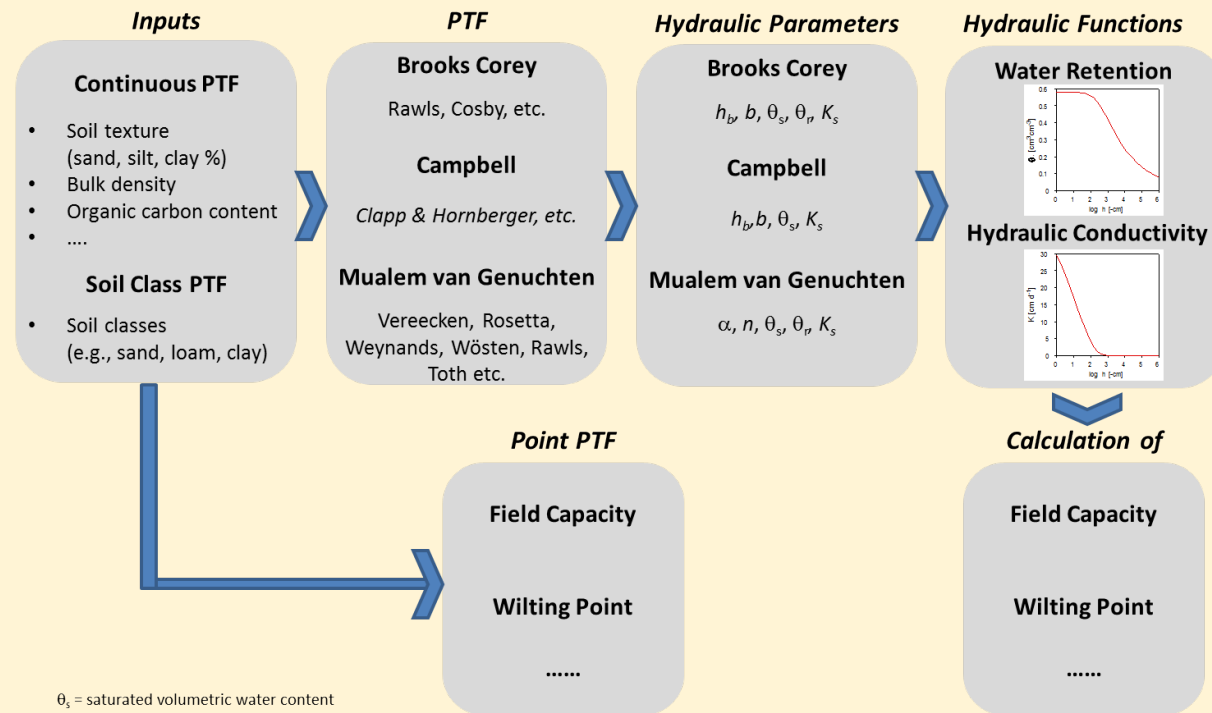


# ISMC-GEWEX-SoilWat initiative on comparing soil hydraulic & thermal properties description and pedotransfer functions in LSMs

Anne Verhoef, Harry Vereecken, Lutz Weihermuller, Carsten Montzka, Michael Herbst, Kris van Looy



$\theta_s$  = saturated volumetric water content  
 $\theta_r$  = residual volumetric water content  
 $K_s$  = saturated hydraulic conductivity  
 $b$  = Brooks Corey or Campbell shape parameter  
 $h_b$  = air entrancy value for Brooks Corey and Campbell (often also  $\psi_a$ )  
 $\alpha$  = reciprocal of the air entrance value for Mualem van Genuchten  
 $n$  = shape parameter for Mualem van Genuchten



# International Soil Modeling Consortium

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## Mission

The mission of the International Soil Modeling Consortium (ISMC) is to integrate and advance soil systems modeling, data gathering and observational capabilities. It aims for a definitive quantification of soil ecosystem services, impacts of climate change, land use and agricultural intensification on soils and terrestrial systems at scales ranging from local to global.

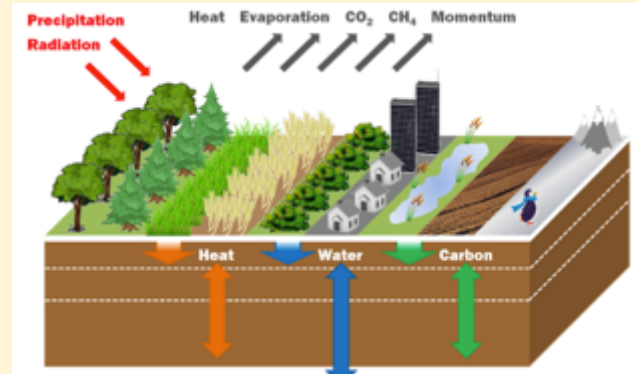
The specific objectives of the ISMC are:

- To develop the first generation of integrated soil system models and establish a platform for **model development and validation**
- To perform **soil model intercomparison studies at local to global scales**
- To consolidate and develop soil and other data platforms for dissemination of soil information and for modeling
- To **promote integration of soil modelling expertise** in neighboring disciplines (climate, land surface, ecological, crop, and other models)
- To integrate societal and environmental considerations into soil and ecosystem functioning

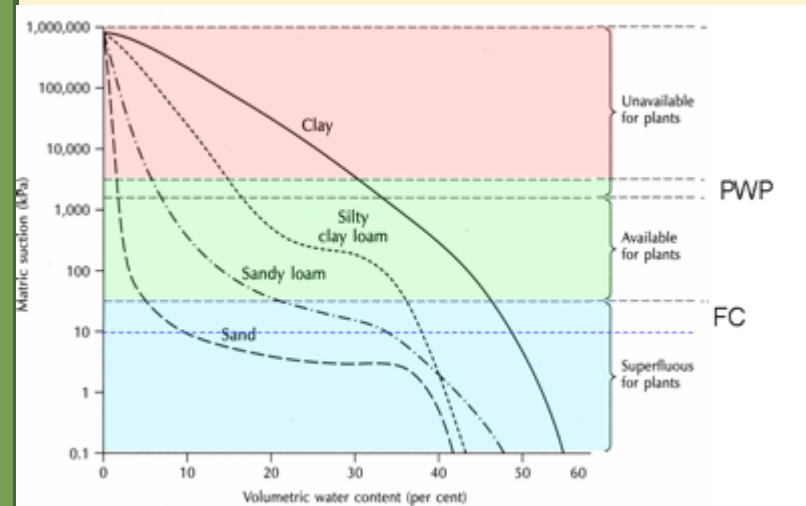
Described in White paper:  
Vereecken et al. 2016, *Vadose Zone Journal*

## OVERVIEW

- GEWEX and the soil and critical zone communities: improve interactions and integration of soil and subsurface processes in present climate models
- Planning workshop aimed at designing and prioritizing interactions took place in June 28-30, 2016 in Leipzig
- Various initiatives: (1) Evaluation of pedotransfer functions and related functional descriptions for calculation of hydraulic and thermal soil properties in global climate and hydrological models. A joint GEWEX-SoilWAT-ISMC project, led by Harry Vereecken and Anne Verhoef

