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# Calibration of a distributed eco-hydrological model using only remotely sensed surface soil moisture

By:

Carlos Echeverría, **Guíomar Ruiz-Pérez**, **Brian Barrett** and **Félix Francés**

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*GES – University of Glasgow*

*SLU – Uppsala University*



**1. Introduction**

**2. Objectives**

**3. Study Area**

**4. Hydrological Model and Optimisation Algorithm**

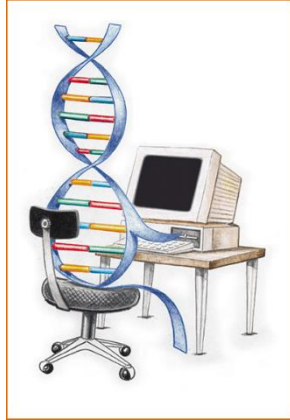
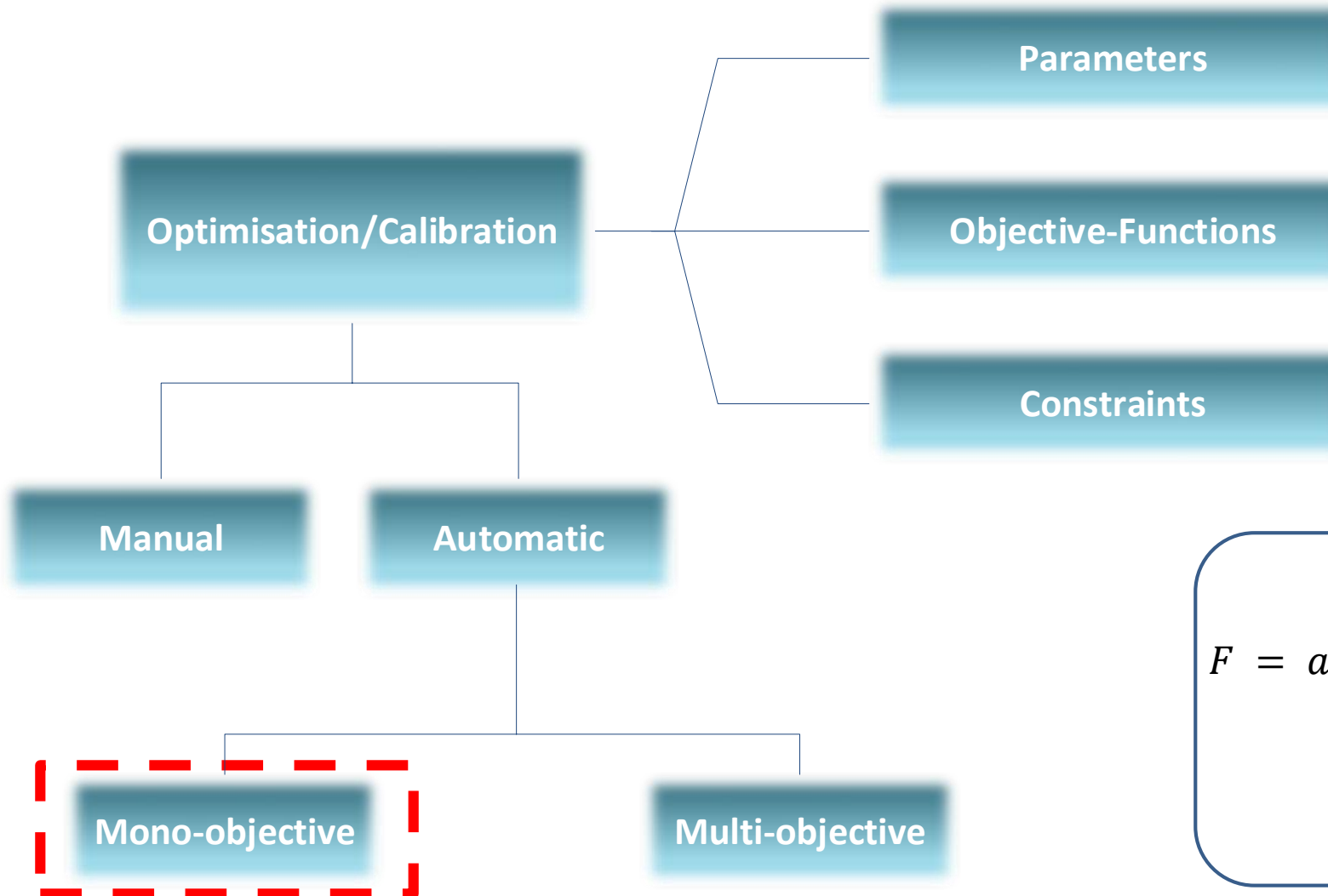
**5. Objective-Functions**

**6. Model Implementation Strategy**

**7. Results**

**8. Conclusions**

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*minimise  $F$*

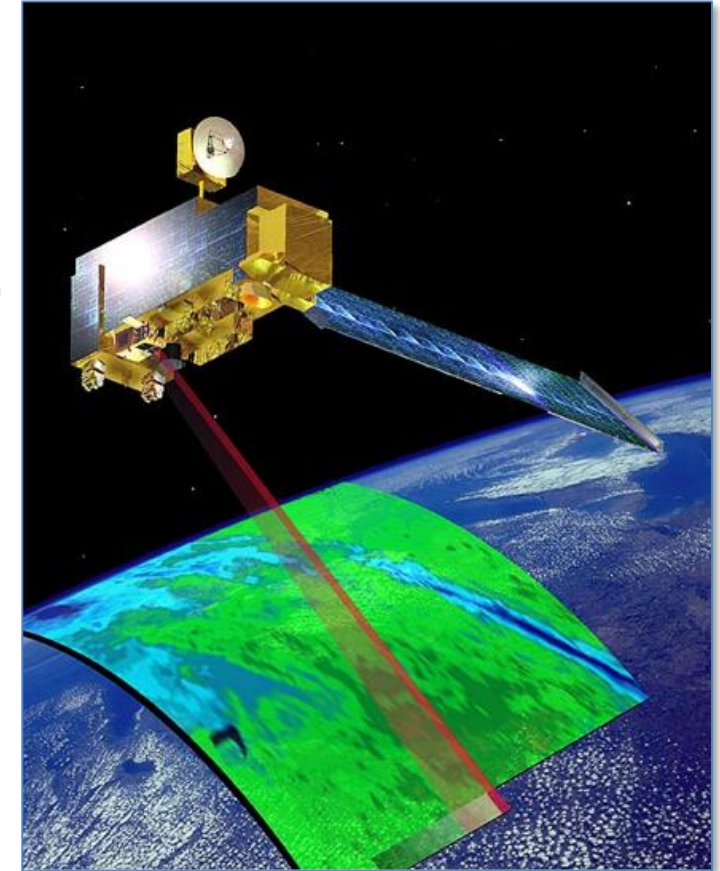
$$F = a \cdot x_1 + b \cdot (x_1)^{1/5} - c \cdot x_2 + d \cdot (x_2)^{-1/7}$$

$$R_1: 0 \leq x_1 \leq 1$$

$$R_2: x_2 \geq 0$$

## 1 □ Use of Remote Sensing (RS) in Hydrological Modelling.....(?)

- Spatial coverage 
- Higher uncertainty than field observations 
- Calibration <- effective parameters
- **YES** predictions with HM
- **NOT** data assimilation



## □ Use of Remote Sensing (RS) in Hydrological Modelling.....(?)

### ➤ NDVI at plot scale:

ECOHYDROLOGY  
Ecohydrol. 8, 1024–1036 (2015)  
Published online 6 October 2014 in Wiley Online Library  
(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/eco.1559

### Comparing two approaches for parsimonious vegetation modelling in semiarid regions using satellite data

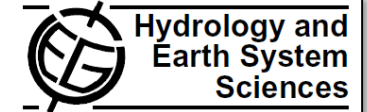
Marta Pasquato,<sup>1\*</sup> Chiara Medici,<sup>1,3</sup> Andrew D. Friend<sup>2</sup> and Félix

<sup>1</sup> Research Institute of Water and Environmental Engineering, Universitat Politècnica de València,

<sup>2</sup> Geography Department, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

<sup>3</sup> Civil and Environmental Engineering, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA

Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci., 12, 1175–1187, 2008  
www.hydrol-earth-syst-sci.net/12/1175/2008/  
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the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License.



### A conceptual dynamic vegetation-soil model for arid and semiarid zones

D. I. Quevedo<sup>1</sup> and F. Francés<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute for Water Engineering and Environment, Polytechnical University of Valencia, Spain

### ➤ NDVI at catchment scale:

Journal of Environmental Management 231 (2019) 653–665



ELSEVIER

Journal of

journal home

Research article

Managing low productive forests a  
biomass and fire risk to achieve ec

María González-Sanchis<sup>a,\*</sup>, Guiomar Ruiz-Pé  
Félix Francés<sup>c</sup>, Cristina Lull<sup>a</sup>

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

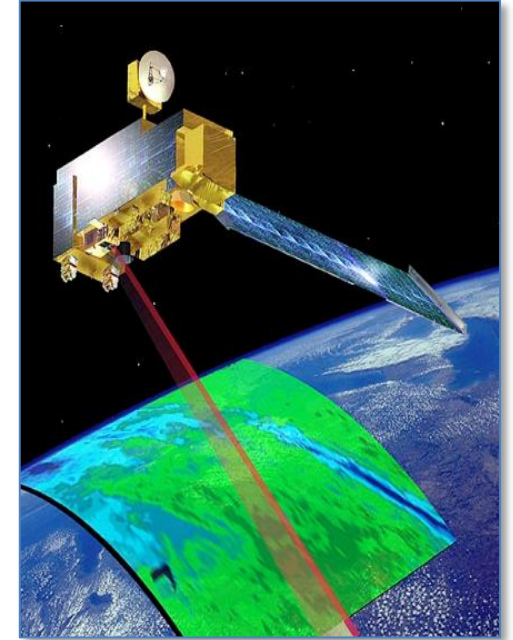
Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci., 21, 6235–6251, 2017  
https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-21-6235-2017  
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### Calibration of a parsimonious distributed ecohydrological daily model in a data-scarce basin by exclusively using the spatio-temporal variation of NDVI

