

Environmental Science

Khan M. G. Mostofa · Takahito Yoshioka
M. Abdul Mottaleb · Davide Vione *Editors*

Photobiogeochemistry of Organic Matter

Principles and Practices
in Water Environments

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Editors

Photobiogeochemistry of Organic Matter

Principles and Practices in Water
Environments

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Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters

Khan M. G. Mostofa, Cong-qiang Liu, M. Abdul Mottaleb, Guojiang Wan, Hiroshi Ogawa, Davide Vione, Takahito Yoshioka and Fengchang Wu

1 Introduction

Organic matter (OM) in water is composed of two major fractions: dissolved and non-dissolved, defined on the basis of the isolation technique using filters (0.1–0.7 μm). Dissolved organic matter (DOM) is the fraction of organic substances that passes the filter, while particulate organic matter (POM) remains on the filter (Danielsson 1982; Kennedy et al. 1974; Liu et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2009a). DOM is generally originated from three major sources: (i) allochthonous

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or terrestrial material from soils, (ii) autochthonous or surface water-derived of algal or phytoplankton origin, and (iii) synthetic organic substances of man-made or industrial origin. DOM in natural waters is composed of a heterogeneous mixture of organic compounds with molecular weights ranging from less than 100 to over 300,000 Daltons (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Thurman 1985a; Ma and Ali 2009). On the other hand, POM is composed of plant debris, algae, phytoplankton cell, bacteria, and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a). Humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of terrestrial origin are the dominant DOM fractions in freshwater and coastal seawater (Mostofa et al. 2009a). On the other hand, autochthonous fulvic acids (or marine humic-like) of algal or phytoplankton and bacterial origin are the key DOM fractions in lakes and oceans (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Coble 1996, 2007; Parlanti et al. 2000; Amado et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2009). In addition, among the major classes of DOM components there are carbohydrates, proteins, amino acids, lipids, phenols, alcohols, organic acids and sterols (Mostofa et al. 2009a).

DOM can display physical properties such as the absorption of energy from ultraviolet (UV) and photosynthetically available radiation (PAR) (Kirk 1976; Morris et al. 1995; Siegel and Michaels 1996; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Tranvik 1998; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Laurion et al. 2000; Markager and Vincent 2000; Huovinen et al. 2003; Sommaruga and Augustin 2006; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Effler et al. 2010), chemical properties such as complex formation with trace metal ions (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011; Lead et al. 1999; Wang and Guo 2000; Koukal et al. 2003; Mylon et al. 2003; Wu et al. 2004; Lamelas and Slaveykova 2007; Lamelas et al. 2009; Fletcher et al. 2010; Reiller and Brevet 2010; Sachs et al. 2010; Da Costa et al. 2011), the ability to maintain acidity and alkalinity (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Oliver et al. 1983; Wigington et al. 1996; Pace and Cole 2002; Hudson et al. 2003; Kopáček et al. 2003), the occurrence of redox and photo-Fenton reactions (Voelker and Sulzberger 1996; Voelker et al. 1997, 2000; Kwan and Voelker 2002; Jeong and Yoon 2004; Wu et al. 2005; Vione et al. 2006; Nakatani et al. 2007), as well as the ability to control the cycling of nutrients such as NH_4^+ , NO_3^+ , and PO_4^{3-} in natural waters (Bronk 2002; Zhang et al. 2004, 2008; Kim et al. 2006; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Li et al. 2008).

DOM can photolytically generate strong oxidants such as superoxide radical ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2), and hydroxyl radical (HO^\bullet), which also play a role in its photoinduced decomposition in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Vione et al. 2006, 2010; Zellner et al. 1990; Zepp et al. 1992; Moran et al. 2000; Farias et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2007a; Minakata et al. 2009). Correspondingly, DOM can undergo photoinduced and microbial degradation processes, which can produce a number of degradation products such as dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), CO_2 , CH_4 , CO , low molecular weight (LMW) DOM, organic acids. These compounds are very important in the aquatic environments (Jones and Amador 1993; Miller and Zepp 1995; Lovley and Chapelle 1995; Lovley et al. 1996; Moran and Zepp 1997; Miller 1998; Conrad 1999; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Brandt et al. 2009; Rutledge et al. 2010; Omar

et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011). DOM with its degradation products can extensively influence photosynthesis, thereby playing a key role in global carbon cycle processes (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Ma and Green 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Palenik and Morel 1988; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Miller and Moran 1997; Meriläinen et al. 2001; Malkin et al. 2008). DOM also plays important roles in regulating drinking water quality, complexing behavior with metal ions, water photochemistry, biological activity, photosynthesis, and finally global warming.

This chapter will provide an overview on the origin of DOM, its contents and sources in natural waters, the contribution of organic substances to DOM, the biogeochemical functions of DOM, its physical and chemical properties, as well as its molecular size distribution. It comprehensively discusses the controlling factors and their effects on the distribution of DOM in natural waters, the emerging contaminants and their sources, transportation and impacts, as well as methodologies and techniques for the detection of pharmaceuticals in fish tissue. Finally, it is discussed how DOM acts as energy source for living organisms and aquatic ecosystems.

2 What is Dissolved Organic Matter?

DOM is conventionally defined as any organic material that passes through a given filter (0.1–0.7 μm). The organic material that is retained on the filter is termed ‘particulate organic matter (POM) (Mostofa et al. 2009a). The permeate from ultrafiltration (<10 kiloDaltons or kDa) is often defined as the truly dissolved organic carbon fraction and the filter-passing fraction between >10 kDa and <0.4 or 0.7 μm as the total dissolved organic carbon fraction in aqueous solution. Colloids are operationally defined as particles between 1 nm and 1 μm in size, and the ‘dissolved’ fraction can include a subset of the colloidal materials (Sharp 1973; Vold and Vold 1983; Koike et al. 1990; Benner et al. 1992; Buessler et al. 1996; Wells 2002). These types of colloidal particles are not entirely retained by filters with pore sizes between 0.2 and 0.7 μm . DOM can be in the size range of tens to hundreds of nm when they are associated with other colloidal materials in water (Lead and Wilkinson 2006). It has been shown that colloids make up a significant fraction, approximately 10–40 %, of the marine DOM pool.

DOM in natural waters is composed of a heterogeneous mixture of numerous allochthonous and autochthonous organic compounds containing low molecular weight substances (e.g. organic acids) and macromolecules such as fulvic and humic acids (humic substances), with molecular weight ranging from less than 100 to over 300,000 Daltons (Thurman 1985a, 1986; Ma and Ali 2009; Rashid and King 1969; MacFarlane 1978; Hayase and Tsubota 1983; Amy et al. 1987; Wagoner et al. 1997; Jerry and Jean-Philippe 2003; Xiao and Wu 2011). DOM found in natural ground and surface waters are also referred as natural organic matter (NOM). The most common organic substances are humic substances

(fulvic and humic acids) of terrestrial origin, autochthonous fulvic acids of phytoplankton or algal origin, carbohydrates, sugars, amino acids, proteins, lipids, organic acids, phenols, alcohols, acetylated amino sugars, and so on. On the other hand, POM includes plant debris, detritus, living organisms, bacteria, algae, phytoplankton, corals, coral reefs, and so on. DOM is considered as the larger pool of organic matter in a variety of waters, which can include more than 90 % of total organic matter (Thurman 1986; Kececioglu et al. 1997).

2.1 Biogeochemical Functions of OM (DOM and POM)

DOM of both allochthonous and autochthonous origin can play multiple functions in photoinduced, chemical, microbial and geochemical processes in natural waters. They can be classified as follows:

- (1) Photoinduced functions of DOM. Irradiated DOM can produce H_2O_2 (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009), which in turn can produce the strong oxidizing agent hydroxyl radical (HO^\bullet), either directly by photoinduced dissociation ($H_2O_2 + hv \rightarrow HO^\bullet$) or by the photo-Fenton reaction. These processes are involved in the photoinduced degradation of organic compounds (Vione et al. 2006, 2010; Zellner et al. 1990; Zepp et al. 1992; Farias et al. 2007). DOM undergoes rapid photoinduced decomposition by natural sunlight, and this process is less efficient in waters with high contents of DOM and more efficient with high DOM concentrations (Moran et al. 2000; Ma and Green 2004; Vähätalo et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007b; Vione et al. 2009). DOM can thus control redox and photo-Fenton reactions in natural waters (Voelker and Sulzberger 1996; Voelker et al. 1997, 2000; Kwan and Voelker 2002; Jeong and Yoon 2004; Wu et al. 2005; Vione et al. 2006; Nakatani et al. 2007). The biogeochemical functions of H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet are discussed in details in chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”.
- (2) Microbial functions of OM (DOM and POM). DOM and POM are decomposed biologically by microorganisms in natural waters (Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007a; Ma and Green 2004; Lovley and Chapelle 1995; Hopkinson et al. 2002; Coble 2007; Koschorreck et al. 2008; Lønborg et al. 2009a, b; Lønborg and Søndergaard 2009). This process can produce new autochthonous DOM or nutrients in water (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Zhang et al. 2009; Kim et al. 2006; Weiss et al. 1991; Harvey et al. 1995; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Fu et al. 2010; Li et al. 2011), so that DOM is responsible for the maintenance of the microbial loop in natural waters (utilization of DOC by bacteria, consumption and decomposition of bacteria by protozoans and release of dissolved organic compounds and CO_2) (Sherr and Sherr 1989; Carrick et al. 1991; Jones 1992; Tranvik 1992). Bioavailable carbon

substrates produced from DOM and OM either photolytically or biologically can enhance biological productivity in waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998, 2000; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Lovley et al. 1996; Komissarov 2003; Tranvik 1992; Norrman et al. 1995; Wetzel et al. 1995). Production of nutrients and DIC through photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM or POM can control the food-chains for microorganisms (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Miller and Zepp 1995; Ma and Green 2004; Tranvik 1992; Salonen et al. 1992; Kirchman et al. 1995; Wheeler et al. 1997; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Rosenstock et al. 2005). The biogeochemical functions of microbial processes are discussed in details in “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”.

- (3) Optical (or physical) functions of DOM: a fraction of DOM is named as either colored and chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM) based on the absorption of ultraviolet (UV) and photosynthetically available radiation (PAR), or fluorescent DOM (FDOM) based on the emission of fluorescence photons after radiation absorption. DOM generally controls the downward irradiance flux through the water column of UV-B (280–320 nm), UV-A (320–400 nm), total UV (280–400 nm) as well as photosynthetically available radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) (Kirk 1976; Morris et al. 1995; Siegel and Michaels 1996; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Tranvik 1998; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Laurion et al. 2000; Markager and Vincent 2000; Huovinen et al. 2003; Sommaruga and Augustin 2006; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Effler et al. 2010). DOM is responsible for water color, water transparency, occurrence of the euphotic zone and thermal stratification in the surface waters of lakes and oceans because it affects (decreases) the penetration of solar radiation (Laurion et al. 2000; Effler et al. 2010; Hudson et al. 2003; Eloranta 1978; Jones and Arvola 1984; Howell and Pollock 1986; Perez-Fuentetaja et al. 1999; Snicins and Gunn 2000; Watts et al. 2001; Mostofa et al. 2005a). Biogeochemical functions of CDOM and FDOM are discussed in detail in the respective chapters (see chapters “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) in Natural Waters” and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”).
- (4) Cycling of nutrients (NH_4^+ , NO_3^+ , and PO_4^{3-}) by DOM and POM. Nutrients are produced by degradation of DOM and typically derive from dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) and dissolved organic phosphorus (DOP) in DOM molecular structure (Bronk 2002; Zhang et al. 2004, 2008; Kim et al. 2006; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Li et al. 2008). Nutrients are mostly released during the photoinduced and microbial respiration (or assimilation) of POM (e.g. algae or phytoplankton biomass), as shown by in situ experiments conducted under light and dark incubations (Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Carrillo et al. 2002; Kopáček et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2005; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). NO_3^- and NO_2^- can be produced by oxidation of ammonia in nitrification ($\text{NH}_4^+ + 2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{NO}_3^- + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{O}$) and of DON in lake waters (Ma and

- Green 2004; Kopáček et al. 2004; Lehmann et al. 2004; Minero et al. 2007). Nutrients produced by DOM and OM can fuel new primary and secondary production in natural waters. Total contents of DOM in lake waters are responsible for variation of the trophic level, due to eutrophication/oligotrophication processes. The latter are a major driver of change for chemical variables such as major ions, nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen compounds, silica) and the chemical nature of DOM.
- (5) DOM can control photosynthesis in natural waters. DOC can limit productivity (Jackson and Hecky 1980; Carpenter et al. 1998) and affect epilimnetic (Hanson et al. 2003) and hypolimnetic respiration (Houser et al. 2003). Photoinduced and microbial oxidation of DOM is responsible for the simultaneous generation of H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Ma and Green 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Palenik and Morel 1988; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Miller and Moran 1997; Meriläinen et al. 2001; Malkin et al. 2008). Such compounds could favor the occurrence of photosynthesis in natural waters. Some studies show that H_2O_2 could be involved as reactant in photosynthesis ($x\text{CO}_2 + y\text{H}_2\text{O}_{2(\text{H}_2\text{O})} + h\nu \rightarrow \text{C}_x(\text{H}_2\text{O})_y + \text{O}_2 + \text{energy}$; and $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$) (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Miller and Moran 1997). Nutrients (PO_4^{3-} and NH_4^+) released by DOM and POM might also favor the occurrence of photosynthesis and subsequently enhance the cyanobacterial or algal blooms in natural waters (Zhang et al. 2008, 2009; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Lehmann et al. 2004; Huszar et al. 2006; Nöges et al. 2008; McCarthy et al. 2009; Mohlin and Wulff 2009). High chlorophyll *a* concentrations are often detected in waters with high contents of DOM, and the reverse happens in low-DOM waters (Meriläinen et al. 2001; Malkin et al. 2008; Fu et al. 2010; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Mostofa et al. 2005a, Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Satoh et al. 2006; Yacobi 2006; Komatsu et al. 2007).
 - (6) Chemical functions of OM (DOM and POM). DOM and POM are composed of various functional groups in their molecular structures, which can form complexes with trace metal ions (M) in aqueous solution via strong π -electron bonding systems (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011; Lead et al. 1999; Wang and Guo 2000; Koukal et al. 2003; Mylon et al. 2003; Wu et al. 2004; Lamelas and Slaveykova 2007; Lamelas et al. 2009; Fletcher et al. 2010; Reiller and Brevet 2010; Sachs et al. 2010; Da Costa et al. 2011). These studies imply that the M-DOM complexation is important for speciation, bioavailability, transport and ultimate fate of trace metal ions in the water environment. The detailed functions of M-DOM complexes are discussed in [Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters](#). DOM can also influence the cycling of aluminum and iron oxides in natural waters (McKnight et al. 1992).
 - (7) Maintenance of the drinking water quality by DOM and POM in waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a). The production of POM is significantly dependent on the DOM contents in natural waters, and POM can produce new autochthonous DOM and nutrients under both irradiation and microbial respiration

- or assimilation (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2009b; Zhang et al. 2009; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Carrillo et al. 2002; Kopáček et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2005). Simultaneously, DOM can release nutrients upon exposure to natural sunlight in waters (Bronk 2002; Zhang et al. 2004, 2008; Kim et al. 2006; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Li et al. 2008). Increases in nutrients and autochthonous DOM severely deteriorate the drinking water quality, but DOM can also balance acidity and alkalinity through its photoinduced or microbial decomposition (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Oliver et al. 1983; Wigington et al. 1996; Pace and Cole 2002; Hudson et al. 2003; Kopáček et al. 2003).
- (8) OM can maintain global carbon cycle processes through production, distribution, transportation and decomposition of carbon compounds in the biosphere (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Brandt et al. 2009; Rutledge et al. 2010; Omar et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011; Hedges 1992; Amon and Benner 1994; Ogawa and Tanoue 2003; Freeman et al. 2004; Lavoie et al. 2005; Fenner et al. 2007a, b; Wolf et al. 2007). The photoinduced and microbial decomposition of DOM and POM yields CO_2 , CO , CH_4 , DIC (DIC is defined jointly as dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-}), low molecular weight DOM and other inorganic ions (Jones and Amador 1993; Miller and Zepp 1995; Lovley and Chapelle 1995; Lovley et al. 1996; Moran and Zepp 1997; Miller 1998; Conrad 1999; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Brandt et al. 2009; Rutledge et al. 2010; Omar et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011). The produced CO_2 and CH_4 increase the atmospheric green house gases and contribute to the global carbon cycle (Davidson and Janssens 2006; Porcal et al. 2009). Elevated atmospheric CO_2 can enhance DOC supply, particularly in peat soils. This is attributed to elevated net primary productivity of plants and increased root exudation of DOC in soil environments, which ultimately leach into the aquatic ecosystem (Freeman et al. 2004; Lavoie et al. 2005; Fenner et al. 2007a, b; Wolf et al. 2007; Kang et al. 2001; Pastor et al. 2003).
- (9) Character and energy functions of OM in the water ecosystem. DOM and POM can provide a major source of energy, in the form of C and N, which are essential to all living organisms in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Tranvik 1992; Salonen et al. 1992; Wetzel 1984, 1992). Thermal energy produced during the photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and organic matter, photoinduced redox reactions, microbial loop, as well as photosynthesis are key drivers in aquatic ecosystems (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Miller and Moran 1997; Sherr and Sherr 1989; Carrick et al. 1991; Jones 1992; Tranvik 1992; Salonen et al. 1992; Wetzel 1984, 1992; Hedges et al. 2000). DOM itself can provide energy and matter for the growth of bacterial films on the surface of drinking-water pipes, a process that involves also fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) depending on their occurrence in groundwater in developing and developed countries (Mostofa et al. 2009a).

3 Origin of DOM in Natural Waters

DOM is generally originated from three major sources in natural waters: (i) DOM derived from terrestrial soils, termed allochthonous DOM; (ii) DOM derived from in situ production in natural surface waters, termed autochthonous DOM, and (iii) DOM derived from human activities (e.g. industrial synthesis), termed anthropogenic DOM.

3.1 Origin of Allochthonous DOM in Soil Ecosystems

DOM including fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) originates from the decomposition of vascular plant material, root exudates and animal residues in terrestrial soil. Origin of allochthonous DOM from vascular plant materials or particulate detrital pools is significantly varied in different regions (tropical, temperate and boreal), which is regulated by the occurrence of three key factors or functions (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Wetzel 1983, 1990, 1992; Malcolm 1985; Dai et al. 1996; Nakane et al. 1997; Wershaw 1999; Jaramillo and Dilcher 2000; Kalbitz et al. 2000; Trumbore 2000; Uchida et al. 1998, 2000; Moore et al. 2008; Braakhekke et al. 2011; Spence et al. 2011; Tu et al. 2011): (i) Physical functions that include temperature and moisture; (ii) Chemical functions that include nutrient availability, amount of available free oxygen and redox activity, and (iii) Microbial processes that include microfloral succession patterns and availability of microorganisms (aerobic or anaerobic).

It is suggested that microorganisms can alter sugars, starch, proteins, cellulose and other carbon compounds bound to organic matter of plant or animal origin during their metabolic processes. These processes can transform the aromatic and lipid plant components into amphiphilic molecules including humic substances, i.e., molecules that consist of separate hydrophobic (non-polar) and hydrophilic (polar) parts (Wershaw 1999). The non-polar parts of the molecules are composed of relatively unaltered segments of plant polymers, while the polar parts include carboxylic acid groups (Wershaw 1999). Aerobic microorganisms can decompose organic matter at a faster rate than anaerobic ones, depending on the availability of free oxygen. Compositional changes of DOM occur with soil depth, leading to a decrease of aromatic compounds and carbohydrates whilst alkyl, methoxy and carbonyl moieties increase with depth (Dai et al. 1996). The increase in alkyl and carboxylic C with depth are the result of biodegradation of forest litter and oxidation of lignin side chains, respectively (Zech et al. 1985; Kogel-Knabner et al. 1988; Kogel-Knabner 1992).

The origin of allochthonous DOM from microbial processes can be judged from significant variations in respired organic carbon in different soil environments. The mean age of soil respired organic carbon determined using ^{14}C tracer is lowest (1 year) in tropical forest soils (eastern Amazonia, Brazil), relatively

low (3 years) in temperate forest soils (central Massachusetts, USA), and highest (16 years) in boreal forest soils (Manitoba, Canada) (Trumbore 2000). Experimental studies using $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ or ^{14}C to track sources and turnover of DOC indicate that DOM, which is transported over decimetres or metres down into subsoil, mainly represents highly altered residues of organic matter processing (Schiff et al. 1997; Flessa et al. 2000; Hagedorn et al. 2004; Fröberg et al. 2007). Note that allochthonous DOM is mostly derived, in zero to a few decimeter depth from the decomposition of plant material by microbial processes in soils and shallow groundwater (Uchida et al. 1998, 2000; Fröberg et al. 2007; IPCC 1996; Buckau et al. 2000).

DOC leached from soil is partly retained in the vadose zone before reaching aquifers (Siemens and Kaupenjohann 2003; Mikutta et al. 2007; Kalbitz and Kaiser 2008; Scheel et al. 2008). For the range of groundwater recharge of 95–652 mm yr⁻¹, it is shown that a constant flux of DOC from soil into surface waters often takes place (Kindler et al. 2011). Therefore, allochthonous DOM is partly discharged through hydrological processes directly into streams or riverbeds or surrounding water bodies, which ultimately flux to lake or oceanic environments as final water reservoir.

3.2 Origin of Autochthonous DOM in Natural Waters

Production of autochthonous DOM is generally observed at the epilimnion (upper water layers) compared to the hypolimnion (deeper layers) during the summer stratification period, particularly in lakes and oceans. A rough estimation by comparing the upper with the deeper layers demonstrates that the contribution of autochthonous DOM is largely varied in lakes and oceans: it reaches 0–55 % in Lake Hongfeng (181–250 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–6 m and 161–223 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 22–25 m depth, respectively, during March–September), 3–47 % in Lake Baihua (183–264 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–3 m and 157–206 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 14–15 m during March–September), 6–35 % in Lake Baikal (93–142 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–100 m and 88–105 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 600–720 m during August–September in 1995, 1998, 1999), 3–82 % in Lake Biwa (93–183 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 2.5–10 m and 78–101 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 70 m during May–September in 1999–2002), 21–49 % in Lake Ashino in Japan (99–111 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–10 m and 74–84 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 30–38 m in September 1997), 81–102 % in Lake Ikeda in Japan (101–112 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–10 m and 55–56 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 200–233 m for site I1; at 41 m for site I2 in October 1997), 52 % in Lake Suwa in Japan (216 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0 m in September and 142 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0 m in December 1997), 61–81 % in Lake Inawashiro in Japan (42–47 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–10 m and 26 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 70 m), 13–29 % in Lake Fuxian (123–135 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–10 m and 95–105 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 50–140 m in June 2001), 19 % in Lake Hovsgol (95 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0 m and 80 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 50–200 m in July 1999), 0–88 % in Lake Kinneret (270–485 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–10 m and 258–368 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 38 m during the summer period in 2004), 17–41 % in Lake Peter (data not shown), 11–29 % (biological production) in Lake Bret, 0–104 % in Middle Atlantic Bight (82–98 $\mu\text{M C}$

at 0 m and 48–90 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 90–2600 m in June 2001), 16–77 % in Western North Pacific (85–117 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0 m and 66–73 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 150 m), 0–194 % in Atlantic Ocean (50–97 $\mu\text{M C}$ at <100 m and 33–59 $\mu\text{M C}$ at >1000 m), 0–165 % in Pacific Ocean (40–90 $\mu\text{M C}$ at <100 m and 34–45 $\mu\text{M C}$ at >1000 m), 28–121 % in Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea (55–95 $\mu\text{M C}$ at <100 m and 43 $\mu\text{M C}$ at >1000 m), 0–121 in Antarctic Ocean (38–75 $\mu\text{M C}$ at <100 m and 34–60 $\mu\text{M C}$ at >1000 m), as well as 0–118 % in Arctic Ocean (34–107 $\mu\text{M C}$ at <100 m and 49–54 $\mu\text{M C}$ at >1000 m) (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2009a; Fu et al. 2010; Ogawa and Tanoue 2003; Ogawa and Ogura 1992; Wilkinson et al. 1997; Mitra et al. 2000; Yoshioka et al. 2002a; Hayakawa et al. 2003, 2004; Annual Report 2004; Bade 2004; Sugiyama et al. 2004).

The contribution of extracellular release of photosynthetically-derived DOM varies from 5 to 70 % in natural waters (Lancelot 1979; Fogg 1983; Connolly et al. 1992). The autochthonous production is significantly higher in oceans with a high water temperature (WT) than in those with a low water temperature, particularly in the Arctic Ocean. The key contributors to autochthonous DOM in natural waters as well as in sediment pore waters are considered to be phytoplankton or algal biomass, bacteria, coral, coral reef, submerged aquatic vegetation, krill (shrimp-like marine crustaceans), seagrass, and marsh- and mangrove forest (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Zhang et al. 2009; Li et al. 2011; McKnight et al. 1991, 1993, 1994, 2001; Tanoue et al. 1995, 1996; Fukuda et al. 1998; Nelson et al. 1998, 2004; Tanoue 2000; Kahru and Mitchell 2001; Ogawa et al. 2001; Hata et al. 2002; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002a, b; Burdige et al. 2004; Cammack et al. 2004; Steinberg et al. 2004; Wild et al. 2004; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Biers et al. 2007; Chen et al. 2007; Vantrepotte et al. 2007; Wada et al. 2007; Wang et al. 2007; Hanamachi et al. 2008; Henderson et al. 2008; Tanaka et al. 2008; Tzortziou et al. 2008; Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2009; Tranvik et al. 2009). These studies demonstrate that autochthonous DOM is produced from POM by several processes such as photoinduced and microbial respiration (or assimilation), zooplankton grazing, bacterial release and uptake, viral interactions, and complex microbial processes in sediment pore waters.

3.2.1 Respiration or Assimilation of Algae or Phytoplankton Species and Bacteria

Algae or phytoplankton biomass and bacteria can release new DOM in natural waters by two key processes: first, photoinduced respiration or assimilation of algae or phytoplankton biomass and bacteria, which can produce new DOM (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2009b, 2011; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002a; Varela et al. 2003; Aoki et al. 2008; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Hulatt et al. 2009). Second, microbial respiration or assimilation of algae or phytoplankton and bacteria, which can release the new DOM in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b, 2011; Parlanti et al. 2000; Zhang et al. 2009; Fu et al. 2010; McKnight et al. 1991, 1994, 2001; Nelson et al. 2004; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002a; Cammack

et al. 2004; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004, 2008; Wada et al. 2007; Hanamachi et al. 2008; Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2009; Aoki et al. 2008; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Hulatt et al. 2009; Bertilsson and Jones 2003; Chen and Gardner 2004; Stedmon and Markager 2005a; Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Wetz and Wheeler 2007; Zhao et al. 2009).

Re-suspension of algae or phytoplankton in ultrapure water (Milli-Q), artificial sea water and natural waters can release new organic compounds, either under irradiation or under dark incubation. These organic substances, produced either under irradiation (Fig. 1a) or in the dark (Fig. 1b, c) show fluorescence (excitation-emission matrix, EEM) properties. The EEM spectra of autochthonous DOM (Fig. 1a, b) are roughly similar to those of allochthonous fulvic acid and show two fluorescence peaks at peak C- and A-regions (Fig. 1d). In contrast, they are different from allochthonous humic acids that show more than two peaks at peak C-region (Fig. 1f). Based on the similarities of the EEM spectra, the key component of autochthonous fluorescent DOM is defined as “autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like)” of algal or phytoplankton origin. The other component (Fig. 1c) is defined as “autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)” of algal or phytoplankton origin, based on the similarities with the marine humic-like component (Coble 1996, 2007). Identification of autochthonous DOM of algal or phytoplankton origin is

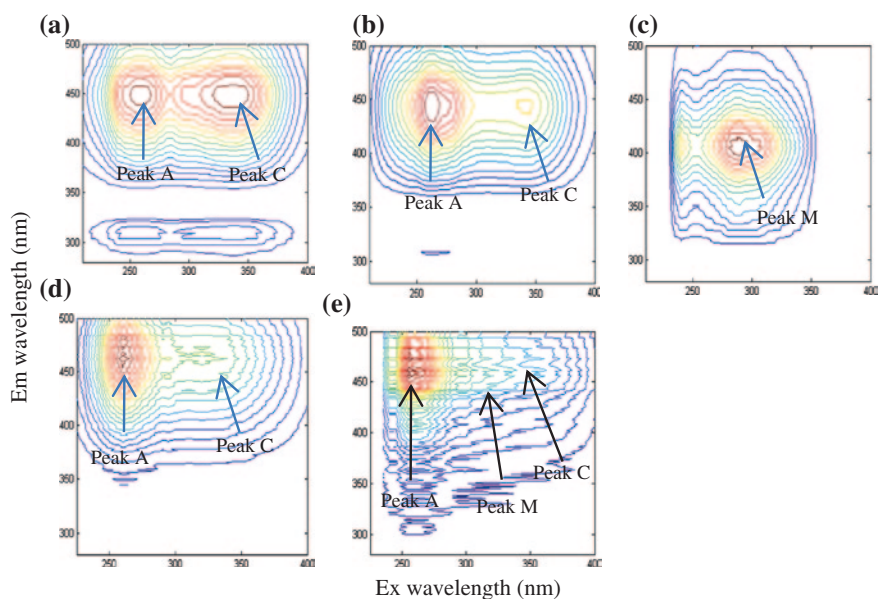


Fig. 1 Comparison of the fluorescent components of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) produced under microbial respiration of lake algae (a), autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) under photorespiration or assimilation of algal biomass (b) and autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) under microbial respiration of algae (c) with aqueous samples of standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (d) and Suwannee River Humic Acid (e) identified using PARAFAC modeling on the EEM spectra of their respective samples. *Data source* Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

discussed extensively in the FDOM chapter (see chapter “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). Note that “autochthonous fulvic acids” of algal or phytoplankton origin are newly termed in this study for mostly two reasons: first, to distinguish and generalize between all freshwaters and marine waters; second, because of the confusion in different studies that use several names such as marine humic-like (Coble [1996](#), [2007](#)), sedimentary fulvic acids (Hayase and Tsubota [1983](#)), microbially derived fulvic acids or marine fulvic acids (McKnight et al. [1991](#), [1994](#); Harvey and Boran [1985](#); Meyers-Schulte and Hedges [1986](#)).

DOM is produced significantly by eleven species of intertidal and sub-tidal macroalgae when they are illuminated, providing evidence for a light-driven exudation mechanism (Hulatt et al. [2009](#)). The contribution of the released DOC has been detected as 6.4 and 17.3 % of the total organic carbon in cultures of *Chlorella vulgaris* and *Dunaliella tertiolecta*, respectively, upon light exposure (Hulatt and Thomas [2010](#)). DOM can support a significant growth of bacterial biomass, representing a further loss of algal assimilated carbon in water (Hulatt and Thomas [2010](#)). Dissolved combined amino acids, middle-reach peaks of particulate amino acids and non-protein amino acids are often decreased in downstream rivers, which is likely the result of photoinduced degradation of DOM and algae (Duan and Bianchi [2007](#)).

On the other hand, the key processes of autochthonous DOM release by microbial respiration of algae or phytoplankton biomass in waters are presumably the extracellular release by living cells, cell death and lysis, or herbivore grazing that may occur in the deeper waters of rivers, lakes and oceans (Mostofa et al. [2009a](#); Tanoue [2000](#); Tranvik et al. [2009](#); Hulatt et al. [2009](#)). In fact, bacteria play a specific role in subsequent processing of the DOM released by algae in natural water (Nelson et al. [1998](#), [2004](#); Rochelle-Newall and Fisher [2002a](#); Cammack et al. [2004](#); Biers et al. [2007](#); Ortega-Retuerta et al. [2009](#)). Cultivation of three kinds of phytoplankton (green algae *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Staurastrum denticiferum* and dark-brown whip-hair algae *Cryptomonas ovata* collected from lake waters) shows that fulvic acid-like and protein-like fluorescent components are released when they are cultivated under a 12:12 h light/dark cycle in a MA medium and an improved VT medium at 20 °C (Aoki et al. [2008](#)). This study implies that the increase of the refractory organic matter in lake waters may be attributed to a change of the predominant phytoplankton. Similarly, cultivation of three kinds of phytoplankton (*Prorocentrum donghaiense*, *Heterosigma akashiwo* and *Skeletonema costatum* collected from sea water) can produce visible humic-like (C-like and M-like) and protein-like or tyrosine-like components in waters (Zhao et al. [2006a](#), [2009](#)).

Releases of DOM by eleven species of intertidal and sub-tidal macroalgae in the dark account for 63.7 % of that in the light in the UV-B band (Hulatt et al. [2009](#)). Some brown algae can produce considerably less DOM (e.g. *Pelvetia canaliculata*), which are more comparable to the green and red species (Hulatt et al. [2009](#)). It is shown that thin, subsurface DOM maxima are observed below the plume during the highly stratified summer period but are absent in the spring,

which is the strong evidence of significant in situ biological production of CDOM in natural waters (Chen and Gardner 2004).

Incubation of coastal seawater in the presence of model (DON: amino sugars and amino acids) and DIN compounds shows that net biological DOM formation occurs upon addition of amino sugars (formation of fluorescent, mostly labile DOM) and tryptophan (formation of non-fluorescent, refractory DOM) (Biers et al. 2007). Similarly, natural assemblages of marine bacteria can rapidly produce refractory material (in <48 h) utilizing labile compounds (glucose, glutamate), as observed in a laboratory experiment (Ogawa et al. 2001). On the other hand, photoinduced formation of DOM is only detected when tryptophan is added to the water (Biers et al. 2007). This CDOM is highly fluorescent, with excitation-emission matrices (EEMs) resembling those of terrestrial, humic-like fluorophores (Biers et al. 2007). The bulk particulate organic carbon (POC) during the decomposition process of freshwater or marine algae and phytoplankton is significantly decreased during the first few days. It subsequently remains almost constant (Zhang et al. 2009; Hanamachi et al. 2008; Matsunaga 1981; Fukami et al. 1985; Osinga et al. 1997; Fujii et al. 2002). The carbohydrate contents of both the particulate and dissolved pools are increased during the phytoplankton growth cycle, accounting for 18–45 % and 26–80 % of total organic carbon (TOC), respectively, in natural waters (Biddanda and Benner 1997). Photoreactions driven by UV-B can reduce the microbial availability of certain organic substrates such as peptone and algal exudates (Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Thomas and Lara 1995; Naganuma et al. 1996). This phenomenon can be caused by light-induced cross-linking between DOM and algal exudates (Morris and Hargreaves 1997).

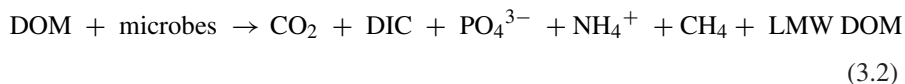
LMW organic acids are presumably formed by four major processes (Lovley et al. 1996; Xiao and Wu 2011; Wetzel et al. 1995; Smith and Oremland 1983; Kieber et al. 1990; Corin et al. 1996; Janczarek et al. 1997; Evans 1998; Bertilsson et al. 1999; Tedetti et al. 2006; Lu et al. 2007; Xiao et al. 2009, 2011): first, photoinduced decomposition of allochthonous and autochthonous DOM in surface waters; second, photoinduced and microbial respiration or assimilation of algae or phytoplankton biomass in natural waters; third, conversion of anaerobic organic substances (carbohydrates, fats, proteins, etc.) into CH₄ and CO₂ in pore waters or soil ecosystems; and fourth, root exudations of plants or plant–microbe associations (e.g. *Rhizobium* symbiosis with leguminous roots).

A number of factors can influence the DOC release by algae or phytoplankton and bacteria in waters, which can be distinguished as: (i) occurrence of the phytoplankton species and their contents; (ii) water quality; (iii) presence of nutrients; (iv) effect of UV and PAR; (v) water temperature; (vi) occurrence of microbes; (vii) metabolic abilities or inabilities and so on (Norrman et al. 1995; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Lancelot 1979; Fogg 1983; Nelson et al. 1998, 2004; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002a, b; Cammack et al. 2004; Biers et al. 2007; Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2009; Hulatt et al. 2009; Zhao et al. 2006a, 2009; Williams 1990, 1995; Obernosterer and Herndl 1995; Anderson and Williams 1998; McCallister et al. 2004).

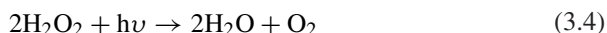
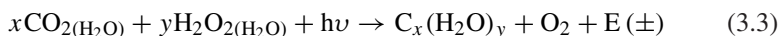
3.2.2 Photosynthesis

Photosynthesis is the key process for the formation of organic carbon or OM (e.g. algae or cyanobacteria, phytoplankton, etc.) through light-stimulated inorganic carbon acquisition in surface waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Li et al. 2011; Li 1994; Zubkov and Tarran 2008; Beardall et al. 2009a, b; Wu and Gao 2009; Liu et al. 2010). Photosynthetic organisms are then able to produce autochthonous DOM via photoinduced respiration (or photoinduced assimilation) and microbial respiration or assimilation in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Zhang et al. 2009; Conrad 1999; Weiss et al. 1991; Harvey et al. 1995; Fu et al. 2010; Thomas and Lara 1995; Druon et al. 2010; Yamashita et al. 2008). A new hypothesis on photosynthesis also considers that H_2O_2 might be involved in the occurrence of oxygenic photosynthesis in both higher plants (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Miller and Moran 1997) and natural water organisms (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b). Occurrence of photosynthesis in natural waters includes two facts: the first is the generation of numerous chemical species from DOM, which may proceed as follows: (i) photoinduced degradation of DOM can produce many photoproducts, such as H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, CO, LMW DOM, and so on in upper surface waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Miller and Zepp 1995; Miller 1998; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Salonen and Vähätalo 1994; Amon and Benner 1996; Granéli et al. 1996; Remington et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 1998; Cai et al. 1999; Gennings et al. 2001; Clark et al. 2004; Fichot and Miller 2010; White et al. 2010; Cai 2011); (ii) microbial degradation of DOM including DON and DOP can produce compounds such as H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, PO_4^{3-} , NH_4^+ , CH_4 , LMW DOM and so on (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2004; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Lovley et al. 1996; Ma and Green 2004; Palenik and Morel 1988; Li et al. 2011; Zinder 1990; Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001; Zagarese et al. 2001; Semiletov et al. 2007). Many of these compounds can favor the occurrence of photosynthesis either directly or indirectly and lead to fixation of organic carbon or OM from inorganic carbon in surface waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Miller and Moran 1997; Li et al. 2011; Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2009; Li 1994; Zubkov and Tarran 2008; Beardall et al. 2009a, b; Wu and Gao 2009; Liu et al. 2010).

A general scheme for the photoinduced (Eq. 3.1) and microbial or biological (Eq. 3.2) degradation of DOM can be expressed as follows (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b):



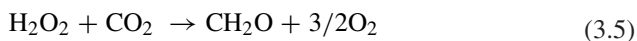
The second fact is that H_2O_2 and CO_2 , produced by either photoinduced or microbial degradation of DOM and POM can take part to photosynthesis, to form new OM or carbohydrate-type compounds (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b):



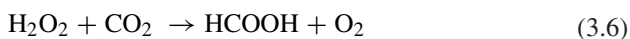
where $\text{C}_x(\text{H}_2\text{O})_y$ represents a generic carbohydrate (Eq. 3.3). According to this hypothesis, H_2O_2 acts together with carbon dioxide (CO_2) to form carbohydrates and oxygen (Eq. 3.3). The formation of oxygen occurs via H_2O_2 disproportionation (Eq. 3.4) that is a common conversion reaction of H_2O_2 in water ecosystems and the atmosphere (see the photosynthesis chapter for detailed description for these reactions) (Liang et al. 2006; Buick 2008). In Eq. (3.3), $\text{E}(\pm)$ is the energy produced during photosynthesis.

Currently, model results imply that the progressive release of DON in the ocean's upper layer during summer increases the primary production by 30–300 %. This will in turn enhance the DOC production mostly from phytoplankton exudation in the upper layer and the solubilization of POM deeper in the water column (Druon et al. 2010). Experimental studies observe that both the quantity and the spectral quality of DOM produced by bacteria can be influenced by the presence of photoproducts in aqueous media (Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2009). Photosynthetically produced POM (algae or phytoplankton) and their photo- and microbial respirations are significantly influenced by several key factors, such as chemical nature and contents of DOM (Jones 1992; Hessen 1985; Tranvik and Hafle 1987; Tranvik 1989); high precipitation (Freeman et al. 2001a; Tranvik and Jasson 2002; Hejzlar et al. 2003; Zhang et al. 2010); land use changes that cause high transport of DOC from catchments to adjacent surface waters (Worrall et al. 2004a; Raymond and Oh 2007); nitrogen deposition (Pregitzer et al. 2004; Findlay 2005); sulfate (SO_4^{2-}) deposition (Zhang et al. 2010; Evans et al. 2006; Monteith et al. 2007); droughts and alteration of hydrologic pathways (Hongve et al. 2004; Worrall and Burt 2008); changes in total solar UV radiation or an increase in temperature due to global warming (Freeman et al. 2001a; Zhang et al. 2010; Sinha et al. 2001; Sobek et al. 2007; Rastogi et al. 2010).

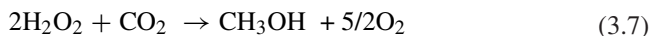
Finally, H_2O_2 can react with CO_2 under abiotic conditions to produce various organic substances (CH_2O , HCOOH , CH_3OH , CH_4 , $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$; Eqs. 3.5–3.9, respectively) in aqueous solution (Lobanov et al. 2004). The reactions between H_2O_2 and CO_2 as well as their thermodynamic parameters such as enthalpy changes (ΔH^0) and the Gibbs free energy changes (ΔG^0) are as follows (Lobanov et al. 2004):



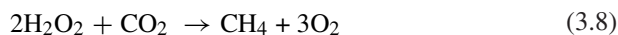
$$\Delta\text{H}^0 = 465\text{kJ}, \Delta\text{G}^0 = 402\text{kJ}$$



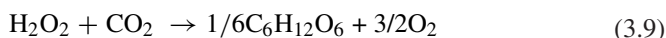
$$\Delta\text{H}^0 = 172\text{kJ}, \Delta\text{G}^0 = 166\text{kJ}$$



$$\Delta\text{H}^0 = 530 \text{ kJ}, \Delta\text{G}^0 = 464 \text{ kJ}$$



$$\Delta\text{H}^0 = 694 \text{ kJ}, \Delta\text{G}^0 = 580 \text{ kJ}$$



$$\Delta\text{H}^0 = 426 \text{ kJ}$$

3.3 DOM Derived from Anthropogenic and Human Activities

Organic pollutants derived from sewerage and from domestic, agricultural and industrial effluents significantly contribute to increase the concentration levels of DOM in natural waters (Fu et al. 2010; McCalley et al. 1981; Silberhorn et al. 1990; Kramer et al. 1996; Mudge and Bebianno 1997; Manoli and Samara 1999; Abril et al. 2002; Newton et al. 2003; Mostofa et al. 2005b, 2010; Richardson 2003, 2007; Mottaleb et al. 2005, 2009; Mudge and Duce 2005; Richardson and Ternes 2005, 2011; Buser et al. 2006; Field et al. 2006; Lishman et al. 2006; Rudel et al. 2006; Xia et al. 2006; Brown et al. 2007; Schmid et al. 2007; Farré et al. 2008; Kinney et al. 2008; Guo et al. 2009; Ramirez et al. 2009; Citulski and Farahbakhsh 2010; Kumar and Xagorarakis 2010; Pal et al. 2010; Yoon et al. 2010; Kleywegt et al. 2011; Yu et al. 2011). The organic matter pollution is an important problem in both developed and developing countries through input of untreated sewerage and industrial effluents into natural waters. However, its impacts may be much worse in developing countries due to the lack of sewerage treatment and of industrial effluent treatment plants. The occurrence of DOM derived from anthropogenic and human activities is gradually increasing because of the increasing diffusion of domestic, agricultural and industrial activities. Some components of sewerage-impacted DOM are made up of detergents or fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs), including mostly diaminostilbene type (DAS1) and distyryl biphenyl (DSBP), protein-like components, sterols, and unknown organics (McCalley et al. 1981; Mudge and Bebianno 1997; Mostofa et al. 2005b, 2010; Mudge and Duce 2005). The organic components originating from agricultural wastes are pesticides, herbicides, dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) and their degradation products (Richardson 2007; Guo et al. 2009; Derbalah et al. 2003; Medana et al. 2005).

Recent studies show that emerging organic contaminants such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) are a ubiquitous class of organic chemicals of considerable concern for natural waters, and will be discussed in details later. Wastewater-derived organic compounds can produce three major types of toxic byproducts such as trihalomethanes (THMs), N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) and organic chloramines. These compounds may be formed either upon

chlorination or in conventional and advanced wastewater treatment plants (Scully et al. 1988; Jensen and Helz 1998; Jameel and Helz 1999; Mitch et al. 2003).

4 Contribution of Organic Substances to DOM in Natural Water

The contributions of major organic substances in streams and rivers to the total DOM pool are 20–85 % of humic substances, of which 15–80 % fulvic acid and 5–29 % humic acid (the ratio of fulvic acid to humic acid is 9:1 for lower stream DOC and it decreases to 4:1 or less for higher stream DOC), 10–30 % of carbohydrates, 2–48 % of dissolved amino acids, organic acids or hydrophilic acids (9–25 %), autochthonous fulvic acids of phytoplankton or algal origin (or marine humic-like: see Sect. 3.2 and also FDOM chapter for detailed description), organic acids, organic peroxides (ROOHs), sterols; organic contaminants of anthropogenic origin and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Malcolm 1985, 1990; Bertilsson et al. 1999; Lu et al. 2007; Wetzel and Manny 1972; Meybeck 1982; Meyer and Tate 1983; Ittekkot et al. 1985; Thurman 1985b; Meyer 1986; Tipping et al. 1988; Lewis and Saunders 1989; Peuravuori 1992; Hedges et al. 1994; Eatherall 1996; Volk et al. 1997; Kusel and Drake 1999; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999; Alberts and Takács 1999; Ma et al. 2001; Raymond and Bauer 2001a; van Hees et al. 2002; Nagai et al. 2005; Mostofa 2005; Guéguen et al. 2006). Hydrophilic acids generally include amino acids, proteins, carbohydrates and free sugars. The contribution of humic substances (hydrophobic acids) in groundwater is approximately 12–98 % (1–80 % of fulvic acid and 2–97 % of humic acid), and the contribution of hydrophilic fractions is 1–82 % (Buckau et al. 2000; Bertilsson et al. 1999; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999; Leenheer et al. 1974; Thurman 1985c; Ford and Naiman 1989; Schiff et al. 1990; Wassenaar et al. 1990; Malcolm 1991; Grøn et al. 1996; Christensen et al. 1998; McIntyre et al. 2005; Mladenov et al. 2008). These studies observe high variation in the contribution of humic substances from stream (source) to the end of river mouths. The main reasons are the mixing up of various sources of water in the downstream locations as well as the photoinduced and microbial changes during transportation.

In lakes the contributions of humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) account for 14–90 % of total DOM (14–70 % of fulvic acid and 0–22 % of humic acid); the DOM pool is also made up of ~12–60 % of autochthonous fulvic acids (see FDOM chapter for detailed description) of algal or phytoplankton origin; of carbohydrates for 1–65 %; of amino acids, proteins and organic acids that together account for 10–33 % of total DOM; of organic acids (2.5–7.5 %, but 0–11 % in pore water); sterols; algal toxins, organic contaminants of anthropogenic origin and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Parlanti et al. 2000; Xiao and Wu 2011; Wilkinson et al. 1997; McKnight et al. 1991, 1994, 1997; Xiao et al. 2009, 2011; Thurman 1985b; Peuravuori 1992; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999; Ma et al. 2001; Nagai et al. 2005; Schiff et al. 1990; Steinberg and Muenster 1985; Hama

and Handa 1987; Baron et al. 1991; Søndergaard and Middelboe 1995; Reitner et al. 1997; Malcolm and MacCarthy 1992; Imai et al. 1998; Rosenstock and Simon 2001; Frimmel 2004; Hayakawa 2004; Sugiyama et al. 2005). Biomolecules (e.g. carbohydrates and proteins) as well as organic acids account for approximately 70 % of high molecular weight (HMW) DOM, and only for approximately 2 % of (LMW) DOM in lake water (Hama and Handa 1992). These studies also show that allochthonous fulvic acids in lakes are largely varied during the summer and winter season, with winter maxima and summer minima. Their total content is also low in algal-dominated lakes.

The percentages of major organic substances in bulk DOM in shelf, coastal and open ocean are: 1–75 % of allochthonous fulvic acids of terrestrial origin; 5–10 % of autochthonous fulvic acids (or marine humic-like: see Sect. 3.2 and also FDOM chapter for detailed description) of algal or phytoplankton origin; 10–80 % of carbohydrates (~25 % in deeper layers); 10–28 % of amino acids, proteins and lipids taken together (amino acids alone account for 7 %); organic acids; organic peroxides (ROOH); sterols; algal toxins, and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Coble 1996, 2007; Zhang et al. 2009; Bronk 2002; Ogawa and Tanoue 2003; Ogawa et al. 2001; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Harvey and Boran 1985; Meyers-Schulte and Hedges 1986; Druon et al. 2010; Richardson 2007; Thurman 1985b; Alberts and Takács 1999; Ma et al. 2001; Beck et al. 1974; Stuermer and Harvey 1977; Gagosian and Stuermer 1977; Burney et al. 1982; Thurman and Malcolm 1983; Romankevich 1984; Williams and Druffel 1987; Moran et al. 1991; Moran and Hodson 1994; Pakulski and Benner 1994; McCarthy et al. 1996; Opsahl and Benner 1997; Gašparovic et al. 1998; Kirchman et al. 2001; Aluwihare et al. 2002; Benner and Kaiser 2003; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003). The contributions of allochthonous humic substances in shelf seawater are 11–75 %, of which around 38 % of marsh origin and 62 % of river origin (Moran and Hodson 1994). Carbohydrates can comprise 10–70 % of the organic matter in the plankton cell (Romankevich 1984) and are presumably released directly to the water column by algae or phytoplankton under photo- and microbial respiration (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Zhang et al. 2009; Hellebust 1965; Ittekkot et al. 1981; Mopper et al. 1995; Cowie and Hedges 1994, 1996). Carbohydrates (originally polysaccharides) make up approximately 15–60 % of marine HMW DOM (Druon et al. 2010; Burney et al. 1982; Romankevich 1984; Pakulski and Benner 1994; McCarthy et al. 1996). Carbohydrates also account for ~5–20 % of particulate material in seawater (Pakulski and Benner 1994; Tanoue and Handa 1987; Hernes et al. 1996; Panagiotopoulos et al. 2002). Autochthonously produced carbohydrates, proteins and lipids are vital biochemical organic groups that together constitute approximately 10–80 % of organic carbon and 15–50 % of the nitrogen assimilated during photosynthesis by phytoplankton in natural waters (Sundh 1992; Bronk et al. 1994; Braven et al. 1995; Malinsky-Rushansky and Legrand 1996; Wakeham et al. 1997; Slawyk et al. 1998).

The main organic substances in rainwater are hydrophobic DOM (major fraction; ~<50 %), including allochthonous humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) or marine humic-like substances, hydrophilic DOM (major fraction; ~>50 %),

including organic acids (~14–40 %) such as acetic and formic acid, dicarboxylic acids (~<6 %, including oxalic, succinic, malonic and maleic acids), pyruvic acid (~<1 %), amino acids (~2 %) including tryptophan-like and tyrosine-like components, formaldehyde (~2–8 %), acetaldehyde (~5 %), organic peroxides (ROOHs: see chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)” for detailed description) (McDowell and Likens 1988; Hellpointner and Gáb 1989; Hewitt and Kok 1991; Guggenberger and Zech 1993; Sakugawa et al. 1993; Sempéré and Kawamura 1994; Chebbi and Carlier 1996; Williams et al. 1997; Willey et al. 2000, 2006; Ciglasch et al. 2004; Avery et al. 2006; Kieber et al. 2006; Muller et al. 2008; Miller et al. 2008, 2009; Santos et al. 2009a, b; Southwell et al. 2010; Zhang et al. 2011; Nichols and Espey 1991; Brassell et al. 1980; Sargent et al. 1981). These studies also show that rainwater mostly consists of low molecular weight organic substances, having MW < 1000 Dalton. Note that factors such as wind speed, storm trajectory and rainwater volume can influence DOM contents in rainwater. The relative importance of these factors depends on the sources of the rainwater constituents (Miller et al. 2008).

The contribution of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids is significantly high in source waters (streams and rivers), then their contributions decrease during the flow into the downward water ecosystem (lakes, estuaries and oceans) because of three major processes: first, photoinduced and microbial degradation; second, dilution of the source waters with other water bodies; third, high contents of autochthonous DOM can decrease the relative contribution of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids in stagnant waters, particularly in lakes, estuaries and oceans.

On the other hand, the contribution of autochthonous DOM including autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin, carbohydrates, proteins, amino acids, lipids, organic acids etc. is relatively low in source waters, but significantly high in lakes and oceans. Autochthonous production of DOM is typically detected in the epilimnion of lake and ocean during the stratification period. A rough estimate shows that the contribution of autochthonous DOM is 0–102 % in lakes and 0–194 % in oceans, which has been discussed in earlier section (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Wigington et al. 1996; Fu et al. 2010; Ogawa and Tanoue 2003; Ogawa and Ogura 1992; Mitra et al. 2000; Yoshioka et al. 2002a; Hayakawa et al. 2003, 2004; Annual Report 2004; Bade 2004; Sugiyama et al. 2004).

The sterol biomarkers used for identifying DOM sources in water are terrestrial (b-sitosterol and ergosterol), sewage (5b-coprostanol and epi-coprostanol), phytoplankton (cholest-5,22-dien-ol, brassicasterol, dinosterol), and marine markers (cholesterol) (McCalley et al. 1981; Mudge and Bebianno 1997; Mudge and Duce 2005; Nichols and Espey 1991). Long-chain C22-C30 alkanols are generally considered to originate from terrestrial plants, while short-chain alkanols have unspecified marine, terrestrial and bacterial origins (Brassell et al. 1980; Sargent et al. 1981). From the above contributions to the DOM composition in various sources of waters, it is evidenced that, on average, approximately 80–90 % of bulk DOM in streams, rivers, lakes and oceans is specifically identified as allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, autochthonous fulvic acids, carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, amino acids, fatty acids, sterols, and organic acids.

4.1 Physical and Chemical Properties of DOM

Naturally-originated organic compounds such as humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of terrestrial plant origin, autochthonous DOM of algal or phytoplankton origin, proteins, amino acids, peptides and polysaccharides exhibit, to varying degrees, several major properties (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Malcolm 1985; Xue et al. 1995; Mandal et al. 1999; Filella 2008). They are: (i) physically heterogeneous; (ii) polyfunctional, due to the existence of a variety of functional groups and the presence of a broad range of functional reactivity; (iii) polyelectrolytical, with high electric charge density due to the presence of a large number of dissociated functional groups; (iv) structurally labile, because of their capacity to associate intermolecularly and to change molecular conformation in response to changes in pH, pE, ionic strength, trace metal binding, and so on; (v) polydisperse in size.

Water Color:

The yellow color in natural waters is due to the occurrence of humic substances (fulvic and humic acid) and of autochthonous fulvic acids (C- and M-like) of algal or phytoplankton origin, which absorb light in the blue and ultraviolet (Kalle 1966; Jerlov 1968). These substances were formerly referred to collectively as yellow substances or gelbstoff (Kirk 1976; Kalle 1966). Water color is generally related to the occurrence and contents of these substances in natural waters (Eloranta 1978; Jones and Arvola 1984). Ocean color is an important feature of water that was recently determined using remote sensing applications (Hopkinson et al. 2002; Morel et al. 2007; Morel and Gentili 2009; Van der Woerd et al. 2011; Volpe et al. 2011; Son et al. 2011). It is mostly due to the effect of autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin as well as partly to allochthonous fulvic and humic acids (humic substances). A recent study has shown that autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) of lake algal origin under dark incubation can exhibit yellow color (Mostofa et al. 2009b). Note that autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) are characterized based on their similar fluorescence properties to allochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like), which will be discussed in detail in the FDOM chapter (see chapter “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”).

Attenuation of Spectral UV Irradiance

DOM is the key factor that controls the downward irradiance flux through the water column of UV-B (280–320 nm), UV-A (320–400 nm), total UV (280–400 nm) and photosynthetically available radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) (Kirk 1976; Morris et al. 1995; Siegel and Michaels 1996; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Tranvik 1998; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Laurion et al. 2000; Markager and Vincent 2000; Huovinen et al. 2003; Sommaruga and Augustin 2006; Hayakawa

and Sugiyama 2008; Effler et al. 2010). These studies show that UV-B penetration depths vary from only a few centimeters in highly humic lakes to dozens of meters in the oceans, due to variation in DOM contents. It is also observed that 99 % of the UV-B radiation is attenuated in an approximately 0.5-m water column in the clearest lake for DOC ranging from 408 to 725 $\mu\text{M C}$ and for chlorophyll *a* ranging from 1.6 to 16 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ (Huovinen et al. 2003). In the UV-A region at 380 nm, the corresponding attenuation is limited to the upper one meter.

The absorption coefficients predict that, in a small humic lake (DOC 1100–1242 $\mu\text{M C}$), UV-B radiation is attenuated to 1 % of the subsurface irradiance within the top 10 cm water column, whereas UV-A radiation (at 380 nm) penetrates more than twice as deep (maximum 25 cm) (Huovinen et al. 2003). However, in clear lakes with low DOC concentration the contribution of phytoplankton to UV attenuation can be significant (Sommaruga and Psenner 1997). Any enhancement of photoinduced degradation of DOC by UV radiation and acidification can substantially increase the UV transparency in lakes (Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Vione et al. 2009; Schindler et al. 1996; Yan et al. 1996; Scully et al. 1997). The consequence is an enhanced penetration of UV radiation into the water column, which can significantly damage aquatic biota. DOM is thus responsible for UV attenuation in the water column and for the related protection of aquatic organisms in natural waters.

Aggregation of DOM

Aggregation of fulvic and humic acid (humic substances) can occur at the intramolecular (involving a single polymer molecule) or intermolecular (involving multiple chains) levels in aqueous solution (Wershaw 1999; Engebretson and von Wandruszka 1996; Lippold et al. 2008). The interior of the resulting aggregates is relatively hydrophobic, whilst the exterior is more hydrophilic. They can exist in a pseudomicellar form or as micelle-like aggregates in solution, and as membrane-like aggregates on mineral surfaces (Wershaw 1999; Sutton and Sposito 2005; Piccolo et al. 2001). The results of the chemical analysis of humic acids isolated from natural environments (water, soil, peat, sediments, and sludge from wastewater treatment facilities) demonstrate that the percentage elemental composition, the contents of carboxylic groups and of aromatic phenolic groups is very variable. They range from 33.2 (river) to 60.7 % (Aldrich) of C; 2.25 (river) to 5.4 % (soil) of H; 0.65 (river) to 3.7 % (peat) of N; 34.1 (Aldrich) to 63.8 (river) of O; 0.06 (soil) to 0.10 % (sewage sludge) of S; 1.0 (river) to 8.1 mmol g^{-1} (peat) of carboxylic groups ($-\text{COOH}$), and from 0.36 (bog peat) to 4.4 mmol g^{-1} of phenolic moieties (ArOH) (Klavins and Purmalis 2010).

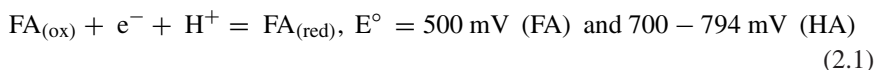
Humic acids behave like surface-active substances when they are added to solutions, which depend on their origin and molecular properties. Therefore, their surface tension decreases as their concentration increases (Lippold et al. 2008; Klavins and Purmalis 2010; Wershaw 1993; Engebretson and von Wandruszka 1994; Terashima et al. 2004). Humic acids can be significantly modified in their

functional groups such as the benzene ring in phenolic structures with the addition of hydrophilic sulfonic, hydroxyl or trimethylammonium functional groups (Klavins and Purmalis 2010). This effect can be used for the development of biopolymers with surfactant properties (Klavins and Purmalis 2010; Heinze and Liebert 2001). Humic substances might influence plankton food chains in lakes in two ways (Jones 1992): (i) By altering the physical or chemical environment and thus modifying autotrophic primary production and the dependent food chains; and (ii) By acting as a direct carbon/energy source for food chains.

4.1.1 Redox Behavior of Fulvic and Humic Acids

Fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) can act as reductants and oxidants in aqueous media (Lovley et al. 1996; Richardson 2007; Wilson and Weber 1979; Nash et al. 1981; Skogerboe and Wilson 1981; Österberg and Shirshova 1997; Scott et al. 1998; André and Choppin 2000; Steelink 2002; Kuczewski et al. 2003; Shcherbina et al. 2007). They are capable of reducing Fe^{3+} , Sn^{4+} , V^{5+} and Cr^{4+} . The +IV oxidation states of the redox-sensitive actinides (e.g. Pa, Np, U, Pu) are stabilized by complexation with fulvic and humic acids. Fulvic and humic acids are thus capable of detoxifying surface water and soils contaminated with toxic organic and inorganic chemicals. Some examples are (i) reduction of metals from toxic valence states to non-toxic states, such as Cr^{4+} to Cr^{3+} , V^{5+} to V^{4+} , or UO_2^{2+} and UO_2OH^+ to U^{4+} (Steelink 2002; Wittbrodt and Palmer 1995; Markich 2002; Freyer et al. 2009); (ii) reductive cleavage of halogenated hydrocarbons such as trichloroethylene, a common pollutant in soil and groundwater, which can be degraded to ethylene and hydrochloric acid (Steelink 2002); (iii) abiotic reduction of mercury in the presence of a competing ion as well as methylation of the carboxylic groups of humic and fulvic acids, which can consume methylmercury (Allard and Arsenie 1991); and (iv) reduction of organic nitro groups to amines. For instance, trinitrotoluene (TNT) is reduced to compounds such as aminodinitrotoluene that can form complexes with fulvic and humic acids (Steelink 2002). Note that TNT is an explosive that can migrate to and pollute groundwater.

On the other hand, it has also been observed that the functional groups in fulvic and humic acids can be oxidized, as is the case of catechol moieties (oxidized to quinones), aldehydes (to carboxylic acids), alcohols (to aldehydes or carboxylic acids) and so on (Steelink 2002). These redox processes account for the presence of intermediates such as semiquinones in fulvic and humic acids. A typical redox process involving fulvic acids (FA) and humic acids (HA) can be depicted as below (Wilson and Weber 1979; Skogerboe and Wilson 1981):



For instance, SRHA has standard reduction potential $E^\circ = 760 \pm 6$ at pH 5–7. The E° values are variable depending on the pH (Wilson and Weber 1979;

Skogerboe and Wilson 1981; Matthiesen 1994; Struyk and Sposito 2001). Some studies also suggest that functional groups such as quinone or quinone-like moieties in fulvic and humic acids are largely responsible for the observed reversible redox behavior in natural waters (Scott et al. 1998; Tratnyek and Macalady 1989; Schwarzenbach et al. 1990; Nurmi and GTratnyek 2002; Cory and McKnight 2005; Macalady and Walton-Day 2009). In addition, fulvic and humic acids can donate electrons photolytically in aqueous media, which can induce the production of oxidizing agents such as superoxide ion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$) and hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) (see detailed description in chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Baxter and Carey 1983).

The presence of diverse functional groups in the molecular structure of fulvic and humic acids is responsible for their redox behavior in waters. The redox behavior of humic acids depends on the redox potential of the aqueous solutions as well as on the complexation capacity with multicharged cations in water (Österberg and Shirshova 1997; Struyk and Sposito 2001; Kerndorff and Schnitzer 1980; Zauzig et al. 1993).

4.1.2 Definition and Chemical Nature of Allochthonous Fulvic and Humic Acids

Allochthonous DOM of vascular plant origin is primarily composed of humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), which are also termed as hydrophobic acids. Stream fulvic and humic acid are therefore vital to understand the nature of the allochthonous DOM, because the chemical composition and optical properties of these substances are greatly altered photolytically and microbially during their transportation after leaching from soil into rivers, lakes or oceans.

Allochthonous Fulvic Acids

Allochthonous fulvic acids can be defined as molecularly heterogeneous and supramolecular, with molecular weight ranging from less than 100 to over 300,000 Daltons and with the largest fractions ranging less than 50,000. They are optically active, typically refractory to microbial degradation, photolytically reactive, biogenic, and yellow-colored. They are also soluble under all pH conditions in water (Ma and Ali 2009; Mostofa et al. 2005b, 2007a; MacFarlane 1978; Dai et al. 1996; McKnight et al. 1988, 2001; Hayase and Tsubota 1983; Frimmel 2004; Aiken et al. 1985; Aiken and Malcolm 1987; Aiken and Gillam 1989; Amador et al. 1989; David and Vance 1991; Allard et al. 1994; Hummel 1997; Fimmen et al. 2007). Allochthonous fulvic acids in surface waters have relatively low contents of organic N compared to organic C, i.e. a high C:N ratio. This ratio is in the range ~45–202, and standard SRFA (1S101F and 2S101F) have values of 73–78. Allochthonous fulvic acids also have relatively high contents of O and organic P, low contents of S, relatively low aromaticity (17–30 % of total C) and high aliphatic C (63 %) (Malcolm 1985; Wetzel 1983; McKnight et al. 2001;

Meyers-Schulte and Hedges 1986; Ma et al. 2001; McIntyre et al. 2005; Frimmel 2004; Aiken and Malcolm 1987; Abbt-Braun and Frimmel 1990; Abbt-Braun et al. 1991; IHSS 2011; Senesi 1990).

Allochthonous fulvic acids are supramolecular structures composed of a variety of functional groups or components such as benzene-containing carboxyl groups, ketones, methoxylate and phenolic groups (catechol-type), carboxylic and di-carboxylic groups, ethers, esters, amides, aliphatic OH, carbohydrate OH, $-C = C-$, hydroxycoumarin-like structures, chromone, xanthone, quinones, flavones, O, N, S, and P-atom-containing functional groups attached to aromatic and aliphatic C, indole groups, degraded lignins, and so on (Malcolm 1985; Dai et al. 1996; Frimmel 2004; Allard et al. 1994; McKnight et al. 1988; Leenheer et al. 1995, 1998, 2001; Brown and Rice 2000; Haiber et al. 2001; Kujawinski et al. 2002; Lambert and Lankes 2002; Cook et al. 2003; Stenson et al. 2003; Leenheer and Croué 2003; Leenheer 2007; Killips and Killips 1993). Lignins are complex, high-mass, primarily ether-linked phenylpropanoid biopolymers including only C, H, and O atoms in their molecular structure. They are mostly found in wood cells, whereas the main building blocks for the phenyl portion of lignins are coumaryl, coniferyl, and sinapyl alcohols that vary from plant to plant (Helm 2000; Filley et al. 2002; Lewis and Yamamoto 1990; Christman and Oglesby 1971). The lignin biopolymer is degraded by fungi and eventually bacteria through different pathways that include depolymerization, demethylation, side-chain oxidation, and aromatic ring cleavage (Lewis and Yamamoto 1990; Nelson et al. 1987; Grushnikov and Antropova 1975; Higuchi 1993; Radnoti de Liphthay et al. 1999; Leonowicz et al. 2001; Lowe and Bustin 1989).

In humic substances, 60–90 % of the acid groups are carboxylic and the remainder are phenolic (Leenheer et al. 1995). S-XANES have shown that sulphur is present in humic substances in many different oxidation states: organic sulfides (R–S–R), thiol (–SH), di- and polysulfides (R–S–S–R), sulfoxide (R–SO–R), sulfone S compounds (R–SO₂–R), sulfonate (HSO₃–R), and sulfate esters (HSO₄–R) (Frimmel 2004; McKnight et al. 1988; Morra et al. 1997; Xia et al. 1998, 1999; Schnitzer and Khan 1978).

Depending on the major elemental composition of C, H, O and N disregarding S, an average empirical formula for fulvic acid has been considered as C₁₂H₁₂O₉N (Steelink 2002; Leenheer et al. 1998; Paciolla et al. 1998; Schnitzer 1985). Based on accurate mass measurements, molecular formulas have been assigned to 4626 individual Suwannee River fulvic acids with molecular masses between 316 and 1098 Da, which led to plausible structures consistent with degraded lignin (Leenheer and Croué 2003).

Hummel (Fimmen et al. 2007) has shown that a fulvic molecule (i) contains on average 5.5 mmoles of carboxyl groups per gram, which corresponds to one carboxylic group per six carbon atoms, or one group per aromatic ring if distributed evenly; (ii) has an average phenolic group content of 1.2 mol per gram, which means one phenolic group per 30 carbon atoms, or only two phenolic groups per

fulvic molecule; and (iii) has hydroxyl and carbonyl groups that, put together, are as abundant as carboxyl groups (5–7 mmol g⁻¹). Therefore, an average fulvic acid molecule (molecular weight 2,000 g mol⁻¹) would have one carboxylic, hydroxyl or carbonyl group every three carbon atoms. Amino acids, amino sugars, ammonium (NH₄⁺) and nucleic acid bases make up 45–59 % of fulvic acid-N (Smith and Epstein 1971).

The stable carbon isotope ($\delta^{13}\text{C} = {}^{13}\text{C}/{}^{12}\text{C}$) fractionation of standard SRFA is -27.6‰ , while other isolated allochthonous fulvic acids in rivers have [-25.6‰ – 26.4‰] and in lakes have [-23.02‰ – 33.13‰]. These data indicate that SRFA are most likely derived from higher plant matter (Thurman 1985a; McIntyre et al. 2005; Senesi 1990; Simpson et al. 2002; Caraco et al. 1998). Note that standard FAs of Elliot Soil I have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -25.4\text{‰}$, Elliot Soil II have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -25.6\text{‰}$, Pahikee peat I have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -25.8\text{‰}$. Reference FA of Suwannee River have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -27.9\text{‰}$, Pahikee peat I have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -26.1\text{‰}$, Nordic Lake have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -27.8\text{‰}$ (Senesi 1990).

Terrestrial DOM from groundwater, streams, rivers, lakes and sea water (0 salinity) is confined to a narrow range of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (from -25.3‰ to -28.6‰), with 80 % of the values falling within 0.5 ‰ of -27.0‰ (Schiff et al. 1997; McCallister et al. 2004; McIntyre et al. 2005; Elder et al. 2000; Nagao et al. 2011; Fry and Sherr 1984). Note that the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ is largely different for fresh deciduous leaves (-30.4‰), it increases in the top soil (-28.9‰) and then from -27.8 to -26.4‰ in soil. Plant leaves with C3 photosynthesis have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -(25.9\text{‰}$ – $29.2\text{‰})$ and soil profiles have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -(23.8\text{‰}$ – $25.9\text{‰})$. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ has lower values in litter-rich soil DOC [-26.6‰ – 27.7‰] than in litter-lacking soil DOC [approximately -23‰ – 27‰] or terrigenous soil with surface/forest litter [-23‰ – 27‰], terrestrial leaf OM (-27‰), terrigenous vascular plant [-26‰ – 30‰], yellow soil profile [-21.1‰ – 24.8‰] or limestone soil profile [-23.0‰ – 24.1‰] (Tu et al. 2011; McCallister et al. 2004; Elder et al. 2000; Trumbore et al. 1992; Deegan and Garritt 1997; Stevenson 1982; Richter et al. 1999; Raymond and Bauer 2001b; Cloern et al. 2002; Zhu and Liu 2006; Stenson et al. 2002). Therefore, the origin of allochthonous DOM is significantly dependent on the types and nature of terrestrial vegetation in soil environments.

The combination of flow path analysis and ¹⁴C content of DOC suggests that the DOC in upland streams is composed of two pools (Schiff et al. 1997). First, the DOC pool is carried to the stream by discharging groundwater. This DOC has been extensively recycled in the soil zone, has low ¹⁴C content and probably has a low proportion of labile functional groups. Although groundwater contributions to stream flow are high even during storm events, groundwater DOC concentrations are low. The relative contribution of this older recalcitrant pool is limited by the amount of soluble carbon which elutes through the overlying soil column. The second pool is composed of recently fixed and potentially more microbially labile DOC leached from the A horizon or litter layer. The potential contribution of this second pool is very high especially after leaf fall.

Allochthonous Humic Acids

Allochthonous humic acids in surface waters can be defined as molecularly heterogeneous and supramolecular, with molecular weight ranging from less than 500 to over 300,000 Daltons. The largest fraction is found in the range larger than 300,000 Daltons. They are optically active, typically refractory to microbial degradation, photolytically reactive, biogenic, and yellow-colored organic acids. They are insoluble and form precipitates at $\text{pH} < 2$ (MacFarlane 1978; Hayase and Tsubota 1983; Sutton and Sposito 2005; Steelink 2002; Aiken and Malcolm 1987; Aiken and Gillam 1989; Schulten and Schnitzer 1998). Allochthonous humic acids of various origin (soil, bog peat, sewerage sludge) have relatively high contents of organic N to organic C, i.e. they have relatively low C:N atomic ratio (8–51). Standard SRHA (1S1011H and 2S1011H) have C:N = 44–45. Allochthonous humic acids also have relatively low contents of O and organic P, high contents of S, relatively high aromaticity (30–40 % of total C) and relatively low contents of aliphatic C (~30–47 %) compared to fulvic acids (Malcolm 1985; Wetzel 1983; McKnight et al. 2001; Meyers-Schulte and Hedges 1986; Ma et al. 2001; McIntyre et al. 2005; Frimmel 2004; Aiken and Malcolm 1987; Abbt-Braun and Frimmel 1990; Abbt-Braun et al. 1991; IHSS 2011; Senesi 1990). It has been shown that the contents of aromatic and other functional groups are very variable depending on the different sources of humic acids and their photobiogeochemical changes in natural waters. The aromaticity of humic acids is very low (~15 %) in marine waters (Malcolm 1990).

Allochthonous humic acids have a supramolecular structure composed of a variety of functional groups (or fluorophores), such as aromatic carboxylic and dicarboxylic acids, aromatic OH groups including phenols (or catechols) and phenolic acids, aliphatic or carbohydrate OH, aldehyde or aliphatic ketones, amide/amino groups, peptides, esters (COOR) or benzene-containing methoxylates, polymethylenes ($-\text{CH}_2-$), hydroxycoumarin-like structures, chromone, xanthone, quinone, O, N, S, and P-atom-containing functional groups attached to aromatic and aliphatic carbon, methylated forms of para-coumaric, ferrulic, vanillic and syringic acids, pyrrole, indole, imidazole and pyridine groups (Malcolm 1985; Sutton and Sposito 2005; Steelink 2002; Lambert and Lankes 2002; Leenheer and Croué 2003; Stevenson 1982; Schulten and Schnitzer 1998; Laane 1984; Mao et al. 1998; Hu et al. 2000; Mahieu et al. 2000, 2002; Zang et al. 2000; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Piccolo 2002; Vairavamurthy and Wang 2002; Abe and Watanabe 2004; Schmidt-Rohr et al. 2004; Guignard et al. 2005; Fiorentino et al. 2006). A typical humic acid containing 0.2 % reduced sulphur has only $63 \mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$ of thiol sites (Bloom et al. 2001). Amino acids, amino sugars, ammonium (NH_4^+) and nucleic acid bases make up 46–53 % of the N associated with humic acids (Schnitzer 1985). Depending on the elemental compositions of C, H, O, and N, an empirical formula for humic acids has been proposed as $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_5\text{N}$ and a representative molecular formula as $\text{C}_{72}\text{H}_{72}\text{O}_{30}\text{N}_4 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Steelink 2002; Schnitzer and Khan 1978; Paciolla et al. 1998).

The stable carbon isotope ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) fractionation of standard SRHA is -27.7‰ , which indicates that they are most likely derived from higher plant matter (IHSS

2011). Note that Standard HAs of Elliot Soil have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -22.6\text{‰}$; Pahikee peat have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -26.0\text{‰}$, and Leonardite have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -23.8\text{‰}$. Reference HAs of Suwannee River have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -28.2\text{‰}$, Pahikee peat have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -26.3\text{‰}$, Nordic Lake have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -27.8\text{‰}$, and Summit Hill soil have $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -26.3\text{‰}$ (IHSS 2011). In addition, carbon isotope composition of dissolved humic and fulvic acids shows that the $\Delta^{14}\text{C}$ values are ranged from -247 to $+26\text{‰}$ whilst the average values are $-170 \pm 79\text{‰}$ for humic acid and $-44 \pm 73\text{‰}$ for fulvic acid (Nagao et al. 2011). This suggests that the residence time of fulvic acid in the watershed is being shorter than that of humic acid (Nagao et al. 2011).

4.1.3 Definition of Autochthonous Fulvic Acids and Chemical Nature of Autochthonous DOM

The key autochthonously produced biochemical organic groups or substances (Mostofa et al. 2009a) identified in natural waters can be classified as: autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) of algal (cyanobacterium) or phytoplankton origin; carbohydrates such as uranic acids, amino sugars and neutral sugars including free mono-, oligo-, lipopoly-, exopoly-, homopoly-, and heteropolysaccharides; nitrogen-containing organic compounds including amino acids, proteins, amines, amides, urea, purines, pyrimidines, peptides, polypeptides, pyrrole, and indole; lipids, including saturated, monounsaturated, polyunsaturated, branched-chain and odd-chain fatty acids (mostly composed of oleic acid, arachidonic acid, eicosapentanoic acid, linoleic acid, docosahexaenoic acid, cis-vaccenic acid, iso- and anteiso- C_{15} and C_{17} fatty acids, polyunsaturated C_{22} and C_{20} fatty acids, high molecular-weight, straight-chain (C_{24} , C_{26} , C_{28} , C_{30}) fatty acids; organic acids including mono-, di- and tri-carboxylic acids, glycolate, and hydroxamate; allelopathic compounds. There are also steroidal alcohols (sterols) such as 24-methyl-cholesta-5,24(28)-dien-3 β -ol, 24-ethylcholest-5-en-3 β -ol, cholesta-5,22E-dien-3 β -ol, cholest-5-en-3 β -ol, cholesta-5,22-dien-3 β -ol, 27-Nor-24-methylcholesta-5,22-dien-3 β -ol, 4 α ,23,24-trimethyl-5 α -cholest-22E-en-3 β -ol (dinosterol), 24-methylcholesta-5,22-dien-3 β -ol, 24-ethylcholesta-5,22E-dien-3 β -ol, 24-ethylcholesta-5-en-3 β -ol, 24-ethylcholesta-5,24(28)E-dien-3 β -ol, 24-n-propylcholesta-5,24(28)E-dien-3 β -ol, 3-methylidene-7,11,15-trimethylhexadecan-1,2-diol (phytyldiol); vanillyl and syringyl phenols including vanillin, acetovanillone, vanillic acid, syringaldehyde, acetosyringone and syringic acid from lignin-derived oxidation products; bisnorhopane and various alkenones such as four polyunsaturated C_{37} and C_{38} methyl- and ethyl- alkenones, 6,10,14-trimethylpentadecan-2-one; pigments including melanin, mycosporine-like amino acids (shinorine, palythine, porphyra-334, palythene and usujirene); carotenoids (diadinoxanthin, zeaxanthin, myxoxanthophyll, and echinenone); algal toxins (mostly cyanobacterial toxins produced from blue-green algae) including microcystins, nodularins, anatoxins, cylindrospermopsin, and saxitoxins; red tide toxins including brevetoxins (Parlanti et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Zhang et al. 2009; Xiao and Wu 2011; Coble 2007; Norrman et al. 1995; Hanamachi et al. 2008;

Richardson 2007; Singh and Singa 2002; Miller et al. 2002; Hama et al. 2004; McCallister et al. 2006; Prince et al. 2008). Most of these autochthonous substances have been extensively discussed in earlier studies (Mostofa et al. 2009a).

“Autochthonous fulvic acids” of algal or phytoplankton origin are molecularly heterogeneous, with molecular weight ranging from less than 100 to over 1,898 Daltons. They are optically active, biogenic, highly photoreactive, microbially refractory and yellow-colored organic acids (Mostofa et al. 2009b, Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Zhang et al. 2009; Johannessen et al. 2007; Amon and Benner 1994; McKnight et al. 1991, 1994; Ogawa et al. 2001; Aoki et al. 2004, 2008; Nagai et al. 2005; Williams and Druffel 1987; Fimmen et al. 2007; Barber 1968; Ogura 1972). Autochthonous fulvic acids or DOM in freshwater and seawater have relatively high contents of dissolved organic N compared to organic C, i.e. low C:N atomic ratios (ca. 8–36, but lower in surface waters and higher in deeper waters). They are rich in S, highly aliphatic in nature and have low contents of aromatic carbon (ca. 5–21 % of total carbon) (Wetzel 1983; McKnight et al. 1991, 1994, 1997, 2001; Ogawa et al. 1999, 2001; Meyers-Schulte and Hedges 1986; Aluwihare et al. 2002; Fimmen et al. 2007; McCallister et al. 2006; Nissenbaum and Kaplan 1972; Carder et al. 1989; Karl et al. 1991; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1996, 1998; McCarthy et al. 1997; Engel and Passow 2001; Carlson et al. 2000; Church et al. 2002). Autochthonous fulvic acids have higher nitrogen content (C:N = 8–36) than allochthonous standard fulvic and humic acids (C:N = 44–78). This may indicate that autochthonous fulvic acids are less refractory than allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, probably because autochthonous DOM has fewer aromatic compounds and relatively more proteins and lipids, which decreases its carbon to nitrogen ratio compared to allochthonous DOM (McCallister et al. 2006). Cyanobacteria may contain significant quantities of lipids (fats and oil) which are esters of fatty acids and alcohols that comprise a large group of structurally distinct organic compounds including fats, waxes, phospholipids, glycolipids etc. (Singh and Singa 2002). The lipids of some cyanobacterial species are also rich in essential fatty acids such as the C₁₈ linoleic (18:2 ω 6) and γ -linolenic (18:3 ω 3) acids and their C₂₀ derivatives, eicosapentaenoic acids (20:5 ω 3) and arachidonic acid (20:4 ω 6) (Singh and Singa 2002). These fatty acids are essential components of the diet of humans and animals and are becoming important feed additives in aquaculture (Borowitzka 1988).

Spectroscopic studies of isolated autochthonous fulvic acids show that they are composed of methylated isomers of hydroxy-benzenes and hydroxy-benzoic acids, aliphatic acids, carbohydrate OH, protein amide and amine groups; they also contain Schiff-base derivatives ($-N = C-C = C-N-$), fatty acid methyl esters (heptanedioic acid, octanedioic acid, nonanedioic acid, methyl tetradecanoate, 12-methyl-tetradecanoic acid, 7-hexadecenoic acid, and hexadecanoic acid), N- and S-containing amino and sulfidic functional groups. The latter include 3-(methylthio)-propanoic acid; dimethyl sulfone; N,N-dimethyl-2-butanamine, N-methyl proline; N-methyl aniline; 3-piperidinemethanol; 1-methyl-2,5-pyrrolidinedione; 1-methyl-2-piperidinone; caprolactam; 3-ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-2,5-pyrrolidinedione; 2-amino-5,6-dihydro-4,4,6-trimethyl-4 H-1,3-oxazine; 3-ethyl-2,6-piperidinedi-

one; 1,3,5-trimethyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-trione; 1,3-dimethyl-2,4-pyrimidinedione; 2-methyl-isoindole-1,3-dione; 5-methoxy-2-methyl-indole; 1,3,5-trimethyl-2,4-pyrimidinedione; and 3,3-dimethyl-4-[(2-methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]-2,5-dione-pyrrolidine (McKnight et al. 1997; Fimmen et al. 2007; Laane 1984; Borowitzka 1988; Wershaw 1992; Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995). The aromatic compounds present in autochthonous DOM originate from intracellular quinones in the chloroplasts and mitochondria of algae and bacteria (McKnight et al. 1997; McKnight and Aiken 1998; Klapper et al. 2002).

Algal toxins such as microcystins and nodularins have high molecular weight and cyclic peptide structures and are hepatotoxic; anatoxins, cylindrospermopsin and saxitoxins have heterocyclic alkaloid structures. Anatoxins and saxitoxins are neurotoxic, while cylindrospermopsin is hepatotoxic (Richardson 2007). On the other hand, red tide toxins such as brevetoxins have heterocyclic polyether structures and are neurotoxic. Note that bacteria, algae and their exudates also consist of a mosaic of functional groups such as amino, phosphoryl, sulfhydryl and carboxylic groups. The net charge on the cell wall depends on the pH of the medium (Filella 2008). Algae and bacteria have no lignin-like components in their molecular structure (McKnight et al. 1997; McKnight and Aiken 1998; Opsahl and Benner 1998), thus the low aromaticity of autochthonous fulvic acids can reflect the lower content of moieties with sp^2 -hybridized carbon in cell wall material and in other components of microbial cells (McKnight et al. 1994).

Algal- or phytoplankton-derived autochthonous fulvic acids can absorb light to a lesser extent (by approximately 3–5 times) than allochthonous fulvic acids. They show a progressive increase in absorbance with decreasing wavelength that is typical of fulvic acids (McKnight et al. 1991, 1994). However, the autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) of algae or phytoplankton origin can exhibit higher fluorescence intensity at peak C-region than at peak A-region, which is an opposite behavior compared to allochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) of terrestrial plant origin (Fig. 1; McKnight et al. 2001; Mostofa et al. 2009b). Autochthonous fulvic acids can persist with ages up to 3,000 yr in the desert lakes in Antarctica (McKnight et al. 1991, 1994).

The stable carbon isotope ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) fractionation of autochthonous DOM of algal or phytoplankton origin ranges from -17.2 to 23.7 ‰ in lake and marine environments (Thurman 1985a; Raymond and Bauer 2001a; Nissenbaum and Kaplan 1972). The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of algae or phytoplankton shows high variation in freshwater [$-(18.3\text{--}34.6$ ‰)] and sea water [$-(18\text{--}24.2$ ‰)] (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; McCallister et al. 2004; McKnight et al. 1997; Fry and Sherr 1984; Anderson and Arthur 1983; Sigleo and Macko 1985; Yoshioka et al. 1989; Currin et al. 1995; Yoshioka 1997; Lehmann et al. 2004). In addition, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ shows high variations between benthic microalgae [$-(12\text{--}18$ ‰)]; benthic marsh microalgae [$-(23.7\text{--}27.7$ ‰)]; C-4 salt marsh plants [$-(12\text{--}14$ ‰)]; C-3 freshwater/brackish marsh plants [$-(23\text{--}26$ ‰)]; submerged macrophytes [$-(21.7\text{--}22.2$ ‰)]; emergent macrophytes (-26 ‰); marsh macrophytes [$-(23.3\text{--}28.9$ ‰)]; marsh OM [$-(22.3\text{--}26.4$ ‰)]; and freshwater grass leachate such as *Peltandra virginica* [$-(29.6$ ‰)] (McCallister et al. 2004; Raymond and Bauer 2001a, c; Caraco

et al. 1998; Fry and Sherr 1984; Currin et al. 1995; Sullivan and Moncreiff 1990). Depending on the origin of DOM from these algae and plants, there can be found variable carbon isotope ratios for DOM in natural waters.

The autochthonous DOM of algal or phytoplankton origin is usually very suitable for bacterial use, as suggested by the pattern of increased bacterial production with increased primary production (Cole et al. 1988). Autochthonous DOM is in fact relatively labile (Søndergaard and Middelboe 1995; Kirchman et al. 1991). However, autochthonously derived DOC may become persistent over time (Ogawa et al. 2001; Fry et al. 1996; Tranvik and Kokalj 1998). Laboratory studies have shown that natural assemblages of marine bacteria become rapidly able (in <48 h) to utilize labile compounds (glucose, glutamate) and produce refractory DOM that can persist for more than a year (Ogawa et al. 2001). It has also been shown that only 10–15 % of the bacterially derived DOM is identified as hydrolysable amino acids and sugars, which is a characteristic nature of marine DOM (Ogawa et al. 2001). Moreover, the higher concentrations of DON observed in total DOM during the summer period than in winter (Fellman et al. 2009; Vazquez et al. 2011) are most likely accounted for by the produced autochthonous DOM in natural waters.

4.2 Molecular Size Distribution of DOM

The molecular size distribution of DOM is significantly variable in natural waters (Table 1). One of the techniques for isolating DOM in natural waters is tangential flow ultrafiltration (also called cross-flow ultrafiltration). The results show that the contributions of the various fractions to total DOC are 21–65 % for the fraction <1 kDa, 44–68 % for <5 kDa, 57–65 % for <10–12 kDa. Moreover, they are 41 % for 1–30 kDa, 32–56 % for 1 kDa–0.1 μm , 67–84 % for 1 kDa–0.45 μm , and 0.1–16 % for 0.1–0.45 or 0.1-GF/F μm in rivers (Table 1) (Yoshioka et al. 2007; Guéguen et al. 2002, 2006; Martin et al. 1995; Mannino and Harvey 2000; de Zarruk et al. 2007; Wu and Tanoue 2001; Wu et al. 2003; Waiser and Robarts 2000; Huguet et al. 2010; Carlson et al. 1985). In lakes, the relative abundances of various DOM fractions are 42–73 % for <1 kDa, 54–79 % for <5 kDa, 21–43 % for 5 kDa–0.1 μm , and 0–2 % for 0.1–0.45 μm (Table 1) (Yoshioka et al. 2007; Guéguen et al. 2002; Wu and Tanoue 2001; Wu et al. 2003; Waiser and Robarts 2000). In estuaries or lagoons, the contributions are 26–98 % for <1 kDa, 11–25 % for 1–3 kDa, 63–75 % for <10 kDa, 25–31 % for 1–30 kDa, 2–45 % for 1 kDa–0.2 μm , 22–48 % for 3 kDa–0.2 μm , 14–20 % for 30 kDa–0.2 μm , and 1–2 % for 30 kDa–0.2 μm (Table 1) (Hagedorn et al. 2004; Mannino and Harvey 2000; Guéguen et al. 2002; Waiser and Robarts 2000; Huguet et al. 2010). In coastal and open oceans, the contributions of the relative DOM fractions are 30–85 % for <1 kDa (30–70 % in coastal waters, 49–85 % in the open ocean), 23–53 % for the fraction between 1 kDa and 10 kDa, 3–19 % for the fraction between 10 kDa and 0.1–0.2 μm , 15–70 % for the fraction between 1 kDa and 0.2 μm , 85 % for the fraction between 1.8 kDa and 0.2 μm (Table 1) (Buesseler et al. 1996; Druon

Table 1 Molecular size distribution of the fractionated DOM in natural waters

Samples	% of molecular size distribution of DOM					References
	<1 kDa	<3–3.5 kDa	<5 kDa	<10–12 kDa	<30 kDa	
<i>Soils</i>						
Soil DOM, collected French agriculture	-	~50	-	23	-	de Zarruk et al. (2007)
<i>Rivers</i>						
Rivers, Lake Biwa watershed	-	-	58–68	-	32–40	Yoshioka et al. (2007)
Rivers, Lake Baikal watershed	-	-	44–56	-	43–56	Yoshioka et al. (2007)
Delaware river	51	-	-	-	41	Mannino and Harvey (2000)
Pearl River, Guangzhou section, China	65	-	-	-	-	
Vistula river, Poland	21–64	-	-	-	-	Guéguen et al. (2002)
Channel fresh water, Venice	-	-	-	57–65	-	Martin et al. (1995)*
Lagoons, Itali (n = 3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Yukon river, Canada	-	-	-	-	-	Guéguen et al. (2006)
<i>Lakes</i>						
Lake Biwa (2.5 m, n = 2)	-	-	68–77	-	22–28	Yoshioka et al. (2007)
Lake Biwa (70 m, n = 2)	-	-	68–76	-	23–32	Yoshioka et al. (2007)
Lake Biwa (2.5 and 20 m depth: n = 3)	-	-	54–59	-	40–43	Wu and Tanoue (2001)
Lake Biwa (2.5 depth: n = 2)	-	-	55–58	-	40–43	Wu et al. (2003)
Lake Biwa (70 m depth: n = 1)	-	-	69	-	30	Wu and Tanoue (2001)
Lake Biwa (70 m depth: n = 1)	-	-	69	-	30	Wu et al. (2003)
Lake Baikal (2 m, n = 2)	-	-	70–77	-	23–29	Yoshioka et al. (2007)
Lake Baikal (200 and 1400 m, n = 4)	-	-	72–79	-	21–27	Yoshioka et al. (2007)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples	Contribution % of molecular size distribution of DOM						References
	<1 kDa	<3–3.5 kDa	<5 kDa	<10–12 kDa	<30 kDa	<0.1 μm or 0.1–GF/F <0.2–0.45 μm	
Redberry lake	73	–	–	–	–	–	Waiser and Roberts (2000)
Creeks (Oscar and Trout pond)	55–61	–	–	–	–	–	Waiser and Roberts (2000)
Lake Geneva, France	42–64	–	–	–	–	36–58	Guéguen et al. (2002)
<i>Estuaries or Lagoons</i>							
Venice Lagoons, Itali (n = 5)	–	–	–	63–75	–	14–20	Martin et al. (1995)
Delaware Estuary	71–74	–	–	–	25–31	1–2	Mannino and Harvey (2000)
Gironde Estuary: surface water, French Atlantic coast	41–47	13–17	–	–	–	22–32	Huguet et al. (2010)
Gironde Estuary: deep water, French Atlantic coast	41–47	11–19	–	–	–	31–43	Huguet et al. (2010)
Seine Estuary: surface water, French Atlantic coast	26–56	12–24	–	–	–	22–48	Huguet et al. (2010)
Seine Estuary: deep water, French Atlantic coast	35–48	20–25	–	–	–	22–34	Huguet et al. (2010)
Adour Estuary, France	55–98	–	–	–	–	2–45	Guéguen et al. (2002)
<i>Oceans</i>							
Galveston Bay	30–37	–	–	–	–	63–70	Santschi et al. (1995)
Chesapeake Bay and Galveston Bay	39–41	–	–	46–53	–	7–11	Guo and Santschi (1997a)
Middle Atlantic Bight	65–70	–	–	23–30	–	3–11	Guo et al. (1996)
Middle Atlantic Bight	51–59	–	–	–	–	41–49	Santschi et al. (1995)
Gulf of Mexico and Middle Atlantic Bight	55–65	~24	–	7–14	–	4–7	Guo et al. (1995)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples	Contribution % of molecular size distribution of DOM							References
	<1 kDa	<3–3.5 kDa	<5 kDa	<10–12 kDa	<30 kDa	<0.1 μm	<0.2–0.45 μm or 0.1-GF/F	
Gulf of Mexico	47–66	–	–	–	–	–	34–53	Santschi et al. (1995)
Gulf of Mexico	55	–	–	35	–	–	10	Guo et al. (1994)
Open Ocean deep water (off Hawaii: ~600 m deep)	85	–	–	–	–	–	15	Mopper et al. (1996)
North Pacific Ocean, subarctic region (8–59 m)	49–62	–	–	26–33	–	10–19	–	Midorikawa and Tanoue (1998)
Open North Pacific Ocean (22°45'N, 158°00'W)	67–78	–	–	–	–	–	22–33	Benner et al. (1992)
North Atlantic surface waters	50–70	–	–	–	–	–	34	Carlson et al. (1985)
Northwestern Pacific Ocean surface and deep waters	–	–	–	–	–	–	85 (>1.8 kDa)	Sugimura and Suzuki (1988)
North Pacific Ocean: deep waters	65	–	–	–	–	–	–	Guo and Santschi (1996)
North Pacific Ocean: deep waters	57	–	–	–	–	–	–	Buesseler et al. (1996)

et al. 2010; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998; Carlson et al. 1985; Sugimura and Suzuki 1988; Guo et al. 1994, 1995, 1996; Santschi et al. 1995; Guo and Santschi 1996, 1997a; Mopper et al. 1996). These results demonstrate that the contribution of the lower MW fraction (<1–10 kDa) is relatively low in rivers and that it significantly increases in lakes, coastal waters and the open ocean. Comparison of molecular fractions between surface (epilimnion) and deep (hypolimnion) waters shows that the molecular size fraction of <1–5 kDa in deep water is often more important than in the surface waters of lakes and oceans (Table 1) (Yoshioka et al. 2007; Wu and Tanoue 2001; Wu et al. 2003; Mopper et al. 1996). It is suggested that either microbial degradation of DOM or new releases of DOM from microbial respiration of organic matter in deeper waters are responsible for the high contents of the low molecular size fractions of DOM in natural waters. An additional implication is that significant microbial or biological degradation of DOM and organic matter occurs in deep waters. The high percentage of colloidal DOC or colloidal organic carbon included in the >1 kDa to 0.45 μm range suggests that colloids are the predominant phase in bulk DOC transported by rivers (Guéguen et al. 2006; Benner and Hedges 1993; Guo and Santschi 1997b; Guéguen and Dominik 2003).

The optical and chemical characteristics of the molecular size fractions of DOM show that truly dissolved DOM (<1–10 kDa) includes fulvic acid (59–96 % on the basis of fluorescence), total hydrolyzed amino acids (51–63 %), tryptophan (free tryptophan has a molecular weight of 0.2 kDa) and total dissolved carbohydrates (10–20 %). In contrast, the DOM fraction between >1–10 kDa and 0.2–0.45 μm or 0.1-GF/F includes fulvic acid (5–22 % on the basis of fluorescence), total dissolved carbohydrates (80–90 %) and total hydrolyzed amino acids (29–42 %). The DOM fraction of 0.1 μm -GF/F (0.45–0.7 μm) includes protein-like or tryptophan-like or bacterial cells or phytoplankton cells, total hydrolyzed amino acids (7–11 %) and fulvic acid (2–8 % on the basis of fluorescence) (Liu et al. 2007; Guéguen et al. 2006; McCarthy et al. 1996; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998; Wu and Tanoue 2001; Wu et al. 2003; Pakulski and Benner 1992; Skoog and Benner 1997; Boehme and Wells 2006). The contributions to the molecular size fractions of sedimentary fulvic acid extracted from Tokyo Bay sediment samples are 44.8 % for <1 kDa, 3.5 % for 10 kDa, 31.8 % for 50 kDa, 14.6 % for 100 kDa and 5.3 % for 300 kDa. The corresponding contributions of humic acid are 2.4 % for <1 kDa, 0.8 % for 10 kDa, 5.3 % for 50 kDa, 16.1 % for 100 kDa and 75.4 % for 300 kDa (Hayase and Tsubota 1983, 1985). This suggests that allochthonous fulvic acid is mostly composed of low molecular size fractions (<1–10 kDa) whilst allochthonous humic acid is mostly composed of high molecular size fractions, >300 kDa (Hayase and Tsubota 1983, 1985; Rashid and King 1969; MacFarlane 1978). Therefore, molecular size fractions could be a useful indicator to distinguish between fulvic and humic acids in DOM in a variety of natural waters.

These results also imply that allochthonous fulvic acid of terrestrial origin or the autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal or phytoplankton origin can primarily undergo photoinduced and microbial in situ degradation, which can decrease the molecular size and increase as a consequence the low molecular size fraction

of DOM (Yoshioka et al. 2007; Amon and Benner 1994; Corin et al. 1996; Amador et al. 1989; Leenheer and Croué 2003; Opsahl and Benner 1998; Boehme and Wells 2006; Mopper et al. 1991; Senesi et al. 1991; Allard et al. 1994; Benner and Biddanda 1998; Mopper and Kieber 2002). The autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal or phytoplankton origin can show the fluorescence excitation-emission (Ex/Em) maxima of peak C in a longer wavelength region (Ex/Em = 340–370/434–480 nm), whilst the autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) can show its Ex/Em maxima in a shorter wavelength region (290–330/358–434 nm) compared to allochthonous fulvic acids (standard SRFA at Ex/Em = 325–345/442–462 nm in Milli-Q and Seawater) (Parlanti et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Zhang et al. 2009; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Nakajima 2006; Murphy et al. 2008; Balcarczyk et al. 2009). Note that autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) are defined on the basis of the similarity with the fluorescence properties of allochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) for both freshwater and marine environments (for a detailed explanation see the FDOM chapter: “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”).

Humic-like fluorescence is a key component in DOM size fractions between ~15 and 150 kDa. A bathochromic shift (blue shift) of the humic fluorescence peak is often detected with decreasing molecular size, and interestingly the maximum in humic fluorescence moves to lower excitation and emission wavelengths in estuarine waters (Boehme and Wells 2006). Blue-shift phenomena are generally observed in field studies (Coble 1996; Mostofa et al. 2005a, b, 2007a, b; Moran et al. 2000; Burdige et al. 2004; de Souza-Sierra et al. 1994; Komada et al. 2002).

The molecular size distribution of DOM plays significant roles in various kinds of physical, photoinduced and biological processes in natural waters. They are listed below.

- (i) The bioreactivity of POM and DOM decreases along a continuum of larger to smaller sizes. Diagenetic processes lead to the formation of structurally complex LMW compounds that are more resistant to biodegradation (Amon and Benner 1994, 1996; Hama et al. 2004; Mannino and Harvey 2000; Harvey and Mannino 2001; Benner 2002; Loh et al. 2004; Zou et al. 2004; Seitzinger et al. 2005; Kaiser and Benner 2009). This hypothesis is termed as size-reactivity continuum model and is based on the results of size-fractionation experiments that demonstrate that bacterial utilization of (HMW) DOM is typically higher compared to (LMW) DOM (Amon and Benner 1994). It has also been shown that neutral sugars and amino sugars are considerably more bioreactive than amino acids in all organic matter size fractions of DOM in deep mesopelagic waters (Kaiser and Benner 2009). Furthermore, nonspecific enzyme reactions can lead to secondary products that are resistant to degradation (Ogawa et al. 2001). Products of such enzymatic degradations may not resemble the structure of the original compounds, thereby reducing enzymatic recognition and further biodegradation. In addition, size can affect the bioreactivity of individual organic matter fractions. Colloidal organic matter, which is part of HMW DOM, is much less accessible to bacteria than particles larger

than a few μm because it occupies a minimum between two different transport regimes (Kaiser and Benner 2009; Kepkay 1994; Wells and Goldberg 1993). In fact, Brownian motion dominates transport of smaller colloids to bacteria, whilst larger particles are primarily transported to bacteria by turbulent shear (Kepkay 1994).

- (ii) Photoinduced and microbial processes that involve DOM, including fulvic and humic acids, can produce biologically labile LMW organic substances (e.g. organic acids) in natural waters (Moran and Zepp 1997; Carrick et al. 1991; Kieber et al. 1989, 1990; Corin et al. 1996; Mopper et al. 1991; Allard et al. 1994; Mopper and Stahovec 1986; Backlund 1992). These LMW organic compounds are important intermediates of the conversion of organic substances such as carbohydrates, fats and proteins into CH_4 and CO_2 in aqueous media (Smith and Oremland 1983; Evans 1998; Xiao et al. 2009; Wellsbury and Parkes 1995).
- (iii) The absorption of natural sunlight is greatly dependent on the molecular size of DOM and has a high biogeochemical importance in natural waters. For example, fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) can absorb both visible and UV radiation (Kieber et al. 1990; Kramer et al. 1996; Sadtler 1968; Strome and Miller 1978). Many low molecular weight organic acids photo-generated from large CDOM or FDOM can only absorb in the UV-C range, with no absorption of UV-B, UV-A or visible radiation (Carrick et al. 1991; Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991; Sadtler 1968). Further details are provided in the DOM degradation chapter (see chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”).

4.3 Autochthonous Fulvic Acids and their Differences with Allochthonous Fulvic Acids

The key component of autochthonous DOM is variously termed as marine humic-like substances (Coble 1996), sedimentary fulvic acid (Hayase et al. 1987, 1988) or marine fulvic acids (Malcolm 1990), which is contradictory. However, recent studies show that the two fluorescent components are primarily produced under either photoinduced or microbial respiration (or assimilation) of algal (phytoplankton) biomass (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Zhang et al. 2009; Stedmon and Markager 2005a). PARAFAC modeling of EEM spectra of algal-originated DOM suggests that the fluorescence peaks and the images of the first fluorescent component are similar to those of allochthonous fulvic acid (Fig. 1). On the other hand, the fluorescence peaks and the images of the second fluorescent component are similar to those of marine humic-like substances (Coble 1996). However, the fluorescence intensity and the peak positions of the first fluorescent component are quite different from EEM spectra of standard fulvic acid, which justifies their being denoted with a new name. To avoid the difficulties of indicating the two algal-originated fluorescent components and considering the similarities of their EEM images with allochthonous

fulvic acid, it is suggested to denote the first and the second fluorescent component as ‘autochthonous fulvic acid (key component)’ and ‘autochthonous fulvic acid (minor component)’, respectively. These names could be useful to denote the two fluorescent components originated from algae or phytoplankton in fresh- and marine waters in future research studies. The differences between autochthonous fulvic acids and allochthonous fulvic acids and their identification are extensively discussed in the next chapter, ‘Fluorescent dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters’.

5 Measurement, Distribution and Sources of DOM in Natural Waters

Measurement of DOM

DOM is generally determined as dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentration, because of the predominant presence of organic carbon in all dissolved organic substances included in bulk DOM. The amount of DOC in natural waters is determined using a high-temperature catalytic oxidation (HTCO) method developed by Sugimura and Suzuki (Sugimura and Suzuki 1988). This technique is very precise and rapid for the determination of non-volatile DOM in concentrations between 0 and 2000 μM , compared to conventional wet chemical oxidation methods (Menzel and Vaccaro 1964; Jonathan 1973). In the HTCO method (Sugimura and Suzuki 1988), the oxidation of DOM in water is carried out on a platinum catalyst at 680 °C under an oxygen atmosphere after the sample has been freed of inorganic carbon. The concentration of CO_2 generated is measured with a non-dispersive IR gas analyzer. The determination can be carried out with a precision of $\pm 2\%$ using a sample volume of 100–200 μl .

Methodology for HTCO (Sugimura and Suzuki 1988): After collection of water samples using polycarbonate bottles, water is filtered with precombusted (450 °C) glass-fiber or any other filters (0.1–0.7 μm size). Triplicate samples (15 ml) are stored in brown glass bottles (30 ml in volume). 25 μl of 6 N HCl solution is added to remove dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC). These bottles are sealed with Teflon-coated butyl-rubber stoppers and aluminum caps and stored in a freezer (–40 °C). There is need to analyze the samples as soon as possible. For sample measurement, DIC is firstly removed by bubbling the brown bottles with pure air for approximately 15 min. After removing DIC, 200 μl of the water sample is injected into a TOC analyzer (e.g. TOC-5000A, Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan). Note that analytical blanks for the DOC measurement originating from the instrument (system blank) and from pure water (e.g. Milli Q TOC, Millipore) are on average in the range of 2–4 μM C and 6 μM C, respectively (Yoshioka et al. 2002a). The system blank is determined during sample measurement according to the instrument software of the TOC 5000A. The system blank is generally used for the correction of DOC concentration for samples. Potassium hydrogen phthalate is generally used as a standard for calibration.

5.1 Distribution and Sources of DOM in Natural Waters

DOM Contents in Stream, Rivers, Groundwater and Rainwater

DOC concentrations are very variable in different upstream locations of the world (Table 2). Relatively low values such as 7–970 $\mu\text{M C}$ are found in Asia (Mostofa et al. 2005a, b, 2010, Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Hayakawa et al. 2004; Konohira and Yoshioka 2005) and 17–3300 $\mu\text{M C}$ in North America (Table 2) (McKnight et al. 1993, 2001; Volk et al. 1997; David and Vance 1991; Fellman et al. 2009; Eckhardt and Moore 1990; Dosskey and Bertsch 1994; Wahl et al. 1997; Cory et al. 2004; Meier et al. 2004; Fahey et al. 2005; Raymond and Saiers 2010). Value found in Europe are a bit higher (21–6250 $\mu\text{M C}$) (Stedmon et al. 2007b; Worrall et al. 2004a; Evans et al. 2006; Chapman et al. 2001; Monteith and Evans 2005; Gielen et al. 2011). Stream DOM is mostly released from the leaching of ground water in high mountain areas that in Asia are densely shaded by coniferous-mixed forests or typical grassland. In Europe-North America, the major sources of stream DOM are riparian vegetation, woodland streams (major sources of detritus), wetlands, swamps, and peat-land.

DOC concentrations in rivers vary in different locations of the world (Table 2). It has been found 32–2429 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Asia (Mostofa et al. 2005b, 2007a, 2010, Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Yoshioka et al. 2002b, 2007; Ittekkot et al. 1985; Safiullah et al. 1987; Cauwet and Mackenzie 1993; Tao 1996; Zhang 1996; Kao and Liu 1997; Zhang et al. 1999; Gao et al. 2002; Nagao et al. 2003; Ishikawa et al. 2006; Yue et al. 2006; He et al. 2010); 83–833 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Africa (Martins and Probst 1991); ~50–3917 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Europe (Vazquez et al. 2011; Eisma et al. 1982; Cadée 1987; Meybeck et al. 1988; Rostan and Cellot 1995; Elbe 1997; Lara et al. 1998; Veysy 1998; Duff et al. 1999; Abril et al. 2000, 2002; Baker 2001, 2002; Brodnjak-Vončina et al. 2002; Guéguen et al. 2002; Baker and Spencer 2004; Kaiser et al. 2004; Romani et al. 2004); 40–4167 $\mu\text{M C}$ in North America (Wu et al. 2005; Xie et al. 2004; McKnight et al. 2001; Alberts and Takács 1999; Guéguen et al. 2006; Morel and Gentili 2009; Raymond and Bauer 2001b; Haines 1979; Newbern et al. 1981; Spiker 1981; Alberts et al. 1984; Findlay et al. 1991; Perry and Perry 1991; Prahel et al. 1998; Crandall et al. 1999; Davis et al. 2001; Biddanda and Cotner 2002; Repeta et al. 2002; Wang et al. 2004; Zanardi-Lamardo et al. 2004; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; See and Bronk 2005; Stepanauskas et al. 2005; Osburn et al. 2009); and ~108–7500 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Latin America (Raymond and Bauer 2001b; Richey et al. 1990; Depetris and Kempe 1993; Daniel et al. 2002). These results generally show that DOC concentrations are relatively low in Asian and African Rivers and relatively high in Europe, North and South America Rivers. The major sources of DOC in Asian Rivers are natural ones such as leaching of groundwater in mountainous areas covered by coniferous-mixed forests, deciduous conifer forest, grassland, irrigated grassland, and swamps, but also anthropogenic sources such as urban sewerage, industrial and agricultural activities. In African Rivers, the major sources of DOC are mostly from the typical rain forest belt, leaching and heterotrophic processes of

Table 2 Distribution of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentrations in a variety of natural waters

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
<i>Streams: Asia</i>					
Upstreams, Lake Biwa watershed (n = 8)	Japan	(3174)	7–110	–	Mostofa et al. (2005a)
Upstreams, Lake Biwa watershed, Okutama and Uryu regions (n = 35)	Japan	–	12–280	–	Konohira and Yoshioka (2005)
Upstream, Kurose River, Hiroshima Prefecture (n = 2)	Japan	–	47–239	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Upstream, Ohta River, Hiroshima Prefecture (n = 1)	Japan	–	59–67	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Upstream, Lake Xingyun basin (n = 1)	24°N	–	~50	–	Hayakawa et al. (2004)
Upstream sites, Nanming River	26°N	–	50–100	–	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Branches of Upper Region, Yellow River (Huang He) (n = 13)	China	–	174–970	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
<i>Europe</i>					
Upstreams (Warkworth and Afon Hafren) (n = 2)	UK	–	21–1000	–	Worrall et al. (2004a)
Forest streams, Denmark	55°N	–	274–1051	–	Stedmon and Markager (2005b)
Fuirosos, forested stream	Spain	–	150	–	Vazquez et al. (2011)
De Inslag forest, Brasschaat, Belgian Campine region	Belgian (51°N)	–	~1000–6250	–	Gielen et al. (2011)
Upstreams, The United Kingdom Acid Waters Monitoring Network (n = 11)	UK	(2.1–14.1)	100–1075	–	Monteith and Evans (2005), Evans et al. (2006)
Streams, Scotland	Scotland	–	400–933	–	Chapman et al. (2001)
Stream, boreal watershed, in northern Sweden	Sweden	(2940)	1308–2192	–	Bertilsson et al. (1999)
<i>North America</i>					
Upstream rivers (Hubbard Brook)	USA	–	158–717	–	Fahey et al. (2005)
Upstream Rivers (National Park)	USA	–	17–367	–	Cory et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Streams, central Maine (n = 11)	USA	–	125–1141	–	David and Vance (1991)
Stream, Fourmile Branch watershed, South Carolina	USA	(12.6)	442	–	Dosskey and Bertisch (1994)
Streams, Colorado Rocky Mountains	USA	–	108–433	–	McKnight et al. (1993, 2001)
Streams, Dog Creek and Oyster Creek, forested watershed (n = 2)	USA	–	933 \pm 167– 2208 \pm 333	–	Wahl et al. (1997)
Tongass National Forest, stream	USA	–	275–358	–	Fellman et al. (2009)
Upstream, White Clay Creek	USA	–	67–867	–	Volk et al. (1997)
Upstreams, forest land watershed (n = 30)	USA	(1.9–226)	75–358	–	Raymond and Saters (2010)
Stream water, New Jersey Pine Barrens	USA	–	2100	–	Meier et al. (2004)
Upstreams, south-central Ontario (n = 11)	Canada	–	225–900	–	Wu et al. (2005)
Streams (n = 42)	Canada	–	290–3300	–	Eckhardt and Moore (1990)
<i>Groundwaters</i>					
Groundwater (Tubewell waters)	Bangladesh	–	17–424	–	Anawar et al. (2002)
Groundwater, BaiCheng City and main west Liaohe river, North-east China (n = 2)	China	–	49–371	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Groundwater, Lake Biwa basin, Japan	Japan	–	16–328 (40– 100 m)	–	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Groundwater, Tomago sand beds, Newcastle	Australia	–	183–842	–	McIntyre et al. (2005)
Groundwater, Germany	Germany	–	42–1400 (1–24 m)	–	Buckau et al. (2000)
Groundwater, Germany	Germany	–	6117–15333 (35–137 m)	–	Buckau et al. (2000)
Soil water, De Inslag forest, Brasschaat, Belgian Campine region	Belgian (51°N)	–	~1000–6250	–	Gielen et al. (2011)
Groundwater, boreal watershed, in northern Sweden	Sweden	–	200–850	–	Bertilsson et al. (1999)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Groundwater (Shallow and deep wells; groundwater spring), Norton-in-Hales	UK	(38)	467 \pm 375– 2708 \pm 1558	–	Bradley et al. (2007)
Groundwater, Suwannee River basin	USA	–	8–2333	–	Crandall et al. (1999), Schwede-Thomas et al. (2005)
Shallow groundwater (1.6 m), New Jersey Pine Barrens	USA	–	1558–2583	–	Meier et al. (2004)
Groundwater, various types of aquifers	USA	–	42–8333	–	Thurman (1985a)
Groundwater, Cape Cod, USA	USA	–	<167	–	Pabich et al. (2001)
Groundwater, Amazon Basin	Brazil	–	100–3000	–	Richey et al. (2002)
Groundwater, Okavango Delta	Botswana	–	1108 \pm 217– 14167 \pm 6333	–	Mladenov et al. (2007)
Soil water (upper soil horizons)	North America; Europe	–	1667–7500	–	Michalzik et al. (2001)
Soil water (lower soil horizons)	North America; Europe	–	167–2917	–	Michalzik et al. (2001)
<i>Rainwater</i>					
Rainwater, upstream regions of Yellow River (n = 2)	China	–	93–1784	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Rainwater (n = 483), Northern China	China	–	25–3675	–	Pan et al. (2010)
Rainwater (n = 13), Guangzhou city	China	–	78–694	–	Xu et al. (2008)
Rainwater, Brazilian savanna	Brazil	–	217	–	Ciglasch et al. (2004)
Rainwater (summer), Westwood, Los Angeles	USA	–	<1908	–	Sakugawa et al. (1993)
Rainwater (winter), Westwood, Los Angeles	USA	–	17–758	–	Sakugawa et al. (1993)
Rainwater (n = 120), University of North Carolina, Wilmington campus	USA	–	4–379	–	Kieber et al. (2006)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Rainwater (n = 4), University of North Carolina, Wilmington campus	USA	–	32–105	–	Kieber et al. (2007)
Rainwater, mixed forests in New Hampshire and New York	USA	–	92–158	–	Likens et al. (1983)
Rainwater (n = 18), University of North Carolina, Wilmington	USA	–	77 \pm 20	–	Likens et al. (1983)
Rainwater (n = 13), Wilmington, North Carolina, USA	USA	–	12–461	–	Southwell et al. (2010)
Rainwater, UNCW campus, Southeastern, North Carolina	USA	–	81	–	Avery et al. (2006)
Rainwater, Wilmington, NC	USA	–	5–238	–	Miller et al. (2008)
Rainwater, Fichtelgebirge	Germany	–	333–633	–	Guggenberger and Zech (1993)
Rainwater, Meteorological Station, University of Aveiro	Portugal	–	649–1078	–	Santos et al. (2009a)
Rainwater (cold season), town of Aveiro	Portugal	–	28–157	–	Santos et al. (2009b)
Continental rainwater	–	–	161	–	Willey et al. (2000)
Marine rainwater	–	–	23	–	Willey et al. (2000)
<i>Rivers, Tributaries and Channels: Asia</i>					
Ganges River, Bangladesh portion	Bangladesh, India	~2500 (975,000)	108–317	–	Itekkot et al. (1985)
Brahmaputra River, Bangladesh Portion	Bangladesh, India, China	~2900 (580,000)	83–500	–	Safullah et al. (1987)
Yellow River (Huang He), mainstream in Upper Region	China	~5400 (745,000)	95–503	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Yellow river (Huang He)	China	~5400 (745,000)	167–333	–	Cauwet and Mackenzie (1993), Zhang et al. (1999)
Yangtze River (or Cháng Jiang)	China	~6300 (1,950,000)	142–400	–	Cauwet and Mackenzie (1993), Zhang (1996)
Xijiang River, South China	China	–	84–495	–	Gao et al. (2002)
Nunming River, Guizhou Province, South-west China	China	118 (–)	82–463	–	Mostofa et al. (2010), Yue et al. (2006)
Nenjiang River (or Nen River), Heilongjiang Province and Inner Mongolia, North-east China	China	1370 (–)	346–1286	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
The Second Song Hua Jiang River, Jilin and Zhejiang province, North-east China	China	849 (73,000)	362–1352	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
LiaoHe River, Hebei, Jilin, Inner Mongolia, Jilin, and Liaoning Provinces, North-east China	China	1394 (201,600)	169–1048	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
DaLingHe River, Inner Mongolia, North-east China	China	435? (13,000)	90–283	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Rivers, Lake Biwa watershed (n = 10)	Japan	20–60	32–375	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Kurose River, Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	43 (250)	123–385	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Ohta River, Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	103 (1,700)	45–164	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Rivers, Lake Fuxian and Lake Xingyun basin (n = 9)	China	–	37–428	–	Hayakawa et al. (2004)
Yinlun River, Tianjin	China	–	396	–	Tao (1996)
Bang Nara River; Satburi River, Thailand	1–10°N	–	125–625	–	Yoshioka et al. (2002b)
Kahayan River and Rungan River, Indonesia	10°N–10°S	–	558–1042	–	Ishikawa et al. (2006)
Lanyang His River	Taiwan	–	42–667	–	Kao and Liu (1997)
3 Rivers, Lake Hovsgol basin	50–52°N	–	400–1400	–	Hayakawa et al. (2003)
5 Major Rivers, Lake Baikal basin	Russia	–	43–542	–	Yoshioka et al. (2002a, 2007)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c (µM C)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Kuji River & 3 Tributaries, North Kanto Tributaries (n = 8)	Japan 30–35°N	–	92–175	–	Nagao et al. (2003)
Dongjiang tributary, South China Sea Tributaries of Nenjiang River	China North-East China	–	122–271 186–227 177–2429	–	Mostofa et al. (2007a) He et al. (2010) Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Tributary of LiaoHe River (n = 2)	North-East China	–	631–640	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Irrigation Channels, Japan (n = 19)	30–35°N	3–5	65–210	–	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
<i>Africa</i>					
Zaire (or Congo) River (Angola, Burundi, Cameroun, Congo, Gabon, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia)	Africa	4700 (40,00,000)	250–833	–	Martins and Probst (1991)
Niger River (Guinea, Mali, Niger, Benin, Nigeria)	Africa	4180 (11,25,000)	167–500	–	Martins and Probst (1991)
Gambia River (Republic of Guinea, The Gambia)	West Africa	1130 (42,000)	83–333	–	Martins and Probst (1991)
<i>Europe</i>					
Lena River, East Siberia	Russia	4472 (2,500,000)	309–1042	–	Lara et al. (1998)
Rivers (n = 3), Arctic Russia	66–71°N	–	142–3917	–	Duff et al. (1999)
Mura River, Slovenia	Slovenia	438 (13,824)	150–708	–	Brodnjak-Vončina et al. (2002)
River Tyne, UK	55°N	(2,935)	275–1275	–	Baker and Spencer (2004)
Rhône River	Switzerland- France	(98,000)	94–818	–	Rostan and Cellot (1995)
Scheldt River	France, Belgium, Netherlands	~350 (21,600)	567	–	Abril et al. (2000)
Rhine River (Germany, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, France, Netherlands)	–	~1233 (224,000)	242–442	–	Eisma et al. (1982), Abril et al. (2002)
Gironde River	France, Spain	~602 (71,000)	258	–	Veyssy (1998)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c (µM C)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Thames River	UK	~346 (14,000)	483	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Elbe River	Czech Republic, Germany	~1091 (145,800)	342–383	–	Elbe (1997), Abril et al. (2002)
Ems River	Germany, Nether- lands	~371 (9,000)	567–675	–	Cadée (1987), Abril et al. (2002)
Sado River	Portugal	~175 (7,600)	558	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Douro River	Portugal, Spain	~897 (115,320)	208	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Loire River	France	~1012 (115,000)	325	–	Meybeck et al. (1988), Abril et al. (2002)
Tagliamento River, Italy	46°N	~178 (2,900)	32–95	–	Kaiser et al. (2004)
Vistula River (Poland, Ukraine, Belarus, Slovakia)	–	~1000 (194,000)	397–653	–	Guéguen et al. (2002)
Fuerosos, downstream rivers (summer season)	Spain	–	417–2750	–	Vazquez et al. (2011)
Ebro River, NE Iberian Peninsula	Spain	~900 (80,000)	183–195	–	Romani et al. (2004)
Öre River catchment, boreal watershed, in northern Sweden	Sweden	(2,940)	600–1558	–	Bertilsson et al. (1999)
<i>Latin America</i>					
Upstreams and Rivers	Brazil		242–7500	–	Daniel et al. (2002)
Paraná River, Argentina	Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay	~4800 (2,582,000)	108–458	–	Depetris and Kempe (1993)
Amazon River, Brazil	Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru	~6800 (6,300,000)	235–1000	–	Raymond and Bauer (2001b), Richey et al. (1990)
<i>North America</i>					
Hudson River (New York, and New Jersey)	USA	507 (21,000)	196	–	Raymond and Bauer (2001b)
York River (Virginia)	USA	55 (4350)	390–701	–	Raymond and Bauer (2001b)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c (µM C)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
New River (North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia)	USA	515	83–4167	–	Newbern et al. (1981)
Parker River (Massachusetts)	USA	~37 (609)	986	–	Raymond and Bauer (2001b)
Suwannee River (Florida and Georgia)	USA	396	775–2583	–	Crandall et al. (1999), Schwede-Thomas et al. (2005)
Ogeechee River, Georgia	USA	~470 (14,000)	267–525	–	See and Bronk (2005)
Altamaha River, Georgia	USA	~220 (36,000)	300–475	–	See and Bronk (2005)
Satilla River, Georgia	USA	–	525–3133	–	See and Bronk (2005)
Savannah River, Georgia	USA	–	225–417	–	See and Bronk (2005)
Sapelo Island River, Georgia	USA	–	~50–2333	–	Alberts and Takács (1999), Haines (1979)
Satilla River and Altamaha River, Georgia	USA	~378; ~220	1545–1620; 1430–1442	–	Xie et al. (2004)
Columbia River (Washington, D. C., Oregon and British Columbia)	USA, Canada	2000	117–158	–	Prahl et al. (1998)
4 Major Rivers (Muskegon, Grand, St. Joseph and Kalamazoo), Lake Michigan basin	USA	–	430–1870	–	Biddanda and Cotner (2002)
Taylor River (Chennel), southern Everglades National Park, Florida	USA	–	708–1533	–	Davis et al. (2001)
Rivers (n = 8), southeastern United States	USA	–	417–2333	–	Alberts and Takács (1999)
Hudson River & Mohawk River (New York)	USA	507; 225	375–508	–	Findlay et al. (1991)
Potomac River (Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D. C.)	USA	616	364	–	Spiker (1981)
Susquehanna River, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York	USA	715	292	–	Spiker (1981)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c (μ M C)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Rappahannock River, Virginia	USA	314	125	-	Spiker (1981)
James River, Virginia	USA	560	167	-	Spiker (1981)
Missouri River; Ohio River	USA	~3700 (1,371,000); 1570 (490,000)	283-308	-	McKnight et al. (2001)
Mississippi River; and Atchafalaya River	28-29°N	~3734 (3,267,000); 220 (7,600)	275-446	-	Wang et al. (2004)
Delaware, Eel, and Mississippi River	USA	~480 (36,500); 300 (9,500); -	214, 80, 181	-	Repeta et al. (2002)
3 Rivers (Shark, Broad and Caloosahatchee)	25-26°N	-	170-1178	-	Zanardi-Lamardo et al. (2004)
2 Rivers (Flathead and Kootenai), Montana (n = 2)	Canada, USA	~250 (22,700); 780 (50,000)	40-667	-	Perry and Perry (1991)
Yukon River	Canada, Alaska	~3185 (800,000)	508-2835	-	Guéguen et al. (2006)
Rivers, South-central Ontario	Canada	-	258-900	-	Wu et al. (2005)
Mackenzie River, Arctic region	Canada	~1700 (1,810)	312-576	-	Osburn et al. (2009)
<i>Lakes, Wetlands and Swamps: Asia</i>					
Lake Biwa, Japan	30-35°N	(3,174)	88-183 (2.5-20 m)	76-101 (40-80 m)	Mostofa et al. (2005a), Sugiyama et al. (2004)
Lake Ashino, Japan (A1 and A2)	Japan	-	99-111 (0-10 m)	74-84 (30-38 m)	Sugiyama et al. (2004)
Lake Ikeda, Japan (I1 and I2)	Japan	-	101-112 (0-10 m)	55-56 (200- 233 m)	Sugiyama et al. (2004)
Lake Suwa, Japan (Center)	Japan	-	142-216 (0 m)	-	Sugiyama et al. (2004)
Lake Inawashiro, Japan	Japan	-	42-47 (0-10 m)	26 (70 m)	Sugiyama et al. (2004)
Lake Hongfeng & Lake Baihua, China	26°N	-	169-330 (0-8 m)	161-194 (20-25 m)	Fu et al. (2010)
Lakes, China (n = 3)	24-25°N	-	98-614	105-123 (30-50 m)	Sugiyama et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Lake Ponds, (WangHua and TLH), North-east China (n = 2)	China	–	2075–3152	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Lake Fuxian, China	24°N	–	116	95–100 (50–140 m)	Hayakawa et al. (2004)
Lake Xingyun, China	24°N	–	629–658	–	Hayakawa et al. (2004)
8 Lakes (Batu, Tehang, Bunter, Bajawak, Pahewan, Hampapak, Rengas & Takapan)	Indonesia (10°N–10°S)	–	458–1300	–	Ishikawa et al. (2006)
Lake Dapur and Lake Hurung	Indonesia (10°N–10°S)	–	2042, 4133	–	Ishikawa et al. (2006)
Lake Hovsgol, Middle site, Mongolia	50–52°N	–	85–100	85–90 (50–200 m)	Hayakawa et al. (2003)
Lake shore site toward middle of Lake Hövsgöl, Mongolia	50–52°N	–	93–550	–	Hayakawa et al. (2003)
Lake Baikal (North, Central & South basin)	51–55°N	(556,000)	92–142 (0–100 m)	88–105 (500–1620 m)	Yoshioka et al. (2002a, 2007), Sugiyama et al. (2004)
Lakes, New Zealand (n = 11)	New Zealand	(3.4–352)	25–833	–	Rae et al. (2001)
Swamps, Bang Nara River basin, Thailand	1–10°N	–	475–10333	–	Yoshioka et al. (2002b)
<i>Middle East</i>					
Lake Kinneret	Israel	–	270–485 (0–10 m)	258–368 (38 m)	Annual Report (2004)
<i>Latin America</i>					
12 Lakes, Bariloche region	Argentina	–	21–222	–	Morris et al. (1995)
Lake Barata, Brazil	1°N	–	420–710	–	Farjalla et al. (2006)
<i>Europe</i>					
Lake Great Dun Fell	UK	–	333–3750	–	Worrall et al. (2004a)
Lake Geneva, Switzerland–France	Switzerland–France	–	59–128	–	Guéguen et al. (2002)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c (μ M C)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Lakes (n = 38), Sweden	55–71°N	–	167–1833	–	Bertilsson and Tranvik (2000)
Lakes, The United Kingdom Acid Waters Monitoring Network (n = 11)	UK	(0.42–14.7)	67–550	–	Monteith and Evans (2005), Evans et al. (2006)
Lakes, Sweden (n = 5)	Sweden	–	325–1617 (1.5–7.5 m)	–	Granéli et al. (1996)
Lakes (n = 1000), Norway <i>North America</i>	Norway	–	167 (median)	–	Larsen et al. (2011)
Lake Michigan	USA	–	124–216	–	Biddanda and Cotner (2002)
Lake Superior	USA	–	110–119	–	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lakes (Christmas, Turtle, Minnetonka, Owasso, and Round)	USA	–	537–712	–	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lakes (Josephine, Johanna, Eagle, Medicine, and Mitchell)	USA	–	545–785	–	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Pony Lake and Lake Fryxel	USA	–	1789–4908	–	Schwede-Thomas et al. (2005)
Lakes, Michigan (n = 20)	46°N	–	120–1764	–	Pace and Cole (2002)
Banks Lake, and Okefenokee Swamp	25–30°N	–	950, 2425	–	Alberts et al. (1984)
Laramie River; Chimney Park wetland, USA	41°N	–	592, 1250	–	Brooks et al. (2007)
Lakes, Northeast USA, Colorado, Alaska (n = 47)	USA	–	67–1958	–	Morris et al. (1995)
Lake Superior and Nobska Pond	47, 41°N	–	117, 550	–	Repeta et al. (2002)
Upper Great Lakes, North American temperate forest (n = 188)	USA	–	133–2417	–	Xenopoulos et al. (2003)
Seepage Lakes, central Maine (n = 17)	USA	–	132–1492	–	David and Vance (1991)
Lakes (Sky Pond and The Loch), Loch Vale Watershed, Colorado	USA	–	67–308	–	Baron et al. (1991)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c (µM C)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Redberry Lake and its three inflows, Canada	52°N	—	933–2917	—	Waiser and Robarts (2000)
Lakes (n = 59), southwestern Québec, Canada	51°N–74°W	—	58–2350	—	Houle et al. (1995)
Lakes (n = 20), Québec, Canada	45°N	—	208–900	—	Cammack et al. (2004)
Lakes: Saskatchewan lakes (n = 26), Canada	51–53°N	—	342–13017	—	Arts et al. (2000)
Ponds and 8 Wetlands (n = 10), Canada	52°N	—	1283–6675	—	Arts et al. (2000)
Prairie wetlands, Saskatchewan, Canada	52°N	—	2933–10000	—	Waiser and Robarts (2004)
Lakes, South-central Ontario (n = 4)	Canada	—	225–675	—	Wu et al. (2005)
Freshwater Lakes (n = 23), Alberta	Canada	—	1833–5833	—	Curtis and Prepas (1993), Curtis and Adams (1995)
Saline Lakes (n = 35), Alberta	Canada	—	2667–27500	—	Curtis and Prepas (1993)
Saline Lakes (n = 37), Prairies	Canada	—	4983–10000 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Non-saline Lakes (n = 32), Prairies	Canada	—	3250–3833 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 45 & 11), Atlantic Maritime, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick	Canada	—	483, 283 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 60), Pacific Maritime	Canada	—	267 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Boreal lakes (n = 9), Ontario	Canada	—	150–425	—	Hudson et al. (2003)
Lakes (n = 30), Boreal Plains	Canada	—	3000 (mean)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 42 & 16), Boreal Shield, Quebec and Newfoundland	Canada	—	508 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 42 & 16), Boreal Shield, Quebec and Newfoundland	Canada	—	725, 358 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 24), Boreal Cordillera	Canada	—	1225 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 49), Taiga Shield	Canada	—	475–2042 (median)	—	Molot et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Lakes (n = 177), Montane Cordillera	Canada	–	125–1025 (median)	–	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 38), Hudson Plains	Canada	–	783–1083 (median)	–	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 37 & 18), Southern Arctic	Canada	–	525, 192 (median)	–	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 12 & 6), Axel Heiberg and Victoria Islands, Southern Arctic	Canada	–	192, 92 (median)	–	Molot et al. (2004)
Lakes (n = 9 & 1), Banks and Prince Patrick Islands, Southern Arctic	Canada	–	283, 292 (median)	–	Molot et al. (2004)
Precambrian Shield lakes	Canada	–	357–1142	–	Curtis and Schindler (1997)
Lakes (n = 12), Northwest Ontario, Canada	51°N	(0.024–80000)	149–816	–	Kelly et al. (2001)
Lakes (n = 3), Loch Vale Watershed, Rocky Mountain National Park	Canada	(204–660)	31–117	–	McKnight et al. (1997)
<i>Estuaries</i>					
Pearl River Estuary, upper to lower reaches	China	–	84–473	–	He et al. (2010), Chen et al. (2004)
Caelé Estuary, mangroves forest	Brazil	–	283–558	–	Dittmar and Lara (2001)
Satilla Estuary, Georgia	USA	–	1972–2046	–	Moran et al. (2000)
Hudson River Estuary	USA	–	217–539	–	Hummel and Findlay (2006)
York River Estuary	USA	–	254–713	–	Raymond and Bauer (2001a)
Coastal Estuaries (n = 2), San Francisco Bay and Chesapeake Bay, USA	37–39°N	–	193 ± 4–222 ± 3	–	Boyd and Osburn (2004)
Arctic Estuary, the Beaufort Sea	Canada	–	133–453	–	Osburn et al. (2009)
Two Estuaries, UK	55°N	–	427–1427	–	Baker and Spencer (2004)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Estuary, Denmark	55°N	–	149–426	–	Stedmon et al. (2003)
Adour Estuary, France	France	–	76–316	–	Guéguen et al. (2002)
Gironde Estuary, French Atlantic coast	France	–	98–542	–	Huguet et al. (2010)
Seine Estuary, French Atlantic coast	France	–	133–554	–	Huguet et al. (2010)
Scheldt Estuary	Europe	–	183–517	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Rhine Estuary	Europe	–	142–258	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Gironde Estuary	Europe	–	92–208	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Thames Estuary	Europe	–	217–417	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Elbe Estuary	Europe	–	258–367	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Ems Estuary	Europe	–	425–592	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Sado Estuary	Europe	–	300–525	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Douro Estuary	Europe	–	158–208	–	Abril et al. (2002)
Loire Estuary	Europe	–	200–292	–	Abril et al. (2002)
<i>Coastal and open Oceans</i>					
Hiroshima Bay; Seto Inland Sea, Japan	32–34°N	–	83–135 (0–30 m)	71–92 (50–300 m)	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Barguzin Bay; Coastal areas, Lake Baikal	51–55°N	–	105–363	–	Yoshioka et al. (2002a, 2007)
Mississippi River Plume	28–29°N	–	54–124	–	Chen et al. (2004)
Orinoco River Plume	USA	–	70–276	–	Blough et al. (1993), del Castillo et al. (1999)
Chesapeake Bay	35–41°N	–	118–215	–	Mitra et al. (2000)
Florida Bay	24–25°N	–	139–147	–	Zanardi-Lamardo et al. (2004)
West Florida Shelf	USA	–	89–305	–	del Castillo et al. (2000)
Middle Atlantic Bay	USA	–	70–150	–	Vodacek et al. (1995)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Study sites	Country/ latitudes	Length/ watershed area ^a km or (km ²) ^a	DOC		Reference
			Surface (Depth) ^c ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Deeper (Depth) ^b	
Kara Sea, an estuary of Arctic Ocean	72–73°N	–	423–537	–	Opsahl et al. (1999)
Middle Atlantic Bight (MAB)	USA	–	82–98	48–90 (90– 2600 m)	Mitra et al. (2000)
Arctic shelf, the Beaufort Sea	Canada	–	97–229	–	Osburn et al. (2009)
Arctic Gulf, the Beaufort Sea	Canada	–	70–126	–	Osburn et al. (2009)
South Baltic Sea	53–66°N	–	474–616	–	Ferrari et al. (1996), Ferrari and Dowell (1998)
Northern Gulf of Mexico	35–41°N	–	50–100	–	Wang et al. (2004)
North Pacific Ocean	31°N	–	87	38–55 (200– 6000 m)	Williams and Druffel (1987)
Western North Pacific	35°N	–	85–117	66–73 (150 m)	Ogawa and Ogura (1992)
Arctic Ocean	74–81°N	–	58–85 (50–200 m)	49–54 (>1000 m)	Opsahl et al. (1999)
Atlantic Ocean	3–75°N	–	50–97 (<100 m)	33–59 (>1000 m)	Ogawa and Tanoue (2003)
Pacific Ocean	0–58°N, 1267°S	–	40–90	34–45	Ogawa and Tanoue (2003)
Indian Ocean; Arabian Sea	5–20°N	–	55–95	43	Ogawa and Tanoue (2003)
Antarctic Ocean	42–77°S	–	38–75	34–60	Ogawa and Tanoue (2003)
Arctic Ocean	70–85°N	–	34–107	49–54	Ogawa and Tanoue (2003)

^a“n” indicates the number of upstreams, rivers and lakes whereas DOC levels are mentioned for ranges or average of the samples

^bmeans the watershed area (km²) applicable to lakes and the values in parentheses are river watershed area

^cmeans the water depth in lakes and oceans and values are mentioned within the bracket

^dmeans the surface layer and depth belongs within 0–50 m

newly flooded terrestrial vegetation, and leaching of organic matter from flood-plain soils. In Latin American Rivers, the major sources of DOC are the dumping of untreated urban sewage into the rivers, the leaching of DOM from humid evergreen and deciduous forests, floodplains of ox-bows and ponds, seasonally humid savannas and shrublands, as well as swamps. The sources of DOC in European Rivers may be natural such as wetlands, swamps and peat-land or anthropogenic such as industrial activities and sewerage. The major sources in North America that account for the high DOC levels are natural (wetlands, swamps, marshlands, ground water of mountainous areas covered by riparian vegetation ecosystems) and anthropogenic (agricultural, sewerage and industrial effluents).

In groundwater, DOC concentrations are 16–424 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Asia, 183–842 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Australia, 42–15333 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Europe, 8–8333 $\mu\text{M C}$ in North America, 100–3000 in Brazil, 1108 ± 217 – 14167 ± 6333 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Botswana, and finally 167–7500 $\mu\text{M C}$ in soil solution in North America and Europe (Table 2) (Thurman 1985a; Mostofa et al. 2007a, Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Buckau et al. 2000; Bertilsson et al. 1999; McIntyre et al. 2005; Mladenov et al. 2008; Meier et al. 2004; Gielen et al. 2011; Crandall et al. 1999; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; Pabich et al. 2001; Michalzik et al. 2001; Anawar et al. 2002; Richey et al. 2002; Bradley et al. 2007). The results of the available studies show that DOC concentrations in groundwater are significantly higher in Europe, North America, South America, and African regions than in Asia. High ground-water DOC concentrations are directly related to the high DOC concentrations in surface waters and high infiltration rates (Mladenov et al. 2007).

In rainwater, DOC concentrations are substantially varied among different countries, such as 25–3675 $\mu\text{M C}$ in China, 217 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Brazil, 4–1908 $\mu\text{M C}$ in USA, 28–1078 in Europe, 161 $\mu\text{M C}$ in a continental location, and 23 $\mu\text{M C}$ in a marine location (Table 2) (Likens et al. 1983; Guggenberger and Zech 1993; Sakugawa et al. 1993; Willey et al. 2000; Ciglasch et al. 2004; Avery et al. 2006; Kieber et al. 2006; Santos et al. 2009a, b; Southwell et al. 2010; Miller et al. 2008; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Xu et al. 2008; Pan et al. 2010). Rainwater DOC concentrations are significantly high in China and Europe, but relatively low in USA, and lower in marine locations than in continental ones. These results suggest that DOC concentrations in rainwater are mostly affected by the atmospheric organic contaminants, which generally derive from the surrounding environments.

DOM Contents in Lakes, Wetland and Swamps

DOC concentrations are significantly variable in lakes situated among different continents: 80–4133 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Asia (Table 2) (Yoshioka et al. 2002a, 2007; Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa et al. 2005a, Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Hayakawa et al. 2003, 2004; Sugiyama et al. 2004; Ishikawa et al. 2006; Rae et al. 2001); approximately 21–710 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Latin America (Morris et al. 1995; Farjalla et al. 2006); approximately 59–3750 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Europe (Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Lu et al. 2007; Worrall et al. 2004a; Evans et al. 2006; Monteith and Evans 2005; Guéguen et al. 2002; Larsen et al. 2011); and approximately 70–27500 $\mu\text{M C}$

C in North America (Morris et al. 1995; Pace and Cole 2002; Hudson et al. 2003; Wu et al. 2005; Cammack et al. 2004; McKnight et al. 1997; Allard et al. 1994; Waiser and Robarts 2000; Biddanda and Cotner 2002; Repeta et al. 2002; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; Curtis and Prepas 1993; Curtis and Schindler 1997; Arts et al. 2000; Biddanda et al. 2001; Kelly et al. 2001; Xenopoulos et al. 2003; Molot et al. 2004; Brooks et al. 2007). The general results of DOC concentrations studies in lakes show some characteristic phenomena (Table 2): (i) relatively low DOC concentrations have been found in Asia, but lakes situated Indonesia and North-East China shows high contents of DOC. (ii) Lakes situated in Europe and North America show relatively high DOC values. DOC concentrations in Saline lakes are significantly higher than in non-Saline lakes situated in the Prairies and Alberta in Canada. Boreal lakes often show high contents of DOC. This is interesting because the boreal region contains roughly 30 % of the global lakes and their water is rich in OM (Molot and Dillon 1996; Downing et al. 2006; Benoy et al. 2007).

A large lake database (7,514 lakes from 6 continents) shows that mean DOC concentrations are $632 \pm 16 \mu\text{M C}$, ranging from $8 \mu\text{M C}$ to $27667 \mu\text{M C}$ (Sobek et al. 2007). In 87 % of the lakes DOC was between 83 and $1667 \mu\text{M C}$, whilst 8.3 % of the lakes had concentrations lower than $83 \mu\text{M C}$. Lakes between 1667 and $3333 \mu\text{M C}$ are relatively few (4.2 %), and only 0.4 % of the lakes had DOC concentrations above $3333 \mu\text{M C}$ (Fig. 2a). In 55 % of the lakes DOC concentration was above $417 \mu\text{M C}$, which is suggested to be a threshold value for the transition between net autotrophy and net heterotrophy in lakes (Sobek et al. 2007; Jansson et al. 2000; Prairie et al. 2002). Several hypotheses are considered based on DOC concentration and terrestrial vegetation (Sobek et al. 2007). First, arctic lakes are generally characterized by low DOC concentrations where land-cover types are wooded tundra to bare desert and correspond to an annual mean temperature of $<-4 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (Fig. 2b). Second, boreal lakes display a tendency toward higher DOC concentration if the land-cover types are deciduous and mixed boreal forest to deciduous conifer forest, which corresponds to an annual mean temperature of $0.5-4 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (Fig. 3b). Third, lakes on the northern Great Plains in Saskatchewan and Canada show the highest DOC concentrations (~ 80 to $\sim 10500 \mu\text{M C}$) and the land-cover types are cool grasses, shrubs, cool crops and towns (Fig. 3c). Fourth, Fig. 2b shows that DOC concentrations for lakes situated in the warmer climate zones (average mean annual temperature >17.4 and $<22.3 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) reach relatively high values (approximately $80-3300 \mu\text{M C}$) for land-cover types including broadleaf crops, corn and cropland and conifer forests (Fig. 2b). Correspondingly, DOC concentrations for lakes situated in the low warmer climate zones (average mean annual temperature >8.0 and $<13.3 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) are relatively low (approximately $50-2000 \mu\text{M C}$). Here typical land-cover types are crops, mixed and deciduous broadleaf forests, cool and cool rain forests, grass, and shrubs. Fifth, Fig. 2b suggests that DOC concentrations for lakes that experience relatively low annual temperature (>1.5 and $<4.3 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) are relatively high (approximately $50-2100 \mu\text{M C}$), and the land-cover types are mostly woods, deciduous and mixed boreal forest, cool mixed forest, conifer boreal forest, narrow conifers and deciduous conifer forests.

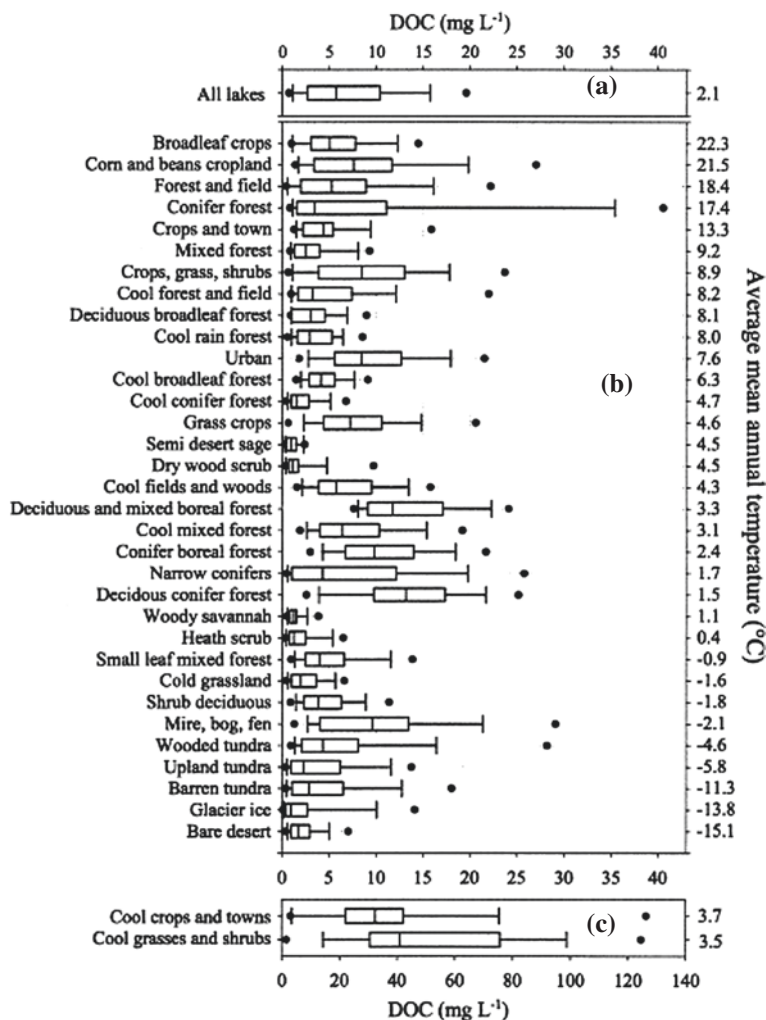


Fig. 2 Box and whisker-plot of the distribution of DOC concentration (a) for all lakes, (b) for lakes divided into different land-cover types, and (c) for lakes in Saskatchewan, Canada. In (b), the land-cover types have been sorted according to the average mean annual temperature. The boxes display the median and the quartiles, the whiskers represent the 10 and 90 % percentiles, and the points represent the 5 and 95 % percentiles. Only land-cover types containing 10 or more lakes are shown. The land-cover types “inland water” and “sea water” are omitted from the plot because they are not indicative of climate or geography. *Data source* Sobek et al. (2007)

DOM Contents in Estuaries

DOC concentrations in estuaries are often lower than in lakes all over the world. They reach 84–473 $\mu\text{M C}$ in China (Chen and Gardner 2004; He et al. 2010); 283–558 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Brazil (Dittmar and Lara 2001); 190–2046 $\mu\text{M C}$ in the USA

(Moran et al. 2000; Raymond and Bauer 2001a; Boyd and Osburn 2004; Hummel and Findlay 2006); 133–453 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Canada (Osburn et al. 2009); 76–1427 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Europe (Abril et al. 2002; Guéguen et al. 2002; Huguet et al. 2010; Baker and Spencer 2004; Stedmon et al. 2003). DOC in estuaries is originated from both autochthonous sources (algae or phytoplankton) and allochthonous sources such as material of terrestrial plant origin.

DOM Contents in Coastal and Open Oceans

DOC concentrations are substantially higher (50–616 $\mu\text{M C}$) in coastal seawaters than in the open ocean (40–117 $\mu\text{M C}$) (Table 2) (Ogawa and Tanoue 2003; Mitra et al. 2000; Chen and Gardner 2004; Williams and Druffel 1987; Opsahl and Benner 1998; Wang et al. 2004; Zanardi-Lamardo et al. 2004; Osburn et al. 2009; Blough et al. 1993; Vodacek et al. 1995; Ferrari et al. 1996; Ferrari and Dowell 1998; Del Castillo et al. 1999, 2000; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). DOC concentrations in coastal waters are generally regulated by terrestrial or riverine input, zooplankton feeding and algal or phytoplankton production (Lee and Wakeham 1988; Lee and Henrichs 1993; Mann and Wetzel 1995; Hedges et al. 1997). Increased biomass of primary producers also plays a major role in regulating the DOM contents in coastal areas (Ittekkot 1982; Billen and Fontigny 1987; Bronk et al. 1998). DOC concentrations in open oceans are relatively low and are included in the range of 40–117 $\mu\text{M C}$ at epilimnion and 30–90 $\mu\text{M C}$ at hypolimnion (Table 2) (Ogawa and Tanoue 2003). DOC values appear to be relatively uniform in most of the oceans, whilst in coastal areas the DOM pool becomes much more heterogeneous because of terrestrial inputs. In open oceans, the DOC concentrations in epilimnetic layers follow the order of Arctic Ocean (70–107 $\mu\text{M C}$) > subtropical zone (~80 $\mu\text{M C}$) > tropical (equatorial) and temperate zones (60–70 $\mu\text{M C}$) > subarctic and subantarctic regions (50–60 $\mu\text{M C}$) > Antarctic region (40–60 $\mu\text{M C}$) (Ogawa and Tanoue 2003). There are two main sources of DOC in coastal oceans: allochthonous DOM of terrestrial origin and autochthonous DOM of algal or phytoplankton origin. In open oceans, allochthonous DOM contents are gradually decreased photolytically depending on the distance from coastal areas, whilst autochthonous DOM is substantially increased (see the contribution of DOM for detailed discussion). The three major sources of DOC in the Arctic Ocean are in situ production (56 %), river run-off (25 %), and Pacific water (19 %) (Kirchman et al. 1995).

6 Factors Affecting DOM in Natural Waters

DOM contents and its dynamics are mostly dependent on two issues: origin and/or input, as well as its consequent mineralization by various environmental factors that are associated with the watershed activities of natural waters. The river-groundwater interface can act as a source or sink for DOM, depending on the volume and direction of flow, DOC concentrations and biotic activity (Brunke

and Gonser 1997). The dynamics of lake DOM is greatly affected by specific and regional factors such as pH of lake water, air temperature, solar radiation, precipitation, sulfate deposition, DOC contents in the adjacent rivers, vegetation of the terrestrial ecosystem, and southern oscillation index (SOI) (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2009b; Hudson et al. 2003). A complex balance of abiotic and biotic processes controls the molecular composition of marine DOM to produce signatures that are characteristic of different environments (Kujawinski et al. 2009). Therefore, the controlling factors affecting the origin and dynamics of both allochthonous and autochthonous DOM in natural waters can be distinguished as: (i) Types and nature of terrestrial plant material in soil; (ii) Land management and natural effects (precipitation, flood and drought); (iii) Effect of temperature; (iv) Microbial processes; (v) Photoinduced processes; (vi) Photosynthesis in natural waters; (vii) Metal ions complexation and salinity; and (viii) Global warming.

6.1 Types and Nature of Terrestrial Plant Material in Soil

Allochthonous DOM is originated in soil by microbial degradation of leachable organic carbon, which varies depending on the types and nature of terrestrial plant communities, soil types and other regional effects (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Nakane et al. 1997; Uchida et al. 1998, 2000; Moore et al. 2008; Tu et al. 2011; Kindler et al. 2011; Duff et al. 1999; Michalzik et al. 2001; Rae et al. 2001; Cronan and Aiken 1985; Frost et al. 2006; Johnson et al. 2006). The litter-rich surface soils have relatively higher DOC concentration than the litter-lacking ones, which can be distinguished because in the former case the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of DOC are closer to the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of litter than to the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of organic carbon in forest soil (Tu et al. 2011). In most temperate and boreal landscapes the DOC concentrations in inland waters are regulated by a wide variety of watershed characteristics, including the quantity and type of vegetation, watershed slope, and particularly the extent and nature of wetlands (Kindler et al. 2011; Allard et al. 1994; Rae et al. 2001; Xenopoulos et al. 2003; Frost et al. 2006; Engstrom 1987; Williamson et al. 2001; Rice 2002; Canham et al. 2004; Winn et al. 2009).

DOC leaching from topsoils in the presence of different vegetation is largely variable. Therefore, different values have been observed in the presence of grasslands (range 158–1425 $\mu\text{M C}$ and mean: 667 $\mu\text{M C}$), croplands (range: 325–1442 $\mu\text{M C}$ and mean: 1000 $\mu\text{M C}$) and forests (range: 592–3592 $\mu\text{M C}$ and mean: 1917 $\mu\text{M C}$), but large variations have also been observed within land use classes (Kindler et al. 2011). Under Cerrado vegetation, total organic C (TOC) concentrations (filtered < ca. 1 μm) found in the soil solution (ca. 417 $\mu\text{M C}$) between 15 and 200 cm depth were lower than those usually found in the soil of temperate forests (833–1667 $\mu\text{M C}$) (Michalzik et al. 2001; Lilienfein et al. 2001). TOC concentrations in the soil solution under *Pinus* are lower than under Cerrado (Lilienfein et al. 2001). In uplands, soils derived from coniferous forests

are much richer in DOC than those from hardwood stands or grass lands (Rae et al. 2001; Cronan and Aiken 1985). Lakes with catchments containing 55–65 % natural grassland and <30 % forest have low DOC concentration (<83 $\mu\text{M C}$), whilst lakes in moderately forested (50–60 %) catchments have DOC concentrations of 83–208 $\mu\text{M C}$, and those in densely forested (>70 %) catchments have DOC concentrations of 667 $\mu\text{M C}$ (Cronan and Aiken 1985). Forested wetlands, particularly those with coniferous trees, are positively related to lake DOC, open-water wetlands including lakes are inversely related to DOC, and scrub-shrub and emergent wetlands are not related to DOC (Xenopoulos et al. 2003). Upstream rivers covered by coniferous, deciduous or mixed-type forests have generally low (\sim <200 $\mu\text{M C}$) DOC concentrations (Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2005a, b; Sugiyama et al. 2005). A model analysis has shown that the terrestrial land cover such as conifer boreal forest and barren tundra strongly affects DOC in lakes (Sobek et al. 2007). The land cover type “conifer boreal forest” is positively related with lake DOC, while “cool conifer forest” is negatively related to DOC. However, cool conifer forest is confined to high altitude areas such as the Rocky Mountains and the Alps, which may explain the relatively low DOC concentrations found in these lakes (Sobek et al. 2007).

In polar desert lakes, DOM is generated autochthonously by microbial processes in water, since there is no catchment vegetation (Rae et al. 2001). This DOM thus differs from that of temperate latitudes by having a reduced ratio of aromatic to aliphatic residues (McKnight et al. 1994). It has also been shown that DOC from predominantly grassland catchments is qualitatively different in terms of its UVR attenuation properties than DOC from a mainly forested catchment (Rae et al. 2001). Therefore, the type and amount of terrestrial vegetation surrounding a catchment plays a significant role in defining the concentration levels of DOC in the catchment water. It is hypothesized that high ground-water DOC concentrations are directly related to high DOC concentrations in surface waters (Mladenov et al. 2007).

