

An integrative information aqueduct to  
close the gaps between global satellite  
observation of water cycle and local  
sustainable management of water resources



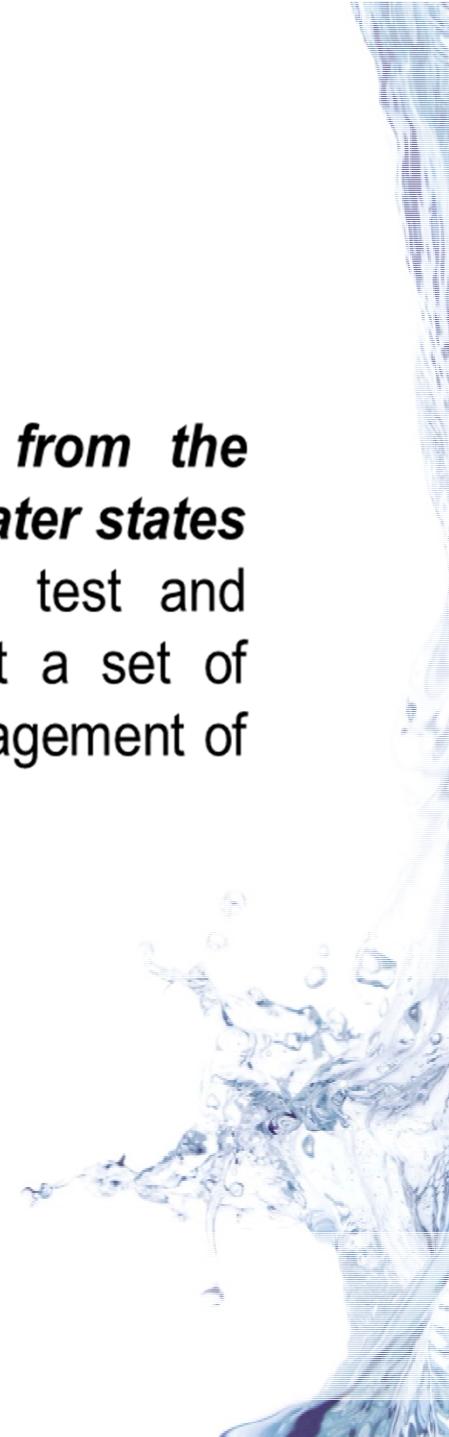
Coordinator: Prof. Bob Su, University of Twente  
Dr. Yijian Zeng, University of Twente

Ruisdael Science Day, 19 June 2019, KNMI



## OBJECTIVES

iAqueduct will integrate the various components ***from the global water cycle observation to local soil and water states*** in an open-source water information system and test and demonstrate their utility on pan-European scale at a set of carefully selected research sites for sustainable management of water resources.





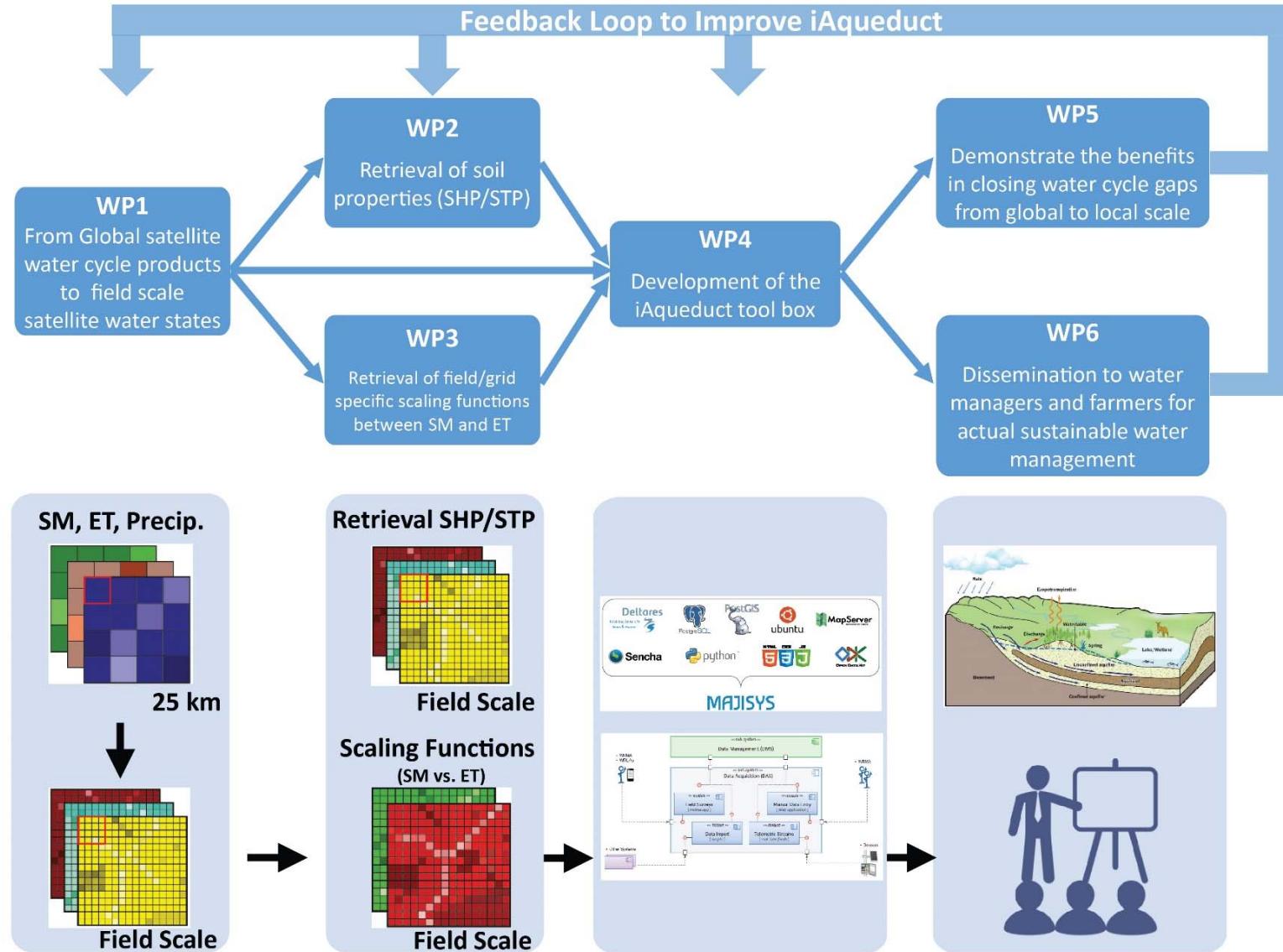
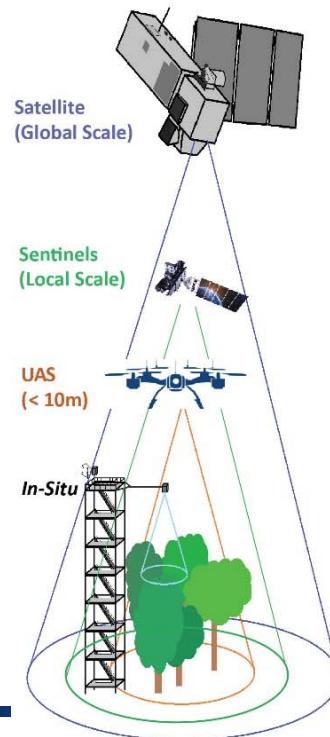
## CONSORTIUM DESCRIPTION

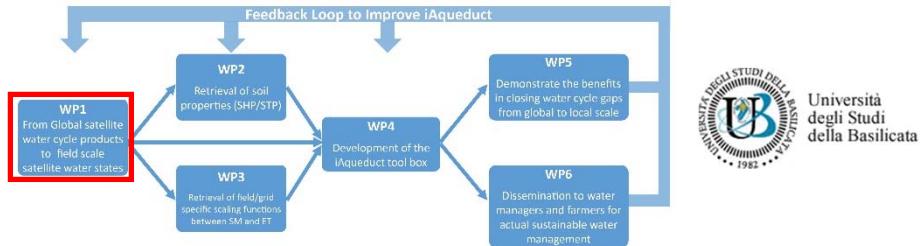




# WP DESCRIPTION

<b>Site1. Twente, NL</b>
Temperate, Dry Winter, Hot Summer
<b>Site2. Zala, HU</b>
Cold, Humid, Warm Summer
<b>Site3. Alento, IT</b>
Temperate, Dry Hot Summer
<b>Site4. Corleto, IT</b>
Temperate, Dry Warm Summer
<b>Site5. Barranco del Carraixet, ES</b>
Arid, Steppe, Cold
<b>Site6. Haogen, IL</b>
Arid, Dry Hot Summer





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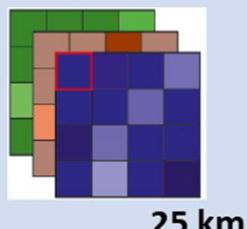
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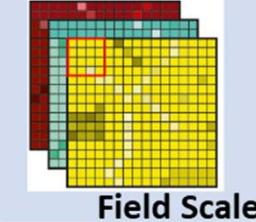
## WP1

**From Global satellite water cycle products to field scale satellite water states**

**SM, ET, Precip.**



25 km



Field Scale

### Task 1.1 Spatial downscaling procedures and data products

- 1) Bayesian statistical bias correction of satellite data based on in-situ observation;
- 2) Development of downscaling methods by the use of Copernicus Sentinel1-2-3 data (concerning evapotranspiration and soil moisture);
- 3) Generation of high resolution water cycle products of soil moisture, vegetation patterns and vegetation stress, using UASs;
- 4) Characterization of the spatio-temporal distribution of soil moisture and evapotranspiration processes (UAS results vs. in-situ measurement);
- 5) Downscaling of the remote sensing data up to the field scale.

### Task 1.2 Derive profile soil water content from surface soil moisture information

- 1) Prediction of root-zone SWC with the SMAR-EnKF, from Satellite and UASs;
- 2) The STEMMUS model to analyze the sensitivities of the predicted root-zone SWC.



[www.waterjpi.eu](http://www.waterjpi.eu)

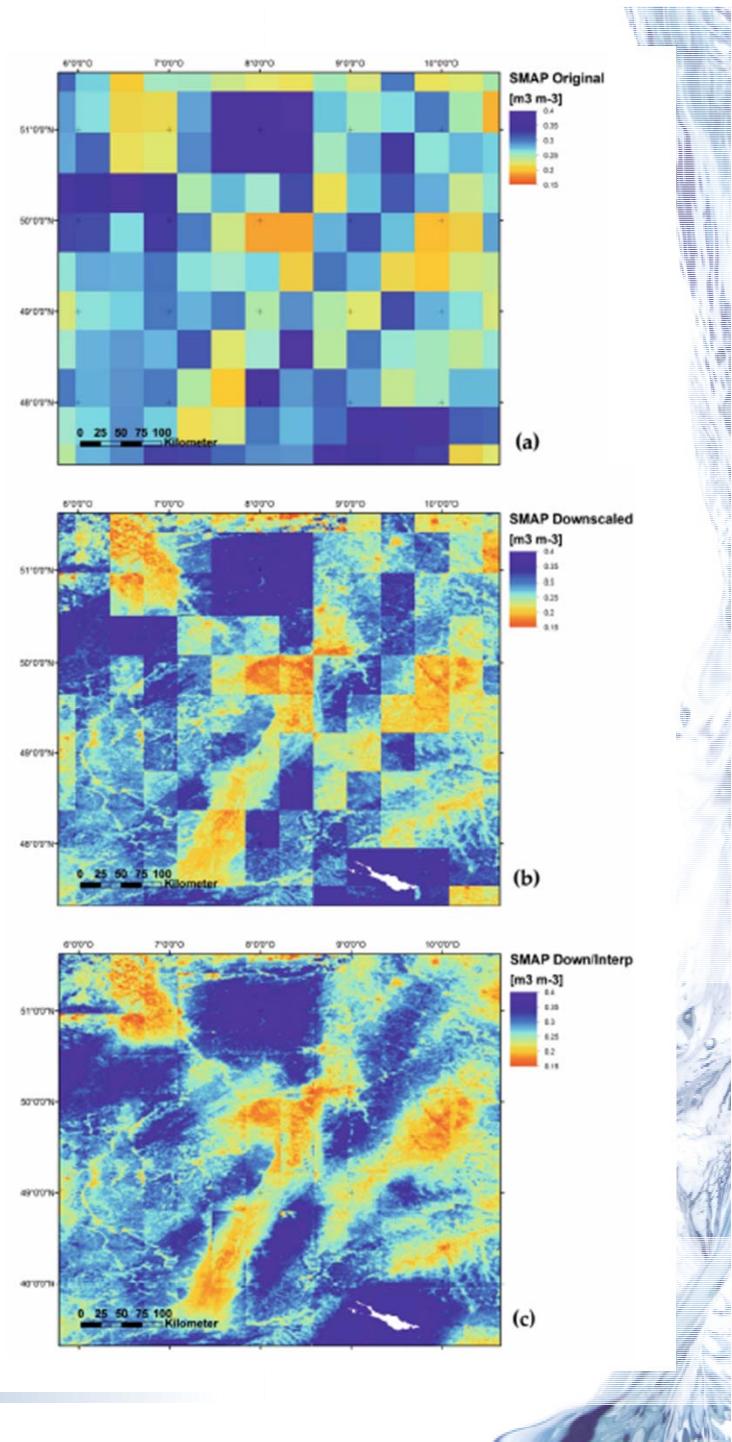
# Sub-Grid Soil Moisture Variability Data for Downscaling

