



Determining the leaf biochemical and phytosanitary status of orchard trees using spectroscopy from visible to long-wave infrared range



K. Adeline, N. Sikora, J.-P. Segaud, S. Jay, J.-B. Féret, S. Serino, D. Dumont, G. Vercambre, M.-N. Corre, M. Roth

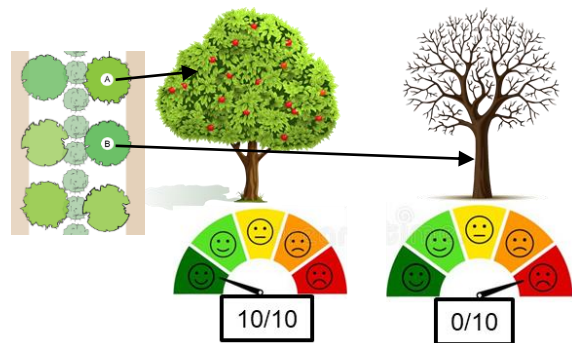
25th HELIOSPIR meeting, Montpellier, 11th-12th June 2024

Context

Exploring the gain of remote sensing data collections at (sub)centimetric scale for a better determination of biotic and abiotic stress symptoms in contrasting agro-ecological practices

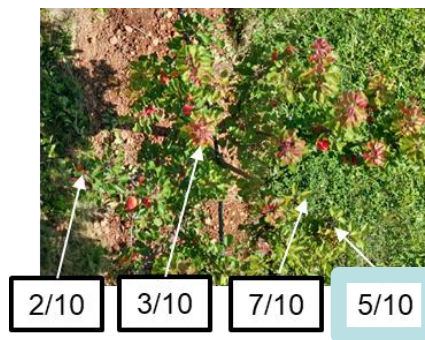
→ Use of non-destructive and high-throughput optical spectroscopic measurements giving access to biochemical traits highlighting photosynthetic status, water resources, nutrient and biomass allocation

Tree/orchard scale



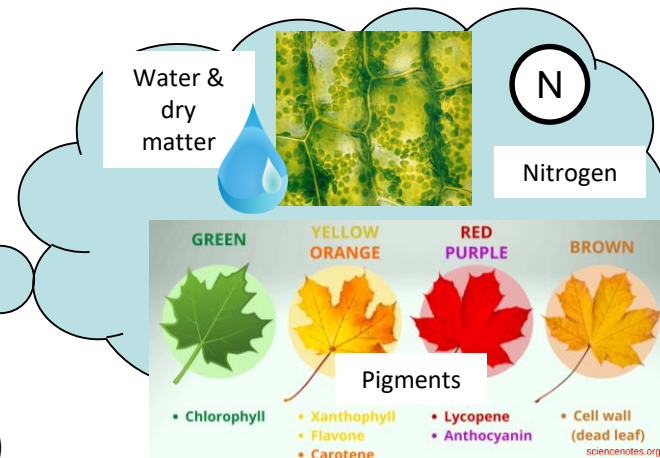
inter-individual variability

Leaf scale



intra-individual variability

Biochemical traits



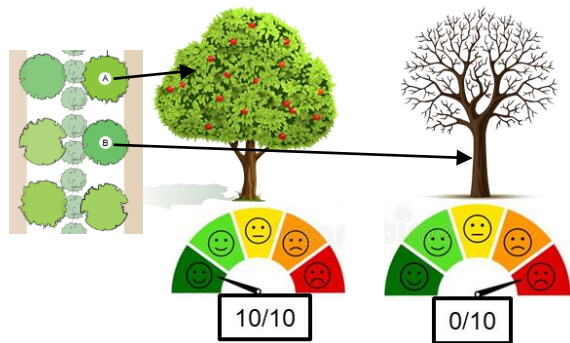
(-) Information richness (+)

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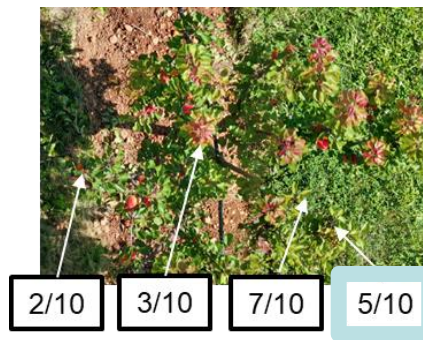
→ Goal to further determine the type and intensity of pests and diseases from leaf discoloration, water stress, nutrient loss and biomass change

Tree/orchard scale



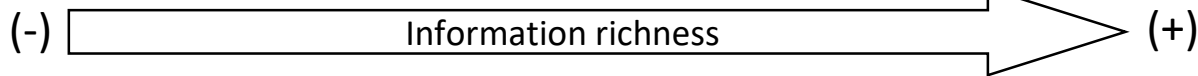
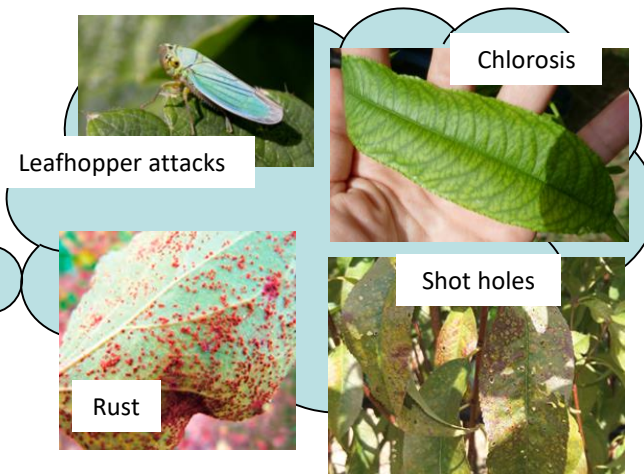
inter-individual variability

