

# Observation and modelling of radiative and heat-water transfer processes on the Tibetan Plateau

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with contributions from

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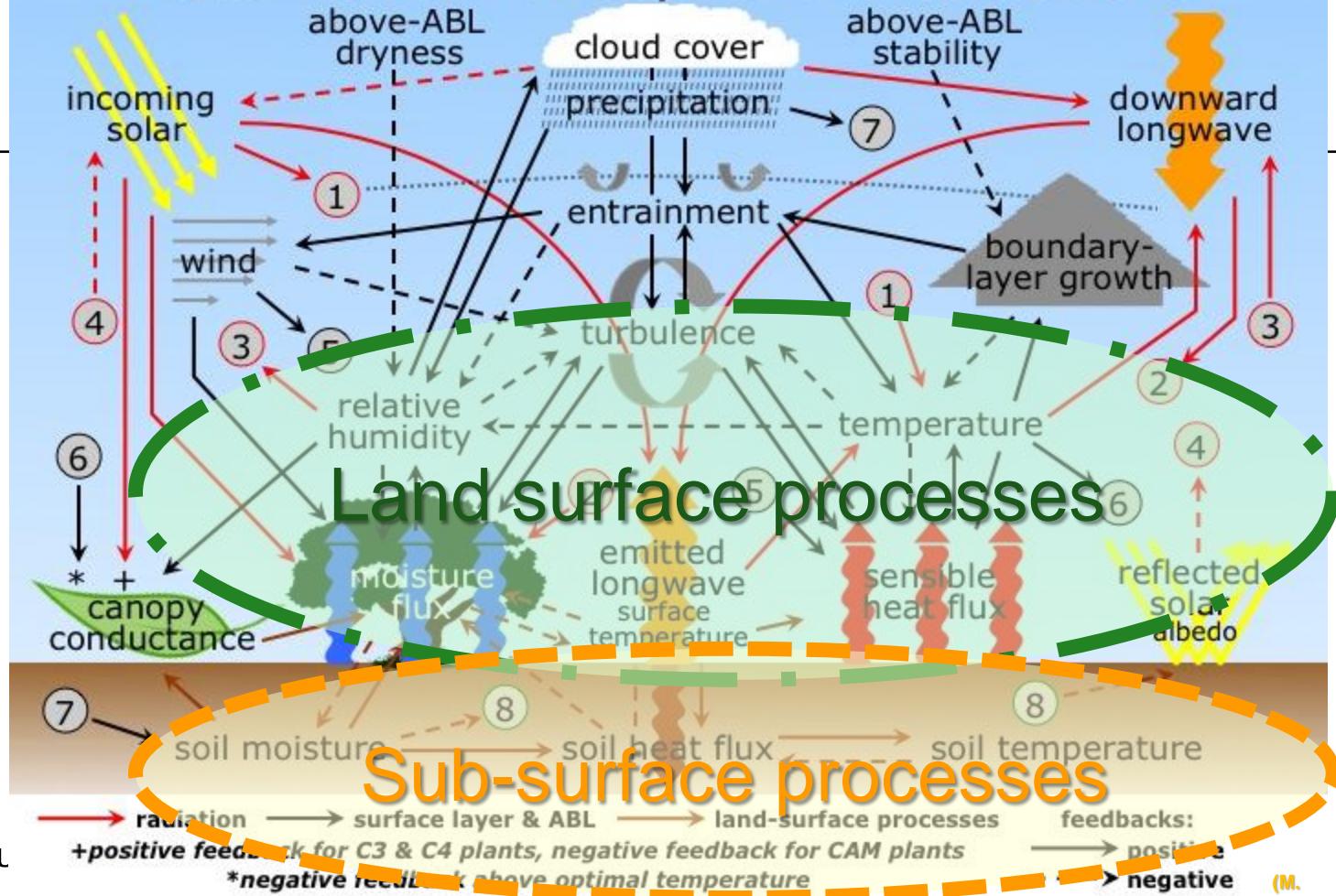
J. Wen, X. Wang (NIEER/CAS), Y. Ma (ITP/CAS)

in collaboration with

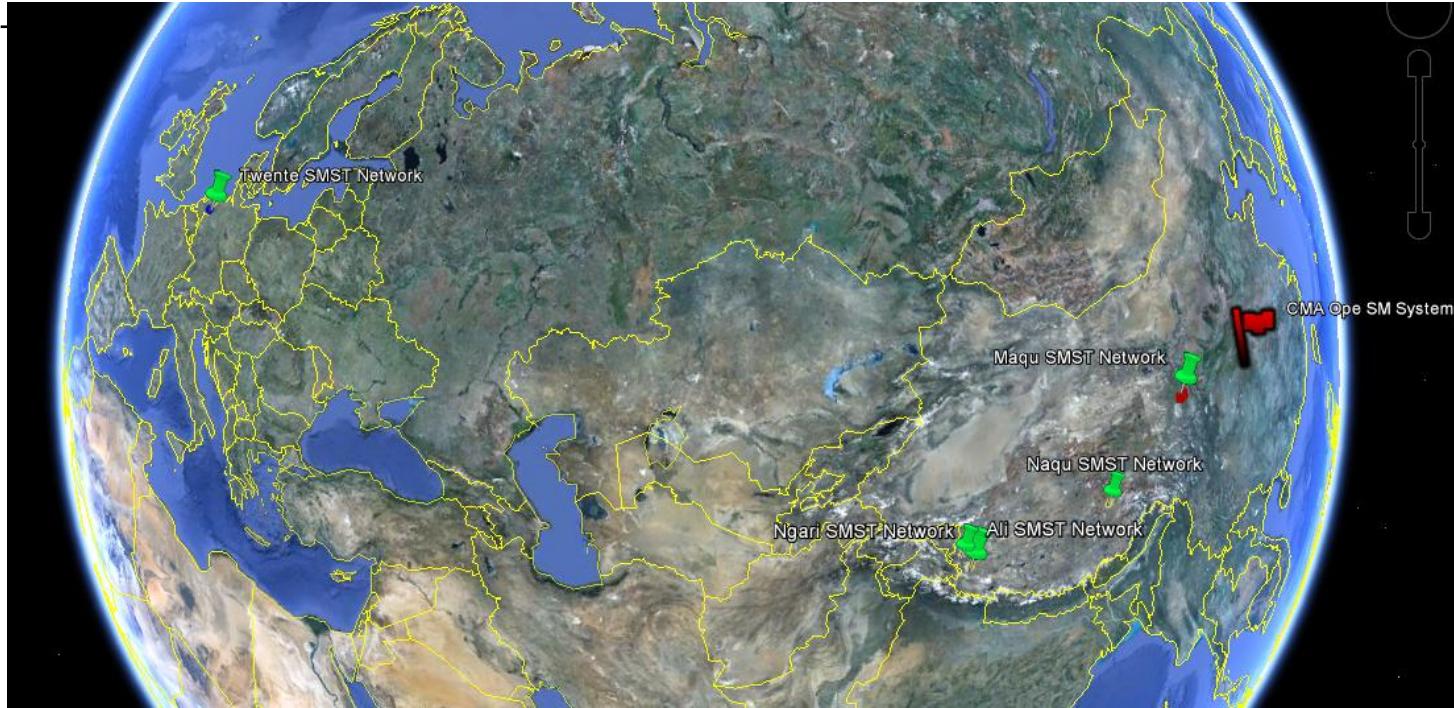
P. de Rosnay, G. Balsamo (ECMWF), M. Ek (NCAR),