Earth observation data with a proven relationship to soil moisture variability such as surface temperature, vegetation, a combination of both, radar backscatter, or even soil texture.

$$\widehat{\theta}_{i,j} = \bar{\theta} + \sigma_{\theta}(\bar{\theta}) \frac{P_{i,j} - \bar{P}}{\sigma_P}$$

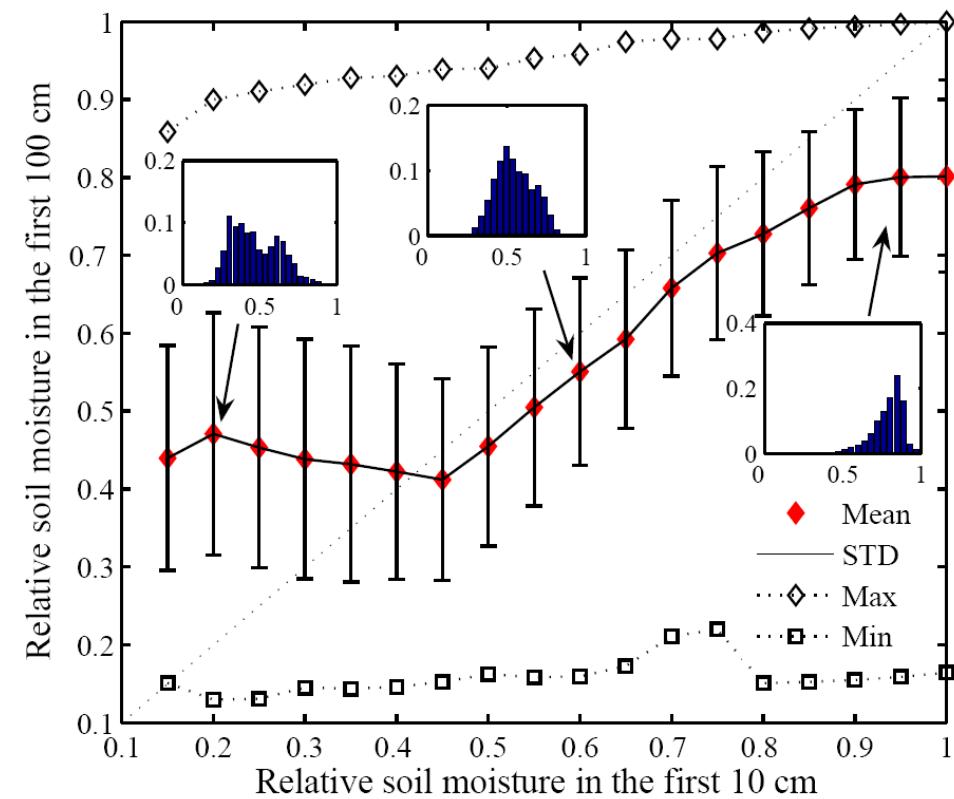
where  $P_{i,j}$  is the proxy data at fine scale sub-grid y-location i and x-location j,  $\bar{P}$  is the mean of the proxy, and  $\sigma_P$  is the standard deviation of the proxy

Based on Qu et al. Predicting subgrid variability of soil water content from basic soil information. Geophys. Res. Lett. 2015, 42, 789–796. [CrossRef]



# Characteristics of relative soil moisture in deep and shallow layers

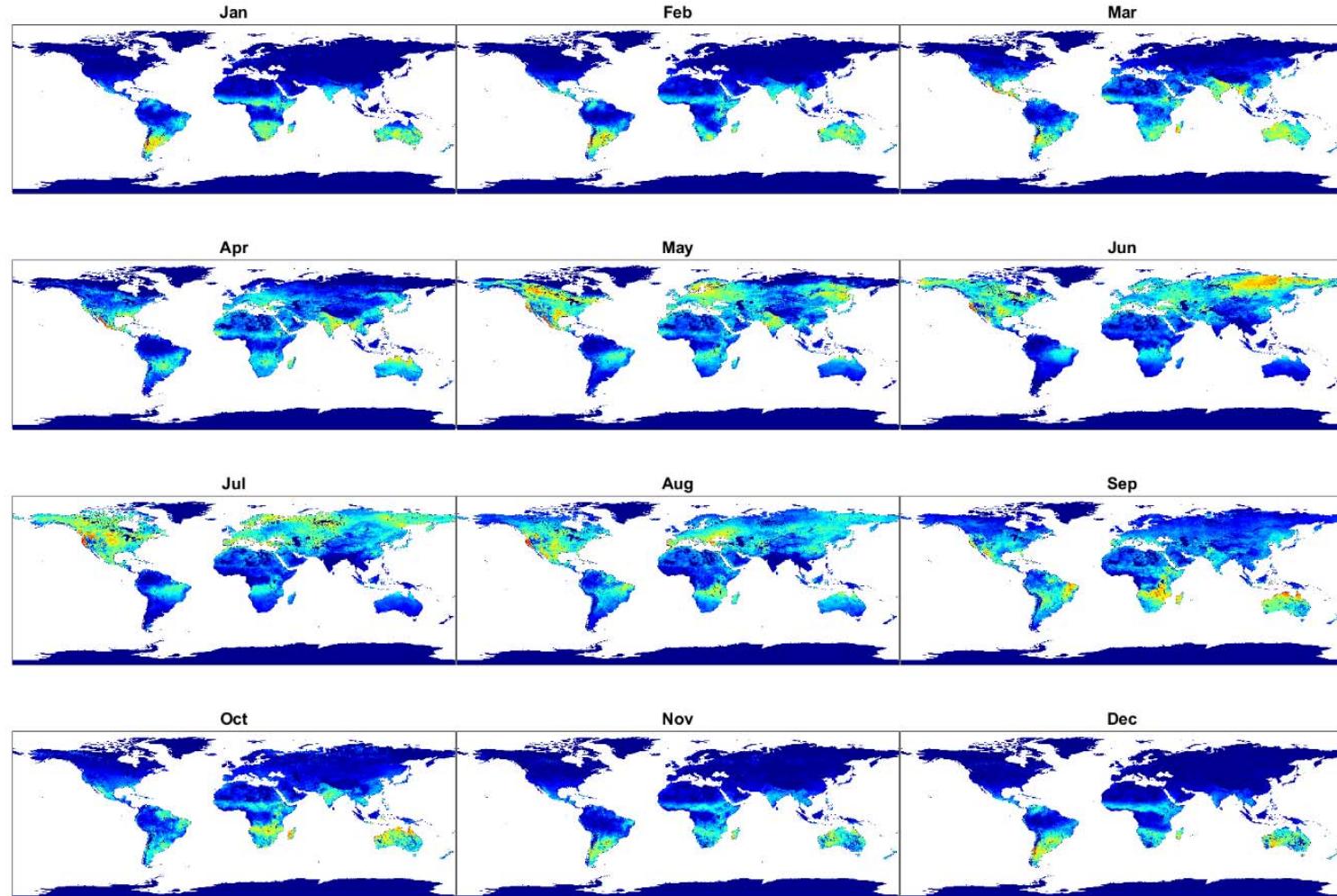
- Developing a relationship between the relative soil moisture at the surface to that in deeper layers of soil would be very useful for remote sensing applications.
- This implies that prediction of soil moisture in the deep layer given the superficial soil moisture, has an uncertainty that increases with a reduced near surface estimate.



Manfreda et al. (AWR – 2007)



## SEBS-Derived Monthly ET (MODIS + ERA5, 2018)

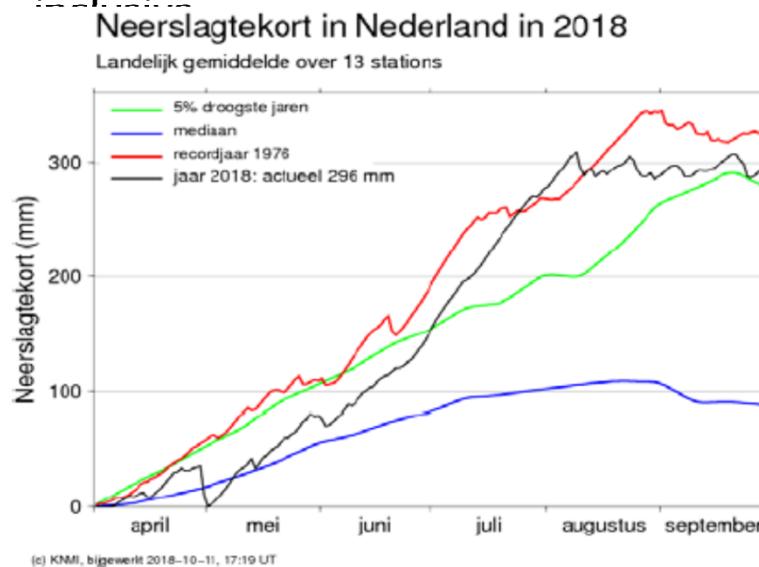


The Netherlands experienced a heat wave of 13 days starting with 15 July and to 27 July inclusive.

The country's longest since the European heat wave of 2006.

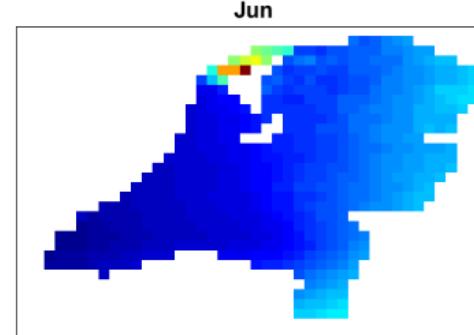
In many parts of the country authorities were planning for measures in case of water shortages.

A second heat wave started on 29 July, lasting 10 days until 7 August

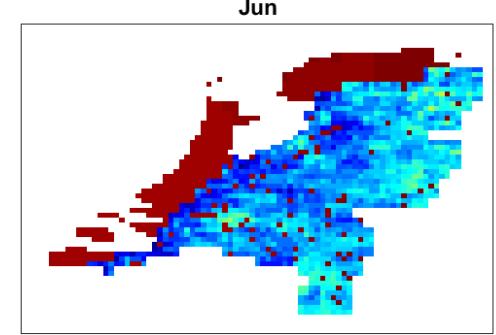


Source: KNMI.nl

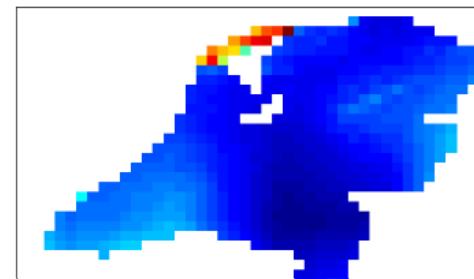
Monthly IMERG(GPM)



P-E



Jul



Jul

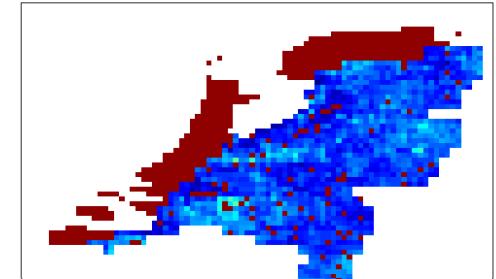
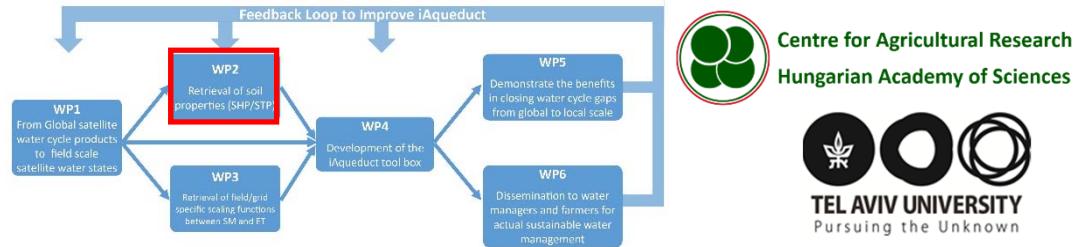


Photo: Akkerwijzer.nl



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Pursuing the Unknown



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## WP2 Retrieval of soil properties (SHP/STP)

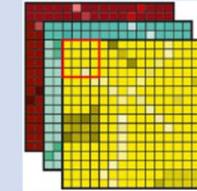
### Task 2.1 Collection of field scale data

