

Applying fingerprinting methods on multielement measurements to track sediment transport in a small erosion-prone hilly catchment

EGU General Assembly

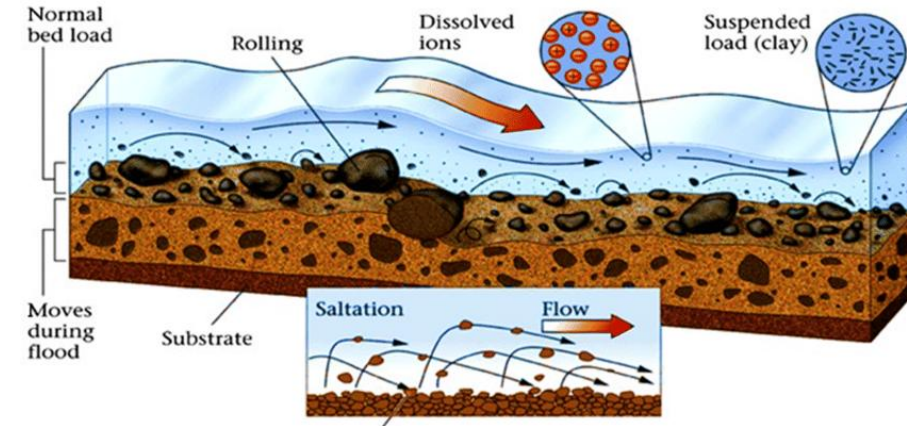
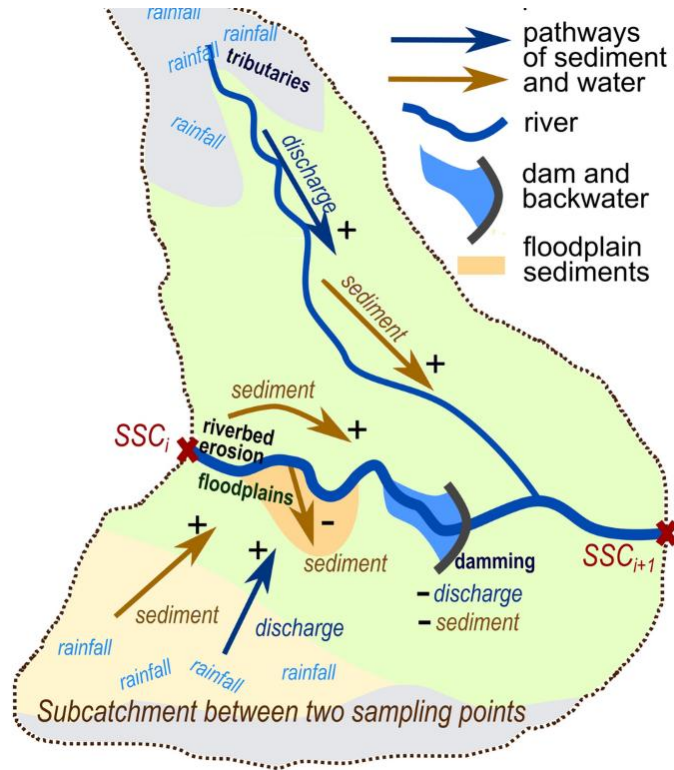
Vienna, Austria & Online | 27 April–2 May 2025

KARDOS, Máté Krisztián; JOLÁNKAI, Zsolt; CLEMENT, Adrienne



Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Department of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, Budapest, Hungary

Sediment transport in river catchments



Problems

- sedimentation of reservoirs
- pollutant transport

Questions

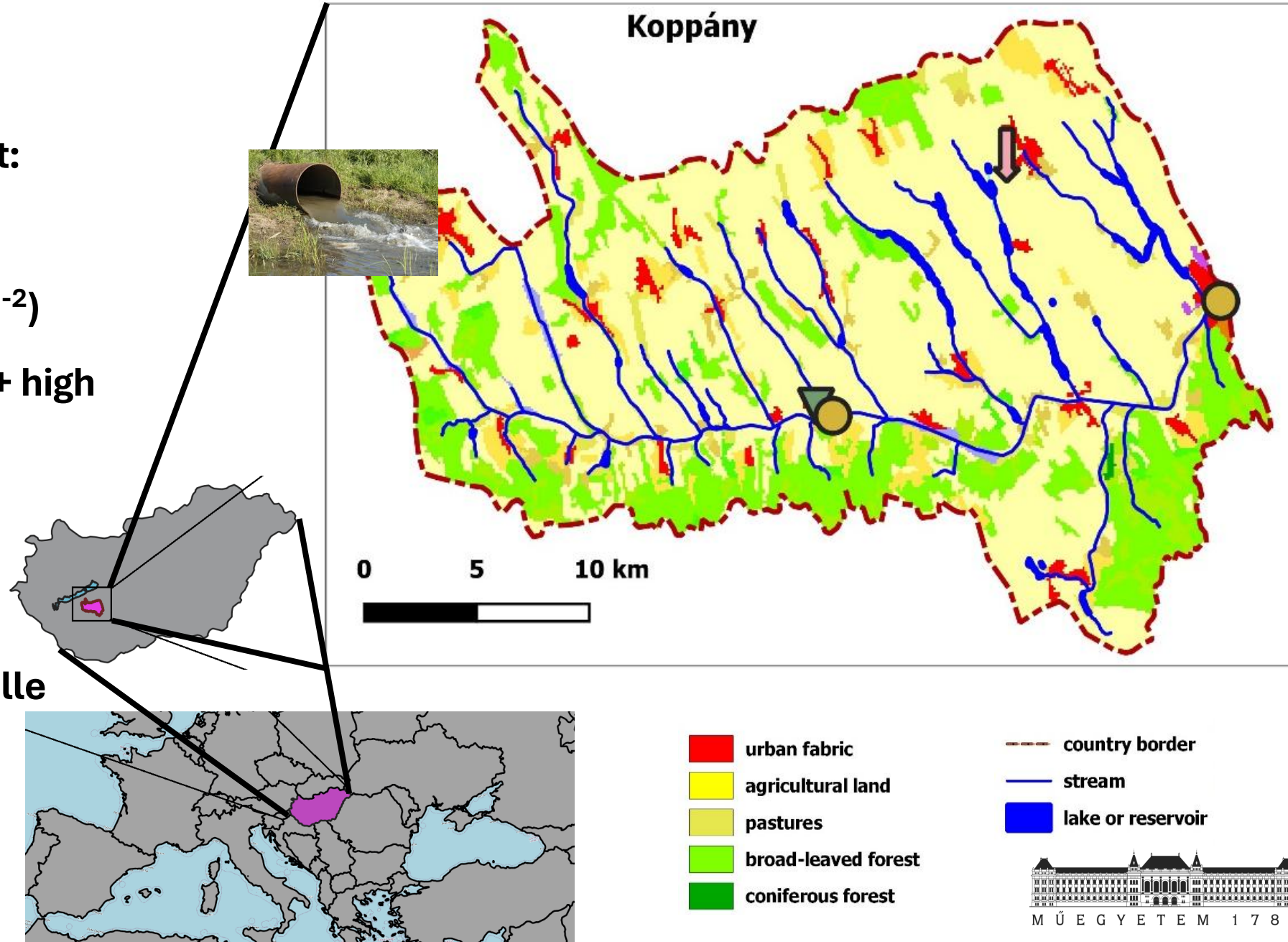
- composition?
- mitigation possibilities?
 - ← transport pathways, origin?

