

Modelling soil physical properties based on XCT scans processed using state-of-the-art local and machine learning based segmentation approaches

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Samples

Samples:

- Grey-Luvic Phaeozems (Sample 1,2) and Chernozems (samples 3-7)

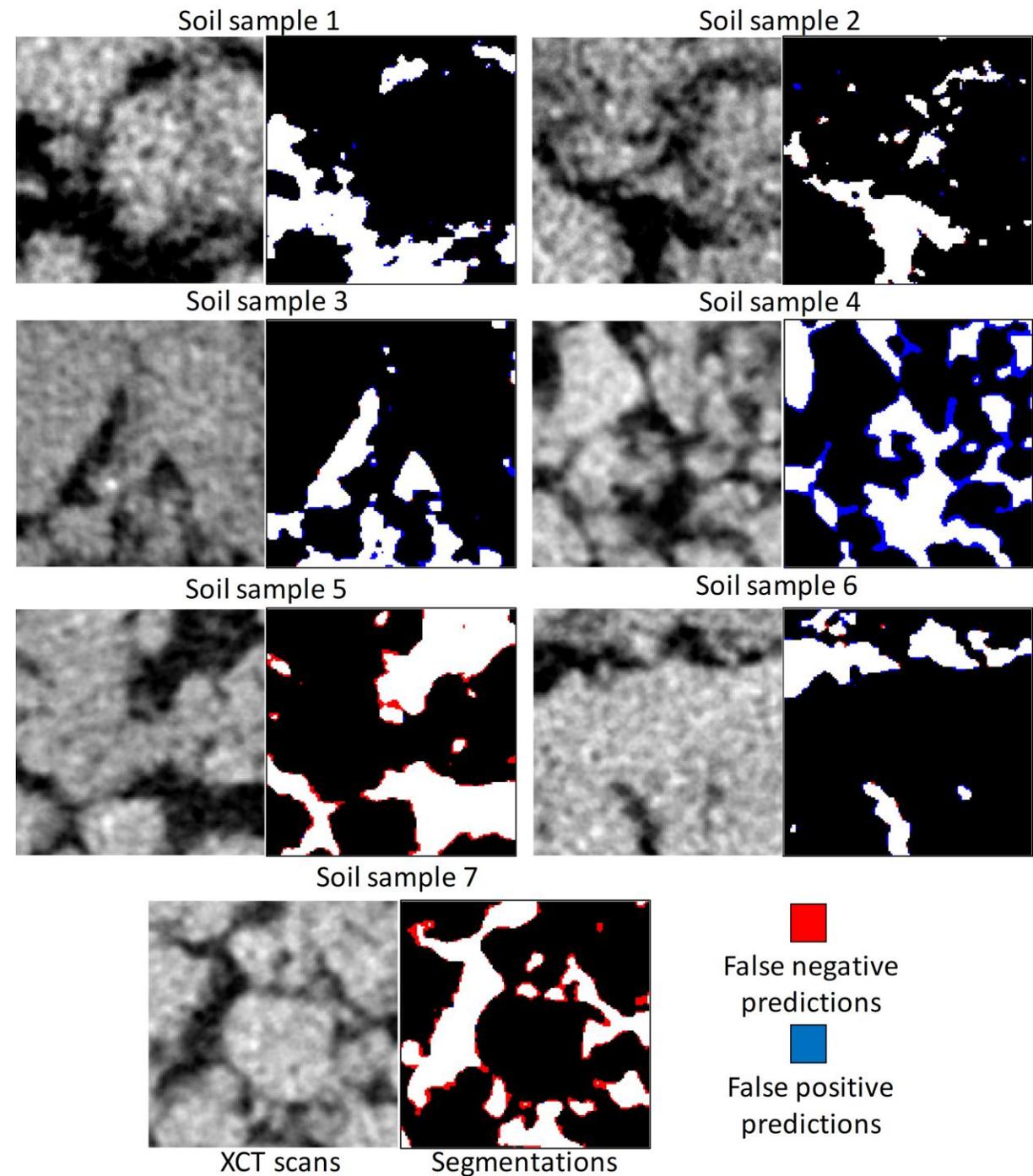
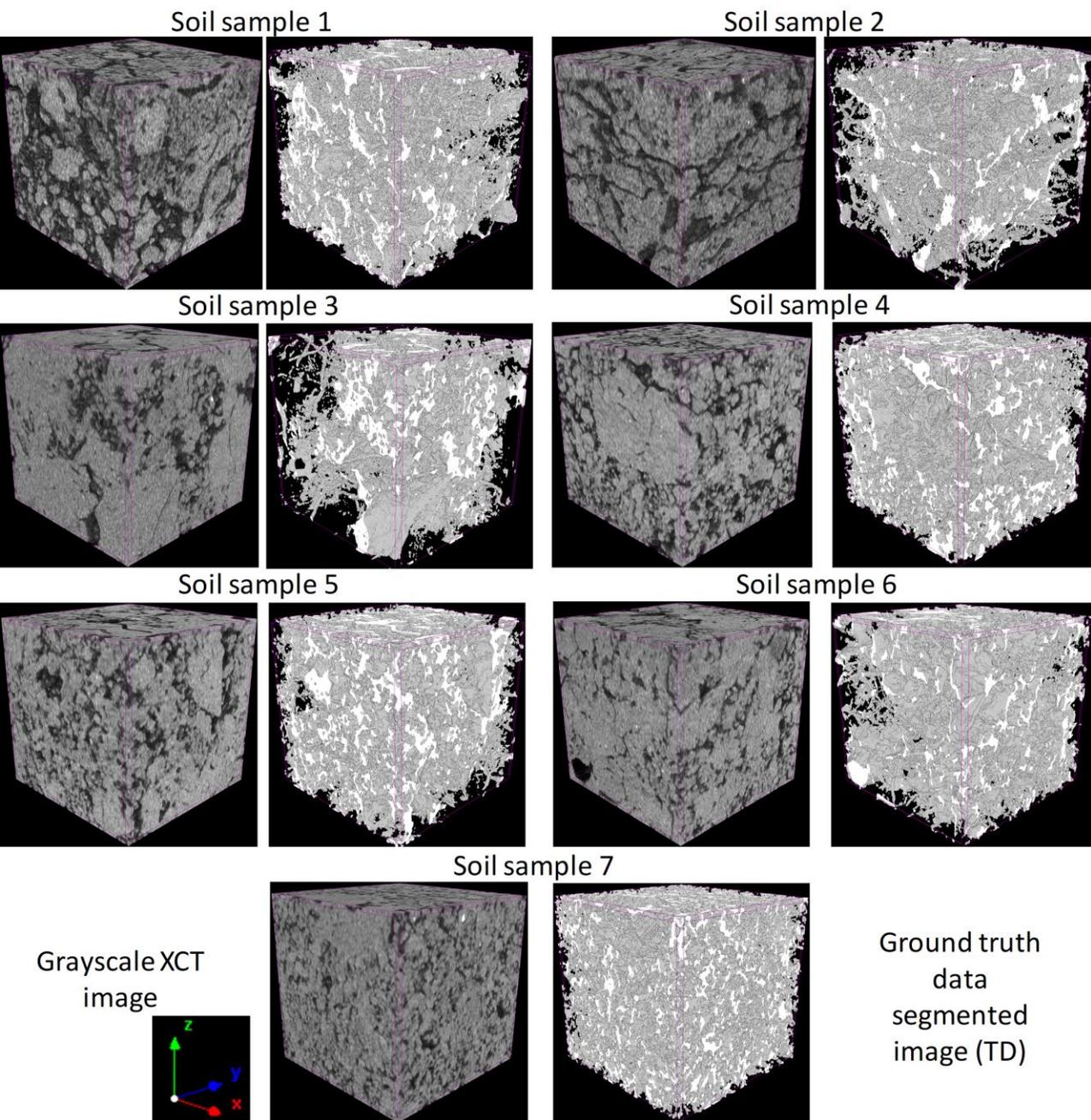
Segmentation to obtain True data:

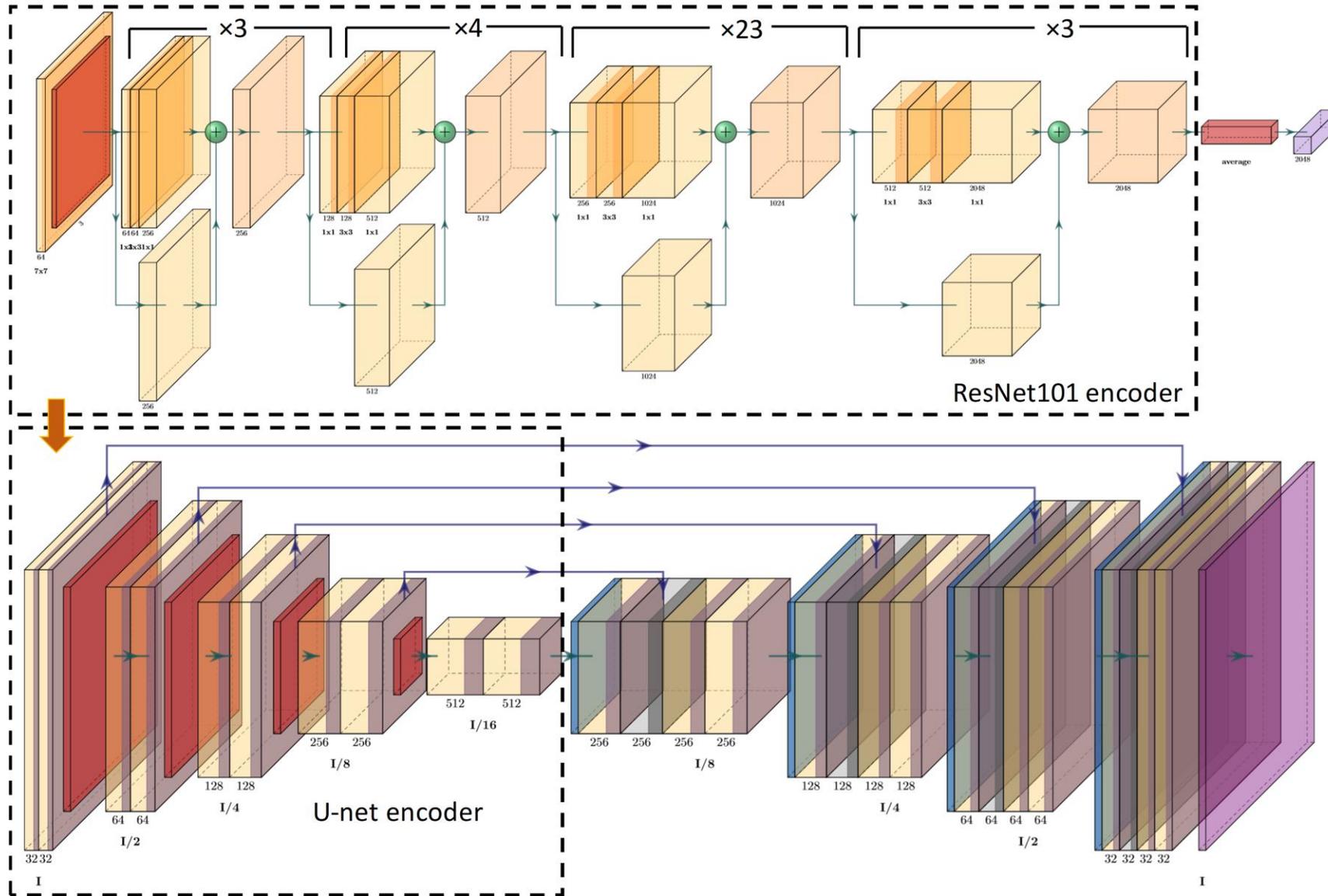
- converging active contours (Sheppard et al., 2004) and region growing (Mehnert and Jackway, 1997) algorithms

Neural network architecture:

- U-net architecture. the U-net encoder replaced with ResNet101 encoder

Soil samples and segmentation differences





The general architecture of neural network used in this study. The lower part represents vanilla U-net architecture. The upper part shows ResNet101 architecture. In our neural network we replaced the U-net encoder with ResNet101 encoder (these parts are highlighted with dotted line areas).

