



Physikalisches Institut
Heidelberg University
Germany

NS
Neutron
Simulation

Use of CRNS for scheduling irrigation

Water Management using Smart Radiation Sensors

18.07.2022 Markus Köhli¹, Cosimo Brogi², Martin Schrön³ and Ulrich Schmidt¹

¹ Physikalisches Institut, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany

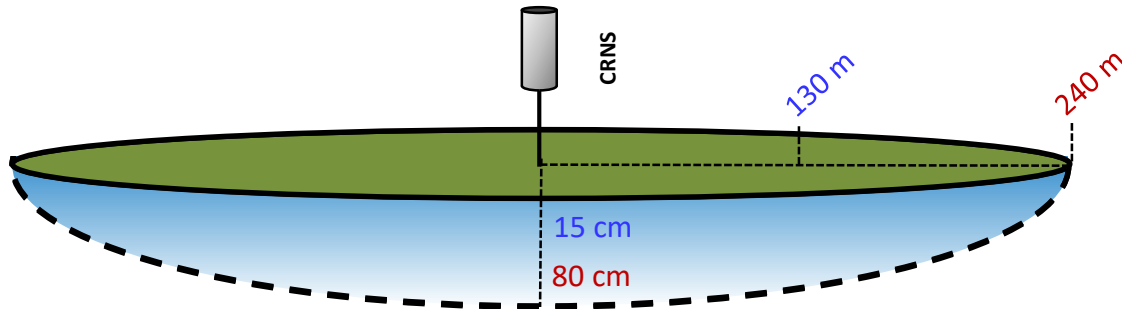
² Agrosphere Institute (IBG-3), Forschungszentrum Jülich, Jülich, Germany

³ Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ, Leipzig, Germany



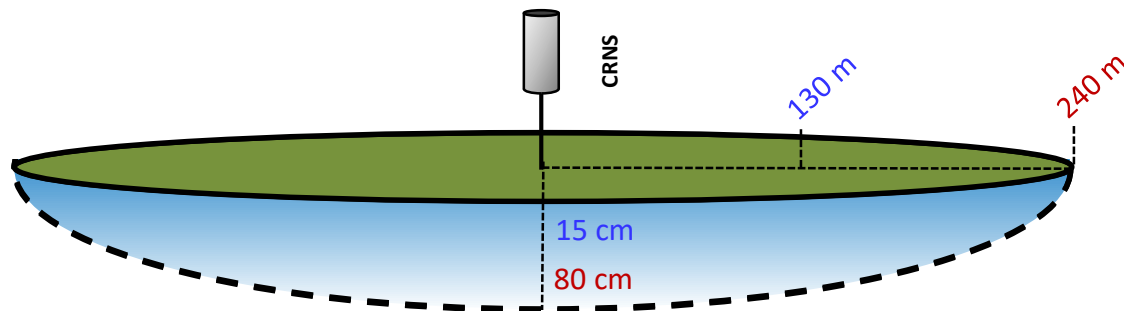
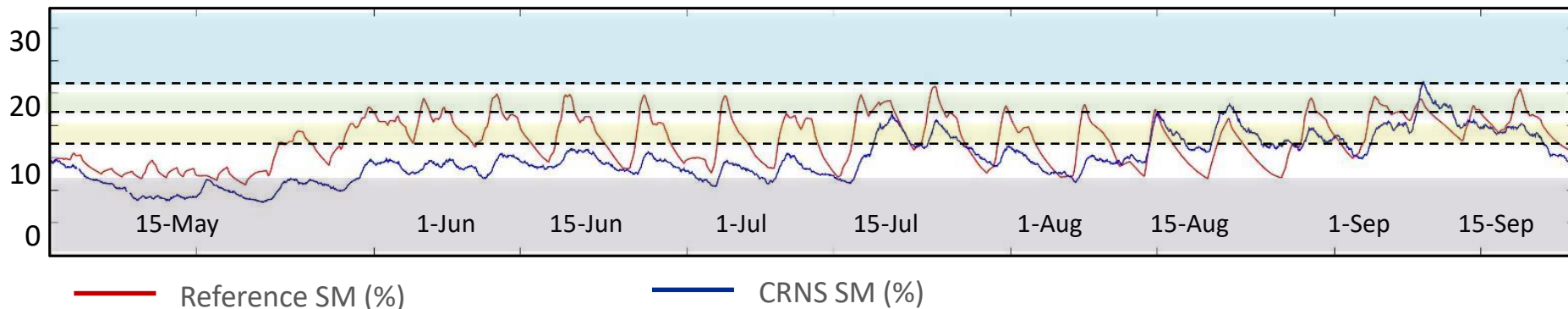
Cosmic
Sense

DFG FOR 2394

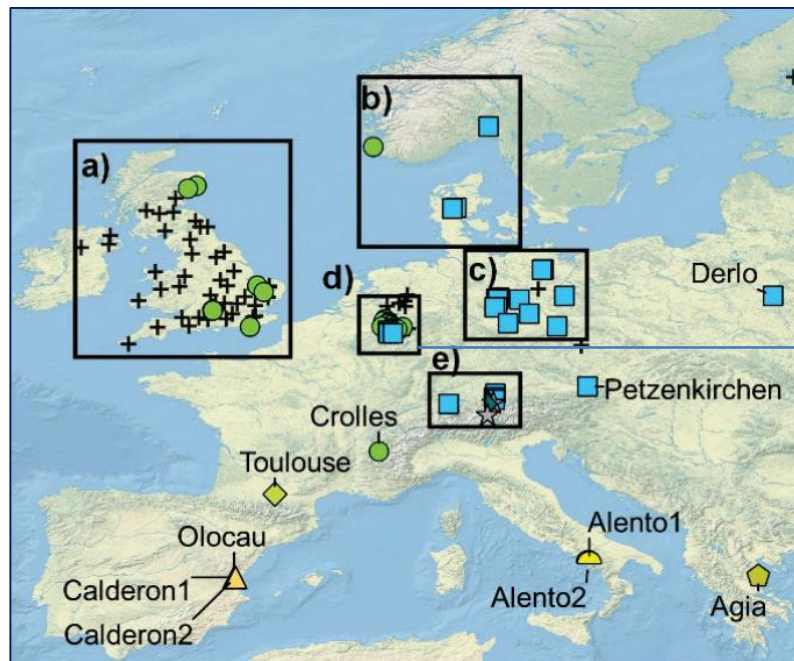


- ✓ One sensor per field
- ✓ Large measured volume
- ✓ No removal during management
- ✓ Low maintenance

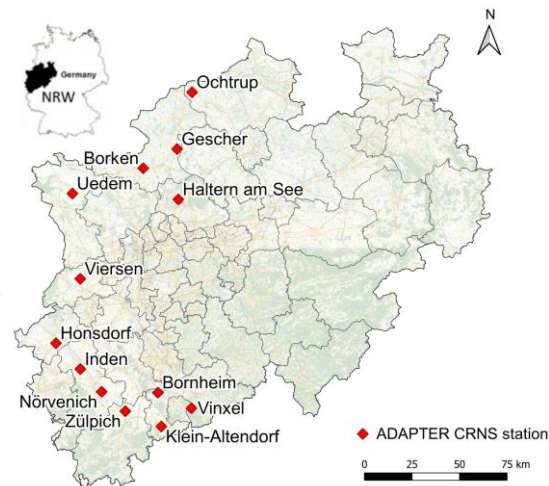
Integration of CRNS in Smart Agriculture



