


**Salinity changes biogeochemistry and ecosystem functioning;  
on the roles of NaCl,  $SO_4^{2-}$ , and nutrients**

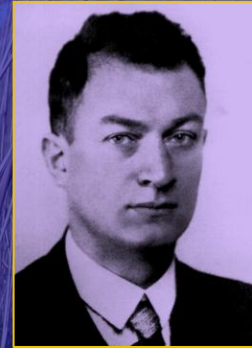
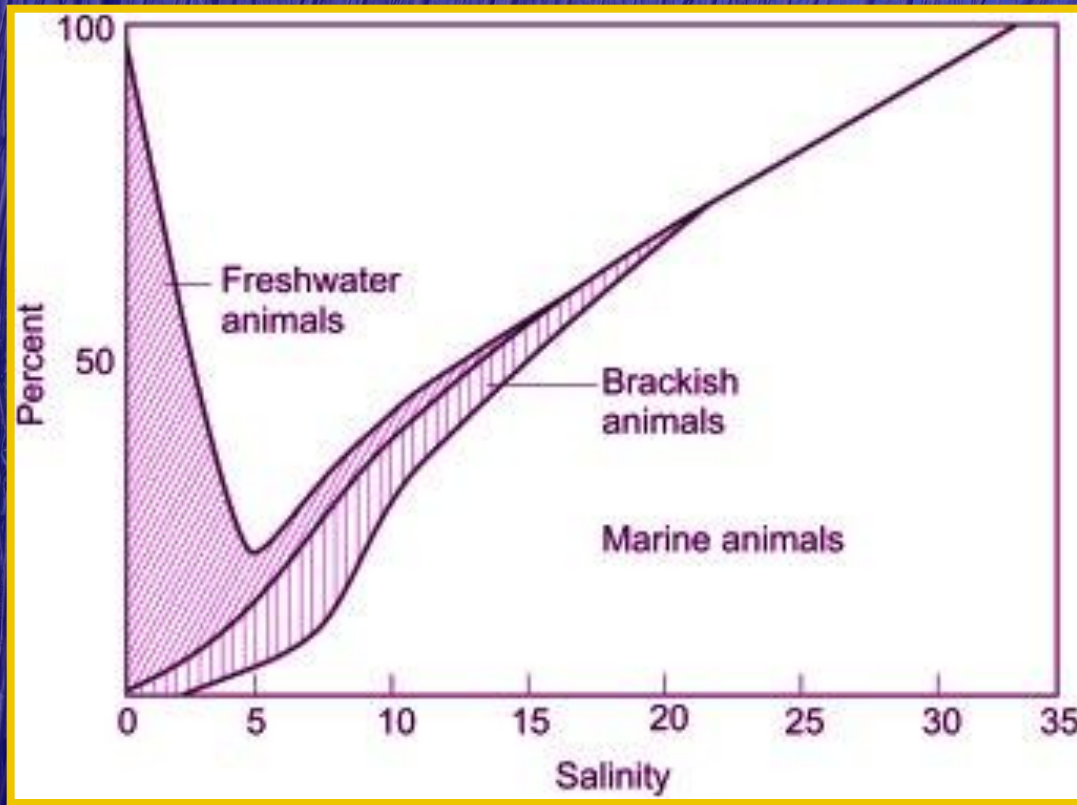
**Leon P.M. Lamers, Gijs van Dijk, Josepha M.H. van Diggelen, Roos Loeb,  
Jeroen J.M. Geurts, Jan G.M. Roelofs, Alfons J.P. Smolders**

**Radboud University Nijmegen  
&  
B-Ware Research Center  
the Netherlands**



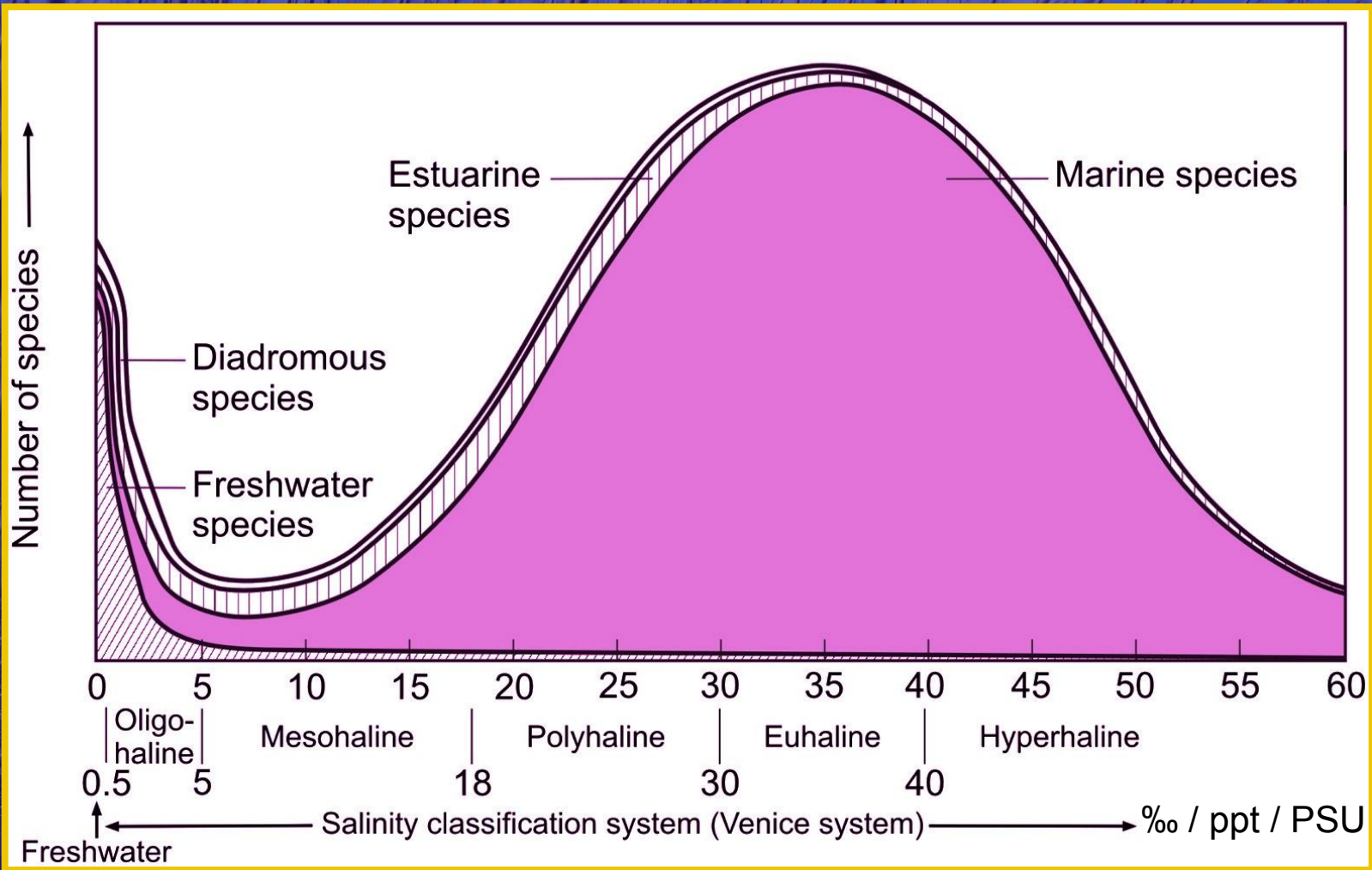
- 
- Salty challenge
  - Salinization
  - Biogeochemistry
  - Vegetation
  - Conclusion





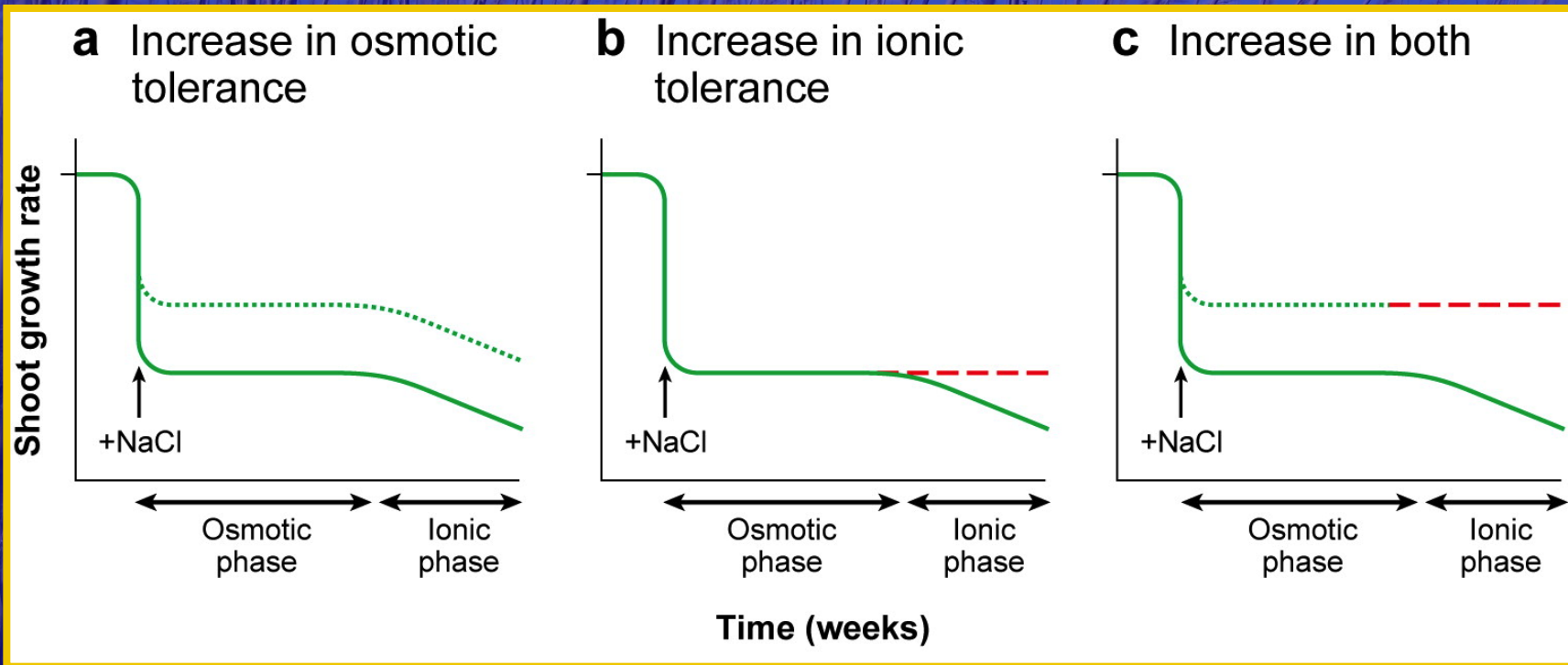
Remane 1934; Remane & Schlieper (zoobenthos) 1958





0.3	3	10	16.5	22	g Cl L <sup>-1</sup>
8.5	85	280	465	620	mmol L <sup>-1</sup>





Munns & Tester, *Annu. Rev. Plant Biol.* 2008  
 Parida & Das, *Ecotox Environ Safety* 2005

Salt exclusion

*Avicennia* spp.







