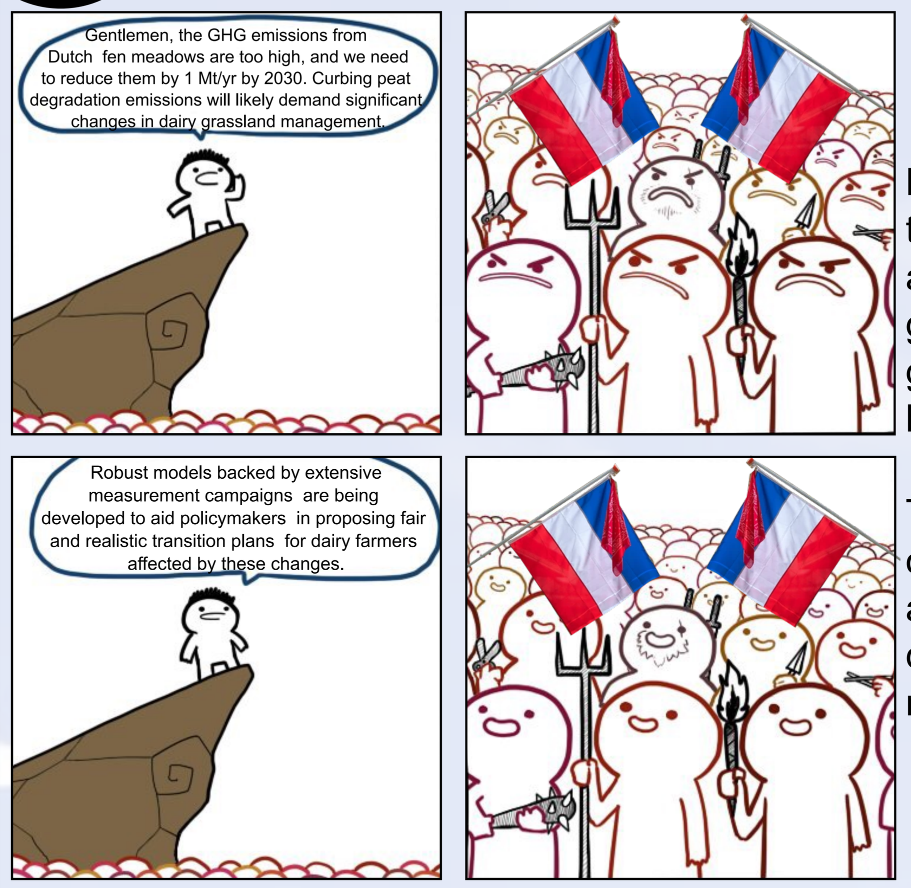
Modelling the Ecosystem Functional Response of the Dutch Peatlands through EC Data Snapshots

Laurent Bataille[1], Hanne Berghuis[1], Jan Biermann[1], Wilma Jans[1], Alexander Buzacott[2], Wietse Franssen[1], Laura van der Poel[1], Reinder Nouta[3], Bart Kruijt[1], and Ronald Hutjes[1]