Leaf scale



intra-individual variability

Pests & diseases



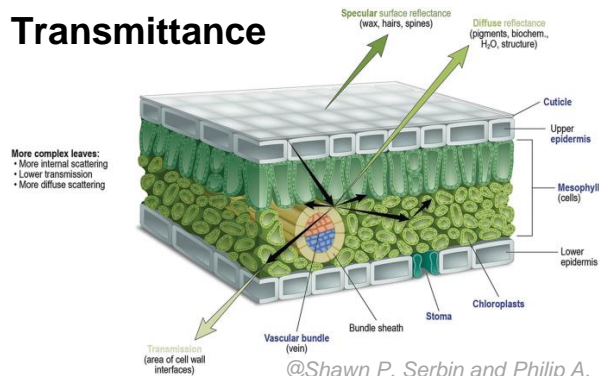
Objectives

Explore relationships between optical data, biochemical traits and pest/disease scores to derive the phytosanitary status at leaf scale

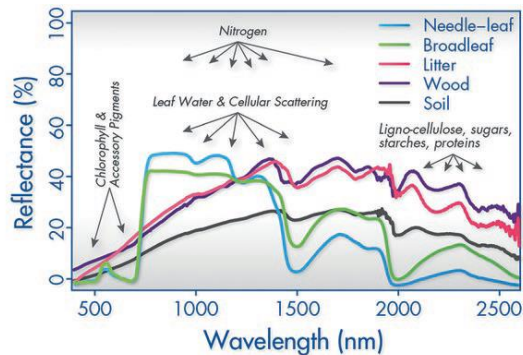
Our study targets peach and apricot tree orchards for two agro-ecological applications: inputs management and variety breeding.

Spectroscopic data in the visible to short-wave infrared range (VSWIR: 0.4-2.5 μm) is efficient to quantify biochemical traits from statistical and physical methods for different vegetation physiological conditions (Wang et al., 2023 ; Gaubert et al., 2023).

Reflectance
Absorbance
Transmittance

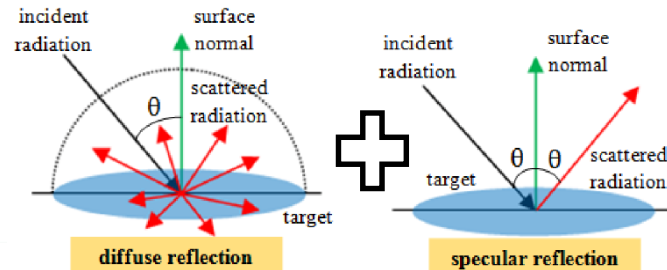


@Shawn P. Serbin and Philip A. Townsend



Spectral absorptions of leaf biochemical traits

Directional-hemispherical reflectance



@Tan et al. 2016

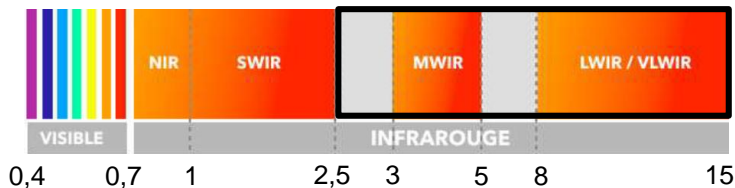
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→ Interest for the mid- to long-wave infrared spectral domain (MWIR/LWIR: 2.5-15 μm) ?



Little available data because tough requirements in the measurement protocol :

- cooling the detector with liquid nitrogen
- purging the integrating sphere of water vapor and carbon dioxide with nitrogen gas

Choice of the substitution method to measure optical properties

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- From statistical to physical methods, which are the most effective ?
- Is it possible to estimate pest and disease scores ?

**Statistical
(data-driven):**

- fast
- datasets



**Physical
(model-driven):**

- generalizable
- parameterization

Biotic and abiotic factors can be unmixed from the spectral features ?



Objectives

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Our study targets peach and apricot tree orchards for two agro-ecological applications: inputs management and variety breeding.

For statistical methods, building relevant datasets is very demanding in terms of human and instrumental resources and is costly for laboratory analysis because a large number of samples is needed.

→ Can we find a compromise by working at shoot scale instead of leaf scale ?



The first work presented relies on raw spectra and a diversified set of leaf observations.

Sites

Two INRAE experimental stations:

INRAE Domaine Saint Paul (Avignon)

- Peach orchard, one variety (Nectarlove cv),
- Conventional treatment with fertilization trials since 3 years and irrigation trials (ECOPECHE network)



INRAE Domaine Amarine (Bellegarde)

- Apricot orchard, 150 varieties replicated in 5 blocks (CORE COLLECTION network),
- Low phytosanitary inputs



Materials

Samplings:

- 5 dates (from June to October 2023), top and bottom tree crown part, 4 leaves from one shoot,
- For apricot: 5 varieties (including 1 monitored),
- For peach: 50%/100% irrigation (1 date) & 0N/180N fertilization trials (all dates)

Optical properties:

- **Leaf scale:** directional-hemispherical reflectance and transmittance of leaf adaxial side in the range 0.4-15 μ m (Perkin and Bruker spectroradiometers with integrating spheres)

Biochemical traits:

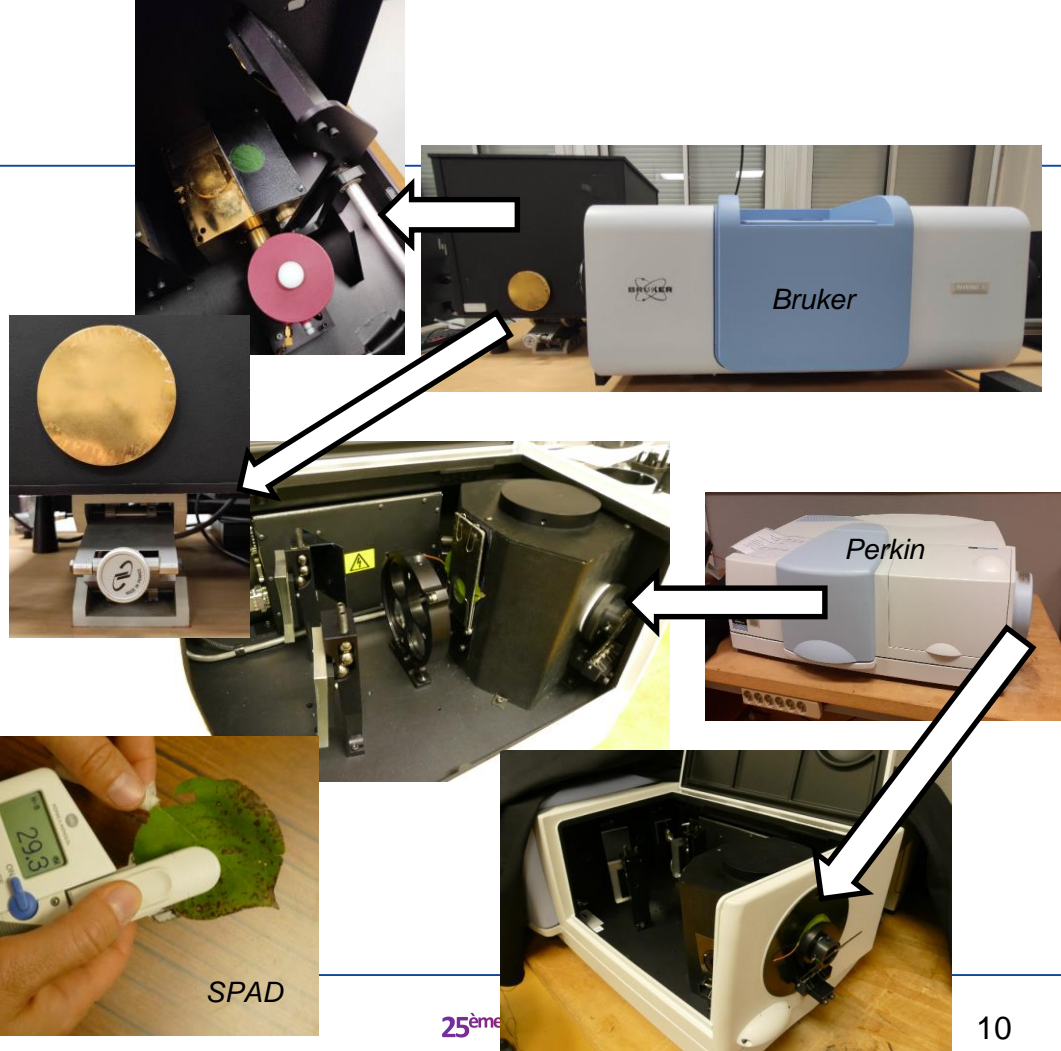
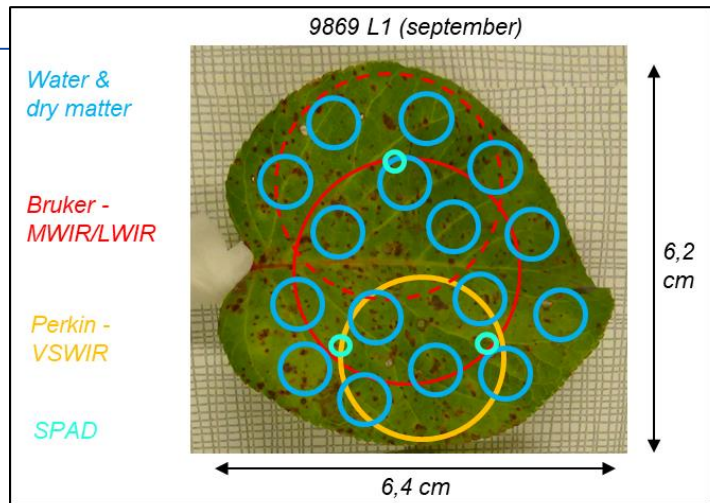
- **Leaf scale:** chlorophyll meter SPAD leaf-clip measurements, water and dry matter content,
- **Shoot scale:** pigments (phenolics compounds, chlorophylls and carotenoids) and total nitrogen contents

