

# URANOS

-

a novel

voxel engine Monte Carlo tool  
for neutron transport studies

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EURADOS Meeting



UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
ZUKUNFT  
SEIT 1386

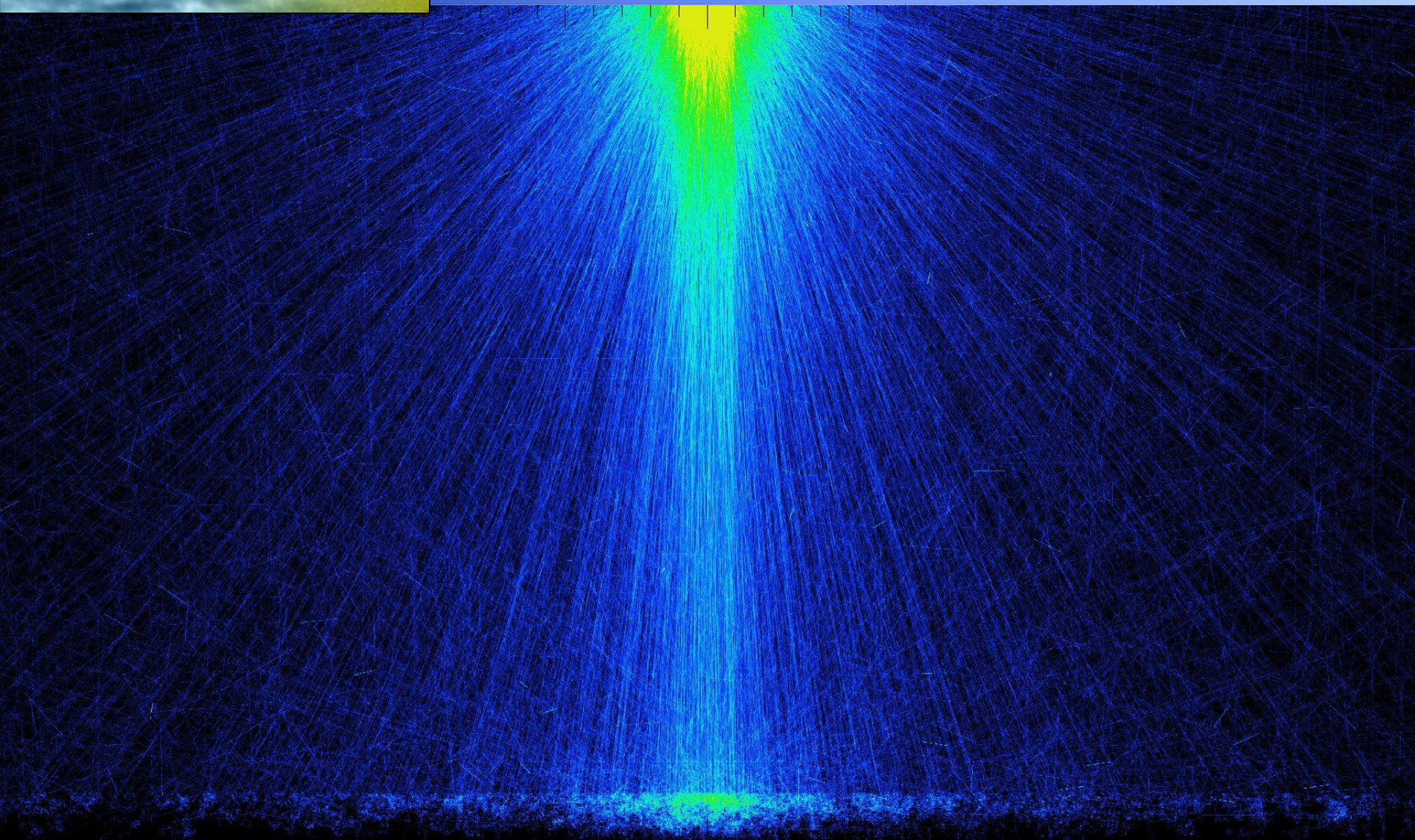


HELMHOLTZ  
CENTRE FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
RESEARCH – UFZ



# URANOS

Ultra Rapid Adaptable Neutron-Only Simulation  
for Environmental Research



MARKUS KÖHLI

Physikalisches Institut  
Heidelberg University

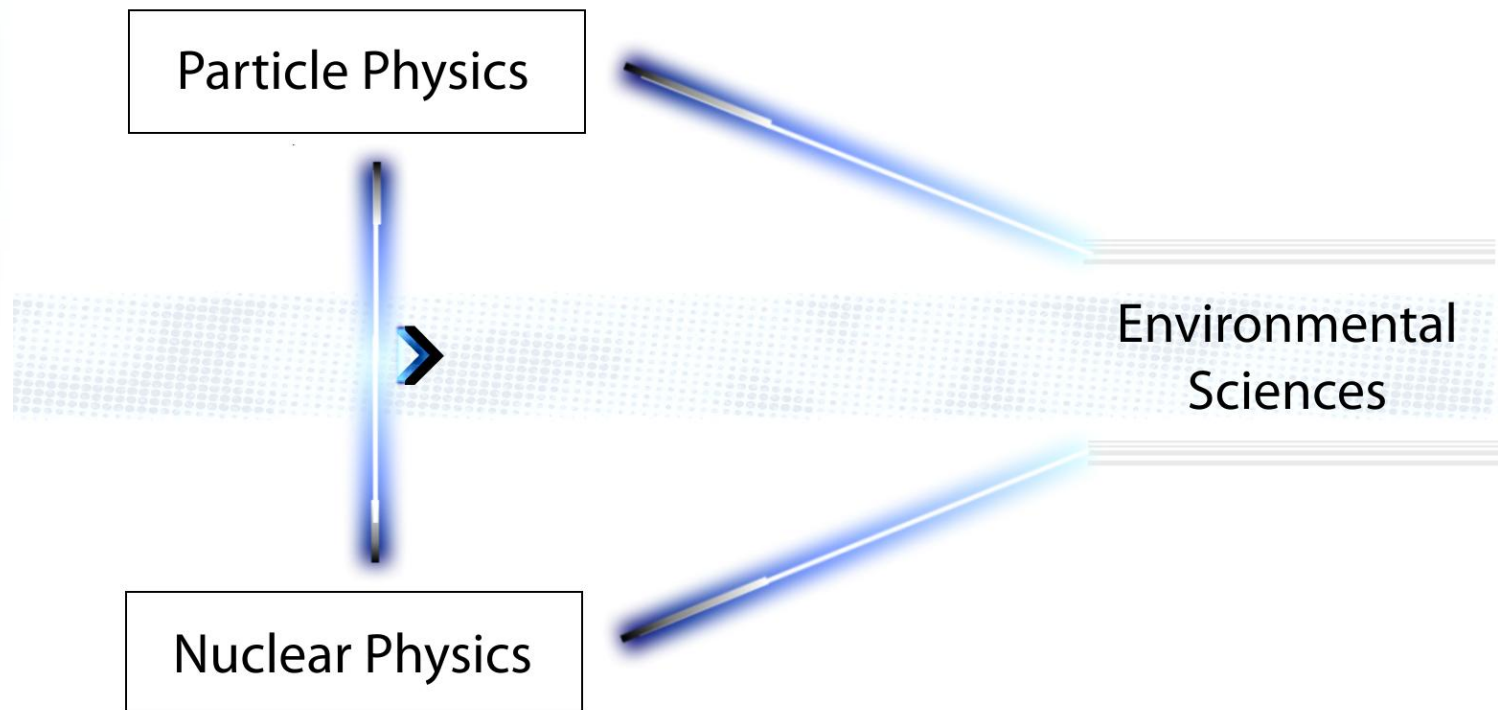
UFZ Leipzig

Physikalisches Institut  
University of Bonn



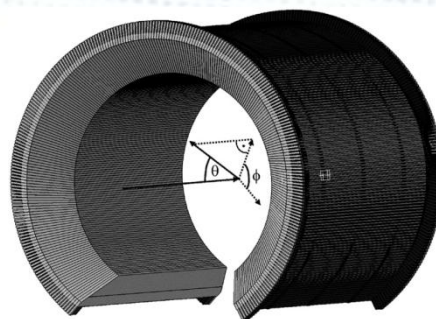
# URANOS - origins

- an interdisciplinary spin-off



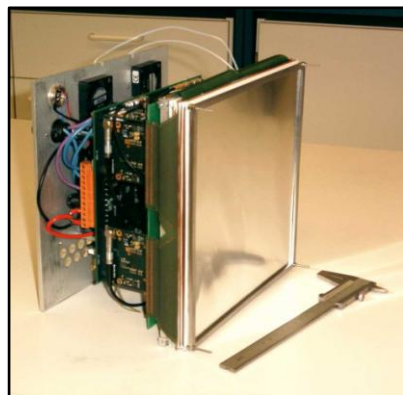
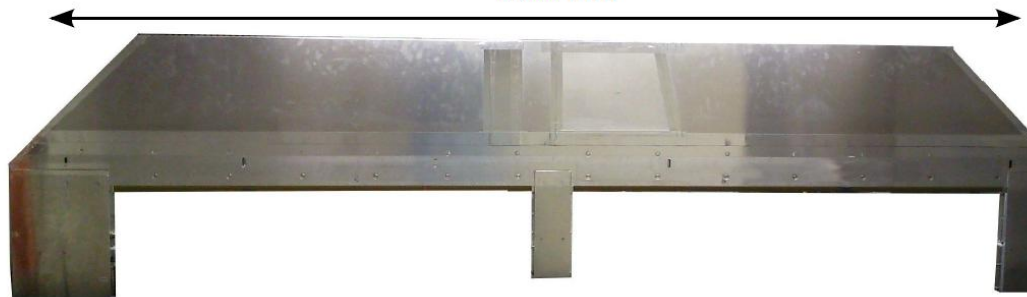
# Heidelberg Neutron Detectors

The JALOUSIE system



1600 mm

218 mm



The CASCADE detector

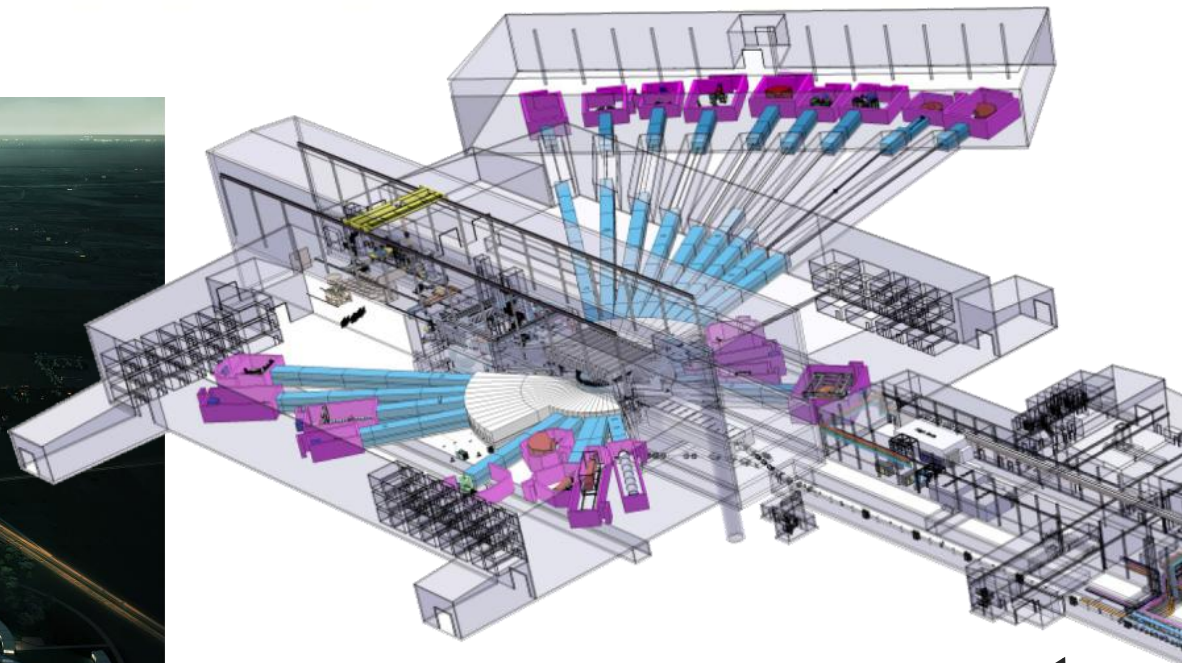




# ESS Detectors



ESS TDR 2013  
Lund, Sweden

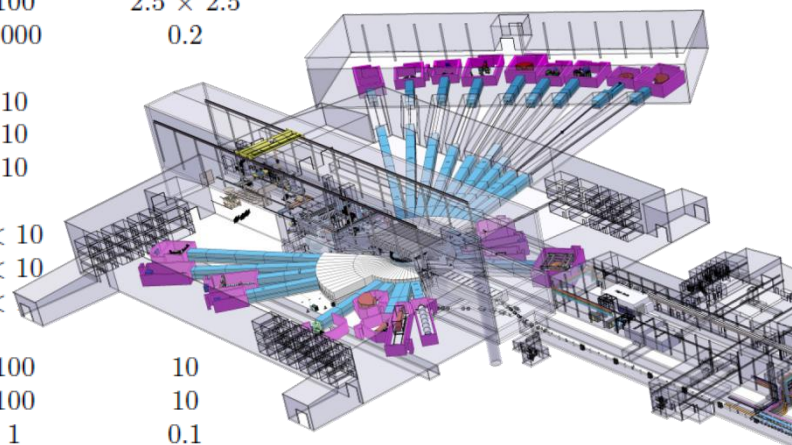


Linear Accelerator  
2 GeV  
3 ms Pulse  
62.5 mA



# ESS Instrumentation

Instrument	Detector area [m <sup>2</sup> ]	Wavelength range [Å]	Time resolution [μs]	Spatial resolution [mm]
Multi-purpose imaging	0.5	1 - 20	1	0.001 - 0.5
General purpose polarised SANS	5	4 - 20	100	10
Broad-band small sample SANS	14	2 - 20	100	1
Surface scattering	5	4 - 20	100	10
Horizontal reflectometer	0.5	5 - 30	100	1
Vertical reflectometer	0.5	5 - 30	100	1
Thermal powder diffractometer	20	0.6 - 6	< 10	2 × 2
Bi-spectral powder diffractometer	20	0.8 - 10	< 10	2.5 × 2.5
Pulsed monochromatic powder diffractom.	4	0.6 - 5	< 100	2 × 5
Material science & engineering diffractom.	10	0.5 - 5	10	2
Extreme conditions instrument	10	1 - 10	< 10	3 × 5
Single crystal magnetism diffractometer	6	0.8 - 10	100	2.5 × 2.5
Macromolecular diffractometer	1	1.5 - 3.3	1000	0.2
Cold chopper spectrometer	80	1 - 20	10	
Bi-spectral chopper spectrometer	50	0.8 - 20	10	
Thermal chopper spectrometer	50	0.6 - 4	10	
Cold crystal-analyser spectrometer	1	2 - 8	< 10	
Vibrational spectroscopy	1	0.4 - 5	< 10	
Backscattering spectrometer	0.3	2 - 8	<	
High-resolution spin echo	0.3	4 - 25	100	10
Wide-angle spin echo	3	2 - 15	100	10
Fundamental & particle physics	0.5	5 - 30	1	0.1
Total	282.6			

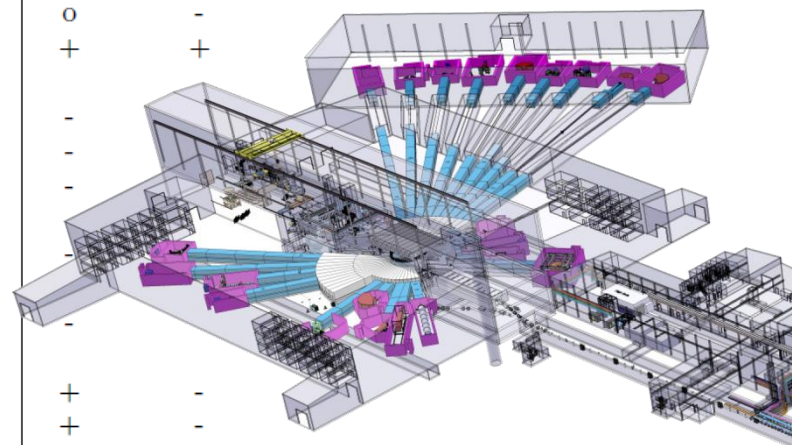


ESS TDR 2013



# ESS Instrumentation

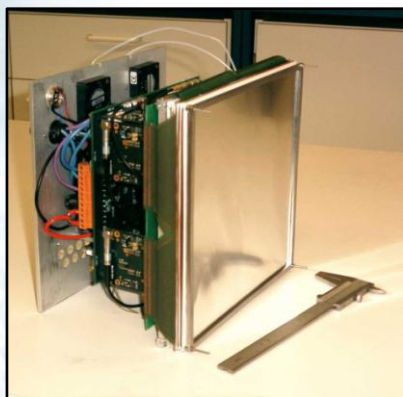
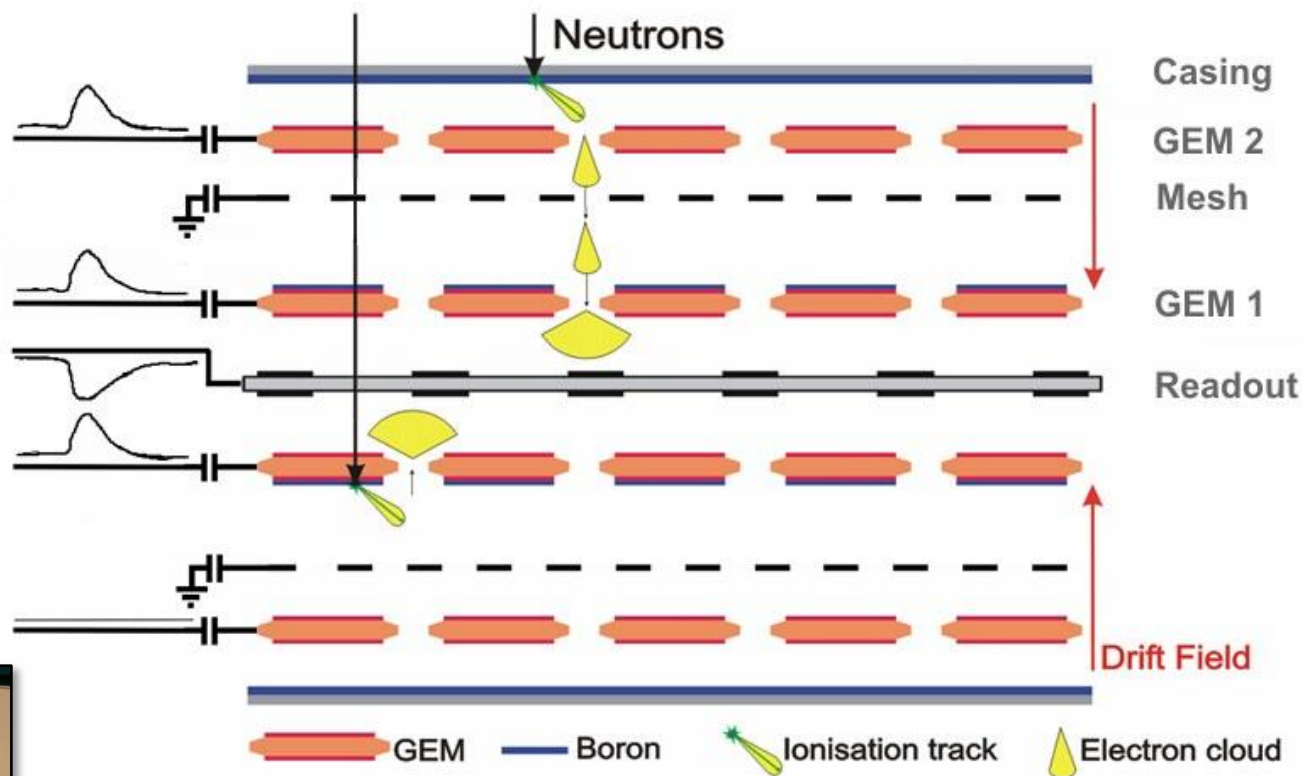
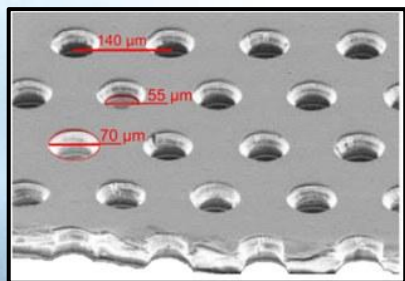
Instrument	$^{10}\text{B}$ thin films		Detector technology			Micropattern	
	$\perp$	$\parallel$	WSF	Anger	$^3\text{He}$	Rate	Resolution
Multi-purpose imaging	-	-	-	-	-	0	+
General purpose polarised SANS	0	+	-	+	0	+	-
Broad-band small-sample SANS	0	+	-	+	-	+	-
Surface scattering	0	+	-	+	0	+	-
Horizontal reflectometer	-	0	-	+	+	0	-
Vertical reflectometer	-	0	-	+	+	0	-
Thermal powder diffractometer	0	+	+	-	-	0	-
Bi-spectral powder diffractometer	0	+	+	-	-	0	-
P-M powder diffractometer	0	+	+	-	-	0	-
MS engineering diffractometer	0	+	+	-	-	0	-
Extreme conditions diffractometer	0	+	+	-	-	0	-
Single crystal diffractometer	0	+	+	-	-	0	-
Macromolecular diffractometer	-	0	0	0	-	+	+
Cold chopper spectrometer	+	0	0	-	-	-	-
Bi-spectral chopper spectrometer	+	+	0	-	-	-	-
Thermal chopper spectrometer	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Cold crystal analyser spectrometer	-	0	-	+	+	-	-
Vibrational spectrometer	-	0	-	0	+	-	-
Backscattering spectrometer	-	0	-	+	+	-	-
High-resolution spin echo	-	0	-	0	+	+	-
Wide-angle spin echo	-	0	-	0	+	+	-
Fundamental & particle physics	-	-	-	-	+	+	+



