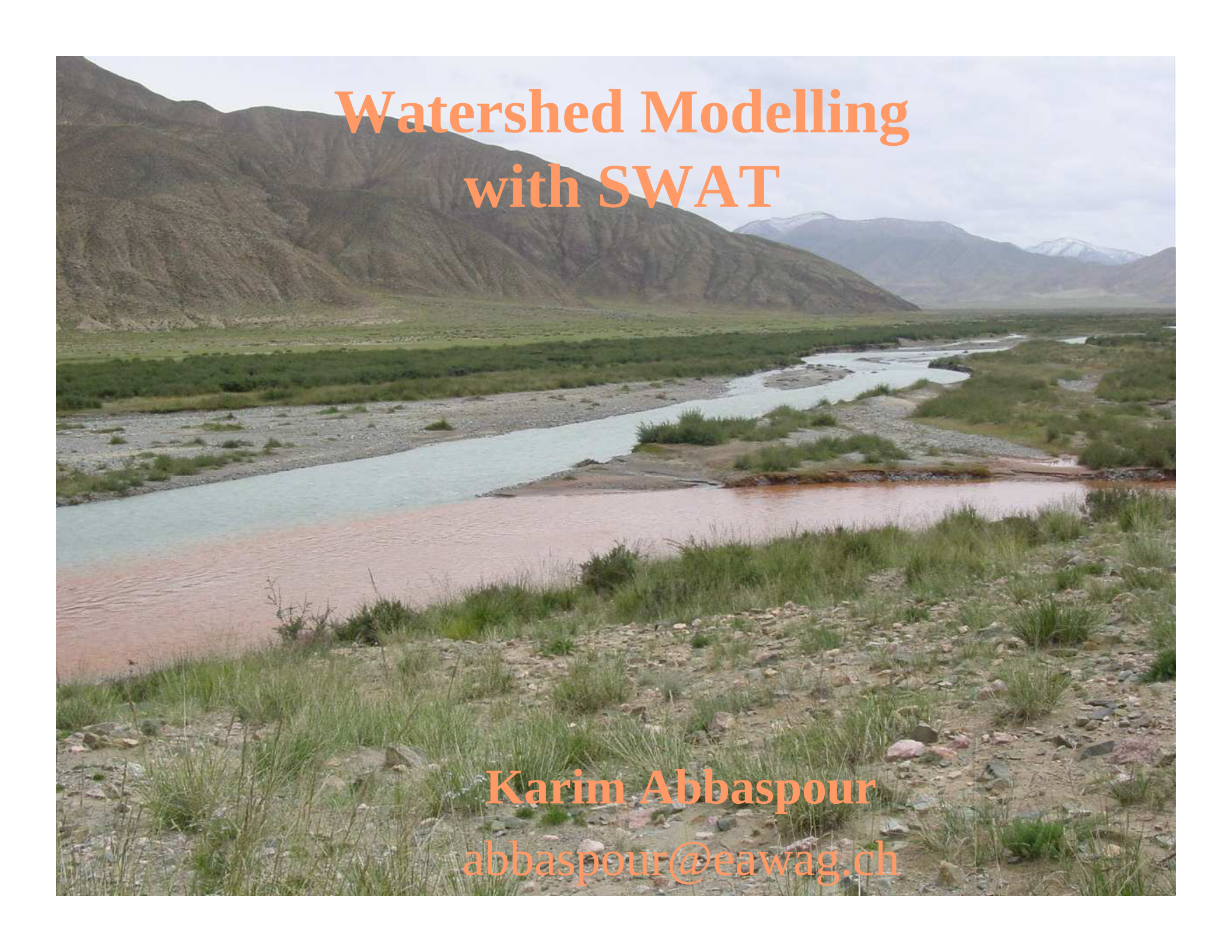


A landscape photograph showing a wide river with a light blue-green hue flowing through a valley. The river is surrounded by green grassy banks and rocky patches. In the background, there are large, rugged mountains with some snow-capped peaks under a cloudy sky.

Watershed Modelling with SWAT

Karim Abbaspour
abbaspour@eawag.ch

SWAT

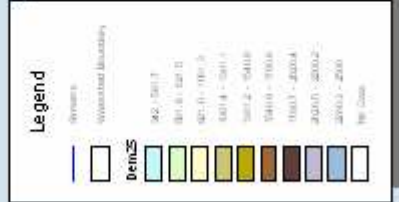
Applications

- Thur watershed, Switzerland (1,700 km²)
- Chaobei River Basin, China (5,300 km²)
- Iran application (1.6 million km²)
- West Africa (4 million km²)
- Entire Africa application (30 million km²)

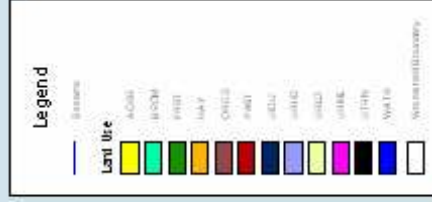
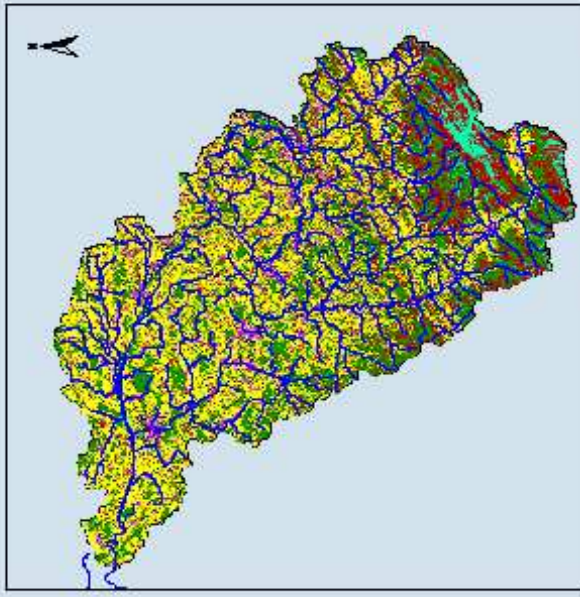
Application of SWAT-SUFI-2 to Thur watershed



Thur Basin DEM



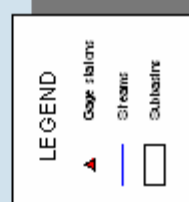
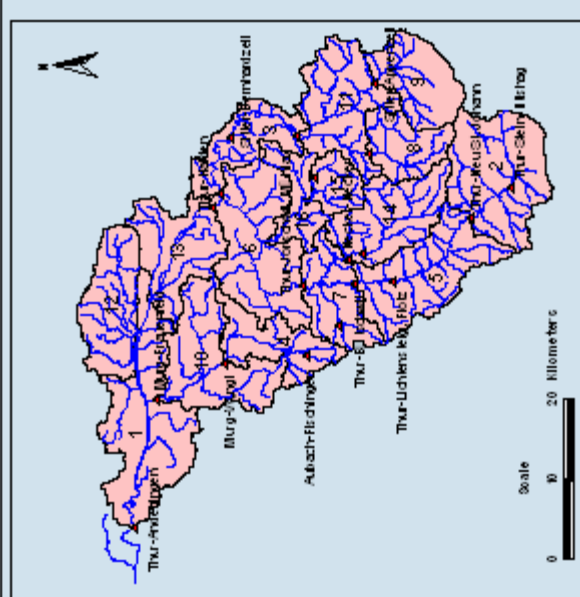
Thur Basin Land Use Map



Thur Basin Soil Map



Delineation of the Thur River Basin (16 subcatchments)



Mgt: 1_AGRR_Leicht_Moraen_G3

Management Data:

Load Scenario Save Scenario

NCRP
Summer Pasture

ALAI 8.00 BIO_MIN 0.00 CN2 58.00 Curve
BIO_MS 0.00 BIOMIX 1.00 USLE_P 0.10
PHU 2700.00

☒ Schedule by Date ☐ Schedule by Heat Units

Year	Operation	Crop	Month	Day
1	Plant/begin. growing seaso	SPAS	March	1
1	Fertilizer application	SPAS	March	2
1	Fertilizer application	SPAS	July	1
1	Grazing operation	SPAS	July	15
1	Fertilizer application	SPAS	September	1
1	Harvest only operation	SPAS	September	3

Add Year
Delete Year
Add Operation
Delete Operation
Edit Operation

management

Point source discharge

Sewage treatment plants

1 p.dat - WordPad

File Edit View Insert Format Help

Fri Mar 11 15:40:23 2005 .dat file Monthly Records Subbasin 1 in AVSWAT2000 - SWAT interface MD

Mon	Year	Flow (m ³ /d)	Sedim (mtons/d)	OrganicN (kg/d)	OrganicP (kg/d)	NO3 (kg/d)
1	1991	2.4214900000E+04	0.0000000000E+00	0.0000000000E+00	2.2559999999E+01	2.6831999999E+02
2	1991	3.3455800000E+04	0.0000000000E+00	0.0000000000E+00	2.4090000000E+01	2.3183000000E+02
3	1991	2.8855799999E+04	0.0000000000E+00	0.0000000000E+00	2.4609999999E+01	3.1036000000E+02
4	1991	2.3825200000E+04	0.0000000000E+00	0.0000000000E+00	1.9670000000E+01	2.2269000000E+02
5	1991	1.9964700000E+04	0.0000000000E+00	0.0000000000E+00	2.0930000000E+01	2.0943000000E+02
6	1991	1.8153000000E+04	0.0000000000E+00	0.0000000000E+00	2.0550000000E+01	2.1054000000E+02