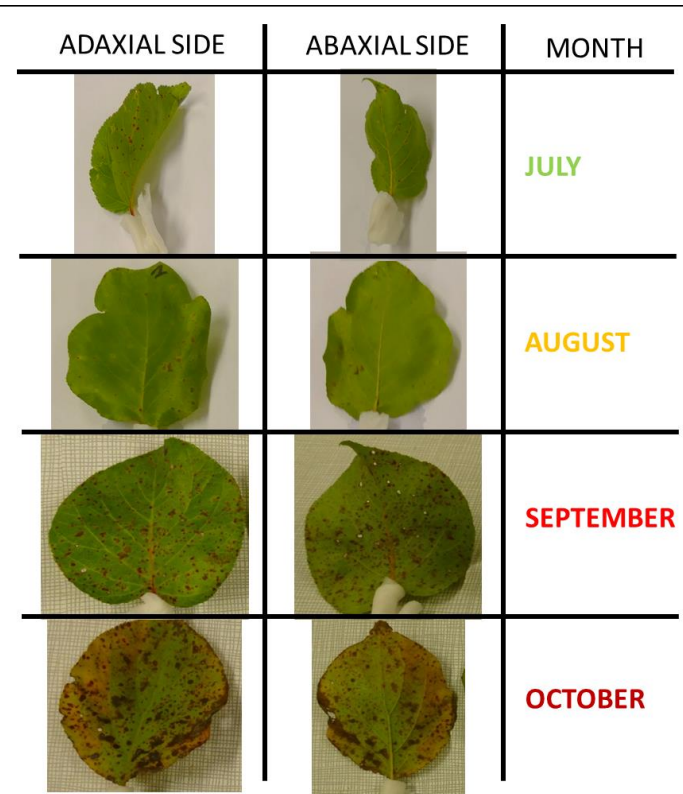
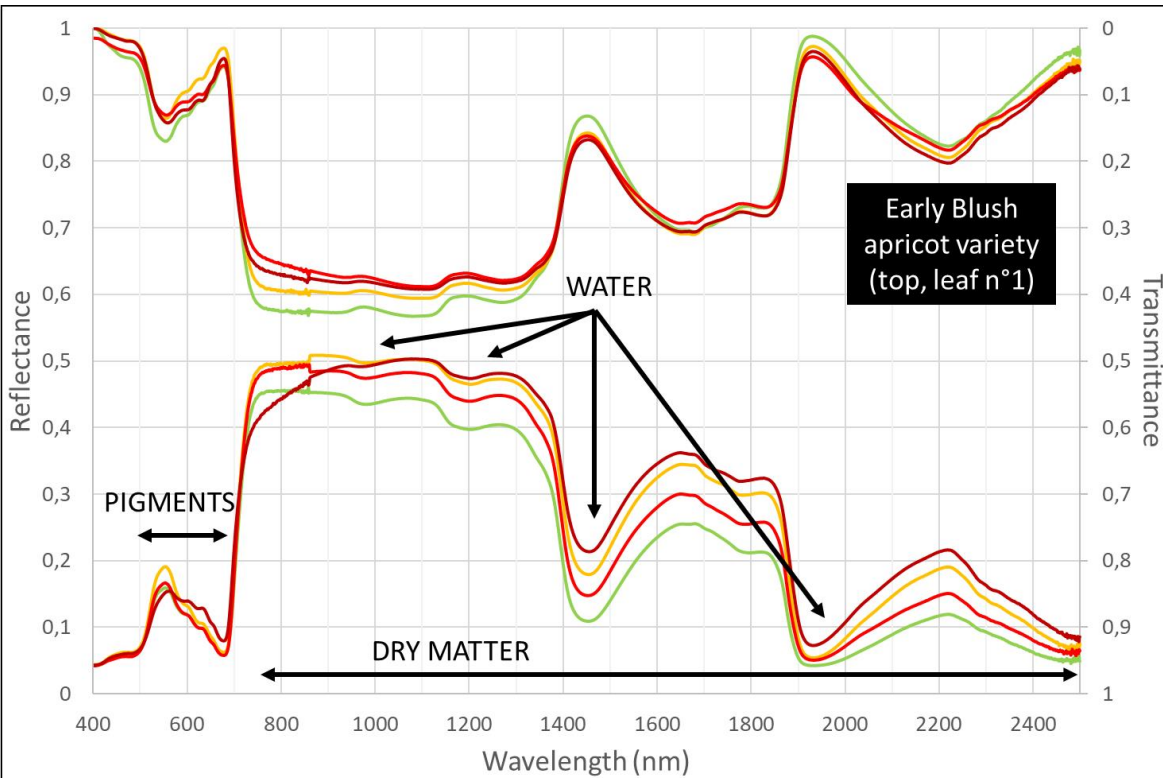
Pest/disease scores:

- **Leaf scale:** chlorosis, leafhopper attacks, shot hole and rust diseases

155 samples at leaf scale and 31 samples at shoot scale

Leaf observation scales



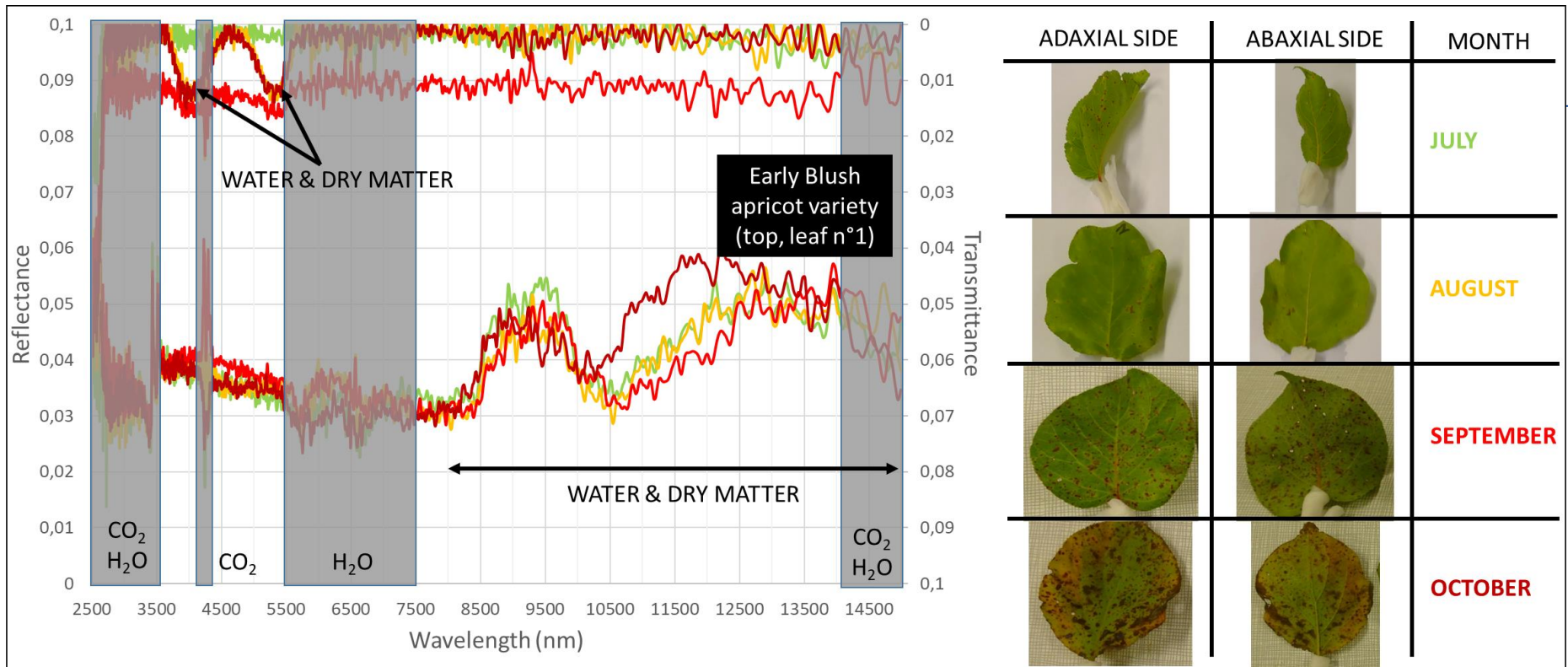


Water content (g.cm ⁻²)	Dry matter content (g.cm ⁻²)	Total chlorophylls content (µg.cm ⁻²)	Total nitrogen content (%)
0.0165	0.0096	46.0	1.5
0.0088	0.0093	22.3	1.8
0.0825	0.0118	17.8	1.5
0.0076	0.0082	20.8	1.6