Wolf, S., Stenger, D., Steudtner, F. *et al.* Modeling anthropogenic affected sediment transport in a mid-sized European river catchment—extension of the sediment rating curve equation. *Model. Earth Syst. Environ.* 9, 3815–3835 (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40808-023-01703-8>

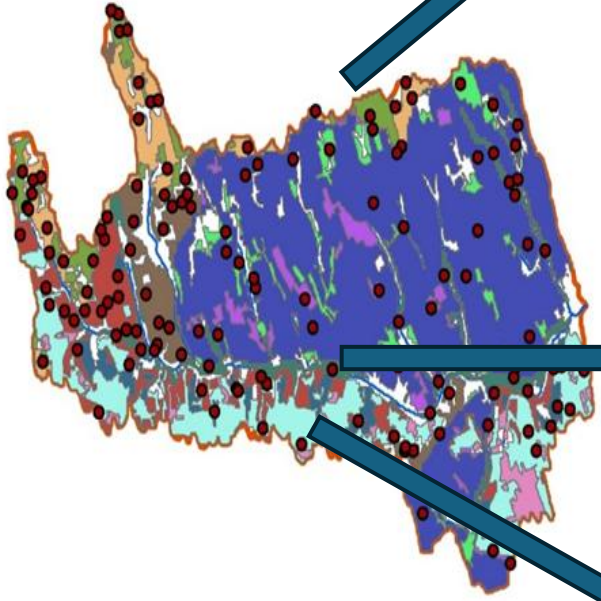
Pilot area




The Koppány catchment:

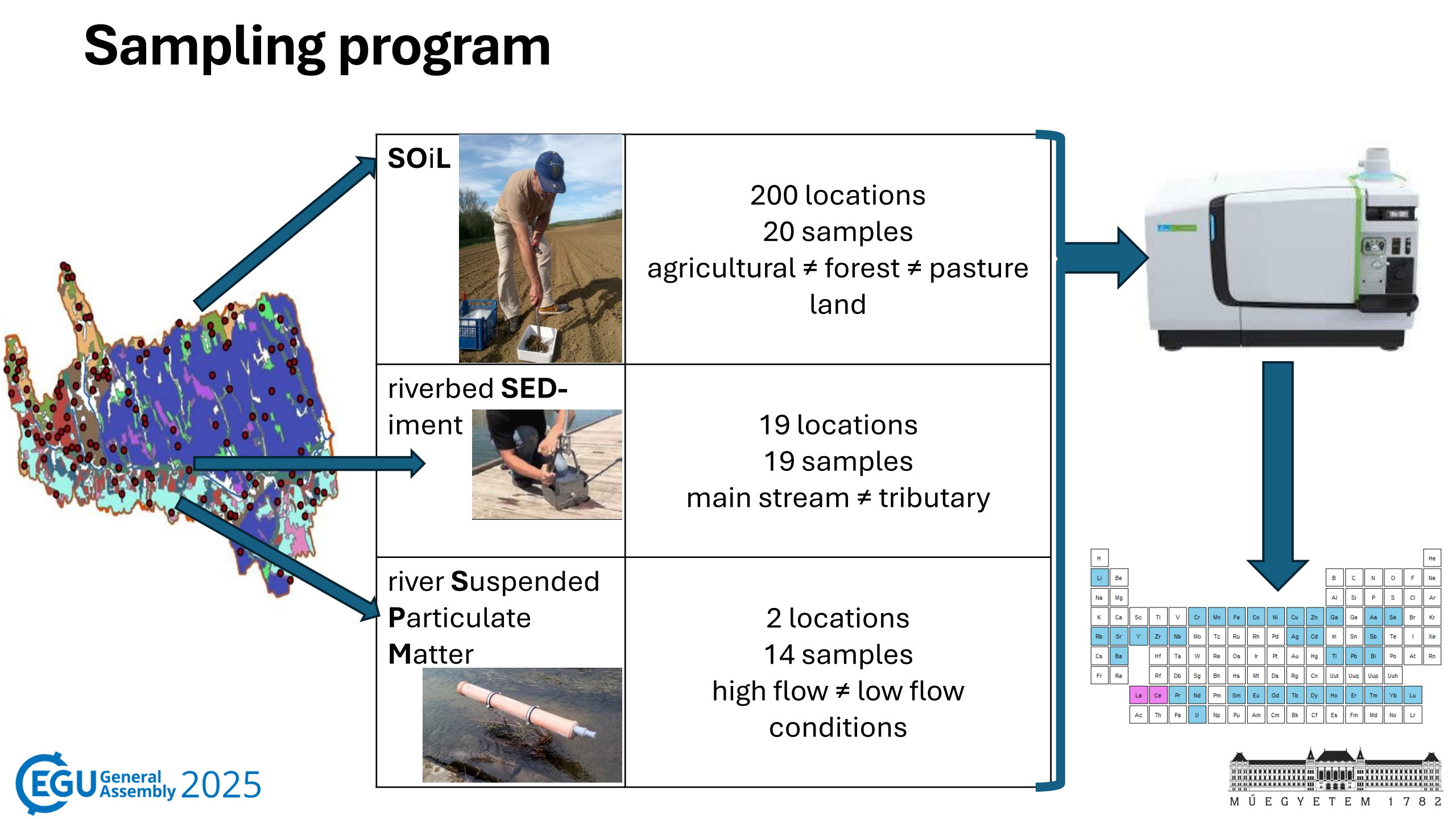
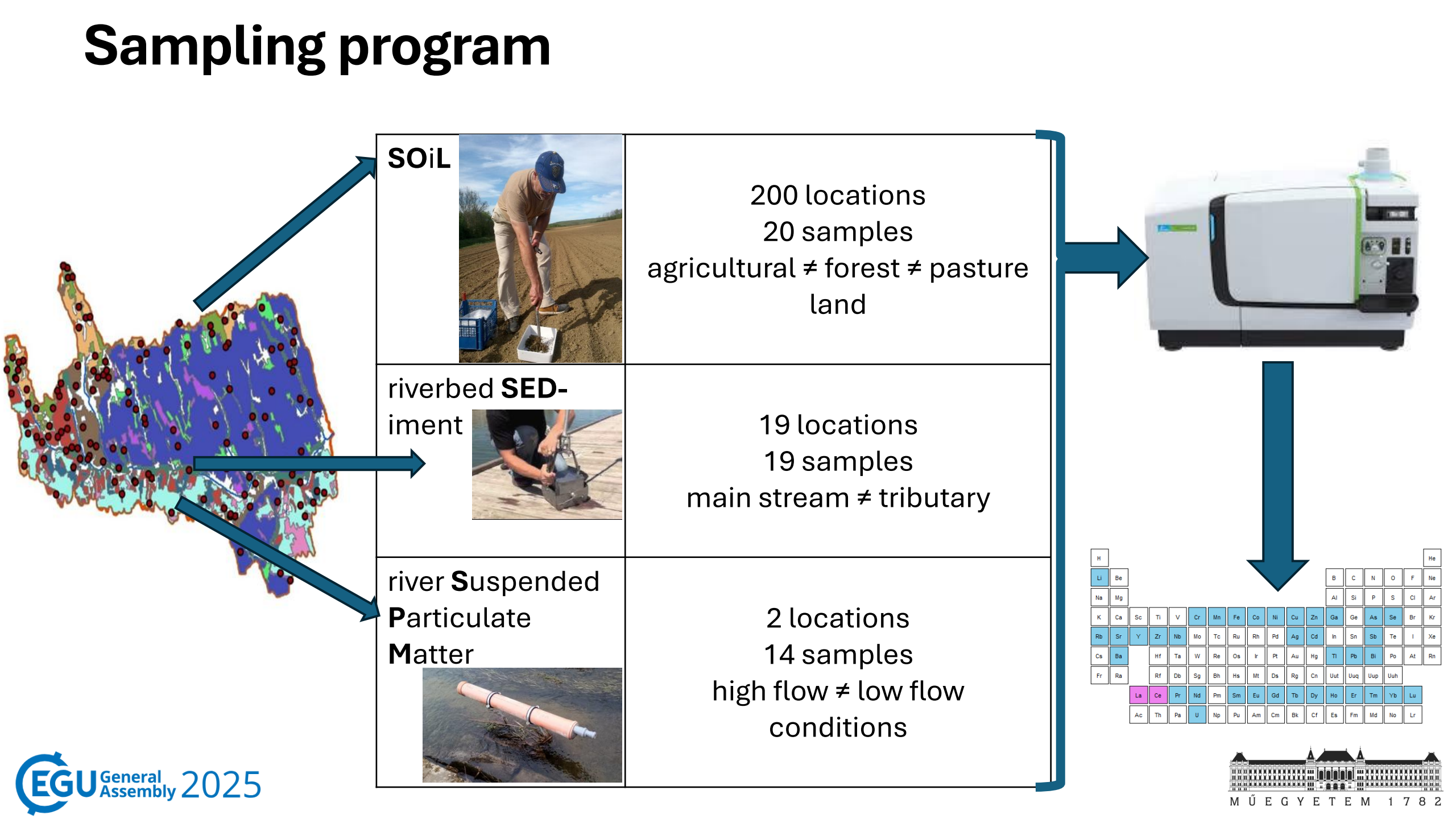
