



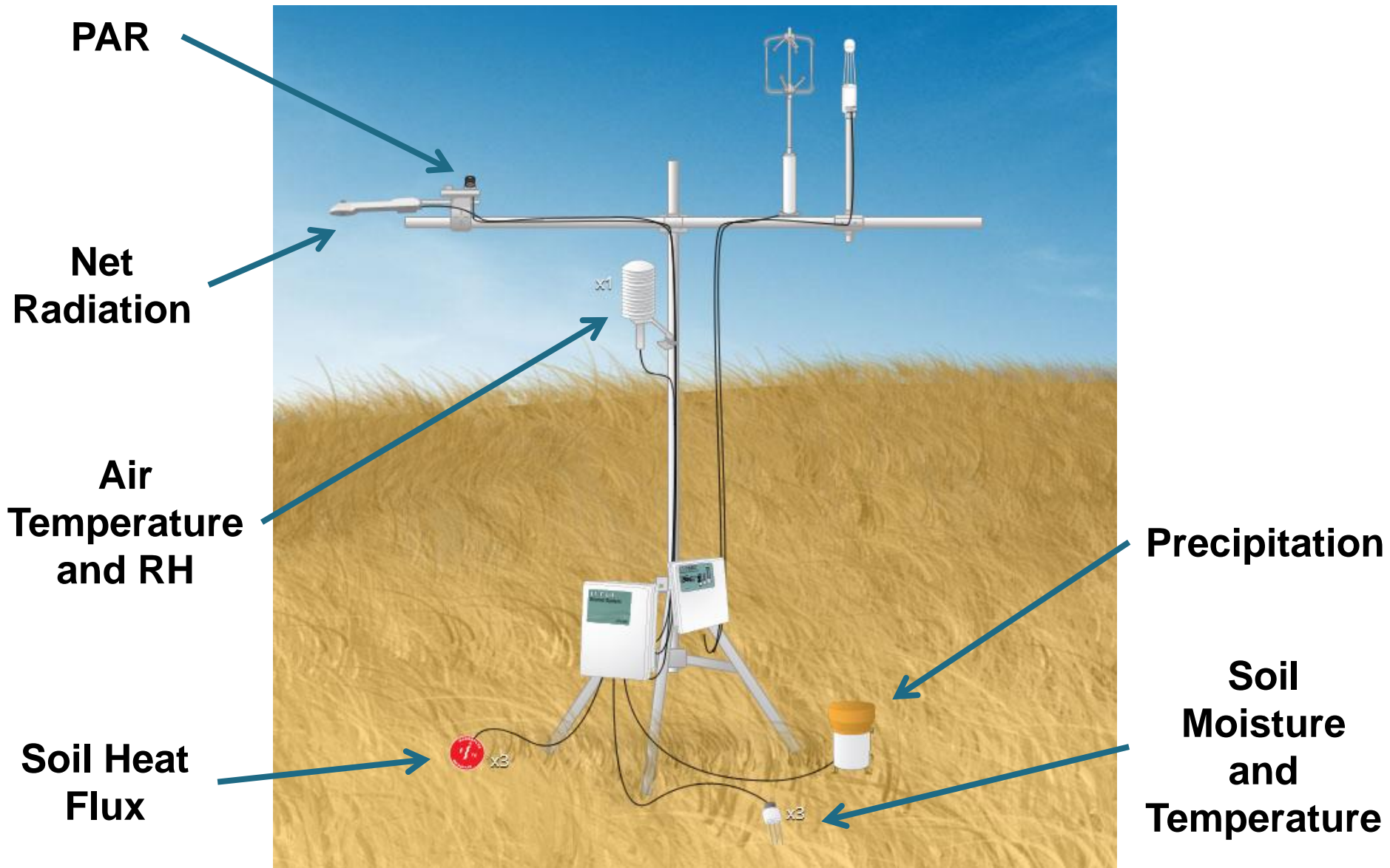
# Biomet Measurements and Sensors

For Energy Balance Closure, Data Interpretation,  
Enhanced Flux Computations, and Gap Filling

# What are 'Biomet' Sensors?

- Sensors used for monitoring the environment (**biological** and **meteorological**).
- Typically measured once per second to once per minute.

# Biomet Measurements



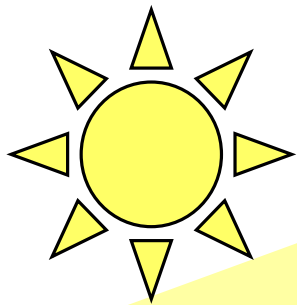
# Biomet Sensors

- Why do we need additional Biomet measurements?
  - We can already calculate flux measurements from the *sonic anemometer* and *gas analyzer* data...

# Why collect Biomet measurements?

- Quality Assurance and Quality Checking (QA/QC)
  - Energy Balance closure.
- Recording weather helps to explain site behavior
  - The physical environment has profound effects on the biology as well as on the surface-atmosphere exchange.
- Gap filling
  - When instrumentation or power fails.
- Improving Fluxes





# The Energy Budget (daytime)

$$R_n = H + LE + G + S + Q$$

All terms have units of ( $\text{W m}^2$ ).

$R_n$  ~ net radiation flux density

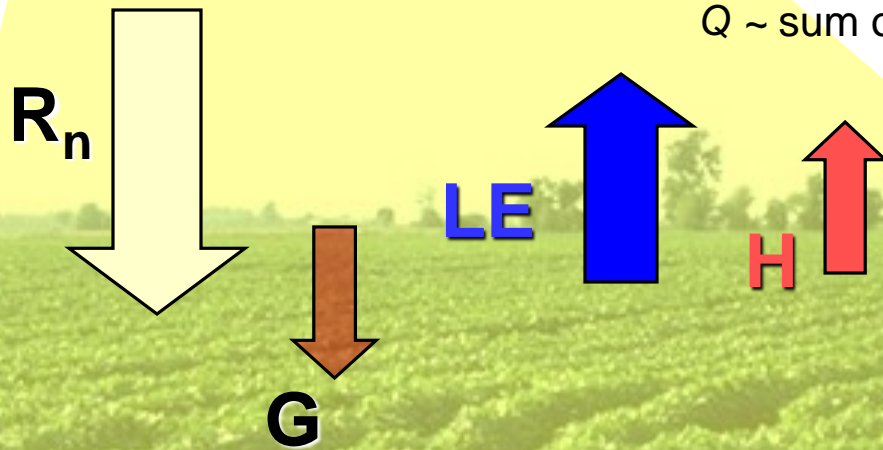
$H$  ~ surface sensible heat flux density

$LE$  ~ surface latent heat flux density

$G$  ~ heat flux within the soil

$S$  ~ rate of change of heat storage (air and biomass) between the soil surface and the level of the eddy covariance instrumentation

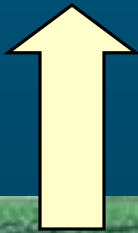
$Q$  ~ sum of all additional energy sources and sinks



# The Energy Budget (nighttime)



$R_n$



LE



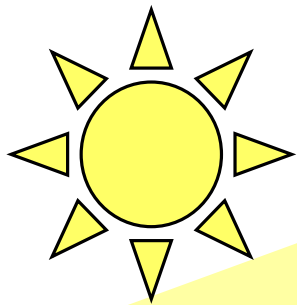
H



G







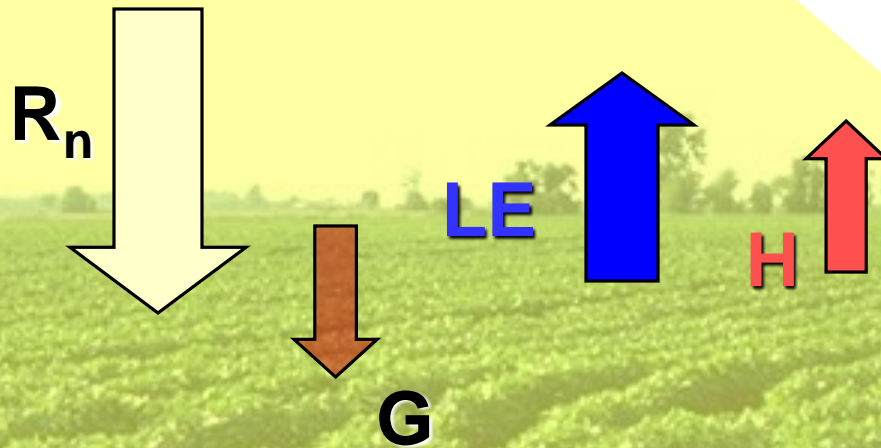
# The Energy Budget

**Energy balance closure**, a formulation of the first law of thermodynamics, requires that the sum of the estimated latent (LE) and sensible ( $H$ ) *heat flux be equivalent to all other energy sinks and sources*

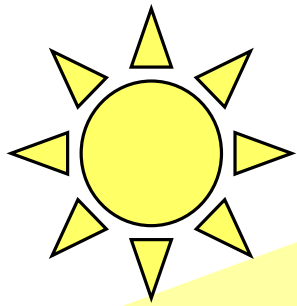
$$R_n = H + LE + G + S + Q$$



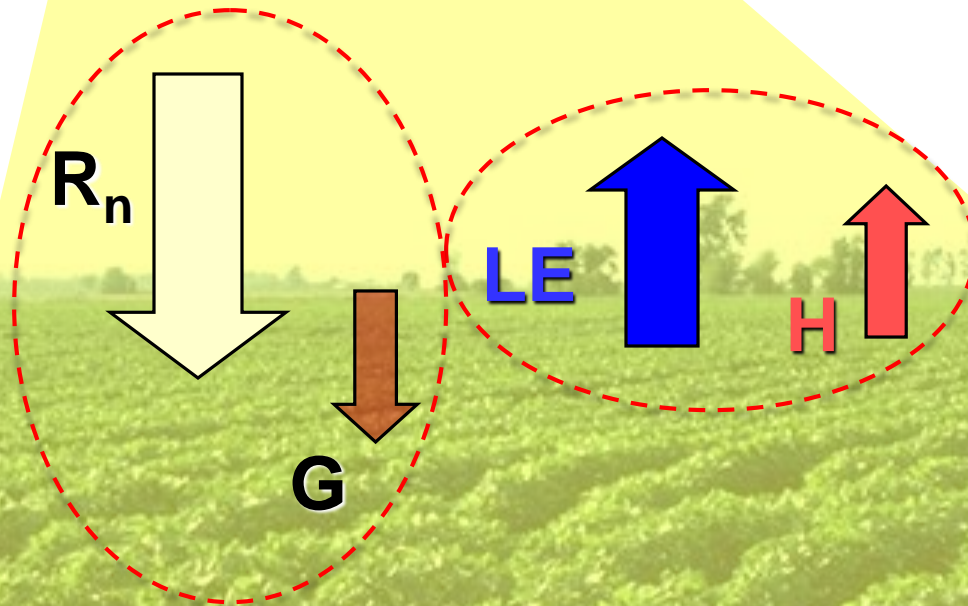
$$H + LE \approx R_n - G$$

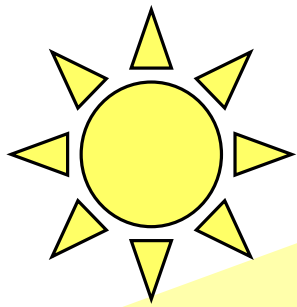






# Measuring the components of the Radiation Budget



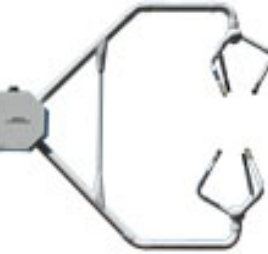


# Measuring Sensible Heat (H)

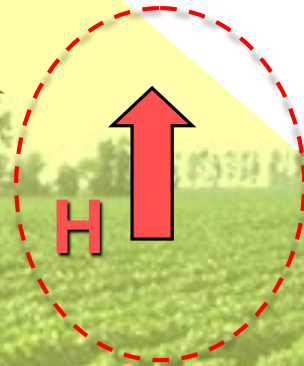
$R_n$



$LE$

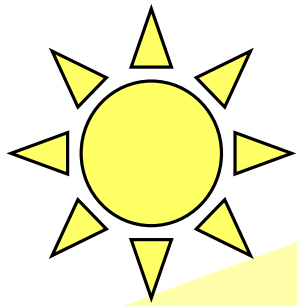


$H$



$$H = \rho_a C_p \overline{w'T'} = \frac{g \text{ air}}{m^3} \times \frac{J}{g \text{ air} \cdot C} \times \frac{m}{s} \times C = \frac{J}{m^2 s} = \frac{W}{m^2}$$





# Measuring Latent Energy (LE)



$R_n$



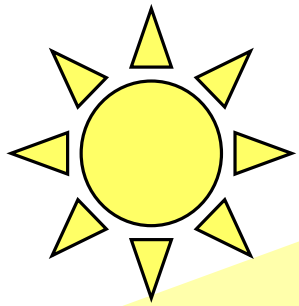
LE



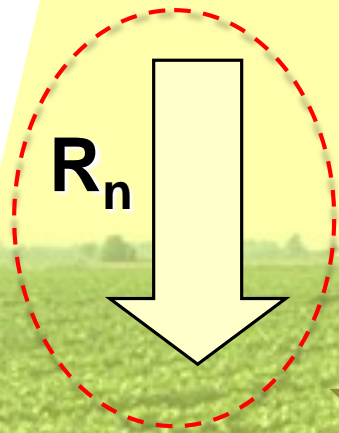
H



$$LE = L\rho_a \overline{w'q'} = \frac{J}{g\ H_2O} \times \frac{g\ air}{m^3} \times \frac{m}{s} \times \frac{g\ H_2O}{g\ air} = \frac{J}{m^2s} = \frac{W}{m^2}$$