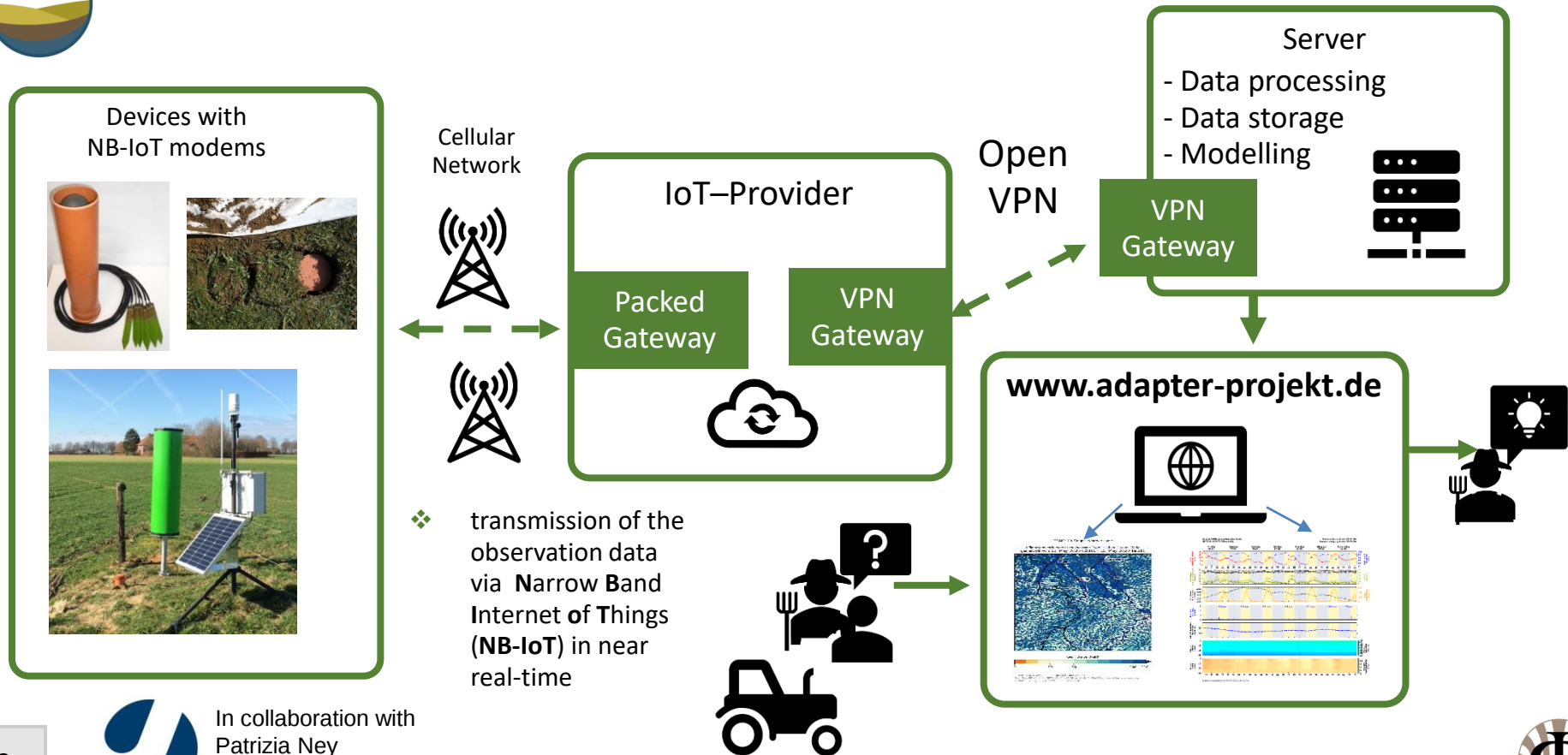
- ✓ One sensor per field
- ✓ Large measured volume
- ✓ No removal during management
- ✓ Low maintenance



COSMOS-Europe sites (Bogena 2021, ESSD)



ADAPTER sites (Ney 2021, MetroAgriFor)





<https://www.mapsland.com/europe/portugal/elevation-map-of-portugal-and-spain>

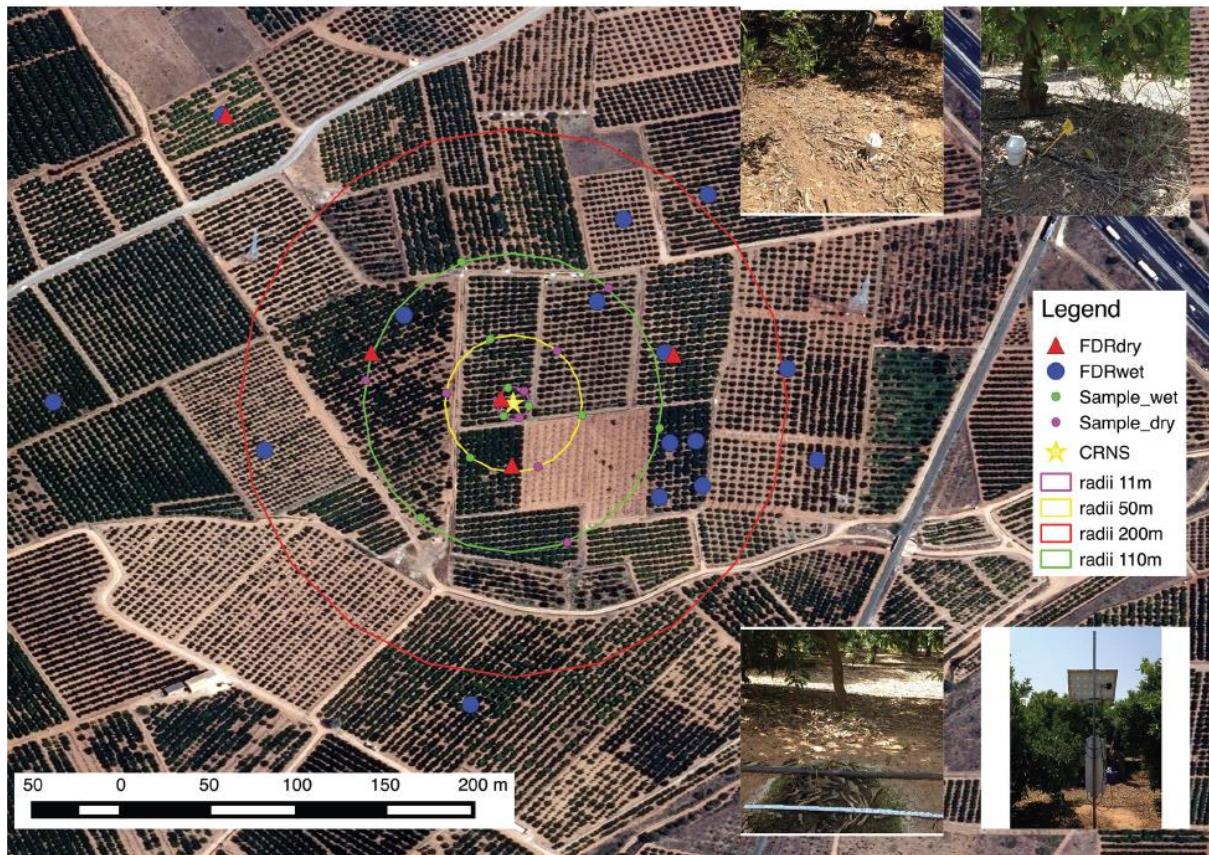


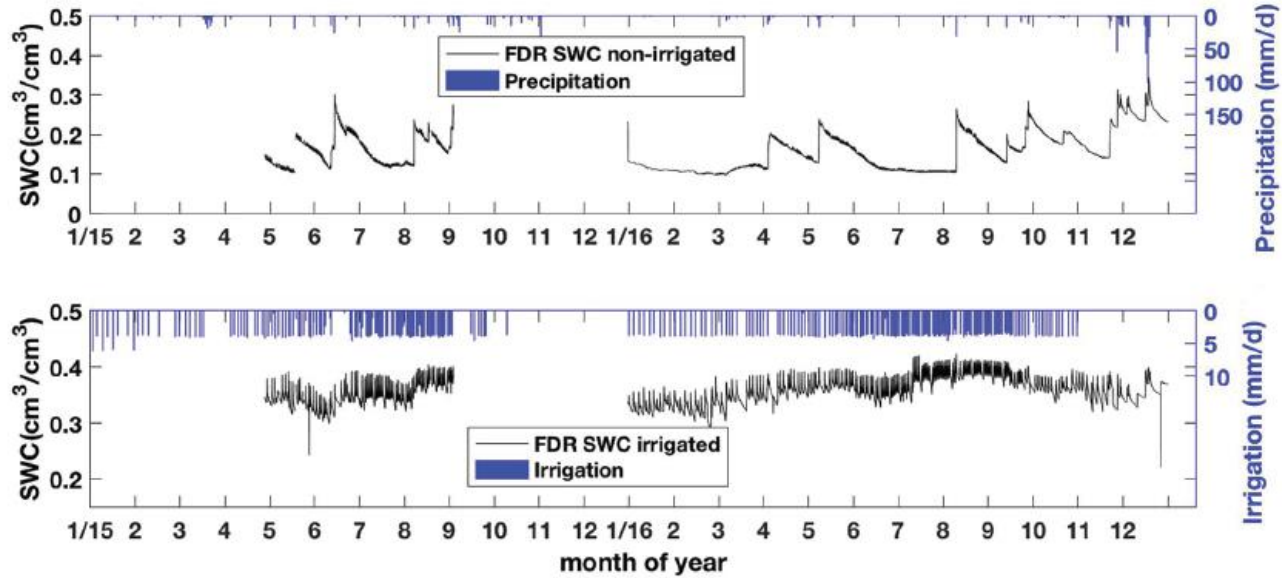
In collaboration with
Dazhi Li
FZ Jülich

