Irrigation-related land and water environment in China

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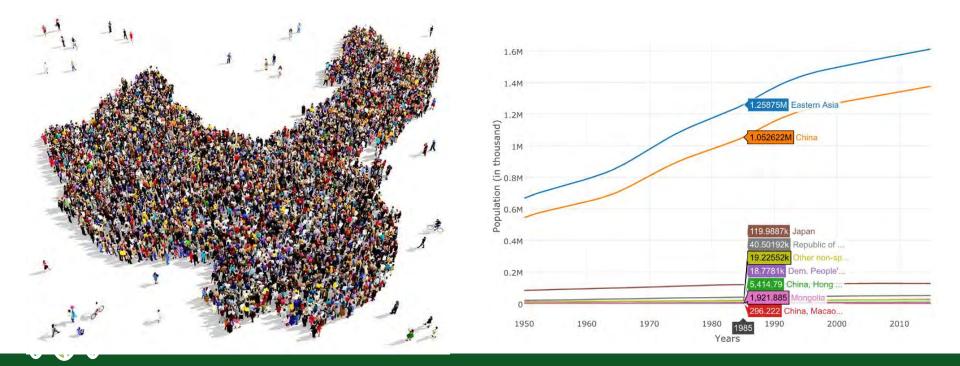






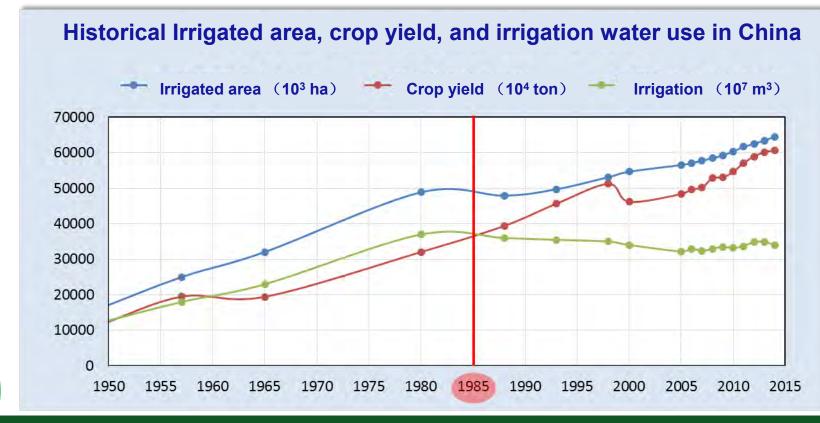
• China is the most populous country in the world. (1.39 billion in 2017)

• We need to feed ourselves and we did.

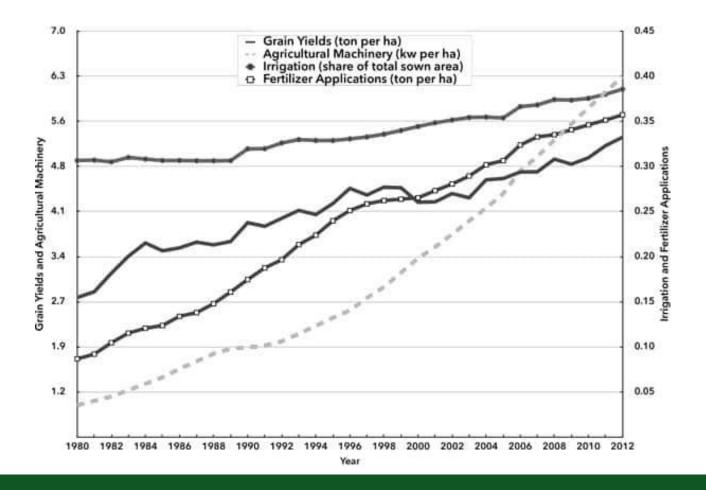


Irrigation contributes a lot to food security.

- \checkmark China has the most irrigated lands in the world.
- ✓ >50% arable lands are irrigated.
- $\checkmark\,$ Irrigation water utilization efficiency is about 50%

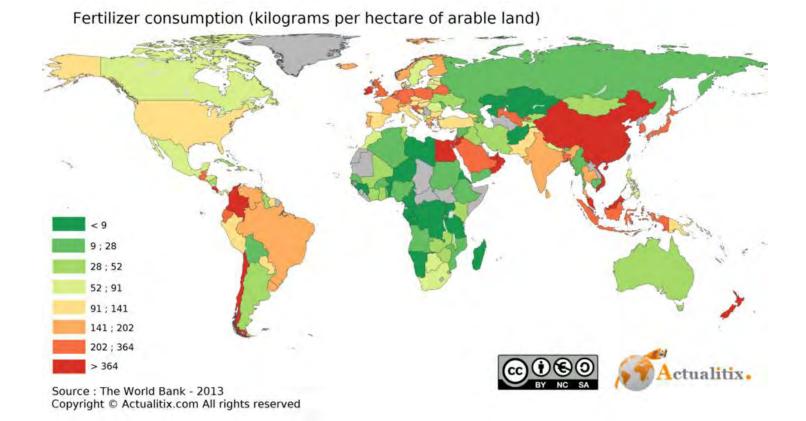


• Fertilizer is another important factor that ensures food security in China. (Contribution rate >40%)

