



Assimilation of multiscale terrestrial photography data into a physical model of snow processes



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SECTIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

2. OBJETIVES

3. STUDY SITES

4. METHODOLOGY

- Georeferencing terrestrial photography
- Automatic detection of snow

5. RESULTS

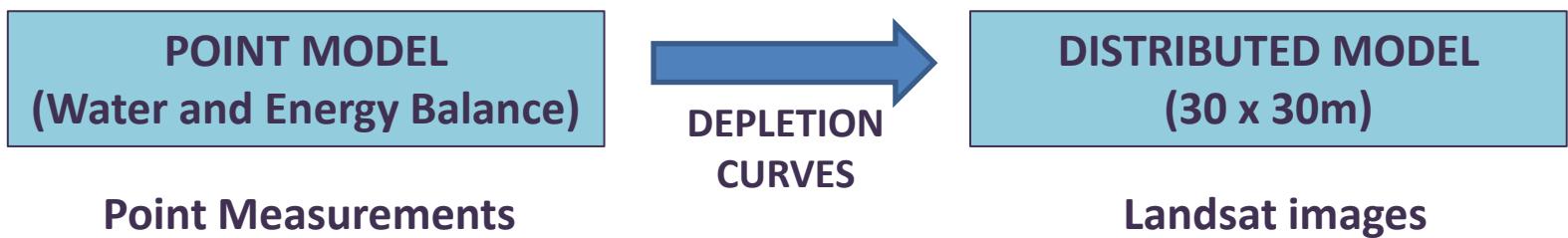
- Hillslope scale
- Detail scale

6. CONCLUSIONS

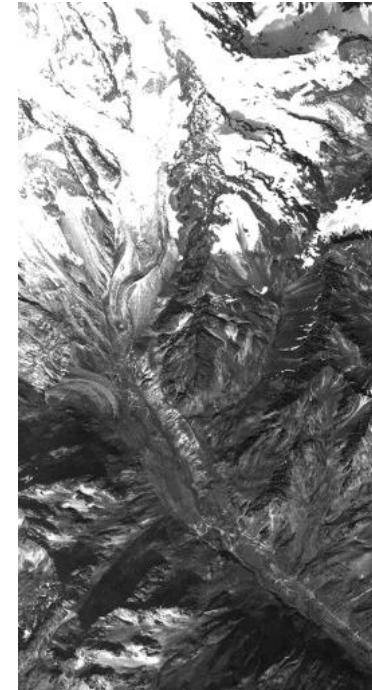
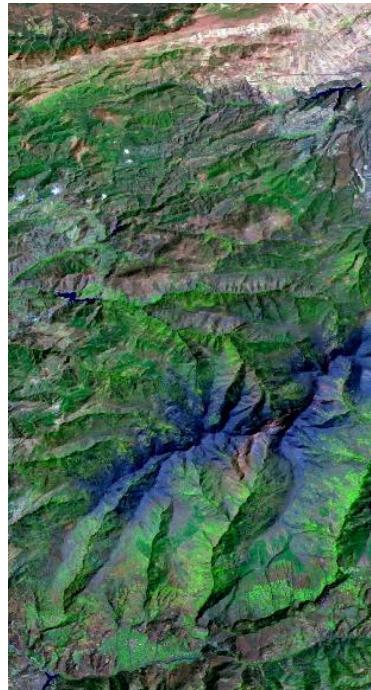
- MEDITERRANEAN REGION CLIMATE
 - High level of solar energy income throughout the year
 - Extremely variable character with lower precipitation
- SIERRA NEVADA (SPAIN)



- SNOW
 - Strong spatiotemporal variability
 - High evaporation rates
 - Several snowmelt cycles
- SNOWMELT- ACCUMULATION MODEL



IMAGES TO STUDY THE SNOW EVOLUTION



IMAGES	SATELLITE	AERIAL	TERRESTRIAL
Spatial Resolution	Fixed	Variable	Variable
Temporal Resolution	Fixed	Variable	Variable
Cost	High	High	Low

EVALUATE THE USE OF TERRESTRIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AT DIFFERENT SCALE, TO CHARACTERICE THE SPATIAL EVOLUTION OF THE SNOW COVER

