

BioSpace25 - Biodiversity insight from Space  
10 - 14 February 2025 | ESA-ESRIN | Frascati - Italy



# Impact of Marine and Atmospheric Heatwaves on Intertidal Seagrass: Experimental Spectroradiometry and Satellite-Based Insights

Simon Oiry, Bede Ffinian Rowe Davies, Phillipe Rosa, Augustin Debly, Maria Laura Zoffoli, Anne-Laure Barillé, Nicolas Harin, Pierre Gernez, Laurent Barillé



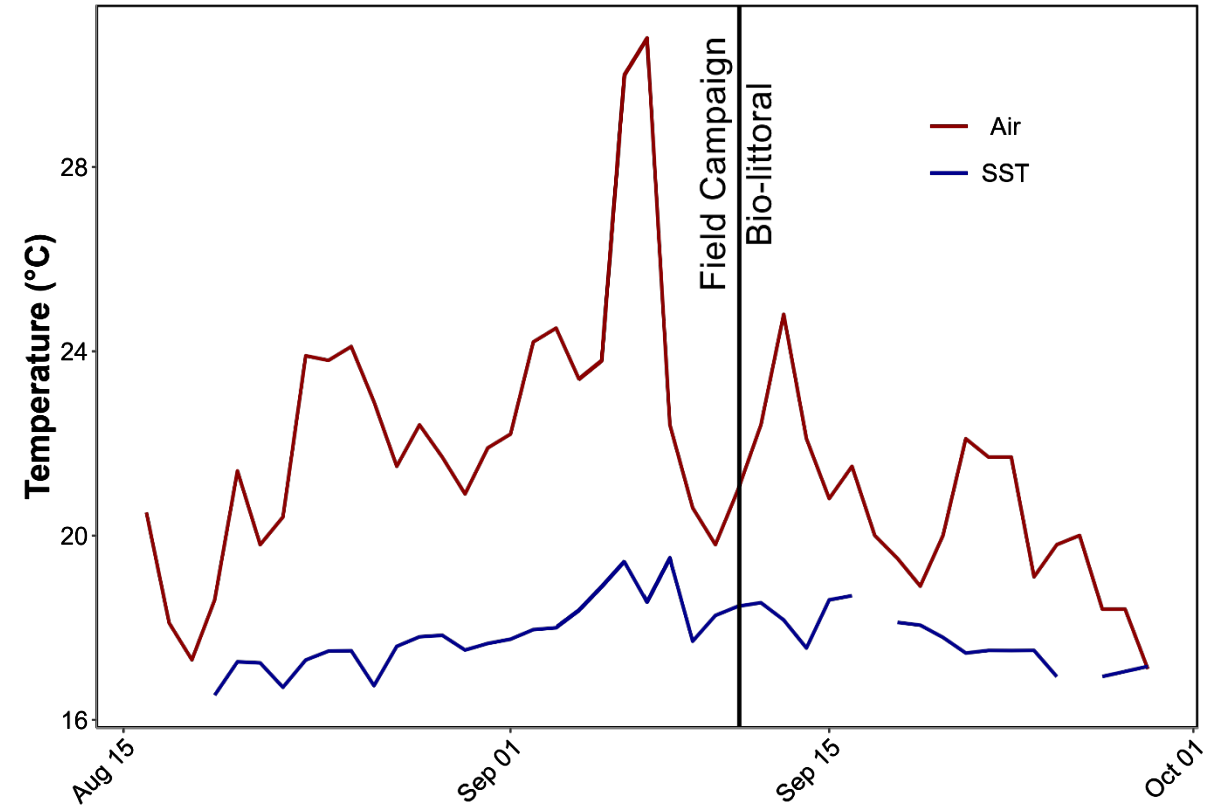
# Introduction



June 2022



# Introduction



# Introduction

## What's in the litterature ?



### scientific reports

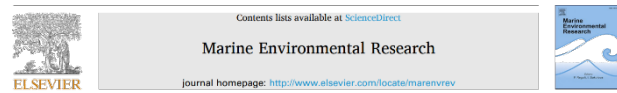
**OPEN** Physiological and morphological effects of a marine heatwave on the seagrass *Cymodocea nodosa*

Alizé Deguette<sup>1</sup>, Isabel Barrote<sup>1,2,3</sup> & João Silva<sup>1,3,4</sup>

Vol. 435: 83–95, 2011 doi: 10.3354/meps09213	MARINE ECOLOGY PROGRESS SERIES Mar Ecol Prog Ser	Published August 22
---	---	---------------------

### Effects of a simulated heat wave on photophysiology and gene expression of high- and low-latitude populations of *Zostera marina*

Gidon Winters<sup>1\*</sup>, Peter Nelle<sup>1</sup>, Birgit Fricke<sup>1</sup>, Gisele Rauch<sup>1</sup>, Thorsten B. H. Reusch<sup>1,2</sup>



Heat wave intensity can vary the cumulative effects of multiple environmental stressors on *Posidonia oceanica* seedlings

### LIMNOLOGY and OCEANOGRAPHY



Journal of Limnology and Oceanography, 66, 2021, 4172-4178  
© 2021 The Authors. Limnology and Oceanography published by Wiley Periodicals, LLC on behalf of Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography.  
doi: 10.1002/lno.11947

### Chronically elevated sea surface temperatures revealed high susceptibility of the eelgrass *Zostera marina* to winter and spring warming

Yvonne Sawall<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Maysa Ito<sup>1,3</sup>, Christian Pansch<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Marine Ecology, GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Kiel, Germany  
<sup>2</sup>Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS), St. George's  
<sup>3</sup>IFremer, Channel and North Sea Fisheries Research Unit, Boulogne-sur-mer, France  
<sup>4</sup>Environmental and Marine Biology, Åbo Akademi University, Åbo, Finland

## On subtidal *Zostera marina* and *Cymodocea nodosa*:

- Highly vulnerable to elevated sea temperatures in winter and spring, leading to early flowering, high mortality, and reduced biomass.
- Photosynthetic activity rises during HWs but diminishes during recovery, impairing performance and reducing leaf biomass.
- Responses vary greatly between species...
- ...and within a single species across latitudes.

## What about *Zostera noltei* ?

## Impact on the reflectance ?

## Impact of Extreme Atmospheric temperature ?



Heatwaves alter the spectral reflectance of *Zostera noltei* seagrass. This change can be detected using remote sensing technique.

