

Soil moisture sensing with cosmic-ray induced neutron showers





Markus Köhli

Martin Schrön

Ulrich Schmidt

Peter Dietrich

Steffen Zacharias

UP 16.2

UP 16.4

Simulation

Application

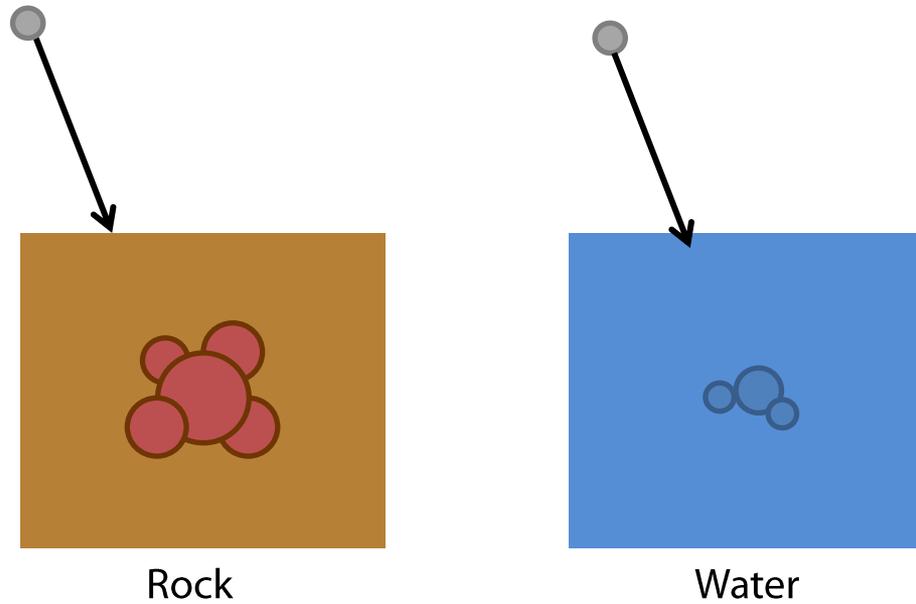
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with

cosmic-ray induced neutron showers

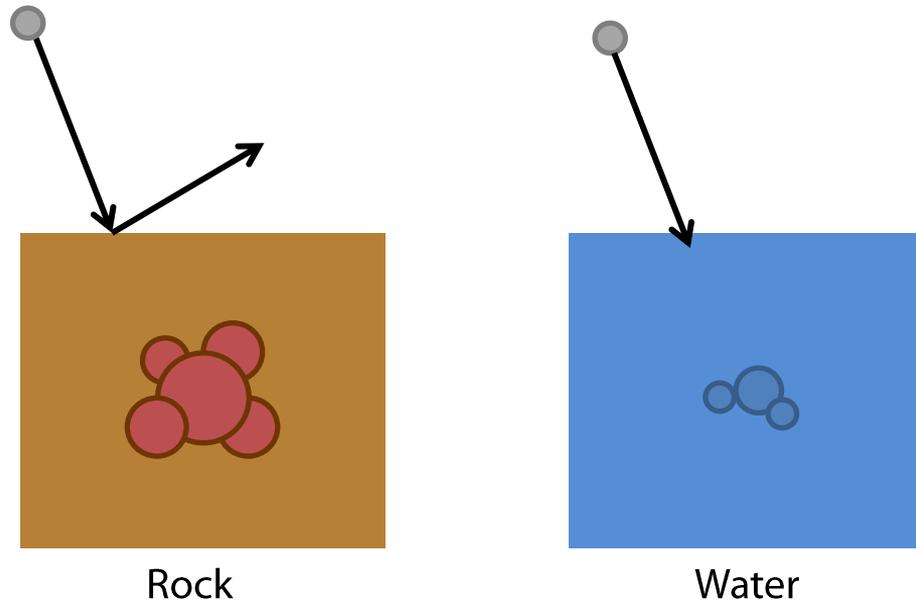


Neutron response to water



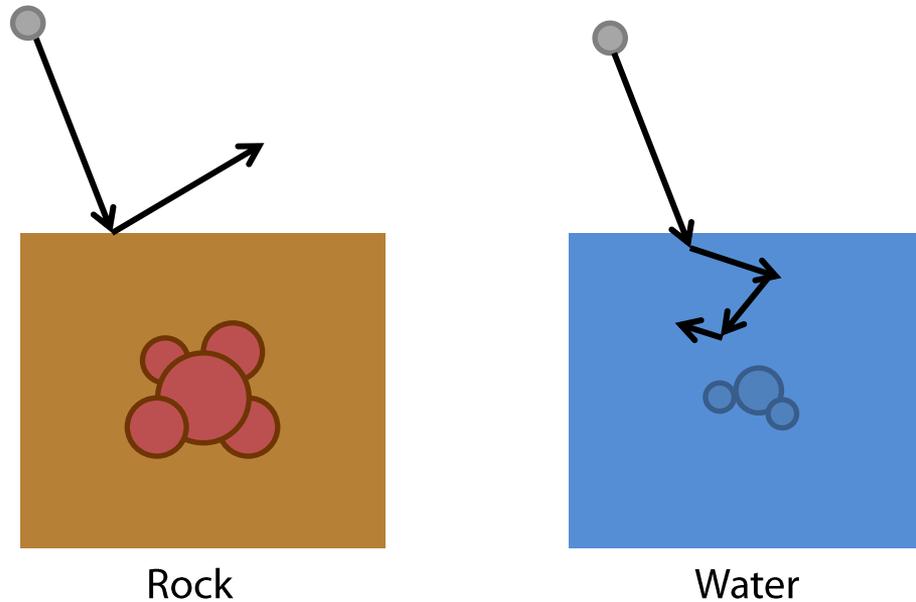
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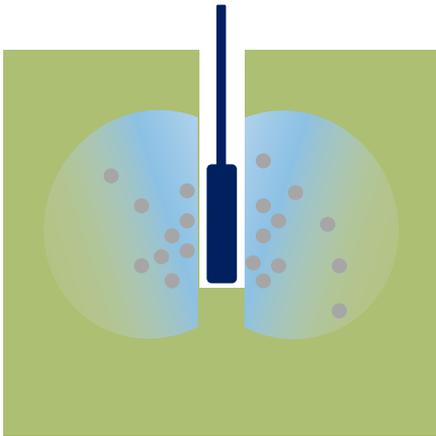


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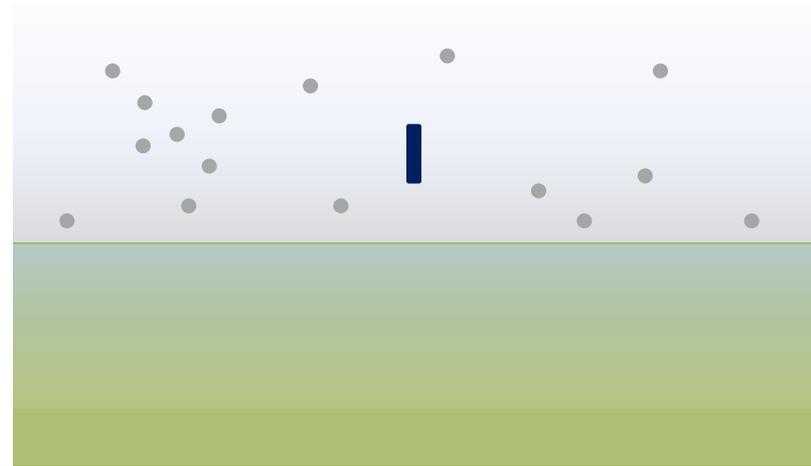
active

