



## DATA Aggregation effects in regional yield simulations

Holger Hoffmann, Kurt Christian Kersebaum, Gang Zhao, Sentholt Asseng, Marco Bindi, Davide Cammarano, Julie Constantin, Elsa Coucheney, Rene Dechow, Luca Doro, et al.

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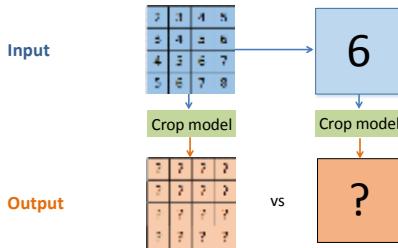
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## Data Aggregation Effects in Regional Yield Simulations

Holger Hoffmann, Kurt-Christian Kersebaum, Gang Zhao, Senthil Asseng, Senthil; Marco Bindi, Davide Cammarano, Julie Constantin, Elsa Couchney, René Dechow, Luca Doro, Henrik Eckersten, Thomas Gaiser, Balázs Grosz, Edwin Haas, Béla Kissie, Ralf Kiese, Steffen Klatt, Matthias Kuhnert, Elisabet Lewan, Marco Moriondo, Claas Nendel, Hélène Raynal, Pier P. Roggero, Reimund Rötter, Stefan Siebert, Carmen Sosa, Xenia Specka, Fulu Tao, Edmar Teixeira, Giacomo Trombi, Jagadeesh Veluripati, Eline Vanuytrecht, Daniel Wallach, Enli Wang, Lutz Weihermüller, Zhigan Zhao, Frank Ewert



### Introduction | The aggregation effect



Zhao et al. 2015a (modified)

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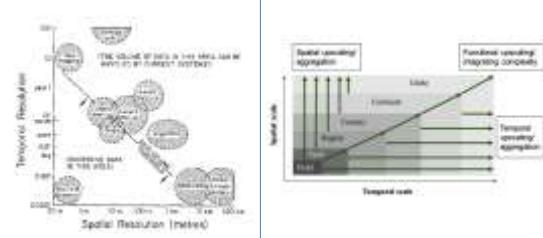
### Motivation

To what extent are crop model outputs affected by spatial data resolution and aggregation of the model input data?

How does this depend on the data and aggregation method?

How does this depend on the region?

### Introduction | Scale and resolution



Meentemeyer 1989, after Townsend 1987

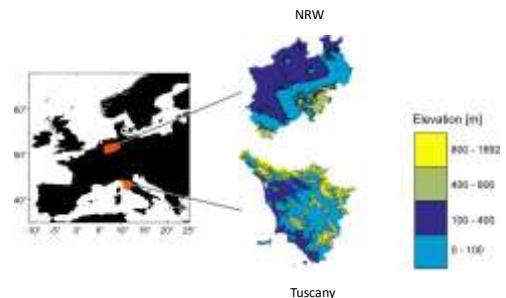
Ewert et al. 2006, 2011

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### Introduction | Current literature: 14 examples

Region	Data	Method	Resolution	Model type (no.)	Response variable	Error	Reference
NRW (DE)	climate	average	$\leq 100$ km	crop (13)	maize / wheat yield	Bias < 3.5 [%] RMSE < 4.5 [%]	Hoffmann / Zhao et al. 2015a
DE, FR US	climate, soil, land-use	average, majority	$\leq 50$ km $\leq 45$ km	crop (1)	maize / wheat yield	RMSE < 4.7 [%]	De Wit et al. 2005
US	climate, soil, land-use	other	$\leq 45$ km	crop (1)	maize yield	Bias < 2.3 [%]	Folberth et al. 2012
FI	climate	average	$\leq 100$ km	crop (4)	barley yield	Bias < 1.5 [%]	Angulo et al. 2013
NRW (DE)	soil	maps	$\leq 1:10^6$	crop (4)	wheat yield	Bias < 2.9 [%]	Angulo et al. 2014
DE	climate, management	average	$\leq 100$ km	crop (1)	wheat phenology	RMSE < 4.4 [%]	Van Bussel et al. 2011
DE	climate, soil, phenology	average, majority	$\leq 100$ km	crop (1)	wheat heat stress	Bias = 0.003 <sup>b</sup> [-]	Rezaei et al. 2015
W US	climate, soil, topography, vegetation	average	$\leq 110$ km	ecosystem (1)	NPP	Bias > 18 [%]	Pierce et al. 1995
S-E AU	climate RS <sup>f</sup>	average	$\leq 0.96$ km	energy balance (1)	ETa	Bias < 15 [%]	Ershadi et al. 2013
N-E DE	soil	maps <sup>e</sup>	$\leq 1:10^6$	crop (1)	nitrogen leaching	Bias < 8.6 [%]	Kersebaum & Wenzel
DE	climate	average	$\leq 100$ km	crop (1)	wheat yield	RMSE < 5 [%] (approx.)	Zhao et al. 2015b
DK	climate, soil	various	various	crop (1)	wheat yield	Bias < 14 %	Olesen et al. 2000
US	climate, soil	various	$\leq 2.8^g$	crop (1)	maize / wheat yield	MAE $\leq 0.29$ (ww), $\leq 0.7$ ha <sup>-1</sup> (gm)	Easterling et al. 1998

