

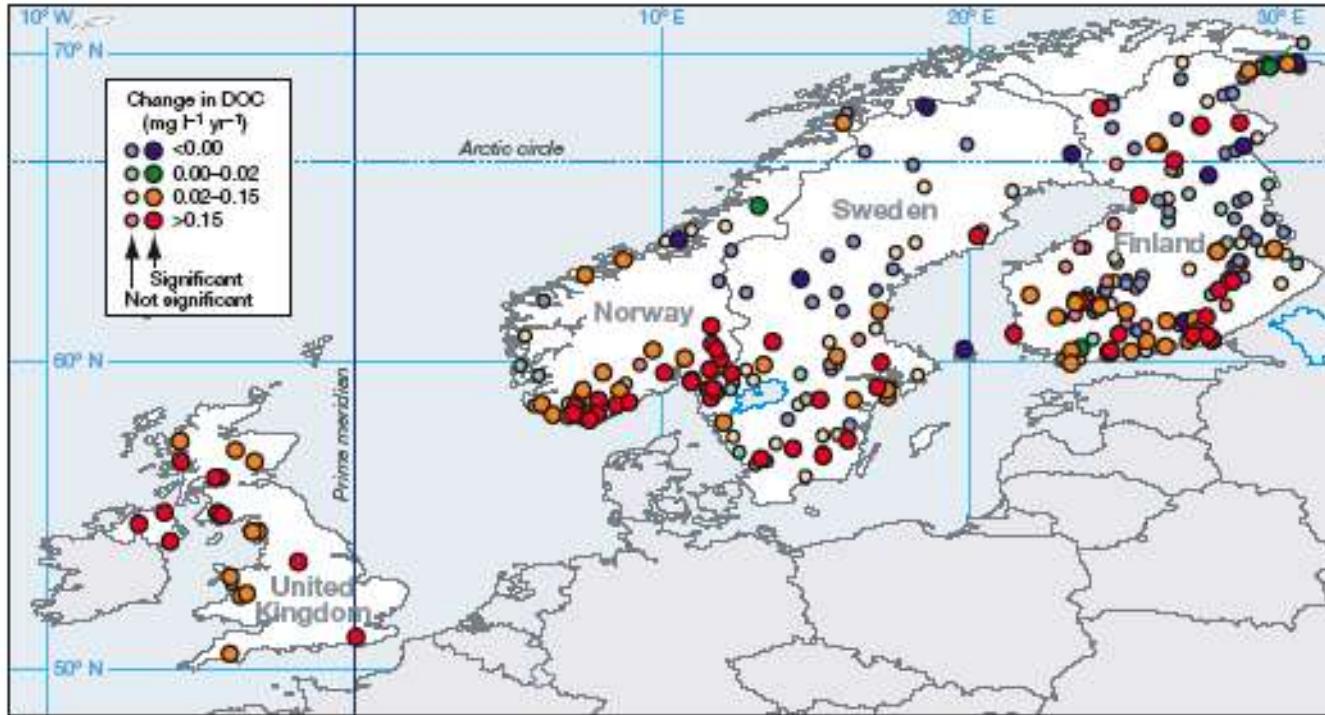
# **Dynamics of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) at the catchment scale:**

**Karsten Rinke, Steffen Zacharias, Peter Dietrich**

Department of Lake Research  
Department of Monitoring and Exploration

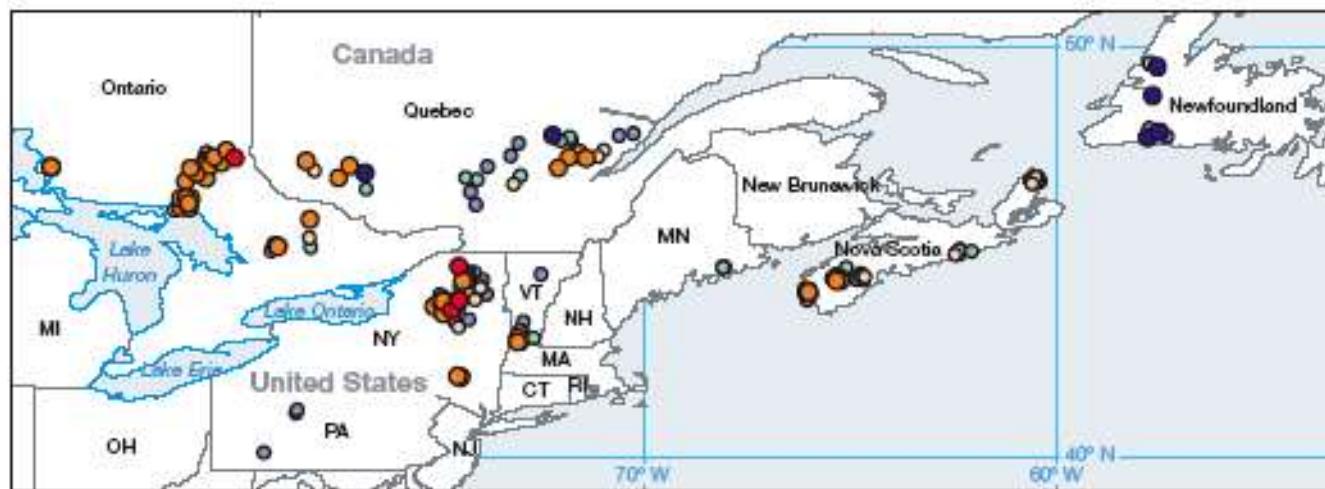


# Cross-continental consistency in DOC increase

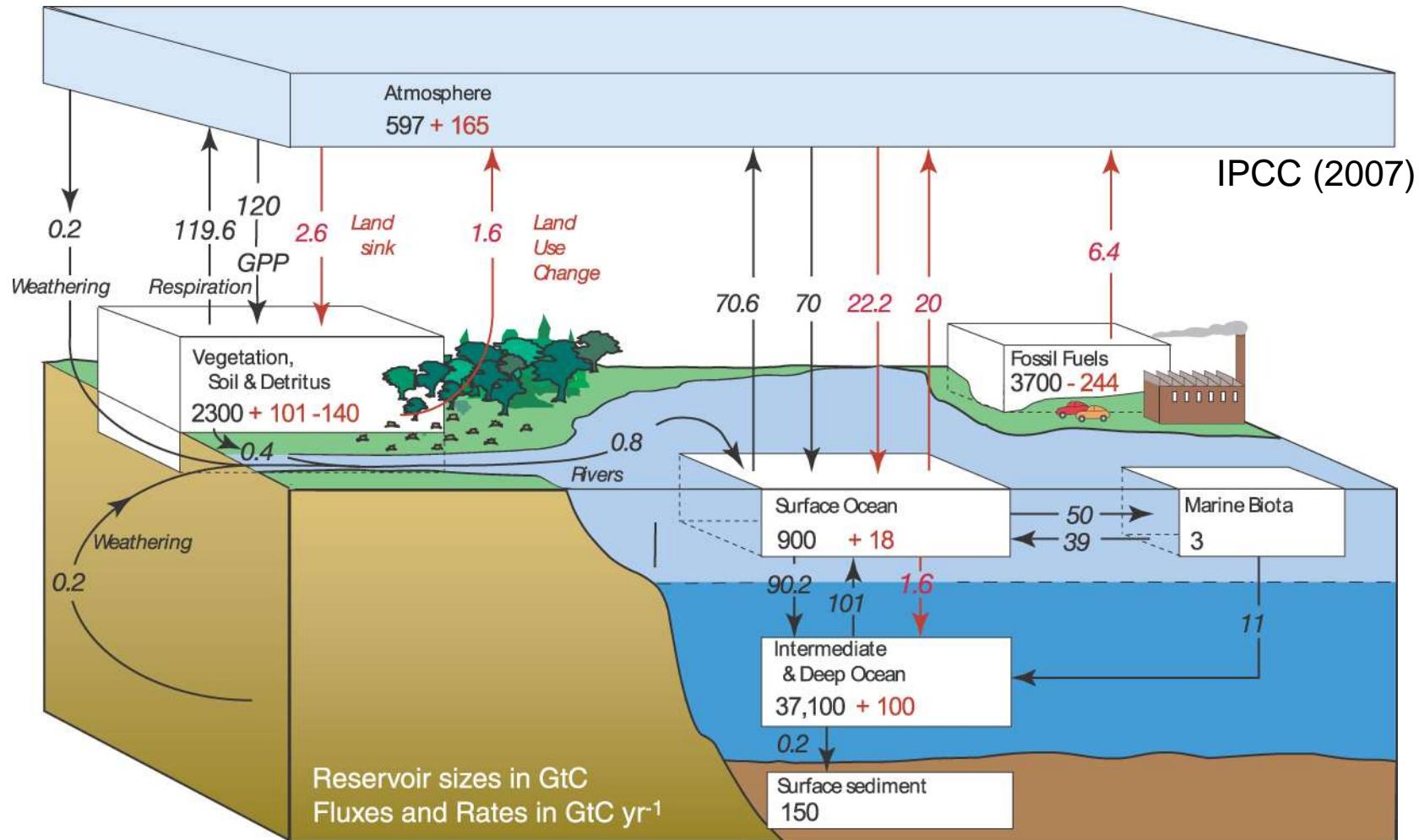


Increase in  
DOC in >70%  
of studied lake  
systems

Monteith et al. Nature  
450: 537-541 (2007).



# Global carbon cycle



## Pools

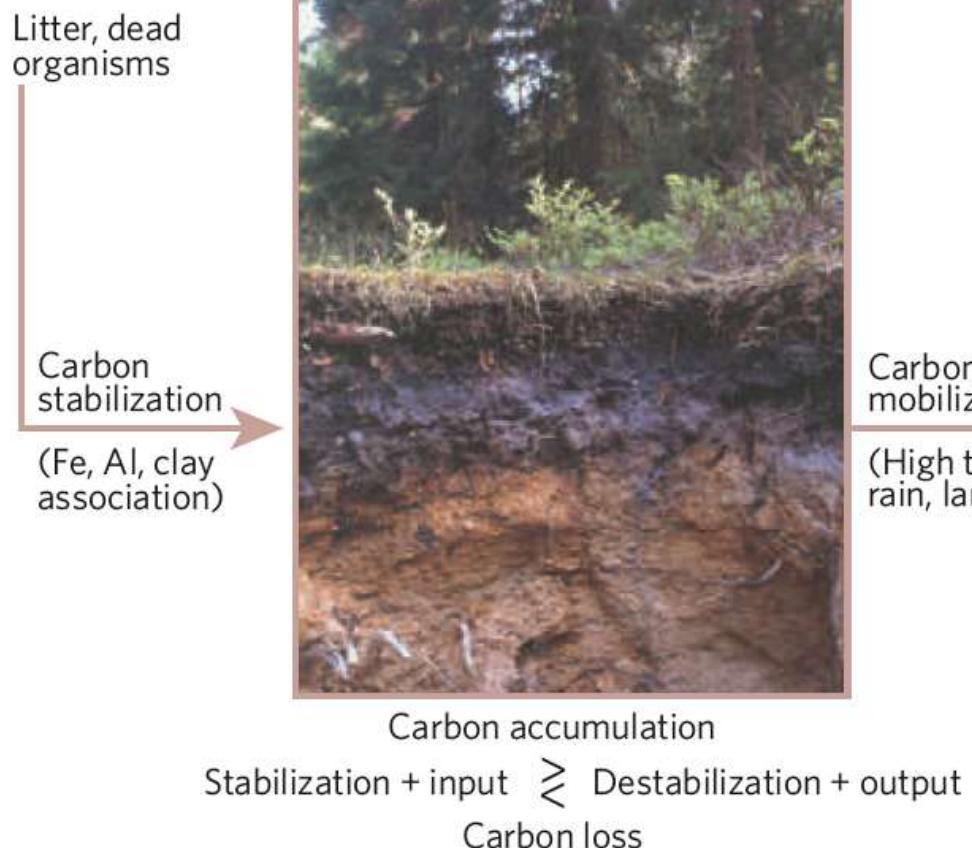
DOC Ocean 700 Gt  
 CO<sub>2</sub> Atmosphere 750 Gt  
 Terrestrial plants 600 Gt

## Fluxes

Lake sediments 0.04 Gt a<sup>-1</sup>  
 Peatlands 0.1 Gt (?) Gt a<sup>-1</sup>  
 Reservoirs 0.6 Gt a<sup>-1</sup>

# Flux of dissolved organic carbon on the catchment scale

## Loss of soil organic carbon



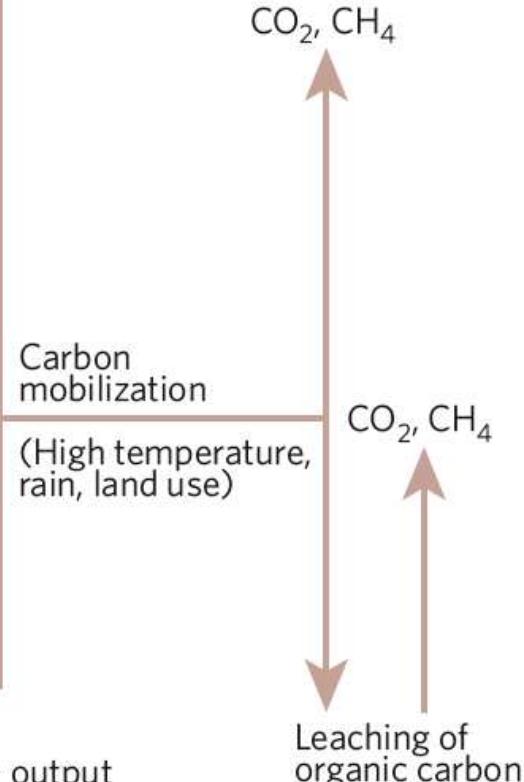
Loss of SOC:  $66 - 550 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ a}^{-1}$   
(equals 8% of UK emmission of  $\text{CO}_2 = \text{CO}_2$  reduction 1990-2002)

