

Reactive Transport in the Hydrosphere

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Solving reaction-transport equation using the R-package **ReactTran**

Ingredients of a reaction-transport model

1. Conceptual diagram
2. Mass balances
3. Transport flux
4. Reaction-transport equation
5. Effects of porosity
6. Multi-component models
7. Boundary conditions

```
Diamodel <- function (t, Conc, pars)
{
  with (as.list(pars),{

    # unpack state variables
    POC <- Conc[ 1 : N ]      # fi
    DIC <- Conc[(N+1):(2*N)]  # ne

    # transport - note: zero gradient

    # particulate substances, VF = s
    tran.POC <- tran.1D(C = POC, flux
                        dx = Grid, VI
                        D = biot, v =

    # === reaction rates ===
    # POC mineralisation
    Mineralisation <- rMin * POC
```



“Skeleton” of a ReacTran R-code

ReacTran functions:

1. Define spatial **grid** and model **parameters**

`setup.grid.1D`

`setup.prop.1D`

2. Define and initialize **state variables**

`state <- c(. . .)`

3. Define **model function** (transport and reaction terms, time-derivatives)

`tran.1D`

`dA.dt <- ...`

4. Calculate and display model **results**

`steady.1D`

`ode.1D`

`plot`

`image`

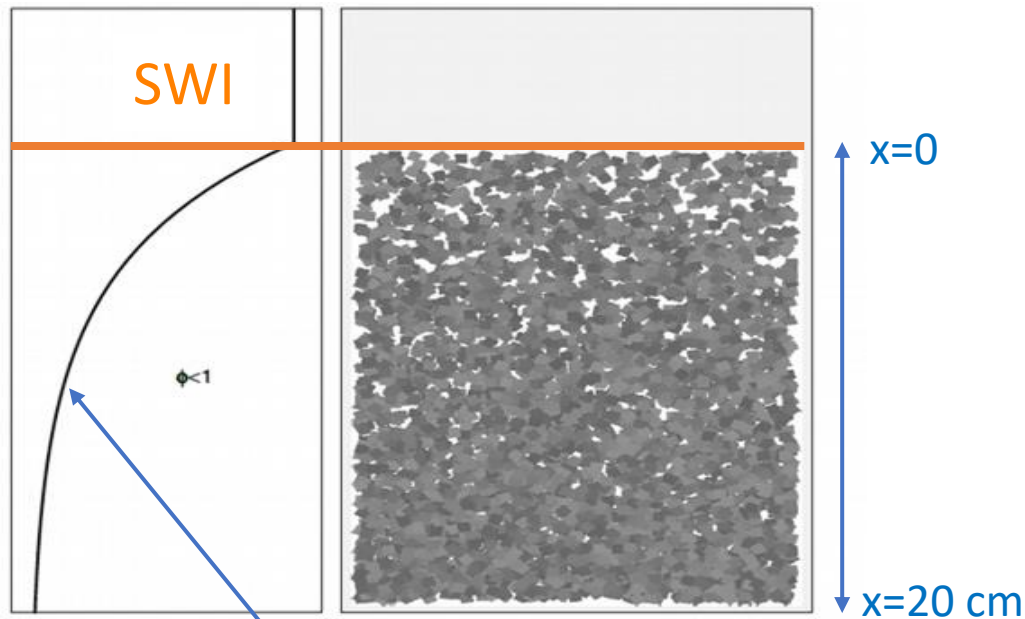
5. Check **mass balances** and make **budget**



Step 1:

Problem definition

- Particulate organic carbon **mineralization** in sediments: **POC** → **DIC**



State variables:

POC (mol C m_s^{-3})

DIC (mol C m_L^{-3})

Domain:

Space: 0 – 20 cm

Time: days

$$\phi = 0.7 + 0.2 \cdot e^{-1 \cdot x}$$



Step 2: Rate expressions and mass balances

- POC **mineralization** is first-order process, and the only reaction

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Mineralisation} = r_{Min} \cdot [POC] \\ \uparrow \\ (\text{mol C m}_s^{-3} \text{ d}^{-1}) \end{array} \quad r_{Min} = 0.01 \text{ d}^{-1}$$

- Mass balance equations:

$$\frac{d[POC]}{dt} = -\text{Mineralisation} + \text{tran}_{POC} \quad \checkmark \quad (\text{mol C m}_s^{-3} \text{ d}^{-1})$$