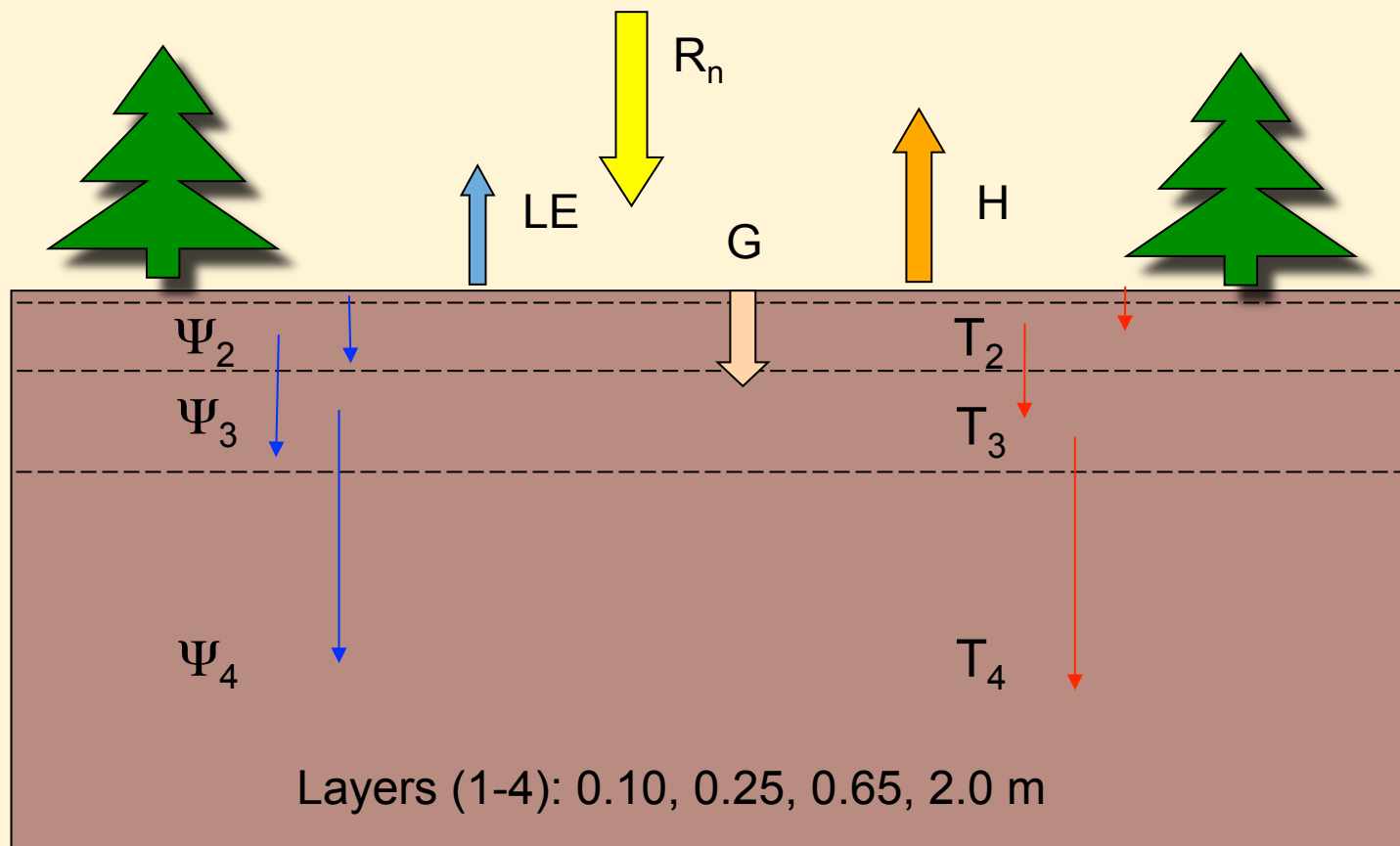


JULES  
land  
surface  
model



## WITHIN-SOIL TRANSFER

- Water flow: Darcy's law combined with Richard's equation
- Heat flow: Fourier equation and heat conservation equation