6.2 Land Management and Natural Effects (Precipitation, Flood and Drought)

Land management and natural effects (precipitation, flood and drought) are important factors for controlling DOM release from soil environments to natural water catchments (Mostofa et al. 2005b, 2007a; Watts et al. 2001; Ittekkot et al. 1985; Safiullah et al. 1987; Newbern et al. 1981; Richey et al. 1990; Depetris and Kempe 1993; Shaw 1979; Worrall et al. 2003; Worrall and Burt 2004; Yallop and Clutterbuck 2009; Clutterbuck and Yallop 2010; Yallop et al. 2010). These processes include several phenomena:

- (i) DOC is largely released from soil into water during agricultural activities, particularly in plantation and growing seasons of rice plants as well as other

- plantations through rainfall or water overflow (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2007a). Rapid photo- and microbial respiration or assimilation of soil OM might be responsible for high releases of DOC into water during agricultural activities.
- (ii) DOC concentrations are increased with afforestation in catchments (Cigliasch et al. 2004; Neal et al. 1998, 2004). In addition, deforestation can reduce evaporation and increase surface temperature. Changes in land-surface cover can enhance the degradation of soil DOM and OM by both photoinduced and microbial processes (Brandt et al. 2009; Rutledge et al. 2010; Raich and Schlesinger 1992; Borges et al. 2008). Therefore, either afforestation or deforestation in soil environments can contribute to the rapid washout of allochthonous DOM and OM to water catchments by precipitation or runoff.
- (iii) Controlled heather burning as a management tool for red grouse (*Lagopus lagopus*) husbandry in peat surface is often (but not always) identified as a highly significant driver of spatial variance in DOC concentration in drainage water (Yallop and Clutterbuck 2009; Yallop et al. 2006, 2008; Ward et al. 2007; Worrall et al. 2007).
- (iv) Increased precipitation and runoff can lead to higher DOC export from the catchment into natural surface waters (Pace and Cole 2002; Zhang et al. 2010; Monteith et al. 2007; Hongve et al. 2004; Sobek et al. 2007; Cigliasch et al. 2004; Gielen et al. 2011; Anderson et al. 1997; Evans et al. 1999). Total solar radiation and precipitation can account for 49–84 % of the variation in the long-term DOC patterns in various catchments (Zhang et al. 2010). The DOC concentrations in Swedish lakes and streams have substantially increased during the 1970–1980s, mostly due to higher precipitation (Tranvik and Jasson 2002). DOC concentrations vary from 4 $\mu\text{M C}$ to 3675 $\mu\text{M C}$ in rainwater, which may largely affect the natural surface waters (Table 2) (Likens et al. 1983; McDowell and Likens 1988; Guggenberger and Zech 1993; Chebbi and Carlier 1996; Willey et al. 2000, 2006; Cigliasch et al. 2004; Avery et al. 2006; Kieber et al. 2006, 2007; Miller et al. 2009; Santos et al. 2009a, b; Southwell et al. 2010; Pan et al. 2010). Factors affecting the variation in DOC concentrations are rainwater volume, season (winter, spring or summer), location of the rain events, wind speed, storm trajectory, and the air mass pathways during precipitation. During highly rainy seasons, DOC concentrations are significantly increased through flushing of organic-rich waters from upper soil horizons, agricultural and forest runoff, primary production and subsequent flooding of the ox-bow or flood-plain lakes, through lake out-flowing into the nearby catchment waters (Mostofa et al. 2005b; Ittekkot et al. 1985; Safiullah et al. 1987; Ishikawa et al. 2006; Newbern et al. 1981; Richey et al. 1990; Depetris and Kempe 1993; Mulholland 2003). Leaching and heterotrophic processing of newly flooded terrestrial vegetation, leaching of organics from floodplain soil and catchment areas can also affect the DOC concentrations (Wetzel 1992; Duff et al. 1999; Mladenov et al. 2007; Reche et al. 1999). The flow path of water in the catchment after precipitation is an important factor that can reduce soil erosion (Sobek et al. 2007), thereby reducing the rapid washout of allochthonous DOM, POM and nutrients to water catchments.

Many studies observe that DOC export is positively correlated with runoff, and two issues are involved (Sobek et al. 2007): First, the carbon budget of the studied landscapes is not in steady state, i.e., increased runoff exports more DOC than is produced in soil, which implies that observed increases are temporary. Second, changes in runoff are concomitant to changes in leachable organic carbon stocks in soil. High runoff indicates a high water table, which favors DOC leaching and hampers microbial degradation due to anoxia and humification. In addition, the negative relationship between runoff and lake DOC concentration indicates that when high runoff prevails over extended periods of time, the leachable soil organic carbon pool will eventually be reduced (Sobek et al. 2007).

- (v) Severe drought seasons can either greatly decrease or increase the DOC levels in natural water (Watts et al. 2001; Meier et al. 2004; Shaw 1979; Worrall et al. 2003, 2005, 2006; Worrall and Burt 2004; Ward et al. 2007). DOC concentrations in shallow groundwater are very low ($1558 \mu\text{M C}$) under drought condition compared to spring samples ($2583 \mu\text{M C}$). Correspondingly, the properties of DOM are largely different (Meier et al. 2004). Such differences may be attributed to biogeochemical changes in the DOM pool over the summer and fall seasons under drought conditions. Studies show that runoff characteristics and flow-paths within peat soils change as a result of severe drought, which could increase DOC concentrations in runoff water (Evans et al. 1999; Holden and Burt 2002).

In addition, releases of allochthonous DOM are largely dependent on several catchment properties such as drainage ratio (catchment : lake area), proportion of wetlands, proportion of upstream lakes, watershed slope, altitude, catchment area, % peat cover, water area, wetland cover, and soil C:N ratio in the catchment (Sobek et al. 2007; Eckhardt and Moore 1990; Xenopoulos et al. 2003; Rasmussen et al. 1989; Kortelainen 1993; Hope et al. 1997; Aitkenhead and McDowell 2000). The export of DOC from catchments is often related to the organic carbon stocks in the catchment soils (Hope et al. 1994; Aitkenhead et al. 1999). Studies show that DOC fluxes are small: $0.8 \pm 0.2 \%$ relative to gross primary productivity, $1.0 \pm 0.3 \%$ relative to ecosystem respiration, and $(2.4 \pm 0.4 \%)$ relative to soil respiration, when the DOC fluxes are considered relative to the gross ecosystem carbon fluxes in a specific catchment (Gielen et al. 2011).

6.3 Effect of Temperature

Temperature can affect DOM in two ways: First, water temperature (WT), linked with solar radiation, is one of the most important variables in the production of autochthonous DOM in natural waters because it affects the physical, photoinduced, microbial and ecological processes (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Sobek et al. 2007; Gielen et al. 2011; Gudasz et al. 2010). The mineralization of organic

carbon in lake sediments exhibits a strong positive relationship with temperature, which suggests that increasing temperature would lead to increased mineralization of OM in natural waters (Gudasz et al. 2010). As already seen, the distribution of DOC concentrations for various lakes (7500 lakes from 6 continents; Fig. 2) (Sobek et al. 2007) does not show a simple relationship between DOC and temperature, because the DOC values are affected by both temperature and the surrounding vegetation. However, autochthonous DOM is often higher in lake waters where the water temperature (WT) is higher. For example, WT in the surface water of Lake Baikal is generally lower (4–16 °C: summer period) compared to Lake Biwa (10–28.7 °C: summer period), although the DOC levels are almost similar: 88–114 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–1400 m depth and 76–135 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–80 m at central basins, respectively, during the summer stratification period (Weiss et al. 1991; Mostofa et al. 2005a; Yoshioka et al. 2002a; Goldman et al. 1996). However, autochthonous production in Lake Biwa is significantly higher (3–82 %) than in Lake Baikal (6–35 %) (Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Yoshioka et al. 2002a; Sugiyama et al. 2004). Autochthonous production is not observed in a region where the WT is very low (ca. ≤ 0 °C) and, at the same time, chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*) production does not occur in the upper water column (Bussmann and Kattner 2000) However, a little increase in WT may produce a little amount of Chl *a* with a corresponding increase in autochthonous DOM in natural waters (Wheeler et al. 1996, 1997; Bussmann and Kattner 2000; Melnikov and Pavlov 1978; Tremblay et al. 2006). Low WT may affect the DOM contents by several pathways (Mostofa et al. 2009a): (i) Photoinduced degradation of surface DOM is less effective due to low solar effects at low WT and air temperature. This may result in low contents of photoproducts, such as DIC, CO₂, H₂O₂, LMW organic substances and so on, which subsequently decreases photosynthesis and primary production. The result is a decrease of autochthonous DOM production in natural waters. (ii) Mineralization of DOM by photoinduced degradation becomes significantly low at low WT, which may preserve the DOM in natural waters and lead to increased allochthonous DOM contents.

An increase in air temperature can significantly enhance DOC export from soil to surface water by increasing soil respiration and mineralization of plant organic material (Mostofa et al. 2005a, b; Monteith et al. 2007; Raymond and Saiers 2010; Gielen et al. 2011; Evans et al. 1999, 2002; Gudasz et al. 2010; Newson et al. 2001). This can lead to DOM leaching from groundwater to stream or riverbeds or lakes, and the DOC concentrations are linearly increased with increasing temperature in natural waters. Coherently, the DOC leaching from forest catchments to streams is significantly enhanced during the summer season. It has been shown that releases of DOM in upstream waters of forest mountainous origin are much higher (28–84 %) during summer than in winter season. This has been estimated during monthly samplings in four upstream rivers and the releases were highest (52–84 %) in forest soils at upstream sites of Kurose River than in forest granite mountain (28–31 %) in Lake Biwa watershed (Mostofa et al. 2005a, b). It is suggested that increased temperature during the summer season can lead to higher microbial activity and enhanced decomposition of organic matter or peat, which

increases production of DOC. Increases in temperature can also induce higher drawdown of water tables in summer, increasing the depth of the zone where oxidation and production of DOC take place (Evans et al. 1999). In the UK, the latter effects would probably be exacerbated by the decreased summer rainfall over the last 40 years (Burt et al. 1998). It is suggested that the effect of increased temperature on water tables can account for between 10 and 20 % of the increase in DOC concentration (Worrall et al. 2004b, 2007; Cole et al. 2002).

6.4 Microbial Processes

Microbial processes have two important effects on OM (DOM and POM). First microbial respiration or assimilation of OM into algal or phytoplankton biomass or bacterial biomass can release autochthonous DOM in deep water (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b, 2011; Zhang et al. 2009; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Fu et al. 2010; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002a; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Aoki et al. 2008; Stedmon and Markager 2005a; Stedmon et al. 2007a). This process can give an important contribution to autochthonous DOM in natural waters. Second, microbial processes can change the molecular structure of DOM components and their optical properties, either absorption properties of CDOM or fluorescence properties of FDOM (Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007a; Hur 2011). Such properties will be discussed in chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”. Microbial degradation can mineralize DOC by approximately 0–85 % in natural waters (see chapter “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Water”). High molecular weight protein-like structures in plant-derived DOM are degraded primarily through physical–chemical and microbial processes (Scully et al. 2004). Microbial activity is significantly stimulated by the photoproducts of readily assimilable nitrogen compounds such as ammonium and amino acids (Bushaw et al. 1996; Jørgensen et al. 1998). Under N-limiting conditions, nitrogenous photoproducts can significantly increase the rates of bacterial growth in natural waters (Bushaw et al. 1996). Microbial degradation depends on several key factors, such as occurrence and nature of microbes; sources of DOM and the quantity of its fermentation products; temperature; pH; and sediment depth (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”).

6.5 Photoinduced Processes

Photoinduced processes have two effects on OM (DOM and POM): First, photo-respiration or assimilation of POM can release autochthonous DOM in surface waters (Mostofa et al. 2009b, 2011; Harvey et al. 1995; Fu et al. 2010; Rochelle-Newall

and Fisher 2002a; Hiriart-Baer and Smith 2005). This process can give a significant contribution to autochthonous DOM in natural waters. Second, solar radiation causes changes in the molecular structure of DOM and decomposes its functional groups. This effect can be detected chemically as mineralization of DOC, by approximately 0–54 % during irradiation times ranging from hours to months. It can also be detected optically as alteration of either chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM) or fluorescent dissolved organic matter (FDOM) (see chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”). Photoinduced degradation can also reduce the mean molecular size of the high molecular weight DOM (Lovley and Chapelle 1995; Lovley et al. 1996; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Amador et al. 1989), which subsequently produces low molecular weight (LMW) intermediates (Lovley et al. 1996; Wetzel et al. 1995; Amon and Benner 1994; Dahlén et al. 1996). This process ultimately ends up in mineralization with formation of e.g. COS, CO, CO₂, DIC, ammonium and gaseous hydrocarbons (Miller and Zepp 1995; Miller 1998; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Gennings et al. 2001; Clark et al. 2004). Photoinduced degradation generally occurs in the mixing zone and decreases with an increase in water depth (Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Ma and Green 2004; Vähätalo et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2005a; Granéli et al. 1996). The photoreactivity of fluorescent DOM is greatly decreased when passing from freshwater to marine waters, but deep waters in lakes or marine environments are often more sensitive to photoinduced degradation processes than surface waters (Mostofa et al. 2011). Similar effects have been observed as far as photomineralization is concerned (Vione et al. 2009). Photoinduced degradation is significantly affected by several key factors, such as solar radiation, water temperature, effects of total dissolved Fe and photo-Fenton reaction, occurrence and quantity of NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ ions, molecular nature of DOM, water pH and alkalinity, dissolved oxygen (O₂), water depth, physical mixing in the surface mixing zone, increased UV-radiation during ozone hole events, global warming, and salinity (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”).

6.6 Photosynthesis in Natural Waters

Autochthonous production of DOM in natural waters is mostly accompanied by photosynthesis (Takahashi et al. 1995; Hamanaka et al. 2002; Marañón et al. 2004). Photosynthetically produced POM (mostly algae or phytoplankton) and the related release of new DOM are significantly influenced by several key factors, such as high precipitation (Freeman et al. 2001a; Tranvik and Jasson 2002; Hejzlar et al. 2003; Zhang et al. 2010), nitrogen deposition (Pregitzer et al. 2004; Findlay 2005), sulfate (SO₄²⁻) deposition (Zhang et al. 2010; Evans et al. 2006; Monteith et al. 2007), and changes in total solar UV radiation or an increase in temperature due to

global warming (Freeman et al. 2001a; Zhang et al. 2010; Sinha et al. 2001; Sobek et al. 2007; Rastogi et al. 2010). The increase in temperature driven by solar radiation is effective in inducing photoinduced and microbial processes of OM (including DOM and POM) as well as in enhancing photosynthesis. This is consistent with data from the Central England Temperature Record (Parker et al. 1992), showing that mean summer temperatures across England were 0.66 °C higher during the 1990s than in the preceding 30 years. Model studies predict that the production of new DOM due to photosynthetic processes from winter to summer would vary from 6 to 60 %, due to a large seasonal variation in light intensity (Anderson and Williams 1998; Bratback and Thingstad 1985). The factors affecting the photosynthesis in natural waters are discussed in detail in chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”.

6.7 Metal Ions Complexation and Salinity

Metal ions can complex the DOM functional groups (fulvic and humic acids of vascular plant origin, autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin, tryptophan, protein, algae and so on) and can induce structural changes (e.g. molecular conformation or rigidity) and formation of aggregates. Complexation would thus change the outer appearance of the molecule and its optical properties, such as absorption properties of CDOM and fluorescence properties of FDOM, either increasing or decreasing them (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011; Lead et al. 1999; Wang and Guo 2000; Koukal et al. 2003; Mylon et al. 2003; Wu et al. 2004; Lamelas and Slaveykova 2007; Lamelas et al. 2009; Fletcher et al. 2010; Reiller and Brevet 2010; Sachs et al. 2010; Da Costa et al. 2011). Correspondingly, salinity can also affect the DOM components in seawater, both structurally and optically, modifying them in comparison to freshwater (Nakajima 2006; Blough et al. 1993; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Boyd et al. 2010). Complexation of metal ions and the effect of salinity are extensively discussed in Chapters “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, and “[Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter with Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters](#)”.

6.8 Global Warming

Global warming may affect DOM in two ways: First, global warming could further enhance atmospheric CO₂, because of elevated net primary productivity and increases root exudation of DOC in soil environments (Freeman et al. 2001b, 2004; Lavoie et al. 2005; Fenner et al. 2007a, b; Wolf et al. 2007; Kang et al. 2001; Tranvik and Jasson 2002; Monteith et al. 2007; Evans et al. 2002; Dorodnikov et al. 2011). This process ultimately leaches allochthonous DOM

into the aquatic ecosystem. Second, global warming may accelerate the photoinduced and microbial decomposition of DOM to produce compounds such as H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, NO_3^- , PO_4^{3-} , NH_4^+ , LMWDOM and so on (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Palenik and Morel 1988; Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001; Lovley 2006). The availability of these compounds can enhance photosynthesis and ultimately increase the primary and secondary production. These processes can induce the formation of autochthonous DOM and are usually expected to deteriorate the quality of natural waters. All these processes are extensively discussed in chapter “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters”.

7 Possible Mechanisms for Increased and Declined DOM Contents in Surface Waters

Production of autochthonous DOM is a well-known phenomenon in stagnant surface waters, particularly in lakes and oceans. The corresponding increase in autochthonous DOC is, on average, 0–102 % in lakes and 0–194 % in the oceans’ epilimnion compared to the hypolimnion during the summer stratification period (Table 2). Increased concentrations of DOC in surface waters are a commonly observed phenomenon in North America and in North and Central Europe including UK, the Czech Republic, Finland, Norway, Canada, USA and so on (Hejzlar et al. 2003; Worrall et al. 2004a, 2007; Evans et al. 2005, 2006; Monteith et al. 2007; Hongve et al. 2004; Monteith and Evans 2005; Larsen et al. 2011; Clutterbuck and Yallop 2010; Yallop et al. 2010; Freeman et al. 2001b; Bouchard 1997; Skjelkvåle et al. 2001, 2005; Driscoll et al. 2003; Stoddard et al. 2003; Vuorenmaa et al. 2006). The increase in DOC export also enhances the export of humic DOC from upland peat catchments (Yallop et al. 2010). It is estimated that the increase in mean DOC concentrations between the first and last 5 years of monitoring in UK’s Acid Waters Monitoring Network (AWMN) streams and lakes are 32–135 % in 11 streams and 31–140 % in 11 lakes (Evans et al. 2006; Monteith and Evans 2005). DOC in UK rivers arises from a number of sources including: decomposition of deep peat if present (McDonald et al. 1991), sewage (Eatherall et al. 2000), industrial point-source effluents (Tipping et al. 1997) and products of early stages of plant decomposition (Palmer et al. 2001). The long-term trends of increasing or decreasing DOC concentration are not evident in various lakes except at the Experimental Lakes Area, where an increase in DOC is correlated with a decrease in summer total solar radiation and an increase in summer precipitation (Zhang et al. 2010). The initial DOM contents are also important to enhance the autochthonous production of DOC in aquatic ecosystems. Moreover, several mechanisms have been suggested to explain the enhancement of aquatic DOC including: increased terrestrial vegetation cover in response to climate change (Larsen et al. 2011; Worrall et al. 2003; Freeman

et al. 2001b; Stoddard et al. 2003; Evans et al. 2005) and associated increases in enchytraeid worm activity (Cole et al. 2002; Carrera et al. 2009); increasing CO₂-mediated stimulation of primary productivity (Freeman et al. 2004); hydrological change (Hongve et al. 2004; Evans et al. 2005); artificial peat drainage (Worrall et al. 2003); the occurrence of severe drought events (Watts et al. 2001; Worrall and Burt 2004); and the removal of decomposition-inhibiting phenolic compounds following prolonged water table drawdown (Freeman et al. 2001a). However, these mechanisms are not sufficiently well documented yet to understand the increased DOC concentrations in natural waters.

One of the possible mechanisms leading to increased DOC concentrations in surface waters is the enhancement of photosynthesis. Two different processes are involved, depending on the sources of DOM.

- (i) The first issue is that increased soil respiration may increase the decomposition rates of soil OM due to the effect of global warming. Furthermore, elevated CO₂ enhances DOC supply in peat soils because of elevated net primary productivity and increased root exudation of DOC in soil environments (Freeman et al. 2001b, 2004; Lavoie et al. 2005; Fenner et al. 2007a, b; Wolf et al. 2007; Kang et al. 2001; Tranvik and Jasson 2002; Monteith et al. 2007; Evans et al. 2002; Dorodnikov et al. 2011). This process ultimately leaches allochthonous DOM into the aquatic ecosystem. The increased activity of enchytraeid worms (the dominant invertebrates in upland peats) at higher temperature increases the microbial activity in peat and enhances nutrient mineralization (Cole et al. 2002). The mineralization of C- and N-containing compounds would increase the losses of nitrate and DOC (Cole et al. 2002).

- (ii) The second issue is that the allochthonous DOM that is increasingly released into surface waters can undergo photoinduced decomposition to generate H₂O₂, CO₂ and DIC (dissolved CO₂, H₂CO₃, HCO₃⁻, and CO₃²⁻), or microbial degradation with production of H₂O₂, CO₂, DIC, CH₄, PO₄³⁻, NH₄⁺ and so on (Lovley et al. 1996; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Palenik and Morel 1988; Clark et al. 2004; Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001). Many of these compounds are able to enhance photosynthesis (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Li et al. 2011; Li 1994; Zubkov and Tarran 2008; Beardall et al. 2009a, b; Wu and Gao 2009; Liu et al. 2010). This process can fuel primary and secondary production, thereby leading to enhanced aquatic OM and DOM. In fact, algae and phytoplankton can produce autochthonous DOM under both photoinduced and microbial respiration or assimilation, which contributes to increasing DOM in natural waters. Under elevated carbon dioxide levels, the proportion of DOM derived from recently assimilated CO₂ is ten times higher compared to the control cases (Freeman et al. 2004). In addition, new DOC release is far more sensitive to environmental drivers that affect net primary productivity compared to decomposition alone (Freeman et al. 2004).

Moreover, photosynthesis depends on several key factors that have already been discussed and that could thus indirectly affect the occurrence of DOM in natural waters (see also chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”).

On the other hand, declined concentrations of DOC have been observed in several surface waters including south west of England, northern Scandinavia and Italy (Worrall et al. 2004a, 2007; Schindler et al. 1996; Skjelkvåle et al. 2001; Bertoni et al. 2010; Minella et al. 2011). Of the 315 catchments examined in the UK, 18 % (55 catchments) have shown significant decreases in DOC concentration over the last 10 years (Worrall et al. 2007). DOC concentrations in the epilimnion have decreased from 119 to 57 $\mu\text{M C}$ (average values during 1980–1984 and 2000–2007, respectively). In lake Maggiore (Italy), chlorophyll *a* concentrations averaged 5.9 $\mu\text{g l}^{-1}$ in the period 1980–1990, decreased to 4.0 $\mu\text{g l}^{-1}$ in the following decade (1990–2000) and underwent a further decrease (to 2.0 $\mu\text{g l}^{-1}$) in the period 2000–2007 (Bertoni et al. 2010). The observed DOC decline is presumably caused by a decrease of total phosphorus and of the organic loadings to the lake, because of a decrease of the anthropic impact. The consequences are a decrease of in-lake productivity and pronounced changes in phytoplankton composition, including higher biodiversity, reduced biovolume and lower average community cell size (Bertoni et al. 1998, 2008; Callieri and Piscia 2002; Morabito and OggioniA 2003; Salmaso et al. 2003; Rogora 2007).

The decline of DOC concentrations in surface waters would be linked to lower photosynthesis and often to relatively low contents of DOM. The latter may also be the result of low precipitation, which generally decreases to input of soil allochthonous DOM to natural waters. Waters with low contents of DOM would produce low amounts of photoinduced or microbial end products, which may significantly decrease the primary and secondary production with a subsequent decline of autochthonous DOM (see also chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). Low production of autochthonous DOM would further contribute to the decline of DOC in natural waters. In fact, production of autochthonous DOM may sometimes offset the DOM decomposition by natural sunlight. For the same reason, soil inputs of allochthonous humic substances to surface waters during the summer stratification period may enhance photosynthesis and increase the autochthonous DOM in natural waters.

In some cases, drought can increase the DOM levels (Freeman et al. 2001a; Worrall and Burt 2008; Vazquez et al. 2011; Evans et al. 1999; Worrall et al. 2006; Holden and Burt 2002, 2003). The mechanism behind this phenomenon is that waters with high contents of DOM may undergo high photoinduced and microbial DOM degradation under drought conditions. The related production of photoinduced and microbial end products may be responsible for enhancement of high photosynthesis and, therefore, of high primary and secondary production. The latter phenomenon would ultimately lead to increased DOM contents.

The autochthonous production of DOM depends on several factors in natural waters, and particularly in lakes and oceans (Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2009a; Fu et al. 2010; Ogawa and Ogura 1992; Mitra et al. 2000; Yoshioka et al.

2002a; Hayakawa et al. 2003, 2004; Anderson and Williams 1998; Bushaw et al. 1996; Takahashi et al. 1995; Marañón et al. 2004). These factors can be summarized as follows (Mostofa et al. 2009a): seasonal terrestrial riverine input; acidity or alkalinity, conductivity and pH, the variation of which indicates major differences in water chemistry that could influence photoreaction rates as well as the structure and speciation of organic matter. Other important factors are: anthropogenic activities; water transparency and the related light penetration through the water column; standing stocks of carbon; stratification of the water column; stirring/mixing of water by strong wind; photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) and water temperature; microbial degradation of DOM; ecosystem metabolism and bacterial growth; release of large amounts of dissolved organic compounds by wetland and littoral macrophytes; vertical mixing of the water column due to temperature effects; habitat structure and diversity.

8 Emerging Contaminants in Natural Waters

Emerging contaminants are generally detected in soil, sediment, air, water, aquatic biota including fish, wildlife, terrestrial earthworms, and humans (Richardson 2003, 2007; Mottaleb et al. 2005, 2009; Richardson and Ternes 2005, 2011; Buser et al. 2006; Schmid et al. 2007; Farré et al. 2008; Kinney et al. 2008; Guo et al. 2009; Ramirez et al. 2009; Citulski and Farahbakhsh 2010; Kumar and Xagorarakis 2010; Pal et al. 2010; Yoon et al. 2010; Kleywegt et al. 2011; Yu et al. 2011; Daughton and Ternes 1999; Keith et al. 2001; Heberer 2002; Balmer et al. 2004; Brooks et al. 2005; Duedahl-Olesen et al. 2005). According to these studies, emerging contaminants (usually emerging *organic* contaminants) are typically defined as organic substances that occur in very small amount (usually at concentration levels of nanograms to micrograms per liter), are persistent and have potential health effects on organisms including humans, fish and wildlife, or other adverse ecological effects. Such contaminants are either of anthropic origin (e.g. municipal, industrial, agricultural and human activities and waste water treatment processes) or naturally produced, e.g. during the algal (or phytoplankton) blooms in surface water.

Emerging contaminants include a diverse group of organic compounds that can be classified as pharmaceuticals, personal care products (PCPs), endocrine-disrupting compounds (EDCs), steroids and hormones, drinking water disinfection byproducts (DBPs), perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), brominated flame retardants (including polybrominated diphenyl ethers), sucralose and other artificial sweeteners, benzotriazoles, naphthenic acids, antimony, siloxanes, sunscreens/UV filters, musks, algal toxins, perchlorate, dioxane, pesticides, ionic liquids or organic salts, nanomaterials, gasoline additives and their transformation products, as well as microorganisms (Richardson 2003, 2007; Mottaleb et al. 2005, 2009; Richardson and Ternes 2005, 2011; Buser et al. 2006; Schmid et al. 2007; Farré et al. 2008; Kinney et al. 2008; Guo et al. 2009; Ramirez et al. 2009; Citulski and Farahbakhsh 2010; Kumar and Xagorarakis 2010; Pal et al. 2010; Yoon et al. 2010; Kleywegt

et al. 2011; Yu et al. 2011; Daughton and Ternes 1999; Keith et al. 2001; Heberer 2002; Balmer et al. 2004; Brooks et al. 2005; Duedahl-Olesen et al. 2005).

It is estimated that approximately 3000 different substances are used as pharmaceutical ingredients, including painkillers, antibiotics, antidiabetics, beta-blockers, contraceptives, lipid regulators, antidepressants and impotence drugs (Richardson and Ternes 2011). Pharmaceuticals that arise concern for possible chronic toxicity are salicylic acid, diclofenac, propranolol, clofibric acid, carbamazepine, atenolol, bezafibrate, cyclophosphamide, ciprofloxacin, furosemide, hydrochlorothiazide, ibuprofen, lincomycin, ofloxacin, ranitidine, salbutamol, sulfamethoxazole, diltiazem, acetaminophen, chloramphenicol, florfenicol, thiamphenicol and fluoxetine (Pal et al. 2010; Richardson and Ternes 2011; Hoeger et al. 2005; Carlsson et al. 2006; Pomati et al. 2006; Kim et al. 2007; Lai et al. 2009).

Occurrences of various hormones in natural waters as priority drinking water contaminants are estriol [E3], estrone, progesterone, 17 α -ethinylestradiol [EE2], 17 α -estradiol, 17 β -estradiol [E2], testosterone, androstenedione, equilenin, equilin, mestranol, and norethindrone (Pal et al. 2010; Richardson and Ternes 2011). Synthetic musk compounds have diverse chemical structures, such as nitroaromatic groups including musk xylene (1-tert-butyl-3,5-dimethyl-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene) and musk ketone (4-tert-butyl-2,6-dimethyl-3,5-dinitroacetophenone); polycyclic structures including 7-acetyl-1,1,3,4,4,6-hexamethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene (AHTN; trade name, tonalide), 1,3,4,6,7,8-hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8-hexamethylcyclopenta-(g)-2-benzopyran (HHCB; trade name, galaxolide), 4-acetyl-6-tert-butyl-1,1-dimethylindan (ADBI; trade name, celestolide), dihydropentamethylindanone (DPMI; trade name, cashmeran), and 5-acetyl-1,1,2,3,3,6-hexamethylindan (AHMI, trade name phantolide). They are studied in waters, waste sludge and air (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Gomez et al. 2009; Wombacher and Hornbuckle 2009; Clara et al. 2011; Ramirez et al. 2011). It has been shown that galaxolide is the most abundant musk detected in wastewater, reaching up to 2069 and 1432 ng L⁻¹ in influents and effluents, respectively.

Siloxanes include cyclic siloxanes, octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D4), decamethylcyclopentasiloxane (D5), dodecamethylcyclohexasiloxane (D6), tetradecamethylcycloheptasiloxane (D7) and linear siloxanes (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Kierkegaard et al. 2011). Approximately 600 different pesticides are applied annually in the US, whilst in Japan more than 450 active products are distributed annually among 5,400 commercial products. The two countries are key pesticide users in the world (Chen et al. 2007; Guo et al. 2009; Majewski et al. 2000; Derbalah et al. 2003; Qiu et al. 2005). Several pesticide degradation products are also of concern, such as: alachlor ethanesulfonic acid (ESA), alachlor oxanilic acid (OA), acetochlor ESA, acetochlor OA, metolachlor ESA, metolachlor OA, 3-hydroxycarbofuran, terbufos sulfone, alachlor ESA and OA, acetochlor ESA and OA, metolachlor ESA and OA, thiophenol and phenyl disulfide from dyfonate hydrolysis; 4-chloro-2-methylphenol and 4-chloro-2-methyl-6-nitrophenol from [(4-chloro-2-methylphenoxy)acetic acid] (MCPA) phototransformation; desphenyl-chloridazon (DPC) and methylated-DPC of N-chloridazon degradation (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Buttiglieri et al. 2009; Chiron et al. 2009; Wang et al. 2010).

Benzotriazoles and other benzo-related contaminants are detected in water, the most common being benzotriazole, tolyltriazole, benzothiazoles, and benzosulfonamides in waters (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Jover et al. 2009; van Leerdam et al. 2009; Matamoros et al. 2010). Perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) include perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and a number of structurally-related compounds such as fluorinated telomer alcohols (FTOHs), perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA), perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxS), Perfluorobutanesulfonate (PFBS), perfluoropropane sulfonate (PFPrS), perfluoroethane sulfonate (PFEtS), perfluorooctane sulfonamide (PFOSA), N-ethyl perfluorooctane sulfonamide acetate (N-EtFOSAA), perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoDa), perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnDa), perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA), perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA), perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA), and perfluoropropanoic acid (PFPrA). They are mostly volatile and subject to metabolism or degradation that leads to the formation of their persistent sulfonate and carboxylic acid forms (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Andersen et al. 2008; Farré et al. 2008; Shi et al. 2008; Mak et al. 2009).

Perchlorate is mostly found as an impurity of sodium hypochlorite (liquid bleach) and as ammonium perchlorate (Richardson and Ternes 2011). Ionic liquids are composed of cationic or anionic polar headgroups with accompanying alkyl side chains. The cationic head groups include imidazolium, pyridinium, pyrrolidinium, morpholinium, piperidium, quinolinium, quaternary ammonium, and quaternary phosphonium moieties. The anionic head groups include tetrafluoroborate (BF_4^-), hexafluorophosphate (PF_6^-), bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)-imide [$(\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_2)_2\text{N}^-$], dicyanamide [$(\text{CN})_2\text{N}^-$], chloride, and bromide (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Pham et al. 2010).

The chemical structures of nanomaterials are highly varied, including fullerenes, nanotubes, quantum dots, metal oxanes, TiO_2 nanoparticles, nanosilver, and zerovalent iron nanoparticles (Richardson and Ternes 2011). Artificial sweeteners in natural waters mainly include sucralose, acesulfame, cyclamate, saccharin, aspartame, neotame, and neohesperidin dihydrochalcone (NHDEC) (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Scheurer et al. 2009).

Toxins of blue-green algal origin commonly occur as microcystins, nodularins, anatoxins, cylindrospermopsin, and saxitoxins, while red tide toxins are detected as brevetoxins in natural waters (Richardson and Ternes 2011; dos Anjos et al. 2006; Wood et al. 2006; Zhao et al. 2006b; Smith et al. 2011). Saxitoxin variants recorded in cyanobacteria include decarbamoyl derivatives (dc), gonyautoxins (GTX); neosaxitoxin (neoSTX), N-sulphonocarbamoyl toxins (C-toxins), saxitoxin (STX) and a class of toxins produced by *Lyngbya wollei* (Humpage et al. 2010). Furthermore, chlorination of microcystin-LR and of cylindrospermopsin can give several byproducts, which are identified as chloro-microcystin, chloro-dihydroxy-microcystin, dichloro-dihydroxy-microcystin, trichlorohydroxy-microcystin, and several dihydroxy-microcystins (Merel et al. 2009).

Endocrine disrupting compounds or chemicals (EDCs) can disrupt the development of the endocrine system and of organs that respond to endocrine signals in organisms. These organisms can be indirectly exposed during prenatal and/or early postnatal life and the effects of exposure during development are permanent

and irreversible (Colborn 1993). In addition, transgenerational exposure can result from the exposure of the mother to a chemical at any time throughout her life before producing offspring, due to persistence of EDCs in body fat. EDCs can then be mobilized during egg laying or pregnancy and lactation (Colborn 1993). EDCs include pesticides and their metabolites, DDT and its metabolites, pentachlorophenol (PCP), alkylphenols (e.g. penta- to nonylphenols, 4-tert-octylphenol) polychlorinated compounds (e.g. polychlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, and polychlorinated biphenyls: PCBs), bisphenolic compounds (phenylphenol and bisphenol A), polybrominated diphenyl ethers, nematocides, naphthenic acids, pharmaceuticals (diethylstilbestrol), triclosan (2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether), phthalate esters (e.g. benzylbutyl phthalate, diethylhexyl phthalate, diphenylphthalate), steroids (e.g. ethynyl estradiol, 17 β -estradiol, diethylstilbestrol), natural estrogens (e.g. 17 β -sitosterol, estriol, estrone), natural androgens (e.g. testosterone), natural phytoestrogens (soy, alfalfa and clover), naturally occurring compounds (lignans, coumestans, isoflavones, mycotoxins), parabenes (hydroxybenzoate derivatives), organotins, and inorganic metal ions (cadmium, lead, mercury, antimony, uranium) (Citulski and Farahbakhsh 2010; Richardson and Ternes 2011; Colborn 1993; Bolger et al. 1998; Servos 1999; Petrović et al. 2001; Rhind 2002; Montgomery-Brown et al. 2003; Rudel et al. 2003; Ishibashi 2004; Kimura et al. 2004; Auriol et al. 2006; Diamanti-Kandarakis et al. 2009; Xu et al. 2011).

Microorganisms of concern are *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*, *E. coli*, pathogens, aeromonas, coliphages, viruses, total coliforms, *Helicobacter pylori*, enterococci, *E. coli O157:H7* and H1N1 (swine flu) (Liu et al. 2009, 2010; Richardson and Ternes 2011; Yañez et al. 2009; Li et al. 2010; Vikesland and Wigginton 2010; Wildeboer et al. 2010).

8.1 Sources of Emerging Contaminants in the Aquatic Environment

Emerging contaminants are commonly derived from three major sources (Richardson 2003, 2007; Mottaleb et al. 2005, 2009; Richardson and Ternes 2005, 2011; Buser et al. 2006; Schmid et al. 2007; Farré et al. 2008; Kinney et al. 2008; Guo et al. 2009; Ramirez et al. 2009; Citulski and Farahbakhsh 2010; Kumar and Xagorarakis 2010; Pal et al. 2010; Yoon et al. 2010; Kleywegt et al. 2011; Yu et al. 2011; Daughton and Ternes 1999; Keith et al. 2001; Heberer 2002; Balmer et al. 2004; Brooks et al. 2005; Duedahl-Olesen et al. 2005): (i) anthropogenic sources including atmospheric deposition but very often involving the effluents released by municipal, industrial, agricultural, and human activities, waste-water treatment processes, and so on; (ii) natural sources, including most notably the algal blooms in surface water; and (iii) photoinduced and microbial alteration of organic substances during transport from rivers to lakes, oceans or other water sources.

The key point sources of pharmaceuticals are discharge of wastes and drugs from hospitals; discharge of expired and consumed drugs from household;

wastewater and solid wastes discharge from pharmaceutical industries; hormones and antibiotics used in aquacultures; hormones and drugs used in livestock; compounds excreted from the human body in the form of non-metabolized parent molecules or as metabolites after ingestion and subsequent excretion, as well as the disposal of unused or expired medicinal products (Pal et al. 2010; Hernández et al. 2007; Pérez and Barceló 2007a, b; Nakada et al. 2008). The percentage of parent compound from the human body is 6–39 or ≥ 70 % for various antibiotics, 6–39 or ≤ 5 % for analgesics and anti-inflammatory drugs, ≤ 5 % for antiepileptic drugs (e.g. Carbamazepine), < 0.5 or 50–90 % for beta-blockers, and 40–69 % for blood lipid regulators such as bezafibrate (Pal et al. 2010; Mompelat et al. 2009). The key entry route for pharmaceutical contaminants into natural waters is the point-source release from wastewater treatment plants (Daughton and Ternes 1999; Heberer 2002). Pharmaceuticals can also enter surface waters by run-off from fields treated with digested sludge (Farré et al. 2008). Veterinary drugs and their metabolites are transported through leaching or run-off from livestock slurries when liquid manure is sprayed on agricultural field waters (Farré et al. 2008).

Personal care products (PCPs) (e.g. fragrances) can be discharged into aquatic ecosystems through shower waste and finally from waste water treatment plants (Farré et al. 2008; Rimkus and Wolf 1996; Käßlerlein et al. 1998; Smital et al. 2004; Peck 2006). UV filters used in sunscreens, cosmetics, and other PCPs are persistent in chlorinated water. Several halogenated by-products have been identified, which can cause endocrine and developmental toxicity and estrogenicity (Kunz and Fent 2006; Negreira et al. 2008; Schmitt et al. 2008). Synthetic musk compounds are widely used as fragrance additives in many personal care products, such as cleaning agents, air fresheners, house-hold products, perfumes, lotions, sunscreens, and laundry detergents (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Rimkus and Wolf 1996; Käßlerlein et al. 1998; Smital et al. 2004). Steroids are excreted in urine of humans as more hydrophilic glucuronides and sulfates, and free steroids and conjugates are detected in sewage influent and effluent (Ascenzo et al. 2003; Reddy et al. 2005). Livestock wastes are potential sources of endocrine disrupting compounds and of steroidal estrogen hormones such as estradiol, estrone and estriol in natural waters (Raman et al. 2001; Hanselman et al. 2003; Furuichi et al. 2006). Steroids were detected in more than 86 % of water samples from creeks where the cattle had direct access to the water (Kolodziej and Sedlak 2007).

Sources and pathways of xenohormone uptake by humans are mostly inhalation (e.g., from indoor air), dermal absorption (e.g., from personal care products), and ingestion of food (Wagner and Oehlmann 2009). Another source of xenobiotics in foodstuff is the substances migrating from the packaging material, which can accumulate in the foodstuff. A variety of additives, such as stabilizers, antioxidants, coupling agents and pigments are used to optimize the properties of packaging materials, which include for instance durability, elasticity and color (Lau and Wong 2000; Casajuana and Lacorte 2003; Zyგoura et al. 2005; Fankhauser-Noti et al. 2006).

Dioxane is a high production chemical that is used as solvent stabilizer in the manufacture and processing of paper, cotton, textile products, automotive coolants, cosmetics and shampoos, as well as a stabilizer in 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA), a

popular degreasing solvent (Richardson 2007; Richardson and Ternes 2011; Lee et al. 2011). Siloxanes are widely used in PCPs and in a number of household products, such as cosmetics, deodorants, soaps, hair conditioners, hair dyes, car waxes, baby pacifiers, cookware, cleaners, furniture polishes, and water-repellent windshield coatings (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Kierkegaard et al. 2011).

Ammonium perchlorate is used in solid propellants for rockets, missiles, fireworks and highway flares. It can also be added in drinking water treatment processes as an impurity of sodium hypochlorite (liquid bleach), and is present as naturally-occurring perchlorate in fertilizers (e.g., Chilean nitrate). Formation of perchlorate can also take place upon reaction of chlorine radicals with ozone in the troposphere during the summer periods (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Parker 2009; Furdulj and Tomassini 2010).

Benzotriazoles are complexing agents that are mostly used as anticorrosives or corrosion inhibitors (e.g., in engine coolants, aircraft deicers and antifreezing liquids), as UV-light stabilizers for plastics, for silver protection in dish-washing liquids, as anti-foggants in photography, and in aircraft de-icing/anti-icing fluids (ADAFs). These compounds are responsible for acute Microtox activity (Richardson 2007; Lovley 2006; Cancilla et al. 1997). They are soluble in water, resistant to biodegradation, and are only partially removed in wastewater treatment (Richardson 2007).

Naphthenic acids are a complex mixture of alkylsubstituted acyclic and cycloaliphatic carboxylic acids that dissolve in water at neutral or alkaline pH and have surfactant-like properties (Richardson and Ternes 2011). The key sources of naphthenic acids are the residual tailing water left over from the extraction of crude oil from oil sands, coal deposits, and petroleum industries (Richardson 2007; Richardson and Ternes 2011; Headley et al. 2009; Scott et al. 2009). PFCs are widely used in fabrics and carpets, paints, adhesives, waxes, polishes, metals, electronics, fire-fighting foams and caulks, as well as grease-proof coatings for food packaging such as microwave popcorn bags, French fry boxes, hamburger wrappers, and so on (Richardson and Ternes 2011).

Pesticides are generally released from agricultural fields to rivers or nearby waters by surface runoff, induced by either atmospheric precipitation or overflow and drainage of agricultural field waters (Wang et al. 2007; Guo et al. 2009; Richards and Baker 1993; Majewski et al. 2000; Derbalah et al. 2003; Qiu et al. 2005). However, the new sources of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) are mostly connected with continuing illegal applications of technical DDT, use of technical DDT-containing anti-fouling paint in commercial fishing boat maintenance, and presence of DDT residues in dicofol, although its use is internationally forbidden (Wang et al. 2007; Guo et al. 2009; Qiu et al. 2005). Nonylphenol polyethoxylates (NPEOs) and alkylphenol ethoxylates (AEOs) are non-ionic surfactants, which are widely used in household, cleaning products, paints, pesticides, and industrial processes such as paper and petroleum production (Farré et al. 2008; Fairchild et al. 1999; Strynar and Lindstrom 2008).

Ionic liquids have unique properties including tunable viscosity, miscibility, and electrolytic conductivity. These properties make them useful for many applications, such as organic synthesis and catalysis, production of fuel cells, batteries, coatings, oils, nanoparticles, as well as other chemical engineering and biotechnology applications (Richardson and Ternes 2011).

Algal toxins are produced during algal or cyanobacterial blooms in natural waters (Richardson and Ternes 2011; dos Anjos et al. 2006; Wood et al. 2006; Zhao et al. 2006b; Smith et al. 2011).

Emerging pollutants can be altered in the environment by direct and indirect photolysis, hydrolysis, other chemical processes, biodegradation, sorption, volatilization and dispersion, or by a combination of these processes. Environmental transformation can either contribute to the complete removal of the organic contaminants, or produce transformation intermediates that can sometimes occur in the environment at higher levels than the parent compound and that can be as toxic or more toxic (Scully et al. 1988; Jensen and Helz 1998; Jameel and Helz 1999; Mitch et al. 2003; Strynar and Lindstrom 2008; Boxall et al. 2004; Gurr and Reinhard 2006; Jahan et al. 2008).

8.2 Transport of Emerging Contaminants in the Aquatic Environment

Once released into the environment, emerging contaminants are transported into different aquatic organisms, sediments and plants, depending on the emission routes as well as their physico-chemical properties such as water solubility, vapor pressure and polarity (Guo et al. 2009; Richardson and Ternes 2011; Daughton and Ternes 1999; Farré et al. 2008; Epel and Smital 2001). Emerging contaminants are generally persistent, have a wide range of hydrophilicity/hydrophobicity, and many of them are liable to bioaccumulation and biomagnification in organisms and plants when present in the aquatic environment (Guo et al. 2009; Richardson and Ternes 2011; Daughton and Ternes 1999; Farré et al. 2008; Epel and Smital 2001). Aquatic organisms including fish can accumulate emerging contaminants in certain body tissues. This phenomenon can take place either directly by bioaccumulation and biomagnification from water or by uptake of food such as OM (e.g. algae), sediments in water bed, small aquatic plants and so on, which have come in contact with the contaminants.

Emerging contaminants are mostly transmitted to humans through food consumption, particularly fish and seafood (Wong et al. 2002; Meng et al. 2007). Synthetic musks are potential candidates as substrates or inhibitors of multixenobiotic resistance (MXR) transporters (Daughton and Ternes 1999; Epel and Smital 2001). The multixenobiotic resistance (MXR) in aquatic organisms is mediated by the transport activity of transmembrane proteins belonging to the ATP-binding cassette (ABC) superfamily. These proteins are primarily involved in the active, ATP-dependent transport of biological molecules across plasma membranes (Smital et al. 2004; Higgins et al. 1988; Dean et al. 2001). The P-glycoprotein (P-gp) detected in ABC can transport drugs, xenobiotic compounds, anticancer agents including the vinca alkaloids and anthracyclines, drugs against human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), fluorophores as well as typical environmental pollutants (Smital et al. 2004; Danø 1972; Juliano and Ling 1976; Smital and Kurelec 1998; Bard 2000; Litman et al. 2001). Various transmembrane transport proteins

can thus cause a rapid efflux of a wide variety of potentially toxic xenobiotics out of the cells of aquatic organisms. This is a 'first line of defense' against endogenous and exogenous toxicants (Smital et al. 2004; Kurelec 1992; Epel 1998).

However, some environmental chemicals act as specific MXR inhibitors and have the potential to block the active efflux of xenobiotics, thereby causing a significant increase of their intracellular accumulation. The main consequence of inhibition is an increase in chemosensitivity of aquatic organisms toward the many xenobiotics that are typically present in aquatic environments (Smital et al. 2004). Based on these considerations, otherwise innocuous environmental chemicals can be seen as a new class of environmentally hazardous chemicals that are termed as MXR inhibitors or chemosensitizers (Smital et al. 2004).

Perchlorate is a very water-soluble and environmentally stable anion, which can accumulate in plants (including lettuce, wheat, and alfalfa) and can thus contribute to exposure in humans and animals (Richardson and Ternes 2011).

8.2.1 Toxicological Impacts of Emerging Contaminants

Emerging contaminants and their transformation byproducts have adverse effects on the health of aquatic organisms (including algae, bacteria and fish), of animals and humans, as well as aquatic ecological effects (Guo et al. 2009; Kumar and Xagorarakis 2010; Pal et al. 2010; Derbalah et al. 2003; Scully et al. 1988; Jensen and Helz 1998; Jameel and Helz 1999; Mitch et al. 2003; Pomati et al. 2006; Farré et al. 2008; Fairchild et al. 1999; Boxall et al. 2004; Jahan et al. 2008; McLeese et al. 1981; Ahel et al. 1987; Tyler et al. 1998; Scott and Jones 2000; Oberdorster and Cheek 2001; Cleuvers 2004; Ferrari et al. 2004; Bedner and MacCrehan 2006; Owen et al. 2007). Their effects can be characterized using seven attributes: prevalence, frequency of detection, removal, bioaccumulation, ecotoxicity (for fish, daphnid, and algae aquatic indicator species), pregnancy effects, and health effects. The latter attribute was characterized using seven sub-attributes: carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, impairment of fertility, central nervous system action, endocrine effects, immunotoxicity, and developmental effects (Kumar and Xagorarakis 2010).

Production of byproducts such as trihalomethanes (THMs), N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA), and organic chloramines in conventional and advanced wastewater treatment plants arises considerable concern. These compounds are in fact extremely toxic and carcinogenic to human beings and aquatic organisms, and have been found in drinking and natural waters (Scully et al. 1988; Jensen and Helz 1998; Jameel and Helz 1999; Mitch et al. 2003; Farré et al. 2008). Transformation products of some organics are often more persistent than the corresponding parent compounds, and can cause greater toxicity (Boxall et al. 2004). For example, the major biodegradation product of nonylphenol ethoxylates, nonylphenol, is much more persistent than the parent compounds and has estrogenic properties (Jahan et al. 2008). Pharmaceuticals and their transformation byproducts show acute toxicity to bacteria, algae, invertebrates, fish, mussels, and human embryonic cells (Guo et al. 2009; Kumar and Xagorarakis 2010; Pal et al.

2010; Derbalah et al. 2003; Scully et al. 1988; Jensen and Helz 1998; Jameel and Helz 1999; Mitch et al. 2003; Pomati et al. 2006; Farré et al. 2008; Fairchild et al. 1999; Boxall et al. 2004; Jahan et al. 2008; McLeese et al. 1981; Ahel et al. 1987; Tyler et al. 1998; Scott and Jones 2000; Oberdorster and Cheek 2001; Cleuvers 2004; Ferrari et al. 2004; Bedner and MacCrehan 2006; Owen et al. 2007). It has been shown that low part per trillion (10–100 ng L⁻¹) concentrations of steroidal estrogen hormones can adversely affect the reproductive biology of aquatic wildlife such as fish, turtles and frogs, by disrupting the normal function of their endocrine systems (Tyler et al. 1998; Oberdorster and Cheek 2001). The sex hormones (mainly estrogens and androgens) are of very high potential concern, followed by cardiovascular drugs, antibiotics and antineoplastics, the latter being used to cure abnormal tissue growth (neoplasms) (Sanderson et al. 2004).

Ethylene dibromide (EDB) is among the most commonly detected contaminants in groundwater. It is classified as a probable human carcinogen and is highly persistent in water (Richardson 2007). 1,4-Dioxane is also a widespread contaminant in groundwater and is a probable human carcinogen (Richardson 2007). The transformation intermediates of nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEOs) and alcohol ethoxylates (AEOs), in addition to the endocrine disrupting properties, are highly toxic and refractory and can cause hazards to aquatic ecosystems (Derbalah et al. 2003; Fairchild et al. 1999; McLeese et al. 1981; Ahel et al. 1987; Scott and Jones 2000). DDT and its metabolites can damage the nervous system, reproductive system, and liver. It is also a potential human carcinogen that can cause liver cancer (Guo et al. 2009). Ionic liquids are toxic, and their toxicity can widely vary among organisms and trophic levels (Pham et al. 2010).

EDCs have potential effects on organisms (microorganisms, wildlife, animals, and humans) including: androgenic, estrogenic, anti-estrogenic and anti-androgenic properties; disruption of the development of vital systems such as the endocrine, reproductive, immune, and thyroid functions; sexual differentiation of the brain during fetal development; cognitive and motor function. Many of them are also suspected carcinogens (Richardson and Ternes 2011; Colborn 1993; Rhind 2002; Jansen et al. 1993; Nimrod and Benson 1996; Hansen 1998; Langer et al. 1998; Helleday et al. 1999; Vine et al. 2000; Moore et al. 2001; Fenton 2006). EDCs can have transient and persistent effects on mammary gland development depending on dose, exposure parameters and on whether exposure occurs during critical periods of gland growth or differentiation (Fenton 2006). Adverse effects from these abnormal developmental patterns include the presence of carcinogen-sensitive structures in the gland, in greater numbers or for longer periods. Inhibited functional differentiation can also be observed, leading to malnutrition or increased mortality of the offspring (Fenton 2006). Individually, adverse effects of EDCs exposure are detected on sperm production in rats and humans and reductions in Sertoli cell number in sheep (Carlsen et al. 1995; Toppari et al. 1996; Lee et al. 1999; Sweeney et al. 2000). Reductions in embryo survival and consequent effects on the reproductive rate in females are observed for many mammalian and bird species (IEH) (IEH 1999). Finally, human health is adversely affected by consumption of food contaminated by EDCs.

Currently, algal toxins or red tide toxins produced during algal blooms in lakes, estuaries and oceans are responsible for adverse effects, including the increasing incidence of loss of phytoplankton competitor motility, inhibition of photosynthesis and of enzymes, membrane damage, large fish kills, shellfish poisoning, deaths of livestock and wildlife, as well as illness and death in humans associated with the consumption of contaminated shellfish (Richardson 2007; Prince et al. 2008; Negri et al. 1995; Landsberg 2002; Legrand et al. 2003; Llewellyn 2006; Etheridge 2010). It has been shown that saxitoxin and its analogues are the only neurotoxins identified in *Anabaena circinalis* from the Murray Darling River. There an extensive *A. circinalis* bloom in 1991 resulted in the death of over 1600 stock (Humpage et al. 1994; Bowling and Baker 1996; Steffensen et al. 1999). The mechanisms behind the effects of harmful algal blooms on organisms will be discussed in chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”. Finally, microorganisms are responsible for outbreaks of waterborne illness that have killed millions of people over the last few decades all over the world (Richardson and Ternes 2011).

8.3 Methodologies and Techniques of Emerging Contaminants (Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products) Detection

The liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) screening method described here has been developed to target 23 pharmaceuticals and 2 metabolites with differing physicochemical properties in fish tissue by Ramirez and his colleagues (Ramirez et al. 2007). In this method, analysis of pharmaceuticals and their metabolites in fish tissue is conducted using reversed-phase separation of target compounds with a C18 column and a nonlinear gradient, consisting of 0.1 % (v/v) formic acid and methanol. A 1:1 mixture of 0.1 M aqueous acetic acid (pH 4) and methanol is identified as optimal, resulting in extraction recoveries for 24 of 25 compounds exceeding 60 % among 10 solvents tested. Eluted analytes are then introduced into the mass analyzer using positive or negative electrospray ionization. Note that moderate-polarity solvents are generally observed to be most effective at removing target analytes from tissue.

Sample collection and preservation (Ramirez et al. 2007): Fish (*Lepomis* sp.) were sampled from Pecan Creek (impacted by pharmaceuticals) and Clear Creek (not impacted by contaminants) streams to serve as test and reference specimens, respectively. Lateral fillets were dissected from fish collected at both sites and homogenized using a Tissuemiser (Fisher Scientific, Fair Lawn, NJ) set to rotate at 30,000 rpm. Pecan creek homogenates were stored individually, while Clear Creek homogenates were composited into a single sample. All tissues were stored at -20°C prior to analysis.

Preparation of analytical sample (Ramirez et al. 2007): Approximately 1.0 g of tissue was combined with 8 mL of extraction solvent [a 1:1 mixture of

0.1 M aqueous acetic acid (pH 4) and methanol] in a 20 mL borosilicate glass vial (Wheaton; VWR Scientific, Rockwood, TN), and the mixture was homogenized using a Tissuemiser (Fisher Scientific) at 30,000 rpm. Five surrogates (100.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ in acetonitrile) were added to each sample: acetaminophen- d_4 (454 ng), fluoxetine- d_6 (636 ng), diphenhydramine- d_3 (8.9 ng), carbamazepine- d_{10} (38.5 ng), and ibuprofen- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ (789 ng). Samples were shaken vigorously and mixed on a rotary extractor for 5 min. Following extraction, samples were rinsed into 50-mL polypropylene copolymer round-bottomed centrifuge tubes (Nalge Co.; Nalgene Brand Products, Rochester, New York) using 1 mL of extraction solvent and centrifuged at 16,000 rpm for 40 min at 4 °C. The supernatant was decanted into 18-mL disposable borosilicate glass culture tubes (VWR Scientific), and the solvent was evaporated to dryness under a stream of nitrogen at 45 °C using a Zymark Turbovap LC concentration workstation (Zymark Corp., Hopkinton, MA). Samples were reconstituted in 1 mL of mobile phase, and a constant amount of the internal standards 7-aminoflunitrazepam- d_7 (100 ng) and meclufenamic acid (1000 ng) was added. Prior to analysis, samples were sonicated for 1 min and filtered using Pall Acrodisc hydrophobic Teflon Supor membrane syringe filters (13 mm diameter; 0.2 μm pore size; VWR Scientific, Suwanee, GA).

LC-MS/MS detection (Ramirez et al. 2007): A Varian ProStar model 210 binary pump equipped with a model 410 autosampler was used to detect the analytes, which were separated on a 15 cm \times 2.1 mm (5 μm , 80 Å) Extend-C18 column (Agilent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA) connected with an Extend-C18 guard cartridge 12.5 mm \times 2.1 mm (5 μm , 80 Å) (Agilent Technologies). A binary gradient consisting of 0.1 % (v/v) formic acid in water and 100 % methanol was employed to achieve chromatographic separation, whereas the time-scheduled elution program was as follows (min): 0, 2, 7, 12, 21, 28, 34, 45, 50, 51, 65. The mobile-phase composition for 0.1 % formic acid was 93, 93, 85, 85, 52, 52, 41, 2, 2, 93, 93 and for methanol was 7, 7, 15, 15, 48, 48, 59, 98, 98, 7, 7, respectively. Additional chromatographic parameters were as follows: injection volume, 10 μL ; column temperature, 30 °C; flow rate, 350 $\mu\text{L min}^{-1}$. Eluted analytes were monitored by MS/MS using a Varian model 1200L triple-quadrupole mass analyzer equipped with an electrospray interface (ESI).

Each compound was infused individually into the mass spectrometer at a concentration of 1 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ in aqueous 0.1 % (v/v) formic acid at a flow rate of 10 $\mu\text{L min}^{-1}$ for determining the best ionization mode (ESI + or -) and optimal MS/MS transitions for target analytes. All analytes were initially tested using both positive and negative ionization modes while the first quadrupole was scanned from m/z 50 to $[M + 100]$. This can enable identification of the optimal source polarity and the most intense precursor ion for each compound. Once these parameters have been defined, the energy at the collision cell was varied, while the third quadrupole was scanned to identify and optimize the intensity of product ions for each compound. Additional instrumental parameters held constant for all analytes were as follows: nebulizing gas, N_2 at 60 psi; drying gas, N_2 at 19 psi; temperature, 300 °C; needle voltage, 5000 V ESI+ , 4500 V ESI-; declustering potential, 40 V; collision gas, argon at 2.0 mTorr.

Extraction Recoveries (Ramirez et al. 2007): All samples were analyzed by LC–MS/MS, and individual analyte recoveries were calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Recovery} = (A_{X1}/A_{IS1}) / (A_{X2}/A_{IS2}) \times 100\%$$

where A_{X1} , A_{IS1} , A_{X2} , and A_{IS2} represent peak areas for the analyte (X) and internal standard (IS) in groups 1 and 2 samples, respectively.

Identification of Pharmaceuticals Using LC–MS/MS **(Ramirez et al. 2007):**

A LC–MS/MS total ion chromatogram resulting from analysis of clean tissue (non-affected by contaminants) spiked with a mixture of standard pharmaceuticals is depicted in Fig. 3. Peak identifications for pharmaceuticals in the chromatogram are as follows: (1) acetaminophen- d_4 , (2) acetaminophen, (3) atenolol, (4) cimetidine, (5) codeine, (6) 1,7-dimethylxanthine, (7) lincomycin, (8) trimethoprim, (9) thiabendazole, (10) caffeine, (11) sulfamethoxazole, (12) 7-aminoflunitrazepam- d_7 (+IS), (13) metoprolol, (14) propranolol, (15) diphenhydramine- d_3 , (16) diphenhydramine, (17) diltiazem, (18) carbamazepine- d_{10} , (19) carbamazepine, (20) tylosin, (21) fluoxetine- d_6 , (22) fluoxetine, (23) norfluoxetine, (24) sertraline, (25) erythromycin, (26) clofibric acid, (27) warfarin, (28) miconazole, (29) ibuprofen- $^{13}C_3$, (30) ibuprofen, (31) meclofenamic acid (-IS), and (32) gemfibrozil. Three factors were presumably considered in selecting the target analytes (Table 3): First, number of prescriptions dispensed in the United States during 2005 (RxList 2005). Second, variability in structure, physicochemical properties, and therapeutic use. Third, relative frequency of occurrence in soils, sediments, and biosolids. The frequency of detection of various PPCPs in analyzed sediment, soil, and biosolid samples (64–100 %) is typically much higher than in water (5 %). This may be due to variation in physicochemical properties favoring compound partitioning from water to solid environmental matrixes. Compounds residing in sediment may then be taken up by aquatic organisms via ingestion (Furlong et al. 2004; Brooks et al. 2005; Ramirez et al. 2007).

Optimized MS/MS transitions and collision energies employed for detection and quantitation of each analyte are presented in Table 3, along with the molecular structure and most common therapeutic use for each analyte. With the exception of erythromycin, selected precursors represent the molecular ion $[M + H]^+$ or $[M - H]^-$ for each analyte. The most abundant precursor for erythromycin was found to be the $[M + H - H_2O]^+$ ion at m/z 716. Selected product ions generally represent the most abundant fragment observed for each precursor at the noted collision energy. Once suitable MS/MS transitions have been identified for each analyte, an aqueous mixture of reference standards was employed to optimize chromatographic parameters. A nonlinear gradient consisting of 0.1 % (v/v) formic acid and methanol resulted in near baseline resolution of the majority of analytes in ~50 min (Fig. 3). A 15-min

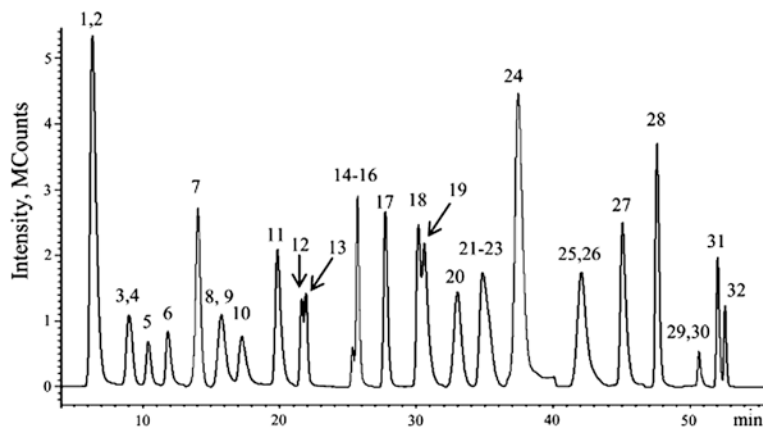
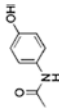
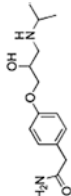
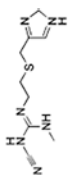
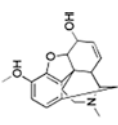
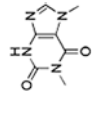
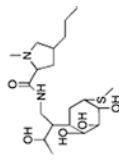


Fig. 3 LC-MS/MS total ion chromatogram resulting from analysis of clean tissue spiked with a mixture of pharmaceutical standards. Peak identifications are as follows: (1) acetaminophen- d_4 , (2) acetaminophen, (3) atenolol, (4) cimetidine, (5) codeine, (6) 1,7-dimethylxanthine, (7) lincomycin, (8) trimethoprim, (9) thiabendazole, (10) caffeine, (11) sulfamethoxazole, (12) 7 aminoflunitrazepam- d_7 (+IS), (13) metoprolol, (14) propranolol, (15) diphenhydramine- d_3 , (16) diphenhydramine, (17) diltiazem, (18) carbamazepine- d_{10} , (19) carbamazepine, (20) tylosin, (21) fluoxetine- d_6 , (22) fluoxetine, (23) norfluoxetine, (24) sertraline, (25) erythromycin, (26) clofibrac acid, (27) warfarin, (28) miconazole, (29) ibuprofen- $^{13}C_3$, (30) ibuprofen, (31) meclofenamic acid (-IS), and (32) gemfibrozil. *Data source* Ramirez et al. (2007)

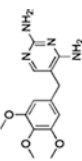
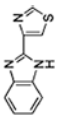

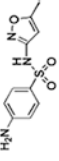
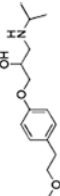
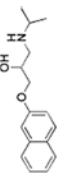
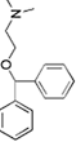
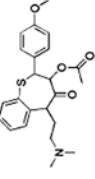
isocratic hold (93:7 formic acid–methanol) was added to the end of each run to allow for column equilibration between injections. While the majority of analytes were eluted as single peaks, erythromycin was consistently eluted as two partially resolved peaks, which are attributed to differing retention characteristics for presumed Stereoisomers (Vanderford et al. 2003; Yang and Carlson 2004). In addition, isotope effects on retention behavior were often observed for carbamazepine- d_{10} and fluoxetine- d_6 (peaks 18 and 19, Fig. 3). The observed retention time for carbamazepine- d_{10} (30.08 min) was shorter than that observed for carbamazepine (30.53 min) by almost 30 s. Correspondingly, a 20-s difference in retention time was observed for fluoxetine- d_6 (34.58 min) relative to that observed for fluoxetine (34.93 min), although it is not evident in Fig. 3 due to coelution of norfluoxetine (35.13 min). Finally, isotope effects were not observed for acetaminophen (peaks 1 and 2) and diphenhydramine (peaks 15 and 16, Fig. 3) due to a lower degree of deuterium substitution and decreased resolution at shorter retention times. Four compounds such as diphenhydramine, diltiazem, carbamazepine, and norfluoxetine were detected in fish environmental samples (affected by contaminants; Fig. 4a), which were confirmed by comparing the results of the fish samples unaffected by contaminants and spiked with known amounts of their respective standards (Fig. 4b). The concentrations of these pharmaceuticals were 0.66–1.32 ng g⁻¹ for diphenhydramine, 0.11–0.27 ng g⁻¹ for diltiazem, 0.83–1.44 ng g⁻¹ for carbamazepine, and 3.49–5.14 ng g⁻¹ for norfluoxetine detected in 11 of 11 contaminated environmental fish samples.

Table 3 Analyte-dependent mass spectrometry parameters for target compounds (data source Ramirez et al. 2007; RxList (The Internet Drug Index) 2005)

Compound	Use	Structure	Precursor ion	Collision energy (eV)	Product ion	pK _a ^a
<i>ESI positive analytes</i>						
Acetaminophen	Analgesic		152 [M + H] ⁺	-11.0	110	9.86
Atenolol	Anti-hypertension		267 [M + H] ⁺	-21.5	145	9.16
Cimetidine	Anti-acid reflux		253 [M + H] ⁺	-13.5	159	7.07
Codeine	Analgesic		300 [M + H] ⁺	-38.0	215	8.25
1,7-dimethylxanthine	Caffeine metabolite		181 [M + H] ⁺	-15.5	124	8.50
Lilcomycin	Antibiotic		407 [M + H] ⁺	-15.5	359	8.78


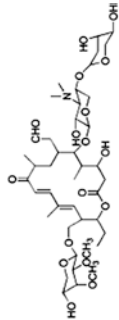
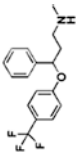
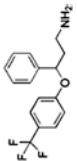
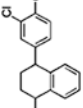
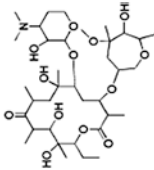
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Table 3 (continued)

Compound	Use	Structure	Precursor ion	Collision energy (eV)	Product ion	pKa ^a
Trimethoprim	Antibiotic		291 [M + H] ⁺	-17.5	261	7.20
Thiabendazole	Antibiotic		202 [M + H] ⁺	-23.0	175	
Caffeine	Stimulant		195 [M + H] ⁺	-16.0	138	
Sulfamethoxazole	Antibiotic		254 [M + H] ⁺	-13.0	156	5.81
Metoprolol	Anti-hypertension		268 [M + H] ⁺	-15.5	191	9.17
Propranolol	Anti-hypertension		260 [M + H] ⁺	-11.0	116	9.14
Diphenhydramine	Antihistamine		256 [M + H] ⁺	-11.5	167	8.76
Diltiazem	Anti-hypertension		415 [M + H] ⁺	-22.0	178	8.94

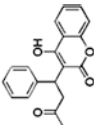
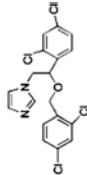
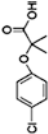
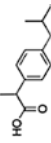
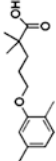
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Table 3 (continued)

Compound	Use	Structure	Precursor ion	Collision energy (eV)	Product ion	pK _a ^a
Carbamazepine	Anti-seizure		237 [M + H] ⁺	-13.5	194	
Tylosin	Antibiotic		916 [M + H] ⁺	-31.5	174	7.39
Fluoxetine	Anti depressant		310 [M + H] ⁺	-6.0	148	10.1
Norfluoxetine	Fluoxetine metabo- lite		296 [M + H] ⁺	-45	134	9.05
Sertraline	Antidepressant		306 [M + H] ⁺	-11.0	275	9.47
Erythromycin	Antibiotic		716 [M + H - H ₂ O] ⁺	-18.0	558	8.16

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Compound	Use	Structure	Precursor ion	Collision energy (eV)	Product ion	pKa ^a
Warfarin	Anti-coagulant		309 [M + H] ⁺	-14.0	163	4.50
Miconazole	Antibiotic		417 [M + H] ⁺	-27.5	161	6.67
<i>ESI Negative Analytes</i>						
Clofibric Acid	Antilipemi		213 [M - H] ⁻	15.4	127	3.18
Ibuprofen	Analgesic		205 [M - H] ⁻	7.0	161	4.41
Gemfibrozil	Antilipemie		249 [M - H] ⁻	13.0	121	4.75

^aCalculated values obtained from SciFinder database (@ 2006 American Chemical Society)

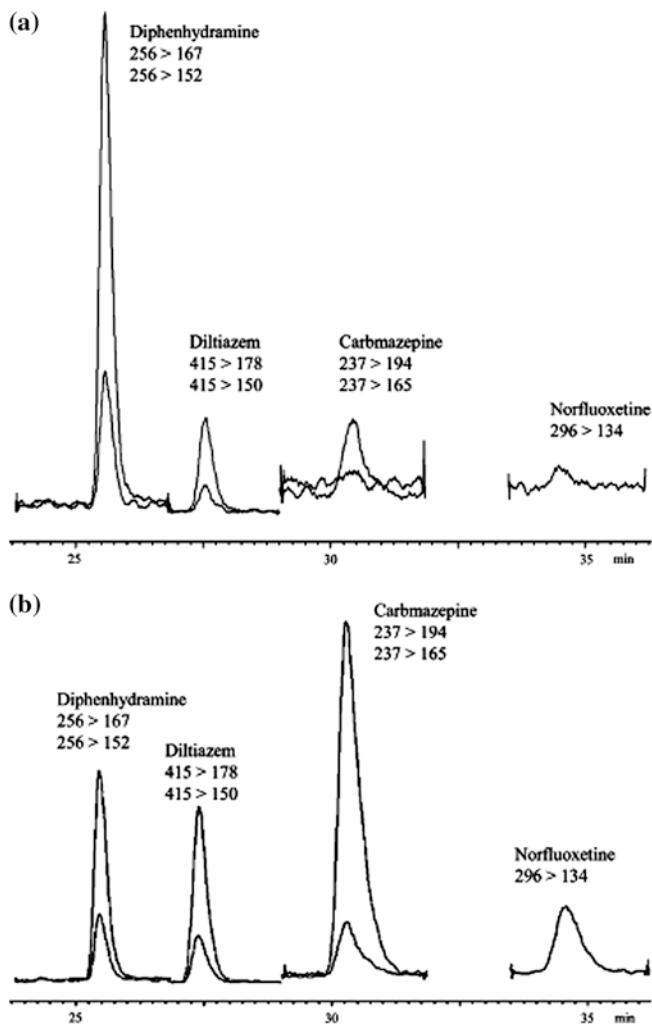


Fig. 4 LC-MS/MS reconstituted ion chromatograms displaying analyte-specific quantitation and qualifier ions monitored for (a) a tissue extract from a fish (*Lepomis* sp.) that is affected by contaminants and (b) an extract from fish tissue (not affected by contaminants) spiked with known amounts of diphenhydramine (1.6 ng g^{-1}), diltiazem (2.4 ng g^{-1}), carbamazepine (16 ng g^{-1}), and norfluoxetine (80 ng g^{-1}). The higher m/z fragment is more intense in all cases. Data source Ramirez et al. (2007)

Identification of Personal Care Products Using GC-MS/MS (Mottaleb et al. 2009)

Two gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) methods have been described for simultaneous determination in fish of ten extensively used personal care products (PCPs) such as benzophenone, 4-methylbenzylidene camphor

(4-MBC), m-toluamide, galaxolide, tonalide, musk xylene, musk ketone, celestolide, triclosan, octocrylene and two alkylphenol surfactants such as p-octylphenol and p-nonylphenol. These methods consisted of extraction, clean-up, derivatization and analysis by gas chromatography–mass spectrometry with selected ion monitoring (GC–SIM–MS) or gas chromatography–tandem mass spectrometry (GC–MS/MS) techniques (Mottaleb et al. 2009). To assess recovery of target compounds from 1-g tissue homogenates, acetone was selected as optimal solvent for extracting compounds with dissimilar physicochemical properties from fish tissue. Initial experiments confirmed that GC–SIM–MS could be applied for analysis of lean fillet tissue (<1 % lipid) without gel-permeation chromatography (GPC), and this approach was applied to assess the presence of target analytes in fish fillets collected from a regional effluent-dominated stream in Texas, USA. Benzophenone, galaxolide, tonalide, and triclosan were detected in 11 of 11 environmental samples at concentrations ranging from 37 to 90, 234 to 970, 26 to 97, and 17 to 31 ng g⁻¹, respectively. However, performance of this analytical approach declined appreciably with increasing lipid content of analyzed tissues. Successful analysis of samples with increased lipid content was enabled by adding GPC to the sample preparation protocol and monitoring analytes with tandem mass spectrometry. Both analytical approaches were validated using fortified fillet tissue collected from locations expected to be minimally impacted by anthropogenic influences. Average analyte recoveries ranged from 87 % to 114 % with RSDs <11 % and from 54 % to 107 % with RSDs <20 % for fish tissue containing <1 % and 4.9 % lipid, respectively. Statistically derived method detection limits (MDLs) for GC–SIM–MS and GC–MS/MS methodologies ranged from 2.4 to 16 ng g⁻¹, and from 5.1 to 397 ng g⁻¹, respectively (Mottaleb et al. 2009). In a following study, improvement of the MDL has been observed between 12 and 38 ng g⁻¹ by the GC–MS/MS methodology for the same PCPs using 2.0–2.5 g of fish (Subedi et al. 2011).

9 Does DOM Act as Energy Source for Living Organisms and Aquatic Ecosystem?

The concentration levels of DOC in groundwater are very variable: they reach 16–424 μM C in Asia, 42–15333 μM C in Europe, 8–2333 μM C in North America, 1108 ± 217–14167 ± 6333 μM C in Botswana (Africa), 100–3000 μM C in Brazil (South America) (Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2007a, Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Buckau et al. 2000; Bertilsson et al. 1999; McIntyre et al. 2005; Meier et al. 2004; Crandall et al. 1999; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; Pabich et al. 2001; Michalzik et al. 2001; Anawar et al. 2002; Richey et al. 2002; Bradley et al. 2007). Groundwater is the main source of drinking water for many developing and developed countries, including the USA. Groundwater has the advantage over surface water of being usually free of suspended solids, bacteria and other disease-causing microorganisms (Mostofa et al. 2009a). Interestingly, upland areas make up 30 %

of the surface of Great Britain, but supply over 70 % of its drinking water (Watts et al. 2001). Therefore, all the people uptake a certain amount of DOC everyday from drinking water. According to the level of DOC in groundwater and considering an average water intake of 2 liters per day for adults (which can rise to ~5 liters for manual labor at high temperature), on average, every person intakes per day ~50–800 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Asia, ~100–30000 $\mu\text{M C}$ in Europe and 20–5000 $\mu\text{M C}$ in the U.S.A. The interesting question that arises is that these DOC contents are significant energy sources for human beings and for the other living organisms. Before addressing this question, it is important to examine which substances make up DOM in natural waters.

The contribution of humic substances (hydrophobic acids) in groundwater is very variable in different countries, and is approximately included in the range of 12–98 % (1–80 % of fulvic acid and 2–97 % of humic acid). The contribution of hydrophilic fractions is 1–82 % (Buckau et al. 2000; Bertilsson et al. 1999; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999; Leenheer et al. 1974; Thurman 1985c; Ford and Naiman 1989; Schiff et al. 1990; Wassenaar et al. 1990; Malcolm 1991; Grøn et al. 1996; Christensen et al. 1998; McIntyre et al. 2005; Mladenov et al. 2008). Along with the humic substances, hydrophilic compounds (acidic, basic and neutral) and carbohydrates (mainly polysaccharides, ~1–10 %) are also present in groundwater (Thurman 1985a; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999; Artinger et al. 2000). The intake of DOC by every person is approximately 20–30000 $\mu\text{M C}$, or 0.2–360 mg C L^{-1} per day, for the average hydration of a human body in the case of groundwater.

It is generally well-known that carbohydrates can produce energy for all living organisms. The sources of carbohydrates and humic substances are the same vascular plant material. DOM with its content of organic C and N is a thermodynamic anomaly that provides a major source of energy to drive aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems (Tranvik 1992; Salonen et al. 1992; Wetzel 1984, 1992; Hedges et al. 2000; Berner 1989). Energy changes (\pm) such as supply (+) or consumption (–) of energy in the aquatic environment generally occur during the photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and organic matter, during the microbial loop and the photosynthesis (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Miller and Moran 1997; Li et al. 2011; Sherr and Sherr 1989; Carrick et al. 1991; Jones 1992; Tranvik 1992; Wetzel 1984, 1992). In addition, terrestrial DOM represents a source of allochthonous energy for heterotrophs in receiving lakes, rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and coastal oceans (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Wetzel 1992; Smith and Hollibaugh 1993; Kemp et al. 1997; Pace et al. 2004; Aller and Blair 2006). It has been shown that DOM makes up 47 % of the energy which enters and 70 % of the energy which leaves the groundwater ecosystem (Fisher and Likens 1973). It has also been shown that undisturbed groundwater basins export only small amounts of energy (~1 %) from the upland regions, while the remaining 99 % of forest production is consumed terrestrially (Fisher and Likens 1972, 1973). It is therefore concluded that the DOM including humic substances can act as energy source and are vital for all living organisms (Mostofa et al. 2009a). Note that DOM in drinking water can play a negligible energetic role for humans, due to the uptake of a substantially lower amount of organic carbon compared to foods (e.g. boiled rice, vegetables, fish, meat and so on) and beverages (e.g. fruit juices, alcohol, etc.).

Humic substances (humic and fuvic acids) are extensively applied as bio-medicines to decrease the gastric damage induced by ethanol, to protect organisms against cell-wall disruption, to maintain antibacterial and antiviral properties, decrease viral respiratory illness, and to protect against cancer and related cancer-causing viruses (Brzozowski et al. 1994; Klöcking et al. 2002; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005). On the other hand, humic acid is a toxic factor for many mammalian cells and can be involved in the so-called humic acid-induced cytotoxicity (Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Ho et al. 2003).

10 Scope of the Future Research

After the development of an effective method for TOC analysis in 1988, DOM has been mostly determined in developed countries since 1990 to date, but fewer studies have been carried out in developing countries. Considering the importance of DOM, it is important to determine its levels in natural water in developing countries, also considering that the DOC concentrations in many watersheds have changed (either increased or decreased) over the last few decades. Moreover, emerging contaminants and their transformation byproducts are extensively examined currently, but only limited information is available on their ecotoxicological impacts on the aquatic environments.

Some important research demands for future challenges are the following: (i) Determination of concentration levels of DOM in important rivers and lakes in developing countries. (ii) Extraction of autochthonous fulvic acids from algae or phytoplankton under both photorespiration by natural sunlight or artificial light, and microbial respiration or assimilation under dark incubation. (iii) Characterization of the extracted autochthonous fulvic acids to examine the presence of functional groups, elemental composition, and possible molecular structure with reference to standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid and Humic Acid. (iv) Investigation on lakes having reduced DOC contents, using incorporation of terrestrial soils in lake surface waters. (v) Investigation on lakes having increased DOC contents, trying to reduce photosynthesis and primary production in the lake surface waters. (vi) Joint chemical and toxicological evaluation of emerging contaminants and their transformation byproducts, for important end points and target organs and effects such as mutagenicity, carcinogenicity, hepatotoxicity, nephrotoxicity, immunotoxicity, neurotoxicity, developmental neurotoxicity and pharmacokinetics (Farré et al. 2008).

Nomenclature

ABC	ATP binding cassette
ADAFs	Aircraft deicing/antiicing fluids
AEOs	Alkylphenol ethoxylates
BF₄⁻	Tetrafluoroborate
CDOM	Colored and chromopheric dissolved organic matter

$(\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_2)_2\text{N}^-$	Bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)-imide
$(\text{CN})_2\text{N}^-$	Dicyanamide
DBPs	Disinfection byproducts (DBPs)
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
DIC	Dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC is defined jointly as dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-})
DOC	Dissolved organic carbon
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
DON	Dissolved organic nitrogen
DOP	Dissolved organic phosphorus
EDB	Ethylene dibromide
EDC	Endocrine-disrupting compounds
EEM	Excitation-emission matrix
FDOM	Fluorescent dissolved organic matter
FTOHs	Fluorinated telomer alcohols
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
H_2O_2	Hydrogen peroxide
IHSS	International humic substances society
LMW	Low molecular weight
MXR	Multixenobiotic resistance
OM	Organic matter
$\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$	Superoxide radical
HO^\bullet	Hydroxyl radical
NDMA	N-nitrosodimethylamine
N-EtFOSAA	N-ethyl perfluorooctane sulfonamide acetate
NHDEC	Neohesperidin dihydrochalcone
NPEOs	Nonylphenol polyethoxylates
PAR	Photosynthetically available radiation
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls
PF_6^-	Hexafluorophosphate
PFBA	Perfluorobutanoic acid
PFCs	Perfluorinated compounds
PFEtS	Perfluoroethane sulfonate
PFHxA	Perfluorohexanoic acid
PFOA	Perfluorooctanoic acid
PFOS	Perfluorooctane sulfonate
PFOSA	Perfluorooctane sulfonamide
PFPeA	Perfluoropentanoic acid
PFPrA	Perfluoropropanoic acid
PFPrS	Perfluoropropane sulfonate
POM	Particulate organic matter
PPCPs	Pharmaceuticals, personal care products
PCPs	Personal care products
SRFA	Suwannee River Fulvic Acid
SRHA	Suwannee River Humic Acid

THMs	Trihalomethanes
TOC	Total organic carbon
UV	Ultraviolet
1 mg L ⁻¹	(1 × 1000)/12 = 83 μM C

Problems

- (1) Define the dissolved organic matter (DOM) and explain how does it differ from organic matter?
- (2) What are the major sources of DOM in natural waters?
- (3) Explain the DOM functions shortly.
- (4) Explain the origin of allochthonous DOM in soil and autochthonous DOM in natural waters.
- (5) What are the contributions of humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) in groundwater, rivers, lakes and oceans?
- (6) Explain the redox behavior of fulvic and humic acids.
- (7) Define the allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, and the autochthonous fulvic acids. What are the chemical differences among these classes of humic substances?
- (8) Why does the molecular size of DOM decrease from rivers to lakes and from lakes to oceans?
- (9) What are the controlling factors that affect the DOM contents in natural waters? Explain the two most important factors that affect DOM in natural waters.
- (10) Explain the possible mechanisms for the increased or declined DOM contents in surface waters.
- (11) What are the emerging contaminants? Explain the sources, transportation and toxicological effects of these contaminants in the aquatic environments.
- (12) How does DOM act as energy source for living organisms and aquatic ecosystems?

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Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters

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1 Introduction

The concentration of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) in natural waters has been determined for the first time in 1925 by Harvey (Harvey 1925), who studied inshore and offshore water from the English Channel. The concentration of H_2O_2 has been determined in seawater in the 1970's (van Baalen and Marler 1966) and in some Russian freshwaters in the 1980's (Sinelnikov 1971; Sinelnikov and Demina 1974). In the same period the occurrence and concentration of H_2O_2 was being studied in air (Penkett et al. 1979; Lazrus et al. 1986; Sakugawa and Kaplan 1987), rain and cloud water, freshwater and coastal and open ocean waters (Cooper and Zika 1983; Draper and Crosby 1983; Helz and Kieber 1985; Lazrus et al. 1985;

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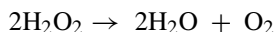
Zika et al. 1985a, b; Moffett and Zika 1987a; Palenic and Morel 1988; Cooper and Lean 1989; Hellpointner and Gäb 1989; Johnson et al. 1989). Starting from the 1980's, organic peroxides (ROOH) have been detected in air (Sakugawa and Kaplan 1987; Lazrus et al. 1985; Hellpointner and Gäb 1989; Sauer et al. 2001), cloudwater and rain (Kelley and Reddy 1986). The ROOH concentrations have also been determined in freshwater (Mostofa 2005; Sakugawa et al. 2006; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009) and seawater (Sakugawa et al. 2000; Gerringa et al. 2004).

Recent studies have demonstrated that natural sunlight or solar radiation is a key factor for the generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH in the atmosphere and in natural waters. Microbial processes can produce small amounts of both H_2O_2 and ROOH in living organisms (Kim and Portis 2004; Boveris et al. 2006; Grivennikova et al. 2008; Roy and Atreja 2008) as well as in the deeper water layers (i.e., under dark conditions) of river, lake and marine environments (Komissarov 2003). H_2O_2 is found to link with the occurrence of oxygenic photosynthesis in both higher plants (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003) and natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b). Therefore, H_2O_2 generated mostly by solar radiation and microbial processes could simultaneously be important for the occurrence of photosynthesis in terrestrial higher plants and for the production of organic matter (ca. algae, cyanobacteria, etc.) in water environments. There is evidence that the microbial processing of vascular-plant spoils in the terrestrial soil environment can produce humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), which are then released into river, lake and marine waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a). The action of sunlight on fulvic and humic acids correspondingly produces H_2O_2 that, by favoring photosynthesis in the surface layer of rivers, lakes and oceans, would induce the generation of algae and other aquatic organisms. These organisms are then able to produce autochthonous DOM via photorespiration (or photo-assimilations) and microbial respiration or processes (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Collen et al. 1995; McCarthy et al. 1997; Rosenstock and Simon 2001; Medina-Sánchez et al. 2006; Nieto-Cid et al. 2006; Zhang et al. 2009; Fu et al. 2010). The photoinduced reactions of autochthonous DOM also yield H_2O_2 in natural waters. The production of H_2O_2 would mostly depend on the amount of DOM and on solar irradiance. Global warming with the associated increase in water temperature would enhance the production of H_2O_2 , simultaneously affecting both the photodegradation of DOM and the photosynthesis (Mostofa et al. 2009b). Photosynthesis in higher plants and in natural waters can be significantly increased by rain, also because of the elevated concentration of H_2O_2 and ROOH in rainwater. Therefore, the photoinduced and microbial generation of H_2O_2 is a key factor for the occurrence of many photoinduced, biological, physical and geochemical processes. Such processes include the production of hydroxyl radical and other free radical species, photosynthesis, production of chlorophyll and of autochthonous DOM, photodegradation of DOM, CDOM and FDOM, and complexation of DOM with trace elements in natural water environments. On the other hand, production of ROOH could be a marker of microbial modification of bulk organic matter and of DOM under dark conditions. A few studies have previously been conducted to examine the photoinduced and microbial production of ROOH, their chemical nature and relationships with DOM.

Despite the universal and unique functions that H_2O_2 and ROOH may play in water ecosystems, their roles on some key biogeochemical functions in natural waters have hardly been investigated. This chapter will provide a general overview on the biogeochemical functions of H_2O_2 and ROOH , their production mechanisms and the controlling factors for formation and decay, as well as their significance and impact in natural waters.

1.1 Hydrogen Peroxide and its Biogeochemical Functions

Hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) is a simple chemical compound (H-O-O-H) that appears like water (H-O-H) in its chemical formula, with an additional oxygen atom. Hydrogen peroxide can undergo dismutation into water and oxygen:



H_2O_2 is a universal constituent of the hydrosphere and occurs in freshwater, seawater, mineral water, rain, dew, cloud, snow, air, and in all living organisms. H_2O_2 also finds effective application in experiments as well as in treatment processes. It acts as a useful indicator for a variety of photoinduced, biological and abiotic processes in the aquatic environment.

The various biogeochemical functions of H_2O_2 can be classified as follows: (i) H_2O_2 is the most stable reactive oxygen species (ROS) and is used as an indicator of photoinduced activity, because it is for instance photolytically generated through irradiation of various dissolved organic matter (DOM) components in natural waters (Cooper and Zika 1983; Zika et al. 1985a, b; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Obernosterer et al. 2001; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Moore et al. 1993; Scully et al. 1996). (ii) H_2O_2 and its precursor superoxide ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) can be both oxidising and reducing agents and are, therefore, potentially important for a number of redox reactions in natural waters (Moffett and Zika 1987a, b; Petasne and Zika 1987; Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Zafiriou 1990; Zepp et al. 1992; Zafiriou et al. 1998; Voelker et al. 2000; Jeong and Yoon 2005). (iii) H_2O_2 is a natural tracer of the surface-water mixing zone or of stratification processes in lake and marine environments (Johnson et al. 1989; Sikorsky and Zika 1993a, b; Sarthou et al. 1997; Scully and Vincent 1997). (iv) H_2O_2 is an indicator of the photodegradation of dissolved organic matter (DOM) and of organic pollutants in surface natural waters (Gao and Zepp 1998; Westerhoff et al. 1999; Southworth and Voelker 2003). (v) H_2O_2 is involved in oxidative stress in biota/living cells, because of its elevated reactivity by both oxidation and reduction (Berlett and Stadtman 1997; Paradies et al. 2000; Blokhina et al. 2003; Richard et al. 2007). (vi) H_2O_2 can be helpful in the identification of biological activity, in particular in coastal waters where higher biological activity with rapid decay of H_2O_2 is commonly observed compared to the open oceans (Fujiwara et al. 1993; Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Cooper and Zepp 1990; Petasne and Zika 1997). (vii) H_2O_2 is a useful tracer of the vertical advection transport or the convective overturn, which is usually caused

by nocturnal cooling in the upper ocean and can transport significant amounts of H_2O_2 to deep waters (Johnson et al. 1989; Sarthou et al. 1997; Scully and Vincent 1997; Yuan and Shiller 2001). (viii) H_2O_2 is thought to play an important role in the occurrence of photosynthesis in higher plants (Komissarov 1994, 1995; 2003) and in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b), by which effect it can induce the production of autochthonous DOM in the aqueous environment. (ix) H_2O_2 can react with CO_2 under irradiation to produce various organic substances in aqueous solution (Lobanov et al. 2004), with a potentially significant role in biogeochemical processes in natural waters. (x) H_2O_2 plays an important role in controlling the physiology of plants, including the activity of some enzymes and the photophosphorylation and photorespiration rates; it is also responsible for fungitoxicity of the leaf surface (Lobanov et al. 2008). (xi) H_2O_2 is generated inside cells by peroxisomes and mitochondria; the formation of H_2O_2 is caused by the reduction of O_2 absorbed in intracellular fluid during the photorespiration (Komissarov 2003; Lobanov et al. 2008). (xii) H_2O_2 acts as an oxidant in the conversion of SO_2 to SO_4^{2-} in rainwater, thereby contributing to the acid rain phenomenon that is a harmful threat which damages plant tissues and contributes to forest decline worldwide (Calvert et al. 1985; Sakugawa et al. 1990, 1993). (xiii) The environmental concentration of H_2O_2 is influenced by algae, which simultaneously cause its decay and induce its photoinduced production by exposure of algal suspensions to sunlight (Zepp et al. 1987). (xiv) The photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 from algal suspensions plays a key role in the oxidation of anilines; the latter are able to decrease H_2O_2 production, possibly by consuming it on the surface of algal cells (Zepp et al. 1987; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1983). (xv) Elevated levels of H_2O_2 induce damage and cell lysis in microorganisms (Gonzalez-Flecha and Demple 1997; Weinbauer and Suttle 1999); H_2O_2 is also implicated as a cause of mortality of fecal indicator bacteria in marine sewage fields (Mitchell and Chamberlin 1975; Clark et al. 2008). (xvi) Bioelectrochemical oxidation of wastewater organic matter can effectively produce H_2O_2 on an industrial scale, with an overall 83 % efficiency that could be useful for industrial purposes (Rozendal et al. 2009). (xvii) H_2O_2 produced from DOM may contribute approximately 1–50 % of hydroxyl radical (HO^\bullet), a strong oxidizing agent, which is responsible for indirect photoinduced changes in the DOM components in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Takeda et al. 2004; Nakatani et al. 2007; Page et al. 2011).

1.2 Organic Peroxides (ROOH) and Their Biogeochemical Functions

Organic peroxides (ROOH) are organic compounds containing the peroxide functional group ($-\text{O}-\text{O}-$), and may be considered as derivatives of hydrogen peroxide ($\text{H}-\text{O}-\text{O}-\text{H}$) where one or both of the hydrogen atoms have been replaced by organic radicals. Organic peroxides can commonly be denoted as ROOH, where

R can be CH_3- , CH_3-CH_2- , etc. and H can be H or R. The organic peroxides are ubiquitously distributed in air, cloud, dew, rain, mineral water, freshwater and seawater (Sakugawa and Kaplan 1987; Lazrus et al. 1985; Hellpointner and Gáb 1989; Sauer et al. 2001; Kelley and Reddy 1986; Mostofa 2005; Sakugawa et al. 2006; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Sakugawa et al. 2000; Gerringa et al. 2004).

The major ROOH compounds identified in the aquatic environments are methyl hydroperoxide (CH_3OOH), hydroxymethyl hydroperoxide (HOCH_2OOH), ethyl hydroperoxide ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OOH}$), 1-hydroxyethyl hydroperoxide ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{OOH}$), 2-hydroxyethyl hydroperoxide ($\text{CH}_2(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{OOH}$), 1-hydroxypropyl hydroperoxide ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{OOH}$), 2-hydroxypropyl hydroperoxide ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{OOH}$), 3-hydroxypropyl hydroperoxide ($\text{CH}_2(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OOH}$), and bis(hydroxymethyl) peroxide ($\text{HOCH}_2\text{OOCH}_2\text{OH}$) (Hellpointner and Gáb 1989; Hewitt and Kok 1991). The concentration levels of ROOH compounds are commonly low ($\sim < 390$ nM) in natural waters, and their concentrations are also low when they are generated in photoexperiments conducted on natural waters or on aqueous solutions of standard DOM components.

The various biogeochemical functions of ROOH can be categorized as follows: (i) Production of ROOH compounds would be a marker of microbial changes in bulk organic matter or DOM under dark conditions, which are usually occurring in deeper layers of lake or seawater (Sakugawa et al. 1995, 2000; Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Mostofa et al. 2005). (ii) ROOH compounds are readily decomposed and correspondingly generated, so that they reach a steady-state concentration in natural waters. (iii) ROOH compounds might be important transformation intermediates of DOM and may be chemically converted into stable DOM components in natural waters. (iv) The photoinduced and thermal decomposition of organic peroxides generally yields organic peroxide radicals; they may combine with other organic substances to form new compounds, or can form polymeric compounds in aqueous solution (Mageli and Kolczynski 1966; Mill et al. 1980; Kieber and Blough 1990; Faust and Allen 1992). Future research is expected to further highlight the importance of ROOH in natural waters.

1.3 Nature and Characteristics of H_2O_2 and ROOH

In natural waters, H_2O_2 shows several characteristic properties that can be listed as follows: (i) The photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 follows a regular trend of increasing concentration with increasing irradiation time, in photoexperiments conducted under a solar simulator (Fig. 1a, b). It suggests that the formation rate is higher than the transformation one. (ii) Photogenerated H_2O_2 is gradually consumed in aqueous media in the absence of solar radiation (Fig. 2a). It suggests that H_2O_2 in aqueous solution is presumably decomposed by chemical and/or enzymatic reactions. (iii) The rate of H_2O_2 photoproduction is higher in filtered than in unfiltered natural waters samples (Fig. 2a), suggesting that particulate matter may rapidly consume H_2O_2 in aqueous solution. (iv) The photoinduced generation of

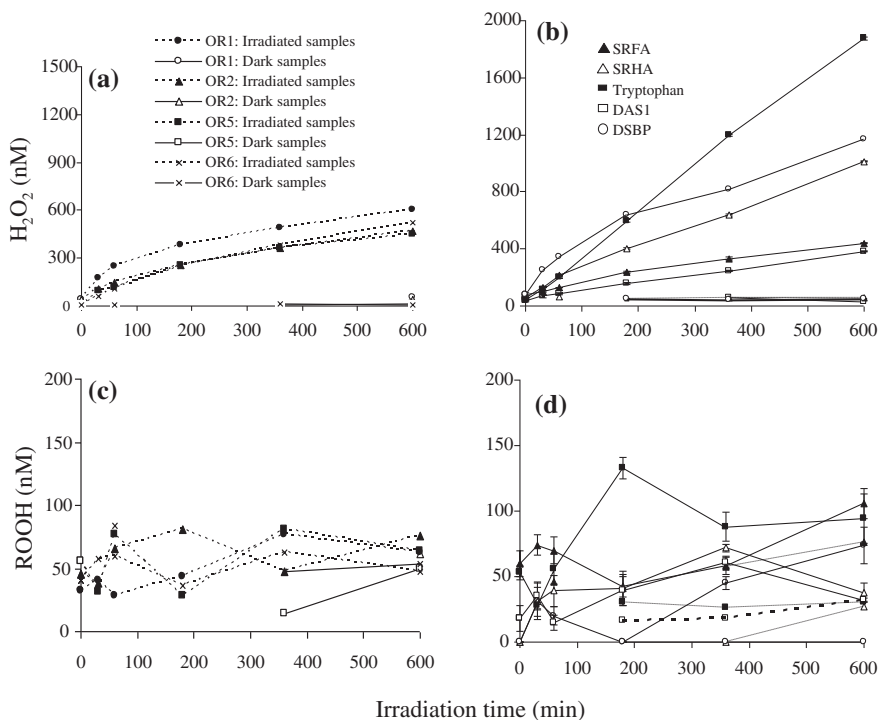


Fig. 1 Production of H₂O₂ (a, b) and ROOH (c, d) as a result of solar irradiation on the Ohta River waters (sites OR1, OR2, OR5, and OR6) and on various standard substances, respectively, in photo-experiments conducted using a solar simulator. *Data source* Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)

H₂O₂ is highly variable in the presence of various standard organic substances in aqueous media (Fig. 1b), which suggests that the concentration of H₂O₂ depends on the nature of the DOM components. (v) The photoinduced generation of H₂O₂ increases with an increase in the contents of fulvic acid in photo-irradiated samples under a solar simulator (Fig. 3), which suggests that H₂O₂ production depends on the DOM amount. (vi) When photogenerated H₂O₂ in unfiltered river water is incubated in the dark, it is entirely decomposed in the first day of incubation and it is not produced further during the incubation period (Fig. 2b). Therefore, microbial reactions may be more effective in consuming than in producing H₂O₂ in river water.

ROOH compounds typically show the following features in natural waters: (i) The photoinduced generation of ROOH does not follow a regular trend of increasing concentration with increasing irradiation time, in photoexperiments conducted using a solar simulator; in contrast, produced ROOH is very low and fluctuates heavily without any observable trends (Fig. 1c, d). It is suggested that ROOH compounds are readily decomposed in aqueous solution. (ii) The photoinduced generation of ROOH compounds is typically higher in filtered than in

Fig. 2 Production of H₂O₂ and ROOH as a result of photoinduced and microbial incubation on filtered and unfiltered river waters. *Data source* Mostofa et al. (Manuscript in preparation)

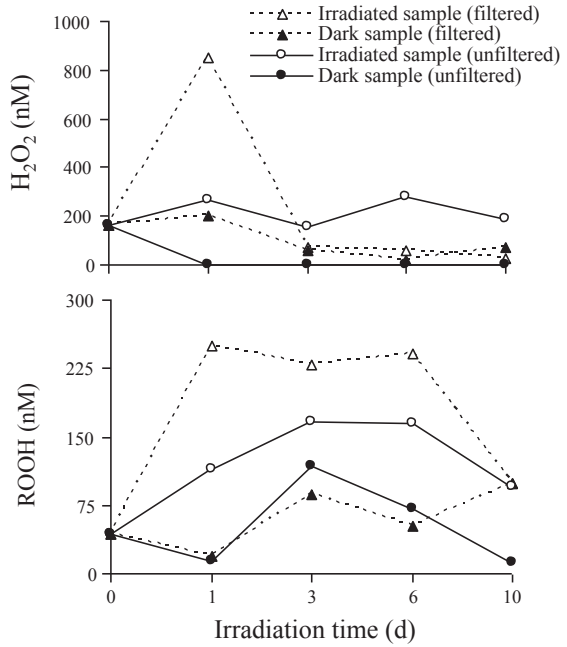
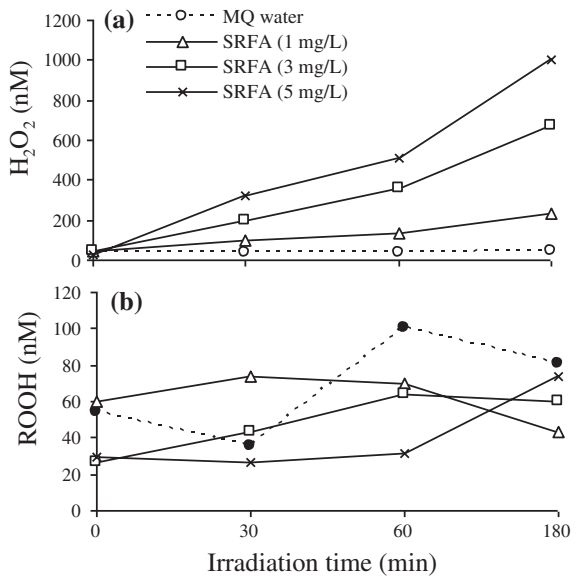


Fig. 3 Production of H₂O₂ and ROOH as a result of solar irradiation on the aqueous solutions of fulvic acid in photoexperiments conducted using a solar simulator



unfiltered samples of river water (Fig. 2b), which suggests that particulate matter (or microbes) in unfiltered river water are susceptible to rapidly degrade ROOH. (iii) ROOH compounds were frequently generated under dark incubation (which followed irradiation) in unfiltered and filtered river waters (Fig. 1b),

which indicates that dark production pathways of ROOH are operational in natural waters. (iv) The photoinduced generation of ROOH compounds is typically higher for low concentration of fulvic acid (FA, 1 mg L^{-1}), and decreases with increasing FA concentration (3 and 5 mg L^{-1} , Fig. 3b). This finding suggests that the formation of ROOH compounds does not depend on DOM concentration which, on the contrary, might favor ROOH decomposition. These results indicate that ROOH compounds are quickly decomposed, which might be due to their inherently unstable chemical nature. ROOH compounds are sensitive to acid, alkali, redox and light in aqueous solution (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009).

1.4 Steady State Concentration and Half-Life of H_2O_2 and ROOH

The concentration levels of H_2O_2 and ROOH are often measured in natural waters or in irradiated aqueous solutions, and they are often in a steady state. Steady-state concentrations of H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds in natural waters are mostly dependent on three major phenomena. First, enzymes (catalase, peroxidase and superoxide dismutase) in microbes, phytoplankton and algae present in natural waters are active agents for the rapid decay of peroxides (Mostofa 2005; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Moffett and Zafriou 1990; Petasne and Zika 1997). These processes limit the occurrence of organic peroxides in natural waters. Second, the incident solar irradiance may be involved into the production of peroxides in waters (Cooper and Zika 1983; Moore et al. 1993; Baxter and Carey 1983; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2003). Third, the organic peroxides may take part to the generation of free radicals (HO^\bullet or RO^\bullet) by direct photolysis or photo-Fenton reactions in natural waters (Zepp et al. 1992; Jeong and Yoon 2005; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Voelker et al. 1997). The free radicals then cause the photodegradation of DOM (Gao and Zepp 1998; Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Goldstone et al. 2002). A general scheme for the steady-state concentration of H_2O_2 and ROOH in aqueous media can be expressed as follows (Fig. 4):

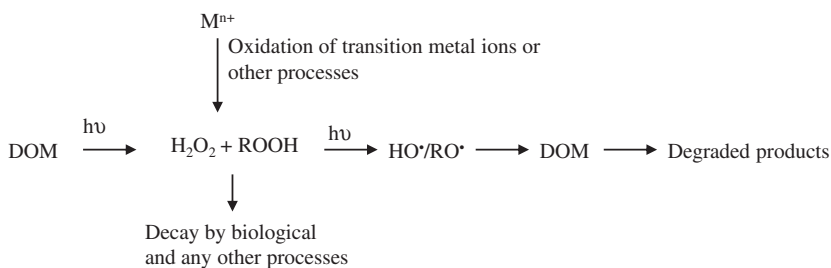


Fig. 4 A schematic diagram of steady state concentration of photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH from DOM in natural waters

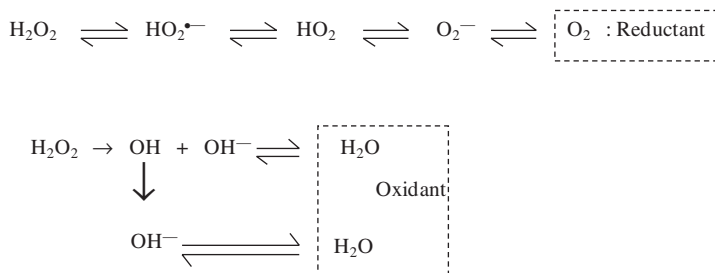


Fig. 5 Electron transfer and proton transfer reactions in the reduction of O_2 from H_2O_2 to H_2O , demonstrating the intermediates involved *Data source* Moffett and Zafiriou (1990)

More simply, “Peroxidessc = produced peroxides—(decay by microbes and any other processes + contribution to DOM photo degradation)”, where SSC = Steady-State Concentration. Therefore, enzymes might be an important factor in regulating the occurrence of H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds in natural waters.

The decay rates of H_2O_2 and ROOH, expressed as half-life times ($t_{1/2}$), are hours to days depending on the presence of enzymes in natural waters (Harvey 1925; Mostofa 2005; Richard et al. 2007; Cooper and Zepp 1990; Cooper and Lean 1992). For example, the half-life of H_2O_2 is gradually increased from unfiltered to filtered lake waters, from 4.4 h for unfiltered water to 4.7 h for 64 μm filtered water (zooplakton removed), 6.4 h for 12 μm filtered water (large algae removed), 19.1 h for 1.0 μm filtered water (small algae removed), and 58.7 h for 0.2 μm filtered water (bacteria removed) (Cooper and Lean 1992). Similarly, the half-lives are approximately 3 h or less for highly biologically productive coastal waters or freshwaters, and hundreds of hours for oligotrophic unfiltered waters (Mostofa 2005; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Moore et al. 1993; Richard et al. 2007).

1.5 H_2O_2 Acts as a Reductant and Oxidant-REDOX

H_2O_2 acts as a reductant and oxidant (REDOX) in many reactions occurring in natural waters (Moffett and Zika 1987a; b; Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Zepp et al. 1992; Jeong and Yoon 2005). When H_2O_2 acts as a reductant, O from H_2O_2 is transformed into O_2 . When H_2O_2 acts as an oxidant, O from H_2O_2 is converted into H_2O (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). The chain reactions of H_2O_2 as reductant and oxidant are schematically depicted below (Fig. 5) (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990).

1.6 Concentration Levels of H_2O_2 and ROOH Compounds in Natural Water

The levels of H_2O_2 and ROOH are greatly variable for a variety of natural waters (Table 1) (van Baalen and Marler 1966; Sinel’nikov 1971; Sinel’nikov and Demina 1974; Cooper and Zika 1983; Helz and Kieber 1985; Lazrus et al. 1985;

Zika et al. 1985a, b; Moffett and Zika 1987a; Palenic and Morel 1988; Cooper and Lean 1989; Johnson et al. 1989; Sakugawa et al. 2000, 2006; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Gerringa et al. 2004; Obernosterer et al. 2001; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Moore et al. 1993; Sikorsky and Zika 1993a, b; Sarthou et al. 1997; Richard et al. 2007; Petasne and Zika 1997; Lobanov et al. 2008; Sakugawa et al. 1995; Cooper and Lean 1992; Moffett and Zika 1983; Szymczak and Waite 1991; Resing et al. 1993; Miller and Kester 1994; Amouroux and Donard 1995; Fujiwara et al. 1995; Kieber and Heltz 1995; Herut et al. 1998; Cooper et al. 2000; Akane et al. 2004, 2005; Avery et al. 2005; Croot et al. 2005; Miller et al. 2005; O'Sullivan et al. 2005; Olasehinde et al. 2008; Boehm et al. 2009; Clark et al. 2010a, b; Rusak et al. 2010). H_2O_2 concentrations in surface freshwater are 6–68 nM in upstream rivers and 9–501 nM in rivers in Japan, 1300–3200 nM in rivers and 700–1300 nM in reservoirs in Russia, 88–320 nM in rivers in the USA, and 10–1300 nM in several lakes in USA and Canada (Table 1). H_2O_2 concentrations in surface seawater are 11–440 nM in estuaries in USA and Japan, 0–496 nM in coastal Bay and coastal seawaters in Japan, 25–360 nM in Amazon and Orinoco River plume, 3–1700 nM in Chesapeake Bay, 22–256 nM in Bay of Biscay (Atlantic Ocean), 124–275 nM in Biscayne Bay and Gulf Stream, <200 nM in Port Aransas seawater, <150 nM in Florida west coast, 8–50 nM in Peru upwelling area (Coastal and offshore), 8–100 nM in the Mediterranean (Israeli coastal waters) and the Red Sea (Gulf of Aqaba), 20–80 nM in Baltic Sea (German Coastal waters), 15–110 nM in Great Barrier Reef seawater (Australia), 120–280 nM in Gulf of Mexico, 50–420 nM in Caribbean Sea, 95–175 nM in Sargasso Sea and Western Mediterranean, 16–220 nM in Atlantic Ocean, and 5–25 nM in Southern Ocean in Antarctic regions (Table 1). H_2O_2 concentrations are remarkably higher in Russian rivers and reservoir (700–3200 nM) than in other rivers (6–501 nM) and lakes (10–1300 nM) in the freshwater environments. High concentrations (0–420 nM) are commonly observed in estuaries, bays and coastal seawaters, and an exceptionally high concentration (1700 nM) was detected in Chesapeake Bay. H_2O_2 concentrations are apparently lowest in the Southern Ocean, Antarctic (5–25 nM). On the other hand, the occurrence of ROOH compounds is not often studied in natural waters (Table 1). ROOH concentrations are 9–73 nM in upstreams, 0–200 nM in rivers, 32–389 nM in coastal seawaters, and 1–6 nM in the eastern Atlantic Ocean (Table 1).

1.7 Production Rates and Sources of H_2O_2

Production rates of H_2O_2 are greatly variable among upstreams (245–903 nM h^{-1}), groundwater (0–4800 nM h^{-1}), rivers (390–7400 nM h^{-1}), lakes (81–2400 nM h^{-1}), coastal waters (4536–35640 nM h^{-1}), and seawaters (0–161 nM h^{-1}) (Table 2) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Obernosterer et al. 2001; Scully et al. 1996; Richard et al. 2007; Miller and Kester 1994; Cooper et al. 1988; Moffett and Zafiriou 1993; Yocis et al. 2000; Clark et al. 2009; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished;

Table 1 Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) and organic peroxides (ROOH) concentrations reported in natural waters (rivers, lakes, seawaters), and rainwater

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (µM C)	References
<i>Rivers</i>							
Upstream waters (3 sites), Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	Monthly (12 months)	6.0–68.0	9.0–73.0	0.50–2.88	43–146	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)
Ohta Rivers (2 sites), Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	Monthly (12 months)	38–171	1.0–80.0	0.24–3.19	40–164	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)
Kurose Rivers (2 sites), Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	Monthly (12 months)	9–213	0.0–67.0	0.48–3.13	130–383	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)
Upstream waters, Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	Diel (August)	9.0–43.0	–	0–2.74	118–239	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)
Kurose downstream waters, Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	Diel (September)	4.0–69.0	–	0–2.84	326–384	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)
Kurose Rivers (2 sites), Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	Summer (August)	345–501	74–78	2.70	299–329	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)
Ohta River, Hiroshima Prefecture	Japan	December and June	66–107	33–200	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Stream, water of Leith	New Zealand	October	15–491	–	–	–	Richard et al. (2007)
Stream, water of Leith	New Zealand	September 2003–March 2006	688 ± 8.9– 72 ± 2.7	–	–	–	Rusak et al. (2010)
Ashida River, Fukuyama	Japan	December and June	91–169	80–178	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Fuji River, Onomichi	Japan	December and June	98–301	87–125	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Nuta River, Mihara	Japan	December and June	78–249	78–105	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Gohno River, Miyoshi	Japan	December and June	17–101	55–69	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Saijo River, Shoubara	Japan	December	72	65	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Volga River	Russia	Surface water	1300–3200	–	–	–	Sinel'nikov (1971)
Chechessee River, S.C.	USA	Surface water	88	–	–	183	Cooper and Zika (1983)
Combahee River, S.C.	USA	Surface water	160	–	–	1225	Cooper and Zika (1983)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (µM C)	References
Newman River, Fla.	USA	Surface water	170	-	-	1392	Cooper and Zika (1983)
Peacock River, Ga.	USA	Surface water	320	-	-	1483	Cooper and Zika (1983)
Tamiami Canal, Fla.	USA	Surface water	90	-	-	1033	Cooper and Zika (1983)
<i>Lakes and reservoir</i>							
Jacks Lake, Ontario	Canada	Surface water	10–800	-	-	-	Cooper and Lean (1992)
Lake Erie	USA	Surface water	50–200	-	-	-	Cooper and Lean (1992)
Lake Ontario	USA	Surface water	100	-	-	-	Cooper and Lean (1992)
Jacks Lake, Ontario	44°N	Diel	10–800	-	-	-	Cooper and Lean (1989)
VH Pond, Miami, Fla.	USA	Surface water	140	-	-	-	Cooper and Zika (1983)
Reservoir	Russia	Surface water	700–1300	-	-	-	Sinel'nikov and Demina (1974)
<i>Estuaries</i>							
Patuxent Estuary	38–39°N	Diel (Feb: 14:30– 10:00)	25–61	-	-	-	Kieber and Heltz (1995)
Patuxent Estuary	38–39°N	Diel (Aug: 09:30– 07:30)	177–350	-	-	-	Kieber and Heltz (1995)
Patuxent Estuary	38–39°N	Diel (Sept: 11:40– 09:00)	11–194	-	-	-	Kieber and Heltz (1995)
Patuxent Estuary	38–39°N	Diel (Nov: 09:00– 08:30)	39–95	-	-	-	Kieber and Heltz (1995)
Estuary of Ohta River, Japan	34°N	Summer	<400	-	-	-	Fujiwara et al. (1995)
Estuary of Ohta River, Japan	34°N	Winter	60–140	-	-	-	Fujiwara et al. (1995)
Coastal seawater off Rhode Island	USA	Surface waters	60–280	-	-	-	Miller et al. (2005)
Estuarine, Chesapeake Bay	USA	Surface waters	440	-	-	-	O'Sullivan et al. (2005)
Coastal waters	USA	Surface waters	110–260	-	-	-	Cooper et al. (2000)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (μM C)	References
Gironde estuary, France	France	Surface waters	22–256	–	–	–	Amouroux and Donard (1995)
Sea beaches, southern California	USA	Surf zone	49–175	–	–	–	Clark et al. (2010)
Sea Beach, southern California (n = 4)	USA	Diel	25–200	–	–	–	Clark et al. (2010)
Sea beach, Santa Catalina Island	USA	Surface waters	93–329	–	–	–	Boehm et al. (2009)
<i>Seawaters</i>							
Hiroshima Bay, Japan	34°N	Surface water	143–348	–	–	–	Olasehinde et al. (2008)
Hiroshima Bay, Japan	34°N	Surface water (0–20 m)	39–496	–	–	78–212	Akane et al. (2004)
Hiroshima Bay, Japan	34°N	Diel and surface water (5:00–19:00)	143–448	–	–	–	Akane et al. (2004)
Hiroshima Bay, Japan	34°N	Diel and surface water (20:00–4:00)	85–259	–	–	–	Akane et al. (2004)
Hiroshima Bay, Japan	34°N	Diel and surface water (20:00–4:00)	0–195	32–389	–	100–150	Sakugawa et al. (2000)
Iyo-Nada Bay, Japan	33°N	Diel and surface water (20:00–4:00)	7–146	38–296	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2000)
Seto Inland Sea, Japan	33°N	Diel and surface water (20:00–4:00)	40–191	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1995)
Tokyo Bay	35°N	Diel and surface water	20–207	50–130	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1995)
Sagami Bay	35°N	Diel and surface water	40–80	40–90	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1995)
Seto Inland Sea, Japan	34°N	Surface water	60–400	–	–	–	Fujiwara et al. (1993)
Hiroshima Bay, Japan	34°N	Surface water (day time)	143–448	–	–	–	Fujiwara et al. (1993)
Hiroshima Bay, Japan	34°N	Surface water (night time)	85–259	–	–	–	Fujiwara et al. (1993)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (µM C)	References
Taira Bay, Japan	26°N	Surface (diel, red-soil polluted)	40–160	–	–	73–118	Arakaki et al. (2005)
Sesoko Island Bay, Japan	26°N	Surface (diel, red-soil polluted)	30–110	–	–	70–118	Arakaki et al. (2005)
Amazon plume	10°S–40°N	Surface water	25–165	–	–	–	Yuan and Shiller (2001)
Bay of Biscay, France	France	Surface waters	138–186	–	–	–	Amouroux and Donard (1995)
Grizzly Bay, California	USA	Surface waters	37	–	–	–	O'Sullivan et al. (2005)
Plume of Orinoco River	9–11°N	Surface water (fall and spring)	~75–360	–	–	–	Sikorsky and Zika (1993)
Biscayne Bay & Gulf Stream	9–11°N	Surface (late afternoon)	124–275	–	–	–	Petasne and Zika (1997)
Peru upwelling area (Coastal and offshore)	9–11°N	Surface (late afternoon)	8.0–50.0	–	–	–	Zika et al. (1985b)
Chesapeake Bay	9–11°N	Surface (late afternoon)	3–1700	–	–	–	Helz and Kieber (1985)
Marine bathing water, Southern California	USA	Surf zone waters (noon)	49–175	–	–	–	Clark et al. (2010a)
Marine bathing water, Southern California	USA	Diel	20–200	–	–	–	Clark et al. (2010b)
Florida west coast	25°N	Surface water (April)	<150	–	–	–	Moffett and Zika (1987a)
Port Aransas seawater	USA	Surface water	<200	–	–	–	van Baalen and Marler (1966)
Mediterranean, Israeli coastal waters	32–33°N	Diel	10.0–80.0	–	–	–	Herut et al. (1998)
Red Sea, Gulf of Aqaba	29°N	Diel	8–100	–	–	–	Herut et al. (1998)
Baltic Sea, German coastal waters	54°N	Surface water	20–80	–	–	–	Herut et al. (1998)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (μM C)	References
Bay of Biscay, Atlantic Ocean	France	Surface water (May)	24–256	–	–	–	Amouroux and Donard (1995)
Bay of Biscay, Atlantic Ocean	France	Surface water (December)	22–69	–	–	–	Amouroux and Donard (1995)
Great Barrier Reef seawater	Australia	Surface water (December)	15–110	–	–	–	Szymczak and Waite (1991)
Gulf of Mexico	22–30°N	Surface water	150–197	–	–	–	van Baalen and Marler (1966)
Gulf of Mexico	22–30°N	Surface water	120–140	–	–	–	Moffett and Zika (1983)
Gulf of Mexico	22–30°N	Surface water	180–280	–	–	–	Zika et al. (1985)
Caribbean Sea	10°N	Surface water	95–420	–	–	–	Moore et al. (1993)
Eastern Caribbean Sea	10°N	Near surface	60–120	–	–	–	Moore et al. (1993)
Eastern Caribbean Sea	15–19°N	Surface water (fall & spring)	~75–150	–	–	–	Sikorsky and Zika (1993)
Eastern Caribbean Sea	12–15°N	Surface water (fall & spring)	~50–180	–	–	–	Sikorsky and Zika (1993)
Sargasso Sea	32°N	Surface water (fall & spring)	95–175	–	–	–	Miller and Kester (1994)
Sargasso Sea	32°N	Surface water (June)	<150	–	–	–	Palenic and Morel (1988)
Western Mediterranean	36–38°N	Surface water (May)	100–140	–	–	–	Johnson et al. (1989)
Subtropical Atlantic Ocean	12–34°N	Surface water	75–220	–	–	77–91 (50 m)	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
Subtropical Atlantic Ocean	12–34°N	Deeper water	5.0–10.0	–	–	57–71 (150 m)	Obermosterer et al. (2001)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (µM C)	References
South and Tropical Atlantic	10°S–40°N	Surface water	16–68	–	–	70–110	Yuan and Shiller (2001)
Atlantic Ocean	10–20°N	Surface water	37–48	–	–	–	Yuan and Shiller (2001)
Eastern Atlantic Ocean	–	Surface water	20–80	1.0–6.0	–	–	Gerringa et al. (2004)
Lagrangian, Atlantic Ocean	10°S–40°N	Diel	23–55	–	–	70–110	Yuan and Shiller (2001)
Underway, Atlantic Ocean	10°S–40°N	Diel	27–47	–	–	70–111	Yuan and Shiller (2001)
Bermuda Atlantic Time Series Station	Bermuda	Diel (6:00–14:00)	25–84	–	–	–	Avery et al. (2005)
Southern Ocean: Coasta & Cintinental Shelf Zone	61–70°N	Surface water	13–20	–	–	–	Sarthou et al. (1997)
Southern Ocean: Seasonal Ice Zone	61°N	Surface water	7.0–11.0	–	–	–	Sarthou et al. (1997)
Southern Ocean: Permanently Open Ocean Zone	55°N	Surface water	7.0–10.0	–	–	–	Sarthou et al. (1997)
Southern Ocean: Polar Front Zone	48–57°N	Surface water	~5	–	–	–	Sarthou et al. (1997)
LTER-6000, transect, Antarctic	64°N	Surface water	12.0–21.0	–	–	–	Resing et al. (1993)
Paradise Harbor, Antarctic	Antarctic	Surface water	8.5–25.0	–	–	–	[1996]
Southern Ocean	48°N	Surface water (20 m)	18–25	–	–	–	Croot et al. (2005)
<i>Rainwaters</i>							
Rainwater, Freising/Munich	Germany	Diel (March)	2300–8600	400–1100	–	–	Hellpointner and Gäb (1989)
Rainwater, Freising/Munich	Germany	Diel (May)	9000–110600	1400–1600	–	–	Hellpointner and Gäb (1989)
Rainwater, Central Europe	Europe	Summer	500–71000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Central Europe	Europe	Winter	10–200	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (μM C)	References
Rainwater, Dortmund, W. Germany	Germany	Summer	700–65000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Dortmund, W. Germany	Germany	Winter	0–8500	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, The Netherlands	Netherland	–	<8200	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Salvador area, Bahia	Brazil	March–April	17000–199000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Research Triangle Park, NC	USA	Summer	<5800	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Research Triangle Park, NC	USA	Winter	60–240	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Claremont, Los Angeles Basin	USA	–	30–46800	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Southern Florida	USA	–	10000–70000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Eastern U.S.	USA	–	100–63000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Long Island, NY	USA	April–June	<120000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Summit of Whitetop Mountain, VA	USA	Spring-fall	40–39800	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Westwood, Los Angeles Basin	USA	–	100–95000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Philadelphia	USA	Spring	500–5000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Northwestern New York state	USA	Winter	100–50000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (µM C)	References
Rainwater, New York	USA	No indication	2900–28800	–	–	–	Lazrus et al. (1985)
Rainwater, Niwot Ridge, Colorado	USA	10:30–17:00	16100–52500	1780–5820	–	–	Hewitt and Kok (1991)
Rainwater, Niwot Ridge, Colorado	USA	8:00–10:00	300–1300	60–80	–	–	Hewitt and Kok (1991)
Rainwater, Westwood, Los Angeles	USA	Summer	43000 (mean, n = 9)	<6500	–	<1908	Sakugawa et al. (1993)
Rainwater, Westwood, Los Angeles	USA	Winter	4300 (mean, n = 53)	–	–	17–758	Sakugawa et al. (1993)
Rainwater, Wilmington, NC	USA	Aug–Sept: 11:00–3.30	1200–11600	–	–	5–238	Miller et al. (2008)
Rainwater, North Bay, Ontario	Canada	Jan–Feb	500–5000	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Jacks Lake, Ontario	44°N	Diurnal (no lightning)	4400–29600	–	–	–	Cooper and Lean (1989)
Rainwater, Jacks Lake, Ontario	44°N	One sample (lightening)	34000	–	–	–	Cooper and Lean (1989)
Jacks Lake	Canada	–	1300–34000	–	–	–	Cooper and Lean (1992)
Rainwater, Kanagawa	Japan	–	10300–25300	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Tokyo	Japan	–	200–31300	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (1990)
Rainwater, Higashi-Hiroshima	Japan	Monthly (Jul–Jan)	39–56400	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Rainwater, Mt. Gokurakuji (site 1)	Japan	Monthly (Aug–Nov)	24–1050	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling sites/Regions	Latitude/ Country	Sample type /Time/Period	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOH	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	DOC (μM C)	References
Rainwater, Mt. Gokurakuji (site 3)	Japan	Monthly (Aug–Nov)	189–10100	–	–	–	Sakugawa et al. (2006)
Rainwater, South and Central Atlantic Ocean	10–11°S	8:30–12:30	3500–9200	–	–	–	Yuan and Shiller (2000)
Rainwater, South and Central Atlantic Ocean	3.4°N	16:30–17:10	46200–49300	–	–	–	Yuan and Shiller (2000)
Rainwater, South and Central Atlantic Ocean	4.7°N	23:00–0.30	14000–14200	–	–	–	Yuan and Shiller (2000)
Rainwater, South and Central Atlantic Ocean	6.79°N	15:30–16:15	6000–12400	–	–	–	Yuan and Shiller (2000)
Rainwater, South and Central Atlantic Ocean	8°N	14:30–23:00	46000–70900	–	–	–	Yuan and Shiller (2000)
Rainwater, Gulf of Mexico	Marine areas	–	11400–82000	–	–	–	Cooper and Lean (1992)
Rainwater, Western Atlantic	Marine areas	–	8400–20600	–	–	–	Cooper and Lean (1992)
Rainwater, Florida Keys	Marine areas	–	24300–31900	–	–	–	Cooper and Lean (1992)

Vermilyea et al. 2010). Variations in production rates of H_2O_2 are likely to be caused by the amount and the molecular nature of DOM (Table 2). This fact can be easily understood from a significant difference in the production rates of H_2O_2 estimated in the presence of various standard organic substances (Table 2). The major source of H_2O_2 in river water is fulvic acid, which contributed 23–61 % in upstream rivers, 28–63 % in polluted Kurose waters, and 67–70 % in clean Ohta river waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Tryptophan-like substances are a minor source of H_2O_2 (~1 %) in all river waters. The contribution of the fluorescent whitening agents (DAS + DSBP) to H_2O_2 production was minor (2 %), although they were dominant FDOM components in the downstream waters of the Kurose river. The 4-biphenyl carboxaldehyde (4BCA), one photoproduct of DSBP, showed that the percent contribution to total H_2O_2 production was 2.0–5.0 % in the downstream waters of the Kurose river (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Unknown sources of H_2O_2 (other than fulvic acid-like and tryptophan-like substances or FWAs) accounted for 34–68 % of H_2O_2 in the upstream waters of the Kurose, 35–67 % in the upstream areas of the Ohta, 14–15 % in the downstream sites of the Ohta, and 51–70 % in the downstream sites of the Kurose (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). The unknown sources of H_2O_2 may be other fluorescent and non-fluorescent substances (Kramer et al. 1996), which can originate from forest ecosystems in the upstream regions of a river and from various anthropogenic sources affecting the downstream regions. The production rate of H_2O_2 for Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA) is relatively low (344 nM h^{-1}) compared to DSBP (1073 nM h^{-1}), tryptophan (648 nM h^{-1}), and Suwannee River Humic Acid, SRHA, (644 nM h^{-1} , Table 2). However, fulvic acids may be important H_2O_2 sources due to their significant occurrence (30–80 % of total DOM) in the aquatic environments (Mostofa et al. 2009; Malcolm 1985; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999).

1.8 Diurnal Cycle or Diel Variation of H_2O_2 and its Controlling Factors in Natural Waters

A diurnal cycle is a regular and ubiquitous phenomenon of H_2O_2 production and decay. H_2O_2 concentration in natural waters gradually increases as incident solar radiation increases during the period from dawn to noon. The solar radiation reaches a peak at noon time and then the concentration gradually decreases with the decrease of sunlight intensity (Fig. 6). The amplitude of the H_2O_2 diurnal cycle (highest concentration at noon time minus concentration during the period before sunrise) was 35 nM in upstream and 65 nM in Kurose River (Fig. 6) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009), 790 nM in Jacks Lake (Cooper and Lean 1989), 36 nM (February), 173 nM (August), 183 nM (September), and 56 nM (November) in Patuxent Estuary (Kieber and Heltz 1995), 187 nM in Seto Inland Sea (Sakugawa et al. 1995), 305 nM in Hiroshima Bay (Akane et al. 2004), 120 nM in Taira Bay and 80 nM in Sesoko Island Bay (Arakaki et al. 2005), 70 nM in Mediterranean (Israeli) coastal waters, 92 nM in Red Sea in Gulf

Table 2 Production rates of H₂O₂ reported from natural waters, and standard fluorescent dissolved organic substances

Type of samples/substances	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of		References
		H ₂ O ₂ (mM h ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	
<i>Rivers</i>				
Upstream waters (Ohta River, OR1 & OR2: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	400–768	88–101	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Upstream waters (Kurose River, KR1: May), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	342	111	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Upstream waters (Kurose River, KR1: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	903	152	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Upstream waters (Kurose River, KR2: May), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	723	134	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Upstream waters (Kurose River, KR2: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	761	106	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Surface stream, Water of Leith, New Zealand	Full solar spectrum	245–444	–	Richard et al. (2007)
Ohta River (midstreams waters, OR3 & OR4: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	390–485	112–116	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Ohta River (downstream waters, OR5 & OR6: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	427–468	115–124	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of		References
		H ₂ O ₂ (mM h ⁻¹)	DOC (µM C)	
Kurose River (Izumi): polluted site (KR5: May), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	1931	505	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Kurose River (Izumi): polluted site (KR5: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	1401	310	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Kurose River (Hinotsume): polluted site (KR6: May), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	1429	445	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Kurose River (Hinotsume) polluted site (KR6: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	1363	276	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Kurose River (Machida): downstream (KR7: May), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	545	368	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Kurose River (Shinkeiji): downstream (KR8: May), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	739	392	Sakugawa H (unpublished) Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Kurose River (Shinkeiji): downstream (KR8: Aug), Japan	Xe lamp ^a	623	299	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Eastern Caribbean, Orinoco River	Xe lamp ^a	33		Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Chechesse River, SC (USA)	Sunlight	830	183	Moffett and Zafriou (1993)
VH Pond, Miami, FL	Sunlight	1600	575	Cooper et al. (1988)
VH Pond, Miami, FL (unfiltered)	Sunlight	1400	575	Cooper et al. (1988)
Tamiami Canal, Miami, FL	Sunlight	3800	1033	Cooper et al. (1988)
Tamiami Canal, Miami, FL (unfiltered)	Sunlight	2700	1033	Cooper et al. (1988)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of		References
		H ₂ O ₂ (nM h ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	
Combahee River, SC	Sunlight	4400	1225	Cooper et al. (1988)
Peacock River, GA	Sunlight	7400	1483	Cooper et al. (1988)
<i>Ground water</i>				
Tucson, Ariz	Sunlight	0	18	Cooper et al. (1988)
Spring water, Coudersport, PA	Sunlight	270	44	Cooper et al. (1988)
Spring water, Sodus, NY	Sunlight	0	78	Cooper et al. (1988)
Well 18, Miami, FL	Sunlight	590	242	Cooper et al. (1988)
Preston Well 5, Miami, FL	Sunlight	1600	517	Cooper et al. (1988)
Well 23, Miami, FL	Sunlight	1700	858	Cooper et al. (1988)
Northwest Well 5, Miami, FL	Sunlight	4800	1100	Cooper et al. (1988)
Northwest Well 1, Miami, FL	Sunlight	4600	1467	Cooper et al. (1988)
Lake				
Amituk (75°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	81	133	Scully et al. (1996)
Small (74°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	413	167	Scully et al. (1996)
Char (74°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	96	117	Scully et al. (1996)
Muretta (74°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	249	167	Scully et al. (1996)
Drinking Water (55°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	587	858	Scully et al. (1996)
West Twin (52°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	451	342	Scully et al. (1996)
Boulder (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	925	525	Scully et al. (1996)
Bat Bog (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	—	700	Scully et al. (1996)
Spruce Bog (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	—	1125	Scully et al. (1996)
Wolf Howl Bog (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	—	1117	Scully et al. (1996)
Cromwell (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	2120	650	Scully et al. (1996)
Croche (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	1222	558	Scully et al. (1996)
Deer Fen (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	—	1667	Scully et al. (1996)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of		References
		H ₂ O ₂ (mM h ⁻¹)	DOC (µM C)	
Vernon (45°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	1322	408	Scully et al. (1996)
Dawson Bog (44°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	1620	633	Scully et al. (1996)
Sharpes Bay (44°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	695	492	Scully et al. (1996)
Brookes Bay (44°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	1315	633	Scully et al. (1996)
Bay of Quinte (44°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	1473	633	Scully et al. (1996)
Lake Ontario 401 (43°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	193	242	Scully et al. (1996)
Lake Ontario 403 (43°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	161	292	Scully et al. (1996)
Lake Ontario 007 (43°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	175	233	Scully et al. (1996)
Lake Ontario 206 (43°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	234	225	Scully et al. (1996)
Hamilton Harbor (43°N)	Quartz Halogen lamp	790	325	Scully et al. (1996)
Newnans Lake, Gainesville, FL	Sunlight	2400	967	Cooper et al. (1988)
<i>Coastal waters</i>				
Source waters: San Juan Creek outlet (33°N)	Xe lamp ^a	35640	1500 < 1 kDa	Clark et al. (2009)
Source waters: Upper Newport Back Bay (33°N)	Xe lamp ^a	10260	1400 < 1 kDa	Clark et al. (2009)
Source waters: Talbert Marsh (33°N)	Xe lamp ^a	4536	600 < 1 kDa	Clark et al. (2009)
Surf zone waters: Huntington Beach pier (33°N)	Xe lamp ^a	35640	400 < 1 kDa	Clark et al. (2009)
Surf zone waters: Newport Beach pier (33°N)	Xe lamp ^a	28800	400 < 1 kDa	Clark et al. (2009)
Surf zone waters: San Clemente Beach pier (33°N)	Xe lamp ^a	22320	500 < 1 kDa	Clark et al. (2009)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances		Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of H ₂ O ₂ (mM h ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	References
<i>Seawater</i>					
Seto Inland Sea (Near Coastal area: site 2)		Xe lamp ^a	161	107	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Seto Inland Sea (Far from Coastal area: site 11)		Xe lamp ^a	54	89	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Seto Inland Sea (Near open ocean: site 23)		Xe lamp ^a	58	99	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Gulf of Alaska		Xe lamp ^a	0.5–8	–	Vermilyea et al. (2010)
Eastern Caribbean, coastal		Xe lamp ^a	17	–	Moffett and Zafriou (1993)
Eastern Caribbean, estuarine		Xe lamp ^a	25	–	Moffett and Zafriou (1993)
Sargasso Sea		–	4 ± 1	–	Miller and Kester (1994)
Antarctic waters		Xe lamp ^a	2.1–9.6	–	Yocis et al. (2000)
Subtropical Atlantic Ocean (14°N): 5 m		Xe lamp ^a	5.5	90.6	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
10 m		Xe lamp ^a	3.6	90.6	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
20 m		Xe lamp ^a	1.3	90.6	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
30 m		Xe lamp ^a	1.7	90.6	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
40 m		Xe lamp ^a	1.0	90.6	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
50 m		Xe lamp ^a	0.0	90.6	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
Subtropical Atlantic Ocean (23°N): 5 m		Xe lamp ^a	5.2	80.5	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
10 m		Xe lamp ^a	2.1	80.5	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
20 m		Xe lamp ^a	2.5	80.5	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
30 m		Xe lamp ^a	1.3	80.5	Obermosterer et al. (2001)
40 m		Xe lamp ^a	1.5	80.5	Obermosterer et al. (2001)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances		Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of H ₂ O ₂ (mM h ⁻¹)	DOC (µM C)	References
50 m		Xe lamp ^a	0.0	80.5	Obernosterer et al. (2001)
Subtropical Atlantic Ocean (34°N): 5 m		Xe lamp ^a	4.8	78	Obernosterer et al. (2001)
10 m		Xe lamp ^a	4.1	78	Obernosterer et al. (2001)
Subtropical Atlantic Ocean (34°N): 5 m		Xe lamp ^a	3.6	81	Obernosterer et al. (2001)
10 m		Xe lamp ^a	1.8	81	Obernosterer et al. (2001)
<i>Standard fluorescent organic substances</i>					
Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA)		Xe lamp ^a	344	49	Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009 and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Suwannee River Humic Acid (SRHA)		Xe lamp ^a	644	49	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Tryptophan		Xe lamp ^a	648	69	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Fluorescent whitening agents, DAS1		Xe lamp ^a	190	38	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Fluorescent whitening agents, DSBP		Xe lamp ^a	1073	34	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Tyrosine		Xe lamp ^a	275	33	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of H_2O_2 (nM h^{-1})	DOC ($\mu\text{M C}$)	References
Phenylalanine	Xe lamp ^a	39	47	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
Phenol	Xe lamp ^a	69	21	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
4-Biphenyl carboxaldehyde (4BAC)	Xe lamp ^a	224	74	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)
2-Sulfonic acid benzaldehyde (2SAB)	Xe lamp ^a	153	80	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009) and Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished)

^aproduction rate is normalized to sunlight intensity (noon time) at the Campus of Hiroshima University, Japan

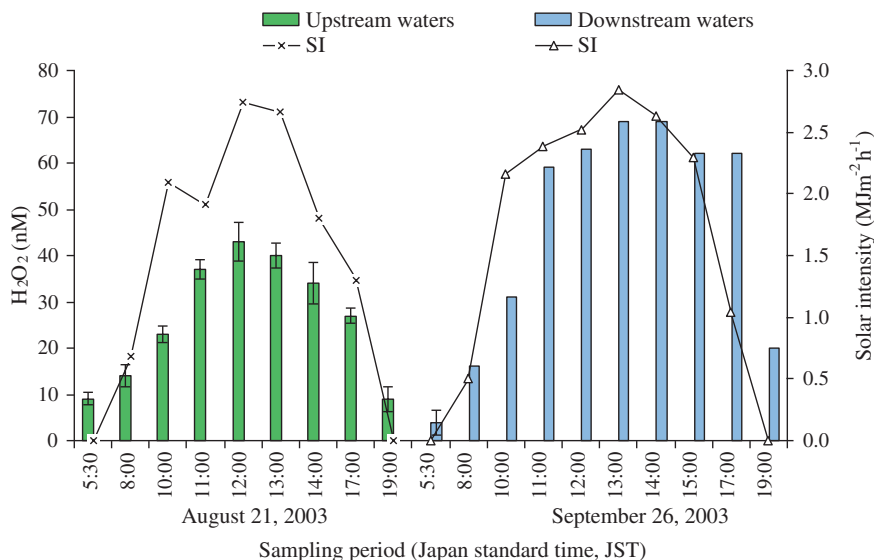


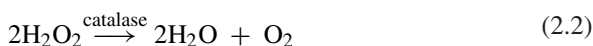
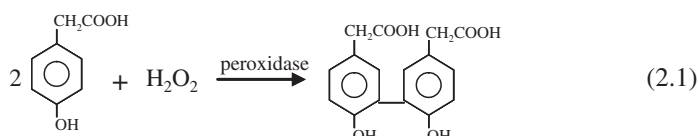
Fig. 6 Diurnal variations of H₂O₂ concentrations in the upstream waters (site KR2) on 21 August 2003 and in the downstream waters (site KR6) on 26 September 2003, in the Kurose River. *Data source* Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)

of Aqaba (Herut et al. 1998), 32 nM in Lagrangian-Atlantic Ocean, 20 nM in Underway-Atlantic Ocean (Yuan and Shiller 2001), 59 nM in Bermuda, Atlantic Time Series Station (Avery et al. 2005), 491 in a shallow freshwater stream (Richard et al. 2007), and 365 nM in marine bathing waters at Huntington State Beach (Clark et al. 2010).

The magnitude of the diurnal cycle of H₂O₂ production shows seasonal and spatial variations in natural waters, depending on several factors. First, the solar intensity varies greatly among tropical, sub-tropical, Arctic and Antarctic regions. The diurnal cycle of H₂O₂ is in fact the best paradigm for the dependence of its production on solar intensity. Second, the contents and nature of DOM components are widely different for a variety of waters and cause correspondingly variable production rates of H₂O₂. For example, H₂O₂ concentration is almost doubled in waters having high DOC concentration (326–384 μM C) than in waters with low DOC (118–239 μM C), even in the presence of similar solar irradiance (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). A third factor is the presence of catalase and peroxidase enzymes associated with microbes or algae. Biological processes are widely variable for a variety of natural waters and can control the steady-state concentration by rapidly decomposing H₂O₂ (Fujiwara et al. 1993; Petasne and Zika 1987; Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Mostofa (Manuscript in preparation). Fourth, iron (Fe) can reduce the steady-state H₂O₂ concentration by producing HO• through the photo-Fenton or other photoinduced reactions in natural waters (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Zepp et al. 1992; Southworth and Voelker 2003).

2 Fluorometric Method for Determining H_2O_2 and ROOH in Natural Waters

Theory: The fluorometric method described here has been developed by Fujiwara et al. (1993) and Sakugawa et al. (2000) by implementation of earlier methods (Lazrus et al. 1986; Guilbault et al. 1968; Miller and Kester 1988). The compounds H'/OOH (where $H' = H$ or CH_3- , $-OCH_3$, etc.) react with *p*-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid in the presence of peroxidase, to produce the 6,6'-dihydroxy-3,3'-biphenyldiacetic acid (POPHA dimer: Eq. 2.1). The latter is detected using a fluorometer at excitation/emission = 320/400 nm.



A sodium hydroxide solution is used to increase the pH to approximately 12, which largely enhances the fluorescence intensity of the POPHA dimer. In this way it is possible to detect few nano molar (nM) levels of H_2O_2 in natural waters. To make the analytical blanks and to distinguish H_2O_2 from ROOH, one should add catalase to the samples, which causes the rapid decomposition of H_2O_2 (Eq. 2.2).

2.1 Chemicals Preparation

Note: ultrapure water should be used throughout. It should be kept in the dark for 3 days before use to allow for the decomposition to undetectable levels of H_2O_2 and ROOH, which could possibly be present.

Preparation of *p*-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid solution:

- (i) Take potassium hydrogen phthalate (71.48 g) in approximately 650 mL water in a 1-L beaker, and dissolve it at approximately 40 °C under gentle stirring.
- (ii) Dissolve 12 g NaOH in approximately 50 mL water in a 100 mL beaker.
- (iii) The pH of the solution (i) is adjusted to 5.5 upon addition of solution (ii) under constant stirring.
- (iv) Add 18.62 g of di-sodium dihydrogen ethylenediamine tetraacetate dehydrate (EDTA) to the solution (iii) under constant stirring. The EDTA is added to eliminate the effect of metal ions, particularly Fe^{2+} , and to prevent the formation of a $Mg(OH)_2$ precipitate after addition of NaOH to seawater samples (Fujiwara et al. 1993). It can be noted that without EDTA, 1 mg/mL Fe^{2+} can reduce the signal intensity by 80 % (Fujiwara et al. 1993).
- (v) Add 0.304 g of *p*-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid to the solution (iv) under constant stirring, then adjust the total solution to 1-L in a volumetric flask.

Preparation of the catalase solution: For 50,000 units of catalase solution, add 5 mg of catalase to 2 mL water in a 10 mL glass bottle, then mix up by shaking gently. This solution can be used for one week by keeping it in a refrigerator. For 500 units of catalase solution, add 100 μ L of 50,000 units catalase solution to 10 mL water. Such a solution must be freshly prepared each time.

Preparation of peroxidase solution: Add 0.022 mg of peroxidase to 5 mL water in a 10 mL glass bottle, then mix up by shaking gently. This solution can be used for two weeks by keeping it in a refrigerator. Add 250 μ L of the peroxidase solution to approximately 100 mL of *p*-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid solution.

NaOH solution: Prepare a fresh 0.6 M NaOH solution.

Preparation of standard H₂O₂ solution: Original H₂O₂ (30 %; KANTO Chemical Co., Japan) was considered as 10 M, then 1 mL of that H₂O₂ solution was used to prepare 100 mM H₂O₂. The 100 mM H₂O₂ solution was then diluted to concentrations of 0, 100, 200, 300, 500, and 1000 nM, as standards for H₂O₂ determination.

Preparation of standard ROOH solution: Original peracetic acid (9 % in diluted acetic acid; KANTO Chemical Co., Japan) was considered as 1 M, then 10 mL of that peracetic acid solution was used to prepare 100 mM ROOH. The 100 mM solution was then diluted to concentrations of 0, 100, 200, 300, 500, and 1000 nM as standards for ROOH determination.

2.2 Analytical Procedure

A flow injection apparatus should be used, of which a scheme is provided in Fig. 6 (Sakugawa et al. 2000; Fujiwara et al. 1993). The instrument shown consists of an auto sampler (TOSOH, model AS8020), fluorescence detector (Shimadzu: RF-10AXL), plunger pump (Sanuki Ind. Co., model 4P2U-4016), and recorder (Shimadzu: C-R5A Chromatopac) (Fig. 7) (Fujiwara et al. 1993).

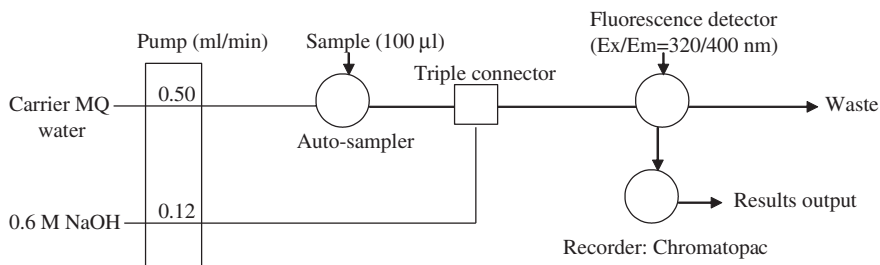
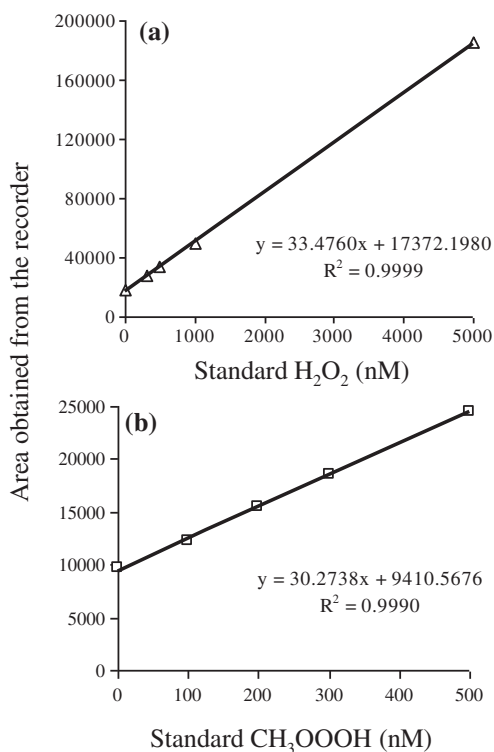


Fig. 7 Modified flow diagram for measuring H₂O₂ and ROOH concentrations in natural waters. Data source Fujiwara et al. (1993)

The flow lines were made of Teflon tubing (i.d. = 0.5 mm). After filling up with carrier ultrapure water and 0.6 M NaOH solution, all flow lines should be freed from air bubbles before starting. The fluorescence detector should be set at Ex/Em = 320/400 nm, and the zero level of fluorescence recorded. After completion of the baseline one should set again the fluorescence level to zero, then the analysis can be started. After completion of the measurements, before turning off the plunger pump, one should wash the flow lines. In particular, the NaOH line should be flushed with water and the outgoing flow should be checked for pH until neutrality.

In sample preparation, 1 mL sample in a Teflon or glass container is first treated with catalase (20 μL , 500 units mL^{-1}) in order to decompose all the H_2O_2 present (Eq. 2.2), shaking well for a few seconds and keeping still for six minutes. This solution can be used as a blank. Moreover, 1 mL of the same sample where catalase is replaced with 20 μL of ultrapure water is used to obtain the signal from H_2O_2 . Fluorescence can be induced upon addition (300 μL) of peroxidase mixed with *p*-hydroxyphenylacetic acid. The difference in the fluorescence values (Ex/Em = 320/400 nm) between samples treated with catalase and those without the enzyme will provide the estimate of H_2O_2 concentration. Calibration can be carried out by use of the external standards already described (Fig. 8a). A typical example of calibration curves for standard H_2O_2 and peracetic acid

Fig. 8 A typical example of calibration curve for aqueous solutions of standards H_2O_2 (a) and peracetic acid (CH_3OOOH) (b) measured using this fluorometric method



(CH₃OOH) is reported in earlier studies (Fig. 8). For ROOH measurement, 50,000 units mL⁻¹ catalase solution was used to decompose nearly all of the ROOH in the samples during the same six minute reaction. In this way it is possible to provide only the signal of the background DOM or water fluorescence. The fluorescence-developing reagent is peroxidase mixed with *p*-hydroxyphenylacetic acid also in this case. The difference between the fluorescence measurements using 500 and 50,000 units mL⁻¹ of catalase (decomposition of H₂O₂ alone and of H₂O₂ and ROOH, respectively) provides an estimate of the ROOH concentrations in the samples. Also in this case it is possible to use the external standards for calibration (Fig. 8b).

The production of H₂O₂ and ROOH in water samples is normalized as a function of natural sunlight using the following (Eq. 2.3) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009):

$$r_{(H_2O_2,Is)} = \frac{D_{(2-NB,Is)} \times r_{(H_2O_2,Ixe)}}{D_{(2-NB,Ixe)}} \quad (2.3)$$

where $r_{(H_2O_2,Is)}$ is the rate of H₂O₂ production, corrected for the intensity of natural sunlight (at noon under clear-sky conditions, on 6 July 2004 at Hiroshima University Campus), in natural water samples and standard DOM materials, $D_{(2-NB,Is)}$ and $D_{(2-NB,Ixe)}$ are the degradation rates of 2-NB (2-nitro-benzaldehyde) estimated using the intensity of natural sunlight and the adopted irradiation device, respectively, and $r_{(H_2O_2,Ixe)}$ is the observed H₂O₂ production rate under the adopted irradiation device.

The production rate of H₂O₂ in irradiated water samples can be determined from the net production of H₂O₂ (final concentration minus initial concentration) measured for the initial 60 min of the irradiation period. The rate of H₂O₂ generation is then normalised to sunlight intensity with (Eq. 2.3). The normalised rate of H₂O₂ production of a specific fluorescent DOM component (identified by parallel factor modeling on DOM) is estimated on the basis of its fluorescence intensity observed in waters and can be determined using (Eq. 2.4) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009):

$$r_{Fi(DOM)} = \frac{FI_{Fi(DOM)} \times r_{RS}}{FI_{RS}} \quad (2.4)$$

where $r_{Fi(DOM)}$ is the normalised production rate of H₂O₂ of an identified fluorescent DOM component in natural waters, $FI_{Fi(DOM)}$ is the fluorescence intensity of the identified fluorescent DOM component in natural waters, FI_{RS} is the fluorescence intensity of the relevant standard substance in the aqueous solution, and r_{RS} is the normalised production rate of H₂O₂ of the relevant standard substance in solution. Finally, percentages of each identified DOM component contributing to the rate of production of H₂O₂ are calculated using the following (Eq. 2.5) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009):

$$F_{i(DOM)} = \frac{r_{Fi(DOM)} \times 100}{r_{net(DOM)}} \quad (2.5)$$

where $F_{i(DOM)}$ is the contribution percentage to the normalised net H_2O_2 production rate in the water (%) by each identified fluorescent DOM component, $r_{Fi(DOM)}$ is the normalised H_2O_2 production rate generated by each identified DOM component, and $r_{net(DOM)}$ is the whole, normalised net H_2O_2 production rate in the water samples. The percent contributions of unknown sources of H_2O_2 in the water samples are estimated using a simple formula: $F_{unknown} = 100 - (F_{FA} + F_{TRYP} + F_{OTHERS})$. In the formula, the sum of the normalized H_2O_2 production rate of FA-like substances (F_{FA}), tryptophan-like substances (F_{TRYP}), and other organic substances if any (F_{OTHERS}) is subtracted from the normalised, net H_2O_2 production rate that is assumed as 100 %.

2.3 Advanced Analytical Method for H_2O_2 Determination in Natural Waters

Theory: This method is based on the Fenton reaction, where H_2O_2 reacts with Fe^{2+} in acidic solution to yield HO^\bullet . The latter is scavenged by an aromatic compound (e.g. benzene) to produce the respective phenolic compound (e.g. phenol) according to the following reactions (Eqs. 2.6, 2.7) (Olasehinde et al. 2008; Lee et al. 1994; Liu et al. 2003):



where the rate constant of the first reaction (Eq. 2.6) is $k = 63$ at pH 3, 1.2×10^2 at pH 4 and $5.7 \times 10^2 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ at pH 5, respectively (Kwan and Voelker 2002). Phenol produced by the second reaction (Eq. 2.7) is determined by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) with fluorescence detector (Olasehinde et al. 2008). The amount of phenol produced is directly proportional to the H_2O_2 concentration present in the sample solution.

Based on this theoretical framework, Olasehinde and his co-workers (Olasehinde et al. 2008) developed a new method for the measurement of H_2O_2 in the aqueous solution, which is highly sensitive and simpler than any other enzymatic process applied earlier to natural waters. The chemicals preparation, analytical procedure and HPLC instrumentation for this method are depicted below (Olasehinde et al. 2008):

Chemicals preparation

Benzene stock solution: 2×10^{-2} M benzene solution is prepared by adding 88.8 μL of 99.7 % benzene in 50 mL of ultrapure water.

Fe^{2+} solution: A 0.1 M Fe^{2+} solution is prepared by dissolving 1.39 g ferrous sulphate pentahydrate into 50 mL of 0.07 M H_2SO_4 solution.

H_2SO_4 solution: A 3.0 M sulphuric acid stock solution is prepared by diluting 16.3 mL of 98 % H_2SO_4 to 100 mL with ultrapure water.

H₂O₂ standard solution: A 1×10^{-2} M H₂O₂ standard stock solution is prepared by diluting 1.0 mL of 30 % H₂O₂ to 100 mL with ultrapure water. The concentration of H₂O₂ is determined based on the molar extinction coefficient at 240 nm ($\epsilon = 38.1 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) (Miller and Kester 1988).

HPLC system: An HPLC-fluorescence system is adopted. The separation is carried out on a RP-C18 column with acetonitrile–water mixture as eluent. Tentative elution conditions are (CH₃CN/H₂O 40/60 v/v) at a flow rate of 1 mL min^{-1} (note: optimal conditions may vary depending on the actual system adopted). For the detection of phenol, the fluorescence detector is operated at 270 and 298 nm for excitation and emission, respectively.

Analytical procedure: 3.0 mL of water sample (natural water or standard H₂O₂) is first treated with 200 μL of 2×10^{-2} M benzene in a 5 mL amber vial and then mixed by gently shaking. It is then added 50 μL of 0.1 M Fe²⁺ in 0.07 M H₂SO₄ solution, waiting 5 min at room temperature for completion of the Fenton reaction. The final pH of the solution should be adjusted to ca. 4 with addition of sulphuric acid solution. It can be noted that the rate constant of the Fenton reaction is much higher at pH 4 to 5 than at pH 3, thus the reaction can be conducted in these pH ranges. An aliquot of the solution (e.g. 150 μL) is then injected into the HPLC system for analysis. Phenol and benzene are separated by reverse-phase chromatography. The standard phenol and H₂O₂ concentrations might be 0, 100, 200, 300, 500 and 1000 nM, and can be prepared freshly by diluting their stock solutions. The H₂O₂ concentration is determined by calibration of the peak areas of phenol produced in each standard solution against the H₂O₂ concentration of the sample. It can be noted that the addition of 10 μM NO₂⁻ to the water samples shows no significant interference on the fluorescence intensity of phenol. In contrast, addition of 50 μM NO₂⁻ to the samples decreases the fluorescence intensity signal of phenol by almost 40 %.

