

Capabilities, limitations and new horizons of Fibre-optic Distributed Temperature Sensing in ecohydrological and hydrogeological research

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Fibre-optic Distributed Temperature Sensing (FO-DTS)



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Geography, Earth and
Environmental Science

GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LETTERS, VOL. 33, L24401, doi:10.1029/2006GL027

Fiber optics opens window on stream dynamics

John Selker,¹ Nick van de Giesen,² Martijn Westhoff,² Wim Luxemburg,²
and Marc B. Parlange³

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH, VOL. 45, W00D23, doi:10.1029/2008WR007052, 2009

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Full
Article

**Environmental temperature sensing using Raman spectra
DTS fiber-optic methods**

Scott W. Tyler,¹ John S. Selker,² Mark B. Hausner,³ Christine E. Hatch,¹
Thomas Torgersen,⁴ Carl E. Thodal,⁵ and S. Geoffrey Schladow⁶

MEETINGS

**Taking the Temperature of Ecological Systems
With Fiber Optics**

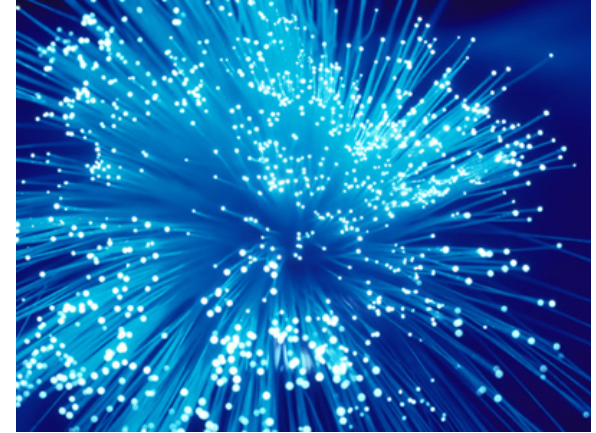
*Fiber Optic Distributed Temperature Sensing for Ecological Characterization;
Blue River, Oregon, 10–15 September 2007*

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH, VOL. 42, W12202, doi:10.1029/2006WR005326, 2006

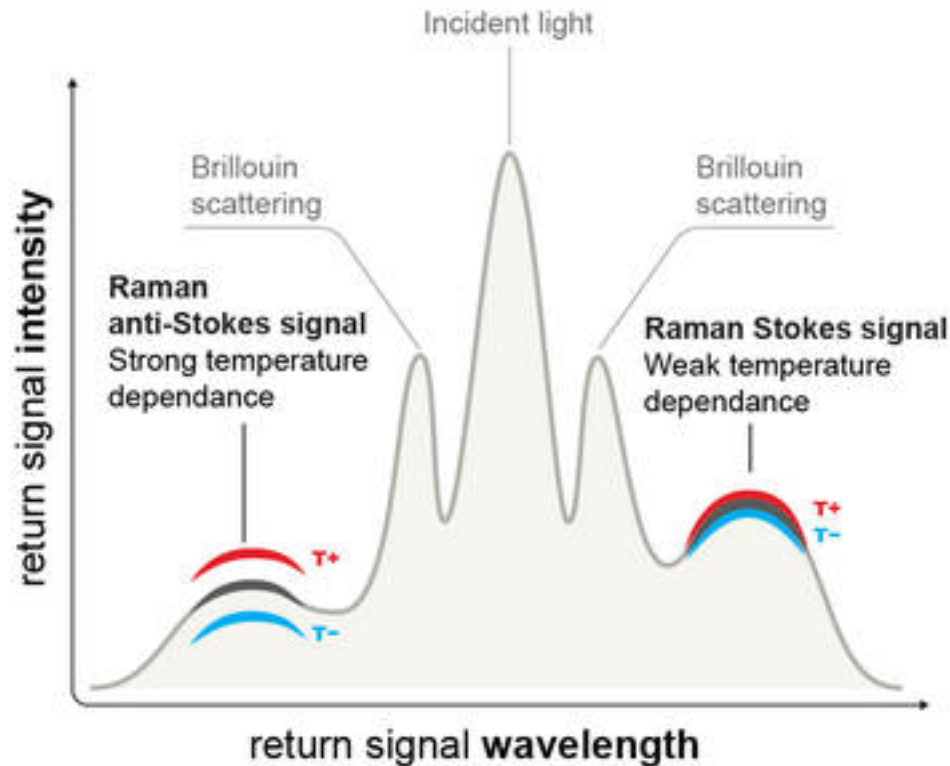
Distributed fiber-optic temperature sensing for hydrologic systems

John S. Selker,^{1,2} Luc Thévenaz,³ Hendrik Huwald,² Alfred Mallet,² Wim Luxemburg,⁴
Nick van de Giesen,⁴ Martin Stejskal,⁵ Josef Zeman,⁵ Martijn Westhoff,⁴
and Marc B. Parlange²





- 1. Principles of FO-DTS**
- 2. Examples of FO-DTS in Echydrological and Hydrogeological Research**
- 3. Capabilities and Limitations of FO-DTS**
- 4. New Developments in Fibre-optic Sensing**



Raman-Optical Time-Domain-Reflectometry

Back scatter of optical laser pulse

Analysis of Stokes / anti-Stokes signal

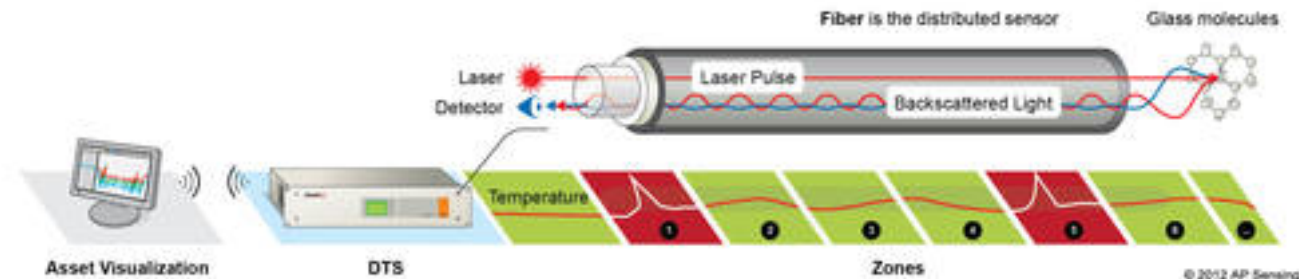


Figure courtesy of AP Sensing

FO-DTS measurement principles

FO-DTS applications:

- Hydrology
- Hydrogeology
- Glaciology
- Soil physics
- Civil engineering
- Meteorology



[*Selker et al.*, 2006 a,b; *Tyler et al.*, 2008, 2009; *Henderson et al.*, 2009; *Steele-Dunne et al.*, 2010; *Slater et al.*, 2010; *Keller et al.*, 2011; *Suárez et al.*, 2011; *Krause et al.*, 2012 a, b, 2013; ...]

- Main applications in hydrology for detecting spatial patterns and temporal dynamics of exchange fluxes between groundwater and surface water (rivers and lakes), dam leakage, groundwater fluxes



FO – Cable Design

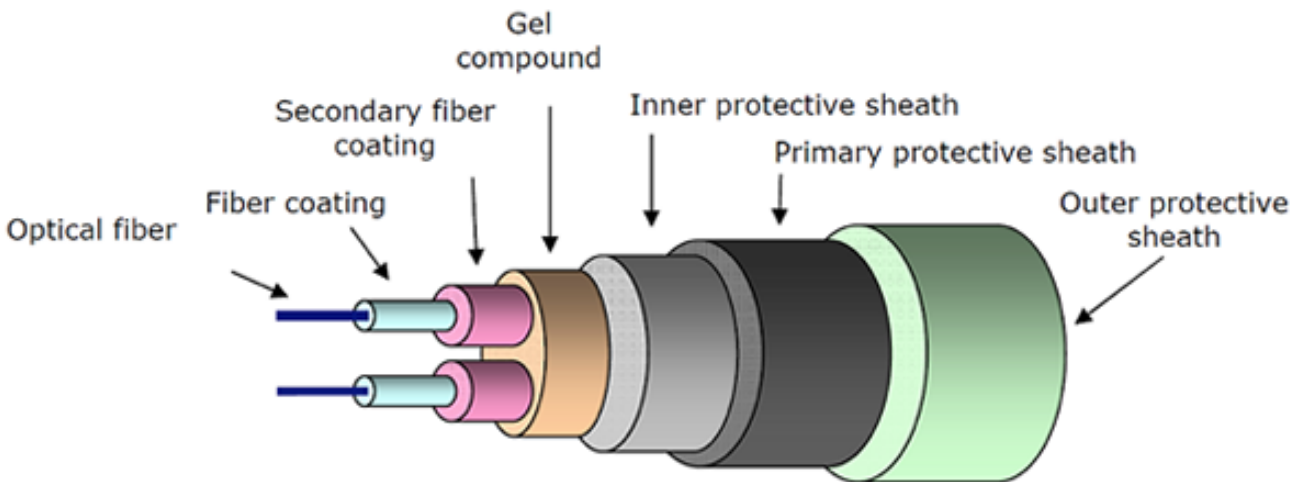


Figure courtesy of SENSORTRAN





Fibre-optic DTS cable solutions

Fibre-modes:

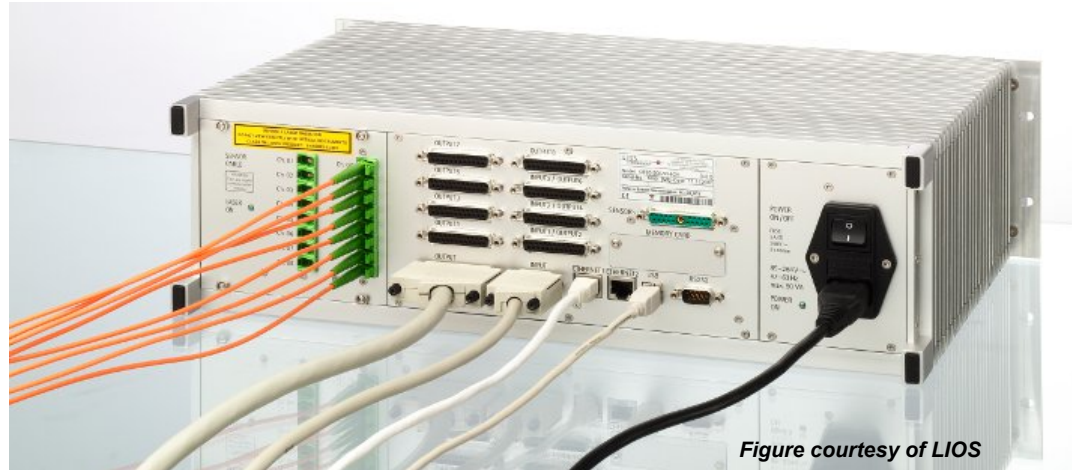


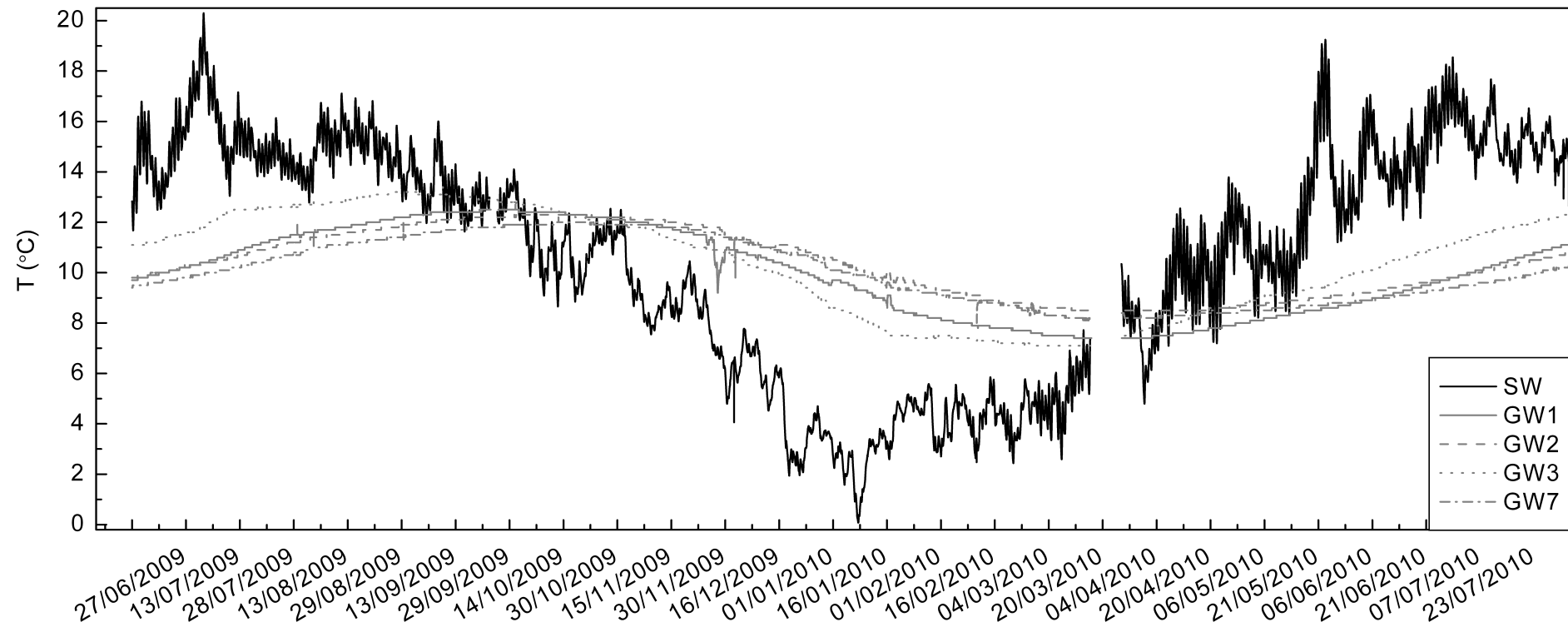
Figure courtesy of LIOS



Fibre-optic DTS – measurement principles

Tracing signal:

Difference in Groundwater-Surface Water Temperatures

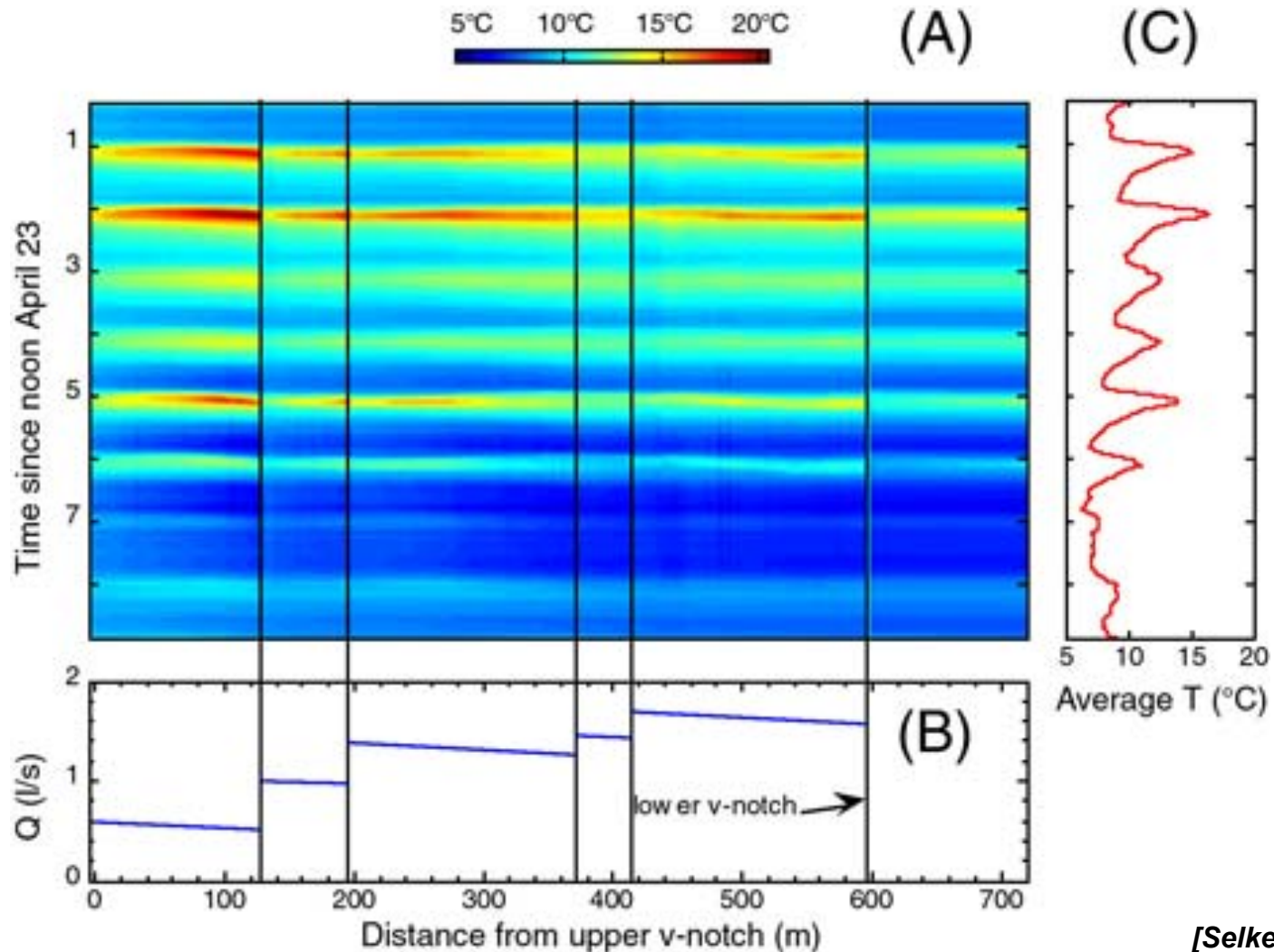


Reasonable tracer for GW/SW interface fluxes

[Krause et al., 2011, *Ecohydrology*; Krause et al., 2012, *HESS*]

Fibre-optic DTS – measurement principles

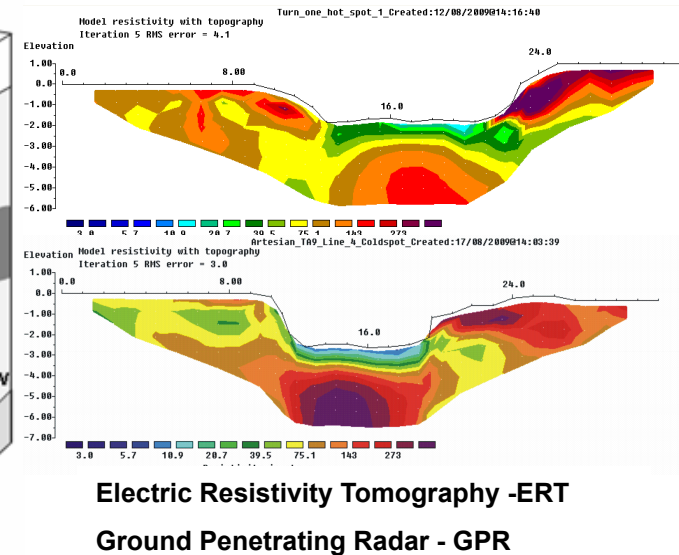
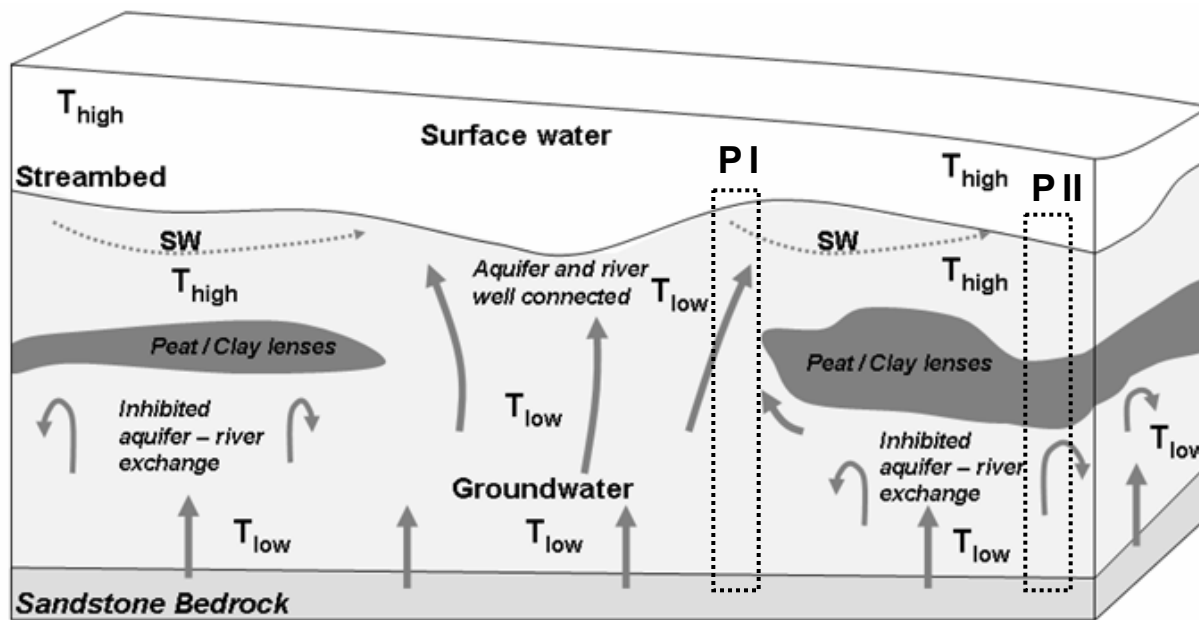
Tracing step-changes in temperature



[Selker et al., 2006]

Fibre-optic DTS – measurement principles

Detecting complex flow patterns that do not affect surface water temperatures



AIM:

Detection of low conductivity hotspots + their dynamic impact on streambed temperature

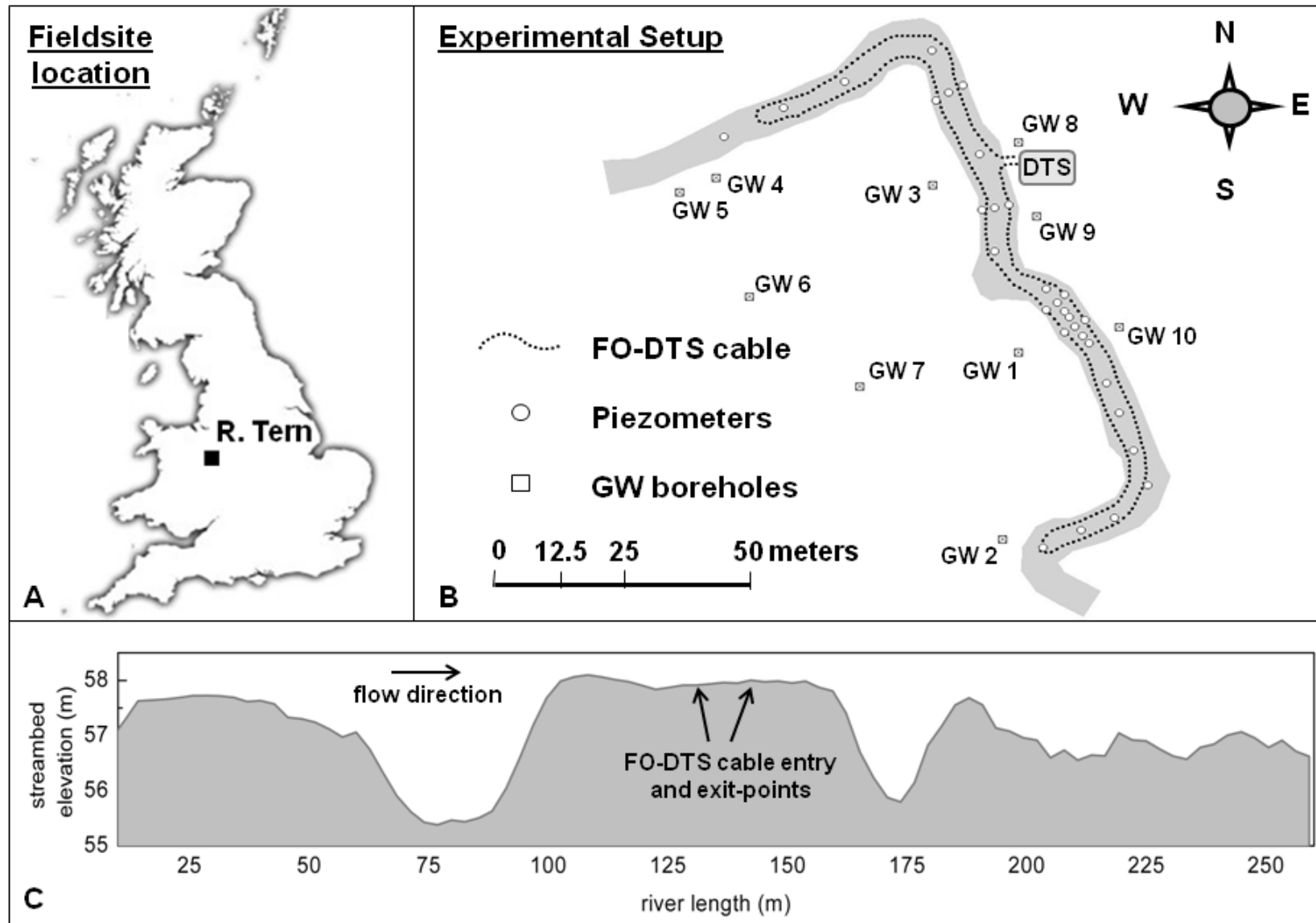
[Krause & Blume, WRR, 2013; Rose et al., WRR, 2013; Krause et al., WRR, 2014]

FO-DTS for detecting spatial patterns & temporal dynamics of GW-SW exchange



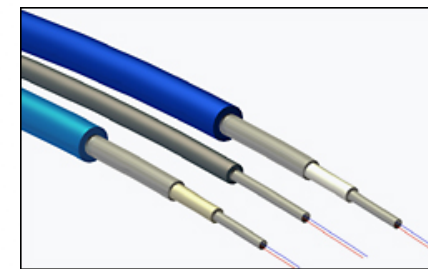
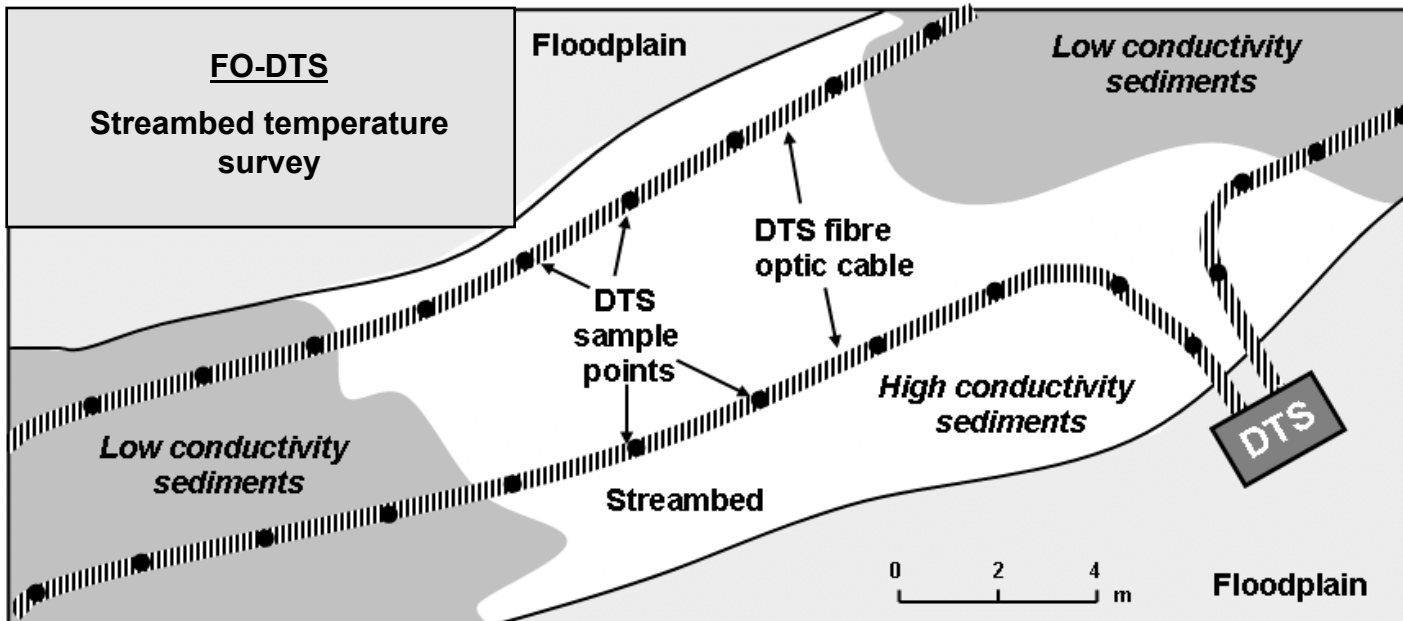
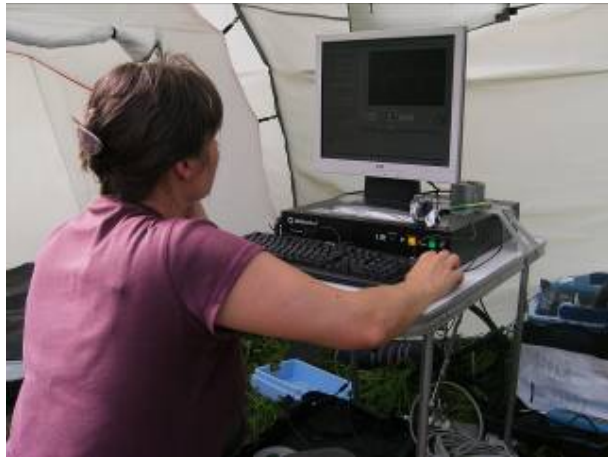
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(Krause et al., 2012, HESS)