P. Ferrazzoli (UR), M. Schwank (ETH), Y. Kerr (CESBIO), A. Cillander (IPI)

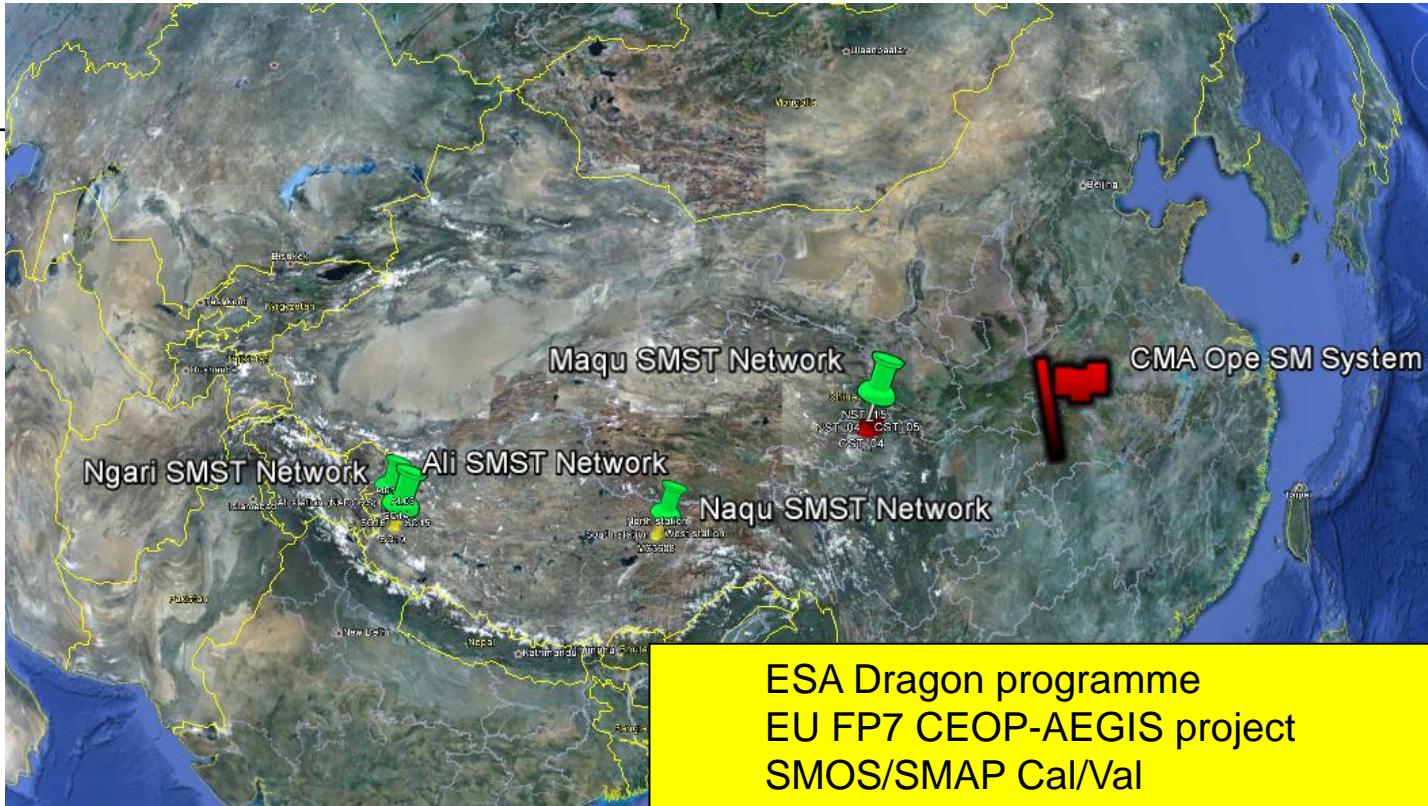
# Local Land-Atmosphere Interactions



# ITC GEO Soil Moisture Soil Temperature Networks



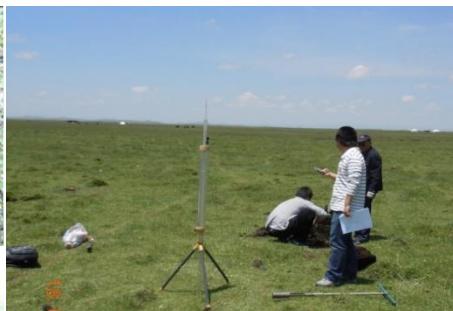
# Tibetan Plateau observatory of plateau scale soil moisture and soil temperature (Tibet-Obs)



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

<http://en.tpedatabase.cn/>

(*Su et al. 2011, HESS*)

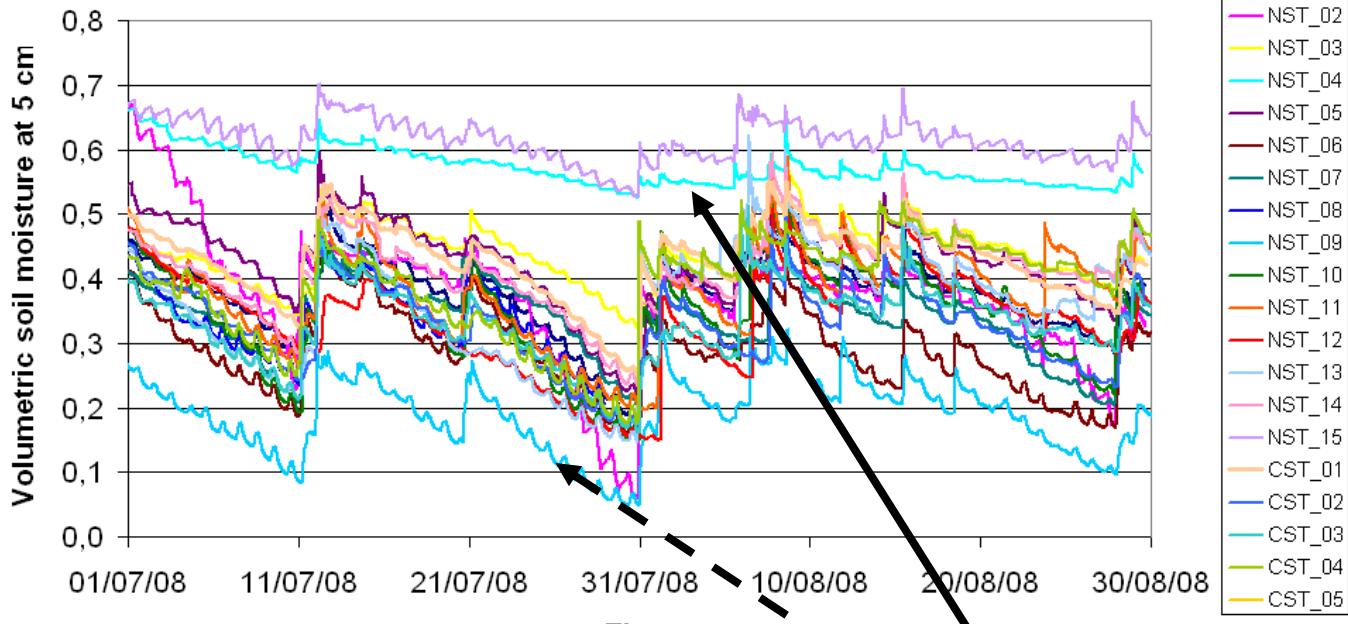


Dataset | Soil Hydraulic and Thermal Properties for Land Surface Modelling over the Tibetan Plateau

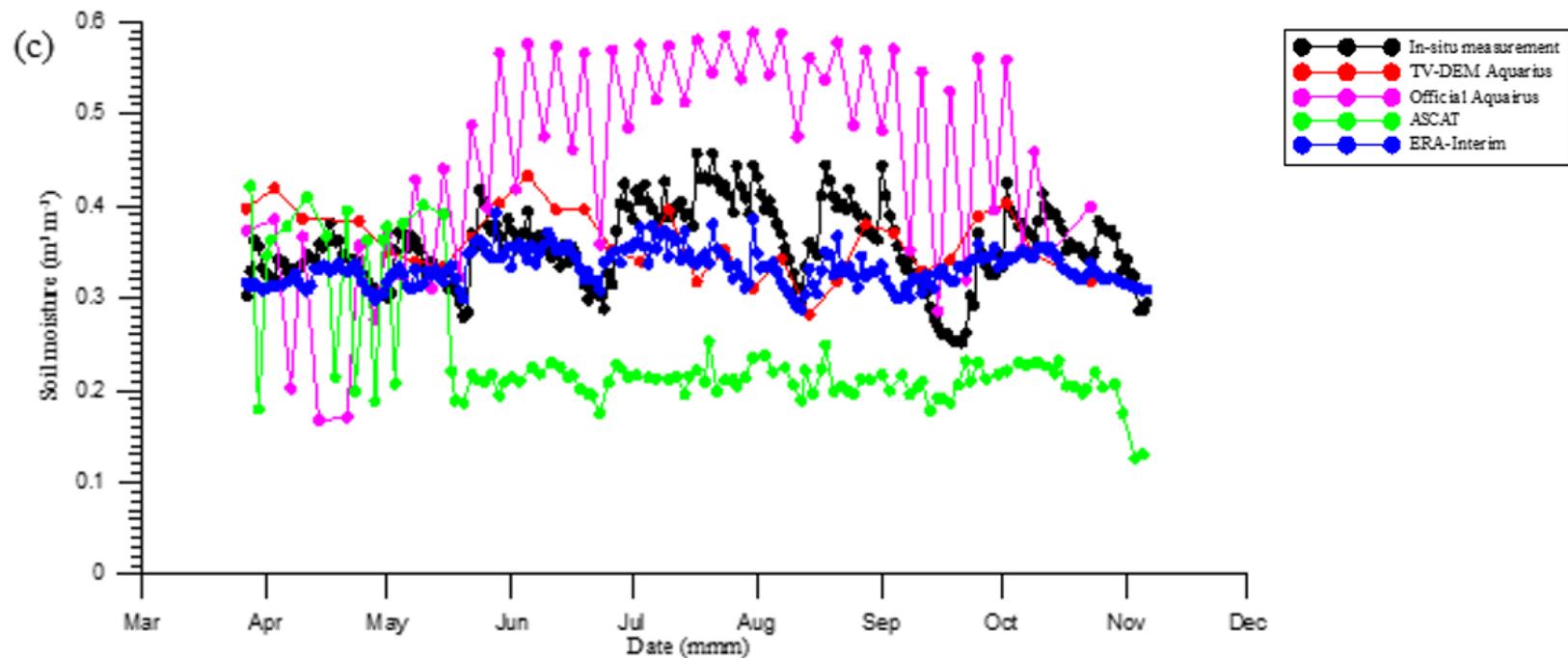
<https://data.4tu.nl/>

(*Zhao et al. 2018, ESSD*)

# Maqu: Soil moisture at 5 cm depth



# How good are some soil moisture products? Ngari (a), Naqu (b) and Maqu (c) for year 2012



## 6. An Algorithm for Estimating Effective Soil Temperature in L-band Radiometry

(Lv et al. 2014, RSE; 2016, RSE; 2018, RS)