- Evaluate the direct impact of heatwave-induced **thermal stress** on the reflectance of *Zostera noltei* through **controlled experiments**.
- Develop a **spectral index** for detecting stress-induced changes in seagrass coloration.
- To apply findings from experimental reflectance changes to **satellite-based** remote sensing, assessing the spatial extent and temporal dynamics of an heatwave event that occurs in September 2021, in Quiberon, on seagrass meadows.

### *Intertidal chambers*



Allow to control :

- Air Temperature
- Water Temperature
- Tide cycle
- Photoperiod and light intensity

Measurement of hyperspectral signature of samples



# Material & Methods

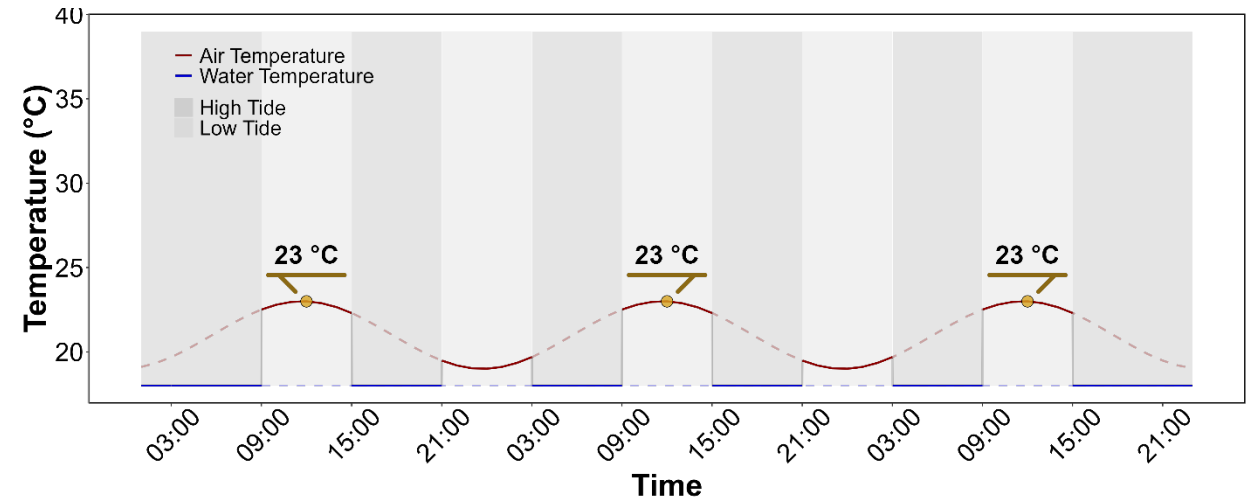
## Experiment



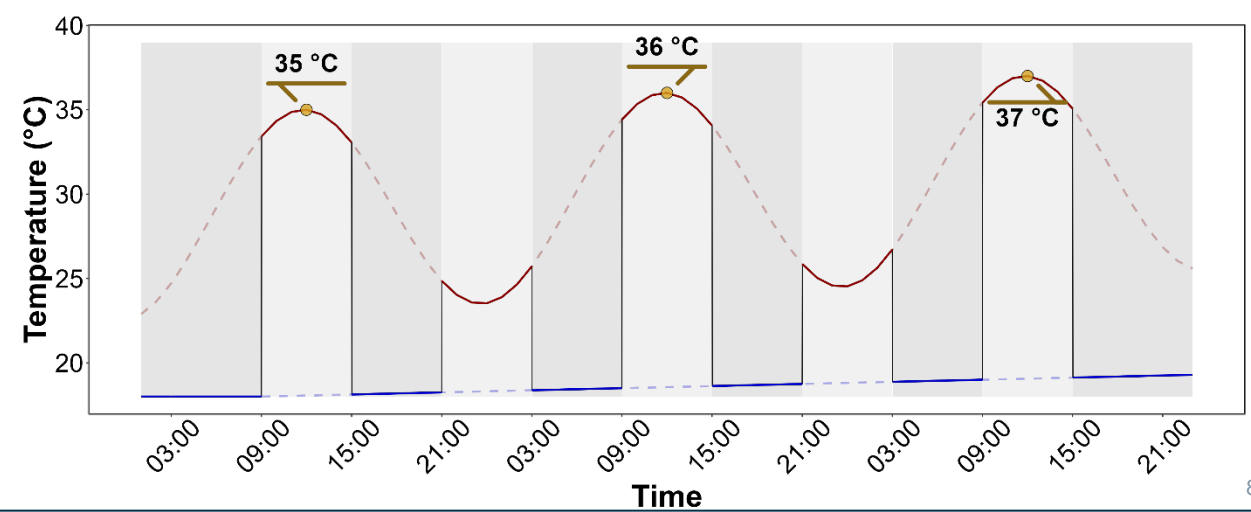
Seagrasses inside of a chamber



Control

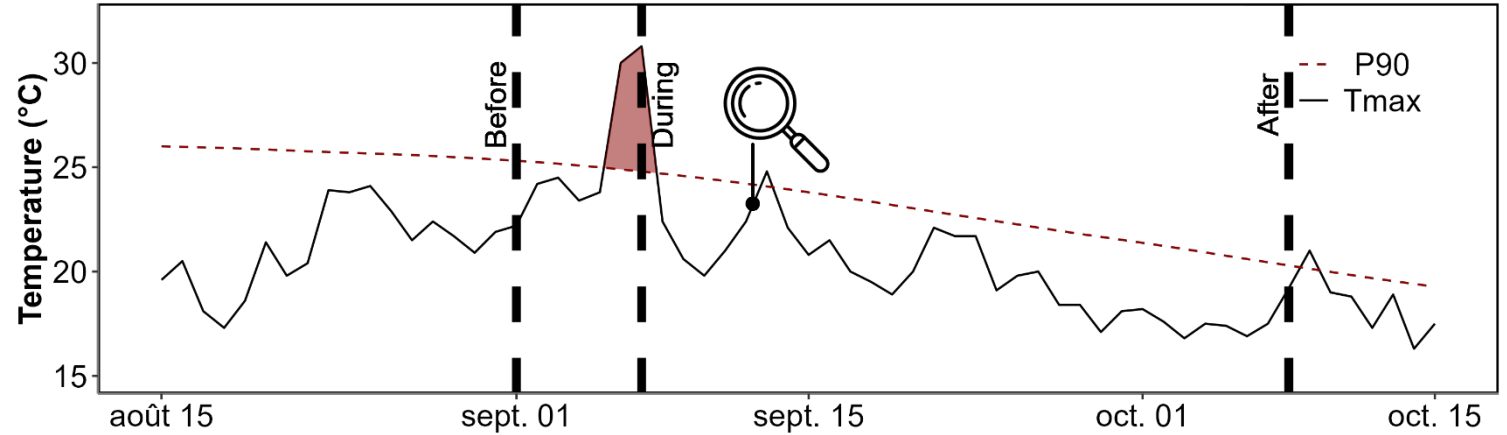
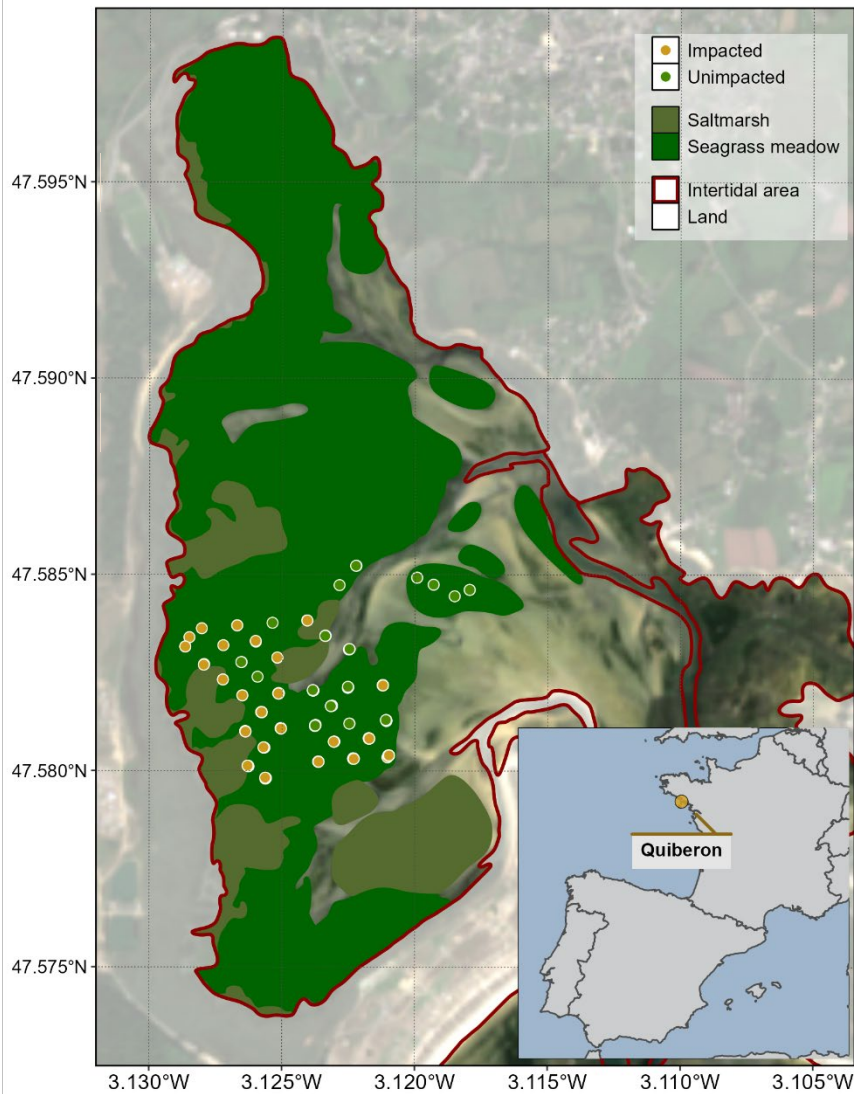


Treatment



# Material & Methods

## Sentinel-2 satellite mapping



Field campaign on the 11th of September

- Spectral shape

- $$NDVI = \frac{R(NIR) - R(Red)}{R(NIR) + R(Red)}$$

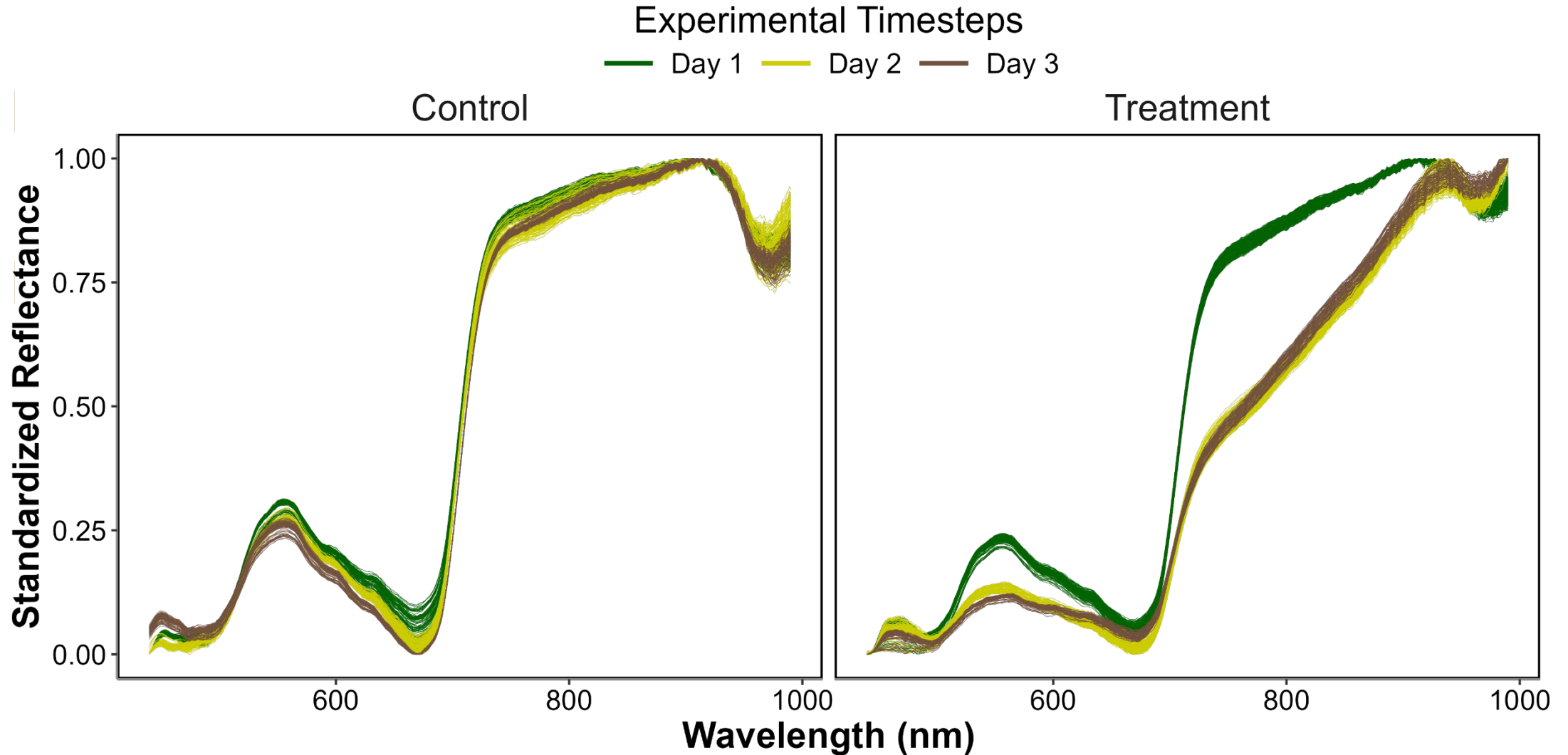
- $$GLI = \frac{2 * R(Green) - R(Red) - R(Blue)}{2 * R(Green) + R(Red) + R(Blue)}$$





