

# COMBINING DIFFERENT TRACERS (CFC-12, <sup>3</sup>H, <sup>3</sup>He, <sup>4</sup>He) TO UNDERSTAND THE HYDROGEOLOGICAL FUNCTIONING OF A SEMICONFINED AQUIFER

J.M. Ávila<sup>1</sup>, J.M. Gil Márquez<sup>1</sup>, B. Andreo<sup>1</sup>

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Seville and its metropolitan area, with 1.5 million population, has been supplied mainly by surface water. In view of the need to incorporate new resources, the Niebla-Posadas semiconfined aquifer is a strategic reserve of water resources in this area due to its proximity and the quality of its water.

**OBJECTIVE:** To better understand the hydrogeological processes taking place in an semiconfined aquifer, by jointly interpreting physic-chemical (EC, ORP), chemical compounds (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>), isotopic values (δ<sup>13</sup>C), environmental tracers (CFC-12) and tritium-helium data.

## 3. METHODS



Fig. 2. Methodology applied during the groundwater sampling campaigns carried out and the analysis of water samples taken. Electrical conductivity -EC-; Oxidation Reduction Potential -ORP-

## 4. RESULTS

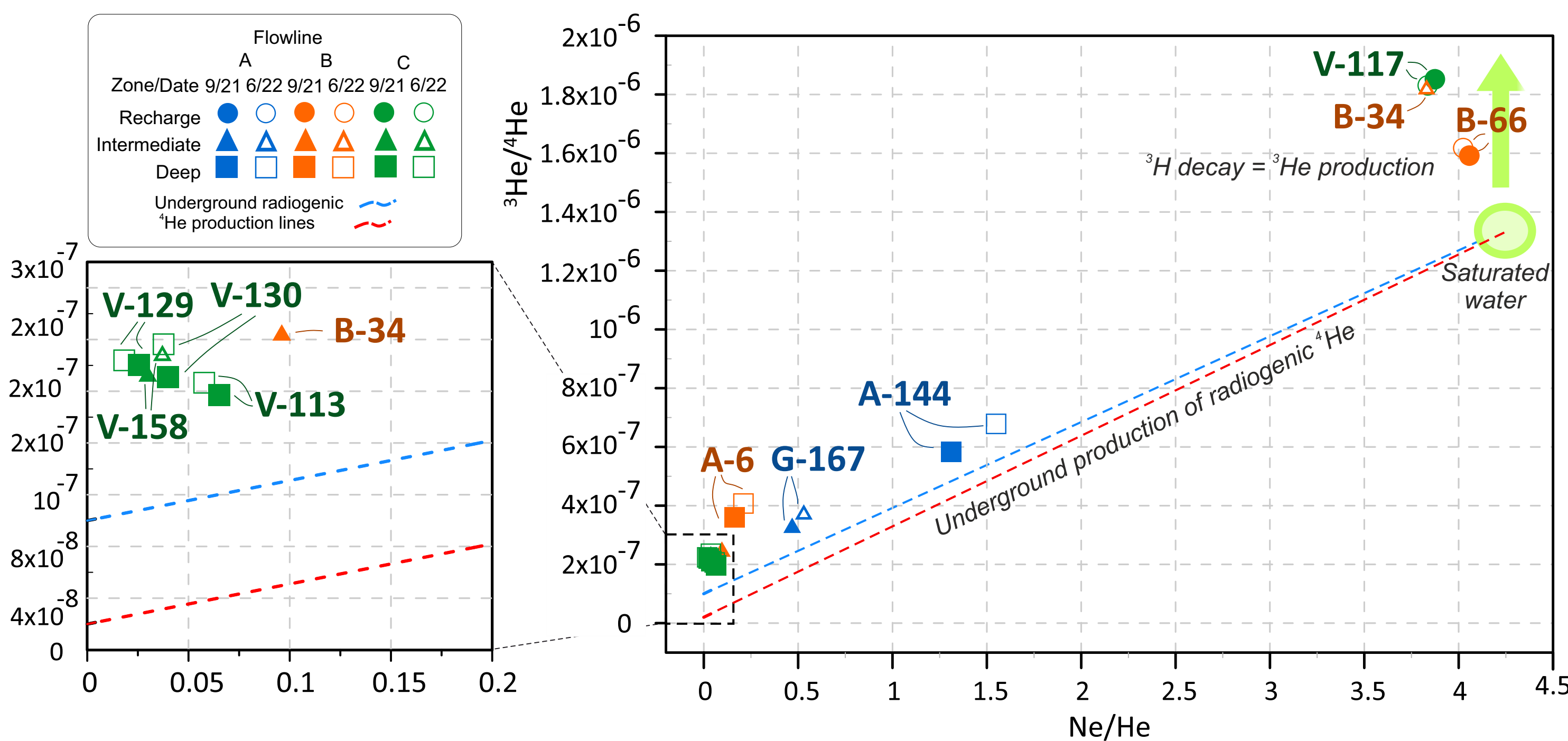


Fig. 3. <sup>3</sup>Ne/He vs <sup>3</sup>He/He ratios, and representation of the main processes affecting them. Radiogenic He production lines are drawn from equilibrium values (air saturated water) to <sup>3</sup>He/<sup>4</sup>He ratios of 2 · 10<sup>-8</sup> (Ballentine and Burnard, 2002) and 1 · 10<sup>-7</sup> (Akeson et al., 2015) for infinite radiogenic <sup>4</sup>He contents (red and blue lines, respectively)

