

The Simulation Software

PCSiWaPro®

Overview

- 1. Modelling in the unsaturated soil zone**
- 2. The software PCSiWaPro®**
- 3. The weather generator**
- 4. Applications**

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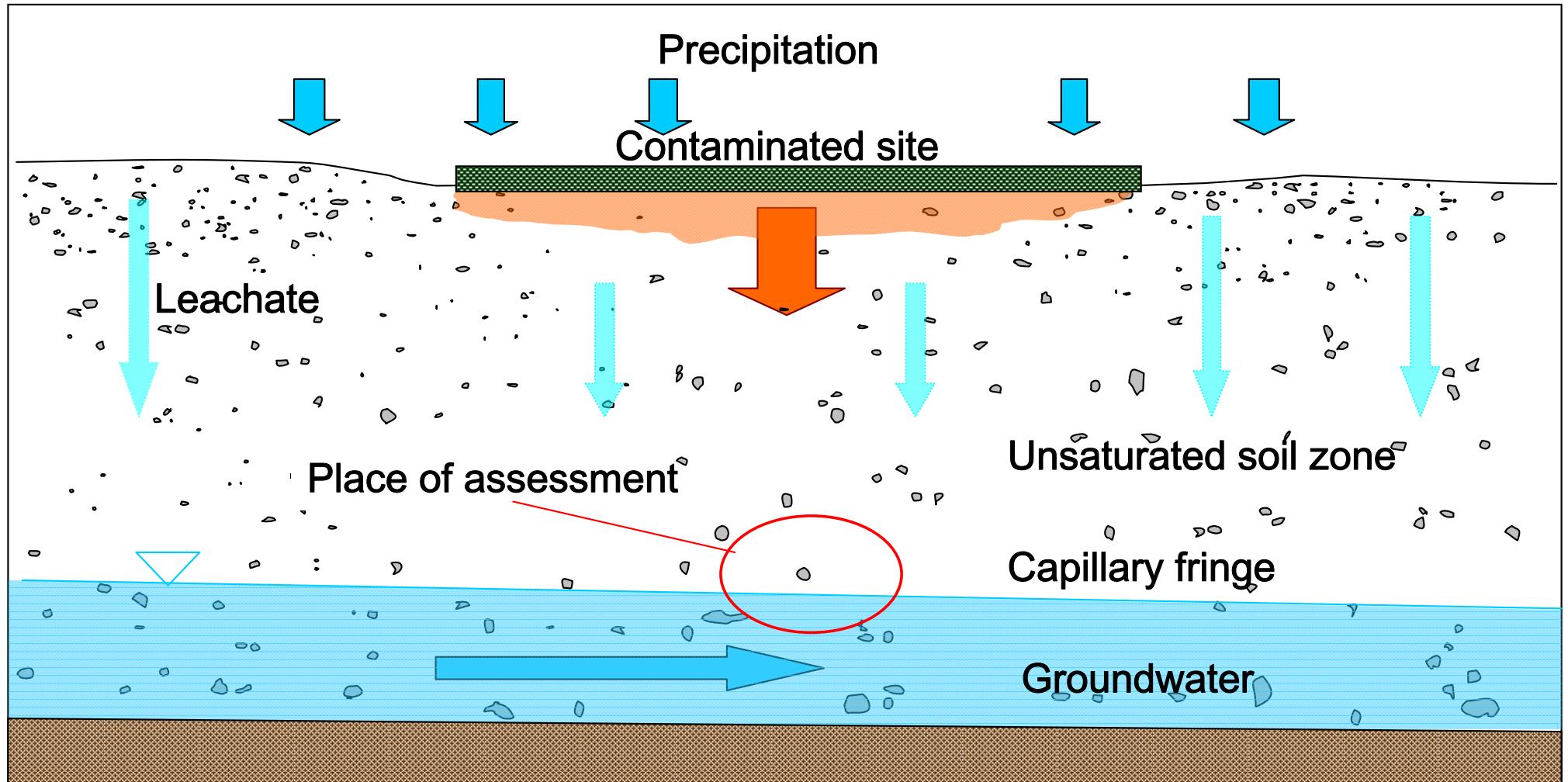
→ Why modelling?

- faster, less expensive than field experiments
- risk assessment, prognosis
- scenario analysis (best case/worst case, ...)
- process understanding



→ But: The more **processes** included in a model, the more difficult **parameterization** becomes!

water flow, root water uptake, plant growth, preferential flow,
contaminant transport, sorption, decay, chemical reactions,
soil-surface-interaction, soil-groundwater-interaction, ...



→ Models described by **partial differential equations**:

→ **Flow:** RICHARDS-Equation, retention curve parameterization by VAN GENUCHTEN/LUCKNER

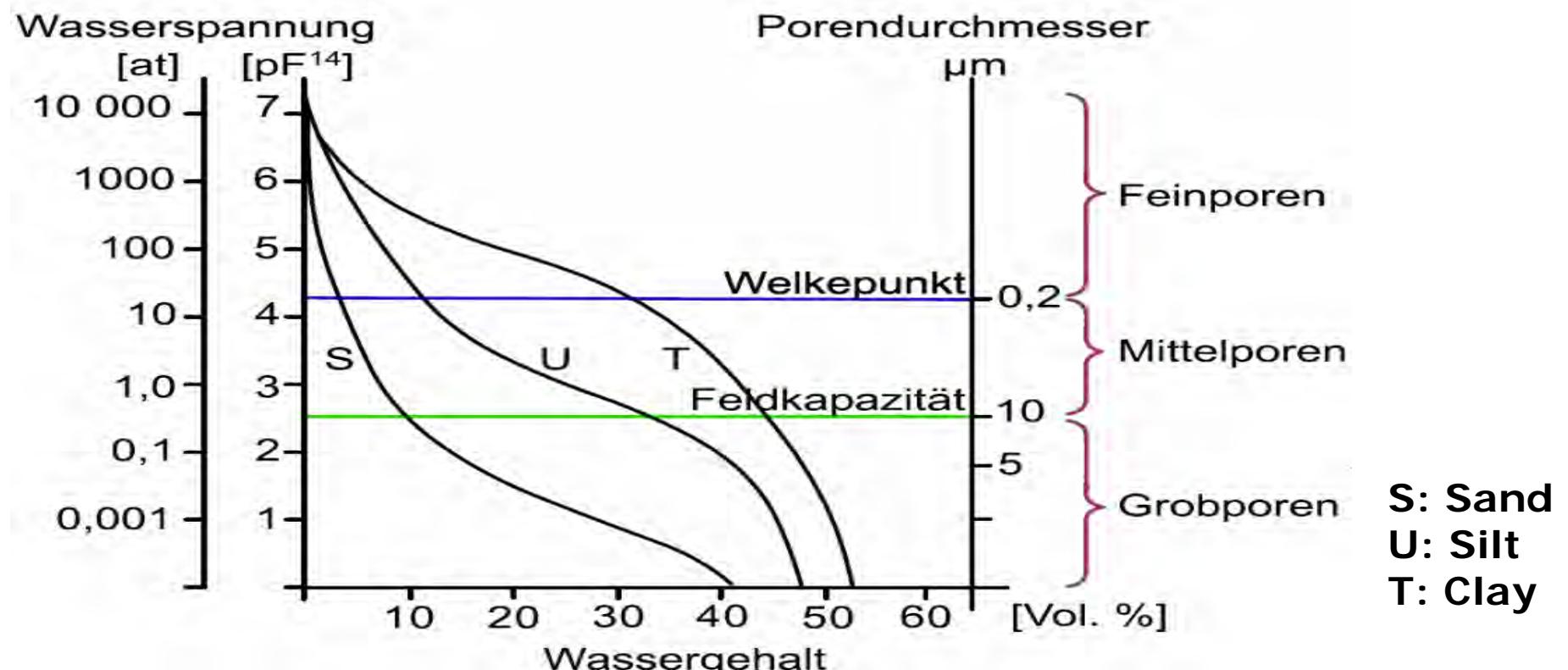
$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[K \left(K_{ij}^A \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_j} + K_{iz}^A \right) \right] - S$$

$$\theta = \theta_r + \frac{\phi - \theta_{r,w} - \theta_{r,l}}{\left[1 + (\alpha \cdot h_c)^n \right]^{-\frac{1}{n}}}$$

