

# Comparison of lysimeter and scintillometer data with reference evapotranspiration

Lysimeter and soil water management: drought – irrigation – yield stability

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Irdning-Donnersbachtal, 13. April 2021

# Evapotranspiration

## Computational approaches

### 1. Direct approaches

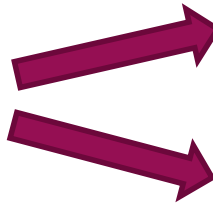
- A. Field Water Balance Approach
- B. Soil Moisture Depletion Approach



**Lysimeter**

### 2. Indirect approaches

- A. Empirical/ Statistical Methods
- B. Micrometeorological methods
- C. Remote Sensing Methods



**Scintillometer** – energy balance

**Penman-Monteith equation** –  $ET_o$ ,  $ET_c$

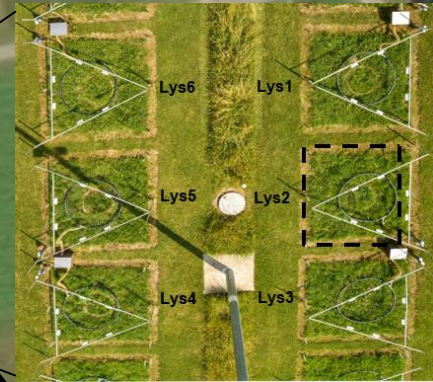


BLS900  
Receiver

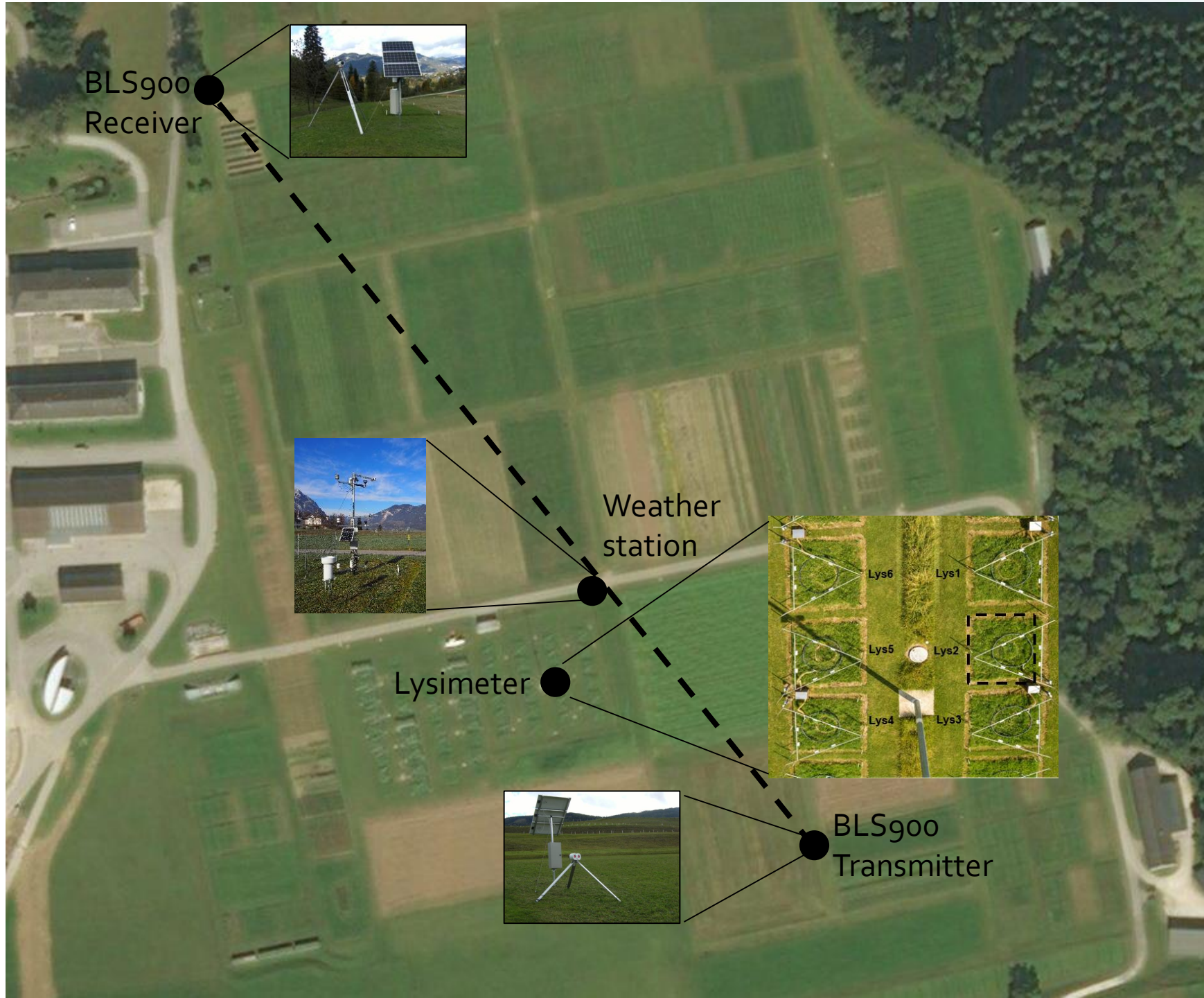


Weather  
station

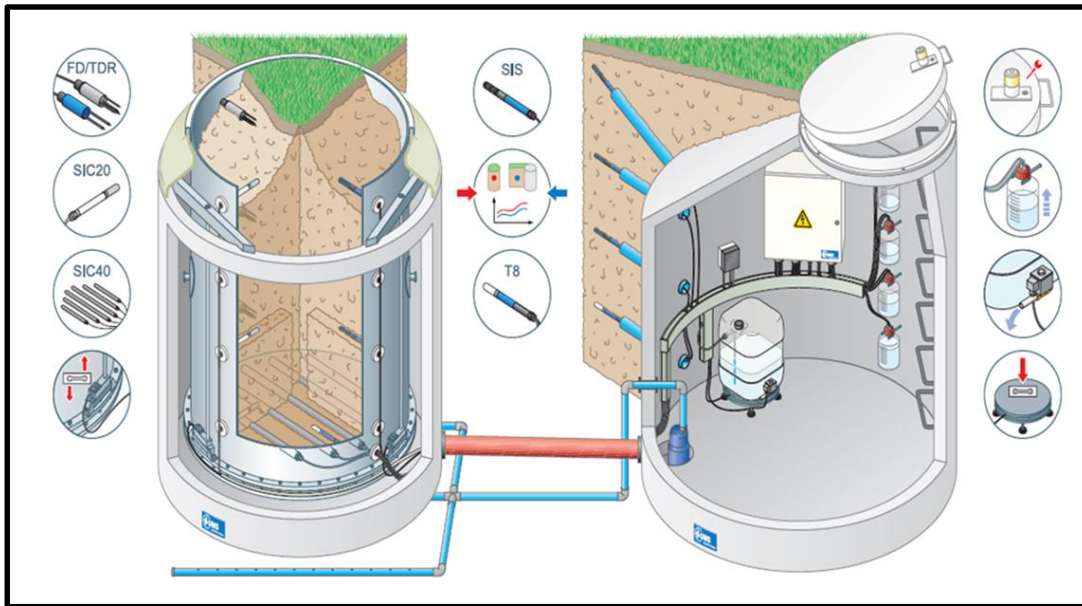
Lysimeter



BLS900  
Transmitter



## Lysimeter



- Seepage water weight via a 50 liter tank
- Temporal resolution 1 min
- Precision 100 g





