

# Heavy Precipitation and Flash Flood

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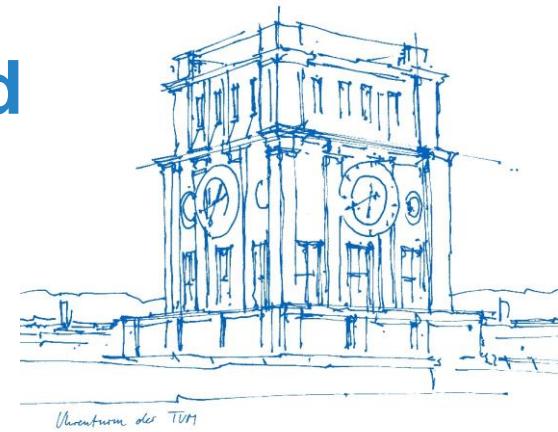
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Uhrenturm der TUM

# Outline

- 1 Flash floods**
  - 1.1 Problem definition
  - 1.2 Causes
  - 1.3 Importance
- 2 Methodology and influencing factors**
  - 2.1 Basic concepts
  - 2.2 Flash flood analysis
    - 2.2.1 Data-based approach (GIS+ML)
    - 2.2.2 Model-based approach (HL+HD)
  - 2.3 Influencing factors
- 3 Results from HiOS-project**
  - 3.1 Case study areas
  - 3.2 Results - 34 Bavarian flash flood events (HD+HL)
- 4 Summary and Conclusion**

ML : Machine Learning / HL : Hydrological Modeling / HD : Hydrodynamic Modeling

# 1. Flash Floods

# What causes a flash flood ?

Micro burst at the lake of Milstädt, Austria



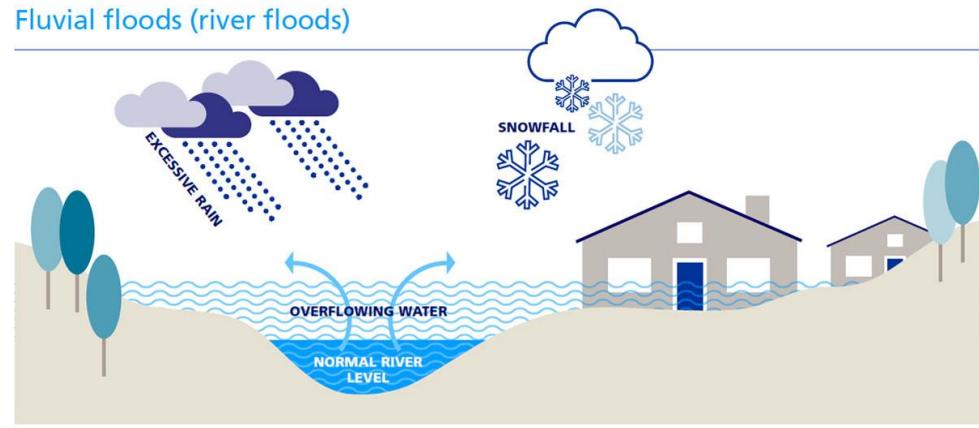
# Definitions

## Pluvial and Fluvial Floods

### Fluvial flood

A fluvial, or river flood, occurs when the water level in a river, lake or stream rises and overflows onto the surrounding banks, shores and neighboring land. The water level rise could be due to excessive rain or snowmelt.

### Fluvial floods (river floods)



### Pluvial flood

A pluvial flood occurs when an extreme rainfall event creates a flood independent of an overflowing water body. A common misconception about flood is that you must be located near a body of water to be at risk. Yet pluvial flooding can happen in any location, urban or rural; even in areas with no water bodies in the vicinity. There are two common types of pluvial flooding:

- Surface water floods
- Flash floods

### Pluvial floods (flash floods and surface water)



(Source: Zurich insurance)

# Definitions

## Surface Water and Flash Floods

### Surface water floods

Surface water floods occur when an urban **drainage system is overwhelmed** and water flows out into streets and nearby structures. It **occurs gradually**, which provides people time to move to safe locations, and the level of **water is usually shallow** (rarely more than 1 meter deep). It creates no immediate threat to lives but may cause significant economic damage (Source: Zurich insurance).

### Flash floods

Flash floods in the context of heavy precipitation events are exceptionally fast rising flood waves, which are facilitated by a very large amount of surface water. The surface water is generated by a **combination of precipitation** (intensity and volume) **and the limited retention capacity of the soil**. In combination with an **available relief potential**, the fast concentrating surface runoff accumulates to fastly rising water levels and discharge waves with extreme peak discharges in concentration paths and channels (Source: HiOS-project).

# Heavy precipitation - problems

Heavy, short and local precipitation events.



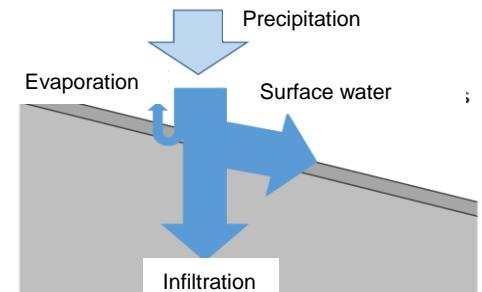
Difficult forecast. Stationary approach not possible.



The volume of accumulated rainfall is small.



Extremly sensitive with respect to infiltration and retention.



All incoming water fluxes are generated by precipitation.



The input into the hydrodynamic model has to be calculated via hydrological modeling.



# The flash flood event 2016 in Simbach a. Inn



Flash flood in Simbach a. Inn, 1.6.2016. © pa/dpa/Walter Geiring.

## Flash Floods and Excessive Surface Runoff in Bavaria



Hinweiskarte Oberflächenabfluss  
und Sturzflut



## Das Projekt HiOS

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Qing Lin<sup>1</sup>, Ralf Ludwig<sup>2</sup>, Johannes Mitterer<sup>1</sup>, Hai Nguyen<sup>3</sup>,  
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<sup>3)</sup> Leibniz-Rechenzentrum der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften

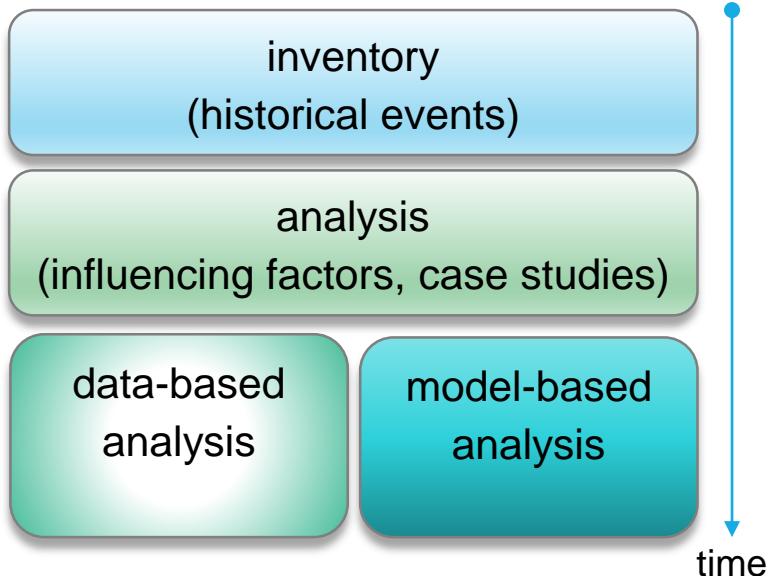


## Project goals

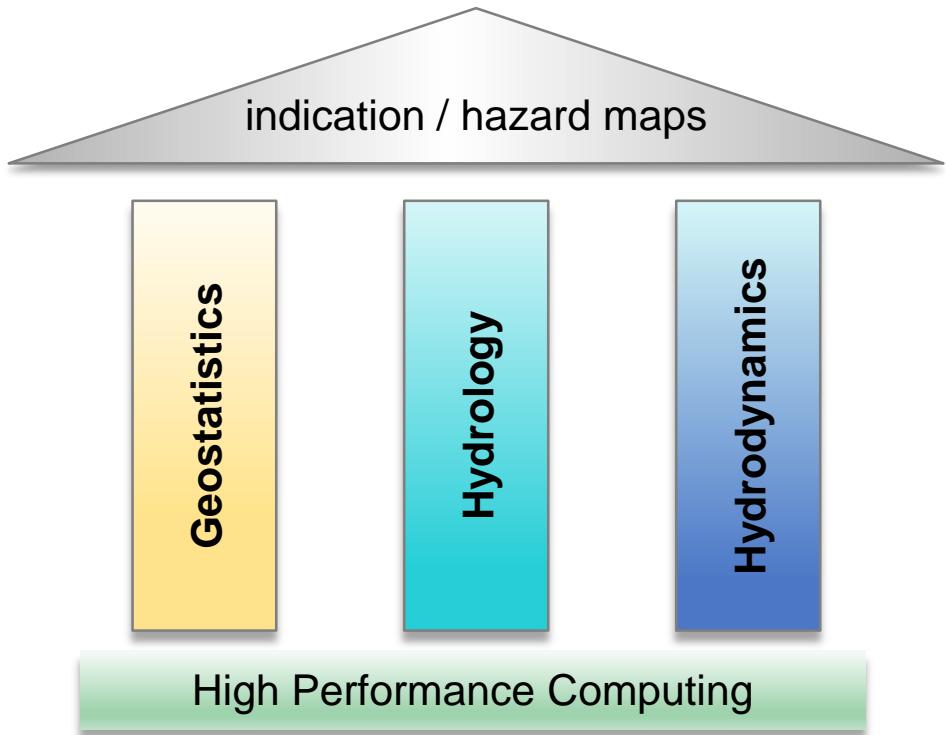
- 🎯 Development of a method to estimate the surface runoff and flash flood hazard of Bavarian communities using GIS and geostatistics (**indication map**)
- 🎯 Development of a scientific guidance document for hydrological and hydrodynamic modelling of surface runoff and flash floods
- 🎯 Comparative simulation of surface runoff and flash flood events using hydrological and hydrodynamic models
- 🎯 Gathering experience of using hydrological and hydrodynamic models at high-performance computing environments
- 🎯 Generation of **model-based hazard maps** for 40 municipalities
- 🎯 Development of **guidelines** for the analysis of surface runoff and flash flood hazard

## 2. Methodology and influencing factors

## Concepts



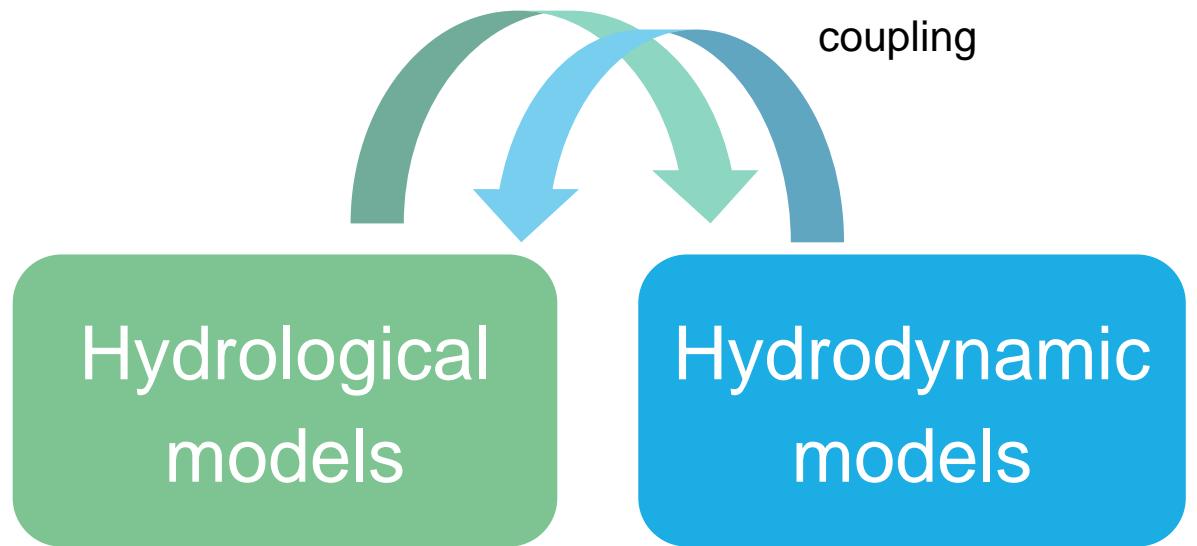
## Disciplines



# Flash flood analysis

## Model types

GIS-tools and  
Machine  
Learning

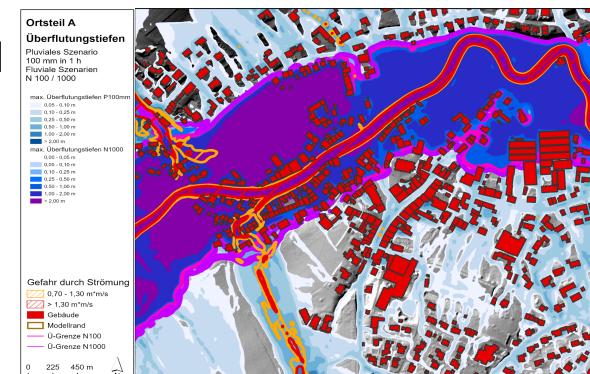
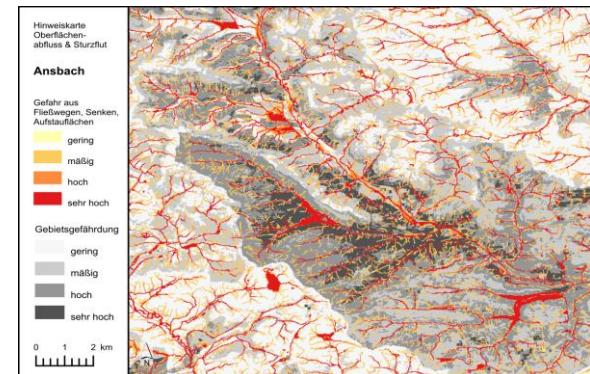


- WaSiM
- LARSIM
- eglx
- TELEMAC-2D
- HYDRO\_AS-2D
- Pdwave
- FloodArea

# Hazard maps – an important tool for risk communication

There are two types of hazard maps for surface water and flash floods

- **Indicator map:** a hazard map derived using
  - machine learning,
  - GIS-based analysis and
  - additional local hazard information.
- **Model-based hazard maps:** derived using hydrological and hydrodynamic modeling

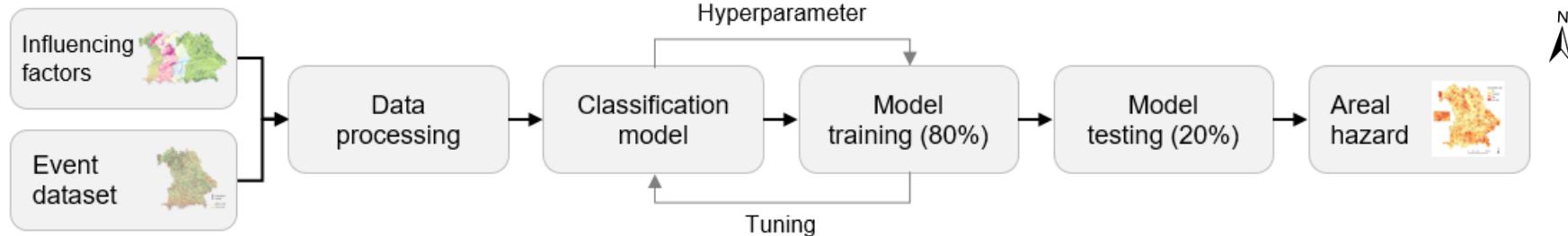
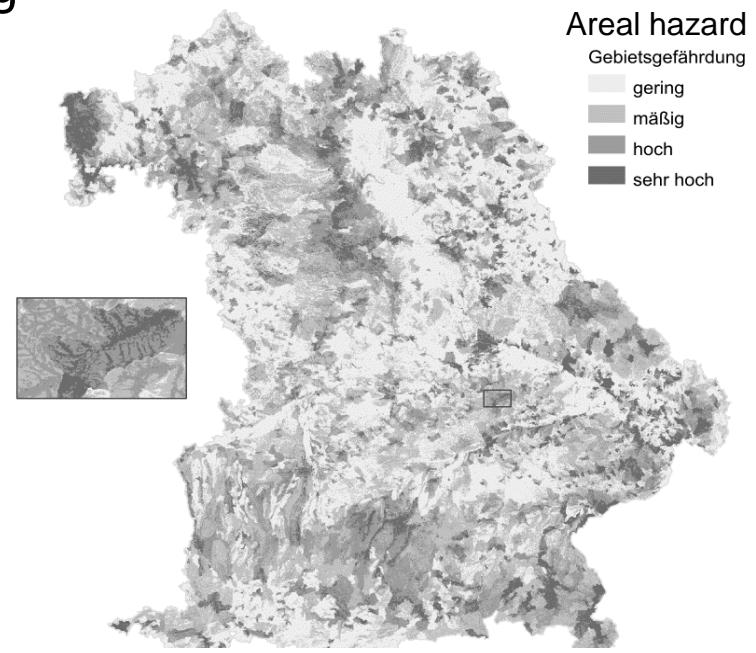


# Data-based approach

## Indicator map generation – machine learning

GIS – Influencing factors

- Topography
- Land usage
- Soil and geology
- Stream network
- Catchment properties
- Precipitation



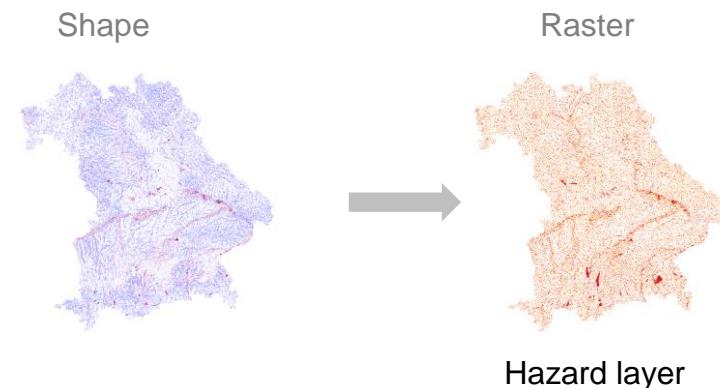
## Data-based approach

### Indicator map generation – GIS-based hazard layer

#### Data preparation for GIS-based hazard layer

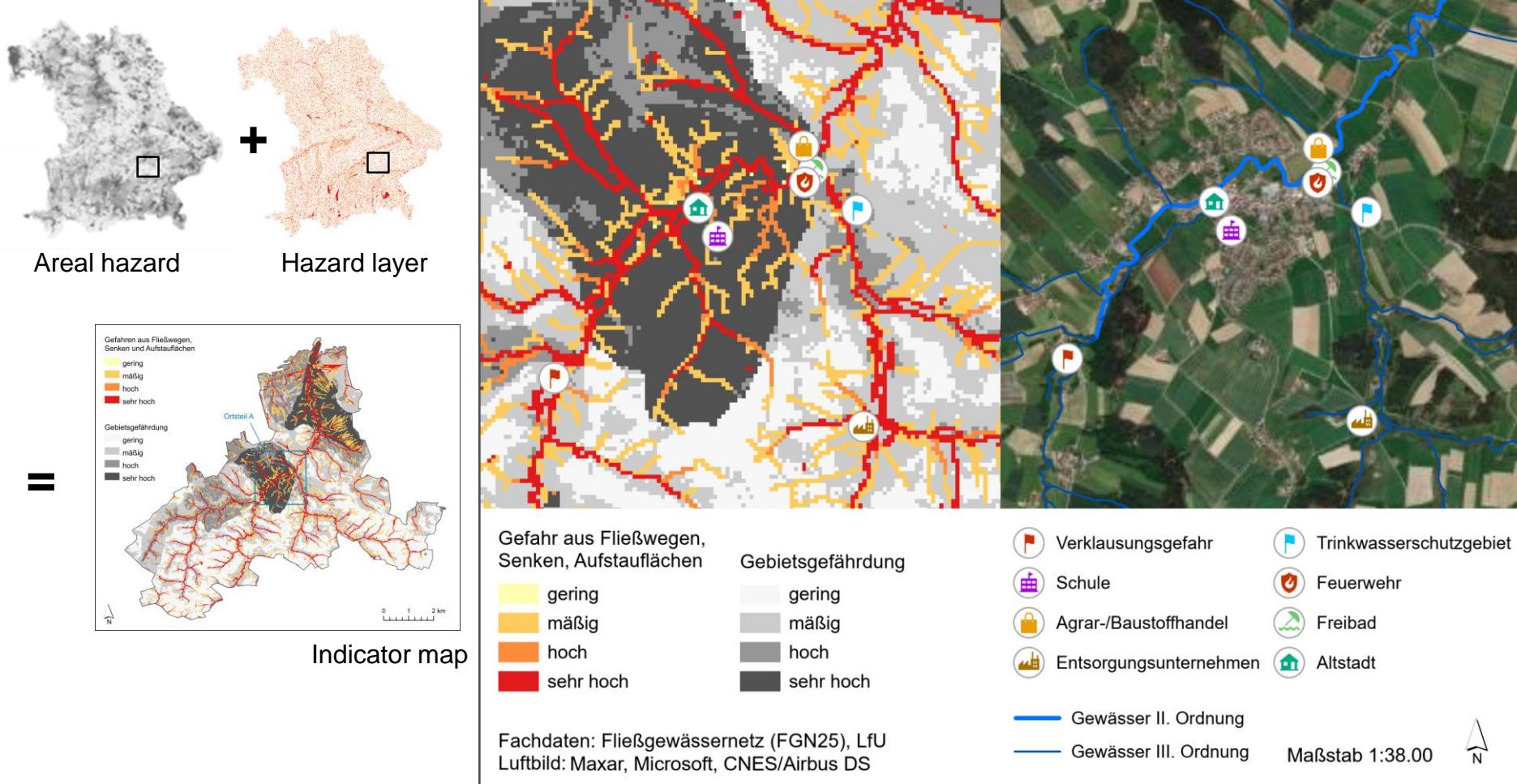
- The hazard layer classes (flow paths, depressions and backwater areas) were assigned values from 1 to 4, with 1 representing the lowest and 4 the highest hazard level.
- Flow paths, depressions and backwater areas were converted into grids (25 m) and combined, whereby the highest hazard value present was selected for overlaying.
- In addition, the grid of lakes was added to the hazard layer as class 4 (highest hazard level).

