

# Impact of EO irrigation on LSM/HMs modelling: comparing water balance and model performance in the Po river basin

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# Introduction

## 4DHydr

Hyper-resolution Earth Observations  
And Land-surface Modeling For A  
Better Understanding Of The Water  
Cycle

Deltares  
Enabling Delta Life



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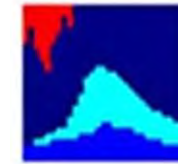


eurac  
research



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Ecology & Hydrology



## TETIS

The mesoscale  
Hydrologic Model

## mHM



## CLM3.5



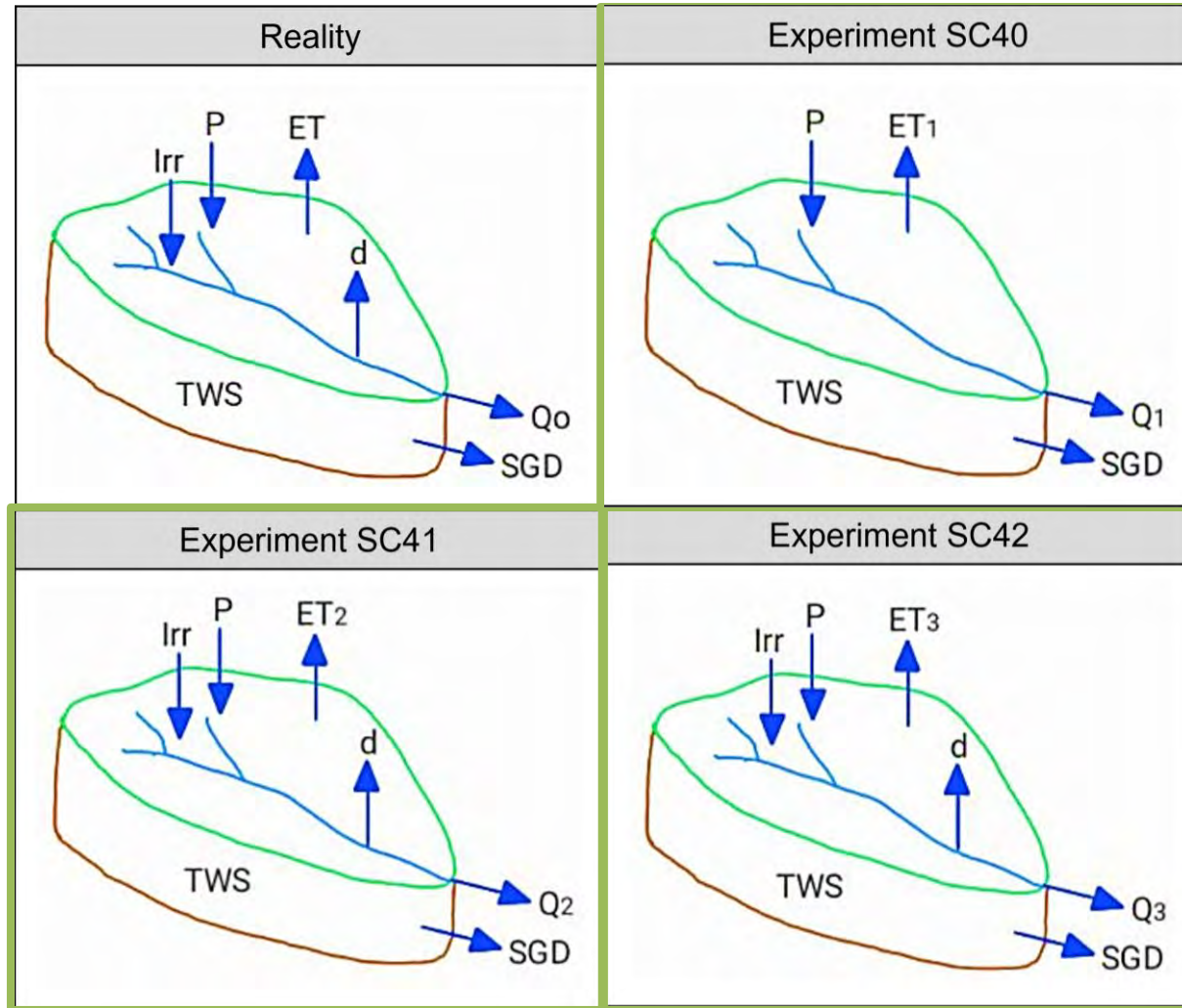
Impact of EO irrigation on LSM/HMs modelling: comparing water balance and model performance in the Po river basin

