

# Representation of seasonal land-use dynamics in SWAT+ for improved assessment of blue and green water consumption

Anna Msigwa<sup>1,2</sup>, Celray James Chawanda<sup>2</sup>, Hans C. Komakech<sup>1</sup>, Albert Nkwasa<sup>2</sup>, and Ann van Griensven<sup>2,3</sup>

5 <sup>1</sup>The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology, Arusha 447, Tanzania

<sup>2</sup> Department of Hydrology and Hydraulic Engineering, Vrije Universiteit, Pleinlaan 2 -1050, 1050 Brussel, Belgium

<sup>3</sup> IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education; Westvest 7, 2611 AX Delft, The Netherlands

*Correspondence to:* Anna Msigwa (anna.msigwa@nm-aist.ac.tz)

**Abstract.** In most (sub)-tropical African cultivated regions, more than one cropping season exists following the (one or two) rainy seasons. During the dry season, an additional cropping season is possible when irrigation is applied, which could result in 3 cropping seasons. However, most studies for mapping the blue and green ET with agro-hydrological models such as SWAT do not represent these cropping seasons. Blue ET is a portion of crop evapotranspiration after application of irrigation while green ET is the evapotranspiration as a result of rainfall. In this paper, we derived dynamic and static trajectories from seasonal land-use maps to represent the land-use dynamics following the major growing seasons, for the purpose of improving simulated blue and green water consumption from simulated evapotranspiration (ET) in SWAT+. A comparison between the default SWAT+ (with static land use representation) set up, and a dynamic SWAT+ model (with seasonal land use representation) is done by spatial mapping of ET results. Additionally, the SWAT+ blue and green ET were compared with the results from the four remote sensing data-based methods namely: SN (Senay), EK (van Eekelen), Budyko method and Soil Water Balance method (SWB). The results show that ET with seasonal representation is closer to remote sensing estimates, giving higher performance than ET with static land use representation.: The Root Mean Squared Error decreased from 181 to 69 mm/year; the percent bias decreased from 20 % to 13% and Nash Sutcliffe Efficiency increased from -0.46 to 0.4. Further the results of blue and green ET from the dynamic SWAT+ model were compared to the four remote sensing methods. The results shows that the SWAT+ blue and green ET are similar to the van Eekelen method that performed better than the other three remote sensing methods. It is concluded that representation of seasonal land-use dynamics produces better ET results which provide better estimations of blue and green agricultural water consumption.

## 1. Introduction

Freshwater availability is a limiting resource in many regions throughout the world and the problem is projected to increase in the near future due to land use change, population growth, and climate change. The availability of freshwater is mostly determined by precipitation on land. When rain falls on land, it travels via either green or blue waterways (Velpuri and Senay, 2017; Hoekstra, 2019). The green

water resource is the water that is held in the unsaturated soil layer, whereas the blue water resource is the water that is stored in rivers, streams, surface-water bodies, and groundwater (Falkenmark and Rockström, 2006). One of the solutions to lessen the threat of freshwater scarcity is to minimize consumptive water use in agriculture. However, for water resource management, it is critical to understand water use in agricultural production by source (rainwater or irrigation water from surface and groundwater) (Velpuri and Senay, 2017). For efficient water resource management, knowing how much direct rainwater (green water) and abstracted water (blue water) is being utilized is crucial. Yet such information is not readily available, especially in developing countries.

Hydrological models such as the Soil Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) can be used to provide information on blue and green water at basin and continental scales (Xie et al., 2020; Jeyrani et al., 2021; Liang et al., 2020; Serur, 2020). For instance, Schuol et al. (2008) used the SWAT model to simulate blue and green water availability for the African continent. Xie et al. (2020), evaluated the evolution of the blue and green water resources, water footprints, and water scarcities in time and space in the Yellow River basin in China from 2010–2018. The study accounts for the effects of irrigation on blue and green water resources. Liang et al. (2020) used the SWAT model combined with future land use and climate scenarios, which was successfully applied to quantify the spatiotemporal distribution of blue and green water change for the Xiangjiang River Basin in China between 2015 and 2050.

However, a few of these studies have implemented annual land-use dynamics. Since land-use refers to manmade socio-economic activities and management practices on the land, these anthropogenic activities may change depending on a season, specifically on cultivated land (Anderson et al., 1976). These changes per season are called seasonal land-use dynamics (Msigwa et al., 2019). Hence, mapping the blue and green water with agro-hydrological models such as SWAT need a better representation of the seasonality/cropping seasons. To best of our knowledge there are no studies that implemented seasonal land-use dynamics in estimation of blue and green water resources. For example, Jeyran et al. (2021), assessed basin blue and green available water components under different management and climatic scenario using SWAT. The annual land-use change implementation showed that the 30% increase in agricultural land use from 1987 to 2015 has caused significant changes in water shortages of Tashk-

Bakhtegan basin in Iran. However, other studies do not implement even the annual land-use dynamic in order to decrease the computational time of the very large-scale models. In most cases, the dominant soil and land cover are used. For instance, Serur (2020) used a 10-year land use map to model blue and green water availability for the Weyb River basin in Ethiopia.

The major limitation of applying these approaches in tropical African cultivated areas is that typically they have more than one growing cycle, most of the time ranging between 2 to 3 depending on the sequence of rainy and dry seasons and availability of irrigation water (Msigwa et al., 2019). The right representation and timing of these cropping seasons is therefore important in order to quantify the crop water consumption.

A Few studies that have implemented seasonal land-use dynamic for other purposes such as nitrogen leaching and plant growth (Glavan et al., 2015), estimating water withdrawals (Msigwa et al., 2019) and Leaf Area Index (LAI) simulation (Nkwasa et al., 2020), have found an impact of representing seasonal land-use dynamics in models. For instance, Nkwasa et al. (2020) found that the implementation of seasonal land-use dynamics in SWAT and SWAT+ models led to an improved vegetation simulation. The LAI dynamics of the seasonal land-use dynamic implementation showed more realistic temporal advancement patterns that corresponded to the seasonal rainfall within the basin. Moreover, Msigwa et al. (2019) found that water withdrawals for irrigated mixed crops increased by 482 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year when seasonal land-use maps are used. On the other hand, the seasonal land use-dynamics have been studied and evaluated using four methods that use multi-scalar datasets to assess cropping intensity of smallholder farms. In this study, the cropping intensity is the number of crops planted annually (Jain et al., 2013). However, in this case, the impact of seasonal land use on water resources has not been studied.

The SWAT model incorporates crop rotation and its management at the level of the Hydrological Response Unit (HRU) within a sub-basin (Neitsch et al., 2002). It is represented as a sequence of planting and harvesting operations within the same HRU supplemented with management operations (Gao et al., 2017). The representation of agricultural management is done through a separate management file by specifying the planting, harvesting, tillage, irrigation, fertilizer and pesticide application by heat units or

month and date (Arnold et al., 2018). Although, the SWAT (+) model is capable of representing multiple  
85 cropping seasons, however this is mainly implemented outside Africa catchments. Agro-hydrological  
model applications in Africa basins do typically not represent different cropping seasons. Rather  
implement the default SWAT simulation of a single growing cycle every year (Ndomba et al., 2008; Koch  
et al., 2012; Gashaw et al., 2018). Lack of consideration of the seasonal land-use dynamics in hydrologic  
modelling studies, especially in African cultivated basins, may be attributed to past constraints of model  
90 capabilities, as well as lack of availability of crop-specific and agricultural management practices data  
(van Griensven et al., 2012).

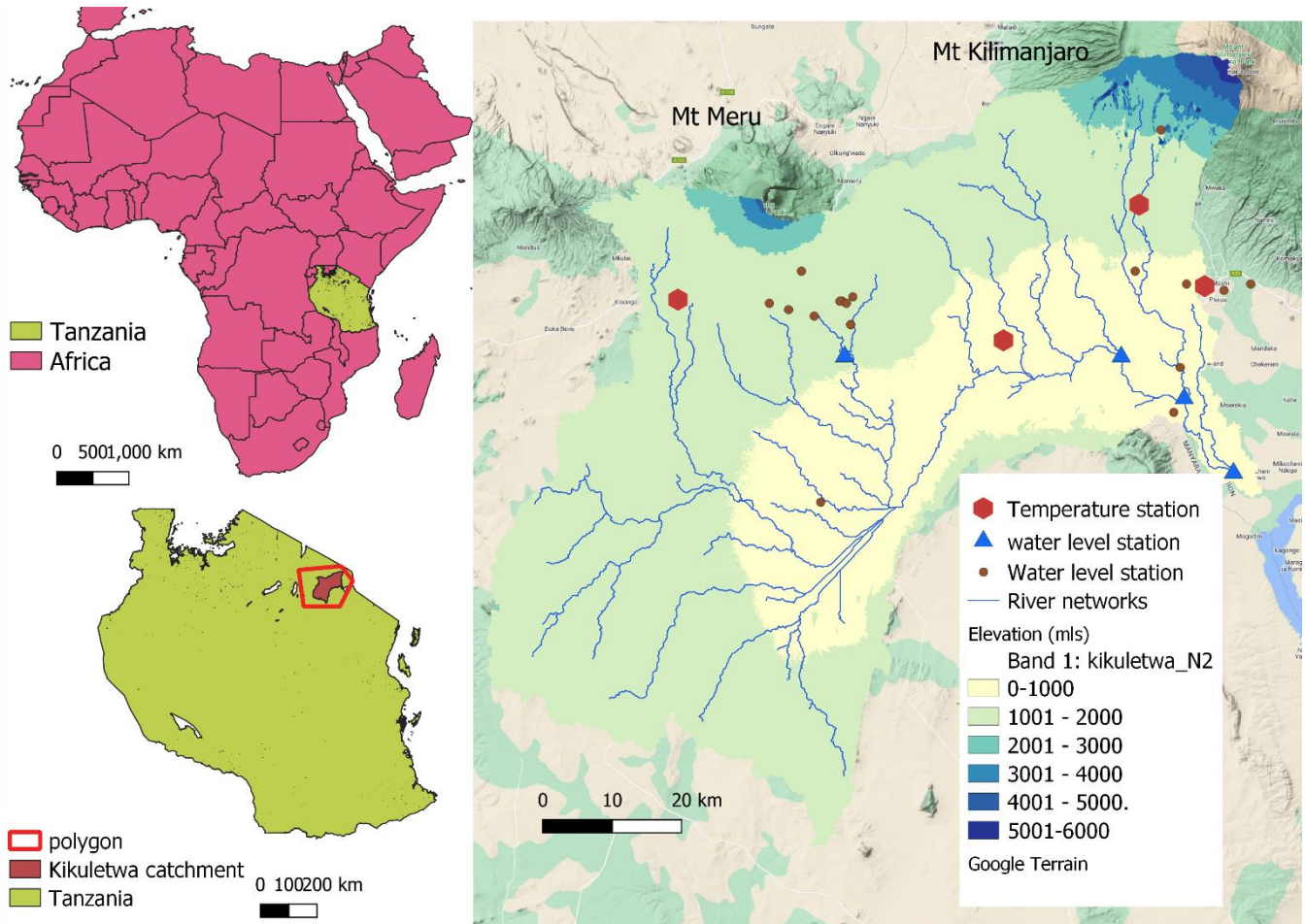
Hence, the crop-specific and data management practices could be obtained from the seasonal land use  
maps using trajectory analysis. Trajectories represent changes of land-use over time by comparing  
changes between two or several land-use maps at a grid scale. Trajectory analysis has been applied widely  
95 to assess the changes and impact of Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) (Feng et al., 2014; Wang et al.,  
2012), and as a pre-processing tool for LULC (Zomlot et al., 2017). In these studies, change analysis is  
done pixel by pixel for each year in order to identify land use change (Mertens and Lambin, 2000;  
Swetnam, 2007; Zhou et al., 2008; Wang et al., 2012; Zomlot et al., 2017). However, none of these studies  
have analysed pixel by pixel within a year with the aim of identifying the different (cropping) seasons,  
100 further referred to as land use dynamics.

