

Downstream Mercury Reactivity in Contrasting Catchment Environments in the Swedish Sub-arctic

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Introduction

- Dissolved organic matter (DOM) is an important vector for the transport and reactivity of mercury (Hg) in aquatic systems.
- Composition and concentration of DOM have been shown to control Hg bioavailability (Jonsson et al., 2014) and bacterial Hg methylation rates (Jędruch & Bełdowska, 2020)
- We want to study the role catchment properties play for Hg reactivity

Methods

- We sampled 18 Streams & and 8 lakes along a climate and vegetation gradient in the Swedish sub-arctic, encompassing tundra-, birch-, and coniferous catchments
- Water analysis: total Hg (THg), methylated Hg (MeHg) & ancillary parameters
- Fluorescence spectroscopy to characterize the DOM with fluorescence indices and a 5 component parafac model.
- Plankton analysis: THg & MeHg

Preliminary Results

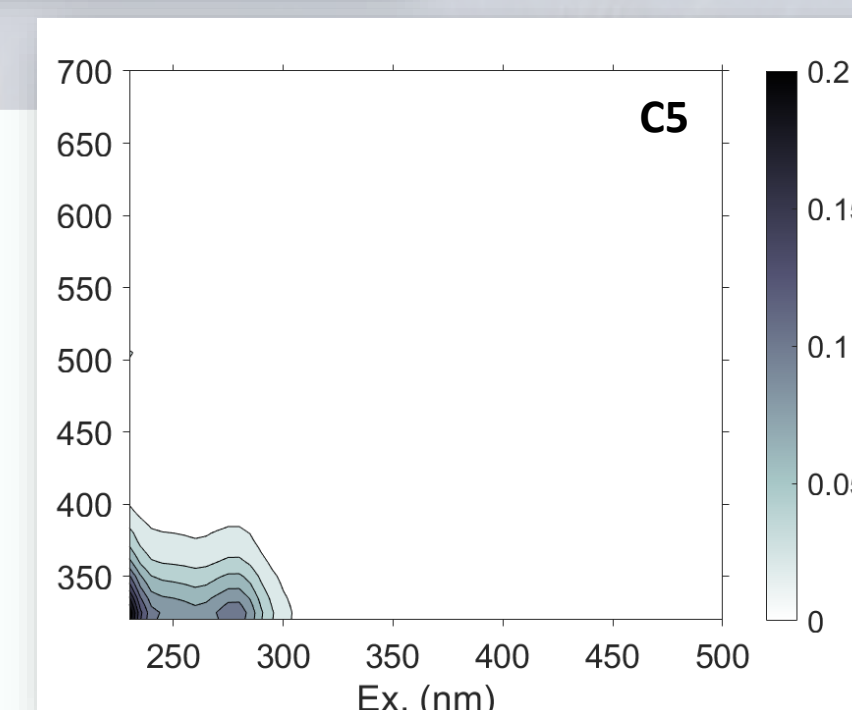
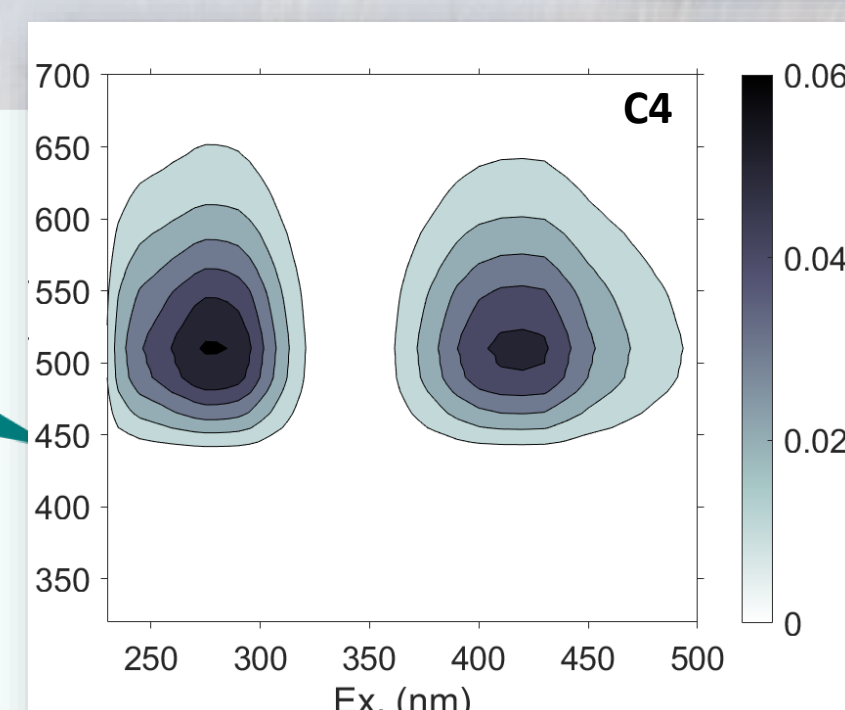
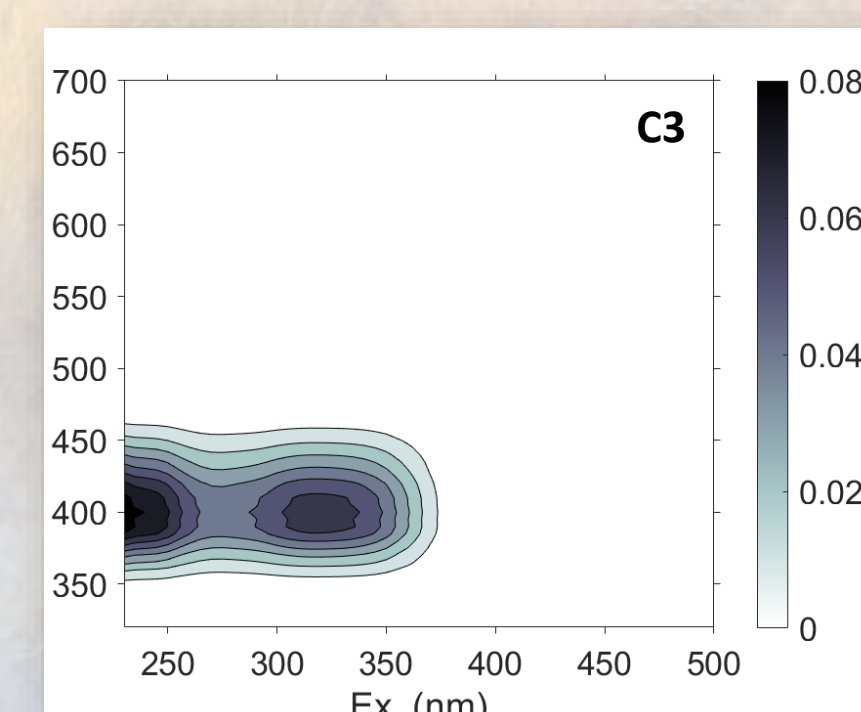
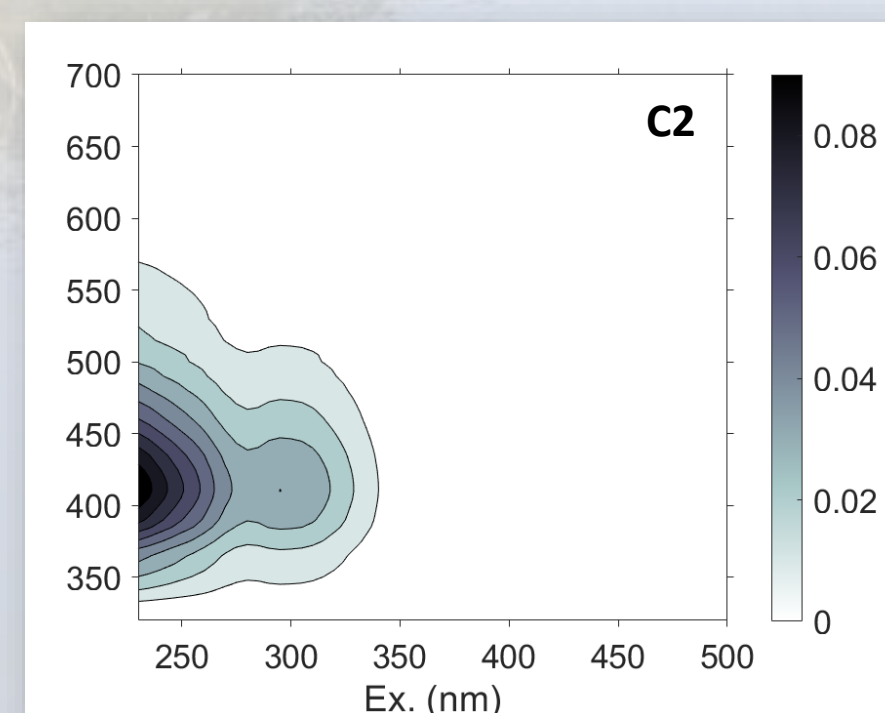
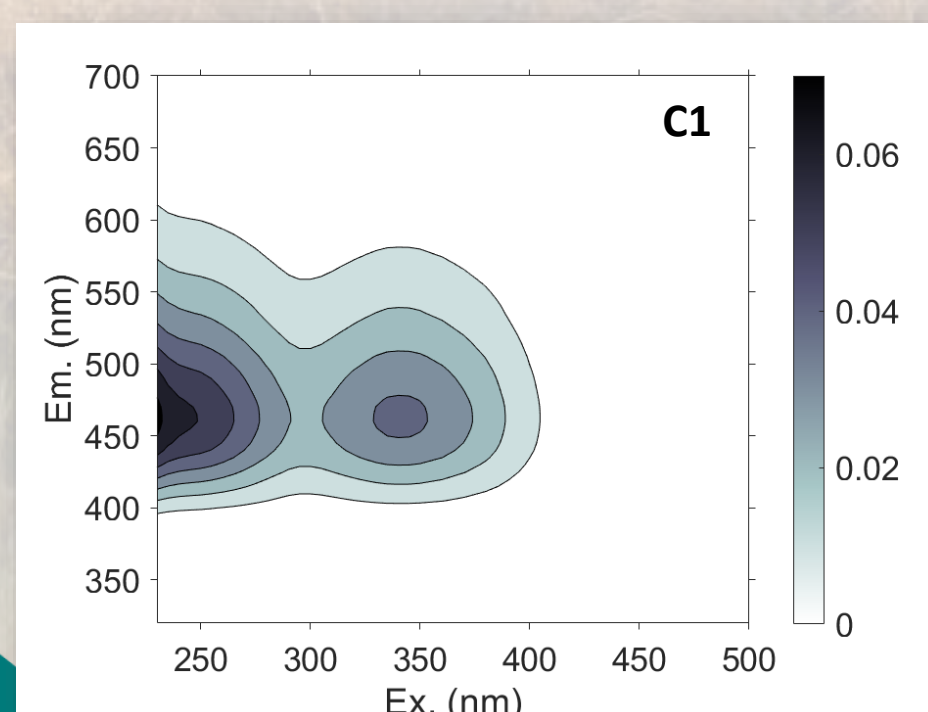
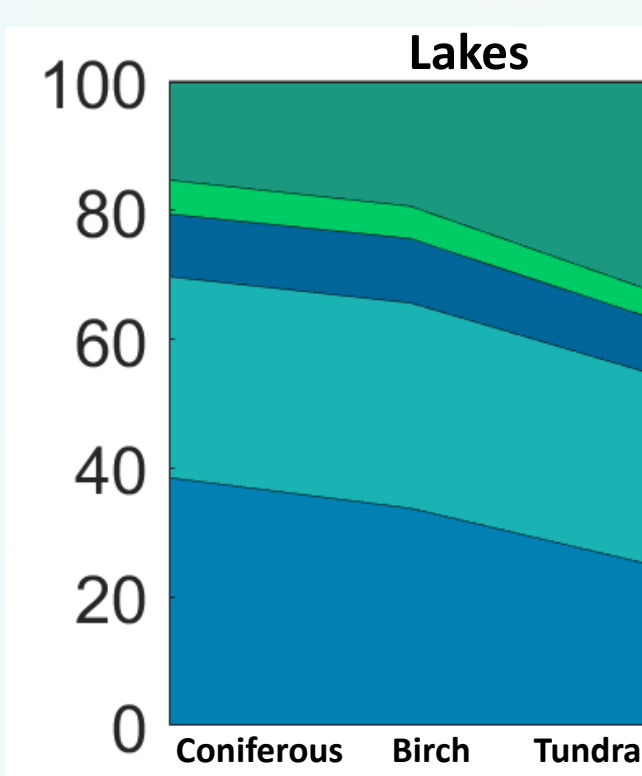
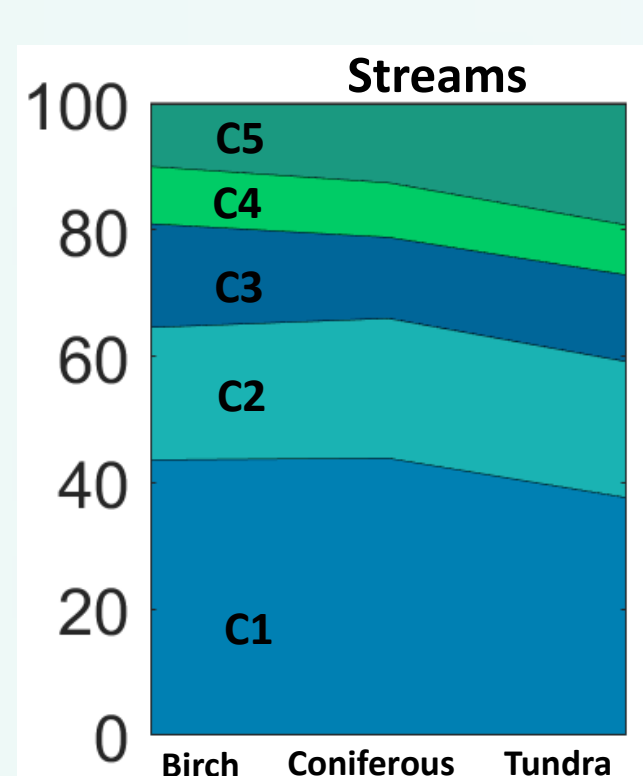