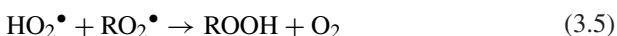
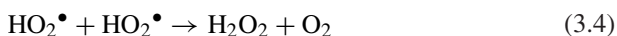
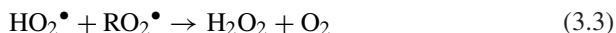
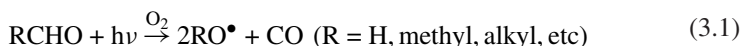
3 Mechanism of Production of H₂O₂ and ROOH in Natural Waters

3.1 Photoinduced Formation of H₂O₂ and ROOH

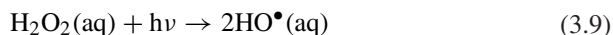
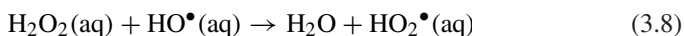
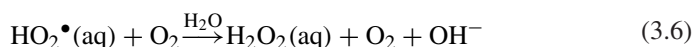
H₂O₂ and ROOH are photolytically produced by several pathways in the aquatic environments. First, H₂O₂ and ROOH are photogenerated by chromophoric or fluorescent dissolved organic matter (CDOM or FDOM) in aqueous media (Cooper and Zika 1983; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Moore et al. 1993; Richard et al. 2007; Baxter and Carey 1983; Clark et al. 2009; Cooper et al. 1989a, b; Dalrymple et al. 2010). A second pathway is linked with the redox cycling of transition metal ions in aqueous media (Moffett and Zika 1983; Moffett and Zika 1987a, b). An additional process is the intracellular H₂O₂ formation in chloropigments in aquatic organisms (Lobanov et al. 2008; Hong et al. 1987; Bazanov et al. 1999). Finally,

various chemical reactions cause the production of H₂O₂ and ROOH in the gaseous and aqueous phases in the atmosphere.

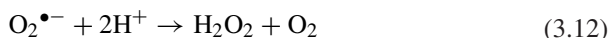
In the gas phase, H₂O₂ and ROOH compounds are formed through several chain reactions (Eqs. 3.1–3.5) as a combined effect of solar radiation on organic substances, nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and oxygen (O₂) (Sakugawa et al. 1990, 1993; Zuo and Hoigné 1992, 1993). The relevant processes are shown below:



In atmospheric waters the formation and decomposition of H₂O₂ is mechanistically different compared to the gas-phase reactions (Eqs. 3.6–3.9). A general scheme can be expressed as follows below (Sakugawa et al. 1990):



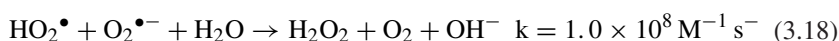
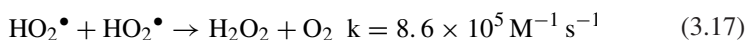
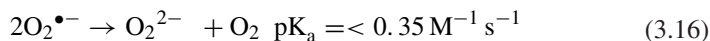
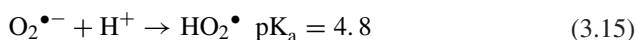
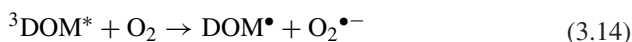
H₂O₂ is also formed by photodecomposition of Fe(III) complexes with oxalic, glyoxalic and pyruvic acids, under the typical acidic conditions that can be found in atmospheric waters (Zuo and Hoigné 1992, 1993; Faust et al. 1993). A general mechanism for the formation of H₂O₂ via this route is reported below (Eqs. 3.10–3.12) (Sakugawa et al. 1990; Kim et al. 2003):



In (Eqs. 3.10, 3.11), Fe(III)-L is a complex of Fe(III) with an organic ligand, $h\nu$ is the energy of a photon, and L \cdot is the organic radical of L. Superoxide ion (O₂ \cdot ⁻) is a major intermediate in many O₂-mediated oxidations, such as the well-known Haber–Weiss mechanism of iron oxidation (Haber and Weiss 1934).

In natural waters, the main sources of H₂O₂ are fulvic acid (FA), humic acid, tryptophan amino acid, fluorescent whitening agents (DSBP and DAS1) and their photoproducts, as well as various unknown organic substances belonging to DOM (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). There is evidence that H₂O₂ may be a photoproduct of reaction chains involving dissolved organic matter (DOM) components in

the presence of dissolved oxygen under natural sunlight (Eqs. 3.13–3.18) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Moore et al. 1993; Richard et al. 2007; O’Sullivan et al. 2005; Cooper et al. 1988; Clark et al. 2009; Fischer et al. 1985; Fischer et al. 1987; Power et al. 1987; Cabelli 1997). In these chain reactions, the functional groups of DOM absorb photons and are promoted to the singlet excited states ($^1\text{DOM}^*$). The latter can undergo intersystem crossing (ISC) and be converted into the triplet states ($^3\text{DOM}^*$) (Eq. 3.13). The reaction of oxygen with photo-excited DOM might generate the superoxide radical anion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) (Eq. 3.14) in equilibrium with its conjugate acid perhydroxyl radical (HO_2^\bullet) (Eq. 3.15). Both $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ and HO_2^\bullet disproportionate to form H_2O_2 (Eqs. 3.17 and 3.18, respectively). The scheme of the reaction chain is reported below:

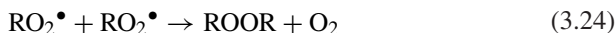


The reaction of HO_2^\bullet with $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ (Eq. 3.28) is faster than that of HO_2^\bullet with HO_2^\bullet (Eq. 3.17), and the termination reaction of two $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ radicals is too slow to be significant (Clark et al. 2009). The acidic constant of HO_2^\bullet ($\text{pK}_a = 4.8$) supports the generation of the perhydroxyl radical (HO_2^\bullet) in coastal waters (Clark et al. 2009; Cabelli 1997). Therefore, the steady-state concentrations of $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ and H_2O_2 (Eq. 3.18) are the result of the photoinduced activity of DOM components in sunlit surface freshwater and oceanic environments, as well as in other aqueous media (Inoue et al. 1982; Cooper et al. 1994; Millington and Maurdev 2004). $\text{DOM}^{\bullet+}$ is susceptible to further photoinduced degradation by photoinduced generation of hydroxyl radical, and the relevant pathways are depicted in the DOM degradation chapter (see chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). It can be noted that the excitation of DOM would involve its functional groups (chromophores or fluorophores) that are the easiest to be excited. Therefore, the reactivity of DOM toward H_2O_2 production will often resemble that of simple photoactive organic molecules. Recent evidence highlights that DOM can form complexes with trace elements by a strong π -electron bonding system (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b). The metal-DOM complexes are susceptible to undergoing rapid photoinduced excitation that would finally result into the production of H_2O_2 .

In studies mimicking the process of intracellular H_2O_2 formation, it has been found that the synthetic analogues of chlorophyll, metal complexes of porphyrins and phthalocyanines, act as photoactive species that produce H_2O_2 under irradiation in aqueous solutions saturated with dioxygen (Lobanov et al. 2008;

Hong et al. 1987; Bazanov et al. 1999). The highest photoinduced activity has been reported for porphyrin and phthalocyanine complexes with metals such as Mg, Zn, Al, and Cd (Komissarov 2003; Vedeneva et al. 2005), which can typically produce long-lived triplet excited states (lifetimes up to 1 ms) with a high quantum yield (60–90 %) (Parmon 1985). Photosynthetically produced organic matter (e.g. algae) can enhance the production of H₂O₂ by natural sunlight in aquatic ecosystems (Zepp et al. 1987). It can be hypothesized that the photoinduced and microbial assimilation of algae produce autochthonous fulvic acid and other DOM components (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa et al. (Manuscript In preparation), which may induce H₂O₂ photoproduction by the pathways already described for DOM.

In natural waters, ROOH compounds are formed upon photodegradation of DOM (including both CDOM and FDOM) via pathways that also induce the production of H₂O₂ (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Sakugawa et al. 1990; Faust and Hoigne 1987; Perkowski et al. 2006). A generalized chain-reaction scheme for the formation of ROOH from DOM in natural waters can be depicted as follows (Eqs. 3.19–3.24):

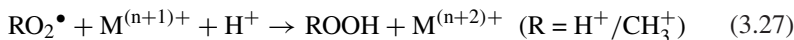
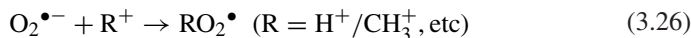
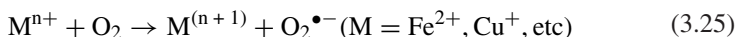


First, the photodecomposition of H₂O₂ generates the hydroxyl radical, HO[•] (Eq. 3.19), which subsequently oxidizes DOM or DOM^{•+} (the latter is formed by ³DOM* and O₂, see Eq. 3.20) to form the organic radical R[•] (Eq. 3.20) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Afterwards, R[•] reacts with O₂ to form the organo peroxide radical RO₂[•] (Eq. 3.21). The reduction of RO₂[•], e.g. by O₂^{•-}, can form ROOH in natural waters (Eq. 3.22) whereas O₂^{•-} is formed using (Eq. 3.14). Organic radicals (R[•] and RO₂[•]) can rapidly associate with one another (Eq. 3.23), and organo peroxide radicals can combine (Eq. 3.24) to terminate the chain reactions. The termination reactions (Eqs. 3.23, 3.24) are competitive with (3.21, 3.22), which leads to complicated reaction kinetics (Perkowski et al. 2006).

Oxidation–reduction of transition metal ions is an important pathway for the formation of organic peroxides in natural waters. A general mechanistic scheme for these oxidation–reduction chain reactions (Eqs. 3.25–3.27) can be expressed as follows:

First, oxidation of the metal ions (Mⁿ⁺) forms the superoxide radical anion (O₂^{•-}) (Eq. 3.25). O₂^{•-} then combines with H⁺ or with an alkyl ion (R⁺=H⁺, positively charged alkyl group, etc.) to form an hydro-peroxide or organo-peroxide radical (RO₂[•], R = H or alkyl group, Eq. 3.26). RO₂[•] can then associate with H⁺ or a metal ion (M⁽ⁿ⁺¹⁾⁺), to form ROOH (where R = H or an alkyl group) and a

further oxidized $M^{(n+2)+}$ ion (Eq. 3.27). Therefore, formation of $O_2^{\bullet-}$ is an important step in the generation of organic peroxides in natural waters.



3.2 Microbial Formation of H_2O_2 and ROOH

H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds are typically produced under dark incubation by microbial activity in natural waters (Fig. 2) (Palenic and Morel 1988; Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Vermilyea et al. 2010a, b). They are susceptible to be formed by several biological processes. Biota is thought to be the main source of dark H_2O_2 and ROOH production in natural waters (Fig. 2b) (Paradies et al. 2000; Forman and Boveris 1982). For instance, dark production of H_2O_2 in seawater is particle-dependent and the production rates are in the range of 0.8–2.4 $nM h^{-1}$ (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). Recent studies demonstrate the high dark production rate (29–122 $nM h^{-1}$) of H_2O_2 in several lake waters (Vermilyea et al. 2010). Moreover, H_2O_2 and ROOH may be formed extracellularly by marine phytoplankton or cyanobacteria (Palenic and Morel 1988; Zepp et al. 1986). Extracellular H_2O_2 can be produced under dark conditions by enzymatic reduction of oxygen at the cell surface (Palenic et al. 1987) and upon oxygen reduction by other electron transport chains. The latter include the mitochondrial reduction of oxygen followed by H_2O_2 diffusion out of the cell (Forman and Boveris 1982; Frimer et al. 1983). Also the auto-oxidation of organic material may produce H_2O_2 and ROOH in the aquatic environment (Stevens et al. 1973). In seawater, H_2O_2 may be produced by particle-dependent and light-independent microbial processes (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). For example, a net H_2O_2 production (dark production minus dark consumption) of 1–3 $nM h^{-1}$ has been observed at 40–60 m in an in situ experiment conducted in the Sargasso Sea (Palenic and Morel 1988). Finally, ROOH compounds are produced in bulk natural-water DOM by light-independent microbial processes (Fig. 2) (Sakugawa et al. 2000). For example, net ROOH production has been observed in both filtered and unfiltered river waters (2b), while H_2O_2 is merely produced in filtered river waters (Fig. 2a). ROOH compounds are typically more concentrated in deep seawaters than in surface waters (Sakugawa et al. 2000).

4 Factors Controlling the Production and Decay of H_2O_2 and ROOH in Natural Waters

Concentration levels of H_2O_2 and ROOH as well as production rates of H_2O_2 differ in a variety of natural waters (Table 1). The magnitude of the H_2O_2 production decreases from coastal waters to open oceans (Zika et al. 1985a, b; Fujiwara et al.

1993). The influence of riverine fluxes having high DOM plays an important role in the production of H_2O_2 in coastal seawaters. The lowest H_2O_2 concentration was seasonally detected in southern oceans (5–25 nM), which was 10 to 20 times lower compared to other oceanic environments (Table 1). The major factors behind the low H_2O_2 concentration in the southern ocean are thought to be: (i) Low incident solar intensity and penetration efficiency in the surface water layer (Zika et al. 1985), solar irradiance being a major factor for the photoinduced formation of H_2O_2 in natural waters. (ii) Water temperature that is normally below $<5^\circ\text{C}$ in the southern ocean. (iii) Vertical mixing (Johnson et al. 1989). (iv) DOC concentration (Zika et al. 1985a, b). (v) Distinct latitude or solar zenith angle, considering that H_2O_2 photoproduction decreases with increasing apparent-noon solar zenith angle (Sikorsky and Zika 1993a, b).

Therefore, the production and decay of H_2O_2 and ROOH and their lifetimes in the aquatic environment (Table 1) generally depend upon a complex set of factors, which can be distinguished as: (1) Effects and variation of solar radiation; (2) Contents and molecular nature of DOM; (3) Presence of phytoplankton, algae and microbes; (4) Photodegradation; (5) Photosynthesis; (6) Photolytic and chemical processes; (7) Physical processes; and (8) Precipitation (e.g. rain).

4.1 Effects and Variation of Solar Radiation

Solar radiation is one of the key factors in the generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Obernosterer et al. 2001; Richard et al. 2007; Rusak et al. 2010; Holm-Hansen et al. 1993). The diurnal cycle of H_2O_2 , where an increase of solar radiation intensity increases the production of H_2O_2 and vice versa, is a typical example of the strong dependence between solar intensity and H_2O_2 generation (Fig. 6). It has been estimated that the production of H_2O_2 and ROOH is usually higher by several times in the summer season than in the winter one. Production of H_2O_2 is higher in summer by 55–79 % in upstream waters, 162–364 % in polluted waters, and 137–146 % in clean river waters. In the case of ROOH the summer production is higher by 116–240 %, 521–1322 %, and 244–550 %, respectively, compared to the winter one. Such effects are mostly considered to be the effect of variation in solar intensity, which is much higher in the summer season (by 84 %, 32 %, and 216 %, respectively) compared to winter during a sampling day (Fig. 9) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Therefore, an increase in solar intensity would enhance the production of H_2O_2 in aqueous solution (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009).

The solar intensity is highly variable in different regions. In the subtropical zone, ultraviolet (UV) B radiation (280–320 nm) is stable, but it is much higher (\approx ten fold) than that in the Antarctica (Holm-Hansen et al. 1993). Depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer increases the ground-level UV B radiation in the polar regions (Crutzen 1992) as well as at temperate latitudes (Stolarski et al. 1992). H_2O_2 formation is largely dependent on the radiation wavelengths (Obernosterer

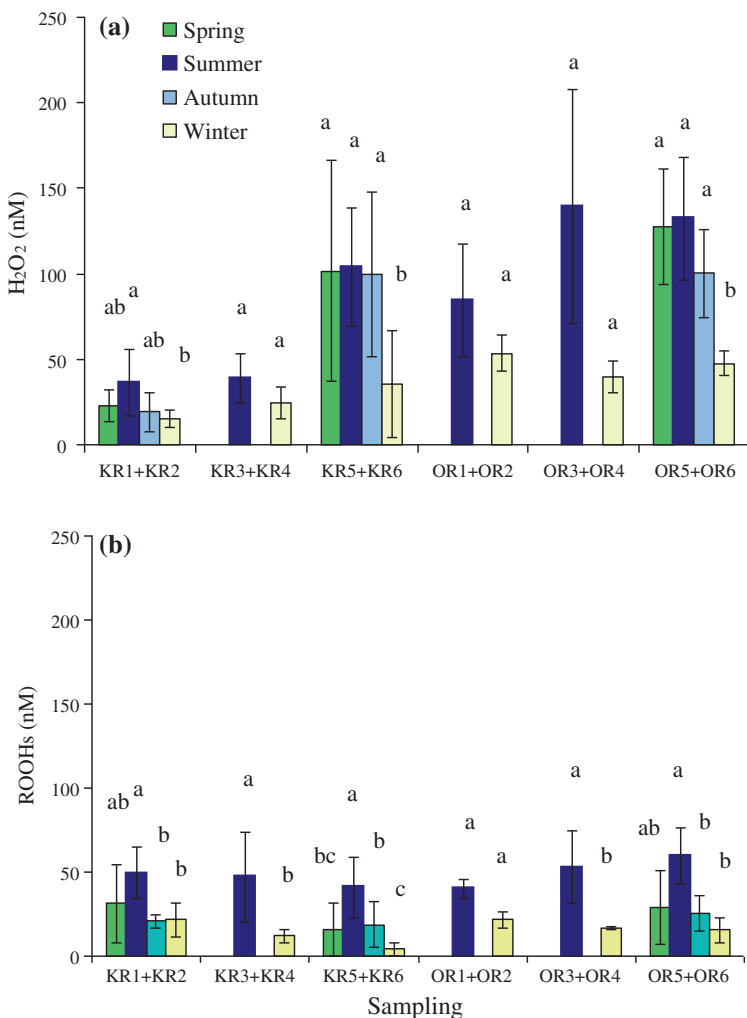


Fig. 9 Seasonal variations of the H₂O₂ (a) and ROOH (b) concentrations in the waters of the Kurose River and Ohta River in the Hiroshima prefecture, Japan. The error bar indicates the standard deviation of seasonal average value of peroxides. Mean values labelled with different letters are significantly different at $P < 0.05$ (Fisher's l.s.d. analysis). Data source Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)

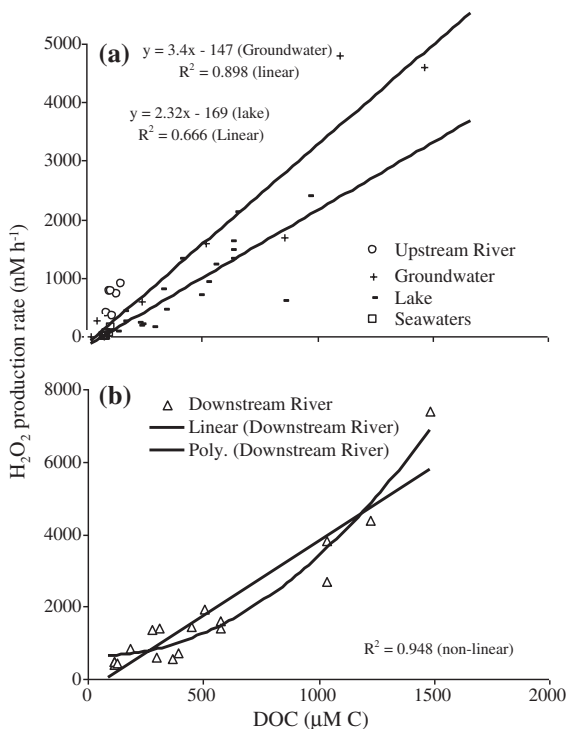
et al. 2001; Richard et al. 2007), and the contribution of UV-B, UV-A and photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) is 40, 33 and 27 %, respectively (Richard et al. 2007). Production of H₂O₂ at vertical depths depends on the penetration of solar radiation, and decreases with an increase in depth of lakes or oceans (Obernosterer et al. 2001). A model study on a freshwater stream shows that the H₂O₂ concentrations over time significantly depend on photoinduced production

rates from ultraviolet-B (UVB), UVA and photosynthetically active radiation (PAR), and loss rates from temperature-dependent and temperature-independent processes (Rusak et al. 2010). The retrieved model terms confirm that H_2O_2 is produced by both UVB and UVA radiation. These results demonstrate that changes in solar radiation reaching the study site are closely correlated with the observed seasonal pattern in H_2O_2 concentrations in the water (Rusak et al. 2010).

4.2 Production and Decay Affected by Contents and Molecular Nature of DOM

The production and decay of H_2O_2 and ROOH in natural waters are significantly affected by the total contents and molecular nature of DOM (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Scully et al. 1995). An increase in standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA) contents in aqueous solution increases the photoinduced production of H_2O_2 , but the production of ROOH decreases with an increase in SRFA concentration. It is suggested that the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 depends on the total contents of DOM components in natural waters. It is demonstrated that the production rates of H_2O_2 are greatly different for a variety of waters, and the production rates for various standard organic substances are also widely variable (Table 2). The photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 by natural waters and standard organic substances is generally much higher at short irradiation times (60 min), after which it often decreases. Such an effect has been observed in upstream waters as well as in aqueous solutions of Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA), Suwannee River Humic Acid (SRHA), tryptophan, DSBP and DAS1, during photo experiments carried out with a solar simulator (Fig. 1a, b) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). The production of H_2O_2 and its disappearance for prolonged irradiation times has suggested two important phenomena. Firstly, H_2O_2 is initially generated as a consequence of the excitation of highly efficient functional groups of organic substances. These groups are effectively excited and transformed by solar radiation, after which the effectiveness of the functional groups to yield H_2O_2 gradually decreases. This effect, combined with consumption processes, causes a decrease of H_2O_2 concentration at the end of the long-term irradiation period. Secondly, H_2O_2 produced upon irradiation is photolytically converted to HO^\bullet , which can degrade the parent organic substances and yields a variety of photoproducts in the aqueous solution (Southworth and Voelker 2003; Kramer et al. 1996; Legrini et al. 1993; von Sonntag et al. 1993; Corin et al. 1996; Schmitt-Kopplin et al. 1998; Wang et al. 2001; Leenheer and Croué 2003). These results suggest that the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH depends on the molecular nature of DOM components in natural waters. The relationship between DOC concentration and production rates of H_2O_2 (Fig. 10) shows that the rate is higher for upstreams and groundwater, and increases non-linearly with an increase of DOC concentration in rivers (Fig. 10) and lakes (Scully et al. 1996). It can be considered that the highly reactive DOM is photolytically and rapidly degraded into photoproducts in

Fig. 10 Relationship between DOC concentration and production rates of H_2O_2 generated from photoexperiments conducted on upstream river, groundwater, lake and seawaters (a); as well as on the waters of the downstream river (b)



stagnant lake or seawaters or during the transportation of water from the source to the lake or ocean (Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2007a, b; Wu et al. 2005). Indeed, previous photoprocessing is a likely reason for the photostability of DOM sampled in surface lake environments (Vione et al. 2009). H_2O_2 production is less efficient in the presence of DOM from lake or seawater, which suggests that the generation of hydrogen peroxide depends also on the nature and not only on the total amount of DOM in natural waters. Therefore, H_2O_2 production follows the order: upstreams > groundwater > rivers > lake > coastal sea > open ocean.

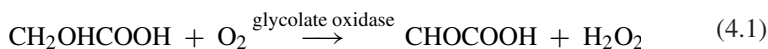
Fluorescent DOM (FDOM) or chromophoric DOM (CDOM) plays an active role in the generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH in natural waters (Table 1) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Obernosterer et al. 2001; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Moore et al. 1993; O'Sullivan et al. 2005). It can be noted that CDOM or FDOM moieties undergo rather efficient photoionization under sunlight (Wu et al. 2005; Senesi 1990). For example, a significant correlation has been observed between fluorescence intensity (FI) of fulvic acid and the photoproduction of hydrated electrons (Fujiwara et al. 1993). Similarly, the production rates of H_2O_2 are highly correlated with the fluorescence of fulvic acid present in river (Mostofa 2005) and lake waters, rather than with DOC concentrations (Scully et al. 1996). Moreover, the production of H_2O_2 by a variety of river waters is highly different due to a variation in their DOM components such as fulvic acid, fluorescent whitening agents and

tryptophan-like compounds (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Thus, production of H_2O_2 and ROOH significantly depends on the molecular nature and composition of FDOM or CDOM rather than on DOC concentration.

4.3 Production and Decay Affected by Phytoplankton, Algae and Microbes

Production and decay of H_2O_2 and ROOH are greatly influenced by marine phytoplankton, algae and microbes. Two phenomena are involved. First, marine phytoplankton, algae and microbes may produce autochthonous DOM, which is then involved into the photoinduced or microbiological (the latter being highlighted under dark incubation) generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds in natural waters. Second, the decay of H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds may be caused by catalase, peroxidase and superoxide dismutase produced by phytoplankton, algae and microbes.

A variety of marine organisms or phytoplankton can produce or excrete organic compounds such as riboflavin (Dunlap and Susic 1985; Mopper and Zika 1987), amino acids including tryptophan, proteins, carbohydrates and saturated and unsaturated fatty acids (McCarthy et al. 1997; Rosenstock and Simon 2001; Nieto-Cid et al. 2006). All of these organic compounds are photolytically reactive. For example, 1 nM riboflavin added to seawater can produce approximately 10 nM H_2O_2 (Mopper and Zika 1987), and tryptophan can produce H_2O_2 at a rate of 648 nM h^{-1} in aqueous media (Table 2). The organisms, 10^5 coccolithophorid cells L^{-1} , can produce H_2O_2 at a rate of $1\text{--}2 \text{ nM h}^{-1}$ in oligotrophic waters (Palenic et al. 1987). Production of H_2O_2 by the eukaryotic phytoplankton species *Hymenomonas carrterae* is induced by amino acid oxidation by cell-surface enzymes (Palenic et al. 1987). The photorespiration cycle of phytoplankton involves production of H_2O_2 during glycolate oxidation (Lehninger 1970), which can be expressed as follows (Eq. 4.1):



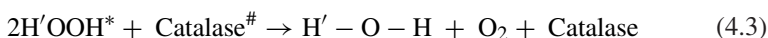
The rate of photorespiration increases with high light intensity, possibly as a way to dissipate the excess light energy (Harris 1979), but its exact role is unclear (Ogren 1984).

The exposure of algae suspensions to sunlight can produce H_2O_2 (Johnson et al. 1989; Collen et al. 1995; Zepp et al. 1987), possibly by photoinduced excitation of DOM released under photo- and microbial assimilation of algae (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Medina-Sánchez et al. 2006; Fu et al. 2010; Takahashi et al. 1995; Marañón et al. 2004). This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the H_2O_2 production from algal suspensions is low in the initial two hours of irradiation, and is greatly increased with further irradiation (Zepp et al. 1987). It can be assumed that the high production of H_2O_2 after two hours occurs because of the photodegradation of organic substances newly released from algal suspensions in the reaction media during the initial irradiation period. For example, the production rates of

H_2O_2 due to sunlight effects on algae are $0.04\text{--}1.7 \times 10^6 \text{ M h}^{-1}$ for five algae at a concentration of $0.097\text{--}1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mg m}^{-3}$ Chl *a* (Zepp et al. 1987).

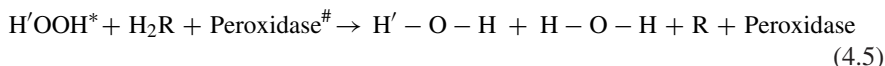
4.3.1 Mechanism of Microbial Decomposition of H_2O_2 and ROOH

Decay of peroxides (H_2O_2 and ROOH) by phytoplankton, algae and microbes is a reverse effect of peroxide production in natural waters. Peroxides ($\text{H}'\text{OOH}$, $\text{H}' = \text{H}$ or R) may be decomposed by catalase, peroxidase and superoxide dismutase, produced by phytoplankton, algae and microbes to generate energy for their growth and to eliminate excessive intracellular levels of H_2O_2 and $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ (Fujiwara et al. 1993; Moffett and Zafriou 1990; Zepp et al. 1987; Mostofa et al. (Manuscript in preparation); Wong et al. 2003). Such a decomposition effect induced by phytoplankton, algae and microbes would usually occur constantly, until the concentration of peroxides reaches a minimum level that would afford inefficient further decomposition. Catalase enzymatically activates the peroxides ($\text{H}'\text{OOH}^*$) to use them as oxidants (electron acceptors) and reductants (electron donors). Afterwards, disproportionation of activated $\text{H}'\text{OOH}^*$ converts them into water or alcohols and oxygen. A reaction scheme (Eqs. 4.2, 4.3) for the decomposition of peroxides by catalase can be generalized as follows (Moffett and Zafriou 1990):



where $\text{Catalase}^\#$ is the activated state of catalase.

Peroxidase enzymatically activates the peroxides ($\text{H}'\text{OOH}^*$) to detoxify them to H_2O or any other end product. As reducing species it uses organic compounds (H_2R) other than $\text{H}'\text{OOH}$. A reaction scheme (Eqs. 4.4, 4.5) for the decomposition of peroxides is presented below (Moffett and Zafriou 1990):



where $\text{Peroxidase}^\#$ is the activated state of peroxidase. It has been shown that the percentage decay of H_2O_2 was 65–80 % by catalase and 20–35 % by peroxidase, as estimated by isotopic measurements in seawater (Moffett and Zafriou 1990). The sources of catalase and peroxidase in natural waters are bacteria and marine phytoplankton (Kim and Zobell 1974), but these enzymes are also part of the dissolved organic matter (Serban and Nissenbaum 1986). Similarly, chloroplasts have a peroxidase-mediated H_2O_2 scavenging system (Tanaka et al. 1985). Natural marine peroxidases are also capable of catalyzing H_2O_2 -mediated halogenation reactions in the oceanic environments (Theiler et al. 1978; Baden and Corbett 1980). The decay of H_2O_2 is usually low (12 % after 5 h incubation) in upstream waters due to the presence of few bacteria (some 10^5 cells mL^{-1}), and much higher in polluted

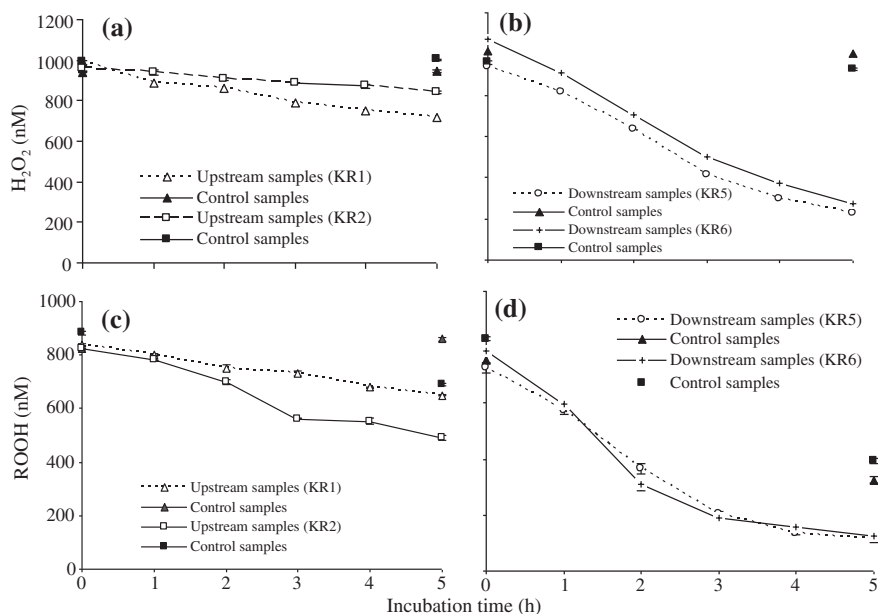


Fig. 11 The decay of peroxides by the occurrence of bacterial incidences in upstream and polluted river waters with an addition of standard 1,000 nM of H_2O_2 (a) and 1,000 nM of peracetic acid (b) under dark incubation in NK system BIOTRON at controlled temperature (21°C). Controlled or sterilized samples (addition of 2 % solution of HgCl_2) conducted under the same condition and same incubation period. Data source Mostofa et al. (Manuscript in preparation)

ivers (74 %) where the bacteria are more numerous (of order 10^6 cells mL^{-1}) (Fig. 11a). Similarly, the decay of peracetic acid (ROOH) was 40 % and 85 %, respectively (Fig. 11b). The initial degradation rate is roughly double for ROOH (peracetic acid) than for H_2O_2 , thus the concentrations of ROOH found in rivers are generally lower than those of H_2O_2 . It is suggested that ROOH compounds are chemically unstable and more reactive than H_2O_2 in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Therefore, enzymatic or microbial degradation of peroxides is a rapid process that may control the steady-state concentrations of both H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds in natural waters (Fujiwara et al. 1993; Cooper and Zepp 1990; Zepp et al. 1987; Serban and Nissenbaum 1986; Tanaka et al. 1985).

It has been shown that the algal-catalyzed decomposition of H_2O_2 under dark conditions is second-order overall, first-order with respect to H_2O_2 and first-order with respect to the algal biomass (Petasne and Zika 1997; Zepp et al. 1987; Cooper and Lean 1992). The median second-order rate constant for nine algae is approximately $4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 (\text{mg Chl } a)^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$. Natural levels of the blue-green *Cyanobacterium sp.* can greatly increase the decay rates of H_2O_2 , which follow a second-order rate constant of $3.5 \times 10^{-10} \text{ L cell}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (Petasne and Zika 1997). Similar kinetics has been observed for *Vibrio alginolyticus*, in which case the

decay of H_2O_2 was second-order overall, and first-order in both H_2O_2 concentration and number of bacterial cells (Cooper and Lean 1992). Such a kinetic can be expressed as follows:

$$\text{Rate} = -d[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]/dt = k_2[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2] [\text{Number of bacterial cells}] \quad (4.6)$$

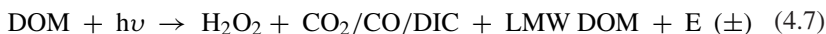
where $k_2 = 1.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ mL cell}^{-1}\text{min}^{-1}$. The freshwater bacterium *Enterobacter cloacae* showed a similar rate constant, $k_2 = 1.5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ mL cell}^{-1} \text{min}^{-1}$.

4.4 Production and Decay by DOM Photochemistry

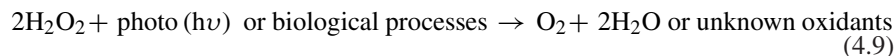
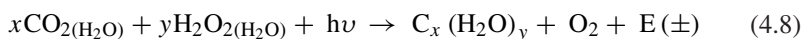
Photodegradation of DOM depends on the incident light intensity, which is directly linked to the production of H_2O_2 and ROOH through photoinduced reactions in natural waters (Cooper and Zika 1983; Moore et al. 1993; Baxter and Carey 1983). For example, H_2O_2 concentration gradually increases with irradiation time in natural waters as well as in aqueous solutions of standard organic substances (Fig. 3) (Obernosterer et al. 2001; Cooper et al. 1988). Similarly, a 10–20 times lower H_2O_2 production was observed in river waters during the cold season compared to summer, and in the Southern Ocean in Antarctic regions (5–25 nM) compared to other oceanic environments, respectively (Fig. 9; Table 1). The photodegradation of DOM is greatly influenced by the stratospheric ozone hole events, particularly in Antarctic waters. The ozone hole can increase the fluxes of solar ultraviolet radiation (UVR, 280–400 nm), which may substantially enhance the photoinduced generation of reactive species (H_2O_2 , ROOH, HO^\bullet , etc.) in natural waters (Yocis et al. 2000; Rex et al. 1997; Qian et al. 2001). For example, a decrease in stratospheric ozone from 336 to 151 Dobson units during an ozone hole event resulted in an increase by 19–42 % in the production of H_2O_2 at the surface of Antarctic waters (Yocis et al. 2000). An increase in ozone hole events can thus cause a higher degree of DOM photodegradation upon generation of highly reactive free radicals.

4.5 Production and Decay by Photosynthesis

As a result of photodegradation of DOM, along with the production of H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds, several other photoproducts such as CO_2 , CO or other forms of dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC = sum of dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-}), low molecular weight (LMW) DOM, and thermal energy, E (\pm) are simultaneously produced in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009; Wu et al. 2005; Amador et al. 1989; Moran and Zepp 1997; Wang et al. 2009; Xie and Zafiriou 2009). A general scheme (Eq. 4.7) for the photodegradation of DOM can be expressed as follows (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b):



H_2O_2 and CO_2 that are simultaneously produced by DOM photodegradation can take part to photosynthesis, to form carbohydrate-type compounds (Eq. 4.8) (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b):



where $\text{C}_x(\text{H}_2\text{O})_y$ (Eq. 4.8) represents a generic carbohydrate. In natural waters, H_2O_2 acts as a key component together with carbon dioxide (CO_2) to form carbohydrates and oxygen through photosynthesis (Eq. 4.8). The formation of oxygen in the photosynthesis process might also occur via either H_2O_2 disproportionation or biological processes (Eq. 4.9) (Komissarov 2003; Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Liang et al. 2006; Buick 2008). Note that the contribution of H_2O_2 decay is 65–80 % by catalase enzyme and 20–35 % by peroxidase enzyme, respectively, as estimated by isotopic measurements in seawater (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). $\text{E}(\pm)$ is the energy produced during photosynthesis. The new concept of photosynthesis was firstly hypothesized in plants by Komissarov (1994, 2003). He proposed that interaction of CO_2 in air and H_2O_2 , instead of H_2O , may form carbohydrate in plants. It is interesting to note that during the diurnal cycle, H_2O_2 production is the highest at noon time, thereby simultaneously causing the maximum production of CO_2 or DIC due to photodegradation by H_2O_2 or photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet . The new reaction mechanism for photosynthesis (Eq. 4.2) will be discussed in details in photosynthesis chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”.

It is demonstrated that microbial consumption is the dominant sink of oceanic carbon monoxide (CO), and that the rate constant (k_{CO}) of microbial CO consumption is positively correlated with chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*). It is suggested that Chl *a* concentration can be used as an indicator of CO-consuming bacterial activity in natural waters (Xie et al. 2005). Photodegradation and photosynthesis may be important in natural waters with high contents of DOM; photodegradation induces the production of CO_2 and peroxides, which would in turn favor photosynthesis in the aquatic environments. This would lead to the multiplication of algae, small aquatic plants and phytoplankton. For example, high algal production is operational in some Chinese Lakes during the summer season, which might also be an effect of high DOM photodegradation that favor photosynthesis in lake ecosystems (Mostofa et al. 2009b).

4.6 Production and Decay by Photolytic and Chemical Processes

Production of H_2O_2 and ROOH by photolytic processes may involve their photoinduced formation from DOM under natural sunlight, as explained earlier. The decay of peroxides by photolytic processes (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; 1993;

Petasne and Zika 1997) may follow two pathways. First, photolytic decomposition of H_2O_2 can occur in seawater (e.g., filtered Vineyard Sound waters) to yield O_2 . The photodecomposition was approximately 5 % of the corresponding photoproduction (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). However, H_2O_2 decomposition typically does not occur in oligotrophic seawater after 2 h of irradiation. This suggests that the contaminants associated with H_2O_2 synthesis in Vineyard Sound samples might be susceptible to the photolytic decomposition of H_2O_2 (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). Second, H_2O_2 and ROOH can photolytically form free radicals ($\text{R}'\text{OOH} + h\nu \rightarrow \text{RO}' + \text{HO}^\bullet$ where $\text{R}' = \text{H}$ or R). For example, ROOH compounds are lower in surface seawater than in the deeper layers (Sakugawa et al. 2000). The ROOH compounds are negatively correlated with solar intensity (Sakugawa et al. 2000). This suggests that ROOH may be decomposed by photolytic processes in surface seawater. This result can be justified by the observation of a significant correlation between H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet generated photolytically in experiments conducted on river waters, standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid and DAS1 using a solar simulator Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished), which indicates the photoinduced formation of HO^\bullet from H_2O_2 . Therefore, decay of peroxides by photolytic processes is a typical phenomenon that may significantly occur in natural waters.

Formation of H_2O_2 and ROOH by chemical processes may include several chain-reactions among various reactant species (Eqs. (3.2–3.5, 3.10–3.12, 3.27)). The decomposition of peroxides by chemical processes may involve the Fenton reaction ($\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{HO}^\bullet + \text{OH}^-$) (Fenton 1894), photo-Fenton reaction ($\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{Fe}^{2+} + h\nu \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{HO}^\bullet + \text{OH}^-$) (Zepp et al. 1992), photo-ferrioxalate reaction ($\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4) + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4) + \text{HO}^\bullet + \text{OH}^-$) (Safazadeh-Amiri et al. 1997) and other chain reactions (Eqs. 3.7, 3.8, 3.16). Free radical oxidation of H_2O_2 by transition metal ions is one of the most important chemical decomposition processes of H_2O_2 in natural waters (Jeong and Yoon 2005; Fenton 1894; Millero and Sotolongo 1989).

4.7 Physical Mixing Processes

The rates of production and decay of peroxides may be influenced by physical processes, such as the mixing by strong waves in the surface mixing zone (Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished; Scully et al. 1998). Physical mixing by strong waves can facilitate the contact of the reactants and increase the reaction rates. For example, the production rate of H_2O_2 was increased by mechanical stirring during irradiation of seawater (86 nM h^{-1}) and standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (445 nM h^{-1}) samples, compared to the same samples that were not stirred (51 and 211 nM h^{-1} , respectively). The photoexperiments on site were carried out with a solar simulator Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished). Mixing phenomena can contribute to the relatively elevated H_2O_2 concentration that is often observed in the mixing zone or in the upper surface layers of lake or

seawater (Johnson et al. 1989; Sakugawa et al. 2000; Sikorsky and Zika 1993a, b; Scully et al. 1998). Similarly the vertical convective overturn, which is usually caused by nocturnal cooling in the upper lake or ocean, may greatly decrease the surface H_2O_2 concentration through distribution in the whole water column (Johnson et al. 1989; Sarthou et al. 1997; Yuan and Shiller 2001).

4.8 Salinity Effect on Production of H_2O_2

The photoproduction of H_2O_2 significantly increases with salinity in natural waters (Osburn et al. 2009). The generation of H_2O_2 upon irradiation of ultrafiltered river DOM substantially increases from 15 to 368 nM h^{-1} with increasing salinity at circumneutral pH values (Osburn et al. 2009). The increase in H_2O_2 production with salinity has a linear trend (Eq. 4.10) (Osburn et al. 2009):

$$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \text{ (nM)} = 83.15 \times \text{salinity} - 69.16 \quad (r^2 = 0.99, p = 0.001, n = 10) \quad (4.10)$$

The apparent quantum yield of H_2O_2 photoproduction from ultrafiltered river DOM, Q_{hp} , also increases with salinity from 1.64×10^{-4} to 37.02×10^{-4} (Osburn et al. 2009).

The mechanism of high production of H_2O_2 with salinity is not well documented in earlier studies. It is hypothesized that hydrated electrons (e_{aq}^-) are considerably formed in ionic (saline) solution under irradiation. This phenomenon can substantially increase the production of superoxide radical ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) and, through disproportionation, of H_2O_2 in aqueous solution. This is evidenced by the photoinduced formation of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) from organic substances and by their high production in NaCl-mixed solutions compared to pure (Milli-Q) water (Fujiwara et al. 1993; Gopinathan et al. 1972; Zepp et al. 1987b; Nakanishi et al. 2002; Assel et al. 1998; Richard and Canonica 2005). In the presence of high salinity it was also observed a significant increase of CDOM loss (10–40 %) and high photoelectrochemical degradation of methyl orange (~48 % increase in 0.5 M NaCl) (Osburn et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2010). The mechanisms behind the high photoinduced reactivity of DOM with salinity are discussed in details in other chapters (see chapters “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”).

4.9 Production Affected by Precipitation

Precipitation in the form of e.g. rain greatly increases the peroxide concentrations in natural waters (Sakugawa et al. 1995; Avery et al. 2005; Cooper et al. 1987; Yuan and Shiller 2000). This might be caused by the mixing of highly

concentrated H_2O_2 in rainwater, where the measured levels are 0–110,600 nM in Europe, 17,000–199,000 nM in Brazil, 30–120,000 nM in the USA, 500–34,000 nM in Canada, 24–56,400 nM in Japan and 3,500–82,000 nM in marine areas (Table 1) (Lazrus et al. 1985; Cooper and Lean 1989; Hellpointner and Gáb 1989; Sakugawa et al. 1990, 1993, 2006; Hewitt and Kok 1991; Cooper and Lean 1992; Yuan and Shiller 2000; Miller et al. 2008). ROOH concentrations in rainwater are 400–1600 nM in Europe and 60–6500 nM in the USA (Table 1) (Hellpointner and Gáb 1989; Sakugawa et al. 1993; Hewitt and Kok 1991). The levels of H_2O_2 and ROOH in rainwater (Table 1) usually show some common trends. First, there are strong diel variations with highest concentrations in the afternoon and lowest ones in the night time and in the early morning. Second, high variations are observed between summer and winter, which are presumably caused by high light intensity in summer that induces elevated H_2O_2 production. Rain drops may scavenge H_2O_2 and ROOH generated in the gas phase or within cloud droplets. Because of the observed diel trend, daytime precipitation might be a more important source of peroxides to natural waters compared to the nighttime one.

5 Significance of H_2O_2 and ROOH in the Aquatic Environment

H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds are uncharged, non-radical active oxygen species that may act as oxidants and reductants in natural waters. These features of peroxides are also of importance for their use in chemical reactions and in our daily life. The main effects of H_2O_2 and ROOH can be distinguished as: (1) Natural purifiers in natural waters; (2) Photo-Fenton reaction for the decomposition of organic pollutants; (3) Indicators of microbial changes in bulk DOM; (4) Function as a redox agents in aqueous solution, (5) Medical treatment and commercial uses; (6) Growth of terrestrial vegetation by rainwater H_2O_2 and ROOH; and (7) Oxygen evolution in photosynthesis.

5.1 Natural Purification in Aquatic Ecosystems

H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds are powerful oxidants, which can directly oxidize the DOM or other reactants in natural waters (Draper and Crosby 1984; Ho 1986; Samuilov et al. 2001). Peroxides are formed photolytically from DOM in natural water, and their productions reach maximum at noon time. The photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet from peroxides can degrade organic pollutants or DOM (Gao and Zepp 1998; Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Goldstone et al. 2002), which accounts for the role of H_2O_2 and ROOH as purifiers in natural waters.

5.2 *Photo-Fenton Type Reaction for Decomposing Organic Pollutants*

One of the key applications of H₂O₂ is its use in the degradation of organic pollutants in the wastewater treatment industry by means of Fenton's reaction (Fe²⁺ and H₂O₂), photo-Fenton reaction (UV/Visible-Fe²⁺/H₂O₂, λ < 580 nm), UV/Visible-ferrioxalate/H₂O₂ reaction and ozone with H₂O₂ (Zepp et al. 1992; Voelker et al. 1997; Fenton 1894; Safazadeh-Amiri et al. 1997; Glaze and Kang 1989; Tizaoui et al. 2007). Among many other applied technologies, these four are major commercialized technologies.

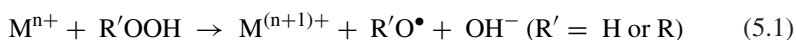
5.3 *Indicators for Microbial Modification of Bulk DOM*

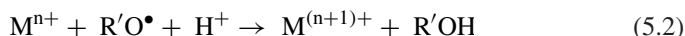
ROOH compounds are significantly produced in natural waters under dark conditions (Figs. 1 and 2) and are more concentrated in deep seawater than in the surface layer (Sakugawa et al. 2000). Net ROOH formation (dark production minus dark consumption) is observed in both filtered and unfiltered river waters (Fig. 2). In contrast, net H₂O₂ formation is only observed in filtered waters. The microbial modification of bulk DOM can yield ROOH compounds in natural waters. Microbially-induced changes in the bulk DOM composition are in agreement with the observation of a red shift of the fulvic acid-like fluorescence (peak C) with an increase in fluorescence in deeper lake or seawaters (Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Mostofa et al. 2005; Moran et al. 2000). Therefore, dark production of organic peroxides could be a useful indicator for the microbial modification of bulk DOM in aquatic environments.

5.4 *Function of H₂O₂ as an Oxidizing-Reducing Agent in Aqueous Solution*

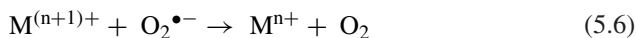
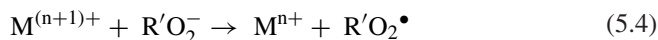
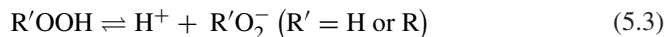
On the basis of the reduction potential V, the oxidizing agents in aqueous solution can be classified according to the following order: Fluorine (V = 3.0) > Hydroxyl radical (HO•) (V = 2.8) > Ozone (V = 2.1) > Peracetic acid (ROOH) (V = 1.8) > H₂O₂ (V = 1.8) > Potassium permanganate (V = 1.7) > Hypochlorite (V = 1.5) > Chlorine dioxide (V = 1.5) > Chlorine (V = 1.4) (Buettner 1993).

H₂O₂ and ROOH compounds act as intermediates in the reduction of oxygen in natural waters. They can act as oxidants or reductants in their reactions with metal ions (Moffett and Zika 1987a, b). For example, H₂O₂ and ROOH compounds can oxidize Cu(I) and Fe(II) in natural waters (Moffett and Zika 1987a, b), a process that can be schematically generalized as follows:





On the other hand, the reduction of Cu(II) and Fe(III) by H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds (Moffett and Zika 1987a; Moffett and Zika 1987) can be generalized in the following scheme:



These reactions have already been verified for various chemical and biochemical processes in natural waters.

5.5 Medical Treatment and Commercial Uses of H_2O_2

H_2O_2 therapy is commonly used in bio-medical sciences. The singlet oxygen atoms produced from H_2O_2 in the human body ($H_2O_2 \rightarrow H_2O + O_1$) can kill or severely inhibit the growth of anaerobic organisms (bacteria and viruses that use carbon dioxide for fuel and leave oxygen as a by-product) (Gorren et al. 1986). Bacteria and viruses do not have an enzyme coating, thus they are easily oxidized by O_1 . Application of H_2O_2 is particularly effective for asthma, leukemia, multiple sclerosis, degenerative spinal disc disease, high blood pressure and wound care (Gorren et al. 1986; Nathan and Cohn 1981). In addition, H_2O_2 is widely used to bleach textiles and paper products, in processing foods, minerals, petrochemicals, consumer products (detergents), and in some daily uses such as cleaning and sanitizing the kitchen, soaking the toothbrush to prevent transfer of germs, cleaning vegetables and fruits for freshness and good taste.

5.6 Growth of Terrestrial Vegetation by Rainwater's H_2O_2 and ROOH

High concentrations of H_2O_2 (0–199000 nM) and ROOH (60–6500 nM) in rainwater (Table 1) should be able to promote photosynthesis in plants and algae (Komissarov 1995, 2003; Mostofa et al. 2009a, b). The detailed mechanism in that regard has been discussed in photosynthesis chapter (see chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). The occurrence of H_2O_2 and ROOH in rainwater could

thus contribute to the good health and efficient growth of plants. However, high concentrations of H_2O_2 (50–100 μM) in the presence of iron (Fe) and oxalate can generate HO^\bullet that would decrease the plant productivity and growth (Kobayashi et al. 2002). Furthermore, the ability of H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds to act as anti-bacterial and anti-fungal agents additionally suggests that an optimal level of peroxides could play a positive role toward good health and efficient growth of earth's plants.

5.7 Role of H_2O_2 in Oxygen Production by Photosynthesis

Photosynthetic O_2 evolution involves different stages that carry out a gradual accumulation of oxidizing equivalents in the Mn-containing water-oxidizing complex (WOC) (Samuilov et al. 2001). The WOC can exist in different oxidation states (S_n , where high n indicates the most oxidised states), which can be probed by addition of different redox-active molecules. The interaction of H_2O_2 with the S states of the WOC is depicted in the scheme below (Fig. 12) (Samuilov et al. 2001):

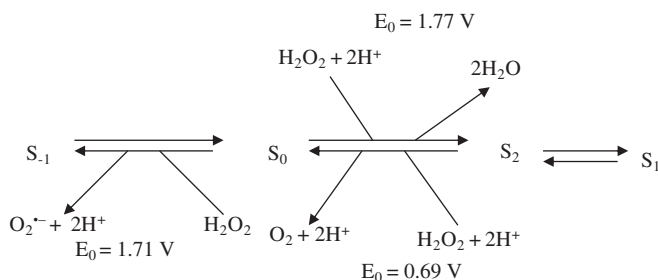


Fig. 12 Different oxidation states of H_2O_2 and its interaction with the S states of the water-oxidizing complex. *Data source* Samuilov et al. (2001)

6 Impacts of H_2O_2 and ROOH in Natural Waters

H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds are uncharged and non-radical active oxygen species, and capable of acting as oxidants and reductants in chemical reactions in natural waters. These properties have some impact on the aquatic organisms, which can be listed as follows: (1) Acid rain; (2) Inhibition of photosynthetic electron transport in cells of cyanobacteria; (3) Effect of H_2O_2 on bacterial growth in waters; and (4) Impact of H_2O_2 on microbial quality of recreational bathing waters.

6.1 Acid Rain

H₂O₂ and ROOH compounds are key components in the conversion of dissolved sulfur dioxide (SO₂) to sulfate (SO₄²⁻) or sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄) in atmospheric clouds (Sakugawa et al. 1990; Zuo and Hoigné 1993). Sulfuric acid (SO₄²⁻) can be formed in cloud drops by reaction of HSO₃⁻ with H₂O₂ (Eq. 3.7) and is a major contributor to acid precipitation to the earth surface.

6.2 Inhibition of Photosynthetic Electron Transport in Cells of Cyanobacteria

H₂O₂ can control a large number of stages of cell metabolism, including those involved in the induction of programmed cell death (Samuilov et al. 2001). H₂O₂ can inhibit growth at concentrations as low as 10⁻⁵–10⁻⁴ M under the conditions of a dialysis culture (Samuilov et al. 2001). H₂O₂ can inhibit the photosynthetic electron transport in cells of cyanobacteria (Samuilov et al. 2001, 2004). It can also destroy the function of the oxygen-evolving complex (OEC) in some chloroplasts and photosystem II preparations, causing release of manganese from the cyanobacterial cells, which inhibits the OEC activity.

6.3 Impact of H₂O₂ on Bacterial Growth in Aquatic Ecosystems

Bacterial growth has a seasonal variability, reaching the maximum in spring to early summer and greatly decreasing in summer, e.g. when water temperature in lakes becomes higher than 25.5 °C (Zhao et al. 2003). Sunlight inactivates bacteria in seawater (Fujioka et al. 1981), which suggests that some photoinduced processes may be involved. The bacterial abundance is commonly affected by water temperature (Zhao et al. 2003; Darakas 2002), but the latter is directly connected with solar radiation that can generate strong oxidizing agents such as peroxides (H₂O₂ and ROOH), O₂^{•-} and HO[•]. These reactive species can reduce the activity of the catalase, peroxidase and superoxide dismutase enzymes present in bacterial cells, DOM, algae and phytoplankton. Bacterial cells protect themselves from the oxidizing species (H₂O₂, O₂^{•-} and HO[•]) by adjusting the level of their enzymes (Chance et al. 1979). An experimental study conducted on marine invertebrates suggests that H₂O₂-scavenging enzymes can protect against external photodynamic effects and internal respiratory by-products (Dykens 1984). It can be assumed that the activity of the enzymes in dealing with the external effects would decrease their ability to scavenge the internal by-products, with harmful effects for the organisms. Low levels of H₂O₂ (~100 nM) affect oxidative stress to bacteria in coastal waters

by increasing the concentration of the catalase enzyme. The diurnal periodicity of catalase activity matched the diurnal changes of H_2O_2 (Clark et al. 2008; Angel et al. 1999). The effects of H_2O_2 and peroxides can be particularly important during the summer season when their levels are higher. Moreover, ozone hole events in Antarctic waters may greatly increase photodegradation processes that can generate reactive free radicals and peroxides, with a damaging influence on biogeochemical cycles in Antarctic waters (Diffey 1991; Smith et al. 1992; Randall et al. 2005).

6.4 Impacts of H_2O_2 on Microbial Quality of Recreational Bathing Waters

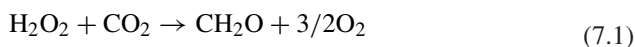
Microbial water quality is assessed from the concentration of fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) because of their adverse health effects (Cabelli et al. 1979; US Environmental Protection Agency 2000; Wade et al. 2003). Frequent FIB contamination episodes in the surf zone resulted in multiple beach closures in the USA (Boehm et al. 2002). It is shown that elevated levels of H_2O_2 , ROOH, superoxide ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) and hydroxyl radical, photolytically produced, can cause damage and cell lysis in microorganisms. This may result into high FIB mortality in recreational bathing waters (Gonzalez-Flecha and Demple 1997; Weinbauer and Suttle 1999; Mitchell and Chamberlin 1975; Clark et al. 2008). It is estimated that approximately ~100 nM of H_2O_2 can cause oxidative stress to bacteria in waters (Angel et al. 1999). Diurnal cycles of FIB mortality in the surf zone (Clark et al. 2008; Boehm et al. 2002), which well resemble the diurnal cycle of H_2O_2 , suggest that the FIB mortality may be linked to the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH in sunlit surface waters.

7 Role of H_2O_2 in the Origin of Autochthonous DOM and of other Oxidising Agents

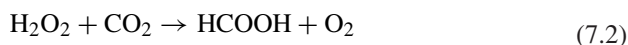
H_2O_2 can contribute to the production of autochthonous DOM by different important processes. First, it is involved in the photosynthesis process that is a major source of organic matter (e.g. algae) (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b). The photoinduced and microbial assimilation of organic matter, including algae, can produce autochthonous DOM in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fu et al. 2010; Harvey et al. 1995; Carrillo et al. 2002; Coble 2007; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008). Coherently, a correlation has been observed between production of organic carbon and concentration of photolytically formed H_2O_2 (Anesio et al. 2005). The autochthonous production of DOM (Mostofa et al. 2005; Yoshioka et al. 2002) is typically observed during the summer season, and a major DOM component that is produced is autochthonous fulvic acid, often termed sedimentary fulvic acid (Hayase and Tsubota 1985). Other produced compounds include marine humic substances (Coble 1996, 2007), carbohydrates and unknown

substances (Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa et al. (Manuscript In preparation); Hamanaka et al. 2002; Hayakawa 2004; Farjalla et al. 2006).

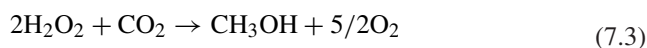
Second, H_2O_2 , formed photolytically from water using UV radiation, can react with CO_2 under abiogenic conditions to produce various organic substances (CH_2O , HCOOH , CH_3OH , CH_4 , and $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$; Eqs. 7.1–7.5, respectively) in the aqueous solutions (Lobanov et al. 2004). The reactions between H_2O_2 and CO_2 as well as their thermodynamic parameters such as enthalpy changes (ΔH^0) and the Gibbs free energy changes (ΔG^0) are mentioned as follows (Lobanov et al. 2004):



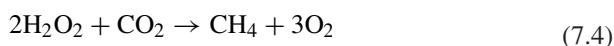
$$\Delta H^0 = 465 \text{ kJ}, \Delta G^0 = 402 \text{ kJ}$$



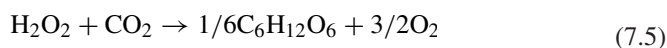
$$\Delta H^0 = 172 \text{ kJ}, \Delta G^0 = 166 \text{ kJ}$$



$$\Delta H^0 = 530 \text{ kJ}, \Delta G^0 = 464 \text{ kJ}$$



$$\Delta H^0 = 649 \text{ kJ}, \Delta G^0 = 580 \text{ kJ}$$



$$\Delta H^0 = 426 \text{ kJ}$$

Therefore, these organic substances produced photolytically may play an important role in biogeochemical processes in natural waters.

Third, H_2O_2 can react with nitrous acid to yield peroxyxynitrous acid, a powerful nitrating agent and an important intermediate in atmospheric chemistry (Vione et al. 2003). The kinetics of the reaction is compatible with a rate-determining step involving either H_3O_2^+ and HNO_2 , with rate constant $179.6 \pm 1.4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, or H_2O_2 and protonated nitrous acid, with rate constant $1.68 \pm 0.01 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ (diffusion-controlled reaction) (Vione et al. 2003). Thus, H_2O_2 might be a key environmental factor in atmospheric oxidative chemistry.

8 Scope of the Future Challenges

The determination of H_2O_2 and ROOH as well as their spatial–temporal variations, sources, production and decay mechanisms have been examined in natural waters. Compared to H_2O_2 , relatively little attention is paid to the determination

of ROOH compounds and their concentrations in natural waters. Investigations based on the detection of ROOH would be crucial to improve the understanding of the photoinduced processes along with H_2O_2 generation in natural waters. Limited attention is also devoted to what fractions of DOM are most involved in the photoinduced production of peroxides in freshwater and marine environments. Other important research demands for future challenges are the following: (i) Identification of the DOM components involved into the production of H_2O_2 in freshwater and marine water. (ii) Elucidation of the temperature and pH effect on the production of H_2O_2 and ROOH compounds by aquatic DOM components and standard organic substances. (iii) Clarification of the correlation between diurnal variations of H_2O_2 and ROOH levels in natural waters and DOM concentration. (iv) Investigation of the role of the photo-Fenton reaction in the production of peroxides in iron-rich waters. (v) Elucidation of the relationship between peroxides and free radicals. (vi) Study of the dark production of H_2O_2 and ROOH by phytoplankton, algae and bacteria in fresh and marine waters. (vii) Effect of variable diurnal levels of H_2O_2 on bacteria in DOM-rich waters. (viii) Detection of ROOH compounds generated photochemically by standard organic substances in aqueous solution and by DOM components in natural waters.

Problems

- (1) Explain the nature and biogeochemical function of H_2O_2 and ROOH in natural waters.
- (2) Discuss the steady-state concentration of H_2O_2 and ROOH in natural waters
- (3) Explain how H_2O_2 acts as REDOX agent.
- (4) Explain the mechanisms of photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 and ROOH in the gas phase and in natural waters.
- (5) How does fulvic acid photolytically produce H_2O_2 and ROOH in natural waters?
- (6) What are the sources of H_2O_2 in natural waters?
- (7) What factors are involved in the diurnal cycle of H_2O_2 production in natural waters?
- (8) Explain the controlling factors for the decay of H_2O_2 and its decay mechanism by biological processes in natural waters.
- (9) What is the importance of H_2O_2 and ROOH?
- (10) Which is the impact of H_2O_2 on organisms?
- (11) What is the link between H_2O_2 , photosynthesis and the autochthonous production of DOM in natural waters?
- (12) How does H_2O_2 differ chemically from ROOH?
- (13) What is the principle of H_2O_2 and ROOH measurement by the fluorometric method?
- (14) In a diurnal cycle in river water, the concentration of H_2O_2 gradually increased from 4 to 69 nM in the period from before sunrise to noon and

then gradually decreased to 20 nM. What is the concentration of H₂O₂ accounted for by diurnal effects in the river waters?

- (15) What is the steady state concentration of H₂O₂ in natural waters? Find out the production of H₂O₂ in a natural water when its steady-state concentration is 350 nM, microbial degradation 20 nM, and consumption by DOM photo-degradation 30 nM.

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Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters

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1 Introduction

Hydroxyl radical (HO^\bullet) is a short-lived free radical, and it is the most potent oxidizing transient among the reactive oxygen species. It is an effective, nonselective and strong oxidant that is ubiquitously formed in natural sunlit surface waters (rivers, lakes and seawater and so on), rain, dew, cloud, fog, snow, aerosol, and in all living organisms. The HO^\bullet is photolytically formed from a variety of sources in natural waters. The first experimental report of a reaction that is now known to produce HO^\bullet dates back to Henry John Horstman Fenton, who described the oxidation

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of Fe(II) with H_2O_2 in aqueous media (Fenton 1894). The Fenton's reaction has been studied by several researchers afterwards (Haber and Weiss 1934; Barb et al. 1951; Hardwick 1957; Wells and Salam 1967, 1968; Po and Sutin 1968; Skinner et al. 1980; Rush and Bielski 1985; Moffett and Zika 1987a, b; Lloyd et al. 1997; Kremer 1999; Lindsey and Tarr 2000). Haber and Weiss in 1934 firstly postulated that the reactivity of the Fenton's reagent is due to the generation of HO^\bullet in aqueous solution, and that Fe(II) acts as a catalyst for the decomposition of H_2O_2 into HO^\bullet . The Fenton's reaction can be used to promote the oxidation of organic compounds (Walling 1975) and has been widely studied to this purpose in the last 25 years (Sychev and Isak 1995; Chen and Pignatello 1997; Gallard et al. 1998; Barbeni et al. 1987; Lindsey and Tarr 2000; Kang et al. 2002; Pignatello et al. 2006).

Hydroxyl radical is also a photo-product of many photolysis reactions that occur in natural waters (Zafiriou 1974; Zafiriou and True 1979a, b; Mill et al. 1980; Draper and Crosby 1981; Russi et al. 1982; Zafiriou et al. 1984; Cooper et al. 1988; Mopper and Zhou 1990; Gjessing and Källqvist 1991; Dister and Zafiriou 1993; Takeda et al. 2004; Vione et al. 2006, 2009a, b; al Housari et al. 2010). In particular, HO^\bullet can be produced photolytically from NO_2^- and NO_3^- (Zafiriou and True 1979a, b; Russi et al. 1982; Takeda et al. 2004; Zafiriou and Bonneau 1987; Zepp et al. 1987; Zellner et al. 1990; Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Mack and Bolton 1999) and upon irradiation of various dissolved organic matter (DOM) components (Mill et al. 1980; Mopper and Zhou 1990; Vaughn and Blough 1998; Holder-Sandvik et al. 2000). Hydroxyl radical can be experimentally determined by use of selective probe molecules such as cumene (isopropylbenzene) and pyridine in dilute solution, benzene, terephthalic acid and *para*-chlorobenzoic acid (*p*CBA) (Mill et al. 1980; Takeda et al. 2004; Fang et al. 1996). The rate of HO^\bullet production mostly depends on the quantity and quality of DOM, on the concentration of other chemical species such as nitrate and nitrite, and on the pH of natural waters.

The chemical reactivity of the Fenton's reaction (Fe^{2+} and H_2O_2) is significantly increased by UV/Visible irradiation ($\lambda < 580$ nm), which has for instance been shown to enhance the mineralization of organic pollutants (Haag and Hoigné 1985; Cooper et al. 1991; Zepp et al. 1992; Ruppert et al. 1993; Faust 1994; Voelker et al. 1997; Arakaki et al. 1998; Bossmann et al. 1998; Rossetti et al. 2002; Zepp 2002; Southworth and Voelker 2003; White et al. 2003). Similarly, the H_2O_2 /UV process can produce HO^\bullet that can decompose organic substances in aqueous solution (Draper and Crosby 1981; Zellner et al. 1990; Hunt and Taube 1952; Baxendale and Wilson 1956; Volman and Chen 1959; Ho 1986; Vel Leitner and Dore 1996; Berger et al. 1999; Wang et al. 2001; Goldstein and Rabani 2008) as well as in ice (Chu and Anastasio 2005). An advanced process that exploits the photo-Fenton system is the photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reaction, where UV/visible irradiation ($\lambda < 550$ nm) is combined with the presence of excess oxalate (Huston and Pignatello 1996; Safazadeh-Amiri et al. 1996, 1997; Wu et al. 1999; Arslan et al. 2000; Nogueira and Guimaraes 2000; Emilio et al. 2002; Lee et al. 2003; Hislop and Bolton 1999; Jeong and Yoon 2005). The HO^\bullet radical can also be generated in aqueous suspensions of

TiO₂, which plays a key role in the heterogeneous photocatalytic degradation of organic contaminants (Sun and Bolton 1996; Ullah et al. 1998; Konstantinou and Albanis 2004). However, an important difference between TiO₂ photocatalysis and the other processes of HO• generation described before is that the irradiation of TiO₂ mainly causes the production of surface-bound HO• groups, which are somewhat less reactive than homogeneous HO• (Serpone and Pelizzetti 1989). The hydroxyl radical has been detected in rainwater, dew, cloud and fog (Arakaki et al. 1998, 1999a, b; Arakaki and Faust 1998; Nakatani et al. 2001; Kobayashi et al. 2002), snow (Chu and Anastasio 2005; Anastasio et al. 2007; Matykiewiczová et al. 2007), aerosols (Anastasio and Jordan 2004), in aqueous extracts of cigarette tar (Zang et al. 1995), and in living organisms (Buettner et al. 1978; Buettner 1987; Miller et al. 1990; Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Cadet et al. 1999; Bourdat et al. 2000; Paradies et al. 2000; Blokhina et al. 2003; Li et al. 2008). The HO• is rapidly consumed in natural waters by the subsequent reactions with dissolved organic compounds (Schuchmann and von Sonntag 1979; Neta et al. 1988; Westerhoff et al. 1999; Goldstone et al. 2002; Miller and Chin 2002; Miller et al. 2002; Ervens et al. 2003) and several inorganic species (Zafirou et al. 1984, 1987; Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Neta et al. 1988; Song et al. 1996).

The generation of HO• and its interaction with the dynamics of DOM and nutrient as well as with aquatic organisms are very important in natural waters. There are a number of factors that can control the production and consumption of HO• in that ecosystem. However, there is no general overview published on HO• in natural waters. A short review by von Sonntag (2007) covers the formation of free radicals and their reactions in aqueous solution.

This review will provide a general overview on sources, production mechanisms, steady state concentration and biogeochemical functions of HO• in water environment. This paper also discusses the analytical methods that can be adopted to measure the photoinduced generation of HO•, the factors controlling its production and decay, as well as the significance and impact of HO• in the aquatic ecosystems. It is shown how the production of HO• differs among DOM components, as well as between freshwaters and marine environments.

2 Hydroxyl Radical (HO•) and Other Free Radical Species

The hydroxyl radical (HO•) is the most powerful oxidizing agent among the photolytically generated ones. It is a short-lived, highly reactive and non-selective transient, able to oxidize dissolved organic substances and other chemical species in natural waters. The oxidation potentials for a series of common oxidants in surface waters is as follows: Fluorine (E = 3.03 V) > HO• (2.80 V) > Atomic oxygen (2.42 V) > Ozone (2.07 V) > Peracetic acid (ROOH) (1.80 V) > H₂O₂ (1.78 V) > Perhydroxyl radical (1.70 V) > Potassium permanganate (1.68 V) > Chlorine dioxide (1.57 V) > Hypochlorous acid (1.49 V) > Chlorine

Table 1 Oxidation potentials of major oxidants

Free radicals	Oxidation potentials (E°) (V)
Fluorine	3.03
Hydroxyl radical	2.80
Atomic oxygen	2.42
Ozone	2.07
Hydrogen peroxide	1.78
Perhydroxyl radical	1.7
Permanganate	1.68
Chlorine dioxide	1.57
Hypochlorous acid	1.49
Chlorine	1.36

Data source Sun et al. (1997)

(1.36 V) whilst one (Table 1) (Sun et al. 1997). The oxidizing capacity of the hydroxyl radical can be described in terms of its reduction potential (E), which allows the comparison with other powerful oxidants (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Buettner 1993; Ross et al. 1994). One-electron reduction potentials at pH 7.0 for selected radical couples are 2.31 V for HO•, H⁺/H₂O; 1.60 V for RO•, H⁺/ROH (aliphatic alkoxy radical); 1.00 V for ROO•, H⁺/ROOH (alkyl peroxy radical); 0.92 V for GS[•]/GS⁻ (glutathione); 0.60 V for PUFA•, H⁺/PUFA-H (*bis*-allylic-H); 0.59 V for HU⁻, H⁺/UH²⁻ (urate); 0.48 V for TO•, H⁺/TOH (tocopherol); 0.32 V for H₂O₂, H⁺/H₂O, HO•; 0.28 V for ascorbate⁻, H⁺/ascorbate monoanion; 0.12 V for Fe(III)EDTA/Fe(II)EDTA; and -3.30 V for O₂/O₂[•] (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Buettner 1993). The HO• reacts with organic compounds at close to diffusion-limited rate constants, which are the fastest after equilibrium reactions and the rate constants (*k*_{obs}) for the reaction of the equilibrium mixture of ascorbic acid species (AscH₂/AscH⁻/Asc²⁻ at pH 7.4) are 1.1 × 10¹⁰ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for HO•; 1.6 × 10⁹ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for tert-Butyl alkoxy radical (RO•); 1–2 × 10⁶ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for Alkyl peroxy radical, e.g. CH₃OO• (ROO•); 1.8 × 10⁸ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for ClCOO•; 6 × 10⁸ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for glutathiol radical (GS•); 1 × 10⁶ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for urate radical (HU⁻); 2 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for tocopheroxy radical (TO•); 2 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for dismutation (Asc⁻); 1.4 × 10⁹ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for chlorpromazine radical action (CPZ⁺); ≈10² M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for Fe^{III}-EDTA/Fe^{II}-EDTA; and 1 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ for O₂⁻/HO₂[•] (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Buettner 1988; Ross et al. 1994). The HO• radical is formed by a variety of sources such as NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ under UV irradiation, the Fenton and the photo-Fenton reaction, the photo-ferrioxalate/H₂O₂ system and so on (Legrini et al. 1993). It is directly responsible for a number of important biogeochemical functions in natural waters.

Among other radical species present in natural waters, organic peroxy radicals (ROO•) are intermediates formed photolytically and thermally from organic peroxides, or directly from the degradation of dissolved organic matter. These radicals are short-lived and highly reactive transients. An important process that involves ROO• is the formation of new organic compounds upon rapid combination of

peroxide radicals with organic substances in aqueous solution (Mill et al. 1980; Mageli and Kolczynski 1966; Faust and Hoigne 1987; Blough 1988; Kieber and Blough 1990; Sakugawa et al. 1990; Faust and Allen 1992; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Furthermore, the thermal decomposition of organic peroxides can initiate the polymerization of vinyl monomers or induce cross-linking of a polymeric substrate upon formation of free radical sites on the polymer (Mageli and Kolczynski 1966). The overall (unspeciated) photostationary-state concentration of peroxy radicals in sunlit cloud and fog waters is around 1–30 nM (Faust and Allen 1992).

The superoxide radical anion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$) is the one-electron reduction product of molecular oxygen. It is an early photoinduced and short-lived intermediate that is formed in chemical reactions occurring in natural waters, where oxygen acts as the ultimate electron acceptor (Jeong and Yoon 2005; Bielski et al. 1985; Petasne and Zika 1987; Zafriou 1990; Micinski et al. 1993; Zafriou et al. 1998; Millington and Maurdev 2004). It has been shown that the photoinduced superoxide production rates are 0.1–6.0 nM min⁻¹ under full-sun irradiation in spring, and 0.2–8.0 nM min⁻¹ in fall in a variety of Eastern Caribbean waters (Micinski et al. 1993). A key reaction of $O_2^{\bullet-}$ is the production of H_2O_2 by dismutation; hydrogen peroxide is then able to generate HO^{\bullet} by direct photolysis or upon photo-Fenton type reactions in sunlit aqueous solutions (Cooper et al. 1988; Micinski et al. 1993; Fischer et al. 1985). Interestingly, the organic complexes of Cu as well as the copper-catalyzed dismutation (involving Cu^+ and Cu^{2+}) can be significant sinks of photoproduced $O_2^{\bullet-}$ in seawater (Zafriou et al. 1998; Voelker et al. 2000).

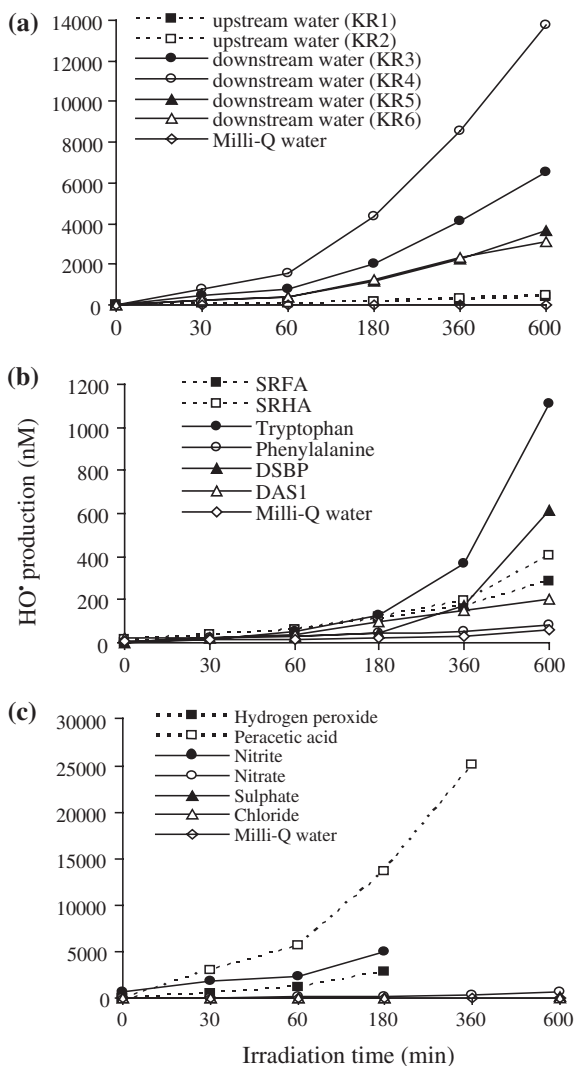
The carbon dioxide radical anion ($CO_2^{\bullet-}$) is a short-lived and highly reactive intermediate that is photolytically formed in the ferrioxalate reaction system. It is a strong oxidizing agent that is able to oxidize metals and other chemical species in aqueous solution. The $CO_2^{\bullet-}$ is formed photolytically ($C_2O_4^{\bullet-} \rightarrow CO_2^{\bullet-} + CO_2$; $k = 2 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$) upon decomposition of the oxalyl radical anion ($C_2O_4^{\bullet-}$). The latter is produced by the photoinduced decomposition of the highly photosensitive ferrioxalate complex $[Fe(C_2O_4)_3]^{3-}$ in aqueous solution (Hislop and Bolton 1999; Jeong and Yoon 2004, 2005; Mulazzani et al. 1986). A key role played by $CO_2^{\bullet-}$ is its ability to oxidize the metal ions, therefore affecting the biogeochemical cycling of metal-containing species. These processes can have an impact on the generation of HO^{\bullet} and of the superoxide radical anion in natural waters (Hislop and Bolton 1999; Jeong and Yoon 2004, 2005; Wang et al. 2010). Another potentially important process is the transformation of organic substances induced by $CO_2^{\bullet-}$, which is formed photolytically from ferrioxalate complexes in the aqueous solution (Huston and Pignatello 1996).

In addition, it has been reported that quinones photolytically produce species capable of hydroxylation (Alegria et al. 1997; Pochon et al. 2002; Gan et al. 2008; Maurino et al. 2008; Maddigapu et al. 2010; Page et al. 2011). Some of these quinone-derived hydroxylating species exhibit reactivity that is around one order of magnitude lower than free HO^{\bullet} (Pochon et al. 2002; Gan et al. 2008). It is hypothesized that quinone-derived hydroxylating species may contribute at least in part to the photoinduced HO^{\bullet} production by DOM (Vaughn and Blough 1998; Page et al. 2011).

2.1 Sources of HO• in Natural Waters

The HO• radical is formed photolytically from various sources in natural waters. In rivers, contributions to HO• photoproduction are 1–89 % from NO₂⁻, 2–70 % from NO₃⁻, 1–50 % from H₂O₂, and 2–70 % from the photo-Fenton reaction and/or irradiated CDOM (Takeda et al. 2004; Vione et al. 2006; White et al. 2003; Page et al. 2011; Nakatani et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data). Experimental studies show that DOM isolates from rivers may contribute up to 50 % of the hydroxylation through production of H₂O₂ (Page et al. 2011). The results demonstrate that NO₂⁻ is a key contributor (48–80 %) for HO• production in sewerage-polluted river waters, but NO₃⁻ can be a major contributor (16–49 %) in clean river waters. In seawater the major sources of HO• are 7–75 % from NO₂⁻, 1–8 % from NO₃⁻, 0–1 % from H₂O₂, and 24–93 % from unknown sources. These data were obtained from a study carried out in Seto Inland and the Yellow Sea (Takeda et al. 2004). The formation of HO• from different sources in natural waters can be distinguished as: (i) the photolysis of nitrite and nitrate in the aqueous solution (Mopper and Zhou 1990; Takeda et al. 2004; Zepp et al. 1987); (ii) the irradiation of CDOM components via formation of H₂O₂ in the aqueous solution. In this case the production of HO• depends on the nature of the CDOM components (Fig. 1) (White et al. 2003; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data), but a useful correlation has been found between the formation rate of HO• and the content of dissolved organic carbon in different lake water samples (Vione et al. 2006); (iii) the Fenton reaction (Fenton 1894; Walling 1975; Kang et al. 2002), the photo-Fenton reaction (Zepp et al. 1992; Arakaki et al. 1998; Southworth and Voelker 2003) as well as the photo-ferrioxalate/H₂O₂ system in natural waters (Southworth and Voelker 2003; Safazadeh-Amiri et al. 1997; Hislop and Bolton 1999); (iv) the direct photolysis of hydrogen peroxide, i.e. UV/H₂O₂ processes in aqueous solution (Draper and Crosby 1981; Wang et al. 2001). The UV irradiation of natural waters can produce H₂O₂ that further yields HO• (Gjessing and Källqvist 1991; Cooper et al. 1996); (v) the reaction of hydroperoxide radical (HO₂•) with NO (HO₂• + NO → HO• + NO₂) (Sakugawa et al. 1990); (vi) the photolysis of dimeric [Fe₂(OH)₂(H₂O)₈]⁴⁺ species in aqueous solution (Langford and Carey 1975); (vii) the photolysis of Fe^{III}(OH)²⁺ in aqueous solution. The generation of HO• upon photolysis of Fe^{III}(OH)²⁺ is very efficient (quantum yield ~0.2), but the Fe(III) hydroxocomplex is present in significant concentration only at strongly acidic pH values that have little environmental significance (Jeong and Yoon 2005; Pozdnyakov et al. 2000); (viii) the generation of singlet states of oxygen atoms (¹O₁) by ozonolysis, followed by reaction with H₂O to form HO• (Hoigné and Bader 1978, 1979; Staehelin and Hoigné 1985; Takahashi et al. 1995); (ix) the reaction of O₃ with H₂O₂ (peroxone process), which generates HO• (H₂O₂ + 2O₃ → 2HO• + 3O₂) (Hoigné 1998); (x) the production of HO• by auto-oxidation of cytotoxic agents (Cohen and Heikkila 1974); (xi) chemical effects of ultrasound, which can generate HO• in aqueous solution (Makino et al. 1983); (xii) ultrasound-induced cavitation in aqueous solution, yielding HO• upon water splitting (H₂O + ultrasound → HO•,

Fig. 1 Photoinduced generation of HO[•] from river waters (a), various standard organic substances (b) and various (inorganic and organic) chemical species (c) in photoexperiments conducted using a solar simulator. Aqueous solutions (1 mg L⁻¹) of standard all organic substances are used for production of HO radicals in (b) and all chemical species in (c) are adjusted to 100 μM. All data depicted in these figures are calibrated for natural sunlight on 6 July 2004 at Hiroshima University Campus at noon under clear sky conditions. *Data source* Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data)



H₂O₂, H₂) (Henglein 1987); (xiii) autooxidation of aqueous extracts of cigarette tar (ACT), giving HO[•] in air-saturated, buffered aqueous solutions. It is thought that the process is caused by the autooxidation of hydroquinone- and catechol-related species in ACT (Zang et al. 1995); (xiv) photoinduced HO[•] production from aqueous suspensions of algae (Li et al. 2008); and (xv) photoinduced HO[•] production can occur from DOM, the reactive triplet states of which could be involved in oxidation of water and/or OH⁻ and in the production of lower energy hydroxylating species that simulate DOM reactivity (Alegria et al. 1997; Pochon et al. 2002; Gan et al. 2008; Maurino et al. 2008; Maddigapu et al. 2010; Page et al. 2011; Maddigapu et al. 2011; Brigante et al. 2010; Sur et al. 2011).

2.2 Biogeochemical Functions of HO^\bullet in Natural Waters

The HO^\bullet is responsible for the occurrence of many important biogeochemical functions in natural waters: (i) photoinduced decomposition of DOM, which causes the production of a number of low molecular weight (LMW) photoproducts. The latter are microbiologically labile and constitute a significant source of carbon and energy to the microbial food chains, as well as an important pathway for DOM turnover in natural waters (Zhou and Mopper 1990; Blough and Zepp 1995; Tranvik 1992; Moran and Zepp 1997; Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998; Mopper and Kieber 2000; Mostofa et al. 2009a, b). However, despite the major role played by HO^\bullet in the mineralization processes of organic pollutants in the framework of the AOPs, the HO^\bullet is expected to contribute to a minor extent to the photomineralization of natural DOM in surface waters (Vione et al. 2009); (ii) photoinduced production of low-molecular weight chemical species such as H_2O_2 and CO_2 (both dissolved and gaseous forms). These processes play some role in the occurrence of photosynthesis, which produces algal biomass that is involved into the generation of autochthonous DOM in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Komissarov 2003; Fu et al. 2010). However, the importance of such reactions is limited by the relatively low generation rate of HO^\bullet in surface waters (Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998); (iii) photo-bleaching of DOM induced by solar radiation in waters (Moran et al. 2000; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Mostofa et al. 2005, 2007); (iv) photodegradation of persistent organic pollutants, which are usually recalcitrant to biological, chemical, and direct photodegradation in water (Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Haag and Yao 1992; Grannas et al. 2006; Vione et al. 2009); (v) cycling of transition metal ions that can be oxidized by HO^\bullet (Jeong and Yoon 2004; Faust and Zepp 1993; Kwan and Voelker 2002); (vi) use of HO^\bullet in water treatment processes such as the Advanced Oxidation Technology (AOT), to purify sewerage or industrial wastewater effluents, with the purpose of controlling the organic pollution for sustainable development (Safazadeh-Amiri et al. 1996, 1997; Kang et al. 2000); (vii) damage to macromolecules such as DNA, proteins and lipids, membrane leakage, breakdown of the cellular metabolism, and finally of tissues in biological systems. These processes can be induced by the HO^\bullet , alkoxy (RO^\bullet) and peroxy (ROO^\bullet) radicals, which may be produced by the autooxidation of biomolecules such as ascorbate, catecholamines or thiols in organisms (Paradies et al. 2000; Blokhina et al. 2003; Berlett and Stadtman 1997; von Sonntag 2006).

2.3 Steady-State Concentration and Life-Time of HO^\bullet in Natural Waters

The steady state concentration of HO^\bullet can be determined on the basis of its major sources, which control the total photoinduced formation rate constants, and on sinks or scavengers of HO^\bullet that control the total consumption rate constants in natural

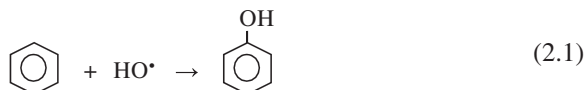
waters (al Housari et al. 2010; Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Arakaki et al. 1999b; Hoigné et al. 1989; Schwarzenbach et al. 1993; Nakatani et al. 2004). DOM and carbonate are the major scavengers or sinks of HO^\bullet in freshwaters (White et al. 2003; Nakatani et al. 2004), but in seawater the bromide (Br^-) ions are actually the main scavengers (Song et al. 1996; Nakatani et al. 2004; Zafriou et al. 1987). The steady-state concentration of HO^\bullet shows a large variability in natural waters. Examples of concentration values reported in the literature are $(3.0\text{--}8.5) \times 10^{-16}$ M in rivers (Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Arakaki et al. 1999b; Nakatani et al. 2004), $(9.41 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-17}$ M to $(1.72 \pm 0.01) \times 10^{-16}$ M in estuarine waters (al Housari et al. 2010), 12×10^{-18} M in coastal surface seawater and 1.1×10^{-18} M in the open ocean (Mopper and Zhou 1990). In Antarctic waters the steady-state concentrations have been determined as 4.3×10^{-19} M in coastal waters and 2.6×10^{-19} M in the open ocean (Qian et al. 2001). Elevated HO^\bullet concentration values (from 6.7×10^{-15} to 4.0×10^{-12} M) have been described in surface stream waters contaminated with acidic mine drainage (AMD). These waters have pH $\sim 2.1\text{--}3.4$, are highly rich of iron ($6\text{--}1203$ mg L^{-1}) and have a high concentration of NO_3^- ($5.9 \times 10^{-6}\text{--}5.8 \times 10^{-3}$ M) (Allen et al. 1996). The reported data suggest that the steady-state concentration of HO^\bullet can be very variable in different water systems. A major caveat that should be considered while comparing different studies is that the irradiation conditions are usually unequal, which accounts for at least part of the variability. However, variations in the steady-state HO^\bullet concentration have also been observed with waters of different origin under the same irradiation conditions. The major factors that account for the variation of the steady-state concentration of HO^\bullet in the aquatic environments are: (i) presence of elevated concentrations of NO_2^- and NO_3^- ions; (ii) presence of the elevated amounts of Fe^{3+} -containing complexes; (iii) occurrence of photo Fenton-type reactions that take place between H_2O_2 and reduced transition metal ions; (iv) amount and nature of the dissolved organic matter (DOM).

The reciprocal of the consumption rate constant allows the assessment of the life-time of HO^\bullet , which is $(2.6\text{--}6.0) \times 10^{-6}$ s in river, dew and cloud water (Arakaki and Faust 1998; Arakaki et al. 1999b; Nakatani et al. 2004) and several times higher ($3.0\text{--}66.0 \times 10^{-6}$ s) in remote polluted clouds, as estimated from a modeling study (Jakob 1986).

2.4 An HPLC Method for Measuring HO^\bullet in Irradiated Natural Waters, Based on Benzene as Probe Molecule

This section reports a detailed description of a possible method that can be adopted for the determination of HO^\bullet , based on benzene as a probe. The description is very detailed to enable the reader easily reproducing a similar experimental set-up. Note that other probe molecules can also be used for HO^\bullet determination, e.g. cumene (isopropylbenzene), pyridine and terephthalic acid (Mill et al. 1980;

Fang et al. 1996). Other substrates, such as benzoic acid and nitrobenzene are less suitable as HO• probe molecules (Vione et al. 2010). The photoinduced generation of HO• can be quantitatively determined by measuring the phenol (Eq. 2.1) that is produced photolytically from benzene + HO•, when natural waters under illumination are added with benzene. For irradiation it is possible to adopt a quartz cell under a Xe lamp or sunlight (Takeda et al. 2004; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data). Note that the light of a xenon lamp should be equipped with special glass filters to filter out the radiation below 300 nm, if one wants to simulate sunlight irradiation.



The phenol concentration can be determined by a HPLC method.

Experimental Details

The benzene solutions (e.g. a ~1 mM stock solution) should be prepared by benzene addition to water, followed by gentle shaking. The solution should be kept for 24-h under dark conditions to mix up benzene well with the water sample. The light intensity of the artificial Xe lamp or sunlight can be determined by measuring the photo-degradation rate of 8- μM standard aqueous solution of 2-nitrobenzaldehyde (2-NB) after illumination in a quartz cell (e.g. 60 mL). The illumination time of 2-NB should usually be kept short, e.g. up to 5 min for an irradiation intensity comparable to that of sunlight. In the case of the transformation reaction of benzene into phenol the irradiation time should be longer (up to 10–20 h), except for samples with unusually elevated HO• production rate. 2-NB can be measured by HPLC–UV. Elution can be carried out with a C18 reverse-phase column. Upon adoption of $\text{H}_2\text{O}:\text{CH}_3\text{CN} = 40:60$ as isocratic eluent at a flow rate of 1 ml min^{-1} , if one employs a (5 μm , $4.6 \times 250 \text{ mm}$) column the retention time of 2-NB could be something around 5 min. The recommended detection wavelength is 260 nm. It is also recommended to remove the air from the eluent before use, by 20–30 min sonication or by magnetic stirring under vacuum.

Phenol can be determined under the same elution conditions, setting the UV detection wavelength at 210 nm or adopting a fluorescence detector. In the latter case, recommended wavelengths are 270 nm for excitation and 297 nm for emission.

Calculations: The concentration of phenol that are produced can be estimated by comparison with a standard. The photo-formation rate of HO• (r_{HO}) can be calculated from Eq. 2.2 (Takeda et al. 2004; Nakataniet al. 2004):

$$r_{\text{HO}} = \frac{r_p}{F_{B,\text{HO}} \times Y_P} \quad (2.2)$$

where r_P is the photo-formation rate of phenol obtained experimentally ($M s^{-1}$), $F_{B,HO}$ is the fraction of HO radicals that react with benzene [i.e., $k_{HO/Ph} \times C_{HO} \times C_{Ph} / (k_{HO/Ph} \times C_{HO} \times C_{Ph} + \sum k_i C_{HO} C_i)$, where i is scavenger], and Y_P is the yield of phenol formed per benzene oxidized by HO^\bullet . It is $Y_P = 0.75 \pm 0.07$ in natural waters (Arakaki and Faust 1998). The $F_{B,OH}$ values are much variable for a variety of natural waters, also depending on the concentration of added benzene and on the amount of the natural HO^\bullet scavengers. For addition of 1.2 mM benzene it has been found $F_{B,HO} = 0.94$ for cloud waters (Arakaki and Faust 1998), 0.92 and 0.99 for rivers, and 0.68 for seawaters (Takeda et al. 2004). The high values of $F_{B,HO}$ in rivers and cloud suggest that most of the HO radicals formed photolytically reacts with benzene. In contrast, the low value in seawater samples suggests the 32–34 % of photolytically formed HO radicals reacts with various scavengers of HO radical other than benzene. There are many scavengers, DOM components, HCO_3^- , CO_3^{2-} , NO_2^- , halides (X^- , but chloride only in acidic medium) etc. that can interact with HO^\bullet in aqueous solution (Zafriou 1974; Mopper and Zhou 1990; Vione et al. 2006; Zepp et al. 1987; Voelker and Sulzberger 1996; Minakata et al. 2009). In seawater, the bromide ion (Br^-) alone scavenges approximately 93 % of photo-generated HO^\bullet (Mopper and Zhou 1990).

To mathematically derive the terms in Eq. 2.2 for any added benzene concentration, one requires a kinetic model where the scavengers and benzene simultaneously react with photogenerated HO^\bullet at the rates R_{SC} and R_B , respectively (Takeda et al. 2004). Under the steady-state condition, the formation rate of HO^\bullet is equal to the consumption rate as follows (Takeda et al. 2004):

$$r_{HO} = r_{SC} + r_B \quad (2.3)$$

$$r_{SC} = k_{SC}[SC][HO]_{SS} = k'_{SC}[HO]_{SS} \quad (2.4)$$

$$r_B = k_B[B][HO]_{SS} \quad (2.5)$$

where k_{SC} is the reaction rate constant of HO radicals with various scavengers in the water sample, $k'_{SC} = k_{SC}[SC]$ is the apparent scavenging rate constant of the HO radical, k_B is the reaction rate constant of HO^\bullet with benzene (i.e., $7.8 \times 10^9 M^{-1} s^{-1}$), $[B]$ is the concentration of benzene added to the water sample (e.g. ~1 mM), and $[HO]_{SS}$ is the steady-state concentration of HO^\bullet . Under conditions where benzene is in excess (i.e., $r_B \gg r_{SC}$), most of the photo-generated HO^\bullet react with benzene, thus $F_{B,HO} \approx 1$. In contrast, in the most general case it is:

$$F_{B,HO} = \frac{r_B}{r_B + R_{SC}} = \frac{[B]}{[B] + k'_{SC}/k_B} \quad (2.6)$$

From Eqs. 2.3–2.6, the phenol formation rate (r_P) can be expressed as:

$$\frac{1}{r_P} = \frac{1}{r_{HO} + Y_P} + \frac{[k'_{SC}]}{r_{HO} + Y_P \times k_B[B]} \quad (2.7)$$

According to Eq. 2.7, the plot of $1/r_p$ versus $1/[B]$ should be straight line (Takeda et al. 2004) and k'_{SC}/k_B can be calculated from the slope and intercept of the plot. Thus, $F_{B,HO}$ can be calculated with Eq. 2.6 using the values of k'_{SC}/k_B and $[B]$.

2.5 Levels of Photoinduced Generation of HO^\bullet in Natural Waters

The production rates of HO^\bullet that have been estimated in a variety of waters, in the presence of standard chemical species (NO_2^- , NO_3^- and H_2O_2) or of standard organic substances under sunlight are summarized in Table 2 (Mopper and Zhou 1990; Takeda et al. 2004; Zepp et al. 1987; Haag and Hoigné 1985; White et al. 2003; Arakaki and Faust 1998; Nakatani et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data; Nakatani et al. 2004; Qian et al. 2001; Allen et al. 1996; Mabury 1993; Grannas et al. 2006; Anastasio and Newberg 2007). The rates are typically varied in a range from 10^{-7} to 10^{-10} $M s^{-1}$ in aqueous solution (Table 2). Production rates in rivers are $(0.6-7.5) \times 10^{-11}$ $M s^{-1}$ in upstream waters, $(0.4-7.4) \times 10^{-8}$ $M s^{-1}$ in upstream waters contaminated with AMD, $(1.0-2.9) \times 10^{-11}$ $M s^{-1}$ in non-polluted river waters, 2.4×10^{-11} $M s^{-1}$ in Ogeechee River, $(2.0-6.0) \times 10^{-10}$ $M s^{-1}$ in Wetland on Lake Erie and Artificial Agricultural wetland, 6.4×10^{-11} $M s^{-1}$ in Rice field water, $(2.0-17.0) \times 10^{-10}$ $M s^{-1}$ in Satilla River and Pine Barrens that have iron-rich waters (Table 2). It is noticeable that the production rates of HO^\bullet are higher by two to five orders of magnitude in stream waters contaminated with AMD (Allen et al. 1996) than in typical river waters. Such an effect might be caused by the photo-Fenton reaction that is considerably favored in the presence of elevated iron contents (Allen et al. 1996; McKnight et al. 1988). Similarly, high production rates of HO^\bullet have been observed in Satilla River water (White et al. 2003), where more than 70 % of the total HO^\bullet production is accounted for by the photo-Fenton reaction. Therefore, the latter process is expected to be the main contributor to HO^\bullet photo-production in iron-rich waters. In contrast, upstream waters mainly contain DOM components (mostly fulvic and humic acids) that are the major contributors to HO^\bullet photo-production in these systems. A possible pathway that yields HO^\bullet from DOM is the photoinduced formation of H_2O_2 (Eqs. 3.13–3.18, see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”), which could induce the photo-Fenton reaction in the presence of Fe or produce HO^\bullet by direct photolysis (Nakatani et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data). An alternative explanation for the production of HO^\bullet from DOM is the oxidation of water by the excited triplet states ($^3DOM^*$) (Brigante et al. 2010).

In lake water the production rates of HO^\bullet are very variable, ranging from 1.8×10^{-13} to 4.6×10^{-11} $M s^{-1}$ (Table 2). The HO^\bullet photo-production depends on the irradiation wavelength. For instance, the formation rate of HO^\bullet observed on extracted lake DOM under sunlight is higher [$(1.6-1.8) \times 10^{-10}$ $M s^{-1}$ at 308 nm]

Table 2 Production rates of hydroxyl radical (HO^\bullet) reported from natural waters, standard nitrite (NO_2^-) nitrate (NO_3^-) and various standard organic substances

Type of samples/substances	Sample	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of $\text{HO}^\bullet \times 10^{-11}$ (M s^{-1})	References
<i>Rivers</i>				
Stream, contaminated with acid mine drainage	Freshwater-polluted	Sunlight	400–7,400	Allen et al. (1996)
Kurose River (upstream): 1 site	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	1.8	Takeda et al. (2004)
Kurose River (downstream regions): 7 sites	Freshwater-sewage polluted	Xe lamp ^b	17–89	Takeda et al. (2004)
Ohta River (upstream regions): 4 sites	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	0.6–1.1	Takeda et al. (2004)
Ohta River (downstream regions): 4 sites	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	1.0–2.6	Takeda et al. (2004)
Kurose River (upstream regions): 2 sites	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	7.0–0.5	Nakatani et al. (2004)
Kurose River (downstream): 2 sites	Freshwater-sewage polluted	Xe lamp ^b	17–33	Nakatani et al. (2007)
River waters: upstream & downstream: 33 sites	Freshwater-sewage polluted	Xe lamp ^b	0.78–530	Nakatani et al. (2007)
Kurose River (upstream regions): 2 sites	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	0.9–2.5	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Kurose River (downstream regions): 4 sites	Freshwater-sewage polluted	Xe lamp ^b	8.0–570	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Ohta River (upstream regions): 3 sites	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	1.3–1.8	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Ohta River (downstream regions): 3 sites	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	1.7–2.9	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Ogeechee River	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	24.0	White et al. (2003)
Satilla River	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	45.0	White et al. (2003)
Satilla River (bleached)	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	20.0	White et al. (2003)
Pine Barrens	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	170.0	White et al. (2003)
Wetland on Lake Erie	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	20–26	White et al. (2003)
Artificial agricultural wetland	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	23.0	White et al. (2003)
Rice Field water	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	64.0	Mabury (1993)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances	Sample	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of HO [*] × 10 ⁻¹¹ (Ms ⁻¹)	References
<i>Lakes</i>				
Lake Greifensee, Switzerland	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	1.0	Haag and Hoigné (1985)
Lake Greifensee, Switzerland	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	2.5	Zepp et al. (1987)
Clear Lake	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	4.6	Mabury (1993)
Lake Tahoe	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	2.2	Mabury (1993)
Nitrate-rich shallow water body	Freshwater	Xe lamp ^b	0.018	Zepp et al. (1987)
DOM extracted-XAD, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	308 nm	18	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-XAD, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	330 nm	8.1	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-XAD, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	355 nm	5.6	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-C-18, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	308 nm	18	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-C-18, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	330 nm	6.4	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-C-18, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	355 nm	6.1	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-UF, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	308 nm	16	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-UF, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	330 nm	8.1	Grannas et al. (2006)
DOM extracted-UF, Toolik Lake	Freshwater	355 nm	4.7	Grannas et al. (2006)
<i>Seawaters</i>				
Everglades	Seawater	Sunlight	42.0	Mopper and Zhou (1990)
Biscayne Bay	Seawater	Sunlight	2.9	Mopper and Zhou (1990)
Vineyard Sound	Seawater	Sunlight	2.7	Mopper and Zhou (1990)
Mississippi River Plume	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	6.2	White et al. (2003)
Florida Keys	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.43	White et al. (2003)
Seto Inland Sea: 0 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	1.5	Takeda et al. (2004)
Seto Inland Sea: 5 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.57	Takeda et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances	Sample	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of HO [•] × 10 ⁻¹¹ (Ms ⁻¹)	References
Seto Inland Sea: 10 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.91	Takeda et al. (2004)
Seto Inland Sea: 15 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	1.0	Takeda et al. (2004)
Seto Inland Sea: 20 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	2.4	Takeda et al. (2004)
Seto Inland Sea: 30 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	4.9	Takeda et al. (2004)
Yellow Sea: 0 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.39	Takeda et al. (2004)
Yellow Sea: 20 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.36	Takeda et al. (2004)
Yellow Sea: 30 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.49	Takeda et al. (2004)
Yellow Sea: 40 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.82	Takeda et al. (2004)
Yellow Sea: 50 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.73	Takeda et al. (2004)
Yellow Sea: 60 m depth	Seawater	Xe lamp ^b	0.72	Takeda et al. (2004)
Gulf Stream	Seawater	Sunlight	0.31	Mopper and Zhou (1990)
Sargasso Sea	Seawater	Sunlight	0.28	Mopper and Zhou (1990)
Weddel Sea, Antarctic	Seawater	Sunlight	0.10	Qian et al. (2001)
Crystal Sound, Antarctic	Seawater	Sunlight	0.10	Qian et al. (2001)
Paradise Harbor, Antarctic	Seawater	Sunlight	0.01	Qian et al. (2001)
<i>Standard substances</i>				
NO ₂ ⁻	Seawater	Sunlight	2.30	Mopper and Zhou (1990)
NO ₂ ⁻	Milli-Q water	Sunlight	2.80	Arakaki and Faust (1998)
NO ₂ ⁻	Milli-Q water	Sunlight	2.30	Takeda et al. (2004)
NO ₂ ⁻	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	2.20	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
NO ₃ ⁻	Fresh water	Sunlight	0.03	Zepp et al. (1987)
NO ₃ ⁻	Seawater	Sunlight	0.03	Mopper and Zhou (1990)
NO ₃ ⁻	Milli-Q water	Sunlight	0.02	Arakaki and Faust (1998)
NO ₃ ⁻	Milli-Q water	Sunlight	0.02	Takeda et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Type of samples/substances	Sample	Source of light/ wavelength (nm)	Production rate of HO [•] × 10 ⁻¹¹ (Ms ⁻¹)	References
NO ₃ ⁻	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	0.01	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA)	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	1.20	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
SRFA	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	6.00	White et al. (2003)
Tryptophan	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	1.70	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Suwannee River Humic Acid (SRHA)	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	1.10	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Phenylalanine	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	0.40	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
DAS1	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	0.31	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
DSBP	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	0.30	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
H ₂ O ₂	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	0.26	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Peracetic acid	Milli-Q water	Xe lamp ^b	0.25	Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data) ^a
Sea-salt particulate matter, extracted from coastal waters	Seawater	summer, midday, ~2778–2778 sunlight	~2778–2778	Anastasio and Newberg (2007)

^aProduction rates (Mostofa and Sakugawa) calculated for initial 60 min irradiation and normalized to sunlight intensity (noon time) using 2 nitro benzaldehyde solution (8 mM) at the Campus of Hiroshima University, Japan as well as the rates for standard substances mentioned here is calculated after deduction of rate of MQ water

Rates for standard organic substances adjusted for 1 mg L⁻¹ of each substances

^bXe light intensity is normalized to sunlight intensity

for shorter wavelength than for longer one [$(4.7\text{--}6.1) \times 10^{-11} \text{ M s}^{-1}$ at 355 nm] in a variety of lake waters (Table 2) (Grannas et al. 2006). Thus, the production of HO^\bullet greatly depends on the light wavelength.

In seawater, the HO^\bullet production rate is higher [$(4.3\text{--}42.0) \times 10^{-12} \text{ M s}^{-1}$] in coastal waters than in the open ocean [$(2.8\text{--}3.1) \times 10^{-12} \text{ M s}^{-1}$], and it is very low [$(1.04\text{--}10.3) \times 10^{-13} \text{ M s}^{-1}$] in Antarctic waters (Table 2). The production rates of HO^\bullet are lower in surface seawater and gradually increase with increasing depth (Takeda et al. 2004; Zafriou and Dister 1991). For example, the production rate of HO^\bullet is $(5.7\text{--}15.0) \times 10^{-12} \text{ M s}^{-1}$ at 0–20 m depth, $4.9 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M s}^{-1}$ at 30 m, and $7.2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M s}^{-1}$ at 60 m in Seto Inland Sea and the Yellow Sea (Takeda et al. 2004), obviously under the same irradiation conditions that is not the case of the real environment. The lower production rates at the surface compared to the deeper layers may be caused by the fact that the natural solar radiation is active in surface waters where it produces HO^\bullet and other reactive transients. These species can lead to the photo-degradation of DOM (e.g. photo-bleaching that reduces the ability of DOM to absorb sunlight), a process to which the direct photolysis could also contribute. Therefore, the sources of HO^\bullet in surface waters can be reduced, e.g. by decreasing the concentration of NO_2^- and the capability of DOM to photo-generate HO^\bullet . The intensity of solar radiation that reaches the deeper layers is quite limited. Therefore, the deep water has the double feature of generating the highest potentiality to produce HO^\bullet , but also of being involved to a very limited extent into HO^\bullet photo-production in the real natural environment. An important exception could be represented by the sites where the deep oceanic water emerges to the surface.

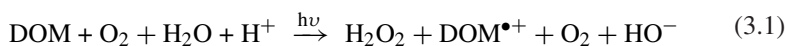
Studies observe that the sea-salt particulate matter (SS PM) extracted from coastal seawaters can demonstrate substantially high HO^\bullet production (rate: $\sim 2778\text{--}27778 \text{ M s}^{-1}$), approximately 3–4 orders of magnitude greater than HO^\bullet photoformation rates in surface seawater (Anastasio and Newberg 2007). The results show that photolysis of nitrate is a dominant source of HO^\bullet (on average $59 \pm 25\%$) in the SS PM whilst other source is presumably considered the organic compounds. The fact behind the other phenomenon is that irradiated organic compounds or DOM can induce photoinduced production of H_2O_2 that is a HO^\bullet source via photolysis or the Fenton reaction, and the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 is enhanced by salinity. Salinity or NaCl solutions are capable of generating high production of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) photolytically in aqueous media (Gopinathan et al. 1972; Assel et al. 1998) that may enhance the H_2O_2 production from DOM components in waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Moore et al. 1993) (see also chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”). In fact, photogeneration of H_2O_2 from river DOM was substantially increased with salinity, from 15 to 368 nM h^{-1} at circumneutral pH that may enhance the H_2O_2 production from DOM components in waters (Osburn et al. 2009). Salinity effect on irradiated CDOM might be another most important source of high photoproduction of HO^\bullet in sea-salt particulate matter in seawaters.

3 Mechanisms for Photoinduced Generation of HO• in Natural Waters

The photoinduced generation of HO• significantly depends on several important factors such as the presence of NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ and their concentration, the chemical nature of DOM and its quantity, and finally the total content of Fe. The most important mechanisms for HO• formation in natural waters are discussed below.

3.1 *In situ* Generation of HO• from DOM

One of the main HO• sources in natural waters (Table 2) (Vione et al. 2006; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data) is the photoinduced generation of HO• from DOM components (either Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter-FDOM or Colored Dissolved Organic Matter-CDOM). This process can be accounted for either by the oxidation of water by the triplet states ³DOM*, or by the generation of H₂O₂ upon DOM irradiation (reaction 3.1) and its detailed mechanisms are discussed in earlier chapter (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”). In the latter case, HO• could be produced upon photolysis of H₂O₂ (Eq. 3.2) (Legrini et al. 1993; von Sonntag et al. 1993).



The quantum yield of reaction 3.2 has been determined as 0.5 under UVC irradiation (Legrini et al. 1993; von Sonntag et al. 1993). The quantum yield varies with wavelength, but it also depends on the band that absorbs radiation. In the case of H₂O₂, the same band is responsible for radiation absorption and photolysis in both the UVC and UVB regions. The hypothesis that the formation of HO• by irradiated DOM is accounted for by H₂O₂ photoproduction. It is consistent with the observed, gradual and parallel increase of H₂O₂ concentration and of phenol formation from benzene, upon irradiation of natural river waters and of relevant standard organic substances (Fig. 2). A similar, parallel trend of both phenol (its formation being used as HO• probe) and H₂O₂ has been observed upon irradiation of upstream DOM mostly containing fulvic acid (Fig. 2a), of standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA) (Fig. 2c) and of diaminostilbene type (DAS1) (Fig. 2d). The same trend has not been observed in sewage polluted river waters (Fig. 2b), which might be the effect of additional production from other HO• sources such as the NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ ions, present in high amount (Takeda

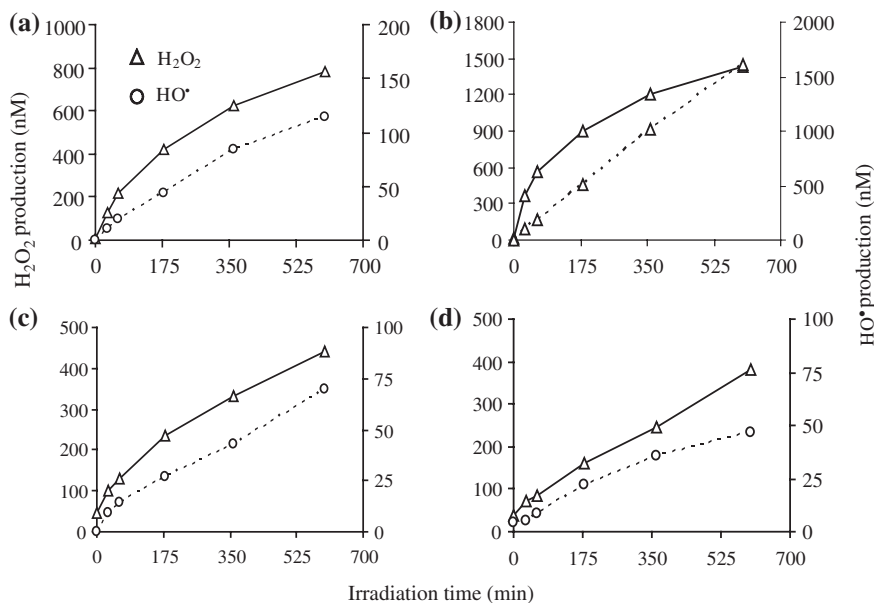
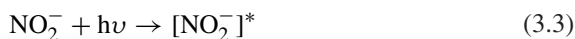


Fig. 2 In-situ generation of H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet for river waters and standard organic substances during the 10 h of irradiation period in photoexperiments conducted using a solar simulator. Upstream DOM having mostly fulvic acid (a); polluted river waters, mostly affected by mixture of sewage effluents and upstream DOM (b); standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (c); and standard diaminostilbene (DAS1) (d). *Data source* Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data)

et al. 2004; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data; Nakatani et al. 2004). Therefore, the generation of H_2O_2 by DOM could account for most of the production of HO^\bullet by unpolluted water samples, with a relatively elevated content of fulvic acid in DOM (Fig. 3) and a relatively low concentration of other HO^\bullet sources, such as nitrate, nitrite and Fe.

3.2 Direct Photolysis of Nitrate and Nitrite

The direct photolysis of nitrite and nitrate induces HO^\bullet photoproduction (Zafriou and True 1979a, b; Takeda et al. 2004; Zepp et al. 1987; Mack and Bolton 1999). There is evidence that irradiation in the 200–400 nm wavelength region can convert NO_2^- into NO^\bullet and $\text{O}^{\bullet-}$ (Eqs. 3.3, 3.4) (Zepp et al. 1987; Mack and Bolton 1999):



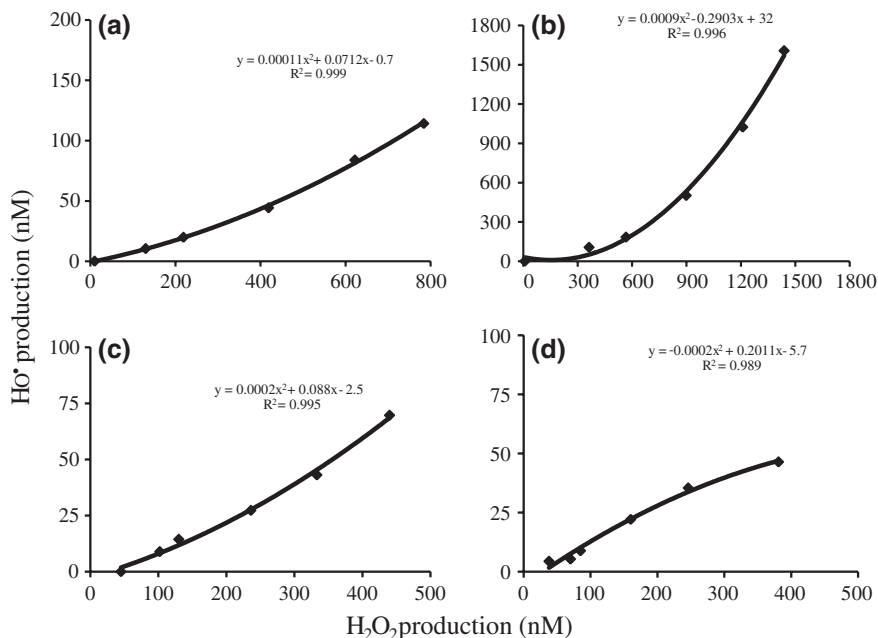
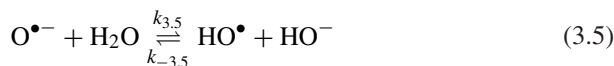


Fig. 3 Relationship between H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet in situ produced from river waters and standard organic substance during the 10 h of irradiation period in photoexperiments conducted using a solar simulator. The relationships of the (a, b, c and d) are the same samples of Fig. 1. *Data source* Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H (unpublished data)

At $\text{pH} < 12$ in aqueous solution, $\text{O}^{\bullet-}$ is protonated to form HO^\bullet :



where $k_{3,5} = 1.7 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for the HO^\bullet formation reaction and $k_{-3,5} = 1.2 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for the reverse reaction. The radical HO^\bullet can significantly recombine with NO^\bullet and NO_2^- ; such reactions are very fast (diffusion-controlled) in aqueous media (Mack and Bolton 1999):



where $k_{3,6} = 1.0 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

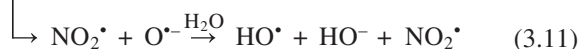
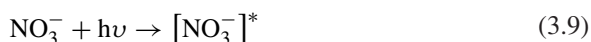


where $k_{3,7} = 1.0 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. These reactions can limit the steady-state concentration of HO^\bullet and, therefore, the ability of the hydroxyl radical to take part in photooxidation reactions of organic compounds in natural waters. Note, however, that the main HO^\bullet scavengers are DOM in freshwater and bromide in seawater (Takeda et al. 2004).

As far as NO_3^- photolysis is concerned (Eq. 3.8), the process can be expressed as follows (Zepp et al. 1987; Mack and Bolton 1999):



This stoichiometry can be followed in the absence of HO^\bullet scavengers, over the entire pH range and at irradiation wavelength around 200 nm (Shuali et al. 1969; Wagner et al. 1980). However, irradiation above 280 nm results into two primary photoinduced pathways (Zepp et al. 1987; Mack and Bolton 1999):

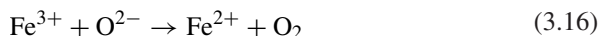


In this mechanism, NO_3^- absorbs a UVB photon yielding an excited state, $[\text{NO}_3^-]^*$ (Eq. 3.9), which undergoes disintegration following two pathways: the first one produces the nitrite ion (NO_2^-) and atomic oxygen, $\text{O}({}^3\text{P})$ (Eq. 3.10). The second pathway produces nitrogen dioxide (NO_2^\bullet) and $\text{O}^{\bullet-}$. The latter is rapidly protonated to form HO^\bullet (Eq. 3.11). The formation of NO_2^- in Eq. 3.10 can be followed by nitrite photolysis to give HO^\bullet , as shown in (Eqs. 3.3–3.5). It can be noted that HO^\bullet is a strong oxidant that can react with DOM more quickly than does atomic oxygen, $\text{O}({}^3\text{P})$. Indeed, the main fate of $\text{O}({}^3\text{P})$ (Eq. 3.4) would be the reaction with oxygen to form ozone, which is rapidly consumed in natural waters by reaction with NO_2^- or decomposition to HO^\bullet (Zepp et al. 1987).

3 HO^\bullet Production from the Fenton Reaction

The ferrous ions (Fe^{2+}) catalyzes the formation of HO^\bullet in the presence of H_2O_2 (Fenton 1894). An aqueous solution of H_2O_2 and ferrous or ferric salts is termed as Fenton's reagent. The oxidation efficiency of the Fenton reaction is the highest at pH values ranging from 2 to 5 and at a 1:1 molar ratio of H_2O_2 and Fe^{2+} (Walling 1975). The reactivity of the Fenton's reagent is the effect of the generation of HO^\bullet in the reaction media (Haber and Weiss 1934). The mechanism for the chain Fenton reaction was initially depicted as follows (Eqs. 3.12–3.16) (Barb et al. 1951):





Recently, the reaction rate constants of the Fenton system have been measured at various pH values, an issue that will be discussed later (Kwan and Voelker 2002; Duesterberg et al. 2008). At low $[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]/[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ ratios in both reactions (3.12) and (3.13), only the reactions are important, and the overall process is second-order with respect to the reactants. At high $[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]/[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ ratios, there is also an important contribution from the competitive reactions (3.15, 3.16) (Rush and Bielski 1985). The earlier studies have examined the Fenton reaction at low pH (<1.0) with the reactants at mM levels. The production of HO^\bullet from $\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ is also important in AOTs, as it allows the use of transition metals to catalyze the oxidation of organic compounds.

Recent studies demonstrate that the formation of HO^\bullet increases linearly with the H_2O_2 concentration (Lindsey and Tarr 2000). Experiments carried out using ESR spin trapping together with water labeled with ^{17}O suggest that HO^\bullet is derived exclusively from hydrogen peroxide, and that there is no exchange of oxygen atoms between H_2O_2 and the water solvent (Lloyd et al. 1997). It has been demonstrated that fulvic and humic acid reduce the HO^\bullet formation in the Fenton reaction under most conditions, but fulvic acid increases HO^\bullet formation at certain pH values (Lindsey and Tarr 2000; Voelker and Sulzberger 1996). Fulvic acid can inhibit the degradation of dissolved aromatic compounds (e.g. phenol, fluorene and phenanthrene) by the Fenton reagent in aqueous solution (Lindsey and Tarr 2000). Accordingly, natural organic matter could inhibit the remediation of pollutants by the Fenton process in water and soil environments. However, it has also been shown that humic acids are able to enhance the degradation of phenol in the second step of the Fenton process. Indeed, after the reaction between Fe^{2+} and H_2O_2 is completed, further degradation of the organic substrate can be directed by the reduction of Fe(III) to Fe^{2+} . The latter process is enhanced by humic substances (Vione et al. 2004).

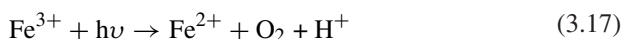
Indeed, the ferric ion (Fe^{3+}) catalyzes the decomposition of H_2O_2 into HO^\bullet and Fe^{2+} ($\text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{HO}_2^\bullet + \text{H}^+$) (Barb et al. 1951; Walling and Weil 1974; Lee et al. 2003; Lee and Sedlak 2009). The rate of the Fenton process is greatly enhanced when the temperature is raised from 10 to 50 °C, because of the high activation energy ($\approx 126 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$) of the reaction (Lee et al. 2003). A high production of Fe^{2+} causes a correspondingly high production of HO^\bullet in the reaction system (Eq. 3.12).

The effective catalytic oxidation of organic compounds by the system $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ is usually limited to the acidic pH region, because of the low solubility of Fe^{3+} and of the low efficiency of the oxidant generation at neutral pH values (Lee and Sedlak 2009). The addition of polyoxometalate ions (POM) greatly

increases the yield of oxidant species in the reaction. Under acidic conditions, POM can mediate the electron transfer from nanoparticle zerovalent iron or Fe(II) to oxygen, thereby increasing the production of H₂O₂. The latter is subsequently converted to HO• through the Fenton reaction (Lee et al. 2008).

3.4 HO• Production from the Photo-Fenton Reaction

The reactivity of the Fenton's reagent, and in particular of Fe³⁺ + H₂O₂ is greatly enhanced by UV/Visible irradiation ($\lambda < 580$ nm), which can for instance increase the extent of mineralization of organic pollutants (Zepp et al. 1992; Voelker et al. 1997; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Nakatani et al. 2007; Vermilyea and Voelker 2009). The photo-Fenton reaction is defined as the reaction of photoproducted Fe²⁺ with H₂O₂ to form the highly reactive HO• (Eqs. 3.17, 3.18). The main chemical reactions occurring in the photo-Fenton system are the following:



Irradiation of Fe(III) species causes the production of Fe²⁺ and possibly of HO• (e.g. in the photolysis of the complex FeOH²⁺). In the presence of H₂O₂, further HO• is produced by the Fenton process between H₂O₂ itself and the photogenerated Fe²⁺. The latter reaction yields again Fe(III), but continuing irradiation may recycle Fe(III) to Fe(II) in the reaction media. Therefore, it is possible to continuously generate HO• under irradiation without any net consumption of Fe(II), which significantly accelerates the overall reaction rate in the photo-Fenton system. The HO• formation in the photo-Fenton system is limited only by the availability of radiation and by the content of H₂O₂ in the reaction medium. The photo-Fenton reaction is observed in open ocean whereas vertical profiles of Fe(II) show maxima consistent with the plume of the iron infusion whilst H₂O₂ profiles demonstrate a corresponding minima showing the effect of oxidation of Fe(II) by H₂O₂ (Croot et al. 2005). Observations also show that the detectable Fe(II) concentrations can exist for up to 8 days after an iron infusion (Croot et al. 2005).

3.5 HO• Production from Photo-Ferrioxalate/H₂O₂ Reaction

The photo-ferrioxalate/H₂O₂ reaction is an advanced modification of the photo-Fenton reaction and an effective technique of generating Fe(II) in the reaction media. The addition of oxalate to the photo-Fenton system significantly accelerates the HO• production under UV/visible irradiation ($\lambda < 550$ nm) (Eqs. 3.19–3.25; Table 3) (Hislop and Bolton 1999; Jeong and Yoon 2005;

Table 3 The reaction rate constants for the production of HO[•] in photo-ferrinoxalate/H₂O₂ reaction

Reaction type	Rate constant (<i>k</i>) (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)	Equations	References
Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) _n ³⁻²ⁿ + hv → Fe ²⁺ + (n-1)C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ + C ₂ O ₄ ^{•-}	–	3.19	Jeong and Yoon (2005)
C ₂ O ₄ ^{•-} → CO ₂ + CO ₂ ^{•-}	2 × 10 ¹²	3.20	Mulazzani et al. (1986)
Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) _n ³⁻²ⁿ + CO ₂ ^{•-} → CO ₂ + Fe ^{II} (C ₂ O ₄) _n ²⁻²ⁿ	≈ 8 × 10 ⁹	3.21	Jeong and Yoon (2004)
CO ₂ ^{•-} + O ₂ → CO ₂ + O ₂ ^{•-}	2.4 × 10 ⁹	3.22	Hislop and Bolton (1999)
Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) _n ³⁻²ⁿ + O ₂ ^{•-} → O ₂ + Fe ^{II} (C ₂ O ₄) _n ²⁻²ⁿ	< 1 × 10 ⁶	3.23	Sedlak and Hoigné (1993)
Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) _n ³⁻²ⁿ + HO ₂ [•] → O ₂ + Fe ^{II} (C ₂ O ₄) _n ²⁻²ⁿ	< 1.2 × 10 ⁵	3.24	Sedlak and Hoigné (1993)
Fe ^{II} (C ₂ O ₄) + H ₂ O ₂ → Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) ⁺ + HO [•] + OH ⁻	3.1 × 10 ⁴	3.25	Sedlak and Hoigné (1993)
Fe ²⁺ + HO [•] → Fe ^{III} (OH) ²⁺	4.3 × 10 ⁸	3.26	Zuo and Hoigné (1992)
Fe ^{III} (OH) ²⁺ + hv → Fe ²⁺ + HO [•]	Negligible	3.27	Jeong and Yoon (2005)
Fe ³⁺ + O ₂ ^{•-} → Fe ²⁺ + O ₂	1.5 × 10 ⁸	3.28	Balmer and Sulzberger (1999)
C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ + HO [•] → CO ₂ + CO ₂ ^{•-} + OH ⁻	7.7 × 10 ⁶	3.29	Buxton et al. (1988)
HC ₂ O ₄ ⁻ + HO [•] → CO ₂ + CO ₂ ^{•-} + H ₂ O	4.7 × 10 ⁷	3.30	Buxton et al. (1988)
CPAA ^a + HO [•] → products	3.0 × 10 ⁹	3.31	Pignatello (1992)
<i>Equilibrium reactions</i>			
Fe ³⁺ + C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ ↔ Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) ⁺	2.5 × 10 ⁹	3.32	Faust and Zepp (1993)
Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) ⁺ + C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ ↔ Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) ₂ ⁻	6.3 × 10 ⁶	3.33	Faust and Zepp (1993)
Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) ₂ ⁻ + C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ ↔ Fe ^{III} (C ₂ O ₄) ₃ ³⁻	3.8 × 10 ⁴	3.34	Faust and Zepp (1993)
Fe ²⁺ + C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ ↔ Fe ^{II} (C ₂ O ₄)	2.0 × 10 ⁵	3.35	Faust and Zepp (1993)
Fe ^{II} (C ₂ O ₄) + C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ ↔ Fe ^{II} (C ₂ O ₄) ₂ ²⁻	1.2 × 10 ²	3.36	Faust and Zepp (1993)
HC ₂ O ₄ ⁺ ↔ C ₂ O ₄ ²⁻ + H ⁺	6.2 × 10 ¹	3.37	Zuo and Hoigné (1992)
HO ₂ [•] ↔ O ₂ ^{•-} + H ⁺	6.2 × 10 ¹	3.38	Bielski et al. (1985)

^aCPAA means the 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid

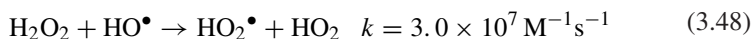
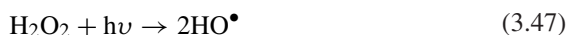
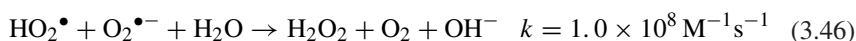
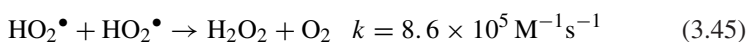
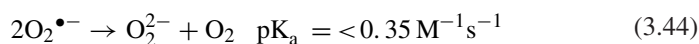
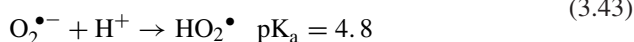
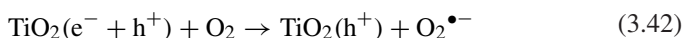
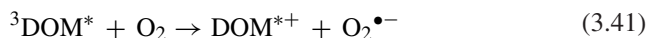
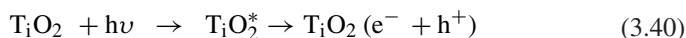
Bielski et al. 1985; Mulazzani et al. 1986; Jeong and Yoon 2004; Buxton et al. 1988; Pignatello 1992; Zuo and Hoigné 1992; Sedlak and Hoigné 1993; Balmer and Sulzberger 1999). In the photo-Fenton reaction, the HO^\bullet radical is formed photolytically from $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})^{2+}$ (Eq. 3.27). The relevant reaction mainly takes place at pH 2.5–5 (Eq. 3.26), but its quantum yield is relatively low: $\varphi_{\text{Fe(II)}} = 0.14 \pm 0.04$ at 313 nm and $\varphi_{\text{HO}} = 0.195 \pm 0.03$ at 310 nm (Hislop and Bolton 1999). When Fe(III) is complexed with a carboxylic anion (e.g. oxalate), the quantum yield of Fe(II) production ($\varphi_{\text{Fe(II)}}$) is significantly increased to $\varphi_{\text{Fe(II)}} = 1.24$, at 300 nm, pH = ~2 and 6 mM ferrioxalate (Murov et al. 1993). This result is accounted for by the considerable photosensitive nature of the ferrioxalate complex $[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3]^{3-}$, which combines elevated absorption of visible radiation with a very high quantum yield of Fe^{2+} photoproduction. Interestingly, the photolysis of the ferrioxalate complex generates an additional reactive radical species, the carbon dioxide radical anion ($\text{CO}_2^{\bullet-}$) (Eqs. 3.19–3.21; Table 3).

The radical $\text{CO}_2^{\bullet-}$ can produce Fe(II) via reaction (Eq. 3.21) and by other reaction pathways (Eqs. 3.23, 3.24). The kinetic and equilibrium constants for the photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reaction are shown in Table 3. $\text{CO}_2^{\bullet-}$ can react with oxygen to form the superoxide anion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) (Eq. 3.22), which can further enhance the quantum yield for the generation of Fe^{2+} (Eqs. 3.23, 3.24, 3.28) and contributes to the production of H_2O_2 (Eq. 3.17). When ferrioxalate is irradiated in the presence of H_2O_2 under ideal conditions, a radical HO^\bullet is produced by the Fenton reaction per every Fe(II) generated (Eq. 3.25, Table 3). In the reaction media (Eq. 3.25), both uncoordinated Fe^{2+} and $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)$ can react with H_2O_2 . Therefore one gets an overall, apparent second-order rate constant for the reaction between Fe(II) and H_2O_2 . In the presence of excess oxalate, Fe(III) will be coordinated with either two or three oxalate ligands. Fe(III) is recycled to Fe(II) in both the photo-Fenton and the photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reaction. In the latter case the formation of HO^\bullet depends on the availability of radiation, H_2O_2 and oxalate, the latter two components being consumed by the reaction. The enhancement of HO^\bullet photoproduction that is observed upon addition of oxalate depends on the very high photolysis quantum yield of the Fe(III)-oxalate complex(es), which largely compensates for the facts that the photolysis of Fe(III)-oxalate, unlike that of FeOH^{2+} , does not yield HO^\bullet , and that oxalate is a HO^\bullet scavenger.

3.6 HO^\bullet Production from Photocatalytic Metal Oxide (TiO_2) Suspensions

Titanium dioxide is the most frequently used metal oxide photocatalyst, which undergoes excitation at near-UV wavelengths. The irradiation by sunlight of aqueous suspensions of TiO_2 can induce very significant generation of HO^\bullet in aqueous solution. Below it is reported a general scheme of HO^\bullet photo-production, proposed in early studies to describe the behavior of aqueous suspensions of TiO_2 in the presence of DOM (Konstantinou and Albanis 2004; Murov et al. 1993; Tseng

and Haug 1991; Fox 1993; Chen et al. 2001; Han et al. 2009) (Eqs. 3.13–3.18, see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”):



Major oxidants arising upon UV irradiation of TiO_2 are the valence-band holes (h^+), which can be trapped by surface Ti-OH^- groups to yield Ti-HO^{\bullet} radical species (surface-bound HO^{\bullet} or $\text{HO}^{\bullet}_{\text{ads}}$). In contrast, the conduction-band electrons (e^-) can be trapped to form surface and sub-surface Ti^{III} species: The latter can react with dissolved oxygen to give hydrogen peroxide radical (HO_2^{\bullet}), which disproportionates to H_2O_2 that is photolyzed to give HO^{\bullet} in solution (Murov et al. 1993; Tseng and Haug 1991; Fox 1993).

As already reported, a semiconductor photocatalyst generates electron/hole pairs upon irradiation, with free electrons produced in a nearly empty conduction band and positive holes remaining in the valence band (Bard 1979; Schiavello 1987). The lifetime of an electron/hole pair can vary from a few nano-seconds to a few hours depending on the ambient conditions (Pleskov and Gurevich 1986). Once formed the HO^{\bullet} radical (surface-bound or in solution) reacts with organic compounds, which results into the heterogeneous photocatalytic degradation of organic contaminants in solution (Sun and Bolton 1996; Ullah et al. 1998; Konstantinou and Albanis 2004; Tseng and Haug 1991; Fox 1993; Han et al. 2009; Prousek 1996; Vione et al. 2001; Muñoz et al. 2006; Saquib et al. 2008).

3.7 Photoinduced Generation of HO• from Algae

Recent studies demonstrate that chlorophyll *a* and algae can photolytically produce HO• in natural waters (Li et al. 2008; Dykens et al. 1992; Oda et al. 1992). It is hypothesized that HO• is produced by H₂O₂ (Eq. 3.2), which is initially formed in irradiated aqueous suspensions of algae. The photo formation of H₂O₂ from algae is a well-known phenomenon in natural waters (Lehninger 1970; Zepp et al. 1987; Collen et al. 1995), which has been explained in detail in the second chapter (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”). As found by in vitro studies carried out in aerated water–acetone mixtures, the generation of H₂O₂ proceeds through the photo-formation of superoxide ion by chlorophyll *a* (You and Fong 1986). It has been shown that the HO• photoproduction increases with increasing algal concentration and irradiation time (Li et al. 2008). It has also been shown that for the marine microalga *Dunaliella salina*, the HO• production is significantly enhanced by the addition of Pb(II), or by Pb(II) and methylmercury. However, the HO• production is decreased by addition of methylmercury only, suggesting a complex effect of metal pollution on the HO• production from algae suspensions (Li et al. 2008).

4 Factors Controlling the Production and Decay of HO• in Natural Waters

Major sources of HO• in irradiated natural waters are NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻, H₂O₂, photo-Fenton reaction (which depends on the concentrations of Fe and H₂O₂), humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), tryptophan amino acid, autochthonous and even unknown DOM components as well as anthropogenic DOM such as components of household detergents or fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs) such as (DAS1) and distyryl biphenyl (DSBP) (Table 2). The concentration values and, in the case of DOM, also the nature of these species are very variable among rivers, lakes and oceans, which significantly affects the HO• sources in natural waters (Takeda et al. 2004; White et al. 2003; Nakatani et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data; Mostofa et al. 2005; Zika et al. 1993). Interestingly, the concentration values of NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ in surface seawaters are lowered by solar irradiation that induces transformation reactions. This is a key factor that limits the role of nitrite and nitrate as HO• sources in the surface seawater layer. Unknown or little known photoinduced HO• sources in natural waters are still poorly characterized DOM components such as humic substances (fulvic and humic acid), amino acids, proteins, components of detergents or FWAs, as well as their daughter photoproducts, unidentified organic compounds and photo-Fenton reactions. Therefore, the production of HO• in natural waters depends on several factors, which can be listed as: (1) Wavelength spectrum of solar radiation; (2) Nature and contents of DOM; (3) Consumption of HO• by DOM and other

chemical species; (4) Nitrite and nitrate: Effect of wavelength spectrum, temperature, and pH; (5) H_2O_2 : Effect of wavelength spectrum and temperature; (6) Fenton reaction: Effect of pH, temperature and salinity; (7) Photo-Fenton reaction; and (8) Photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reaction: Dependence of pH and reactants. These issues will be discussed below.

4.1 Wavelength Spectrum of Solar Radiation

The production of HO^\bullet significantly depends on the spectrum of the incident radiation in the ultraviolet (UVC = 200–280 nm; UVB = 280–320 nm; UVA = 320–400 nm) and visible (400–700 nm) regions. Note that UVC radiation is not present in the sunlight spectrum in the troposphere. The maximum HO^\bullet photo-production has been observed upon UVB irradiation of three DOM fractions isolated from lake water, and it decreased at higher wavelengths (Grannas et al. 2006). A rough estimation shows that the HO^\bullet production is approximately 191–247 % and 103–178 % higher at 308 nm than at 355 and 330 nm, respectively. The photoproduction of HO^\bullet by nitrate is only induced by UVB radiation, while the production of HO^\bullet by nitrite and DOM can take place under both UVB and UVA. Note that UVA radiation is able to penetrate more deeply than UVB into the water bodies (Mopper and Zhou 1990; Zafriou and Bonneau 1987; Zellner et al. 1990; Qian et al. 2001). H_2O_2 generates HO^\bullet (Eq. 3.2) mostly by non-environmental UVC with quantum yield around 0.5, but the radiation absorption by H_2O_2 is extended to the UVB region and the photolysis quantum yield is expected to be similar (Legrini et al. 1993; von Sonntag et al. 1993). During non-ozone hole conditions, HO^\bullet formation from nitrate contributed ~33 % to the total HO^\bullet photoinduced generation in open oceanic surface waters, while the role of DOM plus nitrite was ~67 % (Qian et al. 2001). During an ozone hole event (e.g., 151 Dobson units) the corresponding results were ~40 and 60 % for nitrate and DOM plus nitrite, respectively, because of an increase in UVB irradiance that enhanced the photolysis of nitrate. A model estimation of HO^\bullet photoinduced generation in Antarctic seawater during an ozone hole (151 Dobson units) shows that the production is enhanced by at least 20 %, mostly from nitrate photolysis and to a minor extent from DOM photoinduced reactions (Qian et al. 2001). Similar results have been obtained for Arctic water (Rex et al. 1997; Randall et al. 2005).

4.2 Nature and Amount of DOM Components

The radical HO^\bullet is generated photolytically from various organic substances in natural waters (Table 2) (Mill et al. 1980; Mopper and Zhou 1990; Vaughn and Blough 1998; Holder-Sandvik et al. 2000; Page et al. 2011; Grannas et al. 2006). The most common dissolved organic compounds are humic substances (fulvic and

humic acid), amino acids, fluorescence whitening agents (FWAs) or components of detergents such as diaminostilbene (DAS1) and distyryl biphenyl (DSBP), phenolic compounds, various kinds of autochthonous DOM components and unknown ones (Page et al. 2011; Mostofa et al. 2011). The HO• production greatly depends on the DOM components, an increase of which can enhance the HO• formation rate in the aqueous solution (Fig. 1) (Page et al. 2011; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H, unpublished data). Study shows that DOM isolates from the Suwannee River photolytically produce free HO•, while Elliot Soil Humic Acid (ESHA), and Pony Lake Fulvic Acid (PLFA) hydroxylate arenes, at least in part, through a lower-energy hydroxylating species (Page et al. 2011). The photoinduced generation of HO• from various standard organic substances (1 mg L⁻¹ aqueous solutions) has been studied using a solar simulator (Table 2; Fig. 1) (Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H unpublished data). The differences in production rates among different substances are attributed to the variation of the fluorophores or functional groups on the highly unsaturated aliphatic carbon chains present in various DOM components (FDOM or CDOM) (Mostofa et al. 2011; Senesi 1990). The electronic transitions involving illuminated DOM can lead to the release of free electrons, which can induce the production of H₂O₂ in natural waters. It would then follow HO• production upon H₂O₂ photolysis, and the photogenerated hydroxyl radicals can contribute to the transformation of DOM or of the pollutants present in natural waters. That would lead to photoinduced self-transformation of DOM via photogenerated HO•. Table 2 reports the main HO• sources that are operational in the natural environment.

In polluted sewage waters, the HO• formation is greatly enhanced after 60 min of irradiation (Fig. 3a). This finding could be compatible with HO• production by photogenerated H₂O₂, which would not be present in the system before irradiation and would undergo accumulation at earlier irradiation times. The HO• generation being proportional to [H₂O₂], the accumulation of hydrogen peroxide would lead to an increase of the formation rate of the HO•.

The photogenerated HO• is rapidly consumed in natural waters upon reaction with dissolved organic compounds (Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Westerhoff et al. 1999; Goldstone et al. 2002; Miller and Chin 2002; Miller et al. 2002; Moran and Zepp 1997). A rough estimation showed that the consumption of HO• by DOM is 12–56 % in rivers (Nakatani et al. 2004). Considering the DOM as a major sink, the maximum steady-state concentration of HO• is equal to the production rate divided by the decay rate constant, and can be depicted by (Eq. 4.1) (Schwarzenbach et al. 1993):

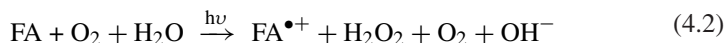
$$[\text{HO}]_{\text{SS,Fenton}} = \sum_{\lambda} \frac{I(\lambda)\varphi(\lambda)[1 - 10^{-\epsilon(\lambda)Cz}]}{zK_{\text{DOM}}C} \quad (4.1)$$

where the $1 - 10^{-\epsilon(\lambda)Cz}$ is the light attenuation at the depth z (cm), φ is the apparent quantum yield for the generation of HO• from DOM (mole Einstein⁻¹), ϵ is the absorption coefficient of DOM [(mg C L⁻¹)⁻¹cm⁻¹], C its concentration of DOM (mg C L⁻¹), and k_{DOM} (M⁻¹ s⁻¹) is the second-order reaction rate constant between HO• and DOM. The rate constant for the reaction of HO• with

Suwannee River Fulvic Acid is $(3.8\text{--}4.4) \times 10^4$ (mg C) $^{-1}$ L s $^{-1}$ (Southworth and Voelker 2003; Westerhoff et al. 2007). Rate constants in the same ranges, $(1\text{--}7) \times 10^4$ (mg C) $^{-1}$ L s $^{-1}$, have been determined for the reaction between HO \bullet and DOM present in natural water samples or extracted from them (Vione et al. 2006; Westerhoff et al. 1999; Goldstone et al. 2002; Gao and Zepp 1998). The half-life of a model pollutant can be estimated as $t_{1/2} = \ln 2 (k_{\text{HO}}[\text{HO}\bullet]_{\text{SS}})^{-1}$, where k_{HO} is the second-order reaction rate constant with HO \bullet , and $[\text{HO}\bullet]_{\text{SS}}$ is given by Eq. (4.1). Depending on the mixed layer depths that influence $[\text{HO}\bullet]_{\text{SS}}$, and for k_{HO} values of the order of $10^9\text{--}10^{10}$ M $^{-1}$ s $^{-1}$, $t_{1/2}$ can vary from some days to some months.

4.2.1 Fulvic Acid as a Producer and Scavenger of HO \bullet in Natural Waters

Fulvic acid (FA) can produce HO \bullet photolytically in aqueous solution (Table 2) (Vaughn and Blough 1998; Goldstone et al. 2002). FA can account for approximately 23–70 % of H₂O₂ production in rivers (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). A general reaction of FA that leads to the formation of H₂O₂ (Eq. 4.2) can be depicted on the basis of Eqs. (3.13–3.18) (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”):



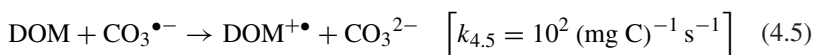
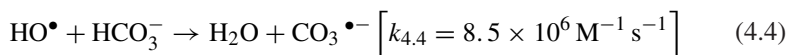
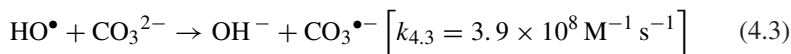
The generation of H₂O₂ from FA can lead to HO \bullet (H₂O₂ + h ν \rightarrow 2HO \bullet) that could further react with FA, at the same time being consumed and causing transformation of FA (Voelker and Sulzberger 1996). Recent experimental studies indicate that at least 50 % of the hydroxylation reactions photosensitized by DOM isolates would be a result of a pathway that is independent of hydrogen peroxide (Page et al. 2011). Recently, the photo-degradation of various functional groups in DOM by HO \bullet has been observed, and the rates determined in aqueous solution (Minakata et al. 2009). The results suggest that DOM or FA is important scavengers of photolytically generated HO \bullet in aqueous solution.

4.3 Other Chemical Species or Processes as HO \bullet Sinks

There are several processes that can inhibit HO \bullet formation or consume these radicals in the aquatic environments, which can be distinguished as:

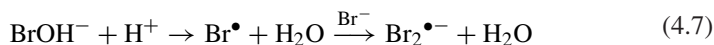
(1) Decrease in light intensity in deeper waters, which reduces the formation rate of H₂O₂ and of Fe(II). Photo-generated H₂O₂ and Fe(II) at the surface could be moved downward through vertical mixing processes, thereby reducing their concentration in the surface layer (Southworth and Voelker 2003; Pullin et al. 2004). Such an effect can greatly decrease the HO \bullet production in water.

(2) Upon oxidation of carbonate and bicarbonate by HO^\bullet , the carbonate radical ($\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$) is produced (Eqs. 4.3, 4.4) in surface waters (Minella et al. 2011) and DOM is the key component to sink $\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$ by the reaction between them (Eq. 4.5) in surface waters (Buxton et al. 1988; Canonica et al. 2005).



These reactions are all dependent on pH since pK_a of carbonate and bicarbonate has 10.3 and 6.3 (Tossell 2005). At around neutral pH, bicarbonate is dominant over carbonate so HO^\bullet radical scavenging is not so significant as to higher pH (i.e., carbonate is more dominant).

(3) In seawater, HO^\bullet is mainly consumed by Br^- ions (Zafriou et al. 1984; Neta et al. 1988; Goldstone et al. 2002; Song et al. 1996; Zafriou et al. 1987; Das et al. 2009). The reaction of HO^\bullet with Br^- generates the oxidized bromine radical species ($\text{BrOH}^{\bullet-}$) (Eq. 4.6), which can be transformed into Br^\bullet and $\text{Br}_2^{\bullet-}$ (Eq. 4.7) (Goldstone et al. 2002; Song et al. 1996; Zafriou et al. 1987; von Gunten and Oliveras 1997; Grebel et al. 2009).



Moreover, the bromine radical species could also react with DOM and induce transformation reactions. The half-life of $\text{BrOH}^{\bullet-}$ is less than a few seconds, for a H_2O_2 concentration of 0.1 mg L^{-1} in cloud water at pH 8. However, at pH 5 the half-life of $\text{BrOH}^{\bullet-}$ is several hours for the same H_2O_2 concentration (von Gunten and Oliveras 1997). A recent study shows that bromide scavenges the HO^\bullet radicals formed upon photolysis of nitrate, before they leave the solvent cage, thereby inhibiting the geminate recombination between the photogenerated HO^\bullet and $^\bullet\text{NO}_2$. The result is that the formation rate of $\text{HO}^\bullet + \text{Br}_2^{\bullet-}$ with nitrate + bromide is higher than that of HO^\bullet with nitrate alone. Such an effect compensates for the lower reactivity of $\text{Br}_2^{\bullet-}$ compared to HO^\bullet toward certain organic substrates, e.g. phenol and tryptophan (Das et al. 2009). It has also been shown that the radical $\text{Br}_2^{\bullet-}$ is an effective brominating agent for phenol (Vione et al. 2008).

(4) In stimulated polymorphonuclear leukocyte systems, a water extract from green tea and green tea polyphenols had the strongest scavenging effect on HO^\bullet , much stronger than vitamin C or vitamin E. Moreover, rosemary antioxidants and curcumin have weaker scavenging effects than vitamin C, but a stronger one than vitamin E (Zhao et al. 1989).

4.4 Dependence on NO_2^- and NO_3^- Photolysis: Effect of Wavelength Spectrum, Temperature, and pH

The photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet largely depends on the presence of NO_2^- and NO_3^- in natural waters (Zafiriou and True 1979a, b; Takeda et al. 2004; Zafiriou and Bonneau 1987; Zepp et al. 1987; Zellner et al. 1990; Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Mack and Bolton 1999). The quantum yield of HO^\bullet (Φ_{HO}) for NO_2^- and NO_3^- photolysis significantly depends on the temperature, wavelength and pH in the aqueous solution (Tables 4 and 5) (Zepp et al. 1987; Zellner et al. 1990; Goldstein and Rabani 2008; Matykiewiczová et al. 2007; Treinin and Hayon 1970; Strehlow and Wagner 1982; Warneck and Wurzinger 1988; Mark et al. 1996; Vione et al. 2001; Chu and Anastasio 2003). The Φ_{HO} of NO_2^- photolysis has been determined for a NO_2^- concentration of 3×10^{-3} M, for $4 \leq \text{pH} \leq 11$ and temperatures between 278–353 K at 308 nm (Table 4) (Zellner et al. 1990). The absorption coefficient of NO_2^- at 308 nm is $\epsilon_{308} = 4.1 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Strickler and Kasha 1963). For the same solution, Φ_{HO} has also been determined in the temperature range of 278–358 K, for pH 8 and under 351 nm irradiation (Table 4). Note that the absorption coefficient of NO_2^- is $\epsilon_{351} = 9.4 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Strickler and Kasha 1963). The results have demonstrated that Φ_{HO} generally increases with temperature and decreases with pH (Fig. 4).

The temperature dependence of Φ_{HO} is mathematically derived, based on the results of NO_2^- photolysis at 308 (Eq. 4.8) and 351 nm (Eq. 4.9) at room temperature (Table 4) (Zellner et al. 1990). It can be expressed as:

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) = 0.07 \pm 0.01 \quad \text{for } 7 \leq \text{pH} \leq 9 \quad (4.8)$$

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) = 0.046 \pm 0.009 \quad \text{for } \text{pH} = 8 \quad (4.9)$$

Using the averaged data over the range $7 \leq \text{pH} \leq 9$, the temperature dependence of Φ_{HO} at 308 nm (Eq. 4.10) becomes:

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(T) = \Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) \exp \left[(1560 \pm 360) \left(\frac{1}{298} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right] \quad (4.10)$$

where the apparent activation energy is $E_A = 13 \pm 3 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$. This equation is in good agreement with previous data (Zafiriou and Bonneau 1987), where it has been obtained $E_A = 12 \pm 6 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ at 298.5 nm and in the temperature range of 296–322 K.

The temperature dependence of Φ_{HO} for NO_2^- photolysis at 351 nm can be expressed as (Eq. 4.11):

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(T) = \Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) \exp \left[(1800 \pm 400) \left(\frac{1}{298} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right] \quad (4.11)$$

Table 4 The quantum yield of HO* (Φ_{HO^*}) of nitrite photolysis as a function of pH and temperature (T)

T (K)	pH	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>For wavelength 308 nm</i>									
278		0.047 ± 0.004	0.037 ± 0.002	0.039 ± 0.005	0.040 ± 0.005	0.040 ± 0.002	0.039 ± 0.001	0.034 ± 0.002	0.030 ± 0.003
298		0.091 ± 0.011	0.080 ± 0.007	0.068 ± 0.004	0.068 ± 0.009	0.071 ± 0.009	0.068 ± 0.008	0.060 ± 0.007	0.046 ± 0.006
318		0.100 ± 0.011	0.085 ± 0.005	0.081 ± 0.006	0.082 ± 0.011	0.079 ± 0.003	0.080 ± 0.003	0.076 ± 0.003	0.069 ± 0.005
353		0.160 ± 0.011	0.159 ± 0.008	0.148 ± 0.006	0.141 ± 0.007	0.143 ± 0.003	0.132 ± 0.005	0.125 ± 0.003	0.115 ± 0.004
<i>For wavelength 351 nm</i>									
278		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.027 ± 0.003	nd	nd	nd
288		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.038 ± 0.004	nd	nd	nd
298		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.046 ± 0.003	nd	nd	nd
308		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.058 ± 0.002	nd	nd	nd
318		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.078 ± 0.003	nd	nd	nd
328		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.091 ± 0.010	nd	nd	nd
338		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.096 ± 0.003	nd	nd	nd
348		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.118 ± 0.008	nd	nd	nd
358		nd	nd	nd	nd	0.153 ± 0.009	nd	nd	nd

nd means 'not detected'

Data source Zellner et al. (1990)

Table 5 The quantum yield of HO^{*} (Φ_{HO^*}) of nitrate photolysis as a function of pH and temperature (T)

T (K)	pH							
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>For wavelength 308 nm</i>								
278	0.008 ± 0.001	0.007 ± 0.001	0.008 ± 0.001	0.007 ± 0.001	0.008 ± 0.001	0.007 ± 0.001	0.007 ± 0.001	0.004 ± 0.001
298	0.016 ± 0.001	0.017 ± 0.001	0.017 ± 0.001	0.016 ± 0.001	0.017 ± 0.001	0.016 ± 0.001	0.014 ± 0.001	0.009 ± 0.001
318	0.028 ± 0.002	0.026 ± 0.003	0.027 ± 0.002	0.028 ± 0.001	0.027 ± 0.001	0.027 ± 0.002	0.024 ± 0.002	0.011 ± 0.001
353	0.038 ± 0.004	0.034 ± 0.003	0.036 ± 0.004	0.035 ± 0.002	0.036 ± 0.002	0.030 ± 0.003	0.017 ± 0.003	0.012 ± 0.001

Data source (Zellner et al. 1990)

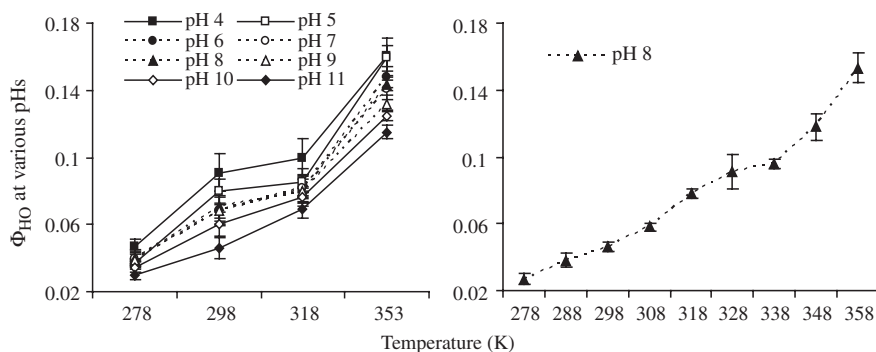
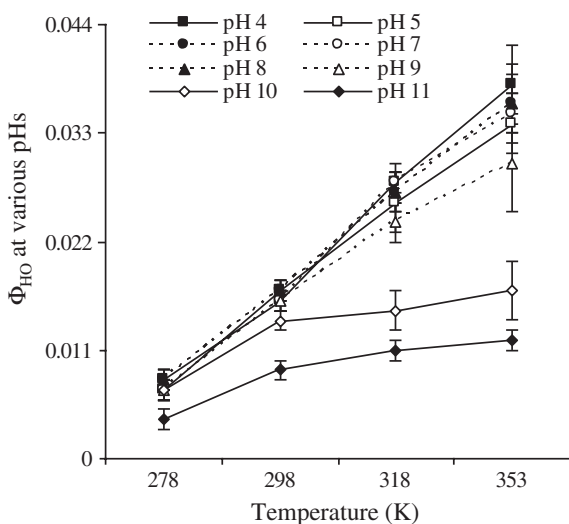


Fig. 4 Quantum yields of HO^\bullet of NO_2^- photolysis with variation in temperature at a specific wavelength at 308 nm for various pH (a) and at 351 nm (b) at pH 8. Data source Zellner et al. (1990)

These results allow the hypothesis that the temperature dependence of Φ_{HO} for NO_2^- photolysis is independent of wavelength, despite a decline of the absolute Φ_{HO} value with increasing wavelength (Fig. 4) (Zellner et al. 1990).