A recent study by Nkwasa et al. (2020) in the Usa catchment with in Kikuletwa basin in northern Tanzania  
has shown how to represent seasonal land-use dynamics using trajectories in the SWAT model using the  
management file and the SWAT+ model using decision tables for accurate hydrological simulation. This  
study builds on Nkwasa et al. (2020) approach to evaluate the effects of seasonal land-use dynamics on  
105 blue and green ET, with two main objectives; (i) investigate the effect of implementing seasonal land-use  
dynamics on the water balance component in Kikuletwa basin (6650 km<sup>2</sup>) with focus on the ET using  
SWAT+ and (ii) to estimate blue and green water consumption from simulated ET.

## 2. Methods

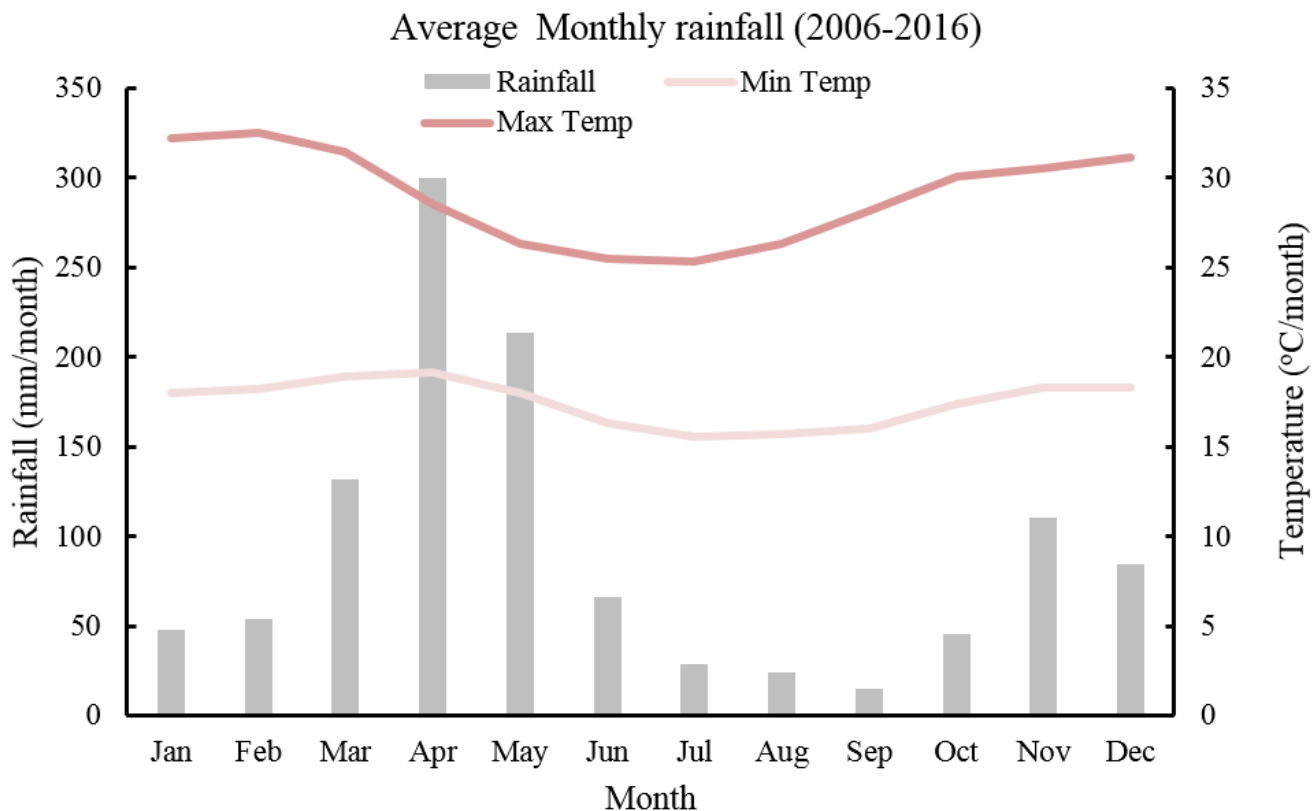
### 110 2.1. Study Area

The Kikuletwa basin is a sub-basin of the Pangani basin that covers approximately 6,650 km<sup>2</sup> (Figure 1). Rainfall within the basin is bimodal, meaning that the area receives long rains (Masika) from March to June and short rains (Vuli) from November to December, as shown in Figure 2. Annual rainfall ranges between 300-800 mm in the lower part of the basin to 1200-2000 mm in the highlands of Mount Meru and Kilimanjaro. The maximum temperature ranges from 25 to 33<sup>0</sup>C and minimum temperature ranges from 15 to 20<sup>0</sup>C. The basin comprises of diverse LULC classes such as agricultural land, dense forest on Mount Kilimanjaro (5880m) and Meru (4562m), grazed land, mixed urban and shrubland/thickets. Shrubland and thickets in the study area are found mainly in the lowlands where rain-fed agriculture is dominant. Urban areas concentrate around Arusha, although there are also emerging small towns. 115 Moreover, grazed land is mainly found in the Maasai land of Monduli and Simanjiro districts. Irrigated agriculture in Kikuletwa is mainly practiced in the highlands and lowlands along the river of Moshi, Moshi urban, Hai, Arumeru, Arusha, and Siha districts. The main crops in the highlands are banana, coffee, and maize, while the lowlands are dominated by mixed vegetable crops such as tomatoes, onions, and beans. 120



Map data © 2021 Google

**Figure 1.** The location of the Kikuletwa catchment in Africa (inset map). The catchment map shows the river networks and the location of ground water level, rainfall and temperature station in and around the catchment. (by Authors).



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**Figure 2.** Monthly average rainfall (mm) and temperature of Kikuletwa basin ground rainfall stations

## 2.2 Input dataset for SWAT+

The required rainfall, river discharge, climate data, topography, soil map and land-use map were collected from different sources. The 90-m Shuttle Radar Topographic Mission (SRTM) Digital Elevation Model (DEM) was obtained from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) website (https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/); the soil map was extracted from the African Soil Information Service (AFSIS; Hengl et al., 2015). Daily rainfall records for 10 stations were obtained from the Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) and Pangani Basin Water Office (PBWO). The daily climate records of temperature (maximum and minimum) for three stations were obtained from PBWO and TMA. The different data sets had variable record length and quality. However, for the selected 10 rainfall and 4

140

temperature stations, only good quality data records for the overlapping period (2006 to 2013) were selected.

Our study used an improved LULC maps with local observation unlike other studies in the same catchment such as (Notter et al., 2012; Ndomba et al., 2008). For instance, Notter et al. 2012 used only a few herbaceous crops in model parametrization without a cropping calendar. The LULC maps were created using Landsat 8 (30m resolution) image of three months (March, August and October) representing three seasons in the basin. The March map represents the LULC during the long-wet season (*Masika*), the August map represents the dry season, and the October map represents the short rainy seasons (*Vuli*). The overall classification accuracy for the land use maps of March, August, and October 2016 were 85.5%, 88.5%, and 91.6% with a kappa coefficient of 0.84, 0.87 and 0.91, respectively (Msigwa et al., 2019). About 20 and 19 LULC classes in the Kikuletwa catchment were mapped for the wet and dry seasons, respectively. More details on the land use classes and their accuracies are found in Msigwa et al. (2019). The LULC maps were reclassified to match the SWAT land-use classification (see Table 3B in Appendix B). For instance, the SWAT land-use code 'PAST' was used to represent grazed grassland in the maps.