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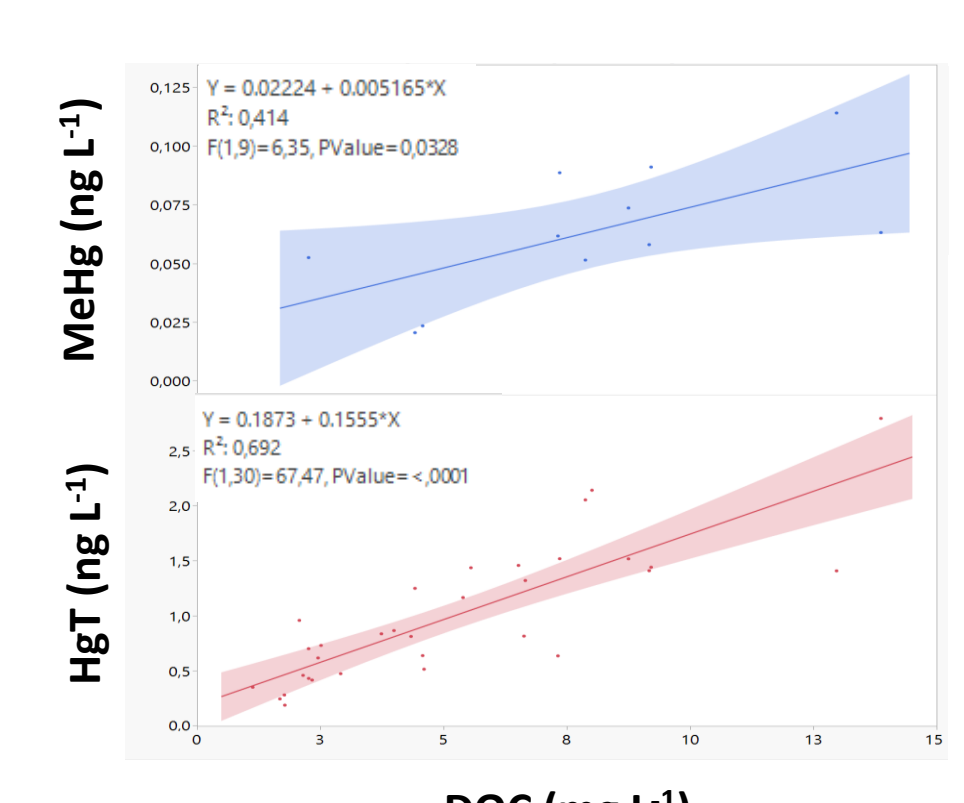