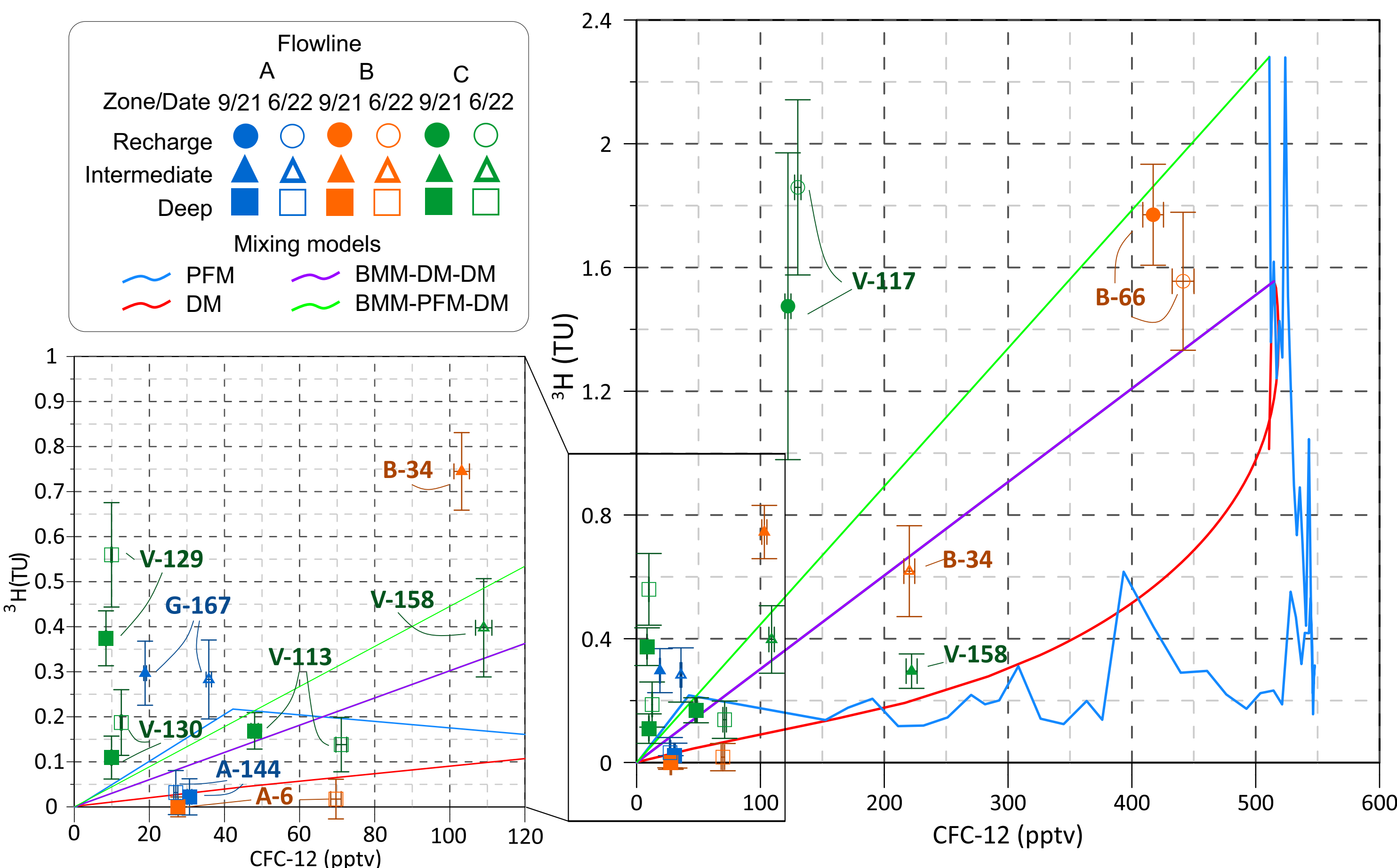


Fig. 4. CFC-12 vs <sup>3</sup>H and representation of different binary mixing models (BMMs): Piston-Flow Model -PFM-, Dispersion Model -DM-, Binary Mixing Model-Dispersion Model -Dispersion Model -BMM-DM-DM- and Binary Mixing Model-Piston-Flow Model-Dispersion Model -BMM-PFM-DM-