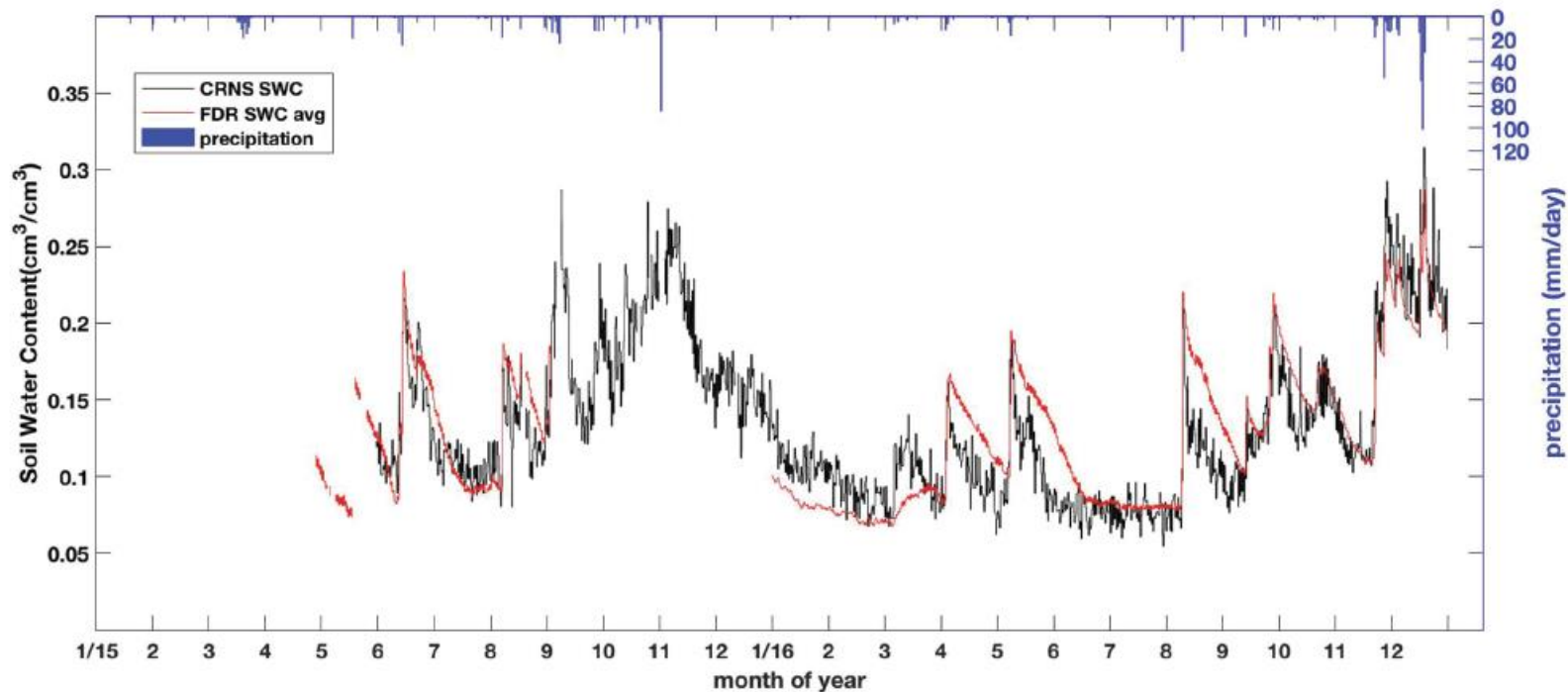
Physikalisches Institut, Universität Heidelberg



* D. Li et al. (2019)
Can Drip Irrigation be
Scheduled with Cosmic-
Ray Neutrons?