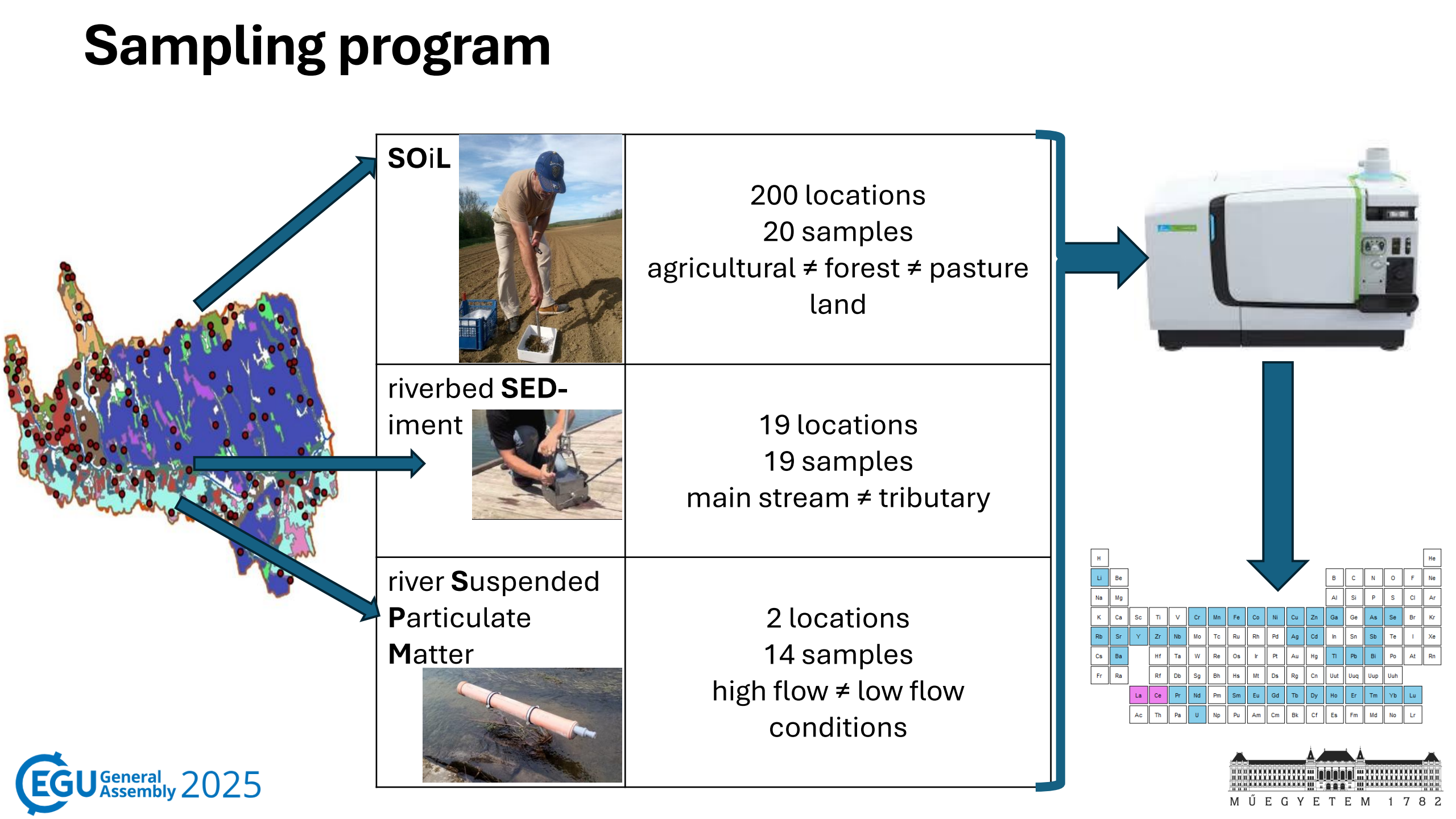