$$W = K \left\{ \frac{\Delta \psi}{\Delta z} + 1 \right\}$$

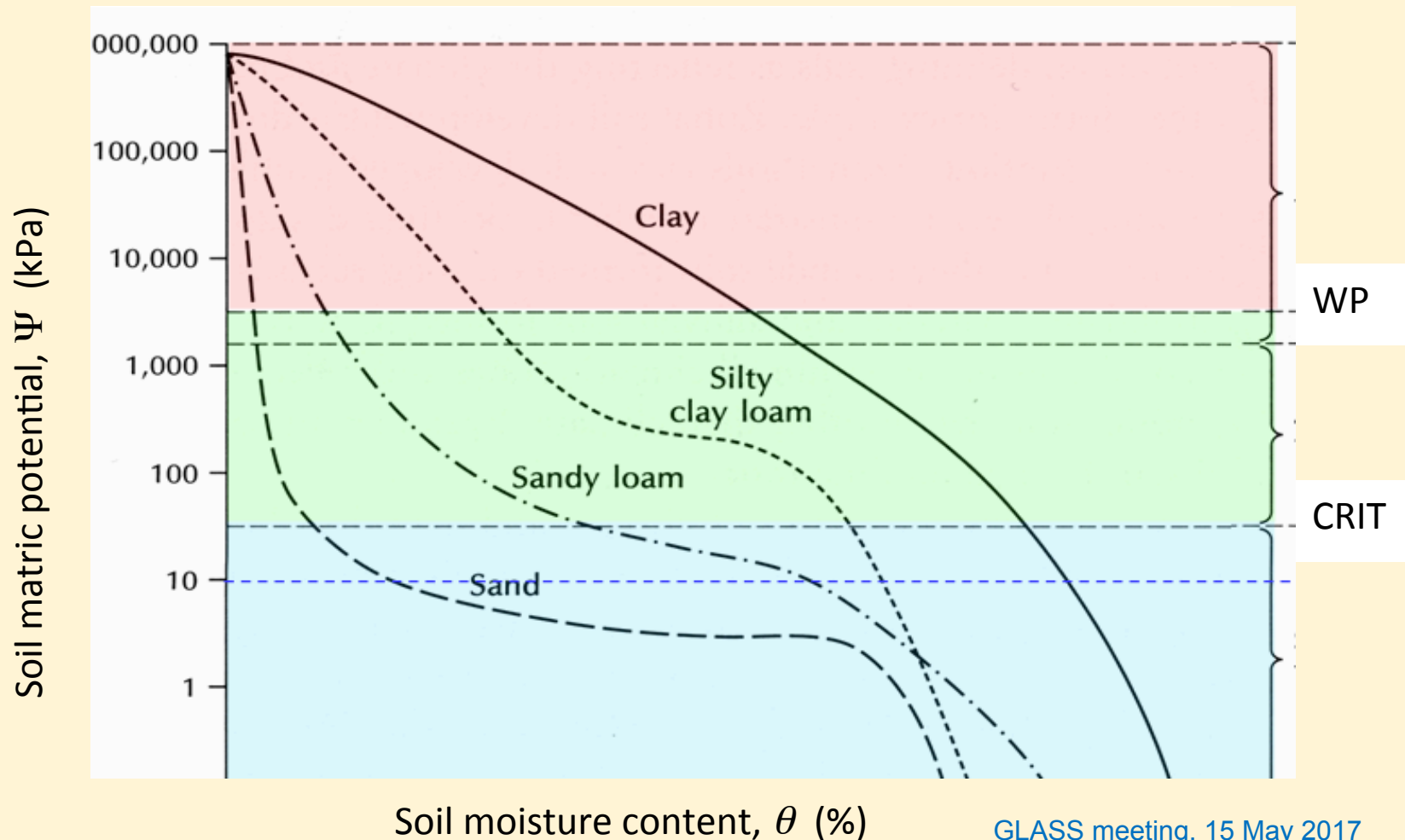
GLASS meeting, 15 May 2017

$$G = \lambda \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta z}$$

Plus  
advective  
heat transfer

## WATER RETENTION CURVE (WRC) & HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY CURVE

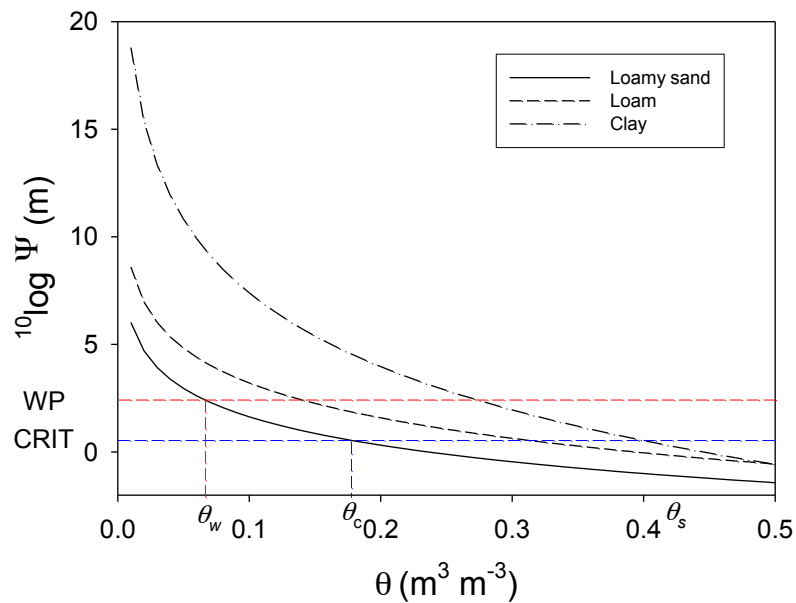
- Relationship between soil matric potential/HCC and soil moisture content
- Different functional description are available (Brooks & Corey; Van Genuchten-Mualem)



## CLAPP AND HORNBERGER

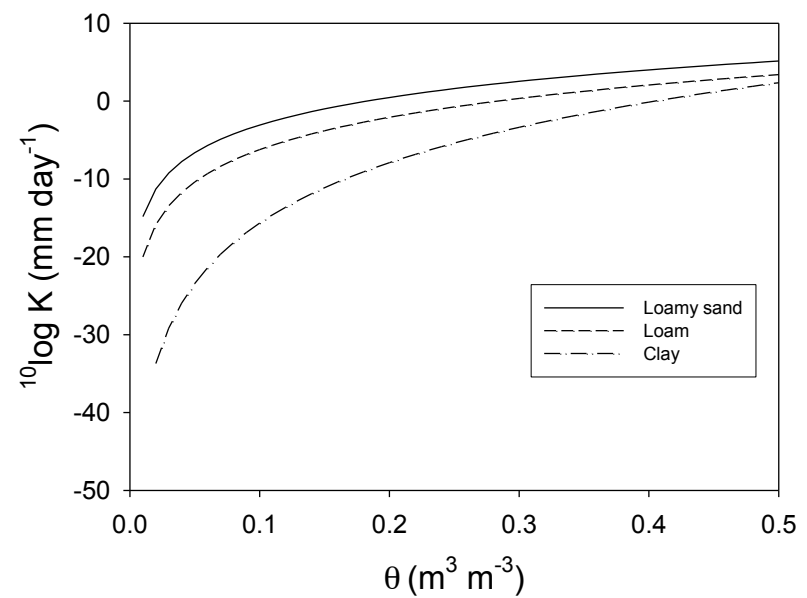
WRC

$$\psi = \psi_s \left( \theta / \theta_s \right)^{-b}$$



HCC

$$K = K_s \left( \theta / \theta_s \right)^{2b+3}$$



Soil texture	$f_{\text{sand}}$ (%)	$f_{\text{silt}}$ (%)	$f_{\text{clay}}$ (%)
Loamy sand	82	12	6
Loam	43	39	18
Clay	22	20	58

WRC

$$\psi = \frac{\left(\Theta^{-1/m} - 1\right)^{1/n}}{\alpha}$$

$$\Theta = \frac{\theta - \theta_r}{\theta_s - \theta_r}$$

HCC

$$K = K_s \frac{\left[1 - (\alpha\psi)^{n-1} \left\{1 + (\alpha\psi)^n\right\}^{-m}\right]^2}{\left[1 + (\alpha\psi)^n\right]^{m/2}}$$

$$m = 1 - \frac{1}{n}$$

# CLAPP AND HORNBERGER PARAMETERS TABLE FOR BROOKS & COREY EQUATIONS

## PARAMETERS; SOIL CLASSES

Soil texture	$b$ (-)	$\theta_s$ (m <sup>3</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	$\psi_s$ (m)	QC (-)	$K_s$ (cm/min)
Sand	4.05	0.395	-0.121	0.92	1.056
Loamy sand	4.38	0.410	-0.090	0.82	0.938
Sandy loam	4.90	0.435	-0.218	0.60	0.208
Silt loam	5.30	0.485	-0.786	0.25	0.0432
Loam	5.39	0.451	-0.478	0.40	0.0417
Sandy clay loam	7.12	0.420	-0.299	0.60	0.0378
Silty clay loam	7.75	0.477	-0.356	0.10	0.0102
Clay loam	8.52	0.476	-0.630	0.35	0.0147
Sandy clay	10.40	0.426	-0.153	0.52	0.013
Silty clay	10.40	0.492	-0.490	0.52	0.013
Clay	11.40	0.482	-0.405	0.25	0.0062



