



**Uncertainty analysis of sedimentation measurement  
in complex floodplains:  
A case study in the Mekong Delta - Vietnam**

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1. Study objective – study area
2. Monitoring network
  - Sediment trap
  - Trapping sites
  - Analysed datasets
  - Trap retrieval test
3. Uncertainty analysis
  - Monte Carlo scheme
  - Uncertainty bounds
4. Conclusion

**Objective:** Quantification of sediment–nutrient deposition including uncertainty in the Mekong Delta floodplains

## The Mekong Delta:

Intensive rivers networks: 91.061 km

Inundation time is from 3-5 months

Intensive cultivation in floodplains

## High uncertainty

Sampling uncertainty: => **cluster of traps**

Measurement uncertainty: in submerged condition => **retrieval test**



**Field work:** sediment trapping – in flood 2011 from August to December

**Available method:** Post-event surveys, conveyance losses, artificial marker horizons; erosion pin, **sediment trap**.

**Trap design:** Artificial grass: 30x 30 cm

8 fishing rod strings – working like bowl-shaped





## 1. Identify the sediment trapping sites

Flood depth

a) 0 -1 m

b) 1-2 m

c) > 2m

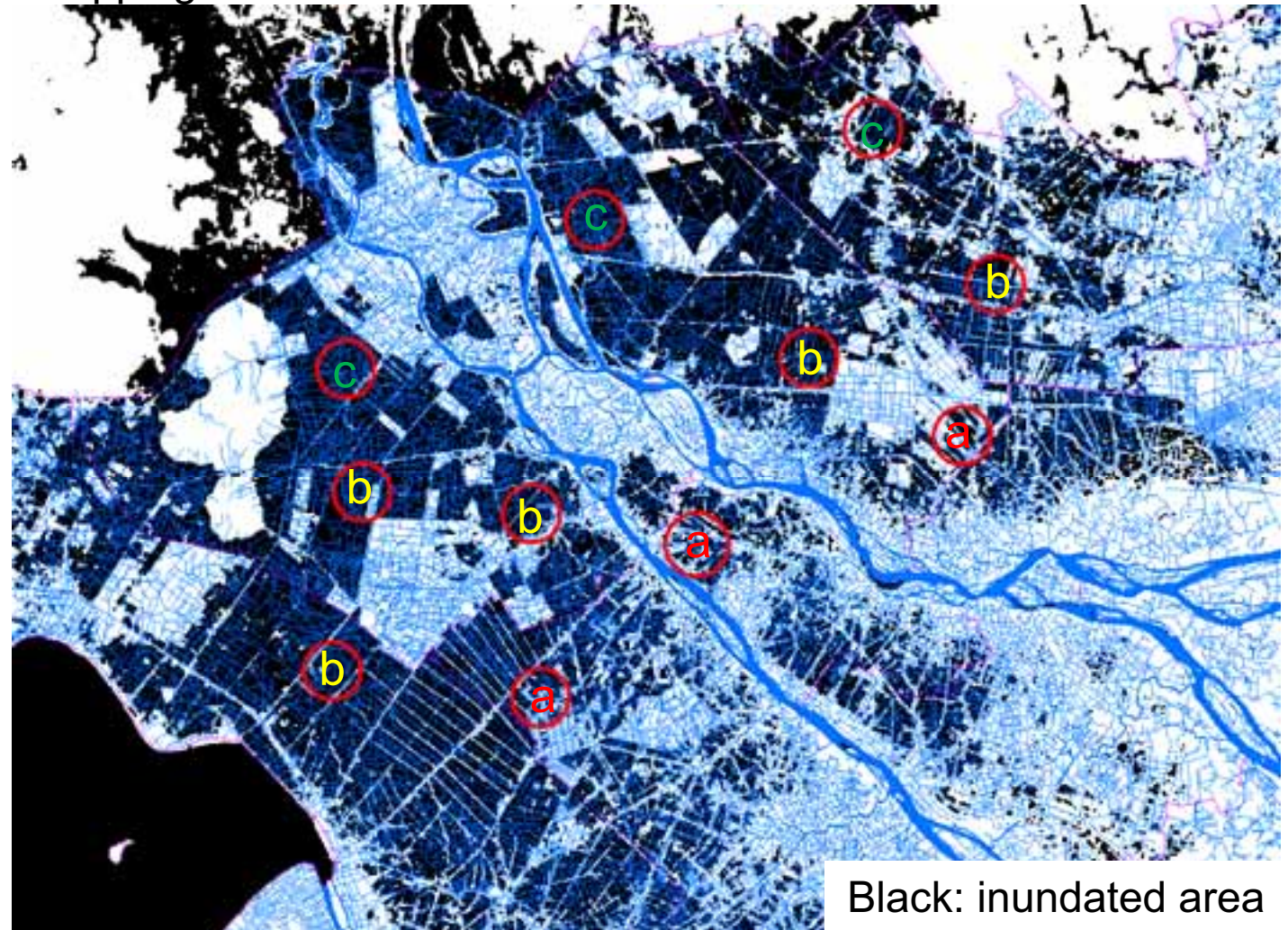
Dike systems

a) High dike

b) Low dike

Inundated duration

Long-term



Black: inundated area

Inundation maps overlay for the years: 2000, 2002, 2004,  
2007, 2008

## 1. Identify the sediment trapping sites

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Dike systems

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## 2. Sediment trap installations