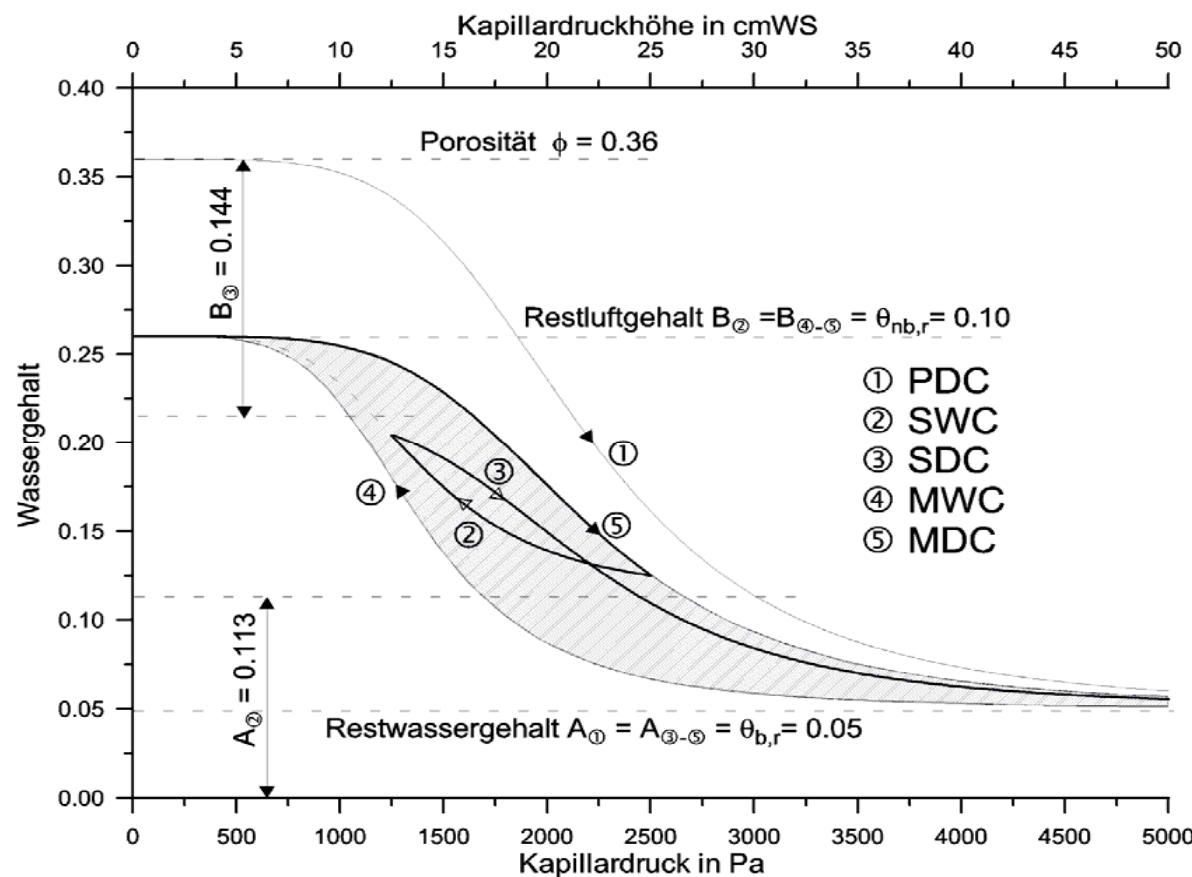
θ	volumetric water content
t	time
x_i	($x_1=x$, $x_2=z$), spatial coordinates
K	hydraulic conductivity
h	pressure head
S	sink/source term

ϕ	porosity
$\theta_{r,w}$	residual water content
$\theta_{r,l}$	residual air content
α	scaling factor (van Genuchten)
n	slope factor (van Genuchten)
h_c	capillary pressure head

→ Retention curve



→ Retention curve: hysteresis



- ① Primary Drainage Curve PDC
- ② Scanning Wetting Curves SWC
- ③ Scanning Drainage Curves SDC
- ④ Main Wetting Curve MWC
- ⑤ Main Drainage Curve MDC

Source: nach Scheffer & Schachtschabel (2002):
Lehrbuch der Bodenkunde. Heidelberg.

→ Models described by **partial differential equations**:

→ **Transport:** Convection-Dispersion-Equation

$$\frac{\partial \theta c}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \rho s}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\theta D_{ij} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_j} \right) - \frac{\partial q_i c}{\partial x_i} + \mu_w \theta c + \mu_s \rho s + \gamma_w \theta + \gamma_s \rho - S c_s$$

c	concentration	D_{ij}	tensor of dispersion coefficients
s	sorbed concentration	S	sink/source term
P	bulk density	C_s	concentration of sink/source term
t	time	γ_w, γ_s	parameters for 0 st order processes
q_i	i-th component of flux	μ_w, μ_s	parameters for 1 th order processes

→ Models described by **partial differential equations**:

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sorption

→ attachment and detachment of contaminants to **soil body**

→ described by **isotherms**

→ Sorption **isotherms**

→ **HENRY**: linear, for low concentrations

$$s_m = \theta \cdot \rho_{fl,m} + \rho_b \cdot K_d \cdot \rho_{fl,m} = (\theta + \rho_b K_d) \rho_{fl,m}$$

→ **FREUNDLICH**: exponential, for fixed number of sorption spots

$$s_m = \theta \cdot \rho_{fl,m} + K_F \cdot \rho_{fl,m}^q$$

→ **LANGMUIR**: non-linear, for high-concentrations

$$s_m = \theta \cdot \rho_{fl,m} + \frac{K_L \cdot \rho_{fl,m}}{1 + K_L \cdot \rho_{fl,m}} \cdot s_{s,max}$$

s_m – adsorbed mass on the solid phase

θ – water content, ρ_b – soil bulk density, $\rho_{fl,m}$ – partial mass density in the fluid phase

K_d – partitioning-(HENRY)-coefficient, q – constant parameter, K_F – FREUNDLICH-coefficient