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

## Carbon unlocked from soils

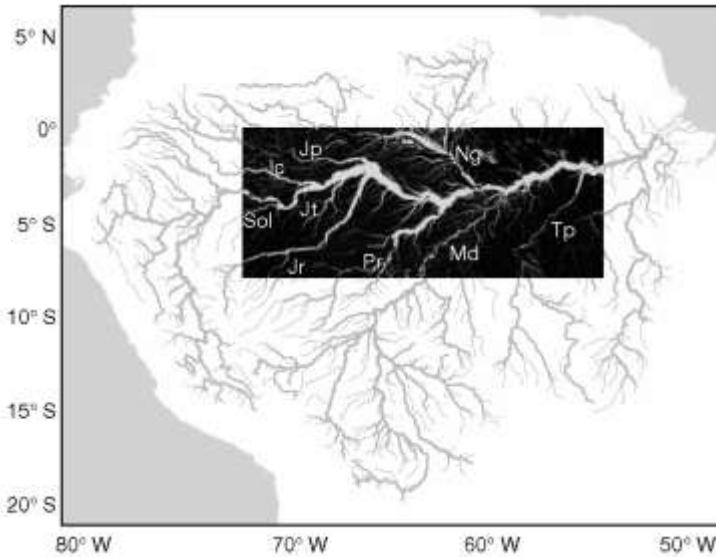
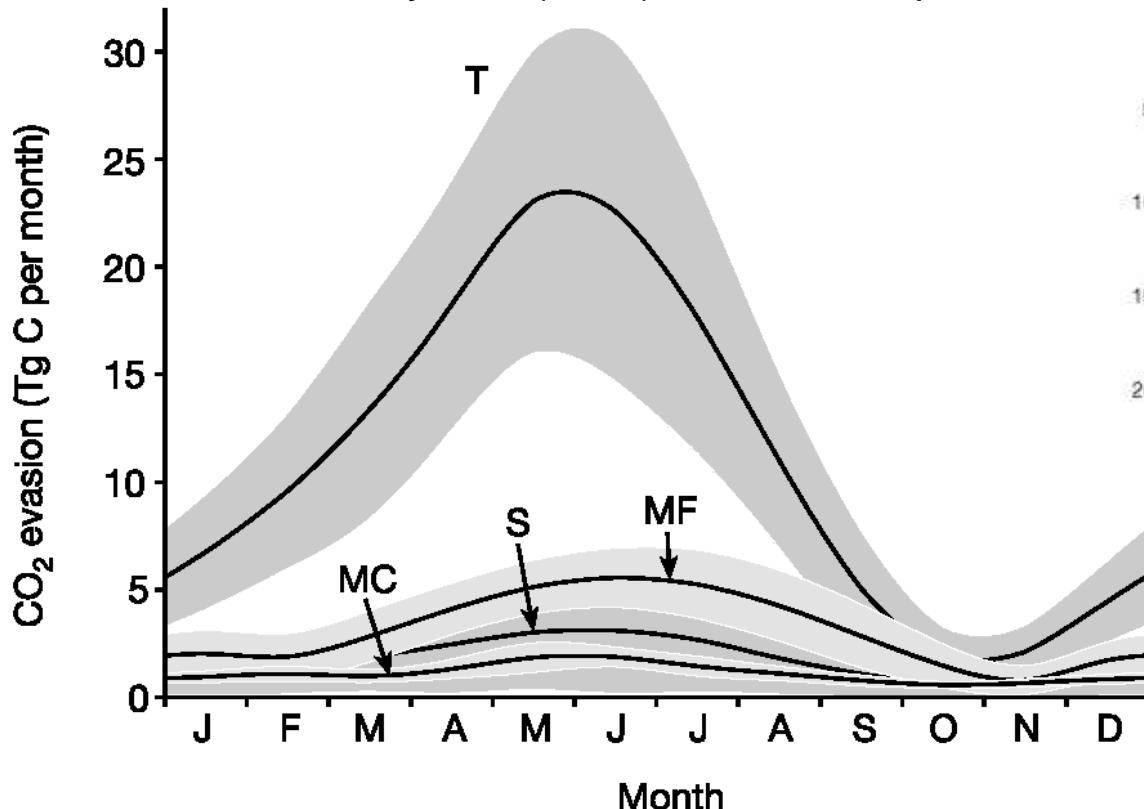
E. Detlef Schulze and Annette Freibauer

NATURE | Vol 437 | 8 September 2005



# Transport (hydrology) and transformation (ecology) in aquatic systems are relevant for the carbon dynamics at the catchment scale

Richey et al (2002), Nature 416, p617-620



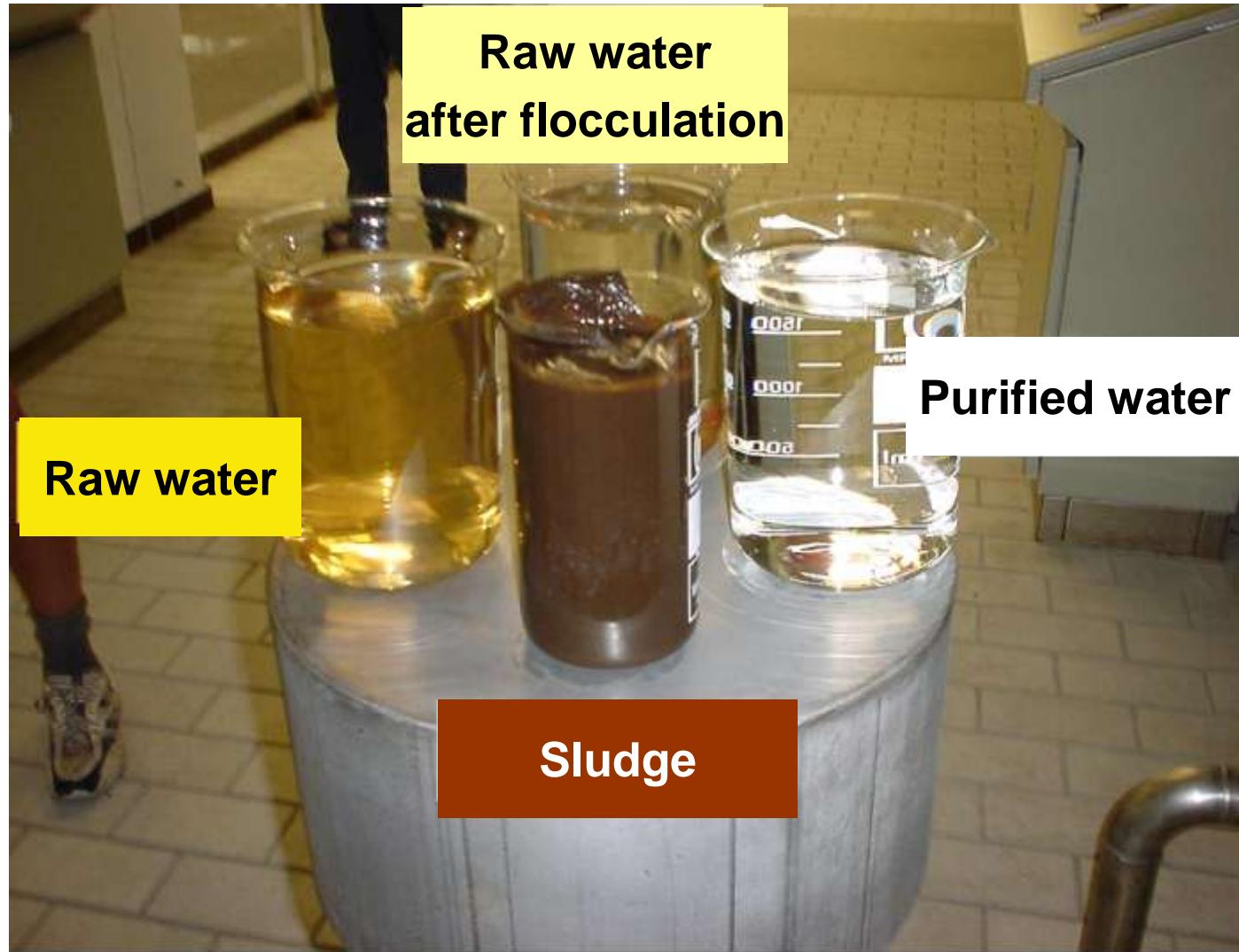
Outgassing from Amazonian rivers and wetlands as a large tropical source of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>

Jeffrey E. Richey\*, John M. Melack†, Anthony K. Aufdenkampe\*, Victoria M. Ballester‡ & Laura L. Hess‡

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# Problems in the waterworks:

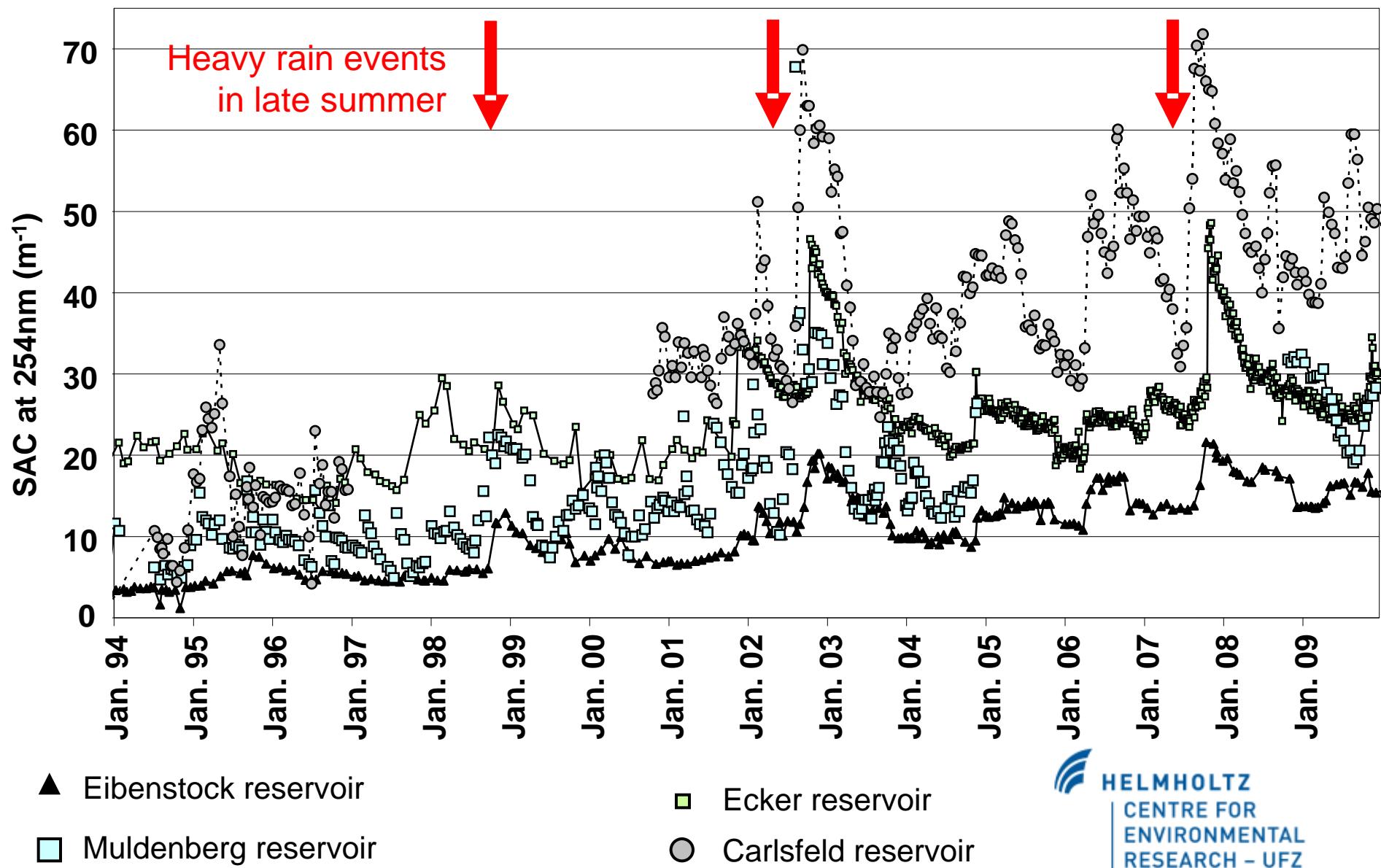
stability of flocculation, sludge production & disinfection byproducts, ...