EGU General Assembly 2025

# Methods: Experiment design

Resolutions: 5km and 1km

Period: 2016-2021



Exp. #	Experiment	Calibration variable	Evaluation variable
SC40	Po model calibrated at 5km (Exp. 20) and validated 1km grid (Exp. 21) as <b>baseline</b>	$Q^1$	$Q$ , $SSM^2$ , $ET^3$ , Water balance
SC41	Po model from Exp. 2* using precipitation (EMO1) + irrigation dataset, <b>without</b> calibration	-	$Q$ , $SSM$ , $ET$ , Water balance
SC42	Po model from Exp. 2* using precipitation (EMO1) + irrigation data, <b>with</b> calibration	$Q$	$Q$ , $SSM$ , $ET$ , Water balance

<sup>1</sup>Discharge, <sup>2</sup>Surface Soil Moisture and <sup>3</sup>Evapotranspiration

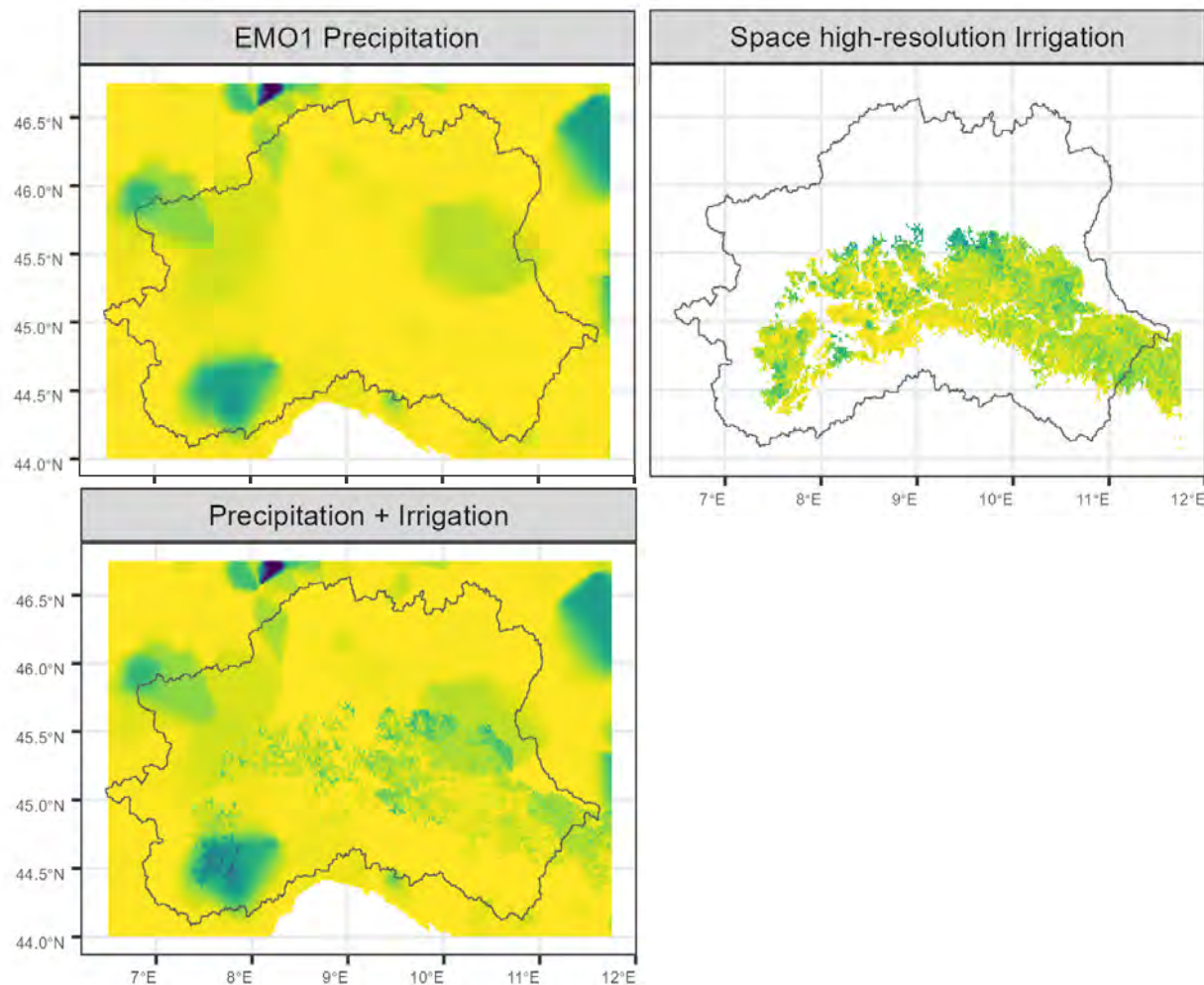


# Methods: Irrigation and abstraction integration

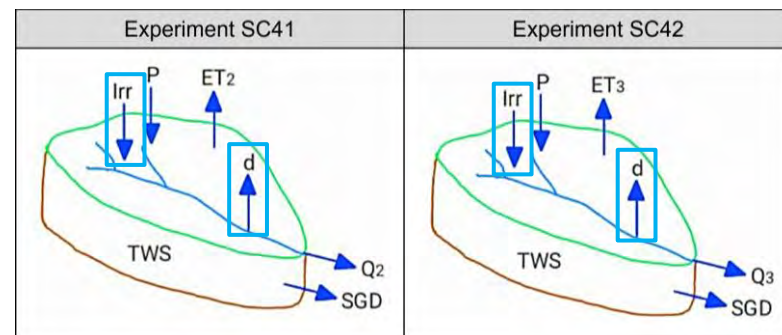
Date: 2016-08-01

(Gomes, G. et al. 2020)

