

# Response of lake features to climate and nutrient forcing



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The main objective of my thesis is to analyse changes in lake physics and biology of Müggelsee (Berlin) and to relate these to long-term changes in the weather. Within the last 25 years Müggelsee has experienced considerable changes in lake catchment (nutrient loading) and climate. This study is part of the EU-project CLIME that provides strategic support for the Water Framework Directive and develops new tools for managing lakes and catchments in a warmer world.

# Lake physics: Long-term change in daily lake surface temperature

# State of the art Lake surface (epilimnion) Daily temperature cycle in summer 6:00 12:00 18:00

## World-wide phenomenon:

Asymmetric long-term increase in daily air temperature extrema followed by a decrease in daily temperature range (DTR)

Impact of nocturnal warming on terrestrial biota already evidenced!

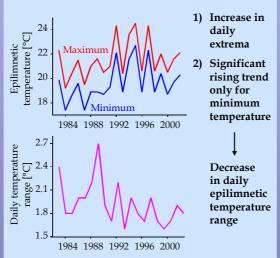
Change in epilimnetic daily temperature range?

Advantage at Müggelsee:



- 20 years of hourly data
- Automatic measuring station

# Long-term data of Müggelsee

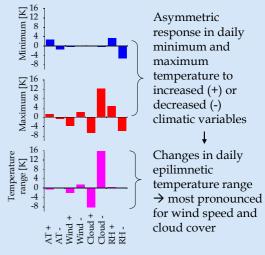


Change in epilimnetic temperature range in response to an asymmetric warming in epilimnetic extrema!

### Possible causes:

Change in meteorological variables; e.g. air temperature, wind speed, cloud cover and/or relative humidity

# Sensitivity analysis of climatic variables on modelled lake temperature



### Müggelsee 1983-2003 - observed changes:

Long-term increases (+) in air temperature, wind speed and cloud cover

→ These changes in climate promoted a decrease in epilimnetic daily temperature range!

Impact of nocturnal warming in lakes!?

# Lake biology: Long-term change in the abundance of *Dreissena polymorpha* larvae

## State of the art

Dreissena polymorpha (zebra mussel)

neozoon and

pest species

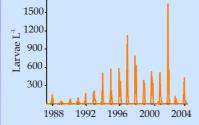


### Main impacts of adult mussels on lakes:

Displacement of native benthic species and changes in pelagic and benthic species composition

Little is known about the influence of the pelagic larvae on lake ecosystems!

# Long-term data of Müggelsee

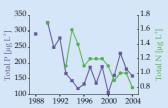


Drastic increase in larval abundance beginning in the mid 90's

#### Possible causes:

- · Increase in adult mussels or spawning
- Decrease in competitors or predators of larvae
- · Change in habitat quality (climate, nutrients, prey)

# Pelagic phase [weeks] 12 1988 1992 1996 2000 2004



Prolongation of larval pelagic phase in response to higher water temperatures

Increase in habitat quality supports larval survival

### **Nutrients**

Increase in prey availability due to less eutrophic conditions