## BROOKS AND COREY HYDRAULIC FUNCTIONS; COSBY ET AL. PTFs

- based on MLRA (multiple linear regression analysis)
- dependent on percentages of sand, silt and clay

$$b = 3.1 + 0.157 f_{clay} - 0.003 f_{sand}$$

$$\theta_s = (50.5 - 0.142 f_{sand} - 0.037 f_{clay}) / 100$$

$$\psi_s = 0.01 \times 10^{1.54 - 0.0095 f_{sand} + 0.0063 f_{silt}}$$

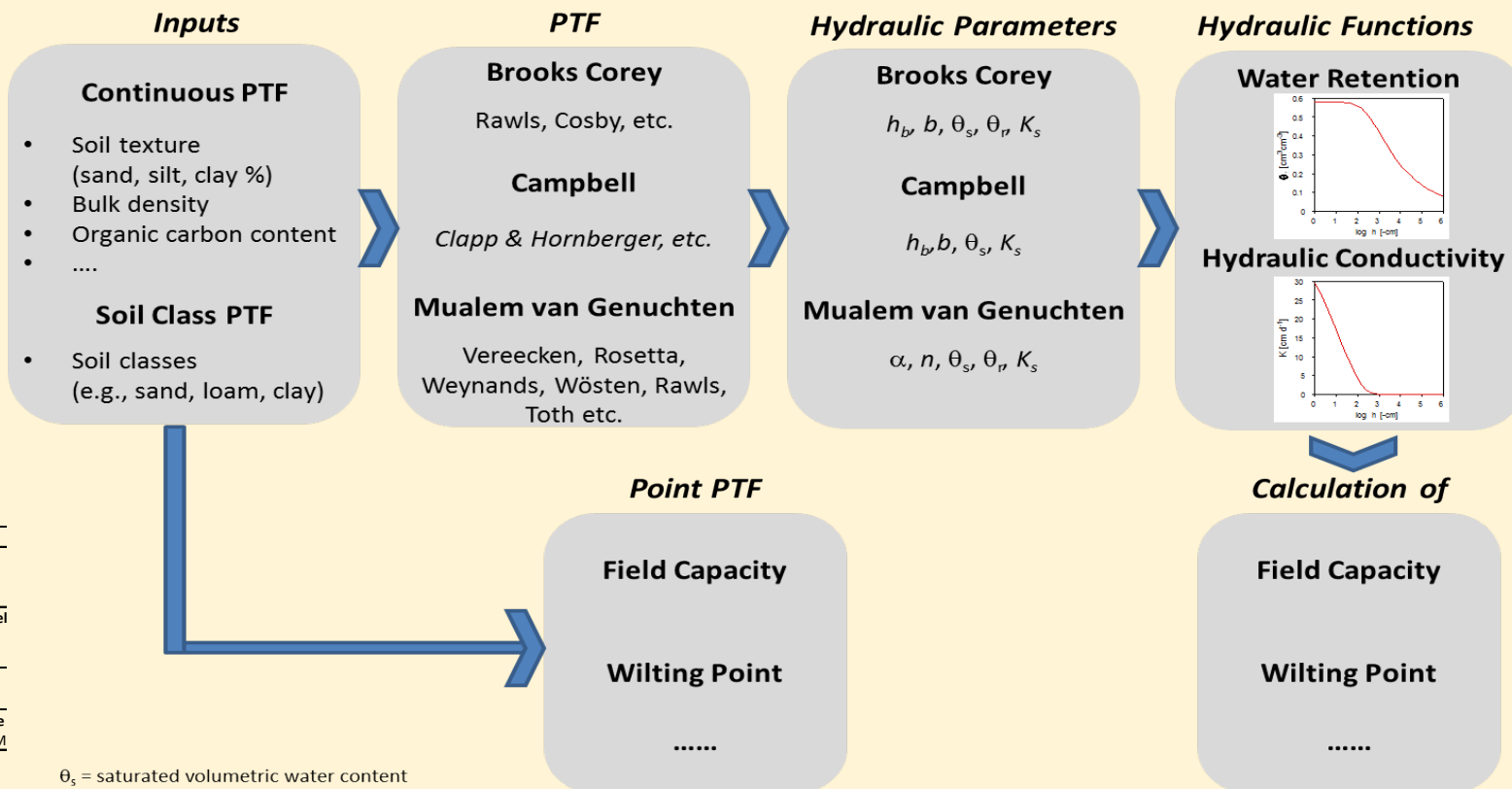
$$K_s = a \times 10^{-0.6 - 0.0064 f_{clay} + 0.0126 f_{sand}}$$

# ISMC-GEWEX-SoilWat initiative on comparing soil hydraulic & thermal properties description and pedotransfer functions in LSMs

## OBJECTIVES

- To summarize the functional descriptions used to estimate hydraulic and thermal properties (WRC and HCC) in LSMs and hydrological models, as well as equations that make use of secondary data derived from these curves (e.g. field capacity/wilting point).
- To provide an overview of PTFs (and their fitting parameters) used for calculation of hydraulic and thermal properties for simulation of water and energy related processes in global climate and hydrological models. We will compare these approaches with state of the art PTFs used in soil science.
- To quantify uncertainty in water and energy fluxes and states generated by PTF and/or type of hydraulic/thermal function, and aggregation or upscaling.
- To perform 1D simulations using state of the art soil models, such as Hydrus, to assess the impact of the type of hydraulic/thermal function, PTFs, and the inherent uncertainties embedded in these equations on key soil processes.

# MODEL COMPARISON



Model
JSBACH version 3.0
Community Land Model CLM 4.5
ORCHIDEE rev3959
Catchment land surface NASA_CATCHMENT_LSM
SURFEXv8.0 version 8.0
MPI-HM
JULES version 4.6
NOAH-MP version 3.0
LEAF / OLAM version 4

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SSiB Simplified Simple Biosphere model Version 3.5	McCumber and Pielke (1981), Walko et al. (2000)	diffusivity form of Richards equation	Campbell (1974) or van Genuchten (1980)	classes for van Genuchten (1980) (source of parameters not provided)	PWP & FC calculated from WRC
CABLE Community Atmosphere Biosphere Land Exchange model	Xue et al. (1991), Zhan et al. (2003), Sun and Xue (2001)	bucket model	extended Campbell (1974) for partially frozen soils	Clapp and Hornberger (1978) for WR and modified Clapp and Hornberger (1974) according to Jame and Norum (1980) for HC	PWP according to Xue et al. (1991)
	Kowalczyk (2006), Wang et al. (2011)	diffusivity form of Richards equation	Campbell (1974)	Clapp and Hornberger (1978)	PWP & FC calculated from WRC

\* revised version used for SMAP L4\_SM used van Genuchten parameters according to Wösten et al. (2001)

\* hereby van Genuchten function was coupled to Brooks-Corey parameters

\* reformulated to match metric units

# REVIEW PAPER ON PEDOTRANSFER FUNCTIONS, LED BY KRIS VAN LOOY

## **Pedotransfer functions in Earth system science: challenges and perspectives**

Van Looy, Vereecken, Bouma, Schaap, Zhang, Nemes, Koestel, Weihermüller, Verhoef, Montzka, Minasny, Pachepsky, Padarian, Herbst, Vanderborght, Mishra, Tóth, Zacharias