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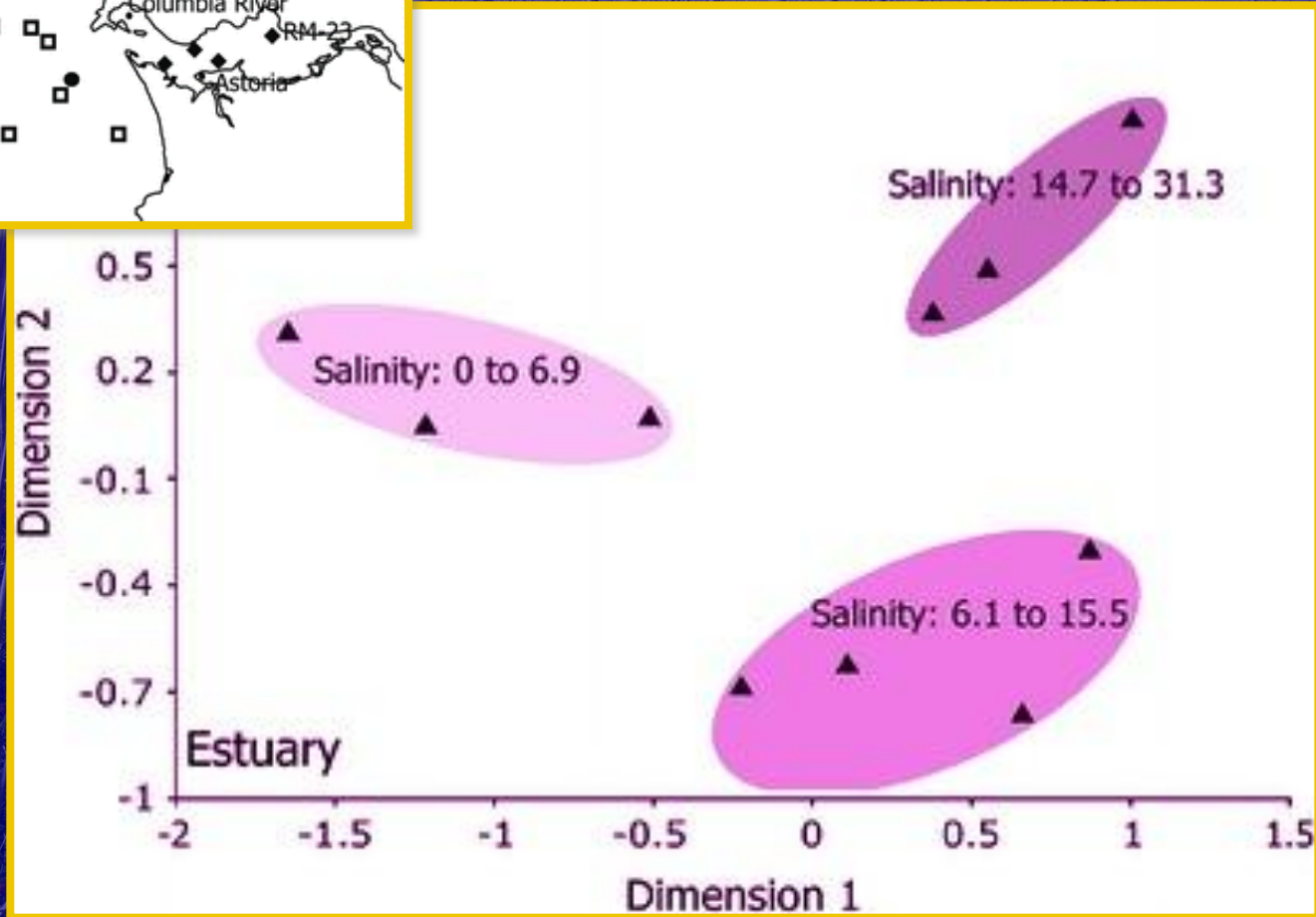
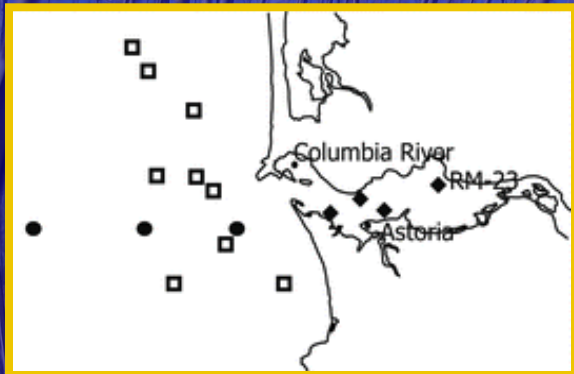
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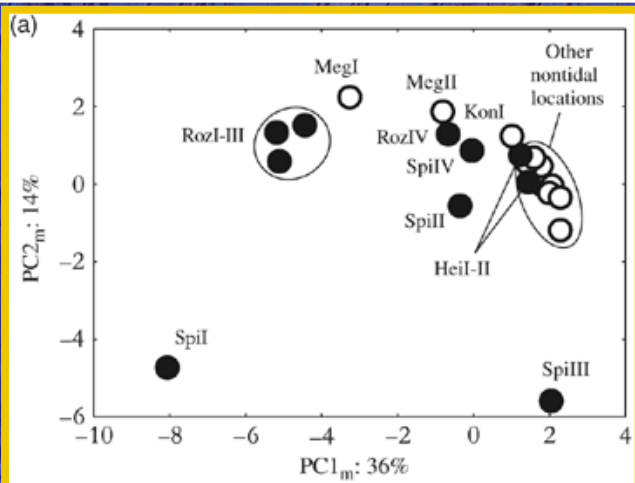
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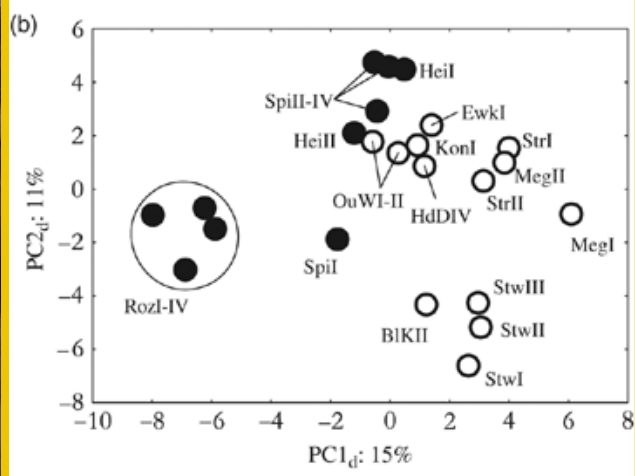


Bacterioplankton 16S rRNA; Fortunato et al. Microb Ecol 2011

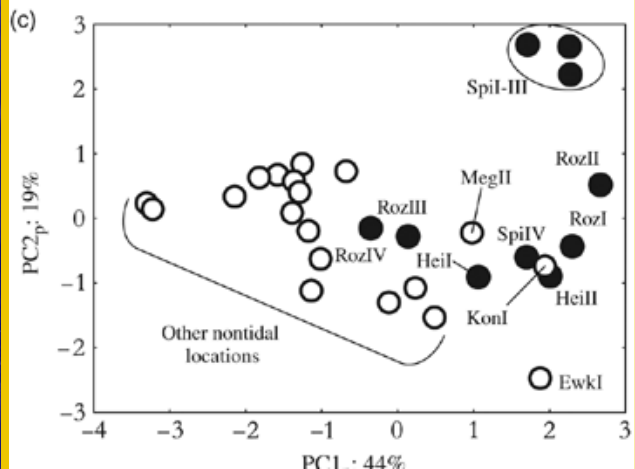




microarray



DGGE



Polar lipid-derived fatty acid





# Salinization: increased salinity of surface water/soil/groundwater

## Land use change

- Agriculture, urbanization, infrastructure
- Wetland and woodland destruction
- Land reclamation
- Vegetation destruction, desertification

## Hydrological change

- Land drainage and lowering groundwater level
- Freshwater abstraction (groundwater, surface water) for agriculture, processing & drinking water
- Land subsidence
- Increased water run-off (low water retention)
- Irrigation channels
- Reduced freshwater flow to coast
- Coastal canals
- Subsoil freshwater storage