$T_B = \varepsilon T_{eff}$  [ $\varepsilon$ : Veg, roughness, SM profile;  $T_{eff}$ : T&SM profile]

$$T_{eff} = \int_0^{\infty} T(x) \alpha(x) \exp\left[-\int_0^x a(x') dx'\right] dx \quad (\text{Ulaby et al. 1978; 1979})$$

$$\alpha(x) = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \varepsilon''(x) / \sqrt{2[\varepsilon'(x)]^2} \quad (\text{Wilheit 1978})$$

A two-layer system:  $T_{eff} = T_0(1 - e^{-B_0}) + T_\infty e^{-B_0}$

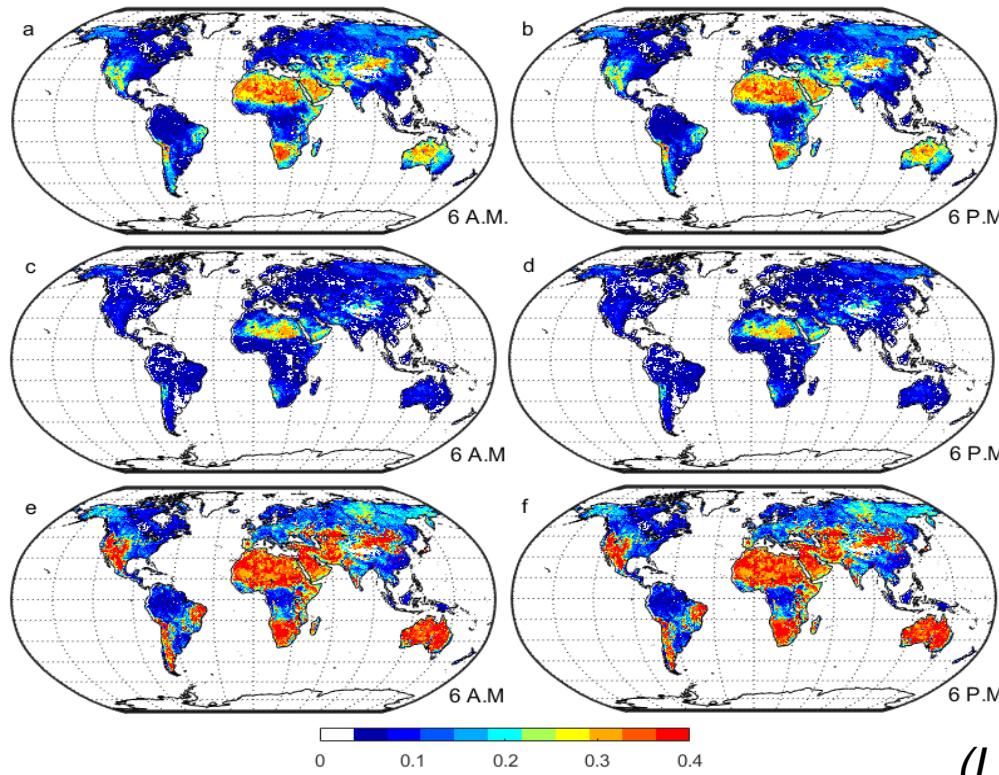
$$B_0 = \alpha_1 x_1$$

$$B_0 = \Delta x \cdot \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon''}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon'}}$$

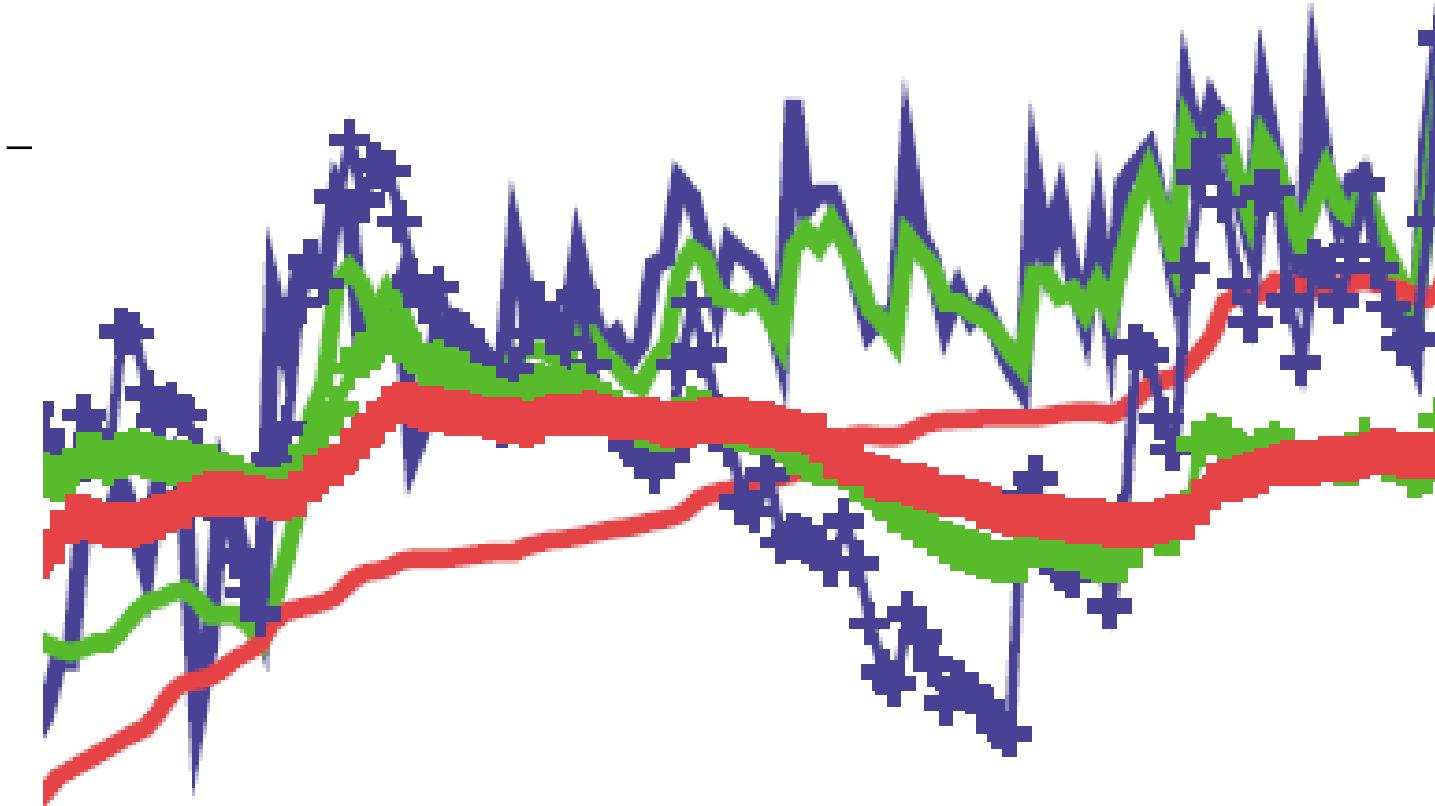
$$\begin{aligned} C &= 1 - e^{-B_0} \\ &= 1 - \exp(-\Delta x \alpha_1) \\ &= 1 - \exp\left(-\Delta x \cdot \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon''}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon'}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

# Global soil temperature sensing depth

a, b) mean; c, d) minimum; e, f) maximum at 6 am/pm local time, resp.



## How good is soil moisture assimilation?



# 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;

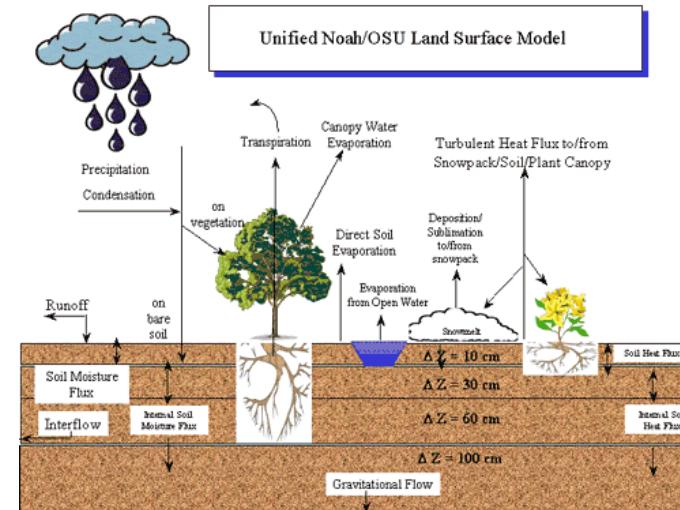
**(Zheng et al., 2014, 2015a,b, JHM; Zheng et al. 2016, 2017, JGR)**

- Snow pack.