Flow paths		Depressions		Backwater areas	
Klasse	Wert	Klasse	Wert	Klasse	Wert
> 1 – 5 ha	2	> 0,1 – 0,2 m	1	> 0,1 – 0,2 m	1
> 5 – 10 ha	3	> 0,2 – 0,5 m	2	> 0,2 – 0,5 m	2
> 10 ha	4	> 0,5 – 1,0 m	3	> 0,5 – 1,0 m	3
		> 1,0 – 2,0 m	4	> 1,0 – 2,0 m	4
		> 2,0 – 4,0 m	4	> 2,0 – 4,0 m	4
		> 4,0 m	4	> 4,0 m	4



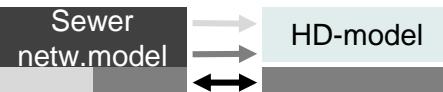
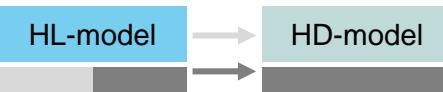
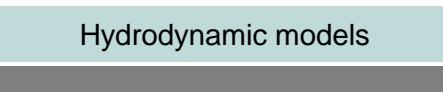
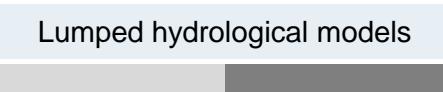
## Data-based approach

### Indicator map generation – additional local hazard information



# Model-based approach

## Overview of models



EGL-X

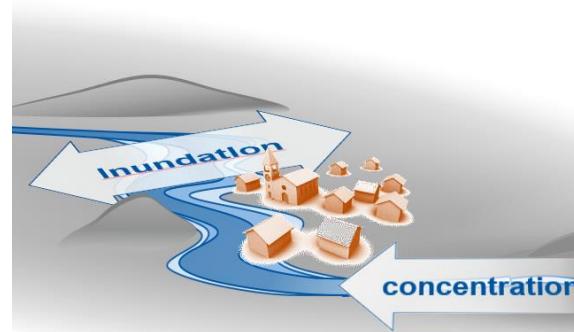
LARSIM  
WaSiM

TELEMAC-2D  
P-Dwave, Hydro\_AS-2D

HDNAM  
(TELEMAC-2D + SCS-CN)

LARSIM/WaSiM + TELEMAC-2D

SWMM + P-DWave



### Legend:

runoff creation      Runoff concentr. + routing

processes

Effective precipitation  
Inflow hydrograph  
Bidirectional sewer coupling

coupling

Hydrological model  
Hydrodynamic model  
Sewer network model

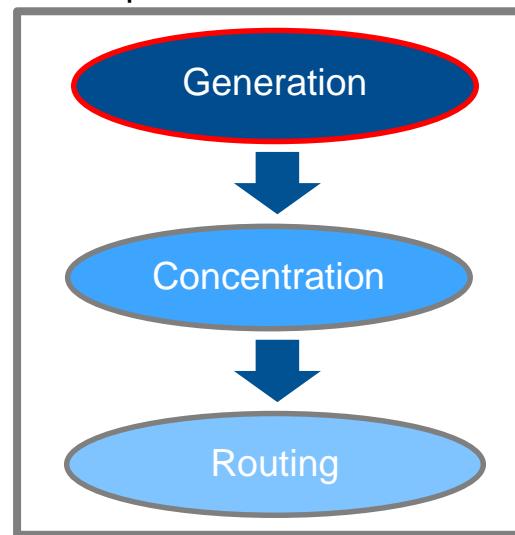
model type

Smallest computational unit = HRU  
Standard dimension = 10000 m<sup>2</sup>  
Standard timestep: Minutes to hours

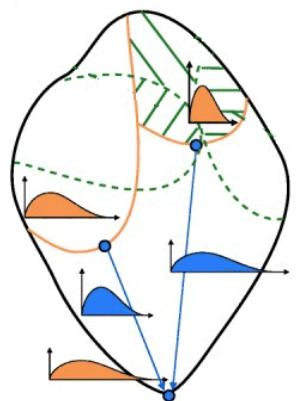
# Methodology HDRRM

## Hydrological model

Conceptual model frame work



$$Q = f(t, x_c, y_c)$$



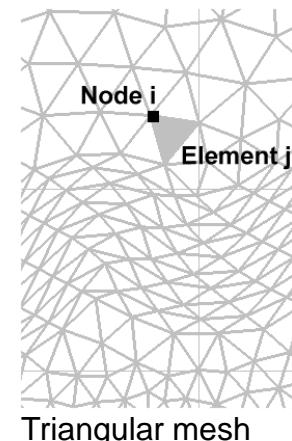
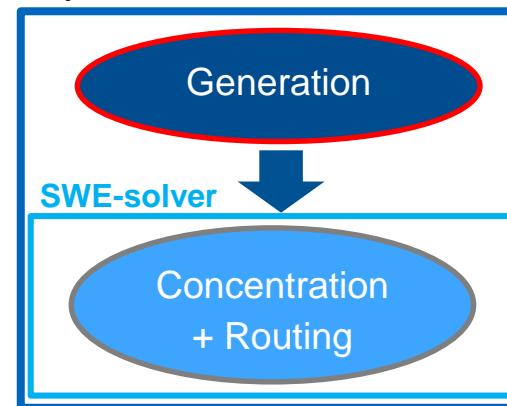
(Fenizia et al., 2016)

Smallest computational unit = Element  
Standard dimension = 10 m<sup>2</sup>  
Standard timestep: Seconds

**Hydrodynamic Rainfall-Runoff Model HDRRM**  
**= 2D-hydrodynamic model with nodal run-off generation**

## Hydrodynamic model

Physical model frame work



Triangular mesh

**Model choice:**  
**TELEMAC-2D using Finite Elements and SCS-CN-method**  
**(Ligier, 2016)**

$$\begin{aligned} h &= f(t, x_i, y_i) \\ v_x &= f(t, x_i, y_i) \\ v_y &= f(t, x_i, y_i) \end{aligned}$$

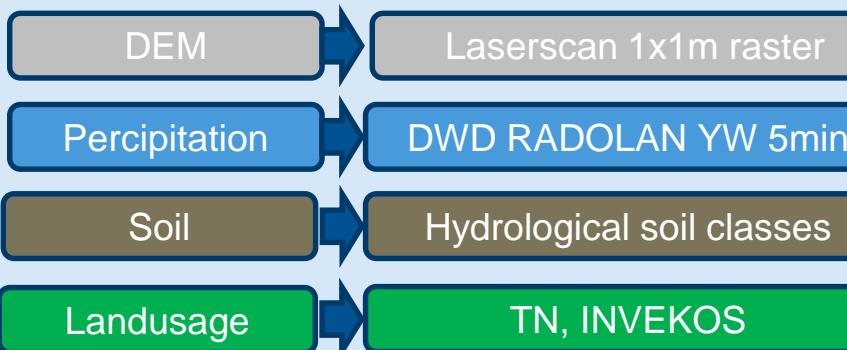
# Methodology HDRRM



State of the art of HD-modeling rainfall-runoff

# Methodology HDRRM

## Data



## Demands

- The HD-model has to be able to
  - simulate varying precipitation in time and space.
- Usage of data in high resolution
  - for DEM, precipitation, landusage and soil.
- Calculation of infiltration as sink term at each node
- The quality of the simulation procedure shall be validated using case studies.

## Model choice

Suitable HD models :

- TELEMAC-2D
- HYDRO\_AS-2D
- ...

## Validation

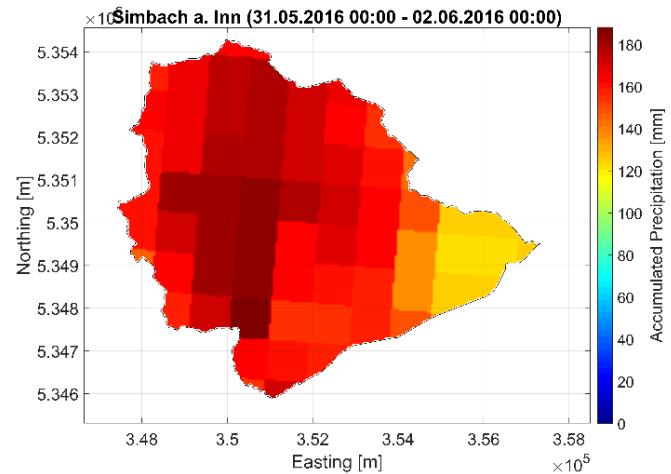
Case study for the two neighboring catchments Simbach and Triftern. Kalibration Simbach, Validation Triftern.

## Goal

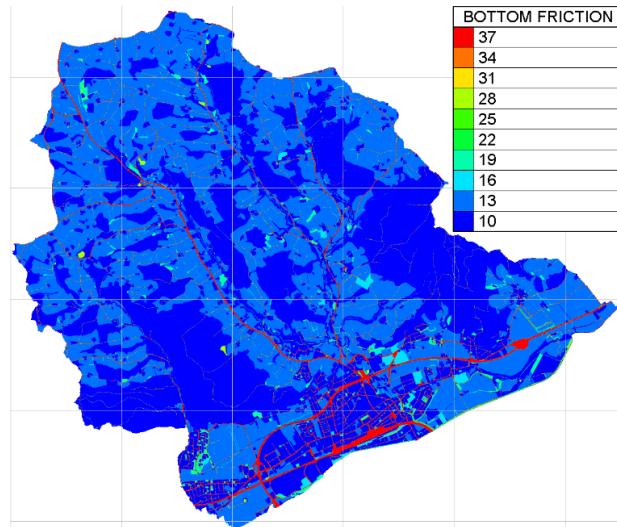
Validated HydroDynamic Rainfall-Runoff Model **HDRRM**

# Methodology HDRRM

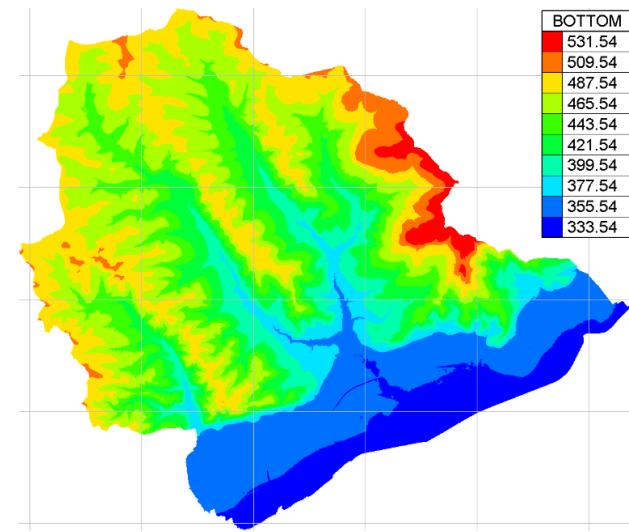
Preception [mm]



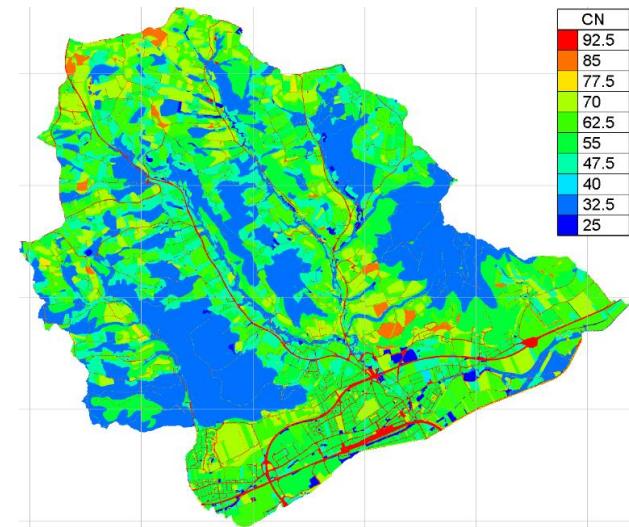
Roughnes [ $m^{1/3}/s$ ]



DEM [m]

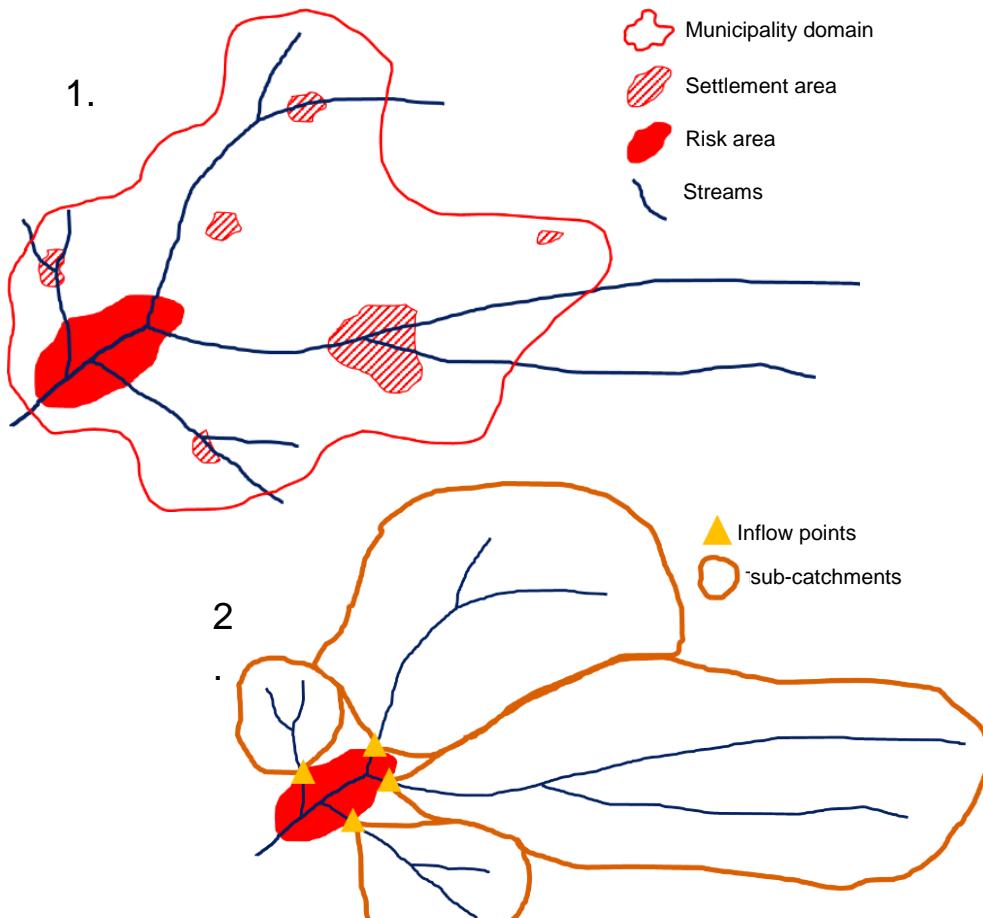


CN-values [-]

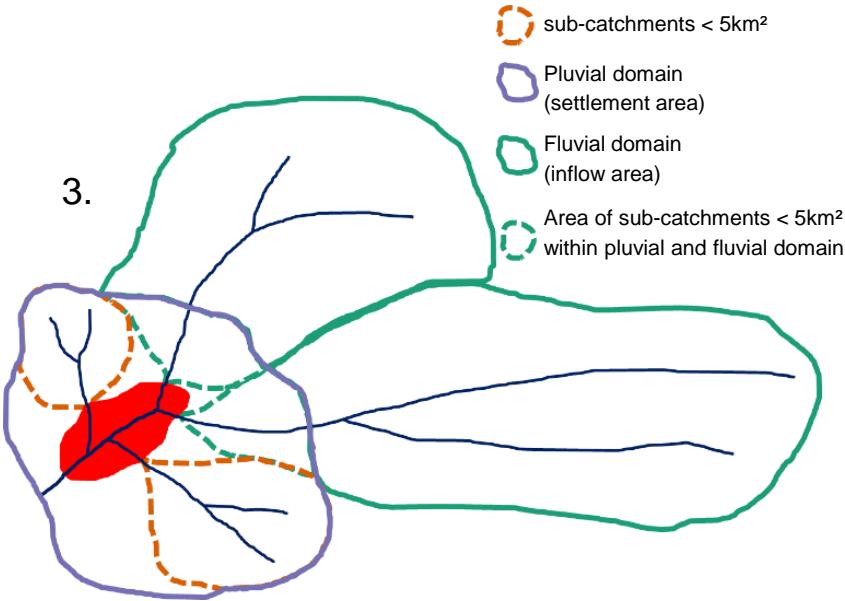


# Model-based hazard map generation –pluvial and fluvial scenario

## Definition of risk area



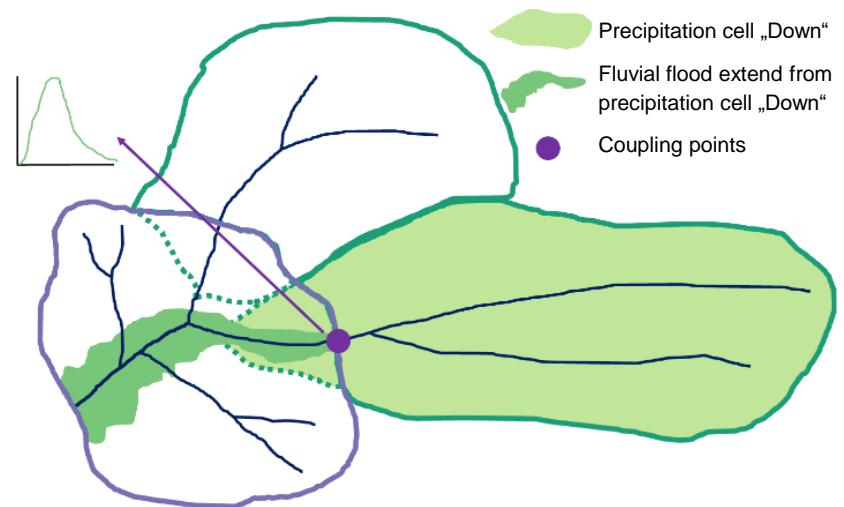
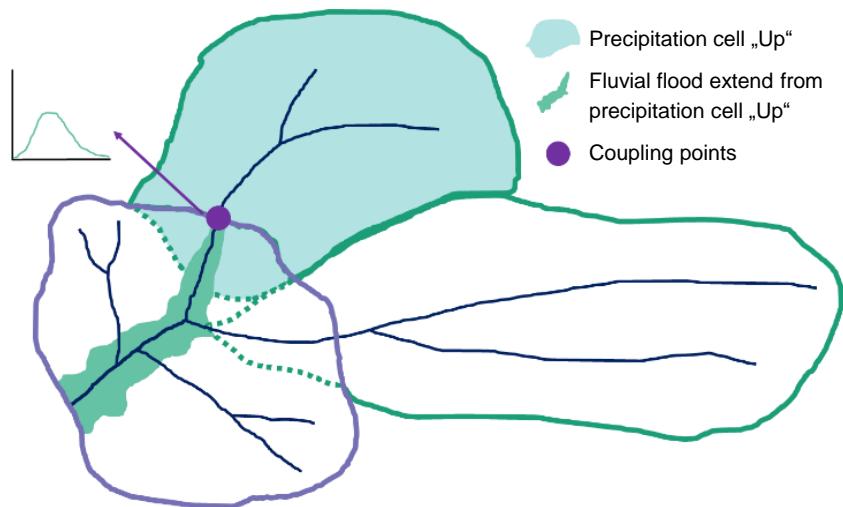
## Definition of pluvial and fluvial domain