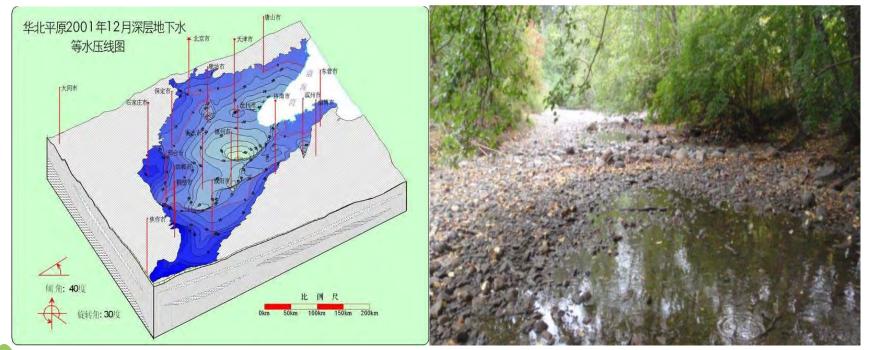




✓ 7% world's arable land consume 1/3 fertilization
✓ Application rate is 3.7 times as the world average level
✓ Utilization effiency < 30%, half of the world average



Overuse of water and fertilizer leads to serious environmental problems



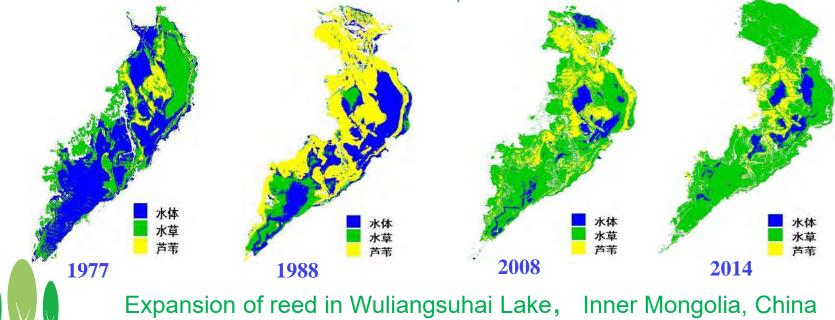


Groundwater depression

River flow cutoff or reduction

Overuse of water and fertilizer leads to serious environmental problems

- \checkmark 1/6 of China's arable land has been polluted by heavy metals.
- ✓ 40 percent of China's land is affected by soil erosion, salinization, and desertification.
- $\checkmark\,$ 80% groundwater is polluted and not qualified for drinking.
- ✓ Surface water bodies are widely eutrophicated.



- We want both golden, silver hill and clean water, green mountains as well.
- lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets.









2. Research interests in agricultural land and water environment

Issue 1: Solutes transport and transformation in agricultural system

• Issue 2: Interaction of crop, water and solutes

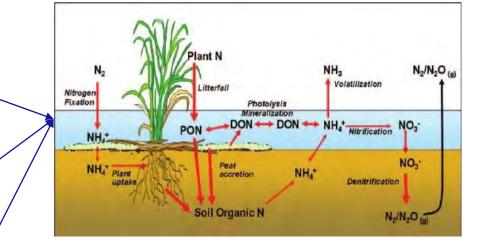
 Issue 3: Response of environment to irrigation & drainage and solutions to related environmental problem



Nitrogen transport in agricultural system









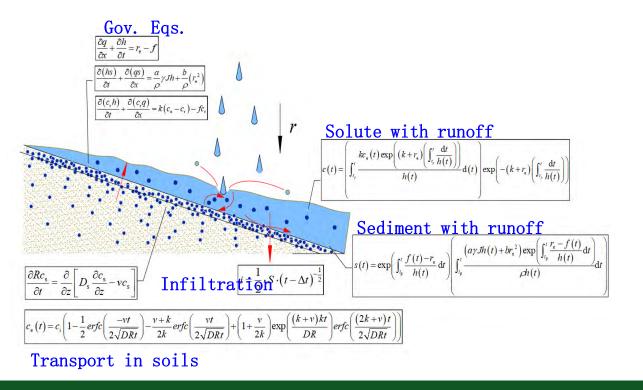
Massive observation at different scales have been made to understand how nitrogen behaves under irrigation and drainage condition

 ✓ Various simulation Models have been developed for different regions

Nitrogen transport in agricultural system

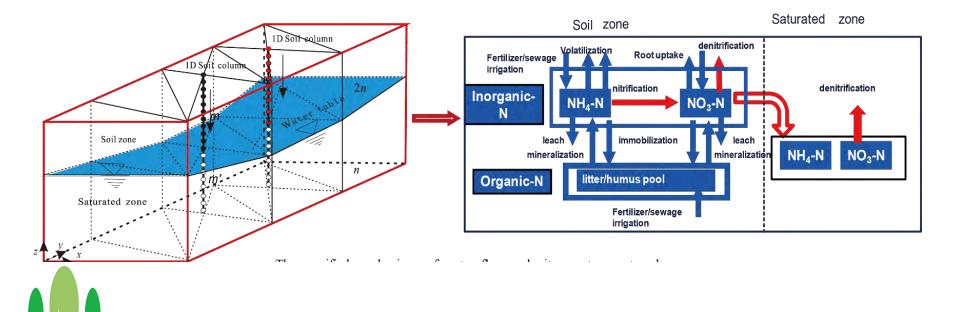


✓ In mountainous area, nitrogen loss is greatly linked with slope runoff and is often studied by integrating with soil erosion.