On the other hand, the Φ_{HO} of NO_3^- photolysis has been determined for a NO_3^- concentration of 3×10^{-3} M in the range $4 \leq pH \leq 11$, at temperature between 278–353 K and 308 nm irradiation (Table 5) (Zellner et al. 1990). The absorption coefficient of NO_3^- at 308 nm is $\epsilon_{308} = 6.5 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Meyerstein and Treinin 1961). It has been shown that the quantum yields at each temperature are generally independent of pH in the range $4 \leq pH \leq 9$. At higher pH's, the quantum yield is typically decreased (Fig. 5).

Fig. 5 Quantum yields of HO^\bullet of NO_3^- photolysis with variation in temperature at a specific wavelength (308 nm) for various pH. Data source Zellner et al. (1990)



The Φ_{HO} of NO_3^- photolysis at room temperature (298 K) is (Eq. 4.12)

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) = 0.017 \pm 0.03 \text{ for } 4 \leq \text{pH} \leq 9 \quad (4.12)$$

The temperature dependence of Φ_{HO} is mathematically derived from the results of NO_3^- photolysis at 308 nm, in the range of $4 \leq \text{pH} \leq 9$ (Table 5). It can be written as (Eq. 4.13) (Zellner et al. 1990):

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(T) = \Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) \exp \left[(1800 \pm 480) \left(\frac{1}{298} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right] \quad (4.13)$$

where the apparent activation energy $E_A = 15 \pm 4 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$. The effect of temperature on the HO^\bullet quantum yield is relatively stronger than the effect of pH: Φ_{HO} increases by almost a factor of 5 over the temperature range 278–353 K, for $4 \leq \text{pH} \leq 9$ (Zellner et al. 1990). Because of the low molar absorption coefficient of NO_3^- at 351 nm ($\epsilon_{351} \approx 0.05 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) (Meyerstein and Treinin 1961), nitrate is a less effective HO^\bullet source at 351 than at 308 nm. However, the results indicate that the HO^\bullet quantum yield and the temperature dependence are constant at these wavelength (Zellner et al. 1990). There is an overall consistency between the results of different studies into the temperature and wavelength dependence of the HO^\bullet quantum yield for NO_3^- photolysis (e.g., obtained $\Phi_{\text{HO}} = 0.015 \pm 0.003$ at 313 nm) (Zepp et al. 1987).

4.5 Dependence on H_2O_2 Photolysis: Effect of Wavelength Spectrum and Temperature

The photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet from H_2O_2 ($\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow 2 \text{HO}^\bullet$) depends on the wavelength spectrum of UV-B radiation and on water temperature (Zellner et al. 1990; Hunt and Taube 1952; Baxendale and Wilson 1956; Volman and Chen 1959; Goldstein and Rabani 2008; Chu and Anastasio 2005; Goldstein et al. 2007). The quantum yield of HO^\bullet (Φ_{HO}) has been determined for $3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M H}_2\text{O}_2$ at pH 7, at the wavelengths of 308 and 351 nm (Zellner et al. 1990). The H_2O_2 absorption coefficients for these wavelengths are $\epsilon_{308} = 1.10$ and $\epsilon_{351} = 0.11 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, respectively (Taylor and Cross 1949). It has also been shown that the HO^\bullet production gradually increases with an increase in temperature at pH 7 (Fig. 6; Table 6) (Zellner et al. 1990). Zellner and his co-workers derived the equations for the temperature dependence of Φ_{HO} upon H_2O_2 photolysis.

For the photolysis at 308 nm, Φ_{HO} can be expressed as (Eq. 4.14):

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) = 0.98 \pm 0.03 \quad (4.14)$$

The temperature dependence of Φ_{HO} can be expressed as (Eq. 4.15):

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(T) = \Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) \exp \left[(660 \pm 190) \left(\frac{1}{298} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right] \quad (4.15)$$

Fig. 6 Quantum yields of HO^\bullet of H_2O_2 photolysis with variation in temperature at specific wavelengths (308 and 351 nm, respectively) at pH 7. *Data source* Zellner et al. (1990)

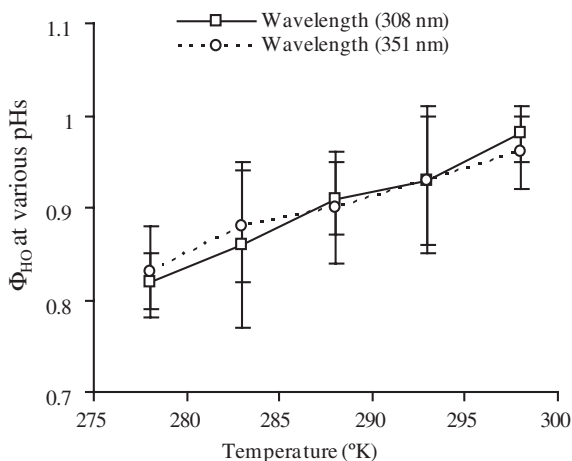


Table 6 Quantum yield of HO^\bullet production (Φ_{HO}) from H_2O_2 photolysis at pH 7 as a function of temperature (T)

T (°K)	Φ_{HO} at pH 7	
	308 nm	351 nm
278	0.82 ± 0.03	0.83 ± 0.05
283	0.86 ± 0.09	0.88 ± 0.06
288	0.91 ± 0.04	0.90 ± 0.06
293	0.93 ± 0.07	0.93 ± 0.08
298	0.98 ± 0.03	0.96 ± 0.04

Data source Zellner et al. (1990)

where the activation energy is $5.5 \pm 1.6 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$.

These values are essentially constant for H_2O_2 photolysis at 351 nm (Eqs. 4.16, 4.17):

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) = 0.96 \pm 0.04 \quad (4.16)$$

$$\Phi_{\text{HO}}(T) = \Phi_{\text{HO}}(298 \text{ K}) \exp \left[(580 \pm 160) \left(\frac{1}{298} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right] \quad (4.17)$$

A recent study has shown that the quantum yield $\Phi_{\text{HO}} = 1.11 \pm 0.07$ in the excitation range of 205–280 nm for the photolysis of H_2O_2 . This is in agreement with earlier studies (Goldstein et al. 2007). Therefore, the available data suggest that the photolysis of aqueous H_2O_2 at wavelengths $\geq 300 \text{ nm}$ generates HO^\bullet with a quantum yield $\Phi_{\text{HO}} \sim 1$ at room temperature (25 °C). Φ_{OH} decreases to approximately 0.82 at 5 °C (278 K). It can be noted that the effective quantum yield of H_2O_2 dissociation is approximately 0.5, but the photolysis of H_2O_2 yields two

Table 7 The reaction rate constants for generation of HO• in Fenton reaction at various pH ranges in the absence of light

Reaction type	pH 3	pH 4	pH 5	Equations
	Reaction rate constant (<i>k</i>) (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)			
Fe ^(II) + H ₂ O ₂ → Fe ^(III) + HO• + OH ⁻	63	1.2 × 10 ²	5.7 × 10 ²	4.18
Fe ^(III) + H ₂ O ₂ → Fe ^(II) + HO ₂ •/O ₂ ⁻ + H ⁺	2 × 10 ⁻³	2.5 × 10 ⁻³	2.6 × 10 ⁻³	4.19
H ₂ O ₂ + HO• → HO ₂ •/O ₂ ⁻ + H ₂ O	3.7 × 10 ⁷	3.3 × 10 ⁷	3.3 × 10 ⁷	4.20
Fe ^(III) + HO ₂ •/O ₂ ⁻ → Fe ^(II) + O ₂ + H ⁺	7.8 × 10 ⁵	6.8 × 10 ⁶	3.1 × 10 ⁷	4.21
Fe ^(II) + HO• → Fe ^(III) + OH ⁻	3.2 × 10 ⁸	3.2 × 10 ⁸	3.2 × 10 ⁸	4.22
Fe ^(II) + HO ₂ •/O ₂ ⁻ → Fe ^(III) + HO ₂ •	1.3 × 10 ⁶	2.4 × 10 ⁶	6.6 × 10 ⁶	4.23
HO• + HO• → H ₂ O ₂	5.2 × 10 ⁹	5.2 × 10 ⁹	5.2 × 10 ⁹	4.24
HO ₂ •/O ₂ ⁻ + HO ₂ •/O ₂ ⁻ → H ₂ O ₂	2.3 × 10 ⁶	1.2 × 10 ⁷	2.3 × 10 ⁷	4.25
HO• + HO ₂ •/O ₂ ⁻ → H ₂ O + O ₂	7.1 × 10 ⁹	7.5 × 10 ⁹	8.9 × 10 ⁹	4.26

Data source (Kwan and Voelker 2002)

HO•. Therefore, the quantum yield of HO• photoinduced generation from H₂O₂ is double compared to that of H₂O₂ photolysis (Hunt and Taube 1952; Baxendale and Wilson 1956; Volman and Chen 1959).

4.6 Fenton Reaction: Effect of pH, Temperature and Salinity

The Fenton reaction depends on the presence of Fe²⁺ (or Fe³⁺) and H₂O₂ in natural waters. The oxidation of Fe(II) with H₂O₂ in seawater depends on pH (2–8.5), temperature (5–45 °C) and salinity (0–35 g L⁻¹) (Wells and Salam 1968; Moffett and Zika 1987a, b; Gallard et al. 1998; Bossmann et al. 1998; Duesterberg et al. 2008; Millero and Sotolongo 1989; de Laat and Gallard 1999; Duesterberg and Waite 2006; Duesterberg et al. 2005; Farias et al. 2007; Jung et al. 2009). The rate constants of the chain Fenton reactions and the relevant dependence on pH are presented in Table 7 (Kwan and Voelker 2002). The reaction rate constant between Fe²⁺ and H₂O₂ significantly increases with pH in the range from 3 to 5 (Eq. 4.18; Table 7), and a similar effect is observed with some of the chain reactions (Eqs. 4.19–4.26; Table 7).

A recent study that has been carried out in the pH range 2.5–4.0, both in the presence and absence of a target organic substance (formic acid), also highlights the importance of the Fenton system in the catalytic redox cycling of iron (Duesterberg et al. 2008). Supply of oxygen can enhance the efficiency of the Fenton oxidation, which is understandably attenuated by competition with the organic intermediates in the reaction media (Sychev and Isak 1995; Duesterberg et al. 2005).

It is shown that the addition of phosphotungstate (PW₁₂O₄₀³⁻), a polyoxo-metalate, extends the working pH range of the Fenton system (Fe³⁺/H₂O₂) up

to pH 8.5. This is because $\text{PW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}^{3-}$ forms a soluble complex with iron that converts H_2O_2 into HO^\bullet (Lee and Sedlak 2009). The Fenton reaction for the catalytic oxidation of organic compounds is usually limited to the acidic pH region, due to the low solubility of Fe(III) and the low efficiency of oxidant production at neutral pH values. The coordination of Fe^{2+} by $\text{PW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}^{3-}$ can alter the mechanism of the reaction of Fe(II) with H_2O_2 at neutral pH, yielding a reactive species capable of oxidizing aromatic compounds (Lee and Sedlak 2009).

An increase in temperature significantly enhances the efficiency of the Fenton reaction towards the degradation of organic pollutants in aqueous solution (Fig. 7) (Farias et al. 2007). From the results of Farias et al. (2007) it is possible to estimate a HCOOH degradation enhancement of 164–191 % at 313 K and 370–561 % at 328 K compared to 298 K, after 20 min of reaction time, with H_2O_2 : formic acid molar ratios between 3 and 8 (Fig. 7). The results also show that the conversion of the organic pollutant is the highest at 328 K, with a low H_2O_2 : formic acid molar ratio. Conversion gradually decreases when the H_2O_2 : formic acid molar ratio is increased from 3 to 8 at the same temperature (328 K) (Fig. 7). However, at 313 K the conversion of the organic pollutant gradually increases when the H_2O_2 : formic acid molar ratio is increased from 3 to 8 (Fig. 7).

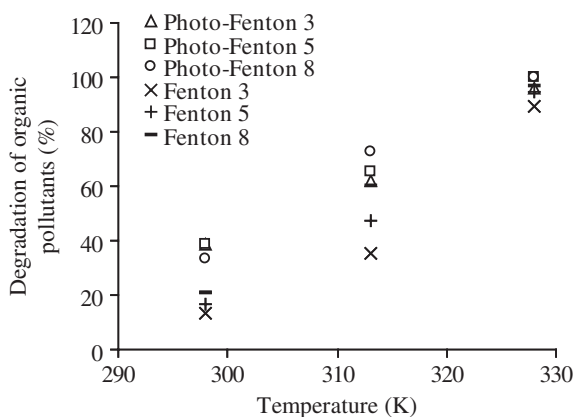
The overall Fenton reaction ($\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$) is first-order with respect to the concentration of total Fe(II) and H_2O_2 . It can be expressed as follows (Eq. 4.27) (Moffett and Zika 1987a, b; Millero and Sotolongo 1989):

$$d[\text{Fe}(\text{II})]/dt = -k \{[\text{Fe}(\text{II})][\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]\} \quad (4.27)$$

where the brackets denote the total molar concentrations. With an excess of $[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]$, the overall reaction becomes pseudo-first order and can be depicted as follows (Eq. 4.28):

$$d[\text{Fe}(\text{II})]/dt = -k'_1 [\text{Fe}(\text{II})] \quad (4.28)$$

Fig. 7 The percentage degradation of organic pollutants by photo-Fenton and Fenton reactions in a stirred tank laboratory photoreactor. 3, 5 and 8 indicates the molar ratio of the reactant H_2O_2 to formic acid in the aqueous solutions. Data Source Farias et al. (2007)



where $k'_1 = k[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]$. The reaction is quite fast at high temperature and pH, and it becomes quite difficult to be examined at 25 °C and pH 8. The reaction at 5 °C and pH 3.5 followed first-order kinetics with respect to Fe(II) for seawater samples, giving $k' = 0.0385 \pm 0.0009 \text{ min}^{-1}$ and $\log k = 1.50 \pm 0.02$ (k in $\text{M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$) (Millero and Sotolongo 1989). At higher pH and temperature, the second-order reaction rate constants have been determined at the stoichiometric ratio $[\text{Fe(II)}]/[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2] = 2$, following Eq. (4.29) (Benson 1960)

$$1/[\text{Fe(II)}] = 1/[\text{Fe(II)}]_0 + (k/2)t \quad (4.29)$$

where $[\text{Fe(II)}]_0$ is the initial concentration of Fe(II).

The rate constant k ($\text{M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$) for Eq. (4.29) is independent of pH below pH 4, and increases significantly at high pH values. It is a linear function of $[\text{H}^+]$ or $[\text{HO}^-]$ from pH 6 to 8 in seawater. The effect of pH is not affected by a variation of the temperature

The effects of temperature (T) and ionic strength (I) on k at pH 6 can be expressed as (Eq. 4.30) (Millero and Sotolongo 1989):

$$\log k = 13.73 - 2,948/T - 1.70I^{1/2} + 1.20I \quad (4.30)$$

The reaction rates can be depicted as (Eq. 4.31) (Millero and Sotolongo 1989):

$$d[\text{Fe(II)}]/dt = -k_2[\text{Fe(II)}][\text{H}_2\text{O}_2][\text{HO}^-] \quad (4.31)$$

where the values of k_2 are independent of temperature. This is attributed to the fact that the activation energy is of the same order of magnitude as the heat of ionization of water (ΔH_w^*). The effect of the ionic strength on $\log k_2$ can be depicted as (Eq. 4.32) (Millero and Sotolongo 1989):

$$\log k_2 = 11.72 - 2.14I^{1/2} + 1.38I \quad (4.32)$$

The overall reaction rate k over the entire range of pH, temperature and ionic strength can be expressed by (Eq. 4.33) (Millero and Sotolongo 1989):

$$k = k_0\alpha_{\text{Fe}} + k_1\alpha_{\text{FeOH}} \quad (4.33)$$

where α_{Fe} and α_{FeOH} , k_0 and k_1 are the fractions of the two Fe(II) species and the rate constants for the oxidation of Fe^{2+} and FeOH^+ , respectively. The values of k_0 and k_1 can be expressed by (Eqs. 4.34, 4.35) (Millero and Sotolongo 1989):

$$\log k_0 = 8.37 - 1,866/T \quad (4.34)$$

$$\log k_1 = 17.26 - 2.948/T - 1.70I^{1/2} + 1.20I \quad (4.35)$$

The addition of HCO_3^- at constant pH linearly increases the reaction rate, independently of the temperature and salinity. This result can be attributed to FeCO_3^0 reacting faster than FeOH^+ with H_2O_2 . At a given pH and ionic strength, the reaction rates in seawater are almost the same as in NaCl. These results can explain

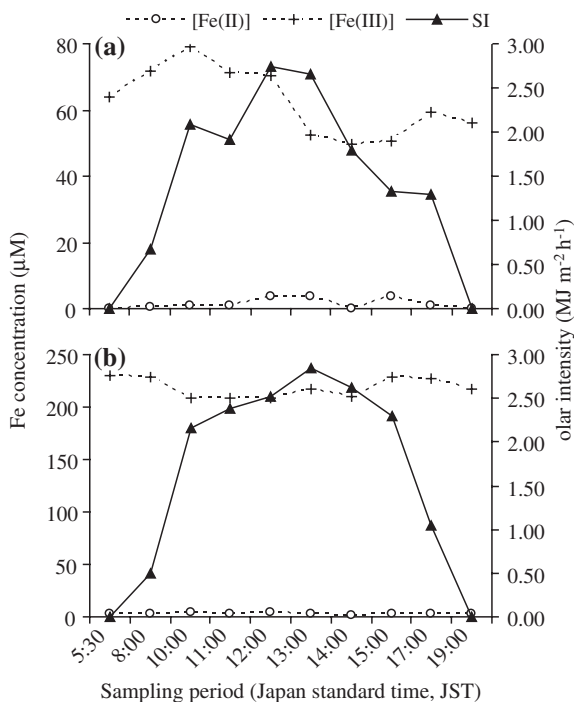
the differences in the reaction rates observed between estuarine waters of various alkalinity and seawater diluted with water (Millero and Sotolongo 1989).

A recent study demonstrates that the rates of the Fenton reaction do not vary in the presence of chloride, nitrate and perchlorate. However, in the presence of sulfate the rate of Fe(II) oxidation is higher and depends on pH and the concentration of sulfate. This result has been obtained under dark conditions at $\text{pH} < 3$, 25 ± 0.5 °C and controlled ionic strength (≤ 1 M) (Le Truong et al. 2004). It has also been shown that H_2O_2 is more stable in Fenton-like than in Fenton's systems, and that the lifetime of H_2O_2 is highly affected by the solution pH. Indeed, pH-buffered acidic conditions are preferred to ensure sufficient H_2O_2 lifetime, which is an important factor in the feasibility of Fenton's and Fenton-like reactions with haematite and magnetite for soil and groundwater remediation (Jung et al. 2009).

4.7 Photo-Fenton Reaction

The formation of HO^\bullet in the photo-Fenton reaction ($\text{Fe(III)} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{h}\nu$) significantly depends on light intensity, H_2O_2 and Fe(III) concentration, and pH (Zepp et al. 1992; Voelker et al. 1997; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Vermilyea and Voelker 2009). Studies on the ferrioxalate system (air- and argon-saturated) suggest that the Fe(II) photoproduction rates are not affected by the reducing intermediates ($\text{CO}_2^{\bullet-}$, $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, scavenger-derived radicals) produced in the aqueous solution (Zepp et al. 1992). The results demonstrate that the photolytically generated Fe(II) can efficiently react with H_2O_2 to produce HO^\bullet in water at pH 3–8 (Zepp et al. 1992). It has been shown that the Fe(II) concentration in upstream waters gradually increased from zero (0530 h JST, Japan standard time) to $3.8 \mu\text{M}$ (1300 h JST), and decreased to zero again after sunset (1900 h JST) (Fig. 8a) (Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H unpublished data). In the meantime, pH varied from 7.0 to 7.6 (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). In downstream waters, the Fe(II) concentration increases from 2.3 (0530 JST) to $4.0 \mu\text{M}$ (1200 JST) and then decreased to $2.2 \mu\text{M}$ (1900 JST) after sunset (Fig. 8b) (Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa H unpublished data). The pH varied from 7.0 to 7.3 (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). The production of Fe(II) was the highest at noon, and it was almost the same in clean upstream river ($3.8 \mu\text{M}$, 7.3 % of the total Fe) and polluted river waters ($4.0 \mu\text{M}$, 1.9 % of the total Fe). In a similar way, the H_2O_2 production was also maximum at noon and reached 40 and 63 nM, respectively (Fig. 8, "Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters") (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Similarly, Fe^{2+} has been observed to reach up to 0.9 nM in a Swiss Lake at pH 8.0–8.5; 15 nM in a low-land lake in the United Kingdom at pH 7.0–7.5; and approximately 0–145 μM in a salt marsh at Skidaway Island in the USA (Viollier et al. 2000; Aldrich et al. 2001; Emmenegger et al. 2001). The peak concentration of Fe(II) ranged from 4 to 8 % of the total iron concentration at pH 8 in waters of Narragansett Bay. It was also observed an increase of Fe(II) concentration by lowering the pH over the entire

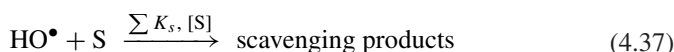
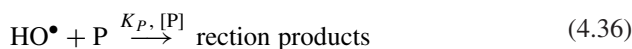
Fig. 8 Diurnal variations of Fe(II) and Fe(III) in the upstream waters (Site KR2, Shouriki) on 21 August 2003 and in the downstream waters (Site KR6, Hinotsume) on 26 September 2003, in the Kurose River, Japan. *Data Source* Mostofa and Sakugawa (unpublished data)



course of the experiment (Miller et al. 1995). All the reported results suggest that the photo-Fenton reaction under sunlight proceeds at the highest rate at noon in natural waters, in correspondence with the peak values of Fe²⁺ and H₂O₂. The diurnal changes in the concentrations of Fe(II) and H₂O₂ are strongly correlated to the losses in the DOM fluorescence: the latter was 28 % lower at noon than before sunrise in the river waters (Mostofa et al. 2005). However, the contribution of the photo-Fenton reaction to the production of HO[•] was minor (2–29 %) as compared to NO₃⁻ (3–70 %) and NO₂⁻ (1–89 %) upon irradiation of river water samples from Japan (pH 6.7–9.0) (Nakatani et al. 2007). Interestingly, it has also been shown that the oxidation of Fe²⁺ by H₂O₂ is the key reaction step in the presence of high concentrations of Fe²⁺; in contrast, the back reduction of Fe(III) by superoxide is important at low initial Fe²⁺ concentrations and high pH (Pham and Waite 2008). It has also been suggested that precipitation of Fe(III) has a marked effect on the overall Fe(II) oxidation, particularly at high pH. A recent study has shown that the inhibition of the photo-Fenton degradation of organic material (both synthetic phenol wastewater and an aqueous extract of Brazilian gasoline) in the presence of chloride ions can be circumvented, by maintaining the pH of the medium at or slightly above 3 throughout the process. In this way, it is possible to limit inhibition of the oxidation reactions even in the presence of 0.5 M chloride (Machulek et al. 2007).

4.7.1 Kinetics of the Photo-Fenton Reaction

The kinetics of the photo-Fenton reaction can be determined as a function of pH, based on the yield of HO• formed per Fe(II) oxidized by H₂O₂, and considering the photoreactions of aqueous organic substrates (Zepp et al. 1992; Hoigné et al. 1988). Under illumination with constant irradiance of a diluted probe compound (P) that reacts with HO• (Eq. 4.36), the hydroxyl radical would rapidly reach a steady-state concentration. In the presence of P and of other HO• scavengers (S), the decay of HO• can be expressed as follows (Eqs. 4.36, 4.37) (Zepp et al. 1992):



where k_P is the second-order rate constant ($\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$) for the reaction of HO• with the probe P, and $\sum k_s[\text{S}]$ is the pseudo-first order rate constant (s^{-1}) for HO• scavenging by all the components present in the reaction medium, except the probe compound.

The scavenging rate of HO• can be expressed as (Eq. 4.38) (Zepp et al. 1992):

$$r_S = \{k_P [\text{P}] + \sum k_s [\text{S}]\} [\text{HO}^\bullet] \quad (4.38)$$

If the concentration of P or the reaction rate for the P is sufficiently low (i.e., $\sum k_s[\text{S}] \gg k_P[\text{P}]$), it is $r_S = (\sum k_s[\text{S}])[\text{HO}^\bullet]$. Under the steady-state condition the rate of generation of HO• is $r_{\text{OH}} = r_S$, from which the hydroxyl radical concentration becomes (Eq. 4.39) (Zepp et al. 1992):

$$[\text{HO}^\bullet]_{\text{ss}} = r_{\text{HO}} / \left(\sum k_s [\text{S}] \right) \quad (4.39)$$

The oxidation rate (M s^{-1}) of the probe compound in an irradiated system (conversion per unit time) is described as (Eq. 4.40) (Zepp et al. 1992):

$$-d[\text{P}]/dt = k_P [\text{HO}^\bullet]_{\text{ss}} [\text{P}] = k [\text{P}] \quad (4.40)$$

If the concentrations of the photoactive Fe(III) species, H₂O₂, and the scavengers show a negligible variation as compared to [P], both r_{OH} and $\sum k_s[\text{S}]$ (and $[\text{HO}^\bullet]_{\text{ss}}$ as a consequence) would be about constant. That would give a pseudo-first order reaction with rate constant k . If the second-order rate constant, k_P and the scavenging rate constant, $\sum k_s[\text{S}]$ are known, then r_{OH} can be determined from k by the following equation (Eq. 4.41) (Zepp et al. 1992):

$$r_{\text{HO}} = k \left(\sum k_s [\text{S}] \right) / (k_P) \quad (4.41)$$

This steady-state approach has been successfully applied to examine the thermal production of HO• in ozone-treated natural waters, as well as the photoinduced generation of HO• upon irradiation of natural waters and of nitrate ions (Zepp et al. 1987, 1992; Haag and Hoigné 1985).

In natural waters for a thin layer at the surface of a water body, the photoinduced production rate of the reactive species (Schwarzenbach et al. 1993) can be expressed as (Eq. 4.42):

$$r_p = 2.3 \sum_{\lambda} I(\lambda) \times \varepsilon(\lambda) \times \Phi(\lambda) \times C \quad (4.42)$$

where r_p is the production rate (M s^{-1}), I is the incident light intensity ($\text{mEinstein cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$), Φ is either the quantum yield (mol Einstein^{-1}) or the apparent quantum yield, ε and C are the absorption coefficient and the concentration of the relevant light-absorbing reactive species, respectively, and λ is the wavelength. Thus, it is possible to determine the near-surface production rate of HO• from NO_3^- photolysis from Eq. (4.39), from which one gets (Eq. 4.43) (Southworth and Voelker 2003):

$$r_{\text{NO}_3} = \left(2 \times 10^{-7}\right) [\text{NO}_3^-] \quad (4.43)$$

To obtain (Eq. 4.43), the light intensity values were integrated over wavelength for a solar declination of 20° (24-h averaged) (Schwarzenbach et al. 1993), adopting a quantum yield of 0.015 for the HO• photoproduction upon nitrate irradiation at 25°C (Zepp et al. 1987).

The degradation rate of formic acid in the photo-Fenton reaction increases with temperature (Fig. 7) (Farias et al. 2007). From the cited results it can be estimated that the conversion of HCOOH after 20 min of reaction time is increased approximately by 70–120 % at 313 K and 160–202 % at 328 K compared to the initial temperature of 298 K, with H_2O_2 :HCOOH molar ratios in the range from 3 to 8 (Fig. 7). It is also observed that irradiation in the photo-Fenton system enhances degradation, compared to the corresponding dark Fenton system at equal temperature. However, the effect of irradiation is decreased dramatically as temperature increases, so that at 328 K there is little advantage in irradiating the system.

4.8 Photo-Ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 Reaction: Dependence on pH and Reactants

Without addition of H_2O_2 to the photo-ferrioxalate system, the reaction rate gradually increases with increasing pH as can be measured from the degradation of specific organic compounds (Jeong and Yoon 2005; Balmer and Sulzberger 1999). The pH effect is thought to involve two phenomena (Jeong

and Yoon 2005; Balmer and Sulzberger 1999). First, an increase in pH may enhance the conversion of dominant ferric complexes such as $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)]^+$ and $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3]^{3-}$ (Eq. 3.19). It subsequently enhances the overall reaction rates through the chain reactions of $\text{CO}_2^{\bullet-}$ that form H_2O_2 and, through formation of Fe^{2+} (Eqs. 3.21, 3.23, 3.24), produce HO^\bullet as a consequence (Eqs. 3.22, 3.43, 3.45, 4.23, 4.25). Second, the formation of the $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)$ complex increases with pH and subsequently enhances the Fenton reaction, because $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)$ can react with H_2O_2 at a faster rate (Eq. 3.25) than Fe^{2+} (Eq. 4.18). Thus, without addition of H_2O_2 the rate-determining step for the production of HO^\bullet is the formation of H_2O_2 . The latter is formed upon reaction of $\text{Fe}(\text{II})$ with $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ or HO_2^\bullet , or from $\text{O}_2^- + \text{H}^+$ and chain propagation within HO_2^\bullet . $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ is formed from $\text{CO}_2^{\bullet-}$ or from the reaction of O_2 with photoinduced electron (e^-), emitted upon photo-ionization of organic compounds. Therefore, an increase in pH will favor the occurrence of $\text{Fe}(\text{II})$, $\text{CO}_2^{\bullet-}$ and $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, which leads to higher amounts of H_2O_2 and of $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)$. Then, the reaction between H_2O_2 and $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)$ favors the formation of HO^\bullet . It is obvious that higher HO^\bullet photoproduction causes faster degradation of the dissolved organic substrates.

With addition of H_2O_2 to the photo-ferrioxalate system, the formation of HO^\bullet depends on the concentration of H_2O_2 (Hislop and Bolton 1999; Jeong and Yoon 2005). With H_2O_2 above 10 mM the reaction rate may decrease, but the addition of H_2O_2 from 0.1 to 1 mM may enhance the degradation of organic substances. Therefore, a high concentration of H_2O_2 is a major factor for decreasing the overall formation rate of HO^\bullet . First of all, excess H_2O_2 can contribute significantly to the HO^\bullet scavenging, consuming hydroxyl radicals and producing $\text{HO}_2^\bullet/\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$. The latter species are then able to oxidize $\text{Fe}(\text{II})$, which might be kept low so that the formation rate of HO^\bullet in the Fenton process is decreased. Lower HO^\bullet formation and higher HO^\bullet consumption by H_2O_2 can inhibit the degradation of dissolved organic compounds; the inhibition would be higher at higher pH, where the oxidation of $\text{Fe}(\text{II})$ by $\text{HO}_2^\bullet/\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ is favored.

On the other hand, relatively low levels of H_2O_2 (0.1 to 1 mM) can enhance degradation, because the addition of hydrogen peroxide would by-pass the slow step of H_2O_2 formation in the photo-ferrioxalate system without H_2O_2 . Moreover, low H_2O_2 levels would not be able to scavenge HO^\bullet significantly, nor to cause $\text{Fe}(\text{II})$ oxidation.

5 Significance of HO^\bullet in Natural Waters

The HO^\bullet radical is the most reactive transient among the reactive oxygen species (ROS) that can be present in natural waters. It is an effective, nonselective and strong oxidant in natural waters for the following reasons:

- (i) Photoinduced transformation of DOM by HO^\bullet into bioavailable compounds. An example is the degradation of persistent organic substances, which are

- otherwise recalcitrant to biological and chemical degradation in natural waters (Zepp et al. 1987; Miller and Chin 2002; Haag and Yao 1992; Vione et al. 2009; Grannas et al. 2006; Pullin et al. 2004; Draper and Crosby 1984; Ollis et al. 1991; Sun and Pignatello 1993; Zimbron and Reardon 2005).
- (ii) Degradation of organic pollutants or DOM in natural waters (Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998; Southworth and Voelker 2003; White et al. 2003; Westerhoff et al. 1999; Goldstone et al. 2002; Kang et al. 2000; Gao and Zepp 1998; Arslan et al. 1999; Katsumata et al. 2006; Muñoz et al. 2006; Farias et al. 2010). Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA) can produce H_2O_2 , which can give HO^\bullet by direct photolysis or through the Fenton reactions (Fig. 9) (Southworth and Voelker 2003). The Fenton process can also be exploited from a technological point of view. Recently, a new pilot-plant solar reactor for the photo-Fenton treatment of waters containing toxic organic substances has been developed. In this reactor, the combined photoinduced and thermal effects of sunlight can degrade 98.2 % of the initial pollutant, for a reaction time of 180 min and a relatively low iron concentration (Farias et al. 2010).
 - (iii) A great interest is presently devoted to the utilization of HO^\bullet in the Advanced Oxidation Technology (AOT) for treatment of sewerage or industrial effluents, as a help to achieve sustainable development (Safazadeh-Amiri et al. 1996, 1997; Arslan et al. 2000; Venkatadri and Peters 1993).
 - (iv) The cycling of metals occurs through various redox chemical reactions in natural waters, to which HO^\bullet gives a contribution (Faust 1994; Voelker et al. 1997; Jeong and Yoon 2005; Faust and Zepp 1993; Kwan and Voelker 2002; Emmenegger et al. 2001).
 - (v) Photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet upon nitrite and nitrate photolysis in natural waters can cause hydroxylation, nitration and nitrosation reactions of many aromatic compounds or organic contaminants (Matykiewiczová et al. 2007; Torrents et al. 1997; Vione et al. 2003a, b, 2004). Some of the reaction intermediates are mutagenic or carcinogenic and are, therefore, of immense environmental concern in the water bodies.
 - (vi) The HO^\bullet radical is for instance involved in the ultrasonically induced oxidation of arsenite, which plays a key role in the conversion of As(III) in aqueous media and may be applicable as a pretreatment step for the removal of arsenic from water (Xu et al. 2005).

6 Impact of Free Radicals on Biota (Proteins and Living Cells) and Plants

Free radicals are an unavoidable by-product in biological systems and can arise from foods containing unnecessary fat, smoking, alcohol, H_2O_2 , ozone, toxins including the carcinogenic ones, ionization, environmental pollutants

etc. The major sources of free radicals such as the superoxide ion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$) and the hydroperoxyl radical (HO_2^{\bullet}) are modest leakages from the electron transport chains of mitochondria, chloroplasts and the endoplasmic reticulum (Miller et al. 1990; Paradies et al. 2000; Blokhina et al. 2003). The HO^{\bullet} , alkoxy radical (RO^{\bullet}), peroxy radical (ROO^{\bullet}), and H_2O_2 produced from the autooxidation of biomolecules such as ascorbate, catecholamines or thiols, can damage the macromolecules such as DNA, proteins and lipids in biological systems (Miller et al. 1990; Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Cadet et al. 1999; Blokhina et al. 2003; Berlett and Stadtman 1997; Morse et al. 1977; Radtke et al. 1992; Abele-Oeschger et al. 1994). These events have implications for numerous human health problems. Autoxidation reactions would mostly be catalyzed by transition metal ions (Fe^{2+} , Cu^+), and by semiquinones which can act as electron (e^-) donors (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Blokhina et al. 2003). Four-electron reduction of oxygen in the respiratory electron transport chain (ETC.) is generally associated with a partial one- to three-electron reduction, yielding reactive oxygen species such as $O_2^{\bullet-}$, HO^{\bullet} , H_2O_2 , singlet oxygen (1O_2) and O_3 (Blokhina et al. 2003). Both $O_2^{\bullet-}$ and HO_2^{\bullet} undergo spontaneous dismutation to produce H_2O_2 . In the presence of reduced transition metals such as Fe^{2+} or its complexes that are quite common in biological systems, the HO^{\bullet} radical can be produced by the Fenton reaction. A mechanistic scheme for the generation of HO^{\bullet} in biological systems can be depicted as follows (Eqs. 6.1–6.3) (Buettner et al. 1978; Buettner 1987; Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Blokhina et al. 2003):

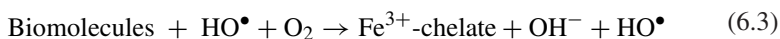
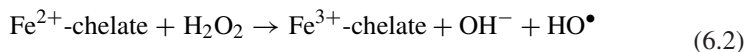
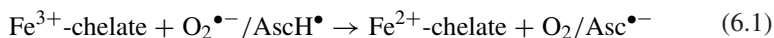
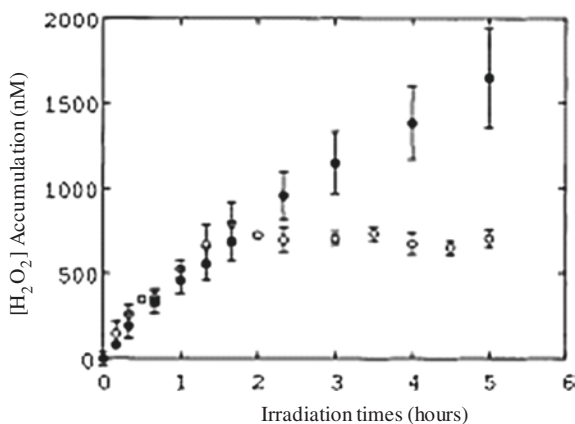


Fig. 9 H_2O_2 concentration during photoirradiation of Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (10 mg L^{-1}) solutions in the absence (\bullet , average of five experiments) and the presence (\circ , average of three experiments) of Fe ($10 \mu\text{M}$) at pH 6.0. *Data source* Southworth and Voelker (2003)



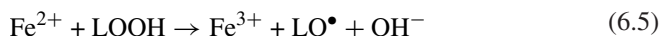
where $O_2^{\bullet-}$ and ascorbate ($AscH^-$) can reduce the Fe^{3+} -chelate to form Fe^{2+} -chelate (Eq. 6.1), which subsequently reacts with H_2O_2 to form HO^\bullet in the Fenton reaction (Eq. 6.2). HO^\bullet then induces the oxidation of biomolecules (Eq. 6.3) in biological systems.

The presence of metals that can act as catalysts in biological systems is caused by the fact that many biomolecules bind transition metals, especially protein moieties containing oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur atoms. The transition metals are coordinated with biomolecules through the *d*-orbitals that can also permit the simultaneous binding of a biomolecule and dioxygen, thus providing a bridge between O_2 and the biomolecule (Miller et al. 1990; Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Khan and Martell 1967; Valentine 1973). The major free radicals with the highest reduction potential are HO^\bullet , RO^\bullet , LOO^\bullet , GS^\bullet , urate, and even the tocopheroxyl radical (TO^\bullet). Ascorbate itself acts as an antioxidant by replacing a potentially very damaging radical (X^\bullet), through the following reaction (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Buettner 1993, 1988):



where $Asc^{\bullet-}$ is the ascorbate radical, which has low reduction potential and does not give additional reaction with O_2 to form further oxidizing species. The kinetics of these electron/hydrogen atom transfer reactions are very fast, as is observed for the equilibrium mixture of $AscH_2/AscH^-/Asc^{2-}$ at pH 7.4 which has been mentioned in earlier section (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Buettner 1988; Ross et al. 1994). Therefore, ascorbate is an excellent antioxidant from both a thermodynamic and kinetic point of view, but Asc^{2-} or $Asc^{\bullet-}$ can produce low levels of superoxide. The removal of $O_2^{\bullet-}$ by superoxide dismutase can prevent further free radical oxidation in biological systems (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996; Williams and Yandell 1982; Scarpa et al. 1983; Winterbourn 1993).

One of the most important impacts of harmful solar UV radiation in biological systems is the skin cancer, which is generally induced by the photoinduced production of free radicals. Formation of 1O_2 within cell membranes is caused by the photodynamic action of the photosensitizers photofrin and merocyanine 540 (Buettner and Jurkiewicz 1996). The 1O_2 reacts with the membrane lipids to form lipid hydroperoxides (LOOH). Skin is a significant iron excretion site (Green et al. 1968), and $Fe(II)$ can react with LOOH to form highly oxidizing lipid alkoxyl radicals (LO^\bullet) by a Fenton-like reaction (Eq. 6.5):



Applications of iron chelators to the skin can give photoprotection in the case of chronic exposure to UV radiation, by reducing the formation of free radicals (Bissett et al. 1991).

Second, another most important impact of HO^\bullet is the declining of plants by the effect of HO^\bullet , which is formed in dew waters of plants by several sources such as NO_2^- , NO_3^- and $H_2O_2 + Fe +$ oxalate system present in the plants

(Arakaki et al. 1998, 1999a, b; Arakaki and Faust 1998; Nakatani et al. 2001; Kobayashi et al. 2002). It is considered that the HO[•] formed in the liquid phase on the needle surfaces of Japanese red pine, which are frequently present in the dew on sunny mornings in the warm-temperate region, are the cause of ecophysiological disorders in plants (Kobayashi et al. 2002). These effects subsequently affect to decrease in the maximum CO₂ assimilation rate, stomatal conductance, minimal fluorescence and needle lifespan (Kume et al. 2000).

7 Summary and Scope of the Future Challenges

The HO[•] radical is the most reactive among the many oxygen transient species produced photolytically in natural waters. However, a few studies on HO[•] production have been conducted on fresh- and seawater as a whole. The HO[•] production in acidic lake waters is not well investigated, although it is known that acidification enhances the formation of HO[•] (Vione et al. 2009). The HO[•] production varies with the contents of DOM, which may be a key factor to understand the photoinduced processes in a variety of natural waters. Moreover, there is no study conducted about production of alkoxide radicals (RO[•]) and their role in the photodegradation kinetics of DOM along with HO[•]. An example of key possible research on free radicals needed for the future challenges are: (i) Effect of pH and temperature on the production of HO[•] for a variation in quality and quantity of DOM in natural waters. (ii) Investigation on the sources of free radicals (HO[•] and RO[•]), particularly from fluorescent dissolved organic matter (FDOM) for a variety of waters. (iii) Photoinduced generation of alkoxide radicals (RO[•]) and their relative reaction kinetics with respect to HO[•] and other solution components. (iv) Impacts of free radicals on specific biota in the aquatic environment.

Problems

- (1) List the various sources of HO[•] and their role in natural waters.
- (2) List three important free radical species except HO[•] and their importance in natural waters.
- (3) How is the steady state concentration of HO[•] defined, and why does the steady state concentration vary for a variety of natural waters?
- (4) Explain why the potential of HO[•] formation is low in surface waters compared to those of deep lakes and the sea.
- (5) Mention the important processes of HO[•] formation in natural waters and explain the mechanism of in situ generation of HO[•] from DOM via H₂O₂.
- (6) Explain why the photo-Fenton reaction is more suitable than the Fenton reaction in the degradation of organic pollutants in aqueous solution.

- (7) Explain how the photo-ferrioxalate/H₂O₂ reaction system degrades the organic pollutants in the aqueous solution.
- (8) Explain how photocatalytic TiO₂ suspensions degrade the organic pollutants in aqueous solutions.
- (9) What are the controlling factors for the production and decay of HO[•]? Explain how fulvic acid plays a dual role in production and decay of HO[•].
- (10) Explain the effect of wavelength spectrum, temperature, and pH on the formation of HO[•] from nitrite and nitrate photolysis in aqueous solution.
- (11) Explain the effect of wavelength spectrum and temperature on H₂O₂ photolysis in aqueous solution.
- (12) Explain how the Fenton reaction is affected by pH, temperature and salinity in natural waters.
- (13) Explain what the photo-Fenton reaction is and what is its kinetics.
- (14) What is the photo-ferrioxalate/H₂O₂ reaction? How is this reaction system affected by variations in pH and reactants in aqueous solution?
- (15) The quantum yield (Φ_{HO}) for the UV photoproduction of HO[•] by nitrite photolysis at 308 nm is 0.07 at room temperature (298 K). Calculate Φ_{HO} at the temperatures of 288 and 328 K.
- (16) The Φ_{HO} for the UV photoproduction of HO[•] by nitrate photolysis at 308 nm is 0.017 at room temperature (298 K). Calculate the Φ_{HO} at the temperatures of 278 and 318 K.
- (17) If the photolysis of aqueous H₂O₂ at 308 nm generates HO[•] with $\Phi_{\text{HO}} = 1$ at room temperature (298 K), then calculate Φ_{HO} at 288 and 303 K.
- (18) Explain shortly the significance of HO[•] formation in natural waters.
- (19) Explain how HO[•] impacts on biota in natural waters.

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Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters

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1 Background

Solar radiation is a universal and regular phenomenon in biosphere that is vital for all life in the Earth's crust. It maintains all the physical, chemical, photoinduced and biological processes of organic matter and dissolved organic matter

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Note that 'Photoinduced and photolytically' has been used instead of "photochemical and photochemically" in this book.

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(DOM) in natural waters. Photoinduced or photolytic processes can maintain the acidity-alkalinity, water transparency, thermal stratification, redox reactions, production of bioavailable carbon substrates to enhance biological productivity, nutrient concentrations, production of dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), autochthonous production of DOM, photosynthesis, formation of surface chlorophyll *a* maxima (SCM) and so on (Harvey et al. 1995; Moran and Zepp 1997; Laurion et al. 2000; Kopacek et al. 2003; Barbiero and Tuchman 2004; Huisman et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2009a, b). Finally, solar radiation is a major source of energy that is of essential importance in natural water ecosystems. The Photoinduced degradation of DOM and its consequences on natural waters are significantly dependent on the spectral range of sunlight under consideration, namely the UV-A (315–400 nm), UV-B (280–315 nm) or visible light (400–700 nm). Depending on the wavelength, there are significant variations as far as sunlight penetration in the water column is concerned (Scully et al. 1996; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Reche et al. 1999). DOM is typically able to absorb UV radiation in sea and lake water (Kirk 1994; Morris et al. 1995), thereby controlling the penetration of UV in the deep water layers. The penetration depths of UV radiation in natural waters are greatly varied, with typical penetration in clear ocean water of ~20 m for UV-B and ~50 m for UV-A radiation. In oligotrophic marine waters, penetration of UV-B radiation is 5–10 m and 0.5–3 m in freshwater (Kirk 1994; Smith and Baker 1981; Waiser and Robarts 2000). Therefore, any changes in the radiation wavelengths or an increase in global temperature can greatly impact on the various biogeochemical processes mentioned earlier. However, researchers do not pay much attention to photoinduced processes to assess the biogeochemical processes in natural waters.

The microbial process is a well-known observable fact that is typically responsible for the in situ generation of DOM, cycling of nutrients, occurrence of deep chlorophyll *a* maxima (DCM), photosynthesis, thermal energy and degradation of organic matter in soil or sediment porewaters, which are vital to water environments (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Conrad 1999; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Roberts et al. 2004; Lovley 2006; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008). Microbial process is generally controlled by bacterial cells and microorganisms, both autotrophs (plants, algae, bacteria) and heterotrophs (animals, fungi, bacteria) in the aquatic environments. Microbial activity is often taking place at the hypolimnion in natural waters as well as in sediment porewaters, and it is most significant in temperate, Arctic and Antarctic regions when the lake epilimnion is covered by ice. There is also no photoinduced degradation taking place at the epilimnion during the ice-covered period. The overall photoinduced and microbial changes in organic matter and DOM components in waters play a significant role in the global carbon cycle and in the biogeochemical processes in the aquatic environment.

This review will provide a common overview on biogeochemical functions of DOM for photoinduced and microbial processes, DOM degradation for a variety of waters, theoretical model and mechanisms for photoinduced and microbial degradation of organic matter and DOM components, reaction rate constants by functional group contribution method, kinetics of photoinduced degradation of DOM, and interactions between photoinduced and microbial degradation in waters. This study also discusses

the key factors that may significantly affect the photoinduced and microbial activities in waters. Finally, this study summarizes the various photoproducts of DOM and depicts their importance on biogeochemical cycles in the aquatic environments.

1.1 Biogeochemical Functions of DOM for Photoinduced Processes in Natural Waters

Photoinduced reactions caused by solar radiation can produce various biogeochemical alterations of DOM that can be listed as follows (Mostofa et al. 2011):

- (1) Photoinduced generation of free radicals, which are susceptible to induce photoinduced degradation of DOM in aqueous media. The free radicals sources include: (i) Photolysis of NO_2^- and NO_3^- ions inducing production of hydroxyl radical (HO^\bullet) in waters (Zafiriou and True 1979a, b; Takeda et al. 2004; Vione et al. 2006; Minero et al. 2007) (ii) Generation of free radical species such as superoxide ion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2), organic peroxides (ROOH) and HO^\bullet by photolysis of CDOM or FDOM in waters (Cooper et al. 1988; Moore et al. 1993; O'Sullivan et al. 2005; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009); (iii) Photoinduced production of HO^\bullet by the photo-Fenton (Zepp et al. 1992; White et al. 2003) as well as the photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reactions (Safarzadeh-Amiri et al. 1996, 1997; Southworth and Voelker 2003).
- (2) Production of new organic substances by photorespiration or assimilation of particulate organic matter (POM: ca. algae or phytoplankton) and high molecular weight DOM. These processes have a deep impact on the carbon cycling and include: (i) Photo-respiration or assimilations of algae that can produce autochthonous fulvic acid and other organic substances as well as nutrients in the aquatic environments (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Thomas and Lara 1995; Fu et al. 2010). (ii) Photoinduced degradation of chlorophyll *a* with production of new organic substances; this process is typically occurring in the photic layer of natural lake and seawater (Rontani 2001; Cuny et al. 2002). (iii) Photoinduced assimilation or degradation of algal biomass in surface waters under natural sunlight, which may produce new DOM or FDOM species in the aquatic environments (Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Thomas and Lara 1995; Fu et al. 2010; Henrichs and Doyle 1986; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Carrillo et al. 2002; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished). (iv) Microbial assimilation or degradation of algal biomass or phytoplankton; in vitro experiments have shown that under dark incubation these processes may produce new DOM or FDOM (Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008; Fu et al. 2010; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Stedmon and Markager 2005). (v) Photoinduced transformation of high-molecular weight DOM into low-molecular weight organic substances; in some cases the process can lead to complete mineralization (Moran and Zepp 1997; Dahlén et al. 1996; Ma and Green 2004; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Vione et al. 2009).

- (3) Photoinduced degradation can regulate water-quality parameters. In particular: (i) Photoinduced degradation changes the physical, chemical and optical properties of water (Kopacek et al. 2003; Vahatalo et al. 2000; Twardowski and Donaghay 2002; Mostofa et al. 2005; Mostofa et al. 2007a, b; Moran et al. 2000), the structure of DOM (Kramer et al. 1996; Kulovaara 1996; Bertilsson and Allard 1996) as well as its molecular weight (Twardowski and Donaghay 2002; Allard et al. 1994; Kaiser and Sulzberger 2004; Yoshioka et al. 2007); (ii) Photoinduced degradation processes can affect the acidity-alkalinity balance and the consumption of dissolved oxygen at the epilimnion level in both lacustrine and oceanic environments (Kopacek et al. 2003; Amon and Benner 1996; Gao and Zepp 1998); (iii) Photoinduced degradation decreases the absorbance of CDOM (and/or FDOM), which can result in water discoloration (Reche et al. 1999) and increases the water-column transparency. A notable consequence is the increased penetration of photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) but also of damaging UV radiation (280–400 nm) in the water column (Laurion et al. 2000). These effects have also an influence on the photoinduced degradation of deep-water DOM (Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Siegel and Michaels 1996); (iv) Photoinduced processes can induce the degradation of organic pollutants or contaminants. A wide variety of photogenerated transients is involved (HO^\bullet , $\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$, $^1\text{O}_2$, $^3\text{CDOM}^*$) (Maddigapu et al. 2011; Minella et al. 2011; Arsene C 2011), but the hydroxyl radical is the reactive species that is less likely to produce secondary toxic pollutants. Therefore, HO^\bullet -induced processes are most likely to achieve efficient decontamination. The photo-Fenton reaction or photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reactions are particularly effective to this purpose (Safarzadeh-Amiri et al. 1997; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Brezonik and Fulkerson-Brekken 1998); (v) Photoinduced degradation of DOM can interact with eutrophication by increasing the phosphate concentration upon decomposition of organic phosphorus present in DOM (Reche et al. 1999; Carpenter et al. 1998; Kim and Kim 2006; Li et al. 2008); (vi) Production of CO_2 as well as other dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) species upon photoinduced degradation of DOM can potentially influence the carbon cycling, and may have an impact on climate change (Salonen and Vähätalo 1994; Graneli et al. 1996, 1998); (vii) The decomposition of DOM affects directly or indirectly the distribution of trace elements in natural waters (Kopacek et al. 2003; Kieber et al. 1989).
- (4) Photoinduced degradation of DOM can be beneficial to the water ecosystem and provides energy for microbial loops. Its effects include: (i) Supply of nutrients, which are naturally important for plankton productivity in natural waters (Kim and Kim 2006; Kirchman et al. 1991; Salonen et al. 1992; Wetzel 1992); (ii) Increase in the pool of bioavailable carbon substrates, which are essential foods for microorganisms (Bertilsson and Allard 1996; Lindell et al. 1996; Wetzel et al. 1995; Benner and Biddanda 1998; Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998; Bertilsson et al. 1999); (iii) Photo-production of reactive species by CDOM or FDOM, such as hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2), organic peroxides (ROOH) and HO^\bullet . These species can contribute damage to macromolecules such as DNA, proteins and lipids (O'Sullivan et al. 2005; Samuilov et al. 2001; Blokhina et al. 2003; Zhao et al. 2003). (iv) The simultaneous generation of H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC from DOM

could favor the occurrence of photosynthesis in natural waters, where H_2O_2 instead of H_2O would be involved as reactant in photosynthesis ($x\text{CO}_2 + y\text{H}_2\text{O}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + h\nu \rightarrow \text{C}_x(\text{H}_2\text{O})_y + \text{O}_2 + \text{energy}$; and $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$) (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003). (v) Production of CO_2 and DIC by photoinduced degradation of DOM and particulate organic matter (POM: ca. algae) can potentially influence carbon cycling and climate change (Ma and Green 2004; Salonen and Vähätalo 1994; Graneli et al. 1998; Clark et al. 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Borges et al. 2008; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Tranvik et al. 2009; Omar et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011).

1.2 Biogeochemical Functions of DOM for Microbial Processes in Natural Waters

The major changes in organic materials and DOM by microbial processes can be listed as follows:

- (i) Microbial degradation of vascular plant material is the only anaerobic process that, according to physical (temperature, moisture), chemical (redox, nutrient availability) and microbial (microfloral successional patterns, availability of microorganisms) factors can diagenetically produce the humic substances (mostly fulvic and humic acids), proteins, carbohydrates, unidentified organic substances and nutrients in soil or sediment pore water environments (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Conrad 1999; Lovley 2006; Wetzel 1992; Malcolm 1985; Nakane et al. 1997; Uchida et al. 1998, 2000).
- (ii) Microbial respiration or assimilation of POM (ca. algae or phytoplankton) can produce autochthonous fulvic acid-like substances (C- and M-like) (see the FDOM chapter for detailed description), various DOM components as well as nutrients at different rates in aquatic environments (Harvey et al. 1995; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Conrad 1999; Lovley 2006; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008; Fu et al. 2010; Weiss et al. 1991; Lehmann et al. 2002; Zhang et al. 2009). The microbial origin of these autochthonous organic substances and nutrients in association with photoinduced production are susceptible to control the organic carbon and nutrients dynamics in natural waters.
- (iii) Microbial processes may generally affect the chemical composition of aliphatic carbon (e.g. carbohydrates) in macromolecules such as humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of vascular plant origin, or autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin. Chemical alterations have been observed either experimentally under dark incubation or in sediment pore waters (Mostofa et al. 2007a, b, 2009b; Conrad 1999; Moran et al. 2000; Deshmukh et al. 2002; Li W et al., unpublished data). The changes in pore-water autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin can be identified by the differences in excitation-emission matrix (EEM) spectra and by an increase with depth of fluorescence intensity in sediment pore waters. Studies observe that the relative increase in fluorescence intensity of peak C (relative to

- humic-like fluorophores) is 43 % in 20–40 cm and 88 % in 42–60 cm depth samples, compared to the average fluorescence intensity at 1–20 cm (Li W et al., unpublished data). Similarly, microbial processes can degrade the protein-like and tryptophan-like components, which are labile to microbial degradation. Microbial processing of these components can be monitored by a decrease in their fluorescence intensity, experimentally under dark incubation and in field observations in deeper layers of natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2005, 2010, 2011; Baker and Inverarity 2004).
- (iv) Methanogenesis caused by microorganisms (methanogens and acetogens) is an important anaerobic process that can produce CH_4 and CO_2 by converting either acetate (and formate) or H_2/CO_2 in anaerobic environments (Conrad 1999; Zinder 1993; Lovley et al. 1996; Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001).
 - (v) Microbial changes either in organic substances (e.g. glucose) or in the functional groups of macromolecules such as fulvic and humic acids of vascular plant origin, as well as autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin, may occur with the release of a variety of byproducts such as CH_4 , CO_2 , DIC (sum of dissolved $\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 + \text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_3^{2-}$), PO_4^{3-} , NH_4^+ , H_2O_2 and organic peroxides in waters (Conrad 1999; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Fu et al. 2010; Ma and Green 2004; Li et al. 2008; Tranvik et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Li W et al., unpublished data; Lovley et al. 1996; Palenik and Morel 1988; Zhang et al. 2004; Kim et al. 2006).
 - (vi) The *Nitrospira* genus and *Nitrobacter* species are the key nitrite-oxidizing bacteria (NOB) in nitrifying waste water treatment plants, which are likely to depend mostly on nitrite concentration (Kim and Kim 2006). In addition, extracellular polymeric substances (EPSs), biologically produced by most bacteria, are composed of a mixture of polysaccharides, mucopolysaccharides and proteins (Arundhati Pal 2008). EPSs produced by anaerobic sludge under sulfate-reducing conditions are capable of biosorption of heavy metals and can remove them from the waste water treatment plant (Chen et al. 1995; Zhang et al. 2010).
 - (vii) A new metabolic class of microorganisms demonstrates that a wide diversity of organic compounds can be effectively converted to electricity in self-sustaining microbial fuel cells with long-term stability (Lovley 2006; Chaudhuri and Lovley 2003; Logan and Regan 2006; Cheng and Logan 2007; Li and Fang 2007; Rozendal et al. 2007; Call and Logan 2008; Lee et al. 2008; Lee and Rittmann 2009, 2010; Premier et al. 2012). These organisms, known as electricigens, can completely oxidize organic compounds to carbon dioxide, with direct quantitative electron transfer to electrodes that serve as the sole electron acceptor (Lovley 2006).

2 Theoretical Model for DOM Degradation in Natural Waters

Solar radiation causes the sequential degradation of functional groups in DOM, which can be optically detected either as chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM, Fig. 1a–c) or as fluorescent dissolved organic matter (FDOM, Fig. 1d–f).

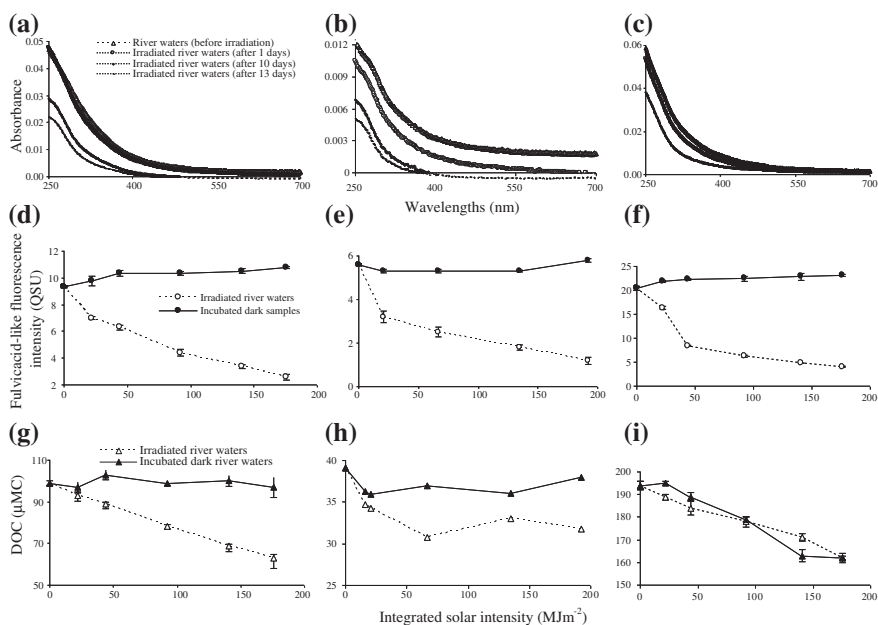


Fig. 1 Photoinduced and/or microbial mineralization of chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM) (a, b, c), fulvic acid-like fluorescence intensity at peak C (d, e, f), and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentration (g, h, i) in the upstream waters of Kago and Nishi-Mataya as well as in the downstream waters of Yasu River, respectively. Photoexperiments are conducted under natural sunlight with integrated solar intensity (0, 22, 44, 92, 141, and 176 MJ m⁻²) during the irradiation period (0, 1, 4, 7, 10, and 13 days, respectively) and microbial experiments are conducted on the filtered samples under dark condition. The quinine sulfate unit (QSU) is estimated using the fluorescence of standard quinine sulfate solution for 1 µg L⁻¹ = 1 QSU. The error bar indicates the standard deviation between triplicate samples. *Data source* Mostofa et al. (2007); Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished)

Degradation takes place with simultaneous mineralization of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) (Fig. 1g–i) in natural waters (Fig. 1) (Vione et al. 2009; Vahatalo et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2005; Mostofa et al. 2007; Moran et al. 2000; Bertilsson and Allard 1996; Allard et al. 1994; Mostofa et al. 2005; Amador et al. 1989; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002). The functional groups in stream humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), with ¹⁴C age = 0 (Malcolm 1990), are highly photosensitive/photoreactive, particularly in rivers (Mostofa et al. 2005, 2007; Wu et al. 2005). Photosensitivity sequentially decreases during water transportation from source (stream water) to rivers and then to lakes or coastal or marine waters on the basis of water residence time (Mostofa et al. 2005a, b, 2007; Malcolm 1990; Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991; Miller and Zepp 1995). The functional groups in DOM (either chromophores in CDOM or fluorophores in FDOM) can efficiently absorb solar radiation in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Wu et al. 2005; Zafiriou et al. 1984; Mopper and Zhou 1990;

Cooper et al. 1989; Senesi 1990). This can subsequently lead to the decomposition of those functional groups in DOM, thereby causing either losses of absorbance in the UV and visible wavelength regions (Fig. 1a–c) (Vahatalo et al. 2000; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Blough and del Vecchio 2002) or losses in fluorescence intensity of FDOM in natural waters (Fig. 1d–f) (Mostofa et al. 2005a, b, 2007; Moran et al. 2000). It can be noted that photoinduced degradation is generally occurring in the mixing zone and decreases with an increase in water depth in natural waters (Vahatalo et al. 2000; Graneli et al. 1996; Mostofa et al. 2005; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000). Photoinduced degradation can reduce the mean molecular size of the high molecular weight DOM (Moran and Zepp 1997; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Amador et al. 1989; Amon and Benner 1994), which subsequently produces low molecular weight (LMW) intermediate substances (Moran and Zepp 1997; Dahlén et al. 1996; Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998; Mopper et al. 1991). This process ultimately ends up in mineralization with formation of e.g. COS, CO, CO₂, DIC, ammonium, gaseous hydrocarbons and so on in natural waters (Moran and Zepp 1997; Ma and Green 2004; Gao and Zepp 1998; Graneli et al. 1996, 1998; Clark et al. 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Borges et al. 2008; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Tranvik et al. 2009; Omar et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011; Mopper et al. 1991; Miller and Zepp 1995; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Chen et al. 1978; Fujiwara et al. 1995; Bushaw et al. 1996; Miller and Moran 1997; Stiller and Nissenbaum 1999; White et al. 2010; Cai 2011).

The rate of photoinduced mineralization of DOM at the depth z (pm_z , mol C $m^{-3} d^{-1}$), modified by Vähätalo et al. (2000) from Schwarzenbach 1993) and Miller (1998), can be expressed as follows:

$$pm_z = \int_{\lambda_{\min}}^{\lambda_{\max}} \varphi_{\lambda} Q_{s,z,\lambda} a_{CDOM,\lambda} d\lambda \quad (2.1)$$

where φ_{λ} is the spectrum of the apparent quantum yield for photoinduced mineralization (mol produced DIC/mol absorbed photons), $Q_{s,z,\lambda}$ is the scalar photon flux density spectrum at a depth z (also referred to as actinic flux, mol photons $m^{-2} d^{-1}$), and $a_{CDOM,\lambda}$ is the absorption spectrum of CDOM (m^{-1}). CDOM or FDOM is the part of DOM that can absorb solar radiation. The parameters λ_{\max} and λ_{\min} are the minimum and maximum wavelengths contributing to photoinduced mineralization.

In the whole water column the rate of photoinduced mineralization, modified by Vähätalo et al. (2000) from Miller (1998), can be expressed as follows:

$$pm = \int_{\lambda_{\min}}^{\lambda_{\max}} \varphi_{\lambda} Q_{a,\lambda} (a_{CDOM,\lambda}/a_{tot,\lambda}) d\lambda \quad (2.2)$$

where $Q_{a,\lambda}$ represents the photons absorbed by the water column (mol photons $m^{-2} d^{-1}$) and the $a_{CDOM,\lambda}/a_{tot,\lambda}$ ratio expresses how much CDOM contributes to the total absorption. In infinitely deep waters, $Q_{a,\lambda}$ roughly equals the downward vector photon flux density just below the surface $Q_{d,v,0-\lambda}$, (Sikorski and Zika 1993a, b).

The quantum yields related to DOM decrease exponentially with increasing wavelength (Moran and Zepp 1997; Vahatalo et al. 2000; Gao and Zepp 1998; Sikorski and Zika 1993; Ratte et al. 1998). A generalized equation to find an exponential relation between quantum yield and wavelength (Vahatalo et al. 2000) can be expressed below:

$$\varphi_{\lambda} = c \times 10^{-d\lambda} \quad (2.3)$$

where c (dimensionless) and d (nm^{-1}) are positive constants and λ is a wavelength (nm). Different combinations of c and d can cover a wide range of exponential relationships between quantum yield and wavelength.

2.1 Photoinduced Degradation of DOM in Natural Waters

Photoinduced degradation can decompose the DOM, estimated as dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentration, in natural waters. This has been verified in photoexperiments conducted on waters by using direct natural sunlight or artificial UV radiation in laboratory. Photoirradiation of the samples can gradually decrease the DOC concentration as a function of integrated solar intensity (MJ m^{-2}) during the irradiation period (Fig. 1g-i). The initial DOC concentration, the changes in DOC changes including relative percentages (%), as well as experimental conditions in photoinduced degradation experiments are summarized in Table 1 (Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Ma and Green 2004; Mostofa et al. 2007; Bertilsson and Allard 1996; Amon and Benner 1996; Mostofa et al. 2005; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Miller and Moran 1997; Mostofa K et al., unpublished; Mostofa and Sakugawa unpublished data; Borisover et al. 2011; Pullin et al. 2004; Shiller et al. 2006; Brooks et al. 2007; Corin et al. 1996; Winter et al. 2007; Skoog et al. 1996). It is shown that DOC concentration photolytically decreases by approximately 21–36 % in stream waters during 12–13 days, 2–54 % in downstream river waters during hours to 10 days, 6–41 % in lake waters during hours to 70 days, 31–36 % in Estuarine waters during 71 days, 3–7 % in seawater during hours to 6 days of irradiation (Table 1). Photoirradiation can decompose 35 % of Nordic Reference humic acid (NoHA) and 24 % of Nordic Reference fulvic acid (NoFA) extracted from humus-rich pond water (Table 1).

It is shown that DOC concentration in rivers photolytically decreases a little, approximately 1–2 % in the surface layer (0 m), during 5.5–15.5 h of sunlight irradiation. The DOC losses decrease in deeper layers (<1 % at 6.5 and 24 m), as has been observed in an in situ photo experiment conducted on rivers submerging at different vertical depths (0, 6.5 and 24 m) in Lake Superior (Table 1) (Ma and Green 2004). In lake waters the DOC mineralization is 22–23 % at the surface layer (0 m), 23–24 % at 6.5 m and 4–9 % at 24 m depth, respectively, during the 5.5–15.5 h irradiation period. The results show that DOM mineralization gradually decreases from surface (0 m) to deeper layers because of declining solar radiation that penetrates into lake water.

Table 1 Photoinduced and microbial changes of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentration during photoirradiation experiments conducted on natural waters as reported elsewhere

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References		
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)			
Kago upstream (July 2000), Japan (35°N)	0.45	12 (irradiated)	192	119	-29	na	-24	na	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Kago upstream (July 2000), Japan (35°N)	0.45	12 (dark)	192	119	na	1 ^a	na	1 ^a	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Kago upstream (June 2001), Japan (35°N)	0.45	13 (irradiated)	176	99	-36	na	-36	na	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Kago upstream (June 2001), Japan (35°N)	0.45	13 (dark)	176	99	na	-2	na	-2	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	0.45	13 (irradiated)	176	38	-12	na	-32	na	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	0.45	13 (dark)	176	38	na	-3	na	-8	Mostofa K et al. (2007a)
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	0.45	12 (irradiated)	192	39	-8	na	-21	na	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	0.45	12 (dark)	192	39	na	-1	na	-3	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)
Yasu River, Japan (35°N)	0.45	13 (irradiated)	176	194	-32	na	-16	na	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Yasu River, Japan (35°N)	0.45	13 (dark)	176	194	na	-32	na	-16	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	0.20	6 (irradiated)	118.5	406	-220	na	-54	na	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References		
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)			
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	0.45	6 (dark)	118.5	433	na	-235	-82	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)	
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	unfiltered ^b	6 (irradiated)	118.5	406	81 ^a	na	20 ^a	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)	
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	unfiltered ^b	6 (dark)	118.5	433	na	-367	na	-85	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	0.20	10 (irradiated)	152.5	412	-90	na	-22	na	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	0.45	10 (dark)	152.5	412	na	-132	na	-32	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	unfiltered ^b	10 (irradiated)	152.5	441	-7	na	-2	na	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	unfiltered ^b	10 (dark)	152.5	441	na	-161	na	-37	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished data)
Kishon River, Israel	filtered (0.20)	10 (dark)	na	792-1100	na	-(167-350)	na	-(22-34)	Borisover et al. (2011)
Parker River, near coastal (USA)		15	nd	703	-27	na	-3.8	na	Pullim et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References	
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)		
Parker River, near caostal (USA) + OH		15	nd	703	-29	na	na	Pullin et al. (2004)
Rio Negro water, Amazon River, 3°S	0.20	3 (irradiated)	nd	~835	-98	na	na	Amon and Benner (1996)
Rio Negro water, Amazon River, 3°S	0.20	3 (dark)	nd	nm	nm	nm	1.2-2.7	Amon and Benner (1996)
Rio Negro water, Amazon River, 3°S	0.20	10 h (1 day)	nd	800	-41	na	na	Amon and Benner (1996)
Rio Negro water, Amazon River, 3°S	0.20	4 h	nd	~785	-18	na	na	Amon and Benner (1996)
Pearl River, Mississippi: 30°N	0.22	21 (irradiated)	nd	~565	-113	NMD	NMD	Shiller et al. (2006)
Laramie River, U.S.A (41°N)	0.20	72 h (irradiated)	nd	2681	-597	na	-22	Brooks et al. (2007)
Chimney Park Wetland, U.S.A (41°N)	0.20	72 h (irradiated)	nd	3610	-666	na	-19	Brooks et al. (2007)
Sturgeon River waters in Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	5.5 h (0 m)	nd	2829	-32	na	-1	Ma and Green (2004)
Sturgeon River waters in Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	15.5 (0 m)	nd	2829	-61	na	-2	Ma and Green (2004)
Sturgeon River waters in Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	5.5 h (6.5 m)	nd	2829	-18	na	-0.6	Ma and Green (2004)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References	
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)		
Sturgeon River waters in Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	15.5 (6.5 m)	nd	2829	-15	na	na	Ma and Green (2004)
Sturgeon River waters in Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	5.5 h (24 m)	nd	2829	-12	na	na	Ma and Green (2004)
Sturgeon River waters in Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	15.5 (24 m)	nd	2829	-25	na	na	Ma and Green (2004)
<i>Lakes</i>								
Lake Biwa, 35°N; surface water (2.5 m)	0.10	12 (irradiated)	137	126	-7	na	na	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)
Lake Biwa, 35°N; surface water (2.5 m)	0.10	12 (dark)	na	126	na	-2	na	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)
Lake Biwa, 35°N; surface water (70 m)	0.10	12 (irradiated)	137	93	-8	na	-9	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)
Lake Biwa, 35°N; surface water (70 m)	0.10	12 (dark)	na	93	na	-7	na	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References		
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)			
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (2.5 m)	<5 kDa	12 (irradiated)	137	73	-5	na	-11	na	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (2.5 m)	<5 kDa	12 (dark)	na	73	na	0	na	0	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (70 m)	<5 kDa	12 (irradiated)	137	63	-10	na	-16	na	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (70 m)	<5 kDa	12 (dark)	na	63	na	2 ^a	na	3 ^a	Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) (2004)
Lake Lacawac, 41°N: surface water	0.20	7 (irradiated)	nd	400	-80	NMD	-20	NMD	Morris and Hargreaves (1997)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References	
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)		
Lake Waynewood, 41°N: surface water	0.20	7 (irradiated)	nd	440	-75	-17	NMD	Morris and Hargreaves (1997)
Lake Giles, 41°N: surface water	0.20	7 (irradiated)	nd	91	NPD	NPD	NMD	Morris and Hargreaves (1997)
Lake Tuscaloosa	0.22	70 (irradiated)	nd	~235	-97	-41	nm	Vähätalo and Wetzel (2004)
Lake Bjän, southern Sweden (58°N)	0.20	75 h (irradiated)	nd	1217	-125	-10	na	Bertilsson and Allard (1996)
Lake Bjän, southern Sweden (58°N)	0.20	75 h (irradiated)	nd	1217	-9	na	-1	Bertilsson and Allard (1996)
Lake Savojärvi, southwestern Finland	0.45	4 h (irradiated)	nd	1769	-396	-22	na	Corin et al. (1996)
Extracted humic acid, Ponder water, Norway	0.45	80 h (irradiated)	nd	5500	-1925	-35	na	Corin et al. (1996)
Extracted fulvic acid, Ponder water, Norway	0.45	80 h (irradiated)	nd	10417	-2500	-24	na	Corin et al. (1996)
Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	5.5 h (0 m)	nd	208	-47	-22	na	Ma and Green (2004)
Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	15.5 (0 m)	nd	208	-48	-23	na	Ma and Green (2004)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References		
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)			
Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	5.5 h (6.5 m)	nd	208	-8	na	-23	na	Ma and Green (2004)
Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	15.5 (6.5 m)	nd	208	-48	na	-24	na	Ma and Green (2004)
Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	5.5 h (24 m)	nd	208	-51	na	-4	na	Ma and Green (2004)
Lake Superior (47°N)	0.20	15.5 (24 m)	nd	208	-19	na	-9	na	Ma and Green (2004)
Lake Erie (42°N)	0.10	Surface water	nd	583, 625	525, 575	583, 667	(10-8)	0, (+)7	Winter et al. (2007)
Luther Marsh northeast (43°N)	0.10	Surface water	nd	817, 958	533, 792	817, 950	(35-17)	0, -1	Winter et al. (2007)
Mill Creek east of Cambridge (43°N)	0.10	Surface water	nd	825, 875	683, 583	833, 883	(17-30)	(+)1	Winter et al. (2007)
Bannister Lake southwest of Cambridge (43°N)	0.10	Surface water	nd	775, 867	617, 642	758, 867	(20-22)	(+)1, -2	Winter et al. (2007)
Sanctuary Pond (41°N)	0.10	Surface water	nd	917, 992	650, 750	892, 1008	(20-24)	(+)2, -3	Winter et al. (2007)
Aldrich humic acid in deionized water	0.10	Surface water	nd	908, 842	675, 600	808, 817	(26-29)	-(11-3)	Winter et al. (2007)
Seawaters									
Satilla Estuary	0.20	70 (irradiated)	nd	2046	-628	na	-31	na	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary	0.20	70 (irradiated)	nd	1972	-706	na	-36	na	Moran et al. (2000)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation	
Satilla Estuary, control (nonincubated)	0.20	51 (dark incubated)	nd	1886–1946na	(170–215) na	(8–11)	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary, control (incubated)	0.20	51 (dark incubated)	nd	1881–2004 na	(171–209) na	(9–10)	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary, 12–16 % photobleached	0.20	51 (dark incubated)	nd	1728–1874 na	(227–261) na	(13–14)	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary, 21–25 % photobleached	0.20	51 (dark incubated)	nd	1563–1739 na	(177–261) na	(11–15)	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary, 32–44 % photobleached	0.20	51 (dark incubated)	nd	1498–1548 na	(170–292) na	(11–19)	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary, 59–64 % photobleached	0.20	51 (dark incubated)	nd	1249–1386 na	(194–322) na	(16–23)	Moran et al. (2000)
Seawater + humic substances (SH)	0.20	16 h (Artificial sunlight)	nd	695 –22	na –3	na	Miller and Moran (1997)
Seawater + the control addition (SC)	0.20	16 h (Artificial sunlight)	nd	515 –21	na –4	na	Miller and Moran (1997)
Artificial seawater + the control addition (AC)	0.20	16 h (Artificial sunlight)	nd	241 –7	na –3	na	Miller and Moran (1997)
Seawater + humic substances (SH)	0.20	14 (Dark incubation)	nd	695 na	–67 na	–10	Miller and Moran (1997)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Type of samples/Locations	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h, or, day)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	DOC Before irradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Changes in DOC		References	
					Photoirradiation ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Microbial Photoirradiation (%)		
Seawater + the control addition (SC)	0.20	14 (Dark incubation)	nd	515	na	-39	-8	Miller and Moran (1997)
Artificial seawater + the control addition (AC)	0.20	14 (Dark incubation)	nd	241	na	-13	-5	Miller and Moran (1997)
Baltic Sea, BY15, Gotland Deep (57°N)	0.20 (unfiltered)	6	nd	328	-10	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, BY32, Norrköping Deep (58°N)	0.20 (unfiltered)	6	nd	347	-10	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, F15, Sydostbrotten (63°N)	0.20 (unfiltered)	4	nd	331	-23	nd	-7	Skoog et al. (1996)

^a means an increase in DOC concentration occurred during incubation period

^b means incubated unfiltered sample filtered before analytical measurements using Ekicrodisc 25 mm syringe filter with 0.45 mm HT-Tuffryn Membrane (PALL, Gelman Laboratory)

(-) means losses in DOC concentration, *na* not applicable; *nm* not exactly mentioned
NPD nosignificant photochemical degradation; *NMD* no significant microbial degradation

From the results of photoinduced degradation of DOM (Table 1), several key phenomena highlighted the DOM photoinduced degradation in natural waters: First, photoinduced degradation is greatly dependent on the initial concentration of DOC: high photo mineralization is observed in waters with low DOC concentration, while mineralization greatly decreases with increasing DOC concentration. Second, photo mineralization of DOM is typically high in source waters (stream waters) and then decreases in downstream rivers or lakes or seawater. Third, photoinduced degradation is a relatively rapid process for mineralization of DOM compared to microbial degradation in natural waters, except for rivers that contain sewage effluents. It is demonstrated that the photoinduced mineralization of DOM is relatively high during the first day of irradiation in experimental observations, and then almost gradually decreases during the irradiation period (Table 1).

The results of photoinduced degradation on molecular size fractions of DOM demonstrate that photo mineralization is approximately 6 % for large molecular fractions ($<0.10 \mu\text{m}$) in surface lake waters compared to 9 % in deep waters during 12 days irradiation (Table 1). The results also show that photo mineralization of molecular fractions $<5 \text{ kDa}$ is relatively higher in deeper waters (16 %) than in surface layers (11 %), and it is higher compared to the $0.1 \mu\text{m}$ fractions of DOM (Table 1). These results can highlight four important features about the photoinduced degradation of DOM. First, molecular fractions $<0.1 \mu\text{m}$ in surface waters composed of approximately 35 % of autochthonously produced DOC during the summer stratification period may not be photolytically susceptible to mineralization (Mostofa et al. 2009a). Second, molecular fraction of $<5 \text{ kDa}$ are highly susceptible to photoinduced degradation. Third, DOM in deeper layers is highly susceptible to photo mineralization. It can be noted that the DOC in Lake Biwa is autochthonously produced (45 %) during the summer stratification period, as estimated from higher DOC in summer ($135 \mu\text{M C}$ in August) than in winter ($\sim 93 \mu\text{M C}$ in January) samples during the vertical mixing period (Mostofa et al. 2005). The low photodegradative nature of surface DOM appears to be caused by autochthonous production ($\sim 45 \%$ in Lake Biwa), thus autochthonous DOM might be resistant to photoinduced mineralization. This result is in agreement with earlier studies where phytoplankton-exudate DOM, which is the major DOM source from bacterial production (Azam and Cho 1987), is resistant to photoinduced degradation by natural sunlight (Thomas and Lara 1995).

The highly photo-reactive nature of DOM in deeper waters than in the surface layer appears to be caused by two phenomena. First, major fractions of DOM in deeper waters belong to low molecular weight substances (Yoshioka et al. 2007), which may be photolytically mineralized. Second, microbial assimilation or respiration of particulate organic matter (POM: ca. algae) can produce the autochthonous DOM, which are highly photosensitive and photodegradable (Mostofa K et al., unpublished; Zhang et al. 2009; Johannessen et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2009). The experimental study suggests that the algal-derived DOM is photolytically decomposed by natural sunlight, which is a more efficient photoinduced substrate than is the allochthonous DOM (Mostofa K et al., unpublished; Johannessen et al. 2007; Hulatt et al. 2009). The autochthonous organic substances in deeper layers are typically

distinguished by a red shift of the fluorescence peak compared to the upper surface layer (Yoshioka et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2005; Hayase and Shinozuka 1995). These autochthonous substances are also identical to the organic substances produced experimentally upon photoinduced and microbial assimilations of algae (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fu et al. 2010). This hypothesis is supported by the features of autochthonous fulvic acid extracted from POM in sea waters or sediment pore waters, which typically show the fluorescence peak at longer wavelength regions (see also chapter “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Li W et al., unpublished data; Komada et al. 2002; Burdige et al. 2004; Managaki and Takada 2005; Calace et al. 2006; Parlanti et al. 2000). Another possible explanation is that photolabile DOM in the surface water layers is probably quickly mineralized by sunlight, which leaves only the more photolytically refractory substances near the surface, while photolabile DOM in the deeper layers is more protected from mineralization by the lower sunlight intensity. Interestingly, groundwater DOM has been found to be significantly more susceptible to photo mineralization than surface lake water DOM (Vione et al. 2009).

2.2 Microbial Degradation of DOM in Natural Waters

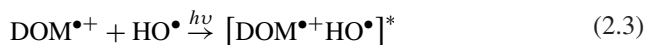
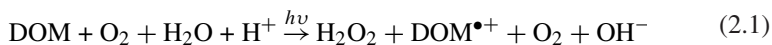
Microbial actions can decompose the DOM, estimated as dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentration, in natural waters. This has been verified in experiments conducted on waters under dark conditions. Microbial activity can decrease DOC concentrations either slowly or rapidly depending on the DOM sources during the incubation period (Fig. 1g–i). The initial DOC concentration, amount of DOC changes and its percentage (%), as well as other experimental conditions in microbial degradation experiments are presented in Table 1. It is demonstrated that the decrease of DOC concentration because of microbial activity for various natural waters is approximately 0–8 % in stream waters during 12–13 days, 1–85 % in downstream river waters during hours to 10 days, 0–8 % in lake waters during hours to 70 days, 8–23 % in estuarine waters during 51 days, 5–10 % in seawaters during 14 days of incubation period under dark conditions (Table 1) (Mostofa et al. 2007; Moran et al. 2000; Bertilsson and Allard 1996; Mostofa et al. 2005; Miller and Moran 1997; Mostofa and Sakugawa unpublished data ; Borisover et al. 2011; Winter et al. 2007). From the results of microbial degradation (Table 1) it is possible to generalize several key features commonly observed in natural waters: First, downstream DOM, particularly in sewerage-impacted rivers is significantly labile to microbial degradation. Second, upstream DOM is typically recalcitrant to microbial degradation (Fig. 1g). Third, microbial degradation is typically a slow process for the mineralization of DOM in natural waters, except for downstream rivers with sewage effluents. For example, DOC mineralization rapidly occurs in unfiltered and filtered dark samples (32–85 %) of downstream rivers where DOM is mostly fluxed from untreated sewerage effluents near urban areas (Table 1; Fig. 1i) (Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa and Sakugawa unpublished data).

The results of microbial degradation on molecular size fractions of DOM demonstrate that DOC mineralization is approximately 2 % for large molecular

fractions ($<0.10 \mu\text{m}$) in surface layers and 8 % in deeper layers (Table 1). However, DOM with molecular fractions of $<5 \text{ kDa}$ is not altered at all under dark incubation (Table 1). These results can suggest four important features about microbial degradation of DOM in natural waters. First, molecular fractions of $<0.1 \mu\text{m}$ in both lake surface and deeper waters are labile to microbial degradation, but deeper waters are much labile than surface waters. It is also suggested that autochthonous DOM in surface waters, typically produced during the summer stratification period, is less susceptible to microbial processes. It can be noted that the DOC concentration in Lake Biwa waters is autochthonously produced (45 %) during the summer stratification period, as estimated from the summer DOC values ($135 \mu\text{M C}$ in August) that are higher than the winter ones ($\sim 93 \mu\text{M C}$ in January) during vertical mixing (Mostofa et al. 2005). Second, DOM with molecular weight $<5 \text{ kDa}$ in both surface and deeper layers is not susceptible to microbial degradation.

2.3 Mechanisms of the Photoinduced Degradation of DOM in Natural Waters

The HO^\bullet radical plays a significant role in photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters (Zepp et al. 1992; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Zafriou et al. 1984; Zika 1981; Voelker et al. 1997). Photoinduced degradation of DOM generally occurs upon direct absorption of UV and visible sunlight by functional groups in DOM, which are optically detected either as chromophores in CDOM or fluorophores in FDOM. Evidence has been provided that an electron transfer from functional groups on DOM can lead to the photoinduced formation of H_2O_2 in aqueous solution (Eqs. 3.13–3.18, see also chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Senesi 1990). H_2O_2 subsequently leads to the generation of HO^\bullet , by direct photochemistry or by Fenton/photo-Fenton/photo-ferrioxalate reaction systems. These processes can be involved into the photo transformation of DOM in natural waters. Therefore, a general mechanistic scheme for photoinduced degradation of DOM can be depicted as follows (Eqs. 2.1–2.4):



First, H_2O_2 is formed photolytically through production of $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ ion by the release of electrons from DOM chromophores or fluorophores, due to solar effects (Eq. 2.1) that have been discussed earlier in chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”. Subsequent irradiation converts H_2O_2 into HO^\bullet either photolytically (Eq. 2.2), or via Fenton and

photo-Fenton reactions and the other processes that have been mentioned earlier in chapter “[Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters](#)”. The generated HO^\bullet can rapidly react with the $\text{DOM}^{\bullet+}$, initially formed during H_2O_2 production (Eq. 2.1), to form a complex $(\text{DOM}^{\bullet+} \text{HO}^\bullet)^*$ (Eq. 2.3) that is subsequently transformed into low molecular weight DOM (LMWDOM), dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), CO_2 , and other byproducts (Eq. 2.4). It is noted that the sequential photoinduced degradation of functional groups in DOM will be elucidated in the next section.

The described mechanism might be applicable in merely DOM-rich natural waters. However, in iron-rich waters the degradation of DOM might be caused by the HO^\bullet radicals mostly generated from Fenton reaction (Fenton 1894; Kang et al. 2000), photo-Fenton reaction (Zepp et al. 1992; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Voelker et al. 1997) and photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reaction (Safarzadeh-Amiri et al. 1997; Safarzadeh-Amiri et al. 1996; Jeong and Yoon 2005) depending on the concentrations of iron as well as oxalate ions in waters. The mechanisms for HO^\bullet production from Fenton, photo-Fenton and photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reaction have been discussed earlier in chapter “[Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters](#)”. Another most important pathway of HO^\bullet production is the photolysis of NO_2^- and NO_3^- , thereby causing the indirect photodegradation of DOM by NO_2^- and NO_3^- in waters (Zafiriou and True 1979a, b; Takeda et al. 2004; Minella et al. 2011; Arakaki et al. 1999; Mack and Bolton 1999).

Therefore, the photoinduced transformation of DOM may undergo by two major pathways depending on the production of free radicals ($^\bullet\text{OR}$, $\text{R}=\text{H}$ or alkyl group) in aqueous solution. First, direct photoinduced reactions of DOM, which take place by HO^\bullet or other reactive species that may be photolytically generated from DOM components in natural waters. Second, indirect photoinduced reactions of DOM, which typically occur photolytically by HO^\bullet that may be generated from Fenton reaction, photo-Fenton reaction, photo-ferrioxalate/ H_2O_2 reaction, as well as NO_2^- and/or NO_3^- photolysis in natural waters. If the direct photoinduced processes dominate, the rates of photoinduced degradation as well as of product formation will be proportional to the amount of light absorbed by DOM components such as FDOM or CDOM (Cooper et al. 1989; Blough and Zepp 1995; Goldstone et al. 2002). The indirect photoinduced processes induce the homogeneous production of HO^\bullet , which subsequently leads to non-selective photoinduced degradation of all organic moieties in DOM in natural waters (Haag and Hoigné 1985; Zepp et al. 1987; Zhou and Mopper 1990; Nakatani et al. 2004). These results can suggest two important facts that occur in photoinduced reactions: (a) Photobleaching can typically proceed with photoproduction of LMW organic substances via direct mechanisms, especially in waters having high FDOM or CDOM content such as in river, lake and coastal waters, and (b) Photoinduced generation of LMW organic substances can typically proceed via indirect mechanisms. The photoinduced generation rate of HO^\bullet in lake water by CDOM/FDOM and other sources was too low to account for the photoinduced mineralization of DOM. The latter process appears to be favoured in Fe-rich waters, and possibly involves the photochemistry of Fe(III)-DOC complexes (Vione et al. 2009).

2.4 Mechanisms for Photoinduced Degradation of DOM Functional Groups by HO[•]

It has been shown that the photoinduced generation of HO[•] from DOM occurs primarily through H₂O₂ that is produced via photoionization of the most electron-rich organic compounds. The process yields DOM^{•+}, which initiates several other reactions (Eqs. 2.1, 2.2). The HO[•] radical can subsequently react with DOM^{•+} and initiate complex chain reactions (Eq. 2.3). The sequential reactions with HO[•] yields various end products such as LMWDOM, CO₂, DIC and CO (Eq. 2.4).

The group contribution method (GCM) by Minakata and his co-workers (Minakata et al. 2009) allows the prediction of the aqueous phase HO[•] rate constants for various functional groups of a given organic compound. It may pave the way to understand the mechanism for the degradation of organic compounds in Advanced Oxidation Processes (AOPs) such as O₃/H₂O₂, UV/H₂O₂ and UV/TiO₂, as well as in natural water photochemistry (Mostofa et al. 2007, 2011; Moran et al. 2000; Minakata et al. 2009; Huber et al. 2003; Rosenfeldt and Linden 2004; Westerhoff et al. 2005; Minakata et al. 2011). The rate constants are discussed in the following section. Photodecarboxylation ($\text{RCOOH} + 1/2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow \text{ROH} + \text{CO}_2$) is one of the important reactions for generating CO₂ by degradation of LMWDOM such as RCOOH in aqueous media (Xie et al. 2004). Another possible pathway could involve phosgene, which is generated photolytically from photosensitive chloroform ($\text{CHCl}_3 + \text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow \text{COCl}_2 + \text{HCl}$) (Shriner and Cox 1943). The phosgene (COCl₂) is highly photosensitive and highly reactive, and it could degrade fluorophores such as the amino groups ($\text{RNH}_2 + \text{COCl}_2 \rightarrow \text{RN}=\text{CO} + 2 \text{HCl}$) or carboxylic functional groups ($\text{RCO}_2\text{H} + \text{COCl}_2 \rightarrow \text{RC(O)Cl} + \text{HCl} + \text{CO}_2$) (Mostofa et al. 2011; Shriner and Cox 1943). It is noted that macromolecules such as stream fulvic acid and humic acid of vascular plant origin are composed of various functional groups such as -COOH, methoxyl, alcoholic OH, phenolic OH, carbohydrate OH, -C=C-, C=O, aromatic carbon (17–30 %), aliphatic carbon (47–63 %) as well as N, S, and P-atom-containing functional groups (Malcolm 1985; Steelink 2002). Marine DOM of biological origin is composed of amino group in its molecular structure (Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998, 1996). The photoinduced reactions of natural organic matter can lead to the sequential degradation of various functional groups (Mostofa et al. 2011; Xie et al. 2004; Minakata et al. 2009, 2011; Shriner and Cox 1943; Li and Crittenden 2009), of organic molecules bound to fulvic and humic acids (Allard et al. 1994; Amador et al. 1989), and to the sequential decrease in fluorescence intensity of fulvic acid-like substances (peak C and A) with irradiation time (Mostofa et al. 2007, 2011; Moran et al. 2000). The general reaction mechanisms that HO radicals induce are a parent compound → aldehydes and ketones → carboxylic compounds → carbon dioxide and minerals (Bolton and Carter 1994). This reaction mechanism is mostly applicable to fulvic acid and humic acid of plant origin, autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin, proteins and aromatic amino acids, and of all the compounds that can initiate the reaction through self-generation of HO[•] via H₂O₂ photo production.

2.4.1 Reaction rate Constants by Functional Group Contribution Method

Recently, it has been possible to determine the aqueous phase HO[•] reaction rate constants by the functional GCM, which can be applied to the photoinduced degradation of a given organic compound in aqueous media (Minakata et al. 2009). The GCM is based on Benson's thermochemical group additivity (Benson 1976). Under the principle of group additivity, it is hypothesized that an observed experimental rate constant for a given organic compound is the combined rate of all elementary reactions involving HO[•], which can be estimated using Arrhenius activation energy E_a and frequency factor A . Each reaction mechanism defines a base activation energy, E_a^0 , and a functional group contribution of activation energy, E_a^{Ri} . The latter results from the neighboring (i.e., α -position) and/or the next-nearest neighboring (i.e., β -position) functional group (i.e., Ri). The GCM considers four reaction mechanisms that can be initiated by HO[•] in the aqueous phase, which include (1) H-atom abstraction, (2) HO[•] addition to C C double bond(s) on alkenes, (3) HO[•] addition to C=C double bond(s) on aromatic compounds, and (4) HO[•] interaction with sulfur (S)-, nitrogen (N)-, or phosphorus (P)-atom-containing compounds (Minakata et al. 2009). Accordingly, an overall reaction rate constant, k_{overall} , can be given by Eq. 2.5

$$k_{\text{overall}} = k_{\text{abs}} + k_{\text{add-alkene}} + k_{\text{add-aromatic}} + k_i \quad (2.5)$$

where, k_{abs} , $k_{\text{add-alkene}}$, $k_{\text{add-aromatic}}$, and k_{int} are the rate constants for the aforementioned reaction mechanisms (1)–(4), respectively.

Rate constant for hydrogen-atom abstraction (Minakata et al. 2009): For H-atom abstraction, the active bond is a C–H bond. In general, molecules are categorized based on the number of C–H bond(s) (i.e., CH₃R₁, CH₂R₁R₂, and CHR₁R₂R₃, where R_{*i*} is a functional group ($i = 1-3$)). Each of the fragments corresponds to a partial rate constant $k_{\text{CH}_3\text{R}_1}$, $k_{\text{CH}_2\text{R}_1\text{R}_2}$, and $k_{\text{CHR}_1\text{R}_2\text{R}_3}$, respectively. The C–H bond itself and adjacent functional group(s) contributes to the overall E_a as the base activation energy, E_a^0 , and group contribution parameter, $E_{a,\text{abs}}^{Ri}$, due on the functional group R_{*i*}, respectively. For example, the base activation energy for H-atom abstraction from one of the primary C–H bonds is $E_{a,\text{prim}}^0$. The $E_{a,\text{abs}}^{Ri}$ indicates the electron-donating and—withdrawing ability of the functional group. An electron-donating functional group decreases the E_a and, hence, increases the overall reaction rate constant, and vice versa. Accordingly, the partial rate constant for the fragmented parts such as CH₃R₁, CH₂R₁R₂ and CHR₁R₂R₃ can be written as below (Eqs. 2.6–2.8)

$$k_{\text{CH}_3\text{R}_1} = 3A_{\text{prim}}e^{-\frac{E_{a,\text{prim}}^0 + E_{a,\text{abs}}^{R_1}}{RT}} \quad (2.6)$$

$$k_{\text{CH}_2\text{R}_1\text{R}_2} = 2A_{\text{sec}}e^{-\frac{E_{a,\text{sec}}^0 + E_{a,\text{abs}}^{R_1} + E_{a,\text{abs}}^{R_2}}{RT}} \quad (2.7)$$

$$k_{\text{CHR}_1\text{R}_2\text{R}_3} = A_{\text{tert}}e^{-\frac{E_{a,\text{tert}}^0 + E_{a,\text{abs}}^{R_1} + E_{a,\text{abs}}^{R_2} + E_{a,\text{abs}}^{R_3}}{RT}} \quad (2.8)$$

where 3 is the amount of primary C–H bonds, A_{prim} denotes the Arrhenius frequency factor for the reaction of $\text{HO}\cdot$ with CH_3R_1 , R is the universal gas constant, and T denotes absolute temperature. However, for (Eqs. 2.6–2.8), the functional group contribution is ignored for cases where the neighboring functional groups have no effect on the H-atom abstraction (i.e., $E_{a,\text{abs}}^{\text{H}}$ is zero, where a valence bond of the H-atom is expressed as a line before H).

In (Eqs. 2.6–2.8), the group rate constants, which represent H-atom abstraction from the primary, secondary and tertiary C–H bond are defined as k_{prim}^0 , k_{sec}^0 , and k_{tert}^0 , respectively. They are expressed in (Eqs. 2.9–2.11).

$$k_{\text{prim}}^0 = A_{\text{prim}}^0 e^{-E_{a,\text{prim}}^0/RT} \quad (2.9)$$

$$k_{\text{sec}}^0 = A_{\text{sec}}^0 e^{-E_{a,\text{sec}}^0/RT} \quad (2.10)$$

$$k_{\text{tert}}^0 = A_{\text{tert}}^0 e^{-E_{a,\text{tert}}^0/RT} \quad (2.11)$$

In addition, the group rate constant k_{R_4} is defined for the $\text{HO}\cdot$ interaction with the functional group R_4 (e.g. $-\text{OH}$ and $-\text{COOH}$). The group contribution factor, X_{R_i} , that represents the influence of functional group R_i can be denoted as (Eq. 2.12)

$$X_{\text{R}_i} = e^{-E_{a,\text{abs}}^{\text{R}_i}/RT} \quad (2.12)$$

The rate constant for H-atom abstraction, k_{abs} , can be written as the sum of the partial rate constants in (Eq. 2.13) because each reaction is independent from one another

$$k_{\text{abs}} = 3 \sum_0^I k_{\text{prim}}^0 X_{\text{R}_1} + 2 \sum_0^J k_{\text{sec}}^0 X_{\text{R}_1} X_{\text{R}_2} + \sum_0^K k_{\text{tert}}^0 X_{\text{R}_1} X_{\text{R}_2} X_{\text{R}_3} + k_{\text{R}_4} \quad (2.13)$$

where, I , J , and K denote the number of the fragments CH_3R_1 , CH_2R_2 , and $\text{CHR}_1\text{R}_2\text{R}_3$, respectively.

As a typical example the rate constant calculation for 1,2-dichloro-3-bromopropane ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}-\text{CHCl}-\text{CH}_2\text{Br}$) can be written as below (Eq. 2.14)

$$k_{\text{overall}} = 2k_{\text{sec}}^0 X_{-\text{Cl}} X_{-\text{CHCl}} + k_{\text{tert}}^0 X_{-\text{Cl}} X_{-\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}} X_{-\text{CH}_2\text{Br}} + 2k_{\text{sec}}^0 X_{-\text{Br}} X_{-\text{CHCl}} \quad (2.14)$$

It is shown that group rate constants of k_{prim}^0 , k_{sec}^0 , and k_{tert}^0 are 1.18×10^8 , 5.11×10^8 , and $1.99 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively and follow the order $k_{\text{tert}}^0 > k_{\text{sec}}^0 > k_{\text{prim}}^0$ that is consistent with the radical stability of primary, secondary, and tertiary carbon-centered radicals due to the hyperconjugation. The term k_{R_4} is accounted for by the group rate constants $k_{-\text{OH}}$ and $k_{-\text{COOH}}$, respectively (Eq. 2.13). The $k_{-\text{OH}}$ is $1.00 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, representing 33, 8.5, and $<5\%$ of the

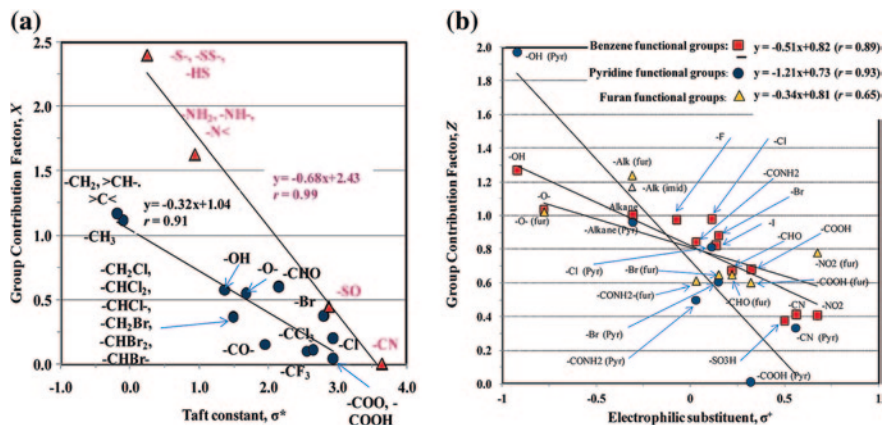


Fig. 2 Comparison of the group contribution factors for H-atom abstraction with the Taft constant, σ^* (a; Karelson 2000) and those for HO \bullet addition to aromatic compounds with electrophilic substituent parameter, σ^+ (Fig. b; Karelson 2000). Group contribution factors include \bullet alkyl, oxygenated, and halogenated functional groups and \blacktriangle S-, N-, or P-atom-containing functional groups (Fig. a). Group contribution factors for benzene (\blacksquare), pyridine (\bullet), and furan (\blacktriangle) compounds (Fig. b). The σ^* of $[-\text{CHCl}_2]$, $[-\text{CO}]$, $[-\text{COO}$, $\text{COOH}]$, $[-\text{S-}$, $-\text{SS-}$, $\text{HS-}]$, $[-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH-}$, $-\text{N<}]$ is an average of $[\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, CH_2Br , CHCl_2 , $\text{CHBr}_2]$, $[\text{COCH}_3$, COC_2H_5 , $\text{COC}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, COC_6H_5 , COF , $\text{COCl}]$, $[\text{COOH}$, $\text{COOC}_2\text{H}_5]$, $[\text{SCH}_3$, SC_2H_5 , $\text{SCH}(\text{CH}_3)_2]$, and $[\text{NHCH}_3$, $\text{NH}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3$, $\text{N}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2]$, respectively. The σ^* of $[-\text{SO}]$ and $[-\text{N-CO-}]$ refer to $[\text{S}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3]$ and $[\text{NHCOC}_6\text{H}_5]$, respectively. Data source Minakata et al. (2009)

H-atom abstraction from the O–H bond in methanol, ethanol, and other alcohol compounds, respectively, which is comparable with the experimental observations (Asmus et al. 1973). The $k_{\text{-COOH}}$ is $7.0 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, which is consistent with experimental data for oxalic acid (Getoff et al. 1971).

It is demonstrated that the group contribution factors for the H-atom abstraction linearly correlate with the Taft constant, σ^* (Karelson 2000) (Fig. 2). The alkyl functional groups may often weaken the C–H bond with release of the steric compression. The alkyl functional group moves apart to form a planar radical, thereby increasing the HO \bullet reactivity in the H-atom abstraction reactions. Therefore, $X_{\text{-CH}_3}$ and $X_{\text{-CH}_2-} \approx X_{>\text{CH-}} \approx X_{>\text{C<}}$ values are greater than 1.0, which correspond to negative values of the Taft constant (Fig. 2). In contrast, low values of the group contribution factors for any functional groups indicate their electron-withdrawing ability ($\sigma^* > 0$).

Rate constant for HO \bullet addition to alkenes (Minakata et al. 2009): The detailed mechanisms of HO \bullet addition to alkenes in the aqueous phase are not well documented in earlier studies (Getoff 1991; Billamboz et al. 2010). It is generally considered that π -electrons in alkene compounds ($>\text{C}=\text{C}<$) absorb radiation to form an excited state, which then releases electron (e^-) to form H_2O_2 and $>\text{C}=\text{C}^+<$ (Eq. 2.1; chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”, Eqs. 2.13–2.18). The HO \bullet then reacts with C^+ to form the reaction intermediates. The excitation of

the π -electrons in $>C=C<$ depends on the other functional groups bonded to the alkene.

Except ethylene, alkenes are categorized into six basic structures on the basis of the number of H atoms and their positions, including *cis* and *trans* conformations (i.e., $>C=C<$, $H>C=C<$, $H_2C=C<$, $H>C=C<H$ (*cis*), $H>C=C<H$ (*trans*), and $H_2C=C<H$). If the base structure is symmetrically associated with the number and position of hydrogen atom(s), the probability of HO^\bullet addition to two unsaturated carbons is considered to be identical, whereas it is different for the asymmetrical base structure. This may reflect the differences in the A resulting from regioselectivity. Accordingly, the group rate constant, $k^\circ_{(\text{structure})-h}$, and group contribution factor, Y_{Rl} , for HO^\bullet addition to one of the base structures can be written using Arrhenius frequency factor, $A^\circ_{(\text{structure})-h}$, and group contribution parameter, $E_{a,\text{add-alkene}Rl}$ of the functional group R_l (l denotes the number of functional groups, $l = 1-4$):

$$k^\circ_{(\text{structure})-h} = A^\circ_{(\text{structure})-h} e^{-[E^\circ_{a,(\text{structure})}]/RT} \quad (2.15)$$

$$Y_{Rl} = e^{-[E_{a,(\text{structure})Rl}]/RT} \quad (2.16)$$

where (structure) represents six base structures, $E^\circ_{a(\text{structure})}$ denotes a base part of E_a for (structure), and h denotes a position for HO^\bullet to add i.e., 1 and 2 for the addition to the left and right carbon, respectively. The rate constant for HO^\bullet addition to alkene, $k_{\text{add-alkene}}$, can be written as below (Eq. 2.17)

$$k_{\text{add-alkene}} = \sum g k^\circ_{(\text{structure})-h} Y_{Rl} \quad (2.17)$$

where g indicates the 1 or 2 that represents asymmetrical and symmetrical addition, respectively. The rate constant for tetrachloroethylene ($Cl_2C=CCl_2$) as a typical example that is shown below (Eq. 2.18):

$$k = 2k^\circ_{>C=C<} Y_{-Cl} Y_{-Cl} Y_{-Cl} Y_{-Cl} \quad (2.18)$$

Few rate constants are reported for the conjugated and unconjugated dienes. It is shown that the group contribution factors do not linearly correlate with the Taft constant. Two reasons can be considered. First, the functional group contribution to the E_a does not follow the general inductive effect (i.e., Taft constant). Second, the experimental rate constants do not seem to follow the inductive effect (e.g., vinyl chloride $>$ ethylene $>$ vinyl alcohol) because of experimental errors or the existence of unknown reaction mechanisms. Considering new reaction mechanisms such as the excitation of alkenes by radiation may pave the way for future studies in that regard. Despite the observation of the nonlinear correlation between the group contribution factors and the Taft constant, 79 % of the calibrated rate constants were within the error goal, which might be acceptable for a rate constant estimator.

Rate constants for HO^\bullet Addition to Aromatic Compounds (Minakata et al. 2009): The HO^\bullet addition to the aromatic ring often occurs at rates close to diffusion-control. The electron-donating and -withdrawing functional groups on the aromatic ring can significantly affect the rate constants and the ratio of *ortho*-, *meta*-, *para*-, and *ipso*-addition. For the HO^\bullet addition to aromatic compounds,

the following points are considered: (i) Probability for the symmetrical HO[•] addition to the benzene ring is identical (ii) Addition to the *ipso*-position is negligible for the aromatic compounds with single functional groups (e.g., <8 % for phenol and <1 % for chloro benzene) due to the significant steric effect (Raghavan and Steenken 1980; Merga et al. 1996; Mvula et al. 2001). Therefore, only when all positions on the aromatic ring are filled with functional groups, HO[•] adds to the *ipso*-position with identical probability for all the available positions.

For the determination of the reaction rate constant, the E_a is a sum of two parts: (i) a base part, E_a^o , resulting from the HO[•] addition to the aromatic ring depending on the number(s) and position(s) of the functional groups and (ii) group contribution parameter(s), $E_{a,\text{add-aromatic}R_m}$, due to the functional group(s), R_m (where m is the number of functional group(s), $m = 1-6$), on the aromatic ring. To reduce the number of group contribution factors to calibrate, it is assumed that A differs not by the type of the functional groups but by their number and position. Accordingly, the group rate constant, $k_{(i\text{-name})-j}^o$, and the group contribution factor, Z_{R_m} , may be expressed as below (Eqs. 2.19, 2.20)

$$k_{(i\text{-name})-j}^o = A_{(i\text{-name})-j}^o e^{-[E_a^o(i\text{-name})]/RT} \quad (2.19)$$

$$Z_{R_m} = e^{-\left(E_{a,\text{add-aromatic}R_m}\right)/RT} \quad (2.20)$$

where $A_{(i\text{-name})-j}^o$ denotes the Arrhenius frequency factor; $E_{a(i\text{-name})}^o$ denotes a base part of E_a ; the name (benz, pyr, fur, imid, or triaz) denotes a compound that has a base structure of benzene, pyridine, furan, imidazole, or triazine, respectively; i denotes position(s) of the functional group, and j denotes position(s) for HO[•] to add. The rate constant for the HO[•] addition to aromatic compounds can be expressed by (Eq. 2.21)

$$k_{\text{add-aromatic}} = \sum n k_{(i\text{-name})-j}^o Z_{R_m} \quad (2.21)$$

where n indicates the number of available position(s) to add. The rate constant for 1,4-*tert*-butylphenol [(CH₃)₃C-C₆H₄-OH] can be depicted as a typical example (Eq. 2.22)

$$k = \left\{ 2k_{(1,4\text{-benz})-2,6}^o + 2k_{(1,4\text{-benz})-3,5}^o \right\} Z_{-\text{OH}} Z_{\text{-alkane}} + 3 \times 3 \times k_{\text{prim}X_{>C<}} + k_{-\text{OH}} \quad (2.22)$$

The group contribution factors for the HO[•] addition to aromatic compounds, against electrophilic substituent constants σ^+ are depicted in Fig 2b for benzene ($r = 0.89$), pyridine ($r = 0.93$), and furan ($r = 0.65$) compounds (EPI 2007). The figure shows that the group contribution factors that are empirically derived from the experimental rate constants linearly correlate with the general electron-donating and -withdrawing property. It is shown that a total of 64 % of the rate constants for 64 compounds from the prediction is within the error goal.

Rate constants for HO[•] interactions with S-, N-, or P-atom containing compounds (Minakata et al. 2009): The HO[•] radical reacts with the S-, N-, or

P-atom-containing functional groups bonded to a given compound in the aqueous phase forming a $2\sigma/1\sigma^*$ two-center-three-electron (2c–3e) adduct (Bonifačić 1999). These functional groups also affect the H-atom abstraction reaction by donating or withdrawing electrons on the C–H bonds. The group rate constant, k_{R4} (Eq. 2.13) represents the reaction of HO^\bullet with S-, N-, or P-atom-containing compounds. The influence of neighboring functional groups is considered as negligible. The rate constant, k , for HO^\bullet addition to iminodiacetic acid ($\text{HOOC-CH}_2\text{-NH-CH}_2\text{-COOH}$) as a typical example is expressed below (Eq. 2.23):

$$k = 2 \times 2k_{\text{sec}}^{\text{O}} X_{\text{-COOH}} X_{\text{-NH-}} + k_{\text{-NH-}} + 2k_{\text{-COOH}} \quad (2.23)$$

It is shown that the group rate constants $k_{\text{-CN}}$ and $k_{\text{-NH}_2}$ can be compared with the rate constants for compounds that react with HO^\bullet via only interaction such as cyanogen and thiourea, respectively. The rate constant for thiourea (which has two -NH_2 groups) is approximately twice $k_{\text{-NH}_2}$, because the electron positive -CS- functional group does not significantly affect the electron density of the N atom. The reaction of HO^\bullet with urea is presumably different because the two amine functional groups of urea are bonded to the electron-negative functional group, -CO- . Thus, another group rate constant $k_{\text{-N-CO-N-}}$ is considered for methylurea, tetramethyl urea, and 1,3-dimethylurea. The magnitude of most group rate constants for the S-containing compounds is of the same order as for the amine-containing ones, but approximately 1 order of magnitude larger than for the amide-containing compounds. This might be caused by the electron-negative -CO- functional group of the amide. The S-, N-, or P-atom-containing group contribution factors apparently play the same role as the functional groups for H-atom abstraction, i.e., $X_{Ri} = e^{-(Ea, \text{absRi})/RT}$. However, it is anticipated that S-, N-, or P-atom-containing functional groups may have different effects on H-atom abstraction. The group contribution factors for -S , -S-S- , and -SH , and -NH_2 , -NH- , and -N< , respectively, are assumed to be identical due to the following reasons: (1) limited data availability for single functional group compounds, (2) similar electron inductive ability, and (3) application for the gaseous phase. In addition, the same data sets for the S- and N-atom-containing compounds are used to calibrate the group rate constants, $k_{\text{-S-}}$, $k_{\text{-S-S-}}$, and $k_{\text{-SH}}$, and $k_{\text{-NH}_2}$, $k_{\text{-NH-}}$, and $k_{\text{-N<}}$, respectively. These group rate constants are not assumed to be identical because the interaction of HO^\bullet with each functional group might be more significant than the electron donating effects of the functional groups. For similar electron inductive ability, the Taft constant indicates similar values among the S- and N-atom-containing functional groups. For example, the Taft constants for SCH_3 , SC_2H_5 , and SH are 1.66, 1.44, and 1.52, respectively (Karelson 2000), and those for NH_2 , NHCH_3 , $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$, $\text{NH}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3$, and $\text{N}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2$ are 0.62, 0.94, 1.02, 1.08, and 1.00, respectively (Karelson 2000). These values are well distinguished from 3.61 of NH_3^+ , 4.66 of NO_2 , 4.16 of $\text{N}^+(\text{CH}_3)_3$, and 3.64 of CN . Finally, it is assumed that the group contributed factors for -S- , -S-S- , and -SH , and for -NH_2 , -NH- , -N< , -NNO , and -NNO_2 are identical, which successfully predicted the gas-phase HO^\bullet rate constants (Atkinson 1986, 1987; Kwok and Atkinson 1995). A linear correlation between

Table 2 Hydrogenotrophic homoacetogens and methanogens isolated from various environments

Microorganism	Growth temp (°C)	Optimum temp (°C)		References
<i>Acetobacterium bakiia</i>	1–30	20	Sediments of a polluted pond	Kotsyurbenko et al. (1995)
<i>Acetobacterium paludosuma</i>	1–30	20	Sediments of a fen	Kotsyurbenko et al. (1995)
<i>Acetobacterium fumetariuma</i>	1–35	30	Manure digested at low temp	Kotsyurbenko et al. (1995)
<i>Acetobacterium tundraeb</i>	1–30	20–25	Tundra wetlands	Simankova et al. (2000)
<i>Methanogenic strain MSB</i>	1–32	25–30	Sediments of a polluted pond	Kotsyurbenko et al. (2001)
<i>Methanogenic strain MSP</i>	4–35	25–30	Sediments of a polluted pond	Kotsyurbenko et al. (2001)
Methanobacterium strain MB4	5–30	25–30	Peat samples	Kotsyurbenko et al. (2007)

the group contribution factors of S-, N-, or P-atom-containing functional groups and the Taft constant, σ^* , is observed ($r = 0.99$) (Fig. 2) (Karelson 2000). The X_{Ri} values for S-, N-, or P-atom-containing functional groups are greater than those of the alkyl, oxygenated, and halogenated functional groups (Fig. 2). This suggests that S-, N-, or P-atom-containing functional groups donate more electrons toward the neighboring C–H bond(s), thereby enhancing the H-atom abstraction by HO^\bullet .

The GCM includes 66 group rate constants and 80 group contribution factors, which characterize each HO^\bullet reaction mechanism with steric effects of the chemical structure groups and impacts of the neighboring functional groups, respectively (Minakata et al. 2009). The group contribution factors for H-atom abstraction and HO^\bullet addition to the aromatic compounds linearly correlate with the Taft constants, σ^* , and the electrophilic substituent parameters, σ^+ , respectively. The best calibrations for 83 % (257 rate constants) and predictions for 62 % (77 rate constants) of the rate constants are within 0.5–2 times the experimental values. Literature-reported experimental HO^\bullet rate constants for 310 and 124 compounds are used for calibration and prediction, respectively.

Although there are a few tools available to determine aqueous phase hydroxyl radical reaction rate constants (Minakata et al. 2011; Herrmann 2003; Monod et al. 2005; Minakata and Crittenden 2011; Herrmann et al. 2010), the GCM is quoted as “The wide application range in combination with the user-friendliness makes it probably the best currently available estimation tool for HO radical reactions in aqueous solution. Overall, the method of Minakata et al. (2009) is currently the most broadly usable method for the prediction of HO radical reaction rates in aqueous solution (Herrmann et al. 2010). The GCM peer-reviewed paper provided both MS Excel spread sheet and compiled Fortran program as support information. Any users are able to access these programs and determine the aqueous phase HO^\bullet reaction rate constants with inputs of structural information of a compound of interest.

Various functional groups widely differ for their reaction rate constants with HO• (Fig. 2). Similarly, the production rates of H₂O₂ and HO• photolytically formed from different organic compounds are much varied (Table 1: chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”; Table 2: chapter “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”). Variations in the production rates depend on the chemical nature of the functional groups bonded to each organic compound. Therefore, it can be concluded that the functional groups have an important impact both on the photoinduced production of HO• and on the HO• reaction with organic compounds. Both issues are very significant for the photoinduced processes that involve dissolved organic matter in surface waters.

2.5 Mechanisms of Microbial Degradation of DOM in Natural Waters

The organic matter in wastes and biomass is diagenetically altered by complex microbial processes into various kinds of organic substances such as long-chain fatty acids, C₃ to C₅ organic acids, alcohols, aromatic compounds, humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of terrestrial plant origin, autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin, acetate, formate, methanol, CO₂, H₂, as well as minor products. These processes take place in waters, in soil environments or in sediment pore waters of lake and marine systems (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Conrad 1999; Lovley 2006; Li W et al., unpublished data; Burdige et al. 2004; Yang and Guo 1990; Leenheer and Croue 2003).

The functional groups of organic substances and the minor components may be subsequently converted into CO₂, methane and other products by fermentative microorganisms and Fe(III)-reducing microorganisms. These processes take place with simultaneous reduction of an array of electron acceptors, including oxygen, H₂, nitrate, manganese oxides, Fe(III) oxides, sulfate, H₂S, and humic substances in water (Lovley 2006; Lovley et al. 1996; Nagase and Matsuo 1982; Jetten et al. 1992; Coleman et al. 1993; Roden and Wetzel 1996; Pelmentschikov et al. 2002; Keppler et al. 2006; Itoh et al. 2008; Reguera et al. 2005).

Fe(III)-reducing microorganisms, commonly *Geobacter* species in temperate environments (Lovley et al. 2004), and Fe(III)-reducing archaea in warm environments (Kashefi et al. 2004) metabolize the fermentation products and the functional groups in organic substances. They are oxidized to CO₂, with Fe(III) oxides serving as the electron acceptor (Lovley 2006; Lovley et al. 1996). The mechanism for CO₂ formation from Fe(III) oxide in the presence of *Geobacter* spp. is depicted (Fig. 3) (Lovley et al. 1996):

The general reactions for microbial Fe(III) reduction coupled with the oxidation of fermentation products such as acetate (Eq. 2.24) and hydrogen (Eq. 2.25) are described below (Eqs. 2.24, 2.25) (Coleman et al. 1993; Lovley 1991).

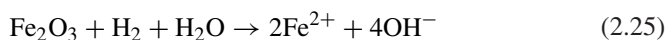
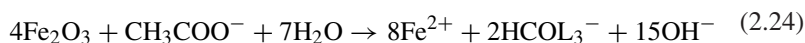
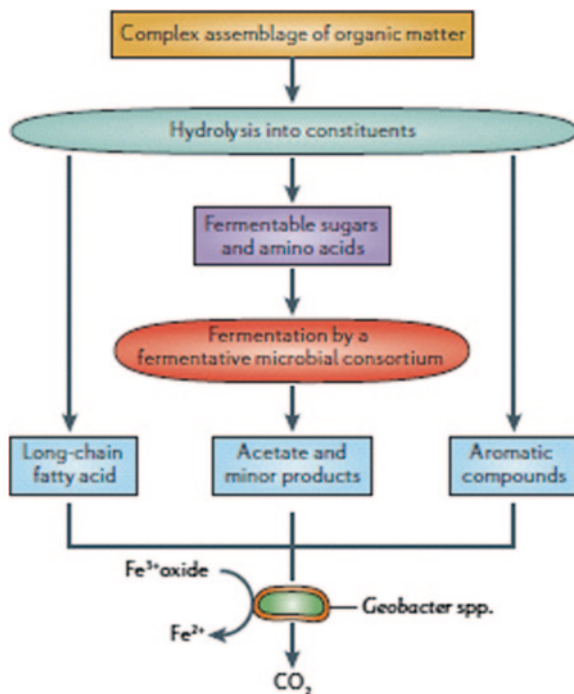
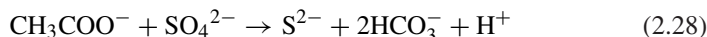
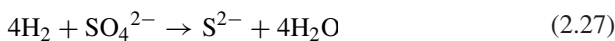


Fig. 3 Generalized pathway for the anaerobic oxidation of organic matter to carbon dioxide with Fe^{3+} oxide serving as an electron acceptor in temperate, freshwater and sedimentary environments. The process is mediated by a consortium of fermentative microorganisms and *Geobacter* species (ca. *Geobacter metallireducens*). Data source Lovley (2006)

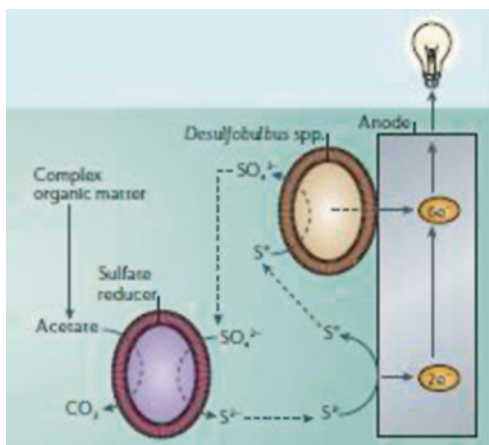


The ferrous iron, hydroxyl ions and bicarbonate, produced together in (Eqs. 2.24, 2.25) can combine to form siderite in aquatic sediment porewaters (Eq. 2.26) (Coleman et al. 1993). Evidences from that research study show that two genera of sulphate-reducing bacteria, *Desulfobacter* and *Desulfovibrio*, can oxidize H_2 and acetate in aquatic sediment waters (Coleman et al. 1993). It is shown that H_2 is the most important electron donor for *Desulfovibrio* (Eq. 2.27), and acetate is the most environmentally significant electron donor for *Desulfobacter* (Eq. 2.28) sulphate reducing bacteria (Coleman et al. 1993):



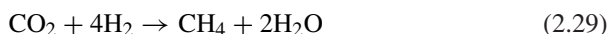
The study shows that *Desulfobulbus propionicus* can oxidize S to SO_4^{2-} with an electrode serving as the electron acceptor (Lovley 2006). This is an important reaction at the anode surface in sediments, where high concentrations of sulphide can abiotically react with electrodes producing S^0 (Fig. 4) (Lovley 2006). This abiotic reaction merely yields two out of eight electrons potentially available from sulphide (S^{2-}) oxidation (Fig. 4). Oxidation of S^0 to SO_4^{2-} extracts six electrons and regenerates SO_4^{2-} as an electron acceptor for further microbial reduction by microorganisms in the family *Desulfobulbaceae* (Lovley 2006; Holmes et al. 2004).

Fig. 4 Mechanism by which sulfate reducer can convert acetate to CO₂ and reduced sulphur compounds to electricity production in sediment microbial fuel cells in sulphide-rich sediments.
Data source Lovley (2006)



A pure culture of *Desulfovibrio desulfuricans* can readily reduce Fe(III), but *Desulfobacter postgatei* and *Desulfobactercurvatus* cannot (Coleman et al. 1993). The experimental study showed the occurrence of the metabolism of Fe(III) and sulphate by *D. desulfuricans*; at low concentrations of H₂ in aquatic sediments, Fe(III) might be the predominant electron acceptor (Coleman et al. 1993). It has been evidenced that fermentation or methanogenesis do not metabolize the organics rapidly (Lovley 2006), but can produce a number of minor components such as acetate, formate, methanol, CO₂ and H₂ at the end of the metabolic process (Yang and Guo 1990; Roden and Wetzel 1996; Zeikus et al. 1975; Lovley and Klug 1986; Lovley and Phillips 1987). These products are subsequently used for methane formation.

Methanogenic bacteria are a diverse subgroup of *archaebacteria* (*Archaea*) that convert CO₂ into methane to provide energy (31 kcal/mol) for the cell (Eq. 2.29) (Thauer et al. 2008; Thauer 1998):



The conversion of glucose to alcohols and fatty acids during the fermentation allows the utilization of the standard Gibbs free energy content (Conrad 1999; Thauer et al. 1977). The degradation of alcohols and fatty acids to acetate and H₂ caused by syntrophic bacteria is endoergonic under standard conditions (Conrad 1999; Thauer et al. 1977), but it can take place when it is combined with H₂-consuming methanogenesis (Conrad 1999). Hydrogenotrophic and acetotrophic methanogenesis may convert fermentation products or glucose to CH₄ and/or CO₂.

The mechanism for methane formation in methyl-coenzyme M reductase (MCR) has been evidenced using the B3LYP hybrid density functional method and chemical models consisting of 107 atoms (Pelmenschikov et al. 2002). In this mechanism, the reaction starts with CoB and methyl-CoM coenzymes and with the active Ni(I) state of the tetrapyrrole F₄₃₀ prosthetic group, which then forms a

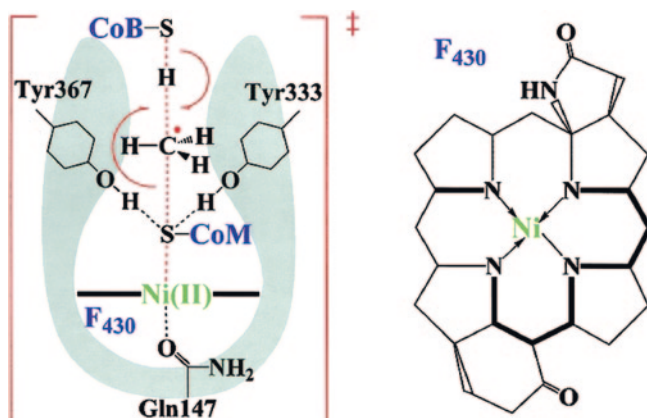
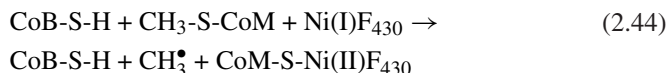
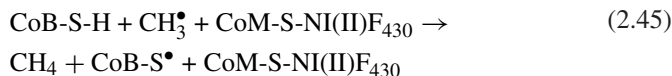


Fig. 5 The mechanism for methane formation in methyl-coenzyme *M* reductase (MCR) in methanogenesis. *Data source* Pelmenschikov et al. (2002)

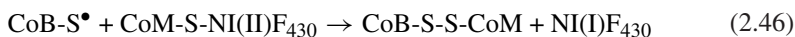
free methyl radical at the transition state (Fig. 5). A methyl radical is then released from methyl-CoM, induced by the attack of Ni(I) on the methyl-CoM thioether sulfur, which oxidizes the metal center from Ni(I) to Ni(II). The latter forms a strong bond of 38.6 kcal/mol with the sulfur of CoM (Eq. 2.44):



The resulting methyl radical is rapidly quenched by hydrogen-atom transfer from the CoB thiol group, yielding the CH₄ and the CoB radical. The pathway has activation energy of approximately 20 kcal/mol, leading to stereoinversion at the reactive carbon (Eq. 2.45):



In the final step, formation of heterodisulfide CoB-S-S-CoM is proposed in which nickel is reduced back to Ni(I) (Eq. 2.46).



It can be noted that methyl-coenzyme M is 2-mercaptoethanesulfonic acid that is unique to the methanogens, and coenzyme B is 7-mercaptoheptanoylthreonine phosphate that includes an aliphatic linker of six methylene units between the phosphothreonine head group and the thiol group.

A recent study shows that MCR is the key enzyme in methane formation by methanogenic *Archaea* when it is incubated with the natural substrates

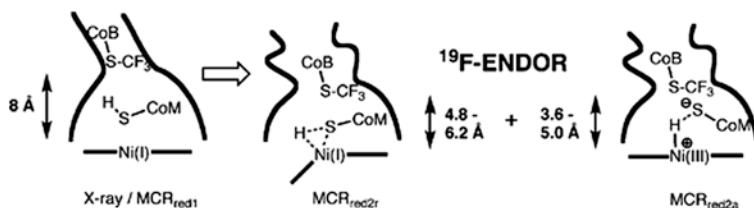


Fig. 6 The mechanism for methane formation in methyl-coenzyme *M* reductase (MCR) in methanogenesis in presence of natural substances. Data source Ebner et al. (2010)

(Ebner et al. 2010). In this mechanism, the enzyme converts the thioether methyl-coenzyme M, and the thiol coenzyme B, into methane and the heterodisulfide of coenzyme M and coenzyme B (Ebner et al. 2010). In the presence of the competitive inhibitor coenzyme M instead of methyl-coenzyme M, addition of coenzyme B to the active Ni(I) state of MCR_{red1} induces two new species called MCR_{red2a} and MCR_{red2r} (Fig. 6). The two MCR_{red2} signals can also be induced by the *S*-methyl- and the *S*-trifluoromethyl analogs of coenzyme B. It is thus suggested that the protein may undergo a conformational change upon formation of MCR_{red2} species in the transition from MCR_{red1}, which opens up the possibility that nickel coordination geometries other than square planar, tetragonal pyramidal, or elongated octahedral might occur in intermediates of the catalytic cycle (Ebner et al. 2010).

The degradation of specific aliphatic carbon or functional groups by microbial processes in natural waters may preferentially occur in macromolecules such as fulvic and humic acids of terrestrial plant origin, as well as autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin. The microbial changes in the functional groups of organic substances are typical phenomena in sediment pore waters, where a decrease of the acidic functional groups as well as an increase of basic and neutral functional groups occurs with depth (Rosenfeld 1979; Burdige and Martens 1988; Wu and Tanoue 2001; Maita et al. 1982; Steinberg et al. 1987). Such changes in functional groups of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) can be understood from the vertical increase in fluorescence intensity with depth, identified with excitation and emission matrix (EEM) of pore water samples and their parallel factor (PARAFAC) modeling in the pore waters of lakes (Li W et al., unpublished data). The low values of fluorescence index for autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) at deeper depth, compared with upper sediment pore water, confirm the changes with depth in the functional groups of that component (Li W et al., unpublished data). Such changes might be a useful indicator for complex microbial processing of the functional groups of autochthonous fulvic acids in the pore waters of lakes. Therefore, it is suggested that microbial degradation may diagenetically alter either the minor components (e.g. acetate) or the functional groups bound to macromolecules, such as fulvic and humic acid from terrestrial plants and autochthonous fulvic acid from algal biomass, generating CO₂, CH₄ and other products.

2.6 Kinetics of Photoinduced Degradation of DOM

Photoinduced degradation can decrease the concentration of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) as a function of the integrated solar intensity (Fig. 7) (Mostofa et al. 2005, 2007). The changes in the DOC concentration can be best fit with a first order reaction as reported below (Eq. 2.47):

$$\ln(DOC/DOC_0) = -k_1 S \quad (2.47)$$

where k_1 is the reaction rate constant for the photoinduced degradation of DOC, DOC is organic carbon concentration after irradiation and DOC_0 the initial one, and S is the integrated solar intensity or photon energy (MJ m^{-2}) (Fig. 7a) (Mostofa et al. 2007).

Kinetics studies on the photoinduced degradation of DOM can explain several important phenomena in waters (Mostofa et al. 2007). First, stream DOM undergoes rapid photoinduced degradation ($1.8\text{--}2.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$ in waters of the Kago and Nishi-Mataya upstreams) (Mostofa et al. 2007). Second, microbial degradation under dark incubation is quite low or negligible for upstream DOM ($0.7\text{--}4.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$ for the same upstreams). Third, in rivers that include various sources of DOM the latter can be uniformly degraded both photolytically ($9.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$) and microbiologically ($11 \times 10^{-4} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$) (Fig. 1c and d).

3 Factors Controlling the Photoinduced Degradation of DOM in Natural Waters

Photoinduced degradation of DOM depends on the sources of waters, concentration level and optical-chemical nature of DOM, time and space. Photoinduced degradation of DOM is an important phenomenon that plays a significant role in the biogeochemistry of the carbon cycle, biological activity and primary and secondary productions in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Ma and Green

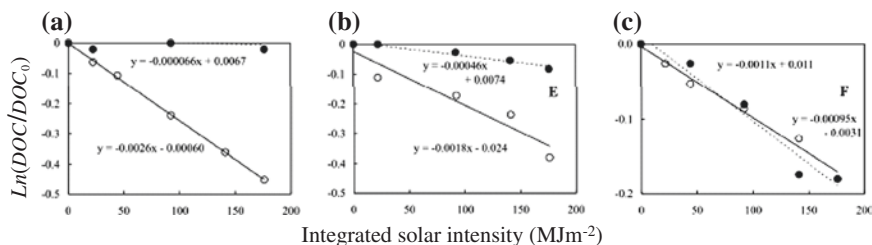


Fig. 7 Relationship between the $\ln(DOC/DOC_0)$ and the integrated solar intensity (MJm^{-2}) in the Kago upstream (a), Nishi-Mataya upstream (b), and in the downstream waters of Yasu River (c). Data source Mostofa et al. (2007)

2004; Vahatalo et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2000, 2007; Gao and Zepp 1998; Graneli et al. 1996, 1998; Wu et al. 2005; Mopper et al. 1991; Miller and Zepp 1995; Miller and Moran 1997; Rosenstock et al. 2005; Nieto-Cid et al. 2006). The Photoinduced degradation rate is mostly dependent on several major factors that are greatly related to variable local conditions and to the concentration levels and molecular nature of DOM. The key factors are: (1) Sunlight or solar radiation, (2) Water temperature, (3) Effects of total dissolved Fe and photo-Fenton reaction, (4) Occurrence and quantity of NO_2^- and NO_3^- ions, (5) Molecular nature of DOM, (6) pH and alkalinity of the waters, (7) Dissolved oxygen (O_2), (8) Depth of the water, (9) Physical mixing in the surface mixing zone, (10) Increasing UV-radiation during ozone hole events, (11) Global warming and (12) Salinity.

3.1 Sunlight or Solar Radiation

Solar radiation is the key factor for photoinduced degradation of DOM or organic contaminants in water (Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Reche et al. 1999; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Vahatalo et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007; Moran et al. 2000; Wu et al. 2005; Molot and Dillon 1997; Dobrović et al. 2007). Photoinduced degradation of DOM depends on the spectral wavelengths of solar radiation such as UV-A (315–400 nm), UV-B (280–315 nm), and visible light (400–700 nm) as well as their significant variations after penetration in the water column (Scully et al. 1996; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Reche et al. 1999; Vahatalo et al. 2000; Graneli et al. 1996, 1998; Lindell et al. 1996; Kieber et al. 1990; Molot and Dillon 1997; de Haan 1993; Herndl et al. 1993; Valentine and Zepp 1993). DOM is typically susceptible to absorb UV radiation in sea and lake waters (Kirk 1994; Morris et al. 1995). The penetration of UV radiation in natural waters is greatly variable, with typical penetration depths in clear ocean water of ~20 m for UV-B and ~50 m for UV-A radiation, 5–10 m for UV-B radiation in oligotrophic oceans and 0.5–3 m in freshwaters (Kirk 1994; Smith and Baker 1981; Waiser and Robarts 2000). It can be expected that the photoinduced degradation of DOM is significantly dependent on the attenuation of downward irradiance in natural waters. It has been shown that the contribution of solar intensity to total photoinduced degradation of DOM in lakes is 39–69 % by UV-A, 9–17 % by UV-B, and 23–44 % by visible light radiation (Vahatalo et al. 2000). Photoinduced mineralization of natural DOC is increased <9 % when the UV-B radiation is doubled in humic lakes (Vahatalo et al. 2000). Control irradiation by wavelengths 254 nm (hereafter UV) and 185 nm (hereafter VUV) on DOM demonstrates that the DOM degradation rate at 185 nm increases approximately ten-fold compared to those at 254 nm. An increase in fluxes of the UV radiation can substantially increase the quantity of the reactive free radicals such as HO^\bullet and H_2O_2 in waters (Qian et al. 2001; Rex et al. 1997; Yocis et al. 2000). Rex et al. 1997; Yocis et al. 2000; During an ozone hole event, the production rates of HO^\bullet are greatly enhanced in Antarctic waters (Qian et al. 2001; Rex et al. 1997). The HO^\bullet is the most powerful oxidizing agent that can be involved into

the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters, although there is evidence that the formation rate of HO^\bullet may be insufficient to account for the DOM mineralization (Vione et al. 2009).

Variations in the spectral irradiance penetration among various waters and in the effect of radiation wavelength on DOM transformation might be caused by three factors. First, concentration levels and molecular nature of DOM can modify the absorption spectrum for a variety of waters. Second, contents of total iron, a major factor of HO^\bullet production through photo-Fenton reaction and probably also of DOM mineralization through HO^\bullet -independent processes (Vione et al. 2009), are greatly varied for a variety of waters. Third, depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer may greatly increase the UV-B radiation, thereby enhancing the photoinduced mineralization of DOM by UV-B (Qian et al. 2001; Randall et al. 2005). An effort is still needed to account for the different results obtained in different studies. On the one hand, a limited increase (~4 %) in DOM photoinduced mineralization has been observed in Brazil compared to Sweden, although the dose of UV-B was three-fold higher in Brazil than in Sweden (Graneli et al. 1998). On the other hand, half of the total photoinduced degradation of DOM was attributable to wavelengths shorter than 360 nm (Vahatalo et al. 2000).

3.2 Water Temperature

Air temperature is greatly varied from 0 to approximately 50 °C in different regions, which might control the water temperature (WT) and its variation in natural waters. A low WT can reduce the movement of the reactants in the aqueous solution, thereby causing a decrease in the reaction kinetics of DOM in waters. WT that is driven by solar intensity is directly related to the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 . The H_2O_2 in river shows a significantly higher production in summer and lower in winter (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2003, 2009). The lower production of H_2O_2 due to low WT and solar irradiance may subsequently decrease the production rate of HO^\bullet (Qian et al. 2001) and, as a consequence, the photoinduced degradation rate of DOM in aqueous solution.

3.3 Effects of Total Dissolved Fe and Photo-Fenton Reaction

The concentration of total dissolved Fe is one of the most important factors for the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters (Vione et al. 2009; Gao and Zepp 1998; Wu et al. 2005; Gennings et al. 2001), through the photo-Fenton reaction (Zepp et al. 1992; Southworth and Voelker 2003; McKnight et al. 1988; Arakaki and Faust 1998); or via HO^\bullet -independent processes (Vione et al. 2009). The generation rate of HO^\bullet is much higher for elevated Fe levels in acidic waters (McKnight et al. 1988; Allen et al. 1996). The oxidation of Fe^{2+} by photo-generated H_2O_2 causes the production of HO^\bullet and Fe^{3+} , but Fe^{2+} is regenerated from Fe^{3+} by several pathways via the process of $h\nu/\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$. The regeneration of Fe^{2+} greatly enhances the

production of HO^\bullet (Vione et al. 2004) and leads to high photoinduced degradation of DOM in iron-rich waters. Addition to the water of fluoride ion or deferoxamine mesylate (DFOM) can form unreactive Fe^{3+} complexes, inhibiting iron photoreduction and slowing down the photoinduced degradation of DOM (Gao and Zepp 1998; Wu et al. 2005). The photoinduced formation of DIC, CO and NH_4^+ has been greatly affected by the addition of fluoride ion to the water of the River Satilla (Gao and Zepp 1998). Thus, the photo-Fenton reaction plays an important role in natural waters, especially in acidic waters. The photoinduced degradation rate constant of humic acid is significantly decreased by the addition of fluoride, but that of fulvic acid is not affected (Wu et al. 2005). Dissolved Fe is thus thought to play an important role in the photoinduced degradation of humic acid rather than fulvic acid. Due to the higher aromaticity of humic acid as compared to fulvic acid (30–51 % of aromatic carbon vs. 14–20 %) (Malcolm 1985; Gron et al. 1996), humic acid is more susceptible to react with HO^\bullet which is generated from the photo-Fenton reaction ($\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{HO}^\bullet + ^-\text{OH} + \text{Fe}^{3+}$) (Zepp et al. 1992; Senesi 1990; Minakata et al. 2009; Chen and Pignatello 1997). Therefore, it is likely that humic acid is the DOM component that undergoes the fastest photoinduced degradation in natural waters.

3.4 Occurrence and Quantity of NO_2^- and NO_3^- Ions

Photoinduced degradation of DOM can be affected by the occurrence and concentration levels of NO_2^- and NO_3^- ions, both of which are efficient in the production of HO^\bullet upon photolysis in waters (see also chapter “[Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters](#)”) (Zafiriou and True 1979a, b; Takeda et al. 2004; Vione et al. 2006; Mack and Bolton 1999; Nakatani et al. 2004; Chin et al. 2004). Contribution of HO^\bullet production in sewage polluted rivers is 48–80 % from NO_2^- and 2–19 % from NO_3^- , but the contribution is 6–26 % and 1–49 %, respectively, in upstreams and clean rivers (Takeda et al. 2004; Nakatani et al. 2004). In anthropogenically polluted Rhône River Delta (S. France) and Lake Piccolo (NW Italy) the contribution of HO^\bullet production is accounted for by NO_2^- (62–63 %) and NO_3^- (27–38 %), while in the unpolluted and remote Lake Goose and Lake Divide (Wyoming, USA) the contribution of nitrate and nitrite is relatively lower, 0–11 % and <0.5 %, respectively (Minero et al. 2007). In seawater NO_2^- is the major source of HO^\bullet in Seto Inland Sea (7–75 %) and Yellow Sea (10–44 %) compared to NO_3^- (<1 % and 0.4–8 %, respectively) (Takeda et al. 2004). The two anions (NO_2^- and NO_3^-) collectively are dominant sources in both river and seawater, while their role in lake water is less important (Vione et al. 2006). Natural waters that include high concentration levels of NO_2^- and NO_3^- could induce degradation of DOM by photoinduced production of HO^\bullet . However, it has been found that the rate of mineralization of DOM in acidified lake water far exceeds that rate of HO^\bullet generation by all the sources, which suggests that HO^\bullet -independent processes (tentatively, photolysis of Fe(III)-DOM complexes) may also play an important role in DOM mineralization (Vione et al. 2009).

3.5 *Molecular Characteristics of the DOM*

Photoinduced degradation of DOM is significantly dependent on the molecular characteristics or the absorbing nature of the organic substances in the chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM) or fluorescent dissolved organic matter (FDOM) in waters (Table 1). Chromophores in CDOM and fluorophores in FDOM are considered to be equivalent components with respect to photosensitization by sunlight. Photoinduced degradation of DOM takes place upon absorption of photons, which is predominantly dependent on the chemical nature of the organic substances present in DOM. The radiation absorption by organic matter increases along the spectrum from visible toward UV regions (Amador et al. 1989; Kieber et al. 1990). High molecular weight (HMW) DOM such as humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), and fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs) or components of detergents (DAS1 and DSBP) can absorb both visible and shorter wavelength regions (Kramer et al. 1996; Kieber et al. 1990; Sadtler 1968; Strome and Miller 1978). Many low molecular weight organic acids photo-generated from large CDOM or FDOM can absorb only in UV-C range, but they do not absorb radiation in the UV-B, UV-A or visible range (Sadtler 1968). For example, acetaldehyde absorbs light at 208–224 nm (Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991; Strome and Miller 1978), acetate at 204–270 nm (Dahlén et al. 1996; Wetzel et al. 1995), formaldehyde at 207–250 nm (Mopper et al. 1991; Mopper and Stahovec 1986), glyoxal at <240 nm (Mopper et al. 1991; Mopper and Stahovec 1986), malonate at 225–240 nm (Dahlén et al. 1996), pyruvate at 200–227 nm (Wetzel et al. 1995; Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991), and propanal at ~230 nm (Mopper and Stahovec 1986).

Fulvic acid absorbs radiation in both the visible and UV ranges (Fig. 1a) (Mostofa et al. 2005). The DOC concentrations varied between upstream (99 μM C, Kago) and downstream rivers (194 μM C, Yasu), but the absorption in the visible region is likely the same in both upstream (Fig. 1a) and downstream waters (Fig. 1b). Such an absorption is usually caused by HMW DOM. Humic acid is degraded more quickly than fulvic acid in water (Wu et al. 2005), probably because of the higher aromaticity (Malcolm 1985; Gron et al. 1996). The absorption of visible light by chromophores or fluorophores in HMW DOM causes decomposition, which is usually more marked in upstream (Fig. 1a) than in downstream waters (Fig. 1b). The following order for DOM photoinduced degradation can be proposed: upstream DOM > downstream rivers > lake > seawaters (Table 1; Fig. 1). Therefore, photoinduced degradation is greatly dependent on the molecular nature of DOM compositions in waters. Interestingly, the residence time of water in lakes and sea is much higher compared to the rivers. Possibly the lower photoinduced lability of the DOM found in lake or sea water is due to the fact that labile DOM in these environment has sufficient time to undergo photoinduced degradation.

3.6 *pH and Alkalinity of Waters*

Both pH and alkalinity, which can greatly vary among different waters, can influence the photoreaction rates of DOM, its chemical structure and speciation

(Vahatalo et al. 2000; Wu et al. 2005; Gennings et al. 2001; Molot et al. 2005). The photo-Fenton reaction is greatly influenced by pH. A decrease in pH greatly accelerated the photoinduced degradation of DOM in softwater stream (Molot et al. 2005), in Satilla river (Gao and Zepp 1998) as well as in lake water from NW Italy (Vione et al. 2009). The experimental study shows that after 69 hours of artificial irradiation without addition of KI, DOC loss is decreased as pH increases from pH 4 to 9 whilst addition of KI is significantly reduced loss of DOC at pH 4, 5 and 7 but not at pH 9 with the fraction of DOC lost by non- HO^\bullet mechanisms gradually increasing from 58 % to 75 % between pH 4 and 7, and 100 % at pH 9 (Molot et al. 2005). Photoinduced degradation rates of DOC and fluorescence are greatly increased with a decrease in sample pH from 8 to 6 and then to 4 (Wu et al. 2005). Conversely, the production rates of HO^\bullet in the Fenton or photo-Fenton reaction are greatly enhanced with a decrease in pH of natural waters (Zepp et al. 1992; Vione et al. 2009; Goldstone et al. 2002; Moffett and Zika 1987; Millero and Sotolongo 1989).

The apparent mechanism for enhanced photoinduced loss of DOC at low pH is oxidation to dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) by reaction with HO^\bullet produced via the iron-mediated photo-Fenton pathway (Zepp et al. 1992; Voelker et al. 1997). Therefore, high production rate of HO^\bullet at low pH can accelerate the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters. However, there is evidence that the production rate of HO^\bullet in acidified lake water is unable to account for the rate of DOM mineralization, which suggests that additional mineralization processes would also be operational (Vione et al. 2009). The major terrestrial alkalinity-producing processes such as ionic exchange, weathering and biological assimilation of nitrate and other anions, mostly depend on the watershed geology, morphology, soil characteristics, and hydrological conditions (Psenner 1988). Watersheds of lakes exported more SO_4^{2-} , NO_3^- and H^+ than they received, and the lakes are the dominant acidity-consuming parts of the whole ecosystem, neutralizing 50–58 % of the H^+ input (Kopacek et al. 2003). Terrestrial fluxes of organic acid anions can also consume H^+ in natural lakes and are thought to be the third major internal alkalinity-producing mechanism after the biochemical reductions of NO_3^- and SO_4^{2-} (Kopacek et al. 2003; Cook et al. 1986; Schindler et al. 1986). An increase in alkalinity in waters can decrease the production of H_2O_2 by slowing the reaction of $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ protonation ($2\text{O}_2^{\bullet-} + 2\text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{O}_2$). A decrease in H_2O_2 production can reduce the photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet through photo-Fenton reaction or direct photolysis, thereby decreasing the photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters.

3.7 Dissolved Oxygen

Dissolved oxygen (O_2) can enhance the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters (Vahatalo et al. 2000; Amon and Benner 1996; Obernosterer et al. 2001; Laane et al. 1985; Lindell and Rai 1994; Reitner et al. 1997). Addition of O_2 to photoinduced reaction systems can greatly promote the photoinduced degradation

rates (Gao and Zepp 1998; Stumm and Lee 1961; Miles and Brezonik 1981). Stumm and Lee 1961; Miles and Brezonik 1981; In iron-rich waters, the ferrous iron is often oxidized by dissolved O_2 with production of ferric oxide floc (Stumm and Lee 1961). O_2 is consumed at a rate of $0.02\text{--}0.09\text{ mg L}^{-1}\text{ h}^{-1}$ in humic colored waters having pH 3–4 and total iron concentration of $0.1\text{--}2.0\text{ mg L}^{-1}$ under irradiation. The consumption rate is slightly lower ($0.01\text{--}0.04\text{ mg L}^{-1}\text{ h}^{-1}$) under dark conditions (Miles and Brezonik 1981). Some standard organic compounds can consume O_2 at rates of $0.01\text{--}0.83\text{ mg L}^{-1}\text{ h}^{-1}$ under irradiation and $0.01\text{--}0.70\text{ mg L}^{-1}\text{ h}^{-1}$ in the dark. These results have been obtained for a concentration of 100 mg L^{-1} of organic compounds in the presence of 6 mg L^{-1} of Fe(III) (Miles and Brezonik 1981). In photoexperiments conducted on Amazon river water samples, the O_2 consumption rate was $3.68\text{ }\mu\text{M O}_2\text{ h}^{-1}$ under irradiation and it was twelve times lower ($0.30\text{ }\mu\text{M O}_2\text{ h}^{-1}$) in the dark (Amon and Benner 1996). High rates of DOC loss and O_2 consumption are often observed in riverine DOM, with little or no additional production of biologically labile organic compounds. The photoinduced O_2 demand of surface water DOM in the Atlantic Ocean varied from 0.1 to $2.8\text{ }\mu\text{mol O}_2\text{ L}^{-1}\text{ d}^{-1}$ in 12 h irradiation periods (Obernosterer et al. 2001). Rivers usually exhibit a higher O_2 consumption rate than seawaters. The O_2 consumption in waters is hypothesized to contribute to the generation of H_2O_2 through production of superoxide radical ion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$) as intermediate, upon monoelectronic reduction of O_2 by aquated electrons (e^-) produced by DOM (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”). Photolytically produced H_2O_2 can participate to the production of HO^\bullet , by either the photo-Fenton reaction or the direct photolysis, and such processes can contribute to the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters.

3.8 Depth of the Water Column

The Photoinduced degradation of DOM is significantly dependent on the depth of the water column. Degradation is higher in the upper surface layer and gradually decreases with an increase in the water column depth (Ma and Green 2004; Vahatalo et al. 2000). Solar radiation can mineralize $19\text{ mmol C m}^{-3}\text{ d}^{-1}$ at a depth of 1 cm, and the rate of mineralization decreases with increasing depth with an attenuation coefficient of 23 m^{-1} (Vahatalo et al. 2000). Most of the photo mineralization takes place in the top 10 cm in lakes (Vahatalo et al. 2000). The presence of low quantity of suspended solids or particulate matter allows for a deeper penetration of light in the water column, which can result into a greater potential for the photoinduced degradation of deeper DOM. Both river and lake DOM have a high potential to undergo photoinduced degradation in the surface layers (0 m), and photoinduced degradation gradually decreases in the deeper layers (6.5 and 24 m), as has been found in an in situ experimental study (Ma and Green 2004). Surface waters with a high level of DOC greatly inhibit the penetration of solar

radiation into the deeper layers, whilst penetration of radiation at longer depth of the water column is usually observed in water bodies with low DOC (Morris et al. 1995). UV-B radiation penetrates at a depth of 0.1–5 m, while UV-A penetrates at 0.2–15 m (Farmer et al. 1993). Therefore, UV-A plays a more important role into the photoinduced degradation of DOM in deeper layers compared to UV-B (Piazena and Häder 1994; Blough et al. 1993). It can be concluded that the photoinduced degradation of DOM at any depth of the water column in freshwater systems and in oceans is greatly dependent on the penetration of light intensity.

3.9 Physical Mixing in the Surface Mixing Zone

Physical or turbulent mixing in the surface mixing zone of the water column might be an important factor to enhance the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters. The mixing process allows the reactants of a chemical reaction to come more frequently in contact, thus accelerating the reaction rate. It has been shown that the production rates of H_2O_2 are higher for both Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (445 nM h^{-1}) and seawater (86 nM h^{-1}) in stirred samples compared to unstirred ones (211 and 51 nM h^{-1} , respectively) (Mostofa K, Sakugawa H unpublished data). These photoexperiments were conducted using a solar simulator. Simultaneously, the fluorescence intensity of fulvic acid is decreased to a higher extent in stirred samples compared to non-stirred ones. Therefore, physical mixing is an essential factor to increase the reaction rate or promote the photoinduced processes in natural surface waters. Moreover, production of H_2O_2 is merely observed in the surface mixing zone, where H_2O_2 is derived from the photoinduced degradation of DOM (Moore et al. 1993; Sikorski and Zika 1993a, b; Sakugawa et al. 2000; Johnson et al. 1989). Furthermore, the fluorescence intensity of fulvic acids is much lower in the surface mixing zone in lake or seawaters due to solar effects (Mostofa et al. 2005; Hayase and Shinozuka 1995). Therefore, physical mixing in the surface mixing zone is an important factor for promoting the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters. Mixing processes are typically dependent on physical factors such as strong or weak wind, presence of artificial or natural dams, power-dam outfalls, stream riffles, waterfall, and finally water temperature which affects the stratification-stagnant regime of natural waters.

3.10 Increasing UV Radiation During Ozone Hole Events

The ozone hole due to stratospheric ozone depletion because of anthropogenic activities is a well-known phenomenon in the Antarctic (Qian et al. 2001; Jones and Shanklin 1995) and Arctic oceanic regions (Rex et al. 1997; Randall et al. 2005). Moreover, the incident UV-B radiation is increased at a rate of 10–20 % per decade at temperate latitudes (Kerr and McElroy 1993; Madronich 1992). An increase in UV-B radiation may greatly enhance the production of HO^\bullet by inducing higher rates of photolysis

of NO_2^- and NO_3^- , and of other redox reactions in natural waters (Qian et al. 2001; Randall et al. 2005). The HO^\bullet formation rates from nitrate, as well as DOM plus nitrite are significantly increased during ozone hole conditions, compared to non-ozone hole periods (Qian et al. 2001). Therefore, a higher production of HO^\bullet during ozone hole events can enhance the photoinduced degradation of DOM. UV transparency of the lake water column is also greatly enhanced during the summer season due to photoinduced degradation of DOM in the lake epilimnion (Morris and Hargreaves 1997). Diffuse attenuation coefficients are greatly varied (39–81 %) seasonally at the epilimnion, and minimum values occur during the summer season (Morris and Hargreaves 1997). Thus, an increase in incident UV radiation (280–400 nm) in response to stratospheric ozone depletion can increase the transformation of surface DOM and, by increasing the UV transparency of water, can also induce additional degradation of DOM in the deeper layers (Qian et al. 2001; Randall et al. 2005).