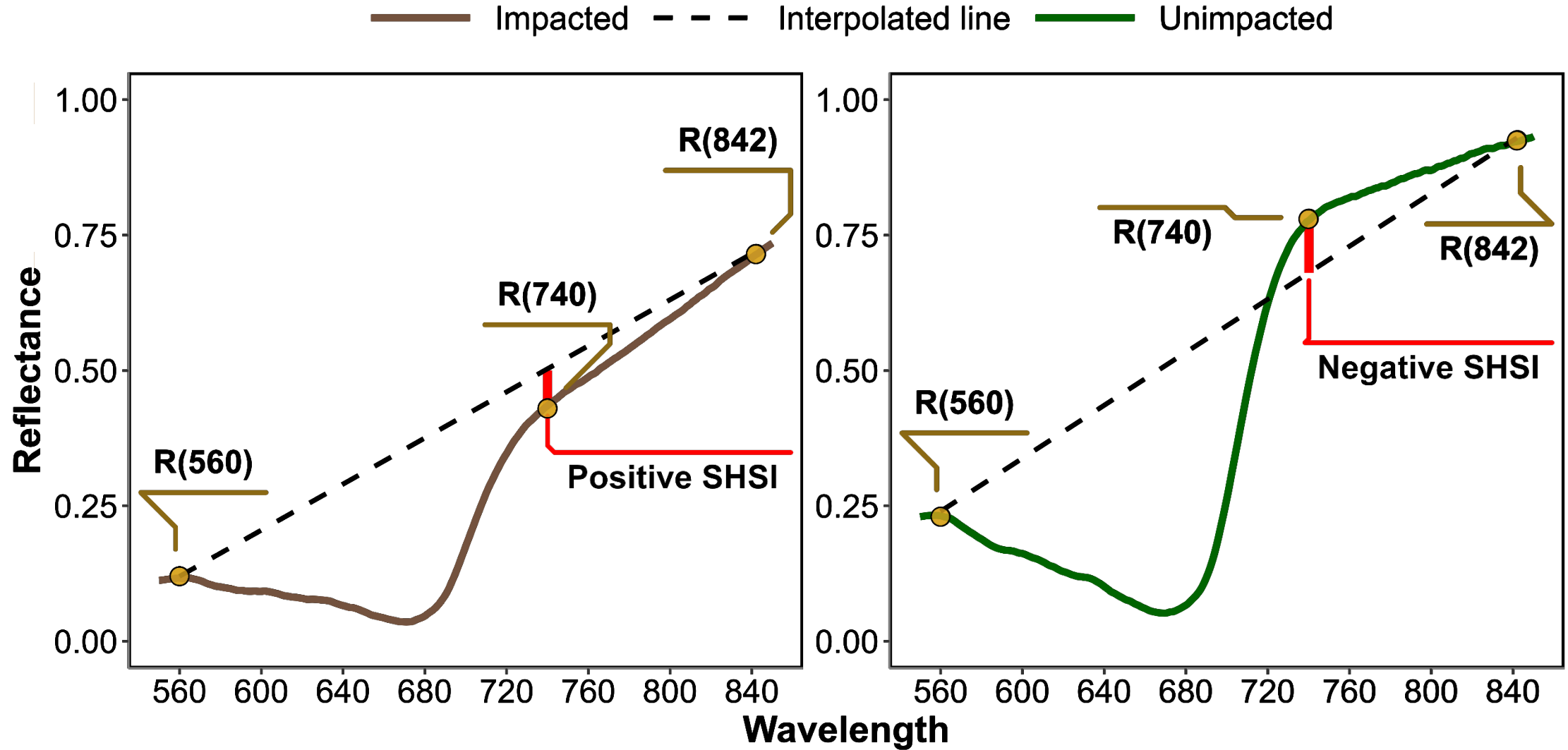
# Results

## Experiment – Spectral signatures



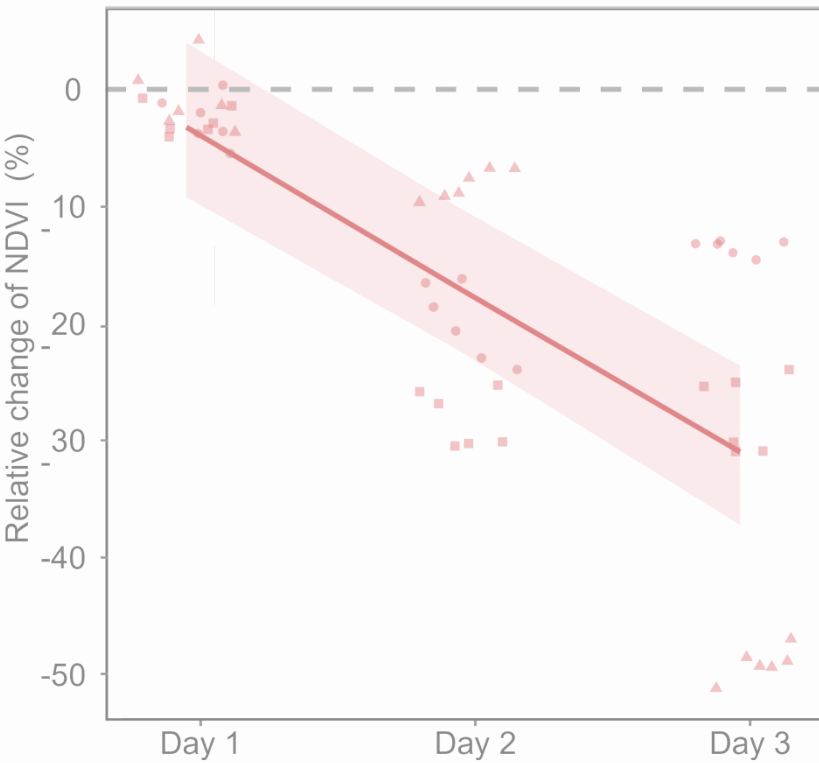
# Results

## Experiment – SHSI