## Definition of sub-catchments

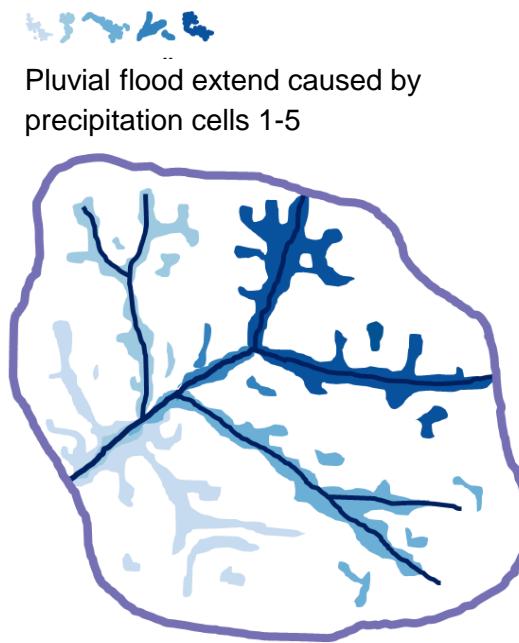
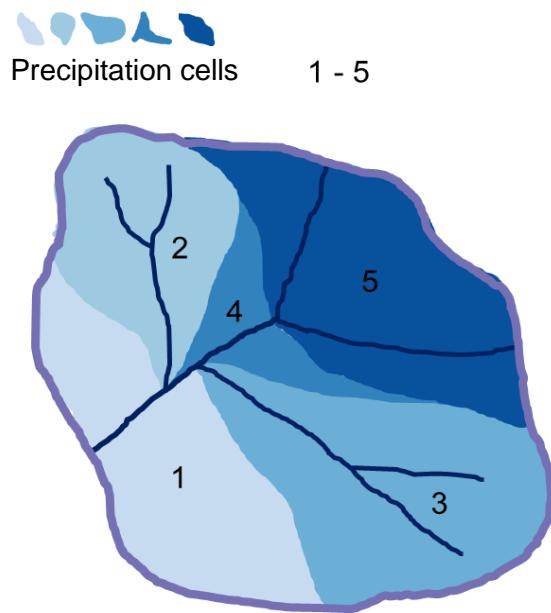
## Model-based hazard map generation – fluvial scenario

- Two scenarios: 100 a und 1000 a
- Separate precipitation in sub-catchments
- Simulation of fluvial domain using hydrological models – Interface to hydrodynamic model at inlet points (BC)



## Model-based hazard map generation – pluvial scenario

- Rain just in settlement area taken into consideration
- Several precipitation cells are superposed
- end-emphasised, uniform rain, **100 mm / 1 h**



## Influencing factors

### Hydrological influencing factors

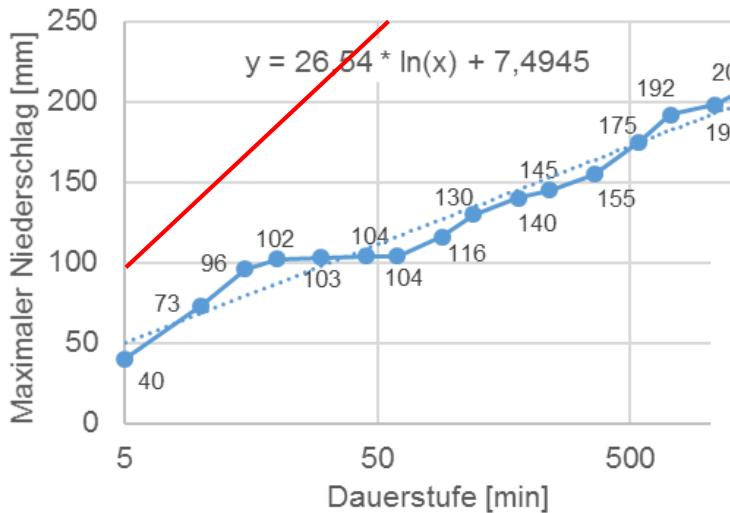
- Infiltration
- Soil moisture
- Sealing
- Rainfall intensity
- Rainfall distribution

### Hydrodynamic influencing factors

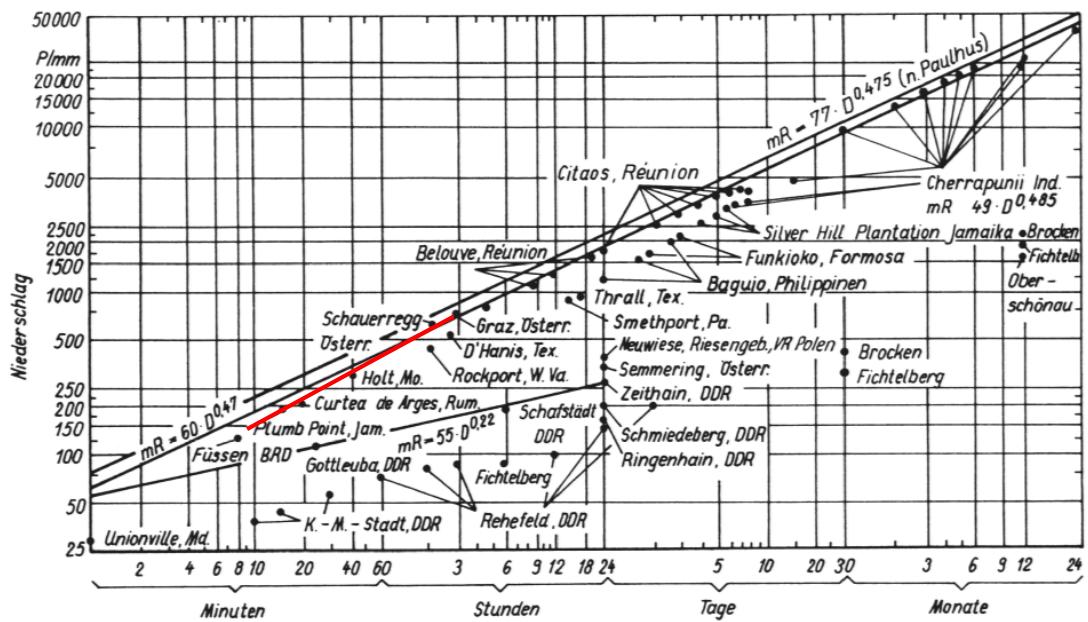
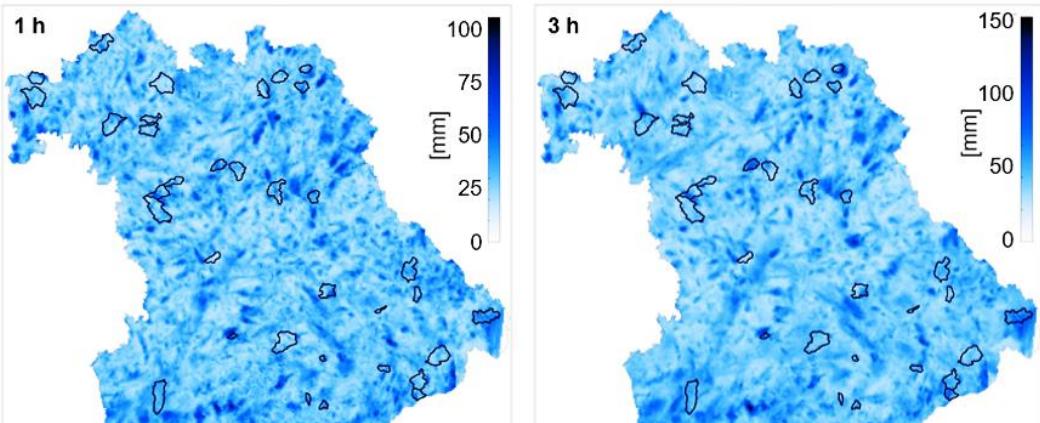
- Bottom slope
- Roughness
- Building density
- Sewer drainage
- Culverts and bridges

# Heavy precipitation characteristics

Events in Bavaria (2001-2018)



Red line: Extreme values for alpine region (Dyck/Peschke, 1995)

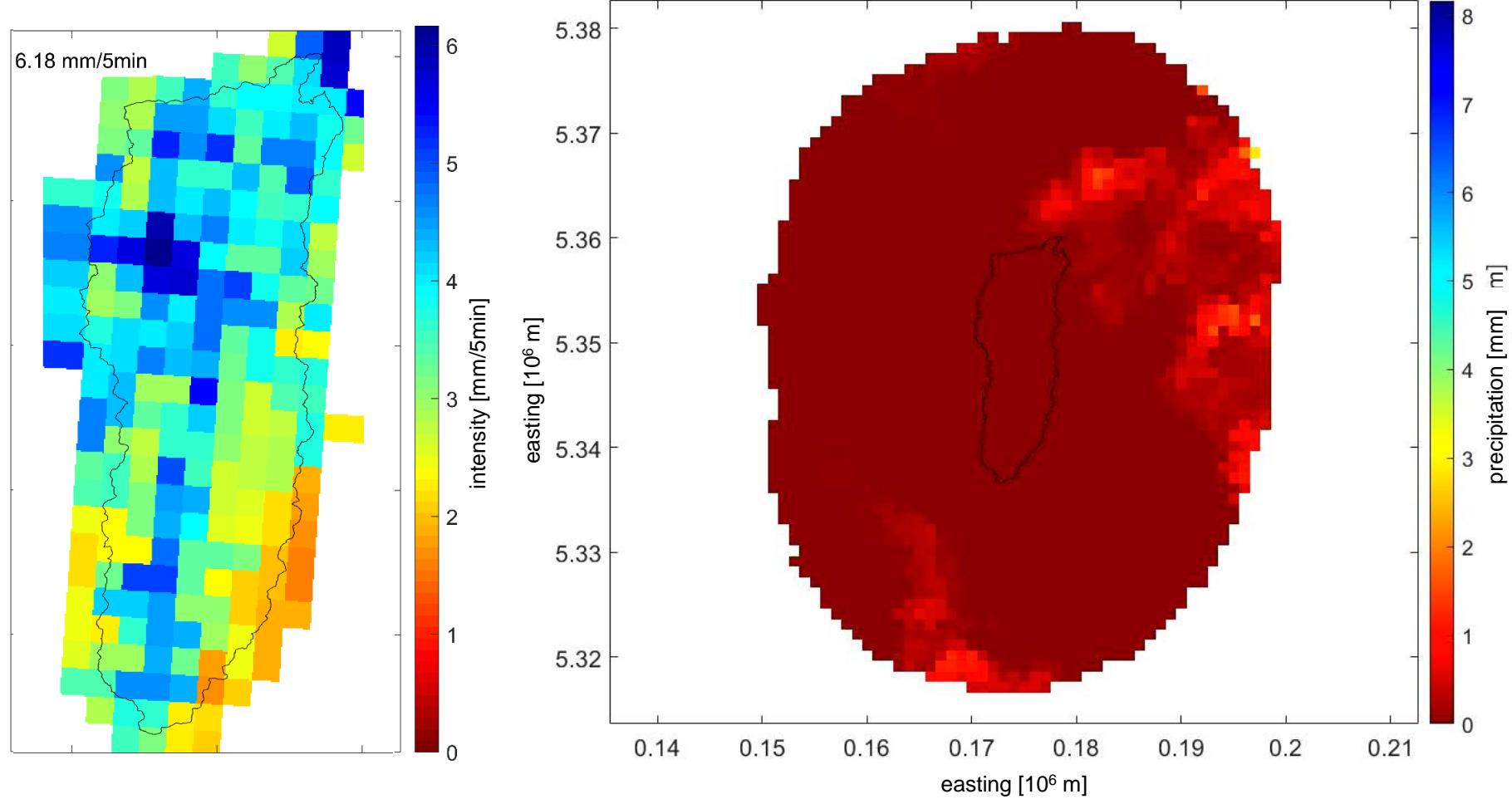


Extreme Niederschlagsereignisse, weltweit (Dyck/Peschke, 1995)

## Precipitation characteristics - example

Fischach catchment (area  $\sim 120 \text{ km}^2$ )

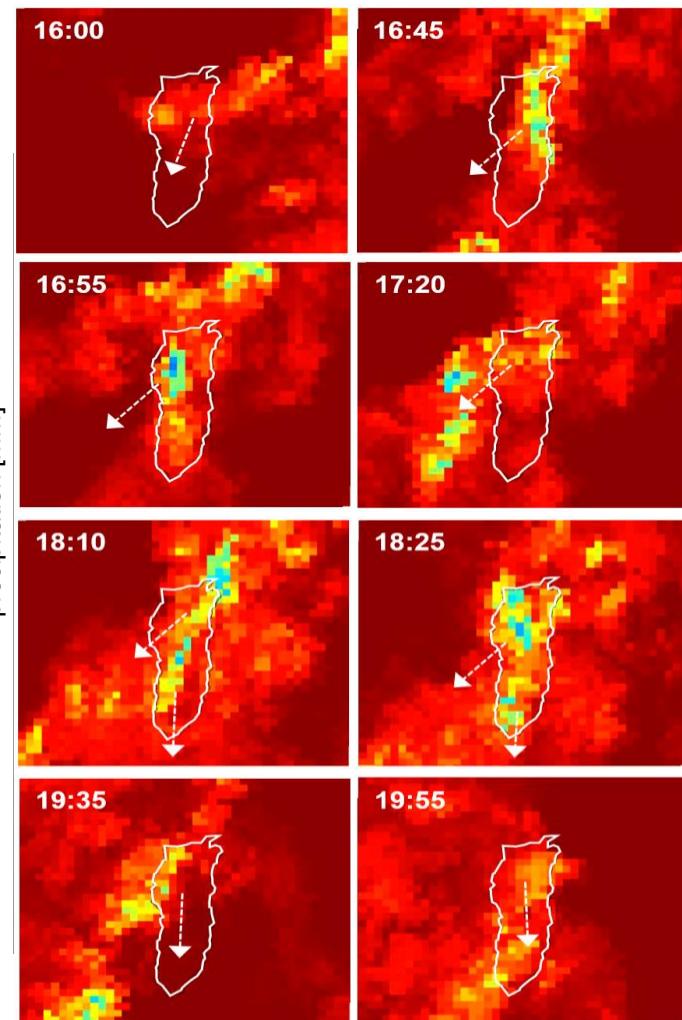
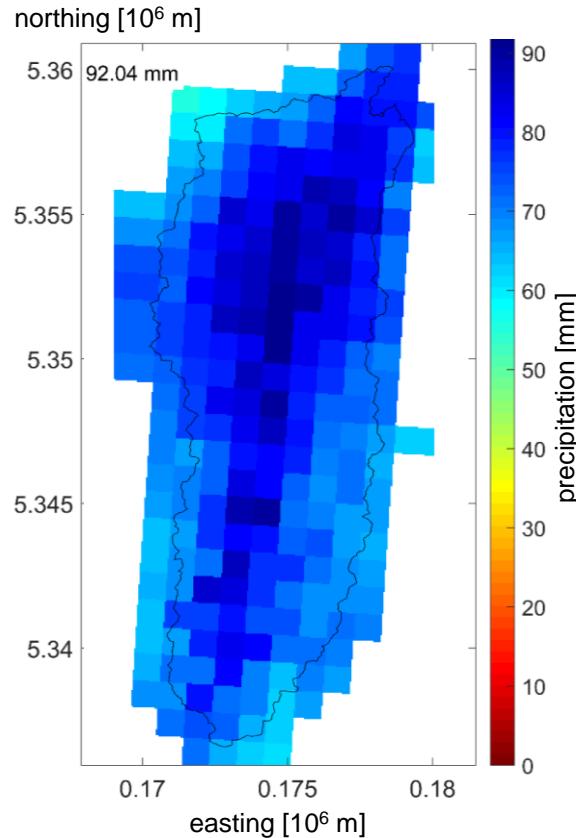
2005-08-22 15:45



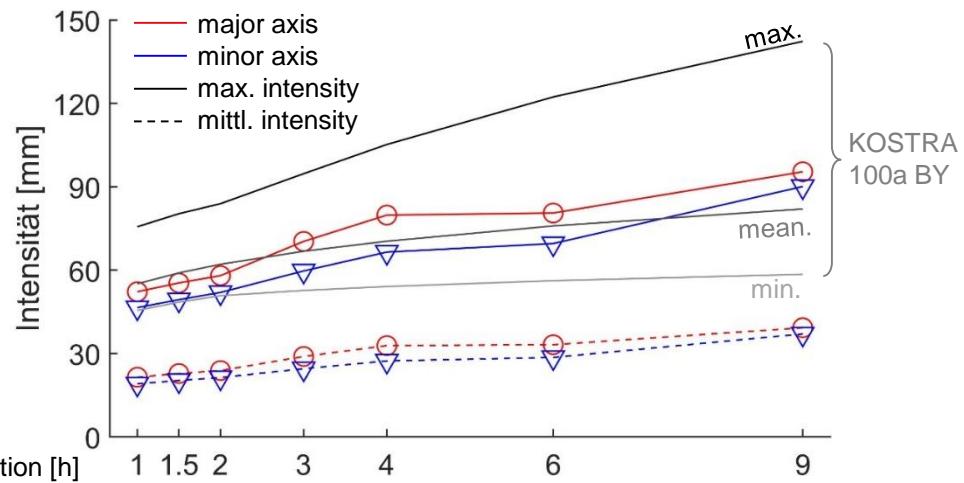
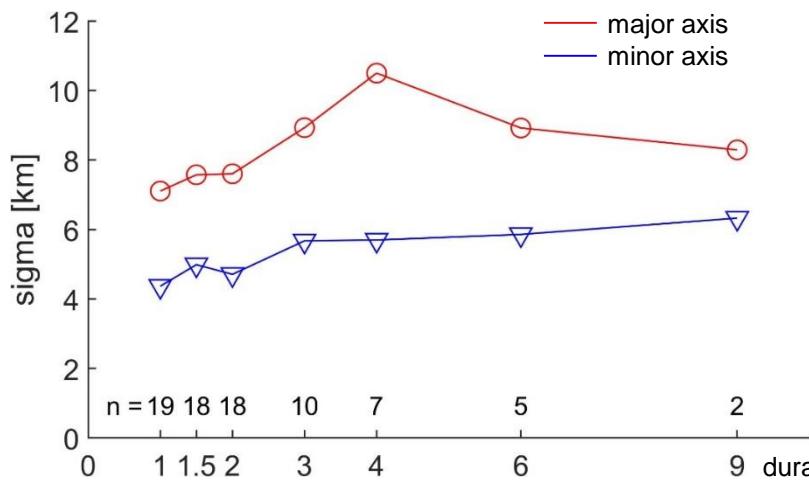
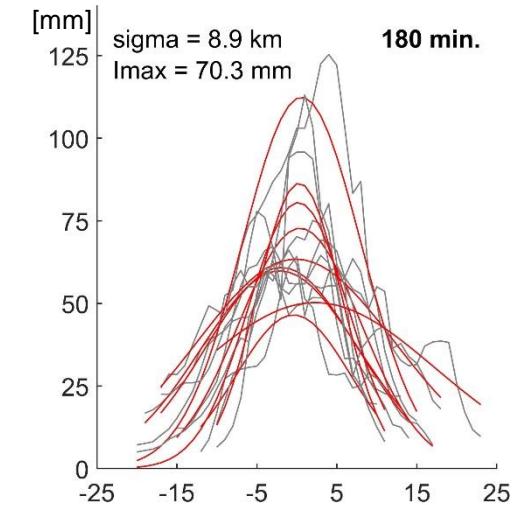
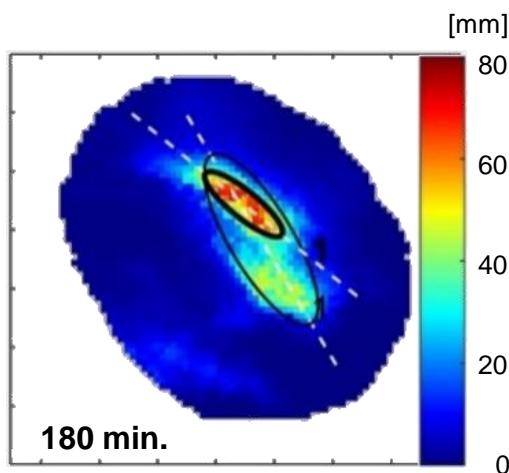
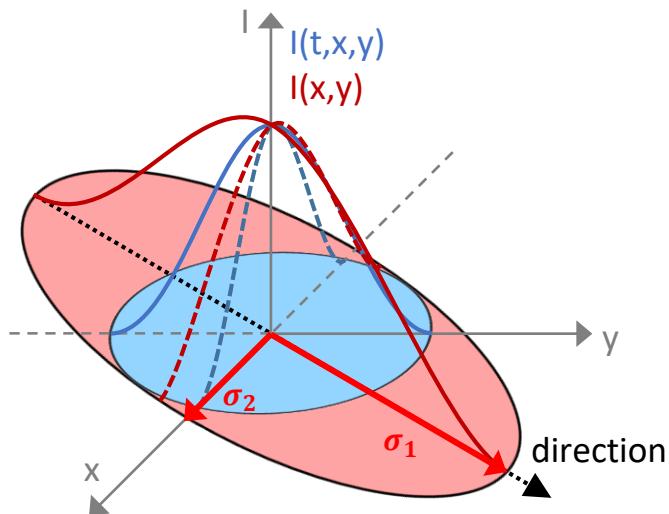
## Precipitation characteristics - example

