



Seasonal dynamics of greenhouse gases in a large river

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Fig. 1: Catchment of River Elbe with sampling sites Magdeburg and Wittenberge, Germany

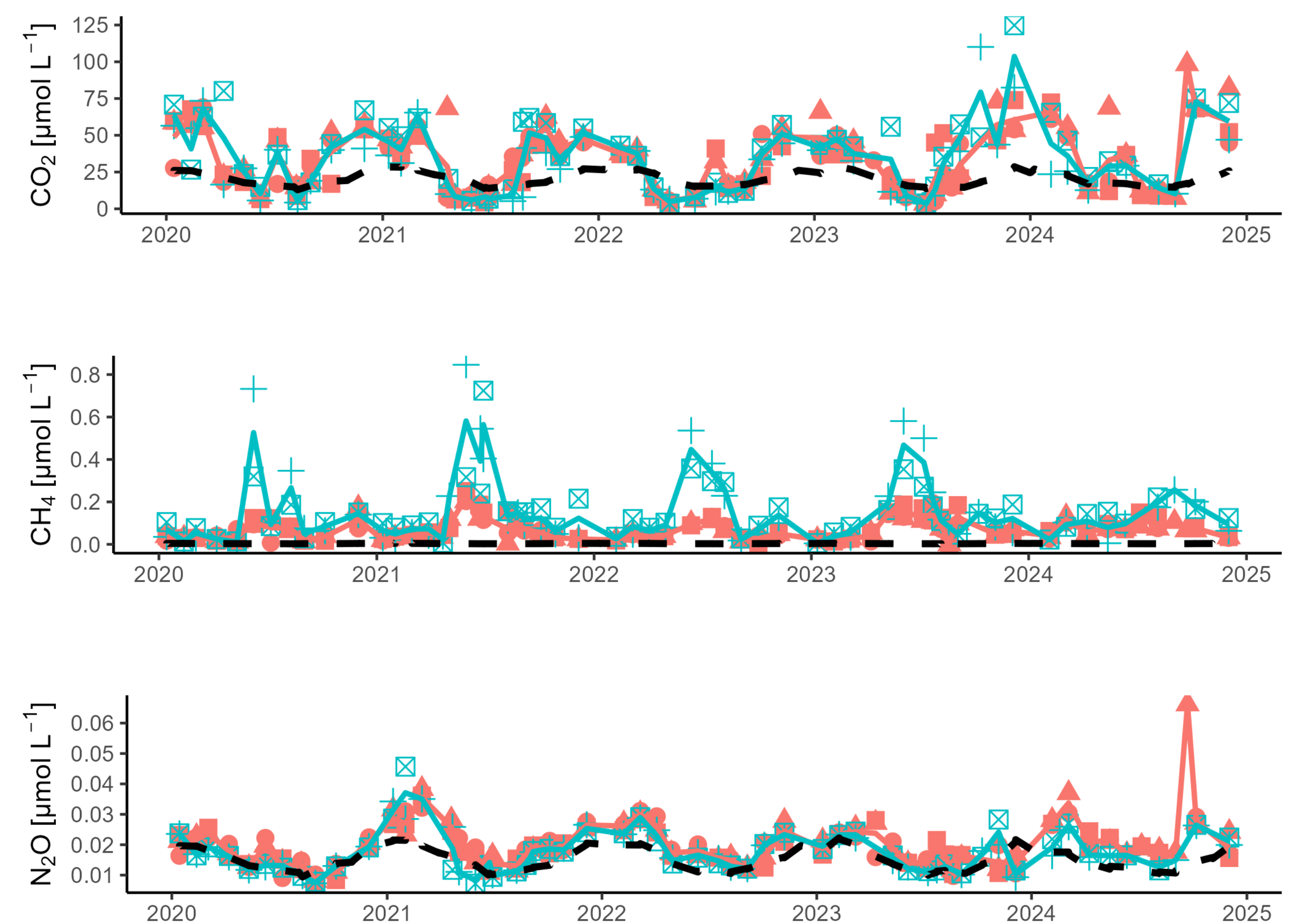


Fig. 2: Time series of GHG concentrations at Magdeburg (orange) and Wittenberge (green). Dotted lines indicate atmospheric equilibrium concentrations.