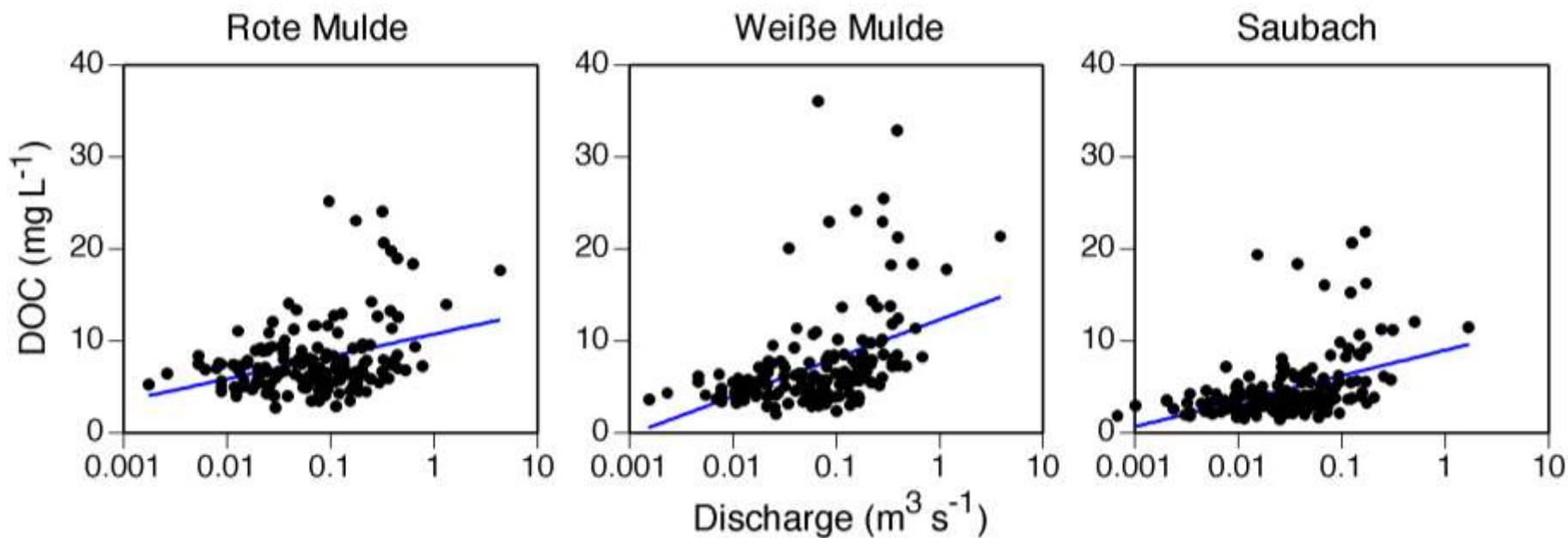
Source:  
LTV Sachsen

HELMHOLTZ  
CENTRE FOR  
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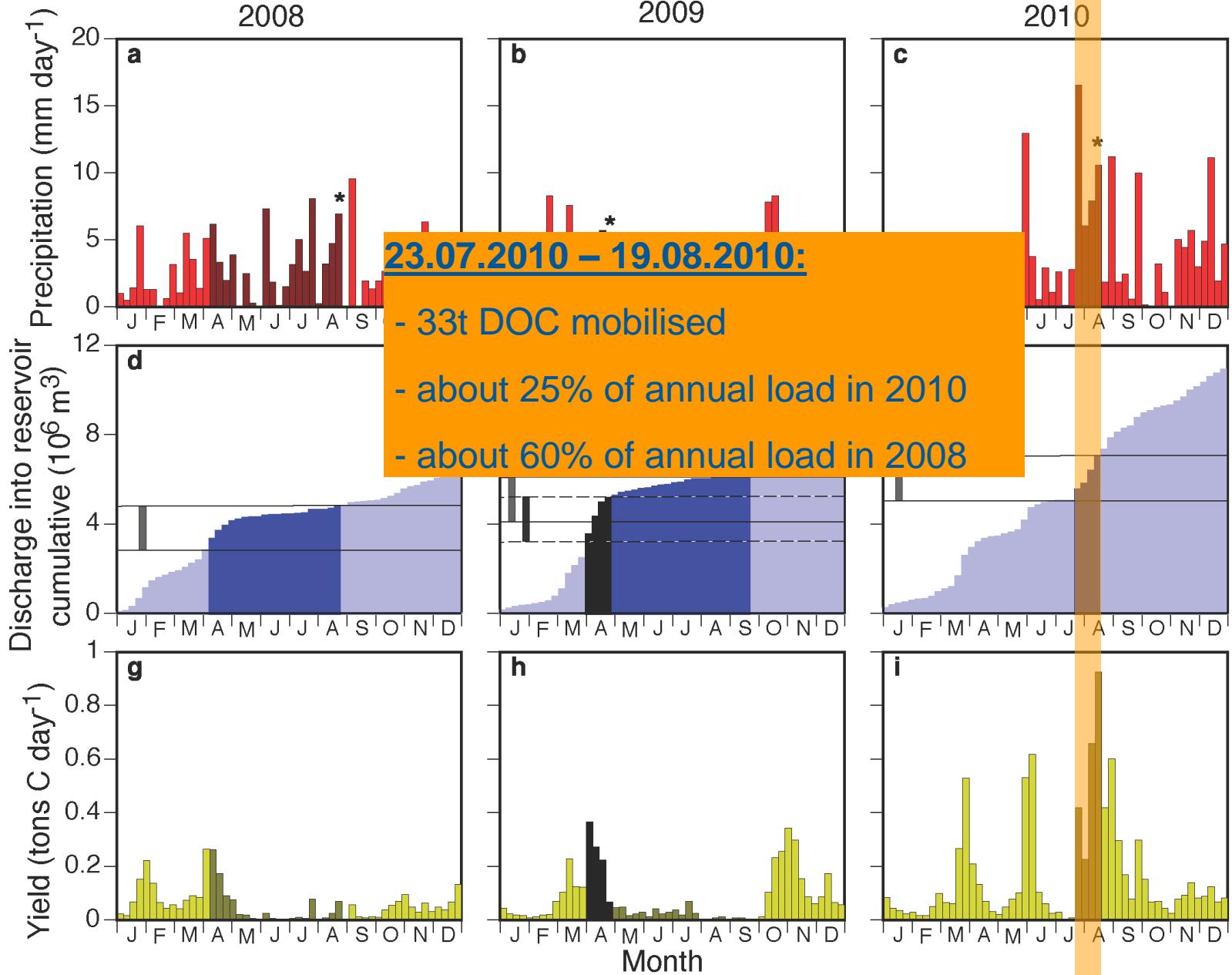
# Long-term trends of DOC in german drinking water reservoirs



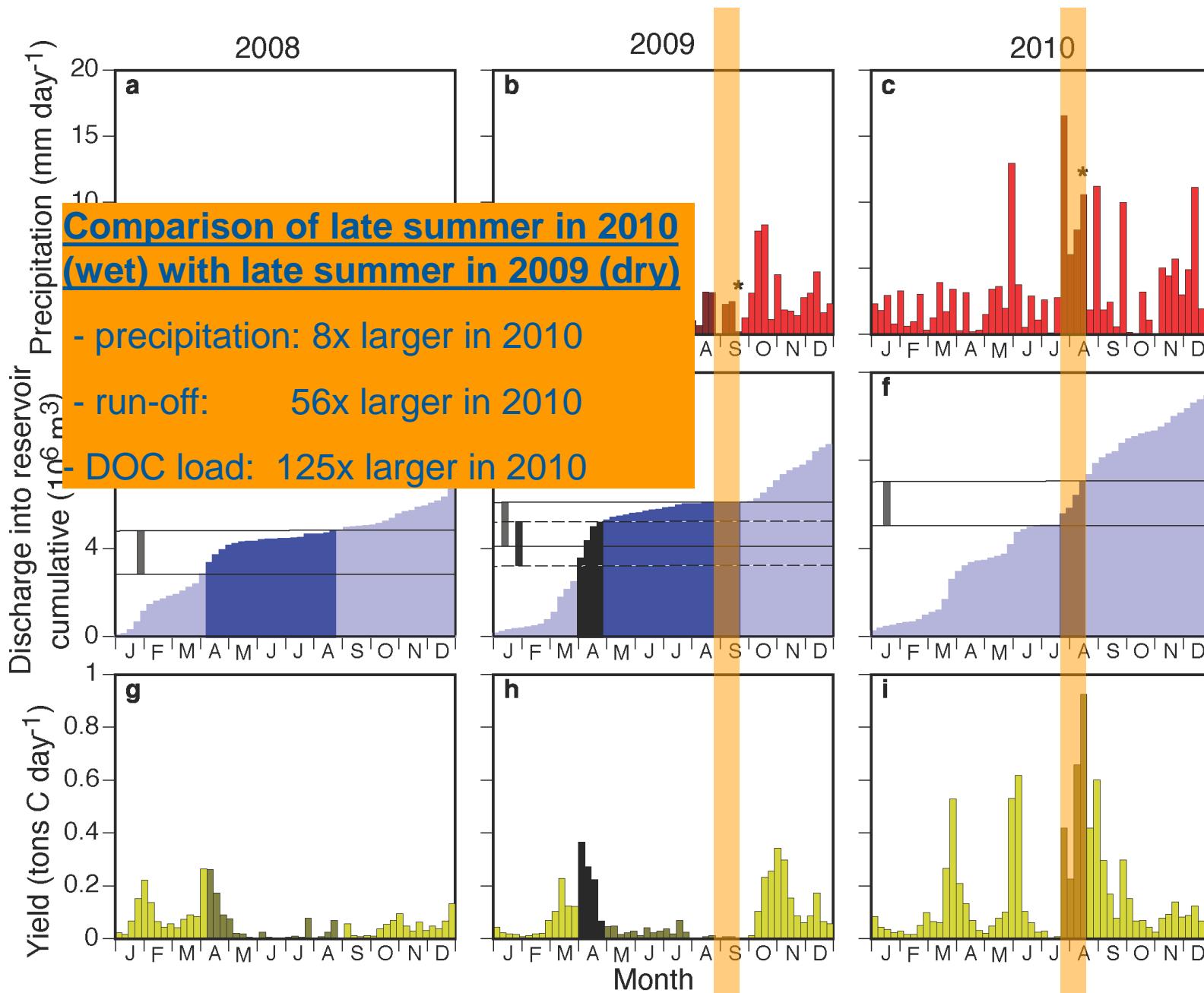
# DOC transport over a range of hydrological conditions



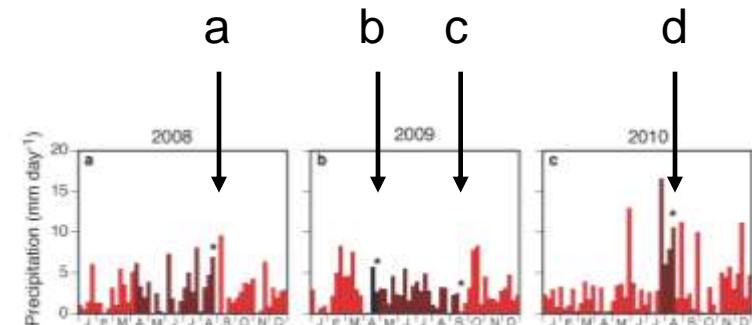
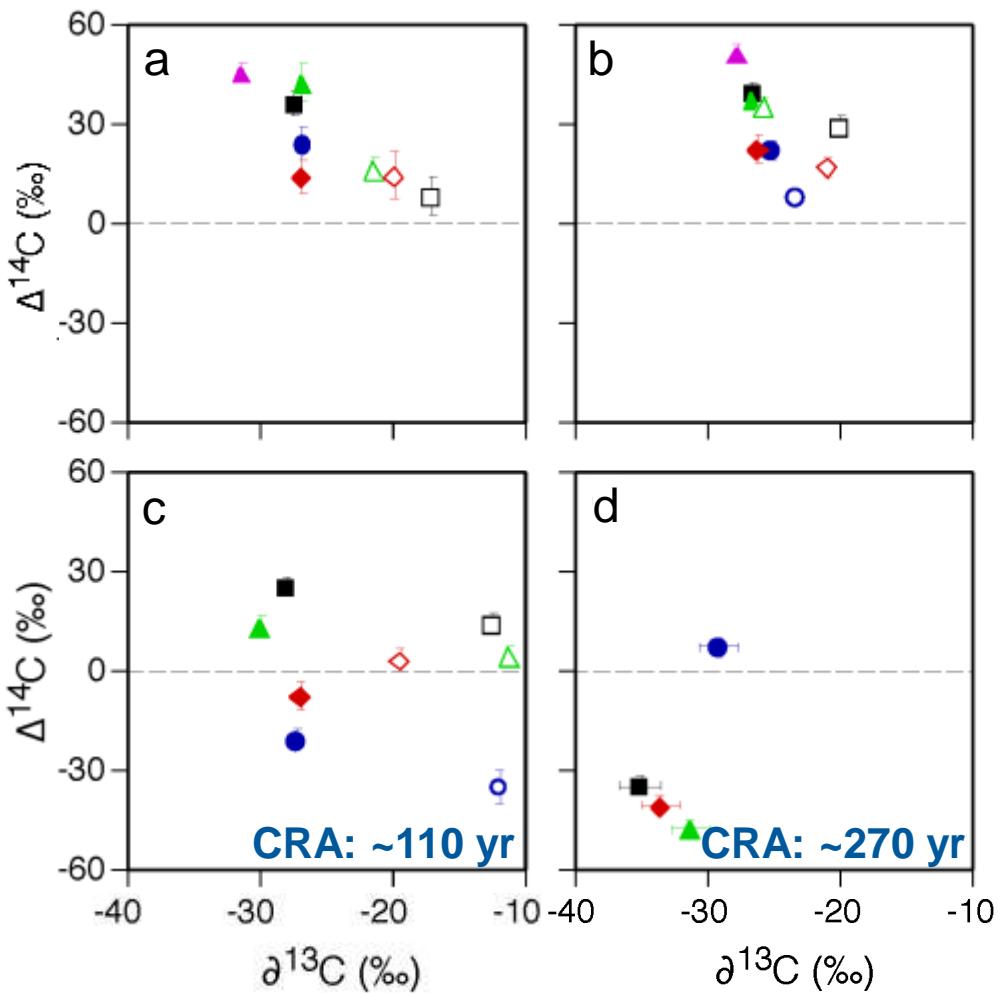
# DOC transport from the catchment



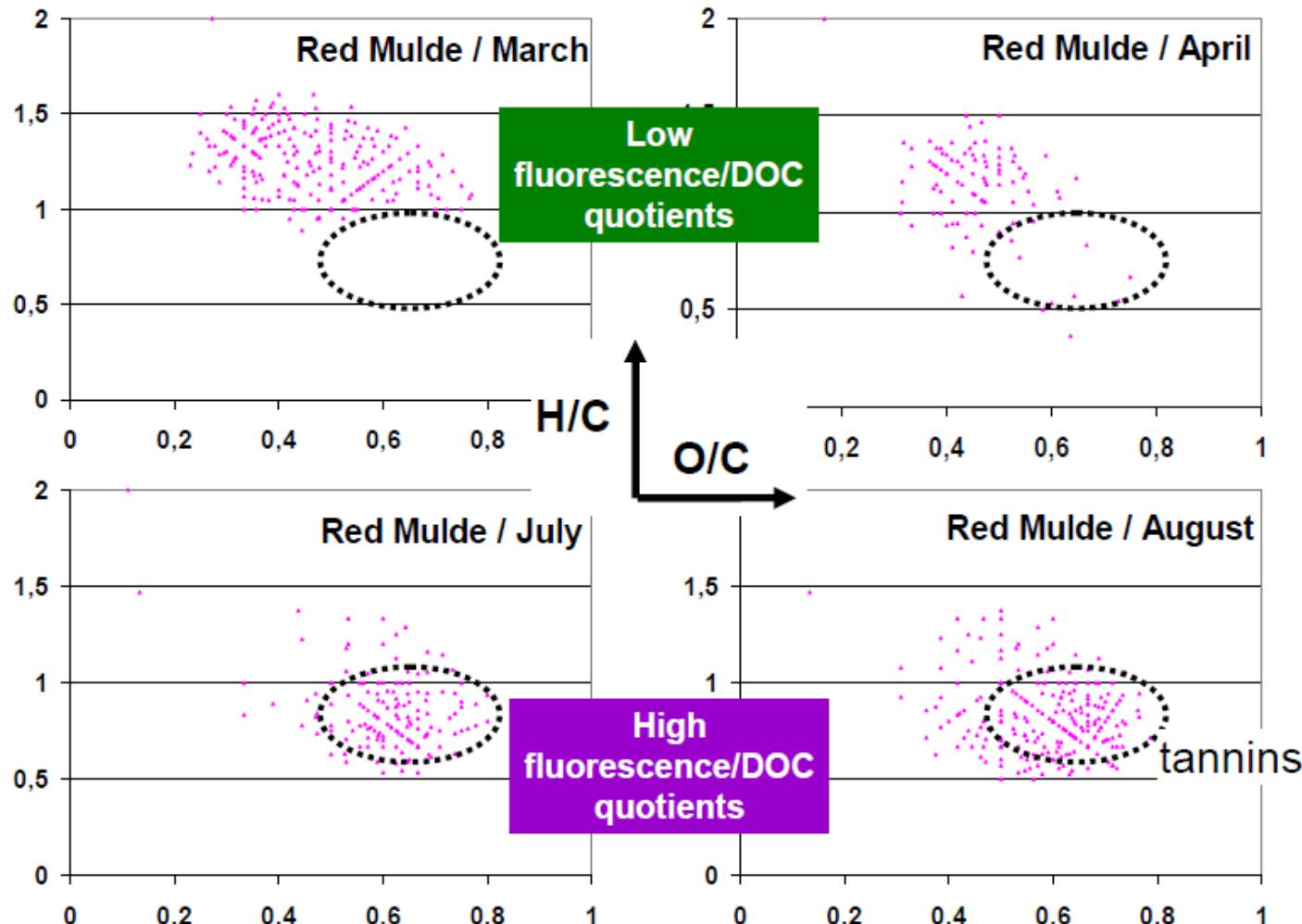
# DOC transport from the catchment



# $^{14}\text{C}$ signatures



# Quality and elemental composition of DOC varies seasonally (FTICR-MS)



LTZ

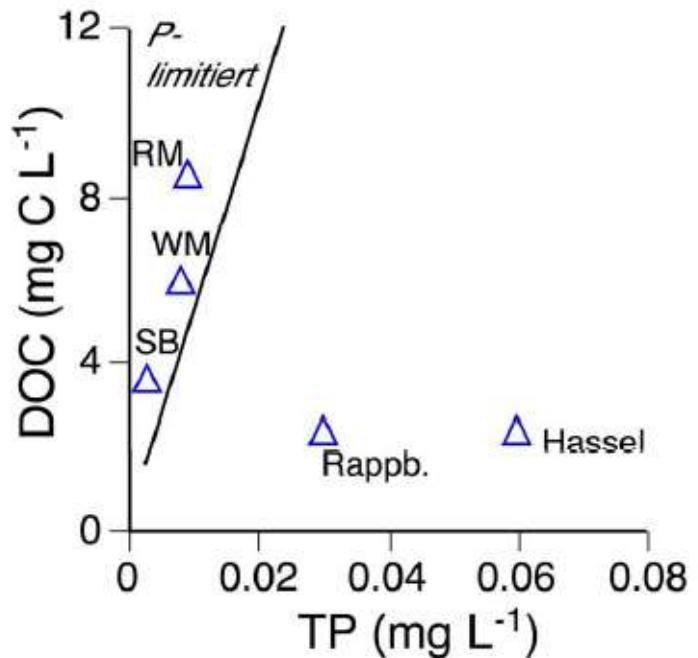
FOR

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# DOC is processed within the reservoirs

