



Université
Paul Sabatier
TOULOUSE III



Modelling the nitrate dynamics and the role of riparian zone in a major European catchment, the Garonne River, in southwest France

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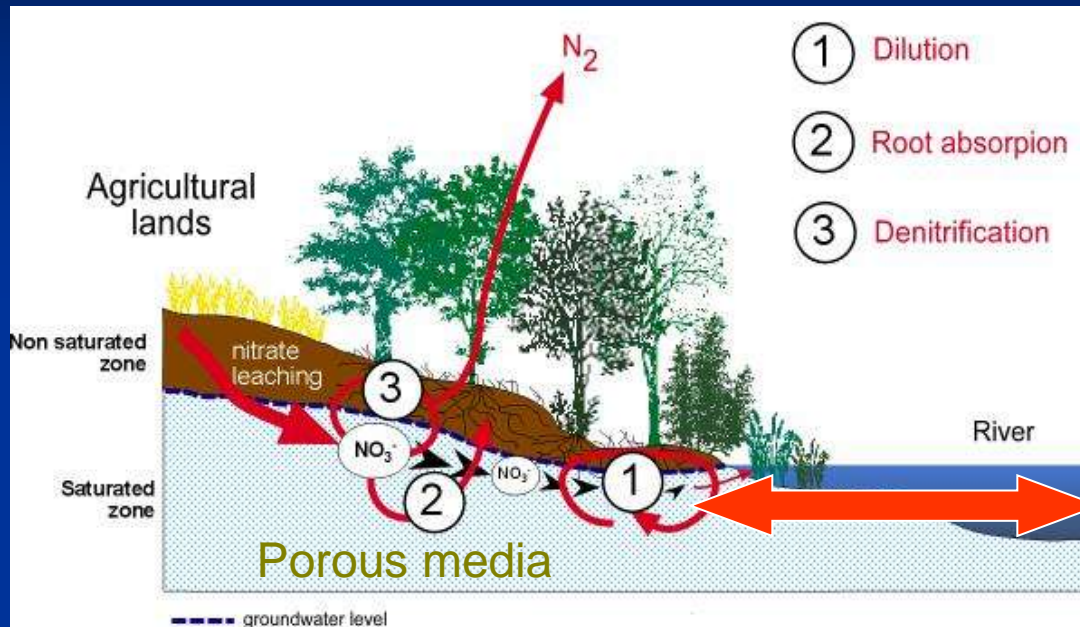
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2 Spatial Sciences Laboratory, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA.



riparian zone



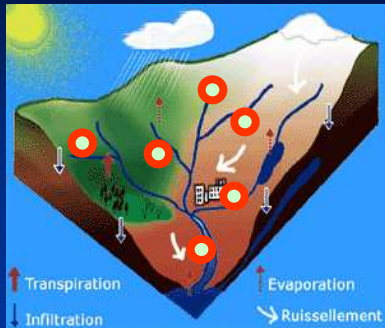
HYP1 : Riparian zones are active zones for dissolved and particulate elements.

HYP2 : Their function depends on hydrological and morphological characteristics.

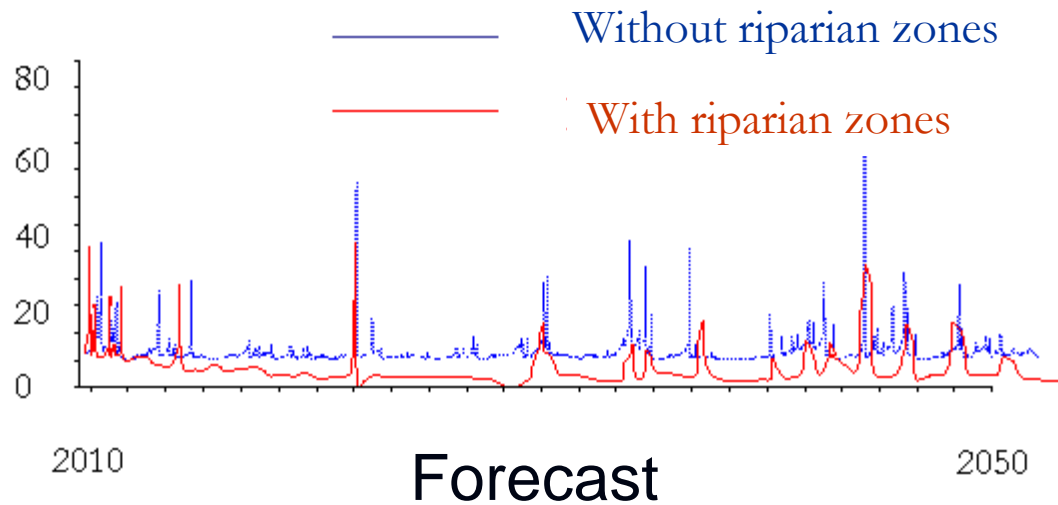
In a context of environmental changing

Riparian zones → Nitrates transfers

Climate changes
Land use changes

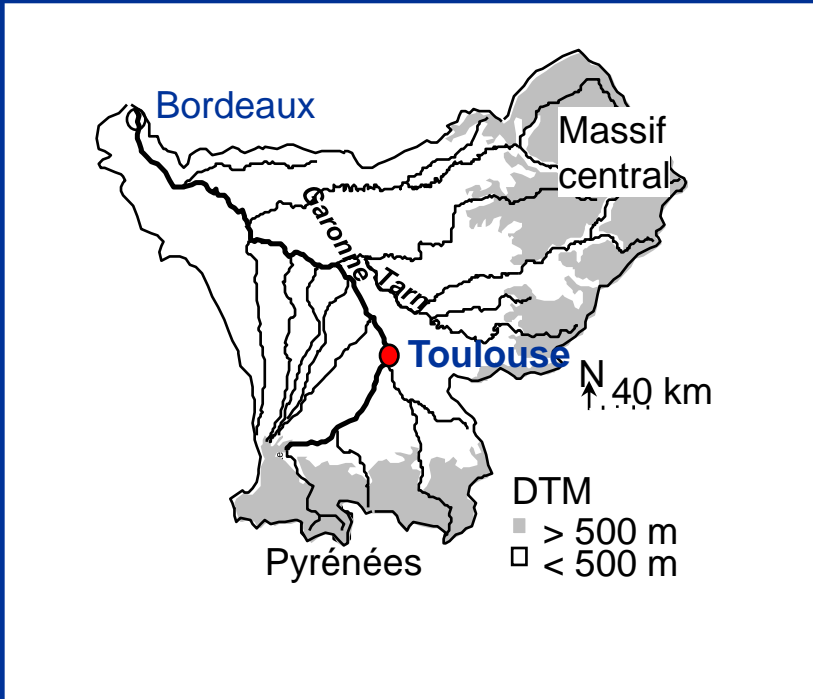


Contaminant
(mg.l⁻¹)