Material & Methods

- Monthly sampling from bridges, 2020 -2024
- CO₂, CH₄, N₂O with gas chromatography
- Meteorological data from DWD
- Water chemical with standard methods
- Ensemble model Gradient Boosting (GB)

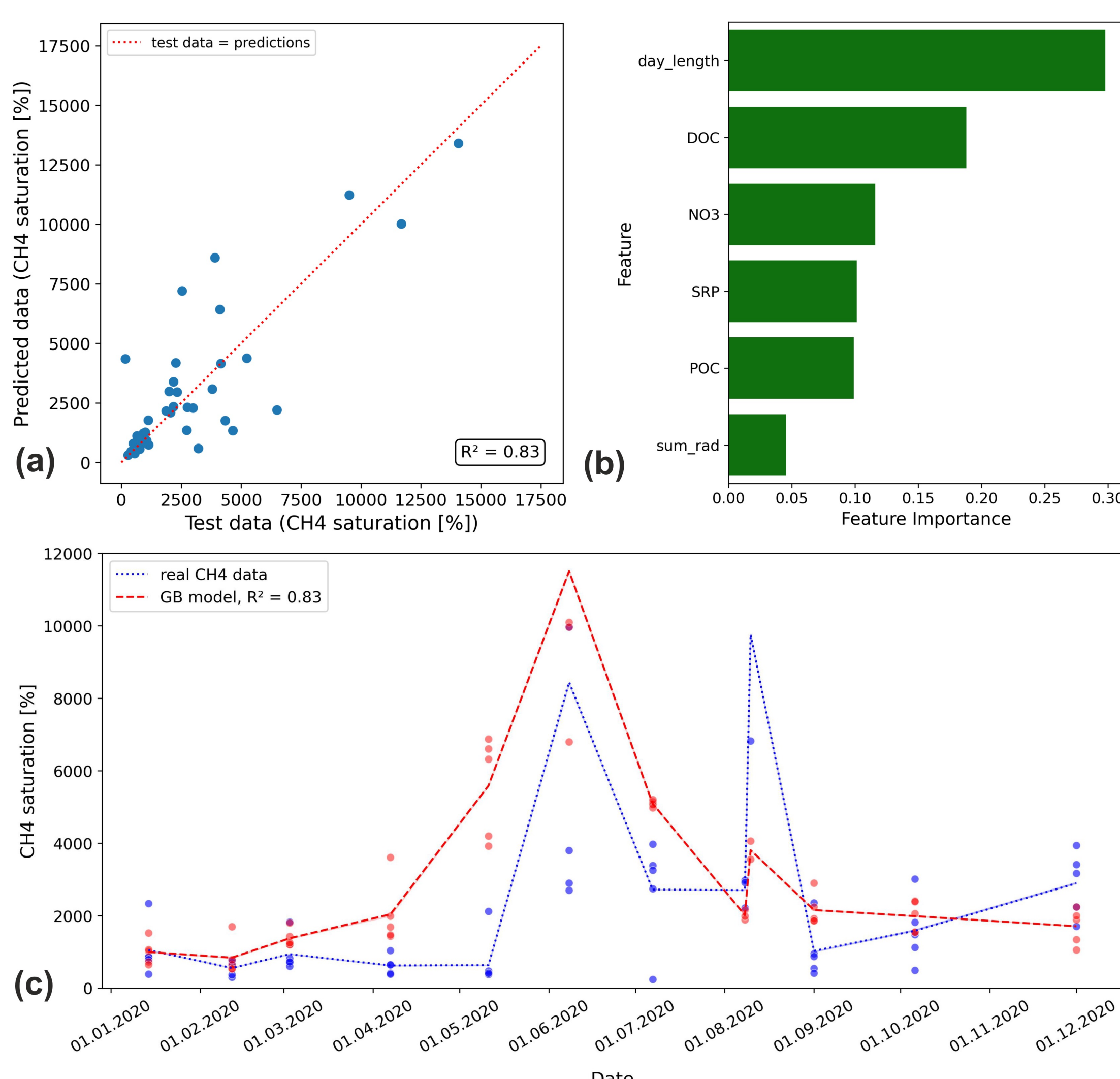


Fig 3: Gradient Boosting ensemble model to predict the CH₄ saturation. (a) Comparison of 2020 test data with predicted data ($R^2=0.83$). (b) Feature Importance analysis with most important variables for CH₄ prediction: daylight hours, DOC, SRP, NO₃⁻, POC and daily radiation sum. (c) Comparison of measured and predicted data in 2020 with $R^2 > 0.83$.