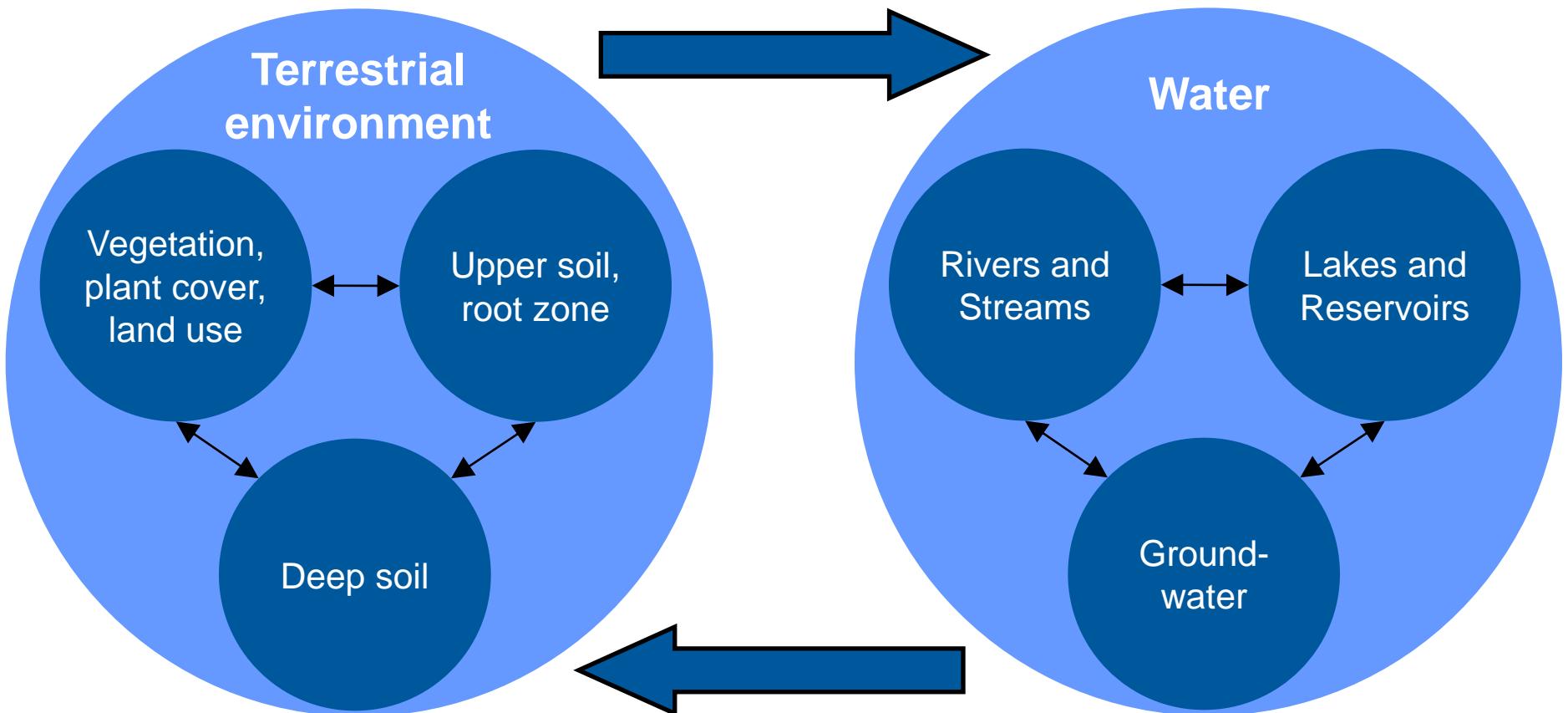
## Muldenberg Reservoir (Saxony)

Year	Inflow	Outflow	Breakdown
	t DOC	t DOC	rel.
2008	35	23	0.35
2009	85	59	0.31



chemostat picture

# Flux of dissolved organic carbon at the catchment scale



# Flux of dissolved organic carbon at the catchment scale

## Potential Work packages and activities

### a) Sources, transport and processing of DOC within the catchment

- DOC in surface waters
- DOC mobilisation in the soil
- Measurement of DOC dynamics
- Age of DOC
- Exploration of systems
- Modelling of DOC-fluxes in catchments
- Microbial processing of DOC

### b) Influence of global change on DOC dynamics

- Increase of temperature
- Change of pH in precipitation
- Hydrological Extremes
- Landuse change
- Ecosystem functioning
- C-Budget at the catchment scale

### c) Management

- Landuse structure at the catchment scale
- Optimization of internal processes in the water bodies
- Technical developments in drinking water treatment
- Cost-Use-Calculations
- By-products and health hazards, acceptance of colored water
- Use conflicts (bog renaturation, flood control, ...)

# Organisational setting of the work package

***“Sources, transport, and processing of DOC within the catchment”***

Interfaces to scientific challenges or economic relevance

- loss of OC
- soil fertility
- agriculture
- soil management

OC dynamics in  
**soils**

**DOC**  
Composition

- drinking water treatment
- analytics

- management of lakes, reservoirs, and rivers
- monitoring strategies

DOC dynamics in  
**surface waters**

**DOC**  
Transport

- predictions of DOC fluxes
- global change
- monitoring strategies
- model concepts

# „Flux of dissolved organic carbon on the catchment scale“

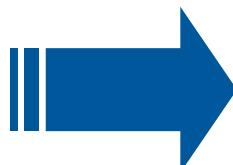
## 2 – Research Hypothesis

### Research Hypotheses

- o Soluble C transport from terrestrial environments represents a substantial component of the ecosystem carbon balance in northern latitudes
- o An increase in temperature (2 K) leads to higher DOC (N,P,...) loads in surface water system
- o Reduced acidic atmospheric deposition entirely explains the increase in DOC concentrations
- o DOC quality differs between different hydrological situations
- o Areal DOC export from soils depend strongly on land use
- o Ecological processing of DOC depends on nutrient stoichiometry

# Summary

- Steigende DOC-Konzentrationen sind ein globales Phänomen
- Relevanz: Trinkwasserbereitstellung aus Talsperren, Kohlenstoffzyklus
- Starker Einfluss der Hydrologie
- Hohe Dynamik erfordert räumlich-zeitliche hochauflösendes Monitoring
- Prozessierung im aquatischen Ökosystem ist wichtig
- Zusammensetzung des DOC (chemisch, isotopen-Signatur) variabel

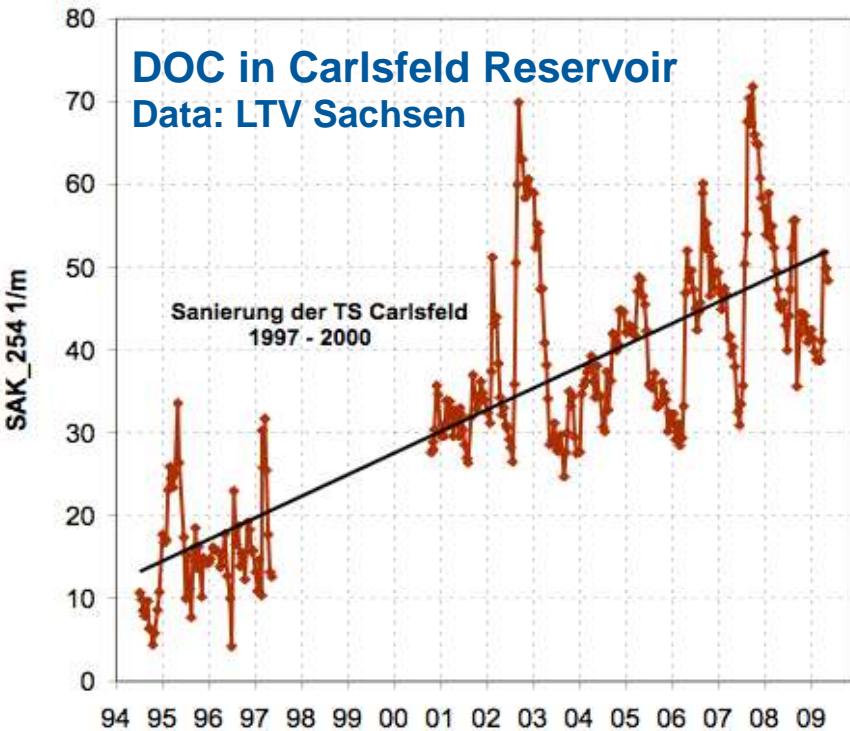


**Thema verlangt disziplin-  
übergreifenden Ansatz und ein  
umfassendes Monitoring**

Photo: André Künzelmann (UFZ)

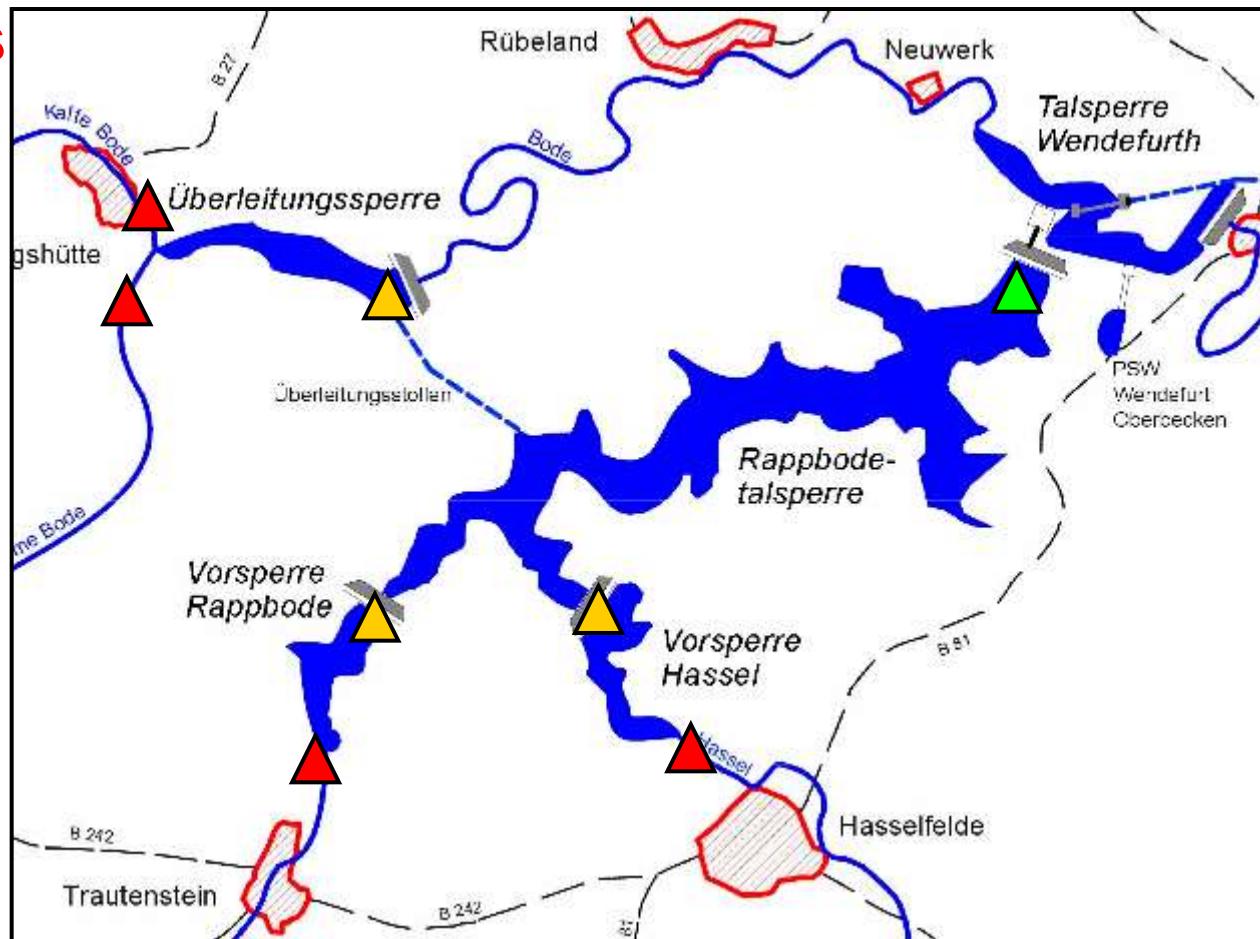


# Reservoirs & DOC



# The Rappbode Reservoir Observatory

- ▲ 4 inflow stations
- ▲ 3 connecting stations
- ▲ 1 offshore station



Talsperrenbetrieb Sachsen-Anhalt

# The Rappbode Reservoir Observatory

- located at Rappbode reservoir (Harz Mountains, Germany)
- monitoring of ecosystem dynamics
- continuous monitoring of nutrient and carbon fluxes

