

Development and implementation of a probabilistic medium-range forecasting service for waterway transport on the River Rhine

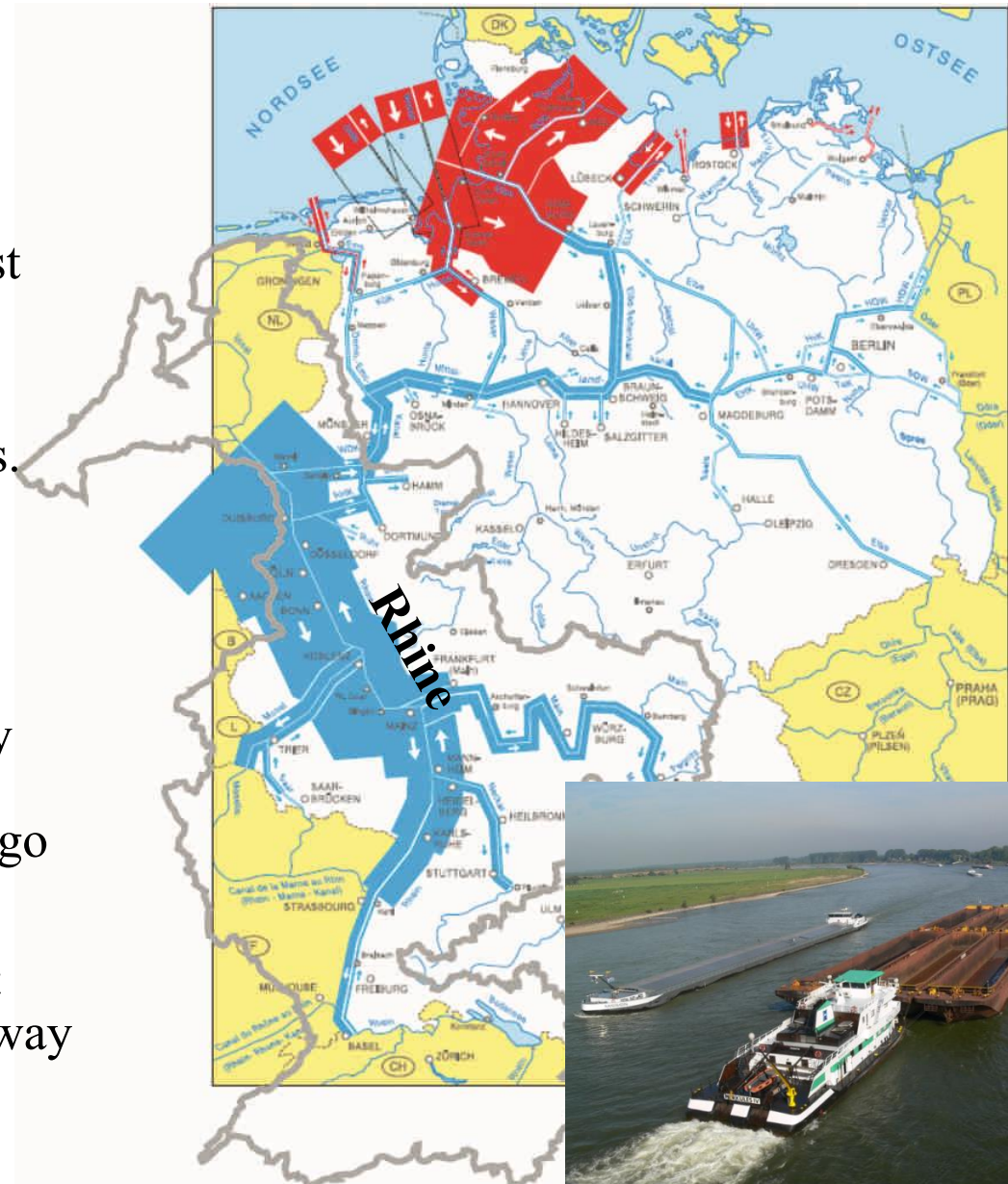
Bastian Klein, Dennis Meissner, Stephan Hemri (HITS)
Department M2 - Water Balance, Forecasting and Predictions
Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG)

HEPEX Workshop
Université Laval, Québec, Canada, June 6 to 8, 2016

The Waterway Rhine

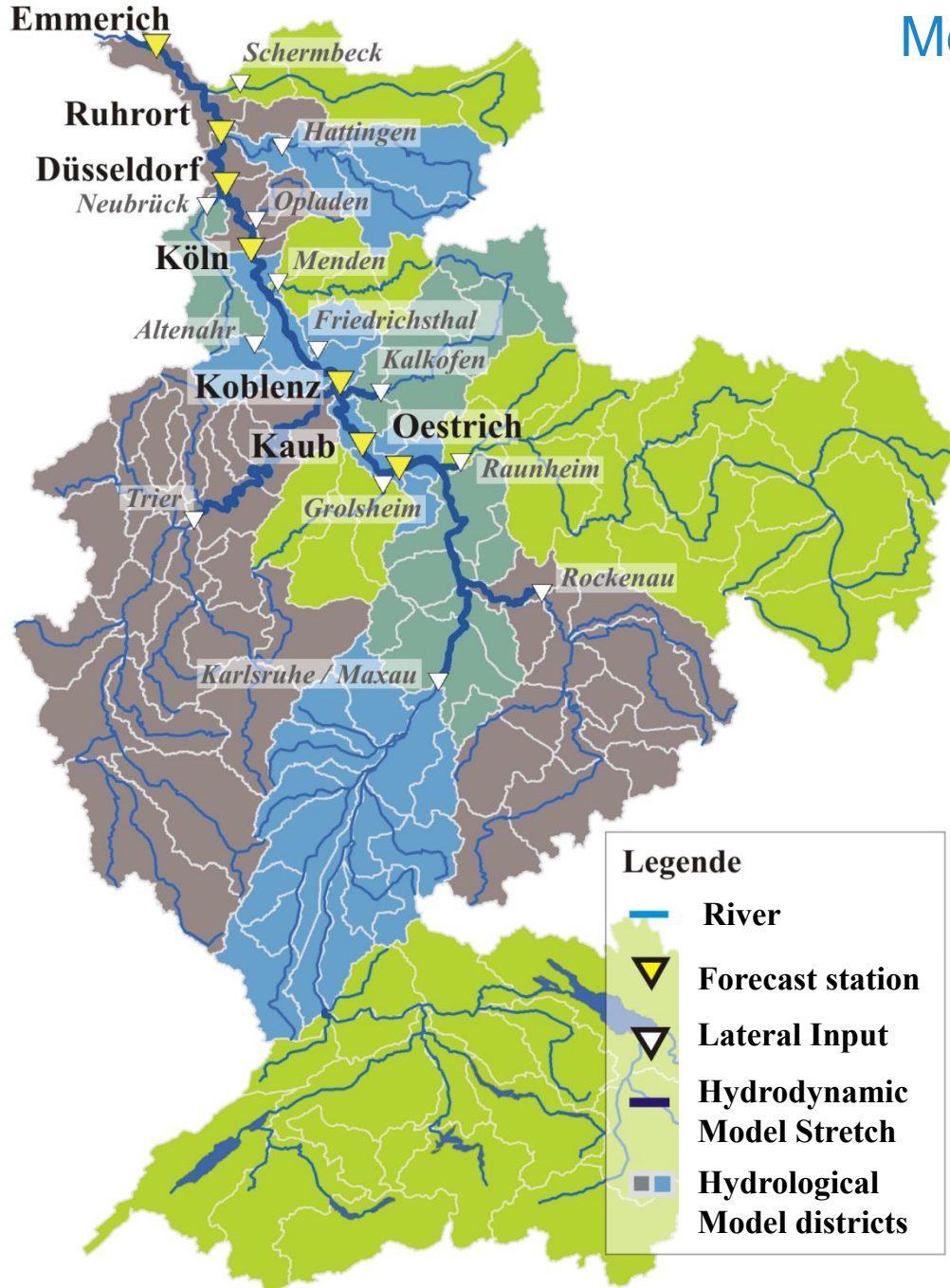
Amongst the German waterways the **River Rhine** takes an extraordinary position ...

- The River Rhine is one of the world's most frequented inland waterways.
- The volume of goods transported on the Rhine can be estimated at 310 million tons.
- The average number of vessels using the Rhine each day is approx. 600 at the Dutch-German border (~ 400 at Cologne).
- The fleet travelling on the Rhine waterway can be estimated at about 6,900 vessels (1,200 are pushed barges, 4,400 motor cargo vessels and 1,300 tankers).
- Duisburg is the world's largest inland port (1350 ha area, 21 port basins, 200 km railway track).

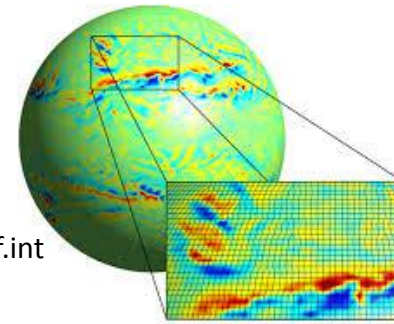


Waterlevel Forecast River Rhine

Model Chain

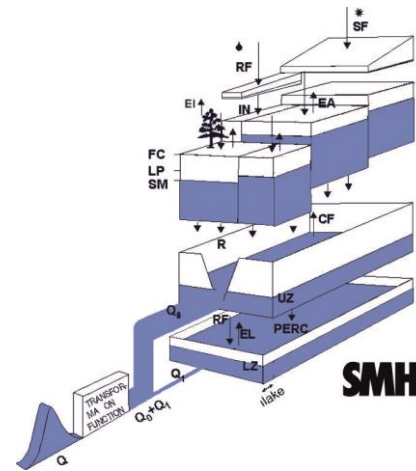


www.ecmwf.int



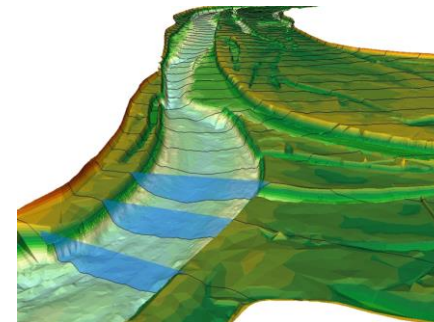
Meteorological model

P, T



Hydrological model

Q



Hydrodynamic model

W

Waterlevel Forecast River Rhine

Direkt zu: [NfB](#) | [BfS](#) | [F/T](#) | [Wasserstände](#) | [Eislagen](#) | [Schleuseninformationen](#)

Elektronischer Wasserstraßen-Informationsservice (ELWIS)

hydrological

Sie sind hier: [Startseite](#) > [Gewässerkundliche Informationen](#) > [Wasserstände](#) > Wasserstände an schiffahrtsrelevanten Pegeln

Wasserstände an schiffahrtsrelevanten Pegeln

Anzuzeigende Tage: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#) oder [7](#) ?

Pegel KOBLENZ		Vorhersage					Abschätzung				
Pegel HSW / GW	Uhr	Di. 01.10.13	Heute 02.10.13	Heute 02.10.13	Do. 03.10.13	Fr. 04.10.13	Fr. 04.10.13	Sa. 05.10.13	So. 06.10.13		
KOBLENZ 650 / 80	01:00:00	--	(--)	--	--	145	138	--	136	134	
	03:00:00	--	(--)	--	--	145	138	--	136	135	
	05:00:00	161	(-16)	156	(-5)	--	144	138	--	135	136
	07:00:00	--	(--)	--	(--)	153	144	137	--	135	138
	09:00:00	--	(--)	--	(--)	152	144	--	137	135	--
	11:00:00	--	(--)	--	(--)	152	143	--	137	134	--
	13:00:00	156	(-11)	--	(--)	151	143	--	137	134	--
	15:00:00	--	(--)	--	(--)	150	142	--	137	134	--
	17:00:00	--	(--)	--	(--)	149	141	--	137	133	--
	19:00:00	--	(--)	--	(--)	147	140	--	136	133	--
21:00:00	152	(-12)	--	(--)	146	140	--	136	133	--	
23:00:00	--	(--)	--	(--)	145	139	--	136	133	--	

(alle Pegel-Angaben in cm)

Weitere Informationen zu den Vorhersagewerten:

Vorhersagen und Abschätzungen vom: 02.10.2013 um 06:00, Quelle: [Bundesanstalt für Gewässerkunde](#)

Weitere Informationen zur Unterscheidung von [Vorhersage](#) und [Abschätzung](#) finden Sie auf den Seiten der Bundesanstalt für Gewässerkunde

P, T

hydrological

Q

hydrodynamic

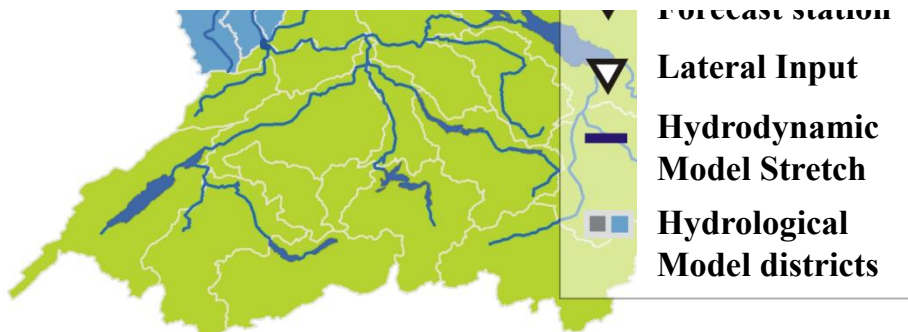
W

↑ eine Ebene höher...

Wasserstände an
schiffahrtsrelevanten
Pegeln

Pegelauswahl über Karte

Suchen



Waterlevel Forecast River Rhine



Direkt zu: [NfB](#) | [BfS](#) | [F/T](#) | [Wasserstände](#) | [Eislagen](#) | [Schleuseninformationen](#)

Elektronischer Wasserstraßen-Informationsservice (ELWIS)

hydrological

Sie sind hier: [Startseite](#) > [Gewässerkundliche Informationen](#) > [Wasserstände](#) > Wasserstände an schifffahrtsrelevanten Pegeln

Wasserstände an schifffahrtsrelevanten Pegeln

Anzuzeigende Tage: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#) oder [7](#) ?

