



# Centrifugal spreader eco-evaluation method: Sulky Econov example

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# Introduction

- great majority: fertiliser spreading = centrifugal spreader

- small ( $\sim [3\text{m} \times 2\text{m}]$ ) / easy to handle, maintain,
- very efficient (high work speeds and working widths),
- adapted to numerous types of granules to spread,

Field geometry

Wind effect

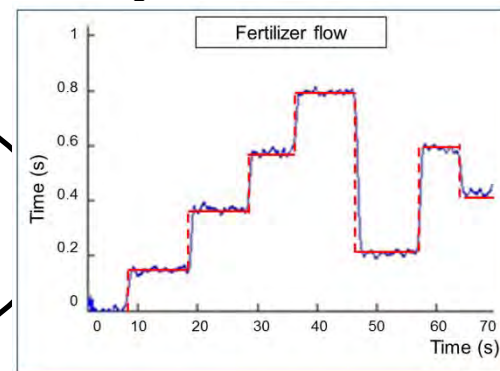
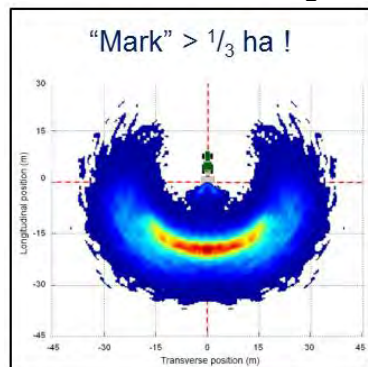
In order to achieve a  
rate objectif

**Spreading= Cross of intrinsic  
characteristics**

Distributed spread  
pattern  
« Mark »

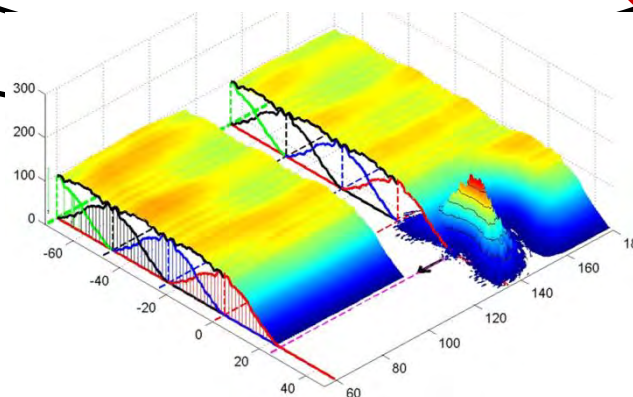
×

Flow  
« Multiplier »



Fertilizer variability:

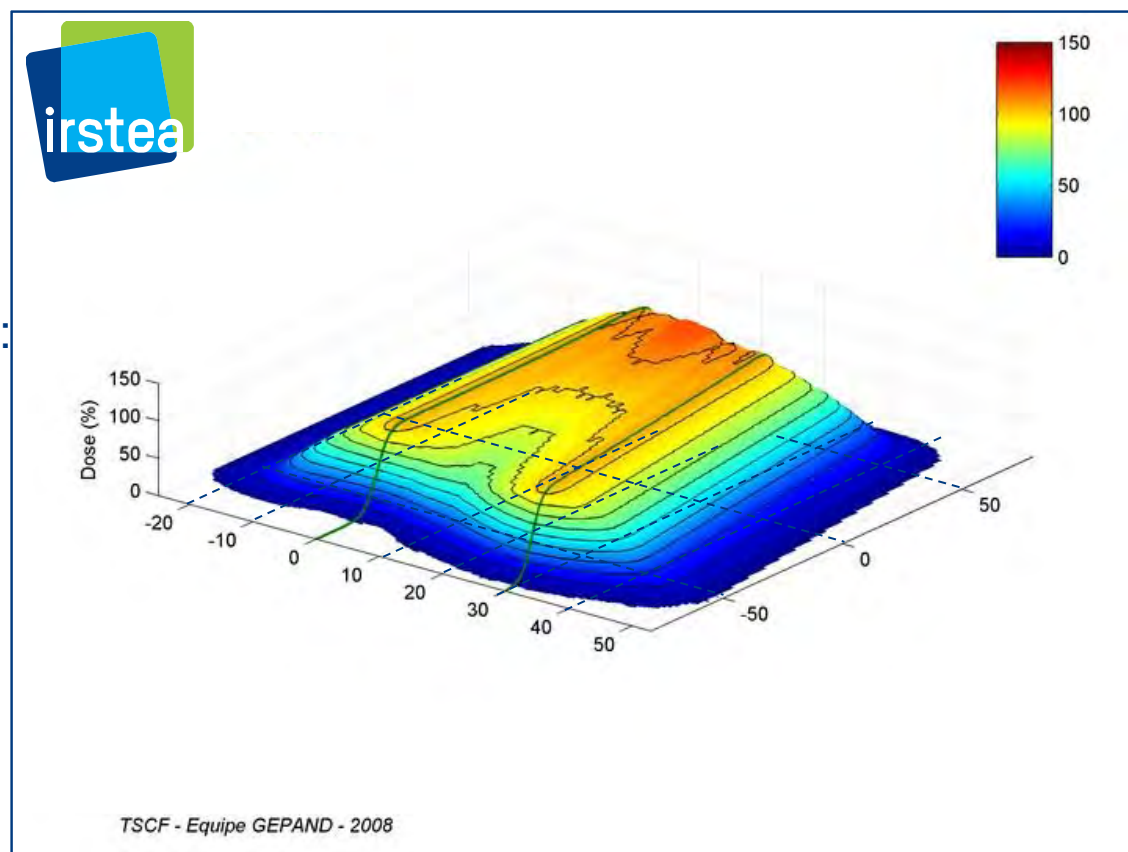
- Mécanical = form / size / density, ...
- Chemical (N, P, K, MO, ...)