(Dari et al, 2023)



Total Po irrigation	
Volume (Hm <sup>3</sup> /year)	13,582
By basin area (mm/year)	183.40
By irrigated area (mm/year)	618.47



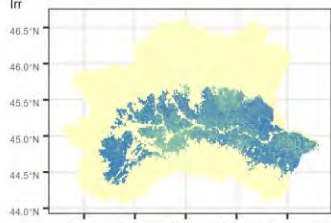
(Autorità di Bacino del Fiume Po, 2016)

# Relative changes, model comparison

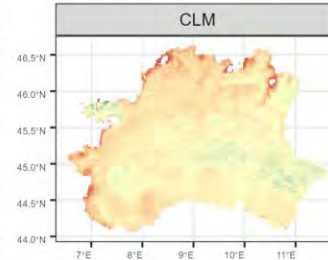
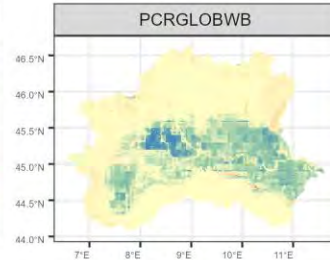
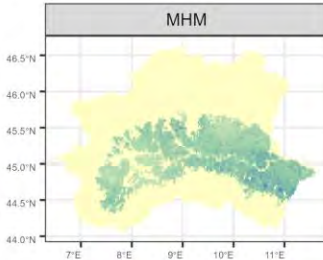
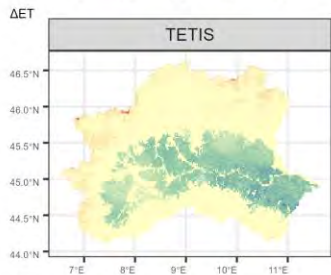
## RELATIVE CHANGES EXPERIMENT SC41

Resolution = 1km

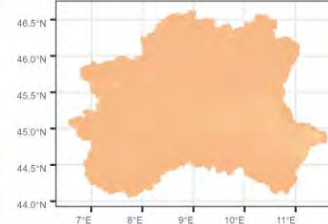
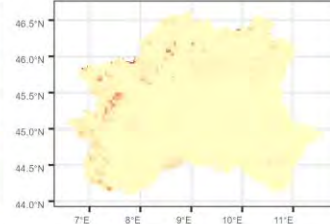
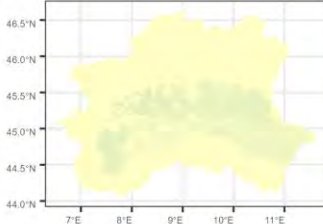
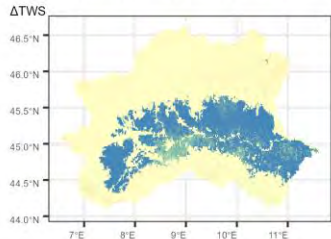
Irr



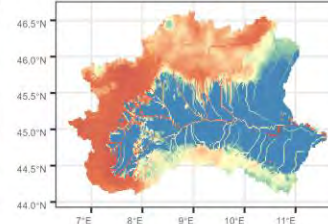
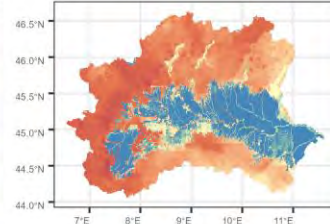
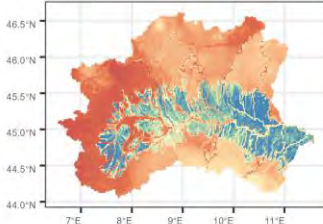
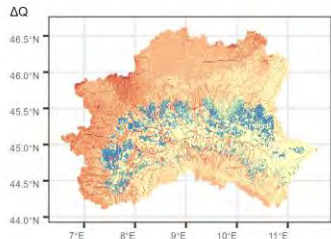
Δ  
ET



