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Changes in DOM quantity and quality in the hyporheic zone during drought

G Gordon Research Seminars

Outline

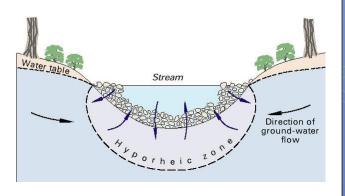
- Context
- Study site
- Hypothesis and research questions
- Methodology: Fluorescent properties of DOM
- Results and Discussion
- Conclusions
- Outlook

Context

- The fate of allochthonous OM in head waters has profound implications for water quality downstream.
- Intermittent rivers and streams are among the most common and dynamic freshwater ecosystems.
 Flow intermittency increases in with climatic drying trends or water abstractions.
- The Hyporheic Zone (HZ) is a biogeochemical Hot Spot, where allochthonous material meets autochthonous inputs from benthic community.

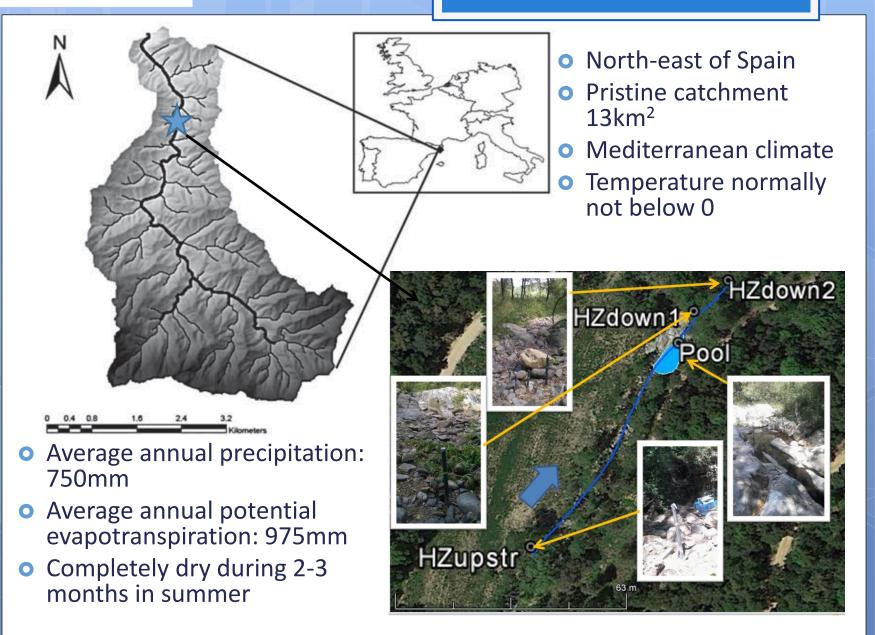






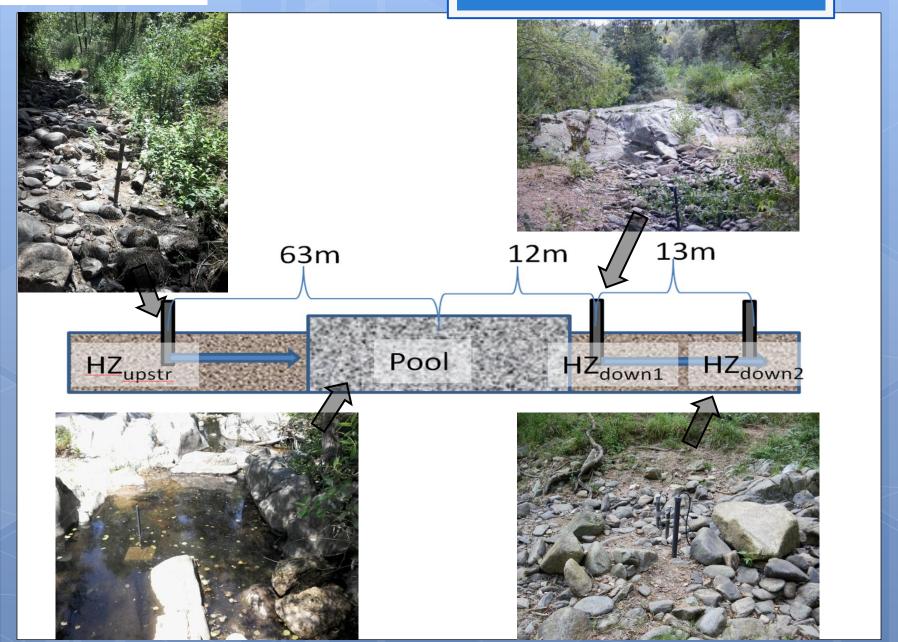


La riera Fuirosos





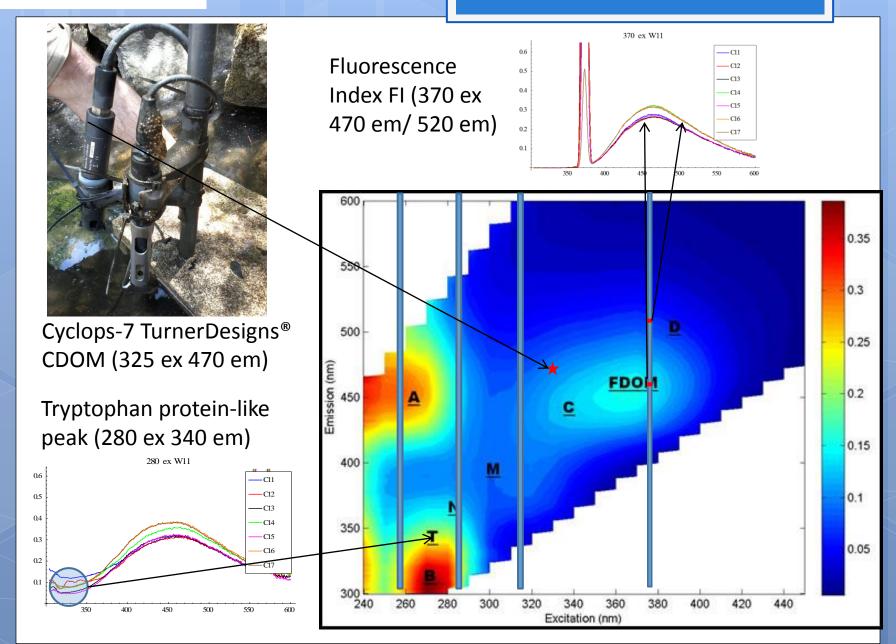
Study site



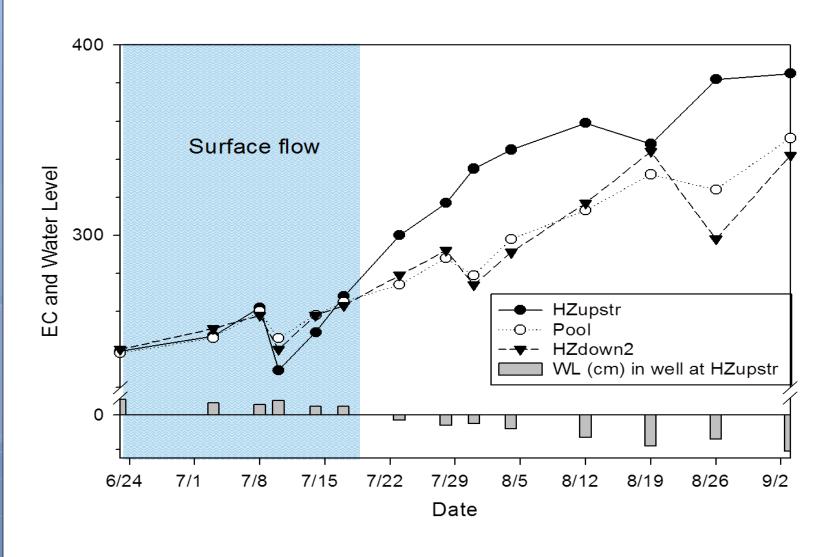
Hypothesis

- The HZ is a Hot Spot of DOM transformation.
 - What hydrological and geomorphological conditions drive these transformations?
- The drought, will enhance the transformation of DOM inside the pool and the hyporheic zone.