Frequency chlorosis (%)	Leafhopper attack	Shot hole intensity (%)	Rust intensity (%)
0	no	40	0
0	probable	40	5
60	probable	90	20
70	probable	95	30

BIOCHEMICAL TRAITS

PEST AND DISEASE SCORES



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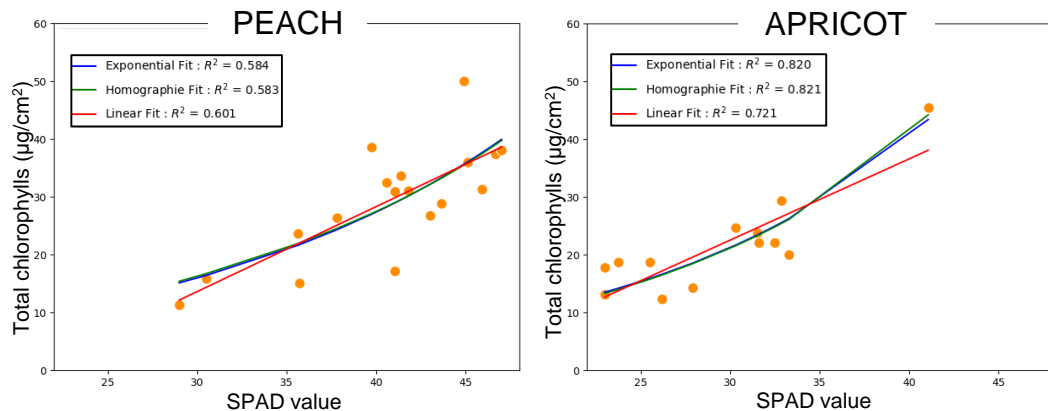
PEST AND DISEASE SCORES

SPAD calibration to upscale shoot scale data to leaf scale

→ Average of 12 SPAD measurements to get a value at shoot scale (4 leaves/shoot, 3 measurements/leaf)

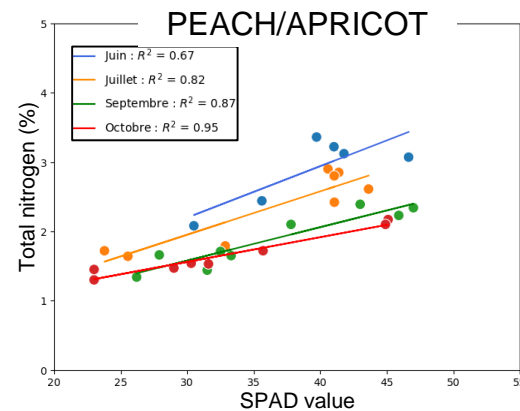
SPAD – total chlorophylls content

Choice of a homographic regression per species (in green)



SPAD – total nitrogen content

Choice of a linear regression per month



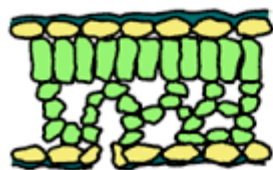
→ Application of the regression for each SPAD value to get total chlorophylls and nitrogen at leaf scale

Estimation methods

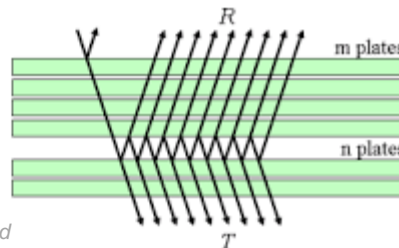
Approach	Method and parameterization	Spectral range	Data
Statistical	PLSR (scikit-learn, train/test: 70/30%, 5 cross-validation, averaged metrics over 10 repetitions, relevant spectral bands from Variable Importance in the Projection)	0.4 – 2.5 μm 2.5 – 15 μm 0.4 – 15 μm	All biochemical traits and pest/disease scores
Physical	Iterative inversion of the leaf radiative transfer PROSPECT-D (Powell optimization algorithm, optimized selection of spectral sub-ranges per trait)	0.4 – 2.5 μm	Pigments, water and dry matter content

PROSPECT model

Biochemical traits + one structural trait (N)