Nitrogen transport in agricultural system

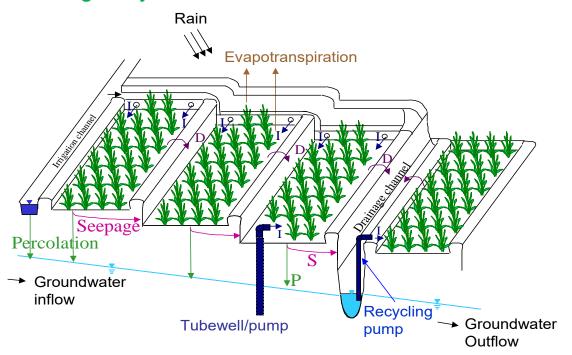
✓ In arid and semi-arid area where upland crop is planted, the interaction between saturated zone and unsaturated zone is significant. Nitrate leaching and groundwater pollution are generally concerned.



Nitrogen transport in agricultural system

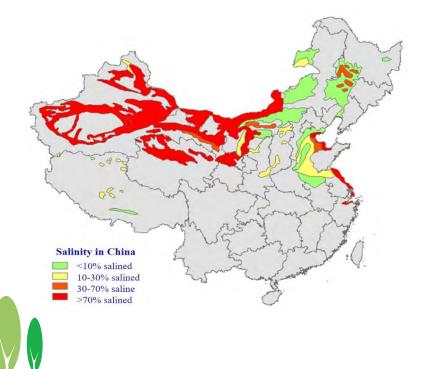


 In paddy rice area, flood irrigation, ditch detaining and surface water body purifying are important factors in nitrogen cycle.



Salt transport and soil salinization

- ✓ Salt-affected area amount to 0.1 bln ha
- ✓ 7% farm land affected
- \checkmark 0.25 mln ha abounded per year due to salinization

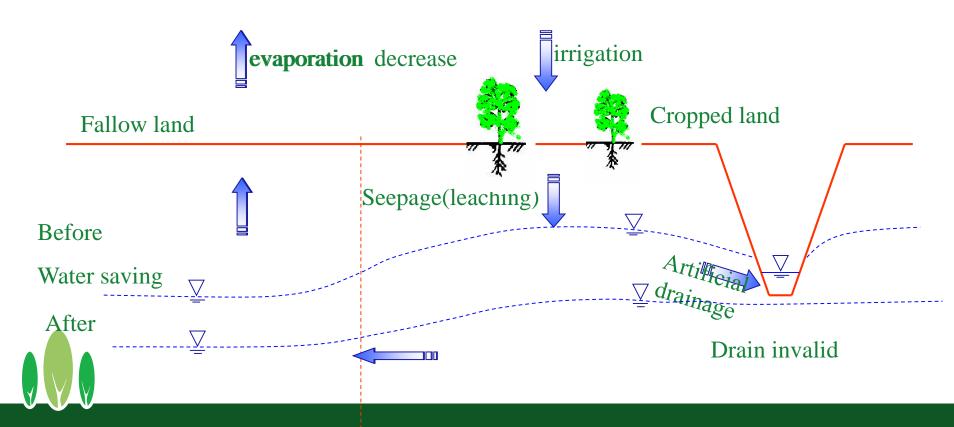




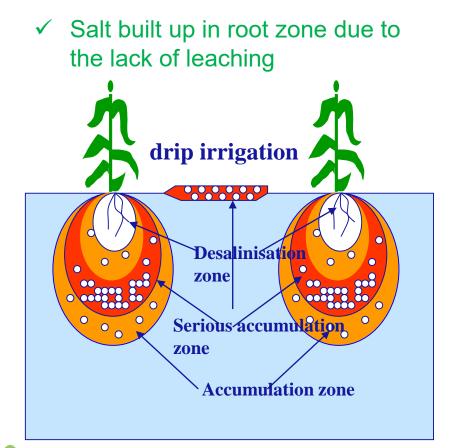
Birdview of Hetao Irrigation District, Top3 irrigation project in China

Salt transport and soil salinization

- National wide water saving practices result in the falling of groundwater table and change the salinization mechanism.
- Positive and negative impacts on salinization simultaneously

