

# The hydrological links between groundwater dynamics and land-energy feedbacks in the Ganges basin

Sekhar Muddu

Department of Civil Engineering &  
Interdisciplinary Centre for Water Resources  
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

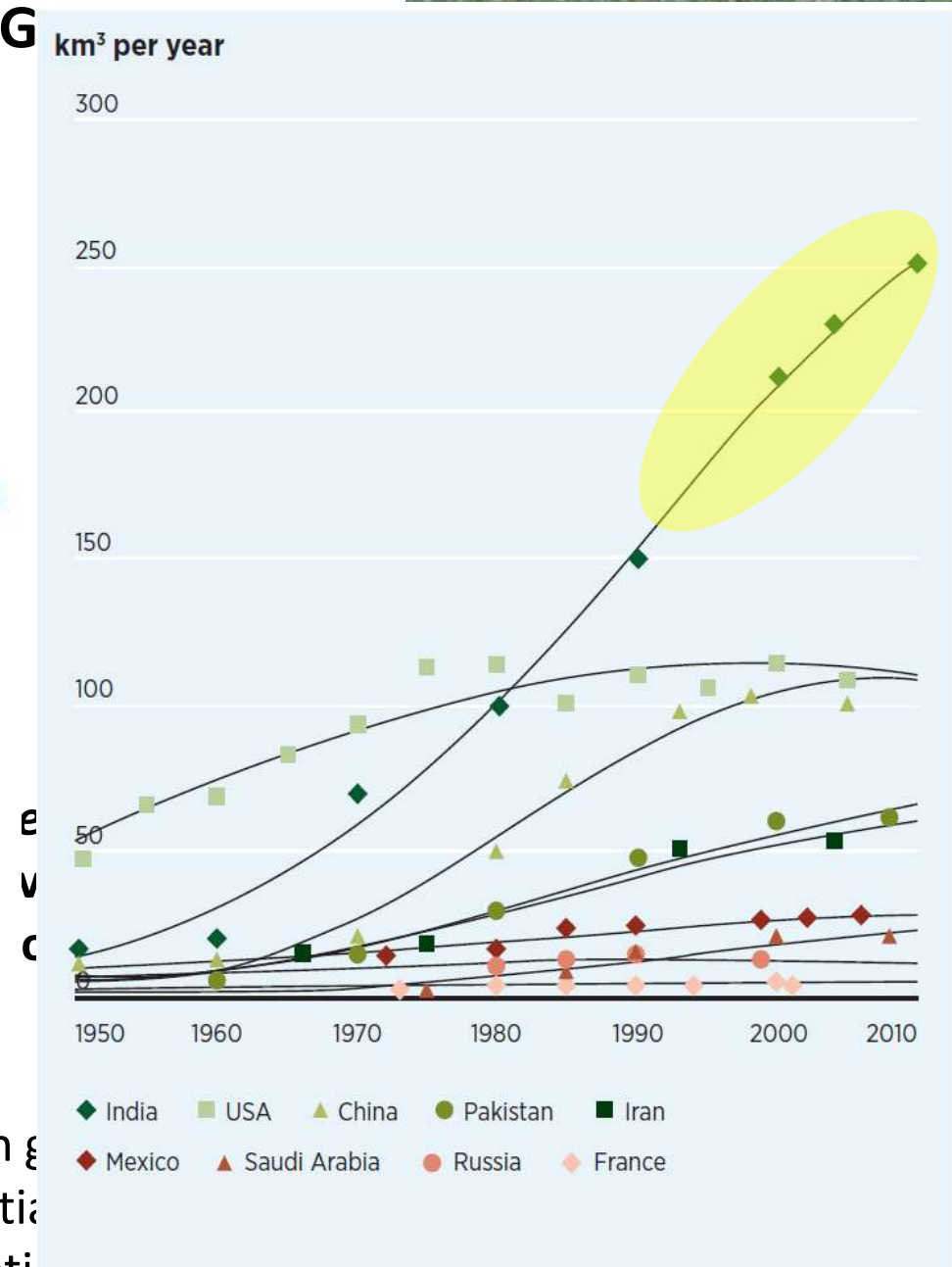
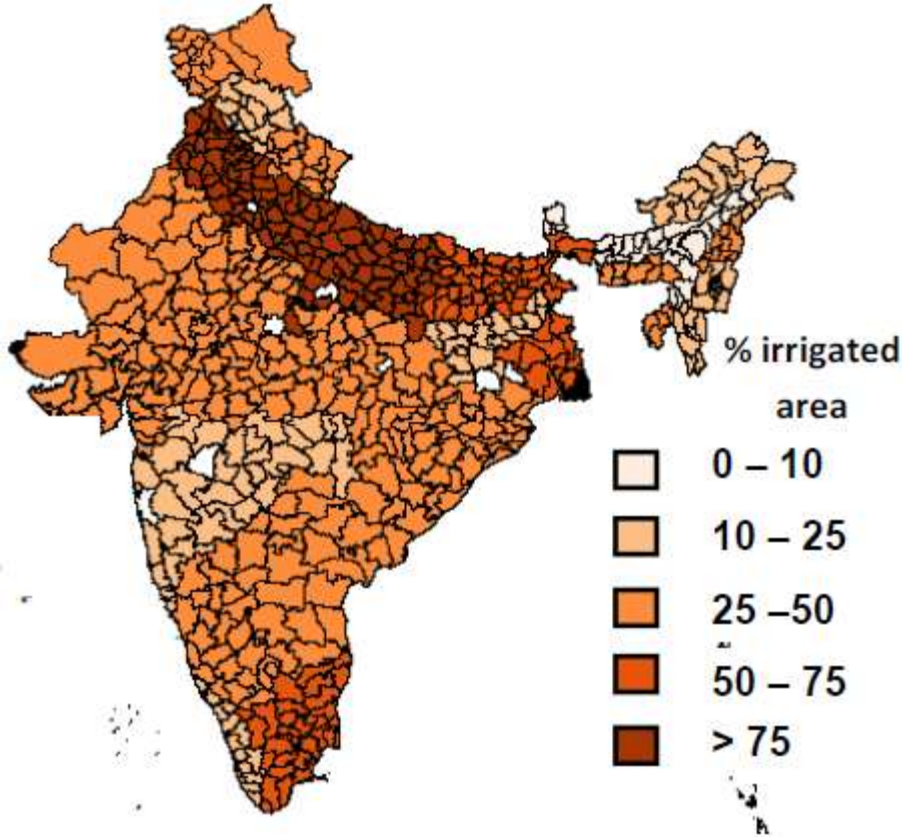
Email: [sekhar.muddu@gmail.com](mailto:sekhar.muddu@gmail.com)

<http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~muddu>





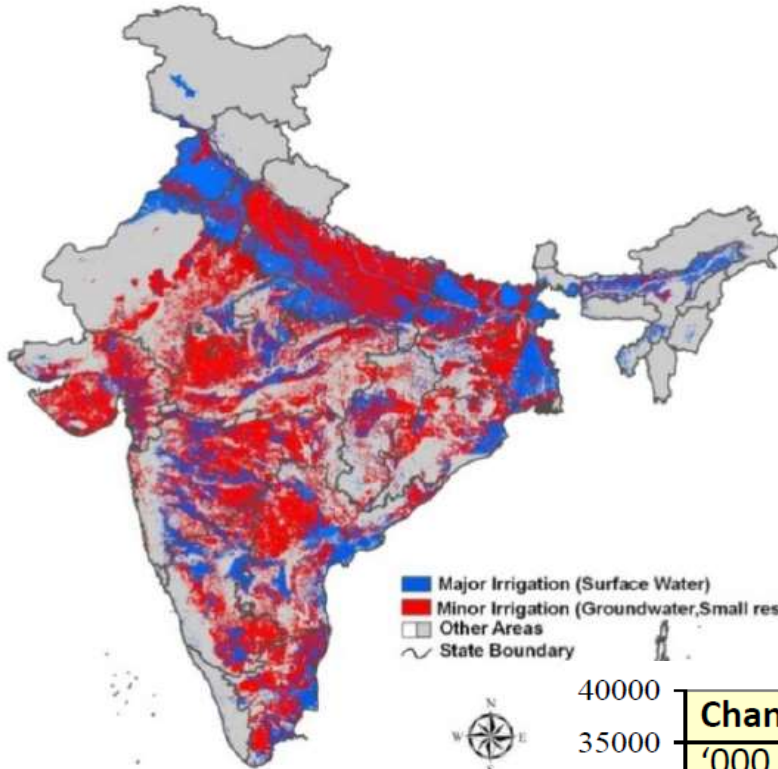
# General context : WATER and AG



## Through:

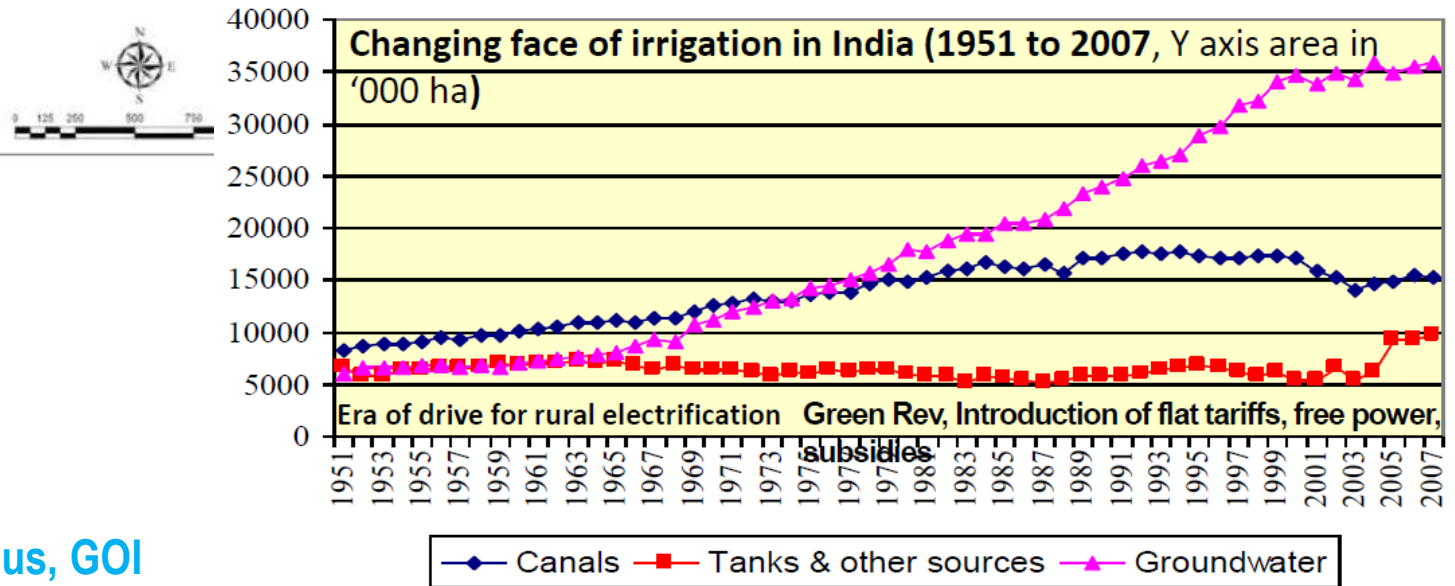
- Improved potential of crops through genetic engineering
- **increased inputs** to reach that potential (e.g. pesticides, fertilisers, mechanisation, **irrigation**)

# Groundwater abstraction trends



*Irrigated area Map using RS Thenkabail et al. (2010)*

**Net Irrigated area = 146 Mha**  
**Major Irrigation = 55 Mha**  
**Minor Irrigation = 91 Mha**

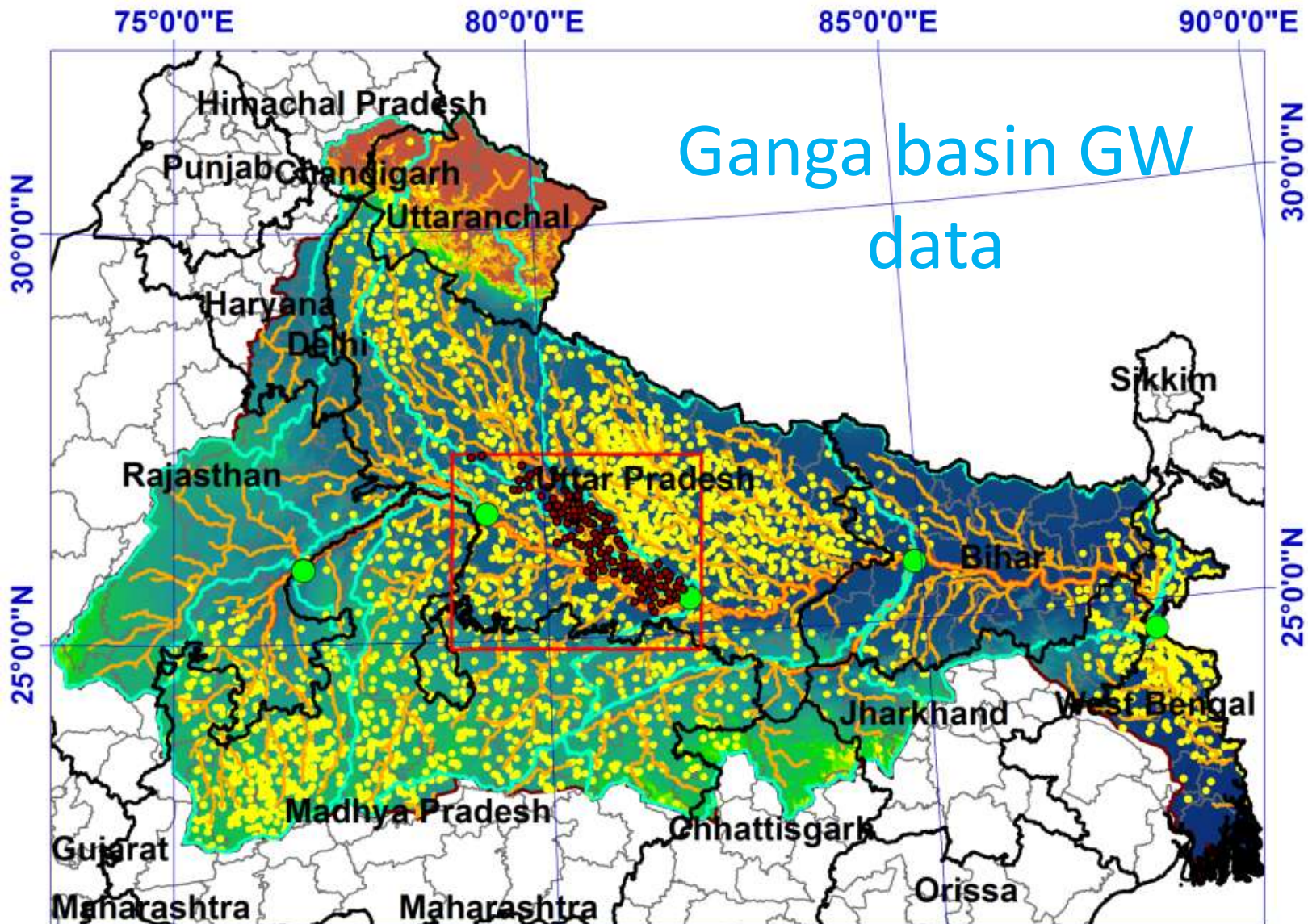


# Groundwater pumping & ET – Ganges basin

## Science Question

To what extent do the large-scale, human-induced land use changes and groundwater depletion that have taken place in India feed back to the hydrological and climate system at a basin scale?

*MoES-NERC project: Hydrometeorological feedbacks and changes in water storage and fluxes in Northern India*



# Ganga basin GW data

75°0'0"E 80°0'0"E 85°0'0"E 90°0'0"E

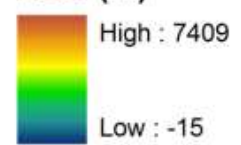
30°0'0"N 25°0'0"N

Legend

- Outlet of watershed
- India State Boundary
- GWL Adjacent to Kanpur

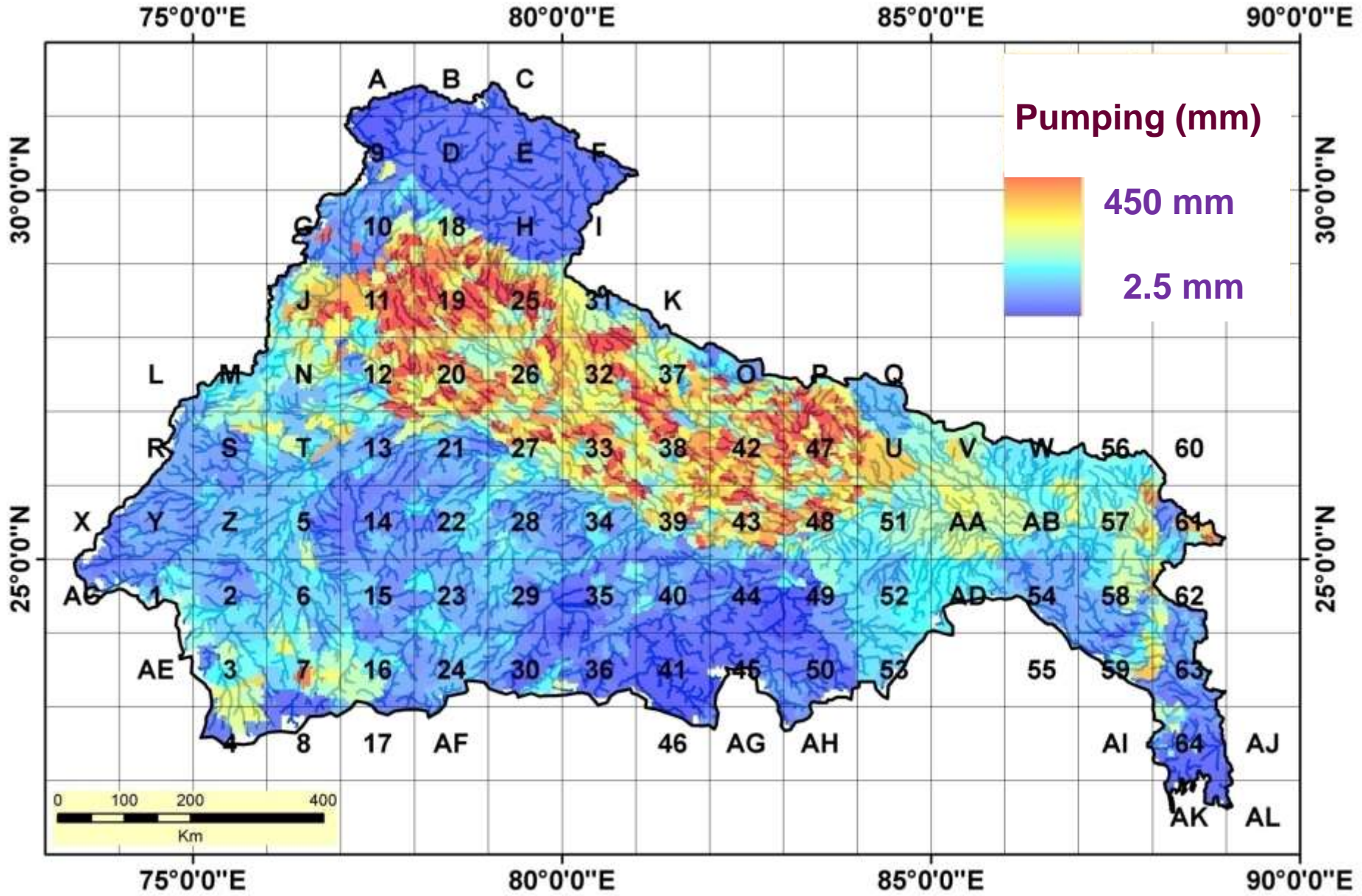
- Main River
- GWL monitoring well
- Ganga Basin Boundary
- Subbasin Boundary