@Ustin and Jacquemoud



Directional-hemispherical optical properties

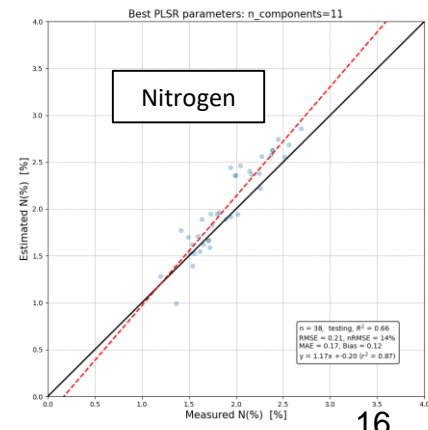
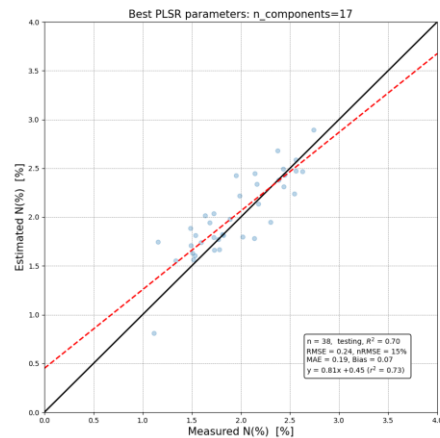
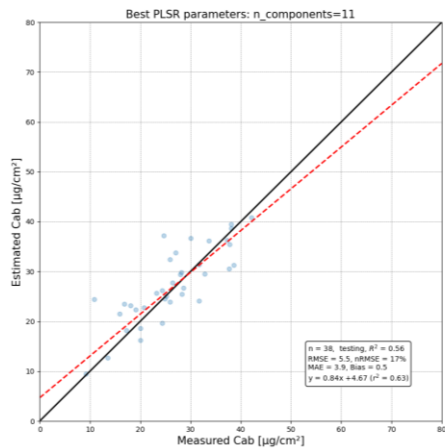
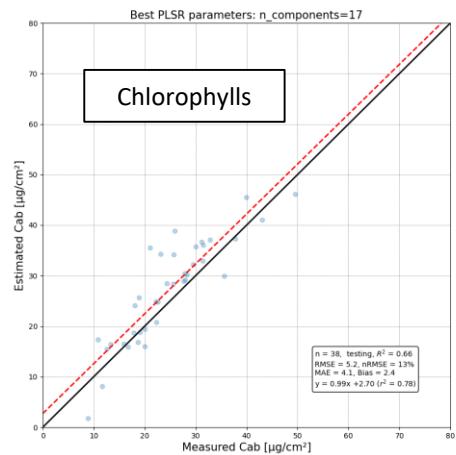
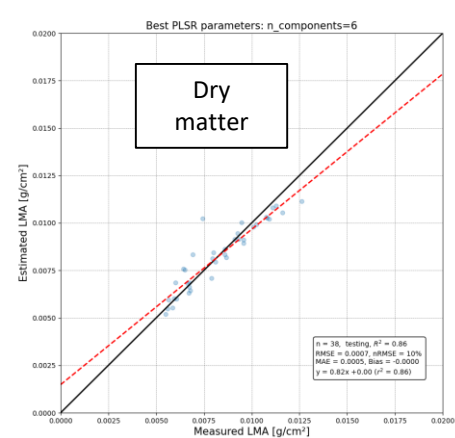
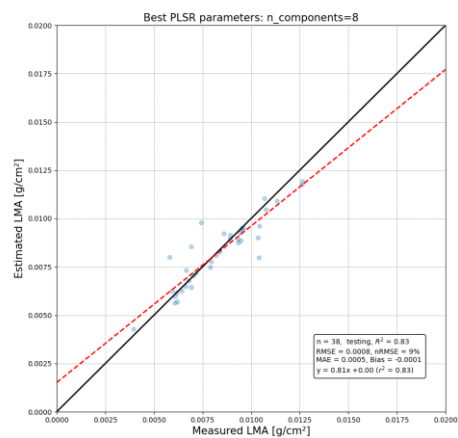
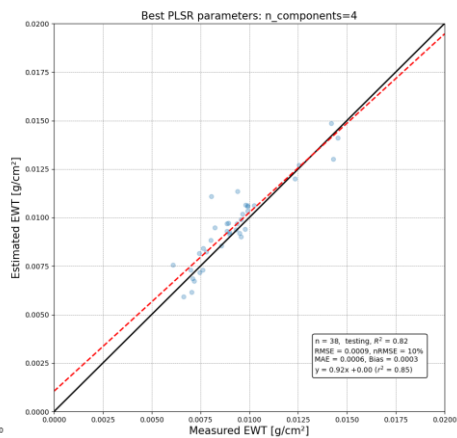
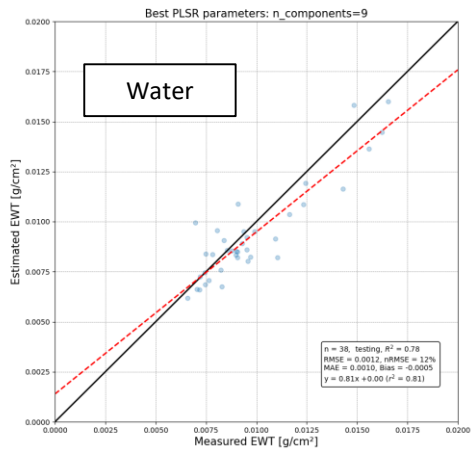
Results with the statistical approach

	Spectral range	0,4 - 2,5 μm (VSWIR)				2,5 - 15 μm (MWIR/LWIR)				0,4 - 15 μm (FULL RANGE)			
Original scale	Data	R2	RMSE	nRMSE (%)	LV	R2	RMSE	nRMSE (%)	LV	R2	RMSE	nRMSE (%)	LV
LEAF	Water (g/cm ²)	0.75	0.0012	11	6	0.6	0.0015	14	7	0.76	0.0011	11	7
LEAF	Dry matter (g/cm ²)	0.78	0.0009	11	7	0.63	0.0012	14	3	0.72	0.001	11	3
SHOOT	Chlorophylls ($\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$)	0.59	5.6	16	11	0.2	7.9	22	5	0.54	6	17	7
SHOOT	Nitrogen (%)	0.75	0.22	13	13	0.4	0.32	20	6	0.65	0.26	15	10
LEAF	Chlorosis frequency (%)	0.53	16	24	5	0.22	17	26	4	0.38	15	24	6
LEAF	Rust intensity (%)	0.25	10	29	4	0.19	10	29	5	0.17	10	28	5
LEAF	Shot hole intensity (%)	0.36	18	23	8	0.34	18	23	2	0.3	19	24	2