T  
W  
S



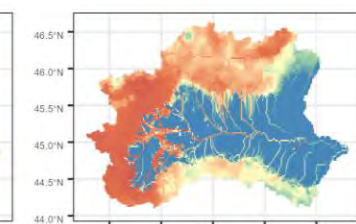
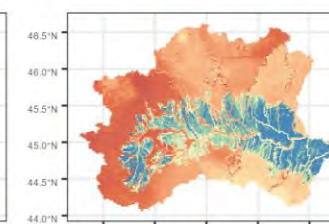
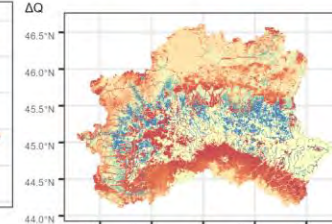
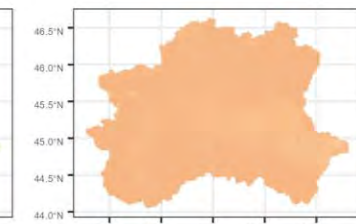
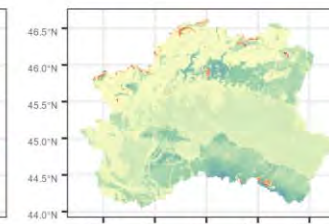
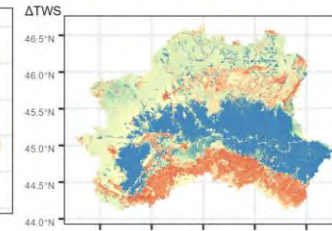
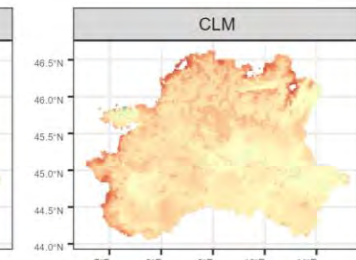
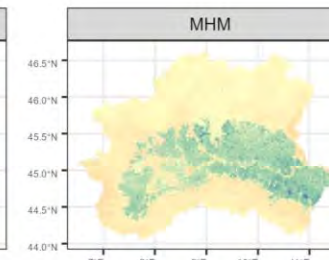
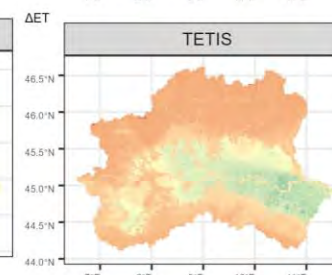
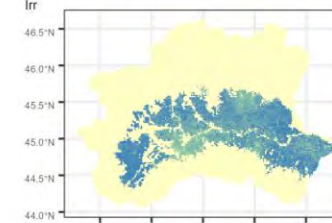
Q



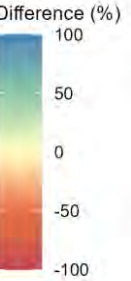
Difference between experiment SC41 and experiment SC40 as baseline for Precipitation (P), Evapotranspiration (ET), Total Water Storage (TWS) and discharge (Q)

## RELATIVE CHANGES EXPERIMENT SC42

Resolution = 1km



Difference between experiment SC42 and experiment SC40 as baseline for Precipitation (P), Evapotranspiration (ET), Total Water Storage (TWS) and discharge (Q)