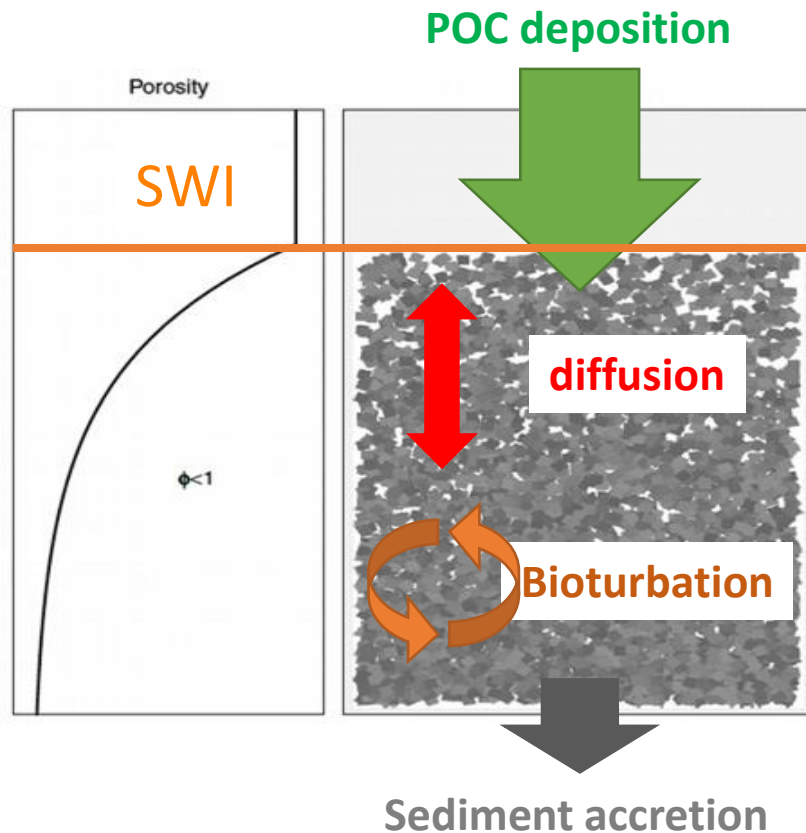
$$\frac{d[DIC]}{dt} = \text{Mineralisation} \cdot \frac{1 - \phi}{\phi} + \text{tran}_{DIC} \quad \checkmark \quad (\text{mol C m}_L^{-3} \text{ d}^{-1})$$



Step 3:

Environmental settings

- Transport processes and boundary conditions



$$DEPO_{POC} = 100 \text{ mmol C cm}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$$

$$DIC_{SWI} = 2000 \text{ nmol C cm}_L^{-3}$$

$$D_{mol}(DIC) = 0.98 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1} \\ \approx 0.85 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ d}^{-1}$$

$$D_{bio} = 5 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ yr}^{-1} \approx 0.0137 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ d}^{-1}$$

$$v = 0.005 \text{ cm d}^{-1} \approx 1.8 \text{ cm yr}^{-1}$$

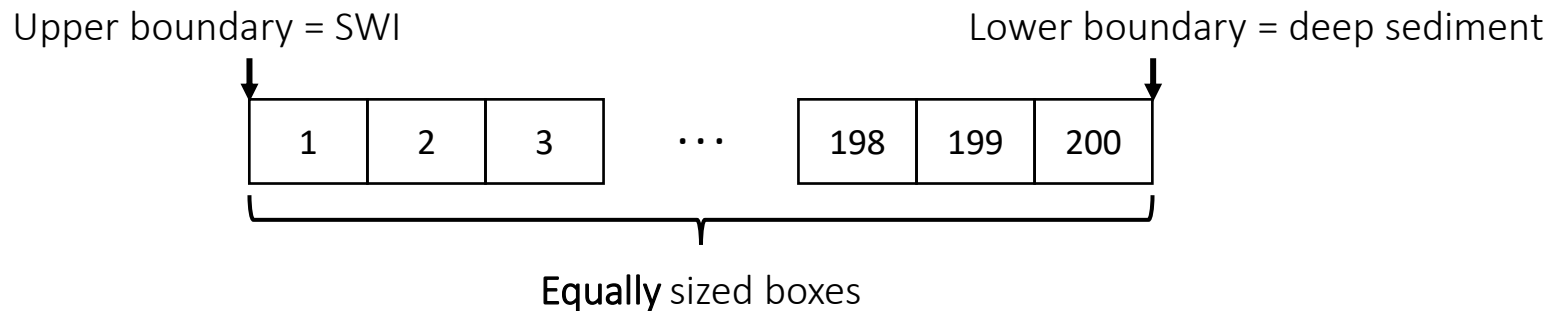
$$\text{temperature} = 20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}, \text{salinity} = 35$$