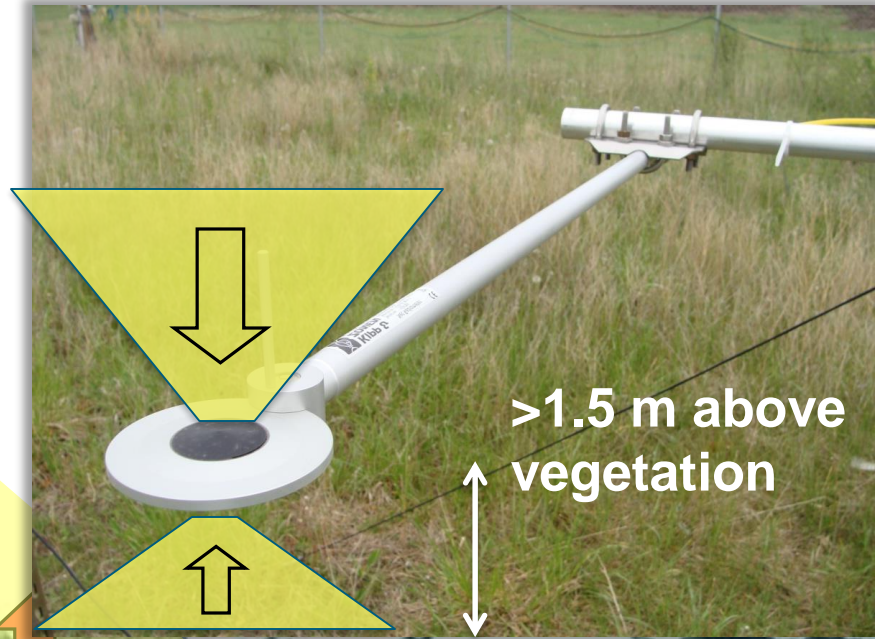
# Measuring Net Radiation ( $R_n$ )



LE

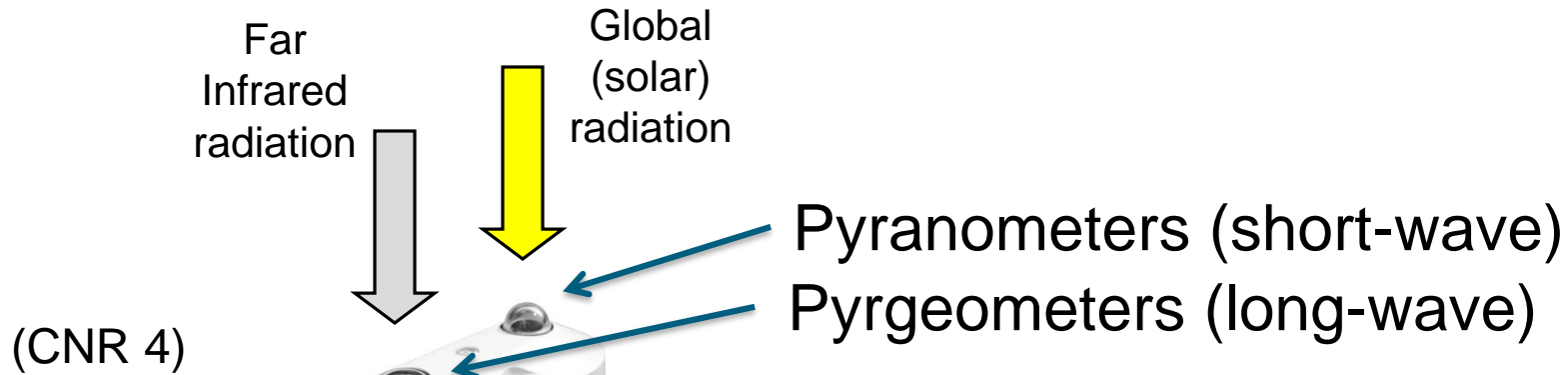


H

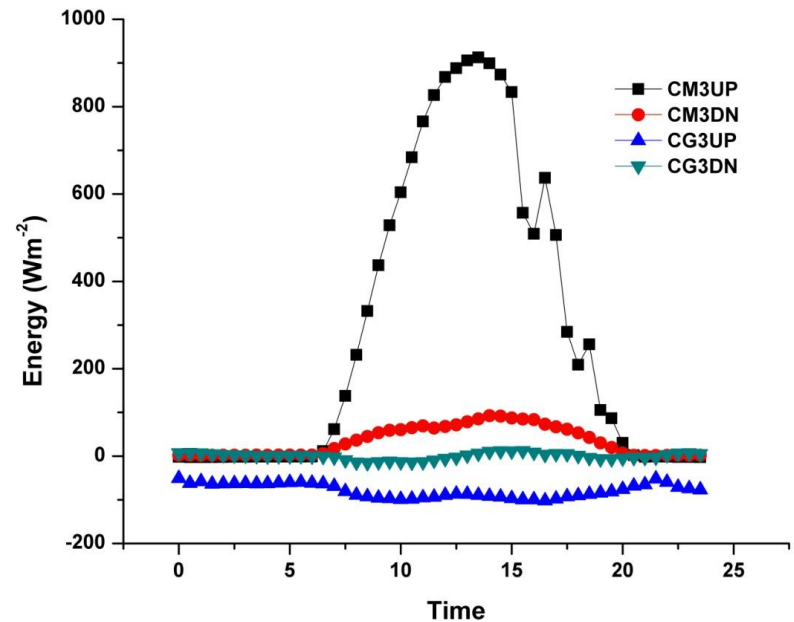


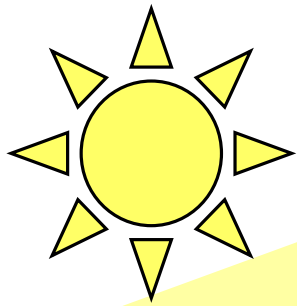


# Four component ~ Incoming and Reflected Short-wave and Downward and Upward Long-wave

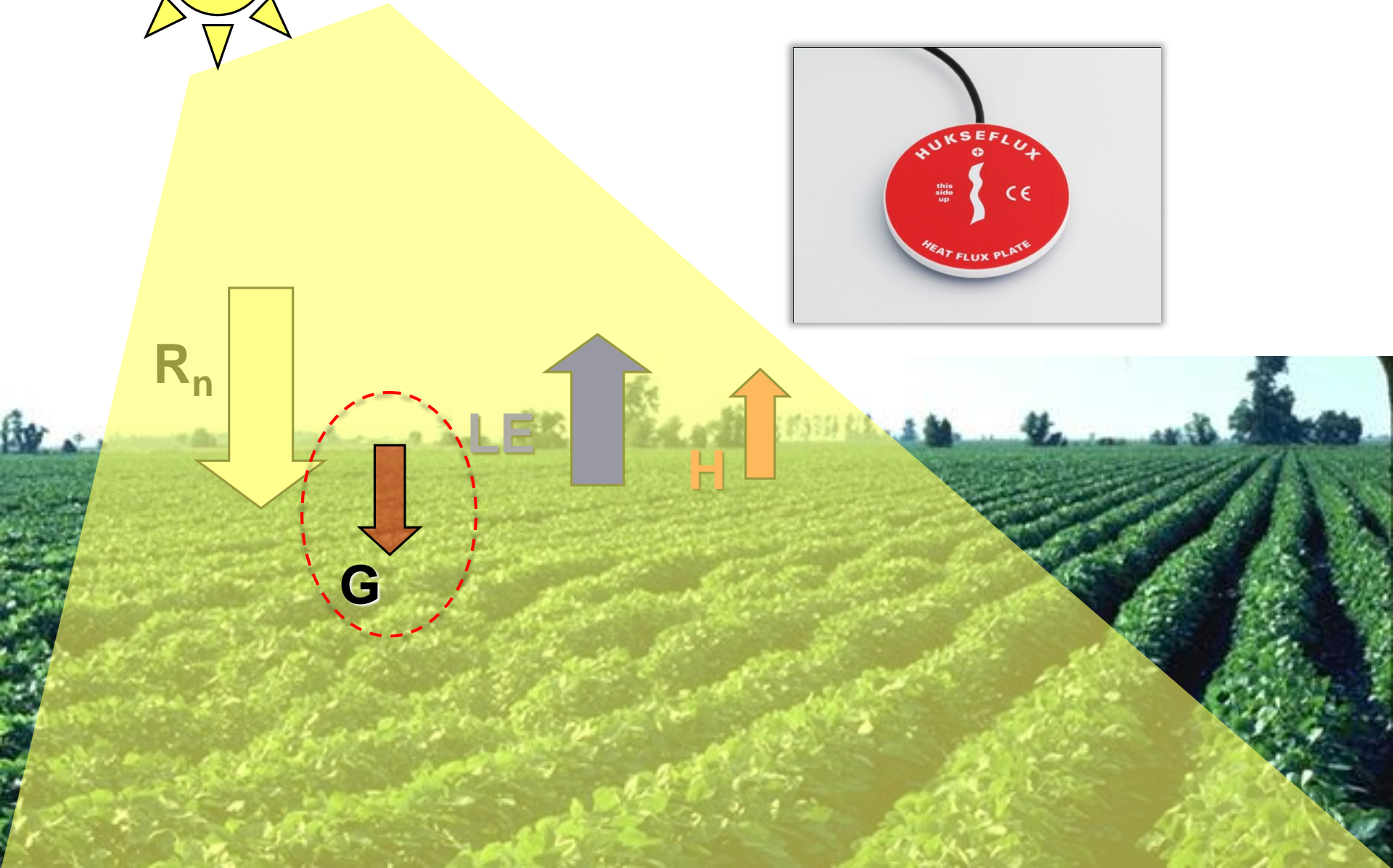


Pyrgeometer output is normally negative



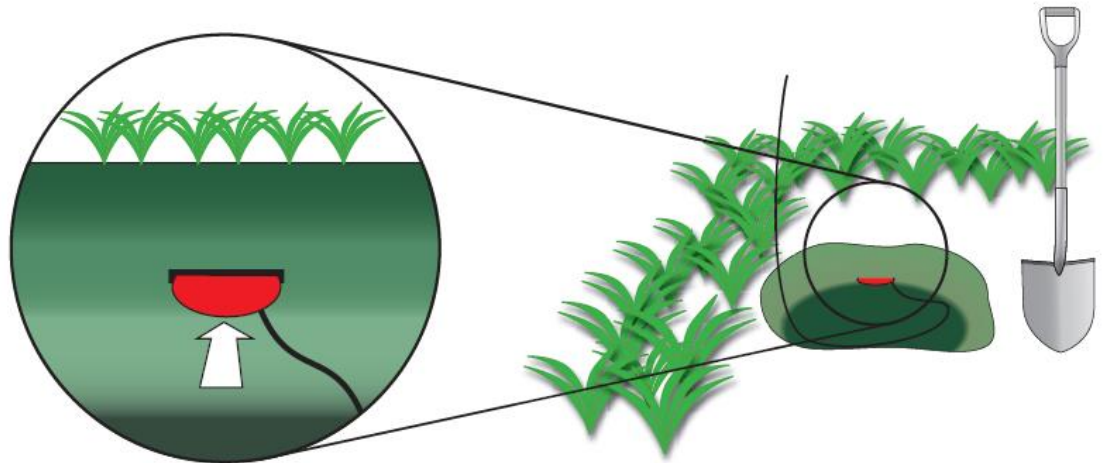


# Measuring Soil Heat Flux (G)



# Deploying soil sensors

- ▶ Minimum of **3 each**:
  - ▶ Soil Variability
  - ▶ Sun vs. Shade
  - ▶ 5 m apart
- ▶ Depth:
  - ▶ At least 4 cm, typically 5 cm.
  - ▶ Bury with red side up
- ▶ Calibration:
  - ▶ Bi-annual.

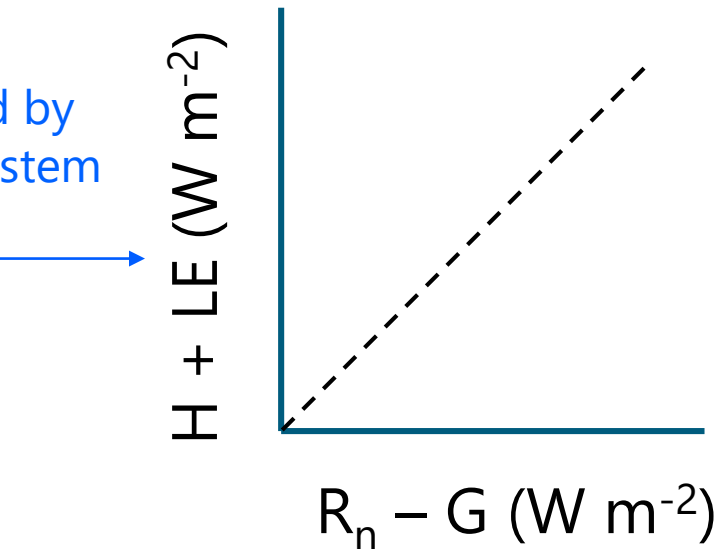


# How can the Energy Budget and Energy Balance Closure help us?

- ▶ A tool for verifying eddy covariance instrumentation ( $\text{CO}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{CH}_4$  analyzers and sonic anemometers) are working accurately and are installed properly.
  - ▶ In turn, this helps to verify that the final computed flux values are correct and accurate.
- ▶ Quality Assurance and Quality Checking (QA/QC)
  - ▶ Investigate relationships between half-hourly estimates of dependent flux variables ( $LE + H$ ) against independently derived available energy ( $R_n - G$ ).