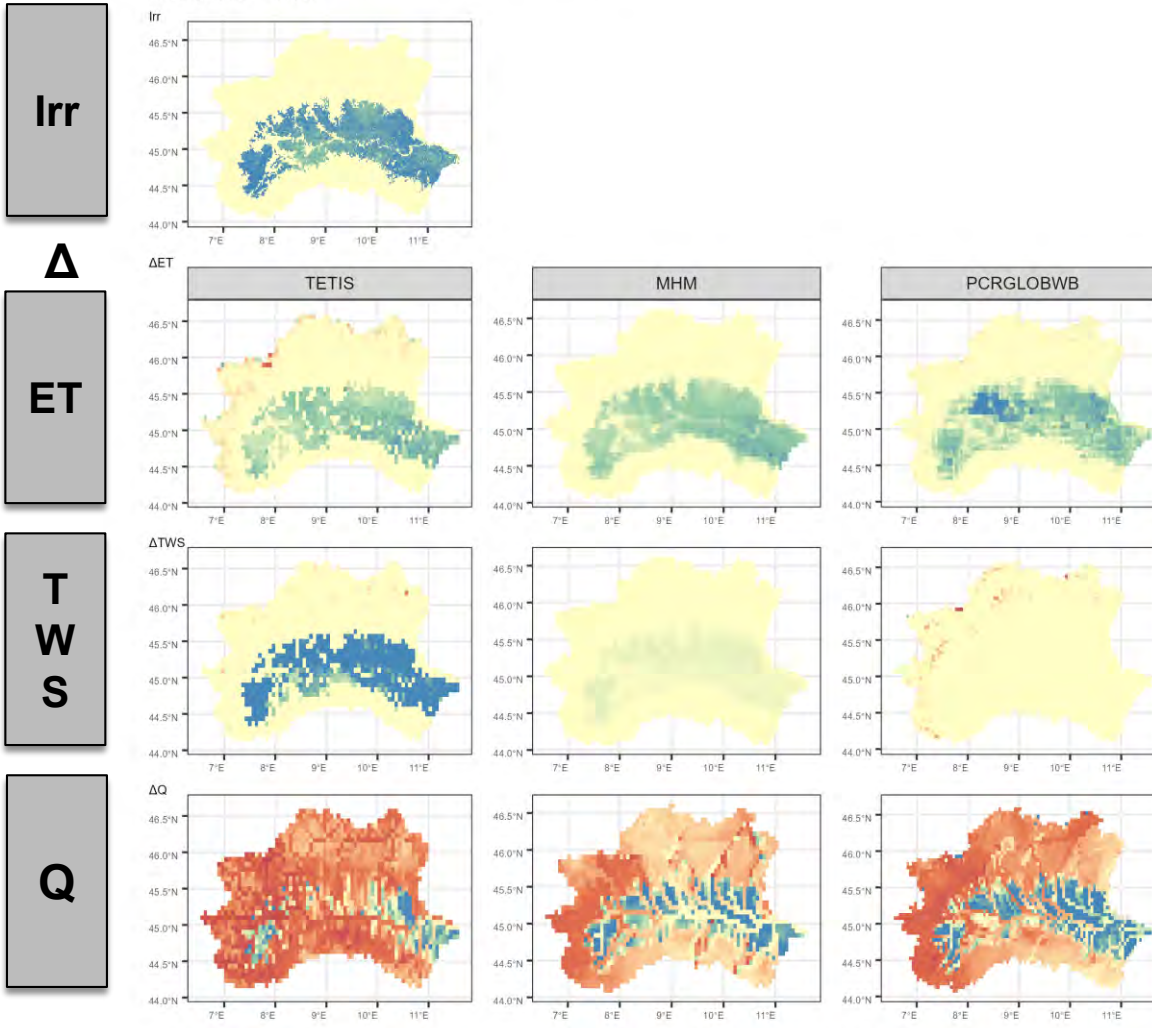




# Relative changes, model comparison

## RELATIVE CHANGES EXPERIMENT SC41

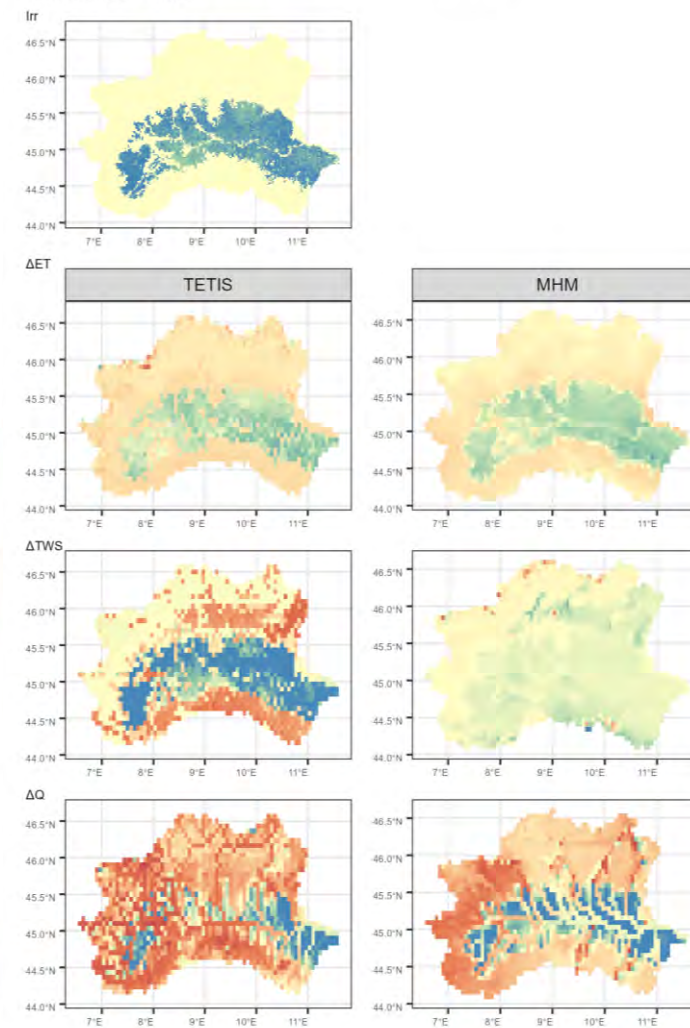
Resolution = 5km



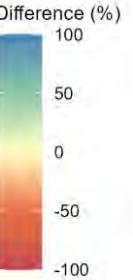
Difference between experiment SC41 and experiment SC40 as baseline for Precipitation (P), Evapotranspiration (ET), Total Water Storage (TWS) and discharge (Q)