DEM (m)



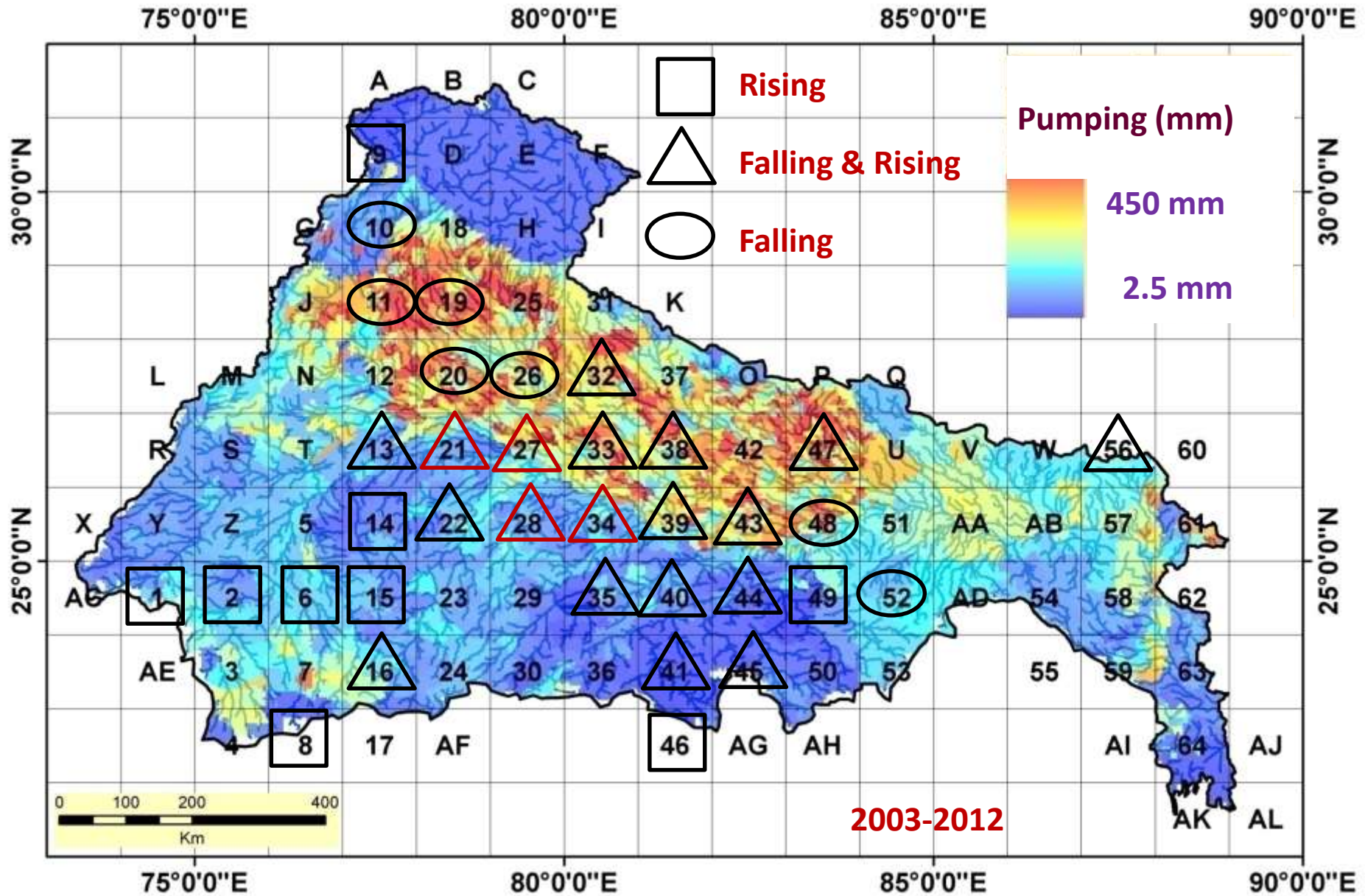
Source: CGWB

# Groundwater Pumping



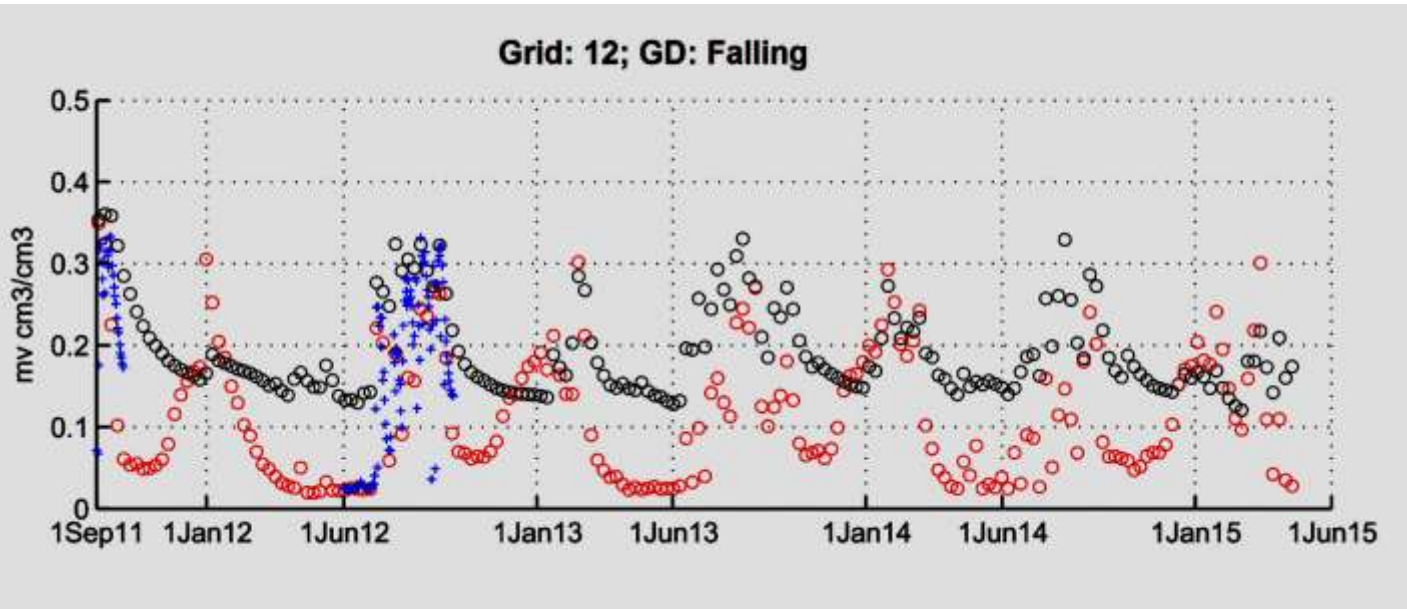
Source: CGWB

# Groundwater System behavior

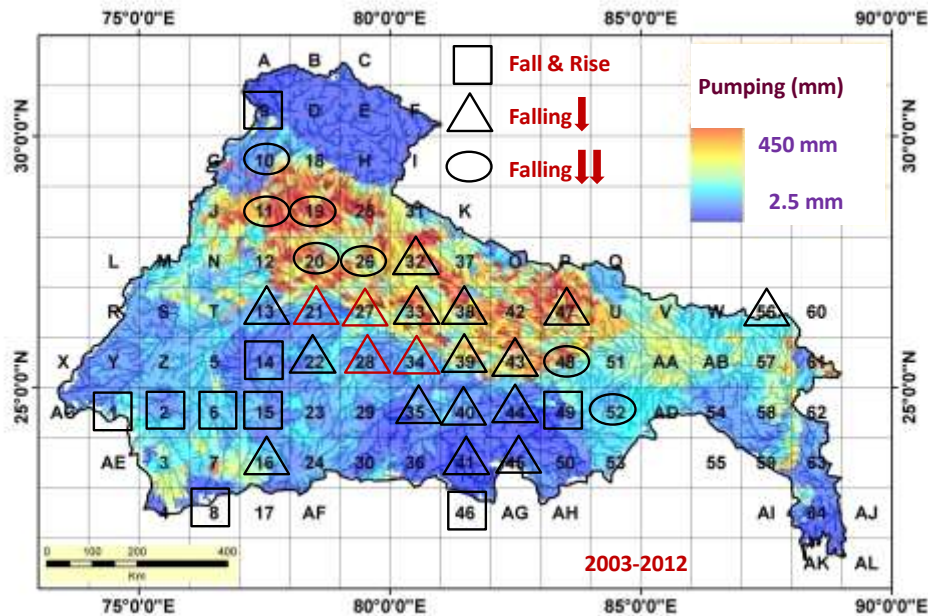


Source: CGWB

# Aquarius Radar and CTCZ Soil Moisture Time Series



**Aquarius: Red**  
**NCEP: Black**  
**CTCZ: Blue**

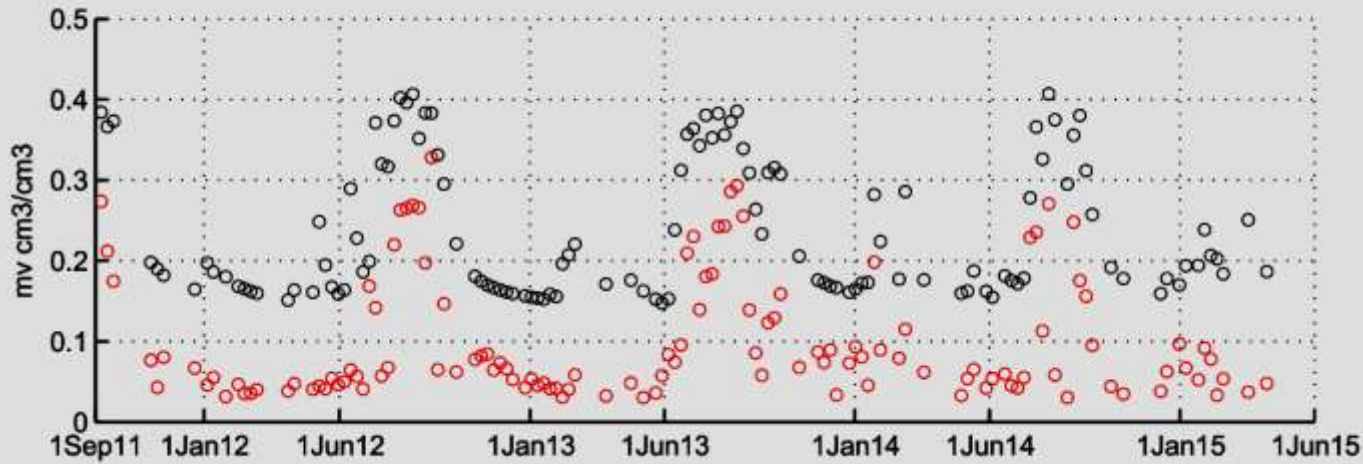


During Jan-Feb, high soil moisture estimated from Aquarius satellite, (not estimated from NCEP), therefore indicator of high level irrigation activity.

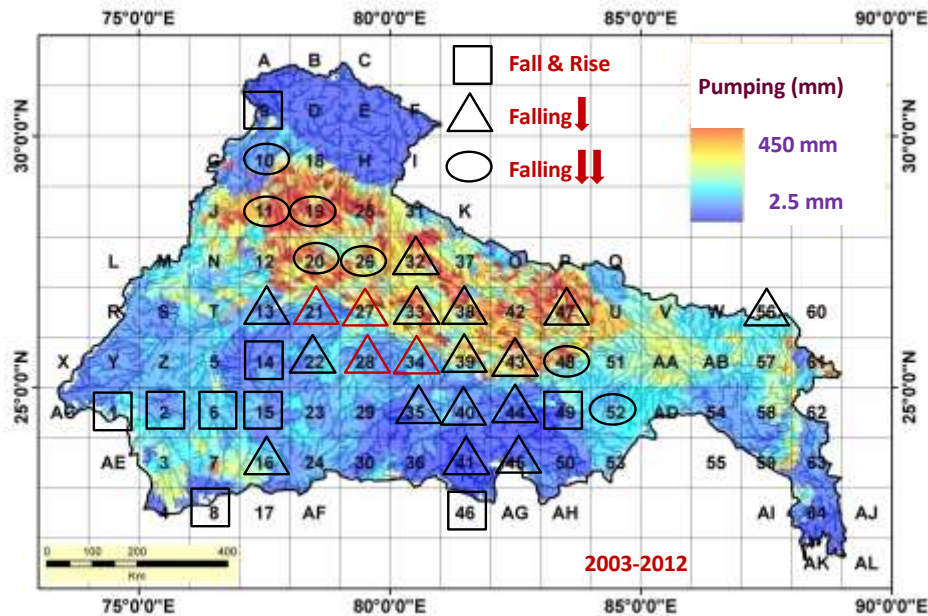


# Aquarius Radar and CTCZ Soil Moisture Time Series

Grid: 2; GD: Rising

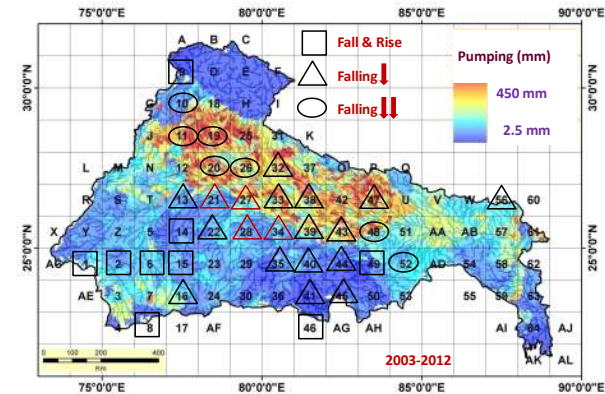


**Aquarius: Red**  
**NCEP: Black**  
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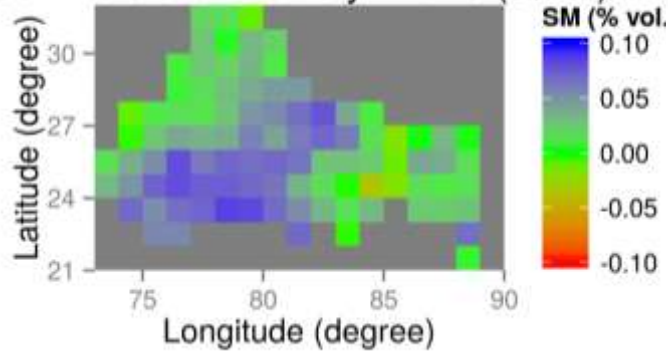


During Jan-Feb, no considerable high soil moisture events.

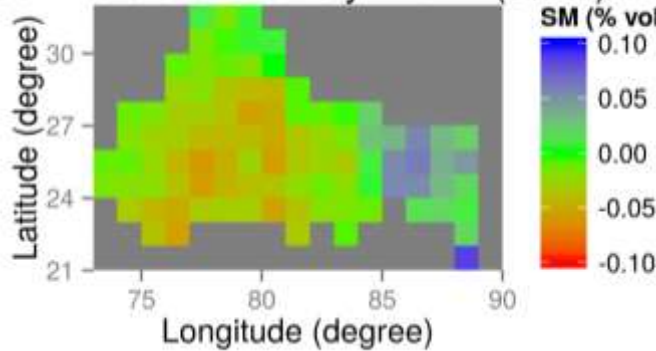
# Soil Moisture Anomaly



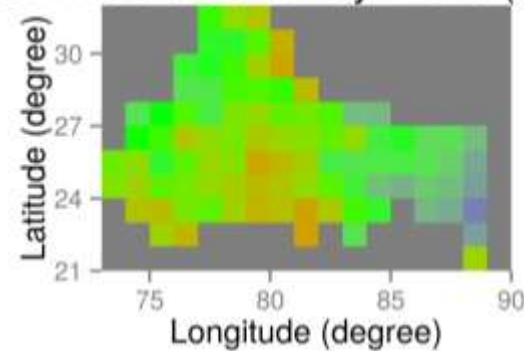
Soil moisture anomaly - 2013 (JJAS)



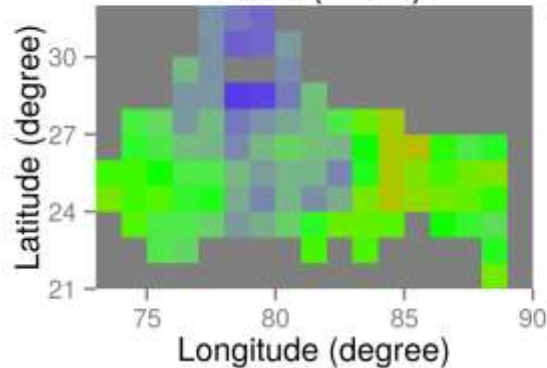
Soil moisture anomaly - 2014 (JJAS)



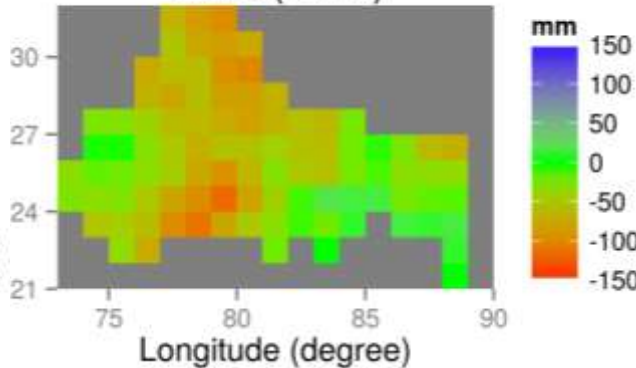
Soil moisture anomaly - 2015 (JJAS)