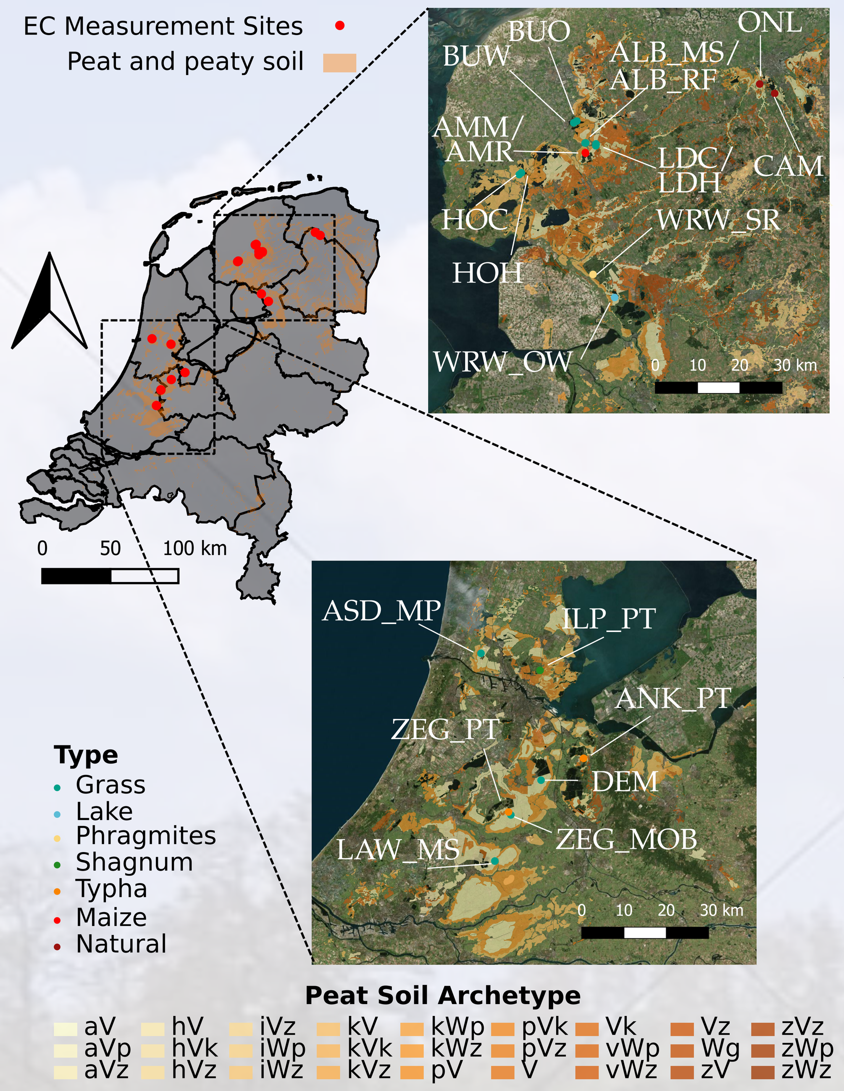
[1]Wageningen University & Research, Water Systems & Global Change, Netherlands (laurent.bataille@wur.nl), [2]Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, [3]Wetterskip Fryslân

1 Introduction



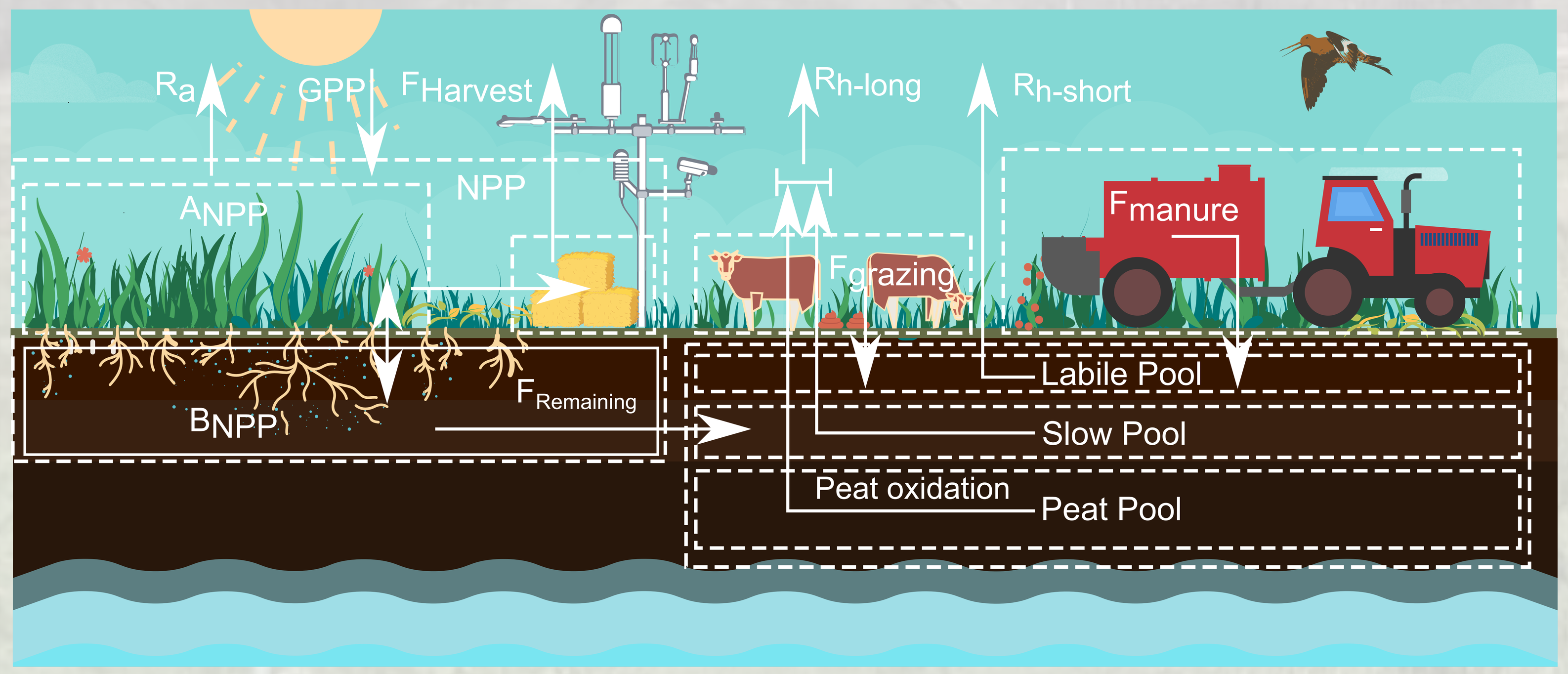
Background : Peat soil degradation in the Netherlands contributes 4.6-7 Mt CO_2 annually, around 3% of national greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions, and the government aims to reduce these by 25% by 2030.