### Outline

1. Introduction and brief history of PTFs (Vereecken, Bouma, Van Looy)
  1. Preface and outline
  2. A brief history of PTFs
  3. PTFs of soil hydraulic properties and beyond
2. Methods to derive and evaluate pedotransfer functions (Schaap)
  1. Derivation with regression techniques, neural networks, support vector machines, nearest neighbor methods, ...
  2. Methods for evaluating the quality of PTFs with statistical indicators, functional evaluation, ensemble simulations, ...
3. Methodological challenges for PTFs in Earth system models (Minasny & Padarian)
  1. Extrapolation
  2. Scaling
  3. Integration
4. PTFs in Earth system models
  1. PTFs of water flow (Vereecken, Vanderborght, Montzka)
    - 1) Soil hydraulic processes
    - 2) Root zone hydraulic processes
    - 3) Hydraulic parameterization
  2. PTFs of solute flow (Koestel)
    - 1) Solute transport processes

Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., doi:10.5194/essd-2017-13, 2017

Manuscript under review for journal Earth Syst. Sci. Data

Discussion started: 23 February 2017

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## A global data set of soil hydraulic properties and sub-grid variability of soil water retention and hydraulic conductivity curves

Carsten Montzka<sup>1</sup>, Michael Herbst<sup>1</sup>, Lutz Weihermüller<sup>1</sup>, Anne Verhoef<sup>2</sup>, Harry Vereecken<sup>1</sup>

5 <sup>1</sup>Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, Institute of Bio- and Geosciences: Agrosphere (IBG-3), Jülich, Germany

<sup>2</sup>University of Reading, Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Reading, UK

*Correspondence to:* Carsten Montzka (c.montzka@fz-juelich.de)

10 **Abstract.** Agroecosystem models, regional and global climate models, as well as numerical weather prediction models require adequate parameterization of soil hydraulic properties. These properties are fundamental for describing and predicting water and energy exchange processes at the transition zone between solid Earth and Atmosphere, and regulate evapotranspiration, infiltration, and runoff generation. Hydraulic parameters describing the soil water retention (WRC) and hydraulic conductivity (HCC) curves are typically derived from soil texture via pedotransfer functions (PTFs). Resampling

## GLOBAL HYDRAULIC PARAMETER MAP PLUS DATA SET; MONTZKA ET AL.

**PANGAEA.**

Data Publisher for Earth &amp; Environmental Science

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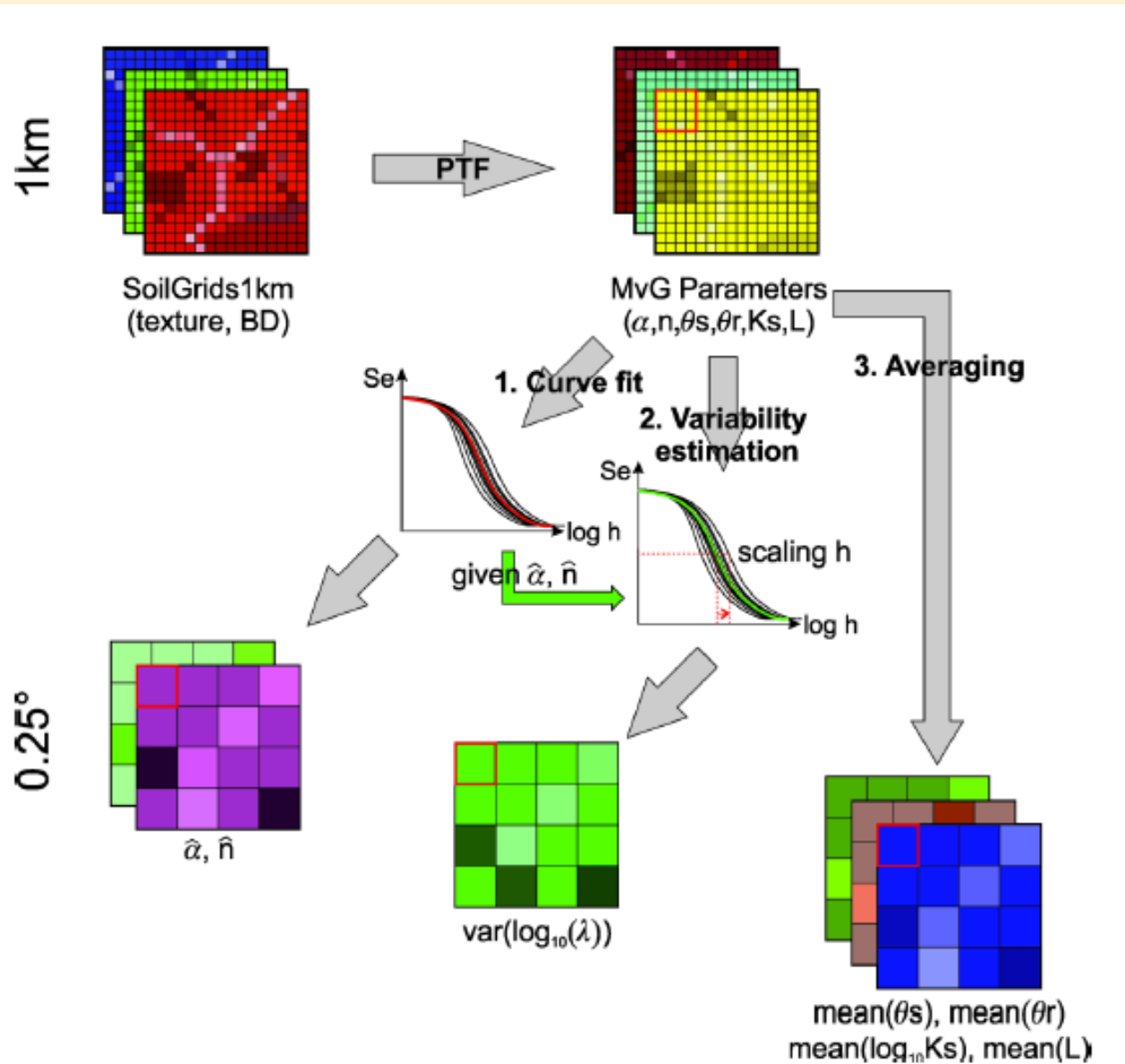
**Montzka, Carsten; Herbst, Michael; Weihermüller, Lutz; Verhoef, Anne; Vereecken, Harry (2017):** A global data set of soil hydraulic properties and sub-grid variability of soil water retention and hydraulic conductivity curves, link to model result files in NetCDF format. doi:10.1594/PANGAEA.870605,

*Supplement to:* Montzka, C et al. (in prep.): A global data set of soil hydraulic properties and sub-grid variability of soil water retention and hydraulic conductivity curves. *Earth System Science Data Discussions*

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## GLOBAL HYDRAULIC PARAMETER MAP PLUS DATA SET; MONTZKA ET AL.



Proposed method to aggregate soil hydraulic properties and sub-grid variability of soil water retention and hydraulic conductivity curves.



