

*NERC Macronutrient Cycles Programme  
Consortium Grant*

## LTLS

# Analysis and simulation of the Long-Term / Large-Scale interactions of C, N and P in UK land, freshwater and atmosphere

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# LTLS research partners



**Centre for  
Ecology & Hydrology**

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

**Biodiversity  
Biogeochemistry  
EIDC  
Water**



**Keele  
University**

**LANCASTER  
UNIVERSITY**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL**



**UCL**



The James  
**Hutton  
Institute**



**ROTHAMSTED  
RESEARCH**



**NATURAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
RESEARCH COUNCIL**

**Radiocarbon Facility  
(Environment)**

# LTLS questions

- Over the last 200 years, what have been the temporal responses of soil C, N and P pools in different UK catchments to nutrient enrichment?
- What have been the temporal responses of C and P transfers from land to the atmosphere and to estuaries?
- How has freshwater biodiversity responded to increases in system productivity engendered by nutrient enrichment at different locations?

**...or, how did we get to where we are today?**

**Answered by:**

***integrated modelling analysis,  
aimed at accounting for observable present element  
pools and fluxes in different UK catchments  
in terms of their nutrient enrichment histories***

# LTLS outputs & benefits

**Integrated model** - spatially distributed, long-term description of UK macronutrient pools, fluxes and *interactions*

- feasibility of joining up simple models
- large-scale / long-term implications for bioG and bioD

**Platform** – for incorporating more detailed / site-specific / short-term knowledge

**Policy** – national-scale description, multiple effects, scenario analysis

**Capacity-building** – upscaling, model linkage

# LTLS Workpackages

**WP1**  
**Data**

**WP2**  
**New measurements**

**WP3**  
**Atmospheric model**

**WP4**  
**Terrestrial models**

**WP5**  
**Aquatic models**

**WP6**  
**Integrated model**

**WP7**  
**Biodiversity**

# LTLS Participants: modelling, fieldwork, analysis, data

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Band 7 Shore		CEH BG	soil, plant, water fieldwork	
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# LTLS scope & approach

Long-term processes

1800-present

*20,000 BP – 1800*

All UK catchments to the tidal limit

+ water directly entering estuaries & sea

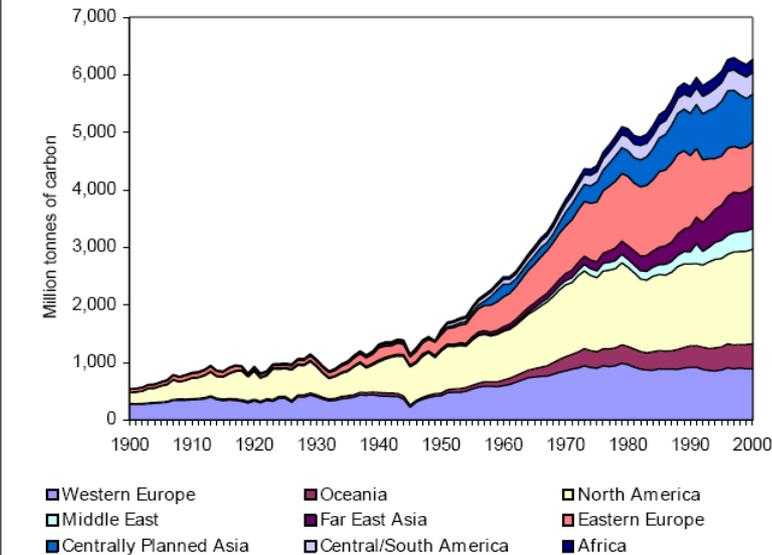
**Existing  
data**

**New gap-  
filling data**

**Integrated  
modelling**

# LTLS focus period 1800-2000

Chart 5A.1 Global emissions from fossil fuel combustion from 1990 to 2000



Source: Marland, G., T.A. Boden, and R. J. Andres, Global, Regional, and National CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

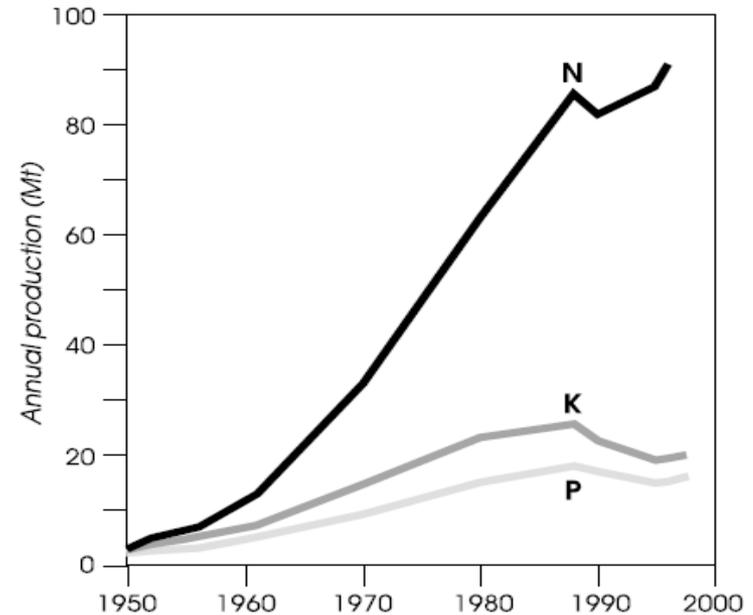


Figure 3. Global Production of Inorganic Fertilizers, 1950-2000.

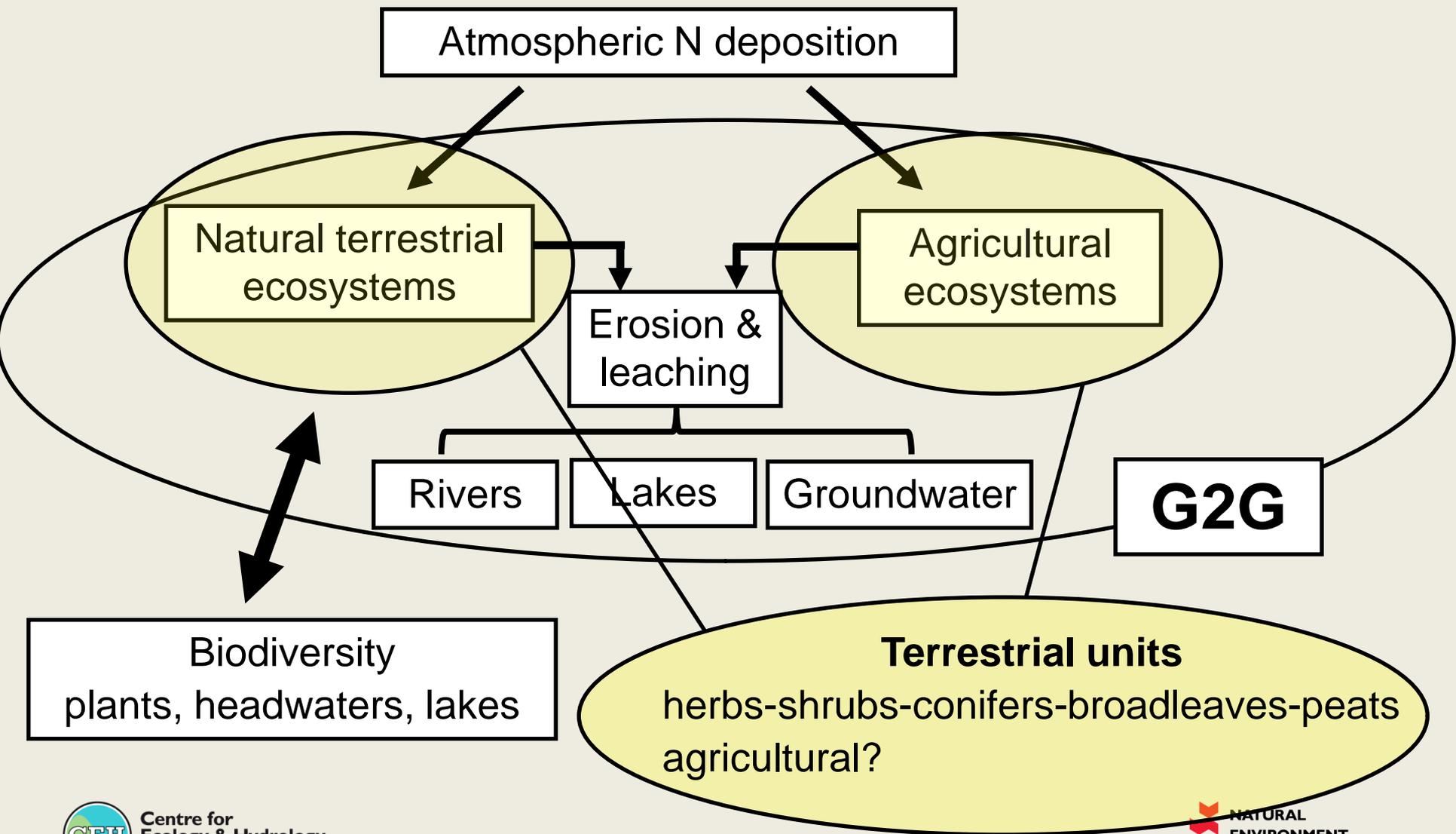
*“...human beings are now carrying out a large scale geophysical experiment...”*

*Revelle & Suess, 1956*

*“...the UK’s long-term, spatially-distributed, biogeochemical experiment in nutrient enrichment...”*

*LTLS proposal 2011*

# LTLS joined-up models



# LTLS modelling

N deposition

Sutton

Natural terrestrial ecosystems

Tipping / Quinton

Agricultural ecosystems

Whitmore / Quinton

Riverine fine sediment, floodplains

Naden

River & lake biogeochemistry

Boyle / Monteith / Naden / Tipping

Groundwaters

Stuart

G2G

Bell

Biodiversity

Smart / Simpson / Monteith

# LTLS existing data: driving

## **CLIMATE**

Paleoclimate and Coupled Model  
Intercomparison Project  
CMIP5 outputs from BADC

## **LAND USE**

History  
Land Cover Map  
Agricultural land use data

## **DEPOSITION**

N & S

## **SOLID & DRIFT GEOLOGY?**

## **FERTILISERS ETC**

British Survey of Fertiliser Practice  
Nutrients in slurry and manure  
Animal feed data  
Farm Management Handbook  
Biosolids applications

## **POINT SOURCES TO RIVERS**

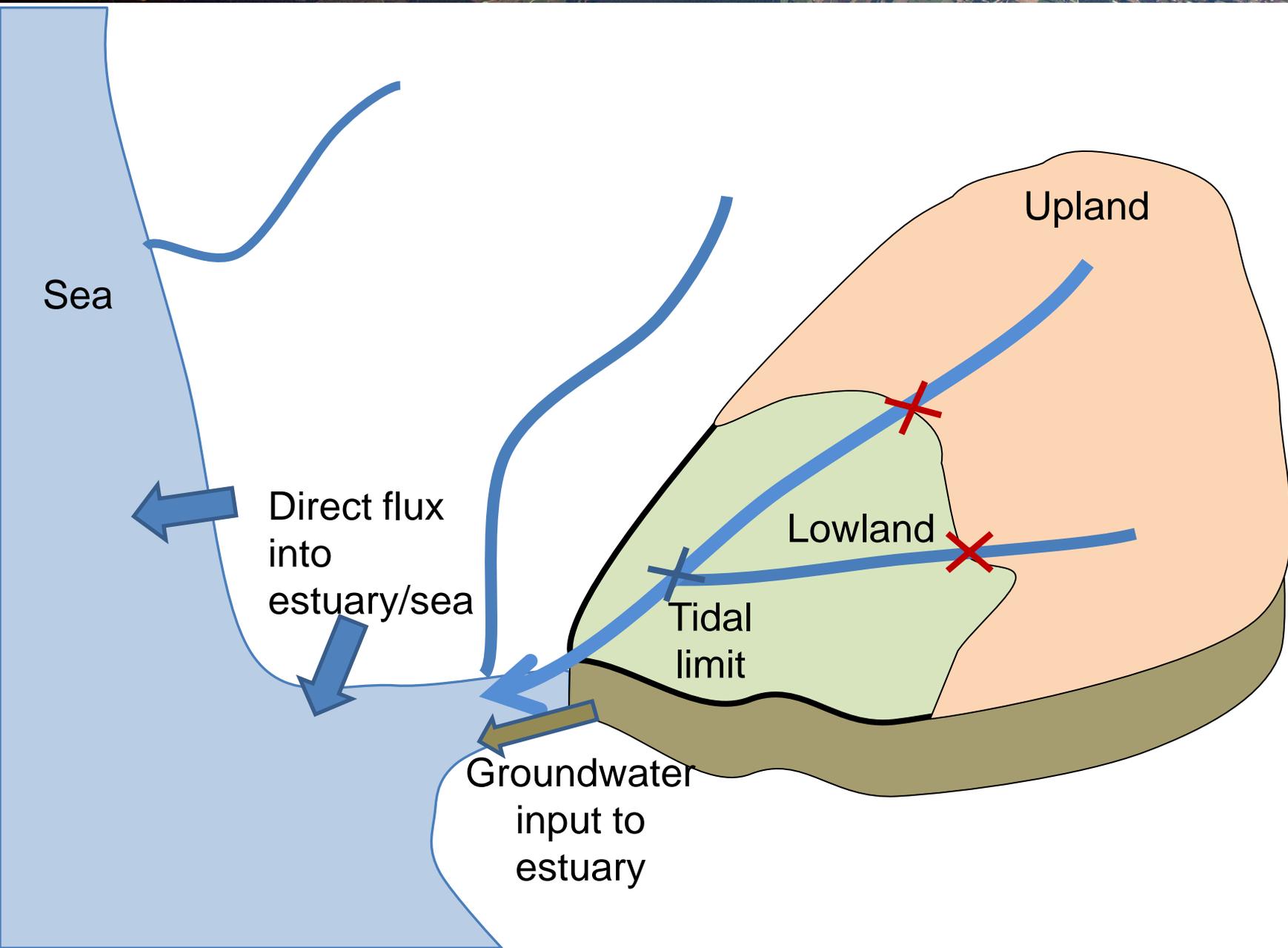
# LTLS existing data: fitting & testing

<b>Plant CNP</b>	ITE, CS, Roth Res, literature
<b>Soil chemistry</b>	CS, NSRI, JHI, Roth Res, literature
<b>Soil solutes</b>	CEH, ECN, Forest Res, Roth Res, literature
<b>Soil radiocarbon</b>	Defra (TU), Roth Res, literature
<b>Soil denitrification</b>	Defra projects, literature
<b>Erosion</b>	Defra projects, river fine sediment fluxes, literature
<b>River flows</b>	National River Flow Archive
<b>Freshwaters</b>	HMS (EA), AWMN, ECN, LOIS, DTC, literature
<b>Groundwater</b>	BGS archives, EA national data, literature
<b>Lake sediments</b>	UCL database, literature
<b>Biodiversity</b>	CS (terrestrial & headwaters), UCL-ECRC, literature
<b>Nutrient removal</b>	Crop and livestock yield data, forestry data

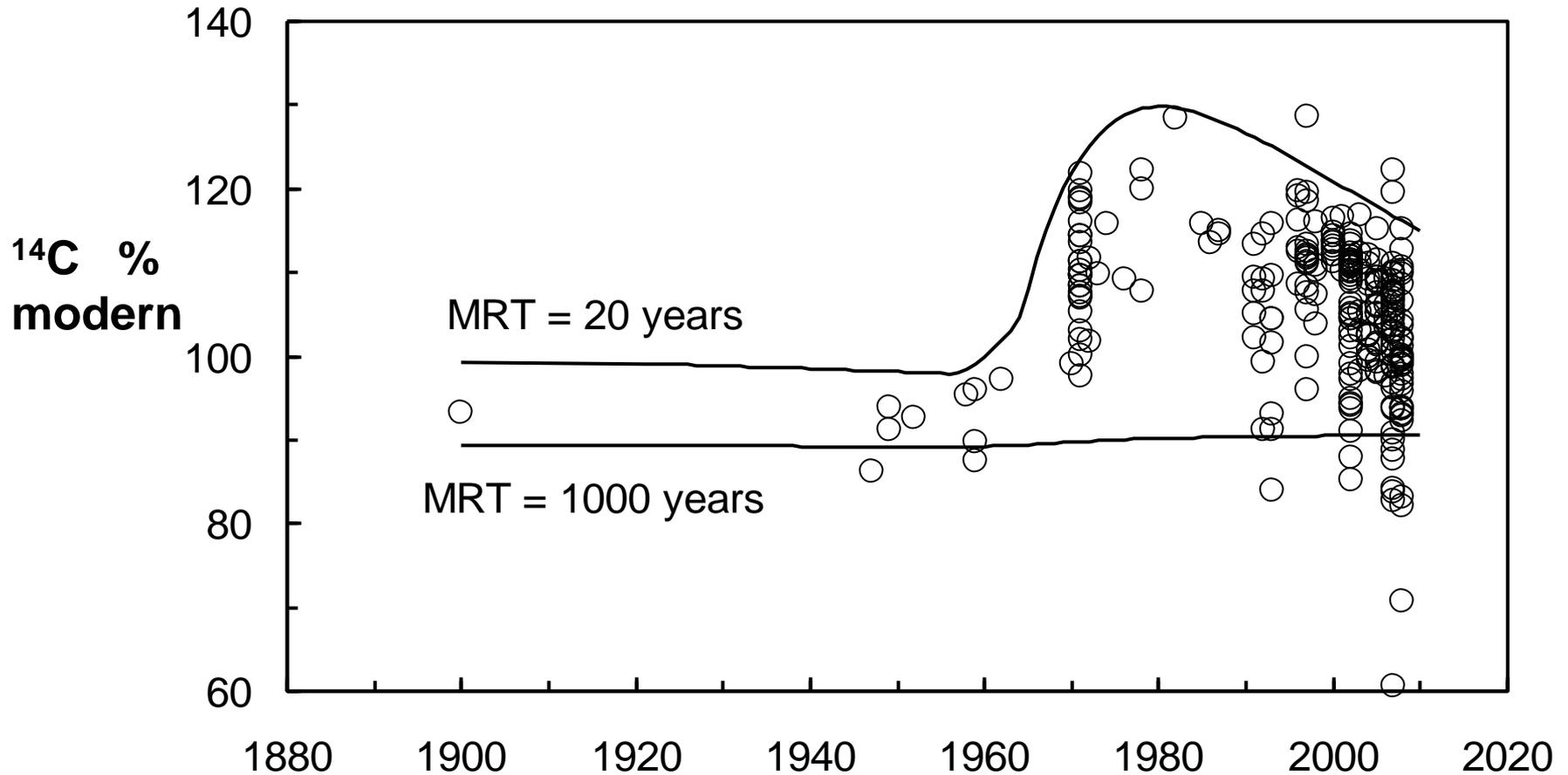
# LTLS gap-filling data

Element release from burning coal and wood, to enable atmospheric modelling	laboratory
Denitrification ( $N_2 + N_2O$ ) from semi-natural soils	<b>Conwy, Ribble</b> Avon? Dee?
C N P (Porg) pools in vegetation and soils, $^{14}C$	Avon, Conwy, Dee, Ribble
Agricultural soils $^{14}C$	TBA
Riverine transport of dissolved & particulate C N P $^{14}C$	<b>Ribble</b> , Avon, Conwy, Dee
Lake sediments – accumulation rates of C N P	Avon, Conwy, Dee, Ribble

# LTLS division of catchments



## 258 natural topsoils analysed for radiocarbon



# LTLS history of Britain

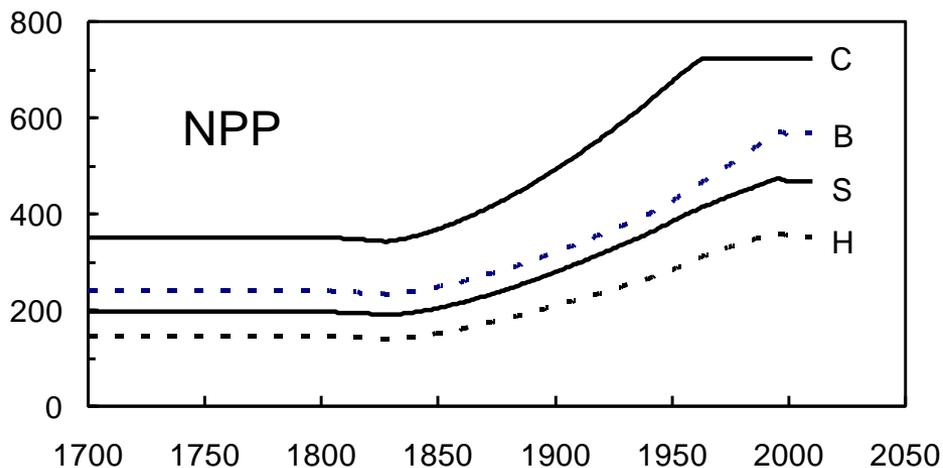
Pop, m

-13000	tundra / glaciated	
-6000	deciduous forest	
-3000	Neolithic farming / forest clearance ongoing	0.01
-1500	ploughing begins	
0	all Britain involved in farming	1
1100	E&W 35% arable, 25% pasture, 15% forested [DB]	2
1500-1700	Joan Thirsk farming maps for E&W	5
1700-1800	transition from organic to inorganic economy	9
<b>1800-2000</b>	<b><i>main focus of the project</i></b>	
1930	Dudley Stamp UK land-use map	40
2000	UK Land Cover Map	60

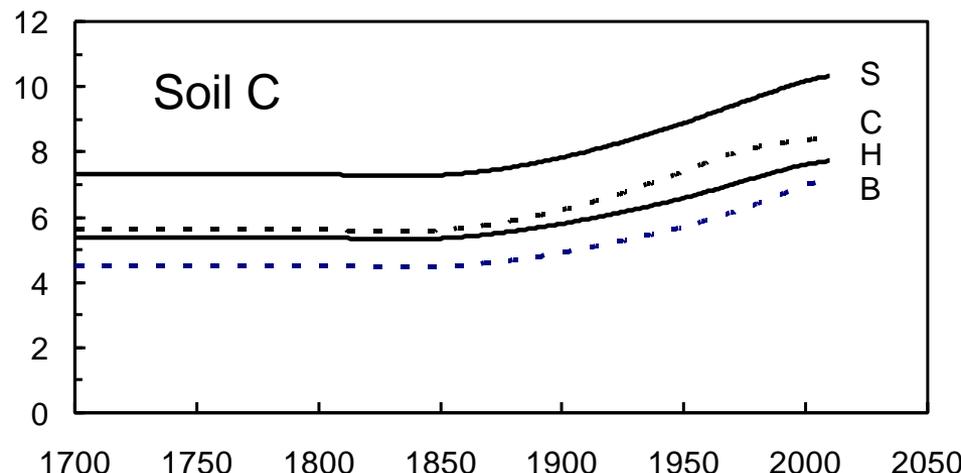
# N14C simulations for Broadleaf, Conifer, Herbs, Shrubs