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

- Frozen soil;

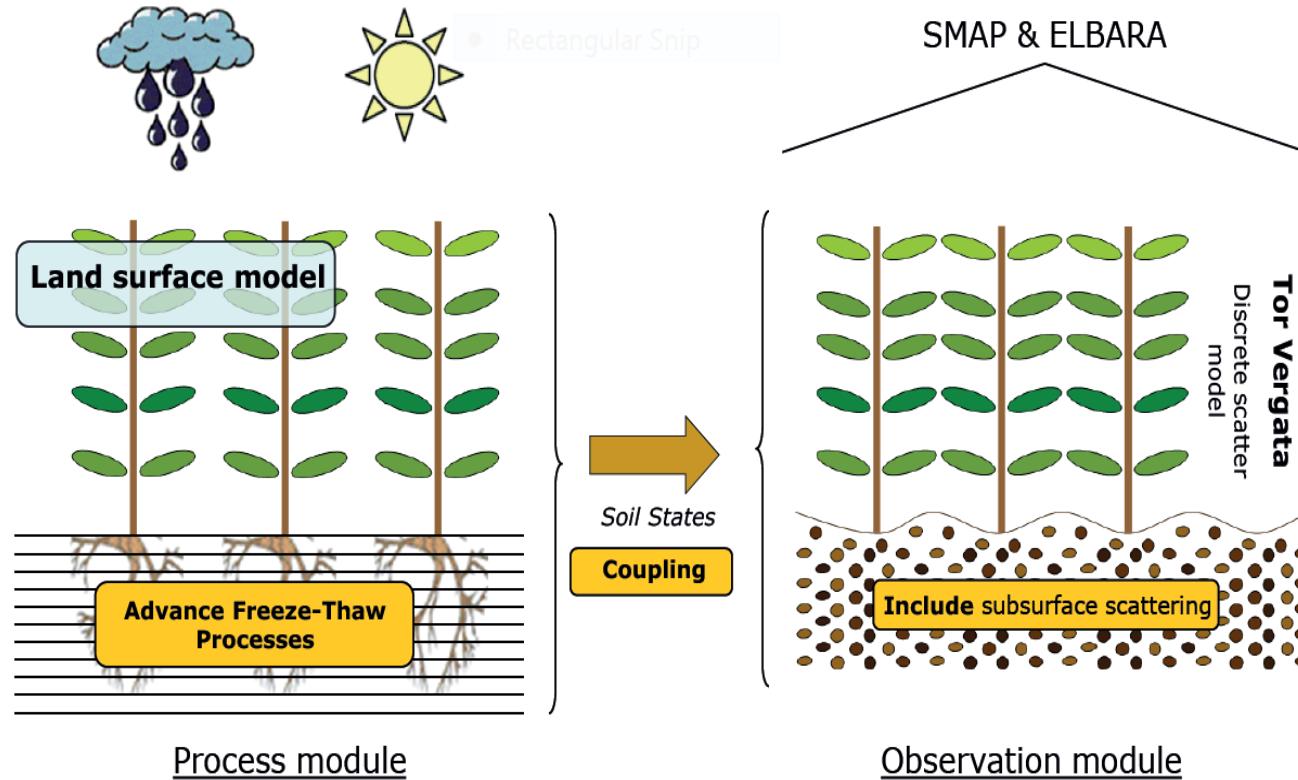
**(NWO SMAP freeze/thaw,  
Zheng et al., 2017 TGRS)**



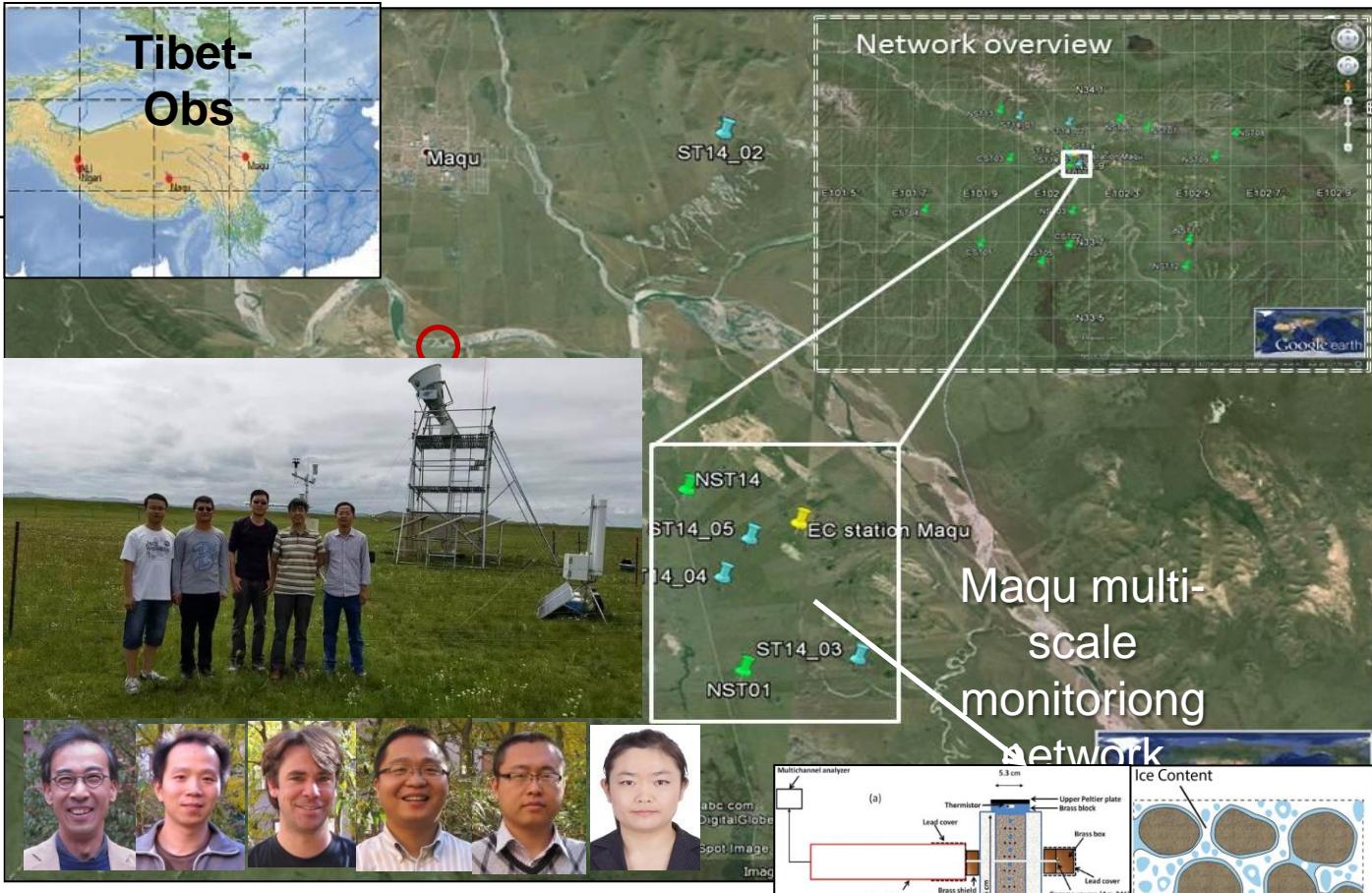


L-band (1.4 GHz) Active & Passive Microwave Obs.

SMAP & ELBARA



## 5. Coherent process modeling and radiative transfer modelling

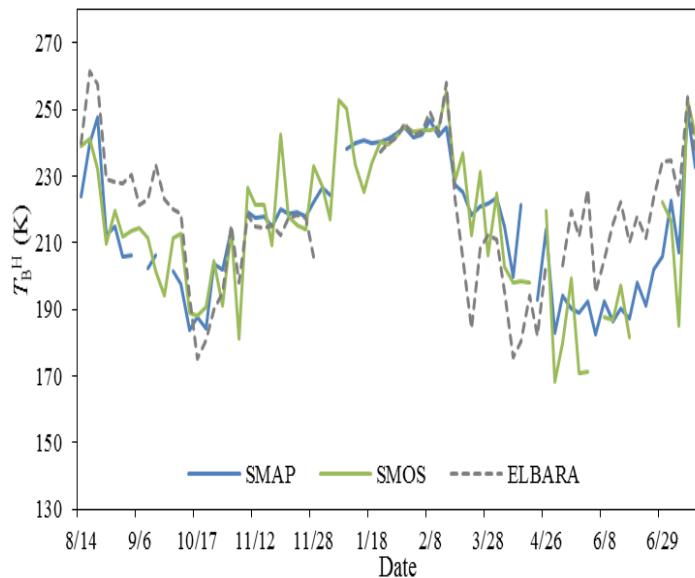


Tibet-Obs (Su et al. 2011) is selected as one of the SMAP core international Cal/Val sites