Fibre-optic Distributed Temperature Sensing (River Tern)



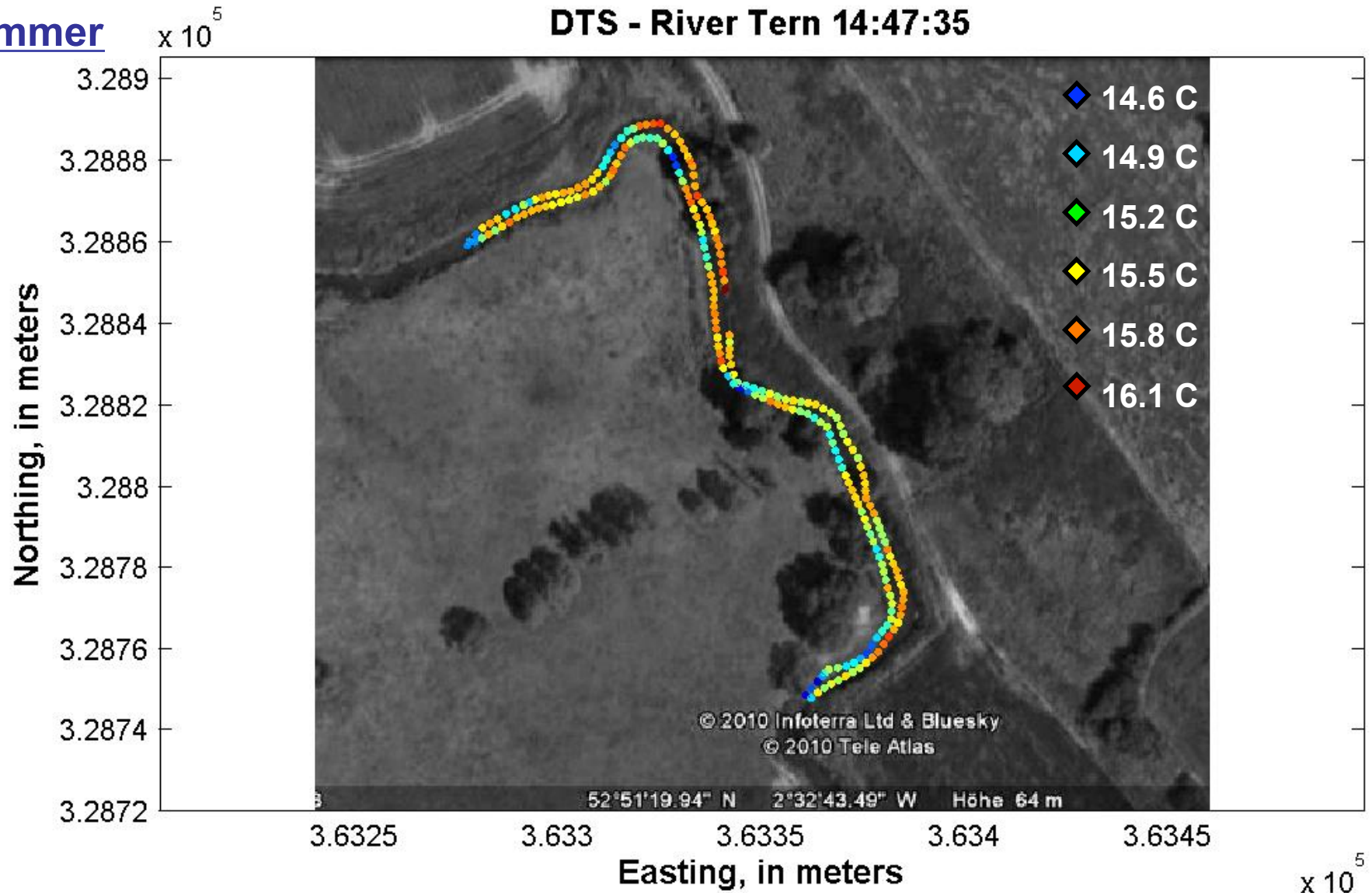
!! Buried cable !!

2 channels – both ends connected

Fibre-optic Distributed Temperature Sensing (River Tern)

Summer

DTS - River Tern 14:47:35

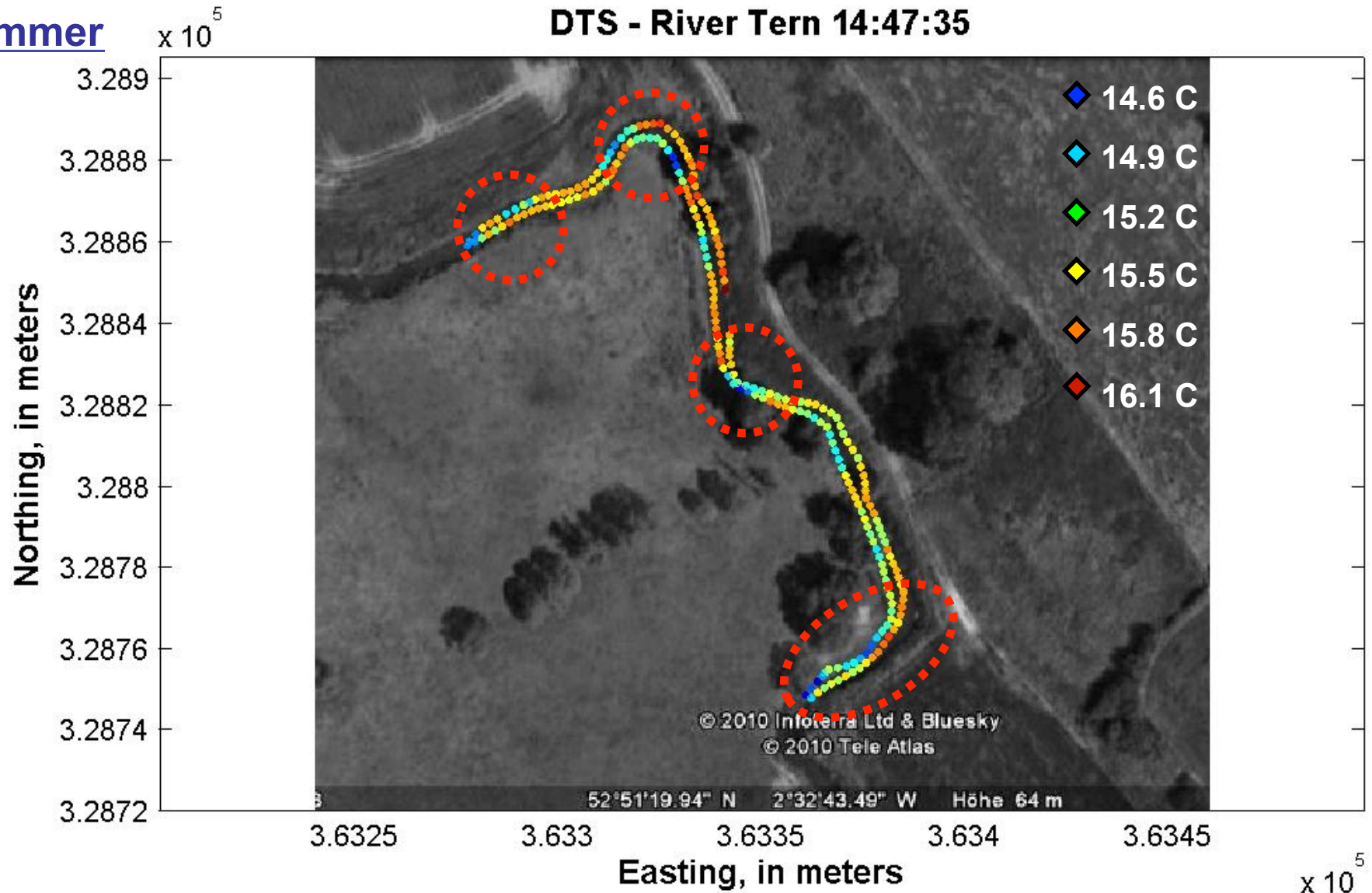


(Krause et al., 2012, HESS)

s.krause@bham.ac.uk

Summer

DTS - River Tern 14:47:35



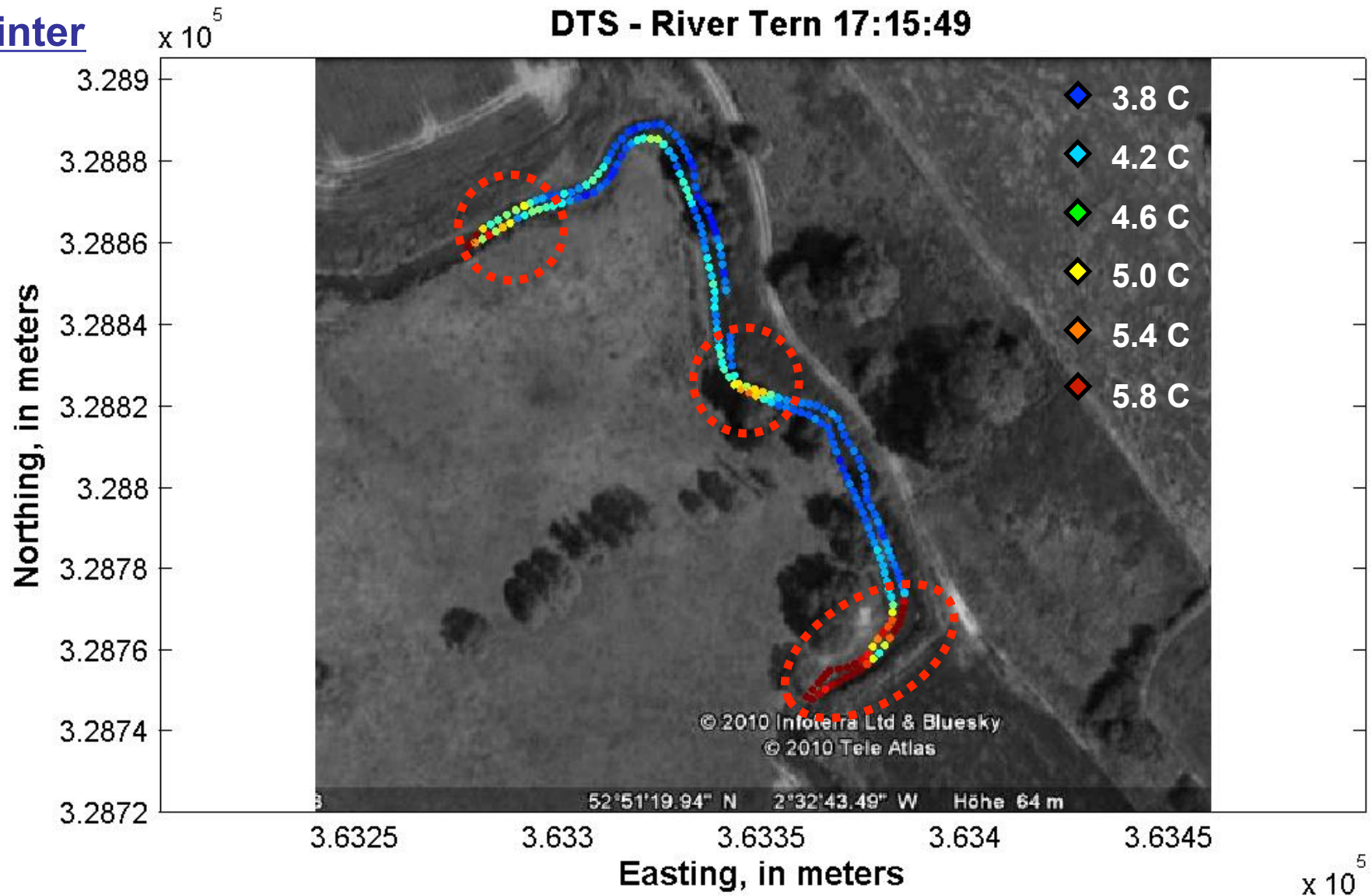
(Krause et al., 2012, HESS)

s.krause@bham.ac.uk

Fibre-optic Distributed Temperature Sensing (River Tern)

