

Análisis del origen de agua en dos cuencas andinas con trazadores de isótopos estables y otros parámetros hidro-químicos para apoyar la parametrización de modelos hidrológicos

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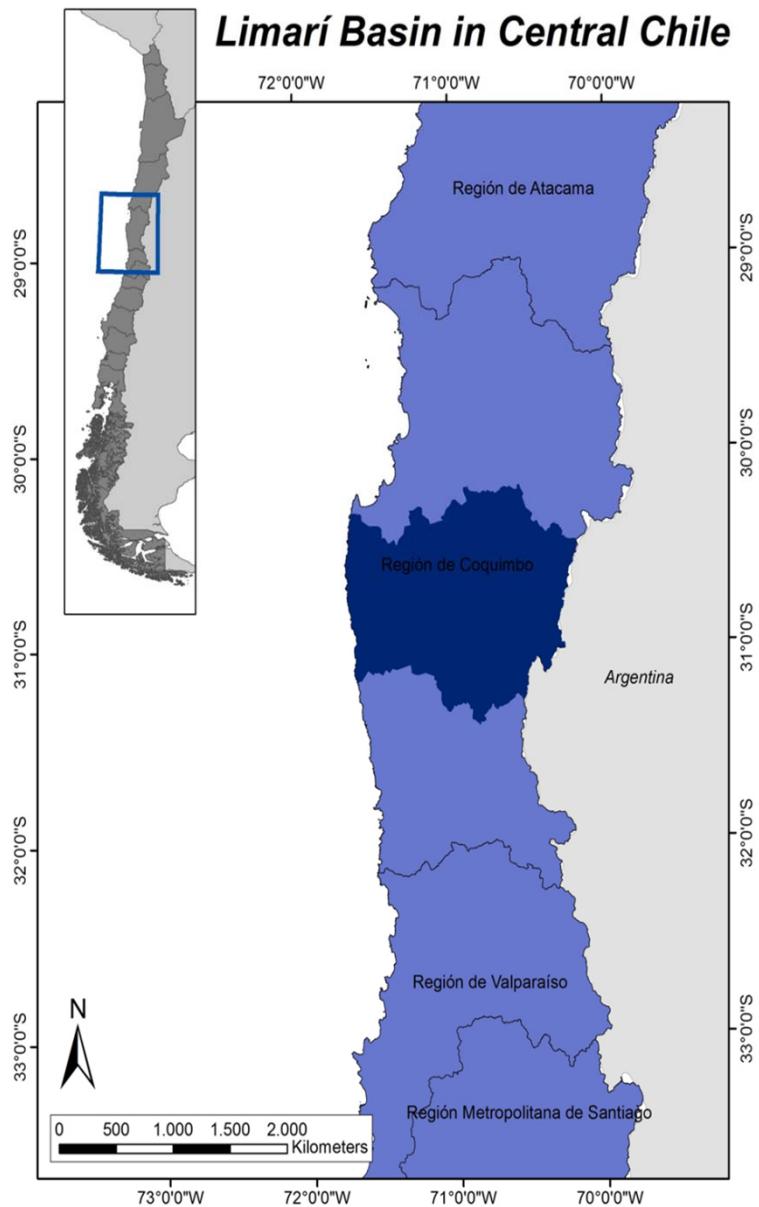
Contenido:

- Región de estudio, cuencas Rio Grande y Tascadero
- Variabilidad de clima y hidrología
- Muestreo de isótopos estables y análisis hidro-químico
- Resultados y demanda de investigación

Assessment of runoff generation from high elevation Andean catchments to predict water availability under climate variability and change

Región de estudio

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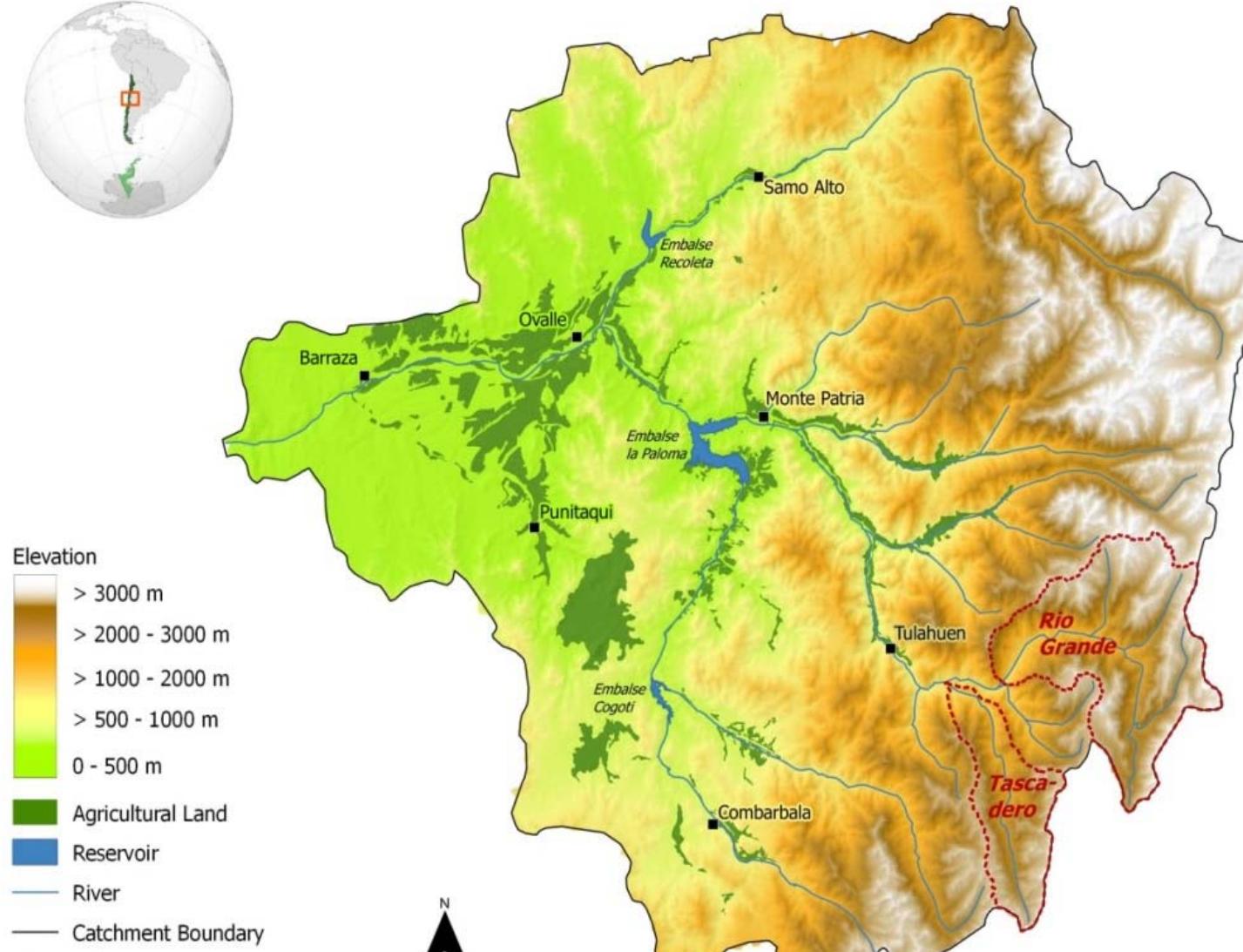


Limarí Basin, size 11.696 km²



- Elevation: Pacific coast to the Andes: 0-6000 m
- Average annual rainfall: 120 mm
- strong Precipitation gradient from North to South

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Limarí Basin, Rio Grande (544 km^2) and Tascaderro (254 km^2), total size 11.696 km^2 ,

- Strong spatial and temporal variability of precipitation,
- average rainfall 120 mm per year
- Pot Evapo-trpiration
- $> 1000 \text{ mm}$
- Hydrological year May to April

