

# Advances and Challenges in Land-atmosphere Interactions in TPE

## – in-situ observation, remote sensing and modeling

**Bob Su**

[z.su@utwente.nl](mailto:z.su@utwente.nl)

[www.itc.nl/wrs](http://www.itc.nl/wrs)

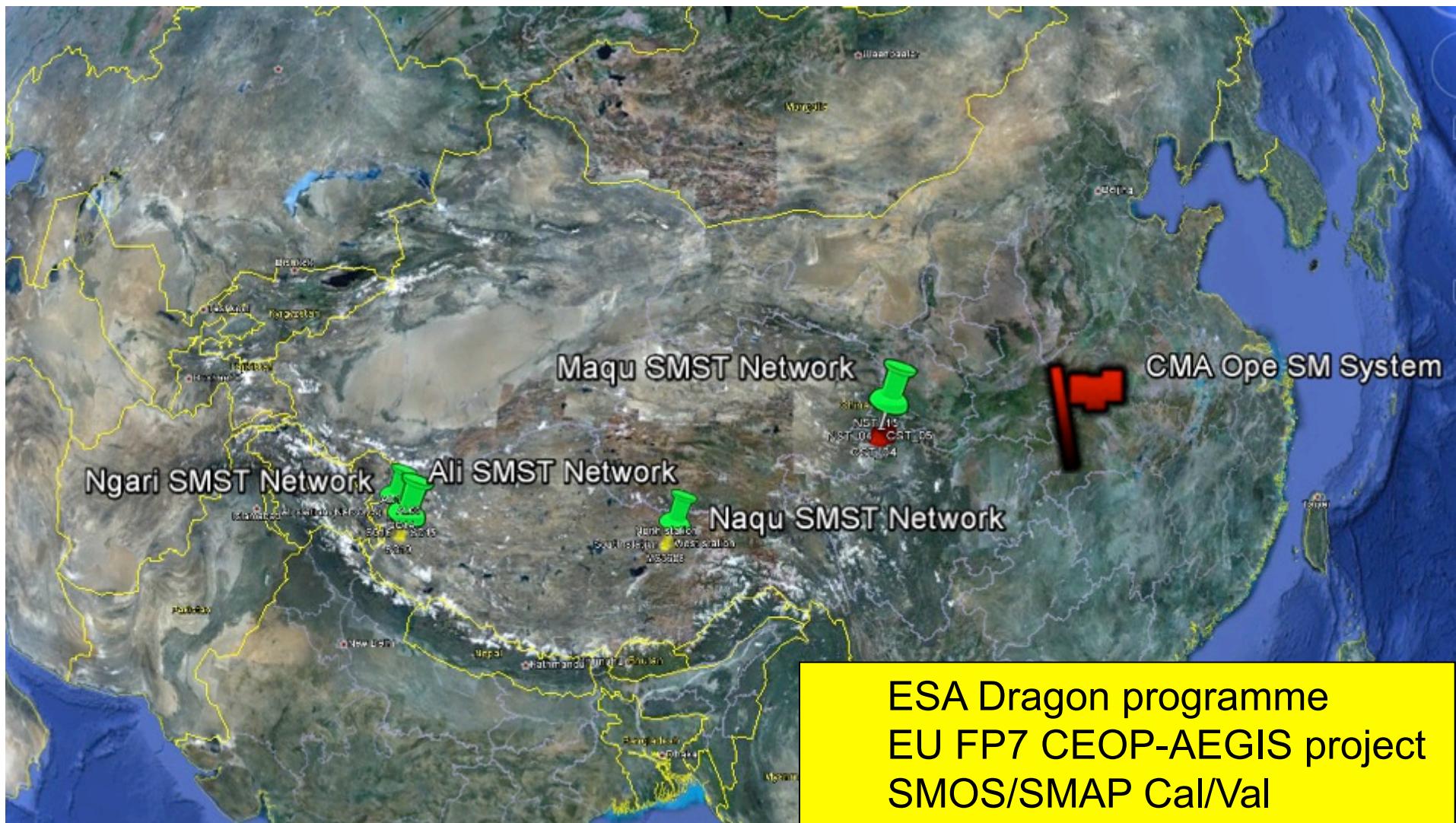
with contributions from

R. van der Velde, Y. Zeng, D. Zheng, X. Chen  
S. Lv, Q. Wang, L. Yu, H. Zhao  
J. Wen, X. Wang (NIEER/CAS), Y. Ma (ITP/CAS)