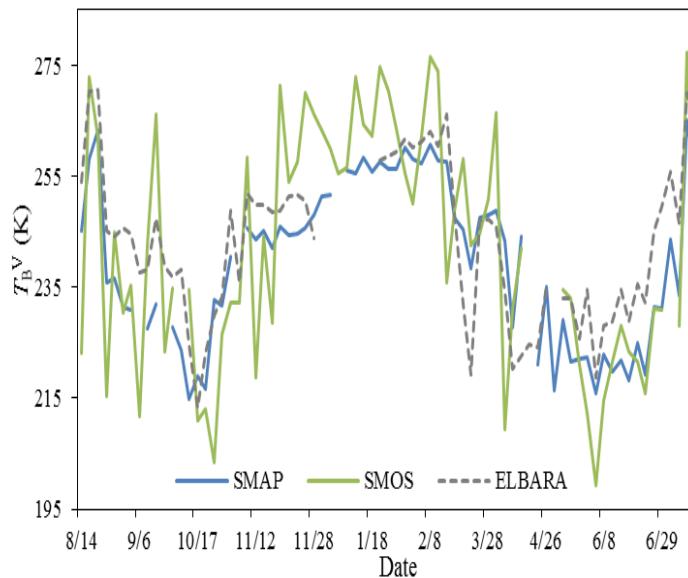


# HOW GOOD IS THE SATELLITE SIGNAL? (TB)

– (a)  $T_B^H$  of Morning



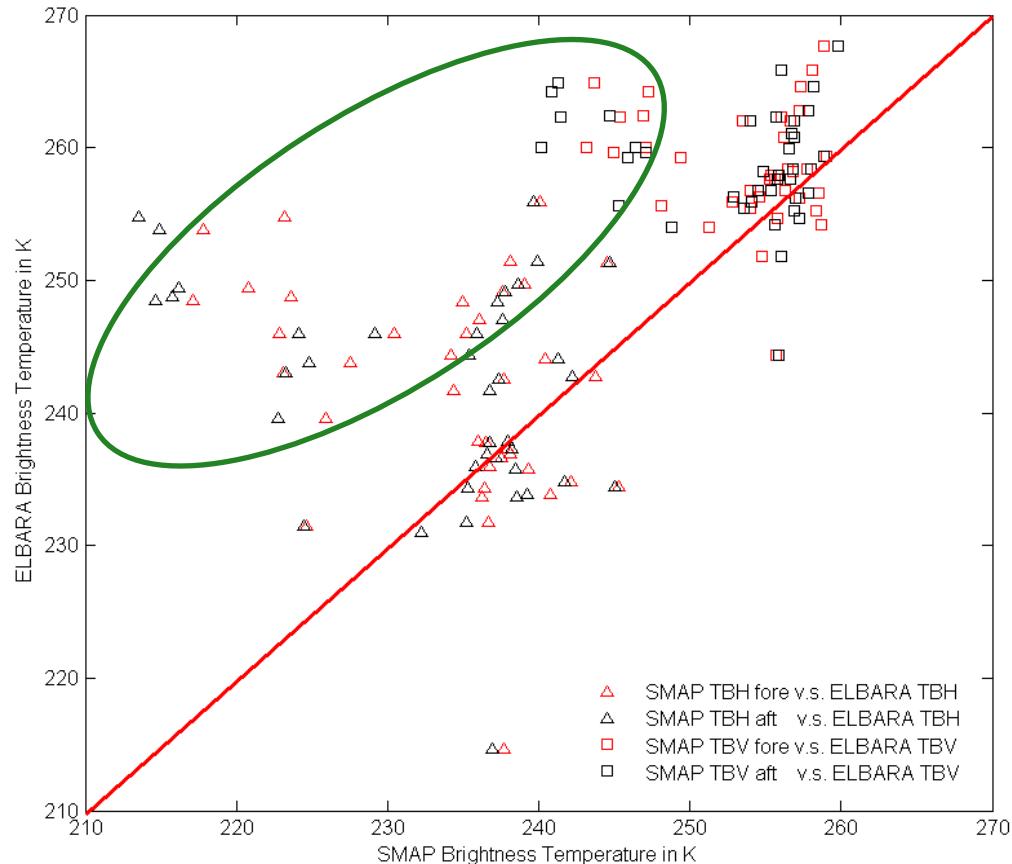
(b)  $T_B^V$  of Morning



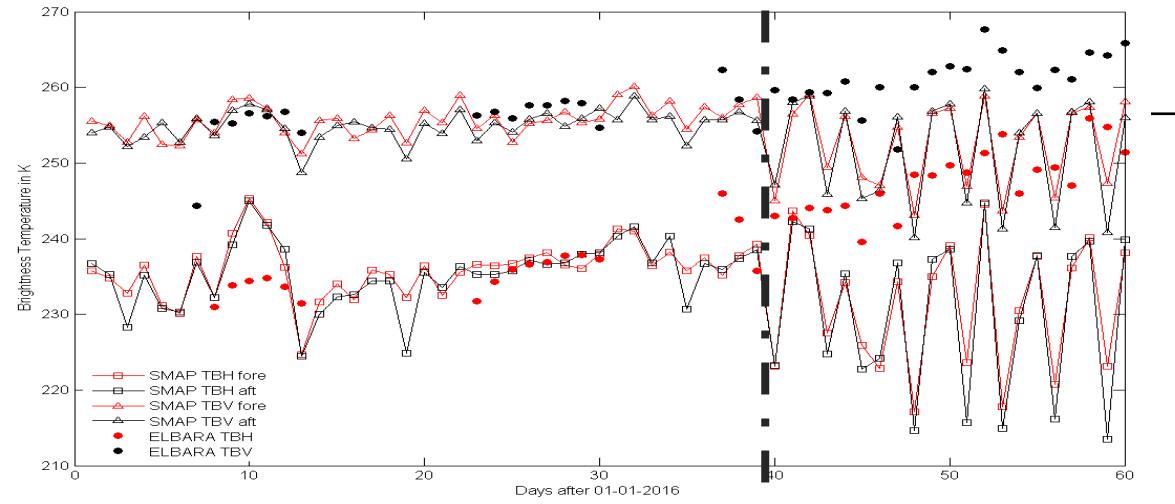
Comparisons of SMAP, SMOS and ELBARA-III  
measured  $T_B^H$  and  $T_B^V$  during morning overpasses -  
Aug. 2016 and July 2017.

# COMPARISON BETWEEN SMAP & ELBARA

SMAP TB L1C PRODUCT ([HTTPS://WORLDVIEW.EARTHDATA.NASA.GOV/](https://worldview.earthdata.nasa.gov/))



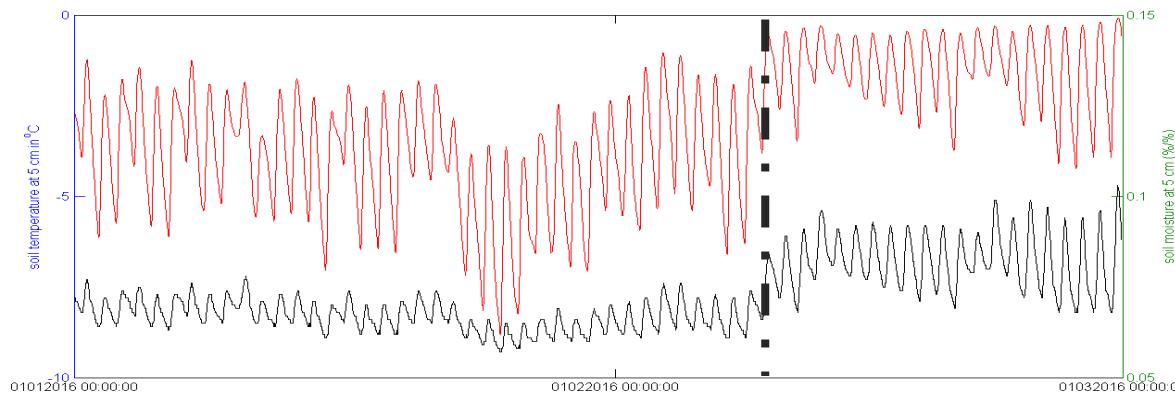
# Why does SMAP underestimate ELBARA Tb?