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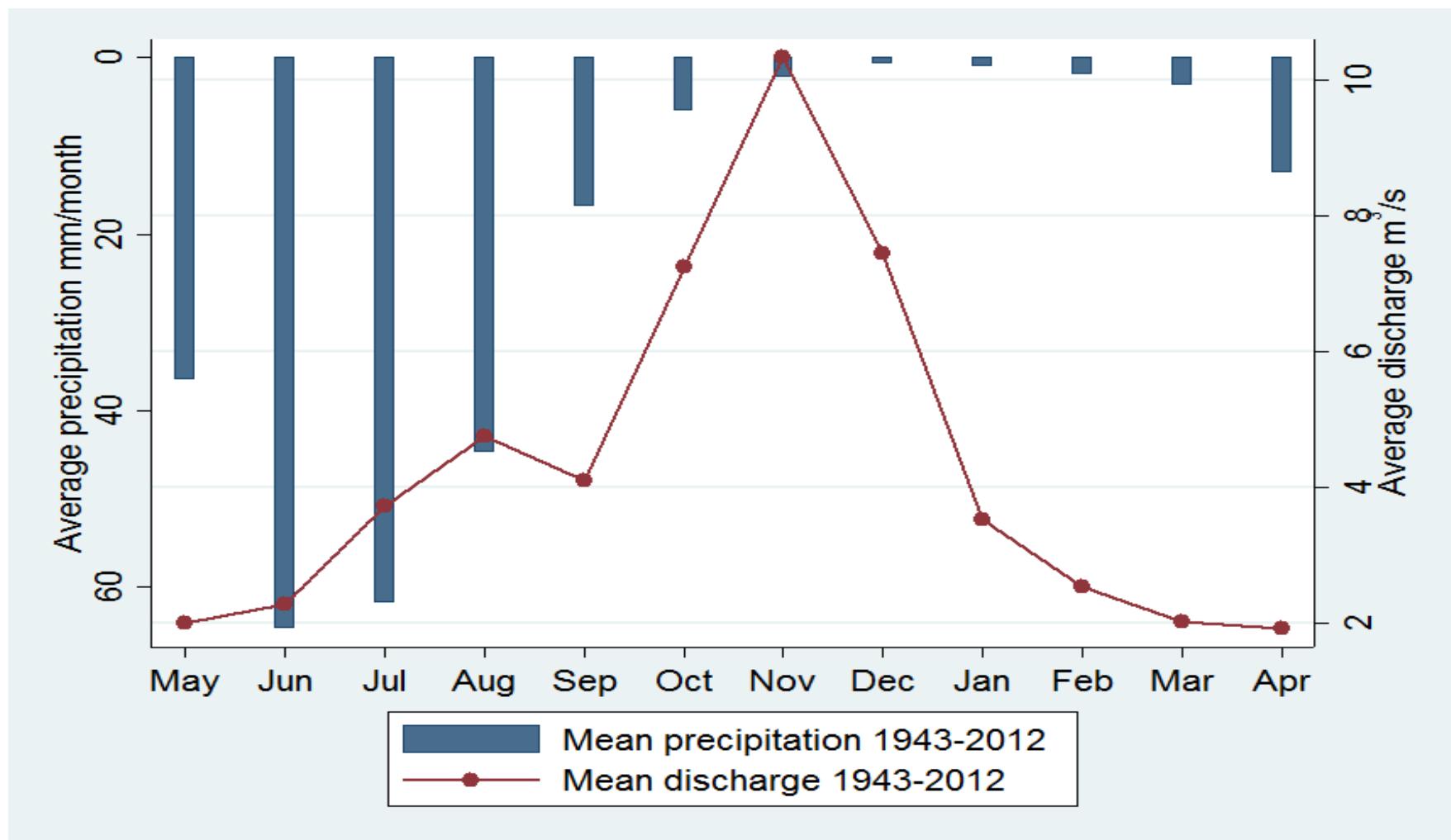
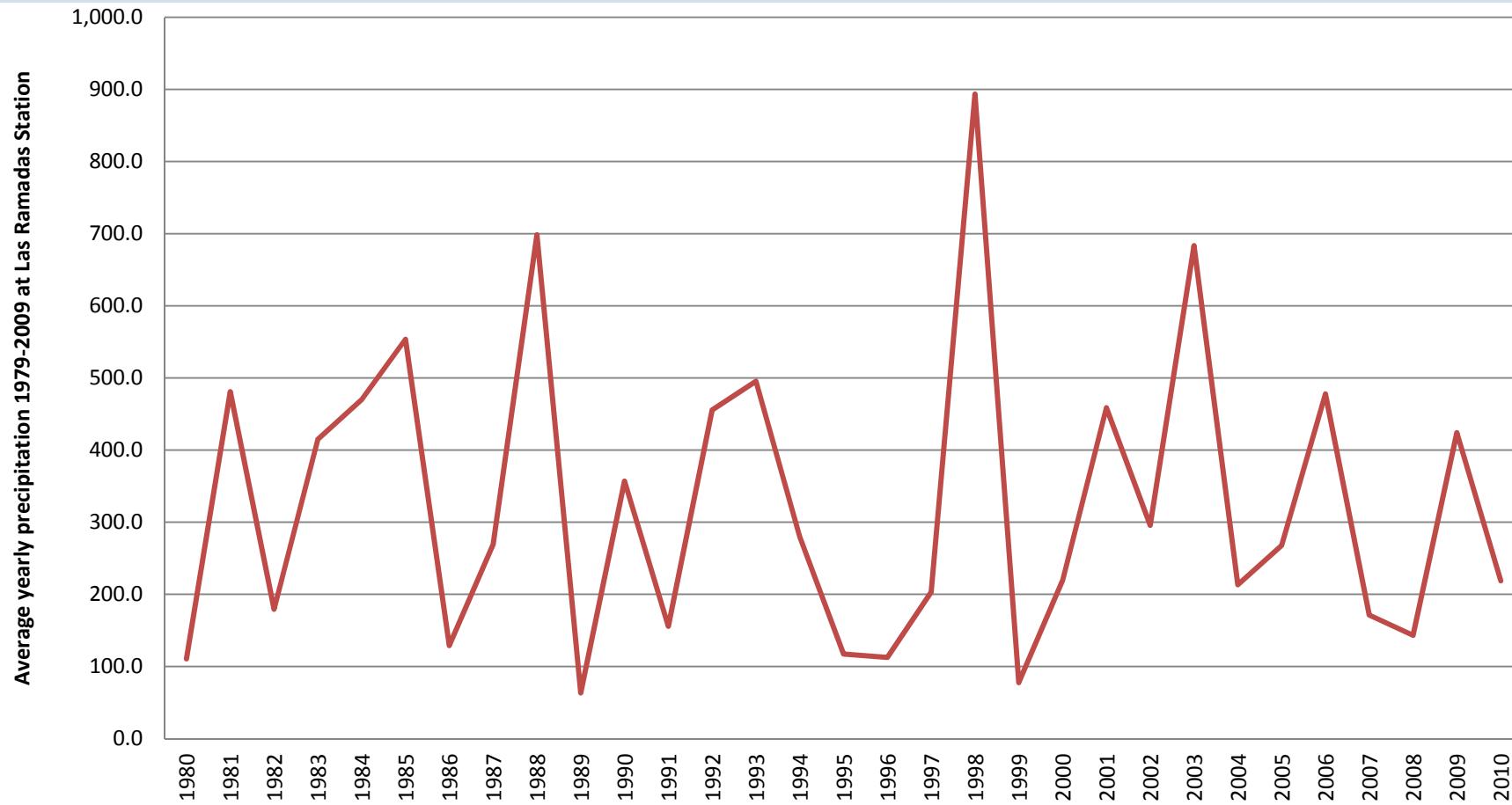


Fig: Intra-annual Precipitation-discharge distribution at Las Ramadas station – averages from 1943 to 2012

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**Figure: Average yearly precipitation in the Limarí River Basin at Las Ramadas climate station
1979-2009, Data source: DGA 2010**