small distinct domain



passive

large area, diffusive

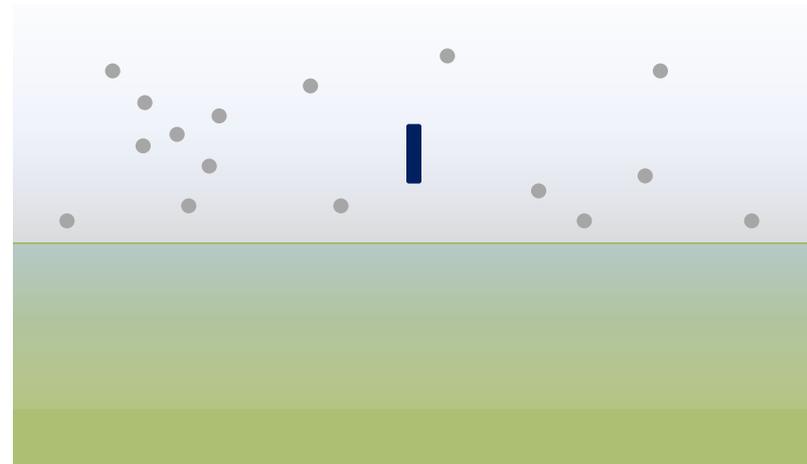


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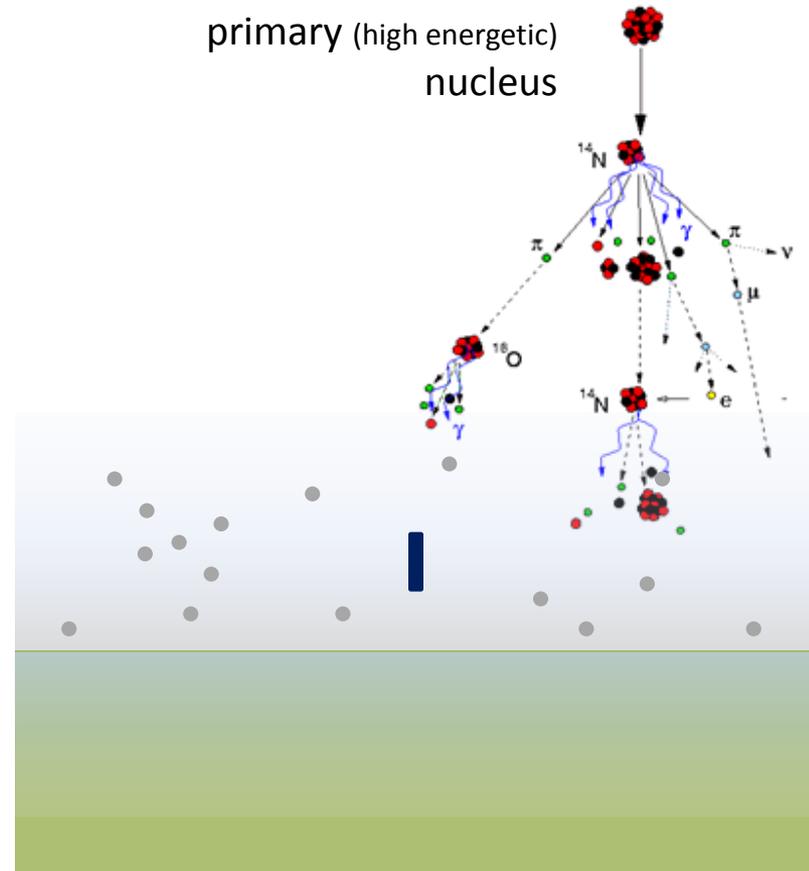
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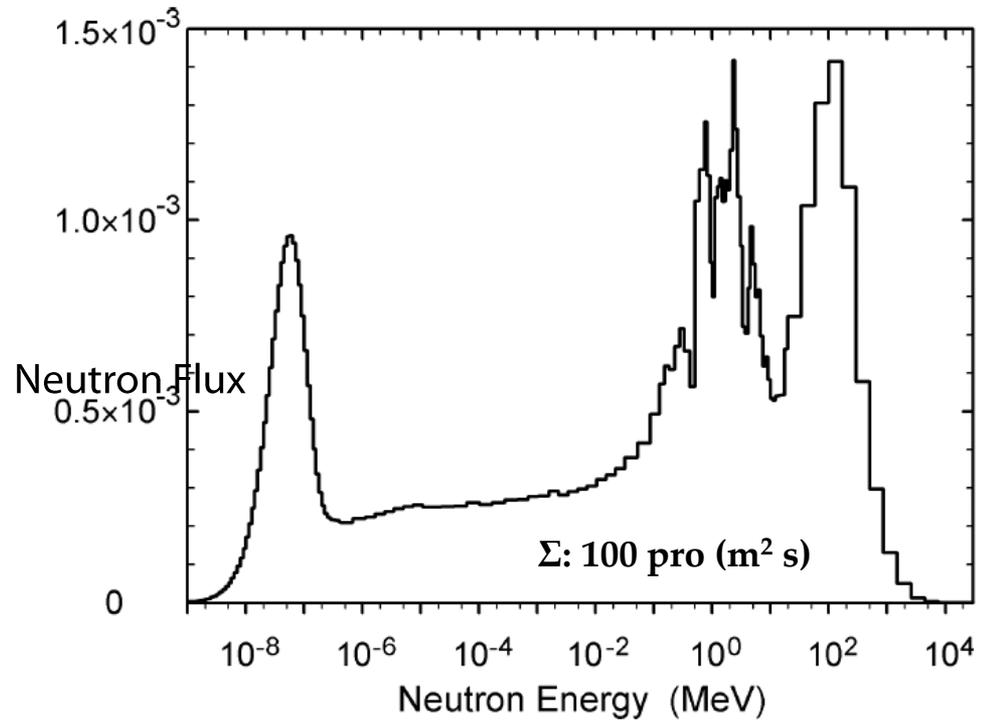
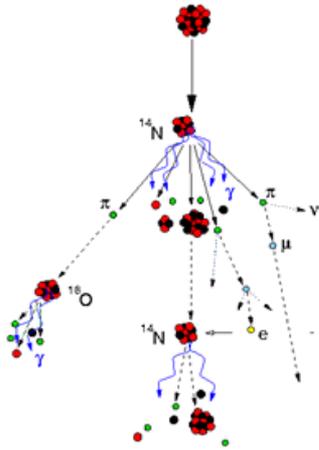
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Cosmic Neutrons



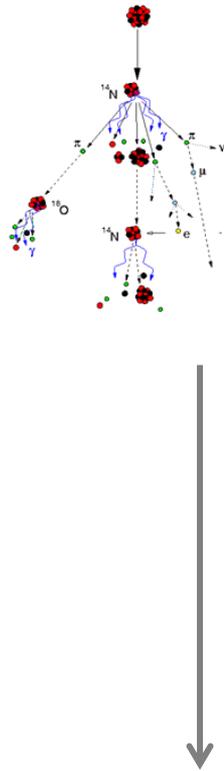
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The Cosmic Neutron Spectrum

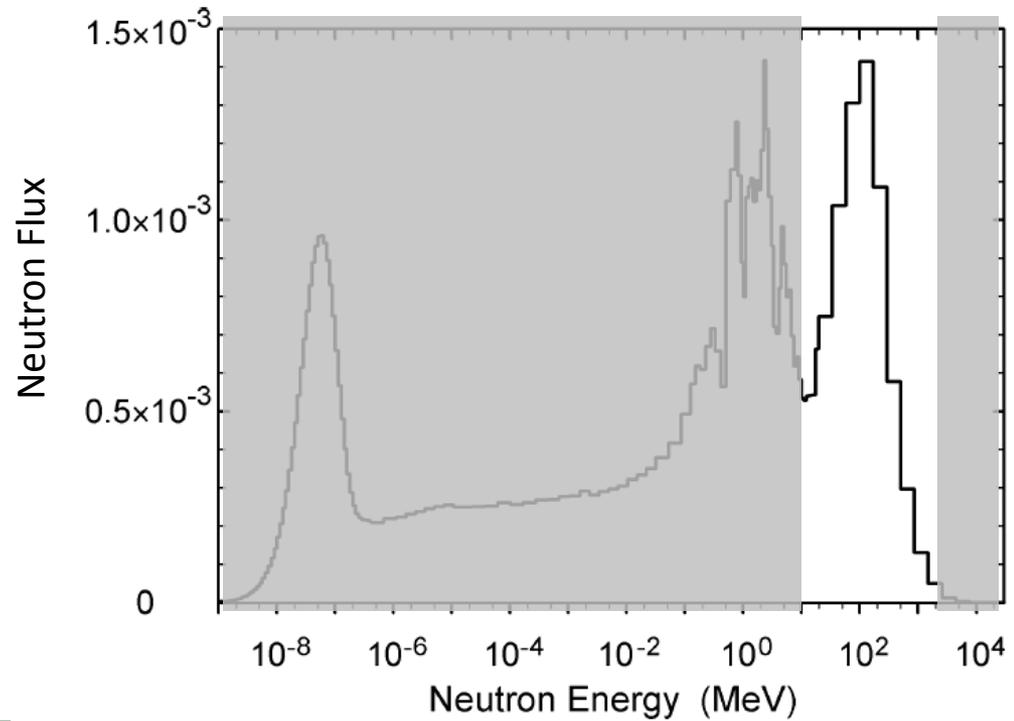


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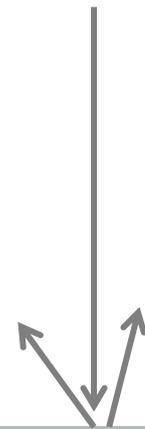
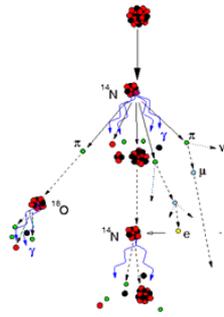


Base Spectrum



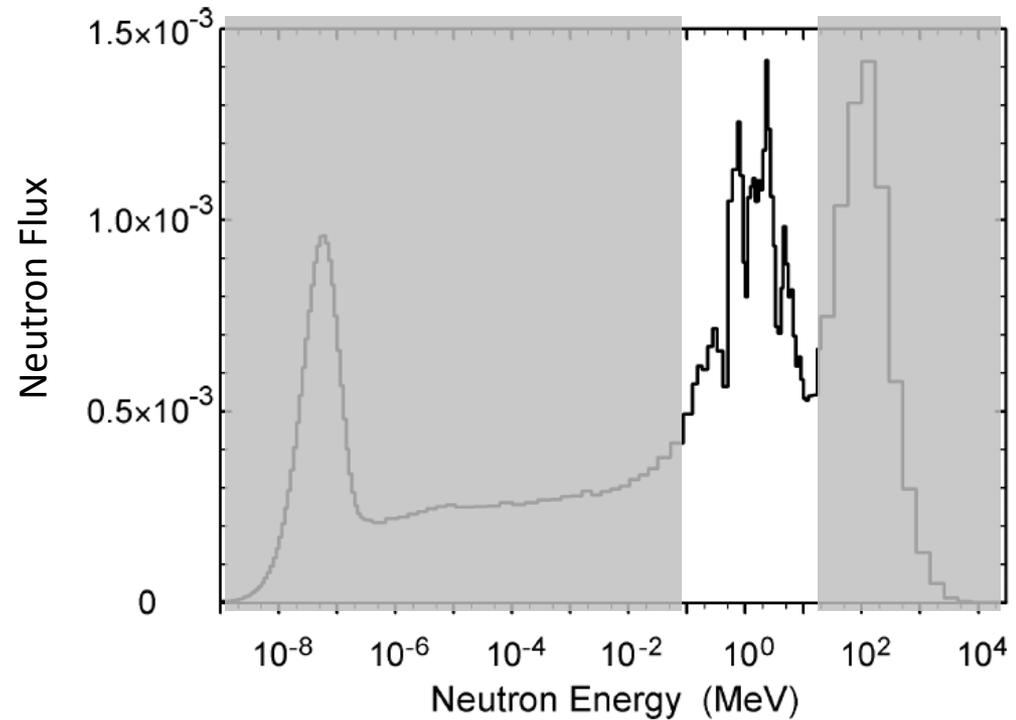
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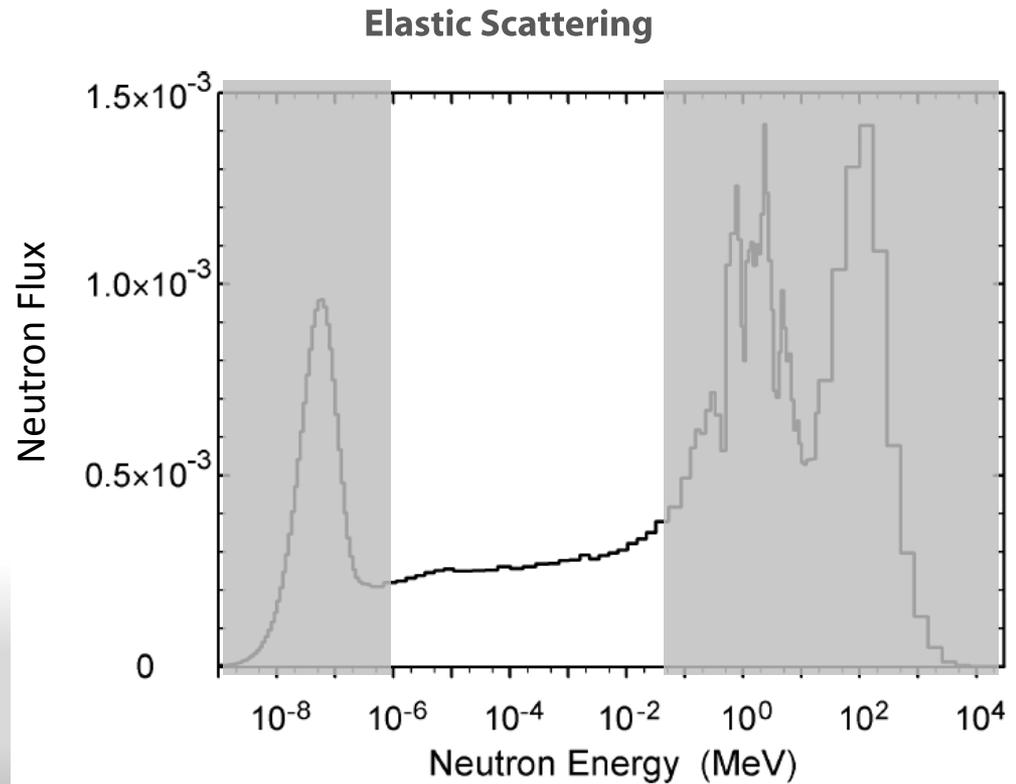
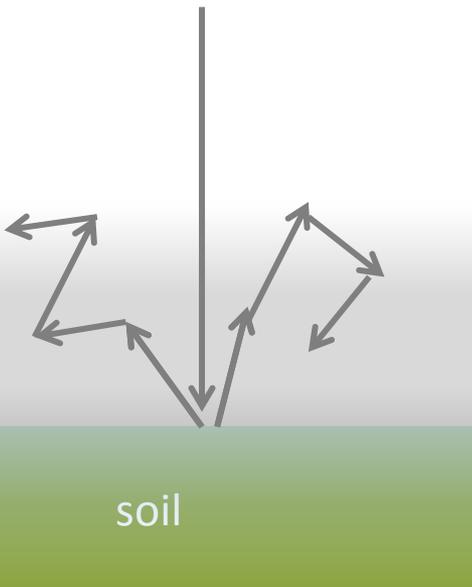
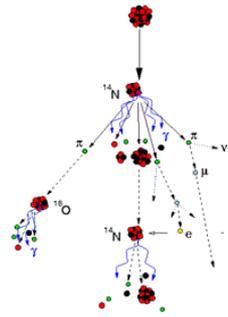
soil