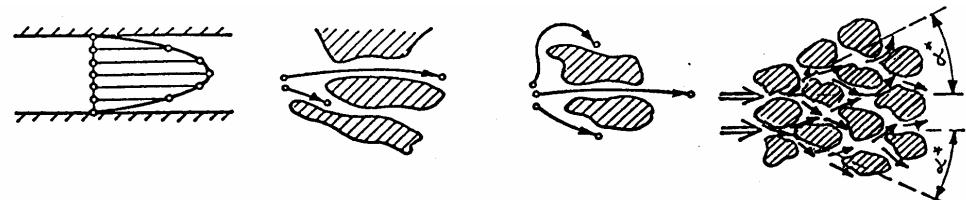
$s_{s,max}$ – max. adsorbed mass on the solid phase, K_L – LANGMUIR-coefficient

→ Models described by **partial differential equations**:

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dispersion/
diffusion



→ dispersion coupled to **convection**

→ diffusion due to **BROWNIan** movement

→ Models described by **partial differential equations**:

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convection

→ transport with the **flow of water**

→ Models described by **partial differential equations**:

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0th/1st order internal reactions

→ **internal** production or degradation

$$\frac{ds_m}{dt} = -\mu_m \cdot s_m$$

→ example: exponential **decay**

$$s_m = s_{m,0} \cdot e^{-\mu_m \cdot t}$$

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→ contaminant concentration at model **boundary**

sink/
source

→ **source term** functions

→ How to use these equations to **simulate** model behaviour

→ **input data**

- **soil** parameters (conductivities, porosities, ...)
- **contaminant** parameters (diffusion coefficient, half-life, ...)
- **initial** conditions
- steady-state or transient **boundary** conditions

→ mathematical equation **solving technique**

- additional input data: **discretization** of the model area
(space and time)

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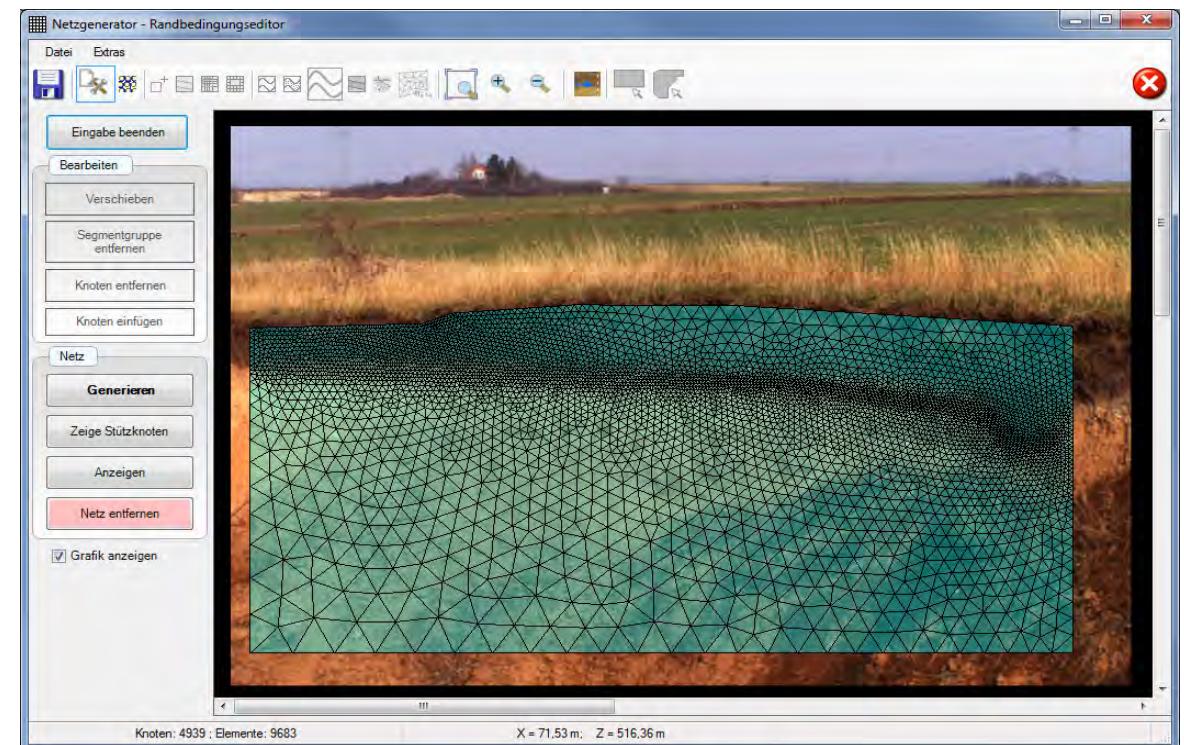
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→ PCSiWaPro®: a software to **simulate** flow and transport processes in the unsaturated soil zone

(1) model **generator**

(2) system **solver**

(3) result **viewer**



→ How to use these equations to simulate model behaviour
with PCSiWaPro®

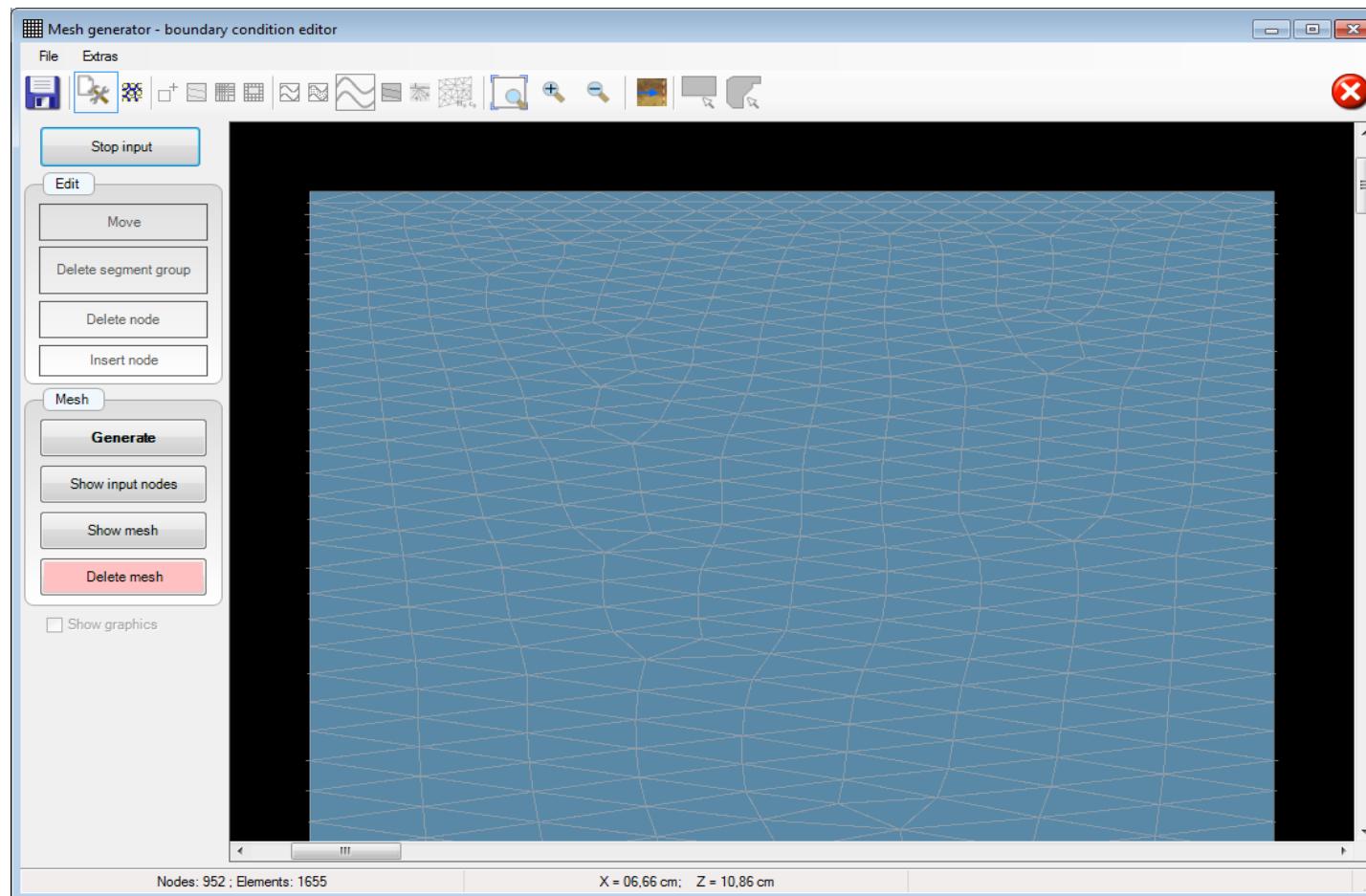
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→ Integrated 1D- or 2D-mesh generator