Objective function based on measured data at the watershed outlet:

$$g = \frac{1}{\sigma_{Q_m}^2} \sum_{i=1}^{130} (Q_m - Q_s)_i^2 + \frac{1}{\sigma_{S_m}^2} \sum_{i=1}^{130} (S_m - S_s)_i^2 + \frac{1}{\sigma_{N_m}^2} \sum_{i=1}^{130} (N_m - N_s)_i^2 + \frac{1}{\sigma_{P_m}^2} \sum_{i=1}^{130} (P_m - P_s)_i^2$$

Subject to:

$$0.1 \leq S_{\text{Forest}} \leq 0.3$$

$$1.5 \leq S_{\text{Agricultural}} \leq 6$$

$$2.2 \leq N_{\text{Forest}} \leq 16$$

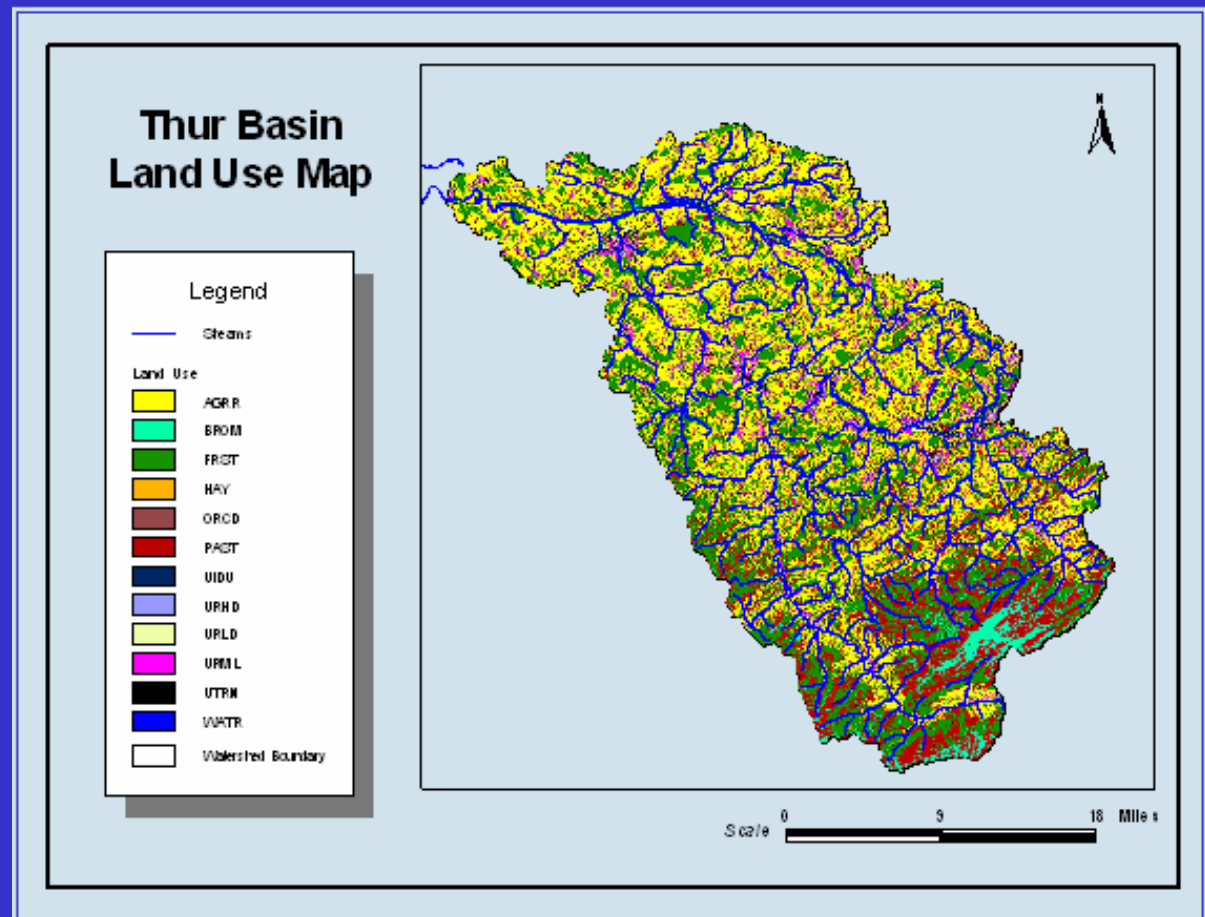
$$19 \leq N_{\text{Agricultural}} \leq 47$$

$$15 \leq N_{\text{Pasture}} \leq 25$$

$$0.02 \leq P_{\text{Forest}} \leq 0.1$$

$$0.5 \leq P_{\text{Agricultural}} \leq 2.4$$

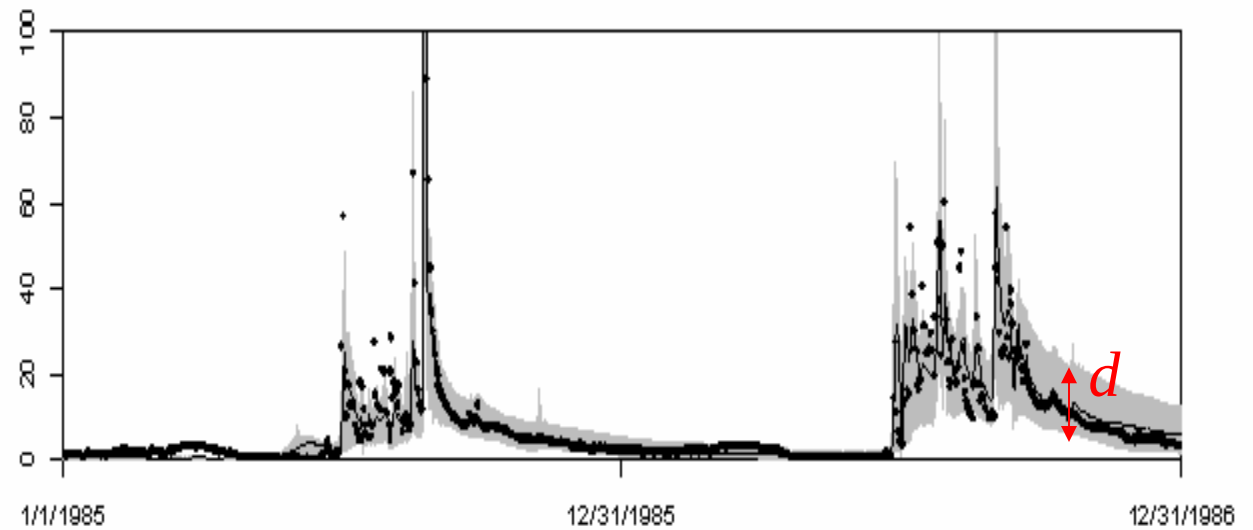
$$0.3 \leq P_{\text{Pasture}} \leq 1.2$$