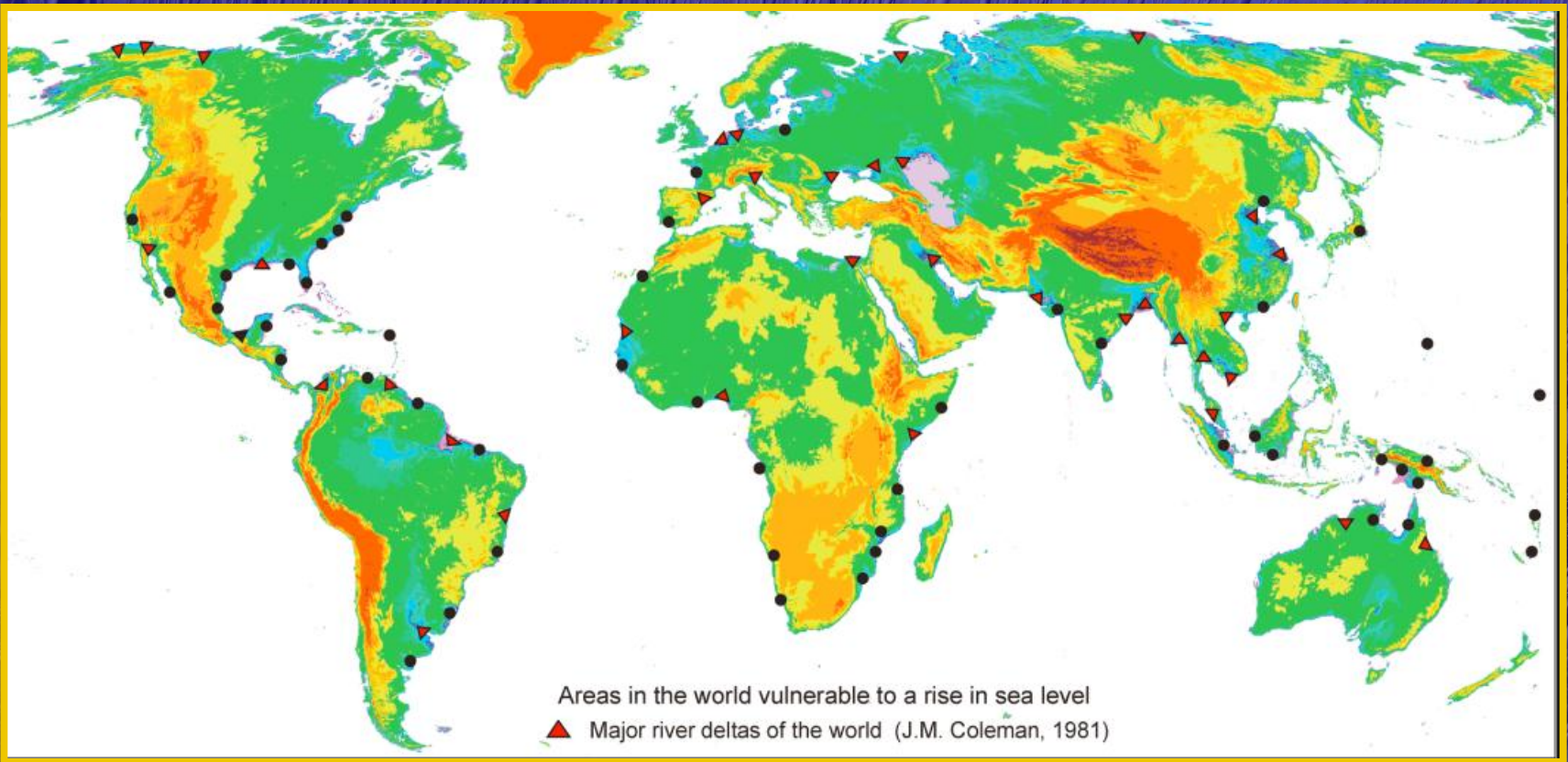
## Erosion

- Erosion to saline layers

## Climate change

- Reduced rainfall
- Higher T and evapotranspiration
- Sea level rise

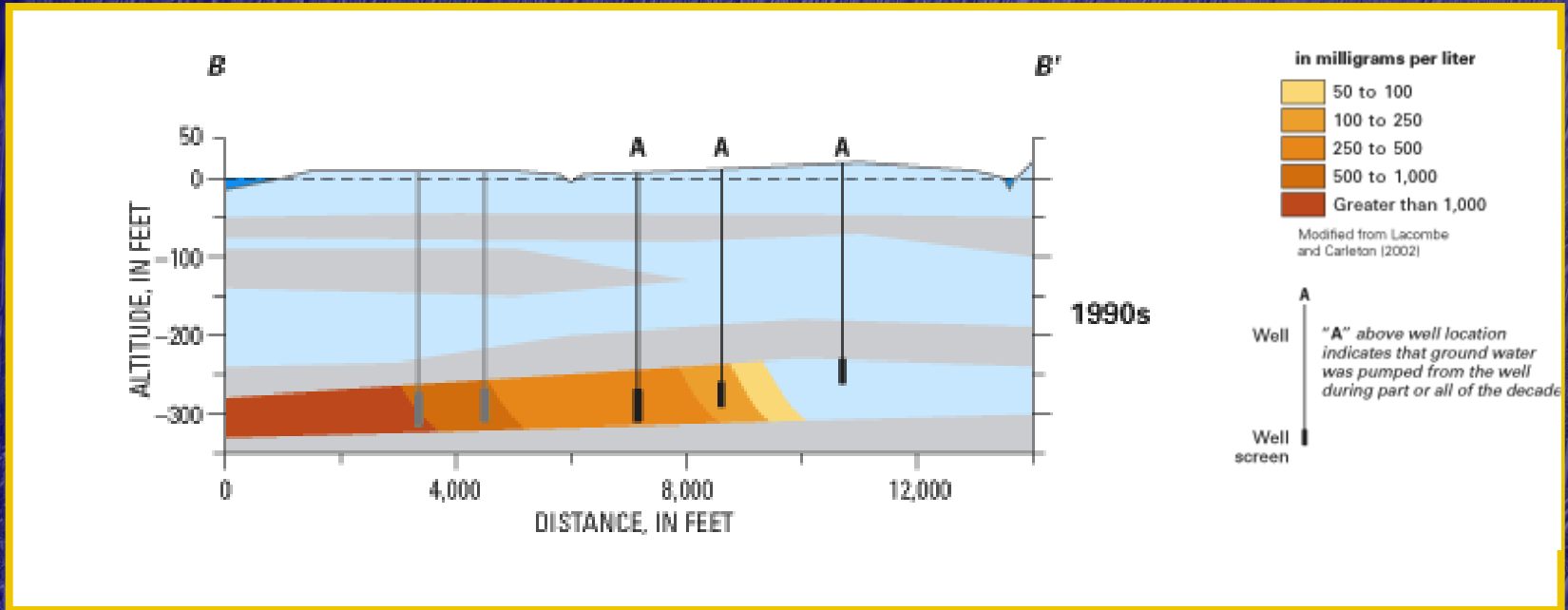




Oude Essink et al. 2010

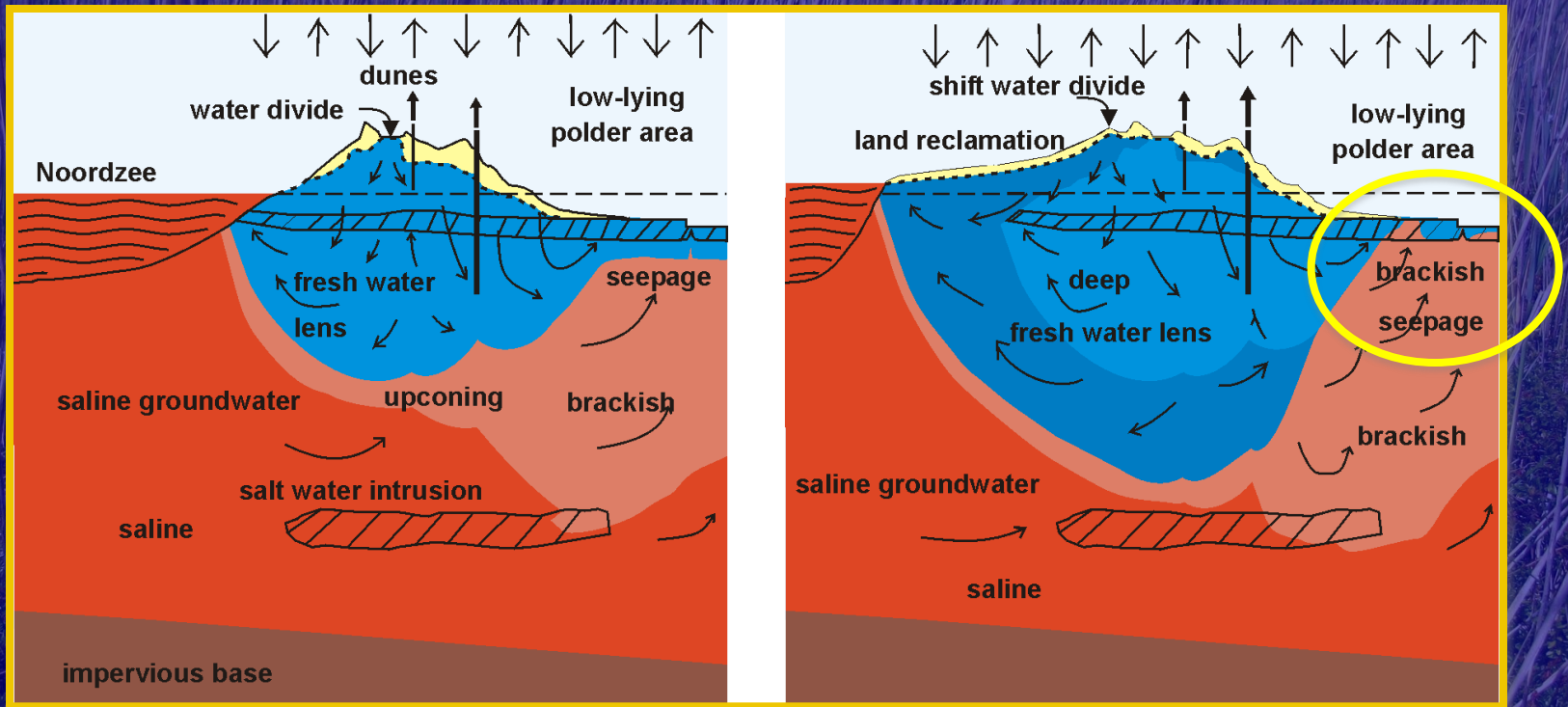


# New Jersey coastal area



Barlow 2003





Oude Essink 2010  
 Stuyfzand 1993



**Na<sup>+</sup> Cl<sup>-</sup>**

**osmotic  
pressure**

**competitive advantage  
brackish water spp. over freshwater spp.  
(plants, animals, microorganisms)**

**changing  
decompositio  
n**

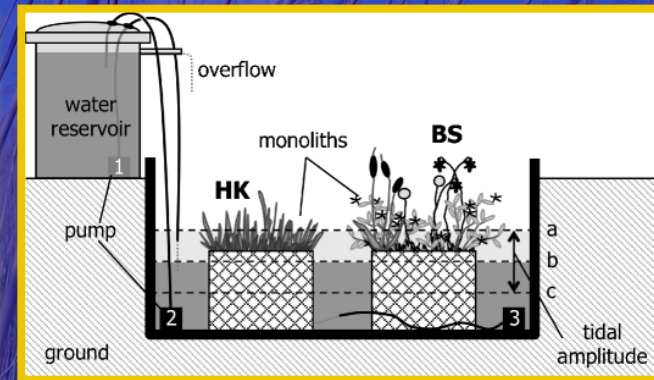
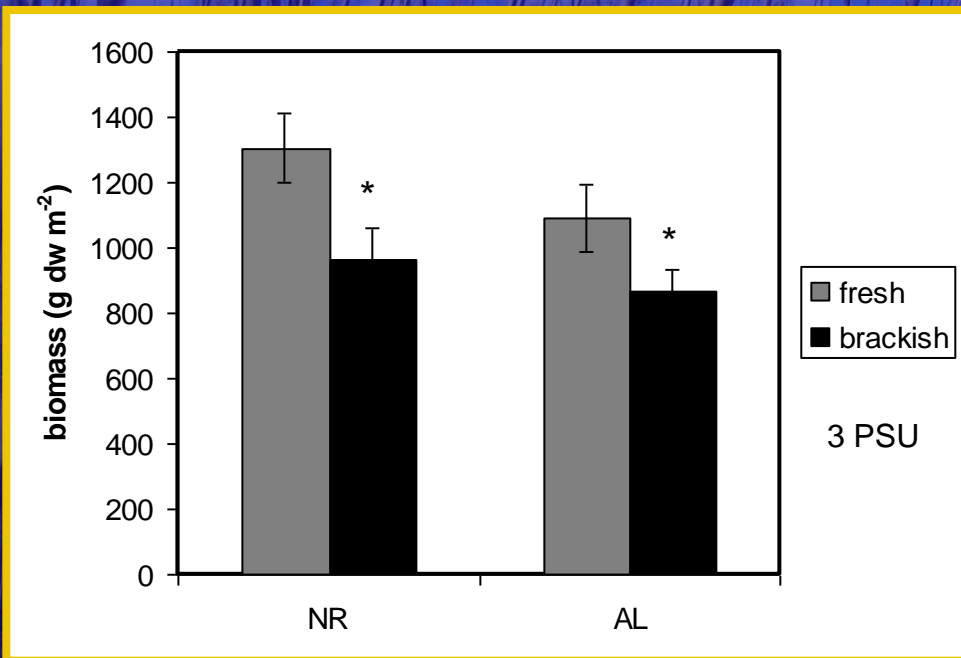
**N, P eutrophication**