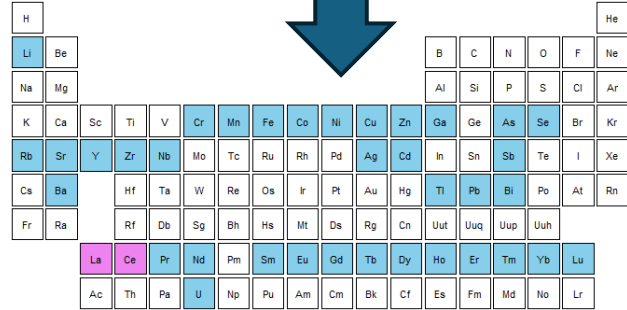


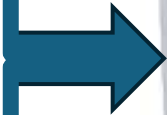
- 660 km² area, rare settlements (29 cap km⁻²)
- 79% agricultural land + high erosion potential
- 18% forests
- fishponds
- large WWTP Balatonlelle discharge at the spring



Sampling program

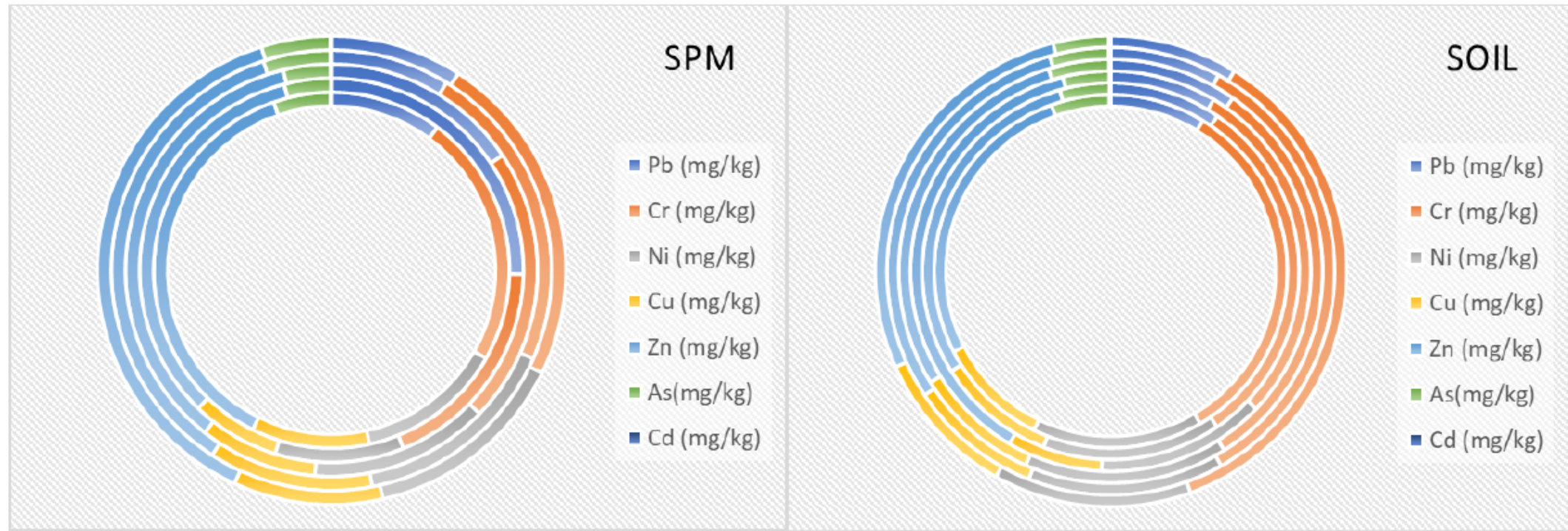


SOIL 	200 locations 20 samples agricultural ≠ forest ≠ pasture land
riverbed SED- iment 	19 locations 19 samples main stream ≠ tributary
river Suspended Particulate Matter 	2 locations 14 samples high flow ≠ low flow conditions



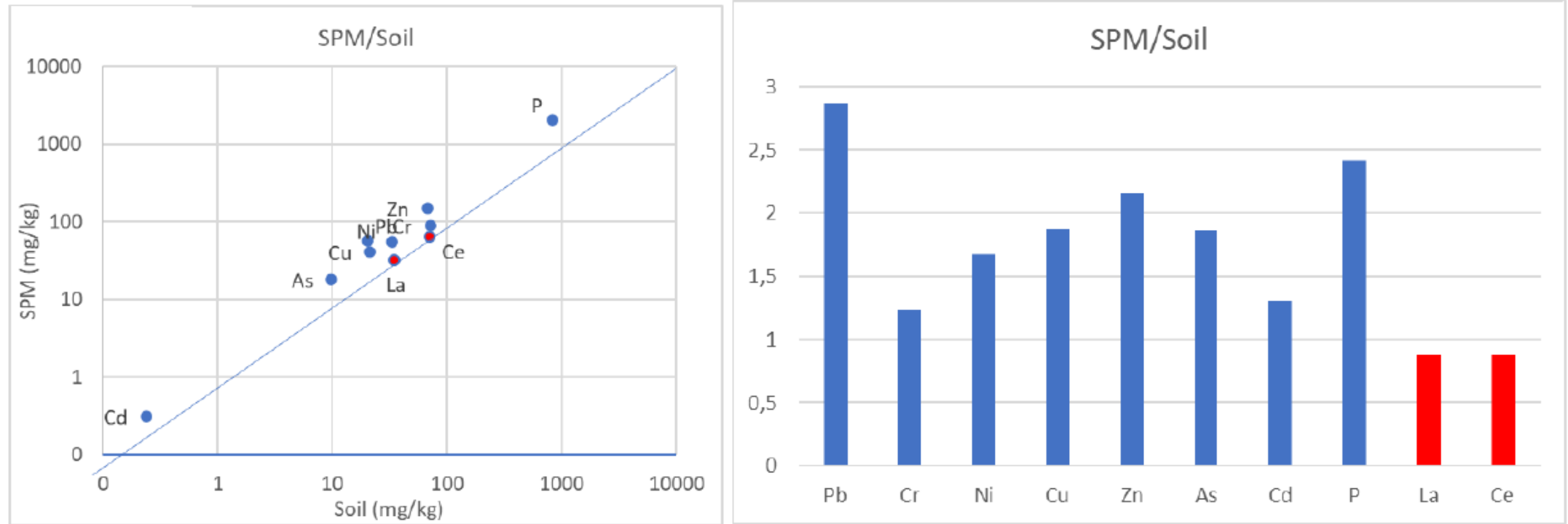
Results

“Fingerprint”



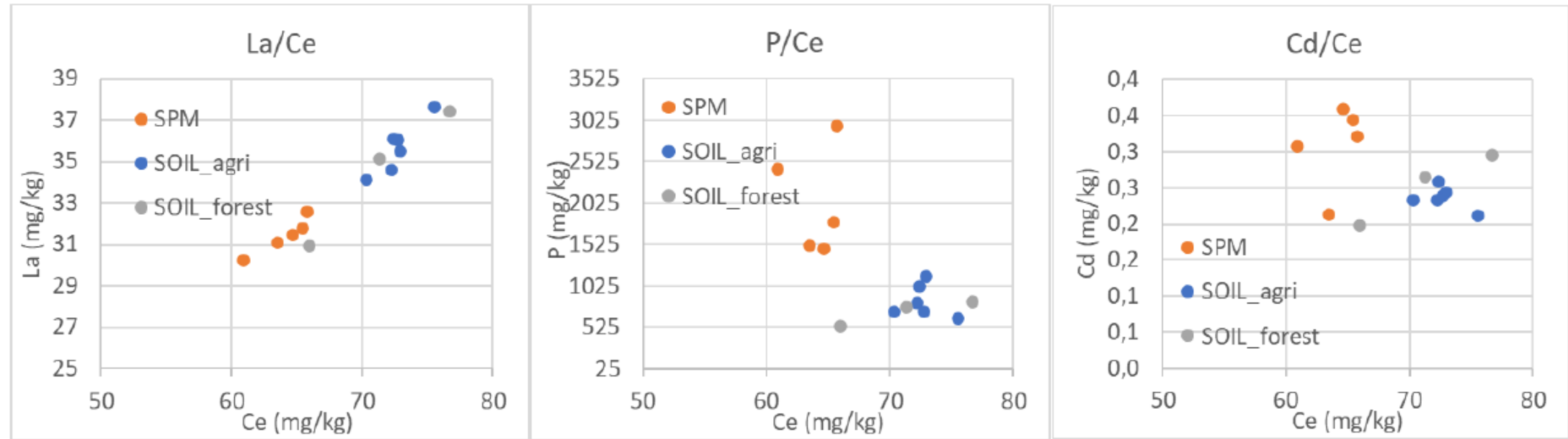
Percentage of PTE concentrations in river SPM and in agricultural SOIL