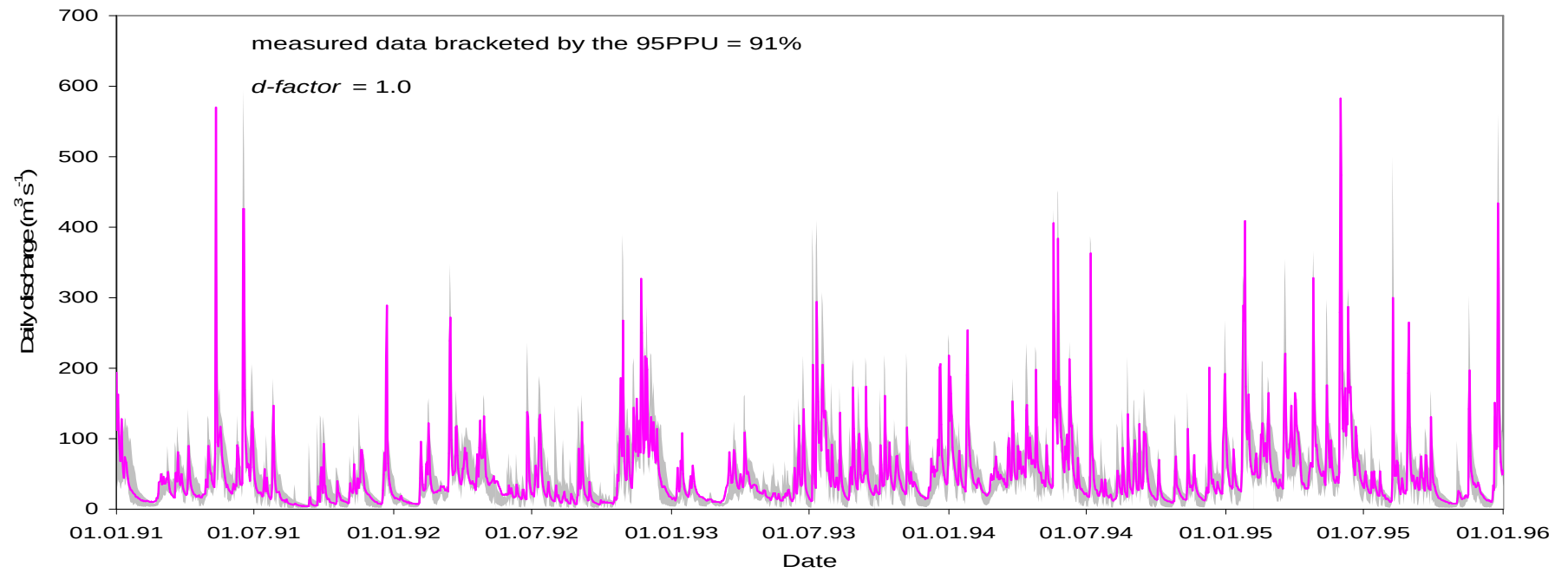
p-factor = 85%

d-factor = 1.02

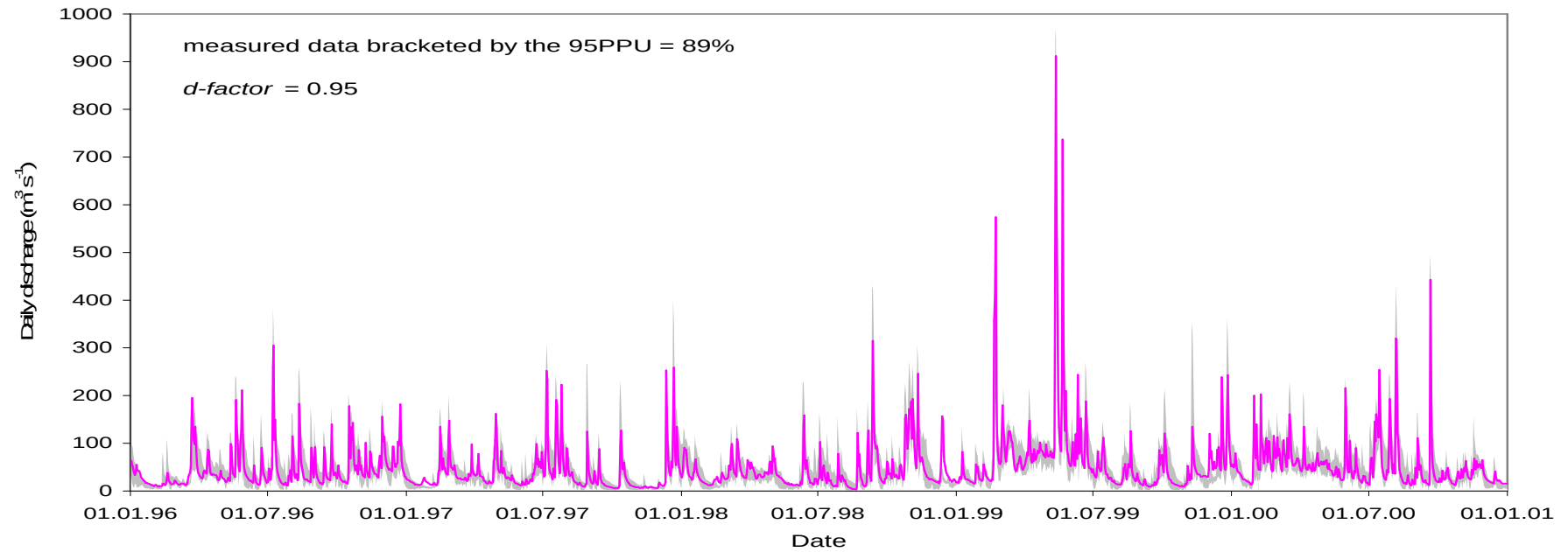
$$\bar{d} / \sigma^2$$



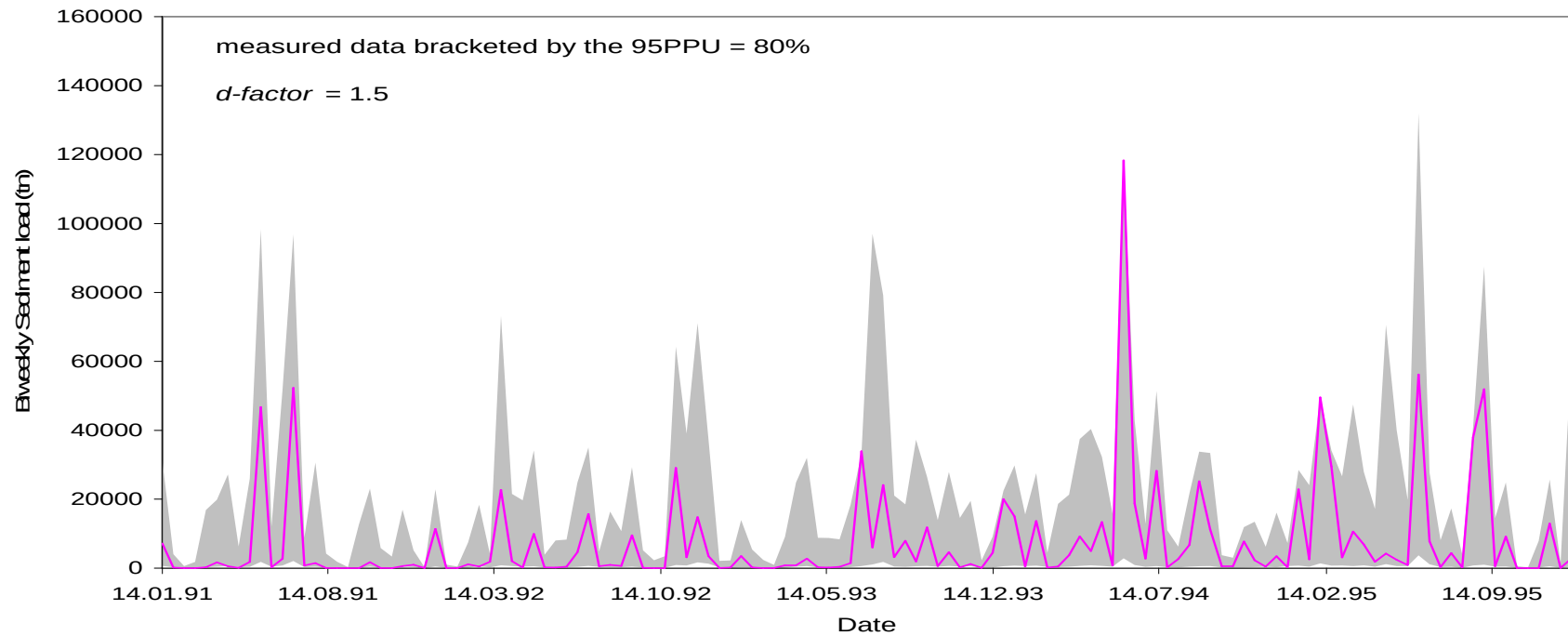
Discharge Calibration