### **2.3 Land-use Trajectories**

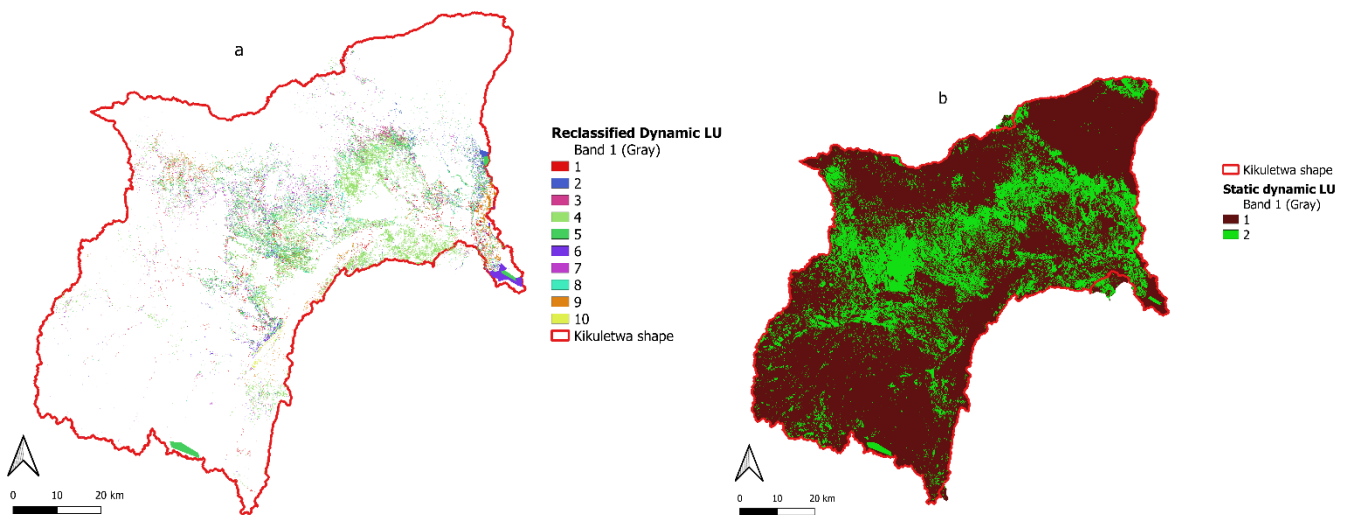
The LULC change trajectory methodology has been widely applied in many areas to assess LULC change and its impact on the environment. Researchers use trajectories to analyse the change happening between two images pixel by pixel (Mertens and Lambin, 2000; Swetnam, 2007; Zhou et al., 2008; Wang et al., 2012; Zomlot et al., 2017).

In this study, we extended the meaning of land-use trajectories from 'land-use change' to 'seasonal succession of land-use types for a given sample unit (pixel) with more than two observations at different times' (Zhou et al., 2008). We applied the method in this study to assess the agricultural seasonal dynamics for the meteorological dry and wet seasons of the Kikuletwa basin.



165 The land-use change trajectories were obtained by integrating three classified images to represent the  
three cropping seasons so that pixel-based change trajectories could be found using GIS. A land-use  
trajectory is the trajectory of a certain pixel in each of the three images. For example, a trajectory of  
2→3→0 means for that pixel the land-use in March was rain-fed Maize (2), then in August, irrigated  
mixed crop (3) and finally, in October, Bare land (0). This type of trajectory is classified as dynamic,  
170 whereas a trajectory of 4→4→4 meaning the land-use is irrigated banana and coffee (4) in March, August,  
and October, is a static trajectory. Thus, the LULC change trajectories were categorized into dynamic and  
static land-use trajectories. We only implemented the trajectories from all agricultural land-uses except  
irrigated banana and coffee and irrigated banana, maize and coffee land-uses which were combined as  
irrigated banana and coffee land-use. About 74% of the trajectories were static while 26% of the  
175 trajectories were dynamic. Figure 3 shows the spatial distribution of static and dynamic land-use  
trajectories found in the study area. Only agricultural land-use and extensive agriculture LULC such as  
grazed grassland and shrubland were considered when analysing the seasonal changes (dynamic land-  
uses) and implemented in the SWAT+ model. We analyzed and implemented 40 land-use trajectories,  
Appendix B, Table 1B shows few trajectories that were implemented.

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**Figure 3.** Spatial distribution of main dynamic land-use trajectories (a) and distinction between dynamic and static land-use (b) identified in the study area.

<b>Legend</b>		
<b>Id</b>	<b>Main Trajectory</b>	<b>Crop/ vegetation cover meaning</b>
1	AGRL-BSVG-AGRL	Beans-space vegetation-beans
2	CORN-AGRL-PAST	Rainfed maize-beans-grassland
3	CORN-AGRL-BSVG	Rainfed maize-beans-space vegetation
4	AGRL-AGRL-BSVG	Irrigated mixed crops- irrigated mixed crops -space vegetation
5	CORN-AGRL-AGRL	Rainfed maize- Irrigated mixed crops - Irrigated mixed crops
6	AGRL-AGRL-AGRL	Irrigated mixed crops - Irrigated mixed crops - Irrigated mixed crops
7	CORN-PAST-AGRL	Rainfed maize -grassland- Irrigated mixed crops
8	AGRL-AGRL-PAST	Irrigated mixed crops - Irrigated mixed crops -grassland
9	SUGC-AGRL-AGRL	Irrigation sugarcane- Irrigated mixed crops - Irrigated mixed crops
10	AGRL-AGRL-AGRL	Irrigated mixed crops - Irrigated mixed crops - Irrigated mixed crops

#### 185 **2.4. SWAT+ Model**

SWAT+ is a physically based, semi-distributed hydrological model and a restructured version of the Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) designed to face present and future challenges in water resources modelling and management (Bieger et al., 2017). SWAT+ is more flexible in simulating the basin processes such as evapotranspiration, runoff, crop growth, nutrient, and sediment transport due to its watershed discretization and configuration. The HRUs are defined as a contiguous area, i.e., a representative field, with an associated user-defined length and width. The actual HRU is calculated based on the DEM, soil and land-use map inputs. Sub basins are delineated during the model construction, but they are divided into water areas and one or more landscape units (LSU)(Bieger et al., 2017).

Land-use and management representation in SWAT+ can be done through the management file or using decision tables. Decision tables are an accurate yet compact way to model complex rule sets and their corresponding actions. Nkwasa et al. (2020) highlighted the greater flexibility provided by decision tables during the representation of agricultural practices in SWAT+. The model gives room for two or more

crops growing at the same time by defining the plant community in the specific plant file. The model enables the representation of the reality of cultivated tropical basins.

200 The ET in the model is estimated at HRU level. There are different methods (Priestley-Taylor, Penman-Monteith and Hargreaves) used to estimate ET in the SWAT+ model. More detailed information can be found in (Abiodun et al., 2017; Neitsch et al., 2002; Alemayehu et al., 2016). Our study adopted the Hargreaves method (Hargreaves and Samani, 1982) to estimate ET due to the limited amount of input data such as solar radiation. The method has been tested in tropical basins such as the Mara basin linking  
205 Tanzania and Kenya (Alemayehu et al., 2016). Our aim was to use available ground data and not rely on remote sensing climate data such as solar radiation which is reported to have uncertainties (Alemayehu et al., 2016). SWAT model have also been successfully used in Pangani basin for different purposes (Ndomba et al., 2008; Notter et al., 2012).

## **2.5 Land-use Trajectories Implementation in SWAT+**

210 We combined three maps (March, August and October) to obtain the trajectory land-use map. Forty land-use trajectories were produced from the three seasonal land-use maps. These trajectories differ from the traditional approach as they not only use the agricultural statics but use land use maps to define the space. Then each trajectory was assigned a SWAT+ land-use code (placeholder). For instance, a placeholder SWAT+ land-use code ‘MIXC’ signifies a CORN→TOMA→TOMA trajectory (rainfed maize to tomato  
215 to tomato land use trajectory) or ‘MIGS’ signifies a CORN →TOMA →BSVG trajectory (rainfed maize to tomato to sparse vegetation land use trajectory) as shown in Table 1B (Appendix B). A trajectory land-use map represented with the placeholder SWAT+ land-use codes using the lookup Table 1B (Appendix B) for Kikuletwa basin was created. A python code (Appendix A) was used to assign trajectories of the placeholder SWAT+ land-use codes, and to create the trajectories’ management files i.e., ‘landuse.lum’,  
220 ‘management.sch’ and ‘hru-data.hru’ files. In the ‘Landuse.lum’ file, the trajectories were defined with respect to the plant community. ‘Management.sch’ file controls the timing of the planting and harvesting of the individual crops in the community (Table 1). For instance, the tomato and soya beans are planted in the same field with different planting and harvesting schedule but grown at the same period. However,

each crop was defined by its own plant community in new SWAT+ to make distinction between these  
 225 crops. The ‘hru-data.hru’ file links the HRUs to the corresponding land-use management. The irrigation  
 schedules were implemented using decisions tables. The sources of irrigation water in the catchment was  
 river and irrigation techniques were mostly furrow.

**Table 1.** An example of a ‘management.sch’ file input in dynamic SWAT+ model

name	numb_ops <sup>9</sup>	numb_auto <sup>10</sup>	op_typ <sup>11</sup>	Mon <sup>12</sup>	Day <sup>13</sup>	hu_sch <sup>14</sup>	op_data1*	op_data2*	op_data3*
cor_agr_agr_m <sup>1</sup>	8	2	irr_toma_soy <sup>2</sup>						
			irr_corn <sup>2</sup>						
			plnt <sup>3</sup>	3	15	0	corn <sup>5</sup>	grain <sup>8</sup>	0
			hvkl <sup>4</sup>	8	15	0	corn	grain	1
			plnt	7	1	0	soyb <sup>6</sup>	grain	2
			plnt	8	20	0	toma	null	3
			hvkl	10	1	0	soyb	grain	4
			hvkl	10	20	0	toma <sup>7</sup>	null	5
			plnt	10	30	0	corn	grain	6
			hvkl	2	28	0	corn	grain	7
agr_agr_agr_m <sup>1</sup>	8	2	irr_toma_soy <sup>2</sup>						
			irr_corn <sup>2</sup>						
			plnt	3	15	0	soyb	grain	0
			hvkl	6	30	0	soyb	grain	1
			plnt	7	1	0	soyb	grain	2
			plnt	8	20	0	toma	null	3
			hvkl	10	1	0	soyb	grain	4
			hvkl	10	20	0	toma	null	5
			plnt	10	30	0	corn	grain	6
			hvkl	2	28	0	corn	grain	7

<sup>1</sup> name of the land-use management, <sup>2</sup> points to the irrigation decision tables, <sup>3</sup> planting operation, <sup>4</sup>  
 230 harvesting operation, <sup>5</sup> rainfed maize, <sup>6</sup> soy bean, <sup>7</sup> tomato, <sup>8</sup> harvest the grain portion of the crop, <sup>9</sup> number  
 of operations, <sup>10</sup> number of auto-operations, <sup>11</sup> operation type, <sup>12</sup> month, <sup>13</sup> day, <sup>14</sup> heat unit schedule, \*  
 operations

## 2.6 Model Configuration for both Static and Dynamic SWAT+ Models

The SWAT+ model was setup using DEM, soil map and land-use map of March 2016 for the static  
 235 representation scenario (static model) and using a trajectory map and files (described in section 2.5) for

the dynamic representation scenario (dynamic Model). In the static model the crops were grown in the rain seasons from March till July and the land would be left bare. This is normally the case with most SWAT model Application in SWAT (Ndomba et al., 2008; Gashaw et al., 2018; Koch et al., 2012). The same ground observations of rainfall and temperature were used (Appendix C, Table 1C) for both models.