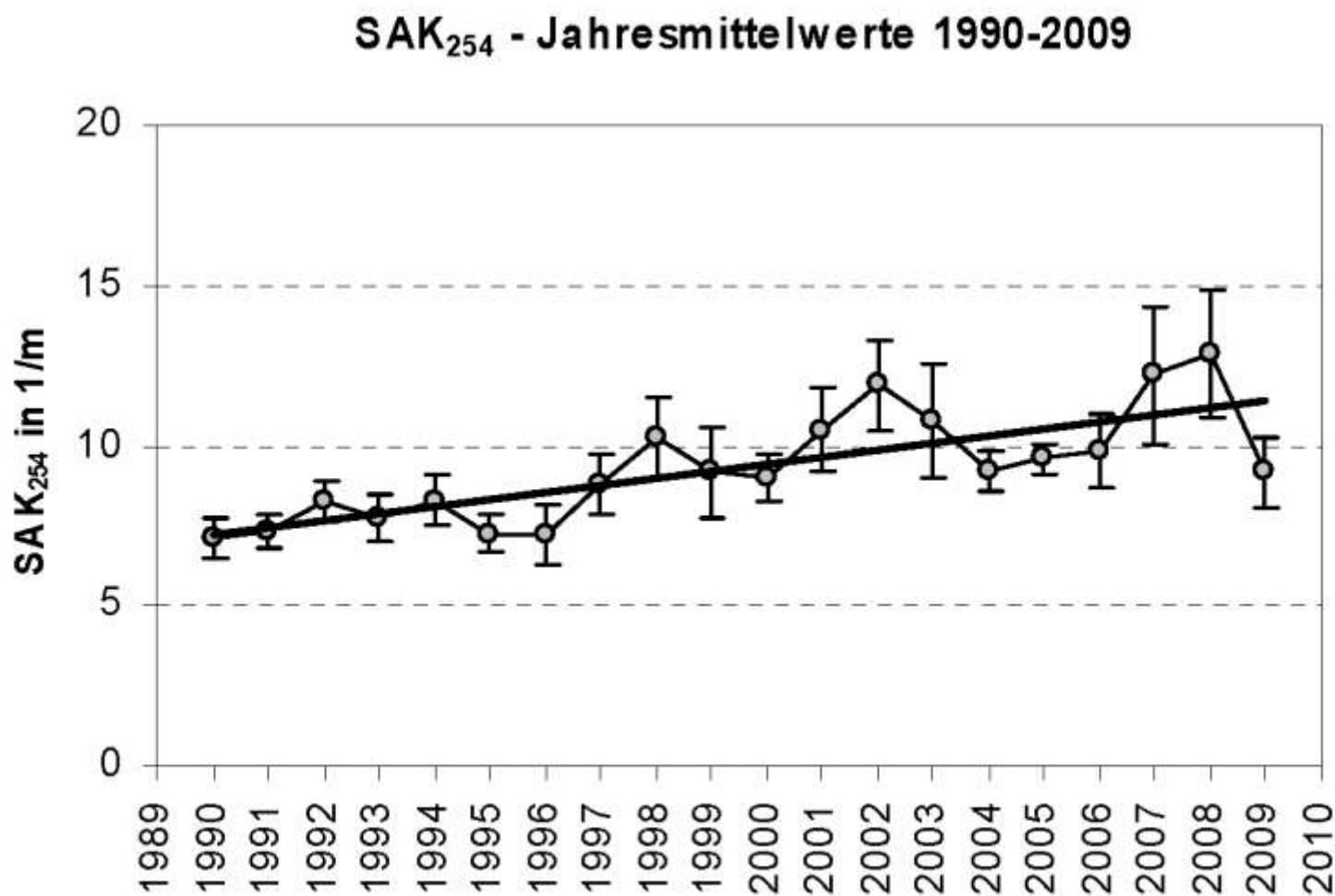


Photo: André Künzelmann (UFZ)

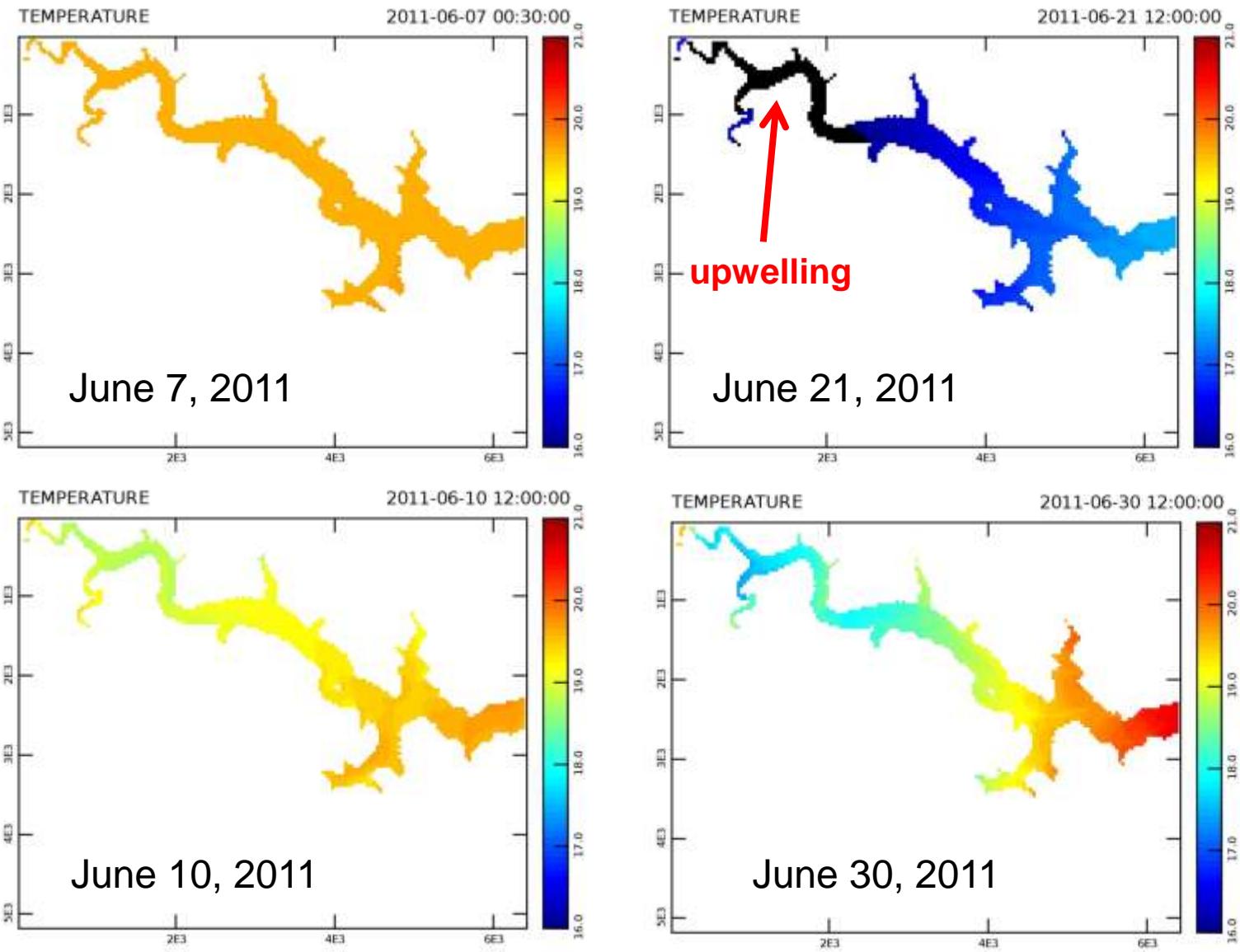
## Rappbode Reservoir

- One main reservoir and 3 pre-dams
- Drinking water supply for over 1 Mio people
- Surface area: 395 ha
- Volume: 113 Mio m<sup>3</sup>
- Max. depth: 89 m
- mesotrophic

# DOC trends in the Rappbode Reservoir



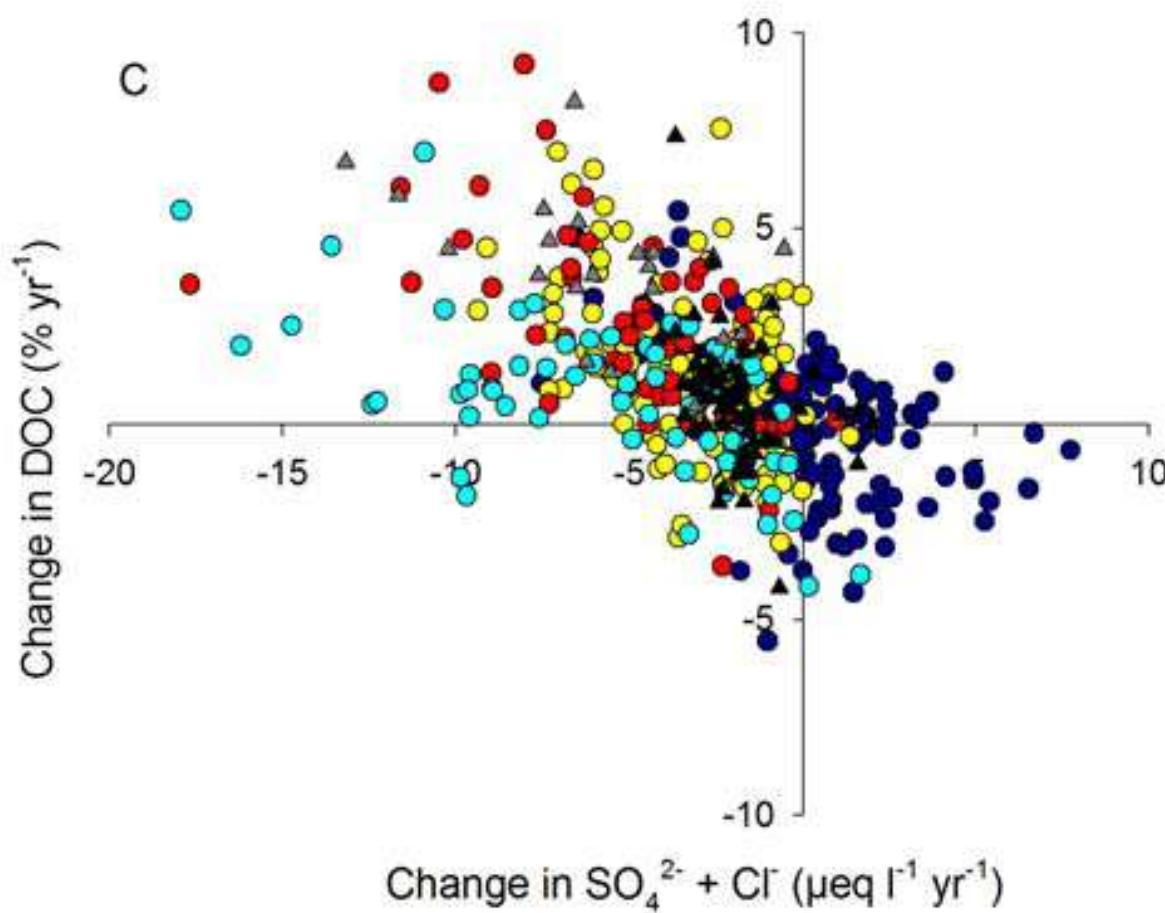
# Aims of the reservoir observatory



# Next steps in our DOC Research

- Breakdown of DOC: experimental testing of hypotheses about controlling factors (phosphorus supply, light exposure, the role of sediments,...)
- Modelling of DOC mobilisation and transport within the catchment                      →*interaction with Jan Fleckenstein*
- Projecting DOC import into surface waters based on predictions about future hydrological regimes                      →*interaction with Luis Samaniego*
- Determining the quality of DOC from various sources and the effect of hydrological regimes and microbial processing on DOC quality                      →*interaction with Thorsten Reemtsma*