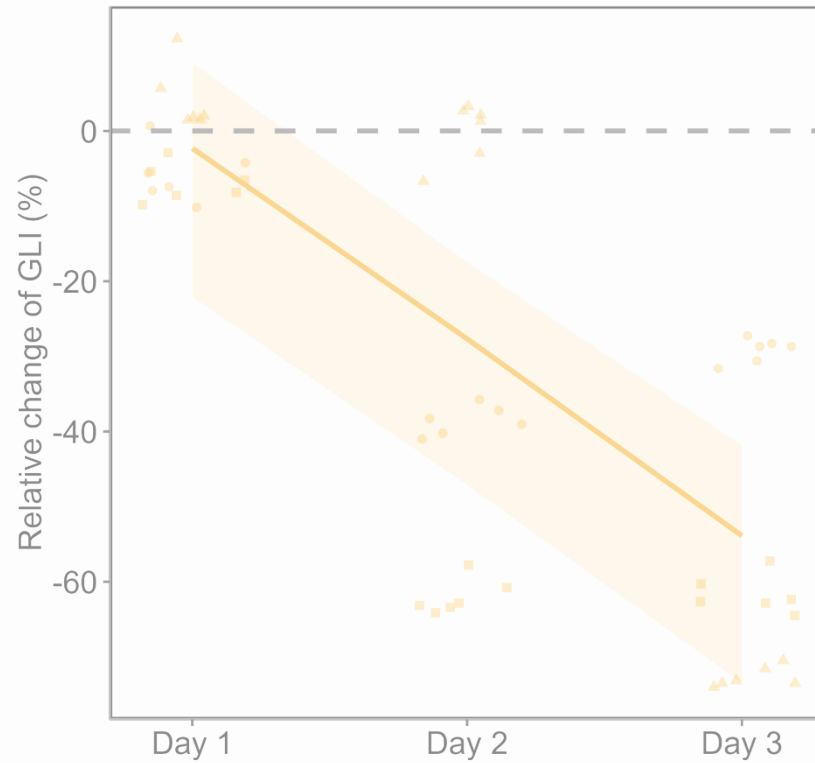


# Results

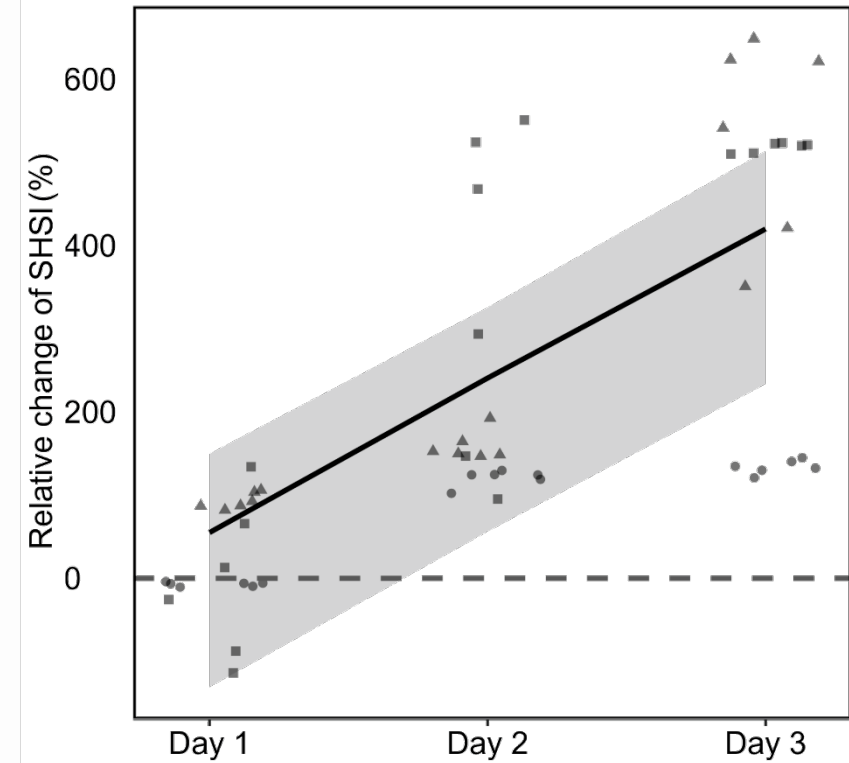
## Experiment – Evolution of Indices



NDVI : - 31 %



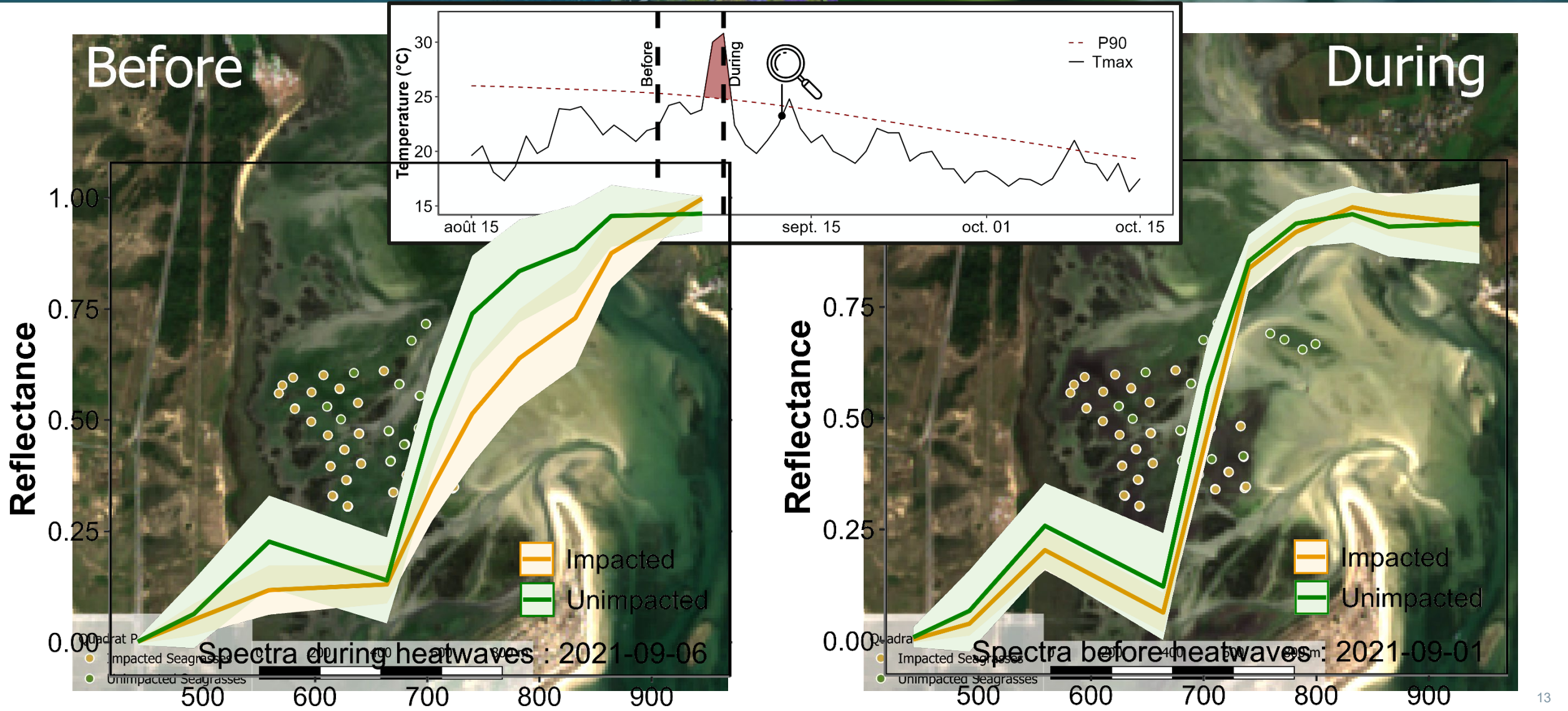