240 The precipitation stations were adjusted manually according to elevation and the potential maximum leaf area index of maize was adjusted to correspond to the field measurements of the basin. USDA Soil Conservation Service (SCS) curve number was used to estimate surface runoff and the muskingum method used for channel routing.

For the static SWAT+ model, 23 sub-basins, 171 land scape units and 6086hru were generated with 14

245 land-use classes, while for the dynamic SWAT+ model, 23 sub-basins, 171 land scape units and 9333hru were generated with 40 land use classes representing the 40 different trajectories. The difference in the number of HRUs is related to the higher number of land-use classes in the dynamic land-use mapping. The irrigation schedules were implemented through decisions tables (Arnold et al., 2018) by specifying a furrow irrigation method and using the rivers within the sub-basins as the source of irrigation. The model

250 was run for a period of 8 years (2006 to 2013). The first two years were used as a warm up period.

## **2.7 Model Evaluation**

Both the static and dynamic SWAT+ models were compared on how they simulate the water balance with specific focus on the ET component since this study aims at mainly improving the spatial distribution of blue and green water consumption. Hence, the SWAT+ models were not calibrated. The ET from both

255 static and dynamic SWAT+ representation scenarios was compared with the remote sensing ET at a basin level for the same simulation period from 2008 to 2013. The remote sensing ET is an ensemble ET product from seven existing global scale ET products (IHE Delft, 2020). All the ET products are based on multi-spectral satellite measurements and surface energy balance models i.e. Global Land Evaporation Amsterdam Model (GLEAM) (Miralles et al., 2011), CSIRO MODIS Reflectance-based

260 Evapotranspiration (CMRS-ET) (Guerschman et al., 2009), Operational Simplified Surface Energy Balance (SSEBop) (Senay et al., 2013), Atmosphere-Land Exchange Inverse Model (ALEXI) (Anderson

et al., 2007), Surface Energy Balance System (SEBS) (Su, 2002), ETMonitor (Hu and Lia, 2015) and MODIS Global Terrestrial Evapotranspiration Algorithm (MOD16) (Mu et al., 2011). The detailed information on the ET products description and method are found in Hugo et al. (2019). The product was  
265 evaluated for the study area by comparing the basin water balance at three gauged stations; Karangai, Kikuletwa Power station and Tanzania Plantation Company (TPC) over a period of six years (2008-2013). The comparison of ET calculated using the water balance and remote sensing showed good agreement (NSE= 0.77) for Kikuletwa Power station which covered 86% of the total basin area (Msigwa et al., 2019, 2021). Statistical metrics such as Nash-Sutcliffe efficiency (NSE), Root Mean Square Error (RMSE),  
270 Percent Bias (PBIAS) and adjusted R squared ( $R^2$ ) were used to evaluate the both monthly ET from static and dynamic SWAT+ models against the remote sensing ET. Moreover, the Paired T-test statistical analysis was performed to find if there is significant difference between the ET from the static model and that of dynamic model for only the dynamic land uses.

## 2.8 Estimating blue and green ET

275 The blue ET is a portion of crop evapotranspiration after application of irrigation while green ET is the evapotranspiration as a result of rainfall. The blue ET in this study was estimated as a difference between ET under irrigation and ET without irrigation (Liu and Yang, 2010). The SWAT+ dynamic land-use implementation was run without irrigation and then later irrigation was applied. The green ET is the actual evapotranspiration from precipitation which can be kept in unsaturated soil and absorbed by plants and is  
280 then returned to the atmosphere via evapotranspiration. In this study, only the portion of blue water consumed from irrigation was considered and not all the blue water resources like other studies (Xie et al., 2020).

The SWAT+ model was run first assuming that no irrigation was carried out. The computed ET is called  $ET_{green}$ . Then the SWAT+ model was run again with irrigation being implemented and the ET computed  
285 is called  $ET_{total}$  as explained in the two scenarios below.  $ET_{blue}$  is computed by the difference of  $ET_{total}$  from the run with irrigation implantation and  $ET_{green}$  “Eq. (4)”.

The two scenarios to estimate blue ET

1. The seasonal dynamic SWAT+ is carried out by assuming the soil does not receive any irrigation water. The evapotranspiration computed using this first run is referred to as  $ET_{green}$
- 290 2. The seasonal dynamic SWAT+ is carried out by assuming the soil receives sufficient irrigation water. The evapotranspiration computed using this second run is referred to as  $ET_{total}$

Hence,  $ET_{blue}$  is computed from the “Eq. (4)” below

$$ET_{blue} = ET_{total} - ET_{green} \quad (4)$$

It should be noted that the trajectory implementation involves only two of the agricultural land-uses i.e. 295 rainfed maize and mixed crop with exception of irrigated banana and coffee land-use and irrigated banana, coffee and maize land-use.

## 2.9 Comparison of SWAT+ results with other remote sensing methods

The SWAT+ blue and green ET were compared with the results from the four remote sensing data based methods namely: SN (Senay et al., 2016), EK (van Eekelen et al., 2015), Budyko method (Simons et al., 300 2020) and Soil Water Balance method -SWB (FAO and IHE Delft, 2019).

The SN method (Senay et al., 2016) is the simplest method whereby blue water is estimated as a difference between precipitation (P) and ET, followed by the modified method of van Eekelen et al., (2015) where the effective fraction was introduced to reduce the amount of precipitation that evaporates. The Budyko method, as described in Simons et al., (2020), estimates green water from precipitation using an empirical 305 relationship between actual evapotranspiration, precipitation and reference evapotranspiration. The Budyko equation, also called the Budyko curve, assumes a relationship between the evaporation ratio ( $ET/P$ ) and climate aridity index ( $ET_0/P$ ) to describe the water-energy balance for long term analysis.

The soil moisture balance model computes green ( $ET_{green}$ ) and blue ( $ET_{blue}$ ) water components of ET, by keeping track of the soil moisture balance and determining whether ET can be satisfied through direct 310 precipitation and precipitation stored as soil moisture alone or if an additional water (surface or groundwater supply) is required. The study compares blue and green water estimations for all LULC classes for the Kikuletwa catchment.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1 Comparison of Simulated basin ET from Remote Sensing

315 Figure 4 shows the average monthly ET at the basin scale of Kikuletwa for the two model scenarios of  
SWAT+ and that from remote sensing. The dynamic SWAT+ model shows higher ET (by 20mm/month)  
matching the remote sensing pattern in the dry seasons (July to October) than the static SWAT+ model  
implementation. This shows that there are agricultural activities occurring in the dry seasons. In the  
dynamic SWAT+ model, we implemented irrigated cropping during the dry seasons which led to an  
320 increase in ET.

The statistical analysis (Table 2) shows that both the SWAT+ simulations have a correlation ( $R^2$ ) of above  
0.5, when compared with monthly remote sensing ET. However, the monthly average ET value for the  
dynamic land-use scenario is closer to the remote sensing ET, especially during the dry months from July  
to November where we implement more than one cropping season.

325 Unlike the commonly used static land-use scenario where only one cropping season was implemented per  
year, the monthly ET for the dynamic SWAT+ model implementation shows acceptable PBIAS of 13%  
whereas, the static SWAT+ model shows higher PBIAS of 30%. Moreover, the dynamic SWAT+ model  
shows a good NSE of 0.4 while the static SWAT+ shows very low performance with an NSE of -0.46.

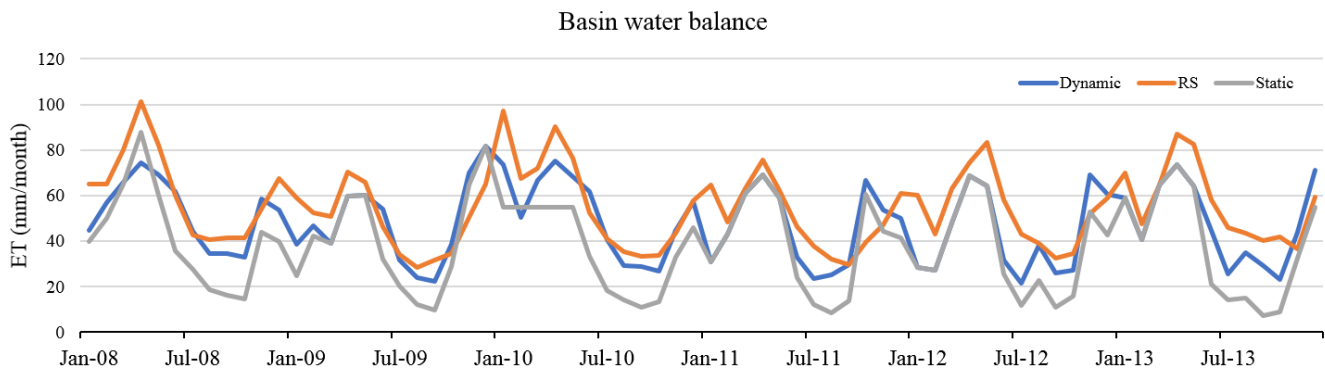
Table 3 shows the water balance component for the two scenarios. A notable difference is seen in ET  
330 increase (24%) and decrease in other water balance components (lateral flow; 27%, percolation; 42%,  
surface runoff; 32%). The mass balance (change in soil water balance) in percentage for the static SWAT+  
model is higher (1.8%) than the dynamic SWAT+ model (0.5%). The most pronounced differences are  
found when comparing the dynamic land-use representation on basin scale and the commonly used static  
land-use approach with remote sensing. Figure 5 shows the spatial distribution of ET from remote sensing,  
335 dynamic land-use and static land-use representation.