**spp. changes and  
lower number of spp. (*Remane*)**

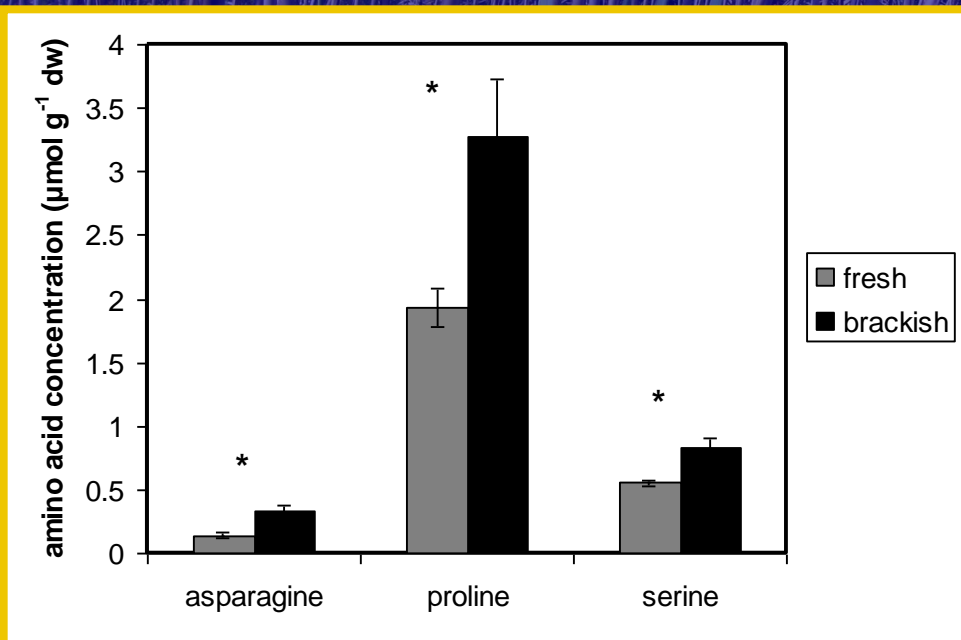
rates

+/-



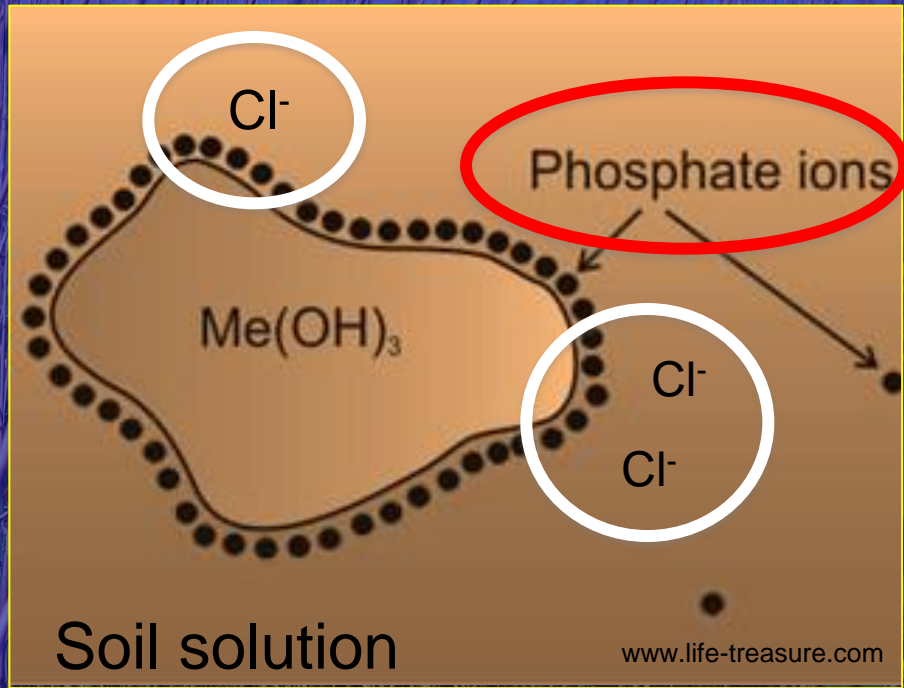
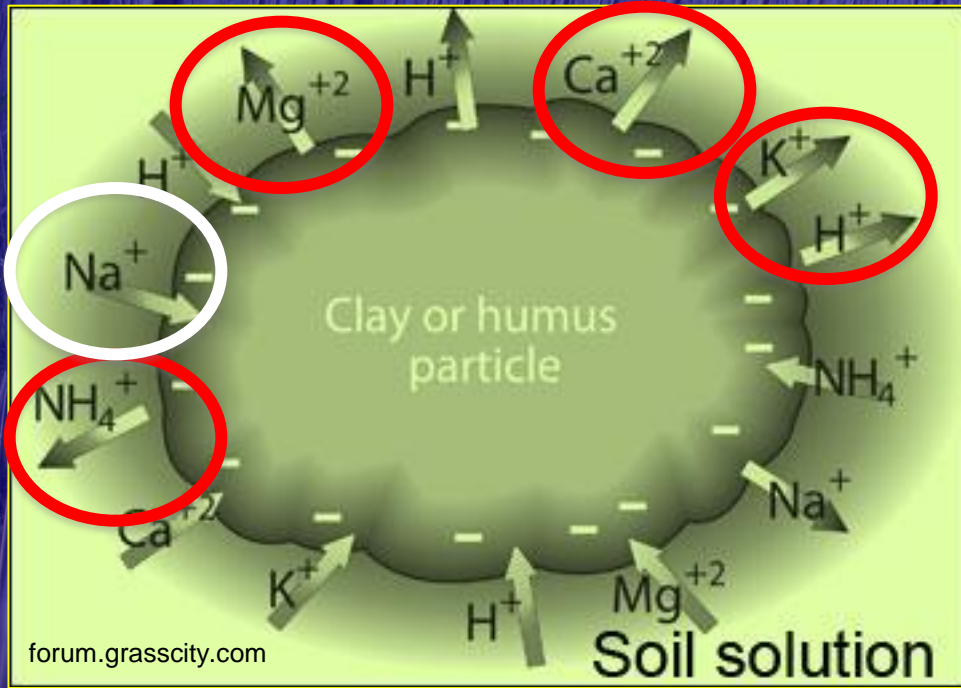


NR = nature reserve  
AL = agricultural land

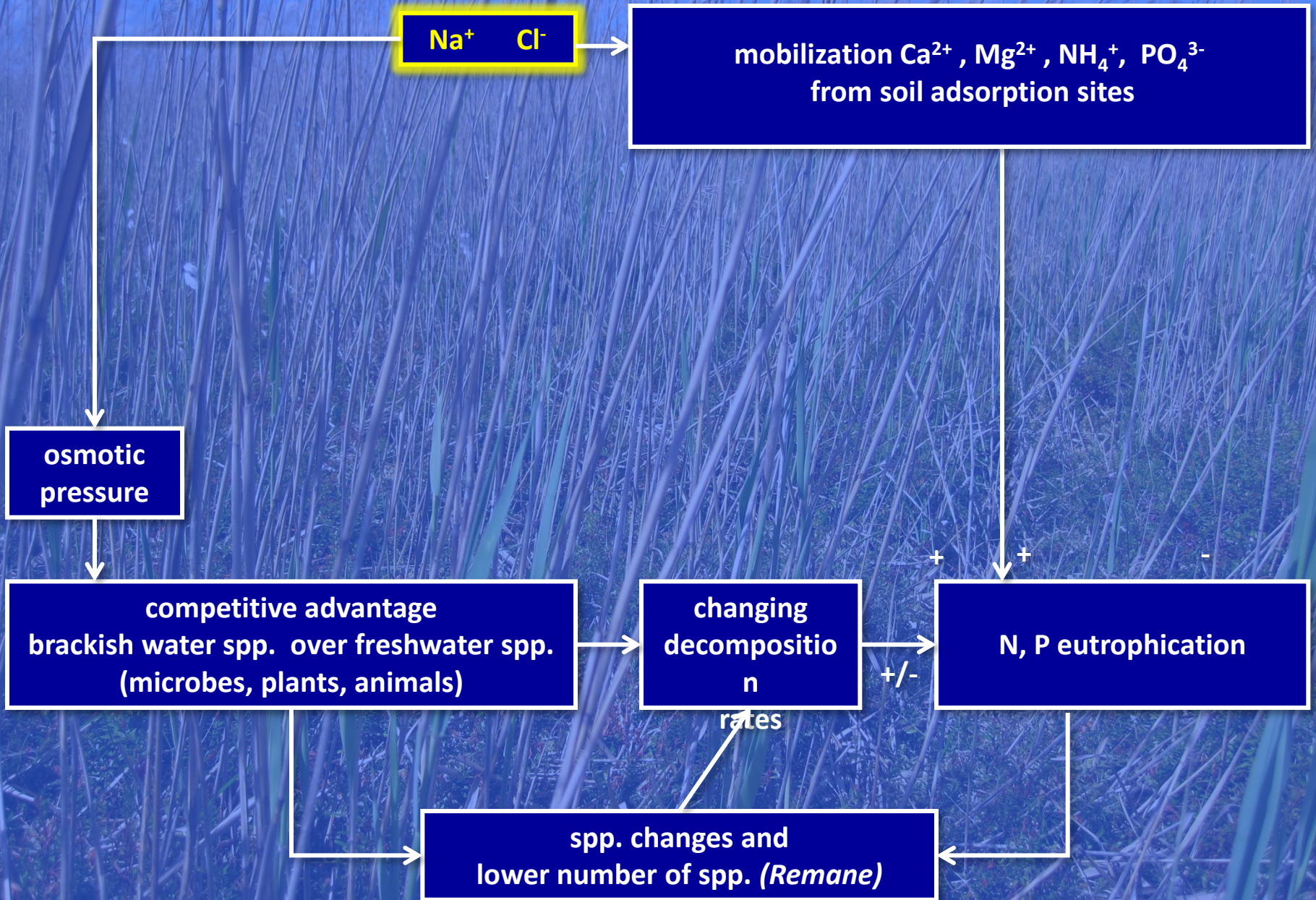


Loeb et al., in prep.  
Miletto et al. Microb. Ecol. 2010









$\text{Na}^+$   $\text{Cl}^-$

mobilization  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$   
from soil adsorption sites

osmotic  
pressure

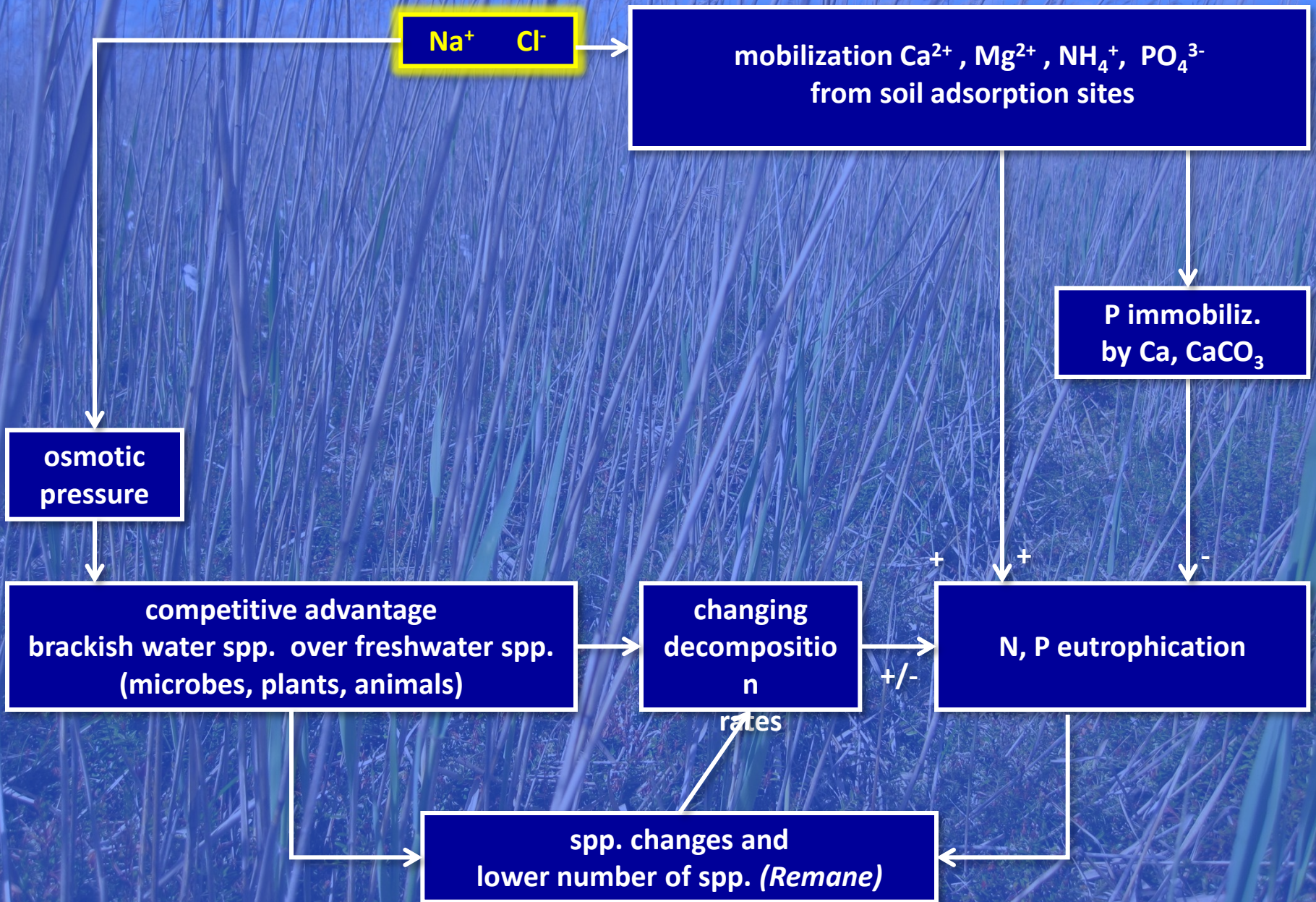
competitive advantage  
brackish water spp. over freshwater spp.  
(microbes, plants, animals)