ESS TDR 2013

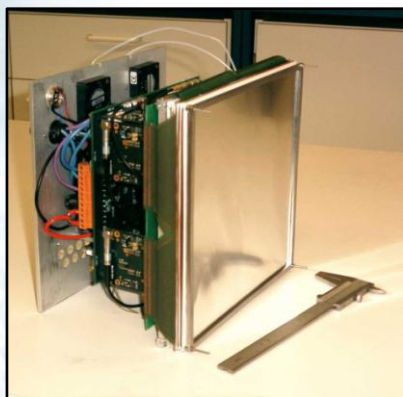
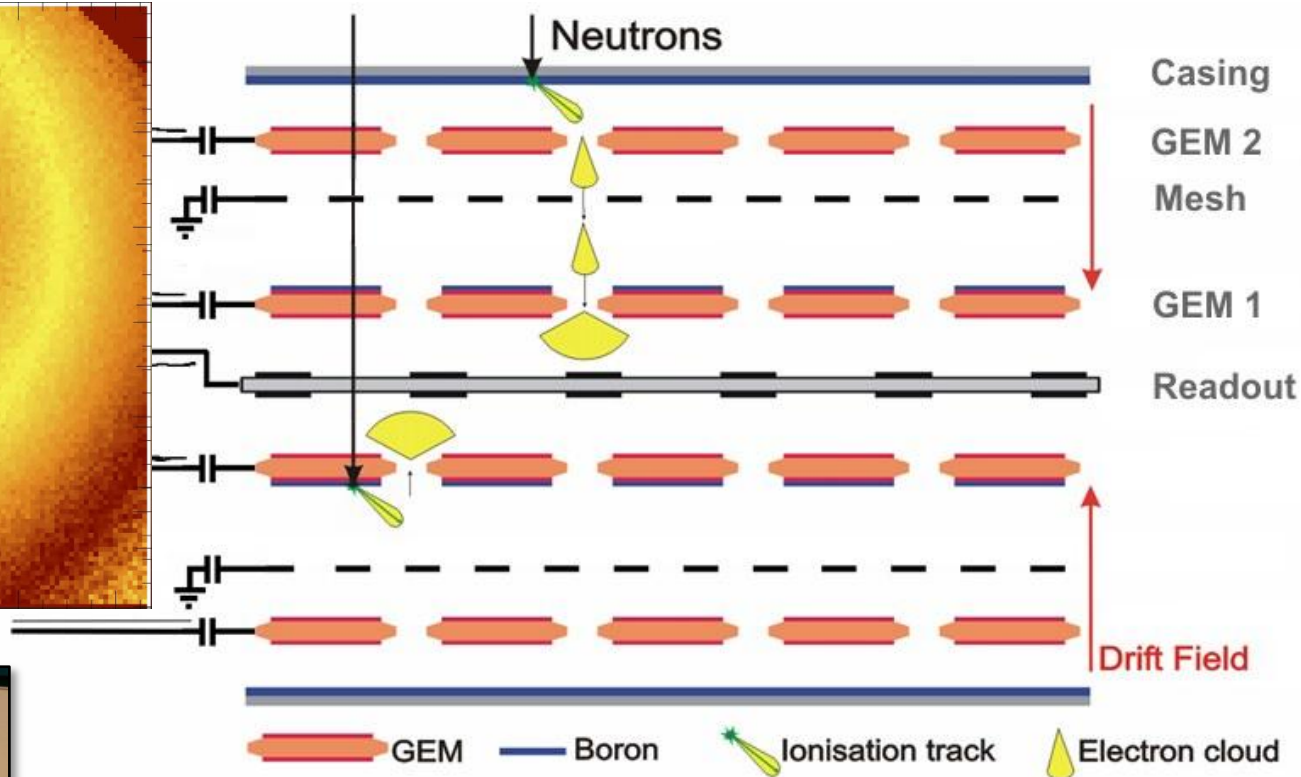
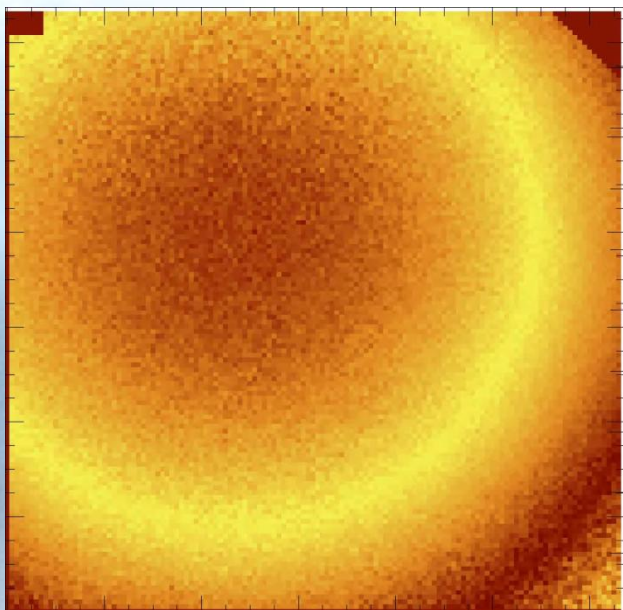


# Heidelberg Neutron Detectors





# Heidelberg Neutron Detectors



# URANOS concepts

- written in C++

```
if (detectorEnergyModel2->Eval(TMATH::Log10(energy)) > r.Rndm() )  
{  
    detectorRealisticallyHitted = true; layerRealisticallyHitted = true;  
}
```

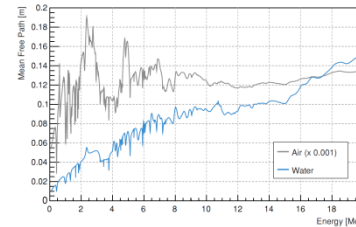


# URANOS concepts

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```
if (detectorEnergyModel2->Eval(TMATH::Log10(energy)) > r.Rndm() )  
{  
    detectorRealisticallyHitted = true; layerRealisticallyHitted = true;  
}
```

- linked against ENDF data bases

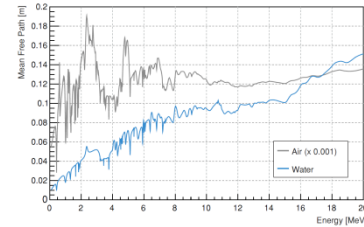


# URANOS concepts

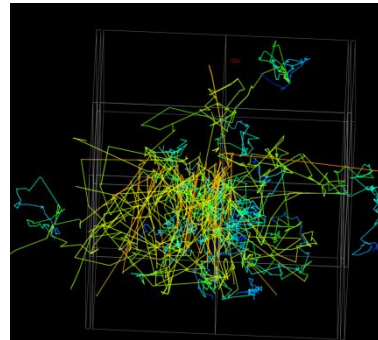
- written in C++

```
if (detectorEnergyModel2->Eval(TMath::Log10(energy)) > r.Rndm() )  
{  
    detectorRealisticallyHitted = true; layerRealisticallyHitted = true;  
}
```

- linked against ENDF data bases



- Ray-Casting



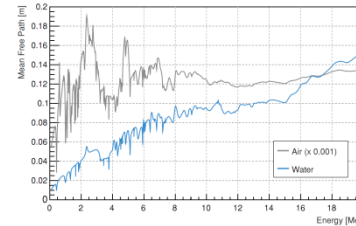


# URANOS concepts

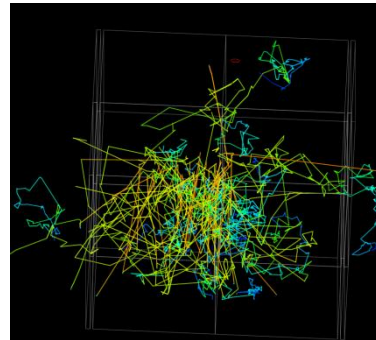
- written in C++

```
if (detectorEnergyModel2->Eval(TMATH::Log10(energy)) > r.Rndm() )  
{  
    detectorRealisticallyHitted = true; layerRealisticallyHitted = true;  
}
```

- linked against ENDF data bases

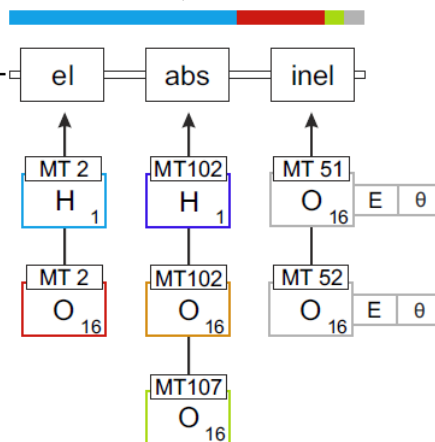
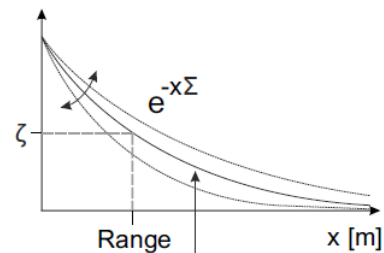
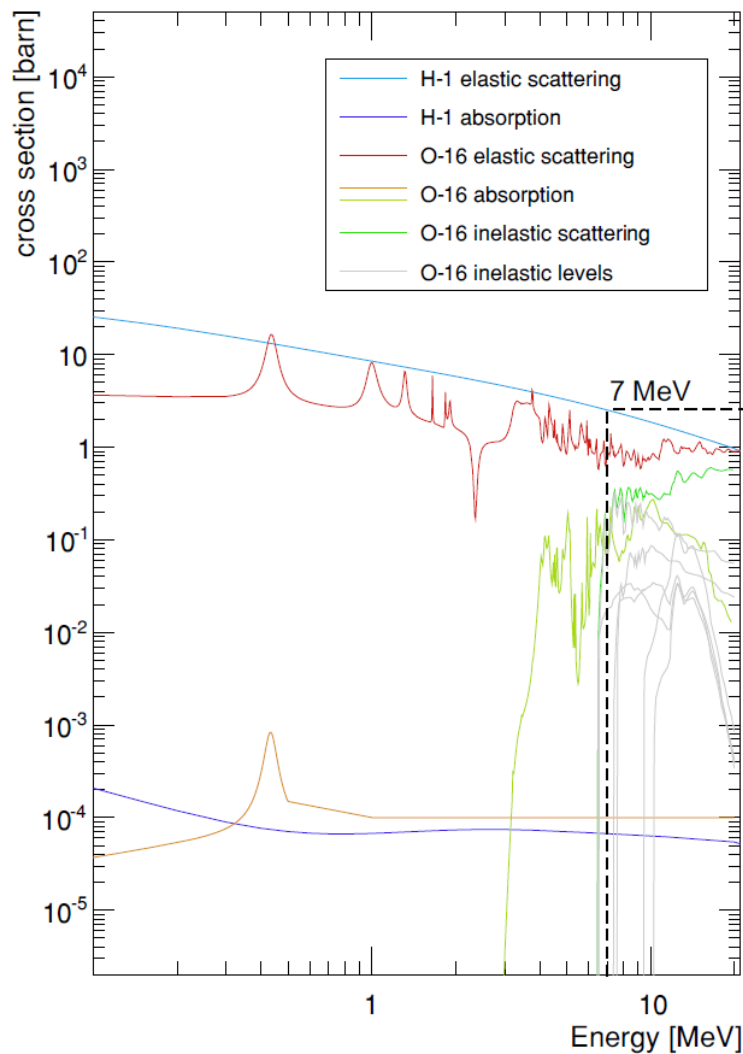


- Ray-Casting



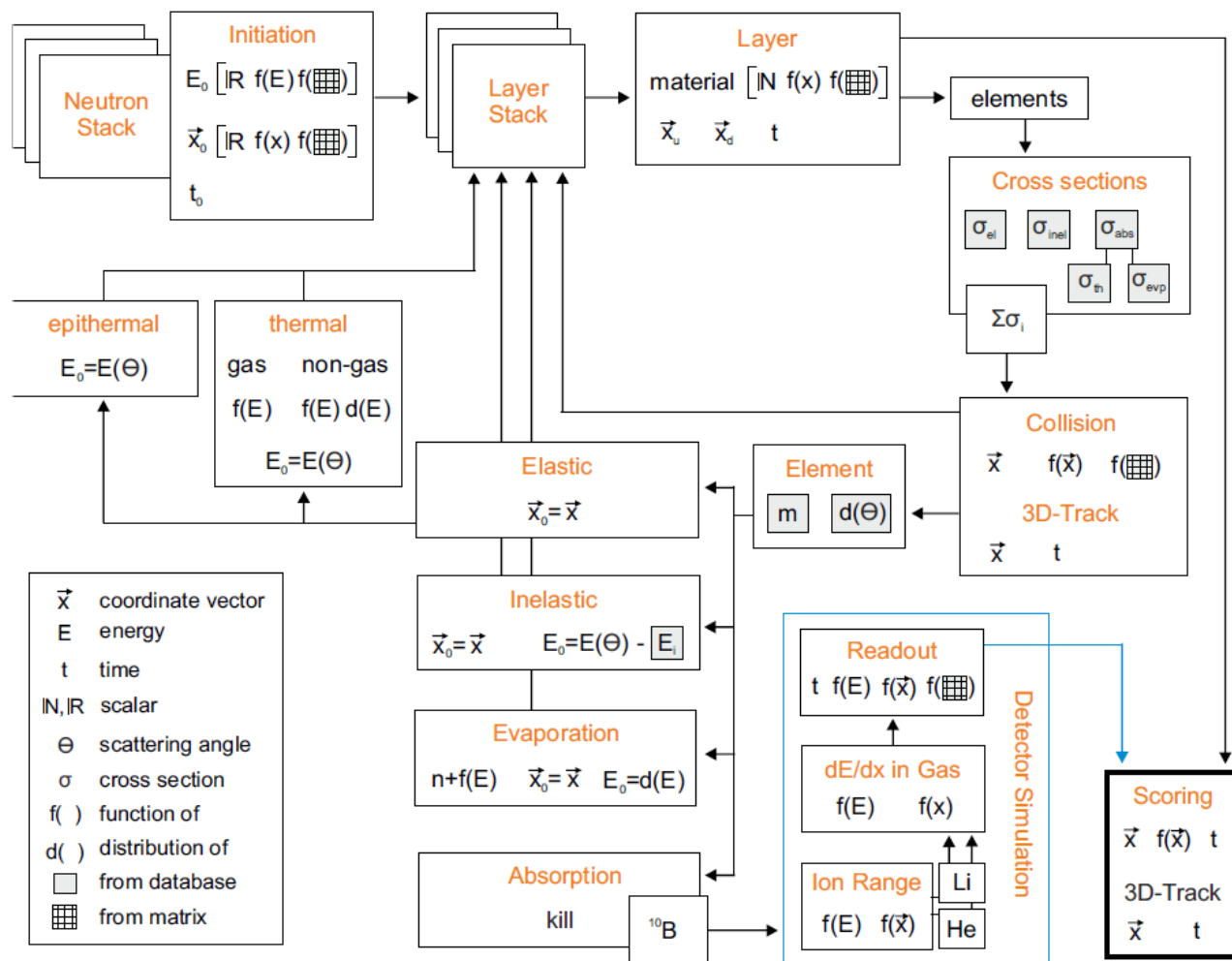
- Voxel Engine

# URANOS Buildup





# URANOS Buildup



# MCNP input file

```

File Edit Options Buffers Tools Help
[Icons]

-*--mcnp--*-- Pd-103 photon source,H2O phant filled w/cubes,1 cube has a sphere
c Cell Cards
1 1 -10. -1 2 -3          $ sr-90 source in silver foil
2 10 -2.7 -2 4 -3         $ Al filter
3 2 -8.02 -6 20 -5 (1:3:-4) $ SS encapsulation
4 2 -8.02 -8 6 -7         $ SS rod
10 0 -20 21 -22 23 -24 25 fill=1    $ large water box
c 11 4 -1.0 -32 33 -34 35 -30 31 u=1 lat=1 $ water cubes
11 4 -1.0 -32 33 -34 35 -30 31 u=1 lat=1 fill=-1:1 -1:1 -1:1 &
    2 1 25r                $ water cubes
12 3 -1.293e-3 -90 u=2        $ air sphere inside cube
13 2 -8.02 90 u=2            $ SS surrounding sphere inside cube
90 3 -1.293e-3 -100 -21      $ air below box
91 3 -1.293e-3 -100 -20 21 (22:-23:24:-25) $ air around box
92 3 -1.293e-3 -100 20 #1 #2 #3 #4 $ air outside src/rod
100 0 100                   $ bounding region

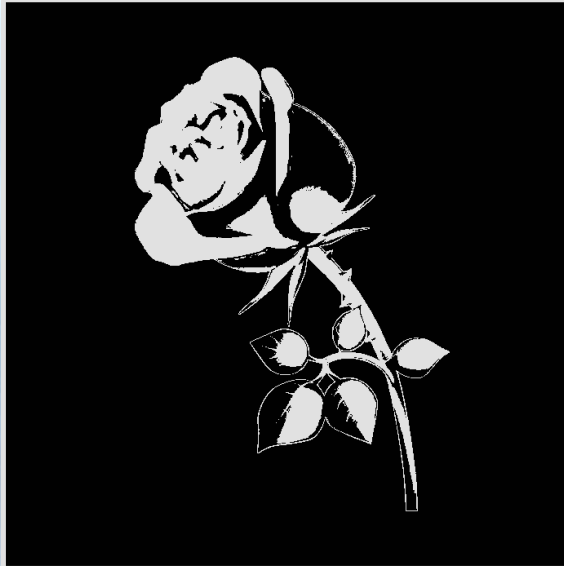
c SURFACE CARDS
1 pz .03574                $ source top plane
2 pz .03074                $ source bottom plane
3 cz .475                  $ source outer radius
4 pz .00574                $ Al filter bottom plane
5 cz .525                  $ SS encapsulation outer radius
6 pz 1.4                   $ SS encapsulation top plane
7 cz .2                    $ rod outer radius
8 pz 2.4                   $ rod top plane
20 pz 0.                   $ large box top plane
21 pz -1.2                 $ large box bottom plane
22 px .6                   $ large box xmax
23 px -.6                  $ large box xmin
24 py .6                   $ large box ymax
25 py -.6                  $ large box ymin
30 pz -.4                  $ cube top plane
31 pz -.8                  $ cube bottom plane
32 px .2                   $ cube xmax
33 px -.2                  $ cube xmin