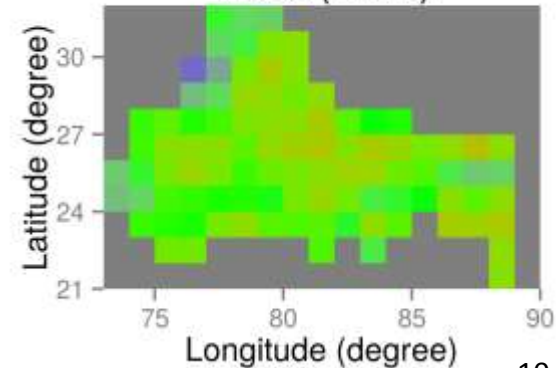
TRMM precipitation anomaly 2013 (JJAS)



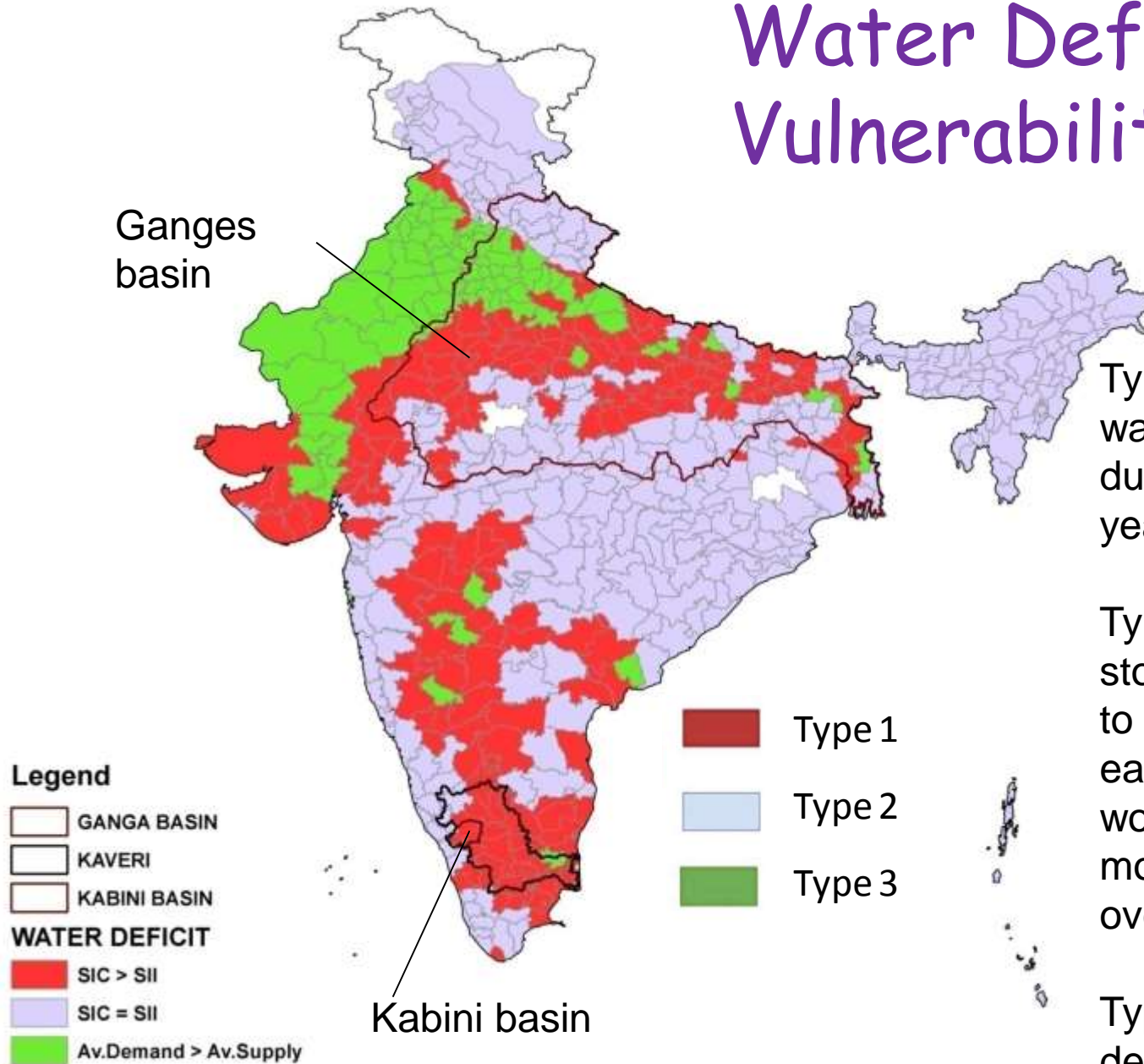
TRMM precipitation anomaly 2014 (JJAS)



TRMM precipitation anomaly 2015 (JJAS)



# Water Deficit and Vulnerability

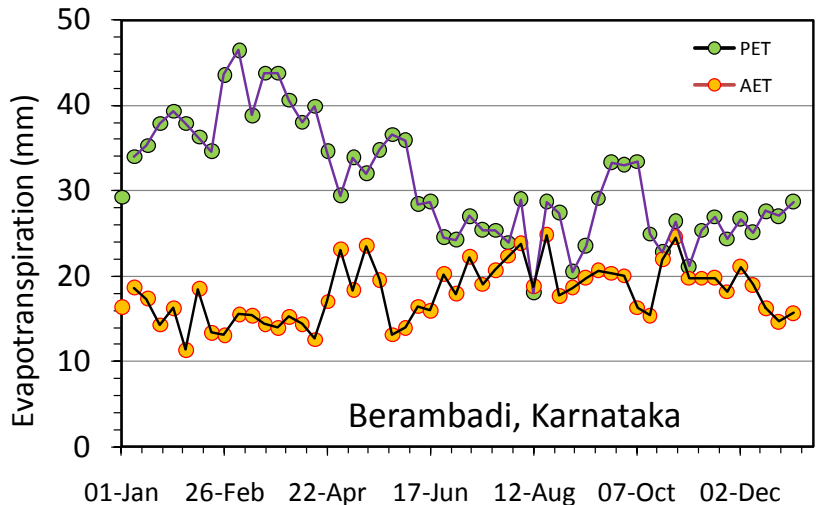
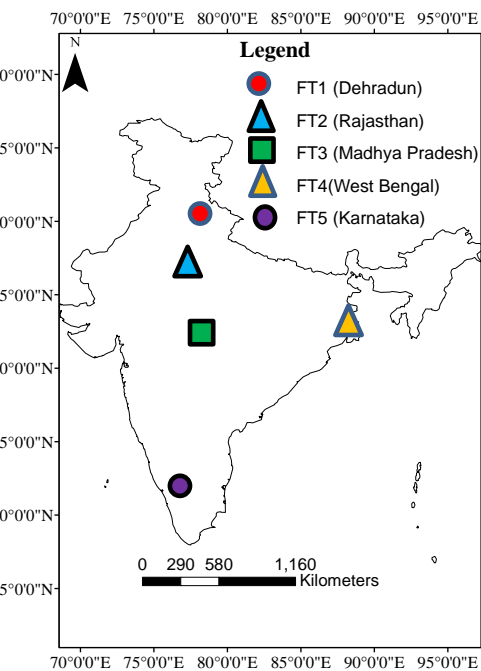


Type 2 – The deficit of water storage is filled up during each monsoon year.

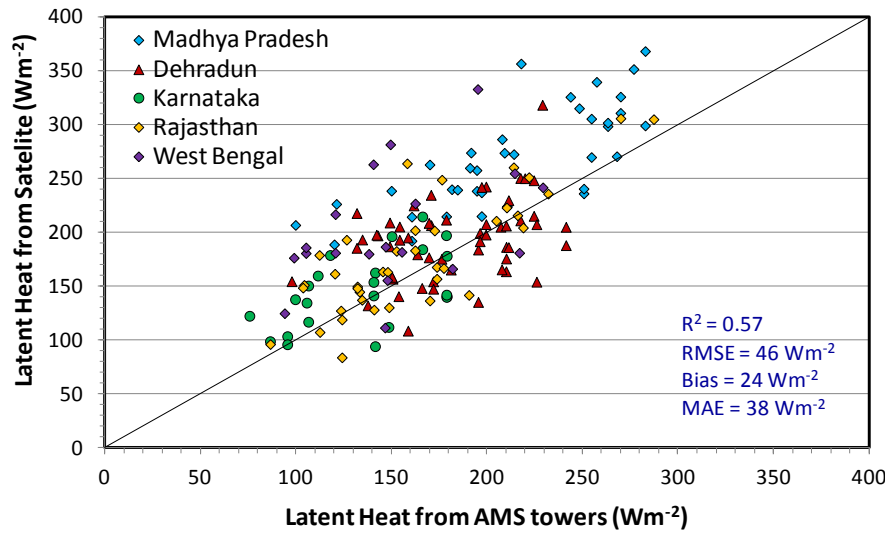
Type 1 – The water storage deficit is unlikely to be filled up during each monsoon year and would require a few monsoon years to overcome the deficit

Type 3 – Average demand is in excess of supply so each year is deficit.

# Modeling Evapotranspiration from Remote Sensing



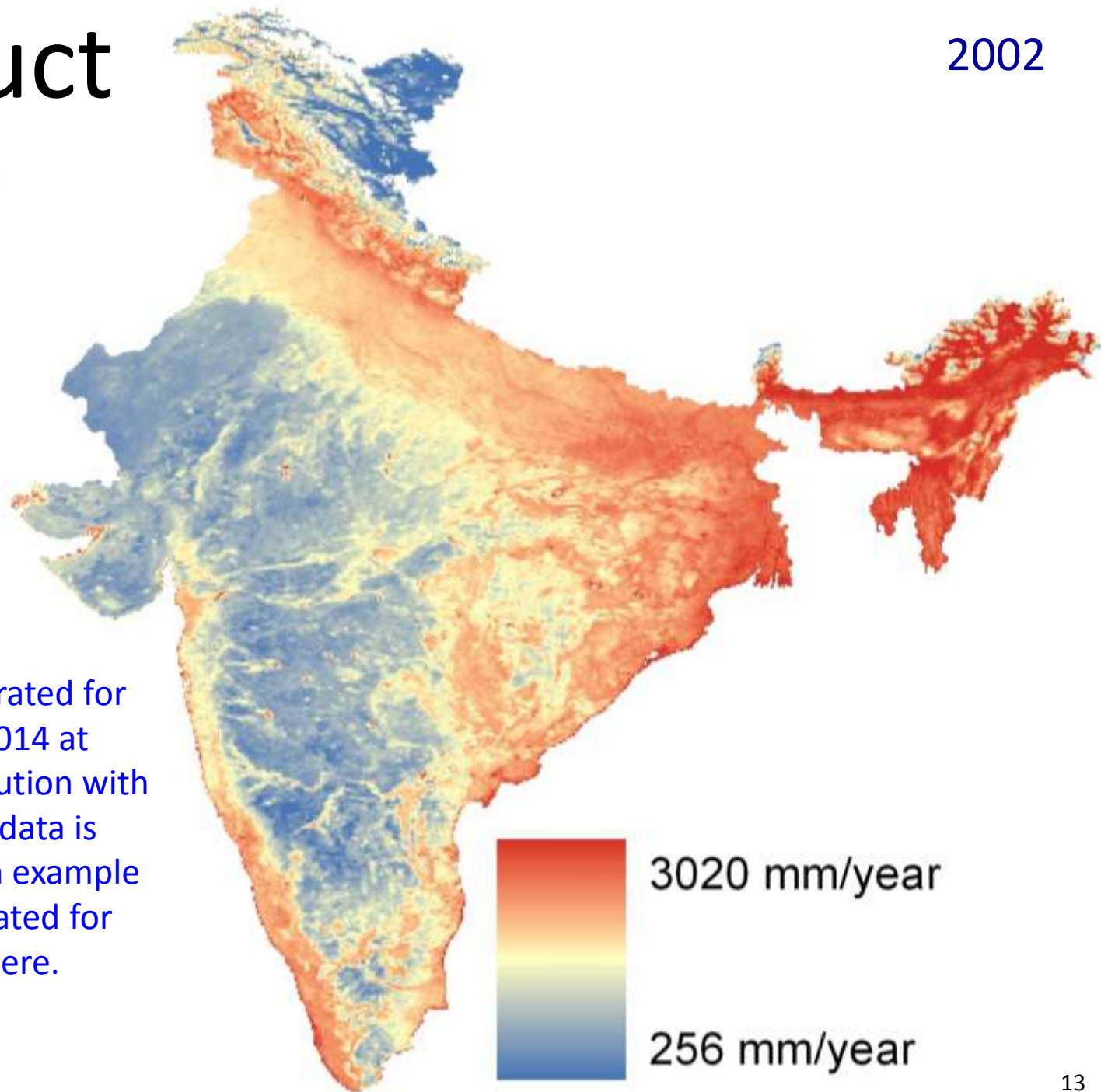
➤ The ET was estimated using **S-SEBI** and **Triangle** methods. Five sites with about 200 plus clear sky images from Terra and Aqua were used during 2009-12. It was observed that the **Triangle** method performed well with ground observations from the BREB towers of Energy, Mass Exchange project of SAC, ISRO.



# ET Product

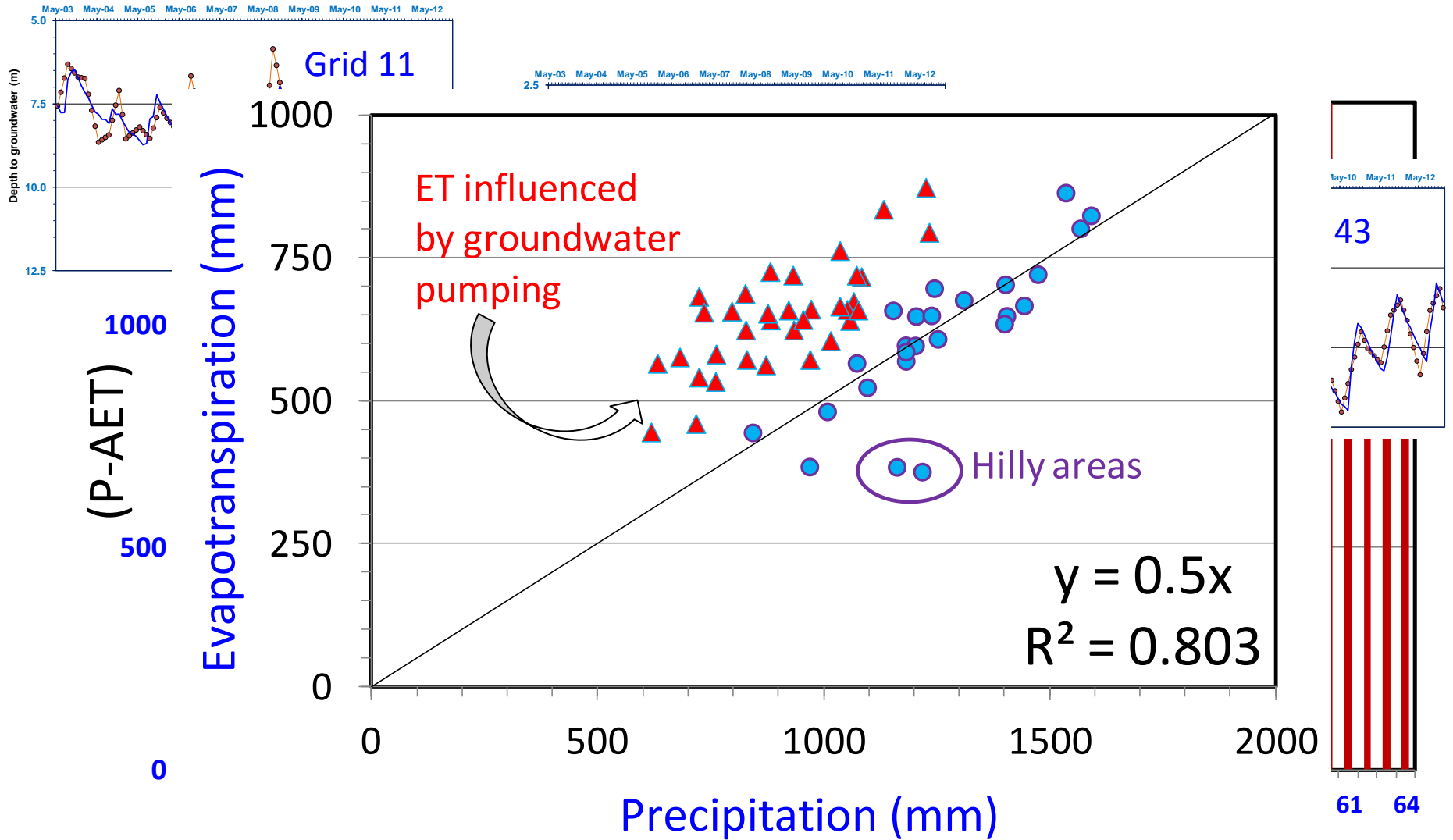
## 2001-2014

2002



ET product is being generated for entire India from 2001-2014 at 0.05 degree spatial resolution with 8-day frequency. MODIS data is used for this purpose. An example of this ET product cumulated for the year 2002 is shown here.