MAT = 8°C , MAP = 1500 mm, Ndep(2000) = 2 g m<sup>-2</sup>

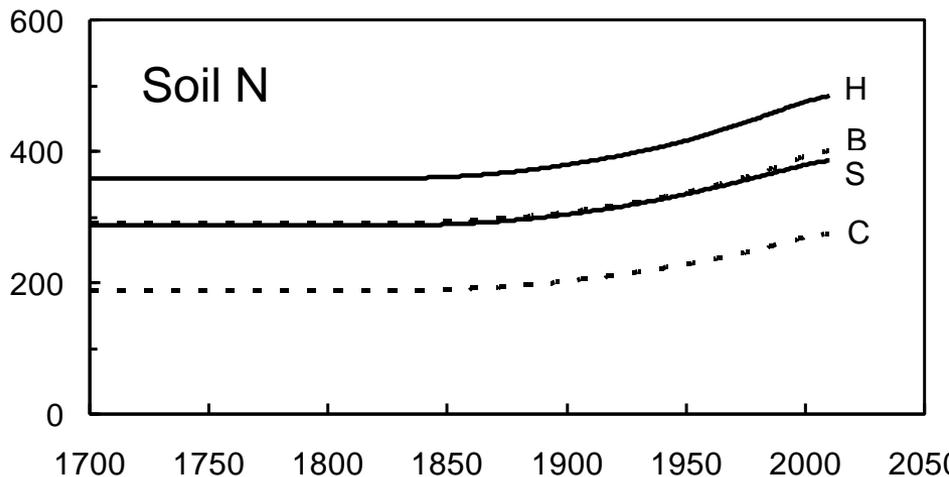
annual NPP gC m<sup>-2</sup>



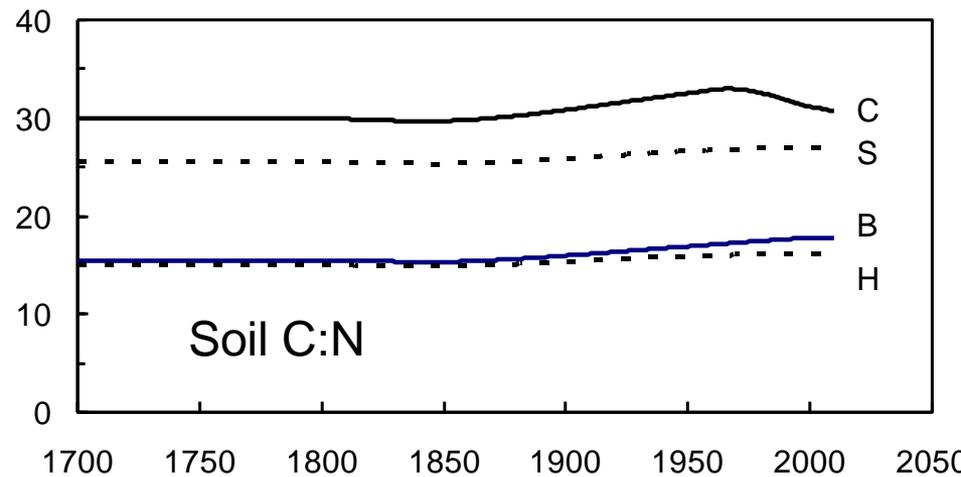
soil C kg m<sup>-2</sup>



soil N g m<sup>-2</sup>

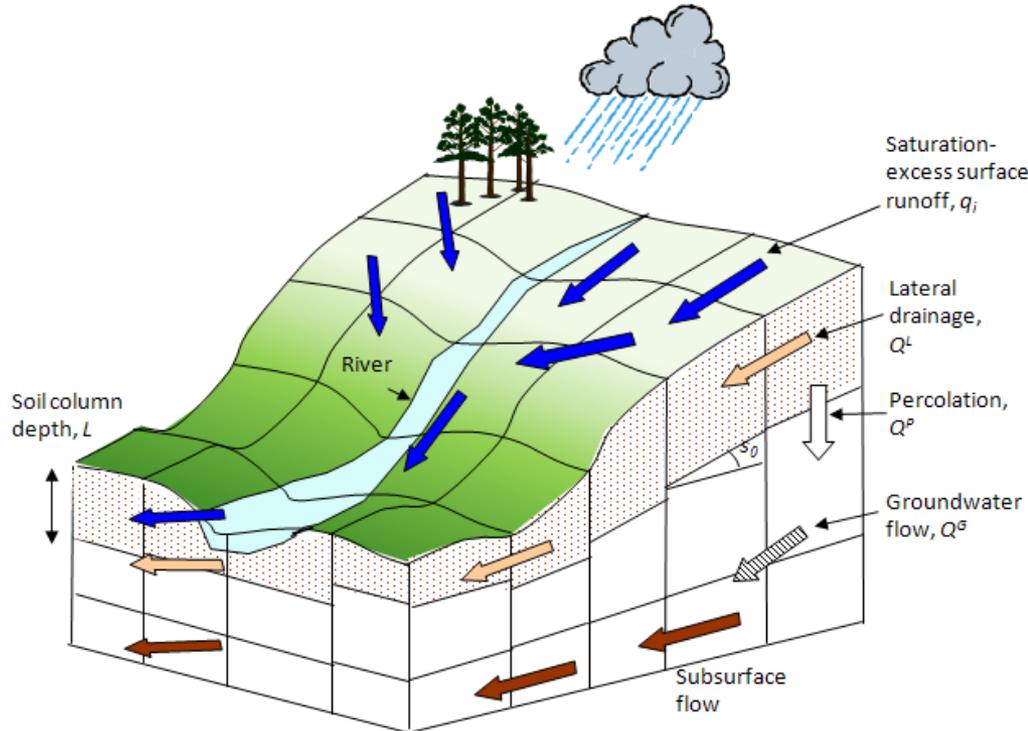


soil C:N g g<sup>-1</sup>

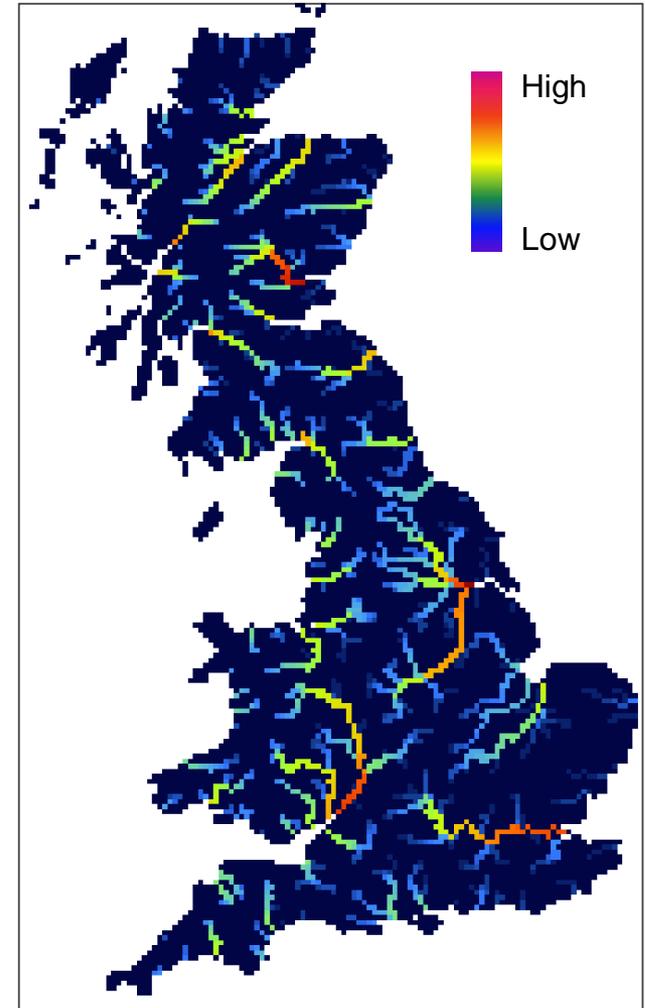


# LTLS G2G

- River flows at 5km resolution
- Digital datasets of elevation, soil-type and urban land-cover → spatially-varying effects of the landscape on river flows
- Single set of parameters for the whole domain of coverage



Example model output  
Monthly mean river flow ( $m^3 s^{-1}$ )



# LTLS Stakeholder interactions - 1

- MC programme meetings etc.
- Project website
  - To disseminate information and results to a range of audiences (Policy, Industry, Education etc.)
  - *You Tube* video clips, inc Powerpoint presentations with voice commentaries
- “Halfway” workshop to review progress and relevance with stakeholder engagement
- Prepare a stakeholder questionnaire to gauge interest in further scenario development/workshop involvement

# LTLS Stakeholder interactions - 2

- Scenario analysis with the Integrated Model / final year
- Workshop with policymakers to integrate their views into scenario development
- Policymakers included in the process via e-mail communication
- How will we measure impact?



1. Website
2. Use scenario interest/relevance
3. Stakeholder modelling

Stakeholder engagement in future scenario development

Sharing knowledge and views

LTLS workshop summary



# LTLS Project partners

## **NIVA**

Norwegian Institute for Water Research

## **UMB**

Norwegian University of Life Sciences

## **IVL**

Swedish Environmental Research Institute

# LTLS Timetable

Date	Event / Activity
Oct 2012	Project starts
Nov 2012	Start-up meeting, Lancaster
mid-Nov 2012	All 4 PDRAs and CEH RA appointed
2013 & 2014	Fieldwork
June 2013	Prototype integrated model running
Jan 2014	Half-way meeting, Lancaster
2015	Scenario analyses with Stakeholders
~ Sep 2015	Project ends