Pegel KOBLENZ		Vorhersage					Abschätzung			
Pegel HSW / GW	Uhr	Di. 01.10.13	Heute 02.10.13	Heute 02.10.13	Do. 03.10.13	Fr. 04.10.13	Fr. 04.10.13	Sa. 05.10.13	So. 06.10.13	
KOBLENZ 650 / 80	01:00:00	-- (--)	-- (--)	--	145	138	--	136	134	
	03:00:00	-- (--)	-- (--)	--	145	138	--	136	135	
	05:00:00	161 (-16)	156 (-5)	--	144	138	--	135	136	
	07:00:00	-- (--)	-- (--)	153	144	137	--	135	138	

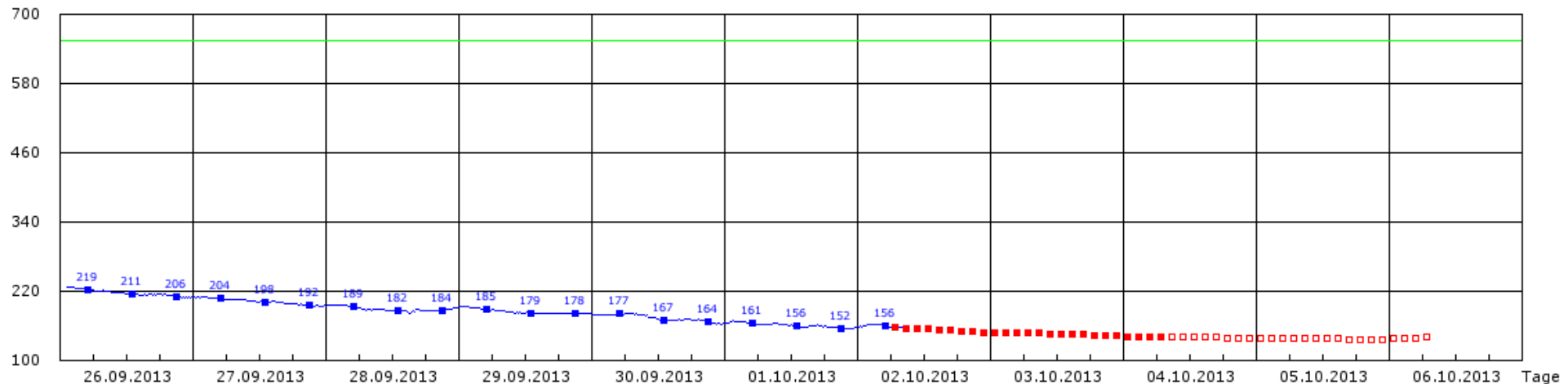
P, T

hydrological

KOBLENZ

Wasserstände der vergangenen 7 Tage und Wasserstandvorhersage am 02.10.2013 10:00 Uhr

Wasserstand in cm



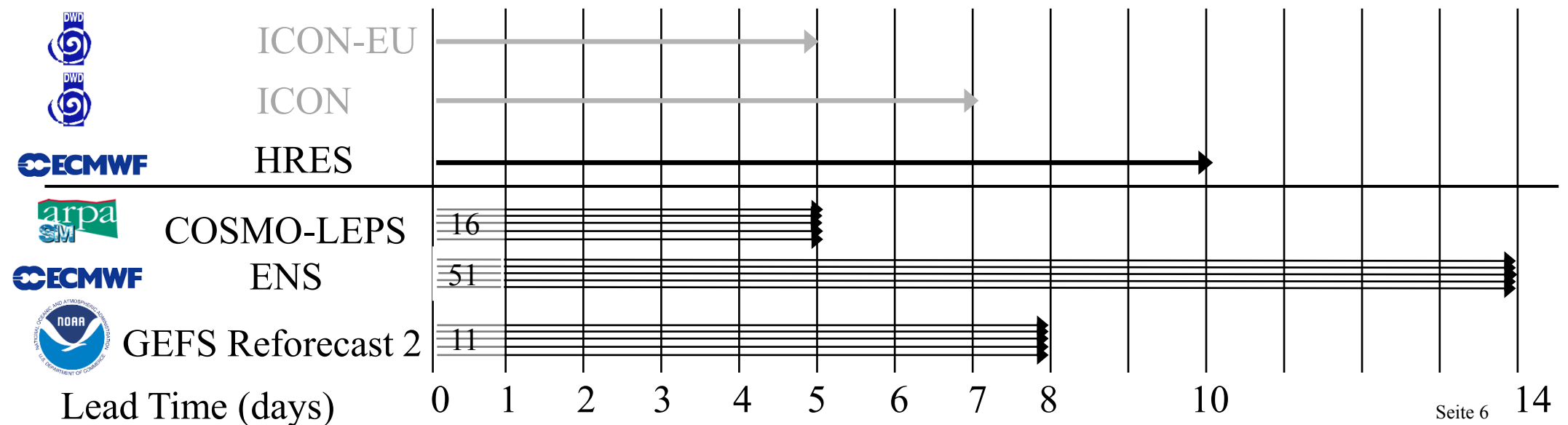
Daten erhoben durch die Fachstelle Gewässerkunde der Generaldirektion Wasserstraßen und Schifffahrt - AST SW, Mainz Tel.: 06131979-420

Vorhersagen und Abschätzungen vom: 02.10.2013 um 06:00, Quelle: Bundesanstalt für Gewässerkunde
Weitere Informationen zur Unterscheidung von Vorhersage und Abschätzung finden Sie auf den Seiten der Bundesanstalt für Gewässerkunde



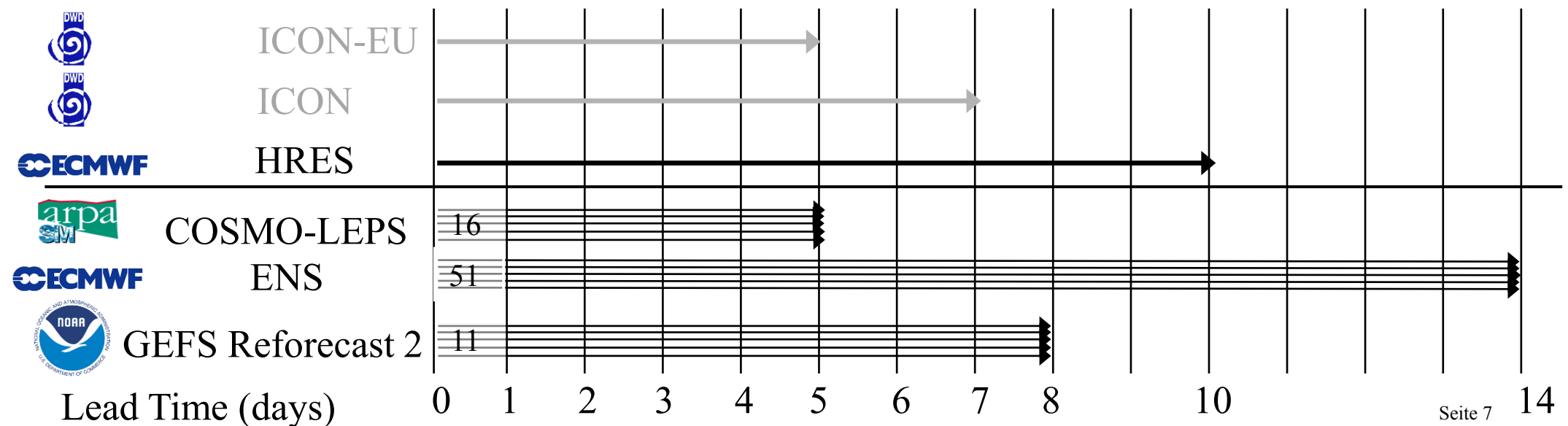
Probabilistic Forecasts

- Quantification of the meteorological forecast uncertainty by using meteorological ensemble forecasts
- Problem: meteorological ensemble forecasts are generally underdispersiv and biased
- ➔ Application of the statistical post-processing method Ensemble Model Output Statistics EMOS (Gneiting et al. 2005) to estimate the predictive uncertainty of water level forecasts
- Hindcast: daily forecasts for the period 2008-11-01 to 2015-10-31



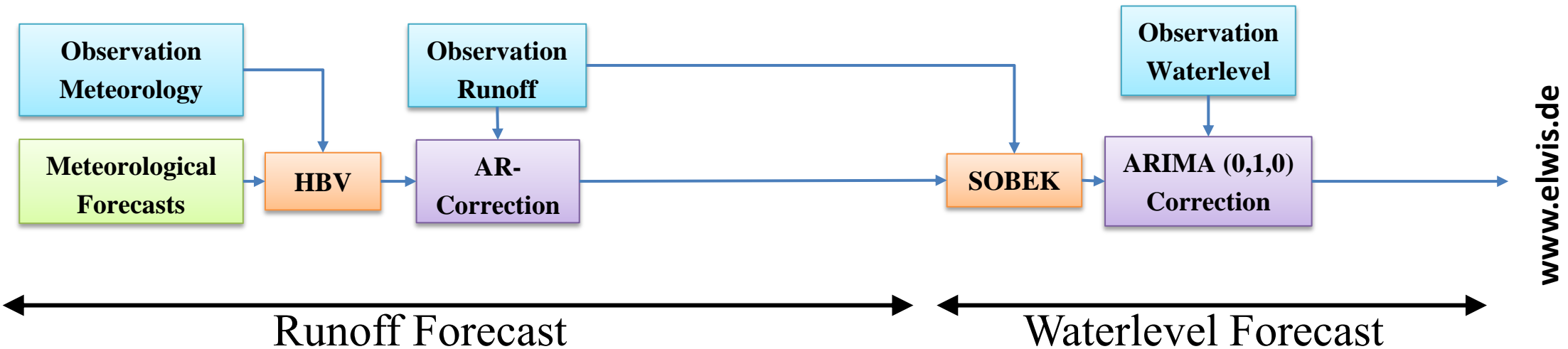
Probabilistic Forecasts

- Quantification of the meteorological forecast uncertainty by using meteorological ensembles
- Aim of statistical post-processing**
- Problem: (Gneiting et al. 2007)
 - underdispersed
 - Maximizing the sharpness of the predictive distributions subject to calibration
- Application: Model Output Statistics (MOS) (Gneiting et al. 2007) to estimate the predictive uncertainty of water level forecasts
- Hindcast: daily forecasts for the period 2008-11-01 to 2015-10-31