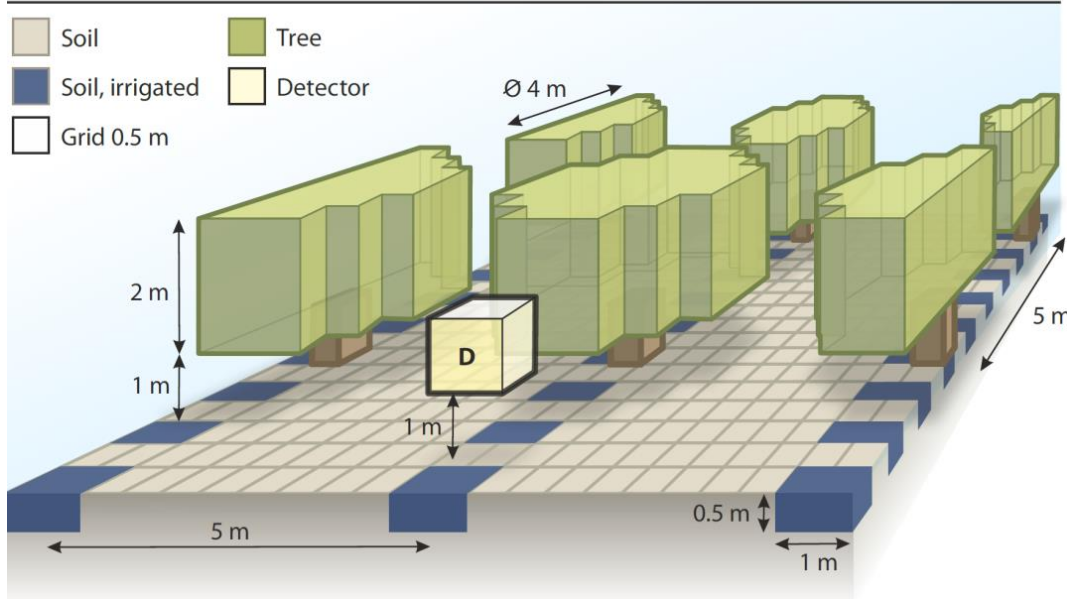




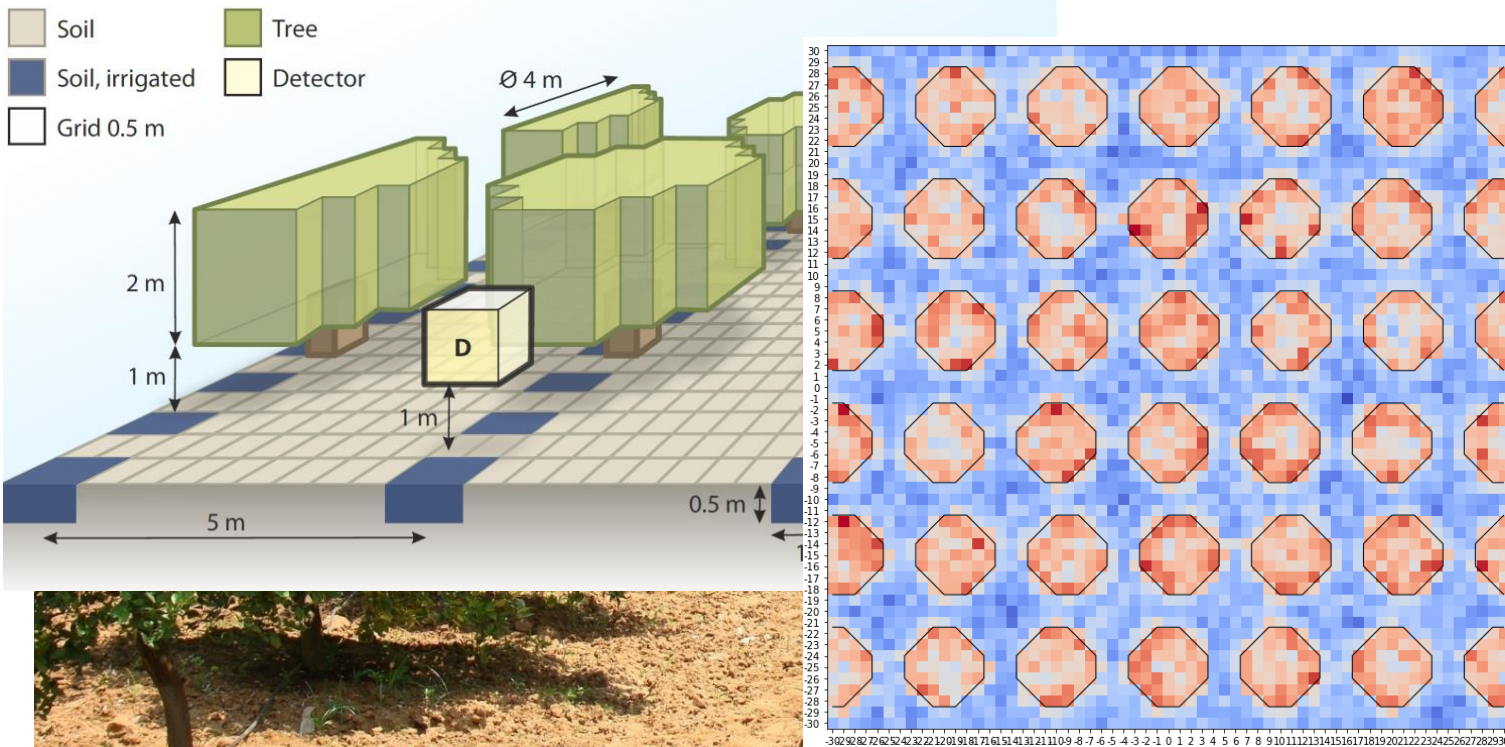


NS > Picassent URANOS simulation

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



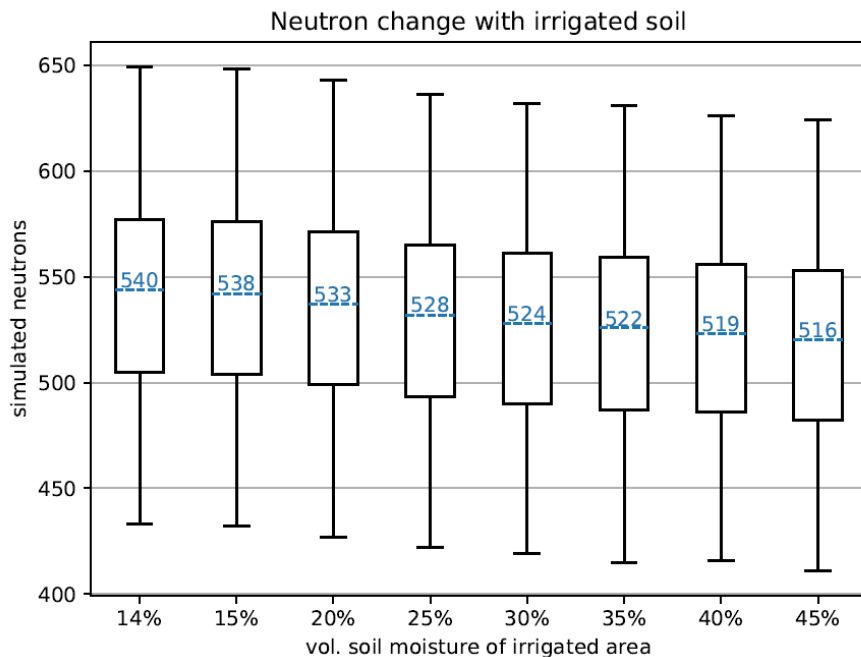
Schematical segment of the URANOS setup, total extent: 500 m



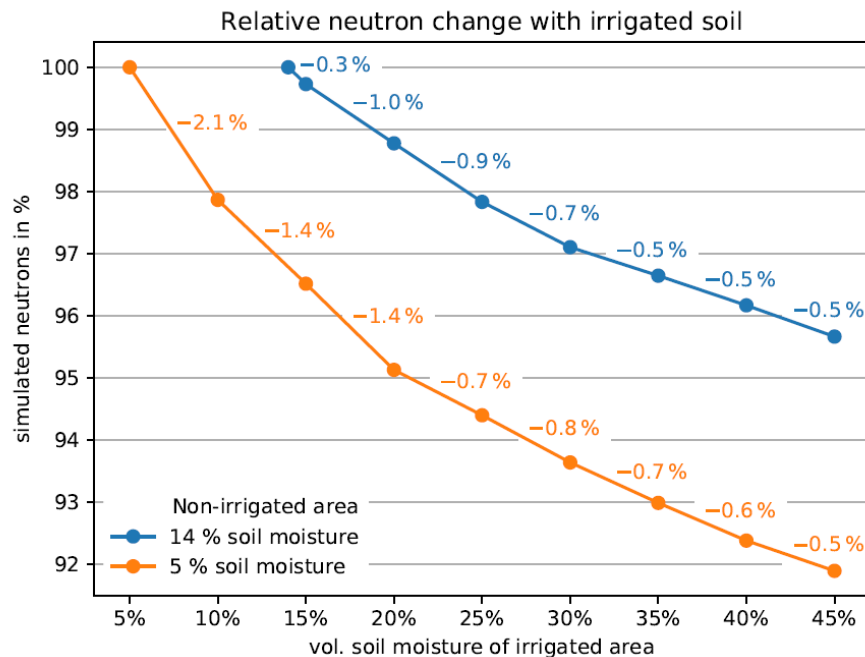
NS > Drip Irrigation – Simulation Results

Lemon trees: 3 kg/m³ biomass

8 % of soil irrigated



Only a few percent change -> needs large sensor

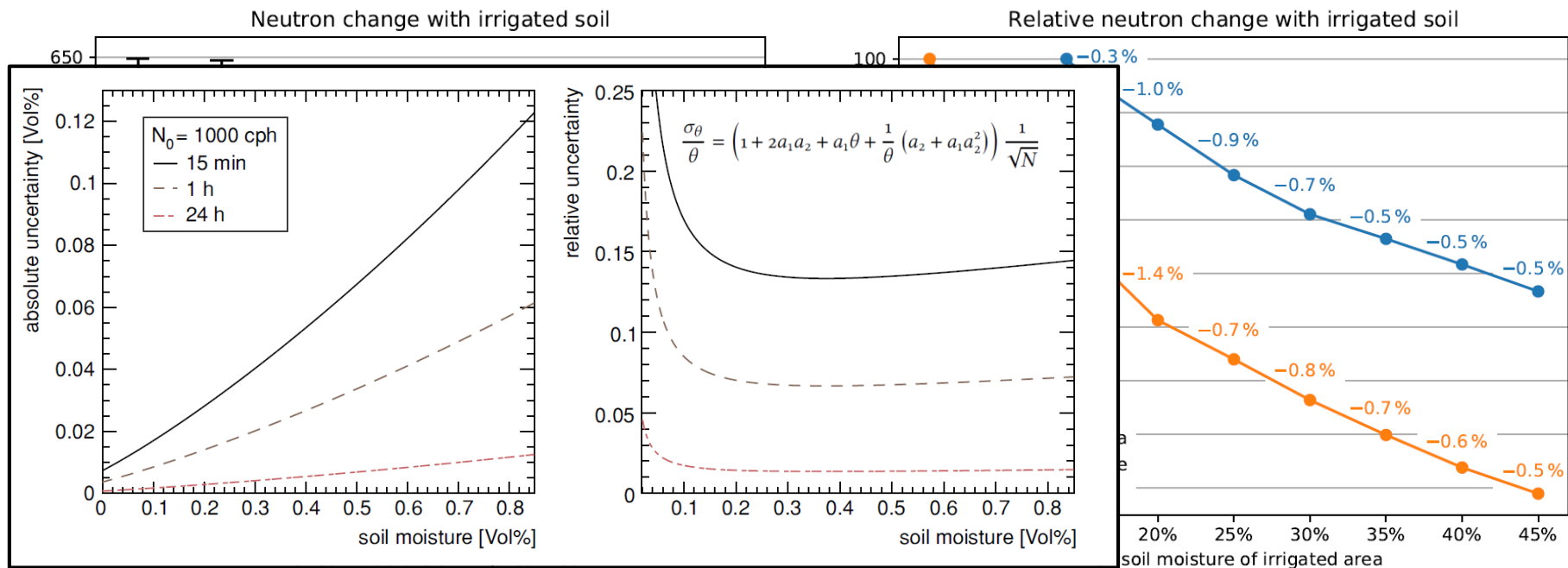


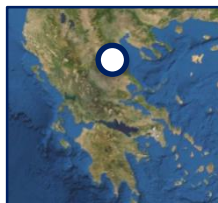
NS > Drip Irrigation – Simulation Results

Lemon trees: 3 kg/m³ biomass

8 % of soil irrigated

Only a few percent change -> needs large sensor

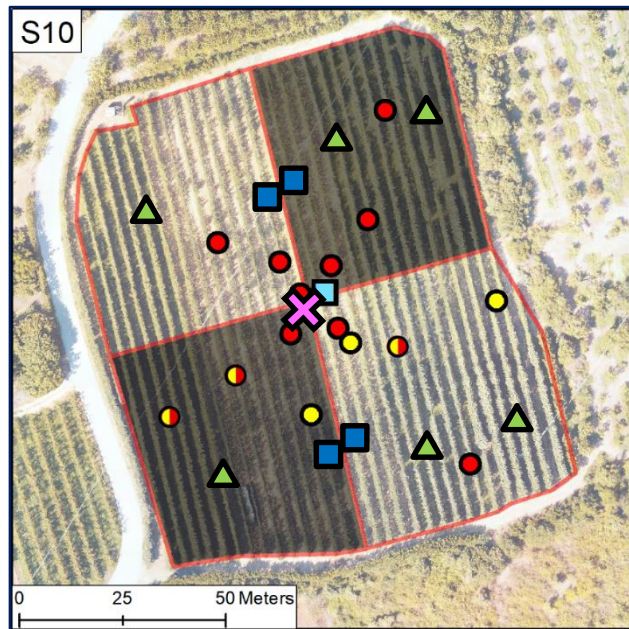




In collaboration with
C. Brogi
FZ Jülich



ATLAS
AGRICULTURAL INTEROPERABILITY
AND ANALYSIS SYSTEM



-  Cosmic Ray Neutron Sensor
-  Atmos41 (climate station)
-  SoilNet (soil moisture, h , and temperature)
-  Water Meters (irrigation in m^3)
-  Sap-Flow
-  Monitoring Camera
-  Irrigation plots

- 1.21 ha apple orchard equipped with sprinkler irrigation
- 30 nodes with 204 instruments. Near-real time transmission with NB-IoT, LoRaWAN, and 4G