Evaporation



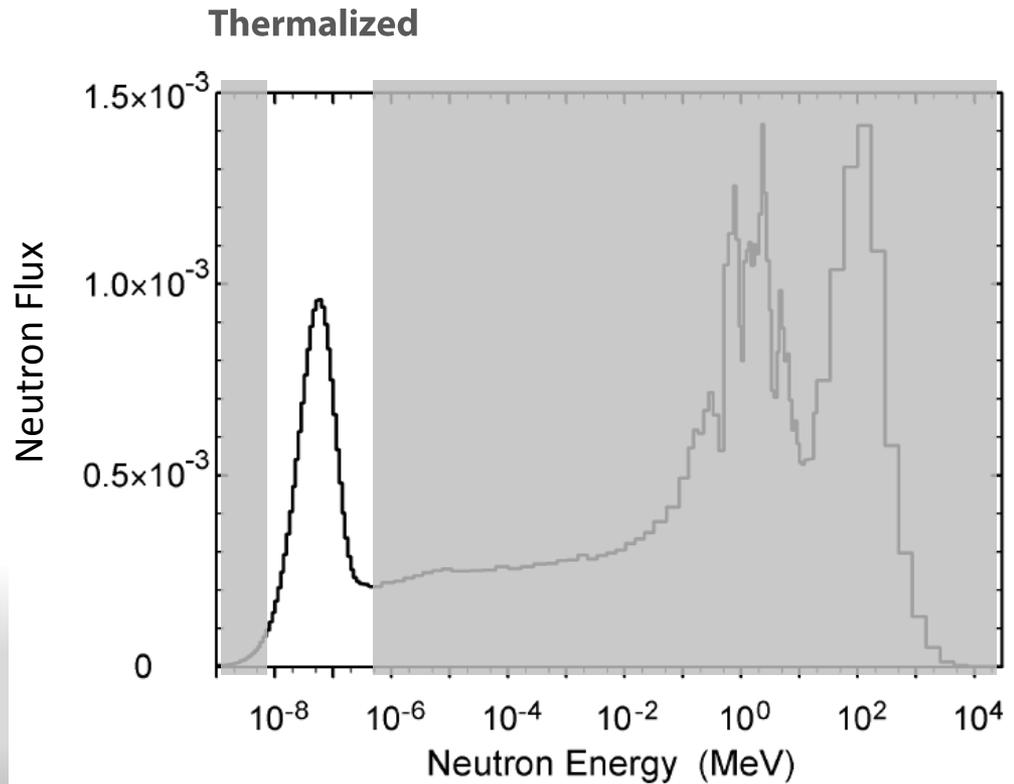
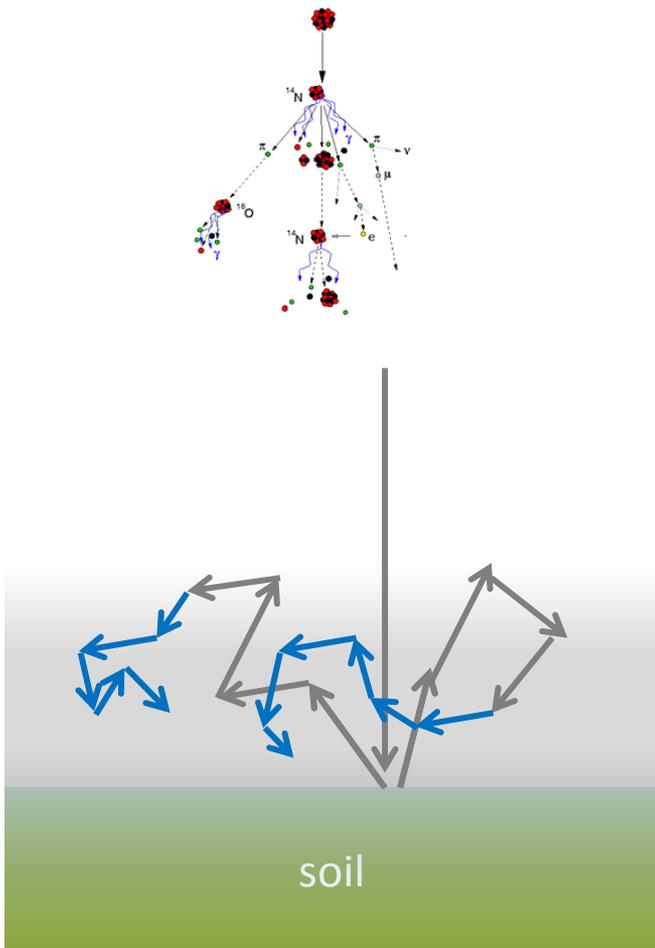
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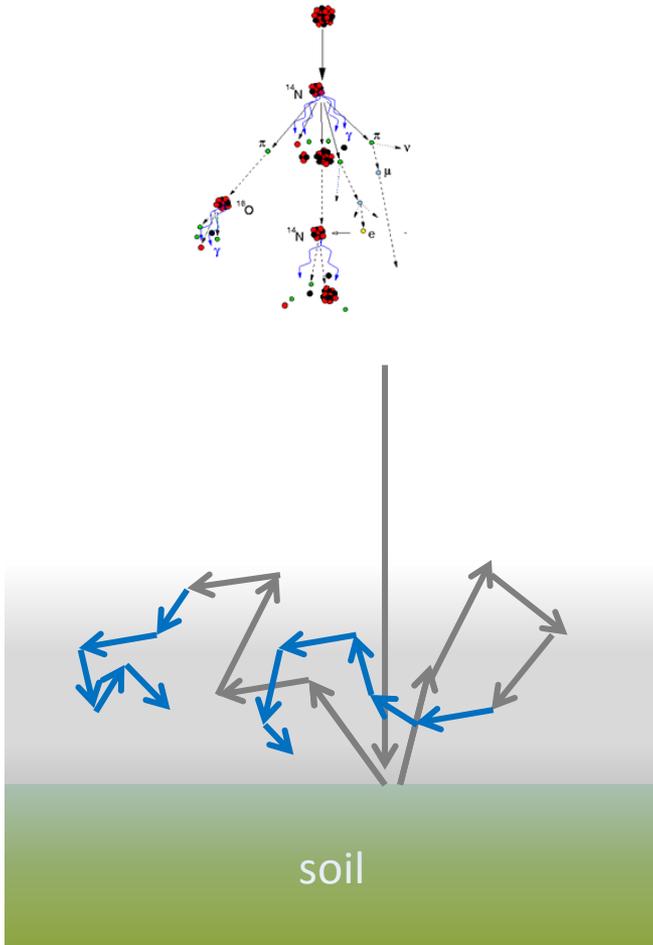
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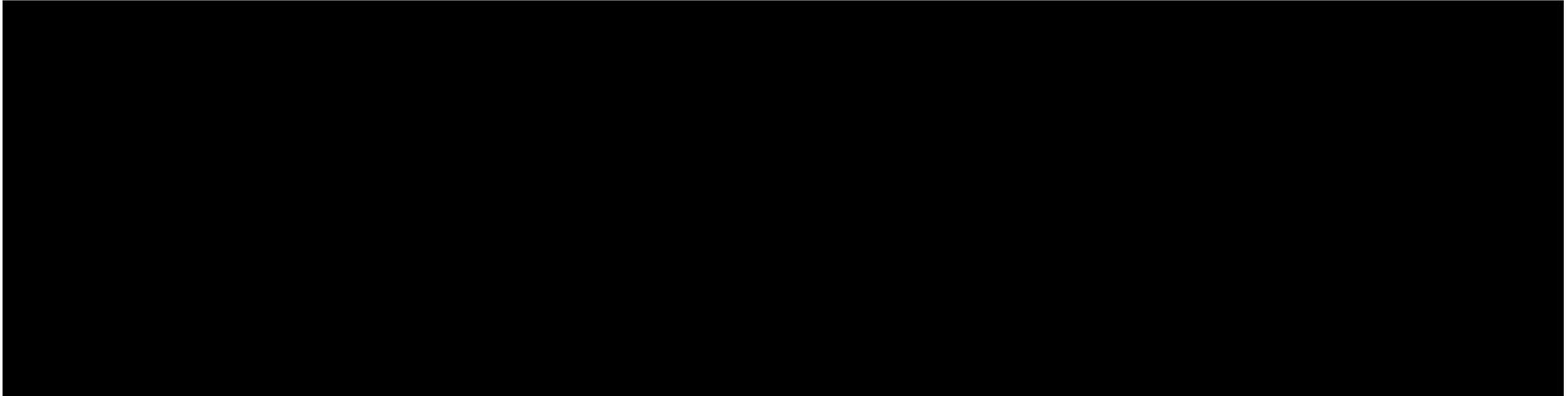
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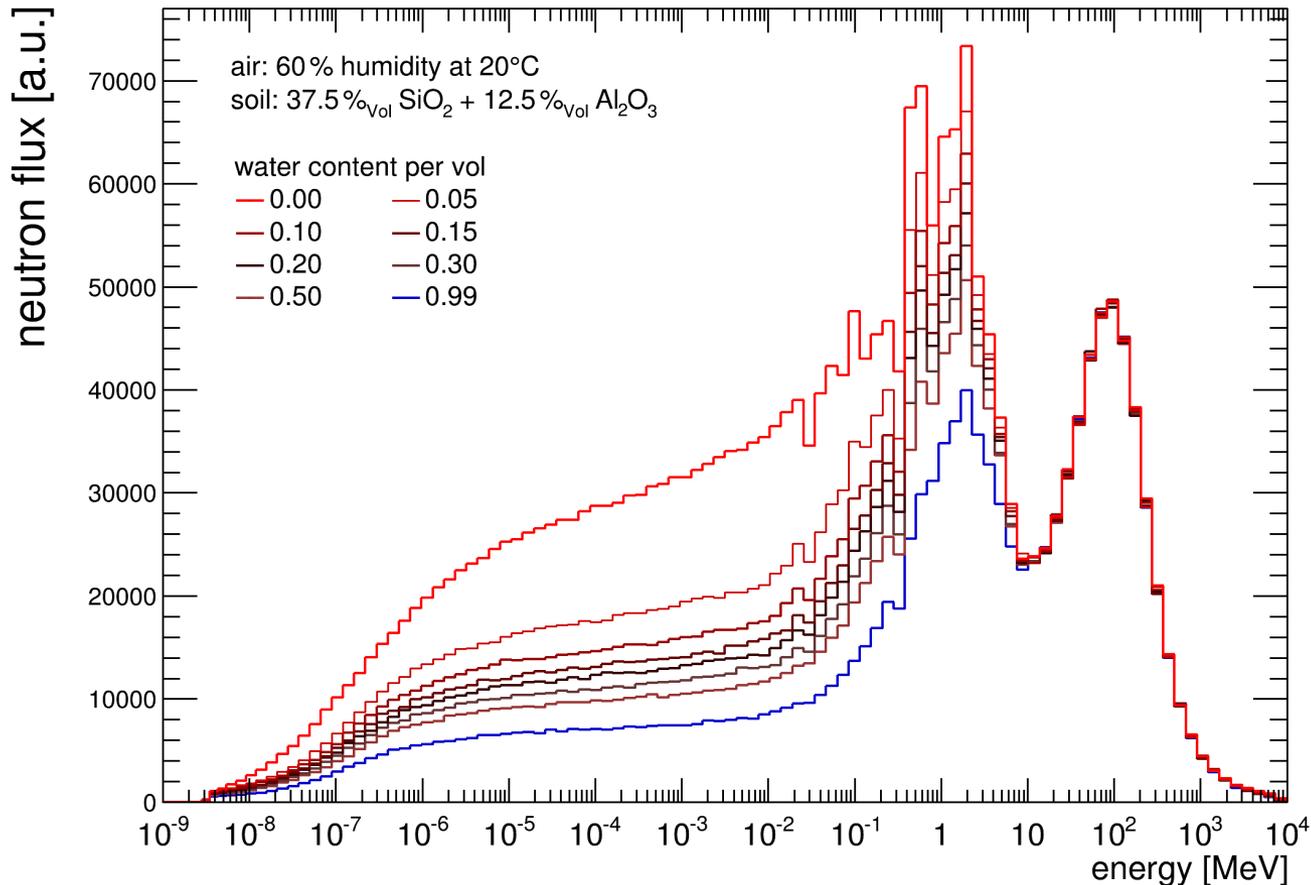
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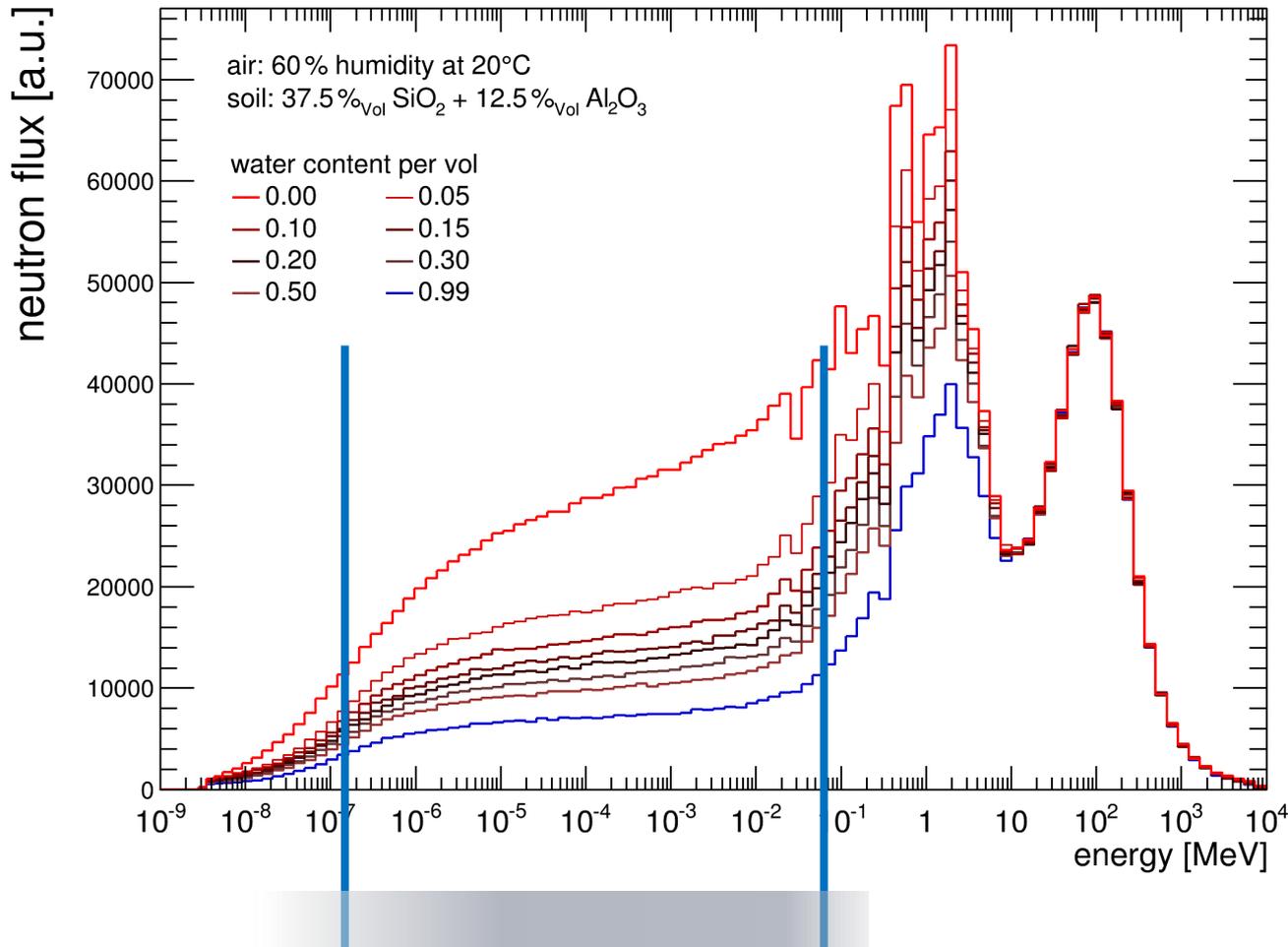
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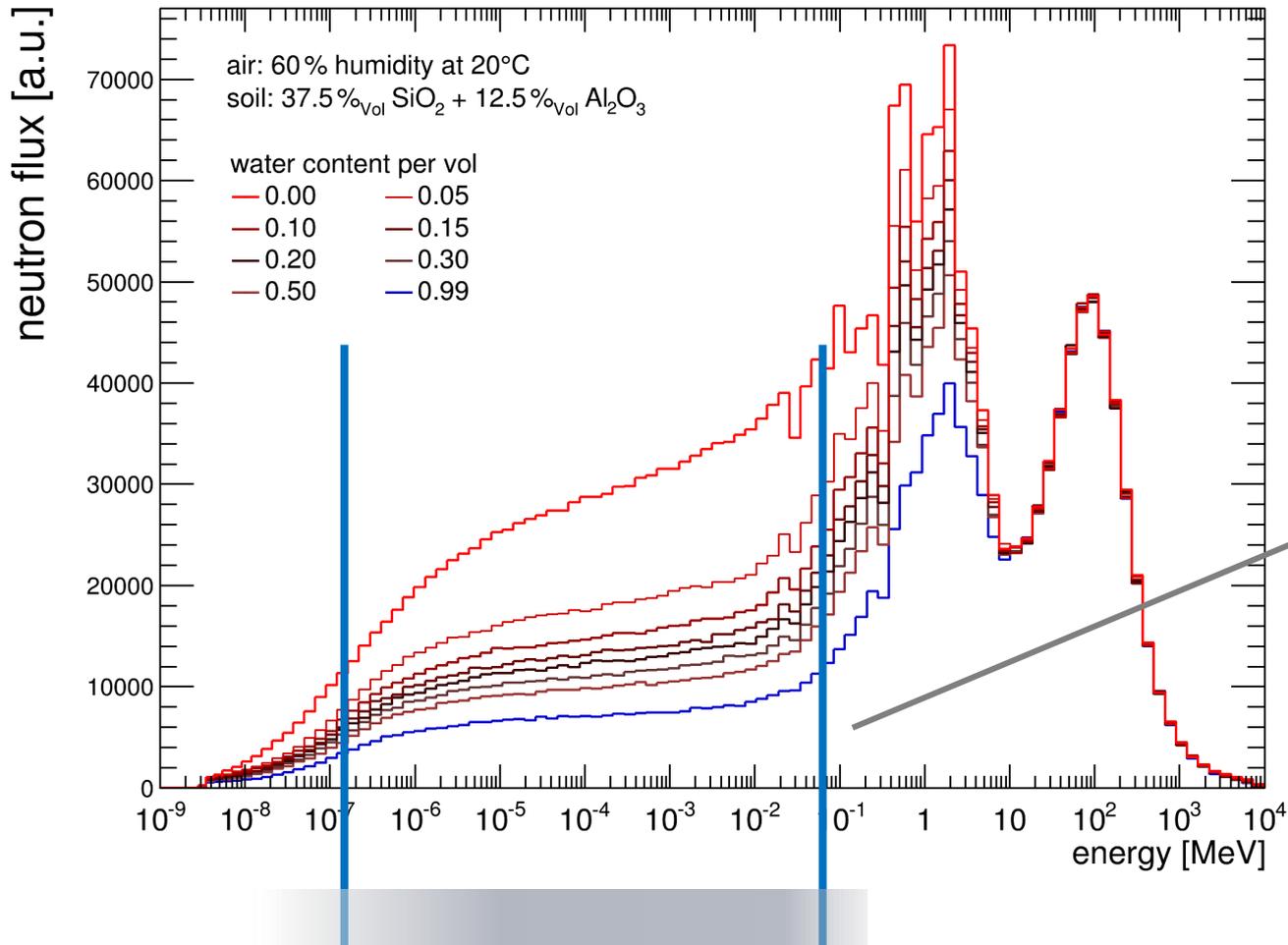
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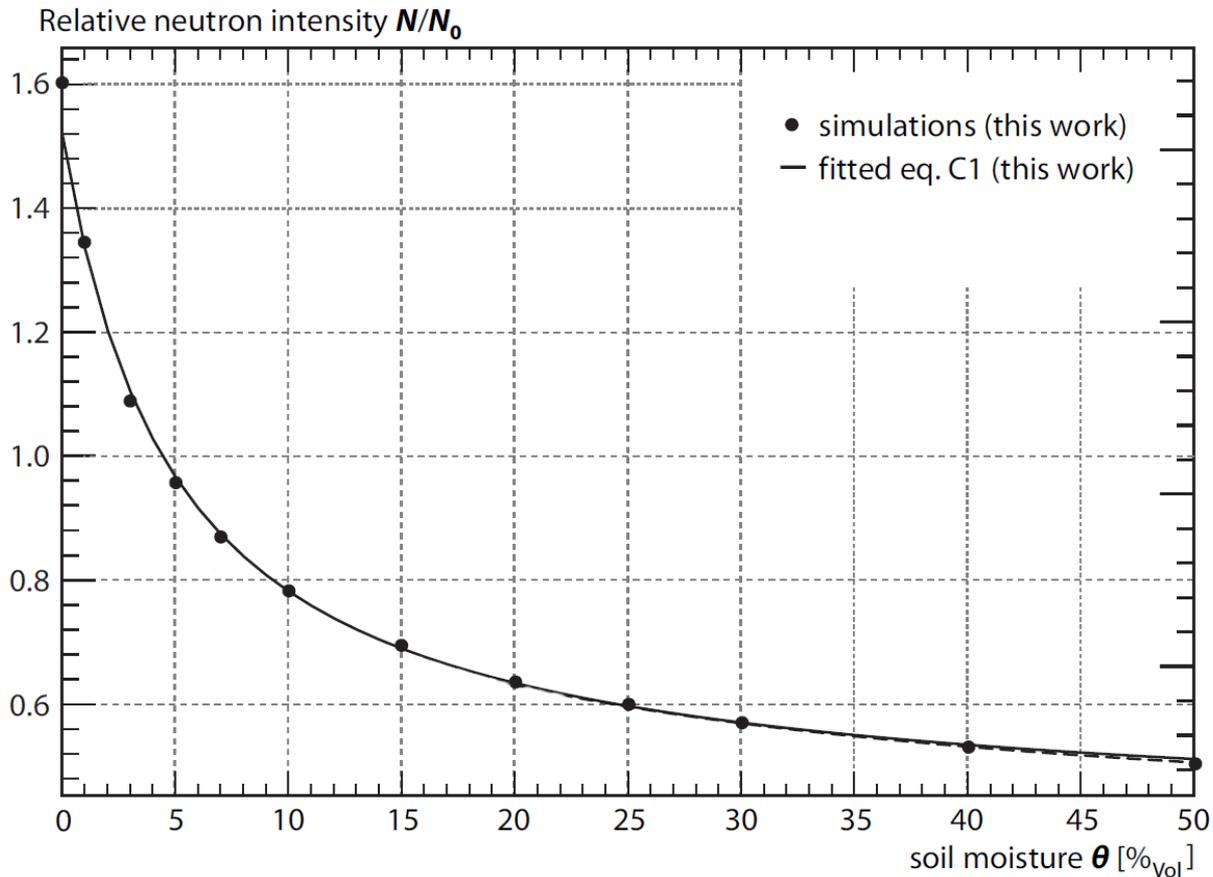
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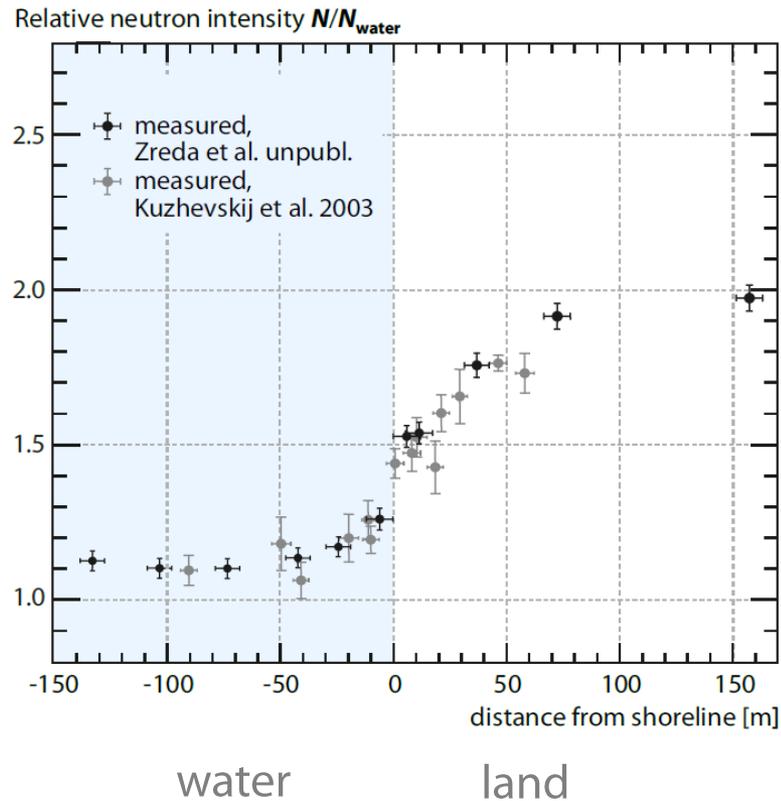
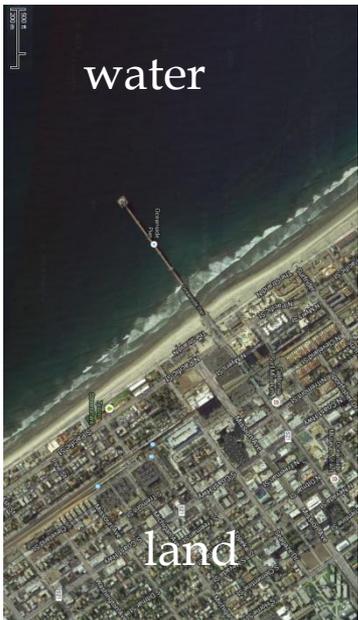
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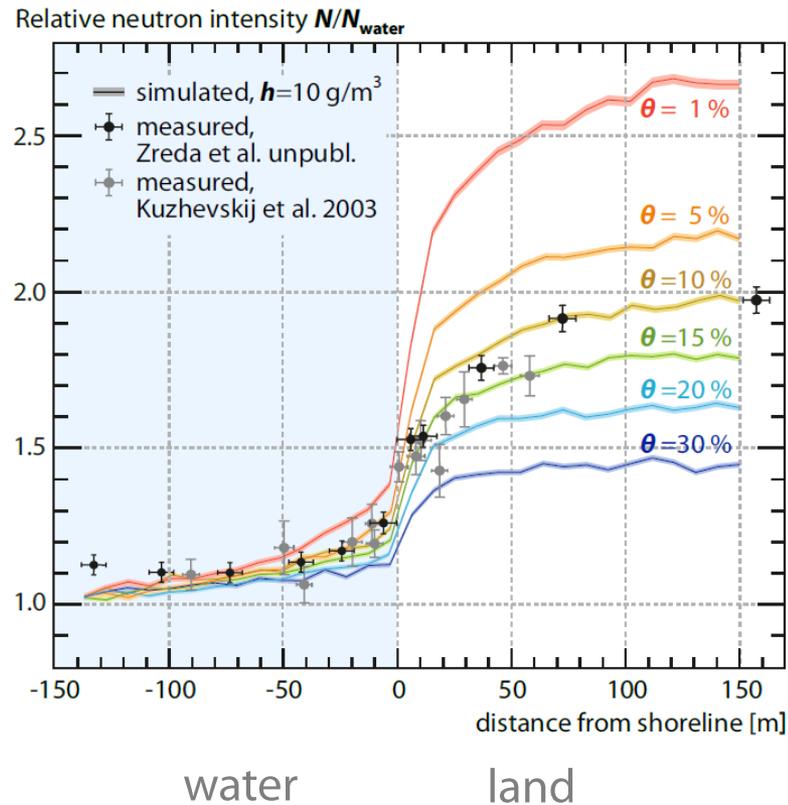
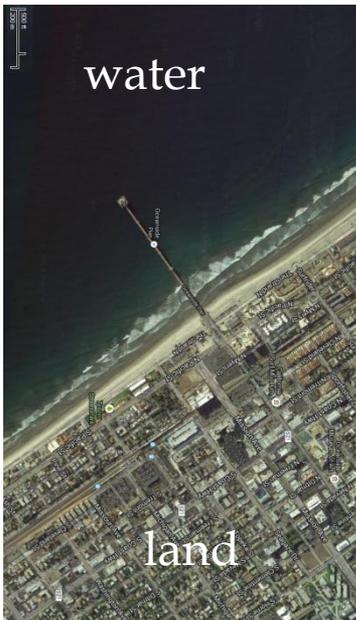
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Coastal Transect



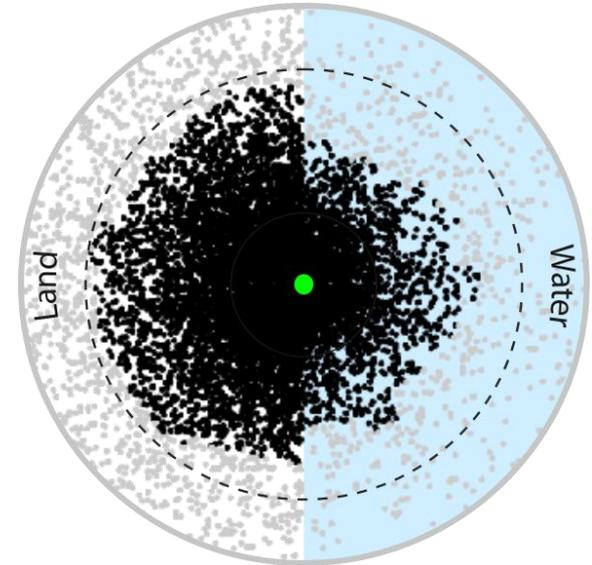
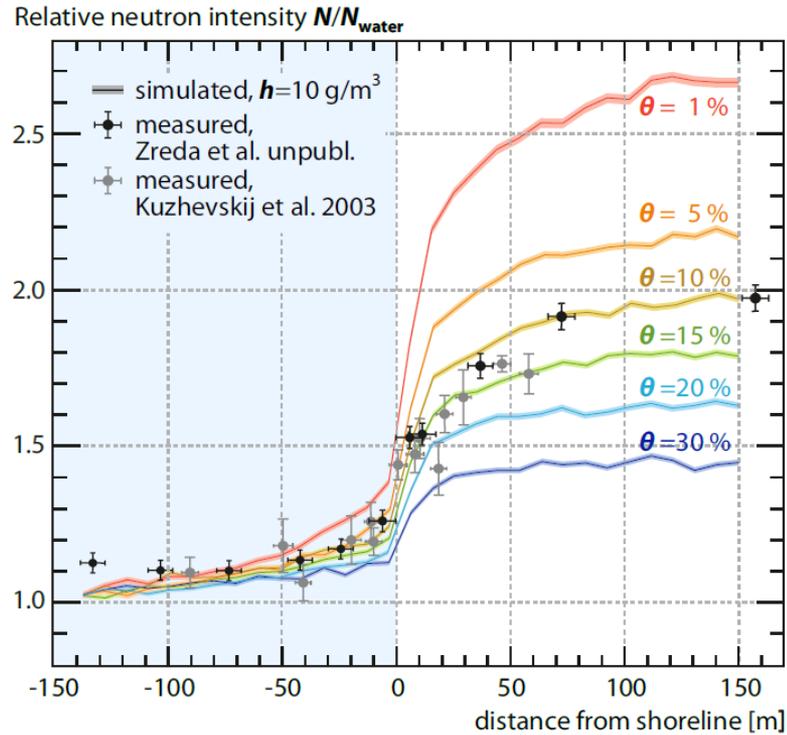
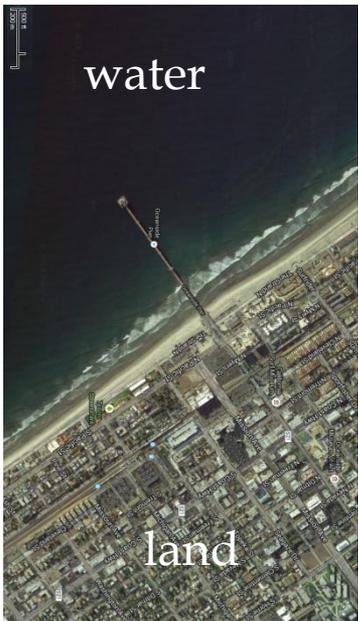
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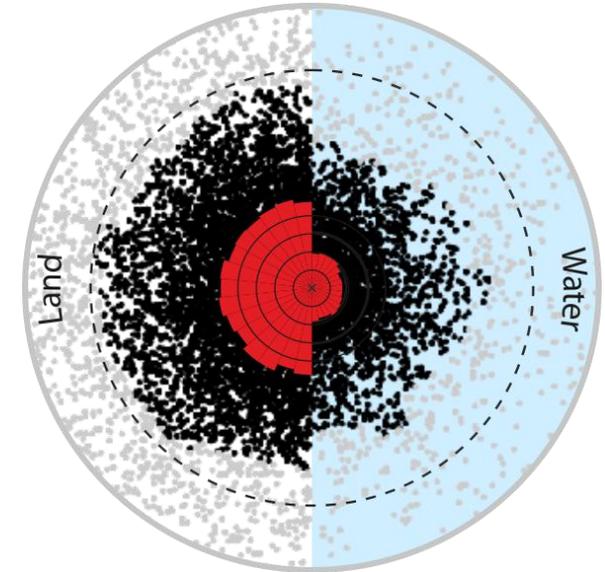
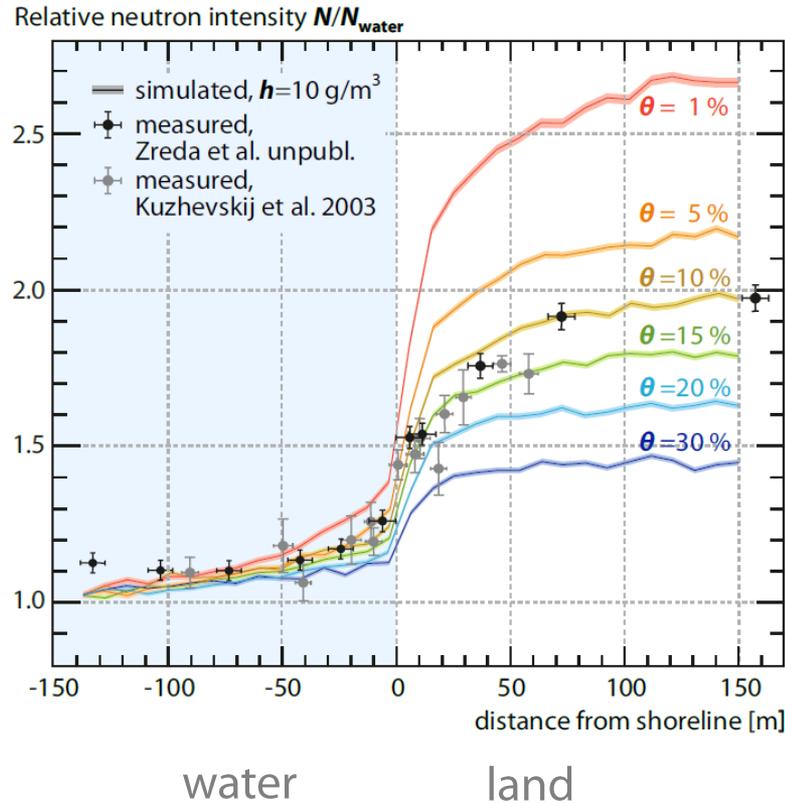
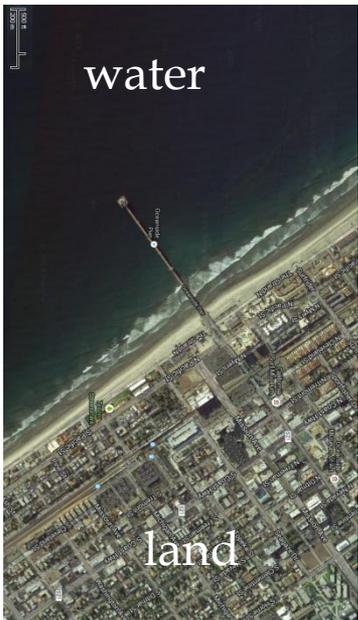