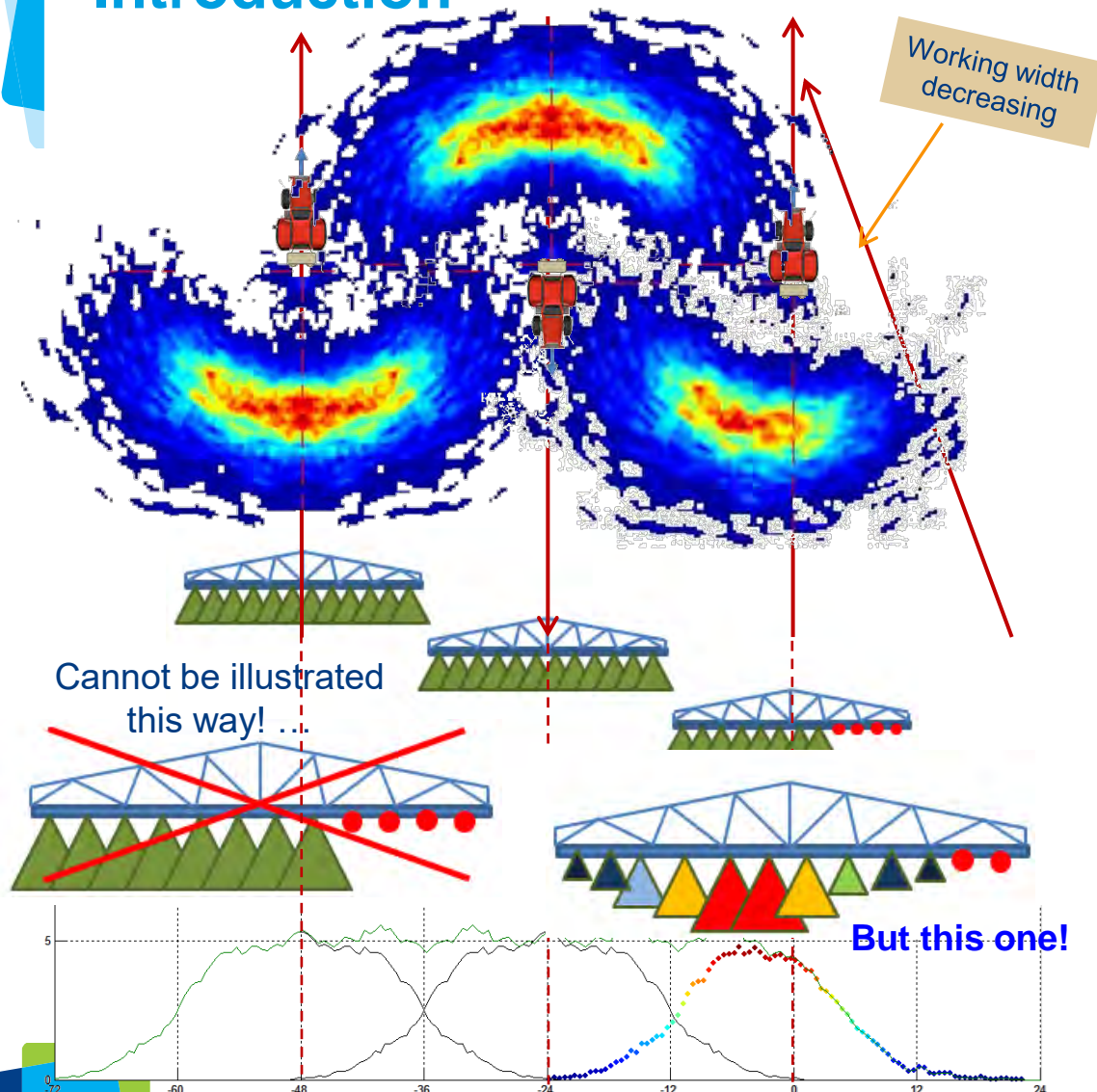
Field elevation  
variations

# Introduction

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  - small ( $\sim [3\text{m} \times 2\text{m}]$ ) / easy to handle, maintain,
  - very efficient (high work speeds and working widths),
  - adapted to numerous types of granules to spread,
- Transverse curve analyse:
  - Correct as soon as tramlines are regular,
  - Not representative of field reality for variable tramlines, real fields.
- Section control technologies:
  - Developed to optimize field distribution.



# Introduction



What's section control?

## Section control :

Centrifugal spreader  
Comportement  
(**Continuous** Flow rate  
+ working width  
Adjustement)

Sprayer comportement  
(**On/off** flow on spray nozzle)



# Introduction

## Agenda:

- Method used to evaluate at the field level
- Application to Econov section control evaluation
  - \* Econov device
  - \* Data acquisition
  - \* Developed and used simulator
  - \* Obtained maps for actuator states
- Results and conclusion



# Which method to evaluate at the field level?

## Testing GPS section control



*Five lines of 22 trays collected fertiliser as the spreader travelled converging tramlines.*

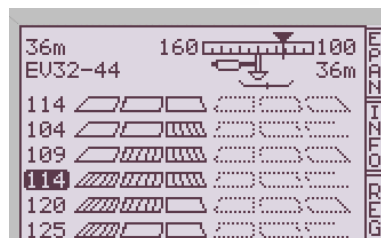
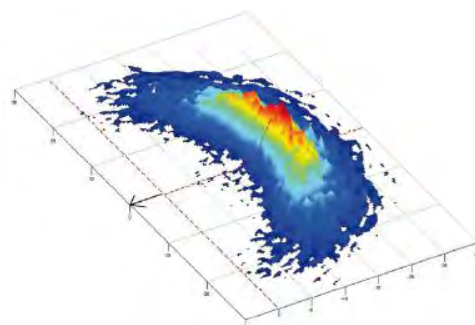
**Econov Profi test 2015**