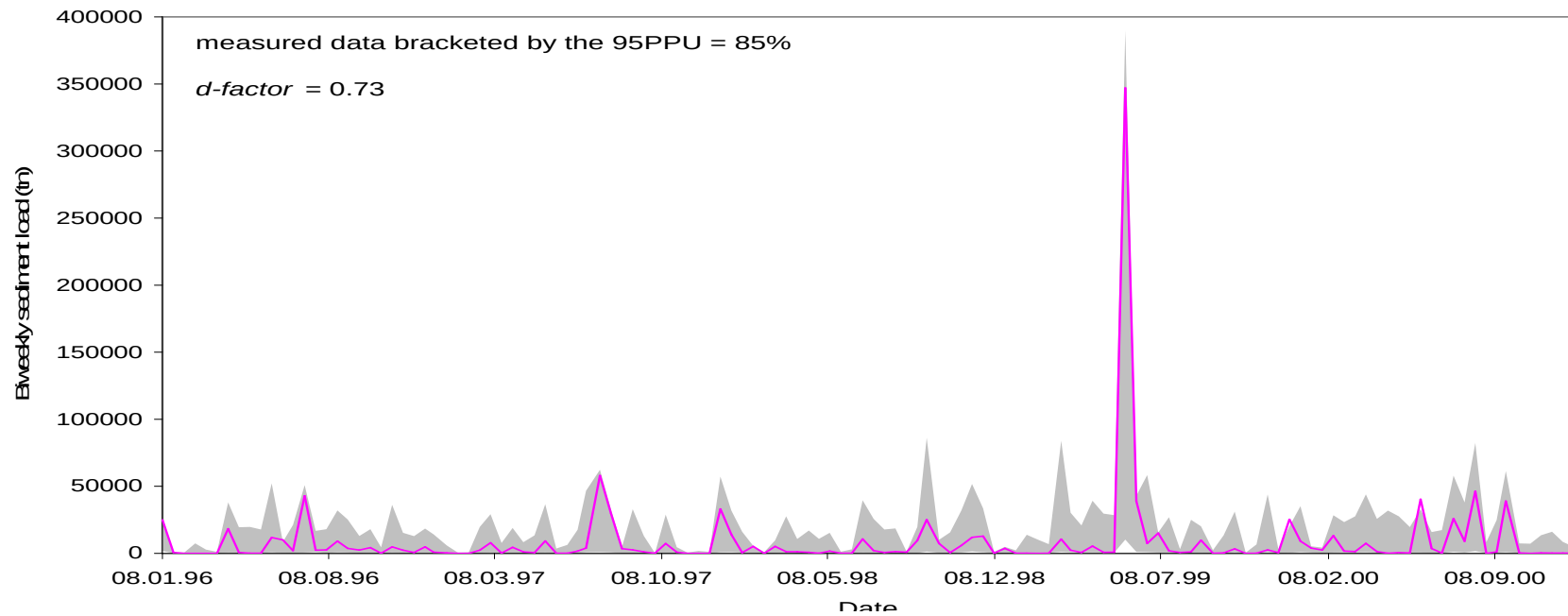
Discharge Validation



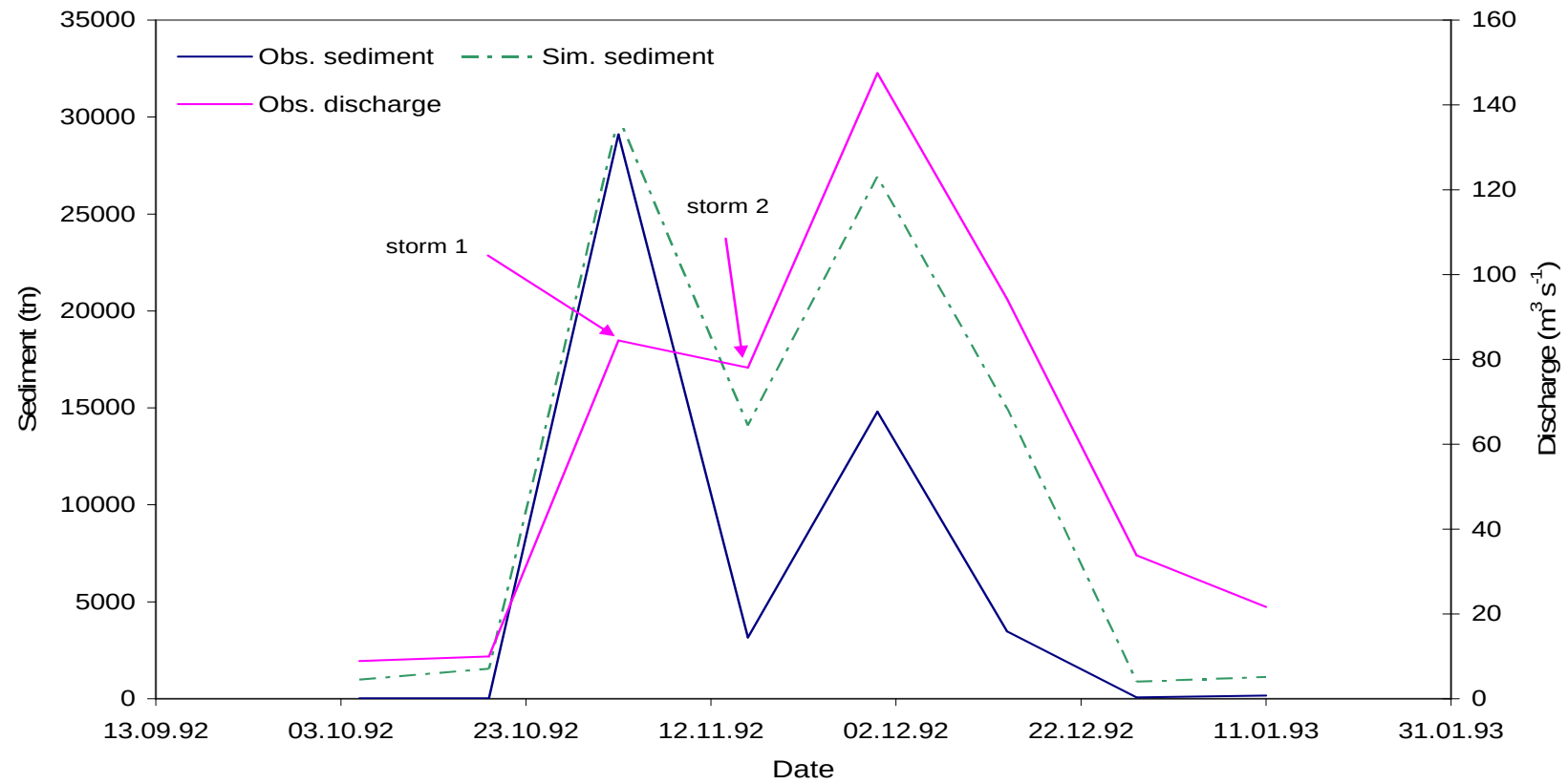
Sediment calibration



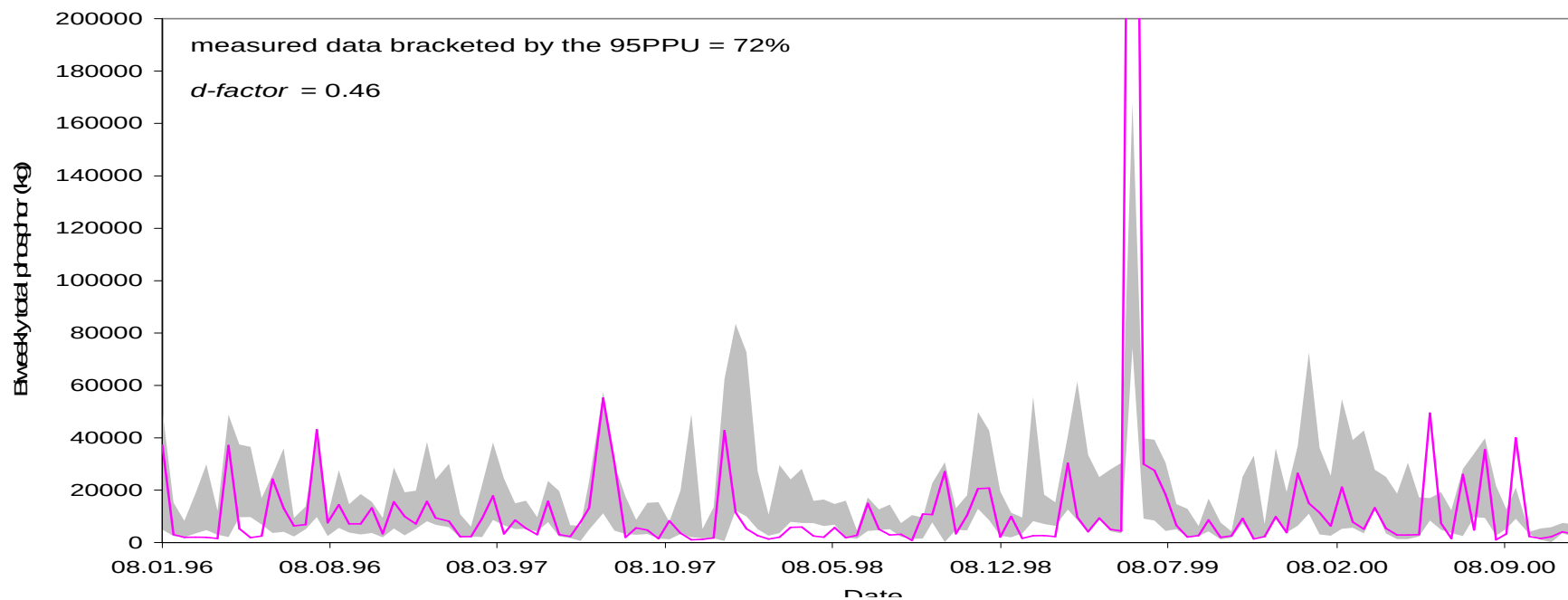
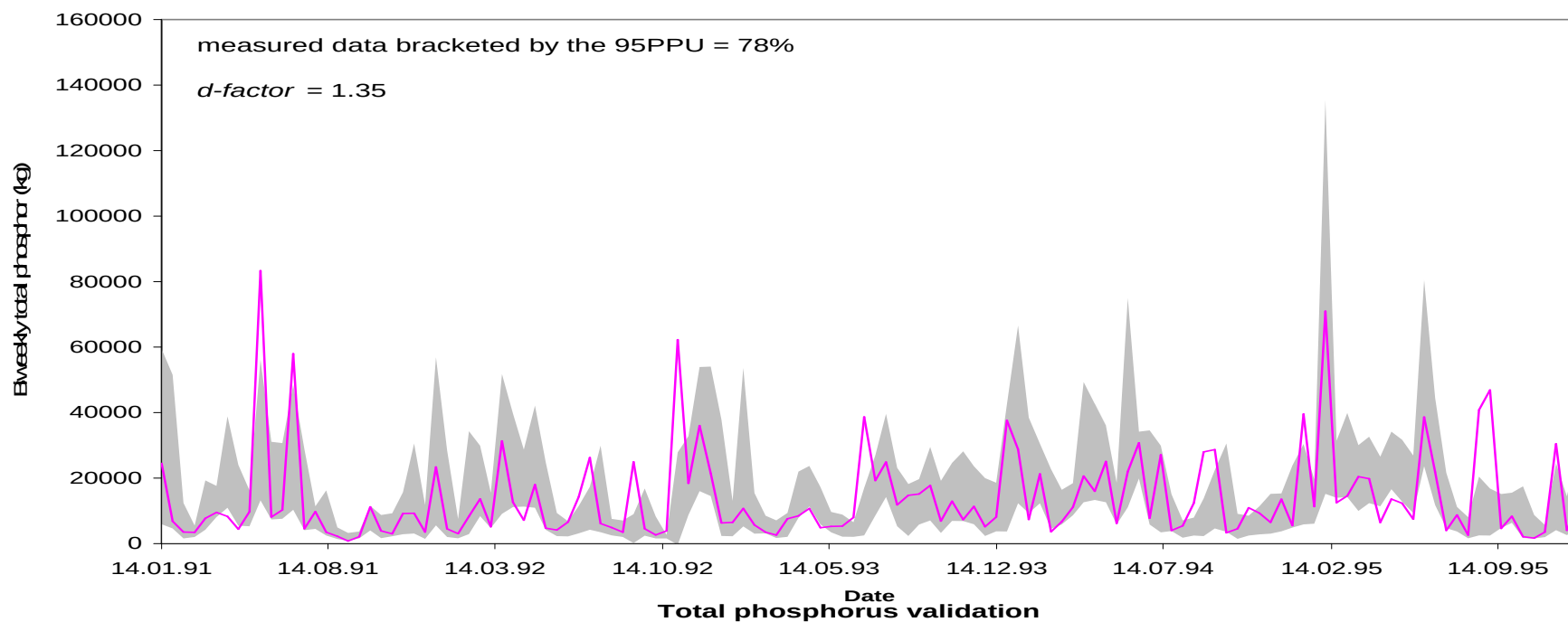
Sediment validation



