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# Guillaume Lobet

Assistant Professor - Functional structural modelling of crop systems

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## Informations

28-12-1984 [33]

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[www.guillaumelobet.be](http://www.guillaumelobet.be)

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## Keywords

Computational modelling  
Image analysis  
Data analysis  
Web technologies  
Science communication  
Open Science

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## Languages

French ★★★★★  
English (C1/C2) ★★★★★☆  
Sign language ★☆☆☆☆

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### Note:

All my articles,  
presentations and  
projects can be viewed at  
[www.guillaumelobet.be](http://www.guillaumelobet.be)

## Research statement

Plants are fascinating. They form complex and plastic networks (both above- and below-ground), ever integrating and adapting to endogenous and exogenous clues. Manipulation of these networks brings the promise to unlock plant productivity in limiting environments. My primary research interests lie in the understanding of these interconnected, multi-scale regulations pathways in crop plants.

The incredible complexity of plants calls for integrative research strategies such as **combining innovative plant phenotyping pipelines with powerful data analysis and modelling tools**. My belief is that combining computational tools with the latest biological knowledge will open new horizons for plant research. Which is why I spend most of my time developing new tools, connecting them to existing ones and making them available for the plant science community.

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## Current position

2016–now **Assistant Professor**  
Forschungszentrum Jülich | University of Louvain

We use and develop computational tools to understand how plants regulate their growth through long distance signals (such as water and carbon flows).

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## Bibliometrics

Peer-review publications: **26**  
Total number of citations: **596**  
H-index: **13**  
Guest editor: **GigaScience**

Reviews performed: **58**  
Invitations to conferences/workshops: **15**  
Organisation of conferences/workshops: **3**  
Academic editor: **Plant Direct**

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## Professional experiences

2016–now	<b>Assistant Professor</b>	Forschungszentrum Jülich   University of Louvain
2014–2016	<b>FNRS post-doctoral fellow</b>	Plant Physiology, PhytoSYSTEMS, ULg
2013–2014	<b>Post-doctoral fellow</b>	Plant Physiology, PhytoSYSTEMS, ULg
2008–2012	<b>PhD student</b>	Ecophysiology and Plant Breeding, UCL
2010–2012	<b>President of the ACELI</b>	Earth and Life Insititue, UCL

## Professional experiences

- 2014–2016 **FNRS post-doctoral fellow** PhytoSYSTEMS, Univeristé de Liège, Belgium  
*Advisor:* Prof. Claire Périlleux  
*Fellowship:* Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS  
 Understand allometric relationships in maize, both at the plant and root system level. The project combines phenotyping, modelling and transcriptomic approaches.
- 2015–2016 **FNRS post-doctoral fellow** Forschungszentrum Jülich IBG-3, Germany  
*Advisor:* Prof. Andrea Schnepf  
*Fellowship:* Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS  
 Improve an existing plant model and couple it to a soil water movement model in order to explicitly simulate water and carbon fluxes in the plant.
- 2013–2014 **Post-doctoral fellow** PhytoSYSTEMS, Univeristé de Liège, Belgium  
*MARS project:* [www.iap-mars.be](http://www.iap-mars.be)  
*Advisor:* Prof. Claire Périlleux  
*Fellowship:* Belgian Science Policy, Inter-university Attraction Pole  
 Better understand how root and shoot influence each other and how this interaction contributes to the development of the plant.
- 2008–2012 **PhD student** Earth and Life Institute, UCL, Belgium  
*Regulation of water flow in the soil-root domain.*  
*Supervisor:* Prof. Xavier Draye  
*Fellowship:* FNRS-FRIA + DROPS (EU-FP7)  
 The objective of the thesis was to (1) analyse the water flows in the soil-root domain (2) quantify the contribution of plant regulatory processes.
- 2010–2012 **President of the ACELI** Earth and Life Institute, UCL, Belgium  
 The ACELI is the Earth and Life Institute Researchers' Association. It represents more than 300 researchers from multiple fields such as agronomy, microbiology, environmental sciences or climatology.
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## Computational skills

### Plant phenotyping

Java, ImageJ, R

Implementation of several plant image analysis tools.