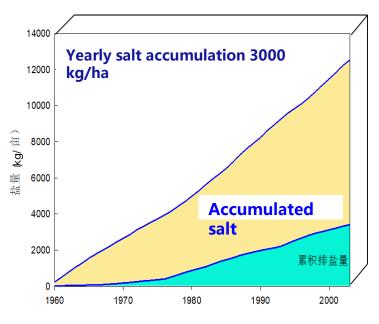


□ Salt transport and soil salinization



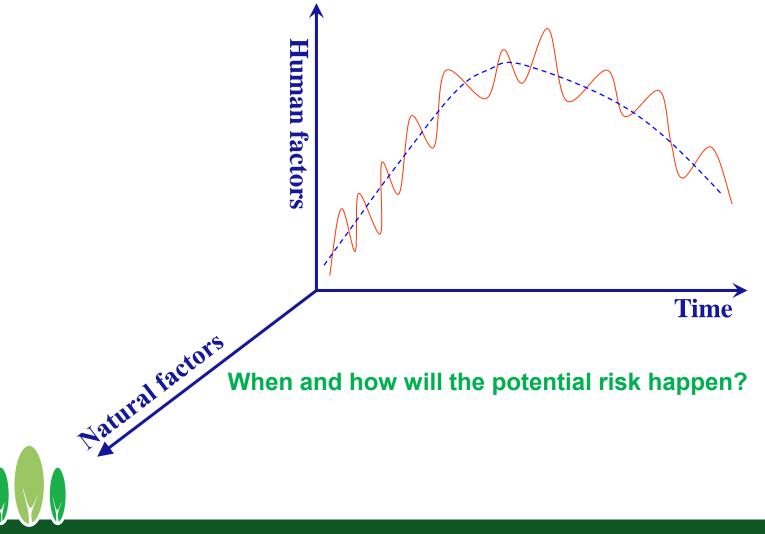
Field scale

 ✓ salt accumulation inside the system due to decreasing drainage capacity

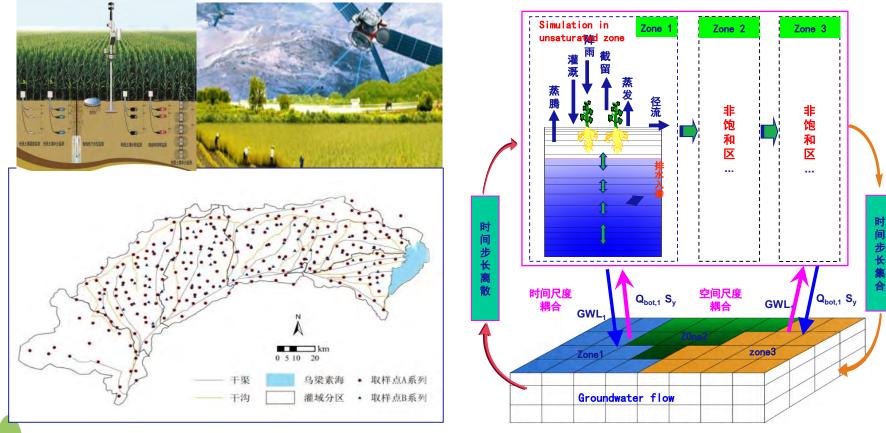


System scale

□ Salt transport and soil salinization



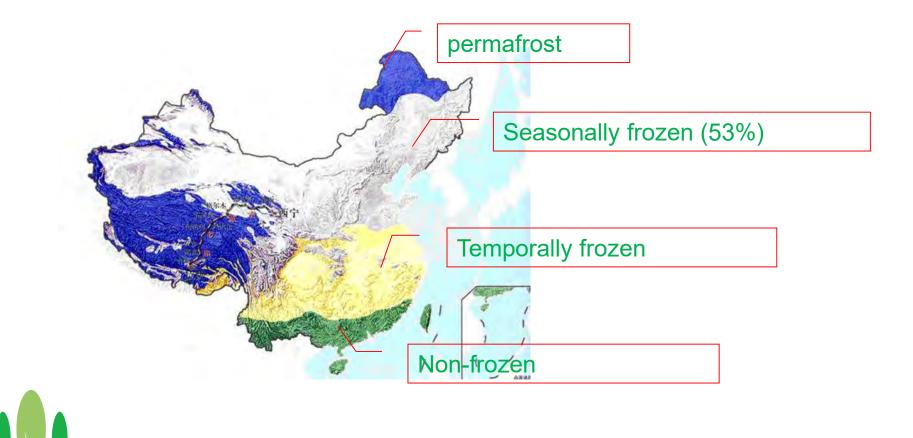
□ Salt transport and soil salinization



Multi-scale Monitoring

Multi-scale coupled Modeling

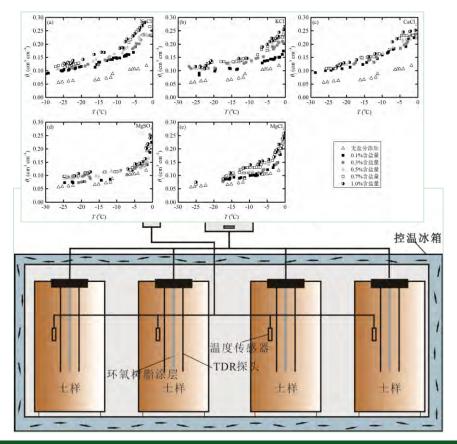
Water/solute transport in freezing and thawing soils