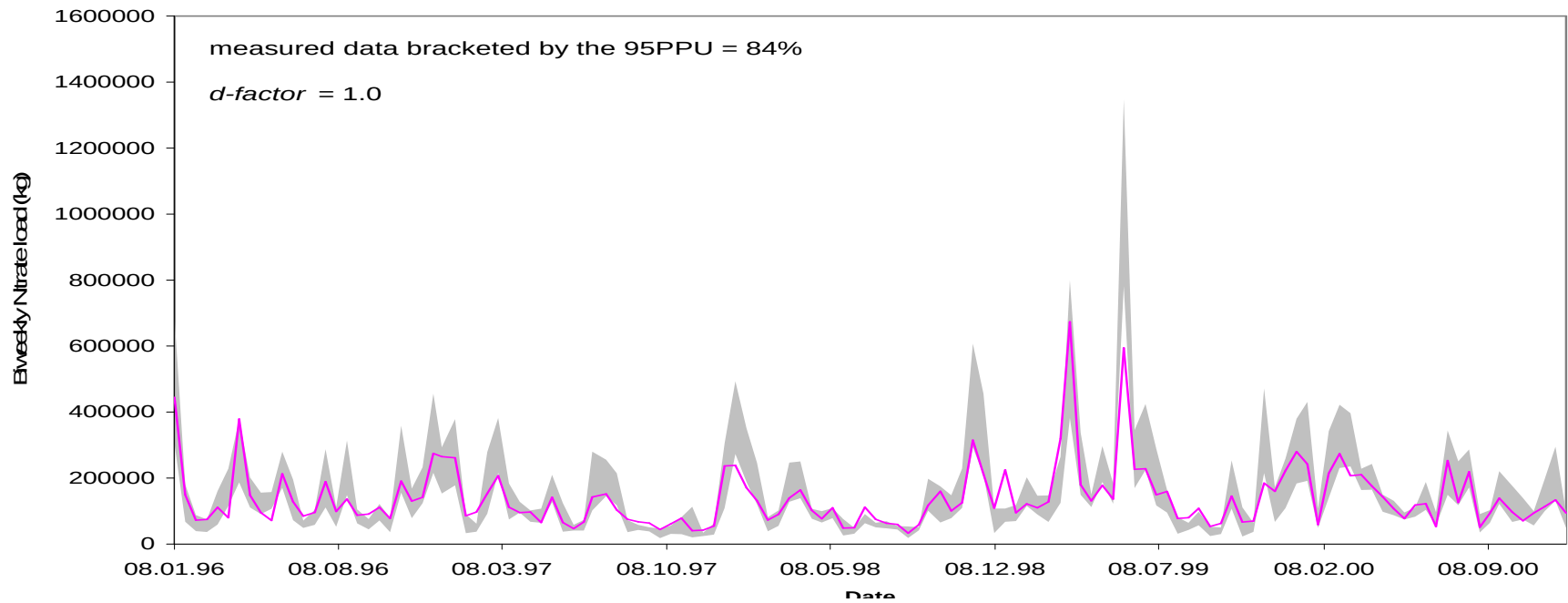
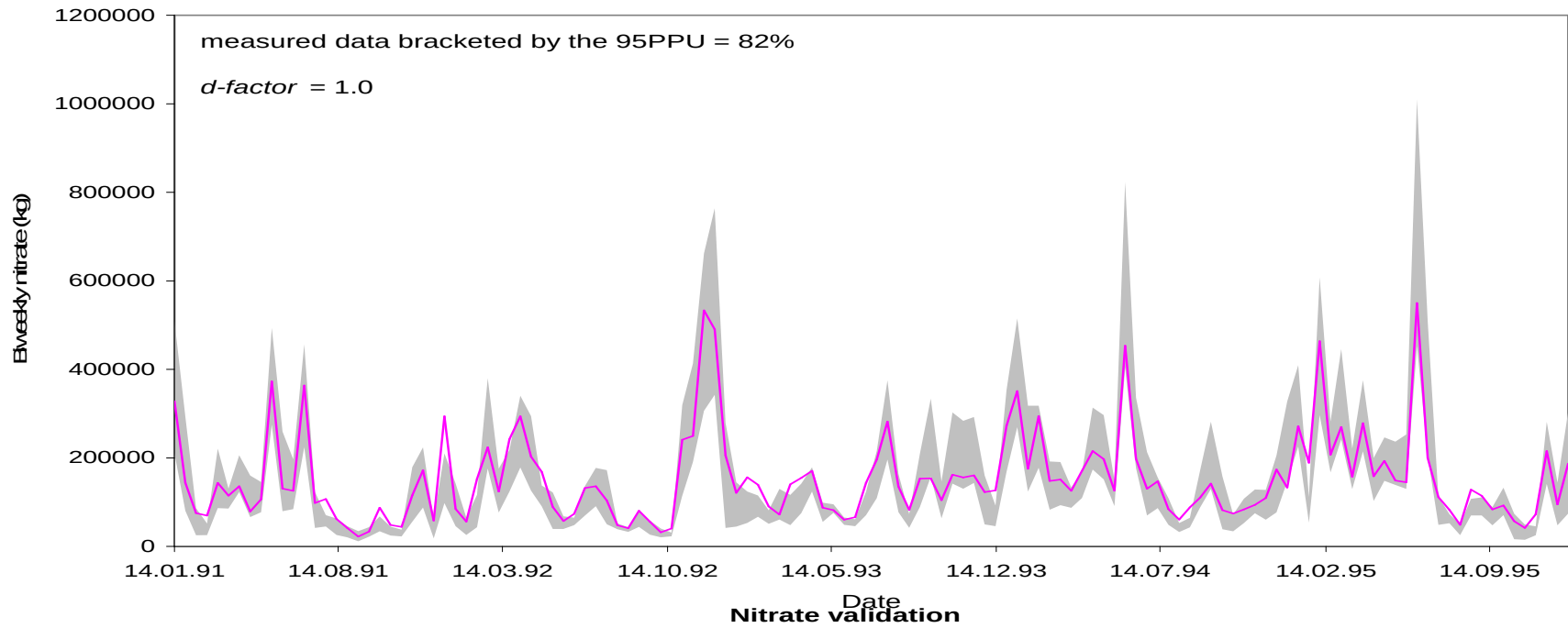
sediment "second-storm" effect



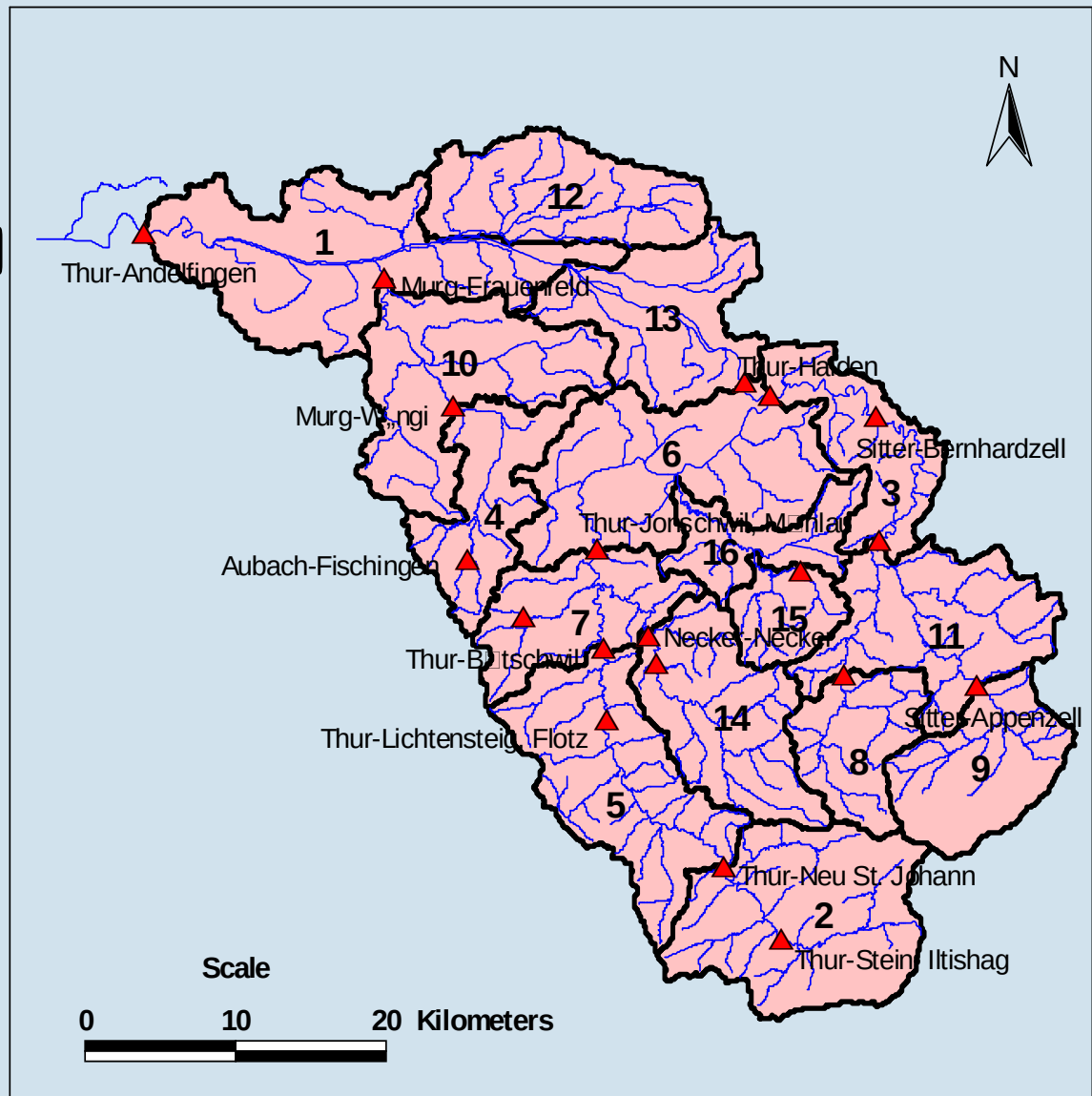
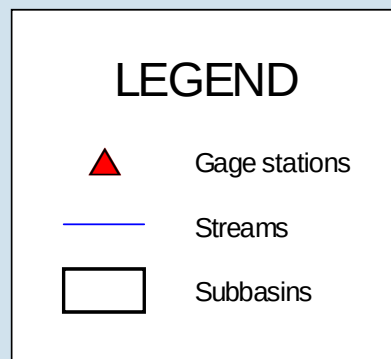
Total phosphorus calibration