Integration of modelling tools within phenotyping pipelines

### Plant modelling

Java, R

Implementation of a functional-structural plant model, PlaNet-Maize.

Creation of a model of tomato inflorescence development.

### Public database creation and management

SQL, HTML5, PHP, Javascript

[www.plant-image-analysis.org](http://www.plant-image-analysis.org)[www.flor-id.be](http://www.flor-id.be)

### Web-based tools

R, HTML

MECHA: [mecharoot.github.io](https://mecharoot.github.io)CRootBox: [bit.ly/crootbox-web](http://bit.ly/crootbox-web)ArchiDART: <https://archidart.github.io>Water Tool Network: [bit.ly/water-network-app](http://bit.ly/water-network-app)

## Awards, distinctions and grants

2015	<b>Teaching Tools in Plant Biology Competition - Plant Cell</b> Root System Architecture quantification. Why and How?	Winner
2015	<b>Roundtable organisation competition</b> Rhizosphere 4 Meeting	Winner
2014	<b>FNRS Post-doctoral fellowship</b> Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS, Belgium	~ 160 000 € (3 years salary)
2012	<b>Honorary fellowship</b> Belgian American Educational Fundation	
2012	<b>Best oral communication</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> symposium on Applied Biological Sciences, Leuven, Belgium	Second prize
2010	<b>Best poster</b> Plant Science Doctoral School, Liège, Belgium	First prize
2010	<b>FRIA fellowship</b> Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS, Belgium	~ 96 000 € (4 years salary)

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## Education

2008–2012	<b>PhD</b> in agronomical sciences	Ecophysiology and Plant Breeding, UCL
2012	<b>Teaching formation</b> for higher education	IPM, UCL
2003–2008	<b>Master</b> in bio-engineering	Université catholique de Louvain
2007	<b>Erasmus</b> Exchange program	University of Manchester, UK

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## Other informations

### Teaching experience

Plant-soil interactions, Root modelling, Scientific figures, LaTeX and ImageJ course

### Thesis supervision

Supervision of 3 PhD (ongoing) and 6 master theses

### Boy-scout leader

Organisation of projects abroad (Ireland, Czech Republic, Morocco)

### Personal interests

Sign languages and deaf culture, reading, technology, running, hiking, environment

## Work overview

## Publications

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 Academic editor: **Plant Direct**

- Journal names were intentionally left blank.
- Link to all articles can be found on [www.guillaumelobet.be](http://www.guillaumelobet.be).
- Bibliometric data are coming from [dimensions.ai](https://dimensions.ai) and [altmetric.com](https://altmetric.com).
- The Field Citation Ratio (FCR) indicates the relative citation performance of an article, when compared to similarly-aged articles in its subject area (1 = average).
- The Altmetric Score is an automatically calculated, weighted count of all of the attention a research output has received online.

## Pre-print articles

### Connecting the dots between computational tools to analyse soil-root water relations

Passot, S., C. Couvreur, F. Meunier, X. Draye, M. Javaux, D. Leitner, L. Pagès, A. Schnepf, J. Vanderborght, and G. Lobet

2018 | Citation(s): | FCR: | Altmetric score: 19

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1101/312918>

### Novel multiscale insights into the composite nature of water transport in roots

Couvreur, V., M. Faget, G. Lobet, M. Javaux, F. Chaumont, and X. Draye

2017 | Citation(s): 1 | FCR: | Altmetric score: 10

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1101/147314>

## Articles in peer-reviewed journals

### archiDART v3.0, A new data analysis pipeline allowing the topological analysis of plant root systems

Delory, B. and M. Li

2018 | Citation(s): 2 | FCR: | Altmetric score: 36

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.13541.1>

### Impact of crop residue management on crop production and soil chemistry after seven years of crop rotation in temperate climate, loamy soils

Hiel, M., S. Barbieux, J. Pierreux, C. Olivier, G. Lobet, C. Roisin, S. Garré, G. Colinet, B. Bodson, and B. Dumont