Current Workflow Deterministic Forecasts

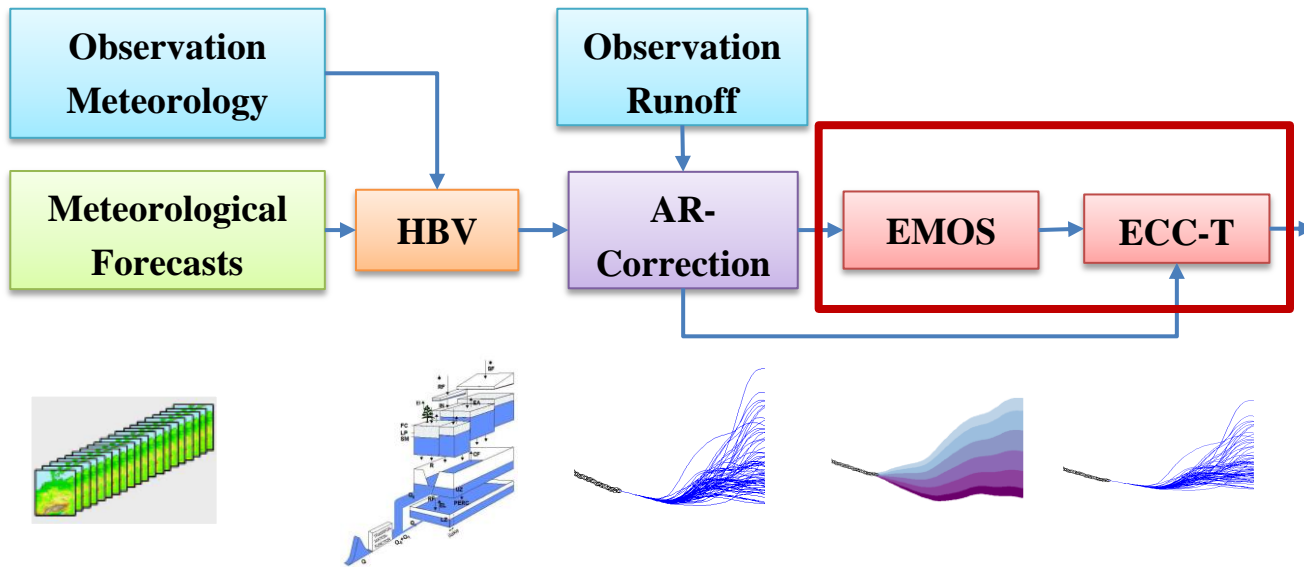
Real Time



Future Workflow Probabilistic Forecasts

Real Time

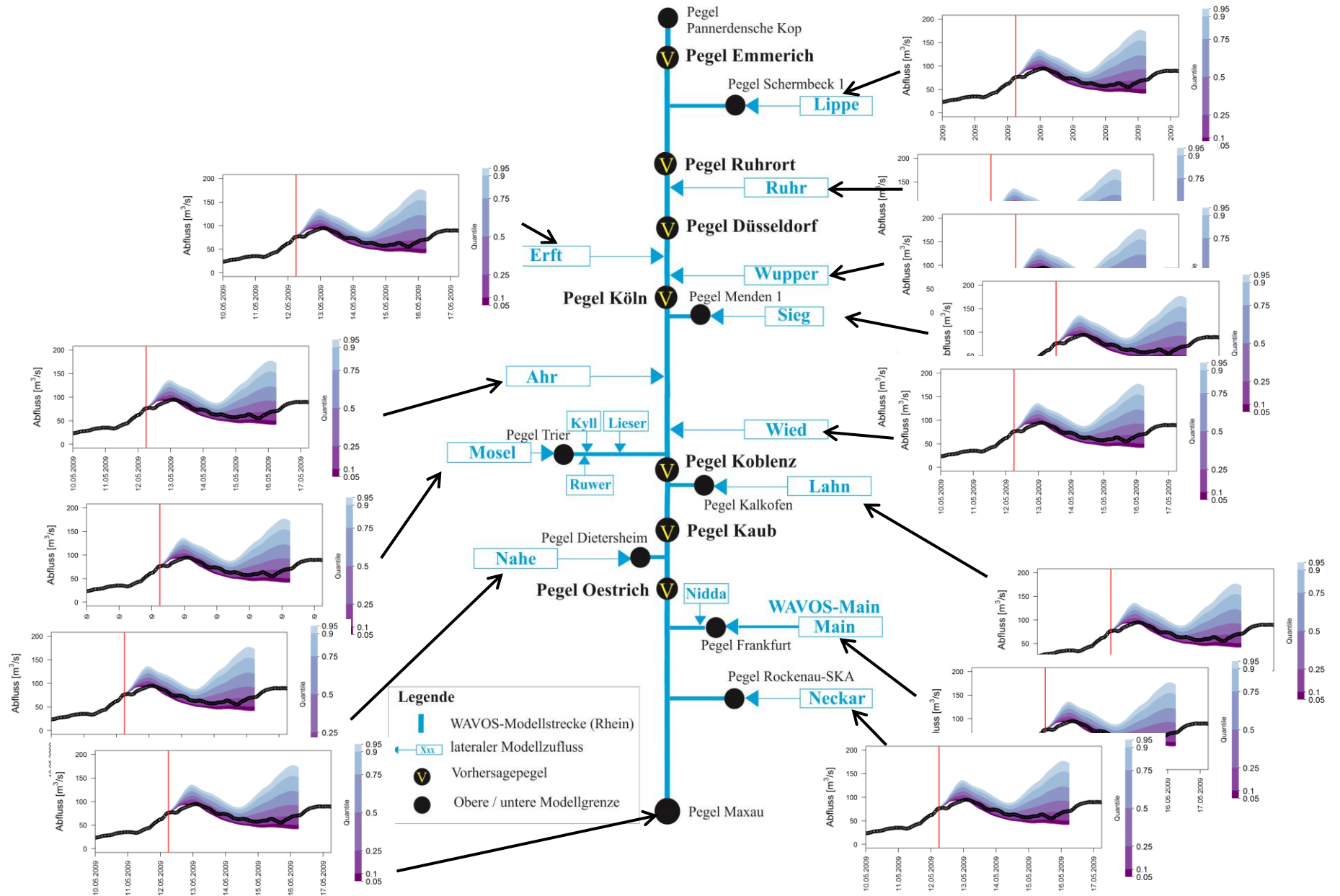
New Workflow Components



Runoff Forecast

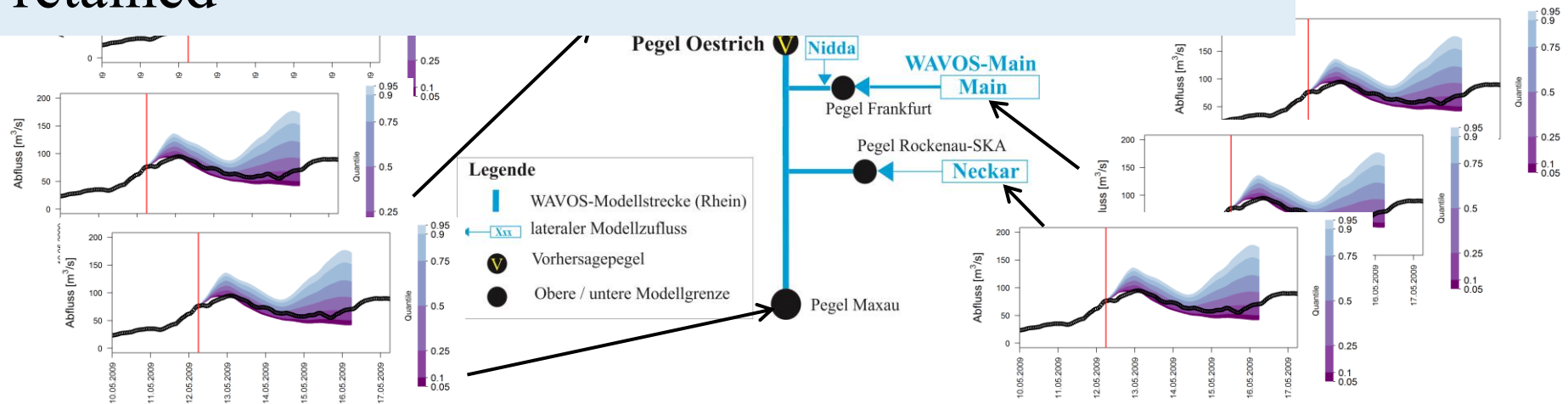
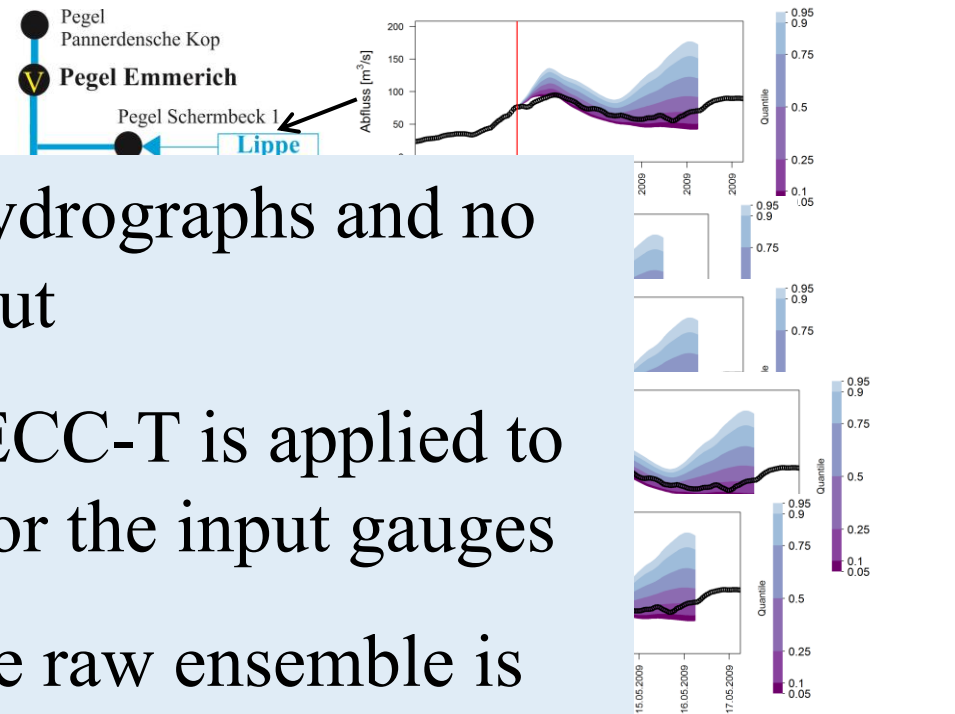
Waterlevel Forecast

Probabilistic Hydrographs

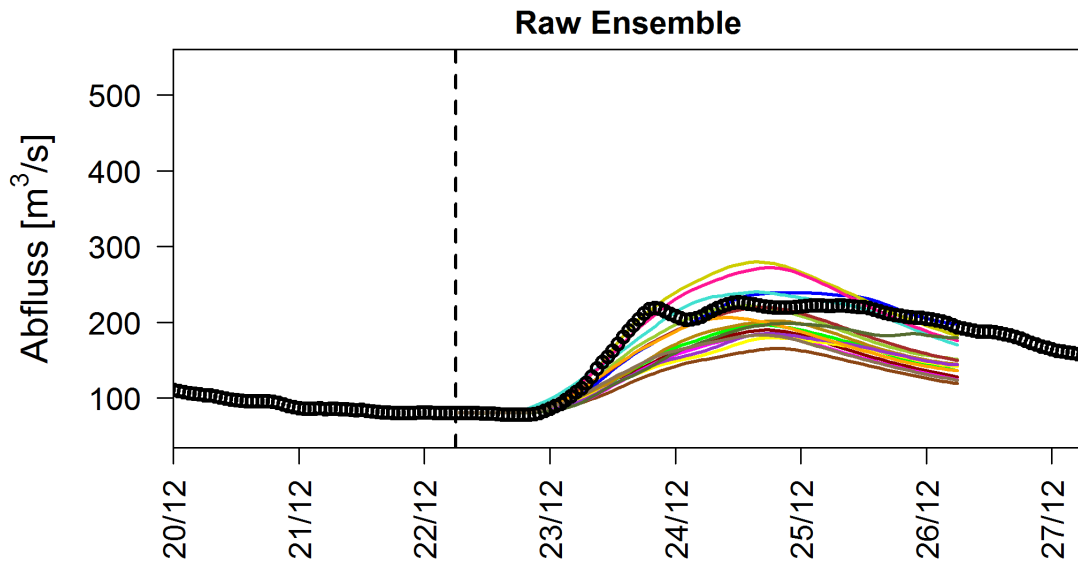


Probabilistic Hydrographs

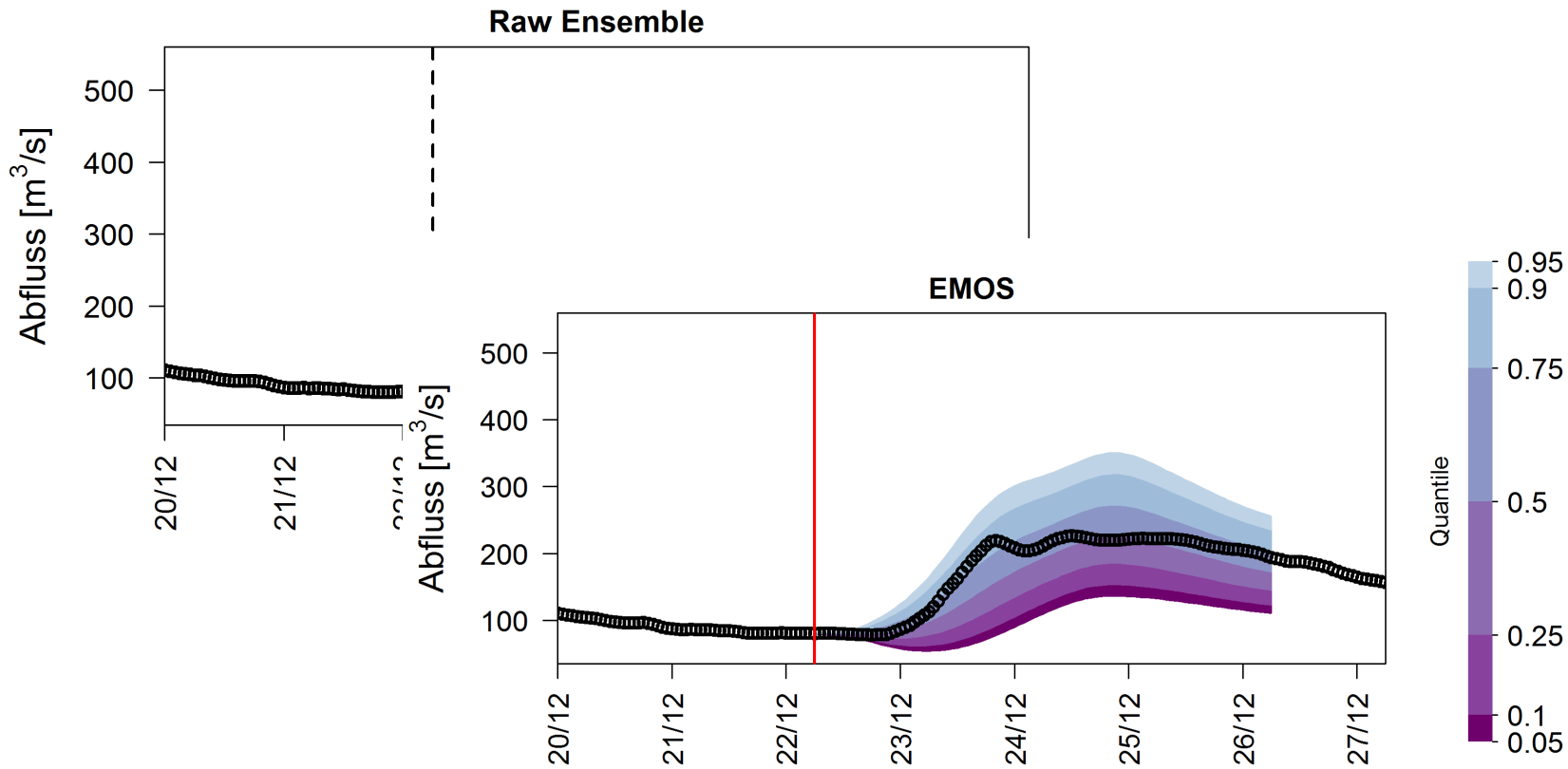
- Hydrodynamic model needs hydrographs and no probability distributions as input
- Ensemble Copula Coupling ECC-T is applied to calculate runoff trajectories for the input gauges
- Space-time dependency of the raw ensemble is retained