## 3. Sediment trap collections

## 4. Sediment sample analysis

Nutrient and grain size, pH

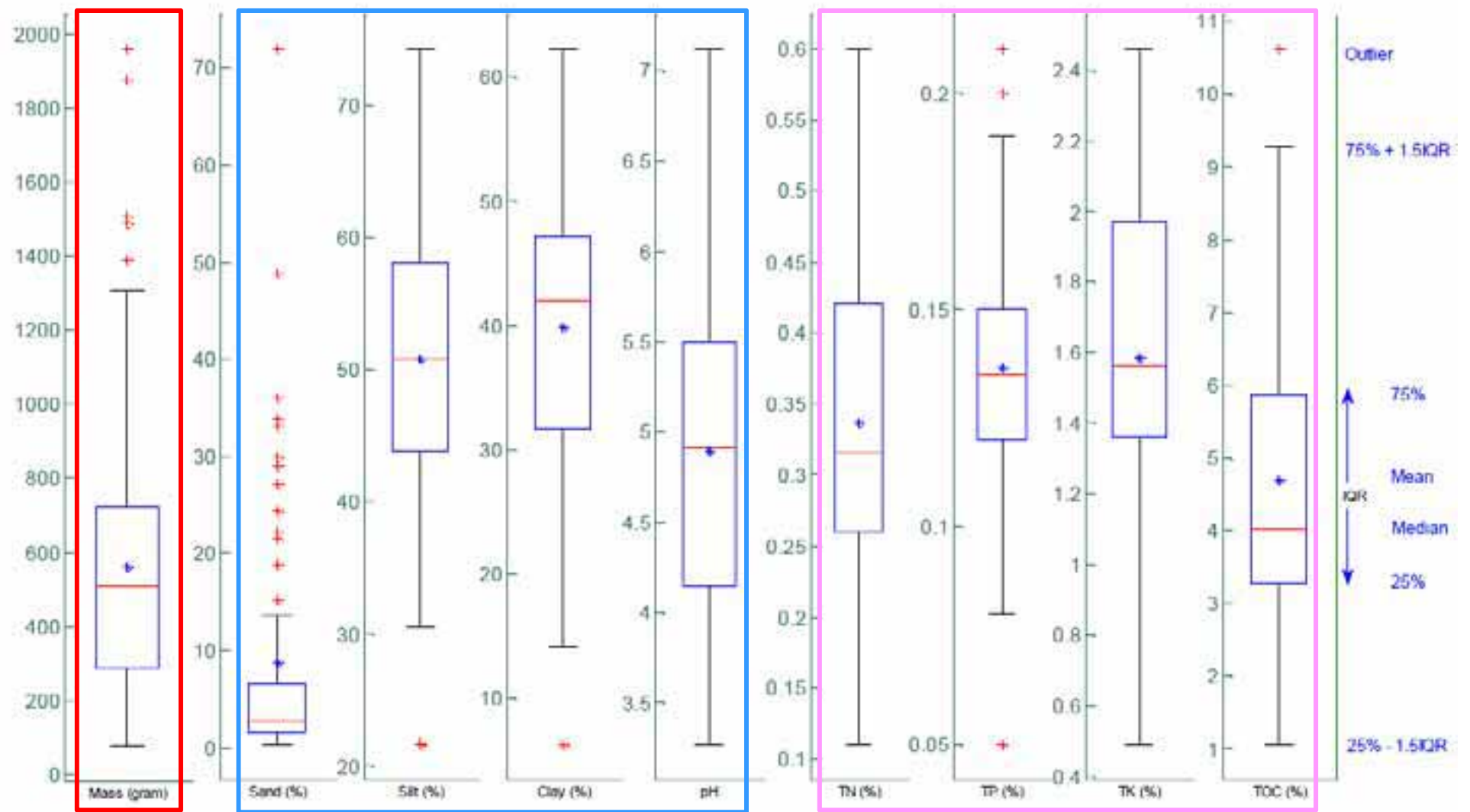


ation maps overlay for the years: 2000, 2002, 2004,  
2007, 2008



# Monitoring network - Datasets

$C_v$	0.64	1.53	0.20	0.28	0.17	0.36	0.22	0.28	0.44
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## Higher sample mass with higher uncertainty