Measured by  
the **EC** System



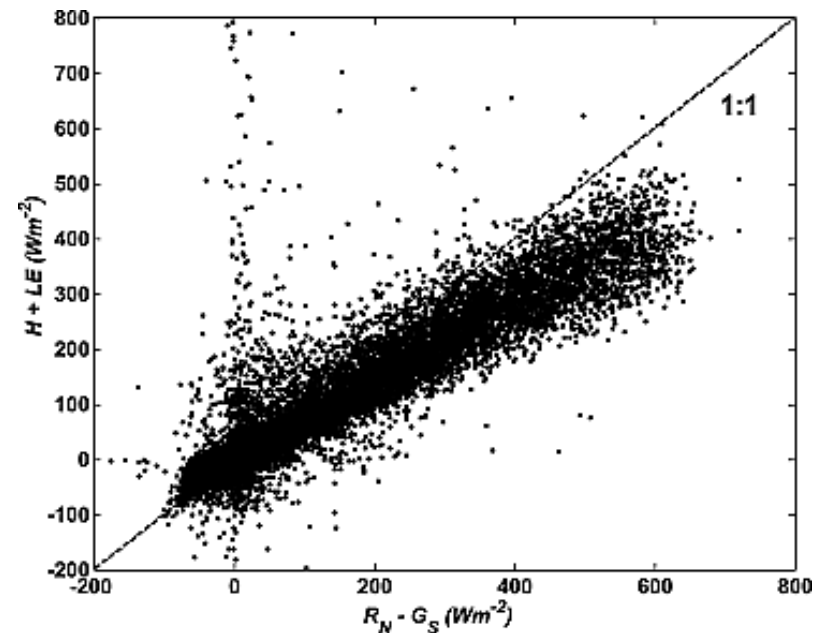
Measured by the  
**Biomet** System

**Ideal closure** is represented  
by a slope of 1 and an  
intercept of 0.

**If not ideal:**

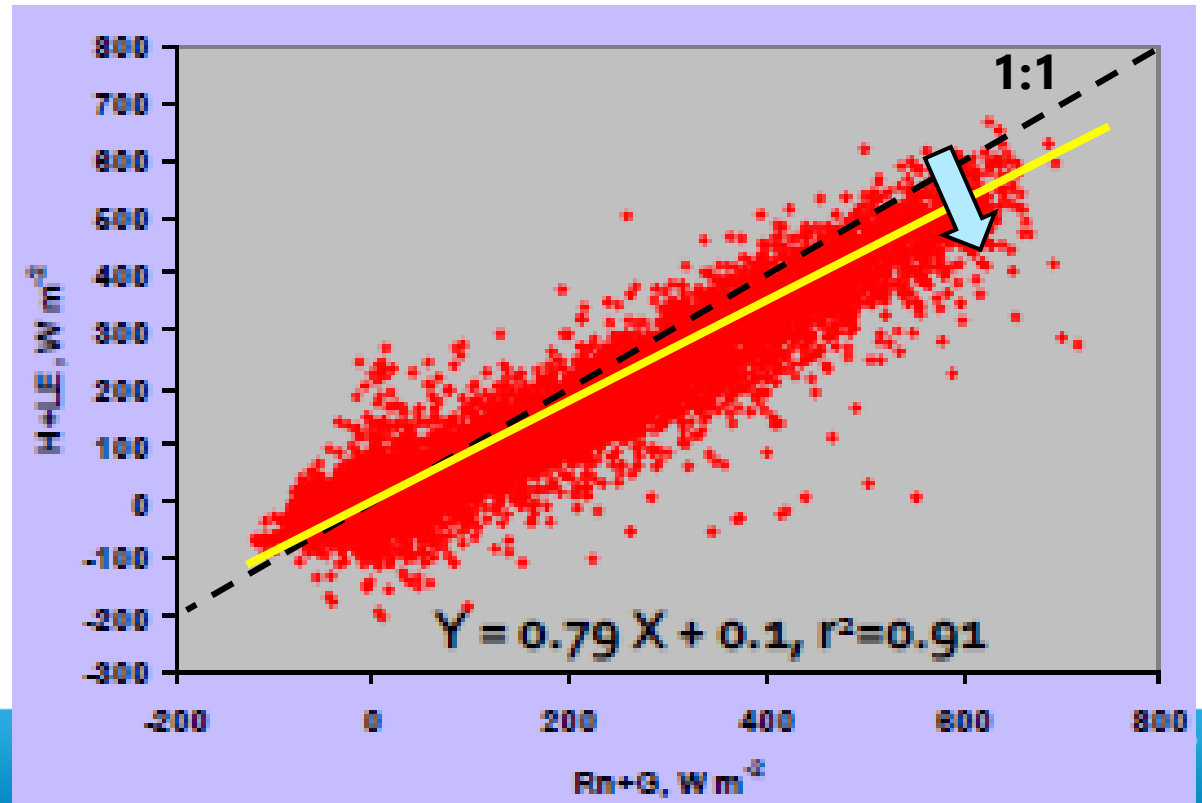
- Sampling errors?
- Systematic biases?
- Neglected energy sinks?
- Other?

**Realistic (measured) closure**



# Using Energy Balance Closure...

- ▶ Quality Assurance and Quality Checking (QA/QC)
  - ▶ From many studies (i.e., FLUXNET), a general concern has developed because surface energy fluxes ( $LE + H$ ) are frequently (*but not always*) underestimated by about 10–30% relative to estimates of available energy flux ( $R_n - G - S$ ).
- ▶ *Why is this?*



# What else could cause the imbalance?

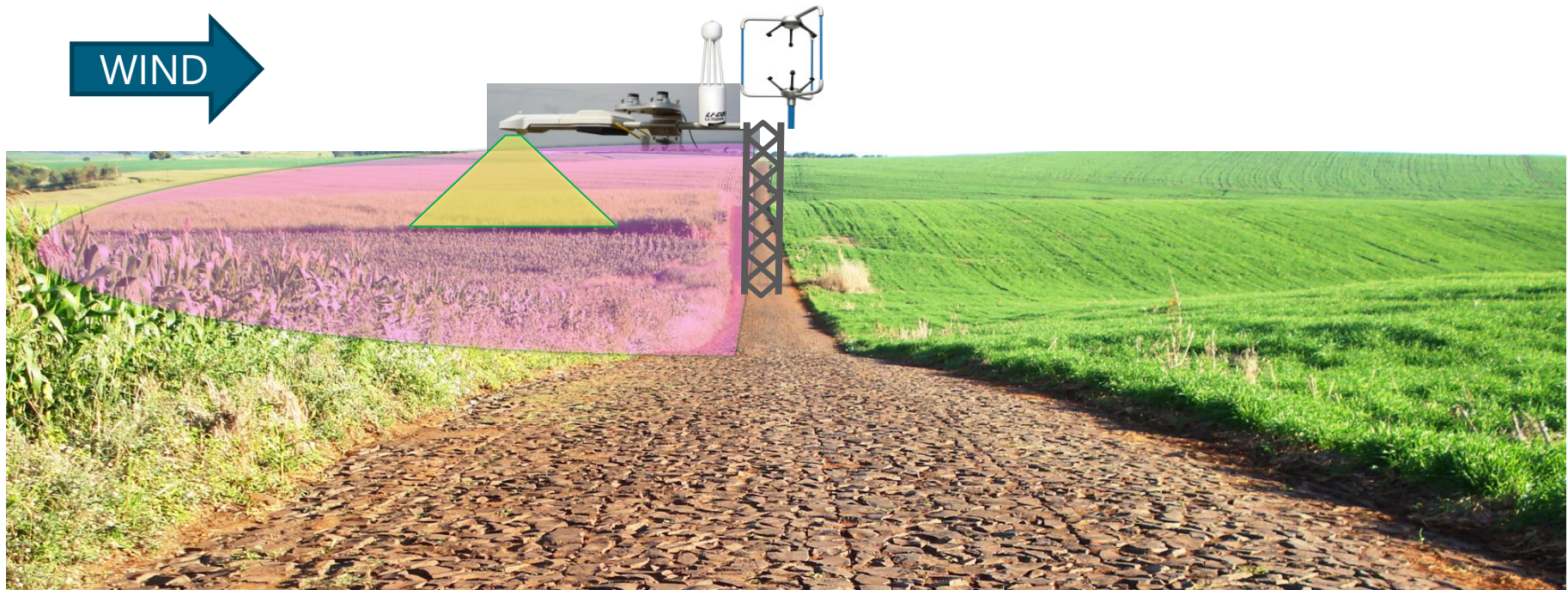
Cause of imbalance	Examples
→ Sampling	Source areas differ
Instrument bias	Net radiometer biased
Neglected energy sinks	Storage above soil heat plates
High/low frequency loss	Sensor separation/large eddies
Advection	Regional circulation

Wilson, K et al (2002). Energy balance closure at FLUXNET sites. Agricultural and Forest Meteorology