The average basin ET is 461mm/y, 573mm/y and 642 mm/y for the static SWAT+ model, dynamic  
SWAT+ model, and remote sensing, respectively. Generally, all the simulated ET from SWAT+ shows



lower annual average ET than remote sensing ET. However, the ET from static land-use representation shows a higher difference of 181mm/y whereas with the use of dynamic land-use, the difference in ET is only 69mm/y. The paired T-test results show that there is a significant difference between the ET from the static model and that of the dynamic model for the dynamic land-uses. A P value of 0.013 was obtained, which was less than the 0.05 confidence interval. Spatial distribution of ET from the SWAT+ models is different from remote sensing. However, visually, the spatial distribution of ET from the dynamic land-use scenario is closer and shows similar patches to remote sensing than the ET from the static land-use scenario (Figure 5).

The differences in ET spatial distribution (Figure 5) are vivid mostly in the trajectory implemented areas in the lowlands see Figure 3. Figure 6 shows the ET on the dynamic land-uses alone, the differences of the amount of the ET in these areas is more than 100mm per year. The vivid differences are seen on the right lower corner of the catchment where the differences in ET are more than 200mm/y. There are more areas with less than 400mm/y in the static model as compared to the dynamic model.



**Figure 4.** Average monthly ET for basin-scale summarized from remote sensing, dynamic land-use scenario and static land-use scenario.

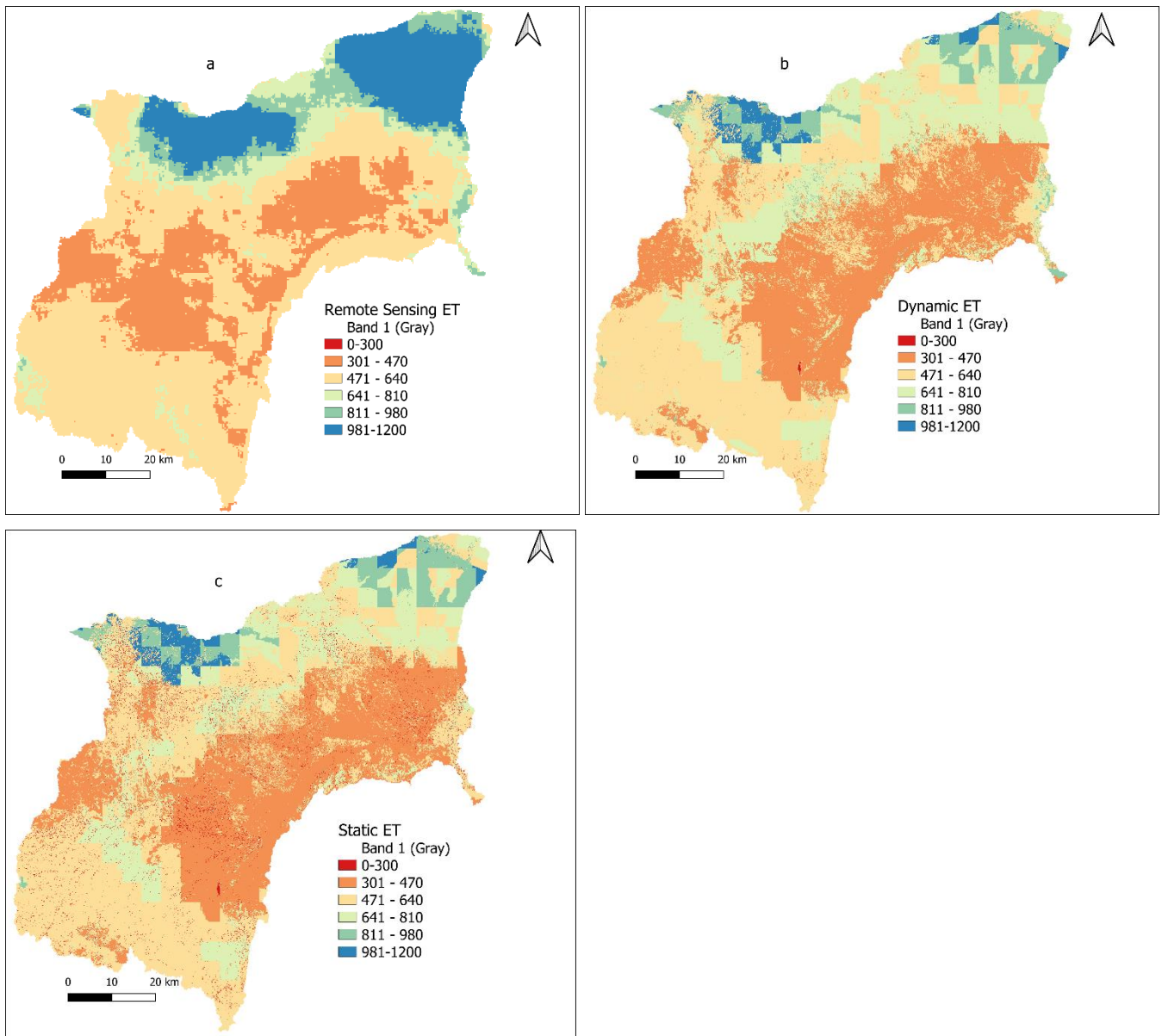
355

**Table 2.** Statistical analysis of ET comparison of SWAT scenarios from Remote sensing

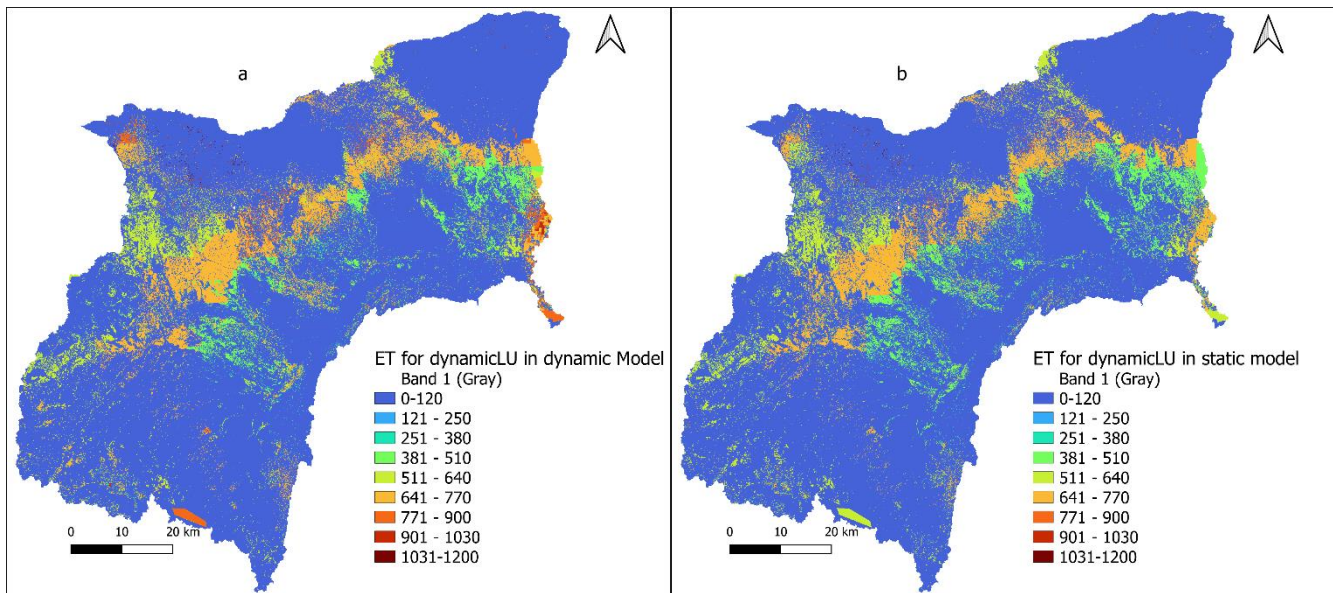
<b>Statistic Parameter</b>	<b>Static SWAT+</b>	<b>Dynamic SWAT+</b>
PBIAS	30%	13%
Nash-Sutcliffe efficiency (NSE)	-0.46	0.4
Adjusted R Square	0.6	0.6
RMSE (mm/month)	20.8	13.3

**Table 3.** Comparison of water balance component for the basin level

<b>Water balance component (mm)</b>	<b>Static</b>	<b>Dynamic</b>
Precipitation	814	814
Irrigation	0	8.25
Evapotranspiration	461	573
Lateral flow	139	101
Surface runoff	207	140
Percolation	21.7	12.6
%mass balance	1.8	0.53



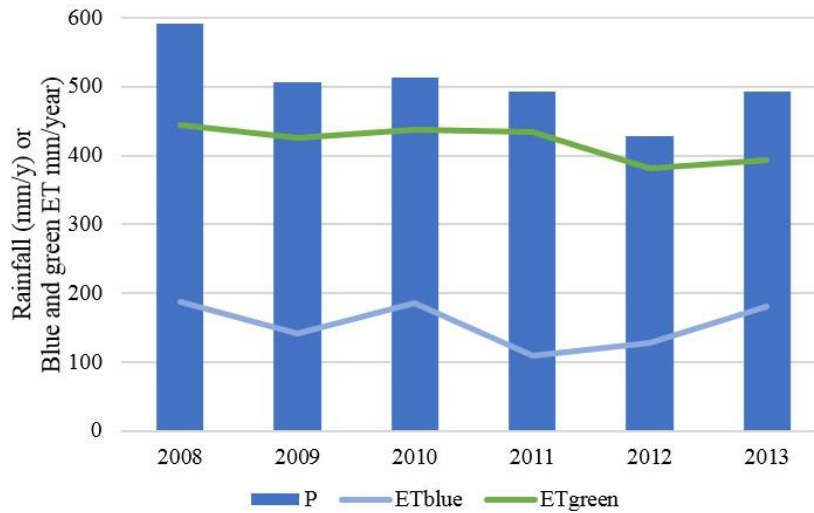
**Figure 5.** Spatial distribution of ET from a) Remote sensing b) dynamic land-use scenario and c) static land-use scenario.