changing  
decomposition  
rates

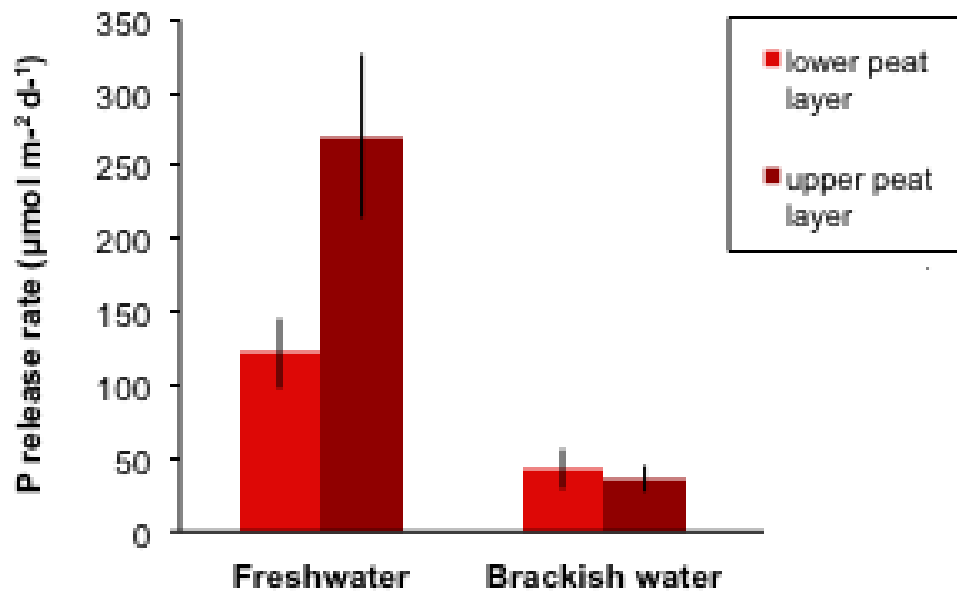
N, P eutrophication

spp. changes and  
lower number of spp. (*Remane*)







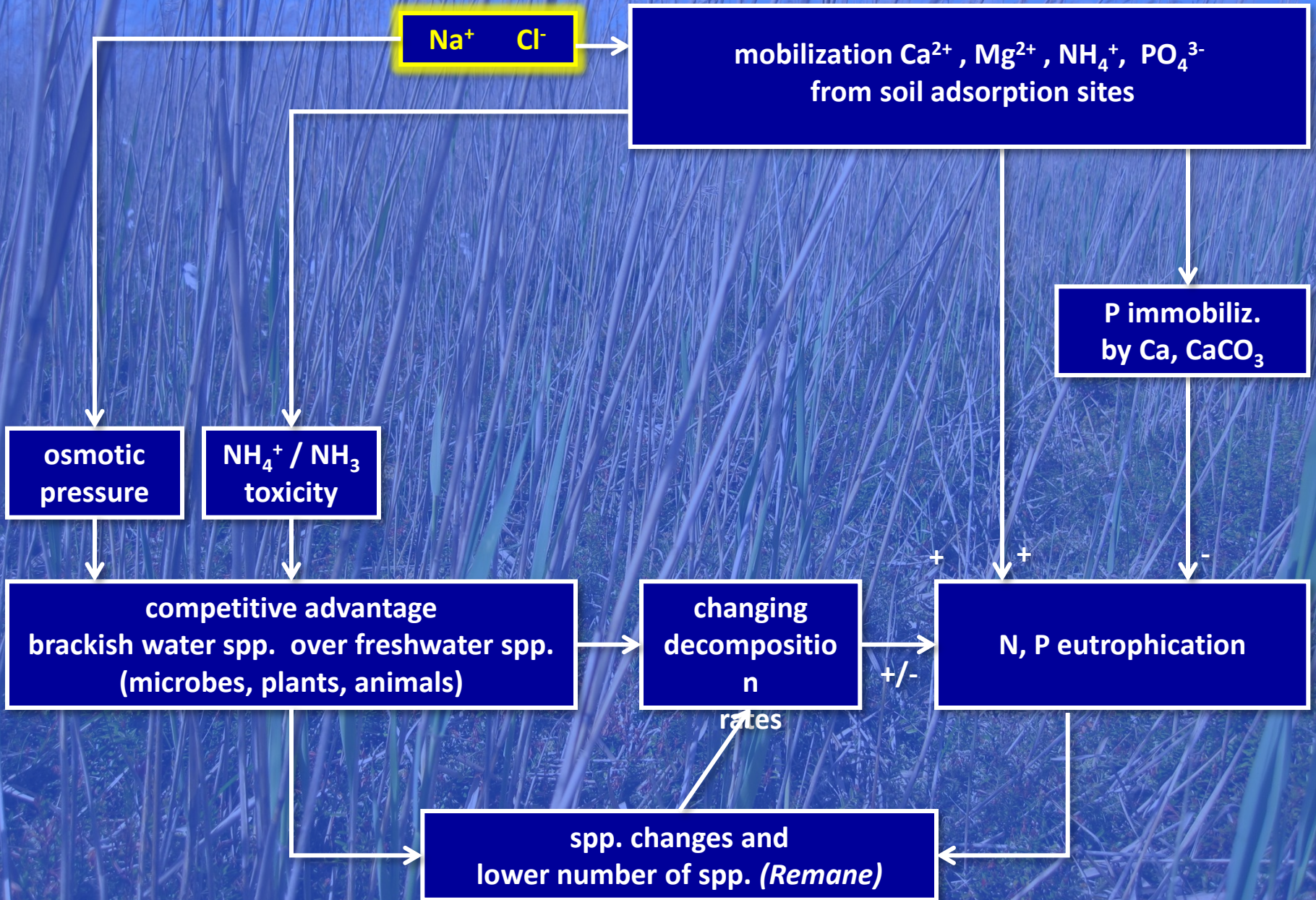


after 1.5 months 0.7 g Cl L<sup>-1</sup>

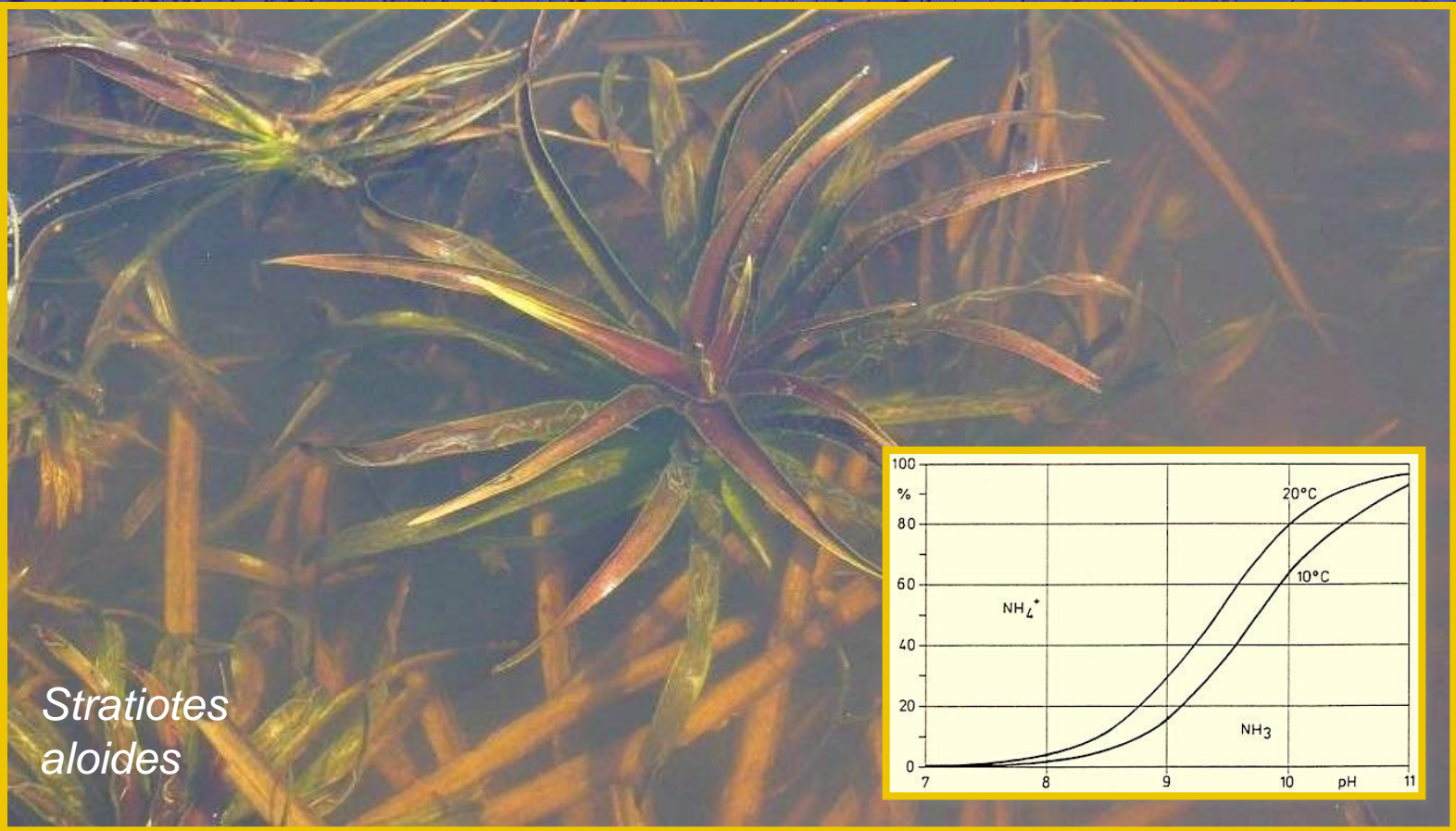
Van Diggelen et al. in prep.

(N.B., see also poster 231!)