GLI : - 54 %



SHSI : + 420 %

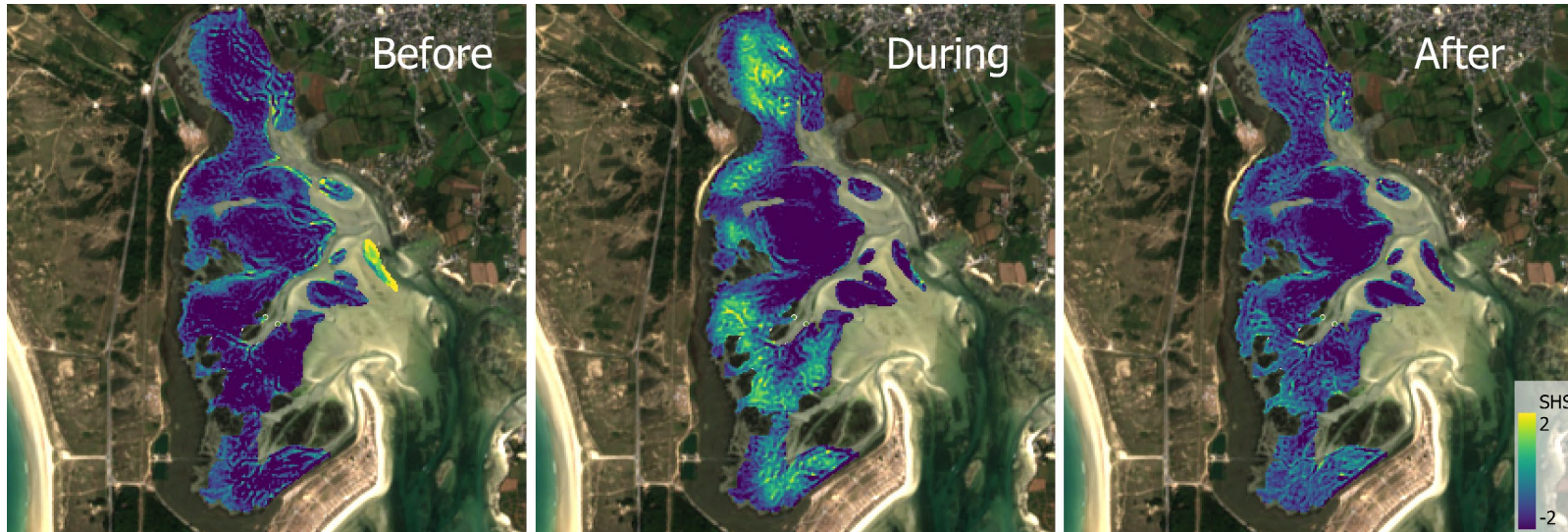
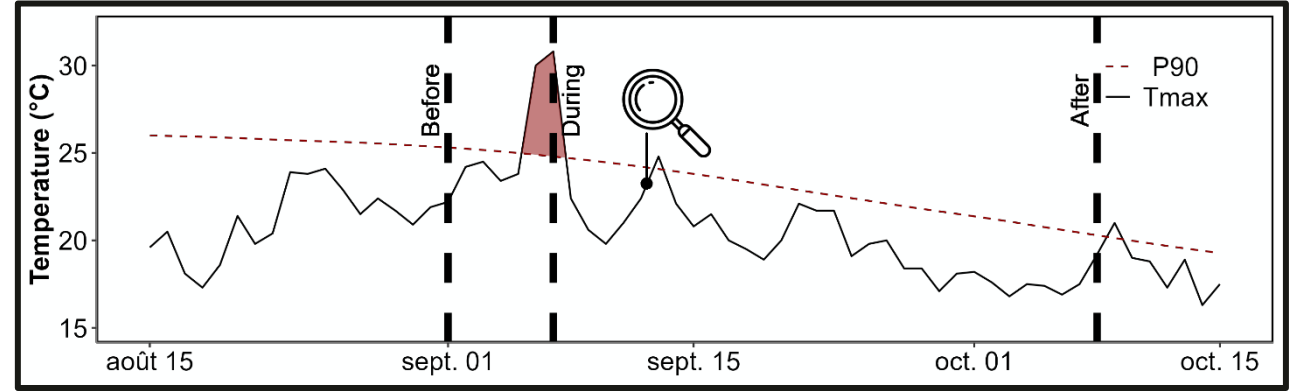
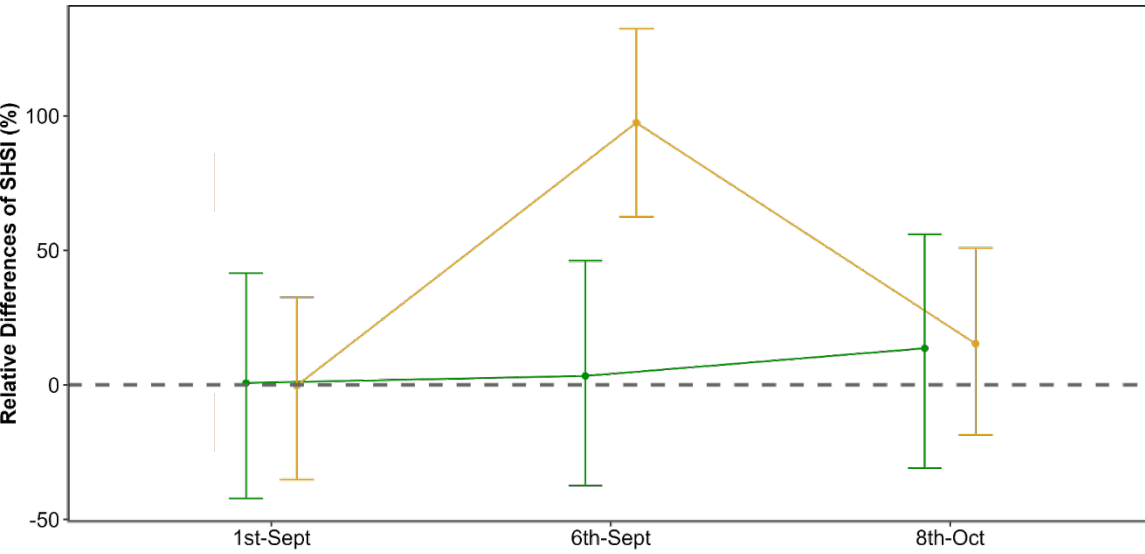
# Results