365 **Figure 6.** Spatial distribution of ET from dynamic Land-use for both a) dynamic and b) static SWAT+  
 Models.

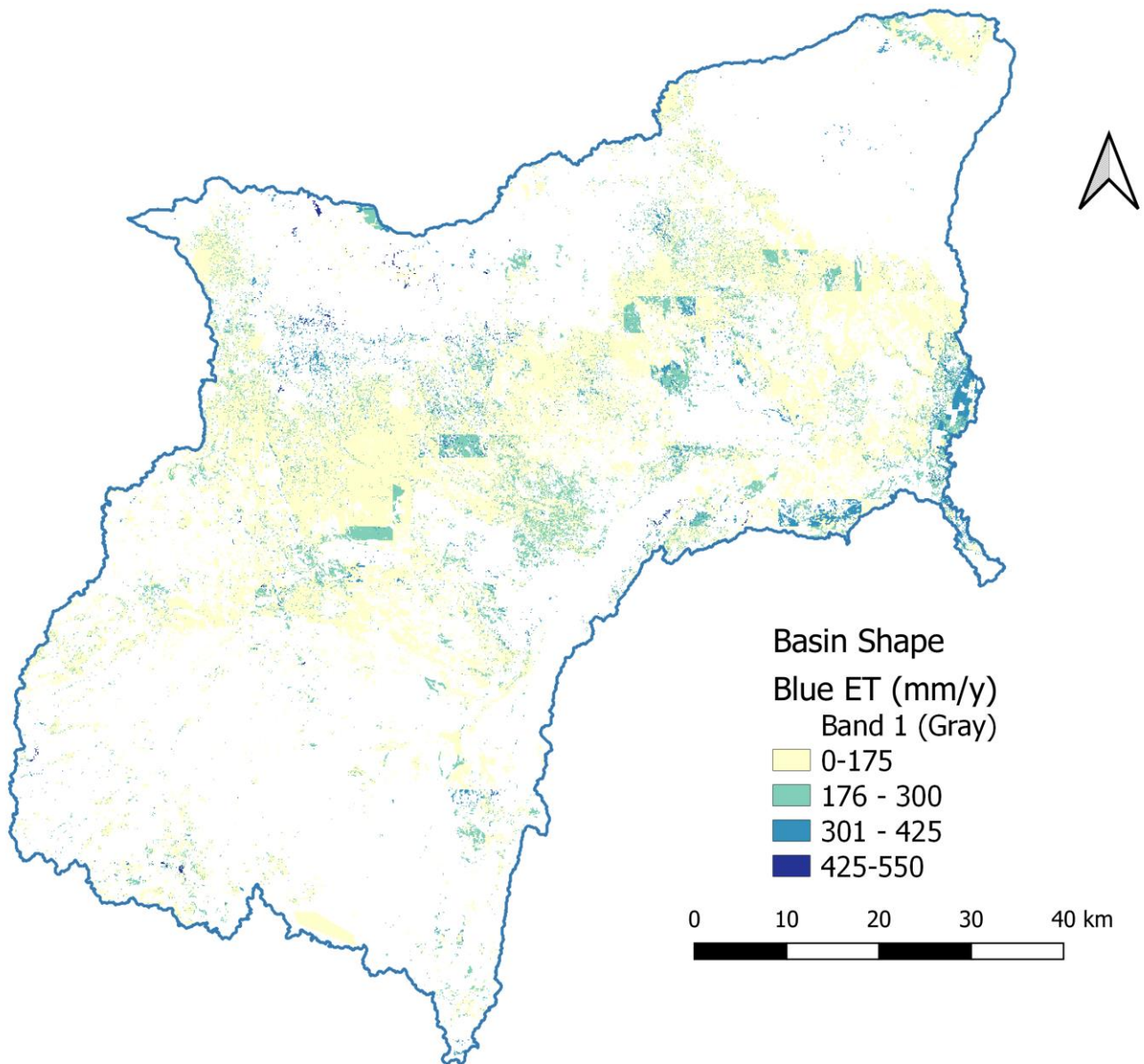
### 3.2 Blue and Green ET

Figure 7 shows the trends of blue and green annual ET in the Kikuletwa basin for a period from 2008 to 2013. The implemented blue and green ET were mainly for irrigated mixed crop land-use due to  
 370 implementation of trajectories. The annual average blue ET for irrigated mixed crops is 138mm which accounts for 25.5% of the annual average total ET and the annual average green ET is 402mm which accounts for 74.5% of the annual average total ET.



**Figure 7.** The annual variation of blue and green ET from 2008–2013.

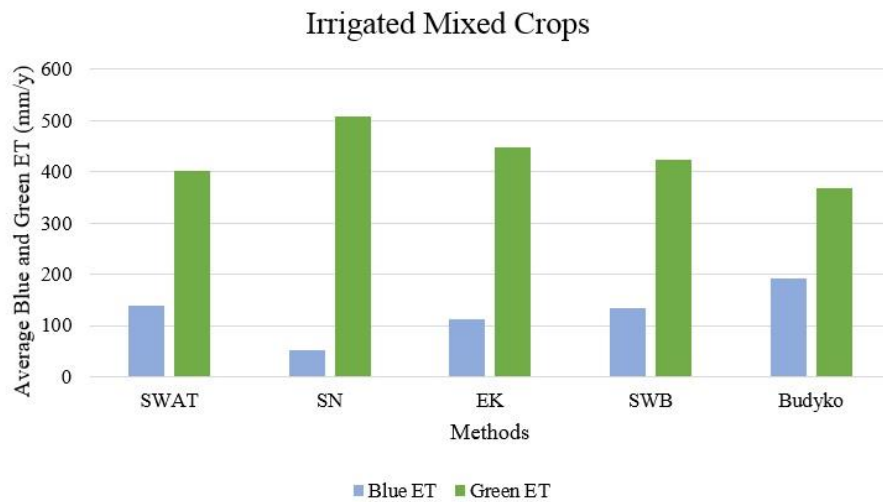
375 Figure 8 shows that the spatial distribution of blue ET for agricultural areas in the Kikuletwa basin for  
 implemented trajectories such as rainfed maize to tomato to irrigated maize land use trajectory (See  
 Appendix 2, Table 2). The blue water is calculated from the irrigated implemented trajectories that mainly  
 include irrigated mixed crops (soybeans, tomato and irrigated maize). Figure 8 shows that more than half  
 of the total area consumes less than 200mm of blue ET. The higher blue ET is seen in the lower right  
 380 corner where the irrigated sugarcane plantation is found.



**Figure 8.** Spatial distribution of Blue ET for the implemented trajectories of rainfed and irrigated mixed crops land-use.

Figure 9 shows the comparison of average blue and green ET from four methods (Msigwa et al., 2021) with dynamic SWAT+. The value of both blue and green ET is closer to two methods, EK (van Eekelen) and SWB (Soil Water Balance) methods, which were indicated to have realistic values of blue and green

ET. Van Eekelen et al., (2015) is the method that analysed precipitation (P) and ET and applied an effective rainfall factor since not all rainfall will infiltrate and be stored in the unsaturated zone to be available for uptake by plants. Both ground data and remote sensing data could be used for data analysis-based approaches on an annual basis. The SWB model is a pixel by pixel vertical soil water balance model that splits green and blue ET by tracking of soil moisture balance and determining if the ET is satisfied only from rainfall or stored in the soil moisture or additional sources if required (FAO and IHE Delft, 2019).



395 **Figure 9.** Blue and green ET comparison with other four methods from Msigwa et al. (2021).

#### 4. Discussion

Some previous studies have represented annual land-use changes in SWAT and found that these have a significant impact on hydrology (Wagner et al., 2016; Woldesenbet et al., 2017; Wagner et al., 2019). However, none of these studies has represented the seasonal dynamics of land use within a single year in a spatially distributed manner. Nkwasa et al. (2020) incorporated the seasonal land-use dynamic in SWAT and SWAT+ and found that models led to an improved vegetation simulation. This study did not show how the seasonal land-use dynamic improved water balance component such as ET. Our study uses of agro-hydrological model (SWAT+) to represent blue and green ET for different cropping seasons



(represented by trajectory with time and space) and the use of remote sensing ET to evaluate the simulated  
405 ET from SWAT+. The study has compared a common default modelling approach where a static land-  
use map is used together with its management practices and a seasonal dynamic land-use representation  
where more than one cropping season is represented in a year. The spatial and temporal ET estimates  
from two model setups were compared with remote sensing ET. An increase of 112mm/y of the ET is  
seen when seasonal dynamic land-use is implemented in the dynamic model to match the remote sensing  
410 ET as compared to when a static land-use map is used in the static model. The ET results from the dynamic  
model are significantly different from the ET in the static model for the dynamic land-use. The models  
show differences in water balance components, this is due to implementation of the land-use trajectory in  
the dynamic model.