Fischach catchment (area ~120 km<sup>2</sup>)

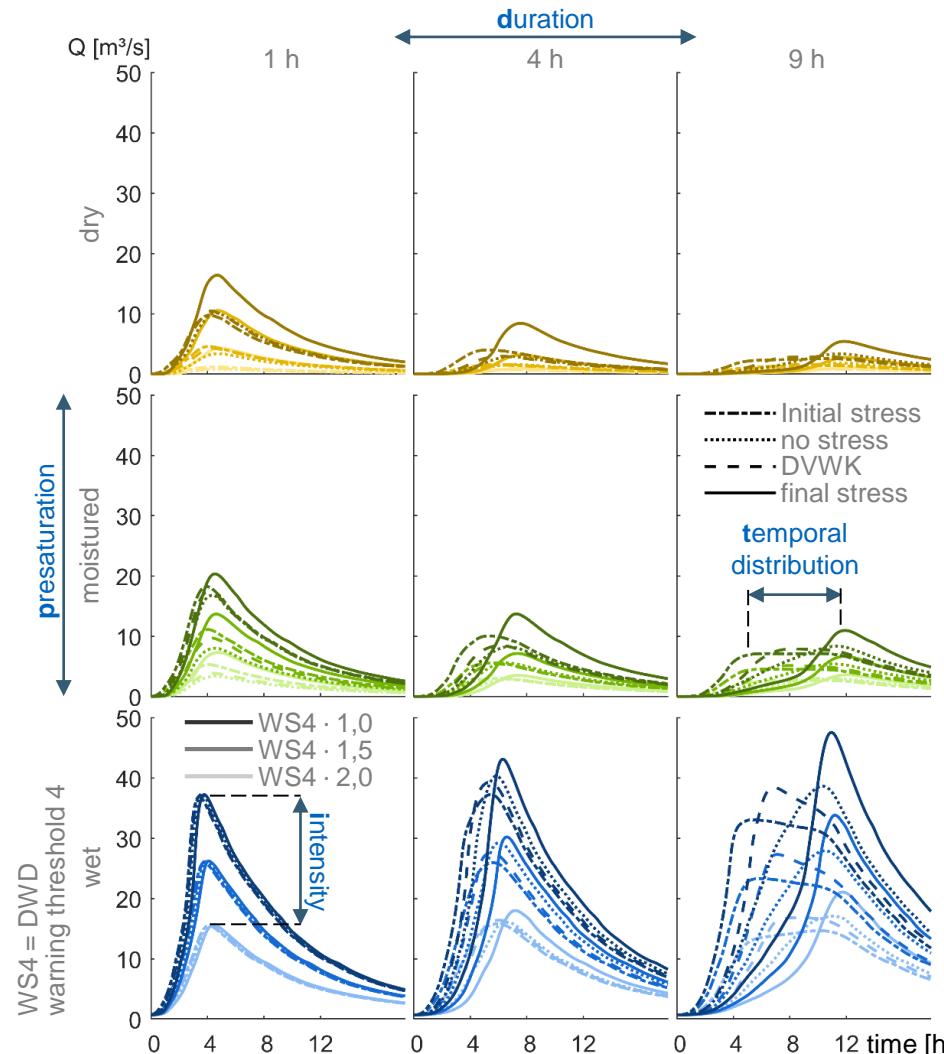
- Most important variables:  
**duration, intensity,  
distribution in space and time**
- State of the art: Tracking of single heavy precipitation cells, but until now **barely statistics for extreme precipitation events**
- **Especially successive or quasi-stationary precipitation cells result in high volumes, but have not been treated separately, yet.**



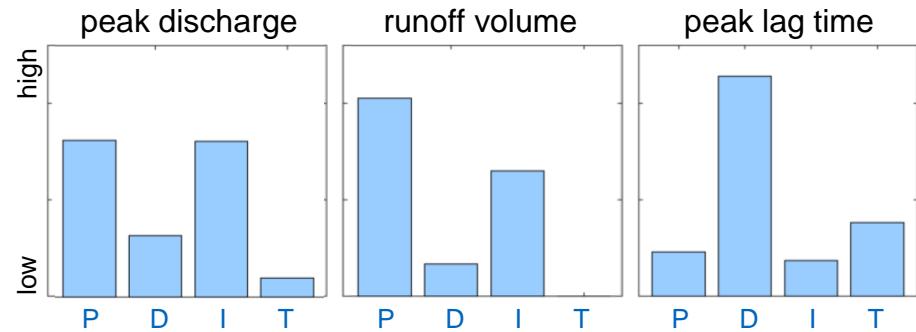
# Statistical analysis of precipitation characteristics



# Influence of precipitation and presaturation



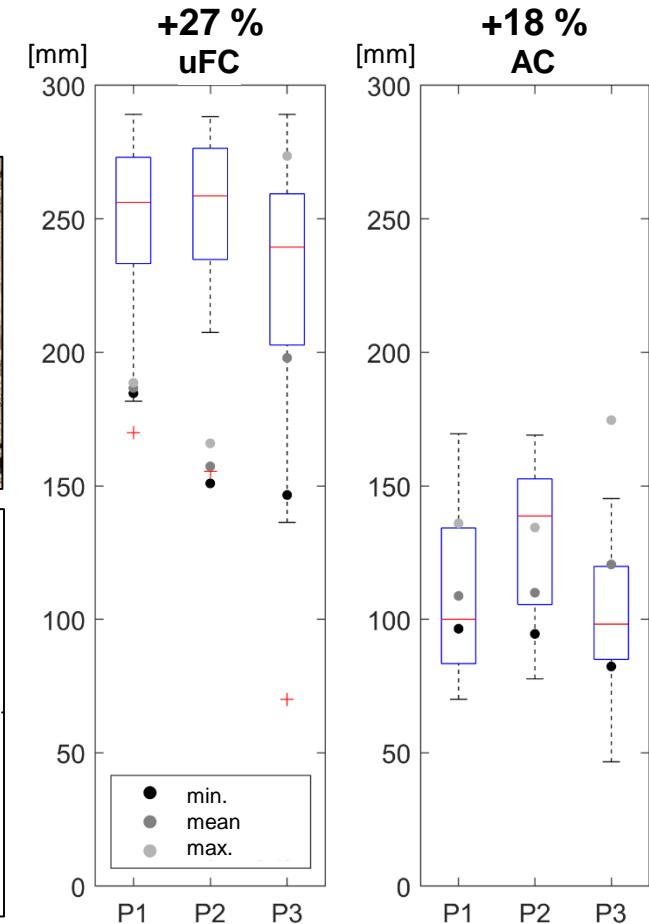
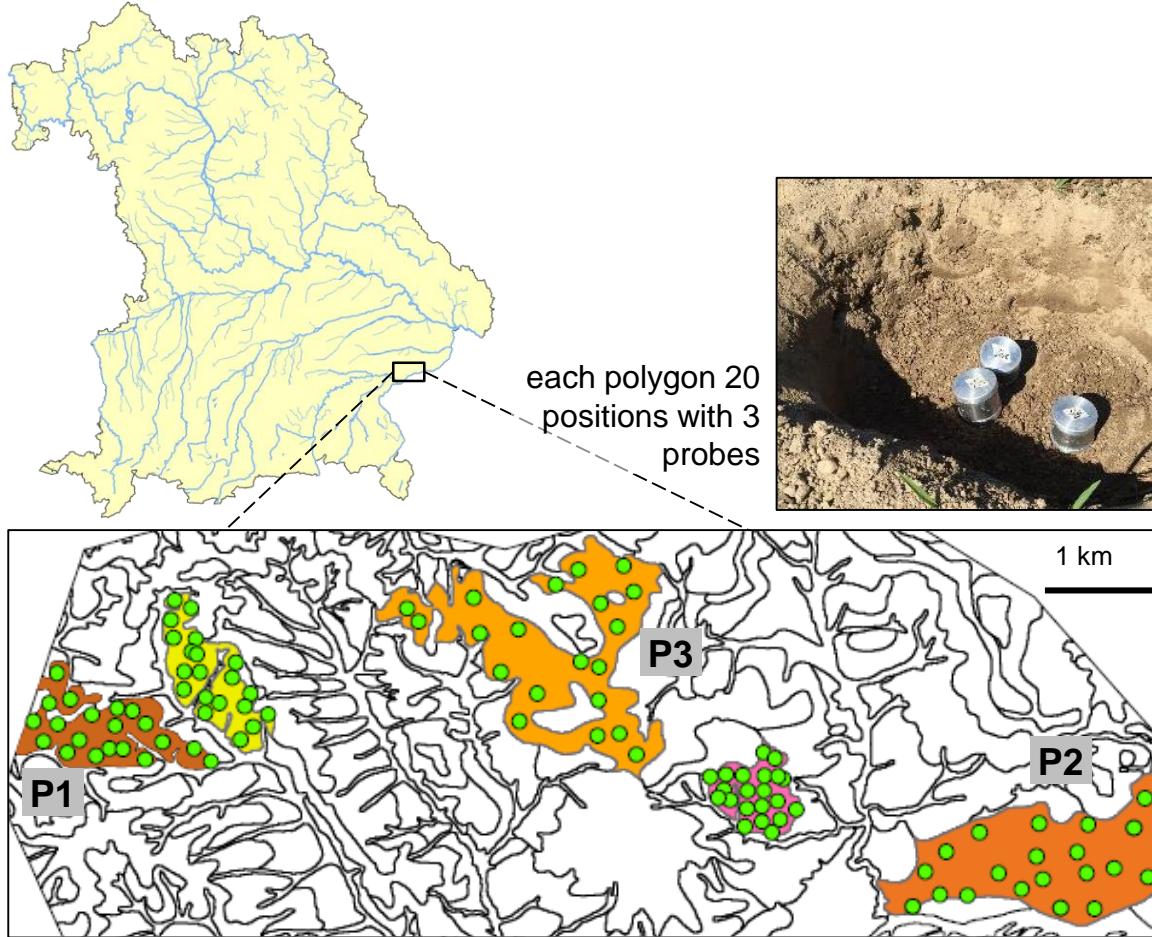
- Variation for models LARSIM and WaSiM, the results of both models are similar
- Assessment using Random Forest und Bootstrapping methods (MATLAB TreeBagger)



→ Intensity and presaturation dominate peak discharge and runoff volume.  
 → Duration and less temporal distribution influence the peak lag time.

## Example of the validity of static soil information

Assessment example of available static soil data (Thesis of Simon Schweiger)



# Estimation of potential infiltration capacity

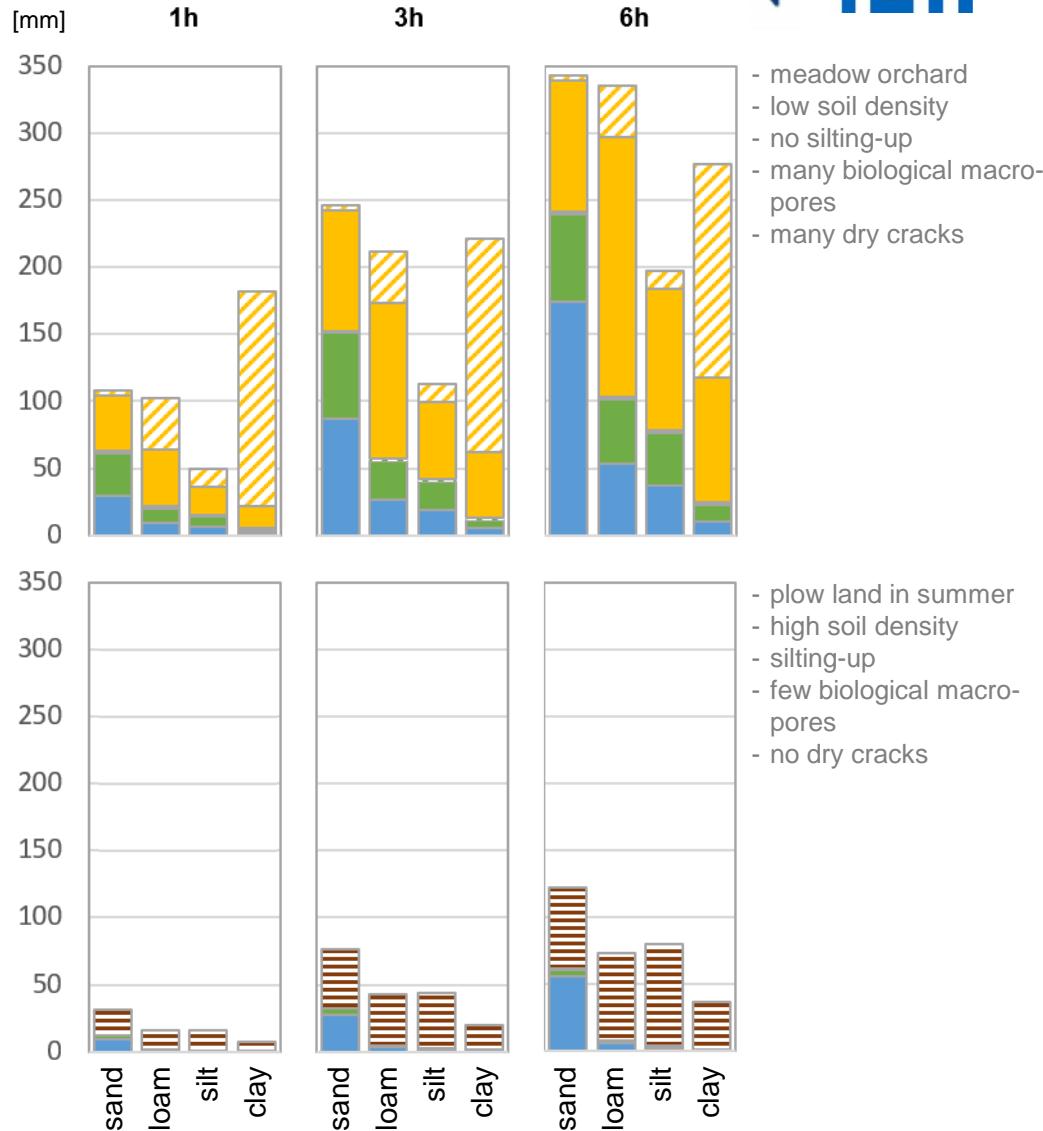
Mean potential infiltration volume from event duration and soil types

- █ reduction through silting-up
- █ crack volume } dry cracks
- █ matrix infiltration }
- █ pore volume } biological macro-pores
- █ matrix infiltration }
- █ matrix infiltration – surface

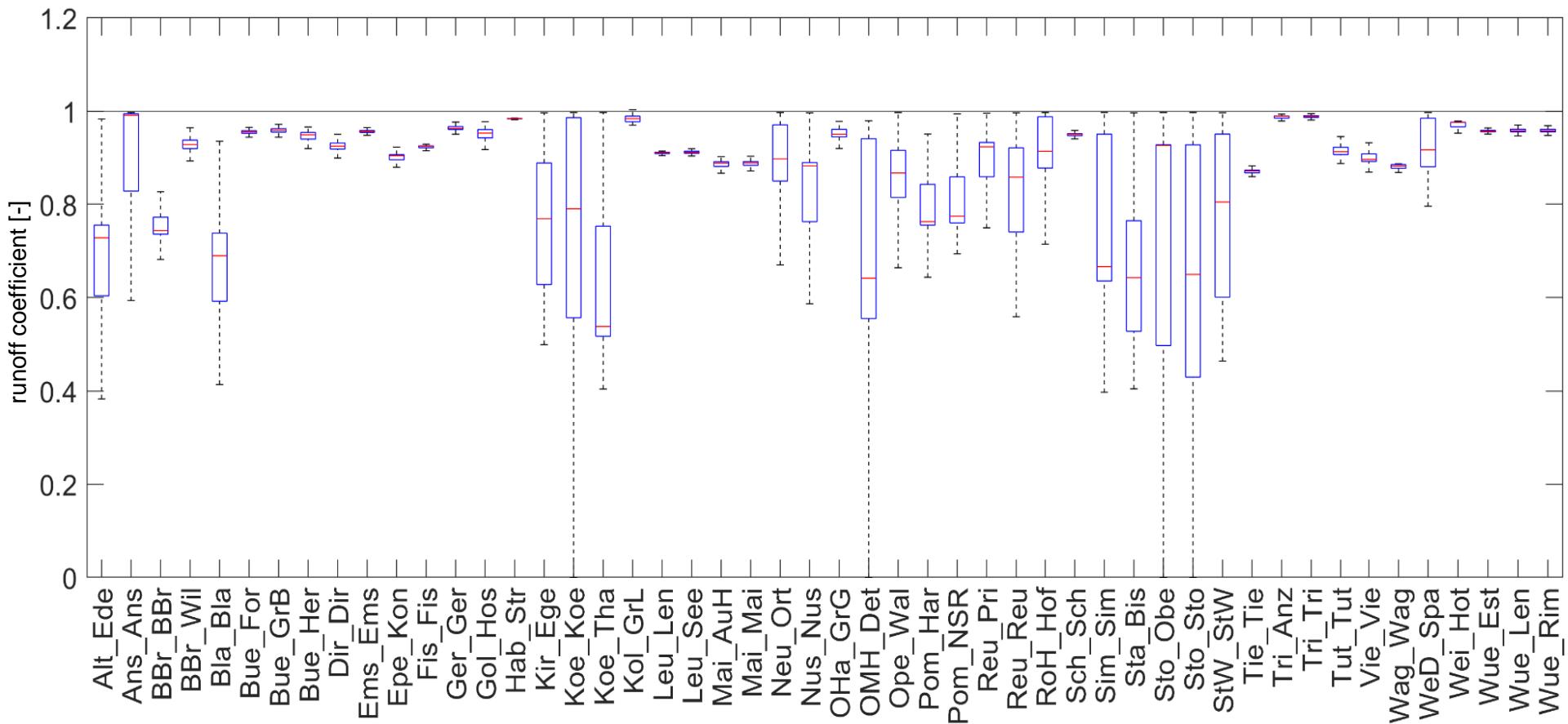
- Variability of infiltration potential is very high for all soil types – also for high precipitation intensities
- Dependent on the event characteristics the available pore volume or the matrix infiltration is dominant

Literature basis: Ad-hoc AG Boden (2005), LEG (2020) and Steinbriech et al. (2016).