**$\text{NH}_4^+$  ( $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ )**

1980

1992

Vital plants:

5.4 (2.5-6.3)

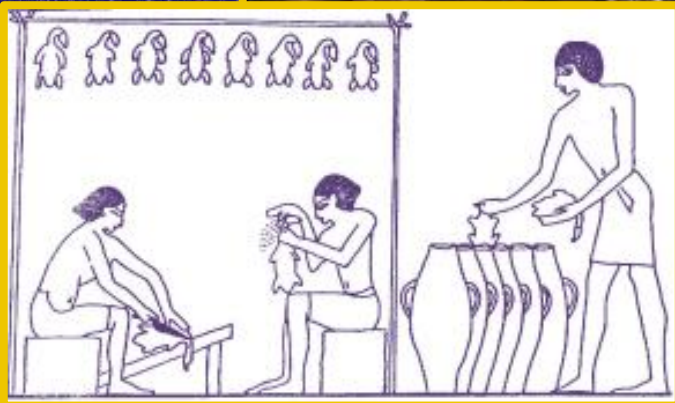
7.5 (5.7-8.2)

Non-vital plants:

19.2 (1.8-93.8)

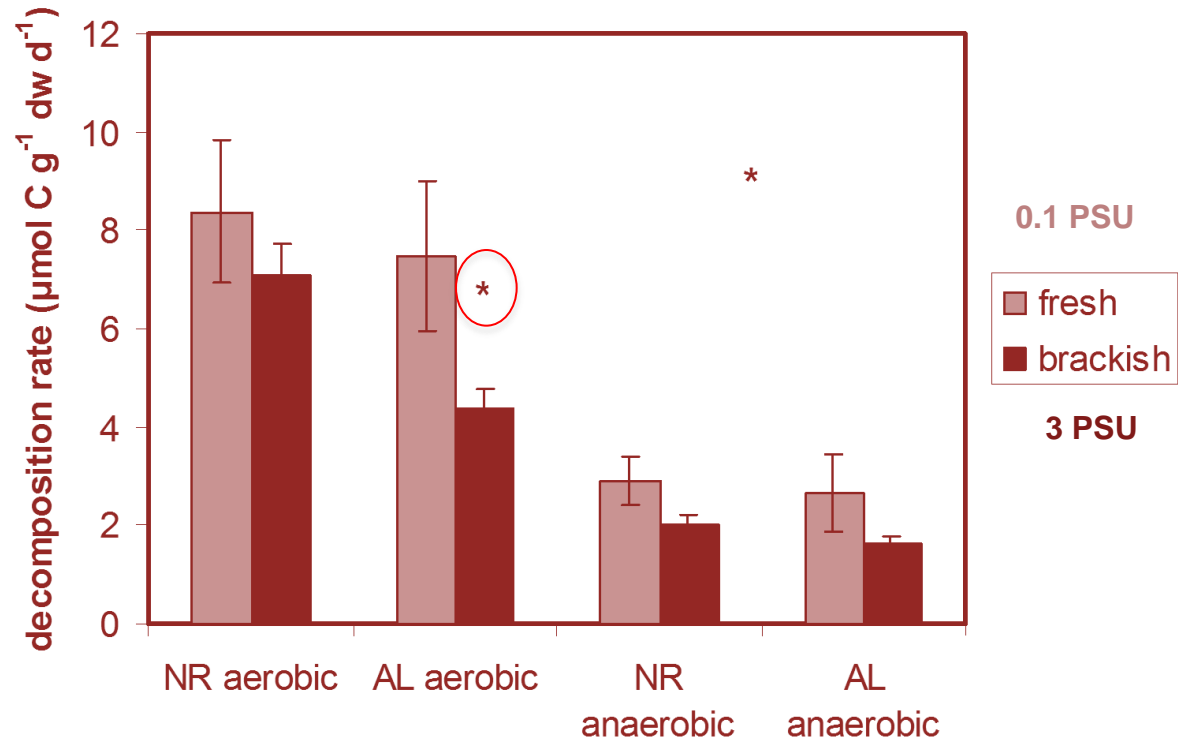
† 40.9 (6.5-74.6)





Wtewael 1620



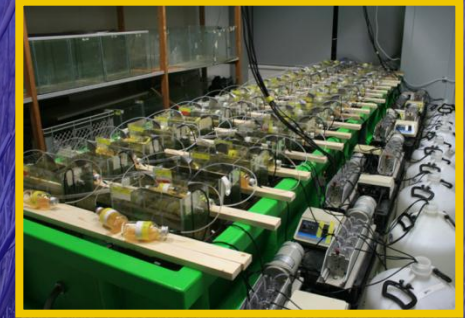
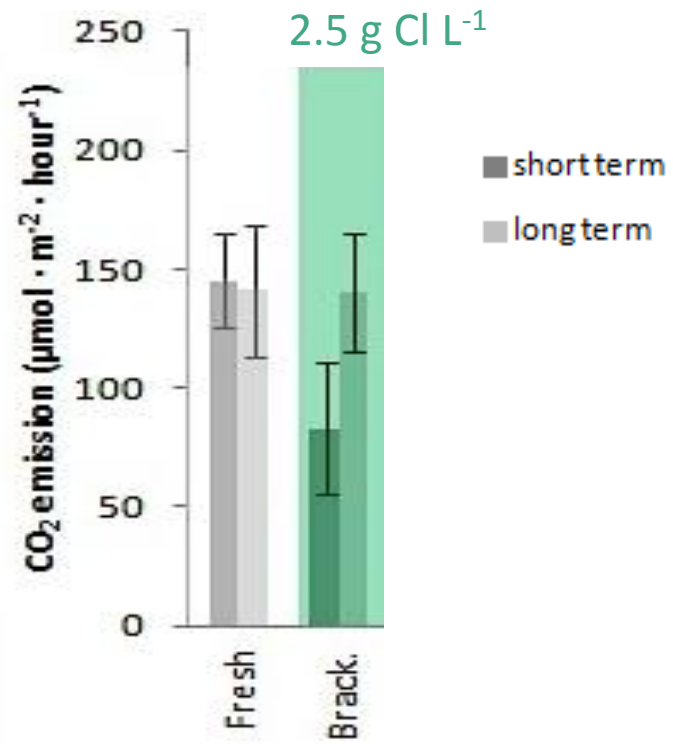


NR = nature reserve  
AL = agricultural land

Loeb et al., in prep

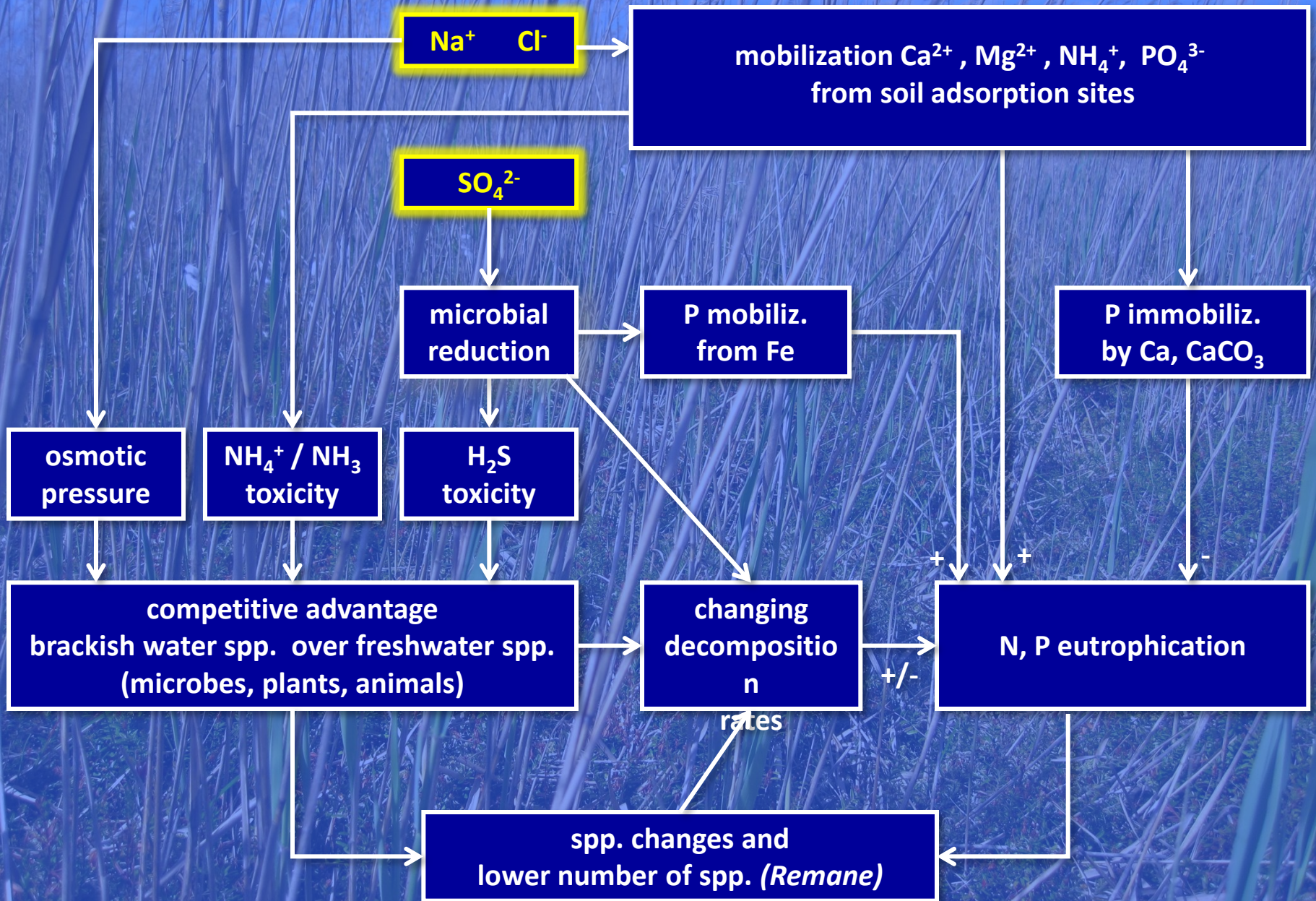
Time  
Ecosystem





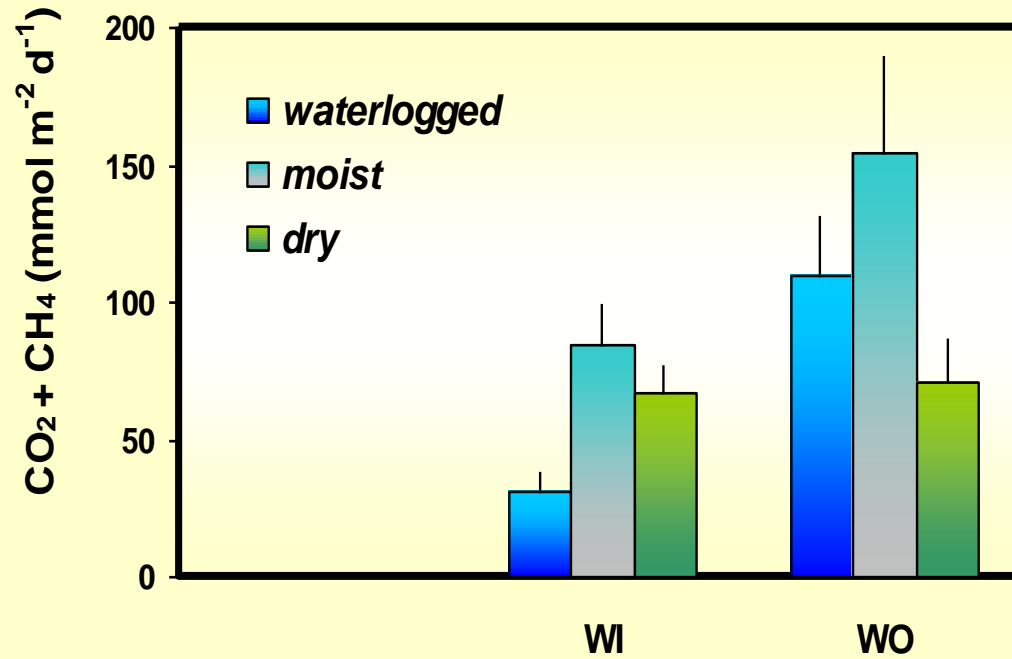
Van Dijk et al, in prep.