- Too heavy
- Long to get results
- Not representative of all the field
- Subject to random effects

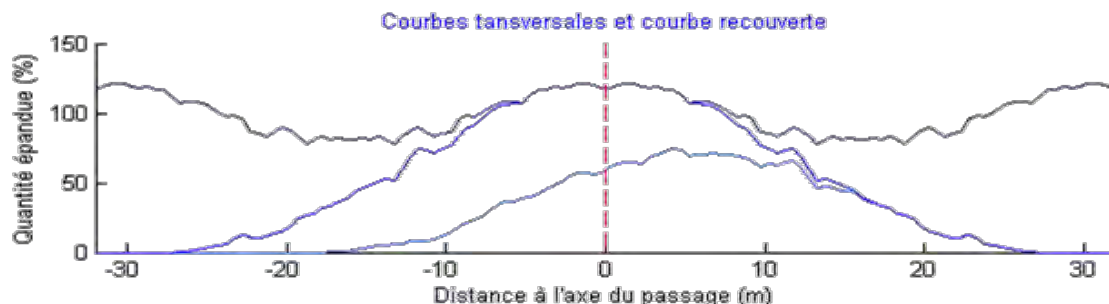
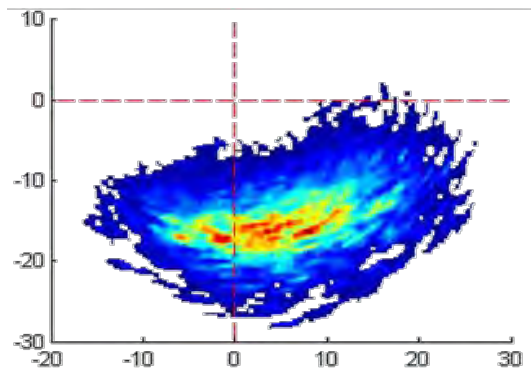
→ New method

# Econov evaluation example

ECONOV: adapts the centrifugal spreading according to the shape of the field = Section Control

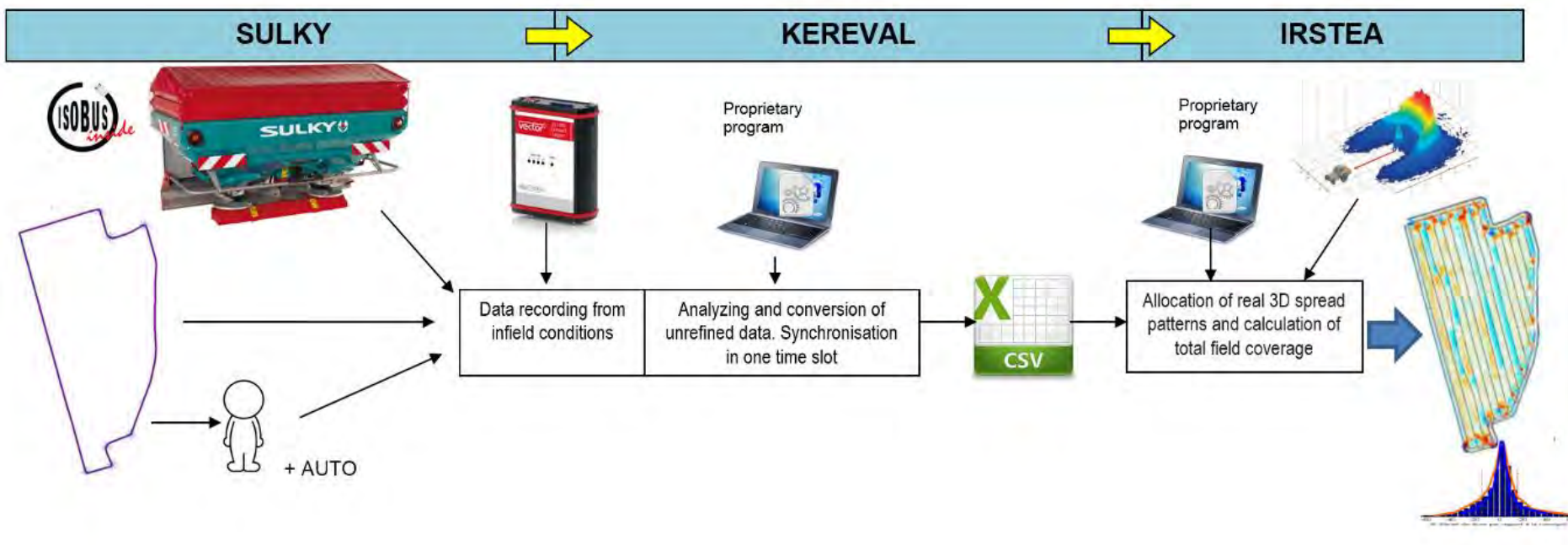


Distribution homogeneity is automatically optimized using the fertilizer drop point adjustment which induces an angular variation of the spread pattern position