A remarkable difference is seen in the spatial distribution of ET from static and dynamic land-use SWAT+  
415 representation. The dynamic land-use SWAT+ visually is similar to a remote sensing map compared to  
the static land-use SWAT+. This is because of the added management practices such as irrigated cropping  
in the dry seasons, unlike the default SWAT+ with a static land use throughout the simulation period. The  
ET from dynamic land-use setup could not reach maximum satellite ET because the satellite ET estimates  
also have uncertainties in the mountainous areas because of the presence of cloud cover. Moreover,  
420 different methods for estimating ET could lead to these differences. Climate ground stations (temperature,  
wind speed, relative humidity and solar radiation) were used for ET simulation in SWAT+ model while  
the remote sensing use the energy balance models, mostly remote sensing data.

On the other hand, the ET from the static land cover such as forest from the static and dynamic model  
setup show different ET values this could be because of the difference in the initial model setup. The  
425 model setup for static used a March land use map with only 14 land use classes, while the dynamic model  
used a land use map with 40 trajectories. Hence, the changes in the ET might be due to the different land  
use maps yielding different number of HRUs. In order to avoid such difference, one could have a initial  
setup with same land uses then trajectory implementation could only be with the agricultural land use



Furthermore, the ET estimates from the dynamic SWAT+ model were used to estimate blue and green  
430 ET. The blue and green ET estimates from SWAT+ for the mixed crop land-use show no significant  
difference in the values from the two methods (EK and SWB) assessed in the (Msigwa et al., 2021).

These findings demonstrate the importance of the representation of seasonal land-use dynamic in  
modelling blue and green water consumption. Normally, most models use NDVI to represent seasonal  
changes (Amri et al., 2011; Ferreira et al., 2003), whereas the use of dynamic land-use leads to improved  
435 accuracy of seasonal simulations of the water uses (Nkwasa et al., 2020). Seasonal land-use maps can add  
information on management practices of changes in temporal crop rotation and irrigation water use at a  
spatial scale. However, to account for accurate seasonality of land-use, more than 3 maps within a year  
should be represented, ideally 12 maps each year. This would enable a more complete understanding of  
the agricultural land-use classes and minimize errors in the trajectory analysis. However, Landsat 8 is  
440 associated with cloud most especially in the rainy season. Cloud masking techniques is needed before  
further analysis of the images. Also, there were uncertainties associated with the trajectories for example  
unrealistic trajectories like change from crop to forest then crop again. These types of trajectories were  
corrected and reclassified.

The Landsat 8 images used in this study to map seasonal land-use dynamics did not have a revisit time  
445 (16-day) that is small enough to acquire an adequate number of monthly images to represent the year.  
More products are now becoming available (Sentinel-2, 5-day revisit time) that have a higher temporal  
resolution, which would aid in the collection of more cloud free images to represent seasonality within  
the year.

Although it appears important to include seasonal land use dynamic, one may claim that the annual land-  
450 use implementation is enough when studying the effect of land use in hydrology. Our study shows a  
significant impact of the representation of seasonal land-use in the SWAT+ model by reducing the errors  
in water consumption estimations.

## 5. Conclusion

Understanding of the spatial-temporal variability of agricultural water consumption in terms of blue  
455 water, requires accurate estimates of ET. This study has demonstrated the importance of incorporating  
seasonal land-use dynamic to improve simulated ET for further blue and green ET estimates using a  
SWAT+ model. Although the static representation gives equally reasonable good  $R^2$  results of more than  
0.5, we found out that the RMSE for the static model result is significantly higher as compared to the  
RMSE of the dynamic model result by about 112 mm per year. Moreover, the ET from the dynamic  
460 SWAT+ model gave a low PBIAS (13%) and a relatively good NSE of 0.4 compared to the ET from  
static SWAT+ that gives a higher PBIAS (20.8%) and a negative NSE of -0.46. The study showed that a  
dynamic land use representation in the SWAT+ model gave ET estimates closer to the remote sensing ET  
as compared to the default model with a static land-use representation. The improved ET map from the  
dynamic SWAT+ model improved the blue ET estimates as compared to use of static ET maps that does  
465 not implement irrigation in dry season. Hence, estimated blue ET correspond to the blue ET amount of  
past study in the basin (Msigwa et al., 2021). It is concluded that the representation of seasonal land use  
dynamics is essential to correctly simulate the agricultural (blue and green) water consumption. Also, for  
land use change studies, it is important to correctly represent the seasonal land use dynamics.

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- 600

## Appendices

### Appendix A. Make Management Script

```
import sys
605 from PIL import Image
import numpy as np

def open_tif_as_array(tif_file):
    im = Image.open(tif_file)
610 imarray = np.array(im)
    return imarray

def empty_line():
    print("")

615 def write_to(filename, text_to_write, report = False):
    ...
    a function to write to file
    ...
```

```

620     g = open(filename, 'w')
        try:
            g.write(text_to_write)
            if report:
                print('\n\t> file saved to ' + filename)
625     except:
        print("\t> error writing to {0}, make sure the file is not open in another program"
        .format(
            filename))
        response = input("\t> continue? (Y/N): ")
630     if response == "N" or response == "n":
        sys.exit()
    g.close

def show_progress(count, end_val, string_before = "percent complete", string_after = "", bar
635     r_length = 30):
    percent = float(count) / end_val
    hashes = "#" * int(round(percent * bar_length))
    spaces = '_' * (bar_length - len(hashes))
    sys.stdout.write("\r{str_b} [{bar}] {pct}% {str_after}\t\t".format(
640         str_b = string_before,
            bar = hashes + spaces,
            pct = '{0:.2f}'.format(percent * 100),
            str_after = string_after))
    sys.stdout.flush()
645

def read_from(filename):
    """
    a function to read ascii files
    """
650     try:
        g = open(filename, 'r')
    except:
        print("\t> error reading {0}, make sure the file exists".format(filename))
        return
655     file_text = g.readlines()
    g.close
    return file_text

class schedule_data:
660     def __init__(self, crop_name):
        self.crop_name = crop_name
        self.oct_plant = ""
        self.oct_harvest = ""
        self.aug_plant = ""
665     self.aug_harvest = ""
        self.mar_plant = ""
        self.mar_harvest = ""

```

```

base_txt = "C:/Users/james/Desktop/root/anna/new/new_swat_plus_model/kikuletwa/Scenarios/De
670 fault/TxtInOut"
inputs_path = "trajectory_files"

# read trajectory data
trajectories = open_tif_as_array("{base}/{fn}".format(base = inputs_path, fn = "trajectory_
675 map_thres.tif"))
legend_raw = read_from("{base}/{fn}".format(base = inputs_path, fn = "trajectory_lookup_fin
al.csv"))
dates_raw = read_from("{base}/{fn}".format(base = inputs_path, fn = "crop_plant_harvest.csv
"))
680

landuse_lum_raw = """landuse.lum: created for trajectories
name          cal_group      plnt_com          mgt          cn
2             cons_prac      urban             urb_ro       ov_mann      tile
              sep          vfs              grww         bmp
685 """

plant_ini_raw = """plant.ini: created for trajectories
pcom_name      plt_cnt rot_yr_ini  plt_name  lc_status      lai_init      bm_init
phu_init      plnt_pop  yrs_init   rsd_init
690 """

management_raw = """management.sch: created for trajectories
name          numb_ops  numb_auto  op_typ      mon      day
hu_sch        op_data1  op_data2   op_data3
695 """

landuse_lum = landuse_lum_raw
plant_ini = plant_ini_raw

trajectories_dictionary = {}
700 # trajectory_hru_lum_dict = {}
crop_schedule_dictionary = {}
month_dictionary = {'': "None", "Jan": "1", "Feb": "2", "Mar": "3", "Apr": "4", "May": "5",
"Jun": "6", "Jul": "7", "Aug": "8", "Sep": "9", "Oct": "10", "Nov": "11", "Dec": "12"}

705 for line in dates_raw[1:]:
    parts = line.split(",")
    crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[0].lower()] = schedule_data(parts[0])
    crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[0].lower()].oct_plant = "{0}".format(parts[5]).strip("\n
")
710    crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[0].lower()].oct_harvest = "{0}".format(parts[6]).strip("
\n")
    crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[0].lower()].aug_plant = "{0}".format(parts[3]).strip("\n
")
    crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[0].lower()].aug_harvest = "{0}".format(parts[4]).strip("
715 \n")

```



```

    crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[0].lower()].mar_plant = "{0}".format(parts[1]).strip("\n
")
    crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[0].lower()].mar_harvest = "{0}".format(parts[2]).strip(
\n")
720
for line in legend_raw[1:]:
    trajectories_dictionary[line.split(",")[1].lower()] = line.split(",")[2].strip("\n").lo
wer()

725 growing_list = ["FRST", "BANA", "SHRB", "SUGC"]

for crop_name in trajectories_dictionary:
    # create lum
    parts = trajectories_dictionary[crop_name].split("-")
730 com_mgt_prefix = "{0}_{1}_{2}".format(parts[0][:3], parts[1][:3], parts[2][:3])
    com_mgt_prefix = com_mgt_prefix.lower()
    if True: #not ((parts[0] == parts[1]) and (parts[0] == parts[2])):
        line_ = "{lum_t}          null          {plt_comm} {mgt}          rc_strow_g
cross_slope          null          null          convtill_nores          null
735          null          null          null          null \n".format(
            lum_t = trajectories_dictionary[crop_name].lower().replace("-", "_"),
            plt_comm = "{0}_c".format(com_mgt_prefix),
            mgt = "{0}_m".format(com_mgt_prefix),
        )
740        landuse_lum += line_
        # print(trajectories_dictionary[crop_name])

    # create comm
    comm__ = "{comm_n}_c          //no          1 \n".format(comm_n = com_mgt_prefix)
745    plt_count = 0
    done = []
    for plt in parts:
        if plt == "AGRL":
            for agrl_crop in ["TOMA", "CORN", "SOYB"]:
750                if not agrl_crop.lower() in done:
                    if plt in growing_list:
                        grow_ini = "y"
                    else:
                        grow_ini = "n"
755                plt_count += 1
                comm__ += "          {agrl_crop}
{growing}          0.00000          0.00000          0.00000          0.00000          0.00000          10000
.00000 \n".format(agrl_crop = agrl_crop.lower(), growing = grow_ini)
                done.append(agrl_crop)
760
            continue

        if not plt.lower() in done:
            if plt in growing_list:

```

```

765         grow_ini = "y"
           else:
               grow_ini = "n"
               plt_count += 1
               comm__ += "
770 }         0.00000      0.00000      0.00000      0.00000      {plt_l}      {growing
           0.00000      10000.00000  \n".
format(plt_l = plt.lower(), growing = grow_ini)
           done.append(plt)

           comm__ = comm__.replace("//no", str(plt_count))
775 plant_ini += comm__

           # create_management
           schedule_name = "{0}_m".format(com_mgt_prefix)
           number_of_manual_ops = 0
780 number_of_auto_ops = 0

           done_2 = []

           management_section_head = "{mgt_name}      {number_manual}
785 {number_auto} "
           management_section_body = ""
           counter_mgt = 0

           for plant_index in range(0, 3):
790
               date_day_plant = None
               date_mnt_plant = None

               date_day_harvest = None
795 date_mnt_harvest = None
               agrl_list = []

               if plant_index == 0:
                   agrl_list = ["soyb"]
800
               if plant_index == 1:
                   agrl_list = ["soyb", "toma"]

               if plant_index == 2:
805 agrl_list = ["corn"]

               if parts[plant_index] == "agrl":
                   for agrl_crop_mgt in agrl_list:
                       if plant_index == 0:
810 date_day_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].mar_plant.spli
t("-")[0]

```

```

            date_mnt_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].mar_plant.spli
t("-")[1]
            if plant_index == 1:
815         date_day_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].aug_plant.spli
t("-")[0]
            date_mnt_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].aug_plant.spli
t("-")[1]
            if plant_index == 2:
820         date_day_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].oct_plant.spli
t("-")[0]
            date_mnt_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].oct_plant.spli
t("-")[1]

825         management_body_line = "
            {activity}{mnt}{day}          0.00000          {crp}          null          {ord
er}.00000 ".format(
            activity = "plnt",
830         mnt = month_dictionary[date_mnt_plant].strip(" ").rjust(10),
            day = date_day_plant.rjust(10),
            crp = agrl_crop_mgt.lower(),
            order = counter_mgt,
        )
        management_section_body += "{0}\n".format(management_body_line)
835         counter_mgt += 1
        for agrl_crop_mgt in agrl_list:
            if plant_index == 0:
                date_day_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].mar_harvest.
split("-")[0]
840         date_mnt_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].mar_harvest.
split("-")[1]
            if plant_index == 1:
                date_day_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].aug_harvest.
split("-")[0]
845         date_mnt_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].aug_harvest.
split("-")[1]
            if plant_index == 2:
                date_day_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].oct_harvest.
split("-")[0]
850         date_mnt_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[agrl_crop_mgt].oct_harvest.
split("-")[1]

            management_body_line = "
            {activity}{mnt}{day}          0.00000          {crp}          null          {ord
er}.00000 ".format(
            activity = "hvk1",
860         mnt = month_dictionary[date_mnt_harvest].strip(" ").rjust(10),
            day = date_day_harvest.rjust(10),
            crp = agrl_crop_mgt.lower(),
            order = counter_mgt,

```

```

)
management_section_body += "{0}\n".format(management_body_line)
counter_mgt += 1

```

```

865     elif parts[plant_index] in crop_schedule_dictionary:
            if not parts[plant_index] == "past":

                if plant_index == 0:
                    date_day_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].mar_plant
870     .split("-")[0]
                    date_mnt_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].mar_plant
                    .split("-")[1]
                if plant_index == 1:
                    date_day_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].aug_plant
875     .split("-")[0]
                    date_mnt_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].aug_plant
                    .split("-")[1]
                if plant_index == 2:
                    date_day_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].oct_plant
880     .split("-")[0]
                    date_mnt_plant = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].oct_plant
                    .split("-")[1]

                management_body_line = "
885     {activity}{mnt}{day}      0.00000      {crp}      null      {ord
er}.00000 ".format(
                    activity = "plnt",
                    mnt = month_dictionary[date_mnt_plant].strip(" ").rjust(10),
                    day = date_day_plant.rjust(10),
890     crp = parts[plant_index].lower(),
                    order = counter_mgt,
                )
                management_section_body += "{0}\n".format(management_body_line)
                counter_mgt += 1

895     if plant_index == 0:
                    date_day_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].mar_har
vest.split("-")[0]
                    date_mnt_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].mar_har
900     vest.split("-")[1]
                if plant_index == 1:
                    date_day_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].aug_har
vest.split("-")[0]
                    date_mnt_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].aug_har
905     vest.split("-")[1]
                if plant_index == 2:
                    date_day_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].oct_har
vest.split("-")[0]

```

```

    date_mnt_harvest = crop_schedule_dictionary[parts[plant_index]].oct_har
910 vest.split("-")[1]

    management_body_line = "
        {activity}{mnt}{day}      0.00000      {crp}      null      {ord
er}.00000 ".format(
915     activity = "hvk1",
        mnt = month_dictionary[date_mnt_harvest].strip(" ").rjust(10),
        day = date_day_harvest.rjust(10),
        crp = parts[plant_index].lower(),
        order = counter_mgt,
920     )
    management_section_body += "{0}\n".format(management_body_line)
    counter_mgt += 1

    if counter_mgt == 0:
925         continue

    management_raw += management_section_head.format(mgt_name = schedule_name, number_manua
l = counter_mgt, number_auto = number_of_auto_ops) + "\n" + management_section_body

930 # fix hrus based on dictionary

hru_data_string = """hru-data.hru: for trajectories
id name                topo                hydro                soil
          lu_mgt  soil_plant_init          surf_stor          snow                field
935 """

hru_data_hru_raw = read_from("{base}/{fn}".format(base = base_txt, fn = "hru-data.hru"))

for line in hru_data_hru_raw[2:]:
940     for_part = line
        for i in range(0, 20):
            for_part = for_part.replace(" ", " ")
            parts = for_part.split(" ")
            # print(parts[6].split("_")[0])
945     hru_data_string += line.replace(parts[6], trajectories_dictionary[parts[6].split("_")[0
]].lower().replace("-", "_"))

write_to("{base}/{fn}".format(base = 'model_files\Scenarios\Default\TxtInOut', fn = "landus
e.lum"), landuse_lum)
950 write_to("{base}/{fn}".format(base = 'model_files\Scenarios\Default\TxtInOut', fn = "manage
ment.sch"), management_raw)
write_to("{base}/{fn}".format(base = 'model_files\Scenarios\Default\TxtInOut', fn = "plant.
ini"), plant_ini)
write_to("{base}/{fn}".format(base = 'model_files\Scenarios\Default\TxtInOut', fn = "hru-
955 data.hru"), hru_data_string)

```

## Appendix B. Trajectories Description

970 **Table 1B.** Trajectories examples for each fake land-use code use for dynamic SWAT+ implementation.

Map_id	Code	Trajectory
1	TUWO	TUWO-TUWO-TUWO
2	GRAS	GRAS-GRAS-GRAS
6	BSVG	BSVG-BSVG-BSVG
11	FRST	FRST-FRST-FRST
78	BANA	BANA-BANA-BANA
110	HMEL	SHRB-SHRB-SHRB
121	INDN	CORN-BSVG-BSVG
146	LETT	CORN-BSVG-PAST
167	PAST	PAST-PAST-PAST
182	SUGC	SUGC-SUGC-SUGC
204	ASPN	FRST-BSVG-FRST
224	LIMA	CORN-PAST-PAST
225	MAPL	CORN-PAST-BSVG
243	MESQ	CORN-TOMA-PAST
248	MIGS	CORN-TOMA-BSVG
249	MINT	TOMA-TOMA-BSVG
254	MIXC	CORN-TOMA-TOMA
262	AGRR	AGRL-AGRL-AGRL

**Table 2B.** Dynamic agricultural land-use trajectory and their crop or vegetation cover meaning

ID	Trajectory	Crop/vegetation cover Meaning
1	CORN-PAST-PAST	rainfed maize-grass-grass

2	CORN-PAST-BSVG	rainfed maize-grass- sparse vegetation
3	CORN-TOMA-PAST	rainfed maize- tomato-grass
4	CORN-TOMA-BSVG	rainfed maize-tomato-sparse vegetation
5	AGRL-TOMA-BSVG	Beans-tomato-sparse vegetation
6	CORN-TOMA-IRRM	rainfed maize-tomato-irrigated maize
7	CORN-PAST-IRRM	Rainfed maize-grass-irrigated maize

**Table 3B. Land use classes as represented in the Static SWAT+ Model**

LANDUSE_ID	Land use Class	SWAT_CODE
1	Water	WATR
2	Grazed grassland	PAST
3	Grazed shrubland	CRGR
4	Space vegetation	BSVG
5	Rainfed Maize	CORN
6	Irrigated Sugarcane	SUGC
7	Dense forest	FRST
8	Sub_Alpine grassland	GRAS
9	Woodland	TUWO
10	Mixed Crops	AGRL
11	Irrigated Banana and Coffee	BANA
12	Wetland	WEHB
13	Urban	URMD
14	Shrubland	SHRB

975

### Appendix C. Data used in this study

980 **Table 1C.** Summary of the different data used in the study with description and sources

Data Type	Description	Source/ reference
Climate	Ten station data of rainfall and four stations of maximum/minimum temperature	Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) and Pangani Basin Water Office (PBWO)
Digital Elevation Model (DEM)	Elevation data from at 90m resolution	United States Geological Survey (USGS) website

Seasonal land use maps	Seasonal land use maps at 30m	(Msigwa et al., 2019)
Soil	Africa Soil Information System (AFSIS) at 250m resolution	(Hengl et al., 2015)
Remotely sensed based Actual ET	Ensemble ET from six remote sensing products	(IHE Delft, 2020)
Land management data	Planting dates, harvesting dates and irrigation application dates and frequency	Farmers interview