## Scintillometer

Scintec BLS900 Large Aperture Scintillometer



Receiver



Transmitter

$$LE = R_n - H - G$$

$LE$  is the latent heat flux

$R_n$  is the net radiation,

$H$  is the sensible heat flux

$G$  is the soil heat flux

$$ET = LE/\lambda$$

$\lambda$  is the latent heat of vaporization

## Penman-Monteith equation

### Crop evapotranspiration ( $ET_c$ ):

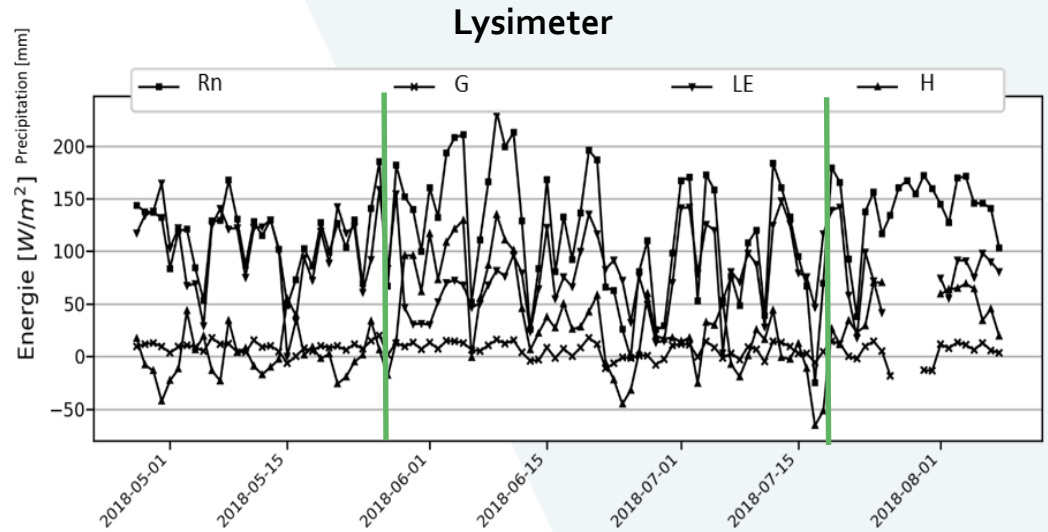
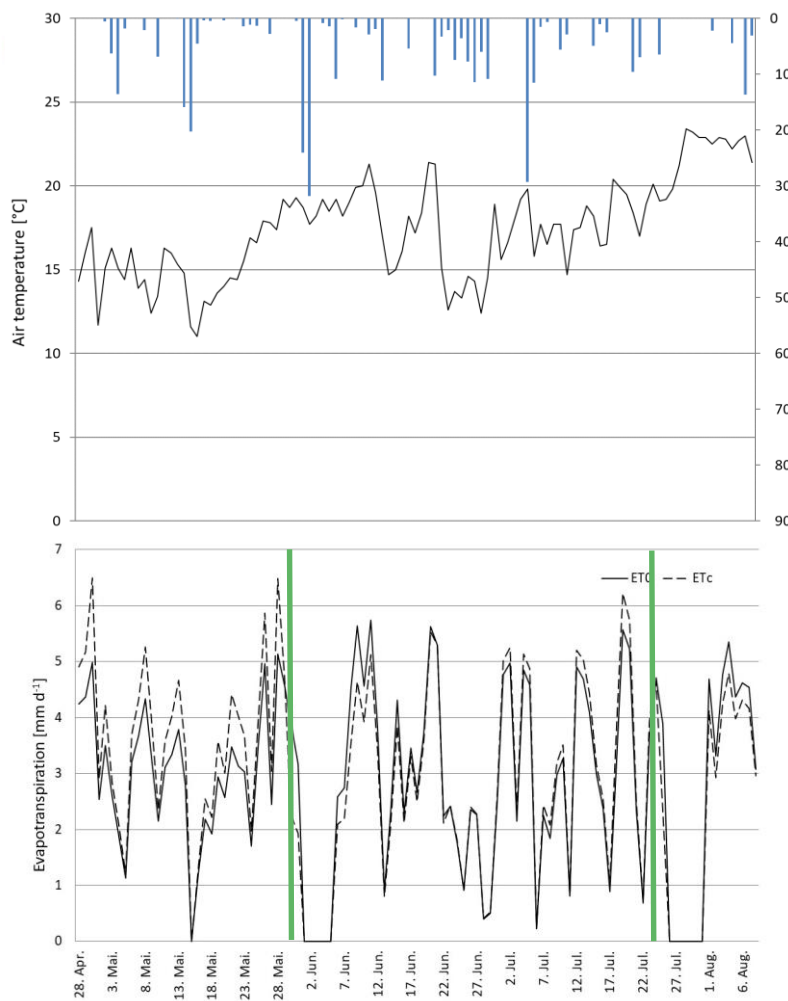
$$ET_c = \frac{\Delta(R_n - G) + \rho_a c_p (e_s - e_a) / r_a}{\lambda \left[ \Delta + \gamma \left( 1 + \frac{r_s}{r_a} \right) \right]} \quad (1)$$

where  $ET$ ,  $R_n$  and  $G$  are in  $\text{MJm}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$ ;  $\Delta$  is the slope of the saturation vapor pressure temperature relationship ( $\text{kPa}^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ );  $\rho_a$  is the air density ( $\text{kg m}^{-3}$ ),  $c_p$  is the specific heat of air ( $\text{MJkg}^{-1}\text{C}^{-1}$ );  $\gamma$  is psychrometric constant ( $\text{kPa}^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ );  $r_a$  and  $r_s$  are the aerodynamic and surface resistances ( $\text{ms}^{-1}$ )