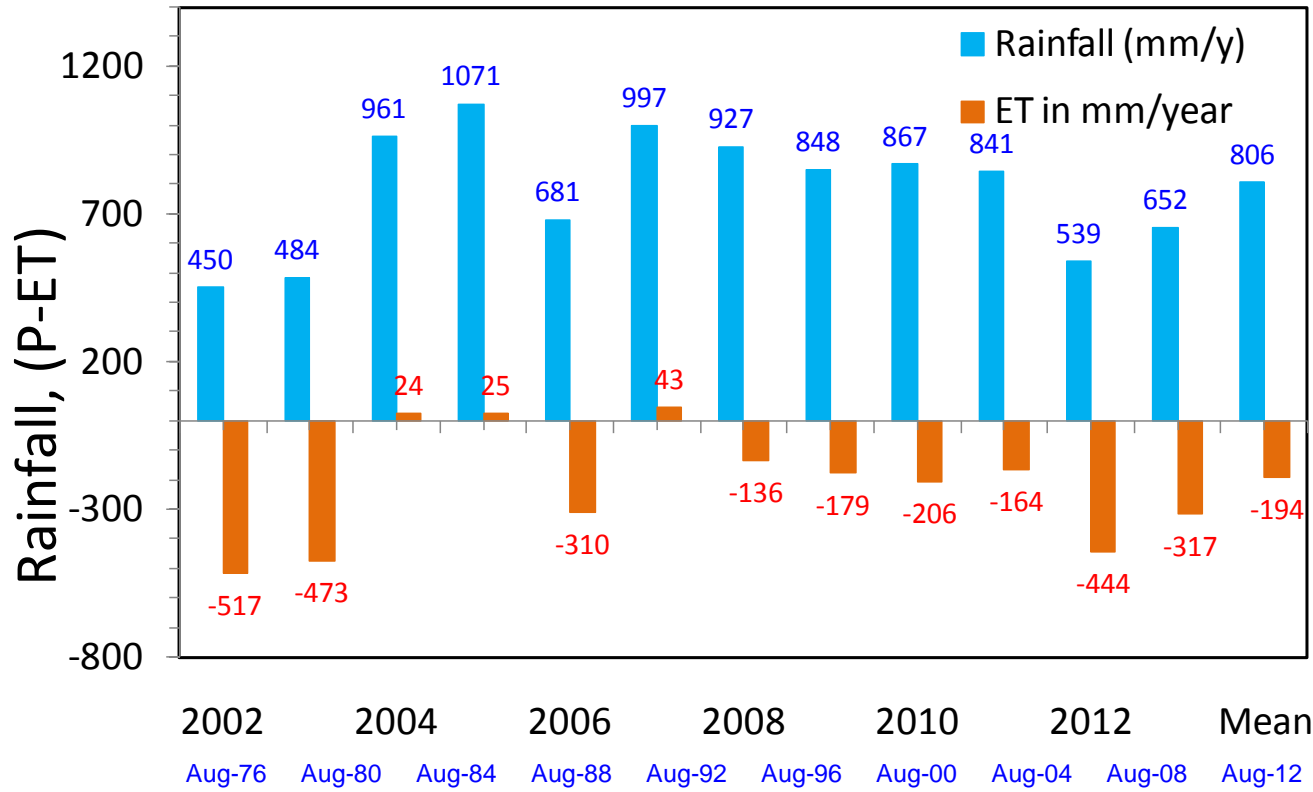
# Groundwater Pumping induced ET



Evapotranspiration simulated is able to capture the trends induced by groundwater pumping



# Precipitation – ET Trends



Mean (P-ET)  
= 200 mm

For 10 years  
(2003-2013)  
(P-ET)

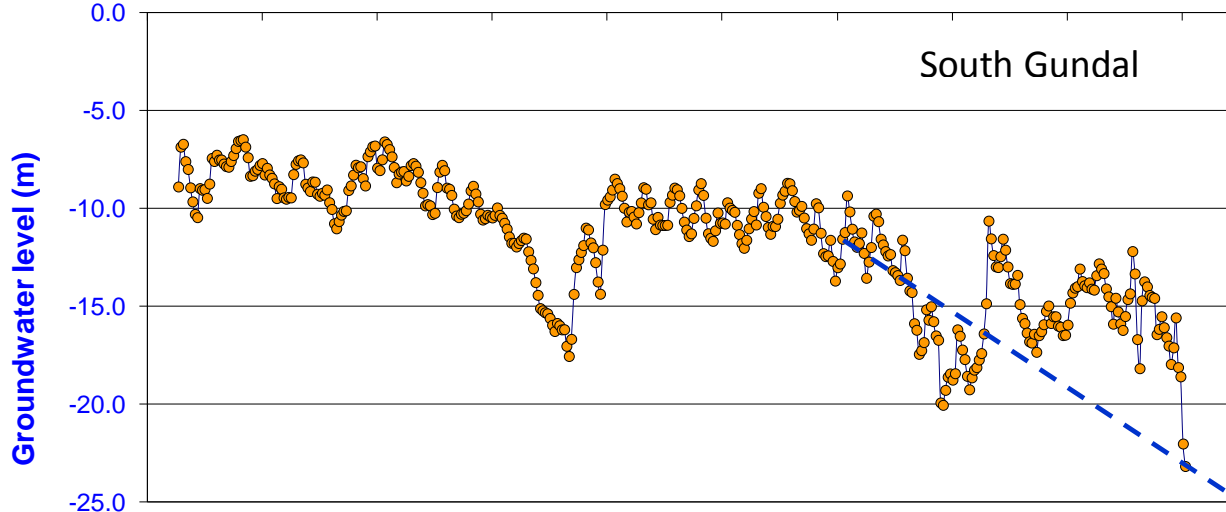
= 2000mm

= 2m

GWL change =

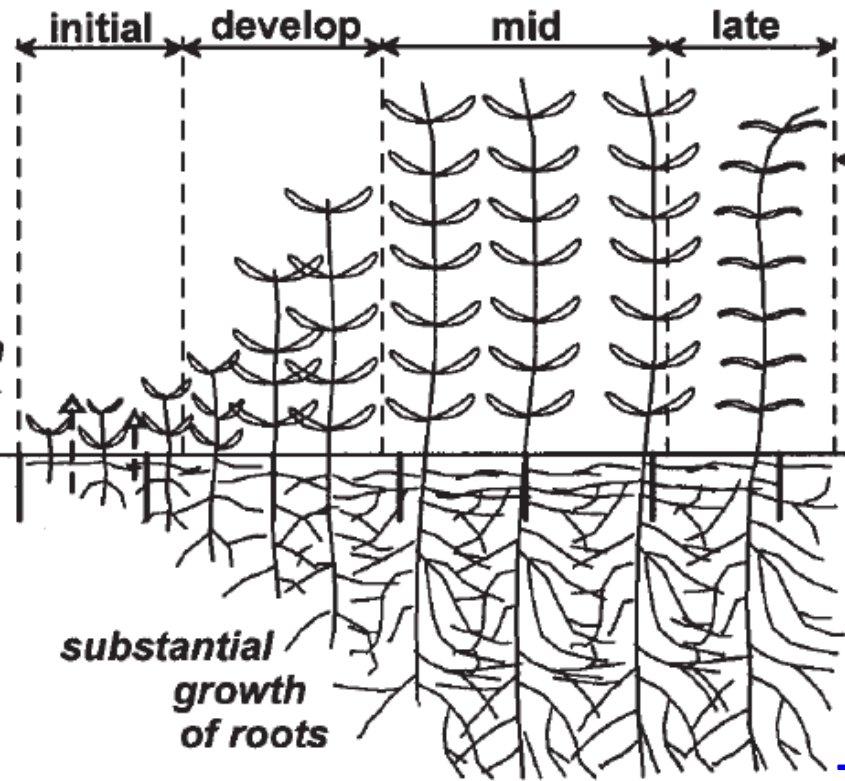
$2m / S_y =$

**20 m**





# Soil moisture & linkage to Crop Growth

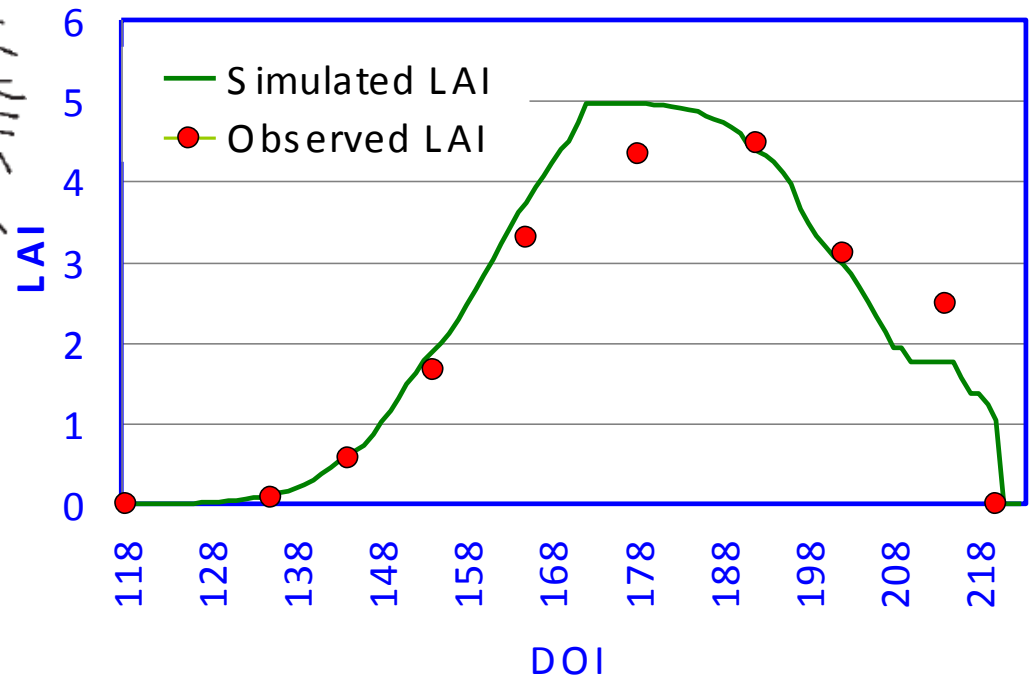


Function of -

- Climate Forcing
- Soil Properties

Moisture stress leads to poor growth of the crop & low yields

Sunflower – Kharif 2013



Licor

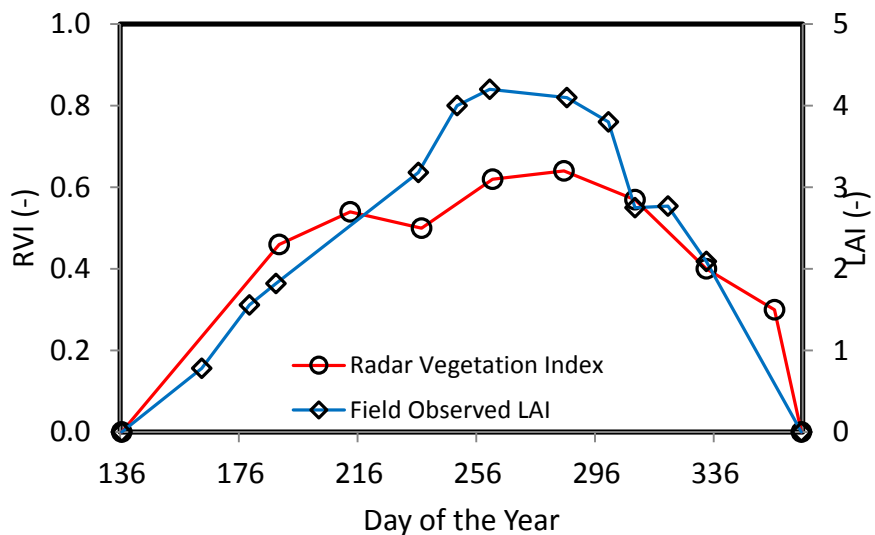
# Irrigation Improvements & Efficiency

- Crop as a sensor to estimate the water stress.
- Integration of satellite and surface observations to support improvements in agricultural water resources management



# Characterization of Crop Canopies and Water Stress using Microwave Remote Sensing

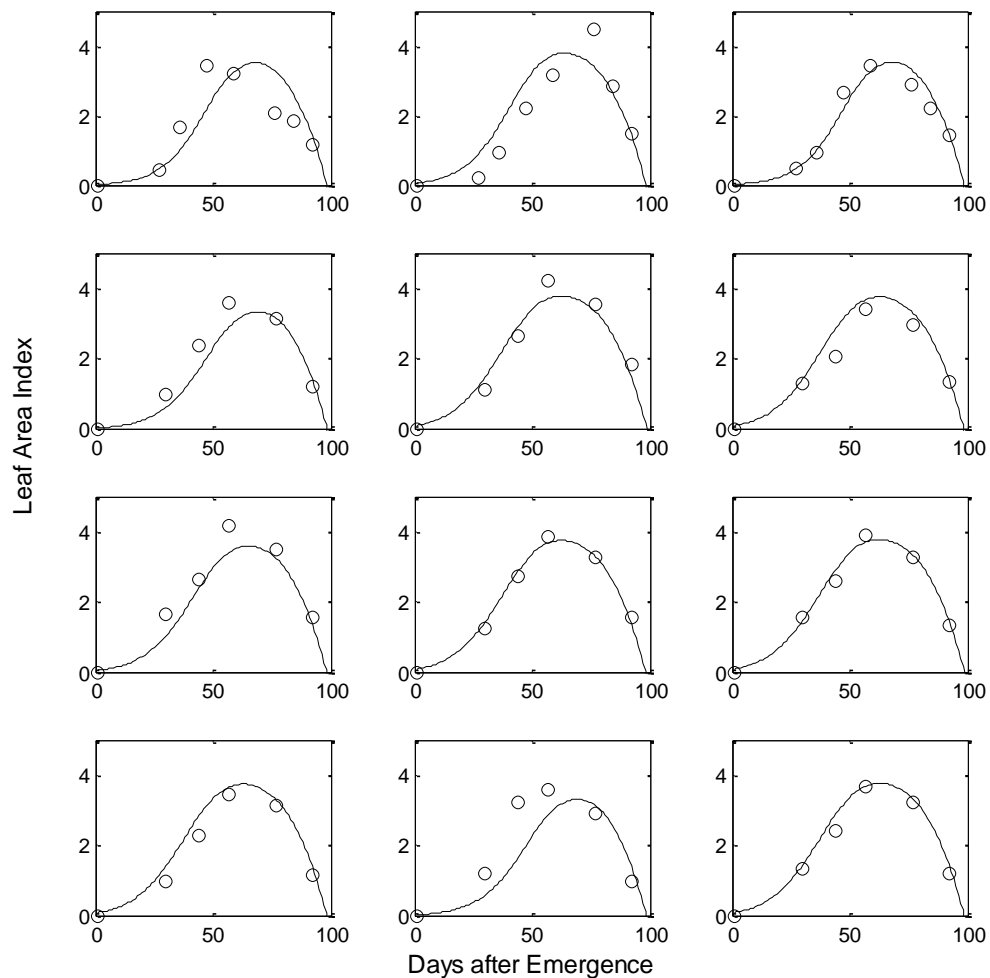
Retrieval of LAI from RADARSAT-2



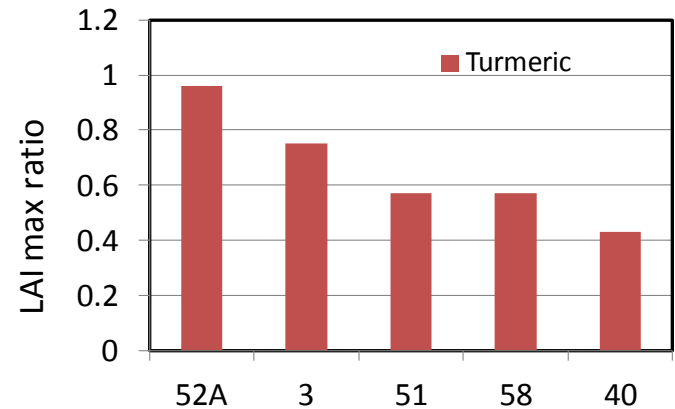
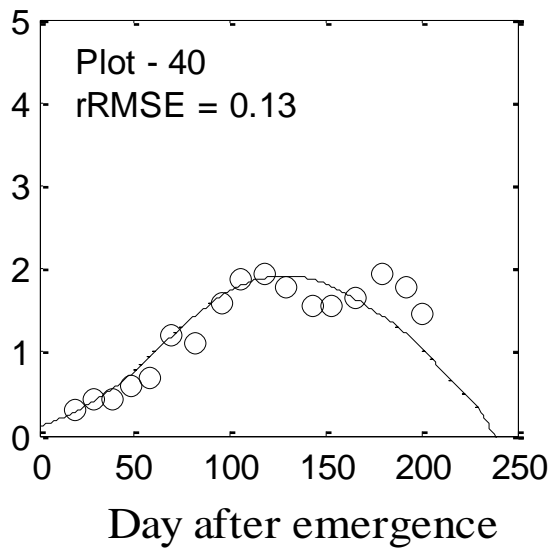
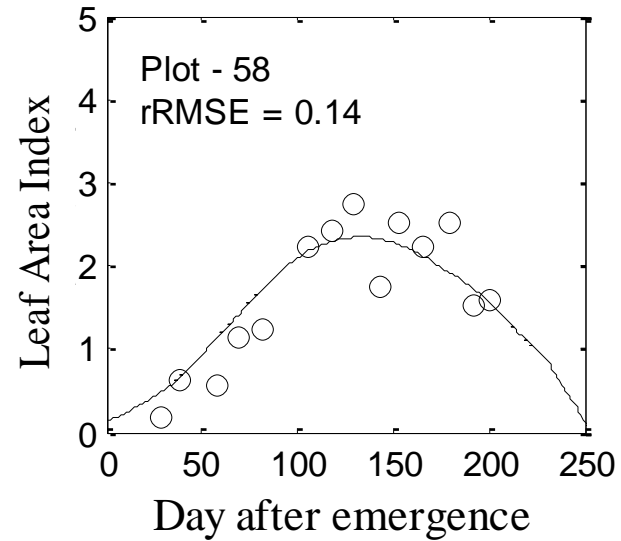
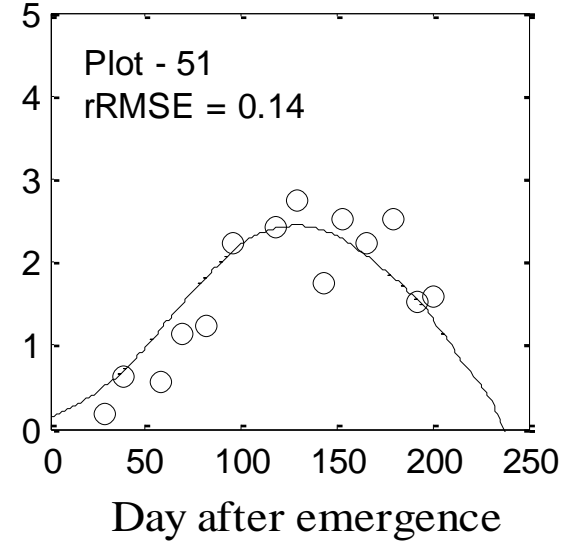
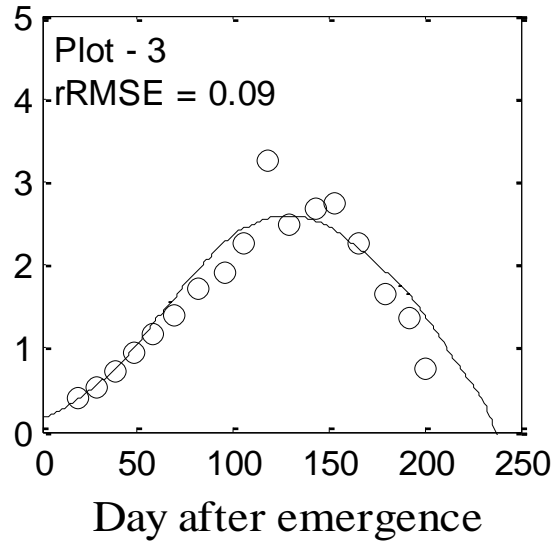
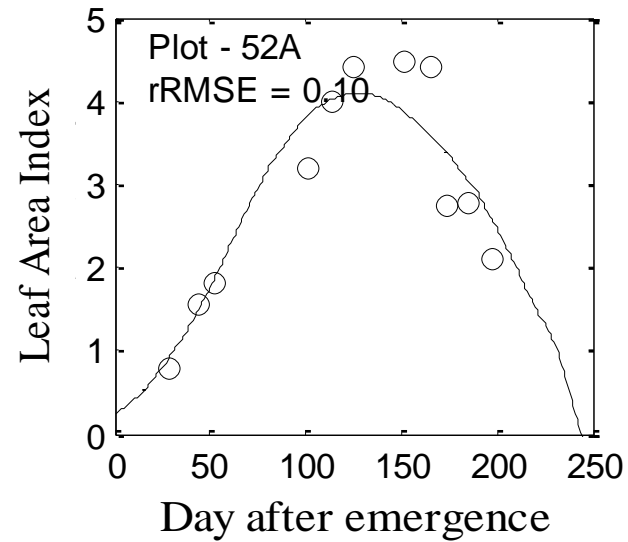
$$RVI = \frac{8\sigma^{o}_{HV}}{\sigma^{o}_{HH} + \sigma^{o}_{VV} + 2\sigma^{o}_{HV}}$$