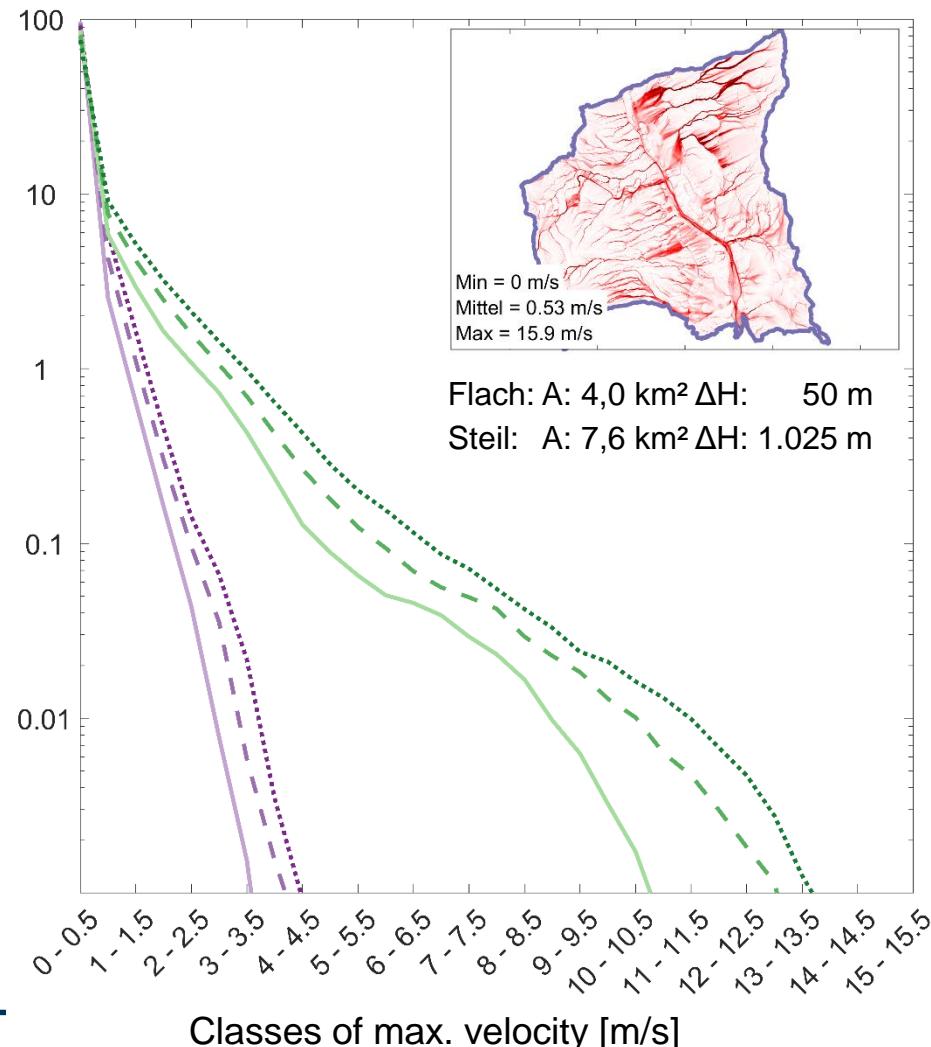
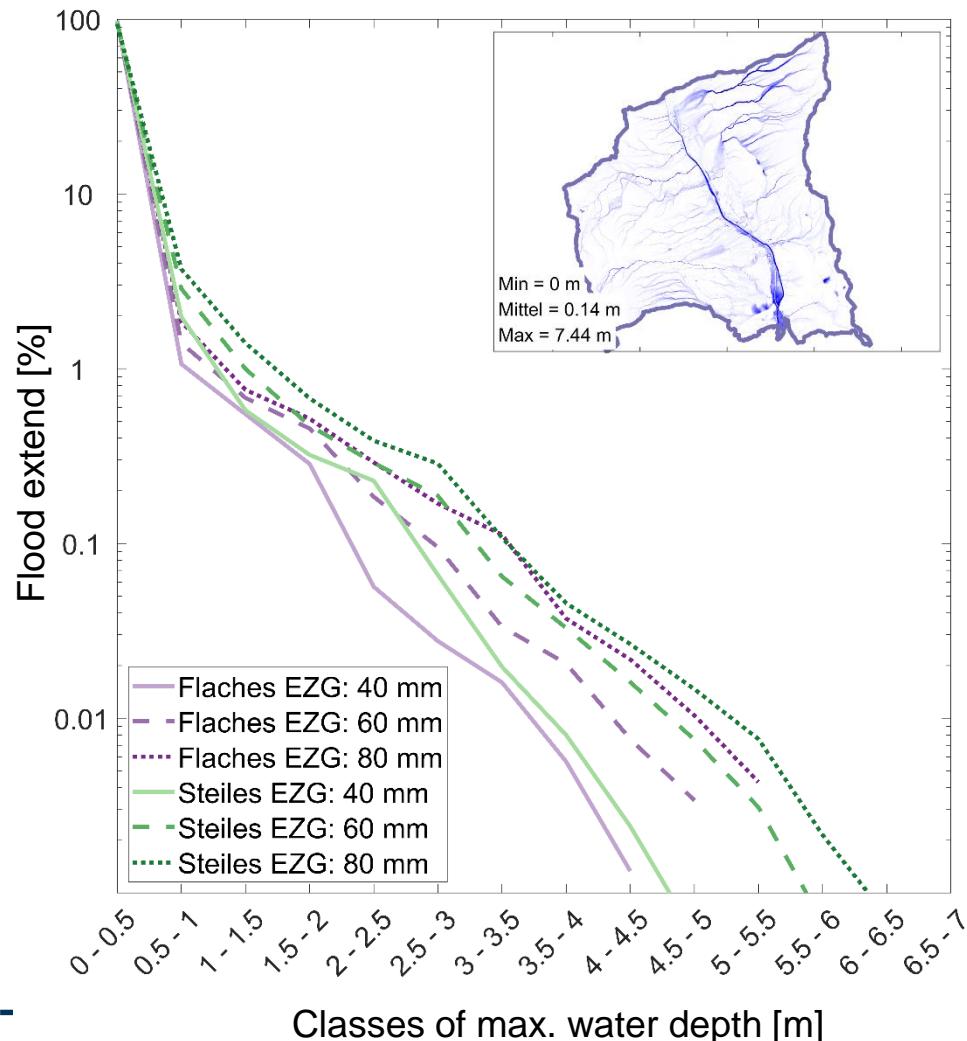
Simplifications: saturated hydraulic conductivity, no tension of the matrix, no hydrophobia, homogenous soil, no skeleton, no backwater



## Effect of catchment variabilities on infiltration



# Influence of precipitation intensity on water depth and flow velocity



# Influencing factors of runoff concentration

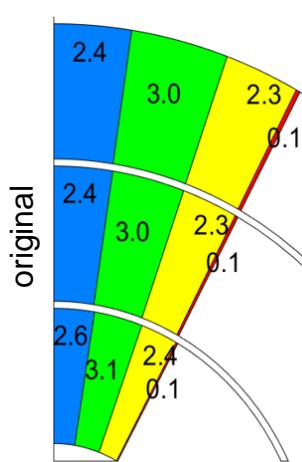
Variation of roughness, slope, and settlement density

Simulation of combined influence factor combinations



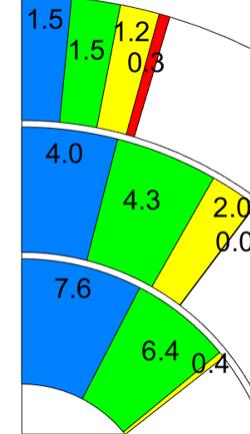
$\rightarrow \text{DWD4} = 40\text{mm/h}$

**roughness**  
(Kulmbach Süd)  
cropland  $15\text{ m}^{1/3}/\text{s}$   
grassland  $20\text{ m}^{1/3}/\text{s}$   
(forests < 10% of catchm.)



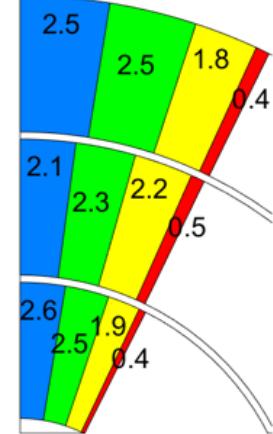
forest  $10\text{ m}^{1/3}/\text{s}$   
(crops and grass < 10% of catchm.)

**slope**  
(Baiersdorf)  
55 %



1 %

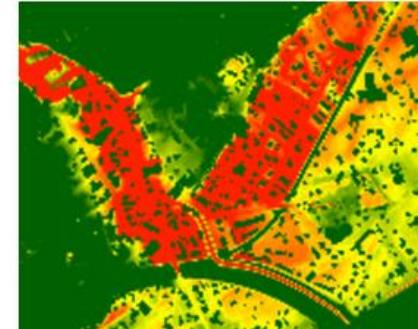
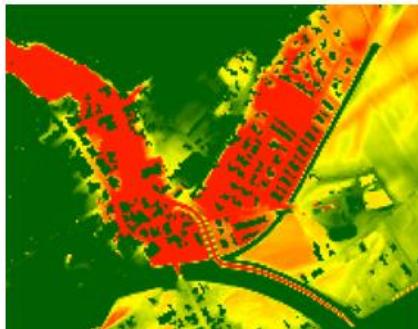
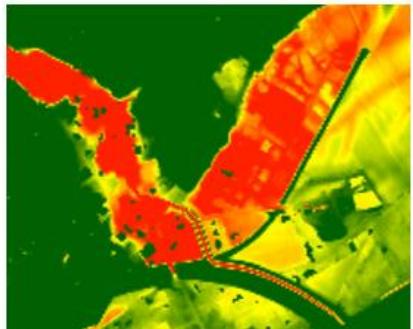
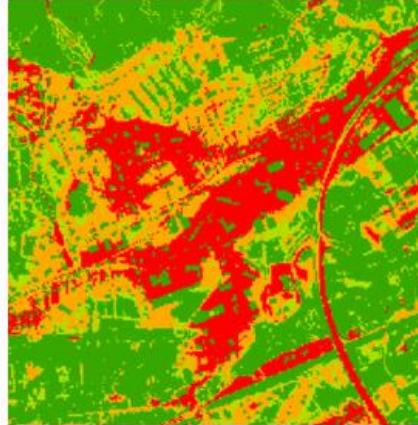
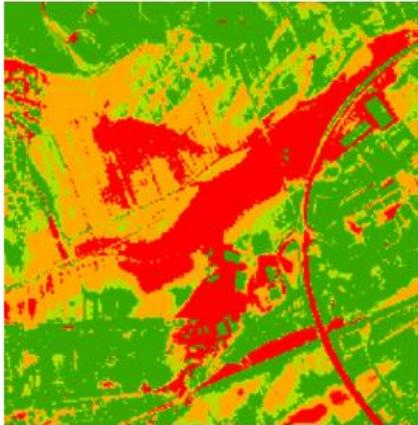
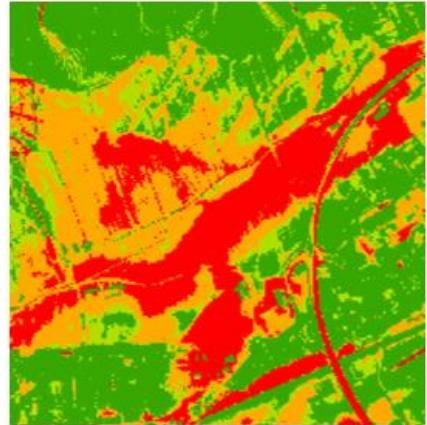
**building density**  
(Simbach)  
4 %



1 %

## Influencing factor buildings & streets

Flood extend in relation to building density



1%

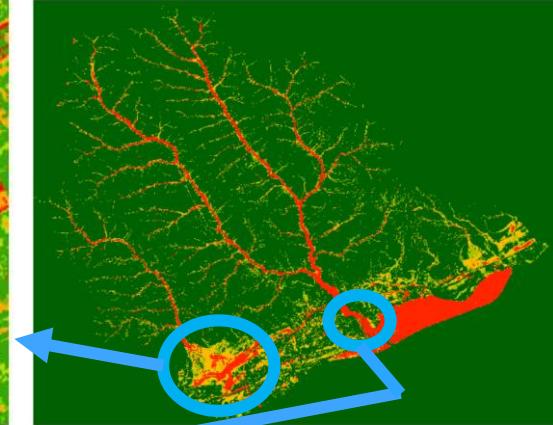


~2%(Original)



Building density

4%



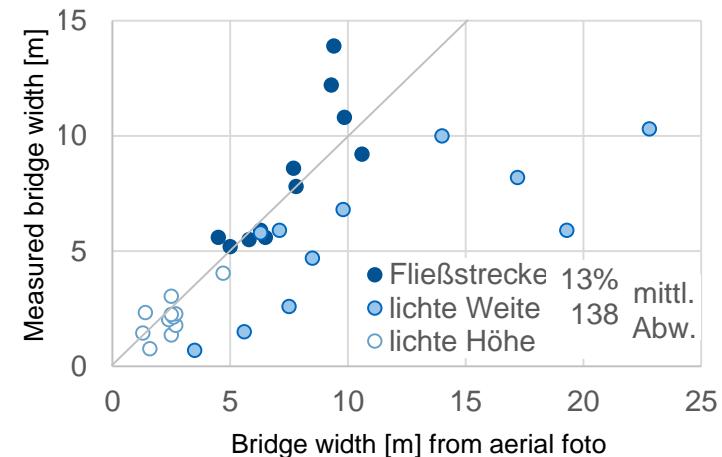
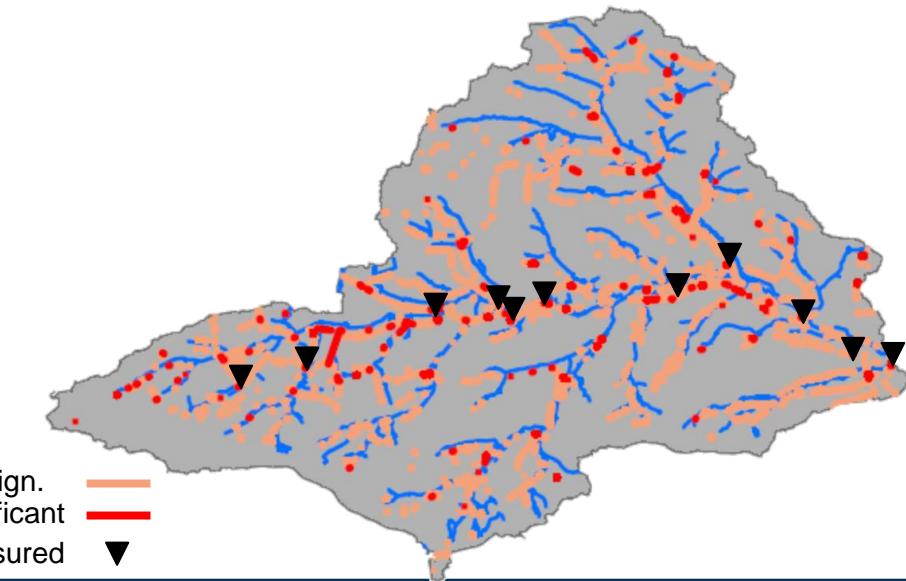
Backwater effect  
at a building

0 - 0,1
0,100000001 - 0,2
0,2 - 0,5
0,5 - 2

- There is no clear relationship between flood extend and building density
- Shape and orientation of buildings with respect to flow direction is more important.

## Influencing factor structures: Culverts & bridges

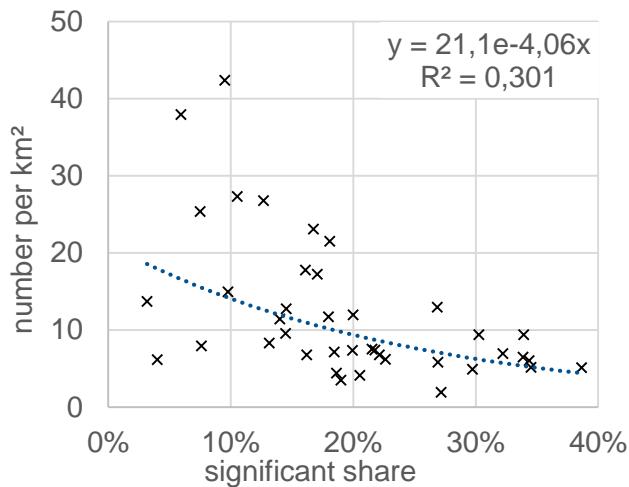
Comparison of an estimation of building dimensions from aerial photograph and DTM ( $1 \times 1 \text{ m}^2$ ) with a GNNS survey for 11 important buildings in Stöckach (Verena Hefter)



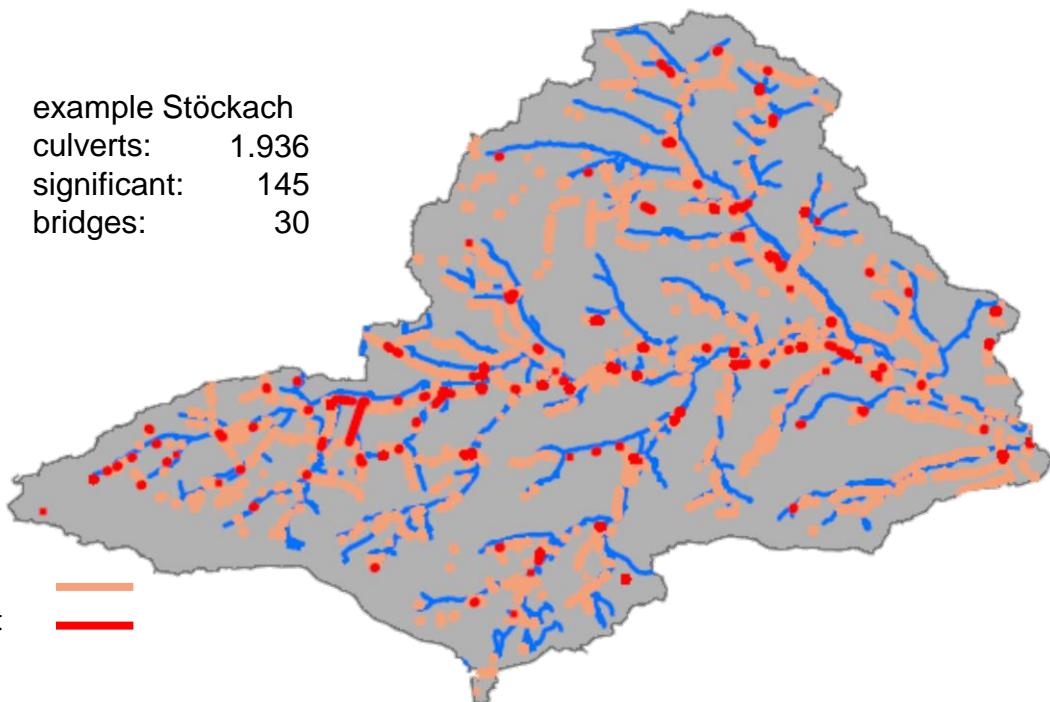
- Culverts&bridge cross section has to be measured.
- Estimates are not valid.
- Small bridges and culverts are prone to clogging.

## Runoff concentration: culverts

Mapping of culverts in 40 catchments using digital elevation model ( $1 \times 1 \text{ m}^2$ ), areal photographs, land use data (ATKIS), flow accumulation grids and sink polygons (CutFill)



example Stöckach  
culverts: 1.936  
significant: 145  
bridges: 30



→ around **2 significant structures per  $\text{km}^2$  of catchment**

# Influencing factor structures: Culverts

Study on the effect of culvert modeling:  
example Triftern (Christof Hertle)

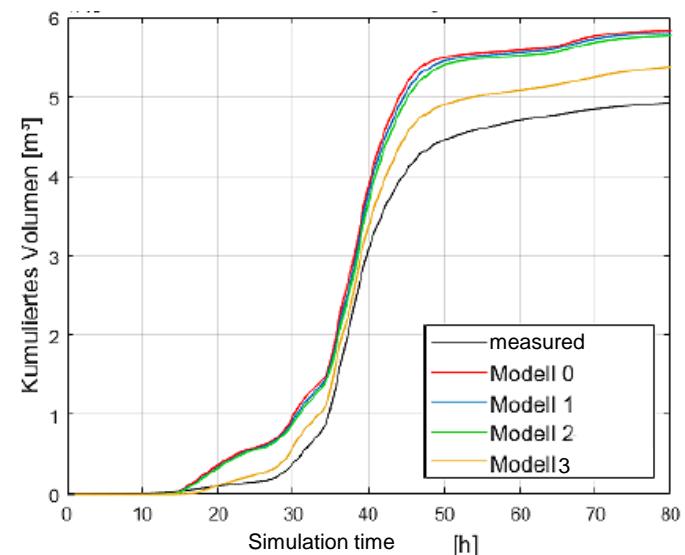
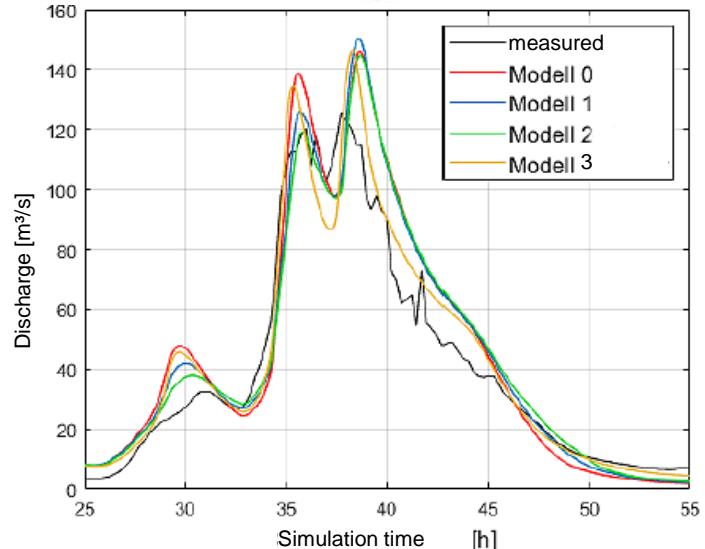
Modell 0 = continuous stream model \*

Modell 1 = hydrodynamic modeling of  
culverts using measured diameter;

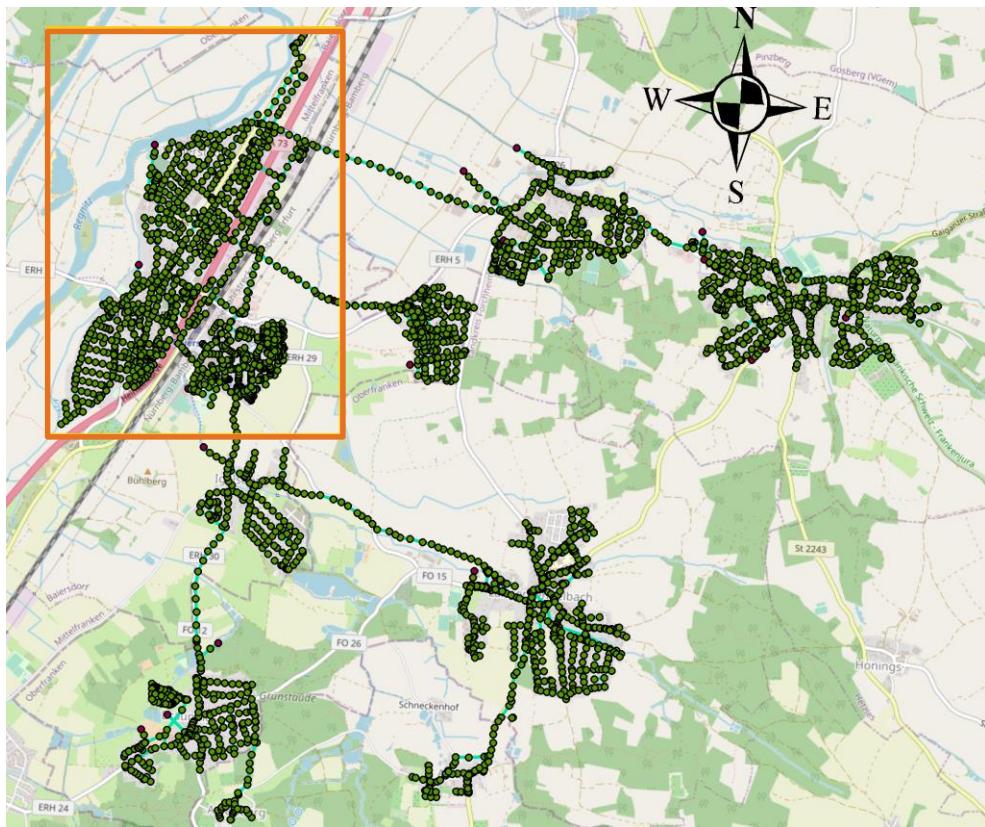
Modell 2 = hydrodynamic modeling of  
culverts using estimates for the  
diameter;

Modell 3 = non continuous stream model

\*) the stream bottom elevation is made monotonic falling in  
flow direction; blockage by dams is removed (breaching).