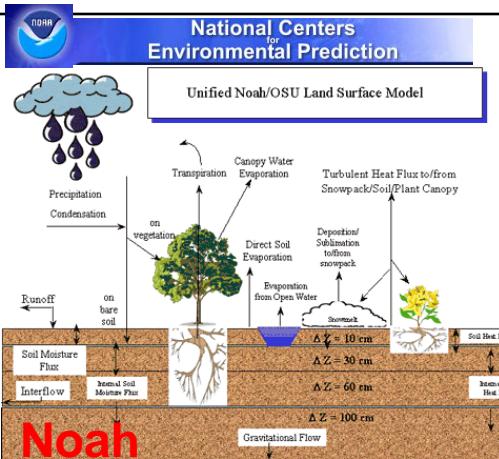
DOY 1:  
01-01-2016

DOY 40:  
10-02-2016

DOY 60:  
29-02-2016



# Noah-Tor Vergata Model



## Surface SMST

## 4-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

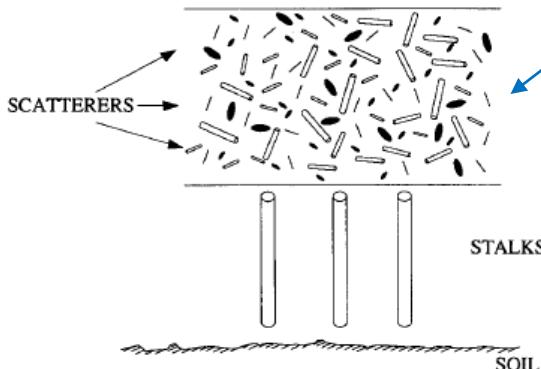
## Effective Temperature

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

## Permittivity

## Brightness Temperature

## Emissivity



U

Tor Vergata RT

# Noah-Tor Vergata Simulations

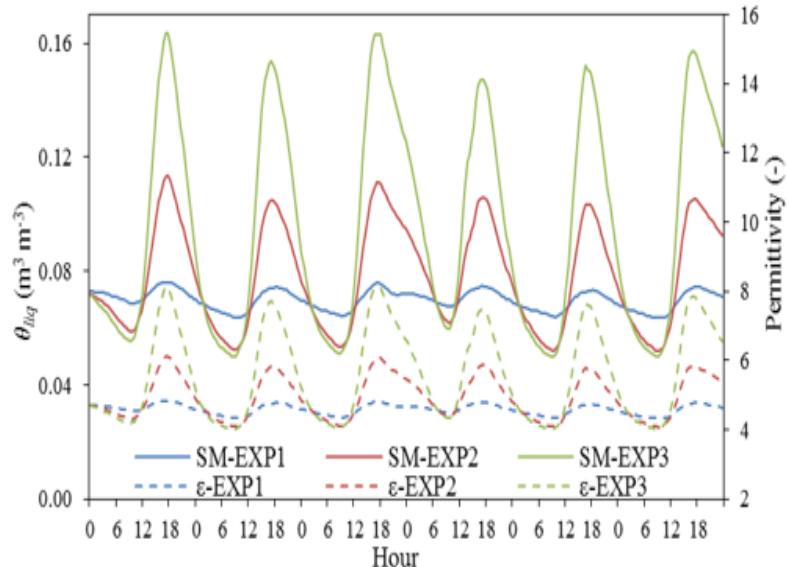
## Freezing Period: DOY 1-6

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

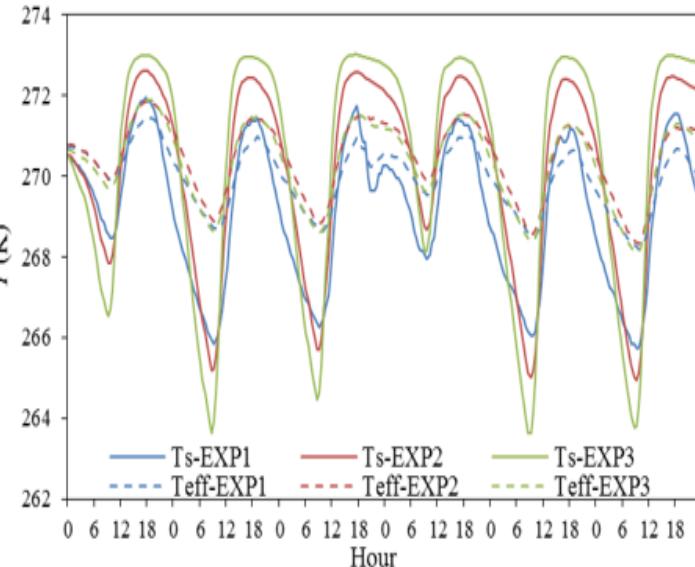
**EXP2:** SMST from Noah 4-layer (0.1, 0.4, 1.0, 2.0), Sim with midpoint of top 5 cm layer

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

(a) Top Layer Soil Moisture and Permittivity

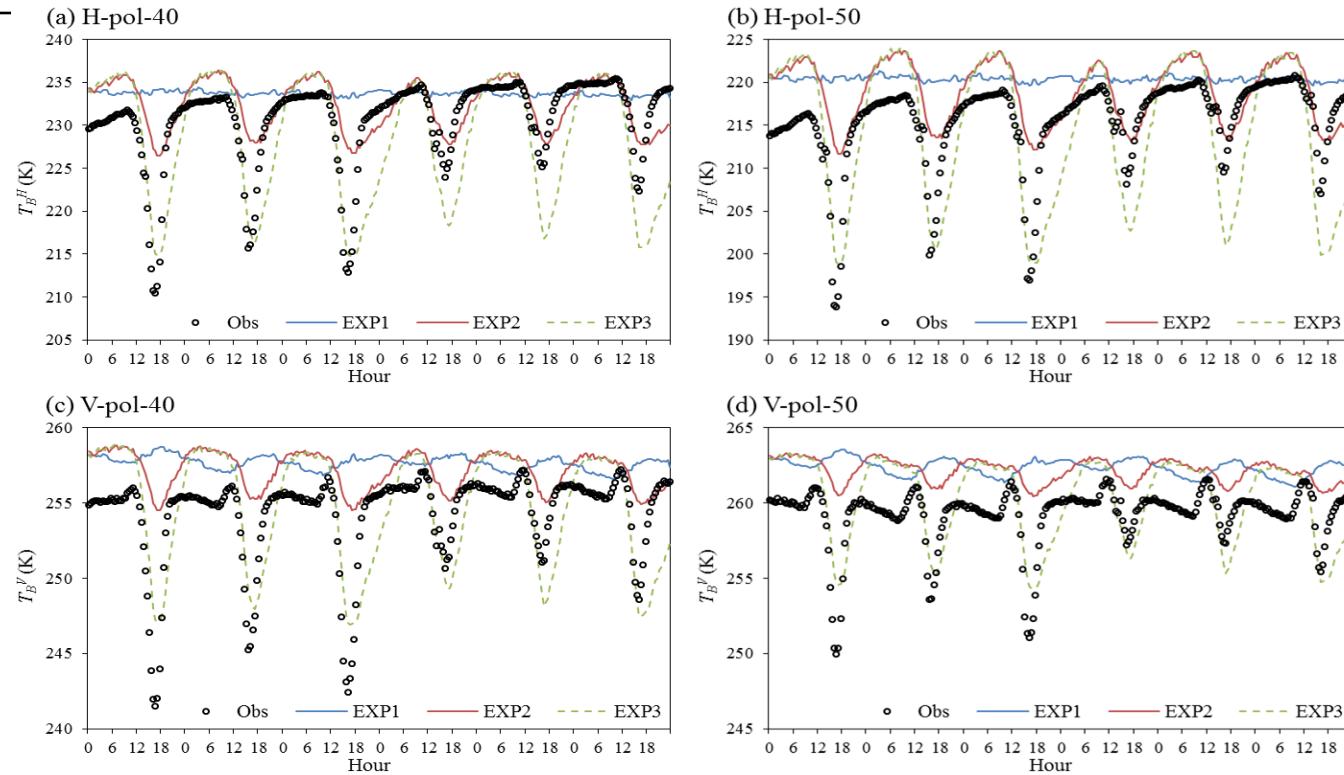


(b) Top Layer Temperature and Effective Temperature



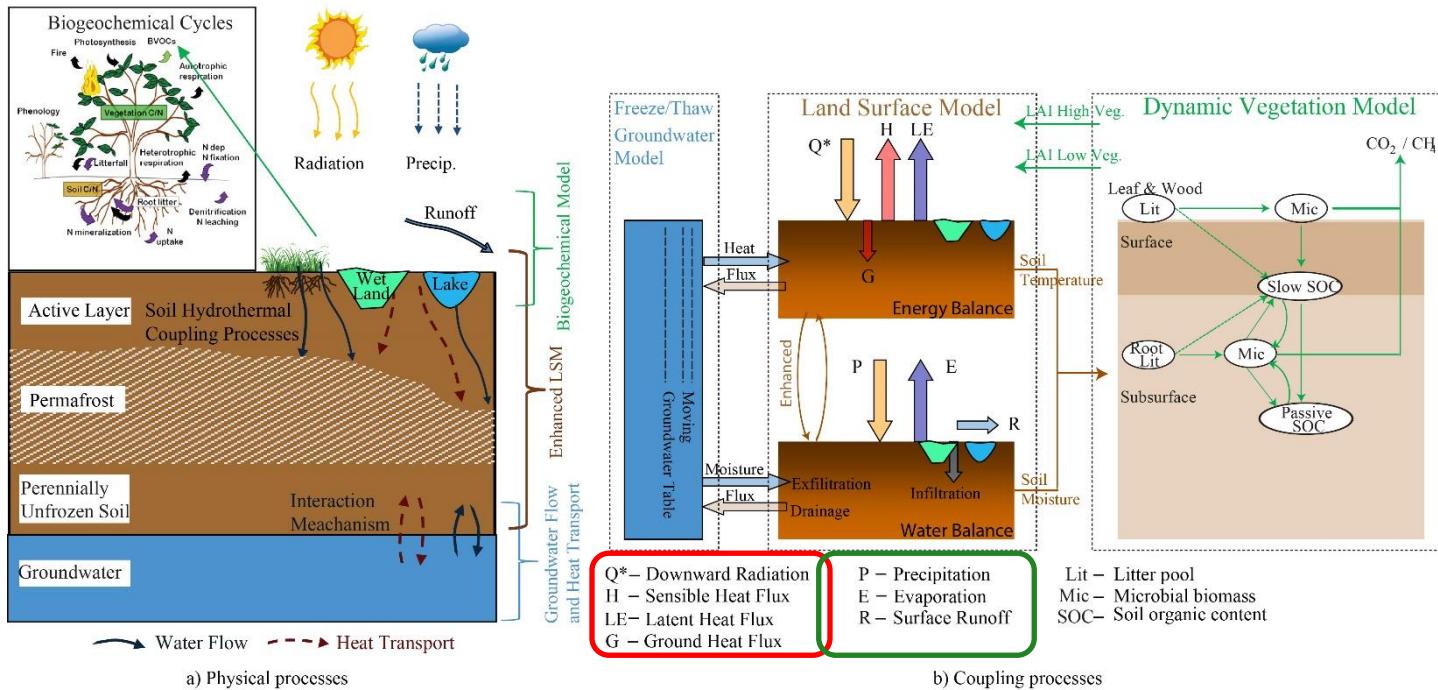
# Noah-Tor Vergata Simulations

(Zheng et al., 2017 TGRS)