# Econov evaluation example

Successives followed steps

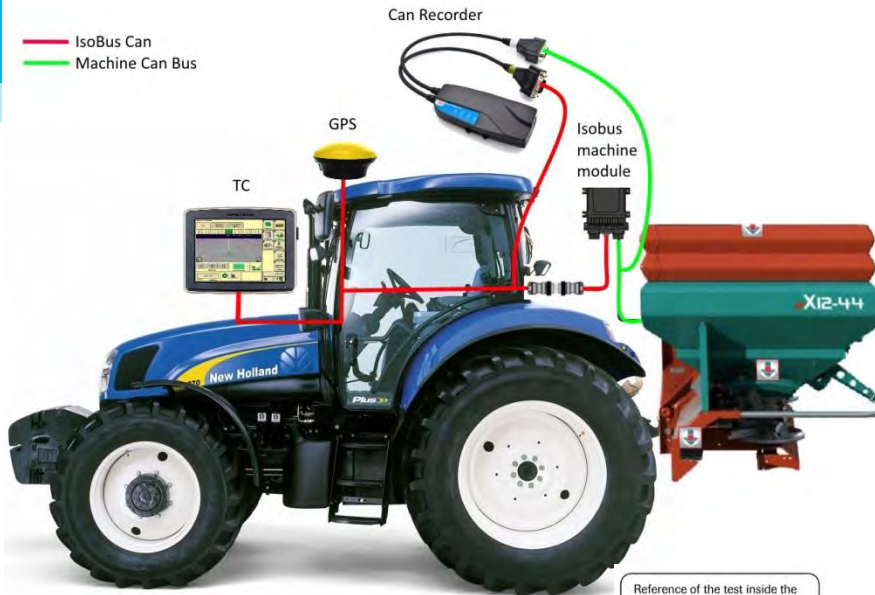


- 2 field geometries
- 2 spreader driving ways: manually / Automatic Econov
- 2 fertilizers (i.e. 2 transverse curves)



# Econov evaluation example

## Spreader state data acquisition step



### Three types of acquisition

- From ISOBUS bus (data transferred between task controller and spreader) = **Section Control informations**
- From proprietary CAN bus (“in live” data of all sensors and actuators of the spreader: ex. real target rate, width of work adjustment, etc)
- GPS informations. They were proprietary messages: interception of frames for the display on the UT.

### Data reorganization:

- Select only valuable datas (from 1.5 million frames per bus)
- Resample at the same timeslot



Reference of the test inside the experimentation protocol

Parcelle 1	Mode manuel	fichier 1
	Mode auto/Econov	fichier 2
Parcelle 2	Mode manuel	fichier 3
	Mode auto/Econov	fichier 4

Série nmea					Consigne ISOBUS												Réel relevé sur la machine CAN ROS							
Temps	latitude	longitude	cap	vitesse km/h	tranchon 1	tranchon 2	tranchon 3	tranchon 4	tranchon 5	tranchon 6	tranchon 7	tranchon 8	tranchon 9	tranchon 10	tranchon 11	tranchon 12	réel goulotte g	réel goulotte d	réel débit g	réel débit d	réel S&G g	direction g	réel S&g d	direction d
0.00	0.000000	0.000000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.20	0.000000	0.000000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.40	0.000000	0.000000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.60	0.000000	0.000000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.80	48.052076	0.000000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
1.00	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
1.20	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
1.40	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
1.60	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
1.80	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
2.00	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
2.20	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
2.40	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
2.60	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
2.80	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128
3.00	48.052076	13.860785	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	169	0	0	1	128	2	128

Interpretation of all data coming from GPS NMEA

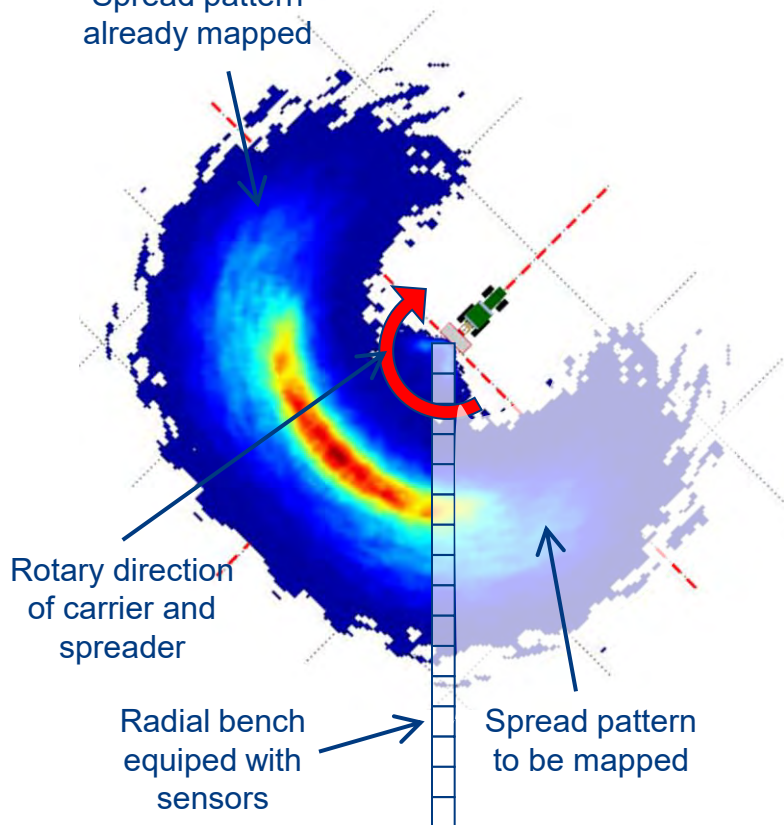
Interpretation of all data coming from ISOBUS bus. Task controller