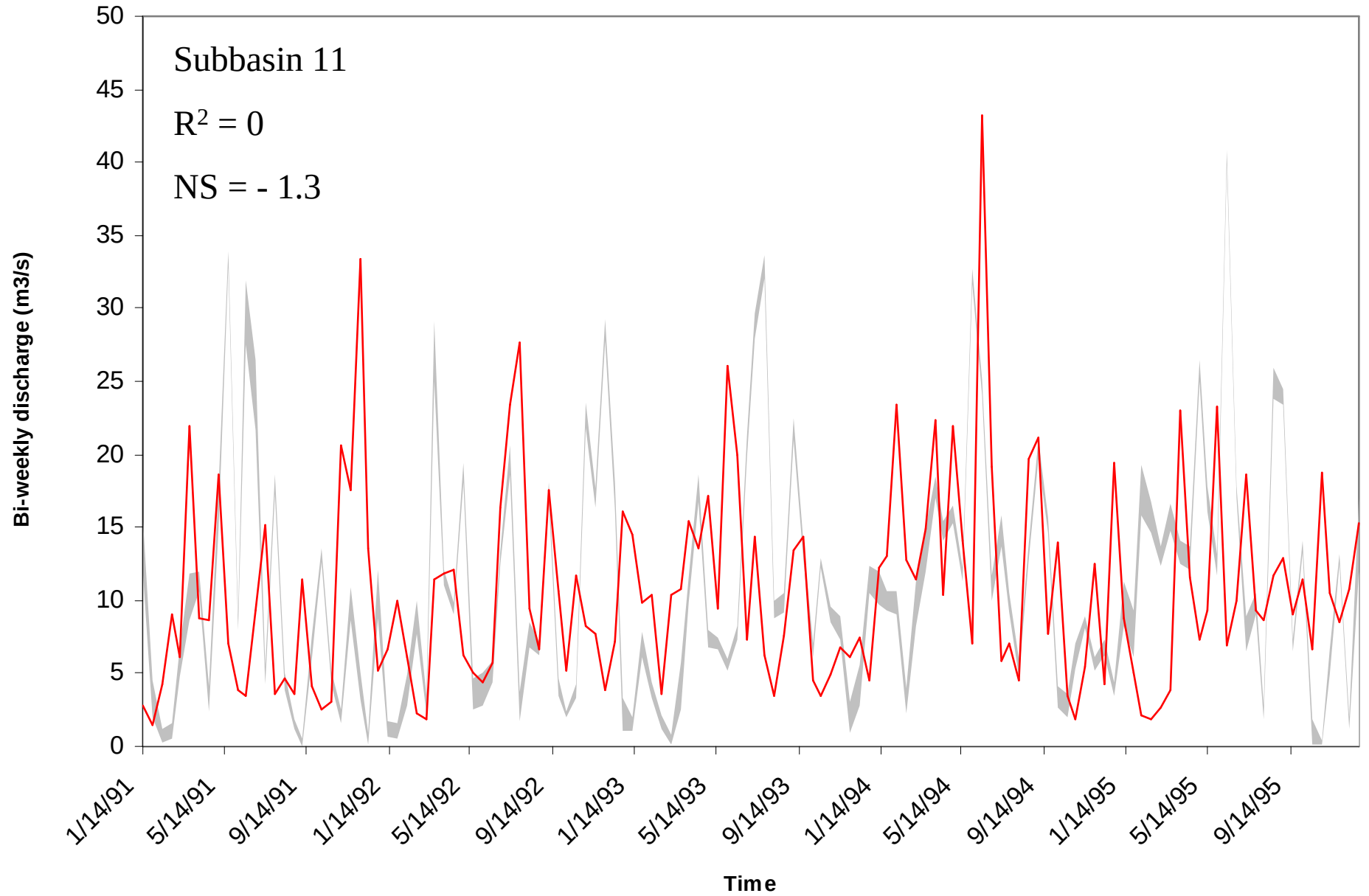


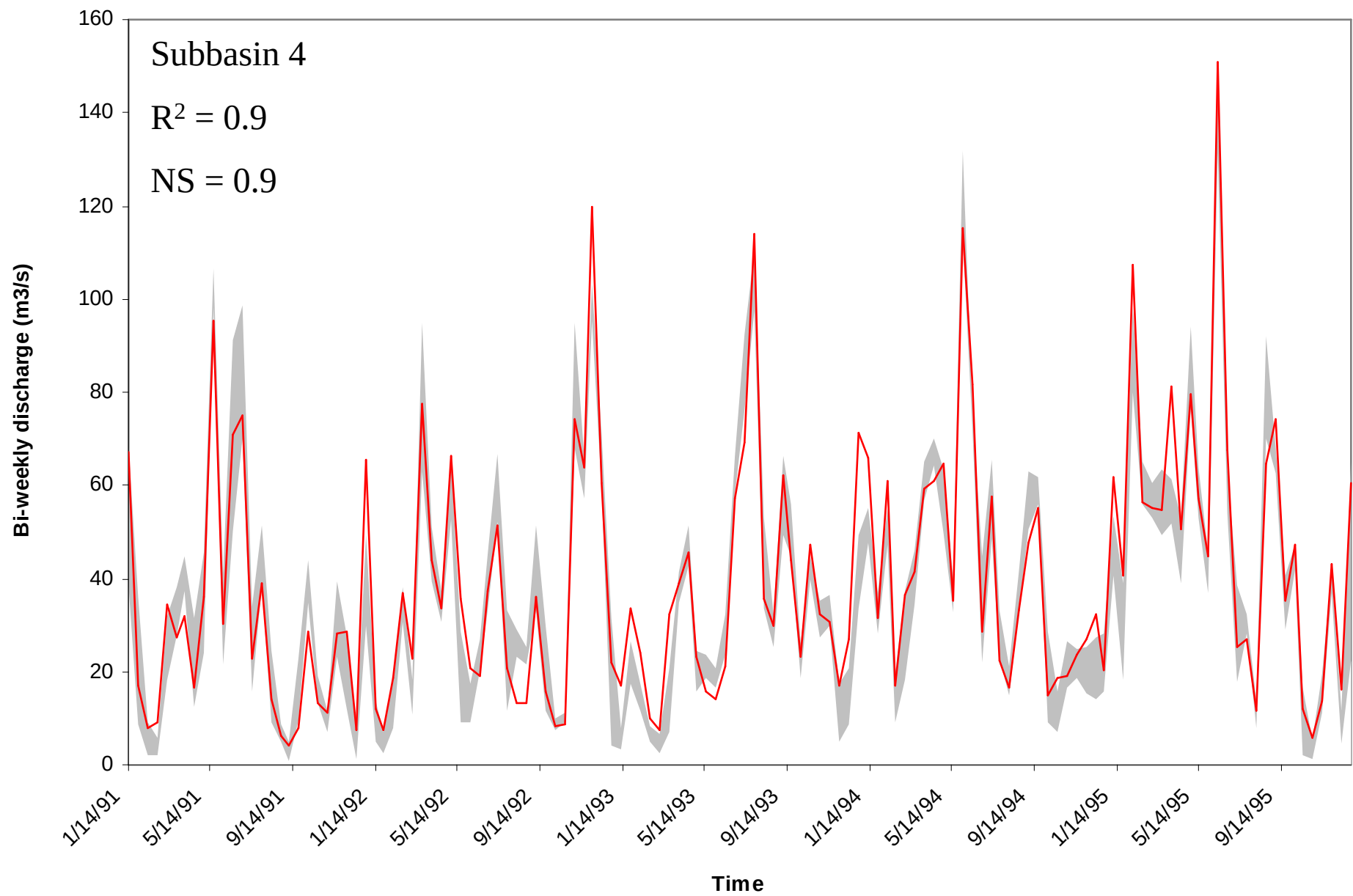
Nitrate calibration



Delineation of the Thur River Basin (16 subcatchments)







What is a calibrated model?