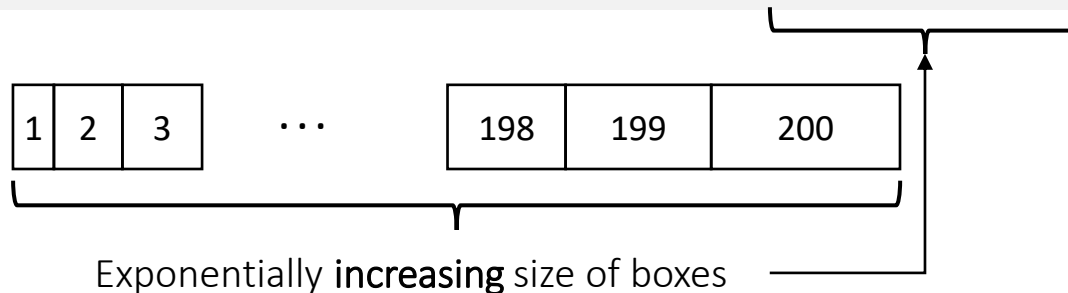
Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.1 Divide the spatial domain into a **grid**

```
Length <- 20  
N      <- 200  
  
Grid   <- setup.grid.1D(L = Length, N = N)
```



```
Grid   <- setup.grid.1D(L = Length, N = N, dx.1 = 0.05)
```



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.2 Define parameters on the grid

Porosity and solid volume fraction:

```
porFun.L <- function(x, por.SWI, por.deep, porcoef)
  return( por.deep + (por.SWI-por.deep)*exp(-x*porcoef) )

porFun.S <- function(x, por.SWI, por.deep, porcoef)
  return( 1-porFun.L(x, por.SWI, por.deep, porcoef) )
```

Evaluation on the grid:

```
porLiquid <- setup.prop.1D(func = porFun.L, grid = Grid,
  por.SWI = 0.9, por.deep = 0.7, porcoef = 1)

porSolid <- setup.prop.1D(func = porFun.S, grid = Grid,
  por.SWI = 0.9, por.deep = 0.7, porcoef = 1)
```



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.2 Define parameters on the grid

Diffusion coefficient at grid interfaces

```
diffHCO3 <- diffcoeff(S=35, t=20)$HCO3 * 3600*24*1e4
```

↑ ↑ ↑
salinity temperature species

Evaluation on the grid:

```
porInt <- porLiquid$int  
diffDIC <- diffHCO3 / (1-log(porInt^2))
```

porosity at grid interfaces

↑
tortuosity correction



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.3 Define model parameters that are **constant** throughout the spatial domain

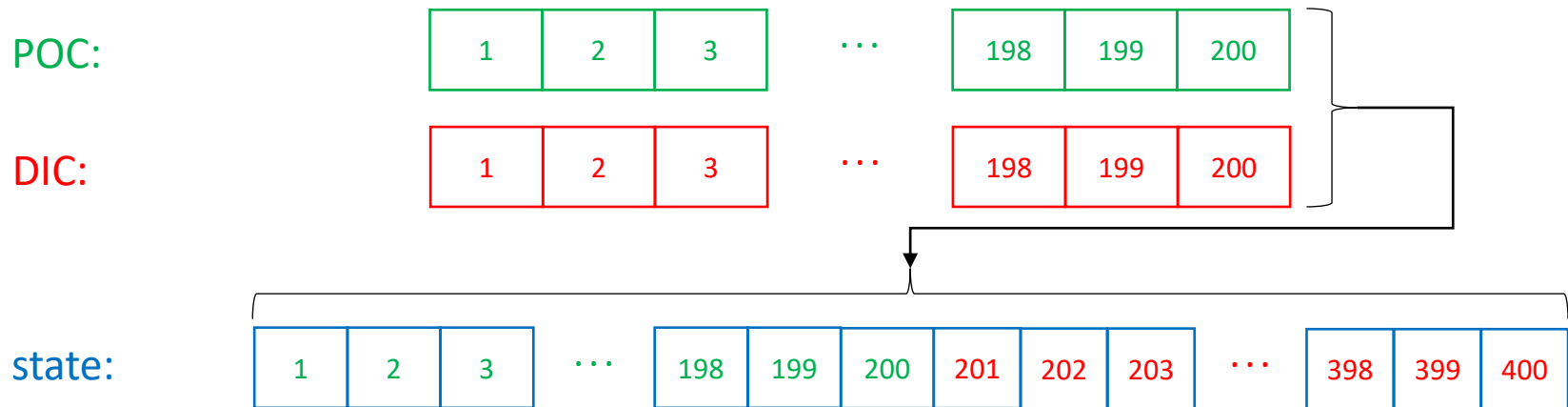
```
parms <- c(  
  Dbio      = 5/365,      # bioturbation mixing coefficient  
  v_adv     = 0.005,      # sediment advection velocity  
  rMin      = 0.01,      # POC mineralisation rate constant  
  depoPOC   = 100,      # POC deposition rate at SWI  
  bwDIC     = 2000       # DIC concentration at SWI  
)
```



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.4 Define and initialize the vector of state variables

```
names    <- c("POC", "DIC")
nspec    <- length(names)
POC.ini  <- rep(0, length = N)
DIC.ini  <- rep(0, length = N)
state    <- c(POC.ini, DIC.ini)
```



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.5 Define model function

```
Diamodel <- function (t, state, pars)
```

```
{
```

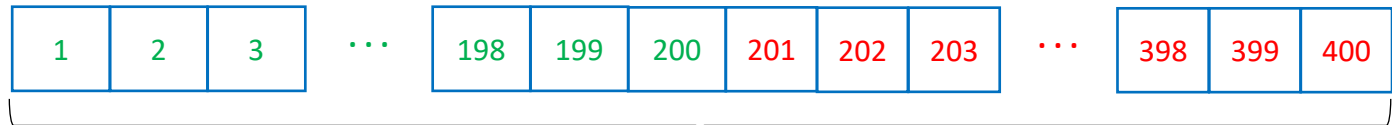
```
  with (as.list(pars), {
```

```
    POC <- state[ 1 : N ]
```

```
    DIC <- state[ (N+1) : (2*N) ]
```

“Extract” values of state variables from the input!

state:



POC:



DIC:



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.6 Calculate the **transport term** for each component

Condition at **upper** boundary

```
tran.POC <- tran.1D(C = POC, flux.up = depoPOC, dx = Grid,  
  VF = porSolid, D = Dbio, v = v_adv)
```

Volume fraction!
(1-porosity for POC)

Diffusion
coefficient

Advective
velocity

Condition at **upper** boundary

```
tran.DIC <- tran.1D(C = DIC, C.up = bwDIC, dx = Grid,  
  VF = porLiquid, D = diffDIC, v = v_adv)
```

Volume fraction!
(porosity for POC)

Diffusion
coefficient
(at grid interfaces!)

Advective
velocity

If not specified, boundary condition is $dC/dx = 0$ by default!



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.7 Calculate **process rates**

```
Mineralisation <- rMin * POC
```

\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow
 $\text{mol C m}_s^{-3} \text{ d}^{-1}$ d^{-1} mol C m_s^{-3}

...

More rate expressions if more processes!



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.8 Calculate **time-derivative** for each state variable: $dC/dt = \text{transport} + \text{reaction}$

```
dPOC.dt <- tran.POC$dC - Mineralisation
```

\uparrow
 $\text{mol C m}_s^{-3} \text{ d}^{-1}$ Transport term Net reaction term

Porosity values in the **middle** of grid boxes

\downarrow
`poro <- porLiquid$mid`

```
dDIC.dt <- tran.DIC$dC + Mineralisation * (1-poro) / poro
```

\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow
 $\text{mol C m}_L^{-3} \text{ d}^{-1}$ Transport term Net reaction term converted to correct units!!



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.9 Output **time-derivatives** combined into one long vector

```
return(list(c(dPOC.dt, dDIC.dt)))
```

Order must be consistent with the “extraction” step in the **beginning** of the model function!!

```
POC <- state[ 1 : N ]  
DIC <- state[(N+1) : (2*N) ]
```



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.10 Output **additional** variables

```
return(list(c(dPOC.dt, dDIC.dt) ,  
            Mineralisation = Mineralisation ,  
            TotalMin       = sum(Mineralisation*Grid$dx*porSolid$mid) ,  
            DIC.SWI.Flux   = tran.DIC$flux.up ,  
            DIC.Deep.Flux  = tran.DIC$flux.down ,  
            POC.SWI.Flux   = tran.POC$flux.up ,  
            POC.Deep.Flux  = tran.POC$flux.down  
))
```