General segmentation results

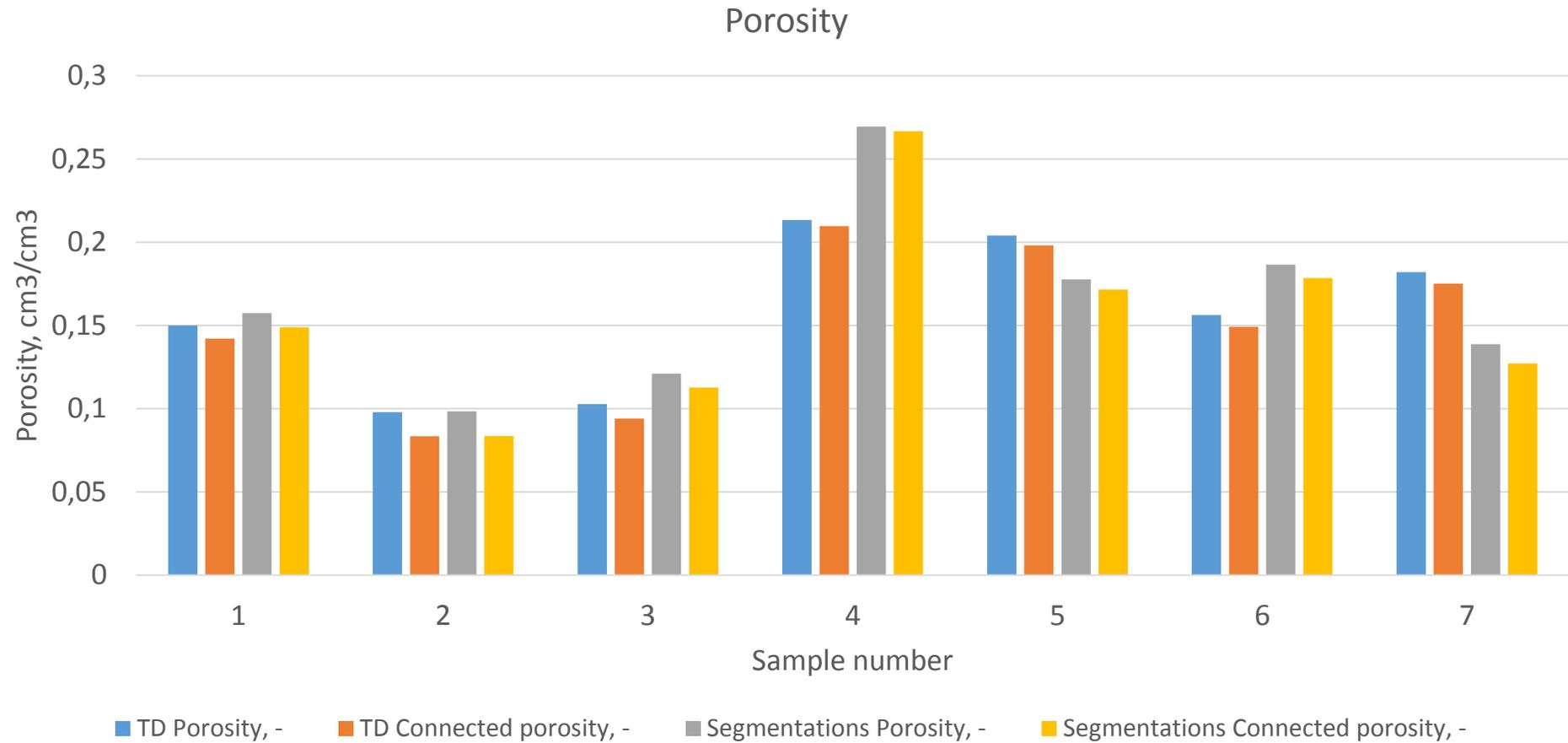
Computer vision metrics for neural network-based binarizations