# Reduced acidic atmospheric depositions initiated DOC release?



Monteith et al 2007

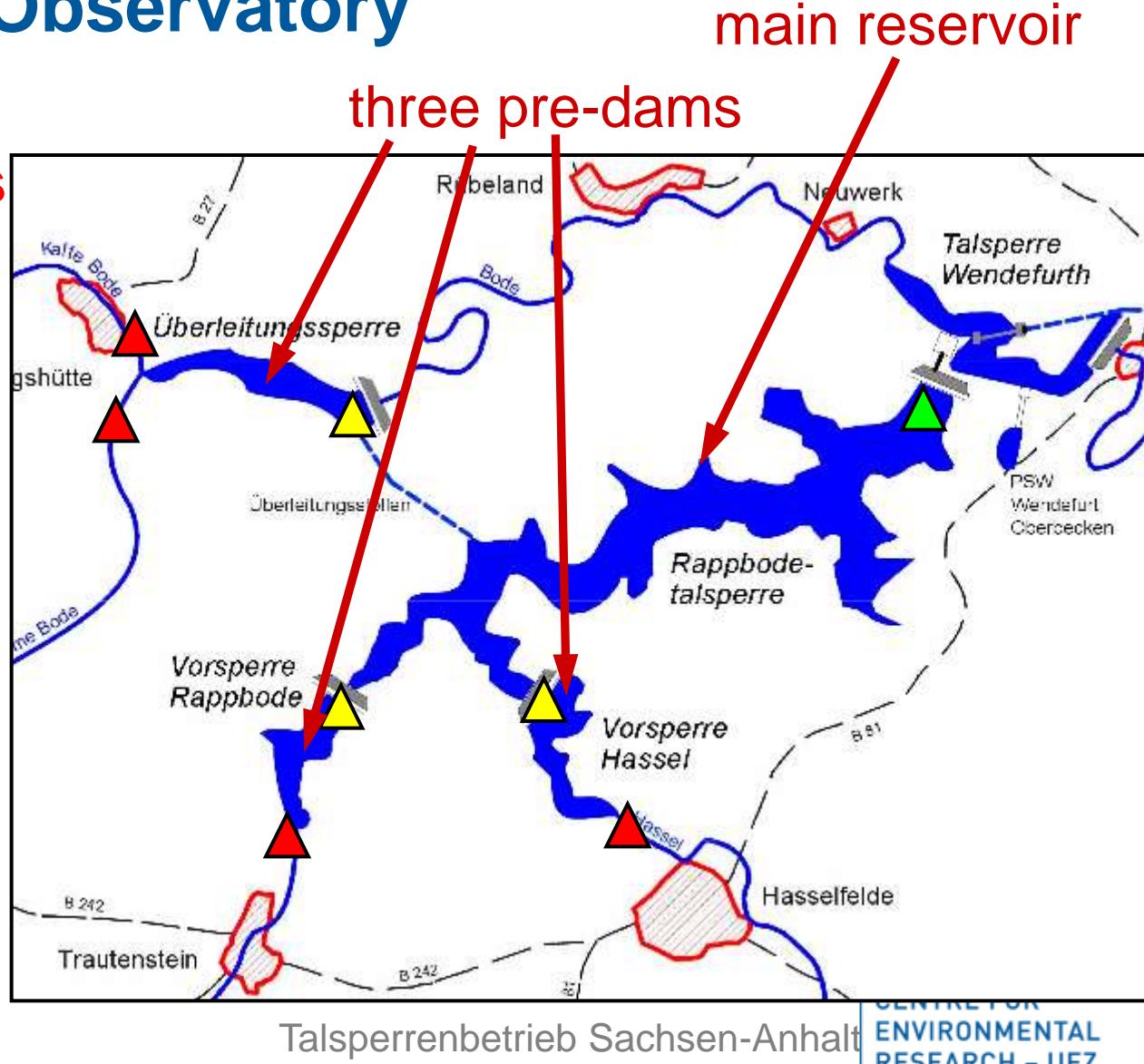
# The Rappbode Reservoir Observatory

## ▲ 4 inflow stations

Real-time & continuous measurement of

- temperature
- conductivity
- turbidity
- nitrate
- DOC

and event-dependent water sampling by automated water samplers



# The Rappbode Reservoir Observatory

▲ 3 connecting stations

Real-time & continuous measurement of

- temperature
- conductivity
- turbidity
- nitrate
- DOC
- oxygen
- chlorophyll



Talsperrenbetrieb Sachsen-Anhalt

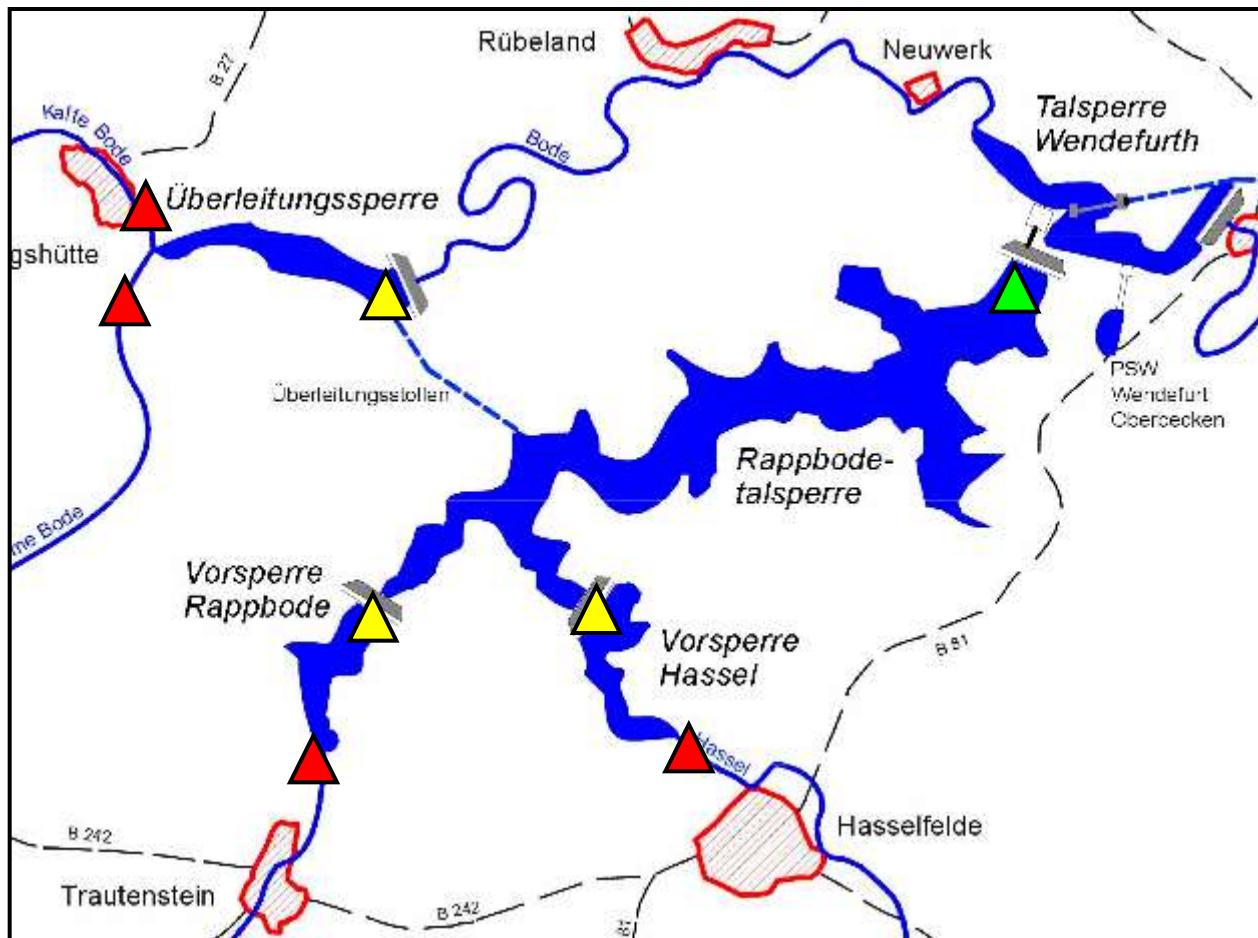
# The Rappbode Reservoir Observatory

▲ 1 offshore station

Meteorological buoy  
(wind, temperature,  
humidity, radiation)

Real-time & continuous  
measurement of

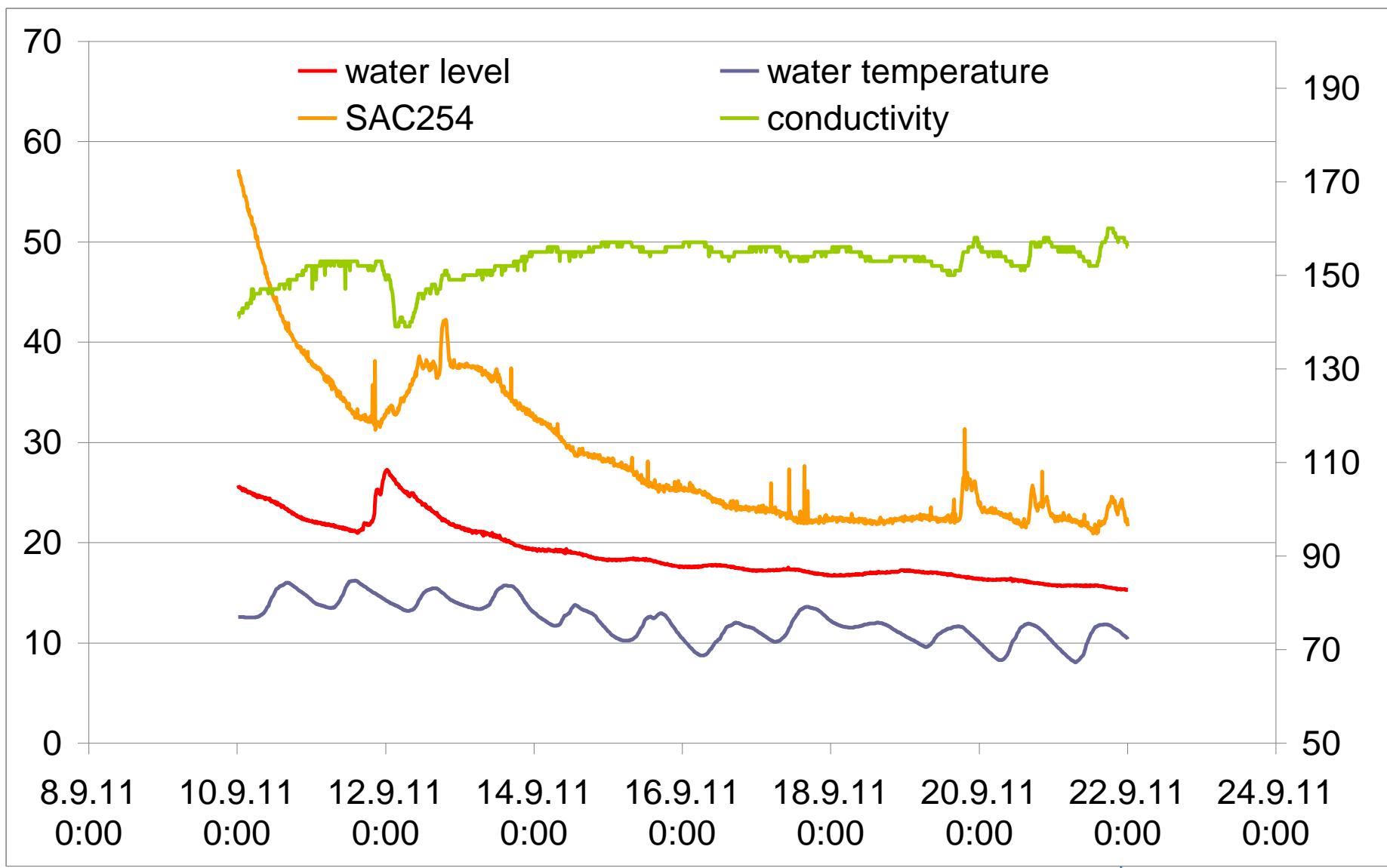
- temperature
- conductivity
- turbidity
- nitrate
- DOC
- oxygen
- chlorophyll



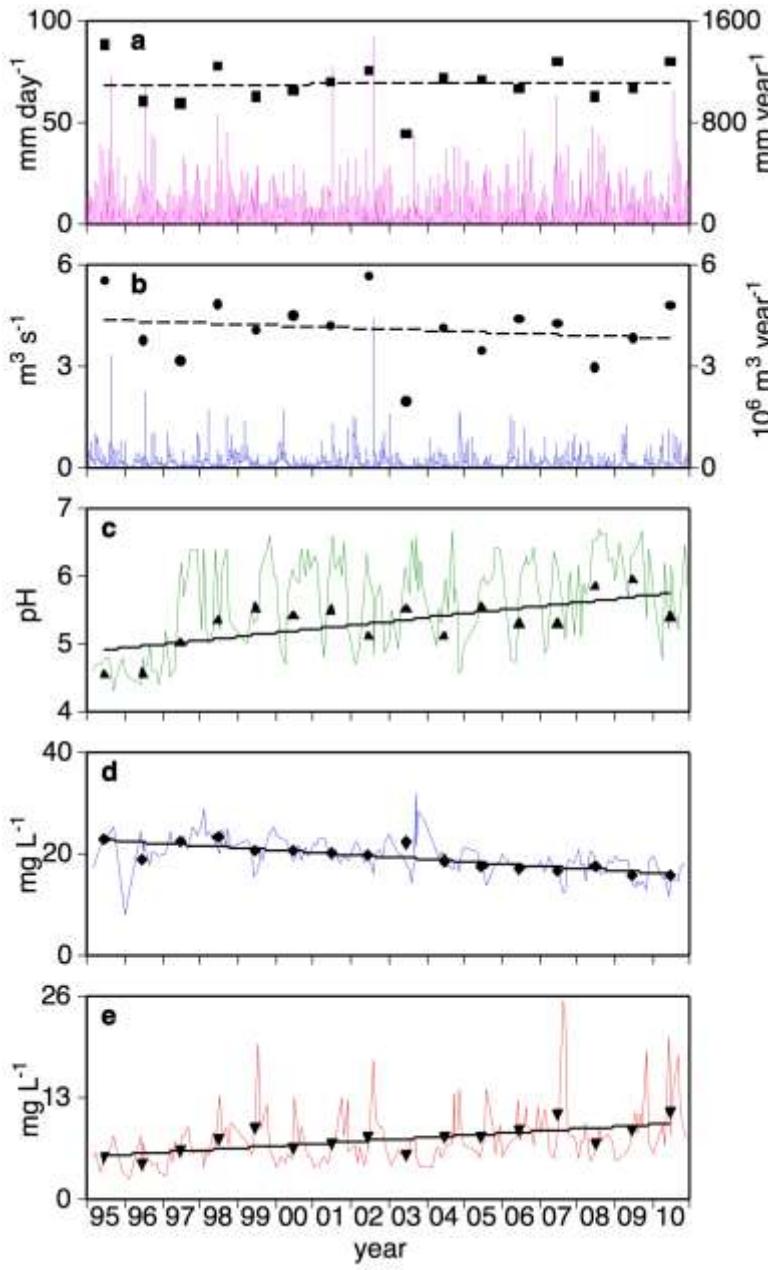
Talsperrenbetrieb Sachsen-Anhalt

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# Example: Warme Bode 10-22. Sept. 2011



# Rote Mulde 1995 - 2010



Precipitation  
n.s.

Discharge  
n.s.