- Validate the calibration of distributed values (Landsat, 30x 30 m) at hillslope scale (10 x 10 m)
- Add the microscale effects analyzing the spatial variability on the model cell (0.1 x 0.1 m)

STUDY SITES

- Different study sites
- Different scale resolution

METEOROLOGICAL DATA

- Anual Precipitation (400-1500mm)
- Percent of snow (40-70%)
- Average Temperature in snow season (-5,+5 °C)
- Sunny days dominant even during winter



VALIDATE DISTRIBUTED MODEL

RECALIBRATE POINT MODEL

SCALE	HILLSLOPE O (~100m)	DETAIL O (~m)
STUDY PERIOD	May- Jun 2009	Sep 2009-Jun 2011
TEMPORAL RESOLUTION	1 to 4 days	2 hours
PHOTO RESOLUTION	6 Mpix	3.6 Mpix
COVERED AREA	~ 2.7 km ²	~ 0.09 km ²

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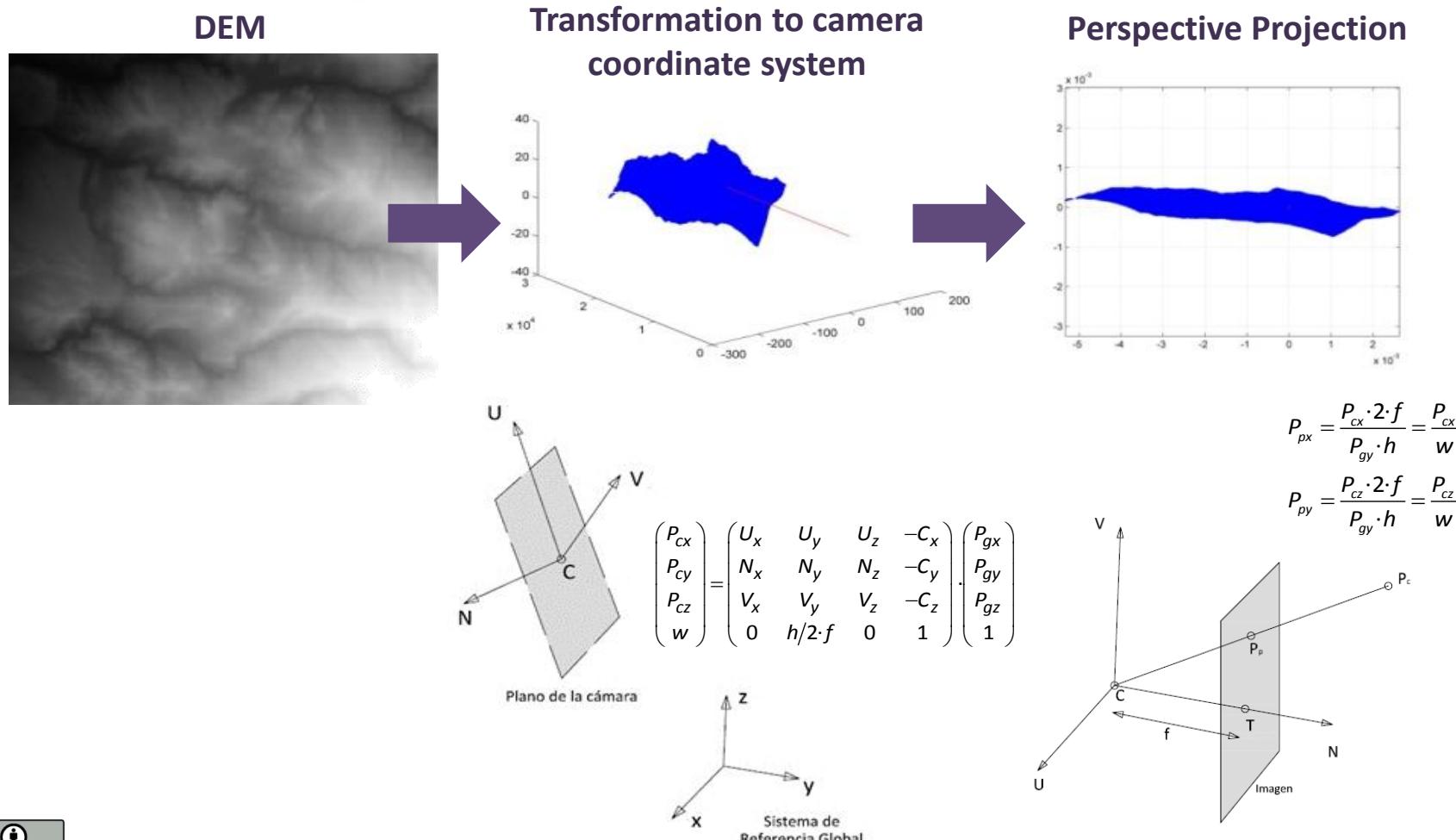
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GEOREFERENCING TERRESTRIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