2018 | Citation(s): - | FCR: - | Altmetric score: 2

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.7717/peerj.4836>

### Measuring root system traits of wheat in 2D images to parameterize 3D root architecture models

Landl, M., A. Schnepf, J. Vanderborght, G. Bengough, S. Bauke, G. Lobet, R. Bol, and H. Vereecken

2018 | Citation(s): | FCR: | Altmetric score:

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11104-018-3595-8>

### **A spatio-temporal analysis of early root system development reveals three types of lateral roots**

Passot, S., B. Moreno-Ortega, D. Moukouanga, C. Balsera, S. GUYOMARC'H, M. Lucas, G. Lobet, L. Laplace, B. Muller, and Y. Guédon  
 2018 | Citation(s): | FCR: | Altmetric score: 24  
 URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1104/pp.17.01648>

### **CRootBox, A Structural-Functional Modelling Framework For Root Systems**

Schnepf, A., D. Leitner, M. Landl, G. Lobet, T. Hieu Mai, S. Morandage, C. Sheng, M. Zoerner, J. Vanderborght, and H. Vereecken  
 2018 | Citation(s): 2 | FCR: | Altmetric score: 70  
 URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcx221>

### **Combining semi-automated image analysis techniques with machine learning algorithms to accelerate large scale genetic studies**

Atkinson, J., G. Lobet, M. Noll, P. Meyer, M. Griffiths, and D. Wells  
 2017 | Citation(s): 4 | FCR: | Altmetric score: 43  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29020748>

### **Image analysis in plant science. Publish then perish**

Lobet, G.  
 2017 | Citation(s): 13 | FCR: | Altmetric score: 50  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28571940>

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*This is a timely article, and one which correctly characterises key issues facing those creating and using image analysis tools in the biological sciences. The data presented is interesting and informative, and biologists using image analysis tools should be made aware of the issues raised in this paper.*

[ Anonymous Reviewer 2 ]

### **Using a structural root system model to evaluate and improve the accuracy of root image analysis pipelines**

Lobet, G., T. Koevoets I, P. Tocquin, L. Pagès, and C. Périlleux  
 2017 | Citation(s): 8 | FCR: | Altmetric score: 72  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28421089>

### **An evaluation of inexpensive methods for root image acquisition when using rhizotrons**

Mohamed, A., Y. Monnier, G. Lobet, J.-L. Maeght, M. Ramel, and A. Stokes  
 2017 | Citation(s): 3 | FCR: | Altmetric score: -  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28286541>

### **Teaching Tools in Plant Biology, Phenomics of root system architecture**

2017 | Citation(s): 1 | FCR: | Altmetric score: 18  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29018159>

### **Integrating roots into a whole plant network of flowering time genes in Arabidopsis thaliana**

Bouché, F., M. D Aliaa, P. Tocquin, G. Lobet, N. Detry, and C. Périlleux  
 2016 | Citation(s): 4 | FCR: 1.65 | Altmetric score: 9  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27352932>

### **Environmental Control of Root System Biology**

Rellán-Alvarez, R., G. Lobet, and J. Dinneny  
 2016 | Citation(s): 22 | FCR: 8.65 | Altmetric score: 8  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26905656>

### **FLOR-ID, an interactive database of flowering-time gene networks in Arabidopsis thaliana**

Bouché, F. and G. Lobet  
 2015 | Citation(s): 23 | FCR: 8.53 | Altmetric score: 31  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26476447>

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**F1000 Recommended:** FLOR-ID presents an impressive effort in bringing together literature on flowering-time regulation in Arabidopsis. Pathways are presented as interconnected schemes with

*the possibility of accessing individual gene information such as mutant phenotype or post-translational regulation. Every scheme presents data in a very explicit way, making this database ideal for newcomers to the field or for teaching.*

[F. Parcy, CNRS]

**archiDART, an R package for the automated 2D computation of plant root architectural traits**

Delory, B., C. Baudson, Y. Brostaux, G. Lobet, and P. du Jardin

2015 | Citation(s): 6 | FCR: 4.91 | Altmetric score: 24

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11104-015-2673-4>

**Root System Markup Language. Toward an unified root architecture description language**

Lobet, G., M. Pound, J. Diener, C. Pradal, X. Draye, C. Godin, M. Javaux, D. Leitner, F. Meunier, and P. Nacry