 - When is the "Hot moment" of these transformations?
- These transformations have effects on the Net Ecosystem Production (NEP) inside the pool.
 - Which ones?

Optical Properties of DOM

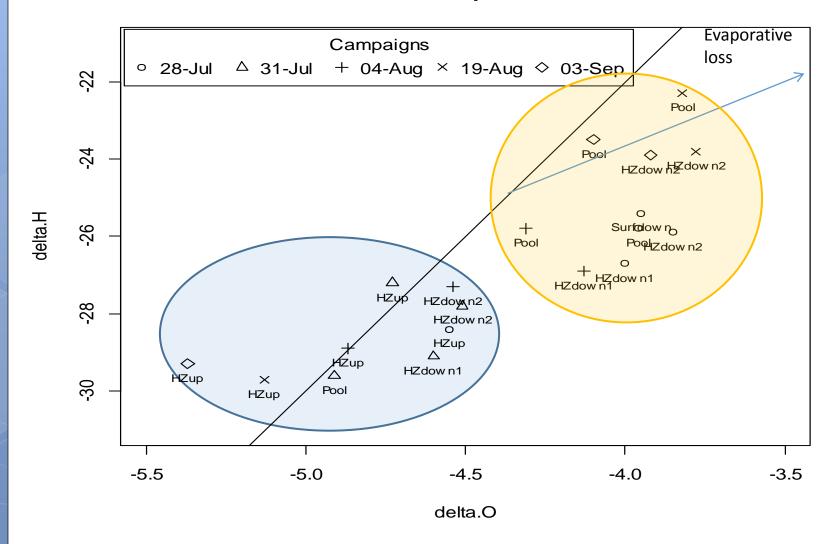


Hydrology



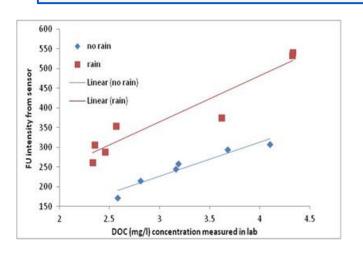
Hydrology

Isotopes

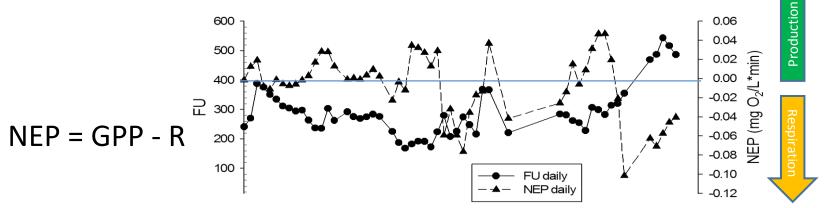


CDOM and NEP





CDOM represents more terrestrial derived DOM -> authochthonous DOM underestimated

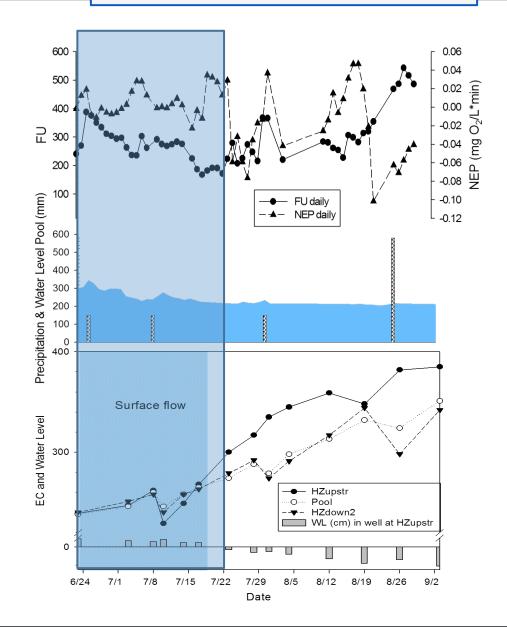




CDOM and NEP



Before drought the NEP and the CDOM are negativly correlated -> CDOM tends to reduce primary production.