Crop: Marigold

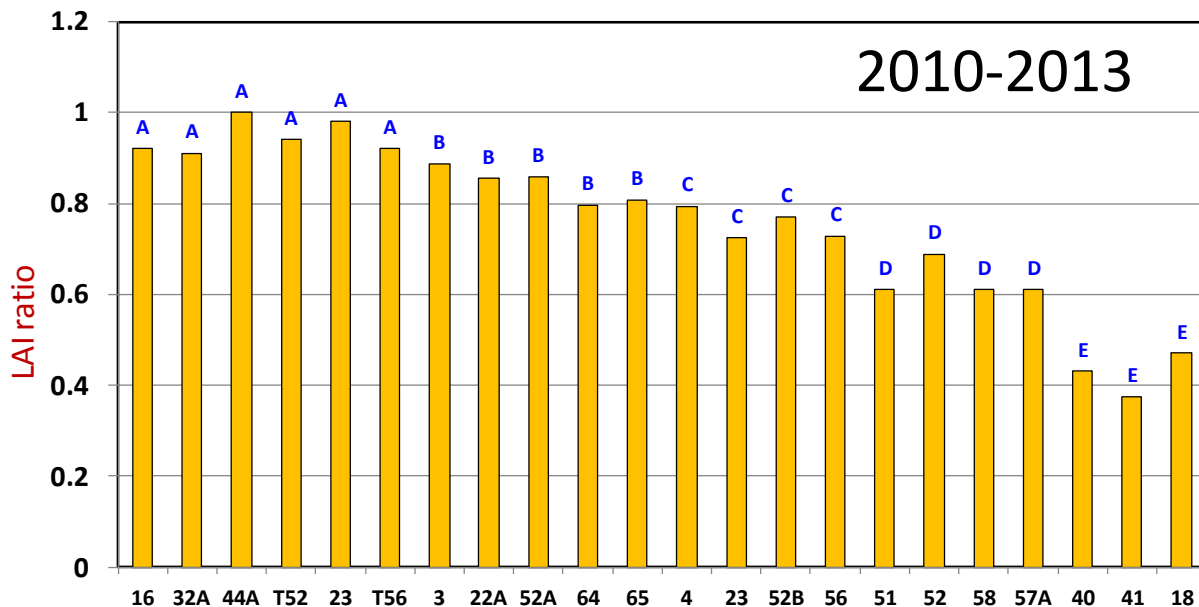


# Retrieval of LAI of Turmeric from RADARSAT-2

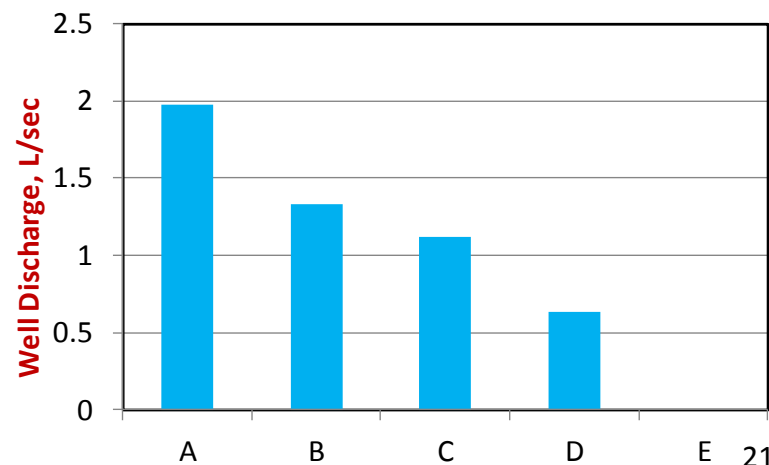


Crop growth in field vs Potential (STICS)

# Crop growth and links with multiple factors

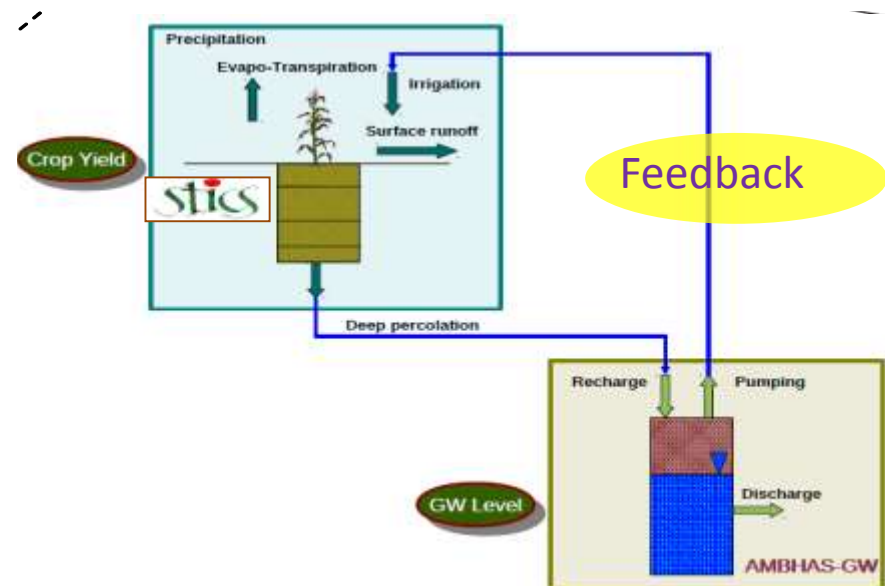
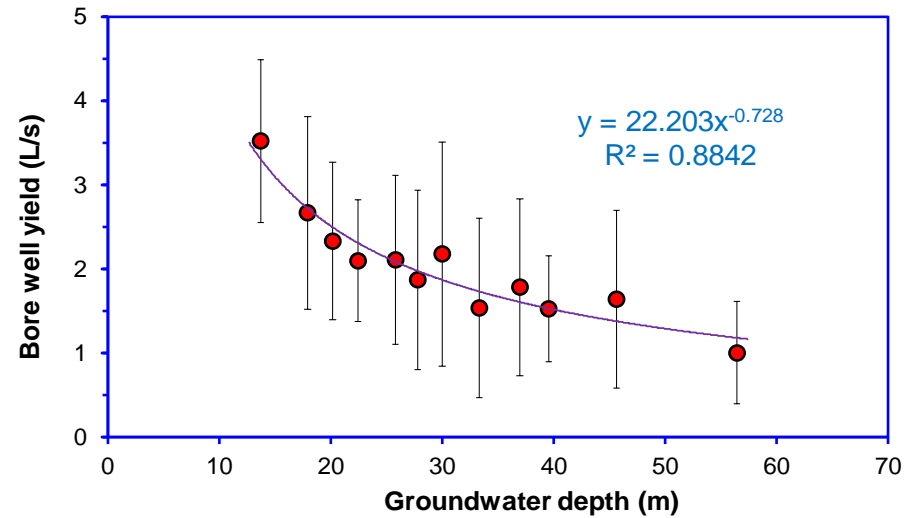


1. Water stress from irrigation
2. Soil characteristics (e.g. soil type, nutrient)
3. Seed characteristics
4. Pest impacts
5. Land operations (e.g. land levelling, plant spacing, uniformity of water application)

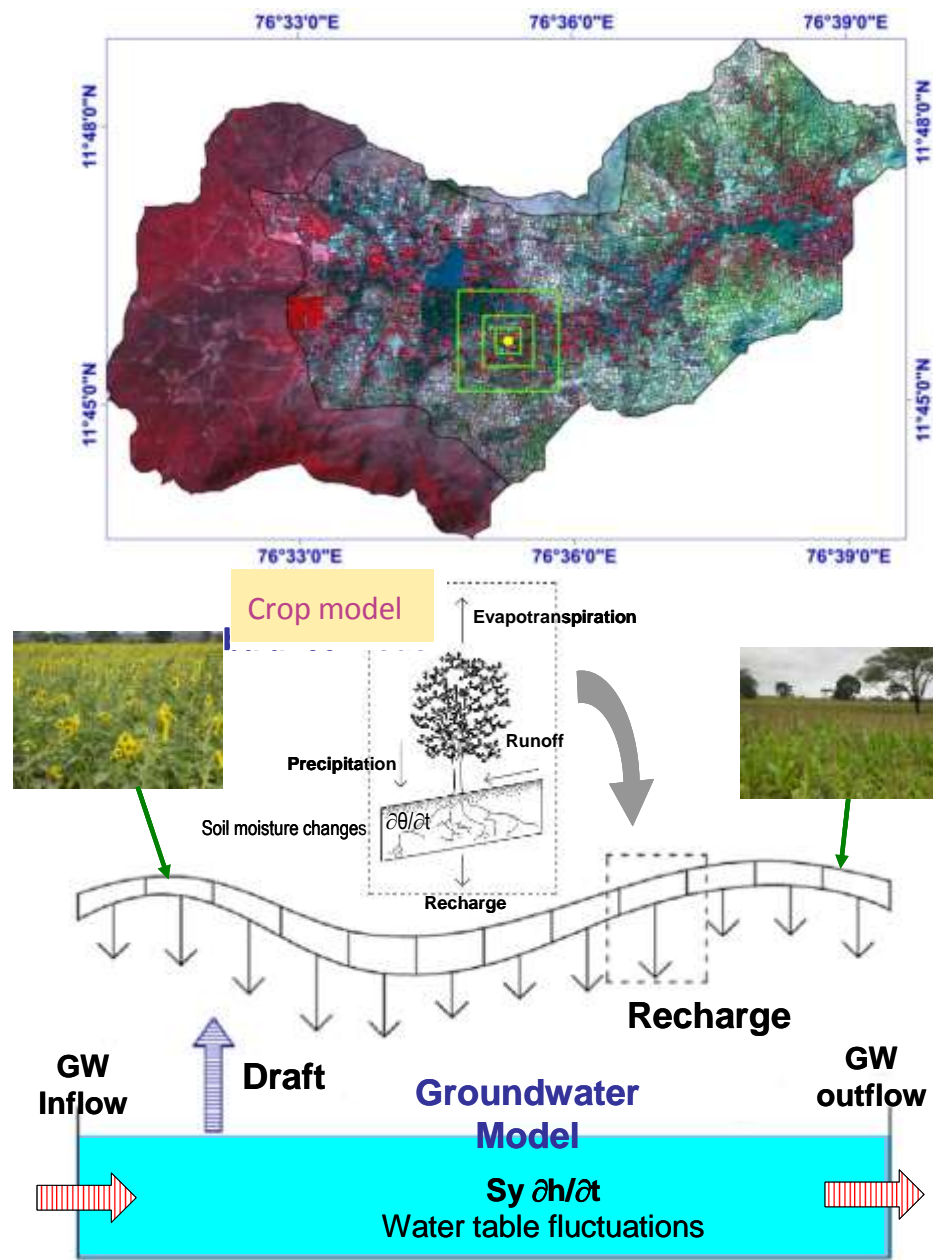
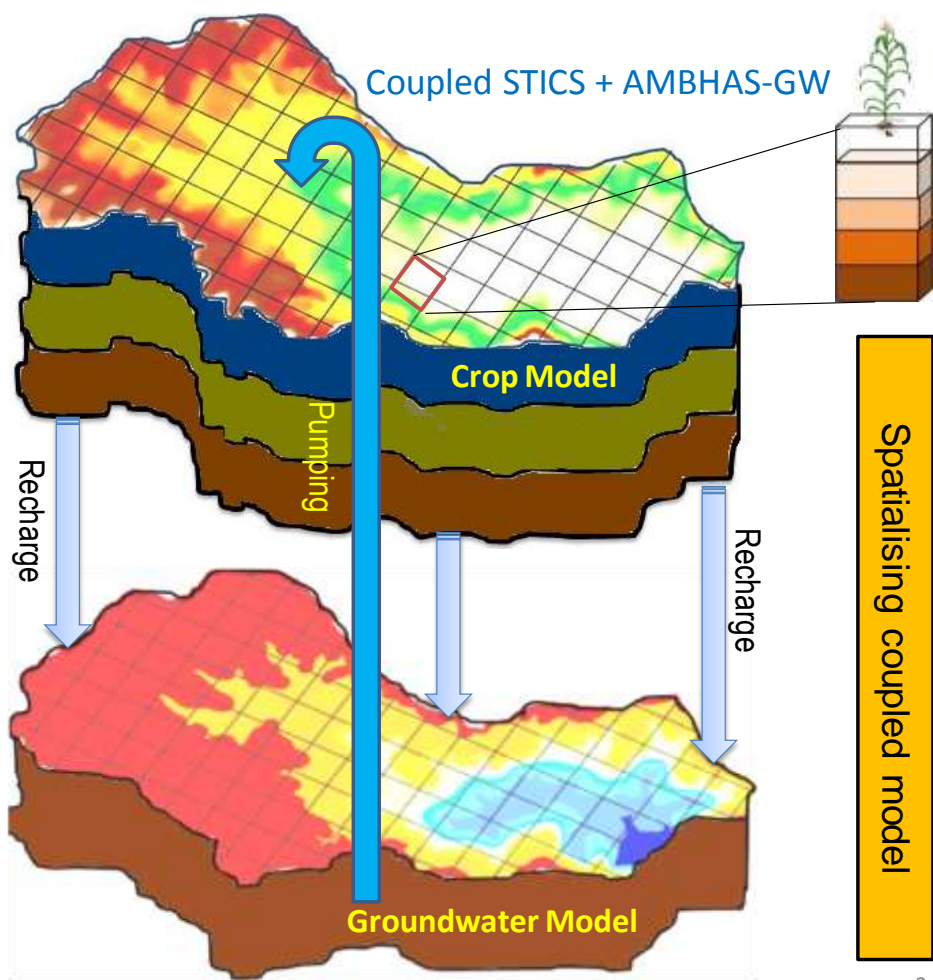


# Agrohydrology models

- To couple groundwater and crop models to understand the feedbacks/ interactions.
- To find the optimal irrigation which maximizes the crop yield while maintaining the sustainable groundwater level.



# Parameterization of crop in DHMs



- Approaches to parameterize soil+crop parameters for the selected model grid in DHMs.

2

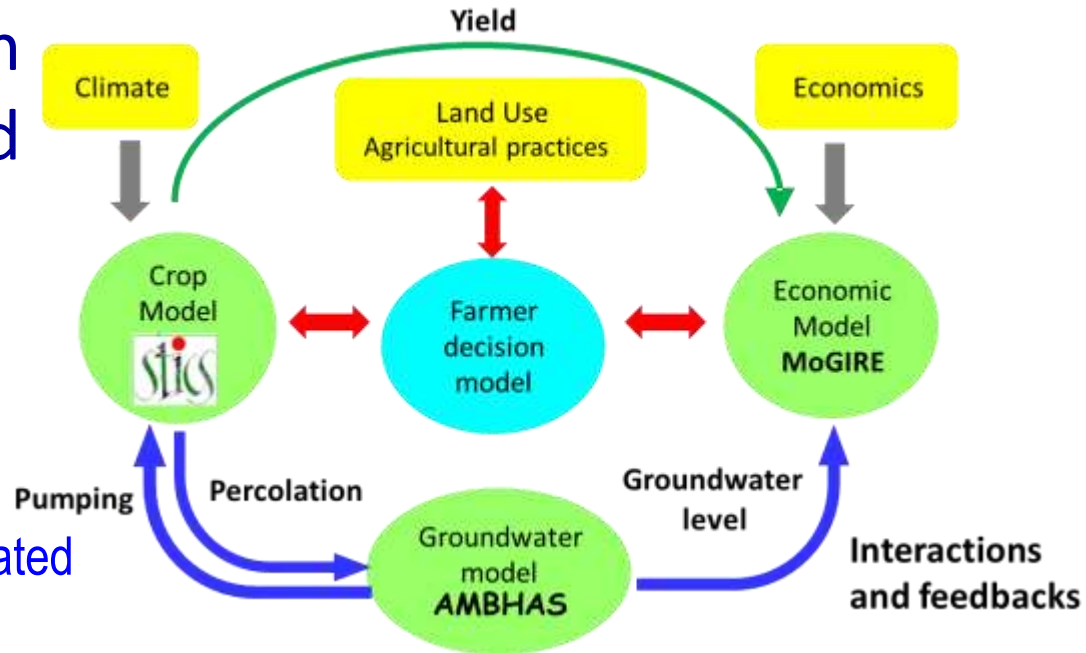
# Interdisciplinary models

## Project - AICHA

Sustainability & adaptation assessment of current and alternative agricultural systems in the context of global changes.

- Assessment of sustainability of irrigated agriculture must take into account the interactions and feedback between crop growth, water resources availability and economic drivers at the farm scale.

- Models should include farmers decision rules to be able to explore the possible adaptation of farming systems to environmental changes.