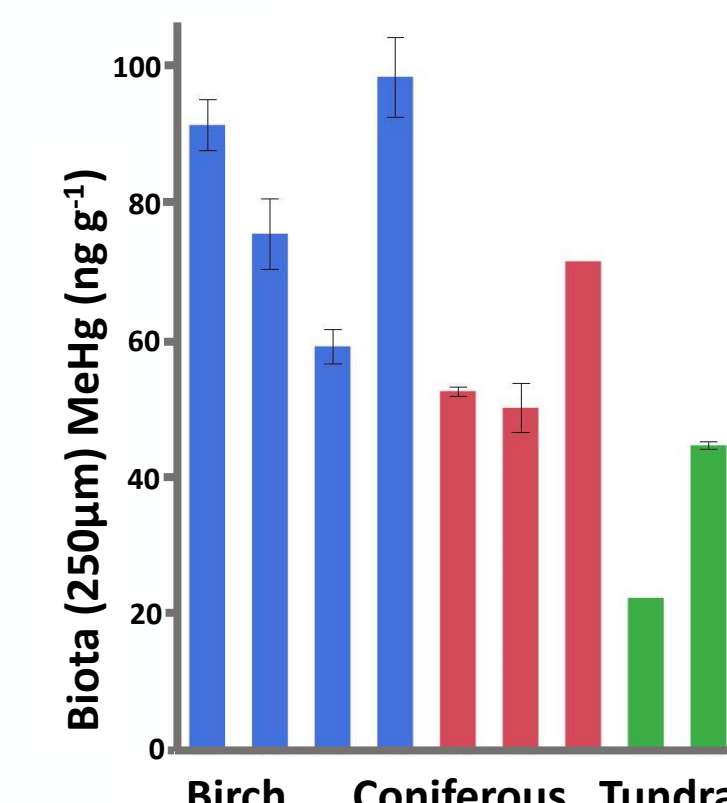
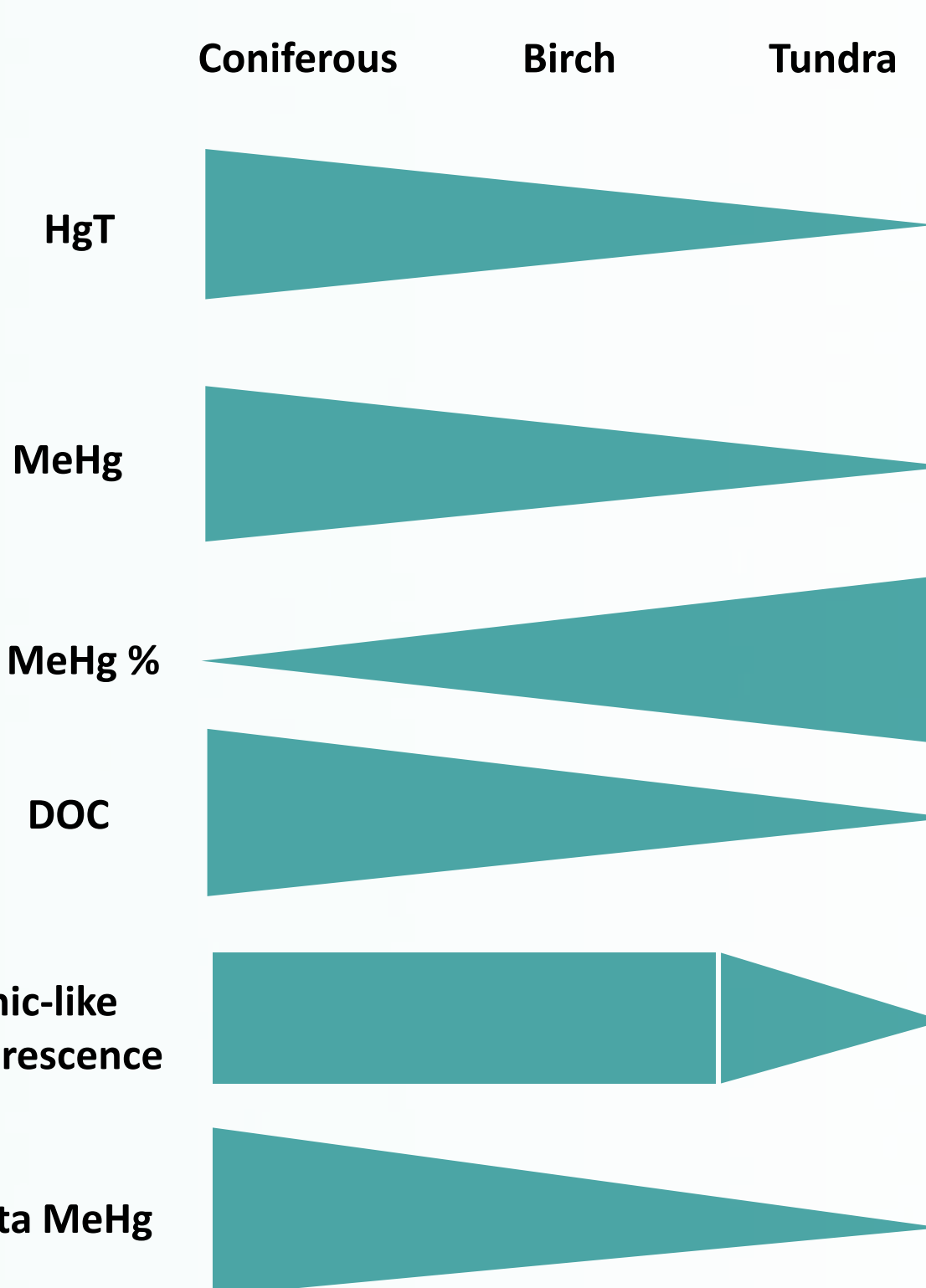