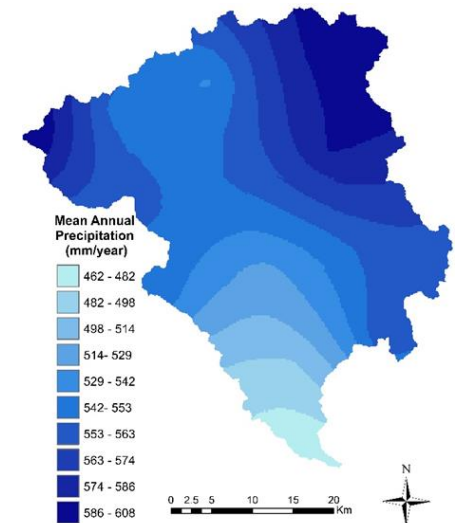
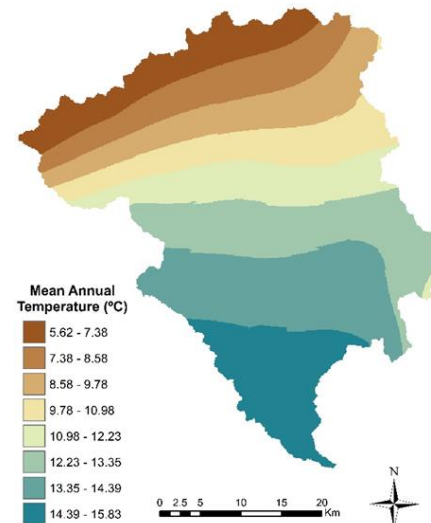
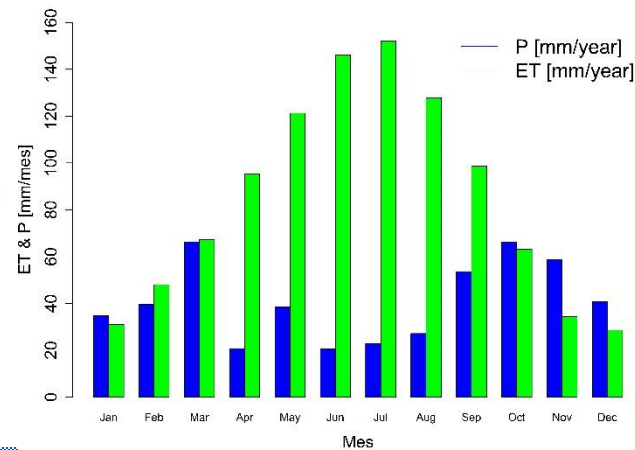
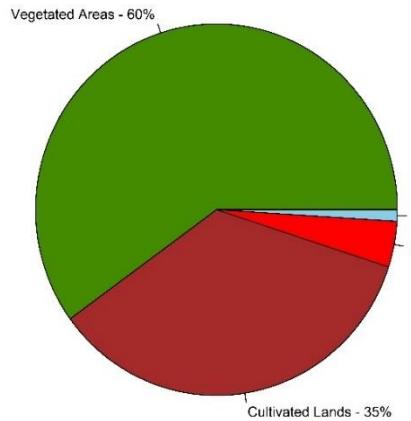
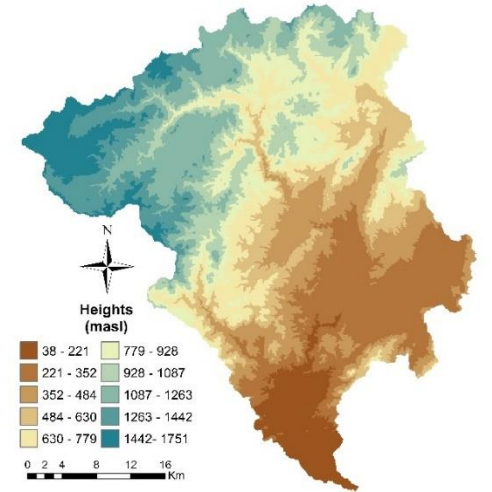
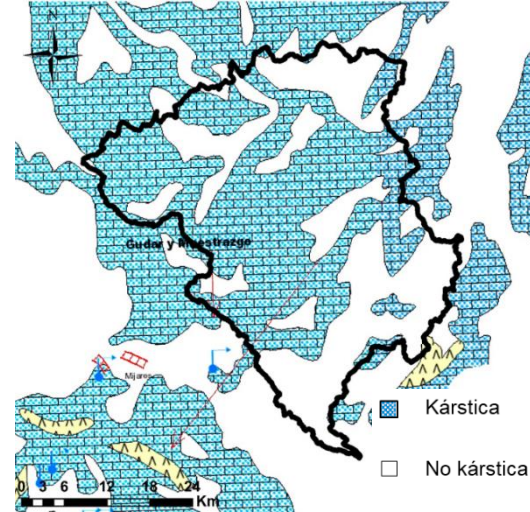
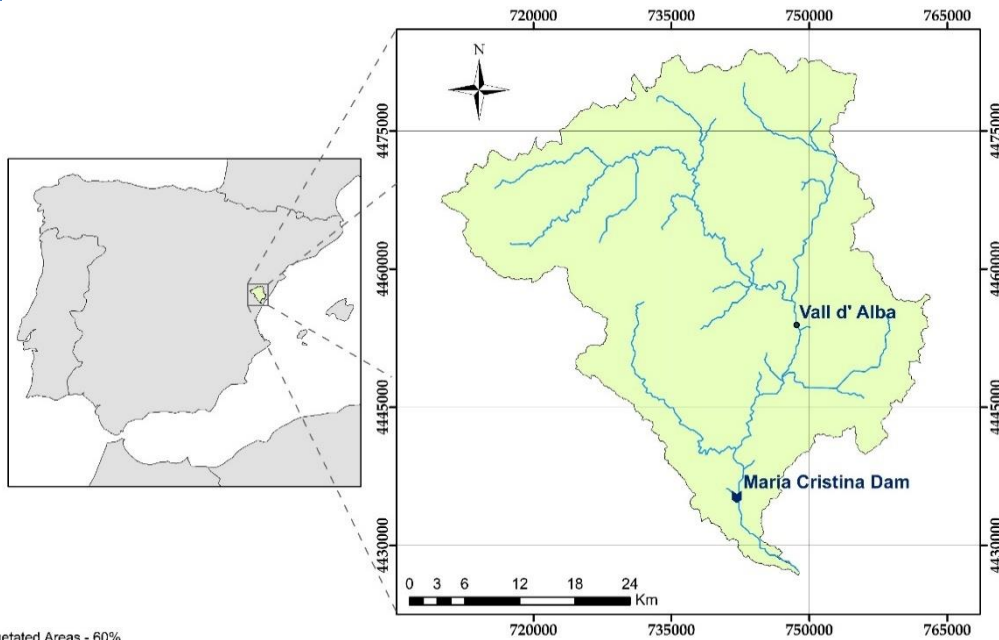
Guiomar Ruiz-Pérez<sup>1,6</sup>, Julian Koch<sup>2,3</sup>, Salvatore Manfreda<sup>4</sup>, Kelly Caylor<sup>5</sup>, and Félix Francés<sup>6</sup>

- ❑ Possibility: To use only remotely sensed surface soil moisture at **ungauged basins**
- ❑ Profitability: to assess the value of the **remotely sensed surface soil moisture** as an observed state variable.

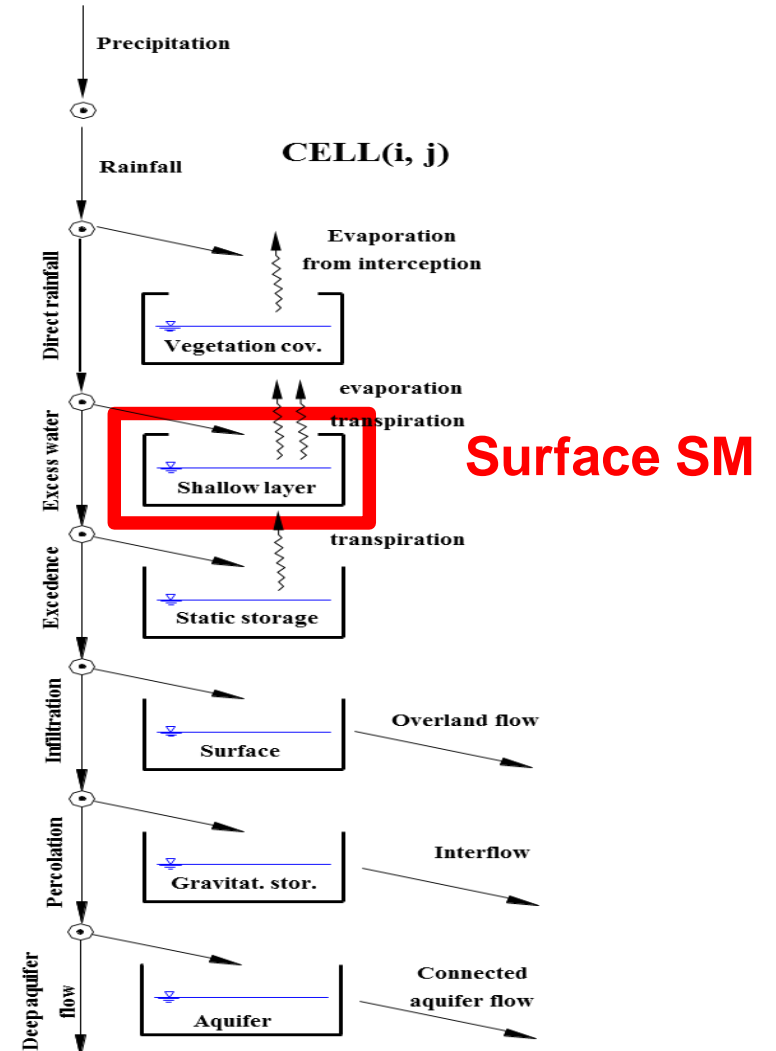




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- ❑ Developed by our group since 1994 (version 9 on the web)
- ❑ Conceptual (tank structure) model, with **physically based parameters**
- ❑ **Parsimonious**: 9 parameters for hydrologic sub-model
- ❑ **Integral** model: water resources, floods, sediments, **dynamic vegetation**, crop production, N-C cycle, ... and more to come!
- ❑ **Distributed** in space
- ❑ **Split effective parameter structure**





- ❑ Dynamic vegetation sub-model
  - State variable: leaf biomass
  - Based on the Light Use Efficiency (**LUE**)