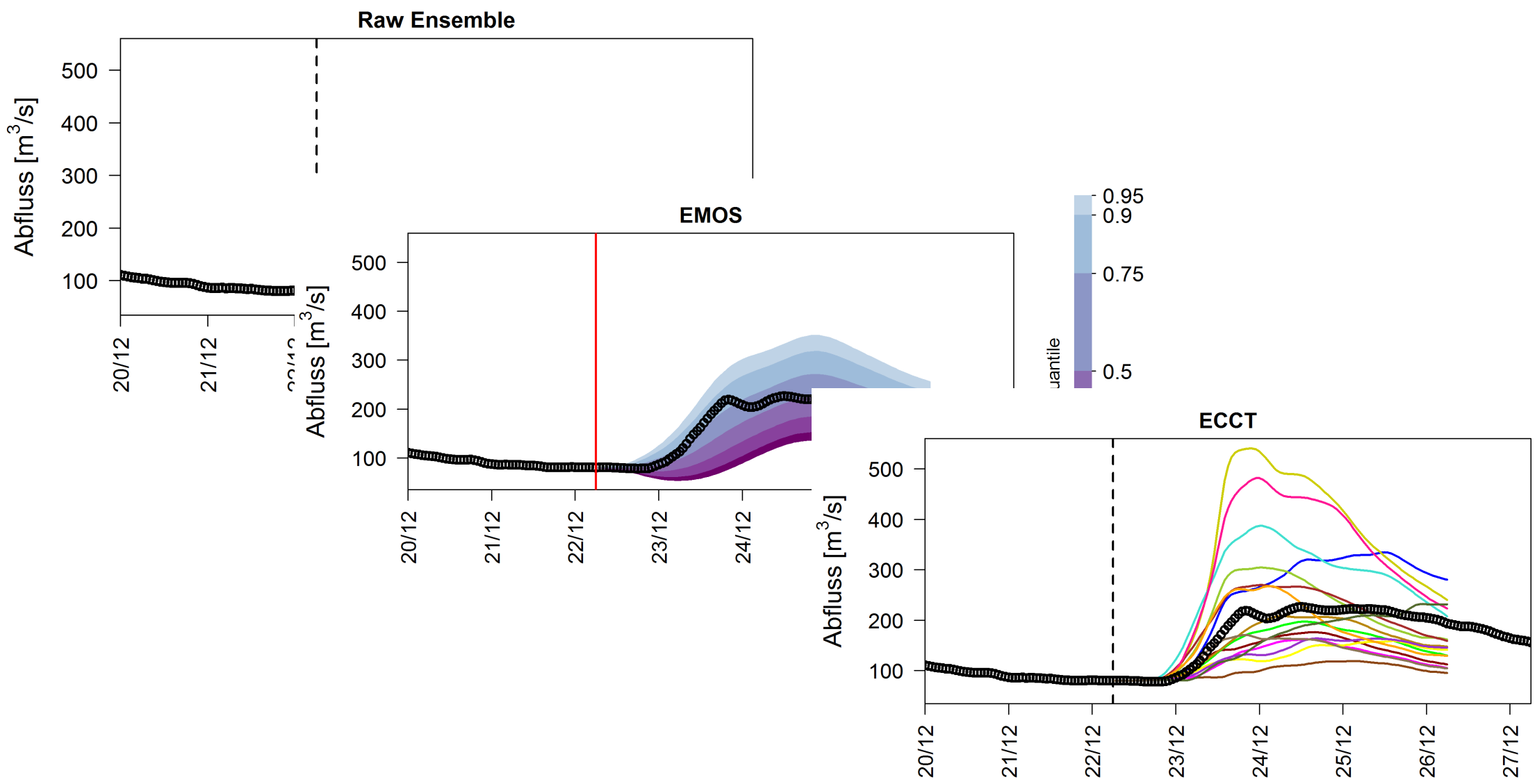
Ensemble Copula Coupling



Ensemble Copula Coupling



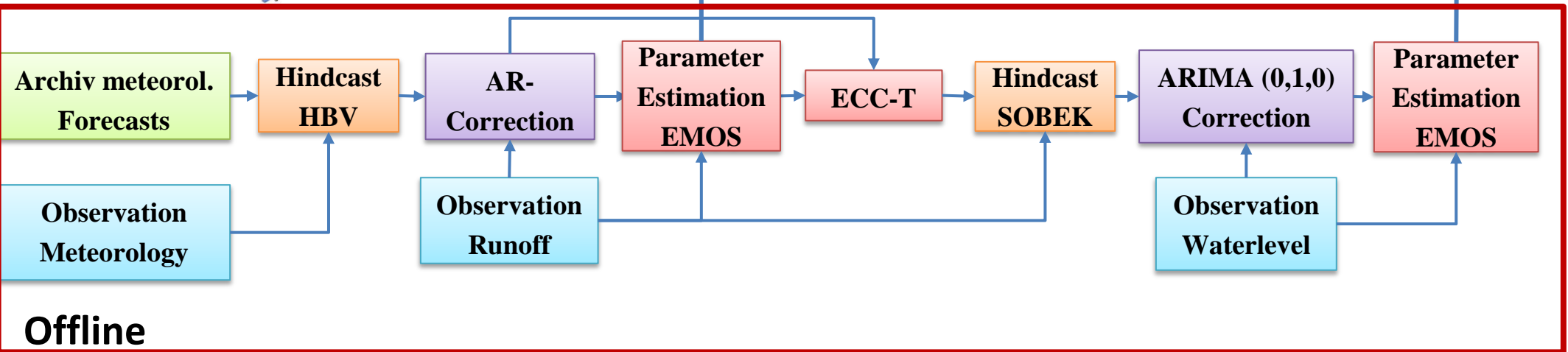
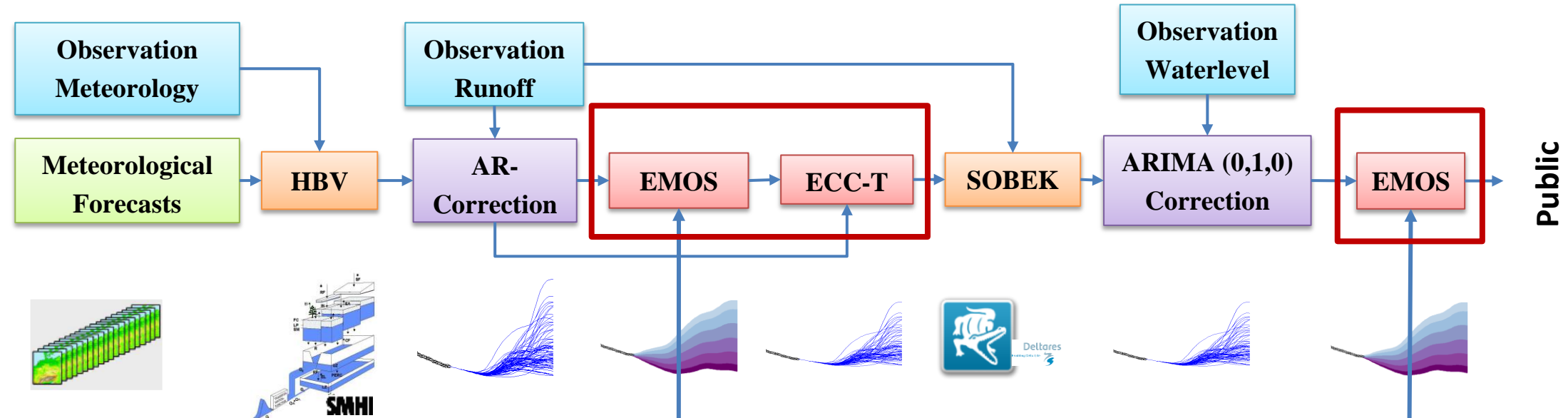
Ensemble Copula Coupling