Trap collection test

Dry floodplains

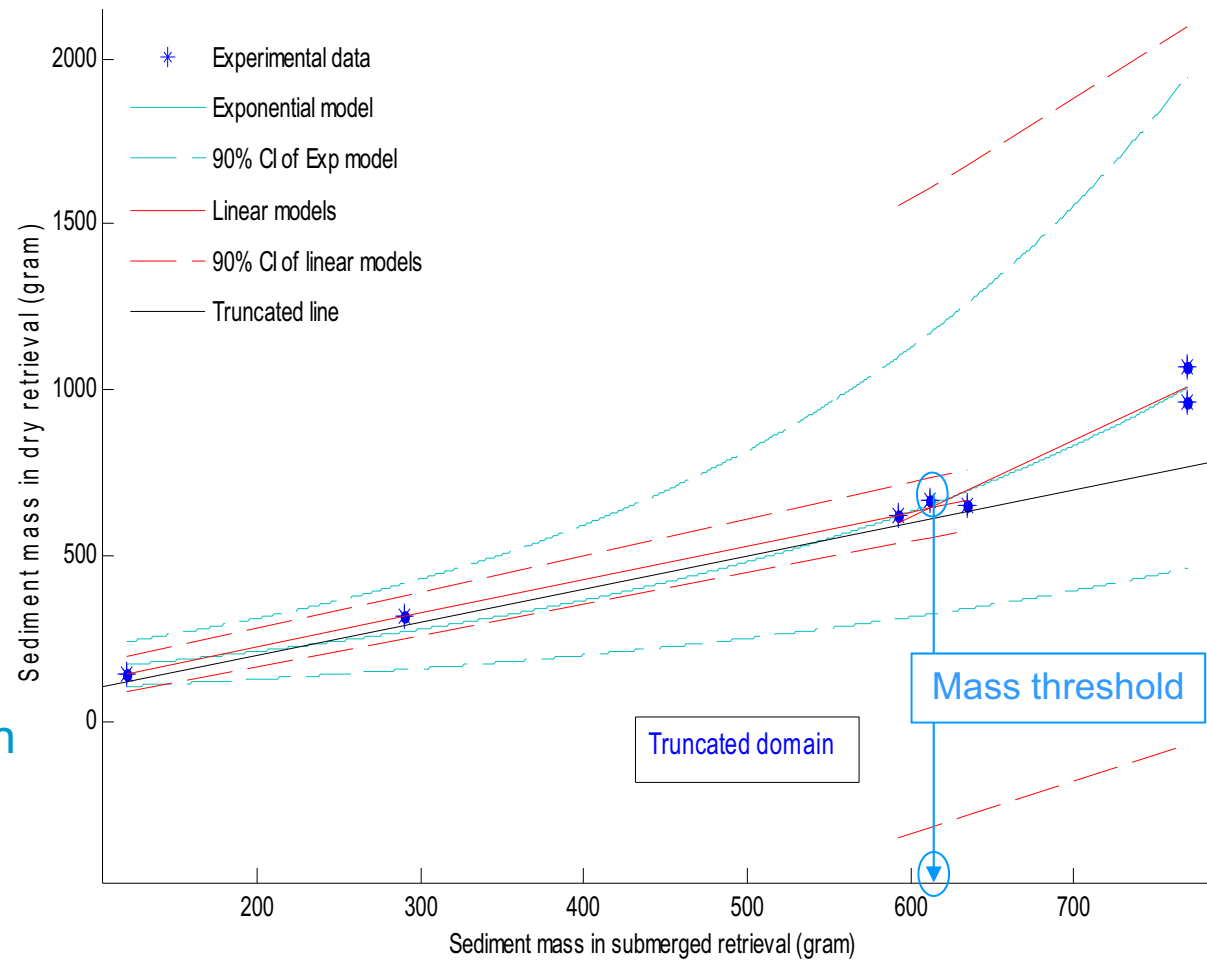
Submerged floodplain

Exponential model

Linear models

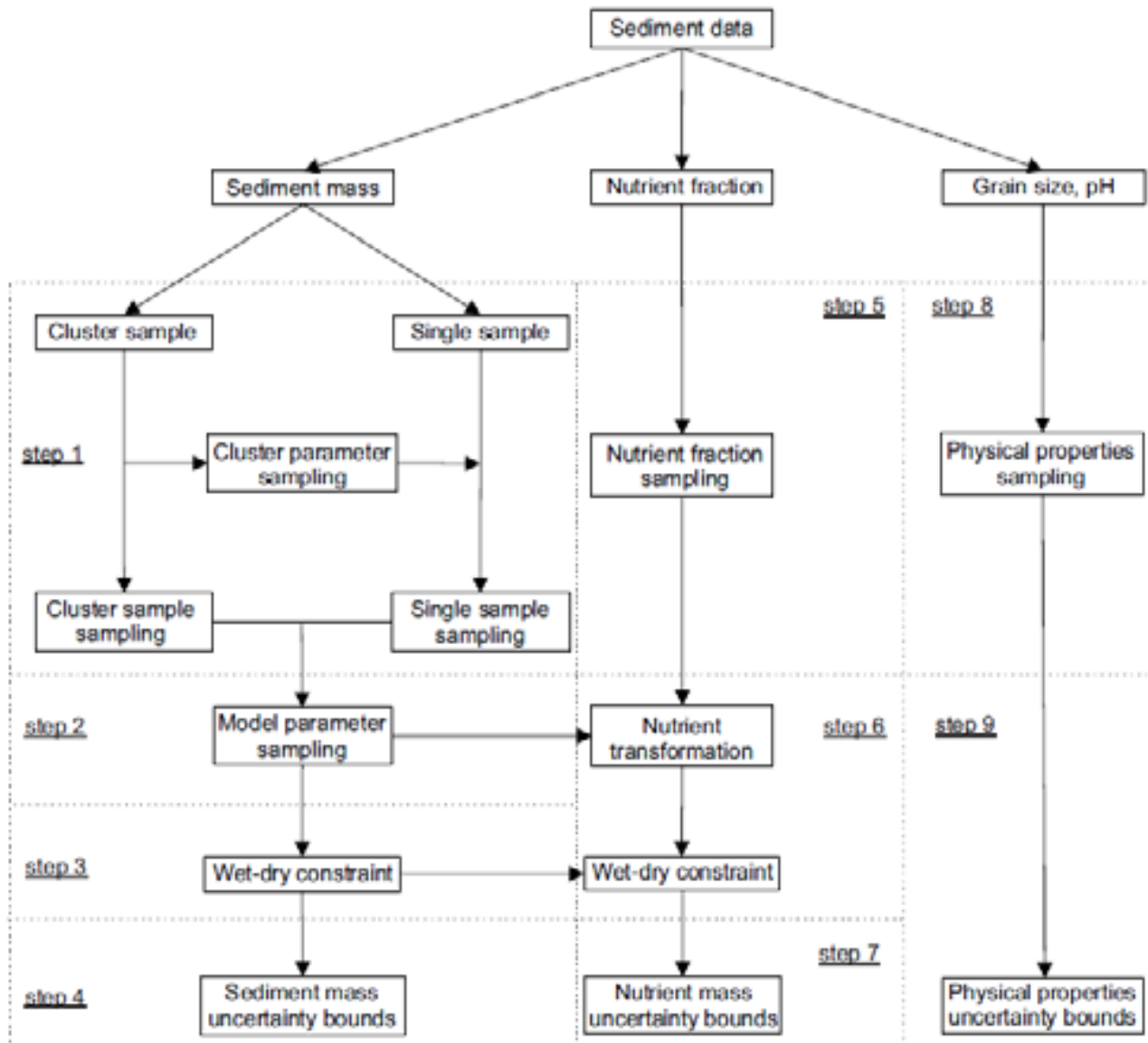
**Constrain of the Mass**

Dry condition  $\geq$  Wet condition





# Uncertainty analysis - Monte Carlo scheme



## Sediment mass

Step 1: PDFs of cluster traps and single traps

Step 2: Uncertainty in wet-dry correction models

Step 3: Correct calculated deposition mass

Step 4: Uncertainty bounds for sediment mass

## Nutrient fraction

Step 5: PDFs of nutrient fractions

Step 6: PDFs of nutrient mass

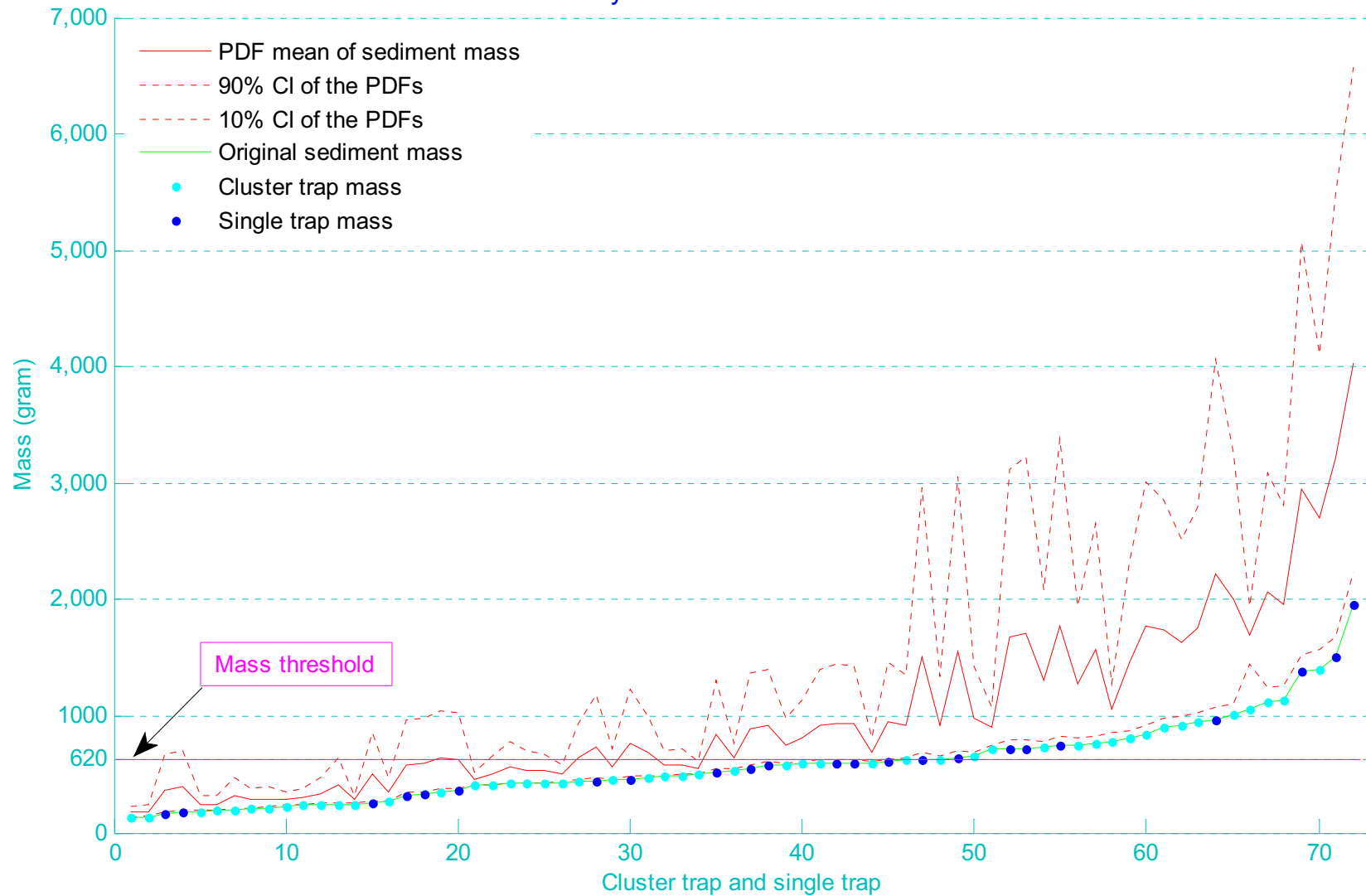
Step 7: Uncertainty bounds for nutrient mass

## Grain size, pH

Step 8: PDFs of grain size fractions and pH

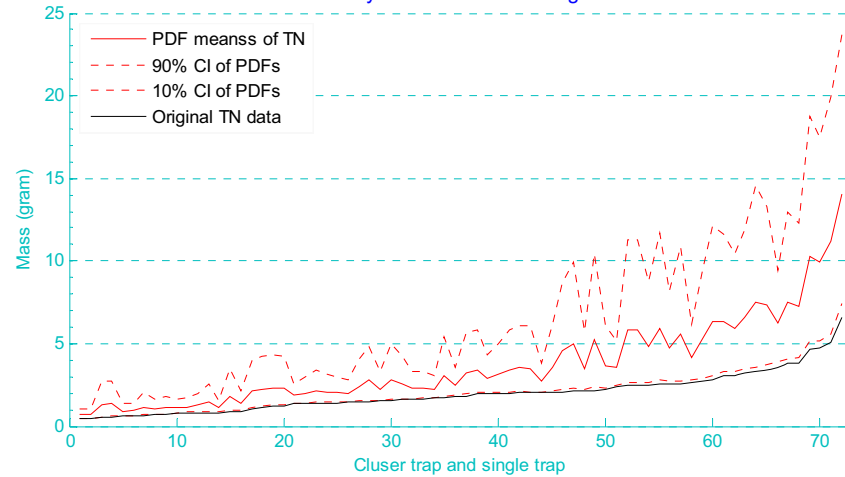
Step 9: Uncertainty bounds for grain size fraction and pH

Uncertainty bounds of Sediment Mass data

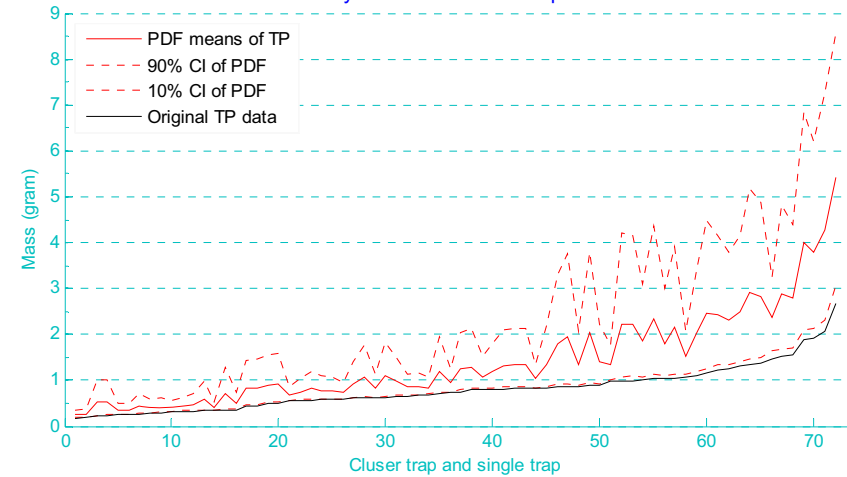


# Uncertainty analysis – Nutrient fraction

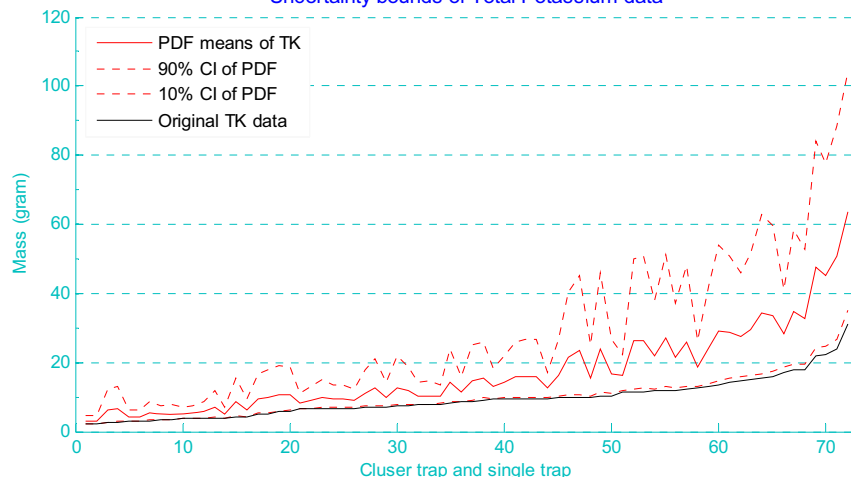
Uncertainty bounds of Total Nitrogen data



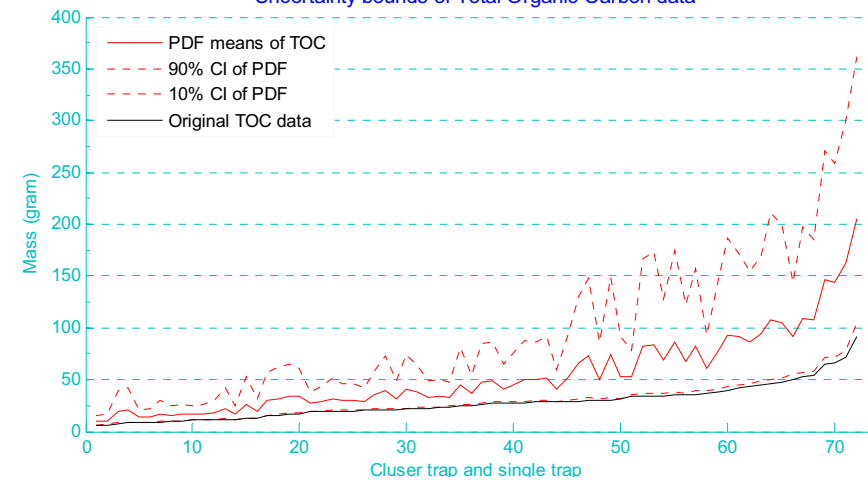
Uncertainty bounds of Total Phosphorus data



Uncertainty bounds of Total Potassium data



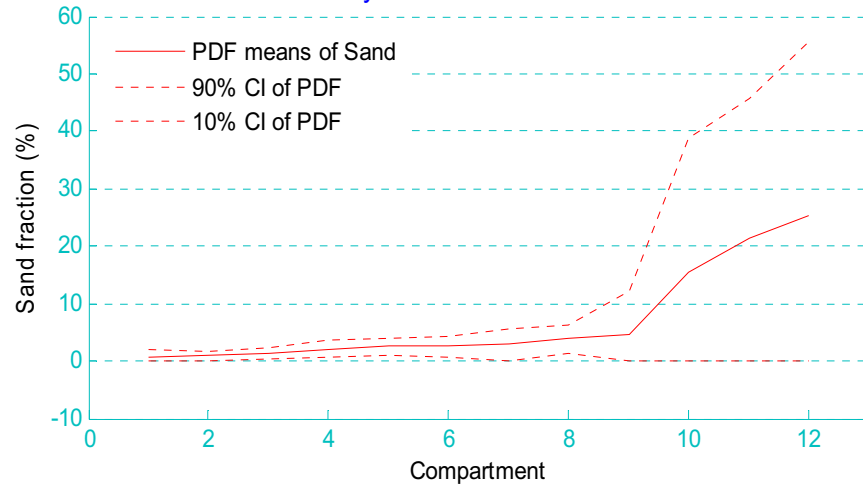
Uncertainty bounds of Total Organic Carbon data