**INTEGRATED  
MODELLING PLATFORM**

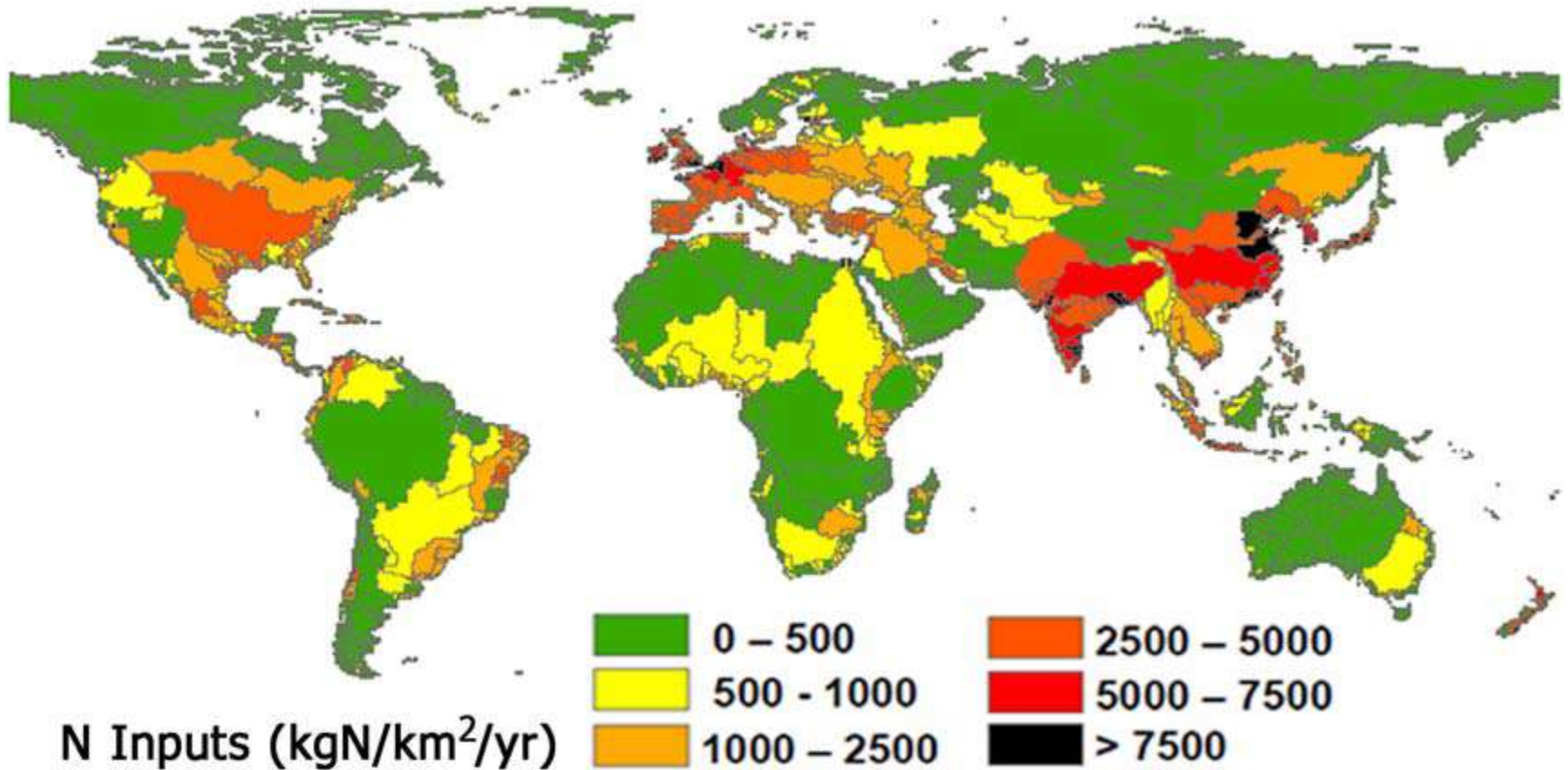
*water-food-energy nexus*





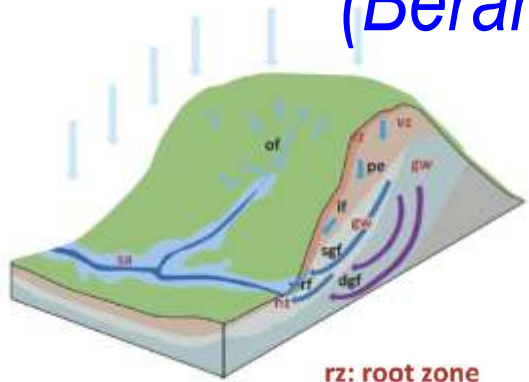
# Example: Estimated net anthropogenic nitrogen inputs to the world's main river catchments

Source: Sutton et al., 2013



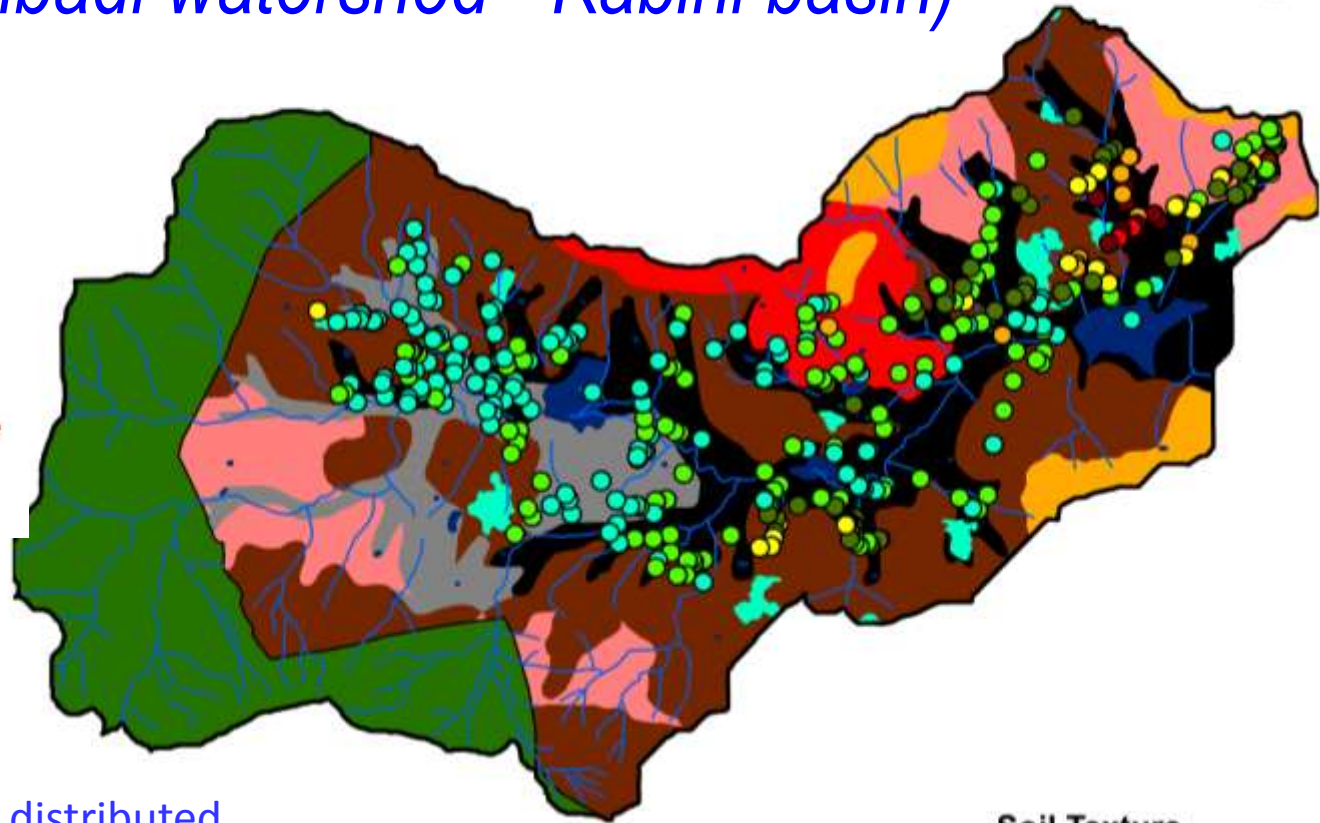
**Water Quality – Nitrates**

# Water Quality – Nitrates in groundwater (Berambadi watershed - Kabini basin)



rz: root zone  
 vz: vadose zone  
 hz: hyporheic zone  
 gw: groundwater  
 sa: saturated area

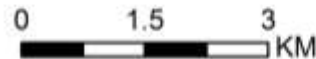
of: overland flow  
 pe: percolation  
 if: interflow  
 rf: return flow (exfiltration)  
 sgf: shallow groundwater flow  
 dgf: deep groundwater flow



■ Sampling Borewells were distributed throughout the watershed, taking into account the heterogeneity with respect to land use, soil type etc.

## Legend

- Berambadi boundary
- Drainage
- Forest



## Nitrate (mg/l)

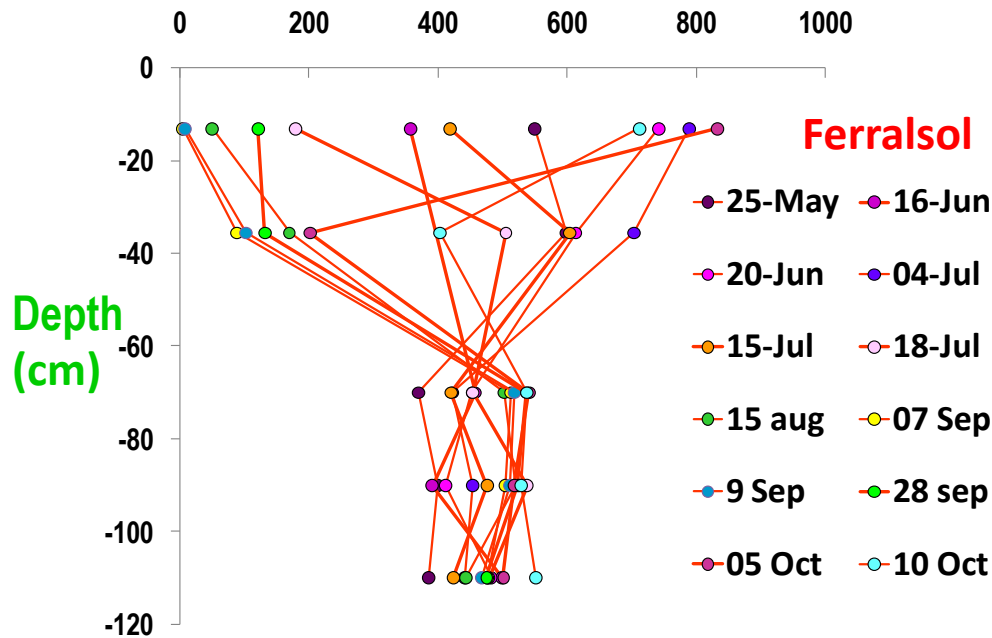
- 0 - 45
- 45 - 100
- 100 - 150
- 150 - 200
- 200 - 250
- 250 - 300
- 300 - 350

## Soil Texture

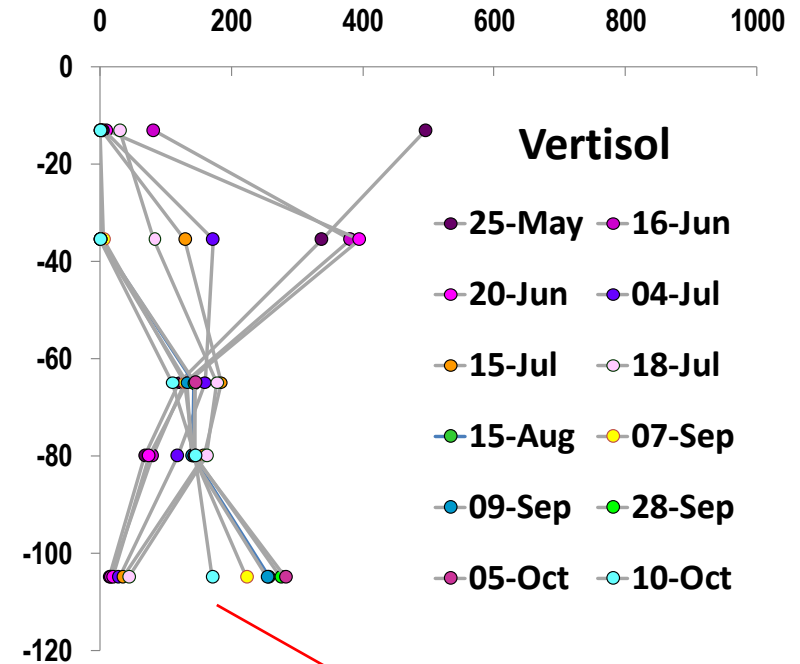
- Clay
- Clay loam
- Gravelly loamy sand
- Settlement
- loamy sand
- Sandy clay loam
- Sandy loam
- Waterbody

# Soil Plant scale - pore water nitrate in root zone

Nitrate (mg NO<sub>3</sub>/L)

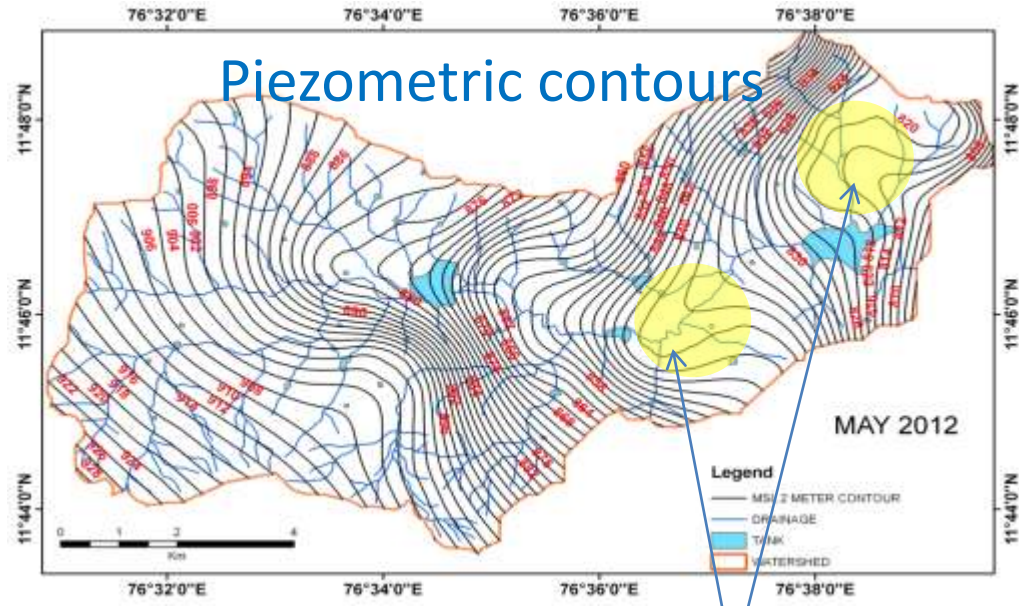
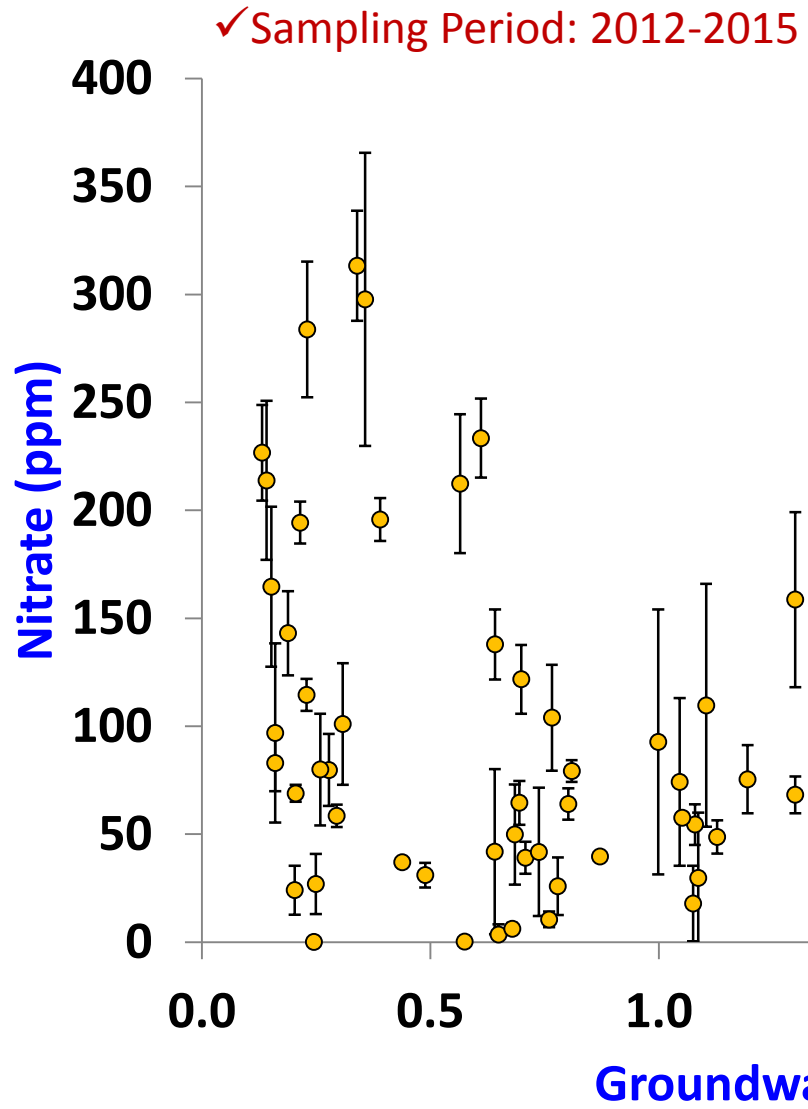


Nitrate (mg NO<sub>3</sub>/L)



Denitrification

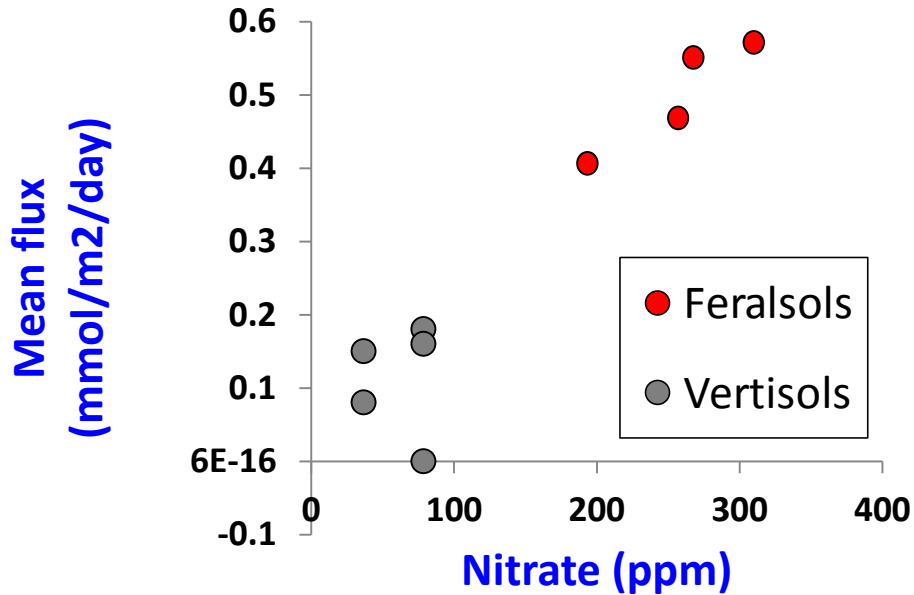
# Temporal Variation of Nitrate (=Error bars)



Zones of slower groundwater movement

How to upscale the nitrate concentrations ?