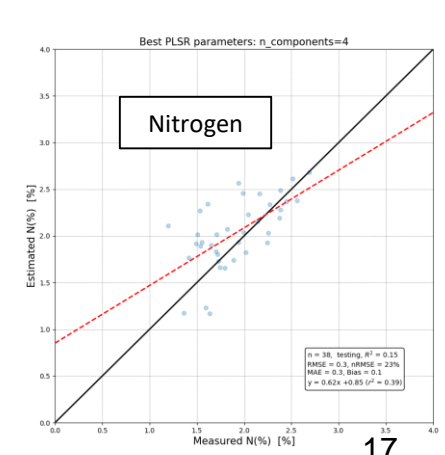
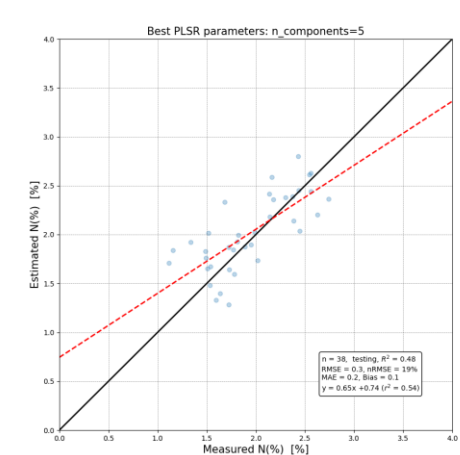
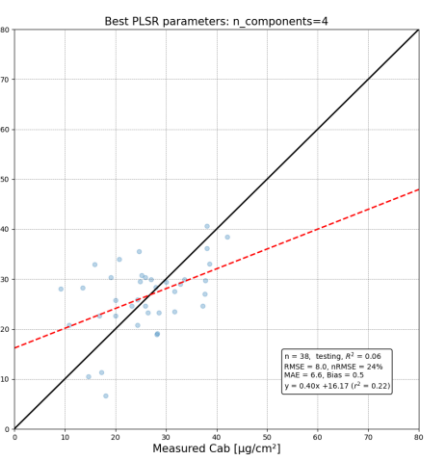
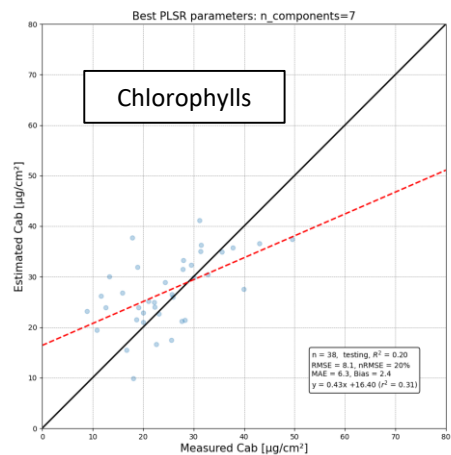
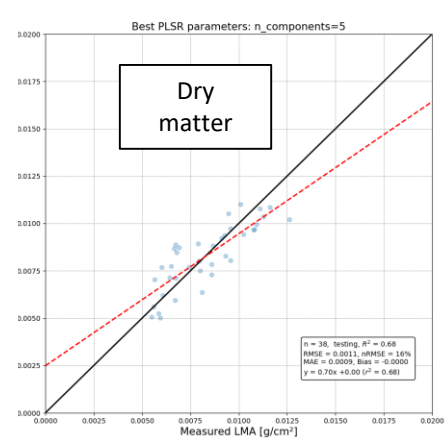
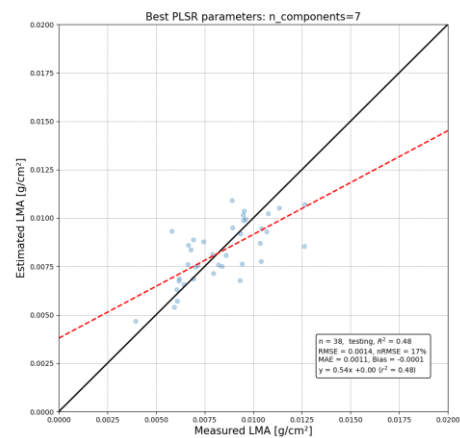
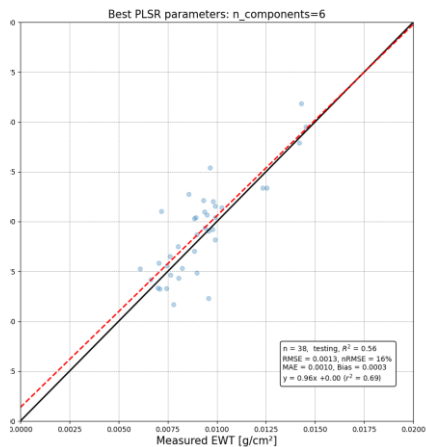
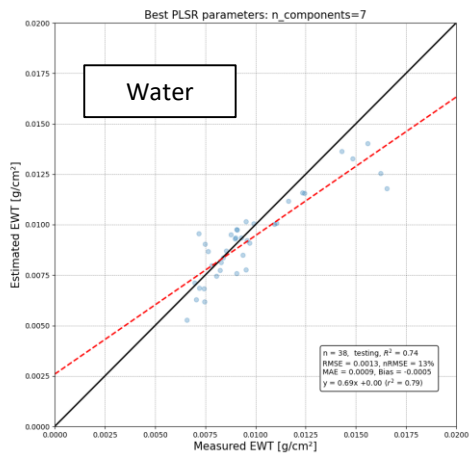
Biochemical traits: VSWIR > FULL RANGE > MWIR/LWIR (cf. all metrics, water: VSWIR ~ FULL RANGE), water/dry matter > nitrogen > chlorophylls (cf. nRMSE), excellent results in VSWIR for leaf scale traits and also nitrogen from shoot scale, slightly less better for chlorophylls from shoot scale but still acceptable

Pest/disease scores: no convincing results (RMSE > 10%, nRMSE values around twice those of biochemical traits), no particular spectral sensitivity, chlorosis & shot holes > rust (cf. nRMSE)