Future Workflow Probabilistic Forecasts

New Workflow Components

Real Time

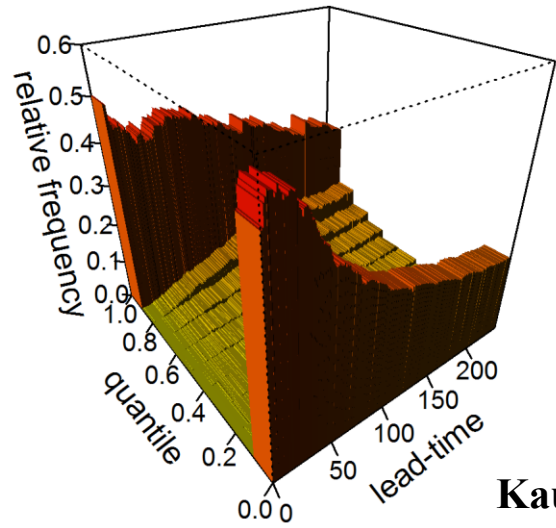


Runoff Forecast

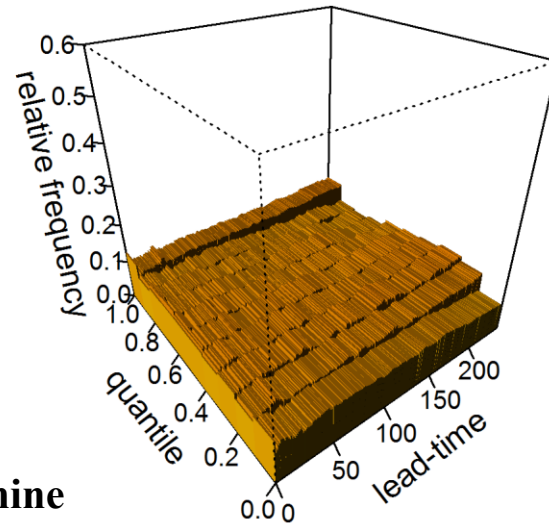
Waterlevel Forecast

Verification

Raw Ensemble

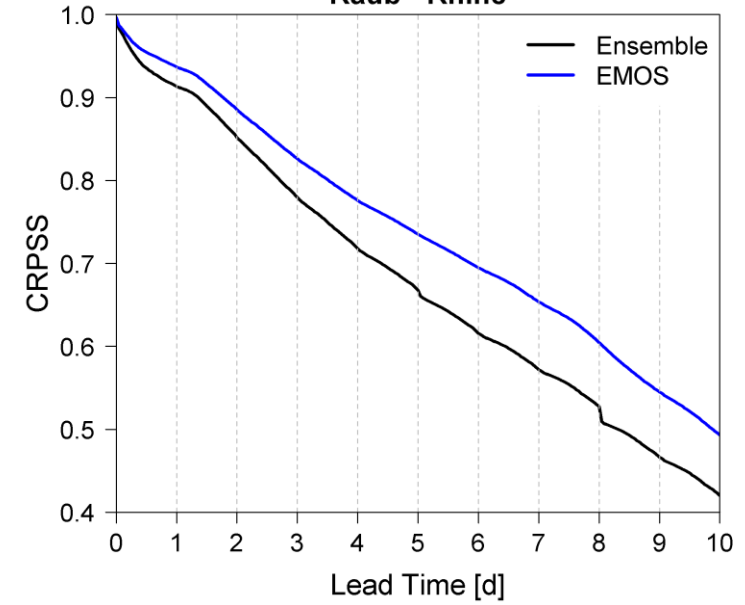


EMOS

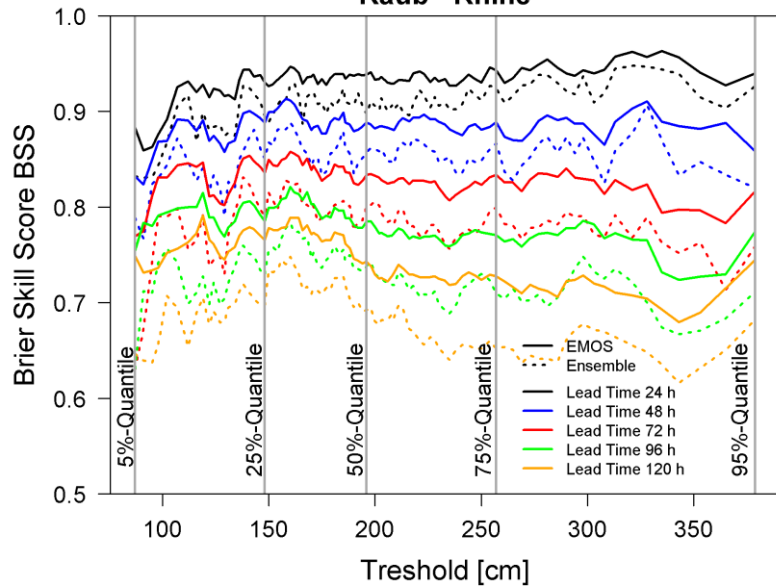


Kaub - Rhine

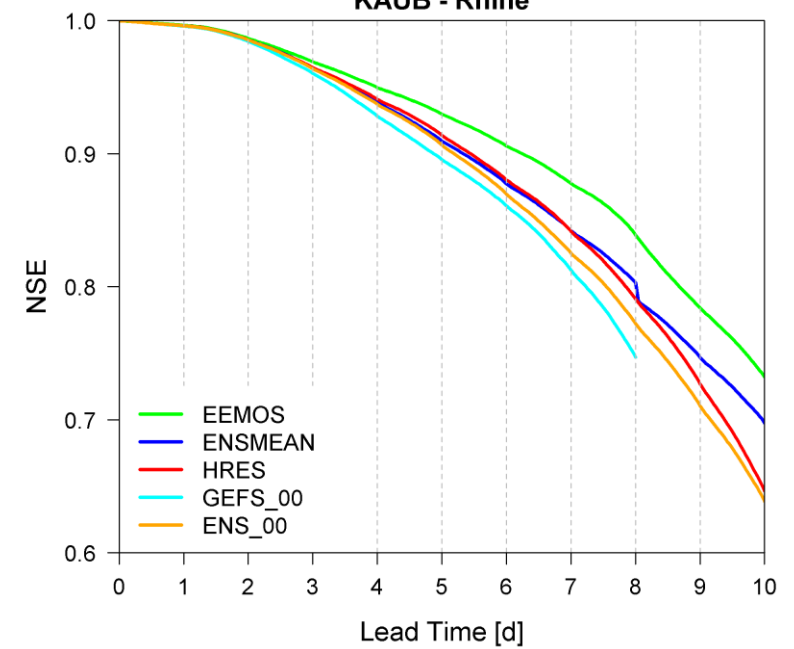
Kaub - Rhine



Kaub - Rhine

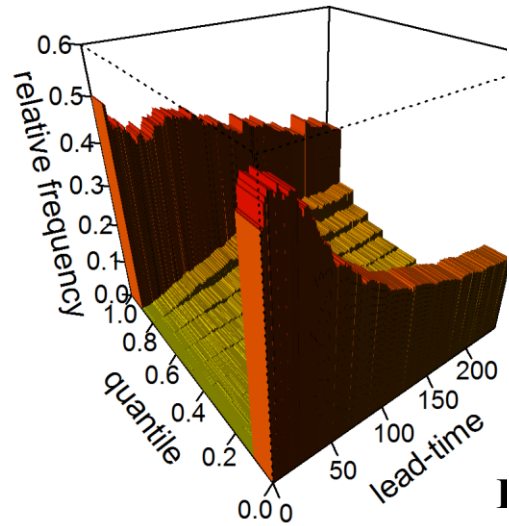


KAUB - Rhine

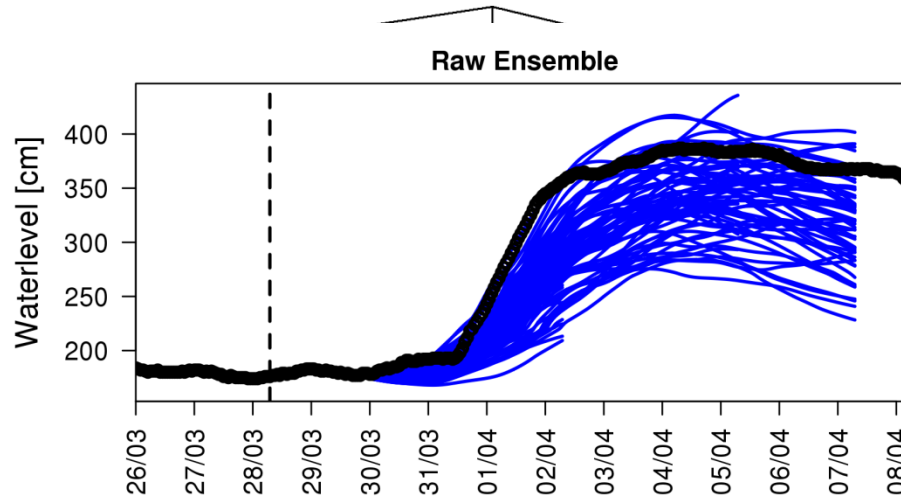


Verification

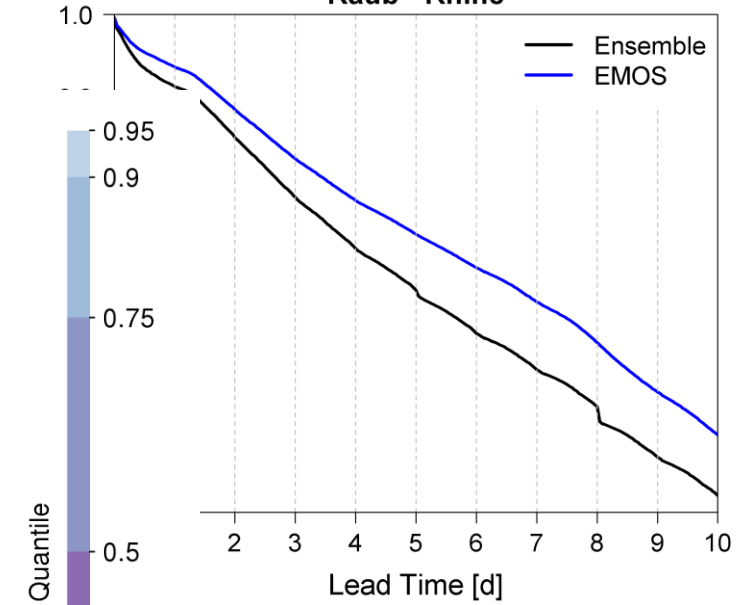
Raw Ensemble



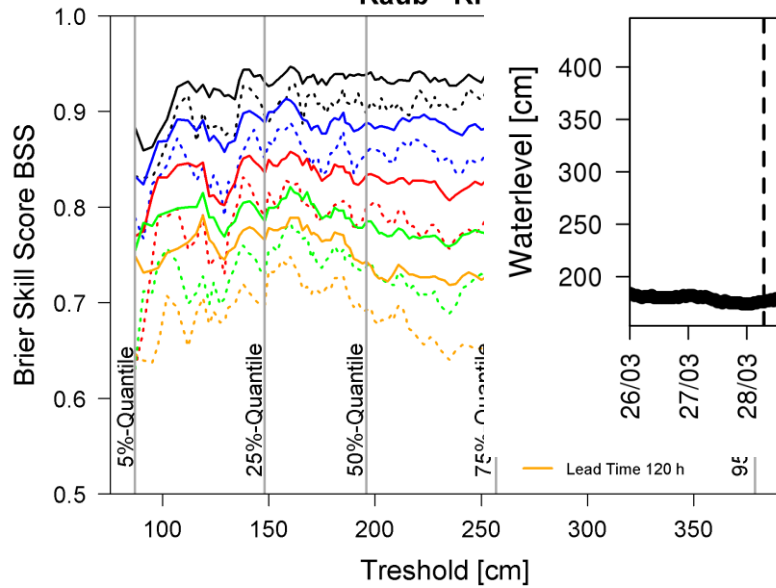
EMOS



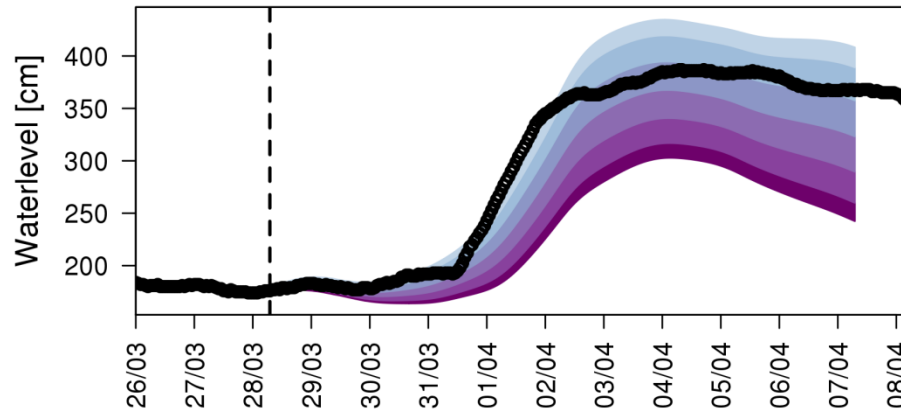
Kaub - Rhine



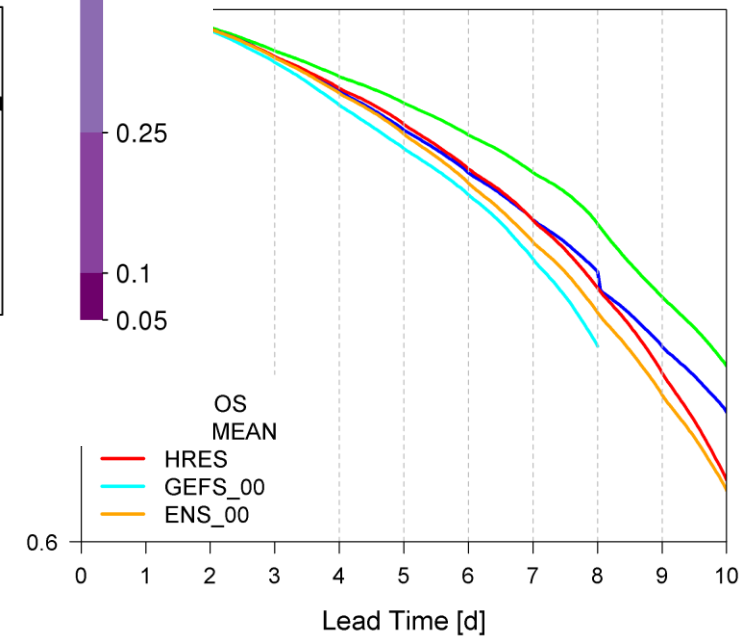
Kaub - Rt



EMOS

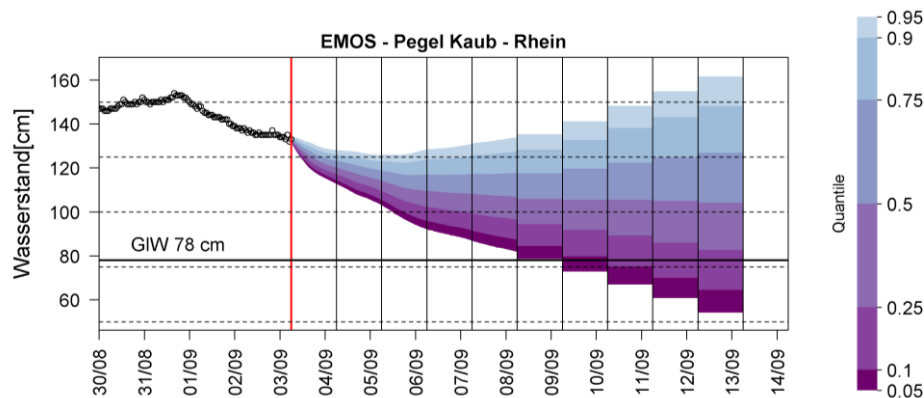


KAUB - Rhine



Potential Probabilistic Forecast Products

- Product 1: deterministic 4-day forecast („best guess“)
- Product 2: probabilistic forecast with lead time 0 to 10 days
 - 0 – 5 days publication of instantaneous values
 - 6 – 10 days outlook to cover the high demand of inland waterway transport on longer forecast lead times. Publication of daily mean values due to the large uncertainties.
 - Publication of expected value and selected quantiles of the predictive distribution, exceedance / non-exceedance probabilities of defined water levels



Überschreitungswahrscheinlichkeiten HSW I und HSW II [%]

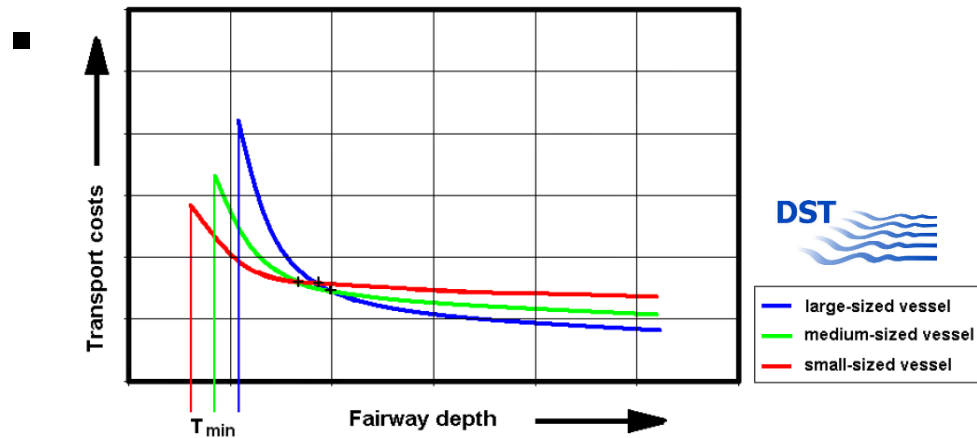
	04.09. 07:00	05.09. 07:00	06.09. 07:00	07.09. 07:00	08.09. 07:00	08.09. - 09.09.	09.09. - 10.09.	10.09. - 11.09.	11.09. - 12.09.	12.09. - 13.09.
HSW I: 460cm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HSW II: 640cm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Unterschreitungswahrscheinlichkeiten definierter Wasserstände [%]

	04.09. 07:00	05.09. 07:00	06.09. 07:00	07.09. 07:00	08.09. 07:00	08.09. - 09.09.	09.09. - 10.09.	10.09. - 11.09.	11.09. - 12.09.	12.09. - 13.09.
GIW + 0cm: 78cm	0	0	0	1	3	4	8	12	16	20
GIW + 20cm: 98cm	0	1	13	22	28	32	35	38	40	42
GIW + 40cm: 118cm	29	67	77	77	75	75	72	69	67	66
GIW + 60cm: 138cm	100	100	99	99	97	96	93	90	87	84
GIW + 80cm: 158cm	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	98	96	94
GIW + 120cm: 198cm	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Simulation-based Cost Model

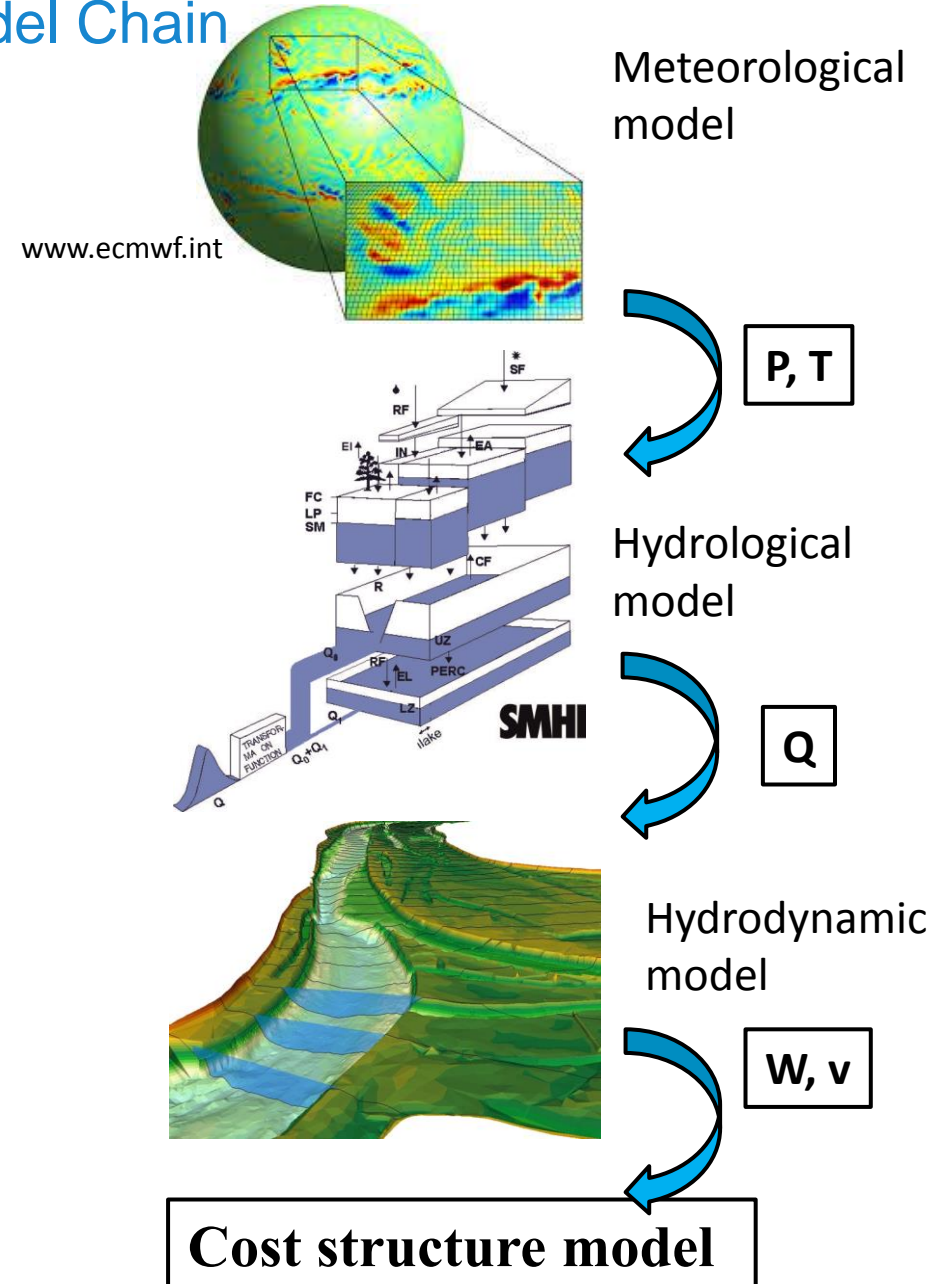
- Costs of IWT are mainly affected by **waterway-characteristics, vessel-sizes and operating conditions**