Proton  
concentration  
 $P = 0.017$

Sulfate  
 $P < 0.001$

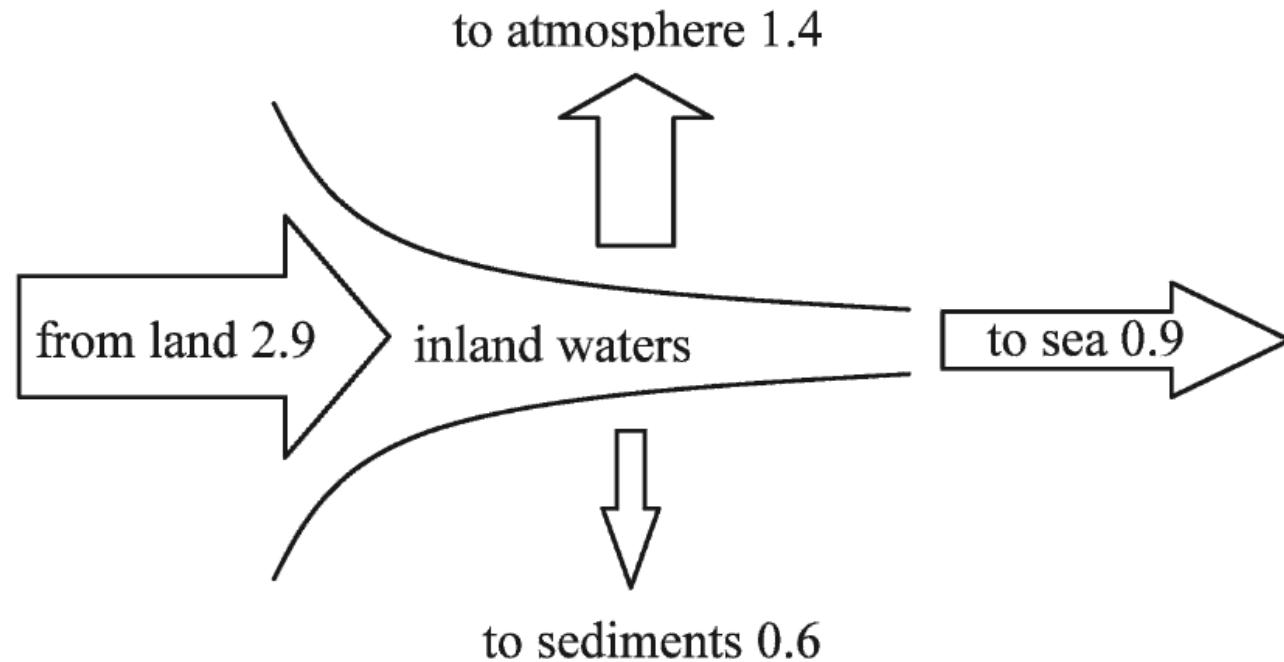
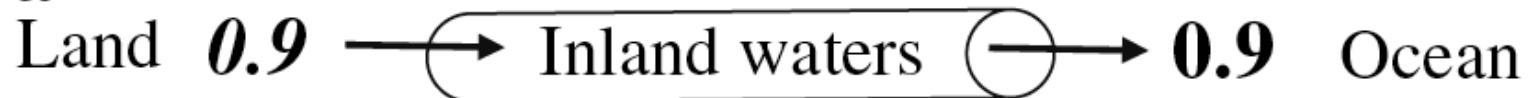
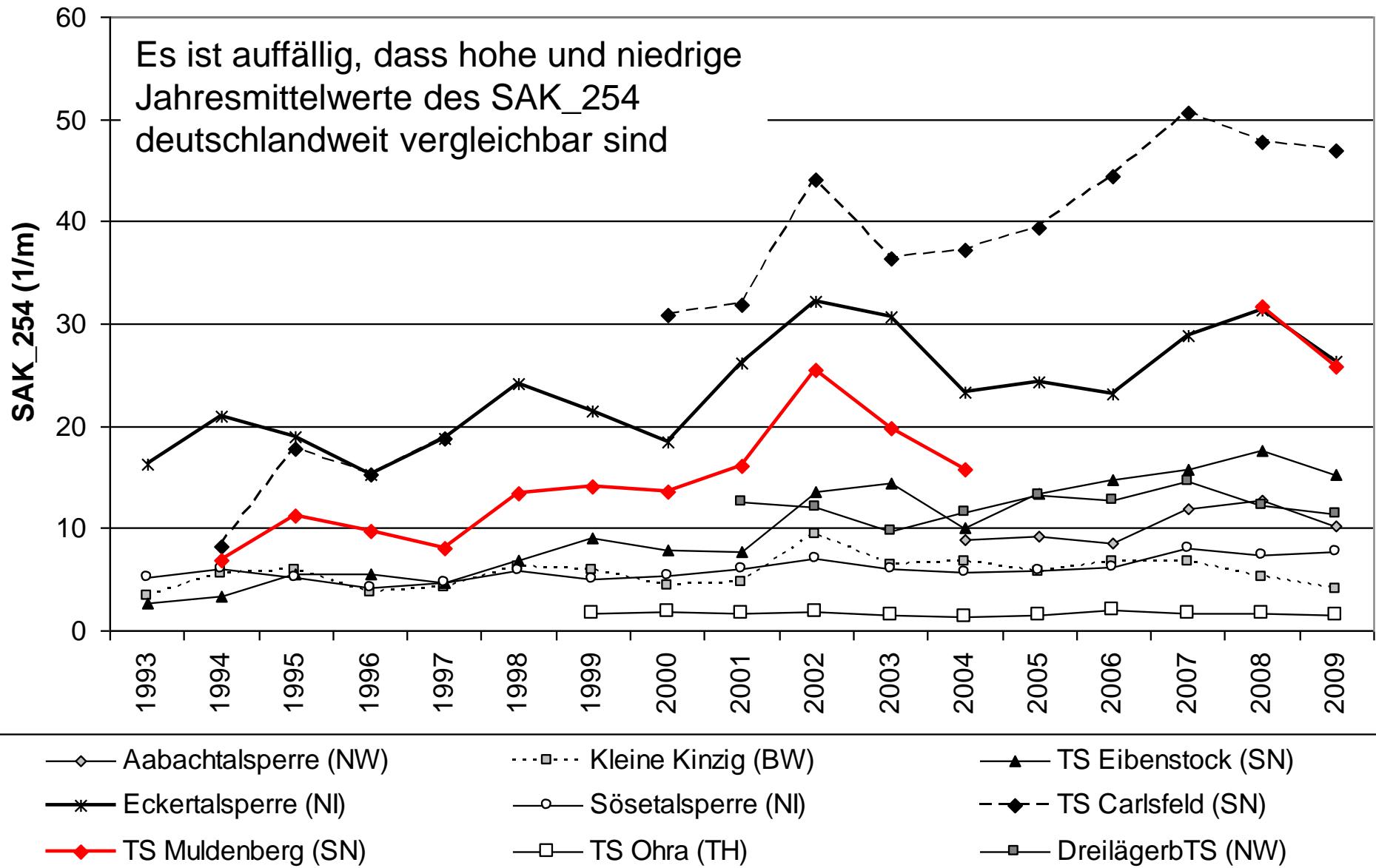
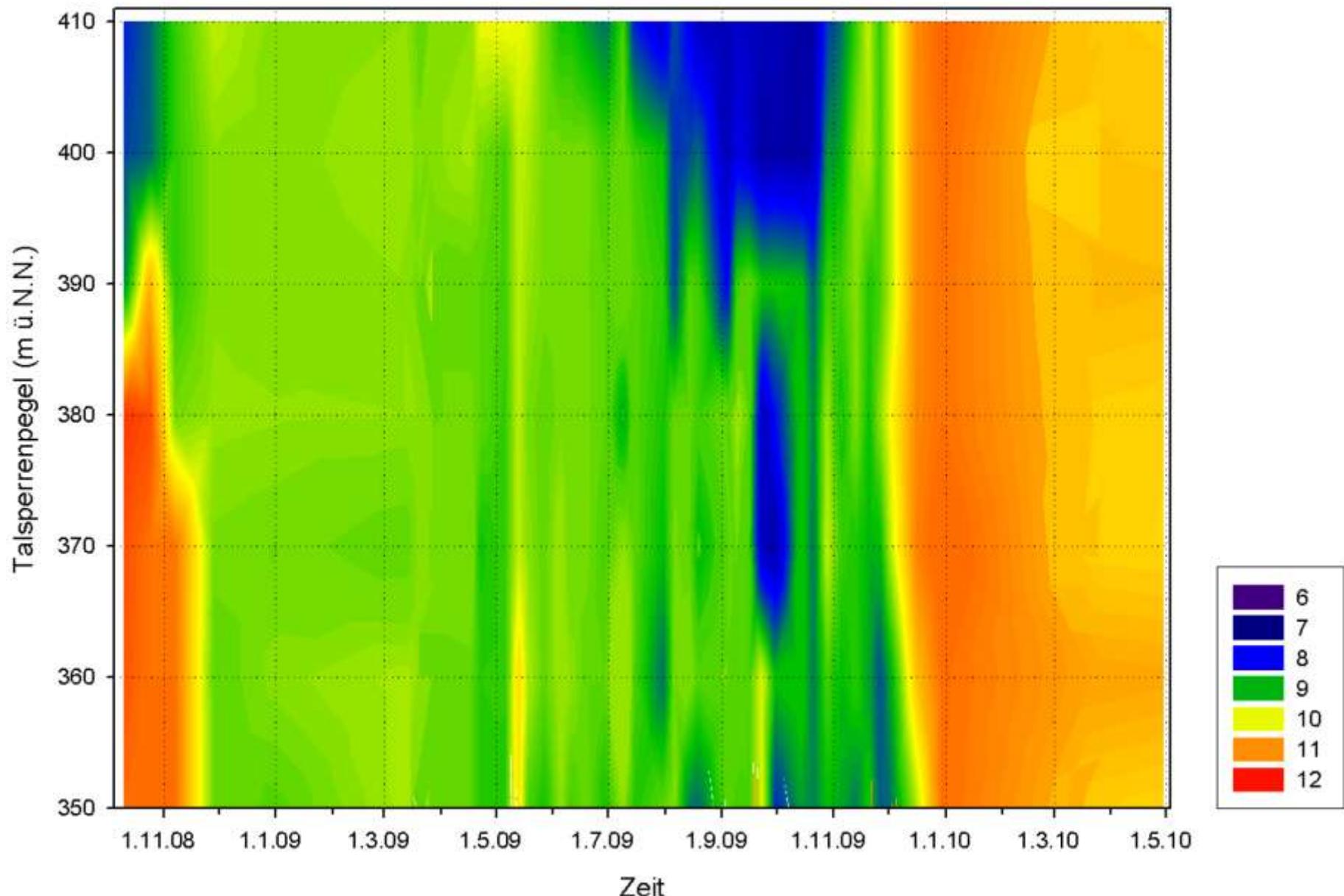
**a**

Fig. 5. Revision of the 'active pipe' hypothesis advanced by Cole et al. (2007). Revised values are explained in the text and represent annual transport of carbon (Pg,  $10^{15}$  g).

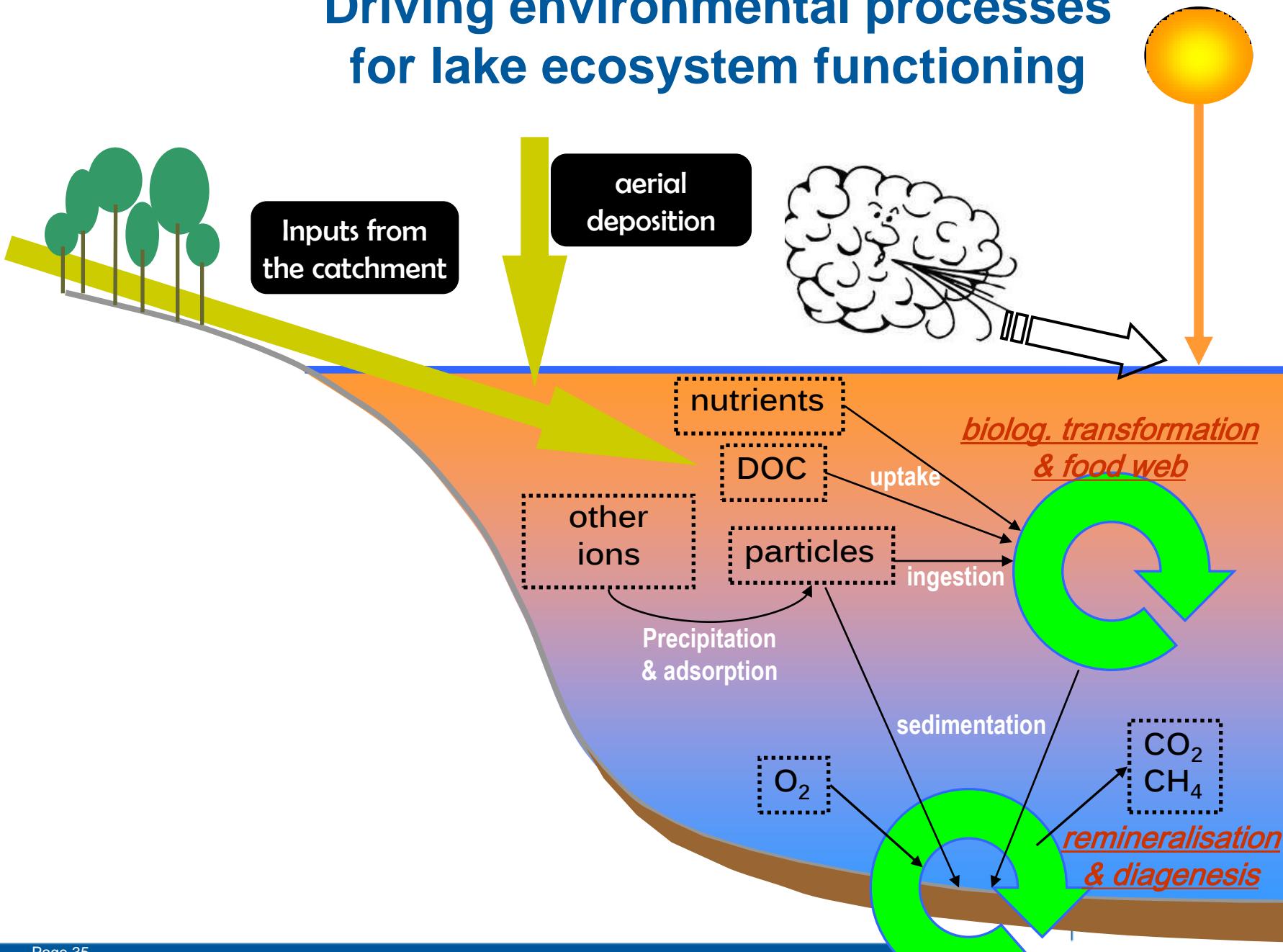
## Jahresmittelwert SAK\_254 (1/m)