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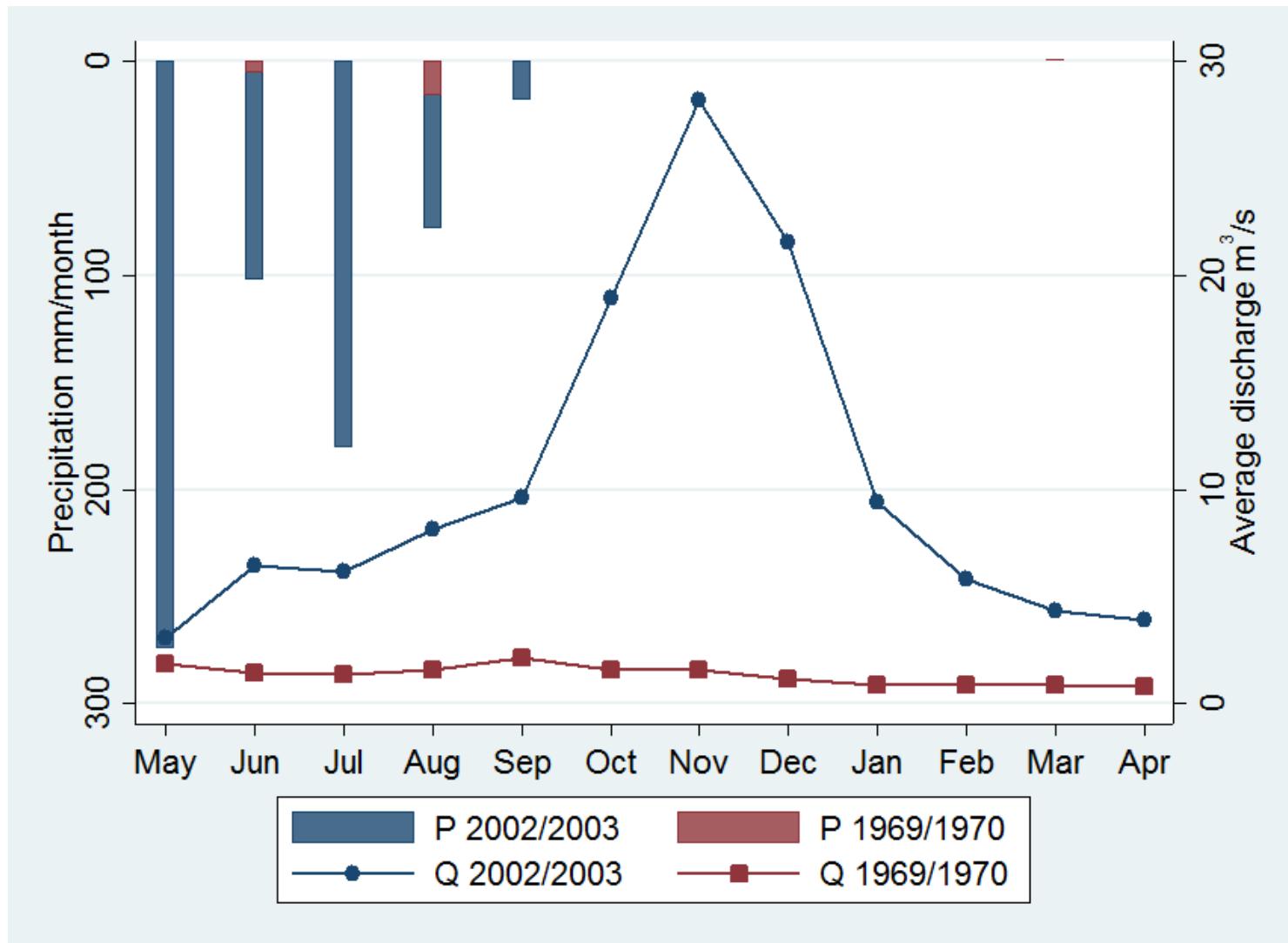
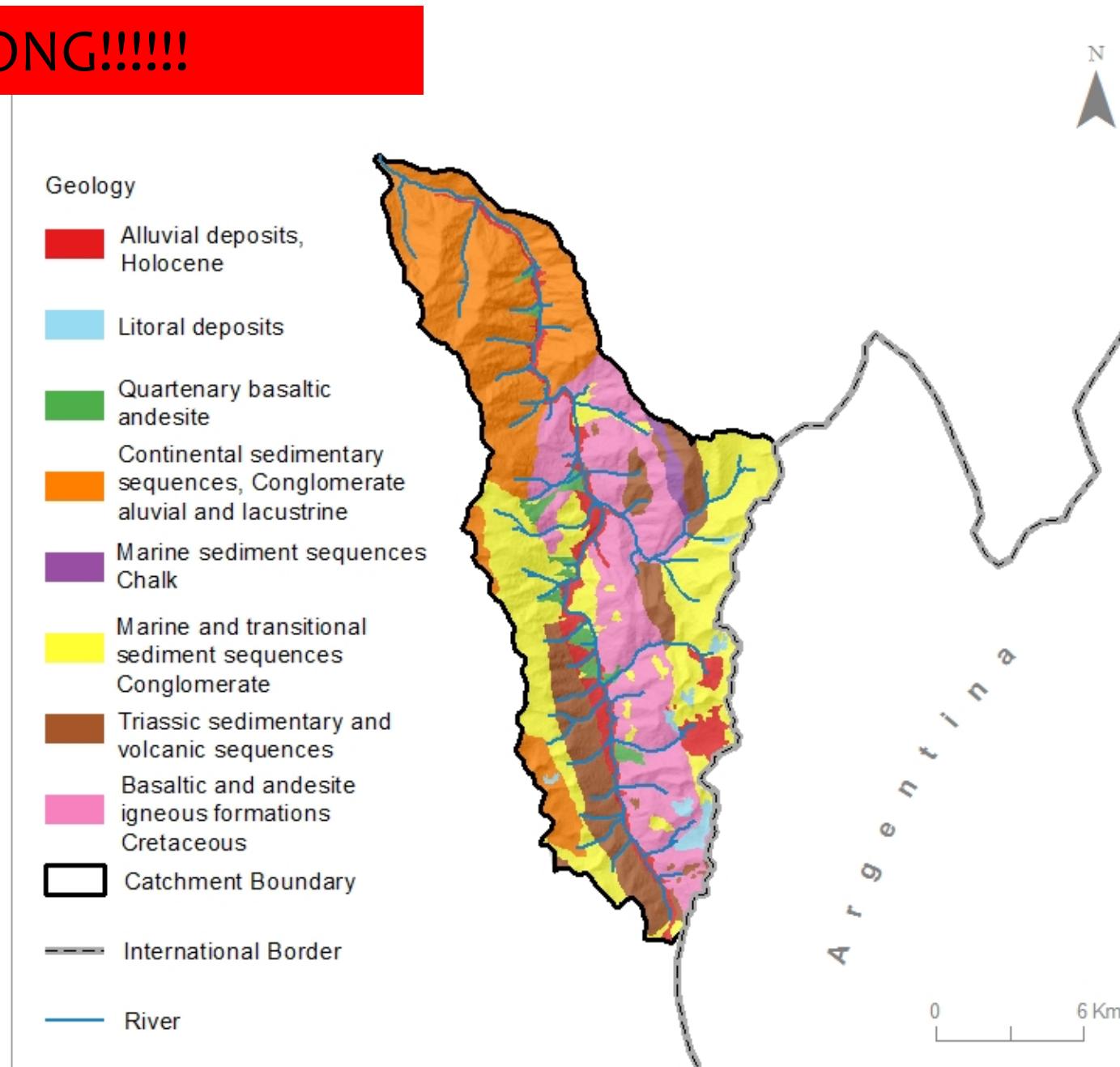


Fig: Two extreme years of Precipitation-discharge



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WRONG!!!!!!



Preliminary map of Geology of Tascadero based on Goat study and Geological map of Chile





Objetivo:

Mejorar los conocimientos sobre la interacción clima-agua superficial-agua subterránea

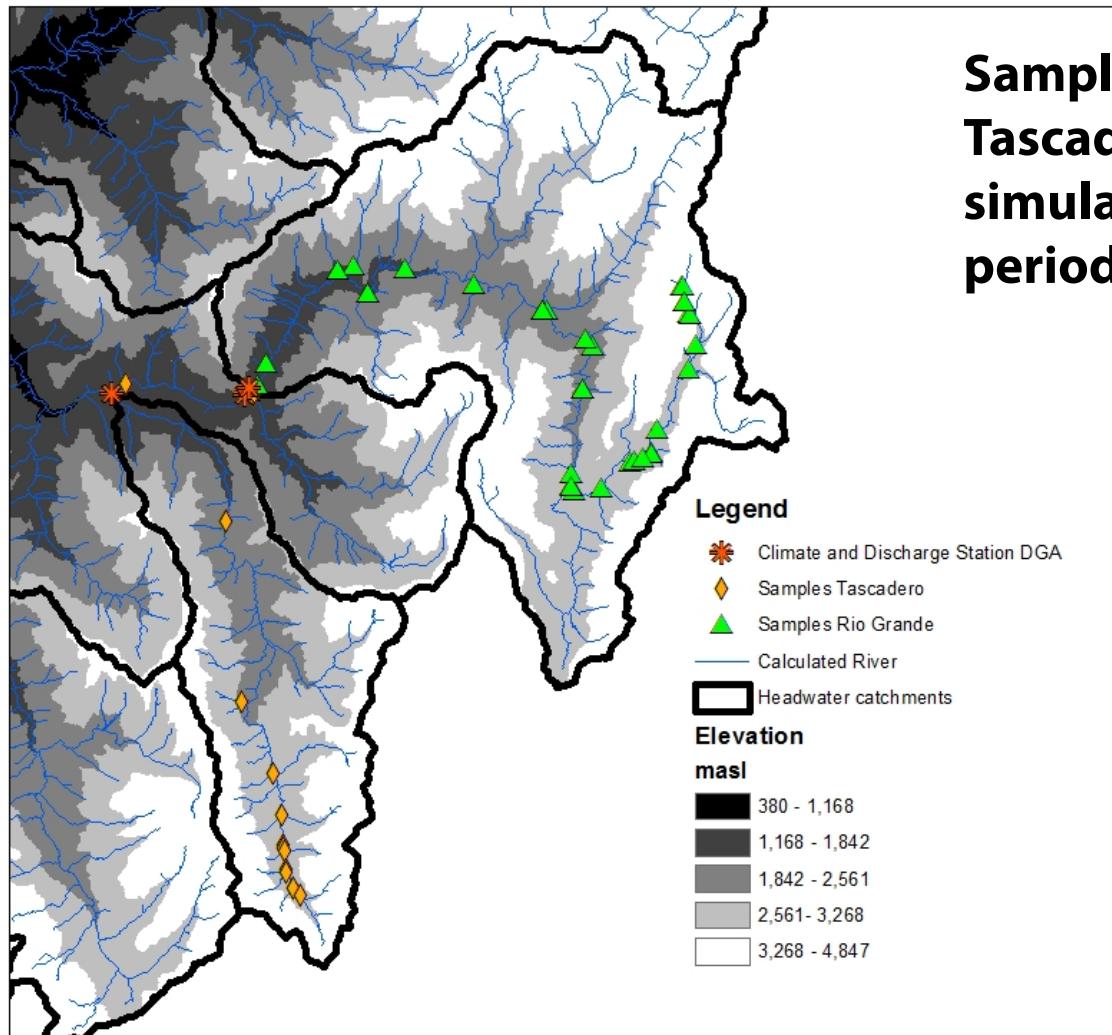
Objetivos detallados:

- Analizar el origen de las aguas y su tiempo de residencia
- Mejorar los conocimientos sobre el entorno geológico y hidrogeológico
- Flujos de agua subterránea
- Apoyar la validación y calibración de modelos hidrológicos

Muestreo estacional de isótopos estables y parámetros hidro-químicos en Diciembre, Mayo, Septiembre, Enero

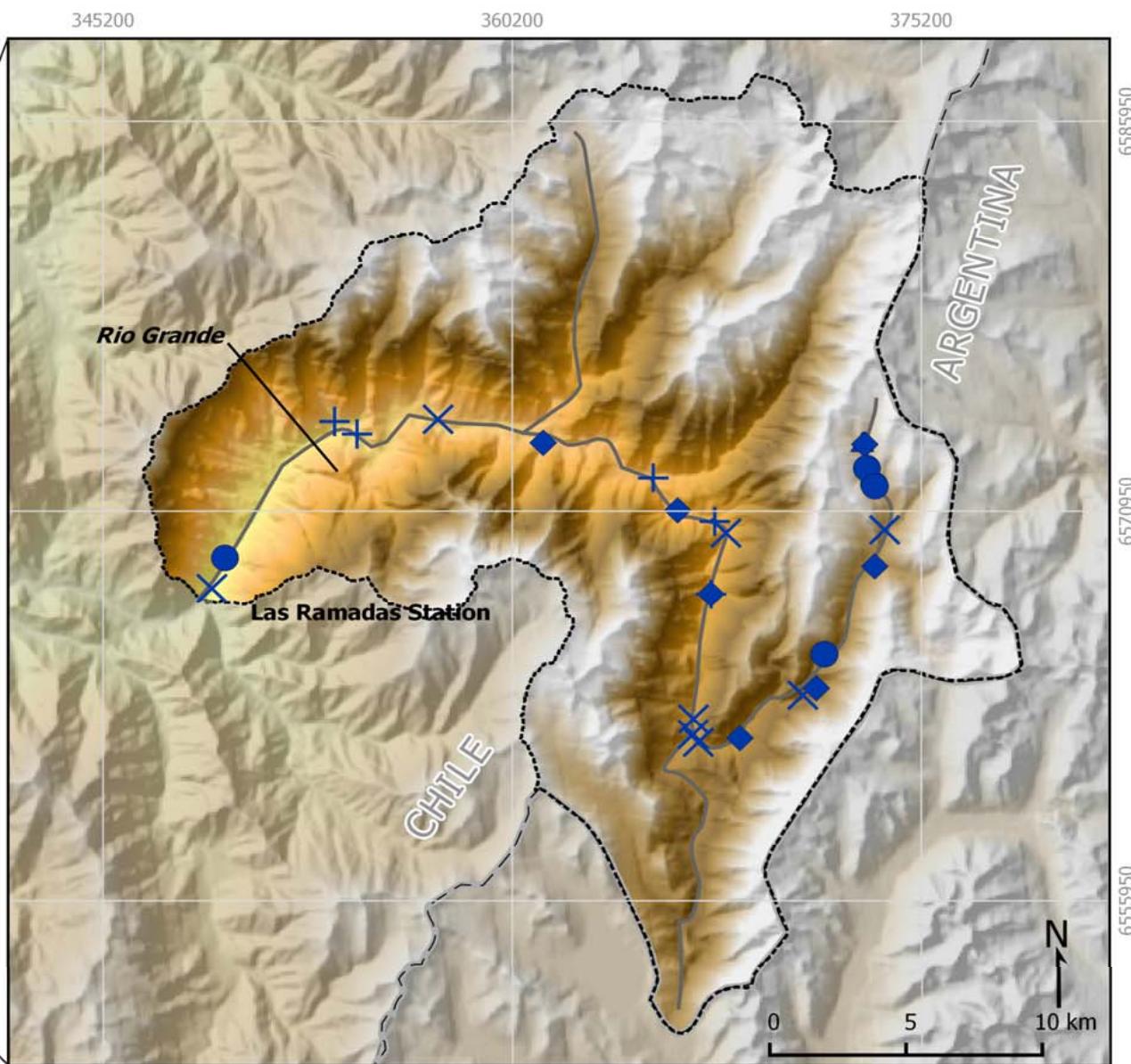
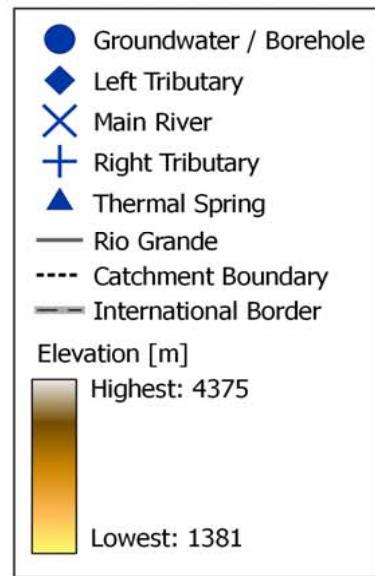
- Sampling $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^2\text{H}$ in Rio Grande and Tascadero streams + Precipitation, snow to assess the residence time and origin of stream water
- geochemical analysis: cations: Na^{++} , K^+ , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} and anions: Cl^- , SO_4^{2-} , HCO_3^- , CO_3^{2-} to assess the characteristics of the source and aquifers of origin
- Runoff measurements in headwater contribution streams, conductivity, stream temperature

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Sampling locations in Rio Grande and Tascadero headwater catchments, simulated streams for water rich periods

- No glaciers
- Heterogeneous geology



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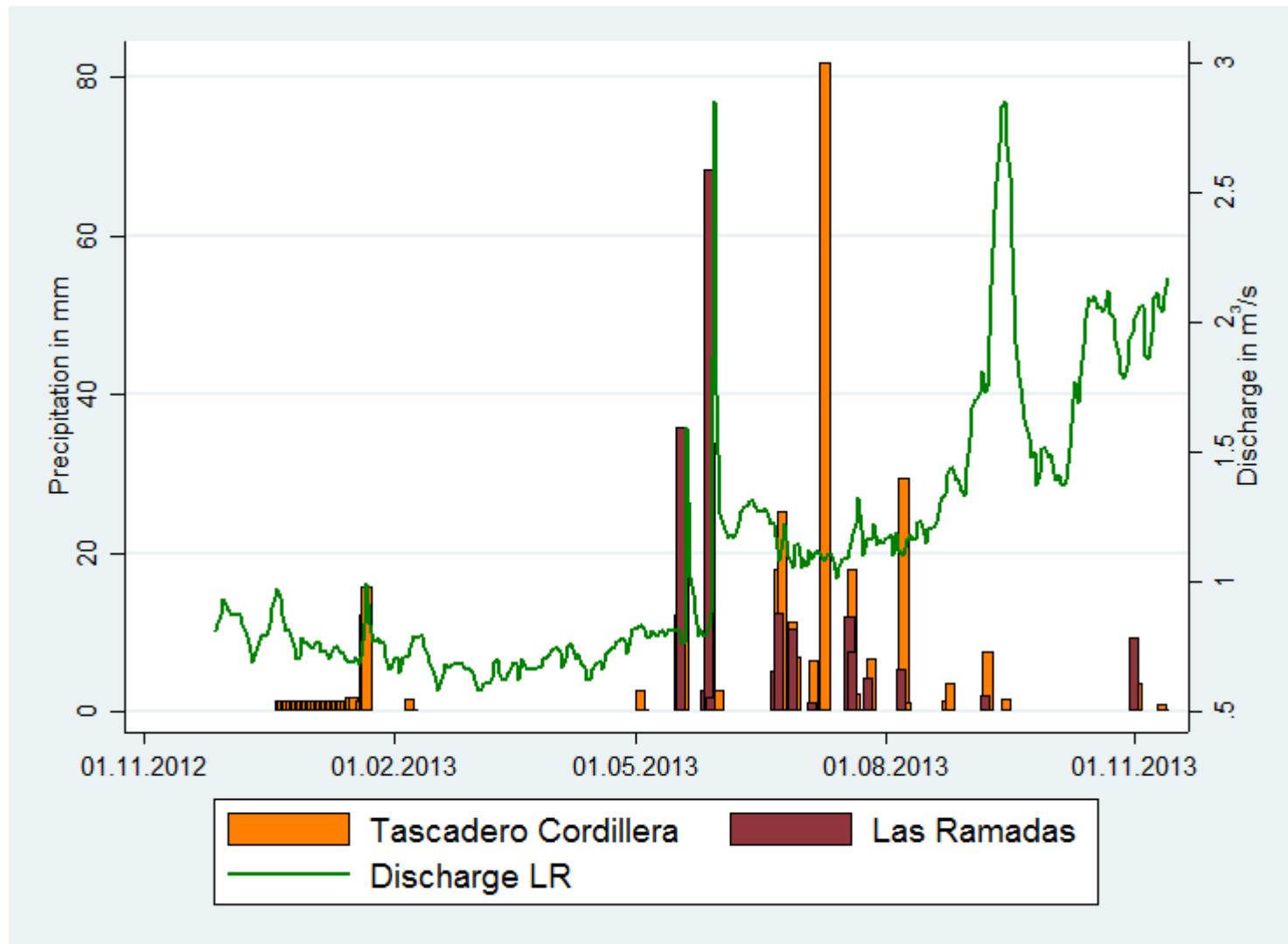


