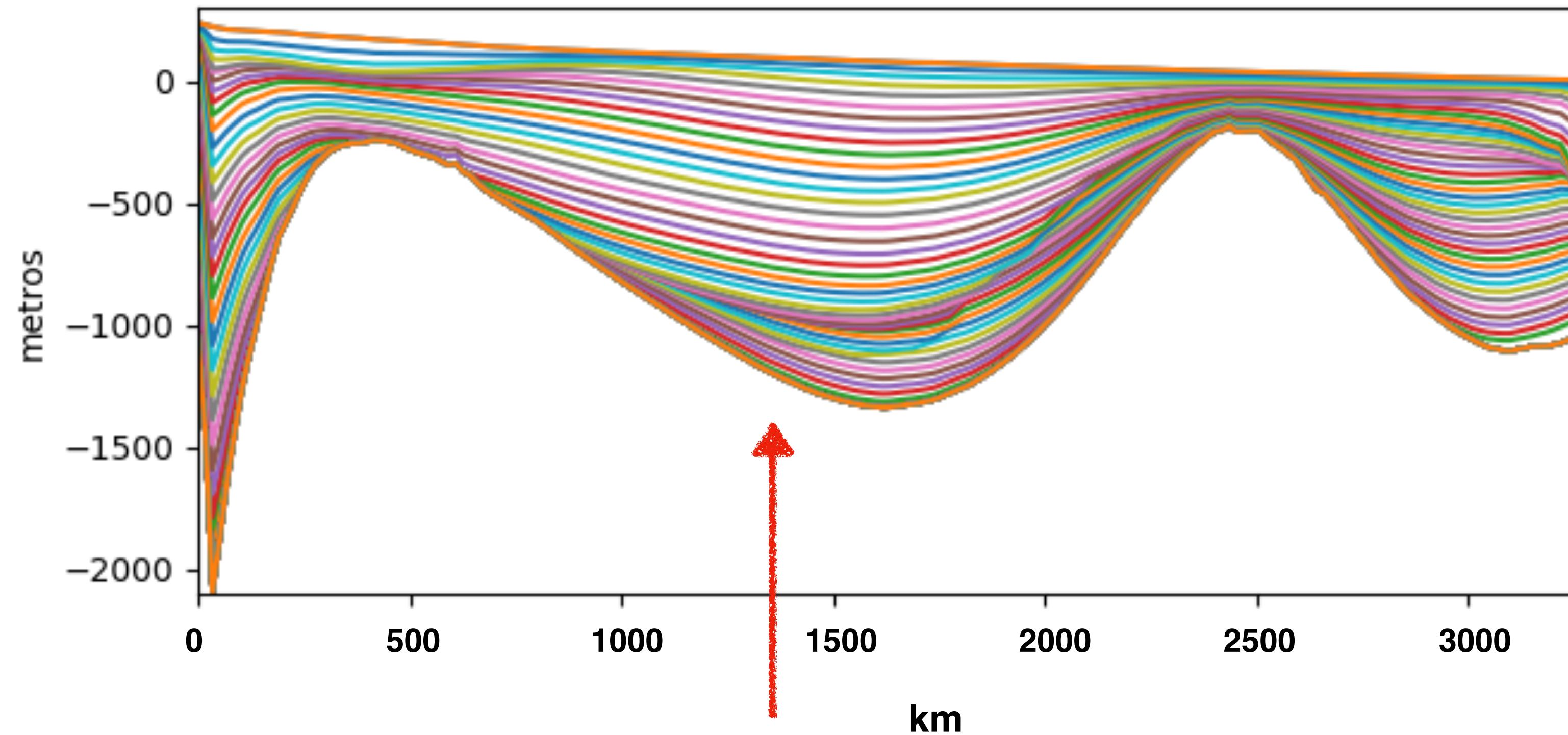
Amplification of the subsidence in  
central Amazonia (Solimões Basin)

Different colors mark the sediments deposited in intervals of one million years.



# With dynamic topography

(based on the maps from Flament et al. 2015)



Amplification of the subsidence in  
central Amazonia (Solimões Basin)

Different colors mark the sediments deposited in intervals of one million years.



# Conclusions

- New numerical models for the Cenozoic Amazonian landscape evolution are presented
- Formation of the transcontinental Amazon river mainly guided by Andean orogeny and surface processes
- Dynamic topography favoured the development of megawetland in central Amazonia
- Dynamic topography modified the stratigraphic evolution of intracratonic basins



# Conclusions

- The correct understanding of the tectono-sedimentary evolution in Amazonia depends on the coupling of surface and geodynamic processes.
- The knowledge of the stratigraphic evolution in the interior sedimentary basins is an important constraint to understand the upper mantle dynamics under South America in the last ~40 Ma.





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