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

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



# STEMMUS-FT (Freezing/Thawing) model

## Soil Water Phase Change

Soil Water Transport

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

Soil Heat Transport

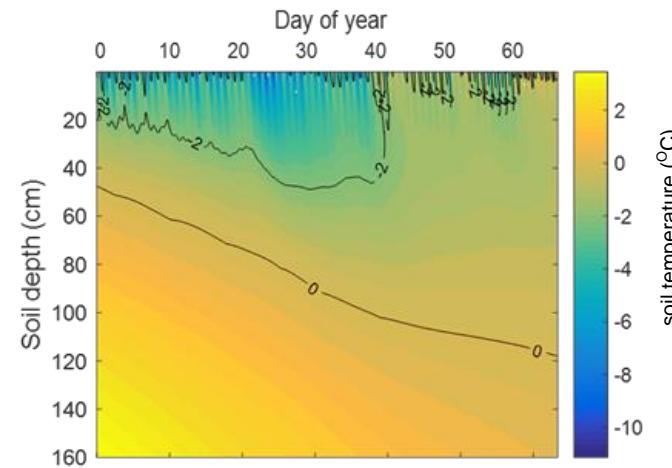
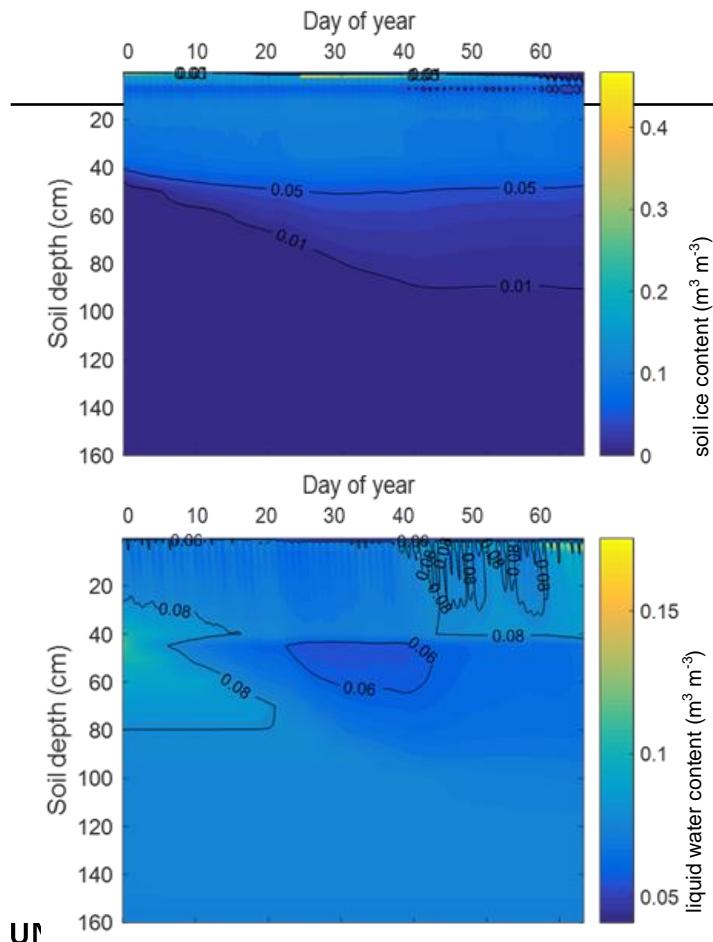
$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[(\rho_s \theta_s C_s + \rho_L \theta_L C_L + \rho_V \theta_V C_V)(T - T_r) + \rho_V \theta_V L_0 + \rho_i \theta_i L_f] - \rho_L W \frac{\partial \theta_L}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\lambda_{eff} \frac{\partial T}{\partial z}) - \frac{\partial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

Soil Dry air Transport

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

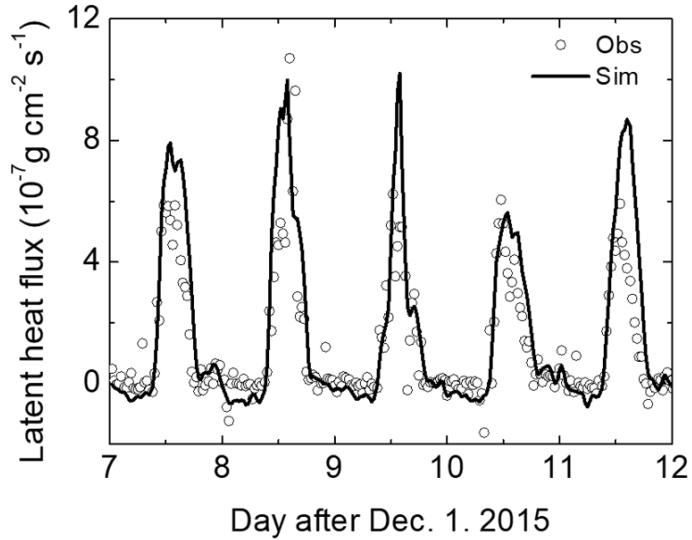
(Zeng et al., 2011 JGR,  
Zeng et al., 2011 WRR,  
Yu et al., 2016, HESS, 2018, JGR)

## Profile of ice, liquid water and temperature

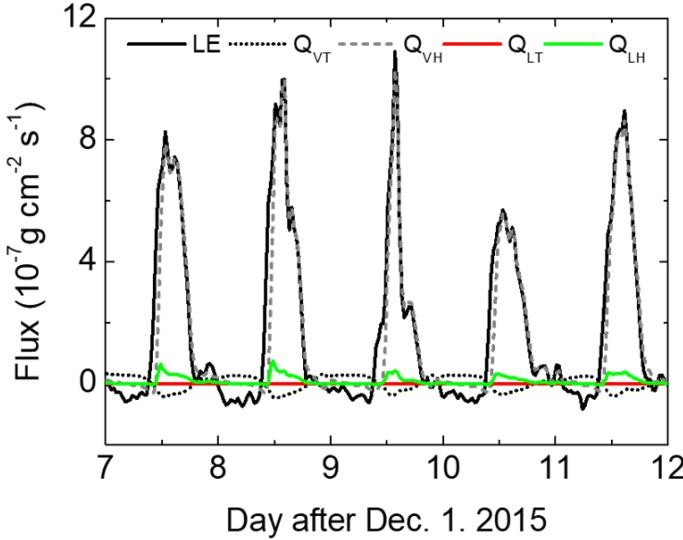


- Freezing front increase along with the zero isotherm
- Soil liquid water content behave nonlinearly

## STEMMUS-FT results Surface fluxes

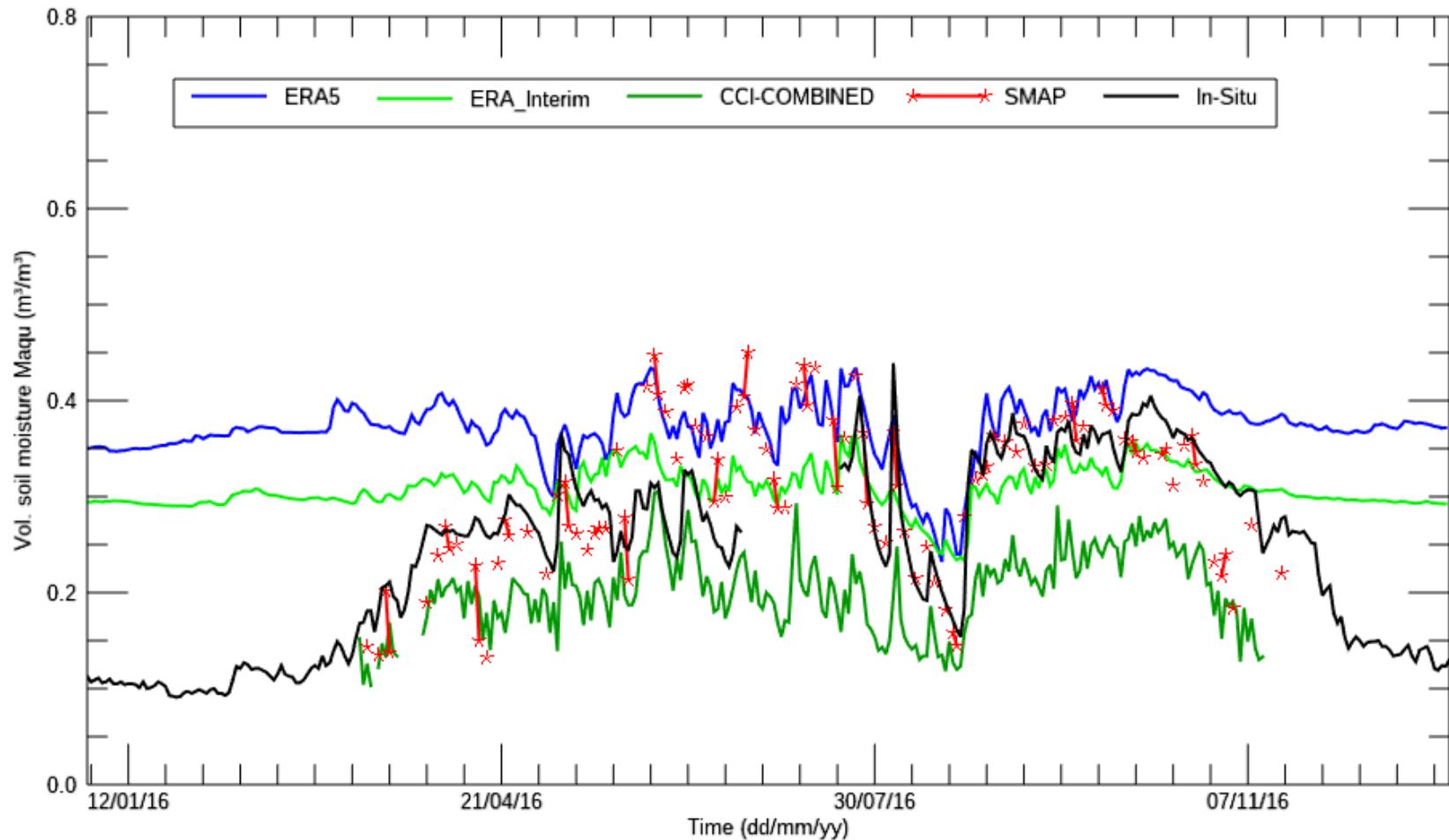


(a) Latent heat flux



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

(Yu et al., 2018, JGR)