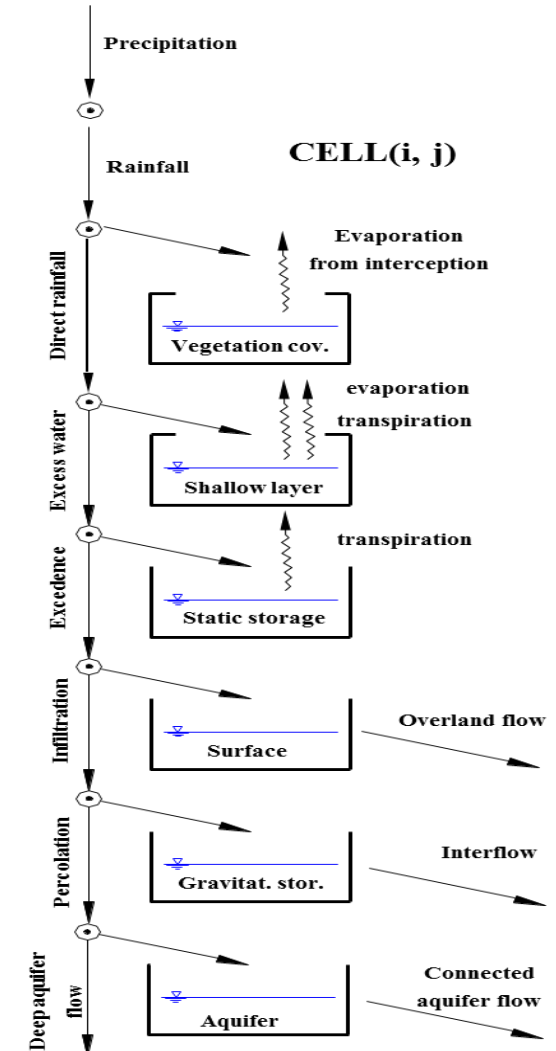
$$\frac{dB_l}{dt} = (LUE \cdot \varepsilon \cdot APAR - Re) \cdot \varphi_l - \kappa_l \cdot B_l$$

- Connection with the water cycle:  
 $\varepsilon$  = stress factor, including water

$$T_1 = ET_o \cdot f_t \cdot \min(LAI, 1) \cdot \beta_t(H_1) \cdot r_1$$

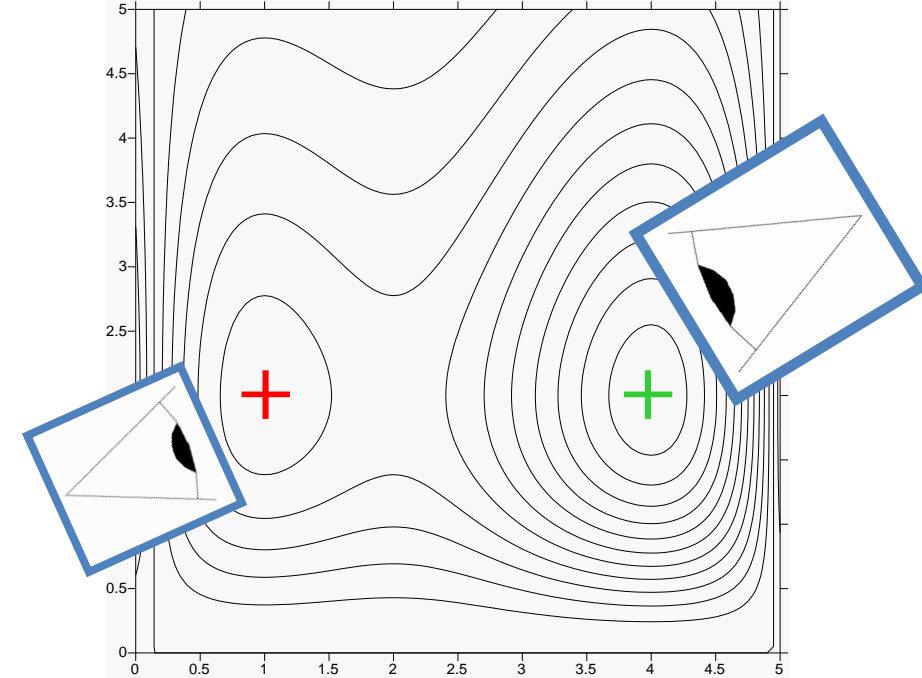
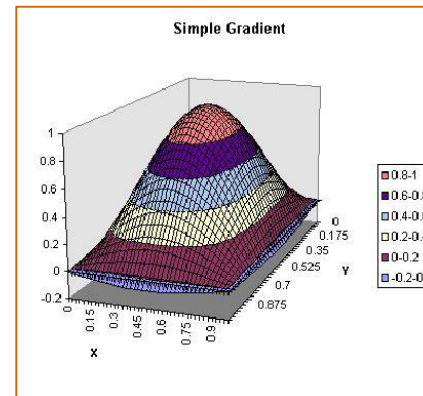
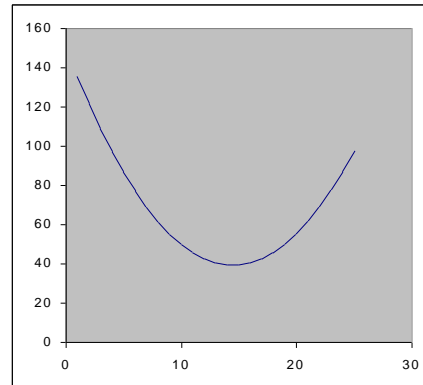
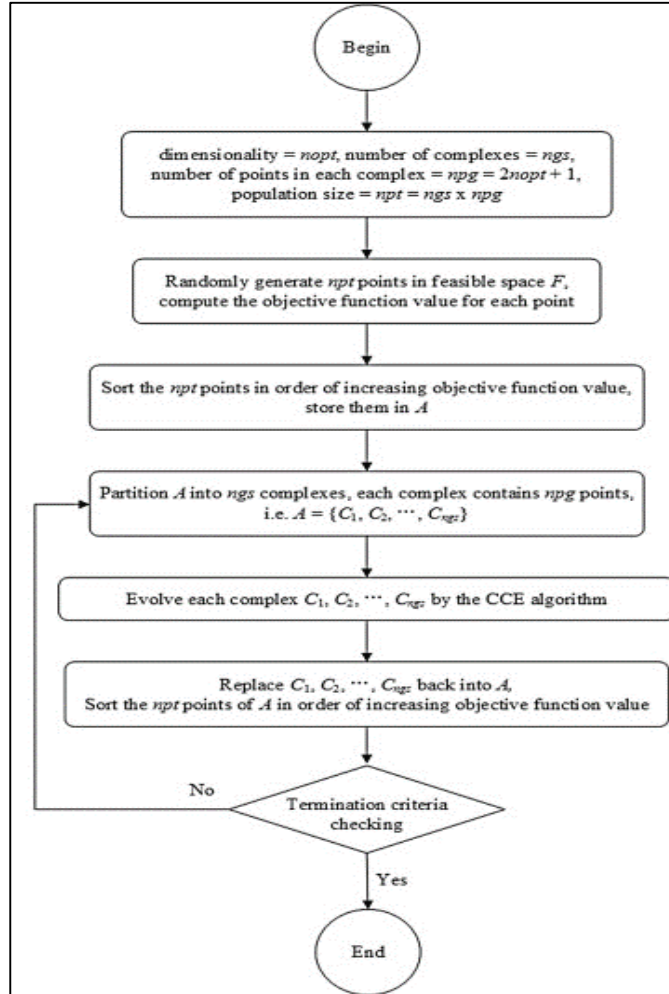
$$LAI = B \cdot SLA \cdot f_t$$

- 11 parameters



## Shuffled Complex Evolution (SCE-UA)

Simplex Method + Controlled Random Search +  
Competitive Evolution + Complex Shuffling



## □ Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency index (NS)

$$NS = 1 - \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_{sim}^t - Q_{obs}^t)^2}{\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_{obs}^t - \overline{Q_{obs}})^2}$$

$Q_{sim}^t$  is modelled discharge at time t,  
 $Q_{obs}^t$  is observed discharge at time t,  
 $\overline{Q_{obs}}$  is the mean of observed discharges

## □ Spatio-Temporal Efficiency

$$STE = \sum_{p=1}^N \{w_p * NS[loadings(EOF)_p^{obs}, loadings(EOF)_p^{sim}]\}$$

N = number of principal components that explains at least 95% of the variance;

$w_p$  = portion of explained variance in the **principal component** p;

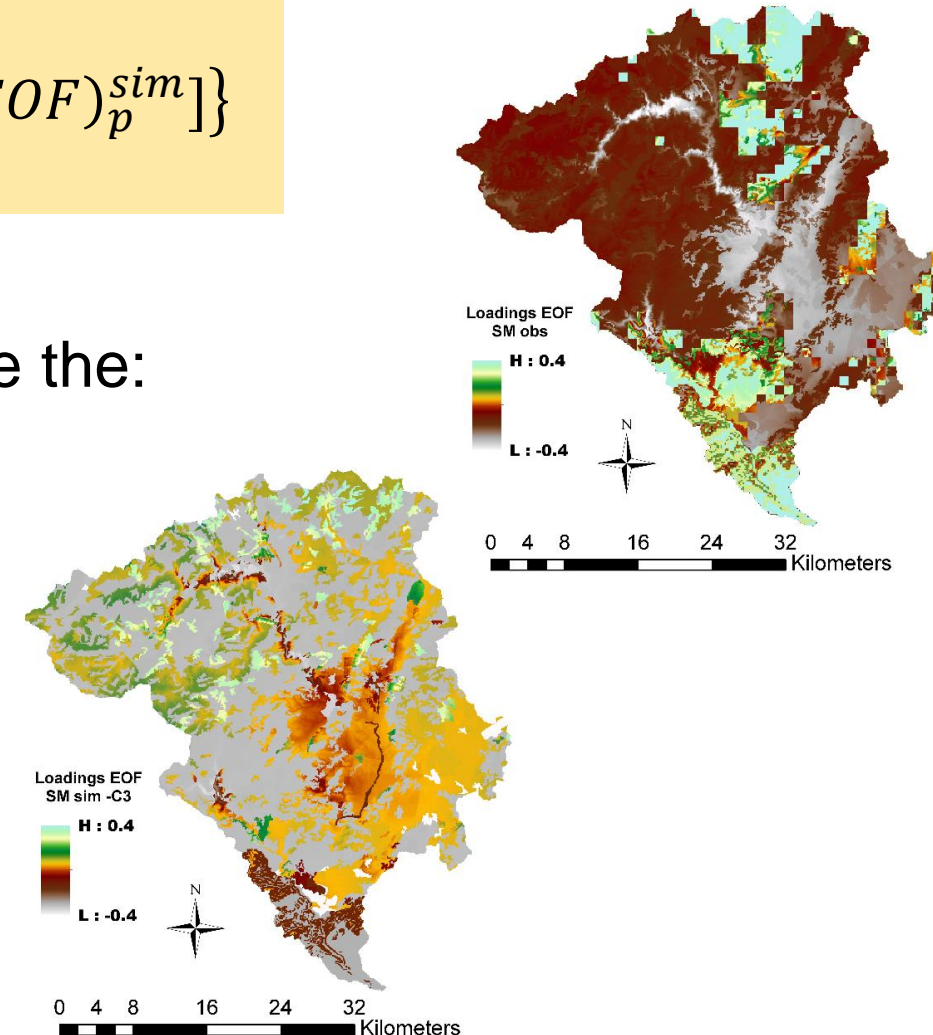
$loadings(EOF)_p^{obs}$  = loadings of the observed data in the principal component p;

