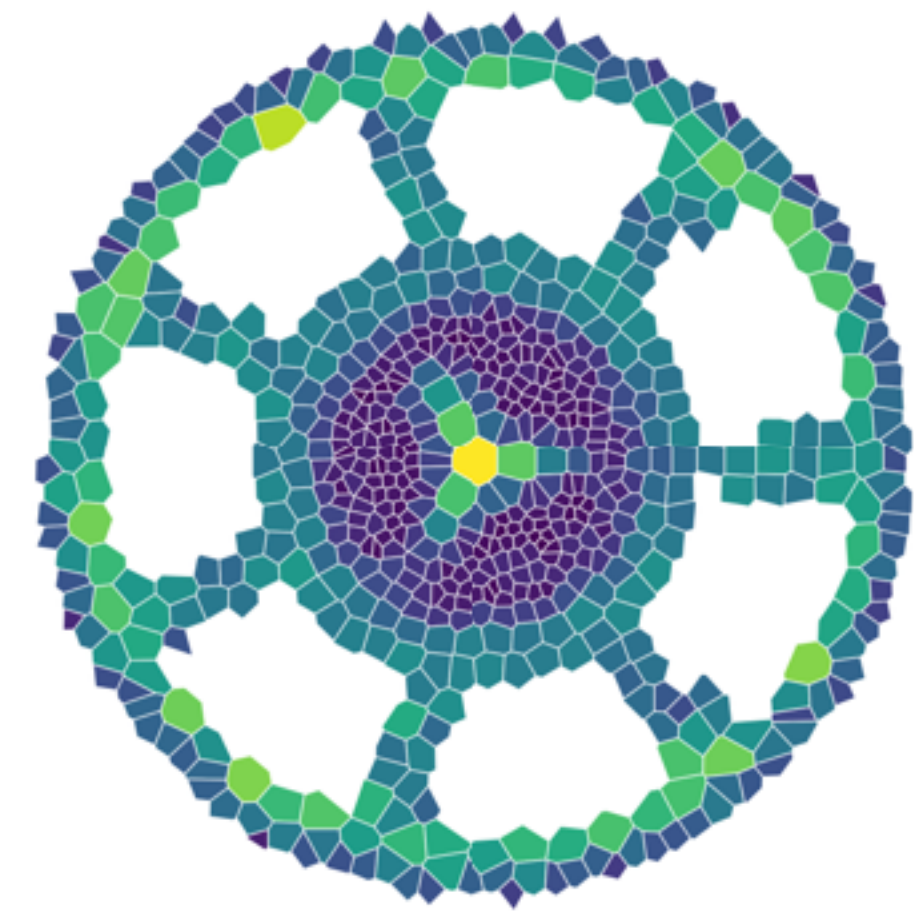
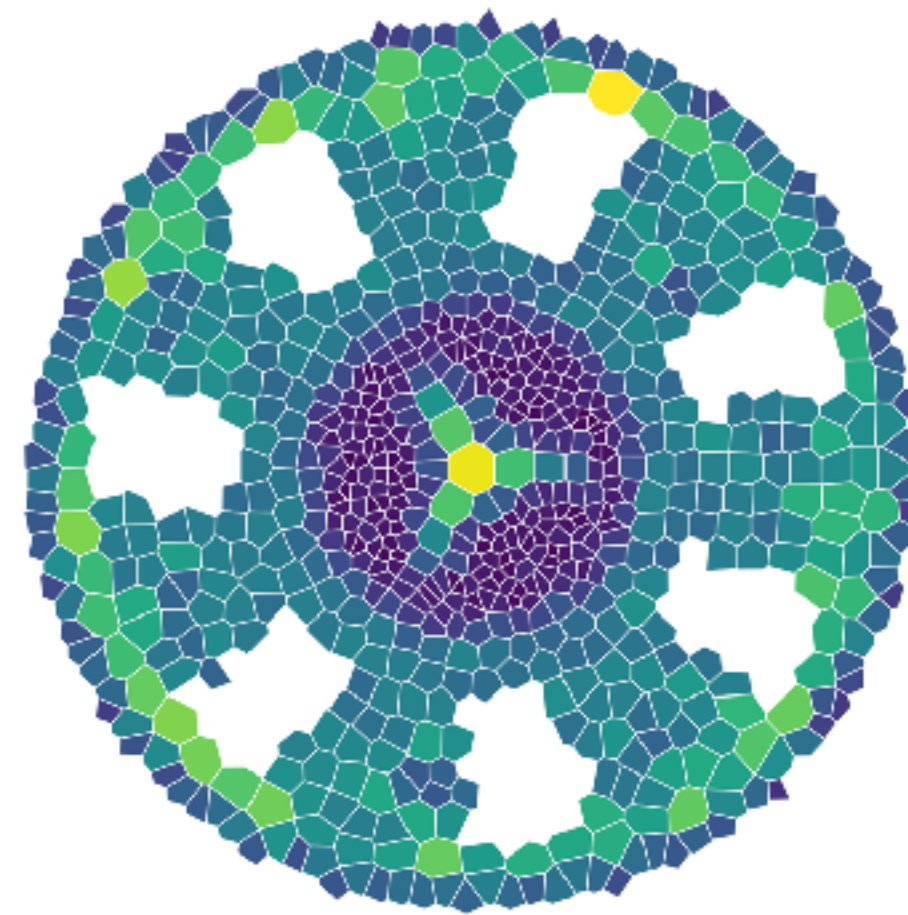
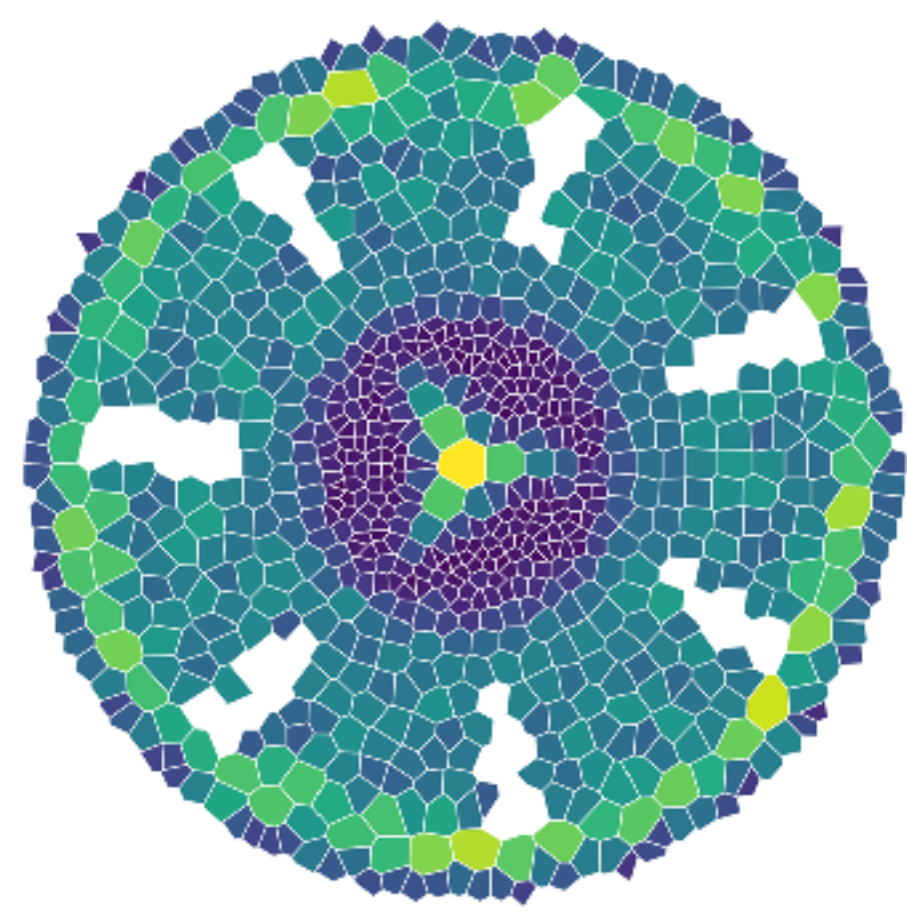
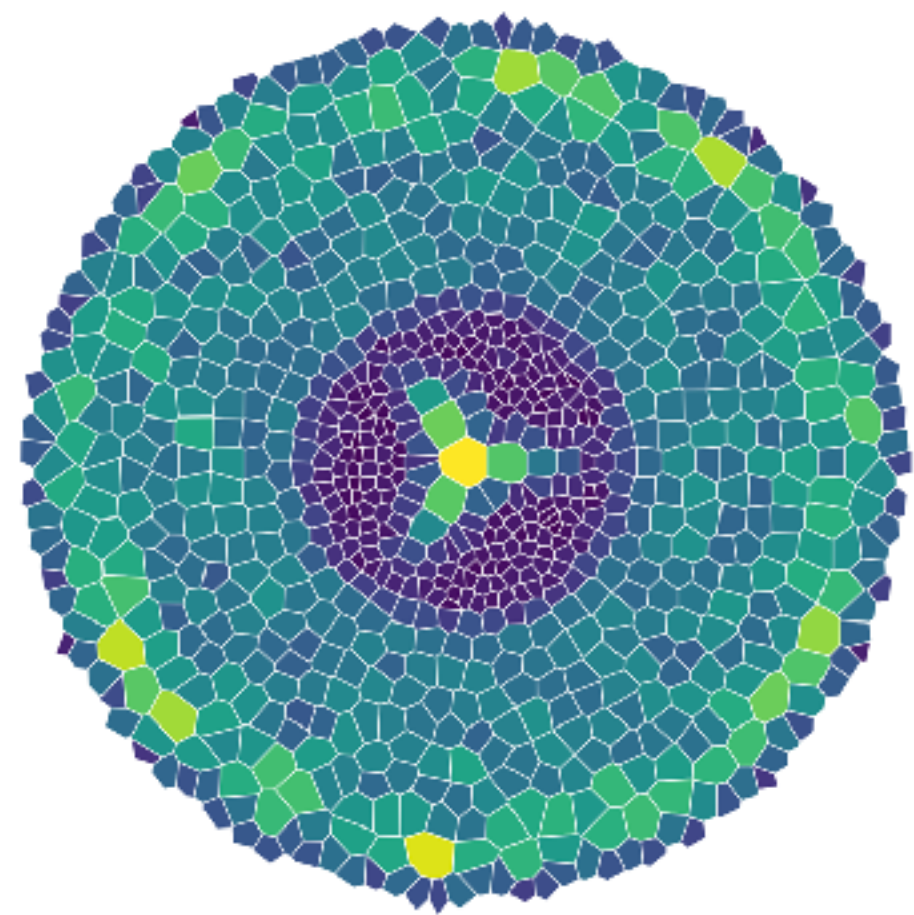




CONNECTING THE DOTS...

BETWEEN **COMPUTATIONAL**
TOOLS TO ANALYSE SOIL-ROOT
WATER RELATIONS

Guillaume Lobet, Valentin
Couvreur, Xavier Draye, Mathieu
Javaux, Daniel Leitner, Félicien
Meunier, Sixtine Passot, Andrea
Schnepf, Jan Vanderborght

 [guillaumelobet](https://twitter.com/guillaumelobet)
 bit.ly/lobet-cis

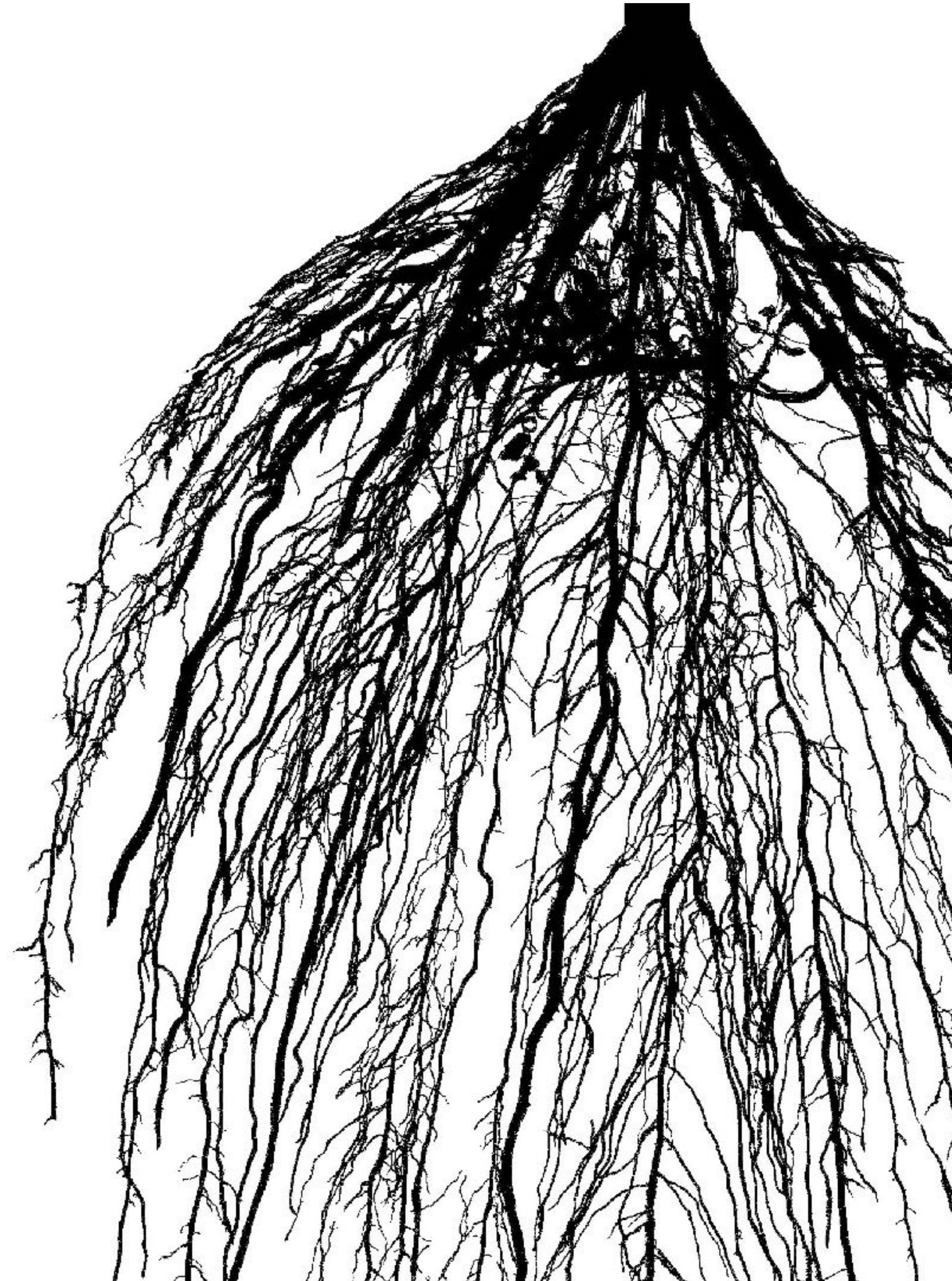
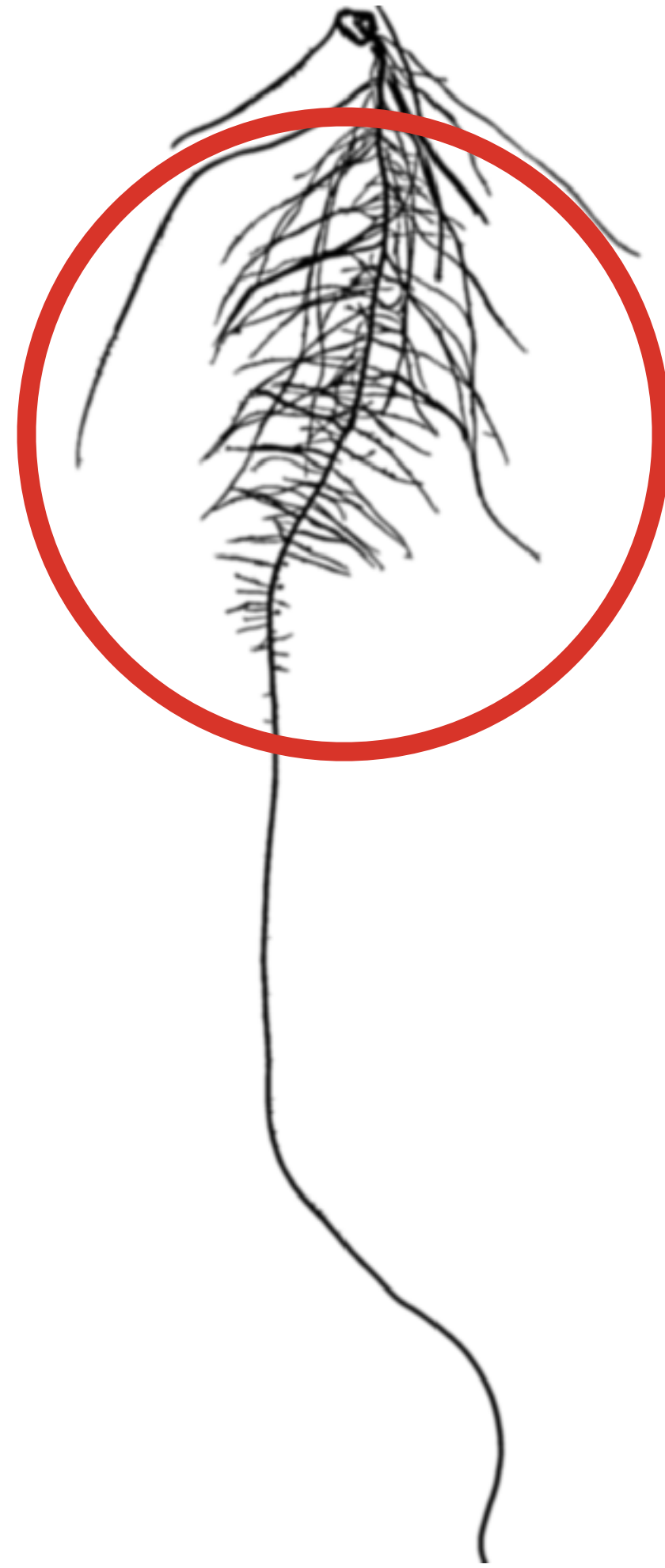