Winter

DTS - River Tern 17:15:49

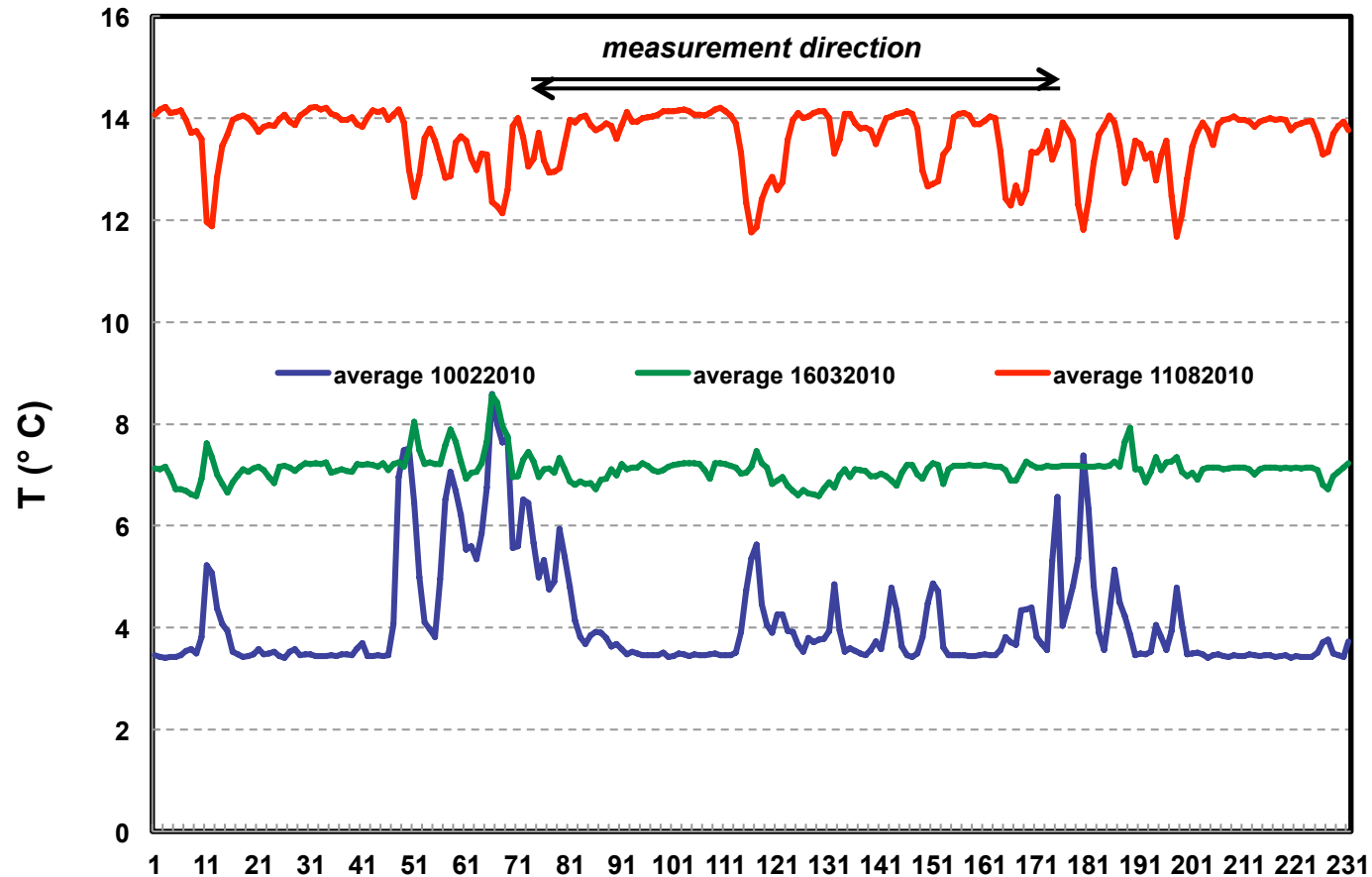


(Krause et al., 2012, HESS)

FO-DTS - Impact of seasonal signal variation

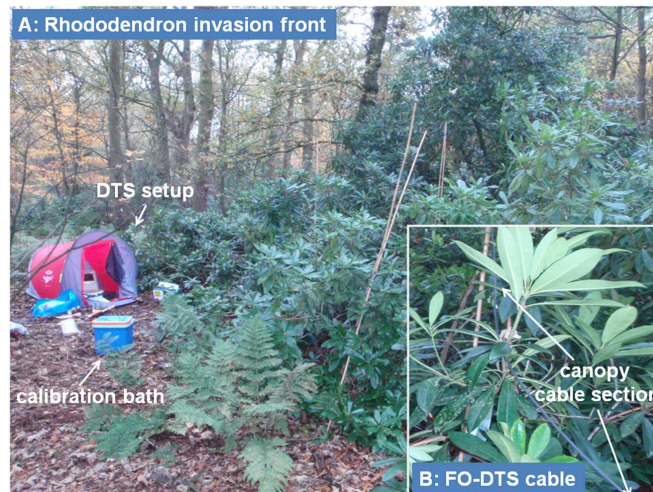
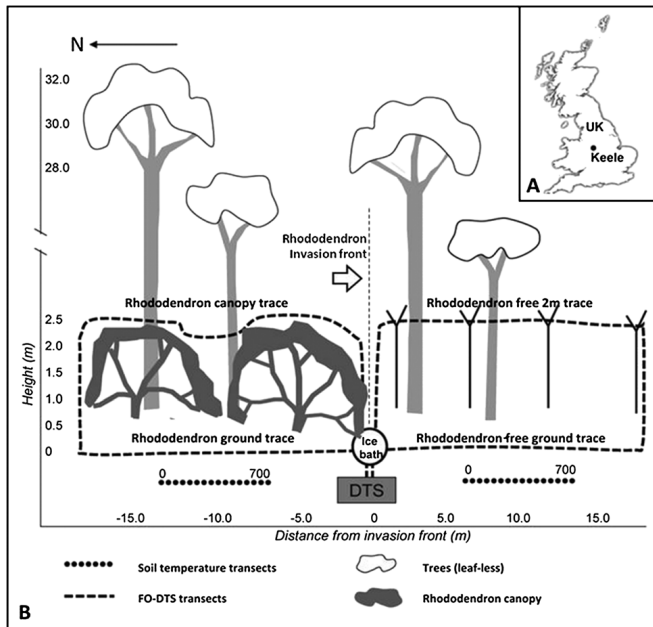


Two-way single-ended averaging mode



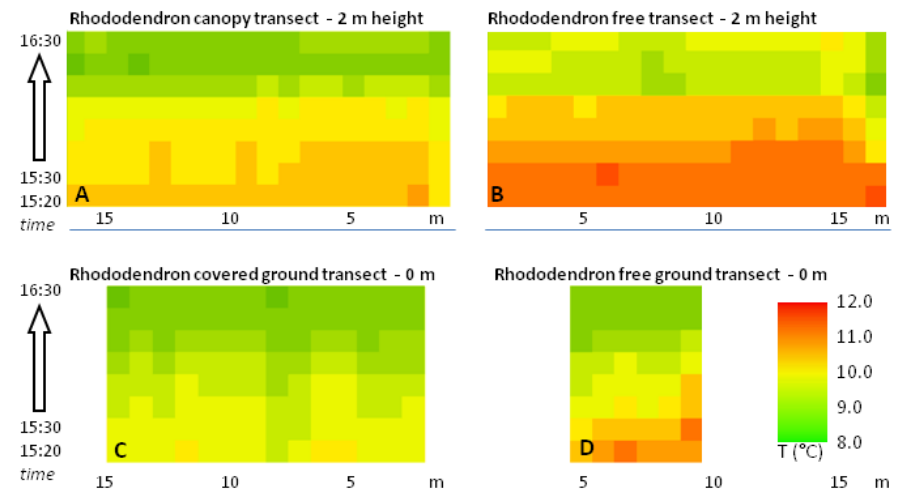
[Krause & Blume, WRR, 2013; Rose et al., WRR, 2013; Krause et al., WRR, 2014]

FO-DTS – In Terrestrial Ecology/Biogeochemistry

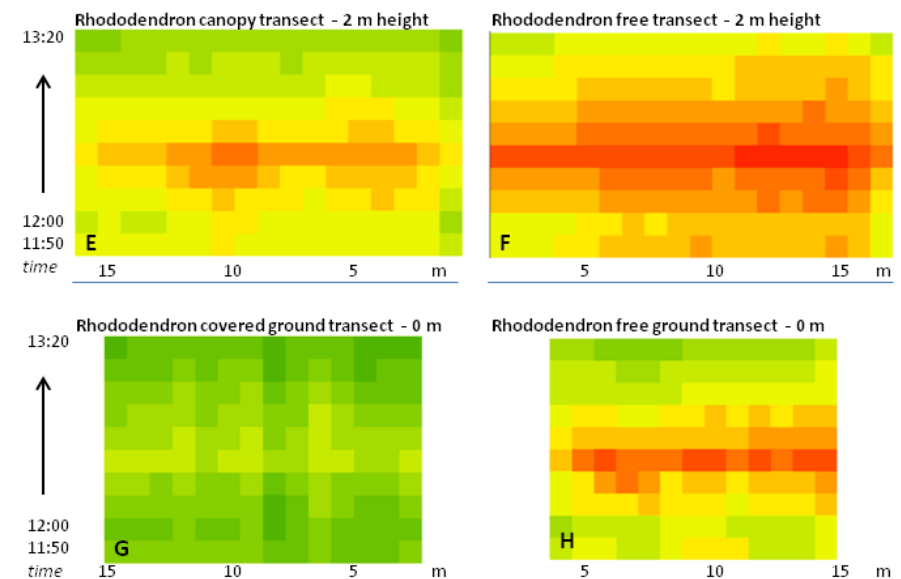


[Krause et al., Ecohydrology, 2012a]

2/11/2010



3/11/2010

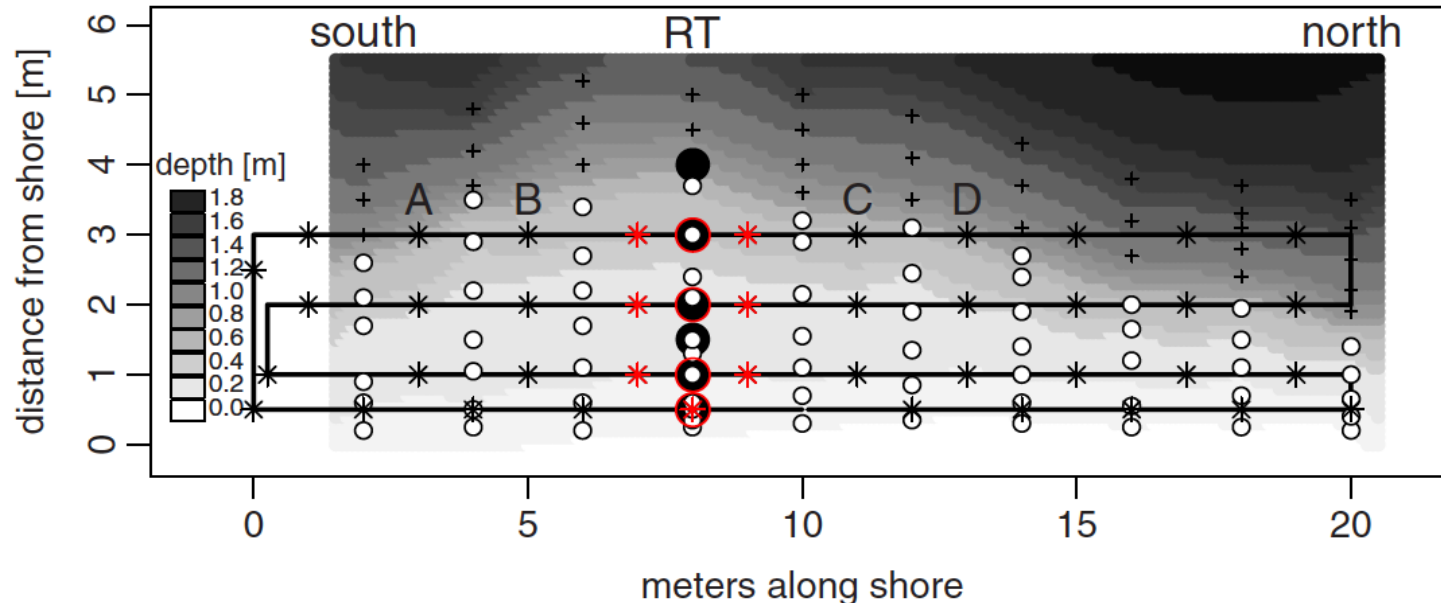
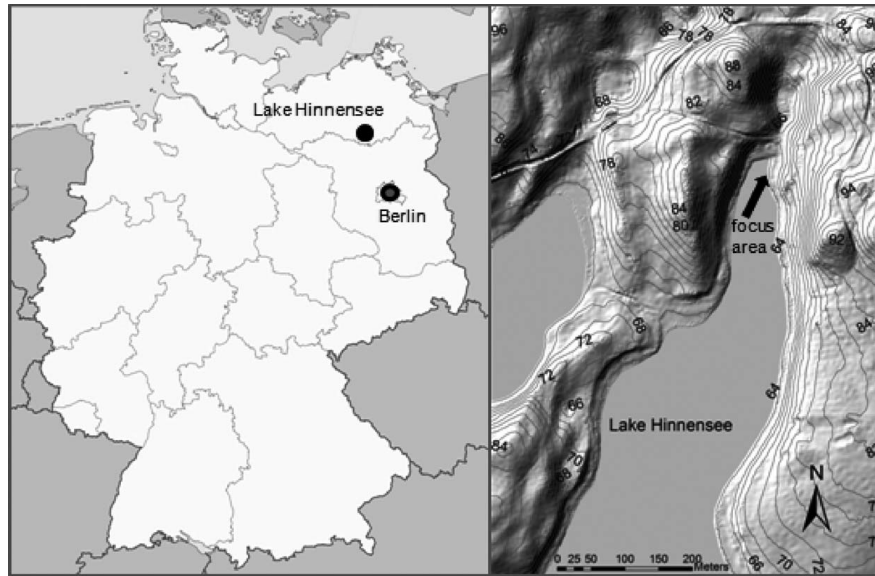


