

Institute for Modelling Hydraulic and Environmental Systems (IWS) Research Facility for Subsurface

Research Facility for Subsurface Remediation (VEGAS)

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11. August 2023

M.Sc. Topic

"Calibration of a TDR probe for measuring soil moisture at a temperature range from 20°C to 100°C"

Soil moisture plays an important role in many areas, such as agriculture, efficient irrigation, thermal remediation or geothermal energy. Therefore, accurate measurements of soil moisture are necessary. Since taking soil samples is a disruption to the system, a way to measure soil moisture directly on site is required. With the help of time domain reflectometry probes (TDR probes), soil moisture can be measured in the soil.

TDR probes obtain accurate data at an ambient temperature and in "standard" soils, such as sand. However, in thermal remediation or geothermal applications, regular soil temperatures are far exceeded. In addition, a variety of different soils are found in the field.

For this, TDR probes should be calibrated for different temperatures, soil moistures and soil types at VEGAS. The probes will be used to monitor soil moisture during a thermal PFAS remediation experiment.

Your tasks will include:

- Literature research and familiarising yourself with the subject of TDR
- Set-up and execution of the experiment
- Evaluation of the data and creation of the calibration curves



Design des Versuchstands







Desired skills:

- Basic knowledge of python or the motivation to get acquainted with it

If you are interested, please contact Anna Burkhardt (anna.burkhardt@iws.uni-stuttgart.de).

The thesis can be written in German or English.