3.11 Global Warming

Global warming may expand the summer season (Huisman et al. 2006; Sarmiento et al. 2004; Schmittner 2005), which might accelerate the photoinduced degradation of DOM. For example, it might lead high production of HO^\bullet because of the increase in water temperature due to global warming. At the same time, there can be an increase in UV radiation during ozone hole events (Qian et al. 2001; Rex et al. 1997). Global warming may also affect (and possibly enhance) the water column transparency, which is modified on a variety of time scales, and the depth of the mixing layer, as well as lead to changes in climatologic factors such as cloud cover, particulate material and total content of column ozone. These factors may influence the incident UV radiation (Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Morris et al. 1995; Scully and Lean 1994). Global warming may affect the seasonal patterns of chlorophyll and nutrient concentrations in the deep chlorophyll maxima (DCM) in waters (Huisman et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Letelier et al. 2004). The combination of global warming and photoinduced degradation may significantly impact on primary production, species composition, global carbon cycle, biological activities, and finally the seasonal modifications of the water column in natural waters (Huisman et al. 2006; Häder et al. 2011). The effects of global warming on photoinduced degradation of DOM are extensively discussed in the global warming chapter (see chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”).

3.12 Salinity

DOM photoreactivity is significantly increased with salinity or addition of salts in natural waters (Osburn et al. 2009; Hernes and Benner 2003; Osburn and Morris 2003; Anastasio and Newberg 2007; Grebel et al. 2009). Controlled laboratory studies demonstrate that the presence of seawater concentrations of chloride and bromide ions can enhance absorbance photobleaching reaction rates by ~40 %,

regardless of DOM source or the presence or absence of carbonate ions (Gebel et al. 2009). In another study, a decrease in CDOM photobleaching at 280 nm is detected when humic CDOM is added to an artificial salinity gradient used to mimic coastal mixing (Minor et al. 2006). Dissolved lignin phenols are significantly affected by salinity and at salinities >25 psu, photooxidation is a dominant factor influencing lignin compositions and concentrations (Hernes and Benner 2003).

The mechanism behind the high photoinduced degradation of DOM with salinity apparently involves two factors: first, irradiated CDOM can induce photoinduced production of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) that is a HO^\bullet source via photolysis or the Fenton reaction, and the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 is enhanced by salinity. Trace metal ions (M) in salinity or sea waters can complex with DOM (M-DOM) forming a strong π -electron bonding system between metal ions and the functional groups in DOM (see chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters” for in details explanation). This π -electron in M-DOM complex is rapidly excited photolytically, which is responsible for high production of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) and subsequently the high production of superoxide ion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$), H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet , respectively. Indeed, photogeneration of H_2O_2 from ultrafiltered river DOM is substantially increased with salinity, from 15 to 368 nM h^{-1} at circumneutral pH (Osburn et al. 2009). Salinity or NaCl salts can substantially increase the aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) from DOM components photolytically in aqueous media (Assel et al. 1998; Gopinathan et al. 1972). This effect subsequently can enhance the H_2O_2 production from DOM components in waters (Moore et al. 1993; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Richard et al. 2007; Fujiwara et al. 1993). Recent studies observe that the sea-salt particulate matter extracted from coastal seawaters show substantially high HO^\bullet production (rate: $\sim 2778\text{--}27778 \text{ M s}^{-1}$), approximately 3–4 orders of magnitude greater than HO^\bullet photoformation rates in surface seawater (Anastasio and Newberg 2007), which may support the above phenomena.

Second, the reaction of HO^\bullet with halide ions (X^-) can form reactive halogen radicals ($\text{BrX}^{\bullet-}$) that can react with electron-rich functional groups within DOM more selectively than HO^\bullet (Goldstone et al. 2002; Gebel et al. 2009; Salinity can significantly affect the CDOM or FDOM properties, which are responsible for their high photoinduced behavior, which are discussed in detail in other chapters (see chapters “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters”).

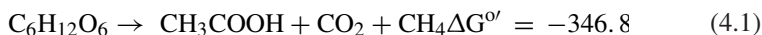
4 Factors Controlling the Microbial Degradation of DOM in Waters

Microorganisms are generally responsible for catalyzing the oxidation of organic matter and for inducing changes in the functional groups of DOM, either in deeper waters or in soil and sediment pore waters (Mostofa et al. 2007; Moran et al.

2000; Lønborg and Søndergaard 2009; Lovley and Chapelle 1995; Coble 2007; Hopkinson et al. 2002; Koschorreck et al. 2008; Lønborg et al. 2009a, b). An increase in fulvic acid-like (or humic-like) fluorescence either in deeper waters of lakes and oceans or in dark incubated water samples are considered to be the effect of microbial degradation of organic matter and of the related transformation of the functional groups of DOM (Ma and Green 2004; Mostofa et al. 2007a; b; Moran et al. 2000; Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Coble 2007; Coble 1996). Microbial degradation of DOM depends on several key factors that can be distinguished as: (1) Occurrence and nature of microbes in waters; (2) Sources of DOM and the quantity of its fermentation products; (3) Temperature; (4) pH; and (5) Sediment depths.

4.1 Occurrence and Nature of Microorganisms

Microbial degradation of organic matter and of functional groups of macromolecules depends on the occurrence and nature of microorganisms in waters (Lovley 2006; Uchida et al. 1998; Lovley et al. 1996; Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001; Coleman et al. 1993; Conrad et al. 1989; Conrad et al. 1989; Morvan et al. 1994). Recent studies demonstrated the presence of methanogens belonging to the *Methanomicrobiaceae*, *Methanobacteriaceae*, *Methanococcaceae*, *Methanosarcinaceae*, and *Methanosaetaceae*, as well as new archaeal lineages within the *Euryarchaeota* (Kotsyurbenko et al. 2007; Basiliko et al. 2003; Cadillo-Quiroz et al. 2006; Casper et al. 2003; Galand et al. 2002; Horn et al. 2003; Sizova et al. 2003; Upton et al. 2000; Utsumi et al. 2003). It is shown that methanogenic archaea and homoacetogenic bacteria are the main H₂ consumers in the absence of inorganic electron acceptors such as nitrate, ferric iron and sulfate, which compete for available H₂ in anoxic environments (Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001). Degradation of alcohols and fatty acids is usually enabled by syntrophy between H₂-producing syntrophic bacteria and H₂-consuming methanogenic archaea (Conrad 1999; Schink 1997). The most important reactions for hydrogenotrophic (Eq. 4.1) and acetotrophic methanogenesis (Eq. 4.1) for degradation of glucose can be expressed below (Eqs. 4.1, 4.2) (Conrad 1999; Thauer et al. 1977):



An experimental study shows that *D. desulfuricans* can reduce the Fe(III) and sulphate simultaneously at rates comparable to Fe(III) and sulphate reduction under non-limiting H₂ concentration, when only one of the electron acceptors is provided (Coleman et al. 1993). On the other hand, H₂ is metabolized by *D. desulfuricans* at lower concentrations with Fe(III) than with sulphate (Coleman et al. 1993). Interestingly, these bacteria do not metabolize H₂ below $\sim 10^{-5}$ atm partial pressure (Cord-Ruwisch et al. 1988).

4.2 Sources of DOM and its Fermentation Products

The methanogenesis depends on the sources of organic matter such as vascular plants or algal biomass, the fermentation or degradation products of which are greatly varied in soil, peatland or sediment pore waters. For example, the disintegration or fermentation of vascular plant materials by aerobic and anaerobic bacteria can produce humic substances (fulvic and humic acid), structural polysaccharides, polyphenols, proteins, amino acids, carbohydrates and inorganic components in soil environments (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Malcolm 1985; Chefetz 2002; Cadillo-Quiroz et al. 2010; Hur 2011; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005). In contrast, among the DOM components that originated from algal or phytoplankton biomasses, one can find autochthonous fulvic acid, protein, amino sugars and labile polysaccharides (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Zhang et al. 2009; Li W et al., unpublished data; Parlanti et al. 2000; Benner and Kaiser 2003). The changes of the DOM by microbial processes significantly depend on its sources and composition and/or the mixing ratios of the individual original source materials in natural water (Hur 2011).

It is shown that fulvic and humic acids are composed of diverse functional groups such as $-\text{COOH}$, carboxyl, methoxyl, alcoholic OH, carbohydrate OH and phenolic OH. Low aromaticity is observed in fulvic acid (17 % of aromatic C and 63 % of aliphatic C) compared to humic acid (30 % and 47 %, respectively) (Malcolm 1985; Steelink 2002). Carbon distribution by solid-state CPMAS ^{13}C NMR shows about 24 % of C–O, 3 % of anomeric C, 12 % of C=C, 5 % of $\varphi\text{-O}$ (φ = other elements except C), 16 % of COOH, 4 % of C=O. Elemental analysis showed 38 % of O, 0.87 % of N, 0.74 % of S and 0.62 % of P (Malcolm 1985). Although the chemical structure of autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin is still unclear, the material is likely to be a macromolecule because of the similarity of its EEM spectra to standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (Fig. 1d,e, and f) (Mostofa et al. 2009b). This might be the reason of the effective degradation of the autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin, which is observed in the EEM images in the lake sediment pore waters Li W et al. (unpublished data). Therefore, it is not surprising that functional groups bound to either fulvic and humic acids of terrestrial origin or autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin are affected by microbial processes in the sediment waters.

Depending on the presence of either terrestrial plant material or algal or phytoplankton biomass, different fermentation products can be found in a variety of sediment waters. In a similar way, the contribution of H_2 to CH_4 production in different methanogenic sediments is quite variable: 32–46 % in Kichier Lake, 36–46 % in Lake Mendota, 15–39 % in Lake Washington, 17–31 % in anoxic paddy soil, 8 % in Colne Pt. Salt marsh, 4 % in Knaack Lake, 0 % in Lake Constance, 97 % in Kuznechika lake, 74–86 % in Octopus Spring mat, 76–82 % in Blelham Tarn, 71–80 % in Cape Lookout Bight, 100 % in Kings Lake Bog, 95–97 % in Bunger Hills (Antarctica), and 99–100 % in Lake Baikal deep sediments (Schulz and Conrad 1996; Ivanov et al. 1976; Winfrey and Zeikus 1979; Sandbeck and Ward 1981; Jones et al. 1982; Banat et al. 1983; Crill and Martens 1983; Phelps and Zeikus 1984; Kuivila et al. 1989; Lansdown et al. 1992; Rothfuss and Conrad 1992; Galchenko 1994; Namsaraev et al. 1995). It is shown

that different types of plant material lead to different rates of acetate formation. There is also a stronger substrate-based coupling of root surface and methanogens in oligotrophic (bog) than in minerotrophic (fen) sites (Cadillo-Quiroz et al. 2010; Ström et al. 2003; Öquist and Svensson 2002). Seasonal algal or phytoplankton blooms might be responsible for formation of acetate and CH_4 in the sediments of deep lakes (Schulz and Conrad 1995). The acetate concentration profiles show maxima ($\sim 100 \mu\text{M}$ in 2 or 4 cm depth) in summer and minima ($\sim 5 \mu\text{M}$ over the entire depth) in winter, when the respective CH_4 concentrations are $\sim 750 \mu\text{M}$ in summer and $\sim 120 \mu\text{M}$ in winter (Schulz and Conrad 1995).

It is evidenced that gas bubbles contain about 60–70 % CH_4 with an average $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of -56.2% and δD of -354% , and 2 % CO_2 with an average $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of -14.1% (Thebrath et al. 1993). These data indicate that CH_4 is produced from methyl carbon, *i.e.* mainly using acetate as fermentative substrate (Thebrath et al. 1993). In anoxic paddy soil, interspecies H_2 transfer within methanogenic bacterial associations (MBA) account for 95–97 % of the conversion of $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ to $^{14}\text{CH}_4$, and only 3–5 % of the $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ is produced from the turnover of dissolved H_2 (Conrad et al. 1989a, b). An experimental study demonstrates that the ratio of Fe(II) production to CO_2 production (3.9) is similar to that expected (4.0) for organic carbon oxidation coupled to Fe(III) oxide reduction (Fig. 8) (Roden and Wetzel 1996). The study also shows that the rates of CH_4 production are low during the Fe(III) reduction in oxidized sediments, but increase when the Fe(III) oxides are depleted to background levels (Fig. 8a). The rates of CO_2 and CH_4 production are about

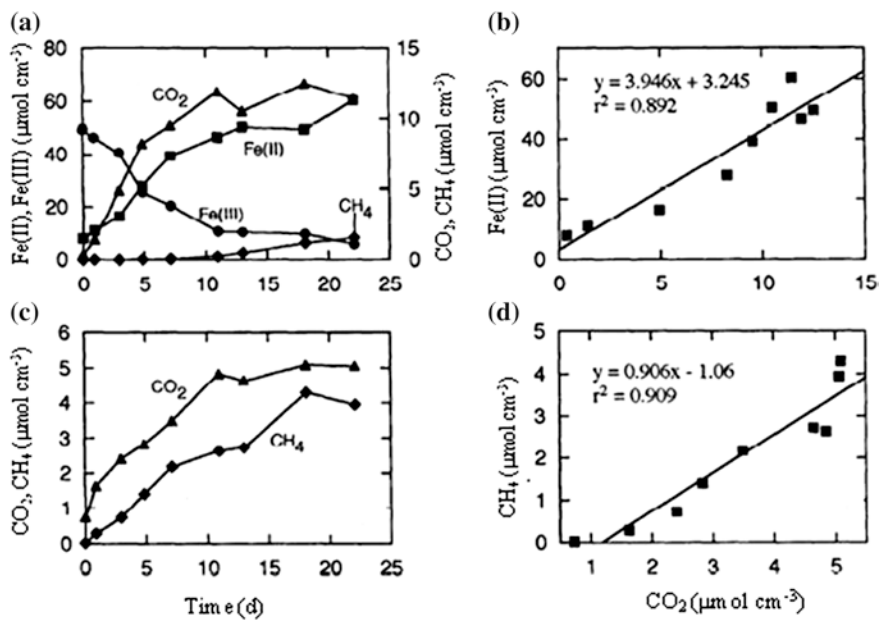


Fig. 8 Fe(III) reduction, CO_2 production, and CH_4 production in oxidized (a, b) and reduced (c, d) Talladega wetland sediment slurries. *Data source* Roden and Wetzel (1996)

equal during the incubation of reduced sediments (Fig. 8c,d) (Roden and Wetzel 1996). Therefore, the occurrence and the nature of organic matter and its fermentation or disintegration products are key factors for the production of CO₂, CH₄ and other end products in the aquatic environments.

4.3 Temperature

The growth of homoacetogenic bacteria and methanogenic archaea significantly depends on the ambient temperature (Table 2) (Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001; Kotsyurbenko et al. 2007; Thebrath et al. 1993; Westermann 1994; Kotsyurbenko et al. 1995; Simankova et al. 2000; Zinder 1990). It is shown that the microbial function is typically much higher at low temperature (5.0–7.0 °C), showing maximum bacterial abundance ($3.9\text{--}7.9 \times 10^5$ cells ml⁻¹, mean = 6.4) and biomass (4.0–6.7 μg C L⁻¹, mean = 5.2). Lower values ($1.3\text{--}2.5 \times 10^5$ cells ml⁻¹, mean = 1.8; and 1.3–2.4 μg C L⁻¹, mean = 1.7, respectively) have been found at higher temperature (7.5–11.1 °C) in open water in Lake La Caldera (Carrillo et al. 2002). Homoacetogenic bacteria and methanogenic archaea can consume H₂ over a temperature range of 1–35 °C, but their optimum temperature is often high (~20–30 °C, Table 2). Homoacetogenic *A. bakii*, *A. tundrae* and the methanogenic strain MSB have shown the largest temperature range for optimal H₂ consumption, which is extending at least from 4 to 30 °C (Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001). However, *A. fimetarium*, *A. paludosum* and strain MSP become less efficient toward H₂ consumption when the temperature decreases below 10 °C (Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001). Low temperatures are often favorable for acetogenesis, which becomes a quantitatively important process in anaerobic environments (Nozhevnikova et al. 1994; Kotsyurbenko et al. 1993).

At low temperature, homoacetogenic bacteria outcompetes methanogens for H₂ in laboratory experiments (Conrad et al. 1989; Kotsyurbenko et al. 1993). According to kinetic estimations, homoacetogens have a much higher growth rate at low temperature than methanogens (Kotsyurbenko et al. 1996). It is also shown that the contribution of methanogenic bacterial associations (MBA) to H₂-dependent methanogenesis is enhanced (it reaches 99 %) when the temperature is shifted from 30 to 17 °C, or when the soil is planted with rice (Conrad et al. 1989a, b). This enhancement is partially due to an increased utilization of dissolved H₂ by chloroform-insensitive non-methanogenic bacteria, most probably homoacetogens, so that CH₄ production is almost completely restricted to H₂-syntrophic MBA. Acetate is the precursor of approximately two-thirds of the methane produced in mesophilic (30–40 °C) and thermophilic (45–65 °C) anaerobic bioreactors (Zinder 1990). Increasing the incubation temperature of two swamp slurries from 2 to 37 °C resulted in a 8- to 18-fold increase in the H₂ partial pressure (Westermann 1994). The study also shows that the concentration of volatile fatty acids remained fairly constant except for butyrate, which decreased with increasing temperature.

Despite the constant low temperature (4 °C) during the summer and winter seasons in lake sediment pore waters, high variations in methane production in summer compared to winter are suggested to be caused by algal biomass blooms in surface waters (Schulz and Conrad 1995). In this case, the effect of temperature would not be significant in the microbial formation of methane from acetate in the sediment pore waters. The effect of temperature on methanogenesis mostly depends on the nature of organic sediments, presence of microorganisms and the fermentation or degradation products in water.

4.4 pH

The pH is an important factor that influences the rate of methanogenesis as well as the CH₄ production pathway and the methanogenic archaeal community in sediment waters. The methanogenesis is typically inhibited at low pH, where microbial turnover rates are slower, although significant methane production is still observed in acidic peat lands (Kotsyurbenko et al. 2007; Horn et al. 2003; Dunfield et al. 1993; Hornibrook et al. 2000; Goodwin and Zeikus 1987; Bräuer et al. 2004, 2006). Acetate as a major carbon source for methanogenesis may be unavailable to the methanogens at low pH because of the inhibitory effect of non-dissociated acetate toward methanogenesis (Fukuzaki et al. 1990). Low pH conditions may also reduce the microbial processes of H₂ production and consumption in anaerobic environments (Goodwin et al. 1988). An isolate from a landfill is able to grow at pH 5 (Lapado and Barlaz 1997) and an isolate from a peat land grows at pH 5.3 but generates some methane down to pH 3.1 (Williams and Crawford 1985). Acidotolerant hydrogenotrophic methanogenic consortia have been enriched from a peat bog at pH 4 (Sizova et al. 2003), and molecular analysis of an acidic peat bog reveals the presence of *Methanomicrobiaceae* and *Methanosarcinaceae* at pH 4.5 (Kotsyurbenko et al. 2004).

In acidic mining lakes, sulfate reduction often occurs when the pH in the sediment is almost neutral (Meier et al. 2004). An increase with depth of pH from 2.6 up to 6 enhanced the production of CH₄ and CO₂ in the sediment cores of Lake Caviahue (Koschorreck et al. 2008). In the most acidic surface layer of the sediment (pH < 4), methanogenesis is inhibited as suggested by a linear CH₄ concentration profile. In contrast, methanogenesis is highly active below 40 cm depth at high pH (>4). The carbon isotope composition of CH₄ is between -65 and -70 ‰, which is indicative of the biological origin of methane in Lake Caviahue. Therefore, it is suggested that the high biomass content of the sediment may induce high rates of sulfate reduction, which presumably raises the pH and creates favorable conditions for methanogens in deeper sediment layers (Koschorreck et al. 2008). On the other hand, the ratio of $\delta^{13}\text{CO}_2$ to $\delta^{13}\text{CH}_4$ increases from 1.053 at pH 6 up to 1.072 at pH 3.8, indicating a relative increase of hydrogenotrophic methanogenesis at low pH values (Hornibrook et al. 2000; Whiticar 1999). The genus *Methanobacterium* contains two alkaliphilic and one moderate acidophilic species, and collectively they have the widest growth ranges over a pH variation

from 3.8 to 9.9 (Kotelnikova et al. 1998; Worakit et al. 1986; Patel et al. 1990). The pH is thus one of the important factors that can control the methanogenesis in sediment.

4.5 Sediment Depths

It is shown that the degradation of organic matter is mostly occurring in the upper sediment layer (1–10 cm depths) in lakes or in soil (Nakane et al. 1997; Li et al. unpublished data; Roden and Wetzel 1996; Schulz and Conrad 1995). However, the methanogenesis may also occur in deeper sediment layers under favorable conditions, either in peatlands or in sediment pore waters (Koschorreck et al. 2008; Nakagawa et al. 2002; Galand et al. 2005). In the sediments of Lake Caviahue the CH₄ concentration is steadily increased from 0 to 6.0 mM from 1 to 30 cm sediment depths (Fig. 9) (Koschorreck et al. 2008). The concentration of CH₄ typically reaches saturation (~1 mM) at 3–40 cm below the top few centimeters in unvegetated sediments. In vegetated sediments CH₄ concentrations are very low (0.0–0.1 mM) until 20 cm, after which they increase at ~1 mM level at 40 cm (Roden and Wetzel 1996). In humic bog lakes the deeper parts of the water column favor microdiversification of methanogens, whilst the periodically disturbed water column of shallower dimictic lakes promotes genetically more diverse methanogen communities (Milferstedt et al. 2010). In peatlands, hydrogenotrophic methanogenesis is the predominant pathway of CH₄ formation, accounting for 50 to 100 % of total CH₄ production, particularly in the deeper layers (Nakagawa et al. 2002; Galand et al. 2005). Therefore, sediment depths play an important role in the production of methane in sediment waters.

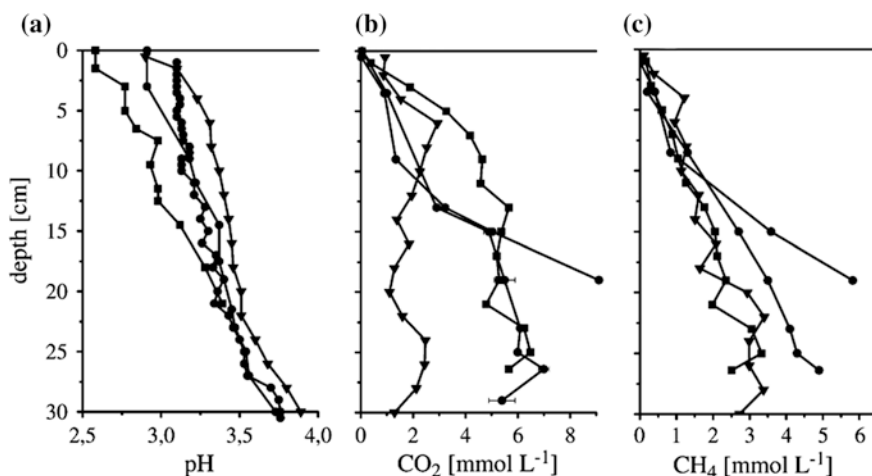


Fig. 9 Vertical profiles of pH (a), dissolved gases CO₂ (b) and CH₄ (c) in different sediment cores from Lake Caviahue. The pH is measured in KCl extracts during the field work in 2003 (■ 2001, ● 2003, ▼ 2004). *Data source* Koschorreck et al. (2008)

5 Photoproducts of DOM and Their Significance on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters

Photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters generally occurs by the sequential degradation of high molecular weight substances, producing low molecular weight compounds and ending up in mineralization yielding CO₂, CO, DIC, COS, and so on (Table 3) (Reche et al. 1999; Ma and Green 2004; Graneli et al. 1996, 1998; Xie et al. 2004; Mopper et al. 1991; Miller and Zepp 1995; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Fujiwara et al. 1995; Bushaw et al. 1996; Miller and Moran 1997; Stiller and Nissenbaum 1999; White et al. 2010; Valentine and Zepp 1993; Mostofa K et al., unpublished data; Francko and Heath 1982; Fang 2004; Chen et al. 2001; Karl and Tien 1997; Jones 1991; Jones and Amador 1993). Photoinduced degradation on DOM can typically lead to a variety of photo products, which can be distinguished in: (1) Hydrogen peroxide and organic peroxides; (2) Low molecular weight organic substances; (3) Aromatic mono- and dibasic acids; (4) Microbiologically labile organic photoproducts; (5) Carbon-gas end photoproducts; (6) Nitrogenous compounds (e.g. NH₄⁺); (7) Phosphate; and (8) Release of energy to the water ecosystem.

5.1 Photoinduced Formation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides

The formation of hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) and organic peroxides (ROOH) is the primary step of the photoinduced processes involving DOM in waters. The concentration levels of H₂O₂ are significantly different for a variety of waters, ranging from 4 to 3200 nM in rivers, 10–800 nM in lakes, and 0–1700 nM in seawaters as mentioned in chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”. The concentration levels of ROOH compounds are also highly variable in natural waters, showing low concentrations in rivers (0–200 nM) and relatively higher levels in seawater (1–389 nM). H₂O₂ and ROOH may form free radicals (HO[•], RO[•], R = H or alkyl group), either directly upon photolysis or indirectly by photo-Fenton reactions. The reactive radicals thus generated contribute to the degradation of the organic substances that make up DOM.

5.2 Photoinduced Formation of Low Molecular Size Organic Substances

Photoinduced degradation can convert the high molecular weight DOM into low molecular size organic substances in natural waters (Table 3) (Moran and Zepp 1997; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Kramer et al. 1996; Allard et al. 1994; Yoshioka et al. 2007;

Table 3 Concentration levels and photoproduction rates of various end products generated from photochemical degradation of dissolved organic matter in natural waters and in photoexperiments conducted on natural waters as well as on standard organic substrates

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (mM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)/CO ₂ (nM h ⁻¹) or nM h ⁻¹	CO (nM or Hydrocarbons (nM))	Ammonium (nM or (ng L ⁻¹))	COS	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
<i>Rivers</i>												
Suwannee River, FL (29°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	80-630	4.1-5.1	-	-	-	4100-5150	-	Miller and Zepp (1995)
Suwannee River, FL (29°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	41-1500	-	-	-	2250-3917	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Sturgeon River (47°N)	Sunlight (0 m)	-	-	-	2424	-	-	-	-	2798	-	Ma and Green (2004)
Sturgeon River (47°N)	Sunlight (6.5 m)	-	-	-	606	-	-	-	-	2873	-	Ma and Green (2004)
Sturgeon River (47°N)	Sunlight (24 m)	-	-	-	2727	-	-	-	-	2818	-	Ma and Green (2004)
Sturgeon River (47°N)	Dark	-	-	-	99970	-	-	-	-	2798	-	Ma and Green (2004)
Houghton Marsh (47°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	120-1330	-	-	-	2000-3083	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Okefenokee Swamp (31°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	1200	-	-	-	3083	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Jordan River (31°N), East African Rift Valley	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.8-85	-	-	Stiller and Nissenbaum (1999)
En Feshkha (31°N), East African Rift Valley	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0-6	-	-	Stiller and Nissenbaum (1999)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (nM)	ROOHs (nM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)/CO ₂ (nM or nM h ⁻¹)	CO (nM orHydrocarbons (nM h ⁻¹)	Ammonium (nM h ⁻¹)	COS (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (µg L ⁻¹)	DOC (µM C)	DON (µM)	References
Nahal David (31°N), East African Rift Valley	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	1176	-	<5	-	-	Stiller and Nissenbaum (1999)
Ein Noit (31°N), East African Rift Valley	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	50588	-	<5	-	-	Stiller and Nissenbaum (1999)
Suwannee River, whole	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	-	360	-	-	ND	74	Bushaw et al. (1996)
Boreal Pond, whole (July)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	-	80-150	-	-	3000	55	Bushaw et al. (1996)
Okefenokee swamp, whole	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	-	40-340	-	-	3840	86	Bushaw et al. (1996)
Rivers	Natural level	4-3200	0-200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Table 1 (Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters)
Satilla River: Air-saturation	Xe lamp	-	-	-	22950	-	-	-	-	1570	-	Xie et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (nM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)/CO ₂ (nM h ⁻¹) or nM h ⁻¹	CO (nM or Hydrocarbons (nM))	Ammonium (nM or nM h ⁻¹)	COS (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
Satilla River: O ₂ saturation	Xe lamp	-	-	-	26450	-	-	-	-	1620	-	Xie et al. (2004)
Satilla River: air-saturation + DFOM**	Xe lamp	-	-	-	5950	-	-	-	-	1588	-	Xie et al. (2004)
Satilla River: O ₂ saturation + DFOM	Xe lamp	-	-	-	7150	-	-	-	-	1545	-	Xie et al. (2004)
Satilla River: N ₂ saturation	Xe lamp	-	-	-	1913	-	-	-	-	1574	-	Xie et al. (2004)
Altamaha River: air-saturation	Xe lamp	-	-	-	13150	-	-	-	-	1442	-	Xie et al. (2004)
Altamaha River: O ₂ saturation	Xe lamp	-	-	-	18325	-	-	-	-	1430	-	Xie et al. (2004)
Altamaha River: air-saturation + DFOM	Xe lamp	-	-	-	5428	-	-	-	-	1441	-	Xie et al. (2004)
Altamaha River: O ₂ saturation + DFOM	Xe lamp	-	-	-	5622	-	-	-	-	1406	-	Xie et al. (2004)
<i>Lakes</i>												
Lake Superior (47°N)	Sunlight (0 m)	-	-	-	10606	-	-	-	-	161	-	Ma and Green (2004)
Lake Superior (47°N)	Sunlight (6.5 m)	-	-	-	10909	-	-	-	-	160	-	Ma and Green (2004)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (mM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)	CO ₂ (nM or nM h ⁻¹)	CO (nM or Hydrocarbons (nM))	Ammonium (nM h ⁻¹)	COS or (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
Lake Superior (47°N)	Sunlight (24 m)	-	-	-	3182	-	-	-	-	-	200	-	Ma and Green (2004)
Lake Superior (47°N)	Dark	-	-	-	175485	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ma and Green (2004)
38 Lakes (55–71°N)	Artificial	-	-	2500–44200	1300–158500	-	-	-	-	-	167–1833	-	Bertilsson and Tranvik (2000)
Kinoshke Lake (51°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	260	-	-	-	-	1250	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
5 Lakes (57°N)	Natural	-	-	-	800–3400	-	-	-	-	-	325–1617	-	Graneli et al. (1996)
10 Lakes (57°N)	Natural	-	-	-	25833–1612833	-	-	-	-	-	242–3483	-	Graneli et al. (1998)
in Sweden and 3–22°S in Brazil)	Natural sunlight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24 Lakes, Wisconsin and Michigan, U.S.A	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.5–129.3	308–1792	-	Reche et al. (1999)
Crazy Eddie Bog, northeastern Ohio	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.0–24.0	-	-	Francko and Heath (1982)
Lake Biwa, Japan, 35°N; 0.5 m	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.003–0.011	-	-	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished)
Lake Biwa, Japan, 35°N; 10 m	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.005–0.009	-	-	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (mM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)	CO ₂ (nM h ⁻¹) or nM h ⁻¹	CO (nM h ⁻¹)	Hydrocarbons (nM)	Ammonium (nM h ⁻¹)	COS (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
Lake Biwa, Japan, 35°N: 20 m	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.004-0.009	-	-	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished)
Lake Biwa, Japan, 35°N: 40 m	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.003-0.008	-	-	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished)
Lake Biwa, Japan, 35°N: 80 m	Natural level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.005-0.023	-	-	Mostofa K et al. (unpublished)
Lakes	Natural level	10-800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Table 1 (Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters)
<i>Estuaries and sea waters</i>														
Ohta River Estuary (34°N), Japan	Natural (July)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54.4	-	~80-290	-	Fujiwara et al. (1995)
Ohta River Estuary (34°N), Japan	Natural (December)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23.9	-	"	-	Fujiwara et al. (1995)
Delaware estuary	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	83-625	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	White et al. (2010)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (mM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)/CO ₂ (nM or nM h ⁻¹)	CO (nM or Hydrocarbons (nM h ⁻¹))	Ammonium (nM h ⁻¹)	COS (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
Seto Inland Sea (34°N), Japan (surface: 0–5 m)	Natural	–	–	–	–	–	–	~5–17	–	“	–	Fujiwara et al. (1995)
Seto Inland Sea (34°N), Japan (deeper: 20 m)	Natural	–	–	–	–	–	–	~3–5	–	“	–	Fujiwara et al. (1995)
Coastal waters (31°N), East African Rift Valley	Natural level	–	–	–	–	–	82353–2047059	–	5–63	–	–	Stiller and Nissenbaum (1999)
East China Sea, 24–30°N, China	Natural level	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1.6–96.3	–	–	Fang (2004)
East China Sea, 24–30°N, China	Natural level (summer)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2.6–22.7	–	–	Chen et al. (2001)
East China Sea, 24–30°N, China	Natural level (winter)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3.5–23.4	–	–	Chen et al. (2001)
North Pacific Ocean, Station ALOHA (22°N)	Natural level (0–150 m)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–0.3–9.6	–	–	Karl and Tien (1997)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (mM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)/CO ₂ (nM or nM h ⁻¹) or nM h ⁻¹	CO (nM or Hydrocarbons (nM))	Ammonium (nM h ⁻¹)	COS (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
Intracoastal Waterway, caoastal waters (30°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	110	-	-	-	-	267	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Live Oak, Gulf coast of Florida (30°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	90	-	-	-	-	642	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Sargasso Sea (photic zone)	Natural	-	-	-	5.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jones (1991)
Sargasso Sea (aphotic zone)	Natural	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jones (1991)
Sapelo Island Marsh, GA (31°N)	Natural	-	-	-	40-1280	3.3-4.9	-	-	-	500	-	Miller and Zepp (1995)
Gulf of Mexico (28°N)	Natural	-	-	-	120-400	15.8-24.8	-	-	-	170	-	Miller and Zepp (1995)
Seawater + humic substances (SH)	Artificial sunlight	-	-	-	2300	147	-	-	-	695	-	Miller and Moran (1997)
Seawater + the control addition (SC)	Artificial sunlight	-	-	-	1600	104	-	-	-	515	-	Miller and Moran (1997)
Artificial seawater + the control addition (AC)	Artificial sunlight	-	-	-	300	40	-	-	-	241	-	Miller and Moran (1997)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Samples/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (nM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)	CO ₂ (nM h ⁻¹) or nM h ⁻¹	CO (nM h ⁻¹) or Hydrocarbons (nM)	Ammonium (nM h ⁻¹)	COS or (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
Sargasso Sea waters (1–20 m)	Sunlight	–	–	4.1	–	4.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	Mopper et al. (1991)
Sargasso Sea waters (20–150 m)	Sunlight	–	–	3.3	–	9.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	Mopper et al. (1991)
Sargasso Sea waters (500–4000 m)	Sunlight	–	–	10.6	–	16.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	Mopper et al. (1991)
Southeastern Caribbean Sea & Gulf of Paria	Natural level (Spring)	–	–	–	–	0.9–6.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	Jones and Amador (1993)
Southeastern Caribbean Sea & Gulf of Paria	Natural level (Fall)	–	–	–	–	0.6–31.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	Jones and Amador (1993)
Seawater	Natural level	0–1700	1–389	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Table 1 ("Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters")

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

Sample/Sources of water	Source of light/Natural level	H ₂ O ₂ (mM)	ROOHs (nM)	LMW compounds (nM h ⁻¹)	DIC (nM h ⁻¹)/CO ₂ (nM or nM h ⁻¹)	CO (nM or Hydrocarbons (nM h ⁻¹))	Ammonium (nM h ⁻¹)	COS (ng L ⁻¹)	PO ₄ ³⁻ (μg L ⁻¹)	DOC (μM C)	DON (μM)	References
<i>Standard and extracted organic substances</i>												
Fluka humic	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	1500	-	-	-	2500	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Contech fulvic	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	1600	-	-	-	4333	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Oyster River fulvic (43°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	3200	-	-	-	4667	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Soil fulvic (43°N)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	3330	-	-	-	4667	-	Valentine and Zepp (1993)
Oyster River, fulvic acid	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	-	320	-	-	2840	36	Zepp (1993) Bushaw et al. (1996)
Fluka, humic acid	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	-	230	-	-	1942	51	Bushaw et al. (1996)
Boreal Pond, fulvic acid (August)	Xe lamp	-	-	-	-	-	65	-	-	1133	24	Bushaw et al. (1996)
Boreal Pond, inlet, fulvic acid (June)	Natural	-	-	-	-	-	370	-	-	895	-	Bushaw et al. (1996)
Satilla River estuary, fulvic acid	Natural	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	787	20	Bushaw et al. (1996)

* Rate estimated using the deduction of initial values (0 h) from the nearest detected values (2, 8, and 24 h) for Satilla River and (4 and 18 h) for Altamaha River waters
 ** DFOM indicates the deferoxamine mesylate that is a strong Fe(III)-complexing ligand that forms nearly photo-inert complexes

Amador et al. 1989; Malcolm 1990; Mopper et al. 1991; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Chen et al. 1978; Corin et al. 1996; de Haan 1993; Sun et al. 1993; Hongve 1994; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1997). The major low molecular size substances examined are polysaccharides, N-acetylamino sugars, polypeptides, lipids, proteins, n-C₁₆ and n-C₁₈ fatty acid methyl esters, etc. The conversion rate of DOM into identifiable organic photoproducts is 20 % of the bleaching rate of the DOM, leaving a vast unidentified pool of bleached organic matter in natural waters (Miller and Zepp 1995). The unidentified bleached DOM would account for a large proportion of the total biologically available photoproducts (Miller and Moran 1997).

Photoinduced degradation of DOM can produce a variety of low molecular weight (LMW) aliphatic organic compounds which are considered to be micro-biologically labile in the aquatic environment (Moran and Zepp 1997; Dahlén et al. 1996; Wetzel et al. 1995; Corin et al. 1996). The most common labile LMW organic compounds include formaldehyde, formic acid, formate, acetaldehyde, acetate, acetic acid, hydroxyacetic acid, hydroxyacetate, acetone, propanal, oxalic acid, oxalate, citric acid, citrate, glyoxal, methylglyoxal, glyoxylic acid, glyoxylate, ketomalonic acid, malonic acid, malonate, levulinic acid, levulinate, succinic acid, succinate, pyruvic acid and pyruvate. Nine organic peroxides (ROOH) such as methyl hydroperoxide, hydroxymethyl hydroperoxide, ethyl hydroperoxide, 1-hydroxyethyl hydroperoxide, 2-hydroxyethyl hydroperoxide, 1-hydroxypropyl hydroperoxide, 2-hydroxypropyl hydroperoxide, 3-hydroxypropyl hydroperoxide, and bis(hydroxymethyl)peroxide are observed in air and rainwaters (Hellpointner and Gäb 1989; Hewitt and Kok 1991; Jackson and Hewitt 1996). Precipitation is a potential source of these peroxides into surface waters, where they are micro-biologically labile in natural waters (Mostofa 2005). A rapid decrease of peracetic acid added to unfiltered river waters was detected in dark controlled samples, suggesting that the organic peroxides are micro-biologically labile (Mostofa 2005).

Some long-chain aliphatic organic acids, such as 2-hydroxy propanoic acid, 3-oxobutanoic acid, 4-oxopentanoic acid, hexanoic acid, pentanedioic acid, octanoic acid, nonanoic acid, and decanoic acid, are produced by the Photoinduced degradation of humic substances extracted from lakes (Corin et al. 1996). The production of keto acids such as 3-oxobutanoic acid and 4-oxopentanoic acid is greatly enhanced by an increase of the UV-dose. They are mostly produced from fulvic acid rather than humic acid (Corin et al. 1996), probably because of the higher percentage of aliphatic carbon bound to fulvic acid (63 %) compared to humic acid (47 %) (Malcolm 1985). Carboxylic acids (oxalic, malonic, formic, acetic) are usually major products of the photoinduced degradation of DOM (25–34.4 %) (Ma and Green 2004; Bertilsson et al. 1999; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000).

The total production rate of LMW organic substances is much higher in lakes (2500–44200 nM h⁻¹) than in seawater (3.3–10.6 nM h⁻¹) (Table 3). Variations of the photolytically produced LMW carboxylic acids in different lakes are linked to the presence of fulvic and humic acids in DOM (Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998). The LMW organic substances undergo a rather fast disappearance in natural waters, probably because of two major pathways. First of all, the LMW organic compounds can be rapidly assimilated by natural microorganisms or bacterial

populations and thus participate to the food chains for the growth of microbes in natural waters. Moreover, the LMW organic compounds can be photolytically mineralized into final end photoproducts such as CO or CO₂, which can take part to the global carbon cycle (Miller and Zepp 1995; Kieber et al. 2001).

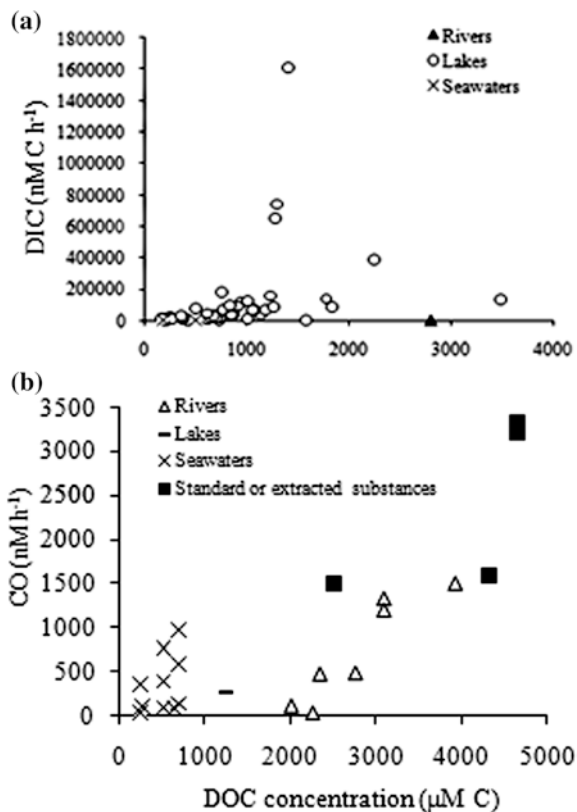
5.3 Photoinduced Formation of Aromatic Mono- and Dibasic Acids

Photoinduced degradation reactions can convert the high molecular weight DOM into a variety of aromatic mono- and dibasic acids, phenolic compounds, aromatic aldehydes and ketones in waters (Kramer et al. 1996; Wetzel et al. 1995; Chen et al. 1978; Corin et al. 1996; Leenheer and Croue 2003; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1997; Haan et al. 1979; Choudhry 1981; Langvik et al. 1994; Schmitt-Kopplin et al. 1998). The aromatic compounds most commonly identified as photo products are 4-hydroxy- and 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde, benzoic acid and its derivatives such as 2-hydroxy-, 3-hydroxy-, 4-hydroxy-, 2,4-dihydroxy-, 3,4-dihydroxy-, 3-methoxy- and 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy-benzoic acid, 1,2-, 1,3- and 1,4-benzenedicarboxylic acid, benzene-di-, -tri-, tetra-, penta-, and -hexa-carboxylic acids, decanoic acid and its derivatives such as tetra-, hexa- and octa-decanoic acid, acetophenone and its derivatives, methoxybenzene and its derivatives, methoxytoluenes, methoxystyrene, phenols, methoxylated phenols and hydroxyfuran. Most of the LMW aromatic acids are formed from humic and fulvic acids during the first 2 h irradiation of the natural humic waters. Prolonged irradiation may lead to a decrease of their concentrations due to further mineralization to end products (Corin et al. 1996).

5.4 Photoinduced Formation of Carbon-Gas End Photoproducts Including DIC

The photo mineralization of DOM leads to the formation of carbon-gas end photoproducts, which include CO, CO₂, dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC, usually defined as the sum of an equilibrium mixture of dissolved CO₂, H₂CO₃, HCO₃⁻, and CO₃²⁻: (Eq. 5.1) and carbonyl sulfide (COS) in natural waters (Table 3) (Reche et al. 1999; Ma and Green 2004; Graneli et al. 1996, 1998; Clark et al. 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Borges et al. 2008; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Tranvik et al. 2009; Omar et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011; Mopper et al. 1991; Miller and Zepp 1995; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Fujiwara et al. 1995; Bushaw et al. 1996; Miller and Moran 1997; White et al. 2010; Cai 2011; Johannessen et al. 2007; Valentine and Zepp 1993; Molot et al. 2005; Francko and Heath 1982; Fang 2004; Chen et al. 2001; Karl and Tien 1997; Jones 1991; Jones and Amador 1993; Cai and Wang 1998; Zepp et al. 1998; Cai et al. 1998, 1999; Fichot and

Fig. 10 Relationship between DOC concentration and DIC (Fig. a) or CO (Fig. b) photoproducts generated in photo experiments conducted on different sources of natural waters. *Data source* Table 4 and references therein

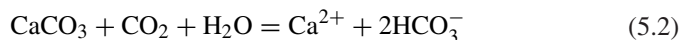


Miller 2010; Liu et al. 2010; Lohrenz et al. 2010). It is shown that gaseous CO_2 is rapidly dissolved in waters, which can be presented as (Eq. 5.1) (Liu et al. 2010):



where the reaction (Eq. 5.1) is an equilibrium mixture of dissolved carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, bicarbonate and carbonate ions. The proportion of each species depends on pH whereas at high pH the reaction shifts to the right hand side of (Eq. 5.1) and bicarbonate

(HCO_3^-) at pH between 7 and 9 dominates, approximately 95 % of the carbon in the water. At high pH > 0.5, carbonate predominates (Dreybrodt 1988). DIC is also derived remarkably by carbonate dissolution with uptake of CO_2 in soil water (Eq. 5.2), and weathering as well as dissolution of silicate minerals (Eq. 5.3) (Liu et al. 2010; Dupré et al. 2003; Mortatti and Probst 2003).



The concentration levels of carbon-gas photoproducts are highly variable among rivers, lakes and seawaters studied under light and dark conditions (Table 3;

Fig. 10). The production rate of DIC in irradiated samples is 80–2420 nM h^{-1} in rivers, 3180–1612800 nM h^{-1} in lakes and 40–13200 nM h^{-1} in seawaters. Under dark incubation the production rates are 99970 nM h^{-1} in rivers, 175500 nM h^{-1} in lakes, and 300–2300 nM h^{-1} in seawaters (Table 3).

The production rate of CO_2 in irradiated freshwater two coastal rivers is significantly high in air-saturation (13.2–23.0 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$) and O_2 -saturation (18.3–26.5 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$), which are substantially decreased under air-saturation plus DFOM (5.4–6.0 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$), O_2 -saturation plus DFOM (5.6–7.2 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$), and N_2 -saturation (1.9 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$, measured for one river sample only) (Table 3) (Xie et al. 2004). Note that DFOM is the deferoxamine mesylate that is a strong Fe(III)-complexing ligand that forms nearly photo-inert complexes (Gao and Zepp 1998). The CO_2 production rate in the N_2 -saturation river water is only ca. 10 % and 20 % of those in the O_2 -saturation and air-saturation samples, respectively (Xie et al. 2004). This study observes that although CO_2 production in the O_2 -saturation and DFOM samples is consistently higher than in the air-sat and DFOM samples, the difference between the two seldom exceeded 10 %, which indicates that in the presence of DFOM, iron rather than O_2 is the limiting factor for CO_2 production (Table 3) (Xie et al. 2004). These results suggest that although, O_2 and iron both can play very important roles in CO_2 production, photoinduced processes without the involvement of O_2 and iron (particularly the iron independent processes) can also contribute to CO_2 production in natural waters (Xie et al. 2004). CO_2 photoproduction rate is ~ 0.08 – $0.63 \mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ in estuarine water showing high production rate ($\sim 0.63 \text{ nM h}^{-1}$) in low salinity than in high salinity waters $\sim 0.08 \mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ (White et al. 2010). Studies therefore observe that CO_2 is the largest carbon-containing product of DOM photodegradation in natural waters (Xie et al. 2004; Miller and Zepp 1995).

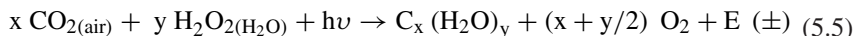
It is shown that the lakes produce DIC to a higher extent compared to rivers and seawaters (Fig. 10a). The DIC photoproducts in lakes are well correlated with DOC concentration, but no correlation was observed in rivers and seawaters (Fig. 10a). The high production of DIC in lakes could originate from the higher presence of low molecular weight organic substances (54–79 % in the $<5 \text{ kDa}$ range), which are mostly originated from fulvic and humic acids (Waiser and Robarts 2000; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Wu and Tanoue 2001). The photo production rate of DIC is higher in the upper surface layers (2.42 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ at 0 m), it then gradually decreases (0.60 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ at 6.5 m) and then increases again (2.73 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ at 24 m) in the deeper layers, but they are greatly lower than those of dark incubation samples (100.0 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$) in photoexperiments conducted on river water samples keeping in situ at different vertical depths in lake environment (Ma and Green 2004). For lake waters the production rates of DIC are gradually decreased from the surface (10.6–10.9 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ at 0–6 m) to deeper layers (3.2 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ at 24 m). However, under dark incubation the production rate is 175.5 $\mu\text{M h}^{-1}$, much higher than the rate of photoproduction. An increase in the DIC production rate of river waters kept in situ in the deeper layer of lakes (24 m depth) is likely caused by the much lower sunlight intensity that makes this set-up equivalent to dark incubation. Therefore, high production of DIC under dark incubation allows the hypothesis that microbial degradation plays a significant and probably a major role in DOM mineralization in natural waters, especially in

deeper lake or oceanic environments. The study shows that the global annual rate of photoinduced production of DIC (10^{14} – 10^{15} mol DIC per year) (Johannessen 2000) might be on the same order of magnitude as that of sequestration of DIC by new production ($\sim 10^{15}$ mol DIC per year) (Liu et al. 2000).

CO production upon photoinduced degradation of DOM is highly variable for a variety of waters (Table 3). Production rates are 0.004 – $1.5 \mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ in rivers, $0.26 \mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ in lakes, 0.004 – $1.0 \mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ in seawaters, and 1.5 – $3.3 \mu\text{M h}^{-1}$ in standard dissolved fulvic and humic acids (Table 3). It is estimated that $>95\%$ of the total water-column CO photoproduction occurs within the mixed layer on a global, yearly basis (Fichot and Miller 2010). It has been shown that the production rates of CO are almost linearly correlated with the concentration of DOC and of standard organic substances (Fig. 10b). The photoproduction of CO in the ocean is induced mainly by the UV component of solar radiation (Zepp et al. 1998; Atlas et al. 1994). Quantum yields (the quantum yield is the fraction of absorbed radiation that results in photoreaction) for CO production at wavelengths greater than 297 nm are highest in the UV-B region (Zepp et al. 1998). Turnover times for CO are in the order of hours, and they are generally lower (3–98 h) in fall and higher (2–108 h) in spring samples in the Caribbean Sea (Jones 1991; Jones and Amador 1993). The CO oxidation rate is lower in spring samples (20 – $340 \text{ pmol L}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ except one sample, $980 \text{ pmol L}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$) than in fall samples (20 – $660 \text{ pmol L}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ except one sample, $810 \text{ pmol L}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$). The concentration levels of CO are variable: 1 – 6 nM in spring and 0.6 – 32 nM in fall. The variations in the oxidation rates appear to be linked with two important phenomena. First, nitrifying and carboxydobacteria are both thought to have a role in oxidizing CO in the oceans (Conrad and Seiler 1980). Second, high concentrations of CO are able to inhibit marine nitrifying bacteria in natural waters (Jones and Amador 1993; Jones and Morita 1984).

In the estuary of River Ohta, the concentration of carbonyl sulfide (COS) was highest (54.4 ng L^{-1}) in the late afternoon (17:00) during the summer season (July), and lowest (23.9 ng L^{-1}) soon after noontime (14:00) during the winter season (December) (Table 3) (Fujiwara et al. 1995). In Seto Inland Sea the COS concentration was higher (~ 5 – 17 ng L^{-1}) in the surface layer (0–5 m), whilst it was lower (~ 3 – 5 ng L^{-1}) in the deeper layer (20 m) (Fujiwara et al. 1995). An increase in COS concentrations is often linked with an increase of solar radiation, lower concentrations being detected at night time and in the early morning. Moreover, higher concentrations are found in surface seawater than in the deeper layers, suggesting that COS is photolytically produced in natural waters.

Photo products such as H_2O_2 , ROOH and CO_2 , simultaneously generated during the photoinduced degradation of DOM, can be photosynthetically transformed into carbohydrates during the summer season in natural surface waters. The relevant processes can be depicted as follows (Eqs. 5.4, 5.5) (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003):



This mechanism may help in the understanding of the production of autochthonous DOM, particularly carbohydrate compounds, during the summer season in natural waters. The new reaction mechanism for photosynthesis (Eq. 4.2) has been discussed in details in photosynthesis chapter (see chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”).

5.5 Photoinduced Formation of Nitrogenous Compounds

Nitrogenous photoproducts include the ammonium (NH_4^+) and nitrate/nitrite ($\text{NO}_3^-/\text{NO}_2^-$) that are released by photoinduced degradation of humic substances and degradation of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) in waters (Table 3) (Mostofa et al. 2011; Li et al. 2008; Bushaw et al. 1996; Mack and Bolton 1999; Carlsson et al. 1993; Stedmon et al. 2007). Ammonium is produced by transformation of aquatic dissolved organic matter in waters, and the production rates are 40–370 nM for 895–3840 μM C of DOC and 20–86 μM of dissolved organic nitrogen (Bushaw et al. 1996). DON concentrations are 7–26 μM in Lake Hongfeng and 14–47 μM in Lake Baihua (Li et al. 2008), approximately 8.35 μM in the epilimnion of Lake Biwa (Kim et al. 2006), and approximately 10 μM in coastal waters (Bronk 2002). The high concentrations of NO_2^- and NH_4^+ in Lakes Hongfeng and Baihua during the summer stratification period suggest the regeneration of inorganic nitrogen (NO_2^- and NH_4^+) in lakes (Li et al. 2008). Photoinduced respiration or assimilation of lake algae under natural sunlight can release NH_4^+ in waters, suggesting that autochthonous organic matter is a major source of NH_4^+ in natural waters Mostofa K et al. (unpublished). DOM in coastal waters derives from terrestrial humic substances (Carlsson et al. 1993). This leads to an increase of the nitrogen availability, which subsequently stimulates the rates of primary and secondary production. The uptake of inorganic nitrogen by bacteria during a phytoplankton bloom can be observed, particularly in lake or coastal waters where the inputs of terrestrial humic substances are much higher (Kirchman et al. 1991; Amon and Benner 1994). Photolytically produced ammonium can be assimilated by bacterial populations, which can lead to an increase in the production of autotrophic and heterotrophic biomass in planktonic environments. Photo release of inorganic nitrogen from DOM is an important source of nitrogen availability in several aquatic ecosystems, such as nitrogen-limited and high-latitude environments, and coastal waters where high primary and secondary production are usually occurring.

5.6 Photoinduced Formation of Phosphate

Photoinduced degradation of DOM can lead to the release of phosphate (PO_4^{3-}) in natural surface waters (Table 3) (Reche et al. 1999; Mostofa et al. 2011; Zhang et al. 2004; Fang 2004; Chen et al. 2001; Karl and Tien 1997; Suzumura and Ingall

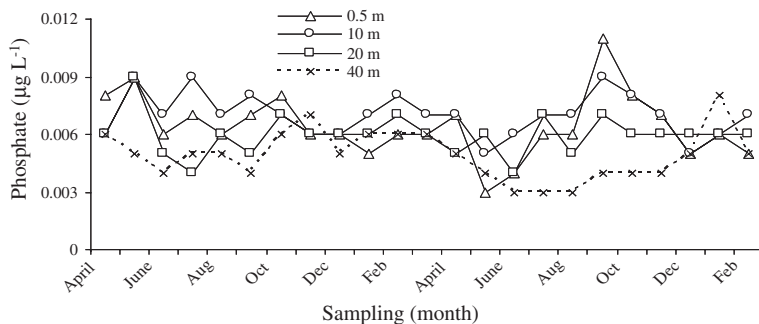


Fig. 11 Variation of phosphate concentration (month by month) during the period of April 1999 to February 2001 in the waters of Lake Biwa. *Data sources* Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished) and Shiga prefecture office, Japan)

2004). Phosphate concentration in waters of Lake Biwa is often higher in the surface layer during the summer season, compared to other seasons or the deeper layer (Fig. 11) (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished). This finding suggests that phosphate may be produced by photoinduced degradation processes in the surface waters of Lake Biwa. Indeed, the inorganic phosphorus is increased in the surface layer, whilst the organic phosphorus concentration is decreased and the surface concentration of organic phosphorus is lower compared to the deeper layers (Fang 2004). Therefore, the inorganic phosphorus may be produced from the decomposition of dissolved organic phosphorus in surface waters. The concentration levels of soluble reactive phosphorus were highest in the upper surface layers (0–30 m) in North Pacific Ocean (Karl and Tien 1997). Concentration levels of dissolved hydrophobic phosphorus were much higher in the surface layers (6.6–18 nM) and gradually decreased with depth (5–10 nM at below 400 m) (Suzumura and Ingall 2004). Total dissolved phosphorus (TDP) in coastal waters was much higher in surface waters (3.51–7.12 dpm m⁻³) than in the deeper layers (0.83–2.0 dpm m⁻³), and the surface concentrations at inshore stations (5.09–7.12 dpm m⁻³) were significantly higher than at the offshore stations (3.51 dpm m⁻³) (Zhang et al. 2004). From these data it can be inferred that inorganic phosphate might be an important photoproduct of DOM photoinduced degradation in surface waters.

5.7 Photoinduced and Microbial Processes for the Release of Energy and of End Products to the Water Ecosystem

Photoinduced degradation of DOM generally takes place through redox reactions in waters which can lead to energy changes (\pm) such as supply (+) or consumption (–) of energy in the aquatic environment. Energy changes also occur during photosynthesis in natural waters (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003). DOM with its content of organic

C and N is a thermodynamic anomaly that provides a major source of energy to drive aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems (Salonen et al. 1992; Wetzel 1984, 1992; Hedges et al. 2000; Tranvik 1992). Therefore, any changes in energy during the photoinduced degradation of DOM are thermodynamically vital for all the living organisms and for the natural water ecosystem. Photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters is thus interlinked with production of free radicals, microbial processes, photosynthesis, autochthonous DOM, nutrients, end photoproducts and their utilization as food for microorganisms. A conceptual schematic diagram for the photoinduced and microbial processes of DOM and POM, photoproducts and their importance in the aquatic environment is reported below (Fig. 12):

Finally, it can be concluded that most of the changes that take place in the natural ecosystem are closely interlinked.

6 Interactions Between Photoinduced and Microbial Processes in Natural Waters

The understanding of the interactions between photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM has required a proper elucidation of the photoinduced processes. It is now considered that microbial degradation takes place at the same time as the photoinduced degradation process (Kopacek et al. 2003; Moran

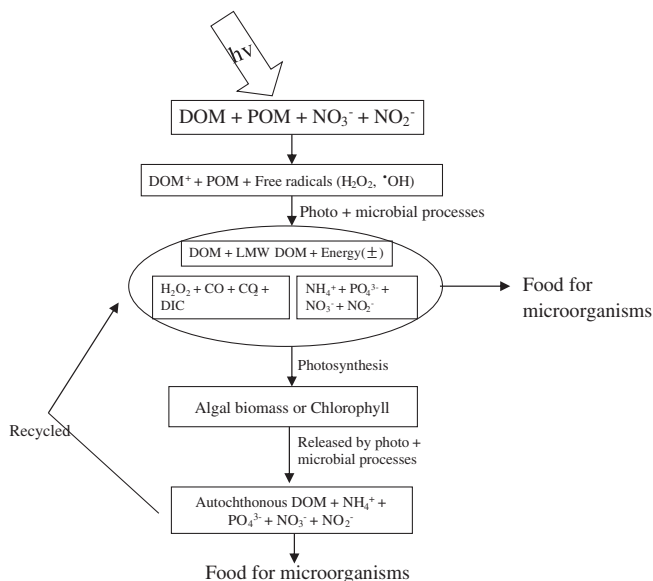


Fig. 12 Conceptual model on photoinduced degradation of DOM and its consecutive effects on key biogeochemical processes in natural waters. [Data source with modifications Mostofa et al. (2009b)]

et al. 2000; Amon and Benner 1996; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Miller and Moran 1997). In essence, during the photoinduced process various species among which are the superoxide radical ion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$), the HO^\bullet and peroxides (H_2O_2 and $ROOH$) are generated either in surface waters or in aqueous solutions during laboratory irradiation experiments (Takeda et al. 2004; Moore et al. 1993; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Southworth and Voelker 2003; Goldstone et al. 2002). The photogenerated reactive species are involved into the photoinduced degradation of DOM in waters. Simultaneously, these species can inhibit or deactivate the activity of catalase, peroxidase and superoxide dismutase associated with bacterial cells, particulate organic matter and DOM (Moffett and Zafriou 1990; Tanaka et al. 1985; Serban and Nissenbaum 1986; Zepp et al. 1987). Bacterial cells can protect themselves from harmful oxidizing species such as H_2O_2 , $O_2^{\bullet-}$ and HO^\bullet by adjusting the level of their enzymes (Chance et al. 1979). Therefore, microbial degradation is expected to take place to a negligible extent during the photoinduced degradation of DOM in aqueous media.

The bacterial growth shows seasonal variations, reaching the maximum during spring to early summer and decreasing greatly during the summer season when the water temperature exceeds $25.5^\circ C$ in lakes (Zhao et al. 2003; Darakas 2002). Natural sunlight or UV-exposure can decrease the bacterial production by 15–80 %, which considerably inhibits the formation and biodegradation of DOM in natural surface waters (Amon and Benner 1996; Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998; Benner and Ziegler 1999; Naganuma et al. 1996; Tranvik and Kokalj 1998). However, other studies have found that solar exposure can enhance the bacterial growth by about 35–200 % (Lindell et al. 1996; Wetzel et al. 1995; Bushaw et al. 1996; Miller and Moran 1997; Herndl et al. 1993; Lindell and Rai 1994; Reitner et al. 1997; Jørgensen et al. 1998; Moran and Hodson 1994). Moreover, bacterial growth is usually observed in deeper waters (Benner and Ziegler 1999). The increase or the decrease of bacterial growth by sunlight depends on two key factors: (i) The production of reactive species (H_2O_2 , $ROOH$, HO^\bullet) and of mineralization products such as CO_2 , CO and DIC ; (ii) The concentration level and molecular nature of DOM, the concentration of total dissolved iron for photo-Fenton reaction, water temperature, dissolved oxygen, physical mixing etc. Water temperature during the summer season is merely regulated by natural solar radiation, which can lead to high generation of free radicals and mineralization products in natural waters (Moore et al. 1993; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zafriou et al. 1984; Zika 1981; Obernosterer et al. 2001; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Sakugawa et al. 2000). The free radicals, as strong oxidants and depending on their concentration, may have several deadly impacts on many stages of cell metabolism, including those involved into the induction of programmed cell death (Samuilov et al. 2001). This hypothesized effect is supported by the observation of an inhibition by UV radiation of the activity of microorganisms in water (Herndl et al. 1993; Lund and Hongve 1994; Karentz et al. 1994), and of the deadly impact of UV radiation on bacterial cells or microorganisms in the aquatic environment (Qian et al. 2001; Randall et al. 2005). Qian et al. 2001; Sunlight often affects bacterial growth merely in the

upper surface waters, and UV-B radiation inhibited bacterial production by 39–82 % in a high mountain lake (Carrillo et al. 2002). Therefore, microbial activity may be less efficient during the photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters.

7 Scope of Future Challenges

Photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM is an important research subject in the photochemistry of the aquatic environment. Till now, a few researches have been conducted on the degradation of bulk DOM in natural waters. Photoinduced and microbial degradation of organic substances such as standard fulvic acid, humic acid, fluorescent whitening agents (DAS1 and DSBP) and chlorophyll was seldom conducted to examine their end photoproducts in the aquatic environments. For a better elucidation of the degradation processes of DOM in natural waters, it is vital to conduct an extensive study on streams, rivers, lakes, coastal and seawaters. The photolytically produced low molecular weight (LMW) organic substances are microbiologically important, but in some cases they might be toxic. Till now only a few researches have been conducted to identify the LMW organic compounds in the aquatic environment. The effects of water temperature and pH on the coupled photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and of standard organic compounds have not been studied so far. Obviously, variation in water temperature and pH might have a significant role on degradation processes and on the concentration levels of the end photoproducts. Therefore, a number of important research needs for future challenges can be distinguished as: (i) Photoinduced and microbial degradation of various molecular size fractions of DOM for a variety of waters. (ii) An extensive study on the microbial degradation of DOM for a variety of waters, and the development of the mechanism for microbial degradation of DOM. (iii) Effect of temperature and pH on photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM for a variety of waters and for standard organic substances. (iv) Interactions between photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM, and its impact on microorganisms in the aquatic ecosystem. (v) Investigation on LMW organic substances produced from photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM in natural waters and from standard HMW organic substances. (vi) Elucidation of the microbiological changes involving the macromolecules (fulvic acid, humic acid and autochthonous fulvic acid) under dark incubation. (vii) Understanding of the mechanisms of the photoinduced degradation of the macromolecules (fulvic acid, humic acid, and autochthonous fulvic acid) by natural sunlight in aqueous media. The mechanism depicted in this chapter may pave the way for future directions in the field. (viii) Refinement of the group contribution method (GCM) to predict HO^\bullet reaction rate constants. Because of the limited data availability for the rate constants of various compounds in the aqueous phase, the GCM still has many gaps and its implementation should be the focus for future research (Minakata et al. 2009).

It is expected that new research works can focus on the combined photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and of the photoproducts of the process, to understand a whole feature of the biogeochemical process of DOM in the aquatic environment.

8 Nomenclature

DFOM	Deferoxamine mesylate
DOC	Dissolved organic carbon
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
DIC	Dissolved inorganic carbon ($\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 + \text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_3^{2-}$)
GCM	Group contribution method
H_2O_2	Hydrogen peroxide
LMW	Low molecular weight
HO^\bullet	Hydroxyl radical
SS PM	Sea-salt particulate matter

Problems

- (1) Describe the various biogeochemical functions of DOM for photoinduced and microbial processes in natural waters
- (2) Explain why the photoinduced degradation of DOM varies for a variety of natural waters.
- (3) Explain the theoretical model for photoinduced degradation process in aqueous media.
- (4) Explain the mechanism of the photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters.
- (5) Explain the mechanism for the photoinduced degradation by HO^\bullet of functional groups bonded to DOM and explain the group contribution method (GCM) to predict the HO^\bullet reaction rate constants.
- (6) What is the methanogenesis? Explain the chemical reactions that are involved in the formation of CH_4 from methyl-coenzyme *M* reductase.
- (7) What are the controlling factors for the photoinduced degradation of DOM? Describe four important factors that can regulate the DOM Photoinduced degradation in aqueous solution.
- (8) What are the controlling factors for the microbial degradation of DOM? Describe two of the important factors.
- (9) List the various end photo products generated from the photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters. Explain what end products are vital for microbial processes in the aquatic environments.

- (10) What is the new reaction for photosynthesis? Explain how photo processes can affect photosynthesis in waters.
- (11) Explain the flow diagram on how photoinduced and microbial processes work together for the degradation of DOM and POM in natural waters.
- (12) What are the key interactions between photoinduced and microbial processes in natural waters?

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Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters

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1 Introduction

Chromophoric and colored dissolved organic matter (CDOM) is the optically active components of bulk dissolved organic matter (DOM) composing of a complex mixture of organic compounds of both allochthonous and autochthonous origin, which absorb light at both ultraviolet (UV) and visible wavelengths (Bricaud et al. 1981; Arrigo and Brown 1996; Nelson et al. 1998; Nelson et al. 2004; Warnock et al. 1999; Nelson and Siegel 2002; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Coble 2007; Zhang et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009). Allochthonous organic substances

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are generally derived from terrestrial plant materials in soil, while autochthonous organic substances are produced mostly from algae, phytoplankton and bacteria within the water column. Allochthonous CDOM (mostly fulvic and humic acids) originating in terrestrial environments flows through rivers and estuaries onto coastal shelves and then reaches the open ocean. During such transport it experiences large changes in ionic composition and physicochemical environment (Mostofa et al. 2009; Malcolm 1985; Malcolm 1990; Wetzel 1992; Nakane et al. 1997; Uchida et al. 2000; Vodacek et al. 1997; Mitra et al. 2000; Fahey et al. 2005; Murphy et al. 2008). Autochthonous CDOM of algal, phytoplankton and bacterial origin is generally composed of autochthonous fulvic acids, carbohydrates, amino acids, proteins, lipids, organic acids and so on (Nelson et al. 2004; Coble 2007; Zhang et al. 2009; Coble 1996; Tanoue 2000; Jennings and Steinberg 1994; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008; Stedmon and Markager 2005; Stedmon et al. 2007; Stedmon et al. 2007; Wada et al. 2007; Helms et al. 2008; Hulatt et al. 2009; Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009). Phytoplankton is capable of releasing 10–60 % of the carbon and 15–50 % of the nitrogen assimilated during photosynthesis (Sundh 1992; Bronk et al. 1994; Braven et al. 1995; Malinsky-Rushansky and Legrand 1996; Slawyk et al. 1998; Slawyk et al. 2000). As a consequence, CDOM levels are significantly increased after phytoplankton blooms in natural waters (Billen and Fontigny 1987; Ittekkot 1982). The contributions of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, autochthonous fulvic acids, carbohydrates, amino acids, proteins, lipids and organic acids are significantly different among rivers, lakes and oceans. Such differences are discussed in detail in the DOM chapter.

The absorption and scattering coefficients of water were determined firstly by the aquatic scientist Gumburtsev in 1924 (cited in Kozlyaninov (MV 1972)) and then in other studies (Clarke and James 1939; Duntley 1942; Yentsch 1960; Preisendorfer 1961; Latimer 1963; Sullivan 1963; Kozlyaninov and Pelevin 1966; Jerlov 1968). Jerlov (1968) has been the first to hypothesize that CDOM in natural waters absorbs maximally in the blue region of the spectrum and that its absorption decreases exponentially with increasing wavelength, up to the photosynthetically available radiation (PAR) waveband. Since then a lot of research studies have been conducted on the absorption and scattering properties of CDOM, chlorophyll and particulate material in natural waters (Kozlyaninov and Pelevin 1966; Clarke et al. 1970; Tyler and Smith 1970; Lorenzen 1972; Petzold 1972; Morel 1973; Arvesen et al. 1973; Clarke and Ewing 1974; Duntley et al. 1974; Gordon et al. 1975; Maul and Gordon 1976; Prieur 1976; Morel and Prieur 1977; Bukata et al. 1979; Kirk 1981; Gordon and Morel 1983; Kirk 1988).

High molecular weight DOM, and particularly allochthonous fulvic and humic acids and autochthonous fulvic acids, absorb radiation along a broad spectrum from 250 to 800 nm (Warnock et al. 1999; Zhang et al. 2009; Jennings and Steinberg 1994; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Wada et al. 2007; Helms et al. 2008; Hulatt et al. 2009; Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Davies-Colley and Vant 1987; Zhang et al.

2009; Du et al. 2010). The humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of allochthonous origin and autochthonous fulvic acids of algal origin are colored as they absorb visible light. They can thus be denoted both as colored and as chromophoric DOM (CDOM). Other terminology includes *yellow substances* or *Gelbstoff* in natural waters. On the other hand, low molecular weight CDOM also shows absorption at shorter wavelengths, such as formaldehyde at 207–250 nm, acetaldehyde at 208–224 nm, acetate at 204–270 nm, glyoxal at <240 nm, malonate at 225–240 nm, and pyruvate at 200–227 nm (Strome and Miller 1978; Mopper and Stahovec 1986; Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991; Wetzel et al. 1995; Dahlén et al. 1996). These LMW organic substances do not show any color as they do not absorb in the visible, and they can thus be denoted as CDOM but not as colored DOM.

Different variables such as the occurrence of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids and/or autochthonous fulvic acids, particulate materials (e.g. algae), chlorophyll *a* or phytoplankton, as well as incident light wavelengths and solar zenith angle, snow, ice, and water itself are responsible for the absorption and scattering of UV and PAR radiation, which may affect deeper waters in lakes and oceans (Smith and Baker 1981; Kirk 1984, 1991, 1994; Carder et al. 1989; McKnight et al. 1994; Scully and Lean 1994; Morris et al. 1995; Vernet and Whitehead 1996; Laurion et al. 1997; Sommaruga and Psenner 1997; Kahru and Mitchell 1998; Laurion et al. 2000; Markager and Vincent 2000; Belzile et al. 2000; Shank et al. 2005; Warren et al. 2006; Green et al. 2008; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Zhao et al. 2009; Shank et al. 2010).

CDOM absorption properties are significantly affected by several factors: DOM content and its chemical nature (Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; McKnight et al. 1994; Dubach et al. 1964; Zanardi-Lamardo et al. 2004; Singh et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2010; Minero et al. 2007; Minero et al. 2007; Vione et al. 2010), occurrence and types of suspended particulate matter (Zhang et al. 2009; Dupouy et al. 2010; Uusikivi et al. 2010; Gregg and Casey 2009; O'Donnell et al. 2010), photoinduced and microbial processes in freshwater and marine environments (Shank et al. 2010; Boehme and Coble 2000; Moran et al. 2000; Winch et al. 2002; Hernes and Benner 2003; Pullin et al. 2004; Scully et al. 2004; Winter et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2007; Zhang and Qin 2007; Ma and Green 2004), and salinity (Singh et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2010; Hernes and Benner 2003; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Blough and del Vecchio 2002; Fournier 2007). The CDOM plays several key roles in biogeochemical processes such as photoinduced reactions and biological processes, and it minimizes the deleterious consequences of UV radiation exposure for phytoplankton and other organisms in natural waters (Wetzel et al. 1995; Schindler et al. 1996; Williamson et al. 1996; Yan et al. 1996; Moran and Zepp 1997; Thomas-Smith and Blough 2001; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Several reviews have been carried out on CDOM including its optical and chemical properties, sinks and distribution, relationship of CDOM with salinity, DOC and fluorescence, photochemistry, ocean color, and finally remote sensing applications in natural waters (Coble 2007; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Blough and del Vecchio 2002; del Castillo 2005).

This chapter will give a general overview on the sources and nature of colored and CDOM, biogeochemical functions of CDOM, optical variables, chromophores in the CDOM, and the theory of CDOM absorbance in natural waters. Moreover, the controlling factors of CDOM that are most important in natural waters will be discussed. Two key factors such as photoinduced and microbial changes in CDOM are also discussed. Finally, a discussion is devoted to the importance of CDOM in natural waters.

1.1 Key Biogeochemical Functions of CDOM

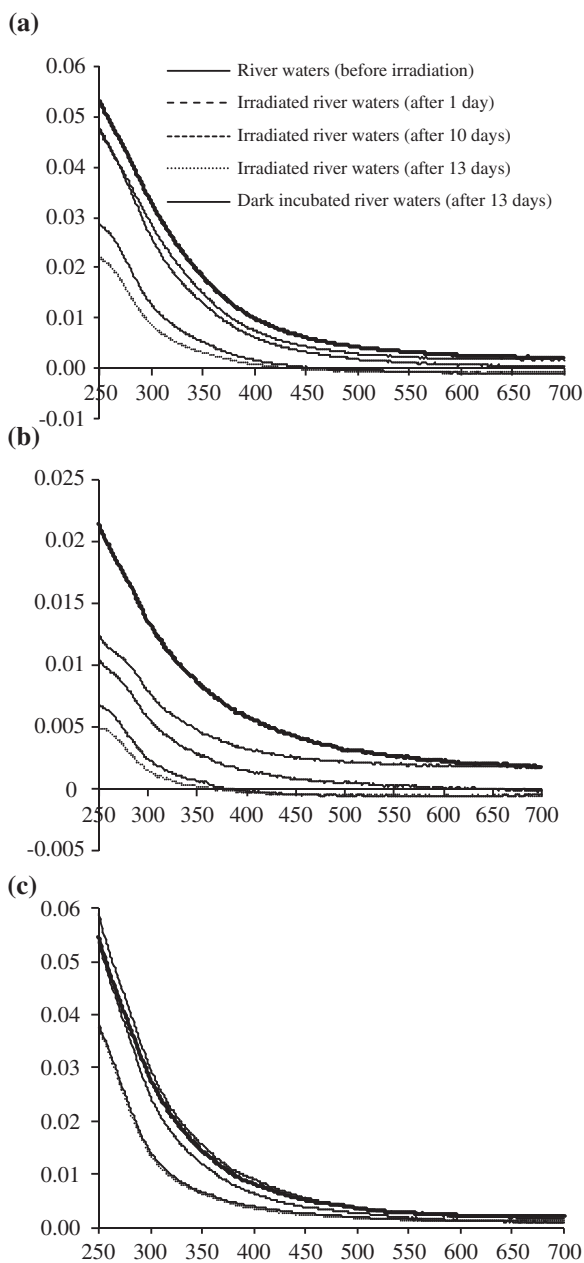
The biogeochemical functions of DOM (discussed in chapter “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”) have many similarities with those of CDOM, because DOM contains both colored and chromophoric DOM. The key biogeochemical functions of CDOM associated with natural waters are reported as follows. (i) Distribution of colored DOM in the ocean could be a useful indicator for better understanding DOC contents and distribution (del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Hayase et al. 1987; Vodacek et al. 1995; Ferrari et al. 1996; Stabenau and Zika 2004; Prahl and Coble 1994), salinity distribution (Laane and Kramer 1990; Dorsch and Bidleman 1982; Willey and Atkinson 1982; Carder et al. 1993), water mass mixing (Hujerslev et al. 1996; Nieke et al. 1997) and pollutant dispersion (Laane and Kramer 1990). (ii) Colored DOM (mostly allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, and autochthonous fulvic acids) is responsible for the photoinduced generation of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and organic peroxides (ROOH) and for initiation of photo-oxidation processes in natural waters upon sunlight absorption (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Moore et al. 1993; Vione et al. 2006; Richard et al. 2007; al Housari et al. 2010; Clark et al. 2009; Minella et al. 2011). (iii) Colored DOM is partially responsible for the photoinduced generation of hydroxyl radicals (HO^\bullet), strong oxidizing agents that may decompose the colored CDOM itself and other organic substances in aqueous media (Minero et al. 2007; Vione et al. 2006). The production of HO^\bullet by CDOM could take place upon water oxidation by the triplet states $^3\text{CDOM}^*$ or through formation of H_2O_2 , either upon direct photoinduced dissociation ($\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow 2\text{HO}^\bullet$) or through Fenton or photo-Fenton decomposition (Zepp et al. 1992; Legrini et al. 1993; Von Sonntag et al. 1993; Takeda et al. 2004; Nakatani et al. 2007). (iv) The absorption of light by chromophores in CDOM initiates several important processes in natural waters such as the release of heat (Kirk 1988), the production of luminescence (Coble 1996; Vodacek et al. 1995; del Castillo and Miller 2008; Blough and Green 1995) and the formation of numerous photo products (Ma and Green 2004; Moran and Zepp 1997; Corin et al. 1996; Miller 1998; Blough and Zepp 1995). (v) Photodegradation of CDOM in surface waters results in the direct loss of absorption and fluorescence that lead to a decrease in the number of the chromophores of CDOM, thereby causing a decline of CDOM’s absorption properties and photoinduced nature (Moran et al. 2000; Skoog et al. 1996; Reche et al. 1999; Whitehead and Vernet 2000; Twardowski and Donaghay 2001; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Mostofa et al.

2007; Mostofa et al. 2007; Patsayeva et al. 1991; Kouassi and Zika 1990; Kouassi et al. 1990). (vi) CDOM absorbs light of both ultraviolet and visible wavelengths, which reduces the amount of PAR for photosynthesis (Bricaud et al. 1981; Arrigo and Brown 1996; Kirk 1994; Kalle 1966) and influences ocean color as determined by remote sensing (del Castillo and Miller 2008; Carder et al. 1991; Carder et al. 1999; Hoge et al. 1995; Hoge et al. 2001). (vii) Phytoplankton usually absorbs strongly in the blue and weakly in the green part of the spectrum. This is applied for the estimation of the chlorophyll *a* concentration within the upper layer of the water column, followed by empirical algorithms of ocean color based on blue-to-green ratios (McClain et al. 2004; Coble et al. 1998; O'Reilly et al. 1998). (viii) CDOM absorbance could be used for determining the chemical composition and structure of CDOM (González-Vila et al. 2001; Hedges et al. 2000; Osburn et al. 2001; Stabenau et al. 2004; Bracchini et al. 2010). (ix) The spectral slope (*S*) is often used as a proxy for CDOM composition, including the ratio of fulvic to humic acids and molecular weight (Twardowski et al. 2004). Salinity is negatively related to the spectral slopes from 275 to 295 nm, which might be considered a good proxy for DOM molecular weight (Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2010). (x) Finally, CDOM is responsible for the global carbon cycle and for biogeochemical processes through production, distribution, transport and decomposition of organic compounds in natural waters (Moran et al. 2000; Ma and Green 2004; Mostofa et al. 2007; Hedges et al. 2000; Hedges 1992; Amon and Benner 1994; Takahashi et al. 1995; Vähätalo et al. 2000; Ogawa and Tanoue 2003; Medina-Sánchez et al. 2006).

2 CDOM in Natural Waters

Colored and chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM) is defined as a optically active component of bulk DOM of both allochthonous and autochthonous origin that absorbs light over a broad range of ultra-violet (UV) and visible wavelengths (200–800 nm), exhibiting absorbance spectra that generally decrease with increasing wavelength for freshwater and marine water (Fig. 1) (Bricaud et al. 1981; Arrigo and Brown 1996; Nelson et al. 1998; Warnock et al. 1999; Nelson and Siegel 2002; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Coble 2007; Zhang et al. 2009). The absorbance of CDOM is useful for the knowledge of the contents of the materials present and for the identification of absorbance changes due to physical, photoinduced and biological processes in a variety of waters (Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Coble 2007; Vodacek et al. 1997; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Vähätalo et al. 2000). It has been reported that there are differences in levels and optical properties between freshwater and marine water CDOM. Extreme enrichment in CDOM is usually observed in freshwater environments (Fig. 1) (Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Conmy et al. 2004; Kowalczyk et al. 2003). CDOM shows absorption at wavelengths 450–800 nm in freshwater (Kowalczyk et al. 2003), but usually not in marine waters. Carbon-specific absorption coefficients for riverine

Fig. 1 Absorption spectra of upstream CDOM (**a, b** Nishi-Mattaya and Higashi-Mataya, Lake Biwa watershed, Japan), and downstream CDOM (**c** Yasu River, Lake Biwa watershed, Japan). *Data source* Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished data)



sources of CDOM are 10–150 times higher than those of marine CDOM, whilst coastal waters that receive riverine inputs typically possess higher CDOM absorption coefficients than open ocean waters (Arrigo and Brown 1996; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Carder et al. 1989; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; del Vecchio

and Blough 2002; Kowalczyk et al. 2003; Green and Blough 1994). This might be due to the large quantities of humic substances in freshwaters, which usually absorb radiation at $\lambda > 450$ nm. However, riverine input of chromophores contained in freshwater CDOM to the coastal marine environment are decomposed by photodegradation in the coastal area (Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Vähätalo et al. 2000). The combination of photodegradation and dilution prevents large amount of freshwater CDOM to reach the open ocean. Autochthonous CDOM usually increases relative to chlorophyll *a* concentration in the surface waters of lakes and oceans (Zhang et al. 2009; Sasaki et al. 2005; Mostofa et al. 2011). It is therefore suggested that phytoplankton degradation begins after the spring bloom in surface waters.

2.1 Sources and Nature of CDOM in Natural Waters

CDOM is generally originated from two key sources, allochthonous and autochthonous. The key sources of allochthonous DOM that includes fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) are vascular plant material and particulate detrital pools in terrestrial soil ecosystems. On the other hand, the key contributors for autochthonous DOM in natural waters and in sediment pore waters are phytoplankton or algal biomass, bacteria, coral, coral reef, submerged aquatic vegetation, seagrass and marsh- and mangrove forest. The sources and nature of CDOM are very similar to those of DOM, which have been explained in detail in chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”.

2.2 Chromophores in CDOM

A chromophore is defined as a part of an organic molecule (functional group) with or without electron-donating heteroatoms such as N, O, and S, as a functional group with a highly unsaturated aliphatic carbon chain, or as a molecule with a structure that can hold up an electron or has extensive π -electron systems, which can absorb photons (light energy) with significant efficiency, causing the promotion from the ground state to an excited one. The key chromophores in a molecule or DOM in natural waters are $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{CH}=\text{O}$, $-\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{COOCH}_3$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, S-, O- or N-containing aromatic compounds, Schiff-base derivatives ($-\text{N}=\text{C}-\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{N}-$) and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Malcolm 1985; Strome and Miller 1978; Mopper and Stahovec 1986; Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991; Wetzel et al. 1995; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Corin et al. 1996; Senesi 1990; Leenheer and Croue 2003; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Seitzinger et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2005). Fulvic and humic acids of vascular plant origin have a molecular structure containing carboxy- and methoxy- benzenes and

phenolic groups, carboxyl groups, alcoholic OH, carbohydrate OH, $-C=C-$, hydroxycoumarin-like structures, chromone, xanthone, quinoline, and O-, N-, S- and P-containing functional groups. They include aromatic carbon (17–30) and aliphatic carbon (47–63 %) (Malcolm 1985; Senesi 1990; Leenheer and Croue 2003; Steelink 2002). All of these functional groups can be considered as key chromophores in fulvic and humic acids in natural waters.

2.3 Theory of CDOM Absorbance

Photon absorption by a CDOM chromophore in aqueous solution firstly induces the excitation of an electron from its ground state to an excited one (Fig. 2), (Mostofa et al. 2009; Senesi 1990). Three types of electronic transitions occur with the CDOM chromophores in natural waters due to the absorption of UV or visible radiation: (i) transitions involving π , σ , and n electrons; (ii) transitions involving charge-transfer electrons, and (iii) transitions involving d - and f - orbital electrons in metals. The CDOM chromophores (e.g. fulvic acid, humic acid and tryptophan) mostly undergo transitions involving n or π electrons to the π^* excited state or charge-transfer electrons, and excitation of unpaired electrons in d - and f - orbitals (e.g. fulvic acid complexes with transition metals such as Cu(II) and Fe(III), having unpaired electrons) (Senesi 1990; Schulman 1985; Voelker and Sulzberger 1996; Senesi 1990; Fox 1990; Morales et al. 1997; Grabowski et al. 2003). The chromophores of CDOM absorb radiation in the wavelength range 200–700 nm and control the penetration along the water column of UV-B (280–320 nm), UV-A (320–400 nm) and total UV radiation (280–400 nm), as

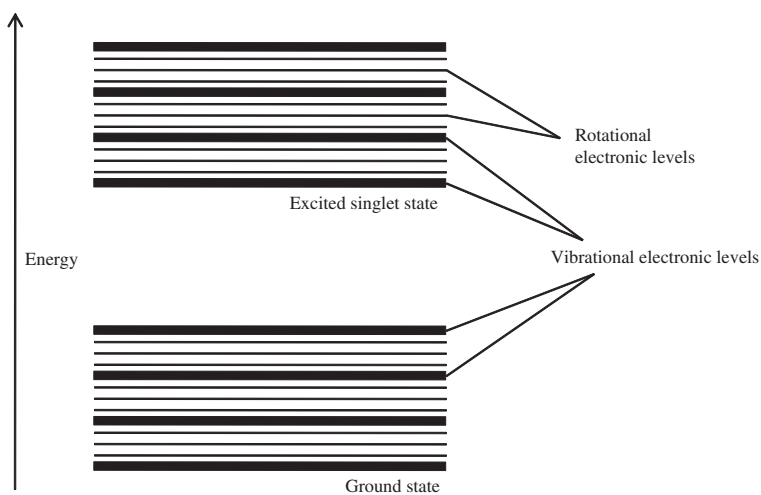


Fig. 2 A schematic energy level diagram for an organic molecule showing their rotational and vibrational electronic levels

well as of photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm). CDOM absorbance in aqueous solution is directly proportional to the path length (l) and the concentration of the absorbing CDOM species (c). The *Beer's Law* states that $A = \epsilon lc$, where ϵ is a constant of proportionality called the molar absorption coefficient. The attenuation of radiation in solution increases with increasing CDOM absorbance.

As far as PAR radiation is concerned, CDOM in natural waters absorbs maximally in the blue region of the spectrum and its absorption decreases exponentially with increasing wavelength. CDOM spectra have been fitted to an exponential function by Bricaud and his co-workers (Bricaud et al. 1981) as described below (Eq. 2.1):

$$a_{\text{CDOM}}(\lambda) = a_{\text{CDOM}}(\lambda_0)e^{-S(\lambda-\lambda_0)} \quad (2.1)$$

where $a_{\text{CDOM}}(\lambda)$ and $a_{\text{CDOM}}(\lambda_0)$ are the absorption coefficients at a specific wavelength (λ) and at a reference wavelength (λ_0), respectively. S is the slope of the absorption spectrum, determined using either a nonlinear least-squares fitting routine over the wavelength range 290–700 nm or a linear least-squares fit of the log-transformed absorption data, over the range from 290 nm to the instrument detection limit (Vodacek et al. 1997). It is shown that the S value is significantly affected by the presence of different organic substances. Humic acids have a lower S value than fulvic acids (Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Carder et al. 1989; Markager and Vincent 2000. Jerlov (1968) suggested an S value of $15 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ whilst Bricaud et al. (Bricaud et al. 1981) showed S to vary between 10 and $20 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ with a mean value of $14 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$. The absorption coefficient is determined using the following equation

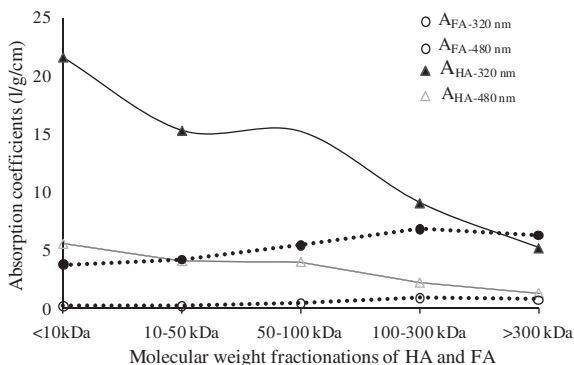
$$a_{\text{CDOM}}(\lambda) = 2.303 \times A_{\text{CDOM}}(\lambda)/l \quad (2.2)$$

where $A_{\text{CDOM}}(\lambda)$ is the absorbance ($\log I_0/I$), and l is the path length (in meters). The spectral slope of the absorption spectrum is widely used in remote sensing in coastal and marine environments (Vodacek et al. 1995; Hoge et al. 1995).

2.4 Absorption Coefficients of CDOM and Particulate Matter in Natural Waters

CDOM of both autochthonous and allochthonous origin generally exhibits UV and visible absorption spectra with low absorbance at longer wavelengths, and the absorbance increases with decreasing wavelength from 700 to 200 nm (Fig. 1) (Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Wada et al. 2007; Helms et al. 2008; Hulatt et al. 2009; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Davies-Colley and Vant 1987; Zhang et al. 2009; Du et al. 2010; Odriozola et al. 2007; Bricaud et al. 2010). Allochthonous fulvic acids generally exhibit monotonous spectra whilst allochthonous humic acids have a shoulder around 400 nm in aqueous media (Fig. 3) (Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985). Dissolved mycosporine based amino acids (MAAs), released by dinoflagellates,

Fig. 3 Relationship between absorption coefficients examined at 320 and 480 nm and molecular weight fractionations of extracted humic acid (HA) and fulvic acid (FA) in sediment samples collected from Tokyo Bay using Amicon Diaflo Ultrafilters. Figure produced from *Data source* Hayase and Tsubota (1985)



may have a large influence on the absorption of UV light through the water column (Vernet and Whitehead 1996; Kahru and Mitchell 1998; Whitehead and Vernet 2000; Vernet et al. 1989). The MAAs are frequently identified in a wide phyletic assortment of marine organisms and can provide partial photoprotection from UV radiation (Karentz et al. 1991; Bandaranayake 1998; Jeffrey et al. 1999). It is reported that *Lingulodinium polyedrum* (formerly known as *Gonyaulax polyedra* (Dodge 1989)) produces seven types of MAAs with absorption maxima ranging between 310 and 364 nm (Vernet and Whitehead 1996). It is shown that radiation absorption by dissolved MAAs, assessed from the measured MAAs concentrations, significantly correlates with DOM UV absorption ($r^2 = 0.77$) and accounts for up to 10 % of the total DOM absorption at 330 nm (Whitehead and Vernet 2000). The chlorophyll-specific absorption coefficient for phytoplankton is high during the summer season and low during the spring bloom season. This might be the consequence of the occurrence of large diatoms during the spring bloom, while small phytoplankton dominates during the summer period (Sasaki et al. 2005). In addition, the autochthonous CDOM originated from algal or phytoplankton biomass shows strong absorption at 250–700 nm (Zhang et al. 2009; Jennings and Steinberg 1994; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Wada et al. 2007; Helms et al. 2008; Hulatt et al. 2009). A study of Bay waters has shown that the relative contribution of CDOM absorption to the total absorption coefficient is >50 % (Sasaki et al. 2005).

Particulate material (phytoplankton or algae and detritus) have absorption spectra in the UV and visible region with several shoulders (Fig. 4a) (Zhang et al. 2009; Odriozola et al. 2007; Smith et al. 2004; Vantrepotte et al. 2007). Phytoplankton shows a strong absorption around 440 and a relatively weak absorption around 680 nm in aqueous media (Fig. 4a), (Zhang et al. 2009). The absorption coefficients of phytoplankton at 440 nm are significantly higher (63–88 %) than those of detritus studied during dry and wet seasons in seawater (Odriozola et al. 2007).

Blue light attenuation in the water column is often dominated by CDOM rather than by phytoplankton absorption. For instance, average CDOM absorption in

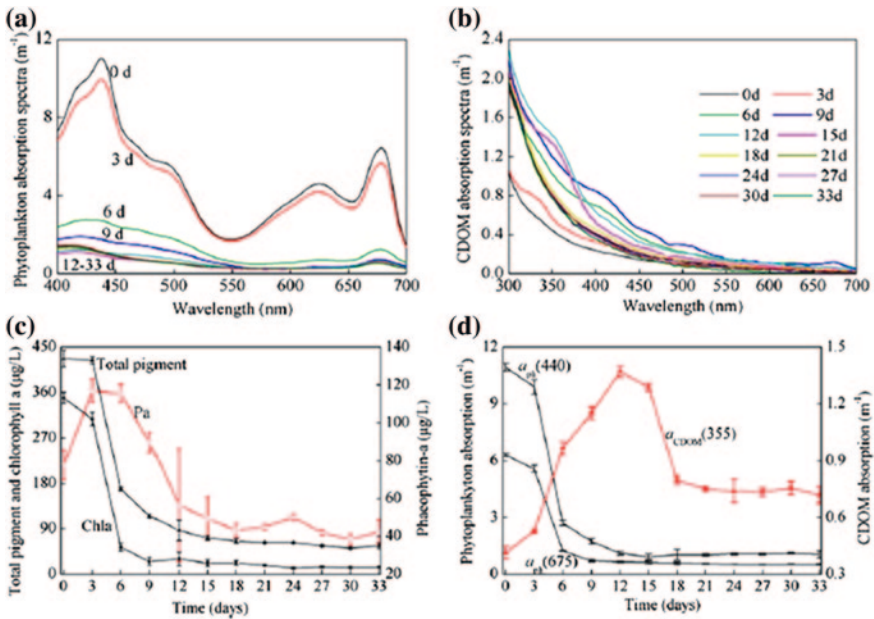


Fig. 4 Changes in the mean absorption spectra ($n = 3$) of (a) phytoplankton pigment absorption [$a_{ph}(\lambda)$], (b) CDOM absorption [$a_{CDOM}(\lambda)$], (c) The concentrations of total pigment, chlorophyll a and Phaeophytin- a (P_a), and (d) phytoplankton pigment absorption at the Chl a absorption maxima at 440 and 675 nm, and CDOM absorption at 355 nm during the degradation experiment period (0–33 days). Error bar indicates the means and standard deviations ($n = 3$). *Data source* Zhang et al. (2009)

Tampa Bay at 443 nm is about five times higher in June and about ten times higher in October than phytoplankton pigment absorption at 443 nm (Chen et al. 2007). It has been shown that the impact of the suspended and dissolved matter on lake-water optical quality is influenced by wind resuspension of particulate matter: the relative role of dissolved matter in the absorption of UV and visible radiation prevails for low wind speed conditions ($<2.2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$), while at high wind speed (3.9 m s^{-1}) particulate matter resuspension can strongly influence the attenuation and the extinction measurements (Bracchini et al. 2005).

3 Apparent and Inherent Optical Properties of Natural Waters on Solar Altitude

The nature of the light field in a water body under a given incident solar irradiance is a function of inherent optical properties such as the absorption coefficient, the scattering coefficient and the normalized volume scattering function (which

characterizes the angular distribution of single-event scattering). Sometimes the volume scattering function is referred to as the scattering phase function of the aquatic medium (Preisendorfer 1961; Kirk 1991). Optical properties of water at any given point in the medium are dependent on the irradiance distribution at that point (Preisendorfer 1961). The apparent optical properties of water bodies (e.g. vertical attenuation coefficient, irradiance and reflectance) are significantly dependent on the inherent optical properties (e.g. absorption, scattering and back-scattering coefficients), which depend on the shape of the volume scattering function (Kirk 1984, 1991, 1994; Belzile et al. 2002). Kirk (1984, 1991, 1994) derived an empirical relationship between the apparent and inherent optical properties of natural waters, depending on the angle of incidence of the photons on the surface, based on field observation data followed by Monte Carlo modeling of the underwater light field. He stated that the vertical attenuation coefficient for downward irradiance at the midpoint of the euphotic zone, K_d , can be expressed as a function of the absorption coefficient, the scattering coefficient, and the solar altitude in accordance with (Eq. 2.3):

$$K_d = \frac{1}{\mu_0} [a^2 + G(\mu_0) ab]^{1/2} \quad (2.3)$$

where a is the absorption coefficient, b is the scattering coefficient, μ_0 is the cosine of the zenith angle of refracted solar photons (direct beam) just beneath the surface (calculated from the incident zenith angle using Snell's Law). $G(\mu_0)$ is a coefficient function that specifies the relative contribution of scattering to the vertical attenuation of irradiance. Its value is determined by the shape of the volume scattering function $\beta(\theta)$ and by μ_0 . $G(\mu_0)$ is a linear function of μ_0 that can be expressed as (Eq. 2.4):

$$G(\mu_0) = g_1\mu_0 - g_2 \quad (2.4)$$

where g_1 and g_2 are numerical constants that depend on the volume scattering function used in the calculations.

In case of irradiance reflectance, Gordon et al. (1975) fit their data to another power series that has been simplified by Jerlov (1976) to (Eq. 2.5):

$$R(0) = \text{Constant} \frac{b_b}{a + b_b} \quad (2.5)$$

where $R(0)$ is the irradiance reflectance just below the surface, b_b is the backscattering coefficient, and the constant has the value 0.32 for zenith sun and 0.37 for an overcast sky. The irradiance reflectance can be expressed as (Eq. 2.6) (Kirk 1981)

$$R(0) = 0.328b_b/a \quad (2.6)$$

This equation is in good agreement with the result obtained by Prieur (1976) using a different calculation procedure (Eq. 2.7):

$$R(0) = 0.33b_b/a \quad (2.7)$$

These results show that the irradiance reflectance just below the surface is proportional to the backscattering coefficient and inversely proportional to the absorption coefficient in accordance with (Eq. 2.8)

$$R(0) = C(\mu_0) b_b/a \quad (2.8)$$

where $C(\mu_0)$ is a function of the angular distribution of the incident light flux that is constant for a given angular distribution. Other studies also show similar results where the reflectance increases as solar altitude decreases, indicating that $C(\mu_0)$ is a function of μ_0 (Gordon et al. 1975; Kirk 1981). Kirk's equation has been widely used to determine a and b in earlier studies (Belzile et al. 2002; Weidemann and Bannister 1986; Shooter et al. 1998).

3.1 Optical Variables for the Attenuation of UV and Photosynthetically Available Radiation

The absorption and scattering coefficients of different optical variables to UV and PAR are identified in natural waters (Smith and Baker 1981, Kirk 1984, 1991, 1994; Carder et al. 1989; McKnight et al. 1994; Scully and Lean 1994; Morris et al. 1995; Vernet and Whitehead 1996; Laurion et al. 1997; Sommaruga and Psenner 1997; Kahru and Mitchell 1998; Laurion et al. 2000; Markager and Vincent 2000; Belzile et al. 2000; O'Donnell et al. 2010; Belzile et al. 2002; Pierson et al. 2008; Pérez et al. 2010; Morris 2009). Reflectance, scattering and absorption of light occur in any surface as a function of latitude. Once light penetrates the air–water interface, it can either be scattered or absorbed by the constituents present in natural waters. The various optical variables in natural waters can be discriminated as below: (1) Content of CDOM, (2) Nature and molecular weight fractions of DOM, (3) Absorptivity (a_{CDOM}) and fluorescence (F_{CDOM}) of CDOM at specific wavelengths, (4) Effect of variation in incident light wavelengths and solar zenith angle, (5) Particulate materials, (6) Chlorophyll a concentration, (7) Water, and (8) Ice in Arctic and Antarctic regions.

3.1.1 Contents of CDOM

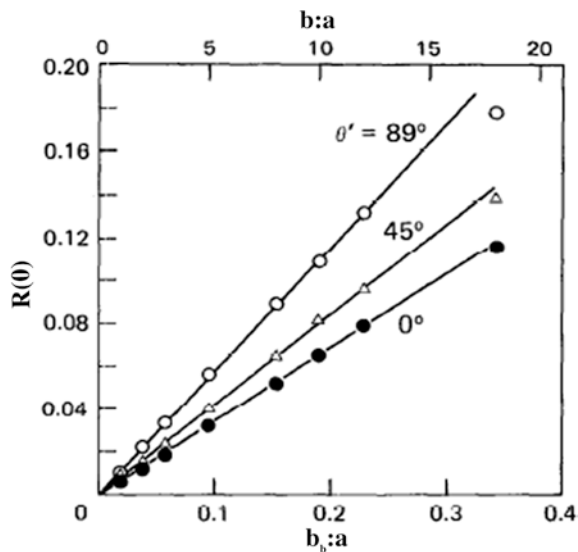
CDOM is one of the key factors explaining the role of absorption and scattering to the attenuation of UV and photosynthetically available radiation in natural waters (Vodacek et al. 1997; Scully and Lean 1994; Morris et al. 1995; Laurion et al. 1997; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Smith et al. 2004; Belzile et al. 2002; Pierson et al. 2008; Smith and Baker 1979; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Vincent et al. 1998; Pienitz and Vincent 2000; Kratzer et al. 2008; Devlin et al. 2009). DOM controls the downward irradiance flux through the water column of UV-B (280–320 nm), UV-A (320–400 nm), total UV (280–400 nm) and photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) (Markager and Vincent 2000; Morris

and Hargreaves 1997; Tranvik and Kokalj 1998; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000). Post bloom increases in DOM concentration from phytoplankton biomass cause increased DOM absorption, which in turn decreases the UV transmission through the water column (Whitehead and Vernet 2000). Mineralization of DOM by photoinduced and microbial processes can decompose the chromophores in CDOM, thereby reducing the absorption of UV and visible radiation. The consequence is an increase of UV transparency of surface waters (Nelson et al. 1998; Vodacek et al. 1997; Kieber et al. 1990; Moran et al. 2000; Skoog et al. 1996; Reche et al. 1999; Whitehead and Vernet 2000; Twardowski and Donaghay 2001; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2007; Patsayeva et al. 1991; Kouassi and Zika 1990; Kouassi et al. 1990; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Allard et al. 1994; Zepp et al. 1995). CDOM accounts on average for 17–98 % of the total light attenuation coefficient in lake, estuarine and coastal seawaters (Odrizola et al. 2007; Lund-Hansen 2004; Obrador and Pretus 2008; Effler et al. 2010). CDOM shows variable and important contributions in summer (10–90 %) along the Patagonia shelf-break front (Ferreira et al. 2009). Absorption by CDOM and water together contributes to 88–94 % of UV radiation attenuation in tributaries, but only 37–77 % in lakes (Smith et al. 2004). These studies show that light attenuation by CDOM significantly depends on the occurrence of suspended particulate matter and phytoplankton with high contents of Chl *a* and water. The total content of DOC could be a useful estimate of UV transparency in natural surface waters.

3.1.2 Nature and Molecular Weight Fractions of CDOM

The absorption and scattering coefficients for UV and PAR are significantly dependent on the chemical nature and variability of organic compounds (Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; McKnight et al. 1994; Dubach et al. 1964; Zanardi-Lamardo et al. 2004; Singh et al. 2010). Fulvic and humic acids are typically a mixture of organic compounds with molecular weights ranging from <100 to >300,000 Daltons in natural waters (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Ghassemi and Christman 1968; Thurman 1985; Ma and Ali 2009). Absorption coefficients of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids are significantly dependent on the molecular weight fractions (Fig. 3) (Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Dubach et al. 1964; Ghassemi and Christman 1968). In addition, autochthonous CDOM of algal origin showed efficient absorption over the entire spectrum at 250–700 nm during 33 days of dark incubation (Fig. 4) (Zhang et al. 2009). This suggests that autochthonous CDOM has a similar absorption pattern as allochthonous fulvic acids. The absorption coefficients (l/g/cm) of fulvic acid extracted from sediment pore waters are much higher at 320 nm than at 480 nm in all the molecular weight fractions. However, absorption is low in low molecular weight fractions (<10 kDa) and generally increases with increasing molecular weight up to >300 kDa (Fig. 3) (Hayase and Tsubota 1985).

Fig. 5 Linear relationship between irradiance reflectance and the ratio of the backscattering coefficient (b_b) to the absorption coefficient at three different angles of incidence. Data source Kirk (1984)

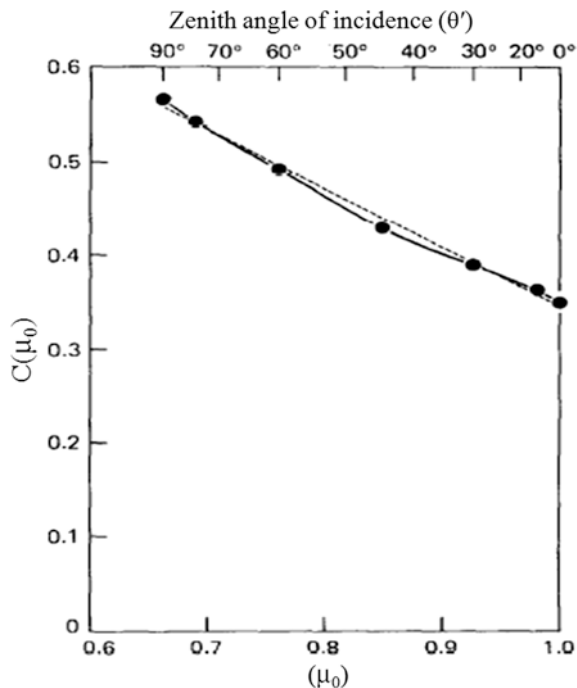


On the other hand, the absorption coefficients ($l/g/cm$) of whole humic acid extracted from sediment pore waters are much higher at 320 than at 480 nm, but absorption is much higher in low molecular weight fractions (<10 kDa) and typically decreases with increasing molecular weight up to >300 kDa (Fig. 3) (Hayase and Tsubota 1985). A small peak shoulder is observed for molecular weight fractions of humic acid of 50–100 kDa (Fig. 3), which might account for the shoulder detected in whole humic acid absorbance spectra (Ishiwatari 1973; Hayase and Tsubota 1985). Therefore, the absorption coefficient ($l/g/cm$) of humic acid decreases whilst that of fulvic acid increases with increasing molecular weight. Similarly, soil fulvic acid shows a parallel increase in absorption coefficients with molecular weight (Dubach et al. 1964). Such opposite trends of the absorption coefficients between fulvic and humic acids may result from the difference in their molecular structures (Figs. 5 and 6).

3.1.3 Absorption (a_{CDOM}) and Fluorescence (F_{CDOM}) of CDOM at Specific Wavelengths

The variations of the absorption (a_{CDOM}) and fluorescence (F_{CDOM}) of CDOM at specific wavelengths are significant depending on the nature and sources of CDOM in waters (Zhang et al. 2009; Coble 1996; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Moran et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Belzile et al. 2002; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). Fluorescence spectroscopy has been applied to identify the fulvic and humic acids of allochthonous origin, autochthonous fulvic acids (also denoted as marine humic-like) of algal origin, aromatic amino acids (tryptophan, tyrosine and phenylalanine),

Fig. 6 Relationship between $C(\mu_0)$ with μ_0 with zenith angle of incidence (θ'). The continuous curve is drawn to join all the points where the broken line is the best straight line that can be drawn through the points. *Data source* Kirk (1984)



proteins and some anthropogenic compounds (such as fluorescent whitening agents and detergents) in natural waters (Coble 2007; Coble 1996; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa et al. 2010). These substances have fluorescence peaks at specific excitation-emission maxima, namely in the C-, A-, T- and T_{UV} -regions. Allochthonous fulvic and humic acids show absorption over the entire spectrum (250–700 nm), with a small peak shoulder for humic acid of 50–100 kDa (Fig. 3) (Ishiwatari 1973; Hayase and Tsubota 1985). The absorption coefficient (l/g/cm) of extracted humic acid typically decreases whilst that of fulvic acid increases with increasing molecular weight, as already reported. In addition, allochthonous fulvic acids of upstream and downstream waters generally show relatively high absorption at longer wavelengths (500–700 nm, see Fig. 1). Such absorption is either greatly decreased or not detectable in lake and marine waters (Moran et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Belzile et al. 2002). Autochthonous CDOM of algal origin shows strong absorption over the entire 250–700 nm spectrum, and the fluorescence excitation-emission maxima resemble those of allochthonous fulvic acids in water (Fig. 4) (Zhang et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009). The absorption of both allochthonous and autochthonous fluorescent substances is very variable at specific wavelengths because these components can be significantly degraded by both photoinduced and microbial processes (Zhang et al. 2009; Moran et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Mostofa et al. 2007;

Mostofa et al. 2010). As a consequence, the absorption of CDOM at specific wavelengths spectrum is found to considerably change for an array of waters. CDOM absorption contributed in average to 66 and 40 % of the UV diffuse attenuation coefficients in clear and turbid water, respectively (Belzile et al. 2002).

3.1.4 Effect of Variation in Incident Light Wavelengths and Solar Zenith Angle

The inherent and the apparent optical properties of natural waters are significantly dependent on the angle of the light flux incident on the water surface. They vary with solar altitude and with the proportion of diffuse and direct solar radiation (Kirk 1984, 1991, 1994; Morris 2009; Morel and Bélanger 2006). Remembering the a and b coefficients of Eqs. (2.5–2.8), when the solar zenith angle increases from 0° to 45° and finally to 89° , the ratio of the vertical attenuation coefficient to the absorption coefficient ($K_d(z_m)/a$) increases by 15 and 41 %, respectively, when $b:a = 1$, by 8 and 22 % when $b:a = 5$, and by 5 and 12 % when $b:a = 10$ (Kirk 1984). K_d is thus rather insensitive to solar altitude in highly scattering waters (high b), but a considerable effect of solar altitude is observed in clear oceanic waters with low values of $b:a$. For all natural waters the shape of the volume scattering function is such that there is much more scattering in a forward than in a backward direction (Kirk 1984). When the incident beam moves away from the vertical, an increasing proportion of the more intense forward scattering becomes upward rather than downward scattering, thereby increasing the irradiance reflectance with decreasing solar altitude (increasing zenith angle) (Kirk 1984).

3.1.5 Suspended Particulate Matter

Absorption and scattering play a major role in UV and PAR attenuation by suspended particulate matter (SPM) such as phytoplankton pigments, algae, living heterotrophs, mineral sediments and detritus (organic, inorganic and mineral constituents) (Zhang et al. 2009, Kirk 1984, 1991, 1994; Laurion et al. 2000; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Dupouy et al. 2010; Uusikivi et al. 2010; Odriozola et al. 2007; Vantrepotte et al. 2007; Belzile et al. 2002; Pierson et al. 2008; Kratzer et al. 2008; Devlin et al. 2009; Hodoki and Watanabe 1998; Smith et al. 1999; Stambler 2005; Bowers and Binding 2006; Binding et al. 2008; Devlin et al. 2008; Foden et al. 2008). The spectral absorption coefficients of particulate matter (PM) are about twice higher in UV than in PAR wavelengths in the Baltic Sea ice (Uusikivi et al. 2010). Particulate absorption coefficients are appreciable in magnitude, averaging up to 103 % of a_{CDOM} at 380 nm and reflecting significant influence of both algal and detrital particles in lake and tributary waters (Smith et al. 2004). PM absorption spectra can include significant contribution by mycosporine-like amino acids between 320 and 345 nm (Uusikivi et al. 2010).

Experimental studies on phytoplankton biomass showed that phytoplankton has a strong absorption capacity at 400–700 nm and that its absorption decreases during 33 days of dark incubation (Fig. 4) (Zhang et al. 2009). An increase in UV absorption by PM may result from additional algal biomass during the phytoplankton bloom (Whitehead and Vernet 2000). The algal community composition in term of dominant cell size and, therefore, of pigment packaging is the key factor driving the phytoplankton specific absorption in the water column (Vantrepotte et al. 2007). The scattering coefficient of particulate materials increases approximately linearly with decreasing wavelength where suspended sediments dominate the optical signal in natural waters (Belzile et al. 2002; Morel 1988; Ahn et al. 1992; Roesler and Zaneveld 2258; Haltrin 1999; Pegau et al. 1999; Roesler 1998; Morel and Loisel 1998). The experimental and theoretical efficiency factor for scattering by the picocyanobacteria *Synechococcus* sp., *Synechocystis* sp. and *Anacystis marina* increases with decreasing wavelength (Ahn et al. 1992). However, an increase of the scattering efficiency with decreasing wavelength is not systematically detected in larger algal species (Ahn et al. 1992). The spectral slope coefficients (300–700 nm) of CDOM samples increase by as much as 20 % after mixing with 10 g L⁻¹ sediment and by 5 % after mixing with 1 g L⁻¹ sediment (Shank et al. 2005). This suggests that sorption to particles has the potential to significantly alter the optical properties of CDOM in the water column of turbid shallow environments or in areas of high benthic exchange (Shank et al. 2005).

Phytoplankton is the key driver of the spatial–temporal variations of the light attenuation coefficient, which accounts on average for 44 % of the total light attenuation (Obrador and Pretus 2008). The backscattering coefficient is highly correlated with turbidity and suspended matter ($R^2 = 0.98$), but it is poorly correlated to chlorophyll ($R^2 = 0.42$) (Dupouy et al. 2010), suggesting the importance of the inherent optical properties of PM in waters. The concentration-specific absorption coefficient of mineral particles is generally found to decrease exponentially with wavelength towards a constant non-zero value in the red (Bowers and Binding 2006). Specific scattering coefficients of mineral particles show a tendency to decrease from the open ocean into energetic shelf seas and estuaries, but then to increase again within shelf seas as turbulent energy increases (Bowers and Binding 2006). Light attenuation and scattering by particles can account for 11–52 % of the total attenuation/scattering in a variety of waters (Smith et al. 2004; Belzile et al. 2002; Lund-Hansen 2004; Smith et al. 1999). PM can contribute an estimated 25–90 % of the attenuation coefficients for the first-year sea ice at wavelengths <500 nm (Fritsen et al. 2011). The total particulate absorption coefficients at 300 nm are 0.1–0.3 m⁻¹ in Southern Ocean waters (Holm-Hansen et al. 1993). Specific absorption coefficients for Antarctic phytoplankton is 0.1 m² (mg chl *a*)⁻¹ within the UV range (Mitchell et al. 1989; Arrigo 1994). Bacterial attenuation at 390 nm ranges from 0.002 m⁻¹ for *Micrococcus* sp. to 2.80 m⁻¹ for *Moraxella* sp. at concentrations of 1012 cells m⁻³, and increases markedly at shorter wavelength (Kopelevich et al. 1987). These studies show that light attenuation by suspended particles is very variable depending on the water (clear or turbid) and the particle loading.

3.1.6 Total Content of Chlorophyll *a*

Chloropigments (chlorophyll *a* and carotenoids) could be important determinants of UV attenuation in natural waters (Zhang et al. 2009; Dupouy et al. 2010; Williamson et al. 1996; Belzile et al. 2002; Kratzer et al. 2008; Devlin et al. 2009; Lund-Hansen 2004; Morel and B elanger 2006; Smith et al. 1999; Stambler 2005; Baker and Smith 1982; Gallegos and Bergstrom 2005). Chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*) or phytoplankton biomass shows an absorption maximum around 440 nm (Fig. 4a, c, d) (Zhang et al. 2009; Bowers et al. 2000). Phytoplankton absorption is maximal when Chl *a* and phaeophytin-*a* are detected at the highest levels (Fig. 4a, c, d) (Zhang et al. 2009). Extraordinary spring blooms of the dinoflagellate *Prorocentrum minimum* can produce very high concentrations of chlorophyll, which increase for instance light attenuation in the upper Chesapeake Bay (Gallegos and Bergstrom 2005). Chlorophyll *a* specific absorption coefficients for both UV and PAR domains are representative of the dominant picophytoplankton in the Red Sea (Stambler 2005).

The study showed a deep chlorophyll maximum at about 50–60 m, with $\sim 1 \times 10^8$ cells L^{-1} dominated by high concentrations of *Prochlorococcus* (~75 %), whereas in the Gulf of Eilat (Aqaba) $\sim 4 \times 10^7$ cells L^{-1} have been reported. Eukaryotic algae (~20 %), cyanobacteria (*Synechococcus*) (~50 %) and *Prochlorococcus* (~25 %), are distributed throughout the water column in the Red Sea (Stambler 2005). Microbial degradation of phytoplankton or chlorophyll *a* are responsible for the decrease in Chl *a* or phytoplankton absorption in waters (Zhang et al. 2009). The share of light attenuation by phytoplankton is on average 32 % and reaches up to 74 % at high Chl *a* concentrations in estuarine-coastal waters (Lund-Hansen 2004). Phytoplankton absorption is the dominant optical component of light absorption (60–85 %) in spring along the Patagonia shelf-break front (Ferreira et al. 2009). Therefore the CDOM absorption is significantly dependent on the contents of phytoplankton or total contents of Chl *a* in natural waters.

3.1.7 Water

Light absorption by natural waters depends on the water quality (clear or turbid, presence of particulate matter, and CDOM content) (Kirk 1984; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Gregg and Casey 2009; Fournier 2007; Belzile et al. 2002; P erez et al. 2010; Morris 2009; Lund-Hansen 2004; Effler et al. 2010). Recent studies show that water even in its purest form exhibits a complex absorption spectrum and a significant amount of scattering caused by refractive index fluctuations (Fournier 2007). The optical properties of natural waters are typically function of the underwater irradiance and of either the vertical attenuation coefficient for downward irradiance (K_d) or the irradiance reflectance. It is $R = E_u/E_d$, where E_u and E_d are the upward and downward irradiance at a given depth (Kirk 1984). These optical properties significantly depend on the nature of the light field

within the water body and vary with depth and solar altitude (Kirk 1984; Belzile et al. 2002). The vertical attenuation coefficient (K_d PAR) has been found to vary from 0.40 to 47 m^{-1} in sixteen Argentinean shallow lakes. High K_d PAR values ($>13 \text{ m}^{-1}$) have been detected in highly turbid lakes, medium K_d PAR values ($<10 \text{ m}^{-1}$) in clear-vegetated lakes, and very low K_d PAR values in Patagonian lakes ($<2.5 \text{ m}^{-1}$) (Pérez et al. 2010). Depending on the occurrence of key absorbance variables such as high CDOM, particulate material and chlorophyll, the absorption of water can vary considerably. Light attenuation by water contributes on average 0.3–9 % in UV and PAR, although it is highly variable between clear and turbid waters (Belzile et al. 2002; Lund-Hansen 2004).

3.1.8 Snow and Ice in Arctic and Antarctic Regions

Absorption and scattering by snow and ice significantly affect the UV and PAR attenuation, particularly in the Arctic and Antarctic region (Belzile et al. 2000; Warren et al. 2006; Grenfell and Perovich 1984; Buckley and Trodahl 1987; Perovich 1993; Trodahl and Buckley 1990; Arrigo et al. 1991; Perovich et al. 1998; Norman et al. 2011). Snow is a scattering-dominated medium, the scattering of which is independent of wavelength between 350 and 600 nm. The attenuation of solar radiation in snow can be used to infer the spectral absorption coefficient of pure ice, by reference to a known value at 600 nm (Warren et al. 2006). The spectral downwelling diffuse attenuation coefficient is caused by both scattering and absorption within the medium. Scattering by snow depends on grain size, snow density and water content, whilst scattering by ice depends on ice structure and particle back-scattering (Buckley and Trodahl 1987; Trodahl and Buckley 1990; Arrigo et al. 1991; Perovich et al. 1998).

It has been shown that the UV-B transmittance through 1.7 m-thick first-year ice decreases from 2–1 to 0.2–0.1 % from the end of October to mid-November in McMurdo Sound (Trodahl and Buckley 1990). The decrease in transmittance is the effect of the formation of a highly scattering layer, subsequent to ice-surface drainage. UV-B transmittance at 320 nm for 1.6 m of snow-covered first-year ice also decreases by an order of magnitude from 0.3 % in April to 0.03 % in June in the Chukchi Sea (Perovich et al. 1998). A bloom of ice algae at the bottom of the ice can also reduce the UV radiation transmittance (Perovich et al. 1998). Belzile et al. (2000) report that about 2–13 % of incident UV-B irradiance is transmitted through snow, ice and ice algae biomass, whilst transmittance increases to 5–19 % for UV-A and to 5–12 % for PAR. An influence of ice algae on PAR transmission is also observed (Belzile et al. 2000; Arrigo et al. 1991; Palmisano et al. 1987). The absorption of irradiance depends on the absorption by pure ice and brine, CDOM and particulate organic matter (POM) (Belzile et al. 2000; Uusikivi et al. 2010; Fritsen et al. 2011; Grenfell and Perovich 1984; Perovich et al. 1998; Norman et al. 2011; Warren et al. 1993). In Baltic Sea ice organic matter, both particulate and dissolved, influences the optical properties of sea ice and strongly modifies the UV radiation exposure of biological communities in and

under snow-free sea ice (Uusikivi et al. 2010). Note that transmittance, $T(\lambda)$, is the ratio of the downwelling irradiance at the lower surface of the ice, $E_d(z_{ice}, \lambda)$, to the incident irradiance, $E_d(0, \lambda)$ (Perovich 1993). The transmittance depends on the spectral reflection coefficient, $\alpha(\lambda)$ —that is, the fraction of $E_d(0, \lambda)$ that is reflected—and on the attenuation of irradiance by snow and ice, according to Beer's Law.

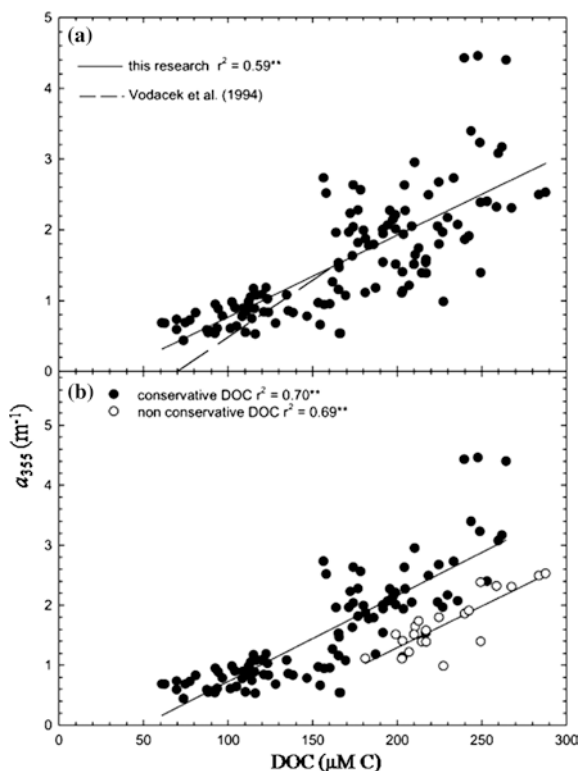
4 Factors Affecting Absorption of Radiation by CDOM

CDOM absorption differs considerably in a variety of natural waters and depends on several factors, which can be distinguished as follows: (i) Contents and molecular nature of CDOM; (ii) Occurrence and type of sediments; (iii) Photoinduced degradation; (iv) Microbial degradation; and (v) Salinity.

4.1.1 Contents and Molecular Nature of DOM

The CDOM absorption depends on total DOM contents and on its molecular nature (Fig. 7) (Vodacek et al. 1997; Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; McKnight et al. 1994; Dubach et al. 1964; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Belzile et al. 2002; Vincent et al. 1998; Pienitz and Vincent 2000). DOC contents are very much correlated with CDOM absorption (a_{CDOM}) in natural waters, with the exception of surface waters during the summer stratification period (Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Vodacek et al. 1995; Ferrari et al. 1996; Ferrari 2000; Klinkhammer et al. 2000; Chen et al. 2002; Kowalczyk et al. 2010). The results typically suggest that the CDOM fraction often increases linearly with the DOC content, whilst the non-CDOM fraction of DOC remains relatively constant at approximately 50–100 $\mu\text{M C}$ (Fig. 7). It has been shown that humic-like CDOM components with excitation maxima at longer wavelengths have significantly higher non-absorbing DOC compared to humic-like CDOM components with excitation maxima at shorter wavelengths (Kowalczyk et al. 2010). The relationship between the DOC concentration and the intensity of one of the protein-like components can result in significantly reduced non-absorbing DOC fraction (Kowalczyk et al. 2010). This study suggests that the relative proportion of humic-like CDOM components (characterized by excitation maximum at longer wavelengths) and the main protein-like component have the highest impact on the absorption at 350 nm (Kowalczyk et al. 2010). Moreover, two phenomena are responsible for the observed differences in CDOM absorption in surface waters. First, CDOM properties (chromophores in CDOM) are significantly altered by exposure to natural sunlight in surface waters, which reduces the CDOM absorption. Second, new CDOM is produced from algal or phytoplankton biomass under

Fig. 7 Relationship between CDOM absorption (a_{355} , m^{-1}) and DOC concentrations in Chesapeake Bay. *Panel (a)* shows DOC and CDOM absorption for all cruises, and in *Panel (b)* DOC concentrations are separated into conservative and non-conservative groups. *Dashed line on Panel (a)* represents data of (Vodacek et al. 1995). *Data source* Rochelle-Newall and Fisher (2002)



both photoinduced and microbial assimilations during the summer stratification period in surface waters (Zhang et al. 2009; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008; Mostofa et al. 2009; Rochelle-Newall 1999; Mostofa et al. 2005; Parlanti et al. 2000). This material does not show strong CDOM absorption. CDOM absorption is strongly dependent on the molecular nature of DOM (Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Ghassemi and Christman 1968; Thurman 1985; Ma and Ali 2009), fulvic and humic acids depending on their sources and molecular weight are significantly different as far as radiation absorption is concerned.

4.2 Occurrence and Nature of Sediments

DOM composition depends significantly on the sources and nature of sediments, such as vascular plant material and algal biomass in soil or sediment pore waters (Zhang et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009; Malcolm 1985; Zhao et al. 2009; Parlanti et al. 2000; Fu et al. 2010; Li W et al. unpublished data). Vascular plant material of terrestrial origin in waters or pore waters is mostly responsible for microbial production

of allochthonous humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), carbohydrates, amino acids and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009; Malcolm 1985; Ittekkot et al. 1985; Guéguen et al. 2006). The terrestrial run-off through rivers may bring the plant material to many surface waters, such transport depending on precipitation and on the type and density of terrestrial plants. On the other hand, algal biomass and microbes which develop in the photic zone may release autochthonous fulvic acids, amino acids, carbohydrates, proteins, fatty acids, peptides, organic acids and other compounds (Zhang et al. 2009; McCarthy et al. 1996; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Wakeham et al. 1997; Rosenstock et al. 2005; Hama and Handa 1992). Sometimes such a process is photolytically enhanced. Major seasonal differences in the spectral slope values show that phytoplankton degradation is one of the important sources of CDOM in summer, whereas in other seasons CDOM mainly reaches lake water from river input (Zhang et al. 2009; Zhang and Qin 2007). At the same time, sediment-trap studies demonstrate that only 1–35 % of the organic carbon (viz. algae) synthesized in the photic zone reaches the sediment surface in marine and lacustrine waters (Bernasconi et al. 1997; Hernes et al. 2001; Lehmann et al. 2002). Such algal material releases the same autochthonous organic substances in pore waters as it does in the upper parts of the water column (Burdige et al. 2004; Li W et al., unpublished data). Some DOM components from the pore-water sediment surface can mix up with surface waters during the vertical mixing (overturn) period in lakes or oceans. Allochthonous and autochthonous DOM has very variable absorption properties (Zhang et al. 2009; Vodacek et al. 1997; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; McKnight et al. 1994; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Vodacek et al. 1995; Belzile et al. 2002; Vincent et al. 1998; Pienitz and Vincent 2000). Therefore, DOM composition also depends on the occurrence and nature of sediments in natural waters.

4.3 Photoinduced Degradation of CDOM in Natural Waters

Photoinduced processes can decompose the chromophores in CDOM and thus decrease the CDOM absorption (Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Zhang et al. 2009; Shank et al. 2010; Moran et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Norman et al. 2011; Zagarese et al. 2001). A theoretical model for the photoinduced degradation of CDOM and its effects on absorption properties are discussed in this section.

4.3.1 Theoretical Model for Photoinduced Degradation of CDOM

The CDOM chromophores absorb photons and sometimes undergo degradation, while DOM undergoes partial mineralization to hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2), CO_2 , DIC (sum of dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-}), COS, CO, ammonium, gaseous hydrocarbons, organic peroxides (ROOH), low molecular weight (LMW) DOM, and so on in upper surface waters (Fig. 1) (Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Ma and Green 2004; Moran and Zepp 1997; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009;

del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Vähätalo et al. 2000; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Allard et al. 1994; Amador et al. 1989; Fujiwara et al. 1995; Bertilsson and Allard 1996; Granéli et al. 1996; Granéli et al. 1998; Miller and Moran 1997; Clark et al. 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Johannessen et al. 2007; Fichot and Miller 2010). In surface waters, the rate of photoinduced mineralization of CDOM (pm_z , mol C m⁻³ d⁻¹), modified by Vähätalo et al. (2000) from Schwarzenbach et al. (1993) and Miller (1998), can be expressed as follows (Eq. 4.1):

$$pm_z = \int_{\lambda_{\min}}^{\lambda_{\max}} \varphi_{\lambda} Q_{s,z,\lambda} a_{\text{CDOM},\lambda} d\lambda \quad (4.1)$$

where φ_{λ} is the spectrum of the apparent quantum yield for photoinduced mineralization (mol produced DIC/mol absorbed photons), $Q_{s,z,\lambda}$ is the scalar photon flux density spectrum at the depth z (also referred to as actinic flux, mol photons m⁻² d⁻¹), and $a_{\text{CDOM},\lambda}$ is the absorption spectrum of CDOM (m⁻¹). The parameters λ_{\max} and λ_{\min} are the minimum and maximum wavelengths contributing to photoinduced mineralization.

In the whole water column the rate of photoinduced mineralization, modified by Vähätalo et al. (2000) from Miller (1998), can be expressed as follows (Eq. 4.2):

$$pm = \int_{\lambda_{\min}}^{\lambda_{\max}} \varphi_{\lambda} Q_{a,\lambda} (a_{\text{CDOM},\lambda}/a_{\text{tot},\lambda}) d\lambda \quad (4.2)$$

where $Q_{a,\lambda}$ represents the photons absorbed by the water column (mol photons m⁻² d⁻¹) and the $a_{\text{CDOM},\lambda}/a_{\text{tot},\lambda}$ ratio expresses how much CDOM contributes to the total absorption. In infinitely deep waters, $Q_{a,\lambda}$ roughly equals the downward vector photon flux density just below the surface ($Q_{d,v,0-\lambda}$) (Sikorski and Zika 1993; Sikorski and Zika 1993).

The quantum yields related to CDOM decrease exponentially with increasing wavelength (Moran and Zepp 1997; Vähätalo et al. 2000; Sikorski and Zika 1993; Ratte et al. 1998; Gao and Zepp 1998). A generalized equation linking quantum yield and wavelength (Vähätalo et al. 2000) can be expressed as below (Eq. 4.3):

$$\varphi_{\lambda} = c \times 10^{-d\lambda} \quad (4.3)$$

where c (dimensionless) and d (nm⁻¹) are positive constants and λ is wavelength (nm). Different combinations of c and d can cover a wide range of exponential relationships between quantum yield and wavelength.

4.3.2 CDOM Absorption Loss in Long- and Short-Wavelengths Due to Photoinduced Degradation

Photoinduced degradation rapidly lowers the CDOM absorption coefficients across the entire spectrum, both in natural waters and in standard organic substances (Fig. 1) (Vodacek et al. 1997; Zhang et al. 2009; Shank et al. 2010; Moran et al. 2000; Hernes and Benner 2003; Winter et al. 2007; del Vecchio and Blough

2002; Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2010; Norman et al. 2011; Kowalczyk 1999; Kitidis et al. 2006). Absorption losses are likely different for a variety of natural waters (Table 1) (Zhang et al. 2009; Moran et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Norman et al. 2011). They are of order 77–97 % at 340–350 nm for upstream CDOM (Kago and Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan) and 58–59 % at 340–350 nm for downstream CDOM (Yasu River, Japan) after 13 days of irradiation (Table 1) (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). The CDOM absorption is entirely quenched at 700–444 nm for Kago upstream and 700–366 nm for Nishi-Mataya upstream, but downstream CDOM is little decomposed (14–45 %) at 600–700 nm (Fig. 1). Note that the upstream CDOM is mostly made up of fulvic acids having low DOC concentrations (99 and 38 $\mu\text{M C}$ for NM upstream), whilst downstream CDOM has different origin such as autochthonous (protein-like or tryptophan-like), allochthonous (fulvic acids), and agricultural sources with relatively high levels of DOC (e.g., 194 $\mu\text{M C}$ for Yasu River) (Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2005). This suggests that autochthonous CDOM may originate in the river bed during the summer season and agricultural CDOM may be released from nearby agricultural fields.

The differences in CDOM absorption losses between upstream and downstream river waters suggest three issues. First, absorption losses depend on CDOM source and composition. Second, fulvic acids in upstream river waters are highly decomposed, as demonstrated by the complete loss of absorption in the longer wavelength region (from 366 to 700 nm). Such absorption losses are accompanied by high losses (72–84 % at peak C-region) in the fluorescence intensity of fulvic acids (Mostofa et al. 2007). Third, CDOM absorption losses are relatively limited in downstream river waters. A possible reason is that this CDOM may be a mixture of compounds originating from several sources such as autochthonous, allochthonous and agricultural. Because of the high decrease of the fluorescence intensity of allochthonous fulvic acids (80 % in downstream waters) and tryptophan (59 % in downstream waters) detected in earlier studies (Mostofa et al. 2007), it is suggested that the remaining autochthonous and agricultural CDOM might be recalcitrant or refractory to photoinduced degradation.

In addition, CDOM absorption losses are 55–76 % at 340 nm in the water of various lakes and ponds after 13 days irradiation (Table 1) (Winter et al. 2007). However, much lower absorption losses have been observed in the case of Lake Taihu after 12 days irradiation: 30 % at 355 nm and 21 % at 280 nm (Table 1) (Zhang et al. 2009). CDOM absorption losses are in the range of 50–64 % at 350 nm for estuarine CDOM after 70 days irradiation period (Table 1) (Moran et al. 2000). It is estimated that approximately 70 % of terrestrial CDOM is lost by photo-oxidation on the Middle Atlantic Bight shelf (Vodacek et al. 1997). In Antarctic surface waters, sea ice CDOM susceptibility to photo-bleaching in an in situ 120 h exposure showed a loss in CDOM absorption of 53 % at 280 nm, 58 % at 330 nm, and 30 % at 375 nm (Norman et al. 2011). This result suggests that Antarctic CDOM is more photosensitive than average lake or seawater CDOM. Absorption losses for standard Aldrich humic acid are 42–47 % at 340 nm in deionized water after 13 days irradiation (Table 1) (Winter et al. 2007).

Table 1 Changes in the specific absorbance coefficients of CDOM at different wavelength ranges by photoinduced degradation on natural waters

Samples	Incubation time (h or days)	Changes in the specific absorbance coefficients (SAC) at different wavelengths (%)		References
		Photoinduced degradation	Microbial degradation	
<i>Rivers</i>				
Upstream waters (Kago, Japan) at 340–350 nm	13	–(77–79)	+ (20–22)	(Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data)
Upstream waters (Kago, Japan) at 444–700 nm	13	–100	+ (19–38)	(Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data)
Upstream waters (Nishi-Mataya, Japan) at 340–350 nm	13	–(93–97)	+ (78–81)	(Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data)
Upstream waters (Nishi-Mataya, Japan) at 366–700 nm	13	–100	+ (4–25)	(Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data).
Downstream waters (Yasu River, Japan) at 340–350 nm	13	–(58–59)	– (6–7)	(Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data)
Downstream waters (Yasu River, Japan) at 600–700 nm	13	–(14–45)	+ (8–49)	(Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data).
<i>Lakes</i>				
Lake Taihu, China at 355 nm	12	–30	nd	Zhang et al. (2009b)
Lake Taihu, China at 280 nm	12	–21	nd	Zhang et al. (2009b)
Lake Taihu, China at 280 nm	2–12 h (UV)	–(8–19)	nd	Zhang et al. (2009b)
Lake Erie water (42°N) at 340 nm	13	–(75–76)	–(12–32)	Winter et al. (2007)
Luther Marsh northeast water (43°N) at 340 nm	13	–(61–63)	+ (2–3)	Winter et al. (2007)
Mill Creek east of Cambridge water (43°N) at 340 nm	13	–(56–72)	–1, + 2	Winter et al. (2007)
Bannister Lake southwest of Cambridge water (43°N) at 340 nm	13	–(55–62)	+ 3, – 3	Winter et al. (2007)
Sanctuary Pond water (41°N) at 340 nm	13	–(64–74)	+ 3, – 4	Winter et al. (2007)
Aldrich humic acid in deionized water at 340 nm	13	–(42–47)	+ (2–12)	Winter et al. (2007)
<i>Estuaries and oceans</i>				
Satilla Estuary (Georgia, USA) at 350 nm	70	–(59–64)	– (2–4)	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary (Georgia, USA) at 350 nm	70	–(50–53)	+ 0.6, – 7	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary (Georgia, USA) at 250–500 nm	51	nd	–(4–11)	Moran et al. (2000)
Antarctic sea ice and oceanic water at 375 nm	120 h	–30	nd	Norman et al. (2011)
Antarctic sea ice and oceanic water at 330 nm	121 h	–58	nd	Norman et al. (2011)
Antarctic sea ice and oceanic water at 280 nm	122 h	–53	nd	Norman et al. (2011)

Irradiation time-hours (h) mentioned with each time as 'h' and 'days' mentioned as a whole digit only

nd/ Not detected

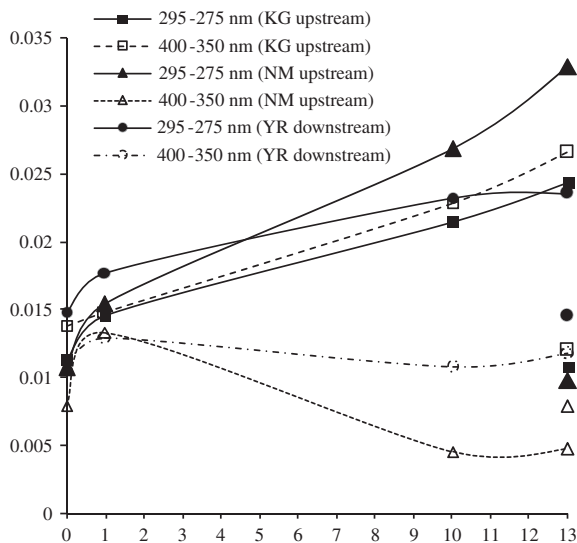
The decrease in CDOM absorption is relatively lower in the waters of Bay and oceans (Blough and del Vecchio 2002; del Vecchio and Blough 2002).

Generally speaking, CDOM absorption losses in lakes, estuaries, Bay and oceans are significantly lower than for upstream CDOM. The main reason might be the autochthonous sources of most of the CDOM in these waters, which make the corresponding CDOM less susceptible to photoinduced degradation. Indeed, the fraction of autochthonous CDOM is maximum (25–98 %) in lakes and oceans, whilst allochthonous humic substances (mostly fulvic acids) are 2–75 % (see also chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; McCarthy et al. 1996; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Moran et al. 1991; Moran and Hodson 1994; Benner and Kaiser 2003). In addition, the amount of allochthonous CDOM (mostly fulvic and humic acids) is considerably decreased in the transport from rivers to lakes and oceans because of photoinduced decomposition by natural sunlight (Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Vodacek et al. 1997; Mopper et al. 1991; Wetzel et al. 1995; Moran et al. 2000; Skoog et al. 1996; Mostofa et al. 2007; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Amon and Benner 1996; Twardowski and Donaghay 2002; Waiser and Robarts 2004; Wu et al. 2005; Brooks et al. 2007). The experimental results demonstrate the photoreactive nature of CDOM, with half-lives from 2.1 to 5.1 days due to photobleaching in the upper layer and duplication times from 4.9 to 15.7 days due to photohumification. Such results highlight the highly dynamic nature of CDOM in the Southern Ocean (Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2010). In addition, the high susceptibility to photobleaching of CDOM in Antarctic ice waters might be the effect of the presence of fresh CDOM in bulk ice samples, due to elevated in situ production (Norman et al. 2011). The fresh CDOM in Antarctic ice waters is characterized by low S and high a_{375} . In contrast, aged material present in brine and sea-water samples is characterised by high S values and low a_{375} (Norman et al. 2011). Therefore, photoinduced degradation is one of the key factors that can regulate the CDOM absorption depending on its composition for a variety of natural waters.

4.3.3 Changes in Spectral Slope Due to Photoinduced Degradation

Photoinduced degradation can alter the spectral slope of CDOM (S) either in natural surface waters or in experimental observations under solar irradiation (Fig. 8) (Vodacek et al. 1997; Helms et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2009; Shank et al. 2010; Moran et al. 2000; Zhang and Qin 2007; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Xie et al. 2004; Twardowski and Donaghay 2002; Tzortziou et al. 2007; Whitehead et al. 2000). Two key phenomena are generally observed: the first one is an increase of S because of CDOM photobleaching by solar radiation (Fig. 8) (Helms et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2009; Shank et al. 2010; Moran et al. 2000; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Xie et al. 2004; Twardowski and Donaghay 2002; Whitehead et al. 2000). It is suggested that photobleaching can be caused by the transformation of high-molecular weight CDOM complexes that absorb at longer wavelengths into smaller complexes that absorb at shorter wavelengths. The opposite effect can also be observed: in some

Fig. 8 Changes in the spectral slope values (S) in the upstream (Kago, KG and Nishi-Mataya, NM) and downstream waters (Yasu River) due to photochemical and microbial degradation of CDOM during the 13 days of irradiation and dark incubation period. Microbial degradation is presented for 13 days using the similar symbols for the respective samples. *Data source* Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished data)



cases, CDOM photobleaching by solar radiation decreases S (Fig. 8) (Helms et al. 2008; Stabenau et al. 2004; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Gao and Zepp 1998; Tzortziou et al. 2007; Miller 1994; Zepp et al. 1998; del Castillo et al. 1999). It is possible that S variation is caused by the different protocols employed in its calculation (linear function, LF versus non-linear function, NLF) or by the different spectral ranges adopted in the irradiation experiments (Zhang et al. 2009; del Vecchio and Blough 2002). Spectral wavelength ranges used to calculate S are most often 275–295 or 350–400 nm. Deviation of S for different spectral ranges is mainly caused by the occurrence of different chromophores in CDOM, which show variable reactivity toward photoinduced degradation.

However, variation in S is also observed when the same spectral range is considered and the same calculation method is adopted, in a variety of natural waters and in their photobleached samples (Fig. 8). Photoinduced degradation increases S at 275–295 nm ($S_{275-295}$) for upstream (115 % for Kago, KG and 207 % for Nishi-Mataya, NM) and downstream DOM (59 % for Yasu River, YR). In contrast, S at 350–400 nm ($S_{350-400}$) is increased for upstream (92 % for KG) and downstream DOM (6 % for YR), but is decreased for upstream DOM (41 % for NM) during 13 days irradiation (Fig. 8). Earlier studies have shown that upstream DOM is mainly composed of fulvic acids whilst downstream DOM is contributed by several sources including autochthonous, allochthonous and agricultural DOM (Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2005). S also increases at 290–500 nm in mangrove and Sargassum CDOM after 48 h irradiation (Shank et al. 2010). The highest increase of S has been observed upon irradiation at shorter wavelengths, while irradiation at $\lambda > 400$ nm produced small losses in absorption and little changes in S in Bay waters (del Vecchio and Blough 2002). Maxima of $S_{290-350}$ and $S_{250-650}$ and minima of a_{300} have been attributed to CDOM photo-oxidation in the surface waters of the Atlantic Ocean (Kitidis et al. 2006).

The variation of S suggests two important characteristics of natural waters. The first is that CDOM chromophores are decomposed photolytically and their decomposition rates are variable depending on the chemical nature (allochthonous or autochthonous) of CDOM and on its molecular structure. The second issue is that the decomposition rates of the different CDOM chromophores affect in different ways the values of S in different spectral ranges. The overall effect depends also in this case on the CDOM origin and composition. It has been shown for instance that decomposition of CDOM fractions with higher-than-average concentrations of carboxyl-, hydroxyl- and ester-substituted aromatic rings, upon either photoinduced oxidation or chlorine addition, decreases the intensity and width of the electron-transfer and benzenoid bands (Korshin et al. 1997). Such a finding suggests a correlation between the spectral slope (S) alterations by photoinduced degradation and the modification of mean molecular size and molecular structure of CDOM. The latter have generally been found to decrease from rivers to lakes and oceans (Moran et al. 2000; Moran and Zepp 1997; Corin et al. 1996; Allard et al. 1994; Amador et al. 1989; Wu et al. 2005; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Clark et al. 2008). Moreover, the spectral slope S (Jerlov 1968) as well as the carbon-specific absorptivity could be useful indicators to examine photodegradation processes in natural waters (Vodacek et al. 1997; Twardowski and Donaghay 2001; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Whitehead et al. 2000).

4.3.4 Effect of Monochromatic and Polychromatic Irradiation on CDOM Absorption

Monochromatic irradiation of Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA) and natural waters can result in the loss of absorption across the entire spectrum and the largest absorption losses are often observed at the irradiation wavelength, λ_{irr} (Fig. 9) (del Vecchio and Blough 2002). Outside the band of direct bleaching, the loss of absorption appears to be fairly uniform across the examined spectral range. Major secondary bands of absorption loss outside λ_{irr} are not evident in the difference spectra (Fig. 9b, d, f). The high losses of absorption at λ_{irr} can mostly be attributed to the direct photoinduced destruction of the chromophore(s) absorbing at this wavelength. The kinetics of absorption loss at both λ_{irr} and at the wavelengths outside of this band exhibit excellent fits to either a single exponential or a sum of two exponentials functions. The overall rate of absorption loss is always higher at the λ_{irr} . The smaller, indirect absorption losses observed outside λ_{irr} could be produced by two effects (del Vecchio and Blough 2002): (i) the direct photoinduced destruction of chromophore(s) having absorption bands both at λ_{irr} and outside λ_{irr} ; (ii) the production of reactive oxygen species from primary photochemistry at λ_{irr} that react secondarily to destroy chromophores absorbing at wavelengths outside λ_{irr} . The uniform loss of absorption outside the primary bleaching band (e.g., away from λ_{irr}) suggests that indirect photobleaching could result from the indiscriminate destruction of chromophores by reactive oxygen species produced by the primary photochemistry. It is shown that the reactive oxygen species

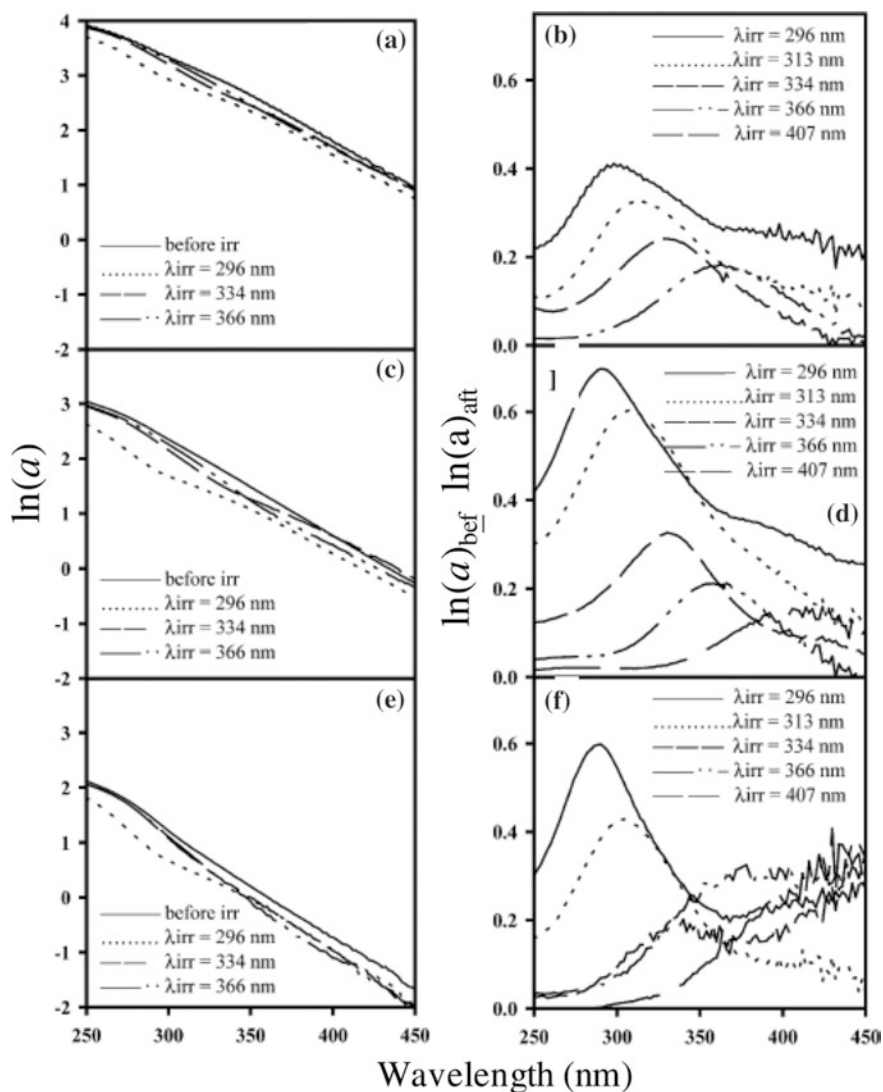


Fig. 9 Log-linearized absorption spectra obtained before and after monochromatic irradiation (10 nm band pass) (*left panels*) and difference spectra obtained by subtracting the $\ln(a)$ after irradiation from the original spectrum (*right panels*) for SRFA (**a** and **b**; 1 cm optical path length), Delaware Bay water (**c** and **d**; 5-cm optical path length), and Chesapeake Bay water (**e** and **f**, 5- and 10-cm optical path lengths). All spectra reported on the *left panels* are the result of independent experiments. *Data source* del Vecchio and Blough (2002)

(e.g. hydrogen peroxide, the hydroxyl radical, singlet oxygen, superoxide) are photolytically generated from CDOM in waters (Thomas-Smith and Blough 2001; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; al Housari et al. 2010; Minella et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 1998; Vaughan and Blough 1998; Zafiriou et al. 1998). The wavelength

dependence observed for reactive intermediate production is consistent with the decrease in the efficiency of the primary photobleaching: because the efficiency of reactive intermediate production decreases with increasing wavelength, any indirect photobleaching caused by reactions with these reactive intermediates would be expected to follow the same trend (del Vecchio and Blough 2002).

Polychromatic irradiation of SRFA and natural waters can result in the loss of absorption across the entire spectrum and the bleaching is often more pronounced in the spectral region that is transmitted by the cut-off filter (Fig. 10) (del Vecchio and Blough 2002), in analogy with the results obtained for monochromatic irradiation. Coherently, absorption losses increase with decreasing λ of the cut-off filters (Fig. 9) (del Vecchio and Blough 2002). The results show that the relative loss of absorption is higher at longer wavelengths, although the efficiency of direct photobleaching decreases significantly with increasing wavelength (del Vecchio and Blough 2002). This result can be attributed to two factors (del Vecchio and Blough 2002): (i) the higher number of longer-wavelength photons produced by the light source; (ii) the higher rates of indirect absorption loss produced at longer wavelengths by the absorption of short wavelength photons. The losses of absorption at longer wavelengths lead to an increase of S when the spectral data are fit to a single exponential function using either linear or non-linear least squares methods (del Vecchio and Blough 2002).

Using a 320-nm filter, the spectral dependence of a solar simulator is similar to that of ground-level solar spectrum. The changes in S for $\lambda_{\text{irr}} > 320$ nm (Fig. 10) should thus reflect the changes in an optically thin section of surface water. The results indicate that in waters where the penetration depths of the photolytically active UV-B and UV-A wavelengths are comparable to the mixed layer depth, the loss of CDOM absorption and the increase in S in the mixed layer will be relatively rapid. If the penetration depths are much shallower than the mixed layer depth, absorption losses and changes in S in the mixed layer will be very small even over extended periods of time (del Vecchio and Blough 2002).

4.3.5 Factors Controlling the Photoinduced Degradation of CDOM Absorption

Photodegradation of CDOM depends on the sources of water, CDOM concentration, optical-chemical CDOM nature, time, space, sunlight irradiance, water chemical conditions, DOM contents, mixing regime, rain or precipitation and so on (Ma and Green 2004; Reche et al. 1999; Whitehead and Vernet 2000; Gonsior et al. 2008). It has been shown that photobleaching varies significantly depending on the lamp distance from the samples. The decrease of CDOM absorption is 8–19 % at 5 cm lamp distance, but only 2–5 % when the lamp is positioned at 45 cm, during a 2–12 h irradiation period using a UV-B lamp (Zhang et al. 2009). Moreover, the key factors that affect CDOM photobleaching are: (1) Solar radiation; (2) Water temperature; (3) Effects of total dissolved Fe and photo-Fenton reaction; (4) Occurrence and quantity of NO_2^- and NO_3^- ions; (5) Molecular nature of DOM; (6) pH and alkalinity of the water; (7) Dissolved oxygen (O_2); (8) Depth

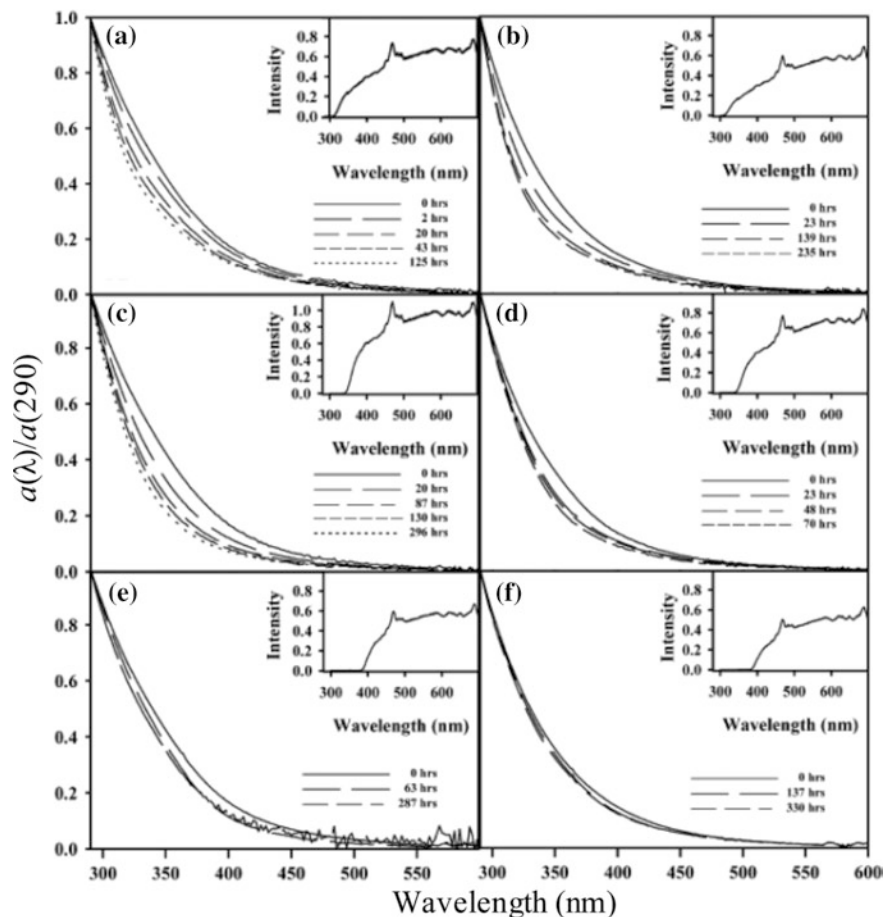


Fig. 10 Absorption spectra normalized to $a(290)$ acquired during polychromatic irradiations for SRFA (left panels) and Delaware Bay water (right panels) using a cut-off filter at 320 (a, b), 360 (c, d), and 400 nm (e, f). Insets: spectral irradiance of the source in units of 10^{15} photons cm^{-2} s^{-1} nm^{-1} . Note that in the absence of an increase in the S, these spectra would be superimposable regardless of the fitting procedure. Data source del Vecchio and Blough (2002)

of the water; (9) Physical mixing in the surface mixing zone; (10) Increasing UV-radiation during ozone hole events; (11) Global warming and (12) Salinity. These factors are discussed in chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”.