## 2. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HYDROGEOLOGICAL SETTINGS

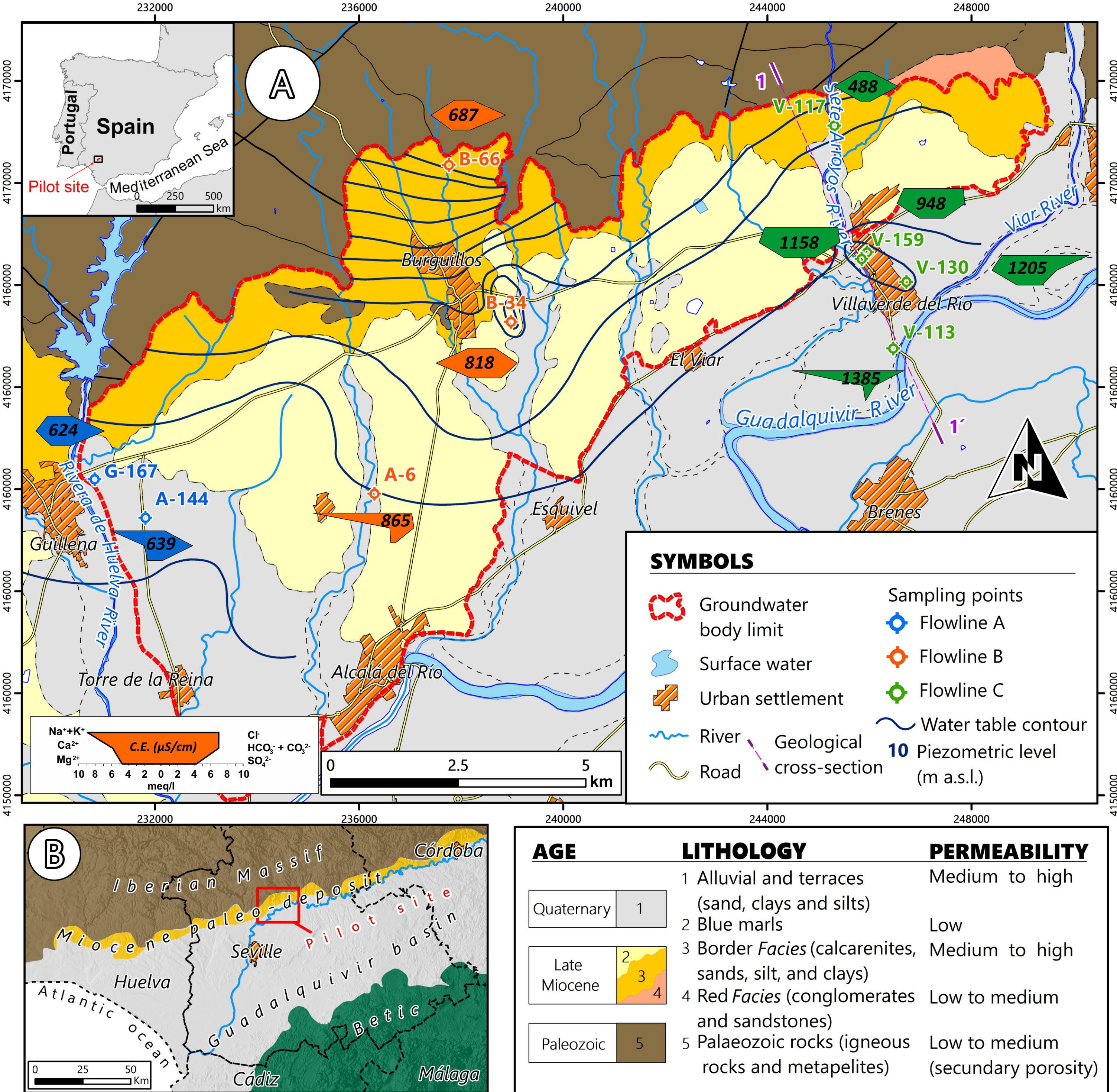


Fig. 1. Geological-hydrogeological sketch of Guillena-Cantillana groundwater body (Niebla-Posadas aquifer) with stiff diagrams from the June 2022 campaign (A) and regional map (B)