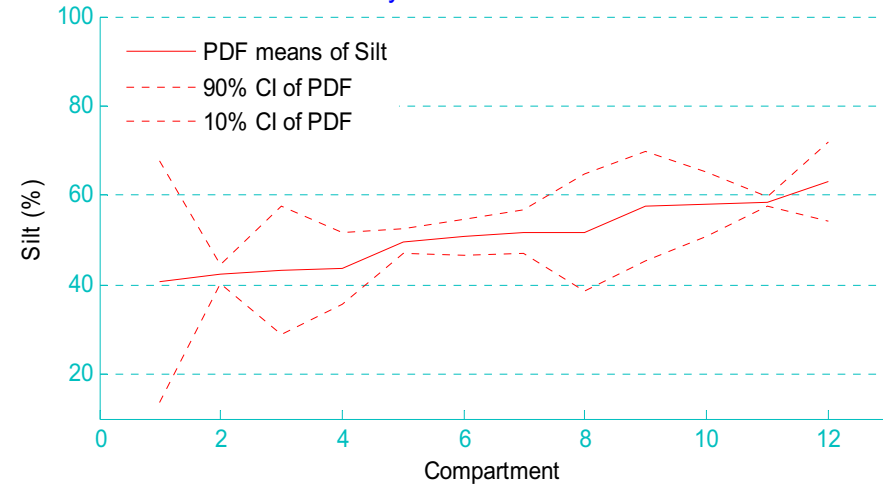


# Uncertainty analysis – Grain sizes and pH

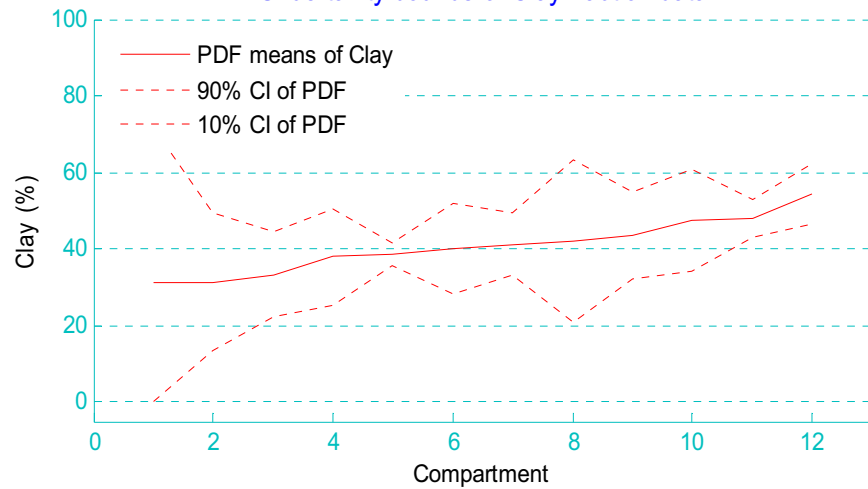
Uncertainty bounds of Sand fraction data



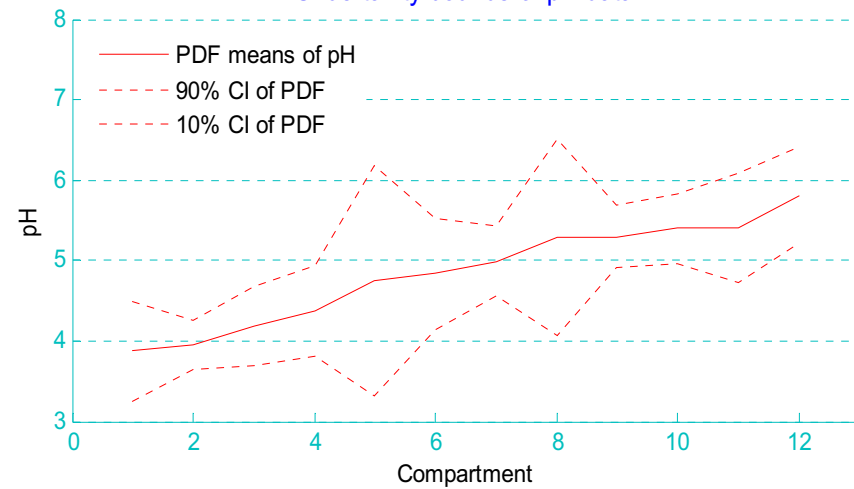
Uncertainty bounds of Silt fraction data