$loadings(EOF)_p^{sim}$  = loadings of the simulated data in the principal component p

$$STE = \sum_{p=1}^N \{w_p * NS[loadings(EOF)_p^{obs}, loadings(EOF)_p^{sim}]\}$$

□ STE (and any other metric) tries to incorporate the:

- Spatial pattern
  - Temporal dynamics
- without considering the exact values of the satellite



$$STE_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^p [(NSE_i(sm_{obs}, sm_{sim}) \forall NSE_i \geq 0.5)]}{p}$$

$$STE_2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{pc} [(NSE_i(loadings(EOF)^{obs}, loadings(EOF)^{sim}))]}{pc}$$

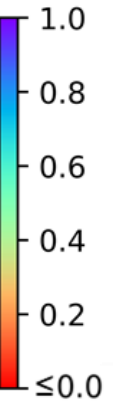
$$STE_3 = \sum_{i=1}^{pc} w_i * \sum_{j=1}^t [|loadings(EOF)_{i,j}^{obs} - loadings(EOF)_{i,j}^{sim}|]$$

$$STE_4 = \sum_{i=1}^{pc} \{w_i * NSE_i[(loadings(EOF)^{obs}, loadings(EOF)^{sim})]\}$$

Convergence criteria

$$\Delta OF = OF_n - OF_{n-1} \leq 0.001$$

	Calibration				Validation			
OF:STE <sub>1</sub>	0.16	-58	0.68	0.21	0.023	0.15	0.25	0.012
OF:STE <sub>2</sub>	0.32	-32	0.59	0.33	0.16	0.18	0.22	0.12
OF:STE <sub>3</sub>	0.36	-5.2	0.74	0.42	0.045	0.32	0.21	0.16
OF:STE <sub>4</sub>	0.55	-0.15	0.94	0.64	0.45	0.26	0.5	0.58
	NSE(Q)	NSE(LAI)	NSE(SM)	STE(SM)	NSE(Q)	NSE(LAI)	NSE(SM)	STE(SM)

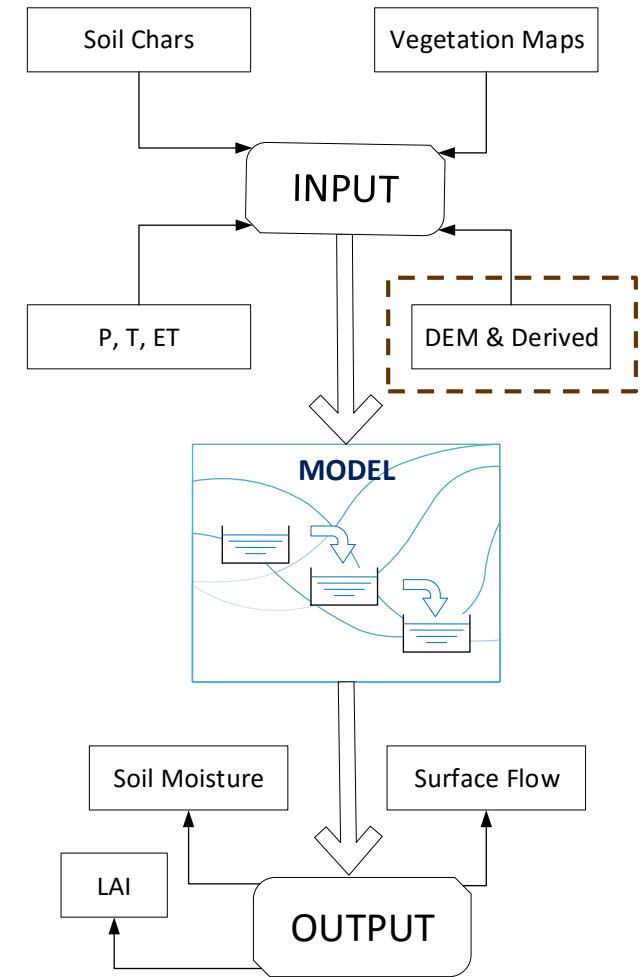
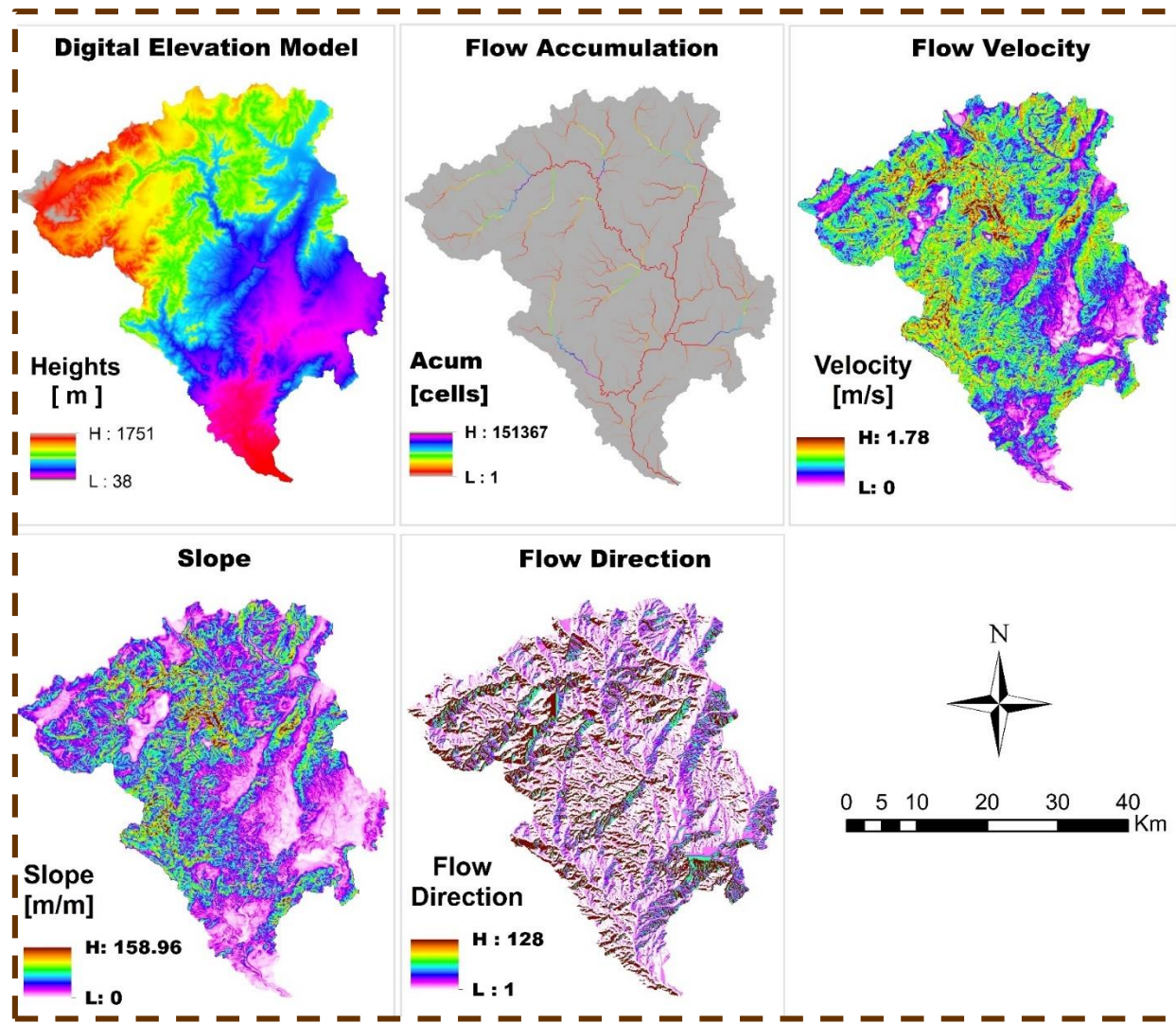