Depth-profile of the process rate

Depth-integrated mineralization rate $(mol\ C\ m^{-2}\ d^{-1})$

Fluxes at the domain boundaries $(mol\ C\ m^{-2}\ d^{-1})$



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.11 Find **steady-state** solution

```
std <- steady.1D(y = state, func = Diamodel, parms = parms,  
               nspec = nspec, dims = N, names = names,  
               positive = TRUE)
```

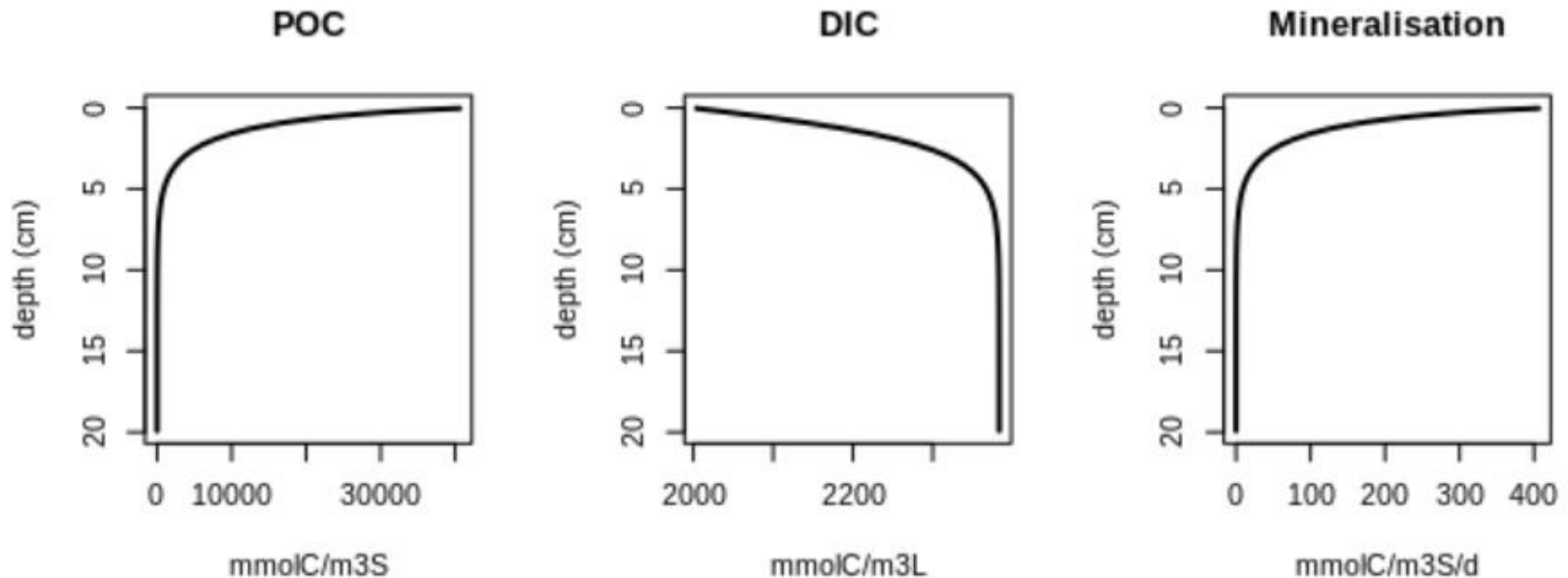
↑
Only find solution with **positive** values
(concentrations *cannot* be negative)



Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.12 Plot **steady-state** solution

```
plot(std, xyswap=TRUE, grid = Grid$x.mid, lty=1, lwd=2,  
      which = c("POC", "DIC", "Mineralisation"),  
      xlab=c("mmolC/m3S", "mmolC/m3L", "mmolC/m3S/d"),  
      ylab="depth (cm)", mfrow=c(1,3))
```



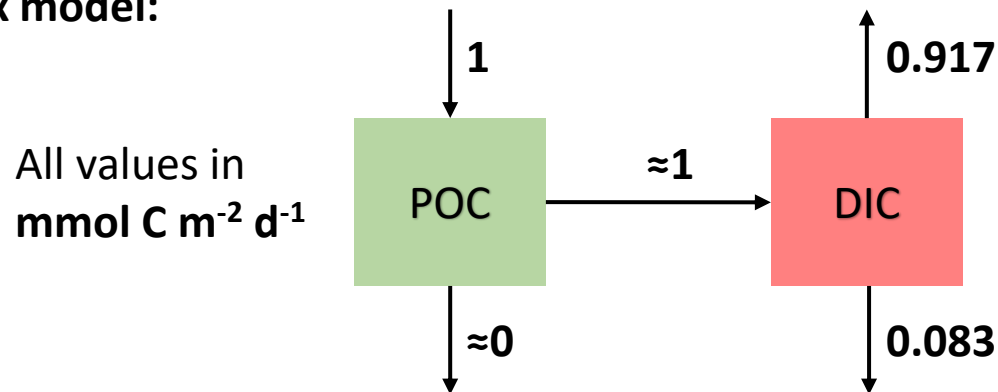
Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.13 Construct **steady-state** carbon budget

```
toselect <- c("TotalMin", "POC.SWI.Flux", "POC.Deep.Flux",  
             "DIC.SWI.Flux", "DIC.Deep.Flux")  
  
BUDGET <- std[toselect]  
  
unlist(BUDGET)
```

TotalMin	POC.SWI.Flux	POC.Deep.Flux	DIC.SWI.Flux	DIC.Deep.Flux
9.99e+01	1.000000e+02	7.816205e-05	-9.16583e+01	8.341621e+00

Conceptual box model:

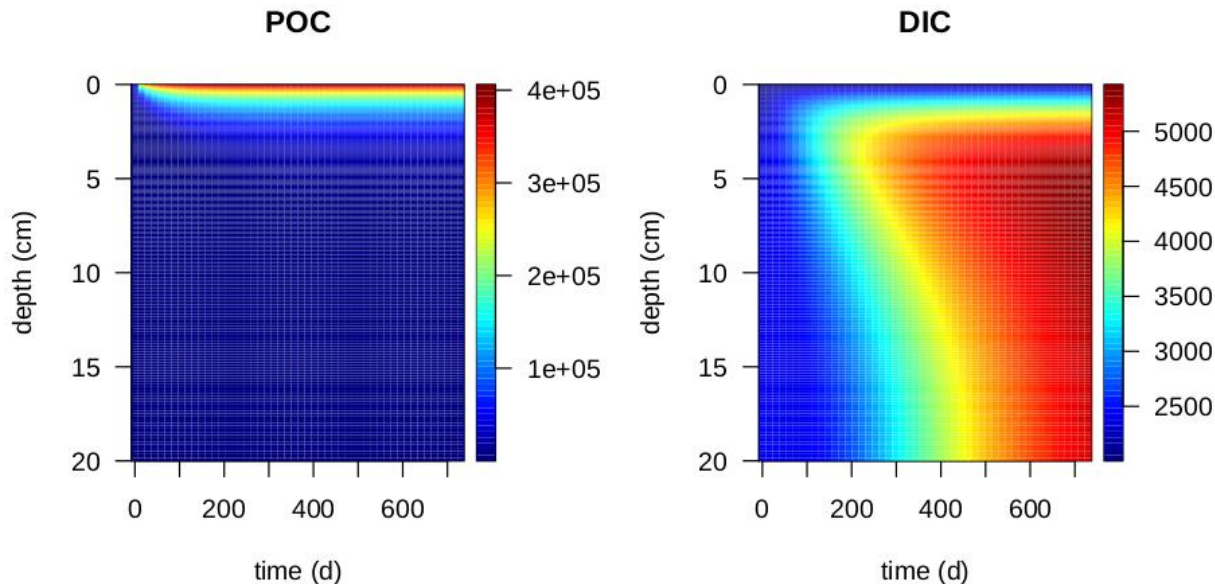


Step 4: Implementation in R (ReacTran)

4.14 Calculate and display a **dynamic** solution

```
times <- seq(from=0, to=2*365, length.out=50)
parms["depoPOC"] <- 1000
out <- ode.1D(y=std$y, func=Diamodel, parms=parms, times=times,
             nspec=nspec, dims=N, names=names)
```

```
image(out, legend=TRUE, grid=Grid$x.mid, ylim=(Length,0),
      las=1, ylab="depth (cm)", xlab="time (d)")
```



Conclusion

Generic “skeleton” of a 1D Reactran model:

1. Define spatial **grid** and model **parameters**
2. Define and initialize **state variables**
3. Define **model function** (transport and reaction terms, time-derivatives)
4. Calculate and display model **results**
5. Check **mass balances** and make **budget**

Most important functions: `setup.grid.1D` `setup.prop.1D`
`tran.1D` `steady.1D` `ode.1D`

Best approach : start with a **template** (`RT1D_porous.Rmd`)
and **expand** it based on your needs!





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