Water/solute transport in freezing and thawing soils

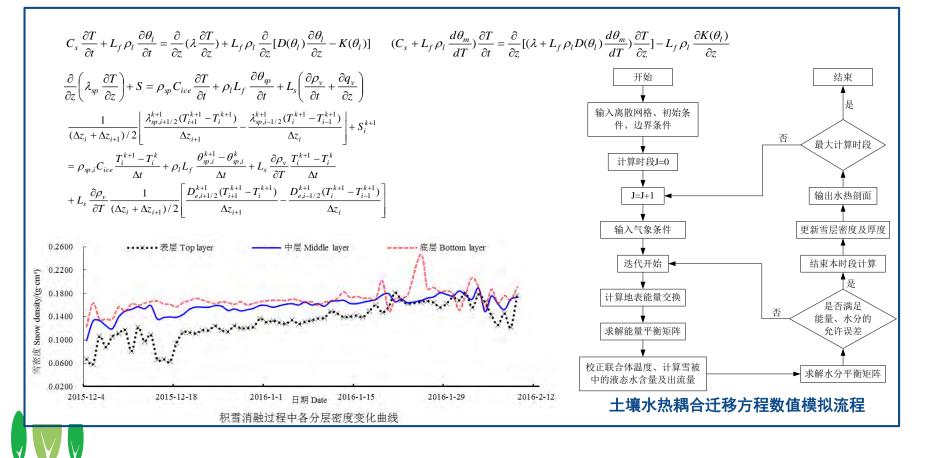
✓ Field and laboratory experiments have been conducted to study the dynamic of soil water and solute and migration mechanism.





Water/solute transport in freezing and thawing soils

✓ Models coupling water, solute, heat and snow cover have been developed.



Methods to increase the accuracy in simulating solute transport and transformation

✓ Geostatistics, stochastic simulation and bayes' theorem are used to deal with the uncertainty of parameters, complex model boundary condition and improper model assumptions in simulation.

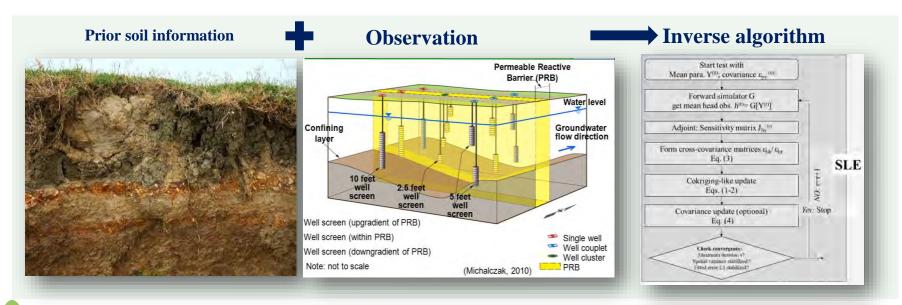


Heterogeneity

Sparse observation

Methods to increase the accuracy in simulating solute transport and transformation

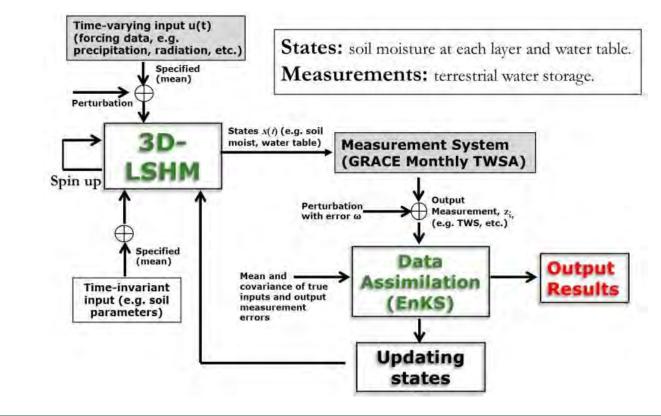
 Data fusion is used to identify the soil heterogeneity based on different kinds of observations





Methods to increase the accuracy in simulating solute transport and transformation

✓ Data assimilation is also used to identify the soil heterogeneity based on different kinds of observations



Research interests (2) Interaction of crop , water and Solutes

effects of the coupling of water and fertilizer (nitrogen)

✓ Massive field experiments have been conducted to understand the effects of the coupling of water and nitrogen application on crop yield.



Consider the effects of the coupling of water and nitrogen applications on <u>crop yield</u>

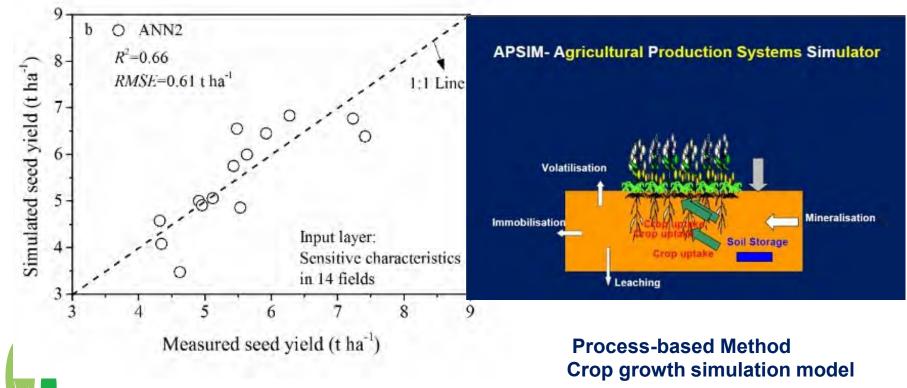
Consider the requirement of crop quality Consider the effect of soil salt

Consider the constraint of eco-environment

Research interests (2) Interaction of crop , water and Solutes

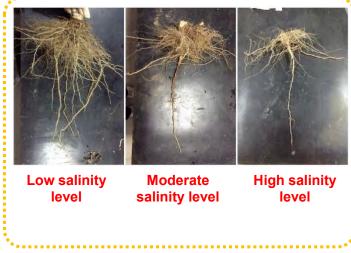
Modeling water-fertilizer production function

✓ Statistical Method (PLSR, ANN), Semi-empirical method (Jense, Morgan), process-based method are widely applied to quantifying the interaction of crop, water and solution.

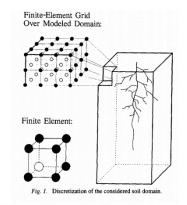


Research interests (2) Interaction of crop , water and Solutes

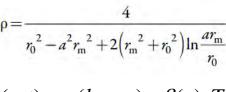
Root distribution and water/fertilizer uptake



Root distribution under different water, nitrogen and salinity.

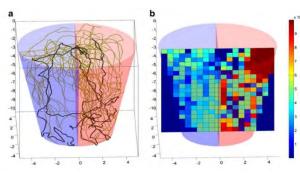


Physical and empirical macroscopic models are used to qualifying water uptake.



p

$$S(z,t) = \alpha(h,\pi,z) \cdot \beta(z) \cdot T$$

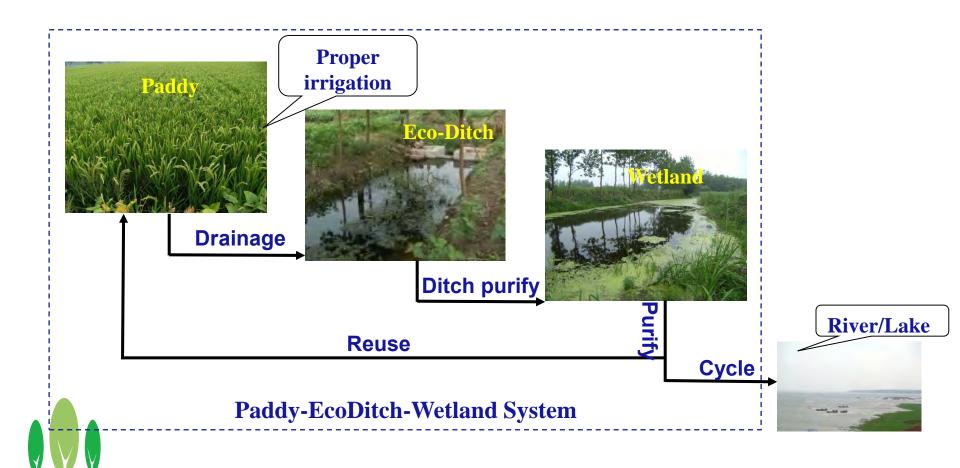




Compensatory root water uptake

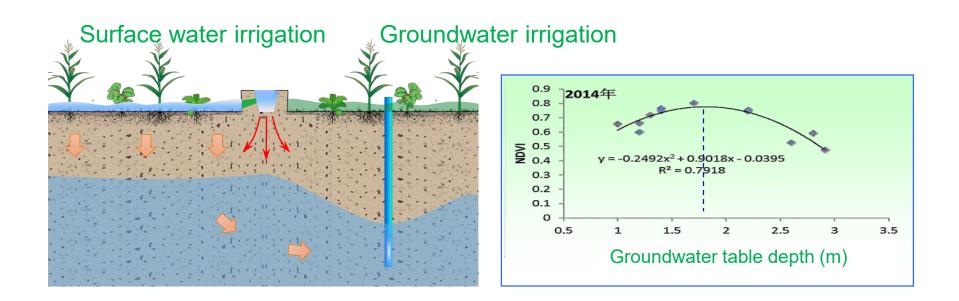
2. Research interests: (3) Interaction of Irrigation-drainage-Environment

Proper irrigation/drainage to reduce agricultural pollution.



2. Research interests: (3) Interaction of Irrigation-drainage-Environment

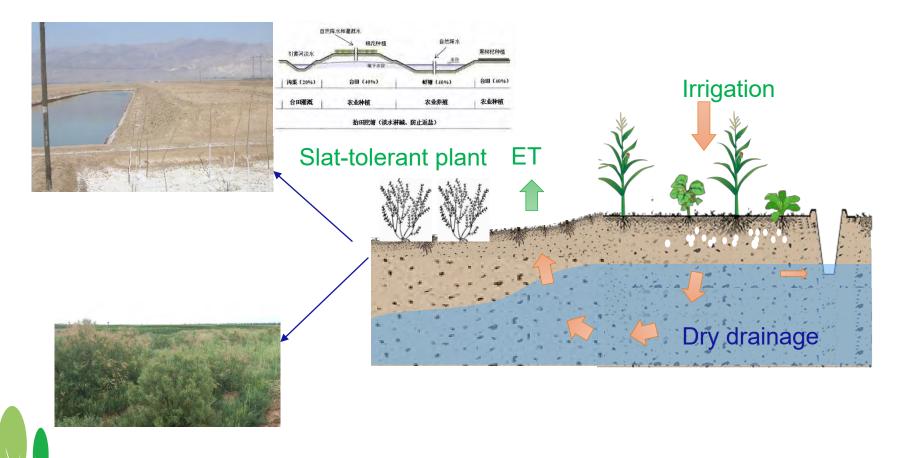
Proper conjunctive use of irrigation water resources to balance water saving and eco-environment protection





(3) Interaction of Irrigation-drainage-Environment

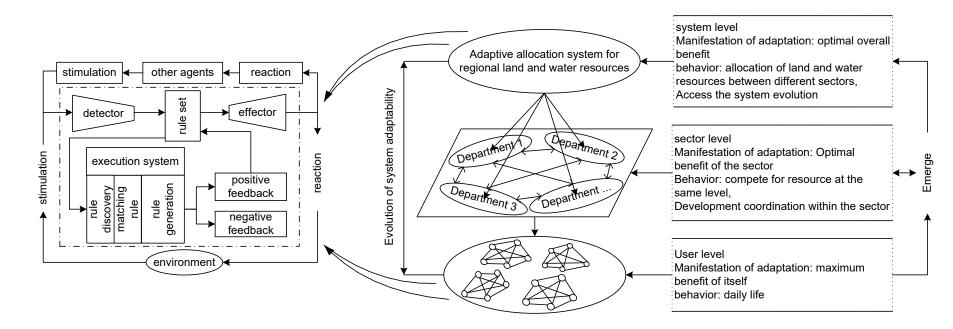
Proper land-use planning to mitigate soil salinity threat and protect eco-environment.



(3) Interaction of Irrigation-drainage-Environment

System theory is studied to explore optimum solutions to the multi-objects, multi-process problem.

(Food-Water-Environment-energy nexus)

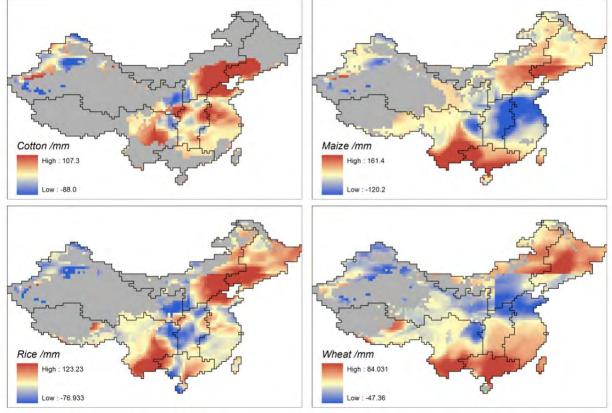




(3) Interaction of Irrigation-drainage-Environment

How climate change impact irrigation and corresponding adaptation

- ✓ Water availability
- Crop Water requirement
- \checkmark irrigation demand
- ✓ Variability and uncertainty
- Adapting irrigation to climate change

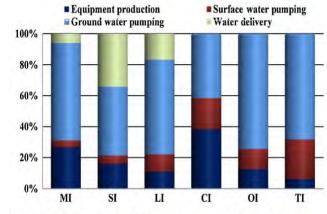


Changes in Irrigation demand for the main crops

(3) Interaction of Irrigation-drainage-Environment

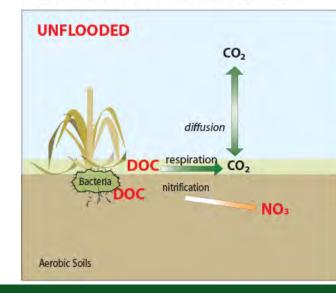
Irrigation and GHG emission

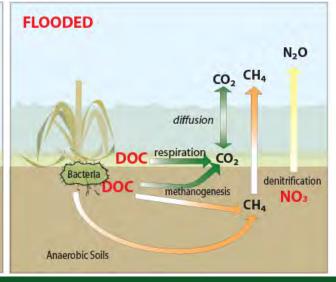
- ✓ Monitoring and estimating
- ✓ Exploring mechanism and simulation
- ✓ Optimizing irrigation & drainage practices



The CO2-e emission proportions of different irrigation process in 2010 in China











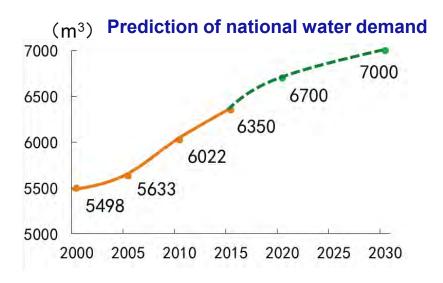






Outlook 1: Irrigation-related environmental issues will be highly concerned and studied.