Interpretation of all data coming from proprietary CAN bus

vector

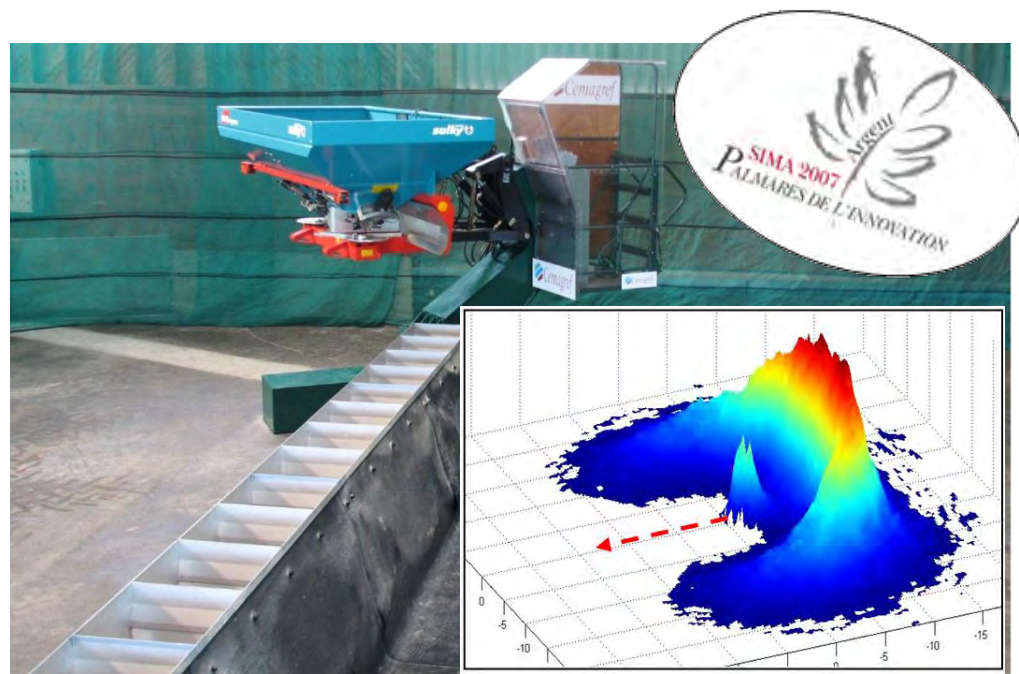
# Econov evaluation example

Spread pattern already mapped



## Spread pattern acquisition step

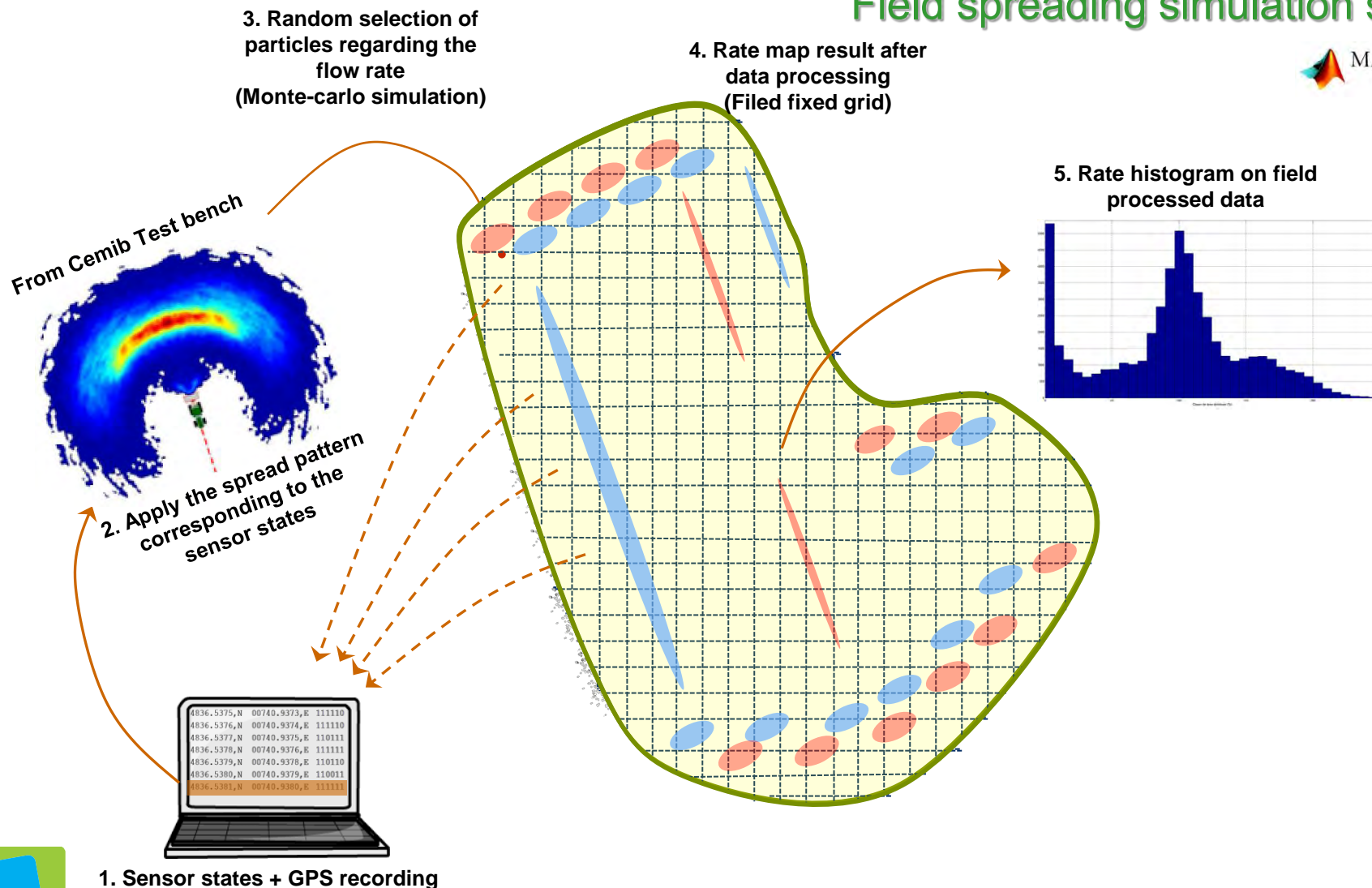
Use of CEMIB Bench



- Many different working width configurations measured
- Fit calculation for all potential working cases