Enrichment during transport



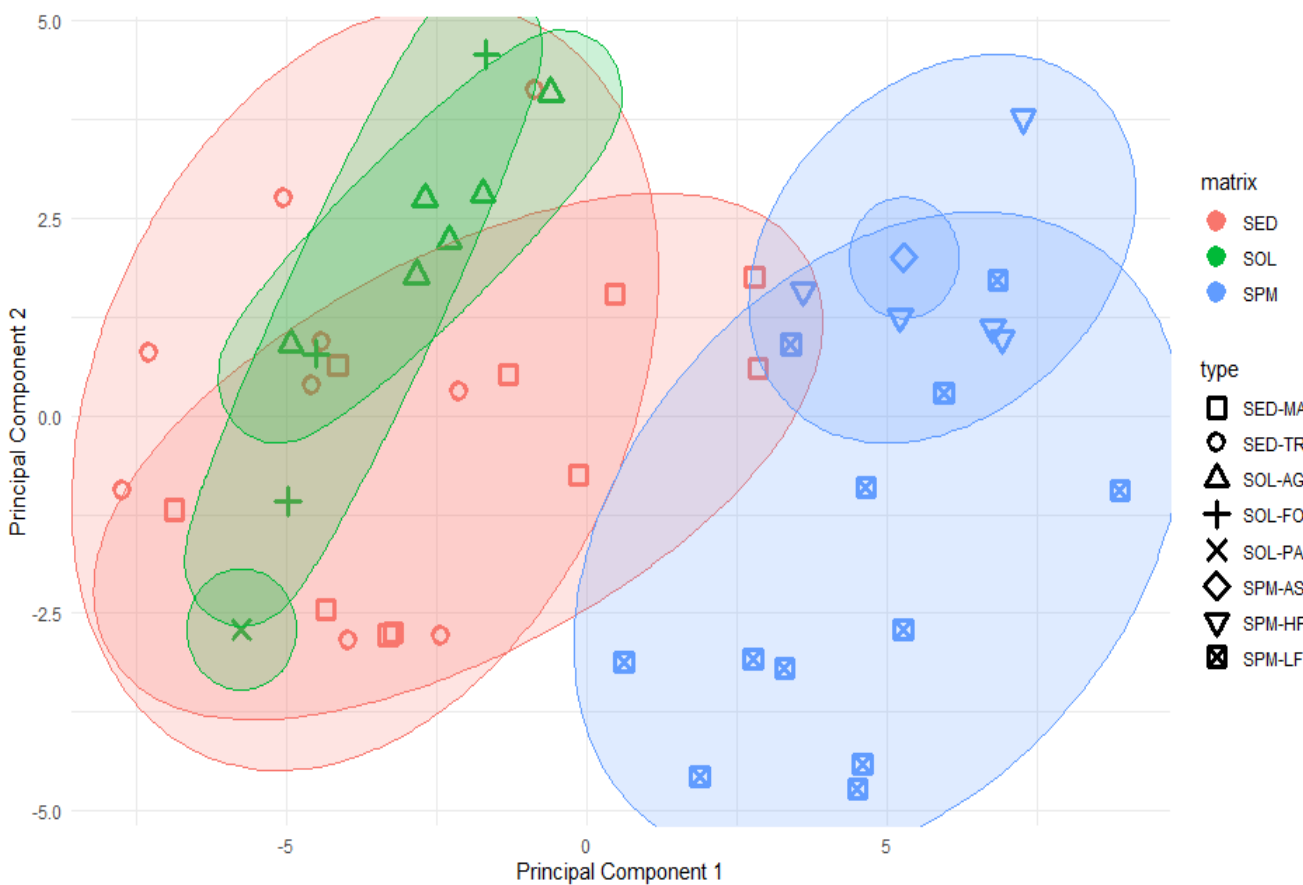
Relationship between the concentrations in SPM and soil (left). The ratio of the two values shows the degree of enrichment (right)