## Satellite – Spectral signatures



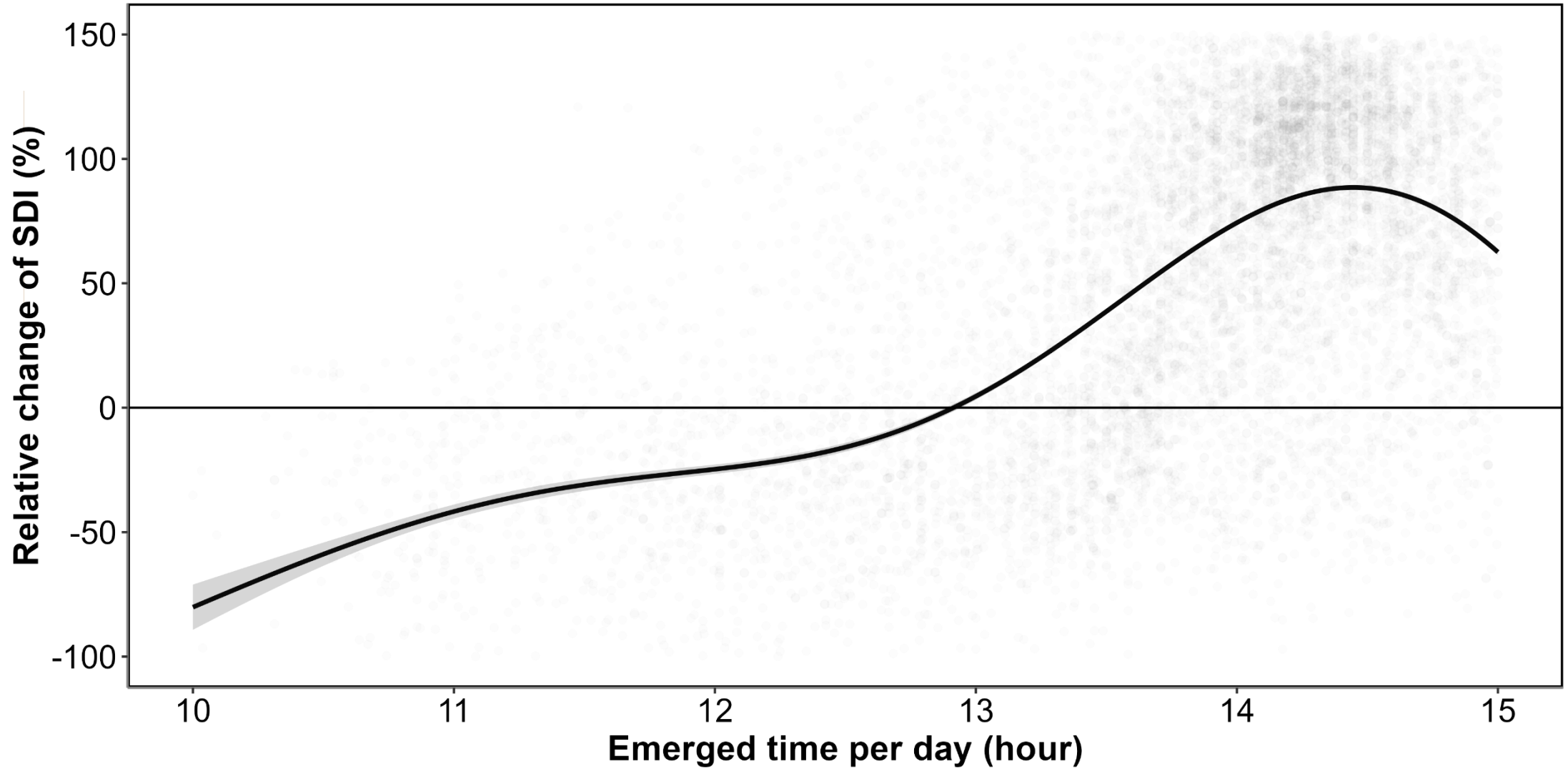
# Results

## Satellite – SHSI



# Results

## Satellite – Emersion Time

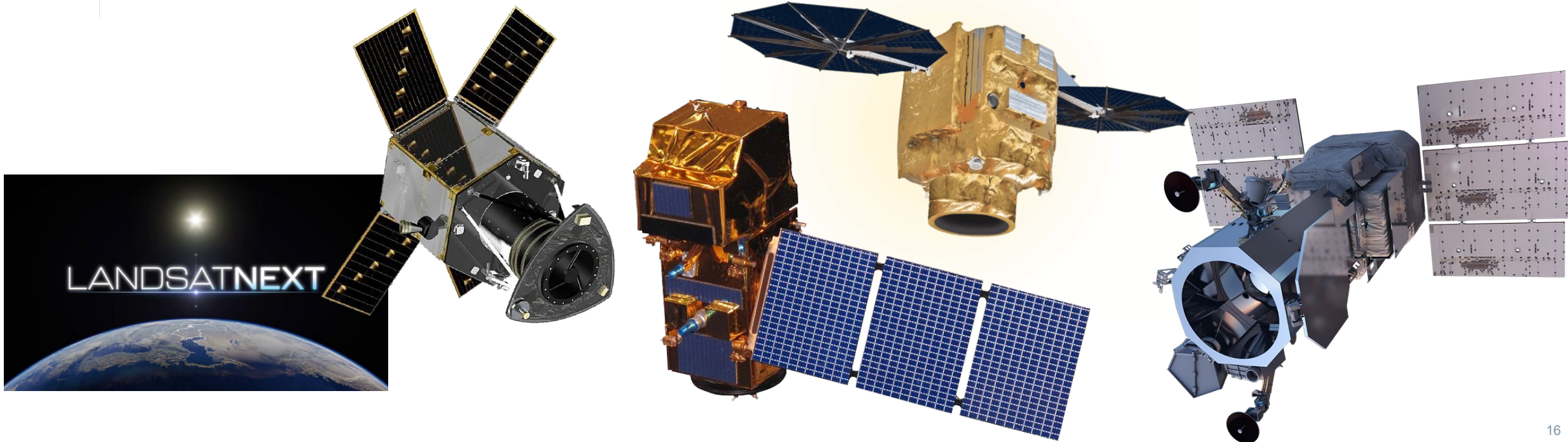


# Discussion & Conclusion

## Mapping Impacted meadows



- Seagrasses impacted by heatwave have a distinct spectral signature (drops at 560 and 740nm)
- Possible to detect seagrass thermal stress using satellite remote sensing, using the SHSI
  - Designed to be used by most space missions (Sentinel-2, Pleiades-Neo, WorldView-3, SkySat, GeoSat-2... )...