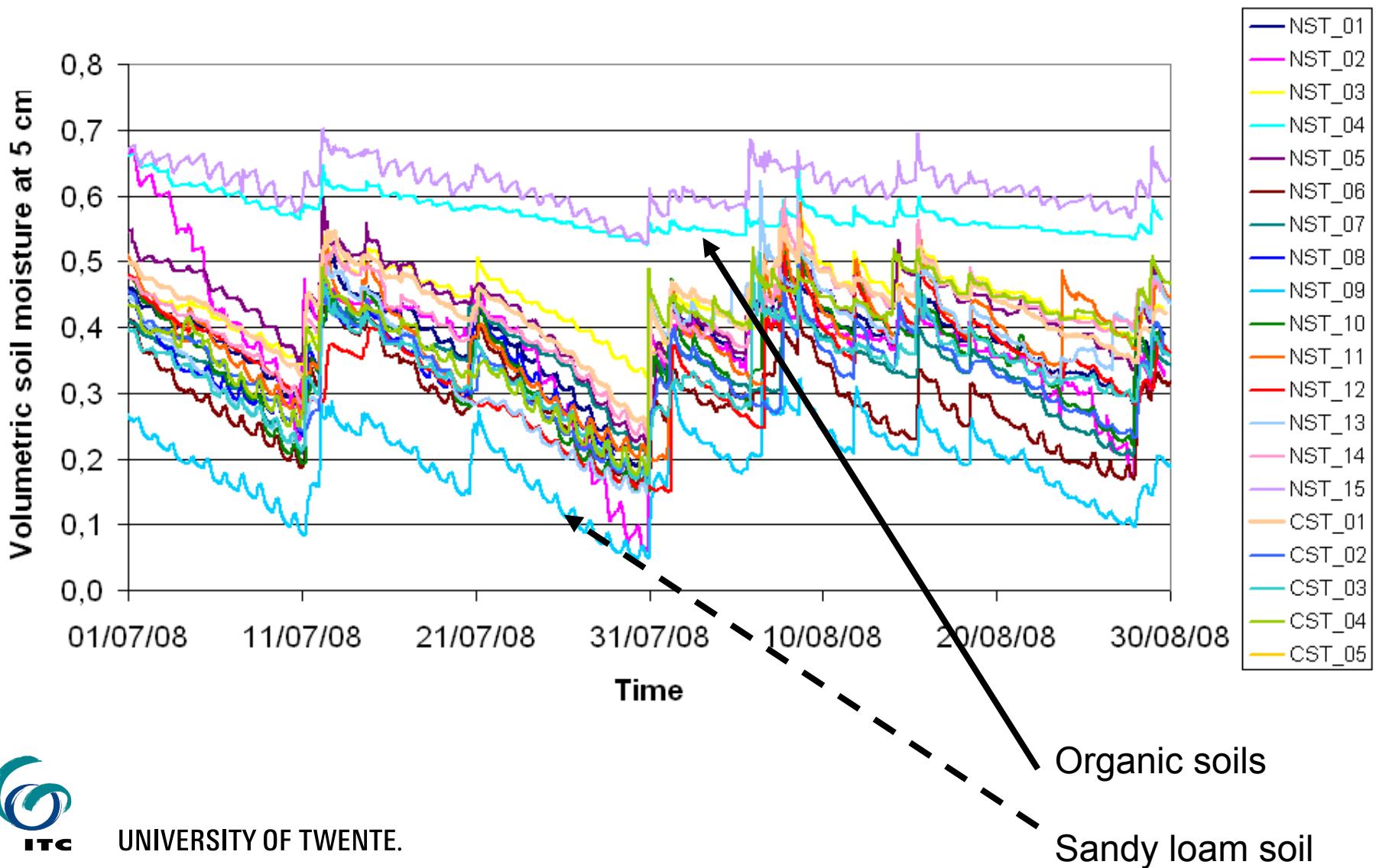
in collaboration with

P. de Rosnay, G. Balsamo (ECMWF), M. Ek (NCEP),  
P. Ferrazzoli (UR), M. Schwank (Eth)

# Tibetan Plateau observatory of plateau scale soil moisture and soil temperature (Tibet-Obs)

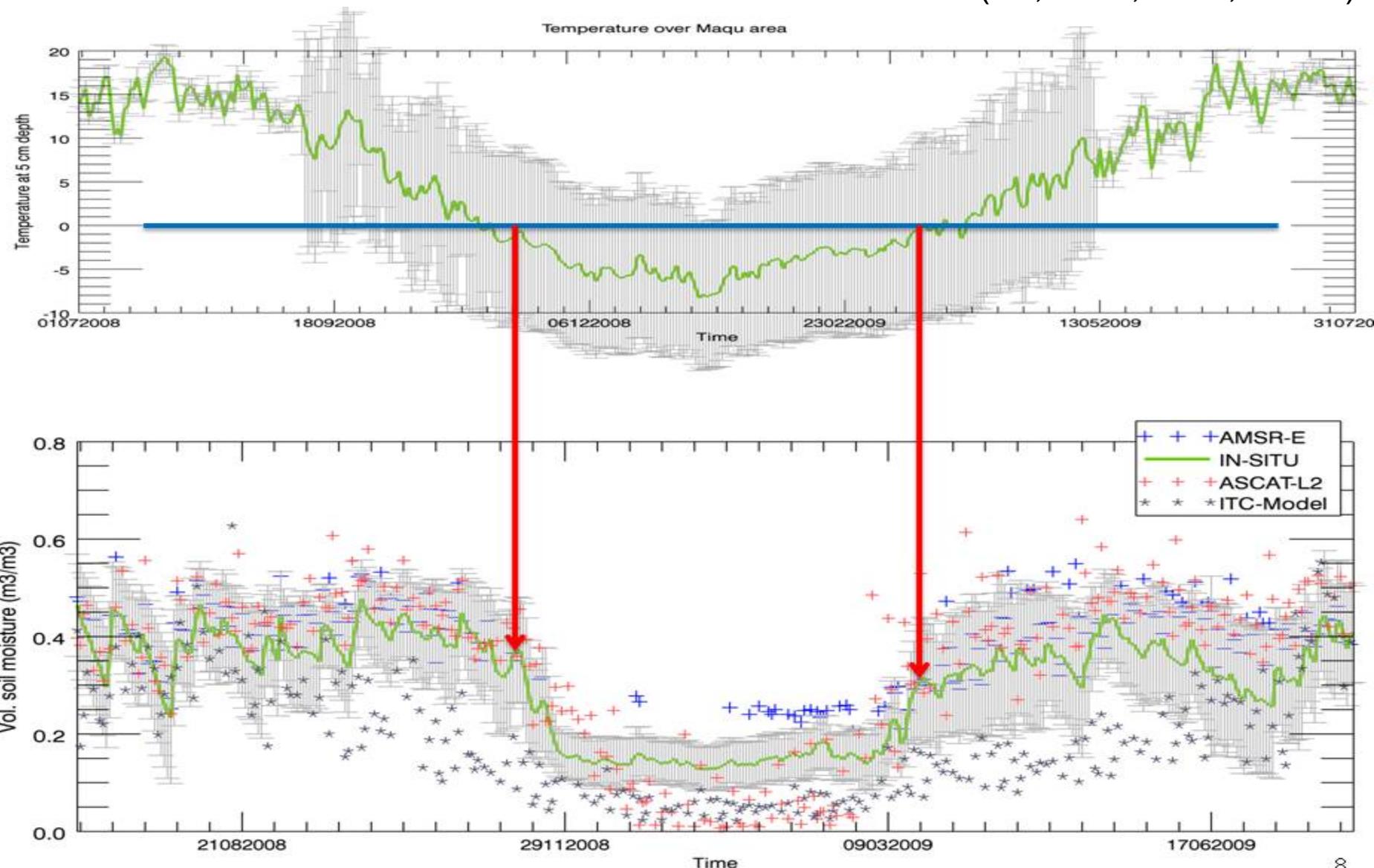


# Maqu: Soil moisture at 5 cm depth

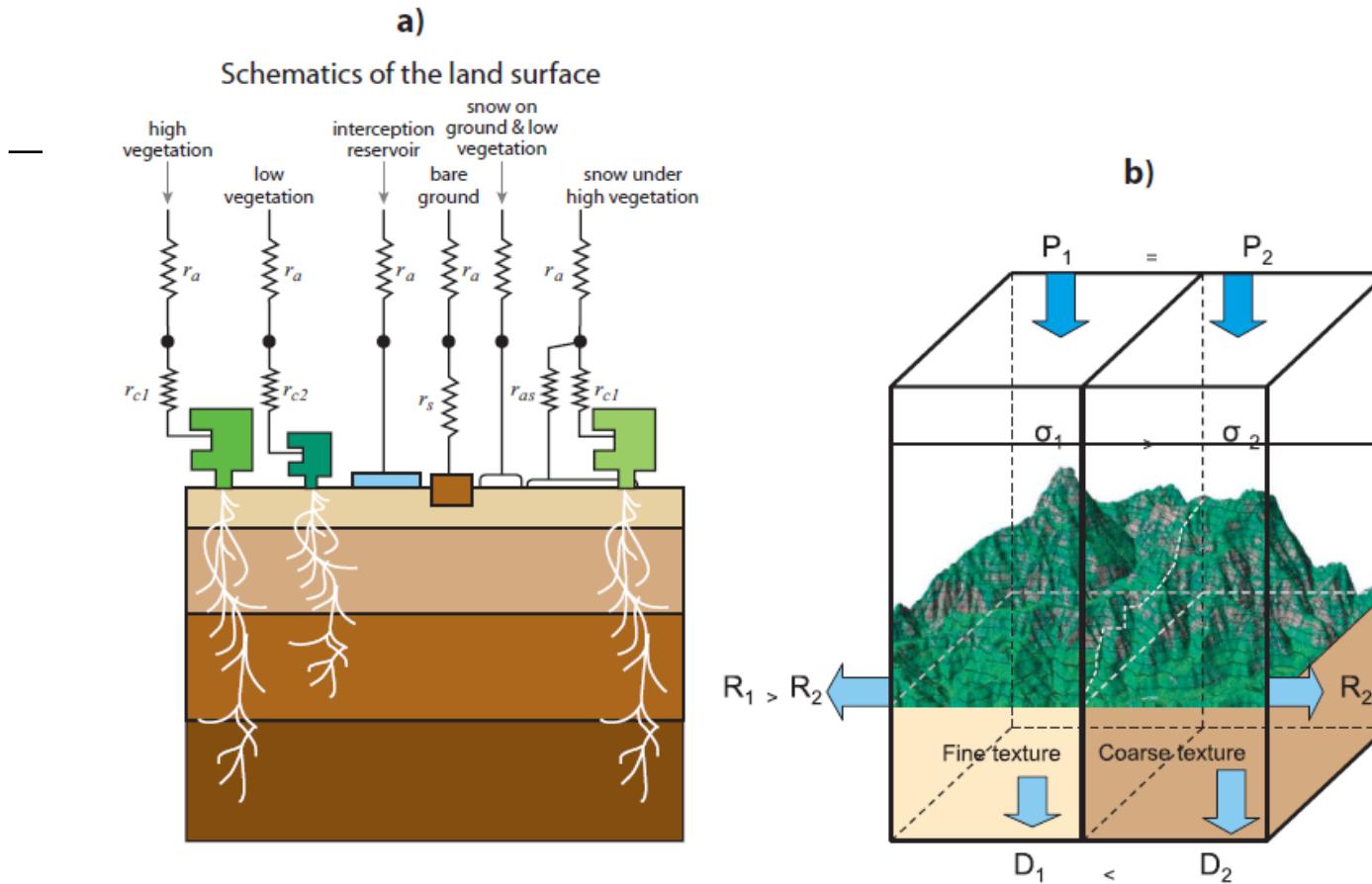


# Quantification of uncertainties in global products

(Su, et al., 2011, HESS)



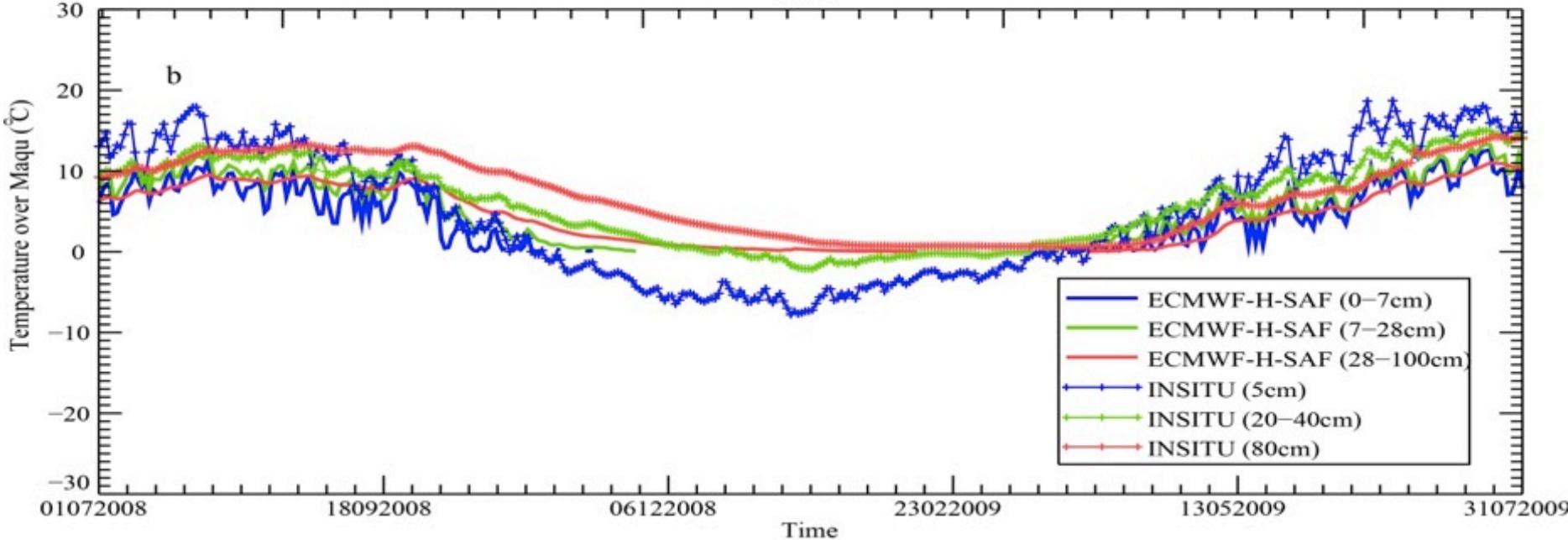
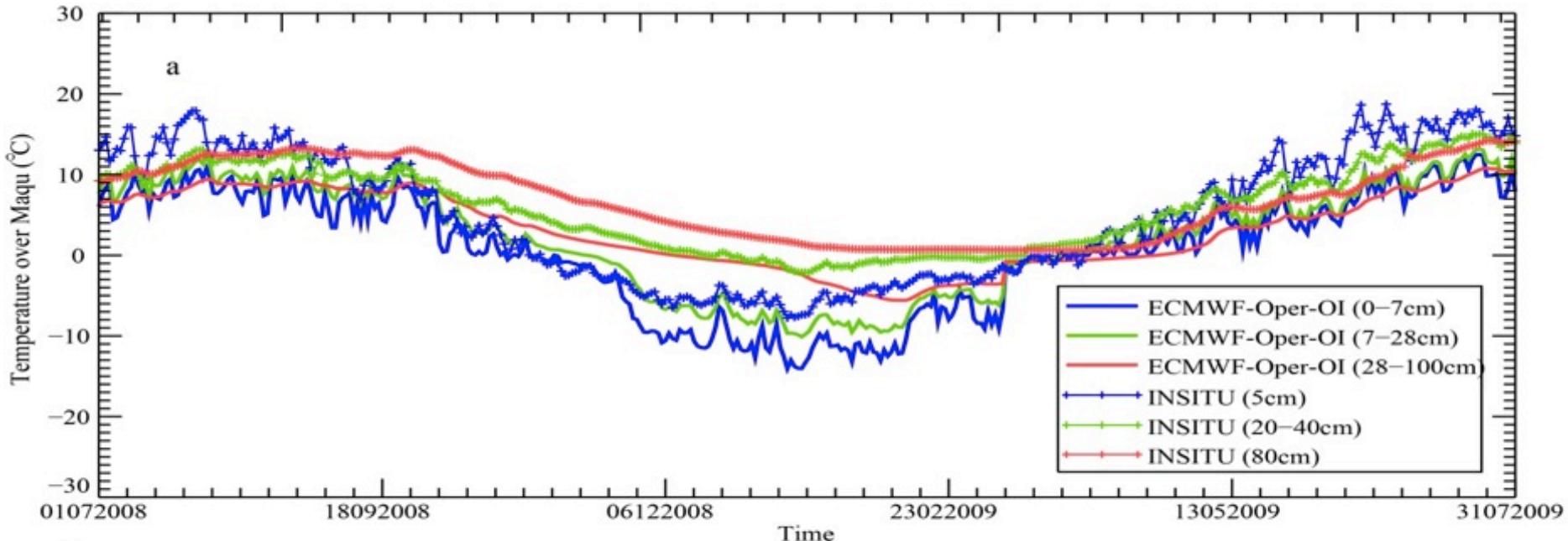
# The Tiled ECMWF Scheme for Surface Exchanges over Land (TESSEL) & the HTESSEL (Hydrology TESSEL)



(a) TESSEL land-surface scheme, (b) spatial structure in HTESSEL (for a given precipitation  $P_1 = P_2$  the scheme distributes the water as surface runoff and drainage with functional dependencies on orography and soil texture respectively) (Balsamo et al., 2006)

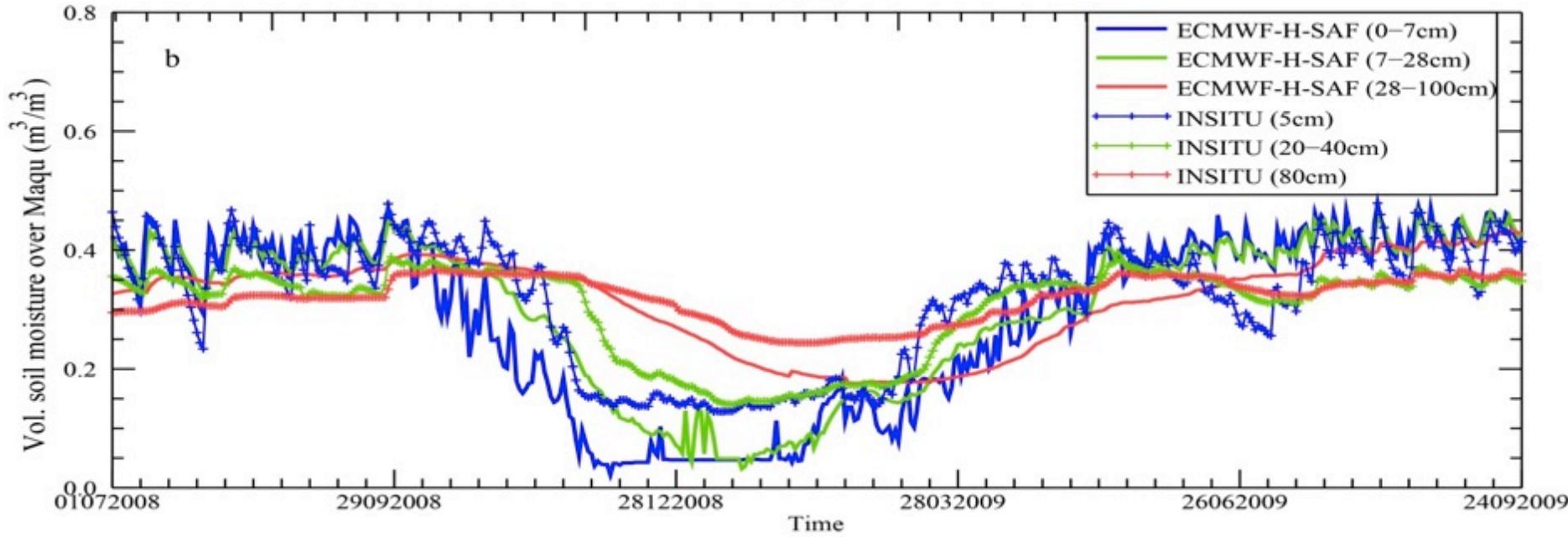
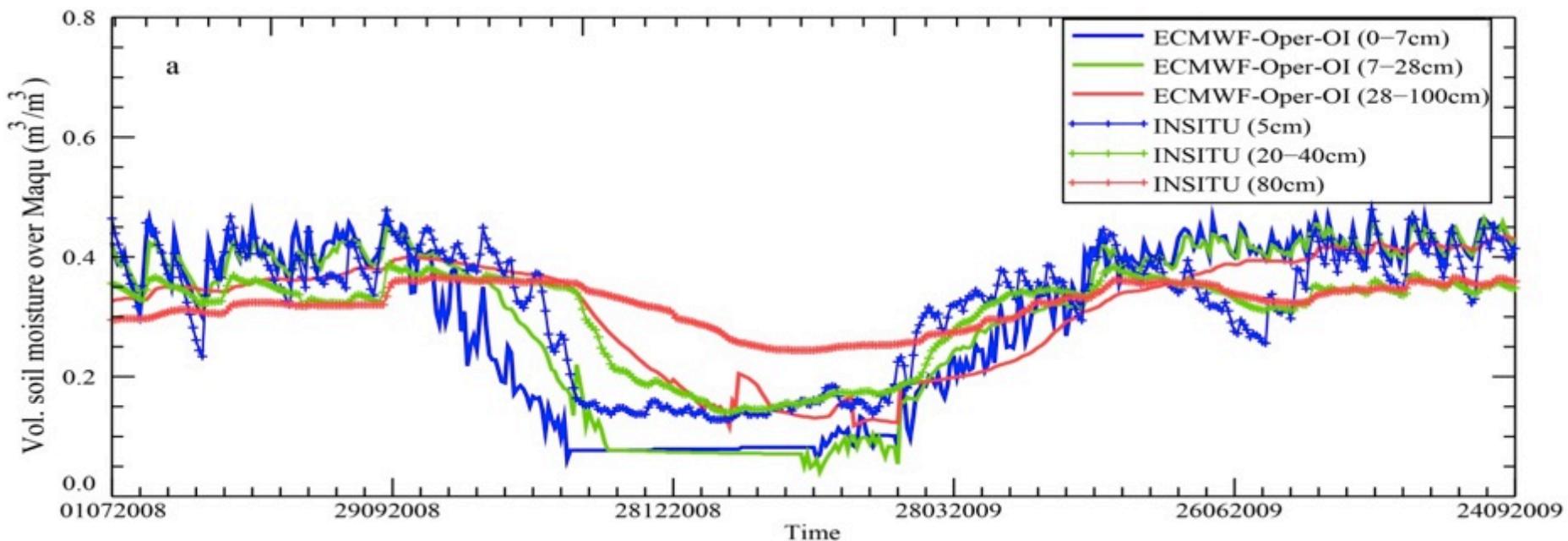
# How good is soil temperature simulation/analysis?