# Greenhouse gas emissions



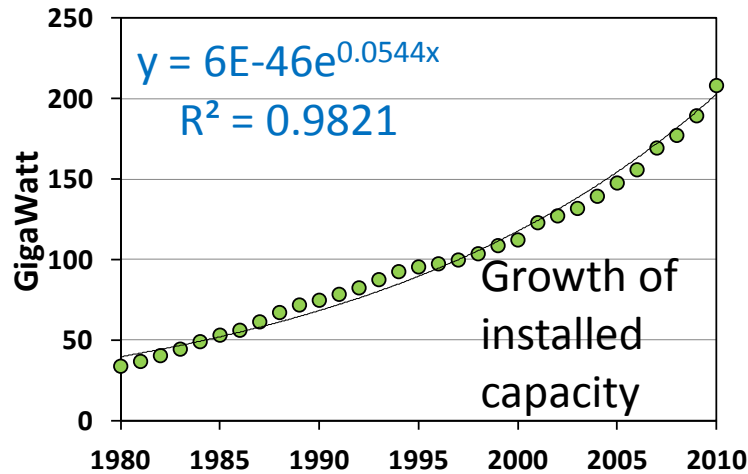
- Greater denitrification in Black soils



*What would be the impacts of future rainfall on denitrification?*



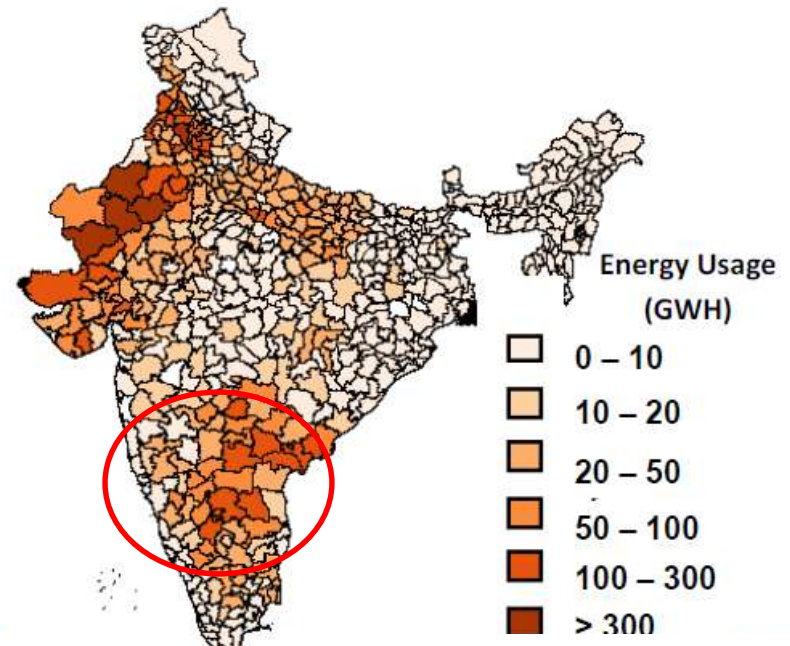
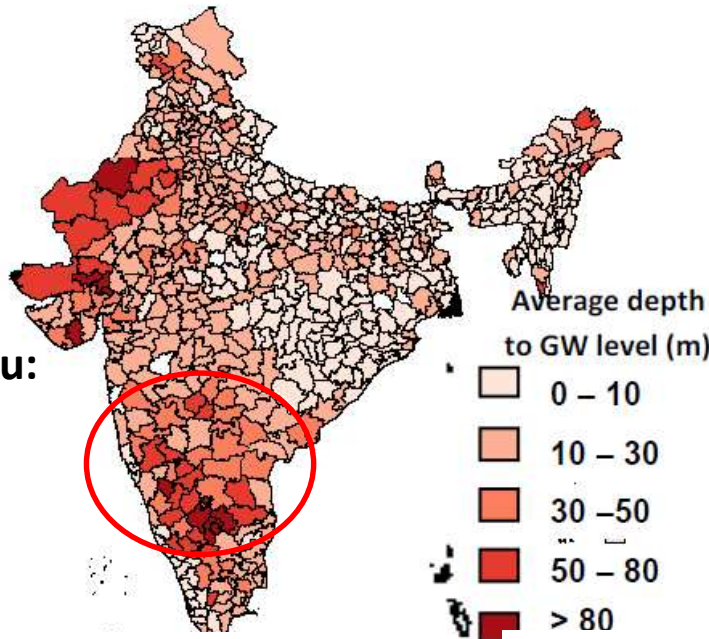
# Agricultural groundwater use linkage with electricity supply (Water – Food – Energy nexus)



Strong growth of electricity consumption

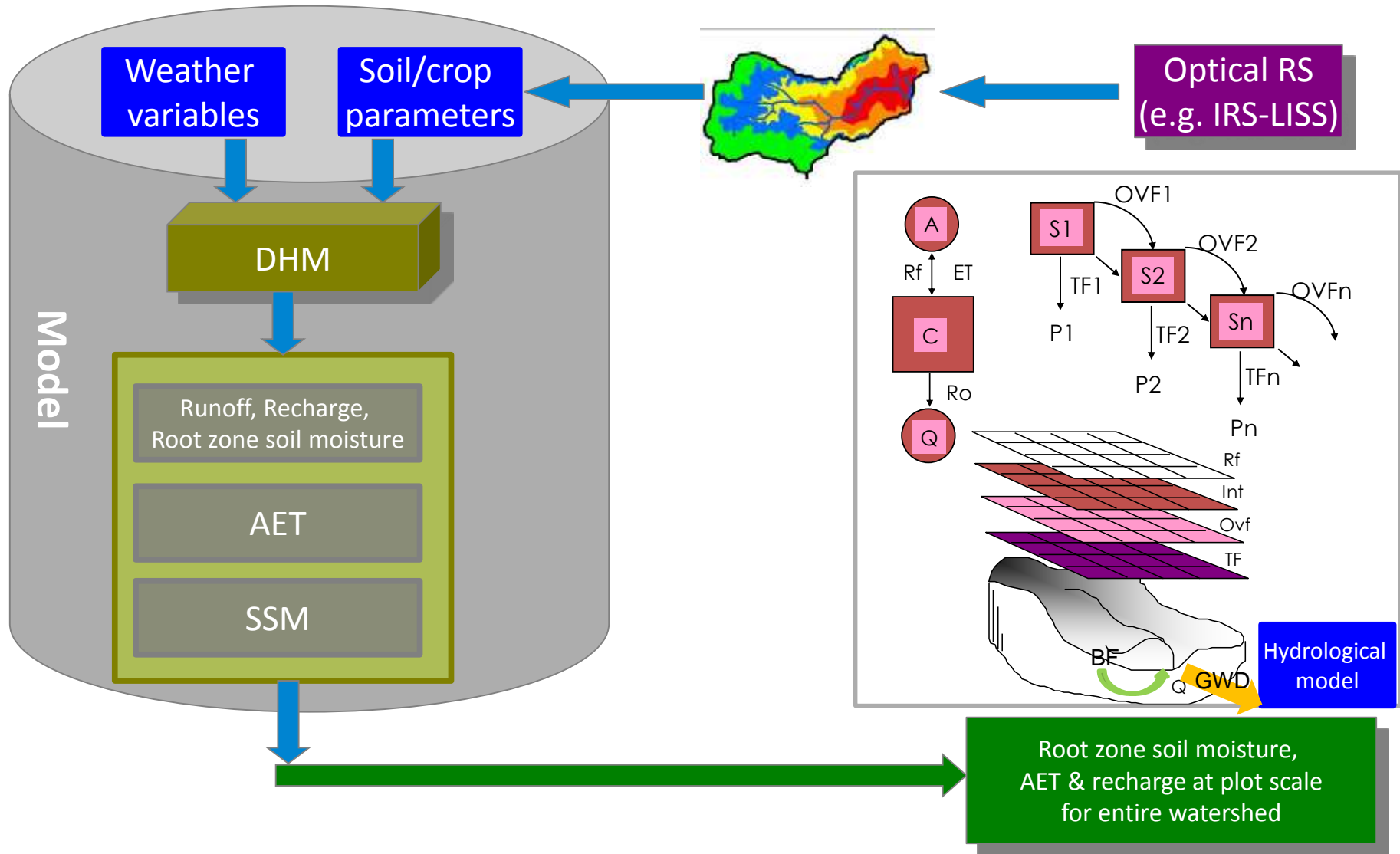
**30% of electricity is for GW pumping – (equivalent of about 50 nuclear reactors !)**

South of Deccan Plateau:  
Deep GW  
In spite of good rainfall

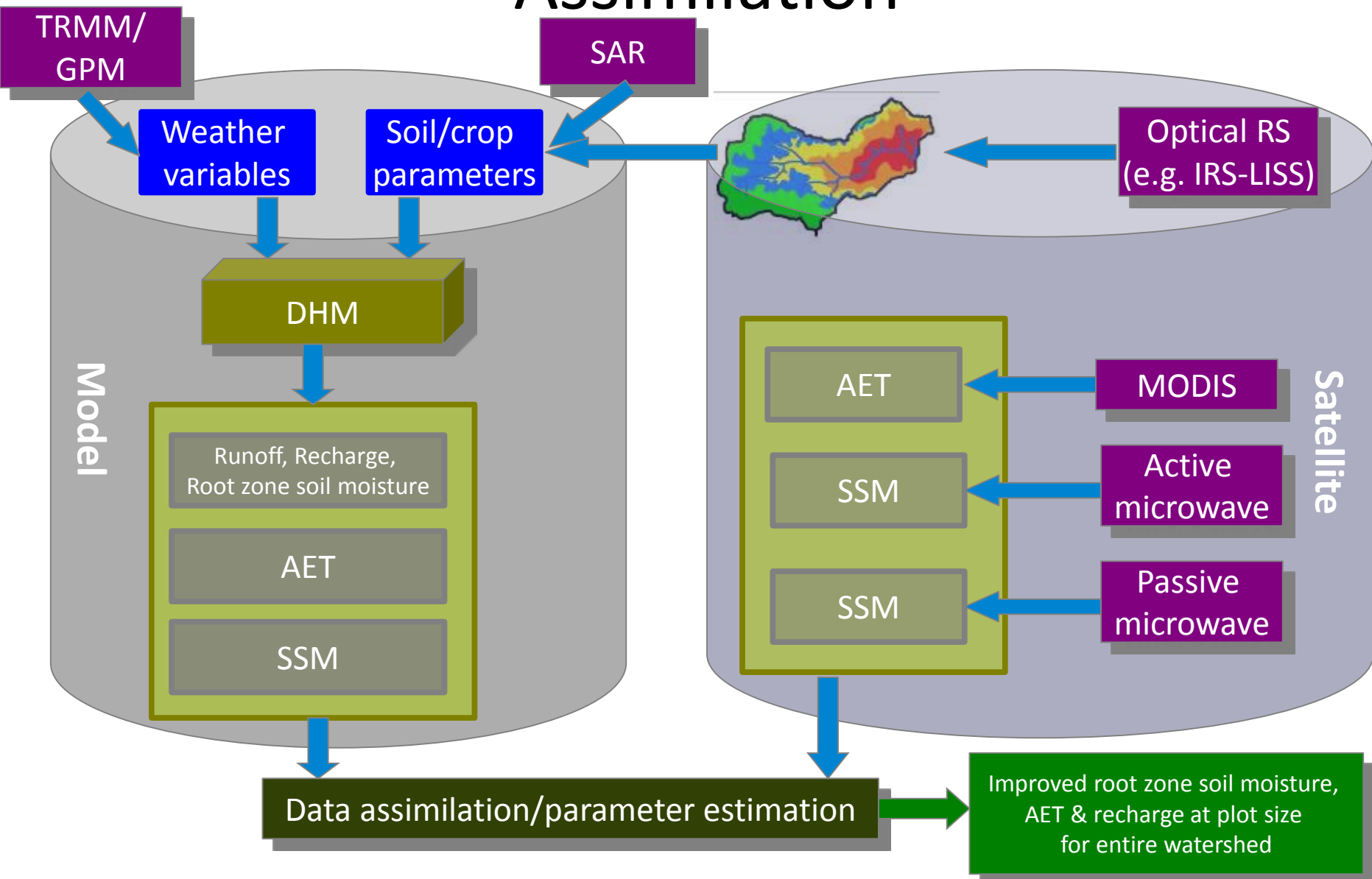


Source: U. Lall (2011)

# Hydrological Modeling (conventional)

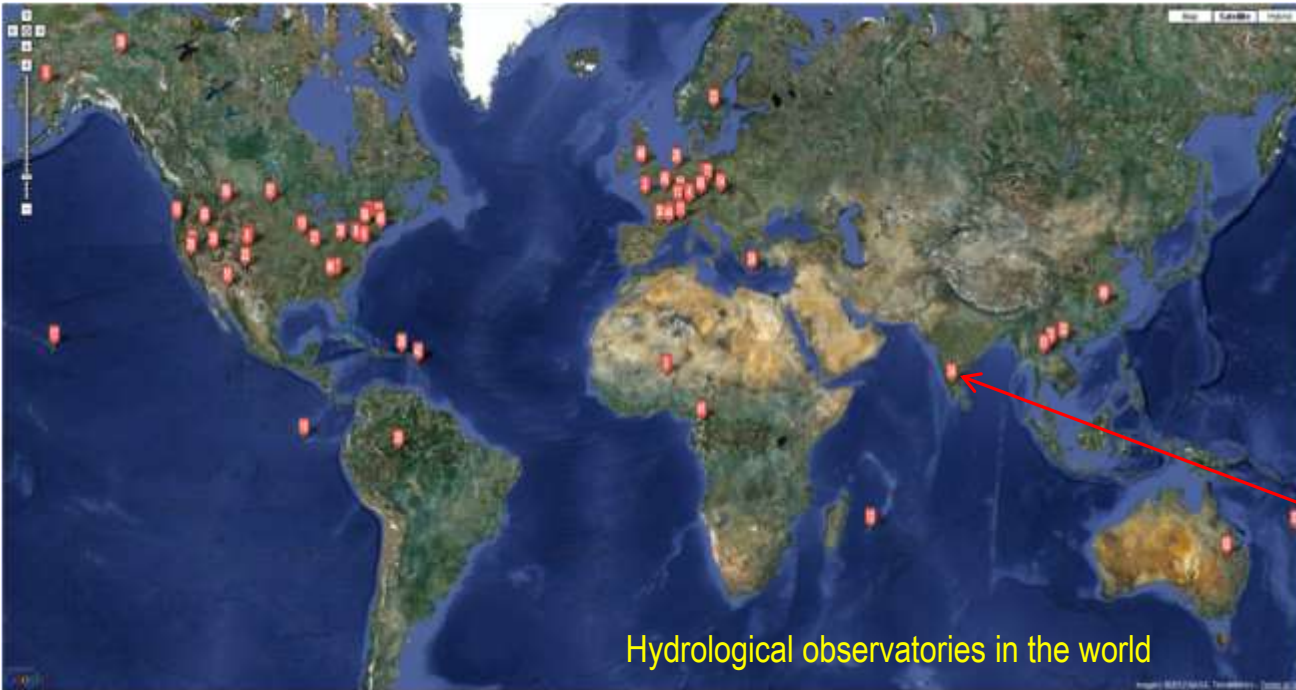


# Modeling with Remote Sensing & Assimilation





# Observatories



## Kabini CZO

Kabini basin observatory-  
Response of tropical  
ecosystems to global  
changes in Southern India  
CEFIRSE LMI

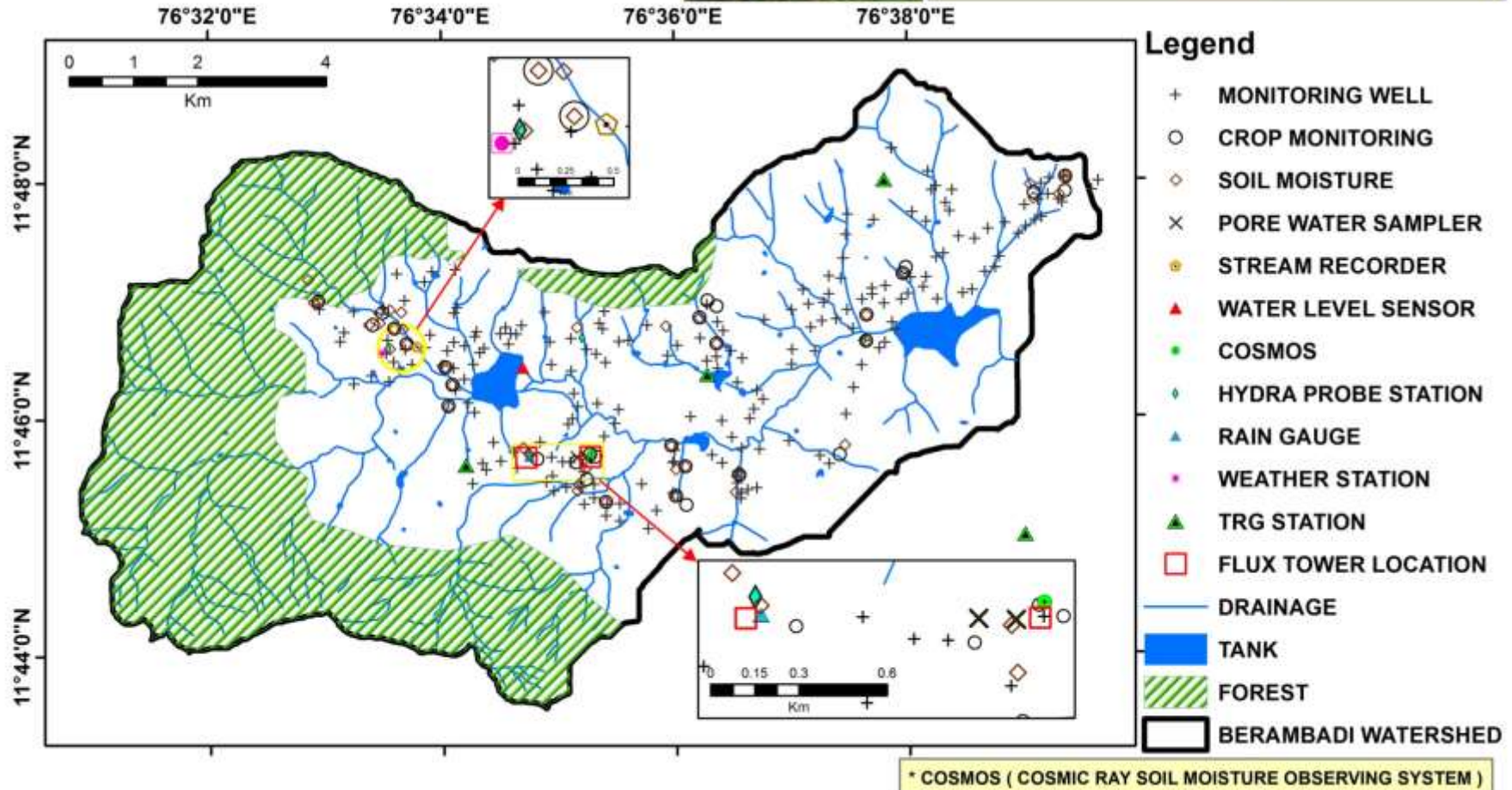
- *What controls the resilience, response and recovery of a hydrological system to perturbations of climate and land-use changes?*
- *How can sensing technology and modeling be integrated for simulation and forecasting of essential hydrological variables?*
- *How can theory, data and mathematical models from natural- and social- sciences be integrated to simulate, manage river basin/catchments goods and services ?*