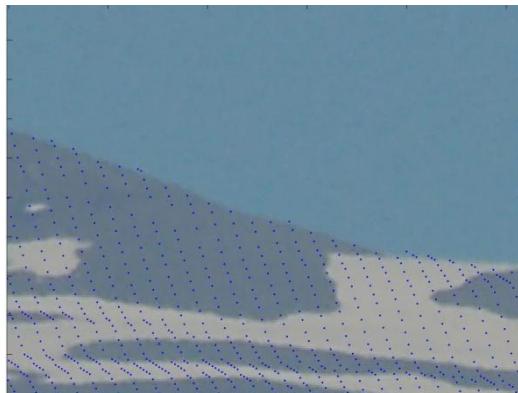
- Based on graphics design principles
- AIM: To find a function to relate 2D pixel to 3D point DEM



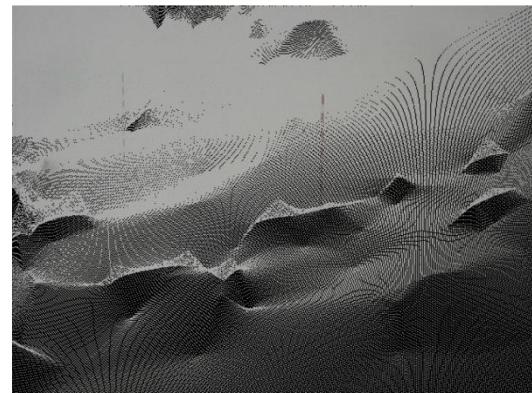
GEOREFERENCING TERRESTRIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

- 2D projection of the DEM scaled according the image resolution
- Establish the correspondence between pixel and projected coordinates

Scaling and Overlay



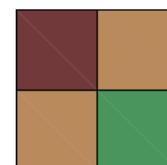
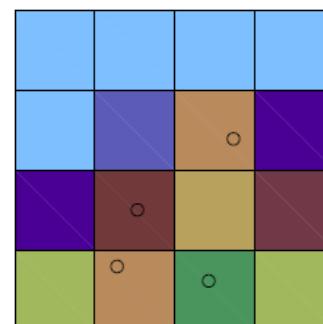
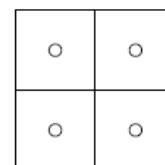
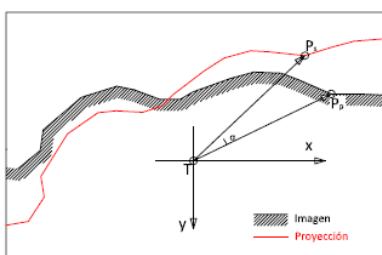
Assignment



Georeferenced image



Ground Control Points



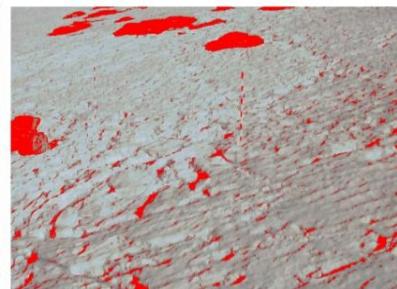
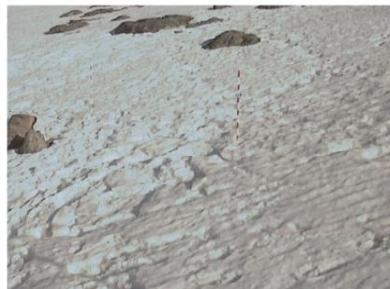
AUTOMATIC DETECTION