Figure 8: Precipitation recorded in the Cordillera (Tascadero station at 3500m) in 2013 compared to precipitation in Las Ramadas and discharge in Las Ramadas







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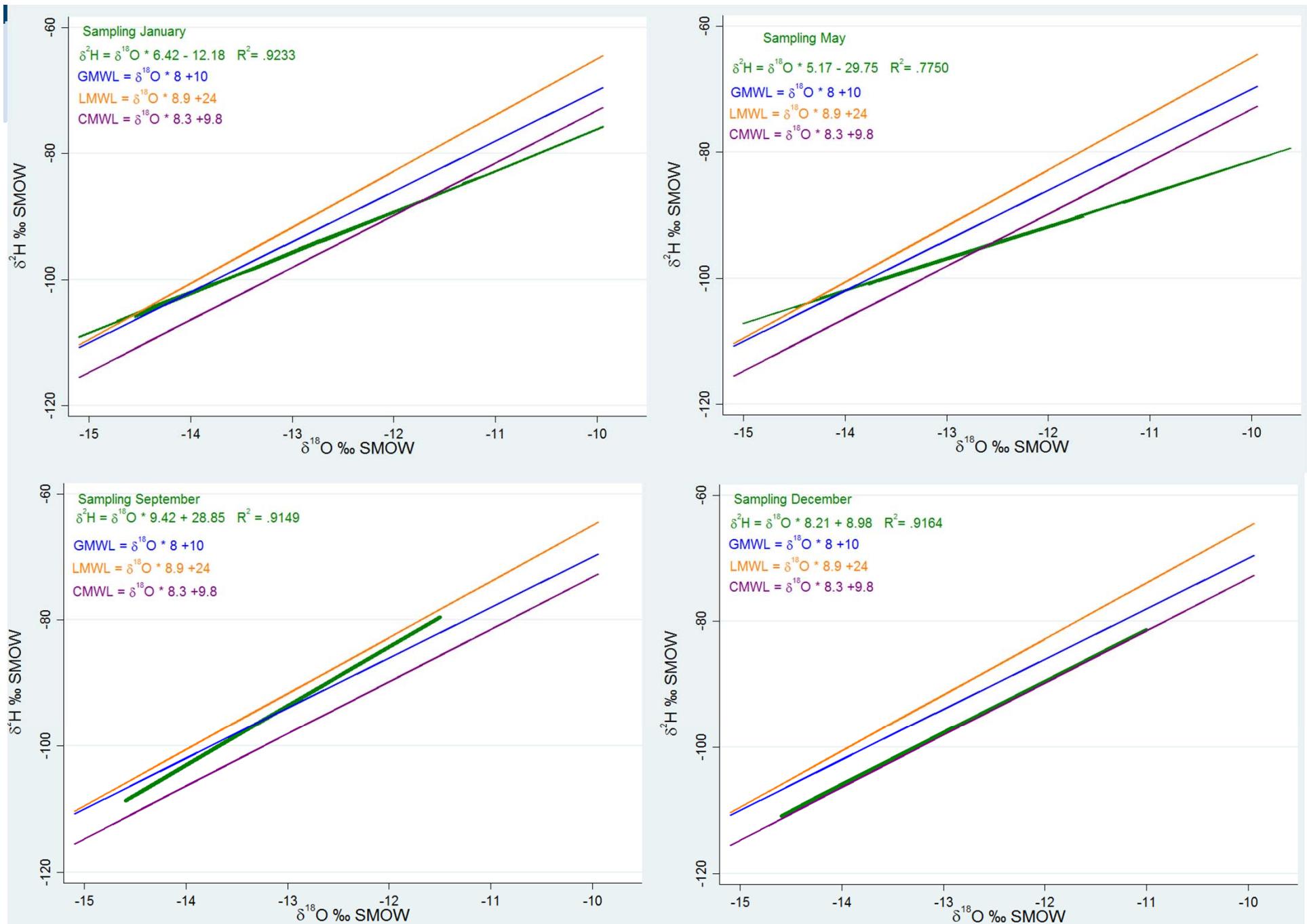
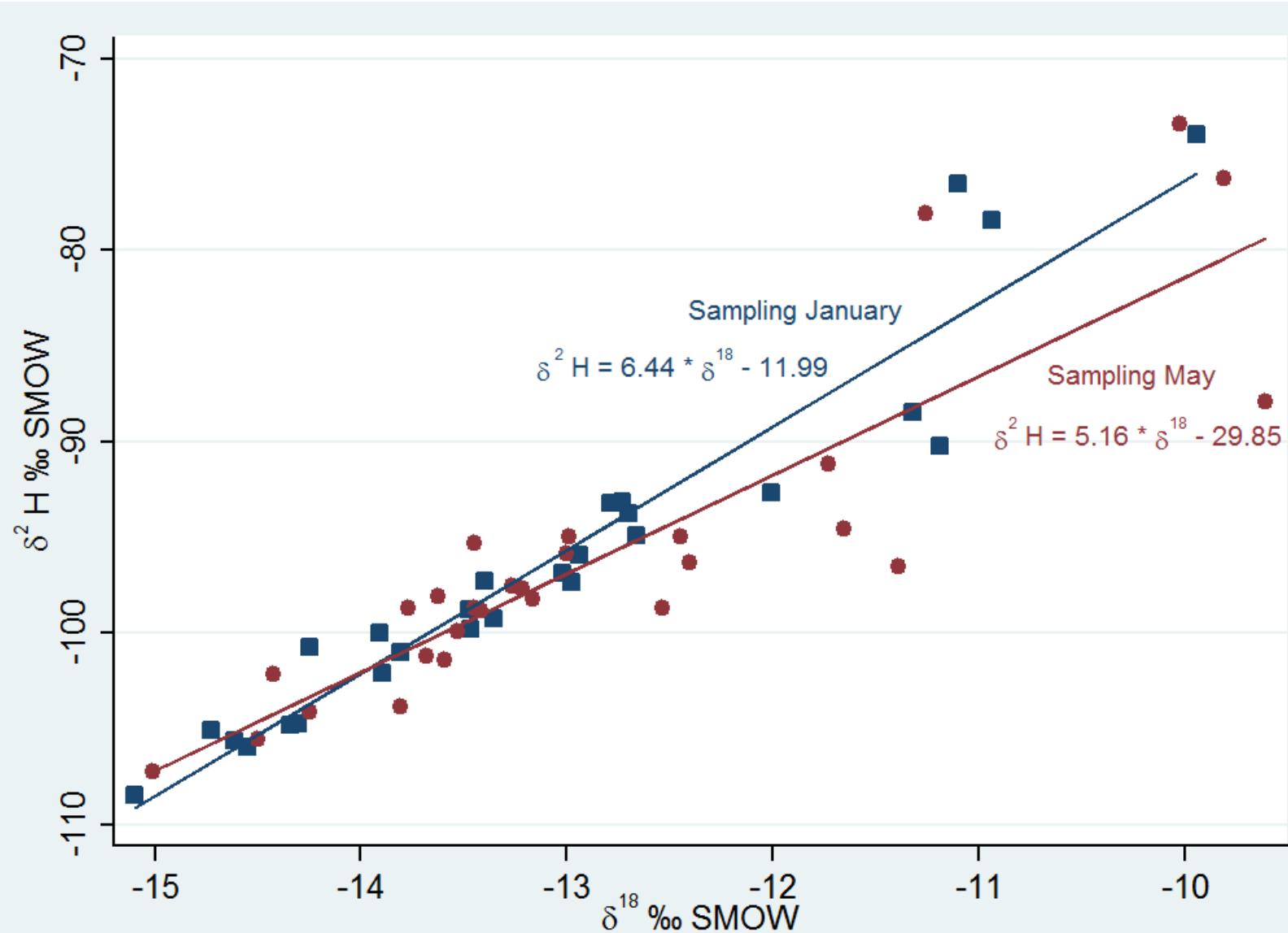