## RELATIVE CHANGES EXPERIMENT SC42

Resolution = 5km



Difference between experiment SC42 and experiment SC40 as baseline for Precipitation (P), Total Water Storage (TWS) and discharge (Q)



# Water balance (mm/year)

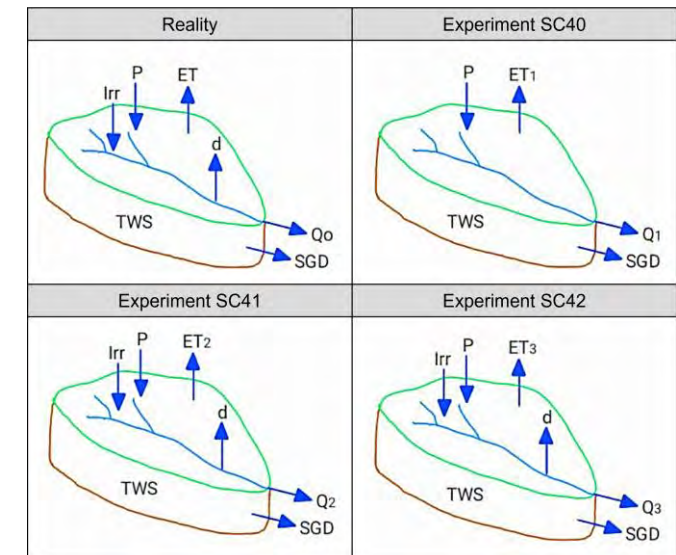
	TETIS				mHM		PCR-GLOBW			CLM3.5	
	SC40	SC41	SC42	SC40	SC41	SC42	SC40	SC41	SC40	SC41	SC42
<b>ET<sup>1</sup></b>	550.4	613.0	477.1	487.3	552.5	527.6	509.7	587.2	514.9	495.5	463.6
<b>Q<sup>2</sup></b>	364.6	283.6	423.3	484.3	454.6	439.7	419.9	643.2	565.2	515.3	501.5
<b>SGD<sup>3</sup></b>	41.9	95.6	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b><math>\Delta TWS/\Delta t^4</math></b>	17.2	24.0	53.3	9.3	13.6	13.9	9.5	51.2	7.6	13.8	22.2

<sup>1</sup>Evapotranspiration

<sup>2</sup>Discharge,

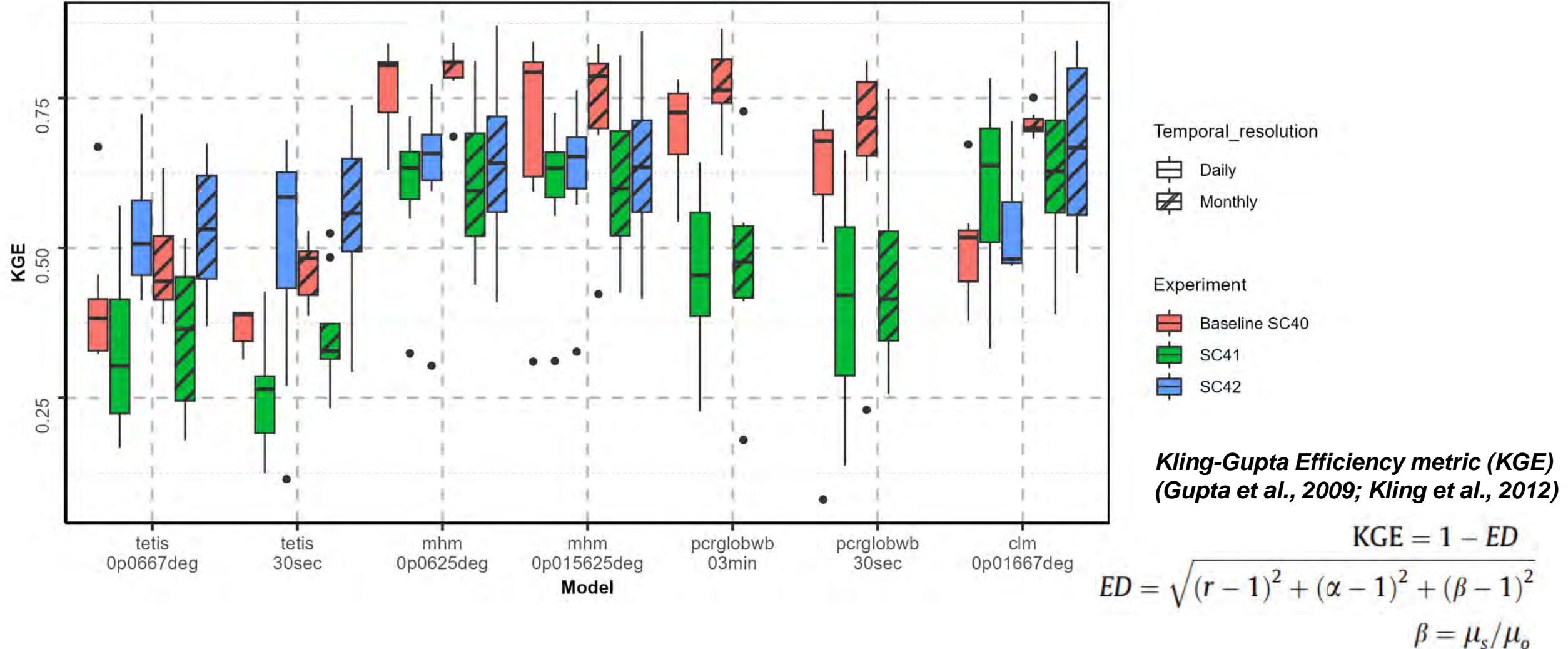
<sup>3</sup>Sea groundwater discharge

<sup>4</sup>Total Water Storage change as the difference of final value and start value between the number of years.