FO-DTS: Identification of lacustrine GW discharge

Upscaling lacustrine groundwater discharge rates by fiber-optic distributed temperature sensing

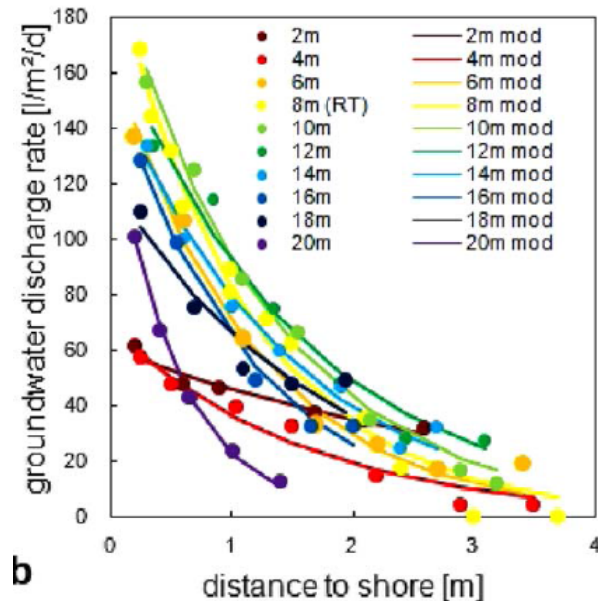
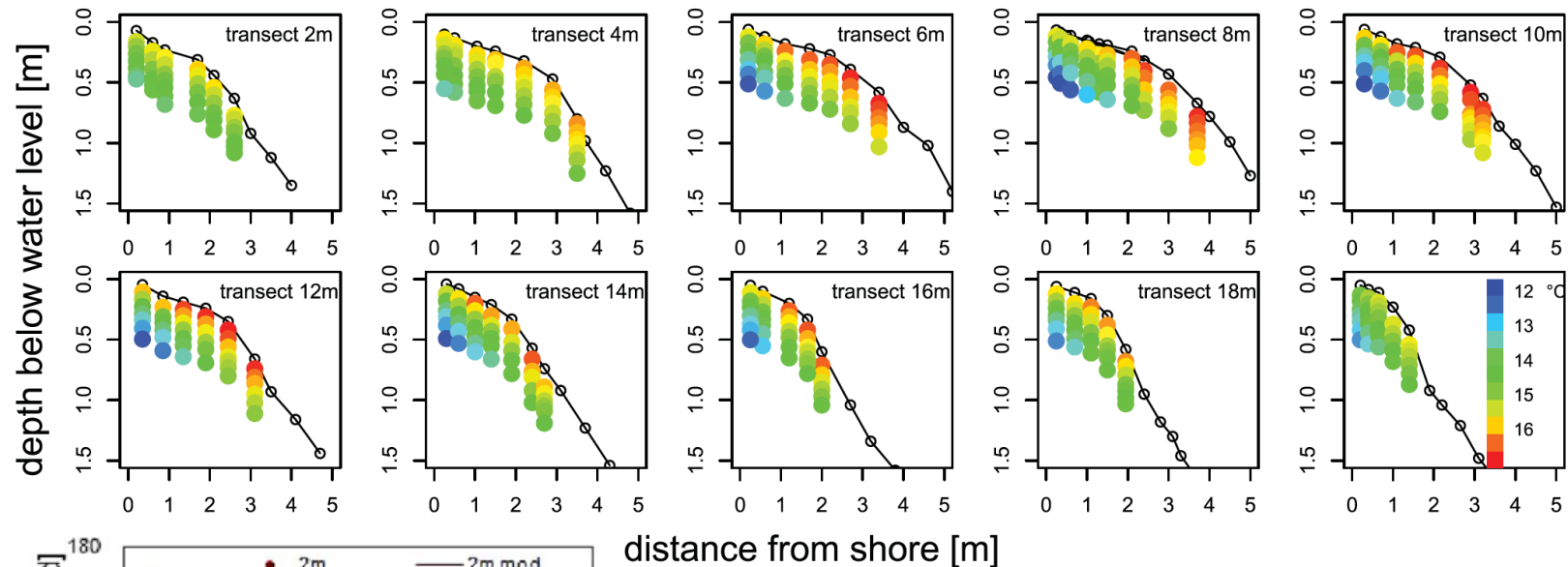
Theresa Blume,¹ Stefan Krause,² Karin Meinikmann,³ and Jörg Lewandowski³

Received 31 October 2012; revised 28 October 2013; accepted 30 October 2013; published 4 December 2013.



[Blume, et al., WRR, 2013]

FO-DTS: Identification of lacustrine GW discharge

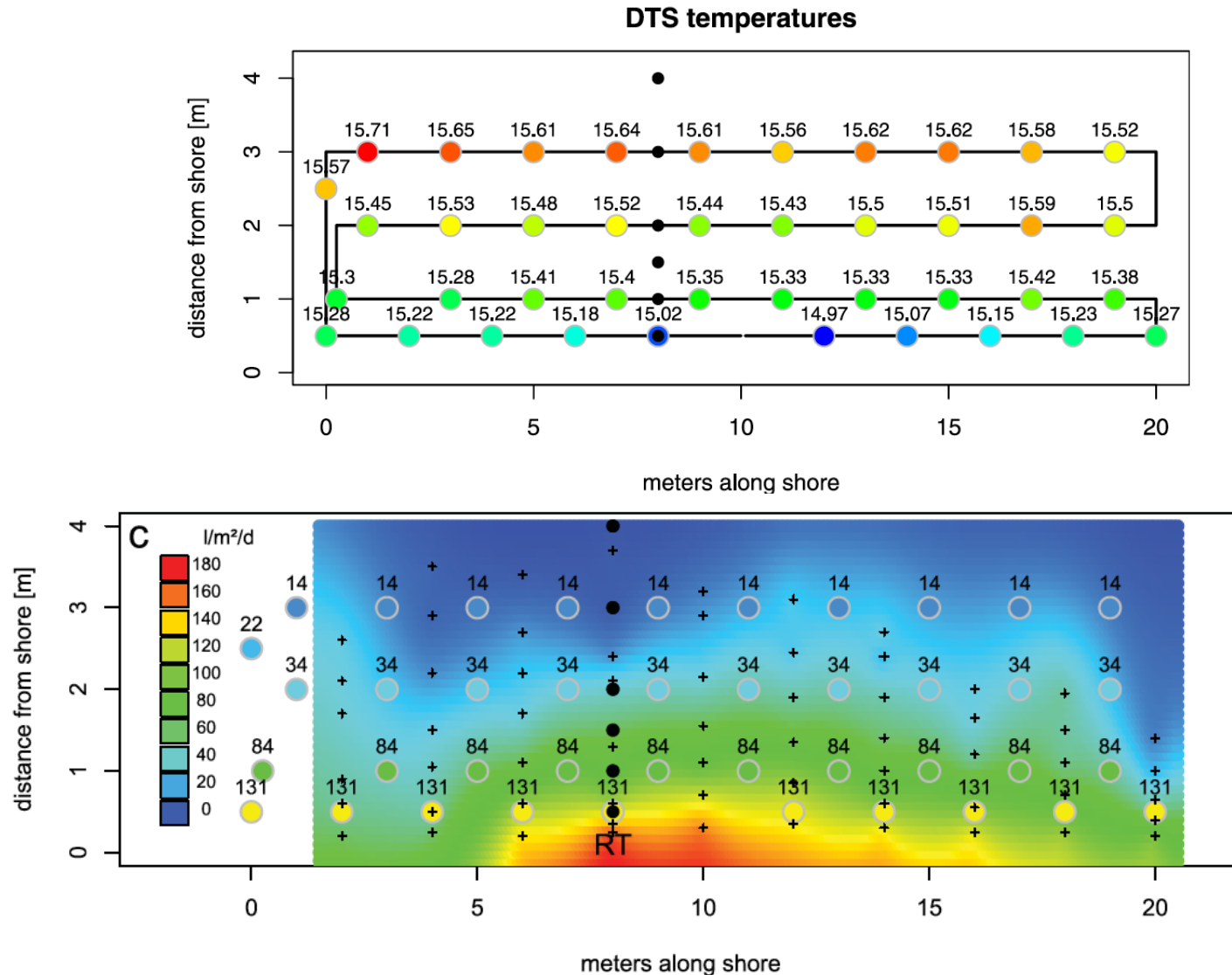


1-D Heat Flow:

$$T(z) = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{q_z \rho_f c_f}{K_{fs}} z\right) - 1}{\exp\left(\frac{q_z \rho_f c_f}{K_{fs}} L\right) - 1} (T_L - T_0) + T_0$$

[Blume, et al., WRR, 2013]

FO-DTS: Identification of lacustrine GW discharge

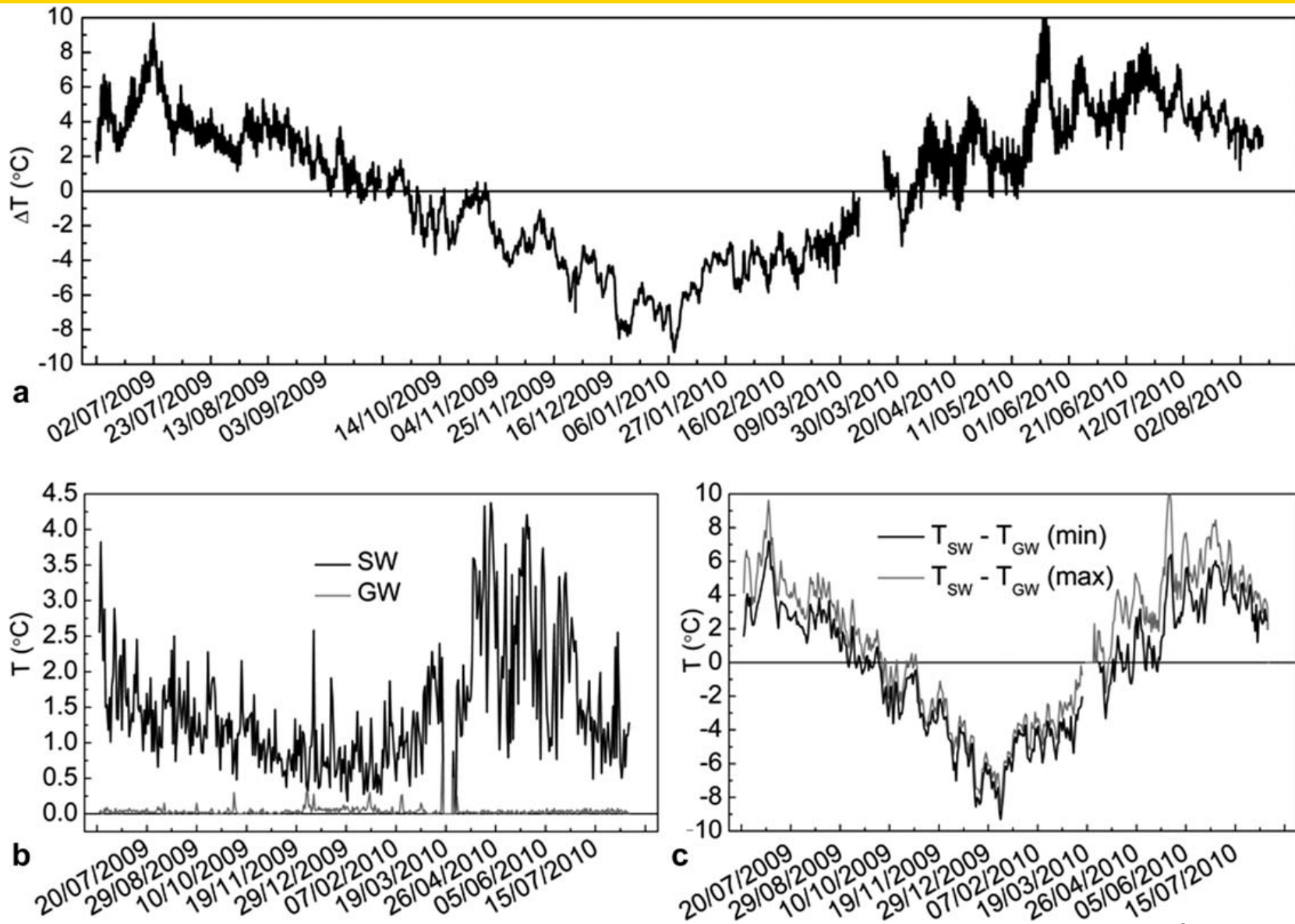


[Blume, et al., WRR, 2013]



- **Variability (space and time) in signal strength**
- **Experimental design and monitoring mode**
- **Sampling resolution and ambiguity of data interpretation (correlation between signal size and signal strength)**