The Dutch National Research Programme on Greenhouse Gases in Peatlands (NOBV), a research consortium aims to study peat degradation in the dutch grassland and its mitigation.



Mobile Eddy-Covariance : Eddy-Covariance (EC) is used by NOBV to monitor the CO_2 and CH_4 fluxes on 20 different sites. Mobile EC towers are used in 10 locations in Fryslân and Drenthe.

Small EC towers are relocated between sites every 3 weeks allowing to explore a more diverse range of soil profiles, land use and mitigation techniques. Each site is equiped with a weather station, soil moisture and groundwater are monitored in most of them. *However, the intermittence of measurements requires robust gap-filling methods to construct annual GHG budgets.*



NECB can be formulated as a function of NEE and other fluxes described as :

$$NECB_{CO2} = NEE_{CO2} + F_{Harvest} - F_{grazing} - F_{manure}$$
$$\approx NPP + R_{h\text{-}short} + R_{h\text{-}long} - F_{grazing} - F_{manure}$$

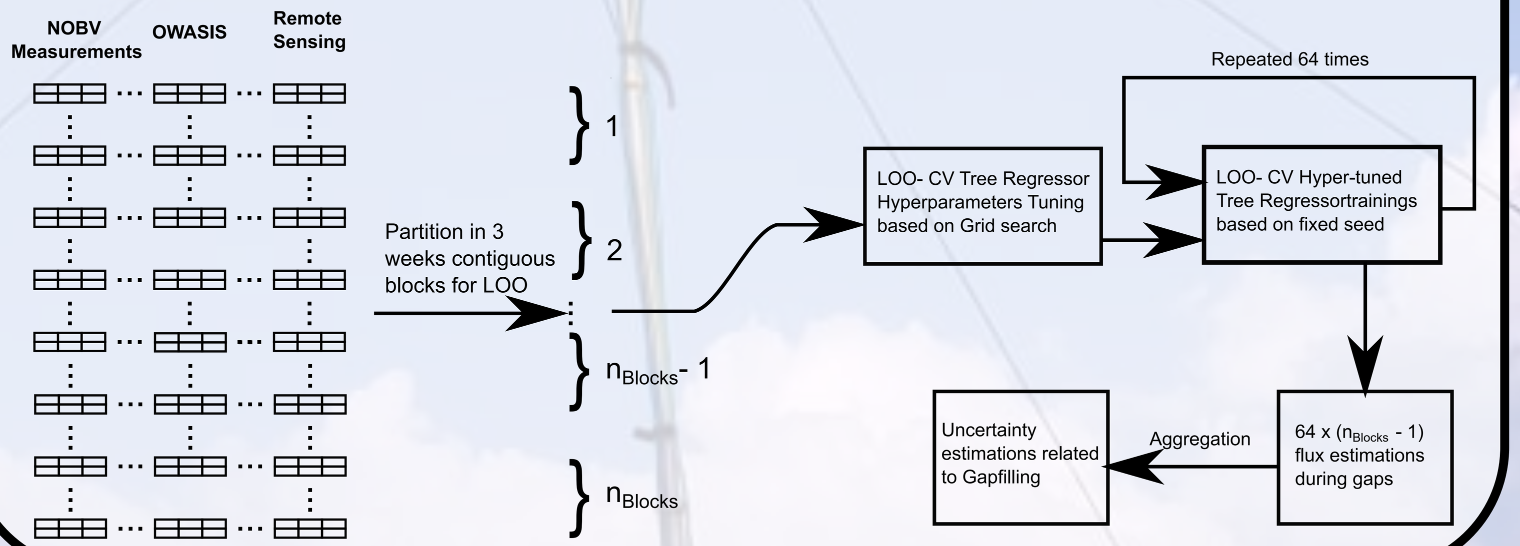
2 Objectives & Methodology

Objectives

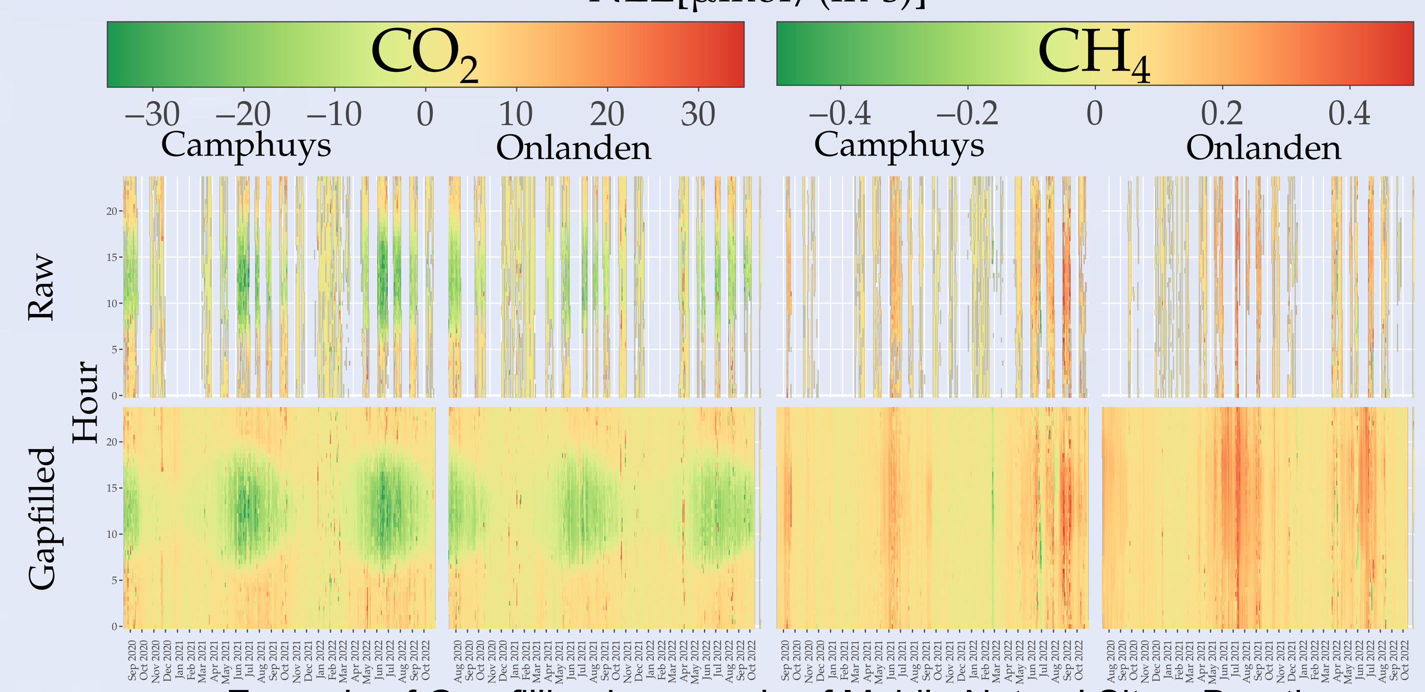
- Develop a ML framework adapted to the mobile EC specificities
- Estimate the uncertainty introduced by the gap-filling algorithm and focus on the model interpretability.
- Partition the fluxes in order to isolate the peat-degradation related ones.
- Develop a data-driven bottom-up model based on Eddy-Covariance Measurements `

Methodology

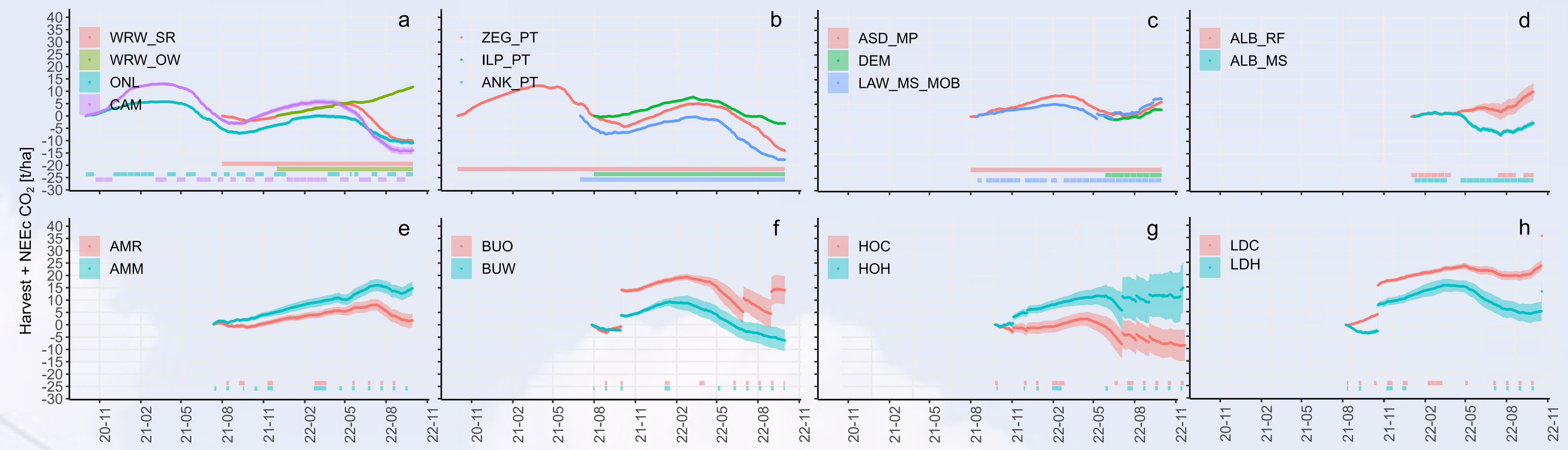
- EC Data are prefiltered to ensure data quality.
- Tree regressors (Random Forest and Gradient Boosted Trees) were selected
- Besides NOBV measurements, other external external data sources including remote sensing (NDVI/FAPAR timeseries) and the outputs of OWASIS (proxies of groundwater table depth and top-soil moisture at a daily rate and moderate resolution).
- Gapfilled signals are partioned through day partioning, manure inputs/harvest are collected via the each parcel managers.



3 Results - Gap-filling



Example of Gap-filling in a couple of Mobile Natural Sites, Drenthe



Cumulative NEE curves for CO_2 between October 2020 and October 2022. In dual comparisons, the blue curves denote where mitigation measures are implemented, while the red curve refers to a control site. Rectangles below some subfigures allow to distinguish measurement periods from gapfilled ones.