# Econov evaluation example

## Field spreading simulation step

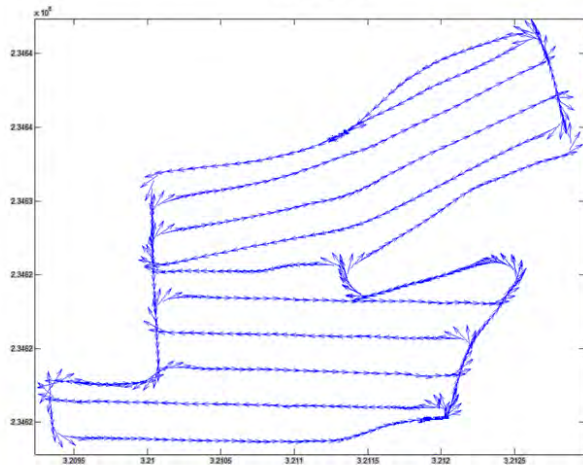




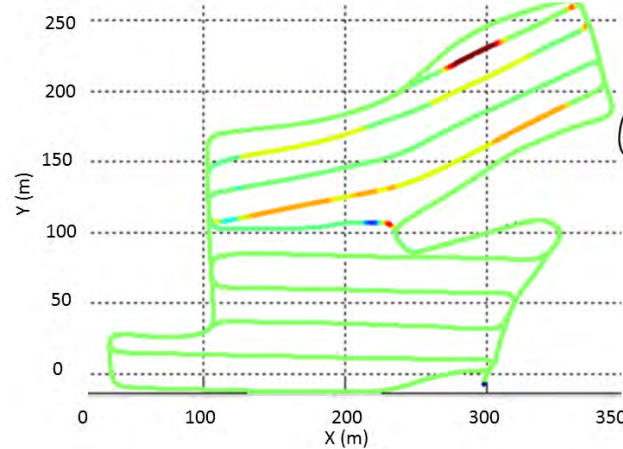
# Econov evaluation example

## Obtained spreader state maps

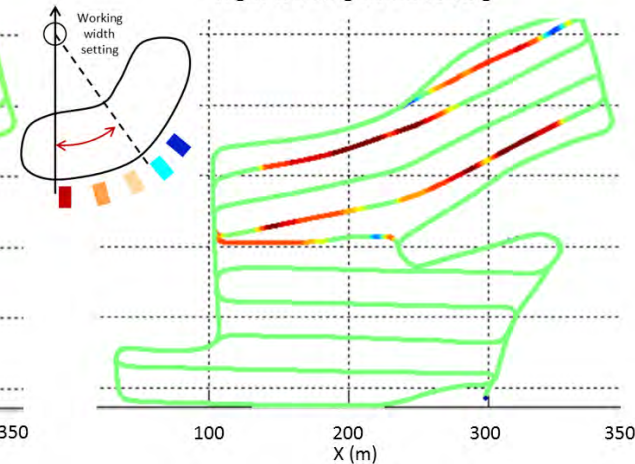
Field N. 2



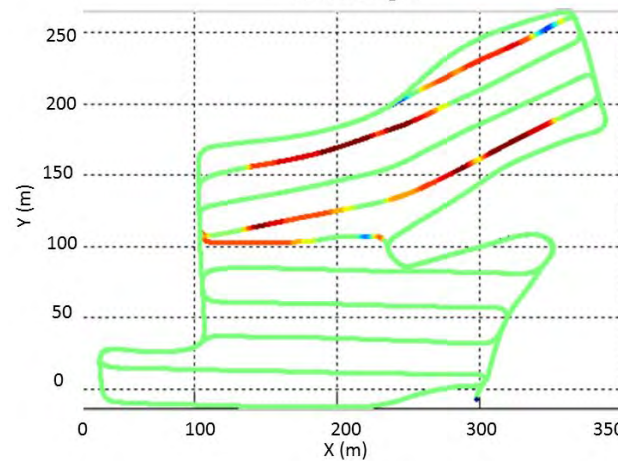
Left working width setting



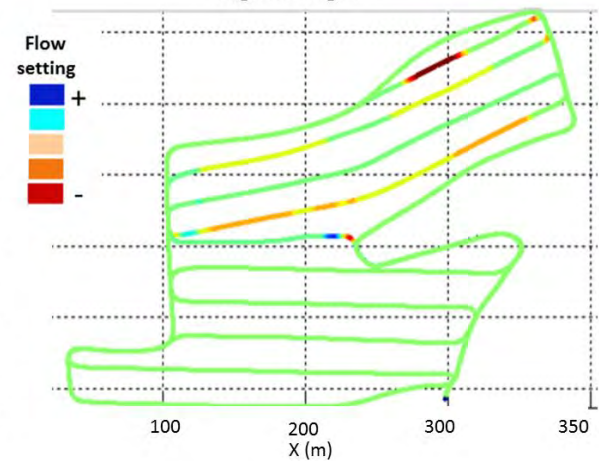
Right working width setting



Left flow gate