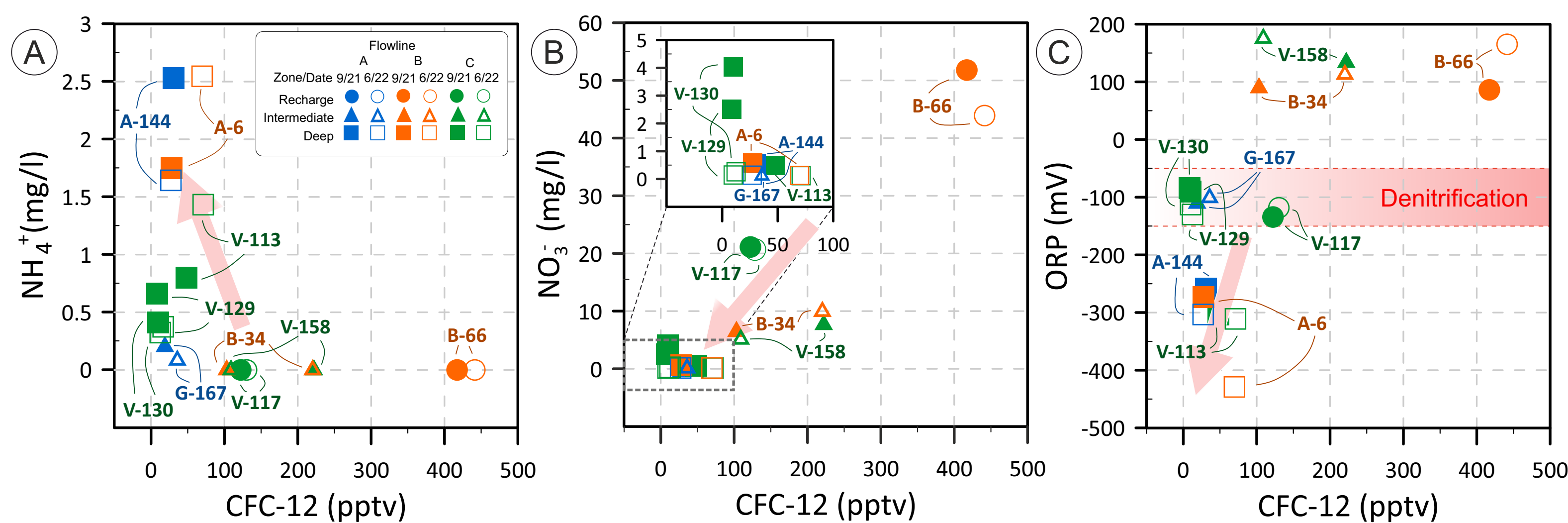


Fig. 5. NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> vs CFC-12 (A) NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> vs CFC-12 (B) and Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP) vs CFC-12 (C)