 **Crops**
in silico

UCL
Université
catholique
de Louvain

 **JÜLICH**
Forschungszentrum

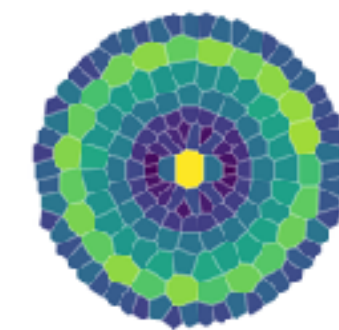
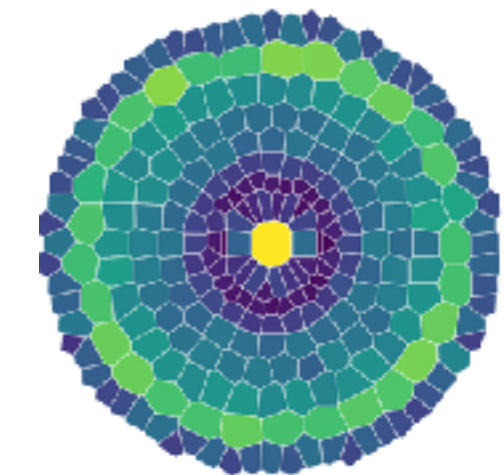
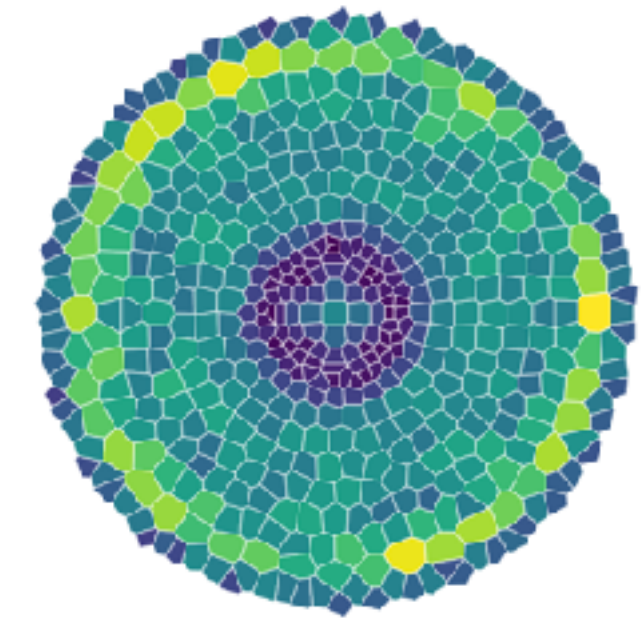
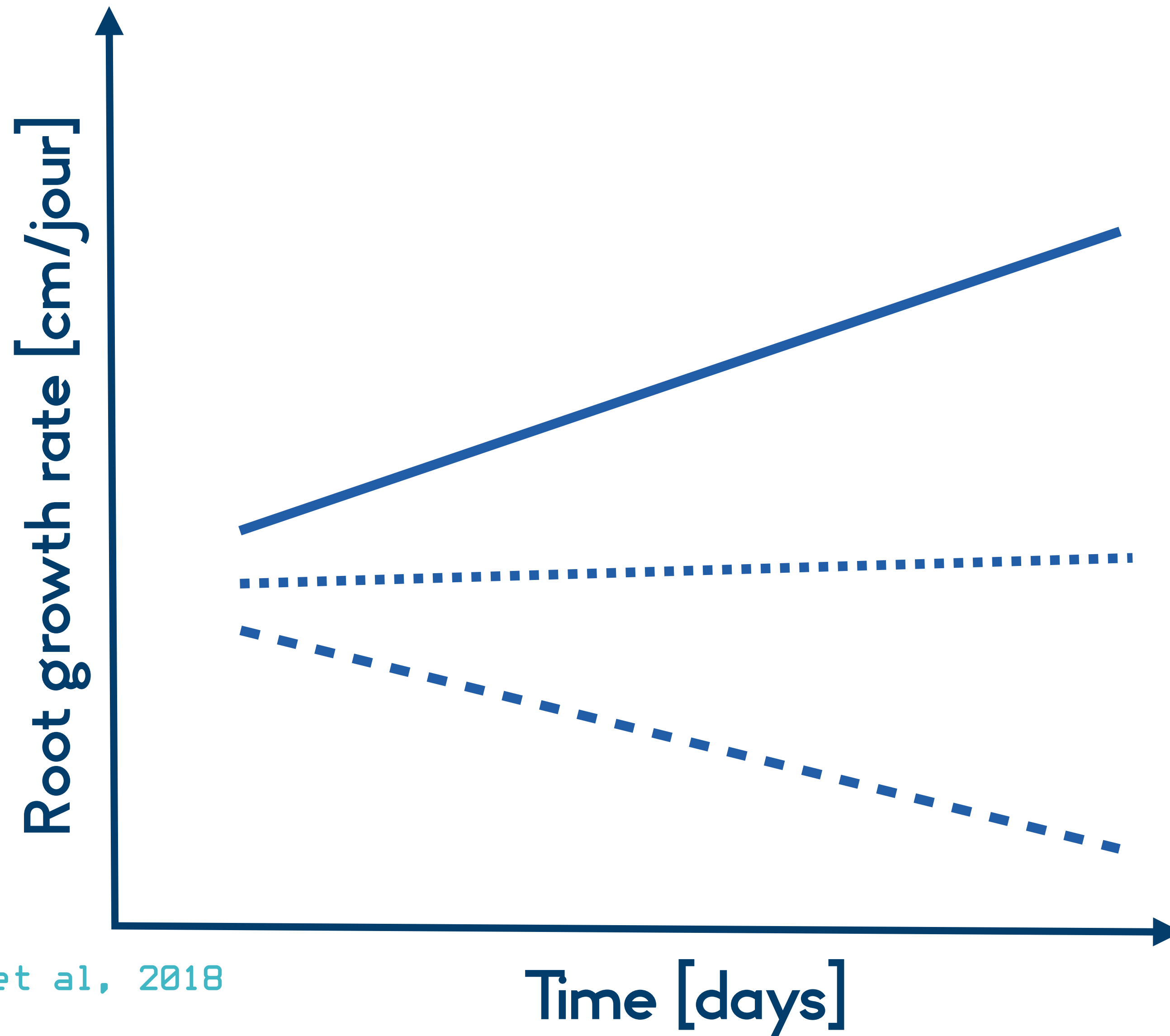
ROOT SYSTEMS
ARE **COMPLEX**
& GET **MESSY**
REALLY **QUICKLY!**

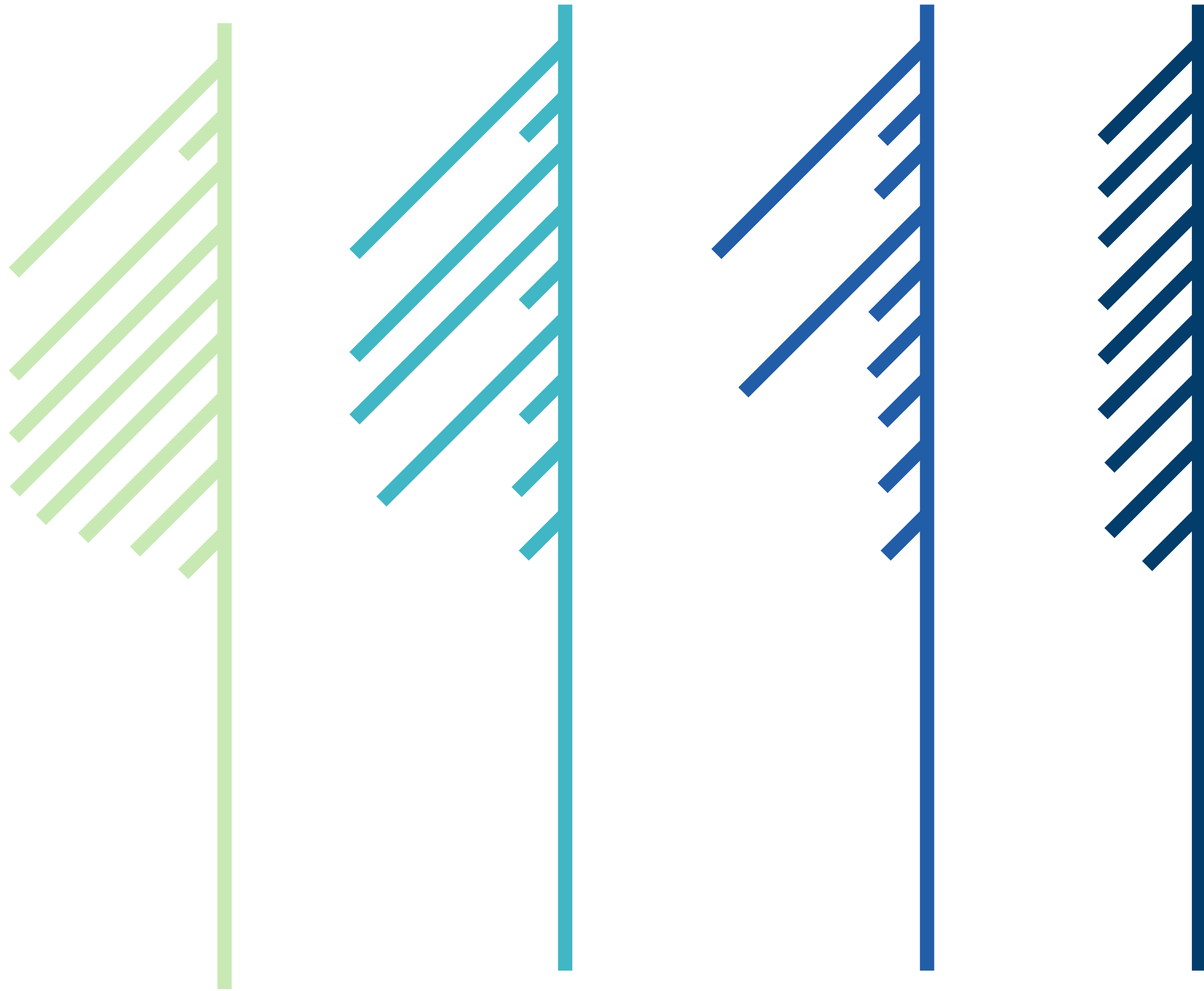


LATERAL ROOT CAN HAVE **DIFFERENT BEHAVIOURS**

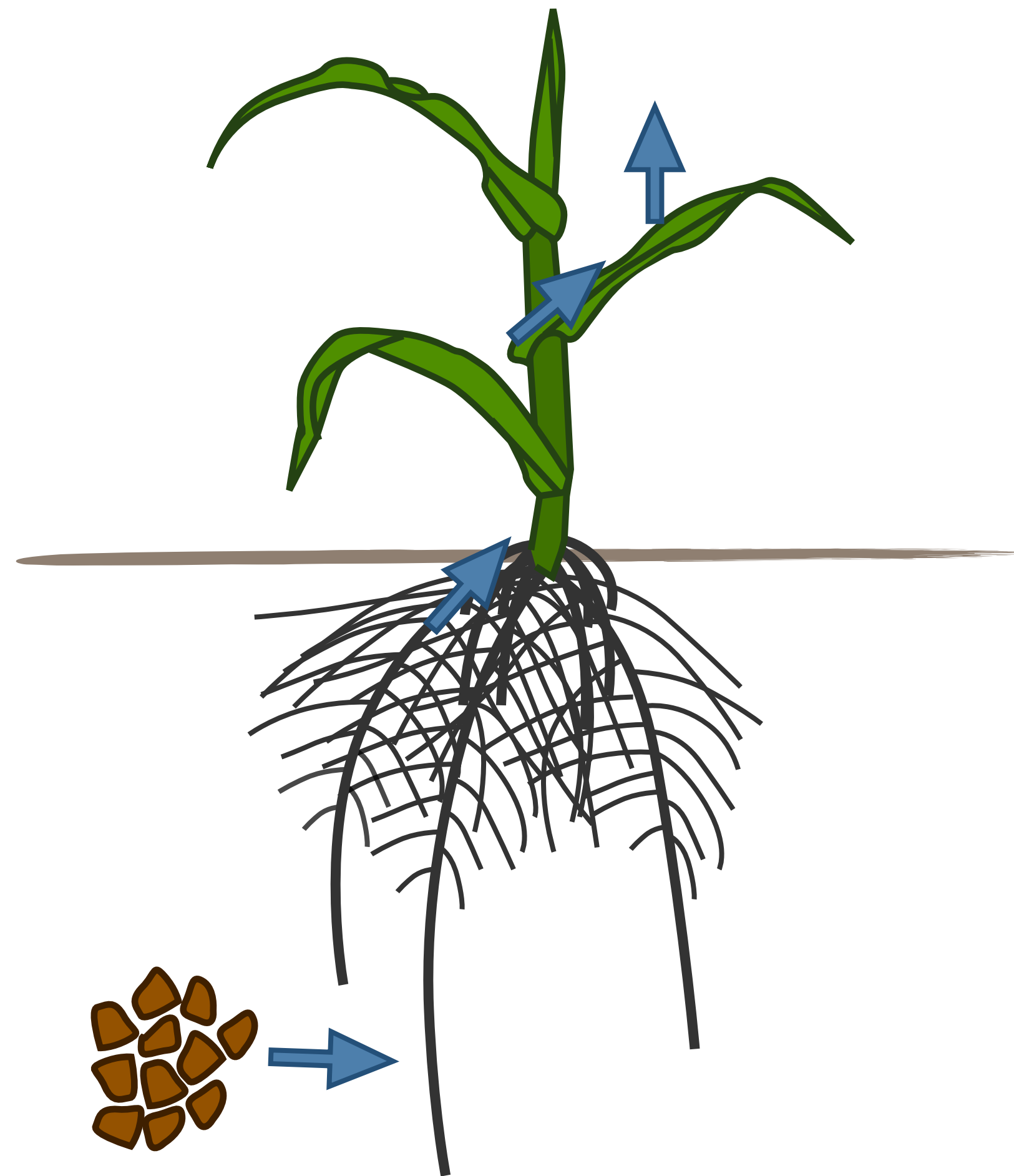
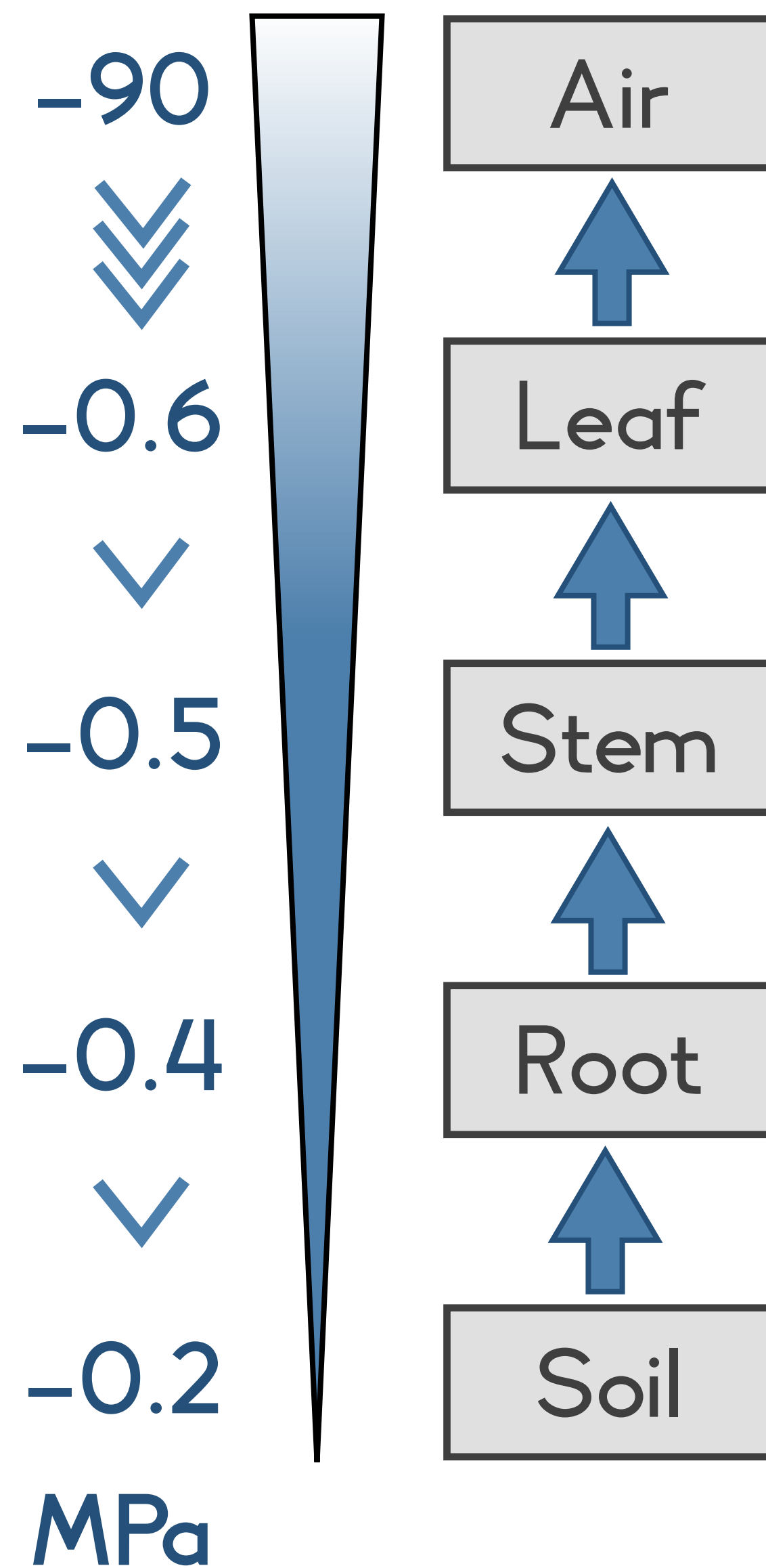


Sixtine
Passot





WHAT IS THE
**FUNCTIONAL
ADVANTAGE** OF
HAVING
DIFFERENT
LATERAL ROOT
TYPES?