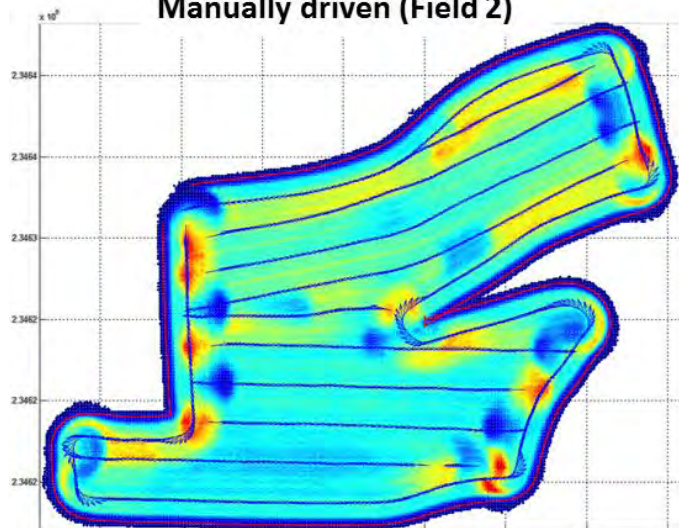
Right flow gate



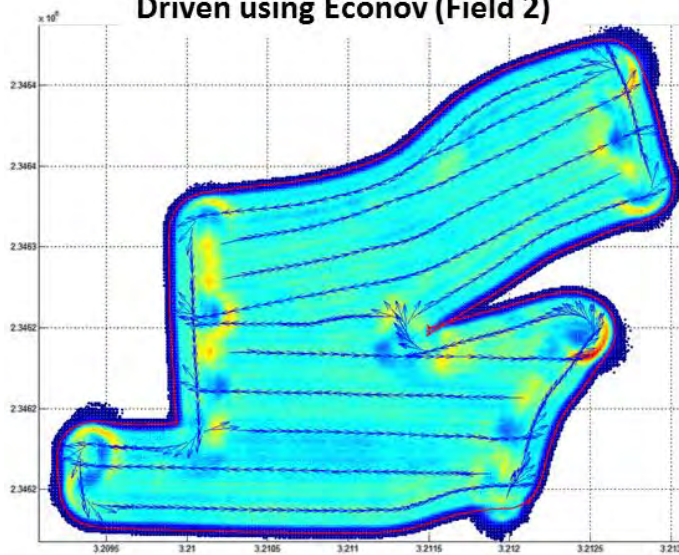


# Econov evaluation example

Manually driven (Field 2)

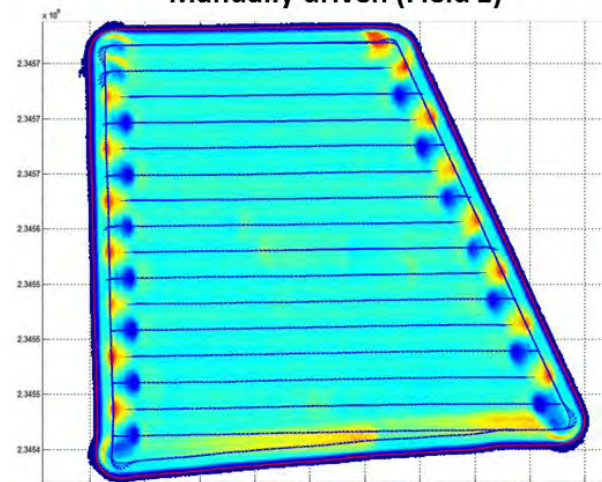


Driven using Econov (Field 2)

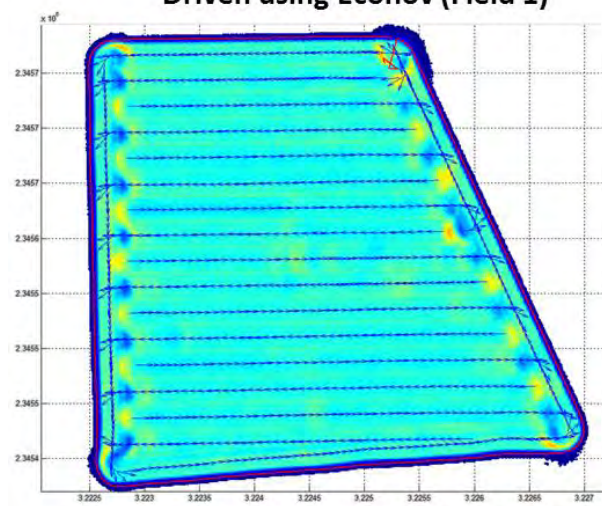


## Obtained spreading rate maps

Manually driven (Field 1)



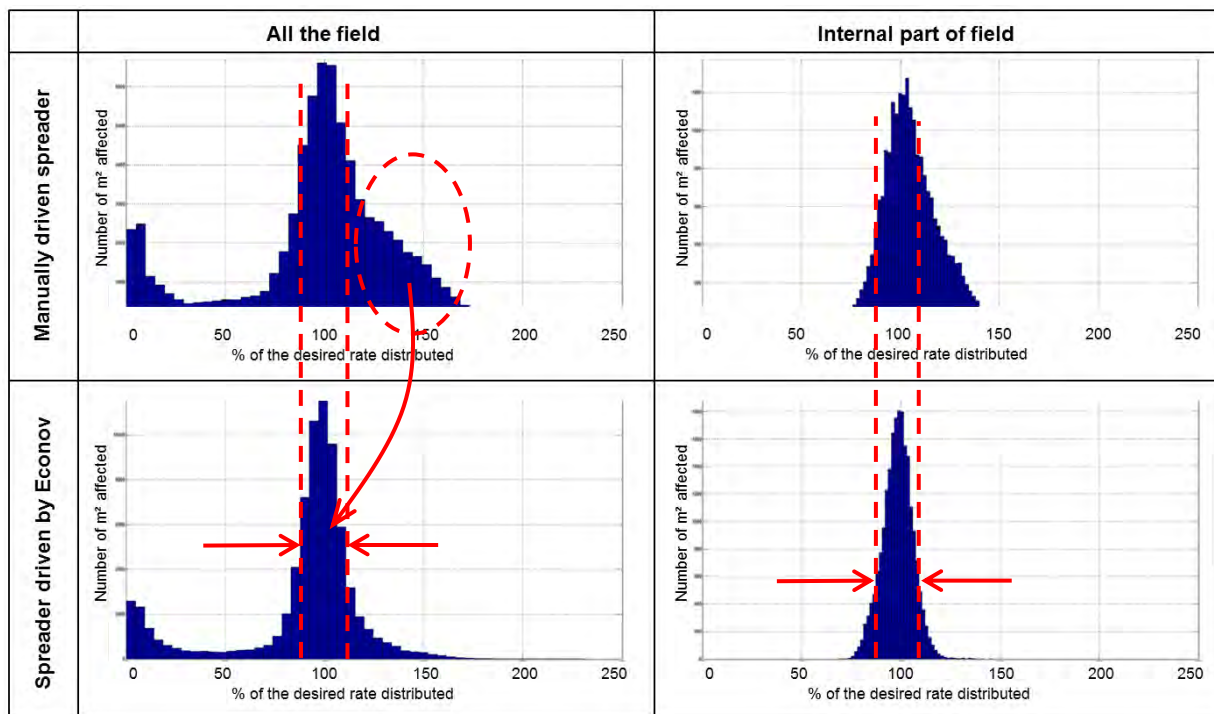
Driven using Econov (Field 1)