water land

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Costal Transect

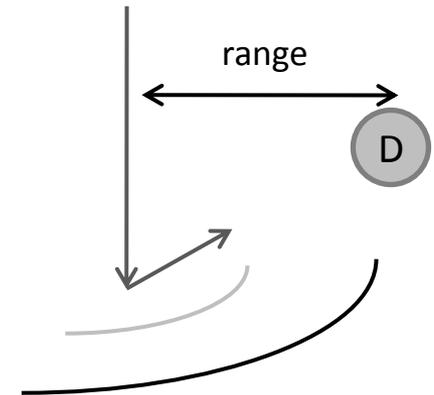


- Detected neutron origins (first contact to soil)
- Closest 86% of neutron origins for each 12° sector
- Neutron intensity for each 12° sector [arb. units]
- Footprint $R_{86}(5\text{g/m}^3, 5\%)=210\text{m}$ for homogeneous soil

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The Footprint

How far do reflected neutrons travel?



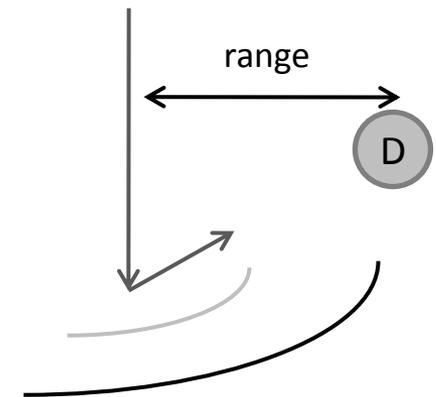
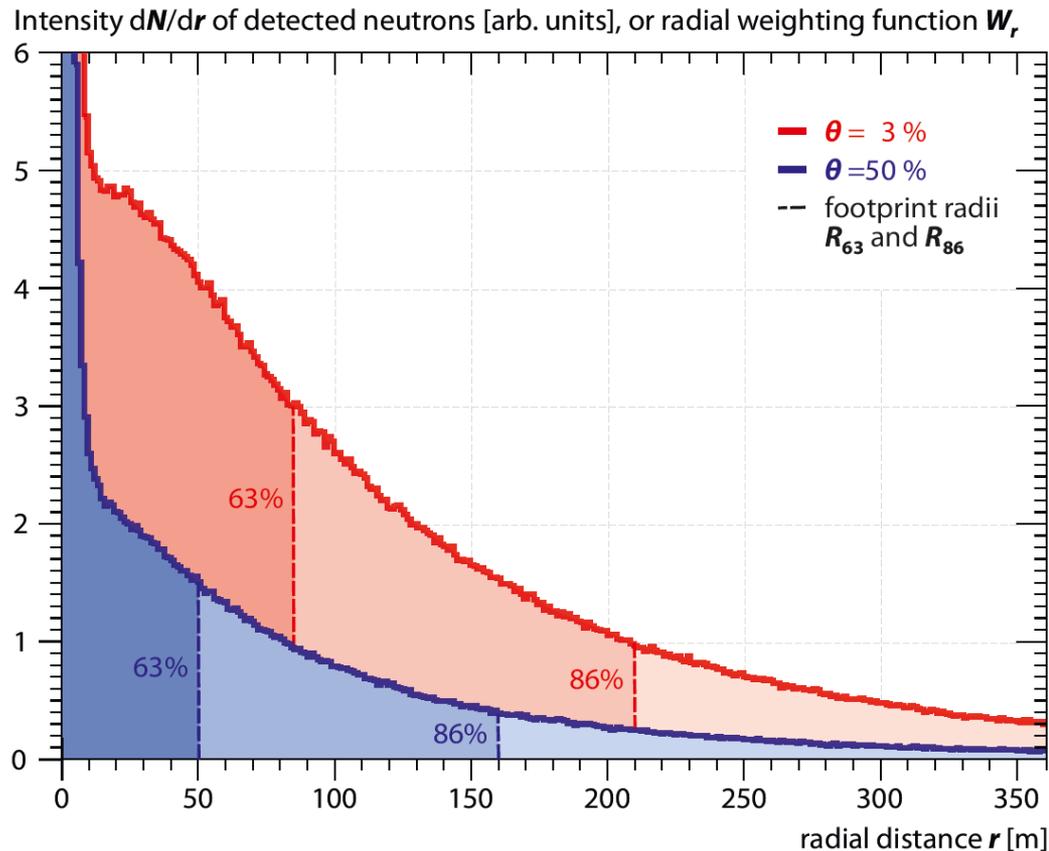
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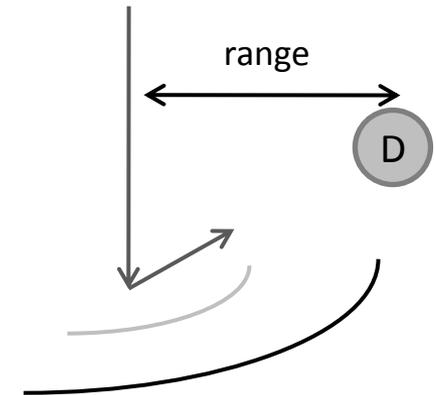
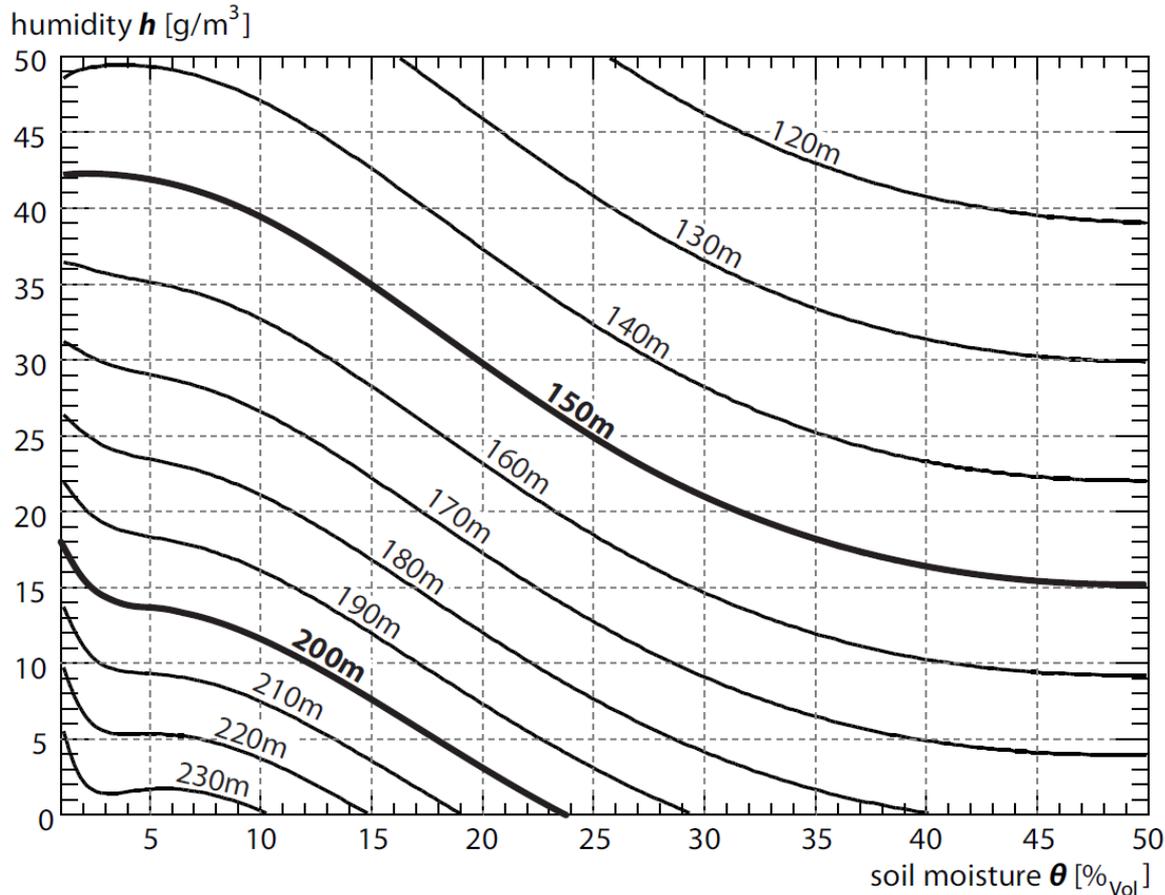
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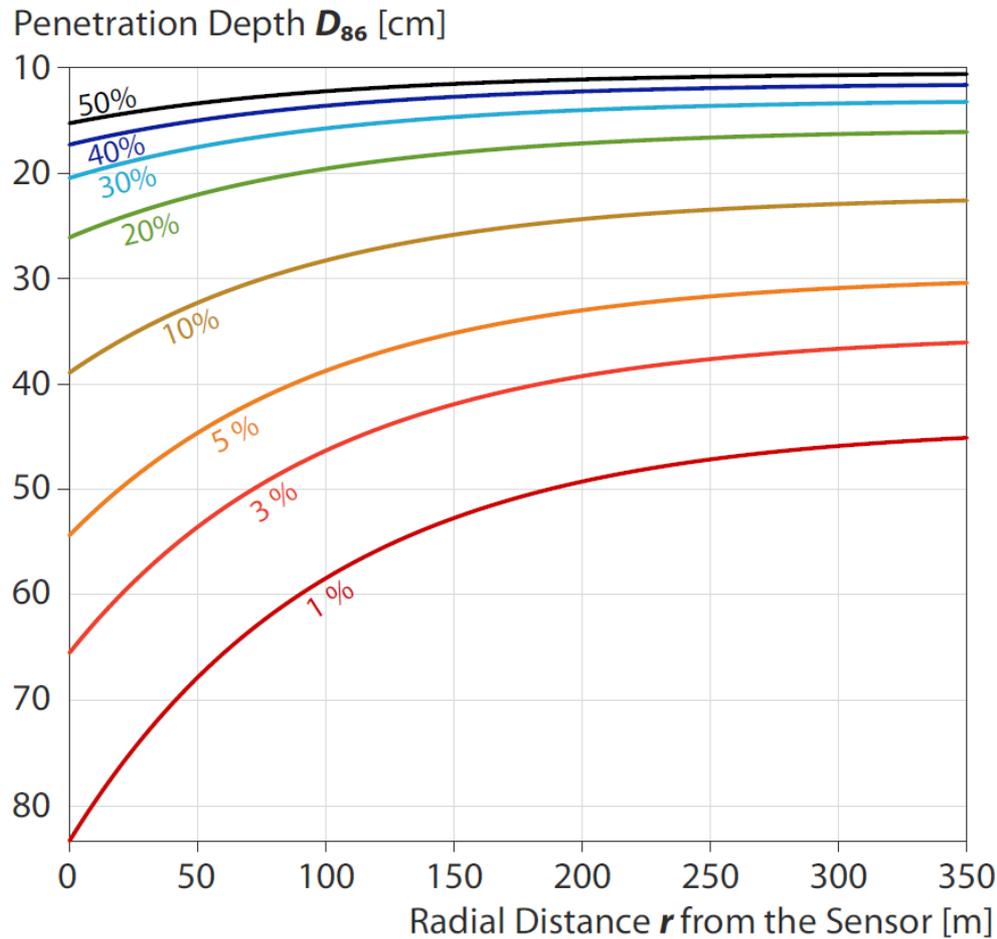
The Footprint – Analytical Description

How far do reflected neutrons travel?



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Footprint Penetration Depth



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The Cosmos Collaboration

a worldwide network of sensors



M. Zreda et al. (2008)

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Summary

- Cosmic-Ray Neutrons



- Monte-Carlo neutron transport modelling methods



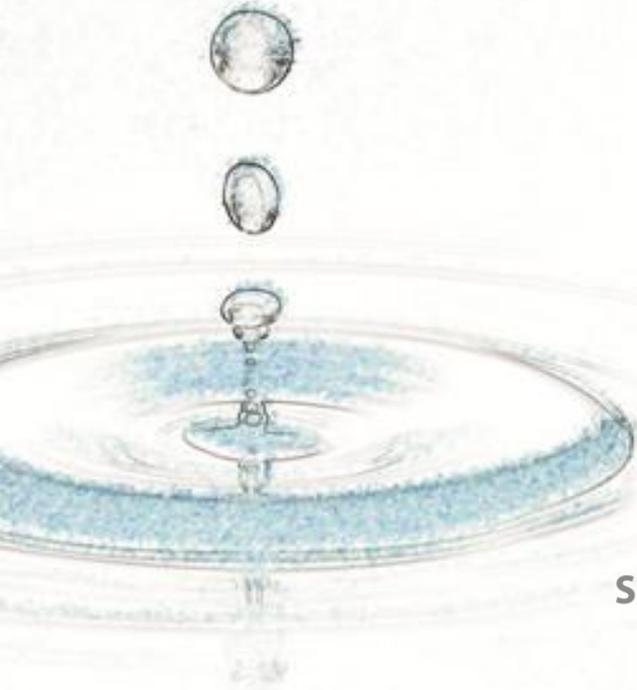
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Summary

- Cosmic-Ray Neutrons can be used to measure soil moisture

averaged over several hectares
and decimetres of depth

- Monte-Carlo neutron transport modelling methods



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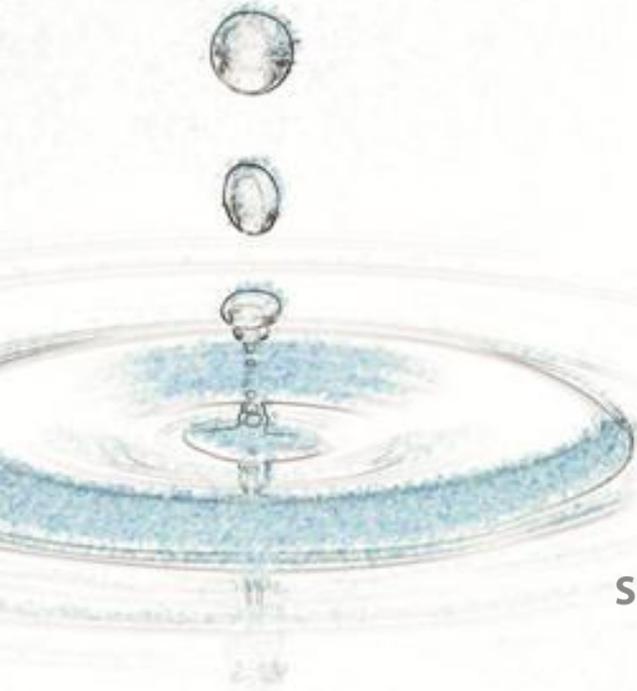
Summary