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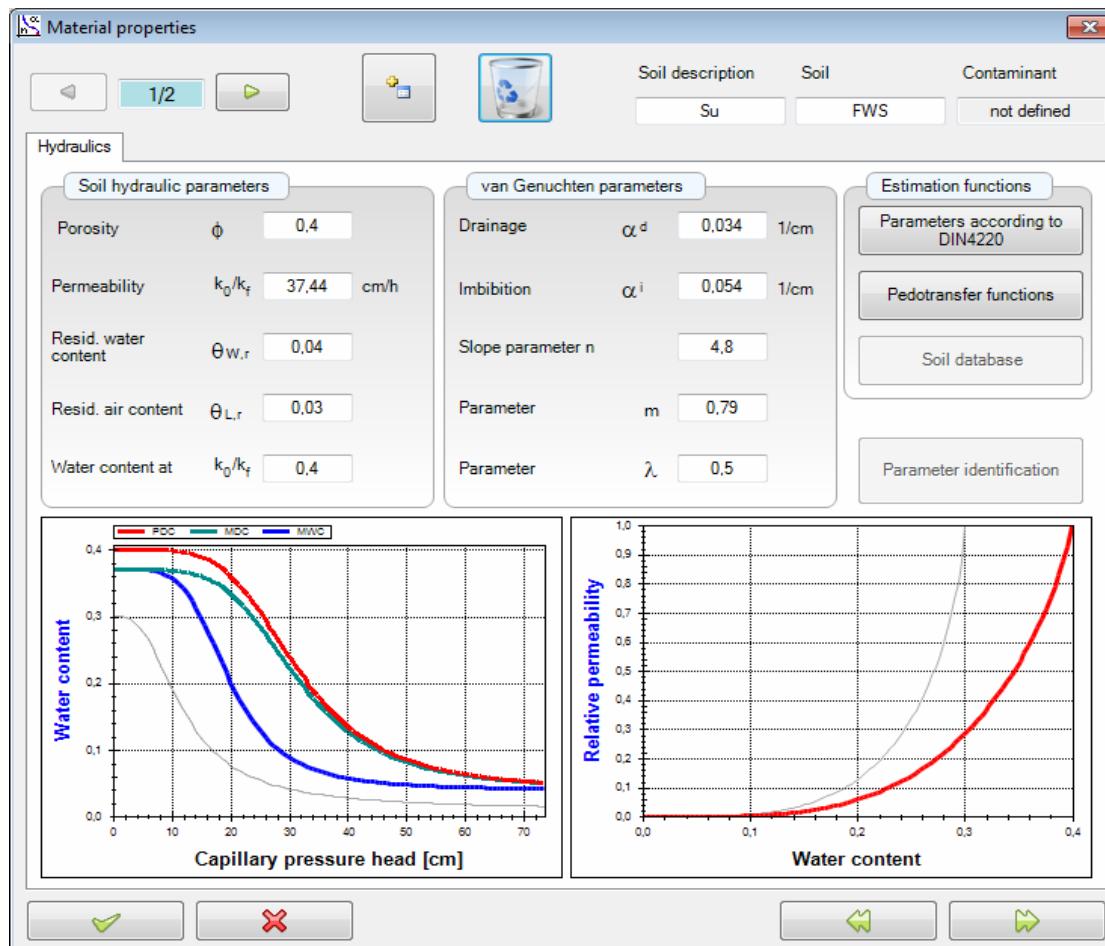
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→ Data input through user-friendly **GUI**



→ **input data** from:

- (1) integrated databases
- (2) pedotransfer functions
- (3) measured data

→ selection of **model assumptions**

- sorption isotherms
- source term functions

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→ Equations solved by:

→ **discretization**

→ space: **finite elements**

→ time: adjusted **finite intervals**

→ explicit, implicit, Crank-Nicholson

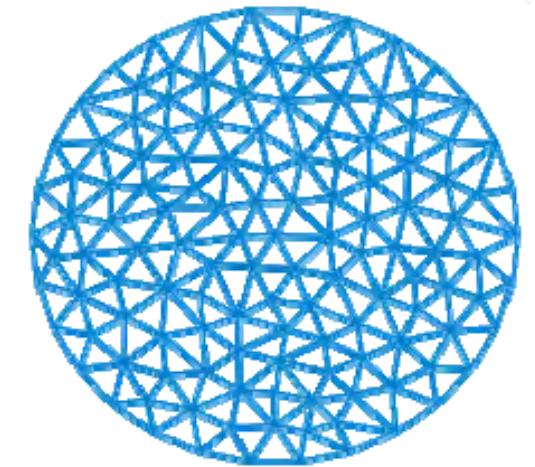
→ repeated solution of **linear equation system**

for each timestep

→ **direct**: GAUSSian elimination

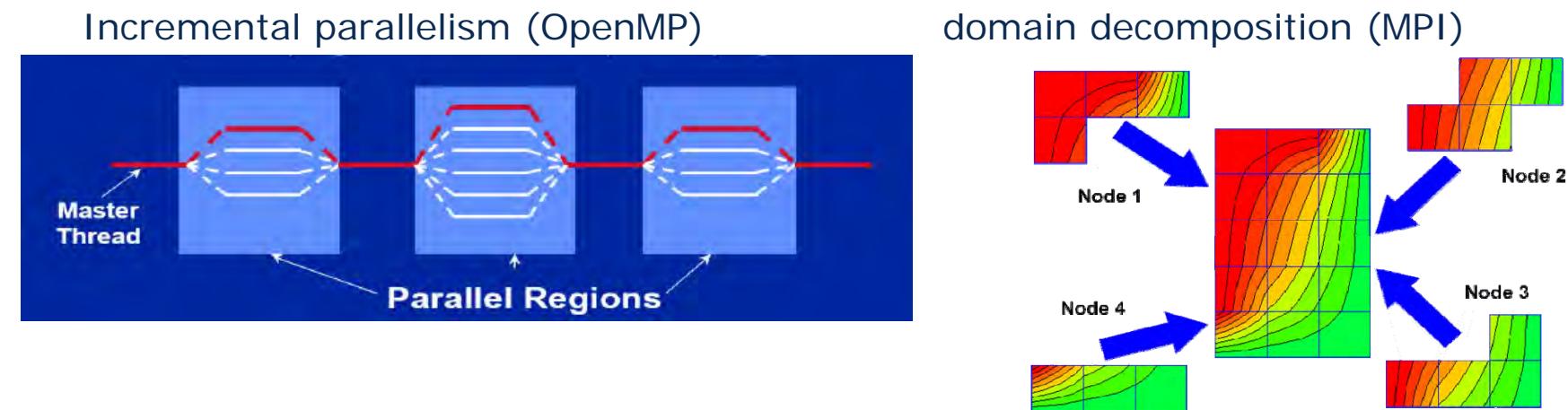
→ **iterative**: preconditioned conjugate gradient method

→ **Problem**: long simulation runtimes



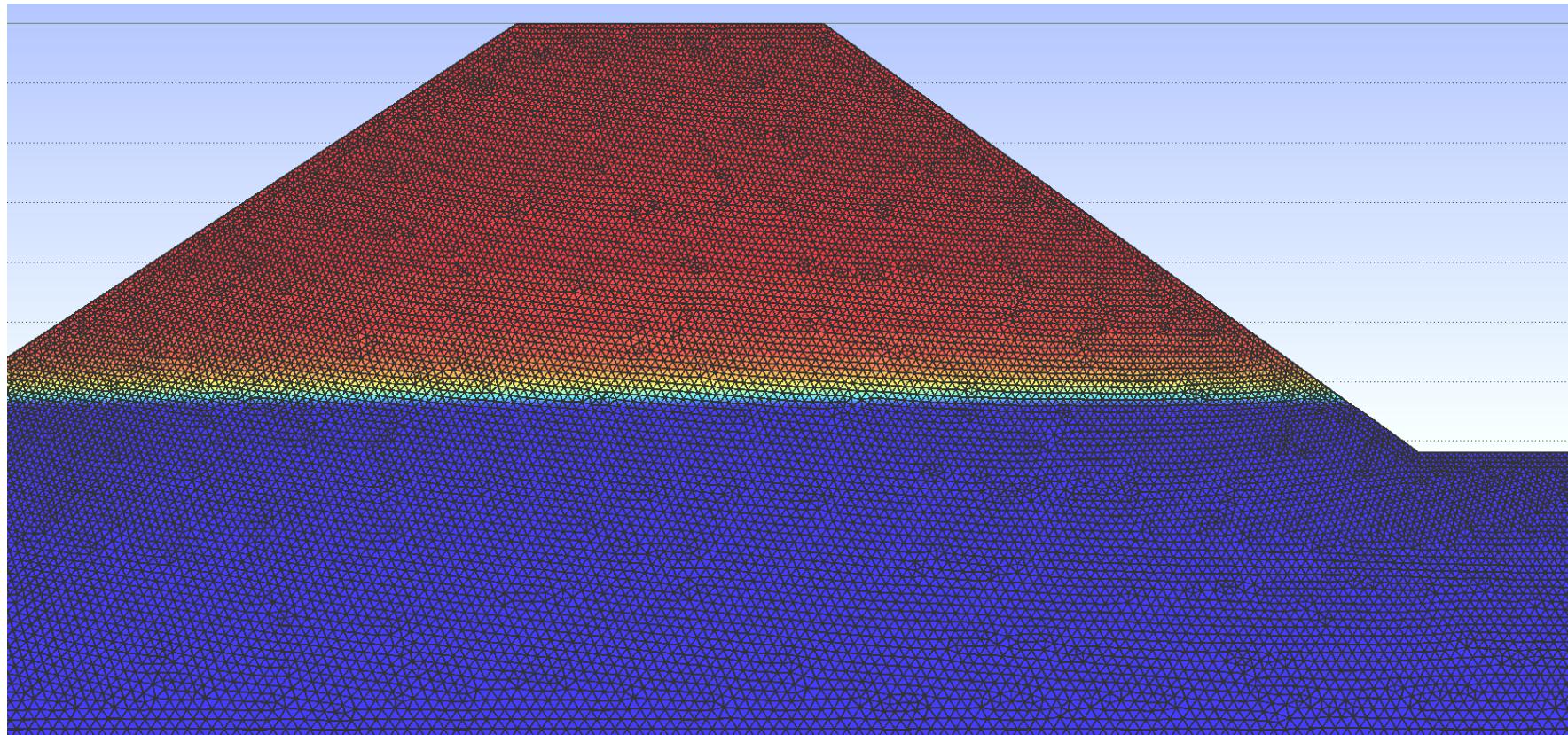
→ Current research topic: source code **parallelization**

→ dividing work into **mutually independent** parts

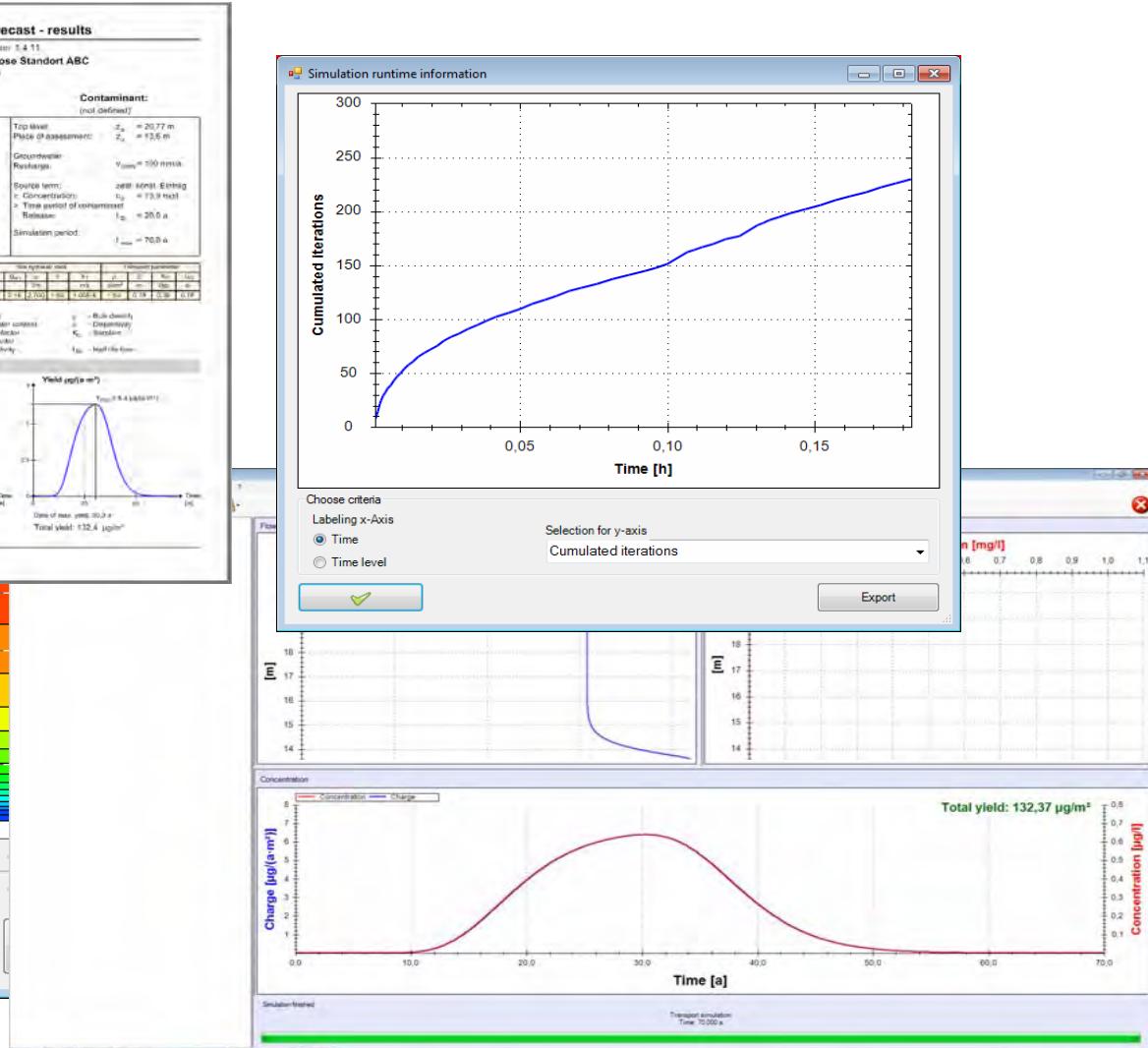
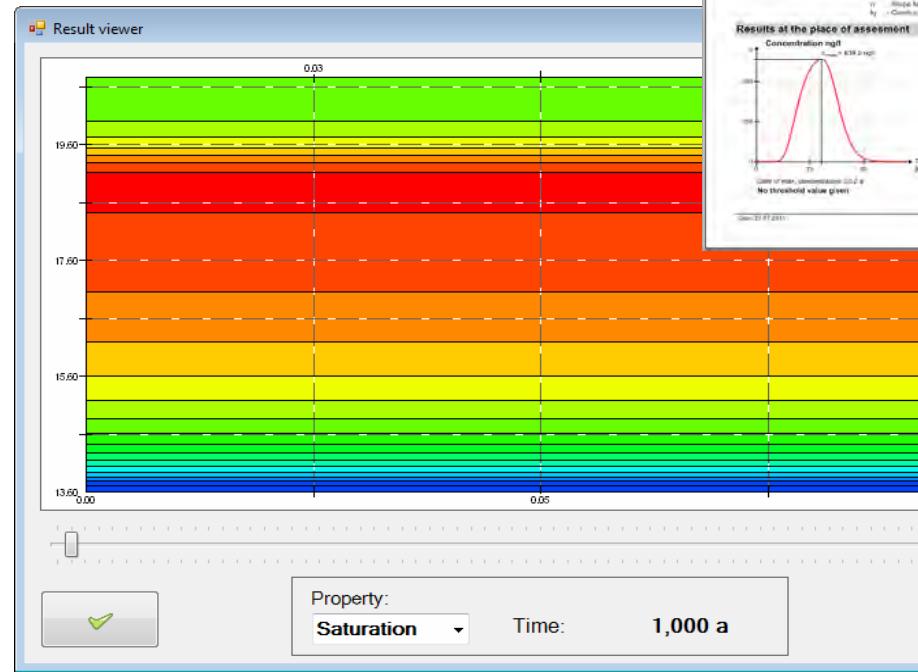


→ computationally most **expensive** tasks:
 → matrix assembly, system solver
 → integrating and testing of **parallel solver libraries**

→ **Simulation** (dam seepage example)



→ Result viewer



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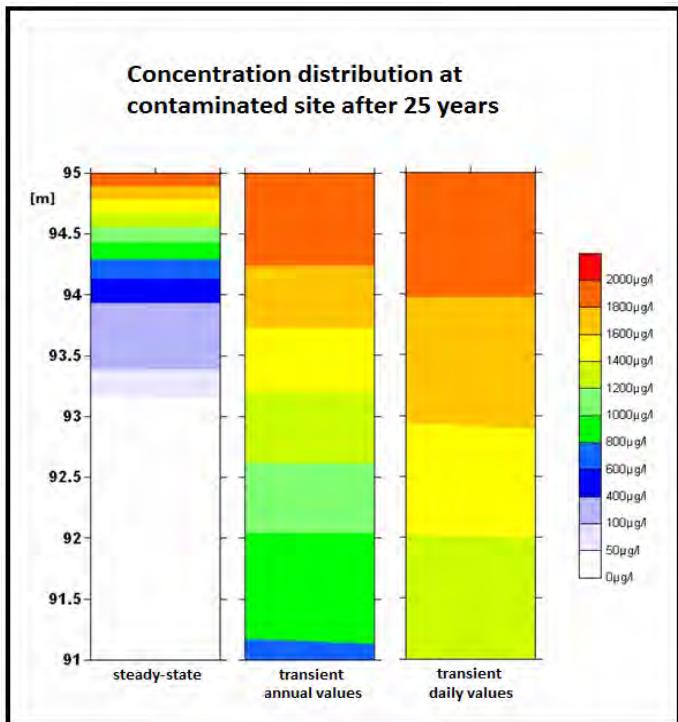
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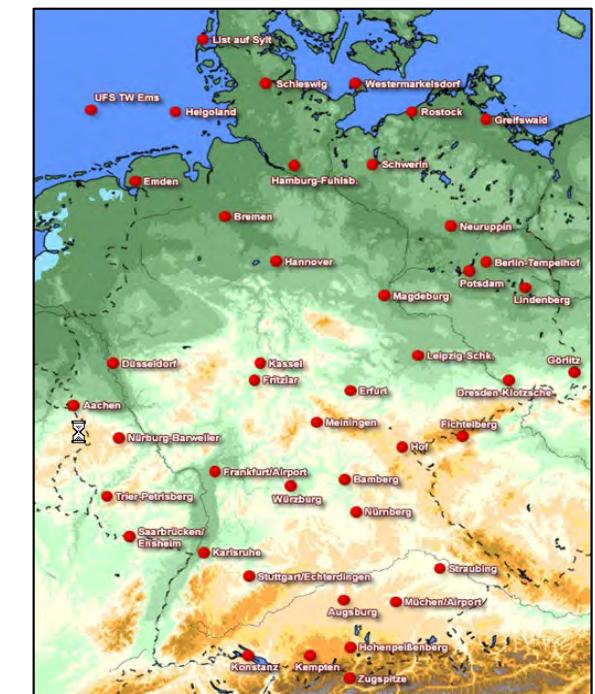
→ mathematical equation **solving technique**

- additional input data: **discretization** of the model area
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→ Computation of upper boundary condition with the integrated **weather generator**



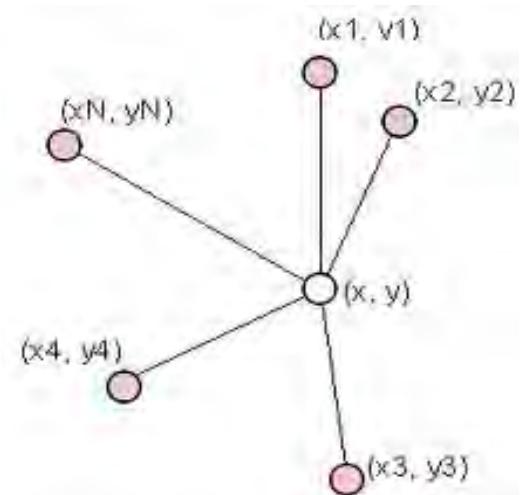
- **input** data
- precipitation
- evapotranspiration
- vegetation cover
- slope
- ...
- output: daily values of precipitation



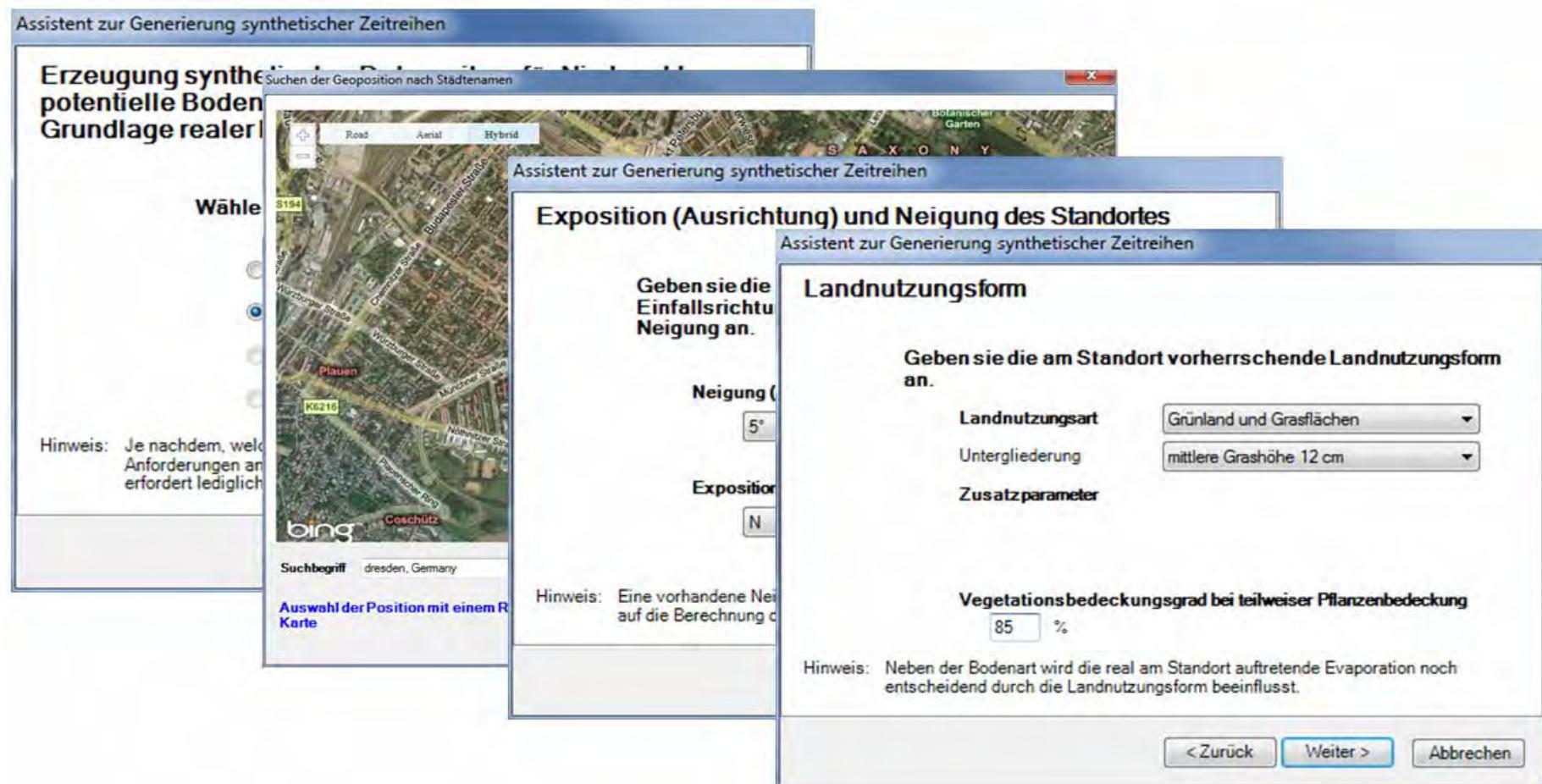
→ Time series generation by:

- (1) statistical **characterization** of input time series
- (2) spatial **interpolation** of statistical parameters
- (3) **sampling** of synthetical time series

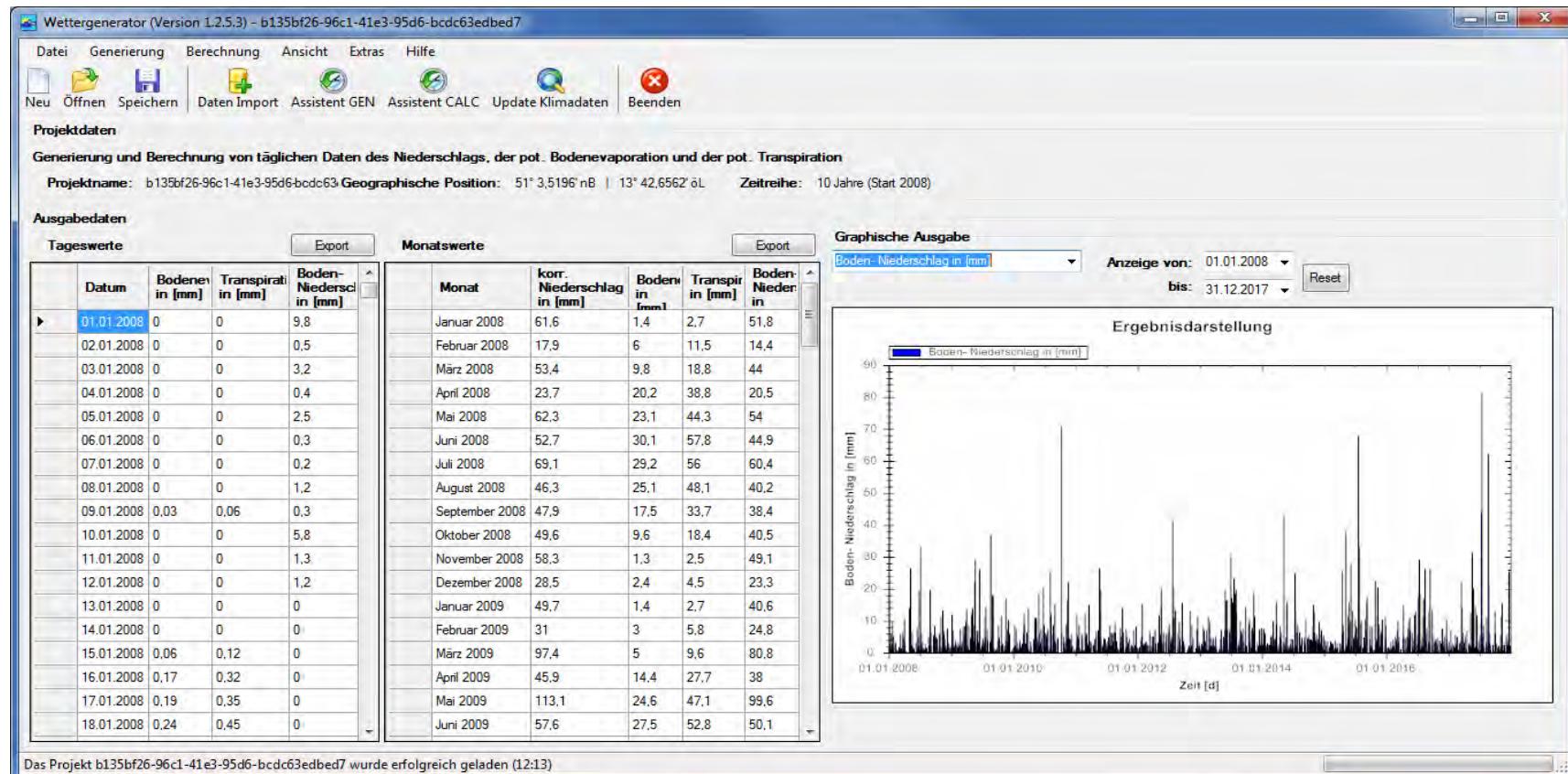
→ past, present and **future**



→ Data input through assistant



→ Graphical visualization of result **time series**
 → automatic transfer to PCSiWaPro® model



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→ Applications of **PCSiWaPro®** in the following fields:

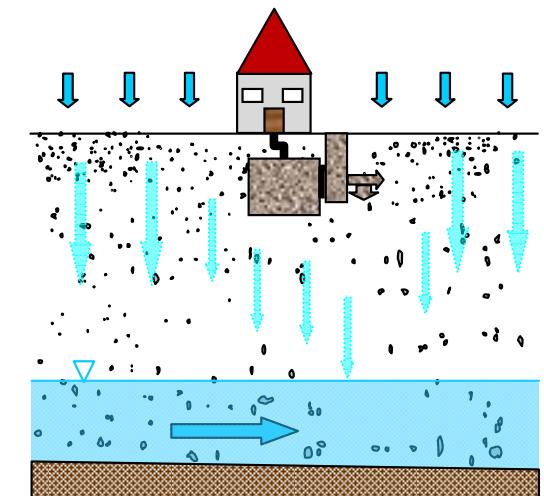
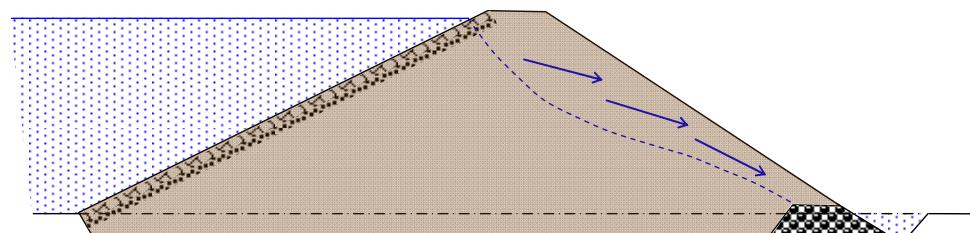
→ leachate forecast

→ earth dams

→ capillary barriers

→ landfill coverage

→ small-scale sewage treatment plants

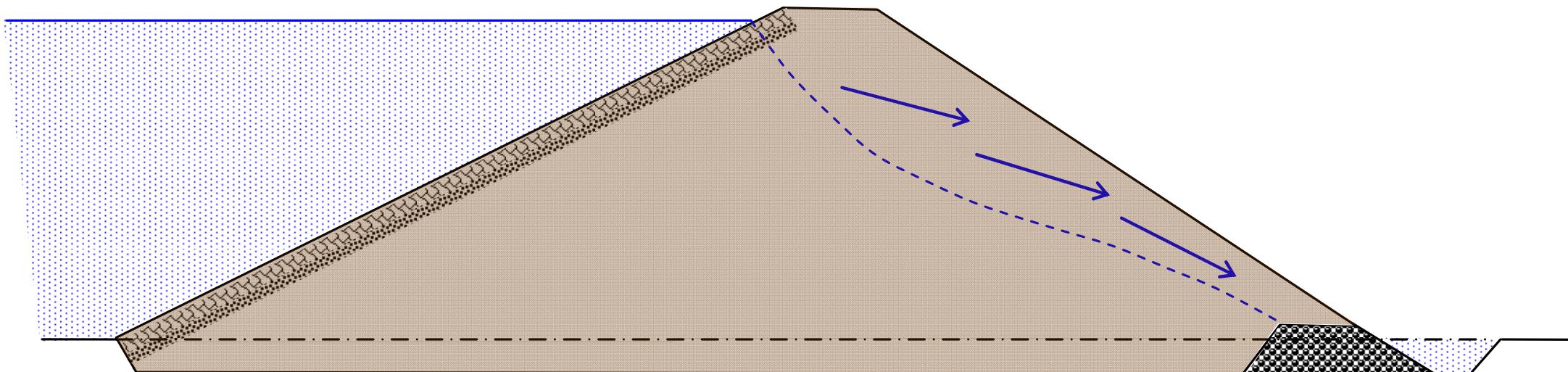


→ Completed applications with **PCSiWaPro®**:

→ Seepage in an **earth dam**

How long / how far will the unsaturated zone be wetted
until instabilities occur?

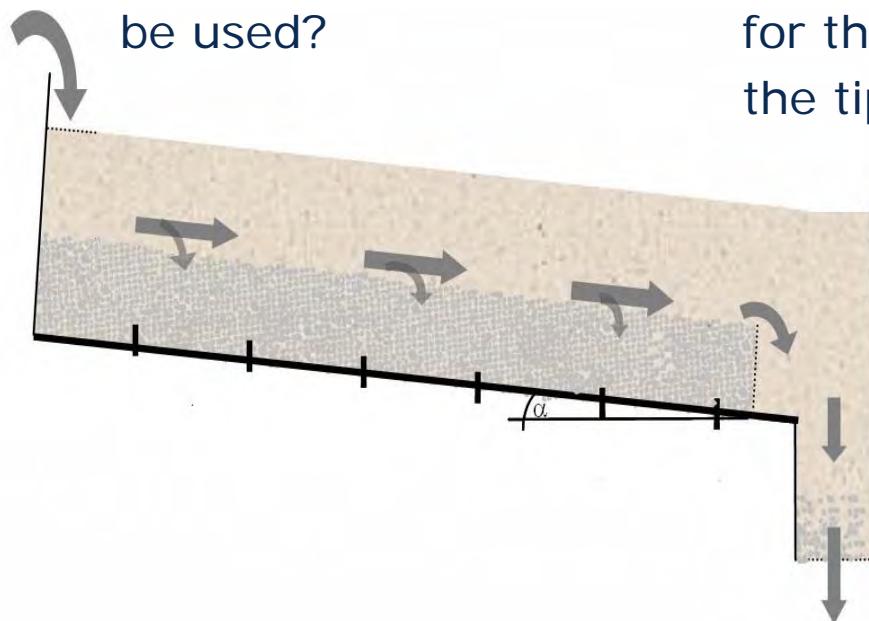
Influence of structural measures (drainage, blocking walls, ...)



→ Completed applications with **PCSiWaPro®**:

→ Simulation of a capillary barrier in a **tipping trough**

Which materials should
be used?



What are requirements
for the dimensioning of
the tipping trough?