## Influencing factor: sewer network Baiersdorf



**[-16 bis 14] cm**

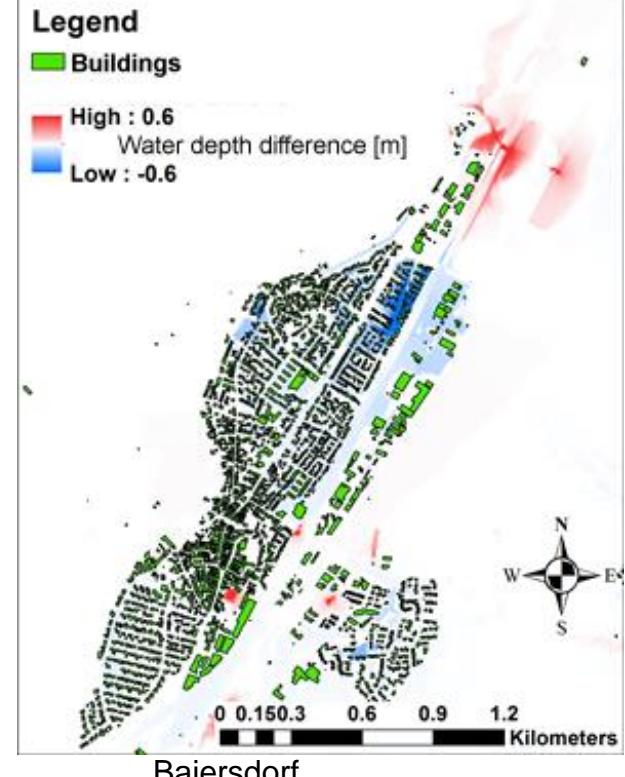
### Legend

 Buildings

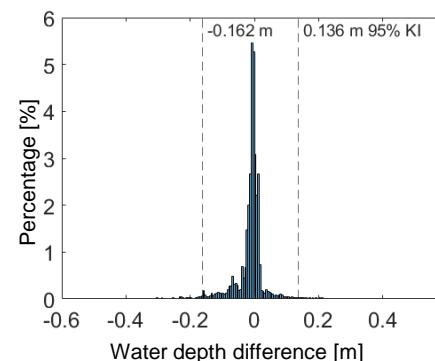
 High : 0.6

Water depth difference [m]

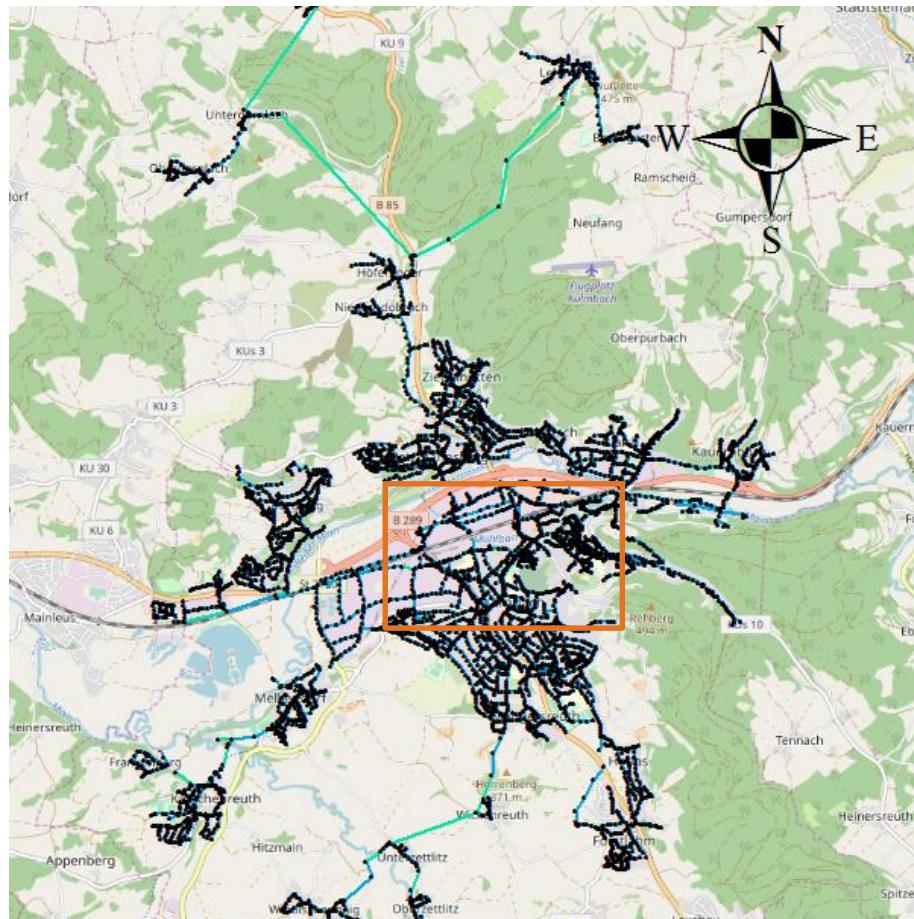
 Low : -0.6



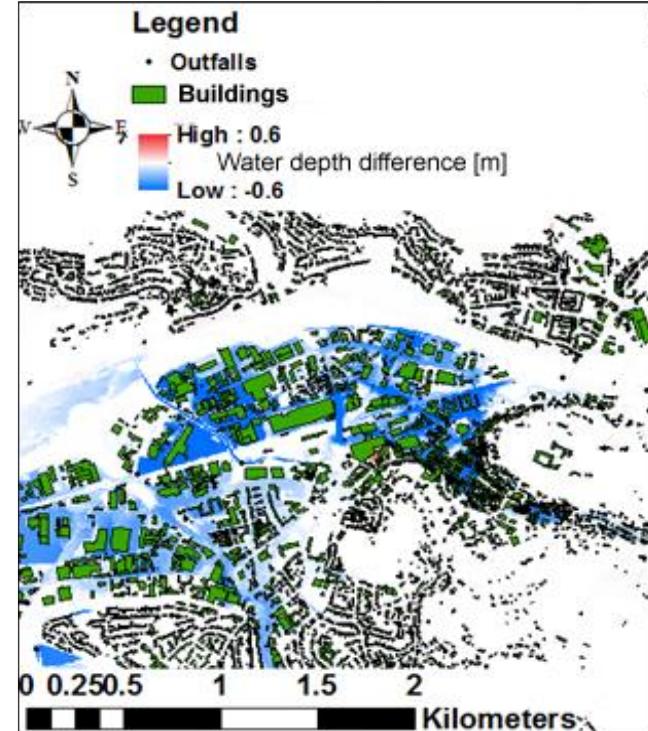
Baiersdorf



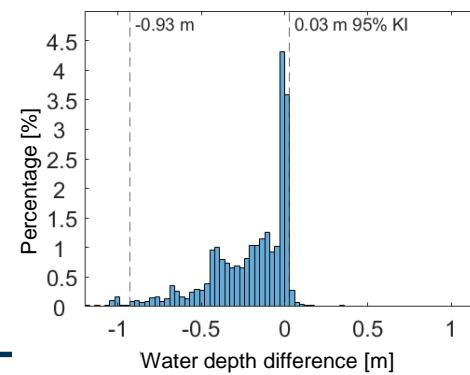
# Influencing factor: sewer network Kulmbach Süd



**[-90 bis 3] cm**



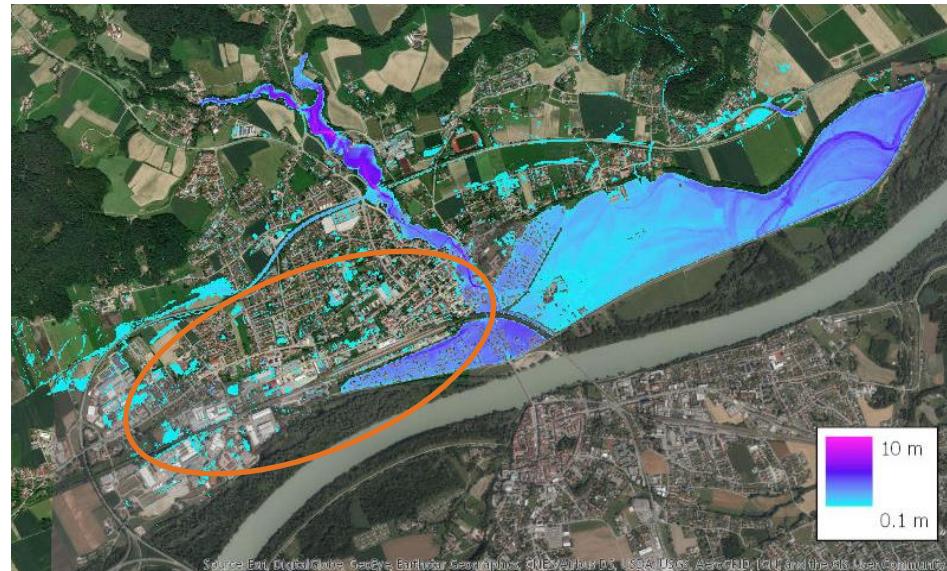
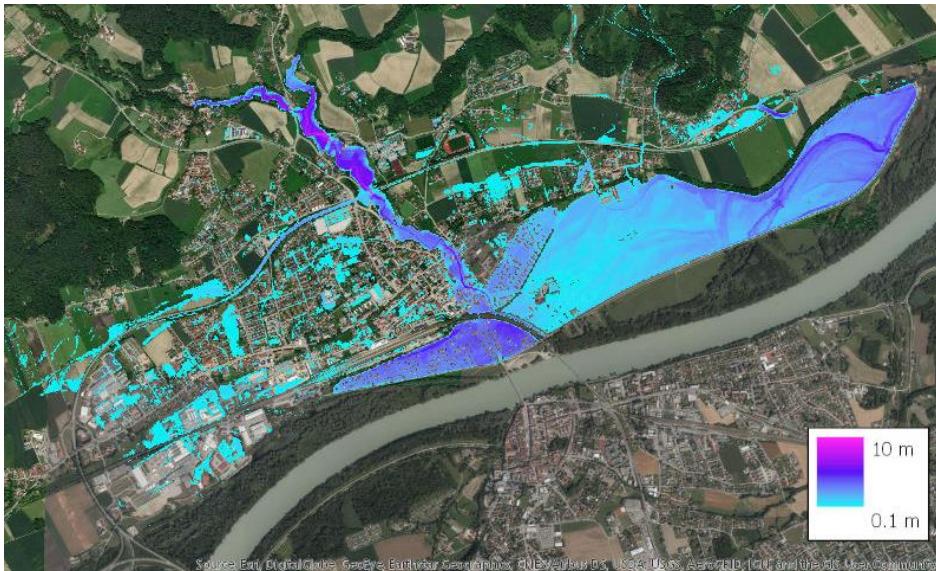
Kulmbach Süd



Histogram of the percentage of the difference of water levels in cells  
karl.broich@tum.de

## Influencing factor: sewer network

**Simulation of flash flood event 1.6.2016, Simbach**



**Inhabitants: 9954**

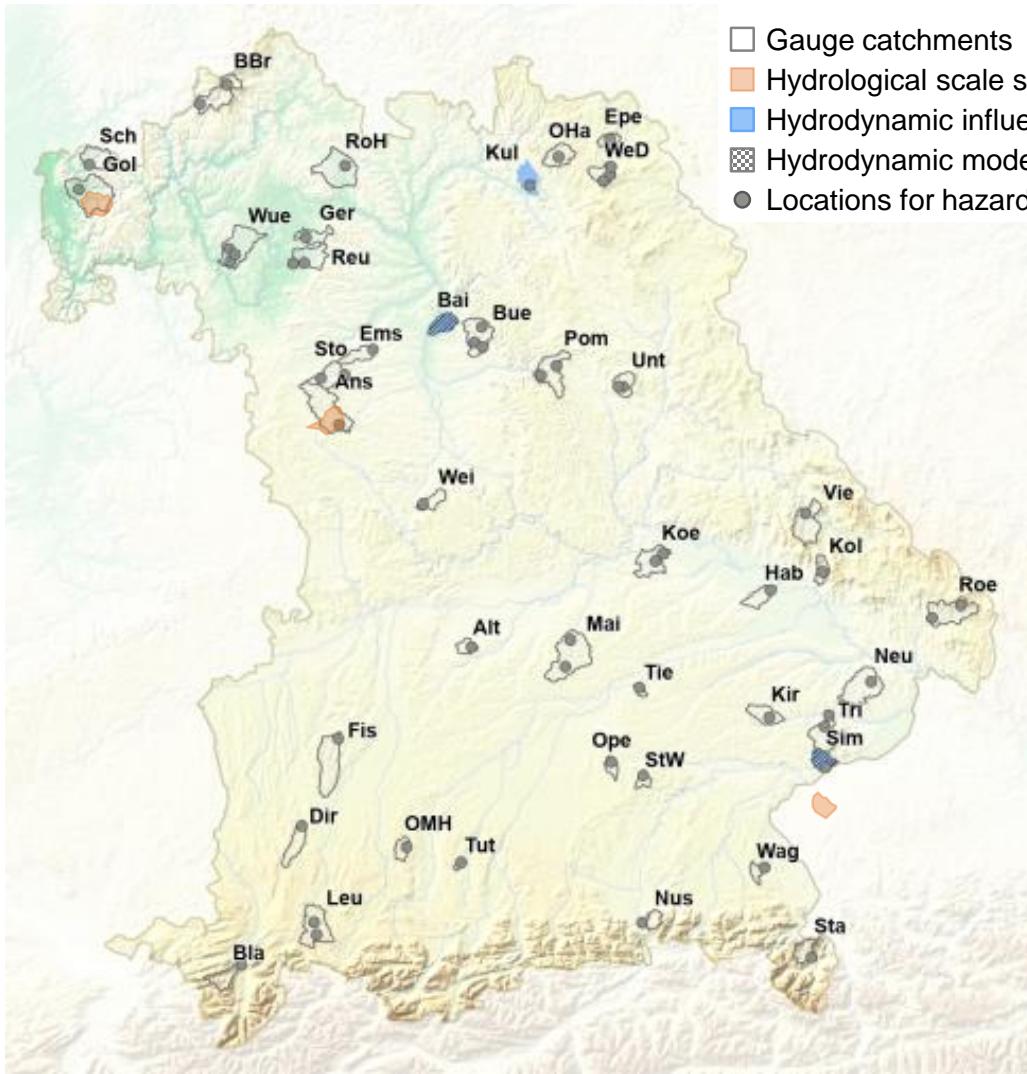
### Sewer system

- tubes: 51,8 km
- Manhole: 1525
- ◆ Outfalls: 22
- Pumps: 3
- Pump failure: 1
- Sewage treatment plant: 1



### 3. Results

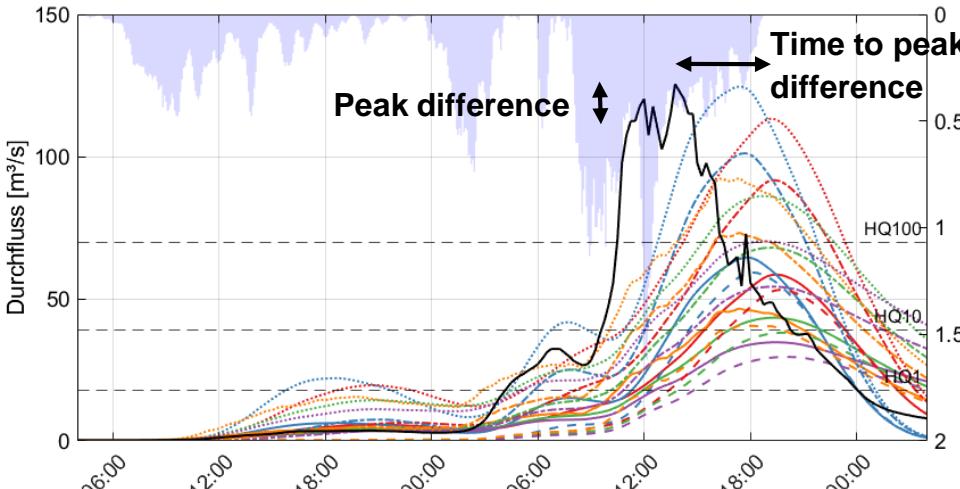
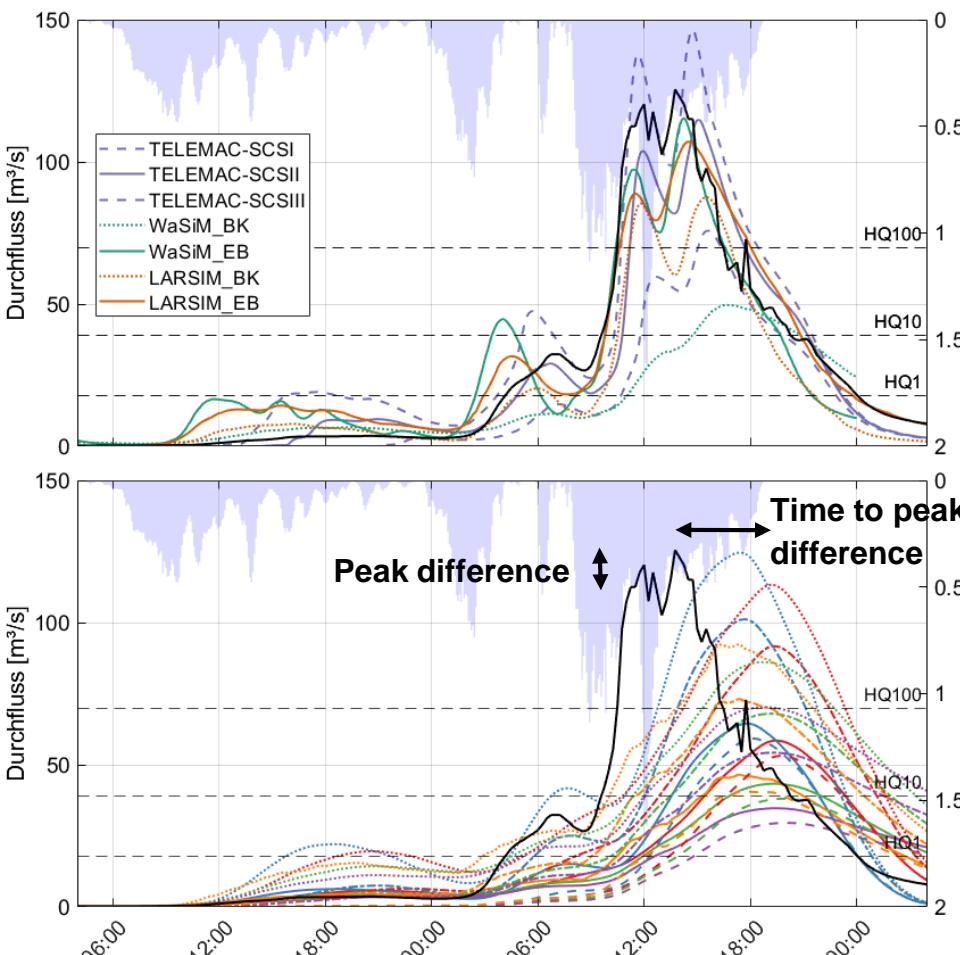
# Catchments