- Models are always conditionally calibrated
- There are different degrees of calibration
- Not every “calibrated” model can be applied to every analysis

Application to Chaohe watershed in China

5,300 km²

a__CN2.mgt

v__ESCO.hru

v__EPCO.hru

r__SOL_K.sol

a__SOL_AWC.sol

v__ALPHA_BF.gw

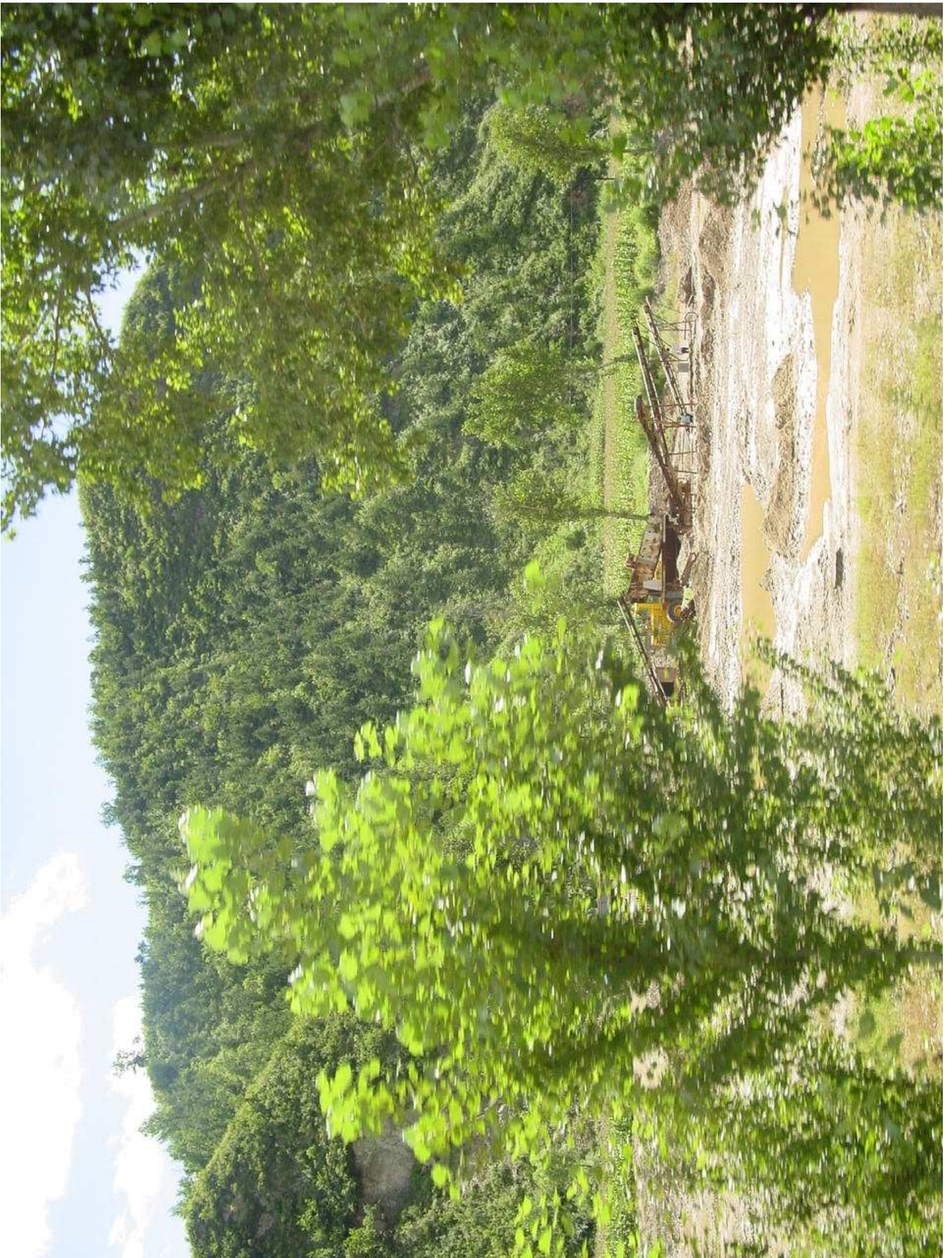
r__SLSUBBSN.hru

a__CH_K2.rte

a__OV_N.hru

v__GW_DELAY.gw







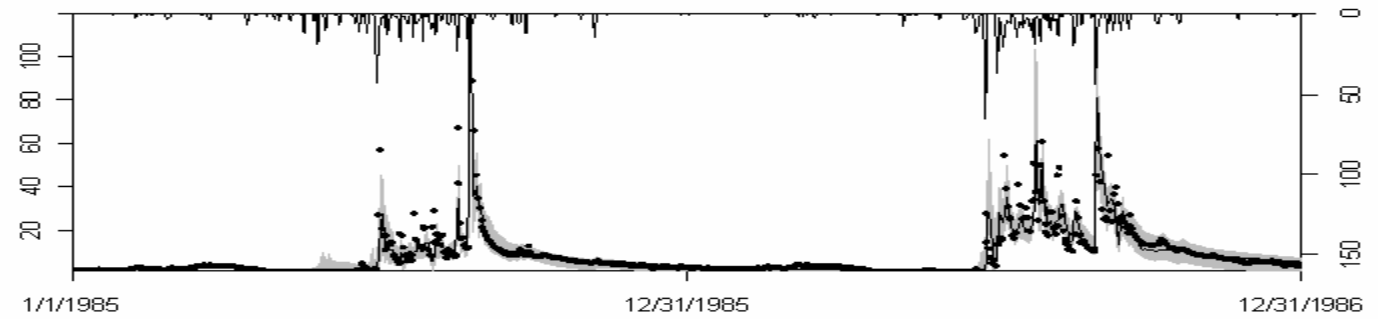




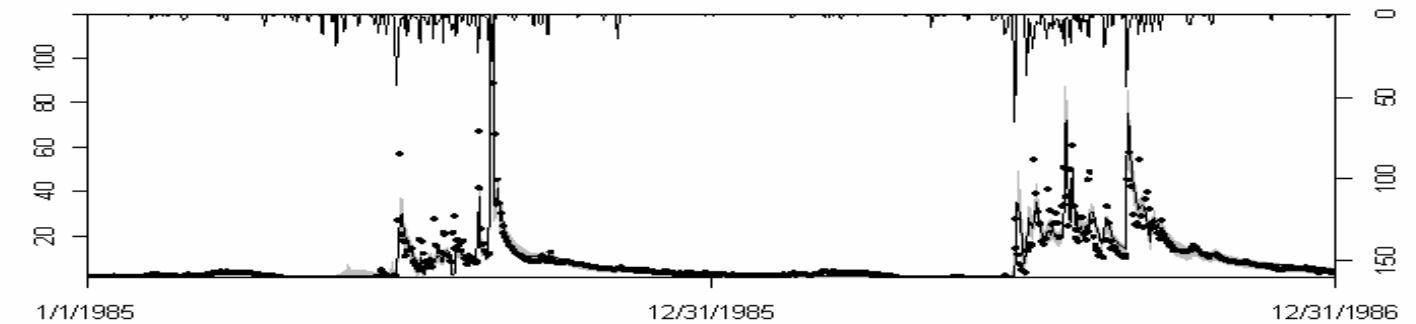
Calibration and Uncertainty Procedures

1. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)
2. Importance Sampling (IS)
3. Sequential Uncertainty Fitting algorithm (SUFI-2)
4. Generalized Likelihood Uncertainty Estimation (GLUE)
5. Parameter Solution (ParaSol)