Sample	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1	PR_AUC	IOU
1	0.990278	0.943769	0.996358	0.969351	0.998623	0.940524
2	0.996335	0.968988	0.993439	0.981061	0.998841	0.962826
3	0.973652	0.820249	0.995574	0.899447	0.990357	0.817269
4	0.939552	0.792140	0.999917	0.883983	0.996171	0.792088
5	0.969022	0.998757	0.865202	0.927195	0.996564	0.864272
6	0.975915	0.863557	0.994796	0.924542	0.993793	0.859673
7	0.958027	0.998234	0.760084	0.863031	0.989519	0.759064

Computer vision metrics for neural network-based binarizations with training on all 3D images.

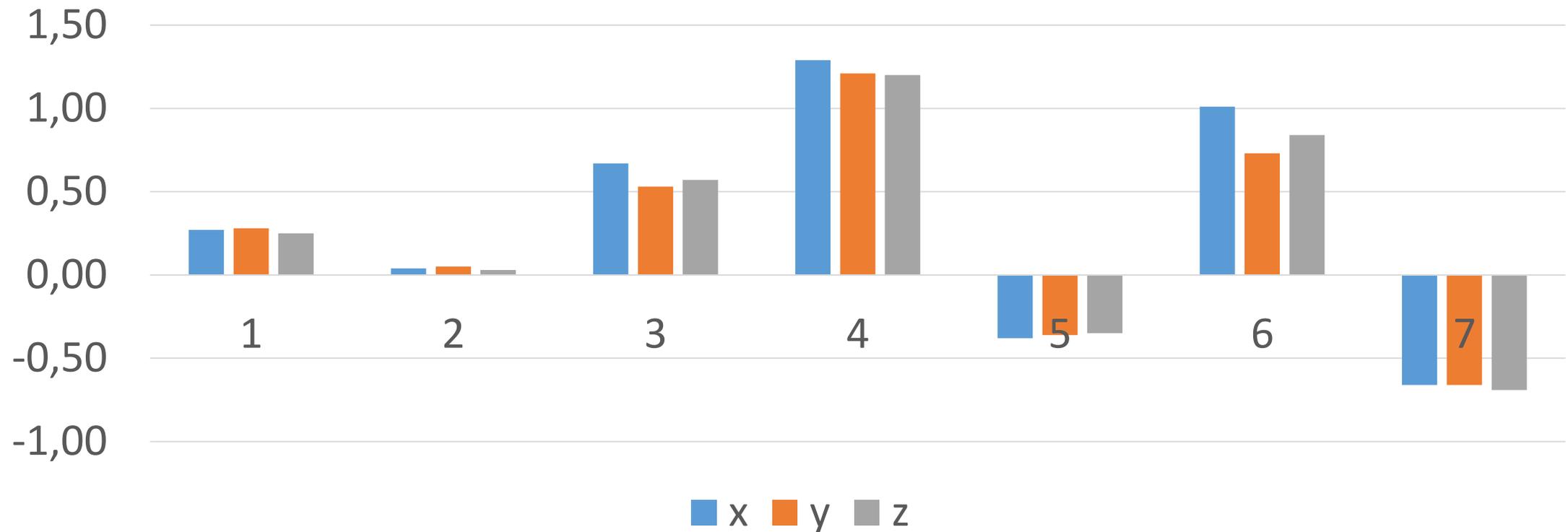
Sample	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1	Pr_auc	iou
1	0.993453	0.954353	0.997504	0.975451	0.999157	0.952079
2	0.993797	0.951161	0.995484	0.972818	0.998651	0.947074
3	0.983351	0.884995	0.991901	0.935403	0.992297	0.878646
4	0.966813	0.873061	0.997794	0.931269	0.994909	0.871378
5	0.983910	0.964919	0.956062	0.960470	0.995234	0.923946
6	0.985962	0.926988	0.992029	0.958406	0.997118	0.920134
7	0.978669	0.908644	0.985702	0.945606	0.994329	0.896824