## GLOBAL HYDRAULIC PARAMETER MAP PLUS DATA SET; MONTZKA ET AL.

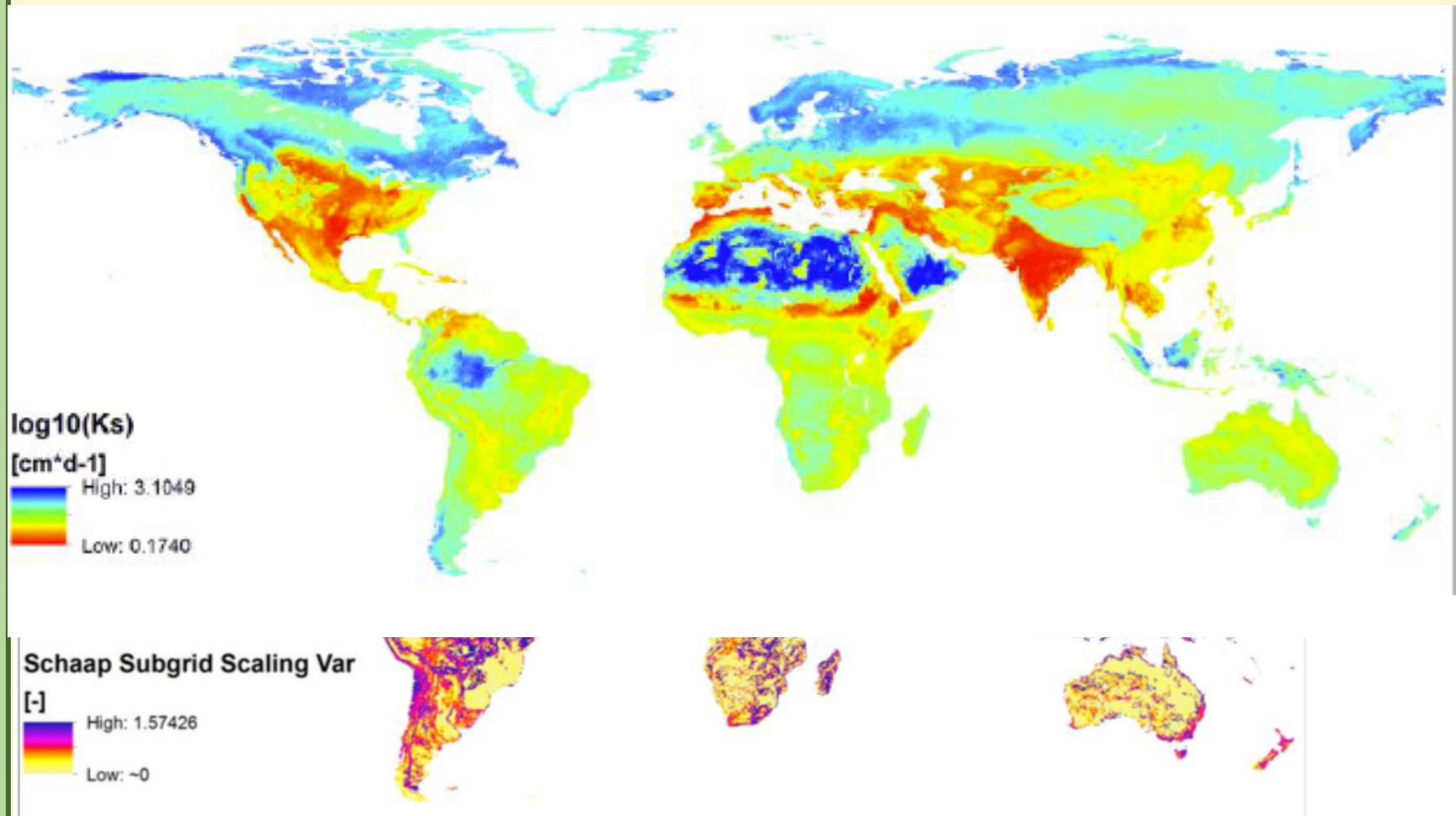
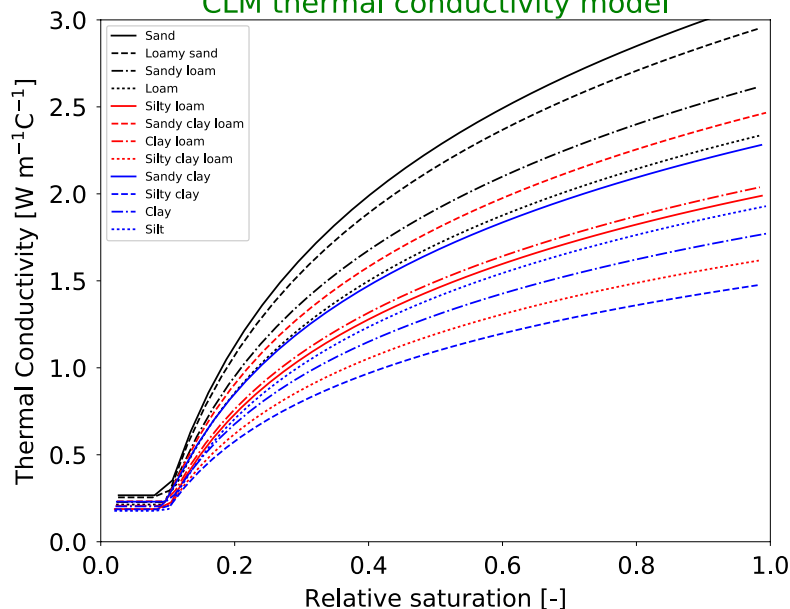


Figure 6: Global map of  $\text{var}(\log_{10} \hat{\lambda}_i)$  calculated from SoilGrids1km data set and the Rosetta PTF (Schaap et al., 2001) for 0.25° resolution.