### Task 2.2 Soil spectroscopy and hyperspectral remote sensing

### Task 2.3 Basic PTF functions

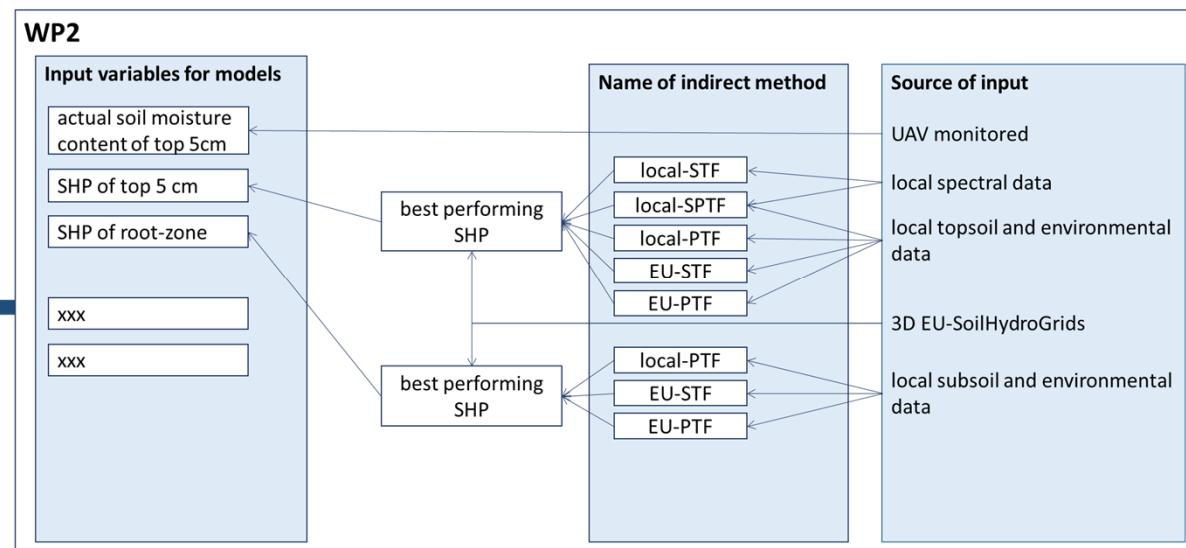
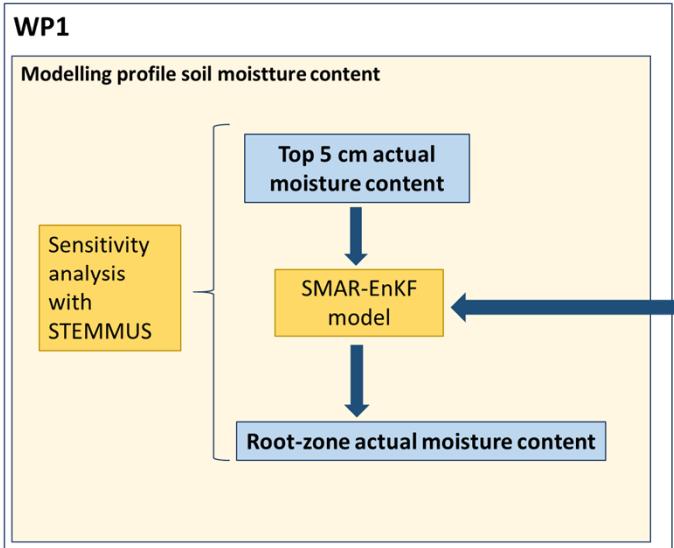
### Task 2.4 Advanced PTF functions

### Retrieval SHP/STP



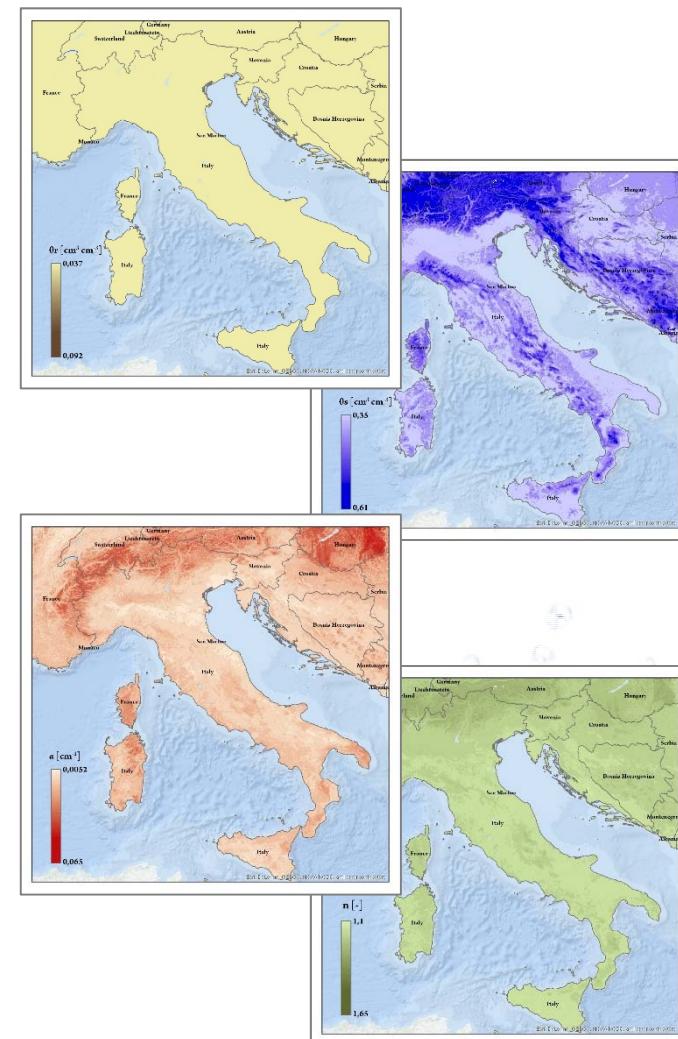
#### Field Scale

- |        |                                   |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| STF    | - spectrotransfer functions       |
| SPTF   | - spectral pedotransfer functions |
| PTF    | - Pedotransfer functions          |
| EU-STF | - LUCAS                           |
| EU-PTF | - EU-HYDI                         |

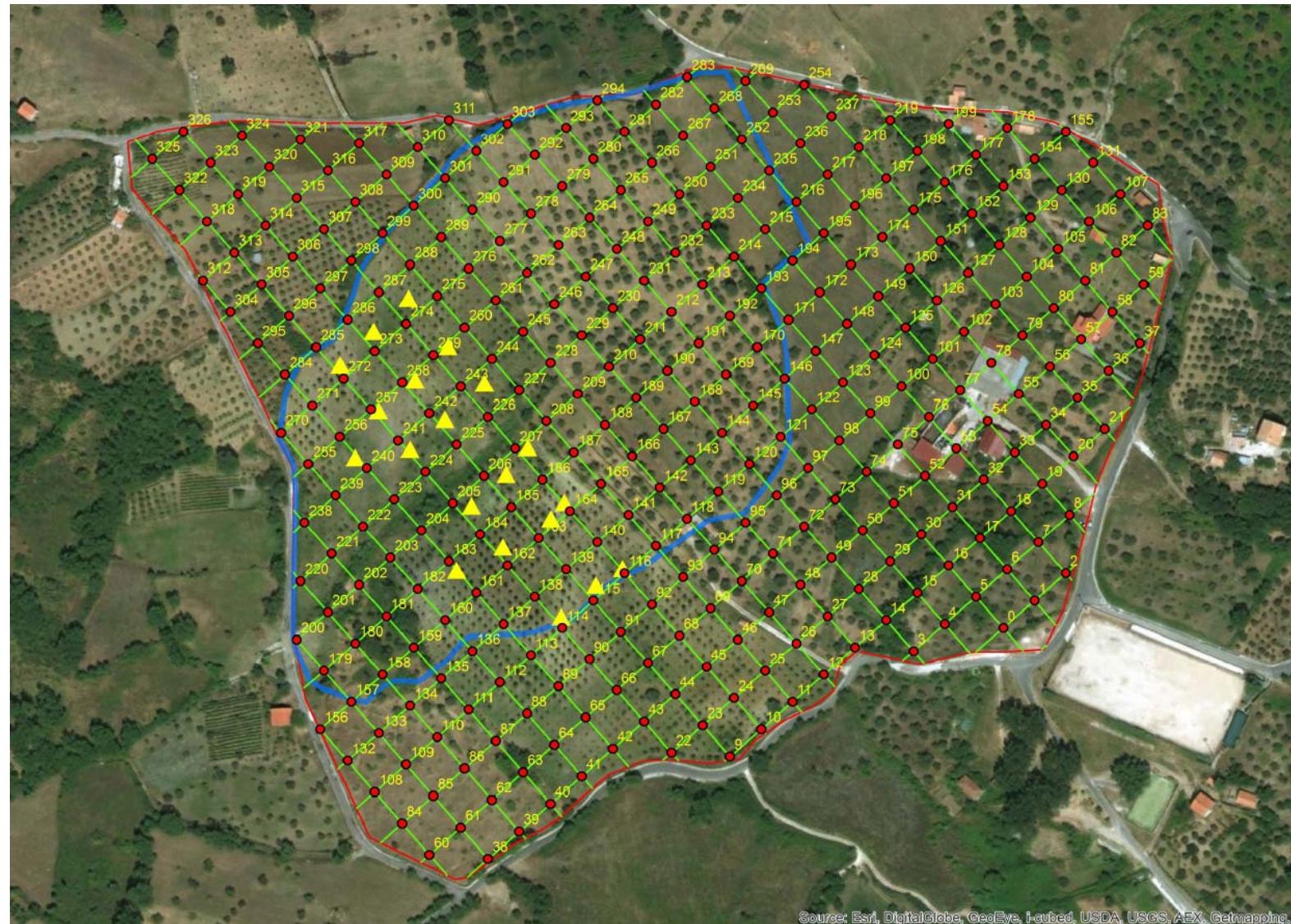


## a) 3D Soil Hydraulic Database of Europe at 250 m resolution

EU-SoilHydroGrids	
<b>Predicted soil hydraulic property</b>	THS, FC, WP, KS, MRC (VG), MRC + HCC (MVG)
<b>Horizontal coverage</b>	Europe
<b>Vertical coverage</b>	0, 5, 15, 30, 60, 100, 200 cm
<b>Resolution</b>	250 m, 30 arcseconds (~ 1 km at the Equator)
<b>Projection</b>	ETRS-LAEA
<b>Format</b>	GeoTIFF
<b>Input soil information</b>	SoilGrids 250 m and 1 km (Hengl et al., 2017)
<b>Soil property considered for the calculations</b>	clay, silt and sand content, organic carbon content, bulk density, pH in water, depth to bedrock
<b>Pedotransfer functions (PTFs) used for the calculations</b>	EU-PTFs: PTF6 (THS), PTF9 (FC), PTF12 (WP), PTF16 (KS), PTF22 (MRC), PTF 19 (MRC+HCC) (Tóth et al., 2015)
<b>Database used to derive PTFs</b>	EU-HYDI (Weynants et al., 2013)
<b>Availability of the dataset</b>	<a href="http://mta-taki.hu/en/eu_soilhydrogrids_3d">http://mta-taki.hu/en/eu_soilhydrogrids_3d</a> <a href="https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/">https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/</a>
<b>Information about the dataset</b>	Tóth et al. (2017)



- To provide soil physico-chemical and hydraulic parameters for running models of different complexity. (Nunzio Romano, 2019)

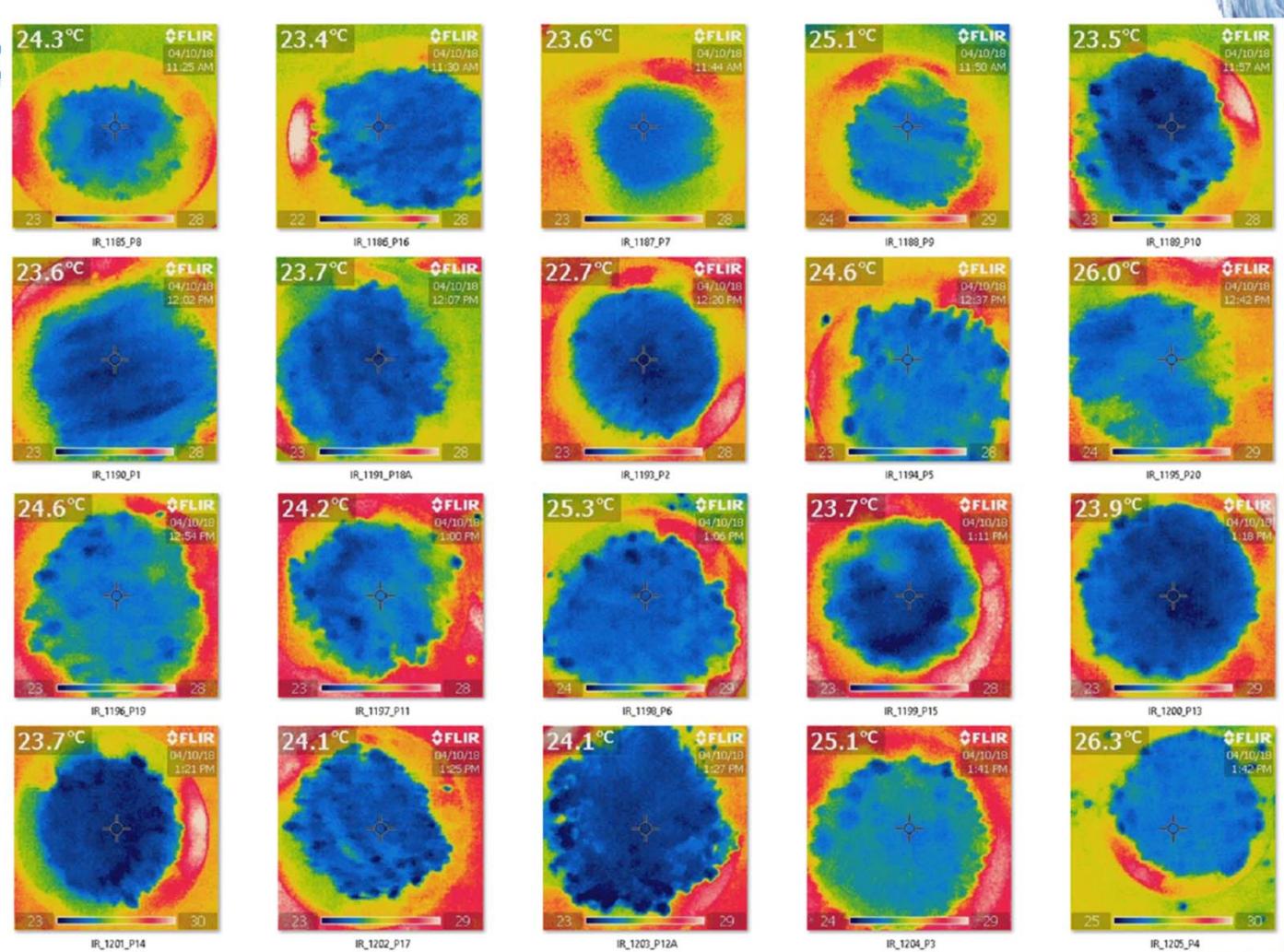




- ▶ a) shows a Spectral Measurement through ASD spectrometer, and b) shows a measurement of Temperature using a FLIR camera (Eyal et al, 2019)