Conclusions

- Lowest HgT & MeHg water concentrations in the Tundra Streams and Lakes but highest MeHg%
- Biota MeHg concentrations increase with increasing amounts of terrestrial DOM
- Catchment properties may be important for environmental fate of Hg

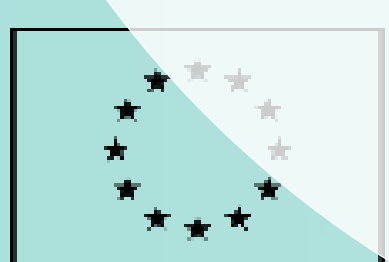
Parafac components; for openfluor matches, excitation & emission minimum similarity score (TCC) were set to 0.97

Component	Type	Openfluor Matches	Reference example
C1	humic-like terrestrial	38	Shutova et al., 2014; Kowalczyk et al., 2009
C2	humic-like; characteristic of soil, sediment, and freshwater environments	31	Romero et al., 2017
C3	humic-like; dissolved organic matter that has been altered by microbial reprocessing	20	Kowalczyk et al., 2009
C4	strong correlation to lignin phenol concentrations	2	Gonçalves-Araujo et al., 2015
C5	linked to aquatic productivity and dissolved amino acids	35	Gonçalves-Araujo et al., 2016



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