4.4 Microbial Degradation of CDOM

Microbial degradation significantly changes the CDOM absorption and spectral slope properties in natural waters (Fig. 1; Table 1) (Helms et al. 2008; Moran

et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Brown 1977). After 13 days incubation, CDOM absorption has been found to increase over the entire spectrum in upstream waters. Absorption increase was 20–81 % at 340–350 nm and 4–38 % at 600–700 nm, but it was highest at 312–410 nm (77–88 %) for Nishi-Mataya upstream and at 440–570 nm (39–49 %) for Kago upstream (Fig. 1; Table 1). In downstream waters, CDOM absorption was decreased (6–7 %) at 340–350 nm but increased (8–49 %) at 600–700 nm. The maximum decrease occurred at 390–415 nm (9–11 %) (Fig. 1; Table 1). CDOM absorption was also decreased in pond (4 % at 340 nm), lakes (1–32 % at 340 nm), estuaries (2–4 % at 350 nm and 4–11 % at 250–500 nm). In other cases, very small increases have been observed in pond (3 % at 340 nm), marsh (2–3 % at 340 nm), lakes (2–3 % at 340 nm) and estuaries (1 %) (Table 1) (Moran et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007). These results show a significant microbial effect on CDOM in natural waters (Table 1; Fig. 1).

Such an effect shows several characteristic phenomena. First, an increase in CDOM absorption over the entire spectrum in upstream waters might be due to a microbial alteration of the composition of fulvic acids. In fact, it has been known that upstream CDOM is mainly composed of fulvic acids (Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2005). Second, an increase in absorption at longer wavelength and a decrease at shorter wavelength in the waters of downstream river might be due to the presence of various CDOM sources. Note that upstream water is one of the sources of the downstream one, and downstream fulvic acids (FA) might derive from upstream FA upon transformation induced by photochemistry and/or by microorganisms. The latter process is rather slow but could account for the increase of downstream CDOM absorption in the longer wavelength region, because a similar phenomenon is also observed in upstream waters. Conversely, the autochthonous and agricultural CDOM in downstream waters are likely to undergo rapid microbial degradation that, given the different nature of this kind of CDOM, might result in a decrease of CDOM absorption in the shorter wavelength region. Downstream DOM is in fact derived from several sources including autochthonous (protein-like or tryptophan-like), allochthonous (mostly fulvic acids of upstream origin) and agricultural DOM that is released from nearby agricultural fields (Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2005).

CDOM absorption is also found either to decrease or to increase in ponds, lakes, marshes and estuaries that are relatively similar to downstream river environments. The CDOM in these natural waters generally consists of both allochthonous (mostly fulvic acids) and autochthonous material. Autochthonous organic substances are microbially labile and their absorption is decreased by microbial degradation, differently from allochthonous fulvic substances. This can explain the rather complex effects of microbial processing on CDOM absorption in the different wavelength ranges.

Experimental studies also show that a large amount of high molecular weight CDOM is produced during phytoplankton lysis. $S_{300-500}$ is decreased in the first 9 days when CDOM composition is changed due to increasing microbial activity, which is expected to decrease the molecular weight of organic substances (Fig. 4b) (Zhang et al. 2009; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data).

Alteration of autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like) changes their fluorescence intensity during a long incubation period in the dark (120 days) at room temperature, possibly because of microbial assimilation of lake algae (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). The autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin is identified using the PARAFAC model on the EEM spectra of the samples. The aerobic microbial incubation in the dark results in a statistically significant decrease of S over timescales of days to weeks, due to microbial production or to selective preservation of long-wavelength absorbing substances (Helms et al. 2008).

Microbial degradation typically alters S in natural waters (Fig. 8) (Helms et al. 2008; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Brown 1977). It has been observed a decrease in S of 1–13 % at both 275–295 nm ($S_{275-295}$) and 350–400 nm ($S_{350-400}$) for upstream and downstream DOM, with the exception of 350–400 nm ($S_{350-400}$) in downstream DOM where S has been found to increase (~5 %) after 13 days of dark incubation (Fig. 8). Because of significant variations in CDOM composition between upstream and downstream samples, it is suggested that microbial degradation of CDOM depends on its chemical nature and on its sources.

4.4.1 Factors Controlling the Microbial Degradation of CDOM Absorbance

Microbial degradation of DOM depends on several key factors that can be listed as: (1) Occurrence and nature of microbes in waters; (2) Sources of DOM and amount of bacterial fermentation products; (3) Temperature; (4) pH; and (5) Sediment depths in pore waters. These factors are discussed in detail in chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”.

4.5 Salinity

The absorption properties of CDOM are modified when the terrestrial riverine input of CDOM is mixed with coastal seawaters (Singh et al. 2010; Hernes and Benner 2003; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Blough and del Vecchio 2002; Fournier 2007; Nieke et al. 1997; Twardowski and Donaghay 2001; del Castillo et al. 1999; Gonsior et al. 2008; Uher et al. 2001; Blough et al. 1993; Sholkovitz 1976). A recent study shows that the addition of various salts, which are present in seawater, gives rise to an extra absorption in the far UV and to an increase of the amount of scattering because small variation in salt concentration can cause refractive index fluctuations (Fournier 2007). A linear inverse relationship of CDOM absorption to salinity could be a useful indicator of salinity in coastal waters strongly affected by river input (Singh et al. 2010; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Nieke et al. 1997; Blough et al. 1993). However, at lower salinity minor deviations from linearity may result from consumption or production of CDOM in coastal waters

(del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Twardowski and Donaghay 2001; del Castillo et al. 1999; Uher et al. 2001; Blough et al. 1993; Sholkovitz 1976). In addition, a nonlinear dependence may result from the conservative mixing of multiple water masses containing variable CDOM (del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Blough and del Vecchio 2002; Hujerslev et al. 1996; Chen et al. 2007; Blough et al. 1993). Photoinduced degradation can greatly decrease the CDOM absorbance in intermediate- to high-salinity surface waters under stratified conditions during the summer period (Vodacek et al. 1997; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Chen et al. 2007; Osburn and Morris 2003; Osburn et al. 2009). Dissolved lignin phenols are significantly affected by salinity and two key phenomena are generally detected: First, a nonconservative decrease in dissolved high molecular weight (HMW) lignin phenols at salinity <25 psu is likely due to flocculation and microbial degradation. In contrast, LMW dissolved lignin phenols mix conservatively (Hernes and Benner 2003). Second, at salinity >25 psu photooxidation is a dominant factor influencing lignin composition and concentration (Hernes and Benner 2003).

CDOM photoreactivity can increase with salinity across an estuarine gradient. Shortwave CDOM absorption loss (e.g. at 280 nm) does not change with salinity, but longwave CDOM absorption loss (e.g. at 440 nm) is often decreased by 10–40 % with increasing salinity (Osburn and Morris 2003; Osburn et al. 2009). In another study, a decrease in CDOM photobleaching at 280 nm is detected when humic CDOM is added to an artificial salinity gradient used to mimic coastal mixing (Minor et al. 2006). The decrease of the absorption properties of CDOM with salinity can be accounted for by several factors: (i) Mixing of CDOM-rich riverine water with CDOM-poor coastal water (del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Gonsior et al. 2008; Blough et al. 1993); (ii) Photodegradation of chromophores present in riverine CDOM after they reach the coastal regions during the summer stratification period (Vodacek et al. 1997; Moran et al. 2000; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Blough and del Vecchio 2002; Whitehead and Vernet 2000; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Osburn et al. 2009); (iii) Microbial degradation, in particular of the autochthonous fraction that is the major part of CDOM in marine waters (Table 1) (Moran et al. 2000; Winter et al. 2007; Moran and Hodson 1994; Brown 1977; Opsahl and Benner 1998); (iv) Flocculation and precipitation of riverine CDOM because of increased salinity (Blough et al. 1993; Sholkovitz 1976; Sieburth and Jensen 1968; Fox 1991); and possibly (v) Enhanced CDOM photodegradation in saline waters.

The mechanism behind the latter process apparently involves two factors: first, irradiated CDOM can induce photoinduced production of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) that is a HO^\bullet source via photolysis or the photo-Fenton reaction, and the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 is enhanced by salinity. Trace metal ions (M) in salinity or sea waters can complex with DOM (M-DOM) forming a strong π -electron bonding system between metal ions and the functional groups in DOM (see chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter with Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters” for in details explanation). This π -electron in M-DOM complex is rapidly excited photolytically, which is responsible for high production of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) and subsequently the high production of superoxide ion

($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$), H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet , respectively. Indeed, photogeneration of H_2O_2 from ultra-filtered river DOM is substantially increased with salinity, from 15 to 368 nM h^{-1} at circumneutral pH (Osburn et al. 2009). Salinity or NaCl salts are responsible for generating high production of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) photolytically in aqueous media (Gopinathan et al. 1972; Assel et al. 1998) that may subsequently enhance the H_2O_2 production in waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Moore et al. 1993; Richard et al. 2007; Fujiwara et al. 1993).

Recent studies observe that the sea-salt particulate matter extracted from coastal seawaters show substantially high HO^\bullet production (rate: ~ 2778 – 27778 M s^{-1}), approximately 3–4 orders of magnitude greater than HO^\bullet photo-formation rates in surface seawater (Anastasio and Newberg 2007). Note that comparison of river and salinity of sea waters shows that Na^+ , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , K^+ , HCO_3^- , Cl^- and SO_4^{2-} are typically 1,670 times, 27 times, 330 times, 170 times, 2.4 times, 2,400 times and 245 times, respectively, higher than those in rivers (Livingstone 1963; Hem 1985). The order of the other cations is $\text{Mg}^{2+} > \text{Ca}^{2+} > \text{K}^+ > \text{Sr}^{2+}$ and the anion Cl^- is approximately equal to the sum of the cations and the other anions are SO_4^{2-} , HCO_3^- , Br^- , and F^- (Livingstone 1963; Hem 1985; Carpenter and Manella 1973). Second, the reaction of HO^\bullet with halide ions (X^-) can form reactive halogen radicals ($\text{X}_2^{\bullet-}$) that can react with electron-rich functional groups within DOM more selectively than HO^\bullet (Zafriou et al. 1987; Song et al. 1996; Von Gunten and Oliveras 1997; Goldstone et al. 2002; Grebel et al. 2009). The absorption of radiation by CDOM is usually increased in ionic solutions of NaCl, which might suggest an increase of CDOM absorption in coastal waters. However, such an effect is more than compensate for by the efficient photodegradation of CDOM chromophores in saline waters.

5 All Colored DOM is Chromophoric DOM, But Not All Chromophoric DOM is Colored

The main chromophores in colored or chromophoric DOM are Schiff-base derivatives ($-\text{N}=\text{C}-\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{N}-$) and groups such as $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{COOCH}_3$, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{O}$, $-\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2-(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, and S-, O- or N-containing aromatic compounds or functional groups (Mostofa et al. 2009; Malcolm 1985; Corin et al. 1996; Senesi 1990; Leenheer and Croue 2003; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2005; Steelink 2002; Seitzinger et al. 2005). The allochthonous fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) of vascular plant origin and the autochthonous fulvic acids of algal (or phytoplankton) origin show absorbance in a wide wavelength interval, 200–800 nm (Figs. 2, 3, 4) (Zhang et al. 2009; Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980; Zepp and Schlotzhauer 1981; Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Dubach et al. 1964), and contain the above mentioned chromophores (or functional groups) in their molecular structure. These macromolecular substances are both colored DOM (they absorb in the visible) and chromophoric DOM. On the other hand, there are

a lot of organic substances including most notably low molecular weight (LMW) CDOM that are not colored, not being able to absorb radiation in the visible range. For example, acetaldehyde absorbs light at 208–224 nm (Strome and Miller 1978; Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991), acetate at 204–270 nm (Wetzel et al. 1995; Dahlén et al. 1996), formaldehyde at 207–250 nm (Mopper and Stahovec 1986; Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991), glyoxal at <240 nm (Mopper and Stahovec 1986; Mopper et al. 1991), malonate at 225–240 nm (Dahlén et al. 1996), pyruvate at 200–227 nm (Kieber et al. 1990; Mopper et al. 1991; Wetzel et al. 1995) and propanal at ~230 nm (Mopper and Stahovec 1986). These organic compounds are definitely not colored, but they contribute to the absorption of radiation by water in the relevant wavelength ranges. It is thus shown that, while all colored DOM is also chromophoric DOM, not all the chromophoric DOM is also colored.

6 Importance of CDOM Studies in Natural Waters

CDOM is a major bio-optical parameter because of its strong light-absorbing properties. These properties are involved in some very important biogeochemical processes and are very useful for detection techniques. Implications are: (i) remote sensing of CDOM in natural waters; (ii) DOM dynamics in natural waters; (iii) Photoinduced degradation of CDOM and its impact in natural waters; and (iv) Protection of microorganisms from UV radiation by CDOM.

6.1 Remote Sensing of CDOM in Natural Waters

Remote sensing is widely used to estimate the ocean color constituents such as chlorophyll *a* and algae, and also to assess primary productivity, occurrence of toxic dinoflagellate, total suspended solids (TSS), tripton (inorganic suspended particulate matter), inherent optical properties, CDOM contents, diffuse attenuation coefficients (K_d), DOC concentration and transport from rivers to lakes and oceans (Coble 2007; Del Castillo and Miller 2008; Carder et al. 1991; Carder et al. 1999; McClain et al. 2004; O'Reilly et al. 1998; Ferreira et al. 2009; Tzortziou et al. 2007; Son et al. 2011; Sathyendranath et al. 1989; Woodruff et al. 1999; Stramski et al. 2001; Volpe et al. 2011; van der Woerd et al. 2011; Le et al. 2011; Carvalho et al. 2011; Santini et al. 2010; Matthews et al. 2010; Doxaran et al. 2002; Cui et al. 2010; Zibordi et al. 2009; Werdell et al. 2009; Tomlinson et al. 2009; Friedrichs et al. 2009; Van Der Woerd and Pasterkamp 2008; Hunter et al. 2008; Brown et al. 2008; Zawada et al. 2007; Mélin et al. 2007; Tzortziou et al. 2006; Koponen et al. 2007; Kishino et al. 2005; Phinn et al. 2005; Vahtmäe et al. 2006; Zimba and Gitelson 2006). Satellite remote sensing is also used to monitor cyanobacterial blooms in natural waters, which can be detected from a small peak in reflectance spectra near 650 nm that is specific of cyanobacteria (Matthews et al. 2010; Kutser et al. 2006;

Becker et al. 2009; Hunter et al. 2010). Remote sensing is currently used to monitor broad changes in phytoplankton communities, exploiting the spectral dissimilarities of brown, green, blue-green and red algae in inland waters. This technique is an extremely useful tool for limnological research and water resource management (Hunter et al. 2008). Water quality (Secchi depth, K_d in PAR, tripton, CDOM) and substrate cover type (seagrass, algae, sand) parameters, which vary in sub-tropical and tropical coastal environments may also affect the satellite image data (Phinn et al. 2005) and can thus influence the remote sensing information. A combination of a chlorophyll anomaly (spectral shape at 490 nm) and a backscatter ratio can provide an improvement in satellite detection of the toxic dinoflagellate *Karenia brevis*. It is possible to increase the detection accuracy by 30–50 % in seawaters (Tomlinson et al. 2009; Cannizzaro et al. 2008). The remote sensing application has also been used to characterize high concentrations of suspended sediment and to map chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*) or phytoplankton and non-phytoplankton suspended matter distribution in lakes and oceans (Ferreira et al. 2009; Cannizzaro and Carder 2006; Gons et al. 2008; Oyama et al. 2009; González Vilas et al. 2011).

The ocean color depends on the optical variables (Coble 2007; Del Castillo and Miller 2008; Carder et al. 1991; Hoge et al. 1995; Hoge et al. 2001; Sathyendranath et al. 1989; Stramski et al. 2001; Brown et al. 2008; Mélin et al. 2007; Lee et al. 1994; Kahru and Mitchell 2001; Siegel et al. 2002; Nair et al. 2008; Siegel et al. 2005). The key factors are (i) phytoplankton species (or algae) and their variability; (ii) the amount of colored DOM; (iii) the amount and size of organic particles; (iv) the contents of inorganic particles (tripton); and (v) water itself. CDOM can be estimated by using ocean color with various levels of success (del Castillo and Miller 2008; Carder et al. 1999; Hoge et al. 1995; Hoge et al. 2001; Lee et al. 1994; Kahru and Mitchell 2001; Siegel et al. 2002; Siegel et al. 2005). In open ocean waters, far from the influence of terrestrial runoff that mainly affects coastal waters (case 1 waters), the spectral quality and intensity of light leaving the ocean depends first of all on the concentration of phytoplankton (Morel and Prieur 1977; Morel 1980). Empirical algorithms of ocean color based on blue-to-green ratios are used to estimate the chlorophyll *a* concentration within the upper layer of the water column (McClain et al. 2004; O'Reilly et al. 1998; Harding et al. 2005). The second-order variability for given chlorophyll levels depends on two main sources: (i) the amount of non-algal absorption, especially due to colored dissolved organic matter; and (ii) the amplitude of the backscattering coefficient of particles (Brown et al. 2008). Remote sensing of surface waters in the open ocean (case 2 waters) could be used in conjunction with the inversion of UV-blue wavelengths, to separate the contribution of non-algal particles and of colored dissolved organic matter to the total light absorption, and to monitor non-algal suspended particle concentration and distribution (Tzortziou et al. 2007). It is shown that phytoplankton typically absorbs strongly in the blue and weakly in the green. CDOM absorption thus overlaps to that of phytoplankton and non-algal particulate matter in the blue part of the visible spectrum. This issue might affect the primary productivity and the remote sensing estimation of phytoplankton biomass and of total suspended matter concentration (Zhang et al. 2009; Carder et al. 1991; Doxaran et al. 2002).

Ocean color remote sensing could be applied to estimate DOC transport in river-ocean transects, depending on the robust empirical relationships between DOC and CDOM, CDOM and salinity, and salinity and river flow (del Castillo and Miller 2008). A flow chart is depicting the method and rationale for the estimate of DOC transport (Fig. 11). The success of this approach depends on four conditions (del Castillo and Miller 2008): (1) DOC and CDOM must behave conservatively at the study site; (2) The relationship between CDOM and DOC in the river end member must remain constant; (3) One should be able to derive CDOM from satellite ocean color measurements; (4) Salinity in the study area should

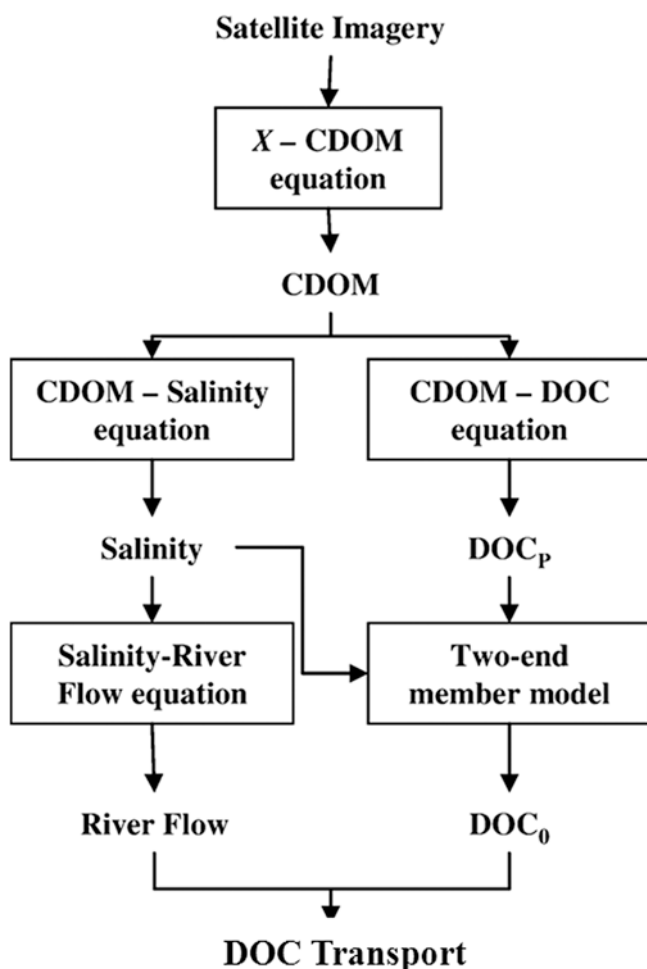


Fig. 11 Flow chart showing the method and rationale of DOC transport. Boxes represent empirical relationship, plain text represent the outputs of these relationships. X is the remote sensing reflectance ratio used in this study, and DOC_p and DOC_0 are the concentrations of DOC in the river plume and river end-member respectively. *Data source* del Castillo and Miller (2008)

correlate with river flow. Note that the remote sensing device generally detects radiation that is reflected or backscattered from the target that initially absorbs the radiation.

6.2 DOM Dynamics in Natural Waters

Good correlations between CDOM absorption and DOM (DOC concentration) are usually characterized by a positive intercept on the DOC axis at 50–100 μM , because offshore waters contain only very small amounts of CDOM (Vodacek et al. 1997; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Vodacek et al. 1995; Klinkhammer et al. 2000; Chen et al. 2002; Gueguen et al. 2011). The non-absorbing DOC fraction varies with the qualitative composition of the CDOM (Kowalczyk et al. 2010). The CDOM/DOC dependence is typically changed in surface waters during the summer stratification period, when the water samples show lower absorption to DOC ratios compared to waters from below the mixed layer or collected in other seasons (Vodacek et al. 1997). This might be the effect of high autochthonous production of non-absorbing DOM in surface waters during the summer stratification period (Mitra et al. 2000; Ogawa and Tanoue 2003; Mostofa et al. 2005; Fu et al. 2010; Yoshioka et al. 2002; Hayakawa et al. 2003; Hayakawa 2004; Ogawa and Ogura 1992), and/or of photoinduced degradation of CDOM with production of non-absorbing compounds (Coble 2007; Vodacek et al. 1997; Mostofa et al. 2005). Note that a rough estimate shows that the increase in autochthonous DOC contents during the summer stratification period is 0–88 in lakes and 0–194 % in oceans, determined by comparing the epilimnetic DOM with that of the hypolimnion (Mostofa et al. 2009).

The predominant presence of colored DOM such as allochthonous fulvic and humic acids is responsible for the good correlation that is usually observed between CDOM absorbance and DOM contents in a variety of waters (Vione et al. 2010). The contributions of allochthonous humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) in rivers are 30–85 % (the ratio of fulvic acid to humic acid is 9:1 for lower stream DOC and it decreases to 4:1 or less for higher DOC stream), 15–60 % in lakes (30–60 % during winter and 15–40 % during the summer period), 1–75 % in shelf seawater (38 % of marsh origin and or 62 % of river origin), and 2–38 % in ocean (see chapter “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” for detailed description) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Moran et al. 1991; Moran and Hodson 1994). The seasonal and spatial–temporal variations of the CDOM absorbance to DOC ratios are dependent on the presence of colored DOM compounds in natural waters.

A recent study demonstrates that DOC transport can be determined using ocean color remote sensing if the empirical relationships between DOC and CDOM, CDOM and salinity, and salinity and river flow are known (del Castillo and Miller 2008). It has been shown that remote sensing estimates of river flow

and DOC transport are correlated well ($r^2 = \sim 0.70$) with field observation data, showing low variability in DOC concentrations in the river end-member (7–11 %), and high seasonal variability in river flow (~ 50 %) in the Mississippi River Plume (del Castillo and Miller 2008). This result can be influenced by several biogeochemical processes such as high DOM photodegradation, biodegradation, production and flocculation, as well as extreme precipitation caused by natural disaster (del Castillo and Miller 2008; Wright 2005). These biogeochemical processes have little or negligible effects in low salinity waters of river plumes due to the predominance of riverine CDOM (Blough and del Vecchio 2002; del Castillo and Miller 2008; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; del Castillo et al. 1999; del Castillo et al. 2000; del Castillo et al. 2001; Mantoura and Woodward 1983).

6.3 Photoinduced Degradation of CDOM and Its Impact in Natural Waters

Photoinduced degradation of CDOM by sunlight can affect its optical and chemical properties, by inducing decomposition of the CDOM chromophores and thus reducing CDOM absorptivity of UV and visible radiation (Kieber et al. 1990; Moran et al. 2000; Skoog et al. 1996; Reche et al. 1999; Whitehead and Vernet 2000; Twardowski and Donaghay 2001; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Mostofa et al. 2007; Patsayeva et al. 1991; Kouassi and Zika 1990; Kouassi et al. 1990; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Allard et al. 1994; Fichot and Miller 2010). The effect of the photoinduced degradation of CDOM is an increase of UV transparency in surface waters (Nelson et al. 1998; Vodacek et al. 1997; Kieber et al. 1990; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Zepp et al. 1995). However, CDOM absorption losses by photoinduced degradation can also result in a variety of changes in CDOM composition, which can be listed as follows: (i) Formation of strong oxidants such as singlet oxygen, superoxide, hydroxyl radical, hydrogen peroxide, organic peroxides during the photodegradation of CDOM may have severe and chronic toxic effects on aquatic organisms and important ecological consequences in aquatic environments (Williamson et al. 1996; Thomas-Smith and Blough 2001; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Moore et al. 1993; Zepp et al. 1998; Vaughan and Blough 1998; Zafriou et al. 1998; Xenopoulos and Bird 1997; Palenik et al. 1991); (ii) Formation of low molecular weight organic substances, which is generally more important in lakes and oceans than in rivers (Moran and Zepp 1997; Corin et al. 1996; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Yoshioka et al. 2007); (iii) Formation of biologically labile compounds that enhance biodegradation (Wetzel et al. 1995; Moran and Zepp 1997); (iv) Photo formation of carbon-gas end photoproducts (CO_2 , CO), DIC, COS and so on in natural waters (Ma and Green 2004; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Miller and Moran 1997; Fichot and Miller 2010; Weiss et al. 1995); (v) Release of nitrogen compounds (e.g. NH_4^+) and phosphate,

which may typically be produced by degradation of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) and dissolved organic phosphorus (DOP) in the epilimnion of natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2011; Zagarese et al. 2001; Kim et al. 2006; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Li et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2004). These nutrients are used by algae and bacteria. (viii) Finally, releases of energy to the water ecosystem (Wetzel 1992; Hedges et al. 2000; Tranvik 1992).

The decrease of CDOM absorption over the entire spectrum, induced by photoinduced processes is accompanied by the decrease of total fluorescence intensity at peak C-, A-, T- and T_{UV} -regions of various fluorescent substances (Zhang et al. 2009; Coble 1996; Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2010). Photoinduced DOC mineralization (decrease of DOC concentration) is also observed (Moran et al. 2000; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Mostofa et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2005; Frimmel and Bauer 1987; Vione et al. 2009; de Haan 1993). As a matter of fact, the impacts of photoinduced degradation on CDOM absorption are similar to those on DOC degradation that have been explained in details in earlier chapter (see chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”).

6.4 Protection of Microorganisms from UV Radiation by CDOM

Natural UV radiation (280–400 nm) is a selective and strong environmental factor that damages the cell structures including proteins, lipids, membranes, pigments and DNA. It affects the productivity of freshwater and marine organisms (Marchant et al. 1991; Vincent and Roy 1993; Bothwell et al. 1994; Banaszak and Trench 1995; Leavitt et al. 1997; Poli et al. 2004; Lesser 2006; Valko et al. 2006; Xiong et al. 1997; Teai et al. 1998). Such impacts are caused by the UV-radiation induced production of strong reactive oxygen species such as superoxide radicals, singlet oxygen, hydrogen peroxide and hydroxyl radicals. The main processes involved are the photo-Fenton reaction and the photolysis of NO_2^- , NO_3^- and DOM (see chapter “[Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters](#)”). UV attenuation by CDOM is important in minimizing the deleterious consequences of UV radiation on phytoplankton and other organisms in natural waters (Wetzel 1992; Morris et al. 1995; Schindler et al. 1996; Williamson et al. 1996; Yan et al. 1996; Smith and Baker 1979). It is shown that postbloom increases in DOM concentration induced by grazing and decomposition of phytoplankton biomass cause an increase of DOM absorption and a related decrease of UV transmission through the water column (Whitehead and Vernet 2000). The partial UV protection by autochthonous DOM has the consequence that shallow blooming phytoplankton may assist the development of a subsequent bloom in deep waters (Whitehead and Vernet 2000). On the other hand, any changes in hydrology (e.g., high temperature, drier climate) or geochemistry (e.g., increased atmospheric deposition of strong acids) due to global warming

can reduce DOM concentrations in surface waters. The consequence might be an increased exposure of aquatic organisms to both UV-A and UV-B radiation (Schindler et al. 1996; Yan et al. 1996; Morris and Hargreaves 1997).

7 Scope of the Future Challenges

CDOM is generally produced from two major sources: allochthonous and autochthonous. Absorption coefficients of CDOM have often been determined jointly in earlier studies. Recent studies show that autochthonous DOM is significantly produced from photo- and microbial respiration or assimilation of algae or phytoplankton biomass, yielding compounds that are very similar to allochthonous fulvic and humic acids (Zhang et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008; Mostofa et al. 2009). The specific absorption properties of allochthonous and autochthonous CDOM could be important to understand the physical, photoinduced and microbial changes of those two CDOM pools in natural waters. Remote sensing is widely applied to characterize various parameters as explained earlier, but a key application could be the detection of algal blooms in natural waters. The CDOM research for future challenges can be distinguished as: (i) Investigation on CDOM absorption of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids compared to autochthonous DOM originated from algae or phytoplankton biomass in natural waters. (ii) Investigation on the absorption of radiation by various amino acids or proteins originated from phytoplankton with respect to their standard substances. (iii) Study of the photoinduced and microbial changes of CDOM absorption for both allochthonous and autochthonous DOM. (iv) Investigation on the differences of photoinduced reactivity between allochthonous (fulvic and humic acids) and autochthonous DOM of algal or phytoplankton origin (termed autochthonous fulvic acid, see chapter “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). (v) Application of remote sensing in investigation of algal blooms in natural waters.

Problems

- (1) Define the chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM)?
- (2) Define the chromophores in CDOM. Mention the key chromophores in CDOM found in natural waters.
- (3) Explain the CDOM absorbance theorem.
- (4) What are the optical variables for the attenuation of UV and photosynthetically available radiation in waters? Mention the key optical variable and how it affects the absorption properties of waters.
- (5) Explain the effects of suspended particulate matter and chlorophyll on absorption coefficients in waters.
- (6) What are the controlling factors that affect CDOM absorption in waters? Explain the role of CDOM contents on absorption properties.

- (7) Explain the effects of photoinduced and microbial processes on CDOM absorption properties in waters.
- (8) Explain the effects of photoinduced and microbial degradation of CDOM on spectral slopes.
- (9) What are the effects of monochromatic and polychromatic irradiation on CDOM absorption spectra?
- (10) Why are the CDOM absorption losses by irradiation significantly different for a variety of natural waters?
- (11) How does salinity affect CDOM absorption in oceans?
- (12) 'All colored DOM is chromophoric DOM, but not all chromophoric DOM is colored' - Explain this concept.
- (13) Explain shortly the applications of remote sensing to surface waters.
- (14) Explain the impacts of photoinduced degradation of CDOM in waters.

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Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters

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1 Introduction

Dissolved organic matter (DOM), of allochthonous and autochthonous origin, is a heterogeneous mixture of organic compounds, with molecular weights ranging from less than 100 to over 300,000 Da in natural waters (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Thurman 1985; Ma and Ali 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009a). The DOM components are involved into key biogeochemical processes such as global carbon cycle, nutrient dynamics, photosynthesis, biological activity and finally as energy sources in the aquatic environments (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Hedges 1992). Among the

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DOM components, only a limited fraction of organic compounds show fluorescence properties. These compounds are termed the fluorescent DOM (FDOM). In the pioneering works conducted by Kalle (1949, 1963) and Duursma (1974), the fluorescence of terrestrial humic substances served as a tracer of soil organic matter in freshwater and seawater environments. The fluorescence of humic substances has then been used to distinguish the mixing of river water with seawater as well as their sources (Otto 1967; Zimmerman and Rommets 1974; Dorsch and Bidleman 1982; Willey 1984; Hayase et al. 1987).

A number of excitation–emission (Ex/Em) maxima are detected for humic substances depending on their sources and nature (either fulvic acid or humic acid) in soil and natural waters (Christman and Ghassemi 1966; Ghassemi and Christman 1968; Levesque 1972; Almgren et al. 1975; Brun and Milburn 1977; Gosh and Schnitzer 1980; Momzikoff et al. 1992). The effects of the molecular weight of fulvic and humic acids (<10,000 to >300,000 Da) on fluorescence properties have been examined in earlier studies, particularly in lignin sulfonates (Christman and Minear 1967), soil fulvic and humic acids (Levesque 1972; McCreary and Snoeyink 1980), natural waters (Hall and Lee 1974; Stewart and Wetzel 1980; Visser 1984) and sediment pore waters (Hayase and Tsubota 1985, 1983). The results suggest that the Ex/Em wavelength maxima for humic acid are often present at longer wavelengths than those of fulvic acid. The position of these maxima is independent of the molecular weight, whilst smaller molecules in terrestrial fulvic and humic acids typically exhibit higher fluorescence intensity than the larger ones. It is also suggested that the fluorophores in humic acid are aromatic compounds with higher molecular weight compared to those in fulvic acid (Hayase and Tsubota 1985). The fluorescence quantum yields of commercial, soil and aquatic humic substances excited at 350 nm have been determined by Zepp and Scholtzhauer (1981). Linear correlations are observed between pH and the fluorescence intensity at the Ex/Em peaks of fulvic and humic acids in natural waters and in microbial cultures (Visser 1984). The fluorescence characteristics are different between coastal marine sedimentary humic and fulvic acids (Hayase and Tsubota 1985). The vertical distribution of humic-like fluorescent substances has been examined in marine waters (Hayase et al. 1987, 1988; Chen and Bada 1989, 1990, 1992; Hayase and Shinozuka 1995). The fluorescence intensity of humic-like substances is correlated with phosphate and nitrate in the deeper marine waters, suggesting that the production of humic-like substances and nutrients (phosphate and nitrate) results from the decomposition of settling particles in the water column (Hayase and Shinozuka 1995). Senesi (1990a) summarized the fluorescence properties of fulvic acid-like components in freshwater and seawater. All of these studies are two-dimensional and do not distinguish well the fluorescence excitation–emission (Ex/Em) peak positions that can be used for the characterization of the fluorophores of humic substances.

Coble et al. (1990) have firstly applied the three-dimensional fluorescence (excitation–emission matrix) spectroscopy (EEMS) to marine FDOM to distinguish between the humic-like and protein-like fluorescence peaks in seawater. Coble (1996) summarized the various fluorescence peaks that can be distinguished in river, lake and marine FDOM. They identified the Ex/Em wavelengths for humic-like

peaks at Ex/Em = 260/380–460 nm (Peak A) and 350/420–480 nm (Peak C), marine humic-like (recently called photobleached fulvic-like) at 312/380–420 nm (Peak M) and two protein-like peaks, i.e., tryptophan-like (275/340 nm; Peak T) and tyrosine-like (275/310 nm; Peak B) peaks. Since then a number of studies have identified humic-like and protein-like substances in natural waters (Mopper and Schultz 1993; de Souza-Sierra et al. 1994; Determann et al. 1994; 1996; Mayer et al. 1999; Parlanti et al. 2000; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a). Mostofa et al. (2005a) have characterized the fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs) or components of household detergents (DAS1 and DSBP) in terms of their fluorescence characteristics at Ex/Em = 330–350/430–449 nm (Peak W) in sewerage-impacted rivers.

To find out more useful information in EEM spectra, Principal Component Analysis (PCA), a multivariate data analysis method, has been applied to the study of EEMs in marine science. PCA is a more comprehensive data analysis method than the traditional ‘peak picking’ techniques (Persson and Wedborg 2001). However, the two-way PCA models are insufficient for the modeling of the essentially three-way character of EEMs (Bro 1997). Recently, parallel factor analysis (PARAFAC), a statistical modeling approach, has been successfully applied to decompose EEMs of complex mixtures in aqueous solution into their individual fluorescent components (Bro 1997, 1998, 1999; Ross et al. 1991; Jiji et al. 1999; Baunsgaard et al. 2000; 2001; da Silva et al. 2002; Stedmon et al. 2003). The combination of EEM and PARAFAC is widely applied to isolate and distinguish the fluorescent components in terrestrial soil, pore waters and natural waters (Fulton et al. 2004; Cory and McKnight 2005; Hall et al. 2005; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Ohno and Bro 2006; Muller-Karger et al. 2005; Stedmon et al. 2007a, 2007b; Mostofa et al. 2010).

FDOM components can undergo photoinduced decomposition by natural sunlight in surface waters or in laboratory conditions. Photoinduced decomposition has been observed for FDOM in rivers (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2007a, 2010; Gao and Zepp 1998; White et al. 2003; Patel-Sorrentino et al. 2004; Brooks et al. 2007), lakes (Ma and Green 2004; Garcia et al. 2005; Winter et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data), estuaries (Skoog et al. 1996; Moran et al. 2000; Osburn et al. 2009), wetlands (Brooks et al. 2007; Waiser and Robarts 2004), marine waters (Stedmon et al. 2007a, 2007b; Skoog et al. 1996; Ferrari et al. 1996a; Kieber et al. 1997; Miller et al. 2002; Lepane et al. 2003; Bertilsson et al. 2004; Boehme et al. 2004; del Vecchio and Blough 2004; Zanardi-Lamardo et al. 2004; Abboudi et al. 2008), extracted or standard fulvic acid and humic acid (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Winter et al. 2007; Lepane et al. 2003; Fukushima et al. 2001; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Uyguner and Bekbolet 2005; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009), and fluorescent whitening agents, standard or dissolved in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010; Poiger et al. 1999). FDOM components are also decomposed microbiologically, in deep natural waters or upon dark incubation under laboratory conditions. A similar behavior has been observed for extracted or standard fulvic and humic acids (Mostofa et al. 2010, 2007a; Garcia et al. 2005; Moran et al. 2000; Lepane et al. 2003; Abboudi et al. 2008). Photochemistry is highly susceptible to degrade fluorophores at both peak C- and A-regions, whilst microbial degradation is more susceptible to decompose fluorophores

at peak A- and T_{UV}-regions. The latter fluorescent compounds are occasionally unable to undergo photoinduced decomposition, particularly the fluorophores at the T_{UV}-region (Mostofa et al. 2010).

A review by Leenheer and Croué (2003) includes the comparison between the fluorescence properties of various fluorophores within natural organic matter (NOM). Another review by Hudson et al. (2007) focuses on the effect of metal ions on DOM fluorescence and photodegradation, and on the application of DOM fluorescence in natural waters. A recent review by Coble (2007) covers the topic of marine optical biogeochemistry and discusses the chemical properties and the sinks of chromophoric or colored dissolved organic matter (CDOM), as well as its fluorescence characteristics. Another review covers the application of fluorescence to the identification and monitoring of sewerage-derived DOM and to the impact of treatment processes on fluorescence. It provides useful information on how fluorescence could be a potential tool for recycled water systems (Henderson et al. 2009). Finally, another review summarizes the fluorescence properties of various organic components. From field observations in natural waters and the use of standards, it can be derived that all the fluorescent components in DOM can be grouped in four regions: peak C-region (280–400/380–550 nm), peak A-region (220–280/380–550 nm), peak T-region (260–285/290–380 nm), and peak T_{UV}-region (215–260/280–380 nm) (Mostofa et al. 2009a).

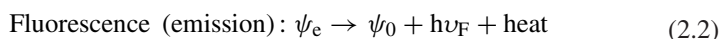
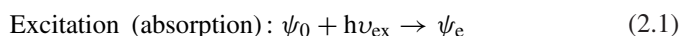
This chapter will provide a general overview on the fluorophores, on the fluorescence properties of key organic substances in combination with their molecular characteristics, and on PARAFAC modeling to identify the fluorescent components. This paper will deal with the identification of autochthonous DOM, and in particular of autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin. It will be discussed how these autochthonous fluorescent components differ from allochthonous fulvic and humic acids. This review will extensively discuss the key factors that significantly affect the fluorescence properties of FDOM. It will also address the photoinduced and microbial FDOM degradation as well as the mechanisms, the controlling factors and their significance to understand the biogeochemical FDOM activity in freshwater and marine environments. Finally, a comparison will be provided of the relative importance of studying FDOM versus CDOM absorbance, as well as how fluorophores in FDOM differ from chromophores in CDOM.

2 Principle of Fluorescence (Excitation–Emission Matrix) Spectroscopy

Fluorescence (excitation–emission matrix, EEM) spectroscopy (EEMS) gives a three-dimensional image of an aqueous solution that is measured for the fluorescence intensity of the fluorophores as a function of the excitation and emission wavelengths. EEM spectra are a combination of multiple emission spectra at a range of excitations. EEMS finds wide applications due to its precise, quick and relatively simple characterization of DOM fractions in natural waters. The

principles of fluorescence spectroscopy have been summarized in earlier studies (Senesi 1990a; Hudson et al. 2007; Guilbault 1990; Grabowski et al. 2003; Oheim et al. 2006). An organic molecule has a series of closely spaced energy levels, and one of its electrons can be excited from a lower to a higher level upon absorption of a discrete quantum of light that is equal in energy to the difference between the two energy states (Fig. 1) (Senesi 1990a). Fluorescence can be simply defined as the emission of a photon at a longer wavelength (lower energy, $h\nu_F$) that occurs when the electron returns to the ground state. Radiation absorption occurs at a timescale of approximately 10^{-15} s, emission of fluorescence photons on a timescale of about 10^{-8} s, and internal conversion typically on a time scale of about 10^{-12} s or less (Fig. 1). Fluorescence is basically the reverse of absorption (Senesi 1990a).

When a fluorophore or fluorescent molecule absorbs a photon with a frequency ν , which corresponds to a photon energy $h\nu_{ex}$ (h = Planck's constant), its fluorescence emission can simply be depicted by the wave function ψ as below (Eqs. 2.1, 2.2):



where ψ_0 is termed the ground state of the fluorophore and ψ_e is its first electronically excited state. The fluorescence emission energy, $h\nu_F$, varies depending on the return of the photon to the ground state level (ψ_0). A fluorophore in its excited state, ψ_1 , can lose its energy by internal conversion such as 'non-radiative relaxation', where the excitation energy is dissipated as heat (vibrational relaxation) to the solvent.

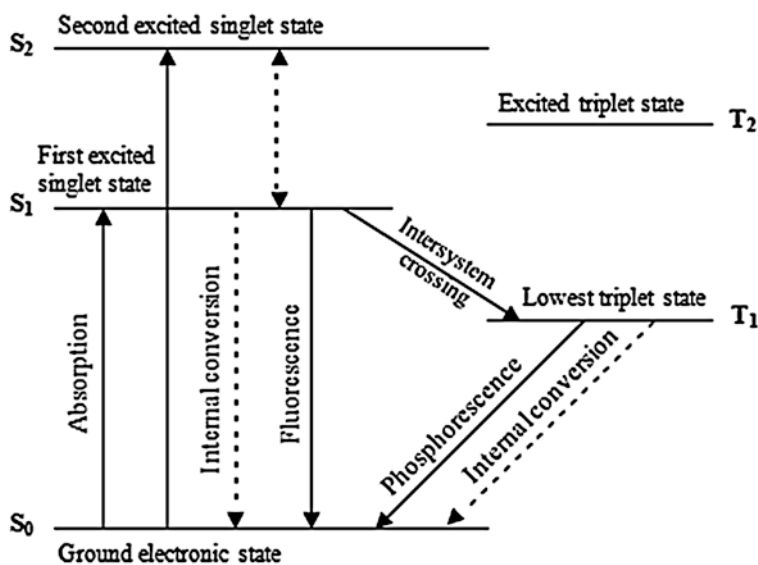


Fig. 1 Schematic energy level diagram for a diatomic molecule illustrating principal excited-state processes. *Data source* Senesi (1990a)

The key processes that compete with fluorescence emission from the lowest excited singlet to the ground state are internal conversion, intersystem crossing and photodegradation (Fig. 1) (Senesi 1990a). The internal conversion depends on several factors such as increasing solvation, increasing temperature and molecular flexibility. Such factors increase the interaction of a molecule with its medium and accelerate the rate of internal conversion by collisional deactivation. Intersystem crossing involves the transition from the lowest vibrational level of an excited singlet state to an upper vibrational level of a triplet state, or vice versa. A change of spin occurs in intersystem crossing, but its rate is usually slower compared to that of internal conversion. Photodegradation causes a decrease in fluorescence intensity, and its effect might be higher for light-sensitive organic substances. The probability of a photodegradation process depends primarily on the energy difference between the ground state and the first excited singlet, i.e. it increases when the energy content of the excited state is increased.

The fluorescence quantum yield (or efficiency) (Φ_f) is defined as the ratio of the number of emitted fluorescence photons to the number of photons absorbed (Senesi 1990a).

$$\Phi_f = \frac{\text{number of photons as fluorescence}}{\text{number of photons absorbed}}$$

The fluorescence efficiency determines the effectiveness with which the absorbed energy is re-emitted. It depends on several factors such as the molecular structure of the fluorescent molecule and its absorption nature, the non-radiative processes, the temperature and the wavelength used for excitation (Senesi 1990a; Wehry 1973).

The probability of finding a molecule in the excited state at a time t after the excitation source is turned off can be expressed as $\exp(-t/\tau)$ where τ is the fluorescence lifetime (Senesi 1990a). The fluorescence lifetime of a molecule is defined as the mean lifetime of the excited state before photon emission. The fluorescence intensity (F) typically follows a first-order kinetics and can be written as follows (Senesi 1990a):

$$F(t) = F_0 \exp(-t/\tau) \quad (2.3)$$

where $F(t)$ is the fluorescence intensity at the time t , F_0 the initial maximum intensity with the excitation source on, i.e. during excitation, t is the time elapsed after the excitation source is turned off, and τ is the fluorescence lifetime or the decay rate of fluorescence.

Fluorescence lifetimes or decay rates (τ) depend on the overall rates at which the excited state is deactivated with both radiative and non-radiative processes. It is $\tau_{\text{tot}}^{-1} = \tau_{\text{rad}}^{-1} + \tau_{\text{nrad}}^{-1}$. Fluorescence lifetimes for commonly used fluorescent molecules are typically of the order of nanoseconds. The intrinsic or natural lifetime (τ_0) corresponds to an absolute quantum efficiency (Φ_0) equal to 1. It happens when fluorescence is the only mechanism by which the excited

state returns to the ground state. When non-radiative processes are deactivating the excited state, the measured lifetime (τ) can be expressed as (Eq. 2.4) (Senesi 1990a):

$$\tau = \Phi_0 \tau_0 \quad (2.4)$$

where $\Phi < \Phi_0$ is the fluorescence quantum efficiency. Fluorescence intensity (F) is proportional to the number of excited states which, in turn, depends on the concentration of the absorbing molecules in solution. According to a basic equation, F can be expressed as follows (Senesi 1990a):

$$F = \Phi I_0 [1 - \exp(-\varepsilon bc)] \quad (2.5)$$

where Φ is the quantum efficiency, I_0 is the intensity of the incident radiation that is directly proportional to the fluorescence intensity (F), ε is the (neperian) molar absorptivity of the molecule at the excitation wavelength (higher ε values produce higher fluorescence intensities), b is the path length of the cell and c is the molar concentration of the molecule.

For very diluted solutions, where εbc is sufficiently small, Eq. 2.5 can be expressed as follows (Senesi 1990a):

$$F = \Phi I_0 \varepsilon bc \quad (2.6)$$

Equation 2.6 predicts a linear relationship between fluorescence intensity and concentration of the molecule when εbc is small. If the concentration of the molecule and, as a consequence, εbc increases, a non-linear relationship is followed by Eq. (2.5). Small εbc values indicate that the fluorescence intensity of the molecule is essentially homogeneous throughout the sample. On the other hand, larger εbc values result in a fluorescence intensity of the molecule that is no longer homogeneous within the cell, but is increasingly localized at its front surface (Senesi 1990a).

2.1 Fluorophores in the Fluorescent Molecule and their Controlling Factors

A fluorophore is defined as a part of an organic molecule, with or without electron-donating heteroatoms such as N, O, and S, or as a functional group of a highly unsaturated aliphatic molecule with a structure that can hold up an excited electron, or having extensive π -electron systems, which exhibits fluorescence with significant efficiency (Mostofa et al. 2009a). The major fluorophores in various fluorescent organic molecules in natural waters are composed of Schiff-base derivatives ($-\text{N}=\text{C}-\text{C}=\text{N}-$), $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{COOCH}_3$, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{CH}=\text{O}$, $-\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2-(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, S-, O- or N-containing aromatic compounds (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a; Leenheer and Croué 2003; Malcolm 1985; Corin et al. 1996; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Seitzinger et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2005).

According to the basic principle of fluorescence, the elements O, N, S, and P as well as their related functional groups (C–O, C=C, φ -O, COOH, and C=O) in fulvic acid can show fluorescence properties. Each of the functional groups in fulvic acid is referred to as fluorophore. All fluorophores in a mother molecule can exhibit fluorescence properties and any change in the molecule can have an effect on the overall fluorescence properties (Senesi 1990a). Fluorophores present in allochthonous fulvic acid (or allochthonous humic acid or autochthonous fulvic acid) either at peak C-region (Ex/Em = 280–400/380–550 nm) or A-region (Ex/Em = 215–280/380–550 nm) in EEM spectra can be denoted as fluorochrome. The molecular structure of fulvic acid is not yet known because of the complicated chemical composition and relatively large molecular size. However, fulvic and humic acids of vascular plant origin have allowed a partial identification of their molecular structure as benzene-containing carboxyl, methoxylate and phenolic groups, carboxyl, alcoholic OH, carbohydrate OH, $-C=C-$, hydroxycoumarin-like structures, fluorophores containing Schiff-base derivatives, chromone, xanthone, quinoline ones, as well as functional groups containing O, N, S, and P atoms. Such functional groups include aromatic carbon (17–30 %) and aliphatic carbon (47–63 %) (Leenheer and Croué 2003; Malcolm 1985; Senesi 1990b; Steelink 2002). All of the cited functional groups can be considered as major fluorophores in fulvic and humic acids in natural waters. They can display two fluorescence peaks: peak C at longer wavelength (or peak C-region) and peak A at shorter ultraviolet (UV) wavelengths (or peak A-region) (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a, 2010, 2007a; Senesi 1990a; Coble et al. 1990; Coble 1996, 2007; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; Nakajima 2006). The electronic transition of the lowest energy that involves a fluorophore in a molecule exhibits fluorescence (Ex/Em) with the highest intensity at peak C and A-regions. When a fluorophore is degraded by photolytic processes, another lowest energy fluorophore will subsequently produce the fluorescence peak in the respective regions. Therefore, a particular peak (e.g., peak C, peak A, peak T or T_{UV}) of a fluorescent molecule is the outcome of the contribution of all fluorophores present in the molecule itself.

The fluorescence properties of an organic molecule containing fluorophores depend on several inner (or internal) and external (local physical conditions in the fluorophore's microenvironment) factors associated with chemical structure (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a, 1990b; Lakowicz 1999; Tadrous 2000; Wu et al. 2002, 2004a; Baker 2005). The inner or internal factors are: (i) the probability of absorbing a photon; (ii) the number of fluorophores or functional groups present in the molecule; and (iii) the quantum yield that measures the probability of radiative decay from the excited state; (iv) the extension of the π -electron system, which reduces the excitation energy and shifts the emission wavelengths toward higher values; (v) heteroatom substitution on aromatic compounds; (vi) electron withdrawing (meta-directing) functional groups in aromatic compounds, which reduce the fluorescence intensity; (vii) electron-donating (ortho-para directing) functional groups in aromatic compounds, which increase the fluorescence efficiency; (viii) functional groups such as carbonyl, hydroxide, alkoxide and amino ones, which shift fluorescence toward longer wavelengths; (ix) an increase

in structural rigidity that inhibits the internal conversion, thereby leading to an increase in fluorescence; (x) an increase in the solution redox potential, which enhances fluorescence; and (xi) the concentrations of solutes in aqueous media that would normally cause the fluorescence intensity to decrease when concentration is high.

External factors are: (xii) pH, considering that the fluorescence intensity markedly increases with increasing pH; (xiii) exposure of the fluorophores to a heat source, where increasing temperature causes fluorescence quenching; (xiv) complexation of metal ions with fluorophores of an organic molecule which can change the fluorescence intensity of that fluorophore either enhanced or quenched compared to the original fluorescent DOM (see also chapter “[Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter with Trace Metal ions in Natural Waters](#)”) (Wu et al. 2004a, 2004b, 2004c; Smith and Kramer 1999; Ohno et al. 2007; Fu et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2010; Manciualea et al. 2009; Mounier et al. 2011); (xv) inter- and intramolecular fluorescence quenching of the fluorophores in organic substance in the presence of other organic components (Marmé et al. 2003; Sun et al. 2012); (xvi) any changes in the molecule upon photoinduced or microbial degradation processes can alter its fluorescence properties, such as peak position and fluorescence intensity (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a; Wu et al. 2004a). Light exposure can induce in a substantial decrease in the loss of fluorophore binding sites and the stability constant (Wu et al. 2004a; Kulovaara et al. 1995; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000); and (xvii) any changes in the molecule upon microbial degradation processes can alter its fluorescence properties, such as peak position and fluorescence intensity (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2007a, 2005b; Senesi 1990a; Moran et al. 2000).

2.2 Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter (FDOM) and its Characterization Using EEM Spectroscopy

Fluorescent dissolved organic matter (FDOM) is operationally defined as the dissolved organic matter (DOM) fraction that shows significant fluorescence efficiency or intensity at a particular excitation–emission wavelength (Mostofa et al. 2009a). The FDOM species that are commonly detected in aqueous solution are summarized in Table 1 (Senesi 1990a; Coble et al. 1990, 1998; Coble 1996, 2007; Mayer et al. 1999; Parlanti et al. 2000; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; Nakajima 2006; Baker 2005; Zhang et al. 2010; Sugiyama et al. 2005; Liu and Fang 2002; Provenzano et al. 2004; Lu and Allen 2002; Moberg et al. 2001; Determann et al. 1998; Matthews et al. 1996; Baker and Curry 2004). They are humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of vascular plant origin, marine humic-like compounds, autochthonous fulvic acids of algal origin, derived from photoinduced and microbial assimilation of lake algae, aromatic amino acids (tryptophan, tyrosine and phenylalanine), proteins, diaminostilbene-type (DAS1) and distyryl biphenyl (DSBP) fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs), other components of household detergents, and chlorophyll (Table 1).

Table 1 Fluorescence excitation/emission (Ex/Em) wavelengths of standard substances and the subsequent characteristic peaks of the reference components in natural waters

Samples Standard substances/Component type	Fluorescence properties			References		
	Peak C-region	Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region	Peak T _{UV} -region	References
	Peak C Ex/Em (nm)	Peak M _p Peak W	Peak M _p	Peak W	Peak W	
Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 5) ^b	330/462	–	250/462	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005a), Mostofa KMG et al., (unpub- lished data)
Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 5) ^b	–	–	230/441	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005a), Mostofa KMG et al., (unpub- lished data)
Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid dissolved in Milli-Q waters	325/442	–	255/450	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid dissolved in sea waters	345/452	–	255/451	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
Fulvic acids (IHSS standard, n = 5)	333 ± 4/452 ± 12	–	–	–	–	Baker (2005)
Suwannee River Fulvic Acid	325/450	–	260/460	–	–	Coble et al. (1990)
Fulvic acid, extracted from River	300–310/420– 430	–	260–270/430– 440	–	–	(Schwede-Thomas et al. (2005)
Fulvic acid, extracted from Lake	305/448	–	240/440	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpub- lished data)
Suwannee River and Pine Barrens (pH: 3–6)	330–340/451–467	–	240–260/427– 468	–	–	Schwede-Thomas et al. (2005)
Fulvic acid (SJF)	–	310/419	–	–	–	Coble (1996), (2007)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples Standard substances/Component type	Fluorescence properties			Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak TUV-region	References
	Peak C-region						
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak W				
Soil fulvic acid (Standard)	–	320/440	–	270–280/430–440	–	–	Sugiyama et al. (2005)
Standard Suwannee River Humic Acid ^b	350/461	300/461	–	255/461	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005a)
Standard Suwannee River Humic Acid ^b	–	–	–	265, 230/436	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005a)
Standard Suwannee River Humic Acid (n = 3)	320–345/478–498	–	–	–	–	–	Baker (2005)
Humic acid (EEP2)	–	310/428	–	–	–	–	Coble (1996), (2007)
Humic acid (EEP2)	–	310/423	–	–	–	–	Coble (1996), (2007)
Humic acid, extracted from Lake	–	295/464	–	255/464	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Protein-like, detected in sewerage samples ^a	–	–	–	–	280/339–346	230/339–346	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Protein-like, extracted from EPS	–	–	–	–	280–285/340–350	225/340–350	Liu and Fang (2002)
Aromatic protein or soluble microbial by-products-like	–	–	–	–	270–280/320–350	220–230/340–350	Mayer et al. (1999)
Tryptophan standard dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 3) ^b	–	–	–	–	275–280/352–356	225/343–358	Mostofa et al. (2005a), (2010)
Tryptophan standard dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	–	–	–	275/357	Peak	Nakajima (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples Standard substances/Component type	Fluorescence properties		Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak Tuvy-region	References
	Peak C-region					
	Peak C Ex/Em (nm)	Peak M _p Peak W				
Tryptophan standard dissolved in sea waters	–	–	275/355	Peak	–	Nakajima (2006)
Tryptophan standard (n = 5)	–	–	283 ± 3/351 ± 2	231 ± 3/353 ± 4	–	Baker (2005)
Tryptophan	–	–	280/357	227/351	–	Baker (2005)
Tryptophan ^b	–	–	280/342–346	Peak	–	Yamashita and Tanoue (2003a) ^b
Tryptophan-like, extracted from EPS	–	–	275–280/ 322–336	220–230/ 328–334	–	Zhang et al. (2010)
Tyrosine standard dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	–	275/303	230/304	–	Nakajima (2006)
Tyrosine standard dissolved in sea waters	–	–	275/304	230/307	–	Nakajima (2006)
Tyrosine standard dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	–	270/314	Peak	–	Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009)
Tyrosine ^b	–	–	270–275/ 300–302	Peak	–	Yamashita and Tanoue (2003a) ^b
Tyrosine-like	–	–	275/310	Peak	–	Coble (1996)
Tyrosine	–	–	275/303	Peak	–	Parlanti et al. (2000)
Tyrosine-like, protein-like	–	–	275/310	Peak	–	Provenzano et al. (2004)
Tyrosine-like, protein-like	–	–	265–280/ 293–313	Peak	–	Lu and Allen (2002)
Phenylalanine standard dissolved in Milli-Q waters ^b	–	–	255–265/ 284–285	Peak	–	Yamashita and Tanoue (2003a) ^b

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples Standard substances/Component type	Fluorescence properties			Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region	References
	Peak C-region		Peak M _p				
	Peak C Ex/Em (nm)	Peak W					
Phenylalanine standard dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	–	–	260/286	Peak	–	Nakajima (2006)
Phenylalanine standard dissolved in sea waters	–	–	–	260/284	Peak	–	Nakajima (2006)
Distyryl biphenyl (DSBP), FWAs dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 3)	–	350/436	–	235–265/435–445	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2010)
DSBP, FWAs dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	350/433	–	245/431	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
DSBP, FWAs dissolved in sea waters	–	345/435	–	245/437	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
DSBP, FWAs (n = 2)	–	355/430–432	–	Peak	–	–	Komaki and Yabe (1982)
Diaminostilbene-type (DAS1), FWAs dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 4)	–	335–355/438–449	–	240–245/434–446	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2010)
DAS1, FWAs dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	335/435	–	250/439	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
DAS1, FWAs (n = 2)	–	340–343/430–432	–	Peak	–	–	Komaki and Yabe (1982)
DAS1, FWAs dissolved in sea waters	–	345/436	–	250/433	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
Chlorophyll-like, pigment-like	398/660	–	–	–	–	–	Coble et al. (1998)
Chlorophyll <i>a</i>	431/670	–	–	–	–	–	Moberg et al. (2001)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples Standard substances/Component type	Fluorescence properties			Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region	References
	Peak C-region						
	Peak C Ex/Em (nm)	Peak M _p	Peak W				
Chlorophyll <i>b</i>	435/659	–	–	–	–	–	Moberg et al. (2001)
Algae or phytoplankton, resuspensions in Milli-Q waters, collected from lake waters ^a	–	–	–	280/346, 270/327	230/346, 230/327	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algae or phytoplankton, resuspensions in River waters, collected from lake waters ^a	–	–	–	285/340, 270/336	230/336	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algae and bacteria, collected from marine waters	–	–	–	280/340	230/340, 230/305	–	Determann et al. (1998)
Corals	310–390/430–490	–	–	280/320–350	–	–	Matthews et al. (1996)
1,4-Dichlorobenzene dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	–	–	–	225/294–299	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Anthracene dissolved in Milli-Q waters	340/401–405	–	–	250/401–404	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Phenanthrene dissolved in Milli-Q waters	350/367, 348	–	–	290/349, 366	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Perylene dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	–	–	250/366, 348	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples Standard substances/Component type	Fluorescence properties			Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region	References
	Peak C-region						
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak W				
	Ex/E _m (nm)						
Naphthalene in landfill leachate	–	–	–	–	–	220–230/ 340–370	Baker and Curry (2004)
Melanoidin	–	363/458	–	–	–	–	Coble (1996), (2007)
Phenol	–	–	–	270/297	–	–	Coble (1996), (2007)
Phenol dissolved in Milli-Q water	–	–	–	270/299	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
Phenol dissolved in sea water	–	–	–	270/298	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
4-Biphenyl carboxaldehyde	–	305/410	–	–	–	255/315	Mostofa et al. (2010)
<i>o</i> -Cresol	–	–	–	275/303	–	215/304	Mostofa et al. (2010)
<i>p</i> -Cresol	–	–	–	280/309	–	225/309	Mostofa et al. (2010)
<i>p</i> -Hydroxyphenyl acetic acid	–	–	–	280/305	–	230/304	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Benzoic acid dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	–	–	280/311	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
Benzoic acid dissolved in sea waters	–	300/396	–	–	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
<i>o</i> -Hydroxy benzoic acid or salicylic acid	–	300/407	–	235/410	–	–	Coble (1996), (2007)
<i>o</i> -Hydroxy benzoic acid or salicylic acid	–	314/410	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
3-Hydroxybenzoic acid	–	314/423	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
<i>p</i> -Hydroxybenzoic acid dissolved in Milli-Q water	–	–	–	–	–	255/318	Nakajima (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Samples Standard substances/Component type	Fluorescence properties			Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak Tuv-region	References
	Peak C-region						
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak W				
<i>p</i> -Hydroxybenzoic acid dissolved in sea water	–	–	–	–	280/388	–	Nakajima (2006)
Methyl salicylate	366/448	302/448	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
<i>p</i> -Hydroxy benzaldehyde dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	325/365	–	–	–	235/353	Nakajima (2006)
<i>p</i> -Hydroxy benzaldehyde dissolved in sea waters	330/372	–	–	240/389	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
<i>p</i> -Hydroxy acetophenone dissolved in Milli-Q waters	–	310/347	–	–	–	225/353	Nakajima (2006)
<i>p</i> -Hydroxy acetophenone dissolved in sea waters	340/382	–	–	240/386	–	–	Nakajima (2006)
Protocatechuic acid (ionized)	340–370/455	–	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
3-Hydroxycinnamic acid	–	310/407	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
Caffeic acid	365/450	–	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
Ferulic acid	350/440	–	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
β -Naphthols (ionized)	350/460	–	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
Xanthone	–	410/456	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
3-Hydroxyanthone	343, 365/465	–	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)
3-Hydroxy quinoline	350/450	–	–	–	–	–	Senesi (1990a)

M_p means fluorescence Ex/Em maxima of fulvic acid which is photobleached by photochemical processes or by any other natural processes

^aIndicates the organic components identified using PARAFAC modeling on sample EEM data and river EEM data is deducted from samples in case of algae

^bRanges expresses the authentic standard at various concentrations (1–5 mg L⁻¹) and mechanical reproducibility

peak indicates the occurrence of a peak that do not identify

EPS extracellular polymeric substances

Coble (1996) firstly designated the fluorescence Ex/Em wavelength peaks of humic-like substances (peak C, peak M, and peak A) as well as of protein-like, tryptophan-like and tyrosine-like ones (peak T and peak B). Parlanti et al. (2000) slightly modified the wavelength ranges and designated them with new letters (α , β and α' , and γ and δ , respectively). Chen et al. (2003) selected the wavelength boundaries at various regions (Region I, Region II, Region III, Region IV, and Region V) to define DOM in natural waters. To account for all the FDOM components of allochthonous, autochthonous and anthropogenic sources, it is desirable to generalize the peak positions by combining the peak regions (Chen et al. 2003) and specifying the letters as made by Coble (Coble 1996). All aquatic scientists have accepted Coble's specification, and further speciation makes it more complicated. Overviewing and justifying the wavelength ranges of the fluorescence Ex/Em peaks of Coble (1996) and Parlanti et al. (2000) with those of the field observations, Mostofa et al. (2009a) summarize and then specify the fluorescence peaks of various FDOM components at four regions: peak C-region (280–400/380–550 nm), peak A-region (215–280/380–550 nm), peak T-region (260–285/290–380 nm), and peak T_{UV}-region (215–260/280–380 nm) (Table 1) (Mostofa et al. 2009a).

Peak C-region accounts for the broader excitation–emission wavelength ranges at Ex/Em = 280–400/380–550 nm, which include the humic substances (fulvic acid and humic acid) of terrestrial vascular plant origin (C-like and M-like), autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) of algal or phytoplankton origin, photo-bleached allochthonous fulvic acid, fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs) such as DAS1 and DSBP as well as few standard organic substances (Tables 1, 2) (Coble et al. 1990, 1998; Coble 1996, 2007; Mopper and Schultz 1993; Parlanti et al. 2000; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa et al. 2005a; Stedmon et al. 2003, 2007a, 2007b; Fulton et al. 2004; Mostofa et al. 2010, 2007a; 2005b; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Moran et al. 2000; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; Baker 2005; Sugiyama et al. 2005; Moberg et al. 2001; Chen et al. 2003; Klapper et al. 2002; Komada et al. 2002; Nagao et al. 2003; Boyd and Osburn 2004; Burdige et al. 2004; Conmy et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2006, 2010; Mostofa et al. 2007b; Gao et al. 2010).

Peak A-region accounts for the shorter wavelength region at Ex/Em = 215–280/380–550 nm, and all FDOM components showing fluorescence at the peak C-region can display their secondary fluorescence peaks at the A-region (Tables 1, 2) (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a, 2010, 2007b; Coble et al. 1990; Coble 1996; Mopper and Schultz 1993; Parlanti et al. 2000; Fulton et al. 2004; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Schwede-Thomas et al. 2005; Baker and Curry 2004; Chen et al. 2003; Klapper et al. 2002; Boyd and Osburn 2004; Burdige et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2006, 2010; Suzuki et al. 1997; Zhang et al. 2009a). Peak T-region accounts for the fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 260–285/290–380 nm, which includes the primary and secondary fluorescence peaks of various organic substances such as protein-like, aromatic amino acids (tryptophan-like, tyrosine-like and phenylalanine-like), phenol-like compounds, algae, corals, benzoic acid, *p*-hydroxy benzoic acid, perylene, phenanthrene, *o*-cresol and *p*-cresol (Table 1) (Mostofa et al.

Table 2 The fluorescent components identified using PARAFAC modeling on the sample's EEM and their characteristic peaks as excitation (Ex)–Emission (Em) maxima

Fluorescent components	Components identified- field and sources	Fluorescence properties					References			
		Peak C-region		Peak M	Peak W	Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region		
		Peak C	Peak M _p					Major	Minor	
EX/Em (nm)										
<i>Allochthonous fulvic acids (C-like, A-like, and M-like)</i>										
Suwannee River Fulvic Acid	Component 1,	330/462	–	–	–	250/462	–	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^c , Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
(C-like), standard, dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 5)	allochthonous									
Fulvic acid (C-like), Yellow River, upstream waters, China	Component 1	335/449	–	–	–	250/449	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (C-like), Yellow River, mainstream waters, China	Component 1	340/440	–	295/440	–	250/440	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (C-like), Nanming River, China	Component 1	300–310/423–448	–	–	–	235–255/425–447	–	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, urban sewerage samples ^{RU}	Component 5	380/467	–	–	–	260/467	–	–	–	Guo et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, drinking water treatment plant ^{RU}	Component 3	330/420	–	–	–	<250/420	–	–	–	Baghoth et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (C-like), The Second Song Hua Jiang River, North-East China	Component 1	325–340/449–458	–	–	–	255–260/449–458	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (C-like), LiaoHe River, North-East China	Component 1	330/449	–	–	–	260/449	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (C-like), Yellow River, China (12 days dark incubation)	Component 1	300/449	–	–	–	250/449	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (C-like), streams, springs and thermokarsts, CPCRW, Alaska	Component 1 ^c , allochthonous	–	–	Peak'	–	Peak'	–	–	–	Balcarczyk et al. (2009)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identi- fied and sources										References
	Fluorescence properties										
	Peak C-region		Peak M _p		Peak M		Peak W		Peak T-region		
Peak C	EX/Em (nm)	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak Major	Peak Minor		
Fulvic acid (C-like), Ocoquan Watershed (Northern Virginia, US) ^{RU}	350/456	350/456	-	-	-	240/456	-	-	-	Holbrook et al. (2006)	
Fulvic acid (C-like), Nishi-Mataya and Higashi-Mataya upstreams, Japan	330-335/460-463	330-335/460-463	-	-	-	250-255/460-463	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^S	
Fulvic Acid (C-like), Yasu River, Lake Biwa watershed, Japan	-	-	310/464	-	-	250/464	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^S	
Fulvic Acid (C-like), 3 Rivers (Ane, Echi and Amano), Lake Biwa watershed, Japan	330-335/455-462	330-335/455-462	-	-	-	255/455-462	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^S	
Fulvic acid (C-like), Lake Biwa, epilimnion (0-20 m), during summer period	-	-	295-310/449-450	-	-	250-255/449-450	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^S	
Fulvic acid (C-like), Lake Biwa, epilimnion (0-20 m), during winter period	-	-	310/443	-	-	255-260/443	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^S	
Fulvic Acid (C-like), Lake Biwa, hypolimnion (40-80 m), during summer period	-	-	300-305/444-461	-	-	255-260/444-461	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^S	
Fulvic acid (C-like), Lake Biwa, epilimnion (40-80 m), during winter period	-	-	305-310/450-464	-	-	255-260/450-464	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^S	
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, and Foz Estuaries, Iberian Peninsula	305/439	305/439	-	-	-	260/439	-	-	-	Santín et al. (2009)	

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References
		Peak C-region		Peak T-region		Peak UV-region		
		Peak C EX/Em (nm)	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Major	Minor	
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, Horsens Estuary, Jutland Peninsula, Denmark ^{RU}	Component 2, allochthonous	385/504	-	-	-	250/504	-	Stedmon and Markager (2005b)
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, Estuary of Horsens Fjord, Denmark ^{RU}	Component 3, allochthonous	360/478	-	-	-	270/478	-	Stedmon et al. (2003)
Fulvic acid (C-like), coastal shelf, South Atlantic Bight	Component 1, allochthonous	Peak'	-	-	-	250/452	-	Kowalczuk et al. (2009)
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, Bay waters, Barataria Basin (Louisiana, USA) ^{RUc}	Allochthonous	410/520	-	-	-	250/520	-	Singh et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (C-like), Bay waters, Barataria Basin (Louisiana, USA) ^{RUc}	Component 1, allochthonous	340/440	-	-	-	250/440	-	Singh et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, ground water, fresh and Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	Component 6, allochthonous	Peak'	-	-	-	Peak'	-	Chen et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid-like?, glacial ice samples, Antarctic and Arctic Ocean	Component 3, autochthonous	Peak'	-	-	-	<250/446	-	Dubnick et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid-like (C-like)?, water extractable from sugar maple leaves	Component 5	315/429	-	-	-	Peak'	-	Hunt et al. (2008)
Photobleached fulvic acid (C-like), Yellow River, China (3 h sunlight irradiation)	Component 1	-	300-305/449	-	-	250/449	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties					References		
		Peak C-region		Peak M _p	Peak T-region		Peak T _{UV} -region	References	
		Peak C	Peak M		Peak W	Major		Minor	Major
EX/Em (nm)									
Photobleached fulvic acid (C-like), Seto Inland Sea, Japan	Component 2, allocthonous	-	320-325/449-454	-	255-260/449-454	-	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Photobleached fulvic acid (C-like)?, Liverpool Bay, Irish Sea	Component 1	-	320/422	-	<250/422	-	-	-	Yamashita et al. (2011)
Fulvic acid (C-like), plant biomass, animal manure, and soils	Component 3, allocthonous	315/447	-	-	-250/447	-	-	-	Ohno and Bro (2006)
Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (A-like), standard, dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 5)	Component 2, allocthonous	-	-	-	230/441	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^c , Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (A-like), streams, springs and thermokarsts, CPRW, Alaska	Component 2 ^c , allocthonous	-	-	-	Peak'	-	-	-	Balcarczyk et al. (2009)
Fulvic acid (A-like), Nishi-Mataya and Higashi-Mataya upstreams, Japan	Component 2	-	290-295/414	-	225/414	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^e
Fulvic Acid (A-like), 3 Rivers (Ane, Echi and Amano), Lake Biwa watershed, Japan	Component 2	-	285-290/442	-	225/442	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^e
Fulvic acid (A-like), Lake Biwa, epilimnion (0-20 m), during summer period	Component 2, allocthonous	-	-	-	225/442	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^e

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References	
		Peak C-region			Peak T-region				
		Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Major	Minor		
Fulvic acid (A-like), Lake epilimnion (0–20 m), during winter period	Biwa, Component 2, allocthonous	–	–	–	–	225/432–439	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b) [§]
Fulvic Acid (A-like), Lake Biwa, hypolimnion (40–80 m), during summer period	Component 2, allocthonous	–	–	–	–	225/432–442	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b) [§]
Fulvic acid (A-like), Lake Biwa, epilimnion (40–80 m), during winter period	Component 2, allocthonous	–	–	–	–	225/433–434	–	–	Mostofa et al. (2005b) [§]
Fulvic acid (A-like)?, Horsens Estuary, Jutland Peninsula, Denmark ^{RU}	Component 1, allocthonous	–	–	–	–	250/448	–	–	Stedmon and Markager (2005b)
Fulvic acid (A-like)?, Estuary of Horsens Fjord, Denmark ^{RU}	Component 1, allocthonous	–	–	–	–	240/436	–	–	Stedmon et al. (2003)
Fulvic acid (A-like)?, Estuary of Horsens Fjord, Denmark ^{RU}	Component 2, allocthonous	–	–	–	–	240/416	–	–	Stedmon et al. (2003)
Fulvic acid (A-like)?, deep waters of the Okhotsk Sea and North Pacific Ocean	Component 3, allocthonous	–	–	–	–	<260/460–480?–	–	–	Yamashita et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (M-like), Yellow River, mainstream waters, China	Component 2	–	–	290/429	–	235/429	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References	
		Peak C-region			Peak A-region				
		Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region	Major		Minor
Fulvic acid (M-like), The Second Song Hua Jiang River, North-East China	Component 2	-	-	300/392 -411	-	230-235/ 392-411	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (M-like), LiaoHe River, North-East China	Component 2	-	-	285/387	-	230/387	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (M-like), main-stream of Nenjiang River, North-East China	Component 2	-	-	290/417	-	235/417	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (M-like), tributaries of Nenjiang River, North-East China	Component 2	-	-	310/417	-	235/417	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (M-like)?, drinking water treatment plant ^{RU}	Component 2	-	-	320/410	-	250/410	-	-	Baghoth et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (M-like), Occoquan Watershed (Northern Virginia, US) ^{RU}	Component 2, allochthonous	-	-	305/396	-	240/396	-	-	Holbrook et al. (2006)
Fulvic acid (M-like)?, river and coastal waters	Component 1, allochthonous	-	-	305/428	-	<260/428	-	-	Yamashita and Jaffé (2008)
Fulvic acid (M-like)?, ground water, fresh and Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	Component 3, allochthonous	-	-	Peak'	-	Peak'	-	-	Chen et al. (2010)
Fulvic acid (M-like)?, river, estuarine and coastal marine waters	Component 5	-	-	Peak?	-	240/414	-	-	Fellman et al. (2010)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Component identification and sources	Fluorescence properties				References				
		Peak C-region		Peak T-region		Peak T _{UV} -region		Peak T _{UV} -region		
		Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	
Fulvic acid (M-like)?, water extractable from sugar maple leaves	Component 1	-	-	312/417	-	240/417	-	-	-	Hunt et al. (2008)
<i>Allochthonous humic acids (C-like, A-like, and M-like)</i>										
Suwannee River Humic Acid (C-like), standard, dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 4)	Component 1, allochthonous	350/461	300/461	-	-	255/461	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005a)
Humic acid (C-like), streams, springs and thermokarsts, CPRW, Alaska	Component 4, allochthonous	Peak'	-	-	-	Peak'	-	-	-	Balcarczyk et al. (2009)
Humic acid (C-like)?, soil and stream waters, temperate rainforest watersheds	Allochthonous	330/460-480	-	-	-	<250/450-460	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2009)
Humic acid (C-like)?, soil solution samples, forest and wetland soils, rainforest watersheds	Allochthonous	370/440	-	-	-	<250/440	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2008)
Humic acid (C-like)?, ground water, fresh and Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	Component 5	Peak'	-	-	-	Peak'	-	-	-	Chen et al. (2010)
Humic acid (C-like), river and coastal waters	Component 2, allochthonous	340, 405/>500	-	-	-	<260/>500	-	-	-	Yamashita and Jaffé (2008)
Humic acid (C-like)?, river, estuarine and coastal marine waters	Component 2	330/456-480	-	-	-	Peak'/?	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2010)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources				Fluorescence properties				References		
	Components identified and sources				Peak C-region		Peak A-region			Peak T-region	
	Components identified and sources				Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W		Major	Minor
EX/Em (nm)											
Humic acid (C-like)?; river, estuarine and coastal marine waters	Component 3	-	-	-	290/510	-	-	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2010)
Humic acid (C-like); Urdaibai and Foz Estuaries, Iberian Peninsula	Component 2,	385/500	-	-	385/500	-	-	256/500	-	-	Santín et al. (2009)
Humic acid (C-like)?; Liverpool Bay, Irish Sea	Component 3	300, 410/510	-	-	300, 410/510	-	-	Peak'	-	-	Yamashita et al. (2011)
Humic acid (C-like); coastal shelf, South Atlantic Bight	Component 4,	390/508	-	-	390/508	-	-	270/508	-	-	Kowalczyk et al. (2009)
Humic acid (C-like); north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (BWE7 model)	Component 3 ^c ,	370/490	-	-	370/490	-	-	260/490	-	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Humic acid (C-like); north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (Kaui model)	Component 1 (P3),	380/498	-	-	380/498	-	-	<260/498	-	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Humic acid (C-like)?; water extractable from sugar maple leaves	Component 2	351/459	-	-	351/459	-	-	240/459	-	-	Hunt et al. (2008)
Humic acid (C-like)?; compost products solution	Component 2	350/450	-	-	350/450	-	-	250/450	-	-	Yu et al. (2010)
Humic acid (C-like)?; municipal leachate samples	Component 2	360/458	-	-	360/458	-	300/458	250/458	-	-	Wu et al. (2011)
Humic acid (C-like)?; drinking water treatment plant ^{RU}	Component 1	360/480	-	-	360/480	-	-	260/480	-	-	Baghoth et al. (2010)
Humic acid (C-like); plant biomass, animal manure, and soils	Component 1,	350-360/460-480	-	-	350-360/460-480	-	-	Peak'	-	-	Ohno and Bro (2006)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identi- fied and sources						Fluorescence properties				References		
	Field and sources						Peak C-region		Peak A-region			Peak T-region	
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Peak T _{UV} -region	Major	Minor						
Suwannee River Humic Acid (A-like), standard, dissolved in Milli-Q waters (n = 4)	-	-	-	-	-	265, 230/436	-	-	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^c	
Humic acid (A-like)?, soil and stream waters, temperate rainforest watersheds	-	-	-	-	-	<250/400	-	-	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2009)	
Humic acid (A-like)?, soil and stream waters, temperate rainforest watersheds	-	-	-	-	-	<250/400	-	-	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2009)	
Humic acid (A-like)?, ground water, fresh and Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	-	-	-	-	-	Peak'	-	-	-	-	-	Chen et al. (2010)	
Humic acid (A-like)?, river, estuarine and coastal marine waters	-	-	-	-	-	<250/450-470	-	-	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2010)	
Humic acid (A-like)?, water extractable from sugar maple leaves	-	-	-	-	-	240/483	-	-	-	-	-	Hunt et al. (2008)	
Humic acid (A-like)?, municipal leachate samples	-	-	-	-	-	220/432	-	-	-	-	-	Wu et al. (2011)	
Humic acid (M-like)?, soil solution samples, forest and wetland soils, rainforest watersheds	-	-	300/416	-	-	240/416	-	-	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2008)	

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources		Fluorescence properties						References
	Peak C-region		Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak TUV-region		EX/Em (nm)		
	Peak C	Peak M _p			Peak M	Peak W		Major	
Humic acid (M-like)?, soil and stream waters, temperate rainforest watersheds	-	-	<250/414	-	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2009)	
Humic acid (M-like)?, municipal leachate samples	-	-	240/412	-	-	-	-	Wu et al. (2011)	
Humic acid (M-like), plant biomass, animal manure, and soils	-	-	>240/465	-	-	-	-	Ohno and Bro (2006)	
<i>Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like); biologically or photochemically produced</i>									
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), mainstream of Nenjiang River, North-East China	350/460	-	260/460	-	-	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), tributaries of Nenjiang River, North-East China	340/460	-	260/460	-	-	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), surface waters (0-25 m), Lake Hongfeng, China	335-340/442-464	-	260/442-464	-	-	-	-	Fu et al. (2010) ^c	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), algae origin, microbial assimilations in Milli-Q waters	340/442	-	260/442	-	-	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)	

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identi- fied and sources						Fluorescence properties				References
	Peak C-region		Peak A-region		Peak T-region		Peak T _{UV} -region				
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Major	Minor					
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), algae origin, microbial assimilations in River waters	340–455	–	295–300/ 430–448	–	260–265/ 436–448	–	–	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), algae origin, photo assimilations in Milli-Q waters	340/448	–	–	–	260/448	–	–	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), algae origin, photo assimilations in River waters	340/454	–	–	–	270/454	–	–	–	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), algae origin, under a 12:12 h light/dark cycle	340–350/420–440	–	–	–	260–280/ 425–445	–	–	–	–	–	Aoki et al. (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) or hydrophilic DOM, three phytoplankton: 12:12 h light/dark cycle	330–350/ 435–440	–	–	–	250–290 /430–455	–	–	–	–	–	Aoki et al. (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), streams, springs and thermokarsts, CPCRW, Alaska	Peak'	–	–	–	Peak'	–	–	–	–	–	Balcarczyk et al. (2009)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identi- Fluorescence properties										References
	field and sources										
	Peak C-region		Peak M		Peak W		Peak A-region		Peak T-region		
EX/Em (nm)	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Peak A'	Peak T'	Peak A	Peak T	Major	Minor	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like)?, fresh and Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	Peak'	-	-	-	Peak'	-	-	-	-	-	Chen et al. (2010)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), Lake Taihu phytoplankton	365/453	-	-	-	270/453	-	-	-	-	-	Zhang et al. (2009a)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like)?, Sepetiba Bay, Brazil	350/400-450	-	-	-	275/400-450	-	-	-	-	-	Luciani et al. (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), Sea ice, Baltic Sea coastal regions ^{8U}	Peak'	-	-	-	Peak'	-	-	-	-	-	Stedmon et al. (2007a)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), deep waters of the Okhotsk Sea and North Pacific Ocean	370/466	-	-	-	<260/466	-	-	-	-	-	Yamashita et al. (2010)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like)?, Southern Ocean	340/420	-	-	-	260/420	-	-	-	-	-	Wedborg et al. (2007)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (Kauai model)	330-350/420-480	-	-	-	260/434	-	-	-	-	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Humic-like, marine waters phytoplankton	480	-	-	-	250-260/420-480	-	-	-	-	-	Coble (1996), Parlanti et al. (2000)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like); biologically produced											
Marine humic-like, marine waters	-	-	310-320/380-420	-	Peak'	-	-	-	-	-	Coble (1996), Parlanti et al. (2000)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References		
		Peak C-region		Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak A-region			Peak T-region	
		Peak C	EX/Em (nm)			Major	Minor			
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), surface waters (0–25 m), Lake Hongfeng, China	Component 2, algae or phytoplankton	–	–	295–300/ 396–422	–	235–240/296– 422	–	–	Fu et al. (2010) ^c	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), microbial assimilations of lake algae in river waters	Component 2, algae or phytoplankton	–	–	300/405	–	240/405	–	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), Lake Taihue	Component 4, phytoplankton	–	–	315/372	–	–	–	–	Zhang et al. (2009a)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, Lake Taihue	Component 3, phytoplankton	–	–	330/412	–	255/412	–	–	Zhang et al. (2009a)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), Lake Taihue ^e	Component 1, algae or phytoplankton	–	–	322/407	–	Peak'	–	–	Wang et al. (2007)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) or hydrophilic DOM, three phytoplankton: 12:12 h light/dark cycle	Autochthonous	–	–	320/385	–	–	–	–	Aoki et al. (2008)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) or hydrophobic acid, three phytoplankton: 12:12 h light/dark cycle	Autochthonous	–	–	330/385	–	–	–	–	Aoki et al. (2008)	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), microbial assimilations of marine algae in Milli-Q waters	Component 2, algae or phytoplankton	–	–	290/400–410	–	Peak'	–	–	Parlanti et al. (2000)	

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Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References
		Peak C-region		Peak A-region		Peak T-region		
		Peak C	EX/Em (nm)	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Major	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), microbial assimilations of marine algae in sea waters	Component 2, algae or phytoplankton	-	-	300-310/400-410	Peak'	-	-	Parlanti et al. (2000)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, streams, springs and thermokarsts, CPCRW, Alaska	Component 8, algae	-	-	Peak'	Peak'	-	-	Balcarczyk et al. (2009)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), microbially produced in mesocosm experiment ^{RU}	Component 3, algae or phytoplankton	-	-	295/398	Peak'	-	-	Stedmon and Markager (2005a)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, microbially produced in mesocosm experiment ^{RU}	Component 5, phytoplankton	-	-	345/434	Peak'	-	-	Stedmon and Markager (2005a)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), river and coastal waters	Component 4, autochthonous	-	-	305/378	<260/378	-	-	Yamashita and Jaffé (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	Component 4	-	-	Peak'	Peak'	-	-	Chen et al. (2010)
Photobleached autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, Liverpool Bay, Irish Sea	Component 4	-	-	295/358	<250/358	-	-	Yamashita et al. (2011)

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Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identi- fied and sources										References
	Fluorescence properties										
	Peak C-region			Peak A-region			Peak T-region				
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak T-region	Major	Minor		
	EX/Em (nm)										
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, Sepetiba Bay, Brazil	Component 3, phytoplankton	-	320/380-420	-	Peak'	-	-	-	-	-	Luciani et al. (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, river, esturine and coastal marine waters	Component 4	-	Peak'?	-	240/384	-	-	-	-	-	Fellman et al. (2010)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), Urdaibai and Foz Estuaries, Iberian Peninsula	Component 3, autochthonous	-	320/388	-	Peak'	-	-	-	-	-	Santfín et al. (2009)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), Horsens Estuary, Jutland Peninsula, Denmark ^{RU}	Component 6 ^c , autochthonous	-	320/400	-	250/400	-	-	-	-	-	Stedmon and Markager (2005b)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), Estuary of Horsens Fjord, Denmark ^{RUC}	Component 4 ^c , autochthonous	-	325/416	-	250/416	-	-	-	-	-	Stedmon et al. (2003)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, Horsens Estuary, Jutland Peninsula, Denmark ^{RU}	Component 5, allochthonous/agriculture	-	325/428	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Stedmon and Markager (2005b)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), coastal waters, Isa Bay	Component 6, autochthonous	-	325/385	-	260/385	-	-	-	-	-	Yamashita et al. (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), coastal shelf, South Atlantic Bight	Component 3, autochthonous	-	310/400	-	250/400	-	-	-	-	-	Kowalczyk et al. (2009)

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Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identi- Fluorescence properties										References	
	fied and sources											
	Peak C-region			Peak A-region			Peak T-region			Peak T _{UV} -region		
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W					Major	Minor		
	EX/Em (nm)											
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), deep waters of the Okhotsk Sea and North Pacific Ocean	-	-	325/385	-	-	<260/385	-	-	-	-	-	Yamashita et al. (2010)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (BWE7 model)	-	-	315/418	-	-	Peak'	-	-	-	-	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (Kauai model)	-	-	310/414	-	-	260/414	-	-	-	-	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, drinking water treatment plant ^{KU}	-	-	300/406	-	-	<250/406	-	-	-	-	-	Baghtho et al. (2010)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, compost products solution	-	-	330/410	-	-	230/410	-	-	-	-	-	Yu et al. (2010)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like), pore waters, four lakes, China	-	-	300-310/396-416	-	-	225-240/396-416	-	-	-	-	-	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling. (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Component identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References	
		Peak C-region		Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Peak A-region		
		Peak C	EX/Em (nm)				Peak T-region		Peak T _{UV} -region
<i>Protein-like substance</i>									
Protein-like, streams, springs and thermokarsts, CPCRW, Alaska	Component 5, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	Peak'	Peak'	Balcarczyk et al. (2009)
Protein-like, sewerage drainage samples, Nanming River, China	Component 1	-	-	-	-	-	280/339-346	230/338-351-	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Protein-like, washing samples collected after washing cloths	Component 1	-	-	-	-	-	280/344	235/348	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Protein-like, hydrophilic DOM fraction, three phytoplankton: 12:12 h light/dark cycle	Autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	270-290/ 335-375	Peak'	Aoki et al. (2008)
Protein-like, hydrophobic acid fraction, three phytoplankton: 12:12 h light/dark cycle	Autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	270-290/ 250-365	Peak'	Aoki et al. (2008)
Protein-like?, ground water, fresh and Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	Component 8	-	-	-	-	-	Peak'	-	Chen et al. (2010)
Protein-like, coastal shelf, South Atlantic Bight	Component 6, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	290/356	250/356	Kowalczuk et al. (2009)
Protein-like?, Baltic Sea	Component 4, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	Peak'	Peak'	Stedmon et al. (2007a)

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Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identi- fied and sources	Fluorescence properties						References		
		Peak C-region		Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Peak A-region			
		Peak C	EX/Em (nm)				Peak T-region		Peak T _{UV} -region	
Protein-like, north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (BWE7 model)	Component 6, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	280/328	Peak'	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Protein-like, north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (BWE7 model)	Component 7, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	300/338	240/338	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Protein-like?, glacial ice samples, Antarctic and Arctic Ocean	Component 5, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	275/320	-	-	Dubnick et al. (2010)
<i>Aromatic amino acids</i> Tryptophan-like, soil and stream waters, temperate rainforest watersheds	Allochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	280/ 330-340	Peak	-	Fellman et al. (2009)
Tryptophan-like, Yasu River, Lake Biwa watershed, Japan	Component 2, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	280/344	230/344	-	Mostofa et al. (2005a)
Tryptophan-like, Occoquan Watershed (Northern Virginia, US)	Component 3, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	280/340	230/340	-	Holbrook et al. (2006)
Tryptophan-like, soil solution samples, forest and wetland soils, rainforest watersheds	Allochthonous	-	-	-	-	-	280/330-340	Peak	-	Fellman et al. (2008)
Tryptophan-like, Nanning River, China	Anthropogenic sources	-	-	-	-	-	275-280/ 333-351	225-235/ 338-351	-	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Tryptophan-like, urban sewer-age samples _{RU}	Component 1	-	-	-	-	-	275/339	220/339	-	Guo et al. (2010)

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Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References	
		Peak C-region			Peak A-region				
		Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region	Minor		
		EX/Em (nm)							
	Tryptophan-like, drinking water treatment plant ^{RU}		-	-	-	290/360	<250/360	-	Baghoth et al. (2010)
	autochthonous Component 3		-	-	-	280/340	230/340	-	Wu et al. (2011)
	leachate samples		-	-	-	280/368	240/368	-	Stedmon et al. (2003)
	Tryptophan-like, Estuary of Horsens Fjord, Denmark ^{RU}		-	-	-	280/338	Peak'	-	Stedmon and Markager (2005a)
	Tryptophan-like, microbially produced in mesocosm experiment ^{RU}		-	-	-	280/344	Peak'	-	Stedmon and Markager (2005b)
	Tryptophan-like, Horsens Estuary, Jutland Peninsula, Denmark ^{RU}		-	-	-	295/340	Peak'	-	Yamashita and Jaffé (2008)
	Tryptophan-like, river and coastal waters		-	-	-	280/330-340	Peak'	-	Fellman et al. (2010)
	Tryptophan-like, river, estuarine and coastal marine waters		-	-	-	280/334	Peak'?	-	Yamashita et al. (2011)
	Tryptophan-like, Liverpool Bay, Irish Sea		-	-	-	270-280/320-350	Peak	-	Coble (1996), Parlanti et al. (2000)
	Tryptophan-like, marine waters		-	-	-	280/348	<250/348	-	Dubnick et al. (2010)
	Tryptophan-like, glacial ice samples, Antarctic and Arctic Ocean		-	-	-	280/340	220/340	-	Yu et al. (2010)
	Tryptophan-like, compost products solution		-	-	-	270/354	Peak'	-	Ohno and Bro (2006)
	Tryptophan-like, plant biomass, animal manure, and soils		-	-	-				

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified - Fluorescence properties						References
	field and sources						
	Peak C-region		Peak A-region		Peak T-region		
Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Major	Minor		
EX/Em (nm)							
Tyrosine-like, streams, springs and thermokarsts, CPCRW, Alaska	-	-	-	-	Peak'	Peak'	Balcarczyk et al. (2009)
Tyrosine-like, soil and stream waters, temperate rainforest watersheds	-	-	-	-	275/304-306	Peak	Fellman et al. (2009)
Tyrosine-like, soil solution samples, forest and wetland soils, rainforest watersheds	-	-	-	-	275/304-306	Peak	Fellman et al. (2008)
Tyrosine-like, Urdabai and Foz Estuaries, Iberian Peninsula	-	-	-	-	275/304	Peak'	Santín et al. (2009)
Tyrosine-like, microbially produced in mesocosm experiment ^{RU}	-	-	-	-	275/306	Peak'	Stedmon and Markager (2005a)
Tyrosine-like, Horsens Estuary, Jutland Peninsula, Denmark ^{RU}	-	-	-	-	275/304	Peak'	Stedmon and Markager (2005b)
Tyrosine-like, ground water, Freshwater and Florida Bay waters, Florida coastal Everglades	-	-	-	-	Peak'	Peak'	Chen et al. (2010)
Tyrosine-like, river, estuarine and coastal marine waters	-	-	-	-	275/304-306	Peak'	Fellman et al. (2010)
Tyrosine-like, coastal waters	-	-	-	-	275/324	Peak'	Yamashita and Jaffé (2008)
Tyrosine-like, Liverpool Bay, Irish Sea	-	-	-	-	275/302	Peak'?	Yamashita et al. (2011)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources	Fluorescence properties						References	
		Peak C-region			Peak A-region				
		Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region	Minor		
		EX/Em (nm)							
Tyrosine-like, coastal waters, Isa Bay	Component 7	-	-	-	-	270/299	Peak'	-	Yamashita et al. (2008)
Tyrosine-like, coastal shelf, South Atlantic Bight	Component 5, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	270/332	Peak'	-	Kowalczyk et al. (2009)
Tyrosine-like, deep waters of the Okhotsk Sea and North Pacific Ocean	Component 4	-	-	-	-	275/306	Peak'?	-	Yamashita et al. (2010)
Tyrosine-like, north Pacific and Atlantic oceans (BWE7 model)	Component 1, autochthonous	-	-	-	-	275/300	Peak'	-	Murphy et al. (2008)
Tyrosine-like, marine waters	Autochthonous	-	-	-	-	275/310	Peak'	-	Coble (1996)
Tyrosine-like, water extractable from sugar maple leaves	Component 4	-	-	-	-	270/310	Peak'	-	Hunt et al. (2008)
Tyrosine-like, drinking water treatment plant ^{RU}	Component 7	-	-	-	-	270/306	Peak'?	-	Baghoth et al. (2010)
Tyrosine-like: plant biomass, animal manure, and soils	Component 5, allchthonous	-	-	-	-	273/309	Peak'	-	Ohno and Bro (2006)
Phenylalanine	Autochthonous	-	-	-	-	255-265/ 284-285	-	-	Yamashita and Tanoue (2003a) ^b
Phenylalanine-like ^c , glacial ice samples, Antarctic and Arctic Ocean	Component 1	-	-	-	-	265/306	Peak'	-	Dubnick et al. (2010)
<i>Detergent-like or fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs)-like</i>									
Detergents dissolved in Milli-Q waters, Nafine Chem Ind Ltd, China	Component 1	-	-	-	-	240/429-433	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
						345/430	-	-	
						-435			

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources				Fluorescence properties				References
	Peak C-region		Peak A-region		Peak T-region		Peak T _{UV} -region		
	Peak C	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	
Detergents dissolved in Milli-Q waters, Nafine Chem Ltd, China	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	225/287-289	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG
Detergents dissolved in Milli-Q waters, Nice Group Co Ltd, China	-	-	-	345/430	240/427	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG
Detergents dissolved in Milli-Q waters, Nice Group Co Ltd, China	-	-	-	-	-	-	225/287	-	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG
Detergent-like, detected in river water samples	-	-	-	335-345/432-437	255/425-447	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG
Detergent-like, detected in river water samples	-	-	-	-	-	-	225/289-294	-	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG
Detergent-like, Izumi and Hinotsume, Kurose River, Japan	-	-	-	350/437	250/437	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2005a)
Detergent-like, detected in sewerage samples	-	-	-	335-345/432-437	240-250/425-443	-	-	-	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Fluorescent components	Components identified and sources						Fluorescence properties				References	
	Component	Peak C	Peak C-region EX/Em (nm)	Peak M _p	Peak M	Peak W	Peak A-region	Peak T-region	Peak T _{UV} -region			
									Major	Minor		
Detergent-like?, urban sewerage samples ^{RU}	Component 4	-	-	-	-	340/422	230/422	-	-	-	-	Guo et al. (2010)
Detergent-like, detected in sewerage samples	Component 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	225-230/291-296	-	Mostofa et al. (2010), Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Detergent-like?, drinking water treatment plant ^{RU}	Component 5	-	-	-	-	340/440	250/440	-	-	-	-	Baghoth et al. (2010)
<i>Algae or phytoplankton</i>												
Algae (green) or bacteria in Milli-Q or river water samples, collected from lake surface waters	Component 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	280-285/340-346	230/346	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data) ^a
Algae (green) or bacteria in Milli-Q or river water samples, collected from lake surface waters	Component 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	270/327-336	230/327-336	-	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data) ^a

RU indicates the Raman Unit (nm-1) calibration of fluorescence intensity of the samples studied whereas excitation and emission wavelength is much differed from standard quinine sulfate unit (QSU) calibration (Mostofa et al. 2005b)

Peak M_p means fluorescence Ex/Em maxima of fulvic acid which is photobleached by photochemical processes or by any other natural processes
Peak M indicates the allocthonous and autocthonous fulvic acid (M-like)

^aIndicates river EEM data is deducted from sample before PARAFAC modeling on the matrix data

^bRanges expresses the authentic standard at various concentrations (1-5 mg L⁻¹) and mechanical reproducibility

^cIndicates that the components are identified using the PARAFAC model on the original EEM of that published paper

Peak' means the peak is at this region, but not specified in the paper; *UD* unpublished data

? indicates the values mentioned here are different than in the paper

2009a, 2005a, 2010, 2007b; Mopper and Schultz 1993; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Nakajima 2006; Baker 2005; Chen et al. 2003; Burdige et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2006). Peak T_{UV}-region depicts the shorter (UV) wavelength ranges at Ex/Em = 215–260/280–380 nm, which includes mostly the secondary fluorescence peaks of various fluorescent organic substances such as proteins, aromatic amino acids (tryptophan-like, tyrosine-like and phenylalanine-like), algae, detergent component, phenol-like compounds, naphthalene, *o*-cresol, *p*-cresol, *p*-hydroxy benzaldehyde, *p*-hydroxy acetophenone, 1,4-dichlorobenzene, and 4-biphenyl carboxaldehyde (Table 1) (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2010; Mopper and Schultz 1993; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Nakajima 2006; Baker 2005; Baker and Curry 2004; Chen et al. 2003; Burdige et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2006). Note that the fluorescence intensity expressed as QSU (quinine sulphate unit) is considered to identify the authentic or valid excitation–emission wavelength maxima. In contrast, the maxima of the calibrated fluorescence intensity obtained using the Raman Unit (RU: nm⁻¹) method can be significantly shifted, particularly at the peak C-region (Mostofa et al. 2005b). Such issues are discussed in details later, in the fluorescence intensity normalization section.

2.3 PARAFAC Modeling in FDOM Study

Parallel factor (PARAFAC) modeling is a three-way multivariate analysis that can be applied on an additive mixture of fluorescence signals obtained from excitation–emission matrix spectra. PARAFAC is capable of isolating and quantifying the individual fluorescence component signals in terms of fluorescence intensity of FDOM in natural waters or in mixtures.

From the PARAFAC model (Harshman 1970) it can be implied that for any fluorophore, the emission intensity at a specific wavelength j that corresponds to excitation at the wavelength k can be expressed as follows (Eq. 2.7):

$$x_{jk} = ab_jc_k \quad (2.7)$$

where x_{jk} is the intensity of the light at the emission wavelength j and excitation wavelength k , a is the concentration (in arbitrary units) of the analyte, b_j is the relative emission at the wavelength j , and c_k is the relative amount of light absorbed at the excitation wavelength k . For any number of analytes and samples, the PARAFAC model can be developed into a set of trilinear terms and a residual array as (Eq. 2.8) (Stedmon et al. 2003)

$$x_{ijk} = \sum_{f=1}^F a_{if}b_{jf}c_{kf} + \varepsilon_{ijk}, \quad i = 1, \dots, I; \quad j = 1, \dots, J; \quad k = 1, \dots, K \quad (2.8)$$

where x_{ijk} is the fluorescence intensity of the i th sample at the emission wavelength j and excitation wavelength k . a_{if} is directly proportional to the concentration (in arbitrary units) of the analyte f in sample i . b_{jf} is directly proportional to

the quantum efficiency of fluorescence of the analyte f at the emission wavelength j . Similarly, c_{kf} is linearly related to the specific absorption coefficient at excitation wavelength k . F is the number of components in the model and ε_{ijk} is the residual matrix that indicates the variability not accounted for by the model.

Three steps are followed before running EEM data in the PARAFAC model (Bro 1997; Stedmon et al. 2003). First, the Milli-Q water blank is subtracted from every sample. Second, all values of the Raleigh light scattering are properly eliminated from the data of sample's EEMs to avoid any effect on the component numbers. Third, non-negative constraints are applied in the PARAFAC modeling to avoid negative values of excitation, emission and concentration in any model component.

By applying bilinear models to the EEM data (Bro 1999), it is possible to judge the residuals of the fit. If systematic variation is left in, the residuals that indicate more components can be extracted. If a plot of the residual sum of squares versus the number of components sharply flattens out for a certain number of components, this indicates the true number of components. To calculate variance-like estimators, the degrees of freedom are expressed as follows (Eq. 2.9):

$$\text{Dof}(F) = IJK - F(I + J + K - 2) \quad (2.9)$$

for a trilinear PARAFAC model where I , J and K are the dimensions of the first, second and third mode, respectively, and F is the number of components in the model (Bro 1997). In the PARAFAC model, it is important to select the true number of components, ranging from 1 until the proper components are identified. The true number (Bro 1997) of components is determined on the basis of the residuals, the core consistency (that must be 100 %), the number of iterations (which should be near zero) and the findings of the EEM spectra for the respective samples, with reference to the various standard substances. The loadings of the emission and excitation wavelengths are often used to check the variability of the selected components (Stedmon et al. 2003). The three key ways of determining the true number of components are (Bro 1997): (i) Spilt-half experiments, (ii) judging residuals, and (iii) comparison with the external knowledge of the original EEM images and data being modeled. The other most important factors that one needs to know before PARAFAC modeling are: (i) Selection of the proper excitation–emission wavelength ranges for the measured samples. Such ranges significantly affect the shape and images of the isolated components, as well as the reproducibility of fluorescence intensity. Depending on the nature of FDOM components in natural waters, the most chosen wavelength ranges could be 220–400 nm for excitation and 280–550 nm for emission. (ii) Similar types of samples must be modeled individually. For example, individual modeling should be made of upstream rivers with merely natural sources of DOM, downstream rivers with a variety of DOM sources, and lake waters with both autochthonous and allochthonous sources of DOM. PARAFAC can identify the key fluorescent components in DOM, but it cannot isolate the minor ones that remain as a residue (Stedmon et al. 2003).

2.3.1 Characterization of FDOM Using EEM in Combination with PARAFAC

PARAFAC modeling, a three-way method with its origin in psychometrics (Harshman 1970; Carroll and Chang 1970), can be effectively applied to isolate the EEMs of either an aqueous mixture of organic components or of natural DOM into their individual fluorescence components (Bro 1997, 1998, 1999; Ross et al. 1991; Jiji et al. 1999; Baunsgaard et al. 2000, 2001; da Silva et al. 2002; Stedmon et al. 2003, 2007a, 2007b; Cory and McKnight 2005; Mostofa et al. 2010; Wedborg et al. 2007; Hiriart-Baer et al. 2008; Hunt et al. 2008; Luciani et al. 2008; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Ohno et al. 2009; Zhao et al. 2009; Baghoth et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Dubnick et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2008, 2009, 2010; Guo et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2010; Yu et al. 2010; Wu et al. 2011; Yamashita et al. 2010, 2011). The EEMs often involve various types of overlapping peaks because of the natural DOM composition, which makes it difficult to identify the fluorescent component peaks and their intensities. PARAFAC, a statistical modeling approach, can isolate the fluorescent components from EEMs and then determine the concentration of the fluorescing compounds.

The EEM in combination with PARAFAC analysis has been applied to separate and identify the various DOM components and their concentrations in rivers and freshwaters (Mostofa et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2009, 2010; Holbrook et al. 2006; Hua et al. 2007; Balcarczyk et al. 2009), lakes (Cory and McKnight 2005; Chin et al. 1994; Gron et al. 1996), wetlands (Fellman et al. 2008; Holbrook et al. 2006), estuaries (Stedmon et al. 2003; Hall et al. 2005; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Fellman et al. 2010; Santín et al. 2009), bays and marine waters (Luciani et al. 2008; Fellman et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2010; Yamashita et al. 2010, 2011, 2008; Murphy et al. 2008), lake sediment pore waters (Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, unpublished data), wastewaters (Baghoth et al. 2010; Guo et al. 2010; Wu et al. 2011), landfill leachate (Baker and Curry 2004; Lu et al. 2009) and soil (Ohno and Bro 2006; Fellman et al. 2008, 2009). PARAFAC is also adopted in a wide range of different applications, such as the identification of autochthonous fulvic acids of algal origin that can be distinguished from allochthonous fulvic acid (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Stedmon et al. 2007b; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Zhang et al. 2009a; Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, unpublished data). PARAFAC can also be used to trace photoinduced and microbial changes in DOM components and their intensities (Cory and McKnight 2005; Stedmon and Markager 2005a; Stedmon et al. 2007a; Mostofa et al. 2010), in water source categorization (Hua et al. 2007) and in correlation with water quality parameters (Hayase and Tsubota 1985), in the identification of changes in the fulvic acid redox state (Fulton et al. 2004; Cory and McKnight 2005), and finally in studying interactions between trace metals and DOM (Yamashita and Jaffé 2008).

The most common fluorescent DOM components isolated from DOM in natural waters using PARAFAC modeling are allochthonous fulvic acids and humic acids of vascular plant origin, autochthonous fulvic acids (termed C-like and M-like based on the component's peak positions) of algal (or phytoplankton) origin, aromatic amino acids (tryptophan, tyrosine and phenylalanine), FWAs (DAS1 and DSBP), green algae, chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*) and chlorophyll *b* (Table 2) (Coble 1996; Parlanti et al. 2000; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa et al. 2005a, Mostofa et al. 2005b, 2010; Stedmon et al. 2003, 2007a; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Ohno and Bro 2006; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Fu et al. 2010; Zhang et al. 2009a; Wedborg et al. 2007; Hunt et al. 2008; Luciani et al. 2008; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Zhao et al. 2009; Bagthoth et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Dubnick et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2008, 2009, 2010; Guo et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2010; Yu et al. 2010; Wu et al. 2011; Yamashita et al. 2010, 2011; Holbrook et al. 2006; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Santín et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008; Yamashita et al. 2008; Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, unpublished data; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Aoki et al. 2008; Wang et al. 2007). These fluorescent components generally exhibit fluorescence at peak C-, peak A-, peak T- and T_{UV}-regions (Table 2). Their fluorescence properties are depicted in Sect. 2.5, as a function of the molecular structure of the respective components.

2.4 Fluorescence Intensity of a Molecule and its Normalization

A fluorescent molecule has one, two or several fluorescence peaks, and each peak can be denoted as fluorophore or fluorochrome. For example, fulvic acid has two fluorescence peaks in EEM spectra, namely peak C at longer wavelength and peak A in the shorter-wavelength UV region. The fluorescence intensity of fulvic acid is higher at peak A-region compared to the peak C-region (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a, 2010; Coble 1996; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008). On the other hand, humic acid has several fluorescence peaks such as peak M, peak C and peak A. The peak A-region has usually the highest fluorescence intensity (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a, 2010; Coble 1996; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008). Tryptophan amino acid has two fluorescence peaks: peak T at relatively longer wavelengths and peak T_{UV} in the shorter-wavelength UV region (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a, 2010; Coble 1996; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008). The latter has usually the highest fluorescence intensity. The fluorophore or fluorochrome at peak C or peak A of humic and fulvic acids are the result of the contribution of several fluorophores, because the macromolecular structures of these compounds generally include a number of functional groups (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a; Malcolm 1985). Tryptophan amino acid has only one fluorophore at each peak position (T and T_{UV}) that can be denoted as single fluorophore.

The fluorescence intensity of a sample is normalized to monitor the stability of the light (or energy) emitted by the xenon lamp in the fluorometer, to compare

with former published results and is vital for theoretical and technical fluorescence measurement, which has been expressed by means of three methods in earlier studies. (i) The typically used standard quinine sulfate method is the fluorescence intensity normalized to that of aqueous solutions of quinine sulfate monohydrate (at ppm or ppb levels) in either 0.05–0.1 M or 0.1 N solution of sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4). However, aquatic scientists use different scaling units to express the fluorescence intensity, such as millifluorescence (mFI) (Dorsch and Bidleman 1982; Hayase et al. 1987), the fluorescence unit (flu) (Chen and Bada 1992), Raman-normalized quinine sulfate equivalents (QSE) (Coble et al. 1998; Kowalczyk et al. 2009), and the quinine sulfate unit (QSU) (Coble 1996; Mopper and Schultz 1993; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa et al. 2005a; Nagao et al. 2003; Burdige et al. 2004; Zhang et al. 2009a, 2009b; Coble et al. 1993; Obernosterer and Herndl 2000). (ii) The arbitrary unit method is the direct fluorescence intensity that is primarily detected by the fluorescence spectrophotometer (Mayer et al. 1999; Cory and McKnight 2005; Fu et al. 2007, 2006; Baker and Curry 2004; Chen et al. 2003; Klapper et al. 2002; Yue et al. 2006). The Raman peak intensity of Milli-Q water at Ex/Em = 348 or 350 or 275/303 nm over the analysis period (or the QS solution as mentioned before) is used to monitor the stability of light emitted by the xenon lamp in the fluorometer. (iii) The Raman Unit (RU) method is the corrected fluorescence intensity, where the Raman signals are corrected by the baseline and integrated over the entire Raman peak for each excitation wavelength. Then, the fluorescence intensities are divided by the Raman area for the corresponding excitation wavelength to obtain a RU (nm^{-1}) (Determann et al. 1994, 1996; Stedmon et al. 2003; Fulton et al. 2004; Mostofa et al. 2005b; Matthews et al. 1996; Nieke et al. 1997; Hayakawa et al. 2003; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Huguet et al. 2009). The RU calibration processes are difficult at the shorter wavelength regions due to noise, whilst the fluorescence intensities at longer excitation wavelengths tend to be enhanced (Mostofa et al. 2005b). Because of RU calibration on fluorescence intensities over all the excitation wavelengths, it is possible to have artifacts that produce unusual fluorescent components that are not shown in the original EEM spectra.

For example, the results of PARAFAC modeling on QSU and RU EEM data of upstream (Nishi-Mataya) and lake waters (Lake Biwa) show the presence of fulvic acid-like substance (components 1 and 2) with two fluorescence peaks for component 1, at Ex/Em = 320/442 (peak C) and 255/442 nm (peak A) (Fig. 2a). There is no specific peak for component 2, which only has strong fluorescence intensity at Ex/Em = 225–230/428 nm (Fig. 2b) in QSU of upstream waters. Photobleached fulvic acid-like compounds have two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 310/450 nm (peak C) and 250/450 nm (peak A) (component 1, Fig. 2e), while component 2 is associated to photobleached autochthonous fulvic acid-like material with a weak peak at Ex/Em = 280/442 nm (component 2, Fig. 2f) in QSU of lake water. On the other hand, in RU units the respective fluorescent components are composed of the two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 370/474 nm (peak C) and 270/474 nm (peak A) for component 1 (Fig. 2c). Component 2 has a peak at Ex/Em = 330/427 nm (peak C) in upstream waters. In lake waters, the fluorescence peaks for component 1 are 350/461 nm and 260/461 nm (Fig. 2g), and the peaks for component 2 are

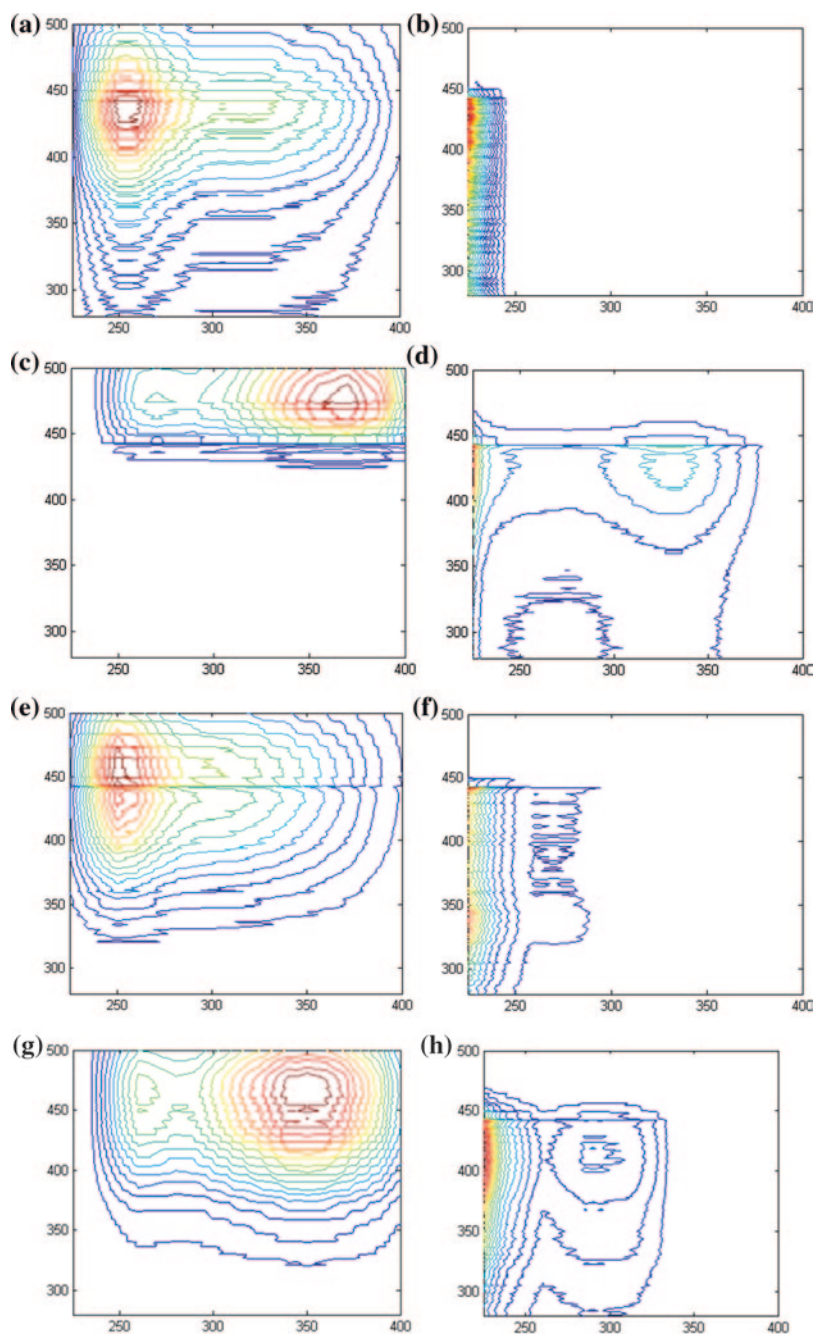


Fig. 2 Differences in the EEM images of fluorescent components identified using PARAFAC modeling on a.u. (or QSU) calibration (**a, b** Nishi-Mataya upstream and **e, f**: Lake Biwa surface waters) and Raman Unit calibration (**c, d** Nishi-Mataya upstream and **g, h**: Lake Biwa surface waters). PARAFAC analysis is conducted on earlier published and their respective a.u. *Data source* Mostofa et al. (2005b)

295/409 nm and 230/409 nm (Fig. 3h). The results show that the excitation–emission (Ex/Em) wavelengths of both peaks C and A in fulvic acid-like substances are shifted in the RU calibration compared to QSU. The fluorescence intensities of peak C in RU calibration are higher than in the peak A-region, which is entirely opposite to QSU calibration. The fulvic acid-like components in QSU of upstream waters (Fig. 2a, b) are characteristically similar to standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (Fig. 2a, b). The fulvic acid-like component (component 1) and autochthonous fulvic acid-like component (component 2) in QSU data of lake waters are similar to their respective photo-bleaching components, which have been detected in lake surface waters during the summer stratification period (Mostofa et al. 2005b). It can be noted that the PARAFAC modeling has been carried out on published data of monthly samples collected at Nishi-Mayata upstream (April, May, July, and August) and Lake Biwa surface waters (2.5, 10 and 20 m depth for April, July, August and September) (Mostofa et al. 2005b). The results indicate once more that both the excitation–emission wavelength peaks and their respective fluorescence intensities are significantly changed when using RU calibration. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that the calibration of the fluorescence intensity data of EEM spectra is carried out using either the QSU method or arbitrary units, avoiding the RU calibration method. It is also recommended that before measurement of the samples, Xe-light in the fluorescence spectrophotometer is corrected according to the instrument's guidelines using a Rhodamine B solution.

2.5 *EEM Properties and Molecular Characteristics of Key FDOM Components Identified by PARAFAC*

The molecular, chemical and EEM properties of the various FDOM components in natural waters are discussed below.

Allochthonous Fulvic Acids (C-like, A-like and M-like)

Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA) is composed of two fluorescent components identified by PARAFAC modeling on its EEM. The first component is denoted as allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), which includes two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 295–410/439–520 nm (peak C-region) and at Ex/Em = 240–270/439–520 nm (peak A-region) (Figs. 2a, 3a; Table 2). The peak A of the allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) often has higher fluorescence intensity (by ~1.30–3.0 times) compared to the peak C-region. Note that the Raman Unit (RU) calibration often returns longer excitation wavelengths, particularly at the peak C-region, compared to standard quinine sulfate (or other) calibration. The allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) is identified at Ex/Em = 325–340/442–462 nm and 250–260/450–451 nm for standard SRFA dissolved in Milli-Q waters. The corresponding wavelengths are 345/452 and 255/451 nm for SRFA dissolved in seawater; 300–340/419–467 and 240–280/427–468 nm for fulvic acid extracted

from rivers and lakes; 300–340/423–464 and 235–260/425–464 nm for various upstream and rivers, but not in the water Raman Unit (RU: nm⁻¹) calibration (330–380/420–467 and 240–260/4420–467 nm, respectively); 295–310/443–464 and 250–260/443–464 nm in lakes; 305/439 and 260/439 nm in estuaries, which shifts to 360–385/478–504 and 250–270/478–504 nm in RU calibration; 320–325/422–454 and <250/422–454 nm in bay and marine waters (but one finds 340–410/440–520 and 250/440–520 nm upon RU calibration in bay waters from the Barataria Basin); 300–305/449 and 250/449 nm in irradiated river waters; 315/429 nm in water extracted from sugar maple leaves; 315/447 and ~250/447 nm in plant biomass, manure and soil (Tables 1, 2) (Stedmon et al. 2003; Stedmon and Markager 2005b; Ohno and Bro 2006; Mostofa et al. 2010; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Nakajima 2006; Hunt et al. 2008; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Bagthoth et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Dubnick et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2010; Guo et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2010; Yamashita et al. 2010, 2011; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Santín et al. 2009). Note that longer excitation–emission maxima have been observed at the C-region for SRFA dissolved in sea water compared to Milli-Q water. This is presumably linked to the formation of complexes of trace elements in seawater with the functional groups (or fluorophores) bound in SRFA. Complex formation can significantly enhance electron promotion at peak C from the ground to the excited state by longer wavelength energy. The lower excitation energy can shift the Ex/Em maxima to longer wavelengths. This will be explained in detail in the section that deals with the effect of salinity.

The second component is denoted as allochthonous fulvic acid (A-like) and is typically composed of a strong fluorescence shoulder (or peak) at Ex/Em = 225–250/413–448 nm (peak A-region) and of a minor peak at Ex/Em = 280–295/414–442 nm (peak C-region) (Fig. 3b). The allochthonous fulvic acid (A-like) is identified at 230/441 nm (peak A-region) in SRFA dissolved in Milli-Q waters; 225–230/414–442 nm (peak C-region) and 285–295/414–442 nm (minor peak at peak C-region) in upstream waters (Figs. 2b, 3b); 225/432–442 nm in lakes; 240–250/416–448 nm in estuaries, and <260/(not mentioned) nm in marine waters (Table 2) (Stedmon et al. 2003; Stedmon and Markager 2005b; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Yamashita et al. 2010; Balcarczyk et al. 2009).

The third component of allochthonous fulvic acid exhibits fluorescence excitation–emission maxima at Ex/Em = 285–310/387–429 nm (peak C-region) and Ex/Em = 230–260/387–429 nm (peak A-region). The fluorescence intensity at peak A-region is >1.50 times higher than at C-region (Fig. 3c; Table 2). The Ex/Em maxima of this component at peak C-region occur at relatively shorter wavelengths compared to those of the allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like). Therefore, the third component can be denoted as allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like). Allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) has been detected at Ex/Em = 285–310/387–429 nm at peak C-region and 230–240/387–429 nm at peak A-region in the waters of the Yellow River and Heilongjiang (Amur) River watershed (China); 305/396 and 240/396 nm in Occoquan Watershed (USA); 305/428 and <240–260/414–428 nm in marine waters; 320/410 and 250/410 nm in drinking water treatment plants, and 312/417

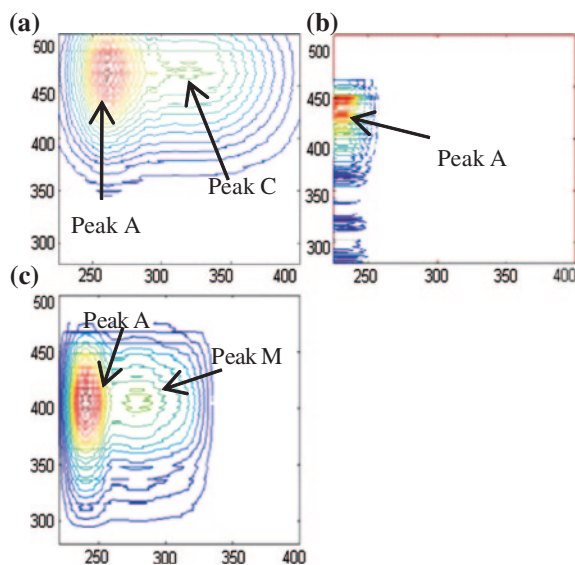


Fig. 3 The fluorescent components of allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) (a) and allochthonous fulvic acid (A-like) (b) of standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid's aqueous samples and of allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) (c) of upstream waters (Yellow River, China) identified using PARAFAC modeling on their respective EEM spectra. Allochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and A-like) are similar to those of stream allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like and A-like) (Fig. 2a, b) of upstream water samples (Nishi-Mataya upstream). PARAFAC analysis is conducted on earlier published and their respective a.u. data (Data source Mostofa et al. 2005a; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data).

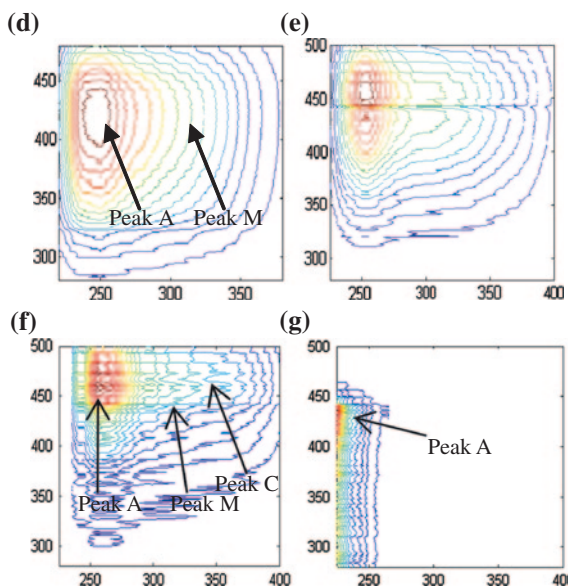
and 240/417 nm in water extracted from sugar maple leaves (Fig. 3c; Table 2) (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Hunt et al. 2008; Bagthoth et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2010; Holbrook et al. 2006; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008). The origin of this component is presumably located in the terrestrial soil ecosystem. Experimental results show that allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) is entirely decomposed photolytically in the upstream waters and in the main channel waters of the Yellow River, because this component is minor (~5 %) compared to the major component (~89 %) of allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) in the total Yellow River DOM (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). On the other hand, the allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) undergoes complete microbial degradation after 12 days of dark incubation in both upstream and main channel filtered waters of the Yellow River at room temperature. This indicates that the allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) is both photolytically and microbially labile in natural waters.

The molecular structure of fulvic acid is not yet known because of the complicated chemical composition and relatively large molecular size. The molecular weight of fulvic acid is approximately 2310 Da (Chin et al. 1994); it is generally composed of relatively few aromatic groups, which yield 14–20 % of aromatic carbon compared to 30–51 % for humic acid (Malcolm 1985; Steelink 2002; Gron et al. 1996). The fluorophores associated with the low molecular weight fraction of

fulvic acid (<10 kDa) exhibit relatively high fluorescence intensity, which gradually decreases with an increase in molecular weight (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Levesque 1972; Gosh and Schnitzer 1980; McCreary and Snoeyink 1980; Visser 1984). The fulvic acid fluorophores have relatively smaller functional groups and show higher fluorescence intensity at peak C- and A-regions compared to humic acids (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a).

Photobleached Allochthonous Fulvic Acids

Photobleached fulvic acid generally arises from the degradation of fluorophores bound to the allochthonous fulvic acid (generally C-like), which thus results in the excitation–emission maxima of peak C having relatively shorter wavelengths compared to those of the initial fluorescence maxima (Fig. 3d, e). Photoinduced degradation causes decomposition of allochthonous fulvic acids (C-like, A-like and M-like) in natural waters (Fig. 3d, e) (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Mostofa et al. 2005b, 2010, 2007a; Moran et al. 2000). In field observations of the waters of Lake Biwa, the fluorescence excitation–emission maxima at the peak C-region are detected at



d, e The fluorescent components of standard Suwannee River Humic Acids in EEM data of its aqueous samples identified using PARAFAC modeling. PARAFAC analysis is conducted on earlier published and their respective a.u. data. *Data source* Mostofa et al. (2005a). **f, g** The fluorescent component of photobleached fulvic acids of irradiated river waters (3 h irradiation by midday sunlight, Nanming River, China) and lake surface waters during the summer stratification period (2.5–20 m, Lake Biwa, Japan) identified using PARAFAC modeling. *Data source* Mostofa et al. (2010, 2005b).

shorter wavelengths (Ex/Em = 295–310/443–450 nm) in surface waters (0–20 m) compared to the deep water layers (40–80 m) (Ex/Em = 300–310/444–464 nm). Furthermore, maxima are 320–325/422–454 nm in sea waters and 300–305/449 and 250/449 nm in irradiated river waters (Table 2) (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Mostofa et al. 2005b; Yamashita et al. 2011). The excitation–emission maxima of the fluorescence peak C are shifted in irradiated samples from longer to shorter wavelength regions, which gives a blue-shift of the peak position (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2007a; Moran et al. 2000). Such blue-shift phenomenon is the photoinduced result of the mineralization of fluorophores that are present in the molecular structure of fulvic acids. Irradiation decomposes the allochthonous fulvic acid (A-like and M-like) entirely (Table 2) (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). Photobleached fulvic acid is generally detected in the surface waters of rivers, lakes, estuaries and oceans (Table 2) (Brooks et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2007a, 2005b; Garcia et al. 2005; Skoog et al. 1996; Moran et al. 2000; Osburn et al. 2009; Lepane et al. 2003; Abboudi et al. 2008; Poiger et al. 1999; Zhang et al. 2009b).

Allochthonous Humic Acids (C-like, A-like and M-like)

The standard Suwannee River Humic Acid (SRHA) has three fluorescent components, namely allochthonous humic acid (C-like), humic acid (A-like) and humic acid (M-like). They can be identified using PARAFAC modeling of EEM spectra in a variety of waters (Fig. 3f, g; Table 2). The allochthonous humic acid (C-like) shows three fluorescence peaks, of which two are at Ex/Em = 285–340/460–480 nm (shorter wavelength) and at 350–405/480–508 nm (longer wavelength, peak C-region). The third peak is located at Ex/Em = 240–270/460–508 nm in the peak A-region (Fig. 3f; Table 2). Allochthonous humic acid (C-like) has been detected at Ex/Em = 320–350/461–498 and 300/461 nm (peak C-region) and at 255/461 nm (peak A-region) in standard SRFA dissolved in Milli-Q water; at 295–310/423–464 and 255/464 nm in extracted humic acid; at 330/456–480 and <250/450–460 nm in river and soil waters; at 385/>500 and 256/>500 nm in estuaries; at 300–340/>500–510, 290–405/>500–510 and <260–270/>508 nm in bay and marine waters; at 370–380/490–498 and <260/490–498 nm in the north Pacific and Atlantic ocean; at 360/458–480, 300/458 and 250–260/458–480 nm in drinking water treatment plants and municipal wastes; at 370/440 and <250/440 nm in soil; at 351/459 and 240/459 nm in water extracted from sugar maple leaves; finally, at 350–360/460–480 nm in plant biomass, manure and soil (Fig. 3f; Table 2) (Coble 1996; Mostofa et al. 2005a; Ohno and Bro 2006; Baker 2005; Hunt et al. 2008; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Bagthoth et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2008, 2010; Guo et al. 2010; Yu et al. 2010; Wu et al. 2011; Yamashita et al. 2011; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Santín et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008).

The allochthonous humic acid (A-like) can exhibit a strong shoulder (not often a clear peak) at peak A-region in a wide range of emission wavelengths.

The C-region peak does not appear because of relatively strong fluorescence intensity at the peak A-region, which explains why this component can be denoted as humic acid (A-like) (Fig. 3g; Table 2). The allochthonous humic acid (A-like) has been identified at Ex/Em = ~ 230/436 nm, with a minor peak at 265/436 nm, in the peak A-region of SRHA dissolved in Milli-Q water; at <250/400 nm in stream waters; at <250/450–470 nm in estuaries and coastal marine waters; at 240/483 nm in water extracted from sugar maple leaves; and at 220/432 nm in municipal leachate samples (Fig. 3g; Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Hunt et al. 2008; Chen et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2009, 2010; Wu et al. 2011; Murphy et al. 2008). The EEM images and the fluorescence properties of allochthonous humic acid (A-like) are apparently similar to those of allochthonous fulvic acid (A-like). Another component of allochthonous humic acid (M-like) is presumably occurring in soil samples together with allochthonous humic acid (C-like). The allochthonous humic acid (M-like) is often detected at Ex/Em = 300/416 nm in the peak C-region and at 240/416 nm in the peak A-region in soil; at 295/414 and <250/414 nm in stream waters and soil; at 330/412 and 240/412 nm in municipal leachate samples; at 295–300/465 and >240/465 nm in plant biomass, manure and soil (Ohno and Bro 2006; Fellman et al. 2008, 2009; Wu et al. 2011).

The allochthonous humic acid (C-like) can show a fluorescence peak at longer Ex/Em wavelengths in the peak C-region, whereas allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) often shows fluorescence at shorter Ex/Em wavelengths. Allochthonous humic acids (C-like, A-like and M-like) are not often detected in natural waters, particularly in waters with low DOC concentration. Allochthonous fulvic acid is generally more concentrated than humic acid in natural water, with a ratio of fulvic to humic acid that is typically 9:1. In some cases, especially for high-DOC waters, the ratio decreases to 4:1 or less (Malcolm 1985; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999). For this reason, allochthonous humic acids are not often observed. The molecular structure of humic acid is not yet defined due to its complex chemical composition. It is generally highly aromatic in nature, with 30–51 % of aromatic carbon compared to 14–20 % of aromatic carbon in fulvic acid (Malcolm 1985; Steelink 2002; Gron et al. 1996). The high aromaticity and the functional groups of humic acid are responsible for the appearance of several fluorescence peaks at peak C-regions and A-regions (Tables 1, 2). The fluorophores associated with the low molecular weight fraction of humic acid (<10 kDa) exhibit relatively high fluorescence intensity. Fluorescence sharply decreases in the molecular weight fractions of 100–300 kDa and further increases for humic acid fractions >300 kDa (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Levesque 1972; Gosh and Schnitzer 1980; McCreary and Snoeyink 1980; Visser 1984). The fluorophores bound to humic acid are functional groups with relatively high molecular weight. They show fluorescence in the peak C-region as well as peak A-region (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Santín et al. 2009; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008). Humic acid undergoes photoinduced decomposition by sunlight in natural waters.

Autochthonous Fulvic Acids (C-like and M-like)

Two fluorescent components can be autochthonously produced from algae or phytoplankton biomass under photorespiration or microbial respiration (or assimilation) in natural waters (Fig. 3h–l; Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Coble 1996, 2007; Parlanti et al. 2000; Stedmon et al. 2007a; Zhang et al. 2009a; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008; Aoki et al. 2008). The first component can exhibit either two or three fluorescence peaks, at Ex/Em = 330–370/434–480 nm and 290–300/430–448 nm in the peak C-region as well as 250–270/434–480 nm in the peak A-region (Fig. 3h–j; Tables 1, 2). The EEM images of the first autochthonous fluorescent component are similar to those of the allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like). Therefore, this component can be denoted as autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like). The early stage of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) when it originates from algae can exhibit three fluorescence peaks, which are subsequently altered into two peaks (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). The EEM spectra shows that the fluorescence intensity of autochthonous fulvic acid

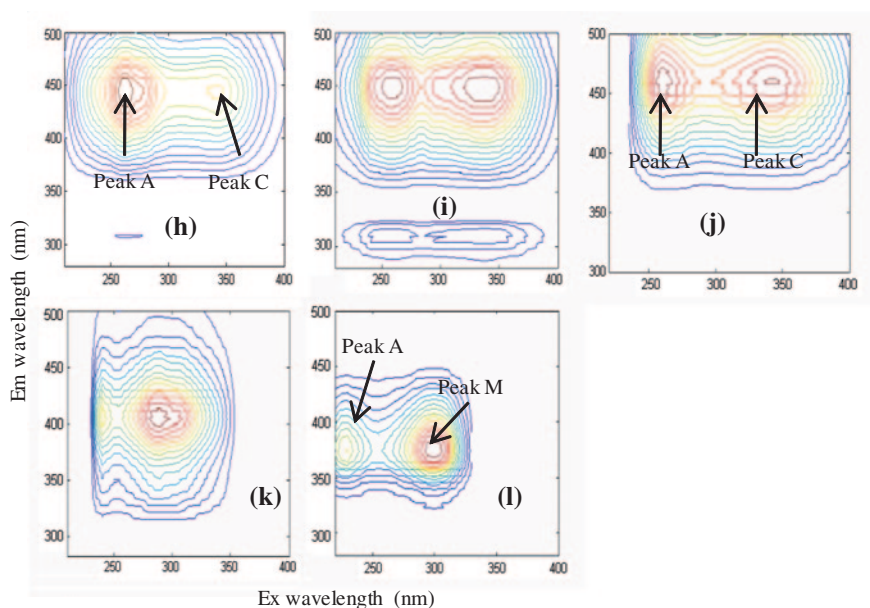


Fig. 3 Continued

The fluorescent components of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) under microbial respiration or assimilation of lake algae (h), autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) under photorespiration or assimilation of lake algae (i) in natural waters, Tributary of NenJiang River, China (j) as well as autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) in microbial respiration of lake algae (k) and in surface waters of Lake Hongfeng, China (l) identified using PARAFAC modeling on the EEM spectra of their respective samples. *Data source* Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data).

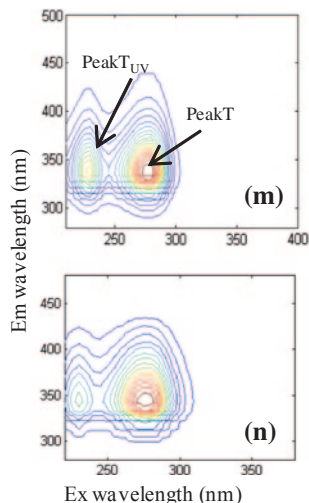
(C-like) at the peak C-region is relatively high, or similar to the intensity at the peak A-region (Fig. 3h–j; Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Stedmon and Markager 2005a; Balcarczyk et al. 2009). In contrast, the fluorescence intensity of allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) is higher at peak A-region than at peak C-region (Figs. 2a, 3a). The autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) showed fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 340–350/460 nm in the peak C-region and at 260/460 nm in the peak A-region in mainstream and tributaries of NenJiang River, China; at 335–340/442–464 nm and 260/442–464 nm in surface waters of Lake Hongfeng, China; at ~360/~460 nm (peak A-region not mentioned) in streams; at 340–350/460, 340/448–454 and 260–270/448–454 nm upon photo-assimilation of algae in Milli-Q and river water; at 340/448–455, 290–300/430–448, and 260–448 nm upon microbial respiration (or assimilation) in Milli-Q and river water; at 365/453 and 270/453 nm upon microbial respiration (or assimilation) of phytoplankton in isotonic water (0.5 ‰ salinity); at 355/445 and 280/435 nm when originating from algae under both light and dark incubation (12 h each); at 350/400–450 and 275/400–450 nm in bay waters (Brazil); at 370/466 and <260/466 nm in the deep waters of Okhotsk Sea and the North Pacific Ocean; at 340/420 and 260/420 nm in the Southern ocean; at 355/434 and 260/434 nm in north Pacific and Atlantic oceans; and at 330–350/420–480 and 250–260/420–480 nm in marine waters (Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Coble 1996, 2007; Parlanti et al. 2000; Stedmon et al. 2007a; Zhang et al. 2009a; Wedborg et al. 2007; Luciani et al. 2008; Zhao et al. 2009; Chen et al. 2010; Yamashita et al. 2010; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008).

On the other hand, the second fluorescent component of algal or phytoplankton origin can exhibit one strong fluorescence peak in the peak C-region and one minor peak (not often shown) in the peak A-region. The peak in the C-region is located at shorter wavelengths compared to the first component of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) (Fig. 3k, l) (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Coble 1996, 2007; Parlanti et al. 2000; Stedmon et al. 2003, 2007a; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Zhang et al. 2009a; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008; Yamashita et al. 2008; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Wang et al. 2007). Considering the EEM images of the second fluorescent component, which are similar to those of allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) (Fig. 3c) and of marine humic acid denoted as M (Coble 1996), such component can be denoted as autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like). The autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) of algae or phytoplankton origin usually exhibits two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 290–330/358–434 nm in the peak C-region and at 225–360/358–416 nm in the peak A-region (Table 2). The autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) is often detected in several studies in field and experimental observations, at Ex/Em = 295–300/396–422 nm in the peak C-region and at 235–240/396–422 nm in the peak A-region in surface waters (0–25 m) of Lake Hongfeng, China; at 315/372 nm in the waters of Lake Taihu; at 322/407 nm in the waters of Lake Taihue; at 300/406 and 240/405 nm upon microbial respiration (or assimilation) of algae in river water; at 290–310/400–410 nm upon microbial assimilation of marine algae in Milli-Q water; at 295/398 nm upon microbial production in a mesocosm experiment; at 320–325/388–428 nm in estuaries;

at 305/378 and <260/378 nm in river and coastal waters; at 295–325/358–420 and 260/385 nm in bay waters; at 310/380–420 and 240–250/384–400 nm in the coastal waters of South Atlantic Bight; at 325/385 and <260/385 nm in the deep waters of the Okhotsk Sea and North Pacific Ocean; at 310–315/414–418 and 260/414 nm in the waters of the north Pacific and Atlantic oceans; at 310–320/380–420 nm in marine waters; at 300/406 and <250/410 nm in drinking water treatment plants; and at 330/410 and 230/410 nm in compost products solutions (Fig. 3k, l; Tables 1, 2) (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Coble 1996, 2007; Parlanti et al. 2000; Stedmon et al. 2003, 2007a; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Zhang et al. 2009a; Luciani et al. 2008; Baghoth et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2010; Yu et al. 2010; Yamashita et al. 2010, 2011, 2008; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008; Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, unpublished data; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Wang et al. 2007). The autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) shows much higher fluorescence intensity at peak C-region than at peak A-region (Fig. 3k, l). In contrast, allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) shows more intense fluorescence (often twofold) at peak A-region than at peak C-region (Fig. 3c). The variation in the Ex/Em wavelengths of the peaks for autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like and M-like) can be caused by pH, ionic strength, the presence of the trace elements that form complexes with DOM, water origin (Milli-Q, river, lake and seawater) and solvents, content of DOM as well as presence and nature of its components, and finally instrumentation (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a; Coble et al. 1990; Wu and Tanoue 2001a; Wu et al. 2005; Lochmuller and Saavedra 1986). The molecular weight of autochthonous fulvic acids has been determined as \sim <1900 for those originating from photoinduced assimilation of algae under natural sunlight, and \sim <1700 upon microbial assimilation of algae in Milli-Q water (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). The functional groups of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like and M-like) are entirely unknown, which could be the focus for future research challenges. Because of higher fluorescence intensity at the peak C-region compared to allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, autochthonous fulvic acids of algal origin are expected to be quite rich in fluorophores. Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of microbial/algal origin is rapidly decomposed by natural sunlight. This might be an effect of high fluorescence intensity at the peak C-region, which may be linked to high reactivity in natural waters (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). It has recently been found that algal-derived DOM is a more efficient photoinduced substrate than allochthonous DOM (Johannessen et al. 2007; Hulatt et al. 2009).

Protein-Like Component

The protein-like component shows two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 280–300/328–356 nm (peak T) in the peak T-region and a peak at Ex/Em = 235–250/338–356 nm (peak T_{UV}) in the T_{UV}-region (Fig. 3m, n; Tables 1, 2). The EEM images of the protein-like component show that the fluorescence intensity at



The fluorescent components of protein-like component of algae origin in aqueous samples (**m**), and in sewerage drainage waters (**n** Nanming River, China) identified using PARAFAC modeling on the EEM spectra of their respective samples. (Data source Mostofa et al. 2010; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). The fluorescent components of standard tryptophan amino acid

the peak T-region is much higher than at the peak T_{UV}-region (Fig. 3m, n). The protein-like component has been identified at Ex/Em = 280/339–346 nm at the peak T-region and at 230–235/339–346 nm at the peak T_{UV}-region in sewerage waters and washing waters; at 280–285/340–350 and 225/340–350 nm in extracted protein from extracellular polymeric substances (EPS); at 270–280/320–350 and 225/343–358 nm in aromatic proteins or soluble microbial by-products; at 290/356 and 250/356 nm in coastal shelf waters; at 280–300/328–338 and 240/338 nm in north Pacific and Atlantic ocean; and at 275/320 nm in glacial ice samples from the Antarctic and Arctic ocean (Fig. 3m, n; Tables 1, 2) (Mayer et al. 1999; Mostofa et al. 2010; Liu and Fang 2002; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Chen et al. 2010; Dubnick et al. 2010; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008). The protein-like component belongs to a molecular size range of >0.1 μm in natural waters (Wu and Tanoue 2001a).

Aromatic Amino Acids (Tryptophan, Tyrosine and Phenylalanine)

The tryptophan-like, tyrosine-like and phenylalanine-like components are often detected in natural waters (Tables 1, 2). The tryptophan-like component has two fluorescence peaks; the first one is located at Ex/Em = 275–285/321–360 nm in the longer wavelength region (peak T), the second one at Ex/Em = 225/340–360 nm in the shorter wavelength region (peak T_{UV}) (Fig. 3o, p; Tables 1, 2). Tryptophan-like component is has been detected at Ex/Em = 275–285/342–357 nm in tryptophan standard dissolved in Milli-Q water and at 275/355 when dissolved in seawater

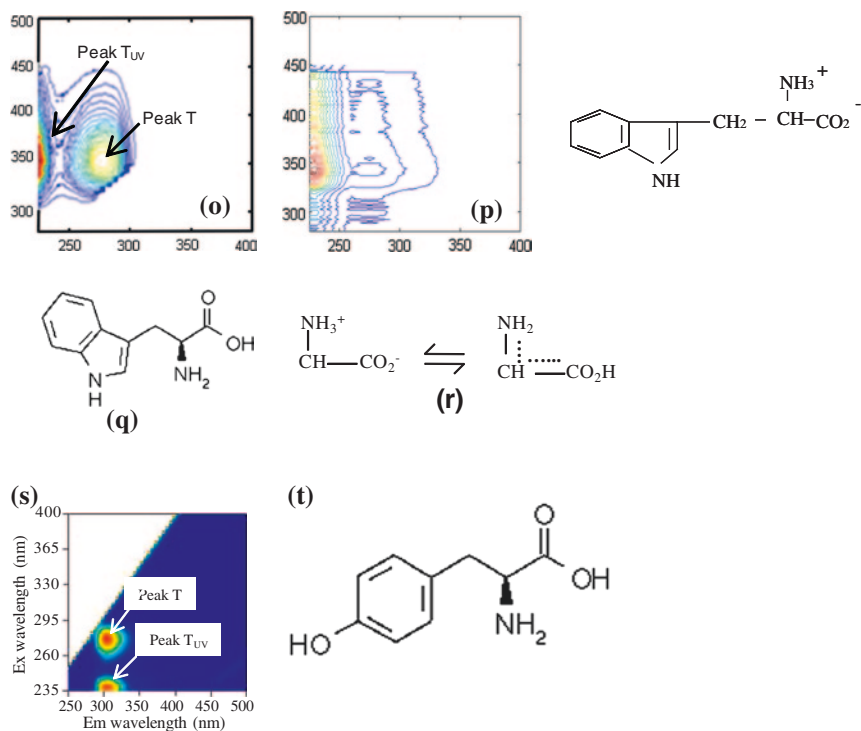


Fig. 3 Continued

(o) in EEM data of its aqueous samples and in river waters (Yasu River, Japan) identified using PARAFAC modeling. PARAFAC analysis is conducted on earlier published and their respective a.u. data (*Data source* Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2005b). The molecular structure of tryptophan (q) and its resonance configuration (r). The fluorescent EEM spectra of standard tyrosine amino acid (s) dissolved in Milli-Q waters (*Data source* Nakajima 2006).

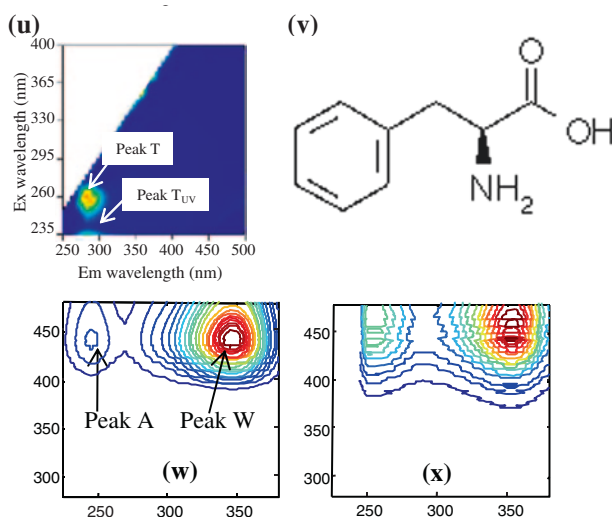
(275/357 nm in Milli-Q water); at 275–280/322–336 and 220–230/328–334 nm in tryptophan extracted from EPS; at 275–285/330–351 and 225–235/338–351 nm in various freshwaters; at 275–290/339–360 and 230/340 nm in sewerage samples and drinking water treatment plants; at 280/338–368 and 240/368 nm in estuaries; at 280–295/330–340 nm in bay and coastal waters; at 270–280/320–350 nm in marine waters; at 280/348 and <250/348 nm in ice samples from the Antarctic and Arctic ocean; at 280/330–340 nm in soil; at 280/340 and 220/340 nm in compost products solutions; and at 270/354 nm in plant biomass, animal manure and soil (Coble 1996; Parlanti et al. 2000; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010; Stedmon et al. 2003; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Ohno and Bro 2006; Nakajima 2006; Baker 2005; Zhang et al. 2010; Provenzano et al. 2004; Lu and Allen 2002; Dubnick et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2008, 2009, 2010; Guo et al. 2010; Yu et al. 2010; Wu et al. 2011; Yamashita et al. 2011; Holbrook et al. 2006;

Yamashita and Jaffé 2008). The molecular formula of tryptophan is $C_{11}H_{12}N_2O_2$ and its molecular weight is 204.23. The chemical structure of tryptophan, $C_8H_5(NH)-CH_2(NH_3^+)CHCOO^-$, is relatively simple (Fig. 3q). The fluorophore at peak T is probably linked to the functional group, $-CH_2-(NH_3^+)-CH-COO^-$, while the fluorophore at peak T_{UV} is probably connected to the $C_8H_5(NH)-$ group that contains the aromatic ring (Mostofa et al. 2009a). The resonance configuration of the functional group, $-CH_2-(NH_3^+)-CH-COO^-$ (Fig. 3r), may confirm the peak position of the T-region at longer wavelengths than the T_{UV} -region. The fluorescence intensity of tryptophan at peak T_{UV} is much stronger (two to threefold higher) than that of peak T. It might be a useful indicator to differentiate the tryptophan-like component from the protein-like component, which typically shows higher fluorescence at the peak T-region than at the peak T_{UV} -region (Fig. 3m, n). Tryptophan is derived microbially from algae, phytoplankton and bacteria in freshwater, marine and sediment pore waters (Chen and Bada 1989; Coble 1996; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa et al. 2005b; Determann et al. 1998; Baek et al. 1988; Petersen 1989; Wu and Tanoue 2001b; Wu et al. 2001; Cammack et al. 2004). Its very intense fluorescence in aqueous solution could be connected to the functional group $-CH_2-(NH_3^+)-CH-COO^-$ (Fig. 3r). Tryptophan is decomposed both photolytically and microbially in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2010, 2007a; Winter et al. 2007; Moran et al. 2000). The fluorescence Ex/Em wavelength maxima of tryptophan mostly depend on the polarity of the solvent and the type of the protein. The fluorescence of protein-bound tryptophan is in fact shifted to shorter wavelengths due to shielding from water (Lakowicz 1983; Wolfbeis 1985).

The tyrosine-like component can exhibit two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 270–280/293–314 nm in the peak T-region and at 230/304–307 nm in the peak T_{UV} -region (Fig. 3s; Tables 1, 2). The tyrosine-like component has been detected at Ex/Em = 270–275/303–314 nm (peak T-region) and at 230/304 nm (peak T_{UV} -region) in a tyrosine standard dissolved in Milli-Q water, and at 275/304 and 230/307 nm when the standard was dissolved in seawater; at 265–280/293–313 nm in rivers and other freshwater systems; at 275/<300 nm in lakes; at 275/304–306 nm in estuaries; at 270–275/299–332 nm in sea water; at 275/304–306 nm in soil; at 270/310 nm in water extracted from sugar maple leaves; at 270/306 nm in drinking water treatment plants; and at 273/309 nm in plant biomass, animal manure and soil (Fig. 3s; Tables 1, 2) (Coble 1996; Parlanti et al. 2000; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Nakajima 2006; Provenzano et al. 2004; Lu and Allen 2002; Zhang et al. 2009a; Hunt et al. 2008; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Baghoth et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2010; Fellman et al. 2008, 2009, 2010; Yamashita et al. 2010, 2011; Murphy et al. 2008; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008). Tryptophan and tyrosine when present together in peptides (component 4) are detected from two peaks at Ex/Em = 275/306, 338 nm (T-region) during algal blooming periods, as derived from a mesocosm experiment (Table 2) (Stedmon and Markager 2005a). Tyrosine is derived microbially from algal biomass in freshwater and marine environments (Coble 1996; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Stedmon and Markager 2005a; Determann et al. 1998). Comparison of tyrosine and tryptophan concentrations with their respective fluorescence intensities

in seawater samples as well as standard samples suggests that the fluorescence of tryptophan is approximately four times higher than that of tyrosine (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa KMG and Sakugawa LH, unpublished data). The molecular formula of tyrosine is $C_9H_{11}NO_3$ and its molecular weight is 181.19. The different chemical structure of tyrosine compared to tryptophan (Fig. 3t) could account for its much lower fluorescence intensity (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data).

Phenylalanine shows two fluorescence peaks at $Ex/Em = 255\text{--}265/284\text{--}286$ nm (peak T-region) and at $Ex/Em = \sim 220/284\text{--}286$ nm (peak T_{UV} -region) in marine waters and in standards dissolved in Milli-Q or seawater (Fig. 3u; Tables 1, 2). The phenylalanine-like component has been identified at $Ex/Em = 260/286$ nm for a phenylalanine standard dissolved in Milli-Q water, and at $260/284$ nm for a phenylalanine standard dissolved in sea water; at $255\text{--}265/284\text{--}285$ nm in marine waters; and at $265/306$ nm in ice samples from the Antarctic and Arctic Ocean (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Nakajima 2006; Dubnick et al. 2010). The molecular formula of phenylalanine is $C_9H_{11}NO_2$ and its molecular weight is 165.19. The absence of the OH group in the benzene ring of phenylalanine (Fig. 3v) can account for the reduced fluorescence intensity when compared to tyrosine, and for the presence of fluorescence excitation–emission maxima at shorter wavelength regions than for tyrosine or tryptophan.



The molecular structure of tyrosine (t). **u, v** The fluorescent EEM spectra of standard phenylalanine amino acid (**u**) dissolved in Milli-Q waters (*Data source* Nakajima 2006). The molecular structure of phenylalanine (**v**). The fluorescent components of standard DSBP (**w**) in its aqueous samples and in downstream waters (**x** Kurose River, Japan) identified using PARAFAC modeling on their respective EEM data (*Data source* Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009).