--:-- sampl (Mcnpgen)--L29--C0--Top-----

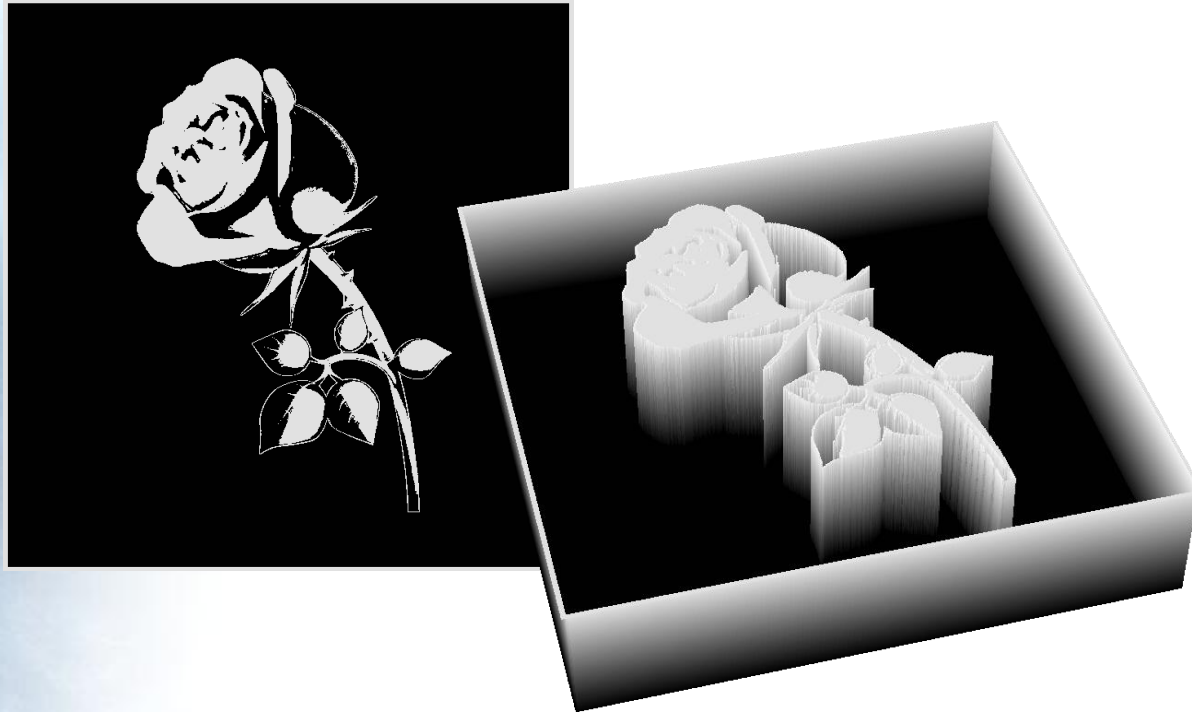
```



# ▶ URANOS voxel engine



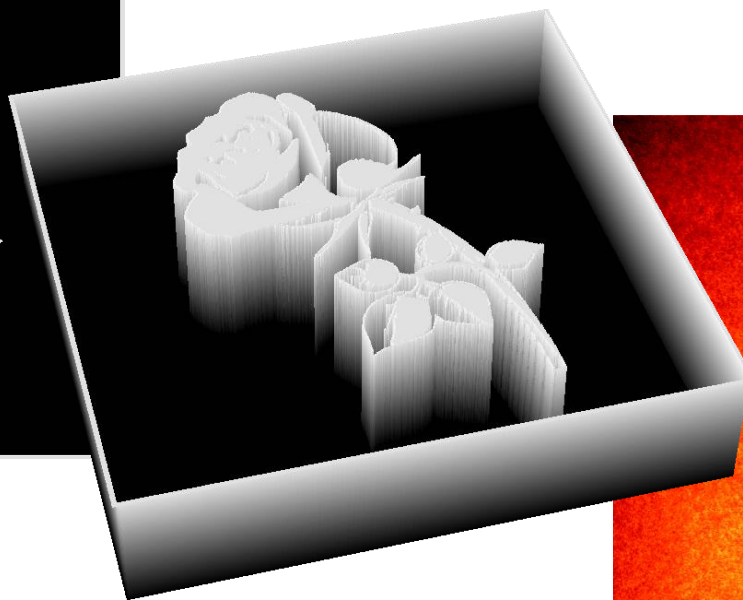
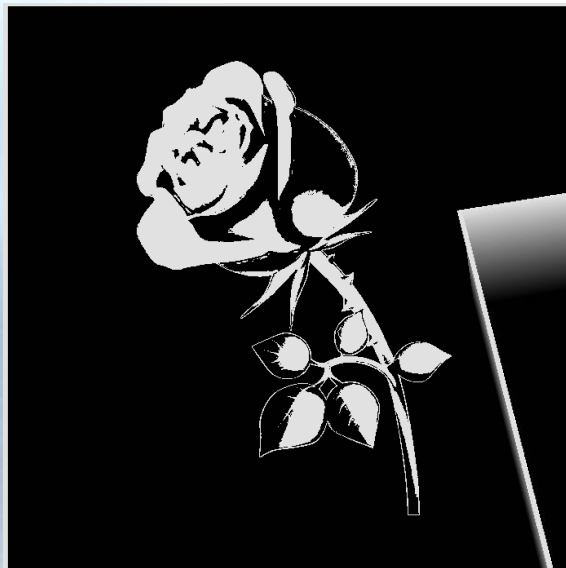
# ▶ URANOS voxel engine



polyethylene rose in a box



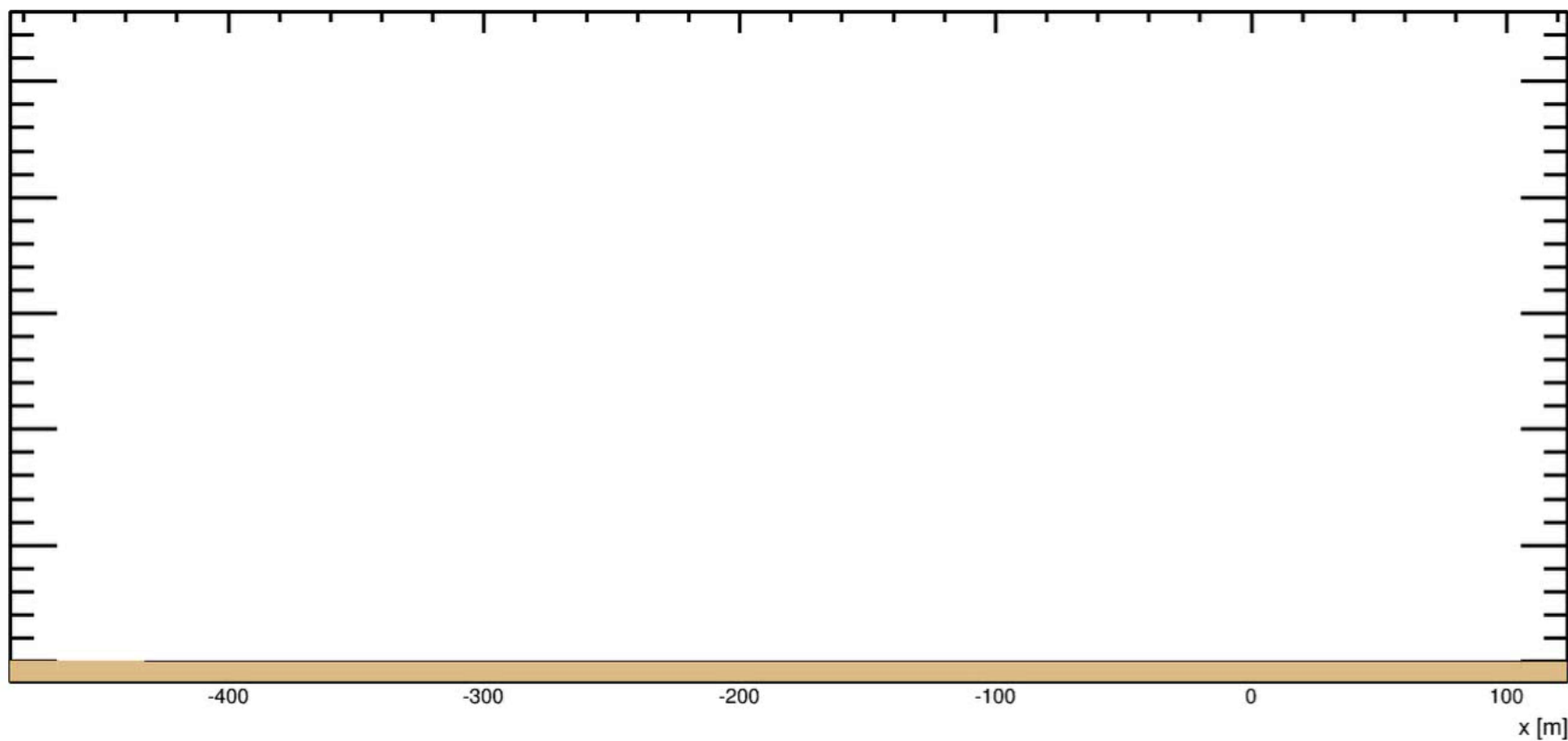
# URANOS voxel engine



polyethylene rose in a box

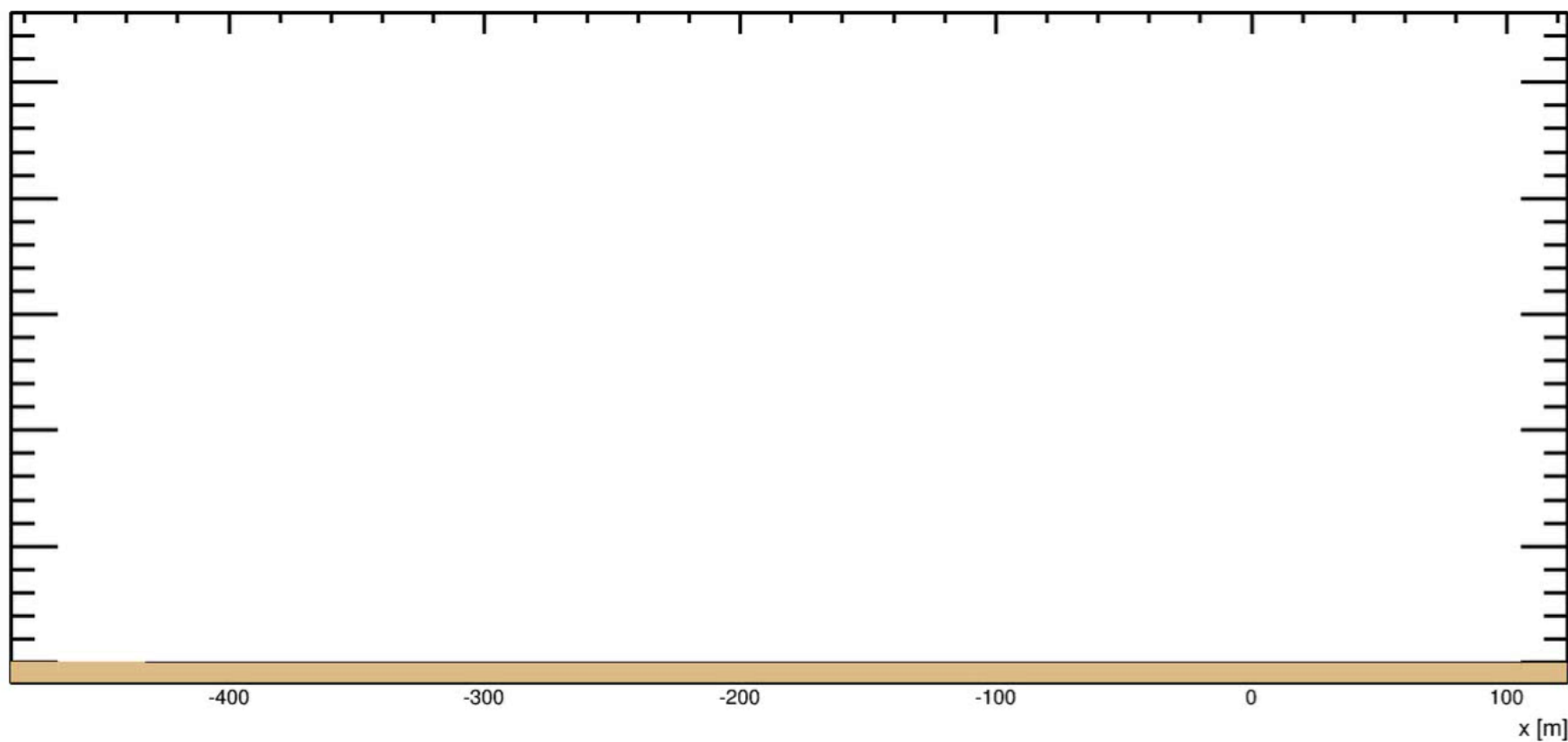


# Neutron Animation (Evaporation)

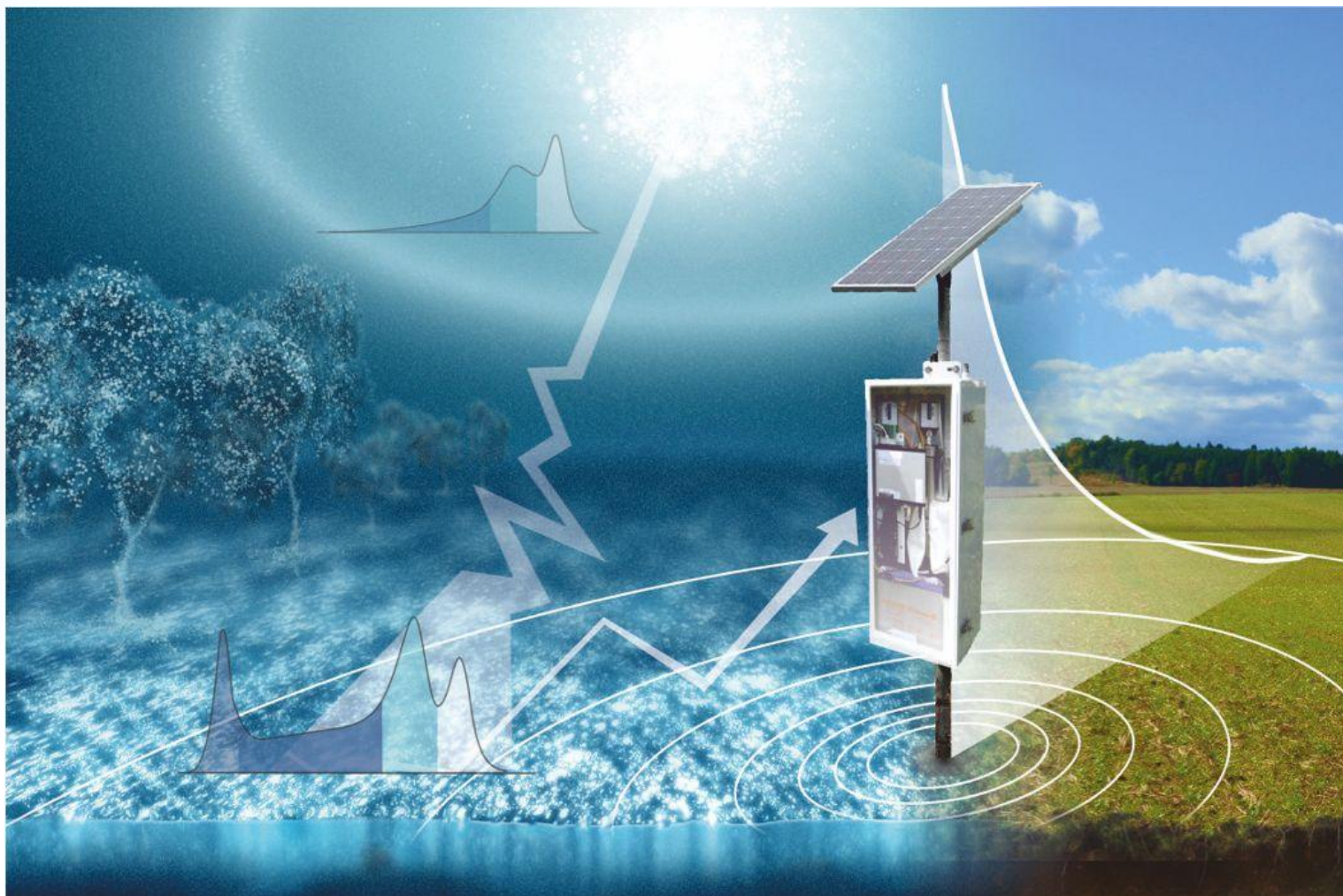




# Neutron Animation (D-T)

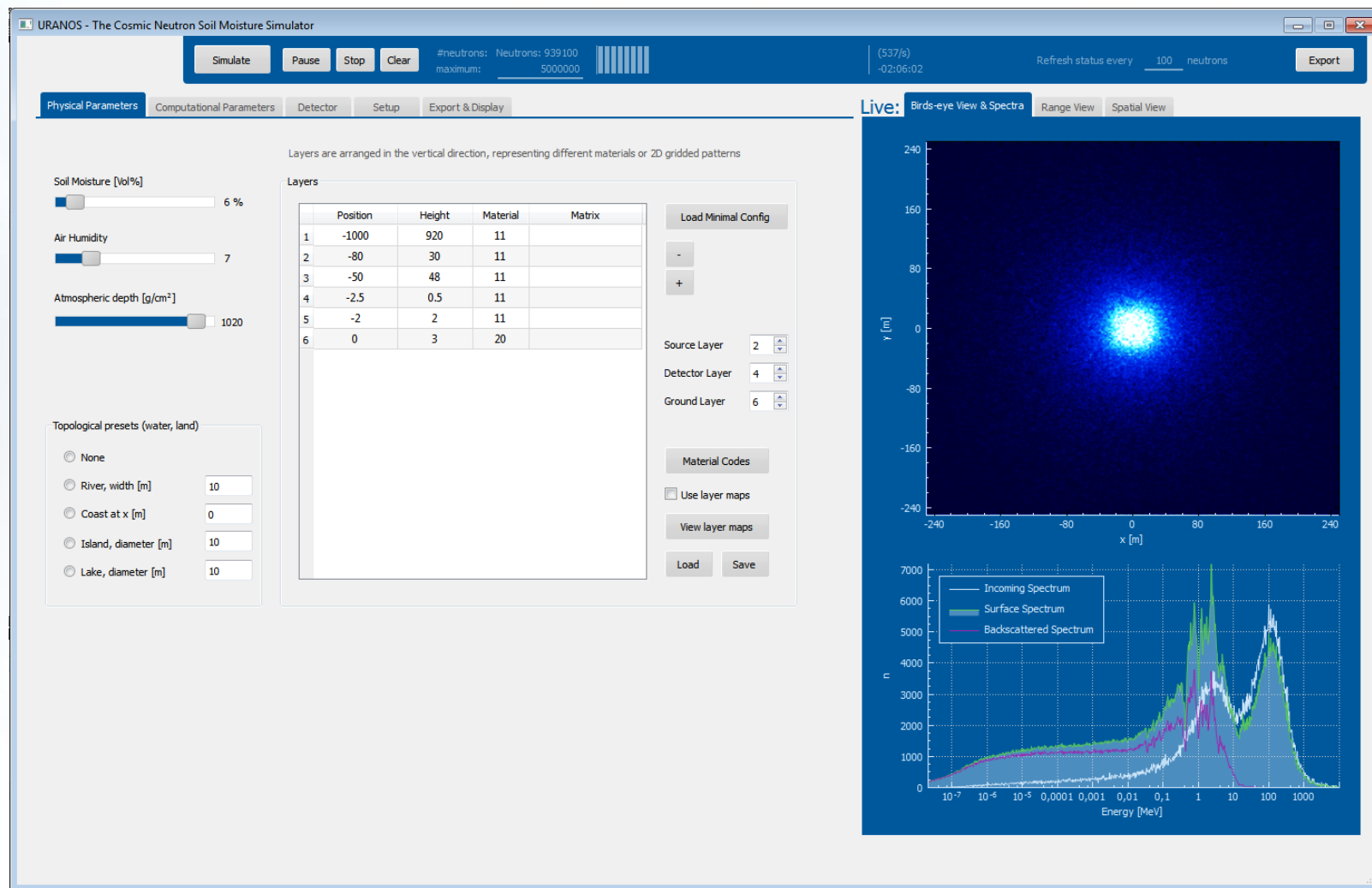


# USER Interface

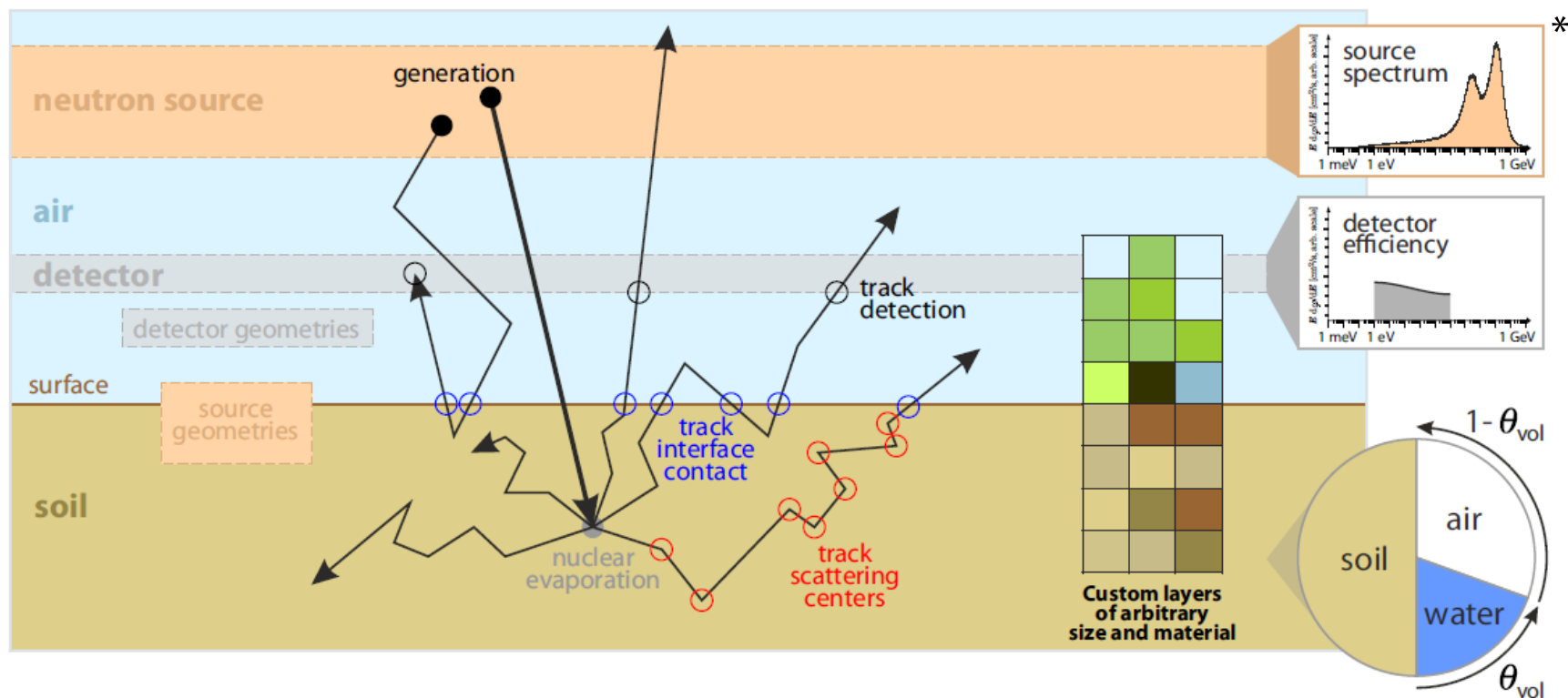




# USER Interface

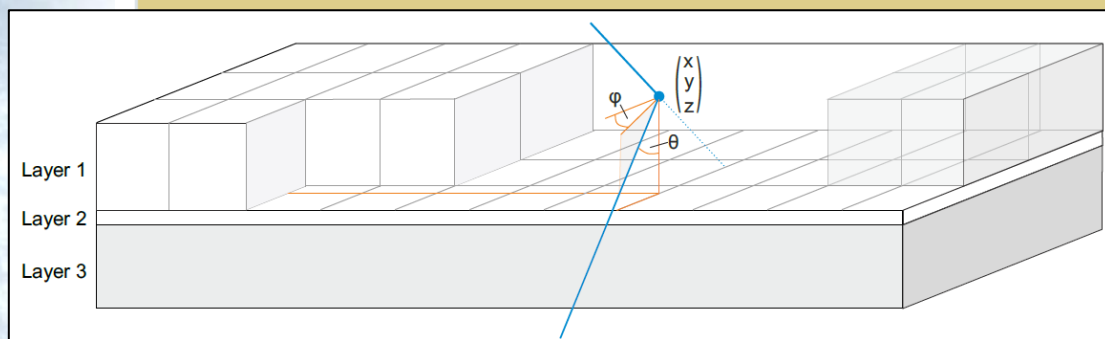
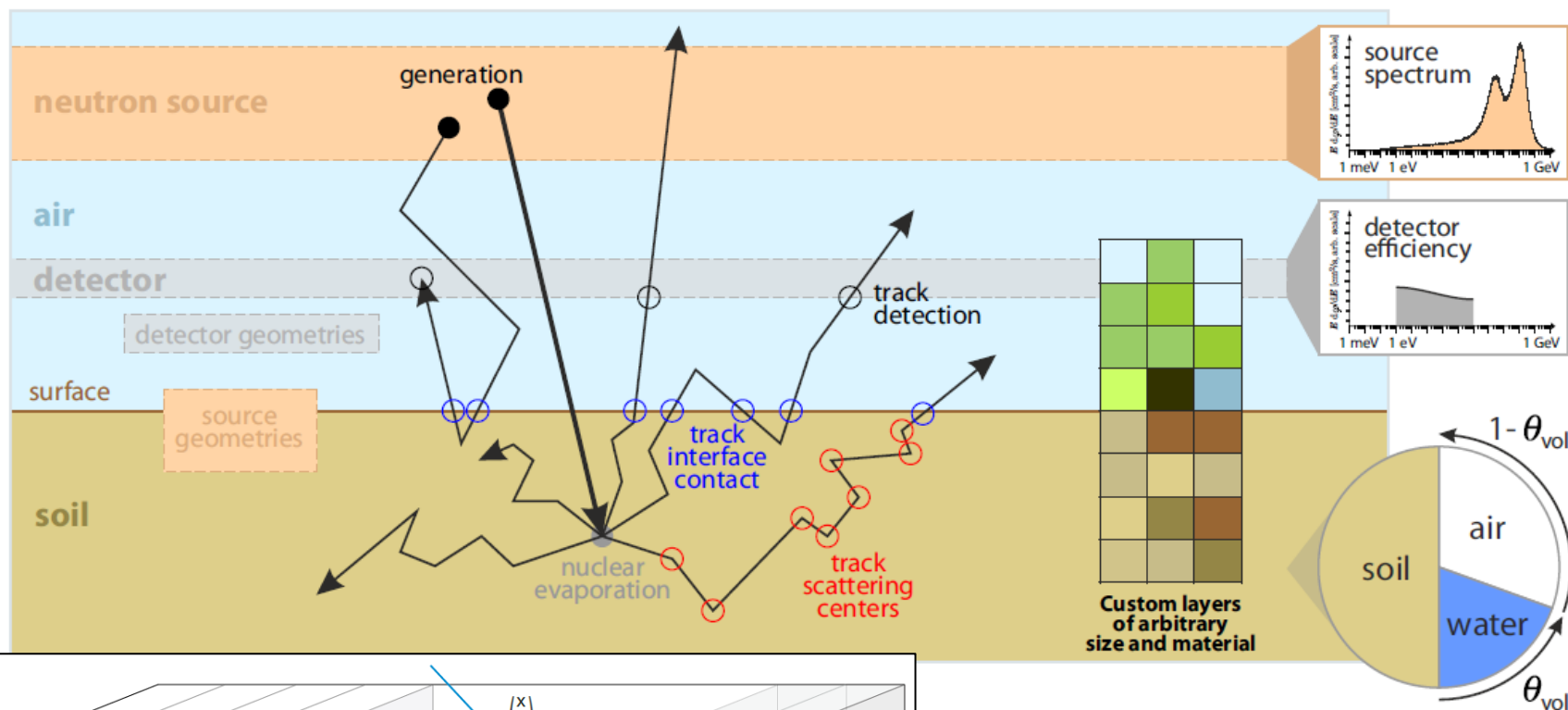


# URANOS Buildup



\* T. Sato  
Features and applications of  
the analytical model for  
estimating terrestrial cosmic-  
ray fluxes: PARMA/EXPACS

# URANOS Buildup

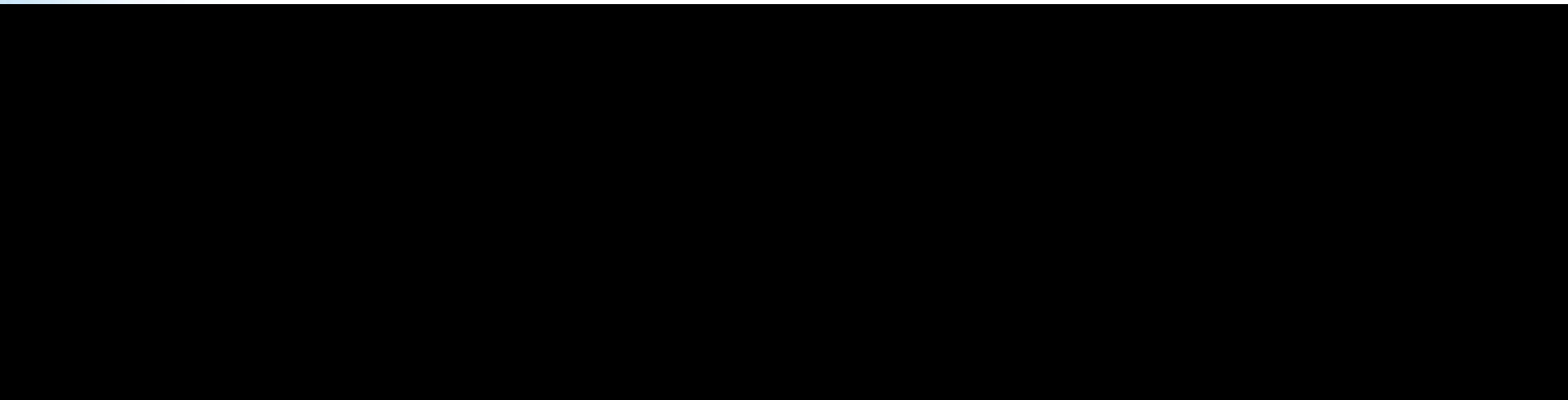


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Features and applications of  
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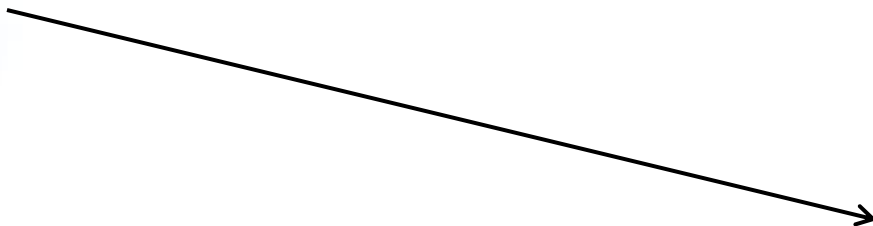
# USER Interface



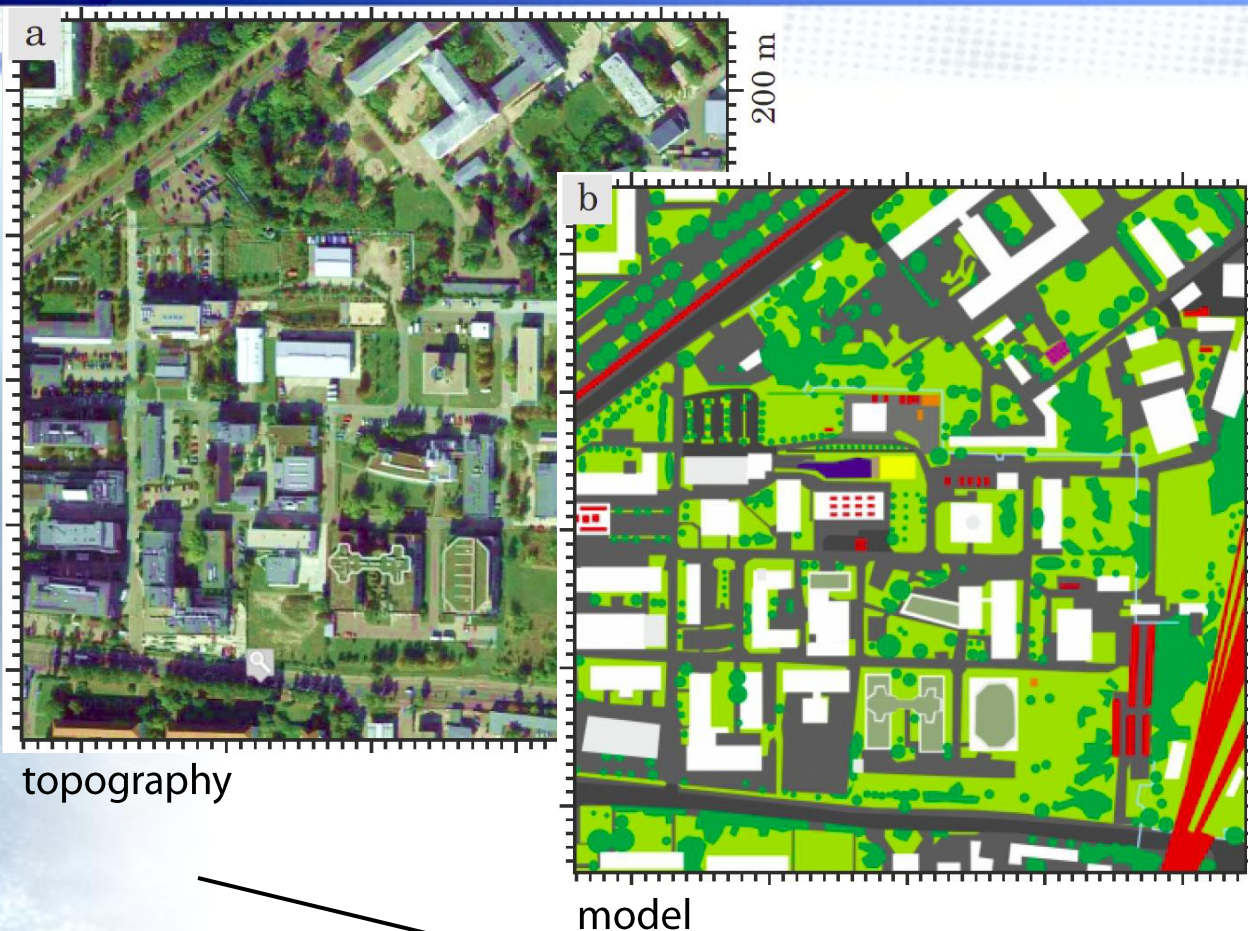
# Modeling steps



topography

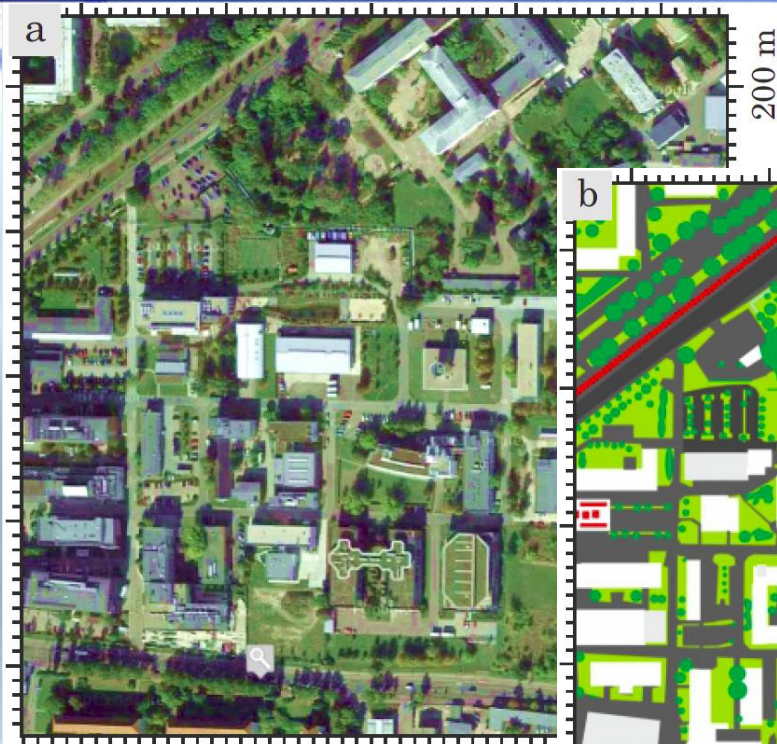


# Modeling steps

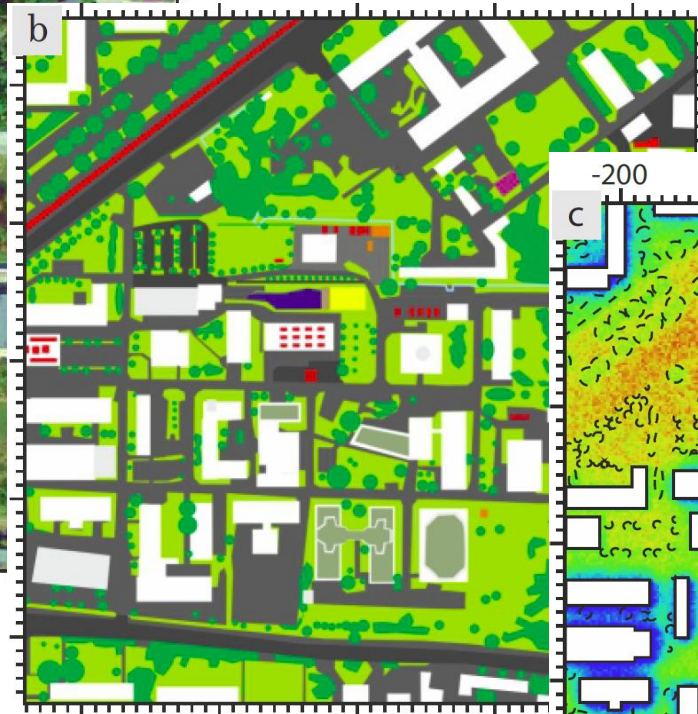




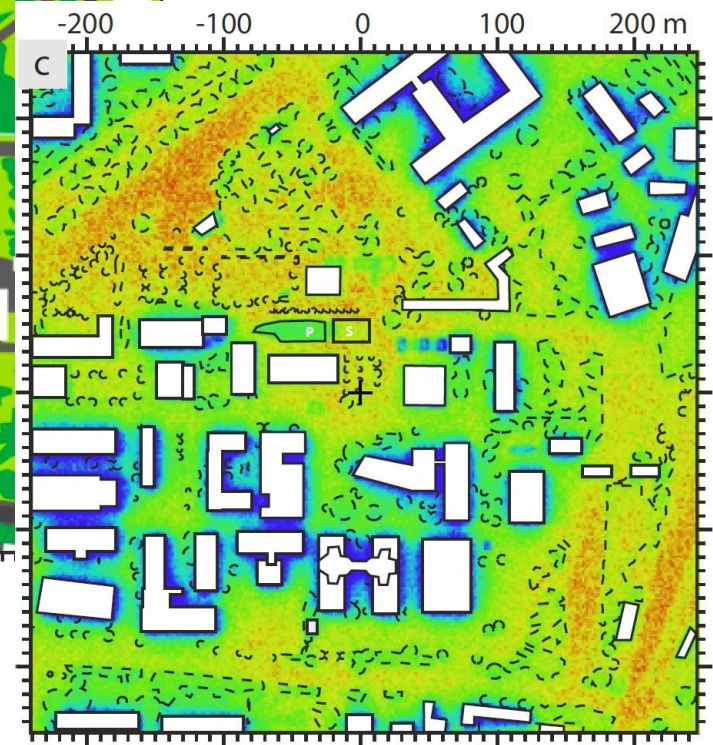
# Modeling steps



topography

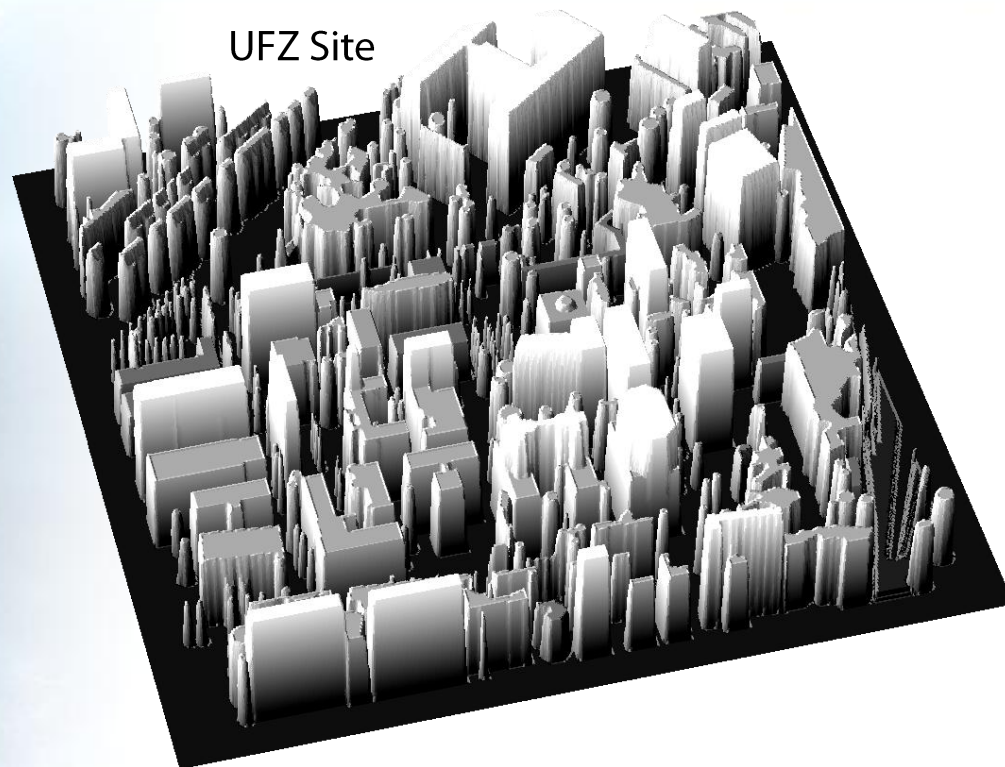


model



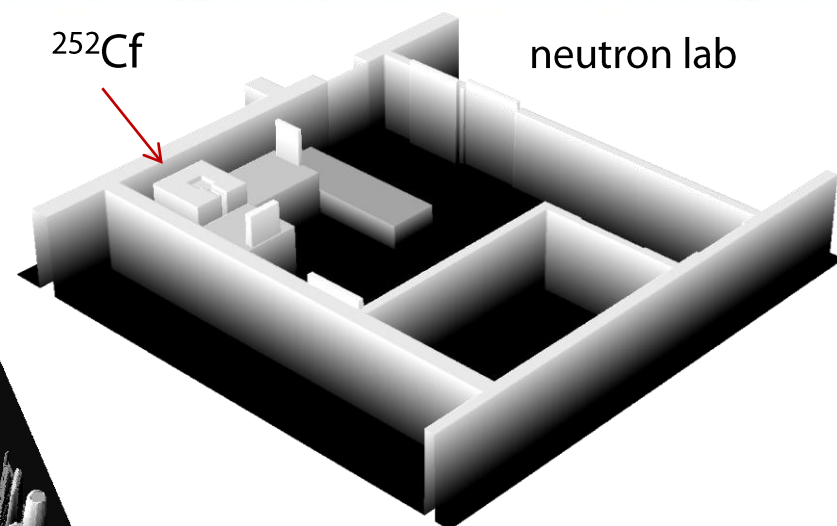
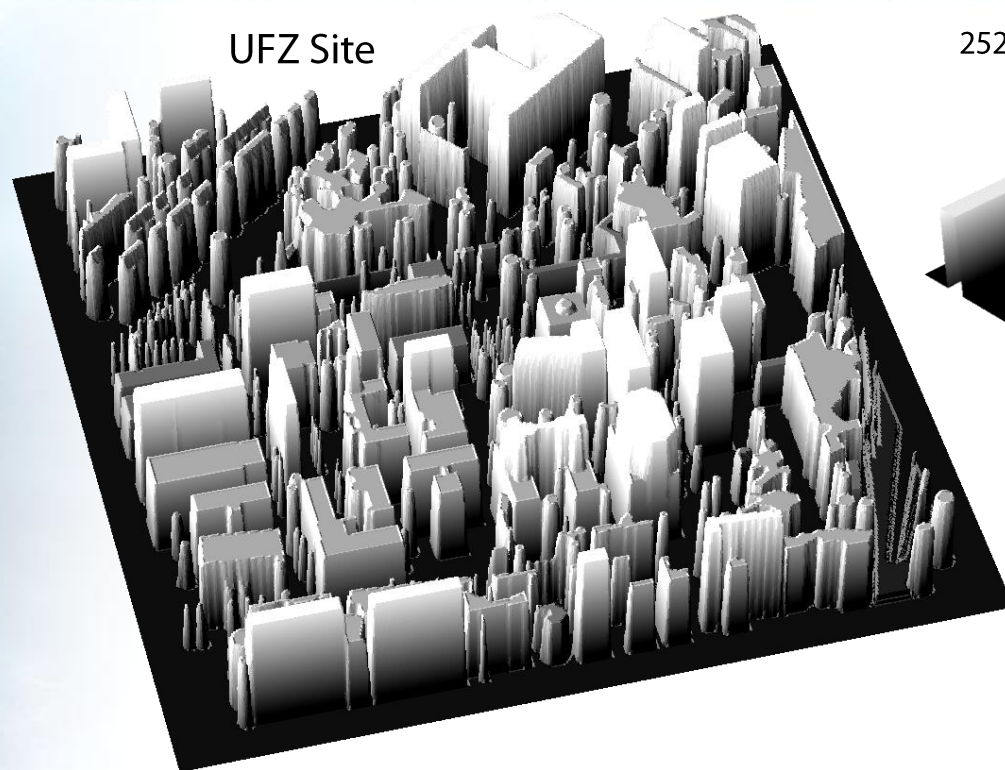
simulation

# URANOS voxel engine



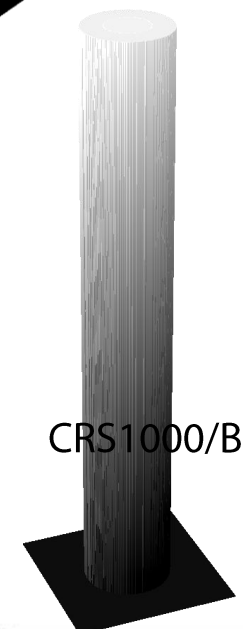
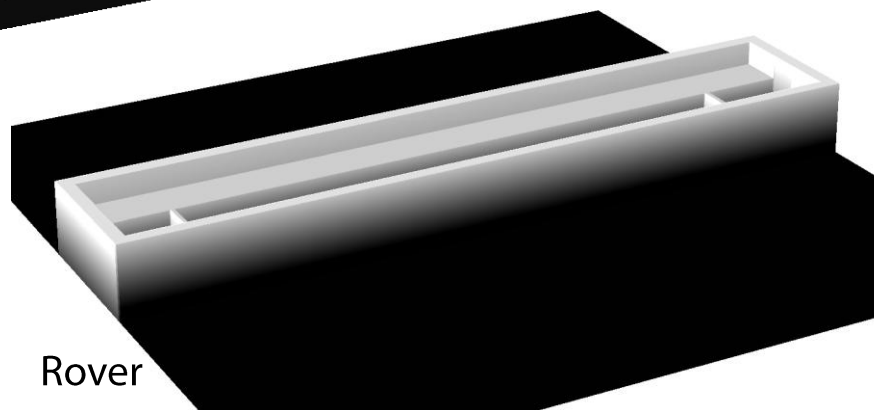
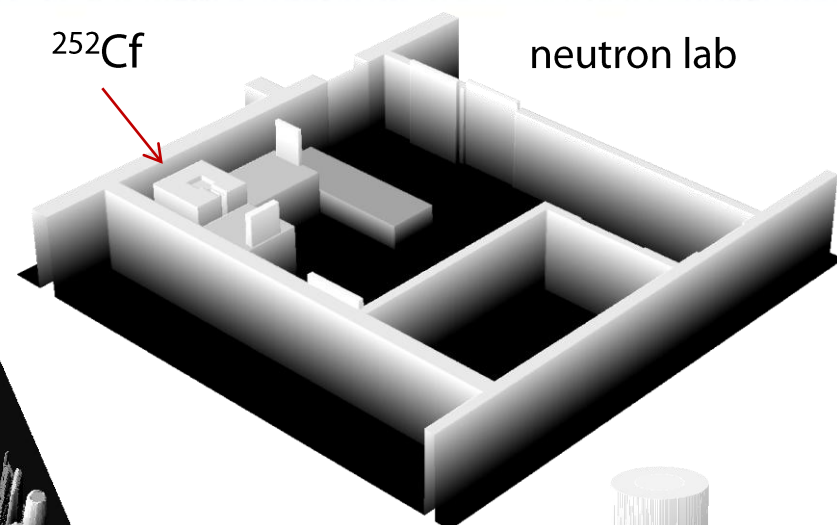
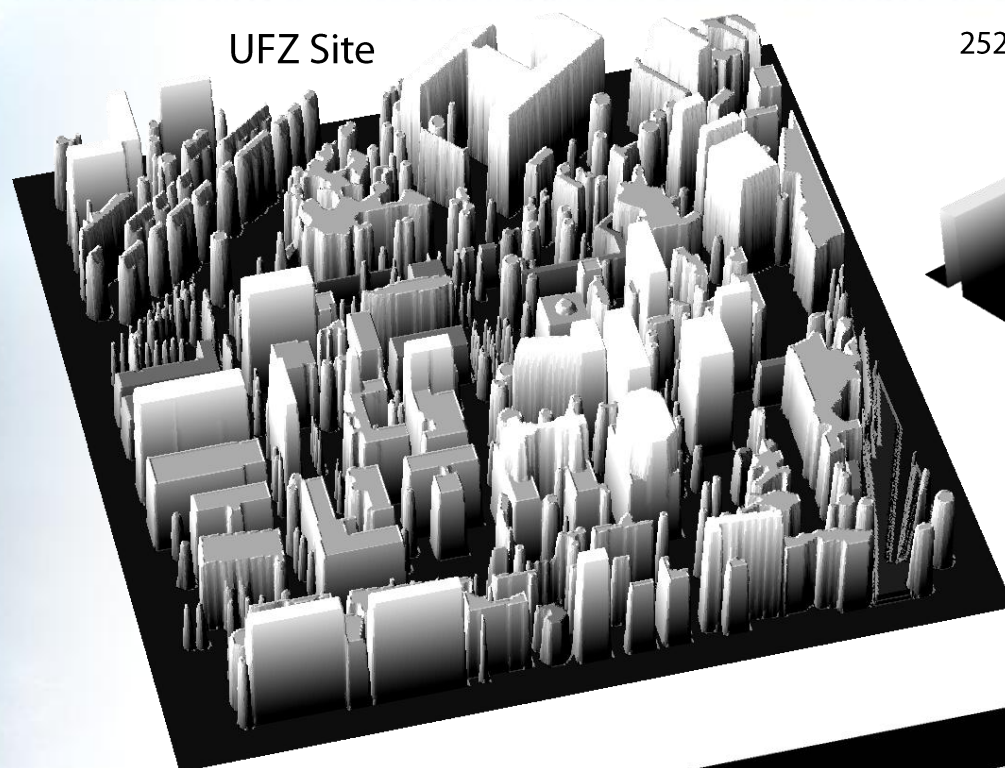


# URANOS voxel engine



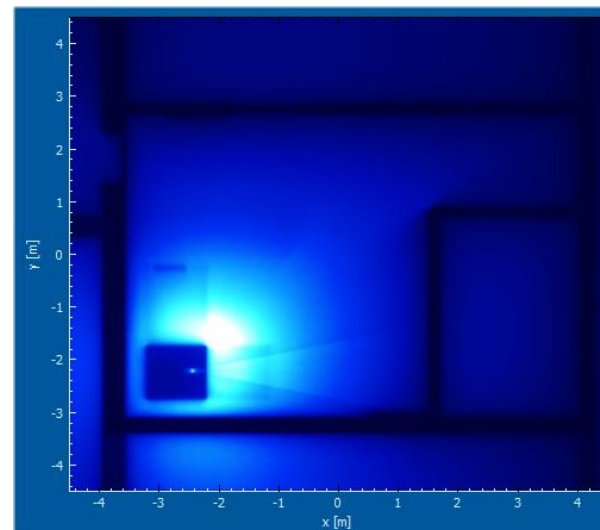
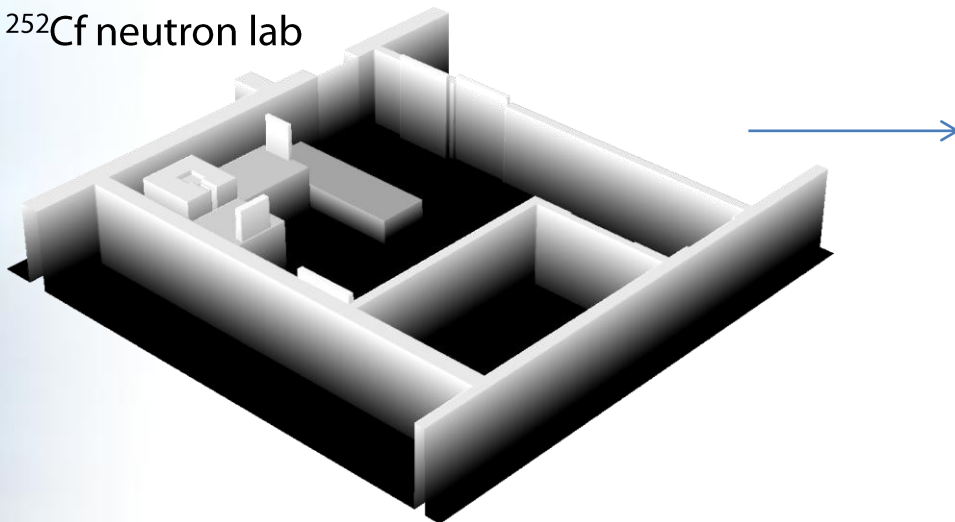


# URANOS voxel engine



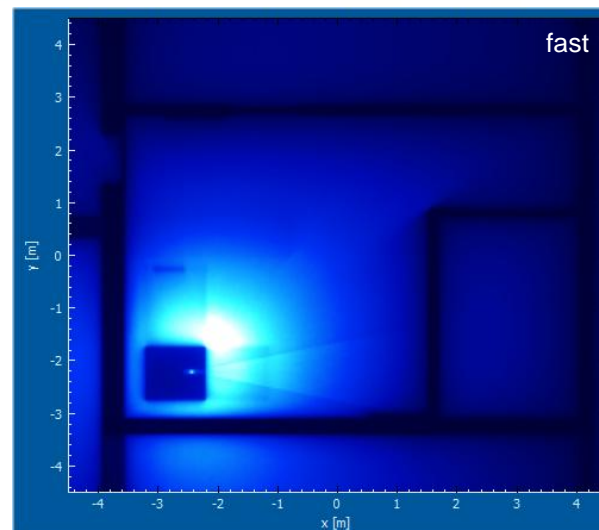
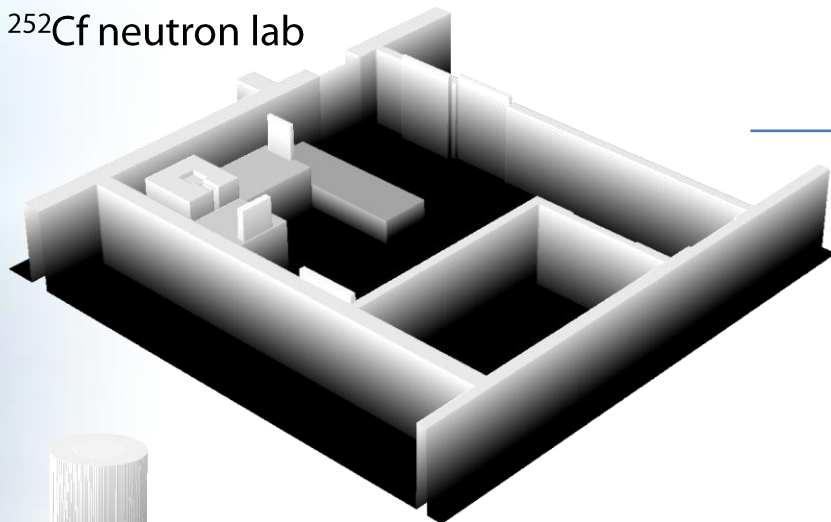
# URANOS voxel engine

$^{252}\text{Cf}$  neutron lab



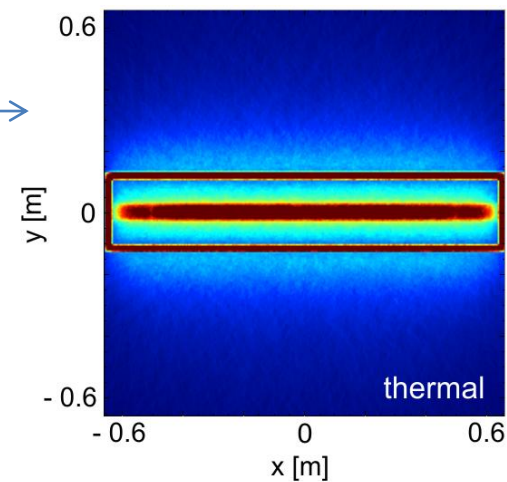
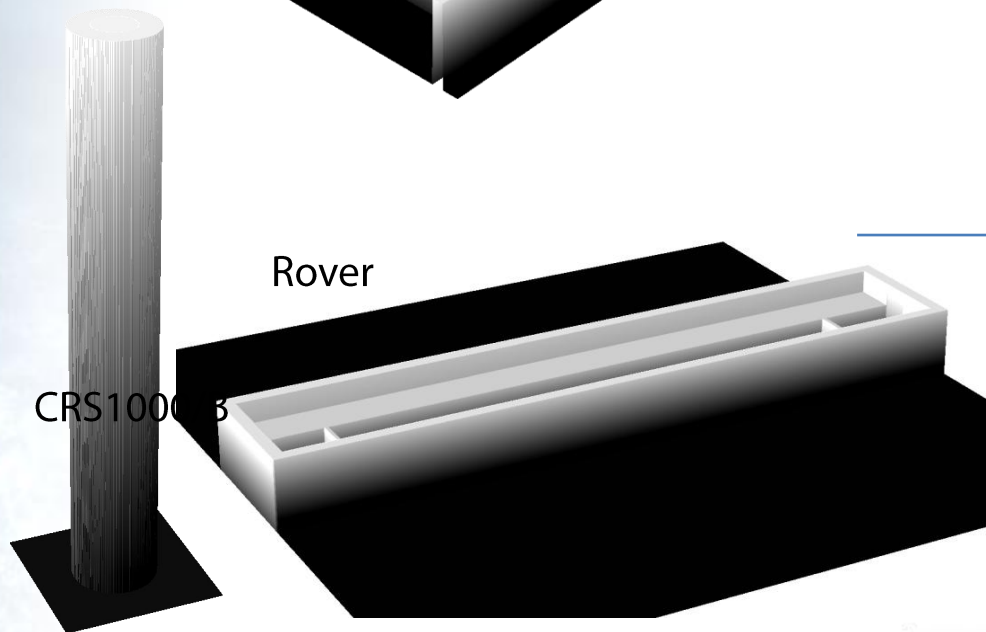
# URANOS voxel engine

$^{252}\text{Cf}$  neutron lab



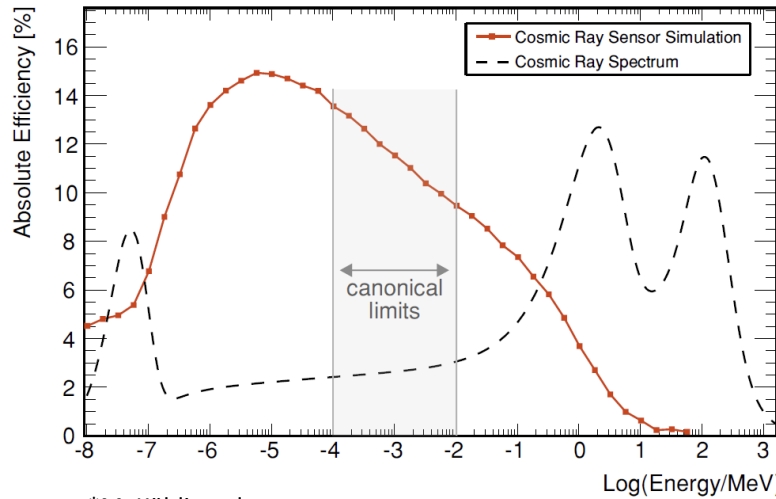
Rover

CRS1000 B

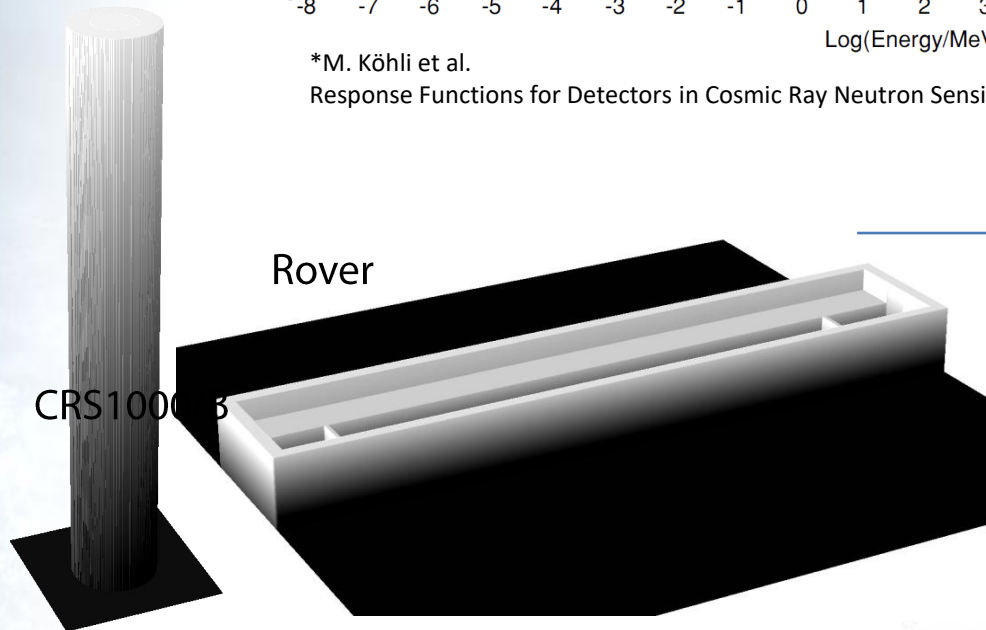
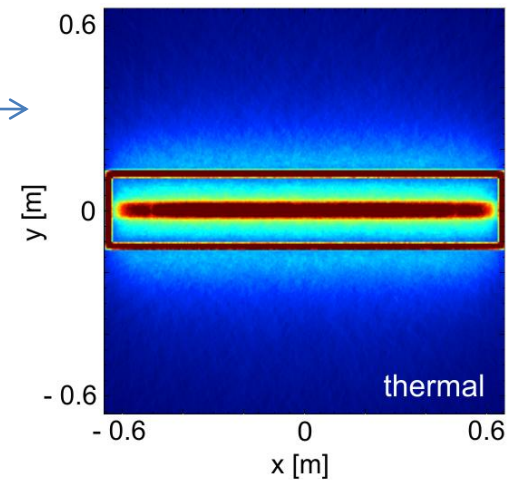
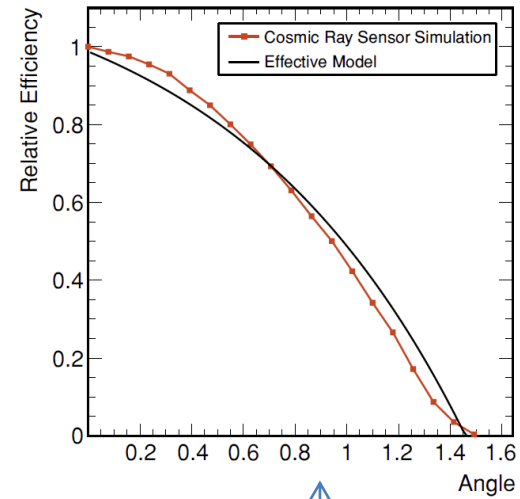




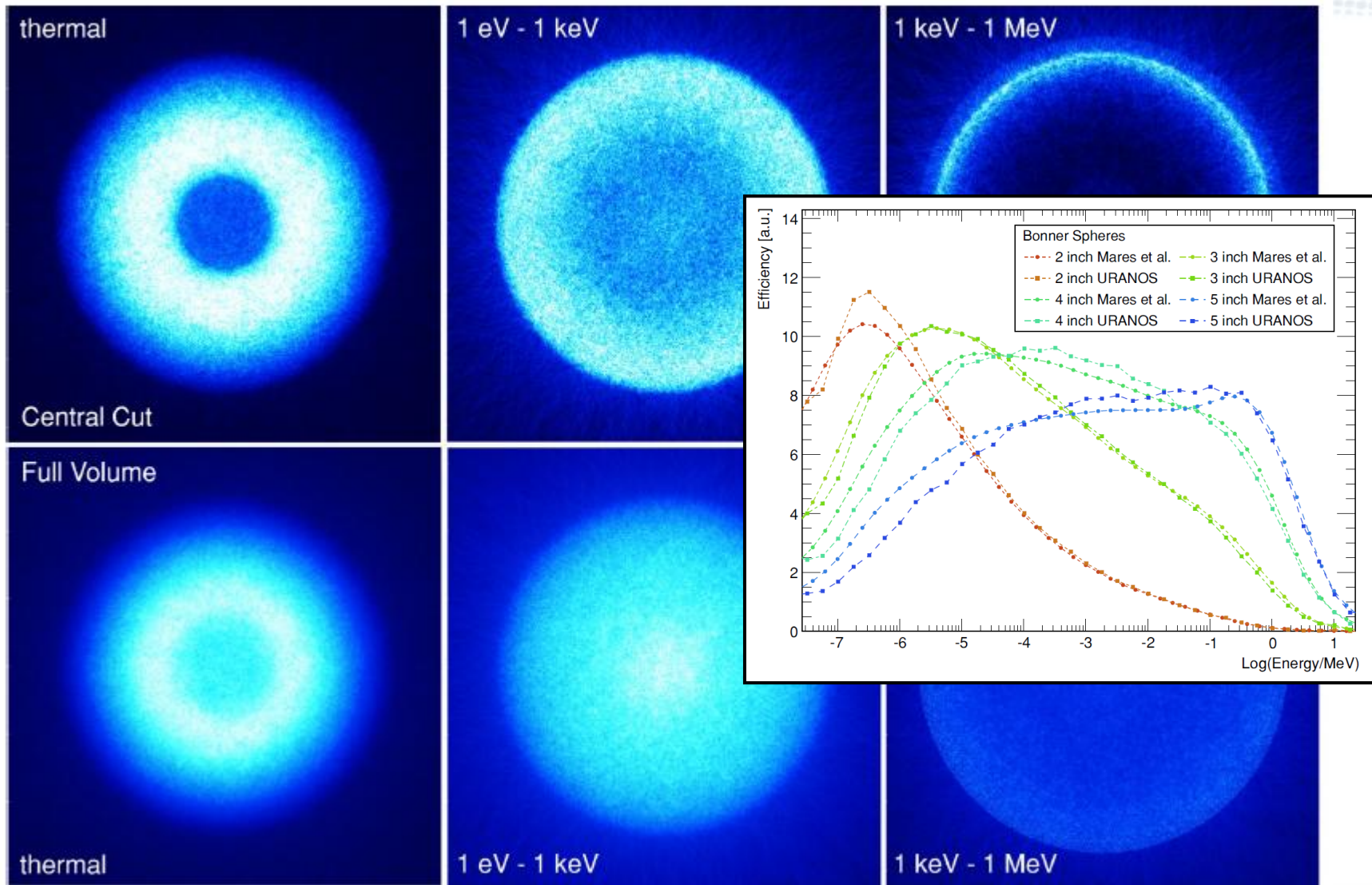
# URANOS voxel engine



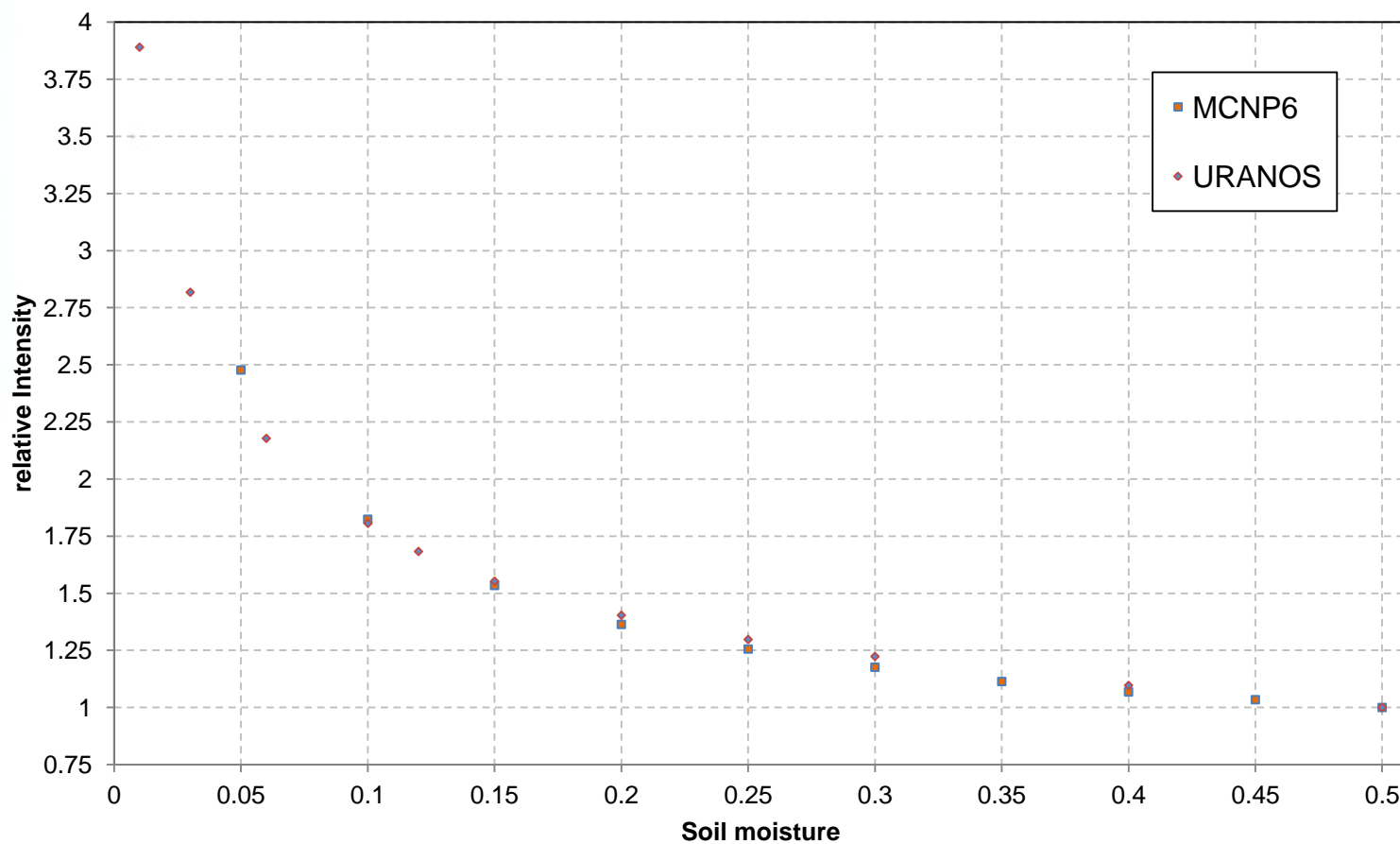
\*M. Köhli et al.  
Response Functions for Detectors in Cosmic Ray Neutron Sensing



# Bonner Spheres



# Intensity Benchmark





### RESEARCH ARTICLE

10.1002/2015WR017169

### Footprint characteristics revised for field-scale soil moisture monitoring with cosmic-ray neutrons

M. Köhli and M. Schrön contributed equally to this work.

M. Köhli<sup>1</sup>, M. Schrön<sup>2</sup>, M. Zreda<sup>3</sup>, U. Schmidt<sup>1</sup>, P. Dietrich<sup>2</sup>, and S. Zacharias<sup>2</sup>

#### Key Points:

- Neutron transpo



Exploration Technologies,  
and Water Resources,

## Improving calibration and validation of cosmic-ray neutron sensors in the light of spatial sensitivity

Martin Schrön<sup>1,2</sup>, Markus Köhli<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Lena Scheiffele<sup>5</sup>, Joost Iwema<sup>6</sup>, Heye R. Bogaen<sup>7</sup>, Ling Lv<sup>8</sup>, Edoardo Martini<sup>1</sup>, Gabriele Baroni<sup>2,5</sup>, Rafael Rosolem<sup>6,9</sup>, Jannis Weimar<sup>3</sup>, Juliane Mai<sup>2,10</sup>, Matthias Cuntz<sup>2,11</sup>, Corinna Rebmann<sup>2</sup>, Sascha E. Oswald<sup>5</sup>, Peter Dietrich<sup>1</sup>, Ulrich Schmidt<sup>3</sup>, and Steffen Zacharias<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dept. Monitoring and Exploration Technologies, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Dept. Computational Hydrosystems, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Physikalisches Institut, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>4</sup>Physikalisches Institut, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

<sup>5</sup>Institute of Earth and Environmental Science, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

<sup>6</sup>Faculty of Engineering, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

<sup>7</sup>Agrosphere Institute (IBG-3), Forschungszentrum für nachhaltige Produktion, Jülich, Germany

<sup>8</sup>Dept. of Plants, Soils and Climate, Utah State University, Logan, UT, USA

<sup>9</sup>Cabot Institute, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

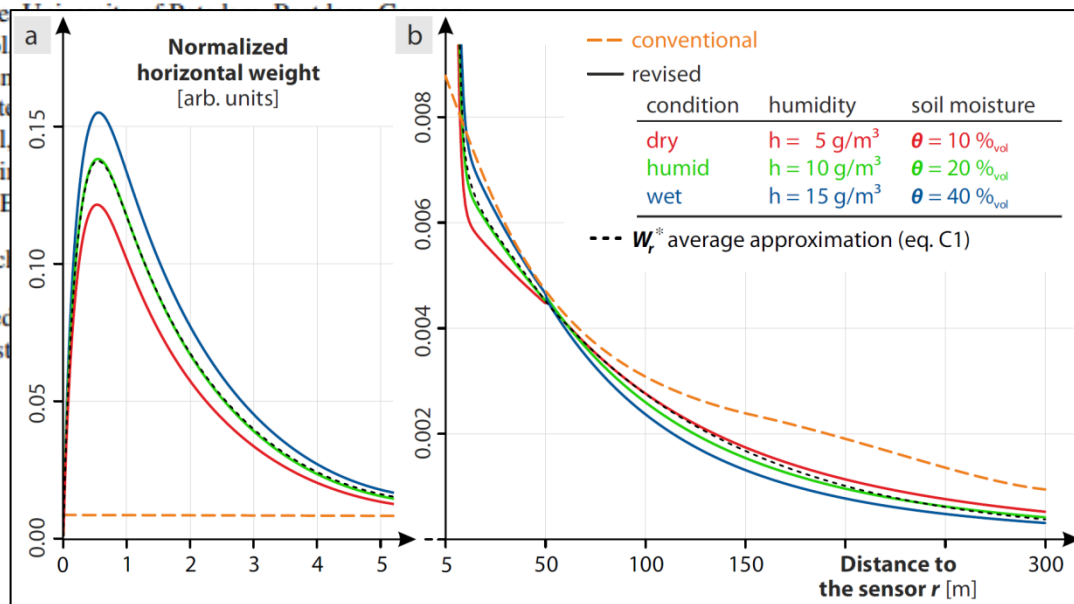
<sup>10</sup>Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

<sup>11</sup>INRA, Université de Lorraine, UMR1137, F-54500 Vandœuvre-lès-Nancy, France

Correspondence to: Martin Schrön (martin.schroen@ufz.de)

Received: 14 March 2017 – Discussion started: 15 March 2017

Revised: 24 June 2017 – Accepted: 26 August 2017





# HESS Paper 2017



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PUBLICATIONS

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SEARCH

JOURNALS

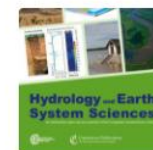
657 ITEMS FOUND

10 | 20 | 50

### Improving calibration and validation of cosmic-ray neutron sensors in the light of spatial sensitivity

 [Hydrology and Earth System Sciences](#) [DOI](#) 10.5194/hess-21-5009-2017  6 October 2017

A field-scale average of near-surface water content can be sensed by cosmic-ray neutron detectors. To interpret, calibrate, and validate the integral signal, it is important to account for its sensitivity to heterogeneous patterns like dry or wet spots. We show how point samples contribute to the neutron signal based on their depth and distance from the detector. This approach robustly improves the sensor performance and data consistency, and even reveals otherwise hidden hydrological features.



[Read more](#)





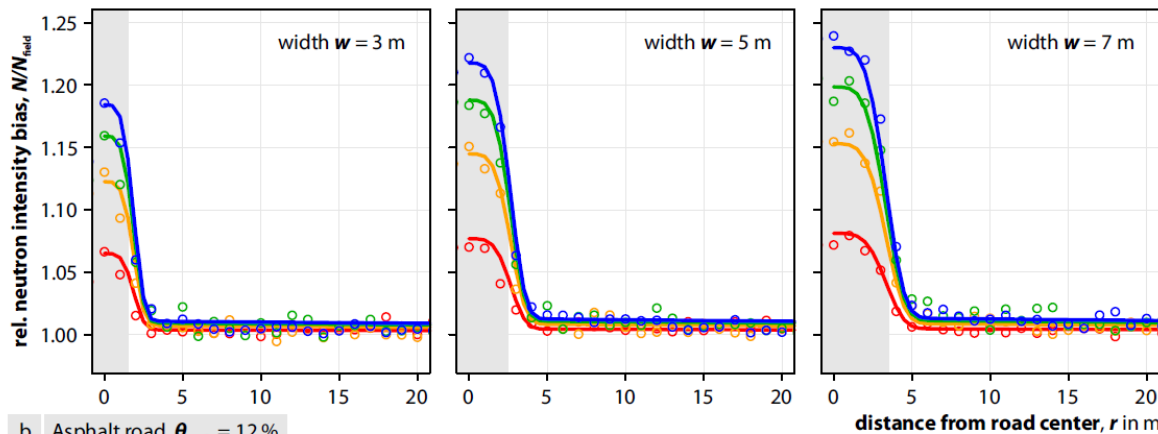
# The Road Effect



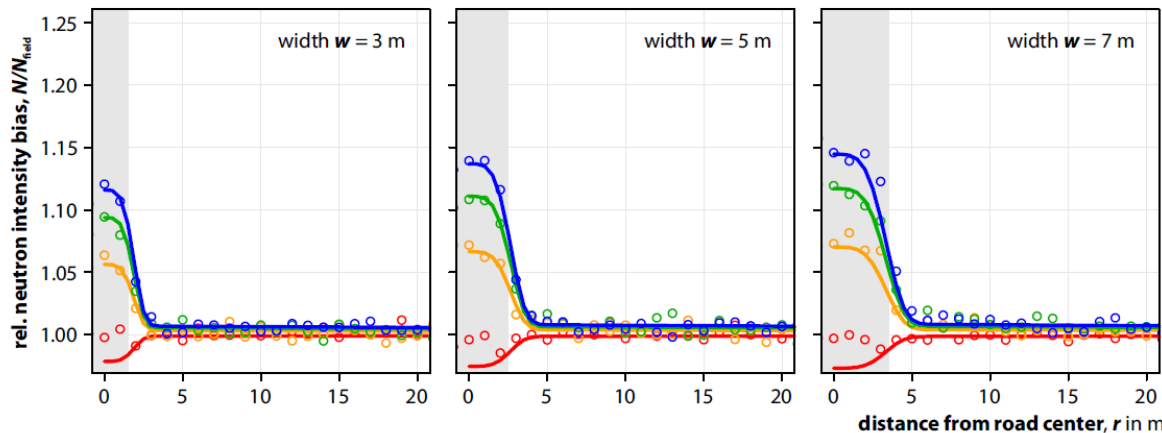
HELMHOLTZ  
CENTRE FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
RESEARCH - UFZ

In collaboration with  
Martin Schrön  
UFZ Leipzig

a Stone road,  $\theta_{\text{road}} = 3\%$



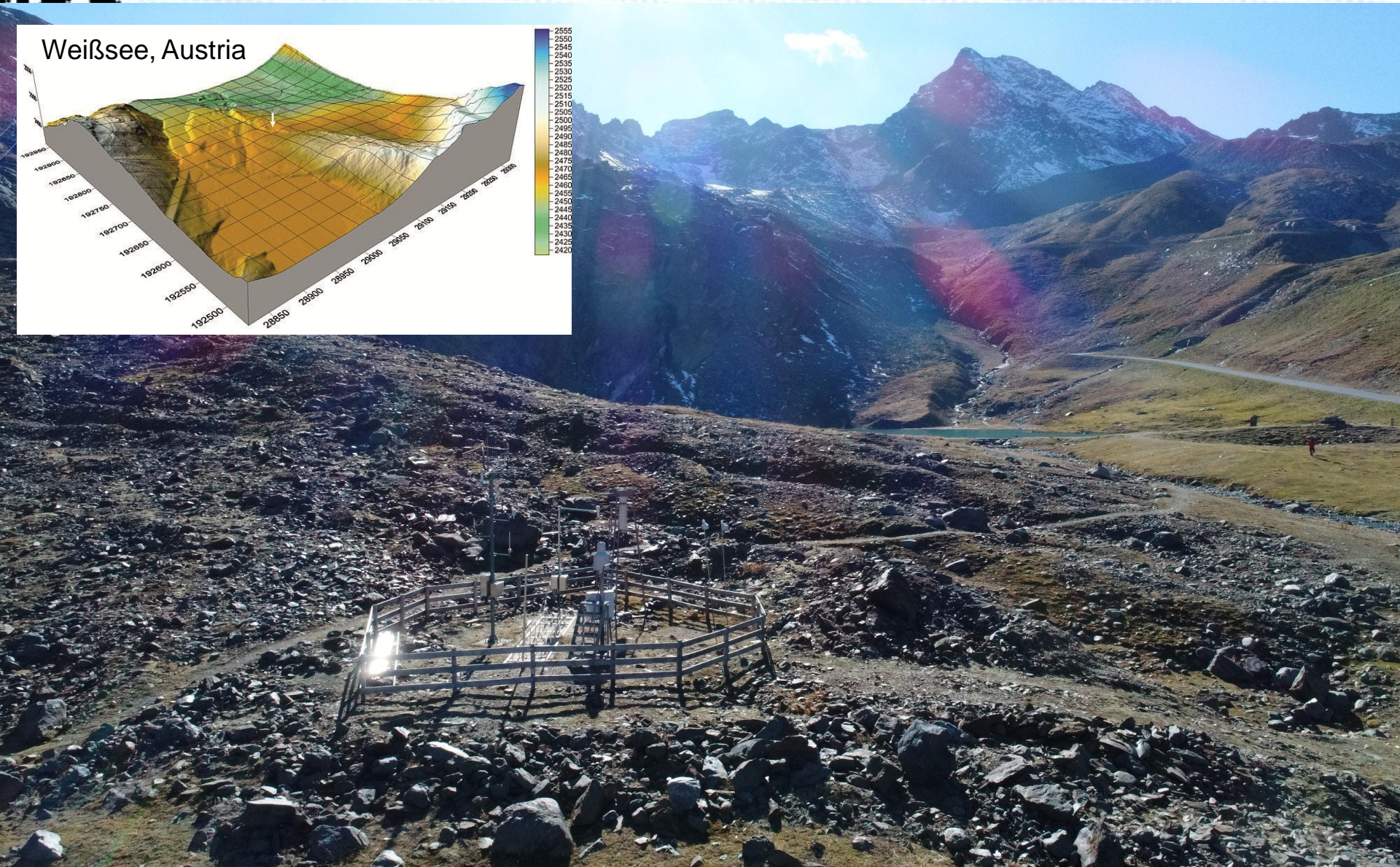
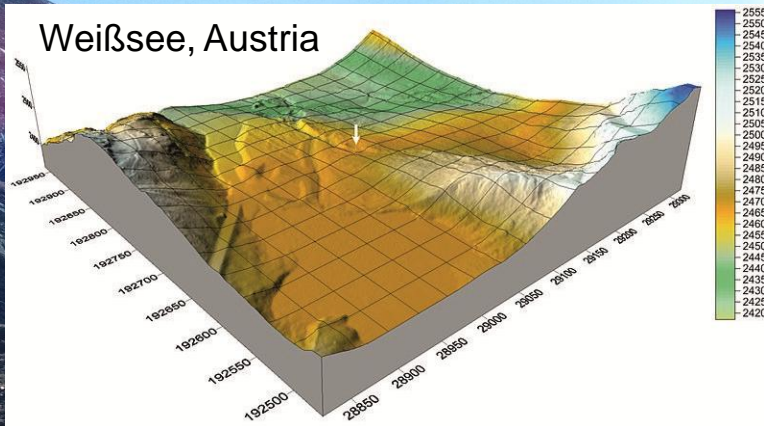
b Asphalt road,  $\theta_{\text{road}} = 12\%$





# Snow Water Equivalent

Weißsee, Austria



P. Schattan et al., to be published

MARKUS KÖHLI

Physikalisches Institut  
Heidelberg University

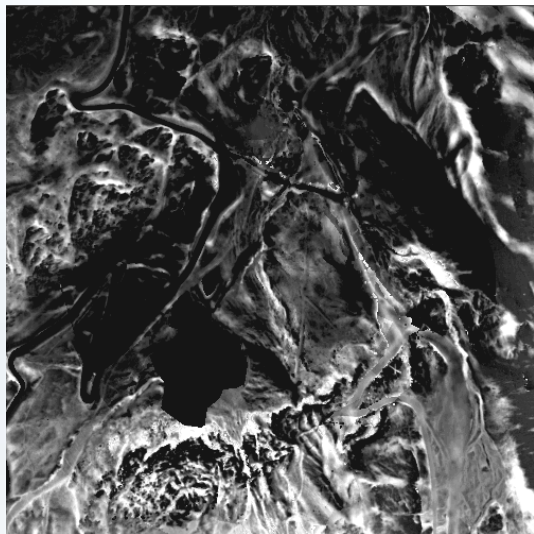
UFZ Leipzig

Physikalisches Institut  
University of Bonn

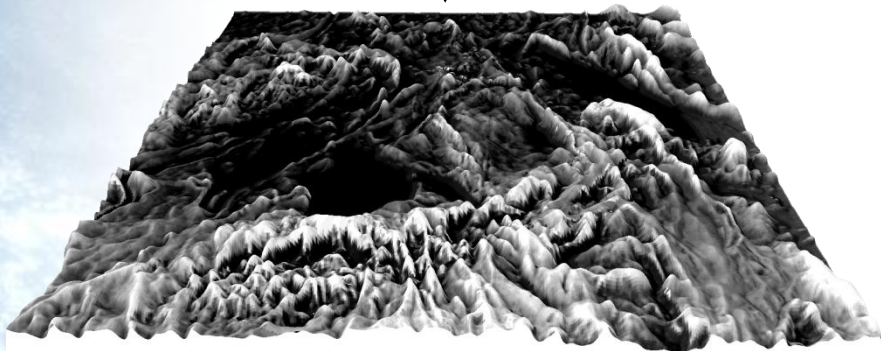


# URANOS voxel engine

## 3D Laser Scanner



P. Schattan  
– Kaunertal  
Glacier at  
N46° 52.2  
E10 °42.6



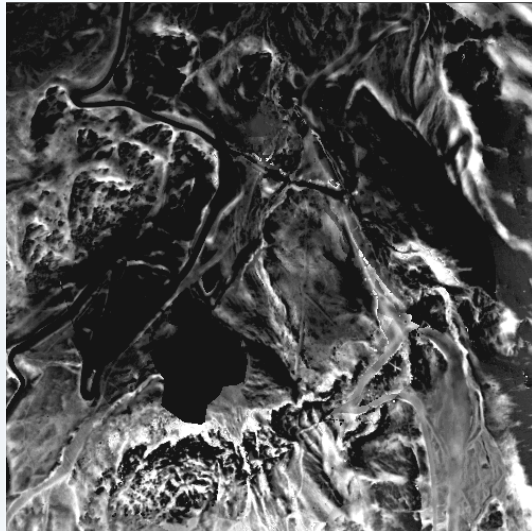
\* P. Schattan

Cosmic-ray neutron sensing of snow water equivalent in heterogeneous alpine terrain

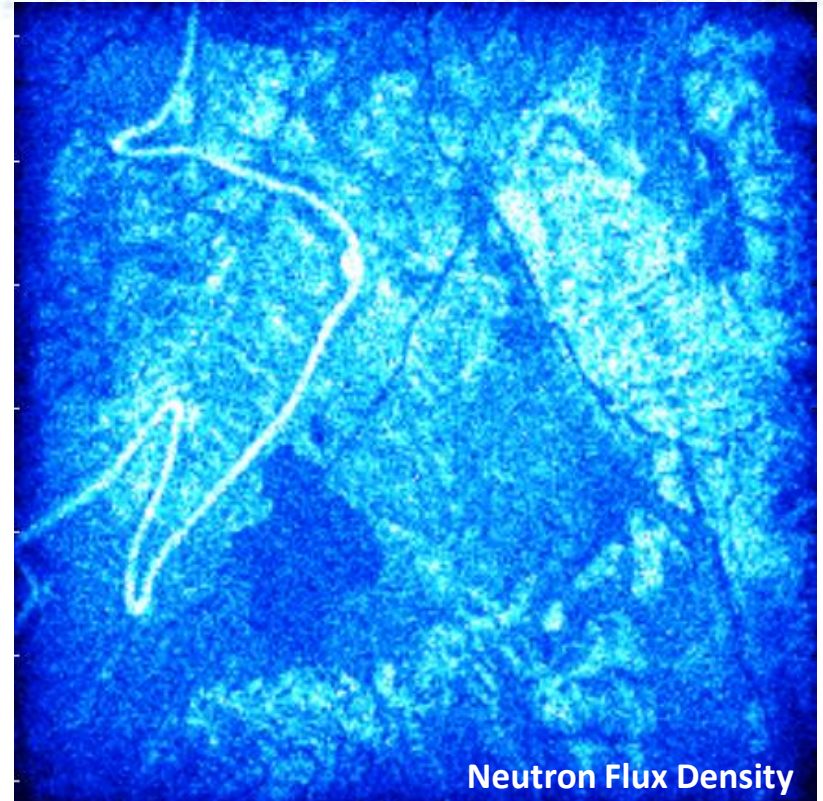
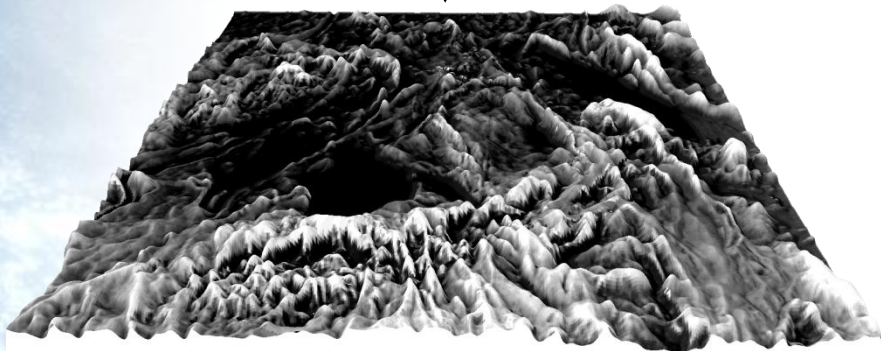


# URANOS voxel engine

3D Laser Scanner



P. Schattan  
– Kaunertal  
Glacier at  
N46° 52.2  
E10 °42.6



Neutron Flux Density

\* P. Schattan

Cosmic-ray neutron sensing of snow water equivalent in heterogeneous alpine terrain



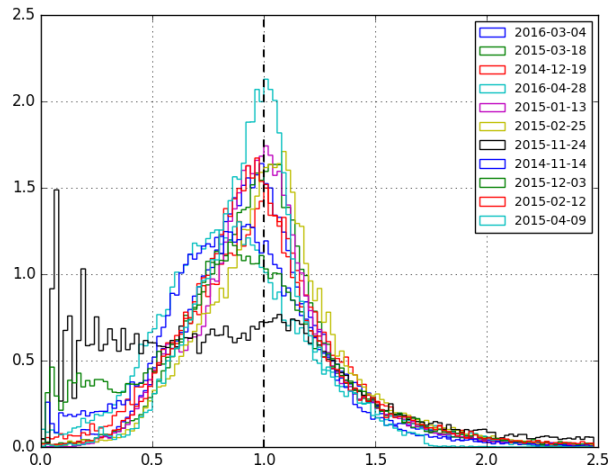
# Snow Water Equivalent



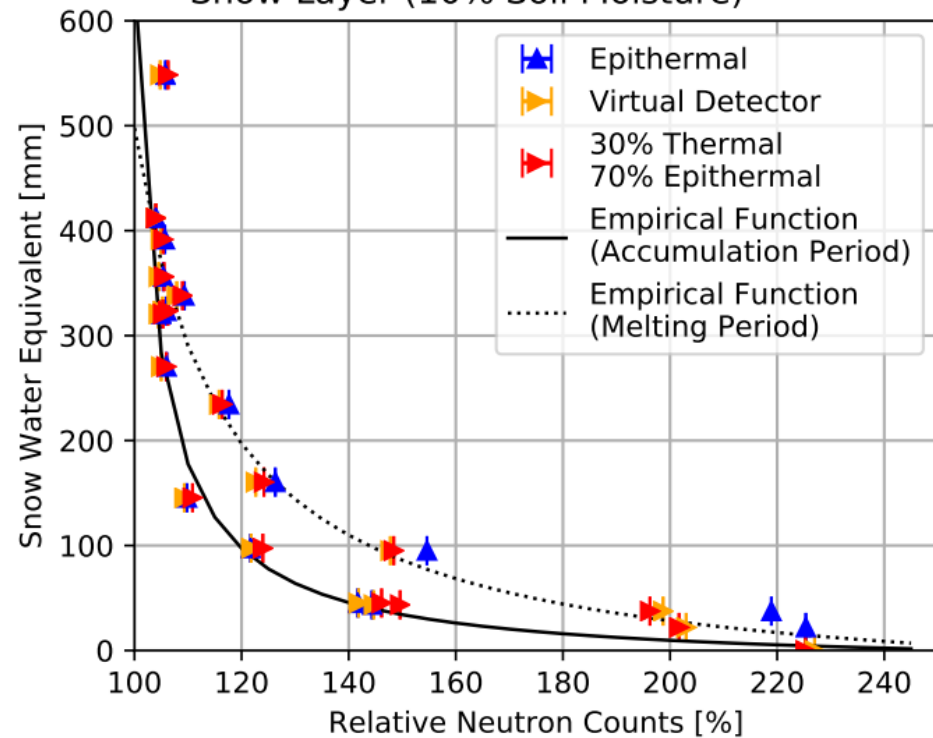
In collaboration with  
Paul Schattan  
Uni Innsbruck

3D Laser scanner

snow distribution measurements



(b) URANOS Results Distributed  
Snow Layer (10% Soil Moisture)

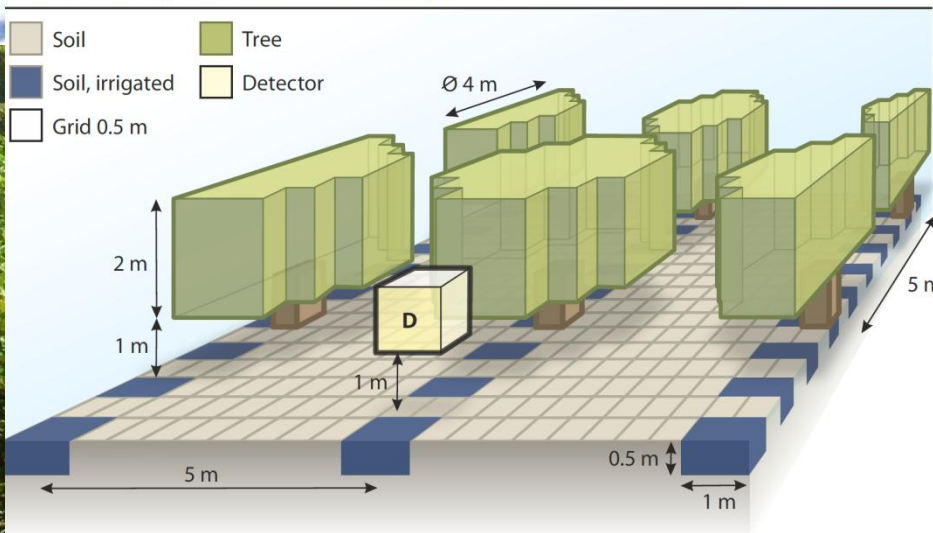


P. Schattan et al., to be published



# Lemon trees in Valenica

Schematical segment of the URANOS setup, total extent: 500 m

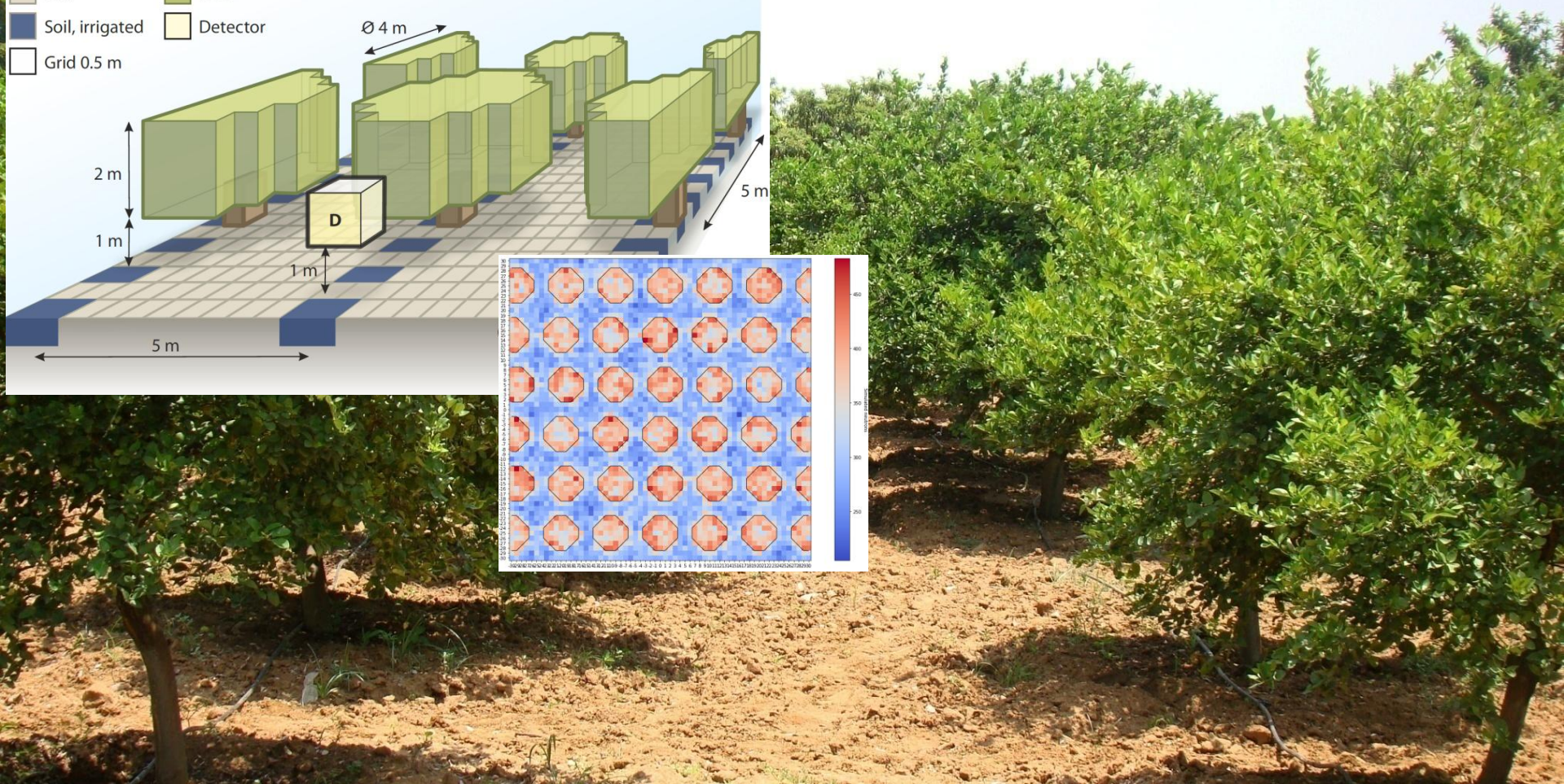
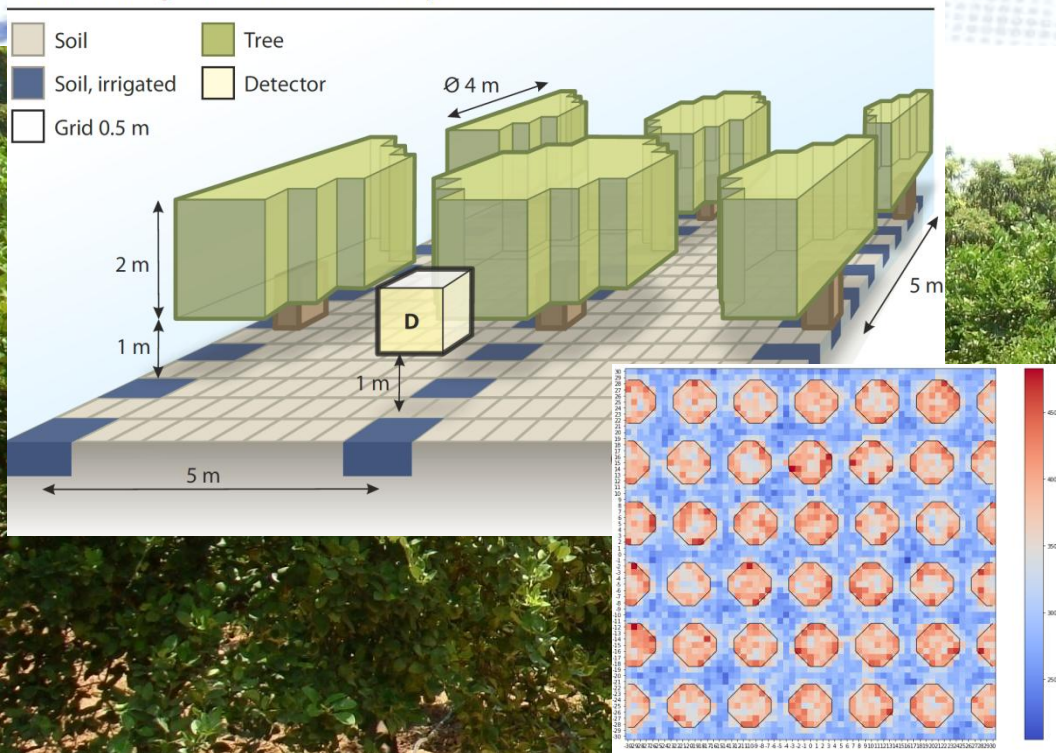


\* D. Li et al.  
Can Drip Irrigation be Scheduled with Cosmic-Ray Neutrons



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\* D. Li et al.  
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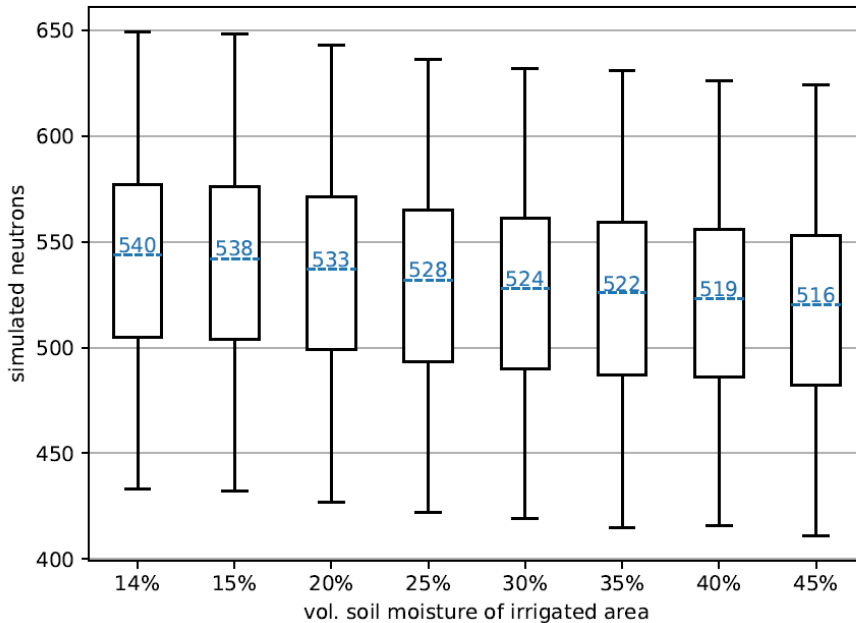
# Drip Irrigation



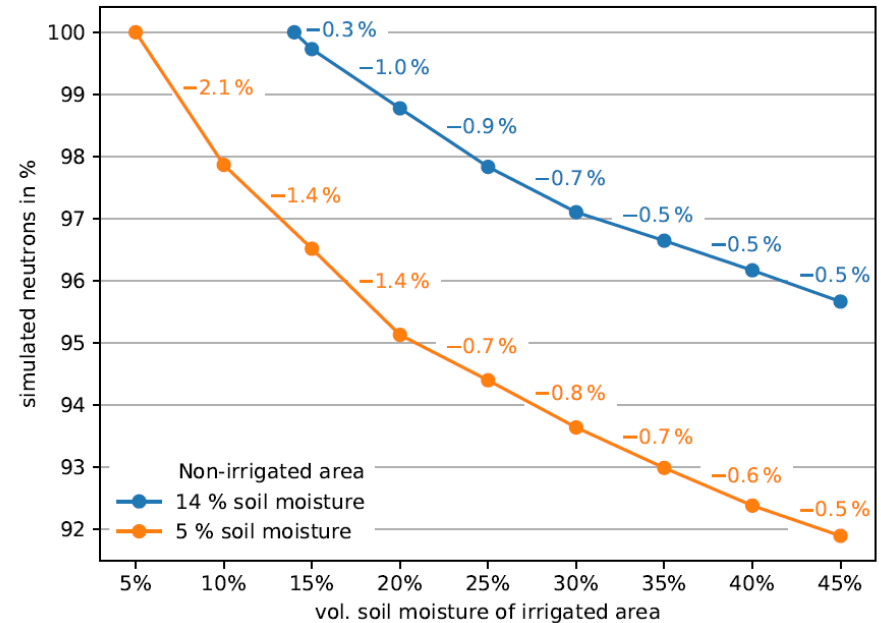
In collaboration with  
Dazhi Li  
FZ Jülich

Lemon trees: 3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> biomass  
8 % of soil irrigated

Neutron change with irrigated soil