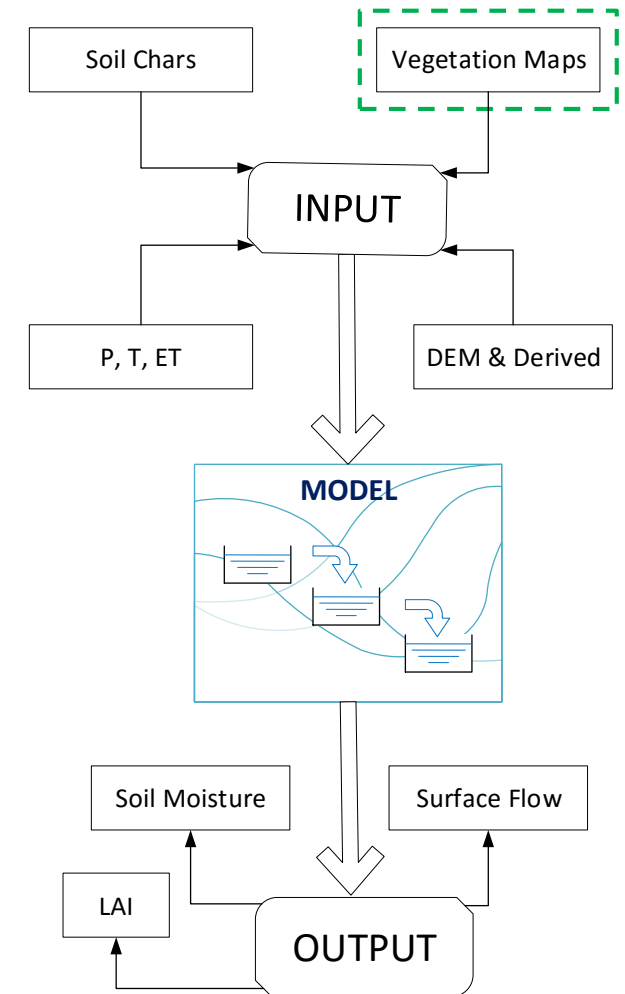
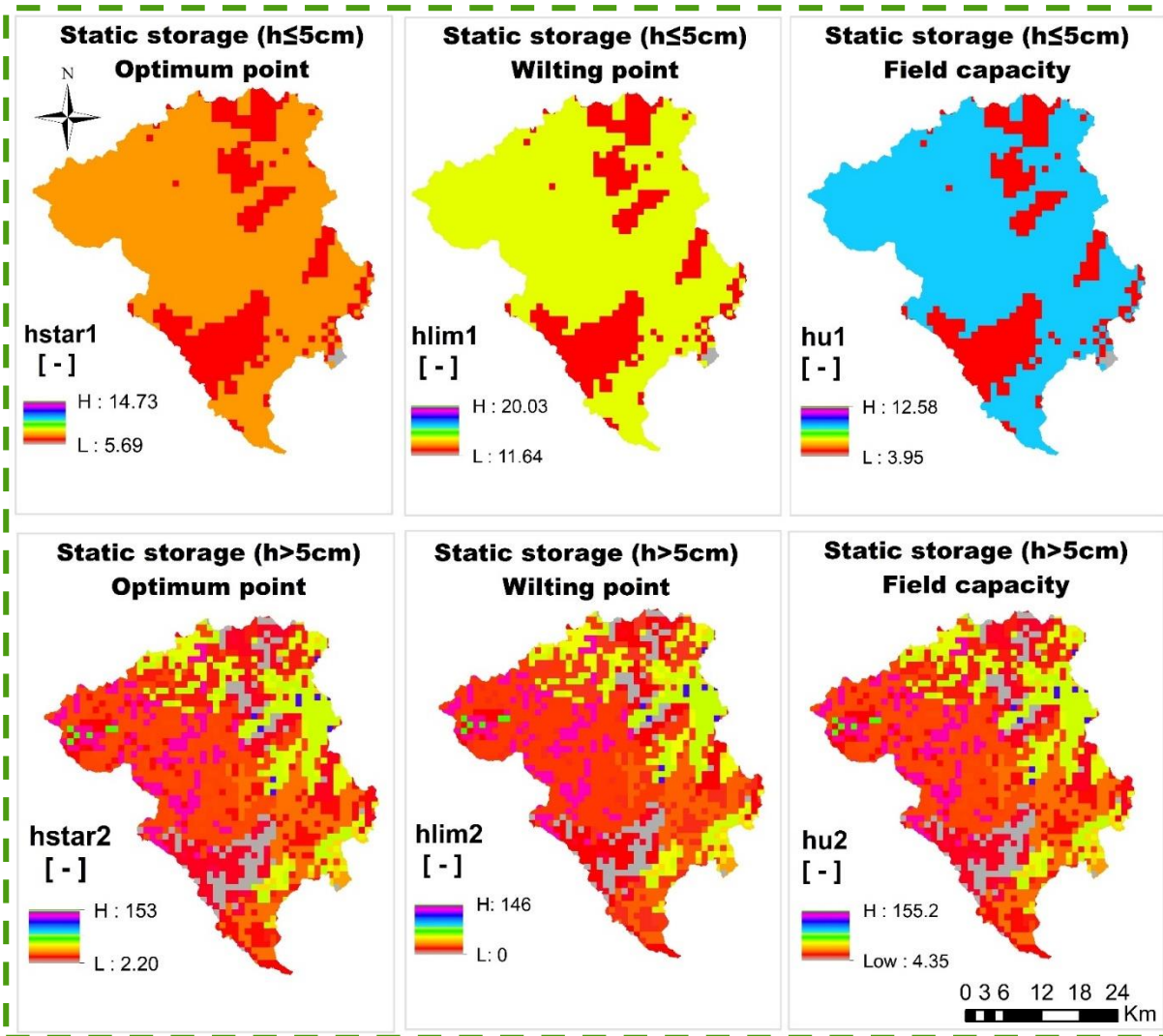
## GENERALITIES

- ❑ Common observation period: 2010-2015
  - Warm-up period: 2010
  - Calibration period: 2011-2013
  - Validation period: 2014-2015
- ❑ 24 variables for calibration:
  - 9 map correction factors for hydrology
  - 15 (3 x 5 natural land covers) more influent vegetation parameters

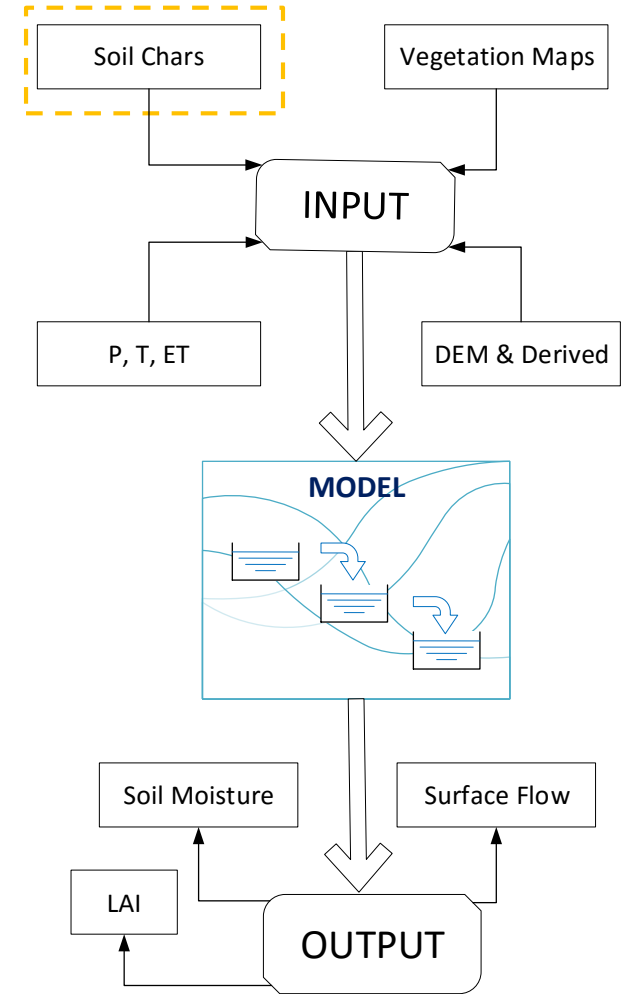
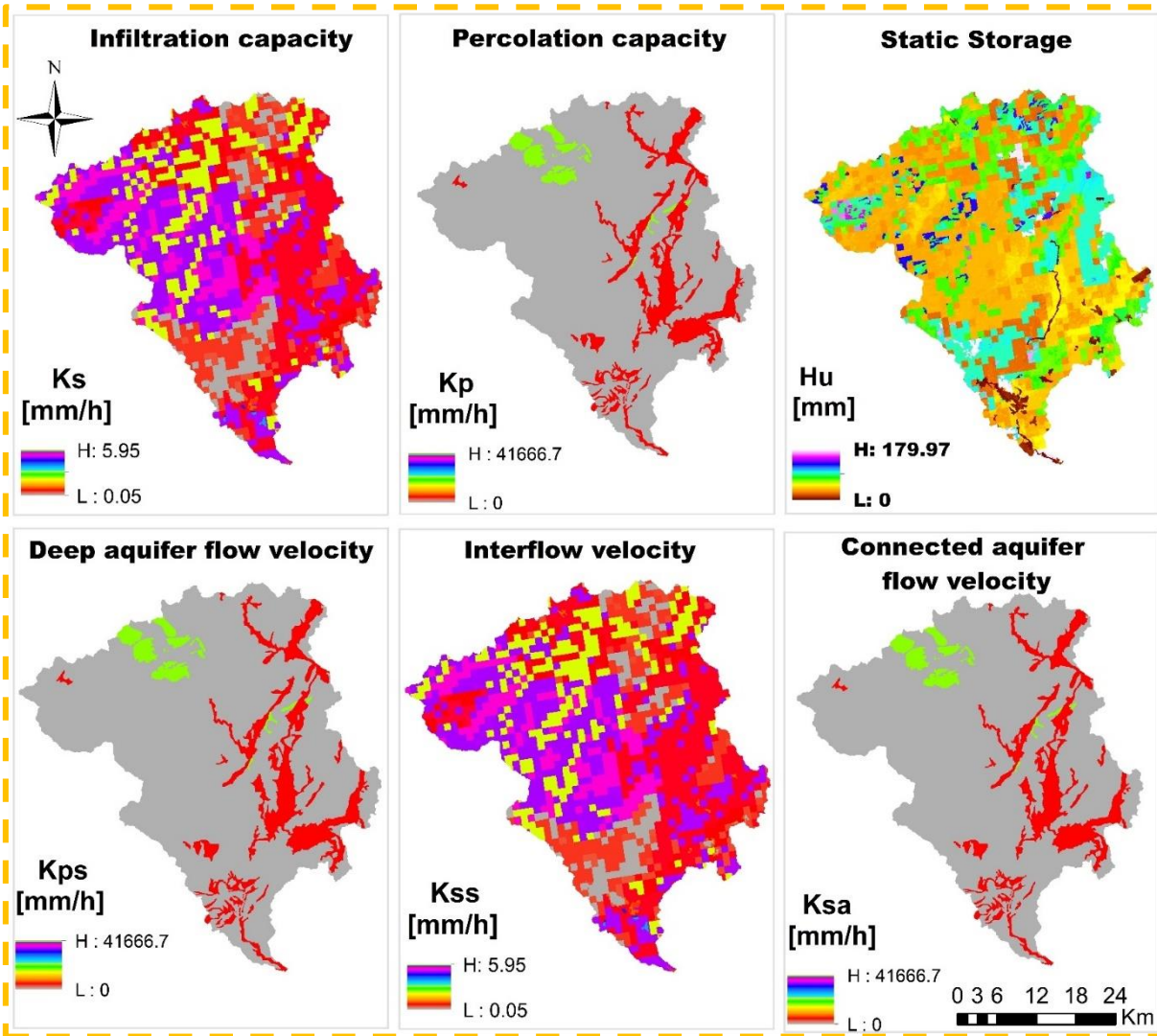
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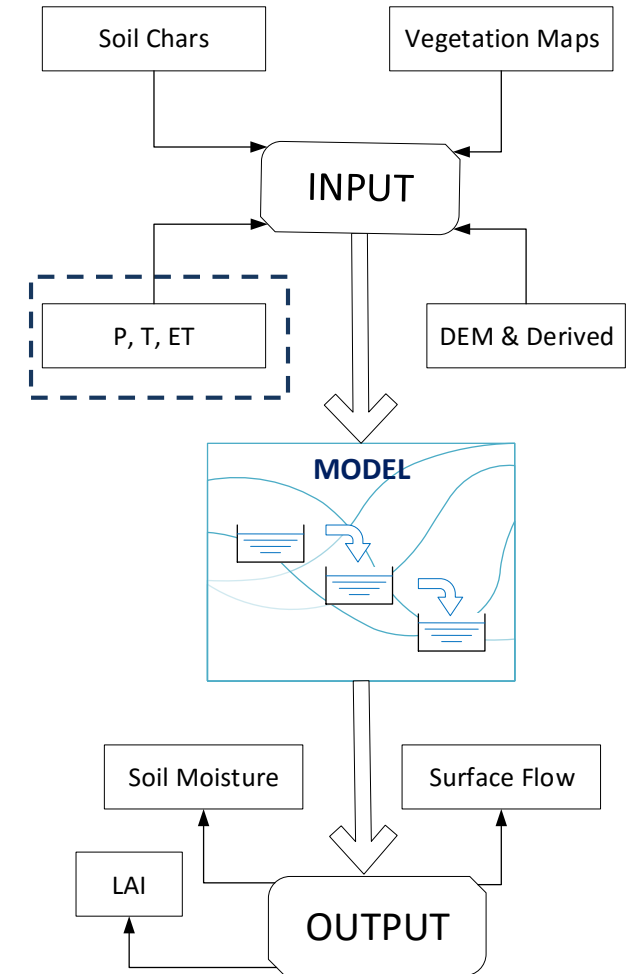
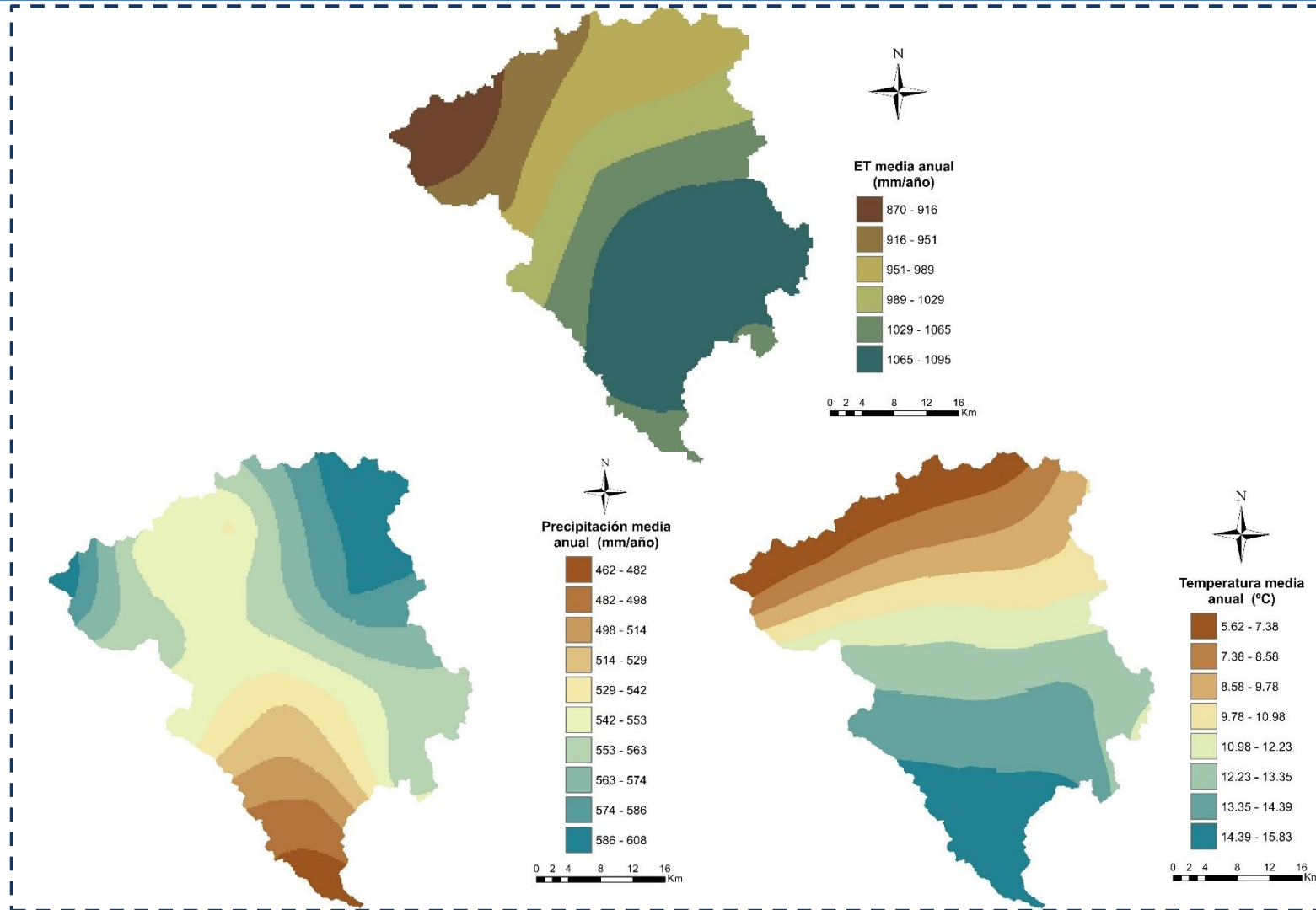