Geochemical normalizers: Ce & La

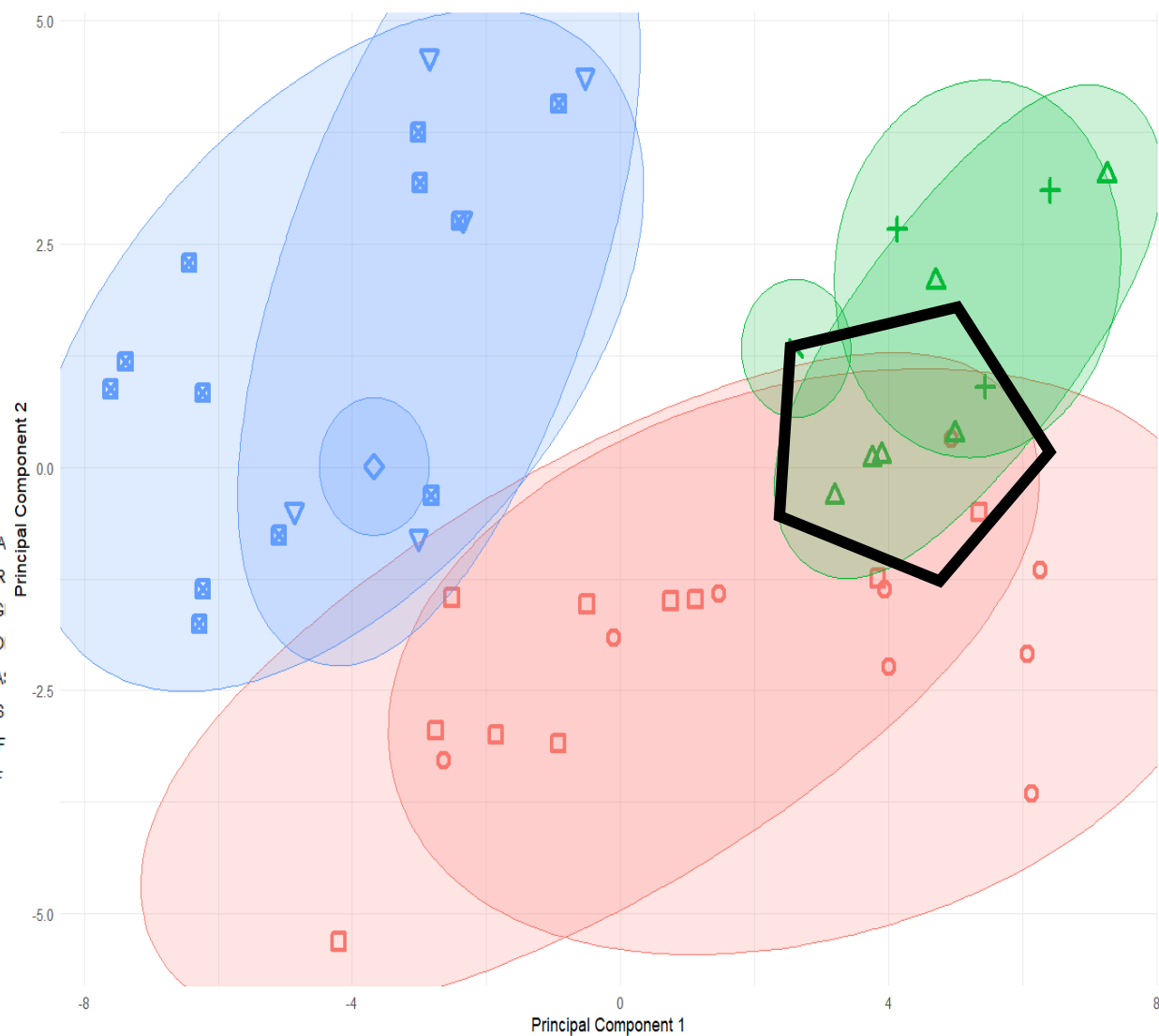


Concentrations of La, P, and Cd in suspended particulate matter (SPM), agricultural and forest soils as a function of Ce used as a geochemical normalizer