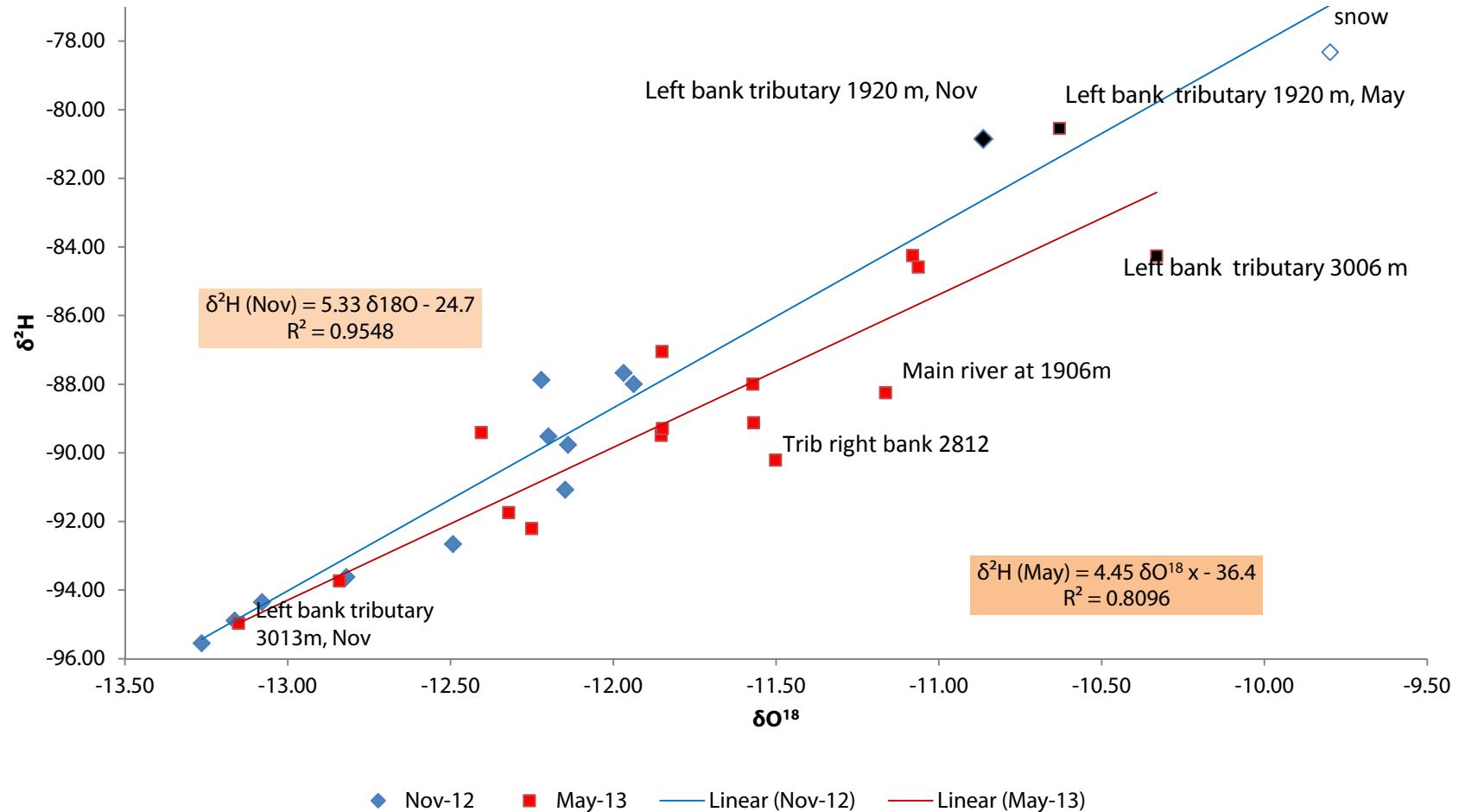
Figure 3: Comparison of the sampling regression lines in Rio Grande in summer and autumn with relevant meteoric water lines: the Global Meteoric Water Line $\delta^2\text{H}=8*\delta^{18}\text{O}+10$, the Chilean Meteoric Water Line: $\delta^2\text{H}=8.3*\delta^{18}\text{O}+9.8$ (Spangenberg et.al., 2007) and a Local meteoric Water Line $\delta^2\text{H}=8.9*\delta^{18}\text{O}+24$ for the lower part of the Limarí basin (calculated by

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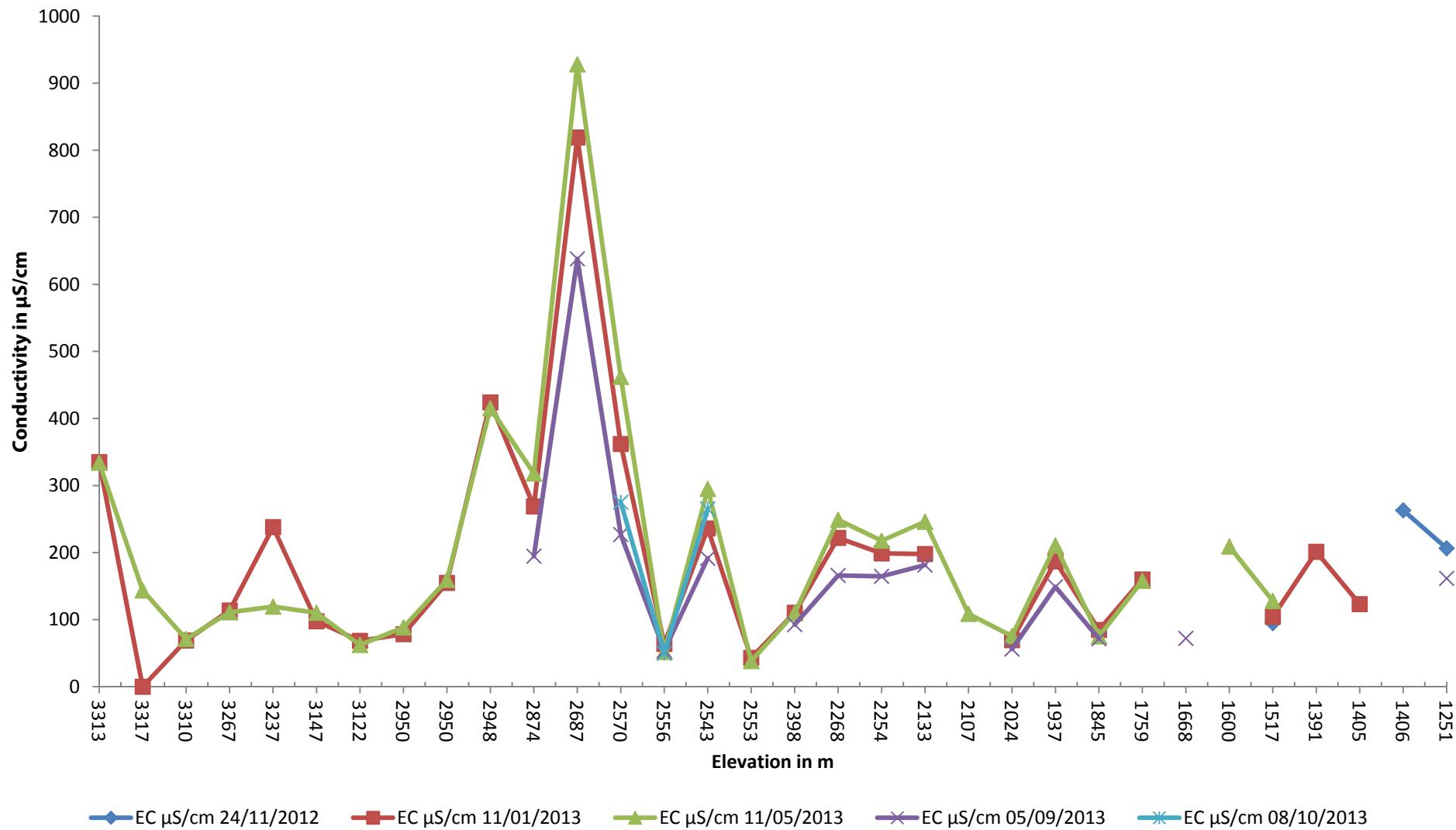
$\delta^{18}\text{O \%}$ values against 2H in Rio Grande, January 2013 + May 2013