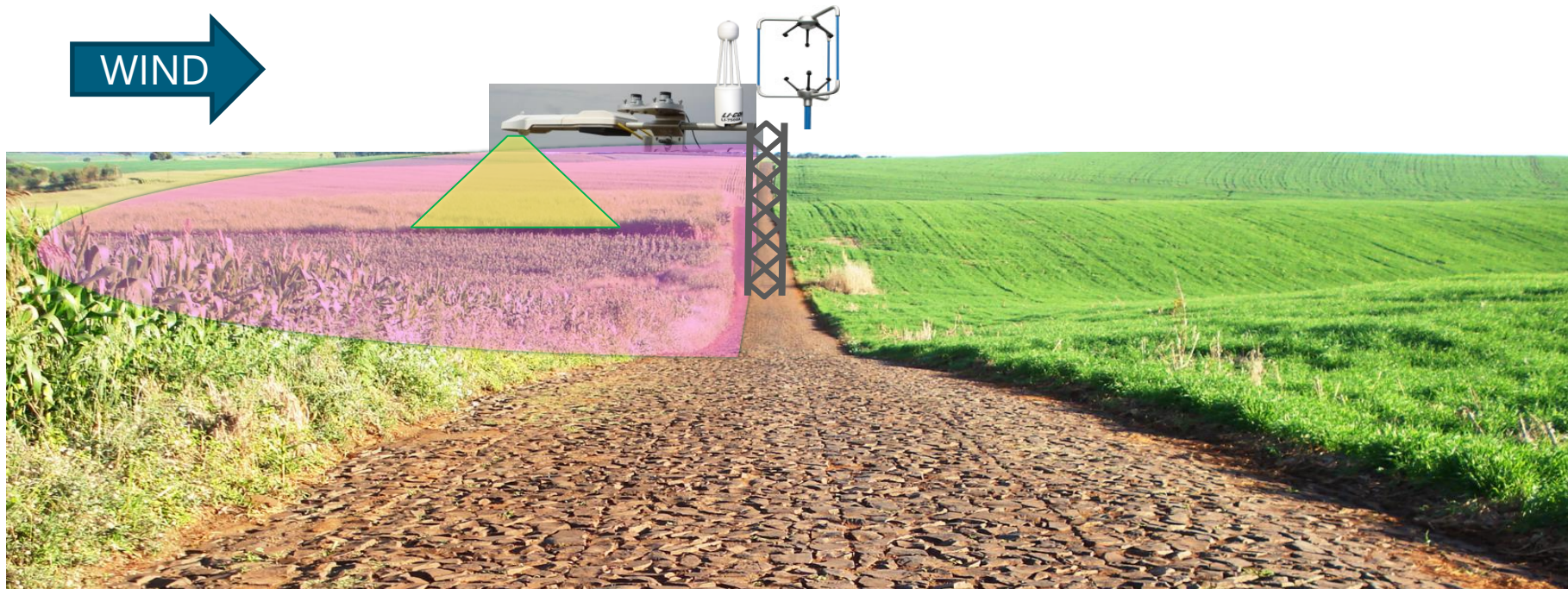


WIND



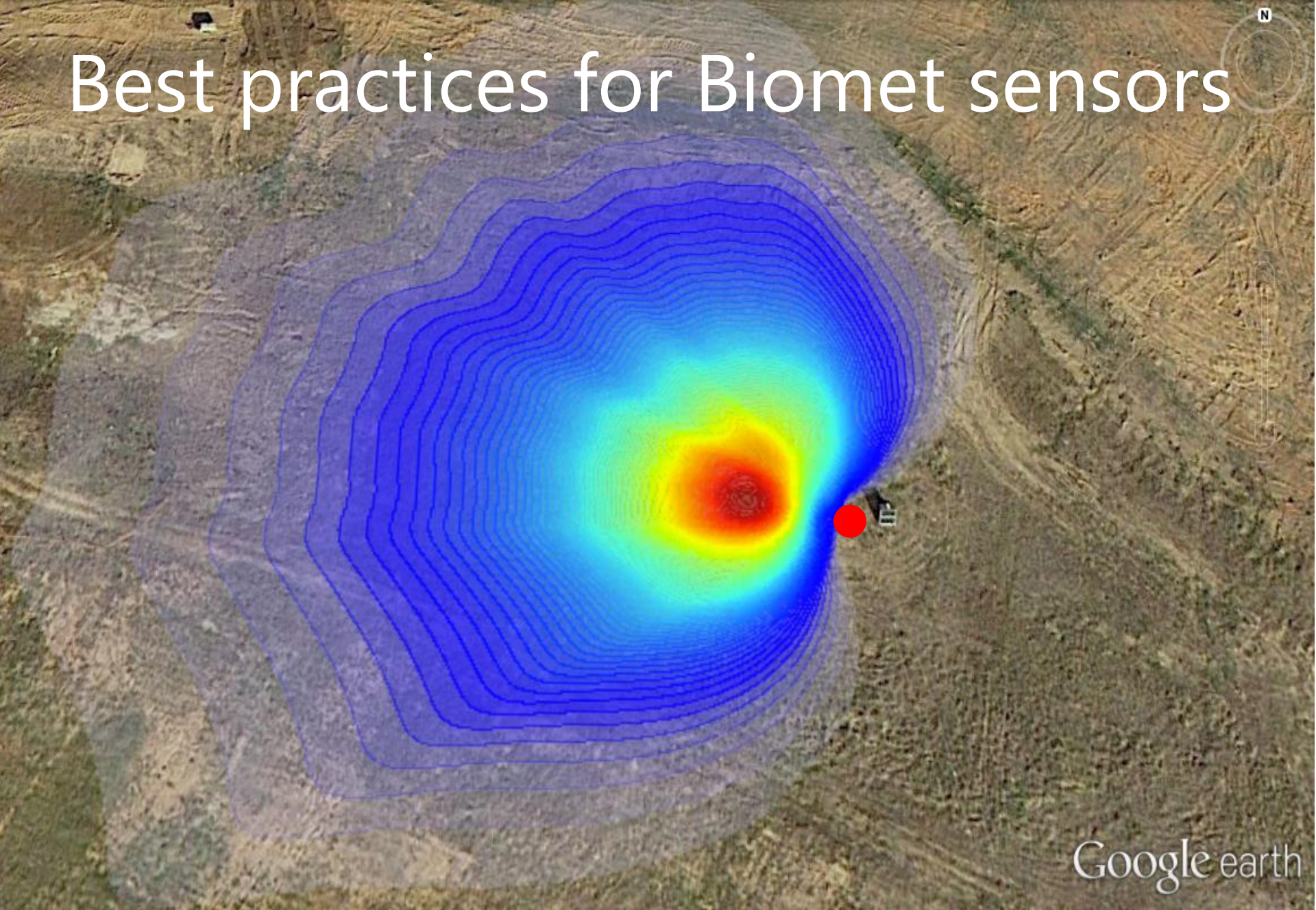


WIND





# Best practices for Biomet sensors



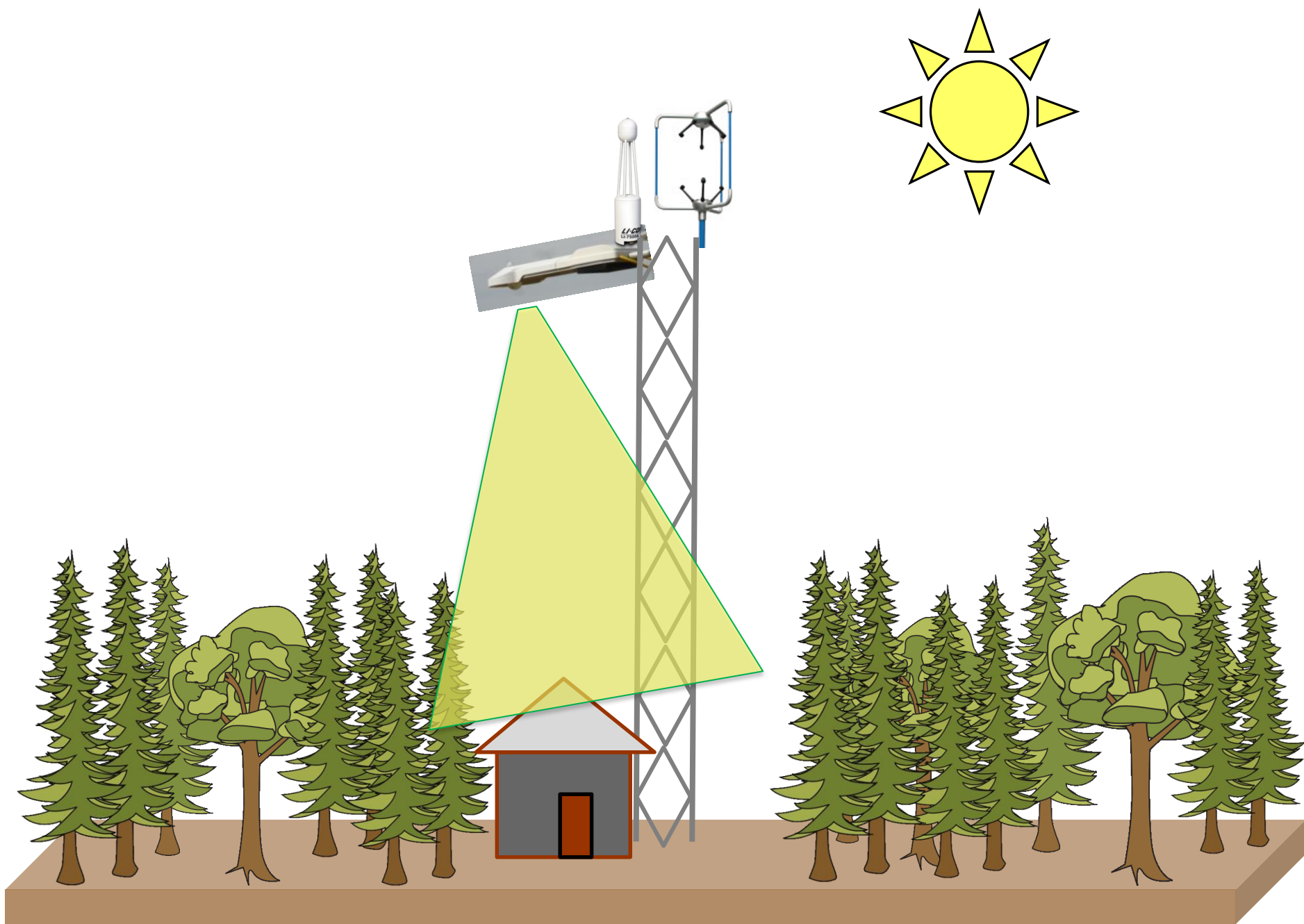
Google earth

**LI-COR®**

# What else could cause the imbalance?

Cause of imbalance	Examples
Sampling	Source areas differ
→ Instrument bias	Net radiometer biased
Neglected energy sinks	Storage above soil heat plates
High/low frequency loss	Sensor separation/large eddies
Advection	Regional circulation





# What else could cause the imbalance?

Cause of imbalance	Examples
Sampling	Source areas differ
Instrument bias	Net radiometer biased
→ Neglected energy sinks	Storage above soil heat plates
High/low frequency loss	Sensor separation/large eddies
Advection	Regional circulation

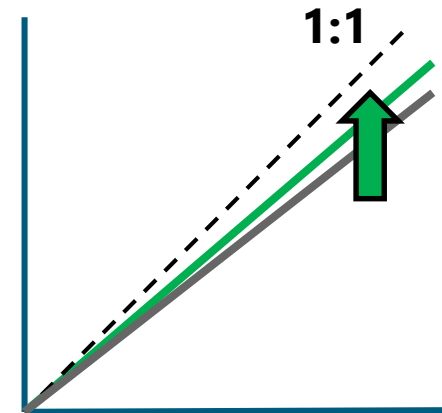
# Role of canopy and ground heat storage...

- ▶ Tall vegetation sites ( $h > 8\text{m}$ ) based on 26 site-years of data:
  - ▶ Including  $S$  in the regressions for these sites *increased* the slope by an average of 7%, which is why forested sites are required to report  $S$ .

$$R_n = H + LE + G + \mathbf{S} + Q$$



$$R_n - G - \mathbf{S} \approx H + LE$$



- ▶ For grasslands, agricultural and chaparral sites
  - ▶ Soil heat flux ( $G$ ) *increases* the average slope by about 20%. Soil heat flux has much less impact at the forested sites, where the average slope increased by only 3%.

# What else could cause the imbalance?

Cause of imbalance	Examples
Sampling	Source areas differ
Instrument bias	Net radiometer biased
Neglected energy sinks	Storage above soil heat plates
→ High/low frequency loss	Sensor separation/large eddies
→ Advection	Regional circulation



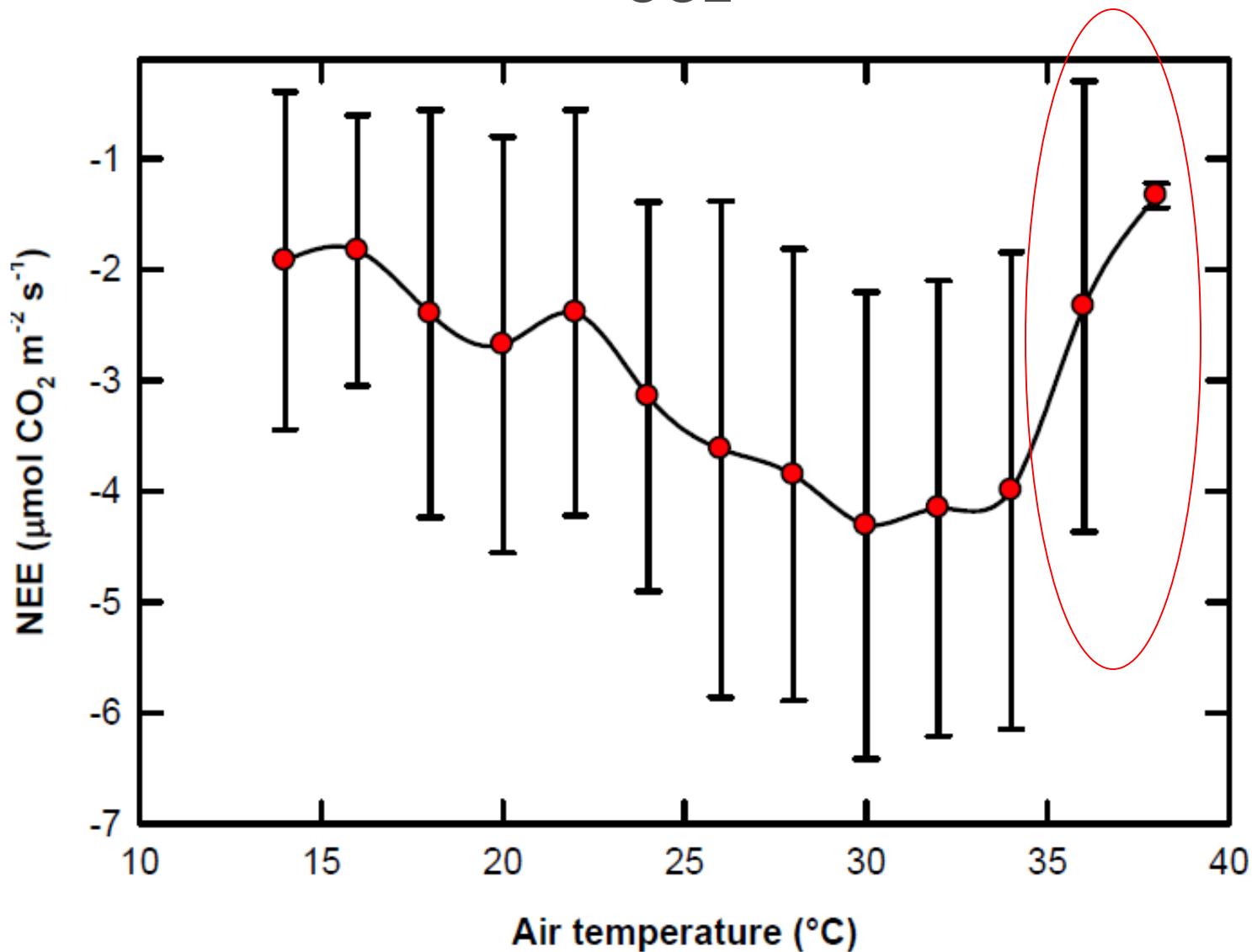
# Energy Balance Closure summary

- ▶ Implications on CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O Fluxes
  - ▶ A lack of energy balance closure may indicate that CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O flux estimates may be in error; however, it is not conclusive.
    - ▶ Errors in the energy balance calculations can be independent of CO<sub>2</sub> flux estimates and vice versa.
  - ▶ If done properly, Energy Balance Closure can be a useful tool in verifying proper CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O measurements and subsequent computed fluxes.