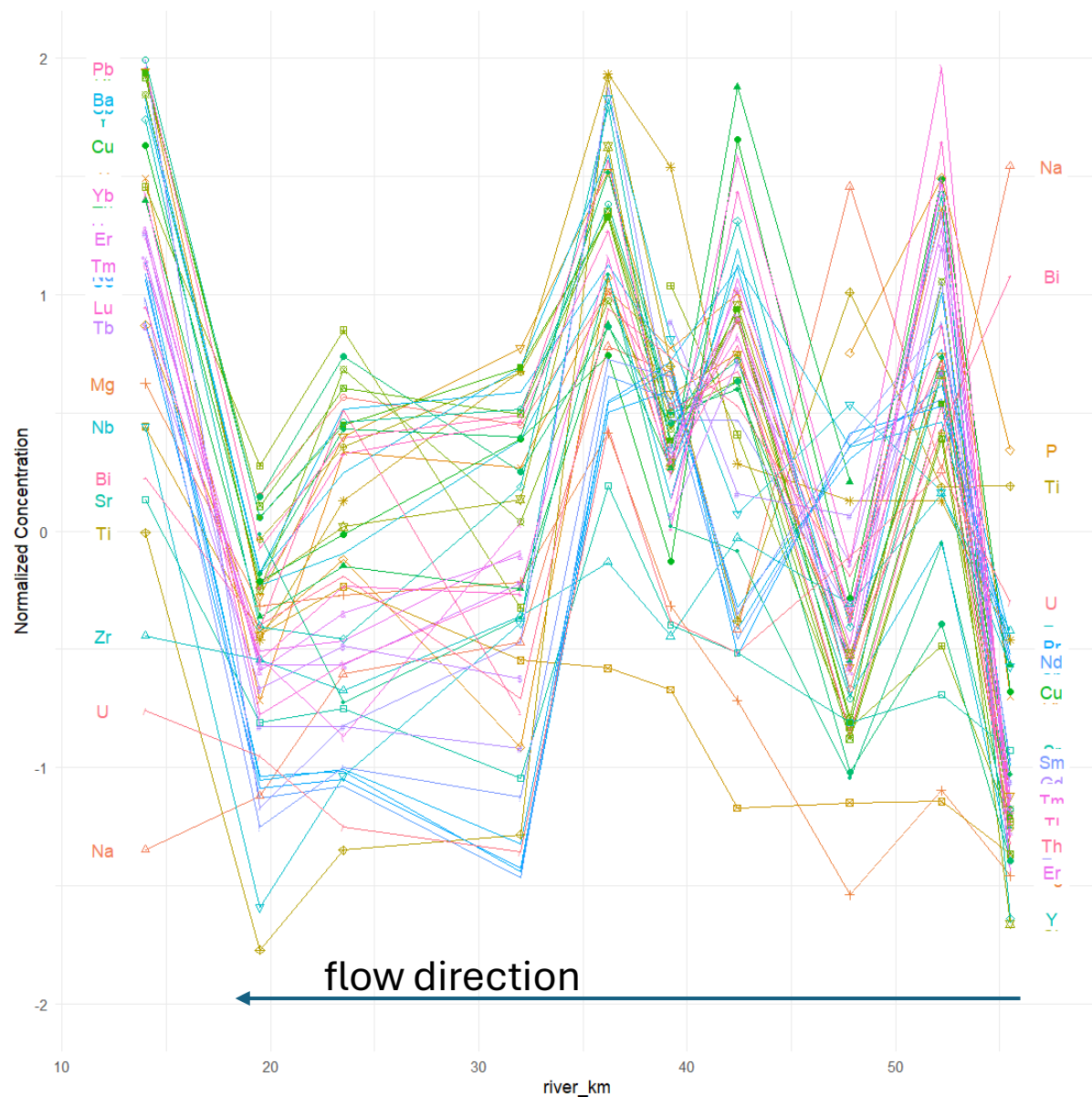
PCA on original data



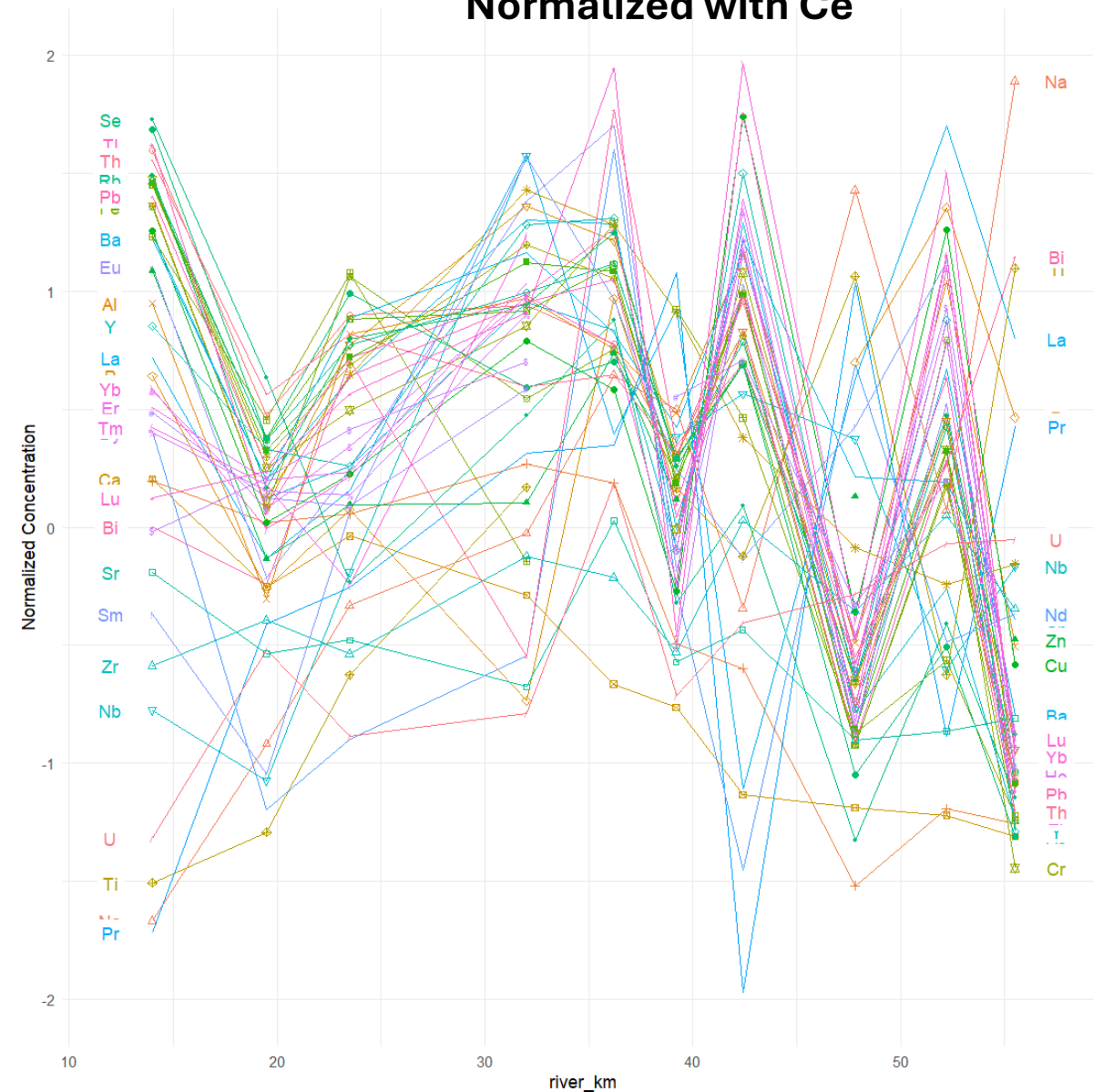
PCA after norming with Ce



Main river SED longitudinal section



Normalized with Ce



Conclusions and outlook

- Expectation of more similarity between SED-SPM and agricultural soil fulfilled
- Sediment dynamics hardly influencing
- “Outlier” substances in BED longsect: Ca, Na, Ti
- Further MV methods needed to compare substances

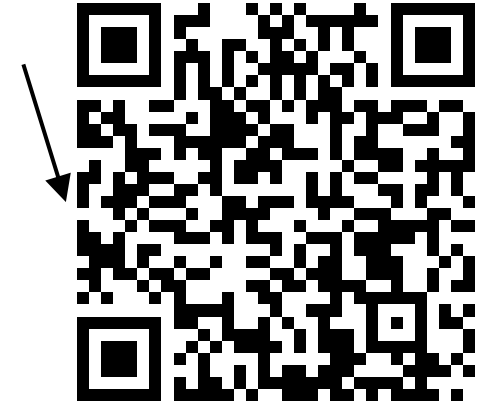
Next steps

- sampling of WW SPM
- Sieving (SED)
- Cluster analysis of locations (and substances)
- Your ideas?



Please read our abstract!

Nr. 12894



Thank you for your attention!



The research is co-funded by the Hungarian National Research, Development, and Innovation Office (OTKA project grant number SNN 143868).

The multi-elemental analyses and stable isotope measurements were carried out in the laboratory of the Department of Environmental Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia.