

Proposal for establishing an In Situ Testbed



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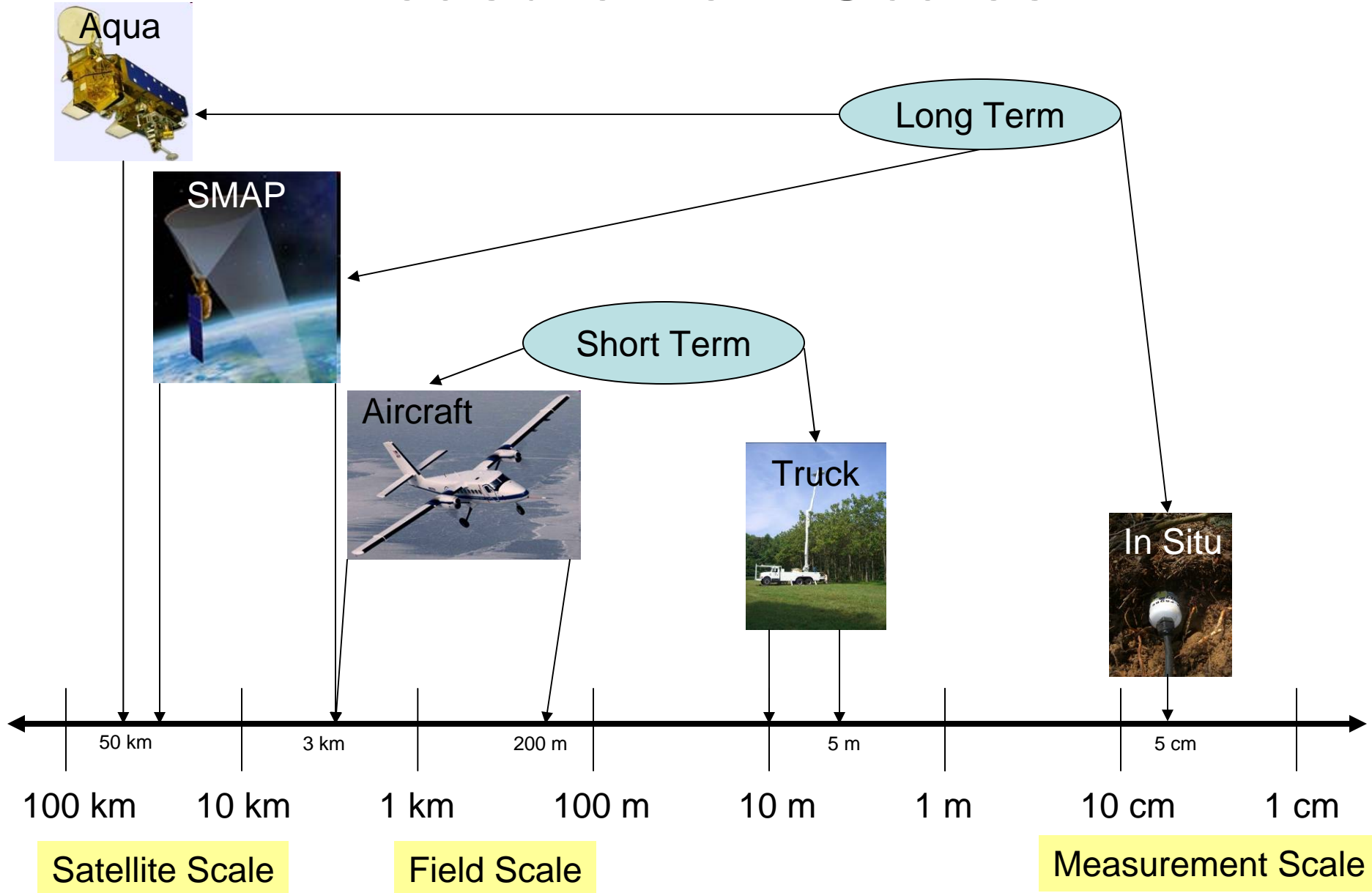
USDA-ARS

Beltsville, MD 20705

Why do we need a testbed?

1. Co-location and comparison of multiple in situ technologies
2. How do measurement techniques with different scales compare?
3. Investigate profile measurement comparison (how do we extend surface measurements to root zone)
4. How to different installation techniques affect measurements?

Measurement Scales



Measurement Methods-Gravimetric

Individual

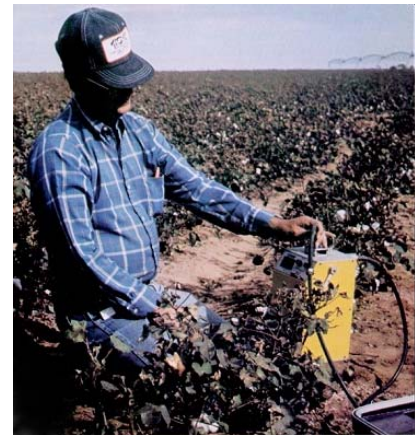
Gravimetric Collection
Neutron Probes

What are the pertinent depths?

0-1 cm

0-5 cm

How do we extend the
measurements through the vadose
zone?



Measurement Methods-Automated

Automated

TDRs

FDRs: Hydras, Thetas, Echo

Capacitance: Sentek

GPS

COSMOS



At what depths?

Orientations?

Replications?

Reporting increment?

Instantaneous or averaged?



Measurement Methods- Intensive Campaigns

Intensive

Truck/Tower Mounted

UAV

Aircraft

Satellite



What types of coordinated activity should there be?



How big should the test bed be?

Is it necessary to have this site embedded in a validation site?



To be Decided

Monitoring Depths and Replications

Depths: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 cm?

Size of Testbed?

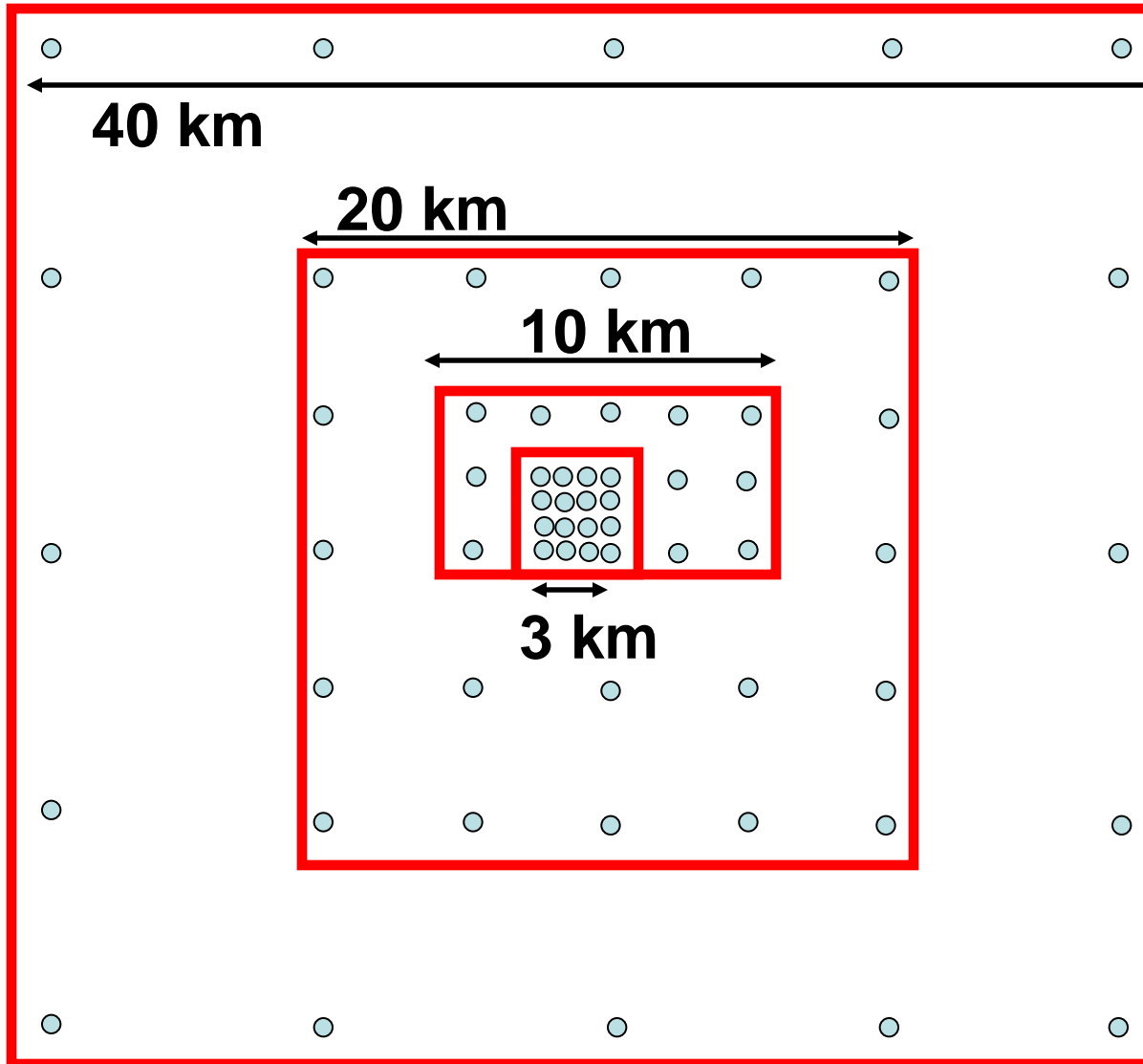
Sampling Frequency?

Land cover type?

Multiple Sites?

Where?

Ideal Nested Testbed



Field Scale
16 Stations

Multi-Field Scale
+11 Stations

Watershed
+19 Stations

Regional
+16 stations

= 62 sites total

Permanent, Semi-Permanent, and Temporary Sites



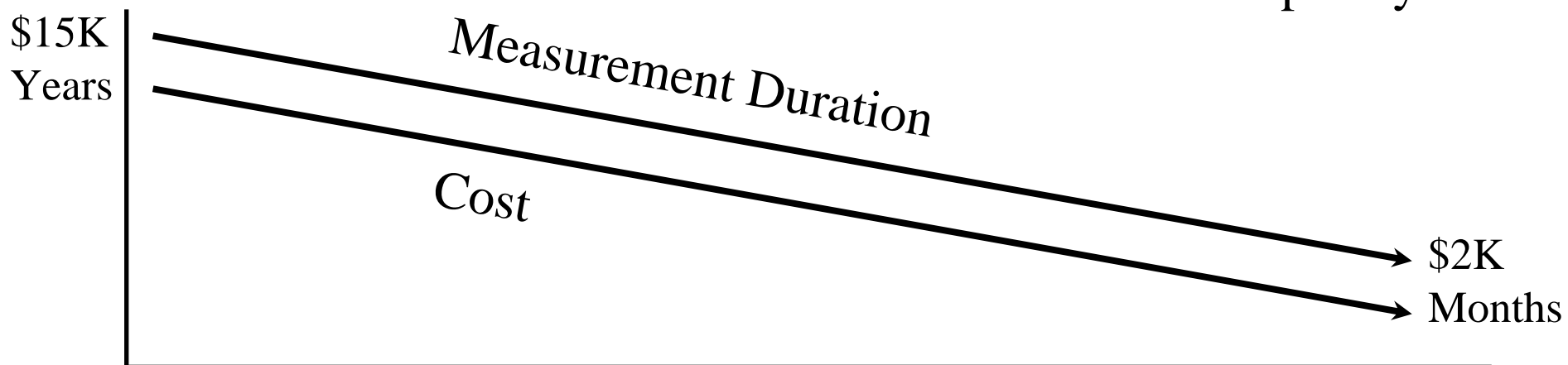
Permanent



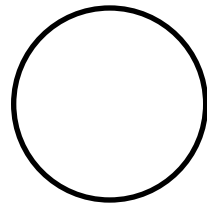
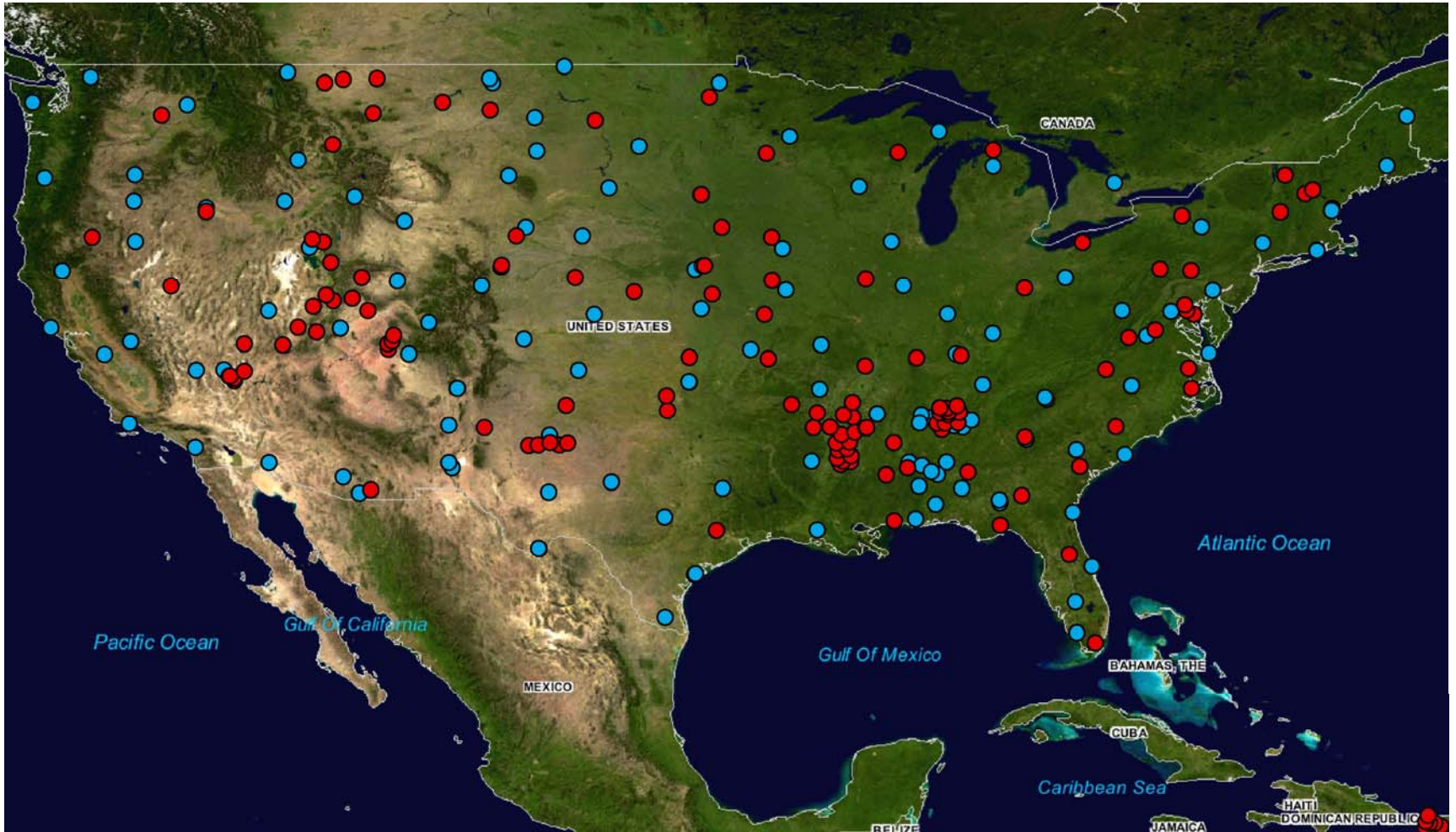
Semi-Permanent



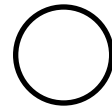
Temporary



SCAN and CRN



800 km



400 km



80 km