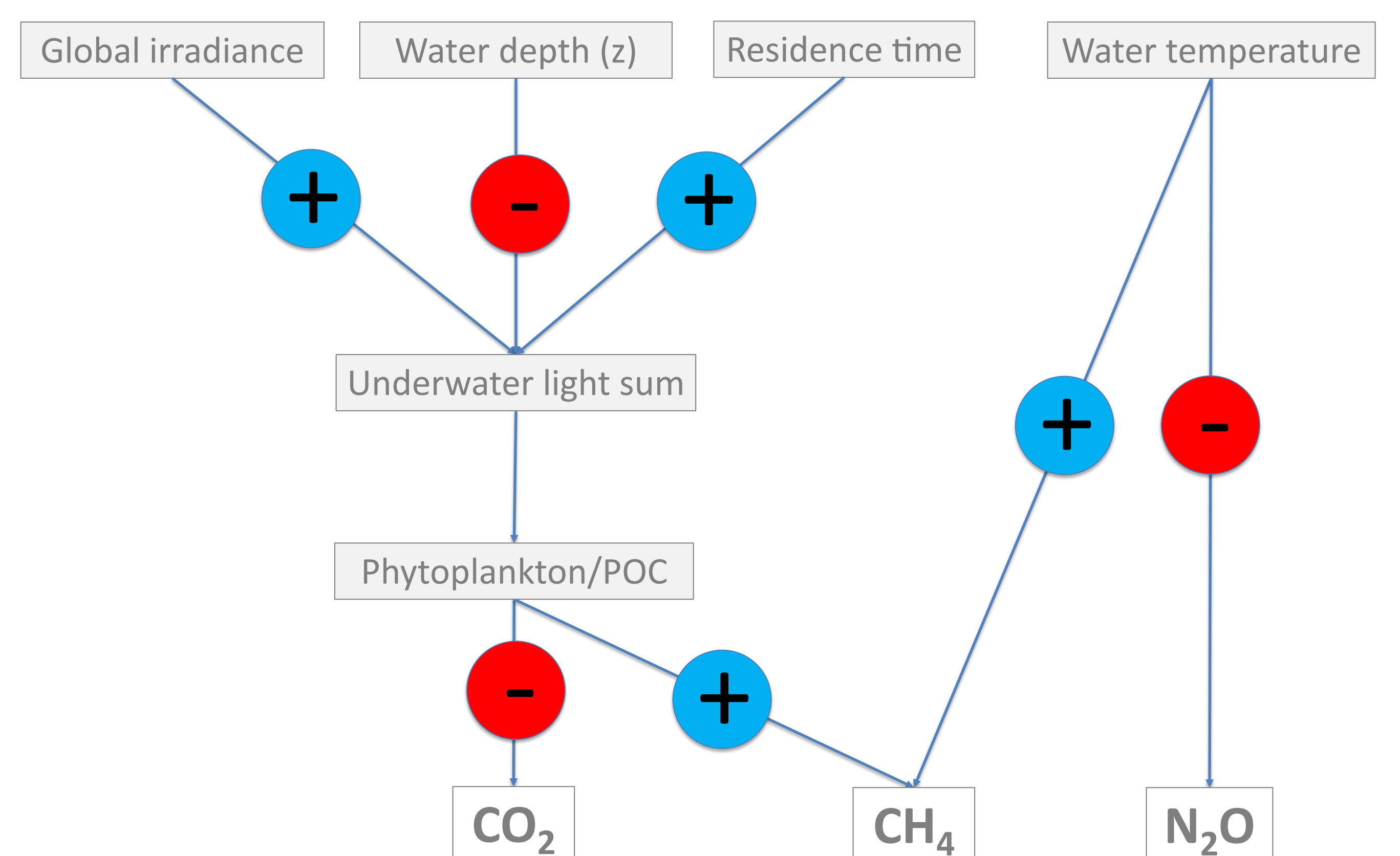


Fig 4: Summary of main correlations

Conclusions

- CO₂ follows a seasonal cycle **with a summer minimum** controlled by primary production
- CH₄ follows also a seasonal cycle but **with a summer maximum** controlled by temperature
- N₂O is mainly solubility and temperature driven
- The GB model predicted GHG with high precision
 - => fill data gaps,
 - => reconstruct historical or future emissions
 - => scalable, data-driven approaches for GHG monitoring