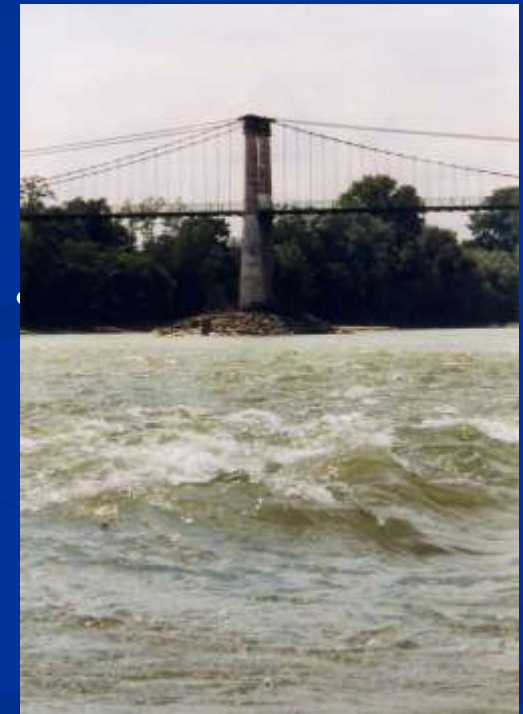




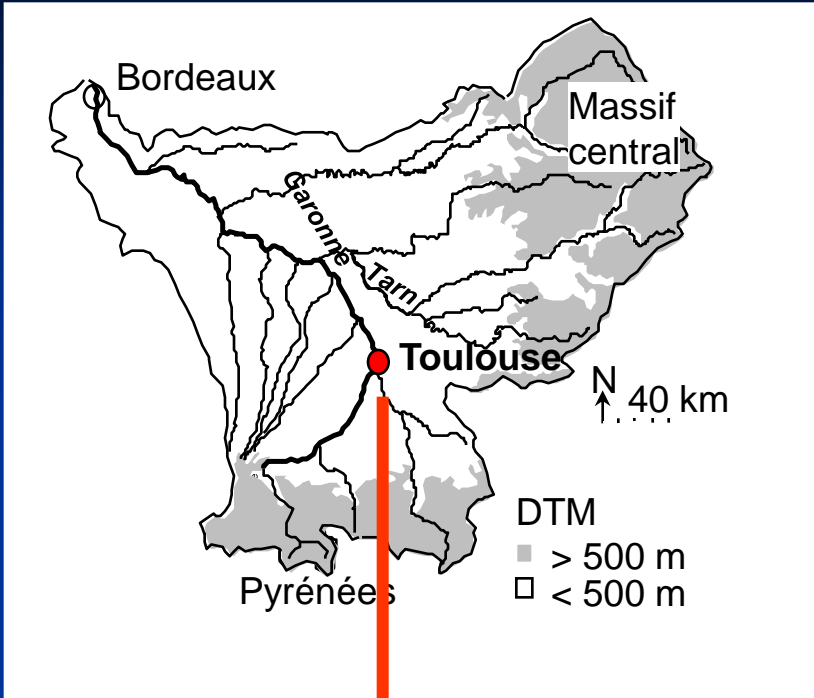
3rd river in France ($600 \text{ m}^3 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$, 12 l/s/km^2)
650 km long



Epilithic biofilm



Storm events :
Up to $6000 \text{ m}^3 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$



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1 200 000 inhabitants
4th city in France