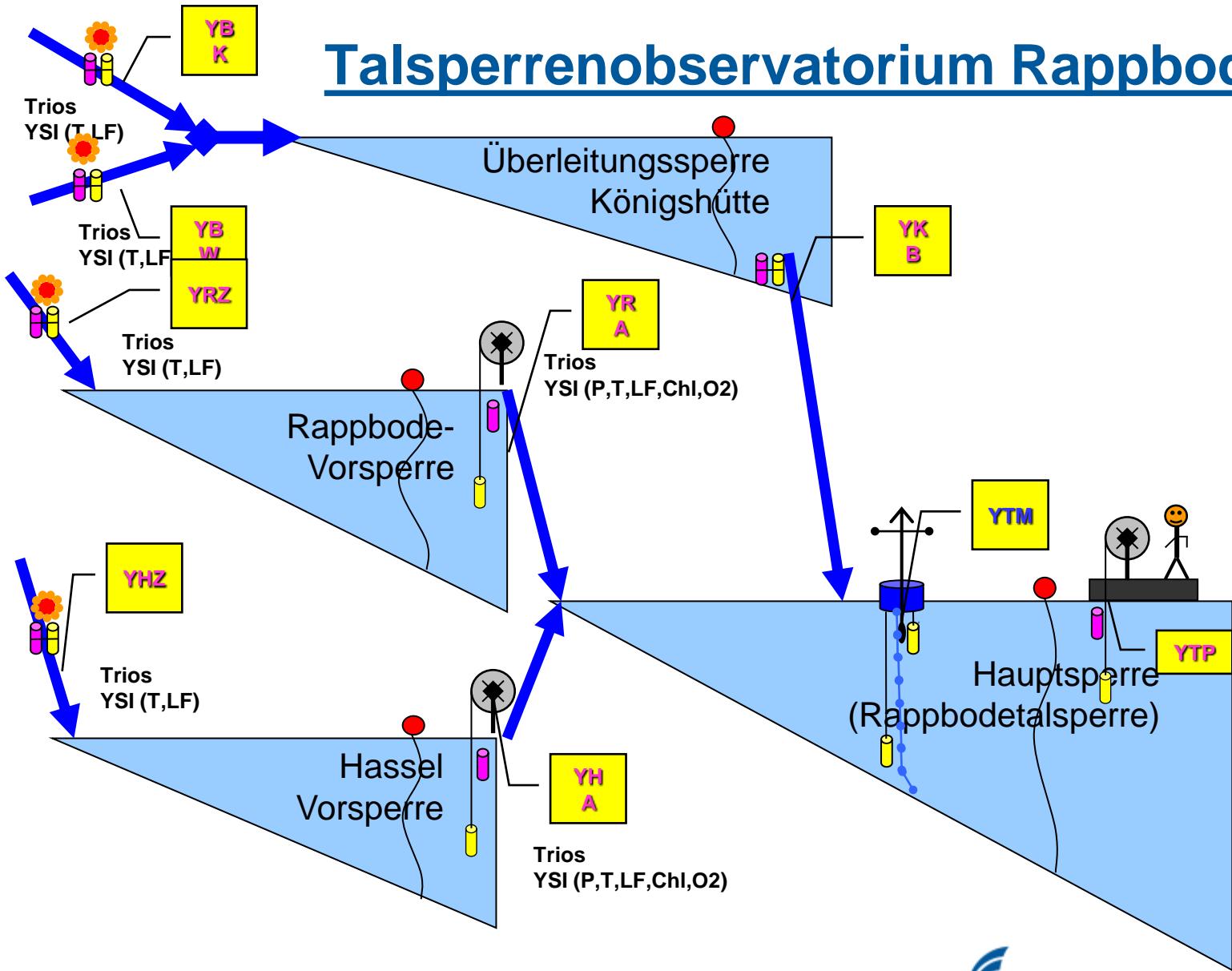
# DOC in the Rappbode Reservoir



# Driving environmental processes for lake ecosystem functioning



# Talsperrenobservatorium Rappbode



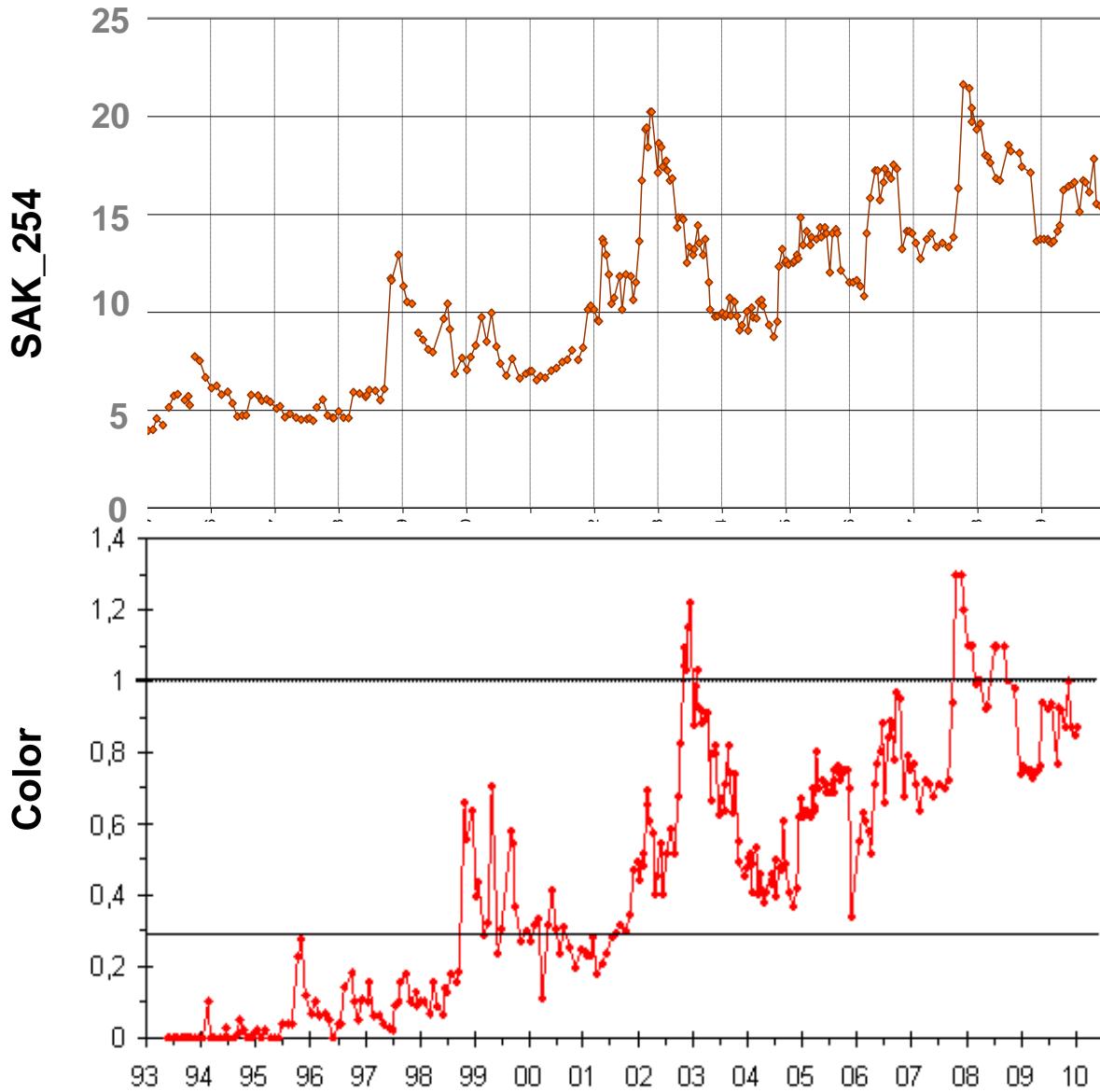
	TRIOS-Sonde		Profiler		Boje für Probenahme		Datenfernübertragung
	YSI-Sonde		Autosampler		Meteo-Boje		Probenahmepunkt



Austrag  
nach Sommer-  
Starkregen

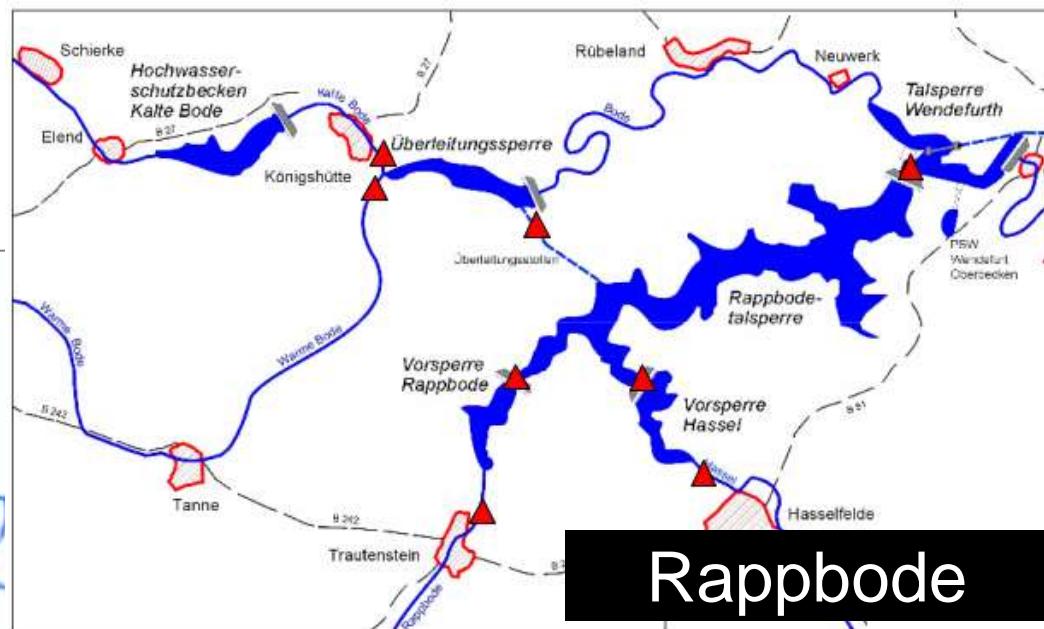
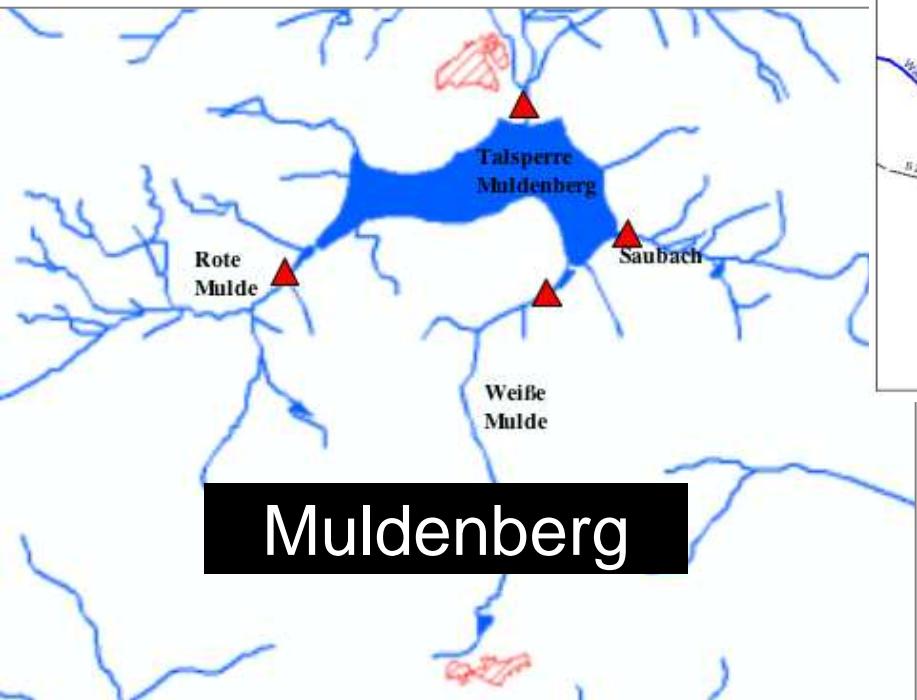


# Eibenstock Reservoir 1993-2010

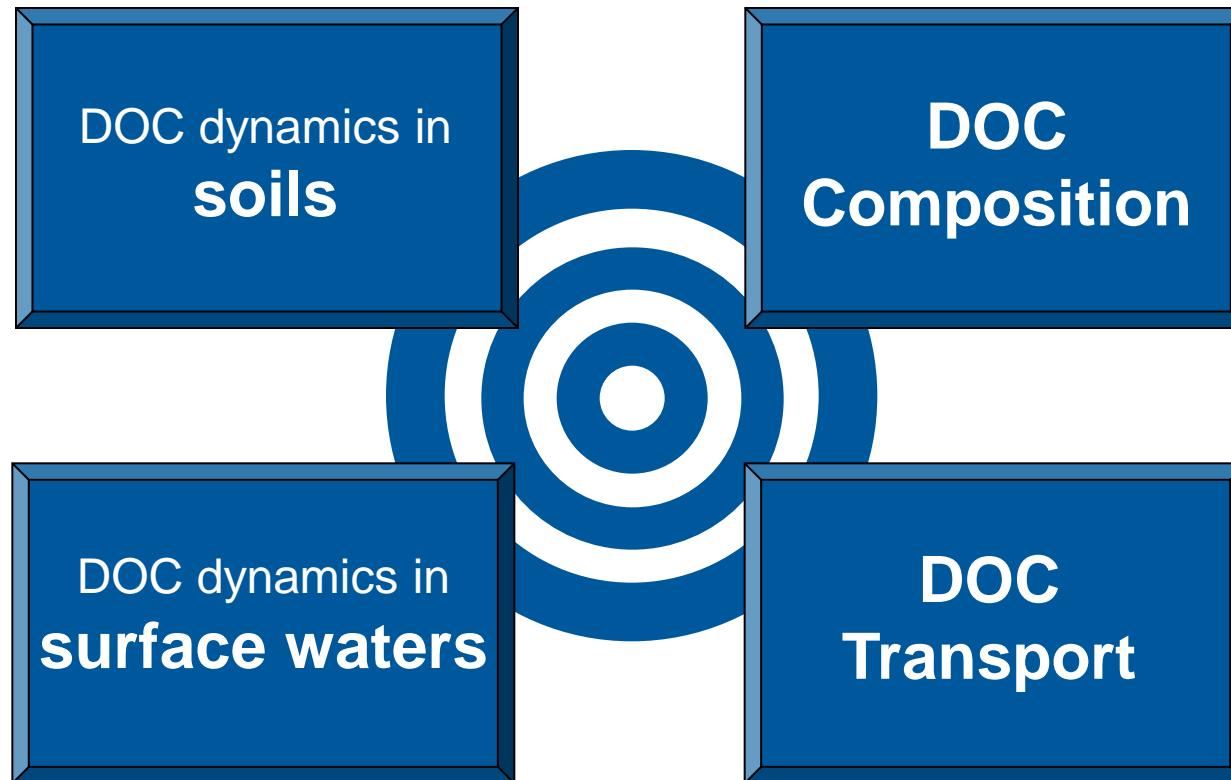


Data:  
Landestalsperrenverwaltung  
des Freistaates Sachsen

## Study sites



# Expert Pools



# **Activity: DOC in drinking water reservoirs**

**Assessing the carbon dynamics in reservoirs**

**chemical characterization of DOC**

**Interference of DOC with technical systems**

**Microbial processing of DOC in lakes & reservoirs**

# Activity: DOC in drinking water reservoirs

## Assessing the carbon dynamics in reservoirs

- monitoring DOC fluxes and concentrations
- carbon budget
- modelling of DOC dynamics
- age of DOC

## chemical characterization of DOC

- development of methods for assessing DOC quality
- elemental composition
- fluorescence behaviour

## Interference of DOC with technical systems

- formation of carcinogenic by-products during chlorination
- interference with flocculation

## Microbial processing of DOC in lakes & reservoirs

- controlling environmental factors of breakdown of DOC
- bacterial communities and diversity & DOC processing
- Effect of microbial processing on DOC composition

# Activity: DOC in drinking water reservoirs

## Assessing the carbon dynamics in reservoirs

J. Tittel 50% SEEFO  
M. Schultze 50% SEEFO  
O. Büttner 10% ASAM

## chemical characterization of DOC

N.N. 40% ANA  
P. Herzsprung 40% SEEFO  
W. v. Tümpling 10% FLOEK

## Interference of DOC with technical systems

P. Herzsprung 40% SEEFO  
W. v. Tümpling 10% FLOEK

## Microbial processing of DOC in lakes & reservoirs

A. Chatzinotas 25% UMB  
J. Tittel 25% SEEFO  
K. Wendt-Potthoff 25% SEEFO  
N. Kamjunke 10% FLOEK