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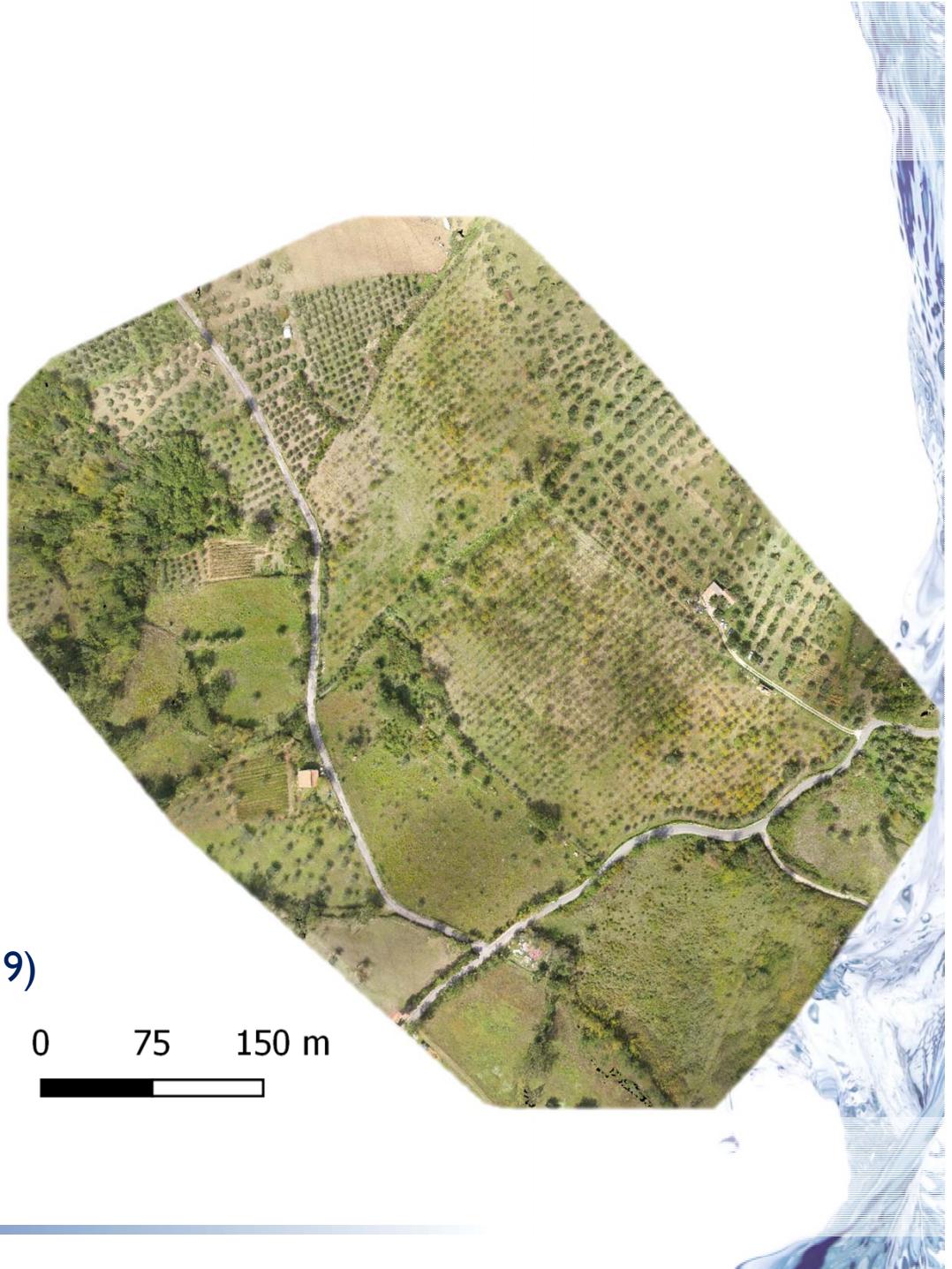
*The thermal images and the temperature of the soil samples (Eyal et al, 2019)*

Application:

Orthomosaic **Monteforte**

RGB Orthomosaic  
4 cm resolution

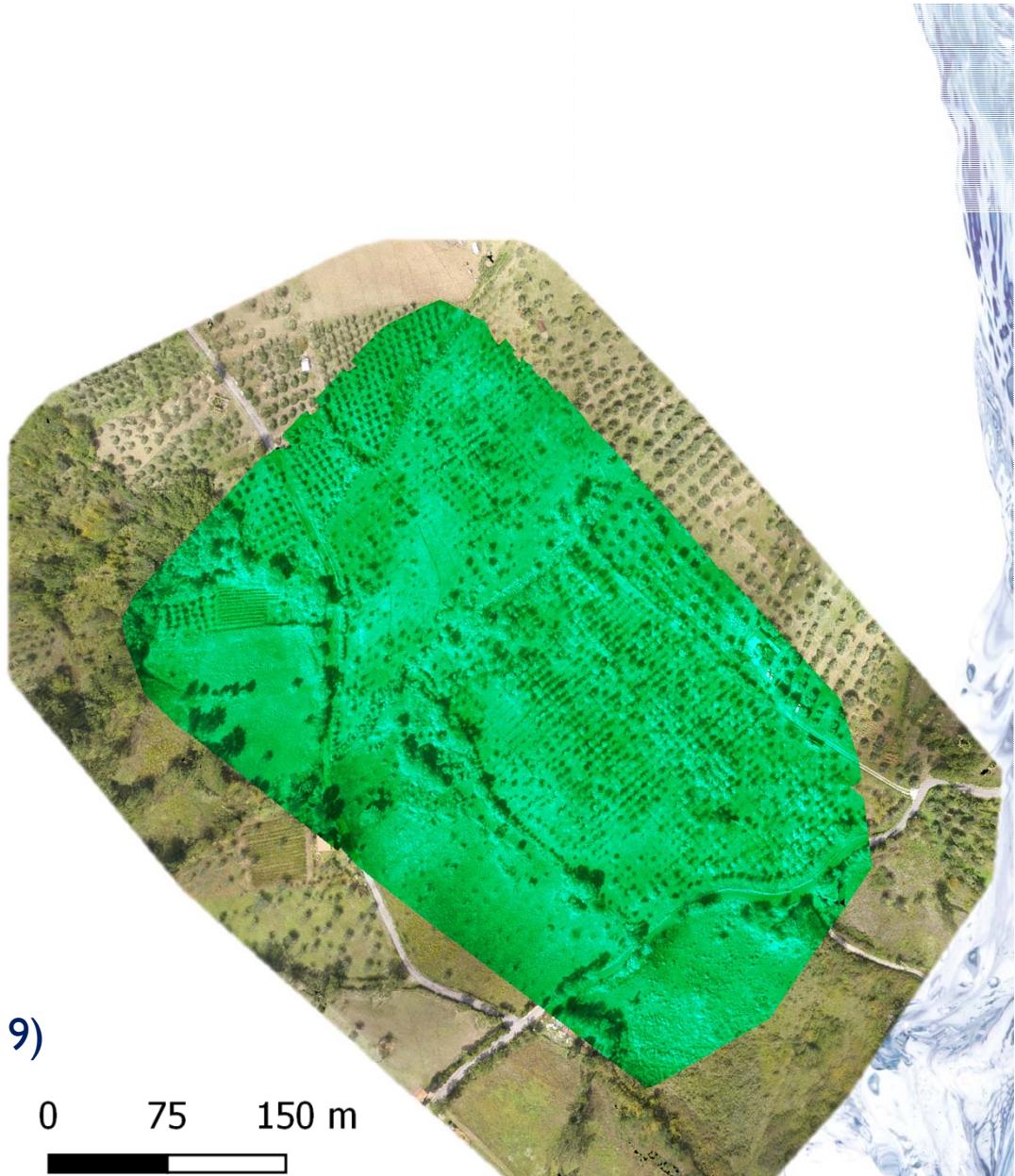
(Manfreda et al, 2019)



Example of Application:  
Orthomosaic Monteforte

Multi-spectral mosaic  
5 cm resolution

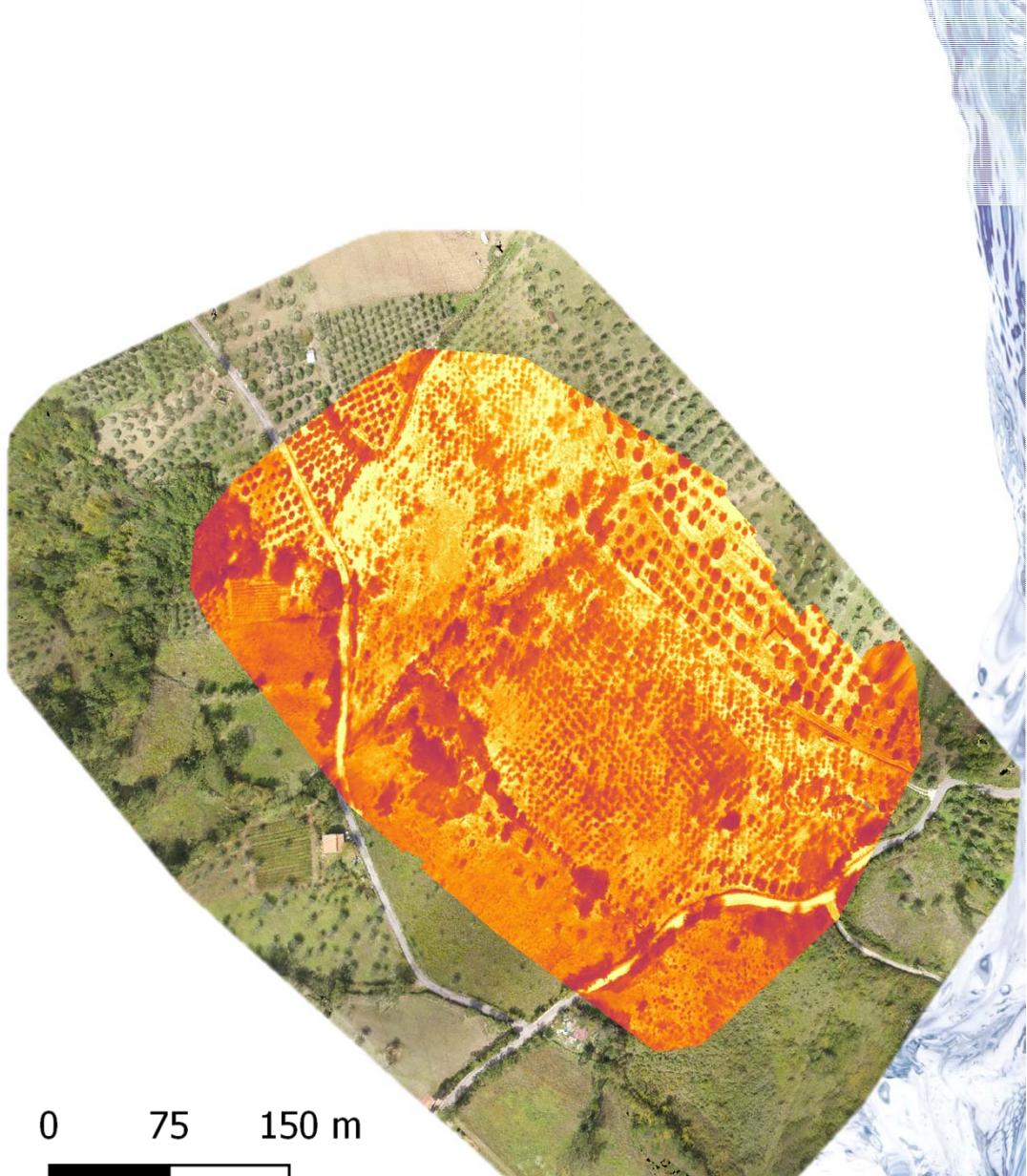
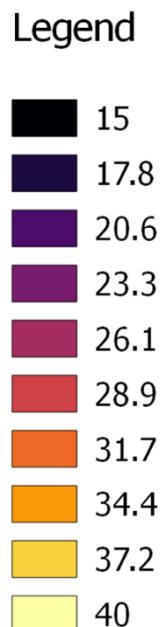
(Manfreda et al, 2019)