CLOUDS



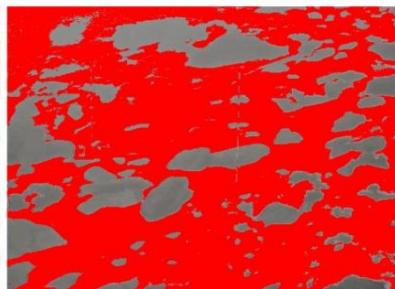
- Based on machine learning techniques

SHADOWS



- K-mean algorithm

FOG



- No fixed thresholds
- Small misclassifications related to hard shadows

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HILLSLOPE SCALE MEASURES

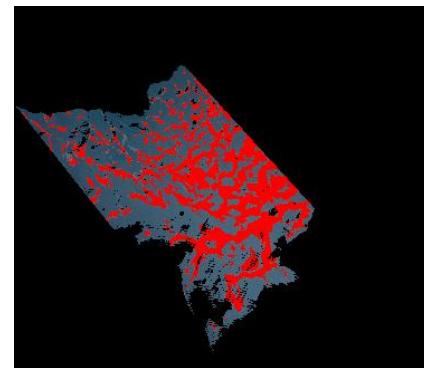
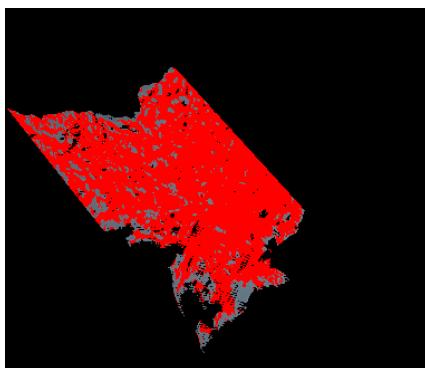
06/05/2009



23/05/2009



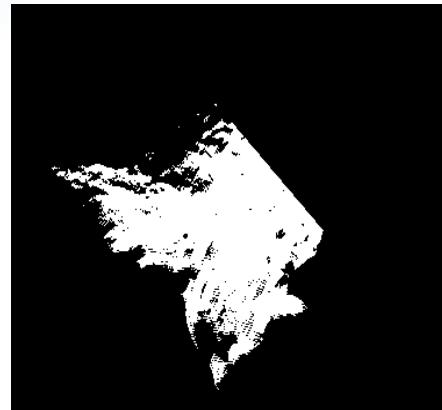
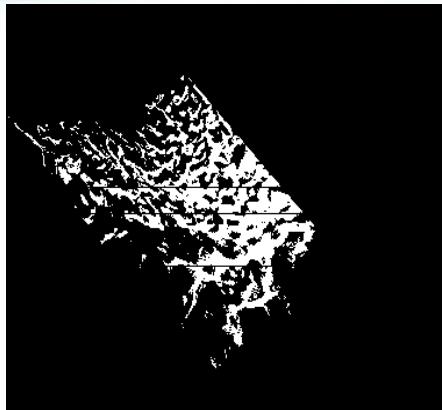
29/06/2009



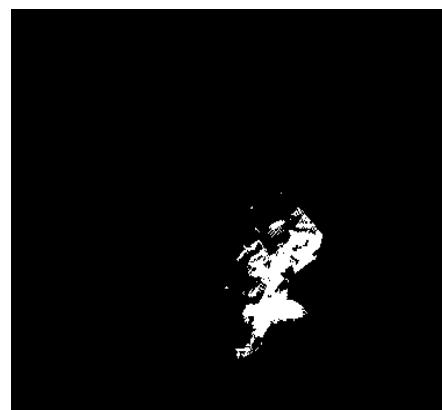
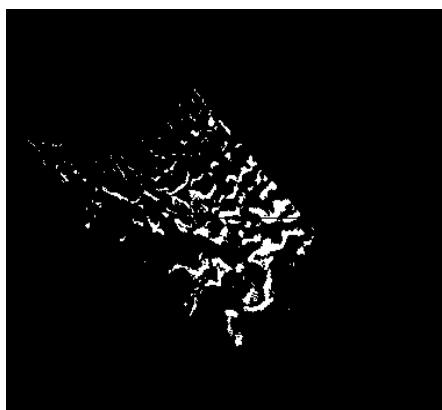
HILLSLOPE SCALE

- Snow masks

06/05/2009



23/05/2009



Measured
(Terrestrial
photography)

Simulated
(Model)

DETAIL SCALE MEASURES

06/12/2009

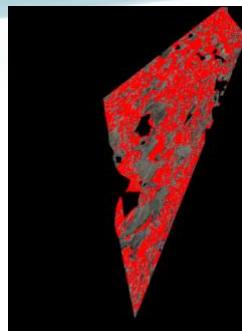
ORIGINAL



GEOREFERENCED



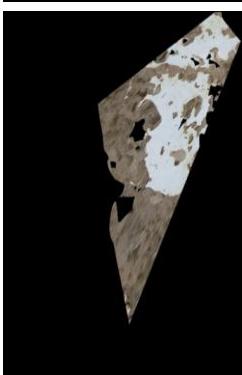
MASK



20/02/2010



01/04/2011



PHOTOGRAPHED ≈ CELL MODEL
AREA AREA



RECALIBRATE MORE
EFFECTIVE THE MODEL AT
CELL SCALE (30 x 30 m)

Windless transfer coefficient for
the turbulence sensible heat flux
(kE_{H0})

- $kE_{H0} = 5 \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{K}^{-1}$ (Herrero, 2009)
- $kE_{H0} = 3 \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{K}^{-1}$ (Pimentel, 2011)

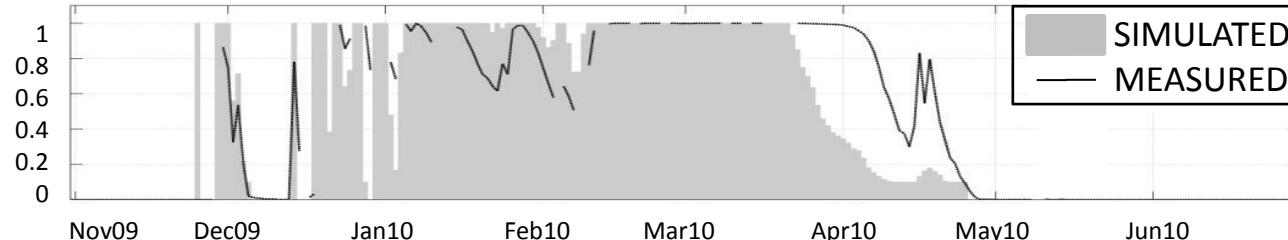
DETAIL SCALE (Snow Cover Area)

- New values for calibration parameter

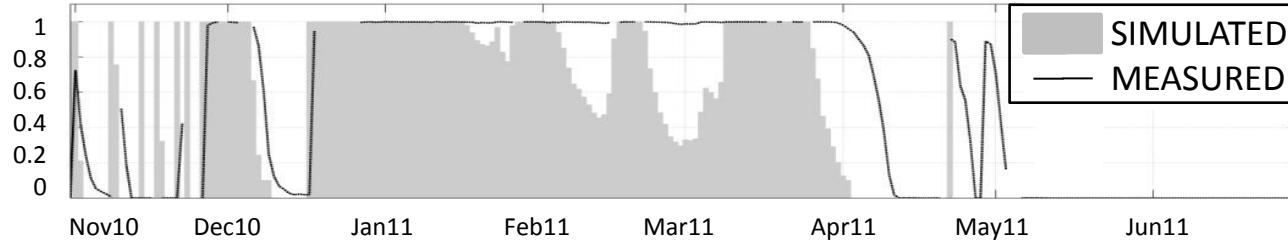
Simulation 1 [k E_{H0} =5 Wm $^{-2}K^{-1}$]

RMSE=0.2570

**SNOW COVER
AREA MODEL
CELL (30 x 30)**



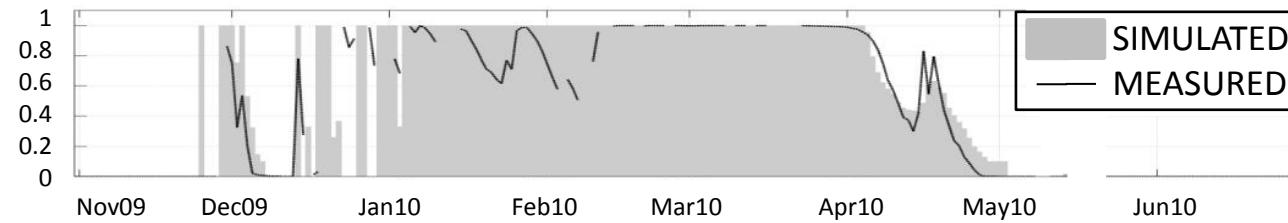
**SNOW COVER
AREA MODEL
CELL (30 x 30)**



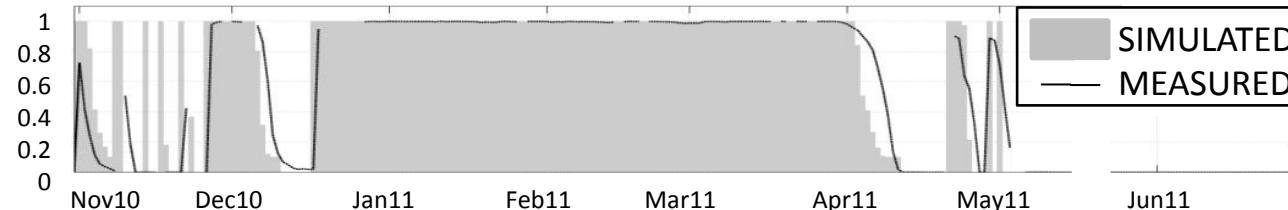
Simulation 2 [k E_{H0} =3 Wm $^{-2}K^{-1}$]

RMSE=0.1908

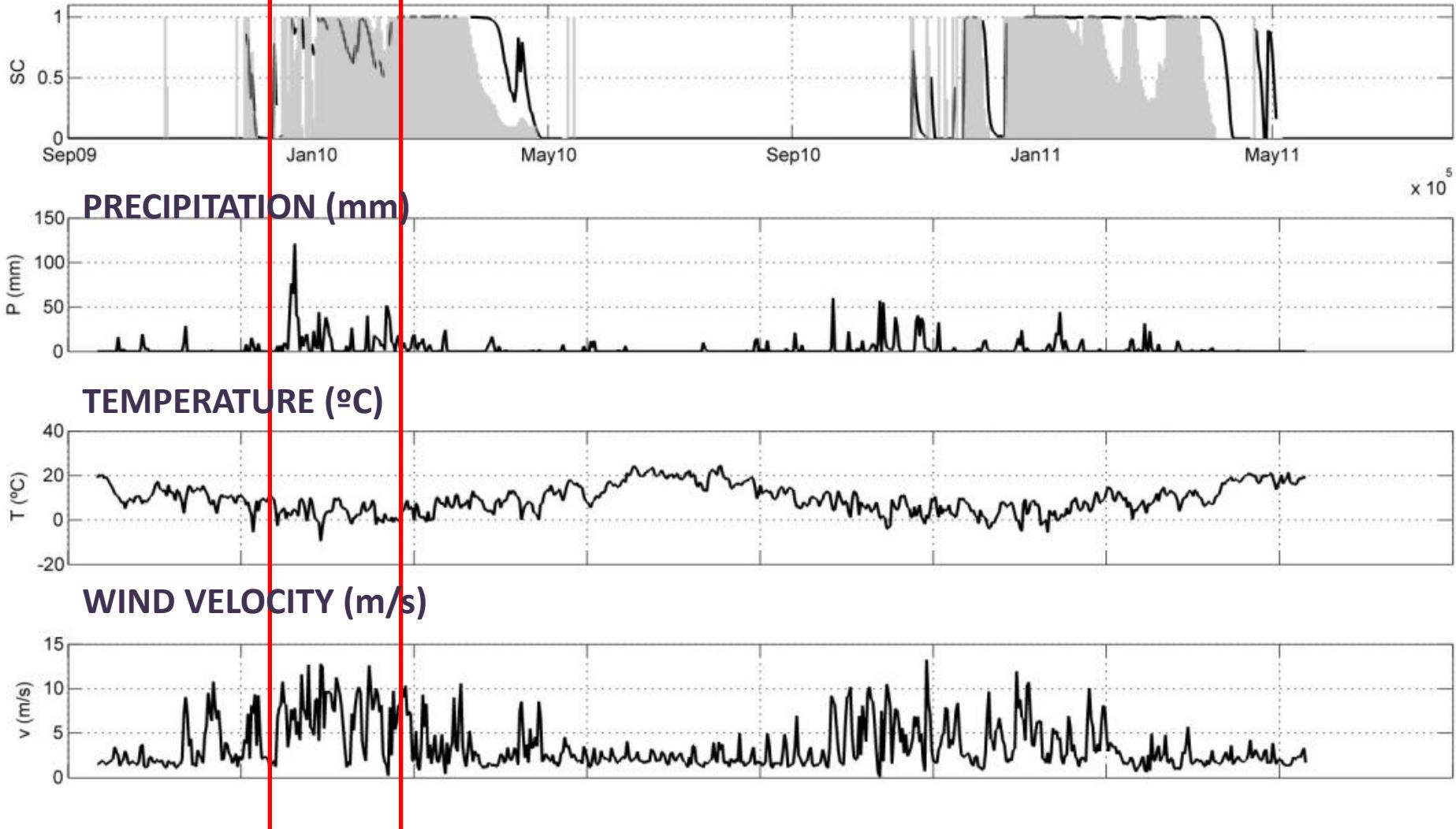
**SNOW COVER
AREA MODEL
CELL (30 x 30)**