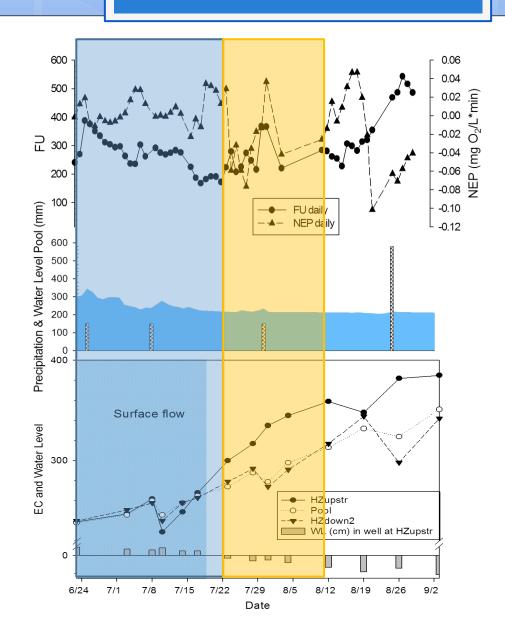




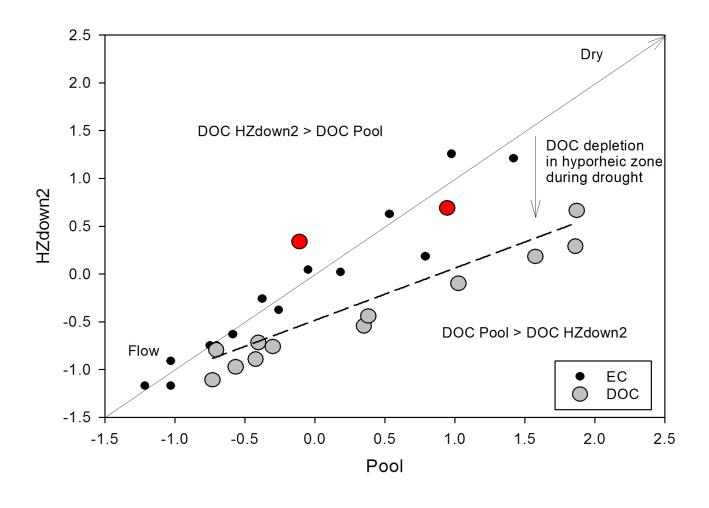
CDOM and NEP



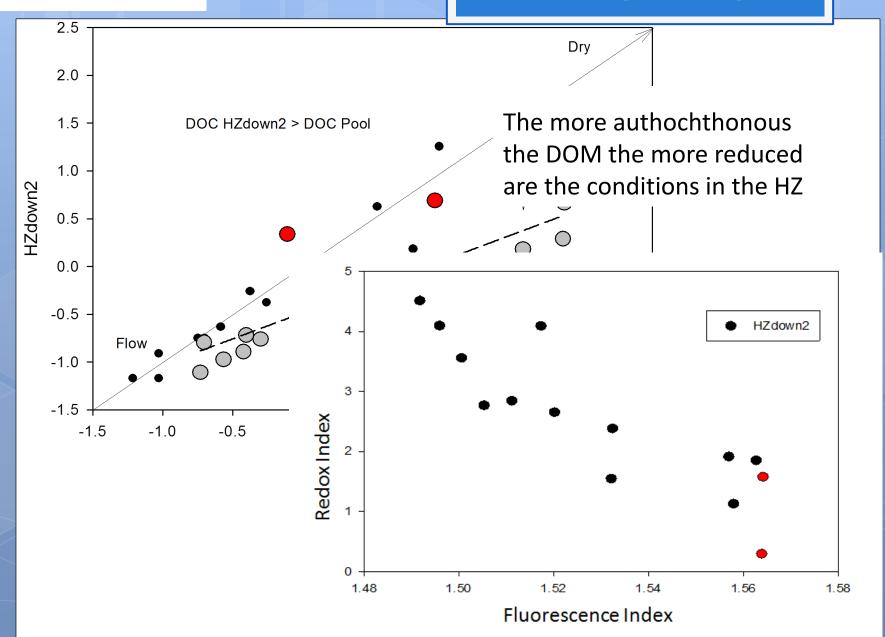
During fragmentation they are not anymore negativly correlated – measurments of protein-like substances in continuum?



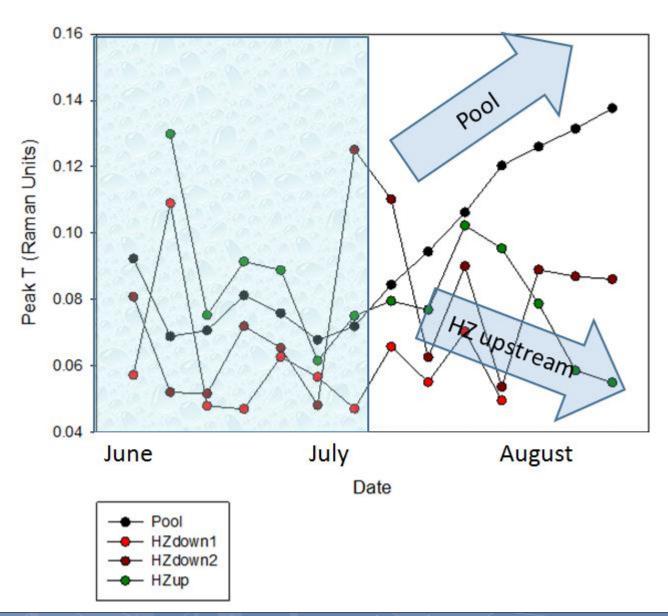
HZ during drought



HZ during drought



Protein-like DOM



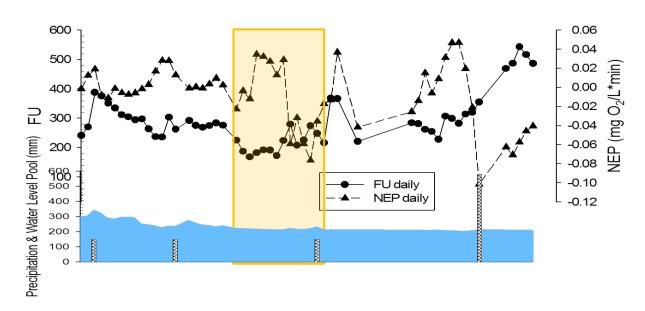
Conclusions

- What drives DOC transformation and consumption in the HZ?
 - Residence time in the HZ
 - Only during drought the HZ is a Hot Spot for DOM transformation
 - The bedrock and the fresh input from the pool affect the HZ
 - Reduced conditions in the HZ



Conclusions

- When is the "Hot moment" of DOM transformations?
 - When the stream is dry and there is a short rain event
 - In the first days of fragmentation
- How does this affect the NEP of the pool?
 - Strong rise in GPP, NEP gets positive, then negative during algae bloom



Outlook

- Couple DOM quality and quantity to CO₂ measurements
- Continuous measurements with CDOM and Tryptophan sensors (Cyclops-7 TurnerDesigns®) in the HZ
- Continuous measurements of protein-like DOM

Drought and reflow in artificial flumes





Thank you!