Distyryl biphenyl

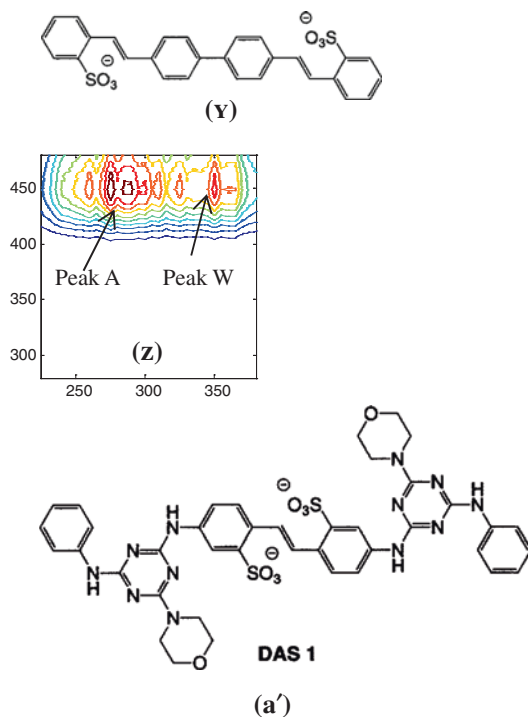
The aqueous solutions of distyryl biphenyl (DSBP) show two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 350/436 nm (C-region) and at 235–265/435–445 nm (A-region) (Fig. 3w,x; Table 1). The EEM images and the fluorescence peaks of DSBP (Fig. 3w, x) are similar to those of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), showing strong fluorescence intensity at the peak C-region than at the peak A-region (Fig. 3h–j). The DSBP component (C-like) has been detected at Ex/Em = 350–355/430–436 nm in the peak C-region and at 235–265/431–446 nm in the peak A-region for a DSBP standard dissolved in Milli-Q water, and at 345/435 and 245/437 nm for DSBP dissolved in seawater (Table 1) (Mostofa et al. 2010; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Nakajima 2006). DSBP is one of the key components of fluorescent whitening agents in natural waters (Managaki and Takada 2005). DSBP is rapidly decomposed by natural sunlight, at a much faster rate compared to DAS1 in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Poiger et al. 1999). The molecular structure of (DSBP), 4,4'-bis[(2-sulfostyryl) biphenyl], is shown in (Fig. 3y), with a molecular weight of 562 Da. The DSBP photoinduced decomposition is considered to be caused by an oxidative cleavage of the double bond, followed by the production of various aldehydes such as 2-sulfonic acid benzaldehyde, 4-aldehyde-4'-(2-sulfostyryl)biphenyl (4-benzaldehyde-2'-sulfonic acid-stilbene) and 4,4'-bisaldehyde biphenyl (Guglielmetti 1975; Kramer et al. 1996).

Diaminostilbene-type

The Diaminostilbene-type (DAS1) shows several fluorescence excitation–emission maxima at Ex/Em = 335–355/430–449 nm (peak C-region) and at 240–250/433–446 nm (peak A-region) in aqueous solution (Fig. 3z; Table 1). DAS1 fluorescence peaks have been identified at Ex/Em = 335–355/435–449 and 240–250/434–446 nm for standard DAS1 in Milli-Q water and at 345/436 and 250/433 nm for standard DAS1 dissolved in sea water; and at 340–343/430–432 nm for standard DAS1 in aqueous solutions (Fig. 3z) (Mostofa et al. 2010; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Nakajima 2006). DAS1 is rapidly decomposed by natural sunlight, although it undergoes relatively slower photodegradation compared to DSBP (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Poiger et al. 1999). The molecular structure of DAS1, 4,4'-bis[(4-anilino-6-morpholino-s-triazine-2-yl)amino] 2,2'-stilbenedisulfonate is shown in (Fig. 3a'). Its photodegradation yields alcohols, aldehydes and some unidentified products. It is reported that the degradation of DSBP decreases in the presence of DOM, but it is not hindered by DOM in natural waters (Kramer et al. 1996). Its molecular weight is 924 Da.

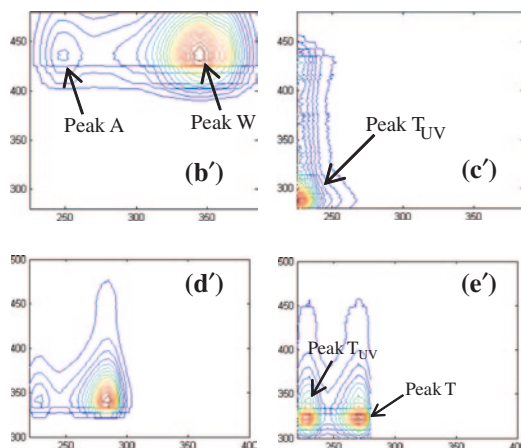
Detergents (Commercial or Household)

The household detergents are composed of two fluorescent components identified using PARAFAC modeling on the EEM spectra of the detergents solutions (Fig. 3b', c'). The first component is denoted as detergent component (C-like),



The molecular structure of DSBP (y), **a'** The fluorescent components of standard DAS1 (z) identified using PARAFAC modeling on EEM data of its aqueous samples (Data source Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). The molecular structure of DAS1 (y).

with two fluorescence peaks at Ex/Em = 335–345/430–437 nm (peak C-region) and at 240–255/425–447 nm (peak A-region), respectively (Fig. 3b'). The second fluorescent component is denoted as detergent component (T_{UV} -like), with a fluorescence peak at Ex/Em = 225–230/287–296 nm (peak T_{UV} -region) (Fig. 3c'; Table 2). Detergent component (C-like) has been detected at Ex/Em = 345/430–435 and 240/427–433 nm for household detergents (Nafine Chem Ind Ltd and Nice group Co Ltd, China) dissolved in Milli-Q water; at 335–350/432–437 and at 250–255/425–447 nm in river waters; at 335–345/422–437 and 240–250/422–443 nm in sewerage waters; and at 340/440 and 250/440 nm in drinking water treatment plants (Tables 1, 2) (Mostofa et al. 2010; Baghoth et al. 2010; Guo et al. 2010). The detergent component (T_{UV} -like) has been detected at Ex/Em = 225–230/291–296 nm in sewerage waters (Table 2) (Mostofa et al. 2010). Household detergents are generally detected by EEM spectroscopy (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010; Komaki and Yabe 1982) and other spectroscopic methods (Kramer et al. 1996) in effluent discharged by households located in towns. The detergent component (C-like) is rapidly decomposed by natural sunlight whilst it is refractory to microbial degradation (Mostofa et al. 2010). On the other hand, the detergent

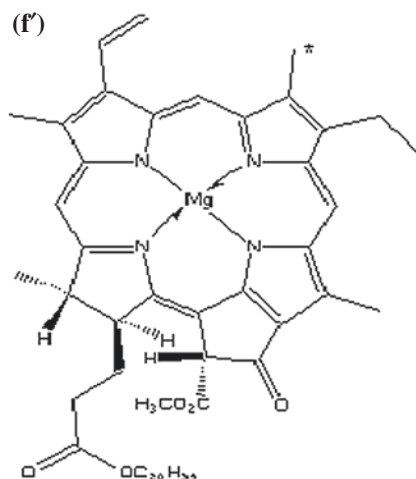


The fluorescent components of commercial or household detergents (b', c') identified using PARAFAC modeling on EEM data of its aqueous samples (*Data source* Mostofa et al. 2010). The fluorescent components of lake green algae (d', e') isolated and resuspensions in aqueous media (Milli-Q and river waters) identified using PARAFAC modeling on respective EEM data (*Data source* Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data).

component (T_{UV}-like) is refractory to photoinduced degradation but it is labile to microbial degradation (Mostofa et al. 2010). The form and composition of detergents is variable and recently includes synthetic or naturally occurring polymers with molecular weight ranging from <1000 to >1,000,000 Da (McCullen 1996). Surfactants can have different functionalities (anionic, nonionic and cationic) and commonly used commercial ones are linear alkylbenzene sulphonates, alkyl ethoxy sulphates, alkyl sulphates, alkylphenol ethoxylates, alkyl ethoxylates, and quaternary ammonium compounds (McCullen 1996; Ying 2006).

Algae or Phytoplankton

Algae or phytoplankton show several peaks such as 280–285/340–346 nm at peak T-region and 230/327–346 or 230/305 nm at peak T_{UV}-region when resuspended in water (Tables 1, 2) (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Determann et al. 1998). PARAFAC modeling on the EEM spectra of algae in Milli-Q water show the two fluorescent components of algae (Fig. 3d', e'; Table 2). The first algae component has a strong fluorescence peak at Ex/Em = 280–285/340–346 nm (peak T-region) and at 230/346 nm (peak T_{UV}-region) (Fig. 3d'), and is similar to the protein-like component that has a much more intense fluorescence at peak T-region than at peak T_{UV}-region (Fig. 3m, n). The second fluorescent component of algae shows a fluorescence peak at Ex/Em = 270/327–336 nm (peak T-region) and at 230/327–336 nm (peak T_{UV}-region) (Fig. 3e'; Table 2). The algae or bacteria collected from marine waters can exhibit fluorescence at Ex/Em = 280/340 nm (peak T-region)



The molecular structure of chlorophyll *a* (f') (Data source Clarke et al. 1976)

and two peaks at Ex/Em = 230/340 and 230/305 nm (peak T_{UV}-region) (Determann et al. 1998). Note that green algae have been collected from surface waters of Lake Hongfeng (China) during the summer season using GF/F filters, and their EEM properties have been determined after re-suspension in Milli-Q and river waters.

Chlorophyll a and Chlorophyll b

Chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*) shows fluorescence at Ex/Em = 431/670 nm and chlorophyll *b* at Ex/Em = 435/659 nm (Moberg et al. 2001). The molecular formula of Chl *a* is C₅₅H₇₂MgN₄O₅ and its molecular weight is 893.49; its chemical structure is depicted in Fig. 3f'. The molecular formula of chlorophyll *b* is C₅₅H₇₀MgN₄O₆ and its molecular weight is 906.51. The chemical structure of chlorophyll *b* is similar to that of Chl *a*, just with the replacement of a methyl group [–CH₃, marked with an asterisk (*)] with an aldehyde one (–CHO). Photoexperiments conducted on sedimentary chloropigments using ¹⁴C-labeled algal cells in combination with field observations, demonstrate that a major fraction of Chl *a* is rapidly degraded to soluble colorless compounds (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Klein et al. 1986; Bianchi et al. 1988; Sun et al. 1993). Only a minor fraction of Chl *a* (~30–40 %) is degraded to pheophytin *a* (Klein et al. 1986; Bianchi et al. 1988; Sun et al. 1993).

Identification of Allochthonous Fulvic and Humic Acids from Autochthonous Fulvic Acid (C-like and M-like) Using Fluorescence Index

The key component of autochthonous DOM is termed as marine humic-like substances (Coble 1996), sedimentary fulvic acid (Hayase et al. 1987, 1988) or

marine fulvic acids (Malcolm 1990), without a coherent terminology. Recent studies demonstrate that the two fluorescent components, termed as autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) (Fig. 3h–j) and as autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) (Fig. 3k, l), are primarily produced under photoinduced or microbial respiration (or assimilation) of algae or phytoplankton biomass (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Stedmon and Markager 2005a; Zhang et al. 2009a). PARAFAC modeling on EEM spectra of algal-originated DOM suggests that the fluorescence peaks and the images of the first fluorescent component are similar to allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) (Figs. 2a, 3a). Therefore, this component is indicated as autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin (Fig. 3h–j). On the other hand, the fluorescence peaks and the images of the second fluorescent component (Fig. 3k, l) are similar to allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) (Fig. 3c) and to the marine humic-like substances (Coble 1996). Therefore, this component is denoted as autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) of algal origin. The fluorescence intensities and the excitation–emission maxima of these two fluorescent components are significantly different depending on the respective peak positions. Considering the similarities between EEM images of the algal originated fluorescent component and allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), it is suggested to denote the first and the second fluorescent components as ‘autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like)’ and ‘autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)’, respectively (Fig. 3h–l). Similarly, allochthonous fulvic acids can be denoted as ‘allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like)’ and ‘allochthonous fulvic acid (A-like)’, respectively (Fig. 3a, b). The allochthonous fulvic acid (A-like) shows only one shoulder or strong fluorescence intensity at peak A-region, which may not be classified as a peak in standard SRFA and SRHA as well as in field observations (Tables 1, 2; Fig. 3b). Apparently, autochthonous fulvic acids often show higher fluorescence intensities at peak C-region than at peak A-region (Fig. 3h–l), whilst allochthonous fulvic acids (C-like) often show opposite behavior (Fig. 3a–c). The differences in fluorescence intensities at peak C- and A-regions could be useful to distinguish between allochthonous and autochthonous fulvic acids using the fluorescence index (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Huguet et al. 2009; Battin 1998; Zsolnay et al. 1999; McKnight et al. 2001). The fluorescence index ($f_{450/500}$) is defined as the ratio of fluorescence intensity at Ex/Em 370/450 nm to that at Ex/Em = 370/500 nm, which can provide a basis for estimating the degree of aromaticity—and potentially for discriminating the sources—of DOM (Battin 1998; McKnight et al. 2001). However, the index $f_{450/500}$ does not distinguish the autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin (1.75–2.59) from allochthonous fulvic acid (1.30–3.22) and allochthonous humic acid (1.28–1.51), which can be identified using PARAFAC modeling of a variety of DOM sources in natural waters (Fig. 4; Table 3) (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2007a, 2005b; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Fu et al. 2010; Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, unpublished data). Further, this index can also fail when applied to a variety of natural waters (Huguet et al. 2009; Jaffé et al. 2004). Another fluorescence index (HIX) has been developed to estimate the degree of maturation of DOM in soil (Zsolnay et al. 1999). HIX is defined as the ratio H/L

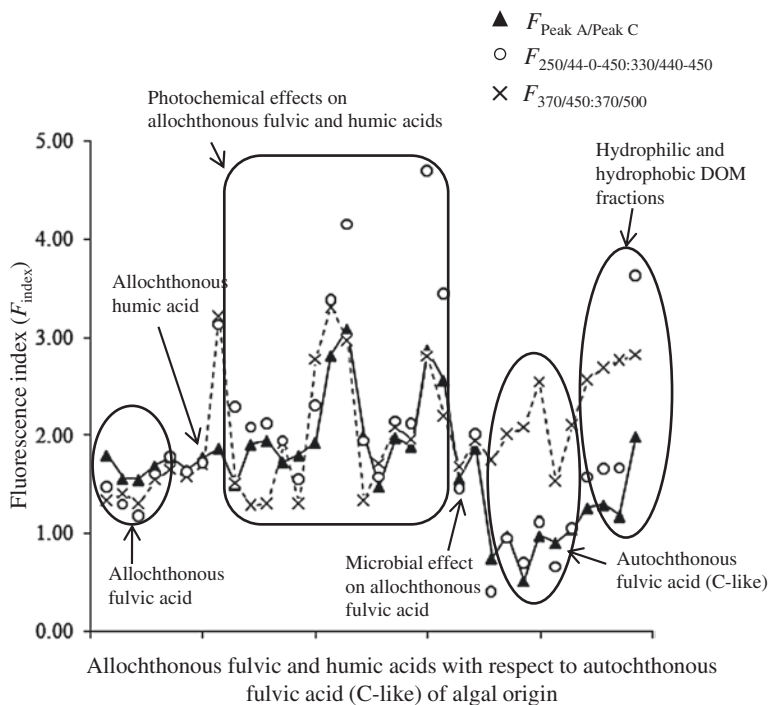


Fig. 4 The fluorescence index (F_{index}) values of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids as well as their photochemical and microbial changes with respect to autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin in waters

of two spectral region areas from the emission spectrum scanned for an excitation at 254 nm. The two areas are calculated between emission wavelengths 300 and 345 nm for L and between 435 and 480 nm for H. The HIX index has recently been applied to a variety of aquatic samples (Huguet et al. 2009; Vacher 2004). High HIX values (between 10 and 16) are a sign of strongly humified OM, mainly of terrestrial origin, whereas low values (<4) are associated with autochthonous OM (Huguet et al. 2009). However, HIX does not distinguish the allochthonous fulvic acid from autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), identified using PARAFAC modeling on EEM samples in natural waters (Table 3). Indeed, HIX often shows negative values for autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), and is thus unable to distinguish them from allochthonous fulvic acid.

To identify the PARAFAC fluorescent components, a new fluorescence index ($F_{250:330/440-450}$) has been used and is defined as the ratio of the fluorescence intensity at $Ex/Em = 250/440-450$ nm and at $Ex/Em = 330/440-450$ nm. In the case of the emission wavelengths (400–450 nm), average fluorescence intensities are used (Mostofa et al. 2009b). In the case of standard fulvic acid, the $F_{250:330/440-450}$ values vary significantly depending on the number of samples identified using PARAFAC modeling (Table 1; Fig. 4). A very useful fluorescence index

Table 3 The fluorescence index (F_{index}) of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids in contrast to autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin and their various sources identified using PARAFAC modelling on EEM spectra in water samples

DOM sources	Fluorescence index (F_{index})			References	
	$F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$	$F_{250:330/440-450}$	$f_{450/500}$ HIX**		
<i>Fulvic acid of forest origin</i>					
Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (n = 3; 1–2 mg L ⁻¹)	1.80	1.47	1.33	23	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^a
Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (n = 4; 1–5 mg L ⁻¹)	1.56	1.29	1.40	25	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^a
Standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (n = 5; 0.5–5 mg L ⁻¹)	1.55	1.18	1.30	-59	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^a
Standard Suwannee River Humic Acid (n = 3; 1–5 mg L ⁻¹)	1.91	2.08	1.28	14	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^a
Standard Suwannee River Humic Acid (n = 4; 1–5 mg L ⁻¹)	1.95	2.12	1.30	12	Mostofa et al. (2005a) ^a
Fulvic acid, upstream: Nishi-Mataya and Higashi-Mataya (n = 6)	1.69–1.78	1.60–1.78	1.55–1.65	12, 35	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^a
Fulvic acid-like, upper branch waters (Z), Yellow River, China (n = 7)	1.30	1.36	2.02	25	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid, upper main channel waters (G), Yellow River, China (n = 18)	1.87	3.13	3.22	8	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid, downstream: Amano, Echi and Ane Rivers (n = 6)	1.65–1.78	1.62–1.72	1.58–1.70	4, 12, 17	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^a
<i>Photochemical effects on standards and river waters</i>					
Irradiated standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (n = 2; 10 h and 20 h)	1.73	1.94	1.91	5	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Irradiated standard Suwannee River Humic Acid (10 h)	1.94	2.00	1.33	7	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Irradiated upstream river waters, Kago upstream, Lake Biwa watershed, Japan	1.8	1.55	1.30	2	Mostofa et al. (2007a) ^d
Irradiated fulvic acid, upper branch waters (Z), Yellow River, China (3 h, n = 2)	1.93	2.3	2.78	-8	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

DOM sources	Fluorescence index (F_{index})				References
	$F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$	$F_{250:330/440-450}$	$f_{450/500}$	HIX**	
Irradiated fulvic acid, upper main channel waters (G), Yellow River, China (3 h, n = 2)	2.82	3.38	3.32	-14	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Irradiated downstream river waters, Yasu River, Lake Biwa watershed, Japan	3.09	4.15	2.98	-31	Mostofa et al. (2007a) ^a
<i>Microbial effects on River fulvic acid</i>					
Fulvic acid, upper branch waters (Z), Yellow River, China (12 days)	1.77	2.78	3.55	3	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid, upper main channel waters (G), Yellow River, China (12 days)	2.04	3.68	3.98	3	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
<i>Fulvic acid affected by agricultural and sewerage activities</i>					
Fulvic acid, Yasu River, Lake Biwa watershed (n = 5)	2.18	2.36	1.8	-21	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
<i>Extracted DOM fractions from Lake Hongfeng, China</i>					
Fulvic acid, extracted from lake surface waters	1.30	1.90	2.20	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Humic acid, extracted from lake surface waters	1.50	2.29	1.51	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Hydrophilic acids (HIA), extracted from lake surface waters	1.26	1.57	2.57	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Hydrophilic bases (HIB), extracted from lake surface waters	1.29	1.65	2.70	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Hydrophilic neutrals (HIN), extracted from lake surface waters	1.18	1.66	2.77	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Hydrophobic neutrals (HON), extracted from lake surface waters	1.99	3.63	2.83	-	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
<i>Photobleaching allochthonous fulvic acid in lake</i>					
Fulvic acid: 0–20 m, summer period, Lake Biwa	1.67–1.82	1.84–2.07	1.89–2.08	4, 6, 9	Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^a

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

DOM sources	Fluorescence index (F_i , index)			References
	$F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$	$F_{250:330/440-450}$	$f_{450/500}$	
Fulvic acid: 40–80 m, summer period, Lake Biwa	1.58–1.80	1.69–1.95	1.78–1.94	HIX** 4, 6, 10 Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^a
Fulvic acid: 0–20 m, winter and vertical mixing period, Lake Biwa	1.48–1.98	1.57–2.14	1.71–2.02	4, 5 Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^a
Fulvic acid: 40–80 m, winter and vertical mixing period, 40–70 m, Lake Biwa	1.56–1.87	1.45–2.01	1.68–1.87	6, 7, 9 Mostofa et al. (2005b) ^a
<i>Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) during photo- and microbial assimilations of algae</i>				
Algal biomass + Milli-Q water, photo-assimilations: 6-h	0.98	0.95	2.01	11 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algal biomass + River waters, photo-assimilations: 6-h	0.75	0.40	1.75	–96 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algal biomass + Milli-Q waters, microbial-assimilations: 1–10 days (n = 5)	0.52	0.96	2.55	–3 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algal biomass + Milli-Q waters, microbial-0.52 assimilations: 20–70 days (n = 6)	0.7	0.7	2.51	–54 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algal biomass + River waters, microbial-assimilations: 1–10 days (n = 5)	1.53	1.23	2.59	–32 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algal biomass + River waters, microbial-assimilations: 20–70 days (n = 6)	0.98	0.94	2.47	–37 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Algal biomass + River waters, microbial-assimilations: 80–180 days (n = 7)	0.87	1.11	2.08	–31 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
<i>Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) in river waters</i>				
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), Main channel of NenJiang (MINJ) River, China	1.04	0.8	0.35	–57 Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

DOM sources	Fluorescence index (F'_{index})			References
	$F'_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$	$F'_{250:330/440-450}$	$f_{450/500}$	
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), Tributaries of Nenjiang (TNJ) River, China	0.85	1.05	0.37	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), The Second Songhua (SH) River, China	1.14–1.31	0.98–1.21	1.54–1.71	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), LiaoHe (LH) River, China	1.24	1.12	0.46	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
<i>Autochthonous and allochthonous lake DOM</i>				
Epilimnion, 0–8 m (Summer: May–Sept), Lake Hongfeng	1.27–1.59	0.97–1.21	1.58–1.86	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
Epilimnion, 0–8 m (Winter: Nov–Feb), Lake Hongfeng	1.57–1.61	1.20–1.50	1.83–2.25	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
Hypolimnion, 10–25 m (Summer: May–Sept), Lake Hongfeng	1.28–1.52	0.95–1.20	1.53–1.80	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
Hypolimnion, 10–25 m (Winter: Nov–Feb), Lake Hongfeng	1.52–1.64	1.20–1.25	1.80–2.22	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
Epilimnion, 0–8 m (Summer: May–Sept), Lake Baihua	1.37–1.55	1.10–1.26	1.82–2.14	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
Epilimnion, 0–8 m (Winter: Nov–Feb), Lake Baihua	1.25–1.33	1.25–1.30	2.19–2.23	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
Hypolimnion, 10–25 m (Summer: May–Sept), Lake Baihua	1.38–1.39	0.91–1.57	1.77–1.82	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
Hypolimnion, 10–25 m (Winter: Nov–Feb), Lake Baihua	1.39	1.53	1.73	Fu et al. (2010) ^a
<i>Photobleaching allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) in seawaters</i>				
Fulvic acid-like: 0–15 m, Station 0, Seto Inland Sea, Japan (n = 11)	1.90	2.12	1.96	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid-like: 0–30 m, Stations 2 and 4, Seto Inland Sea, Japan (n = 12)	1.89	2.29	2.00	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

DOM sources	Fluorescence index (F_{index})				References
	$F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$	$F_{250:330/440-450}$	$f_{450/500}$	HIX**	
Fulvic acid-like: 0–50 m, Stations 11 and 21, Seto Inland Sea, Japan (n = 13)	2.03	2.77	1.99	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid-like: 0–40 m, Stations 22 and 23, Seto Inland Sea, Japan (n = 12)	2.88	4.70	2.81	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid-like: 60–300 m, Stations 22 and 23, Seto Inland Sea, Japan (n = 9)	2.57	3.45	2.20	–	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
<i>Autochthonous and allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like): lake sediment pore waters</i>					
Sediment pore waters, Lake Dianchi, China: 1–20 cm depths	2.07	1.93	2.73	–	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Dianchi, China: 22–40 cm depths	1.68	1.52	2.73	–	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Dianchi, China: 42–55 cm depths	1.21	1.25	2.05	–	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Chenghai, China: 1–20 cm depths	1.24	1.32	2.13	–	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Chenghai, China: 22–40 cm depths	1.05	0.66	1.53	–	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Chenghai, China: 42–87 cm depths	1.06–1.17	0.86–1.12	1.76–2.12	–	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)

(continued)

Table 3 (continued)

DOM sources	Fluorescence index (F_{index})		HIX**	References
	$F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$	$F_{250:330/440-450} / f_{450/500}$		
Sediment pore waters, Lake Qinghai, China: 1–20 cm depths	0.91	0.80	1.67	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Qinghai, China: 22–40 cm depths	0.91	0.83	2.05	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Qinghai, China: 41–50 cm depths	0.92	0.77	2.00	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Bosten, China: 1–20 cm depths	1.22	1.25	2.13	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Bosten, China: 22–40 cm depths	0.97	0.76	1.62	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)
Sediment pore waters, Lake Bosten, China: 41–50 cm depths	1.03	1.05	2.11	Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, (unpublished data)

$F_{250:330/440-450}$ is defined by Mostofa et al. (2009b); $F_{370/500}$ is defined by McKnight et al. (2001); HIX is defined by Zsolnay et al. (1999)

$F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$ indicates the ratios of the maximum fluorescence intensity at peak A-region and peak C-region

HIX** Indicates that values are determined at excitation wavelength 255 nm instead of 254 nm

^aResults obtained after applying the PARAFAC modeling on the publish sample's EEM spectra

is $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$, which is simple and can be easily applied to fluorescent components identified using PARAFAC modeling (Table 3; Fig. 4). The $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$ is defined as the ratio of the maximum fluorescence intensity at peak A (peak A-region) to that at peak C (peak C-region). For example, the maximum fluorescence intensity of peak A for standard Suwannee River Fulvic Acid ($n = 5: 0.5\text{--}5 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$) identified using PARAFAC modeling (component 1) is 60 a.u. at $\text{Ex/Em} = 260/463 \text{ nm}$ and that for peak C is 39 a.u. at $\text{Ex/Em} = 330/463 \text{ nm}$ for the same component, which leads to $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}} = 1.55$ (Table 1). The comparisons of the $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$ values with other indices demonstrate that this new index is very useful to identify the allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) (1.30–1.80) and allochthonous humic acid (1.50–1.95) from autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin (0.52–0.98) (Table 3, Fig. 4). Note that the $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$ of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) is relatively high (1.53) in the initial 10 days of microbial assimilation of algae mixed with river waters (Table 3). Photoinduced degradation of fulvic acid in surface waters mostly causes a decrease in fluorescence intensity, which is more marked at peak C than at peak A and ultimately causes an increase of the $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$ values. This has also been found in irradiated SRFA (1.73), irradiated SRHA (1.94), irradiated fulvic acid in Kago upstream (1.80), Yellow River upper waters (1.93), Yellow River downstream waters (2.82), Yasu River waters (3.09) and lake surface waters (0–20 m) during the summer stratification period in Lake Biwa (1.67–1.82). Therefore, high values (>1.30) of $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$ can indicate the presence of photobleached fulvic or humic acid whilst low values (<1) are associated with autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin.

Low values of $F_{\text{Peak A/Peak C}}$ for autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin also suggests the presence of high aromaticity with more functional groups or fluorophores at peak C-region than at peak A region. Indeed, the highest fluorescence intensity of algal-origin autochthonous DOM is often detected at peak C-region than at peak A-region (Fig. 3h–j). On the other hand, fulvic acid (terrestrial in origin) shows lower fluorescence intensity at peak C-region than at peak A-region (Fig. 3a), which indicates the presence of relatively low aromaticity with a low number of functional groups or fluorophores and higher content of aliphatic carbon (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Malcolm 1985). Such differences in fluorescence intensities or fluorophores (functional groups) are attributed to differences in the f_{index} values, which would be useful in characterizing allochthonous fulvic acid and autochthonous fulvic acid. However, there is no study conducted on the chemical composition of algal-origin autochthonous DOM, which would be the focus for future research. Some researchers believe that autochthonously produced fulvic acid is similar to terrestrial fulvic acid, because autochthonous DOM shows a yellow color as well as similar fluorescence properties. Therefore, the f_{index} values can be useful to distinguish between the two materials. On the other hand, allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) can merely be distinguished from the maximum fluorescence intensity of peak A (peak A-region) and low fluorescence intensity of peak C (peak C-region) (Fig. 3c) whilst autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) of algal (or phytoplankton) origin

shows an entirely opposite behavior (maximum fluorescence at peak C and low fluorescence at peak A) (Fig. 3k, l).

2.6 Relationship Between FDOM and DOM

Fulvic acid-like fluorescence intensity (FI) is significantly correlated with DOC concentration both linearly and non-linearly as a consequence of the effects of sunlight on river water. However, non-linear correlation is more significant than the linear one (Fig. 5). The extrapolation of the linear relationship suggests that fulvic acid contributes approximately 45–63 % of the total DOM in Kago (KG) upstream, approximately 53 % in Nishi-Mataya (NM) upstream and approximately 73 % in the downstream waters of the Yasu River (YR) (Mostofa et al. 2007a). The fulvic acid contribution in Japanese rivers estimated from DOC and fulvic acid-like FI is similar to that reported in other studies of river water (40–80 %) (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Malcolm 1985; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999; Mostofa 2005). The higher presence of allochthonous fulvic acid and humic acids in river water is responsible for the good correlations with DOM found in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Fu et al. 2007, 2010; Westerhoff et al. 2001). A gradual decrease in fulvic acid-like FI with decreasing DOC concentration (Fig. 5) can be explained if losses in FI and DOC are mostly involving the fluorophores in fulvic acid. The latter consist of some repeating functional groups with highly variable composition, having aromatic rings and highly unsaturated aliphatics with extensive π -electron systems (Mostofa et al. 2009b, 2010; Senesi 1990a; Malcolm 1985; Corin et al. 1996; Wu et al. 2005). The fluorophores present in

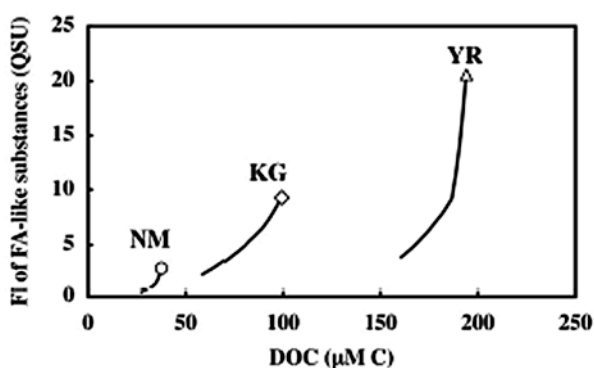


Fig. 5 Changes in DOC concentration and fulvic acid (FA)-like fluorescence intensity (FI) during photodegradation of DOM modeled by the first-order kinetics. Initial DOC concentration and FI are presented by the *open circle* (the Nishi-Mataya, NM upstream); *open diamond* (the Kago, KG upstream); and *open triangle* (Yasu River, YR downstream) for their respective samples collected from Lake Biwa watershed, Japan. *Data source* Mostofa et al. (2007a)

any macromolecule (e.g., fulvic acids and humic acids) at any peak C- or peak A-regions can be referred to as 'fluorochrome'. Any changes of the fluorochrome by photoinduced or microbial degradation can cause changes in the fluorescence properties of that molecule. Conversely, any DOM fraction that does not show fluorescence and is mostly composed of aliphatic C chain, which is photolytically inactive, is termed as 'non-fluorochrome'. On the basis of fluorescence characteristics, DOM can be separated into two major parts: fluorochrome and non-fluorochrome. They allow the photolytically sensitive fractions of DOM in waters to be distinguished. Therefore, any changes in the chemical composition of DOM by photoinduced processes can be examined by the determination of fluorescence characteristics in the aquatic environments (Mostofa et al. 2007a; Ma and Green 2004; Moran et al. 2000; Wu et al. 2007).

3 Factors Affecting the Fluorescence Properties of FDOM in Natural Waters

The fluorescence properties of FDOM are significantly affected by several factors in natural waters. They are: (i) Autochthonous origin of FDOM; (ii) Photodegradation of FDOM; (iii) Microbial degradation of FDOM; (iv) Complex formation between trace elements and FDOM; (v) Salinity; (vi) pH, and (vii) Temperature.

3.1 Autochthonous Origin of FDOM in Natural Waters

Photorespiration or photoinduced assimilation of organic matter (e.g. algal or phytoplankton biomass) can produce new DOM or FDOM in the aquatic environments (Fig. 3i, j) (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fu et al. 2010; Aoki et al. 2008; Thomas and Lara 1995; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Hiriart-Baer and Smith 2005). It has been shown that the fluorescence intensity of FDOM is gradually increased upon 6 h sunlight irradiation in the presence of re-suspended algal biomass, collected by filtration of water (~0 m depth) from Lake Hongfeng (China) using GF/F filters during the summer season (Mostofa et al. 2009b). These results imply that photoinduced processes play an important role both in the decomposition of FDOM and in its production. They also play a key role in the biogeochemical cycles in the aquatic environments. Also the microbial degradation or assimilation of organic matter (e.g. algal or phytoplankton biomass) in *in vitro* experiments or under dark incubation may produce new DOM or FDOM in natural waters (Fig. 3h, j-1) (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Stedmon and Markager 2005a; Fu et al. 2010; Zhao et al. 2009; Aoki et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2009b; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004, 2008; Miller et al. 2009). The fluorescence intensity of microbiologically produced FDOM was gradually increased after 20 days dark incubation at room temperature or upon resuspension

of algal biomass, which was collected through filtration of surface lake waters (~0 m) of Lake Hongfeng (China) using GF/F filters during the summer season (Mostofa et al. 2009b). One generally observes high fluorescence intensity in deeper lake or oceanic environments (Hayase et al. 1987, 1988; Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Mostofa et al. 2005b), which might be the effect of microbial release of FDOM.

Studies on phytoplankton shows that fulvic-like and protein-like fluorescent components are released during the cultivation of three kinds of phytoplankton (*Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Staurastrum dorcidentiferum* of green algae and *Cryptomonas ovata* of dark-brown whip-hair algae collected from lake waters) under a 12:12 h light/dark cycle in an MA medium and an improved VT medium at 20 °C (Aoki et al. 2008). The results demonstrate that produced new DOM from three phytoplanktons can exhibit the different Ex/Em fluorescence properties whereas *Microcystis* can produce the hydrophilic DOM fraction with fluorescence peak at Ex/Em = 340/430 nm (peak C) and Ex/Em = 260/445 nm (peak A) whilst hydrophobic acid (or autochthonous fulvic acids) fraction at Ex/Em = 330/440 nm and 250/455 nm. These two fractions also show the protein-like peak at Ex/Em = 290/335 nm and 280/350 nm (peak T) and the autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) at 320/385 nm and 330/385 nm (peak C-region), respectively (Table 2) (Aoki et al. 2008). Correspondingly, *Staurastrum* can produce hydrophilic DOM fraction at Ex/Em = 340/420 nm and 280/425 nm and hydrophobic acid fraction at Ex/Em = 340/435 nm and 290/430 nm whereas these two fractions display merely the protein-like peak at Ex/Em = 270/375 nm and 290/365 nm, respectively and do not show any autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) fluorescence (Table 2) (Aoki et al. 2008). Finally, *Cryptomonas* can produce the hydrophilic DOM fraction at Ex/Em = 350/440 nm and 280/440 nm and the hydrophobic acid fraction at Ex/Em = 350/440 nm and 290/450 nm whereas these two fraction also exhibit the protein-like peak at Ex/Em = 270/355 nm and 270/350 nm, respectively and do not exhibit the autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) fluorescence (Table 2) (Cammack et al. 2004). Similarly, cultivation of three kinds of phytoplankton (*Prorocentrum donghaiense*, *Heterosigma akashiwo* and *Skeletonema costatum* collected from sea water) can produce the visible humic-like (C-like and M-like) and the protein-like or the tyrosine-like components in waters (Zhao et al. 2009, 2006). Therefore, production of the autochthonous DOM is largely dependent on the phytoplankton communities in natural waters.

3.2 Photodegradation of FDOM in Natural Waters

Photodegradation can sequentially change the optical properties (fluorescence peak and fluorescence intensity) of FDOM in waters. Photodegradation can change the fluorescence peak position (Ex/Em) of various FDOM components in waters (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010, 2007b, 2011; Moran et al. 2000; Miller et al. 2009). For instance, photodegradation can alter the terrestrial fulvic acid (C-like)

fluorescence of peak C into the photo-bleached fluorescence peak (peak M_p), which can show the highest fluorescence intensity in some natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2007a, 2005b; Moran et al. 2000; Komada et al. 2002; Burdige et al. 2004). Due to photodegradation, the new photo-bleached peak M_p is shifted at shorter excitation–emission wavelengths (Fig. 3a, d, e). Such a change in the fluorescence peak caused by photodegradation is termed as ‘blue-shift’. Blue-shift is commonly observed in surface lake or seawaters where photodegradation is important due to exposure to natural sunlight (Fig. 3d, e). Photoinduced effects can decrease the fluorescence intensity (FI) of fulvic acid-like (peak C), FWAs-like (peak W), and tryptophan-like (peak T) compounds, which are commonly observed in natural waters in field and experimental observations (Fig. 5; Table 4) (Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Mostofa et al. 2005a; 2005b, 2010, 2007a, 2011; Stedmon et al. 2007a; Brooks et al. 2007; Garcia et al. 2005; Winter et al. 2007; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Skoog et al. 1996; Moran et al. 2000; Osburn et al. 2009; Lepane et al. 2003; Abboudi et al. 2008; Poiger et al. 1999; Fu et al. 2010; Borisover et al. 2009; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008; Vodacek et al. 1997; Yamashita et al. 2007; Shank et al. 2010).

Fulvic Acid-like Components in Natural Waters

Fluorescence intensity losses of fulvic acid-like substances by photoinduced degradation are 1–84 % in rivers, 16–83 % in lakes, 19–67 % in estuaries, and 9–84 % in sea waters studied experimentally in the course of short (hours) to long-term (days or months) irradiation (Table 4). In lake water after 12 days irradiation, the losses of fulvic acid-like fluorescence intensity have been 36 % at the surface (2.5 m) and 48 % in deeper waters (70 m) for DOM fractions of $<0.1 \mu\text{m}$. In the case of DOM molecular-weight fractions below 5 kDa, the corresponding losses have been 16 % in surface waters (2.5 m) and 50 % in deeper waters (70 m). The low fluorescence intensity decrease in the case of surface-water DOM with molecular weight below 5 kDa may be explained by the fact that the corresponding samples have been collected during an ongoing summer stratification period (September). Therefore, the photosensitive DOM fractions had probably already undergone photoinduced decomposition before sample collection. The higher fluorescence intensity decrease observed for deep-water DOM may be accounted for by the fact that deep waters undergo photoinduced degradation processes to a lesser extent because of the reduced sunlight irradiance compared to surface waters (Laurion et al. 2000). As a consequence, deep-water samples may contain significant amounts of photosensitive DOM components, which have not been degraded in the natural environment and can undergo photoinduced decomposition when irradiated in the laboratory (Table 4). For similar reasons, photoinduced DOM mineralization is very difficult to be observed in surface lake water samples and is much easier to be detected upon irradiation of groundwater (Vione et al. 2009). In estuarine water it has been observed a fluorescence intensity decrease in fulvic acid-like

Table 4 Photochemical and microbial changes of fluorescence intensity (FI) of fulvic acid-like (peak C), fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs)-like (peak W) tryptophan-like, tyrosine-like or protein-like (peak T) substances as a result of photoirradiation experiments conducted on standard substance and natural waters

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MIm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities				References
					Photoirradiation Peak C-region %	Microbial %	Photoirradiation Peak T- and T _{UV} -regions %	Microbial %	
Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (SRFA): 1 mg L ⁻¹	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	10 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-42	(+)0.1	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
SRFA: 1 mg L ⁻¹	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-19	nd	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
SRFA: 1 mg L ⁻¹ + 50 μM NO ₂ ⁻	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-22	nd	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
SRFA: 3 mg L ⁻¹	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-23	nd	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
SRFA: 5 mg L ⁻¹	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-20	nd	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Suwannee River Humic Acid (SRHA): 1 mg L ⁻¹	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	10 h (Xe lamp)	nd	(+) 70	nd	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
SRHA: 3 mg L ⁻¹	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-17	nd	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
SRHA: 5 mg L ⁻¹	Allochthonous/plant material	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	(+) 5	nd	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Tryptophan standard: 1 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	10 h (Xe lamp)	nd	na	nd	-63	-0.1	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Tryptophan standard: 3 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	na	nd	-23	nd	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Tryptophan standard: 5 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	na	nd	-20	nd	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Tyrosine standard: 1 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	10 h (Xe lamp)	nd	na	nd	-4	(+) 5	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Tyrosine standard: 3 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	na	nd	-36	nd	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
DSBP standard: 1 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	10 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-94	(+)0.1	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
DSBP standard: 1 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	0.5 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-40	nd	nd	nd	Mostofa et al. (2005a)
DSBP standard: 3 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-73	nd	nd	nd	Mostofa et al. (2011)
DSBP standard: 5 mg L ⁻¹	-	MQ water	3 h (Xe lamp)	nd	-60	nd	nd	nd	Mostofa et al. (2011)

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities			References
					Photoirradiation	Microbial	Photoirradiation	
					Peak C-region %	Microbial	Peak T- and T _{UV} -regions %	
DASI standard: 1 mg L^{-1}	–	MQ water	10 h (Xe lamp)	nd	–93	nd	nd	Mostofa et al. (2011)
DASI standard: 1 mg L^{-1}	–	MQ water	0.5 h (Xe lamp)	nd	–45	nd	nd	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Fulvic acid, extracted from Göta	Allochthonous/plant material	NaOH + MQ water	1.3 (UV-B lamp)	nd	–32	na	nd	Lepane et al. (2003)
River: 6.3 mg L^{-1}								
Humic acid, extracted from Göta	Allochthonous/plant material	NaOH + MQ water	1.3 (UV-B lamp)	nd	(+4)	na	nd	Lepane et al. (2003)
River: 6.5 mg L^{-1}								
Fulvic acid, extracted from Göta	Allochthonous/plant material	NaOH + MQ water	9 (dark)	nd	na	(+8)	nd	Lepane et al. (2003)
River: 6.3 mg L^{-1}								
Humic acid, extracted from Göta	Allochthonous/plant material	NaOH + MQ water	9 (dark)	nd	na	(+6)	nd	Lepane et al. (2003)
River: 6.5 mg L^{-1}								
Aldrich fulvic acid	Allochthonous/plant material	Deionized water	13 (irradiated)	nd	–(26–41)	na	nd	Winter et al. (2007)
Aldrich fulvic acid	Allochthonous/plant material	Deionized water	13 (irradiated)	nd	–(21–45)	na	nd	Winter et al. (2007)
Kago upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	12 (irradiated)	192	–74	na	np	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Kago upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	12 (dark)	192	na	(+3)	np	Mostofa et al. (2005b)
Kago upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	13 (irradiated)	176	–72	na	np	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Kago upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	1.3 (dark)	176	na	(+15)	np	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	13 (irradiated)	176	–84	na	np	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	13 (dark)	176	na	(+6)	np	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	12 (irradiated)	192	–78	na	–40	Mostofa et al. (2007a)

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities				References
					Photoirradiation		Photoirradiation		
					Microbial Peak C-region %	Microbial %	Microbial Peak T- and TUV-regions %	Microbial %	
Nishi-Mataya upstream, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/plant material	0.45	12 (dark)	192	na	(+) 5	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Yasu River, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	13 (irradiated)	176	-80	na	-59	na	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Yasu River, Japan (35°N)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	13 (dark)	176	na	(+) 14	na	(+) 6	Mostofa et al. (2007a)
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	0.20	6 (irradiated)	118.5	-77	na	-10	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	0.45	6 (dark)	118.5	na	(+) 6	na	(+) 4	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	Unfiltered	6 (irradiated)	118.5	-77	na	-5	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Kurose River (Izumi site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	Unfiltered	6 (dark)	118.5	na	nd	na	-17	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	0.20	10 (irradiated)	152.5	-76	na	-21	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	0.45	10 (dark)	152.5	na	nd	na	-11	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	Unfiltered	10 (irradiated)	152.5	-81	na	-19	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Kurose River (Hinotsume site), 34°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	Unfiltered	10 (dark)	152.5	na	nd	na	-13	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Nanning River, (Near Institute), 26°N	Allochthonous/ anthropogenic	Unfiltered	3 h (irradiated)	nd	-27	na	-32	na	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Detergent component (C-like), drain samples, (near institute), 26°N	-	Unfiltered	3 h (irradiated)	nd	-34	na	-50	na	Mostofa et al. (2010)

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities				References	
					Photoirradiation		Photoirradiation			
					Microbial	Peak C-region %	Microbial	Microbial		
Detergent component (Tuvy-like), – drain samples, (near institute), 26°N	–	Unfiltered	3 h (irradiated)	nd	na	na	na	na	(+) 4	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Detergent component (C-like), – component 2, commercial detergents	–	MQ water	3 h (irradiated)	nd	–88	na	np	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Detergent component (Tuvy-like), – component 2, commercial detergents	–	MQ water	3 h (irradiated)	nd	na	na	na	na	(+) 9	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Detergent component (C-like), – river water + commercial detergent	–	Unfiltered	10 (dark)	nd	na	(+) 21	na	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Tryptophan-like (T-like); River water + commercial detergent	–	Unfiltered	10 (dark)	nd	na	na	na	na	–24	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Detergent component (Tuvy-like); – river water + commercial detergent	–	Unfiltered	10 (dark)	nd	na	na	na	na	–84	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Detergent component (C-like), – drain samples, (near institute), 26°N	–	Unfiltered	10 (dark)	nd	na	(+) 8	na	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Tryptophan-like or protein-like (T-like), drain samples, (near institute), 26°N	Sewerage	Unfiltered	10 (dark)	nd	na	na	na	na	–67	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Detergent component (Tuvy-like), Sewerage drain samples, (near institute), 26°N	–	Unfiltered	10 (dark)	nd	na	na	na	na	–90	Mostofa et al. (2010)
Commercial detergent (C-like), – component 1	–	MQ water	10 (dark)	nd	na	(+) 14	na	na	na	Mostofa et al. (2010)

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities				References
					Photoirradiation		Photoirradiation		
					Microbial	Peak C-region %	Microbial	Peak T- and T _{UV} -regions %	
Commercial detergent (T _{UV} -like), component 2	-	MQ water	10 (dark)	nd	na	na	na	-15	Mostofa et al. (2010)
River water + DSBP	-	River water	12 h (summer)	nd	-31	na	na	nd	Poiger et al. (1999)
River water + DAS1	-	River water	12 h (summer)	nd	-12	na	na	nd	Poiger et al. (1999)
Fulvic acid (C-like: comp 1), Yellow River, China	Allochthonous/plant material	River water	3 h (summer)	nd	-(43-46)	na	na	nd	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (M-like: comp 2), Yellow River, China	Allochthonous/plant material	River water	3 h (summer)	nd	-(5-68)	na	na	nd	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (C-like: comp 1), Yellow River, China	Allochthonous/plant material	River water	12 (dark)	nd	na	(+) (52-81)	na	nd	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Fulvic acid (M-like: comp 2), Yellow River, China	Allochthonous/plant material	River water	12 (dark)	nd	na	-100	na	(-) 8; (+) 33	Mostofa KMG et al., (unpublished data)
Mackenzie River, 68°N	Allochthonous/plant material	0.20	72 h (summer)	nd	-(13-45)	nd	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Mackenzie River, 68°N	Allochthonous/plant material	0.20	72 h (spring)	nd	-33	nd	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Mackenzie River, 68°N	Allochthonous/plant material	0.20	72 h (autumn)	nd	-(1-10)	nd	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Laramie River-DOM, 41°N	Allochthonous/plant material	River water	72 h (sunlight)	nd	-23	na	na	nd	Brooks et al. (2007)
Chimney Park Wetland-DOM, 41°N	Allochthonous/plant material	River water	72 h (sunlight)	nd	-7	na	na	nd	Brooks et al. (2007)
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (2.5 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.10	12 (irradiated)	137	-36	na	-18	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (2.5 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.10	12 (dark)	nd	na	(+) 31	na	(+) 68	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Lake Biwa, 35°N: deeper water (70 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.10	12 (irradiated)	nd	-48	na	-7	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities			References		
					Photoirradiation		Photoirradiation			
					Microbial Peak C-region %	Microbial Peak T- and T _{UV} -regions %	Microbial			
Lake Biwa, 35°N: deeper water (70 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.10	12 (dark)	nd	0	na	(+) 5	Mostofa et al. (2011)		
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (2.5 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	<5 kDa	12 (irradiated)	nd	na	-16	(+) 4	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)	
Lake Biwa, 35°N: surface water (2.5 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	<5 kDa	12 (dark)	nd	(+) 102	na	(+) 51	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)	
Lake Biwa, 35°N: deeper water (70 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	<5 kDa	12 (irradiated)	nd	na	-50	na	-19	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)
Lake Biwa, 35°N: deeper water (70 m)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	<5 kDa	12 (dark)	nd	(+) 20	na	(+) 28	na	Mostofa et al. (2011)	
Four Lakes (45°N)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	13	nd	-(22-31)	nd	nd	nd	Garcia et al. (2005)	
Lake Taihu, China	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.22	12	nd	-70	nd	-60	nd	Zhang et al. (2009b)	
Fulvic acid, Mill Creek: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-(48-79)	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)	
Fulvic acid, Bannister Lake: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-(75-83)	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)	
Fulvic acid and tryptophan, Lake Erie: surface water, 42°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-(74-77)	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)	
Fulvic acid, Sanctuary Pond: surface water, 41°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-(71-79)	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)	
Humic acid, Luther Marsh: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-(64-65)	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)	
Humic acid, Mill Creek: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-(91-100)	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)	
Humic acid, Bannister Lake: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-71	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)	

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (µm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MJm ⁻²)	Changes in fluorescence intensities			References	
					Photoirradiation Peak C-region %	Microbial Peak T- and T _{UV} -regions %	Photoirradiation Peak T- and T _{UV} -regions %		
									Photoirradiation Microbial Peak C-region %
Humic acid, Lake Erie: surface water, 42°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	np	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)
Humic acid, Sanctuary Pond: surface water, 41°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	-(63-81)	na	na	na	Winter et al. (2007)
Tryptophan, Luther Marsh: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	na	na	(+) 62	0	Winter et al. (2007)
Tryptophan, Mill Creek: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	na	na	-(81-88)	0	Winter et al. (2007)
Tryptophan, Lake Erie: surface water, 42°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	na	na	-(72-82)	0	Winter et al. (2007)
Tryptophan, Fish food	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	na	na	-(54-66)	(+) (20-40)	Winter et al. (2007)
Tyrosine, Bannister Lake: surface water, 43°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	na	na	(+) 68, -34	0	Winter et al. (2007)
Tyrosine, Lake Erie: surface water, 42°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	na	na	(+) 1, -19	0	Winter et al. (2007)
Tyrosine, Sanctuary Pond: surface water, 41°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	12	nd	na	na	-(73-100)	0	Winter et al. (2007)
Satilla Estuary	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	70 (irradiated)	nd	-61	na	-45	na	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	70 (irradiated)	nd	-67	“	-37	“	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	51 (dark)	nd	na	-12	na	(+) 112	Moran et al. (2000)
Satilla Estuary	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	51 (dark)	nd	na	-1	na	(+) 23	Moran et al. (2000)
Estuary, Beaufort Sea, 69°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (summer)	nd	-(47-60)	nd	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (Mlm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities			References
					Photoirradiation	Microbial	Photoirradiation	
Estuary, Beaufort Sea, 69°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (spring)	nd	-33	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Estuary, Beaufort Sea, 69°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (autumn)	nd	-19	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Shelf, Beaufort Sea, 69–70°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (summer)	nd	-(67–75)	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Shelf, Beaufort Sea, 70°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (spring)	nd	-(46–61)	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Shelf, Beaufort Sea, 70–71°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (autumn)	nd	-(29–84)	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Gulf, Beaufort Sea, 70°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (spring)	nd	-66	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Gulf, Beaufort Sea, 70–71°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (autumn)	nd	-(50–61)	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Gulf, Beaufort Sea, 70–71°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	72 h (winter)	nd	-(21–67)	nd	nd	Osburn et al. (2009)
Fulvic acid (C-like)?, component 1, Baltic Sea: 55–65°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	48 h (UV-A lamp)	nd	-65	na	na	Stedmon et al. (2007a)
Autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like)?, component 2	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	48 h (UV-A lamp)	nd	-69	na	na	Stedmon et al. (2007a)
Protein-like?, component 4	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	48 h (UV-A lamp)	nd	-54	na	na	Stedmon et al. (2007a)
Tyrosine-like?, component 5	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	48 h (UV-A lamp)	nd	na	na	-26	Stedmon et al. (2007a)
Fulvic acid (A-like)?, component 6	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20	48 h (UV-A lamp)	nd	(+)(252–2740)	na	na	Stedmon et al. (2007a)
Baltic Sea, BY15: 0–30 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	5	nd	-(44–52)	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, BY15: 100–240 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	5	nd	-(58–65)	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)

(continued)

Table 4 (continued)

Type of samples/locations	Origin of DOM	Filtration size/type (μm)	Irradiation time (h/days)	Solar intensity (MJm^{-2})	Changes in fluorescence intensities			References
					Photoirradiation Peak C-region %	Microbial Photoirradiation Peak T- and TUV-regions %	Microbial Photoirradiation Peak T- and TUV-regions %	
Baltic Sea, BY32: 0–50 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	12	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, BY32: 0–50 m + chloroform	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	12	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, BY32: 100–190 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	12	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, BY32: 100–190 m + Chloroform	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	12	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, F15: 0–50 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	4	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, F15: 0–50 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (unfiltered)	4	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, F15: 0–50 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (filtered)	4	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Baltic Sea, F15: 100 m depth	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (filtered)	4	nd	nd	nd	nd	Skoog et al. (1996)
Mediterranean Sea, 42°N: Canet lagoons	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (filtered)	8 h (summer)	nd	nd	(+) 8	nd	Abboudi et al. (2008)
Mediterranean Sea, 42°N: Leucate lagoons	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (filtered)	8 h (summer)	nd	nd	(+) 0.4	nd	Abboudi et al. (2008)
Mediterranean Sea, 42°N: coastal waters (SOLA)	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.20 (filtered)	8 h (summer)	nd	nd	–2	nd	Abboudi et al. (2008)
Seawater, Gotland Deep: 40 m, 57°N	Allochthonous/ autochthonous	0.45	13 (UV-B lamp)	nd	nd	–32	nd	Lepane et al. (2003)

nd not detected, na not applicable, np no significant fluorescence peak observed in samples
 (–) and (+) means a decrease in fluorescence and an increase in fluorescence, respectively, of the respective peaks
 Irradiation time-hours (h) mentioned with each time as 'h' and 'days' mentioned as a whole digit only

substances of 19–67 % during 72 h to 70 days irradiation (Table 4) (Moran et al. 2000; Osburn et al. 2009). In unfiltered seawater samples from the Baltic Sea irradiated for 4–5 days, the corresponding fluorescence intensity decrease has been of 44–52 % at the surface (0–50 m) and 56–65 % in the deeper layers (100–240 m). In some cases the decrease has been more marked, i.e. 61–70 % at the surface (0–50 m) and 73–75 % in the deeper layer (100–190 m). Interestingly the addition of chloroform significantly enhanced photodegradation, yielding a fulvic acid-like fluorescence decrease of 59–81 % in surface samples (0–50 m) and of 83–84 % in deep-water ones (Table 4) (Skoog et al. 1996). The mechanism behind the increased FDOM photodegradation upon addition of chloroform may be the production of phosgene in the presence of O₂ ($\text{CHCl}_3 + \text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow \text{COCl}_2 + \text{HCl}$). Phosgene is highly reactive toward the degradation of the fluorophores, such as the amino groups ($\text{RNH}_2 + \text{COCl}_2 \rightarrow \text{RN}=\text{CO} + 2\text{HCl}$) or carboxylic acids ($\text{RCO}_2\text{H} + \text{COCl}_2 \rightarrow \text{RC(O)Cl} + \text{HCl} + \text{CO}_2$) (Mostofa et al. 2011; Shriner et al. 1943). Such processes would contribute to the decrease of DOM fluorescence in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011).

Photoinduced degradation of Mediterranean Sea samples (8 h sunlight exposure) showed a decrease in the fluorescence of fulvic acid-like or humic-like fluorophores (peak C), in the range of 9–22 % for lagoon water and approaching 34 % for coastal water (Table 4) (Abboudi et al. 2008). Similarly, photoinduced degradation of waters collected from Mackenzie River and Beaufort Sea (Estuary, Shelf and Gulf) demonstrates that the degradation of fulvic acid-like fluorophores (peak C) is usually higher during summer irradiation than in spring, autumn and winter (Table 4). The photodegradation of fulvic acid-like fluorophore (peak C) is relatively higher in Beaufort Sea samples (47–60 % in Estuary during summer; 67–75 % in Shelf during summer; 66 % in Gulf during spring; 72 h irradiation) than in Satilla Estuary (61–67 %, 70 days), Baltic Sea (44–52 % in surface waters, 4–5 days), and Gotland Deep seawater (32 %, 13 days) (Table 4) (Stedmon et al. 2007a; Skoog et al. 1996; Moran et al. 2000; Osburn et al. 2009; Lepane et al. 2003). The high photodegradation of fulvic acid-like substances in Beaufort Sea samples has been explained by the occurrence of two phenomena. Firstly, in many cases a significant fraction of the fulvic acid-like substances are of autochthonous origin, which makes them highly susceptible to photodegradation (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Johannessen et al. 2007). Secondly, in the case of the Beaufort Sea the fulvic acid-like substances have allochthonous origin as they mainly derive from riverine input. Photoinduced degradation of these compounds is poorly effective due to low water temperature in the Beaufort Sea (−0.54 to 21.81 °C in Estuary, −1.36 to 9.23 °C in Shelf, and −1.68 to 0.12 °C in Gulf samples) (Osburn et al. 2009). Therefore, unaffected allochthonous fulvic acid-like substances are highly susceptible to degradation upon laboratory irradiation. The case of the Beaufort Sea may be a particular one, however, because it has been reported that DOM (or FDOM) components are produced from microbial assimilation of phytoplankton biomass or organic matter in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Parlanti et al. 2000; Stedmon et al. 2007a, 2007b; Fu et al. 2010; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Rochelle-Newall

et al. 1999). Photoinduced degradation thus leads to hypotheses about several characteristic chemical and optical features of FDOM, which can be listed as follows (Mostofa et al. 2011): (i) In upstream and downstream rivers the fluorescence is predominantly caused by fulvic and humic acids. In contrast, in the surface layer of lakes and oceans the fluorescence of various FDOM components is rapidly depleted by exposure to natural sunlight (Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Mostofa et al. 2005b; Fu et al. 2010; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008). As a consequence, the FDOM sampled from these environments is relatively less susceptible to undergo further photoinduced degradation in the laboratory, as was for instance the case for Lake Biwa (Table 4). (ii) High losses of fulvic acid-like fluorescence have been observed upon irradiation of water samples from the deeper layers of lakes and seas. They are more pronounced compared to surface water. A reasonable explanation for this phenomena can include two facts. First, the higher occurrence of fulvic or humic acids in the deeper layers may result directly from terrestrial sources through riverine input without degradation in surface waters (Table 4) (Mopper et al. 1991). Second, the releases of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) can occur microbially from algal biomass or phytoplankton in deeper waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Zhang et al. 2009a; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004, 2008). Autochthonous material is highly susceptible to undergo photoinduced decomposition. It has recently been shown that algal-derived CDOM is a more efficient photoinduced substrate than allochthonous fulvic acid (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Johannessen et al. 2007; Hulatt et al. 2009). (iii) By comparison of the initial and final photo-bleached components of fulvic acid (C-like) using PARAFAC analysis, it is estimated that the decrease in fluorescence was highest (28–30 %) in the longer wavelength regions (Ex/Em = 335–350/430–450 nm) than at peak M (17 % at 310/450 nm) and peak A (20 % at 250/440 nm) in downstream river (Mostofa et al. 2010). This suggests that the fluorophore at the longer Ex/Em wavelength in fulvic acid is susceptible to undergo rapid photoinduced degradation in aqueous media. Thus, photodegradation would be useful in the removal of major anthropogenic fluorescent organic contaminants, particularly the fluorophores at the longer Ex/Em wavelengths in rivers (Mostofa et al. 2010). (iv) Photo-induced losses of fulvic acid-like fluorescence intensity are gradually reduced in the transition from river to lake, estuary and sea water (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Mostofa et al. 2007a, 2005b; Vodacek et al. 1997; Cory et al. 2007). The cause might be linked to the prior losses of fluorescence intensity in stagnant lake or seawaters by photodegradation. In contrast, photodegradation in rivers is less effective due to continuous transport of water. Photodegradation changes the excitation–emission spectra by introducing a shift to shorter wavelengths. This might constitute evidence of the alteration of existing fluorophores or of the appearance of new fluorescent organic substances (Mostofa et al. 2009a). Examples of fluorescent substances arising from FDOM photodegradation could be salicylic acid (Ex/Em = 314/410 nm), 3-hydroxybenzoic acid (Ex/Em = 314/423 nm), and 3-hydroxycinnamic acid (Ex/Em = 310/407 nm). These molecules are characterized by fluorescence at relatively short wavelengths (Mostofa et al. 2009a).

Photodegradation of Fulvic Acid and Humic Acid

The fluorescence of standard or extracted fulvic and humic acids is typically decreased by photoinduced degradation under sunlight. The fluorescence of SRFA dissolved in Milli-Q water is photolytically decreased under simulated sunlight (by 42 % in 1 mg L⁻¹ SRFA for 10 h, 23 % for 3 mg L⁻¹ and 3 h, 20 % for 5 mg L⁻¹ and 3 h, and by 22 % with 1 mg L⁻¹ SRFA + 50 μM NO₂⁻ for 3 h) (Table 4). Extracted fulvic acid from Göta River shows a decrease in fluorescence (32 %) in alkaline samples (6.3 mg L⁻¹ fulvic acid in 0.5 M NaOH solution) after 13 days UV-B irradiation (Table 4). A 6-h summer sunlight exposure of fulvic and humic acids extracted from lake, pond and marsh showed that the decrease of humic acid fluorescence was relatively higher (64–100 %) compared to fulvic acid (48–83 %) (Table 4). It is reported that the fluorescence of humic acid is highly depleted in acidic samples, and undergoes a more pronounced decrease compared to fulvic acid even at higher pH (Wu et al. 2005). Correspondingly, photoirradiation can decompose 35 % of extracted Nordic Reference humic acid (NoHA) and 24 % of extracted Nordic Reference fulvic acid (NoFA) from humus-rich pond water in photoexperiments conducted using a solar simulator (Corin et al. 1996). The reported results suggest that the photoinduced degradation of humic acid is pH and concentration dependent, but the reason behind this phenomenon is still unknown. However, the relatively high photolability of humic acid can be in agreement with the high level of aromaticity (30–51 %), in particular when compared to fulvic acid (14–21 %) (Malcolm 1985; Gron et al. 1996; Wu et al. 2005).

The rate constants for the decrease in fluorescence and for DOC loss are significantly higher for humic than for fulvic acid, as obtained by photoexperiments carried out at different pH levels on extracted humic and fulvic acid from upstreams (Wu et al. 2005). Thus, photodegradation of the humic acid fraction is significantly higher than the fulvic acid fraction and is more sensitive to pH. Interestingly, the higher photolability of humic compared to fulvic acid correlates well with the higher production rate of H₂O₂ upon irradiation of Suwannee River humic acid (179 × 10⁻² M s⁻¹) than for Suwannee River fulvic acid (69 × 10⁻² M s⁻¹) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). This might imply that the production of H₂O₂ is a primary step for the photoinduced degradation of DOM in aqueous solution. Humic acid could thus be the primary target of DOM photodegradation in natural waters (Wu et al. 2005). In contrast, fulvic acid is photolytically more stable than humic acid in aqueous media and may play a vital role in biogeochemical processes due to its longer lifetime in natural waters.

It can be noted that the fluorescence intensity of humic acid is increased by irradiation in some particular cases. Thus, increases have been observed of ca. 70 % for Suwannee River Humic Acid (SRHA) (1 mg L⁻¹, 10 h), 5 % for SRHA (5 mg L⁻¹, 3 h), and 4 % in alkaline samples (6.5 mg L⁻¹ Göta River humic acid in 0.5 M NaOH) (Table 4). The reason behind such a phenomenon may be the generation of aromatic photoproducts upon irradiation of humic acid (Corin et al. 1996). Some of these photoproducts may show fluorescence at peak C-region, for

example 3-hydroxybenzoic acid at Ex/Em = 314/423 nm, 3-hydroxycinnamic acid at Ex/Em = 310/407 nm, and methyl salicylate at Ex/Em = 366/448 nm (Mostofa et al. 2010). This may produce an increase of humic acid fluorescence. Weak light intensity may prolong the lifetime of humic acid and its aromatic photoproducts, which may result in a fluorescence increase. On the other hand, intense and prolonged irradiation may decompose humic acid and its photoproducts rapidly (Corin et al. 1996), which causes a decrease in fluorescence.

Photodegradation of Aromatic Amino Acids and Protein

Photodegradation experiments have shown a decrease in tryptophan-like fluorescence (peak T) of 5–59 % in river waters, 7–88 % in lake waters, 37–45 % in estuarine waters, and 54 ± 6 % in sea waters (Table 4) (Stedmon et al. 2007a; Mostofa et al. 2010, 2011; Winter et al. 2007; Moran et al. 2000). Similarly, the decrease in tyrosine-like fluorescence intensity upon irradiation was 19–100 % in lakes, 26 ± 9 % in sea waters and 4–36 % for standard tyrosine dissolved in Milli-Q water. A photolytically-induced increase of tyrosine like fluorescence (1–68 %) was also observed in some lake waters (Table 4) (Stedmon et al. 2007a; Winter et al. 2007). A decrease of fluorescence upon irradiation has also been observed as 63 % for standard tryptophan at 1 mg L^{-1} in milli-Q water and 10 h, 23 % for 3 mg L^{-1} and 3 h, and 20 % for 5 mg L^{-1} and 3 h (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2011). Some amino acids including tryptophan are degradable by photoinduced processes due to their high chemical reactivity (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Rosenstock et al. 2005). The decrease in tryptophan-like fluorescence intensity was lower (59 %) compared than that of fulvic acid (80 %) in rivers (Mostofa et al. 2007b). Therefore, protein- or tryptophan-like components are photolytically degradable but they are less susceptible to photoinduced degradation compared to fulvic acid in natural waters.

Photodegradation of FWAs and Other Substances in Aqueous Media

The FWAs (DAS1 and DSBP) and household detergents are present in significant amount in some polluted rivers, lakes, coastal sea waters and sediments (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010, 2011; Poiger et al. 1999, 1996; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Managaki and Takada 2005; Kramer et al. 1996; Stoll et al. 1998; Stoll and Giger 1998; Baker 2002; Yamaji et al. 2010). The observed fluorescence intensity losses of FWAs or detergent components after up to 10 days irradiation have been 12–81 % in rivers, 34 % in drain samples, and 60–94 % in Milli-Q water (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010, 2011). It has been shown that losses in fluorescence intensity of peak W are 76–81 % during 6–10 days irradiation in river water (Table 4). In the case of distyryl biphenyl (DSBP), the decrease in fluorescence intensity is 94 % for 1 mg L^{-1} and 10 h, 73 % for 3 mg L^{-1} and 3 h, 60 % for 5 mg L^{-1} and 3 h; and 31 %

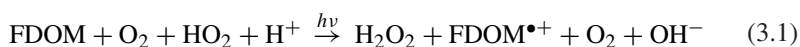
in river water mixed with DSBP during 12 h summer irradiation (Poiger et al. 1999; Mostofa et al. 2011). For diaminostilbene (DAS1) it has been observed a 93 % decrease at 1 mg L^{-1} initial concentration and 10 h irradiation under a solar simulator; and a 12 % decrease in river water mixed with DSBP during 12 h summer irradiation (Table 4) (Poiger et al. 1999; Mostofa et al. 2011). Photoinduced degradation can also decrease 53 % of DAS1 and 81 % of DSBP contents in lake surface waters (Stoll et al. 1998). Irradiation experiments for the standard DSBP and DAS1 using a solar simulator indicate that the fluorescence intensities of FWAs are rapidly decreased, by 40 % for DSBP and 45 % for DAS1 after of 30 min irradiation, but with no shift of their Ex/Em wavelengths (Mostofa et al. 2005a). It is estimated in field observations that the observed removal of FWAs during transport (12 h residence time) is 31 and 12 % for DSBP and DAS 1, respectively, corresponding to half-lives of 0.9 and 2.7 days, respectively, under cloudless summer skies (Poiger et al. 1999). In another study, a mass balance calculation and DSBP/DAS1 ratio shows that ~95 % of DSBP and ~55 % of DAS1 supplied in sewage were decomposed photolytically by natural sunlight in inflowing rivers and in lake, while sedimentation to the lake bottom was insignificant for DSBP and reached ~35 % for DAS1 (Yamaji et al. 2010). More intense photodegradation of FWAs, especially the more photodegradable DSBP, has been observed in Lake Biwa, Japan, than in Lake Greifensee, Switzerland, possibly because of the longer residence time of water in the larger Lake Biwa (Yamaji et al. 2010). A FWAs-salinity diagram in the Tamagawa Estuary shows fairly conservative behavior of the FWAs with ~20 % and ~10 % removal of DSBP and DAS1, respectively, which is thought to be caused by photodegradation (Hayashi et al. 2002). The DSBP/DAS1 ratio also shows a decreasing trend from sewage effluents to rivers and to the Tokyo Bay, indicating selective photodegradation of DSBP (Hayashi et al. 2002). These results suggest that DSBP is more susceptible to photoinduced degradation than DAS1 in natural waters.

For commercial household detergent, the decrease in fluorescence intensity of detergent component (C-like, component 1) is 88 % at peak C-region and 70 % at peak A-region in Milli-Q water during the 3 h of direct sunlight irradiation, under noon summer clear sky conditions (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2010). The detergent component (T_{UV} -like) does not decompose photolytically, rather an increase in fluorescence is detected such as 4 % in sewerage drainage samples and 9 % in commercial detergents samples dissolved in Milli-Q water (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2010). In sewerage-impacted rivers, the fluorescence intensity of the detergent-like component (peak W) was significantly lower (28 %) at noon time (12:00–13:00 p.m.) than before sunrise (Mostofa et al. 2005a). This indicates that detergent-like compounds may have been decomposed photolytically by natural sunlight during the water transport (Mostofa et al. 2005a). In summary, FWAs and household detergents are highly susceptible to photoinduced degradation upon irradiation in the laboratory as well as in field observations (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Baker 2002).

Mechanism for Photodegradation of Fluorophores in FDOM in Aqueous Media

Sequential photodegradation is observed for FDOM fluorophores or functional groups in FDOM macromolecules, particularly fulvic and humic acids. The sequential degradation of fluorophores is generally caused by the presence of diverse functional groups in their molecular structure (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a; Leenheer and Croué 2003; Malcolm 1985; Corin et al. 1996; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Seitzinger et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2005). This phenomenon can be understood from the sequential decrease in the fluorescence intensity of fluvic acid-like components (peak C- and A-regions) with irradiation time (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2007a; Moran et al. 2000). The sequential degradation of various functional groups bound to fulvic and humic acids has also been observed in natural waters (Shriner et al. 1943; Amador et al. 1989; Allard et al. 1994; Xie et al. 2004; Li and Crittenden 2009; Minakata et al. 2009).

Absorption of photon or light by a fluorophore (or functional group) is generally caused by its lowest energy excitation, then by the next lowest energy excitation caused by another fluorophore in the molecule and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a). Fluorophore excitation is the first step for the generation of H₂O₂ in aqueous media according to (Eq. 3.1). Photoirradiation converts H₂O₂ into HO• (Eq. 3.2), photolytically or by Fenton and photo-Fenton reactions (see chapter “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”). The HO• radical can then react with the initial excited fluorophore and decompose it (Eq. 3.3). Therefore, a scheme for the photoinduced degradation of fluorophores in macromolecules can be depicted as below (Eqs. 3.1–3.4; see chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”):



One of the pathways that can lead to H₂O₂ formation is the production of O₂^{•-} from O₂ upon release of electrons from irradiated FDOM fluorophores or chromophores (Eq. 3.1, see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”). Reaction (3.4) produces low molecular weight DOM (LMWDOM), dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), CO₂, and other end products (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”).

Radiation absorption by the next lowest energy fluorophore would then produce further reactive species and cause sequential degradation of the fluorophores, and so on till the entire degradation of the parent molecule. Photoinduced degradation of organic substances can also occur by other processes. For instance, phosgene (COCl_2) is highly photosensitive and highly reactive (Shriner et al. 1943) as explained previously. The sequential photodegradation mechanism is applicable to various FDOM such as fulvic acid and humic acid of plant origin, autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin, proteins and aromatic amino acids.

Controlling Factors for Photodegradation of FDOM in Natural Waters

Photodegradation of FDOM depends on several key factors that are similar to the photodegradation of DOM (Mostofa et al. 2011). The photoinduced degradation of FDOM depends on the several factors in the aquatic environments: (i) The nature or the quality of the organic components of DOM; (ii) The concentration or the quantity of the organic DOM components; (iii) The pH of the sample solution that may affect the photo-induced generation of HO^\bullet , a strong oxidizing agent that is involved in the photodegradation of DOM (Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Wu et al. 2005; Kwan and Voelker 2002). pH also influences the photoactivity of Fe species that take part to DOM photomineralization (Vione et al. 2009); (iv) The presence and quantity of Fe in the water samples that may provide HO^\bullet through photo-Fenton reaction ($\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{HO}^\bullet + \text{OH}^-$) or induce DOM transformation through irradiated Fe-DOM complexes (Wu et al. 2005; Miles and Brezonik 1981; Zepp et al. 1992; Southworth and Voelker 2003); (v) The concentration of O_2 that can assist in the production of HO^\bullet or H_2O_2 (Miles and Brezonik 1981); (vi) The occurrence of NO_2^- and NO_3^- , further sources of HO^\bullet that may enhance the photoinduced decrease of DOM fluorescence (Table 4) (Zinder 1993). For example, irradiation experiments using a solar simulator have shown that addition of NO_2^- to standard SRFA can slightly enhance the decrease of fluorescence, which reaches approximately 22 % with 1 mg L^{-1} SRFA + $50 \text{ }\mu\text{M NO}_2^-$ upon 3 h irradiation compared to 19 % with 1 mg L^{-1} SRFA after 3 h (Table 4). (vii) The light intensity (UV-B, UV-A and PAR: photosynthetically active radiation) is a key factor in the photoinduced reactions and controls the production of reactive transients that correspondingly enhance the photodegradation processes (Garcia et al. 2005; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Granéli et al. 1998; Qian et al. 2001; Randall et al. 2005). Interestingly, the decrease of fluorescence upon addition of NO_2^- that is a major HO^\bullet source (Mack and Bolton 1999) was relatively limited (3 %). This finding would be compatible with SRFA photooxidation primarily occurring because of the photo-induced generation of HO^\bullet produced photolytically by SRFA itself, or through other processes. It can be noted that the production rate of H_2O_2 from SRFA is $69 \times 10^{-12} \text{ M s}^{-1}$ (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009) and a relatively low level of H_2O_2 can accelerate the photoinduced degradation of humic acid in aqueous media (Wang et al. 2001). This hypothesis is in agreement with the assumption that part of the production of HO^\bullet by DOM under irradiation derives from H_2O_2 photogeneration. It is also in agreement

with the results of field observations that the DOM fluorescence decreases with an increase of H_2O_2 concentration over the course of the day in marine surface waters (Obermosterer et al. 2001). An alternative possibility is that also other species different from HO^\bullet may induce the transformation of DOM. Interestingly, the generation rate of HO^\bullet was largely unable to account for the photoinduced mineralization of acidified lake-water or filtered groundwater DOM (Vione et al. 2009).

In addition, photodegradation of FDOM depends on several key factors such as sunlight incident doses, water chemistry, DOM contents, mixing regime and so on (White et al. 2003; Ma and Green 2004; Mostofa et al. 2011; Reche et al. 1999). Moreover, the key factors that affect the FDOM photobleaching are: (1) Solar radiation, (2) Water temperature, (3) Effects of total dissolved Fe and photo-Fenton reaction, (4) Occurrence and quantity of NO_2^- and NO_3^- ions, (5) Molecular nature of DOM, (6) pH and alkalinity of the waters, (7) Dissolved oxygen (O_2), (8) Depth of the water, (9) Physical mixing in the surface mixing zone, (10) Increasing UV-radiation during ozone hole event, and (11) Global warming. These factors are similar to those affecting the photoinduced degradation of DOM (see the chapter Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters).

3.3 Microbial Degradation of FDOM in Natural Waters

Microbial degradation by autotrophs (plants, algae and bacteria) and heterotrophs (animals, fungi and bacteria) induces changes in FDOM in the deeper layers of natural waters (rivers, lakes, and oceans), pore waters and soil waters. The effects have been highlighted in field observations and experimentally under dark incubation. Microbial processes thus alter the fluorescence properties of various FDOM such as fulvic acid, humic acid, aromatic amino acids and FWAs (DAS1 and DSBP) (Fig. 5) (Mostofa et al. 2010, 2007a, 2005b, 2007b, 2011; Ma and Green 2004; Moran et al. 2000).

Fulvic Acid and Humic Acid of Terrestrial Plant Material Origin

The microbial degradation can alter the fulvic acid-like fluorescence intensities at peaks A-, C- and M-regions and their excitation–emission (Ex/Em) peak positions in natural waters (Ma and Green 2004; Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007b, 2011; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008). Allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) fluorescence is increased by approximately 3–81 % in rivers due to microbial degradation, for an incubation period ranging from hours to 13 days (Table 4). Allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) fluorescence is entirely decomposed microbially after 12 days of dark incubation at room temperature (Table 4). In lakes, the fulvic acid-like fluorescence is increased by up to 31 % in molecular fractions $<0.1 \mu\text{m}$ and 102 % in $<5 \text{ kDa}$ fractions in surface waters. In deeper DOM fractions the corresponding increases are 0 and 20 % under dark incubation for 12 days (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2011). In contrast, fulvic acid-like

fluorescence is decreased microbially (Table 4) (Garcia et al. 2005). In estuarine water, the decrease in fulvic acid-like fluorescence is relatively high: 11 % at peak A, 1–12 % at peak C, and 1–12 % at peak M in replicate samples during a 51 days incubation period (Table 4) (Moran et al. 2000). In Mediterranean Sea samples, DOM fluorescence is either increased (0.4–8 %) after 8 h dark incubation in lagoon water, or decreased (2 %) in coastal water (Table 4) (Abboudi et al. 2008). Upon microbial processing, the fluorescence of standard SRFA does not change significantly after 10 h incubation (Table 4). A fluorescence increase after a 9-day incubation period has been detected in fulvic (8 %) and humic acid (6 %) extracted from Göta River (Table 4). These results may lead to the hypothesis that there are several characteristic chemical and optical features of fulvic acid and FWAs in natural waters, which can be classified as: (i) Fluorescent compounds, particularly fulvic and humic acids (C-like) in stream, are typically recalcitrant to microbial degradation. Microbes are not capable of decomposing the fluorophores in the longer wavelength region, particularly the peak C-region in allochthonous fulvic and humic acids. Fluorophores of humic substances at peak C-region are mostly composed of aromatic molecules associated with functional groups having extensive π -electron systems, or with specific repeating functional groups in the carbon matrix of peak C-region, which are highly recalcitrant to microbial degradation (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2010; Malcolm 1985; Geller 1986; Münster 1991). (ii) Allochthonous fulvic acid (M-like) is highly labile to biological degradation, thus it has opposite behavior than allochthonous fulvic acid (C-like). (iii) Under dark incubation, the increase of fulvic acid-like fluorescence is typically higher in surface lake water compared to the deeper layers. This finding allows the hypothesis that surface photo-bleached fulvic acid is highly labile to microbial changes, which can lead to a significant increase in fulvic acid-like fluorescence. (iv) Finally, the decrease in fulvic acid-like fluorescence is insignificant (0–5 %). This fluorescence may presumably result from the decomposition of other fluorescent components present in the same peak position.

Autochthonous Fulvic Acid (C-like) of Algal Origin

The fluorescence intensities of peaks A and C of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like), produced during the microbial assimilation of algal biomass (Algae + river waters) during long-term dark incubation (180 days), were maximal at the 4th day of incubation. The intensities then became lowest at the 20th day, gradually increased until the 70th day and increased again after the 80th day till the 180th (Fig. 6). This result suggests that the microbial processes can alter rapidly the fluorophores bound at peaks A- and C-regions of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) during the initial 20 days of incubation. It follows a slower microbial alteration of fluorophores from 20 to 70 days, and an even slower alteration from 80 to 180 days. From 20 days onward, fluorescence intensities of both peaks gradually increase. This result can be interpreted by the ratios of fluorescence intensities of peak A divided by peak C of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like). Such a

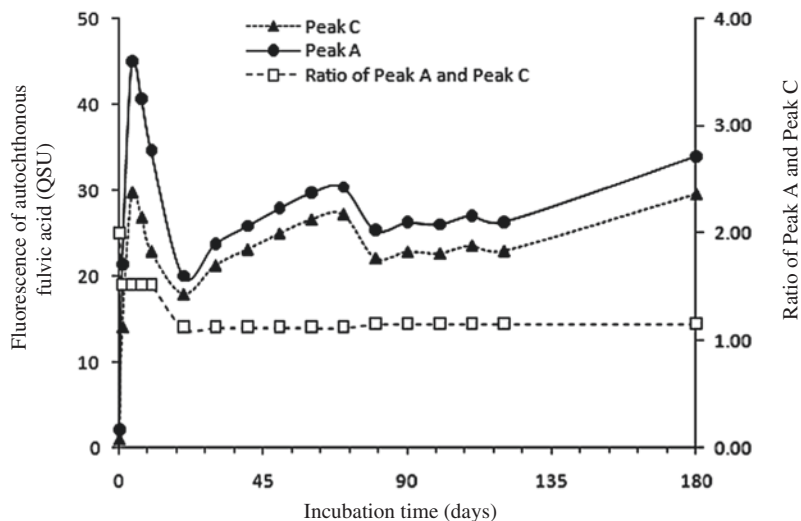


Fig. 6 The changes in the fluorescence intensities of peaks A and C and their fluorescence intensity ratios of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) originated under microbial assimilations of lake algal biomass during the long-term dark incubation period (1–180 days). The fluorescence intensities of both peaks A and C are the average of duplicate samples. *Data source* Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished data)

ratio becomes high (peak A/peak C = 1.53) from 1 to 10 days, then it decreases to 0.98 from 20 to 70 days, and decreases again to 0.87 between 80 and 180 days of incubation (Table 3; Fig. 6). It is in agreement with earlier results concerning the production of CDOM in resuspension of particulate matter in an isotonic solution (0.5‰ salinity, no N and P). The measured spectral slope $S_{300-500}$ was highest at the 6th day, reached the lowest level at the 9th day, increased during days 12–18 and after 21 days it remained approximately constant (Zhang et al. 2009a). Time-scale variation in the release of new DOM depends on the several key factors such as contents of nutrients, occurrence of microorganisms, salinity, and nature of particulate materials. Microbial degradation can also increase the spectral slope $S_{350-400}$ (nm^{-1}), which is an index of high molecular weight substances and can decrease $S_{275-295}$ (nm^{-1}), which is related to low molecular weight DOM (Helms et al. 2008).

The reported findings allow three characteristic phenomena to be hypothesized for the microbial degradation of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin. Firstly, autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) is primarily released in the initial phase (4–6 days), and afterward the fluorophores bound at peaks A- and C-regions may be rapidly decomposed by microbial processes (4–20 days). The result is the decrease either in the fluorescence intensities of both peaks A- and C-regions of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) or in the overall absorbance properties of CDOM. Secondly, the fluorophores connected to the peak A-region of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) may undergo faster microbial decomposition compared to those

at peak C-region during the second phase (10–20 days). The result is a decrease in both the fluorescence intensities and the ratios of fluorescence intensities of peak A- and peak C-regions. Thirdly, microbial processes may slowly alter the fluorophores bound at both peak A- and C-regions during the third phase (20–70 days), and much more slowly during the fourth phase (80–180 days). The gradual increase in the fluorescence intensities of both peaks A and C suggest that a gradual conversion could be operational of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) into compounds highly recalcitrant or refractory to microbial degradation. These modifications are in agreement with earlier studies, which suggest that microbial processes induce rapid decomposition of the ‘labile’ fraction such as monosaccharides (e.g. glucose), amino acids and fatty acids, which are the monometric molecules that make up carbohydrates, proteins and lipids. In contrast, the ‘refractory’ fraction is decomposed more slowly (Zhang et al. 2009a; Hama 1991; Hama et al. 2004; Wakeham and Lee 1993; Wakeham et al. 1997; Harvey and Macko 1997; Hanamachi et al. 2008).

Microbial Degradation of FWAs (DAS1 and DSBP)

FWAs-like fluorescence (peak W) is often increased, by 6–14 % in rivers, by 8 % in drain samples, by 14 % for commercial detergents in Milli-Q water, and by 21 % in river waters plus commercial detergents after 6–10 days dark incubation (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2011). In rivers, commercial detergents or FWAs-like components typically undergo an increase in fluorescence after microbial degradation. Such a behavior is similar to that of fulvic acid under dark incubation in natural waters. Upon microbial processing, the fluorescence of standard DSBP does not change significantly upon 10 h of dark incubation (Table 4). Commercial detergent (component 2) that shows fluorescence peak at $E_x/E_m = 225\text{--}230/287\text{--}296$ nm (peak T_{UV}-region), can be microbially decomposed by approximately 84 % in river plus detergent samples, 90 % in sewerage drain samples, and 15 % in commercial detergents samples dissolved in Milli-Q waters, within 10 days of dark incubation (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2010). These results suggest that highly polluted waters can rapidly decompose fluorophores at peak T_{UV}-region, i.e., partly the commercial detergents. In contrast, detergent components or FWAs (C-like) are unaltered microbially in natural waters. Microbes are primarily unable to decompose the FWAs (DSBP and DAS1) because of their complex molecular structure composed of a number of aromatic rings with several functional groups (Fig. 3y, a') (Mostofa et al. 2010)).

Microbial Degradation of Aromatic Amino Acids

The fluorescence of tryptophan-like components under dark incubation is typically decreased, by approximately 13–24 % in unfiltered river waters, by 67 % in unfiltered sewerage drain samples, and by 11 % in filtered river samples (Table 4) (Mostofa et al. 2010). On the other hand, an increase in tryptophan-like fluorescence is often observed in filtered river waters (4–6 %), in lake water in the

molecular fractions $<0.1 \mu\text{m}$ (68 % in surface water and 5 % in deep water) and $<5 \text{ kDa}$ (51 % in surface water and 28 % in deep water), and in estuaries (23–112 %) (Table 4). Upon microbial processing, the standard tryptophan fluorescence does not change significantly after 10 h incubation (Table 4). From these results it can be concluded that there are several characteristic phenomena concerning microbial degradation of tryptophan-like components in natural waters. First, tryptophan-like components are microbiologically labile but microbial degradation is a relatively slow process whilst photodegradation is rapid (Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007b; Baker and Inverarity 2004). Second, an increase in tryptophan-like fluorescence in filtered samples and a decrease in unfiltered samples can be rationalized considering that the filtration processes may deactivate or hinder the bacterial activity. Therefore, if the fluorescence intensity decrease in unfiltered samples may be due to the microbial degradation of tryptophan, the increase in filtered samples might be the result of the binding of tryptophan-like components to humic substances (Volk et al. 1997). Interestingly, an increase of fulvic acid-like FI is typically observed under dark incubation (Mostofa et al. 2007b) and in deep lake or seawaters (Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Mostofa et al. 2005b). Finally, photo-bleached tryptophan-like DOM is resistant to microbial processes in natural waters. It has been shown that 70 % of the dissolved amino acids (DAA) and dissolved carbohydrates (DCHO) associated with the humic fraction are consumed by microbial degradation in natural waters (Rosenstock and Simon 2003).

3.3.1 Mechanism for Microbial Degradation of Fluorophores in FDOM

The microbial degradation of high molecular weight (HMW) DOM such as fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) of vascular plant origin and autochthonous fulvic acid of algal origin can increase the fluorescence intensities at both peak A- and C-regions. It is generally considered that the peak A-region is linked with aliphatic moieties and functional groups with less aromaticity, whilst the peak C-region is characterized by high aromaticity and functional groups with repeated structural units. Therefore, microbial degradation can effectively modify the aliphatic part of HMW DOM, which can enhance the fluorescence intensity mostly at peak A-region. The microbial increase of fluorescence intensity of HMW DOM is the result of changes in the molecular structure by several pathways.

Firstly, microbes can degrade aliphatic carbon (e.g. carbohydrates) or the functional groups of macromolecules such as fulvic and humic acids of vascular plant origin, as well as autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin, with subsequent release of a variety of end products such as CH_4 , CO_2 , DIC, PO_4^{3-} , NH_4^+ , H_2O_2 and organic peroxides (see also chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles

in Natural Waters”) (Ma and Green 2004; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Palenik and Morel 1988; Conrad 1999; Lovley et al. 1996). Secondly, methanogenesis caused by microorganisms (methanogens and acetogens) is an important anaerobic process that can produce CH_4 and CO_2 by converting either acetate (and formate) or H_2/CO_2 in anaerobic environments (Conrad 1999; Lovley et al. 1996; Zinder 1993; Kotsyurbenko et al. 2001). It is presumably considered that the carbohydrate fraction or aliphatic carbon bound in macromolecules (allochthonous fulvic and humic acids) (Malcolm 1985; Peuravuori and Pihlaja 1999) may alter by the methanogenesis. This process can change the molecular structure either by modifying the existing functional groups in the macromolecules or by creating a new π -electron bonding system in the molecule.

3.3.2 Factors Affecting the Microbial Degradation of FDOM in Waters

An increase in fulvic acid-like or humic-like fluorescence at peak C- and A-regions as well as a decrease in fluorescence of aromatic amino acids either in deeper waters of lakes and ocean or in dark incubated water samples is an effect of the microbial degradation of organic matter and the related functional groups (Hayase and Shinozuka 1995; Coble 1996, 2007; Mostofa et al. 2010, 2007a, 2007b, 2011; Ma and Green 2004; Moran et al. 2000). Microbial degradation of DOM thus depends on several key factors that can be distinguished as: (1) Occurrence and nature of microbes in waters; (2) Sources of DOM and the quantity of their fermentation products; (3) Temperature; (4) pH; and (5) Sediment depths in pore waters.

3.4 Complex Formation of Trace Elements with FDOM

Trace elements can significantly affect the fluorescence properties of FDOM in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Wu et al. 2004a, 2004b; Fu et al. 2007; Lu and Jaffé 2001). The trace elements or metals (M) can generally form complexes with the fluorophores or functional groups in fluorescent dissolved organic matter (FDOM), which are termed as M-DOM or M-FDOM. The relevant trace elements are transition metals such as Fe, V, Ce, Th, U, Mo, Cu, Mn, Ni, Co, Cr, Zn, Pb, Cd, Hg and $\text{UO}_2(\text{II})$, metal/metalloid such as Sb(III) and Al, as well as the alkaline earth elements (see also chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter with Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011; Wu et al. 2004a, 2004b, 2004c; Zhang et al. 2010; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Lu and Jaffé 2001). The relevant organic substances in M-DOM complexation are fulvic acid, humic acid, tryptophan, cysteine, selenoprotein P, extracellular polymeric substances (EPS), the Schiff base 2-[4-dimethylaminocinnamalmino]—benzoic acid, phenols and polyphenols (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011; Wu et al. 2004a, 2004b; Lu and Jaffé 2001). The fluorophores in FDOM or functional groups in DOM

are responsible for the formation of complex with trace elements. Therefore, the fluorescence intensity is either enhanced or quenched due to the complexation of FDOM fluorophores with trace elements (Wu et al. 2004a, 2004b; Fu et al. 2007; Lu and Jaffé 2001; Cabaniss and Shuman 1988; Cabaniss 1992).

The complexation of trace elements with fluorescent substances does not only affect the fluorescence intensity, but also the fluorescence peak position of the respective fluorophore (Wu et al. 2004c). Both excitation and emission wavelengths of the respective fluorophore peak in fulvic acid gradually increase with increasing reaction time (Wu et al. 2004c). It has been hypothesized that donation of electrons occurs from functional groups or fluorophores in DOM to empty *d*-orbitals in transition metals or in partially empty *p*-orbitals in metal/metalloid ($F + M^{n+} \rightarrow F:M^{n+}$), thereby causing a strong π -electron bonding system between DOM and metals (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011). Donation of electrons from functional groups or fluorophores in DOM causes the *d*-orbitals to be either stabilized or destabilized in the complex compound, thereby causing the fluorescence to either decrease or increase, respectively, in the M-DOM complexes (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011).

3.5 Salinity

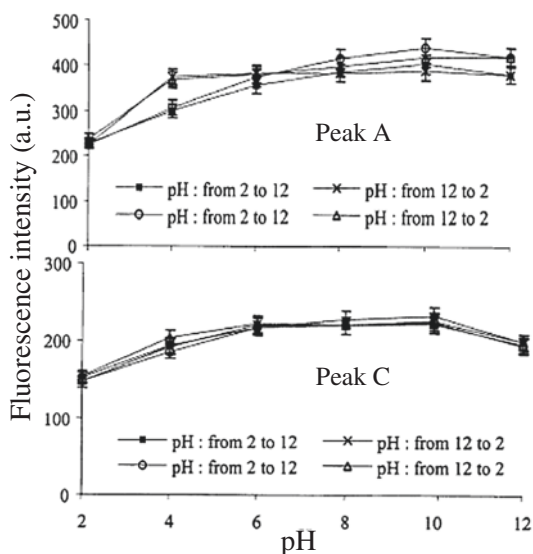
Salinity can significantly affect the fluorescence properties of FDOM in natural waters (Dorsch and Bidleman 1982; Hayase et al. 1987; Coble 1996; Determann et al. 1996; Parlanti et al. 2000; Nakajima 2006; Laane 1980; Willey and Atkinson 1982; Berger et al. 1984; Laane and Kramer 1990; de Souza Sierra et al. 1997; Boyd et al. 2010). The fluorescence intensity decreases linearly with salinity (Dorsch and Bidleman 1982; Hayase et al. 1987; Laane 1980; Willey and Atkinson 1982; Berger et al. 1984; Laane and Kramer 1990). It is shown that the fluorescence intensities of fulvic acid are quenched significantly with modest saline mixing (Boyd et al. 2010). Two types of result are detected during the mixing of freshwater and seawater (Determann et al. 1996; de Souza Sierra et al. 1997). First, a slow blue-shift of the fluorescence at peak C-region is detected for humic (fulvic)-like fluorophores during the initial mixing of freshwater to seawater between salinity 0 and 32 (de Souza Sierra et al. 1997). Secondly, for higher salinity (>32) a rapid wavelength shift is detected until the salinity reaches the maximum seawater value (de Souza Sierra et al. 1997).

On the other hand, salinity is presumably considered to shift the excitation–emission wavelengths of freshwater fulvic acid (peak C) from the shorter wavelengths found in freshwater rivers (325–340/450–475 nm) and lakes (310–350/410–464 nm) to longer wavelength regions (350–365/446–465 nm) in marine environments (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2005a; Coble 1996; Parlanti et al. 2000; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Nakajima 2006). The mixing of standard organic substances with Milli-Q and seawater shows that the excitation–emission wavelength maxima of SRFA, DAS1, tyrosine, benzoic acid, *p*-hydroxybenzoic acid,

p-hydroxybenzaldehyde and *p*-hydroxyacetophenone are significantly shifted from shorter to longer wavelength regions in seawater (Table 1) (Nakajima 2006). For example, the fluorescence peak C of SRFA dissolved in seawater is detected at Ex/Em = 345/452 nm, whilst the same peak in Milli-Q water is detected at Ex/Em = 325/442 nm. Peak A remains almost the same in both aqueous media (Table 1) (Nakajima 2006). The fluorescence peak C of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin is detected at Ex/Em = 340/442–448 nm in Milli-Q water, and at Ex/Em = 340/454–455 nm in river waters during the photo- and microbial assimilations of algae (Table 2) (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). In another study, the same fluorescence peak C of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin has been detected at Ex/Em = 365/453 nm and 270/453 nm in an isotonic solution during the microbial assimilation of lake phytoplankton (0.5 ‰ salinity) (Table 2) (Zhang et al. 2009a). The autochthonous fulvic acid or marine humic-like of algal origin (peak M) at peak C-region has been found to shift from 290/400–410 nm in Milli-Q water to 300–310/400–410 nm in seawater (Table 2) (Parlanti et al. 2000)). Such a shift in excitation and emission wavelength maxima is presumably caused by the anions and cations present in sea water and is termed the red shift of fulvic acid-like fluorescence. The mechanism behind the red shift in sea water is attributed to complex formation between the functional groups (or fluorophore at peak C- and A-regions) in fulvic acid and trace elements or ions. The complexation of trace elements with the functional groups (or fluorophores) bound at peak C or peak A in SRFA can significantly enhance the electron transfer from the ground state to the excited state by longer wavelength energy. This effect shifts the excitation–emission maxima of the peak C or peak A to longer wavelength regions. Such a shift in both excitation–emission wavelengths takes place during the initial complexation processes and increases with time (Wu et al. 2004a, 2004c). This is evidenced by the photoinduced formation of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) from organic substances and by their high production in NaCl-mixed solutions compared to Milli-Q water (Gopinathan et al. 1972; Zepp et al. 1987; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Assel et al. 1998; Richard and Canonica 2005).

On the other hand, the mixing of some standard FDOM (e.g. DSBP, phenol, and tryptophan) with seawater shows that the fluorescence excitation–emission wavelength maxima (peak C-region and peak T-region) are shifted to shorter wavelengths compared to Milli-Q waters (Nakajima 2006). Such changes in fluorescence excitation–emission maxima are termed as blue-shift of the fluorophores in FDOM. In some cases the blue-shift of the fluorescence peaks could be caused by the loss of high molecular weight fluorescent components by physicochemical modifications such as flocculation, aggregation or precipitation during the initial mixing (de Souza Sierra et al. 1997; Sholkovitz 1976; Carlson and Mayer 1983; McCarthy et al. 1996; Van Heemst et al. 2000; Benner and Opsahl 2001). In the case of smaller molecules, the blue-shift phenomenon is presumably caused by complex formation between anions or cations and the fluorophores (or functional groups) of few fluorescent organic components. This may increase the excitation energy of the fluorophores bound to peak C or peak A-region and change the excitation–emission wavelengths from longer to shorter wavelength regions.

Fig. 7 Changes in the fluorescence intensities of the fluorophores regarding peak A- (a) and C-(b) regions with solution pH for bulk sample collected from Rio Solimoes in Amazon basin rivers. The error bar indicates their standard deviation. *Data source* Patel-Sorrentino et al. (2002)

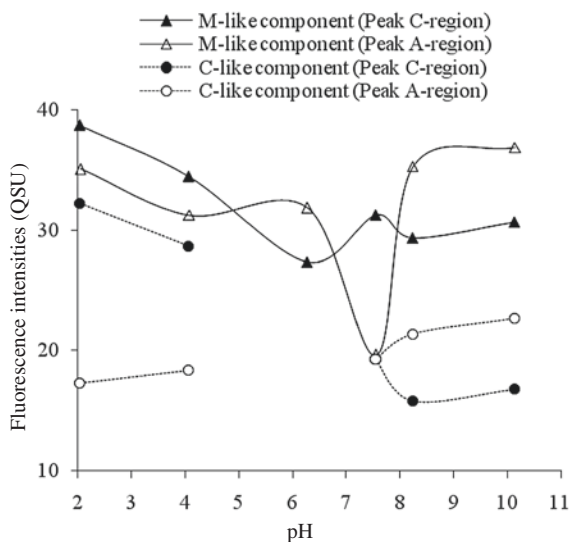


3.6 pH

The fluorescence properties of various FDOM components are significantly changed by pH variations (2–12) in aqueous solution (Figs. 6, 7, 8) (Gosh and Schnitzer 1980; Henderson et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2010; Laane 1982; Vodacek and Philpot 1987; Pullin and Cabaniss 1995; Mobed et al. 1996; Patel-Sorrentino et al. 2002; Baker et al. 2007; Spencer et al. 2007). The fluorescence intensities at peak C- and peak A-regions for fulvic acid in Amazon basin rivers are significantly increased up to pH 11, and then decrease in the pH interval 11–12 (Fig. 7) (Patel-Sorrentino et al. 2002). The ratios of fluorescence intensities of peak A and peak C are independent of the molecular fractions of particulate ($>0.22 \mu\text{m}$), colloidal and dissolved ($<5 \text{ kDa}$) organic matter in natural waters (Patel-Sorrentino et al. 2002). The fluorescence intensity of peak C (Ex/Em = 320–340/410–430 nm, presumably caused by fulvic acid) is increased markedly between pH 2 and 6 and then decreases at pH 8–10. In contrast, the fluorescence of peak C (Ex/Em = 370–390/460–480 nm, possibly caused by humic acid) is unaltered at higher pH (Henderson et al. 2009; Spencer et al. 2007).

In the case of bulk lake DOM, the autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like, respectively, of algal origin) identified by PARAFAC modeling are detected at pH 8–10, but the C-like component is absent at pH 2–4 (Fig. 8) (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). The fluorescence intensities of the M-like component are significantly influenced by pH in the peak A-region: compared to the initial lake-water pH (7.5), a 79 % increase is observed at pH 2, it decreases to 59 % at pH 4 and then gradually increases to 88 % at pH 10. The

Fig. 8 Changes in the fluorescence intensities of algal-originated autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like component) identified in lake DOM (Lake Hongfeng, China) and its pH effect. The fluorescent components are identified using PARAFAC model on sample's EEM spectra. *Data source* Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished data)



C-region is less affected by pH: there is a 24 % increase at pH 2, a decrease at pH 6 and a further increase up to pH 10. In contrast, the fluorescence intensity of the C-like component is significantly affected at the peak C-region: compared to the initial pH of 7.5 there is a 67 % increase at pH 2, then a gradual decrease up to the lowest intensity observed at pH 10. In the case of the peak A-region, one sees a 10 % decrease followed by a gradual increase up to a value that is 18 % higher compared to the initial one (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). Therefore, the effect of pH on algal-originated autochthonous fulvic acids (M- and C-like) is quite different compared to allochthonous fulvic acids.

An increasing fluorescence intensity of humic substances has been detected as pH increases from 4 to 5.5, above which the increase is less important (Vodacek and Philpot 1987). In fulvic acid standards and wastewater treatment plant samples, when lowering the pH from 7 to 3 the decrease of the fluorescence intensity is 30–40 % at peaks C- and A-regions as well as over most of the EEM range, including the peak T- and T_{UV} -region (Westerhoff et al. 2001). For the fulvic acid-like component, the excitation–emission wavelengths for peak C undergo a red shift with increasing pH (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Westerhoff et al. 2001; Spencer et al. 2007). The pH effect on the complex formation of trace elements with DOM shows that, for DOM, the fluorescence index ($f_{450/500}$ at Ex_{370} nm) has a decreasing trend with increasing pH. For DOM + Hg(II) complexation, one sees an increase of the fluorescence index till pH 8 followed by a decrease up to pH 10 (Fu et al. 2007). This suggests that the fluorescence properties of DOM might be affected by several factors such as pH, coexisting metal ions and other organic substances. In addition, the fluorescence properties of three fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs) are modified by pH in the 3–7 range, and the largest pH effect has been detected for the distyrylbiphenyl (DSBP) (Westerhoff et al. 2001).

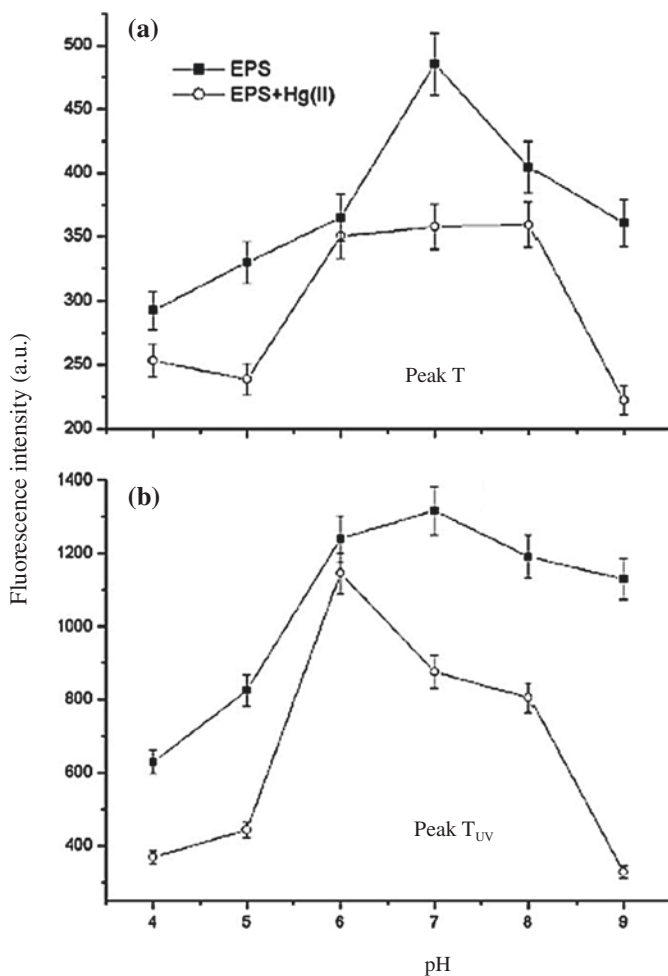


Fig. 9 Changes in the fluorescence intensities of peak T (a) and peak T_{UV} (b) for extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) with solution pH in the absence and presence of 3.0 mg L⁻¹ Hg(II). The error bar indicates the standard deviation of three independent measurements. Data source Zhang et al. (2010)

In case of tryptophan-like substance or extracellular polymeric substances (EPS), the fluorescence intensities at peak T- and peak T_{UV}-regions are the highest at neutral pH (7.0) and often decrease when the solution pH increases (9.0) or decreases (4.0) (Fig. 9) (Zhang et al. 2010). The EPS is mostly composed of tryptophan-like substances that show a twice higher fluorescence intensity at peak T_{UV} than at peak T (Fig. 9). The pH effect on tryptophan-metal complexation has some characteristic features. The fluorescence intensity of peak T_{UV} is highest at pH 6 and peak T is similar at pH 6–8, differently from the trend of tryptophan fluorescence (Fig. 9) (Zhang et al. 2010). The fluorescence intensities of tryptophan

standards decrease by up to 15 % at pH <4.5, there is little effect at pH 5–8, and fluorescence is enhanced by up to 30 % at pH > 8. The peak B (tyrosine-like) is more sensitive to pH changes than the other peaks (Hudson et al. 2007; Reynolds 2003).

Therefore, the fluorescence properties of FDOM are significantly affected by pH, at a different extent for a variety of waters. The pH effect depends on several factors such as the sources and chemical nature of DOM, the occurrence of different functional groups, the presence of other organic substances and the contents of trace elements. Four possible mechanisms are proposed from earlier studies for the pH effect (Gosh and Schnitzer 1980; Henderson et al. 2009; Westerhoff et al. 2001; Laane 1982; Patel-Sorrentino et al. 2002; Myneni et al. 1999): (i) the alteration of the molecular orbitals of excitable electrons; (ii) physical changes in the molecular shape caused by changes in charge density (for instance, humic substances have a linear structure at high pH and coil when pH decreases); (iii) competition between H^+ and metal ions to form complexes with the fluorescent substances; and (iv) conformational changes in the molecules that can expose or hide their fluorescent parts. These mechanisms for the pH effect are not well understood. However, because changes in the fluorescence properties due to pH variation from pH 2 to 12 are reversible, it is excluded that irreversible structural changes may occur (Vodacek and Philpot 1987; Patel-Sorrentino et al. 2002).

Reversible pH-induced changes in the fluorescence properties may be caused by two phenomena. First, the H^+ or OH^- ions can alter the availability of electrons to be excited in a specific functional group or fluorophore in a fluorescent molecule, which can significantly modify the fluorescence intensity. Usually, the intensity is increased by an enhancement of electron excitation and decreased by an inhibition. For example, under neutral conditions the functional group ($-CH_2-(NH_3^+)-CH-COO^-$) bound to peak T-like fluorophore in tryptophan can show a resonance configuration that favors electron excitation and results into the highest fluorescence intensity (Fig. 9). The availability of electrons to be excited, and the fluorescence intensity as a consequence, decreases both under acidic conditions ($-CH_2-(NH_2)-CH-COOH$) and under basic ones ($-CH_2-(NH_2)-CH-COO^-$). In addition, the availability of non-bonding electrons ($:NH-$) in another functional group of tryptophan ($C_8H_5(NH)-$) bound to the peak T_{UV} -like fluorophore would be highest under neutral conditions, because there is no solvent effect on $:NH-$. In contrast, the non-bonding electrons of $:NH-$ can react either with H^+ or with OH^- . In both cases the reaction can significantly reduce the availability of non-bonding electrons and, as a consequence, the fluorescence intensity in acidic and in basic solutions.

The main functional groups bound to fulvic and humic acids are $-COOH$, $-COOCH_3$, $-OH$, $-OCH_3$, $-CH=O$, $-C=O$, $-NH_2$, $-NH-$, $-CH=CH-COOH$, $-OCH_3$, S-, O- or N-containing aromatic compounds, although their parent molecular structures are unknown (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a; Leenheer and Croué 2003; Malcolm 1985; Corin et al. 1996; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Seitzinger et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2005). Such diverse functional groups have strong affinity for complex formation with metal ions. Therefore, the pH effect on fulvic and humic acids shows a different pattern compared to the tryptophan molecule.

3.7 Temperature

The fluorescence intensity of FDOM is inversely related to temperature because of an increased collisional quenching of fluorescence at higher temperatures (Wehry 1973; Vodacek and Philpot 1987). Within the range 10–45 °C, the fluorescence intensity can increase by approximately 1 % with a 1 °C decrease in temperature in the case of tryptophan-like, humic-like and fulvic-like substances, depending on colloid size and fluorophore (Henderson et al. 2009; Baker 2005; Vodacek and Philpot 1987; Elliott et al. 2006; Seredyńska-Sobecka et al. 2007). In contrast, the fluorescence intensities of tryptophan standards are almost unaffected by a temperature variation of ± 8 °C (Reynolds 2003). The thermal quenching of fluorescence can be significant because of variation in water temperature between the summer and winter seasons as well as the high variation between boreal, tropical and Antarctic-Arctic regions. The effect of temperature on fluorescence quenching is linear and reversible, and it can be prevented in the laboratory by measuring the fluorescence of samples at a constant temperature (Vodacek and Philpot 1987). The thermal quenching effects can also be overcome by applying simple correction factors, but such factors may be different for fluorophores of different size fractions (Seredyńska-Sobecka et al. 2007). The mechanism of the temperature effect on fluorescence is that a rise in water temperature increases the likelihood that an excited electron will return to its ground state by radiationless decay, leading to reduced fluorescence intensity (Henderson et al. 2009). It is suggested that a variation of water temperature across a range of 20 °C or more between summer and winter would lead to a corresponding decrease by 20 % of the fluorescence intensity during summer (Henderson et al. 2009). Fluorescence changes caused by temperature may have no effect on the structure of the DOM. However, it has been shown that non-reversible changes may occur, possibly as a result of the application of a light-source that may cause photodegradation or thermal decomposition (Vodacek and Philpot 1987).

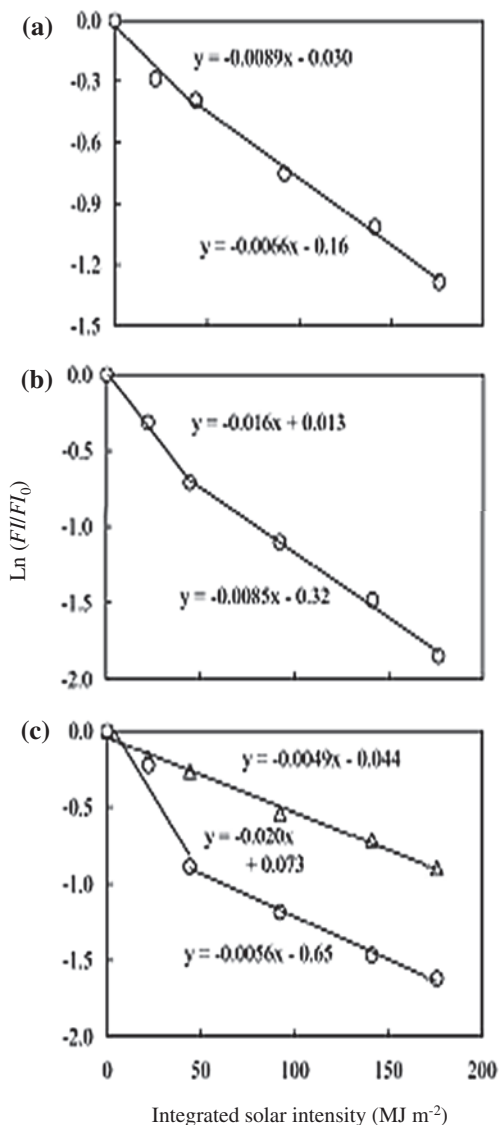
4 Kinetics of Photodegradation of the Fluorescence Intensity of Fulvic Acid and Tryptophan

Fulvic acid and tryptophan-like fluorescence intensity (FI) decreases monotonically with the number of absorbed UV photons or with integrated solar intensity, as a result of solar effects on water (Fig. 10) (Mostofa et al. 2007a). Photodegradation of fulvic acid often follows a two-step kinetics (Mostofa et al. 2007a; Ma and Green 2004), while tryptophan is photodegraded in a single step (Mostofa et al. 2007a). A decrease of FI can be best fit to a first-order kinetics as follows (Eq. 4.1):

$$\ln(FI/FI_0) = -k_2S \quad (4.1)$$

where k_2 is the reaction rate constant for photodegradation of FI in waters, FI is the fluorescence intensity obtained after illumination, FI_0 is the initial fluorescence

Fig. 10 Relationships between the $\text{Ln}(FI/FI_0)$ and the integrated solar intensity and the integrated solar intensity for upstream waters (**a** and **b** Kago upstream and Nishi-Mataya upstream, respectively) and downstream waters (**c** Yasu River). *Open circle* indicates the changes in fulvic acid-like fluorescence intensity (FI) and *open triangle* in **c** shows the change in the protein-like FI under the irradiated condition. *Data source* Mostofa et al. (2007a)



intensity, and S is the integrated solar intensity (MJ m^{-2}). Photodegradation of FI can be clearly understood from the relationship between the S and $\text{Ln}(FI/FI_0)$ (Mostofa et al. 2007a).

In river water, the reaction rate constant of fulvic acid-like FI is significantly higher in the first step of photodegradation ($8.9\text{--}20 \times 10^{-3} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$) than in the second step ($5.6\text{--}8.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$) (Mostofa et al. 2007a). The photodegradation rate constant of protein-like FI often follows one-step kinetics with respect to integrated solar radiation. The photodegradation rate constant of tryptophan-like

FI ($4.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$) is quite similar to that observed in the second step of fulvic acid ($5.6\text{--}8.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ MJ}^{-1} \text{ m}^2$). From the results one can hypothesize several important photoinduced characteristics of fulvic acid and tryptophan components in waters. The fast first-step photodegradation of fulvic acid suggests the existence of highly sensitive fluorophores (and probably of a discrete class of them) that might undergo quick photoinduced decomposition (del Vecchio and Blough 2002). Schiff-base derivatives ($-\text{N}=\text{C}-\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{N}-$) are highly sensitive fluorophores that are commonly detected in DOM humic substances (fulvic and humic acids). They show a fluorescence peak at $\text{Ex/Em} = 360\text{--}390/450\text{--}470 \text{ nm}$ (Laane 1984) and could well be involved in the initial high losses of FI by fulvic acid in DOM in the aquatic environment. The almost linear reaction rate observed in the second step of fulvic acid photodegradation suggests the presence of homogeneous fluorophores which might be photolytically decomposed, although less quickly than the former ones. The linear photodegradation of tryptophan-like FI could be due to the presence of merely one type of fluorophore ($-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)-\text{COOH}$), which would undergo gradual photoinduced decomposition. It is finally possible (unless it is a mere coincidence) that the similarity of the reaction rate constants of tryptophan-like FI and of fulvic acid in the second step are due to the presence of similar fluorophores (Mostofa et al. 2007a).

5 Ecological Significance of Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of FDOM in Natural Waters

5.1 Ecological Significance of Photoinduced Degradation of FDOM

The decrease in fluorescence intensity of various FDOM samples reflects the sequential degradation and mineralization of the corresponding fluorophores or functional groups that are present in the chemical structure of FDOM (Corin et al. 1996; Mostofa et al. 2011; Amador et al. 1989; Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998). Photoinduced degradation modifies the fluorescence properties, and in particular the excitation–emission wavelengths (peaks A and C) of fulvic acid in the aquatic environments (Mostofa et al. 2007a, 2007b; Moran et al. 2000). From the photoinduced degradation of bog DOM and of International Humic Substances Society Nordic fulvic acid, it has been highlighted the losses of carbohydrates, secondary alcohols, protonated and substituted aromatic compounds, carboxyl, amide, ester, ketone and quinones, with no changes in aliphatic carbon (Osburn et al. 2001). Photoinduced changes in FDOM correspond to a decrease in the dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentration (Brooks et al. 2007; Garcia et al. 2005; Moran et al. 2000; Osburn et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2007b; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004) and to the generation of photoproducts. These processes can be summarized as: (i) Conversion of high-molecular weight into low-molecular weight DOM, which is generally observed in

experimental and field observations of natural waters (Corin et al. 1996; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Wu et al. 2005; Morris and Hargreaves 1997). (ii) Formation of micro-biologically labile organic substances, which is commonly observed in the epilimnion of natural waters (Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000, 1998; Moran and Zepp 1997). (iii) Formation of CO, CO₂ and dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC, which is usually defined as the sum of dissolved CO₂, H₂CO₃, HCO₃⁻, and CO₃²⁻), which is generally observed upon photodegradation of DOM (Ma and Green 2004; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Granéli et al. 1998; Valentine and Zepp 1993; Miller and Moran 1997). (iv) Formation of N-containing (NH₄⁺ or NO₂⁻) and P-containing inorganic compounds, which may typically be produced by degradation of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) and dissolved organic phosphorus (DOP) in the epilimnion of natural waters (Bronk 2002; Zhang et al. 2004; Kim et al. 2006; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Li et al. 2008). (v) Energy changes (±), such as supply (+) or consumption (-) of energy because of the photodegradation of DOM, with (+) representing the photoinduced formation of biologically labile compounds and (-) the abiotic mineralization of DOM (Wetzel 1992; Tranvik 1992; Hedges et al. 2000).

5.2 *Ecological Significance of Microbial Degradation of FDOM*

The major changes in FDOM components and organic matter by microbial degradation can be discriminated as (Mostofa et al. 2009b): (i) Microbial assimilation of organic matter (e.g. algae or phytoplankton) can produce autochthonous DOM or FDOM at different rates in lake waters, and it can simultaneously produce nutrients (PO₄³⁻, NH₄⁺), H₂O₂, organic peroxides, and DIC (Ma and Green 2004; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009a; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008; Palenik and Morel 1988; Weiss et al. 1991; Harvey et al. 1995; Lehmann et al. 2002). (ii) The fluorescence intensities of fulvic and humic acids are usually increased under dark incubation. It is suggested that these compounds are usually recalcitrant to microbial degradation, and microbial effects typically cause a change in the chemical compositions of aliphatic carbon, which may enhance the fluorescence intensity (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Ma and Green 2004; Moran et al. 2000). In contrast the fluorescence of tryptophan-like or protein-like components is often decreased under dark incubation, suggesting that tryptophan-like or protein-like components are labile to microbial degradation (Mostofa et al. 2010; Baker and Inverarity 2004). (iii) Changes in the FDOM components by microbial degradation under dark incubation induce the release of a variety of microbial products such as DIC, PO₄³⁻, NH₄⁺, H₂O₂, organic peroxides and so on (Ma and Green 2004; Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Palenik and Morel 1988). It is thus suggested that microbial processes can induce important changes in DOM composition in natural waters. (iv) Extracellular polymeric substances (EPSs), biologically produced by most bacteria, are composed of a mixture of polysaccharides, mucopolysaccharide and proteins. EPSs mostly show the Ex/

Em peak which is similar to those of protein-like or tryptophan-like fluorescence (Table 2) (Zhang et al. 2010). EPSs produced by anaerobic sludge under sulfate-reducing conditions are capable of biosorption of heavy metals to remove from the waste water treatment plant (Zhang et al. 2010).

6 FDOM Study: A Useful Indicator of DOM Dynamics in Natural Waters

The EEMS and its combination with PARAFAC modeling could be useful to identify the fluorescent organic substances, their sources and their physical, photoinduced and microbial alterations in water (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Hudson et al. 2007; Coble 2007). The main applications are as follows: (i) Identification of the allochthonous fulvic and humic acid of vascular plant origin and of their terrestrial sources (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Stedmon et al. 2003; Ohno and Bro 2006; Singh et al. 2010; Holbrook et al. 2006; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Santín et al. 2009; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008); (ii) Identification of autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) of algal origin and of their sources in water (Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Stedmon et al. 2007a; Mostofa et al. 2005b; Zhang et al. 2009a; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Santín et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Cammack et al. 2004; Nieto-Cid et al. 2005; Boehme and Wells 2006); (iii) Identification of proteins, of aromatic amino acids (tryptophan-like, tyrosine-like and phenylalanine-like) and of their autochthonous sources in water (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Mostofa et al. 2010; Zhang et al. 2009a; Kowalczyk et al. 2009; Balcarczyk et al. 2009; Santín et al. 2009; Murphy et al. 2008; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008; Boehme and Wells 2006); (iv) Detection of fluorescent whitening agents, of components of detergents and of their anthropogenic sources (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2010; Komaki and Yabe 1982; Westerhoff et al. 2001; Baker 2002, 2001); (v) Identification of various DOM components of terrestrial, algal and anthropogenic origin in sediment pore waters (Burdige et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2006; Li et al., Characteristics of sediment pore water dissolved organic matter in four Chinese lakes using EEM spectroscopy and PARAFAC modeling, unpublished data); (vi) Characterization of chemical properties of humic substances from soil and compost (Fuentes et al. 2006); (vii) Detection of photoinduced alterations in DOM and in its optical-chemical properties in water (Mostofa et al. 2005a, 2005b; Skoog et al. 1996; Moran et al. 2000; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Zhang et al. 2009b; Wu et al. 2005), and (viii) Identification of changes in the redox state of fulvic acid (reduced and oxidized) caused by microbial processes in water (Fulton et al. 2004).

EEMS could be useful as a potential monitoring tool to control organic matter pollution (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Hudson et al. 2007; Henderson et al. 2009). It could be applied: (i) To analyze drinking water and sewerage-impacted wastewater (Mostofa et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2003; Baker et al. 2004; Holbrook et al. 2005; Hudson et al. 2008); (ii) To detect pollution levels of anthropogenic DOM

in freshwater (Mostofa et al. 2005a; Mostofa et al. 2010; Westerhoff et al. 2001; Baker 2002; Baker et al. 2004); (iii) To monitor the microbial decomposition of DOM (Hayase et al. 1988; Moran et al. 2000; Nieto-Cid et al. 2006); and (iv) to monitor the molecular weight distribution of DOM (Fu et al. 2006; Yoshioka et al. 2007; Wu et al. 2003a; Belzile and Guo 2006; Huguet et al. 2010) and changes in its composition at the watershed level (Mostofa et al. 2005b; Chen et al. 2003; Baker et al. 2004), or from coastal waters to open oceans (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003b).

Finally, the EEMS could be useful in technology development or fundamental research, in the field or at the level of molecular science (Mostofa et al. 2009a). The EEMS has already been applied: (i) In biomedicine or biotechnology to control fermentation in bioreactors (Li and Humphrey 1990) and to detect bacterial biofilms (Angell et al. 1993); (ii) In the detection of natural substances in water such as peroxides (hydrogen peroxide and organic peroxides), allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, proteins, amino acids and so on (Yamashita and Tanoue 2003a, 2003b; Nagao et al. 2003; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Wu et al. 2003a, 2003b); (iii) In the examination of the biological activity in cultures of marine bacteria, algae and coral extracts (Determann et al. 1998; Matthews et al. 1996; Cammack et al. 2004; Elliott et al. 2006); (iv) In the identification of the chemical properties at the molecular level, which arise by interaction between DOM and trace elements (Senesi 1990a, 1990b; Wu et al. 2004a, 2004b, 2007; Yamashita and Jaffé 2008), and (v) in the study of the interaction of DNA with fluorescent substances, e.g. in the framework of DNA–protein interaction (Taylor et al. 2000).

6.1 Are FDOM Studies Superior to CDOM?

The absorption spectra of chromophoric or colored dissolved organic matter (CDOM) usually do not show any specific identifiable peak for freshwater and marine CDOM. CDOM absorption and fluorescence (fulvic or humic acid-like) are significantly correlated with each other in a variety of waters (Ferrari et al. 1996a; del Vecchio and Blough 2004, 2002; Nieke et al. 1997; Vodacek et al. 1995; Ferrari et al. 1996b; Ferrari 2000; Green and Blough 1994; Seritti et al. 1998; Blough and del Vecchio 2002; Stabenau and Zika 2004). The absorbance of CDOM is useful for one to know the contents of the materials present as well as to identify changes in absorbance of total DOM due to physical, photoinduced and biological processes (del Vecchio and Blough 2004, 2002; Coble 2007; Vodacek et al. 1997; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Vähätalo et al. 2000). The slope of the absorption spectrum is widely used in remote sensing in coastal and marine environments (Vodacek et al. 1995; Hoge et al. 1995). It has been reported that there are differences in levels and optical properties between freshwater and marine CDOM. Extreme enrichment in CDOM is usually observed in freshwater environments (Del Vecchio and Blough 2004, 2002; Conmy et al. 2004; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Kowalczyk et al. 2003). Freshwater CDOM absorbs radiation at

wavelengths 450–800 nm (Kowalczyk et al. 2003), which is usually not observed in marine waters. This might be due to the large amount of humic substances in freshwater, which absorb radiation at >450 nm. The riverine input of chromophores contained in freshwater CDOM to the coastal marine environment usually meets photodegradation in the coastal areas, which significantly reduces the CDOM content of seawater (del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Vähätalo et al. 2000).

Excitation of electrons is a typical phenomenon in both CDOM chromophores and FDOM fluorophores (Senesi 1990a; Wu et al. 2005). Therefore, the DOM components contributing to CDOM and FDOM would be partially the same. On the other hand, the fluorescent components in DOM are identified and distinguished on the basis of specific excitation–emission (Ex/Em) wavelength maxima in EEM spectra, upon PARAFAC modeling (Coble 1996; Fulton et al. 2004; Cory and McKnight 2005; Hall et al. 2005; Stedmon and Markager 2005a, 2005b; Ohno and Bro 2006; Stedmon et al. 2007a, 2007b; Mostofa et al. 2010; Wu et al. 2003a). In contrast, it is not possible to identify and distinguish the specific CDOM components due to the absence of peaks in the CDOM absorption spectra (del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Vähätalo and Wetzel 2004; Vähätalo et al. 2000).

The fluorescent organic substances that are usually identified in natural waters using EEM spectra in combination with PARAFAC modeling are fulvic acid-like, humic acid-like, autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like), protein-like, tryptophan-like, tyrosine-like components, and fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs)-like (Tables 1, 2). On the other hand, absorption spectra at 350, 355 or 375 nm have been used to monitor the CDOM absorption properties (del Vecchio and Blough 2004, 2002; Kowalczyk et al. 2003, 2005), and the specific UV absorbance (SUVA) at 254 or 280 nm has been adopted to estimate the aromatic carbon contents and to understand the chemical characteristics of DOM (Chin et al. 1994; Croué et al. 2003; Weishaar et al. 2003; Świetlik and Sikorska 2004).

6.2 *How Do Fluorophores in FDOM Differ from Chromophores in CDOM?*

The fluorophores in FDOM are expected to be fundamentally similar to the chromophores in CDOM. For example, tryptophan amino acid ($C_8H_5(NH)-CH_2(NH_3^+)CHCOO^-$) has two fluorophores such as $-CH_2-(NH_3^+)-CH-COO^-$ (peak T) and $C_8H_5(NH)-$ (peak T_{UV}). The two fluorophores absorb photons and are thus responsible for tryptophan absorption properties as well. In addition, macromolecules such as allochthonous fulvic acid or humic acid are composed of a number of fluorophores such as Schiff-base derivatives ($-N=C-C=N-$), $-COOH$, $-COOCH_3$, $-OH$, $-OCH_3$, $-CH=O$, $-C=O$, $-NH_2$, $-NH-$, $-CH=CH-COOH$, $-OCH_3$, S-, O- or N-containing aromatic compounds, and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Senesi 1990a; Leenheer and Croué 2003; Malcolm 1985; Corin et al. 1996; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Seitzinger et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2005). These

fluorophores need photon absorption for their initial excitation, thus they are fundamentally the chromophores in the respective organic molecule. The fluorophores present in allochthonous fulvic acid can have two fluorescence peaks at peak C-region and peak A-region, but allochthonous humic acid shows several peaks at peak C-region.

On the other hand, allochthonous fulvic acid generally exhibits monotonous absorption spectra whilst allochthonous humic acid has a shoulder at around 400 nm in aqueous media (Hayase and Tsubota 1985; Zepp and Scholtzhauer 1981; Ishiwatari 1973; Lawrence 1980). In addition, CDOM generally exhibits low absorbance at longer wavelengths and the absorbance increases with decreasing wavelength from 700 to 200 nm (Hayase and Tsubota 1985).

Allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, as well as autochthonous fulvic acids are part of the colored DOM (CDOM) and absorb radiation at 200–800 nm. Along with them, also FDOM, protein-like, tryptophan-like, tyrosine-like, FWAs-like and other fluorescent components absorb radiation at 200–800 nm. In addition, there is a vast number of allochthonous and autochthonous non-fluorescent organic substances. They do not display fluorescence properties, but absorb radiation at specific wavelength ranges. For example, acetaldehyde absorb light at 208–224 nm (Mopper et al. 1991; Kieber et al. 1990), acetate at 204–270 nm (Wetzel et al. 1995; Dahlén et al. 1996), formaldehyde at 207–250 nm (Mopper et al. 1991; Kieber et al. 1990), glyoxal at <240 nm (Mopper et al. 1991), malonate at 225–240 nm (Dahlén et al. 1996) and so on. All these organic molecules are termed as CDOM but they do not belong to FDOM because as they do not show fluorescence properties. Therefore ‘all fluorescent DOM (FDOM) is colored or chromophoric DOM (CDOM), but not all CDOM is also FDOM’.

7 Scope of the Future Challenges

Autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) of algal origin show fluorescence properties at peak C- and A- regions, for which they show a similar behavior as allochthonous fulvic and humic acids. Researchers did not distinguish between the photoinduced and microbial degradation of the autochthonous DOM (fulvic acids) nor its differentiation with terrestrial fulvic acid, and this should be a key focus for future research. Two types of autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like and M-like) can be distinguished based on the presence of fluorophores. This material is originated from algal biomass or phytoplankton biomass. Among these two fulvic acids, the C-like fulvic acid is produced photolytically and microbially and undergoes rapid photoinduced degradation, therefore it does not appear as a key component in natural waters. However, it is important to extract the autochthonous fulvic acids from water, to identify them using other spectroscopic methods and to make relationship with fluorescence properties. The extraction of autochthonous fulvic acids, which represent key DOM sources in lake and marine waters, and the

study of their photoinduced and biological changes would gain useful information by using EEM-PARAFAC.

A few studies have been conducted on the photoinduced and microbial changes of FDOM in natural waters. It should be important to conduct experiments in Asia, Africa and Latin America, because in these continents there are regions where freshwaters are highly contaminated with untreated sewerage and industrial effluents and few studies are presently available. Emerging contaminants such as pharmaceuticals, hormones, endocrine disrupting compounds and so on are widely detected in natural waters (Richardson 2007). The application of EEM-PARAFAC to identify emerging contaminants would constitute a new dimension to control and detect these harmful organic substances in aquatic environments. Finally, PARAFAC modeling of sample EEM spectra could be a useful parameter for the identification of DOM components and for the elucidation of photoinduced, biological and any other changes in the molecular properties of the fluorescent components. Some researchers use the Raman Unit fluorescence (nm^{-1}) EEM data for PARAFAC modeling, which causes significant changes in the component's fluorescence excitation–emission maxima and in the fluorescence intensity compared to QSU or a.u. calibration. It is strongly suggested to use either QSU or a.u. calibration, which allows a better comparison of the fluorescence properties and their application to DOM dynamics in natural waters.

8 Nomenclature

a.u.	Arbitrary unit
CDOM	Colored or chromophoric dissolved organic matter
DAS1	Diaminostilbene-type
DOC	Dissolved organic carbon
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
DSBP	Distyryl biphenyl
EEM	Excitation–emission matrix
EEMS	Excitation–emission matrix spectroscopy
FDOM	Fluorescent dissolved organic matter
FI	Fluorescence intensity
F_{index}	Fluorescence index
Fulvic acids	Two components are identified in standard SRFA
FWAs	Fluorescent whitening agents
Humic acids	Two components are identified in standard SRHA
NoHA	Nordic Reference-humic acid
NoFA	Nordic Reference-fulvic acid
PARAFAC	Parallel factor
QSU	Quinine sulfate unit
RU	Raman Unit

SRFA	Suwannee River Fulvic Acid
SRHA	Suwannee River Humic Acid

Problems

- (1) Explain the principles of excitation–emission matrix spectroscopy.
- (2) What is the fluorophore in a fluorescent molecule? What are the controlling factors that affect the fluorophores?
- (3) Mention the key fluorescent substances detected in natural waters and explain how the fluorescence properties of allochthonous fulvic acids differ from those of humic acids.
- (4) How is it possible to distinguish the fluorescence properties of fulvic acids of vascular plant origin from those of autochthonous fulvic acids of algal origin?
- (5) What is PARAFAC modeling? Explain the importance of PARAFAC modeling in the separation and identification of the fluorescent components in EEM spectroscopy.
- (6) Mention the key factors affecting the fluorescence properties of FDOM in natural waters, and explain how pH variation affects the fluorescence properties.
- (7) Explain the effect of photoinduced degradation on the fluorescence properties of humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) in water, and provide the possible mechanism.
- (8) What are the importance and impact of photoinduced degradation of FDOM in natural waters?
- (9) Mention which FDOM components are significantly affected by microbial degradation in waters.
- (10) Explain the changes of the fluorescent properties of various FDOM components due to microbial degradation in aqueous media.
- (11) Mention the possible mechanisms for microbial degradation of fluorescent substances in aqueous media?
- (12) What are the importance and impacts of microbial degradation of fluorescent substances in aqueous media?
- (13) Explain the sentence ‘All fluorescent DOM (FDOM) is colored or chromophoric DOM (CDOM), but not all CDOM is also FDOM’.
- (14) In what respect are FDOM studies superior to CDOM one?
- (15) Explain how the fluorophores in FDOM differ from chromophores in CDOM.

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Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look

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1 Introduction

Photosynthesis is a fundamental process on the Earth's surface that can convert the sunlight energy to chemical energy that can be used by essentially all forms all life (Komissarov 2003; Krauß 2003). The outstanding English chemist Joseph Priestley

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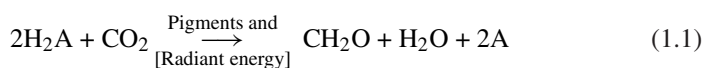
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in 1771 and 1772 firstly hypothesised on photosynthesis that plants can restore to the air whatever breathing animals and burning candles remove. Jan Ingenhousz in 1779 showed that light is essential to the plant process that somehow purifies air fouled by candles or animals. Based on the experiments, he concluded that plants are dependent on light and their green parts for nutrients and energy.

The experiments conducted by J. Senebier and N. Th. de Saussure revealed that the initial substances of photosynthesis are carbon dioxide (CO₂) and water (H₂O) (de Saussure 1804; Bay 1931). It has been shown by de Saussure (1804) that H₂O is a reactant in photosynthesis. The CO₂ cleavage hypothesis readily accounted for the deceptively simple overall photosynthesis equation (CO₂ + H₂O + hν → CH₂O + O₂) (de Saussure 1804). The C:2H:O proportion in the reaction made people assumed that carbon from the photodecomposition of CO₂ can recombine with the elements of water. In 1905 the British scientist F. Blackman discovered that photosynthesis consists of a light reaction, which is rapid, and a slower dark reaction (Blackman 1905; Blackman and Matthaei 1905). In 1924, O. Warburg and T. Uyesugi explained the result of Blackman as showing that photosynthesis has two classes of reactions: light and dark reactions (Warburg and Uyesugi 1924). In 1922 the German Scientists O. Warburg and E. Negelein revealed the minimum quantum requirement (i.e., minimum number of photons) to be 3–4 per oxygen molecule evolved during the overall process of photosynthesis (Warburg and Negelein 1922). This was later shown to be in error by a factor of 2–3 (Govindjee 1999). Warburg then was awarded the 1931 Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine for his discoveries concerning respiration. In 1937 the British scientist R. Hill provided the biochemical proof of the existence of these light and dark phases (Hill 1937, 1939).

In 1931 the American microbiologist van Niel showed that the photosynthetic processes in various pigmented organisms can be interpreted as special cases of a general process expressed as follows (van Niel 1931):



where light energy is used to photodecompose a hydrogen donor (H₂A) whilst carbon dioxide is reduced anaerobically to cell substance in the dark, using enzymatic reactions (van Niel 1931). According to this generalization, H₂A is water in the case of plants, whilst H₂A is H₂S (or Na₂S₂O₃, Na₂SO₃, S, molecular hydrogen, organic substrates and so on) in green and purple sulfur bacteria. Therefore, O₂ is the by-product of plant photosynthesis and elemental sulfur or other compounds are the by-products of bacterial photosynthesis (van Niel 1931, 1936; Roelofsen 1935; Muller 1933).

van Niel in 1941 postulated that the photoinduced reaction in the photosynthetic processes of green bacteria, purple bacteria, and green plants represents, in all cases, a photodecomposition of water (van Niel 1941). The scientist Hill then demonstrated that isolated chloroplasts can evolve oxygen but cannot assimilate CO₂ (Hill 1939, 1951). In 1941, two Soviet and several American scientists discovered that oxygen released

by higher plants and algae in photosynthesis is originated from H₂O and not from CO₂ (Ruben et al. 1941; Vinogradov and Teis 1941).

Calvin and his colleagues (A. Benson and J. Bassham) during the period of 1947–1956 depicted the mechanism that carbon travels through a plant during photosynthesis, starting from its absorption as atmospheric carbon dioxide to its conversion into carbohydrates and other organic compounds (Bassham et al. 1956; Calvin 1956). They showed that sunlight can act on chlorophyll in a plant to fuel the production of organic compounds, rather than on CO₂ as was previously believed. Calvin was then awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1961 for his Calvin cycle (sometimes termed as Calvin-Benson-Bassham Cycle).

Since then, a lot of studies have been conducted on photosynthesis regarding release of electrons from chlorophylls, characterization of the primary reaction centers of photosystems (PSI and PSII), occurrence and formation of chlorophyll dimer in PSI and PSII, functions and roles of PSI and PSII, endogenous formation of hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) in photosynthetic cells, release of O₂, and so on (Hill 1937, 1939; van Niel 1931; Bach 1894; Arnon 1949, 1959, 1961, 1971; Mehler 1951; Asada et al. 1974; Chance et al. 1979; Halliwell 1981; Holland et al. 1982; Boekema et al. 1987, 2001 Shipman et al. 1976; Hynninen and Lötjönen 1993; Krauss et al. 1993; Krauß et al. 1996; Shubin et al. 1993; Golbeck 1994; Kruip et al. 1994; Boussaad et al. 1997; Brettel 1997; Wilhelm et al. 1996, 1997, 1999; Klukas et al. 1999; Halliwell and Gutteridge 1999; López-Huertas et al. 1999; Stewart et al. 2000; Jordan et al. 2001; Baker and Graham 2002; Ben-Shem et al. 2003; Catalan et al. 2004; Dashdorj et al. 2004; Germano et al. 2004; Diner and Rappaport 2002; del Río et al. 2006; Li et al. 2006; Krasnovsky 2007; Krieger-Liszky et al. 2008; Rappaport and Diner 2008; Amunts et al. 2010; Müller et al. 2010; Nilsson Lill 2011; Umena et al. 2011).

Moreover, release of O₂ during photosynthesis still remains under debate because it is considered to be originated either from H₂O (Dashdorj et al. 2004; Germano et al. 2004; Rappaport and Diner 2008; Müller et al. 2010; Takahashi et al. 1987; Periasamy et al. 1978) or from H₂O₂ (Komissarov 1994, 2003; Bach 1893; Velthuys and Kok 1978; Asada and Badger 1984; Asada and Takahashi 1987; Mano et al. 1987; Renger 1987; Anan'ev and Klimov 1988; Bader and Schmid 1988, 1989; Schroeder 1989; Schröder and Åkerlund 1990; Miyake and Asada 1992; Bader 1994, 1995; Yin et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2009; Kuznetsov et al. 2010; Bernardini et al. 2011; Mostofa et al. 2009). The scientist Bach has been the first to show that plants actively accumulate H₂O₂ upon illumination (Bach 1894). The major generation sites of reactive oxygen species (ROS) are the PSI and PSII photosystems in chloroplast thylakoids in higher plants. Here, photoreduction of O₂ to H₂O₂ in PSI has firstly been discovered by Mehler (Mehler 1951). Subsequently, the primary reduced product has been identified as the superoxide anion (O₂^{•-}), the disproportionation of which can produce H₂O₂ and O₂ (Asada et al. 1974). Recently, H₂O₂ instead of H₂O has been proposed to react with CO₂ in photosynthesis, whereas H₂O₂ is used as an intermediate to release O₂ (Komissarov 1994, 2003; Velthuys and Kok 1978; Mano et al. 1987; Renger 1987; Anan'ev and Klimov 1988; Bader and Schmid 1988,

1989; Schroeder 1989; Schröder and Åkerlund 1990; Miyake and Asada 1992; Bader 1994; 1995; Yin et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2009; Kuznetsov et al. 2010; Bernardini et al. 2011). Komissarov (1994, 1995, 2003) has been summarizing on the new hypothesis concerning the photosynthetic reaction, according to which the interaction between CO₂ in air and H₂O₂ in aqueous media (instead of H₂O as for the earlier concept) may form carbohydrate in plants.

Photosynthesis is significantly affected by several factors such as seasonal variation in sunlight and UV radiation (Marshall and Orr 1928; Barker 1935; Jenkin 1937; Rabinowitch 1951; Nielsen 1951, 1952; Aro et al. 1993; Melis 1999; Andersson and Aro 2001; Han et al. 2001; Nishiyama et al. 2001, 2009; Sinha et al. 2001a; Adir et al. 2003; Rastogi et al. 2010; Jiang and Qiu 2011; Sobek et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2010), occurrence of CO₂ forms (CO₂, H₂CO₃, HCO₃⁻, and CO₃⁻) (Wong et al. 1975; O'Leary 1981; Cooper and McRoy 1988; Farquhar et al. 1989; Raven and Farquhar 1990; Fogel et al. 1992; Rau et al. 1992; Francois et al. 1993; Raven et al. 1993, 2002; Jasper and Hayes 1994; Laws et al. 1995; Yoshioka 1997; Hu et al. 2012), variations in temperature (Sobek et al. 2007; Mortain-Bertrand et al. 1988; Davison 1991; Wilen et al. 1995; Lesser and Gorbunov 2001; Baulch et al. 2005; Doyle et al. 2005; Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006; Ogwenno et al. 2008; Higuchi et al. 2009; Bouman et al. 2010), effects of water stress (drought) and precipitation/rainfall (Munns et al. 1979; Jones and Turner 1978; Matsuda and Riazi 1981; Kaiser 1987; Asada 1992; Hopkins and Hüner 1995; Aziz and Larher 1998; Li and van Staden 1998; Nam et al. 1998; Cornic 2000; Wilson et al. 2000; Lawlor 2002; Velikova and Tsonev 2003; Flexas et al. 2004; Hassan 2006; Liu et al. 2006; Ohashi et al. 2006; Fariduddin et al. 2009), effects of the contents and nature of DOM and POM (Haan 1974; de Haan 1977; Stabel et al. 1979; Jackson and Hecky 1980; Wright 1988; Lindell et al. 1995; Brussaard et al. 1996; Brussaard et al. 2005; Brussaard et al. 2007; Carpenter et al. 1998; Igarashi et al. 1998; Reche et al. 1998; Rengefors and Legrand 2001; Sukenik et al. 2002; de Lange et al. 2003; Hanson et al. 2003; Houser et al. 2003; Druon et al. 2010), variation in nutrient contents (Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006; Martinez and Cerda 1989; Villora et al. 2000; Parkhill et al. 2001; Smith 2003; Kaneko et al. 2004; Sterner et al. 2004; Turhan and Eris 2005; Huszar et al. 2006; Liu et al. 2007; Wang and Han 2007; Nöges et al. 2008; McCarthy et al. 2009; Mohlin and Wulff 2009; Achakzai et al. 2010; Bybordi 2010; Tunçtürk et al. 2011), variation in trace metal ions with effects on aquatic microorganisms (Zhang et al. 2010; Crist et al. 1981; Zhou and Wangersky 1985, 1989; Simkiss and Taylor 1989; Xue and Sigg 1990; Tessier and Turner 1995; Sunda and Huntsman 1998; Burda et al. 2003; Koukal et al. 2003; Mylon et al. 2003; Sigfridsson et al. 2004; Berden-Zrimec et al. 2007; Lamelas and Slaveykova 2007; Hopkinson and Barbeau 2008; Lamelas et al. 2009; Pan et al. 2009), effect of salinity or salt stress (Liu et al. 2007; Bybordi 2010; Tunçtürk et al. 2011; Satoh et al. 1983; Ahel et al. 1996; Moisaner et al. 2002; Marcarelli et al. 2006; Segal et al. 2006; Demetriou et al. 2007; Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008; Melgar et al. 2008; Pandey and Yeo 2008; Pandey et al. 2009; Bybordi et al. 2010a, b, c), effects of toxic pollutants on aquatic microorganisms (Berden-Zrimec et al. 2007; Mayer

et al. 1997; Halling-Sørensen et al. 2000; Katsumata et al. 2005, 2006 Kvíderová and Henley 2005; Zrimec et al. 2005; Pan et al. 2009; Yates and Rogers 2011), effect of size-fractionated phytoplankton (Malone 1980; Chisholm 1992; Li 1994; Tarran et al. 2001; Hansen and Hjorth 2002; Stibor and Sommer 2003; Tittel et al. 2003; Cermeno et al. 2005; Unrein et al. 2007; Zubkov et al. 2007; Zubkov and Tarran 2008), and effects of global warming (Mostofa et al. 2009; Baulch et al. 2005; Yates and Rogers 2011; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Cooke et al. 2006; Huisman et al. 2006; Llewellyn 2006; Richardson 2007; Malkin et al. 2008; Prince et al. 2008; Davis et al. 2009; Castle and Rodgers 2009; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Etheridge 2010; Keeling et al. 2010). These factors have been assessed in recent studies and are vital to understanding and solving the debate about the occurrence of photosynthesis in terrestrial plants and aquatic microorganisms.

This chapter will give a general overview on photosynthesis, its key biogeochemical functions, the functions of photosystems (I and II) in organisms during photosynthesis, and will describe a new hypothesis for photosynthesis that adopts H_2O_2 instead of H_2O . It will also address the debates/questions regarding O_2 release from PSI and PSII during photosynthesis. Finally, it will extensively discuss the key factors that may significantly influence the photosynthetic activities of organisms, including higher plants.

2 Photosynthesis in Natural Waters

Photosynthesis is typically defined as a combination of photoinduced and biological processes that can convert carbon dioxide (CO_2) and hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2 : photoinduced generation from dissolved oxygen in water) into organic compounds (e.g. carbohydrates) and O_2 using the sunlight energy. These processes take place in photosynthetic cells of higher plants, cyanobacteria (or algae) and bacteria. Carbohydrates are then used for metabolic activities within the cell, and the whole process is termed as the oxygenic photosynthesis. It should be noted that cyanobacteria are not bacterial but generally referred to as algae. The chloroplast pigments of all cyanobacteria and aquatic higher plants have absorption bands in the blue region of the spectrum, such as the chlorophyll Soret band, and carotenoid bands (Kirk 1976). The action spectrum of photosynthesis in green algae, brown algae, diatoms and euglenas has two broad and intense peaks in the range from 400 to 500 nm of wavelength and in the region from 670 to 700 nm, respectively (Kirk 1976; Haxo and Blinks 1950; Mann and Myers 1968; Kirk and Reade 1970; Iverson and Curl 1973; Telfer et al. 1990; Schelvis et al. 1992; Durrant et al. 1995; Renger and Marcus 2002; Zhang et al. 2009). Photons of light initiate photosynthesis through releases of electrons across a membrane. It is catalysed by a special type of membrane-bound pigment-protein complexes called photosynthetic reaction centers (RCs). They are composed of photosystem I (PSI) and photosystem II (PSII), which will be discussed in the next sections. Oxygenic photosynthesis is caused by cooperation of PSI and PSII RCs and generally occurs in higher

plants, bacteria and cyanobacteria. Cyanobacteria, in contrast to higher plants, are well enriched with PSI as compared with PSII: the PSI/PSII ratio is about unity in higher plants, but it is much higher in cyanobacteria, varying between 3 and 5.5 (Rakhimberdieva et al. 2001). On the other hand, either PSI or PSII RCs are used to convert light energy in anoxygenic photosynthesis, which typically occurs in many bacteria. Anoxygenic photosynthesis is a process where uptake of light energy occurs without the release of O₂. Anoxygenic species can utilize hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) or other species as sources of reductants, giving various forms of sulfur as by-products. It is noted that green bacteria can use H₂S, while purple sulfur bacteria (*Thiorhodaceae*) can use various reduced sulfur compounds including Na₂S₂O₃, Na₂SO₃, S and H₂S, molecular hydrogen (H₂) and organic substances during photosynthesis (van Niel 1931; 1936; Roelofsens 1935; Muller 1933). Anoxygenic species are mostly equipped with variety of bacteriochlorophylls.

The chlorophyll absorption bands at the red end of the spectrum are only of limited use in water ecosystems, because of the rapid attenuation of red light by water (Kirk 1976). Therefore, the ability of many cyanobacteria and aquatic higher plants to photosynthesize and grow are markedly affected by the availability of blue light, which is in turn highly dependent on the concentration of yellow substance within water (Kirk 1976). All natural waters generally contain a significant amount of yellow substances that absorb light in the blue and ultraviolet (Hutchinson 1957; Kalle 1966; Jerlov 1968; Morel et al. 2007). Yellow substances originate generally from the occurrences of both allochthonous humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of terrestrial plant origin and autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin, which absorb light in the blue and ultraviolet range (see also chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Hutchinson 1957; Kalle 1966; Jerlov 1968; Parlanti et al. 2000).

2.1 Biogeochemical Functions of Photosynthesis

The different functions of photosynthesis can be summarized as follows: (i) Photosynthetic oxygen production by cyanobacteria can lead to oxygenation of the atmosphere and oceans, in turn allowing aerobic respiration and the evolution of large, complex and ultimately intelligent organisms (Catling et al. 2005). Oxygenic photosynthesis has evolved hundreds of millions of years before the atmosphere became permanently oxygenated. Therefore, biogenic oxygen production started very early in Earth's history, before the start of the geological record, leading to an Archaean (greater than 2.5 Ga, gigaannum: 10⁹ years) atmosphere that was highly oxygenated (Ohmoto 1997; Catling and Claire 2005; Buick 2008). (ii) Photosynthesis is the only process that can balance the biosphere by converting atmospheric CO₂ into organic/biological matter, at the same time by releasing O₂ into the atmosphere. (iii) All forms of life in the biosphere are dependent on food and primarily on vegetables and terrestrial plants, the matter of which is

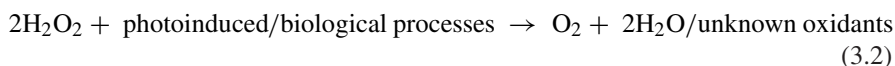
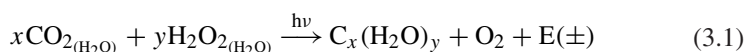
produced through photosynthesis. (iv) Plant litter materials or biomass, developed initially through photosynthesis, represent the largest pool of terrestrial carbon. It is currently estimated at approximately 1500–2000 Pg of C that are stored in the world's soils (Schlesinger 1997; CAST 2004). Upon microbial processing, this material can produce soil organic matter or allochthonous dissolved organic matter (DOM), including humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) and inorganic components such as nutrients and various elements (see also chapter “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Nakane et al. 1997; Uchida et al. 2000; Kögel-Knabner 2002; Grandy and Neff 2008; Moore et al. 2008; Braakhekke et al. 2011; Spence et al. 2011; Tu et al. 2011). These chemical components are ultimately released into the water ecosystem and undergo photoinduced and microbial degradation. Their end-products are CO_2 , H_2O_2 and dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC: generally defined as dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-}), which can fuel/accelerate the primary production (see also chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” and “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Jones 1992; Hessen and Tranvik 1998; Jansson et al. 2000; Meili et al. 2000; Grey et al. 2001; Hernes and Benner 2003; Tranvik et al. 2009; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011). (v) Photosynthesis is the key process for primary and secondary production and uses natural sunlight in aquatic ecosystems. Aquatic microorganisms that are key components of the Earth's biosphere can produce more than 50 % of the biomass of our planet through photosynthesis, using allochthonous DOM and nutrients. Therefore, aquatic environments can incorporate at least the same amount of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO_2) as terrestrial ecosystems (de Haan 1974, 1977; Tranvik 1988; Häder et al. 2003; Zepp et al. 2007). Life is mostly composed of the elements carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur and phosphorus, which make up nucleic acids (e.g. DNA), proteins and lipids and can thus form the bulk of living matter (Wolfe-Simon et al. 2011). (vi) Aquatic microorganisms (e.g. algae or phytoplankton cells) can produce autochthonous DOM, including autochthonous fulvic acids, CO_2 and nutrients under both photoinduced and microbial respiration or assimilation (see also chapters “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, and “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Tranvik et al. 2009; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Gobler et al. 1997; Kritzberg et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2011). These compounds can be used by aquatic microorganisms for their further photosynthetic activity and can, therefore, promote the primary production (see also chapters “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, and “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”) (Hessen and Tranvik 1998; Cole et al. 1982). (vii) Photosynthesis is the dominant energy mobilization process for secondary production in natural waters, where organic carbon fixed by primary producers is consumed directly by grazing or is recycled via the microbial loop (Wetzel 2001). (viii) The primary producers in freshwater and marine ecosystems can constitute the basis of the

intricate food webs, providing energy for the primary and secondary consumers. Therefore, they are important contributors for the production of the human staple diet in the form of crustaceans, fish, and mammals derived from the sea (Häder et al. 2007). (xi) Cyanobacteria (e.g., mostly *Anabaena* and *Nostoc* spp.) that grow through photosynthesis are a rich source of potentially useful marine natural products (secondary metabolites) that have specific activities such as anti-HIV, anticancer, antifungal, antimalarial, antifoulants, anti-inflammatory, antituberculosis, and antimicrobial (Moore 1996; Burja et al. 2001; Singh et al. 2002; Blunt et al. 2007). For example cyanovirin (CV-N, cyanovirin-N), a 101 amino acid protein extracted from *Nostoc ellipsosporum* has potent activity against a wide range of immunodeficiency viruses such as HIV-1, M- and T-tropic strains of HIV-1, HIV-2, SIV (simian) and FIV (feline) (Burja et al. 2001). (x) Marine microorganisms could be used as sources of natural bioactive molecules that play a photoprotective role, which could be used in commercial applications (Rastogi et al. 2010). A number of photoprotective compounds such as melanins, mycosporines, mycosporine-like amino acids (MAAs), scytonemin, parietin, usnic acid, carotenoids, phycobiliproteins, phenylpropanoids and flavonoids and several other UV-absorbing substances of unknown chemical structure are produced by different microorganisms (Rastogi et al. 2010; Blunt et al. 2007; Jeffrey et al. 1999; Gauslaa and McEvoy 2005; Sinha et al. 2007b; Coesel et al. 2008; Klisch and Häder 2008; Hylander et al. 2009; Lee and Shiu 2009; Ingalls et al. 2010).

3 New Hypothesis for Photosynthesis Using H₂O₂ Instead of H₂O

Studies demonstrate that the reaction of CO₂ and H₂O₂ (instead of H₂O) can cause photosynthesis of organisms in photosynthetic cell in new hypothesis (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Velthuys and Kok 1978; Mano et al. 1987; Renger 1987; Anan'ev and Klimov 1988; Bader and Schmid 1988, 1989; Schroeder 1989; Schröder and Åkerlund 1990; Miyake and Asada 1992; Bader 1994; Mostofa et al. 2009; Kuznetsov et al. 2010; Bernardini et al. 2011; Mostofa et al. 2009). According to these studies, the reaction of CO₂ and H₂O₂ (instead of H₂O) can cause photosynthesis of organisms by either simultaneous photoinduced formation of H₂O₂ in chlorophylls bound in photosynthetic cell or photoinduced and microbial formation of H₂O₂ and CO₂ from dissolved organic matter (DOM) and particulate organic matter (POM) in aqueous media.