**SNOW COVER
AREA MODEL
CELL (30 x 30)**



SNOW COVER AREA



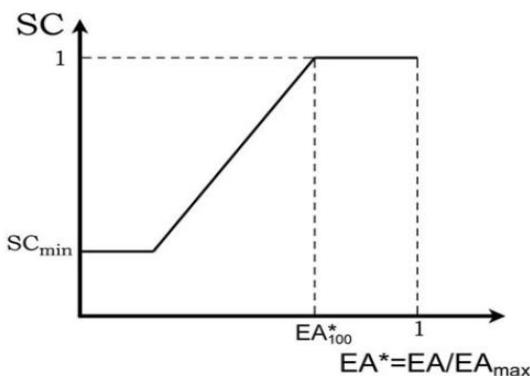
CONCLUSIONS

- Terrestrial photography allow to characterize the variability of the snow cover in the study scales
 - Hillslope scale
 - The snow patches are not correctly represented with the current model.
- Detail scale
- The snow masks identify the period where the initial calibration model has no success in representing the spatiotemporal variation and improve the calibration of the model representing more satisfactorily the final snowmelt spring season.
- Wind interpolation is needed to capture the joint influence of high precipitation rate and wind speed specially with these conditions are maintained on several days

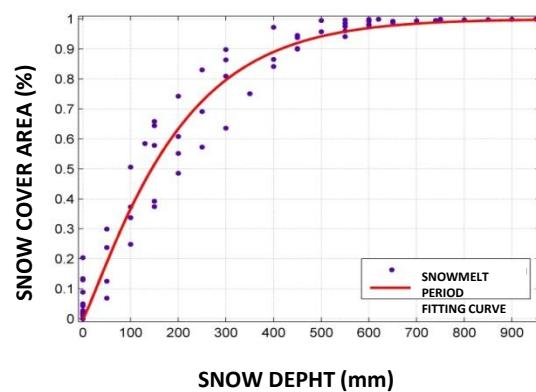
ONGOING WORK

- New parametrization Depletion Curves

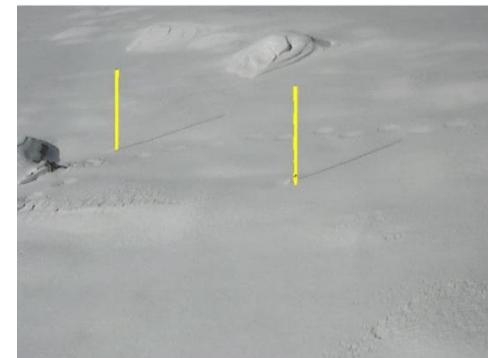
Current parameterization



New parameterization



Snow depth detection



- Improvement of wind interpolation in a very complex terrain
 - ARPS model in Sierra Nevada

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The results of this work have been carried out within the project CGL2011-25632 "Dinámica de la nieve en regiones mediterráneas y su modelado a diversas escalas. Implicaciones para la gestión de recursos hídricos" financiado por el Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATENTION



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