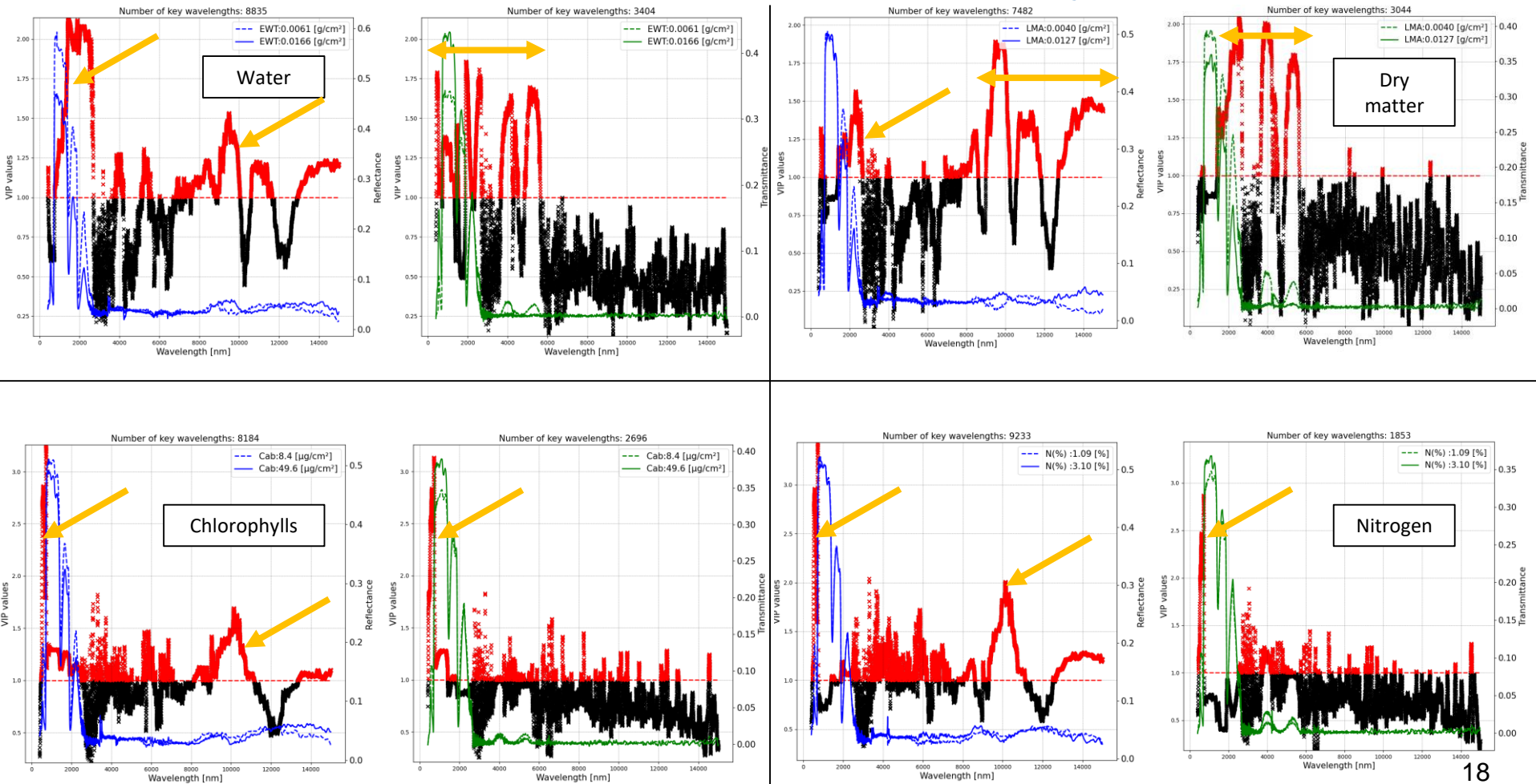
VSWIR, results for 1rst/2nd iteration with test dataset



MWIR/LWIR, results for 1rst/2nd iteration with test dataset



PLSR Variable Importance in the Projection (VIP)



Results with the physical approach

	Spectral range	0,4 - 2,5 μm (VSWIR)			
Original scale	Data	R2	RMSE	nRMSE (%)	Spectral range in nm (R: reflectance, T: transmittance)
LEAF	Water (g/cm ²)	0.85	0.001	10	1100 – 1800 (T)
LEAF	Dry matter (g/cm ²)	0.71	0.002	17	1800 – 2400 (R + T)
SHOOT	Chlorophylls ($\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$)	0.75	6.29	15	580 – 720 (R)

Biochemical traits: water > chlorophylls > dry matter (cf. nRMSE), excellent results at leaf scale, slightly less better for chlorophylls from shoot scale but still acceptable (cf. RMSE)

Comparison with statistical approach in the VSWIR range: physical > statistical for water and the opposite for dry matter, more or less equivalent for chlorophylls (cf. all metrics)

Conclusions and perspectives

- From raw spectra, good results are globally obtained to derive biochemical traits, but not for pest/disease scores.
- Using the VSWIR domain leads to better performances than MWIR/LWIR domains alone, the later being mostly useful only for water and dry matter content estimations (as shown in literature for other species).
- Results are mitigated in terms of performances between physical and statistical approach depending on the biochemical trait.
- The use of SPAD measurements at shoot scale is promising to get estimations of chlorophylls and nitrogen at leaf scale relying on built-up regressions.

Prospects:

- Use spectral preprocessing (SNV, CR, CWT, derivatives, etc.), select more specific spectral intervals,
- Study variable correlations (PCA) and estimate pest/disease scores from biochemical traits,
- Test variable joint estimations with multi-output PLSR,
- Test hybrid approaches relying on the training of machine learning algorithms on simulated datasets from physical models,
- Building of a new dataset in 2024 in agreement with future UAV-borne acquisitions over the orchards

Thanks you

- Projet ANR CANOP “Remotely sensed leaf biochemistry intra-individual variability in orchard tree CANOPies for agroecology” (2023-2026, grant: ANR-22-CE04-0002)
- Website of the project and future data access: <https://remotetree.sedoo.fr/canop>