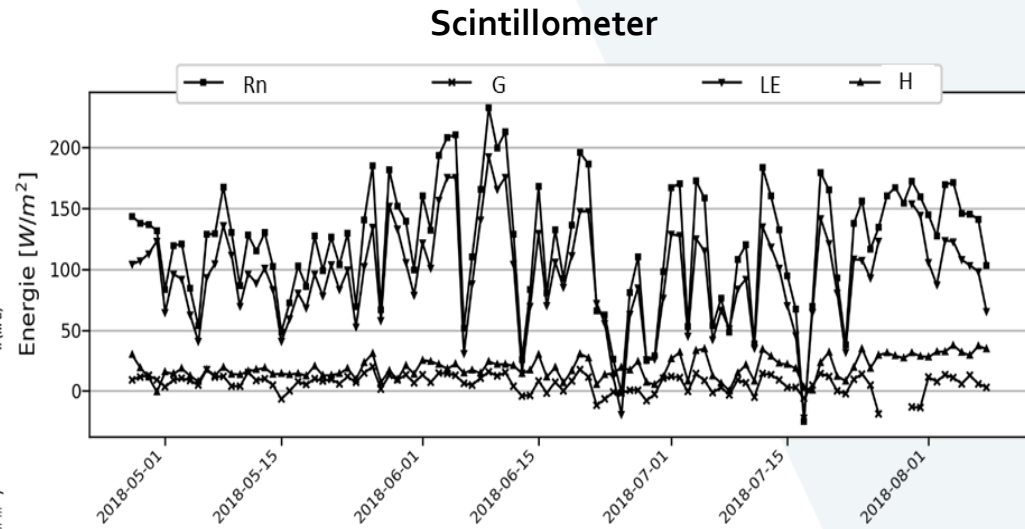
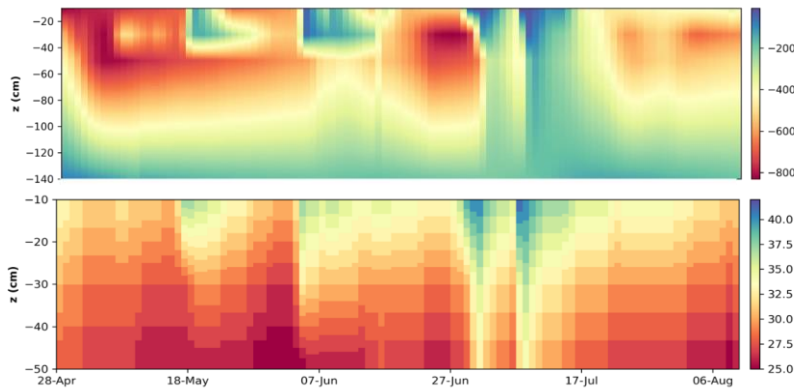
### Reference evapotranspiration ( $ET_0$ ):

$$ET_0 = \frac{0.408\Delta(R_n - G) + \gamma \frac{37}{T + 273} u_2 (e_s - e_a)}{\Delta + \gamma(1 + 0.34u_2)} \quad (2)$$

$ET_0$  is derived from equation 2, assuming a grass height of 12 cm, LAI of hcrop \* 24 and  $r_s$  of 70 ( $\text{sm}^{-1}$ ):

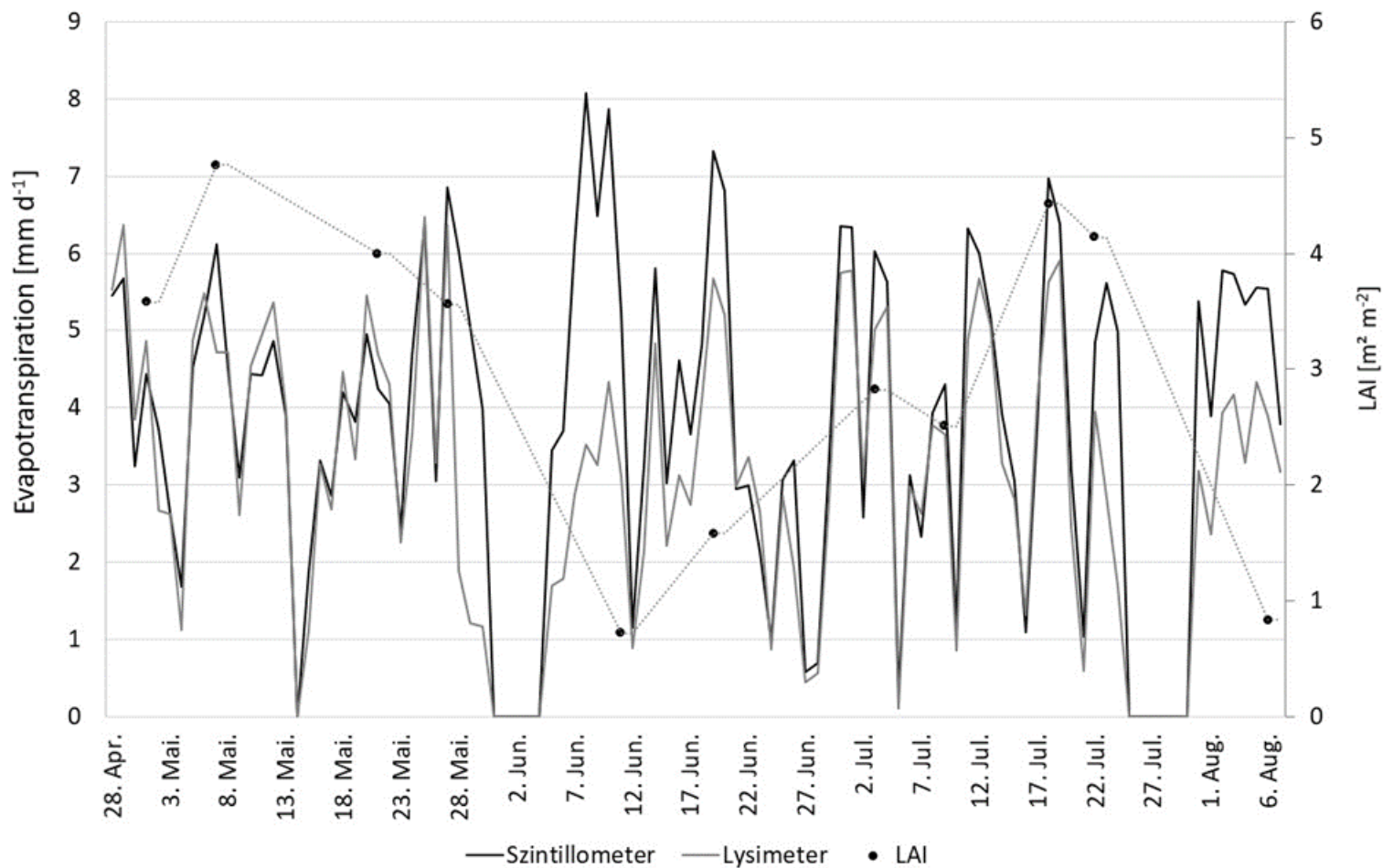


Rn net radiation; G soil heat flux; LE latent heat flux, ; H sensible heat flux



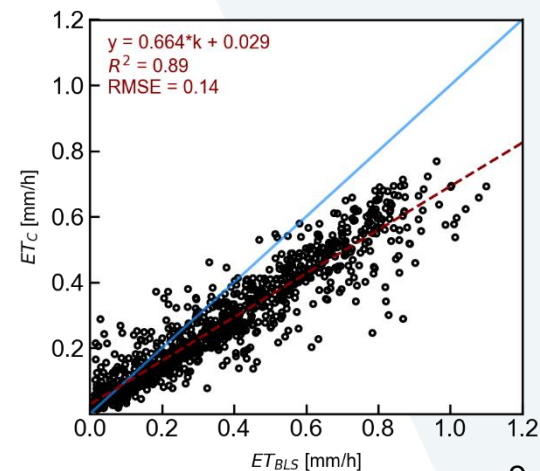
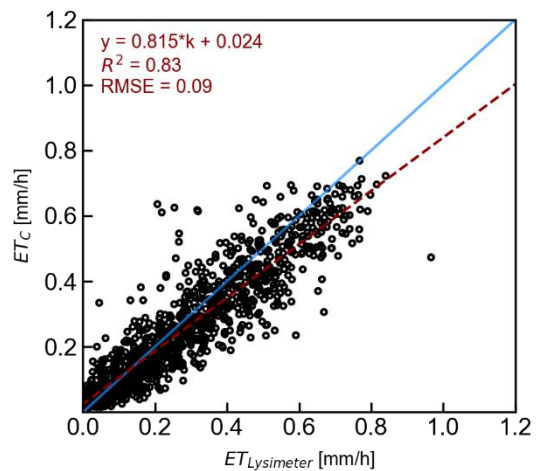
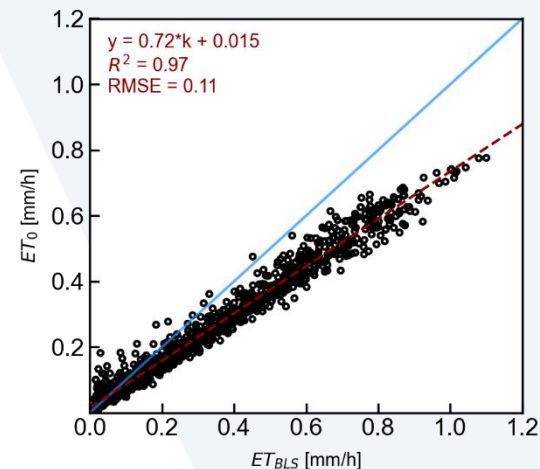
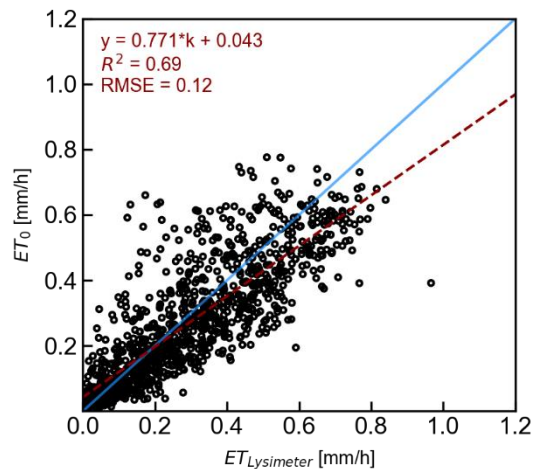
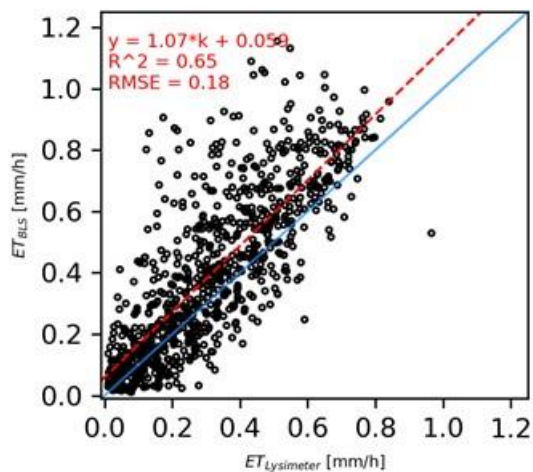
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## Results and Discussion





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## Conclusions and outlook

- Data from a lysimeter and a scintillometer were compared with data from two reference evapotranspiration methods ( $ET_c$ ,  $ET_o$ )
  - In the period April-August 2018,  $ET_c$  showed the best fit with the lysimeter ET ( $r^2=0.83$ ), whereas  $ET_o$  correlated best with the scintillometer ET ( $r^2=0.97$ )
  - These relationships can be attributed to the different consideration of the LAI and the growth height in the two different methods
  - As a possible consequence, the  $ET_o$  method could be used to estimate ET for heterogeneous grassland stands and  $ET_c$  for homogeneous ones
- further datasets must be analysed to be able to consolidate this conclusion

# Thank you for your attention!



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