



# Summary of the main activities

Period: January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2015

## IH SAS:

- scientific research institution
- research and teaching in the field of *environmental science*  
and *water management*
- improvement and dissemination of knowledge on the circulation and quality of  
water in the nature

# Summary of the main activities

Period: January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2015

**FLOODS**

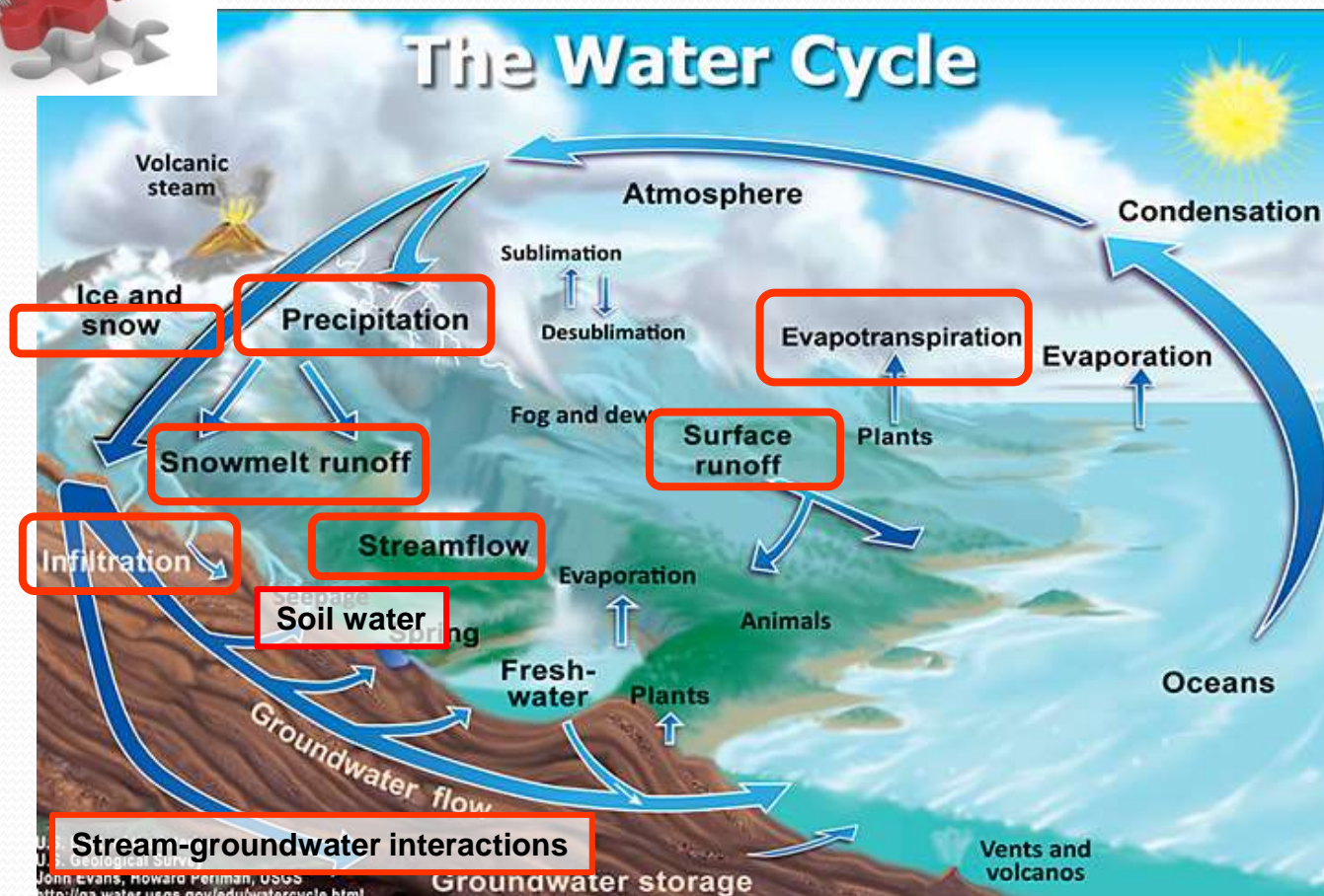
**QUALITY**



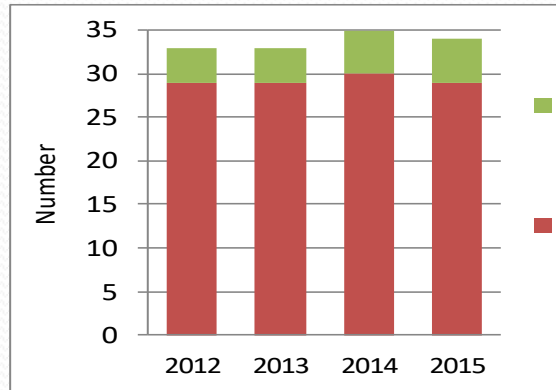
**DROUGHTS**

**QUANTITY**

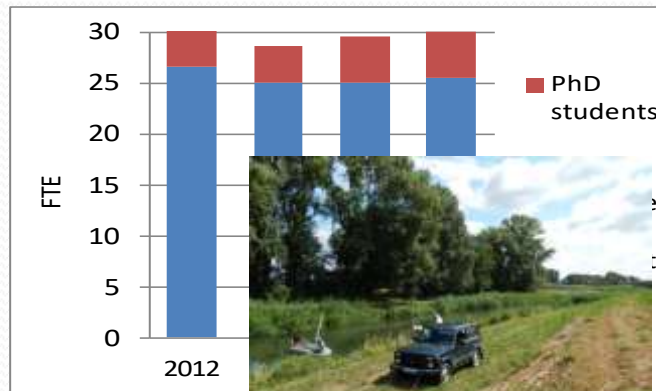
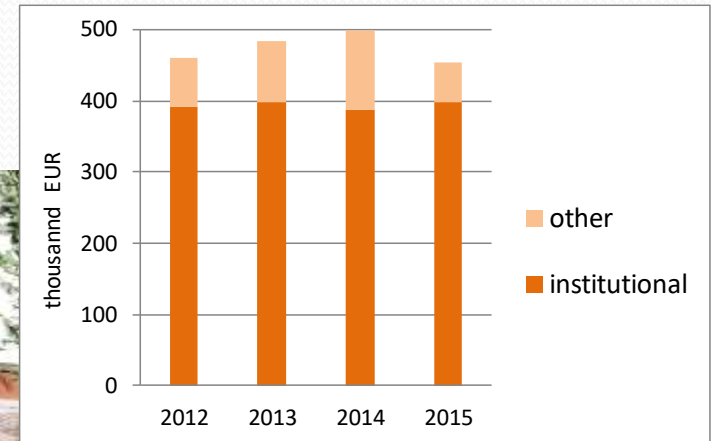
# Research focus



# Employee structure, budget

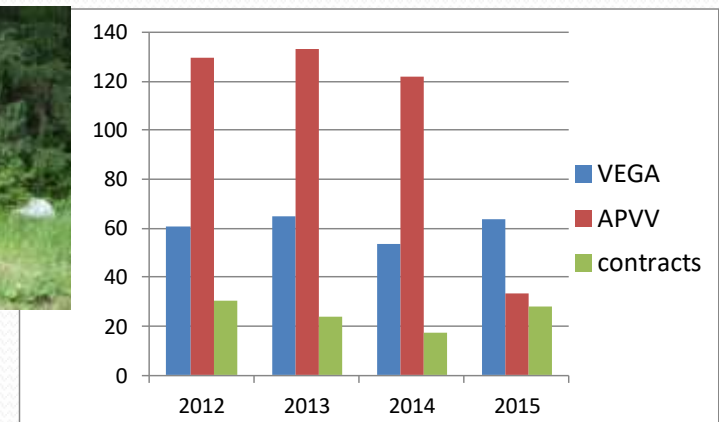


IH SAS = subsidised institution



31.12.2015  
Female...11

Male...16 (older)



# Important information

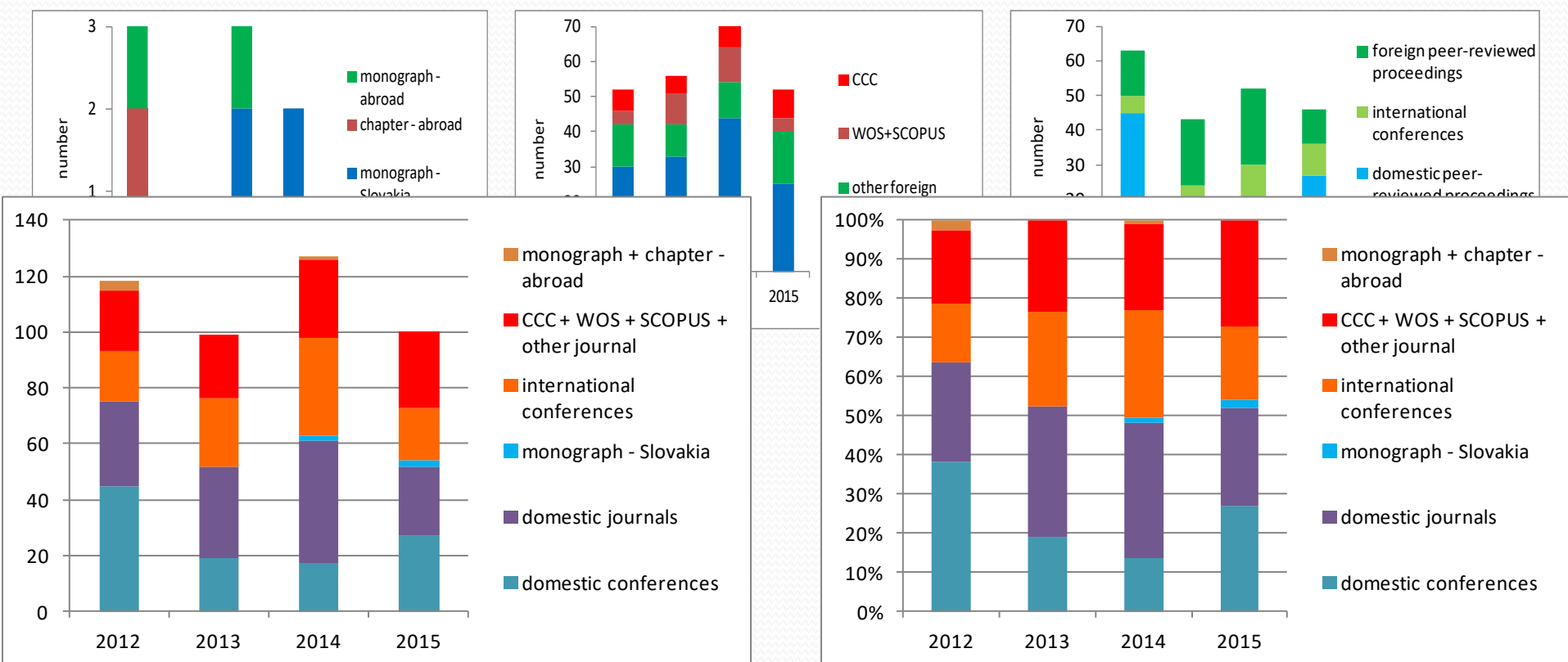
- **new executive body** of IH SAS in June 2012, and now in *September 2016*
- the end of 2013 – **structure changed** (4 departments => 2 departments)
- **younger generation** as *research leaders* (overtook the leading positions in the projects)
- **9 staff members** acquired **higher qualification degree** during assessment period
- **PhD study** was **successfully re-accredited** in September 2015