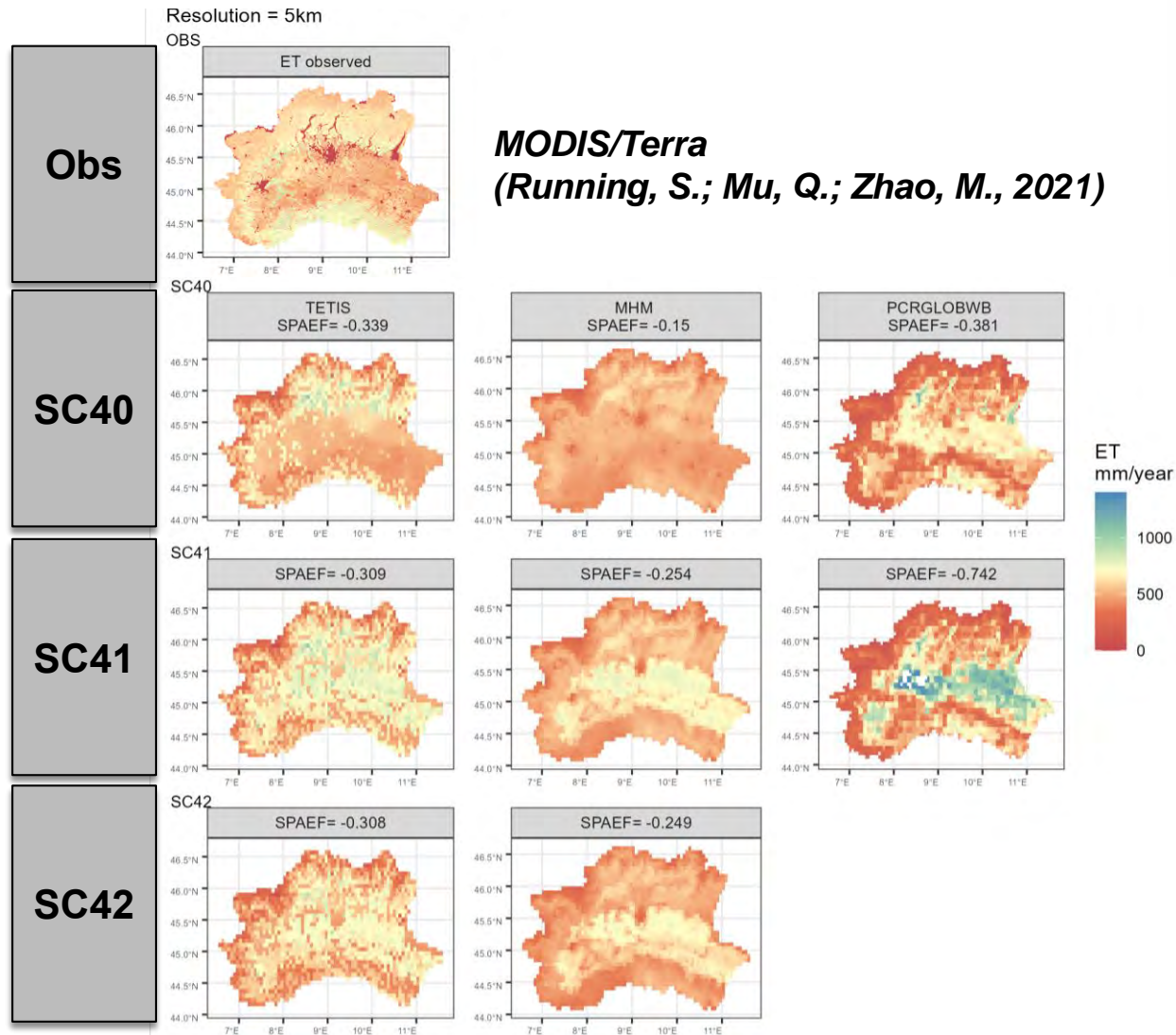
# Model performance

## DISCHARGE



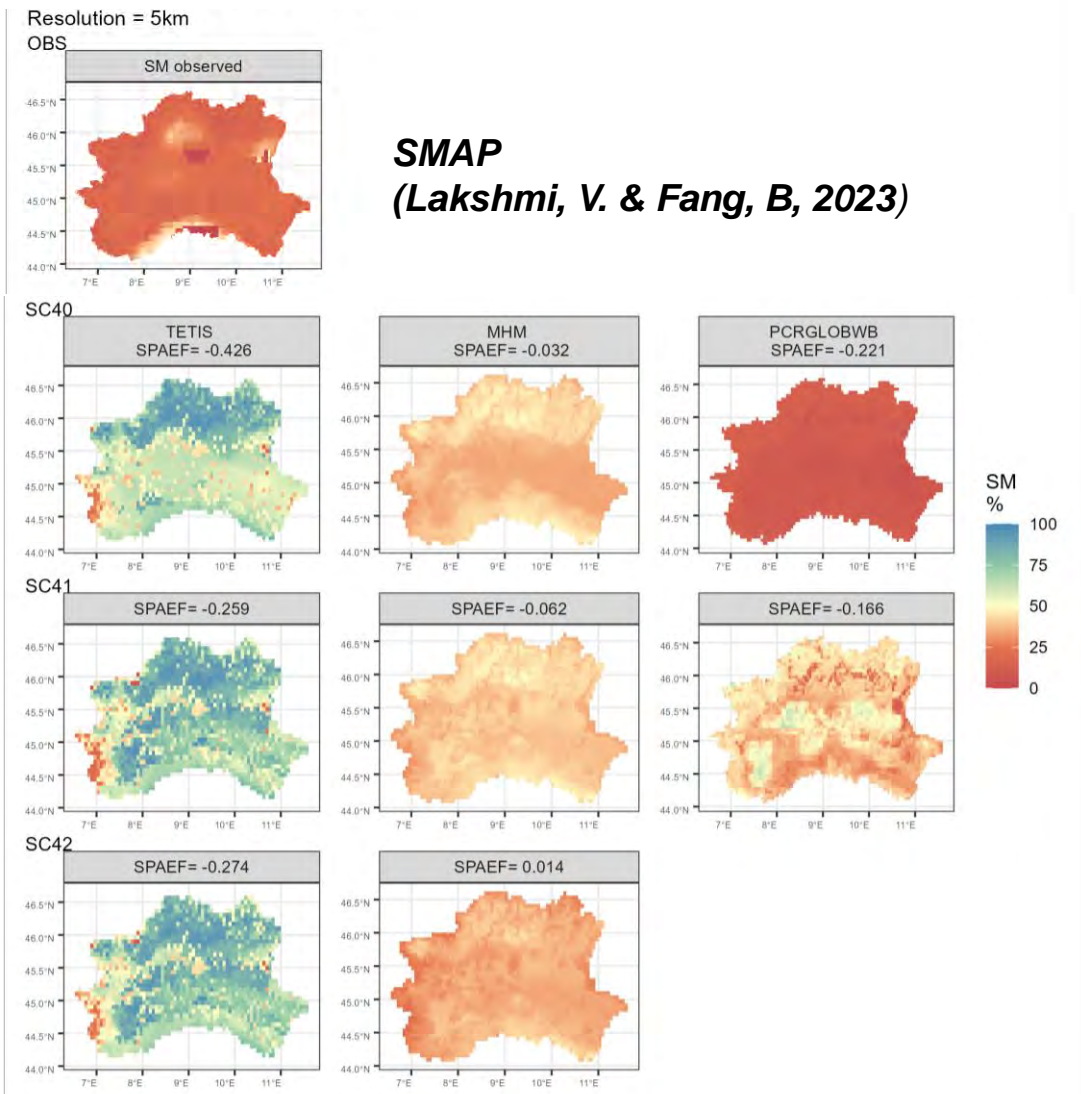


## EVAPOTRANSPIRATION



## Model performance

## SURFACE SOIL MOISTURE



- ❑ The inclusion of EO-based irrigation on LSM/HMs modelling changes the water balance. This could suggest an overall improvement.
- ❑ When irrigation is included and the calibration process is performed, the ability of the model to reproduce observed discharge improves.
- ❑ Results of evapotranspiration and surface soil moisture, shows an inconsistency compared to observed spatial patterns. However, the incorporation of irrigation appears to demonstrate a capacity to enhance spatial performance.



# Thanks for your attention

**Nathaly Güiza-Villa** (*nguivil@upv.edu.es*), **Nicolas Cortes-Torres**, **Félix Frances**,  
**Pallav Kumar Shrestha**, **Oldrich Rakovec**, **Ehsan Modiri**, **Bram Droppers**, **Niko**  
**Wanders**, **Leandro Ávila** and **Stefan Kollet**.

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