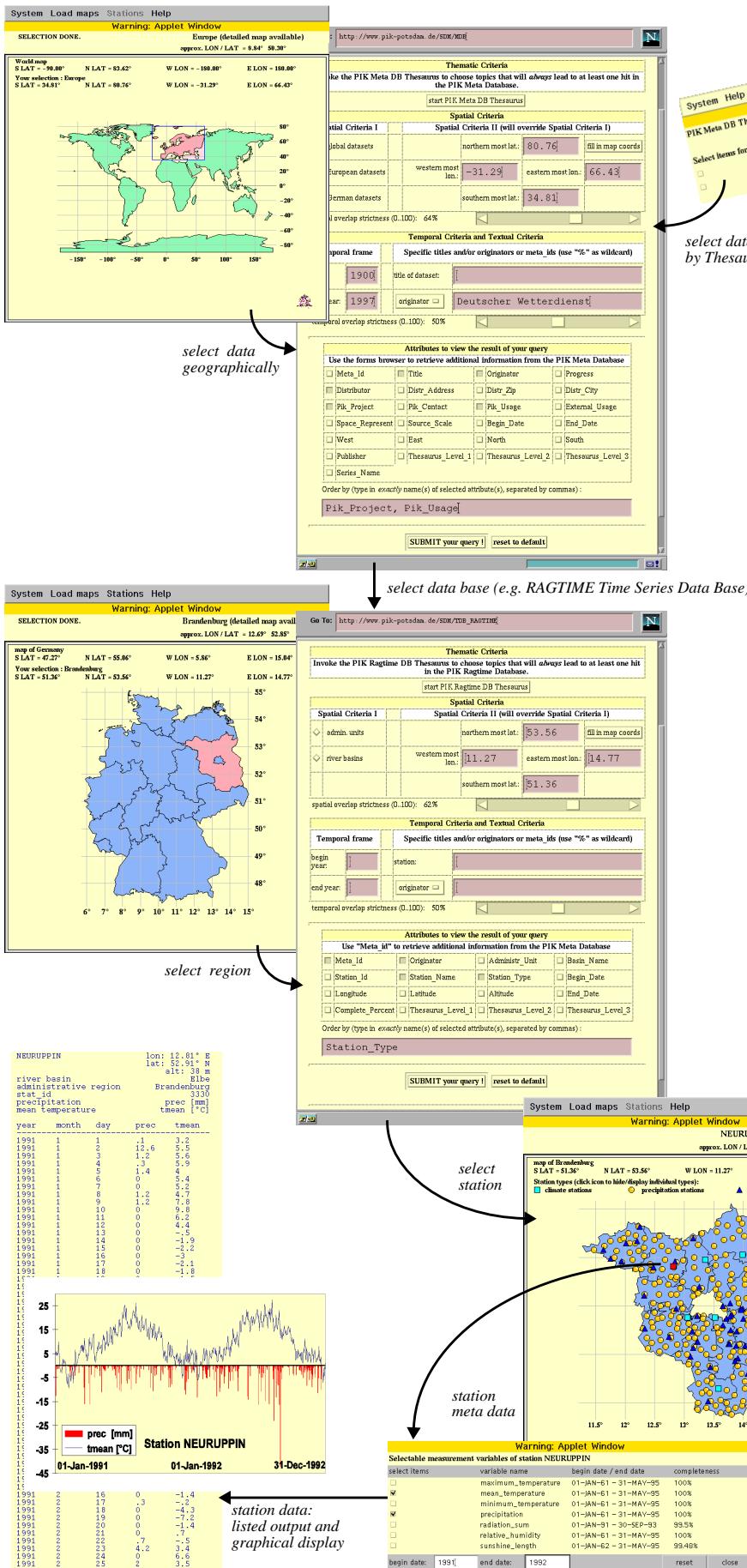


**SDM - Scientific Data Management**

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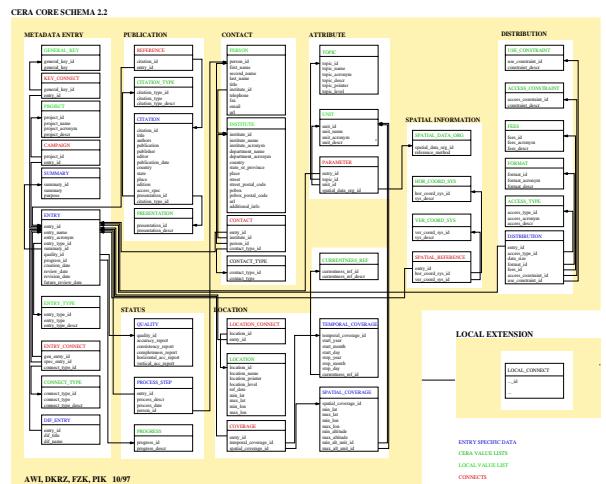


The exploration of the earth has lead to a tremendous increase of spatial data. As they are highly inhomogeneous, it is impossible to build-up a consistent common data model.

There is vital necessity for a coordinated construction of a network accessible meta data base (MDB) to store information about the available data. Scientists shall be able to retrieve the underlying data directly, independent of its physical location.

## The Meta Data Base

The MDB is a relational Oracle™ data base, consisting of 40 tables. A new database structure was developed in close collaboration with the Deutsches Klimarechenzentrum (DKRZ), Alfred-Wegener-Institut (AWI), and Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe (FZK). It is based on the Cli-



mate and Environmental Data Retrieval and Archiving System (CERA), already in use at the DKRZ. The MDB is accessible via Oracle tools and SQL requests that can be forwarded to the server by a WorldWideWeb graphical user interface (GUI).

## The Graphical User Interface

To make retrieval of spatial data from the MDB and PIK Time Series Data Bases (TDB) easier, an interactive JAVA webtool has been developed. It allows navigation and selection in hierarchical geographical regions such as administrative areas or river basins. Other structures can be implemented, free selection is possible.

## Prospects

After the completion of the table structure's core part (coreCERA Scheme) the development of modular table groups is planned. Information about storage, data structure, and other parameters of the data has to be kept in the Meta Data Base.

The MDBs of several partner institutes (DKRZ, AWI, etc.) will be coupled to allow mutual meta data access.

Data browsing display for data selected in the MDB (where adequate) as well as direct data access will be possible.