2015 | Citation(s): 31 | FCR: 16.5 | Altmetric score: 34

URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25614065>

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*It is clear that the language will help empower plant biologists and computation scientist working in root phenotyping and modeling fields to leverage and share work more efficiently with others.*

[ Anonymous Reviewer 2 ]

**Rhizoponics, a novel hydroponic rhizotron for root system analyses on mature Arabidopsis thaliana plants**

Mathieu, L. and G. Lobet

2015 | Citation(s): 16 | FCR: 4.21 | Altmetric score: 4

URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25657812>

**GLO-Roots, an imaging platform enabling multidimensional characterization of soil grown root systems**

Rellán-Álvarez, R., G. Lobet, H. Hildner, P. Pradier, J. Sebastian, C. Yee, G. Yu, T. LaRue, C. Trontin, and R. Nieu

2015 | Citation(s): 43 | FCR: 16.01 | Altmetric score: 120

URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26287479>

**Comparative analysis of Cd and Zn impacts on root distribution and morphology of Lolium perenne and Trifolium repens. Implications for phytostabilization**

Lambrechts, T., G. Lequeue, G. Lobet, and B. Godin

2014 | Citation(s): 6 | FCR: 1.27 | Altmetric score: -

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11104-013-1975-7>

**A modeling approach to determine the importance of dynamic regulation of plant hydraulic conductivities on the water uptake dynamics in the soil-plant-atmosphere system**

Lobet, G.

2014 | Citation(s): 8 | FCR: 1.69 | Altmetric score: 1

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2013.11.025>

**Plant Water Uptake in Drying Soils**

Lobet, G., C. Couvreur, and F. Meunier

2014 | Citation(s): 34 | FCR: 7.47 | Altmetric score: 3

URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24515834>

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*In summary, the update delivers a very useful overview of this complex, fast moving multidisciplinary area, that will be invaluable to non-specialists and specialists alike.*

[ Anonymous Reviewer 2 ]

**Inflorescence development in tomato, gene functions within a zigzag model**

Périlleux, C.

2014 | Citation(s): 15 | FCR: 2.74 | Altmetric score: 3

URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24744766>

**Root systems biology, integrative modeling across scales, from gene regulatory networks to the rhizosphere**

Hill, K., S. Porco, G. Lobet, S. Zappala, and S. Mooney

2013 | Citation(s): 20 | FCR: 2.55 | Altmetric score: 4  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24143806>

### **An online database for plant image analysis software tools**

Lobet, G.  
 2013 | Citation(s): 72 | FCR: 29.86 | Altmetric score: 36  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24107223>

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*The database has a visiting rate of 10 000 page views / month*

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*Guillaume did the community of plant biologists a huge favor by creating a webpage that describes and links to a large number of image analysis tools that have been designed to solve a measurement problem in plant biology. Nobody knows more about what's already out there than Guillaume.*

*[ E. Spalding, University of Madison ]*

### **Novel scanning procedure enabling the vectorization of entire rhizotron-grown root systems**

2013 | Citation(s): 46 | FCR: 7.88 | Altmetric score:  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23286457>

### **A novel image-analysis toolbox enabling quantitative analysis of root system architecture**

Lobet, G.  
 2011 | Citation(s): 133 | FCR: 49.84 | Altmetric score: 3  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21771915>

### **Model-assisted integration of physiological and environmental constraints affecting the dynamic and spatial patterns of root water uptake from soils**

Draye, X. and Y. Kim  
 2010 | Citation(s): 84 | FCR: 9.66 | Altmetric score: -  
 URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20453027>

## **Invited presentations in international conferences**

### **Alternative plants, why we need models to understand the complexity of plants**

*CRAG Seminar, Barcelona, Spain, 2018*  
 URL: <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6188372.v1>

### **Non-linear plant phenotyping pipelines. How can structural models and machine learning can help us analyse large plant image datasets**