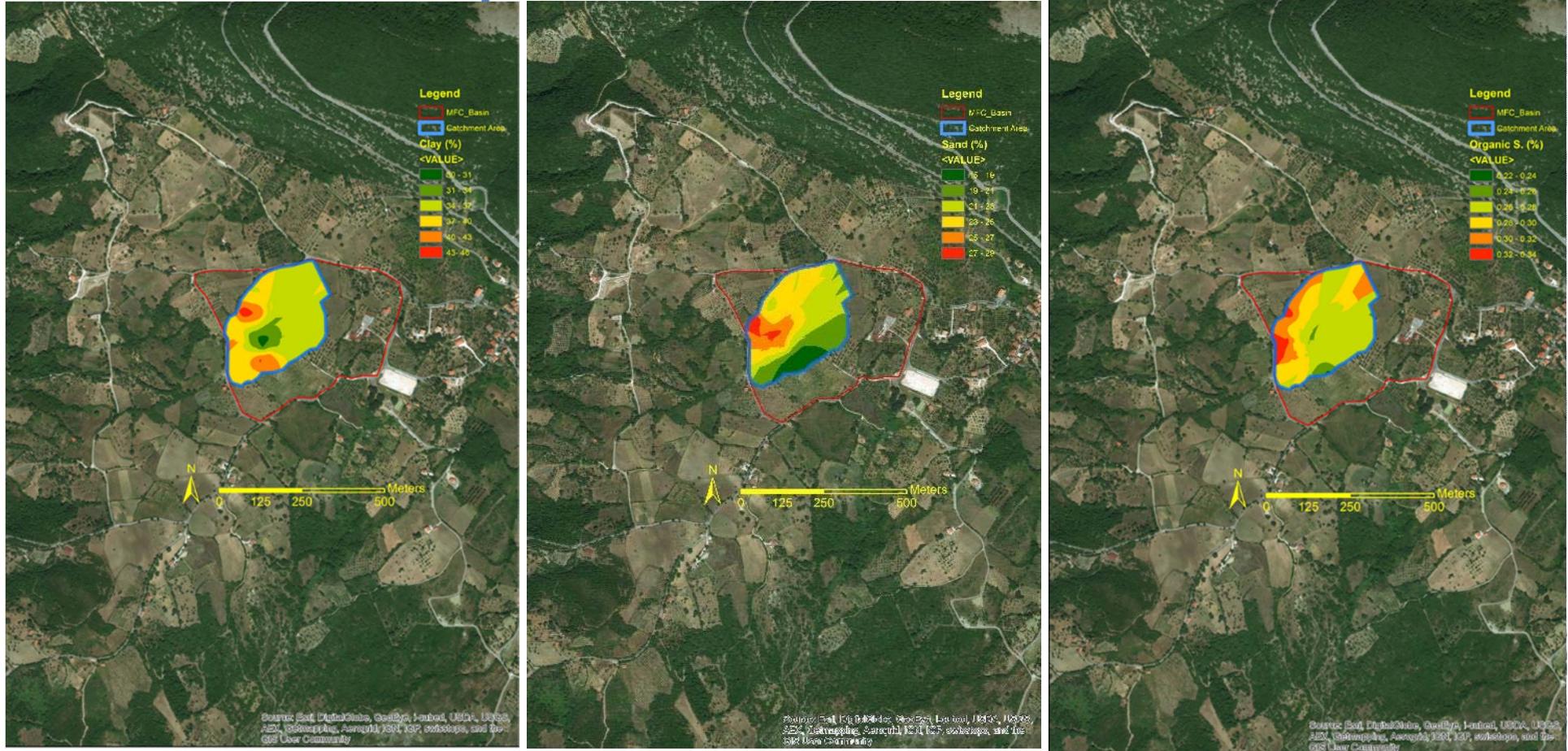
Example of Applications:  
Orthomosaic Monteforte

Thermal mosaic  
17 cm resolution

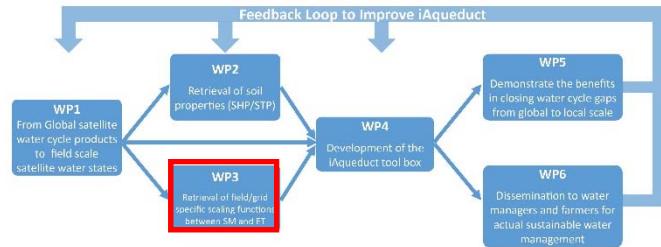
(Manfreda et al, 2019)



# Preliminary Results: Soil Texture



(Romano et al, 2019)



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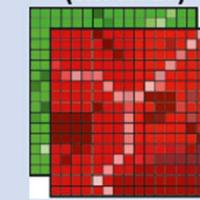
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## WP3 Retrieval of field/grid specific scaling functions between soil moisture and evapotranspiration

**Task 3.1 Field/grid specific scaling functions between soil moisture and evapotranspiration**

**Scaling Functions (SM vs. ET)**



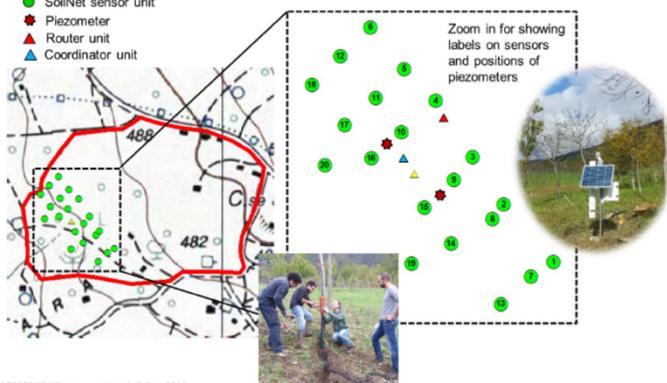
**Task 3.2 Generalizing scaling functions between soil moisture and evapotranspiration**

wireless network and cosmic-ray at MFC2

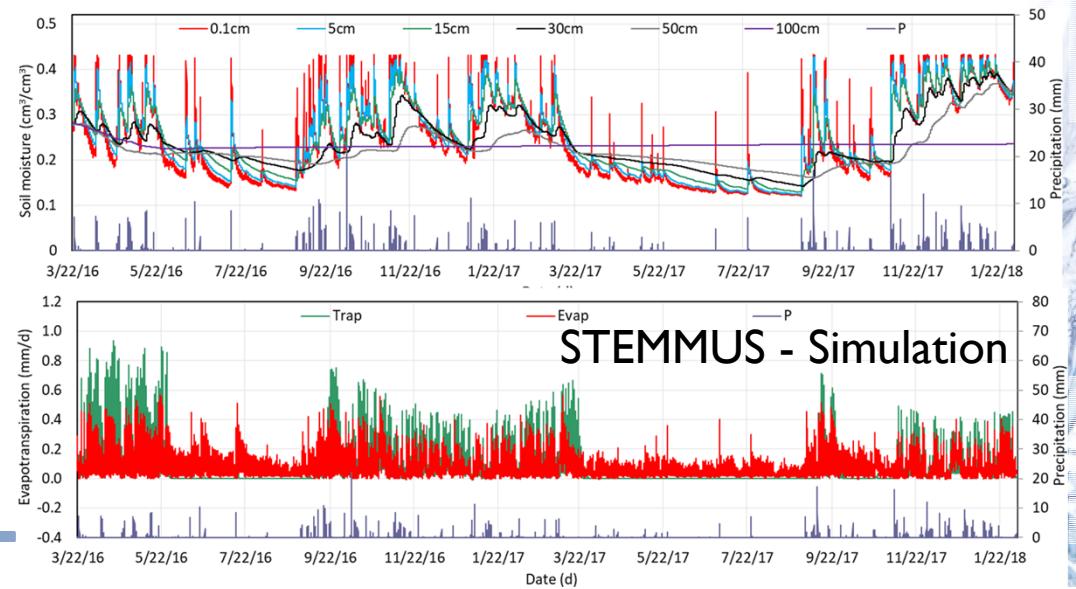
### COSMIC-RAY SOIL MOISTURE OBSERVING SYSTEM (COSMOS)

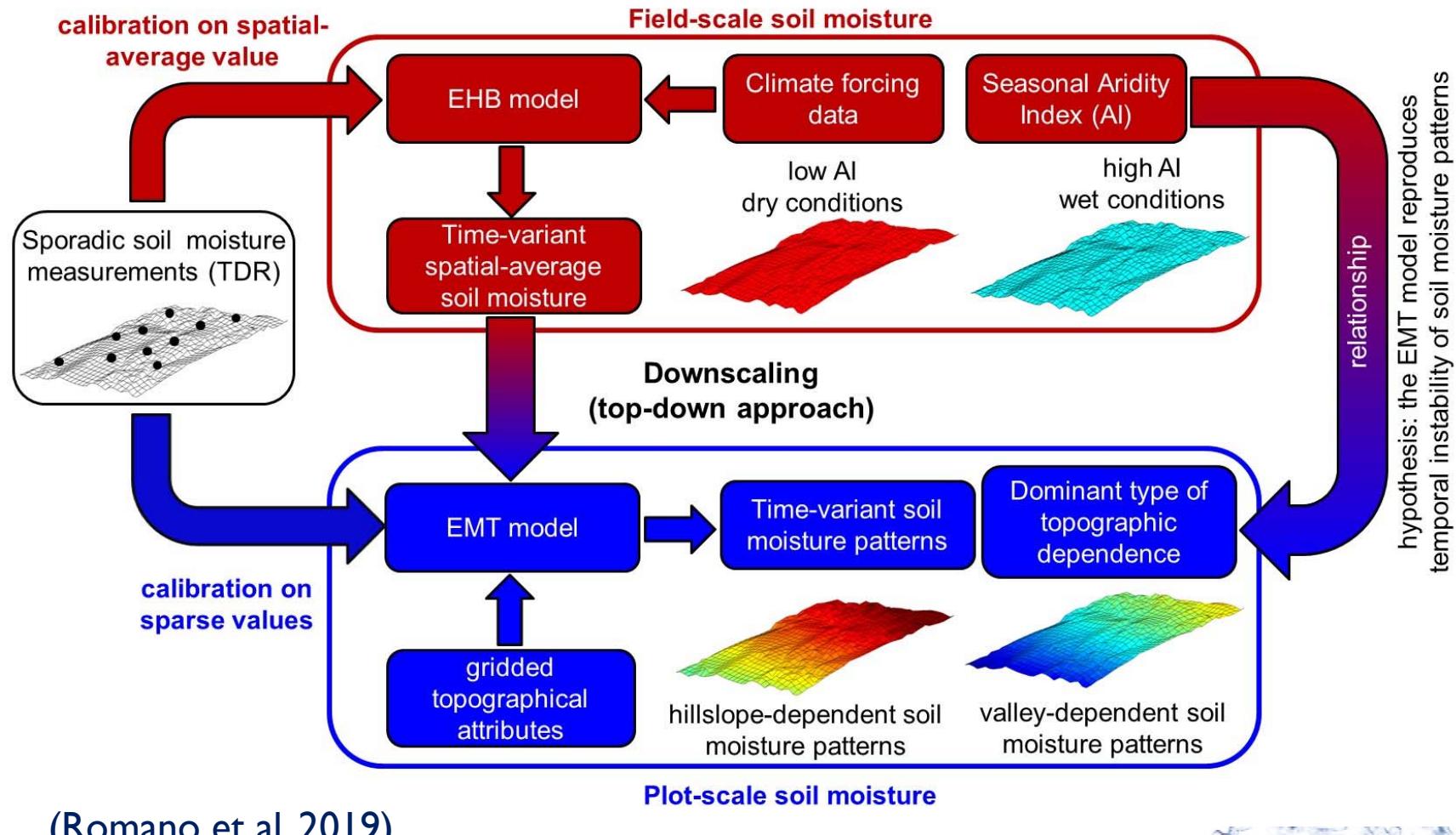
- Catchment boundary
- 5 m contour line
- △ Cosmic Ray Probe (CRP)
- SoilNet sensor unit
- Piezometer
- ▲ Router unit
- ◆ Coordinator unit