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

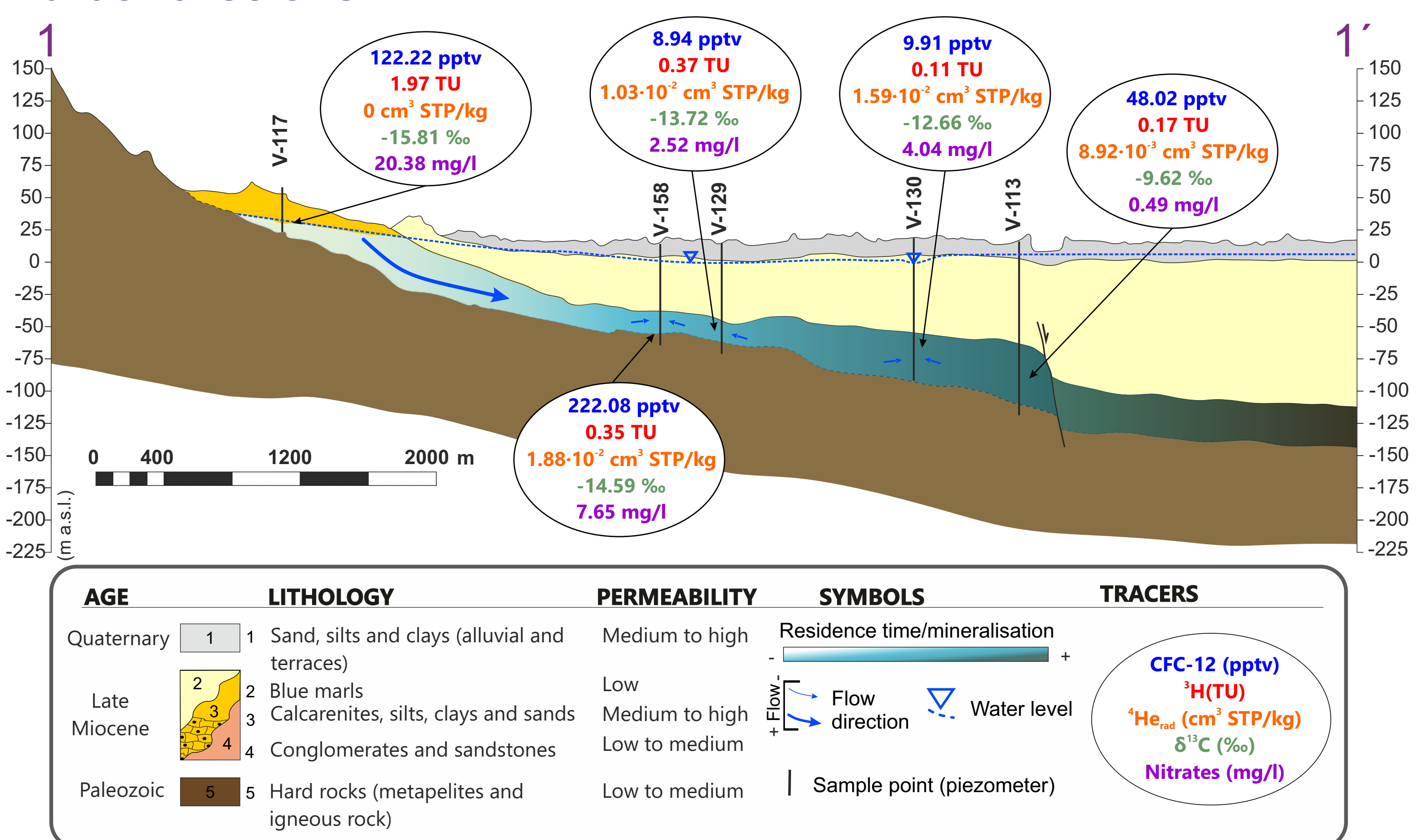


Fig. 6. Hydrogeological conceptual model of the flowline C. The concentrations of different environmental tracers (CFC-12), tritium (<sup>3</sup>H), radiogenic helium (<sup>4</sup>He<sub>rad</sub>), carbon isotope (δ<sup>13</sup>C) and nitrates.

## 6. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work is a contribution to the Research Group RNM-308 of Junta de Andalucía. The attendance to the congress has been funded by the University of Málaga.

(1) Department of Ecology and Geology and Center of Hydrogeology of the University of Málaga