„economy of scale“

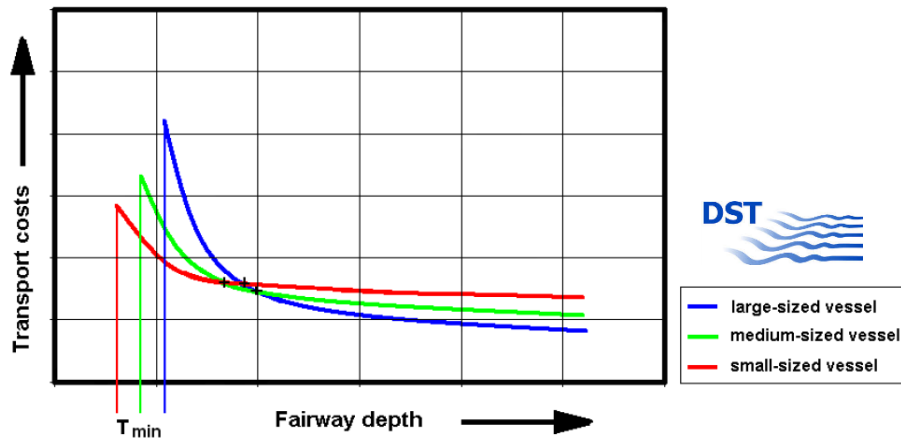
- Simulation-based cost model (developed by DST) takes into account representative vessel types with their specific draughts, cargo capacities etc.
- Aim: demonstrating the potential economic benefit by using probabilistic forecasts**

Model Chain



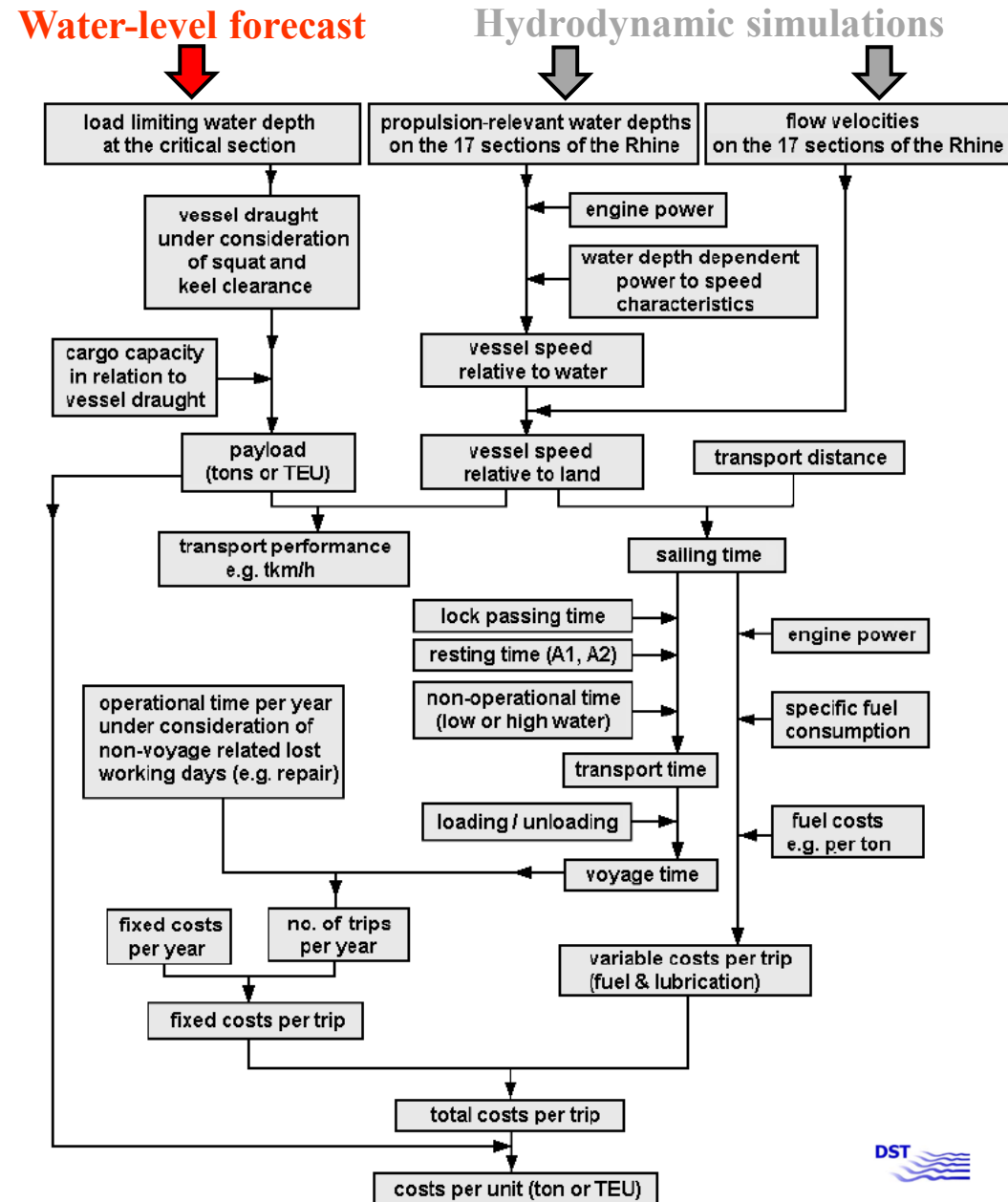
Simulation-based Cost Model

- Costs of IWT are mainly affected by **waterway-characteristics, vessel-sizes and operating conditions**

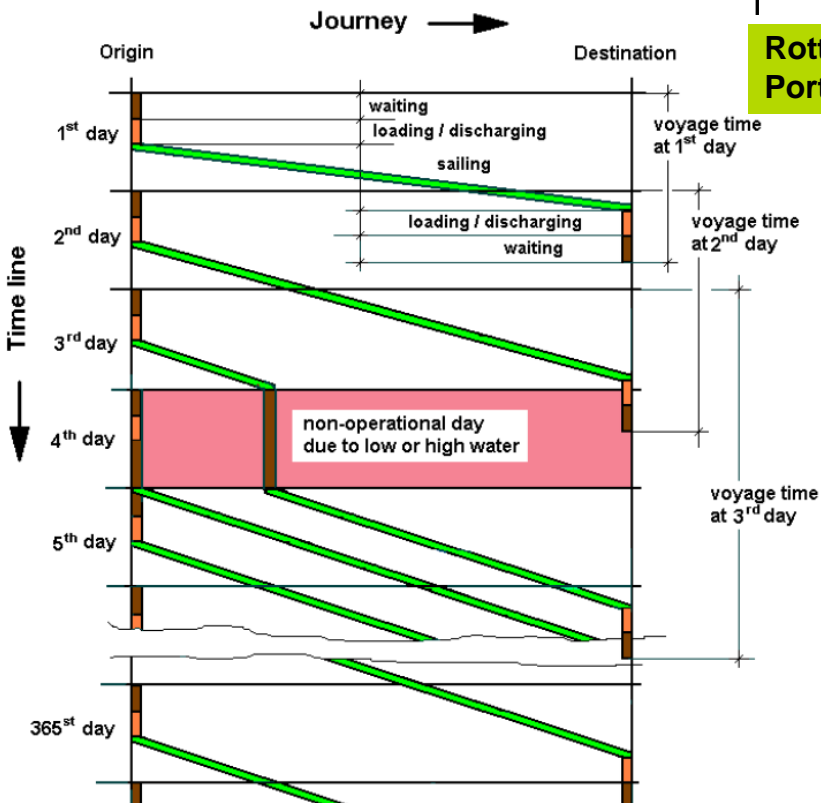
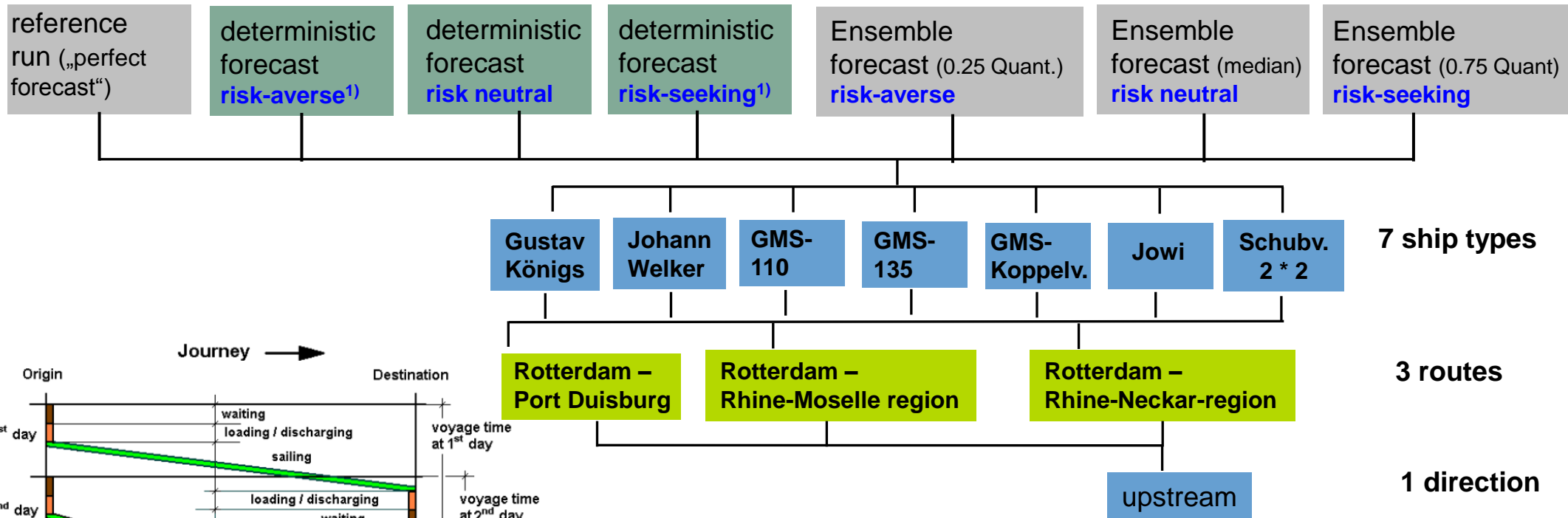


„economy of scale“

- Simulation-based cost model (developed by DST) takes into account representative vessel types with their specific draughts, cargo capacities etc.
- The main cost components are taken into account: fixed costs (labour, insurance, investment), variable costs (fuel, lubrication, lighterage, waiting time)



Simulation-based Cost Model



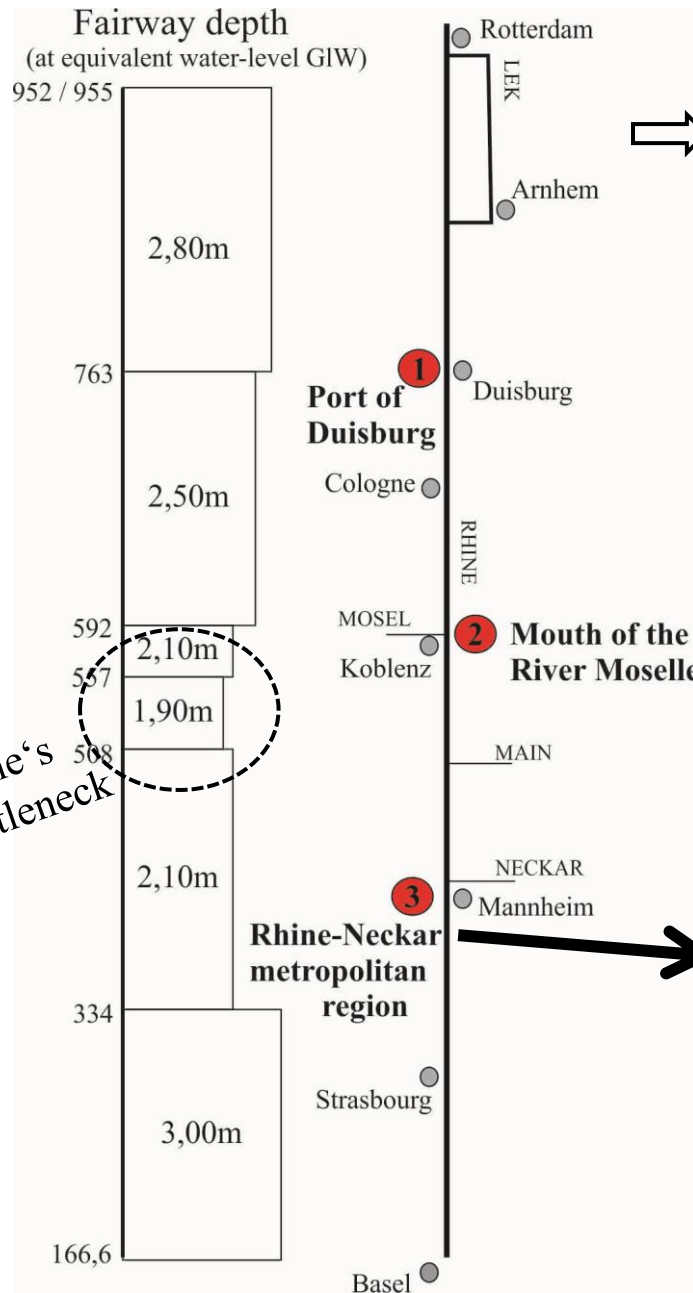
- The model causes „virtual traffic“
- Every day (within 4.5 years) one ship of each vessel type for each destination leaves the port of Rotterdam
- $1530 \text{ trips} \times 7 \text{ vessel types} \times 3 \text{ destinations} = 32.130 \text{ trips}$
- The load of each trip depends on
 - forecast variant used
 - willingness to take a risk
 - destination