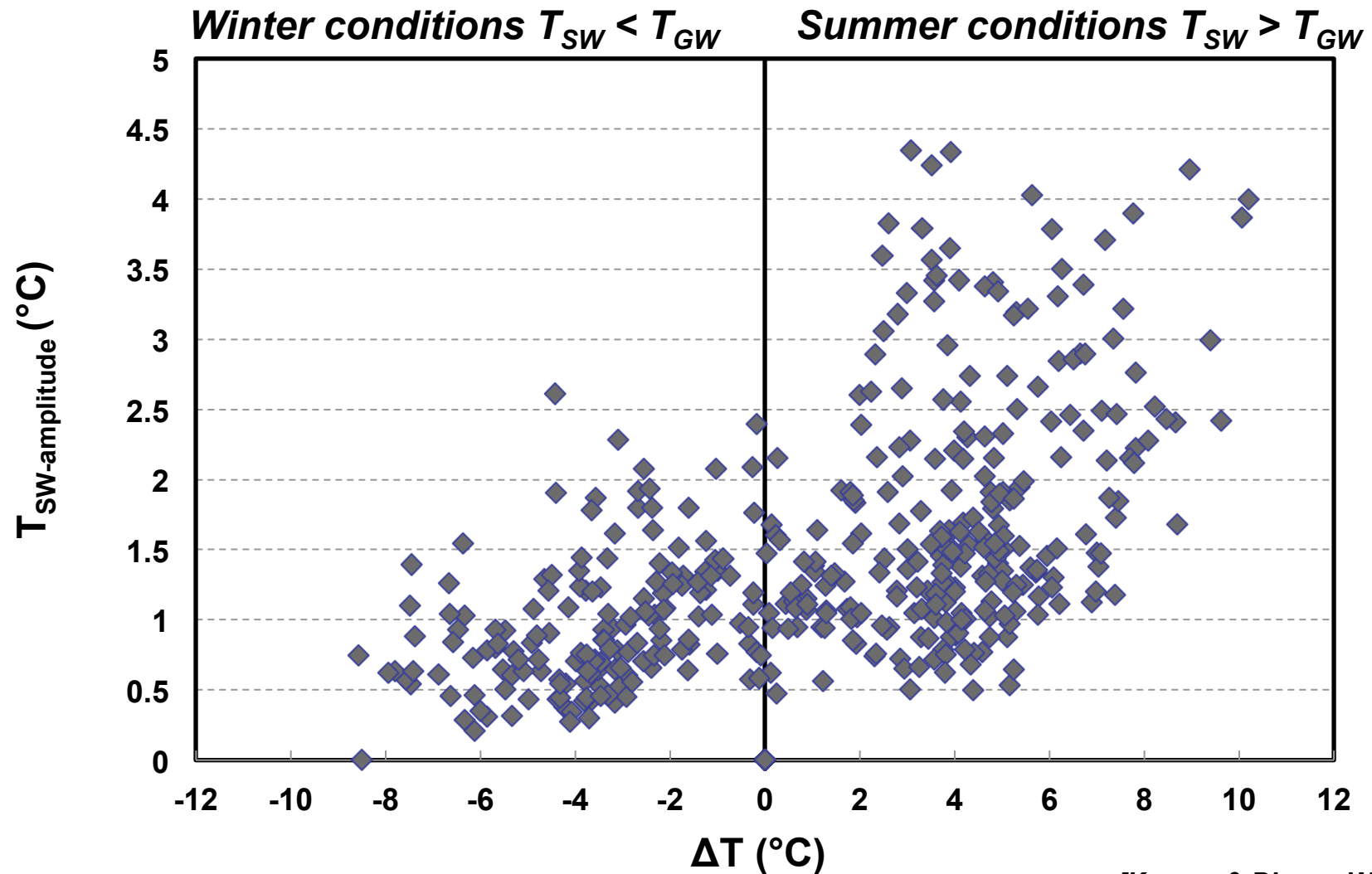
1. Impact of seasonal signal variation



[Krause & Blume, WRR, 2013]

1. Impact of seasonal signal variation

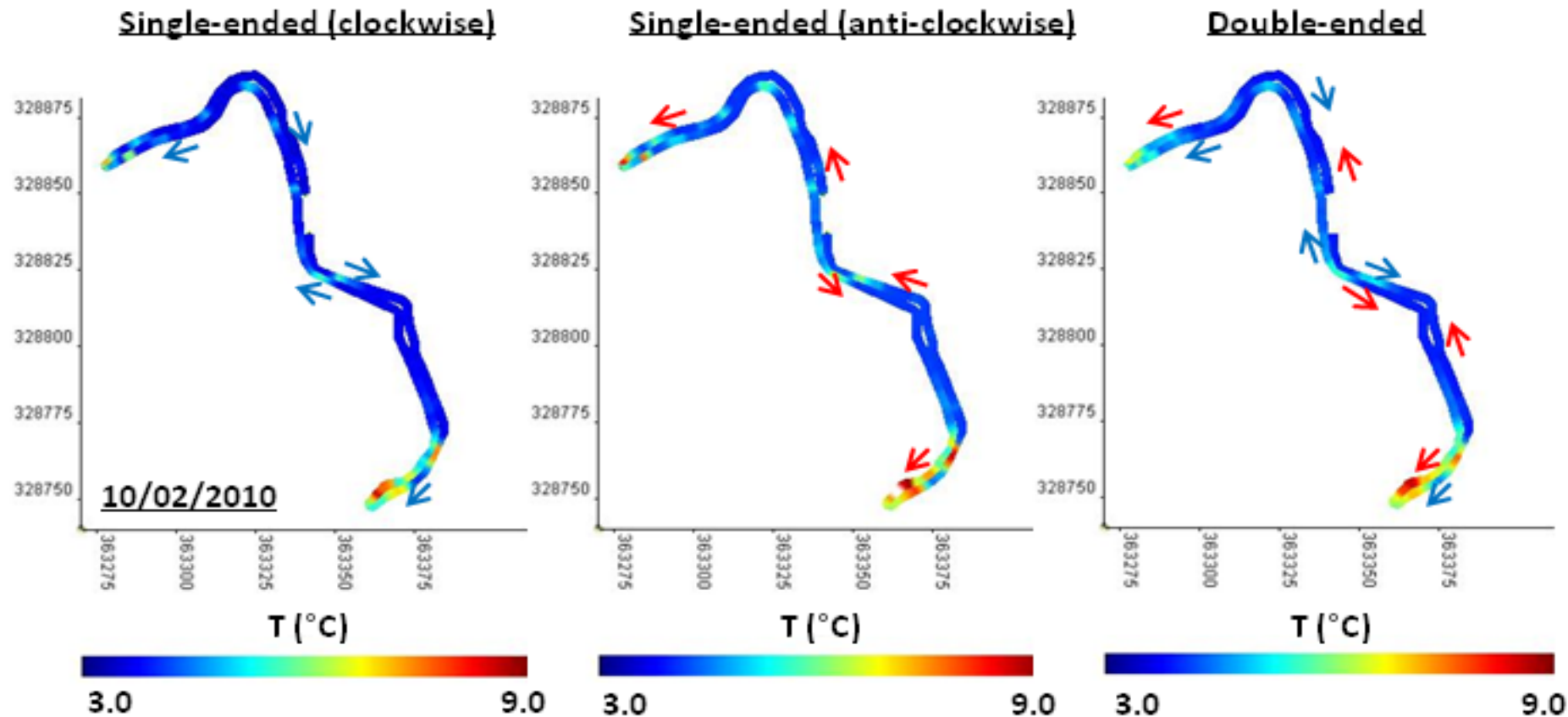
Seasonal variability of signal strength



[Krause & Blume, WRR, 2013]

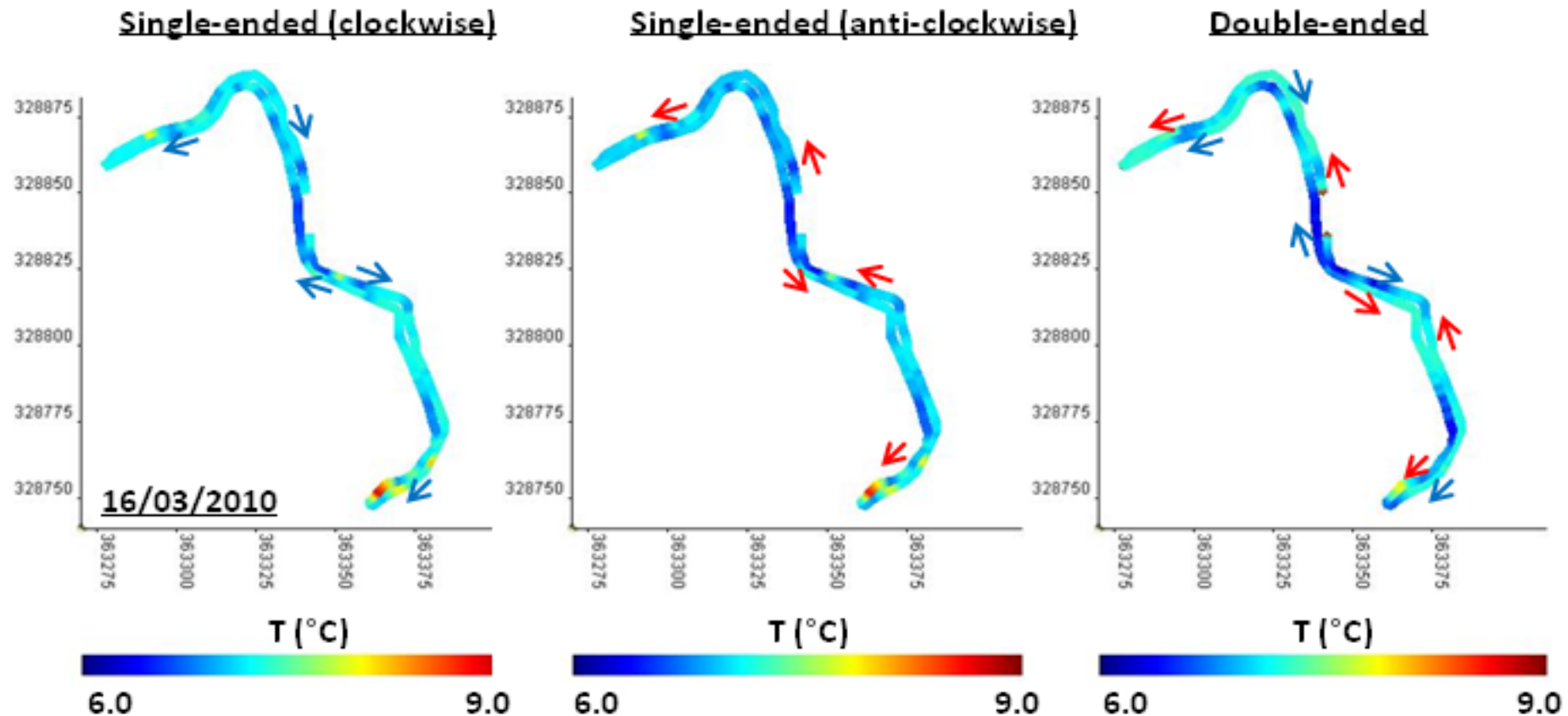
1. Impact of seasonal signal variation

Winter:



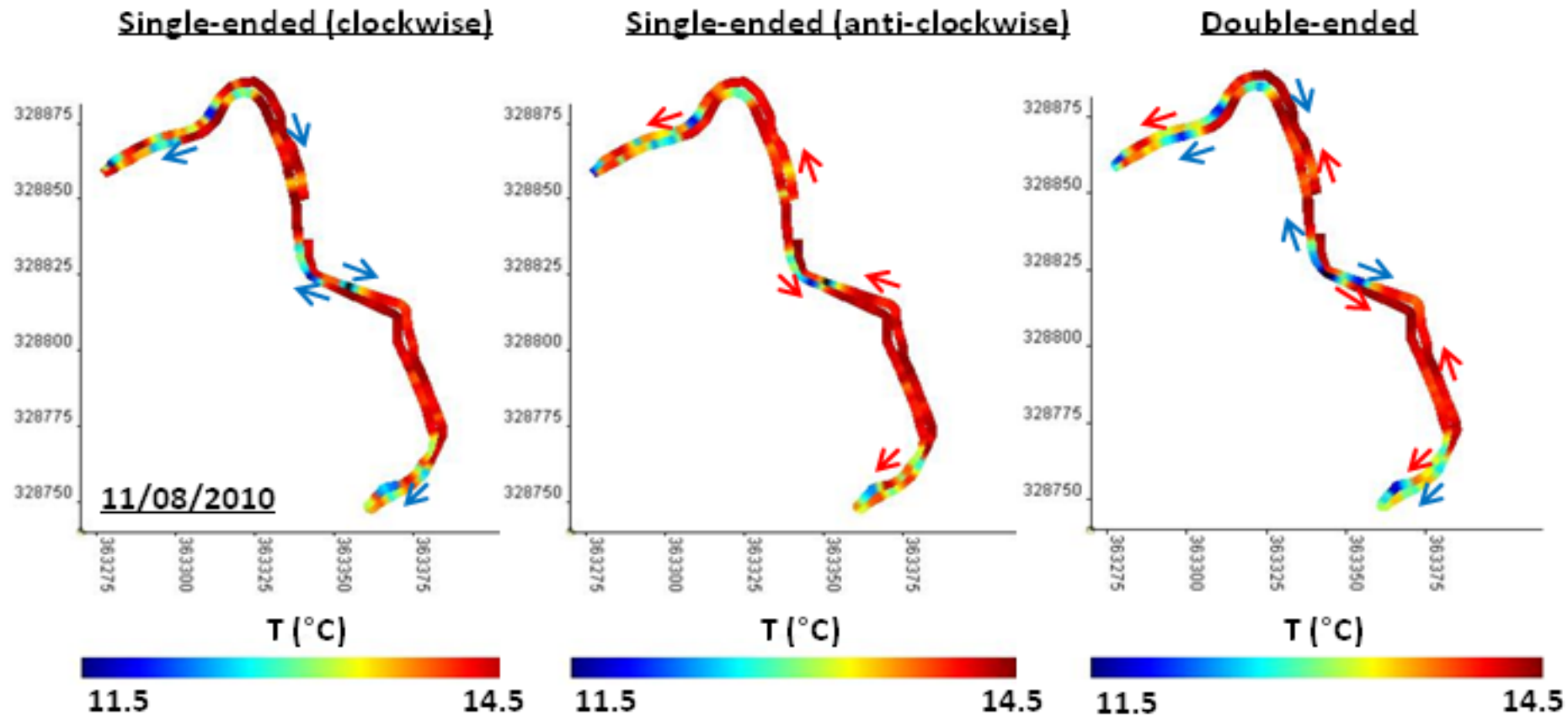
1. Impact of seasonal signal variation

Spring:



1. Impact of seasonal signal variation

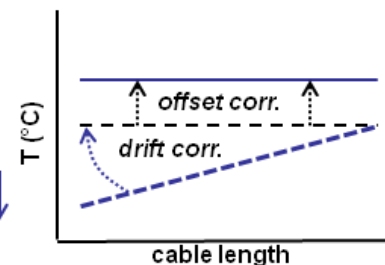
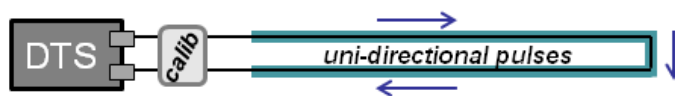
Summer:



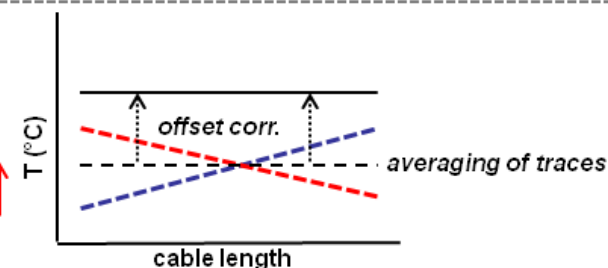
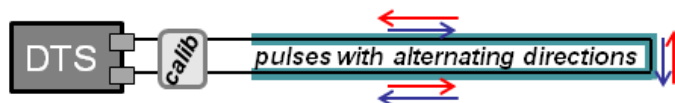
FO-DTS: Capabilities and Limitations

2. Impact of monitoring modes

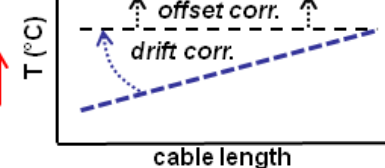
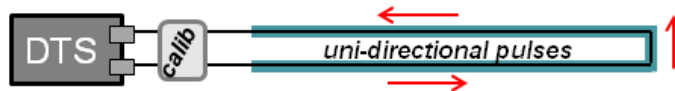
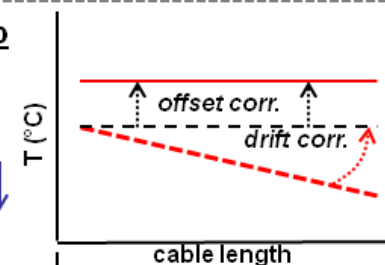
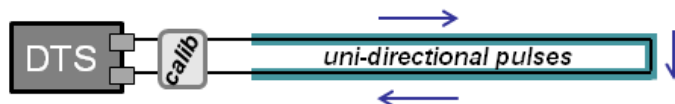
Single-ended Monitoring Setup



Double-ended Monitoring Setup

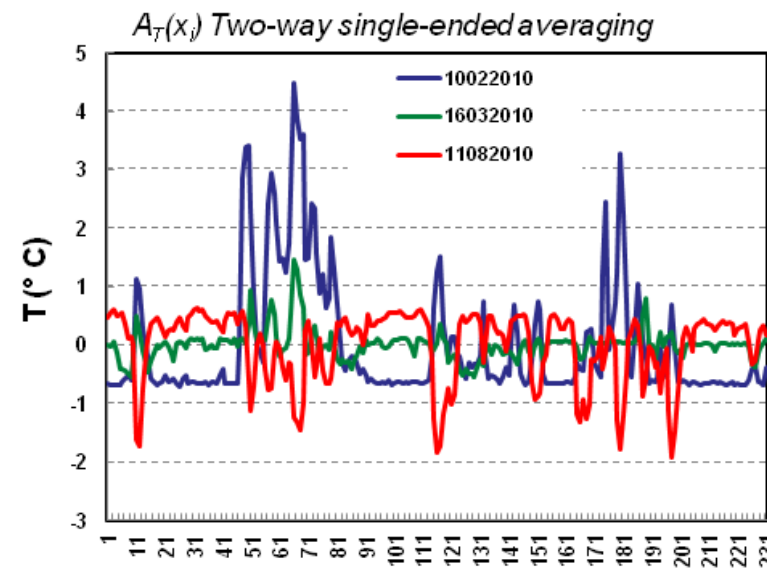
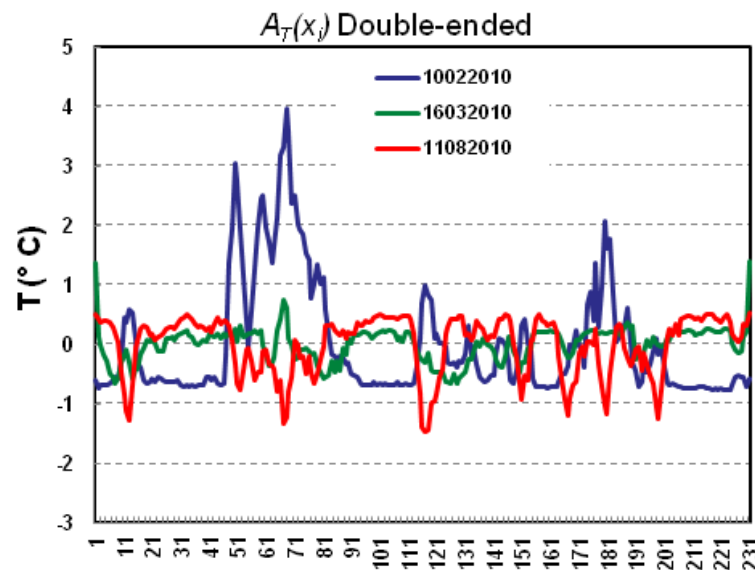
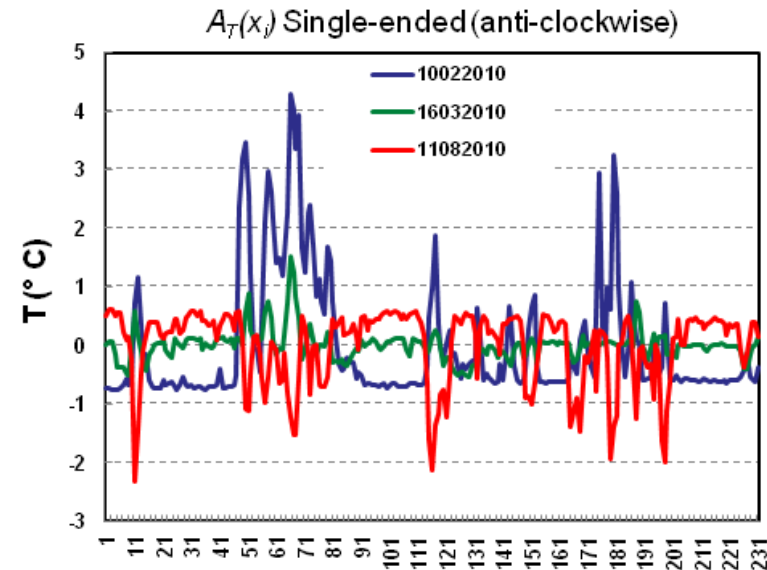
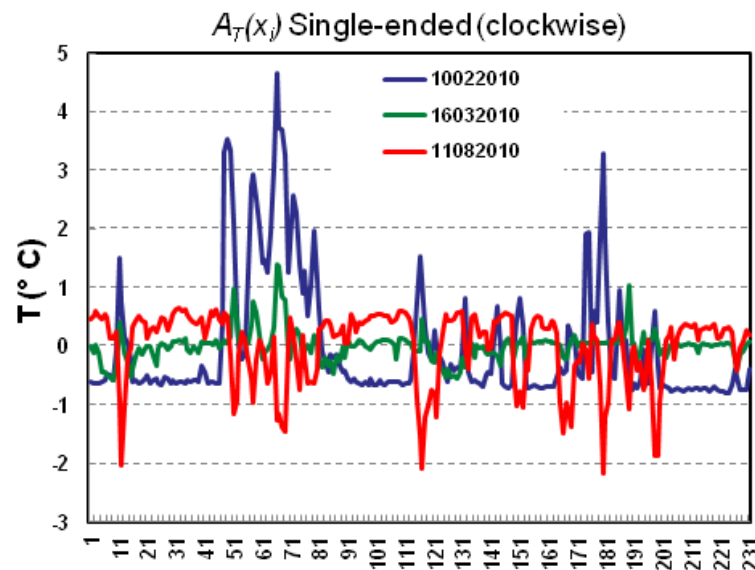


Combined Single/Double-ended Monitoring Setup



[Krause & Blume,
WRR, 2013]

FO-DTS: Capabilities and Limitations

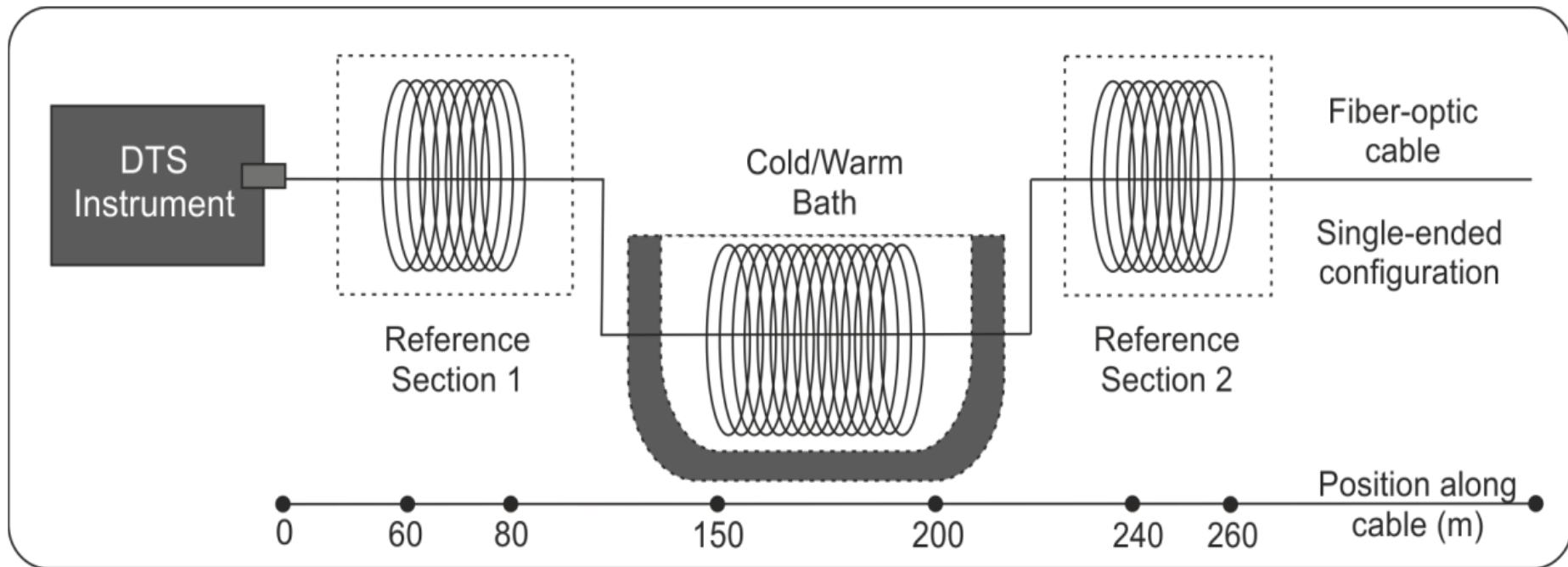


[Krause & Blume, WRR, 2013]

FO-DTS: Capabilities and Limitations

3. Impact of signal strength and signal size

Setup of controlled lab-experiment:

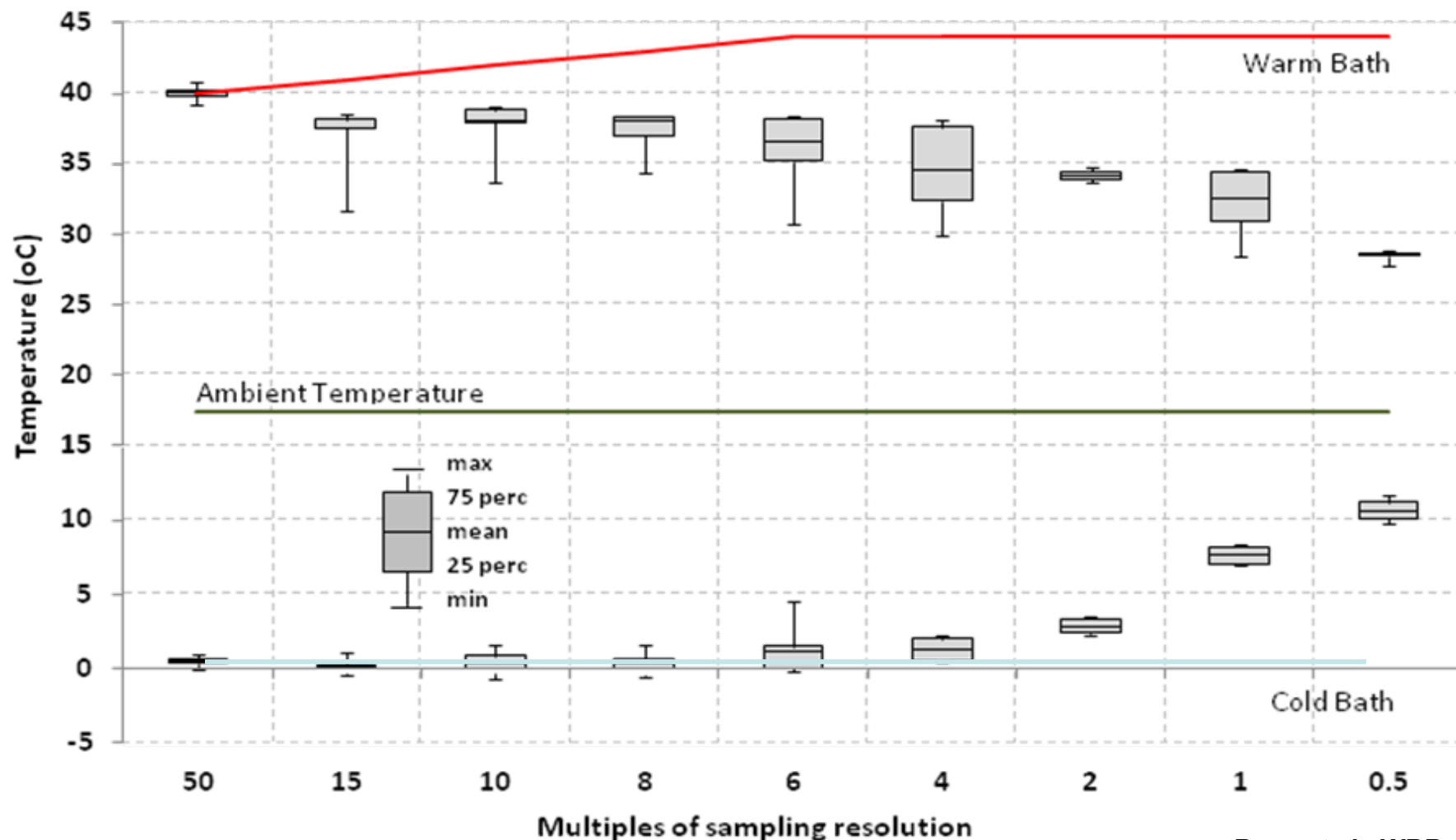


Variation of:

- Signal strength ($0.25 - 0.5 \times$ sampling resolution)
- Signal size / direction (positive / negative T-anomaly)

FO-DTS: Capabilities and Limitations

3. Impact of signal strength and signal size



Rose et al., WRR, 2013

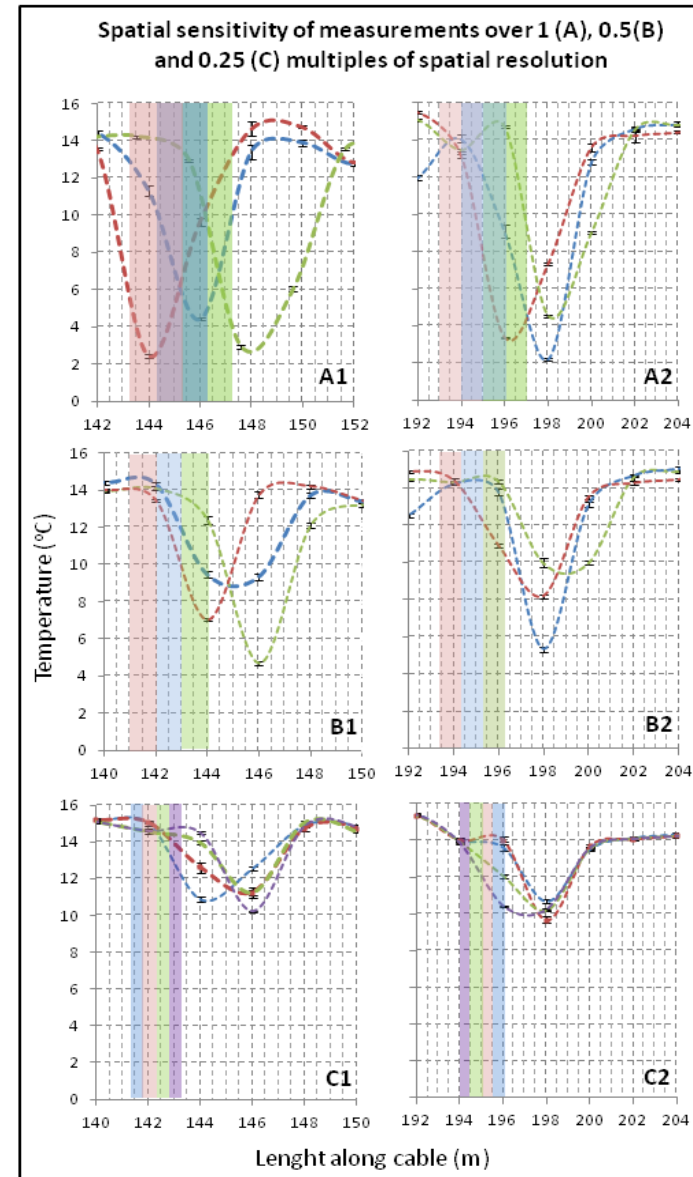
FO-DTS: Capabilities and Limitations

**Signal detection close to / below
sampling resolution**

**In reality signal-size usually
unknown**

Small signal size:

- errors in detection of spatial signal extend (size)
- error in signal strength increases with reduction in signal size
- signal dislocation



Rose et al., WRR, 2013

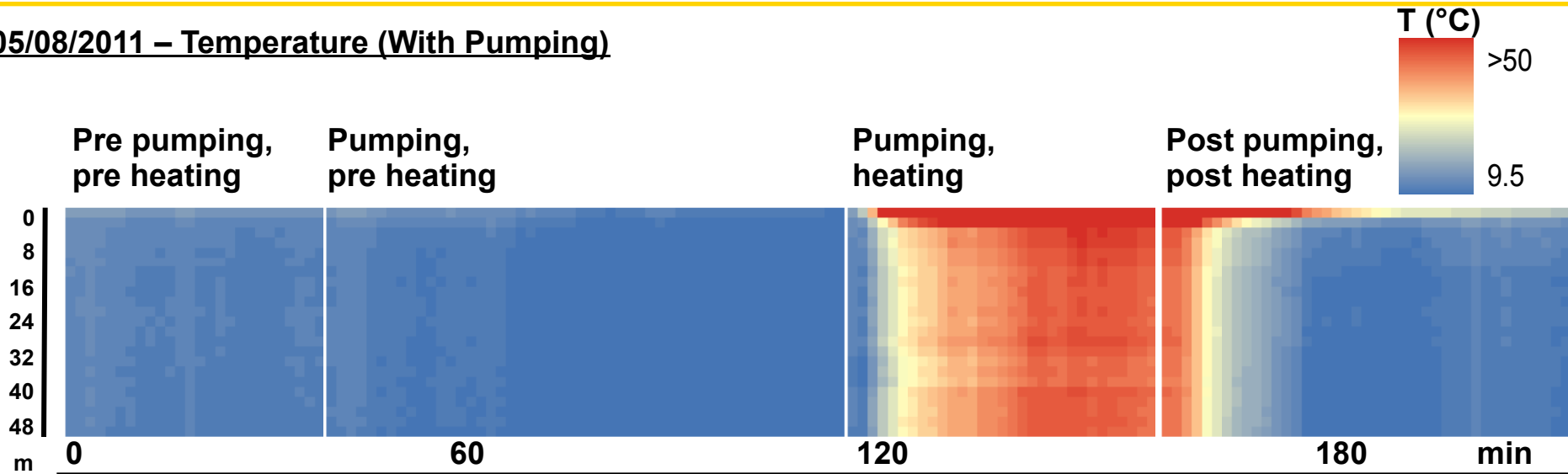
New perspectives: Active FO-DTS



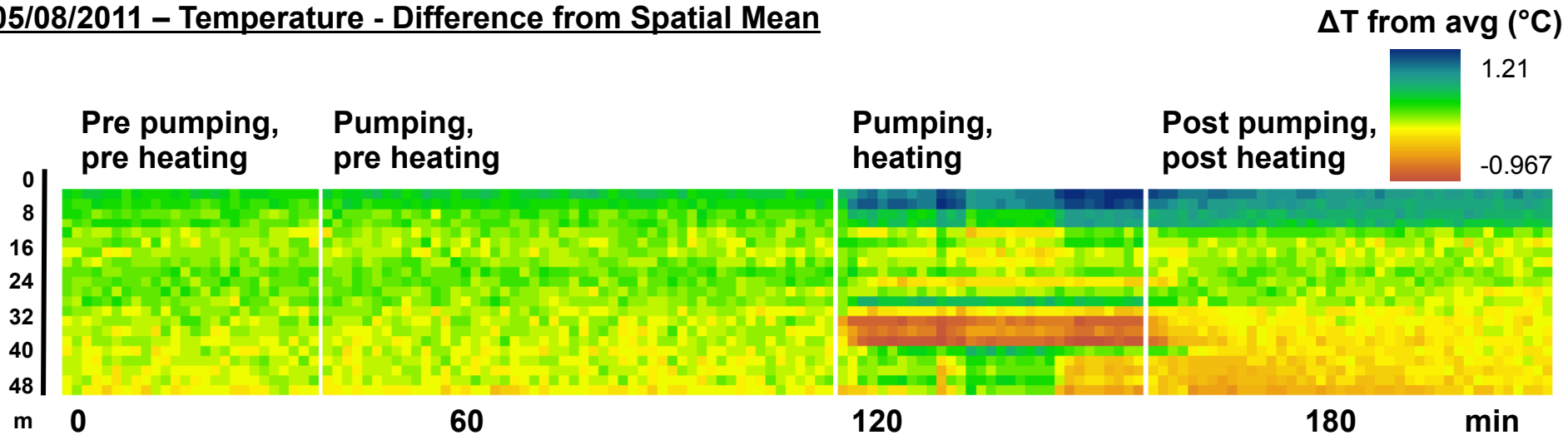
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05/08/2011 – Temperature (With Pumping)



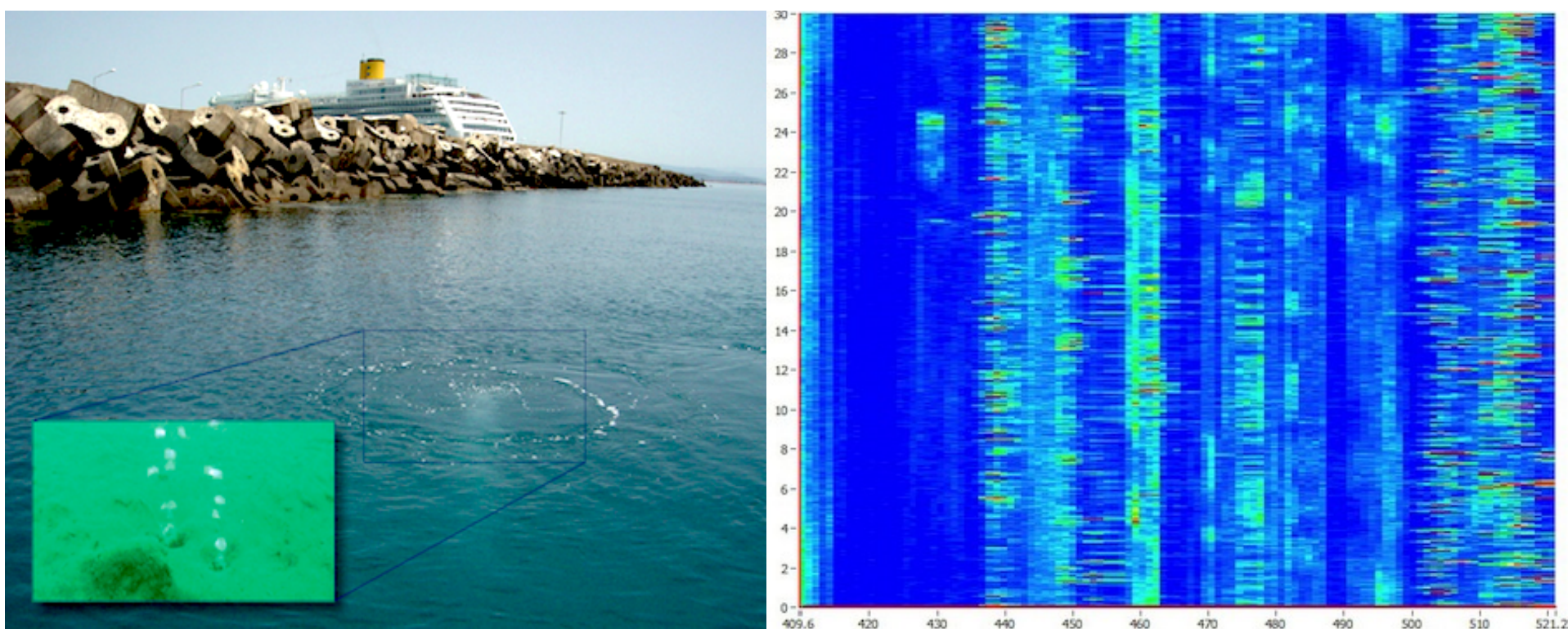
05/08/2011 – Temperature - Difference from Spatial Mean



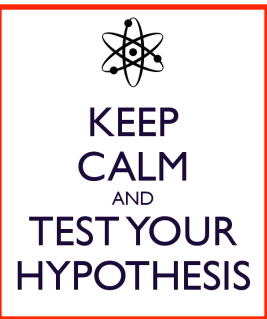
[McMillan et al., WRR, submitted]

New perspectives: IDAS – Intelligent Distributed Acoustic Sensing

IDAS-based quantification of gas ebullition



Opportunistic ^{and} vs. hypothesis driven research



Be aware of the limitations and uncertainties!

Thank You



INTERFACES - Ecohydrological interfaces as critical hotspots for transformations of ecosystem exchange fluxes and biogeochemical cycling. [EP7-PEOPLE-2013-ITN](#). 2013-2017



Large woody debris - A river restoration panacea for stream-bed nitrate attenuation? [NERC-NE/L004437/1](#). 2014-2017

Groundwater flooding: GW-community recovery following an extreme recharge event. [NERC-NE/M005151/1](#). 2014-2015

Active Distributed Temperature Sensing for high-resolution fluid-flow monitoring in boreholes. [NE/L012715/1](#). 2014-2015

Smart tracers and distributed sensor networks for quantifying the metabolic activity in streambed reactivity hotspots [NERC-NE/I016120/1](#). 2011-2013



Where rivers, groundwater and disciplines meet: a hyporheic research network. 2014-2017



Risk assessment and potential for attenuation of TCE in hyporheic sediments. 2010-2014



C-KIC: Prediction of drought impacts on thermal and water quality extremes. 2014-2017

FO-DTS for identifying GW-SW exchange flow in Icelandic lakes 2012-2013



Research for the future of our freshwaters

Special thanks to:

- D.M. Hannah, L. Rose, L. McMillan, S. Felegot, S. Milner (University of Birmingham)
- J. Lewandowski, K. Meinikmann (IGB-Berlin)
- A. Binley, L. A. Heathwaite, P. Keenan (Lancaster University)
- V. Bense, T. Read (University of East Anglia)
- T. Blume, L. Angermann, C. Tecklenburg (GFZ-Potsdam)
- J. P. Zarnetske (University of Michigan)
- J.H. Fleckenstein, C. Schmidt (UFZ-Leipzig)
- F. Day-Lewis, J. Gomez, (USGS)
- J. Weatherill, S. Ullah, N.J. Cassidy, (University of Keele)
- M. Munz (University of Potsdam)
- D. Kaeser (Uni Neuchatel)
- A. Chalari, M. Mondanos (SILIXA)