# Why collect Biomet measurements?

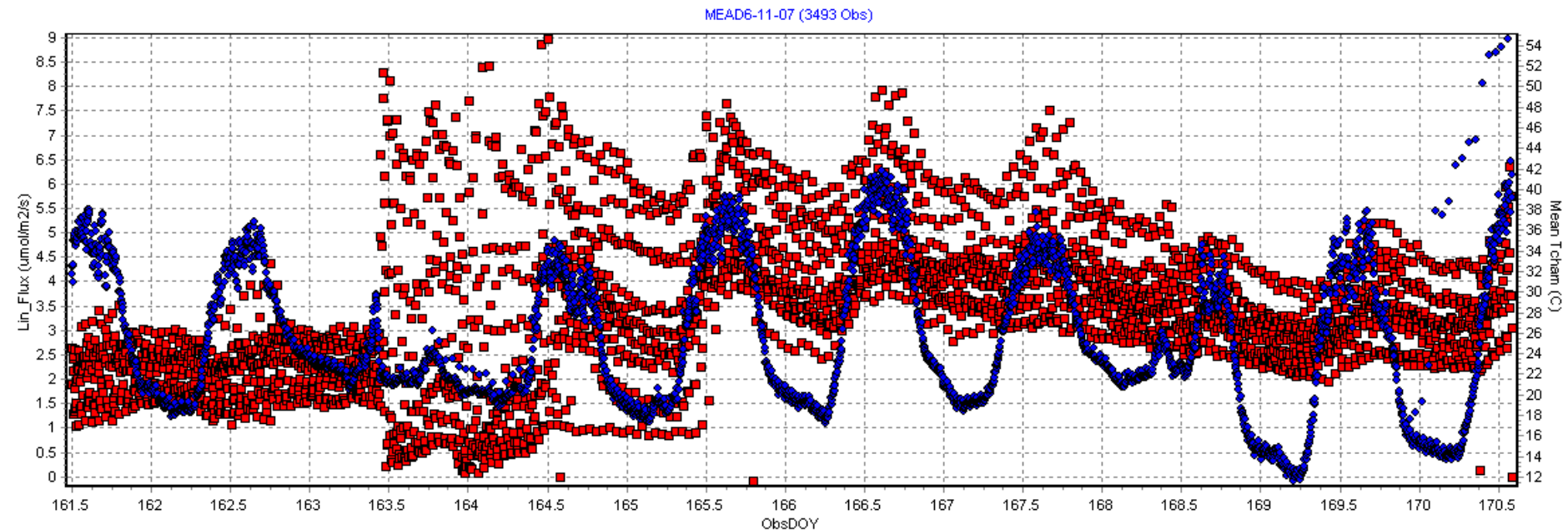
- Quality Assurance and Quality Checking (QA/QC)
  - Energy Balance closure.
- Recording weather helps to explain site behavior
  - The physical environment has profound effects on the biology as well as on the surface-atmosphere exchange.
- Gap filling
  - When instrumentation or power fails.
- Improving Fluxes

# Air Temperature – $F_{CO_2}$ Relationship



# Measurements of CO<sub>2</sub> efflux from the soil...

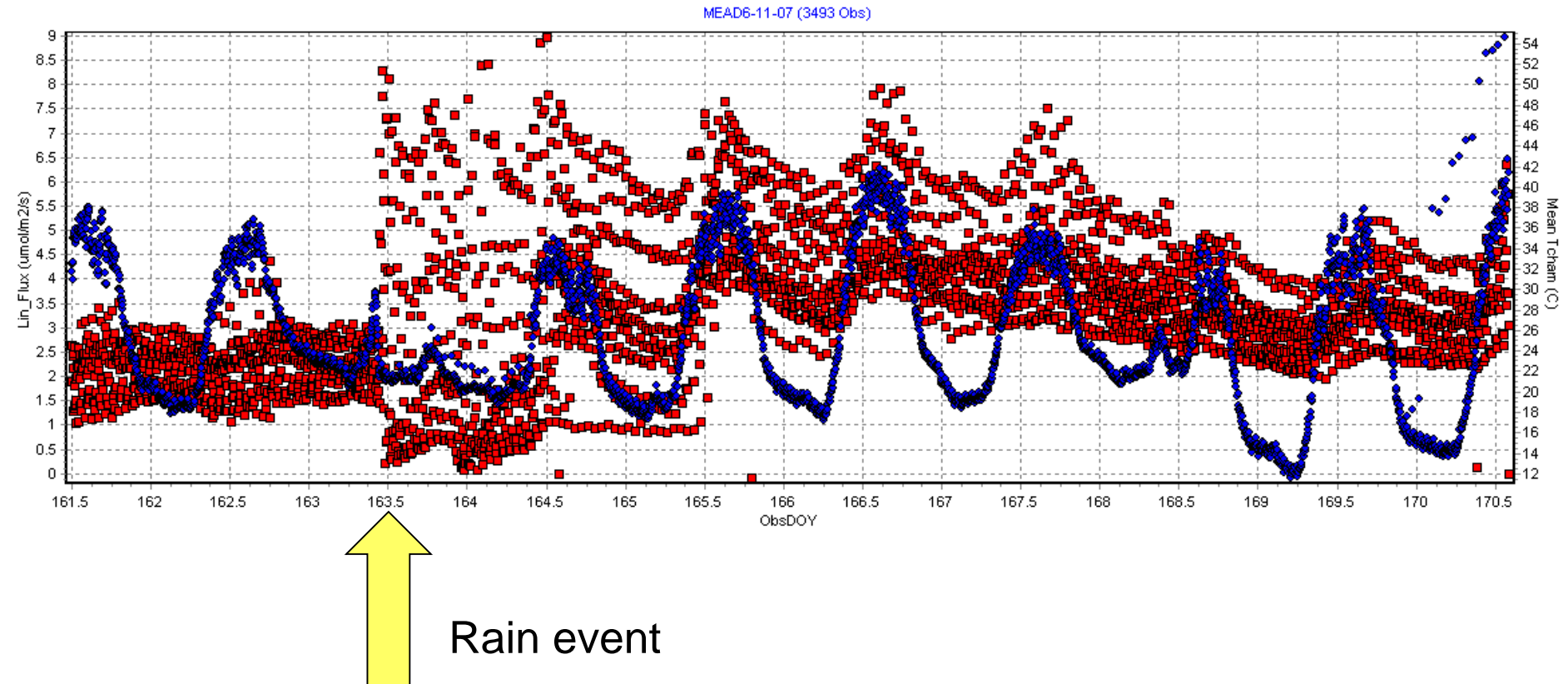
## ...taken with a 16-Chamber, Multiplexed System.



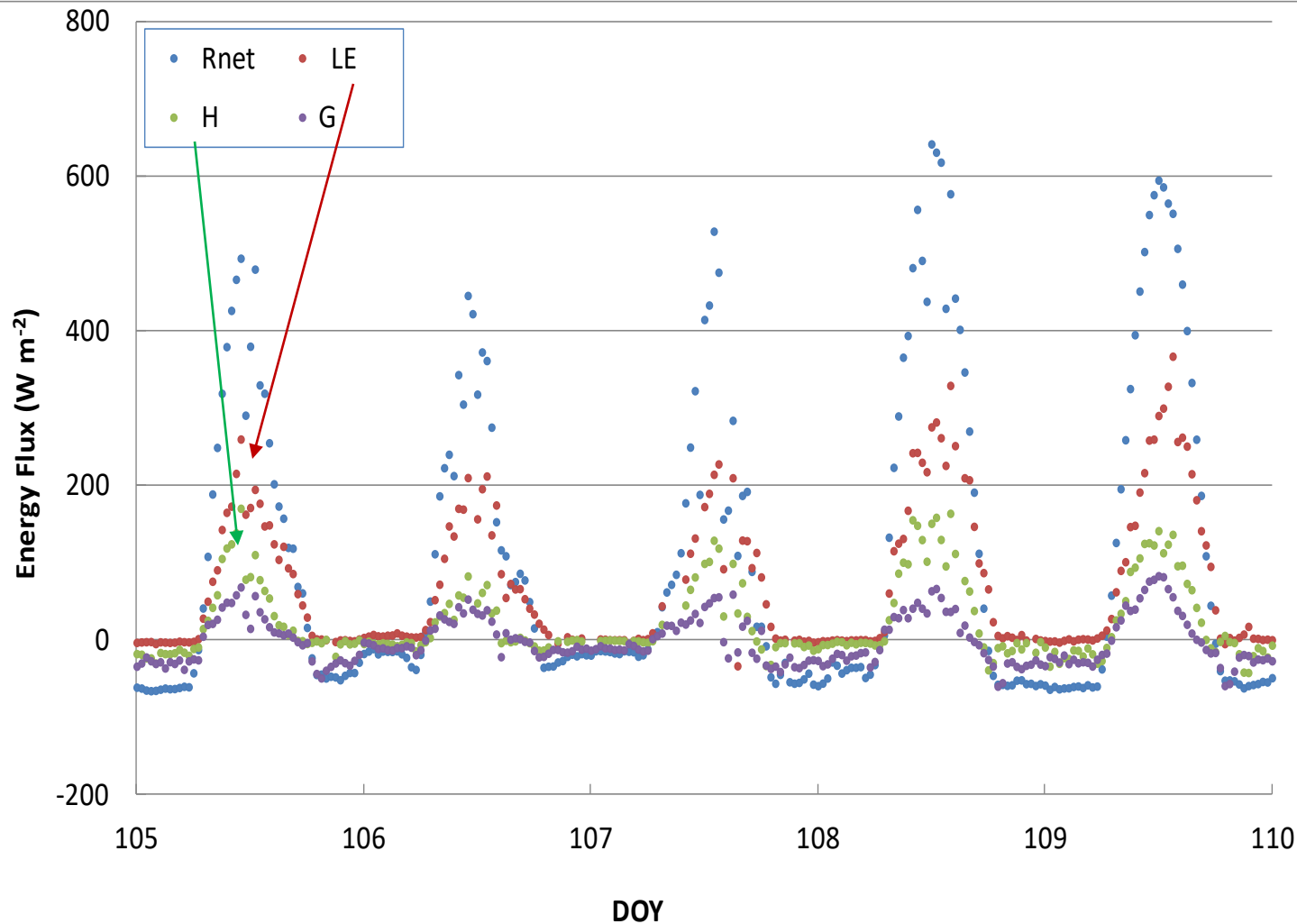


# Weather events can effect fluxes

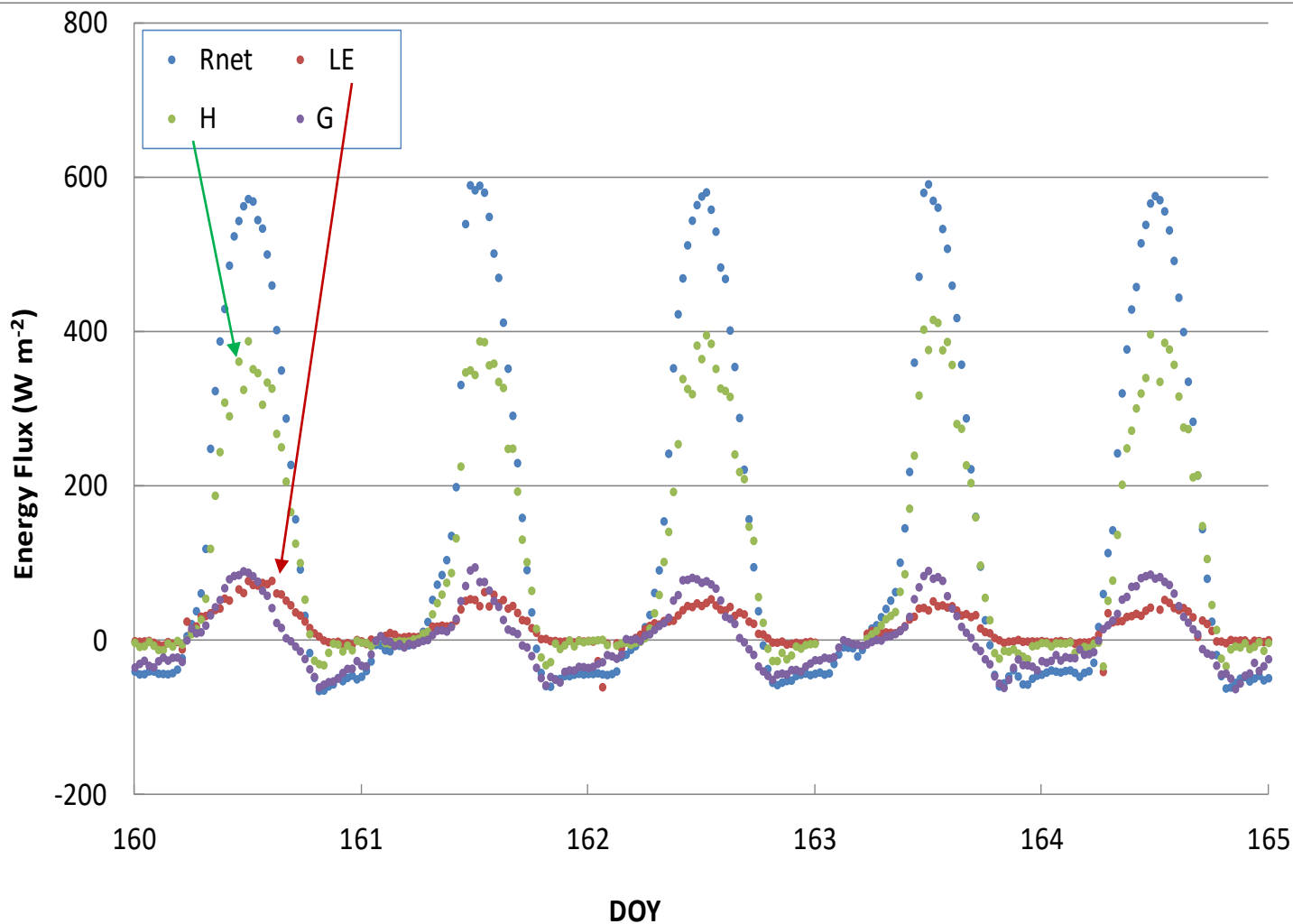
A rain event increases soil moisture and effects the CO<sub>2</sub> efflux from the soil...



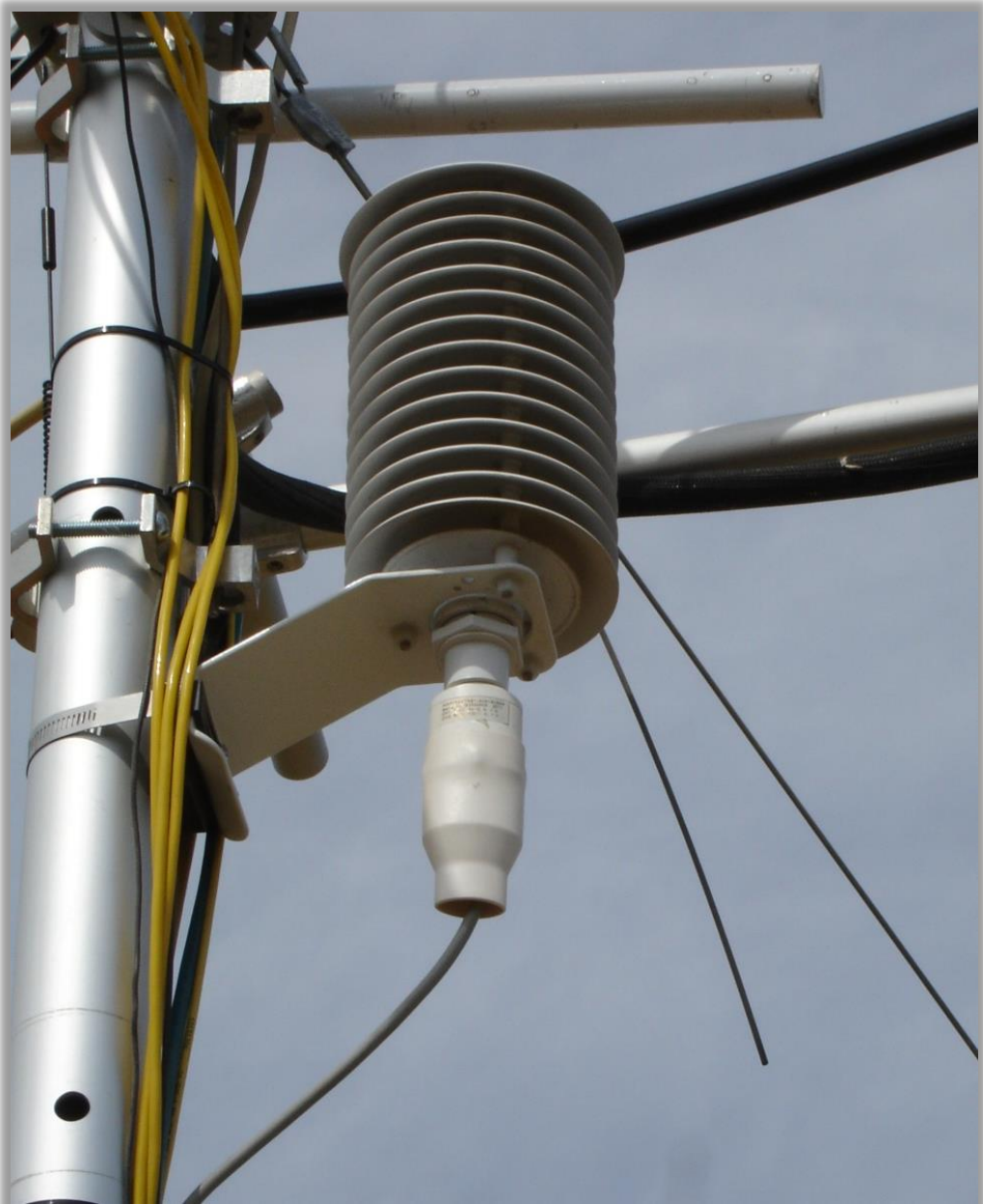
# Energy partitioning depends on availability of soil moisture



# Energy partitioning depends on availability of soil moisture









# Phenology

The study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life

- Examples of plant phenological processes, include when leaves emerge in the spring and change color in the autumn.
- They are highly responsive to variation in weather as well as longer-term changes in climate

# Why Phenology?

- Leafing, flowering, fruiting
- Leaf senescence
- Bird migration
- Insect infestation
- Plant disease
- Climate change
  - Springtime



# PhenoCam's

- Digital cameras can be used to monitor vegetation phenology
- Provide automated, near-surface remote sensing of canopy phenology
- Images from these cameras are uploaded to a server
- Techniques can be used to extract quantitative color information from each picture.
  - Canopy greenness can provide information about the amount of foliage present.



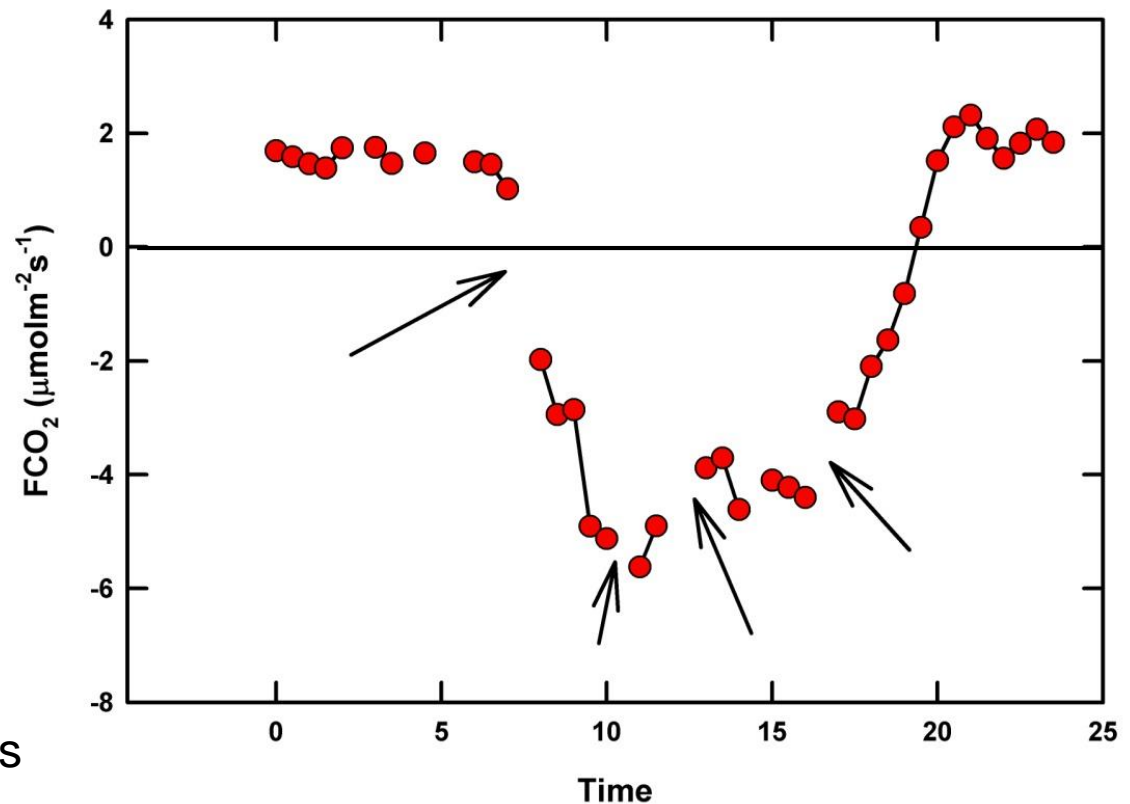
# Why collect Biomet measurements?

- Quality Assurance and Quality Checking (QA/QC)
  - Energy Balance closure.
- Recording weather helps to explain site behavior
  - The physical environment has profound effects on the biology as well as on the surface-atmosphere exchange.
- Gap filling
  - When instrumentation or power fails.
- Improving Fluxes

# Gap Filling Flux Data

- Gaps occurs due to sensor failure
- Power supply issues
- Data flagged for bad quality
- Spikes in data due to rain events
- Data flagged for low  $U^*$

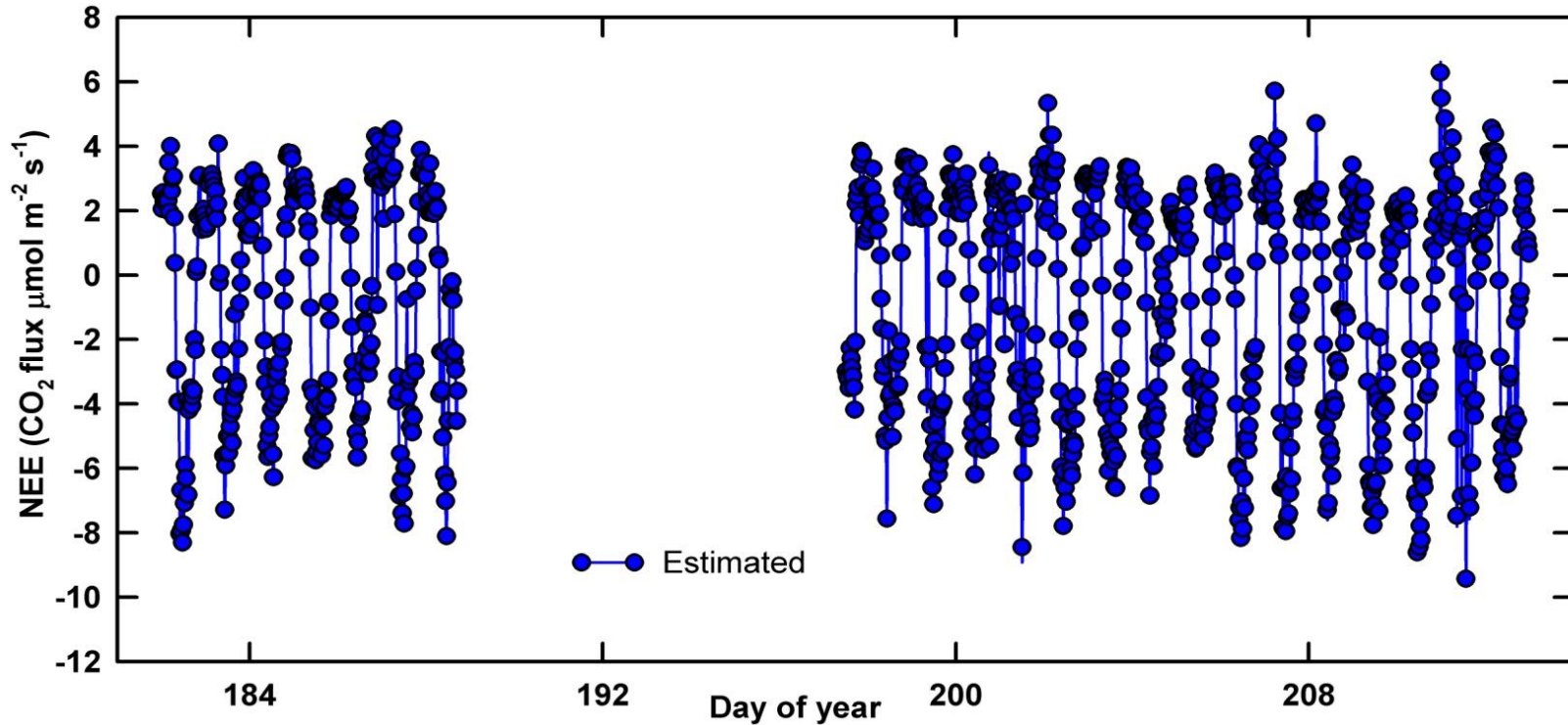
*Smaller gaps*



*Smaller gaps* can be filled using interpolation techniques

# Gap Filling Flux Data

*Larger gaps*



*Larger gaps are filled with other techniques.*



# Gap Filling techniques

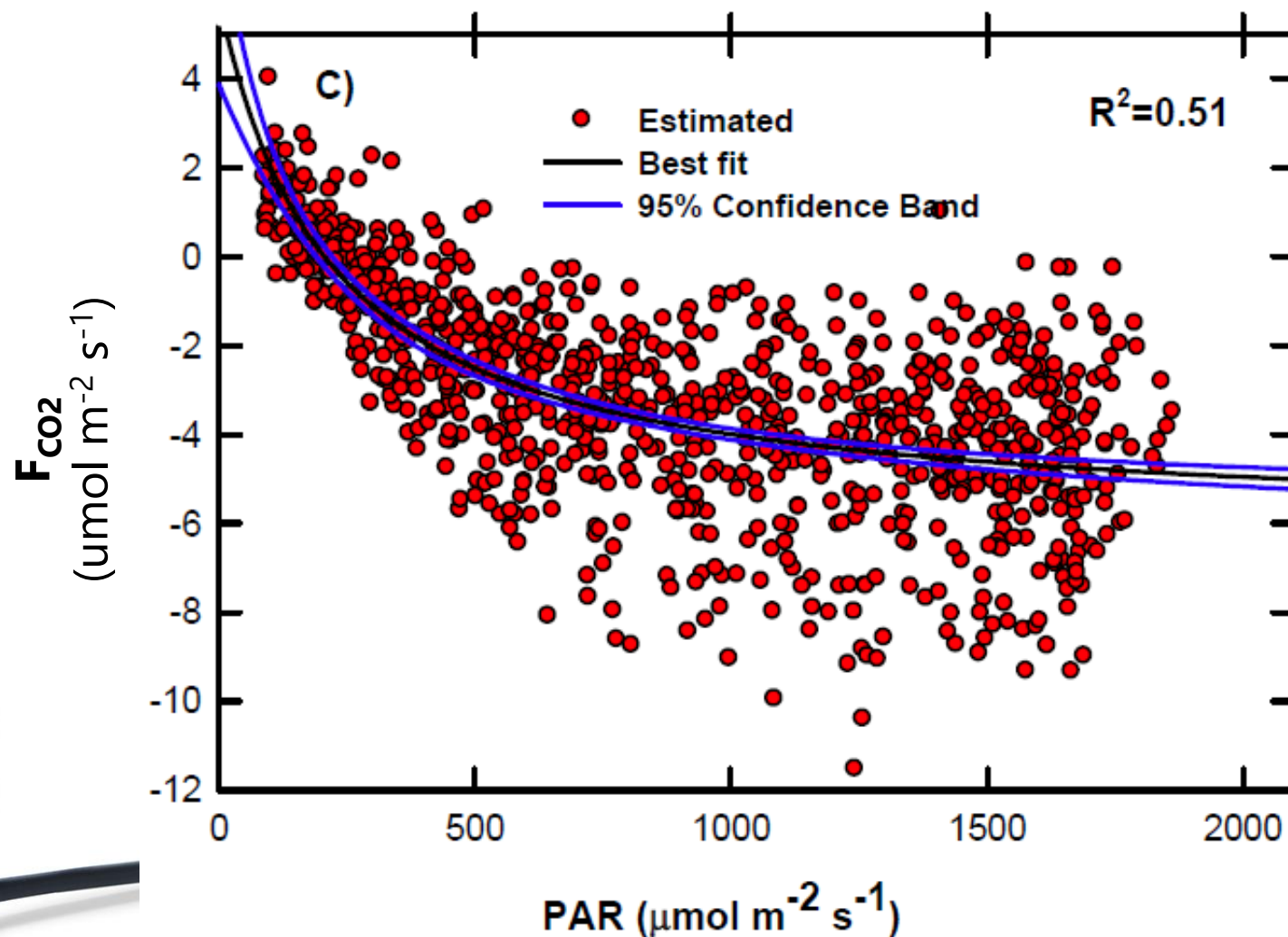
- A) Mean Diurnal Variation: Use data from similar days for gap filling
- B) Look-Up Tables: Multidimensional tables are created for gap filling
- C) Artificial Neural Networks: Empirical non-linear regression models
- D) Non-linear Regression: Models relating NEE to PAR and Respiration to Soil Temperature

$$NEE = \left[ \frac{a \times PAR}{a/b + PAR} \right] + c$$

$$R_e = R_{T_{ref}} \exp \left[ \left( \frac{E_a}{T_{ref} \times R} \right) \times \left( 1 - \frac{T_{ref}}{T_{soil}} \right) \right]$$

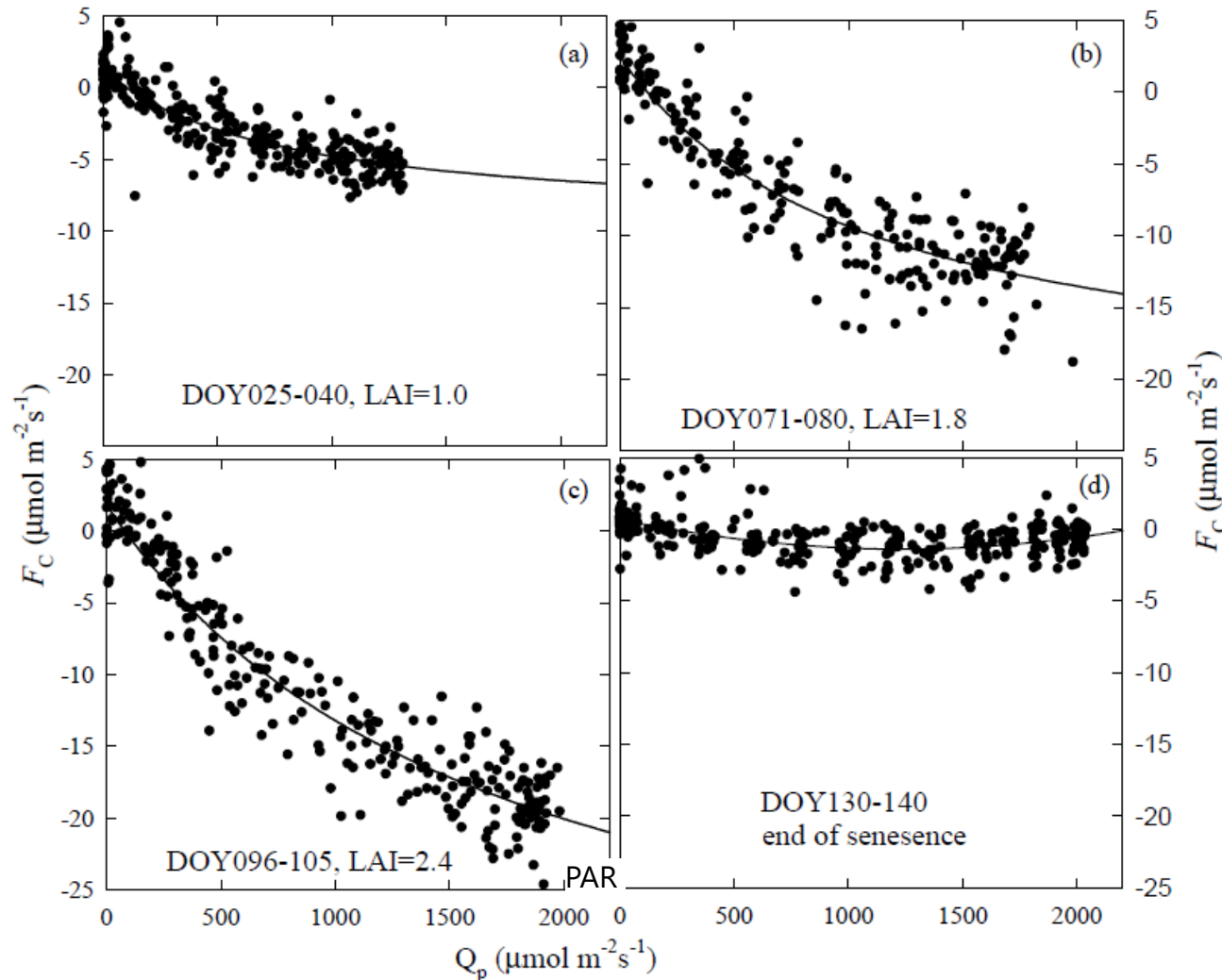
- E) Process Models : Complex models utilizing met data eg: CANOAK,

# PAR and $F_{CO_2}$ Relationship



# Seasonal relationships: PAR and CO<sub>2</sub> flux

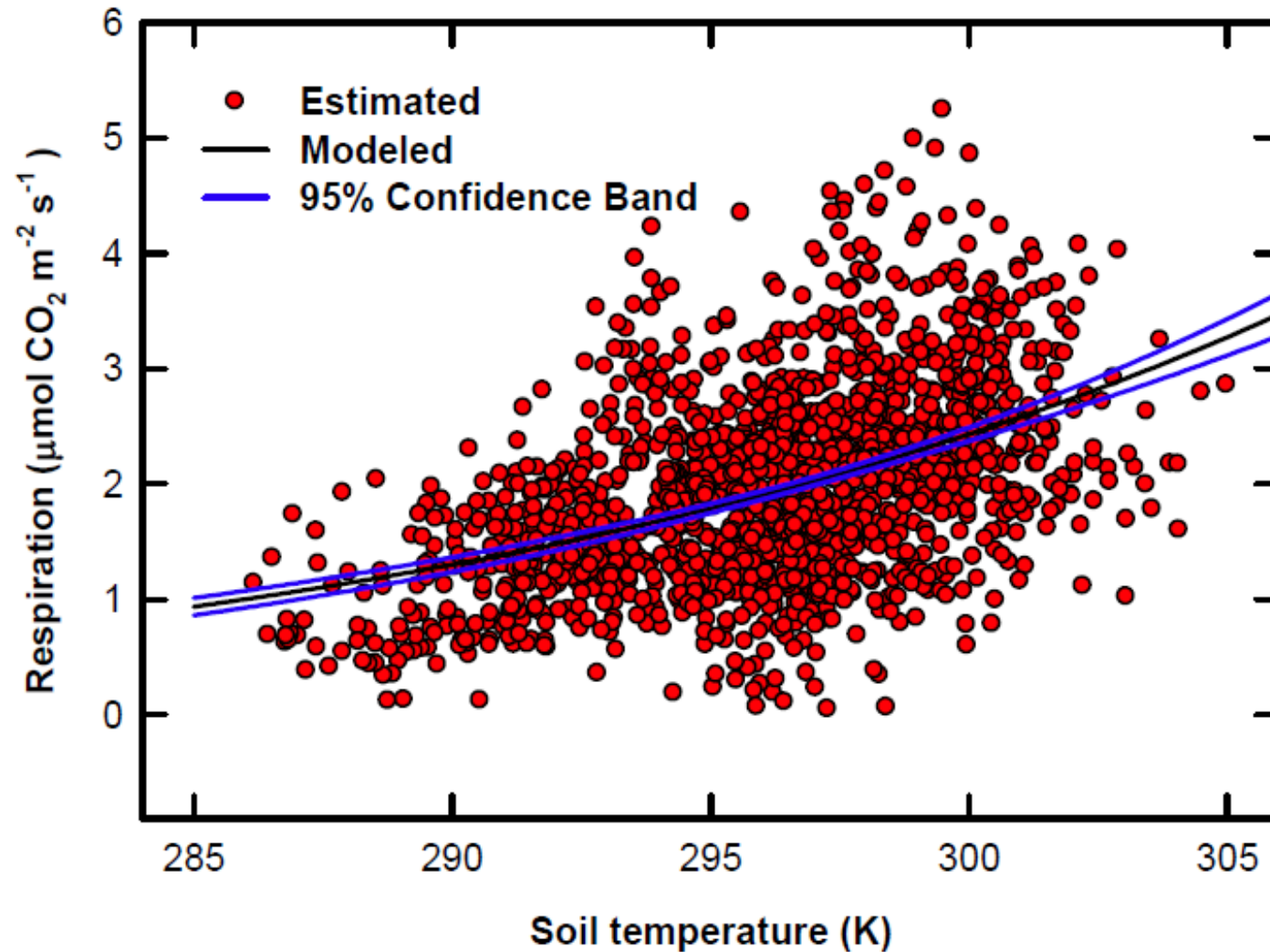
*L. Xu, D.D. Baldocchi/Agricultural and Forest Meteorology 1232 (2004) 79–96*