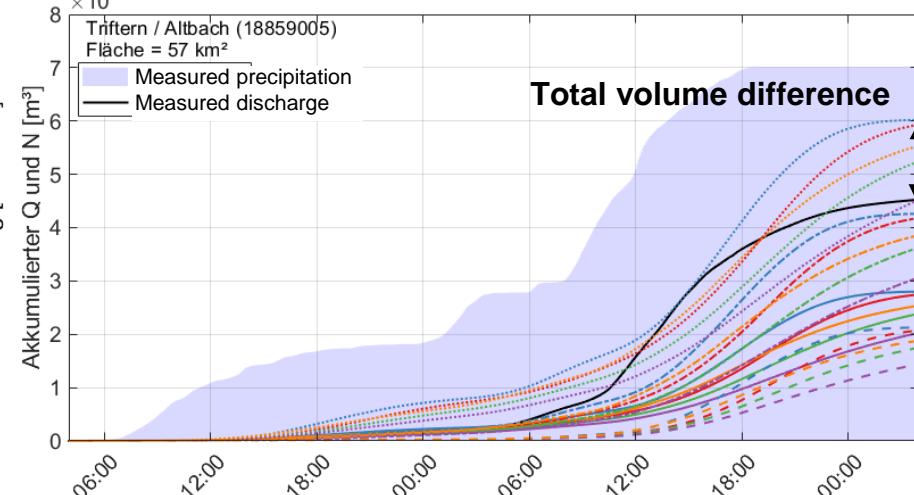
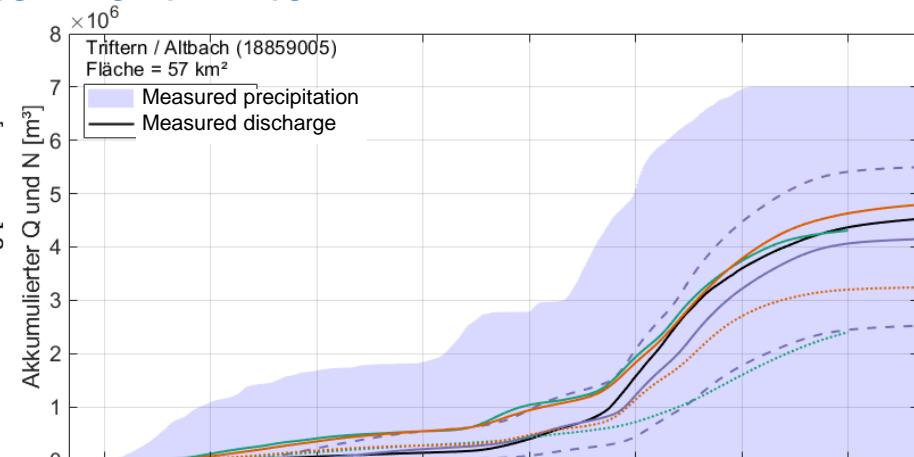
Selected:

- **40 gauge catchments** with **34 (54) heavy precipitation events** for event analysis and hydrological influencing factors
- **56 locations** for „exemplary“ calculation of hazard map simulation work flow

## Results – Representative analysis for catchment Triftern

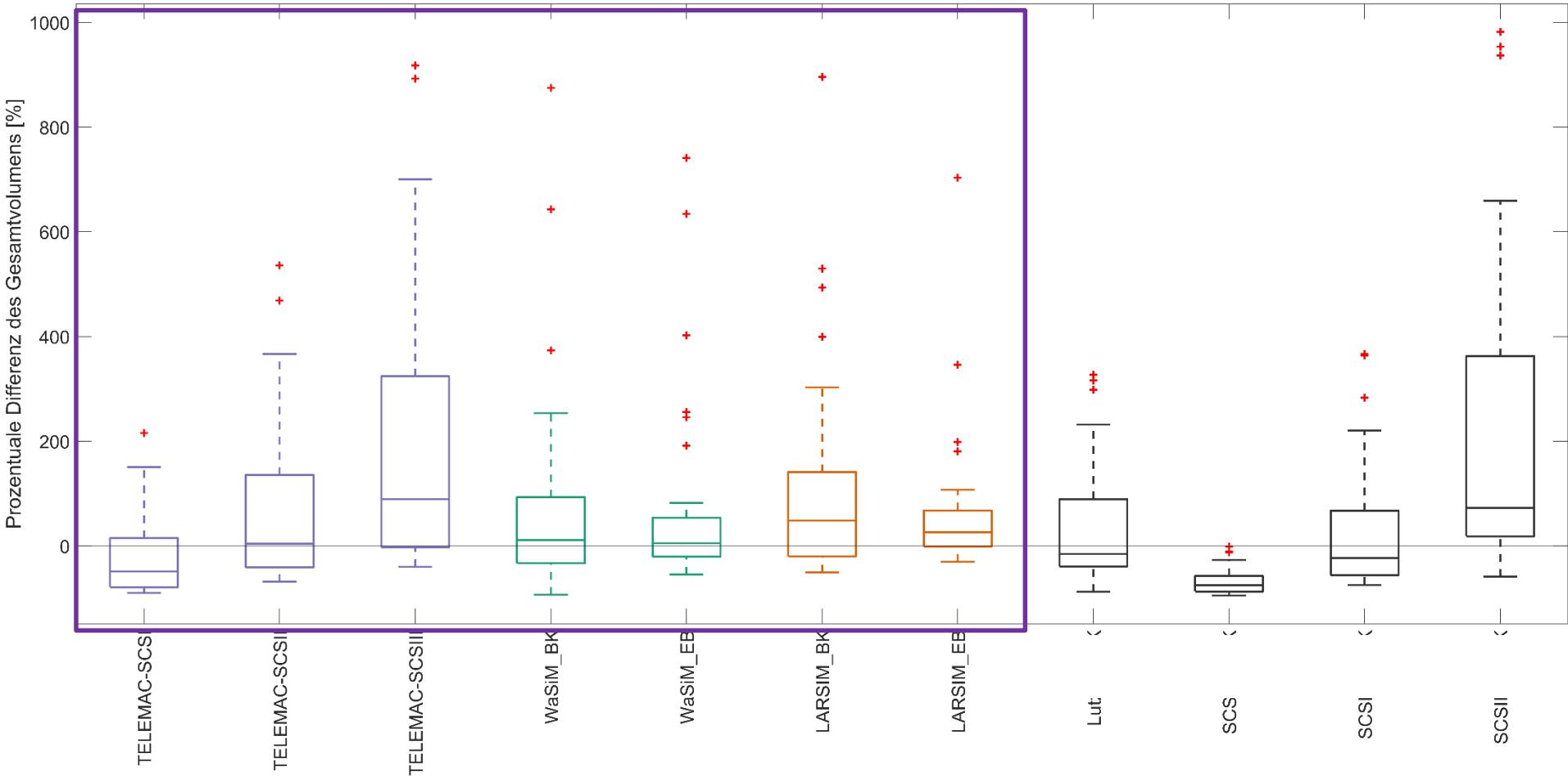


Lutz-Dreieck	- - - SCSI-Dreieck	- - - SCSII-Dreieck	- - - SCSIII-Dreieck
Lutz-DVWK	- - - SCSI-DVWK	- - - SCSII-DVWK	- - - SCSIII-DVWK
Lutz-Lutz	- - - SCSI-Lutz	- - - SCSII-Lutz	- - - SCSIII-Lutz
Lutz-Thiele	- - - SCSI-Thiele	- - - SCSII-Thiele	- - - SCSIII-Thiele
Lutz-Wackermann	- - - SCSI-Wackermann	- - - SCSII-Wackermann	- - - SCSIII-Wackermann