## Decomposition



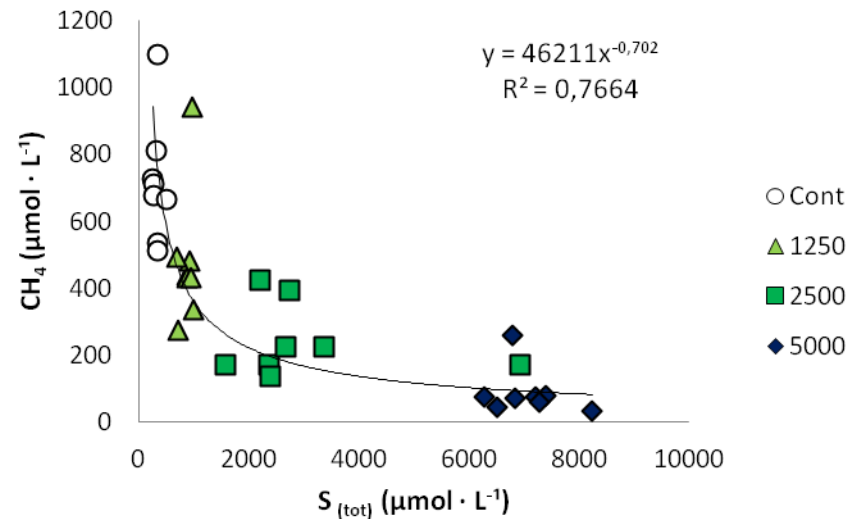
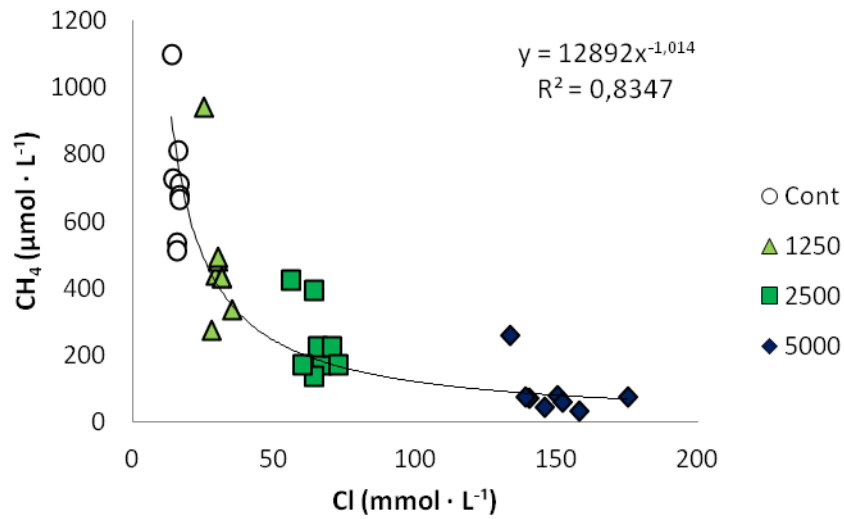
**SO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, AVS:**

**low**

**high**

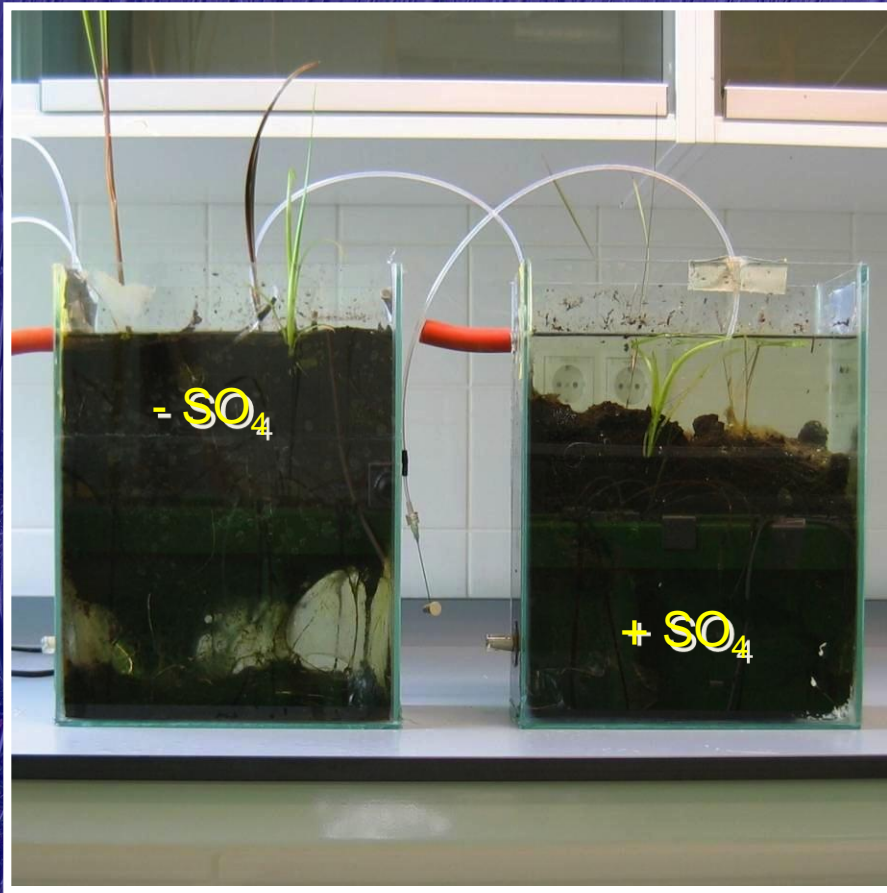
Lamers et al PhD Thesis 2001  
Lamers et al in prep.





Van Dijk et al, in prep.





Lamers et al J Ecol 1999

Smolders et al J Appl Ecol 2002

Tomassen et al Biogeochem 2004

Loeb et al. Biogeochem 2007



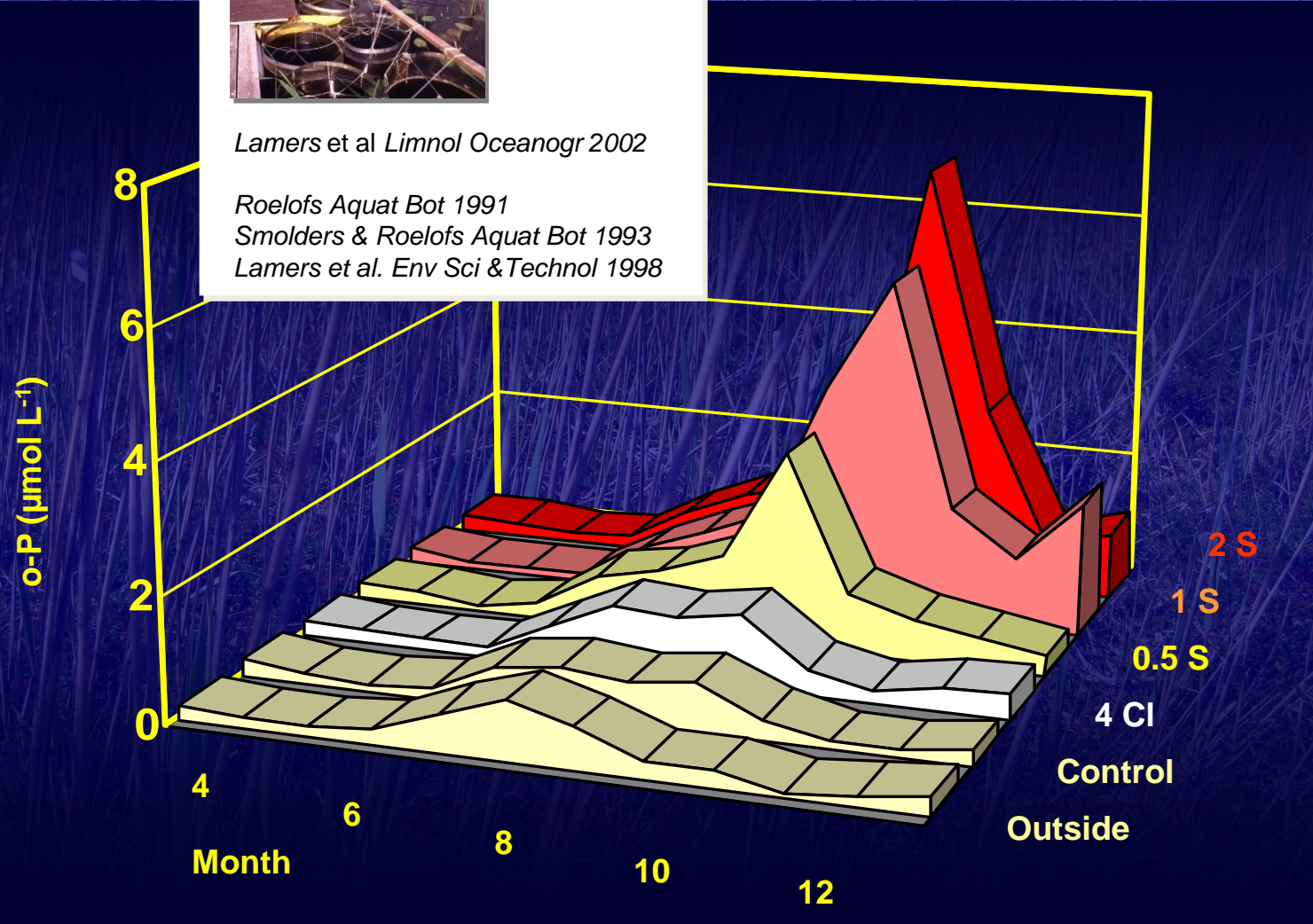


Lamers et al *Limnol Oceanogr* 2002

Roelofs *Aquat Bot* 1991

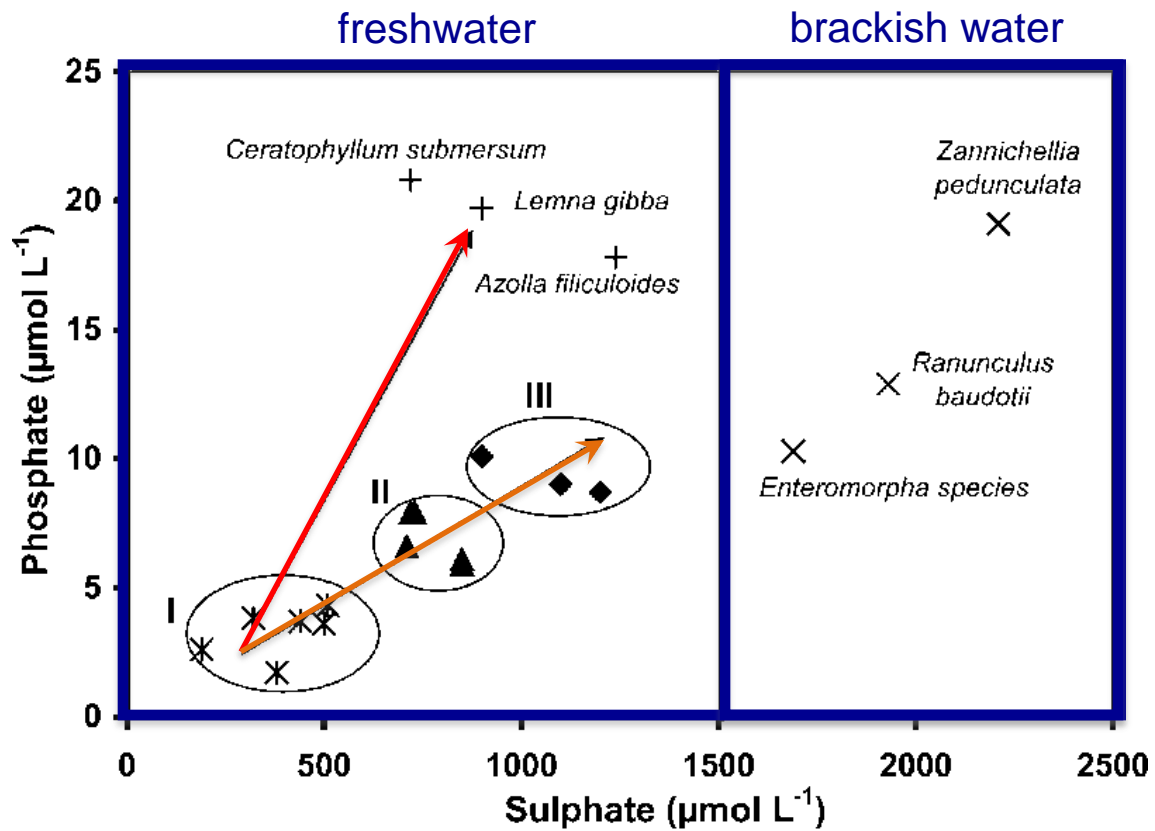
Smolders & Roelofs *Aquat Bot* 1993

Lamers et al. *Env Sci & Technol* 1998



**Sulfate (mM) enrichment: P-mobilization and/or sulfide toxicity**





**I** *Stratiotes aloides*  
*Hydrocharis morsus ranae*  
*Potamogeton acutifolius*  
*Potamogeton compressus*  
*Potamogeton lucens*  
*Utricularia vulgaris*