General segmentation results



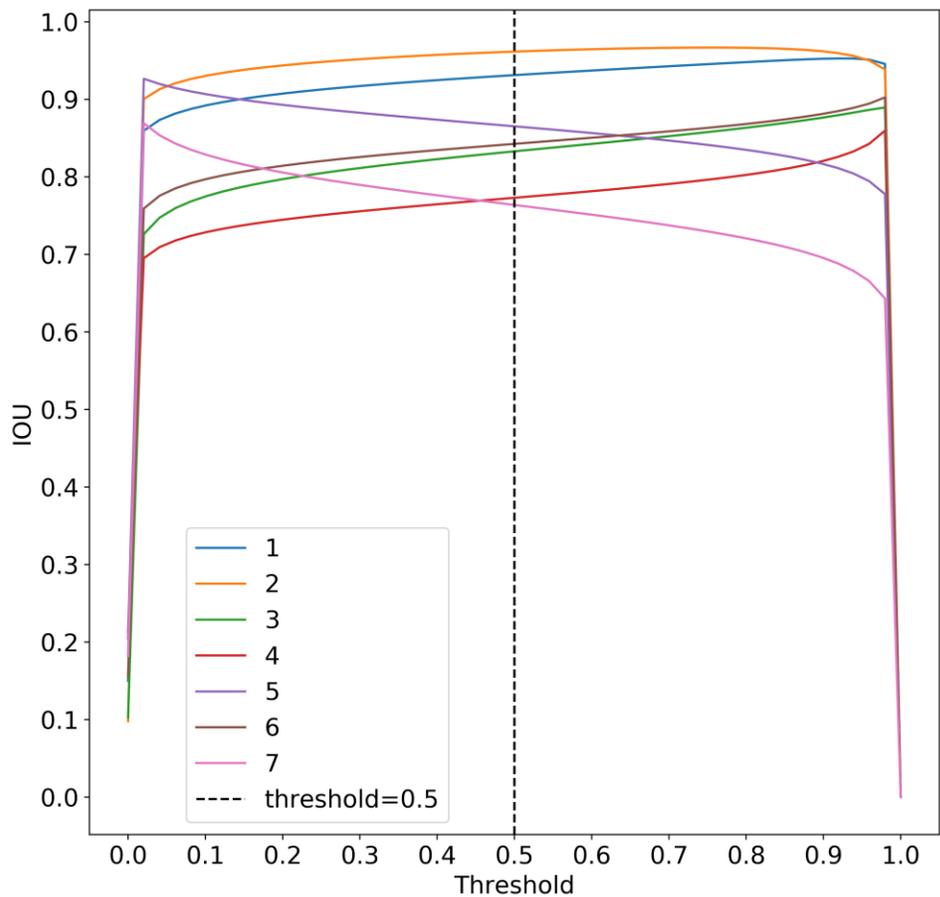
Single phase flow simulation results

Penetrability Error

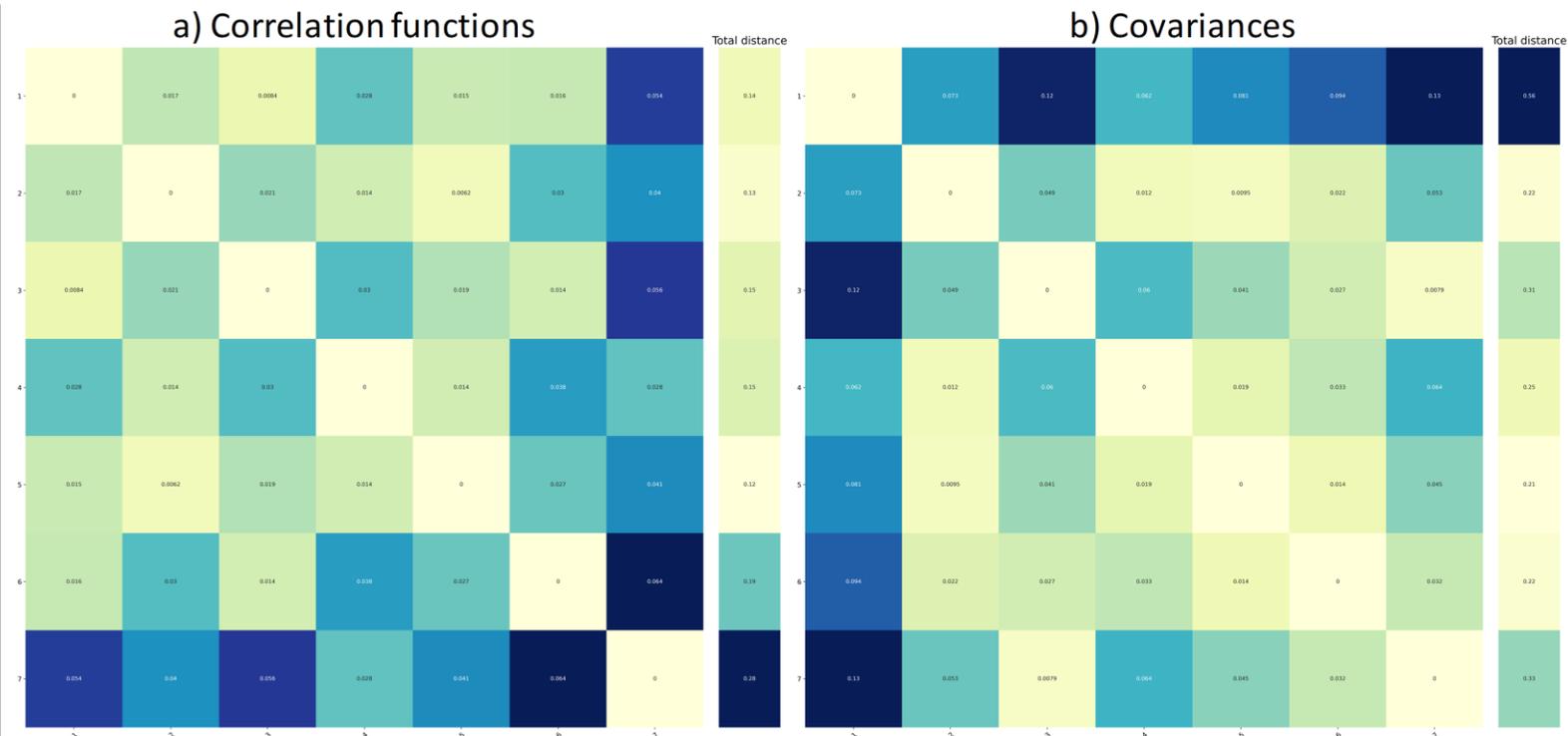


$$Error = \frac{K_{seg}}{K_{TD}} - 1$$

Samples 4,6,7 have quiet different structure



The influence of the threshold value on the quality of the segmentations.



The pairwise and total distances between samples in terms of: a) correlation functions for TD images, and b) covariances for original XCT greyscale images.

Highlights:

- We present the first results for soil XCT image segmentation using neural networks.
- Depending on the sample the accuracy in terms of permeability reached 5% error.
- To segment soil images we utilized hybrid U-net+Resnet101 architecture.
- Low accuracy cases can be explained by low representativity of XCT images.
- Larger image libraries, better true data and network architecture were proposed as ways forward.

Acknowledgements

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The paper with detailed description of all results is currently submitted to Soil and Tillage Research journal.