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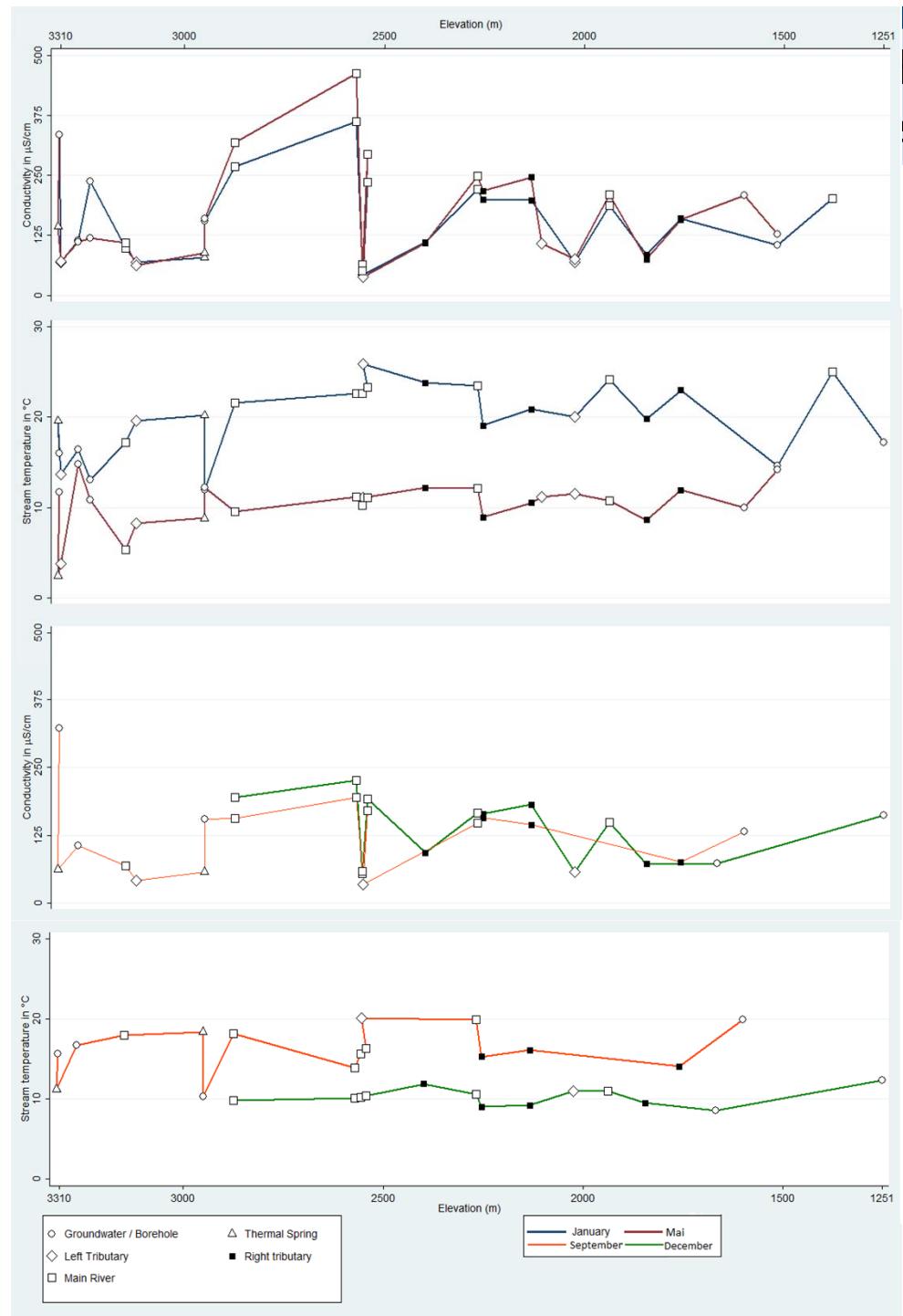


$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ % values against $\delta^2\text{H}$ in Tascadero, November 2012 (spring) + May 2013 (autumn)

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Seasonal Conductivity measurements against elevation



high elevation Andean catchments to
variability and change

Figure: Variation of conductivity and stream temperature values, thermal spring values were excluded from the graph

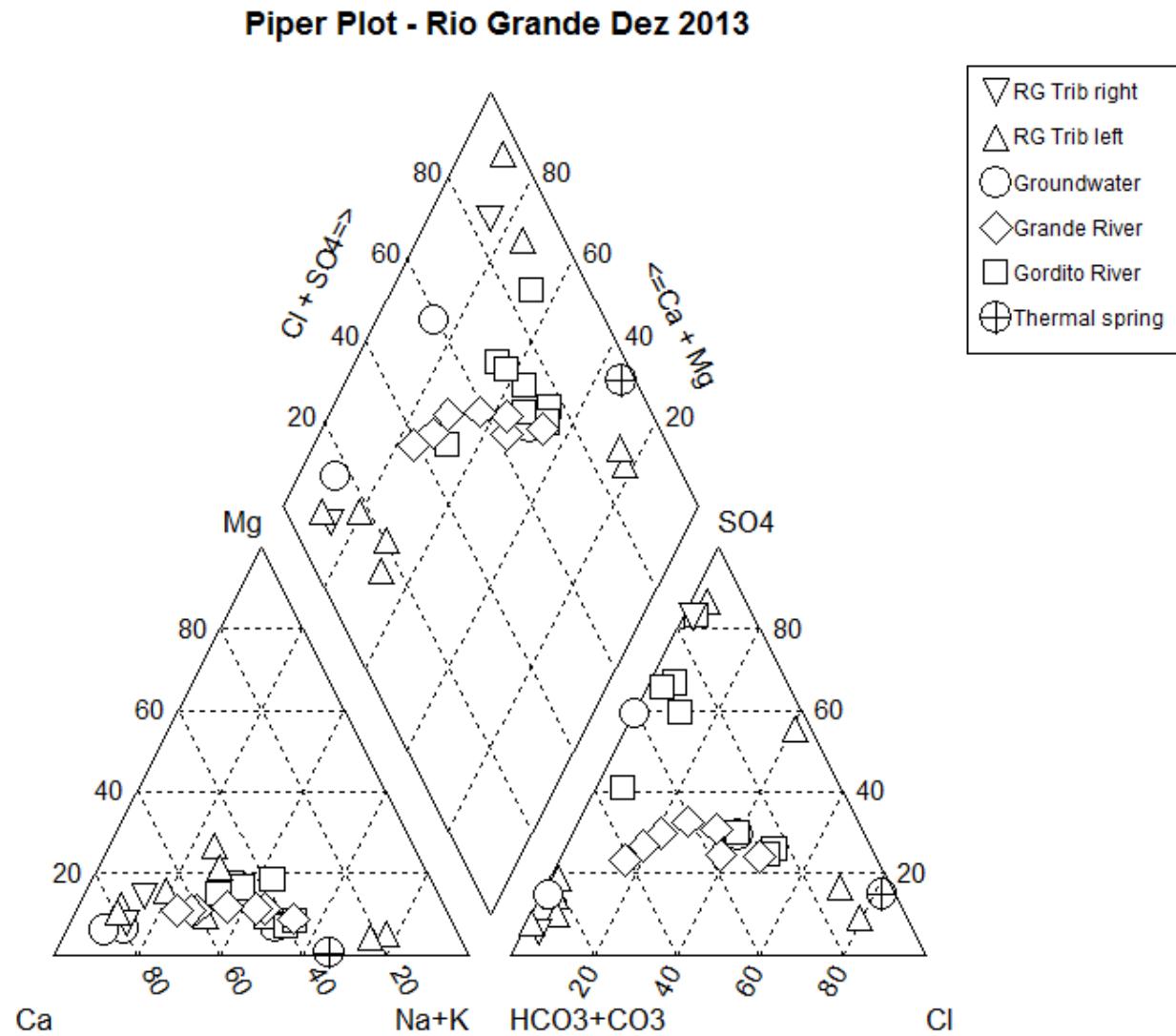


Figure Piper plot showing the distribution of anions and cations in the December water samples of the Grande catchment.

- (1) low mineralized calcium-sulfate and bicarbonate dominated streams at the headwaters, showing a strong relationship to precipitation and snow melt;
- (2) main rivers with a moderate level of mineral contents, showing rock weathering as predominant effect and various ion species as majority;
- (3) groundwater-fed boreholes as well as tributaries with high ion contents and varying hydrochemistry and origin;
- (4) chloride waters of a hot spring with very high mineral contents.



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Assessment of runoff generation from high elevation Andean catchments to



Assessments
predict w

ments to



Resultados:

- Isótopos estables en agua superficial demuestran un efecto fuerte altitudinal con enriquecimiento en la ratio de $\delta^2\text{H}$ y $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ aguas abajo indicando que tienen su origen en flujo subterráneo de recarga de nieve intraanual
- Variación espacial en isótopos está reducida en Septiembre, periodo de derretimiento gracias a más influencia nival
- Conductividad eléctrica y concentraciones de mayores iones y cationes indican que no hay contribuciones de agua subterránea más mineralizada al caudal

Demanda de investigación

- Llevar a cabo muestreos estacionales con alta resolución temporal (cada hora) en puntos relevantes
- Medir caudal y conductividad en (+ antes y después) los afluentes relevantes con más frecuencia y en algunos puntos observar la evolución del caudal durante el día
- Observar nivel de agua subterránea en puntos clave y medir conductividad + muestras de isótopos
- Analizar isotopos radioactivos como de tritio x carbono

Follow up:

- Tracer (salts) induction on the Argentinian side of the Cordillera and continuous conductivity measurements in the main stream on the Chilean side would
- The assessment of groundwater age and residence time needs to be further assessed by taking and analyzing ^{13}C samples (short-term due to the seasonal variation and long-term due to the distinction between Holocene and Pleistocene groundwater)
- Additional continuous temperature measurements could be carried out at high altitudes with simple temperature sensors storing the data in data loggers at several elevation points of the Rio Grande catchments.