TV-DEM Aquarius

Operational Aquarius

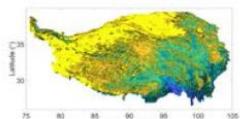
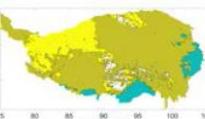
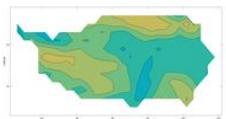
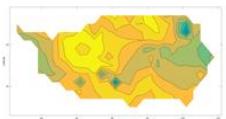
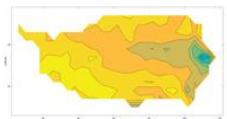
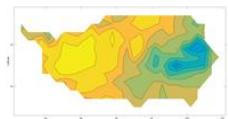
TU-Wien ASCAT

ECMWF-ERA-Interim

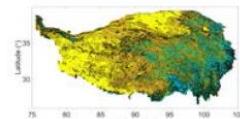
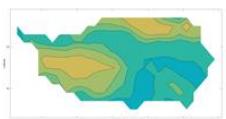
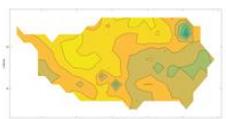
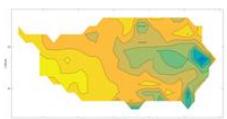
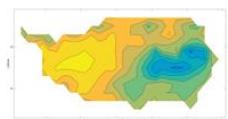
CHIRPS

SEBS-ET

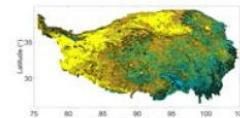
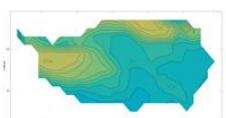
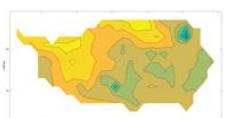
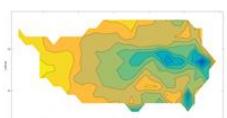
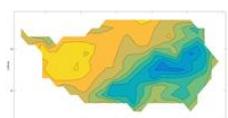
May



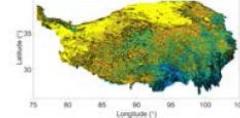
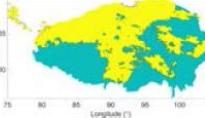
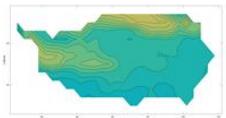
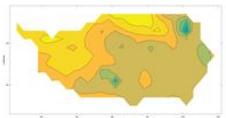
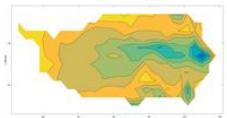
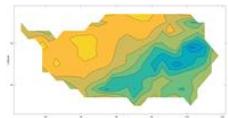
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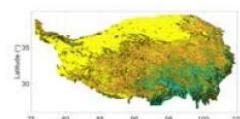
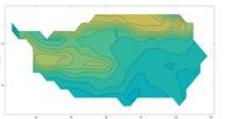
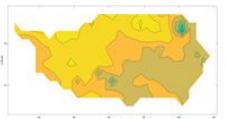
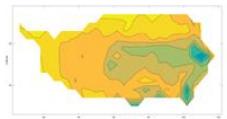
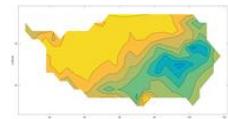
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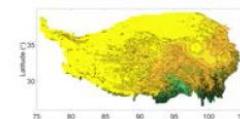
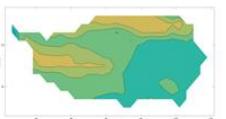
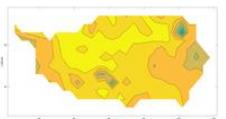
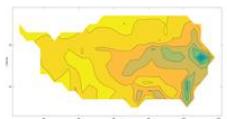
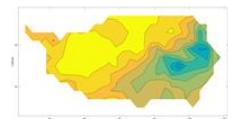
August



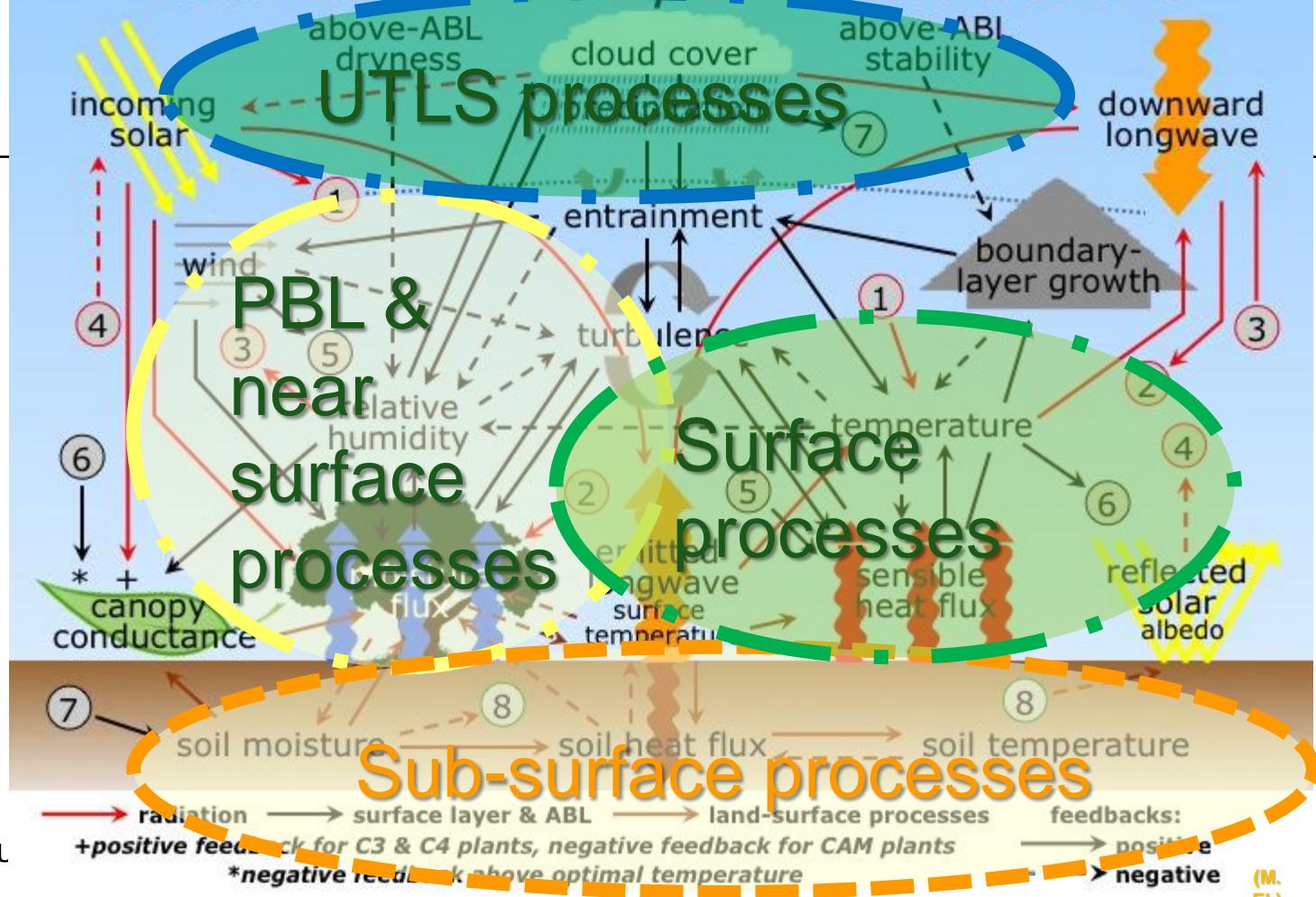
September



October



# Local Land-Atmosphere Interactions





# CONCLUSIONS

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- Process understanding based on measurements and modeling is of primary importance in land-atmosphere interactions:
  - Cal/Val needed to assure the stability and truthiness of observations and retrievals
  - Spatial scaling remains a challenge – what is the scale of interest?
  - Modeling and DA remains indispensable in understanding and efficient use of observations and retrievals
  - ESM needs to consider the land-atmosphere interactions in a dynamic manner instead of currently focus in parameterization