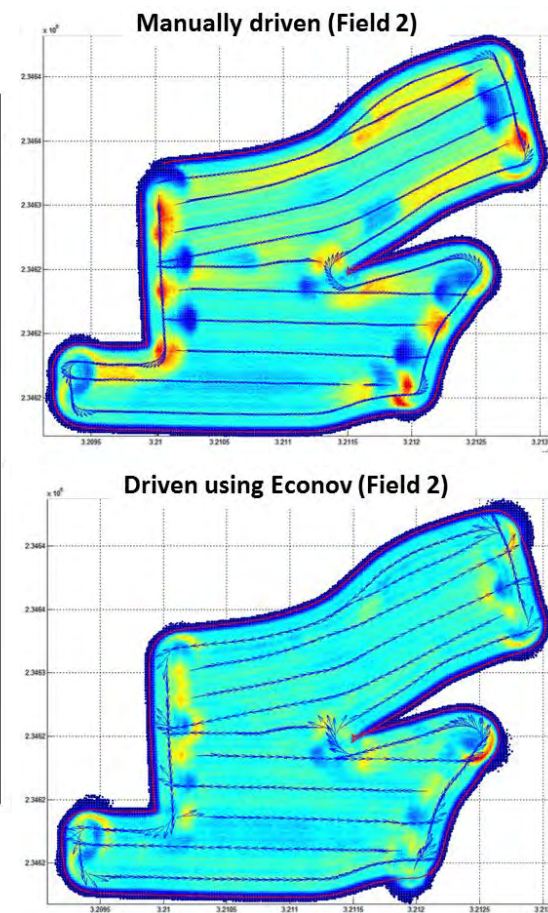
# Econov evaluation example

## Global analysis

For field N.2



- Correction of the global mean rate
- High decrease of rate dispersion





# Econov evaluation example

## Global analysis

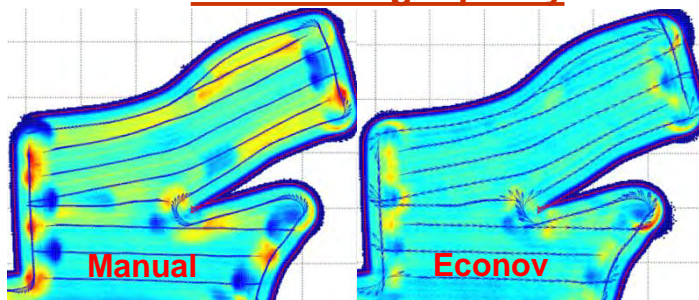
### 1 - Effect on field global amount

- Globally allows decreasing global fertilizer amount in the field
  - $\pm 1\%$  in regular fields and tramline paths
  - $\pm 8$  to  $9\%$  in irregular fields and tramline paths
- Depends on the field part percentages
  - Important gain
  - Quite no gain
- Depends on the field length: important gain at each start and end point
- Not so much affected by fertilizer characteristics, i.e. by transverse curve

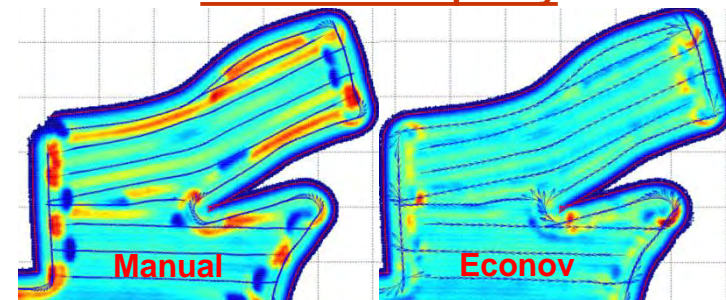
### 2 - Effect on field rate dispersion

- Econov section control always decreases rate dispersion (from under / over applications)
- Gain affected by:
  - field regularity (spreading is already very good in large fields / regular paths)
  - Length of boarder limite (-10 points on StD in the boarder part)
  - All the more efficient the fertilizer is of low quality

#### Fertilizer high quality



#### Fertilizer low quality





# Conclusion

## Method:

- Available method whatever the field size, fertilizer, technology to be tested (PA for example), etc
- Doesn't require absolutely to go in the field (trajectory to follow can be sent to the spreader by a computer)
- Same configuration can also be used for 2, 3, etc different spreaders / technologies to be tested
- Allows identifying precisely where are the most important effects

## Econov:

- Improves a lot spreading quality:
  - adjusts exactly to the global desired amount
  - reduces under and over-applications (increases quality, crops yield, etc)
- Allows taking into account all external parameters (fertilizer used, field shape, tramline paths, etc)
- All the more important fields are small and with irregularly paths





**Thanks for your attention,**

**Any question ?**