56 000 km²

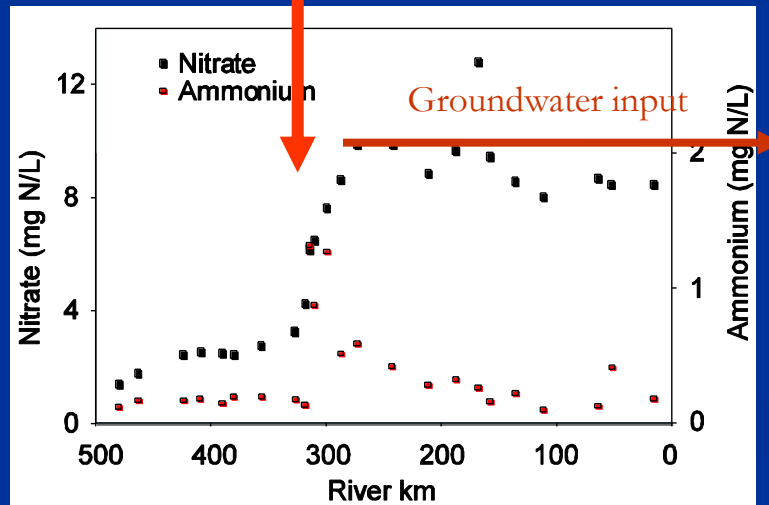
Rainfall : 950 mm

62 000 km of rivers

4 000 000 inhabitants

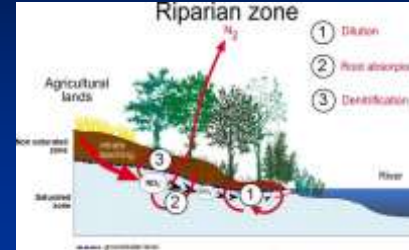
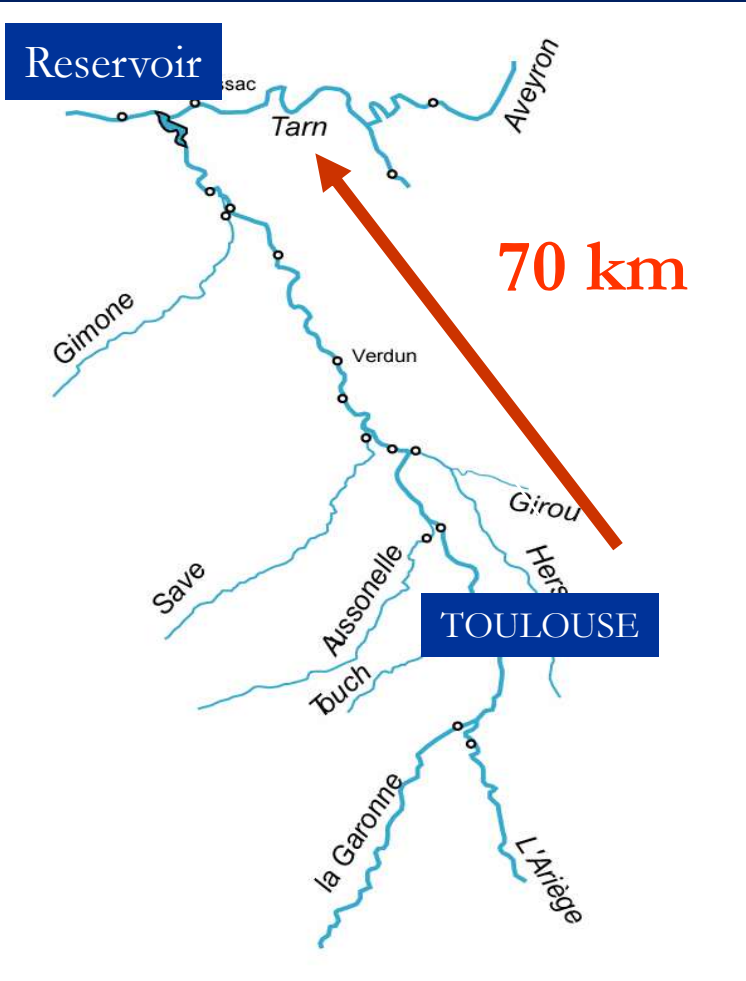
Alluvials, calcareous soils

45% of the surface : agriculture



40% of the french production

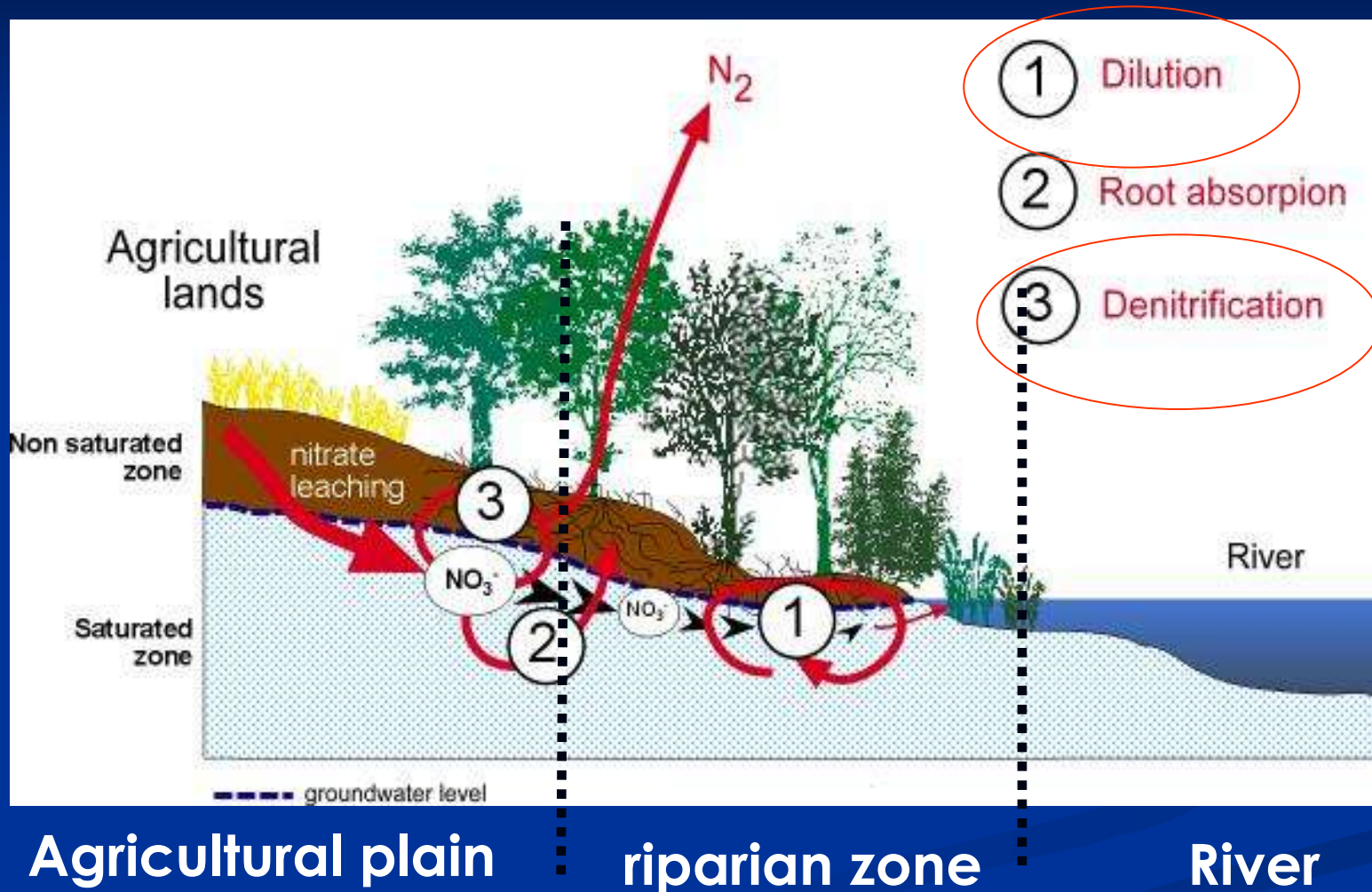
By modelling approaches (1 year)



NO₃⁻ uptake
6000 T.y⁻¹

up to 20%
of the Surface Water



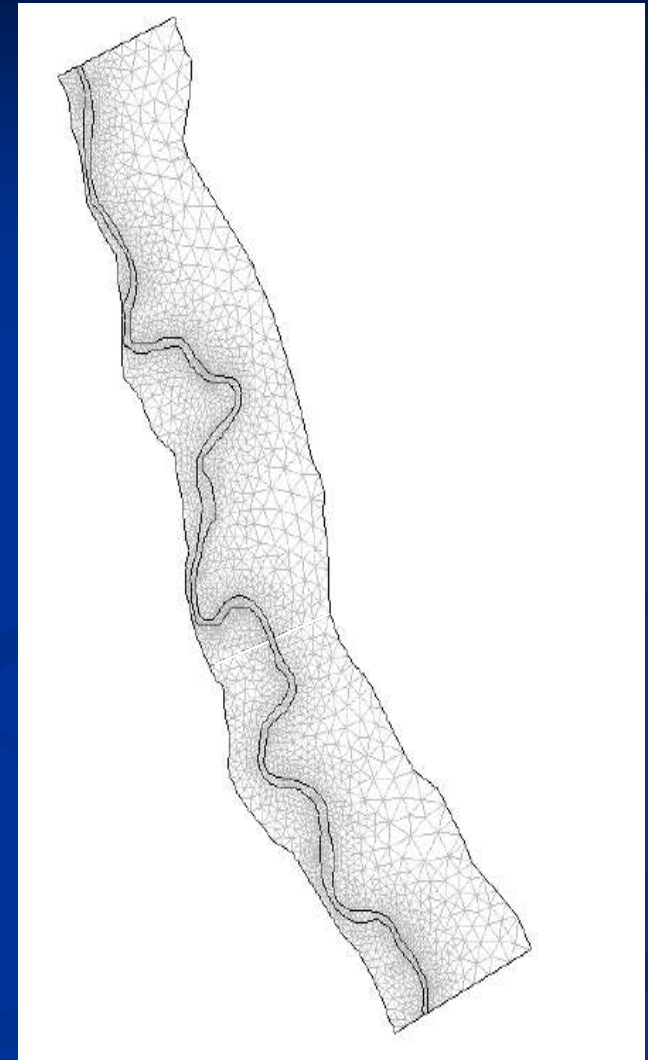
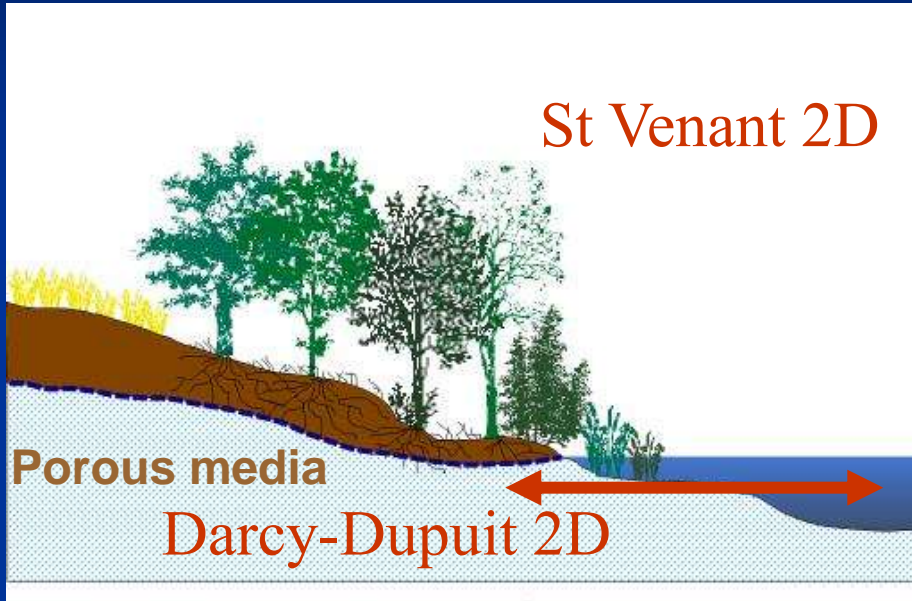


1.Weng P., Sánchez-Pérez J.M., Sauvage, S., Vervier P. and Giraud F. (2003) *Hydrological Processes*

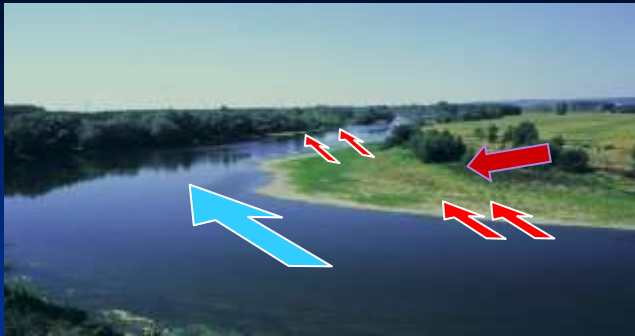
1.Sánchez-Pérez J.M, Lucot E., Bariac T., Tremolieres T.R. (2008).. *STOTEN*,

1.Sánchez-Pérez J.M, Vervier P, Garabétian F., Sauvage S., Loubet M., Rols J.L., Bariac T. and Weng P. (2003).. *Hydrology and the Earth Sciences System*,

2SWEM



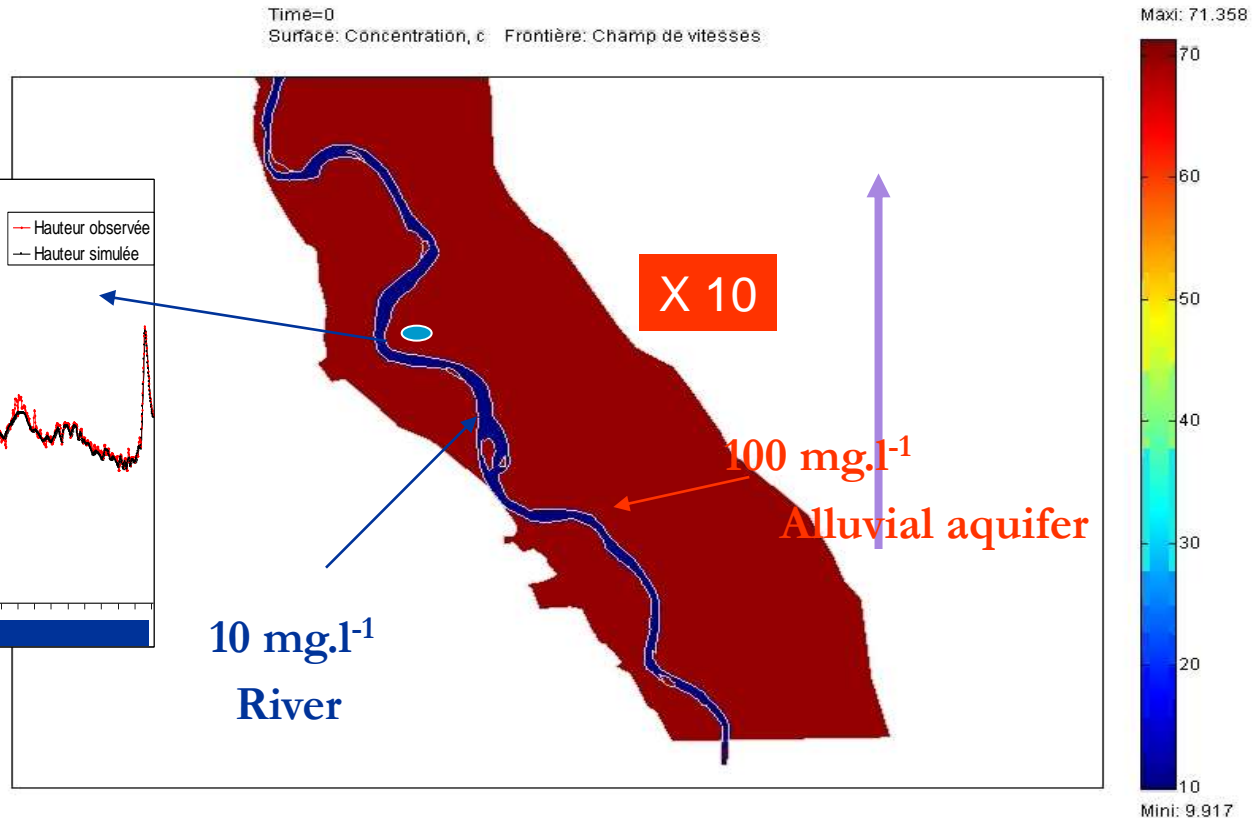
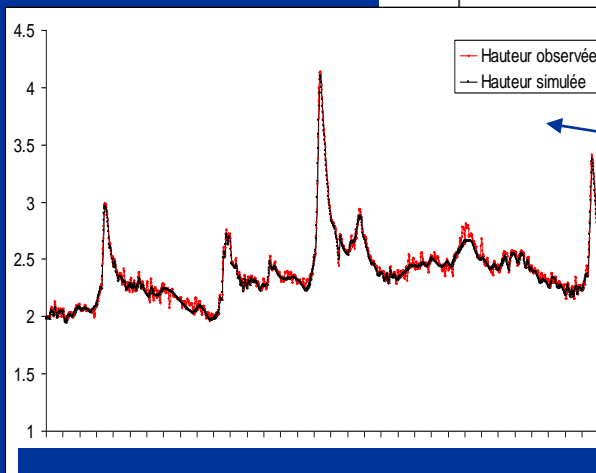
+ transport/reaction model



Dilution effect in riparian zone

NO₃⁻
(mg.l⁻¹)
conservative

H(m)

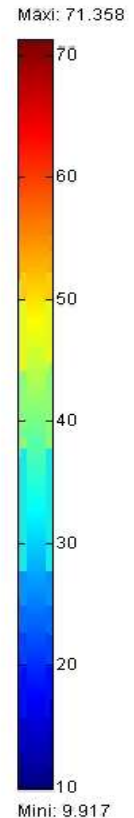


10 mg.l⁻¹
River

100 mg.l⁻¹

Alluvial aquifer

X 10



Mini: 9.917

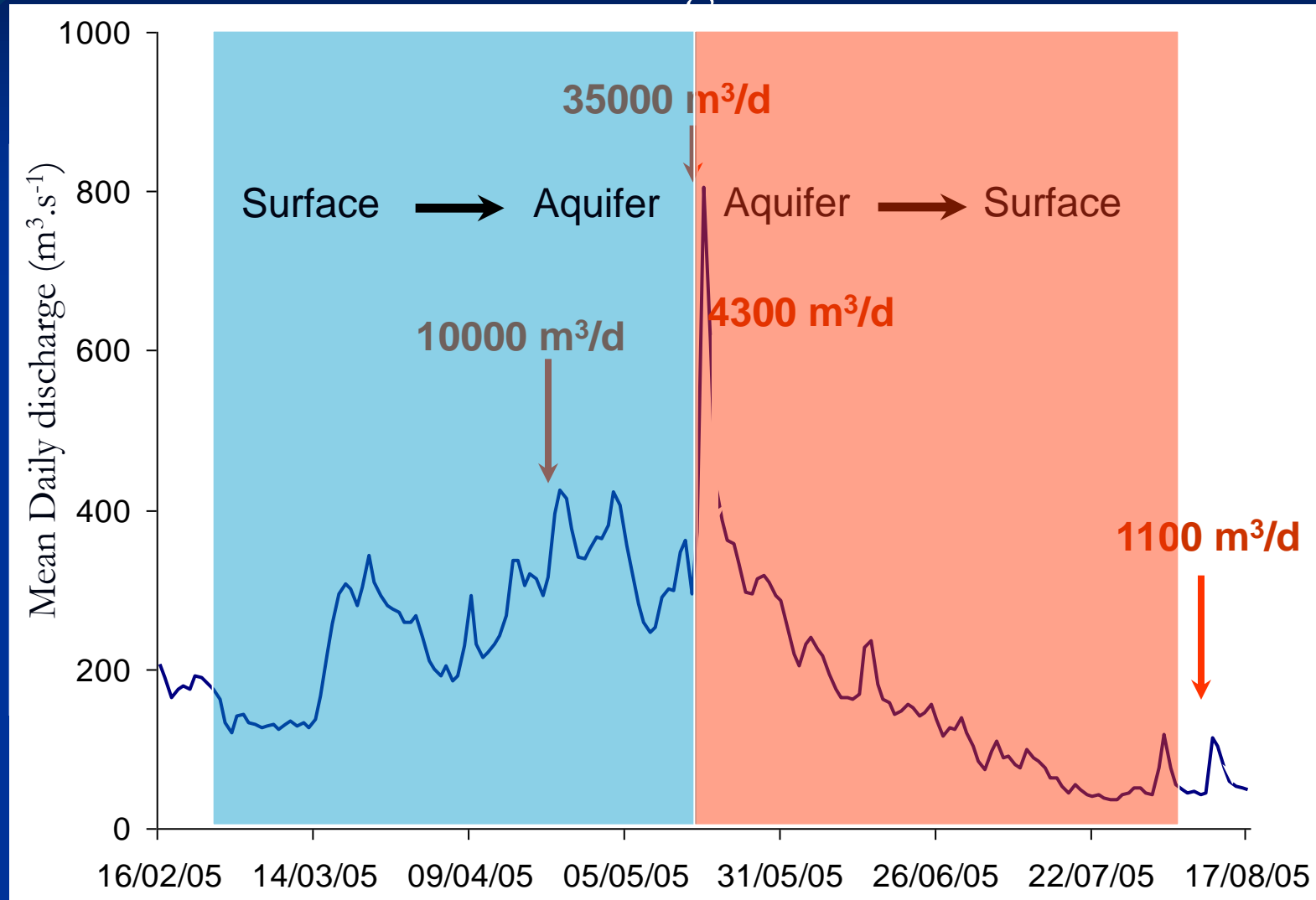
Maxi: 71.358

Time=0
Surface: Concentration, c Frontière: Champ de vitesses

Hauteur observée

Hauteur simulée

Balance : mean daily water fluxes exchanged 6 km along the river





Denitrification process in riparian zone



Denitrification module adapted from NEMIS (Henault and Germon, 2000)

$$R = D_a (\text{simulée}) = D_p \cdot f_N \cdot f_T \cdot f_C$$

D_a (mg N.L⁻¹.j⁻¹) : *in situ* denitrification

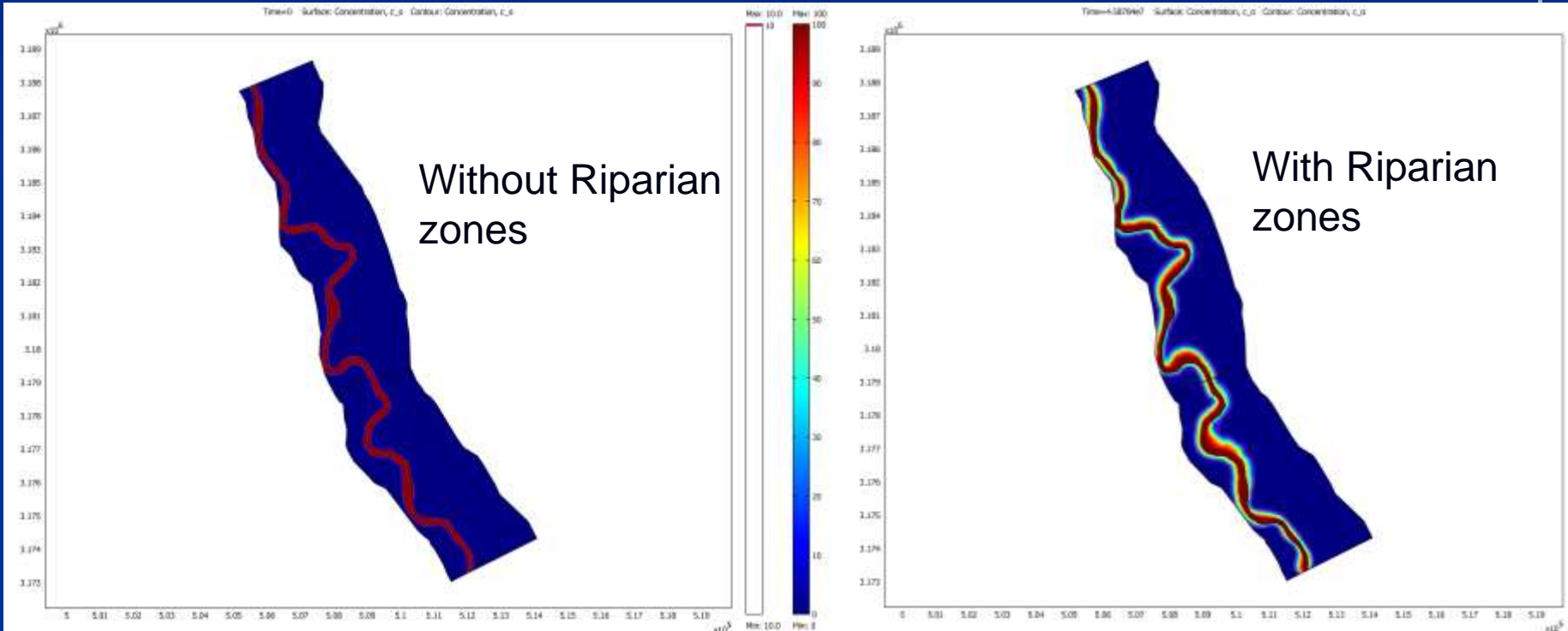
D_p (mg N .L⁻¹.j⁻¹) : potential denitrification

f_N function " nitrates " : $f_N = \frac{N}{K_N + N}$

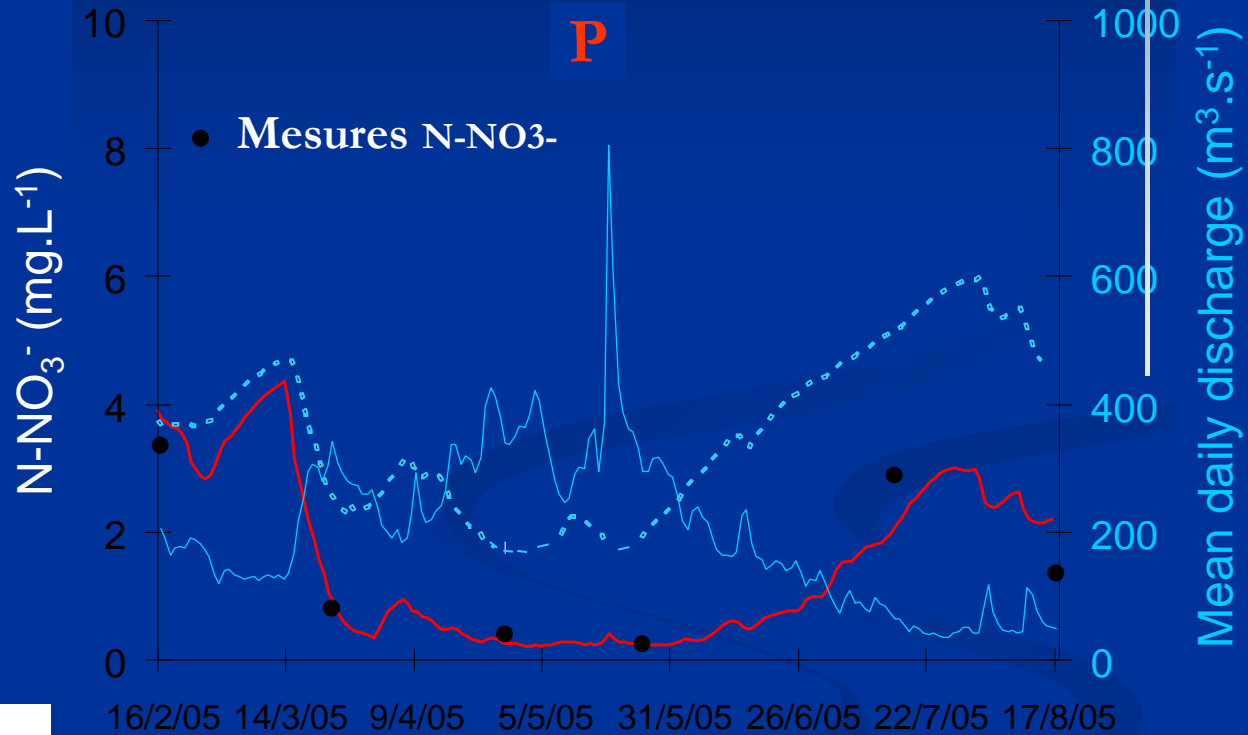
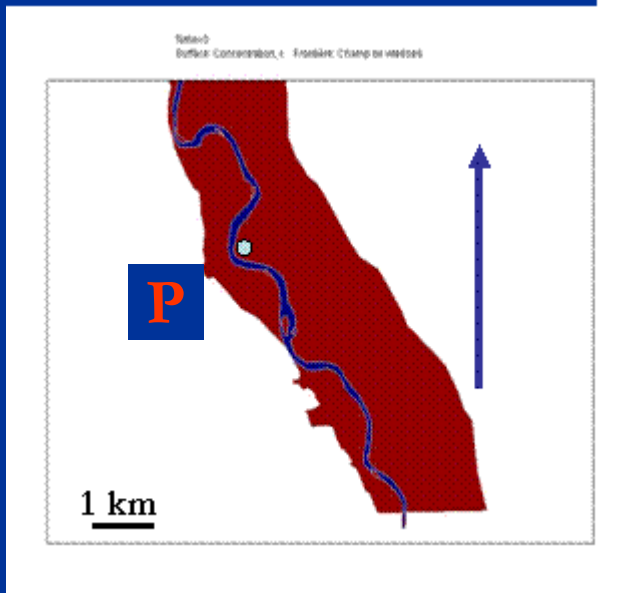
f_T function " temperature " : $f_T = Q_{10}^{(T-Tr)/10}$

f_C function " connectivity " : $f_C = C^a$ takes into account (OM, O₂, Bacteria ...)

Connectivity function that activate denitrification



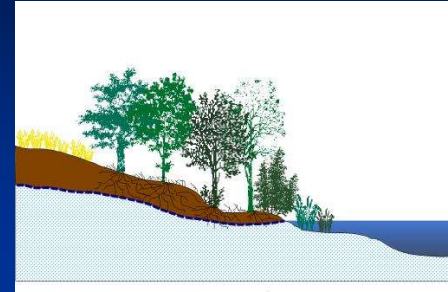
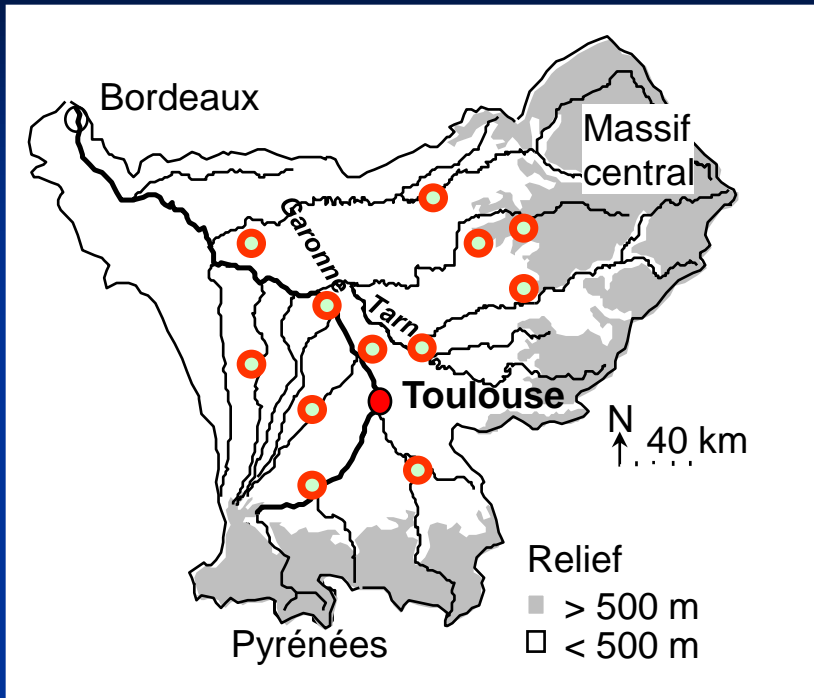
Dilution + denitrification processus



Effect of dilution

Effect of dilution + denitrification

How can we integrate these riparian zones in SWAT model ?



Alluvial Dominant System

daily time scale first approximation

1 - activate/desactive function (based on flow, depth and meanders)

2 - integrate automatically the function with SWAT distributed

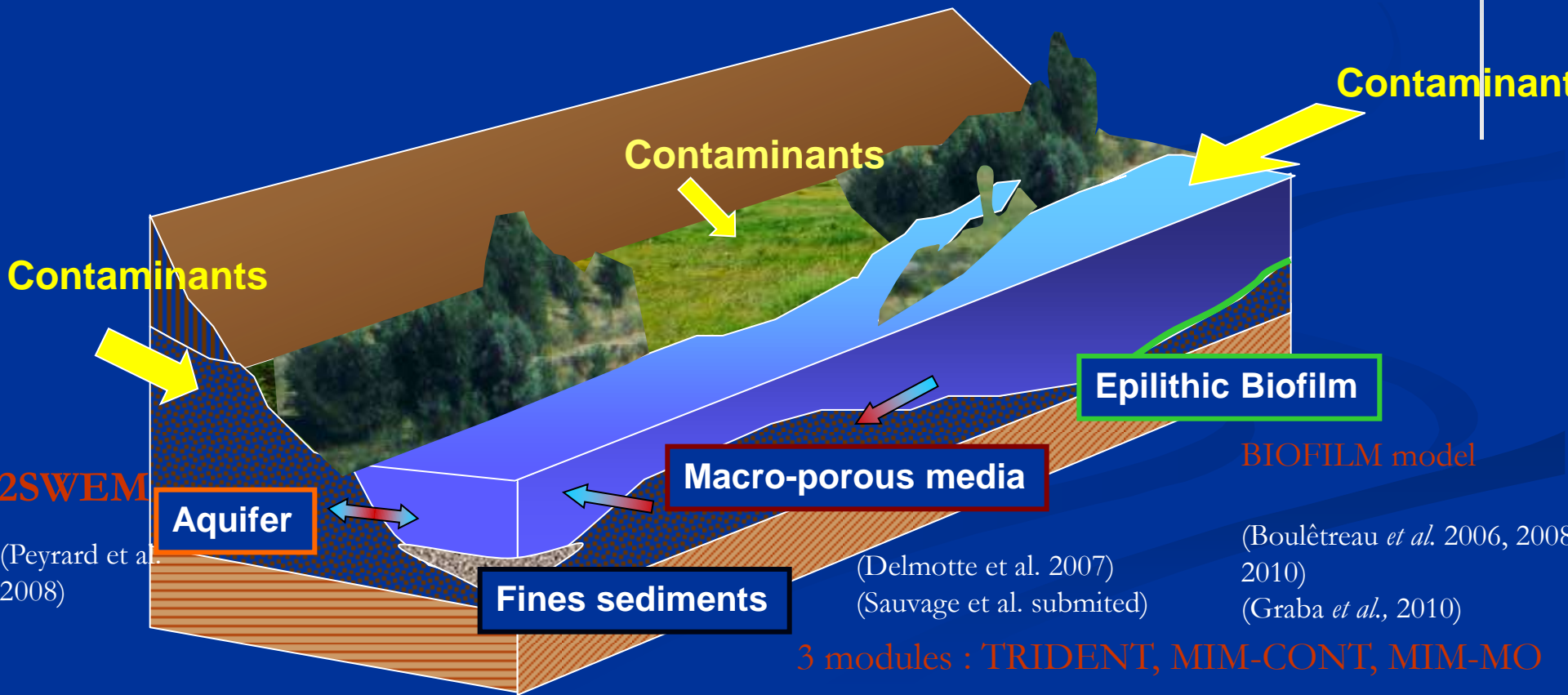
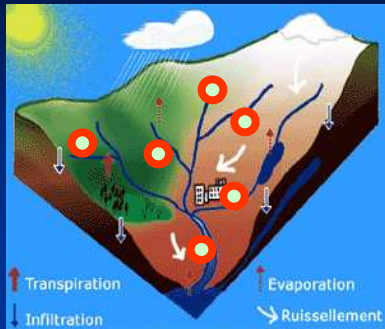
We need to quantify exchanges fluxes (flow and elements)

How can we integrate a hydraulic mechanistic model in some spatial zones ?
SWAT open-MI could be a solution !

In a context of environmental changing

- Interfaces of hydrosystems

C,N
+
Contaminants transfers
(pesticides, metals)



2SWEM

(Peyrard et al. 2008)

(Delmotte et al. 2007)

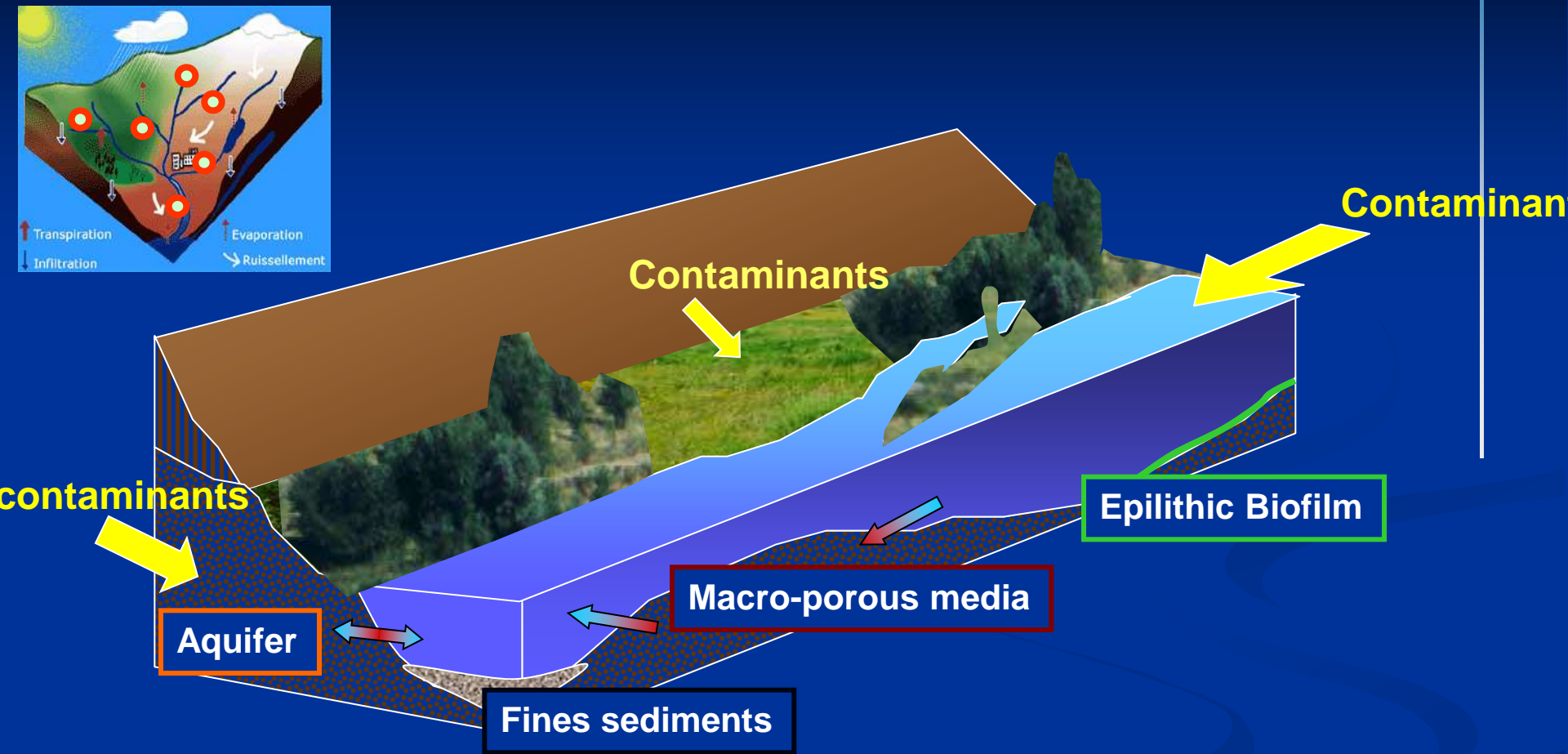
(Sauvage et al. submitted)

BIOFILM model

(Boulêtreau et al. 2006, 2008, 2010)

(Graba et al., 2010)

3 modules : TRIDENT, MIM-CONT, MIM-MO



Welcome anyone to join our team for developing and integrating these modules
“Interfaces between rivers and land” into SWAT model

*The Garonne at
TOULOUSE*



Thank you