- **Cosmic-Ray Neutrons can be used to measure soil moisture**

averaged over several hectares
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- **Monte-Carlo neutron transport modelling methods**

lead to the understanding of this technology



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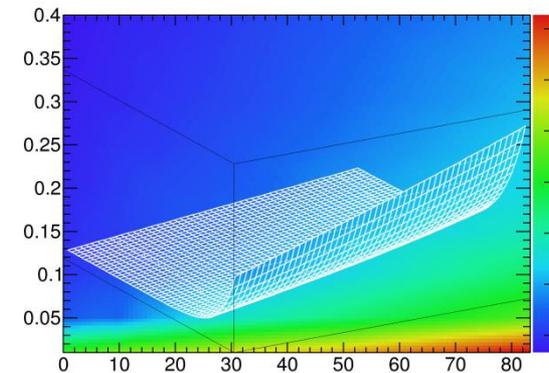
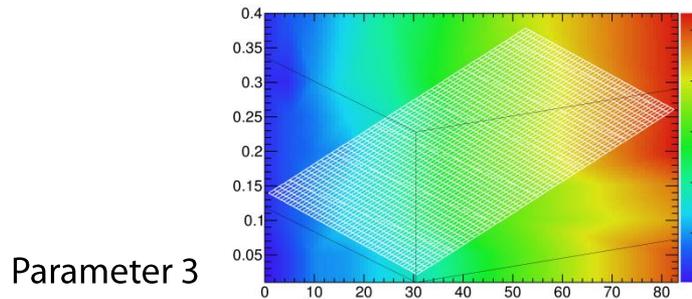
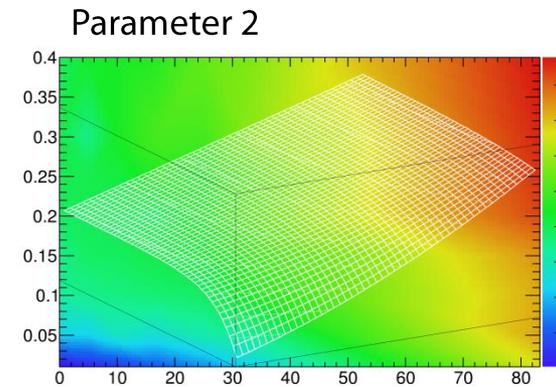
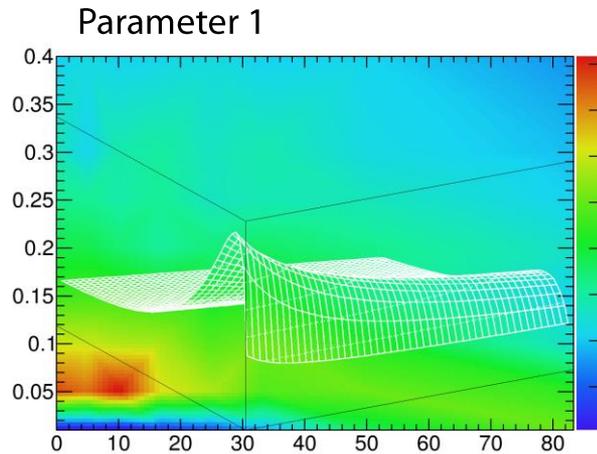
to be continued
M. Schrön

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Footprint: Analytical Function



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Footprint: Analytical Function

$$W_r(h, \theta) \approx \begin{cases} F_1 e^{-F_2 r} + F_3 e^{-F_4 r}, & r \leq 50 \text{ m} \\ F_5 e^{-F_6 r} + F_7 e^{-F_8 r}, & r > 50 \text{ m} \end{cases}$$

$$F_1 = p_0 (1 + p_3 h) \exp(-p_1 \theta) + p_2 (1 + p_5 h) + p_4 \theta,$$

$$F_2 = \left((1 + p_4 h) \exp\left(-\frac{p_1 \theta}{1 + p_6 \theta}\right) + p_2 \right) (1 + p_3 h),$$

$$F_3 = p_0 \exp(-p_1 \theta) + p_2 + p_4 \theta + p_5 h,$$

$$F_4 = p_0 (1 + p_3 h) \exp(-p_1 \theta) + p_2 + p_4 \theta$$

$$F_5 = p_0 \left(0.02 + \frac{1}{p_5(p_5 + p_6 \theta + h)} \right) \cdot (\theta - p_4) \exp(-p_1(\theta - p_4)) + p_2 (0.7 + h \theta p_3),$$

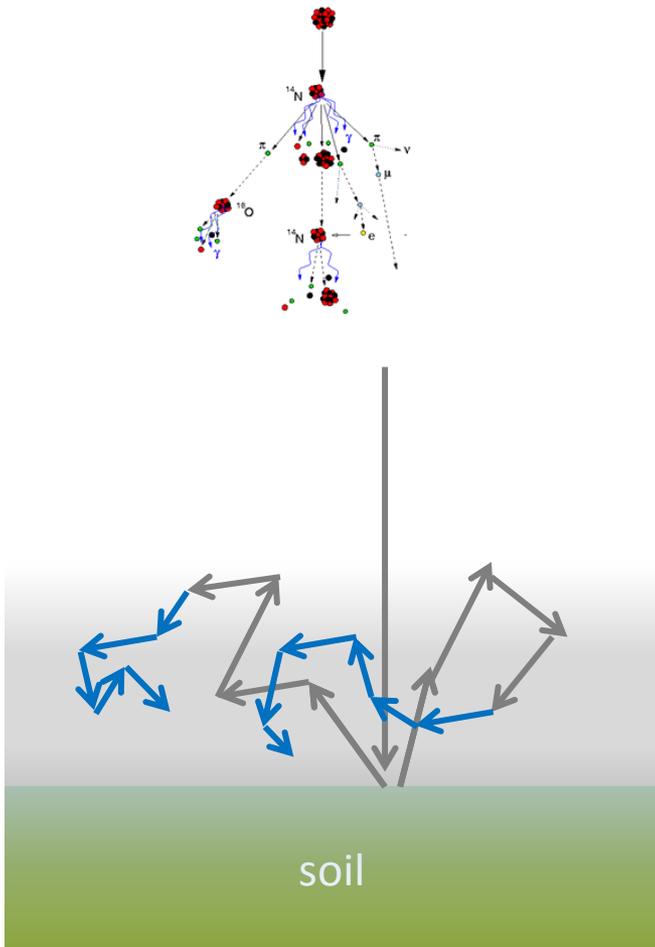
$$F_6 = p_0(h - p_1) + p_2 \theta,$$

$$F_7 = \left((p_0 + p_4 h) \exp\left(-p_1 \frac{\theta}{1 + p_5 h + p_6 \theta}\right) + p_2 \right) \cdot (2 + h p_3),$$

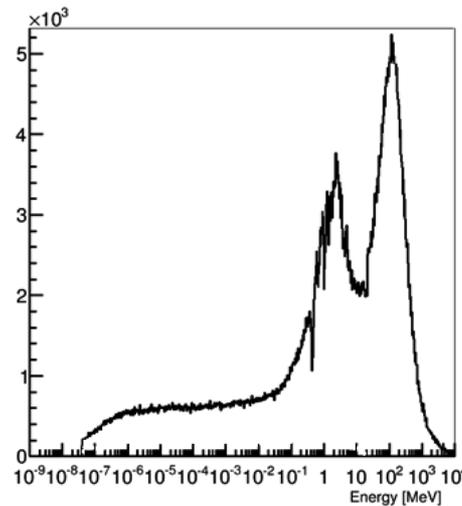
$$F_8 = \left(p_0 (1 + p_6 h) \exp\left(-p_1 \theta \left(1 + p_4 \frac{h}{\theta}\right)\right) + p_2 + p_5 \theta \right) \cdot (2 + p_3 h).$$

F_1	$p_0 = 8735$	± 30
	$p_1 = 17.1758$	± 0.0873
	$p_2 = 11720$	± 21
	$p_3 = 0.00978$	± 0.00014
	$p_4 = -7045$	± 56
	$p_5 = 0.003632$	± 0.000026
F_2	$p_0 = -2.79257 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.52 \cdot 10^{-8}$
	$p_1 = 5.0399$	± 0.0134
	$p_2 = 2.85445 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.27 \cdot 10^{-8}$
	$p_3 = 0.002455$	$\pm 6 \cdot 10^{-5}$
	$p_4 = 6.8517 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$\pm 5.5 \cdot 10^{-10}$
	$p_6 = 9.2927$	± 0.0382
F_3	$p_0 = 5.4818 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\pm 9 \cdot 10^{-7}$
	$p_1 = 15.921$	± 0.421
	$p_2 = 0.0006373$	$\pm 3.155 \cdot 10^{-7}$
	$p_4 = -5.99 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.3 \cdot 10^{-6}$
	$p_5 = 5.425 \cdot 10^{-7}$	$\pm 1.28 \cdot 10^{-8}$
F_4	$p_0 = 247970$	± 1695
	$p_1 = 17.63$	± 0.21
	$p_2 = 374655$	± 1098
	$p_3 = 0.00191$	± 0.00022
	$p_4 = -195725$	± 2840
F_5	$p_0 = -1383701$	± 143180
	$p_1 = 4.155$	± 0.574
	$p_2 = 5324$	± 543
	$p_3 = -0.00238$	± 0.00105
	$p_4 = 0.0156$	± 0.0014
	$p_5 = -0.130$	± 0.026
	$p_6 = 1520$	± 289
F_6	$p_0 = -1.543 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.6 \cdot 10^{-6}$
	$p_1 = 10.06$	± 0.94
	$p_2 = 1.807 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.6 \cdot 10^{-6}$
	$p_3 = 0.0011$	± 0.0007
	$p_4 = 8.81 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$\pm 3.9 \cdot 10^{-9}$
	$p_5 = 0.0405$	± 0.0049
	$p_6 = 20.24$	± 1.57
F_7	$p_0 = 6.031 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$\pm 4.37 \cdot 10^{-10}$
	$p_1 = -98.5$	± 0.93
	$p_2 = 1.0466 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$\pm 7.1 \cdot 10^{-8}$
F_8	$p_0 = 11747$	± 208
	$p_1 = 41.66$	± 1.7
	$p_2 = 4521$	± 49
	$p_3 = 0.01998$	± 0.00055
	$p_4 = -0.00604$	± 0.00034
	$p_5 = -2534$	± 127
	$p_6 = -0.00475$	± 0.00026

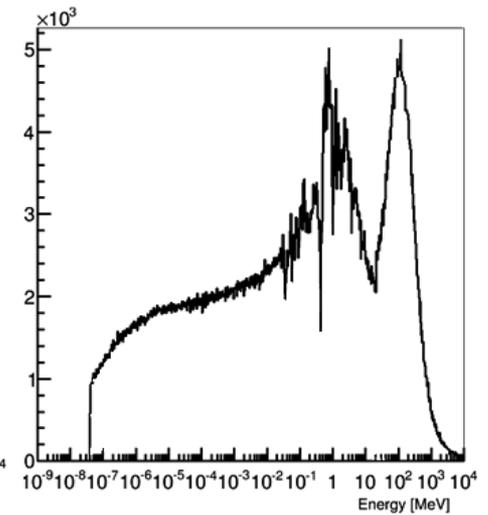
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100 % water



0 % water



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