CLM thermal conductivity model

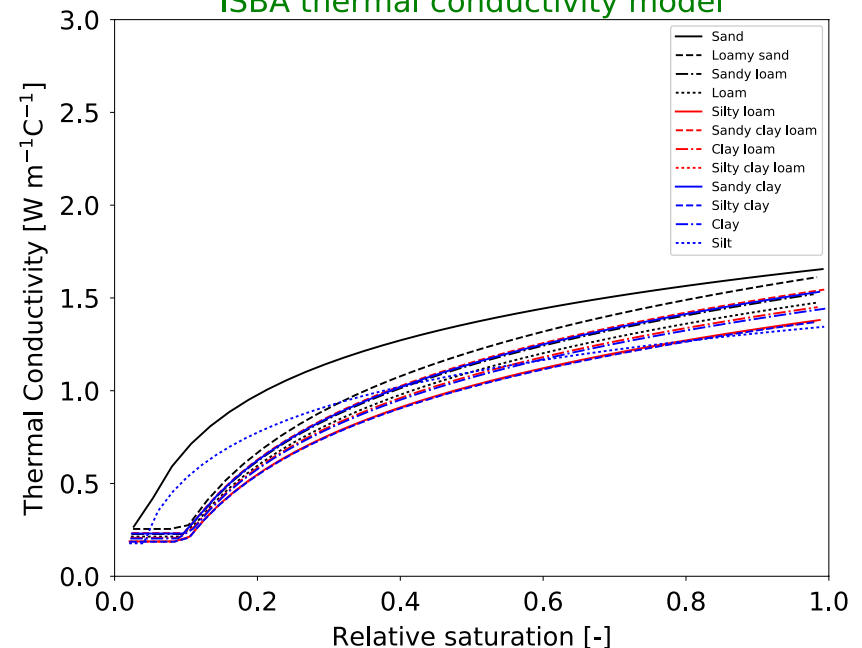


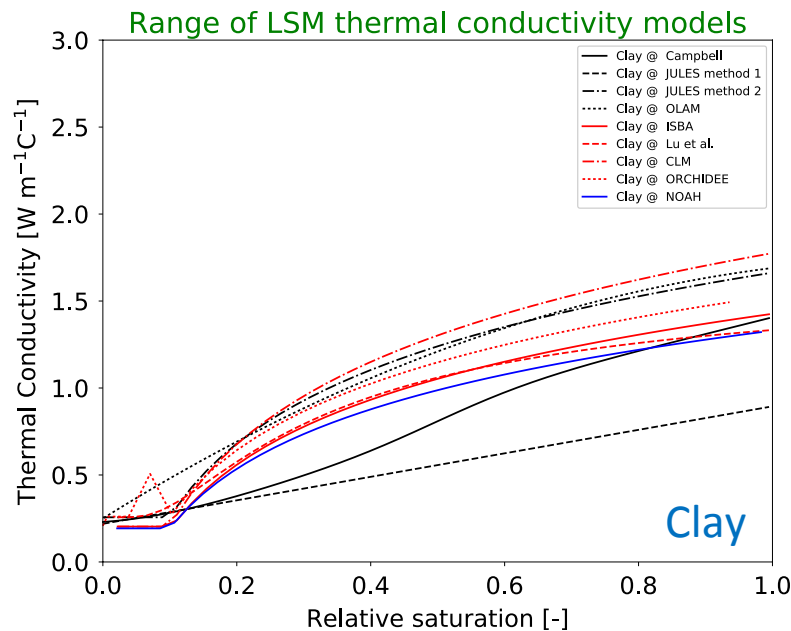
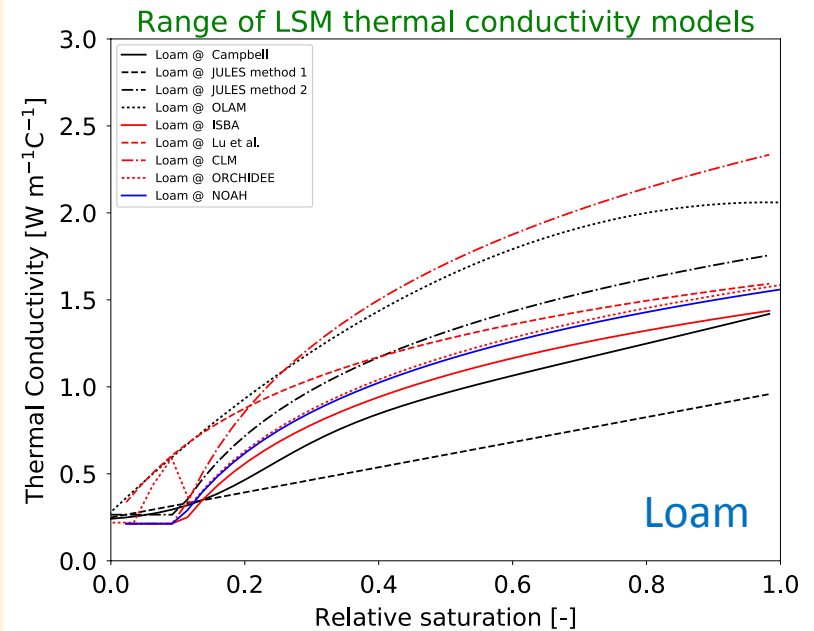
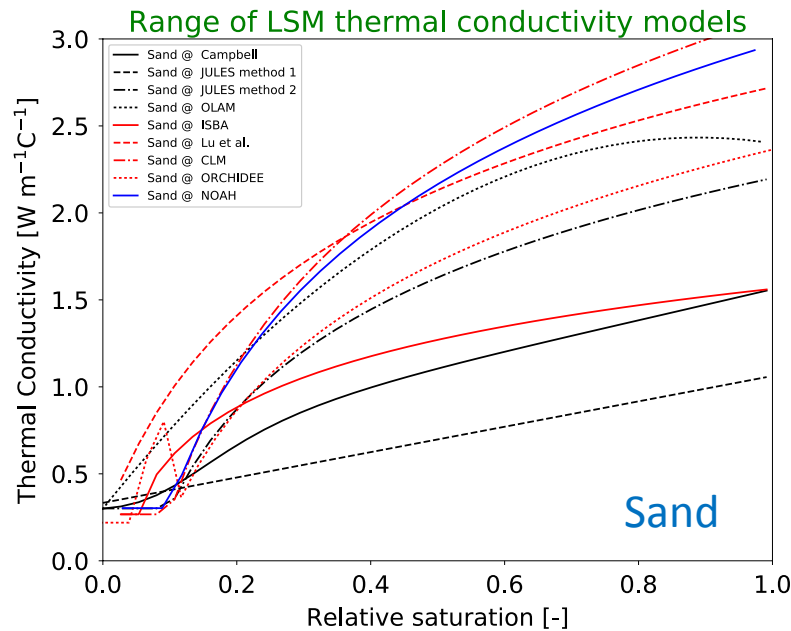
WORK IN PROGRESS THERMAL PROPERTIES; VERHOEF ET AL.

## RESULTS, thermal conductivity

- Some models use look up tables for parameters in thermal conductivity, others use continuous functions
- Some models show a large degree of separation between soils, others don't