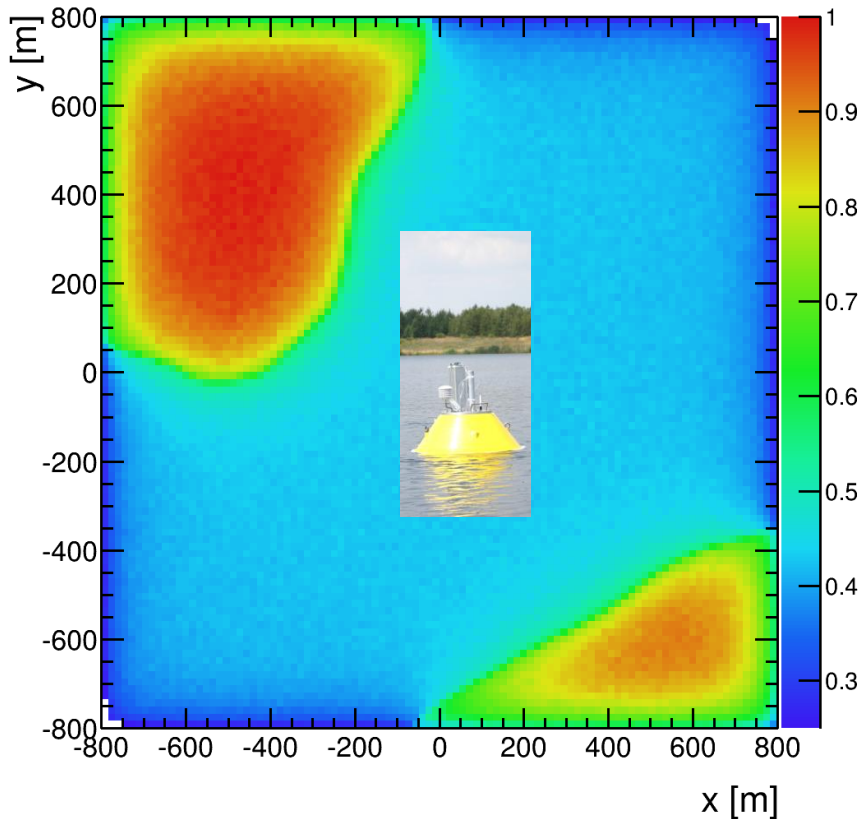
Relative neutron change with irrigated soil



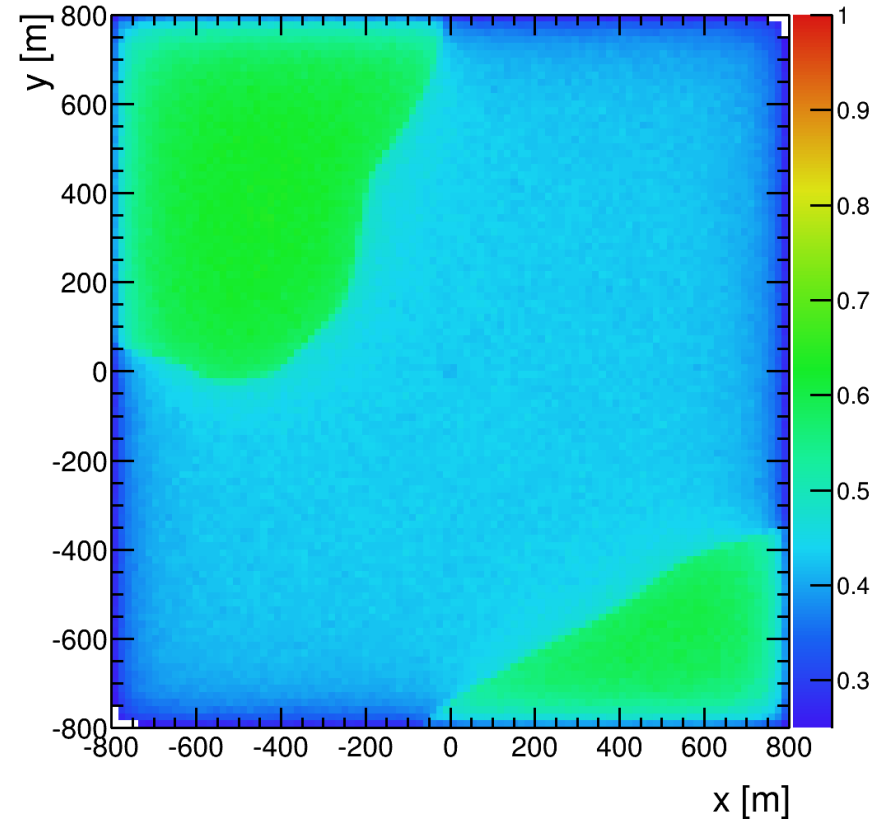
Only a few percent change -> needs large sensor



# Buoy on a lake



dry coast

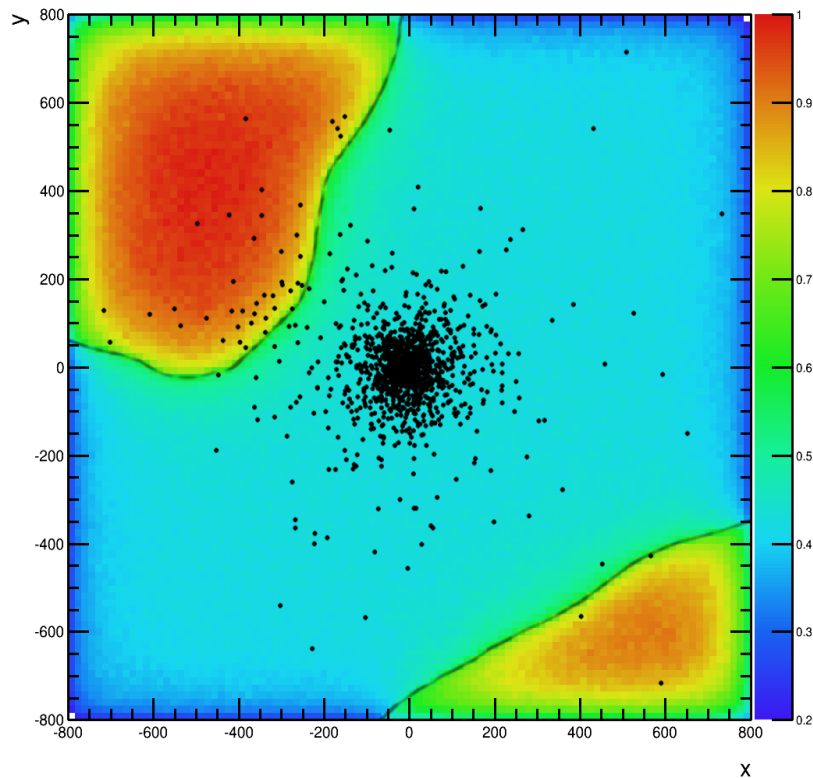


wet coast

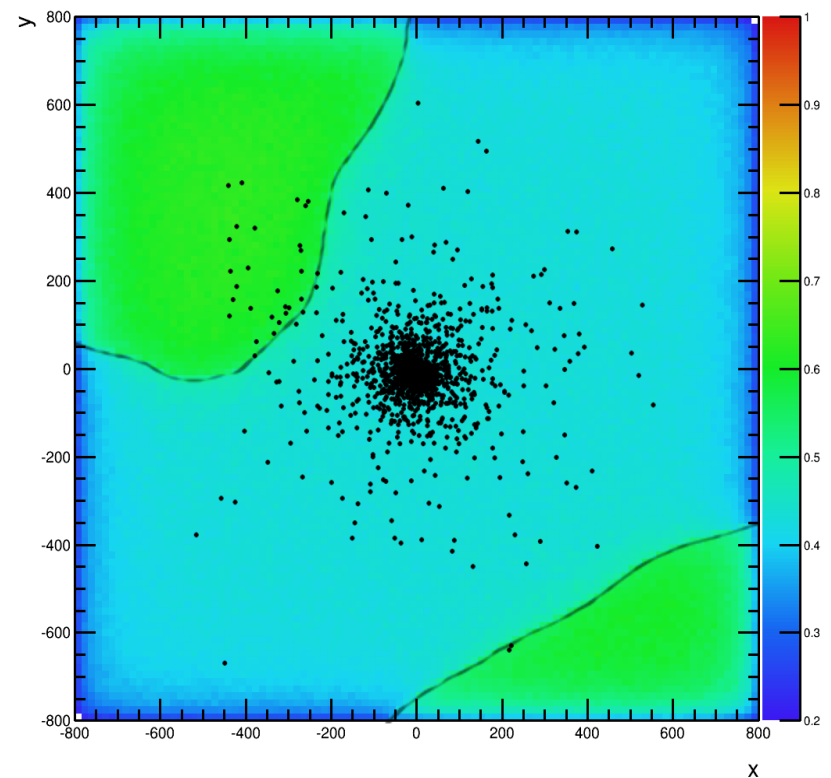
\*M. Schrön

Correction of near-surface neutron measurements using incoming cosmic-ray fluxes from neutron monitors

# Buoy on a lake



dry coast



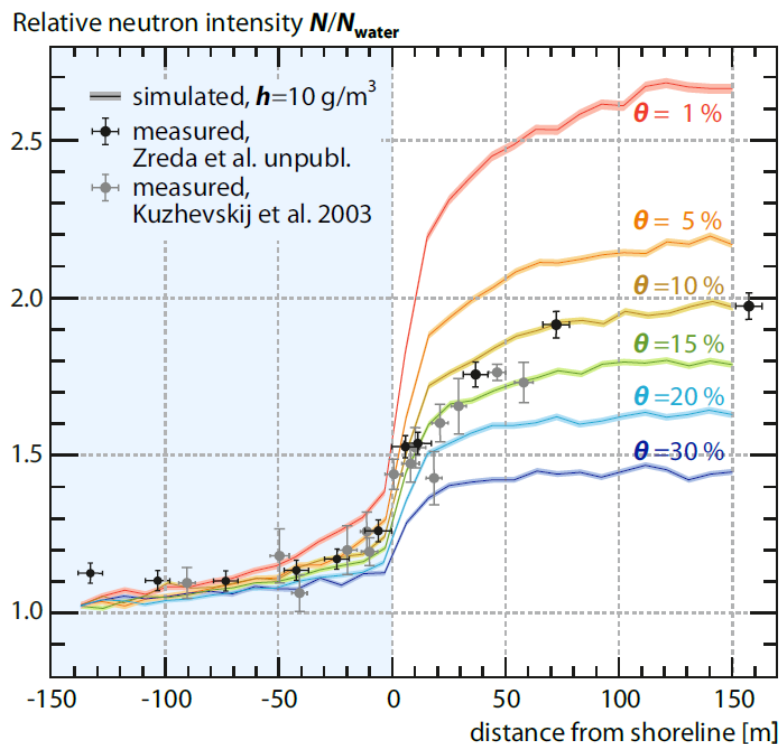
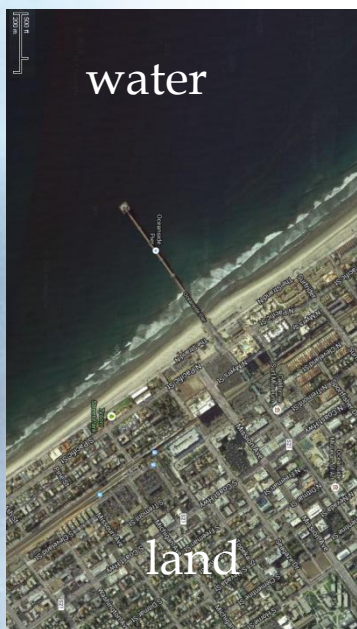
wet coast

\*M. Schrön

Correction of near-surface neutron measurements using incoming cosmic-ray fluxes from neutron monitors

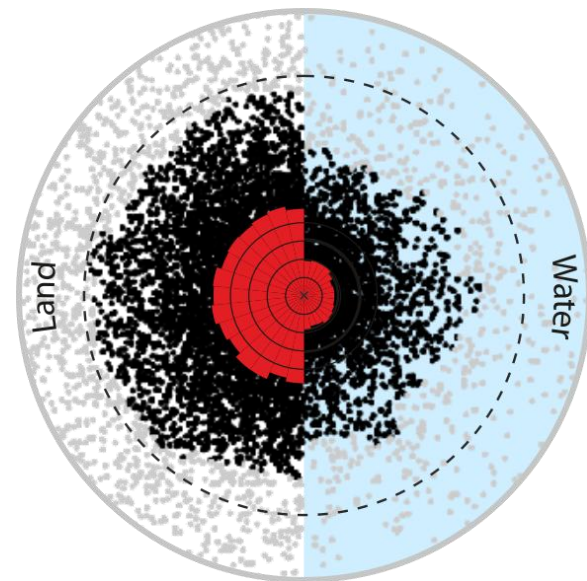


# Transects and detector options



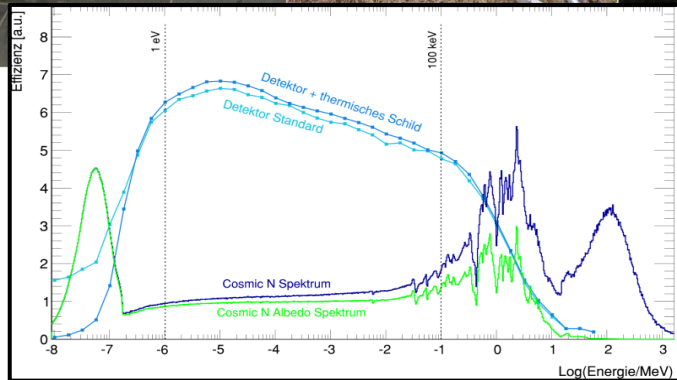
water

land



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

# Detector flux calculations

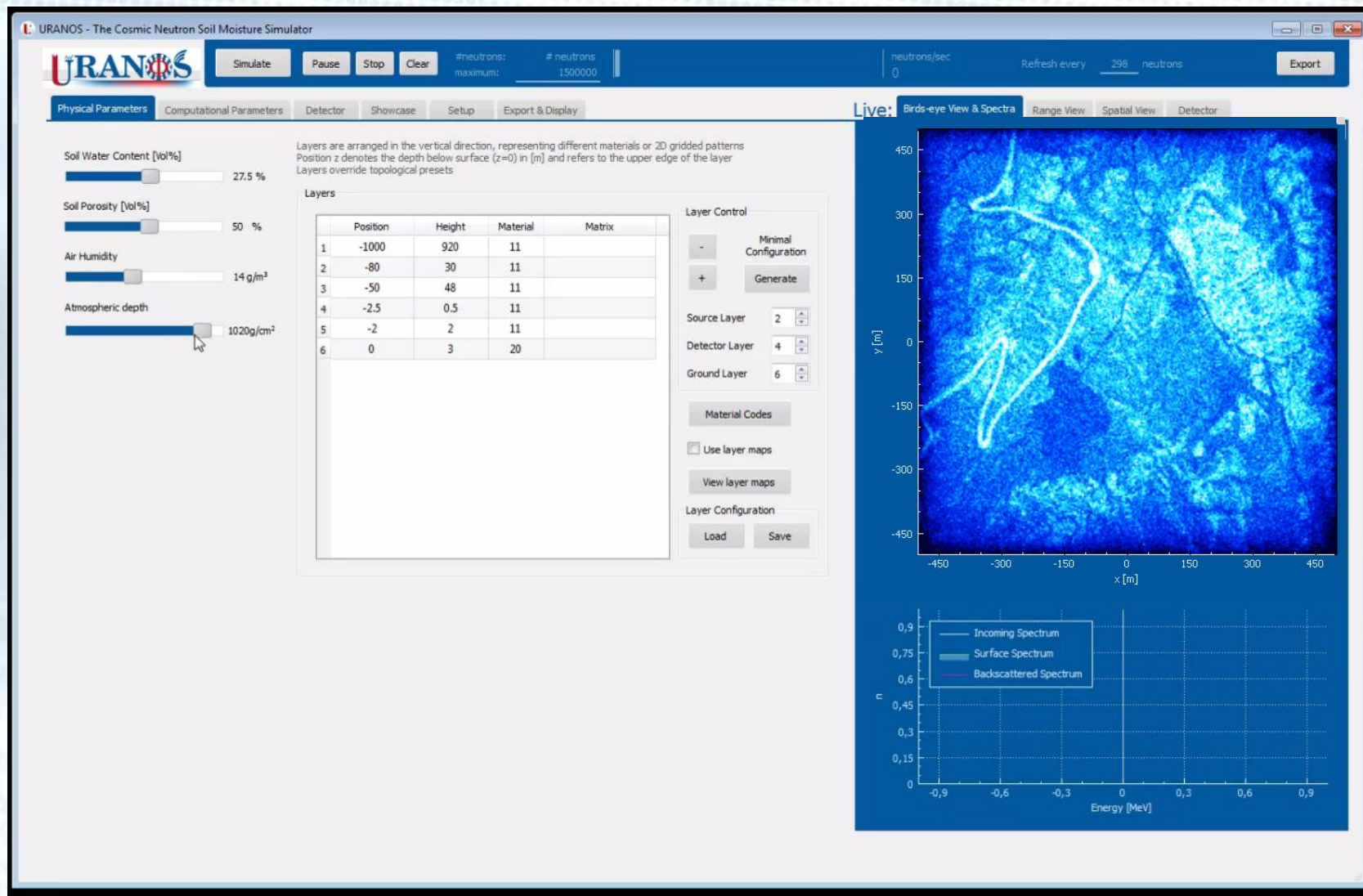






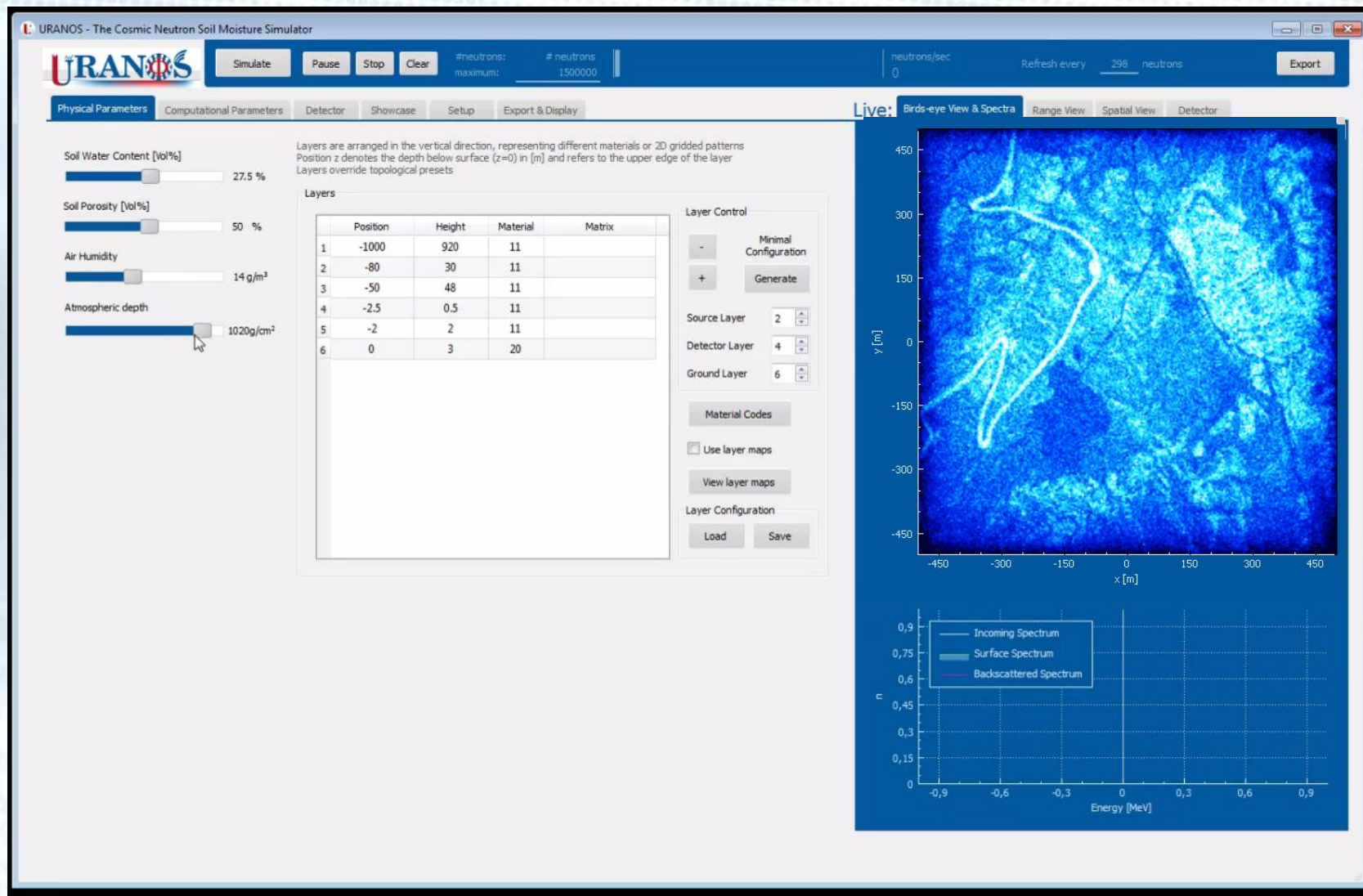
# URANOS Demonstration

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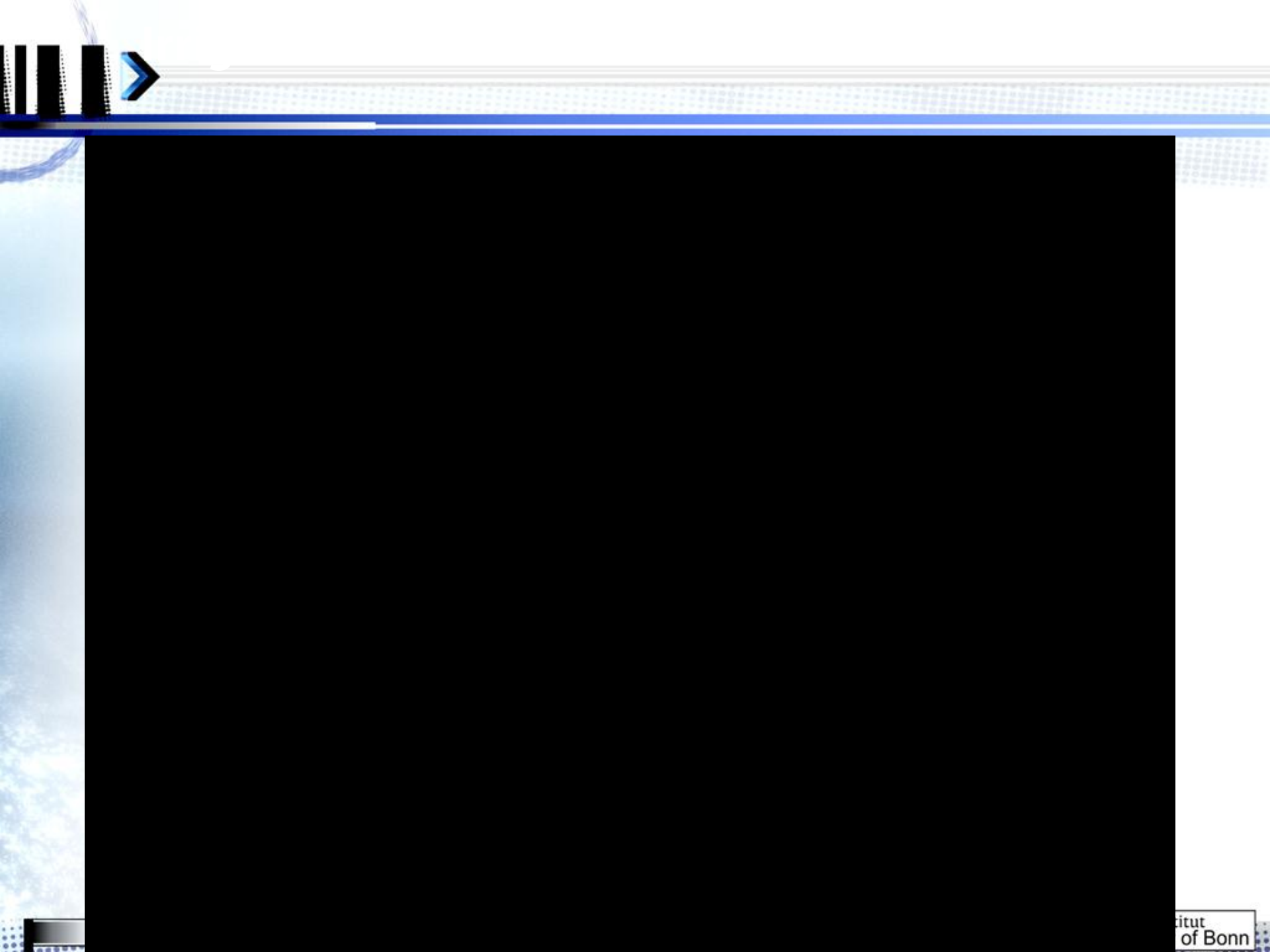














## URANOS

- Novel neutron Monte Carlo tool for Environmental Physics





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- Novel neutron Monte Carlo tool for Environmental Physics
- Ready-to-use User Interface



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- Voxel engine with simple png based material codes



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URANOS Community Version: **Now available!**  
(and in development)

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