



## Modelització dels aspectes sanitaris i anàlisi del cicle de vida de la recàrrega de l'aquífer del Port de la Selva

Dr. Ulf Mieke, Wolfgang Seis, Dr. Christoph Sprenger,  
Fabian Kraus





## Topics for today

---

1. Microbial risk assessment
2. Presence of pharmaceutical residues
3. Life cycle assessment



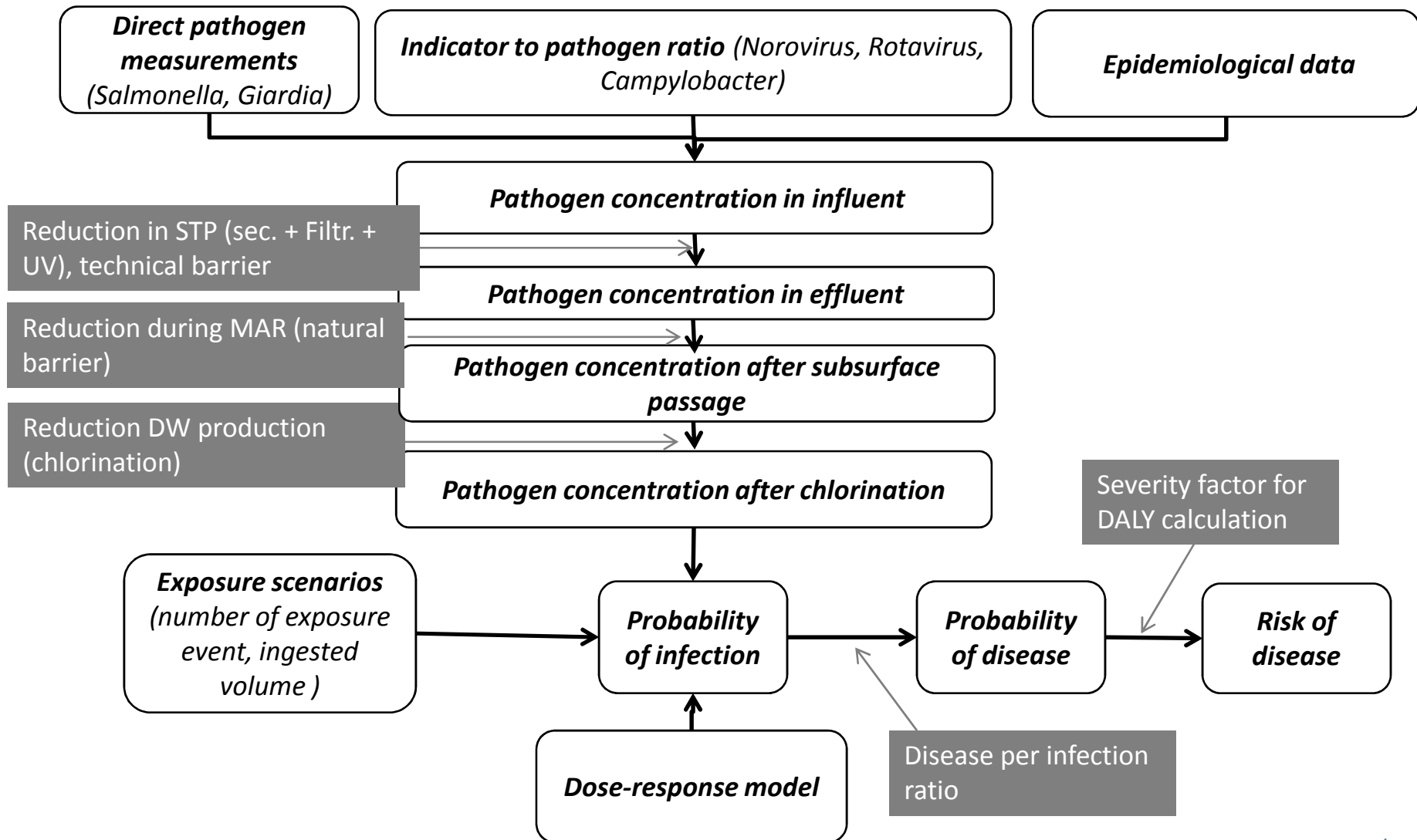
## Microbial risk assessment (World health organization approach)

---

- Safe vs. unsafe? → No!
- They're is more than black/white or yes/no.
- Our approach:
  - We work with a lot with worst case assumptions.
  - Use probabilities (How sure are you?)
  - How sure are we, that the inhabitants of El Port are not harmed by microbial contamination?
  - WHO definition of “not harmed”:
    - Additional microbial risk:  $< 1 \mu\text{DALY}$   
(e.g. less than 1 virus/100.000 L present in water)



# Microbial risk assessment (World health organization approach)





## Overview reus

Assumptions for raw sewage:

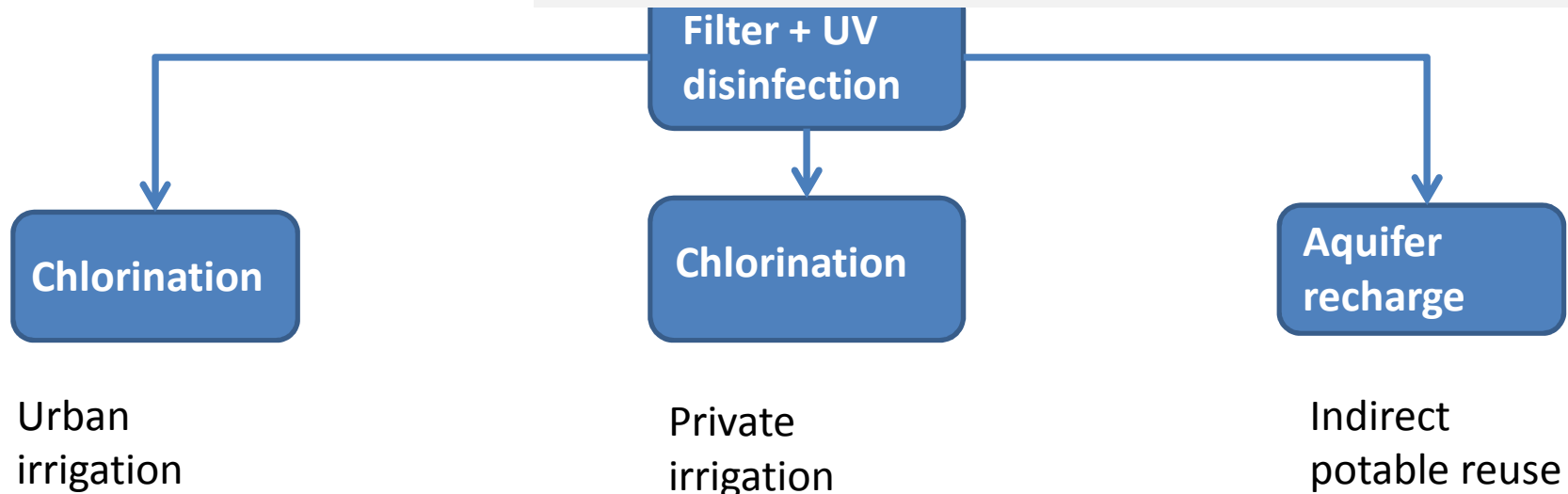
**Campylobacter: 1.000.000/L**

**Rotavirus 31.000/L**

**Cryptosporidium 10.000/L**

### What is log-reduction?

		1.000.000 /L
1log:	90 % removal	100.000 /L
2log	99 %	10.000 /L
3 log	99.9 %	1.000 /L
4 log	99.99 %	100 /L
5 log	99.999 %	10 /L
6 log	99.9999 %	1 /L
7 log	99.99999 %	0.1 /L
8 log	99.999999 %	0.01 /L
9 log	99.9999999 %	0.001 /L
10 log	99.99999999 %	0.0001 /L



Required reduction compared to raw sewage to reach 1  $\mu$ DALY (log reduction):

**Campylobacter: 6.12**

**5.4 - 6.37**

**9.98**

**Rotavirus 5.6**

**5.8**

**9.45**

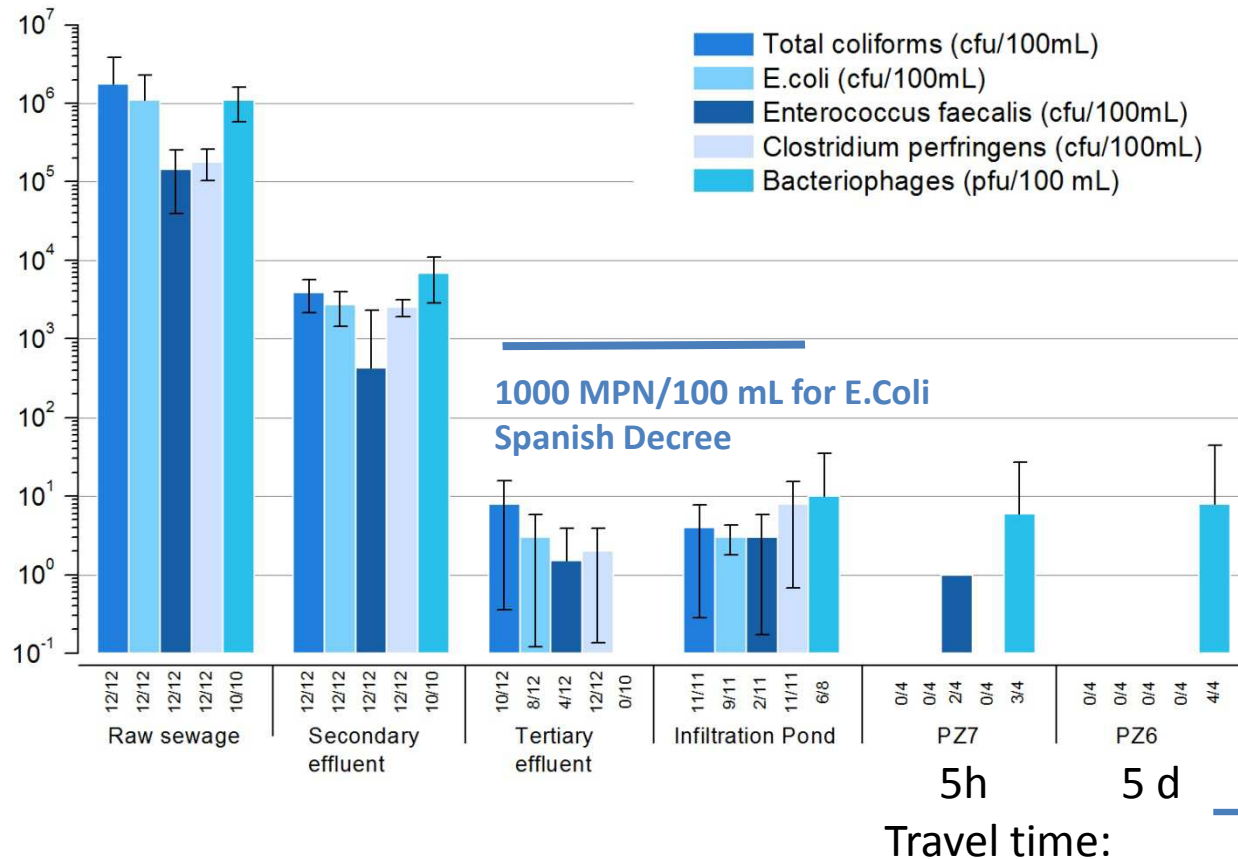
**Cryptosporidium 3.34**

**3.6**

**7.2**



# Microbiology data from El Port reuse site



- Royal degree for reuse fulfilled (infiltration)
- Good removal of bacteria during subsurface passage
- Little removal of bacteriophages in groundwater after short residence time (in line with literature → need longer time)

500 d travel time:  
 Not measurable any more → need for calculation

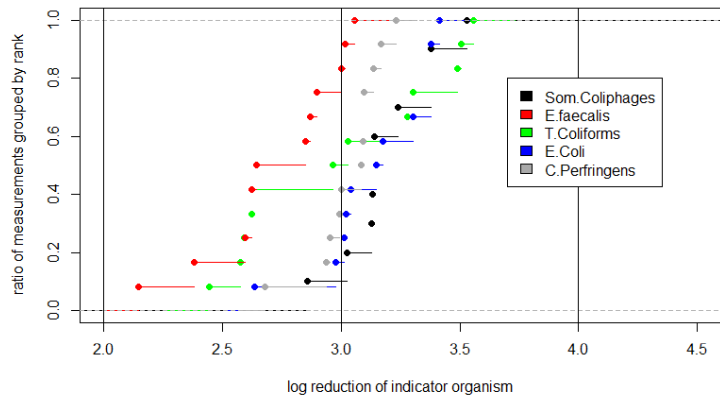
TT = mean travel time of infiltrate from pond to observation well  
 4/6 = four positive out of six samples



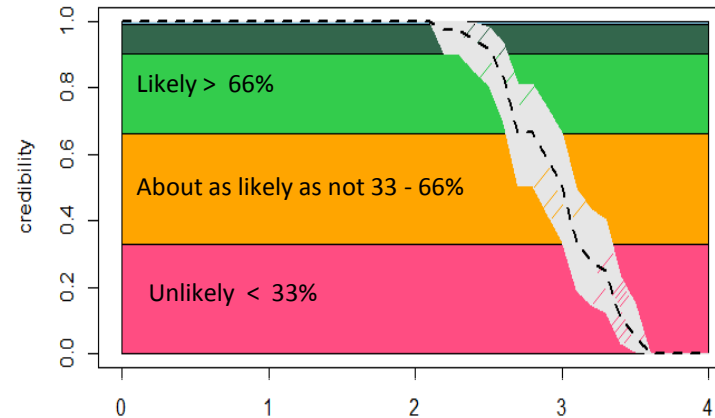
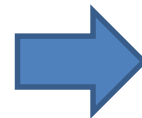
# Example of performance assessment (Filter + UV disinfection)

## Sampling campaigns in spring 2016

Empirical distribution function of tertiary treatment



## Performance and uncertainty assessment (example for bacteria reduction)



Virtually certain > 99%

Very likely > 90%

- Virtually certain that log reduction for bacteria is > 2 log units for bacteria
- High confidence (79 - 98%) that reduction of bacteria by UV disinfection at least 2.6 log  
Uncertainty result of number of samples (n = 36). Reduction by taking more samples recommended.
- Reduction of parasites and viruses by 2.7 log and 3 log respectively



Physical disinfection

### Required additional reduction after UV disinfection

Reference pathogens for bacteria, viruses and parasites	Indirect potable reuse	Urban irrigation	Private irrigation
Campylobacter	4.88	1.9	0.3 - 1.27
Rotavirus	3.65	0.6	0.8
Cryptosporidium	3.3	-0.7	-0.4



## Reduction during subsurface passage (indirect potable reuse)

Parameter	Distribution	Log Reduction	Source
Travelttime	Range	N ( $\mu = 500$ , $sd = 100$ )	<i>Model Amphos 21</i>
Reduction during infiltration Campylobacter	Range	2 - 6 <i>Used value 2</i>	<i>WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality</i>
Reduction during subsurface passage Campylobacter	<i>T</i> <sub>90</sub> 3d -7d	> 20 <i>Used value 20</i>	Sidhu et al. 2015, from diffusion chamber experimentes of 4 different MAR sites
Reduction during infiltration Cryptosporidium	Range	0.5 - 5 <i>Used value 0.5</i>	<i>WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality</i>
Reduction during subsurface passage Cryptosporidium	<i>T</i> <sub>90</sub> 56-120d	4.2 - 8.9 <i>Used value 4.2</i>	Sidhu et al. 2015 from diffusion chamber experimentes of 4 different MAR sites
Reduction during infiltration Rotavirus	Range	0.25 - 4 <i>Used value 0.25</i>	<i>WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality</i>
Reduction during subsurface passage Rotavirus	<i>T</i> <sub>90</sub> = random (min = 30, max = 100)	> 5 log <i>Used value 5</i>	<i>Australian Guidelines for Water recycling</i>
Reduction chlorination (drinking water treatment)	Point estimate	2 log viruses 2 log bacteria 0.5 log protozoa	<i>WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality</i>

Reference pathogens	Indirect potable reuse		
	WWTP, UV, MAR, CI	WWTP, MAR, UV (failure of CI at DWTP)	WWTP, MAR, CI (failure of Filter + UV)
Campylobacter	-19.12	-17.12	-16.52
Rotavirus	- 3.55	- 1.55	0.2
Cryptosporidium	- 2	- 1.5	0.5





## Conclusions Microbial Risk Assessment

---

- The required log reduction for bacteria, virus and parasites can be achieved for all three reuse options:
  - In line with WHO target of 1 $\mu$ DALY
  - Even with worst case assumptions (high initial concentration + low performance of treatment steps) → real risk will be most likely much lower
  - But: All treatment steps need to be in operation!
- Most critical treatment step is the filter + UV disinfection:
  - If UV disinfection fails, the reuse of water has to be stopped (for both irrigation and infiltration)
  - In 2013-2014 in some cases very low disinfection performance (UV lamps replaced in 2014) → room for improvement



## Estimation on trace organic transfer from secondary effluent via MAR to drinking water well

Trace organics	Secondary Effluent (µg/L)	Estimate drinking water (µg/L)	Health orientated guideline value in Germany (µg/L) **	Prediction with activated carbon treatment (µg/L)
<b>Carbamazepine</b>	0.2	0.005 - 0.08 (Median 0.04)	0.3	< 0.01
<b>Gabapentine*</b>	1.6	0.17-0.63 (Median 0.36)	1.0	0.08-0.35 (Median < 0.2)
<b>Sulfamethoxazole</b>	0.84	±0.050	0.1	< 0.01
<b>Diuron</b>	2.3	0 – 0.002 (Median: 0.001)	0.1 Legal limit	< 0.0001
<b>Terbutryne</b>	0.15	0-0.0008 (Median: 0.0005)	0.1 (legal limit)	< 0.00005

\*assumption: no degradation in MAR  
(worst case assumption) → degradable, but no  
degradation coefficient known yet

\*\*Health orientated guideline  
value: considered to be safe  
for 70 a of consumption by  
German EPA

GAC with max. 5000 BV



## Conclusion on trace organic contaminants

---

- Various trace organic contaminants present in WWTP effluent
- Without additional treatment step:
  - Transfer of pesticides unlikely
  - Transfer of pharmaceutical residues very likely, but still below health orientated guideline values from German EPA
- Planning for full-scale activated carbon filter ongoing (pilot test this summer, lab test for GAC selection performed by KWB)
- With additional treatment step (Prediction based on piloting in Berlin):
  - Additional safety barrier against pesticides
  - Transfer of pharmaceutical strongly reduced (Carbamezepine, Sulfamethozazol), most difficult compound to be removed is Gabapentine



Comparison of treatment  
option  
El Port de la Selva

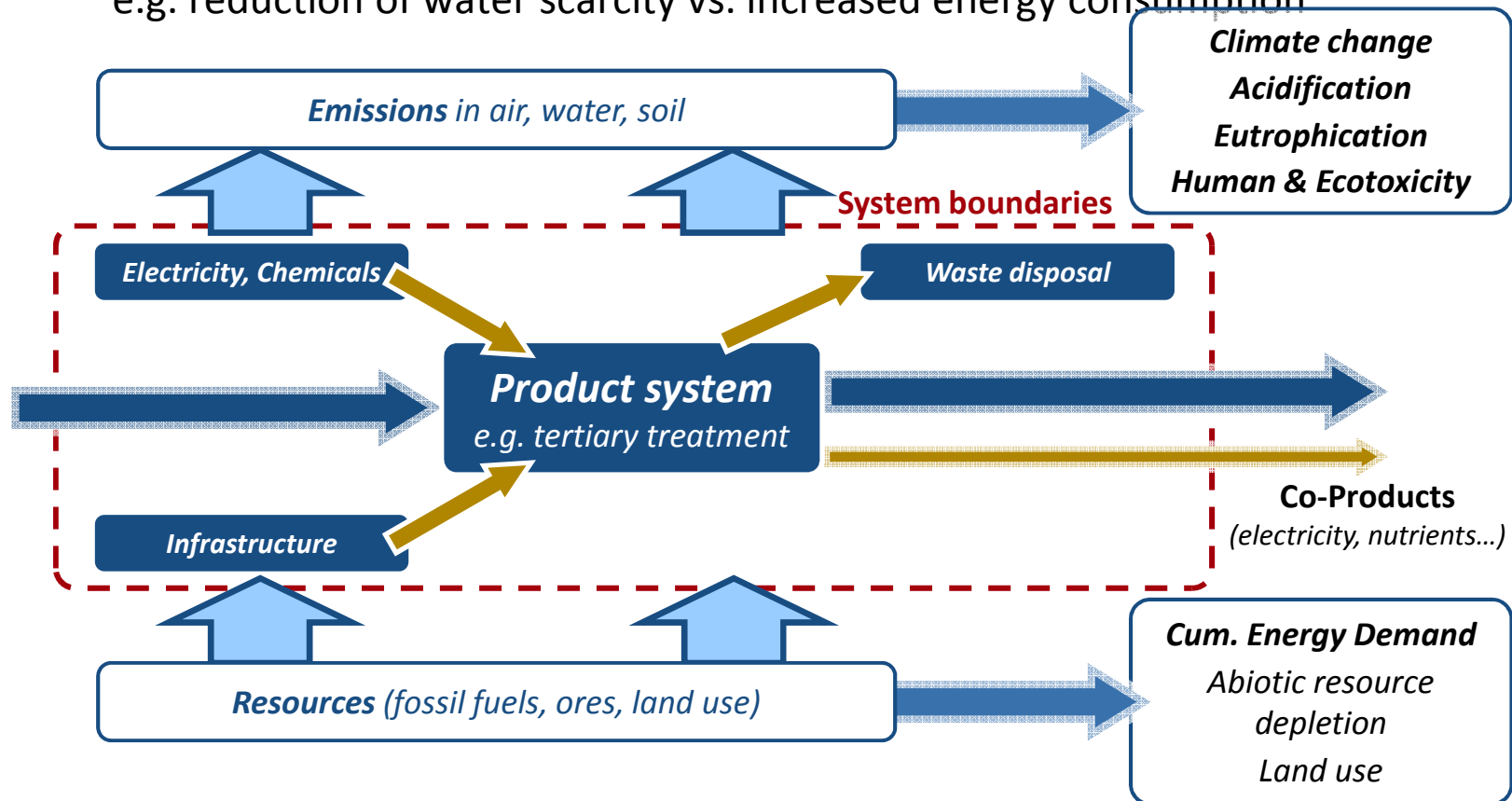
*Fabian Kraus, 05/2016*





# Methodology of LCA

- **LCA** is a standardized holistic tool to assess direct and indirect effects
- **LCA** considers chemical & electricity production, infrastructure...
- **Balancing** ecological benefits vs. ecological burdens  
e.g. reduction of water scarcity vs. increased energy consumption





## Scope of LCA

---

Scope of LCA for El Port de la Selva:

***„Analysis of the alternatives to increase the availability of water resources in El Port de la Selva by 100 Mio liters/year“***



## Scenarios for LCA Case Study

---

### **0. status until 2015**

- WWTP effluent discharge to sea, drinking water from groundwater

### **1. reuse A with filter, GAC, UV (and Cl) in tertiary treatment**

- partial WWTP effluent irrigation to private gardens (summer)
- partial WWTP effluent infiltration into aquifer (winter)

### **2. reuse B with UF, RO (and Cl) in tertiary treatment**

- partial WWTP effluent irrigation to gardens (summer)
- partial WWTP effluent infiltration into aquifer (winter)

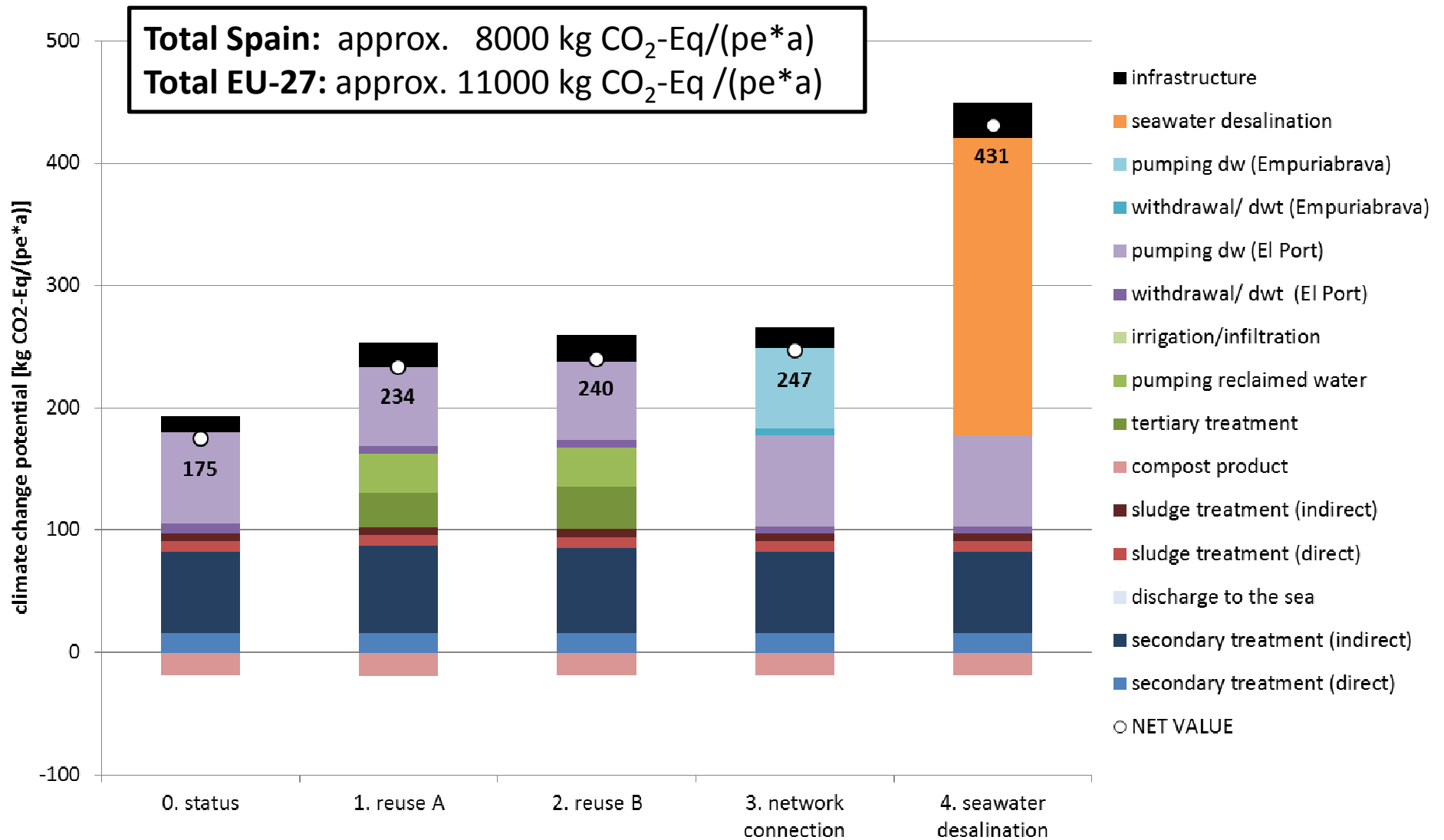
### **3. network connection**

- Pumping water from Empuriabrava

### **4. seawater desalination**



# global warming potential

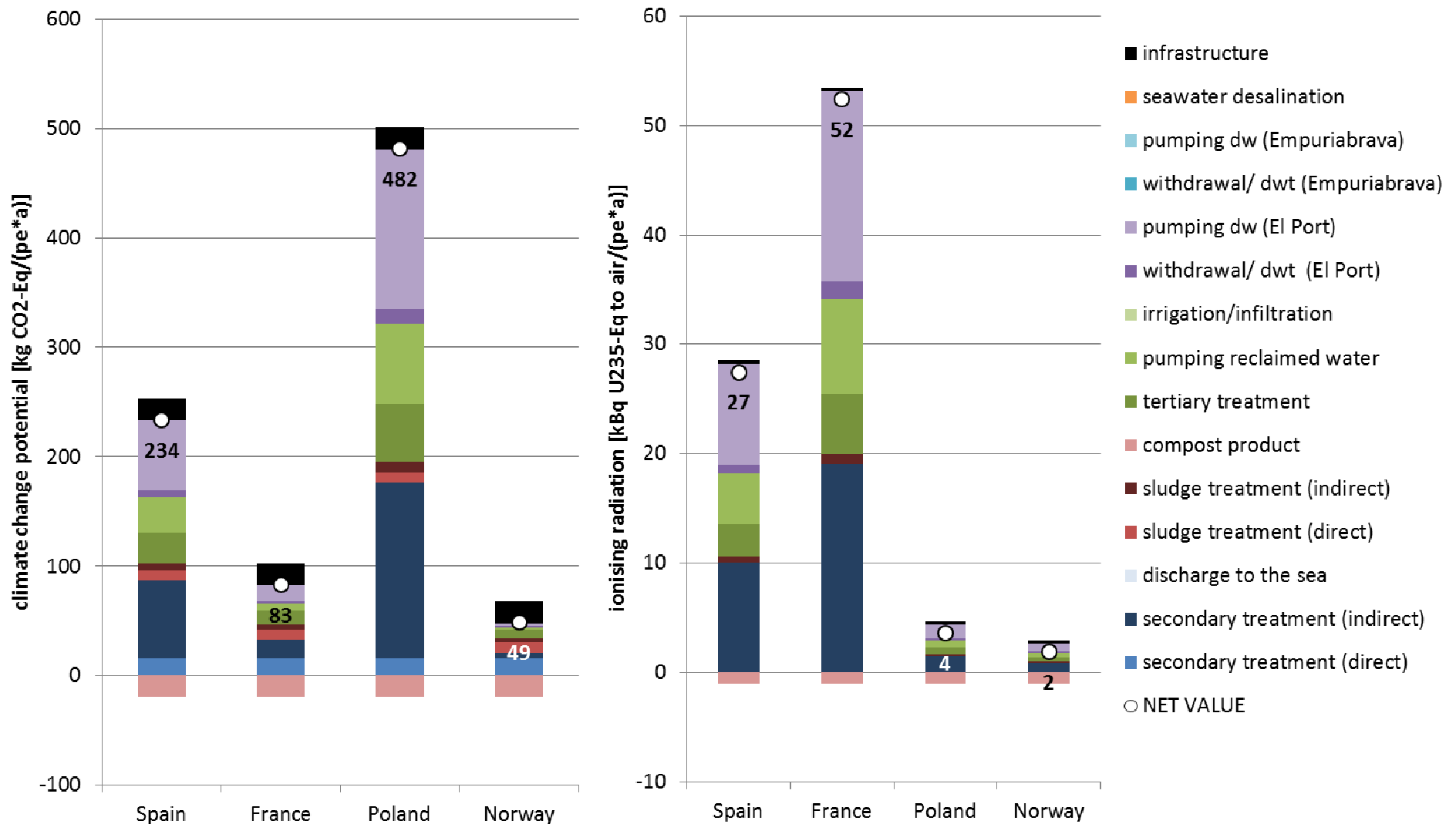


Data-Set and total value from 2008





# global warming potential and ionising-radiation of Reuse A for different electricity mixes of...



Data-Set and total value from 2008



## Conclusion life cycle assessment

---

- All measures to increase water availability are associated with additional energy consumption and green house gas emissions (only other solution: reduce water consumption)
- Ranking of GHG emissions:
  - Seawater desalination >> wastewater desalination/pipeline from Empuriabrava/ infiltration
  - High exchange rate of activated carbon makes wastewater desalination an potential alternative to current scheme
- A high share of renewable energy in the national energy mix reduces the GHG emissions
- Options to reduce GHG emissions:
  - Direct pipeline from WWTP to infiltration pond
  - Replacement of pressurized filtration by gravity sand filter (reduction of energy demand)



The European Union is acknowledged for co-funding DEMOWARE within the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme under grant agreement n° 619040