## Results – Total volume difference [%]

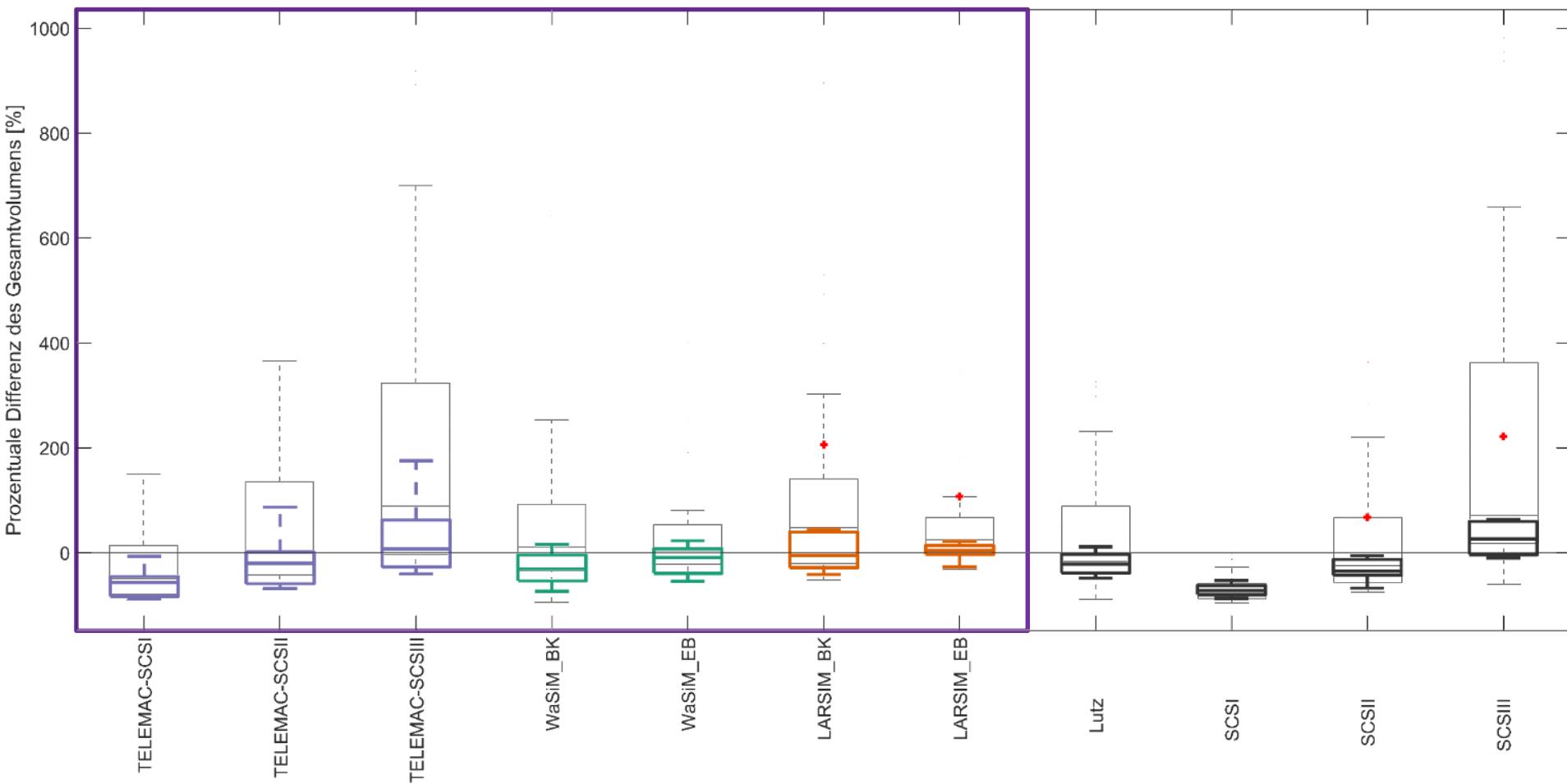
n = 34, all events



## Results – Total volume difference [%]

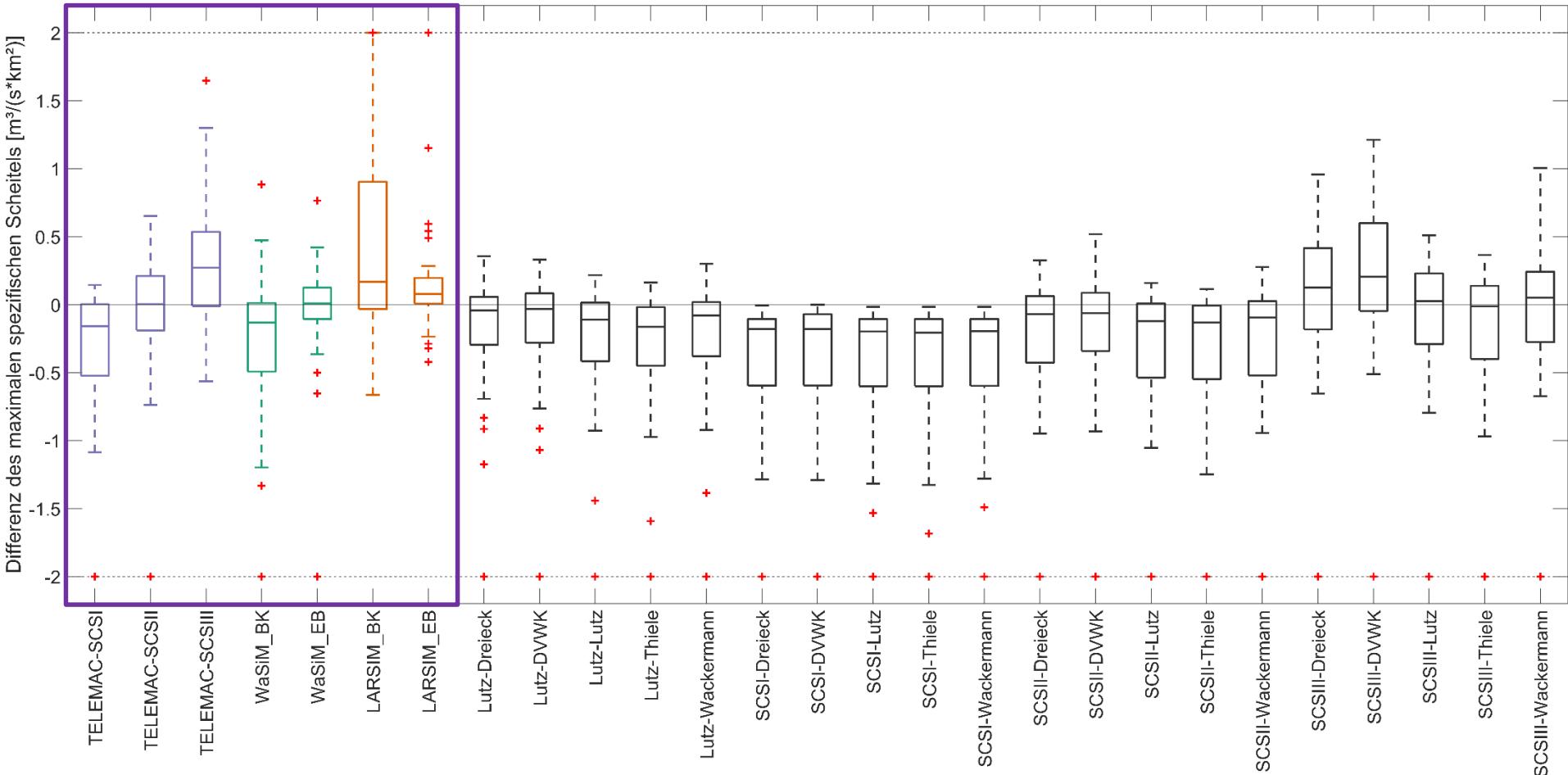
n = 34, all events, grey

n = 8, events > HQ50, bold



## Results – Peak difference [ $\text{m}^3/(\text{s} \cdot \text{km}^2)$ ]

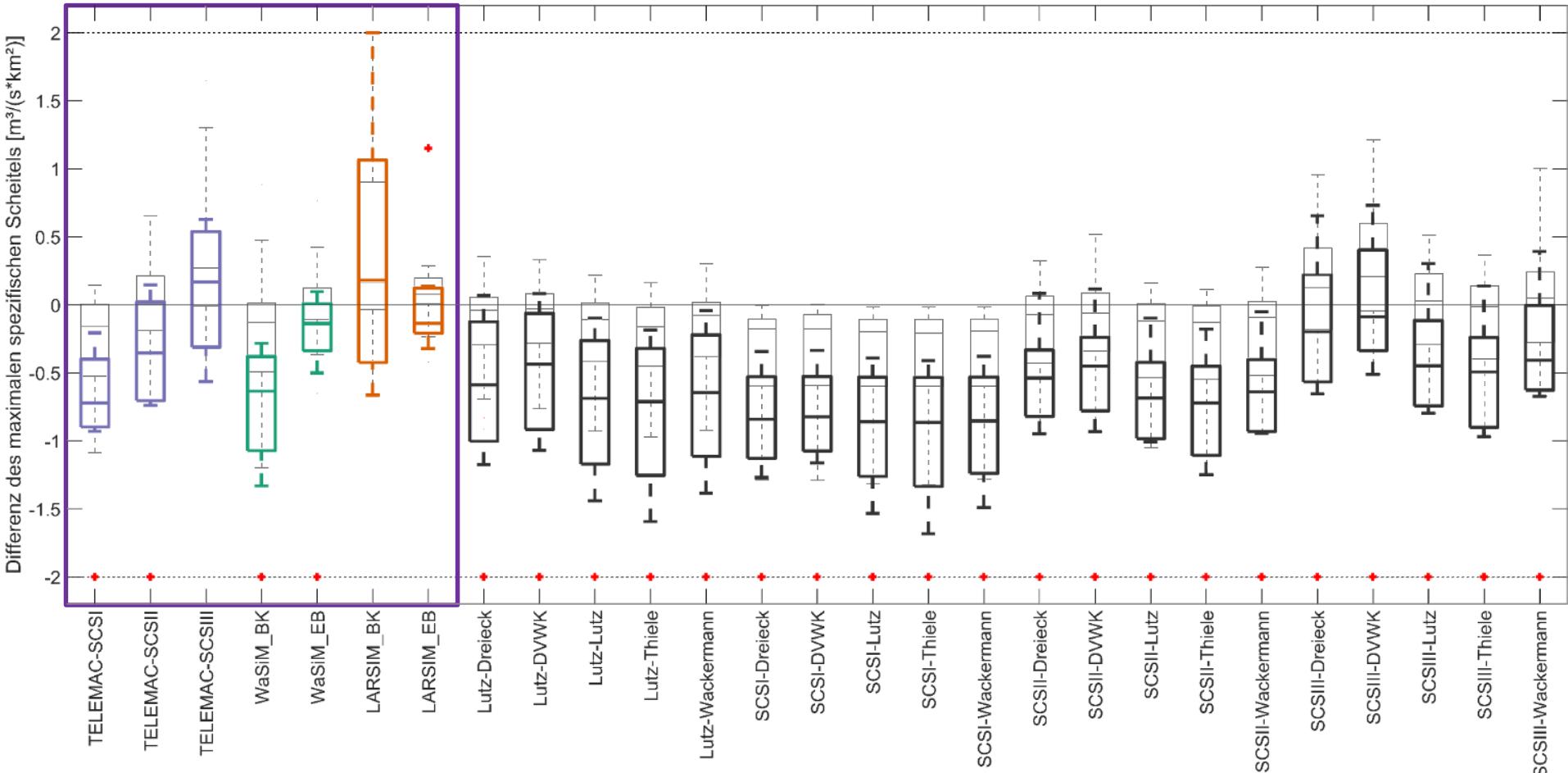
n = 34, all events



## Results – Peak difference [ $\text{m}^3/(\text{s} \cdot \text{km}^2)$ ]

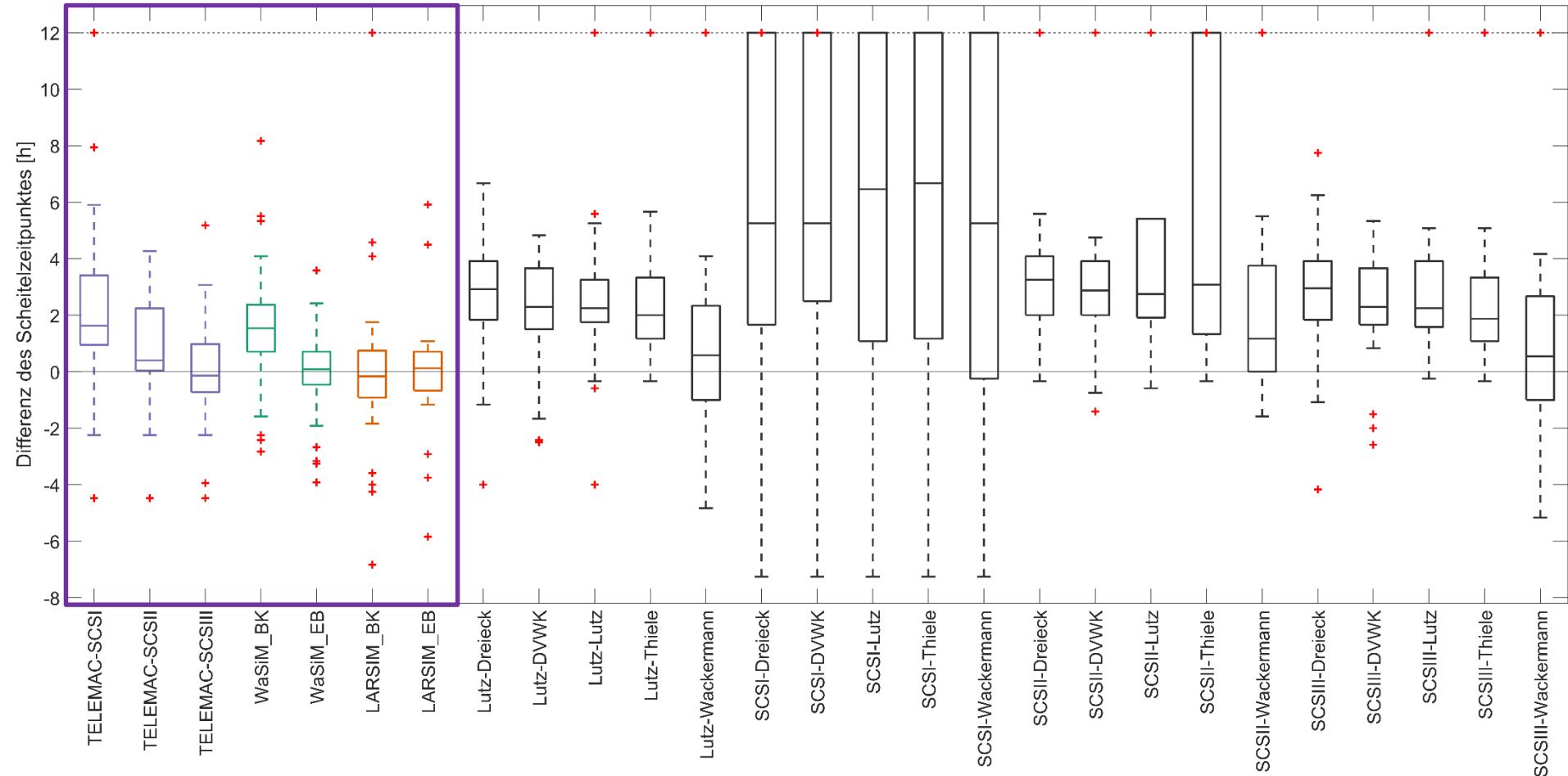
$n = 34$ , all events, grey

$n = 8$ , events > HQ50, bold



## Results – Time to peak difference [h]

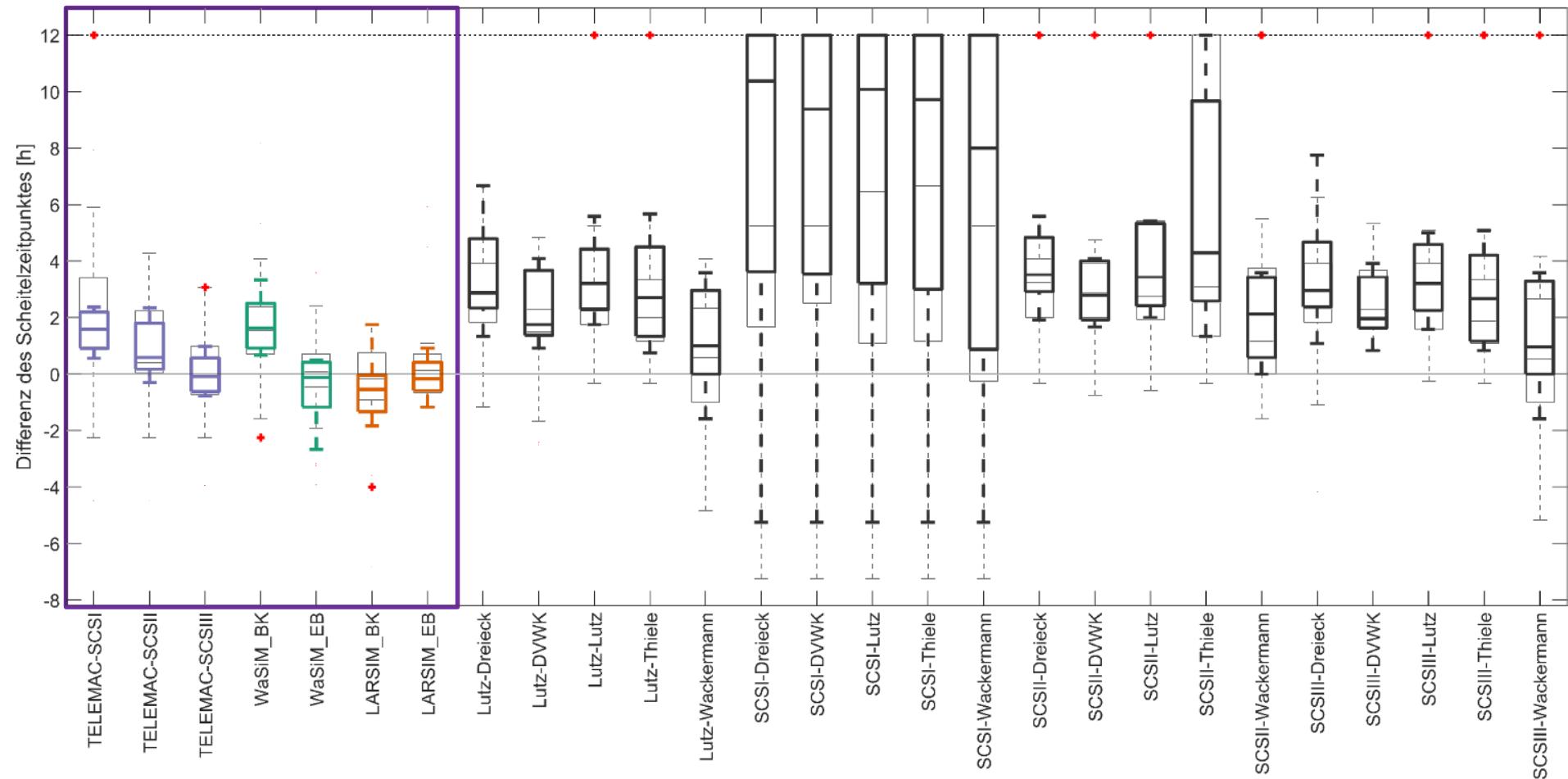
n = 34, all events



## Results – Time to peak difference [h]

$n = 34$ , all events, grey

$n = 8$ , events > HQ50, bold



## Model-based hazard map

### Max. water depth

Pluviales Szenario  
100 mm in 1 h  
Fluviale Szenarien  
N 100 / 1000

#### Max. water depth pluvial

0,00 - 0,10 m
0,10 - 0,50 m
0,50 - 1,00 m
1,00 - 2,00 m
> 2,00 m

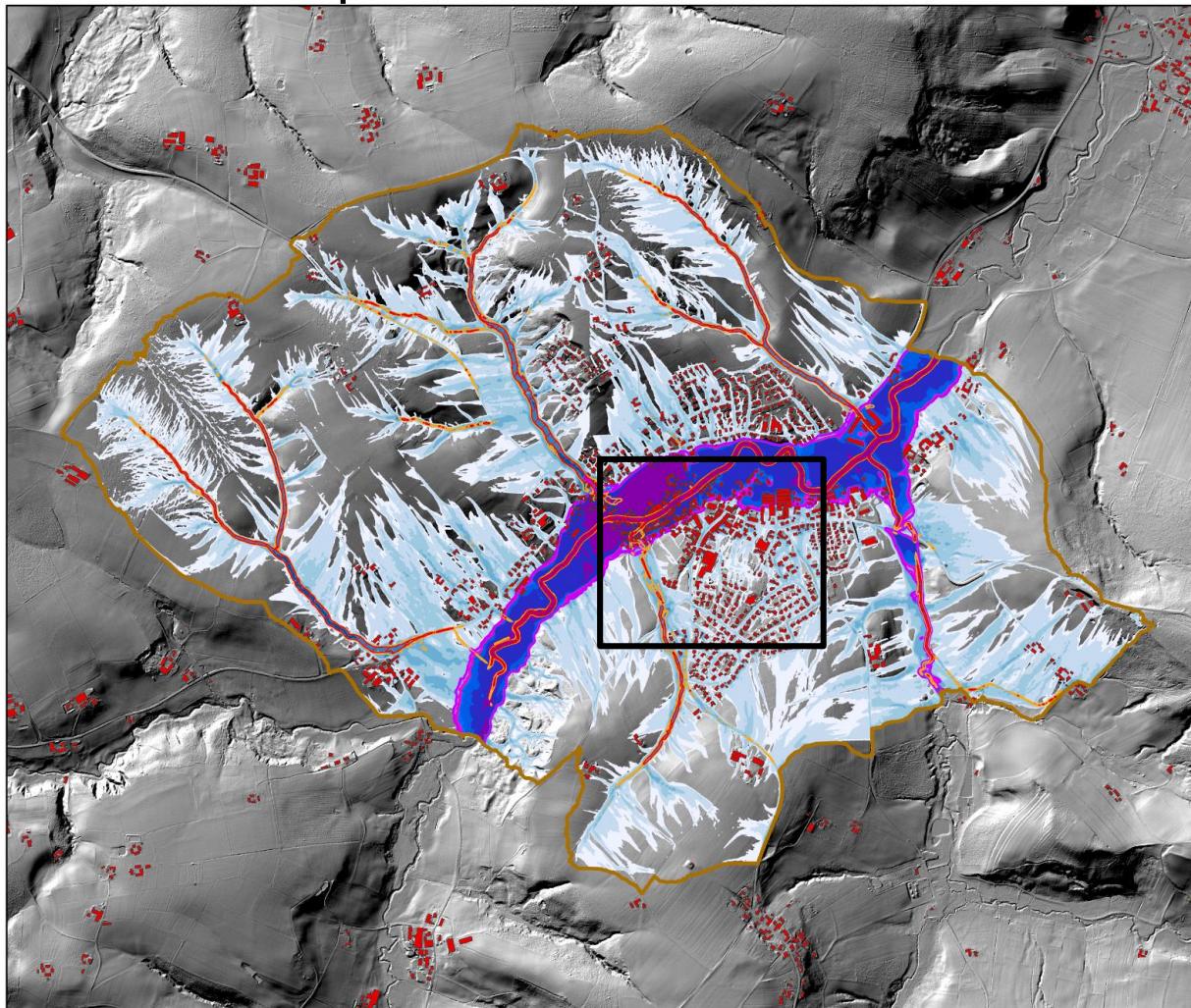
#### Max. water depth fluvial

0,00 - 0,05 m
0,05 - 0,10 m
0,10 - 0,25 m
0,25 - 0,50 m
0,50 - 1,00 m
1,00 - 2,00 m
> 2,00 m

### Hazard in flood flows

	0,70 - 1,30 m*m/s
	> 1,30 m*m/s
	Gebäude
	Modellrand
	Ü-Grenze N100
	Ü-Grenze N1000

0 225 450 m



## Model-based hazard map

### Max. water depth

Pluviales Szenario  
100 mm in 1 h  
Fluviale Szenarien  
N 100 / 1000

#### Max. water depth pluvial

0,05 - 0,10 m
0,10 - 0,25 m
0,25 - 0,50 m
0,50 - 1,00 m
1,00 - 2,00 m
> 2,00 m

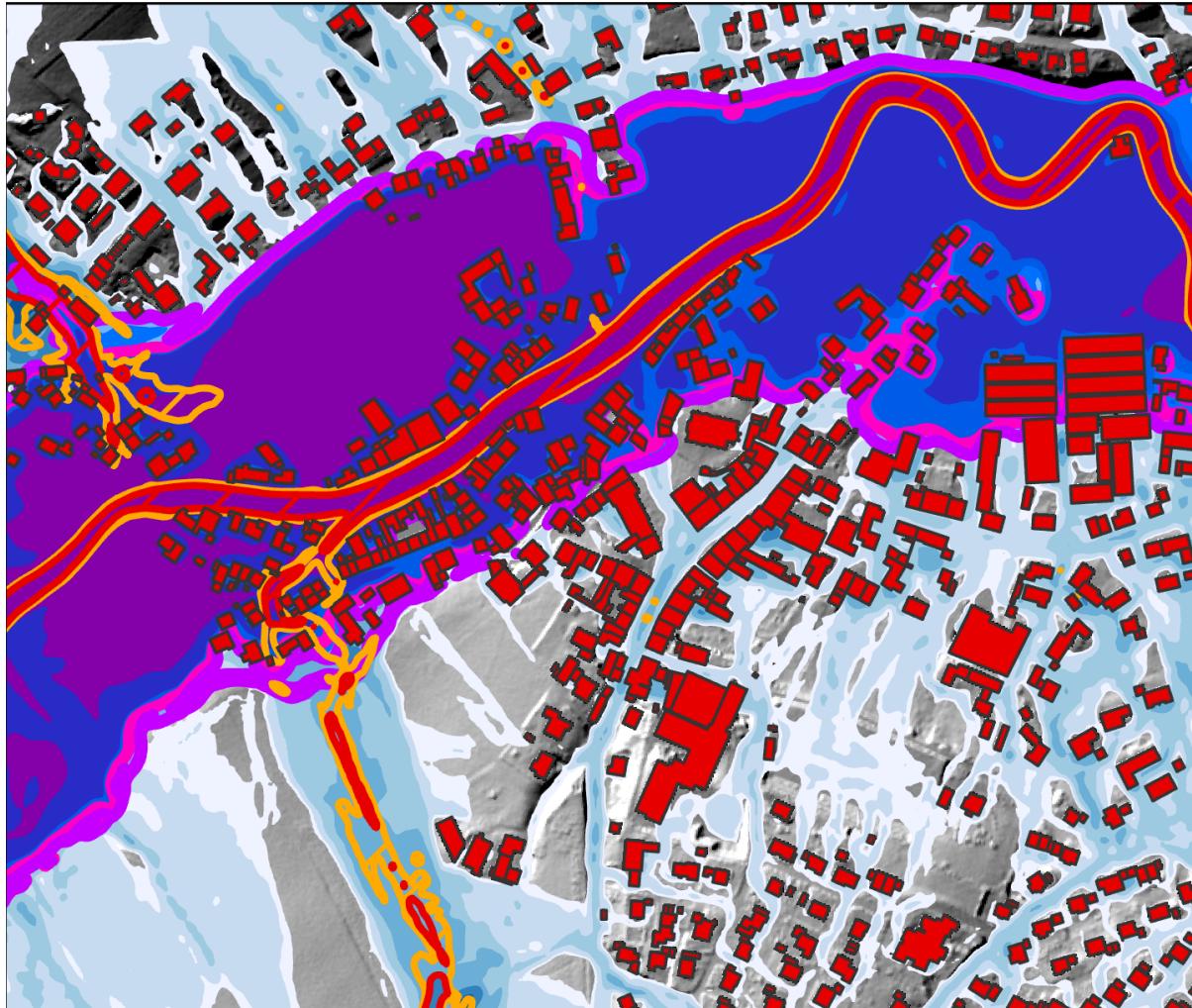
#### Max. water depth fluvial

0,00 - 0,05 m
0,05 - 0,10 m
0,10 - 0,25 m
0,25 - 0,50 m
0,50 - 1,00 m
1,00 - 2,00 m
> 2,00 m

### Hazard in flood flows

0,70 - 1,30 m*m/s
> 1,30 m*m/s
Gebäude
Modellrand
Ü-Grenze N100
Ü-Grenze N1000

0 225 450 m



## 4. Summary and Conclusion

# Summary

## Historical Events

### Event characteristics

- Short but heavy precipitation events do not show significant clustering in Bavaria
- Precipitation characteristics of events are very diverse and show a high complexity in space and time
- Runoff coefficients show a large variability.

### Simulation results

- The diversity of runoff generation results is huge dependent on event characteristics and model types.
- A two-dimensional hydrodynamic model is recommended to reproduce runoff concentration dynamics.
- As calibration is tendentially difficult for small potentially ungauged catchments, models without need for calibration are preferable – as long as they reproduce major processes.
- Recently developed models use bidirectional coupling of in-/exfiltration and two-dimensional runoff concentration

# Summary

## Hydrological influencing factors

- **Precipitation** is an important but **not changeable influencing factor**.
  - Variables **duration, intensity and wetted share of catchment** dominate hydrographs of heavy precipitation.
  - **Intensity and presaturation** dominate **peak discharge** and **runoff volume**. Duration and - less important - temporal distribution influence the **peak lag time**.
- **Infiltration** is influenced by soil condition (e.g., soil moisture) as well as by precipitation intensity and with lower importance temporal distribution.
  - **Runoff volumes and peak discharge may be multiplied if soil conditions change.**
  - Soil conditions are hardly ever monitored and we could not reproduce them satisfactory using simulations (potential draw-backs from weak calibration).

# Summary

## Hydrodynamic influencing factors

- The **slope factor** has the greatest influence. The roughness has little influence on the percentage of maximum water levels.
- **Buildings** can block runoff and divert flow (e.g. dam effect of terraced houses across the direction of flow).
- **Culverts and Bridges** have low impact if they are well designed. They can have a significant impact if they are blocked during the flood event (clogging hazard\*) or not modeled.
- The **sewer network** influences surface runoff . It usually has a low relieving effect for extreme floods. However, if the sewer network is overloaded, there can also be significant water flow from the sewer system.

\*) Clogging is a so called cascading hazard like f.i. dam-break.

# Summary

## Model-based hazard map generation

Hazard maps – an important tool for risk communication

- ... provide indications of a possible risk of surface runoff and flash floods and thus serve to raise awareness of the topic of heavy rain hazards.
- ... are an aid for interested citizens, municipalities, as well as specialized planners and ministries.
- ... should encourage citizens and communities to assess their individual risk situation.

# Conclusion



Problem  
Activity





## HPC-system

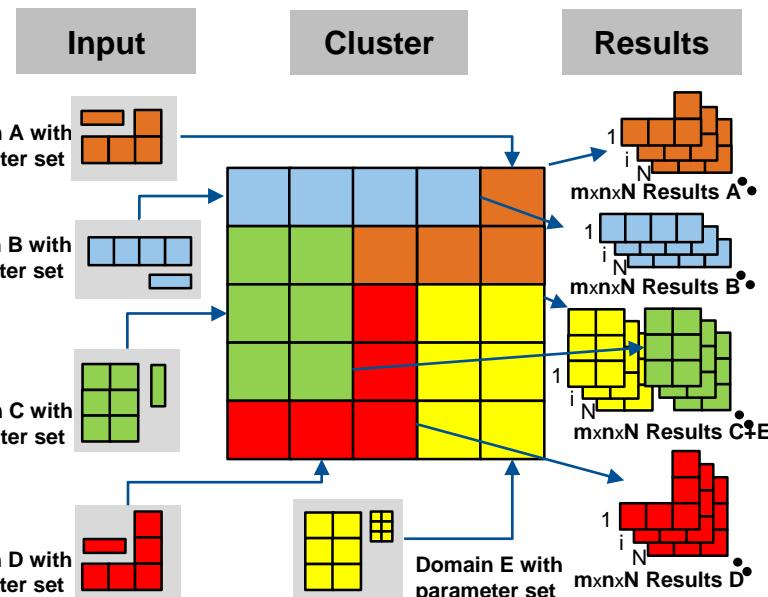
### LRZ-Cluster CoolMUC2

- Number of nodes 384
- Cores 28 per node
- Processor 2.6 GHz



### LRZ-Cluster SuperMuc-HW

- Number of nodes 3072
- Cores 28 per node
- Processor 2.6 GHz



## HPC Scaling test

**1 node = 28 cores**

**Optimal node number : 4  
(= 112 cores)**