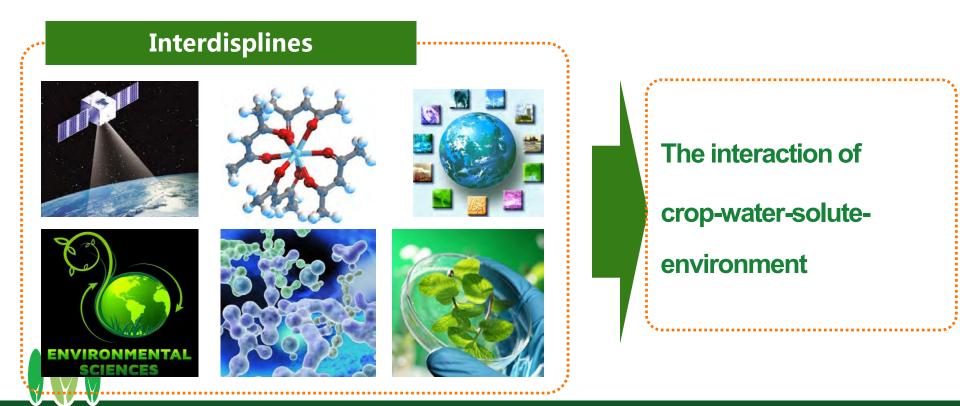
- ✓ current situation
- ✓ continuous water saving practice
- ✓ State will



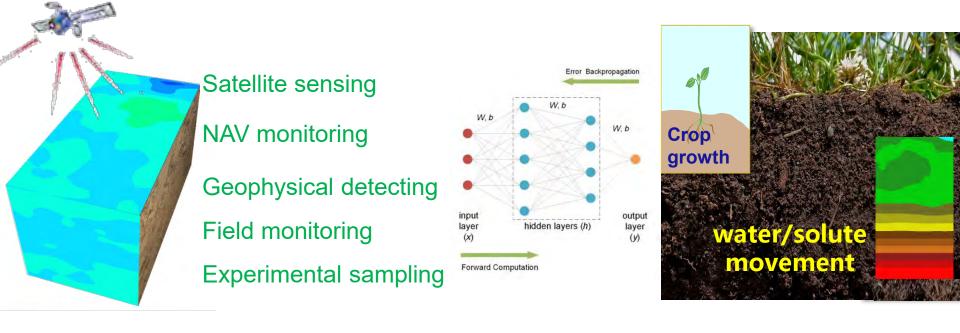




Outlook 2: The sciences of soil, plant physiology, environment, ecology and chemistry will be greatly integrated with irrigation science to accurate characterize the behavior of solutes and the interaction of crop-water-solute-environment.



Outlook 3: Data and simulation models will be deeply fused to increase understanding and reduce uncertainty.

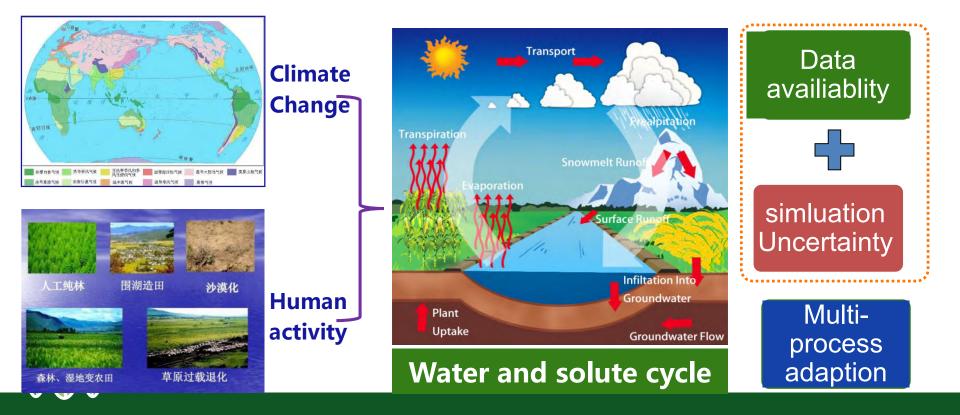




Deep learning

Multi-models

Outlook 4: The interaction of changing environment and irrigation practice will be studied at multi-scales to optimize irrigation & drainage management and achieve all-win.



Thanks for attention!