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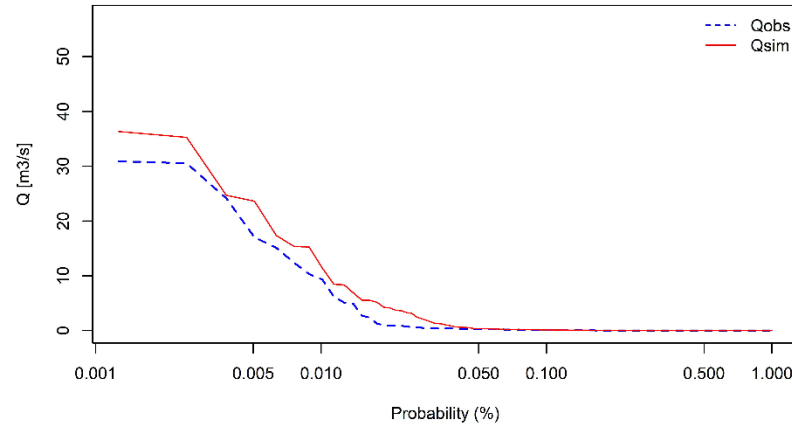
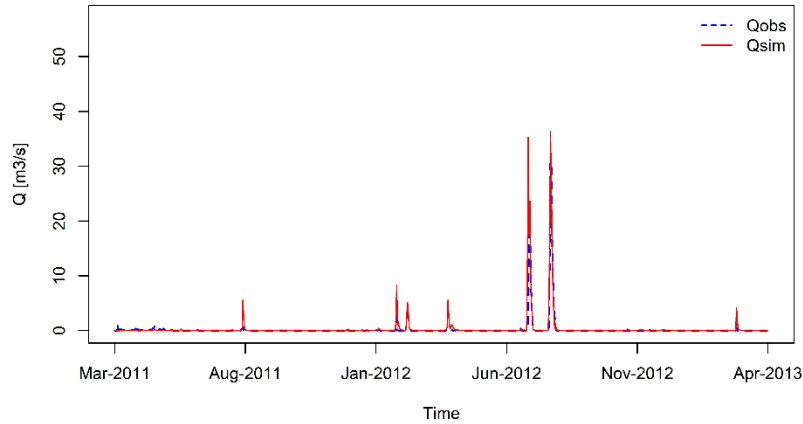


## OBSERVED STATE VARIABLES:

- Surface SM: SMOS+MODIS from BEC
- Daily discharge at the outlet from CEH-CEDEX
- LAI: MODIS from NASA (only for spatial validation, **NOT** for calibration)



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SV: Q

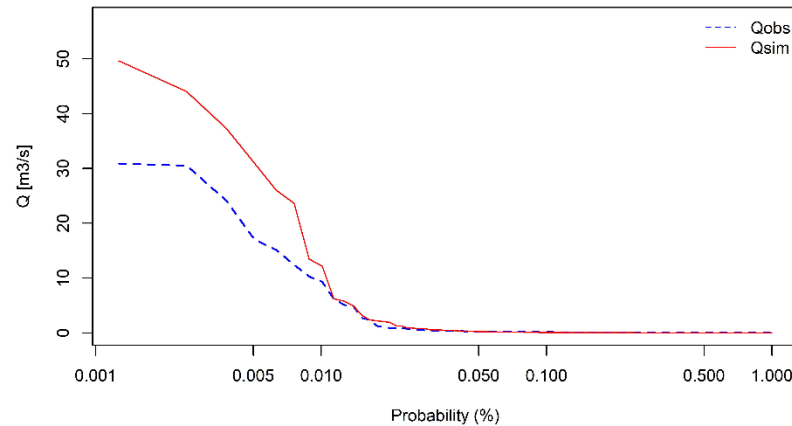
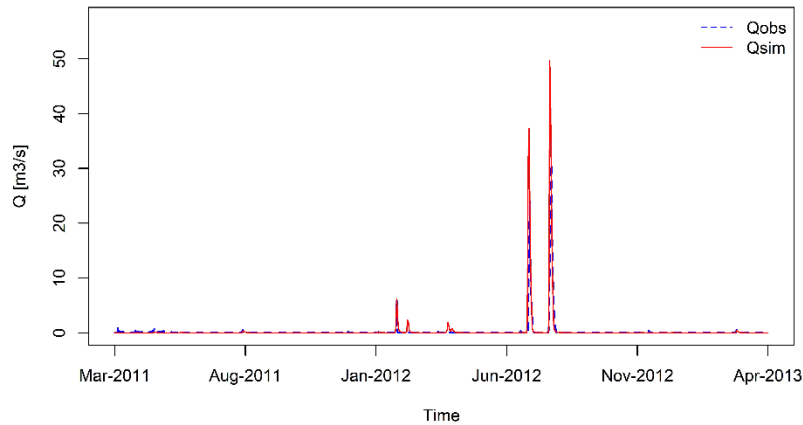
OF= 1 – NS(Q)



**Calibration:**

NS(Q) = 0.9102

STE(SM) = 0.01



SV: SM

OF= 1 – STE(SM)

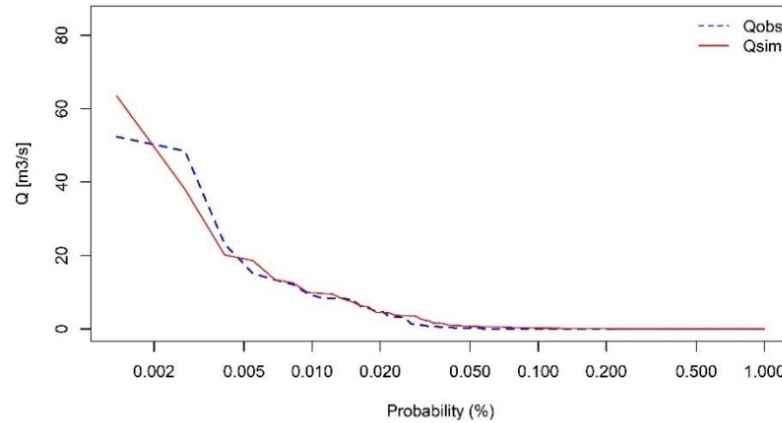
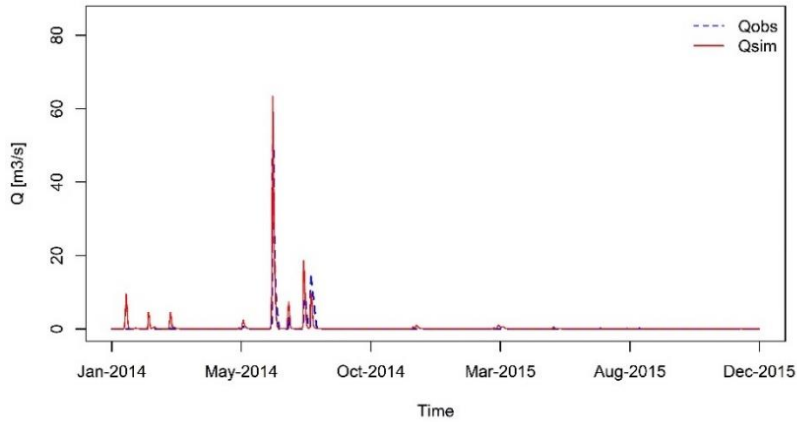