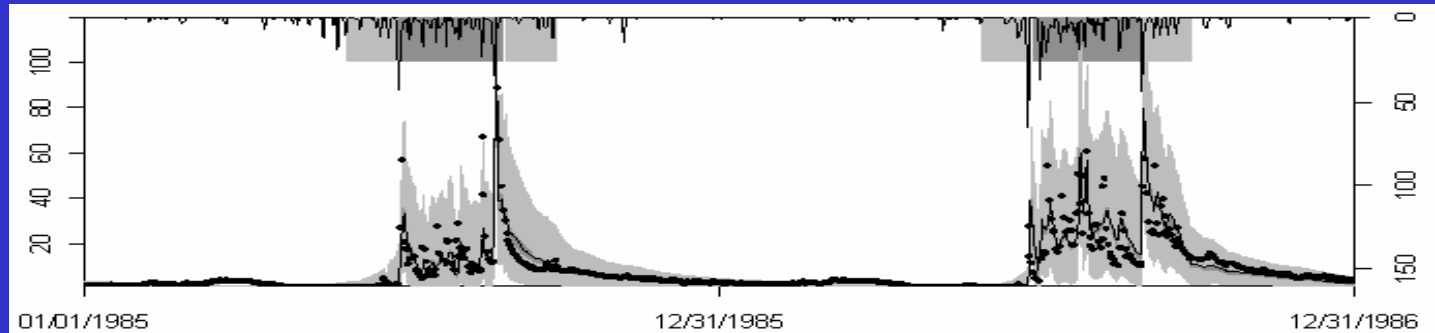
GLUE



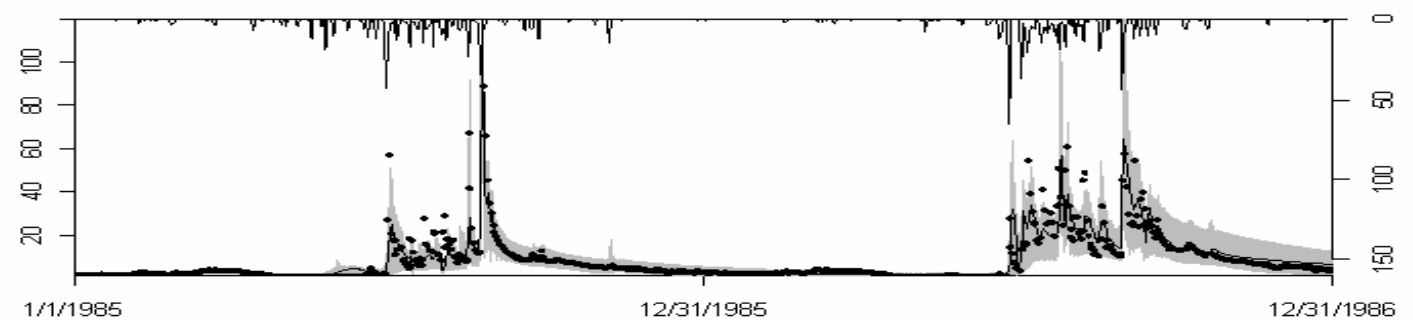
ParaSol



MCMC



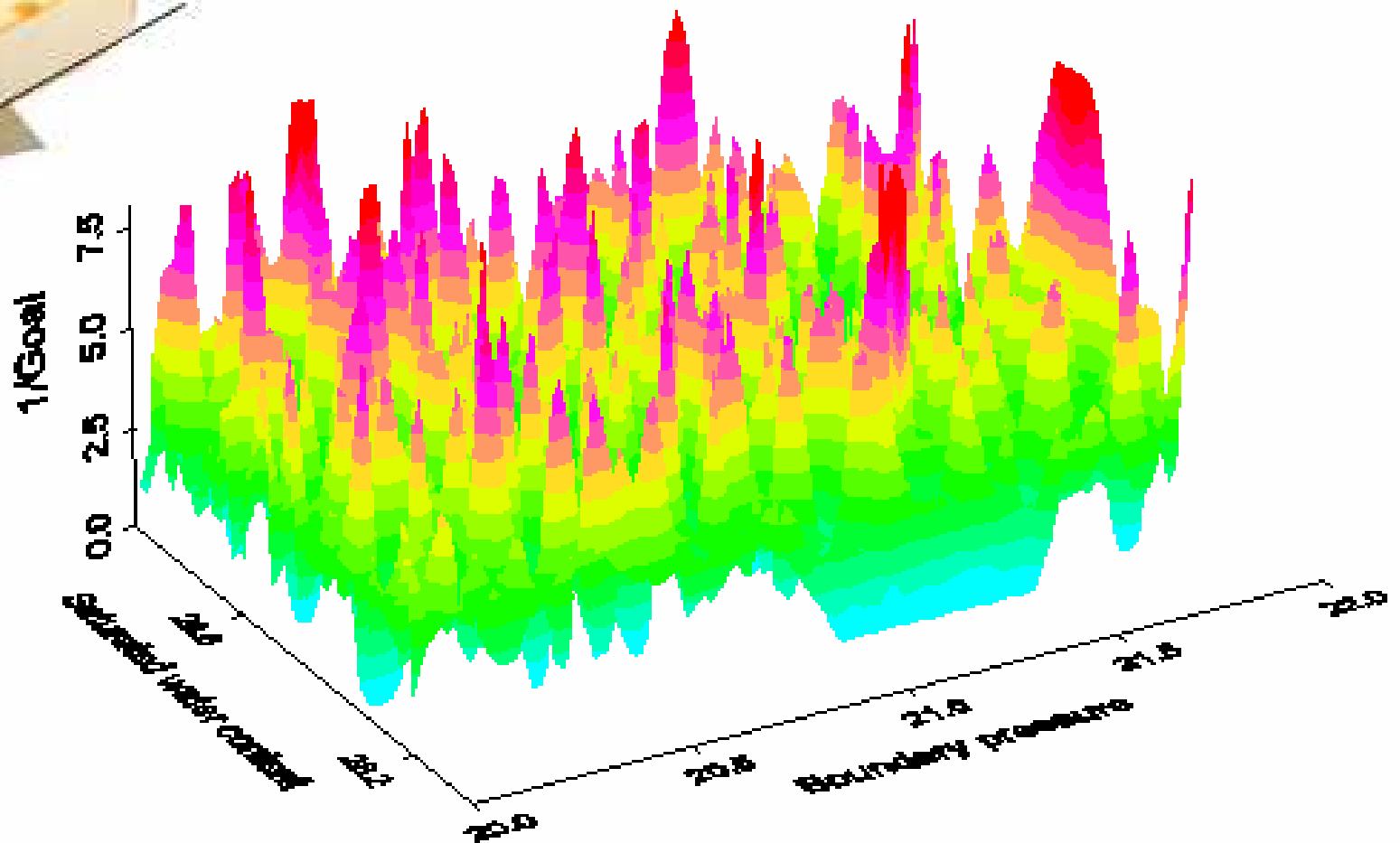
SUFI-2



⁵ Parameter	GLUE	ParaSol	SUFI-2	MCMC
a_CN2.mgt	(-29.58, -9.84) ¹	(-21.93, -20.08)	(-30.00, -7.23)	(-16.85, -11.62)
v_ESCO.hru	(0.02, 0.97)	(0.65, 0.69)	(0.43, 1.00)	(0.63, 0.75)
v_EPCO.hru	(0.04, 0.90)	(0.13, 0.20)	(0.34, 1.00)	(0.39, 0.98)
r_SOL_K.sol	(-0.36, 0.78)	(-0.41, -0.34)	(-0.58, 0.34)	(-0.31, 0.78)
a_SOL_AWC.sol	(0.01, 0.15)	(0.08, 0.08)	(0.05, 0.15)	(0.1, 0.13)
v_ALPHA_BF.gw	(0.06, 0.97)	(0.08, 0.13)	(0.23, 0.74)	(0.11, 0.15)
v_GW_DELAY.gw	(9.72, 289.29)	(91.23, 115.20)	(100.24, 300.00)	(17.78, 33.34)
r_SLSUBBSN.hru	(-0.56, 0.46)	(-0.60, -0.58)	(-0.60, 0.03)	(-0.56, 0.15)
a_CH_K2.rte	(6.01, 144.82)	(27.72, 37.67)	(69.42, 150.00)	(68.03, 86.23)
a_OV_N.hru	(0.00, 0.20)	(0.07, 0.10)	(0.00, 0.11)	(0.00, 0.19)
² σ_{dry}	-	-	-	(0.81, 1.10)
² σ_{wet}	-	-	-	(2.44, 3.95)
² τ_{dry}	-	-	-	(29.5, 53.84)
² τ_{wet}	-	-	-	(2.4, 8.02)
<i>MS</i> cal (val)	0.80 (0.78)	0.82 (0.81)	0.80 (0.75)	0.77 (0.77)
<i>R</i> ² cal (val)	0.80 (0.84)	0.82 (0.85)	0.81 (0.81)	0.78 (0.81)
³ <i>p-factor</i> cal (val)	79% (69%)	18% (20%)	84% (82%)	85% (84%)
⁴ <i>d-factor</i> cal (val)	0.65 (0.51)	0.08 (0.07)	1.03 (0.82)	1.47 (1.19)
Uncertainty described	All sources of uncertainty	Parameter uncertainty only	All sources of uncertainty	Parameter uncertainty only
Implementation	easy	easy	easy	complicated
Number of runs	10000	7500	3000	45000

Multimodality of the objective function

(the Swiss cheese effect)



SWAT Calibration and Uncertainty Procedures (SWAT-CUP)

The screenshot displays the SWAT-CUP software interface. The title bar indicates the file is 'Par_inf.sf2 - SWAT-CUP'. The ribbon at the top includes 'Home' and 'Layout' tabs, with various icons for editing, calibration, and help. The 'Project Explorer' on the left shows a tree structure with 'Calibration Inputs' (containing 'Par_inf.sf2', 'Observed.sf2', 'Var_file_rch.sf2', 'SUF2_extract_rch.def', and 'SUF2_replace.def'), 'Calibration Outputs' (containing '95ppu.sf2' and 'New_pars.sf2'), 'Executable Files', and 'Iteration History'. The main window displays the 'Par_inf.sf2' file, which contains 'Sufi2 parameters information'. Under the 'Test_Case' section, it specifies 'Number_of_Parameters= 4' and 'Number_of_LH_sims= 5'. A table lists four parameters with their values and ranges.

Parameter	Value	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
1 r__CN2.mgt	-0.77	0.77	
2 v__ALPHA_BF.gw	0.02	0.078	
3 v__GW_DELAY.gw	31.0	43.0	
4 v__CH_N2.rte	-0.02	0.07	

SWAT Calibration and Uncertainty Procedures (SWAT-CUP)

The screenshot displays the SWAT-CUP software interface. The title bar indicates the file is 'Par_inf.sf2 - SWAT-CUP'. The ribbon at the top includes 'Home' and 'Layout' tabs, with various icons for editing, calibration, and help. The 'Project Explorer' on the left shows a tree structure with 'Calibration Inputs' (containing Par_inf.sf2, Observed.sf2, Var_file_rch.sf2, SUFI2_extract_rch.def, and SUFI2_replace.def), 'Calibration Outputs' (containing 95ppu.sf2 and New_pars.sf2), 'Executable Files', and 'Iteration History'. The main window displays the 'Par_inf.sf2' file, which contains 'Sufi2 parameters information'. Under the 'Test_Case' section, it specifies 'Number_of_Parameters= 4' and 'Number_of_LH_sims= 5'. A table lists four parameters with their values and ranges.

Parameter	Value	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
1 r__CN2.mgt	-0.77	0.77	
2 v__ALPHA_BF.gw	0.02	0.078	
3 v__GW_DELAY.gw	31.0	43.0	
4 v__CH_N2.rte	-0.02	0.07	