## • Journal of Hydrology and Hydromechanics

IF 0.653   1.231   1.486   1.469

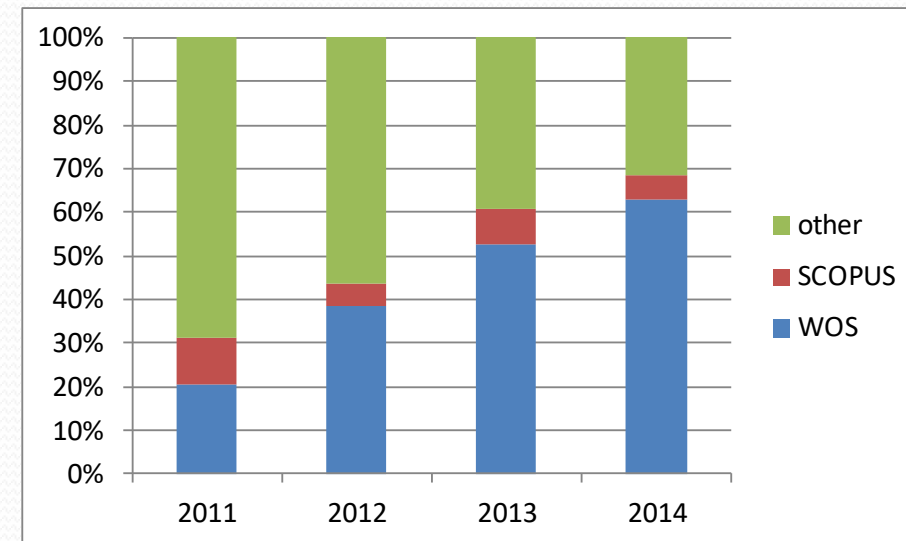
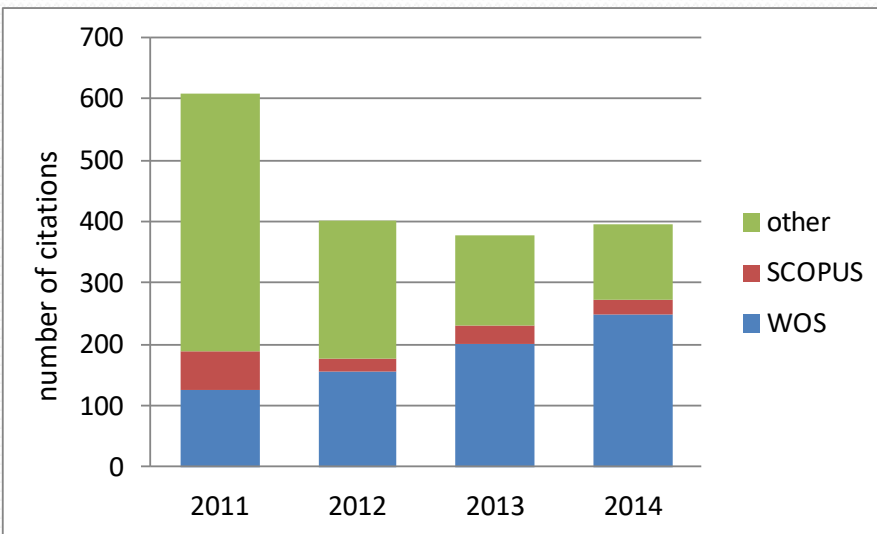


# Publications, Citations



*We have strived to publish the results of our research in high quality CCC journals. However, publication in national journals is also necessary to transmit the new knowledge to domestic hydrological non-scientific community + documentation of impact of funding from ERDF*

# Publications, Citations



# Projects - international

FP7

- KORANET 10/2012-9/2013

- GOLDFISH 11/2013-4/2015



International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

- 2 projects

EUREKA

- 1+1 projects

IHP UNESCO

- 2 project

*ERB-UNESCO*

*Global Water Partnership*

*EUROFRIEND – UNESCO*

*Danube Countries Cooperation – UNESCO*

Collaborations with universities and research institutions in  
*USA, Russia, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Luxemburg,*



# Projects - national

SRDA – 3 projects....coordinator  
(APVV) 4 projects....investigator  
2 projects....bilateral  
1 projects.....support FP7

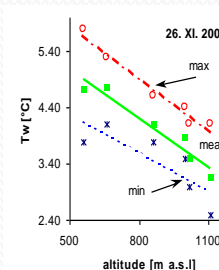
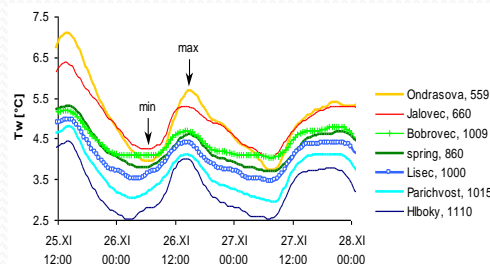
VEGA - 9 projects



## EU Structural Funds (coordinator)

*CE for the Integrated River Basin Management in the Changing Environmental Conditions (1 590 612 Eur)*  
*Completion of infrastructure of hydrological research stations (2 924 647 Eur)*

Collaborations:  
Universities  
and  
Other Research Institutions



# Infrastructure

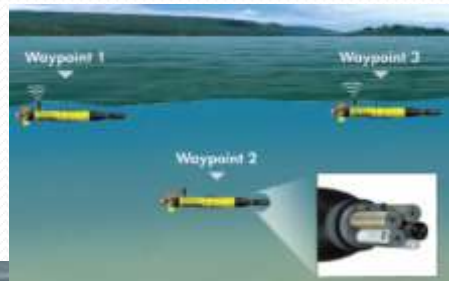
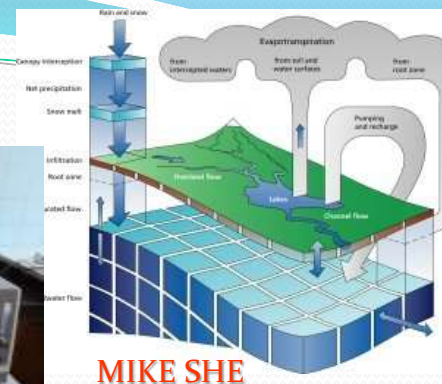


MODFLOW

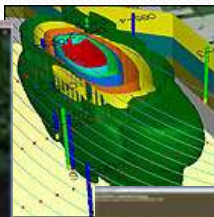
GMS

SMS

WMS



# Infrastructure



# Invited lectures, popularisation activities

Conferences – members of committees

Invited lecture – 23/12



interactive educational programs for primary and secondary schools



experimental snow measurements for students from STU Bratislava

# R&D activity

Department of Surface Water Hydrology

Department of Sub-Surface Water Hydrology

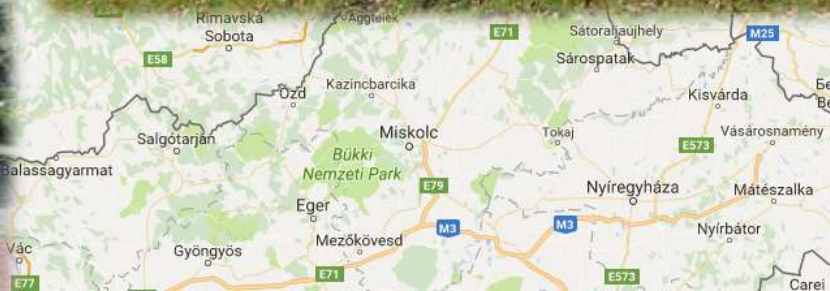
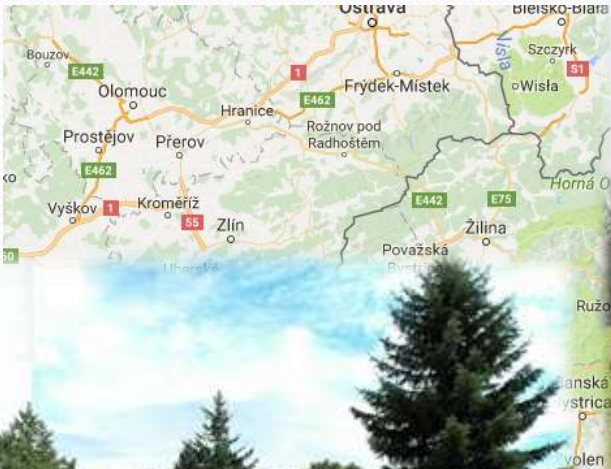
# Department of Surface water hydrology



- since 2014, former dept. of Mountain hydrology and dept. of Surface streams and stream water – groundwater interactions

# Department of Surface water hydrology

- 13-14 employees with university degree in the evaluation period
- located in Bratislava and in Liptovský Mikuláš



# Department of Surface water hydrology

- 8 international projects (FP7, IHP UNESCO, IAEA)
- 9 national projects (VEGA, APVV)
- 2 monographs, 1 chapter in a monograph

## Journal publications

- impacted journals (CC, WOS, SCOPUS) 25
- non-impacted journals (WOS, SCOPUS) 6
- other peer-reviewed (domestic) journals 100

Informal collaboration with some leading international teams, e.g. from Technical University in Vienna or Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology

# Department of Surface water hydrology

Our research is focused on :

- better understanding of hydrological balance in catchments (precipitation, runoff, evapotranspiration)
- hydrological processes (runoff formation, snow accumulation and melt, forest transpiration)
- eco-hydrological problems (water quality of the streams, variability of streamflows, stream water-groundwater interactions)



# Selected results

Journal of Hydrology 519 (2014) 1769–1778

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Hydrology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jhydrol](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jhydrol)



## Estimation of regional snowline elevation (RSLE) from MODIS images for seasonally snow covered mountain basins

Pavel Krajčí<sup>a,\*</sup>, Ladislav Holko<sup>a</sup>, Rui A.P. Perdigão<sup>b</sup>, Juraj Parajka<sup>b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Hydrology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia

<sup>b</sup> Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Water Resources Management, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria

<sup>c</sup> Centre for Water Resource Systems, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria



## HYDROLOGICAL PROCESSES

Hydrol. Process. (2014)

Published online in Wiley Online Library

([wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)) DOI: 10.1002/hyp.10273

## A new method of snowmelt sampling for water stable isotopes

D. Penna,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> M. Ahmad,<sup>3</sup> S. J. Birks,<sup>4</sup> L. Bouchaou,<sup>5</sup> M. Brenčič,<sup>6,7</sup> S. Butt,<sup>8</sup> L. Holko,<sup>9</sup> G. Jeelani,<sup>10</sup> D. E. Martinez,<sup>11</sup> G. Melikadze,<sup>12</sup> J. B. Shanley,<sup>13</sup> S. A. Sokratov,<sup>14</sup> T. Stadnyk,<sup>15</sup> A. Sugimoto<sup>16</sup> and P. Vreča<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Faculty of Science and Technology, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

<sup>3</sup> Isotope Hydrology Section, International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria

<sup>4</sup> Alberta Innovates, Technology Futures, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

<sup>5</sup> Faculty of Sciences, Laboratory of Applied Geology and Geo-Environmental, University Ibn Zohr, Agadir, Morocco

<sup>6</sup> Department of Geology, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

<sup>7</sup> Geological Survey of Slovenia, Ljubljana, Slovenia

<sup>8</sup> Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology, Isotope Application Division, Islamabad, Pakistan

<sup>9</sup> Institute of Hydrology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia

<sup>10</sup> Department of Earth Sciences, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, India

<sup>11</sup> CONICET, IIMyC – Inst. de Geología de Contas y Cuaternario, National University of Mar del Plata, Mar del Plata, Argentina

<sup>12</sup> Institute of Geophysics, Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia

<sup>13</sup> US Geological Survey, Montpelier, VT, USA

<sup>14</sup> Faculty of Geography, Natural Risk Assessment Laboratory and Laboratory of Snow Avalanches and Debris Flows, Moscow State University, Moscow, Russian Federation

<sup>15</sup> Department of Civil Engineering, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada

<sup>16</sup> Faculty of Environmental Earth Science, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan

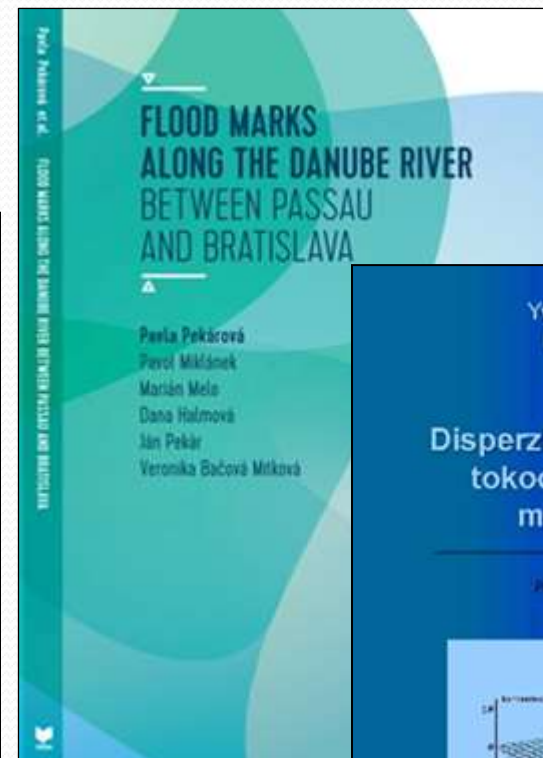
<sup>17</sup> Department of Environmental Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia

J. Hydrol. Hydromech., 62, 2014, 3, 177–185

DOI: 10.2478/johh-2014-0030

## Influence of surface water level fluctuation and riverbed sediment deposits on groundwater regime

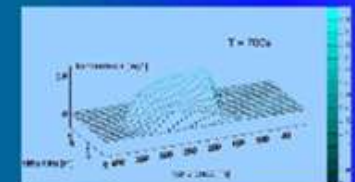
Mária Kozzka Bara, Yveta Velisková\*, Renáta Dulovičová, Radoslav Schügerl



Yveta Velisková  
Marek Sokač  
Peter Hajaj

## Disperzia v povrchových tokoch – meranie a modelovanie

Projekt APVV-0274-10



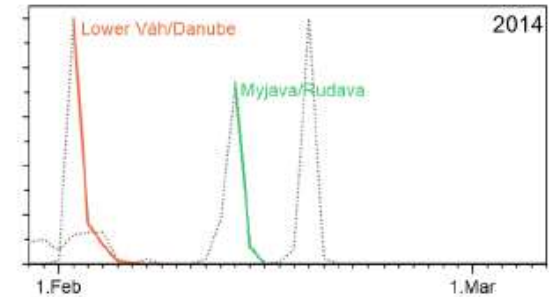
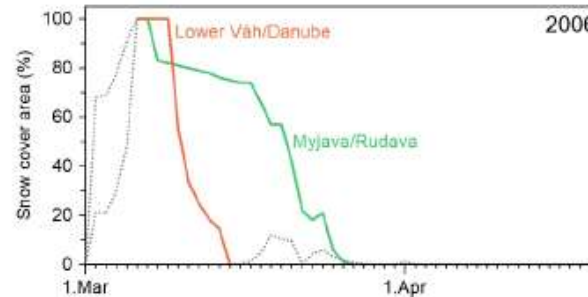
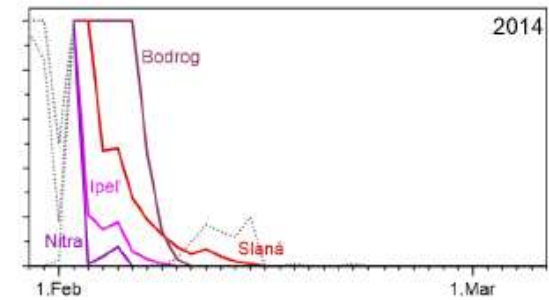
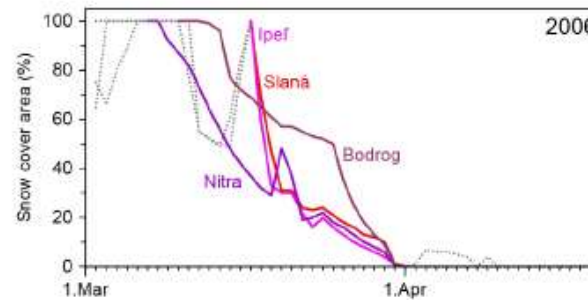
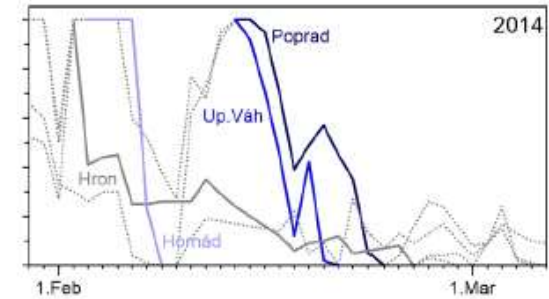
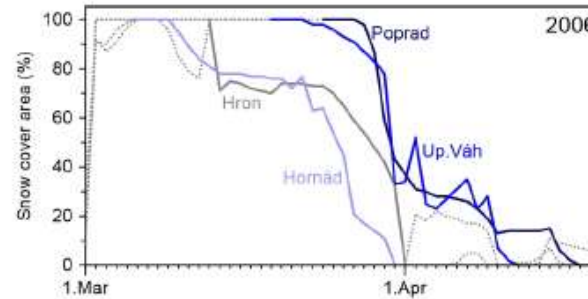
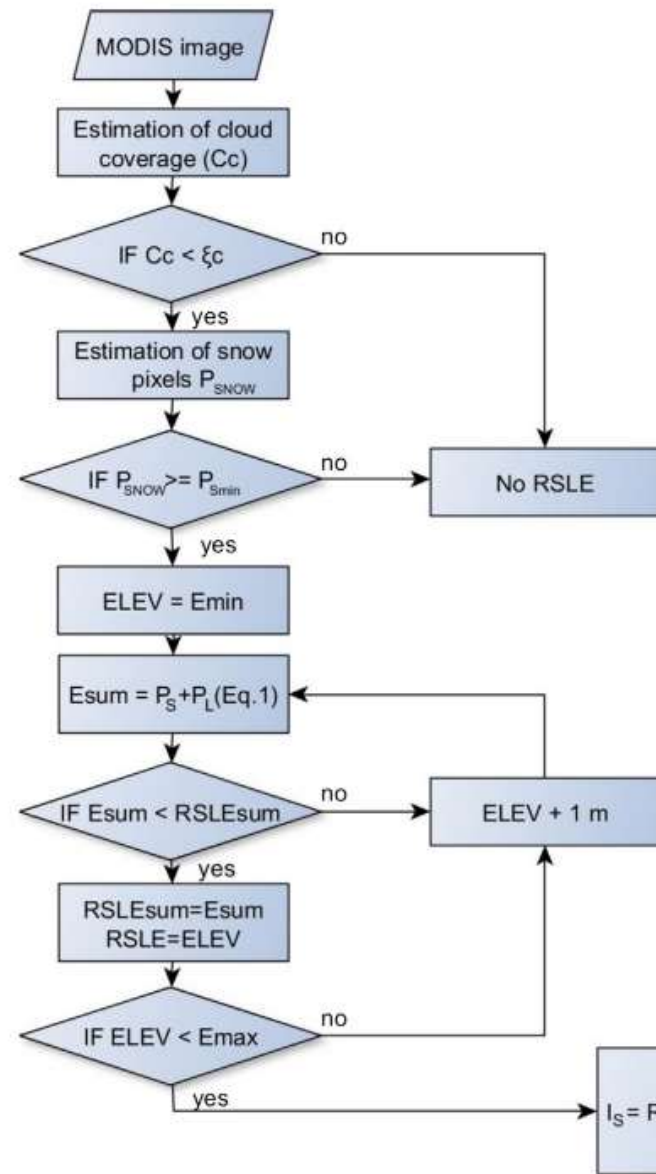
Ardec

# The role of snow in hydrological cycle

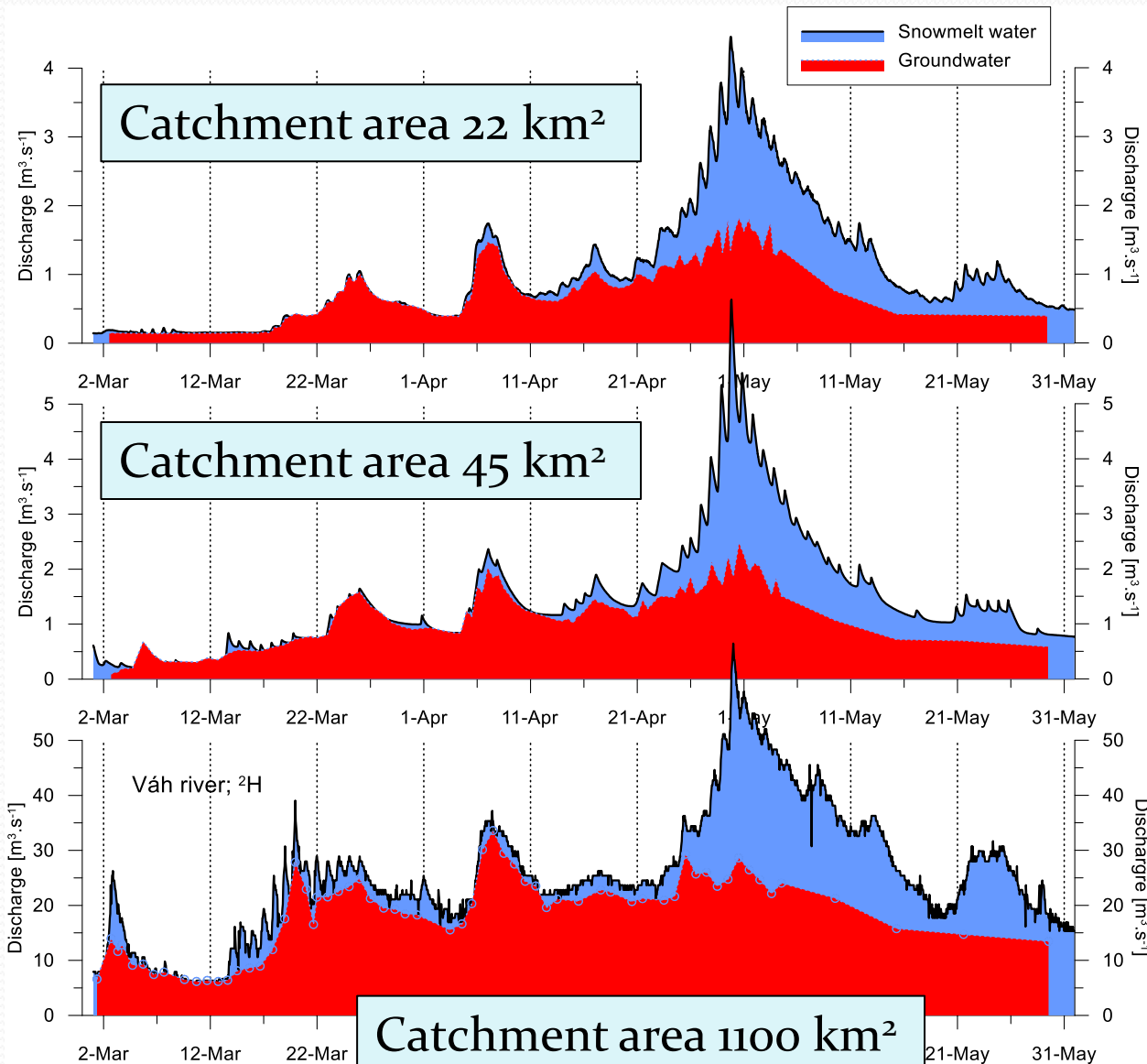
How much water is stored in the snow?  
How fast does the snow cover melt?  
What is the contribution of snowmelt water to rivers and ground-waters (quantity, pathways, timing)?



# Snow line from remote sensing



# Contribution of snow to river discharge



Hydrograph separations  
for different catchments  
using stable isotopes

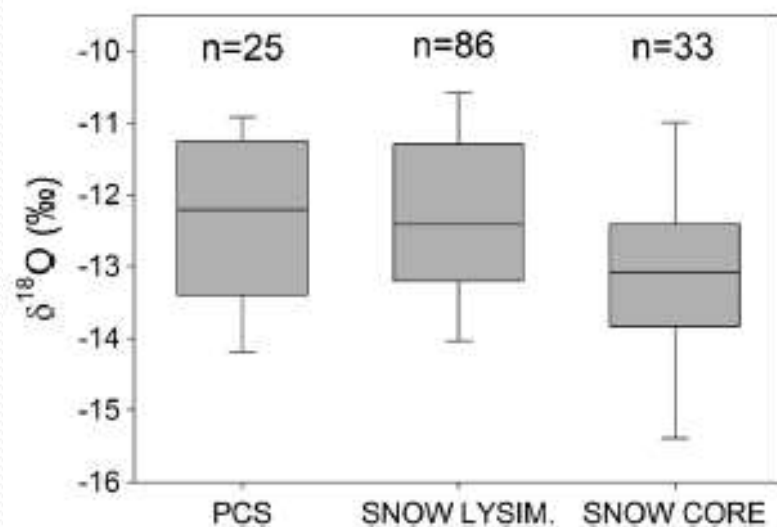
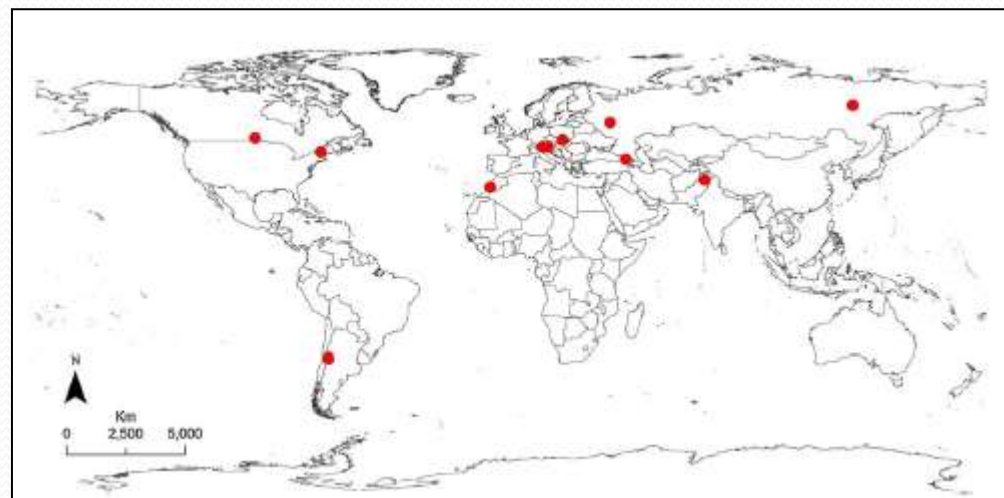
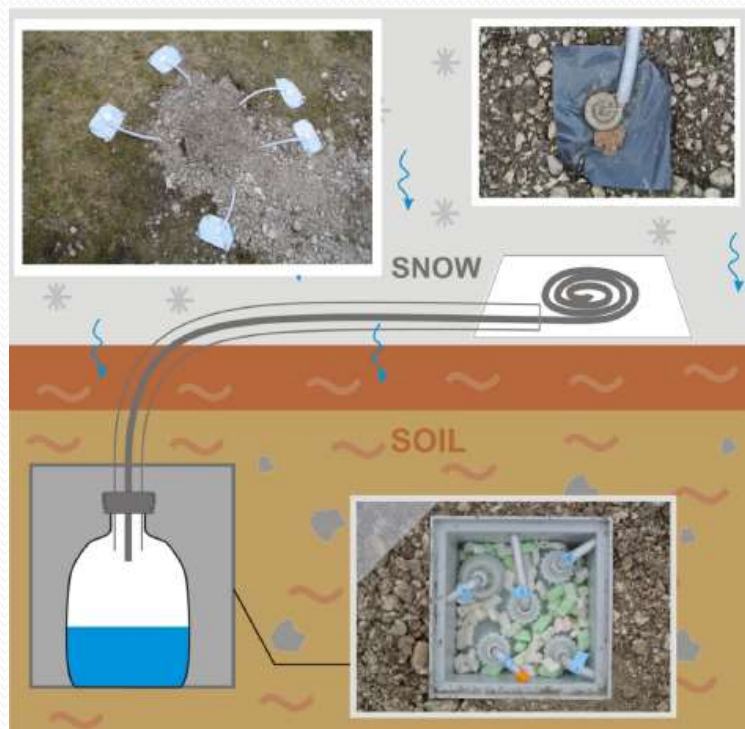


To cite this article: Ladislav Holko (2015): Syringe life and memory effects in isotopic analyses performed by liquid water isotopic analysers – a case study for natural waters from central Europe, *Isotopes in Environmental and Health Studies*, DOI: [10.1080/10256016.2015.1090987](https://doi.org/10.1080/10256016.2015.1090987)

Little snowmelt water  
during the first events

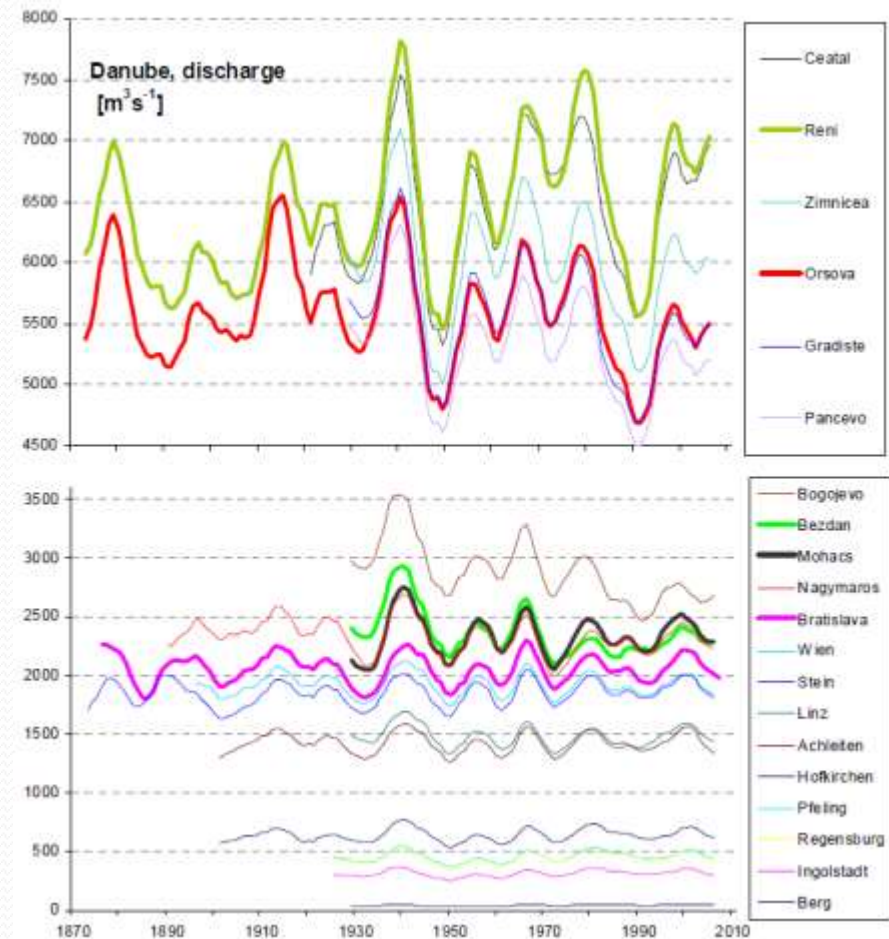
Up to 60% of snowmelt  
water during  
maximum discharges

# Worldwide testing of a new device to collect snowmelt water samples



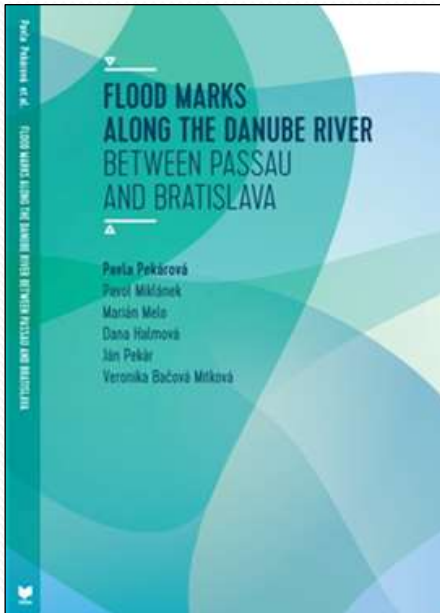
# Streamflow variability

- Are the floods (droughts) at present more frequent than before?
- Do we observe trends or rather cycles in the long-term discharge (precipitation) data series?
- Are they linked to other phenomena?
- Danube river
- Slovak rivers



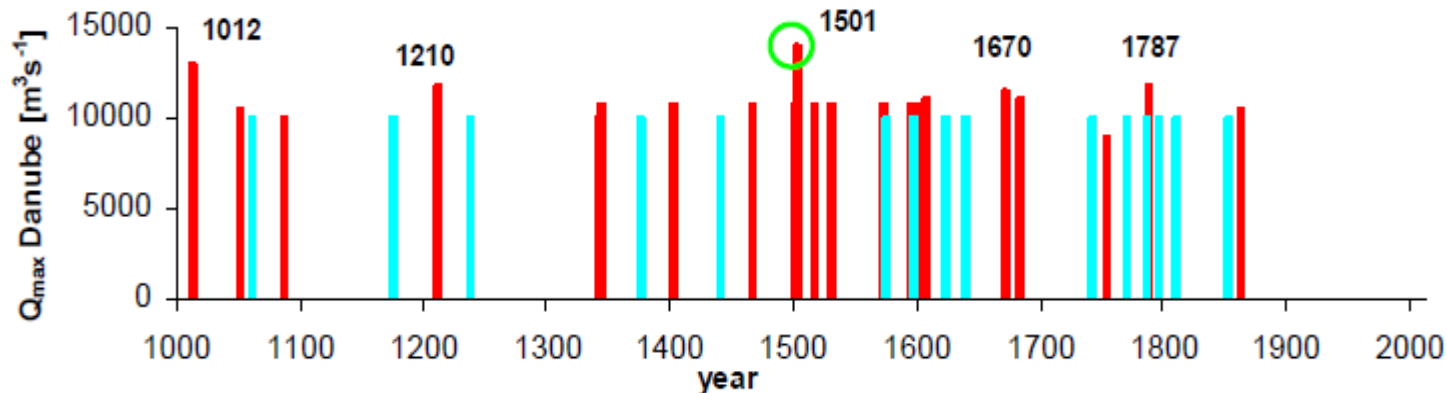
# Streamflow variability

- Flood marks between Passau and Bratislava



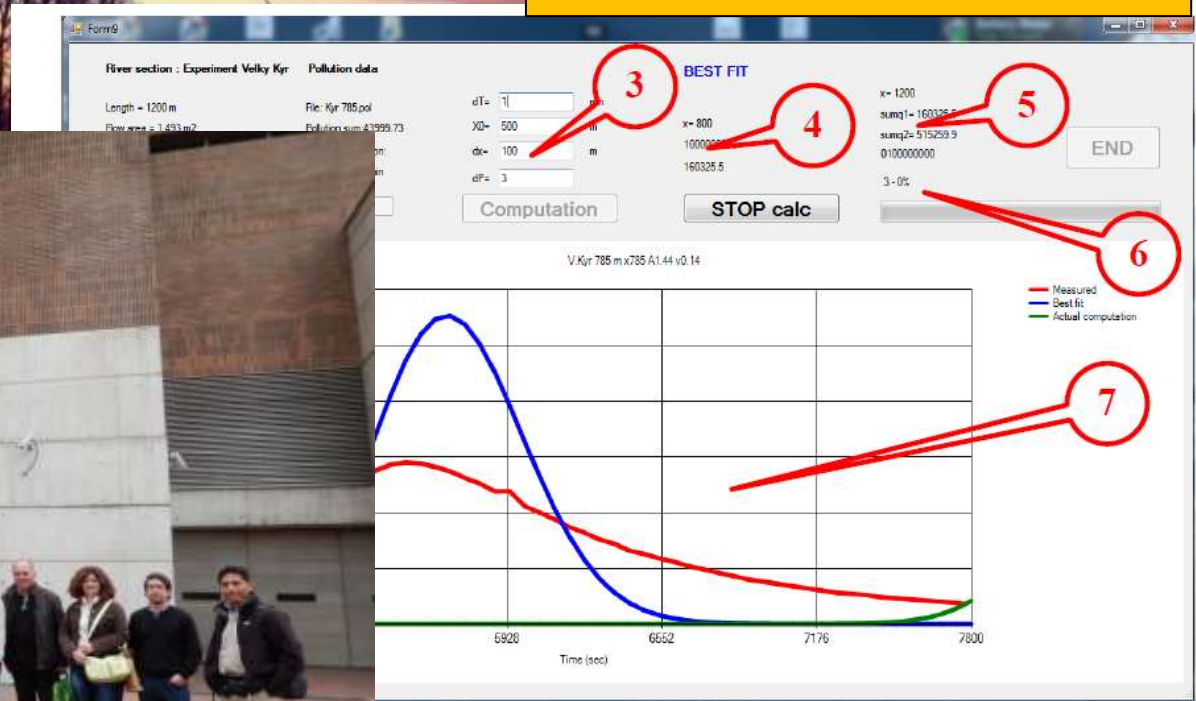
No increase in floods  
characteristics  
in 1876-2013

Significant improvement  
of design discharges



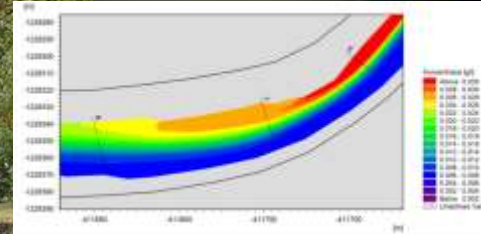
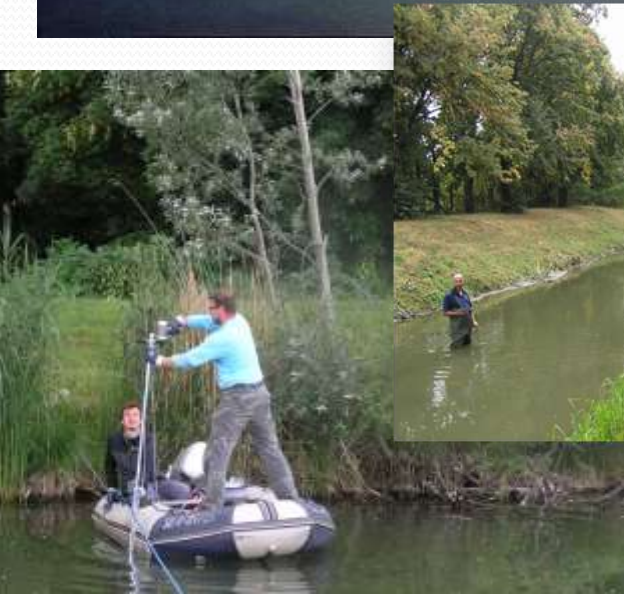
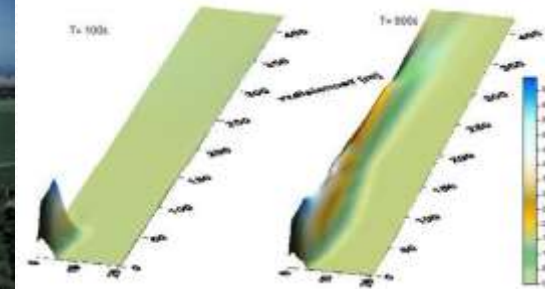
# Detection of river water contamination:

Developed method  
successfully tested  
in Slovakia, Poland  
and Colombia



river data, 2 – pollution data, 3 - computation parameters, 4 – best actual fit, 5 – computation progress, 6 – progress bar, 7 – chart area)

# Dispersion in surface streams – measurement and modelling



Yveta Velisková  
Marek Sokač  
Peter Hájaj

**Disperzia v povrchoých tokoch – meranie a modelovanie**

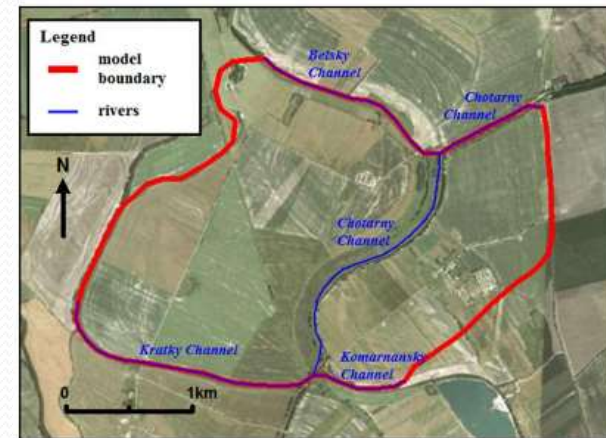
Projekt APVV-0274-10



T = 100s

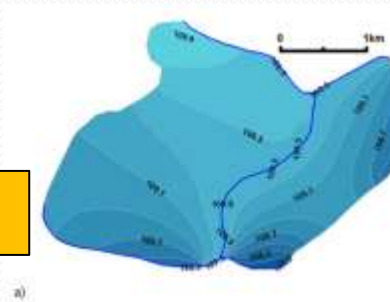
Ardec

# Stream water-groundwater interactions

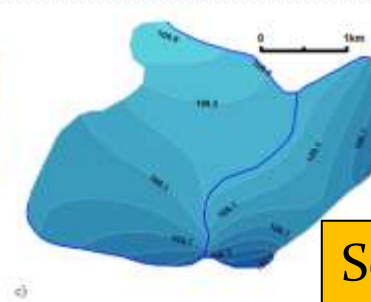


Influence of river water level and channel sediments on groundwater regime

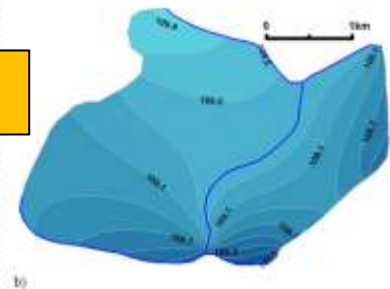
No sediments



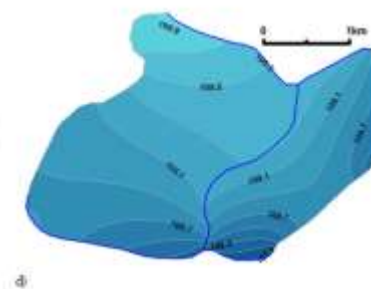
Sediments 1 m



Sediments 0.5 m



Sediments 2 m



# Department of Subsurface Water Hydrology



Established in 2014, former Dept. of soil hydrology and Dept. of Lowland hydrology

# Department of Subsurface Water Hydrology

- 14-15 employees with university degree during the evaluation period
- located in Bratislava and in Michalovce



# Department of Subsurface Water Hydrology

- 8 international projects (EUREKA, GWP, MAD, APVV)
- 13 national projects (VEGA, APVV)

## Journal publications

- impacted journals (CC, WOS, SCOPUS) 20
- non-impacted journals (WOS, SCOPUS) 11
- other journals 27+53

Monographs (or chapter in M.): 5



Informal but regular collaboration with some leading international teams, e.g. from USDA Salinity laboratory in Riverside (California), University of Valencia, in BOKU University in Vienna, University of Aberdeen,

# Department of Subsurface Water Hydrology

- Understanding of hydrological processes below the ground surface (infiltration, runoff-initiation processes, percolation, GW recharge) and within the Soil-Plant-Atmosphere System (evapotranspiration)
- Regime of subsurface-water resources (in context of climate change, land use changes and other global phenomena), agro-hydrology
- eco- and bio-hydrological problems (GW quality, mutual relationships between SSW and biota, soil degradation)



# Department of Subsurface Water Hydrology

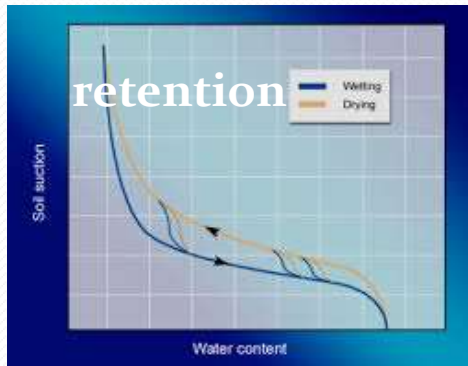
## Retention

## Degradation

(denudation, compaction, erosion,  
Exc. pumping, draining)

## Extremes

(saturation, GW depletion)



# Selected results



How severe and subcritical water repellency determines the seasonal infiltration in natural and cultivated sandy soils

Tomáš Orfánus<sup>a,\*</sup>, Pavel Dlápa<sup>b</sup>, Nándor Fodor<sup>c</sup>, Kálmán Rajkai<sup>c</sup>, Renáta Sándor<sup>c</sup>, Katarína Nováková<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Institute of Hydrology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Račianska 75, 831 02 Bratislava, Slovakia

<sup>b</sup>Department of Soil Science, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University, Mlynská dolina 9-2, 842 15 Bratislava, Slovakia

<sup>c</sup>Research Institute for Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Herman Ottó u. 15, 1022 Budapest, Hungary

<sup>d</sup>Soil Science and Conservation Institute, Račianska 23, 831 04 Bratislava, Slovakia

J. Hydrol. Hydromech., 60, 2012, 4, 309–318  
DOI: 10.2478/v10098-012-0027-y

PLANTS AND BIOLOGICAL SOIL CRUST INFLUENCE THE HYDROPHYSICAL PARAMETERS AND WATER FLOW IN AN AEOLIAN SANDY SOIL

LUBOMÍR LICHNER<sup>\*1)</sup>, LADISLAV HOLKO<sup>1)</sup>, NATALIA ZHUKOVA<sup>2)</sup>, KARSTEN SCHACHT<sup>3)</sup>, KÁLMÁN RAJKAI<sup>4)</sup>, NÁNDOR FODOR<sup>4)</sup>, RENÁTA SÁNDOR<sup>4)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>Institute of Hydrology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Račianska 75, 831 02 Bratislava, Slovakia.

<sup>2)</sup>M. Nodia Institute of Geophysics, 1 Alexidze str., 0193 Tbilisi, Georgia.

<sup>3)</sup>Department of Geography, Ruhr-University Bochum, Universitätsstrasse 150, 44801 Bochum, Germany.

<sup>4)</sup>Centre for Agricultural Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Herman Ottó u. 15, H-1022 Budapest, Hungary.

\*Corresponding author, Mailto: lichner@uh.savba.sk, phone: +421 2 49268227, fax: + 421 2 44259404

560

DOI: 10.1002/jpln.201300524

J. Plant Nutr. Soil Sci. 2014, 177, 560–565

## A relatively simple scaling method for describing the unsaturated hydraulic functions of stony soils

Hana Hlaváčiková<sup>1\*</sup> and Viliam Novák<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Hydrology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Račianska 75, 83102 Bratislava, Slovakia

### Abstract

Few if any methods exist to estimate the effects of stone content (stoniness) on the unsaturated soil hydraulic properties. A relatively simple scaling method is presented to estimate the hydraulic conductivity of unsaturated stony soils having different stone contents. A key assumption of the method is that van Genuchten's water retention parameters  $\alpha$  and  $n$  of the fine soil fraction are the same as those of the stony soil. The method further assumes a linearly decreasing relationship between the saturated hydraulic conductivity and the stone content, based on previous numerical simulations. Using the proposed method, it is possible to calculate the hydraulic conductivity of unsaturated stony soils, knowing the saturated hydraulic conductivity of the fine soil fraction, the retention curve of the fine soil fraction, and the particular stoniness of the soil.

**Key words:** soil hydrology / stoniness / soil characteristics / fine soil fraction / rock fragments

Accepted March 03, 2014



# Selected results



DE GRUYTER

Biologia 70/11: 1474–1479, 2015  
Section: Botany  
DOI: 10.1515/biolog-2015-0172

## Effects of vegetation at different succession stages on soil properties and water flow in sandy soil

Peter ŠURDA<sup>1\*</sup>, Ľubomír LICHNER<sup>1</sup>, Viliam NAGY<sup>1</sup>, Jozef KOLLÁR<sup>2</sup>, Massimo IOVINO<sup>3</sup> & Ágota HOREL<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Hydrology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Račianska 75, SK-83102 Bratislava, Slovakia;

e-mail: surda@uh.savba.sk

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Landscape Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Štefánikova 3, SK-81499 Bratislava, Slovakia; e-mail: j.kollar@savba.sk

<sup>3</sup>Università degli Studi di Palermo, Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie e Forestali, Viale delle Scienze, I-90128 Palermo, Italy; e-mail: massimo.iovino@unipa.it

<sup>4</sup>Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry Institute, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Herman Ottó út 15, H-1022 Budapest, Hungary; e-mail: horel.agota@agrar.mta.hu

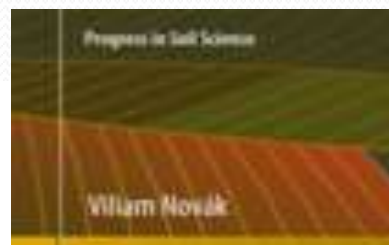
Eur J Forest Res (2012) 131:1727–1735  
DOI 10.1007/s10342-011-0589-y

ORIGINAL PAPER

## The influence of stoniness and canopy properties on soil water content distribution: simulation of water movement in forest stony soil

Viliam Novák • Karol Kňava

Received: 13 May 2011 / Revised: 5 October 2011 / Accepted: 22 November 2011 / Published online: 20 December 2011  
© Springer-Verlag 2011



## Evapotranspiration in the Soil-Plant-Atmosphere System



# How water repellency determines the seasonal infiltration in natural and cultivated sandy soils



Wetting pattern after the first 10 ml infiltrated      Wetting pattern after the second 10 ml infiltrated      Wetting pattern after the third 10 ml infiltrated

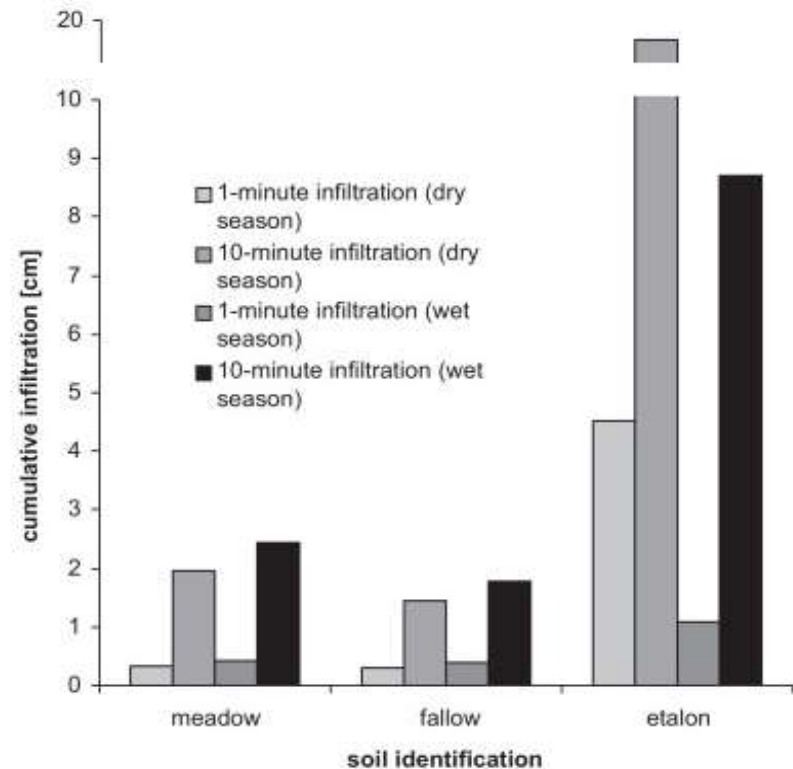
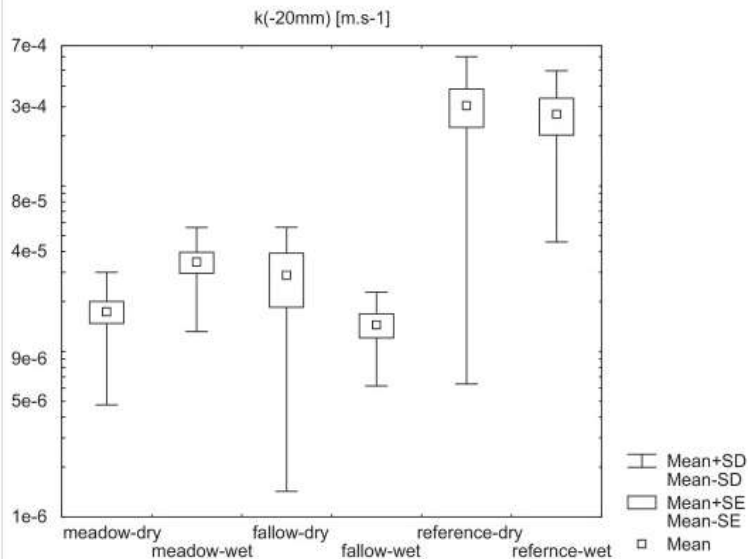
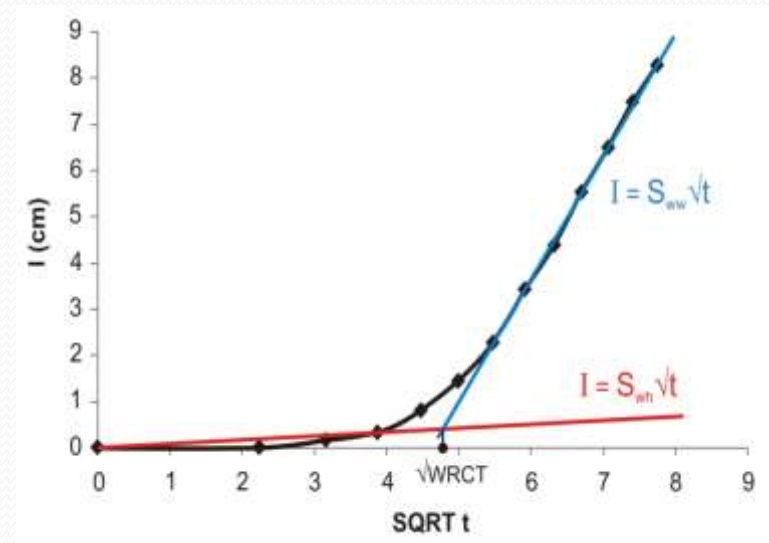


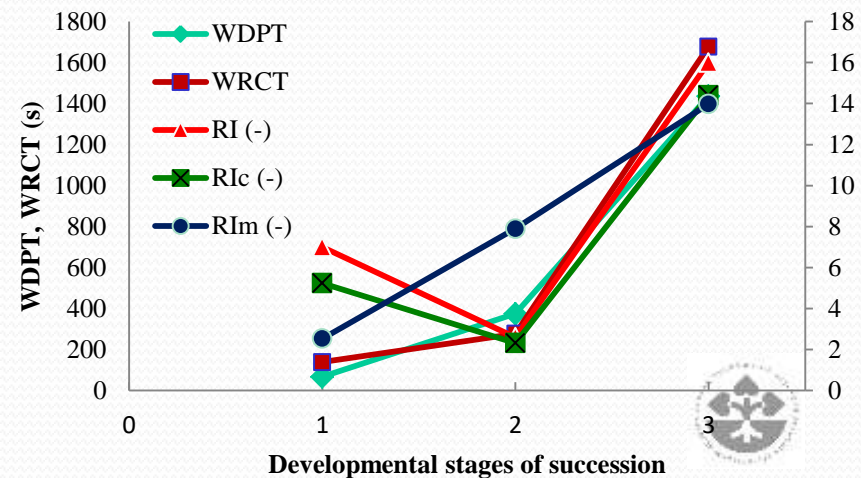
Fig. 9.  
The variability of  $k_{(-20\text{ mm})}$  data distributed into six groups according to location and prevailing weather conditions (wet or dry) preceding the infiltration measurements.



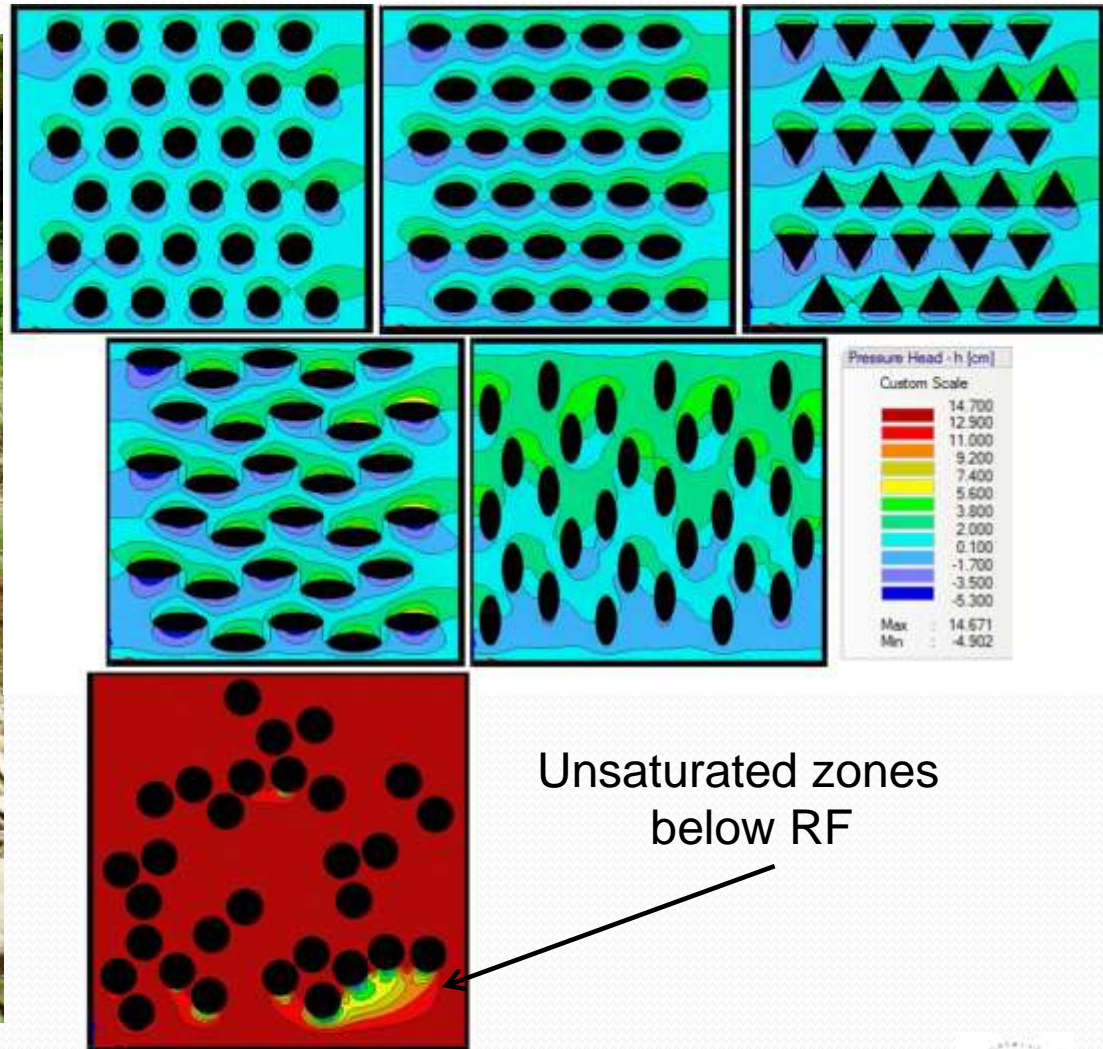
# Evaluation of water infiltration into soils covered with biological soil crust



## Primary succession in Sekule, Slovakia

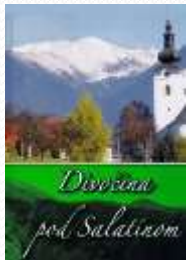
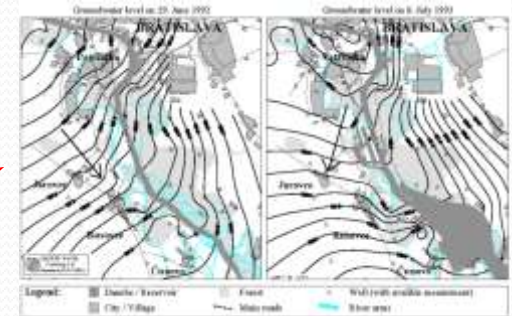
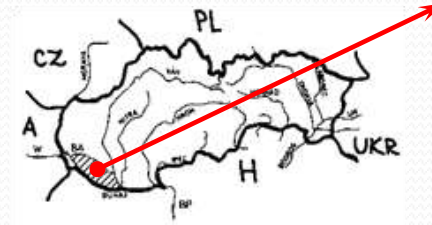
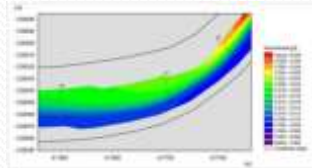


# Hydraulic functions of stony soils



# social impact improvement of water management practice in Slovakia

## Impact of Gabčíkovo Hydropower Plant on GWL



## review of Standards, participation in think-tanks



# PhD study, cooperation with universities

study programme

**Water Management Engineering, study field 5.1.6**

In 2015 we were recredited up to August, 31, 2020.

**PROBLEM:** *Decrease in the number of educated specialists – hydrologists, water managers, meteorologists*

*Currently, there is no PhD study program in hydrology accredited at any university in Slovakia*



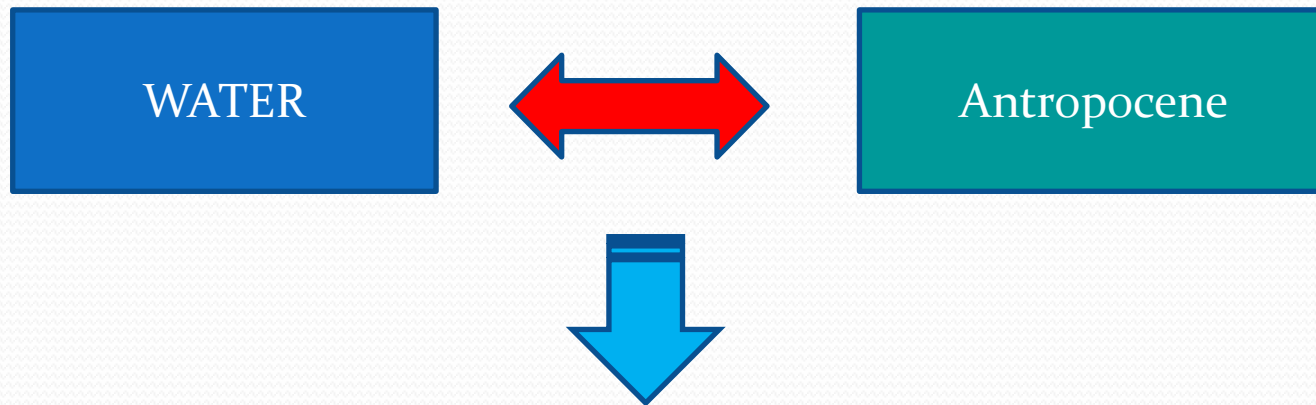
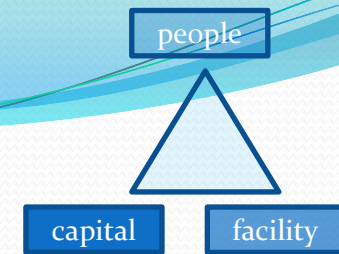
**Joint Research Laboratory/Facilities with universities...3x**

*Centre of Excellence of Integrated Flood Protection Systems*

*Centre of Excellence for Protection and Use of Landscape and for Biodiversity*

*Centre of Excellence for the Integrated River Basin Management in the Changing Environmental Conditions*

# Future, research strategy

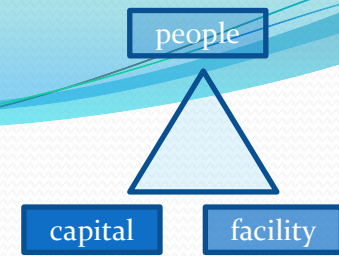


Humans significantly affect the water cycle

Greater demand on water resources

EU legislation

# Future, research strategy



## international

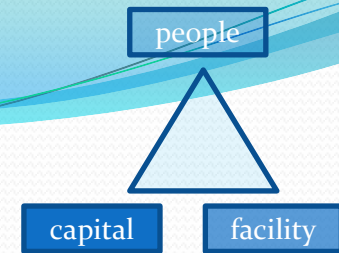
- IH SAS – participate in European Network of Experimental and Representative Basins (20 countries)
- in the framework of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO project EUROFRIEND (39 countries)
- continue the project Flood Regimes of Rivers in the Danube Basin (14 countries)

*HORIZON 2020, COST,.....*

## national

- IH SAS – the leader in experimental hydrology and tracer hydrology
- principal research organization for solution of pollutant dispersion in SW from the hydrodynamic point of view
- the process of water, energy and dissolved substances transport in the soil, as part of (GW-S-P-A) system

# Future, research strategy



Improved *quality of instrumentation*



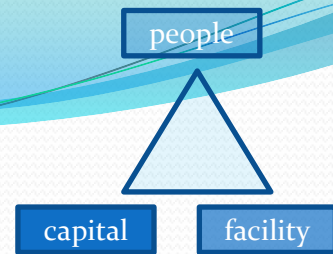
modern methods application, faster and more effective processing of the collected data

*basis for excellent research in the next period*

CCC, WOS, SCOPUS

domestic scientific journals

# Future, research strategy



*reflect the worldwide trends in hydrology and effectively contribute to the international hydrological research with new knowledge from our country*  
*And*  
*for our country*

**be active in international collaborations**

**be active in national collaborations**

cooperation with private sector

impact on decision makers