  - ... but also by future missions (Sentinel-2 Next Generation, Landsat Next...)



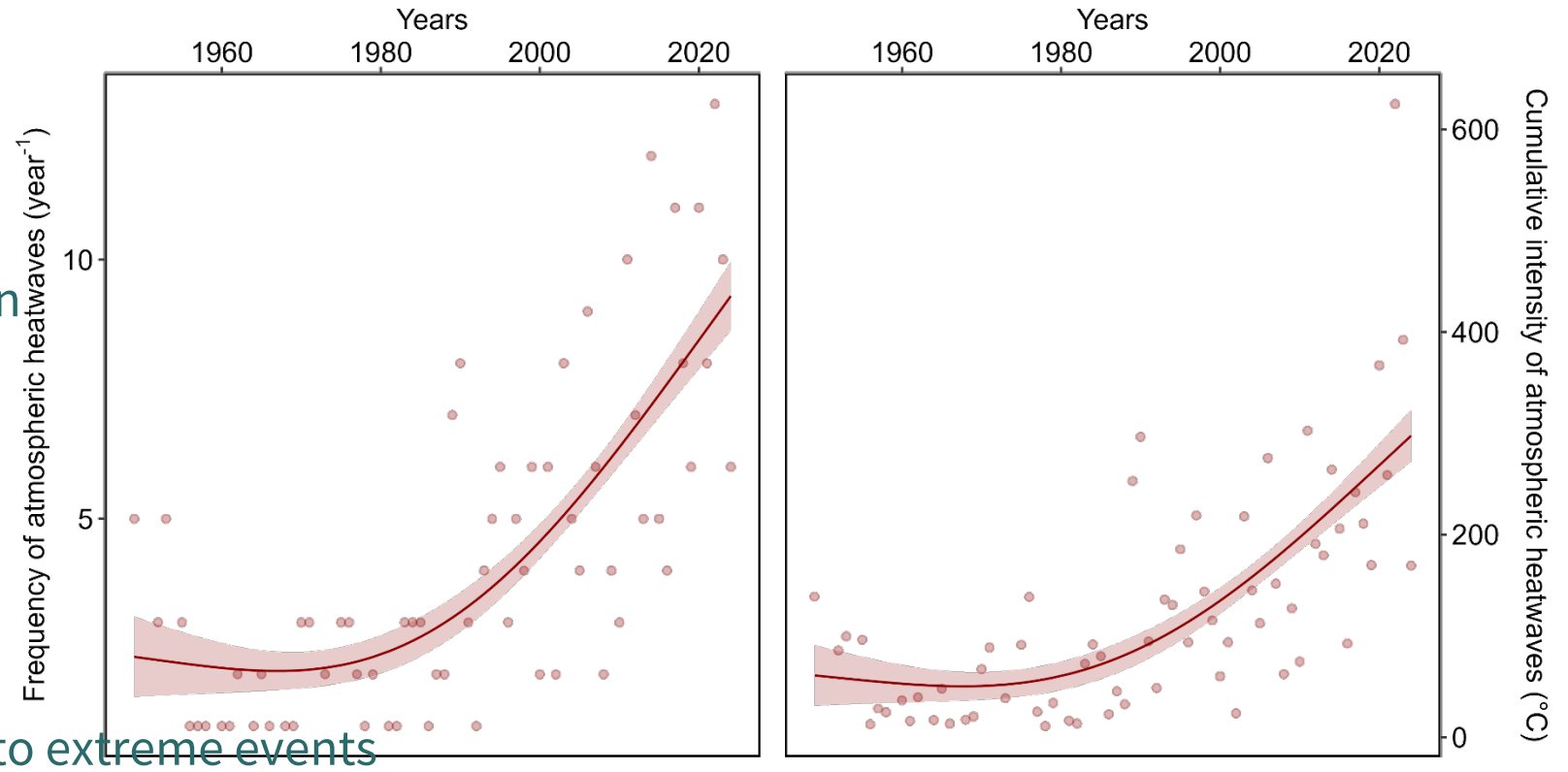
# Discussion & Conclusion

## Heatwaves in a Global Warming Context



- Rapid **global** escalation of HW frequency, intensity and duration (Devi et al., 2024; Russo and Domeisen, 2023)...

... as observed **locally** in Quiberon



- Impact on seagrass resilience to extreme events



# Thank you !



GEOBON

CEOS



 Nantes  
Université

Oiry Simon, Bede Davies, Philippe Rosa,  
Augustin Debly, Pierre Gernez, Laurent Barillé

 BIO-LITTORAL

Anne-Laure Barillé, Nicolas Harin



Maria Laura Zoffoli