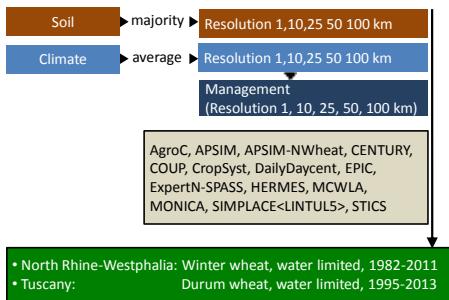
### Methods | Regional focus



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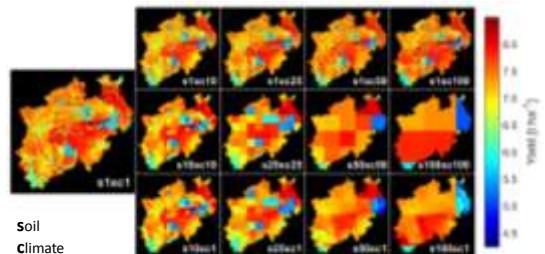
## Methods | Aggregation and simulations



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## NRW winter wheat grain yield (average 1982-2011)

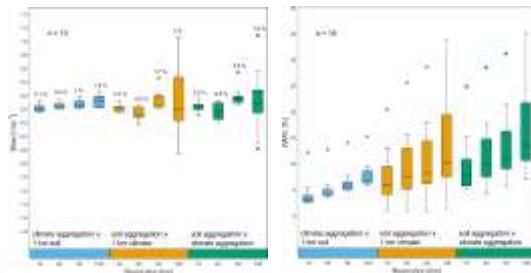
Ensemble of 10 models



Hoffmann et al. 2016

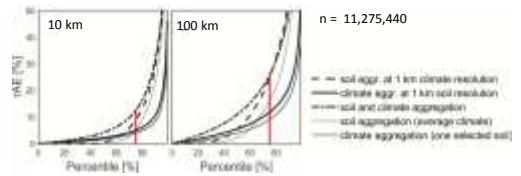
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## NRW Winter wheat grain yield bias, rMAE



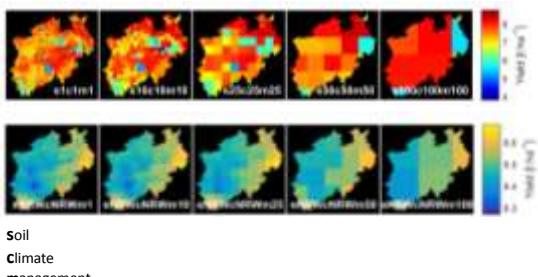
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## NRW Winter wheat grain yield rAE



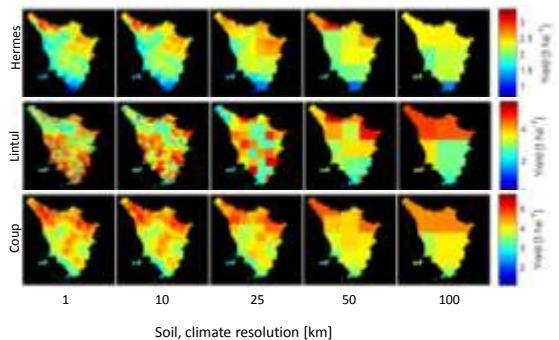
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## NRW winter wheat grain yield (average 1982-2011) → management



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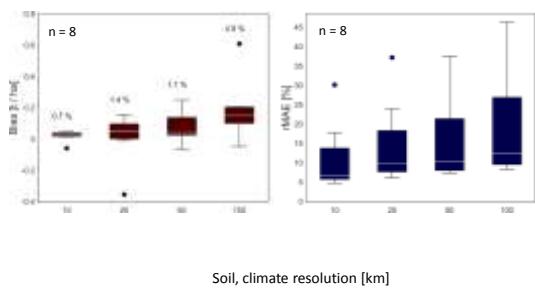
## Tuscany durum wheat grain yield (average 1995-2013)



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### Tuscany durum wheat grain yield (average 1995–2013)

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### Discussion & outlook

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#### 1. aggregation effects...

- are generally smaller (bias) than other sources of yield variability
- are partially larger (rMAE) depending on data and aggregation method
- soil matters
- management as defined here neglectable
- results comparable across regions

#### 2. known unknowns

- spatial patchiness, spatial range, spatial variance, no. of spatial clusters
- model linking (data – model interactions need to be analyzed)?
- management, crop rotation (temporal vs. spatial effects)?
- generalization of effects (mathem. rules/models)?
- aggregation vs. other scaling methods (e.g. sampling)?
- correction for aggregation errors?
- ...



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[www.scale-it.net](http://www.scale-it.net)