# Kabini CZO

**INSTRUMENTS INSTALLED ON EDDY TOWER**  
 PLATINUM RESISTANCE THERMOMETER ( AIR TEMPERATURE )  
 CAPACITOR TYPE ( RELATIVE HUMIDITY )  
 3D SONIC ANEMOMETER ( 3D WIND SPEED AND DIRECTION )  
 GAS ANALYZER ( WATER VAPOUR )  
 FOUR COMPONENT NET RADIOMETER ( NET RADIATION )  
 FLUX PLATE ( SOIL HEAT FLUX )



**INSTRUMENTS INSTALLED ON AMS TOWER**  
 PLATINUM RESISTANCE THERMOMETER ( AIR TEMPERATURE )  
 CAPACITOR TYPE ( RELATIVE HUMIDITY )  
 CUP ANEMOMETER ( WIND SPEED AND WIND DIRECTION )  
 TRANSDUCER ( ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE )  
 TIPPING BUCKET RAINGAUGE ( RAINFALL )  
 FOUR COMPONENT NET RADIOMETER ( NET RADIATION )  
 SHADED PYRANOMETER ( DIFFUSE RADIATION )  
 FLUX PLATE ( SOIL HEAT FLUX )  
 SOIL THERMOMETER ( SOIL TEMPERATURE )  
 DATA LOGGER  
 YAGI ANTENNA



**Eddy flux tower**



**@ Beechanahalli,  
Gundlupet TQ.**

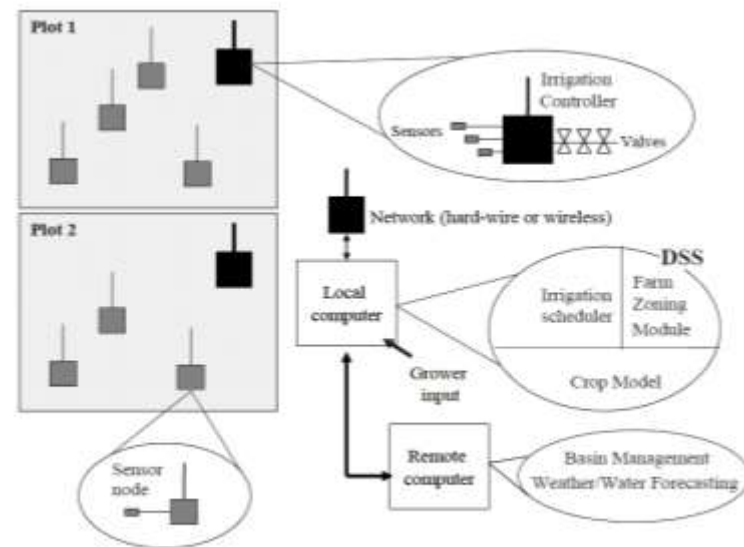
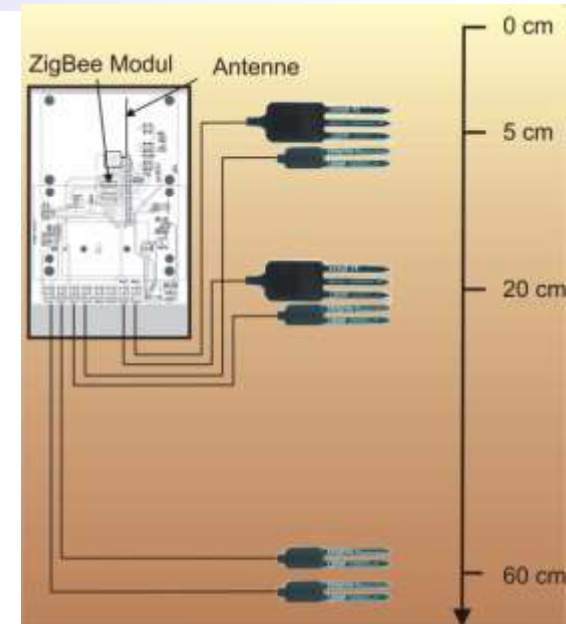
**Cosmos, Steven's Hydra probes & OTT  
@ K Madahalli, Chamarajanagar TQ.**



**Cosmos & Steven's Hydra probes  
@ Singanallur, Kollegal TQ**

# Integration of Satellite, Sensors & ICT tools

- Integration of **satellite, surface observations Bigdata & IoT** to support improvements in agricultural water resources management.
- Soil moisture can be retrieved through remote sensing & combined with calibration from ground **'capacitance'** sensors – upscaling of this approach though smart sensors is a way to take the idea from **'bench to field'**.
- **Crop as a sensor** to model & assess the role of critical controlling parameters including water stress.
- To find the optimal & precision irrigation which **maximizes the crop yield** and to provide the timely electricity to pumps.

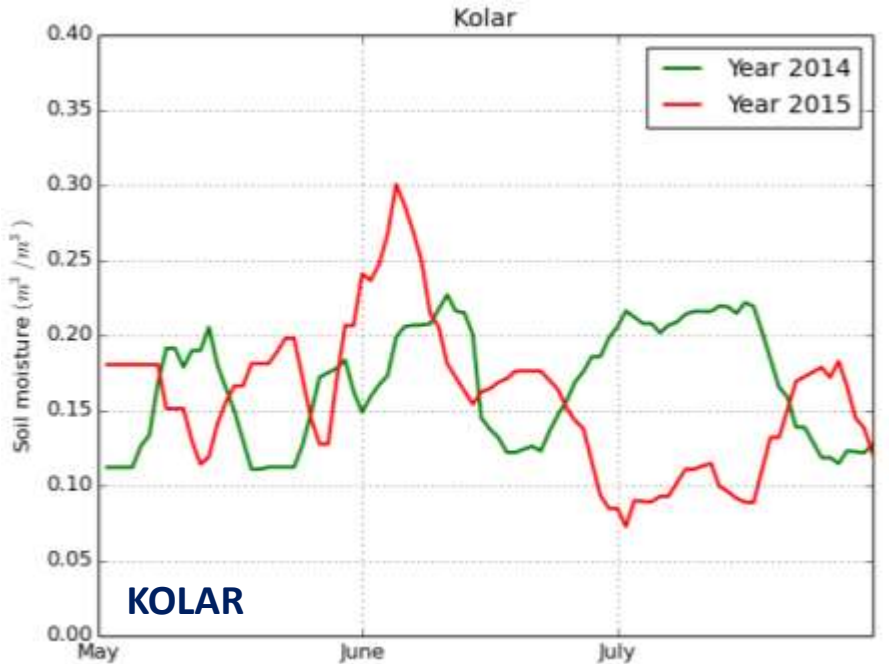
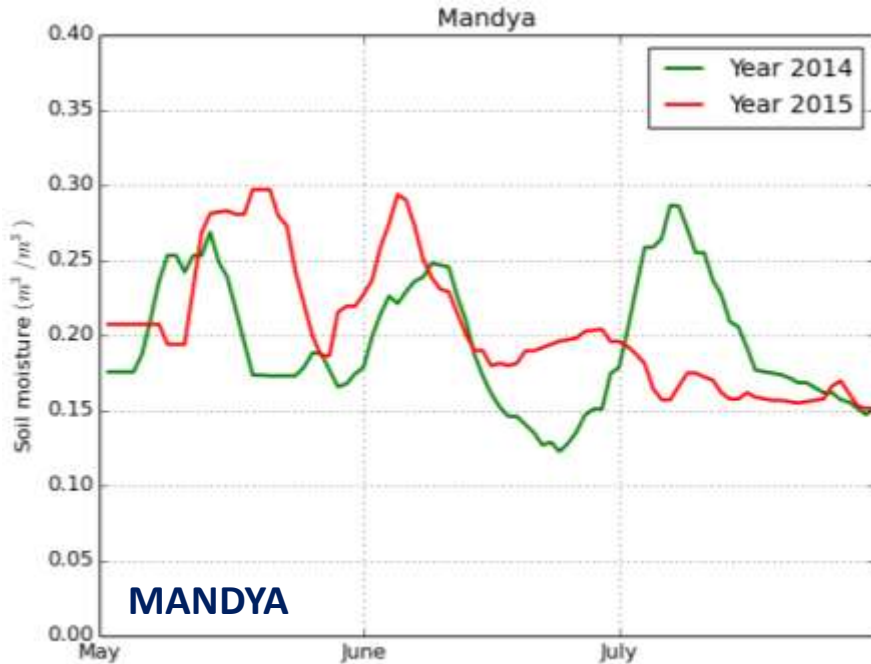
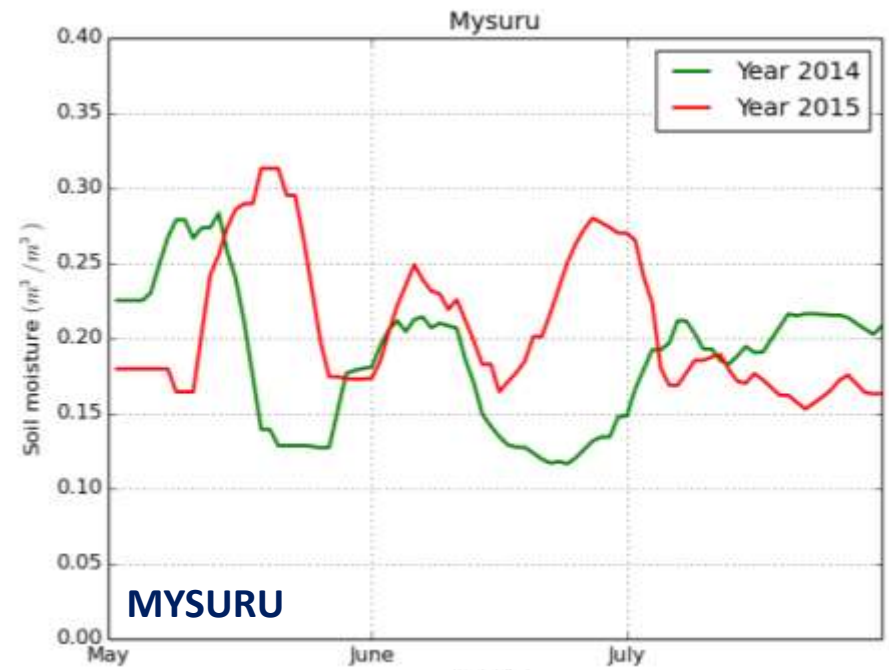
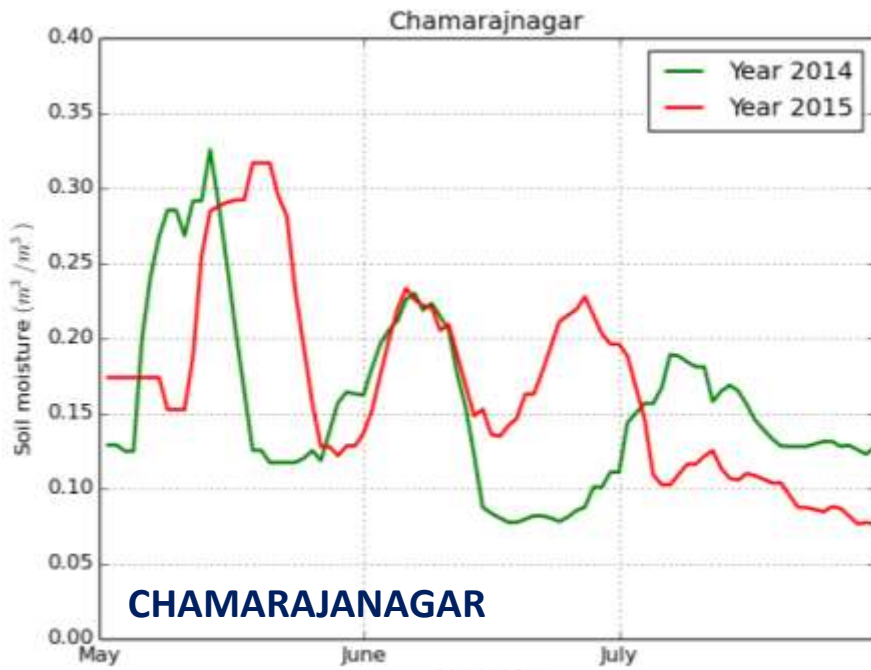


Pardossi et al., 2009

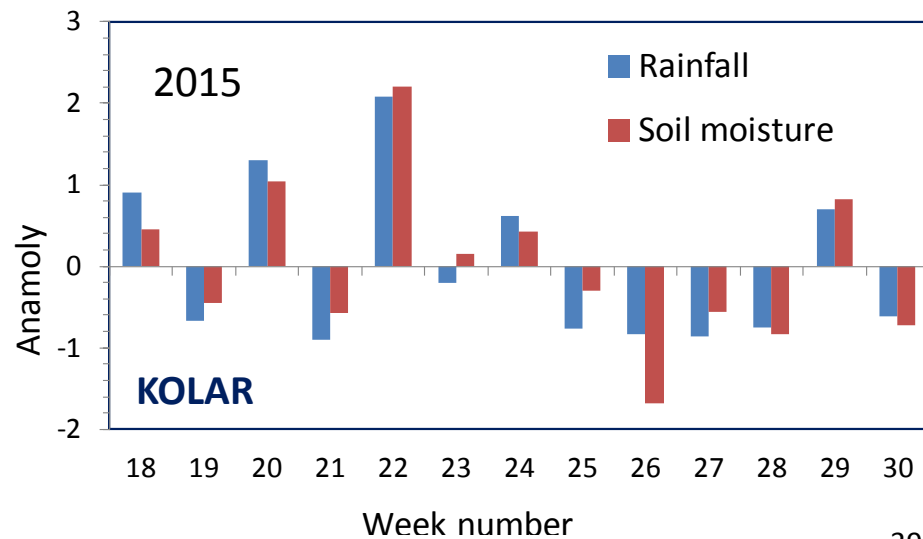
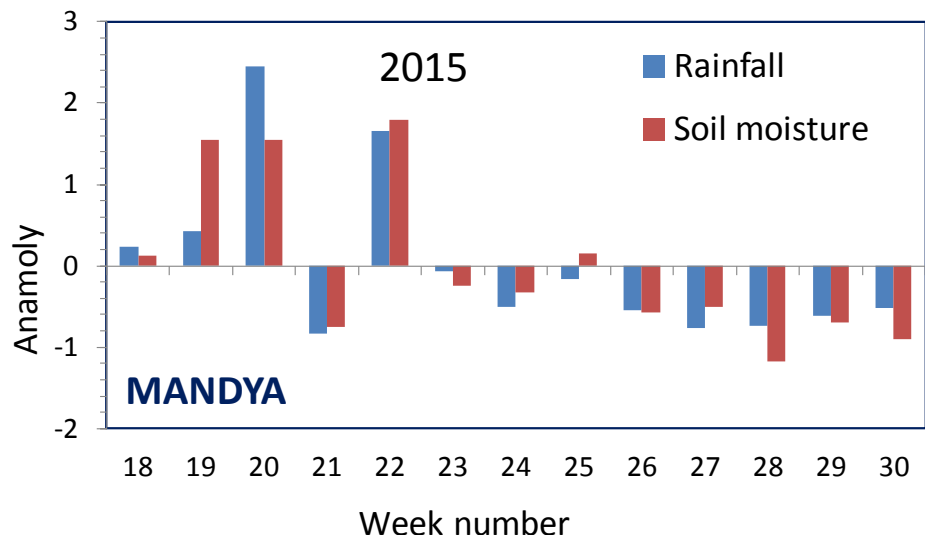
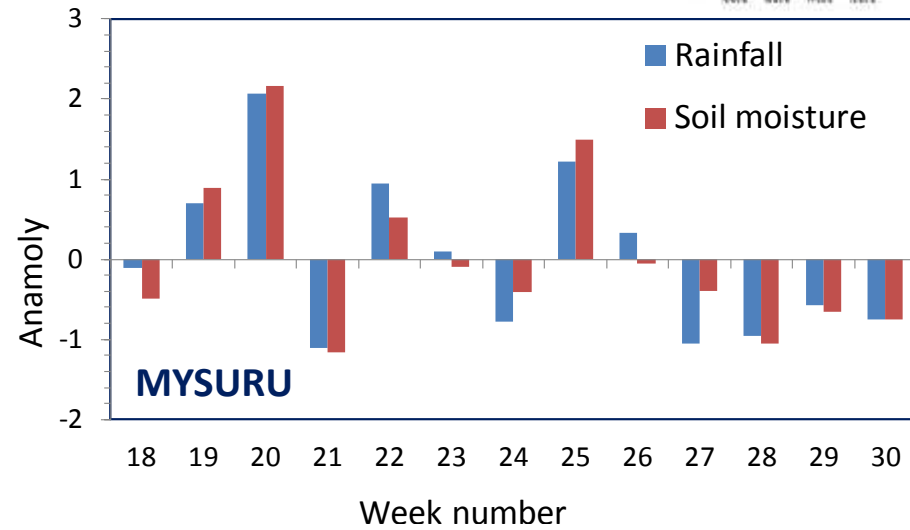
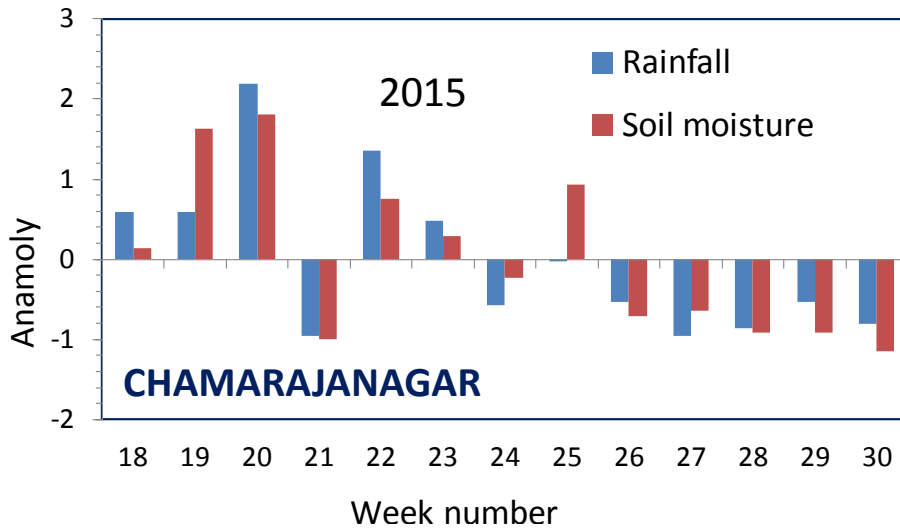
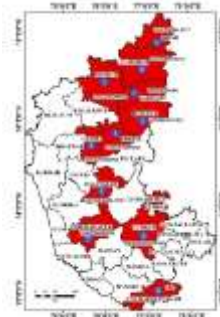


**Thank you**

# SOIL MOISTURE TRENDS IN KARNATAKA - SMOS



# Anomalies of Rainfall & Soil Moisture



# MAPSM: Merged Active and Passive Soil Moisture