(Su & de Rosnay, et al. 2013, JGR)

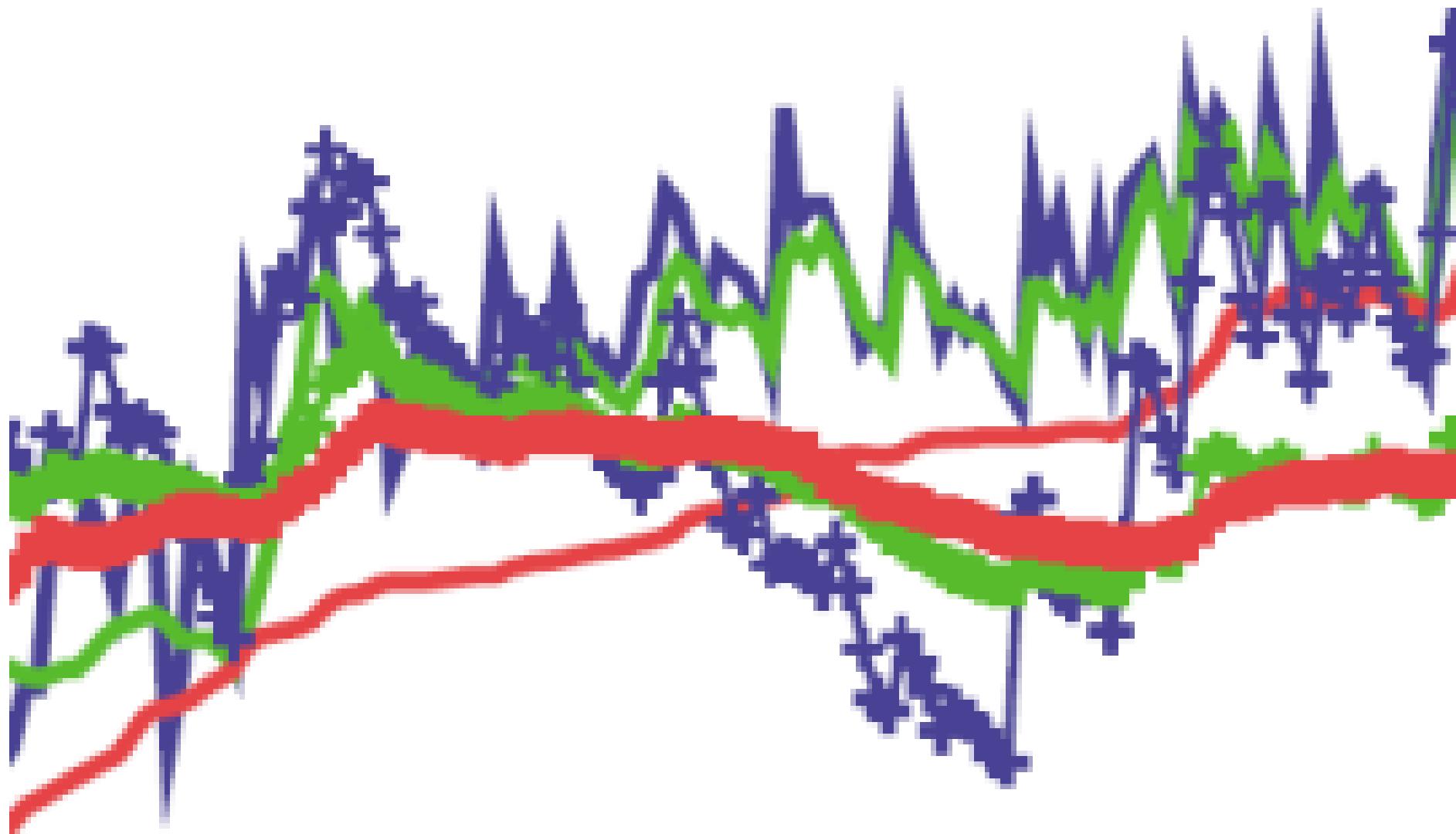


# How good is soil moisture analysis/assimilation?

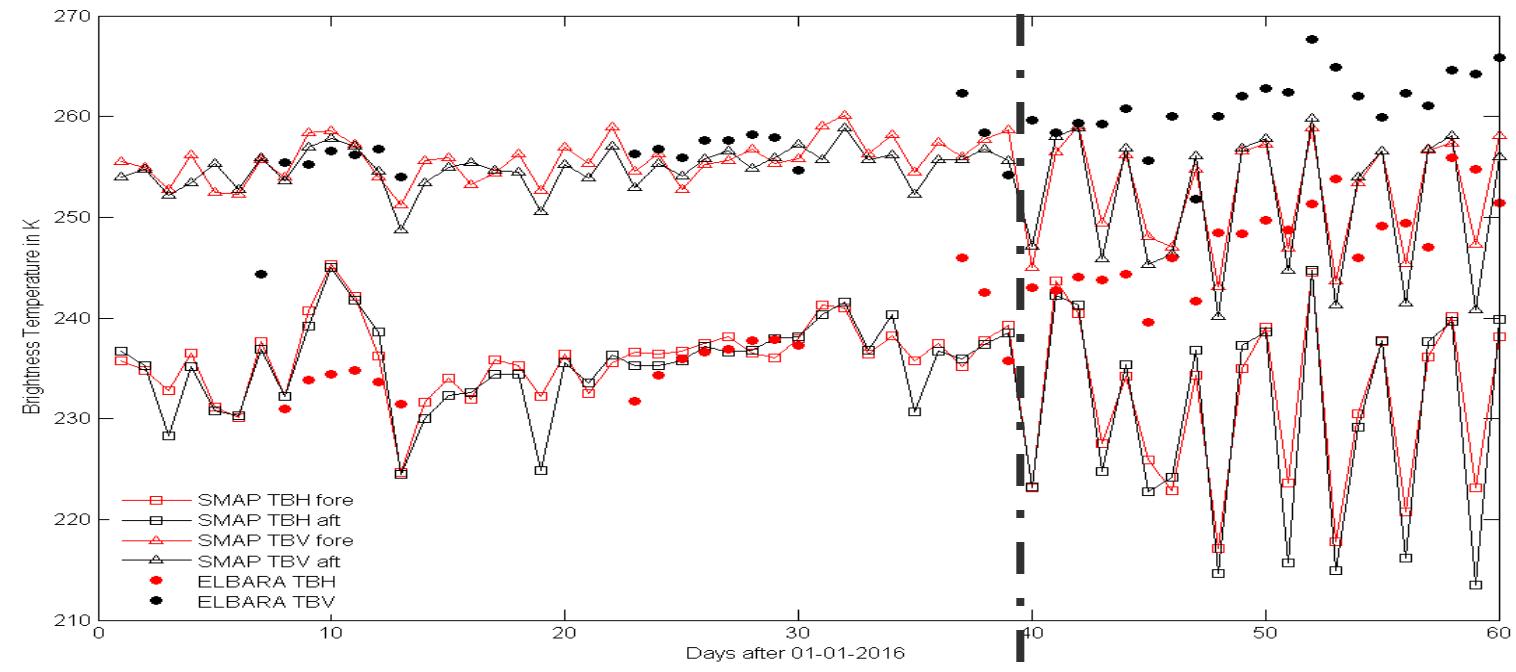
(Su & de Rosnay, et al. 2013, JGR)



# How good is soil moisture assimilation?



# Why does SMAP underestimate ELBARA Tb?



**DOY 1:**  
01-01-2016

**DOY 40:**  
10-02-2016

**DOY 60:**  
29-02-2016

# Noah LSM

N: National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)  
O: Oregon State University (Dept of Atmospheric Sciences)  
A: Air Force (both AFWA and AFRL - formerly AFGL, PL)  
H: Hydrologic Research Lab - NWS (now Office of Hydrologic Dev -- OHD)

Noah LSM provides a complete description of the physical processes with a limited number of parameters.

- Soil water flow;
- Soil heat flow;
- Heat exchange with the atmosphere;

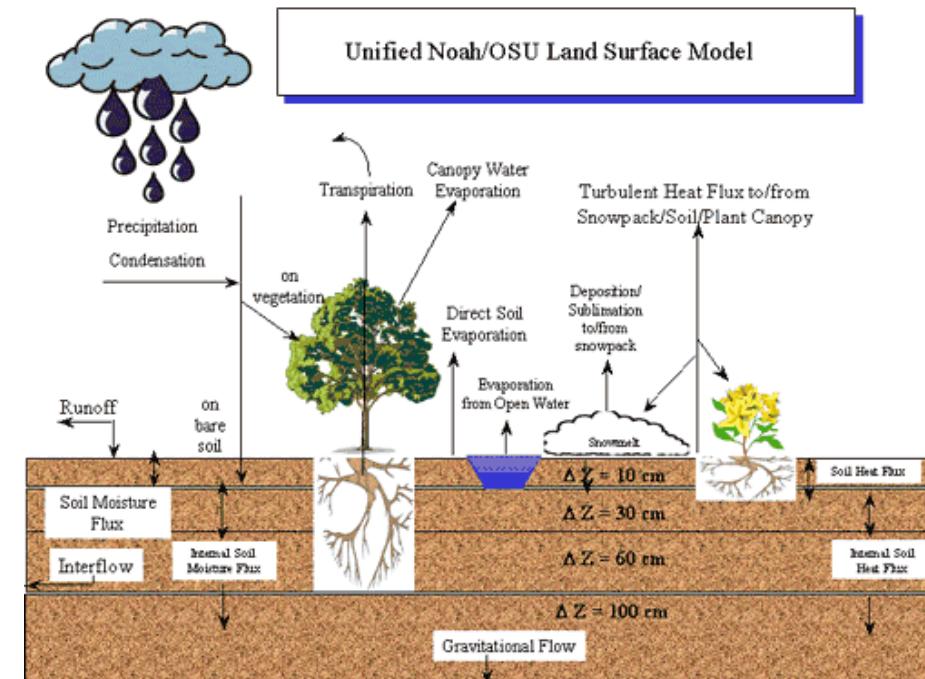
**(Zheng et al., 2014, 2015a,b, JHM; Zheng et al. 2016, 2017, JGR)**

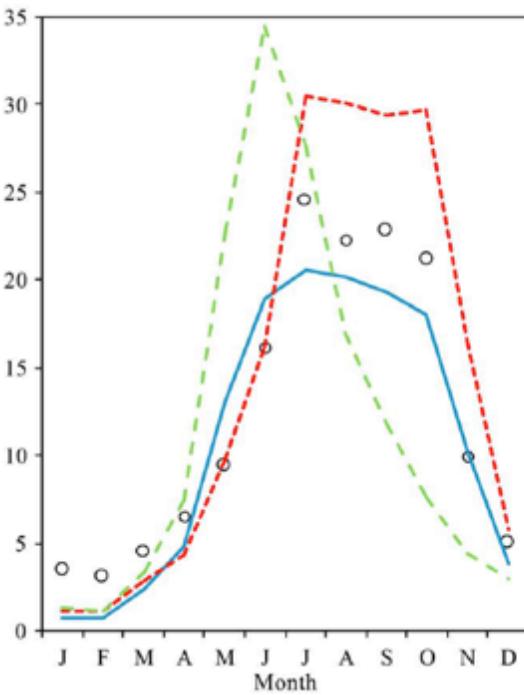
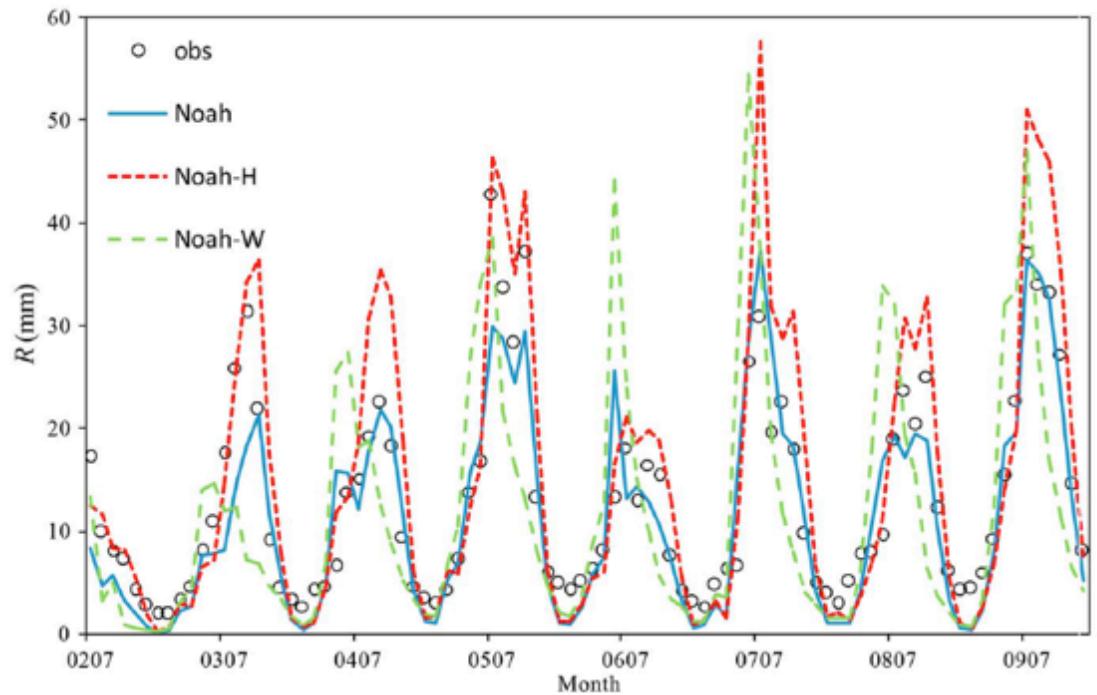
- Snow pack;

**(Malik et al., 2012, JHM;  
2013, JGR; 2011, RSE)**

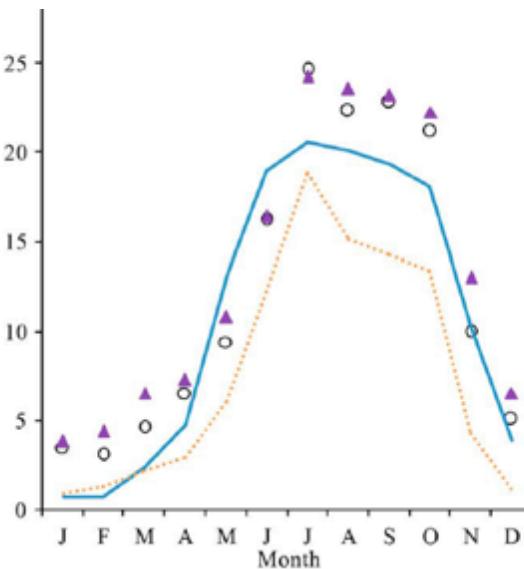
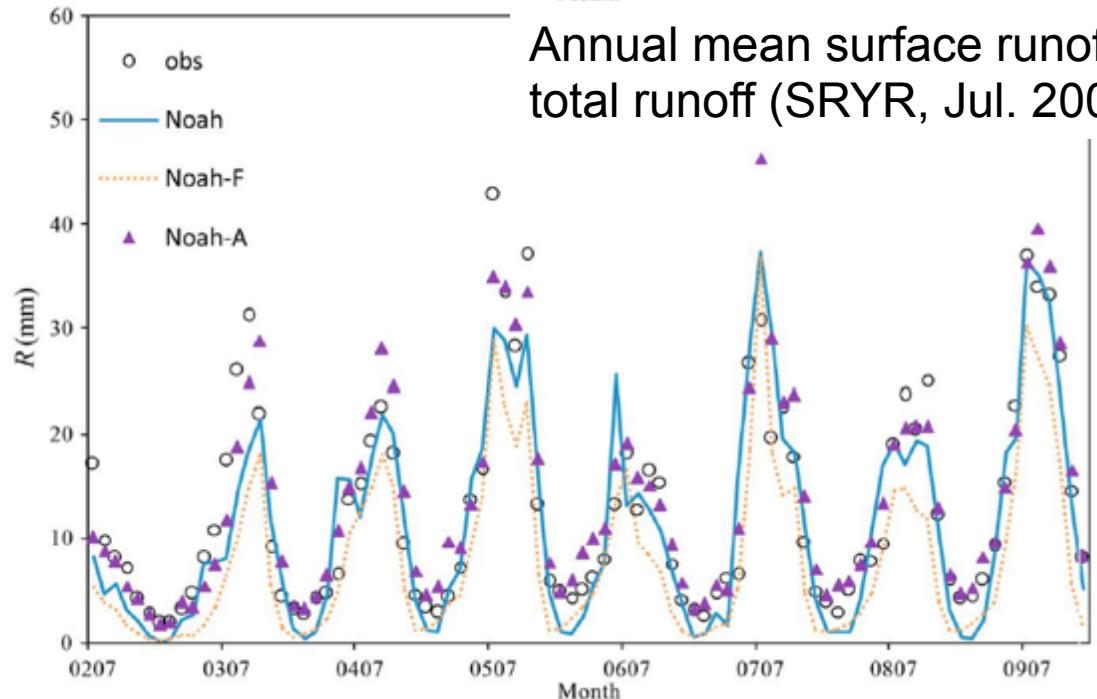
- Frozen soil;

**(NWO SMAP freeze/thaw,  
Zheng et al., 2017 TGRS)**

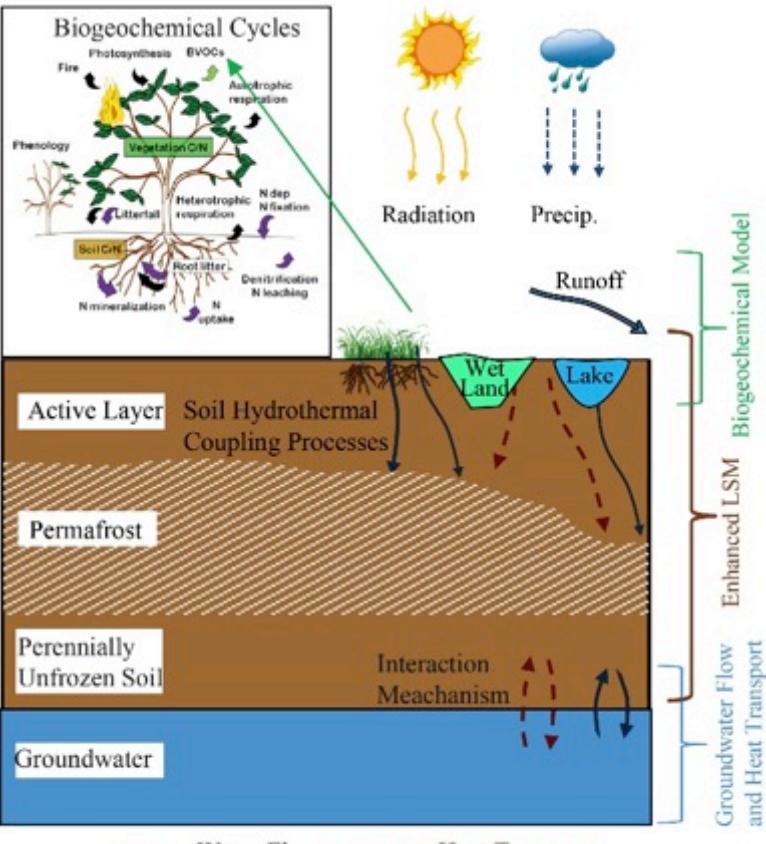




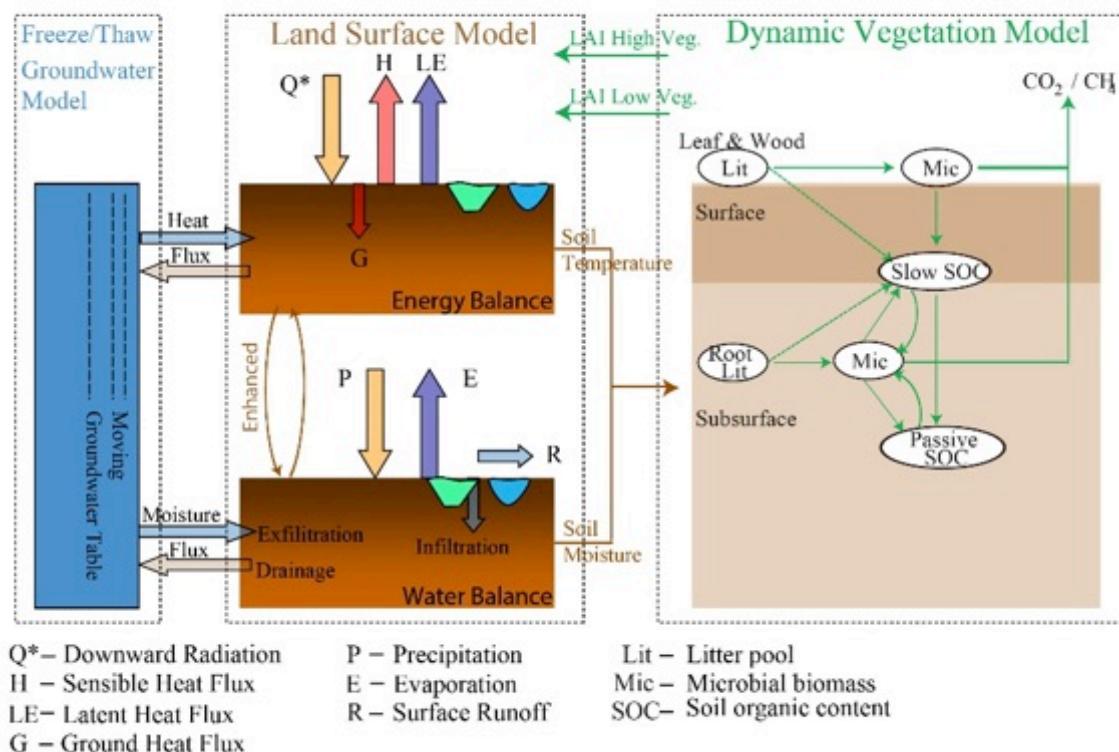
Annual mean surface runoff as fraction of the total runoff (SRYR, Jul. 2002–Dec. 2010)



# STEMMUS - Simultaneous Transfer of Energy, Momentum and Mass In Unsaturated Soil



a) Physical processes



b) Coupling processes

<http://blogs.itc.nl/stemmus/>

# STEMMUS-FT (Freezing/Thawing) model

## Soil Water Phase Change

Soil Water Transport

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho_L \theta_L + \rho_V \theta_V + \rho_i \theta_i) = \rho_L \frac{\partial}{\partial z} [K \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} + 1 \right) + D_{TD} \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} + \frac{K}{\gamma_w} \frac{\partial P_g}{\partial z}] + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} [D_{vh} \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} + D_{vT} \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} + D_{va} \frac{\partial P_g}{\partial z}] - S$$

Soil Heat Transport

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [(\rho_s \theta_s C_s + \rho_L \theta_L C_L + \rho_V \theta_V C_V)(T - T_r) + \rho_V \theta_V L_0 + \rho_i \theta_i L_f] - \rho_L W \frac{\partial \theta_L}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\lambda_{eff} \frac{\partial T}{\partial z}) - \frac{\partial q_L}{\partial z} C_L (T - T_r) - \frac{\partial q_V}{\partial z} [L_0 + C_V (T - T_r)] - C_L S (T - T_r) \end{aligned}$$

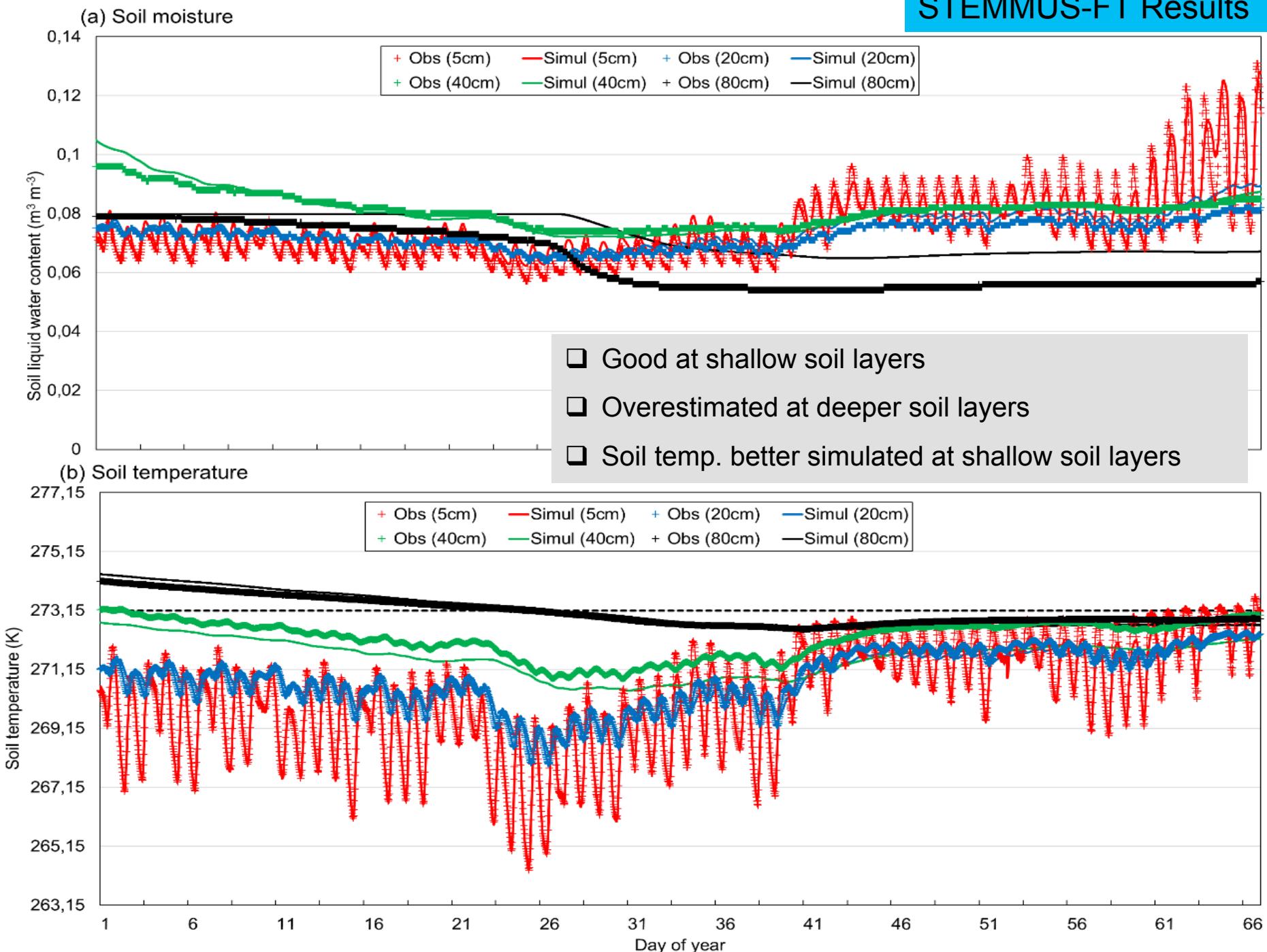
Soil Dry air Transport

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} [\varepsilon \rho_{da} (S_a + H_c S_L)] = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [D_e \frac{\partial \rho_{da}}{\partial z} + \rho_{da} \frac{S_a K_g}{\mu_a} \frac{\partial P_g}{\partial z} - H_c \rho_{da} \frac{q_L}{\rho_L} + (\theta_a D_{Vg}) \frac{\partial \rho_{da}}{\partial z}]$$



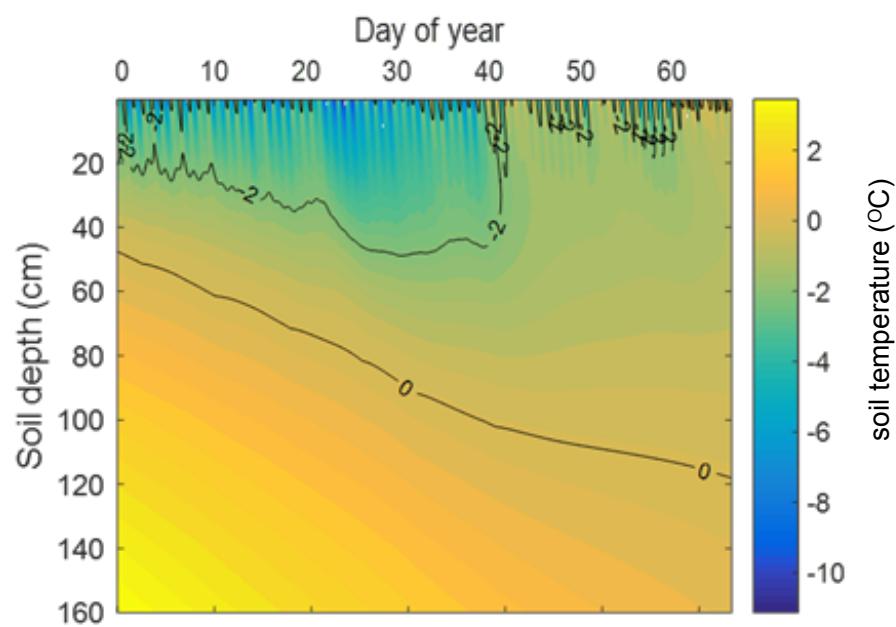
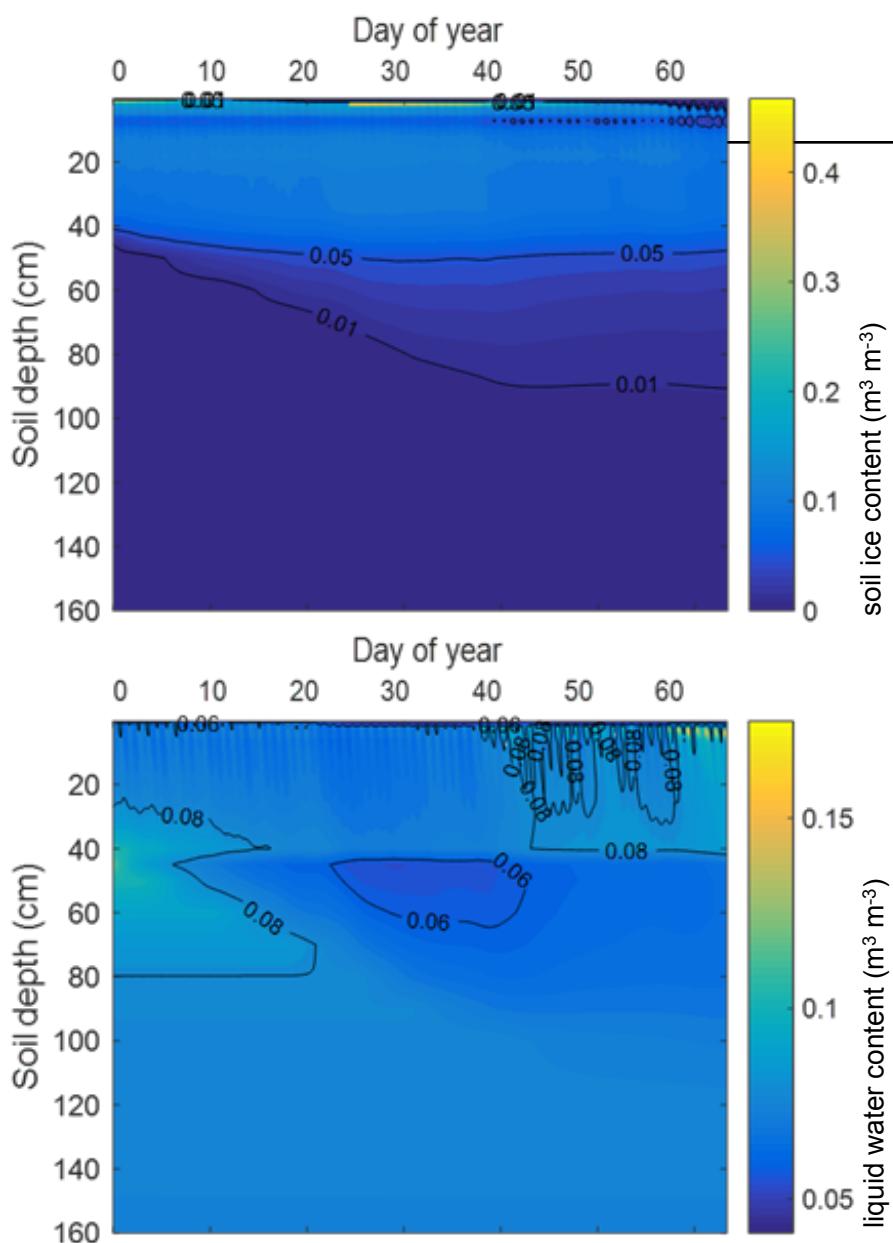
UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

(Zeng et al., 2011 JGR,  
Zeng et al., 2011 WRR,  
Yu et al., 2016, HESS)



# STEMMUS-FT

## Profile of ice, liquid water and temperature

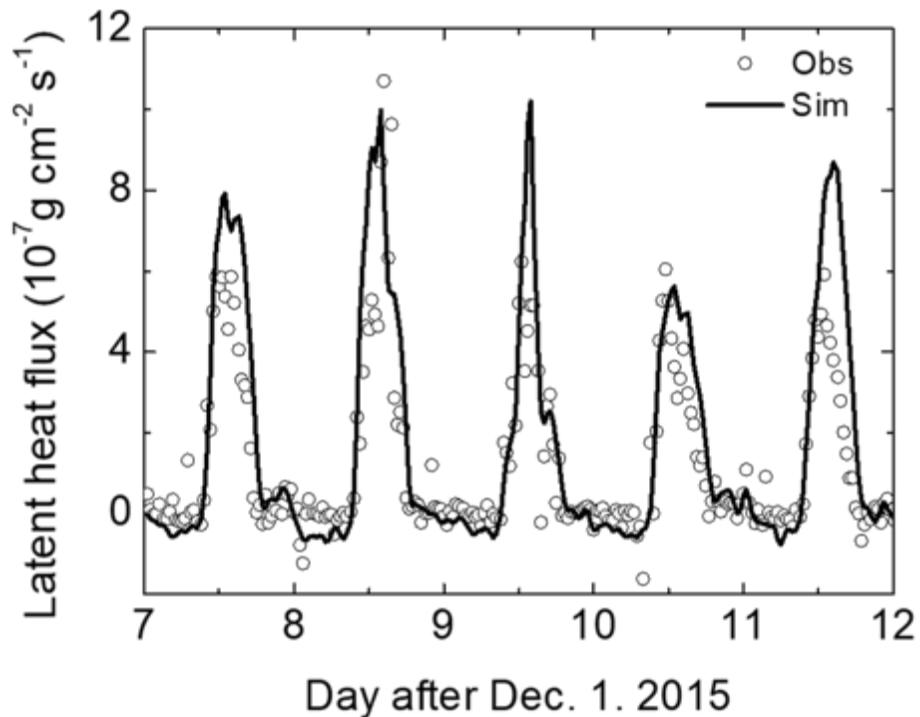


Freezing front increase along with the zero isotherm

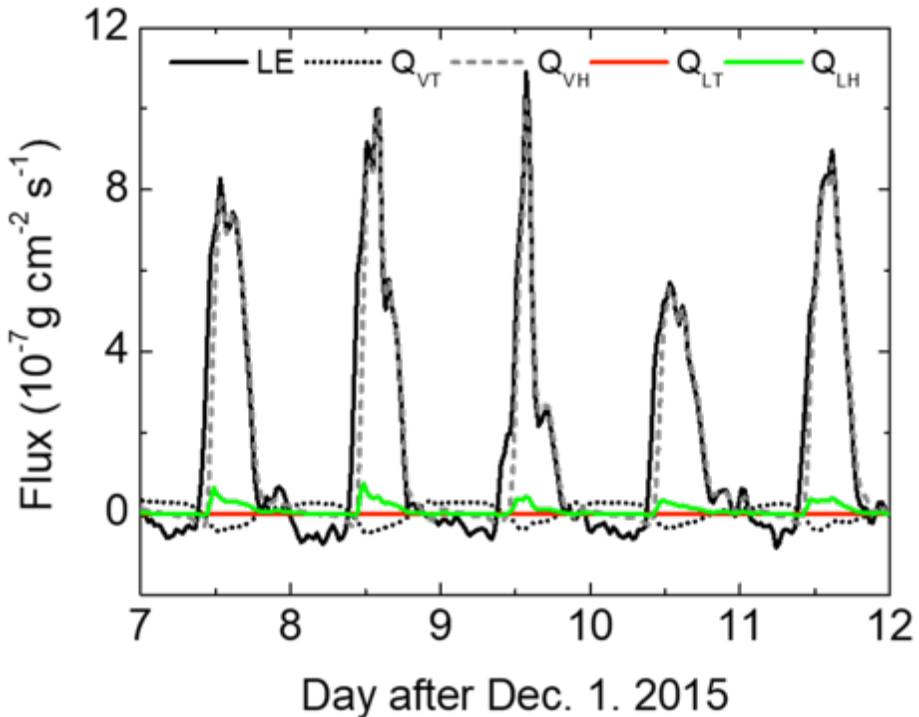
Soil liquid water content behave differently

# STEMMUS-FT results

## Surface fluxes

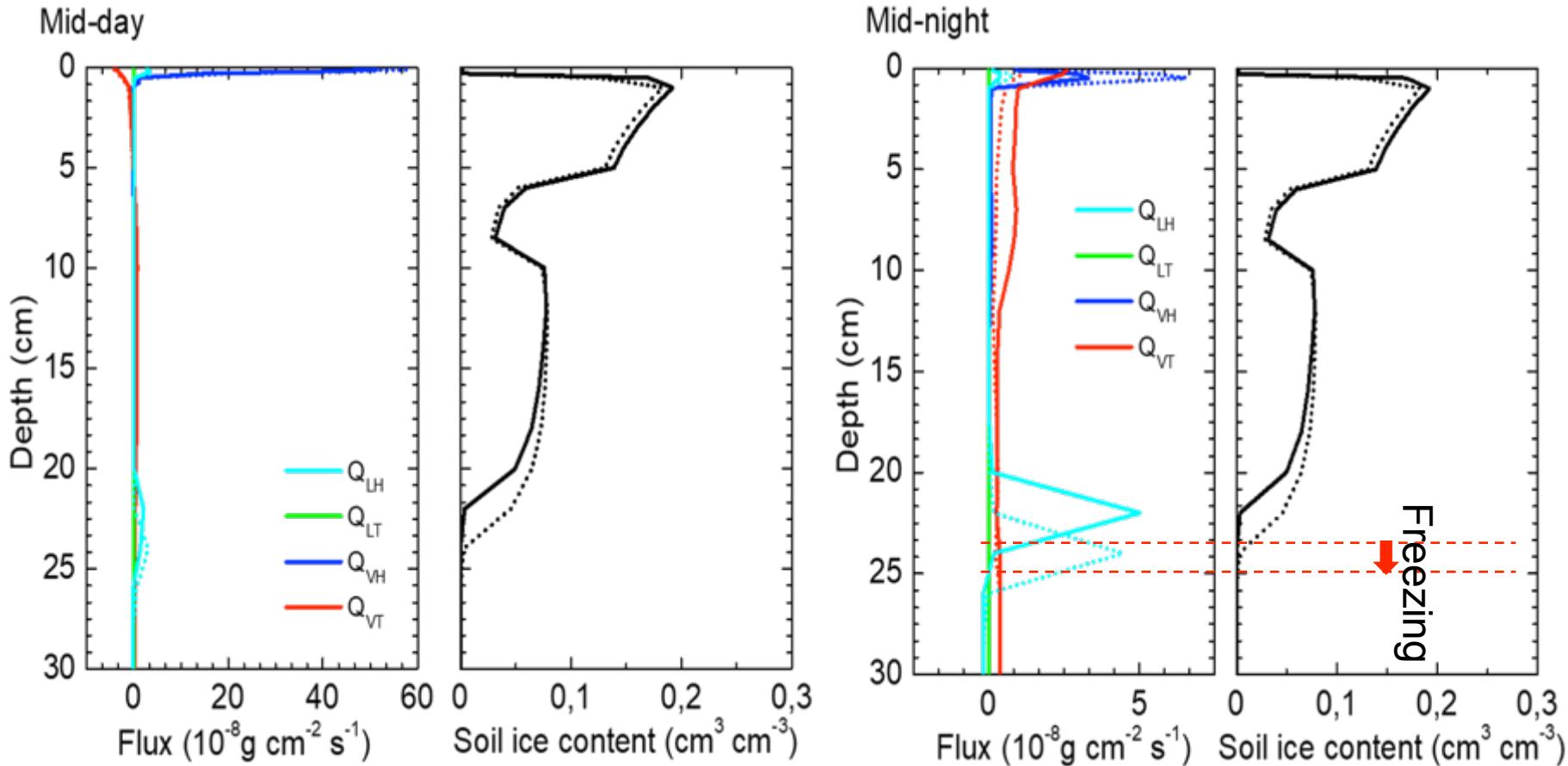


(a) Latent heat flux



(b) Surface (0.1cm) thermal/isothermal liquid and vapor flux

## What STEMMUS-FT model tells us?

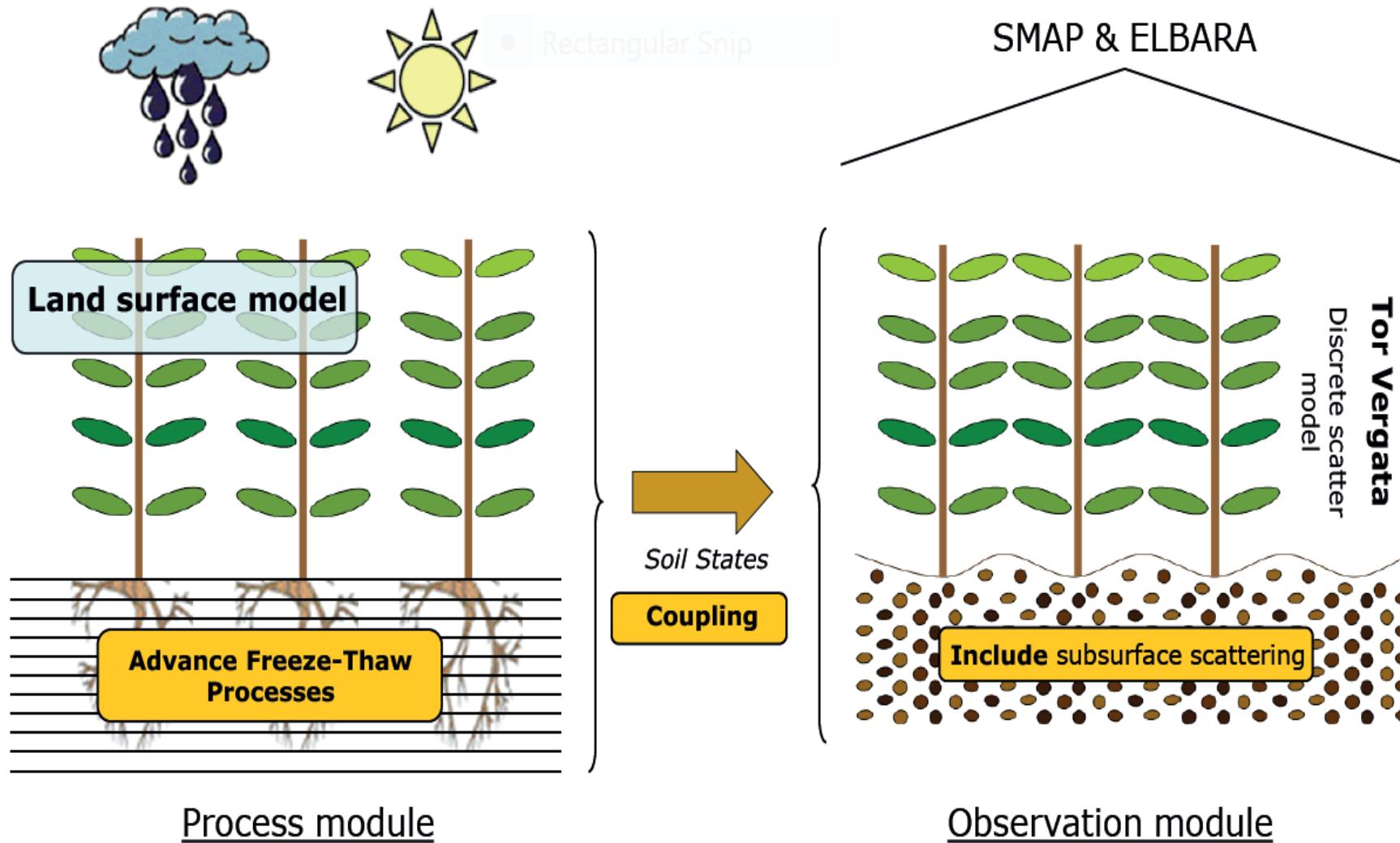


— Solid lines: Dec. 11 2015

----- Dashed lines: Dec. 12 2015

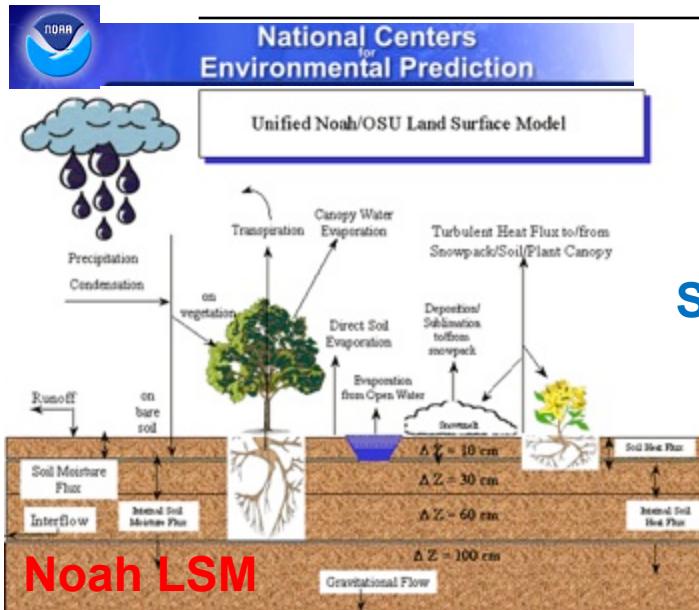
L-band (1.4 GHz) Active & Passive Microwave Obs.

SMAP & ELBARA

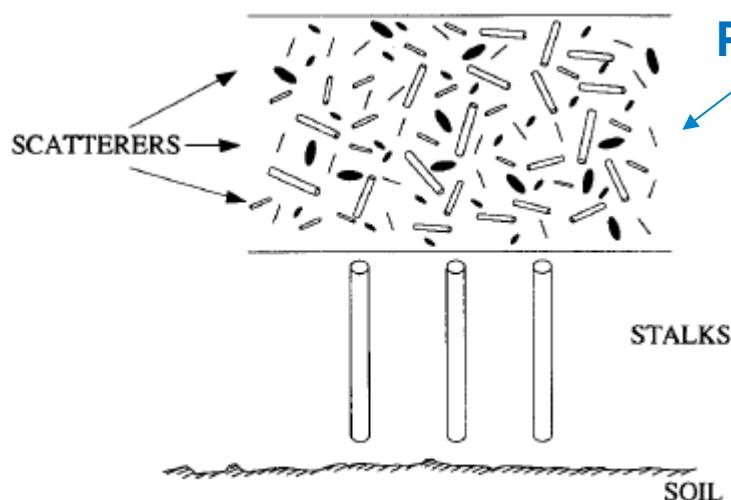


## 5. Coherent process modeling and radiative transfer modelling

# Noah-Tor Vergata OSSE (Observation Operator)



Noah LSM



Surface SMST

Four Phase Dielectric Mixing Model

$$\varepsilon^{\eta} = (\theta_s - \theta) \varepsilon_{air}^{\eta} + \theta_{liq} \varepsilon_w^{\eta} + (\theta - \theta_{liq}) \varepsilon_{ice}^{\eta} + (1 - \theta_s) \varepsilon_{matrix}^{\eta}$$

SMST Profiles

Effective Temperature

Permittivity

$$T_{eff} = \int_0^{\infty} T_s(z) \alpha(z) \exp \left[ - \int_0^z \alpha(z') dz' \right] dz$$

Emissivity

Brightness Temperature

# Noah-Tor Vergata Simulations

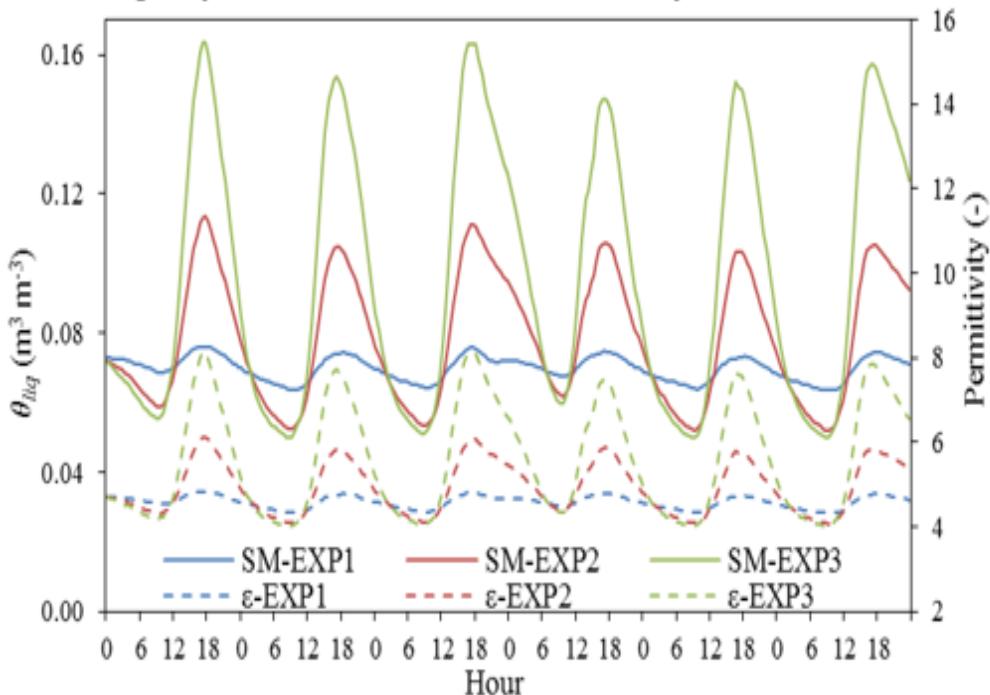
## Frozen Period: DOY 1-6

**EXP1:** SMST in situ measurements at 5 cm

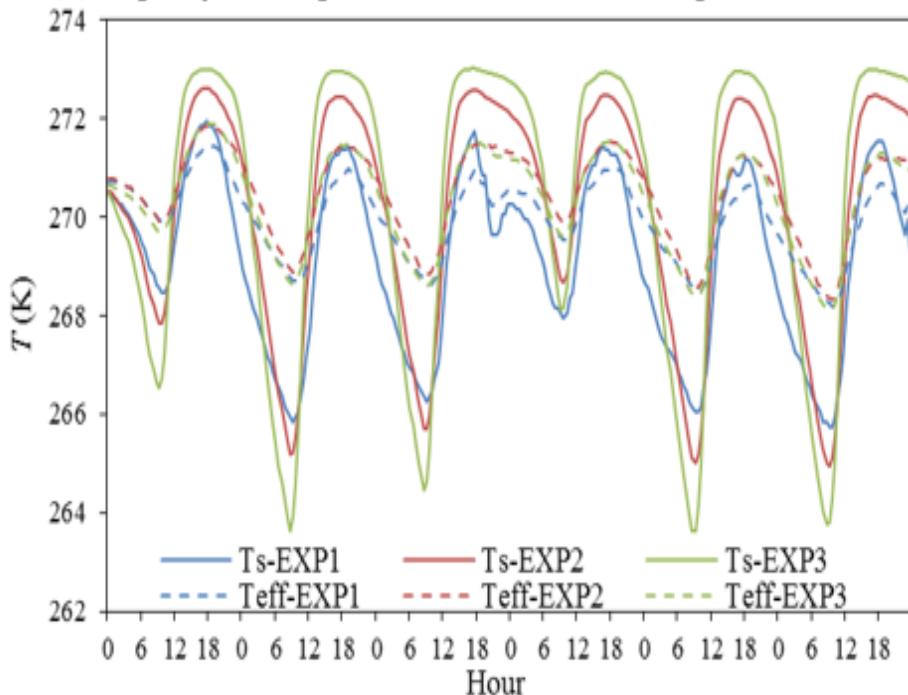
**EXP2:** SMST Noah 4-layer (0.1, 0.4, 1.0, 2.0) midpoint of top layer at 5 cm

**EXP3:** SMST Noah 5-layer (0.05, 0.1, 0.4, 1.0, 2.0) midpoint of top layer at 2.5 cm

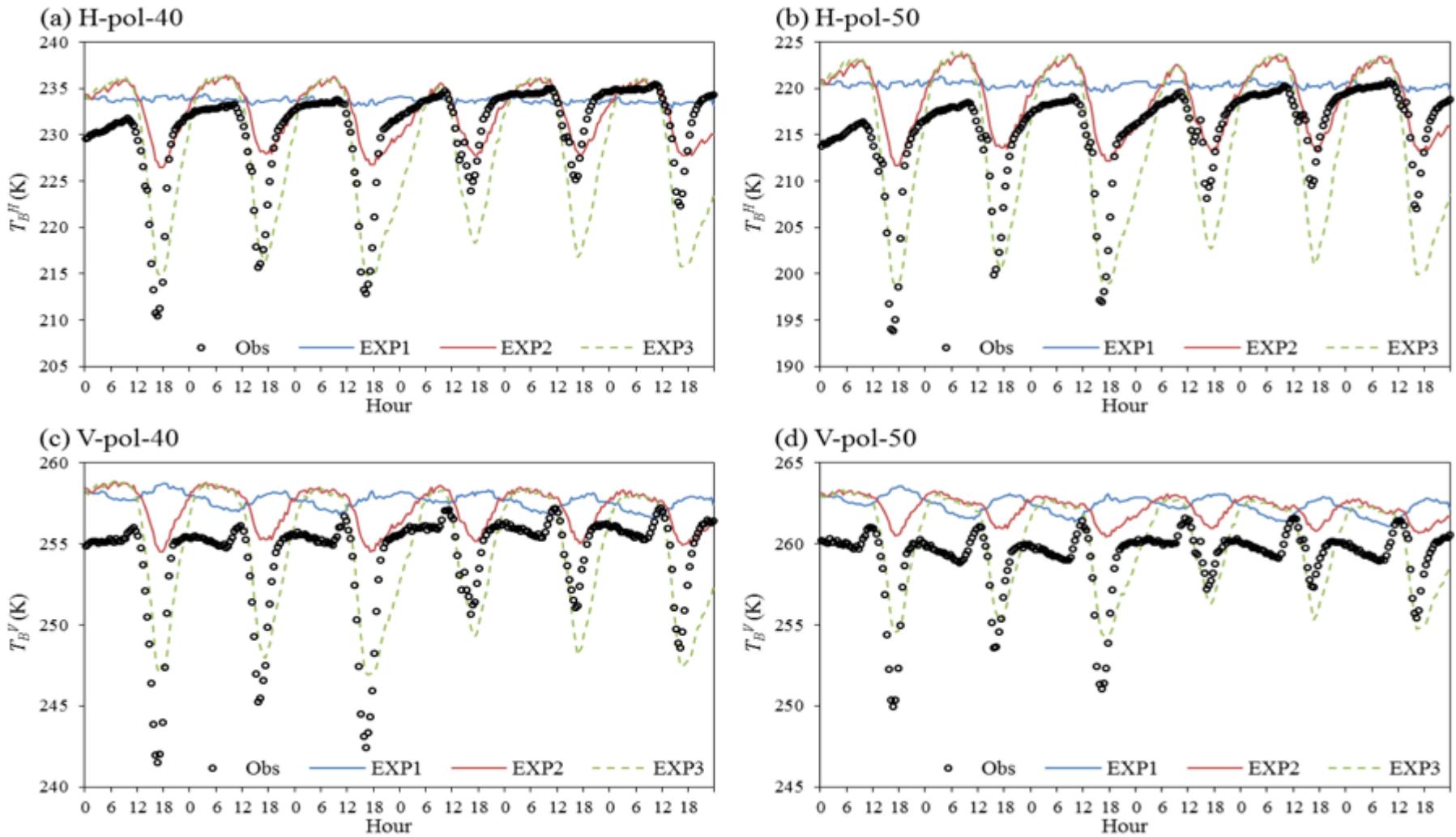
(a) Top Layer Soil Moisture and Permittivity



(b) Top Layer Temperature and Effective Temperature

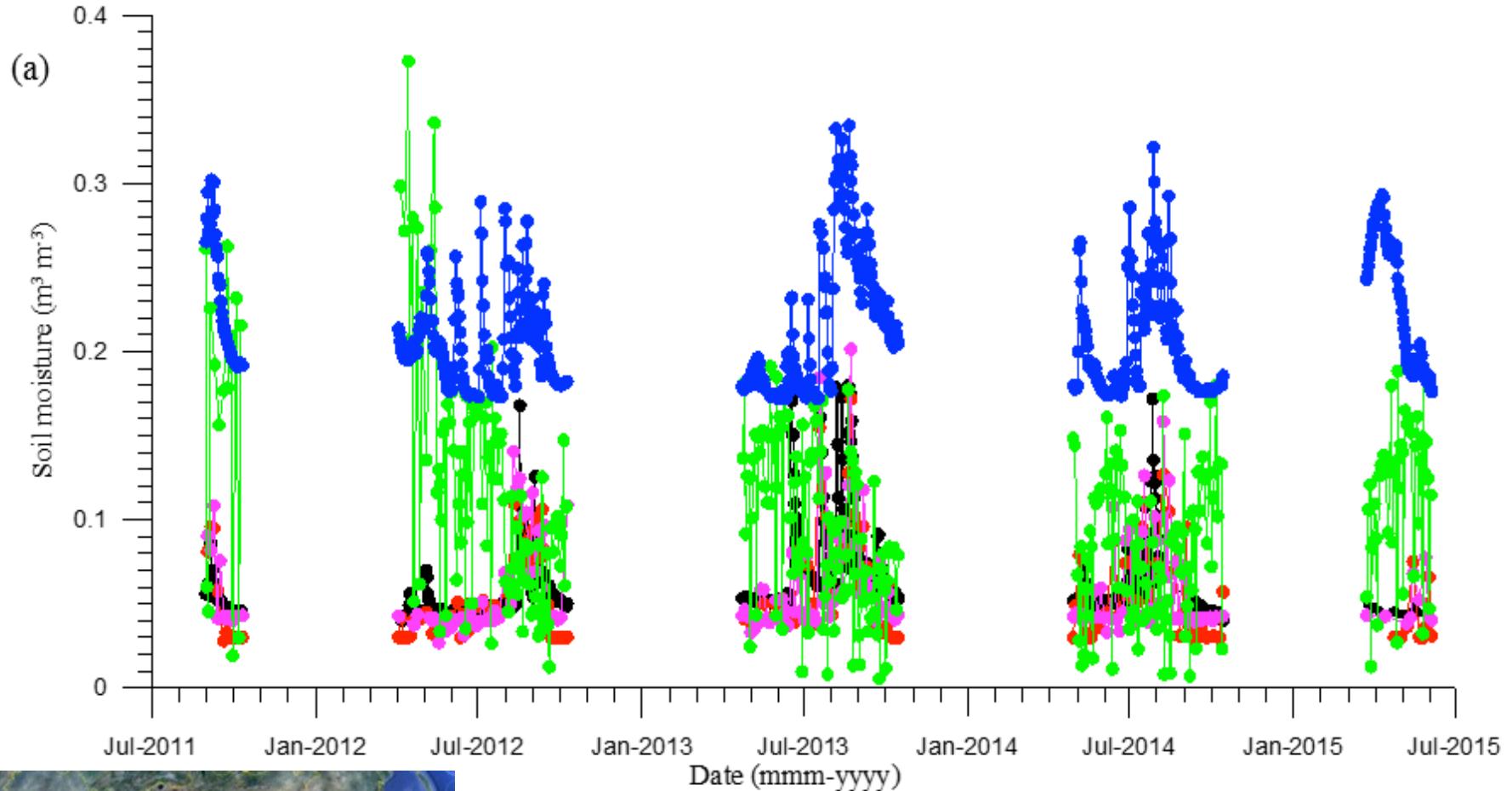


# Noah-Tor Vergata Simulations



**TB signature of diurnal soil freeze/thaw cycle is more sensitive to the liquid water content of soil surface layer than in situ measurements at 5 cm depth**

# Implication for retrievals (Aquarius A/P)

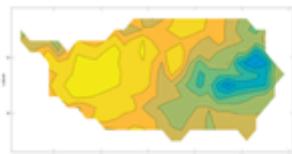


(a) Ngari  
(b) Naqu  
(c) Maqu

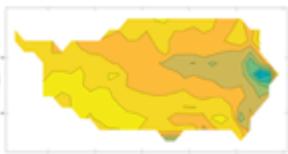
(Wang et al., 2017, RSE)

# Implication for quantifying monsoon patterns

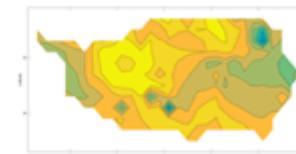
TV-DEM Aquarius



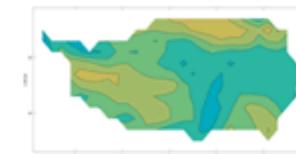
Operational Aquarius



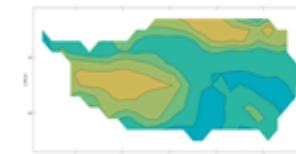
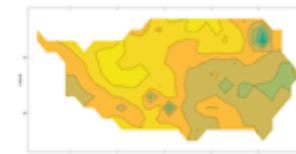
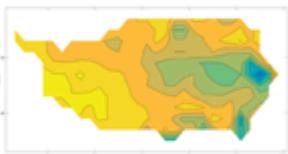
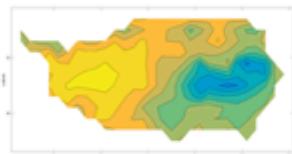
TU-Wien ASCAT



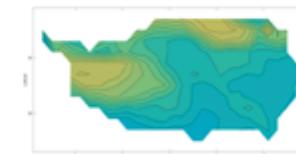
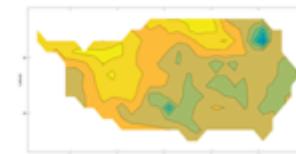
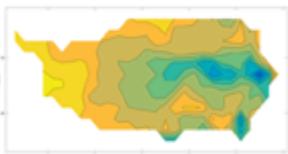
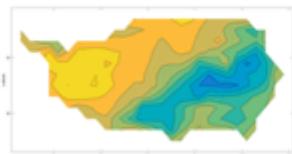
ECMWF-ERA-Interim



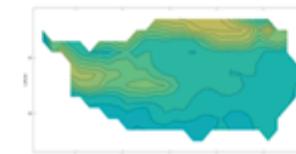
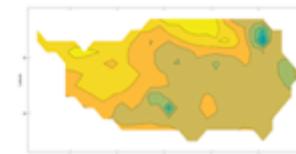
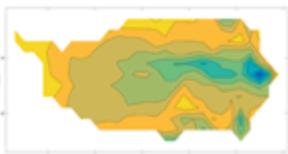
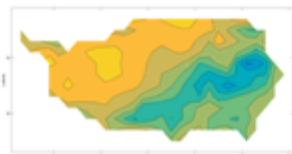
May



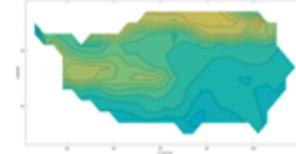
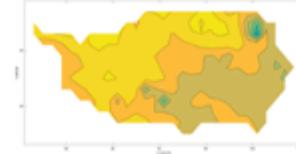
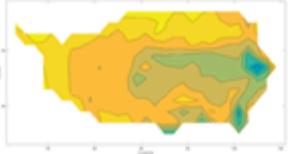
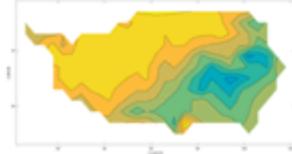
June



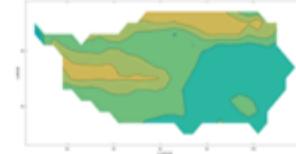
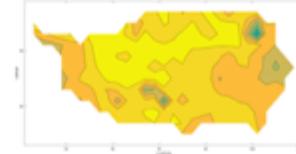
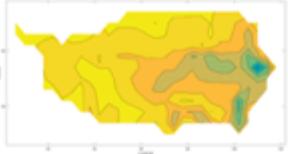
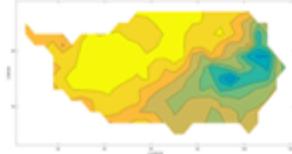
July



August



September

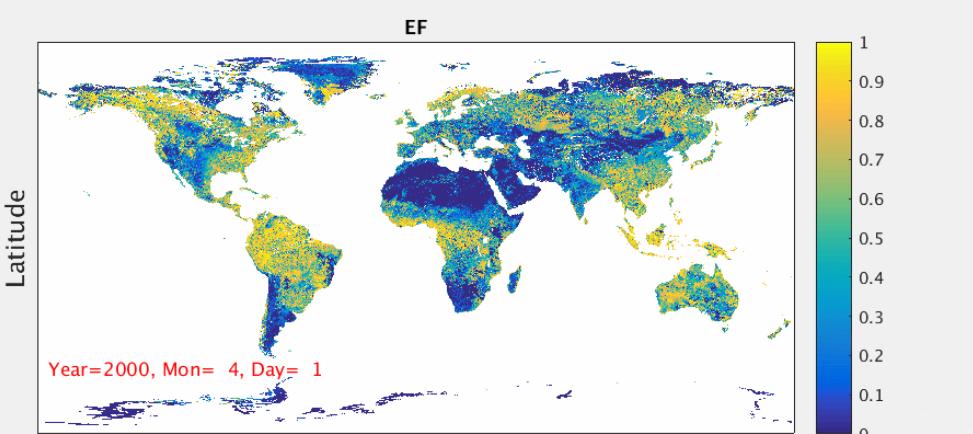
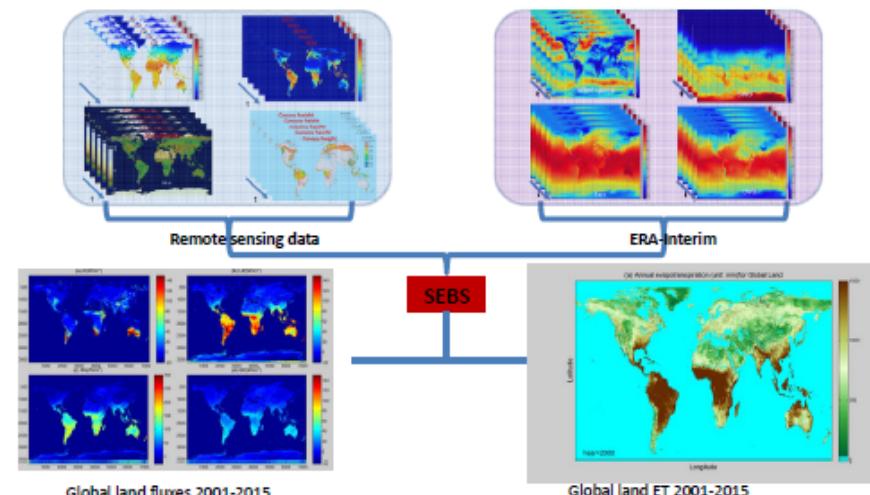
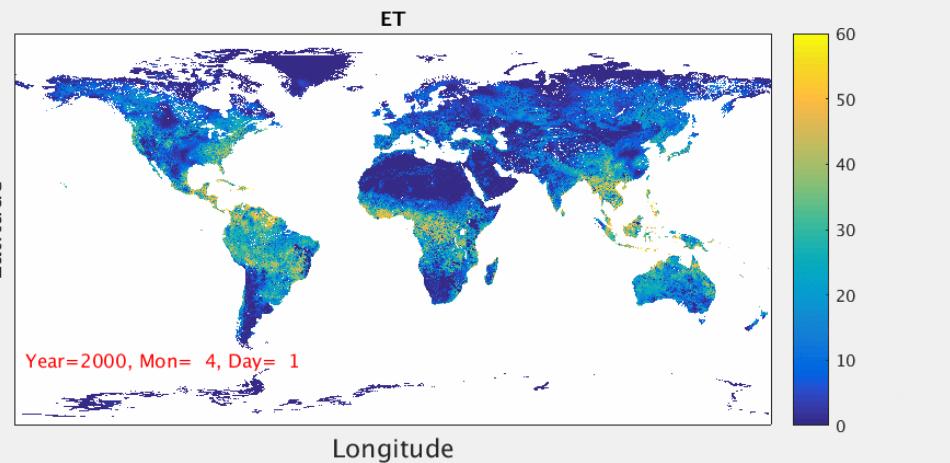


October

# High Resolution Hydrologic and Ecosystem Fluxes

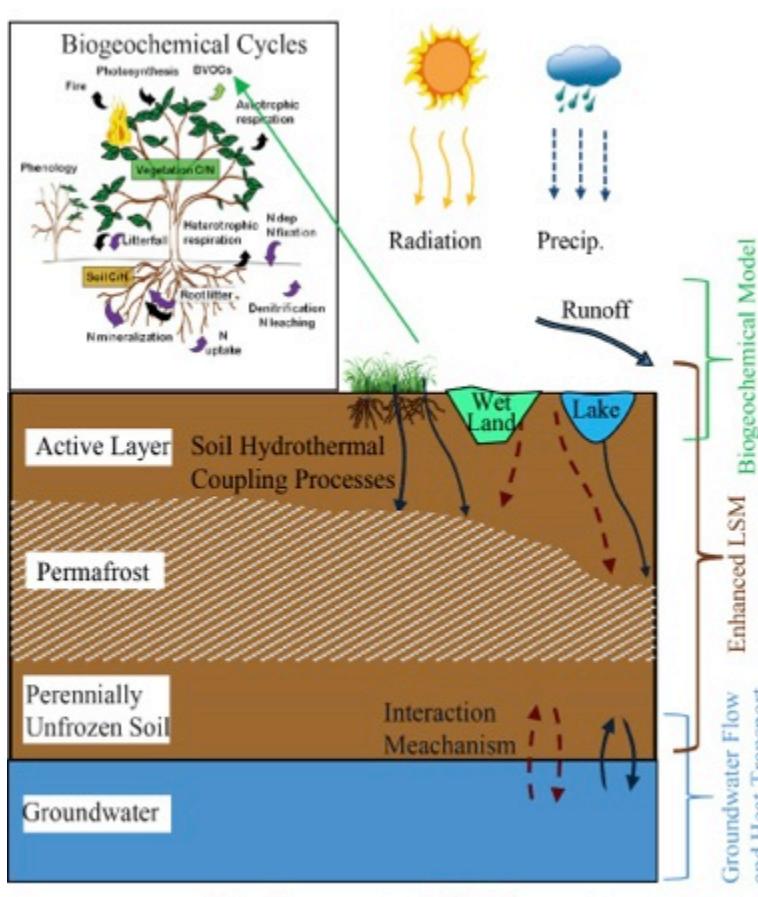
2000 – Near Present at 5km x 5km Daily

Remote Sensing based global land surface flux and ET data

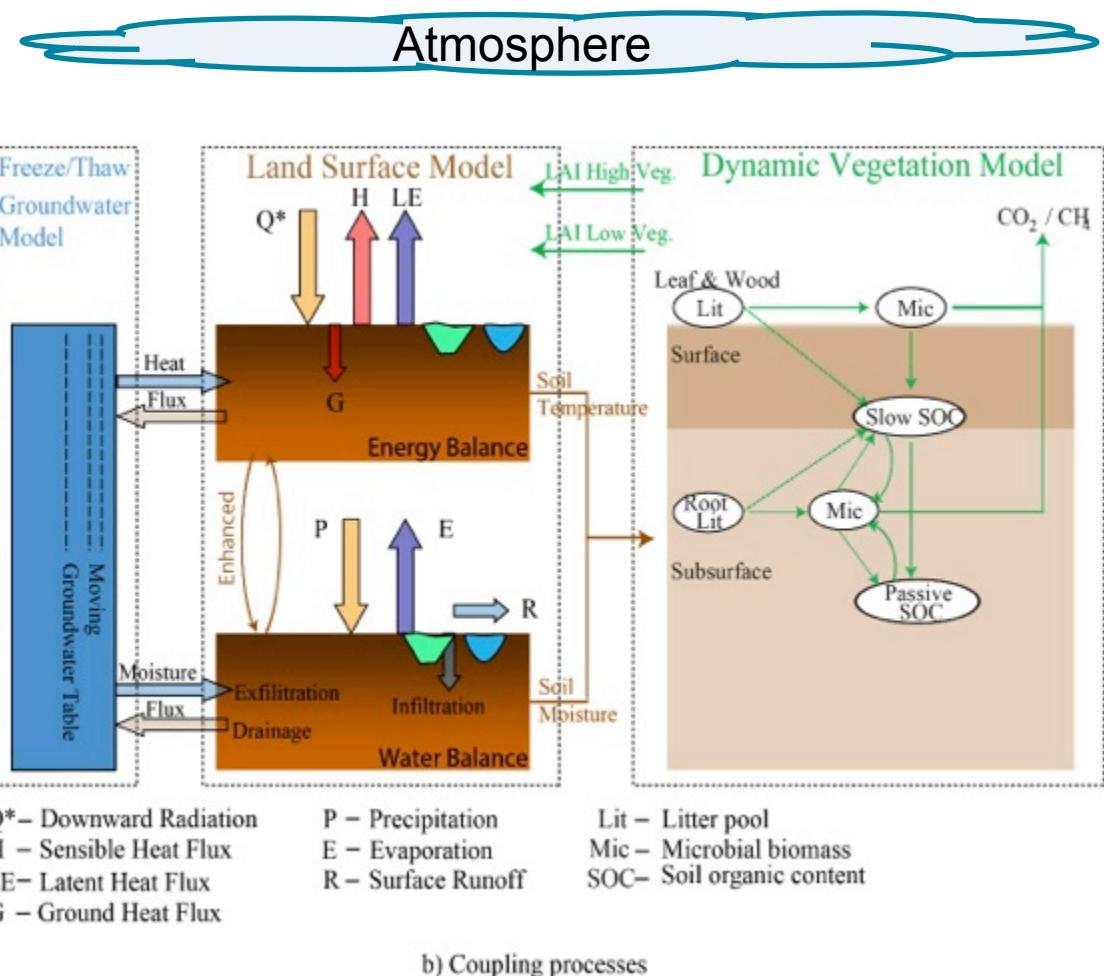


(Su, 2002, HESS; Chen et al., 2013, JAMC; Chen et al., 2014, ACP)

# AN INTEGRATED MODELLING SYSTEM



a) Physical processes



b) Coupling processes

as a contribution to NL EC-Earth System