MFC2



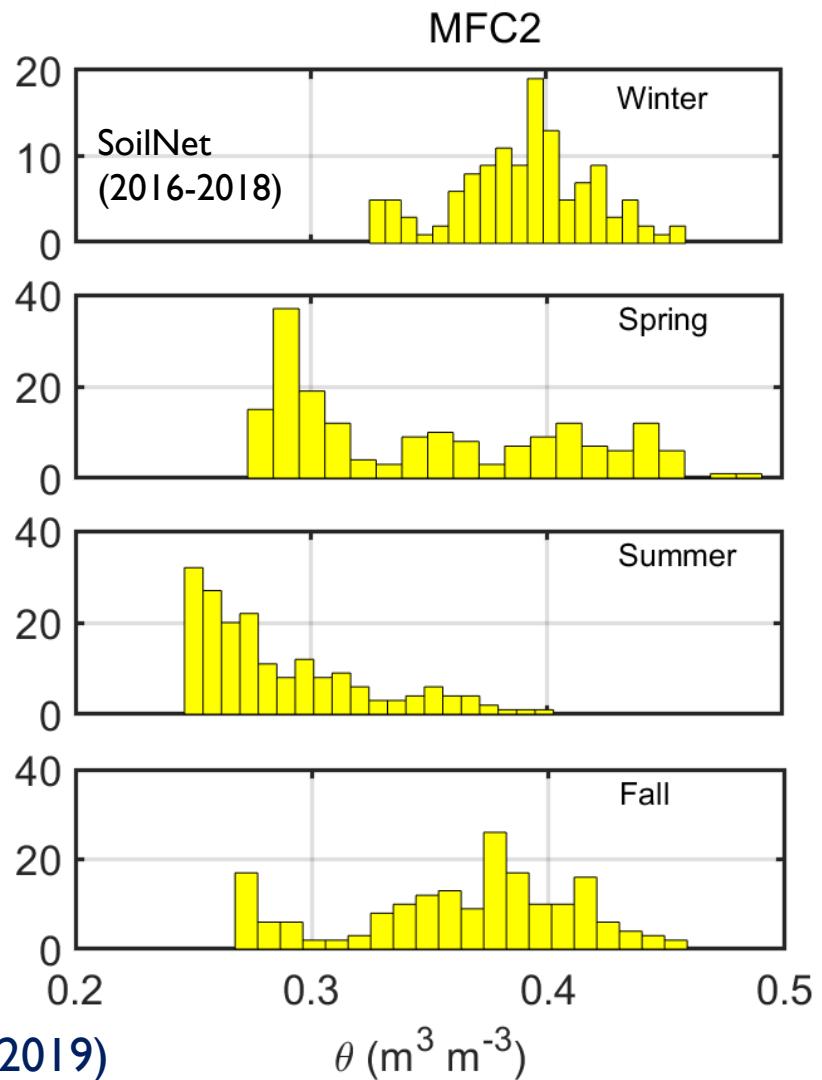
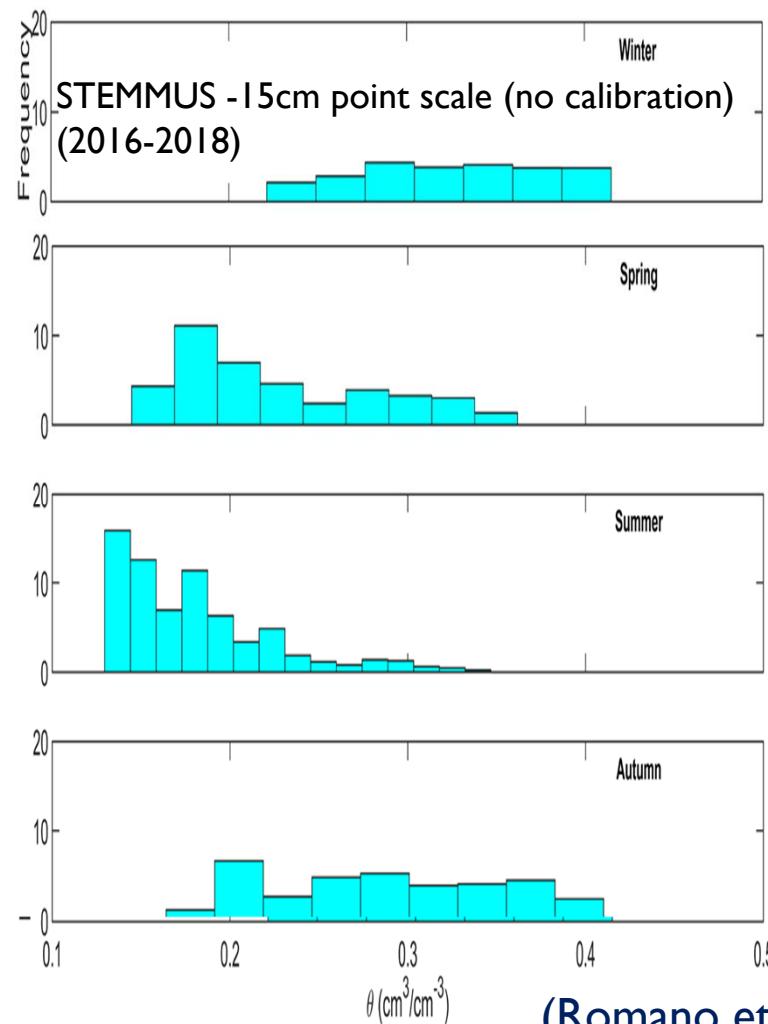
HARMONIOUS| Alento visit – 2-5 Oct. 2018  
[www.iptc.nl](http://www.iptc.nl)

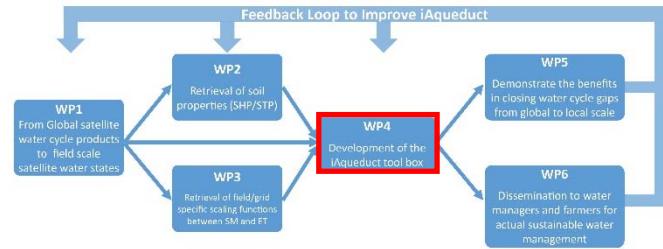




# STEMMUS Preliminary Simulation Results:

**Spring : 20 Mar – 20 June**  
**Summer: 20 June – 23 Sep.**  
**Autumn : 23 Sep. – 22 Dec.**  
**Winter : 22 Dec. – 20 Mar**





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## WP4

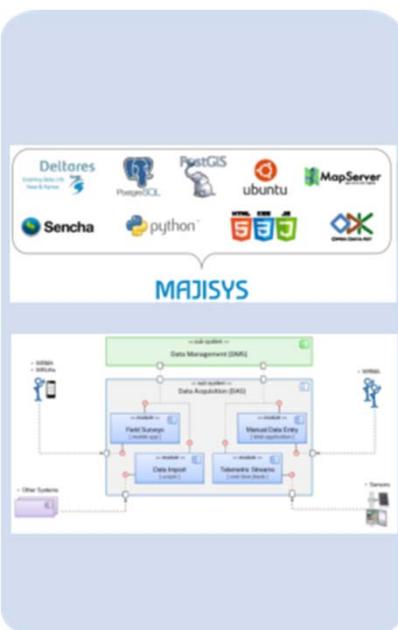
### Development of the generic (iAqueduct tool box)

#### Task 4.1 Intercomparison of models, soil and vegetation parametrizations and soil parameters

- 1) A minimalist soil-vegetation-atmosphere model will be developed;
- 2) The coupling of the soil moisture dynamics and plant activities (ET and carbon fixation);
- 3) For crops, yield will be determined from the total accumulated crop biomass employing the harvest index, with biomass growth rate depending on the growing conditions;
- 4) Machine learning algorithms will be experimented to speed up the usually computational intensive process-based computations.

#### Task 4.2 iAqueduct toolbox

- 1) The existing open-source software system MajiSys water information system as the core ;
- 2) The iAqueduct toolbox which consists of water flow processes in relations to the models, soil and vegetation parametrizations and soil parameters as well as forcing fields.



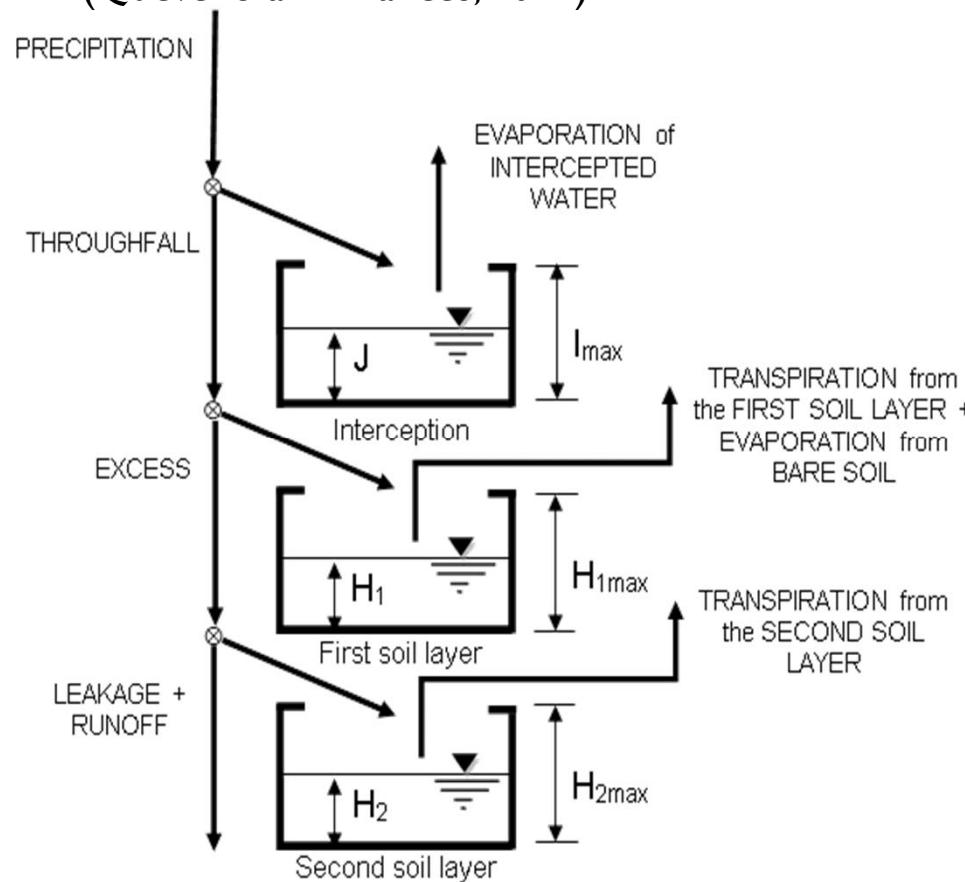
Www.waterjpi.eu

# What is the State-of-the-Art?

## SPAC MODELS III – Minimalist approach

### Hydrological sub-model

(Quevedo and Francés, 2012)



### Dynamic Vegetation sub-model

(Pasquato et al., 2014)

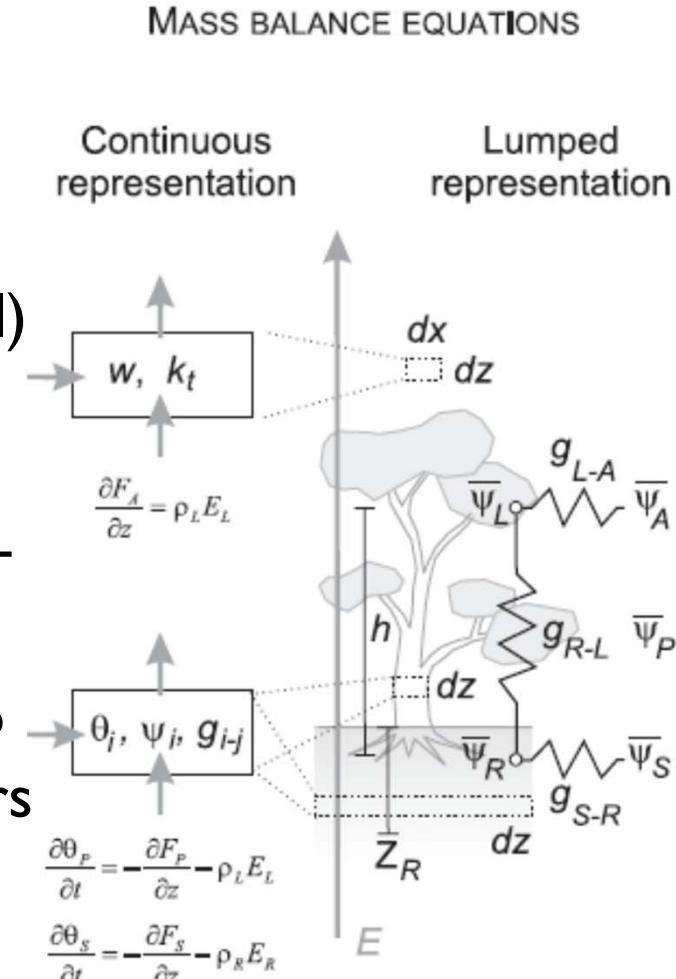
Based on the Light Use Efficiency

## SPAC MODELS II – Leaf-to-plant, layered

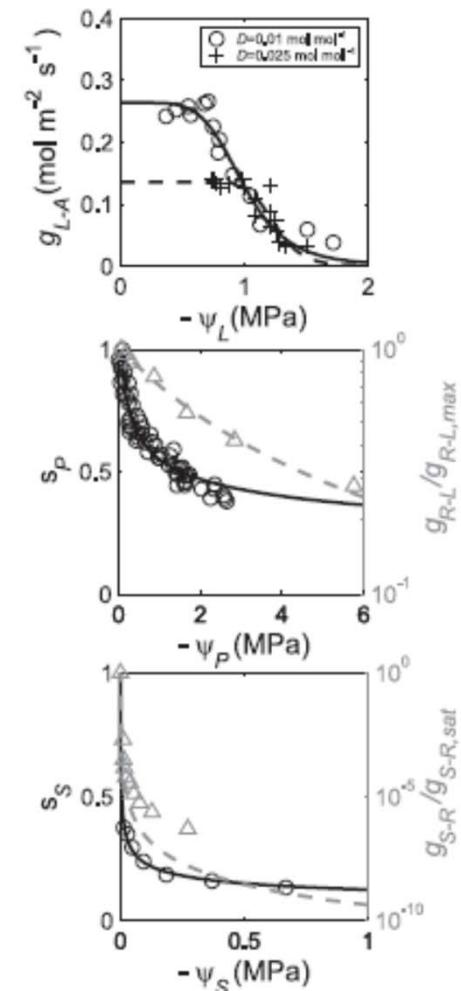
Focus on water balances and fluxes

Energy in some (stomatal) models

Can be lumped (big leaf + soil bucket models) or resolved layers wise (two big leaves or canopy layers + soil layers)