ISBA thermal conductivity model





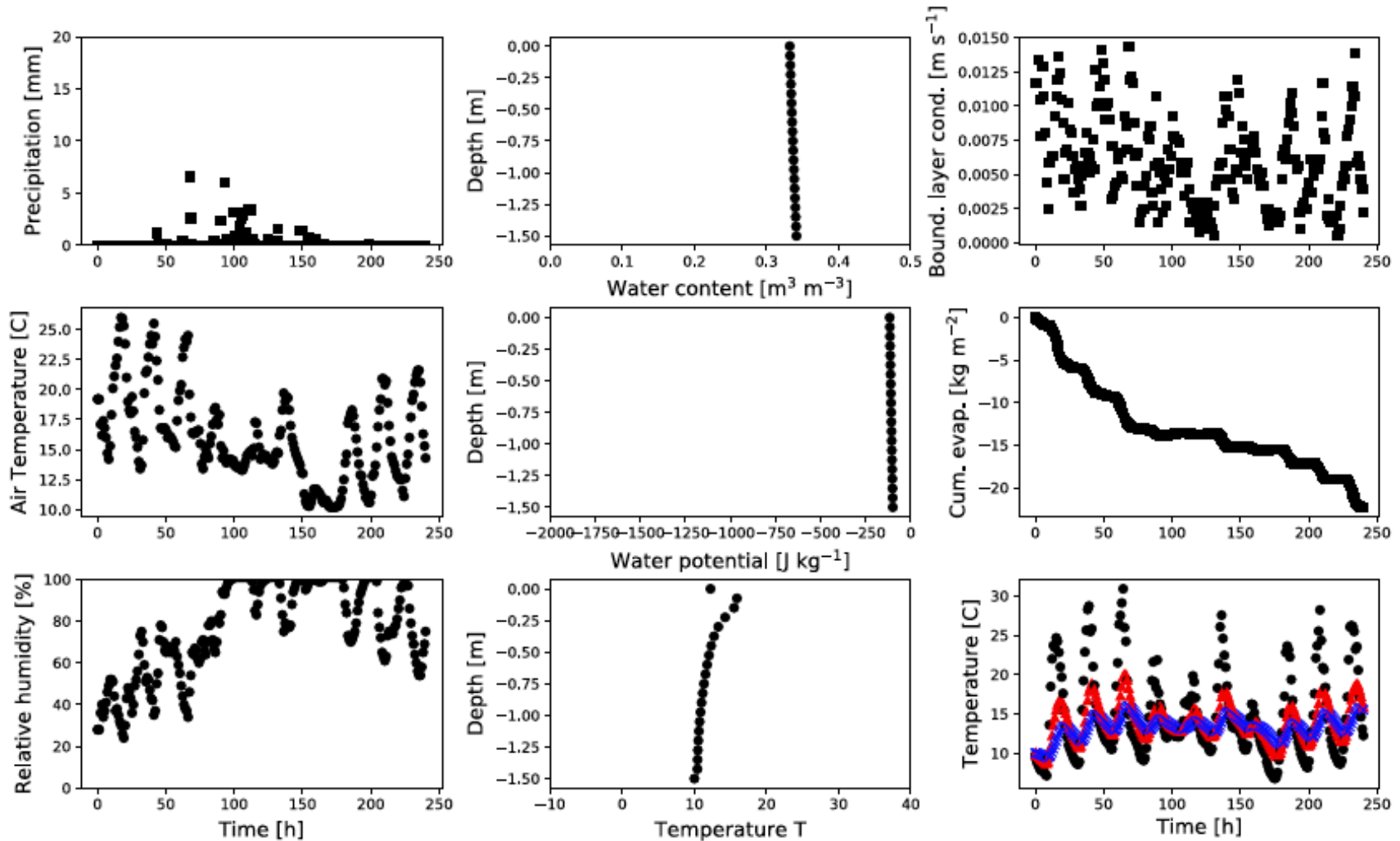
## RESULTS, thermal conductivity

- Per soil type, large difference between models
- Considerably different functional shapes between models

# TEMPORAL VARIABILITY OF SOIL VARIABLE PROFILES AND FLUXES

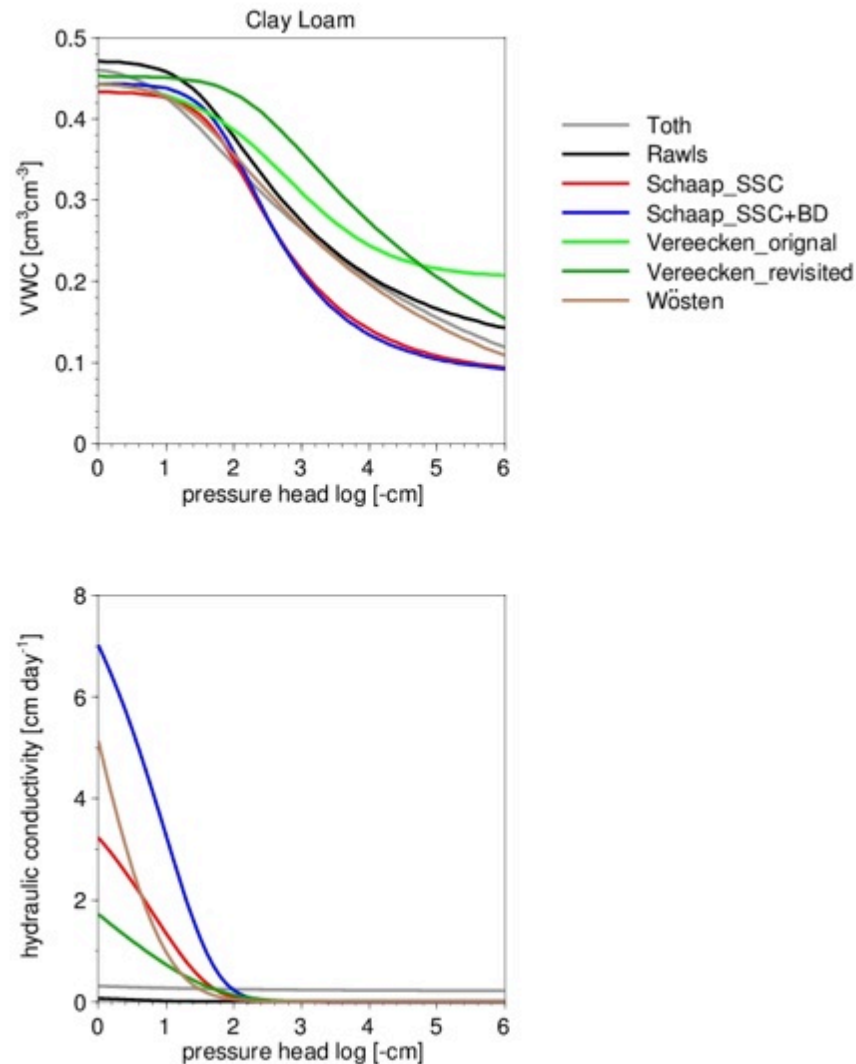
Driving variables

Final soil profile



- Brooks & Corey equation + Cosby parameters (sandy soil)
- JULES thermal conductivity method 1

## WORK IN PROGRESS HYDRAULIC PROPERTIES; WEIHERMULLER ET AL.



## RESULTS, hydraulic properties

- Per soil type, large difference between models
- Considerably different functional shapes between models

## LSM proformas filled out by

**CABLE:** Mark Decker

**Catchment** land surface model: Randy Koster, Gabriëlle De Lannoy (& Joe Santanello)

**CLM:** David Lawrence

**JSBACH:** Stefan Hagemann, inputs from Christian Beer

**JULES:** Anne Verhoef (inputs from Imtiaz Dharssi, Toby Marthews, Pier Luigi Vidale, Heather Ashton & John Edwards)

**MPI-HM:** Tobias Stacke

**NOAH-(MP):** Yihua Wu and Michel Ek

**OLAM:** Robert Walko

**ORCHIDEE:** Agnès Ducharne and Fuxing Wang

**SSiB:** Yongkang Xue, Qian Li

**SURFEX-ISBA:** Aaron Boone and Sebastien Garrigues