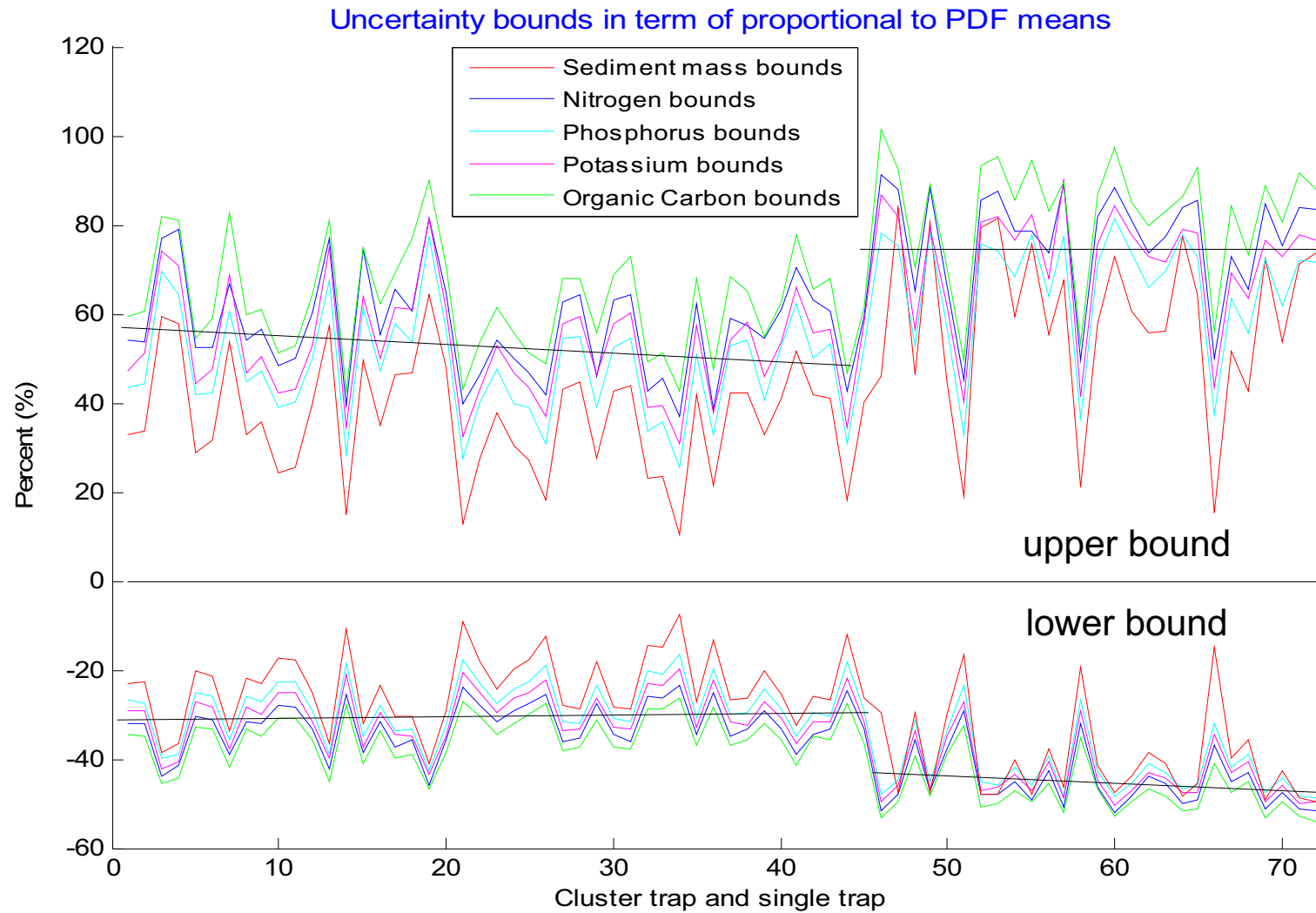


Uncertainty bounds of Clay fraction data



Uncertainty bounds of pH data





- Proposed a procedure to estimate uncertainty in sediment trap sampling particularly suitable in large and complex floodplains.
- The main uncertainty sources are the trap retrieval from still inundated floodplains and human interference on the floodplains.
- The 90% CIs are less than 100% of the mean values for the entire dataset.
- Sediment retrieval uncertainties are systematic and quantifiable,
- The variability caused by human interference is difficult to attribute to distinct activities and factors
- The derived data and uncertainty estimates can provide the required calibration data for a sediment transport model for floodplains



Thank you very much