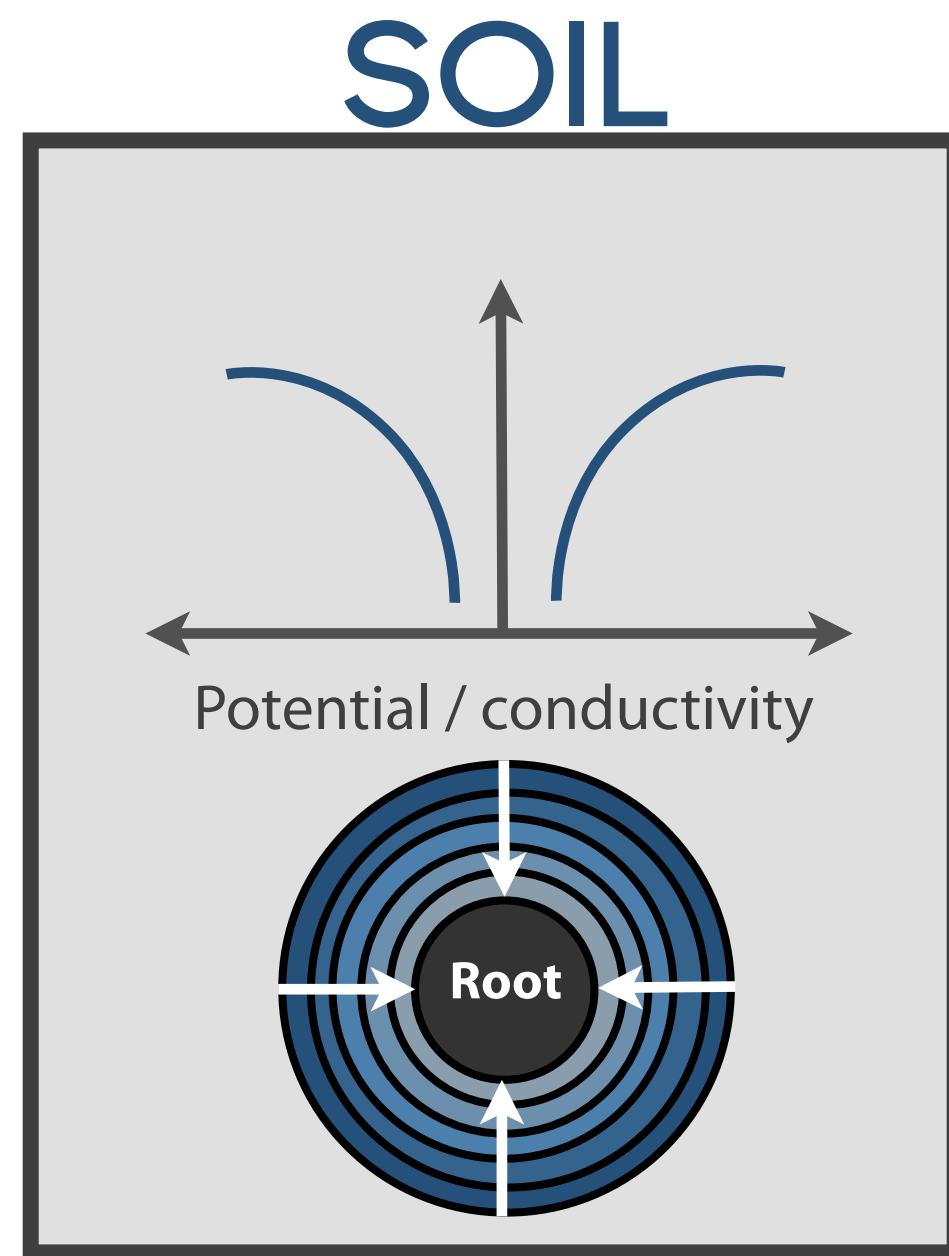


WATER FLOW IN
THE SOIL-**PLANT**-
ATMOSPHERE IS
A **PASSIVE**
PROCESS

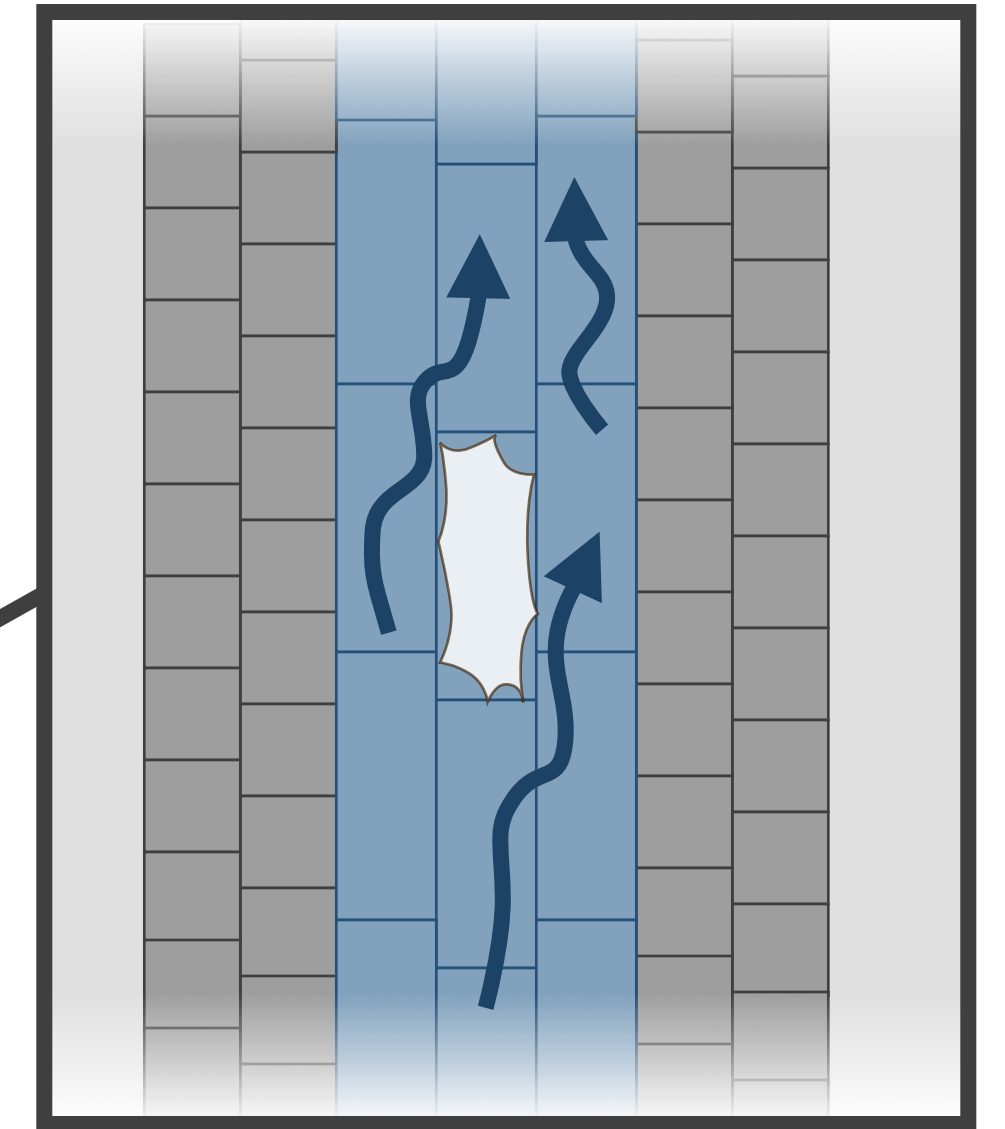
$$\text{FLUX} = \Delta P \cdot K$$



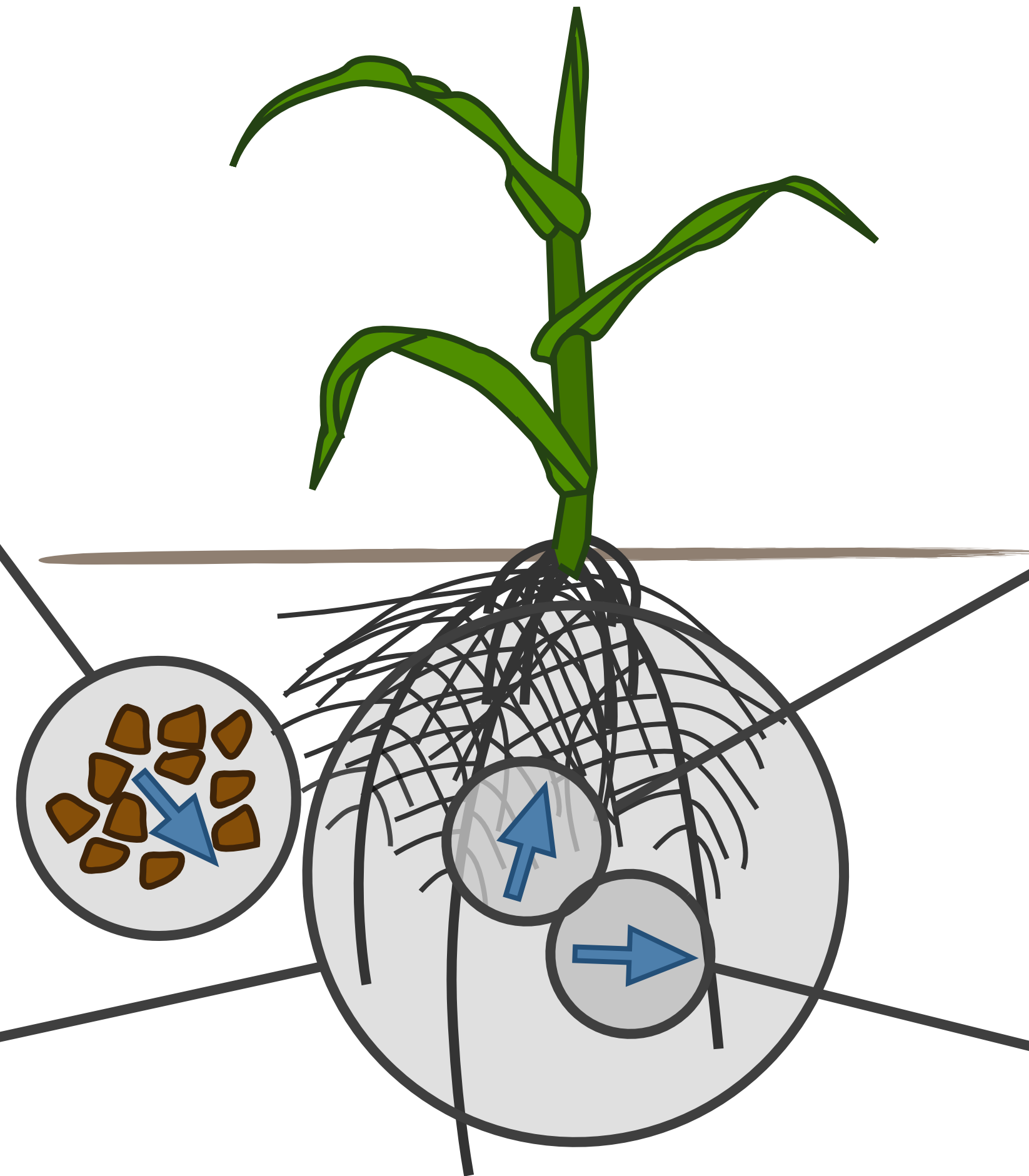
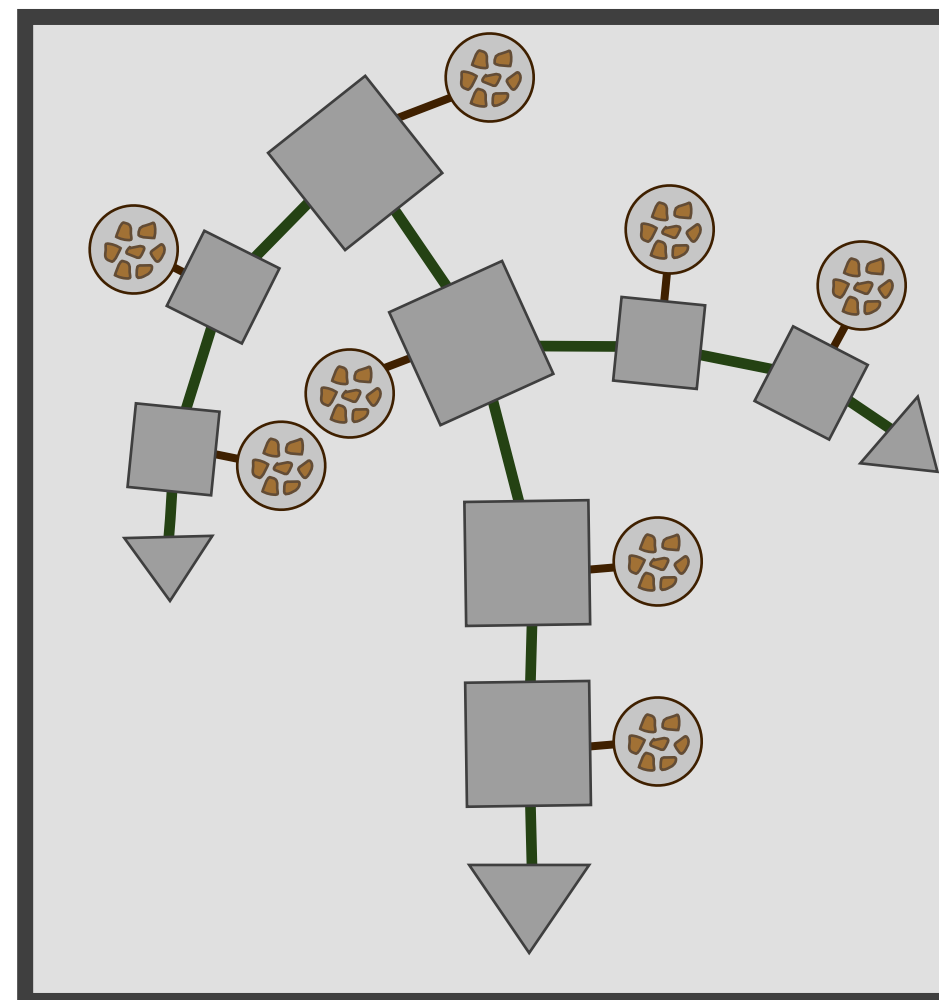
CONDUCTIVITIES CAN BE REGULATED



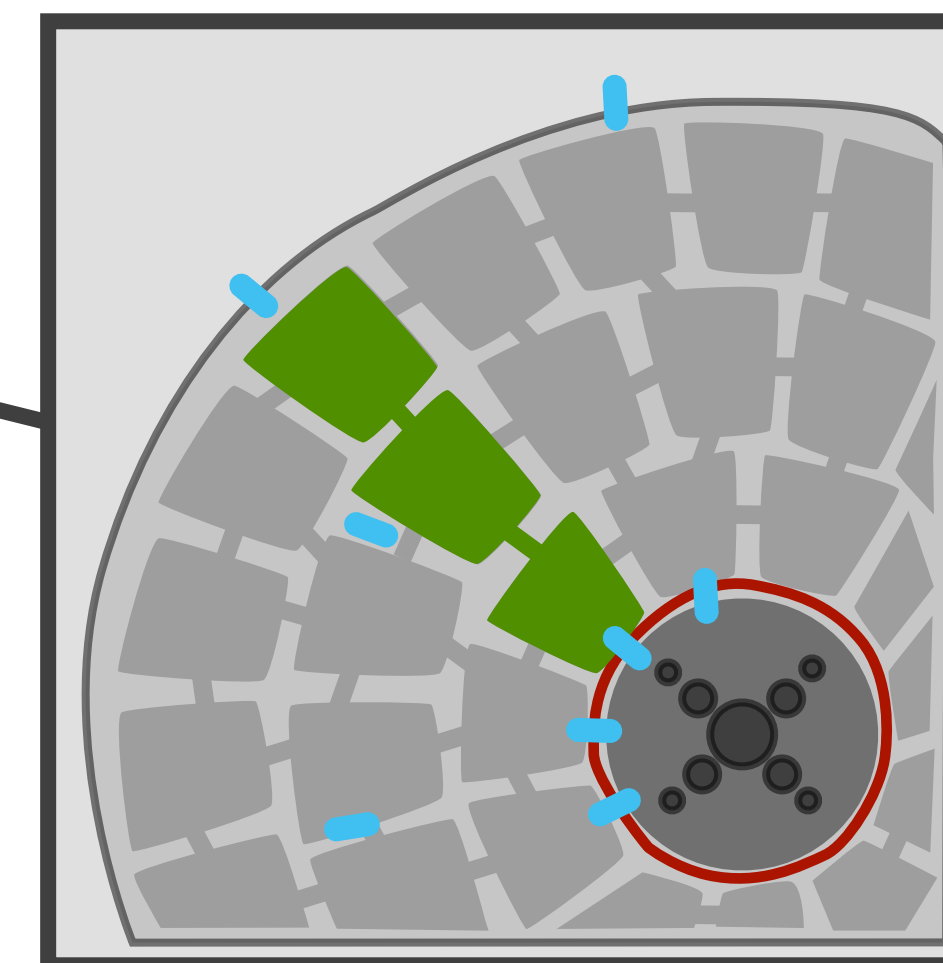
AXIAL CONDUCTIVITY



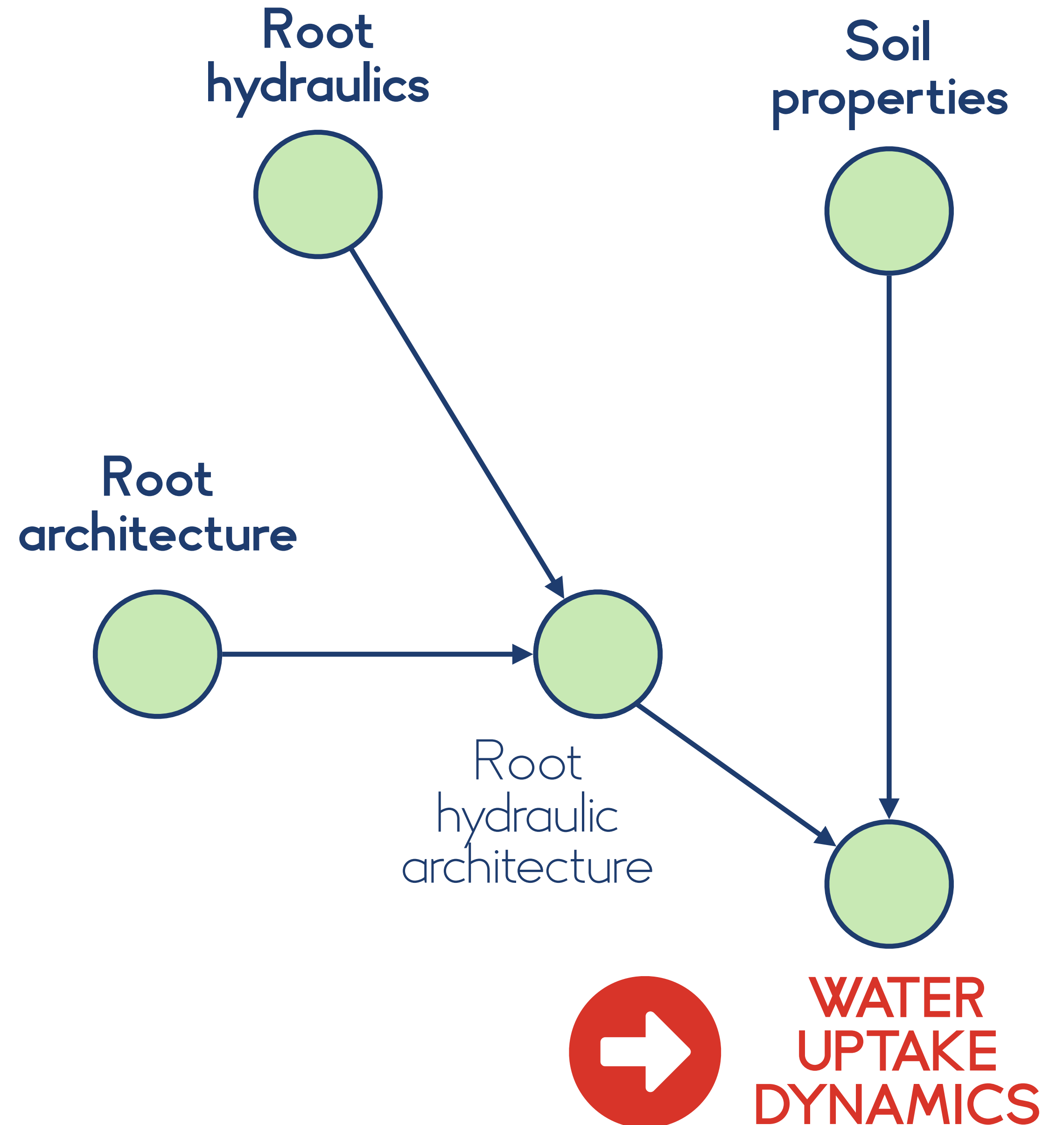
ARCHITECTURE



RADIAL CONDUCTIVITY



VARIABLES NEEDED TO UNDERSTAND WATER FLOW IN THE SOIL-PLANT SYSTEM



1

ROOT HYDRAULICS



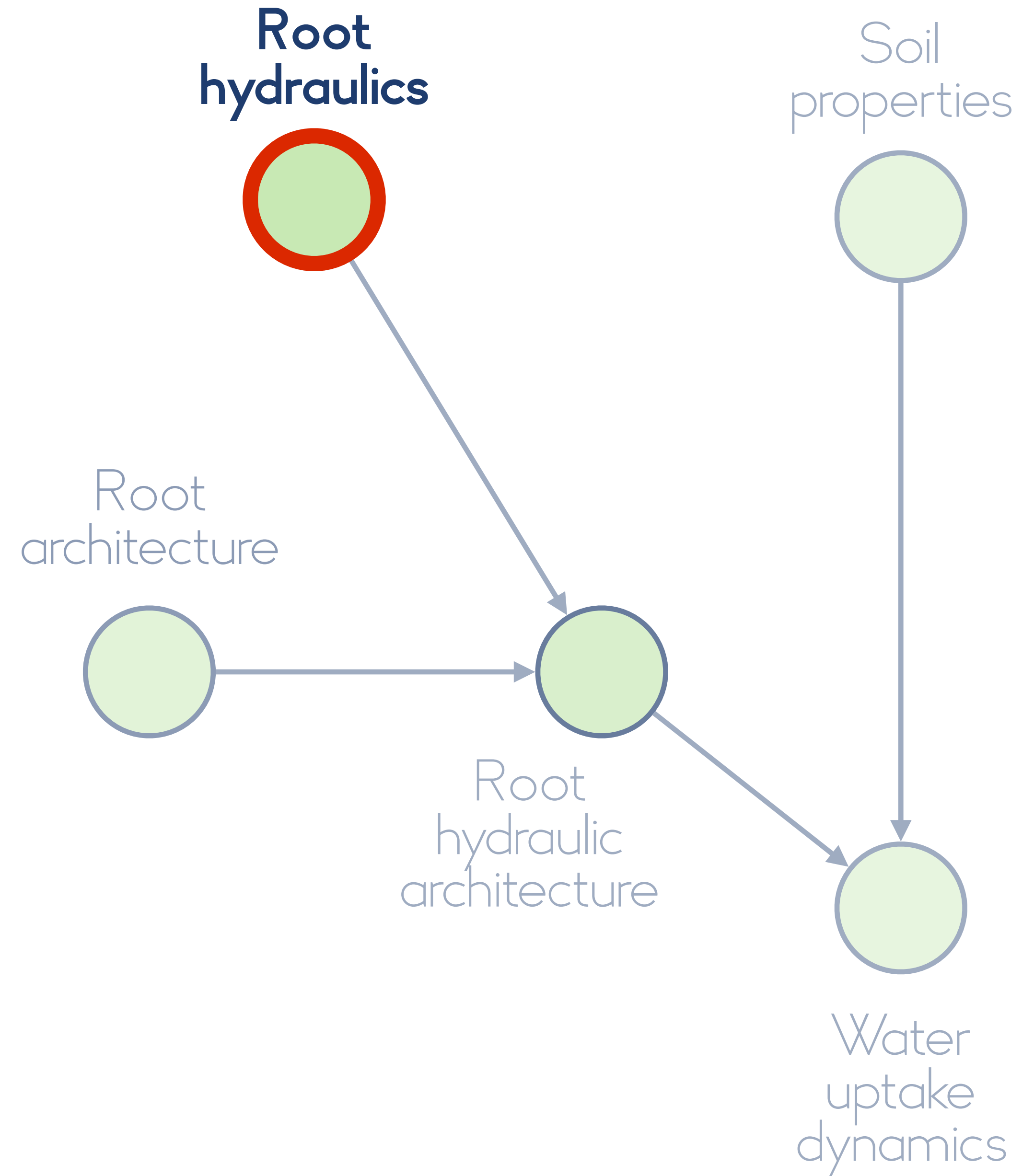
Xavier
Draye



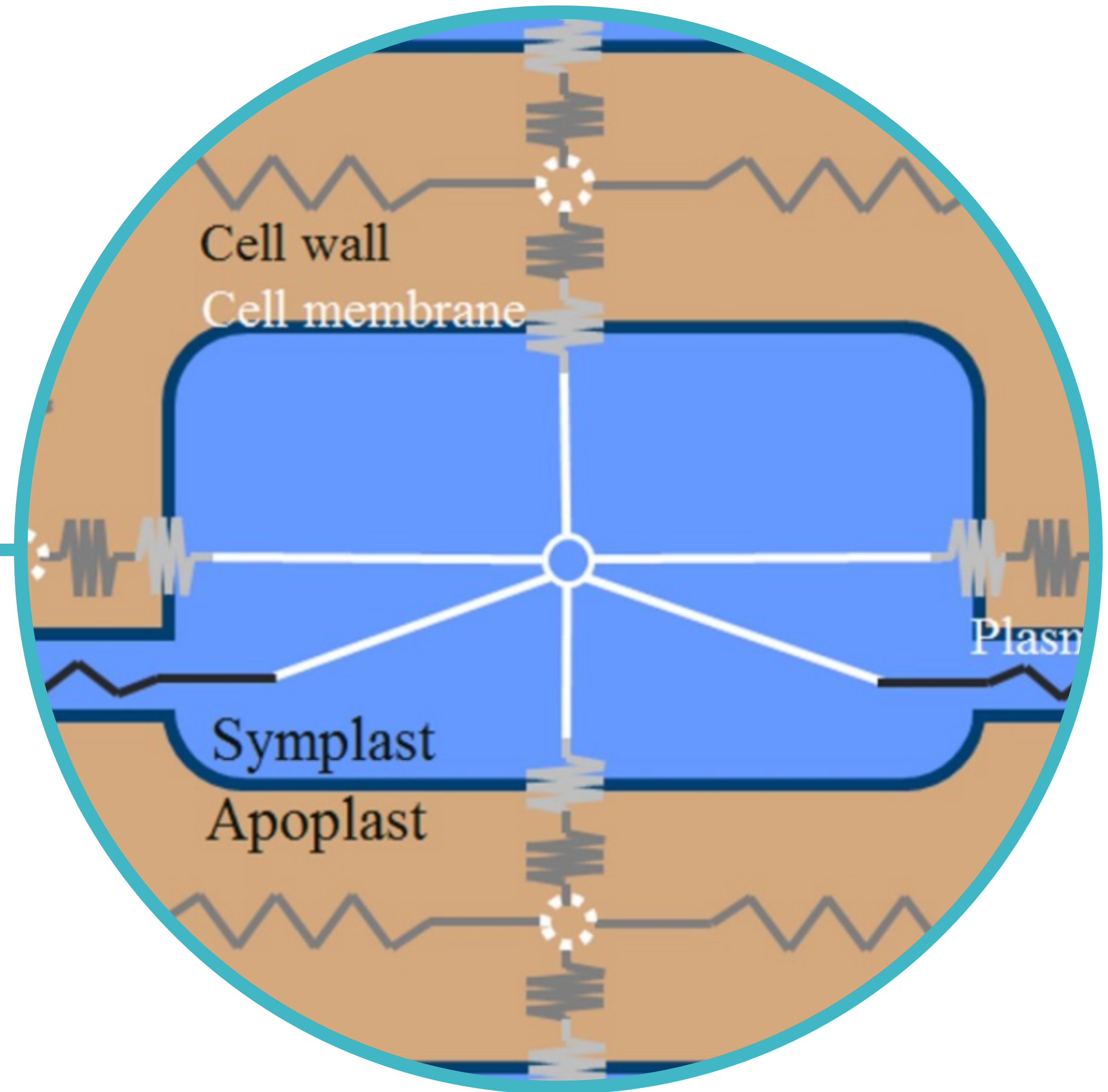
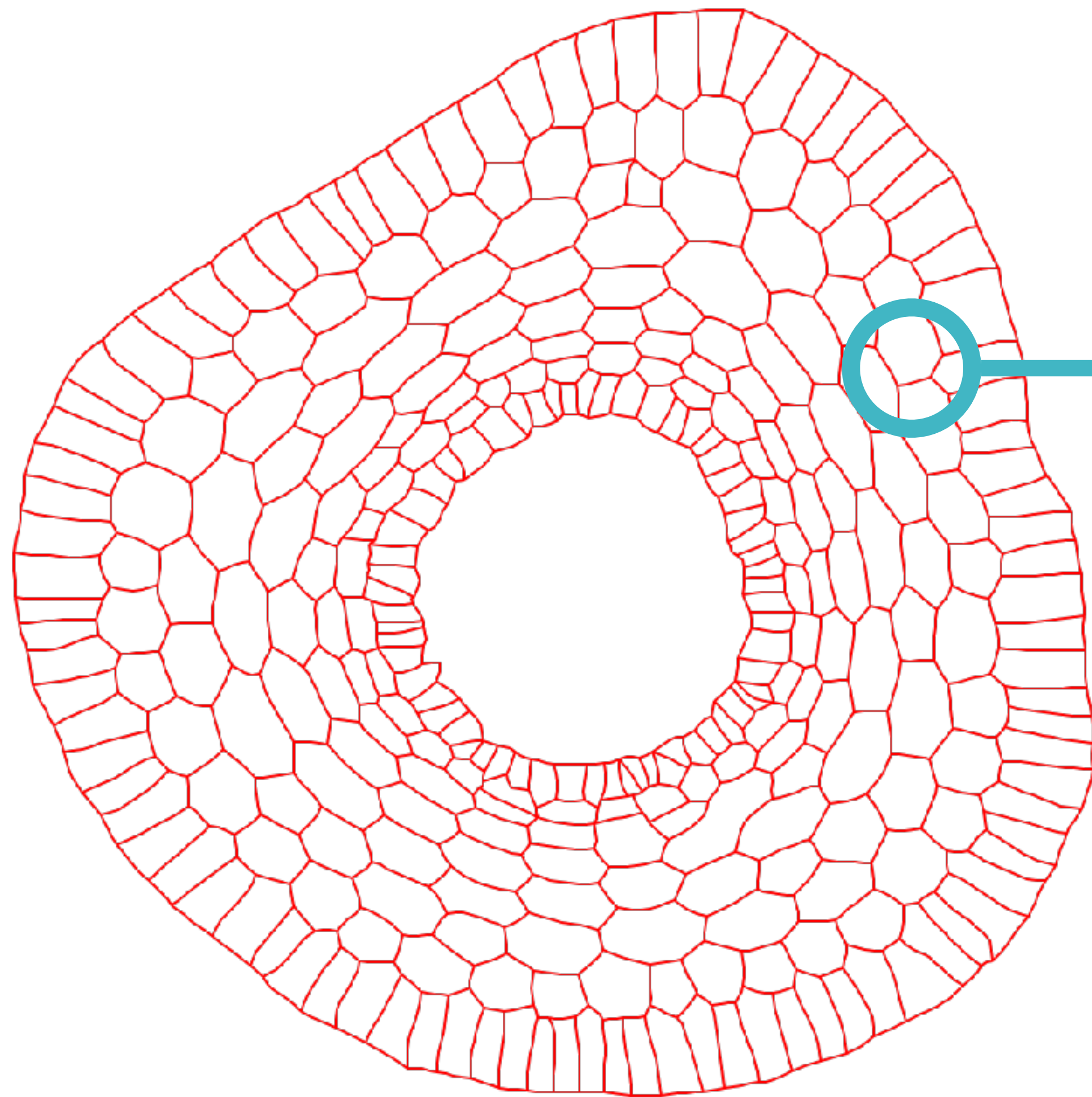
Valentin
Couvreur



Guillaume
Lobet



ROOT ANATOMY + CONDUCTIVITIES



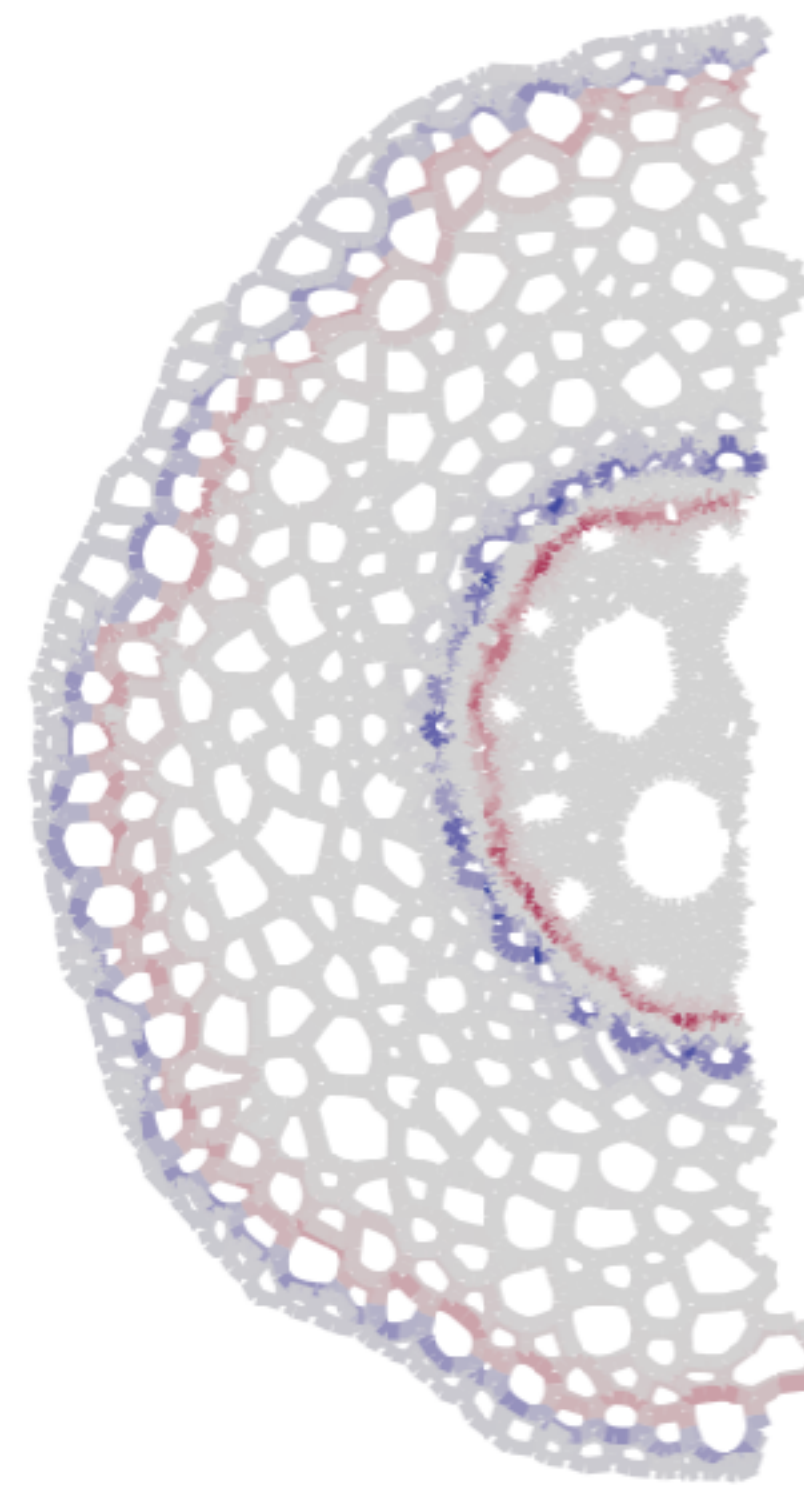
MODELLING **WATER** FLOW AT THE **ORGAN** SCALE

– **MECHA** –



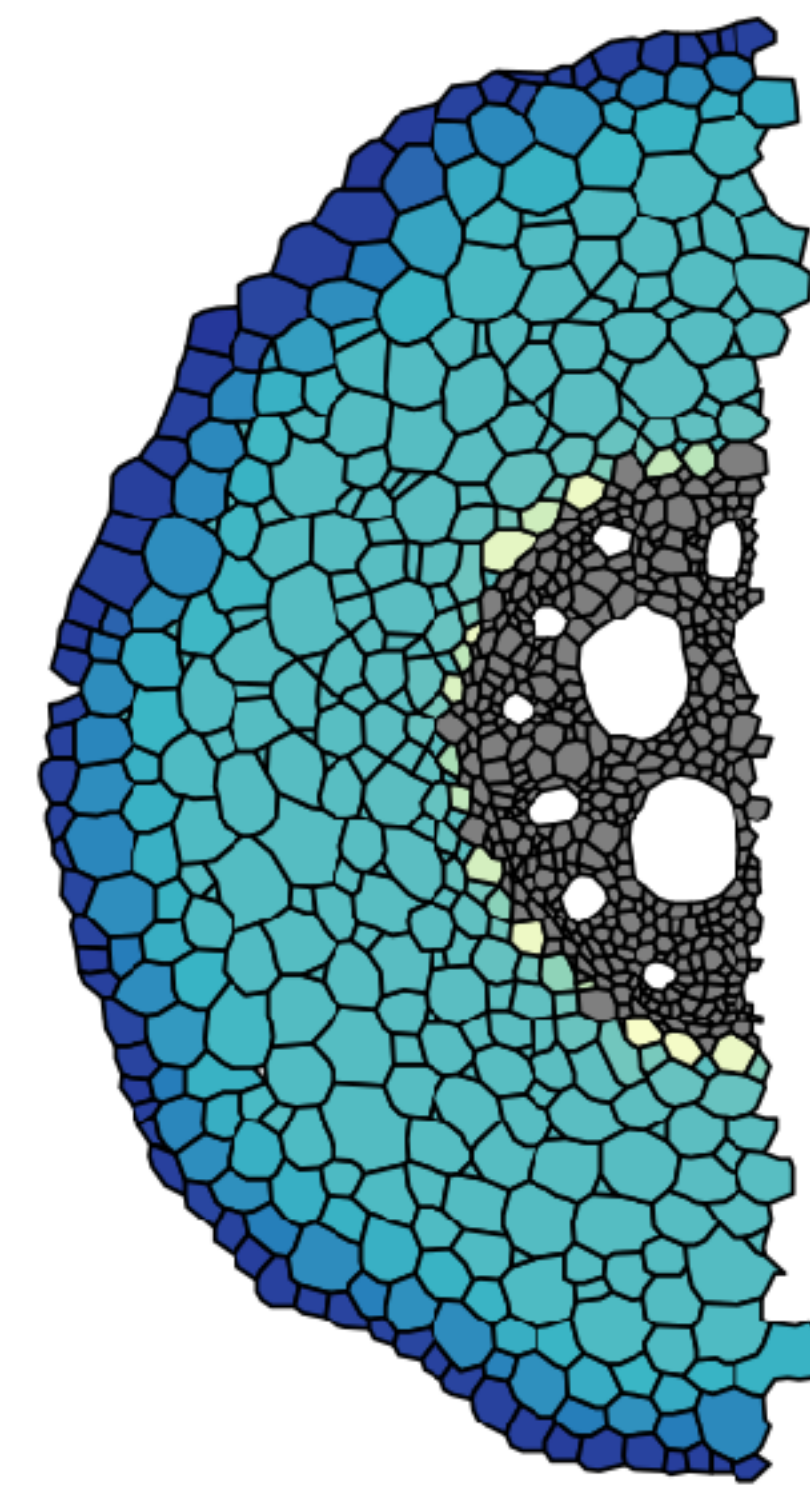
FLUXES IN
CELL WALLS

Wall
fluxes
[10^6 m/s]
0.8
0.6
0.4
0.2
0.0



FLUXES IN
CELL MEMBRANES

Trans-
membrane
flux
[10^7 m/s]
2
1
0
-1
-2



PRESSURES IN
CELLS

Cell
pressure
[hPa]
8000
7800
7600
7400



RADIAL CONDUCTIVITY+ **AXIAL** CONDUCTIVITY

MECHA - Model of Explicit Cross-section Hydraulic Anatomy

Valentin Couvreur, Maro Faget, Guillaume Lobet, Mathieu Javeaux, François Chaumont and Xavier Draye

Université catholique de Louvain, Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH

Choose plant Change parameters About

Choose a simulation to visualize

1. Select a plant type

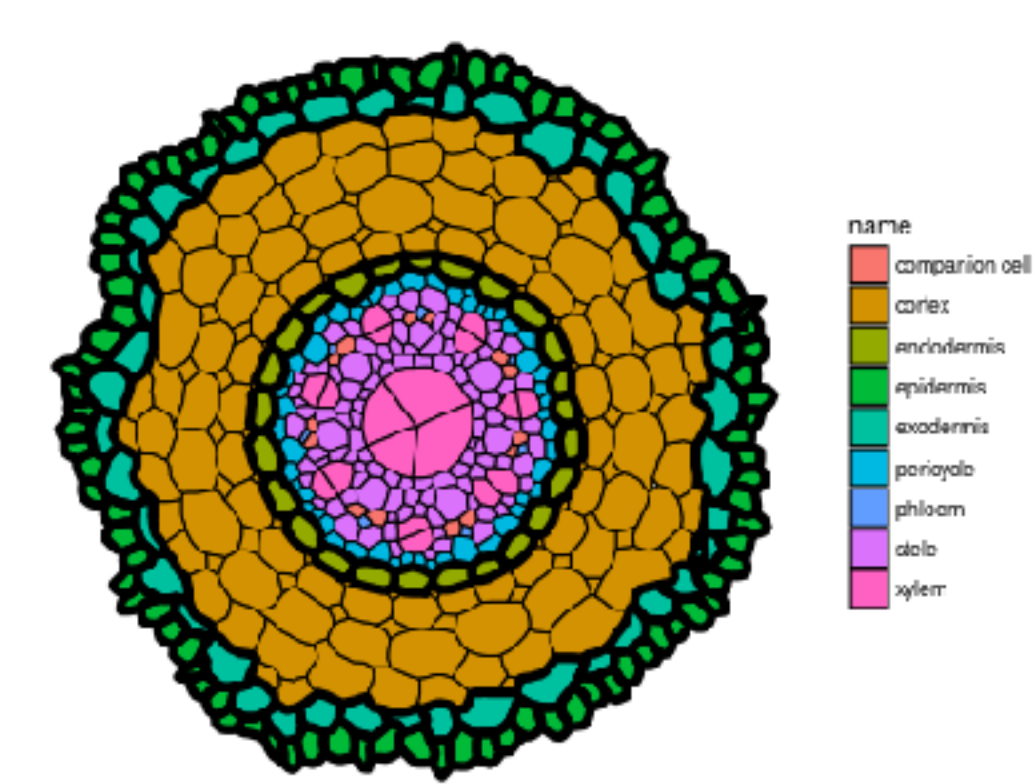
MilletPR1

MECHA was run for different cross section geometries and plant type. Te results were pre-processed to be easily visualised here.



Tissue layers

Visualisation of the different cell layers used in the simulation



Select the information to visualize

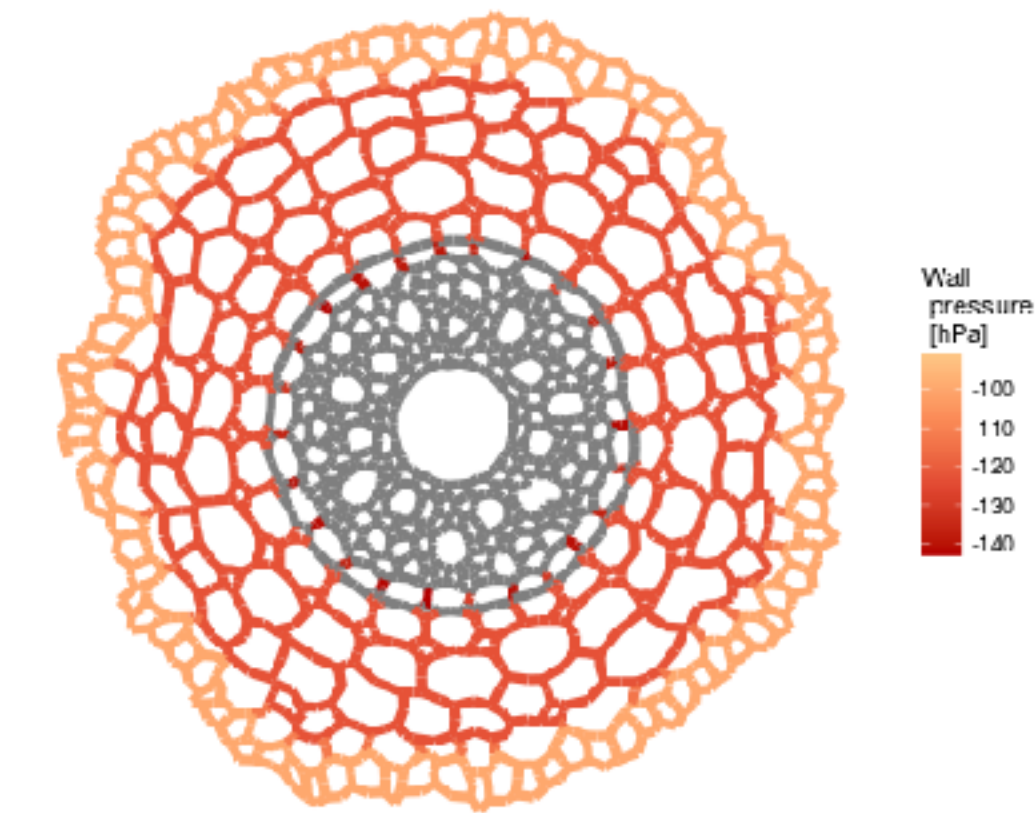
potentials

Synthetic information about the simulation

param	value	unit
Cross-section height	0.008	cm
Cross-section perimeter	0.0863	cm
Cross-section radial conductivity	2.93e-04	cm/hPa/d
Xylem pressure potential	1100	hPa
Soil pressure potential	-100	hPa
Xylem osmotic potential	-1500	hPa
Soil osmotic potential	-200	to
Soil contact	0e+00	microns
Wall conductivity	0.0066	cm^2/hPa/d
Plasmodesmata conductivity	3.1e-11	cm^3/hPa/d
Aquaporin conductivity	4.3e-04	cm/hPa/d
Cortex osmotic potential	-8000	hPa

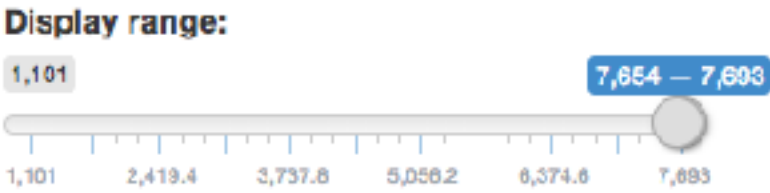
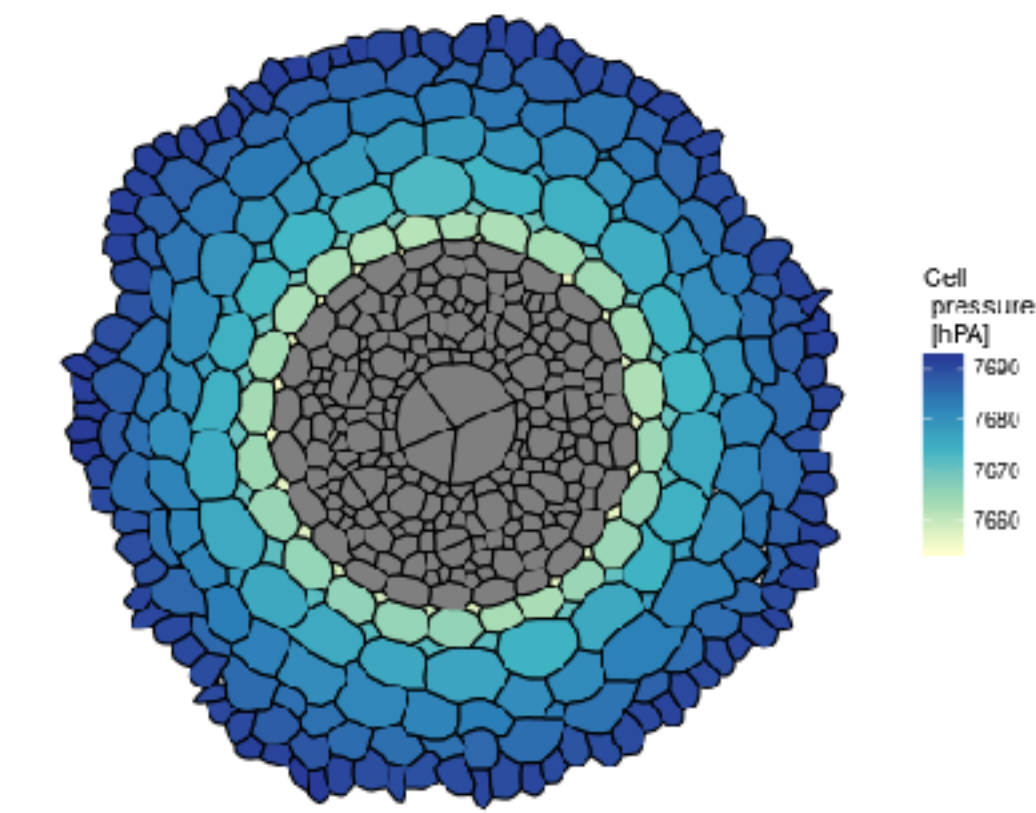
Cell walls pressure

Pressure within the cell walls of the cross section



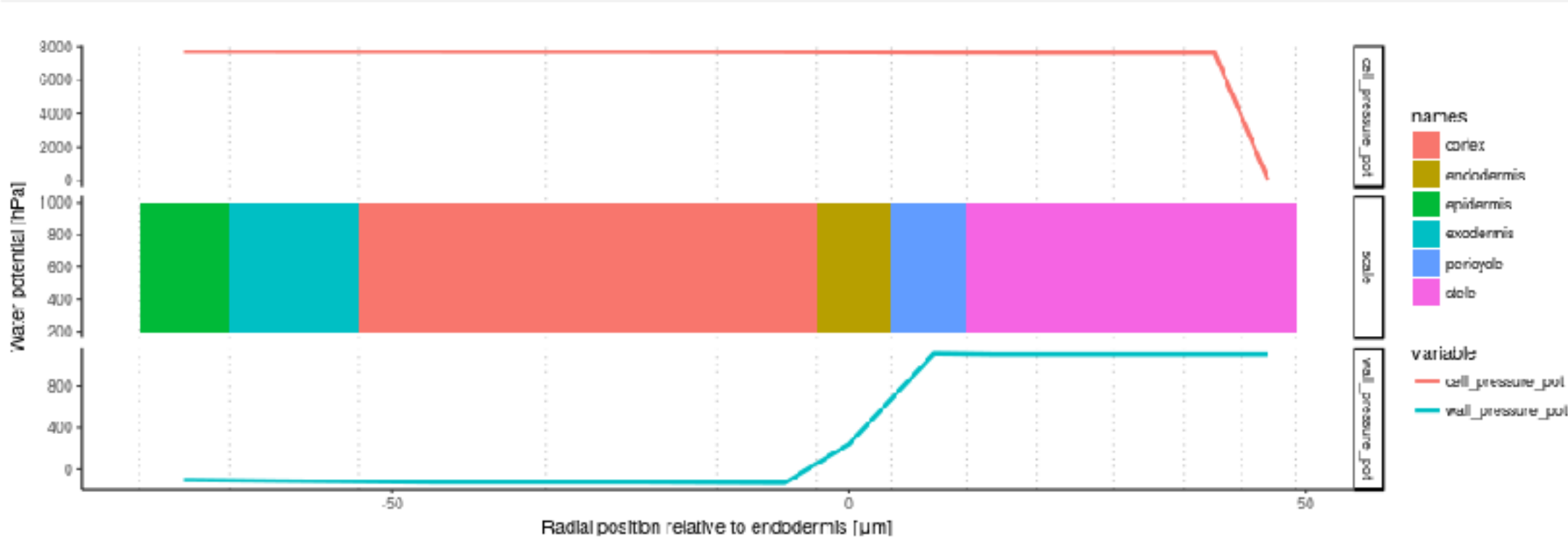
Cells potentials

Pressure within the cell of the cross section



Average cell and wall pressure

Visualisation of the average cell and wall pressure across the cross-section

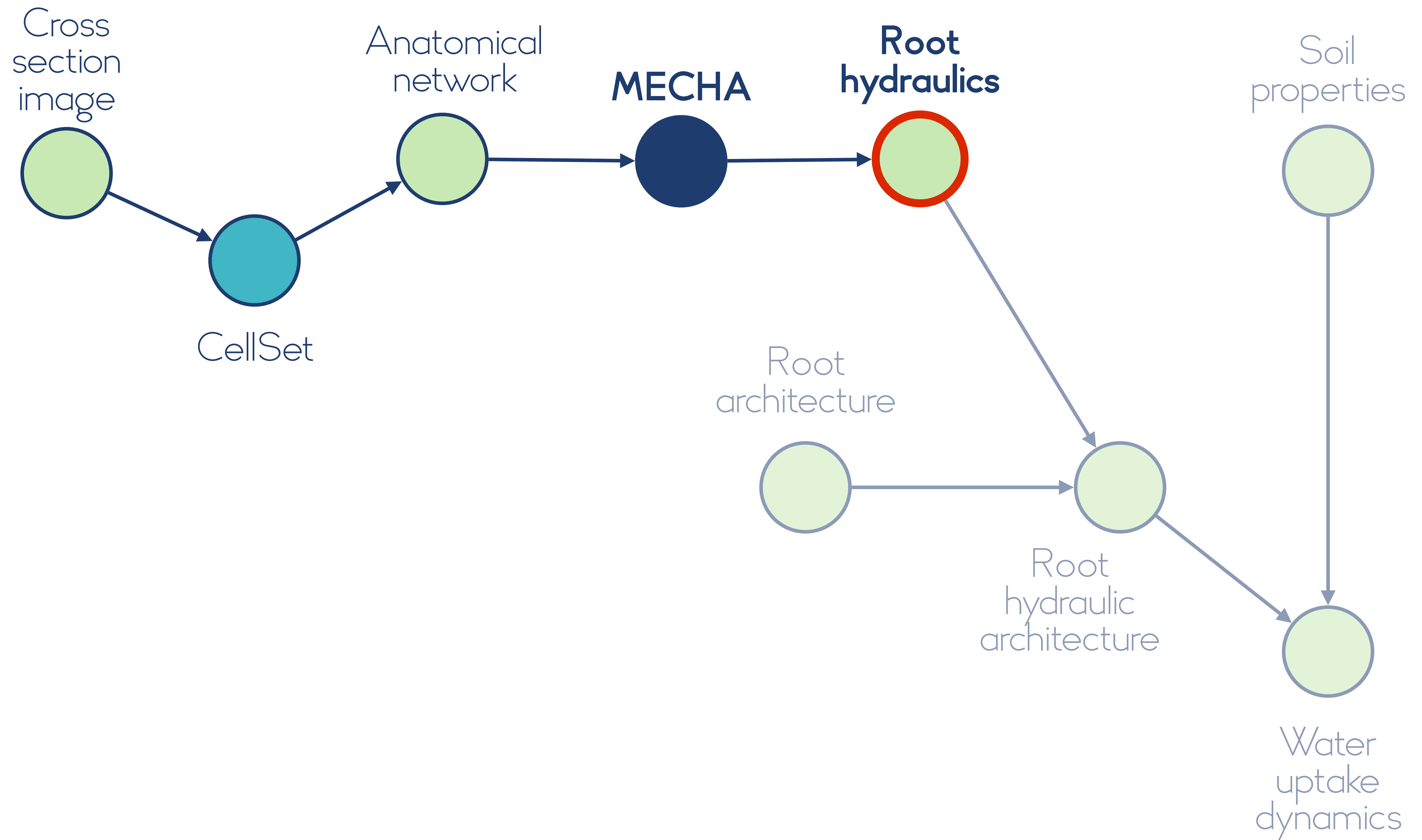


Open Source

mecharoot.github.io

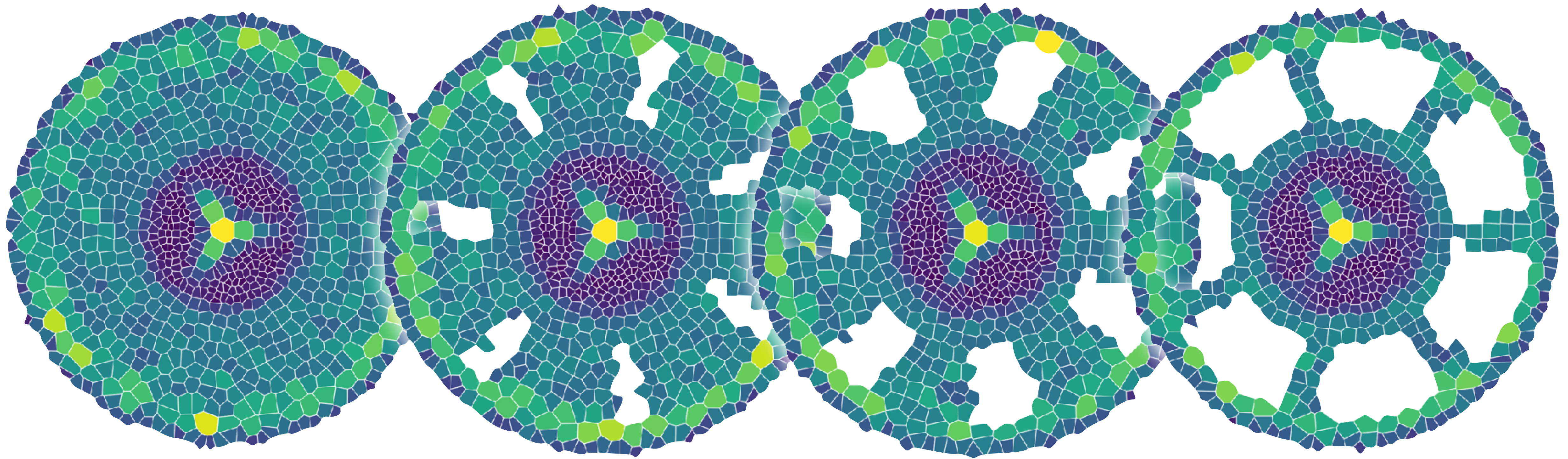
Couvreur et al, 2017
DOI: 10.1101/147314





GENERATOR OF ANY TYPE OF ROOT ANATOMY

– GRANAR –

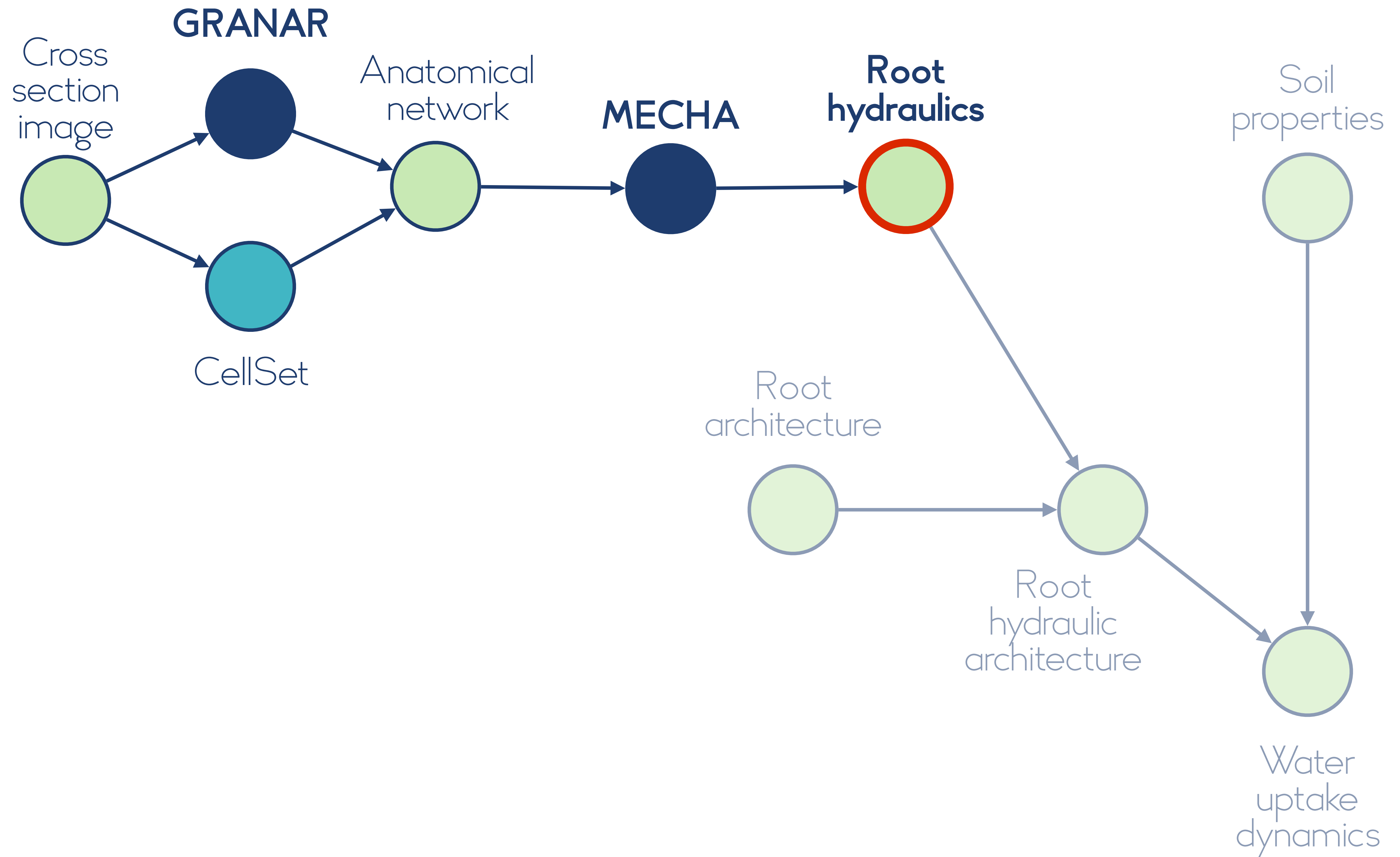


Open Source



bit.ly/granar-root

XYLEM POLES / CORTEX / AERENCHYMA / ...



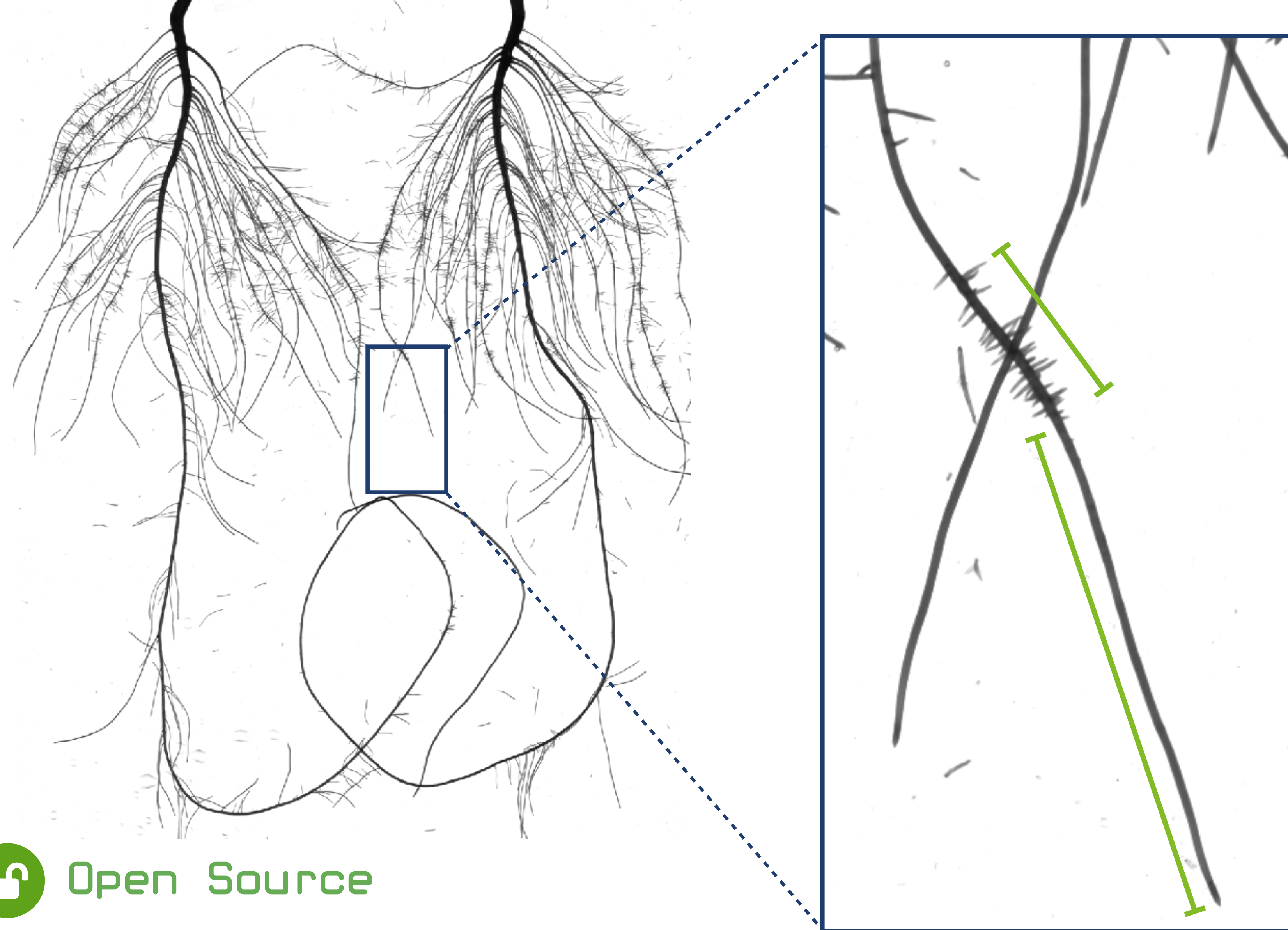
```
graph LR; AN[Anatomical network] --> MECHA[MECHA]; MECHA --> RH[Root hydraulics]; RH --> RHA[Root hydraulic architecture]; RH --> RA[Root architecture]; RA --> RHA; SP[Soil properties] --> WUD[Water uptake dynamics]; RHA --> WUD;
```

LECTURE

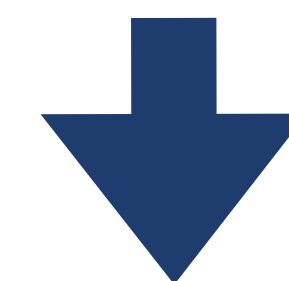
el
er

Guillaume Lobet





SAMPLE
THE IMAGE



PARAMETERS
FOR ROOT
MODEL

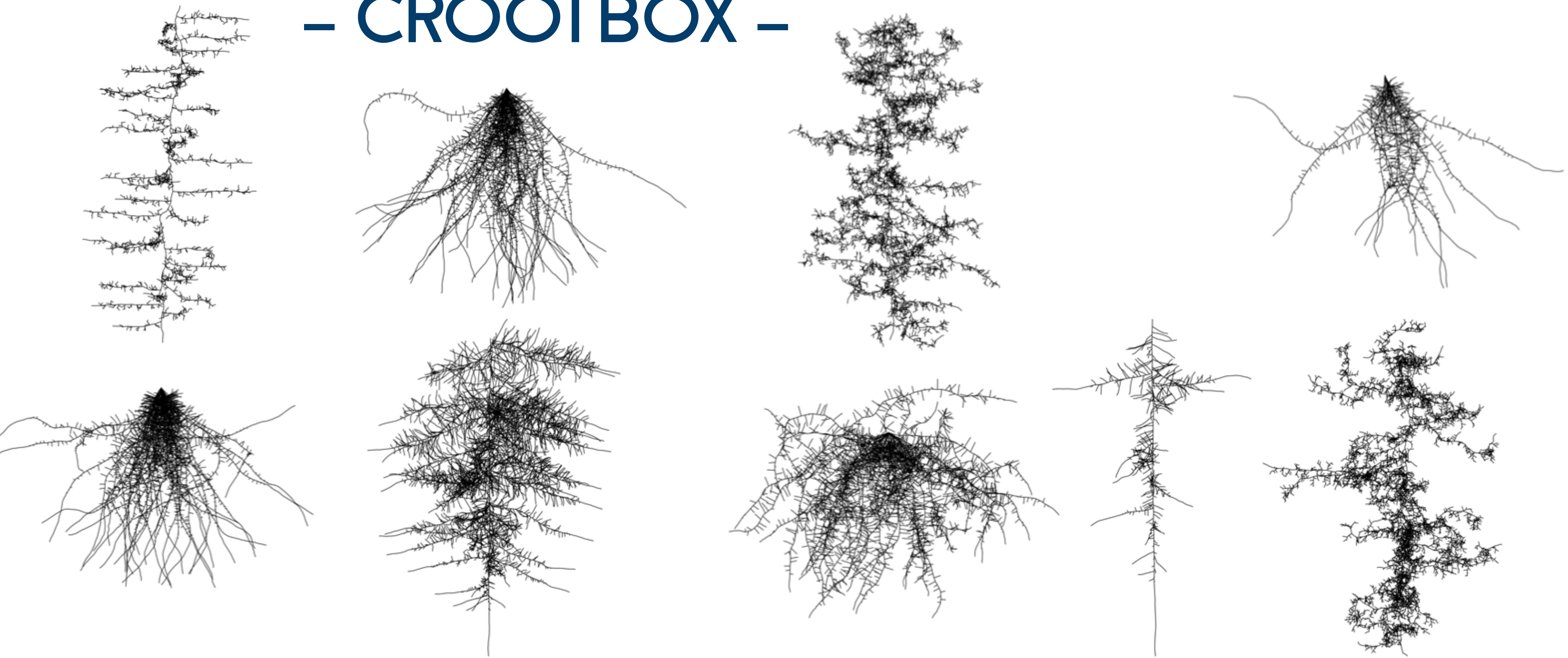
– SMARTROOT –

 Open Source

 [smartroot.github.io](https://github.com/smartroot)

 Lobet et al, 2011
PMID: 21771915

– CROOTBOX –



“SMALL” SET OF PARAMETERS

SIMULATE ANY TYPE OF **ROOT ARCHITECTURE**

CRootBox

This app displays the capabilities of the CRootBox model. Choose a dataset, unleash CRootBox, then try changing the parameters.

Daniel Leitner, Guillaume Lobet, Magdalena Landl, Mirjam Zomer, Shehan Morandage, Trung Hieu Mai, Cheng Sheng, Jan Vanderborght, Andrea Schnepf

Forschungszentrum Juelich GmbH

1. Load parameter set

1. Select root system dataset

Brassica napus a

The algorithmic beauty of plant roots – an L-System model for dynamic root growth simulation

Leitner D, Klepsch S, Knieß A, Schnepf A
Mathematical and Computer Modelling of Dynamical Systems, 16, 575-587, 2010

[View paper](#)

☐ Black and white root system

Unleash CRootBox

2. Update parameters

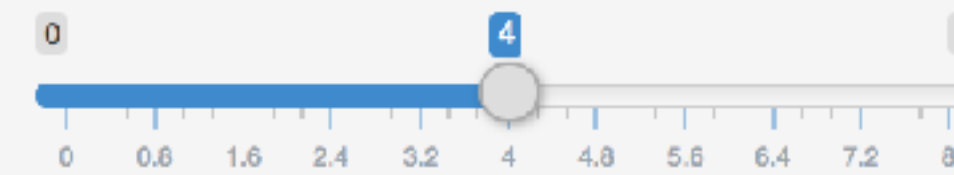
2. Select root type

taproot

Select parameter to change

Length of basal zone [cm]

Parameter mean:



Parameter deviation [%]:



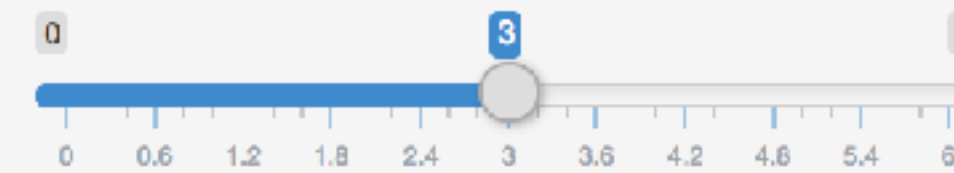
Length of basal zone [cm]

Length of the unbranched basal zone of the root

3. Select plant parameter to change

Planting depth [cm]

Parameter value:



Planting depth [cm]

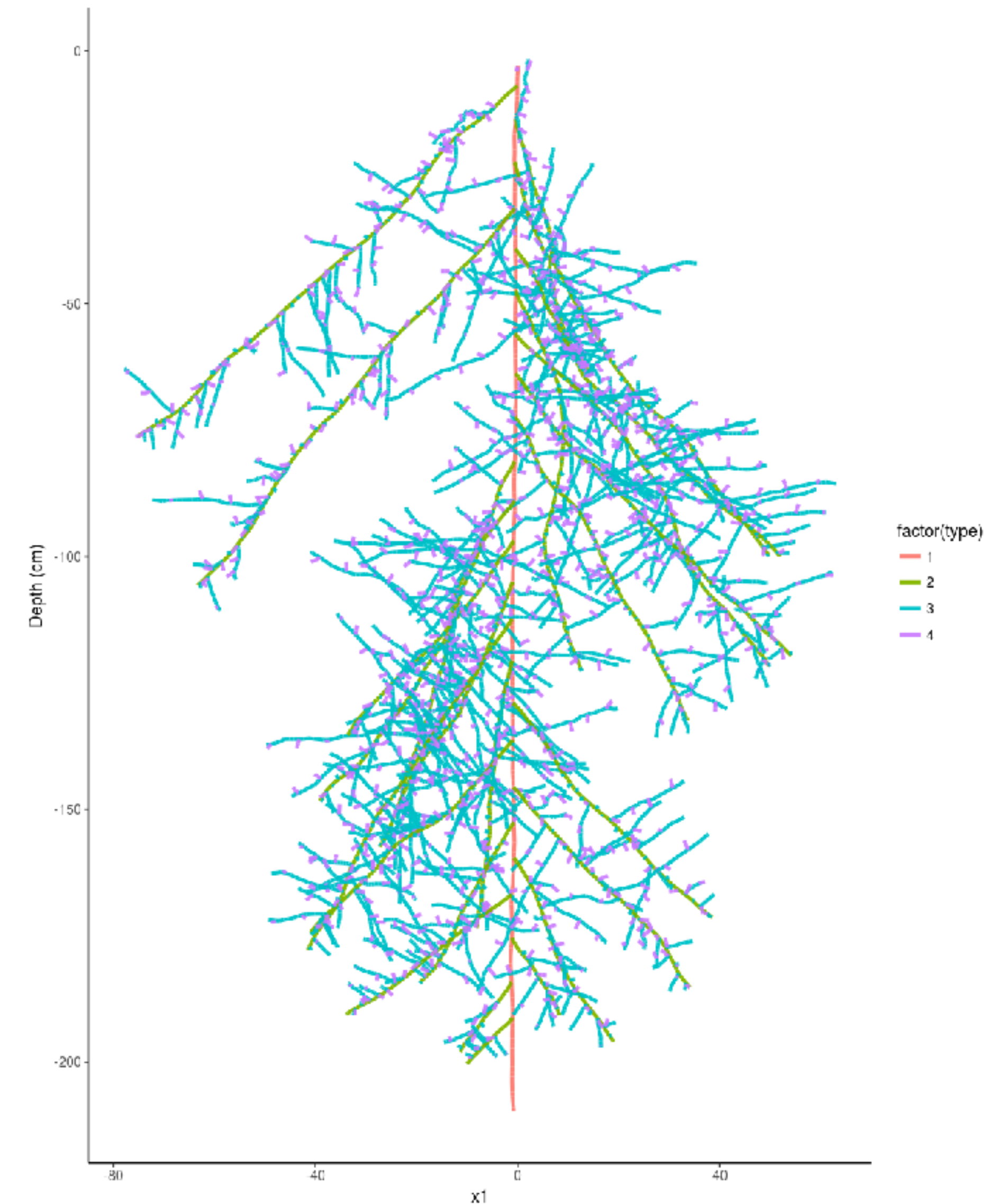
The depth, in cm, at which the seed is placed in the soil

Update root system



Root system representation

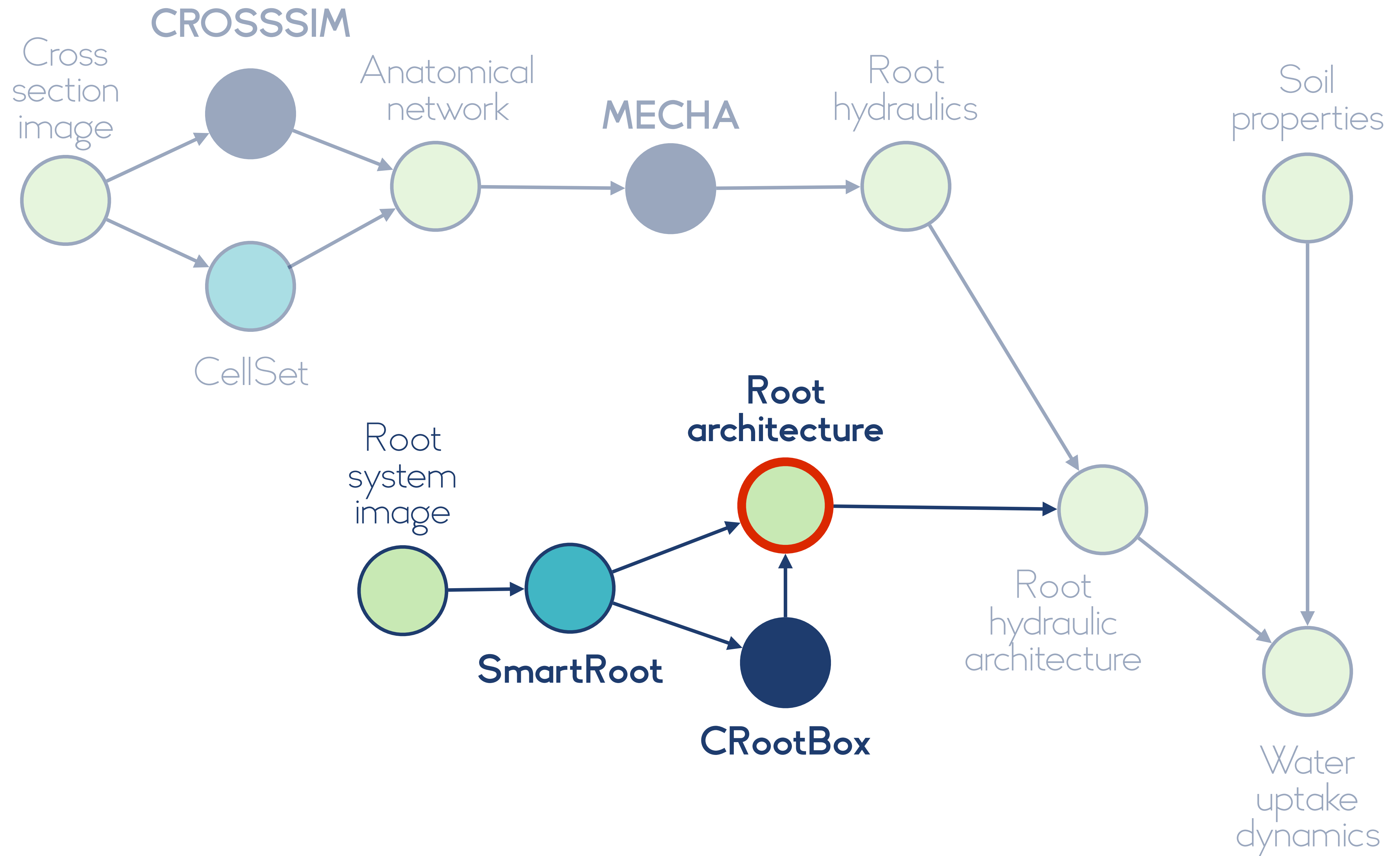
Root length profile



Open Source

bit.ly/crootbox

Schnepf et al, 2018
PMID: 29432520



3

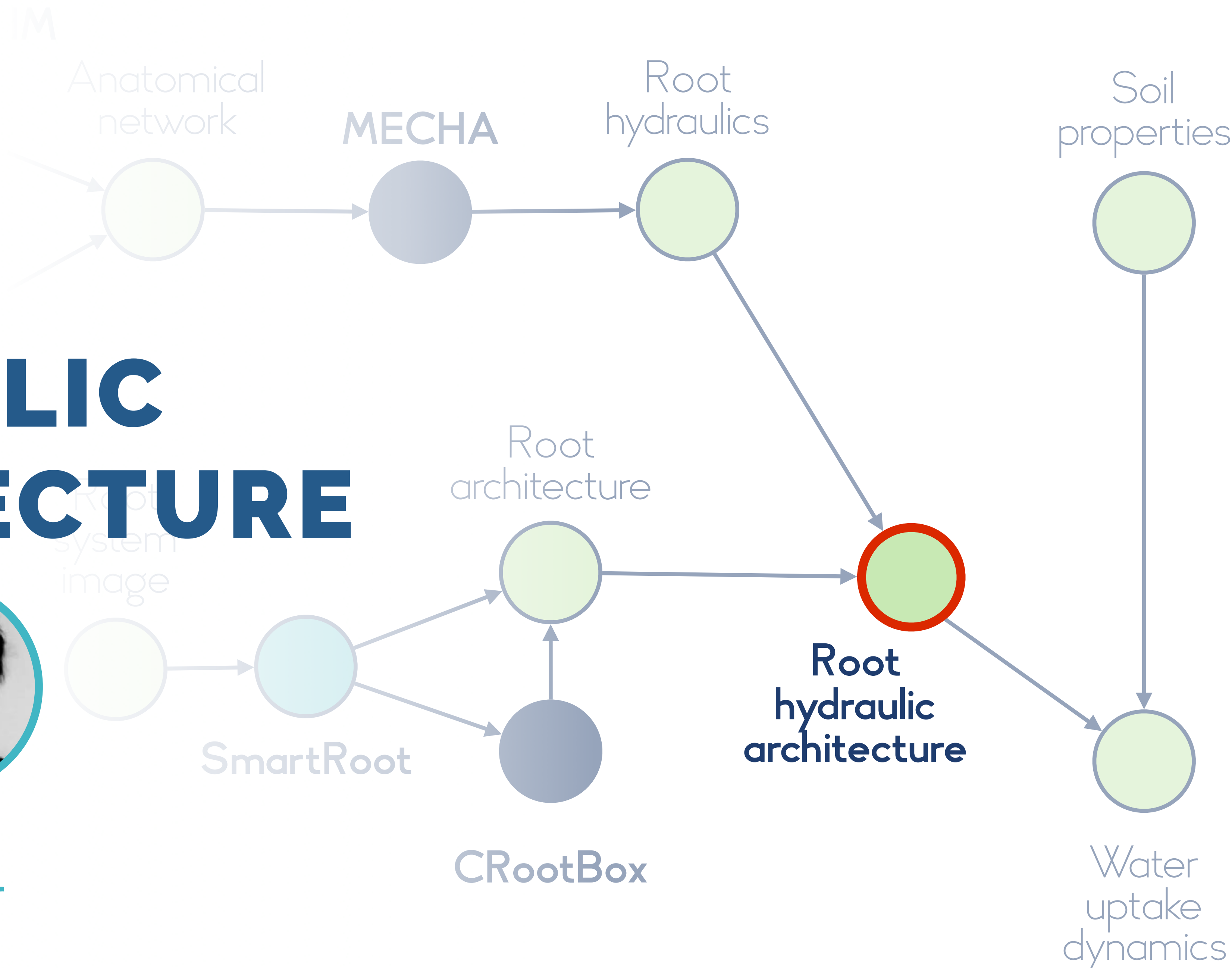
ROOT HYDRAULIC ARCHITECTURE



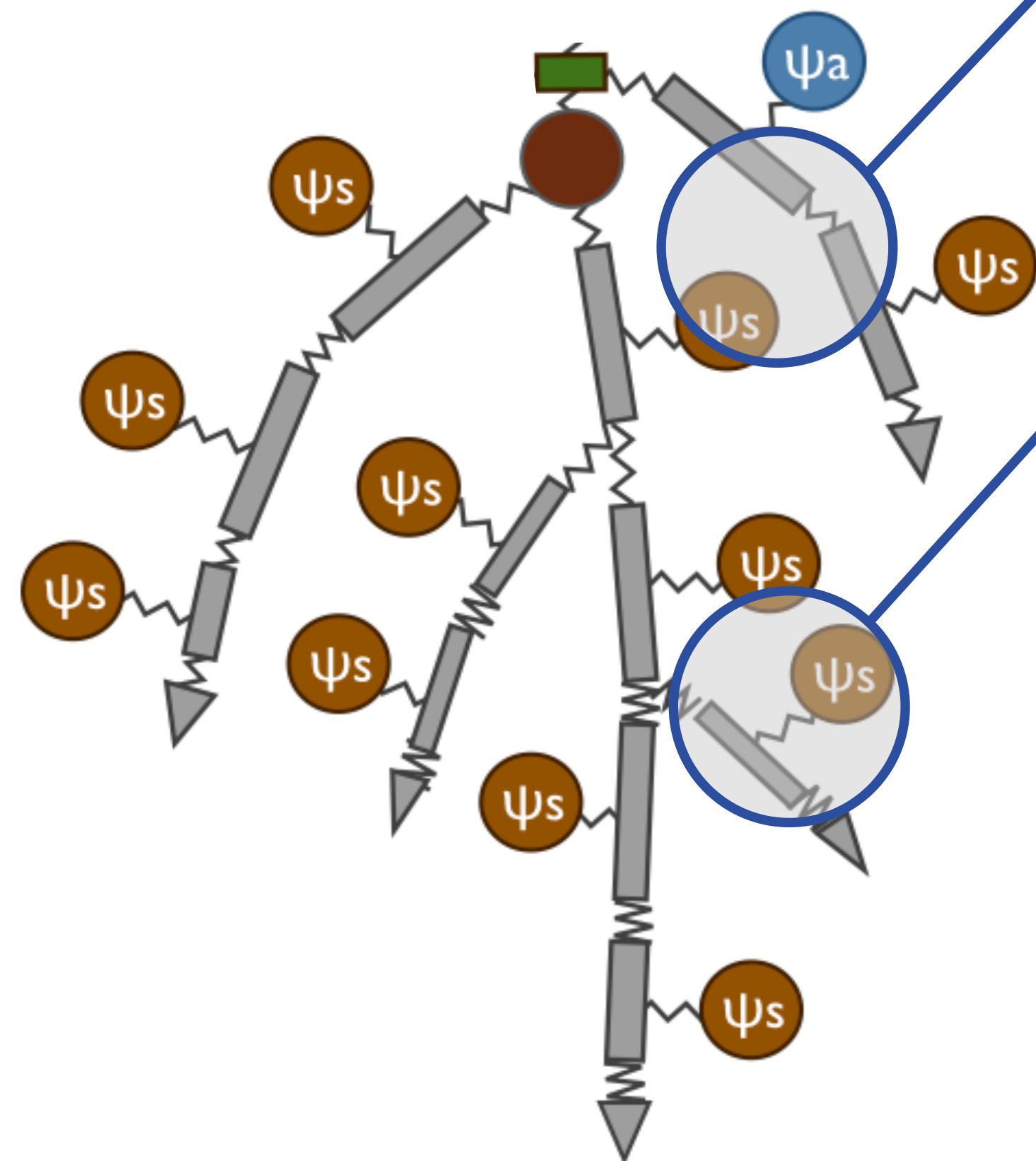
Mathieu
Javaux



Félicien
Meunier



ROOT SYSTEM + CONDUCTIVITIES = HYDRAULIC ARCHITECTURE



Axial flux

$$J = K_x \cdot (P_{r1} - P_{r2})$$

Radial flux

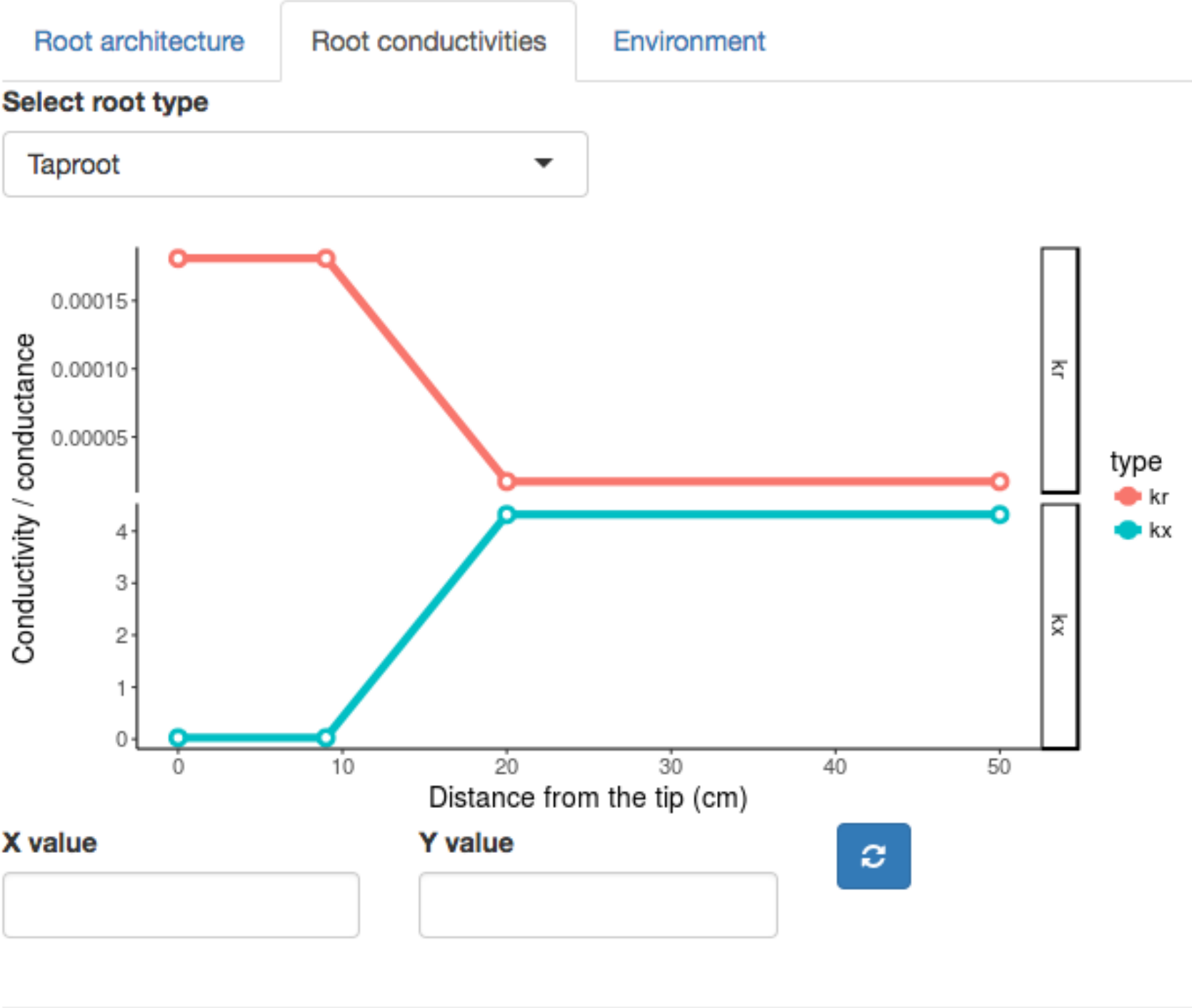
$$J = K_r \cdot (P_{r1} - P_{soil})$$



FLUXES

ROOT SYSTEM CONDUCTIVITY [K_{rs}]

MARSHAL



What to display

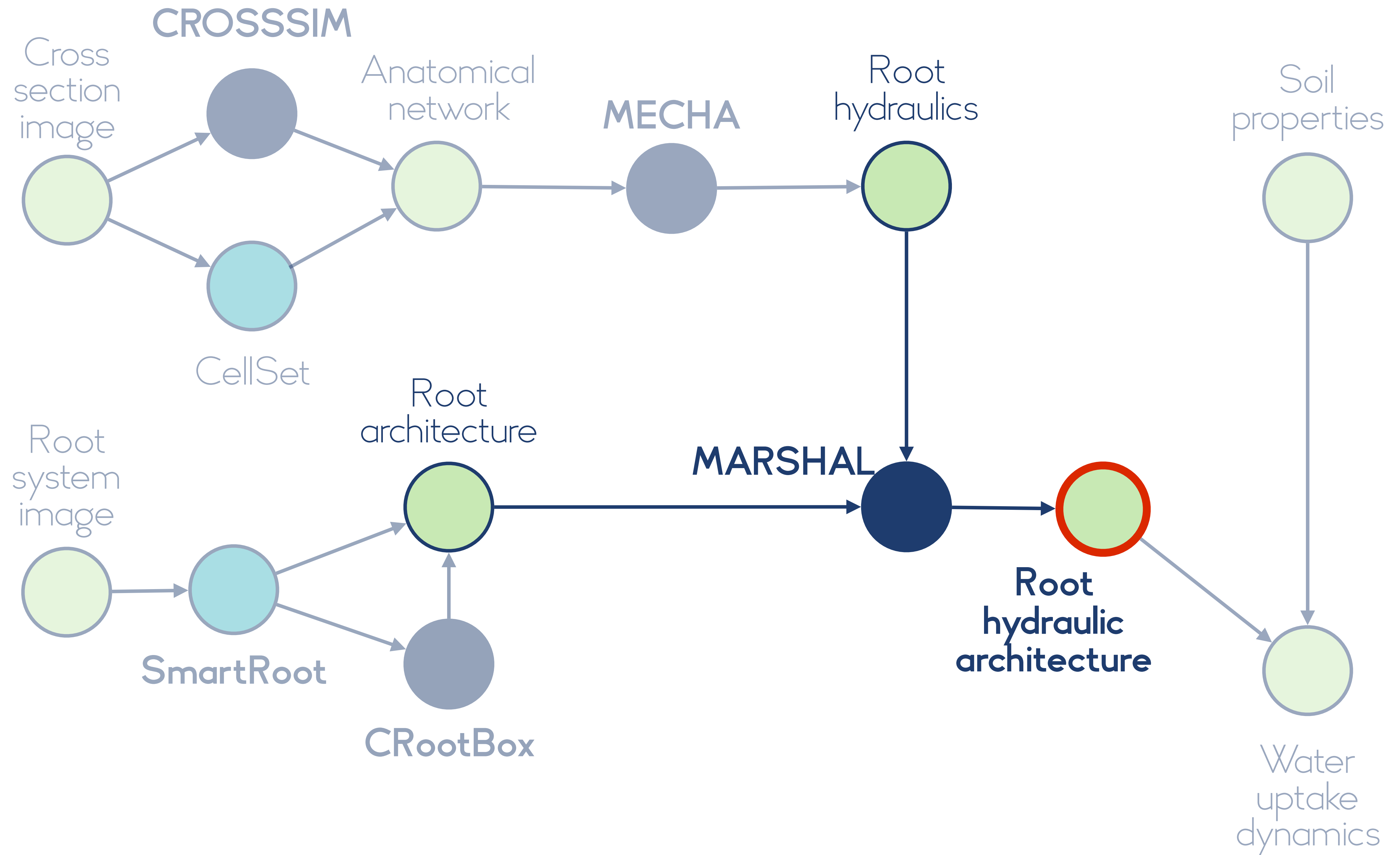
Radial fluxes

Taproot LongLateral Basalroot
Shootborneroot Lateral



– MARSHAL –

 bit.ly/marshal-root



4

WATER UPTAKE DYNAMICS



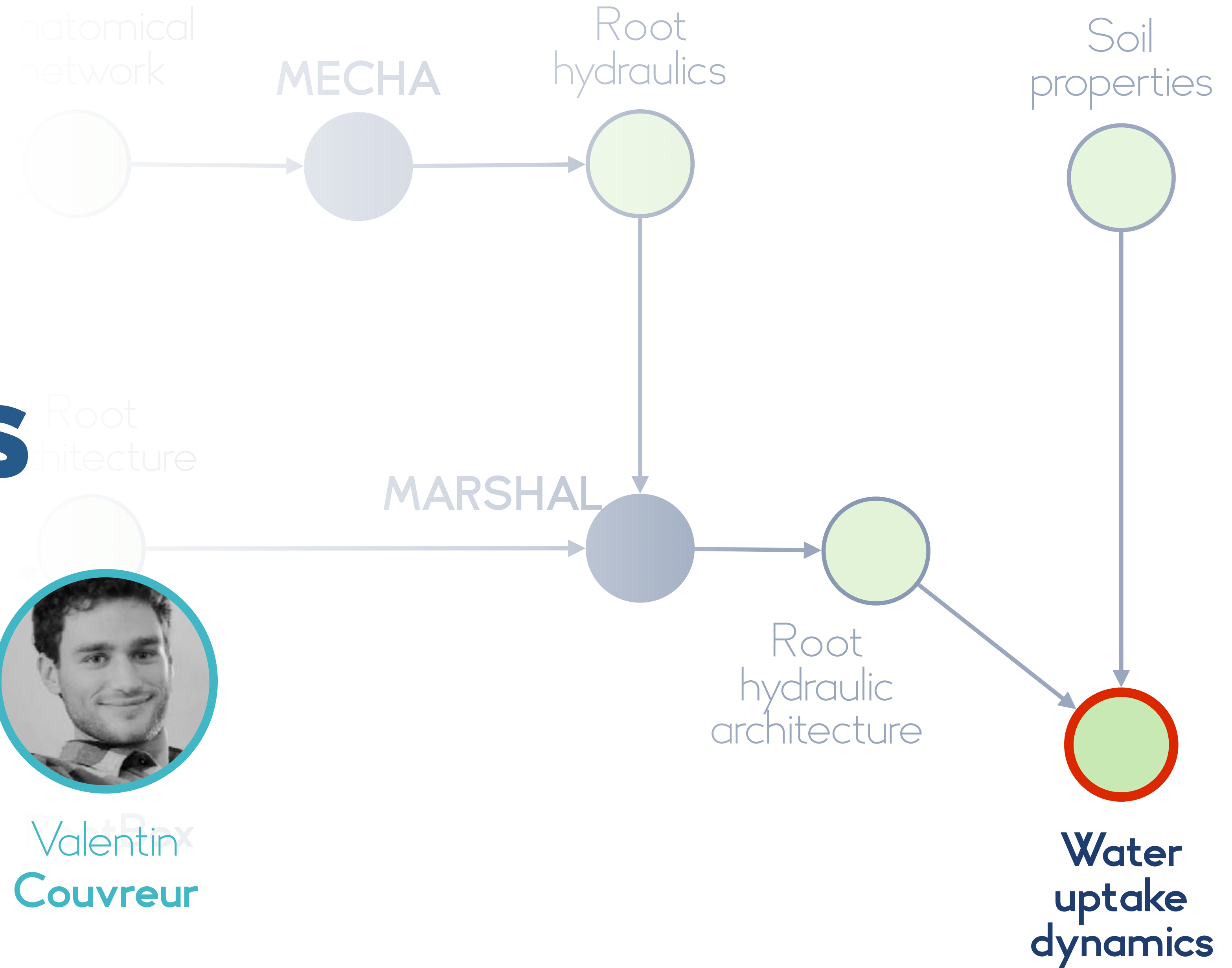
Mathieu
Javaux



Félicien
Meunier

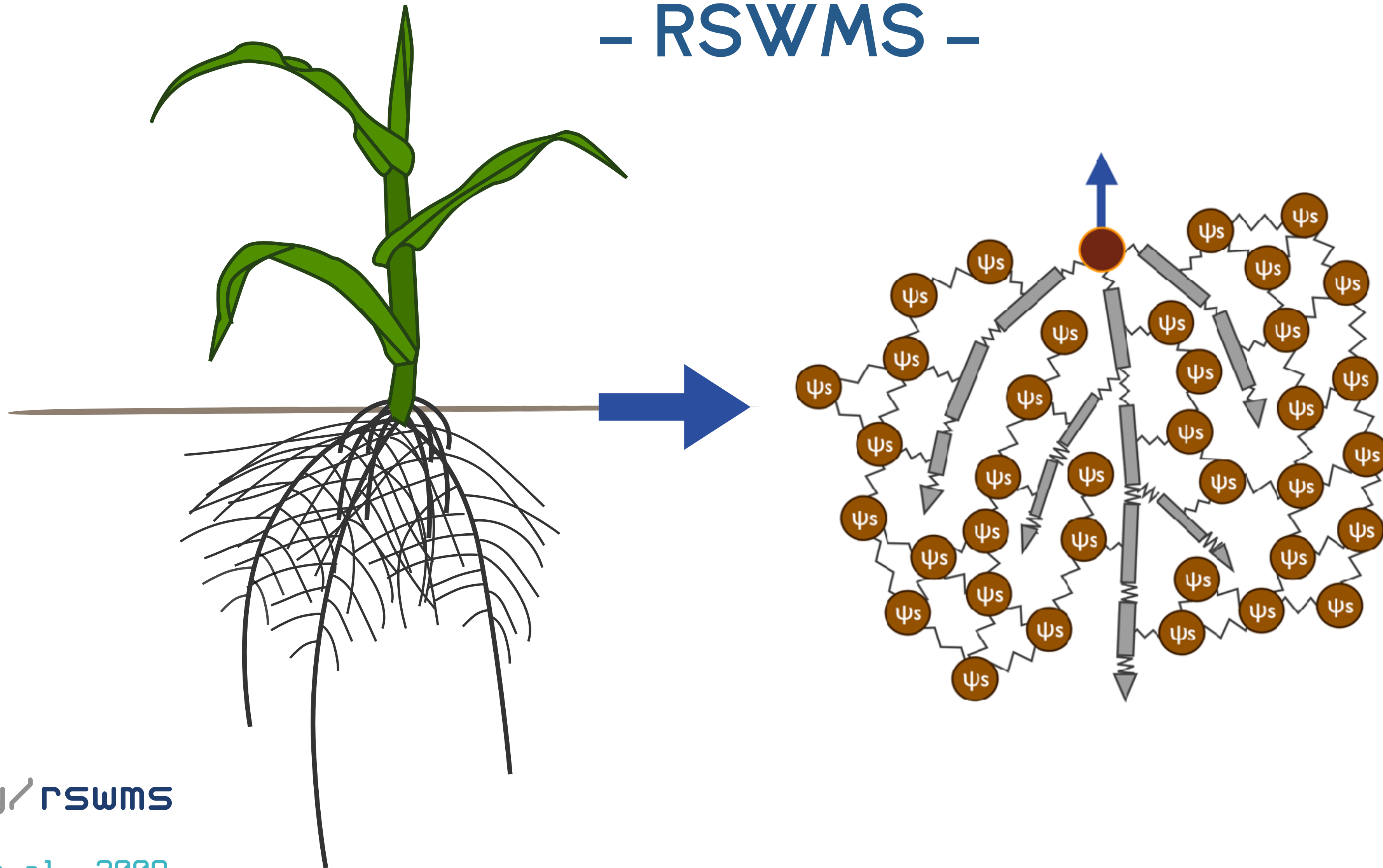


Valentin
Couvreur



MODELLING SOIL-PLANT WATER MOVEMENT

- RSWMS -



bit.ly/rswms



Javaux et al, 2008
DOI: 10.2136/vzj2007.0115

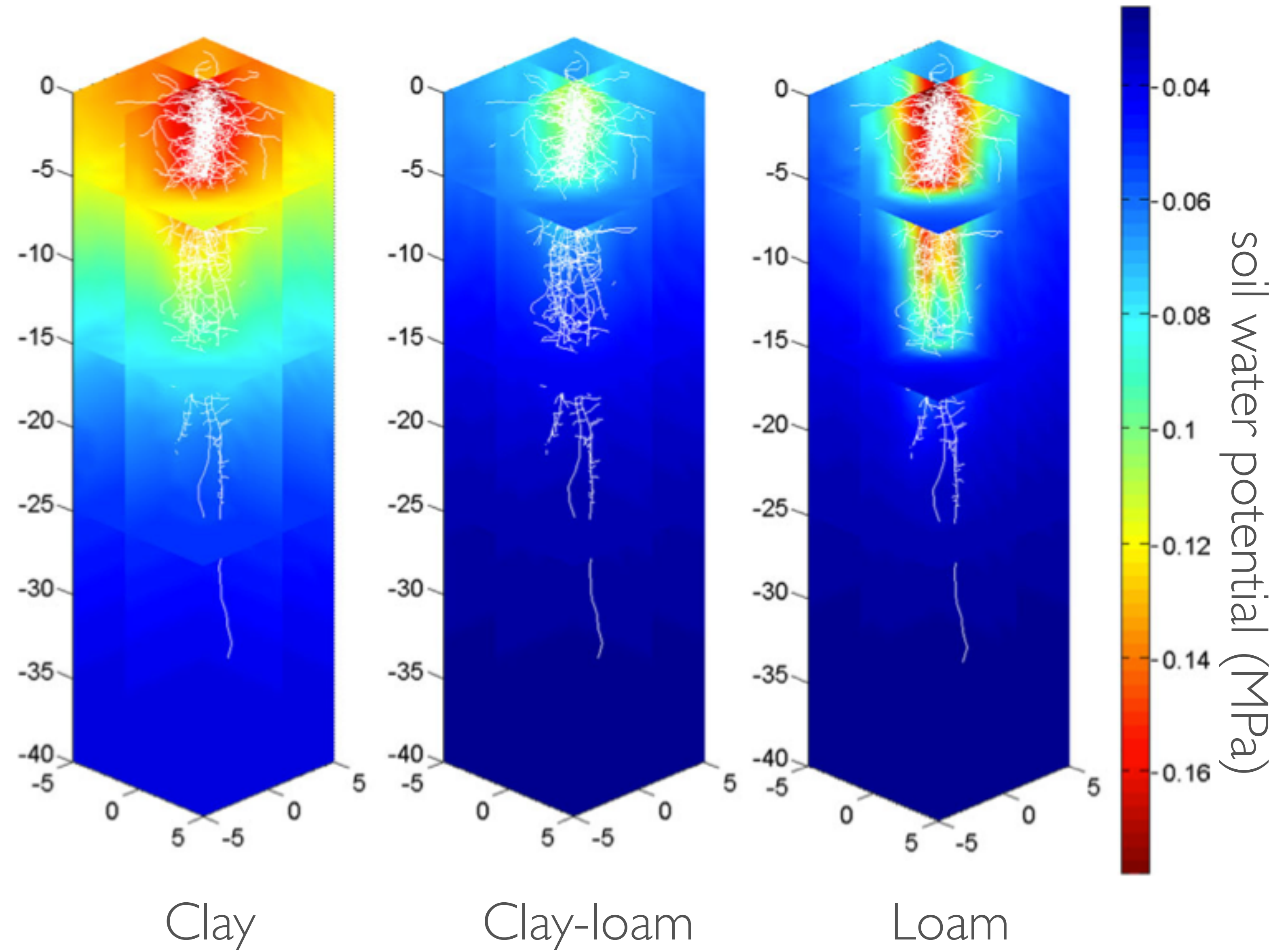
SOIL PROPERTIES SHAPE THE WATER UPTAKE

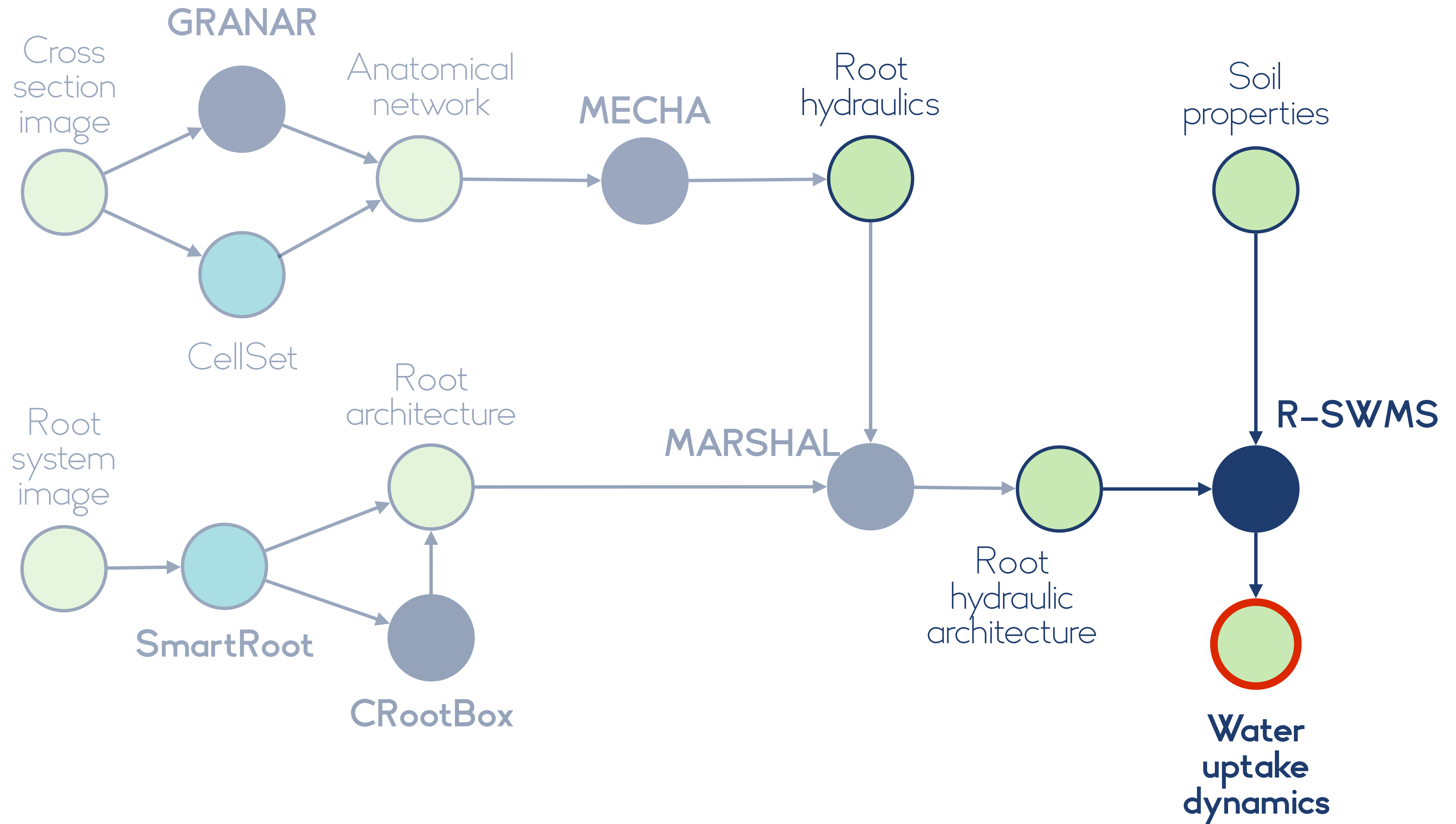
= ROOT ARCHITECTURE

= HYDRAULIC PROPERTIES

= INITIAL WATER CONTENT

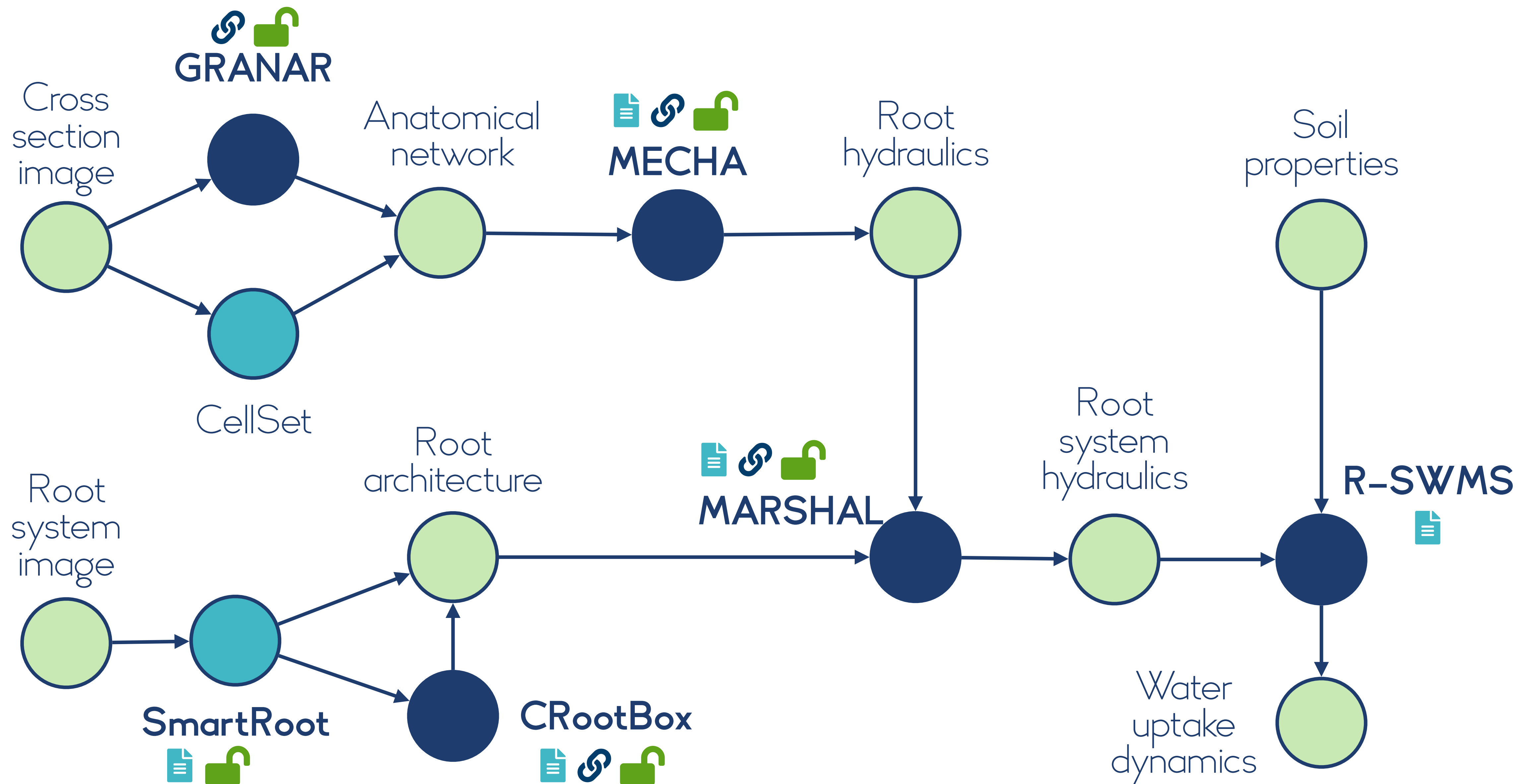
DIFFERENT SOIL TYPES







WRAPPING UP



JUPYTER NOTEBOOKS WITH EXAMPLES

ALL TOOLS OPEN SOURCE

FULL PLANT MODEL

...

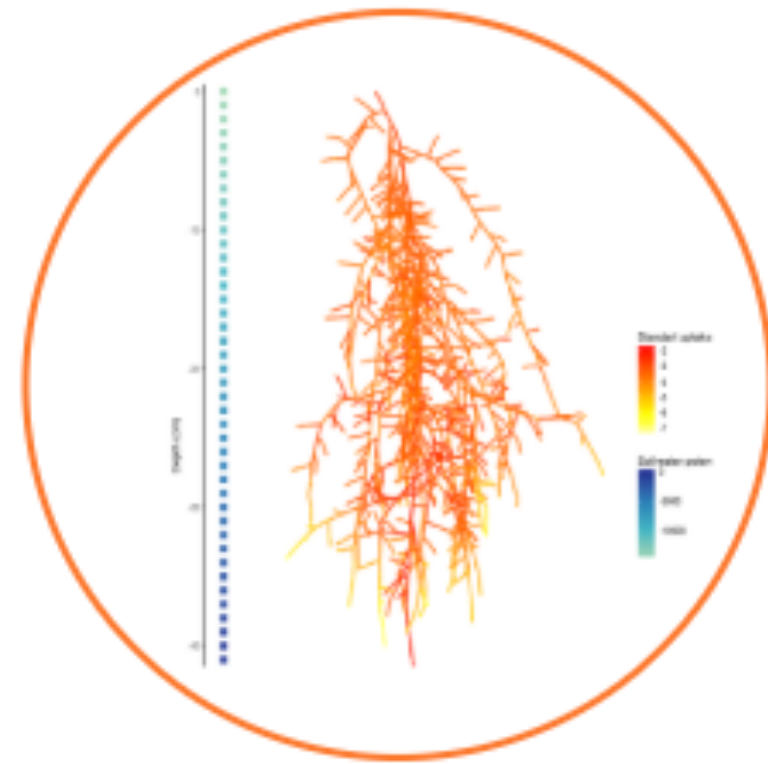
ASAP

MODELS AS TEACHING TOOLS IN PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

MARSHAL

Modèle permettant de simuler l'architecture hydraulique, ainsi que le potentiel de transpiration dans des environnements contrastés

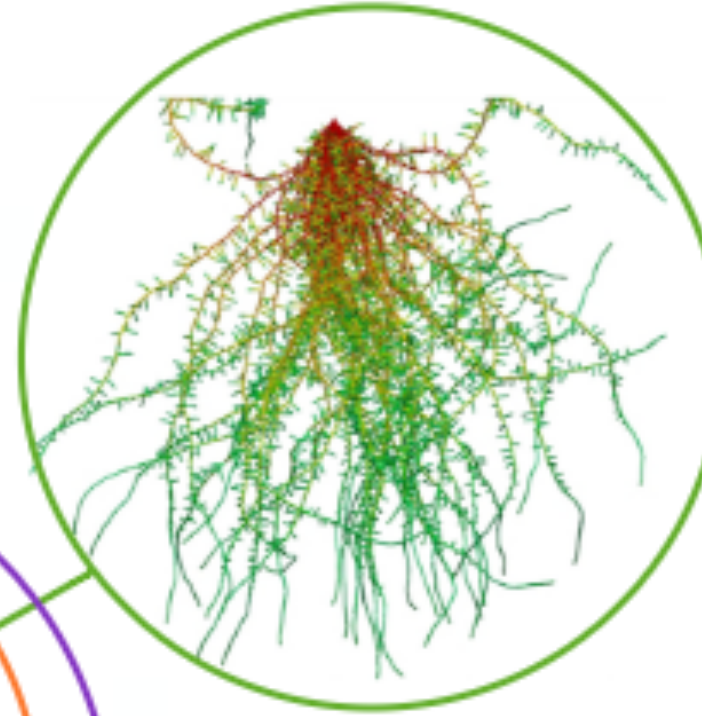
[Voir le modèle](#)



CRootBox

Modèle générique d'architecture racinaire, capable de simuler n'importe quelle plante.

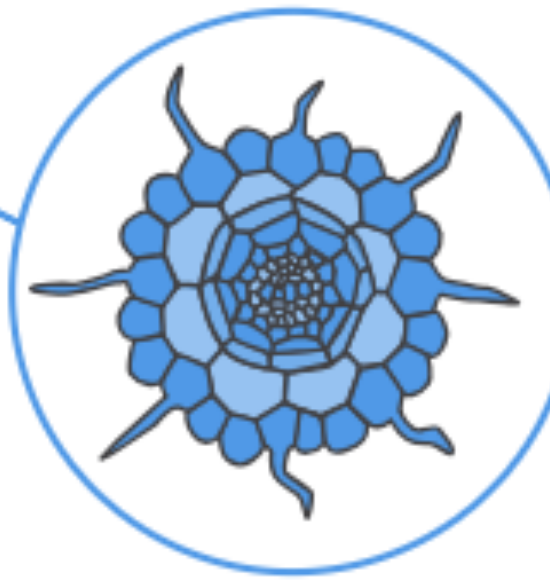
[Voir le modèle](#)



MECHA

Modèle de résolution des flux d'eau au sein d'une coupe racinaire

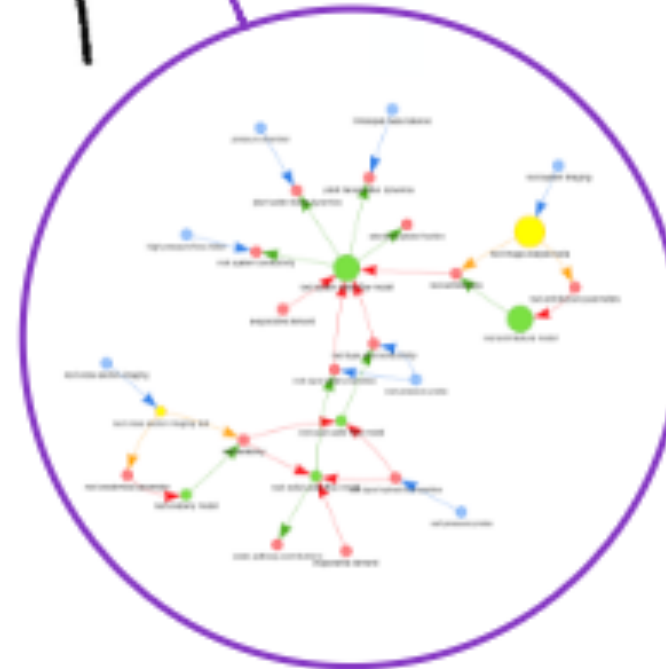
[Voir le modèle](#)



Water Network

Pas un modèle, mais une interface reliant entre eux les différents outils informatiques utiles pour l'étude des relations hydrique dans le système sol-plante.

[Voir l'interface](#)



www.botalgorithm.be
(in french)



Félicien
Meunier



Mathieu
Javaux



Valentin
Couvreur



Xavier
Draye



Sixtine
Passot



Andrea
Schnepf



Daniel
Leitner