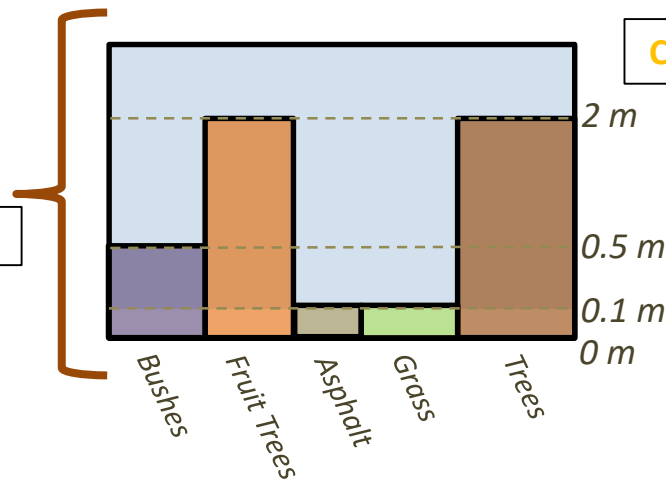
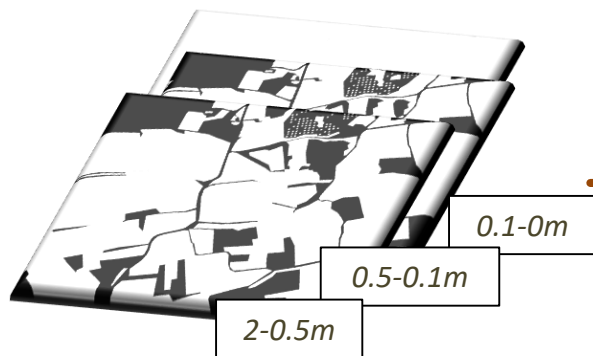
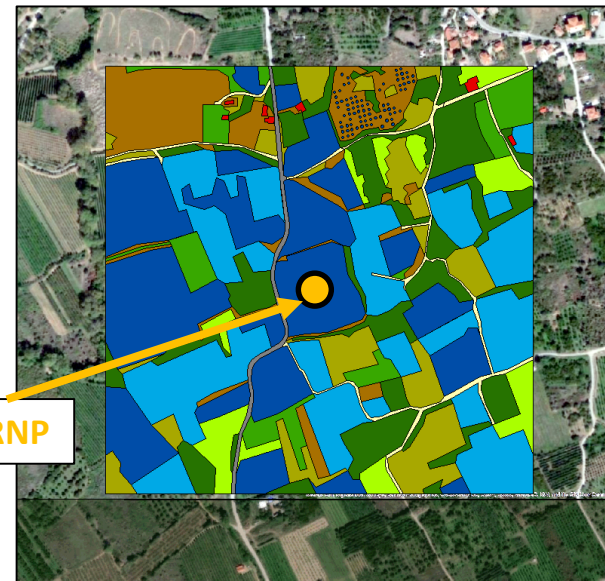
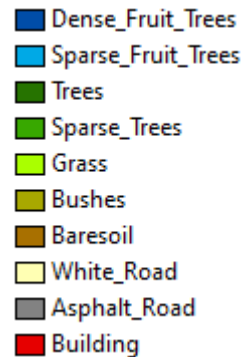
In collaboration with
C. Brogi
FZ Jülich



ATLAS
AGRICULTURAL INTEROPERABILITY
AND ANALYSIS SYSTEM

Setup of the actual scenario simulations:

- 600x600 meters domain (center CRNP)
- Irrigation area coincident with field S10
- 8 layers covering 1000 meters of air and 1.6 meters of soil.
 - 4 layers of air (with source/detector)
 - 3 layers of vegetation/air
 - 3 layers of soil (0-0.125, 0.125-0.35, 0.35-1.6)

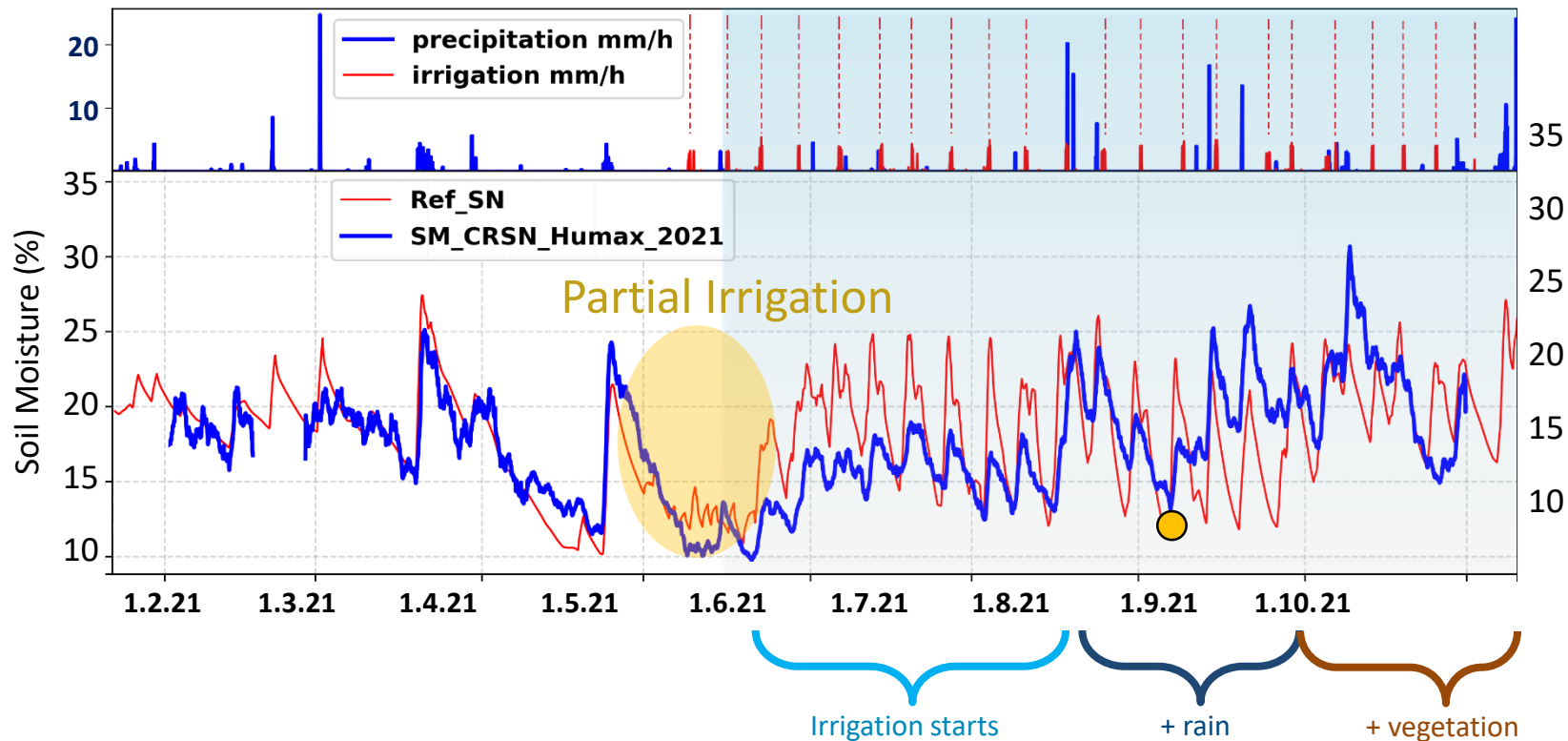


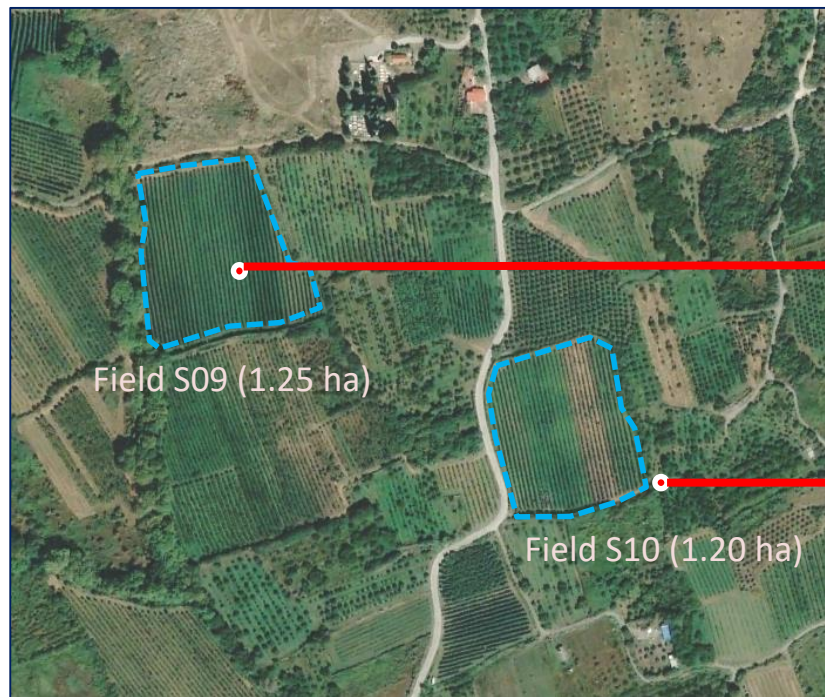


NS > Agia CRN timeseries

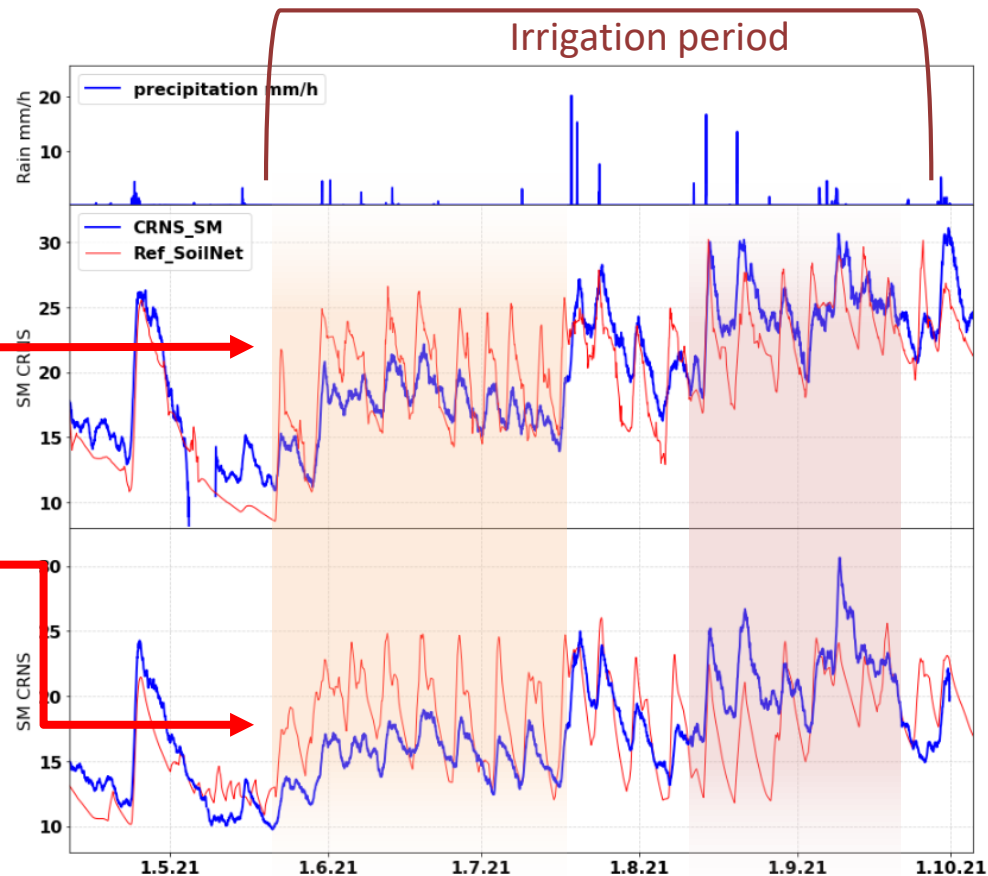
Before irrigation, the soil moisture obtained with the CRNS well match the reference data.

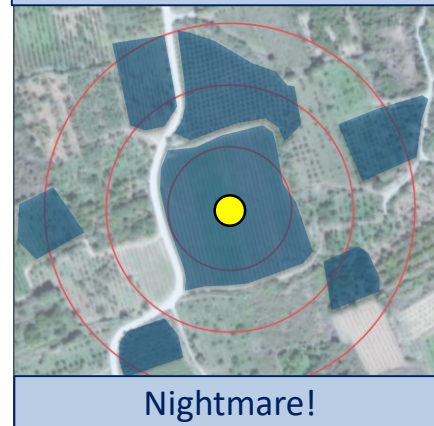
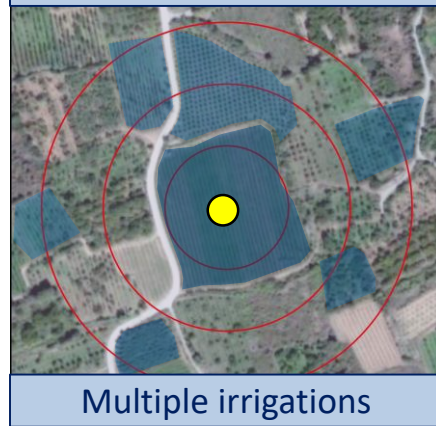
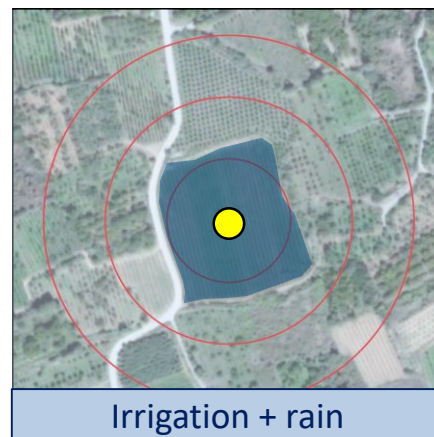
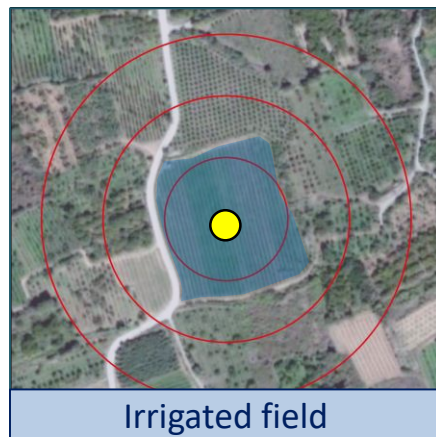
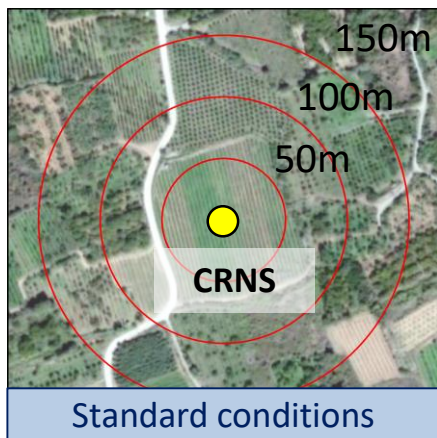
With irrigation, only the temporal dynamics are partially represented.



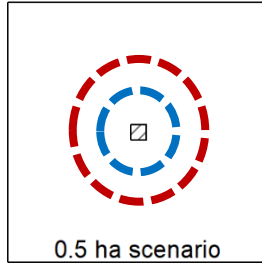


100 m

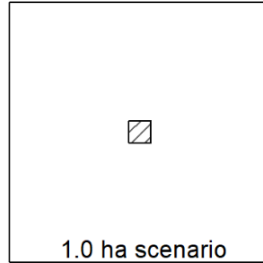




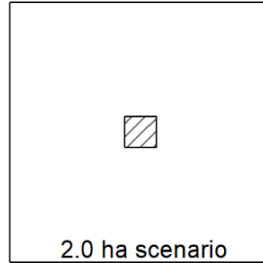
Footprint
dry-wet



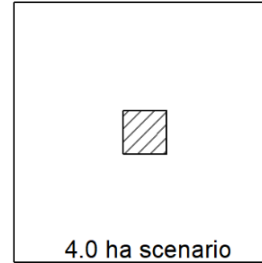
1.0 ha scenario



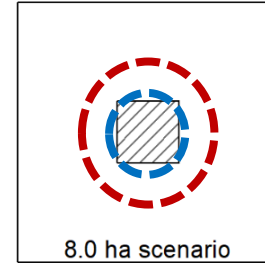
2.0 ha scenario

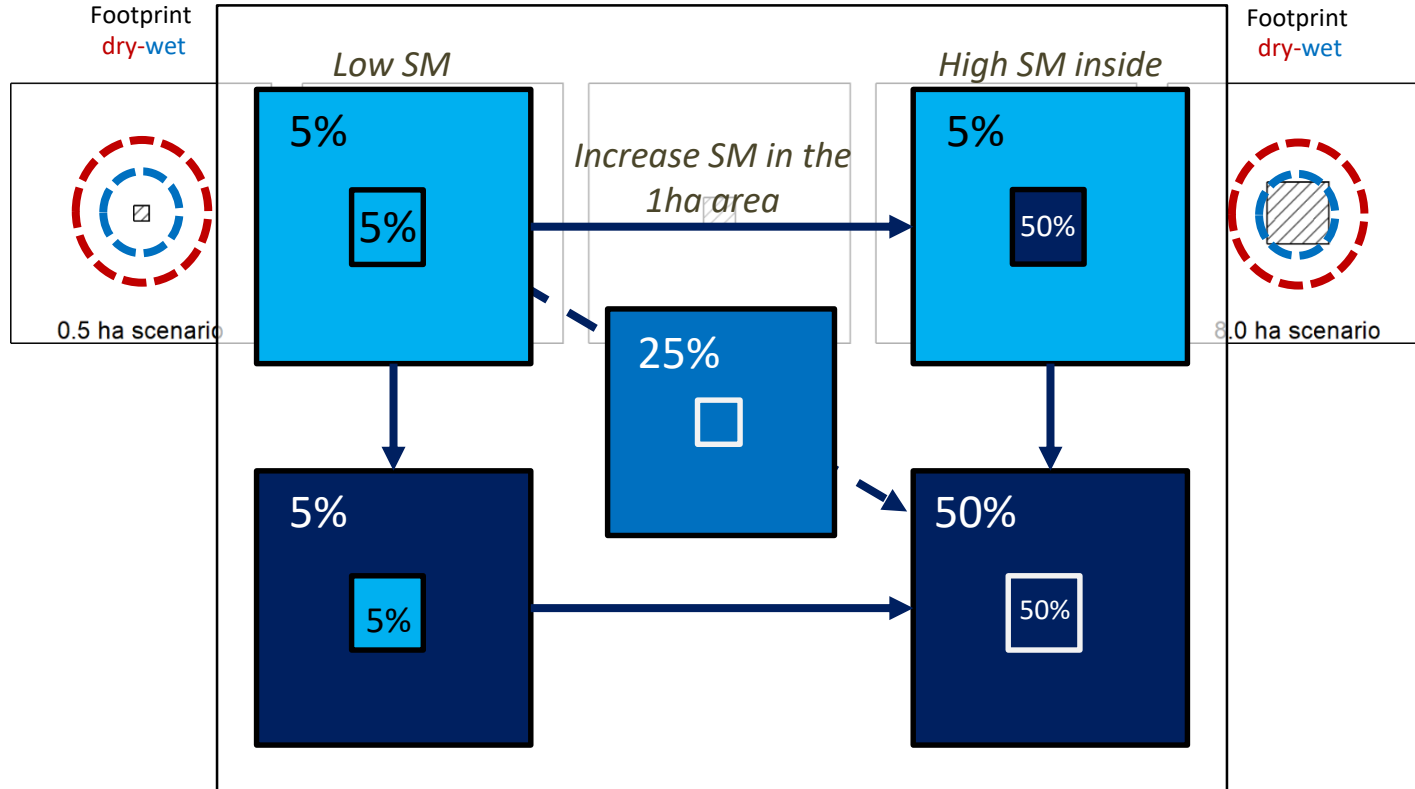


4.0 ha scenario



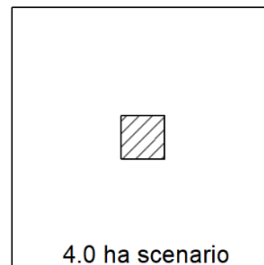
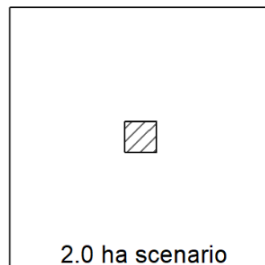
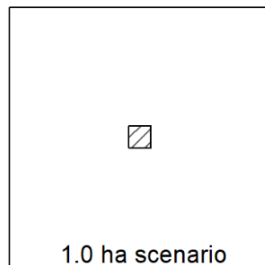
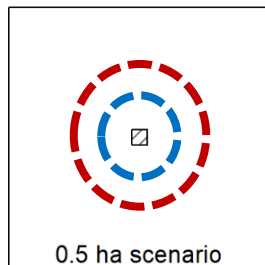
Footprint
dry-wet



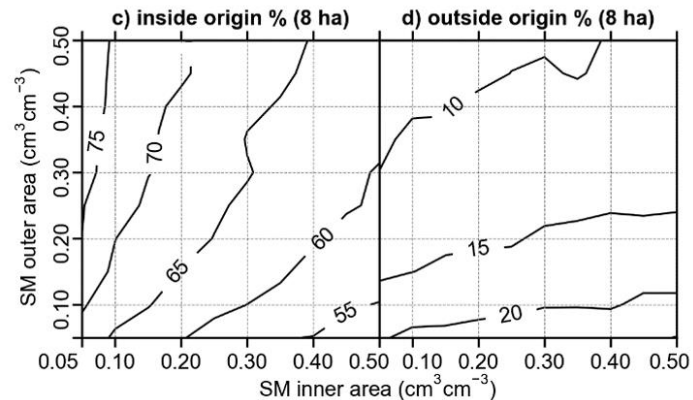
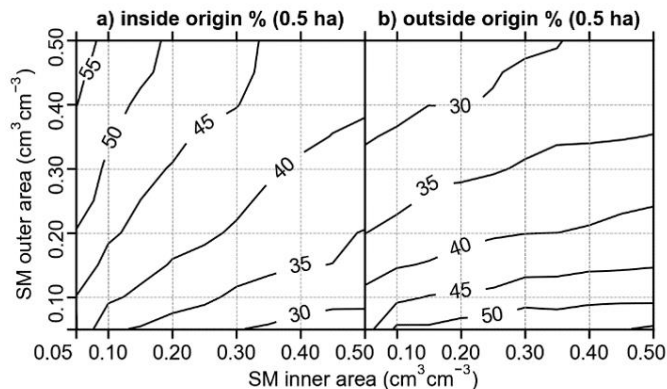
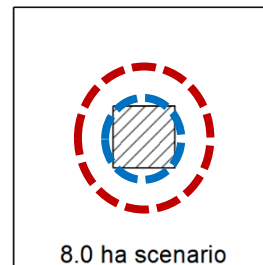


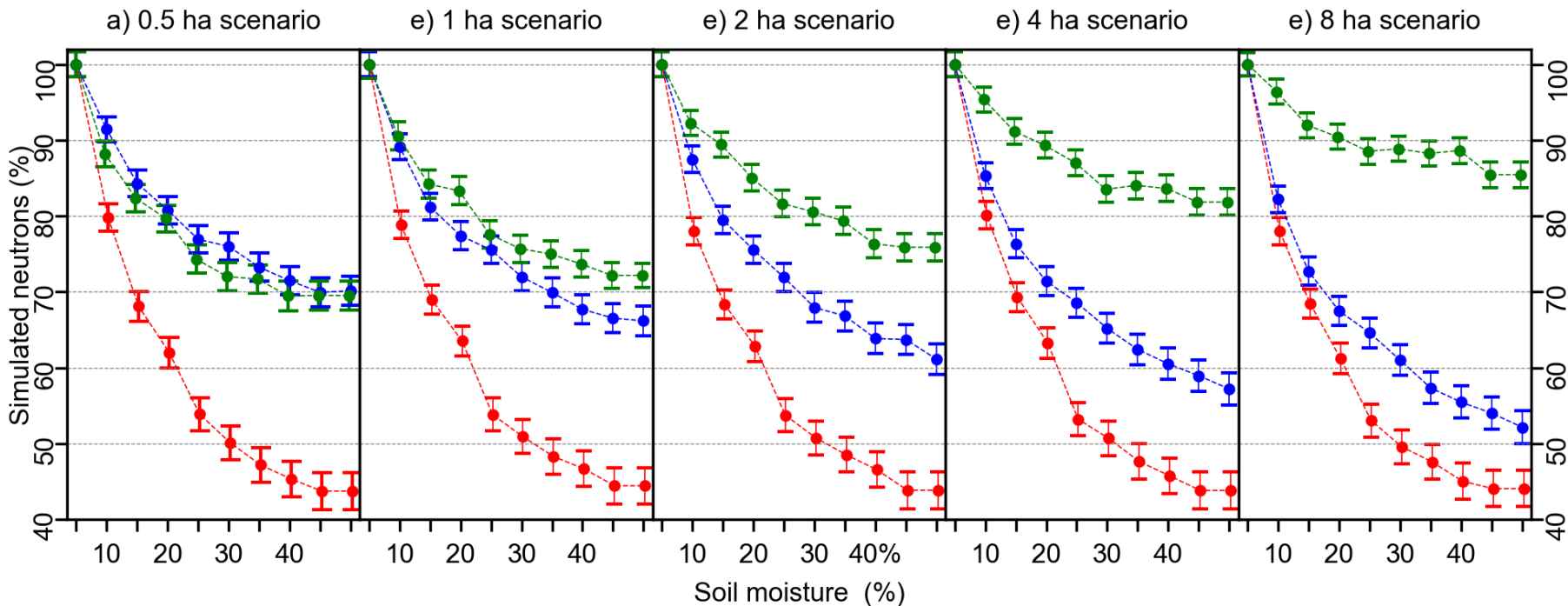
NS > URANOS sprinkler irrigation scenarios

Footprint
dry-wet



Footprint
dry-wet

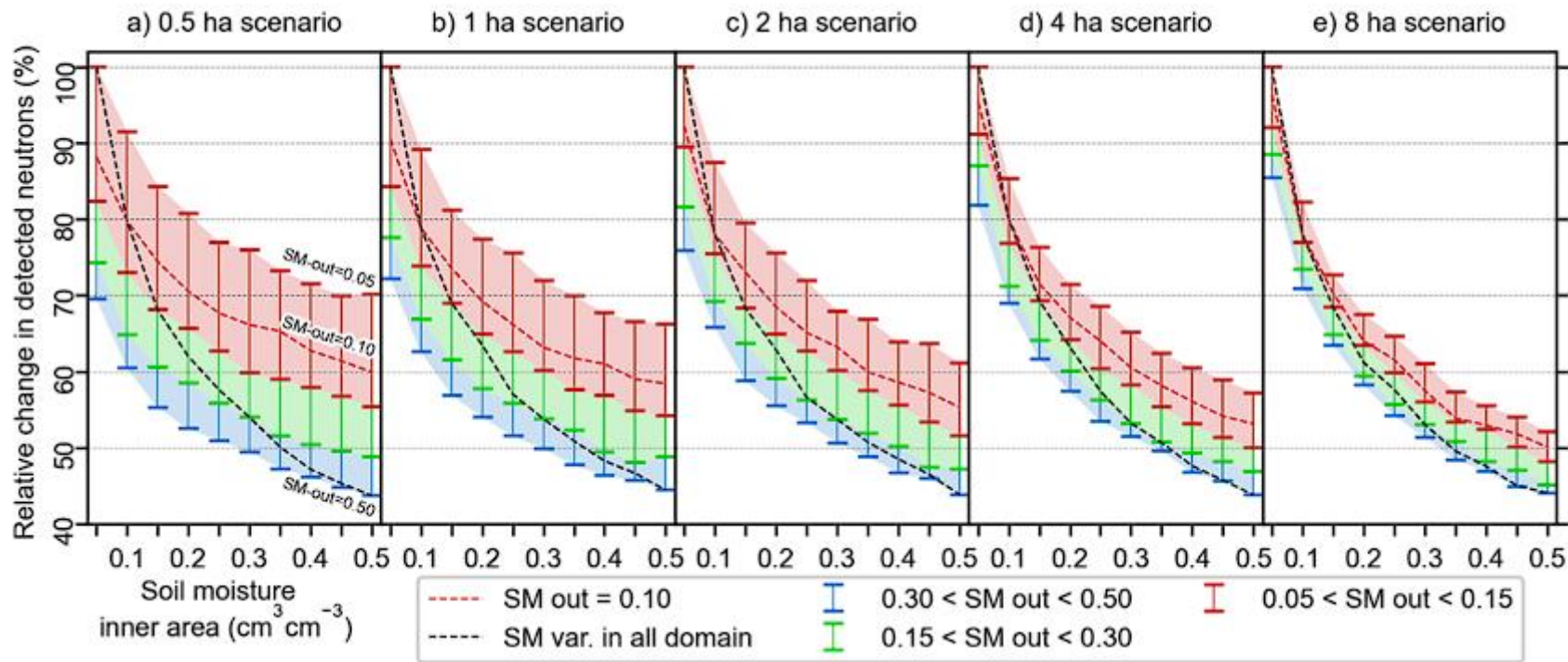




● Homogeneous SWC variations

● SWC changes outside the field

● SWC changes inside (irrigation)





NS > Summary

- **Site-specific intensity functions** can describe sub-footprint heterogeneity
- Drip irrigated SWC changes can only be resolved by a large sensor
- Sprinkler irrigation > 1 ha can be resolved if outside SM can be estimated
- **Sub-Footprint heterogeneity in CRNS for irrigation quantitatively understood**



ATLAS
AGRICULTURAL INTEROPERABILITY
AND ANALYSIS SYSTEM

Our partners are Cosimo Brogi, Heye Bogen, Harrie-Jan Hendricks-Franssen, Sander Huismann, Olga Dombrowski from FZJ. From SWRI Thessaloniki, Vasilios Pisinaras, Andreas Panagopoulos, Ioannis Tsakmakis, Kostantinos Babakos and Anna Chatzi.



NS > Summary

- **Site-specific intensity functions** can describe sub-footprint heterogeneity
- Drip irrigated SWC changes can only be resolved by a large sensor
- Sprinkler irrigation > 1 ha can be resolved if outside SM can be estimated
- **Sub-Footprint heterogeneity in CRNS for irrigation quantitatively understood**

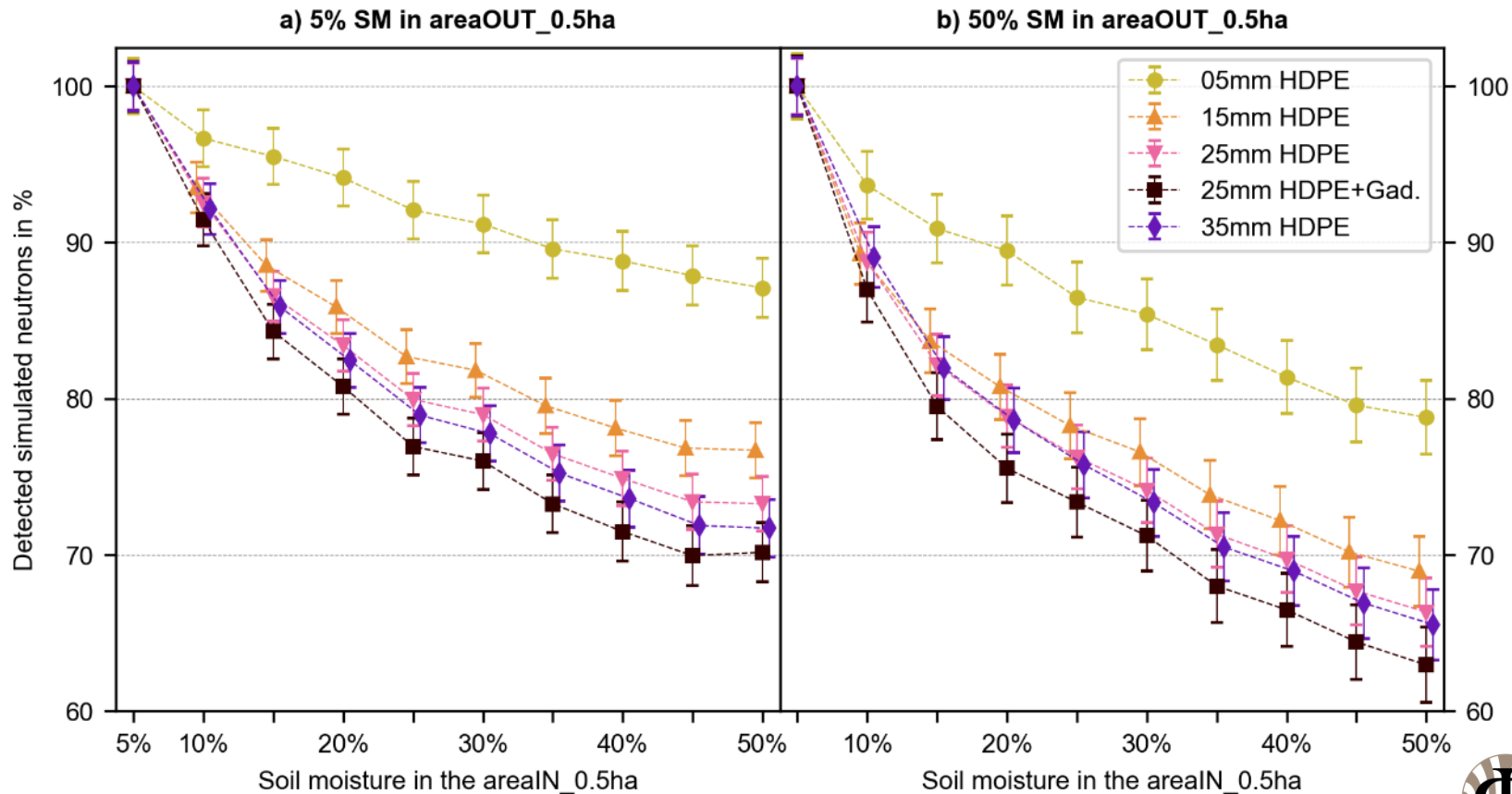
Outlook:

- Analytical expressions for field scenarios: size, target SWC delta, outside conditions



Our partners are Cosimo Brogi, Heye Bogen, Harrie-Jan Hendricks-Franssen, Sander Huismann, Olga Dombrowski from FZJ. From SWRI Thessaloniki, Vasilios Pisinaras, Andreas Panagopoulos, Ioannis Tsakmakis, Kostantinos Babakos and Anna Chatzi.

Influence of moderator thickness





NS > Agia frontend example

Data recorded in the instrumented field between 17th and 24th Aug 2021