**Calibration:**

NS(Q) = 0.5458

STE(SM) = 0.6369

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SV: Q

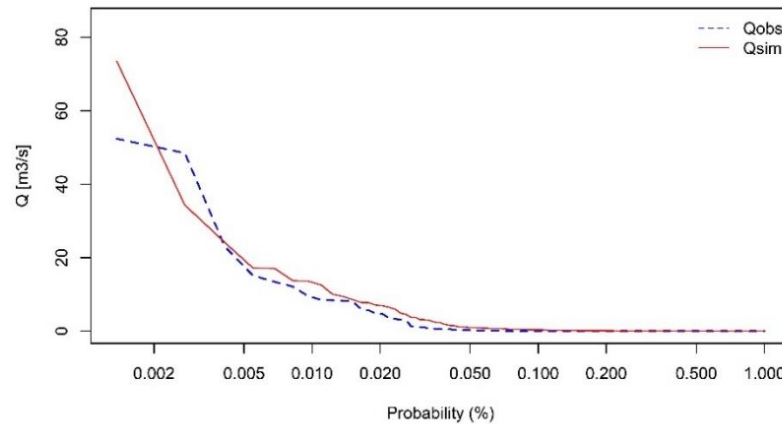
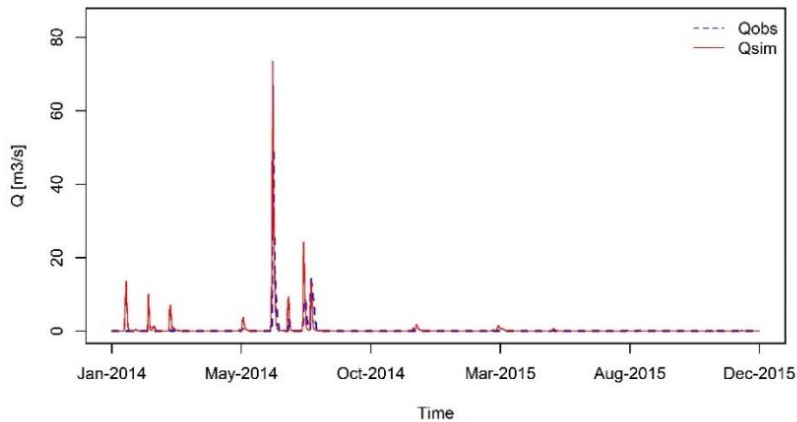
OF= 1 – NS(Q)



**Validation:**

NS(Q) = 0.4725

STE(SM) = 0.03



SV: Q

OF= 1 – STE(SM)

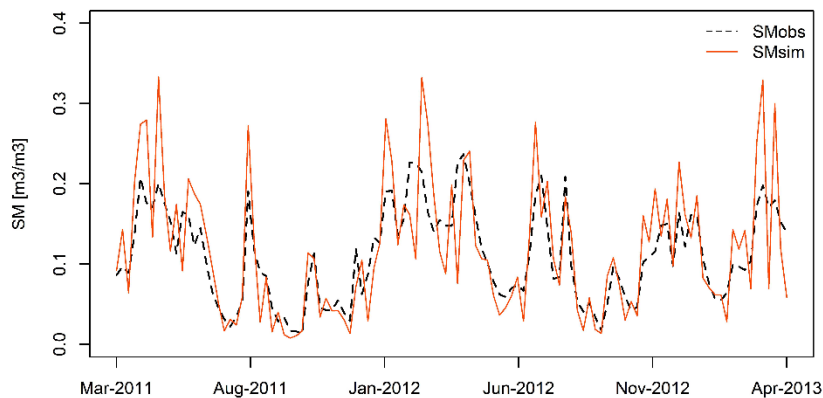


**Validation:**

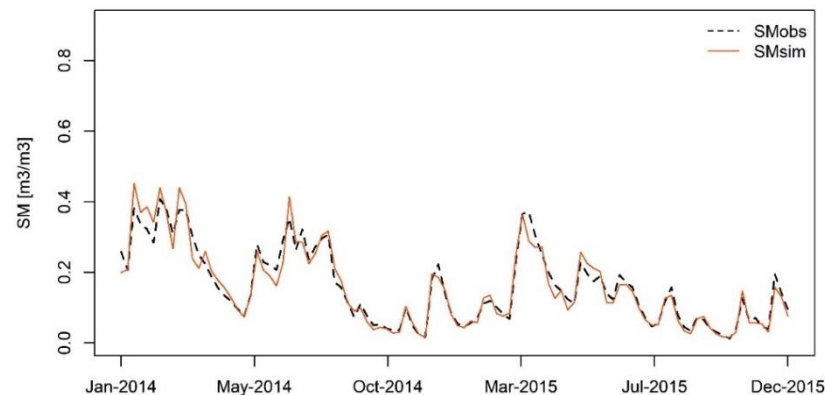
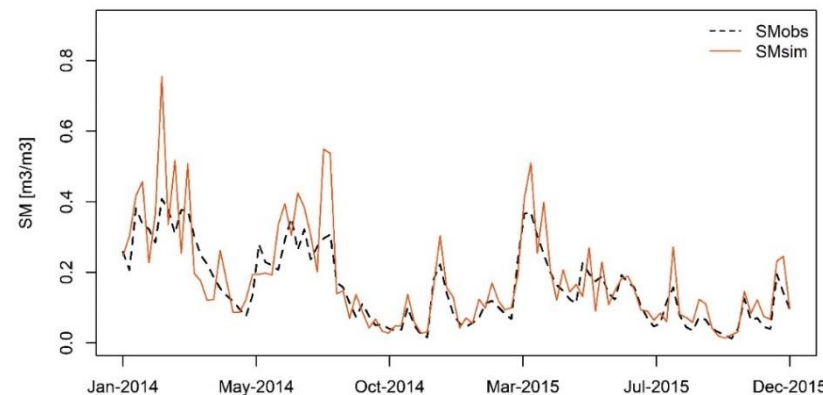
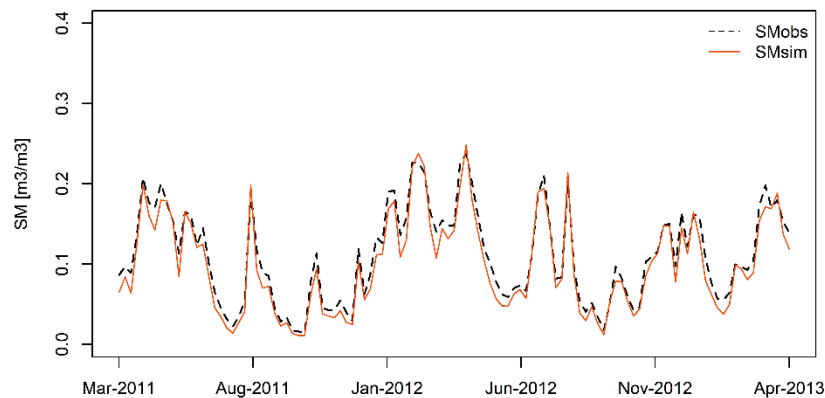
NS(Q) = 0.4452

STE(SM) = 0.5836

## OF:NS



## OF:STE

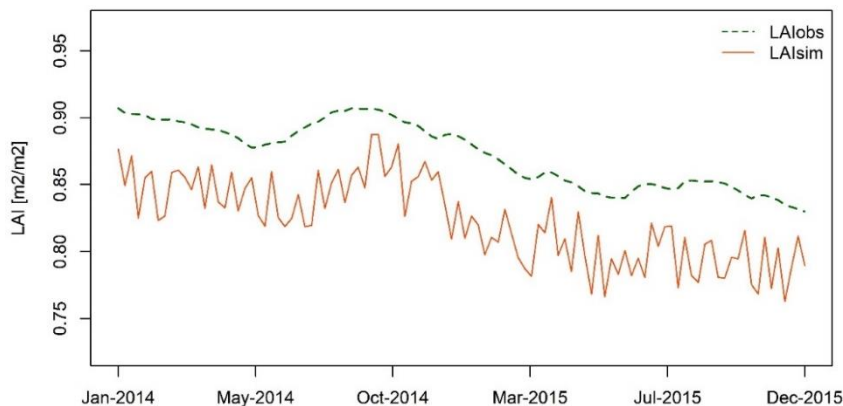
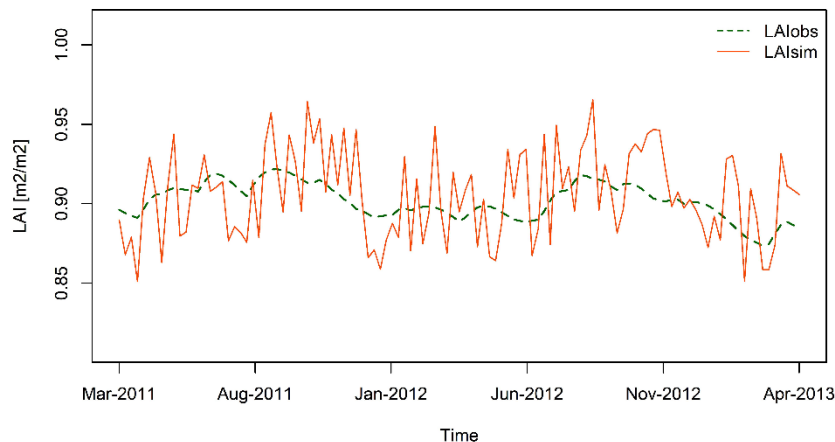


Index	BE ( $SM_{sim} - SM_{obs}$ )	
Configuration	OF:NSE(Q)	OF:STE(SM)
Calibration	-4.2	-9.5
Validation	-31	-21.4
$\Delta Index_{(cal-val)}$	26.8	11.9