*Phenome 2018, Tucson, USA, 2018*  
 URL: <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5885329.v2>

### **Alternative plants, why we need models to understand the complexity of plants**

*IPG Symposium, Missouri, USA, 2017*  
 URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5089900.v1>

### **Using machine learning and growth models to streamline large scale root phenotyping**

*JST International Workshop on Field Phenotyping, Tokyo, Japan, 2017*  
 URL: <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5682775.v1>

### **Open Science. A view from the Bench**

*Open Belgium Conference, Antwerpen, Belgium, 2016*  
 URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.3020170>

### **Introducing Root System Markup Language**

*Modeling plant development from the organ to the whole plant scale, Montpellier, France, 2015*  
 URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1379862>

### **Plant Image Analysis tools. Current trends and limitations**



*Plant Image Analysis Problems and Solution*, Madison, Wisconsin, 2015

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1169928>

### Science Valorisation

*Communiquer sa recherche*, Brussels, Belgium, 2015

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1057995>

### Science Valorisation

*Let's Talk Science*, Leuven, Belgium, 2015

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1057995>

### Structural Root Modelling

*Winter School on Root Phenotyping*, Jülich, Germany, 2015

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1594792>

### Modelling water relations in the soil-plant-atmosphere system

*SEB Main Meeting*, Manchester, UK, 2014

URL: [http://figshare.com/articles/Modelling\\_water\\_relations\\_in\\_the\\_soil\\_plant\\_atmosphere\\_system/1091425](http://figshare.com/articles/Modelling_water_relations_in_the_soil_plant_atmosphere_system/1091425)

### Water relations in the soil-plant system. What can we learn from functional-structural plant models

*BASF Top Science Meeting*, Mannheim, Germany, 2014

URL: [http://figshare.com/articles/Modelling\\_water\\_relations\\_in\\_the\\_soil\\_plant\\_atmosphere\\_system/1091425](http://figshare.com/articles/Modelling_water_relations_in_the_soil_plant_atmosphere_system/1091425)

### Water relations in the SPAC. What can we learn from functional-structural plant models

*Soil Science Society Belgium*, Brussels, Belgium, 2014

URL: [http://figshare.com/articles/Modelling\\_water\\_relations\\_in\\_the\\_soil\\_plant\\_atmosphere\\_system/1091425](http://figshare.com/articles/Modelling_water_relations_in_the_soil_plant_atmosphere_system/1091425)

### A Novel Image Analysis Toolbox Enabling Quantitative Analysis of Root System Architecture.

*International Workshop on Image Analysis Methods for Plant Science*, Nottingham, UK, 2012

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.95665>

### New insights on the role of root radial conductivity on the overall uptake dynamics

*Roots for improving resource acquisition in crops*, Grasmere, UK, 2011

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.95591>

## Presentations in international conferences

### How to deal with the complexity of plants, a modelling vision

*CPIB Seminar*, Nottingham, UK, 2016

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.4239140.v3>

### plant-image-analysis.org, A platform referencing plant image analysis tools

*Neubias Taggathon*, Barcelona, Spain (video-conference), 2016

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.3826488>

### Using structural models to validate and improve root image analysis pipelines

*International Plant Phenotyping Symposium*, Mexico City, Mexico, 2016

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.4311848.v1>

### FLOR-ID, an interactive database of flowering gene network in Arabidopsis

*Workshop on Mechanisms Controlling Flower Development*, Aiguablava, Spain, 2015

URL: <http://orbi.ulg.ac.be/handle/2268/180776>

### Inflorescence development in tomato. Gene functions within a zigzag model.

*Genetic Variation of Flowering Time Genes and Applications for Crop Improvement*, Bielefeld, Germany, 2014

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.976039>

**Plant Image Analysis tools. Current trends and limitations**

*International workshop on Image analysis methods for the plant sciences*, Aberystwyth, UK, 2014

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1169928>

**First steps towards an explicit modeling of aba production and translocation in relation with the water uptake dynamics**

*9th International Workshop on Sap Flow*, Ghent, Belgium, 2013

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.713568>