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Isotope	Symbol	Protons	Neutrons	Atomic weight	Abundance %
Hydrogen	H	1	0	1	99.984
Deuterium	^2H , D	1	1	2	0.016
Tritium	^3H , T	1	2	3	0.00005
Oxygen 16	^{16}O	8	8	16	99.76
Oxygen 17	^{17}O	8	9	17	0.04
Oxygen 18	^{18}O	8	10	18	0.20

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^2H and ^{18}O are the 'rare' fractions.

They are expressed as a ratio of the 'abundant' fraction,
e.g. $R = [^{18}\text{O}] / [^{16}\text{O}]$

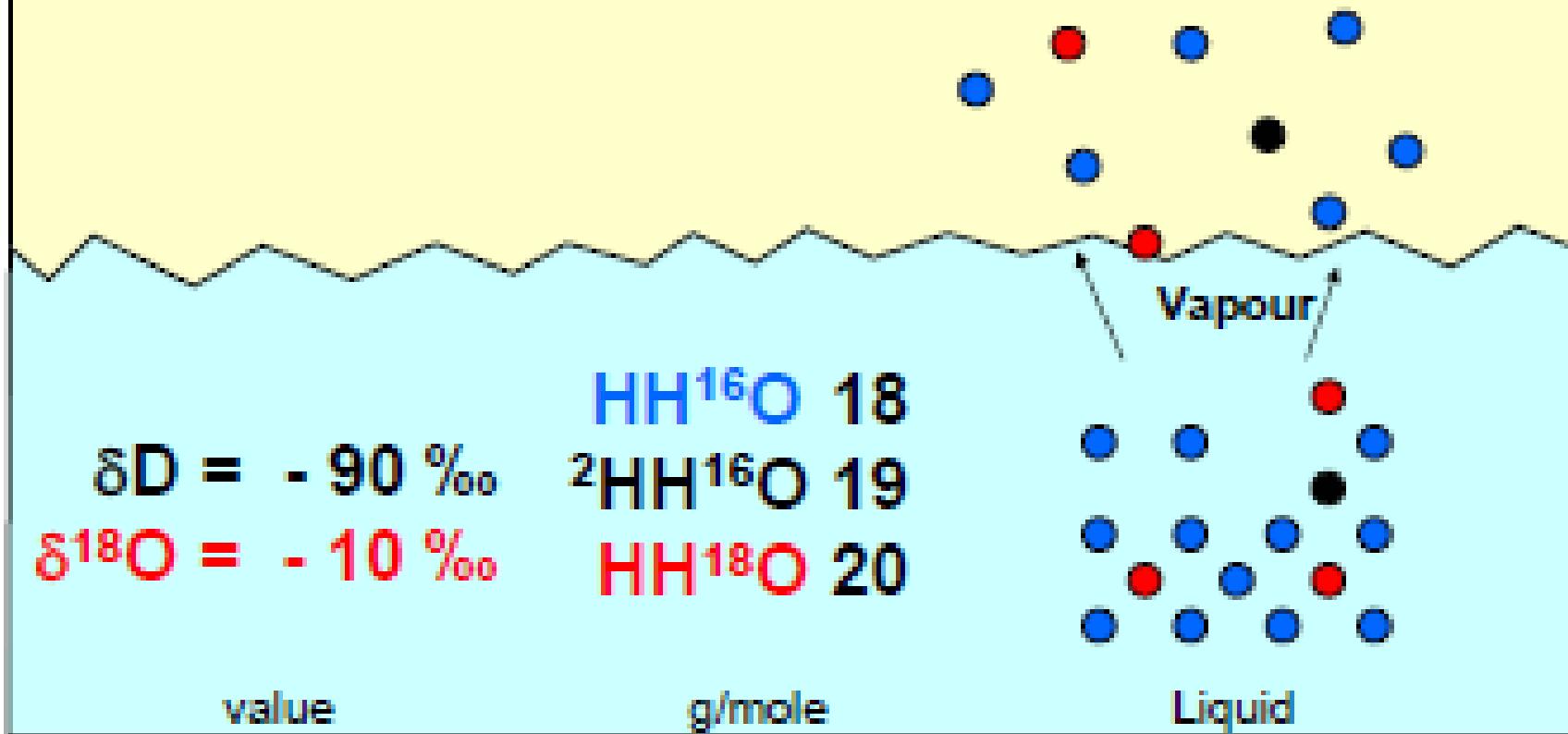
They are measured and also expressed relative to a standard (e.g. SMOW, Stand Mean Ocean Water)

They are also expressed in per mil, ‰

$$\delta^{18}\text{O} \text{ ‰} = \frac{(^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{sample}} - (^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{SMOW}}}{(^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{SMOW}}} \times 1000$$

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Liquid becomes enriched in heavy isotopes
Vapour becomes depleted in heavy isotopes



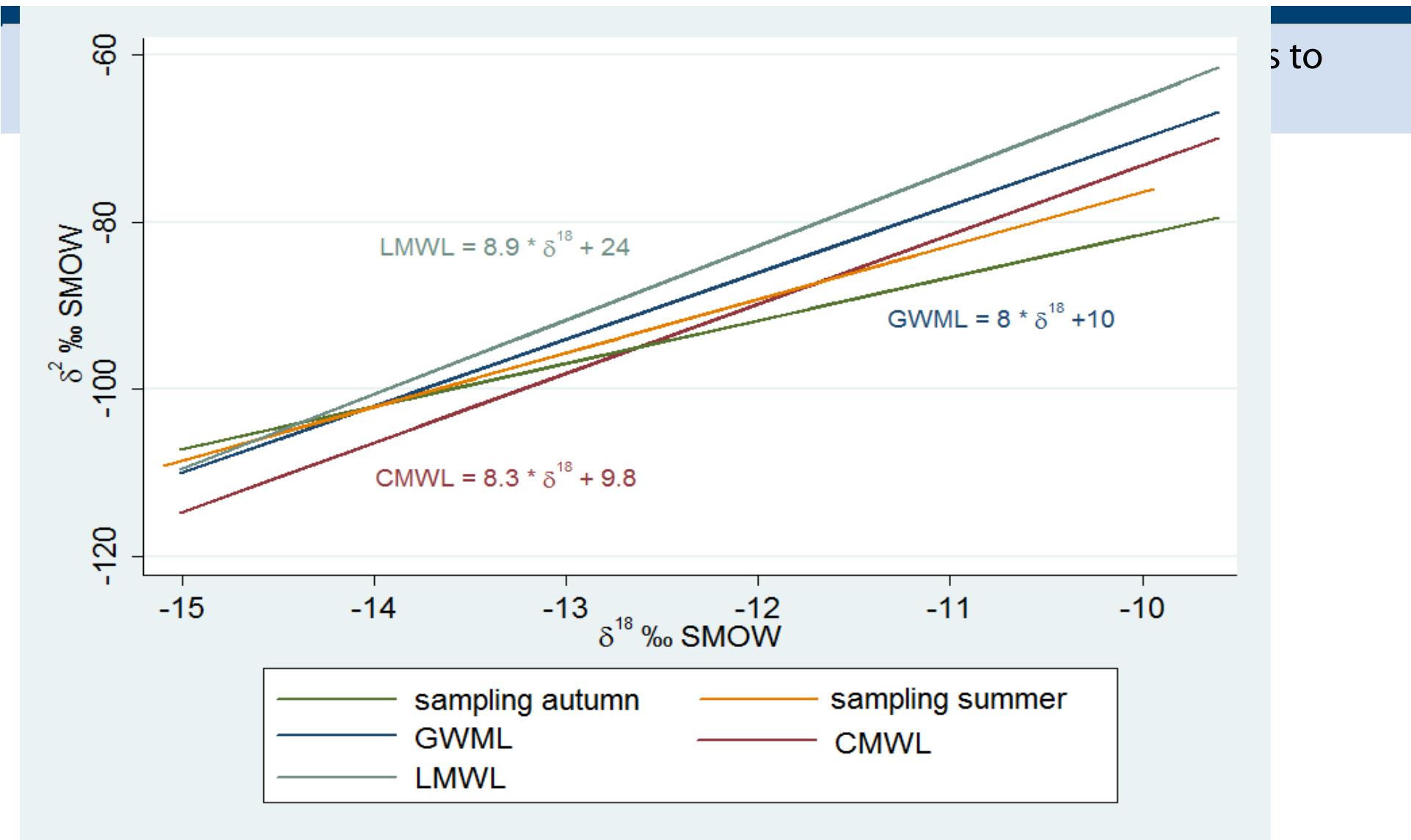


Figure 11: comparison of two sampling regression lines in rio Grande in summer and autumn with relevant meteoric water lines: the Global Meteoric Water Line $\delta^2\text{H}=8*\delta^{18}\text{O}+10$, the Chilean Meteoric Water Line: $\delta^2\text{H}=8.3*\delta^{18}\text{O}+9.8$ (Spangenberg et.al., 2007) and a Local meteoric Water Line $\delta^2\text{H}=8.9*\delta^{18}\text{O}+24$ for the lower part of the Limarí basin (calculated by Barrera 2012 in the scope of a MSc thesis)