# INNOVATIONS IN AGROGEOPHYSICS FOR ENHANCING SOIL AND WATER SUSTAINABILITY

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# My research motivations





Over **70%** of agronomic decisions in Italy still rely on empirical knowledge, while less than **15%** of farms use advanced data-driven methods

(Vecchio, Y. et al. (2020). Adoption of Precision Farming Tools: The Case of Italian Farmers. Agronomy, 10(1): 18. (MDPI))

Agriculture generates **420 B€/year** and employs 22 million people, in addition climate events have cost Italian agriculture over **14 B€** in 10 years

(Hannah Ritchie and Ma. Roser (2019), 'Land Use', Our World in Data)

From around **30** publications pre-2010, precision agriculture surged to over **1,100** articles annually by 2020, driven by digital and automated technologies

(Rejeb, A. et al. (2024). Precision Agriculture: A Bibliometric Analysis and Research Agenda. Smart Agricultural Technology 9: 100684)

Developing innovative methods on real data to support sustainable management in agricultural contexts



Casa, R. (2016). Agricoltura di precisione, metodi e tecnologie per migliorare l'efficienza e la sostenibilità dei sistemi colturali. Edagricole-Edizioni Agricole di New Business Media Srl



Gap in the adoption of quantitative methods for monitoring and managing field conditions



Resource-use efficiency directly supports income, employment, and economic resilience

### **Keywords of my research**

**INNOVATION** 



Near-surface geophysics applies non-invasive methods to assess soil and crop properties, linking geosciences with agriculture to enhance field characterization and management for improved crop production and resource efficiency Application of new or existing knowledge to develop or improve products, processes, or

methods seeks to create added value, enhance performance, and generate new insights through original and practical solutions Fulfilling present needs without depleting future resources by balancing human demands with natural limits, ensuring the conservation and stability of ecosystems to support the well-being and resilience of future generations

**SUSTAINABILITY** 

# **Advancements in agrogeophysics**



technological approaches and physical methods to

Leveraging

improve soil and

water sustainability

e della Ricerca

# Geoelectric joint inversion for 3D imaging of vineyard ground \*

AGROGEOPHYSICS INNOVATION SUSTAINABILITY In vineyard, agrogeophysics made it possible to map vine By identifying how water root systems and soil moves underground, the conditions in 3D model helps manage irrigation precisely

> Joint inversion of CCR and GCR, a new approach that improves subsurface imaging in vineyards



### Location, soil texture and peculiar problem



The vineyard faces a significant irrigation challenge, particularly in identifying and utilizing available water resources, as required for efficient relief irrigation under Law 238/2016



## Grapevine root architecture: depth and structure

#### Percentage root concentration ----

- ~63% in the top **60 cm**
- ~80% within the top **100 cm**

#### -----Root structure

- Framework roots: 6–100 mm Ø
- Permanent roots: 2–6 mm Ø
- Lateral roots: respond to water and nutrient zones

#### Maximum root penetration ---

**Soil structure** affects maximal root depth, requiring **favorable conditions** like the absence of compacted layers and gravel-rich horizons

#### ----- Depth drivers

Determined mainly by **soil properties**:

- Texture
- Bulk density
- Water content

# Resistivity

# **Galvanic Contact Resistivity (GCR)**

The **Syscal Pro** uses 96 electrodes and a 10-channel system to inject 1359 currents (~ 150 mA) into the soil, measuring **resistivity** with a transmitter and resistivimeter, powered by a 12 V external battery







- Depth range: up to 5 m
- High subsurface resistivity accuracy
- Soil contact via electrodes
- Setup is labor-intensive

# **Capacitively-Coupled Resistivity (CCR)**



# **Parameters for geoelectrical surveys**

|                          | GCR                  |                             | CCR                  |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Electrode distance (m)   | 1                    | Cord length (m)             | 1.25 – 5 – 10        |
| Max depth (m)            | ~ 5.5                | Max depth (m)               | ~ 3.5                |
| Spread length (m)        | 16                   | Run length (m)              | 18                   |
| Number of spreads        | 6                    | Number of runs              | 6                    |
| Spread distance (m)      | 3                    | Run distance (m)            | 2.7                  |
| Method                   | Dipole-Dipole        | Method                      | Dipole-Dipole        |
| Acquisition dur (h)      | 0:48                 | Acquisition dur (h)         | 2:17                 |
| Min V/I (Ω)              | $1.45 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | Min V/I (Ω)                 | $1.90 \cdot 10^{-5}$ |
| Max V/I (Ω)              | 3.01                 | Max V/I (Ω)                 | 1.52                 |
| Max n + 1a (m)           | 20                   | Max n + 1a (m)              | 7                    |
| N° measurements acquired | 5049                 | N° measurements<br>acquired | 384                  |



# **Joint inversion in geophysics**

Joint inversion was first proposed by Vozoff & Jupp (1975) to address ambiguities in single-method inversions by combining different geophysical data types





# **Geoelectrical joint inversion**

#### ldea

Both GCR and CCR measure subsurface electrical resistivity (in  $\Omega \cdot m$ ), based on **Ohm's law**:

 $\rho_a = k \frac{V}{I}$ 

- where V is the voltage (in V), I is the current (in A), k is the geometric factor (in m).
- GCR: Measures voltage (V) via DC through electrodes, with potential Φ (in V) given by

$$\Phi = \frac{\rho I}{2\pi r}$$

• **CCR**: Uses capacitive coupling, with transfer impedance Z (in  $\Omega$ )

$$Z = \frac{1}{i\omega C_0} (1 - K_{ES} \alpha)$$



#### **Novelties**

- First-time joint inversion combining two geophysical methods measuring the **same physical quantity (electrical resistivity)**, instead of different ones (e.g., seismic and electric).
- First application of this methodology in
   agrogeophysics, providing 3D
   resistivity imaging of a vineyard.

#### **Expected benefits**

- Stronger constraints: using GCR and CCR together strengthens the inversion by constraining the model with the same property, reducing nonuniqueness.
- Sharper resolution: combining GCR and CCR data produced a 3D model with 20.21 data/m<sup>3</sup>, improving resolution.
- **Multi-scale sensitivity**: combining GCR and CCR improves depth sensitivity: CCR provides surface resolution, GCR enables deeper characterization.



# **Geoelectrical joint inversion framework**



### Data inversion processing workflow



# **Data processing**



CCR data inversion is

inaccurate due to

systematic bias affecting

the dipole-dipole geometry

A **0.8** correction factor is applied to CCR antenna

length to account for non-ideal geometry\*

### **Filter by quality factor**

**Repeat measurements** 

High Q values and noise

reduce reliability of GCR

resistivity measurements

until **Q < 5%** or **5** 

→ stacks; exclude

unstable, high-deviation

data beyond limit

|                             | GCR  | CCR | Joint |
|-----------------------------|------|-----|-------|
| N° measurements<br>acquired | 5049 | 384 | -     |
| N° input data               | 4959 | 384 | 5343  |

\* M. Neukirch and N. Klitzsch, 'Inverting Capacitive Resistivity (Line Electrode) Measurements with Direct Current Inversion Programs', *Vadose Zone Journal*, vol. 9, no. 4, pp. 882–892, Nov. 2010, doi: 10.2136/vzj2009.0164.

# **Constraints setting**

### **TreeMesh**

**Parametrizations** 

- Minimum horizontal cell width (dxy): 0.4 m
- Minimum vertical cell width (dz): 0.25 m

Starting

model

parameters

• Total mesh extents: 30 m horizontally - 8 m vertically



# Parameters affecting geoelectrical joint inversion

#### **Inversion objective function**

 $\phi(m) = \phi_d(m) + \beta \phi_m(m)$ 

 $\phi_d(m)$ = data misfit

 $\beta \phi_m(m)$  = model regularization term

|            | GCR                  |                 | CCR                  |           | Joint                 |           |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
|            | Range                | Best            | Range                | Best      | Range                 | Best      |
| Beta ratio | $10^{-4} - 10^3$     | 10 <sup>2</sup> | $10^{-4} - 10^3$     | 10        | $10^{-4} - 10^3$      | 200       |
| 3          | 10 <sup>-4</sup> - 1 | $10^{-2}$       | 10 <sup>-4</sup> - 1 | $10^{-2}$ | 10 <sup>-4</sup> - 1  | $10^{-2}$ |
| Iterations | 3 - 50               | 12              | 3 - 50               | 13        | 3 - 50                | 14        |
| Tol F      | $10^{-5} - 10^4$     | 0.04            | $10^{-5} - 10^4$     | 0.01      | 10 <sup>-1</sup> - 10 | 0.003     |

### β

A value controlling the weight of the regularization in the inversion

#### Regularization

A term that smooths the model by preventing overly complex solutions

### X<sup>2</sup>

Sum of the squared differences between observed and predicted data, normalized by the expected variance

#### **Objective function**

Combines data fit and regularization

# **Studying β - regularization**



Consistent downward trend across all

methods, indicating convergence of the

inversion and decreasing influence of the

regularization term

#### **Regularization**

Increases during inversion for all methods, consistent with improved model smoothness adapted to each method's depth resolution

# **Studying objective function**



X<sup>2</sup> Decreases from CCR to GCR, with the joint inversion showing intermediate values, reflecting differences in sensitivity to depth and resistivity contrasts

#### **Objective function**

Reaches its lowest level in the joint inversion, confirming its effectiveness in balancing data fit and model regularity

# **Resistivity sections: GCR vs CCR**





[M·M]

Resistivity

### **Joint resistivity** sections





[M·M]

Resistivity

4761520

4761530

### **GCR-CCR vs Joint results**

#### GCR (up to 5 meters depth)

- Probes deeper layers
- Good depth coverage but loses spatial resolution





- High-resolution data for shallow layers
- Reduced accuracy at greater depths



[D·m]

Resistivi

114

88

68

52

#### **Joint Inversion**

- Combines strengths of both methods
- Comprehensive 3D model integrating shallow resolution from CCR and deeper probing from GCR



# Model performance and misfit analysis



Single-objective models

Each model simulates one acquisition setup. Synthetic data align with its own observations but misfit increases when evaluated against noncorresponding acquisition data

$$\phi_{d-joint}(m) = (1 - \alpha)\phi_{d-GCR}(m) + \alpha \phi_{d-CCR}(m)$$

 $\alpha$ = weighted ratio (0-1)  $\phi_d(m)$ = data misfit

$$Misfit = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( D_{obs,i} - D_{syn,i} \right)^2}}{n}$$

|      | Model |                      |                      |                      |  |  |
|------|-------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
|      |       | GCR                  | CCR                  | Joint                |  |  |
| Data | GCR   | $1.04 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $27.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $2.80 \cdot 10^{-2}$ |  |  |
|      | CCR   | $2.10 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $1.91 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $1.95 \cdot 10^{-2}$ |  |  |



#### **Joint inversion**

A single model integrates both acquisition setups. Synthetic data capture varying sensitivities, allowing coherent fit across datasets and improved assessment of shared model regions



# Vineyard root mapping via joint inversion

- Joint inversion detects roots via resistivity contrasts from moisture and electrolyte changes by root activity
- Thicker roots show higher resistivity; thinner roots lower resistivity, revealing structure and distribution
- Root morphology and function comprehensively characterized to **1 m depth** through resistivity patterns



Resistivity [Ω·m]

# **Insights from 3D resistivity model**

Zones of low resistivity (<20 Ω·m) subsurface water

Agronomic implications

Water distribution Impact on vine health: excess water = trunk diseases

Vineyard management strategies

Targeted interventions: farming practices - soil variability



# **Joint resistivity profiles**



# **Eco-driven solutions**

#### OBJECTIVE

- Develop a 3D resistivity model with a high spatial resolution of 20.21 data/m<sup>3</sup> using CCR and GCR data
- Improve subsurface soil characterization

#### BENEFIT

- Reduces data misfit more effectively than individual inversions
- Provides a smooth integration of shallow and deep subsurface data

#### SIGNIFICANCE

- Identifies key features like subsurface water and the effects of soil management
- Provides tools to optimize wine quality and vine health



### **Future directions**



### **Real-time monitoring**

Adaptive management of soil and water resources.



#### **Precision integration**

Accurate resource allocation using joint inversion techniques.

### 3D Imaging & remote sensing

High-resolution analysis from root zones to landscapes.

## What I really understood from my PhD?



#### Collaboration Interdisciplinarity Innovation New knowledge Technical refinement Complexity demanded emerged through alliances over isolated translated complexity engineered collisions into clarity expertise of fields From vines to Sustainability landscapes Practical tools A once-elusive ideal Research applications reframed through extending beyond "Is this useful to the initial focus

people who need it?"

empirical grounding

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

### **Agrogeophysical methods and tools**



550000E 555000E 560000E 565000E 570000E









#### SATELLITE REMOTE SENSING

 $NDVI = \frac{NIR - RED}{NIR + RED} \qquad \Delta S = P - ET - R - Q$ 

- Tracks agricultural expansion and urbanization
- Geophysical analysis of spatial land dynamics

#### **AIRBORNE SENSORS**

 $GRVI = \frac{\rho_G - \rho_R}{\rho_G + \rho_R} \quad GBVI = \frac{\rho_G - \rho_B}{\rho_G + \rho_B} \quad BRVI = \frac{\rho_B - \rho_R}{\rho_B + \rho_R}$ 

- •Reflectance (ρ) maps chlorophyll in RGB bands
- •High efficiency and good spectral resolution

#### **GEOELECTRICAL METHODS**

V = IR

- $\rho_a = k \frac{V}{I}$
- •Maps soil resistivity ( $\Omega \cdot m$ ) in 3D
- •Reveals moisture, texture, and structure
- Detects salinity and compaction



### What is agrogeophysics?

Agrogeophysics uses geophysical methods to study soil and water dynamics for agricultural optimization

 How do we analyze soil properties?

- How do soil-plantatmosphere interactions affect water and nutrient dynamics?
- How can geophysical data optimize resource management?









### **Airborne methods in agriculture**

- Soil texture mapping is essential for precision agriculture and targeted interventions.
- For large areas, **direct measurement** methods are **wasteful** in terms of time and money.
- Airborne Gamma Ray Spectroscopy (AGRS) overcomes these issues allowing for a fast and efficient mapping of large areas.



- Flavescence Dorée severely damages vineyards, demanding early detection
- Ground inspections are slow and fail to detect early symptoms
- **High-resolution airborn imaging** detects infected plants early and generates actionable maps.



### **Experimental sites via airborne analysis**





#### Mezzano lowland, Ferrara

- 3 surveys: (~ 189 km<sup>2</sup>) 4 hours and 45 minutes.
  - Mean flight height of 104 ± 21 m
  - Mean **velocity** of 102 ± 13 km/h
  - Field of view (FOV) of radius 300 m
  - Measurements every **300 m**.
- Gamma spectra acquired with a time resolution of 10 s for a total of **1469** spectra.

### Forlì

- (17.1 hectares vineyard) ~5600 plants/ha
  - Mean flight height of 96 m
  - Mean **velocity** of 73 km/h
  - Line spacing **25 m**.
- 1015 georeferenced photograms





### **Instrumentation and analysis**



**Camera:** Sony α 7R IV Mirrorless Full-Frame, 61 MP, 35 mm lens, nadiral position for high-quality frames

Image quality: 1.1 cm/pixel resolution with >65% overlap (consecutive) and >70% overlap (adjacent)

1.1 cm x 1.1 cm orthomosaic

16 L Nal(TI) crystals surrounded by 1 mm thick stainless steel housings (4 modules).

6.8 % energy resolution at 662 keV (<sup>137</sup>Cs).

Minimum Detectable activity Concentration (MDC) and Abundance (MDA):

|                     | MDC        |  |  |
|---------------------|------------|--|--|
| <b>⁴⁰K</b> 16 Bq/kg |            |  |  |
| <sup>238</sup> U    | 4.94 Bq/kg |  |  |
| <sup>232</sup> Th   | 3.25 Bq/kg |  |  |

|   | MDA                         |    |
|---|-----------------------------|----|
|   | 0.05 · 10 <sup>-2</sup> g/g | К  |
| → | 0.4 μg/g                    | U  |
|   | 0.8 µg/g                    | Th |

Full spectrum analysis with <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>40</sup>K, <sup>238</sup>U and <sup>232</sup>Th simulated fundamental spectra (assuming secular equilibrium conditions)



### **Unpacking the Machine Learning algorithm**

- Data flows sequentially from left to right in the architecture
- Each node in **layer** *i* connects to all nodes in the previous **layer** *j*.
- Node: input multipled by a weight → summing the results
   → adding a bias → applying an activation function



The algorithm processes processes data over **epochs Weights and biases** updated after each epoch Performance evaluated via **accuracy and loss** 



### Hyperparameters tuning

#### Hyperparameters chosen by trial and error

| Hyperparameters     | Tested values                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Layer number        | 2 - <b>4</b> - 8                                                                            | a) b) 800 - 2 layers - 4 nodes - 2 layers - 16 nodes - 2 layers - 16 nodes - 4 layers - 4 nodes - 4 layers - 4 nodes - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 500 - 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Layer density       | 4 - <b>16</b>                                                                               | $ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Optimizer           | Adadelta, Adagrad,<br>Adam, Adamw,<br>Adamax, Nadam,<br>Adafactor, Ftrl,<br>RMSprop and SGD | $\begin{array}{c} 200 \\ 100 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ 10 \\ 15 \\ 20 \\ 25 \\ 30 \\ 35 \\ 40 \\ 100 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ 10 \\ 15 \\ 20 \\ 25 \\ 30 \\ 35 \\ 40 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ 10 \\ 15 \\ 20 \\ 25 \\ 30 \\ 35 \\ 40 \\ Epochs \\ \end{array}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Batch size          | 4 - 8 - <b>16</b> - 32 - 64                                                                 | 500<br>S<br>400<br>S<br>400<br>S<br>400<br>S<br>400<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>400<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>6<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>500<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>50<br>S<br>50 |
| Epoch number        | max 40                                                                                      | 300-<br>200-<br>200-                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Learning rate       | 10 <sup>-4</sup> - <b>10</b> <sup>-3</sup> - 10 <sup>-2</sup> - 10 <sup>-1</sup>            | 100<br>0<br>1 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40<br>Epochs<br>Epochs<br>Epochs<br>Epochs<br>Epochs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Activation function | ReLU                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

### Hyperparameters tuning

Hyperparameters chosen by trial and error

- Layer number = 2 4 8
- Layer density = 4 16
- **Optimizer** = Adadelta, Adagrad, Adam, Adamw, Adamax, Nadam, Adafactor, Ftrl, RMSprop and SGD
- **Batch size** = 4 8 16 32 64
- Epoch number = max 40
- Learning rate =  $10^{-4} 10^{-3} 10^{-2} 10^{-1}$
- Activation function: 'ReLU'



### **Advantages of Machine Learning**

100

 $R^2 = 0.52$ 

← Sand [%]

Observed sand [%]

70

60

20

10

70

- **Higher R<sup>2</sup> scores** for sand and clay content predictions.
- By not being bound to a **linear relation**, ML • predictions more accurately follow data in the textural triangle.
- The recent (2024) study achieves higher  $R^2$ showing stronger prediction accuracy. Enhanced parameter optimization improves modeling of nonlinear relationships missed in the 2022, work. • Ground truth soil texture data

 $R^2 = 0.53$ 

40

30

Observed clay [%]

50

Predicted clay [%]

10

107

NLML

(2024)

10

20

 $\leftarrow$  Sand [%]

SI D soil toxtura prodictions

NLML

(2024)

10

20



### **Enhancing FD detection methods**



### **Advantages of AGRS measurements**



- Direct RER measurements are taken **unevenly** in the surveyed area.
- A total of 273 measurements were taken by RER.
- AGRS cover is much more homogeneous.
- 1469 gamma spectra were acquired, more than 5x the amount of RER measurements.

### Hydrographic interpretation of the results



### Spatial insights for sustainable disease management



# Disposizione degli elettrodi - Dipolo-dipolo



Quadripolo **Dipolo-dipolo** con disposizione assiale MN allineato con AB:

 ✓ il PROFILO si ottiene spostando lungo una direzione tutti e quattro gli elettrodi contemporaneamente e si mantiene invariata la distanza intercatodica

# **OhmMapper - CONFIGURAZIONE**



|              | Configurazi                                               | one con antenne            | (a) da 2,5 m                                                         | Configurazione con antenne (a) da 5 m                  |                            |                                                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fattore<br>n | Lunghezza<br>corda non<br>conduttiva ( <i>na</i> )<br>[m] | Profondità<br>indagata [m] | Lunghezza<br>totale dello<br>strumento [m]<br>(con offset di 5<br>m) | Lunghezza corda<br>non conduttiva<br>( <i>na</i> ) [m] | Profondità<br>indagata [m] | Lunghezza totale<br>dello strumento<br>[m] (con offset di 5<br>m) |
| 0,25         | 0,625                                                     | 0,5                        | 10,625                                                               | 1,25                                                   | 1                          | 16,25                                                             |
| 0,5          | 1,25                                                      | 0,7                        | 11,25                                                                | 2,5                                                    | 1,4                        | 17,5                                                              |
| 0,75         | 1,875                                                     | 0,9                        | 11,875                                                               | 3,75                                                   | 1,7                        | 18,75                                                             |
| 1            | 2,5                                                       | 1                          | 12,5                                                                 | 5                                                      | 2                          | 20                                                                |
| 1,25         | 3,125                                                     | 1,2                        | 13,125                                                               | 6,25                                                   | 2,4                        | 21,25                                                             |
| 1,5          | 3,75                                                      | 1,4                        | 13,75                                                                | 7,5                                                    | 2,8                        | 22,5                                                              |
| 1,75         | 4,375                                                     | 1,6                        | 14,375                                                               | 8,75                                                   | 3,1                        | 23,75                                                             |
| 2            | 5                                                         | 1,7                        | 15                                                                   | 10                                                     | 3,5                        | 25                                                                |
| 2,25         | 5,625                                                     | 1,9                        | 15,625                                                               | 11,25                                                  | 3,8                        | 26,25                                                             |
| 2,5          | 6,25                                                      | 2                          | 16,25                                                                | 12,5                                                   | 4,2                        | 27,5                                                              |
| 2,75         | 6,875                                                     | 2,2                        | 16,875                                                               | 13,75                                                  | 4,5                        | 28,75                                                             |
| 3            | 7,5                                                       | 2,4                        | 17,5                                                                 | 15                                                     | 4,8                        | 30 🥥                                                              |
| 3,25         | 8,125                                                     | 2,6                        | 18,125                                                               | 16,250                                                 | 5,1                        | 31,25                                                             |
| 3,5          | 8,75                                                      | 2,7                        | 18,75                                                                | 17,500                                                 | 5,5                        | 32,5                                                              |
| 3,75         | 9,375                                                     | 2,9                        | 19,375                                                               | 18,750                                                 | 5,8                        | 33,75                                                             |
| 4            | 10                                                        | 3,1                        | 20                                                                   | 20                                                     | 6,1                        | 35                                                                |