**II** *Nymphaoides peltata*  
*Ranunculus circinatus*  
*Spirodela polyrhiza*  
*Lemna trisulca*  
*Potamogeton mucronatus*

**III** *Potamogeton pectinatus*  
*Myriophyllum spicatum*  
*Ceratophyllum demersum*





## Everglades

Lower OM

Ca ~ P

Lower P



## European lowland peatland

Higher OM

Fe ~ P

Higher P





fertilized



fertilized + sulfate

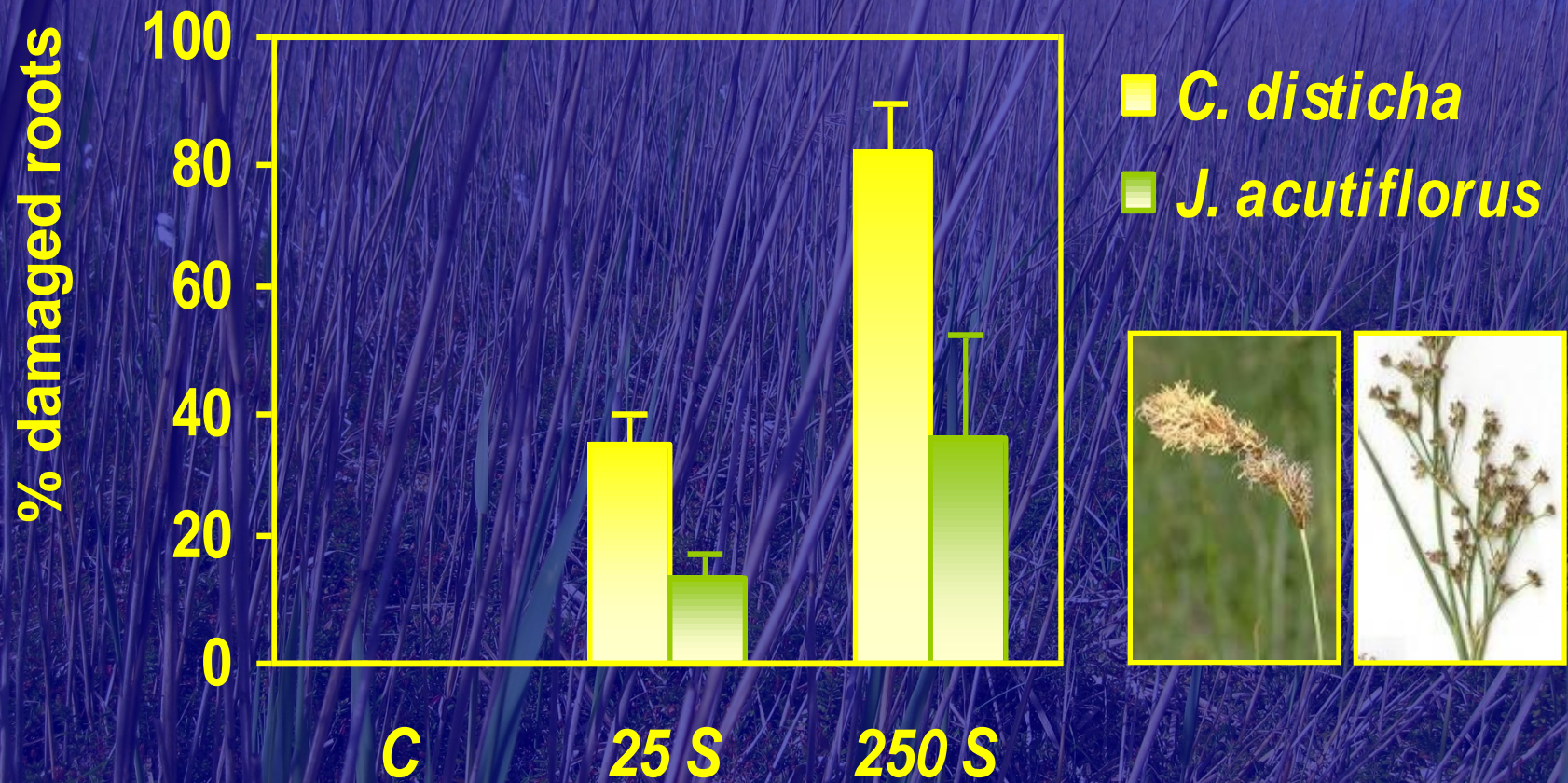
April      May      June      July      September

November      September      July      2005

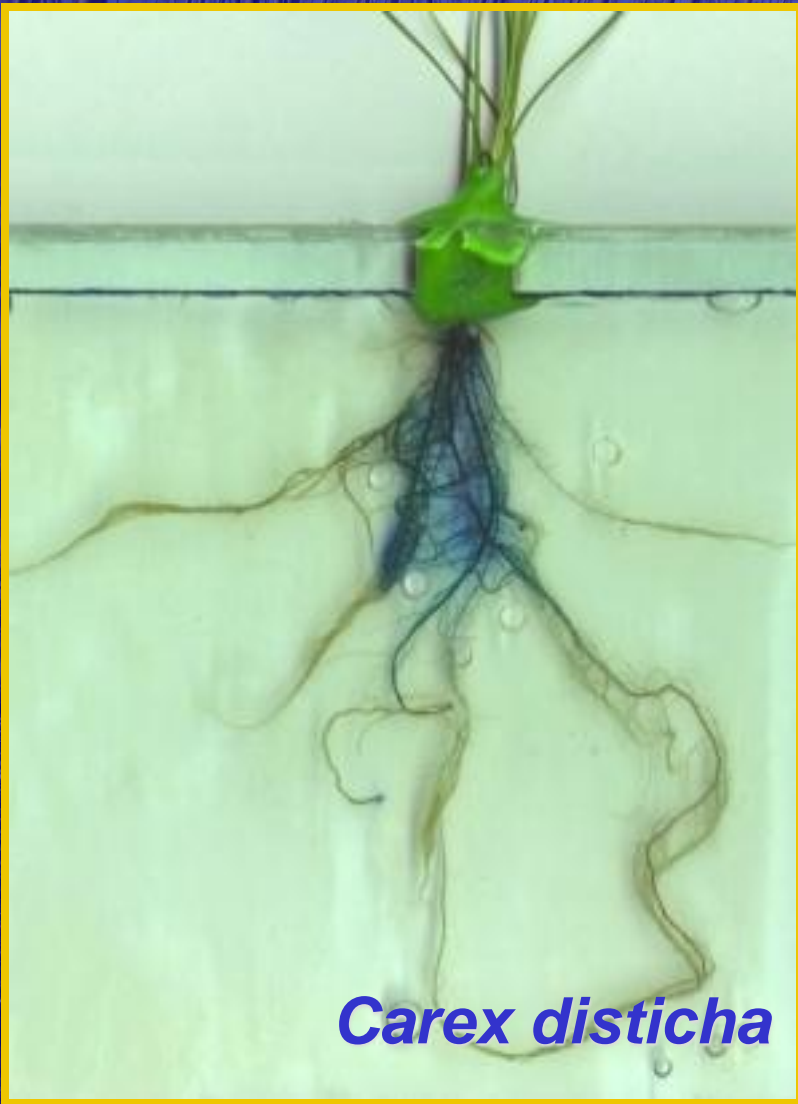












***Carex disticha***



***Juncus acutiflorus***



J

C



**Control**

J

C



**Sulfide treatment**



Wetland type	Species	Concentration ( $\mu\text{mol l}^{-1}$ )	Observation	Method	Reference
<b>Seagrass meadows</b>	<i>Halodule wrightii</i>	2000			
	<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	>1800	AD	glucose add. to increase $\text{SO}_4$ red.	Koch <i>et al.</i> , 2007
	<i>Thalassia testudinum</i>	6000	AD	glucose add. to increase $\text{SO}_4$ red.	Frederiksen <i>et al.</i> 2008
	<i>Thalassia testudinum</i>	5500	AD (only high T & Sal.)	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in hydroponic culture	Koch & Erskine, 2001
	<i>Thalassia testudinum</i>	>500	AD	glucose add. to increase $\text{SO}_4$ red.	Borum <i>et al.</i> , 2004
	<i>Zostera marina</i>	600 / 1000	AD	glucose add. in field to increase $\text{SO}_4$ red.	Goodman <i>et al.</i> , 1995
<b>Salt marshes</b>	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	>1800	NP (low / high light)	field observation	Frederiksen <i>et al.</i> 2008
	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	1130	no indication of AD	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ inject. microcosm sediment	
<b>Mangroves</b>	<i>Avicennia marina</i> (sl)	2000-3000	AP, RD		
	<i>Avicennia marina</i>		AP, RA, NU		
	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i> (sl)	500-1000		$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in hydroponic culture	Koch & Mendelssohn, 1989
	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>	>4000	AP, RP	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in hydroponic culture	Koch <i>et al.</i> , 1990
<b>Freshwater aquatic</b>	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	>1000			
	<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>	>1000		$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ inject. microcosm sediment	McKee, 1993
	<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>	>500	AP	field observation	McKee, 1993
	<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>	100	AP	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ inject. microcosm sediment	McKee, 1993
	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	150-500	AP	field observation	McKee, 1993
	<i>Najas flexilis</i>	100	AP		
	<i>Potamogeton compressus</i>	50	NP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009
	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	150-500	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition enclosures	Van der Welle <i>et al.</i> , 2007a
	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	10-100	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009
	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	500	RD	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in root hydroponic culture	Wu <i>et al.</i> , 2009
<b>Freshwater wetlands</b>	<i>Calla palustris</i>	100-600	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Van der Welle <i>et al.</i> , 2006
	<i>Calla palustris</i>	30-50	AP	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in root hydroponic culture	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009
	<i>Carex disticha</i>	150	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Smolders & Roelofs, 1996
	<i>Carex disticha</i>	170	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition enclosures	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009
	<i>Carex disticha</i>	10-20	AP, Y		Van der Welle <i>et al.</i> , 2007a
	<i>Carex nigra</i>	25	AP		
	<i>Cladium jamaicense</i>	10-20	LC, RD	natural production in microcosm	Grootjans <i>et al.</i> , 1997
	<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	10-20	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009
	<i>Juncus acutiflorus</i>	220 / 690 / 920	LE / NP / AD, RD	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ injection microcosm sed.	Van der Welle <i>et al.</i> , 2007b
	<i>Juncus alpinoarticulatus</i> (sl)	50 / 500	AP (unfertilized/fertilized)	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Lamers <i>et al.</i> , 1998
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	25 / 250	RD / AP	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ injection microcosm sed.	Lamers <i>et al.</i> , this study	
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	30-50	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Lamers <i>et al.</i> , 1998	
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	500	AP	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in hydroponic culture	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2009	
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	150 / >150	AP	$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ injection microcosm sed.	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009	
<i>Panicum hemitomon</i>	>235	AP (unfertilized/fertilized)	natural production in microcosm	Lamers <i>et al.</i> , this study	
	630	AP	$\text{SO}_4$ addition mesocosms	Grootjans <i>et al.</i> , 1997	
		AP, RD	field observation	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009	
			$\text{H}_2\text{S}$ in hydroponic culture	Geurts <i>et al.</i> , 2009	
				Armstrong & Boatman, 1967	
				Koch & Mendelssohn, 1989	



## Salinity changes biogeochemistry and ecosystem functioning:

- *Osmotic stress*
- *Ionic strength, desorption, precipitation*
- *Electron acceptor availability*
- *Nutrient availability*
- *Toxicity*

Changes in community composition,  
wetland biogeochemistry,  
ecosystem functioning & services

Temporal and spatial heterogeneity







***Thank you for your attention!***