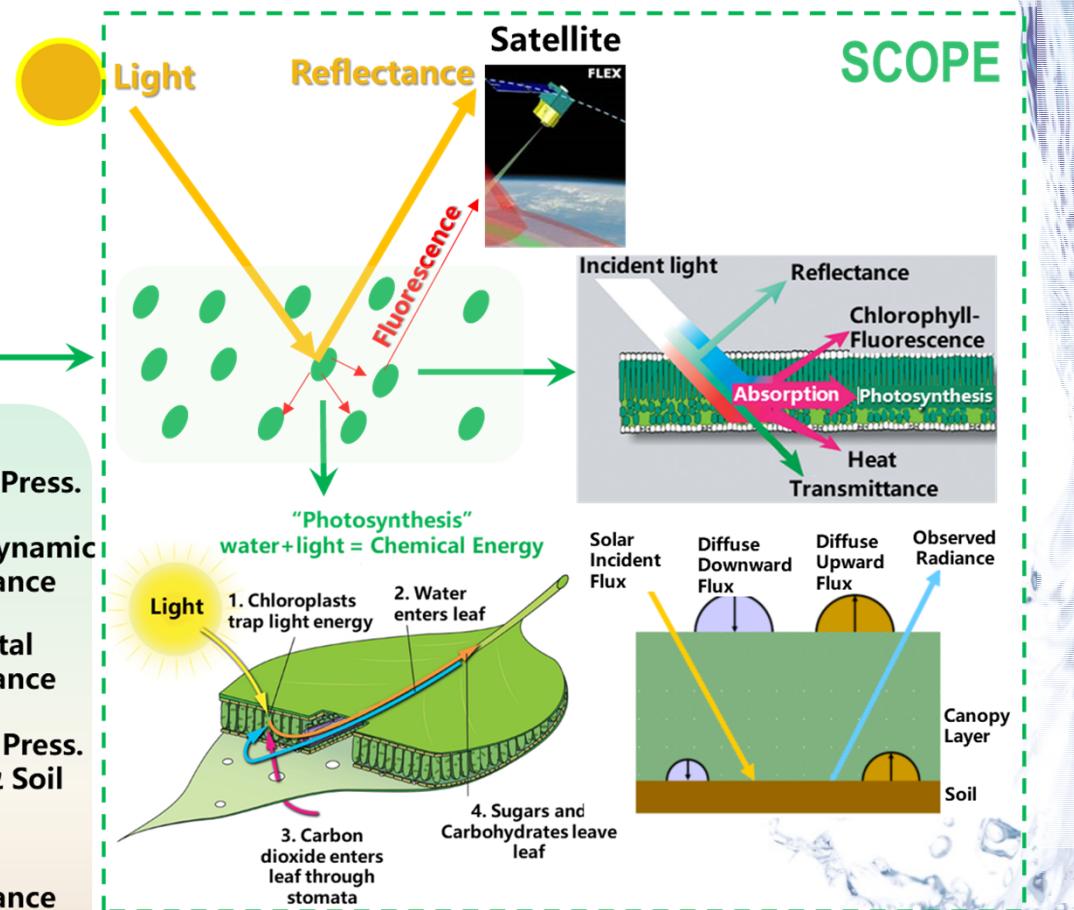
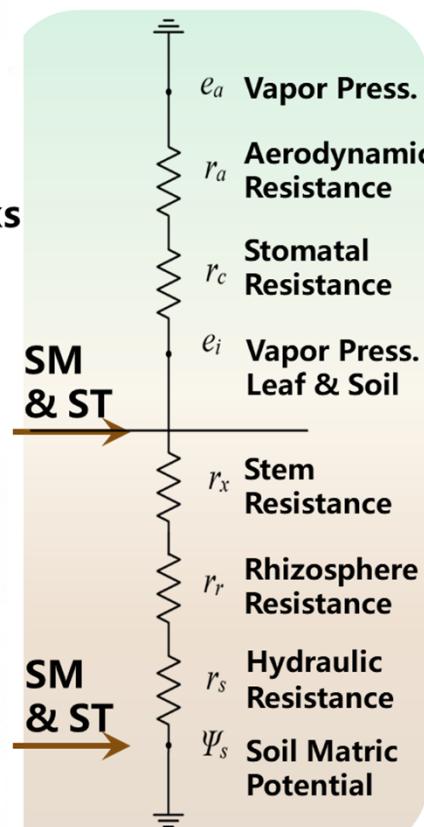
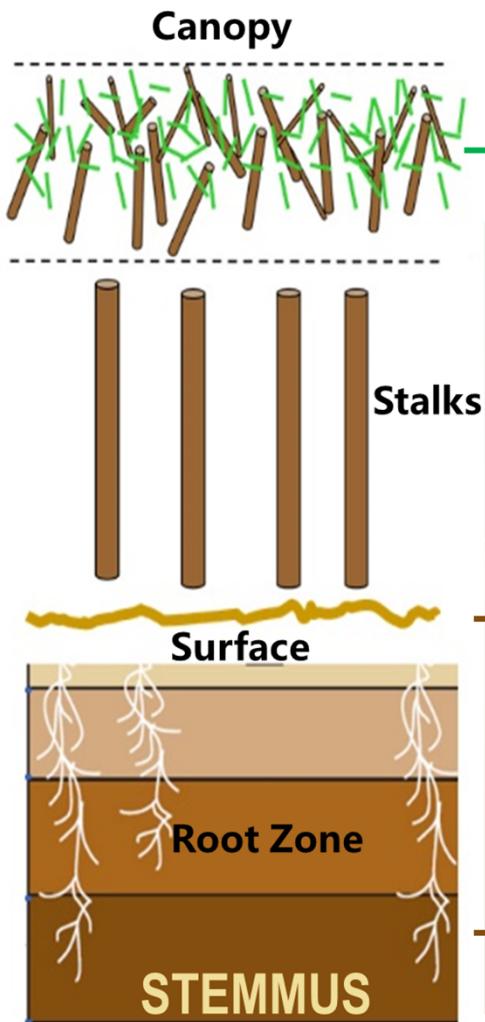


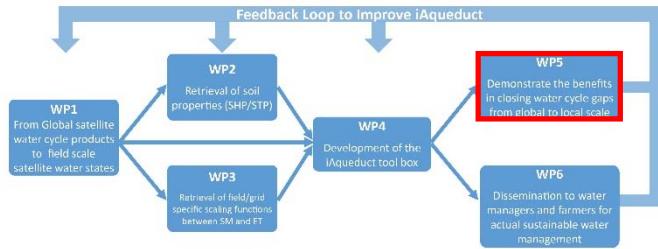
CONSTITUTIVE EQUATIONS



(Manzoni, Vico, Porporato, Katul, 2013 AWR)

# STEMMUS + SCOPE





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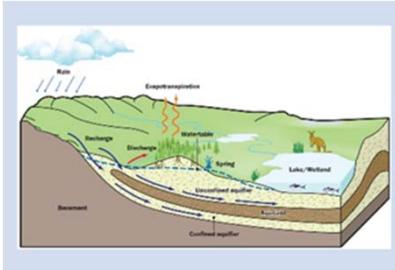
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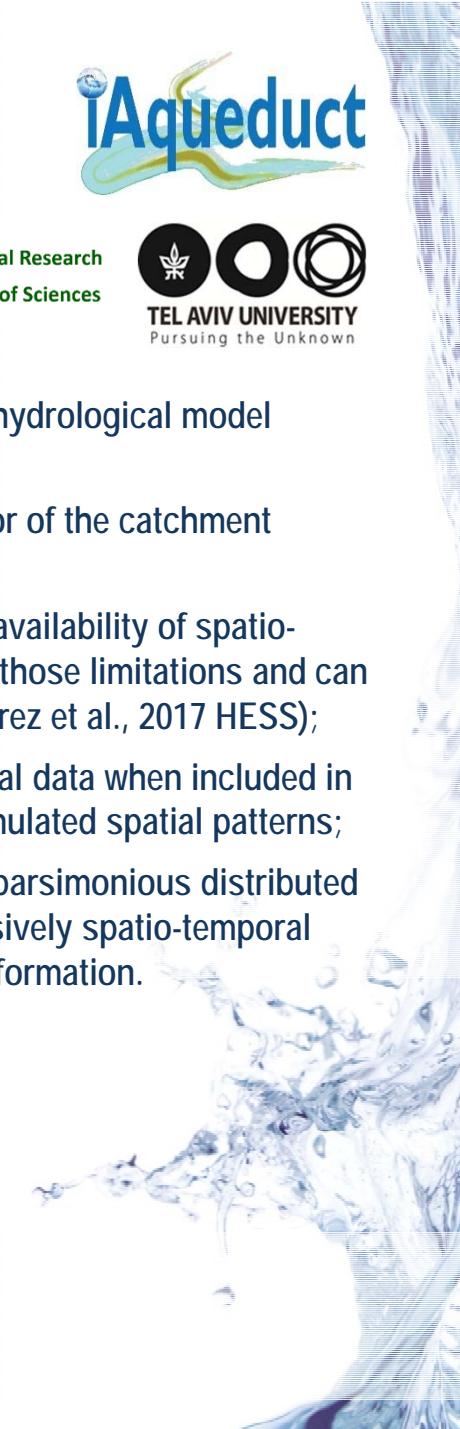
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## WP5 Demonstrate the benefits in closing water cycle gaps from global to local scale



- The aim of this WP is closing water cycle gaps by improving hydrological model implementations using spatial information;
- Discharge provides only limited insight on the spatial behavior of the catchment (Conradt et al., 2013 HESS);
- The development of distributed hydrological models and the availability of spatio-temporal data (WP1-3) appear as key alternative to overcome those limitations and can facilitate a spatial-pattern-oriented model calibration (Ruiz-Pérez et al., 2017 HESS);
- This WP will advance how to effectively handle spatio-temporal data when included in model calibration and how to evaluate the accuracy of the simulated spatial patterns;
- Numerical experiments will be conducted for calibration of a parsimonious distributed ecohydrological daily model in ungauged basins using exclusively spatio-temporal information obtained from WP1 and other remotely sensed information.



# Introduction

► General research question for hydrological modelling: **is it profitable to use RS info for model calibration?**

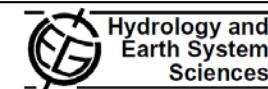
► NDVI at plot scale:

ECOHYDROLOGY  
*Ecohydrol.*, 8, 1024–1036 (2015)  
Published online 6 October 2014 in Wiley Online Library  
(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/eco.1559

**Comparing two approaches for parsimonious vegetation modelling in semiarid regions using satellite data**

Marta Pasquato,<sup>1,\*</sup> Chiara Medici,<sup>1,3</sup> Andrew D. Friend<sup>2</sup> and Félix Fra  
<sup>1</sup> Research Institute of Water and Environmental Engineering, Universitat Politècnica de València, Valen  
<sup>2</sup> Geography Department, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK  
<sup>3</sup> Civil and Environmental Engineering, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA

Hydro. Earth Syst. Sci., 12, 1175–1187, 2008  
www.hydro.earth-syst-sci.net/12/1175/2008/  
© Author(s) 2008. This work is distributed under  
the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License.



**A conceptual dynamic vegetation-soil model for arid and semiarid zones**

D. I. Quevedo<sup>1</sup> and F. Francés<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute for Water Engineering and Environment, Polytechnical University of Valencia, Spain

Journal of Environmental Management 231 (2019) 653–665

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Environmental Management journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jenvman](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jenvman)

ELSEVIER

Research article

Managing low productive forests biomass and fire risk to achieve e

María González-Sanchis<sup>a,\*</sup>, Guiomar Ruiz-Pérez<sup>b</sup>, Félix Francés<sup>c</sup>, Cristina Lull<sup>a</sup>

Hydro. Earth Syst. Sci., 21, 6235–6251, 2017  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-21-6235-2017>  
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The Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License logo consists of two circles: one with 'cc' and another with a person icon.