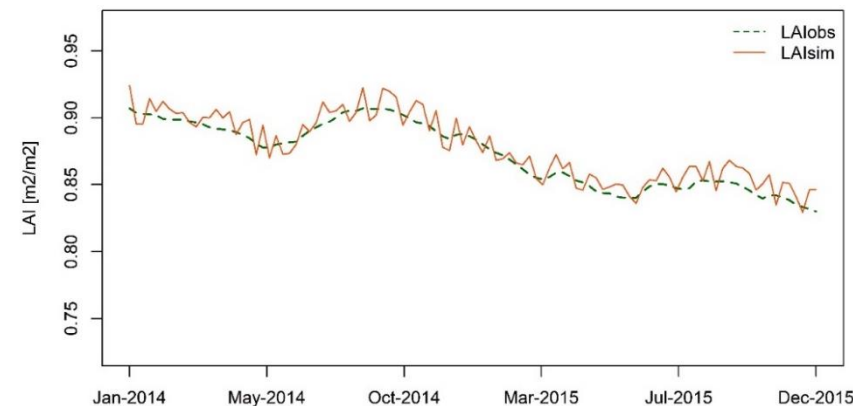
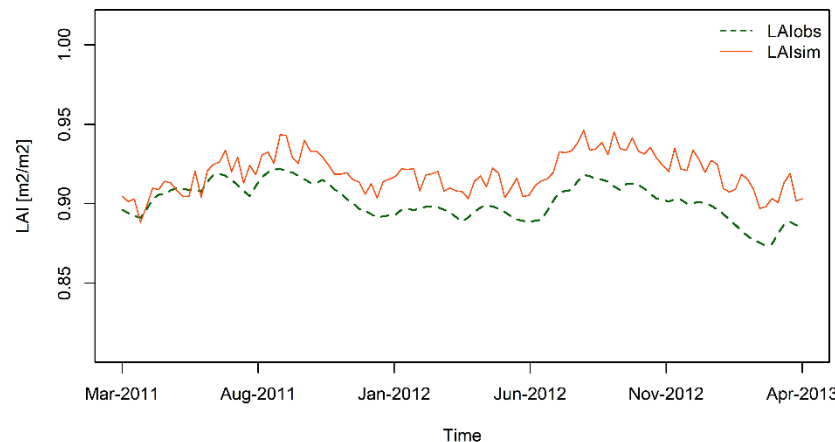
Index	RMSE ( $SM_{sim} - SM_{obs}$ )	
Configuration	OF:NSE(Q)	OF:STE(SM)
Calibration	0.84	1.387
Validation	6.727	7.461
$\Delta Index_{(cal-val)}$	5.89	6.074

Index	NSE ( $SM_{sim} - SM_{obs}$ )	
Configuration	OF:NSE(Q)	OF:STE(SM)
Calibration	0.63	0.943
Validation	0.395	0.502
$\Delta Index_{(cal-val)}$	0.235	0.441

## OF:NS



## OF:STE



Index	RMSE ( $LAI_{sim} - LAI_{obs}$ )	
Configuration	OF:NSE(Q)	OF:STE(SM)
Calibration	0.95	0.063
Validation	1.1	0.68
$\Delta Index_{(cal-val)}$	0.15	0.617

Index	BE ( $LAI_{sim} - LAI_{obs}$ )	
Configuration	OF:NSE(Q)	OF:STE(SM)
Calibration	3.9	-6.3
Validation	-25	-24.9
$\Delta Index_{(cal-val)}$	21.1	18.6

Index	NSE ( $LAI_{sim} - LAI_{obs}$ )	
Configuration	OF:NSE(Q)	OF:STE(SM)
Calibration	-99.01	-0.154
Validation	-0.86	0.32
$\Delta Index_{(cal-val)}$	98.95	0.474



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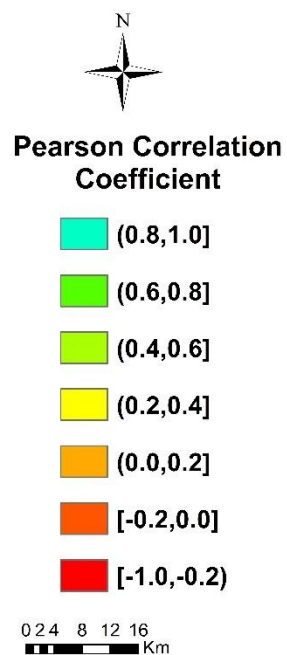
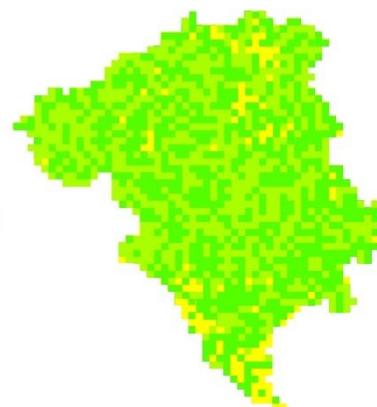
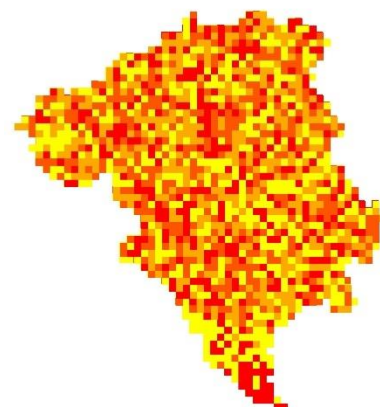
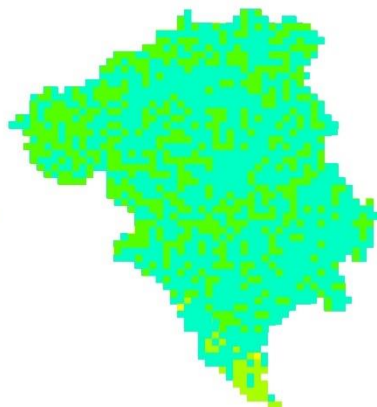
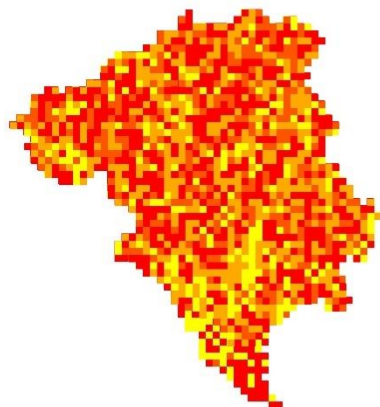
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## Soil moisture

OF:NS

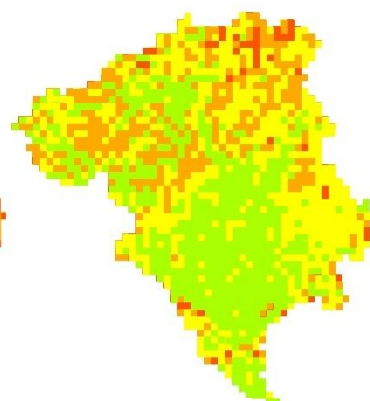
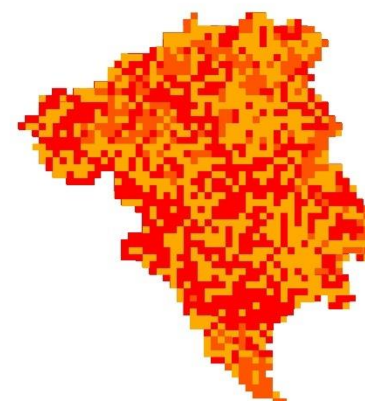
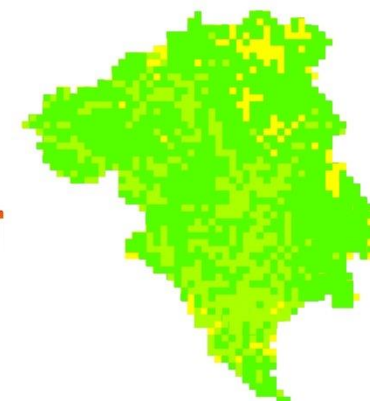
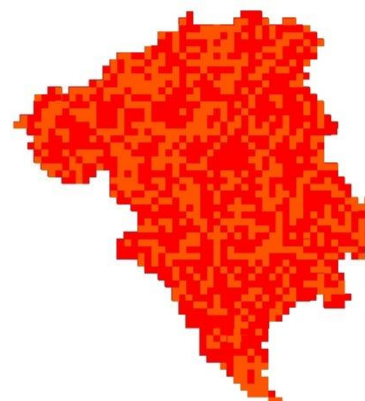
OF:STE



## LAI

OF:NS

OF:STE



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## Summary

Calibration period									
01/03/2011-31/12/2013									
$Q_{obs} - Q_{sim}$		$SM_{obs} - SM_{sim}$				$LAI_{obs} - LAI_{sim}$			
NS	BE (%)	STE	NS	RMSE	BE (%)	NS	RMSE	BE(%)	
Configuration 1: Q; NS	<b>0.9102</b>	-19.32	0.01	0.6310	0.84	-4.2	-99.01	0.95	<b>3.9</b>
Configuration 2: SM; STE	0.5458	11.53	<b>0.6369</b>	<b>0.943</b>	1.387	-9.5	-0.154	0.063	-6.3

Validation period											
01/01/2014 - 31/12/2015										01/10/1999 - 01/10/2006	
$Q_{obs} - Q_{sim}$		$SM_{obs} - SM_{sim}$				$LAI_{obs} - LAI_{sim}$				$Q_{obs} - Q_{sim}$	
NS	BE (%)	STE	NS	RMSE	BE (%)	NS	RMSE	BE(%)		NS	BE (%)
Configuration 1: Q; NS	0.4725	-21.35	0.03	0.395	6.727	-31	-0.86	1.1	-25	<b>0.8119</b>	-22.564
Configuration 2: SM; STE	0.4452	15.36	<b>0.5836</b>	0.502	7.461	<b>-21.4</b>	<b>0.32</b>	0.68	-24.9	<b>0.6321</b>	<b>14.023</b>
Temporal Validation		Spatio-Temporal Validation								Temporal Validation (back)	

- ❑ Even though challenging, spatio-temporal data, in particular surface SM, can be used as relevant source of information to calibrate process-based models (**ALTERNATIVE**)
- ❑ The SMOS/MODIS remote-sensed fine-scale surface soil moisture data is consistent with observed discharge, however, discharge as SV could not reproduce spatial variability →→→ **EQUIFINALITY**
- ❑ It is possible to use only remote-sensed surface SM to calibrate satisfactorily a distributed hydrological model at ungauged (or with scarce Q data) basins. (**VALUABLE**)



*Flood of 1962 in Rambla de la Viuda*





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# Thanks for your attention

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