Simulation-based Cost Model

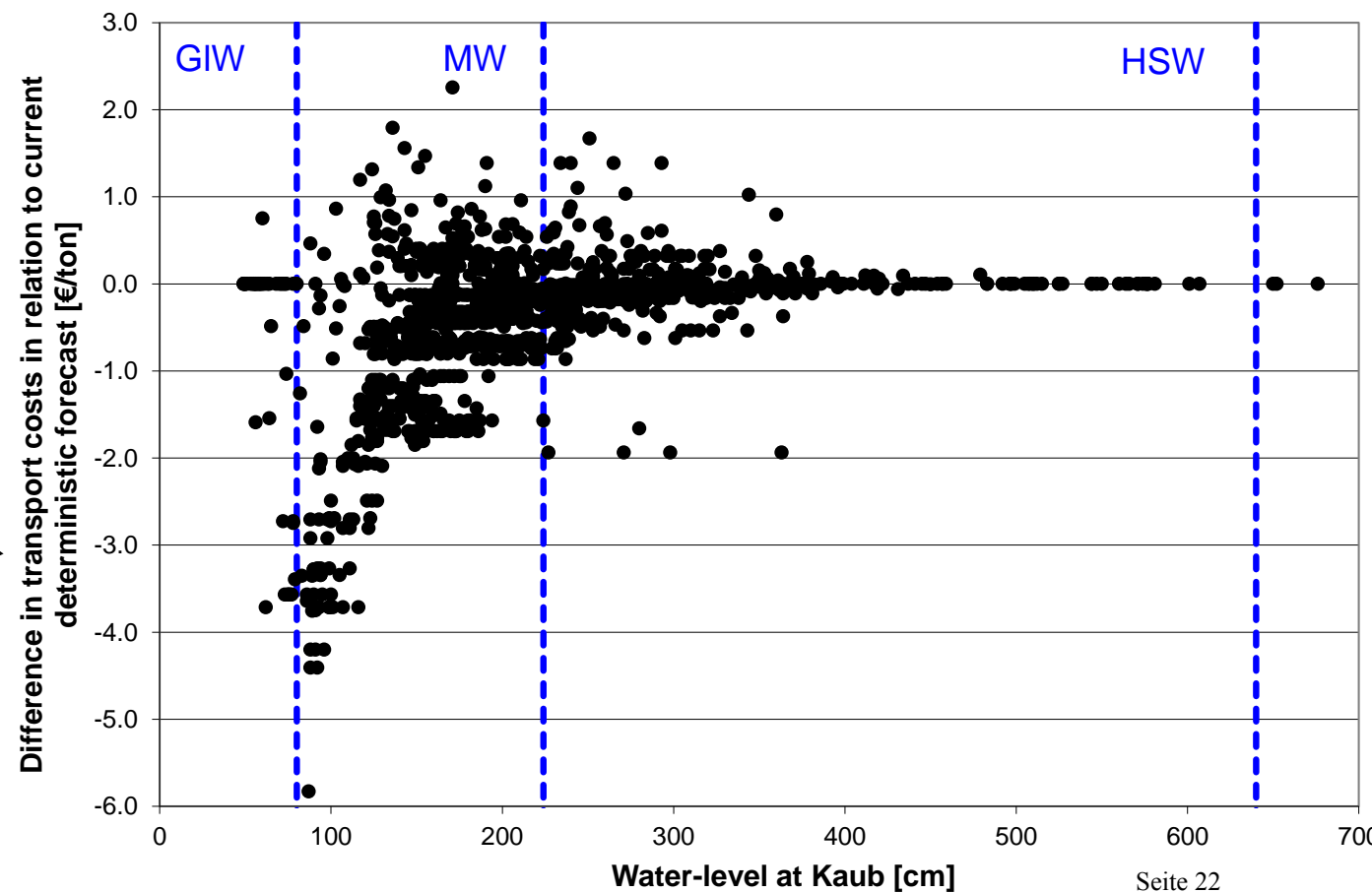


Vessel type: JOWI
(max capacity 6,100 tons)

⇒ Demonstrating the added (economic) value of probabilistic forecasts for waterway transport



Rhine's bottleneck

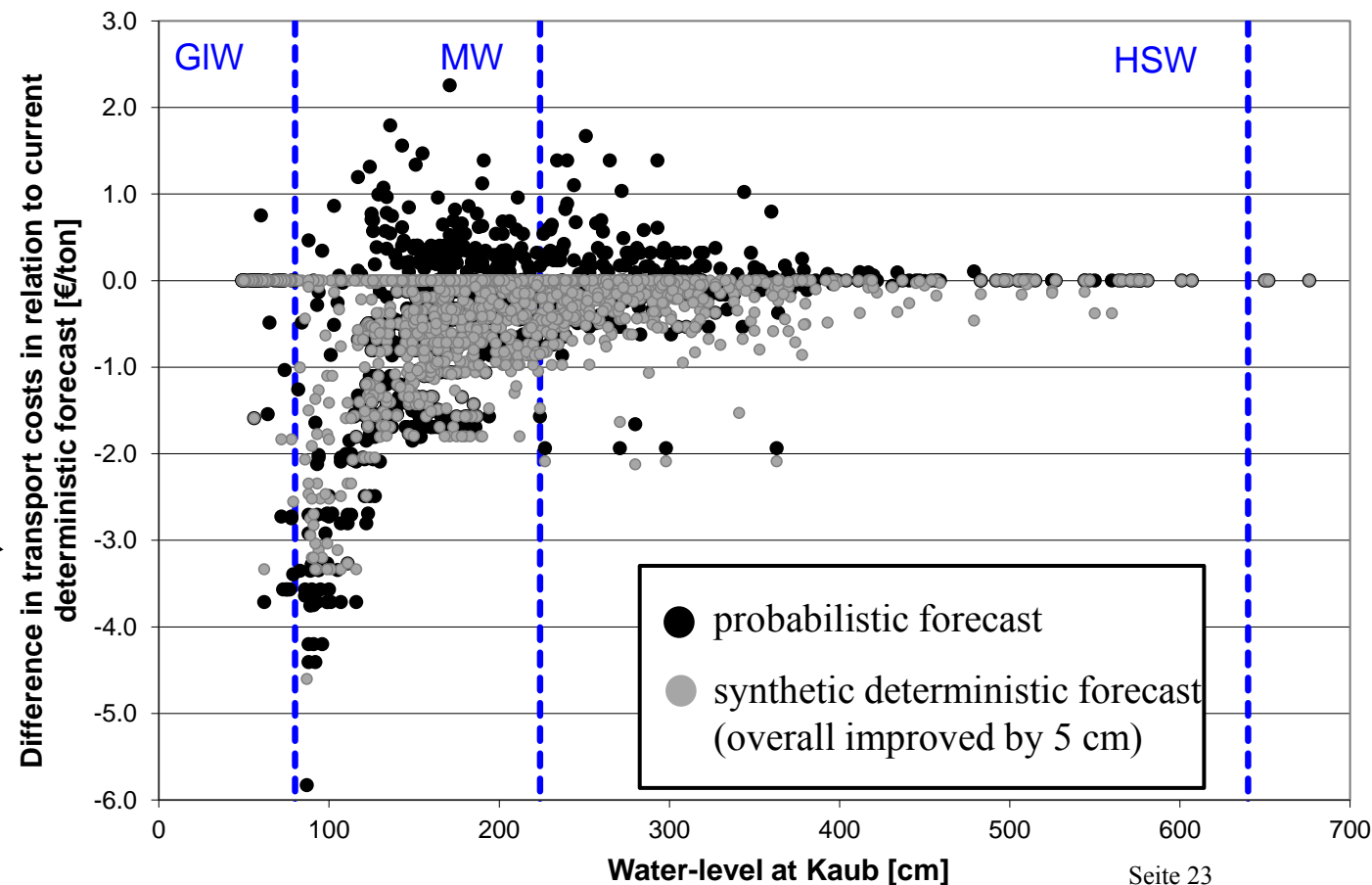
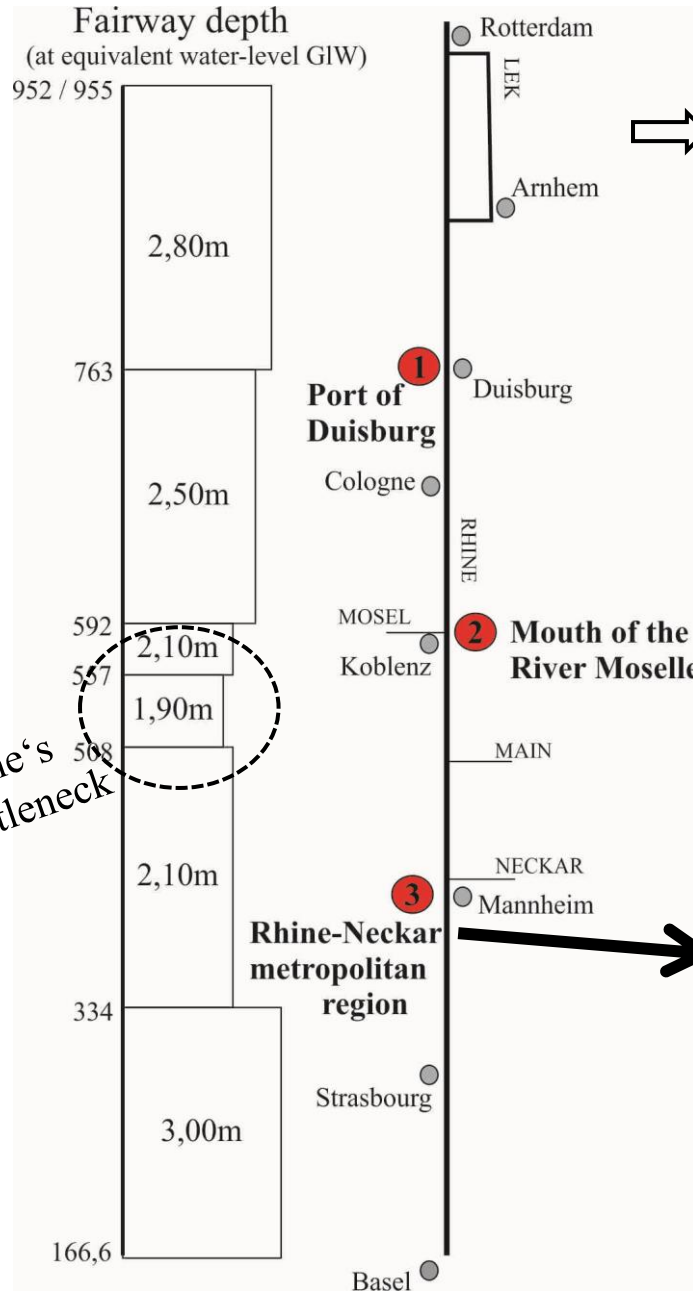


Simulation-based Cost Model



Vessel type: JOWI
(max capacity 6,100 tons)

⇒ Demonstrating the added (economic) value of probabilistic forecasts for waterway transport

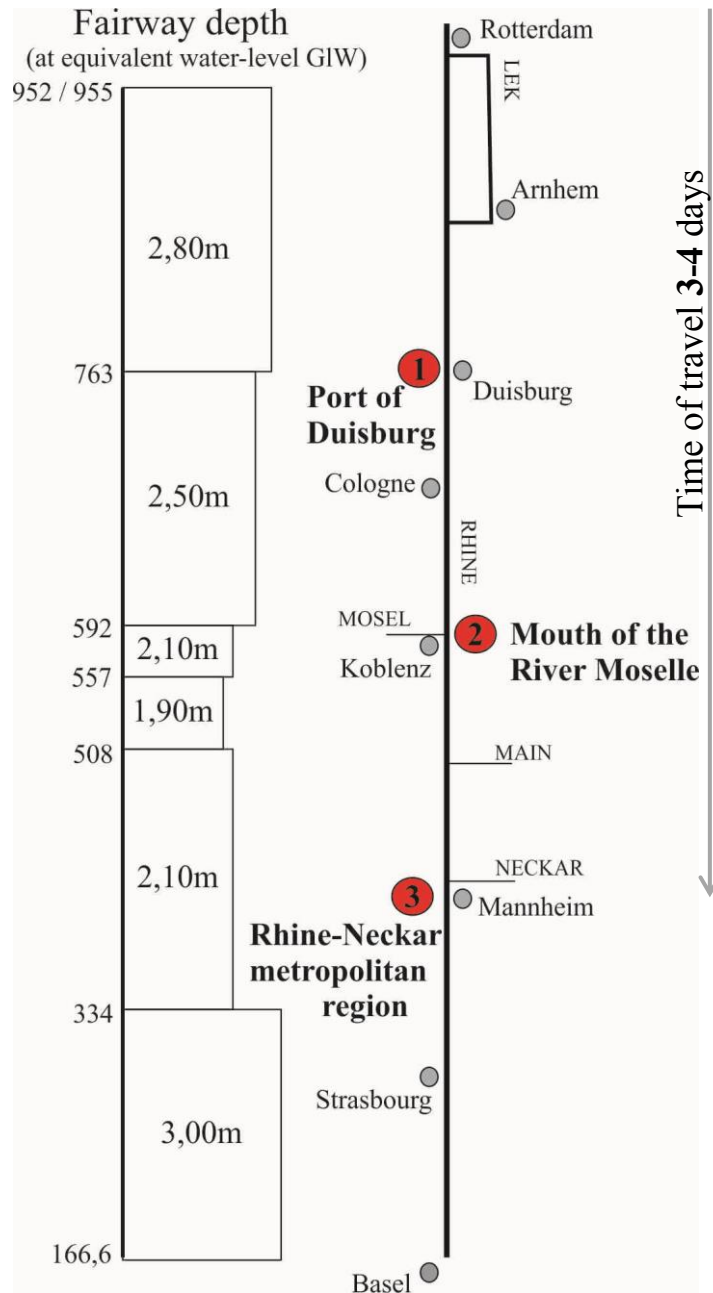


Rhine's bottleneck

Simulation-based Cost Model

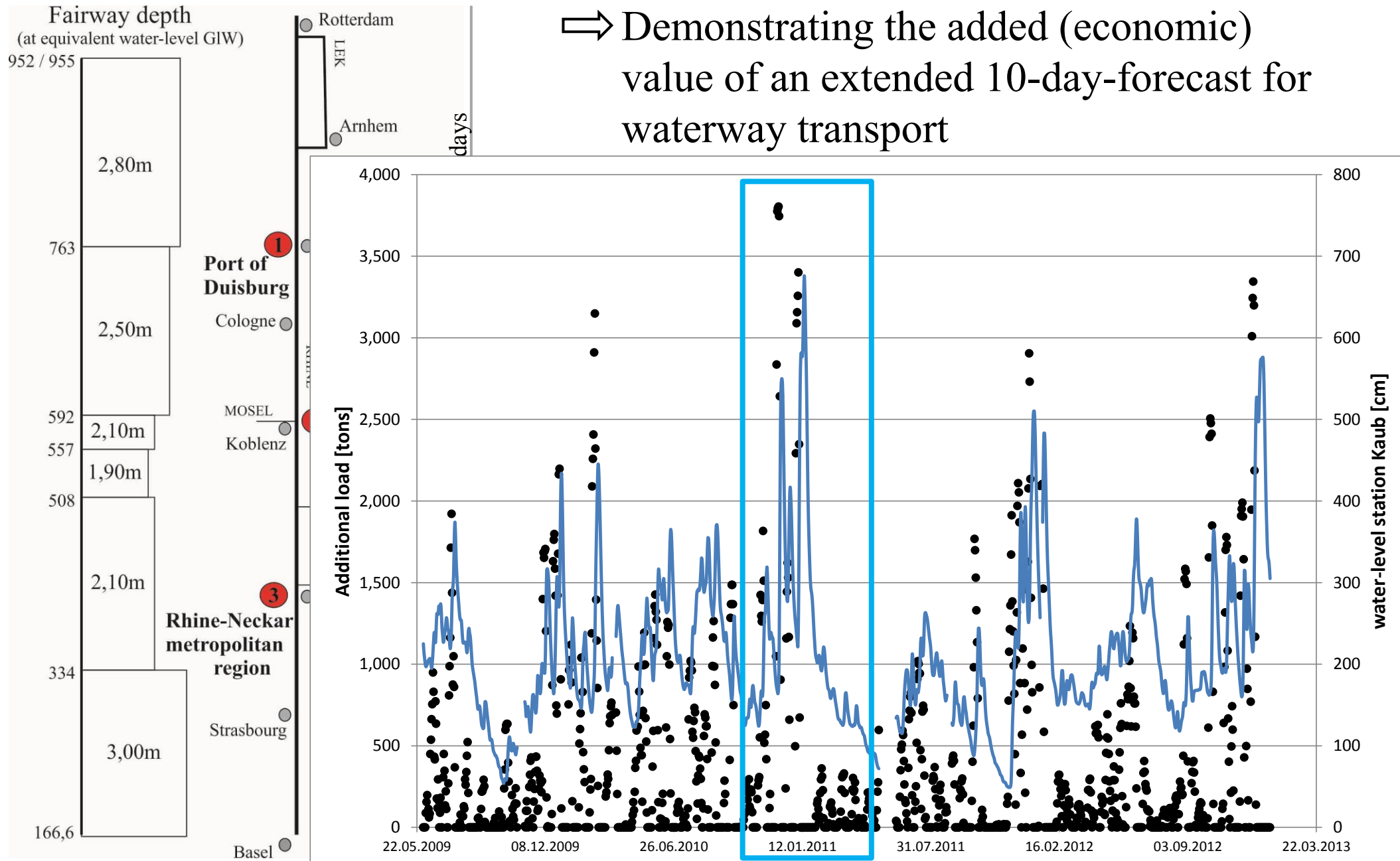
⇒ Demonstrating the added (economic) value of an extended 10-day-forecast for waterway transport

- Reference run: each vessel has to leave the port of Rotterdam each day (particular load is based on forecast day 3)
- Modification: each vessel could decide within an additional time slot of 7 days (10 day forecast – 3 day travel time) when to start the trip to the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region
- Here: forecasts are assumed to be perfect
- Next step: test different forecast variants (meteo inputs, post-processing)



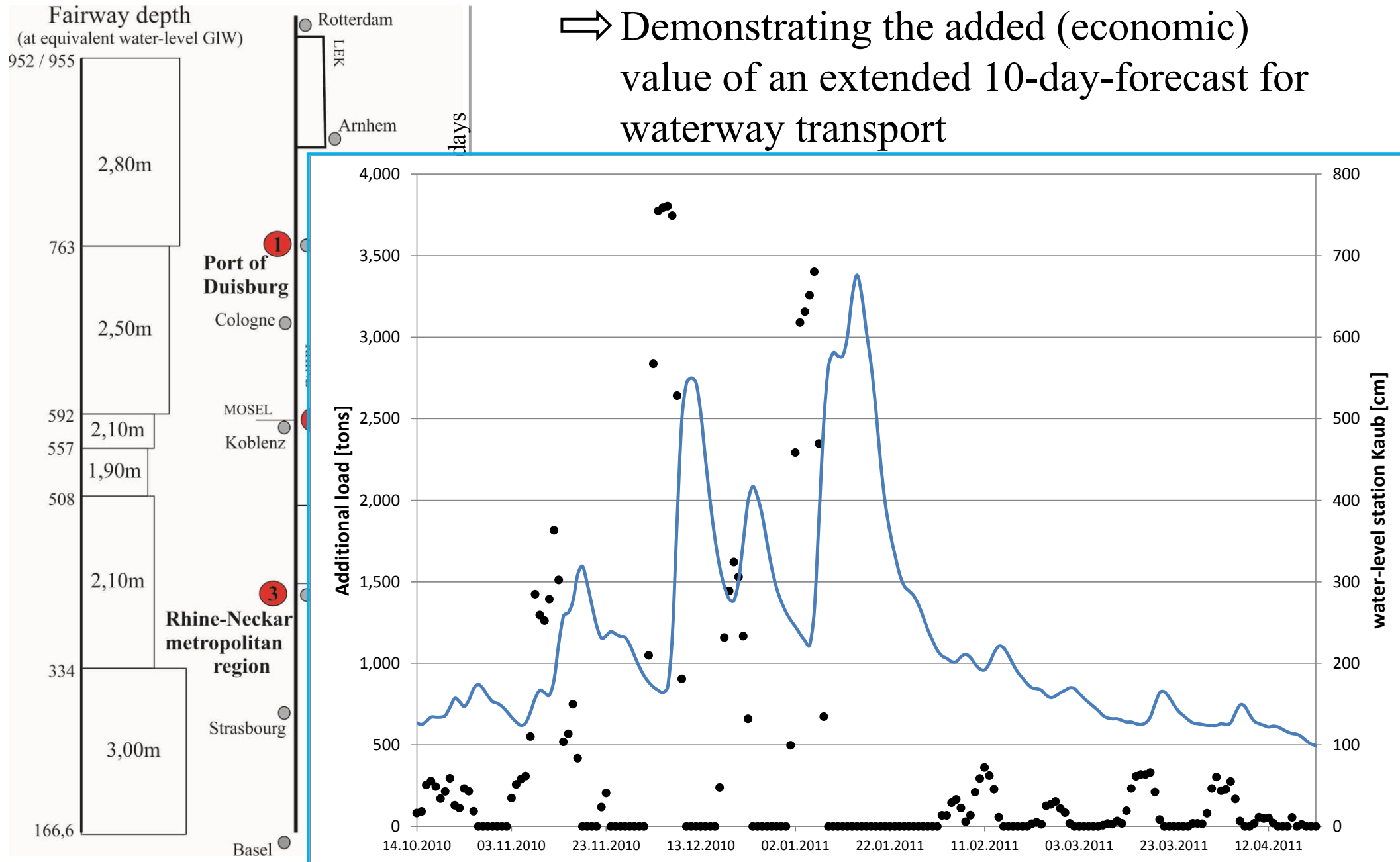
Simulation-based Cost Model

⇒ Demonstrating the added (economic) value of an extended 10-day-forecast for waterway transport



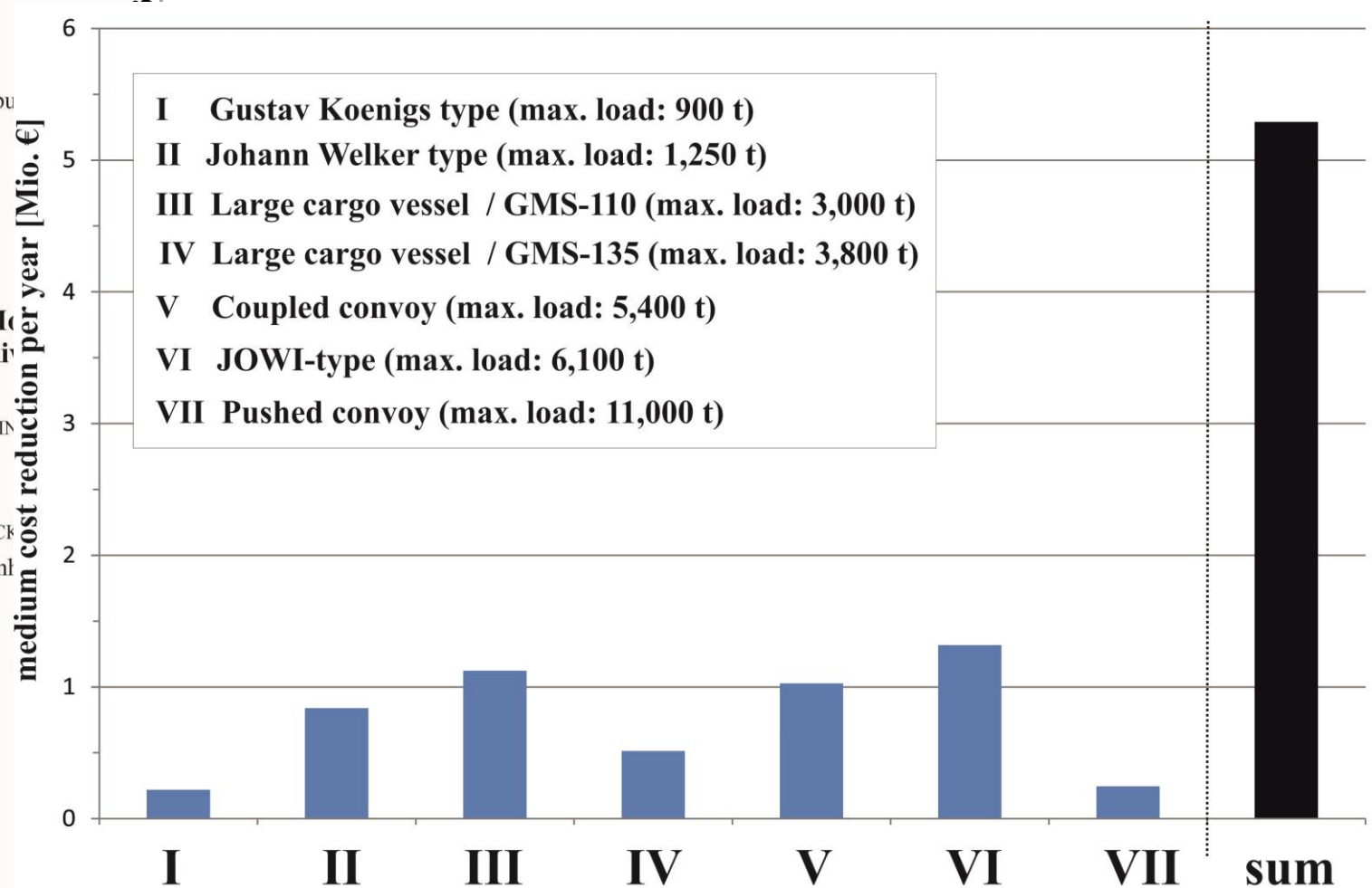
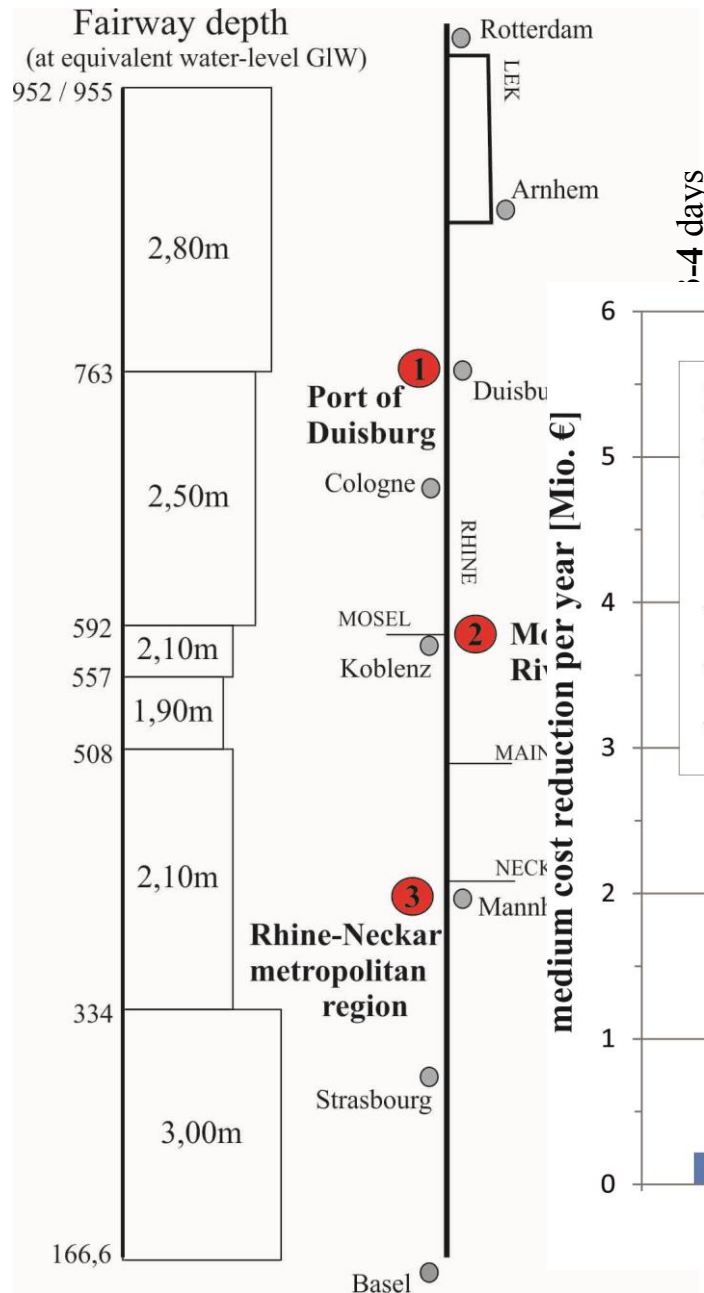
Simulation-based Cost Model

⇒ Demonstrating the added (economic) value of an extended 10-day-forecast for waterway transport



Simulation-based Cost Model

⇒ Demonstrating the added (economic) value of an extended 10-day-forecast for waterway transport



Conclusion & Outlook

- Technical implementation of probabilistic waterlevel forecasts in the operational forecasting system of BfG finished
- Currently discussions about the publication platform / forecast products with the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure and the Waterway Shipping Administration
- Further-development of statistical post-processing methods in collaboration with Heidelberg Institute for Theoretical Studies HITS and in the context of ongoing research projects
- Further work on demonstrating the potential economic benefit by using probabilistic forecasts in the context of the EU-Project

IMPRES



Merci beaucoup de votre intérêt!

Thank you very much for your attention!

Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!

Dr.-Ing. Bastian Klein
Department M2 - Water Balance, Forecasting and Predictions
Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG)
Am Mainzer Tor 1, 56068 Koblenz, Germany

Tel.: +49 261/1306-5256
E-Mail: klein@bafg.de
www.bafg.de/vorhersage

Project Partners:



Funding