5 Conclusion

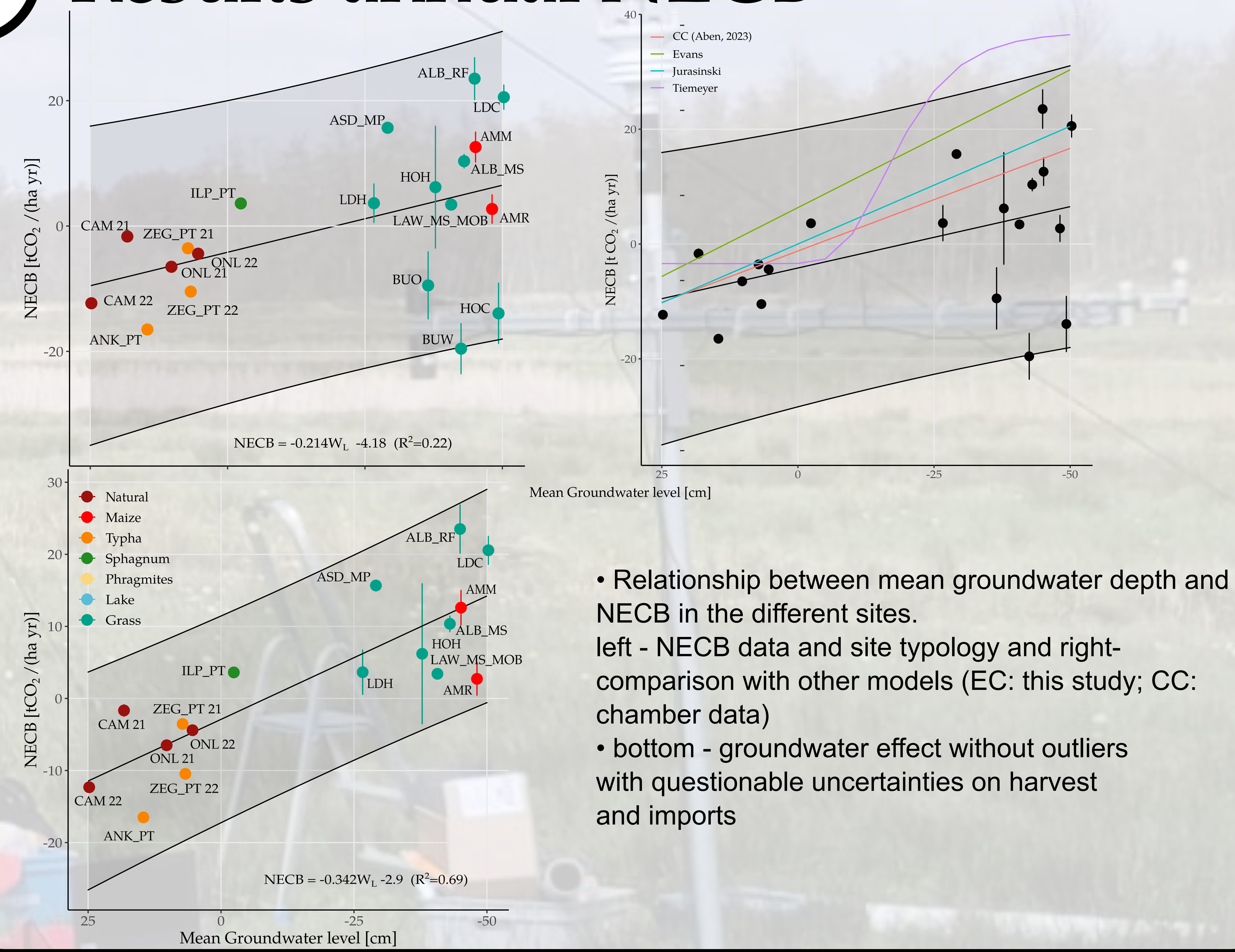
- Maize crops on peat tends to be outliers
- The natural area and paludicultures shows lower emissions and the best described by ML, also submited to the lower anthropic disturbance, while intensive grassland showed the highest uncertainty and dispersion.
- The impact of mitigation measurements is limited but this trend needs longer measurement
- The sensitivity of NECB to Mean Groundwater depth is consistent with literature. Slopes of EC and CC are comparable for studied areas, intermediate.
- Optional cutting points for NECB are located in Jan/Feb

Further Research Plans

- Replacing the tree regressors by a Deep-learning, testing specialized architectures, able to take into account measurement uncertainties estimated via EC computation tools.
- Include landscape flux footprint to consider the potential surroundings heterogeneities (ditches, wet vegetation surrounding grassland,...).
- Use a more related EC signals, e.g. energy fluxes
- Make use of Mowing/Grazing detection based on Remote Sensing as additional data
- Develop a data-driven bottom-up model based on EC Measurements

E-mail | Slides | Digital version | Bibliography | NOBV Website

4 Results annual NECB



- Relationship between mean groundwater depth and NECB in the different sites. left - NECB data and site typology and right- comparison with other models (EC: this study; CC: chamber data)
- bottom - groundwater effect without outliers with questionable uncertainties on harvest and imports

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