**Calibration of a parsimonious distributed ecohydrological daily model in a data-scarce basin by exclusively using the spatio-temporal variation of NDVI**

Guilomar Ruiz-Pérez<sup>1,6</sup>, Julian Koch<sup>2,3</sup>, Salvatore Manfreda<sup>4</sup>, Kelly Taylor<sup>5</sup>, and Félix Francés<sup>6</sup>

Hydrology and Earth System Sciences  
Open Access  
EGU

► NDVI at catchment

# Temporal efficiencies

- ▶ Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency index (NSE) (Frances et al, 2019)

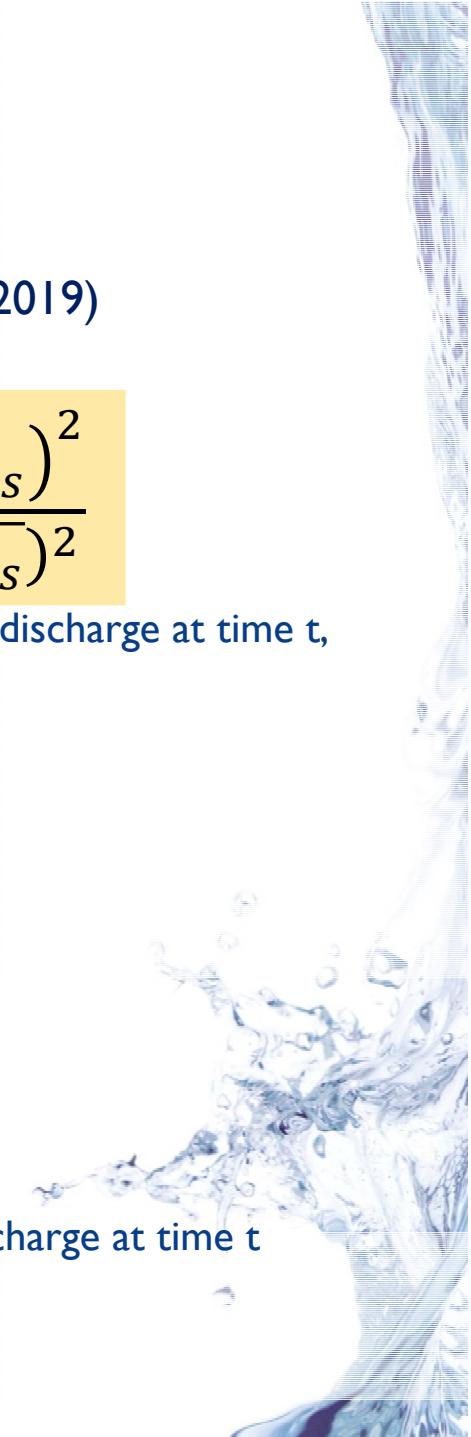
$$1 - NSE = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_{sim}^t - Q_{obs}^t)^2}{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_{obs}^t - \bar{Q}_{obs})^2}$$

where  $Q_{sim}^t$  is modelled discharge at time t,  $Q_{obs}^t$  is observed discharge at time t,  
 $\bar{Q}_{obs}$  is the mean of observed discharges

- ▶ Balance Error in % (BE)

$$BE = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_{sim}^t - Q_{obs}^t)}{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_{obs}^t)}$$

where  $Q_{sim}^t$  is modelled discharge at time t,  $Q_{obs}^t$  is observed discharge at time t

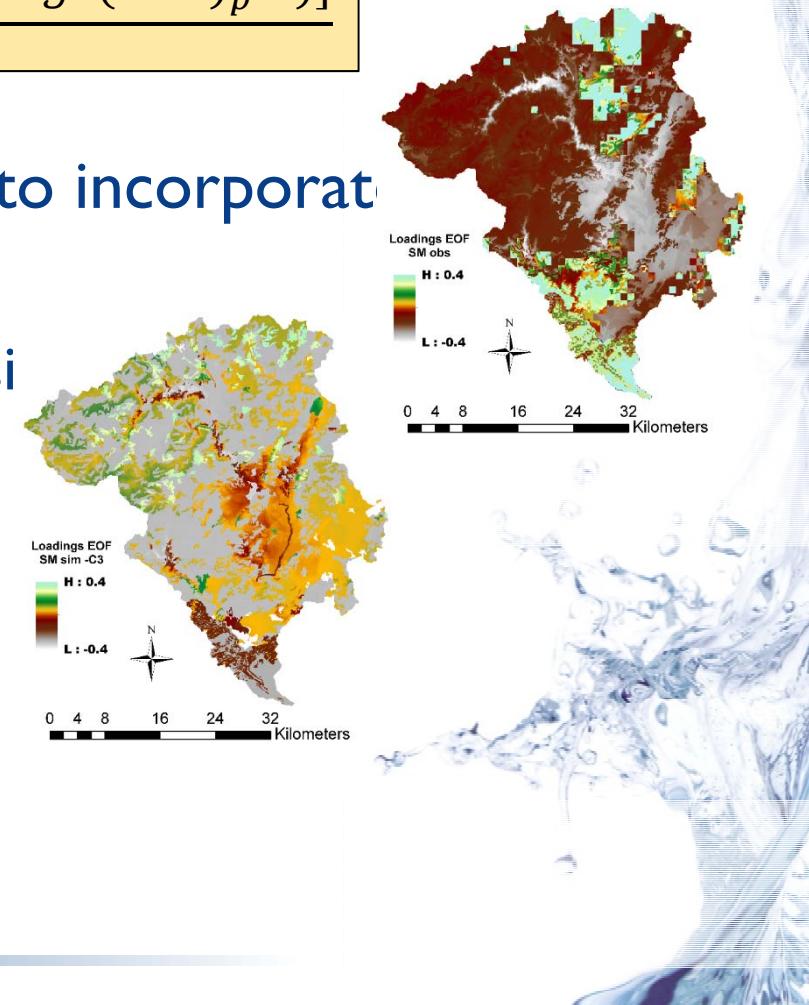


# Spatio-temporal efficiency (STE)

(Frances et al, 2019)

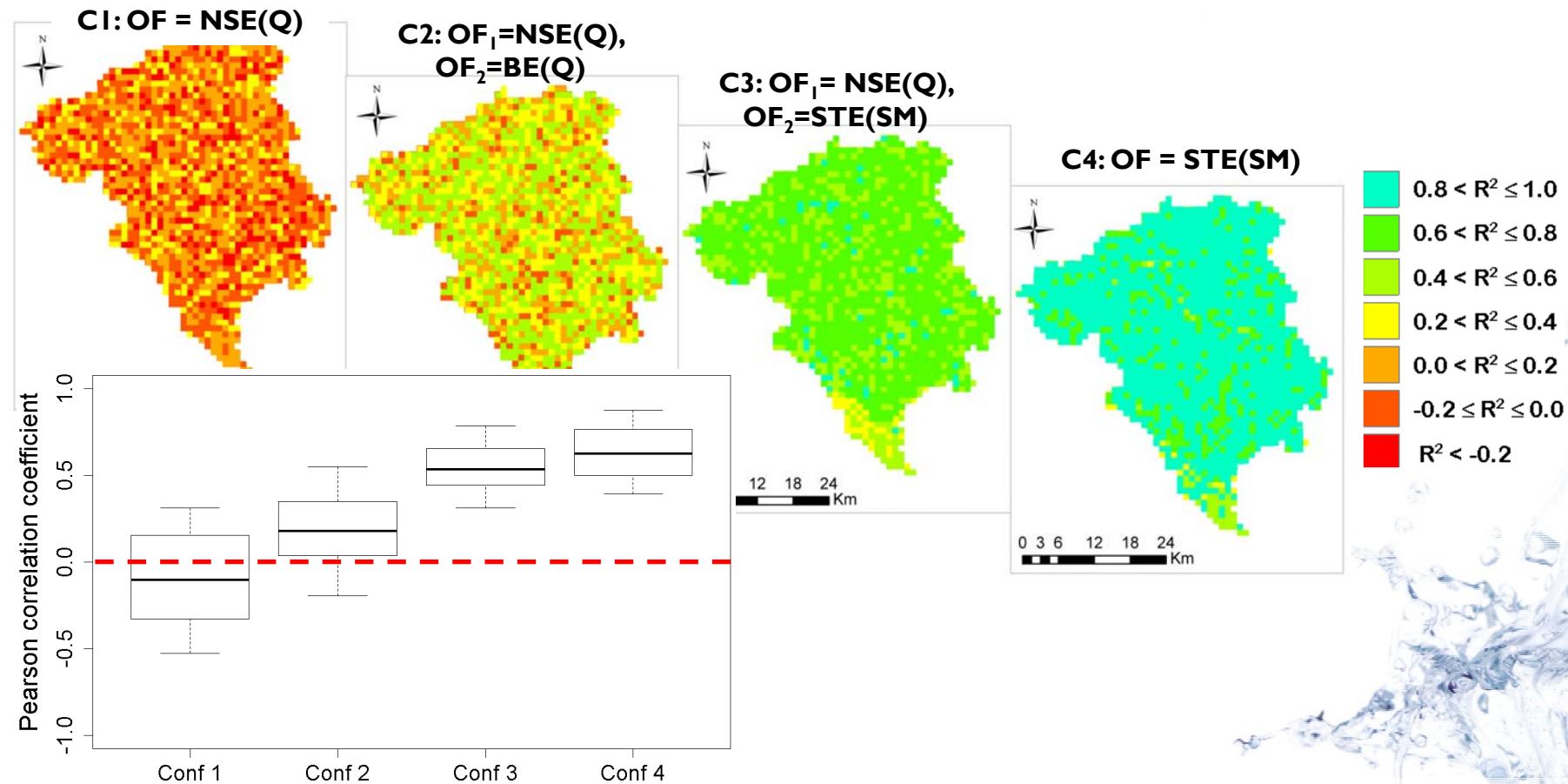
$$STE = \frac{\sum_{p=1}^N [w_p * NSE(loadings(EOF)_p^{obs}, loadings(EOF)_p^{sim})]}{N}$$

- ▶ STE (and any other metric) tries to incorporate:
  - ▶ Spatial pattern
  - ▶ Temporal dynamics, without considering the exact values of the satellite



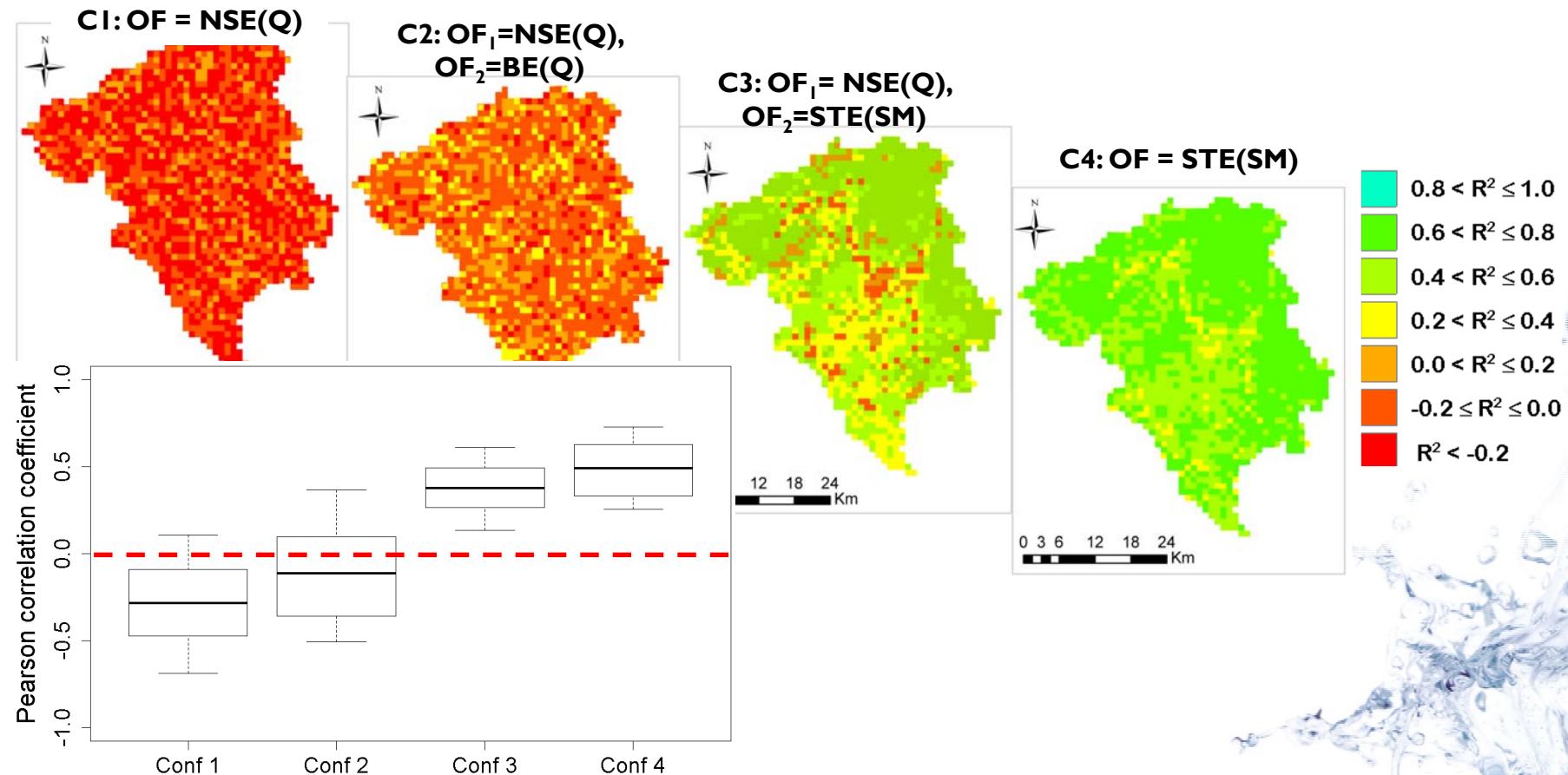
# Soil Moisture R<sup>2</sup> maps: calibration period

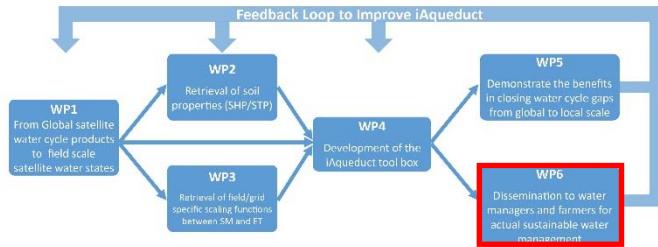
(Frances et al, 2019)



# LAI R<sup>2</sup> maps: calibration period

(Frances et al, 2019)





## WP6

**Disseminate generated knowledge and tools for actual sustainable water management**

- The aim of WP6 is to disseminate and communicate the generated knowledge and tools to water managers, companies and farmers for actual sustainable water management.
- In order to be effective, stakeholders will be engaged in the entire project for the effective transfer of the project achievements and will be consulted for the actual needs for real life water management.
- We will use the 2018 summer European drought as a concrete retrospective application to demonstrate the advantage of using detailed water cycle information for water management.



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# Potential links to Ruisdael Observatory?

- ▶ Micro-scale soil physical processes?
- ▶ Micro-scale biophysical processes?
- ▶ Potential coupling with micro-physics on the ground?





Thanks for your attentions