$$F_c = \frac{F_{max} \alpha PAR}{\alpha PAR + F_{max}} + R_{eco}$$

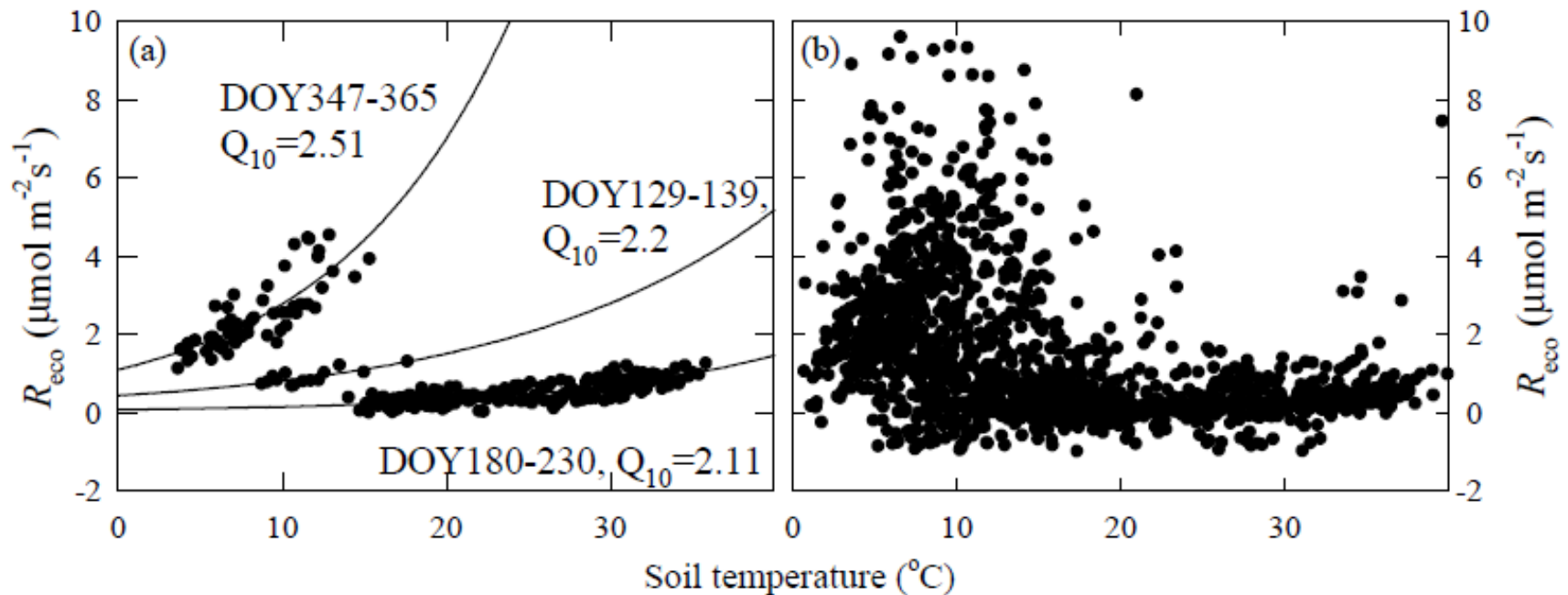


# Soil Temperature ( $T_s$ ) & Respiration ( $R_{ECO}$ ) Relationship



# Seasonal relationships: Soil Temperature and Respiration

*L. Xu, D.D. Baldocchi / Agricultural and Forest Meteorology 1232 (2004) 79–96*

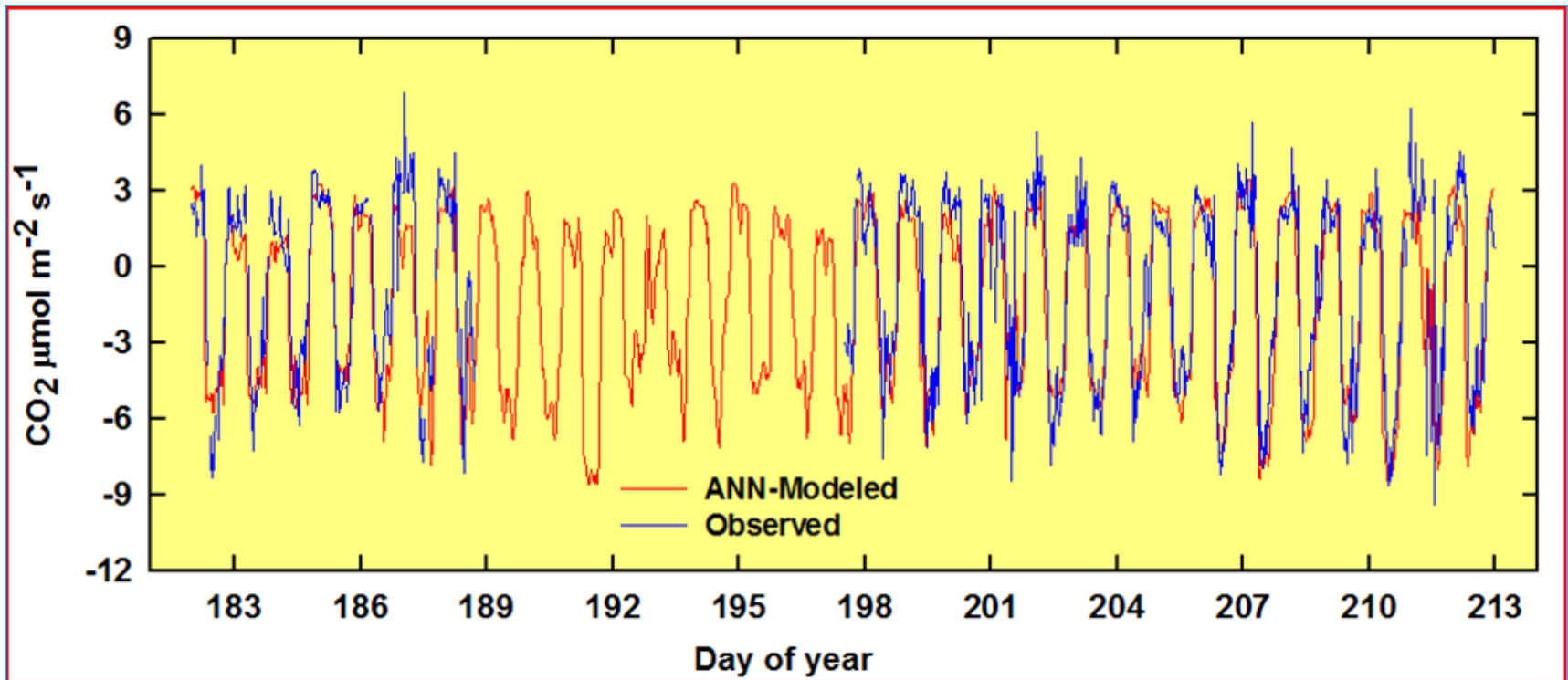


$$F_c = b_0 \exp(bT_{\text{soil}})$$

$$Q_{10} = \exp(10b)$$

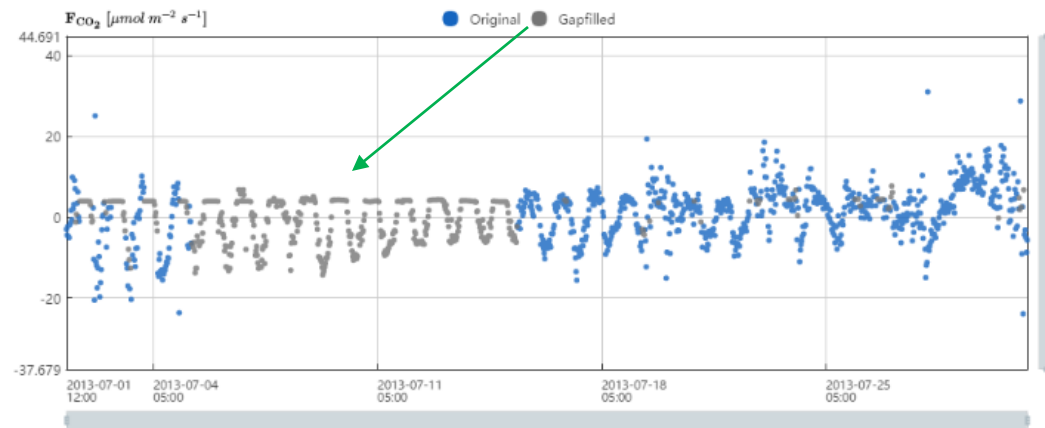
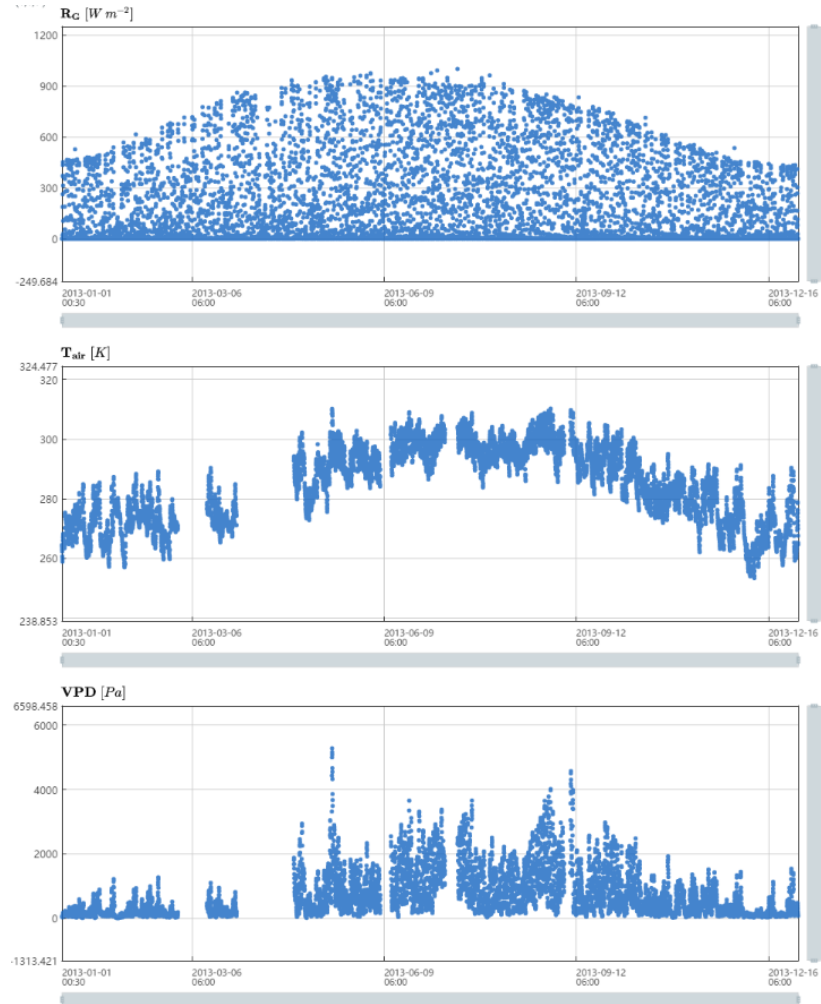
# Neural Network example

- $CO_2$  Flux modeled using PAR
- *Respiration* modeled using  $T_s$



# Marginal Distribution Sampling example

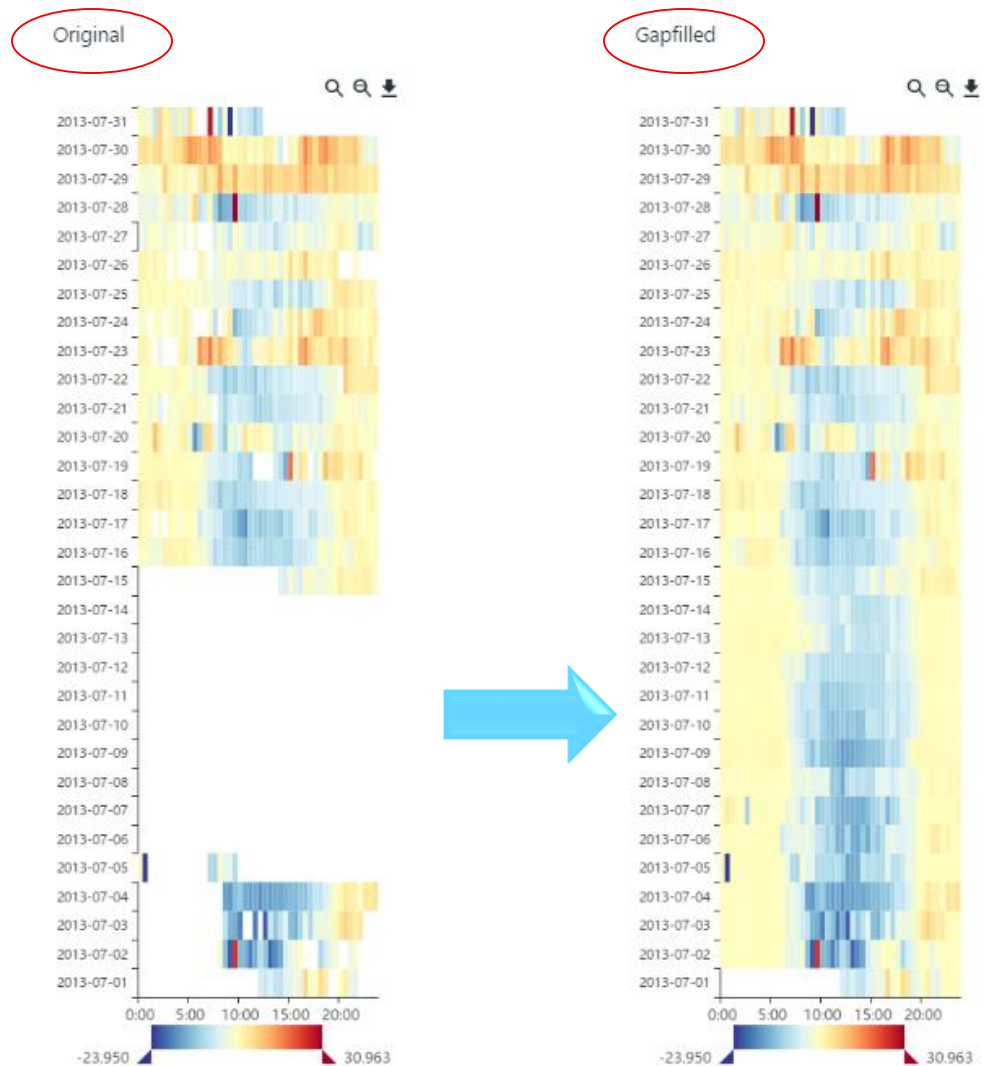
- *Used in Tovi*
- *Drivers:*
  - $R_G$ ,  $T_{AIR}$ ,  $VPD$





# Marginal Distribution Sampling example

- *Used in Tovi*
- *Fingerprint visualization*



# Bringing it all together...



## SmartFlux<sup>®</sup> System

## EDDYPRO<sup>™</sup>



# LI-COR<sup>®</sup>

# Why collect Biomet measurements?

- Quality Assurance and Quality Checking (QA/QC)
  - Energy Balance closure.
- Recording weather helps to explain site behavior
  - The physical environment has profound effects on the biology as well as on the surface-atmosphere exchange.
- Gap filling
  - When instrumentation or power fails.
- Improving Fluxes

# GHG Software Integration

- LI-7550 or SmartFlux polls datalogger for Biomet data every 30 seconds
- Data recorded once a minute
- GHG compressed file contains four files
  - High-frequency flux data, metadata, biomet data, and biomet metadata
- EddyPro processes files together



# GHG Software Integration

- EddyPro can use a few variables for improving flux estimates
  - Measured air temperature, relative humidity, and pressure can replace the mean values of calculated variables (for example, sonic temperature)
  - Global radiation and long-wave incoming radiation can be used in the “multiple regression” version of the off-season uptake correction
  - PPFD can be used to assess day/night radiation load on the CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O analyzer

# Resources

- Biomet System Instruction Manual
- Sutron Xlite Datalogger Manual
- Webinars
- LI-COR Science and Support Team  
([envsupport@licor.com](mailto:envsupport@licor.com))

