Effects of intermittency and land use on the in-stream phosphorus and organic carbon uptake

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# Effects of drying and re-wetting on P uptake/release

Laboratory experiment:

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- Hyporheic sediments from 20 streams along a land use gradient
- Acclimatisation in upflow-reactors
- Drying for 7 weeks and rewetting for 2 weeks
- Sampling of SRP, DOC, and DIN before drying and 1 h, 2d, 7d, and 14d after rewetting at the inlet and outlet
- SRP, DOC, and NH4 additions before drying and 2d, 7d, and 14d afters rewetting



- Hyporheic sediments generally released SRP (grey boxes)
- SRP release increased by 2-3 times immediately after rewetting (grey boxes)
- Under enriched conditions, sediments showed SRP uptake (yellow boxes)
- Uptake was recovered latest 2 days after rewetting





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DOC and NH4 showed larger impacts of drying than SRP, with higher release (both) and reduced uptake (NH4) after rewetting

-> Effects of drying on hyporheic SRP uptake small and short-term due to

a) high remaining water content which maintains hyporheic microbial communities

b) release of C and N which may increase P demand in P-limited systems



### Interaction between organic carbon and phosphorus uptake

Short-term nutrient addition experiments:

- 5 additions in headwater stream with acetate, SRP and NH4 in summer 2018: nutrients alone, nutrients + acetate, acetate alone
- Sampling of water along stream reach during plateau conditions
- Calculation of uptake parameters according to Stream Solute Workshop for P and N





- SRP uptake mostly increased during addition with acetate compared to addition without acetate
- In contrast, ammonium uptake is higher without acetate than with acetate
- -> Coupling of SRP uptake to organic carbon availability in a P-limited system
- -> ? Interaction of autotrophs (stimulated by P) and heterotrophs (stimulated by C)?





# Interaction between organic carbon and phosphorus uptake

Laboratory flume experiment:

- Additions of leachates of leaves, maize leaves, and cow dung (manure) to flumes under light (autotrophic) and shaded (heterotrophic) conditions
- Determination of OC uptake in dependance of OM quality (P and N content and spectroscopic properties)







- SRP showed high uptake in autotrophic flumes: no SRP detectable 4 h after the additions, increase of P content in autotrophic biofilms
- In contrast, heterotrophic flumes had low SRP uptake, heterotrophic biofilms showed no increase in P
- -> autotrophs outcompeted heterotrophs regarding P uptake
- DOC uptake was strongly correlated with initial SRP content of the leachates (higher in autotrophic biofilms)
- -> DOC and SRP uptake are correlated via the interation of autotrophs and heterotrophs







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#### Conclusions

- Strong coupling of DOC and P depends on the composition of the biofilm and the interaction between autotrophs and heterotrophs
- Drying and rewetting has small effects on P uptake in P-limited systems due to potential stimulation of microbial processes

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### Thank you

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