The general photosynthetic reaction can be expressed as follows (Eqs. 3.1, 3.2):



Carbohydrate $C_x(H_2O)_y$ is formed (Eq. 3.1), where x and y are whole numbers that differ depending on the specific carbohydrate that is being produced. The release of O_2 in photosynthesis is the fundamental photoinduced conversion reaction, which under the present hypothesis is supposed to involve H_2O_2 either via disproportionation or upon biological processes (Eq. 3.2) (Komissarov 2003; Buick 2008; Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Liang et al. 2006).

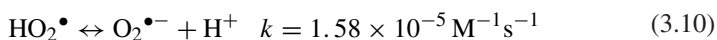
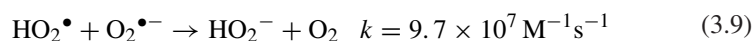
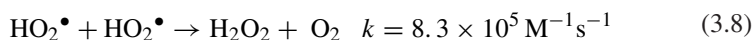
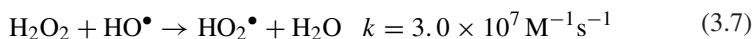
The release of O_2 from H_2O_2 instead of H_2O can be understood from several mechanistic approaches: (i) Mechanism for oxygen release from H_2O_2 instead of H_2O ; (ii) Effective oxidation of H_2O_2 instead of H_2O in releasing photosynthetic O_2 (iii) generation of H_2O_2 from DOM and POM; (iv) photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 from ultrapure H_2O ; (v) Endogenous H_2O_2 in the photosynthetic cell and effects of exogenous H_2O_2 ; (vi) H_2O_2 formation in water, lipid and protein environments in the presence of Chlorophyll; and (vii) Occurrence of H_2O_2 and its effects on photosynthesis.

3.1 Mechanism for Oxygen Release from H_2O_2 Instead of H_2O

Experimental studies show that various cyanobacteria may release O_2 from the decomposition of H_2O_2 during photosynthesis (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Velthuys and Kok 1978; Mano et al. 1987; Renger 1987; Anan'ev and Klimov 1988; Bader and Schmid 1988, 1989; Schroeder 1989; Schröder and Åkerlund 1990; Miyake and Asada 1992; Bader 1994). Based on the mechanism given by Komissarov (1994, 1995, 2003) and the mechanism of H_2O_2 photodecomposition by earlier studies (Christensen et al. 1982; Bielski et al. 1985), the release of O_2 from H_2O_2 can be generalized as follows (Eqs. 3.3–3.6 or 3.7–3.10):



or



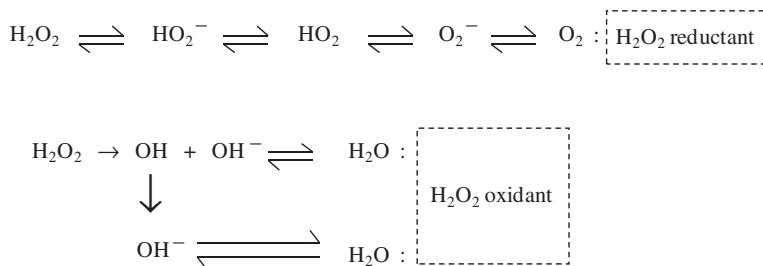


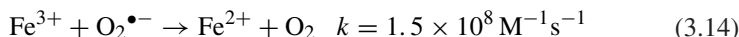
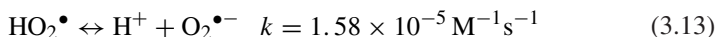
Fig. 1 Electron transfer and proton transfer reactions in the reduction of O_2 from H_2O_2 to H_2O , demonstrating the intermediates involved. *Data source* Moffett and Zafiriou (1990)

where h is an electron vacancy (hole), generated in the pigment under the effect of light. The generation of a single molecule of oxygen from water requires at least four light quanta, each of which generates an ‘electron–hole’ couple. The electron is used in the reaction ($\text{H}^+ + e \rightarrow \text{H}$) required for the subsequent fixation of CO_2 .

Hylakoid particle preparations of the filamentous cyanobacterium *Oscillatoria chalybea* in laboratory experiments using labeled $^{16}\text{O}_2$ and $^{18}\text{O}_2$ show the occurrence of at least three types of oxygen uptake: one is associated with PSII and the S-state system, whereas the other two types apparently belong to the respiratory pathway. The S-state system is involved in $^{18}\text{O}_2$ production from H_2O_2 (Bader and Schmid 1988, 1989). Comparison of the relaxation kinetics of the first two flashes of a sequence with the steady-state signals as well as the detailed analysis of the mass spectrometric signals reveal that O_2 is evolved by various cyanobacteria through the decomposition of H_2O_2 , which requires only two light quanta (Bader 1994).

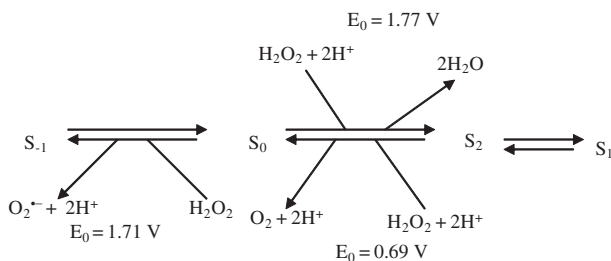
The release of O_2 from H_2O_2 is confirmed by the redox behavior of H_2O_2 in water (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Rose and Waite 2003; Jeong and Yoon 2005). When H_2O_2 acts as a reductant, O from H_2O_2 is transformed into O_2 (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). When H_2O_2 acts as an oxidant, O from H_2O_2 is converted into H_2O (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). The chain reactions of H_2O_2 as reductant and oxidant are schematically depicted below (Fig. 1) (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990):

The detailed mechanism for the release of O_2 in the first scheme can be generalized using the reduction of Fe^{3+} (or Cu^{2+}) by H_2O_2 in the following ways (Eqs. 3.11–3.15) (Bielski et al. 1985; Hardwick 1957; Moffett and Zika 1987a, b; Marianne and Sulzberger 1999):



In the reactions above, release of O₂ occurs not from H₂O but from H₂O₂.

Correspondingly, photosynthetic O₂ evolution would involve different stages that carry out a gradual accumulation of oxidizing equivalents in the Mn-containing water-oxidizing complex (WOC) (Samuilov et al. 2001). The WOC can exist in different oxidation states (S_n, where high n indicates the most oxidised states), which can be probed by addition of different redox-active molecules. The interaction of H₂O₂ with the S states of the WOC is depicted in the scheme that follows (Velthuis and Kok 1978; Mano et al. 1987; Samuilov et al. 2001; Latimer 1952; Ilan et al. 1976; Samuilov 1997):



These studies suggest that H₂O₂ is an evolutionary precursor of H₂O as the electron donor for PSII in cyanobacteria (Bader 1994; Samuilov 1997; Blankenship and Hartman 1998).

The release of O₂ from H₂O₂ instead of H₂O can be justified by the rapid formation of H₂O₂ and of highly reactive chemical forms collectively denoted as ‘reactive oxygen species (ROS)’. Both H₂O₂ and ROS are formed from O₂ when it is exposed to high-energy or electron-transfer chemical reactions, which can be expressed as follows (Chance et al. 1979; Koppenol 1976; Klotz 2002; Apel and Hirt 2004):

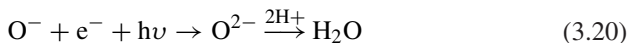
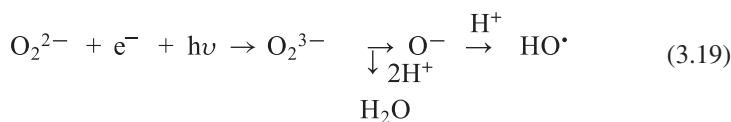
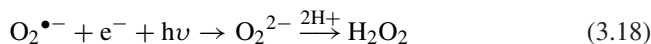
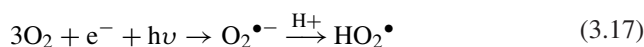
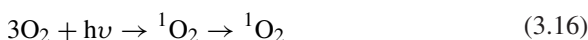
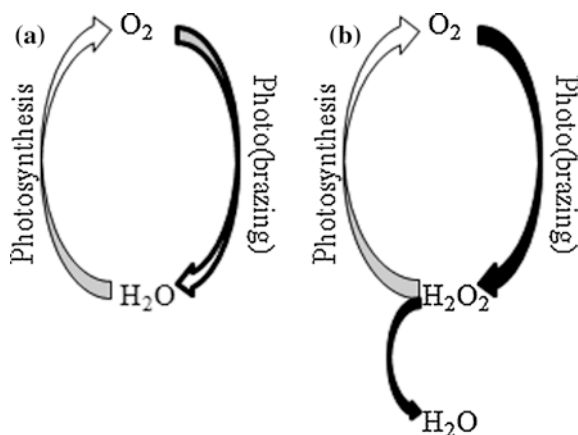


Fig. 2 The relationship between photosynthesis and (photo) breathing within the framework of the conventional considerations regarding photosynthesis (a) and in accordance with the concept proposed by the author of the article (b). *Data source* Komissarov (2003)



Singlet oxygen ($^1\text{O}_2$) and superoxide radical ion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) are formed from the triplet state of O_2 ($^3\text{O}_2$) in the presence of light (Eqs. 3.16, 3.17). The radical ion $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ then reacts with a hydrogen ion (H^+) to form the perhydroxyl radical (HO_2^{\bullet}) (Eq. 3.17). The species $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ can also accept one more electron (e^-) to form peroxide ion (O_2^{2-}), which then combines with H^+ to generate hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) (Eq. 3.18). Further acceptance of one e^- by O_2^{2-} can form O_2^{3-} , which can then produce H_2O and an oxene ion (O^-) in the presence of H^+ (Eq. 3.19). The ion radical O^- can produce the hydroxyl radical in the presence of H^+ (Eq. 3.19). Further acceptance of one e^- by O^- can yield the oxide ion (O^{2-}), which finally gives H_2O in the presence of H^+ (Eq. 3.20). This result shows that formation of water from O_2 is relatively more difficult than the process involving H_2O_2 .

In the new hypothesis, the relationship between the fundamental biological process and breathing is complicated because the final product in breathing is water, which would not dissociate during photosynthesis (Fig. 2b) (Komissarov 2003). This is not contemplated in the conventional view of photosynthesis, which is illustrated in Fig. 2a. Breathing is followed from right to left in both equations.

However, breathing is accompanied by the formation of endogenous H_2O_2 that is not only a source of O_2 , injected into the atmosphere, but also of hydrogen used in the synthetic processes of growth (Komissarov 2003).

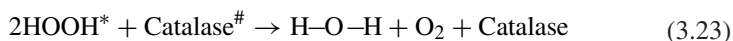
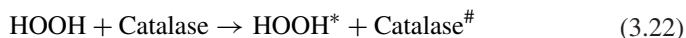
Mass spectrometric examination of photosynthetic generation of O_2 using H_2O_2 , marked with heavy isotopic oxygen ($\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}_2$), suggests that H_2O_2 is the source of the entire amount of generated O_2 (Mano et al. 1987). Experimental studies using ^{18}O -labeled H_2O_2 ($\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}_2$) and O_2 ($^{18}\text{O}_2$) added to seawater also suggest that photoinduced oxidation can produce $^{18}\text{O}_2$ and H_2O (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990), whereas label transfer is governed by the mass balance (Eq. 3.21):

$$-\Delta\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}_2 = \Delta\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O} + \Delta^{18}\text{O}_2 \quad (3.21)$$

Similarly, catalytic epoxidation experiments using the ^{18}O labels in an acetone/water (H_2^{18}O) solvent demonstrate that no ^{18}O coming from water (H_2^{18}O)

is incorporated into epoxide products, even though oxygen exchange is observed between the Mn^{IV} catalyst species and H_2^{18}O . Therefore, one can conclude that O_2 transfer does not proceed by the well-known oxygen-rebound mechanism (Yin et al. 2006). Experiments using labeled dioxygen, $^{18}\text{O}_2$, and hydrogen peroxide, $\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}_2$, confirm that an oxygen atom is transferred directly from the $\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}_2$ oxidant to the olefin substrate in the predominant pathway (Yin et al. 2006). Moreover, some recent experiments show that photoinduced H_2O oxidation occurs in the presence of inorganic catalysts (Kuznetsov et al. 2010; Bernardini et al. 2011). This result does not imply that H_2O is oxidized, but rather that $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ and then H_2O_2 are produced photolytically. H_2O_2 is then photolytically decomposed into O_2 and H_2O .

Biological release of O_2 is observed using catalase for the decomposition of H_2O_2 in aqueous media, a process that can be depicted as follows (Eqs. 3.22, 3.23) (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990):



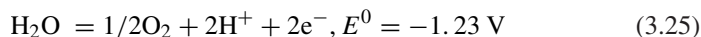
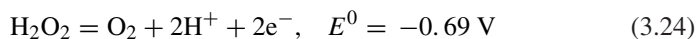
In the above reactions, catalase enzymatically activates HOOH^* to use them as oxidants (electron acceptors) and reductants (electron donors) (Eq. 3.22). Afterwards, disproportionation of activated HOOH^* converts them into H_2O and O_2 (Eq. 3.23). Therefore, H_2O_2 can release O_2 under both photoinduced and microbial decomposition processes. The widespread occurrence of such a process justifies the hypothesis that the release of photosynthetic O_2 may occur from H_2O_2 instead of H_2O . Note that the contribution percentage decay of H_2O_2 is 65–80 % by catalase enzyme and 20–35 % by peroxidase enzyme, as estimated by isotopic measurements in seawater (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990).

Based on the current evidence, it is hypothesized that oxygenic photosynthesis has evolved by the end of the ‘Great Oxidation Event’ *ca.* 2.4 Ga ago. It has permanently raised atmospheric oxygen above the levels produced by photolysis of water (Buick 2008). The latter process can produce primarily H_2O_2 , which might be source of oxygenic photosynthesis.

3.2 *Effective Oxidation of H_2O_2 Instead of H_2O in Releasing Photosynthetic O_2*

The oxidation of water to molecular oxygen is described by the equation (Rappaport and Diner 2008): $2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{O}_2 + 4\text{H}^+ + 4\text{e}^-$, where at pH 7.0 the midpoint potential of the $\text{O}_2/2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ couple is 810 mV. Water is a very stable molecule and its oxidation requires the successive absorption of four photons and their photoinduced conversion into electrochemical energy. The energy of the quantum of a visible light is relatively small, such as 1.8 eV at the maximum absorption of chlorophyll (Komissarov 2003).

The value of standard electrode potential of the reaction of O_2 formation from H_2O_2 (Eq. 3.19) is significantly lower than for H_2O (Eqs. 3.24, 3.25) (Komissarov 2003):



Therefore, in vivo formation of oxygen would be preferable from hydrogen peroxide than from water.

3.3 Generation of H_2O_2 from DOM and POM

The most important source of H_2O_2 is the photoinduced generation from DOM and POM (e.g. algae) under solar illumination in natural waters. The mechanism has been discussed in earlier chapters (see “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” and “Chlorophylls and Their Degradation in Nature”). In addition, DOM can also produce H_2O_2 under dark incubation. Algae or phytoplankton can produce H_2O_2 from superoxide radical anion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$), which can be formed either by photoinduced generation of electrons from Chlorophyll bound in microorganisms, or via autochthonous DOM. In the latter case, H_2O_2 generation can take place under photo- and microbial respiration (assimilations) of phytoplankton (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” and “Chlorophylls and Their Degradation in Nature”). Overall, production of H_2O_2 from various sources can be depicted as follows (Fig. 3).

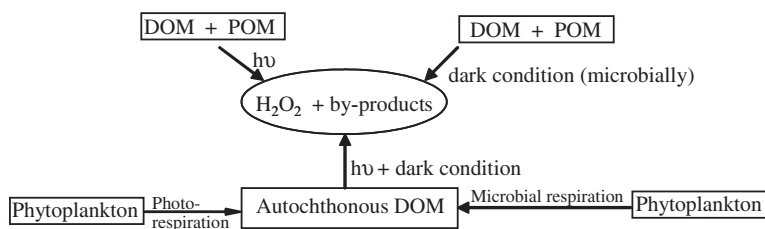


Fig. 3 Production of H_2O_2 from various sources in natural waters

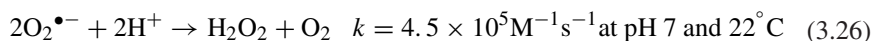
3.4 Endogenous H_2O_2 in the Photosynthetic Cell and Effects of Exogenous H_2O_2

Endogenous H_2O_2 is formed in photosynthetic cells of organisms through production of superoxide radical ion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$) from whole bacteria of several species, from phagocytic cells, from spermatozoa as well as peroxisomes, mitochondria and

chloroplasts (Komissarov 2003; Bach 1894; Chance et al. 1979; Halliwell 1981; Holland et al. 1982; Wilhelm et al. 1996, 1997, 1999; Halliwell and Gutteridge 1999; López-Huertas et al. 1999; Baker and Graham 2002; del Río et al. 2006; Krieger-Liszkay et al. 2008; Lyubimov and Zastrizhnaya 1992a, b; Turrens 1997; Karuppanapandian et al. 2011). H_2O_2 is also detected in the lens of the human eye and cataracts, aqueous humor and urine, in expired human breath and rat breath. Furthermore, increased H_2O_2 concentrations are also observed in patients with the adult respiratory distress syndrome, in patients with a cardiopulmonary bypass, in people exposed to ozone, in alveolar and peritoneal macrophages isolated from rats exposed to hypoxia, and in the breath of smokers (Wilhelm et al. 1996, 1997; Bhuyan and Bhuyan 1977; Spector and Garner 1981; Williams and Chance 1983; Ramachandran et al. 1991; Wilson et al. 1993; Nowak et al. 1996; Madden et al. 1997).

It has also been observed that oral bacteria may produce H_2O_2 (Thomas and Pera 1983) and that several enzymes, including glycollate and urate oxidases, can produce H_2O_2 . It is calculated that 82 nM of H_2O_2 is produced per g of tissue per min in perfused livers isolated from normally fed rats (Chance et al. 1979). The H_2O_2 production rate is increased with inclusion of glycollate or urate in the perfusion medium. H_2O_2 is a precursor of HO^\bullet , a strong oxidizing agent, which is mostly formed either in the Fenton-type reaction in the presence of transition metals or via the Haber–Weiss reaction in the presence of superoxide and iron (Fong et al. 1976). Catalase, the enzyme that metabolizes H_2O_2 to H_2O and O_2 is detected in liver, kidney, blood, mucous membranes and other highly vascularized tissues (Sohal et al. 1994; Matutte et al. 2000). Correspondingly, detoxification of H_2O_2 by catalase has also been observed in the rabbit iris-ciliary body and in cultured lens epithelial cells (Delamere and Williams 1985; Giblin et al. 1990).

The radical $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ can rapidly produce H_2O_2 and O_2 by the following reaction (Eq. 3.26) (Koppenol 1976):



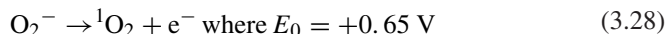
although the reaction between $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ and HO_2^\bullet is much faster.

Similarly, HO^\bullet can react with O_2^- to produce H_2O and O_2 (Eq. 3.27) (Koppenol 1976):

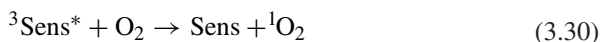
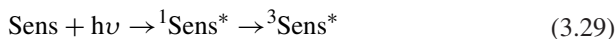


Several studies have proposed that $^1\text{O}_2$ is formed in the cells or in PSII (Halliwell and Gutteridge 1999; Krieger-Liszkay et al. 2008; Kautsky et al. 1931; Durrant et al. 1990; Vass et al. 1992; Macpherson et al. 1993; Hideg et al. 1994; Keren et al. 1997; Fufezan et al. 2002; Krieger-Liszkay 2005). The chlorophyll (Chl) triplet state can produce the very reactive $^1\text{O}_2$ upon reaction with ground state $^3\text{O}_2$, if it is not efficiently quenched (Krieger-Liszkay et al. 2008). The lifetime of $^1\text{O}_2$ in a cell is estimated into approximately 3 s (Skovsen et al. 2005; Hatz et al. 2007).

The reactive transient $^1\text{O}_2$ is also formed from superoxide anion (O_2^-) in the following process (3.28) (Koppenol 1976):



In addition, any sensitizer (e.g. photoactive organic matter) can photolytically produce $^1\text{O}_2$ via the following processes (Eqs. 3.29, 3.30) (Braun and Oliveros 1990):



where Sens is the sensitizer that can absorb photons and is promoted to the singlet excited state ($^1\text{Sens}^*$). The latter can undergo intersystem crossing (ISC) and be converted into the triplet state ($^3\text{Sens}^*$) (Eq. 3.29), which can react with O_2 to produce $^1\text{O}_2$ (Eq. 3.30).

On the other hand, deactivation of $^1\text{O}_2$ involves two major processes such as energy-transfer quenching and charge-transfer quenching, through any acceptor or sensitizer (Eqs. 3.31, 3.32) (Braun and Oliveros 1990; Halliwell and Gutteridge 2007):



The H_2O_2 concentration in plant cells is approximately 0.5–1 μmol per milligram of Chl, including Chl of photosynthetic antennae (Lyubimov and Zastrizhnaya 1992a). Therefore, the amount of H_2O_2 is much higher than the Chl content in the composition of so called oxygen-evolving complexes in chloroplasts (Lobanov et al. 2008). Experimental studies have shown that the content of H_2O_2 can increase during ontogenesis of both the whole plant and populations of protoplasts of separate leaves in the dark, and the light-dependent component of peroxide formation increases regardless of the metabolic type of the plant antennae (Lyubimov and Zastrizhnaya 1992b). It is known that each molecule of the chlorophyll absorbs light quanta ~ 1 time per second, even at the maximum intensity of daylight (Komissarov 2003). Synthetic Chl, metal complexes of porphyrins and phthalocyanines are photoactive and can produce H_2O_2 under irradiation in aqueous solutions saturated with O_2 (Lobanov et al. 2008; Hong et al. 1987; Bazanov et al. 1999; Premkumar and Ramaraj 1999).

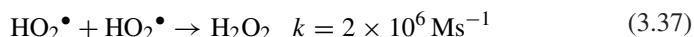
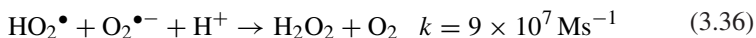
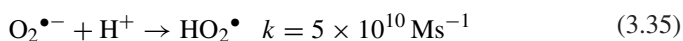
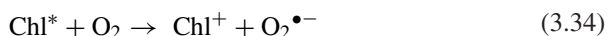
Lower volatility of H_2O_2 compared to H_2O may cause the green leaves to be a unique concentrator of H_2O_2 (Komissarov 2003). It is shown that the heat of vapour formation of pure H_2O_2 is 12.3 kcal mole $^{-1}$, whilst that of water is 10.5 kcal mole $^{-1}$ (Shamb et al. 1958). Transpiration (evaporation of water by plants) may evidently play the same function of H_2O_2 concentrator in addition to the protection of plants against overheating. For each kg of water, absorbed by the roots from soil, only 1 g is used by the plant for the construction of tissue. Therefore, the transpiration process may enhance the total contents of H_2O_2 in the

plant cells. Terrestrial plants can receive high concentrations of rainwater H_2O_2 (0–199,000 nM: see Table 2 in chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”), which is a vital source of exogenous H_2O_2 and is susceptible to promote photosynthesis in plants and algae (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003; Mostofa et al. 2009). Experimental studies demonstrate that H_2O_2 concentrations (up to 10^{-5} M) in culture media can stimulate plant growth (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003). In addition, H_2O_2 can inhibit growth at concentrations as low as 10^{-5} – 10^{-4} M under the conditions of a dialysis culture (Samuilov et al. 2001). H_2O_2 can inhibit the photosynthetic electron transport in cells of cyanobacteria (Samuilov et al. 2001, 2004) and can also destroy the function of the oxygen-evolving complex (OEC) in some chloroplasts and photosystem II preparations. In such a case it would cause the release of manganese from cyanobacterial cells, which inhibits the OEC activity.

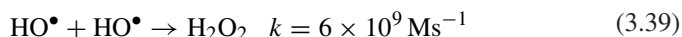
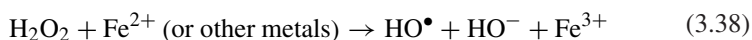
3.5 H_2O_2 Formation in Water, Lipid and Protein Environments in the Presence of Chlorophyll

Chlorophyll can produce H_2O_2 in aqueous solution under acidic and alkaline pH conditions (pH = 3.8–12.4) under visible light irradiation (Lobanov et al. 2008). The mechanism behind the production of H_2O_2 from illuminated Chl can be illustrated as follows (3.33–3.39) (Lobanov et al. 2008; Parmon 1985; Bruskov 2002):

At pH < 7

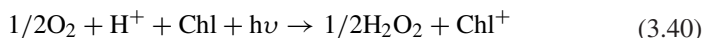


At pH > 7

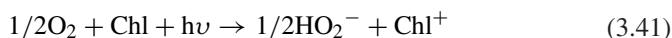


The electron donor for the conversion $\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ (redox potential $\phi^\circ = -0.12$ V) can be Chl in the singlet or triplet excited state (the S1 and T1), with $\phi^\circ = -1.14$ and -1.54 V, respectively (Lobanov et al. 2008). The occurrence of reaction (Eq. 3.39) is confirmed by the addition of 1 M ethanol as a scavenger of HO^{\bullet} into the water suspension of silica gel with immobilized Chl inhibits the

formation of H_2O_2 in the alkaline medium with pH 12.4 (Lobanov et al. 2008; Bruskov and Masalimov 2002). Formation of H_2O_2 from Chl can generally be expressed as follows (Eq. 3.40) (Lobanov et al. 2008): at pH < 7,



where redox potentials ($\Delta\varphi^\circ$) and Gibbs energy changes (ΔG^0) for the reduction of O_2 to H_2O_2 with simultaneous oxidation of Chl to the radical cation ($T = 298 \text{ K}$) are -0.03 V and 5.8 kJ for H_2O_2 generation, 1.83 V and -353 kJ for the singlet excited state of Chl, as well as 1.23 V and -237 kJ for the triplet excited state of Chl, respectively. Similarly at pH > 7 (Eq. 3.41),



where $\Delta\varphi^\circ$ and ΔG^0 for the reduction of O_2 to HO_2^- with simultaneous oxidation of Chl to the cation radical ($T = 298 \text{ K}$) are -0.80 V and 154 kJ for HO_2^- generation, 1.06 V and -204 kJ for the singlet excited state of Chl, and 0.46 V and -89 kJ for the triplet excited state of Chl, respectively (Lobanov et al. 2008).

In addition, H_2O_2 is significantly formed photolytically in aqueous mixtures of Chl and either micelles of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) or macromolecules of bovine serum albumin (BSA) in a noncovalent complex. In such a case, Chl acts as a photocatalyst (Lobanov et al. 2008). The Chl may affect the donors of electron density, polarize chemical bonds, and stabilize reaction intermediates (similar to enzyme–substrate complexes) by the occurrence of N-, O-, and S-containing functional groups bound in proteins and lipids (Lobanov et al. 2008).

Under certain physiological conditions such as exposure to high light intensity or drought, reduction of O_2 in photosynthetic organisms can produce reactive oxygen species (ROS), such as $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, H_2O_2 or $^1\text{O}_2$. These species can lead to the closure of the stomata and cause low CO_2 concentrations in the chloroplasts (Krieger-Liszkay et al. 2008; Asada 1992, 2006; Halliwell and Gutteridge 1990; Hideg et al. 2001, 2002; Trebst et al. 2002). It is shown that a key ROS in UV-irradiated leaves is $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, whilst $^1\text{O}_2$ is minor (Hideg et al. 2002). Therefore, H_2O_2 may be produced in the plant cells via $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$. Under such conditions, the plastoquinone pool can be in a very highly reduced state that would allow photoinhibition, i.e. the light induced loss of PSII activity (Adir et al. 2003). The HO^\bullet produced photolytically from H_2O_2 or $^1\text{O}_2$ and ROS itself can react with proteins, pigments, nucleic acids and lipids, and could also be connected to the light-induced loss of PSII activity, to the degradation of the D1 polypeptide (PSII reaction centre polypeptide) and to pigment bleaching (Krieger-Liszkay et al. 2008; Aro et al. 1993; Nishiyama et al. 2001, 2004; Vass et al. 1992; Hideg et al. 1994; Keren et al. 1997; Halliwell and Gutteridge 1990; Sopory et al. 1990; Prasil et al. 1992; Hideg et al. 1998; Okada et al. 1996, 2006; Allakhverdiev and Murata 2004; Nixon et al. 2005; Hideg et al. 2007; Aro 2007; Tyystjärvi 2008). Such reactions are often observed in water, where photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet either from H_2O_2 (both upon direct photolysis by sunlight and photo-Fenton reaction) or other sources (e.g. NO_2^- and NO_3^-) can decompose the DOM components

(Draper and Crosby 1981; Zepp et al. 1992; Wang et al. 2001; White et al. 2003; Nakatani et al. 2007; Vione et al. 2006, 2009a, b).

3.6 Occurrence of H_2O_2 and its Effect on Photosynthesis

In support of the involvement of H_2O_2 in the photosynthetic reaction, several H_2O_2 -related phenomena have been observed in natural waters, which can be classified as follows (Mostofa et al. 2009). First, the correlation between carbon production and photolytically formed H_2O_2 concentration, suggesting a link between hydrogen peroxide and organic matter photosynthesis in lake water (Anesio et al. 2005). Second, Chl *a* production in the epilimnetic layer (5–10 m) is typically observed to increase with a decrease in total CO_2 contents (Talling 2006), suggesting that photosynthesis is highest at the epilimnetic layer (5–10 m) than in the uppermost epilimnion (0–1 m). Correspondingly, the O_2 and Chl *a* contents reach a minimum when the water temperature become highest during the summer stratification period (Talling 2006), suggesting that photoinduced degradation or assimilation of Chl *a* may be responsible for the decrease in Chl *a* at the uppermost layer. Here O_2 may be involved in the production of free radicals (H_2O_2 or HO^\bullet) that could inhibit photosynthesis (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Moffett and Zafriou 1990). This result is similar to earlier studies where photosynthesis was observed to be less effective in the uppermost layer (1 m) compared to the subsequent epilimnion (3 m) (Nozaki et al. 2002). A ratio of variable to maximal fluorescence (F_v/F_m) of phytoplankton productivity showed a decrease as irradiance increased during the morning and an increase as irradiance declined in the afternoon. These results may be associated with both photoprotective strategies in the antennae of PSII and photo damage of PSII reaction centers (Zhang et al. 2008). Conversely, H_2O_2 usually increases gradually starting in the morning, reaches a maximum at noon and then gradually decreases in the afternoon (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). It is therefore suggested that high production of H_2O_2 and subsequent photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet at noon is susceptible to damage the PSII reaction centers.

Third, H_2O_2 may be concentrated by particulate organic matter or small fungi through rapid transpiration (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003). This hypothesis can be supported by observation of relatively low production of H_2O_2 in unfiltered samples compared to filtered ones during irradiation (Moffett and Zafriou 1990; Cooper et al. 1988; Petasne and Zika 1997). An increase in the growth rate of plants and mycelial fungi is detected when the H_2O_2 concentration increases up to an optimum level, from 1 nM to 10 M, and the growth rate decreases when H_2O_2 approaches 1 mM (Komissarov 2003; Ivanova et al. 2005). High levels of H_2O_2 may photolytically produce HO^\bullet , a strong oxidizing agent, that may cause ecophysiological disorders in plants, decrease the CO_2 assimilation rate and affect stomatal conductance, fluorescence and needle life span (Kume et al. 2000; Kobayashi et al. 2002). In natural waters, HO^\bullet that is produced photolytically from

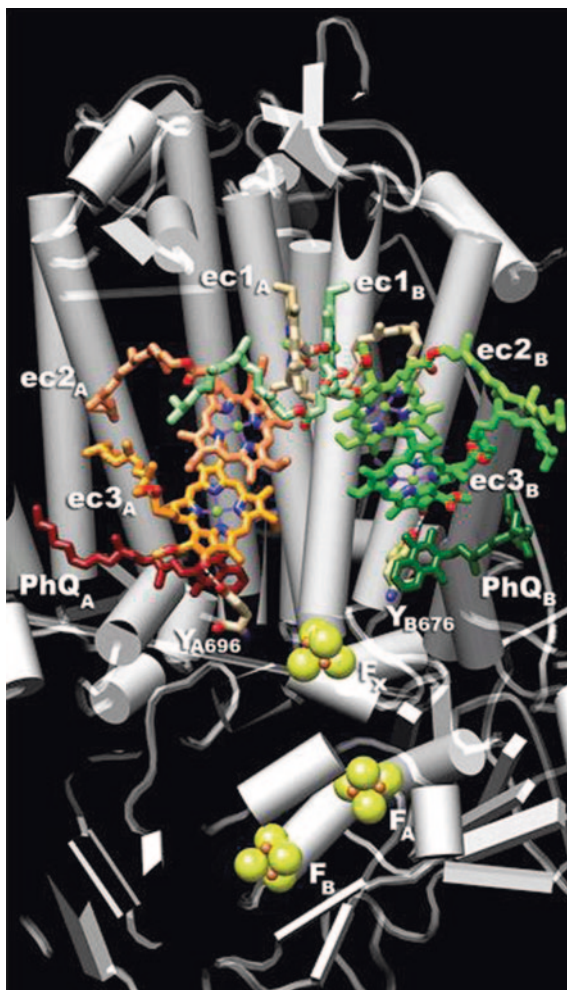
H₂O₂ can degrade phytoplankton cells, thereby decreasing photosynthesis. The synergistic effect of high contents of H₂O₂ combined with elevated seawater temperature (27–31 °C) can result in a 134 % increase in respiration rates of the coral *Galaxea fascicularis*, which can surpass the effect of either H₂O₂ or high seawater temperature alone (Higuchi et al. 2009). A possible explanation is that an increase in growth of plant species with increasing H₂O₂ might enhance carbohydrate production, and therefore enhance the activity throughout the food web.

4 Functions of Photosystems (I and II) in Organisms During Photosynthesis

Photosynthesis is primarily initiated by the light-induced release of electrons across a membrane, which is catalyzed by two multisubunits, special type of membrane-bound pigment-protein complexes called photosynthetic reaction centres (RCs). They are photosystem I (PSI) and photosystem II (PSII) (Krauß 2003; Golbeck 1994; Brettel 1997; Li et al. 2006; Rappaport and Diner 2008; Müller et al. 2010; Nilsson Lill 2011; Umena et al. 2011; Renger and Holzwarth 2005; Fromme 2008; Holzwarth 2008). PSI of higher plants and algae (named PSI-200) consists of the PSI core complex and the peripheral light-harvesting complex LHCI. In cyanobacteria, it only consists of the PSI core (Schlodder et al. 2011). The PSI core complexes in cyanobacteria are organized preferentially as trimers, whereas PSI in higher plants and algae is present only as a monomer (Boekema et al. 1987, 2001; Shubin et al. 1993; Kruij et al. 1994; Jordan et al. 2001; Amunts et al. 2010).

By studying the crystal structure of cyanobacterial PSI it has been shown that it is composed of 128 cofactors including approximately 96–100 Chl molecules, two phylloquinones, three [Fe₄S₄] clusters, 22 carotenoids, four lipids and a putative Ca²⁺ ion (Fig. 4) (Krauß 2003; Krauss et al. 1993; Krauß et al. 1996; Klukas et al. 1999; Jordan et al. 2001; Ben-Shem et al. 2003; Müller et al. 2010; Webber and Lubitz 2001). The PSI antenna consists of 90 Chls, of which 79 are bound to a heterodimeric core formed by subunits PsaA and PsaB, with 2 × 11 transmembrane α -helices (Krauß 2003). The cofactors in the RC of PSI form two quasi-symmetric branches (Fig. 4), diverging from a Chl *a*/Chl *a* pair (ec1A/ec1B) traditionally called P700 (Jordan et al. 2001; Müller et al. 2010). In each branch there is a pair of Chl *a* molecules (ec2A/ec3A or ec2B/ec3B) and a phylloquinone (PhQA or PhQB) and then the branches join again at the FX iron-sulfur (FeS) cluster (Müller et al. 2010). The carotenoids have a dual function in light harvesting and photoprotection. The organic cofactors of the electron transfer chain are bound to PsaA/PsaB and arranged in two branches of three Chl and one phylloquinone molecule each, related by a pseudo-C2 axis (Krauß 2003). These studies show that the PSI reaction center or primary donor P700 in PSI is composed of six chlorophyll (Chl) *a* cofactors: the P700 special pair Chls (analogous to the special pair bacteriochlorophylls in purple bacterial reaction centers), two accessory Chls

Fig. 4 Organization of the ET cofactors in the RC of PSI, based on the X-ray crystal structure of cyanobacterial PSI [1JB0] (Jordan et al. 2001), and using the nomenclature suggested by Redding and van der Est (Redding and van der Est 2006) (Figure is generated using UCSF Chimera). *Data source* Müller et al. (2010)



(analogous to the accessory bacteriochlorophylls), and two chlorophylloid. Based on the crystal structures, it is generally assumed that the PSI core complexes, particularly the cofactor arrangement in the reaction centre, are similar in all organisms and plants (Jordan et al. 2001; Ben-Shem et al. 2003).

On the other hand, crystal structure analysis of cyanobacterial photosystem II (PSII) demonstrates that PSII monomer contains 20 subunits with a total molecular mass of 350 kDa (Umena et al. 2011). It is composed of 19 protein subunits, 32–36 Chl molecules (35 Chls for *T. vulcanus*) (Umena et al. 2011) including chlorophyll *a* dimer (P_{D1}P_{D2}) and monomers (Chl_{D1} and Chl_{D2}), two pheophytins *a* (Pheo_{D1} and Pheo_{D2}), 11 β-carotenes, more than 20 lipids, two plastoquinones Q_A and Q_B, two haem irons, one non-haem iron, a tetranuclear manganese cluster forming Mn₄CaO₅(H₂O)₄ or Mn₄CaO₄(OH)(H₂O)₄, three or four calcium atoms

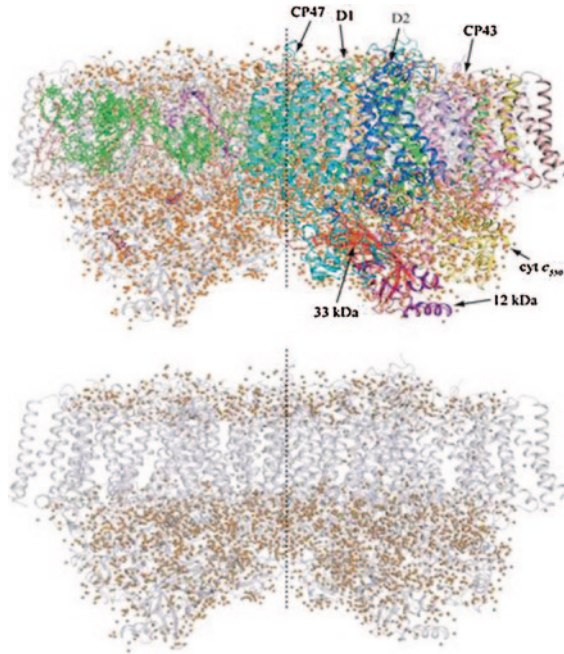
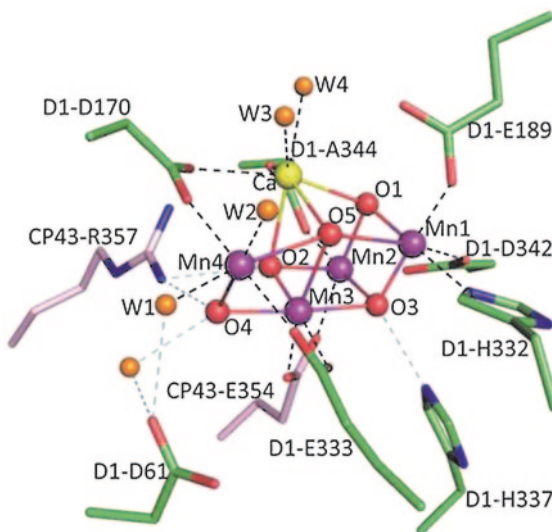


Fig. 5 Overall structure of PSII dimer from *Thermosynechococcus vulcanus* at a resolution of 1.9Å. View from the direction perpendicular to the membrane normal. **a** Overall structure. The protein subunits are coloured individually in the right hand monomer and in light grey in the left-hand monomer, and the cofactors are coloured in the left-hand monomer and in light grey in the right-hand monomer. Orange balls represent water molecules. **b** Arrangement of water molecules in the PSII dimer. The protein subunits are coloured in light grey and all other cofactors are omitted. The central broken lines are the noncrystallographic two-fold axes relating the two monomers. *Data source* Umena et al. (2011)

(one of which is in the Mn_4Ca cluster), three Cl^- ions (two of which are near the Mn_4CaO_5 cluster), one bicarbonate ion and more than 15 detergents (Fig. 5) (Krauß 2003; Nilsson Lill 2011; Umena et al. 2011; Zouni et al. 2001; Kamiya and Shen 2003; Ferreira et al. 2004; Loll et al. 2005; Murray et al. 2008; Kawakami et al. 2009; Guskov et al. 2009; Biesiadka et al. 2004). PSII reaction center or primary donor P680 in PSII is an approximately C_2 -symmetric structure formed by polypeptides (D1 and D2) and six chlorin cofactors: four chlorophyll *a* and two pheophytin *a* (Pheo_{D1} and Pheo_{D2}) (Fig. 5) (Nilsson Lill 2011; Umena et al. 2011). Each PSII monomer consists of more than 1,300 water molecules, yielding a total of 2,795 water molecules in the dimer (Umena et al. 2011). The water molecules are organized into two layers located on the surfaces of the stromal and luminal sides, respectively, with the latter having more water molecules than the former (Umena et al. 2011). A few water molecules are detected within the membrane region, most of them serving as ligands to chlorophylls (Umena et al. 2011).

Fig. 6 Structure of the Mn_4CaO_5 cluster. Stereo view of the Mn_4CaO_5 cluster and its ligand environment. The distances shown are the average distances between the two monomers. Manganese, purple; calcium, yellow; oxygen, red; D1, green; CP43, pink. Data source Umena et al. (2011)



$\text{Mn}_4\text{CaO}_5(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$ or $\text{Mn}_4\text{CaO}_4(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$ is formed through five oxygen atoms that act as oxo bridges linking the five metal atoms, and four water molecules that are bound to the Mn_4CaO_5 cluster and can generate O_2 (Fig. 6) (Umena et al. 2011; Yamanaka et al. 2012). Among the five metal and five oxygen atoms, three Mn, one Ca and four O form a cubane-like structure in which Ca and Mn occupy four corners and the O atoms occupy the other four. The fourth manganese (Mn4) is located outside the cubane; it is linked to Mn1 and Mn3 within the cubane by O5, and to O4 by a di- μ -oxo bridge (Umena et al. 2011). In this way, every two adjacent Mn atoms are linked by di- μ -oxo bridges: Mn1 and Mn2 via O1 and O3, Mn2 and Mn3 via O2 and O3, and Mn3 and Mn4 via O4 and O5. The calcium is linked to all four Mn by oxo bridges: to Mn1 via the di- μ -oxo bridge formed by O1 and O5, to Mn2 via O1 and O2, to Mn3 via O2 and O5, and to Mn4 via the mono- μ -oxo bridge formed by O5 (Umena et al. 2011). It is also shown that four water molecules (W1 to W4) are associated with the Mn_4CaO_5 cluster, of which W1 and W2 are coordinated to Mn4 with respective distances of 2.1 and 2.2 Å, and W3 and W4 are coordinated to Ca with a distance of 2.4 Å. This suggests that some of the four waters may serve as the substrates for water oxidation (Umena et al. 2011).

Several studies are conducted to evaluate the functions of the PSI and PSII (Jordan et al. 2001; Dashdorj et al. 2004; Germano et al. 2004; Diner and Rappaport 2002; Li et al. 2006; Rappaport and Diner 2008; Müller et al. 2010; Nilsson Lill 2011; Schlodder et al. 2007, 2011; Nanba and Satoh 1987; Dekker and van Grondelle 2000; Greenfield and Wasielewski 1996; Klug et al. 1998; Prokhorenko and Holzwarth 2000; Byrdin et al. 2002; Yoder et al. 2002; Holzwarth et al. 2006).

4.1 Debates/Questions Regarding O₂-Releases from PSI and PSII

Some key issues on the debate concerning the details of electron- and O₂-release from PSI and PSII will be discussed in the following parts.

First, an electron is released upon excitation by light, either producing the charge-separated state P680⁺H_A⁻ from Chl molecules (P680), or accompanied by no charge separation (or by considerable protein relaxation) (Dashdorj et al. 2004; Germano et al. 2004; Rappaport and Diner 2008; Müller et al. 2010; Takahashi et al. 1987; Periasamy et al. 1978). Accordingly, after release of an electron by PSI or PSII upon excitation by light, is it possible to accept the same component of PSI or PSII? From the point of view of aquatic humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) or CDOM (DOM or FDOM, fluorescent dissolved organic matter), the answer is no. The secondary component (dissolved O₂ in water) can accept the electron to produce super oxide radical anion (O₂^{•-}) and then H₂O₂ (Eqs. 3.36–3.40). The detailed mechanism for H₂O₂ production from DOM (or FDOM or CDOM) is extensively discussed in chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”.

Second, which and how many Chl molecules are taking part to the primary donor sites in PSI and PS II? (Stewart et al. 2000; Jordan et al. 2001; Diner and Rappaport 2002; Li et al. 2006; Müller et al. 2010; Durrant et al. 1995; Dekker and van Grondelle 2000; van Gorkom and Schelvis 1993) The answer is that the first electron is released from the functional or chromophoric group bound to PSI or PSII, which is the easiest way to do it upon excitation by light. Subsequent electron releases occur in succession from the functional groups (for an analogy, see CDOM and FDOM, chapter “[Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” and “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). It has been shown by fluorescence spectroscopy that longer-wavelength excitation is usually the first to take place, followed by the others. Therefore, Chl dimers or Chl molecules (generally with emission wavelengths >675 nm) bound to PSI or PSII are primarily responsible for excitation of electrons. In contrast, proteins or aromatic amino acid residues (generally having shorter emission wavelengths: <370 nm) are not excited in presence of Chl molecules upon irradiation (see also chapter “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”).

Third, why are PSI and PSII formed by a number of Chl molecules in their structure? It is assumed here that Chl *a* (or dimer Chl *a*) molecules are extremely photosensitive and can be excited by a small light intensity. Continuous H₂O₂ generation in the presence of little light is enabled by the occurrence of high numbers of Chl *a* molecules in PSI and PSII, which at the same time can contribute to the continuous photosynthesis in organisms and plants under light conditions. The factors affecting the generation of H₂O₂ (e.g. high or low light intensity, pH, nutrients and so on) can affect photosynthesis and induce structural modifications in PSI and PSII. For example, under intense light conditions there is an elevated production of H₂O₂, the excess of which can be photolytically converted into HO[•]. The

hydroxyl radical can then degrade the proteins or amino acid residues. Such an effect can reduce the contents of proteins or amino acid residues, which are often observed in PSI and PSII (Neufeld et al. 2004; Shutova et al. 2005). The decomposition of proteins or amino acids (e.g. tryptophan) is also generally observed in sunlit water environments because of the effects of HO^\bullet and other ROS (Mostofa et al. 2007, 2010, 2011; Moran et al. 2000).

Fourth, are there any O_2 or H_2O_2 molecules that may remain undetected among the 1,300 water molecules found in PSII? It is consistent to detect O_2 and H_2O_2 molecules in the PSII structure, which have often been observed in earlier studies. The occurrence of a large number of H_2O molecules suggests that O_2 may remain and be dissolved in those water molecules. Furthermore, H_2O_2 may be produced photolytically from O_2 as discussed before. Two facts may be responsible for not detecting O_2 or H_2O_2 : (i) O_2 and H_2O_2 may disappear during the primary processing of the photosynthetic cells before examination; and (ii) former studies did not focus on the occurrence of H_2O_2 in PSII. In a recent study, it has been assumed that H_2O_2 may be “lost” amongst 1,300 H_2O molecules (Umena et al. 2011). The most likely reasons would be the structural similarity and the fact that H_2O_2 occurrence in the PSII structure was not expected. It should be noted that H_2O_2 may be decomposed to H_2O during the processing of photosynthetic cells for the determination of PS crystal structure.

It has been shown that two H_2O molecules in four reaction-center Chls are linked through H-bonding between water ligand and Chl_{D1} (Umena et al. 2011), and it may well be H_2O_2 that can make H-bonding in the proposed structure. It is also shown that two balls labeled I and II represent a single water molecule, disordered at two different positions separated by 1.8 Å. Position-I is able to H-bond to YD (redox-active tyrosine residue located at D2-tyr 160), whereas position-II is not able to H-bond to YD (Supplementary part) (Umena et al. 2011). On this basis, it can be assumed that H_2O_2 may occur in that structure instead of H_2O . Note that the bond length of O–O in H_2O_2 is 1.49 Å, which is larger than in the ground (triplet) state of molecular oxygen ($^3\text{O}_2$, 1.21 Å) (Abrahams et al. 1951). Among the 1300 H_2O molecules in each PSII monomer, a few of them are detected as disordered (Umena et al. 2011), a case in which the probability to mistakenly detect H_2O instead of H_2O_2 is relatively high. Future studies will be important to find out any presence of H_2O_2 instead of H_2O in the crystal structure of PSII.

The first two questions will be discussed comprehensively in the next section.

4.2 Mechanism for Electron Transfer and O_2 -Release in Photosystem II Reaction Centers

Upon excitation by light, the electron release takes place at the central part of the reaction center (RC), at the primary donor P700 in PSI or P680 in PSII (Figs. 4, 5) (Müller et al. 2010; Nilsson Lill 2011; Umena et al. 2011). It is suggested that the

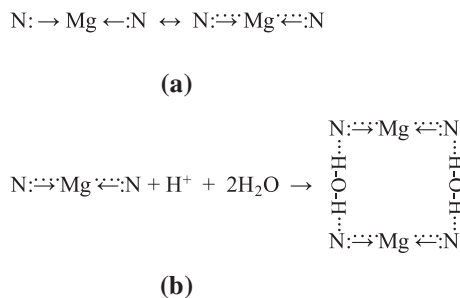


Fig. 7 The possible resonance configuration of Mg with π -electrons of two N-atoms located in the chlorophyll *a* structure **(a)** and chlorophyll *a* dimer **(b)**. Only the two N-atoms in porphyrin ring with Mg are presented in the structure to simplify the resonance structure

primary electron release in PSII involves the chlorophyll *a* dimer (Boussaad et al. 1997; Nilsson Lill 2011). This can be justified by the theory of excitation of multiple functional groups bound to macromolecular organic substances (e.g. fulvic acids or humic acids). Light excitation is expected to induce first the release of the electron less strongly bound in the relevant functional groups, and then of the subsequent ones (see chapter “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”).

It is hypothesized that the first electron is released from the π -bonding system formed between two N-atoms in the porphyrin ring and Mg. In fact, Mg ($1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^1 3p_x^1 3p_y^0 3p_z^0$) can form two covalent bonds with two N-atoms of the porphyrin ring using $3s^1$ and $3p_x^1$ orbitals, whilst other two empty $3p_y^0$ and $3p_z^0$ orbitals can accept the π -electrons from the remaining two N-atoms. The π -bonding systems among these orbitals ($3p_y$ and $3p_z$) can interchange with one another because of the similar energy levels. Therefore, one can have resonance configuration upon exchange of electrons between the orbitals and Mg (Fig. 7a). Chl *a* dimer is formed through hydrogen bonding via H_2O bridges, and H_2O is the key component in the formation of such dimers (Shipman et al. 1976; Hynninen and Lötjönen 1993; Boussaad et al. 1997; Catalan et al. 2004). It is supposed that hydrogen (H)-bonding is formed between the non-bonding π -electrons of two N-atoms in the porphyrin ring. The latter is also a resonance structure where electrons can move through the whole Chl *a* dimer (Fig. 7b).

The formation of H-bonds through H_2O bridges is suggested by earlier studies (Shipman et al. 1976), and can be justified by the shift of the π -bonding system in H–N–Mg–N–H (Fig. 7b). This system can assist the release of electrons in a much easier way than the single N–Mg–N system (Fig. 7a). Based on multimer model studies one obtains equal site energies and inhomogeneous widths for all pigments, which leads to similar distances and to nearest-neighbor dipole–dipole interactions between the central chlorin cofactors (Durrant et al. 1995; Renger and Marcus 2002; Barter et al. 2003). This may result into two wavelength positions for the electronic states in the reaction center (RC): uncoupled Chls can absorb at 670 nm, and electronically coupled chlorins (the central cofactors) or Chl dimers

can absorb between 676 and 684 nm (Telfer et al. 1990; Durrant et al. 1995; Renger and Marcus 2002). Red shifts are commonly observed in *in vitro* Chl *a* systems, such as thin films, monolayers and colloidal dispersions, used as models for the *in vivo* system (Katz et al. 1991). It is known that red shifts occur when the release of electrons takes place in the functional groups that is bound to the component system (see also chapter “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Senesi 1990). Note that Chl *a* has a broad absorption spectrum and can form dimers or aggregates through self assembly, which typically leads to changes in its optical properties (Shipman et al. 1976; Hynninen and Lötjönen 1993; Closs et al. 1963; Katz et al. 1963; Fong 1974; Shipman et al. 1975; Katz 1990, 1994; Frackowiak et al. 1994). Formation of the dimer often occurs through H-bonding in the N-heterocyclic base pair (Catalan et al. 2004), which can support the occurrence of H-bonding between N and H₂O (Fig. 7b).

Two possible hydrogen bonds were also discussed in earlier studies. First, formation of H-bonds might occur between central Mg and H₂O according to the Mg...OH₂ interaction (Hynninen and Lötjönen 1993). Second, the keto carbonyl group of Chl *a* may participate in the formation of Chl *a* dimers, either through coordination with Mg or through H-bonding of the H-X type, where X = O, N and S (Shipman et al. 1976; Closs et al. 1963; Katz et al. 1963; Fong 1974; Shipman et al. 1975; Katz 1990). However, these two previous assumptions are not possible electronically because the outer shells of Mg are entirely full, after bonding with two covalent bonds and two unpaired π -electron systems with four N-atoms of the Chl *a*. Therefore, Mg has less probability to accept further electrons or H-bonding with other groups. Moreover, the formation of such proposed bonding systems is not consistent with the easiest way of electron release via absorption in the longer wavelength region.

Crystal structures of the reaction center have identified two chlorophyll monomers forming a dimer with a partial structural overlap, which are thus stabilized by van der Waals interactions (Nilsson Lill 2011). The structure of the chlorophyll dimer has been optimized using dispersion-corrected density functional theory (B3LYP-DCP) and it has been found that the dimerization energy is approximately $-17 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ (Nilsson Lill 2011). Electrons may be rapidly released from these resonance configurations upon irradiation of the Chl *a* dimer, according to the proposed dimer formation (Fig. 6). This can be understood from the interaction mechanism between the functional group $[-\text{CH}_2-(\text{NH}_3^+)-\text{CH}-\text{COO}^-]$ in tryptophan $[\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-\text{CH}_2(\text{NH}_3^+)\text{CHCOO}^-]$ and metal ions, where the functional group $[-\text{CH}_2-(\text{NH}_3^+)-\text{CH}-\text{COO}^-]$ can display resonance configuration that is responsible for the longer wavelength fluorescence emission spectra (see chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters”).

PSII acts as one component and upon irradiation, the released electron may not accept the same component of PSII that can be understood from aquatic ecosystem. For example, in aqueous media fulvic acid or humic acid upon irradiation can donate the electron to O₂ and form O₂•⁻ and then H₂O₂, which is a well-accepted mechanism by all aquatic scientists. Therefore, it is hypothesized that the released electron in PSII may

react with other components present in the cells, the most efficient of which is O_2 that can form $O_2^{\bullet-}$ and then H_2O_2 . The latter species are often detected in cells as discussed in the earlier sections. It is also established that H_2O_2 formation is the primary step of many photoinduced processes in aqueous solution that finally lead to the formation of the HO^{\bullet} radical (see chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”).

Upon excitation, an electron is transferred from the Chls to the Pheo HA, producing the charge-separated state $P680^+H_A^-$ as assumed by earlier studies (Germano et al. 2004; Rockley et al. 1975; Thurnauer et al. 1975; Shuvalov and Klevanik 1983; Kirmaier and Holten 1987; Holzzapfel et al. 1990). Similarly, in PSI a primary charge separation occurs in the P700 reaction center that can lead to the reduction of A_0 (two chlorophylloid primary electron acceptors), creating the radical ion pair $P700^+A_0^-$ (Krauß 2003; Brettel 1997; Müller et al. 2010; Webber and Lubitz 2001; Fromme et al. 2001). However, no concrete evidence has been found for the formation of these types of radicals in PSI or PSII. Rather, experimental studies support the idea that primary electron transfer reactions are accompanied by molecular readjustments or reorganizations involving pigments and proteins, or the interaction of pigment-protein complexes in the reaction center (Dashdorj et al. 2004; Kleinfeld et al. 1984; Woodbury and Parson 1984; Kirmaier et al. 1985a, b; Holten et al. 1986; Kirmaier et al. 1986; Tiede et al. 1987; Mullineaux et al. 1993; Savikhin et al. 2001; Karapetyan 2004).

It is also observed that chlorophyll-binding PsbS protein (22-kD protein of PSII), which belongs to the family of light-harvesting proteins, can contribute only to quenching but not to light harvesting (Li et al. 2000, 2002; Aspinall-O’Dea et al. 2002; Bergantino et al. 2003). Indeed, the degree of fluorescence quenching in vivo can correlate with the content of PsbS (Li et al. 2004). Dissipation of energy in PSI trimers of cyanobacteria takes place with a contribution of the long-wavelength chlorophyll, and the excited state of which is quenched by the cation radical of P700 or by P700 in its triplet state (Karapetyan 2004). The low fluorescence yield of Chls in light-harvesting antenna complexes is indicative of an additional pathway of energy dissipation in oligomers, which would protect the PSII complex of cyanobacteria against photodestruction (Karapetyan 2004).

It can thus be hypothesized that excitation followed by charge transfer could produce $P680^+O_2^{\bullet-}$ instead of $P680^+H_A^-$. O_2 is the primary acceptor for excited electrons in aquatic media and is involved in the production of H_2O_2 as discussed earlier. This result is supported by Laser flash photolysis studies, in which a charge-transfer excited state has not been detected from the spectra. Recovery kinetics, including observation of both triplet decay and ground-state folding reactions, show that the flash transient obtained from the pinned form consists of a triplet and of a ground state moiety in the unpinned configuration (Periasamy et al. 1978). Experimental optical data and structure-based simulations showed nanosecond absorption dynamics at ~685 nm, after excitation of PS I from *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803. It is suggested that the electrochromic shift of absorption bands of the Chl *a* pigments may occur around the secondary electron acceptor, through considerable protein relaxation (Dashdorj et al. 2004; Savikhin et al. 2001).

A recent study has shown that the PSII monomer consists of 1300 H₂O molecules, a few of which have been detected as disordered (Umena et al. 2011). H₂O₂ was not considered as a component of PSII structure in that study. Concurrently, four successive photoinduced turnovers provide the WOC with four oxidising equivalents and drive it through an S-state cycle, with S-states ranging from S₀ to S₄ and O₂ is being released on the S₃ to S₄ transition.

Now the questions are: how is it possible for H₂O to undergo photodissociation through four successive photoinduced turnovers, needing energy in the presence of H₂O₂ that can easily be decomposed and produce O₂? How can H₂O in a cell accept four consecutive electrons in the presence of many additional components including O₂ that can more easily accept electrons? Under these conditions, the easiest pathway would be the addition of one electron to O₂ with formation of O₂^{•-} and then of H₂O₂. This is a well established mechanism in water media and could take place in photosynthetic cells as well. Note that the main radiation absorbers in natural waters are chromophoric (or colored) DOM (CDOM) (10–98 %), phytoplankton or chlorophyll (32–85 %), H₂O (0.3–9 % in the red portion of the visible spectrum, depending on water being clear or turbid) and so on (see chapter “[Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). It is entirely impractical to consider that H₂O can accept four successive electrons under light condition in the presence of O₂ or other organic components in a photosynthetic cell and there is no evidence in that regards.

It is therefore theorized that

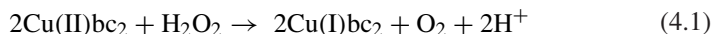
if H₂O would decompose by the reaction with CO₂ in photosynthesis, then all H₂O would convert into O₂ by organisms and plants after the origin of life on earth to date and no H₂O would remain in the biosphere. Instead of H₂O, photoinduced generation of H₂O₂ from dissolved O₂ in water bound in photosynthetic cells (3.33–3.39) is reacted with CO₂ in photosynthesis that can limit the photosynthesis under light condition.

Then further conversion of H₂O₂ to O₂ either through photosynthesis [$x\text{CO}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + y\text{CO}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O}) \rightarrow \text{C}_x(\text{H}_2\text{O})_y + \text{O}_2 + \text{E}(\pm)$] or both photolytically ($2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow \text{O}_2 + \text{unknown oxidant}$) and biologically ($2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{catalases/peroxidases} \rightarrow \text{O}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) may balance the environment.

This can be supported by the observation of several phenomena:

(i) Formation and occurrences of H₂O₂ in photosynthetic cells of organisms through production of O₂^{•-} from whole bacteria of several species, from phagocytic cells, from spermatozoa as well as peroxisoms, mitochondria and chloroplasts (Komissarov 2003; Bach 1894; Chance et al. 1979; Halliwell 1981; Holland et al. 1982; Wilhelm et al. 1996, 1997, 1999; Halliwell and Gutteridge 1999; López-Huertas et al. 1999; Baker and Graham 2002; del Río et al. 2006; Krieger-Liszkay et al. 2008; Lyubimov and Zastrizhnaya 1992a, b; Turrens 1997; Karuppanapandian et al. 2011). (ii) Releases of O₂ from H₂O₂ during photosynthesis are evidenced in earlier studies (Komissarov 1994, 2003; Velthuys and Kok 1978; Asada and Badger 1984; Asada and Takahashi 1987; Mano et al. 1987; Renger 1987; Anan'ev and Klimov 1988; Bader and Schmid 1988, 1989; Schroeder 1989; Schröder and Åkerlund 1990; Miyake and Asada 1992; Kuznetsov et al. 2010; Bernardini et al. 2011; Yin et al. 2006). (iii) The

O₂-releases [H₂O₂ + light or enzymes (catalases/oxidases) → O₂ + 2H₂O or other components] and their reused in H₂O₂ generation in photosynthetic organisms (O₂ + Chl + H⁺ + hν → H₂O₂) can balance the O₂ level in the environments in new photosynthetic reaction. But this does not occur in old photosynthetic reaction. (iv) Conversion of H₂O₂ to O₂ occurs at a higher extent in biological systems than in photoinduced decomposition processes (Moffett and Zafriou 1990). For instance, the Cu(II) bathocuproinedisulfonic acid complex (Cubc₂) can convert H₂O₂ to O₂ via the reaction (Eq. 4.1) (Moffett et al. 1985):



Unconvincing evidence has been found for S₀ to S₄ transitions, and four successive transitions are needed for H₂O decomposition (Rappaport and Diner 2008; Kok et al. 1970; Joliot and Kok 1975; Krishtalik 1986, 1990).

(v) It is hypothesized that the O–O bond formation occurs when O5 in Mn₄CaO₅ cluster provides one O atom via formation of hydroxide ion in the S₁ state (Umena et al. 2011; Saito et al. 2012). A major issue is then if it is possible to break down O5 in the Mn₄CaO₅ cluster. The problem is that, were it possible, probably the entire PSII system would be broken down. Furthermore, each Mn atom in the Mn₄CaO₅ cluster is in octahedral form with six ligands, and it is also paramagnetic with 5 unpaired electrons in its outer *d*-orbitals (Mn²⁺ = 1s²2s²2p⁶3s²3p⁶4s⁰3d⁵). The result is that Mn could carry out strong H-bonding with other components. Such an effect enables a second coordination sphere by D1-Asp 61, D1-His 337 and CP43-Arg 357, in addition to the direct ligands. Therefore, these three residues might be responsible for maintaining the oxygen-evolving activity (Umena et al. 2011; Nixon and Diner 1994; Chu et al. 1995; Hwang et al. 2007; Service RJ, Hillier W, Debus RJ 2010). D1-Asp 61 is located at the entrance of a proposed proton exit channel involving a chloride ion (Cl⁻) in Mn₄CaO₅ (Umena et al. 2011; Kawakami et al. 2009; Guskov et al. 2009; Murray and Barber 2007; Ho and Styring 2008). This residue may facilitate proton exit from the Mn cluster. Proton releases from Mn₄CaO₅ may play a key role in the formation of H₂O₂ via O₂^{•-} and HO₂[•].

(vi) Finally, the occurrence of about 1,300 water molecules in the PSII monomer, located at the luminal and stromal sides (Umena et al. 2011), could allow the inclusion of a lot of dissolved O₂ molecules. They could add electrons after they are released from Chl molecules upon excitation by light. Crystal structures of PSI or PSII do not include any information about dissolved O₂, and issue that will need further studies to be clarified.

5 Factors Affecting the Photosynthesis of Organisms

Cyanobacteria carry out oxygenic photosynthesis using a photosynthetic system similar to that observed in chloroplasts of higher plants. Therefore, cyanobacteria can be used in model studies to understand the effects of various environmental factors

(Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008; Pfenning 1978; Öquist et al. 1995). However, the anti-oxidant systems in cyanobacteria are significantly different from those of higher plants (Asada 2006; Demmig-Adams and Adams III 1992, 2002). This can vary the effects of various environmental stresses on cyanobacteria, bacteria and higher plants.

Studies show that terrestrial plants are adapted to their annual life cycles of growth, reproduction and senescence. Compared to the annual climate cycle, phytoplankton biomass can turn over around 100 times a year as a result of fast growth and equally fast consumption by grazers (Calbet and Landry 2004; Behrenfeld et al. 2006; Winder and Cloern 2010). It has been observed that the timing of these life-history transitions can vary among species and among regions with variation in temperature and sunlight intensity (Winder and Cloern 2010; Myneni et al. 1997; Menzel and Fabian 1999; Peñuelas and Filella 2001; Jolly et al. 2005; White et al. 2009; Richardson et al. 2010). Correspondingly, annual phytoplankton cycles can differ across ecosystems, because of year to year variability and with changes in the climate system (Winder and Cloern 2010; Garcia-Soto and Pingree 2009; Thackeray et al. 2008; Paerl and Huisman 2008; McQuatters-Gollop et al. 2008; Cloern and Jassby 2008; Winder and Schindler 2004; Edwards and Richardson 2004; Scheffer 1991; Pratt 1959). These periodic cycles can be linked with annual fluctuations of mixing, temperature, light, precipitation and with other drivers of population variability, including human disturbance. There are also effects from periodic weather events and strong trophic coupling between phytoplankton and their consumers (Winder and Cloern 2010; Smetacek 1985; Sommer et al. 1986; Cloern 1996).

Cyanobacteria can control a variety of environmental stressors such as UV light, heat, cold, drought, salinity, nitrogen starvation, photo-oxidation, anaerobiosis and osmotic stress, by developing a number of defence mechanisms (Fay 1992; Tandeau de Marsac and Houmard 1993; Sinha and Häder 1996). The most important one is the production of photoprotective compounds such as mycosporine-like amino acids (MAAs) and scytonemin (Sinha et al. 1998, 1999a, b; 2001); availability of enzymes such as superoxide dismutase, catalase and peroxidase (Burton and Ingold 1984; Canini et al. 2001); repair of DNA damage (Sinha and Häder 2002) and synthesis of shock proteins (Sinha and Häder 1996; Borbely and Suranyi 1988; Bhagwat and Apte 1989).

Organisms are thus affected by several factors that could either increase or decrease their photosynthetic and respiratory activities (Doyle et al. 2005; Nozaki et al. 2002; Shimura and Ichimura 1973; Pope 1975; Pick and Lean 1987; Babin et al. 1996; Shapiro 1997; Hyenstrand et al. 1998; Elser 1999; Dokulil and Teubner 2000; MacIntyre et al. 2000; Xie et al. 2003; Qu et al. 2004; Tank et al. 2005; Wängberg et al. 2006; Sobrino et al. 2008). The key factors affecting these activities are mostly documented on the basis of the growth and development of organisms. Such factors are: (i) seasonal variation in sunlight and UV radiation, which affect photosynthesis; (ii) occurrence of CO₂ forms (dissolved CO₂, carbonic acid, bicarbonate, carbonate); (iii) variation in temperature; (iv) water stress (drought) and precipitation/rainfall; (v) contents and nature of DOM and POM; (vi) nutrient availability; (vii) variation in trace metal ions; (viii) salinity or salt stress; (ix) presence of toxic pollutants; (x) effect of size-fractionated phytoplankton; (xi) global warming.

5.1 Seasonal Variation in Sunlight and UV Radiation on Photosynthesis

Solar radiation is the key driving force for the occurrence of photosynthesis in natural waters (Sinha et al. 2001; Rastogi et al. 2010; Jiang and Qiu 2011; Sobek et al. 2007). Exposure of photosynthetic organisms to strong light (or UV light) can significantly inhibit the PSII activity, with resulting photoinhibition of or photo-damage to PS II (Aro et al. 1993; Melis 1999; Andersson and Aro 2001; Han et al. 2001; Nishiyama et al. 2001, 2008; Adir et al. 2003). Photoinhibition of photosynthesis is a process by which excessive irradiance, absorbed by the leaves, can inactivate or impair the chlorophyll-containing reaction centers of chloroplasts, thus inhibiting photosynthesis (Bertamini et al. 2006). Because of the differences among the organisms, the effects of light can be classified into two sections (aquatic microorganisms and higher plants) for their better understanding.

Effects of Sunlight on Aquatic Microorganisms

Cyanobacteria or phytoplankton cells can utilize photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) to drive photosynthesis within the euphotic zone (see also global warming chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”) (Smith and Baker 1979; Abboudi et al. 2008; Li et al. 2011). Solar UV-A radiation (315–400 nm) acts as an additional source of energy for photosynthesis to enhance the CO₂ fixation in tropical marine phytoplankton (Li et al. 2011; Gao et al. 2007, 2007). However, UV-A does not bring any enhancement to carbon fixation in pelagic water (Li et al. 2011). The cells of aquatic microorganisms can be exposed to ultraviolet radiation (UVR, 280–400 nm), which can penetrate up to 60 m into the pelagic water column (Smith and Baker 1979). Furthermore, depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer can cause additional penetration of UV radiation in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Such a phenomenon has detrimental effects on the processes involved in primary production (see also chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”) (Huisman et al. 2006; Häder et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2007). Solar UV-B (280–315 nm), and partly UV-A (315–400 nm) can reduce growth and photosynthetic rates, increase permeability of cell membranes, damage proteins or DNA molecules, pigments, and even lead to cell death (see also chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”) (Jiang and Qiu 2011; Wängberg et al. 2006; Behrenfeld et al. 1993; Sass et al. 1997; Campbell et al. 1998; Rajagopal et al. 2000; Helbling et al. 2001; He and Häder 2002; Buma et al. 2003; Sobrino et al. 2004; Litchman and Neale 2005; Wu et al. 2005; Bouchard et al. 2006; Agustí and Llabrés 2007; Rath and Adhikary 2007; Gao et al. 2008; Pattanaik et al. 2008; Jiang and Qiu 2005).

It has been shown that, ranging from coastal (case 1) to pelagic (case 2) surface seawaters, UV-B can cause similar inhibition whilst the inhibition of photosynthesis by UV-A (315–400 nm) increases when passing from coastal to offshore waters (Li et al. 2011). UV-B inhibits photosynthesis up to 27 % and UV-A up to 29 %. It has

also been shown that the daily integrated inhibition by UV-A can reach 4.3 % and 13.2 %, whilst that by UV-B can reach 16.5 % and 13.5 % in coastal and offshore waters, respectively (Li et al. 2011). Additionally, exclusion of UV radiation can increase photosynthesis by 10–65 % in algae from the Mediterranean, 17–46 % in intertidal algae from southern Chile, and 15–20 % in algae (*Laminaria Saccharina*) from the North Sea (Hanelt et al. 1997; Jiménez et al. 1998; Gómez et al. 2004).

UV-stimulated inorganic carbon acquisition is often observed in phytoplankton species (Beardall et al. 2009; Wu and Gao 2009). Phytoplankton cells grown in nutrient replete conditions are more resistant to solar UV radiation, and also their contents of UV-absorbing compounds increases (Marcoval et al. 2008). Microplankton (>20 m) are more plentiful in coastal waters, while picoplankton (<2 m) are more abundant in open oceans (Marañón et al. 2001; Ho et al. 2008). In terms of their responses to UV, large cells are capable of synthesizing and accumulating UV-absorbing compounds that play a protective role against UV. These screening compounds are not found in picoplankton cells (Raven 1991; Garcia-Pichel 1994) that, therefore, would be more sensitive to solar UV. This issue is partially offset by a much faster repair process of damaged DNA (Helbling et al. 2001; Callieri et al. 2001). Because taxonomic composition, accumulation of UV-absorbing compounds and nutrient availability are typically different, physiological responses of phytoplankton assemblages to solar UV can differ geographically from coastal to pelagic waters (Li et al. 2011).

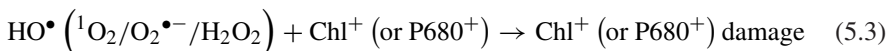
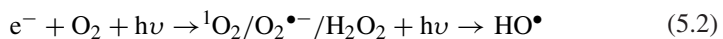
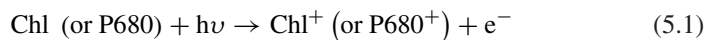
Cyanobacteria are important and ubiquitous prokaryotes that populate terrestrial and aquatic habitats, and they are important contributors to global photosynthetic biomass production (Whitton and Potts 2000). Enhanced UV-B radiation can affect cyanobacterial growth, photosynthetic efficiency, pigments, morphology, as well as cell size and shape. Anyway, different responses are observed in different species exposed to different UV doses (Wu et al. 2005; Rath and Adhikary 2007; Pattanaik et al. 2008; Jiang and Qiu 2005; Harrison and Smith 2009). It has also been shown that exposure to UV radiation can reduce the activity of alkaline phosphatase, a common extracellular enzyme, by up to 57 %. Interestingly, it is more often decreased under ultraviolet A than ultraviolet B exposure (Tang et al. 2005). As already mentioned, algal nutritional status can influence the UV radiation sensitivity but, on the other hand, UV radiation can inhibit uptake and assimilation of inorganic nutrients (Harrison and Smith 2009). This is likely caused by the rapid UV radiation-induced changes of nitrate into HO^\bullet and $^\bullet\text{NO}_2/\text{NO}_2^-$, which may reduce the availability of NO_3^- for primary production (see chapter “[Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters](#)”).

It is estimated that, depending on location, ambient UV radiation can reduce carbon fixation rates up to 65 % in surface waters of the Antarctic region, down to undetectable levels at 36 m (Boucher and Prezelin 1996). On average, up to 42 % of primary production inhibition in the water column is carried out by UV radiation on a daily basis outside the ozone hole (Wängberg et al. 2006; Harrison and Smith 2009; Helbling et al. 1992; Smith et al. 1992; Holm-Hansen et al. 1993; Bertoni et al. 2011). In contrast, during a ozone hole depletion event, the inhibition is increased to ~50 %. This can be supported by the experimental

observations that UV-B radiation can inhibit the oxygen-evolving complex of PSII in *M. aeruginosa* (Jiang and Qiu 2011). The whole electron-transport activities are significantly varied: the transfer from water to methyl viologen being inhibited by 27.9 % under UV-B, that from diphenylcarbazide to methyl viologen by 13.3 % (Jiang and Qiu 2011).

Cyanobacterial blooms in freshwater have apparently increased over the last few decades all over the world (Xu et al. 2000; Chen et al. 2003; McCarthy et al. 2007). UV-B influences the CO₂-uptake mechanism of *M. aeruginosa*, and this cyanobacterium has many adaptive strategies to cope with prolonged UV-B exposure (Jiang and Qiu 2005; Song and Qiu 2007). It has been shown that maximum quantum yield and maximum electron transport rate in seaweeds collected from the Red Sea decreased largely due to the combined effects of increased irradiance (PAR) and presence of UV radiation (Figueroa et al. 2009). A 33-kDa protein of the water-splitting complex is sensitive to UV-B. Therefore, its degradation contributes importantly to the decline of the electron transport rate (Jiang and Qiu 2011; Prabha and Kulandaivelu 2002). Short-term UV-B exposure can severely inhibit photosynthetic capability, which could be quickly restored upon exposure to PAR (Jiang and Qiu 2011). Quite surprisingly, UV-A can assist the photo repair of UV-damaged DNA and enhance carbon fixation under reduced levels of solar radiation or fast mixing conditions (Gao et al. 2007, 2007; Karentz et al. 1991; Barbieri et al. 2002; Helbling et al. 2003). Recent study reveals that the PSII of *M. aeruginosa* FACHB 854 is more sensitive to UV-B exposure than PSI, and the oxygen-evolving complex of PS II is an important target for UV-B damage (Jiang and Qiu 2011).

The mechanisms behind the photoinhibition effects of strong sunlight, UV light or high irradiance (drought/heat stress) on aquatic microorganisms are presumably involving two facts: First, there are direct effects in which a high number of electrons is released from chlorophylls (Chl) (P680) in PSII of microorganisms, upon excitation by strong light or strong UV light (Eq. 5.1). The release of many electrons can produce elevated amounts of reactive oxygen species (ROS) such as ¹O₂, O₂^{•-}, H₂O₂ and HO[•] (Eq. 5.2). Among the ROS, H₂O₂ can be used in photosynthesis whilst the remaining ROS including H₂O₂ can react with the Chl⁺ (P680⁺) functional groups bound to PSII, killing the cells (Eq. 5.3). These reactions can be schematically depicted as follows:



ROS production in cells of aquatic microorganisms has generally been detected in earlier studies, which are extensively discussed in earlier sections. The process is supported by the earlier observation that chlorophylls can easily undergo photooxidation, involving attack of singlet oxygen and enzymatic degradation (Brown SB and Hendry 1991; Gossauer and Engel 1996). Experimental studies show that H₂O₂ can affect the

cyanobacterium at 10 times lower concentrations than green alga and diatom, and a strong light-dependent toxicity can enhance the difference (Drábková et al. 2007).

Second, indirect effects can be operational by which UV or strong light can produce a significant amount of strong oxidizing agents. For instance, HO[•] can be photolytically generated in the presence of H₂O₂ (photo-Fenton reaction or direct photodissociation), hydrogen peroxide being produced by DOM (of both algal and terrestrial origin). The hydroxyl radical can also be photoproduced by other chemical species such as NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ (see the chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” for a detailed description). The HO[•] radical would subsequently react with the functional groups present in the cells of aquatic microorganisms. The indirect effect may significantly affect waters with high contents of DOM and POM, which are usually associated to elevated production of photo- and microbial products and, as a consequence, to high photosynthesis and high primary production. Moreover, it has been shown that the production of HO[•] during an ozone hole (151 Dobson units) is enhanced by at least 20 %, mostly from nitrate photolysis and to a lesser extent from DOM photoinduced reactions, in Antarctic seawater. Similar results have been observed for Arctic water (see chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” for detailed description) (Rex et al. 1997; Qian et al. 2001; Randall et al. 2005).

Note that cyanobacteria (or phytoplankton) can produce autochthonous DOM including autochthonous fulvic acids, which are very efficient in the production of H₂O₂ (and of HO[•] as a consequence under irradiation). Regeneration of autochthonous DOM and nutrients (NO₃⁻, NO₂⁻, PO₄³⁻ and NH₄⁺) occurs during the photoinduced and microbial assimilation of cyanobacteria or phytoplankton, and simultaneously also from the photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters (see chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”, and “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters” for detailed description). High solar irradiation generally induces the production of large amounts of H₂O₂ and HO[•], from DOM or NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ in aqueous media (see also the chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Takeda et al. 2004). Moreover, light plays a significant role in the cycling of terrestrially-derived DOM and (to a certain extent) of autochthonous DOM. It can potentially increase metabolism of both terrestrially and microbially derived DOM in natural waters (Hiriart-Baer et al. 2008). Low light levels, due to increased CDOM, do not have significant effects on the benthic microfloral community at mid-shelf locations (Darrow et al. 2003).

Enhanced solar UV-A (315–400 nm) and/or UV-B radiation (280–315 nm) can reduce growth and photosynthetic rates, inhibit pigment production, increase permeability of cell membranes, damage proteins or DNA molecules, and even lead to cell death (see chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)” for more references) (Jiang and Qiu 2011). At normal ozone concentrations (i.e. 344 Dobson Units), UV radiation can reduce primary productivity in surface waters by as much as 50 % (see chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)” for more references) (Cullen and Neale 1994). A normal level of UV radiation also reduces phytoplankton production by 57 % at a depth of 1 m, while such inhibition decreases to <5 % at 30 m, at 50°S in mid December (Arrigo 1994). Such effects on aquatic organisms might be caused directly by UV radiation and indirectly through high production of HO• in epilimnetic (upper layer) waters. Both effects are able to alter the structural configuration of organisms with release of many organic substances in epilimnetic (surface layer) waters (see chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)” for more references) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009; Rastogi et al. 2010; Ingalls et al. 2010). Some studies also hypothesize that the primary target of photodamage to PSII by strong light is the PSII reaction center. A primary event in photoinhibition could be the damage to the D1 protein, which activates its rapid degradation by several proteases (Aro et al. 1993; Andersson and Aro 2001; Nishiyama et al. 2008; Kanervo et al. 1993; Tyystjärvi et al. 2001). Studies show that hydroperoxides (H₂O₂ and organic peroxides, ROOH) are often considered as indicators of membrane damage (see also chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”) (Hagege et al. 1990a, b).

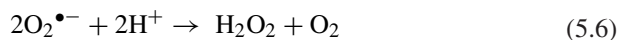
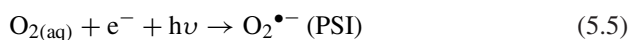
Effects of Sunlight on Higher Plants

High irradiance can affect the PSII activity, with negative effect on the PSII-mediated electron transport rate, disarrangement of PSII system, degradation of the D1 protein and/or its metabolism in a circadian-dependent manner (the same issue could also involve various polypeptides) (Aro et al. 1993; Pandey and Yeo 2008; Maslenkova et al. 1995; Rintamäki et al. 1995; Baena-González and Aro 2002; Booij-James et al. 2002; Hofman et al. 2002; Henmi et al. 2003, 2004; Nováková et al. 2004; Porta et al. 2004; Suzuki et al. 2004; Szilárd et al. 2007). The final result is a decrease of the photosynthetic capacity of plants. The decrease in photosynthetic efficiency is mostly associated with three facts: First, the decline in the enzymatic reactions of the Calvin–Benson cycle (Friedrich and Huffaker 1980); second, the decrease in the light reactions, i.e. the photoinduced reactions of PSI and PSII (Grover and Mohanty 1992; Wingler et al. 2004); and third, the changes in the structure of chloroplasts (Tang et al. 2005). UV-B sensitivity depends on the oxidation state of the water-splitting complex of PS II in higher plant such as spinach (Szilárd et al. 2007). It has been shown that ROS produced endogeneously under high-irradiance conditions can cause more deleterious effect

in the decrease of PSII-mediated electron transfer rate, compared with exogenously applied H_2O_2 and $\bullet\text{OH}$ stresses (Pandey and Yeo 2008). Strong illumination of thylakoid membranes in the absence of an acceptor can result in oxygen accepting electrons and subsequently producing reactive oxygen species, ROS (Pandey and Yeo 2008).

The photoproduction rate of ROS is largely enhanced under conditions where photon intensity is in excess of that required for the CO_2 assimilation (Asada 2006). It has been shown that the quantum yield of PSII is increased more rapidly than CO_2 assimilation in 20 % O_2 , which can result from the electron flux through the water–water cycle (Makino et al. 2002). This flux can reach a maximum just after illumination, and can rapidly produce non-photoinduced quenching. With increasing CO_2 assimilation, the electron flux of water–water cycle and the non-photoinduced quenching is decreased (Makino et al. 2002). The cyclic electron flow around PSI can produce non-photoinduced quenching, which remains at elevated levels upon switching to low oxygen (2 % O_2) (Makino et al. 2002). The water–water cycle is thus believed to dissipate the energy of excess photons (Asada 1999, 2000, 2006; Foyer and Noctor 2000; Osmond 1997; Osmond and Grace 1995;). Such a cycle is defined as the process of the electron flow from water in PSII to water in PSI (Asada 1999). In addition, H_2O_2 and ROS can directly be produced by excited PSII under photoinhibitory conditions that trigger the turnover of the D1 protein (see also earlier sections) (Aro et al. 1993; Prasil et al. 1992; Bradley et al. 1991). ROS can influence the outcome of photodamage, primarily via inhibition of translation of the *psbA* gene, which encodes the precursor of the D1 protein (Nishiyama et al. 2001). The rate of photo-damage is proportional to irradiance (Pandey and Yeo 2008).

The mechanism behind the high irradiance (or heat stress or high temperature or drought) effect on higher plant is the similar to that explained before for cyanobacteria or phytoplankton in aqueous media. However, in higher plants the reaction centers of PSI and PSII in chloroplast thylakoids are the major ROS generation site. Photoreduction of O_2 to H_2O_2 occurs in PSI (Mehler 1951): the primary reduced species is the superoxide radical anion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$), and its disproportionation produces H_2O_2 and O_2 (Asada et al. 1974). Correspondingly, ground (triplet) state oxygen ($^3\text{O}_2$) in PSII is excited to singlet state ($^1\text{O}_2$) by the triplet state of chlorophyll (Hideg et al. 1998; Telfer et al. 1994). The mechanism behind the photoreduction of O_2 in PSI of higher plants according to Asada (Asada 2006) and other studies (Lobanov et al. 2008; Parmon 1985; Bruskov and Masalimov 2002) can be expressed as follows (Eqs. 5.4–5.11):



In this modified mechanism, the electron is originated mostly from photoinduced excitation of both P680 and P700 (Eq. 5.4). Dissolved O_2 in water is thus reduced photolytically, differently from the results of earlier studies. The disproportionation of O_2^- to H_2O_2 and O_2 is catalyzed by superoxide dismutase (Eq. 5.6). H_2O_2 is then reduced to H_2O by ascorbate (AsA), a process that is catalyzed by ascorbate peroxidase (APX). AsA is oxidized to monodehydroascorbate radical, MDA (Eq. 5.7).

Additional electron pathways in chloroplasts that protect the photosynthetic apparatus from photo-oxidative stress are the Mehler reaction, xanthophyll cycle-dependent energy, the cyclic electron flow around PSI, the cyclic electron flow within PSII, and antioxidant metabolism (Mehler 1951; Heber et al. 1978; Verhoeven et al. 1997; Miyake and Yokota 2001; Miyake et al. 2002; Hirotsu et al. 2004). Nitrate assimilation is referred to as alternative electron flow (Makino et al. 2002). The Mehler reaction implies that the photoreduction of O_2 at PSI can produce superoxide radical ($O_2^{\bullet-}$), which disproportionates to H_2O_2 (Mehler 1951; Asada 2006). It is estimated that the maximum rate of O_2 photoreduction is approximately $7.5 \text{ mmol } O_2^{\bullet-} (\text{mol Chl})^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ($30 \text{ mol } (\text{mg Chl})^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$) in washed thylakoids, which corresponds to 5–10 % of the rate of total electron transport (Asada et al. 1974). It has also been observed that the $O_2^{\bullet-}$ reduction rate can reach a maximum around 2.0 kPa O_2 (Heber and French 1968; Takahashi and Asada 1982).

5.2 CO_2 Forms Used in Phytoplankton Photosynthesis

CO_2 and DIC (CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-}) can be produced either photolytically or microbially from both DOM and POM (e.g. algae or phytoplankton) in natural waters (see also chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters”) (Jones 1992; Jansson et al. 2000; Meili et al. 2000; Grey et al. 2001; Hernes and Benner 2003; Tranvik et al. 2009; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011; Miller and Zepp 1995; Graneli et al. 1996; Granéli et al. 1998; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2007). This production varies seasonally and spatially depending on several factors such as contents of DOM and POM, solar intensity, water temperature and other geological and environmental conditions (White et al. 2010).

Gaseous CO_2 is rapidly dissolved in waters (Liu et al. 2010):



where the reaction (Eq. 5.8) is an equilibrium mixture of dissolved carbon dioxide ($[CO_2]_{aq}$), carbonic acid (H_2CO_3), bicarbonate (HCO_3^-) and carbonate (CO_3^{2-}) ions with the pKa of 6.3 and 10.3 for $H_2CO_3 \leftrightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^-$ and $HCO_3^- \leftrightarrow H^+ + CO_3^{2-}$, respectively (Liu et al. 2010; Appelo and Postma

2005). The proportion of each species depends on pH: at high pH the reaction shifts to the right hand side of (Eq. 5.8) and HCO_3^- dominates at pH between 7 and 9, approximately 95 % of the carbon in water. At pH > 10.5, CO_3^{2-} predominates (Dreybrodt 1988). The equilibrium constants for this system are altered by the salinity of the medium: the values for seawater are an order of magnitude higher than those of freshwater toward the right-hand-side of the reaction (Raven et al. 2002; Millero and Roy 1997).

It is well known that the stable carbon isotope composition ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value) of organic matter, produced either by phytoplankton or terrestrial plants during photosynthesis, is significantly varied depending on the taxon-specific photosynthetic pathways (such as C_3 , C_4 , and crassulacean acid metabolism, CAM). It also varies depending on: variety of phytoplankton; diffusion of CO_2 ; incorporation of CO_2 by phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase or Ribulose Bisphosphate Carboxylase-Oxygenase (Rubisco), and respiration; sources and interconversion of CO_2 and HCO_3^- (depending on a variety of environmental conditions including light intensity, temperature, DOM and POM contents, water depth, atmospheric CO_2 concentration and so on) (O'Leary 1981; Cooper and McRoy 1988; Farquhar et al. 1989; Raven and Farquhar 1990; Yoshioka 1997; Raven et al. 2002; Hu et al. 2012). Note that the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of $[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{aq}}$ and DIC are -16.5 to -14.5 ‰ and -7.4 to -4.5 ‰, respectively (Yoshioka 1997). The values of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of organic matter in marine macroalgae and seagrass collected from the natural environment can vary from -2.7 ‰ to -35.3 ‰ (Raven et al. 2002; Hu et al. 2012; Beardall 2003; Hemminga and Mateo 1996; Raven 1997; Dunton 2001). Plants with C_4 characteristics show $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of -6 to -19 ‰ whilst plants with C_3 characteristics exhibit $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of -24 to -34 ‰ (Smith and Epstein 1971).

Such variation in the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value can be caused by (Farquhar et al. 1989; Raven and Farquhar 1990): (i) the isotope fractionation factor (α), which is the ratio of the reaction rates of $^{12}\text{CO}_2$ and $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ with Rubisco ($\alpha = 1.029$ for gaseous CO_2 and $\alpha = 1.030$ for dissolved CO_2); (ii) the relative contribution of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase (PEPC) activity to the photosynthetic carbon assimilation; and (iii) the supply of CO_2 to Rubisco is restricted by the boundary layer, stomata, and intercellular gas spaces that can differ for CO_2 diffusion in the gas phase ($\alpha = 1.0044$), and in the aqueous phase ($\alpha = 1.0007$).

The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of POM are varied spatially and seasonally. They increase with increasing pH of lake water, which may reflect a shift by phytoplankton from using CO_2 to using HCO_3^- for photosynthesis (Zohary et al. 1994; Doi et al. 2006). The pH is increased with increasing water temperature during the time span of the summer stratification period, which may be connected with photoinduced degradation of DOM and POM (see also chapter "Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters") (Kopáček et al. 2003; Mostofa et al. 2005). Photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 ($2\text{O}_2^{\bullet-} + 2\text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{O}_2$) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Fujiwara et al. 1993) might be one of the key factors for enhancing alkalinity or pH in waters. Therefore, uptake of HCO_3^- for phytoplankton photosynthesis at high pH might be the effect of its dominant presence in waters. A significant increase in the

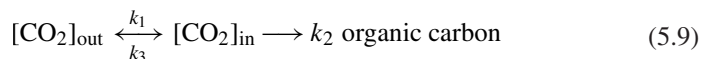
$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value in the phytoplankton bloom season suggests that phytoplankton photosynthesis may be limited by CO_2 depletion (Takahashi et al. 1990). It has been observed that aqueous CO_2 , $[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{aq}}$, determined in freshwater and marine waters is relatively low (0.13–35 M) in freshwater and relatively higher (5–120 M) in seawater (Fogel et al. 1992; Francois et al. 1993; Yoshioka 1997; Takahashi et al. 1990; Herczeg and Fairbanks 1987). All aquatic phototrophs are depleted in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ relative to dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), because Rubisco discriminates against ^{13}C (Hu et al. 2012).

The spatial and temporal variability of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values in aquatic organisms depends on several factors such as isotopic shifts in available inorganic carbon, resulting from light-induced HCO_3^- utilization, variation in solar intensity, differences in water temperature, internal recycling of respiratory CO_2 , photoinduced generation of DIC from DOM and POM, and dissolution of sedimentary carbonate (Yoshioka 1997; Raven et al. 2002; Jones 1992; Ma and Green 2004; Xie et al. 2004; White et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2010; Dreybrodt 1988; Hemminga and Mateo 1996; Campbell and Fourqurean 2009). It is shown that $[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{aq}}$ concentration is inversely correlated with the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of organic matter produced by phytoplankton (Rau et al. 1992; Freeman and Hayes 1992). The carbon isotope fractionation of phytoplankton could be a useful indicator for the assessment of its growth rate and of CO_2 availability (Fogel et al. 1992; Takahashi et al. 1991). Phytoplankton can actively transport CO_2 by a carbon-concentrating mechanism (CCM) that can affect its $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value (Yoshioka 1997; Sharkey and Berry 1985; Bums and Beardall 1987; Thielmann et al. 1990). Correspondingly, β -carboxylation catalysed by phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase and phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase can affect the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of phytoplankton (Descolas-Gros and Fontugne 1985; Falkowski 1991).

To understand the mechanism behind the uptake of CO_2 or HCO_3^- , a fractionation equation was developed for plant photosynthesis (O'Leary 1981; Farquhar et al. 1989; Raven et al. 1993) and phytoplankton photosynthesis (Fogel et al. 1992; Rau et al. 1992; Francois et al. 1993; Jasper and Hayes 1994; Laws et al. 1995; Yoshioka 1997; Berry 1988).

5.2.1 Basic Equation for Expressing Photosynthetic Carbon Isotope Fractionation

The photosynthetic carbon isotope fractionation is initially derived based on the land C_3 plants (O'Leary 1981; Farquhar et al. 1989; Yoshioka 1997). The photosynthetic process for uptake of carbon can be depicted as follows (Yoshioka 1997):



where k_i is the rate constant for process i . Processes 1 and 3 are the diffusive influx and efflux of CO_2 , respectively, whilst process 2 is the carboxylation step by

Rubisco. At steady state, or $d[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{in}}/dt = 0$, the overall fractionation factor (α) can be written as

$$\alpha = 1 + \Delta k_1 + (\Delta k_2 - \Delta k_1) \frac{C_i}{C_e} \tag{5.10}$$

where C_e and C_i are the CO_2 concentrations in air and at the carboxylation site, respectively, and $\Delta k_1 = \alpha_1 - 1$. In the equation (O’Leary 1981), subscripts for efflux and carboxylation steps are 2 and 3, respectively, and $E_1 = 1 + \Delta k_1$:

$$\alpha = E_1 (E_3/E_2 + k_3/k_2) (1 + \frac{k_3}{k_2}) \tag{5.11}$$

When $a = \Delta k_1$, $b = \Delta k_2$ and CO_2 concentrations in air and intercellular leaf spaces are denoted in partial pressure p_a and p_i , respectively, then (Eq. 5.10) can be modified into Farquhar’s equation:

$$\Delta = \alpha - 1 = a + (b - a) \frac{p_i}{p_a} \tag{5.12}$$

On the other hand, the fractionation equation for passive diffusion-phytoplankton photosynthesis is substantially similar to that of land C_3 plants (Eq. 5.10). The CO_2 diffusion must be considered in the aqueous phase and C_e denotes the CO_2 concentration in bulk solution or $[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{aq}}$. The term ‘ CO_2 demand’ = ‘ $C_e - C_i$ ’ has been introduced into the new model (Rau et al. 1992). The relationship between the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value of POM and $[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{aq}}$ can be determined using the fractionation equation that includes the ($C_e - C_i$) term:

$$\varepsilon_p = \varepsilon_1 + \left(1 - \frac{C_e - C_i}{C_e}\right) (\varepsilon_2 - \varepsilon_1) \tag{5.13}$$

where $(C_e - C_i) = 7\text{--}8 \mu\text{M}$ in southwestern Indian Ocean. When $(C_e - C_i)$ is constant, the (Eq. 5.10) at infinite C_e can be expressed as:

$$\alpha = 1 + \Delta k_2 \tag{5.14}$$

This implies that the overall fractionation can reach a maximum value, which corresponds to that of Rubisco ($\alpha = 1.027\text{--}1.029$, or $\Delta k_2 = 0.027 - 0.029$) at high C_e (Roeske and O’Leary 1984; Farquhar and Richards 1984). Furthermore, $(C_e - C_i)$ may increase with increasing C_e as found in a culture study of *Skeletonema costatum* and *Emiliania huxley*, which introduces the possibility of β -carboxylation at high C_e (Hinga et al. 1994). Interestingly, the activity of the PEPCKase of *S.costatum* can increase to >50 % of Rubisco activity at the end of growth (Descolas-Gros and Fontugne 1985, 1990).

The low fractionation observed at high C_e is possibly due to β -carboxylation (Goericke and Fry 1994), particularly in the case of PEPCKase-mediated β -carboxylation. The latter shows similar discrimination against $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ as that of Rubisco (Arnelle and O’Leary 1992). Active transport by CCM may contribute to a fractionation at high C_e , which is lower than that given by the

fractionation equation (Yoshioka 1997). It is shown that passive CO₂ diffusion is efficient to sustain maximum growth of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum*, which does not require active transport of inorganic carbon at [CO₂]_{aq} = 10 M (Laws et al. 1995). This study also shows that maximum growth rate is expected when the CO₂ influx is equal to the growth rate (Laws et al. 1995). In that case, C_i = 0 and also the growth rate (photosynthetic activity) is zero or even negative, because of the oxygenase activity of Rubisco (Yoshioka 1997). The contradiction may occur because the growth rate is not independent of C_e and C_i. Therefore, diffusive transport of CO₂ can operate together with active transport (Yoshioka 1997), and CCM possibly requires an energy expenditure (Berry 1988). However, it is difficult to identify the relative contribution of active transport to the total CO₂ influx from the earlier fractionation equations. In the derivation of (Eq. 5.10), it is assumed that the resistance to CO₂ diffusion is similar in either direction across the cell membrane, or $k_1 = k_3$ (Francois et al. 1993). This assumption originally came from the expectation that resistance to CO₂ diffusion through the stoma of a plant leaf would be the same in both directions (O'Leary 1981). Aquatic phytoplankton may have a CCM with different values for this resistance ($k_1 \neq k_3$), probably ($k_1 > k_3$), and thus the fractionation equation can be rewritten as:

$$\alpha = 1 + \Delta k_1 + (\Delta k_2 - \Delta k_1) \frac{k_3 C_i}{k_1 C_e} \quad (5.15)$$

which may provide some measure of the contribution of active transport. It is generally assumed that the resistances to CO₂ diffusion in both directions across the cell membrane are the same (symmetric permeability). A fractionation equation is required to express the decrease in fractionation with increasing contribution of active transport (f), as some function f (Yoshioka 1997). Basically, f and $k_1 \neq k_3$ may have the same importance for CO₂ acquisition by phytoplankton. Therefore, active transport of inorganic carbon by CCM may be linked (as a homologue) to the asymmetric permeability of the cell membrane for CO₂.

Deviation of Fractionation Equations Involving Active Transport (Yoshioka 1997)

Various phytoplankton species can actively transport CO₂ and HCO₃⁻ in aqueous media (Bums and Beardall 1987). However, they depend on two phenomena: (i) the occurrence of internal and external carbonic anhydrase (CA), which can catalyse the equilibrium between CO₂ and HCO₃⁻ and can affect the determination of the inorganic carbon species crossing the cell membrane; (ii) the difference in inorganic carbon species can substantially vary the fractionation factor of the substrate for photosynthesis. It is shown that fractionation between [CO₂]_{aq} and HCO₃⁻ can differ by at most 10‰ in both equilibrium- and CA-catalyzed reactions (Deines et al. 1974; Paneth and O'Leary 1985). Considering these phenomena, it is important to develop the fractionation equations for two cases in which transported carbon has the δ¹³C value of either bulk [CO₂]_{aq} or HCO₃⁻.

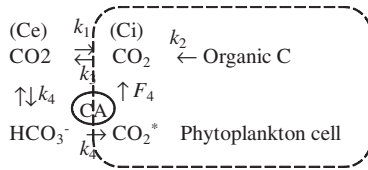


Fig. 8 Schematic presentation of the active transport of CO₂. The δ¹³C of the actively transported carbon (CO₂^{*}) is assumed to be the same as that of the CO₂ in the medium (Ce). *Data source* Yoshioka (1997)

- (1) **Active transport of CO₂**. The δ¹³C value of actively transported inorganic carbon is assumed to be the same as that of Ce (Fig. 8). Extracellular CA may contribute to the conversion of HCO₃⁻ to CO₂ at the cell surface.

At steady state:

$$\frac{dCi}{dt} = k_1Ce + F_4 - (k_2 - k_3)Ci = 0 \tag{5.16}$$

where F_4 is the flux of actively transported CO₂.

The relative contribution of active transport (f) can be defined by:

$$f = \frac{F_4}{k_1Ce + F_4} \tag{5.17}$$

If $0 \leq f < 1$, (Eq. 5.17) can be rewritten as:

$$\frac{dCi}{dt} = \frac{1}{1-f}k_1Ce - (k_2 + k_3)Ci = 0 \tag{5.18}$$

Overall, fractionation becomes:

$$\alpha = 1 + \Delta k_1 + (\Delta k_2 - \Delta k_1)(1-f) \frac{Ci}{Ce} \tag{5.19}$$

By assuming the same f value for ¹²CO₂ and ¹³CO₂, and $\Delta k_1 = \Delta k_3$, (Eq. 5.19) becomes the same as (Eq. 5.15) when k_1/k_3 is substituted for $(1-f)$. This supports the expectation that active transport might be linked with the asymmetric permeability of the cell membrane for CO₂. Leakiness, X (the ratio of efflux to influx of DIC) (Berry 1988), can be expressed as follows:

$$X = 1 + \frac{k_3Ci}{k_1CeF_4}(1-f) \frac{Ci}{Ce} \tag{5.20}$$

When all carbon is transported by active transport ($f = 1$), k_1Ce would be zero. In that case, one cannot substitute $f = 1$ in (Eq. 5.19), because the denominator in (Eq. 5.18) becomes zero. Then, α becomes:

X is not zero, but

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= 1 + \frac{\Delta k_2 - \Delta k_1}{\Delta k_1 + 1} \frac{k_3Ci}{F_4} \\ &= 1 + (\Delta k_2 - \Delta k_1) \frac{k_3Ci}{F_4} \end{aligned} \tag{5.21}$$

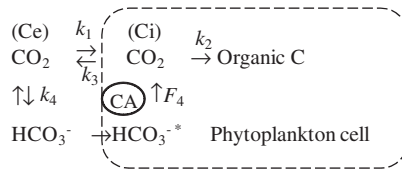


Fig. 9 Schematic presentation of the active transport of HCO_3^- . The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of the actively transported carbon (HCO_3^{*-}) is assumed to be the same as that of HCO_3^- in the medium. *Data source* Yoshioka (1997)

$$X = \frac{k_3 \text{Ci}}{F_4} \quad (5.25)$$

- (2) **Active transport of HCO_3^- :** The transported carbon has the same $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value as HCO_3^- , as depicted in the scheme shown in (Fig. 9). The overall fractionation equation is substantially different from Eq. (5.19), although the steady-state for Ci is denoted by a similar term as Eq. (5.16), which can be written as:

$$\alpha = \frac{(\Delta k_1 + 1)(\Delta k_3 + 1)(1 - X) + (\Delta k_1 + 1)(\Delta k_2 + 1)X}{(\Delta k_3 + 1)(1 - f) + (\Delta k_1 + 1)(\Delta k_3 + 1)(\Delta k_4 + 1)f} \quad (5.23)$$

where Δk_4 denotes the fractionation in the CO_2 — HCO_3^- dissociation process. Note that f and X are the same as those in the active transport of CO_2 .

Considering that the second- and third-order terms of Δk_i are negligible, and $\Delta k_1 = \Delta k_3$, then α can be approximated as follows:

$$\alpha = 1 + \Delta k_1(1 - f) + (\Delta k_2 - \Delta k_1)(1 - f) \frac{\text{Ci}}{\text{Ce}} - \Delta k_4 f \quad (5.24)$$

When $f = 1$, α becomes:

$$\alpha = 1 + (\Delta k_2 - \Delta k_1) \frac{k_3 \text{Ci}}{F_4} - \Delta k_4 \quad (5.25)$$

which implies that the overall fractionation decreases by $(\Delta k_1 + \Delta k_4)$ when all carbon derives from the active transport of HCO_3^- ($f = 1$), compared to the passive diffusion model (Eq. 5.15). It can be deduced from (Eq. 5.24) that all fractionation steps, including overall fractionation would be affected by f . The difference between (Eqs. 5.19 and 5.24) or $(\Delta k_1 + \Delta k_4)$ corresponds to the difference in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values between CO_2 and HCO_3^- . These equations indicate that the overall fractionation from $[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{aq}}$ to organic carbon may be less than unity under some conditions (Yoshioka 1997).

From a reanalysis of Hinga's data (Hinga et al. 1994) one gets that the active transport of CO_2 for *S. costatum* can contribute ~ 30–40 % of the total carbon influx. The relative contribution of active transport can reach 25–35 %, without any change in CO_2 demand for an uptake of 10 % of the total carbon mediated by β -carboxylation

(Yoshioka 1997). Finally, carbon assimilation by various kinds of phytoplankton, such as *S. costatum*, *Microcystis* spp. and others (Fogel et al. 1992; Francois et al. 1993; Yoshioka 1997; Takahashi et al. 1990; Herczeg and Fairbanks 1987; Hinga et al. 1994) may operate under almost constant CO₂ demand, amounting on average to 4.4 μM in seawater and 0.29 μM in freshwater (Yoshioka 1997). Phytoplankton photosynthesis is largely dependent on habitats (either seawater or freshwater), and on phytoplankton species that have variable efficiency for CCM. The process involves either active transport of HCO₃⁻, or coupled dehydration of HCO₃⁻ by a cell-surface carbonic anhydrase and CO₂ transport (MacIntyre et al. 2000; Badger and Price 1992; Tortell et al. 1997; Berman-Frank et al. 1998; Nimer et al. 1999).

5.3 Variation in Temperature

Temperature, driven by solar radiation, is one of the key factors for varying the primary production by photosynthesis in natural waters (Sobek et al. 2007; Mortain-Bertrand et al. 1988; Davison 1991; Wilen et al. 1995; Lesser and Gorbunov 2001; Baulch et al. 2005; Doyle et al. 2005; Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006; Ogwen et al. 2008; Bouman et al. 2010; Fu et al. 2007). This effect can be discussed, based on aquatic microorganisms and higher plants.

Temperature Effects on Aquatic Microorganisms

Cyanobacteria, the most ancient life forms on earth, are unusual prokaryotic microorganisms that are able to perform oxygenic photosynthesis. Optimum growth, with respect to optimal temperatures, is in this case influenced by their ability to tolerate temperature stress, such extreme cold in Antarctica (where temperatures never exceed -20 °C) and in water pockets of Antarctic lake ice, where temperatures are always below 0 °C. At the opposite end of the variation scale there are extremely high temperatures such as 55–60 °C and even the case of hot springs, where temperatures reach 70 °C (Schopf et al. 1965; Meeks and Castenholz 1971; Margulis 1975; Priscu et al. 1998; Psenner and Sattler 1998; Ward et al. 1998).

At ambient water temperature (WT), the primary excitation requires 2–3 ps, and the subsequent electron transfer to the primary quinone QA exhibits multiphasic kinetics (80–300 ps) (Dashdorj et al. 2004). It is commonly considered that the primary excitation occurs within 1–3 ps after the creation of the electronically excited special pair P700* (Brettel 1997; Dashdorj et al. 2004). The state of thylakoid membranes in cyanobacteria plays a prominent role in the tolerance of the photosynthetic machinery to environmental stresses, such as cold (chilling) (Wada et al. 1990; Murata et al. 1992).

At low temperatures, ultrafast time-resolved spectroscopy suggests multiexponential evolution of the excited state and of photoproduct populations, even when excitation takes place in the red edge of the absorption spectrum (Germano et al. 2004). The different time components observed at low temperatures are generally recognized to produce charge separation. The latter can either take place through

direct excitation of the primary donor by 1–5 ps (Prokhorenko and Holzwarth 2000; Tang et al. 1990; Germano M et al. 1995; Groot et al. 1997; Konermann et al. 1997; Greenfield et al. 1999), or be slowed down by energy transfer to the primary donor in tens or hundreds of picoseconds (Groot et al. 1997; Greenfield et al. 1999). However, calculations based on structural information, from both the crystallographic structure and a model, predict subpicosecond excitation energy equilibration among the six central cofactors (Durrant et al. 1995; Renger and Marcus 2002; Zouni et al. 2001; Kamiya and Shen 2003; Svensson et al. 1996; Leegwater et al. 1997). Electron transfer thus occurs from other Chls, and the slower components observed in the tens of picoseconds timescale at low temperatures are due to secondary electron transfer (Prokhorenko and Holzwarth 2000). A model study has shown that the ~67 % variability of observed primary production indicates that estuarine production is mainly controlled by light availability and temperature (Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006). Bacterial abundance ($12 \times 10^6 \text{ mL}^{-1}$) and production ($1.7 \text{ g C L}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$) depend on temperature. During late spring and summer, at constantly higher temperatures, bacterial production can correlate positively with readily utilisable substrates and humic compounds (Freese et al. 2007).

High surface temperatures and heavy precipitation in late spring and summer can give rise to a highly-stratified water column that can stimulate a series of phytoplankton blooms. During winter in Tokyo bay, a weakly-stratified and deeply-mixed water column can lead to a rapid decline in phytoplankton biomass under light-limited growth conditions (Bouman et al. 2010). The effect of high WT can be a decrease in PSII efficiency, which can ultimately cause cell stress (Lesser and Gorbunov 2001).

At highly elevated WT, several effects on phytoplankton can take place such as disorganization of thylakoid membranes, disrupted electron flow to the dark reactions of photosystem II, elevated concentrations of damaging oxygen and hydroxyl radicals, and the loss of the D1 repair protein (Goulet et al. 2005). The mechanism behind the changes in photosynthetic efficiency caused by WT, driven by natural solar intensity, mostly follows a similar mechanism as sunlight effects (see the earlier section). However, WT can cause photosynthetic efficiency to be either enhanced or decreased, an issue that involves three facts: First, at low WT (lower than 12 °C, including chilling stress that generally refers to nonfreezing temperatures at 0–12 °C) the key reactants such as CO_2 , H_2O_2 and DIC (generated both photolytically and microbially from DOM and POM) are quite low at low sunshine in natural surface waters. Low availability of these reactants can decrease the photosynthetic efficiency of aquatic microorganisms in natural waters.

Second, at moderate WT (approximately 12–25 °C) and with an increase in WT, the key reactants are significantly increased, usually also because of enhanced sunlight intensity. This effect may greatly enhance photosynthesis at optimum WT and, as a consequence, primary production in waters. It has been shown that the Chl *a* concentrations at the epilimnion are well correlated with WT in lakes, but those correlations are not observed in the deeper layers (Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data). This suggests that an optimum water temperature, driven by solar intensity, may play a significant role in the origin of Chl *a* or in enhancing phytoplankton biomass in natural waters.

At highly elevated WT (approximately >25 – 50 °C), photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and POM is extremely enhanced, with extremely high generation of H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC. It has been shown that $[\text{CO}_2]_{\text{aq}}$ is significantly higher (~ 10 – 120 M) at 25 °C than at 15 °C (~ 5 – 110 M) or at 9 °C (~ 5 – 50 M) in marine waters (Hinga et al. 1994). This effect can cause extremely high photosynthesis and high primary production. This can be supported by the synergistic effect of high H_2O_2 , combined with high seawater temperature, which can cause a 134 % increase in respiration rates. Such an increase surpassed the effect of either H_2O_2 or high seawater temperature alone (Higuchi et al. 2009). High temperature, driven by strong solar intensity, is responsible for high production of H_2O_2 (see also chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009), which is directly linked with photosynthesis. Simultaneously, this process can also generate a high amount of ROS such as $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, $^1\text{O}_2$, H_2O_2 , and HO^\bullet . The latter is a strong oxidizing agent, produced either from H_2O_2 (via direct photo-dissociation by sunlight or photo-Fenton reaction) or other sources, such as the direct photolysis of NO_2^- and NO_3^- (see the chapters “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters](#)” and “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). This effect can significantly degrade algal or phytoplankton cells, thereby decreasing the photosynthetic efficiency. All these processes should be able to significantly promote the photosynthetic efficiency in waters with high contents of DOM and POM.

Temperature Effects on Higher Plants

Plants need an optimum temperature for photosynthesis. The stress represented by extremely high- or low-temperature has a significantly negative effect on the growth and productivity of plants (Allen and Ort 2001; Adams et al. 2002; Adams Iii et al. 2004; Öquist and Huner 2003; Yang et al. 2009). It has been shown that suboptimal and above-optimal temperatures can promote photoinhibition, caused by an over-excitation of photosystems (Powles 1984; Öquist et al. 1993; Huner et al. 1998). Effects of temperature on the photosynthesis of plants have been discussed as follows: First, low temperature stress or chilling stress (generally at 0 – 12 °C) can highly inhibit growth and development of most plants, and in particular of those coming from tropical and subtropical regions (Allen and Ort 2001; Yang et al. 2009; D’Ambrosio et al. 2006).

The chilling stress or lower temperatures can affect several physiological functions and induce water deficiency. Commonly observed effects are decrease of leaf water potential, of electron transport rate, of total Chl contents, of CO_2 uptake and of the carotenoid content; stomatal closure; inhibition of thylakoid electron transport and photophosphorylation; Rubisco inactivation; inhibition of carbohydrate metabolism; and finally, a significant decrease of the maximum quantum efficiency of PSI and PSII primary photochemistry (Allen and Ort 2001; Yang et al. 2009; D’Ambrosio et al. 2006; Berry and Bjorkman 1980; Eamus 1986; Sage and

Sharkey 1987; Huner et al. 1993; Ebrahim et al. 1998; Sundar and Ramachandra Reddy 2001; Caramori et al. 2002; Kudoh and Sonoike 2002; Yu et al. 2002; Huang and Guo 2005). The latter effect can limit the photosynthetic rates or processes of chilling-sensitive plants.

It is also shown that low temperatures can inhibit the enzymes of carbon assimilation, such as fructose-1,6-bisphosphatase and sedoheptulose-1,7-bisphosphatase (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006; Sassenrath et al. 1990; Sassenrath and Ort 1990). It has also been shown that the O₂-induced inhibition of photosynthesis can increase with temperature, from 12.2 % at 5 °C to 33.5 % at 35 °C (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006). Plants of *B. vulgaris* exposed to low temperatures (5–15 °C) also show a significant stimulation of CO₂ assimilation at 2 % O₂ concentration (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006). The inhibition of photosynthesis (photorespiration) at high temperatures is generally caused by the increase of the ratio oxygenase/carboxylase activity of Rubisco (Sage and Sharkey 1987).

It has been observed that low night temperature under chilling conditions (mostly affected at 5 °C) can increase photoinhibition of photosynthesis with a marked loss of D1 and 33 kDa proteins in various plants (Yang et al. 2009; Sundar and Ramachandra Reddy 2001; Lidon et al. 2001; Bertamini et al. 2006). This can be due to accumulation of soluble sugars and reduced orthophosphate cycling from the cytosol back to the chloroplast. Therefore, it limits the ATP synthesis needed for Rubisco regeneration (Ebrahim et al. 1998; Hurry et al. 1998). Inhibition of photosynthetic electron transport is susceptible to lessen net photosynthesis in some chilling-sensitive plant species, despite relatively minimal reductions in the ratio of variable to maximum chlorophyll (Chl) fluorescence (F_v/F_m). Such an effect is due to the net photoinactivation of PSI rather than PSII (Bertamini et al. 2006; Tjus et al. 1998; Sonoike 1999). A significant decrease of electron transport rate under chilling conditions might cause a low temperature-induced limitation of carbon metabolism. Furthermore, sinks of electrons can result in alternative processes to CO₂ fixation (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006; Huner et al. 1993; Osmond 1981; Hendrickson et al. 2003, 2004). The decrease of electron transport in PSII (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006) is susceptible to decrease in the photoinduced generation of O₂^{•-} and then H₂O₂, which is directly linked to the occurrences of photosynthesis. The decrease in the contents of H₂O₂ production at chilling conditions can decrease the photosynthesis that subsequently decreases the growth and development of plants. This effect is mostly responsible for other physiological changes in plants at chilling stress.

It has also been observed that a significant increase of the proportion of electron flow in chilling conditions can occur in non-assimilative processes in some plants, such as maize and grapevine leaves (Fryer et al. 1998; Flexas et al. 1999). These studies suggest that a higher electron flow could reach O₂, by the Mehler reaction, as an alternative acceptor to CO₂ at low temperatures. This effect can enhance the production of ROS such as O₂^{•-} and H₂O₂, which may not be used in photosynthesis because of CO₂ shortage and other still unknown reasons. In contrast, H₂O₂ and photogenerated HO[•] can damage the cells. Coherently, damage of chlorophyll-protein complexes and pigments in has been observed in plant cells

under chilling condition (Powles 1984; Kudoh and Sonoike 2002; Bongi and Long 1987; Garstka et al. 2007). The decrease of the carotenoid content at lower temperatures in *B. vulgaris* can enhance damage by ROS, because of the important photoprotective function of carotenoids in scavenging highly destructive singlet oxygen. Furthermore, they can prevent $^1\text{O}_2$ formation by reacting with the chlorophyll triplet state (Havaux et al. 1998). Low temperature stress can also enhance photodamage to PS II under strong light (Wada et al. 1990; Murata et al. 1992; Öquist et al. 1993; Öquist and Huner 1991), and repair of PS II under low-temperature stress conditions is inhibited both in *Synechocystis* and plants (Gombos et al. 1994; Wada et al. 1994; Moon et al. 1995; Alia et al. 1998).

At higher temperature ($>25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) caused by heat stress or drought stress, photosynthetic efficiency is significantly altered and can lead to decreased growth and development of plants (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006; Pastenes and Horton 1996; Pastenes and Horton 1996; Salvucci and Crafts-Brandner 2004; Sharkey 2005). The effect of high temperature on organisms is expected to become more and more significant. The global mean temperature has increased by $0.6\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ from 1990 to 2000 and is projected to increase by another 1.4 to over $5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ by 2100 (see chapter “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters” for detailed description). Heat stress can induce several processes such as: saturation of electron transport rate and disruption of its activity; decrease of stomatal conductance; increase in increase in O_2 -consuming photorespiration and non-photoinduced quenching; decreased affinity of the enzyme for CO_2 ; decrease in CO_2 fixation; inactivation of the oxygen-evolving enzymes of PSII; increase in the activity of antioxidant enzymes such as superoxide dismutase, ascorbate peroxidase, guaiacol peroxidase, and catalase; decrease in PSII activity, and finally of photosynthetic capacity (Ogwenio et al. 2008; D'Ambrosio et al. 2006; Pastenes and Horton 1996; Pastenes and Horton 1996; Salvucci and Crafts-Brandner 2004; Sharkey 2005; Schuster and Monson 1990; Heckathorn et al. 2002; Mazorra et al. 2002; Barua et al. 2003; Núñez et al. 2003; El-Shintinawy et al. 2004; Rivero et al. 2004; Cao et al. 2005).

Moderate heat stress can cause increased thylakoid proton conductance and increased cyclic electron flow around PSI (Pastenes and Horton 1996; Bukhov et al. 1999, 2000; Bukhov and Carpentier 2000; Egorova and Bukhov 2002). PSI-mediated cyclic electron flow can occur via either of two routes: the first is antimycin A-sensitive and involves ferredoxin plastoquinone reductase; the second one involves the NAD(P)H dehydrogenase complex (Bukhov et al. 2000; Thomas et al. 1986; Boucher et al. 1990; Joët et al. 2001).

It has also been shown that high temperatures stress (often above $45\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) can damage PSII (Terzaghi et al. 1989; Thompson et al. 1989; Gombos et al. 1994; Čjānek et al. 1998; Yamane et al. 1998). Furthermore, photorespiration increases with increasing temperature, faster than photosynthesis (Schuster and Monson 1990). High leaf temperatures can reduce plant growth, and it is estimated that up to 17% decrease in crop yield can occur for each degree Celsius increase of average temperature during the growing season (Lobell and Asner 2003). Additionally, leaves with low transpiration rates (e.g. oak leaves) can suffer frequent

high-temperature episodes when leaf temperature can exceed the air temperature by as much as 15 °C (Singsaas and Sharkey 1998; Hanson et al. 1999; Singsaas et al. 1999). Rubisco can produce hydrogen peroxide as a result of oxygenase side reactions, which can increase substantially with temperature (Sharkey 2005).

Moreover, an increase in temperature can induce sinks of electron transport different from CO₂ assimilation, and photorespiration is increased at 30–35 °C (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006). The O₂-independent electron transport can account for up to 20 % of the total PSII electron transport in wild watermelon leaves (Miyake and Yokota 2000, 2001). The electron flux in PSII that exceeds the flux required for the cycles of photosynthetic carbon reduction and photorespiratory carbon oxidation, can induce photoreduction of O₂ in the water–water cycle (Miyake and Yokota 2000, 2001). It has been shown that the greater partitioning of reductive power to non-assimilative processes consuming O₂ (photorespiration, Mehler reaction and chlororespiration) with respect to CO₂ assimilation allows keeping the PSII efficiency factor unmodified at temperatures as high as 35 °C (D'Ambrosio et al. 2006).

The unsaturation of fatty acids can protect PSII from the inhibition of the activity that is caused by strong light at low temperatures (Wada et al. 1990; Murata et al. 1992), and can accelerate the repair of photodamaged PSII (Gombos et al. 1994; Wada et al. 1994; Moon et al. 1995). After photodamage to PSII in *Synechocystis* at low temperatures (0–10 °C), activity recovery can reach up to 50 % of the original level in the darkness at moderate temperatures, without the de novo synthesis of D1 protein (Nishiyama et al. 2008).

High-temperature stress can disrupt the cellular metabolic homeostasis and promote the production of reactive oxygen species (H₂O₂, ¹O₂, O₂^{•-}, and HO[•]) (Mittler 2002). Oxidative stress occurs in any plant cell when there is an imbalance between production of ROS and antioxidant defense (Apel and Hirt 2004; Mittler 2002; Scandalios 2002). The consequence is a decrease of the net photosynthetic efficiency that affects various plant activities (Ogwenio et al. 2008; Apel and Hirt 2004; García-Ferris and Moreno 1994; Alscher et al. 1997; Anderson 2002; Irihimovitch and Shapira 2000; Pfanschmidt 2003). Calvin-cycle enzymes within chloroplasts are particularly sensitive to high levels of H₂O₂, which decreases CO₂ fixation and foliar biomass (Willekens et al. 1997; Zhou et al. 2004, 2006). The mechanism behind the decline of plant photosynthesis by high-temperature stress, driven by high irradiance or drought or heat stress, is similar to that of high irradiance as mentioned earlier.

5.4 Effects of Water Stress (Drought) and of Precipitation/Rainfall

Water stress or drought stress can significantly affect plant photosynthesis and decrease their growth, development and productivity (Li and van Staden 1998; Hassan 2006; Liu et al. 2006; Ohashi et al. 2006; Fariduddin et al. 2009). Water or drought stress can stimulate changes in water balance, leaf area expansion, absorption of photosynthetically active radiation, stomatal closure that reduces

the internal CO₂ concentration, integrity of membranes and proteins, metabolic dysfunction, damage at the cellular and subcellular membrane levels via lipid peroxidation, loss of activity of membrane-based enzymes, chloroplast capacity, and PSII activities (Jones and Turner 1978; Matsuda and Riazi 1981; Kaiser 1987; Asada 1992; Hopkins and Hüner 1995; Aziz and Larher 1998; Nam et al. 1998; Cornic 2000; Wilson et al. 2000; Lawlor 2002; Velikova and Tsonev 2003; Flexas et al. 2004; Hassan 2006; Fariduddin et al. 2009; Munns et al. 1979). The final result is a decline in net photosynthesis. The drought stress can reduce stomatal conductance and lead to decreased carbon assimilation, with consequently low biomass production (Fariduddin et al. 2009; Medrano et al. 2002). Decrease in photosynthetic efficiency is generally attributed to reduced CO₂ supply resulting from stomatal closure (Hsiao 1973). A decrease in nitrate reductase activity can inhibit protein synthesis, inactivate enzymes, and reduce the flux of nitrate to the leaf (Fariduddin et al. 2009; Morilla et al. 1973; Shaner and Boyer 1976). The rapid loss of nitrate reductase activity could be part of a biochemical adaptation to water deficit, shutting off the nitrate assimilation pathway and preventing accumulation of nitrite and ammonium (Huffaker et al. 1970).

Cell membranes, which are structurally composed of large amounts of polyunsaturated fatty acid, are highly susceptible to react photolytically with possible changes in membrane fluidity, permeability, and cellular metabolic functions (Bandyopadhyay et al. 1999). The elevation in the antioxidant system defences can detoxify the reactive oxygen species generated by drought stress and can thereby recover the altered physiological performance of stressed plants (Fariduddin et al. 2009).

Water (drought) stress and high temperature together can cause a marked decrease of PSII activity that, together with other functions, can lead to a significant decrease in the net photosynthetic rate of plants (Hassan 2006; Flagella et al. 1998; Hassan et al. 1998; Yordanov et al. 1997, 1999, 2000). It has been shown that this effect may be caused by stomatal and non-stomatal limitations. Stomatal closure usually occurs before inhibition of photosynthesis and restricts CO₂ availability at the assimilation sites in chloroplast. In contrast, non-stomatal limitation of photosynthesis has been attributed to reduced carboxylation efficiency, reduced ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate (RuBP) regeneration, or inhibited chloroplast activity (Wise et al. 1992; Lawlor 1995; Shangguan et al. 1999). Conversely, water stress mostly causes a progressive suppression of photosynthetic carbon assimilation in desiccation-tolerant and intolerant wheat plants (Deltoro et al. 1998).

The mechanism behind the water (drought) stress effect of decreasing photosynthesis is similar to that of high-irradiance/high temperature stress. It occurs particularly in tropical and subtropical regions as mentioned before. Moreover, water stress or drought in low temperature regions can decrease the water content of plant cells that contain dissolved O₂. Shortage of dissolved O₂ in response to water stress can decrease the photoinduced generation of H₂O₂, which is directly linked to photosynthesis. This effect can decrease photosynthesis and cause decline in growth or death of organisms.

The water stress can shift the temperature threshold towards higher values and cause an increase of the heat resistance (Yordanov et al. 1997, 2000; Havaux

1992). Some desiccation-tolerant cells accumulate large amounts of the disaccharides trehalose and/or sucrose. Of these, mostly trehalose can prevent damage from dehydration, not only by inhibiting fusion between adjacent membrane vesicles during drying, but also by maintaining membrane lipids in the fluid phase in the absence of water (Singh et al. 2002; Crowe et al. 1987, 1992; Leslie et al. 1994). Trehalose can depress the phase transition temperature of the dry lipids after desiccation and maintain them in the liquid crystal state (Crowe et al. 1992; Leslie et al. 1994). The increasing activities of catalase, peroxidase and superoxide dismutase and the level of proline can constitute a natural endogenous defense system that increases the response to water stress (Fariduddin et al. 2009; Schützendübel and Polle 2002).

Rainfall can greatly increase photosynthesis, particularly by increasing various physiological phenomena such as leaf water potential, net photosynthetic rate, stomatal conductance, and transpiration (Souch and Stephens 1998; Smit and Rethman 2000; Morris et al. 2004; Li et al. 2007). Moreover, it can significantly enhance the sudden growth of plants all over the world at the beginning of summer season and at the end of winter season. The consequence is an increase of annual biomass production and a simultaneous increase of the production of various food and crops. Maximum photoinduced efficiency of PSII is significantly increased with an increase in rainfall (Li et al. 2007). Among other issues, this might also be caused by the occurrence of H_2O_2 and nutrients in rain water. The supply of exogenous H_2O_2 from rainfall (up to 200 μM , see chapter “[Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters](#)”) could enhance photosynthesis and make PSII reach its maximum photoinduced efficiency. On the other hand, leaf wetness causes not only instantaneous suppression of photosynthesis but also chronic damage to the photosynthetic apparatus (Ishibashi and Terashima 1995). Interestingly, a direct link has been observed between rainwater H_2O_2 content and the rate of photosynthesis (Komissarov 1995, 2003; Mostofa et al. 2009). However, high concentrations of H_2O_2 (50–100 M) in the presence of iron (Fe) and oxalate can generate HO^\bullet that would decrease plant productivity and growth (Kobayashi et al. 2002).

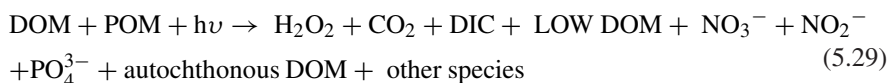
In the case of aquatic microorganisms, drought stress or absence of rainfall for a longer period can significantly affect photosynthesis. In this case, similar mechanisms are followed as for high light irradiance as explained in the earlier section.

5.5 Effects of the Contents and Nature of DOM and POM

Organic matter (OM) consisting of DOM and POM is one of the key factors that can produce nutrients (NO_2^- , NO_3^- and PO_4^{3-}) and various photo- and microbial products, such as H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, LMW DOM, and so on (see also chapters “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Chlorophylls and Their Degradation in Nature](#)”, and “[Impacts of Global Warming on](#)

Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Tranvik et al. 2009; Zepp et al. 1987, 2011; Mostofa et al. 2011; Graneli et al. 1996; Granéli et al. 1998; Ma and Green 2004; White et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2010; Fu et al. 2010; Palenik et al. 1987; Cooper and Lean 1992; Bushaw et al. 1996; Molot et al. 2005; Kim et al. 2006; Johannessen et al. 2007; Borges et al. 2008; Li et al. 2008; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Lohrenz et al. 2010; Omar et al. 2010; Cai 2011). Such processes can influence photosynthesis directly or indirectly in water.

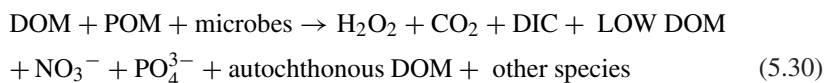
Photoinduced degradation of DOM and POM (POM includes e.g. phytoplankton) can be summarized as follows (Eq. 5.29):



where DIC is usually defined as the sum of an equilibrium mixture of dissolved



Microbial degradation of DOM and POM could be indicated as (5.30):



Products of these reactions are extensively discussed in chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”. The compounds H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, and nutrients (NO_3^- and PO_4^{3-}) are primarily responsible for an increase in photosynthetic efficiency in water (Eq. 3.1). Therefore photosynthesis depends on the contents and chemical nature of allochthonous OM (of terrestrial vascular plant origin) and autochthonous OM (of algal or phytoplankton origin). They are characterized by a large variation in different water environments (see chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”). Dependence of photosynthesis on OM (DOM and POM) is supported by several observation reported below.

First, DOM contents can affect photosynthesis in the water column. DOM can limit productivity and affect epilimnetic and hypolimnetic respiration (Jackson and Hecky 1980; Carpenter et al. 1998; Hanson et al. 2003; Houser et al. 2003; Druon et al. 2010). Both DOM and POM can limit light penetration in deeper water, thus shoaling the euphotic zone (Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Laurion et al. 2000; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Effler et al. 2010). The vertical attenuation coefficient for downward irradiance of PAR (K_{PAR}) is strongly dependent on water color (Eloranta 1978; Jones and Arvola 1984), which subsequently depends on DOC concentration (Jones and Arvola 1984). Elevated DOM may decrease the efficiency of photosynthesis and growth in deeper waters and produce surface Chl

a maxima in the upper epilimnion (0–8 m). Such an effect has been observed in the lakes Hongfeng, Baihua and Kinneret, and is quite different from Lake Biwa (0–20 m) and Lake Baikal where DOM contents are relatively low (see also chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Chlorophylls and Their Degradation in Nature”) (Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Hayakawa 2004; Yacobi 2006). Waters with high contents of DOM and POM are responsible for the occurrence of toxic algal blooms through high photosynthesis. The latter would be linked to elevated amounts of photo- and microbial products, provided that algal growth is limited by nutrient availability and not by light, and would also be affected by global warming (see later).

The second issue is the dependence of photosynthesis on allochthonous DOM. It has been shown that photosynthetic primary production is significantly dependent on allochthonous humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) in natural waters. It has been observed an increase of bacterial biomass with high humic contents (Jones 1992; Tranvik 1988; 1989; Hessen 1985; Tranvik and Höfle 1987). Typhoon-enhanced terrestrial discharges can elevate Chl *a* concentrations by four times and shift phytoplankton composition (spectral class-based), from an initial dominance of diatoms and green microalgae to the dominance of blue green microalgae (cyanobacteria are increased by more than 200 %) and cryptophytes (Blanco et al. 2008). This enhancement is likely caused either by favorable nutrient availability (Blanco et al. 2008) or by high input of allochthonous DOM including humic substances. A higher ratio of bacterial production to primary production has been observed in a humic lake compared with a clear-water lake, suggesting that the bacterioplankton of the humic lake utilized allochthonous substrates in addition to substrates originating from autochthonous primary production (Tranvik 1989). Moreover, a isolated (ca. *Pseudomonas* sp.) bacterial cell does not utilize fulvic acid, but in the presence of added lactate fulvic acid is partially degraded and causes an increase in the cell yield because of co-metabolism (Stabel et al. 1979; Wright 1988; de Haan 1974). Bacteria (ca. *Arthrobacter* sp.) can utilize fulvic acid, but this is only partially degraded and produces a small cell yield compared to e.g. benzoate. However, in media containing benzoate and fulvic acid, bacteria have higher growth rate and cell yield compared to media with only benzoate or fulvic acid (de Haan 1977). The fluctuations in the content of fulvic acids and the amount of benzoate-oxidizing bacteria suggest that the priming effect might be more important than co-metabolism during the decomposition of fulvic acids in lake water (de Haan 1977). The mechanism behind this phenomenon is, presumably, the acceleration of the photoinduced degradation of fulvic acid in the presence of benzoate. It may cause enhanced production of biologically labile substrates that subsequently increase bacterial production. Benzoate (C₆H₅-COONa) may photolytically release electrons (e_{aq}⁻) in aqueous solutions of fulvic acid (Fujiwara et al. 1993; Zepp et al. 1987; Assel et al. 1998; Richard and Canonica 2005), an effect that might lead to the production of hydrogen peroxide in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Fujiwara et al. 1993).

The generation of hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) upon irradiation of ultra-filtered river DOM is substantially increased, from 15 to 368 nM h⁻¹, with increasing salinity at circumneutral pH values (Osburn et al. 2009). Production of HO[•] from H₂O₂

either by direct photoinduced reaction ($\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \rightarrow 2\text{HO}^\bullet$) or by photo-Fenton processes is susceptible to decompose DOM in aqueous solution (Zepp et al. 1992; Zellner et al. 1990; Goldstein and Rabani 2008). These photoinduced effects are associated with two impacts on growth of primary production: (i) photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet has direct negative effects on bacterial growth and/or indirect effects, because of the loss of bioavailable DOM associated to ROS mineralization (Scully et al. 2003a). Correspondingly, extracellular enzymes (e.g., phosphatase and glucosidase) can be inactivated in natural waters by secondary photoinduced processes that can lead to a reduction of the substrate uptake by bacteria (Scully et al. 2003b; Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2007). (ii) Studies of abundance and growth in the presence of humic substances indicate that bacteria are the most significant utilizers of allochthonous DOM. This issue is apparently made easier by DOM photolysis under natural sunlight, with production of lower molecular weight, and biologically labile organic products (Miller and Zepp 1995; Strome and Miller 1978; Amador et al. 1989; Kieber et al. 1989; Moran and Zepp 1997). This photoinduced effect can be supported by the observation that DOM photobleaching is accompanied by bacterial growth in humic lakes with significant amounts of chromophoric DOM (Lindell et al. 1995; Reche et al. 1998; de Lange et al. 2003). Thus, humic substances in lakes may serve as a substrate for bacterioplankton and lead to enhanced microbial production. Such stimulation of bacterioplankton productivity could influence food chains in two ways (Jones 1992): firstly, by providing an alternative base (in addition to autotrophic primary production) for the energetic and nutritional support of consumer organisms, of course if bacterial production can be effectively grazed; secondly, by increasing bacterial demand for limiting nutrients at the expense of phytoplankton, thereby depressing autotrophic primary production (Jones 1992).

A further issue is the dependence of photosynthesis on autochthonous DOM. Autochthonous DOM or unknown compounds produced by the cyanobacterium *Trichormus doliolum* or filtrates of dinoflagellate *Peridinium aciculiferum* or *Prorocentrum lima* can inhibit the PSII in other cyanobacteria, decreasing the photosynthetic efficiency (Igarashi et al. 1998; Rengefors and Legrand 2001; Sukenik et al. 2002; Windust et al. 1996; von Elert and Juttner 1997; Sugg and VanDolah 1999). Compounds produced by the cyanobacterium *Microcystis* sp. can inhibit carbonic anhydrase activity of the dinoflagellate *P. gatunense*, leading to CO_2 limitation and inhibition of photosynthesis (Sukenik et al. 2002). When tested as a pure compound, okadaic acid produced by the dinoflagellate *Prorocentrum lima* could inhibit the growth of three microalgal species (Windust et al. 1996), possibly because okadaic acid is a potent phosphatase inhibitor (Bialojan and Takai 1988). Also microcystins produced by the cyanobacterium *Microcystis aeruginosa* can inhibit phosphatase (Dawson 1998). Microalgal compounds have been shown to damage red blood cell membranes, which suggest that competing phytoplankton could be similarly affected (Igarashi et al. 1998). On the other hand, autochthonous DOM released by phytoplankton can be utilized with high efficiency by heterotrophic bacteria and can thus stimulate heterotrophic growth and nutrient cycling (Brussaard et al. 1996, 2005, 2007; Gobler et al. 1997; Fuhrman 1992; Bratbak et al. 1998; Middelboe 2003).

Interestingly, the viral lysis of an *Aureococcus anophagefferens* bloom can release approximately 500 g C L^{-1} that can support bacterial demands for both carbon and nutrients (Gobler et al. 1997). It has been shown that >62 % of a bacterial lysate is metabolized by other bacteria following viral lysis within a few days, with a correspondent bacterial growth efficiency of 45 % (Middelboe 2003). Fatty acids potentially produced by microalgae have been shown to increase permeability of the plasma membranes of chlorophytes and cyanobacteria, which might be connected with an increase of photosynthesis (Wu et al. 2006). Photoproduction of biologically labile substrates from CDOM could potentially stimulate the growth of biomass in Hudson Bay coastal waters (Granskog et al. 2007).

Bacterial biomass exhibits high values during the summer season and lower ones during winter in lakes with different water color (Wright 1984; Arvola and Kankaala 1989; Jones 1990). In winter, the bacterioplankton in humic lakes may primarily consist of a dormant, substrate-limited community that may sustain only a small number of microzooplankton grazers (Jones 1992; Wright 1984). During the spring and summer season fresh inputs of labile allochthonous DOM and autochthonous DOM, possibly with enhanced photoinduced activity, stimulate an increase in bacterial production (Jones 1992). In turn, a rapid development is promoted of grazing flagellates until a quasi steady-state is reached, resulting into an active, grazer-controlled bacterioplankton (Wright 1984).

Currently, model results reveal that the progressive release of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) in the ocean's upper layer during the summer season increases the regenerated primary production by 30–300 % (Druon et al. 2010). This in turn enhances the dissolved organic carbon (DOC) production, mainly deriving from phytoplankton exudation in the upper layer, and the solubilization of particulate organic matter (POM) deeper in the water column (Druon et al. 2010). A microcosm experimental study on summer carbon metabolism in a humic lake has shown that DOC is 80–85 % of total carbon, while 75 % of POC is detritus. Bacterial biomass and production can exceed those of phytoplankton (Hessen et al. 1990). It has been shown that most of the zooplankton body carbon (46–82 %) is apparently derived from direct ingestion of the large detrital carbon pool. The loop of ingestion and defecation is important, giving a detritus particle turnover rate of 0.39 d^{-1} , and suggests that carbon cycling in humic lakes is essentially different from that in clear-water lakes (Hessen et al. 1990).

Finally, both autochthonous and allochthonous DOM contribute to the production of photo- and microbial products (CO_2 , DIC, H_2O_2 and so on) and to the photoinduced generation of the reactive oxygen species (ROS) such as $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet in photosynthesis. Negative effects of photoproducts on bacterial growth are linked with phototransformation of algal-derived autochthonous DOM (Ortega-Retuerta et al. 2007; Tranvik and Bertilsson 2001). This can be supported by the highly photosensitive and photodegradable nature of autochthonous DOM of algal/phytoplankton origin compared to allochthonous DOM (Mostofa et al. 2009; Johannessen et al. 2007). Penetration of sunlight to deep water significantly depends on the DOM contents, and high-DOM lakes are characterized by shoaling of the euphotic zone (Laurion et al. 2000).

Photosynthetic efficiency of phytoplankton decreases as irradiance increases during the morning, and increases as irradiance declines in the afternoon. These trends are associated with photoprotective strategies in the antennae of PSII and photodamage of PSII reaction centers (Zhang et al. 2008). Conversely, H_2O_2 usually shows strong diurnal variation and its concentrations increases gradually from the morning, reaches a maximum at noon and then gradually decreases in the afternoon (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009). Therefore, high production of H_2O_2 and the subsequent HO^\bullet photogeneration (either direct or photo-Fenton mediated) at noon is susceptible to damage PSII reaction centers.

In addition, autochthonous DOM can produce relatively high amounts of ROS that can inhibit primary production. The daily estimated net CO_2 fluxes (due to all processes) are much smaller than daylight photosynthetic rates (^{14}C uptake) and sometimes go in the opposite direction (Kelly et al. 2001). This indicates that CO_2 fixation measured by ^{14}C uptake is largely offset, and sometimes exceeded, by CO_2 production. Allochthonous DOC degradation could account for only a part of this CO_2 production and the remainder presumably comes from the respiration of photosynthetically fixed carbon (Kelly et al. 2001). The average rates of net epilimnetic CO_2 fixation, or net epilimnetic production (NEP) range from 20 to 60 % of ^{14}C uptake (Kelly et al. 2001). This is similar to previous estimates of the relationship between net 24 h and daylight photosynthetic fixation (Berman and Pollinger 1974). Note that NEP is a *community* parameter, including the respiration of grazers, sediment bacteria and so on. Therefore, is not the same as the term “net photosynthesis” that refers only to the photosynthesis and respiration of algae (Kelly et al. 2001).

5.6 Variation in Nutrient Contents

Photosynthesis of organisms is dependent on the contents of nutrients that can either enhance or decrease its efficiency (Parkhill et al. 2001; Liu et al. 2007; Bybordi 2010). The effects of nutrients on photosynthesis can be classified in two ways depending on the types of organisms.

Nutrients Effects on Aquatic Microorganisms

The effect of nutrients on photosynthesis in water may be a stimulation of primary production (Chl *a*), or not (Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006; Parkhill et al. 2001; Smith 2003; Kaneko et al. 2004; Sterner et al. 2004; Huszar et al. 2006; Nöges et al. 2008; McCarthy et al. 2009; Mohlin and Wulff 2009; Canfield 1983; Auclair et al. 1985; Ferris and Tyler 1985; Steinberg and Muenster 1985; Francko 1986; Jones et al. 1988; Lewis 1990; Salas and Martino 1991; Cullen et al. 1992; Sarnelle et al. 1998; Brown et al. 2000; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Jones 2000). Observing the uptake of nutrients during primary production or algal productivity is a complex issue, because of the many factors involved for the demand and supply of N and P in water. Such factors can be classified as

follows: (i) Nutrients (NO_3^- , NO_2^- , NH_4^+ and PO_4^{3-}) are mostly released during photoinduced and microbial assimilation or respiration of algal/phytoplankton biomass (Mostofa et al. 2011; Kopáček et al. 2003; Li et al. 2008; Mallet et al. 1998; Carrillo et al. 2002; Lehmann et al. 2004; Fu et al. 2005). (ii) Formation of N-containing (NH_4^+ or NO_2^-) and P-containing inorganic compounds (PO_4^{3-}) typically occurs upon degradation of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) and dissolved organic phosphorus (DOP) in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2011; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Bronk 2002; Zhang et al. 2004; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007; Haaber and Middelboe 2009). The degradation of *Phaeocystis pouchetii* lysates is associated with significant regeneration of inorganic N and P and produces 148 g N L^{-1} and 7 g P L^{-1} , which corresponds to 78 % and 26 % of lysate N and P being mineralized to NH_4^+ and PO_4^{3-} , respectively (Haaber and Middelboe 2009). Contribution of nutrients through viral lysis might be an important mechanism that promotes heterotrophic nutrient cycling and stimulates primary production (Haaber and Middelboe 2009, 2008; Brussaard et al. 2008). (iii) NO_3^- and NO_2^- can be regenerated by oxidation of ammonia in nitrification ($\text{NH}_4^+ + 2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{NO}_3^- + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{O}$) and of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) in lake waters (Lehmann et al. 2004; Mack and Bolton 1999; Kopáček et al. 2004; Minero et al. 2007). (iv) NO_2^- and NO_3^- are preferentially detected in epilimnetic water rather than the hypolimnion (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Lehmann et al. 2004; Kopáček et al. 2004; Minero et al. 2007), and they are also involved in photoinduced generation of HO^\bullet that is able to degrade DOM in the epilimnion (see also chapters “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Nakatani et al. 2007; Takeda et al. 2004; Zellner et al. 1990; Mopper and Zhou 1990). Furthermore, the NO_2^- ion is generally observed at low concentration during the summer season (Mostofa KMG et al., unpublished data; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008), and possibly it is photolytically more active in production of HO^\bullet than in NO_3^- (see also chapters “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”). It is also a rather photolabile compound in surface waters, undergoing faster direct photolysis in lake than in ultrapure water. This effect is linked to the scavenging of photogenerated transients by DOM, which finally prevents the recombination of photogenerated, transient nitrogen species back into nitrite (Vione et al. 2009a).

Primary production or Chl *a* often increases with increasing total phosphorus (TP) and nutrients, suggesting that uptake of P and nutrients takes place during primary production (Doyle et al. 2005; Huszar et al. 2006; Nöges et al. 2008; McCarthy et al. 2009; Mohlin and Wulff 2009; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Lehmann et al. 2004; Schindler 1974, 2006; Havens et al. 1995; Smith et al. 1995). Chl *a* is significantly correlated with total P in marine environments, but total P concentration in marine sites is relatively higher compared to freshwater (Guildford and Hecky 2000). Uptake of phosphorus during phytoplankton growth is greatly stimulated in presence of humic substances, but the phosphate uptake is

inhibited by toxic compounds (Kaneko et al. 2004; Auclair et al. 1985; Steinberg and Muenster 1985; Francko 1986; Jones et al. 1988). Humic substances can easily undergo photoinduced decomposition into several photoproducts such as CO_2 , H_2O_2 , DIC, LMW DOM, and so on. These compounds are directly and indirectly linked with photosynthesis and can stimulate primary production.

Primary producers or phytoplankton (or Chl *a*) depend on the total nitrogen (TN) as they can uptake both inorganic and organic N forms such as urea, NH_4^+ , and NO_3^- (McCarthy et al. 2007, 2009; Walsh and Dugdale 1971; Kappers 1980; Syrett 1981; Dugdale et al. 1990; Probyn 1992; Blomqvist et al. 1994; Berg et al. 2003; Giani et al. 2005; Rolland et al. 2005; Heil et al. 2007). No evidence has been found for a control of Chl *a* by TN in lake and marine environments (Guildford and Hecky 2000). However, TN (mostly NO_3^- and NH_4^+) can limit primary production in most cases where nutrients are limiting (Huszar et al. 2006; Sarnelle et al. 1998; Barica et al. 1980; Smith 1982; Elser et al. 1990; Aldridge et al. 1995; Levine et al. 1997; Philips et al. 1997; Lewis 1996, 2002).

The nutrients-ratio theory predicts that cyanobacteria will dominate in lakes with low TN:TP ratios, due to their superior ability to compete for dissolved N and, in some cases, to fix atmospheric N (Smith 1983). Recent studies show that primary production or cyanobacteria do not follow this predicted theory in a variety of waters, with either high or low TN:TP ratio (Nöges et al. 2008; McCarthy et al. 2009; Xie et al. 2003; Smith et al. 1995; Smith 1983; Smith and Bennett 1999; Downing et al. 2001). The TN:TP ratio theory can not consistently predict cyanobacterial dominance in a variety of waters. Indeed, recent studies show that nutrients such as PO_4^{3-} and NO_3^- are significantly produced from either POM (e.g. phytoplankton) or allochthonous and autochthonous DOM (see chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters”). Correspondingly, waters with extreme eutrication are composed of excess PO_4^{3-} that does not follow this theory at all. This can be justified by the observation that primary production is probably not limited by nutrient availability, because of the high nutrient loadings in natural water (McCarthy et al. 2007, 2009; Heath 1992). Primary productivity within a plume appears to rely upon recycled nutrients, with organic fractions representing the majority of the nutrient pool (Davies 2004). Furthermore, remineralized nutrients from the declining chlorophyll bloom in surface waters are taken up by heterotrophic bacteria in the water-column and by benthic microalgae in sediments (Darrow et al. 2003). Variations in DOM and POM contents can greatly modify the contents of nutrients, and additional factors would be involved into the variations of primary production.

Based on these studies, photosynthesis dependence on nutrients is quite complex in natural waters. First, photosynthesis does not depend on nutrients in waters with high contents of DOM and POM, particularly in lakes, estuarine and coastal waters. High content of DOM and POM can often supply the nutrients (NO_3^- and PO_4^{3-}) under both photoinduced and microbial assimilation or degradation, thus the nutrients in excess have no effects on primary production. Second, photosynthesis may depend on nutrients in waters with low contents of DOM and POM.

This effect is the opposite as the previous one, and is most likely accounted for by the low production of nutrients from low contents of DOM and POM.

On the other hand, a decrease in PSII efficiency with changes in cellular physiology of microalgae can result into nutrient (and mostly nitrogen) stress, ultimately followed by a cell stress (Parkhill et al. 2001; Babin et al. 1996; Cullen et al. 1992; Geider et al. 1993; Graziano et al. 1996). These studies thus show that a decrease of photosynthetic efficiency is caused by nutrient stress. Nitrogen stress is found to reduce the maximum quantum yield of carbon fixation (Babin et al. 1996). The mechanism behind the N-containing (NO_2^- and NO_3^-) nutrient stress is presumably that the strong oxidizing agent HO^\bullet , photogenerated from both NO_2^- and NO_3^- , could react with the functional groups bound to PSII and can damage the cells. The result is a decline of the overall photosynthetic efficiency that suppresses the primary production. In addition, the synergic effect of UV radiation due to depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer in combination with N-containing nutrient stress can generate extremely high contents of HO^\bullet , which can kill aquatic microorganisms. Note that in Antarctic seawater during an ozone hole event, the production of HO^\bullet is enhanced by at least 20 %. Such enhancement would mostly come from nitrate photolysis and to a minor extent from DOM photoinduced reactions (see also chapter “[Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters](#)”) (Qian et al. 2001).

Nutrients Effects on Higher Plants

Plant growth is enhanced at 200 mg l^{-1} N (as NH_4NO_3) in cvs. (cultivars) ‘Licord’ and ‘Okapi’, but it is reduced when the N concentration increases up to 300 mg l^{-1} (Bybordi 2010). Nitrate reductase (NR), a substrate inducible enzyme, is slightly inhibited by salinity in tomato roots, while leaf NR is decreased sharply (Cramer and Lips 1995). In the leaves of tomatoes and cucumbers, NR activity can increase with exogenous nitrate concentration (Martinez and Cerda 1989). NR is decreased in leaves under salinization, which can subsequently decrease NO_3^- uptake by plants under salt stress (Bybordi 2010; Cramer and Lips 1995; Lacuesta et al. 1990; Abd-El Baki et al. 2000). The decreased of nitrate is accompanied by a high Cl^- uptake and low rate of xylem exudation in high osmotic conditions, by either NaCl or other nutrients (Parida et al. 2004; Tabatabaie et al. 2004). Reduced nitrate uptake or translocation can lead to lower NO_3^- concentration in leaves, which can consequently decrease the NR activity under saline conditions.

Several factors (e.g. salinity) can modify the uptake of some nutrients (e.g. Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, K, etc.), and either increase or decrease their contents in various parts of most plants (Villora et al. 2000; Turhan and Eris 2005; Wang and Han 2007; Achakzai et al. 2010; Tunçtürk et al. 2011).

5.7 Effects of Trace Elements on Aquatic Microorganisms

Aquatic organisms that carry out photosynthesis are largely affected by trace elements, and PSII is thought to be the primary and most sensitive site of inhibition

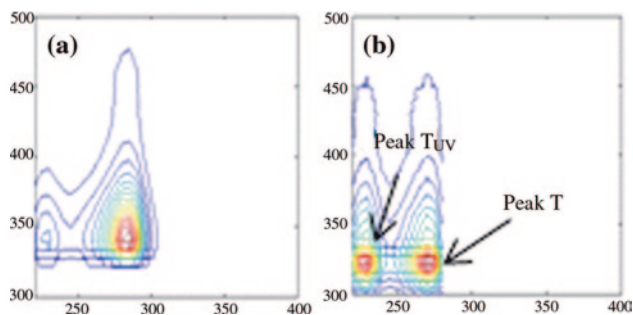


Fig. 10 Two fluorescent components (**a**, **b**) of lake green algae isolated and resuspensions in aqueous media (Milli-Q waters) identified using PARAFAC modeling on the respective EEM data. *Data source* Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished data)

(Zhang et al. 2010; Crist et al. 1981; Zhou and Wangersky 1985, 1989; Simkiss and Taylor 1989; Xue and Sigg 1990; Tessier and Turner 1995; Sunda and Huntsman 1998; Burda et al. 2003; Koukal et al. 2003; Mylon et al. 2003; Sigfridsson et al. 2004; Berden-Zrimec et al. 2007; Lamelas and Slaveykova* 2007; Hopkinson and Barbeau 2008; Lamelas et al. 2009; Pan et al. 2009). Various trace elements detected in phytoplankton are N, P, S, K, Mg, Ca, Sr, Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, Co, Cd, Ni, and Mo (Quigg et al. 2003, 2011; Finkel et al. 2006). Study shows that many elements (Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, Co, and Mo) are enriched relative to P by about two to three orders of magnitude under irradiances that are limiting for growth, and net steady-state uptake of element: P is often elevated under lower irradiances (Finkel et al. 2006). Cyanobacteria or phytoplankton cells can form complexes with or uptake trace metals, either directly or in the presence of humic acids (Zhou and Wangersky 1985, 1989; Xue and Sigg 1990; Koukal et al. 2003; Mylon et al. 2003; Lamelas and Slaveykova* 2007; Lamelas et al. 2009). The latter can substantially enhance the metal ion uptake. Bacteria, algae (or phytoplankton cells) and their exudates are composed of a mosaic of functional groups (e.g. amino, phosphoryl, sulfhydryl, and carboxylic), and the net charge on the cell wall is dependent on the pH of the medium (see also chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters” for detailed description) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009, 2010; Mostofa et al. 2011; Filella 2008). Cyanobacteria or phytoplankton are composed of two fluorescent components that can be identified using parallel factor (PARAFAC) analysis on the excitation-emission maxima (EEM) spectra of their resuspensions in pure water (Fig. 10) (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). The EEM spectra of these two fluorescent components identify functional groups bound to tryptophan or protein-like components (Fig. 10; see the chapter “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” for detailed description) (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). Furthermore, some trace metal ions (e.g., Th^{4+} and U) form complexes at the surface of particulate matter with an organic ligand that might be a nonmetal-specific chelator originating from the cell surface of microorganisms

(Hirose 2004). In addition, autochthonous DOM originating from phytoplankton or algal biomass may contain amino and sulfidic functional groups in its molecular structure, which may form complexes with trace metals in water (Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995).

Fe uptake by phytoplankton is significantly enhanced in the presence of humic substances (Provasoli 1963; Prakash et al. 1973), which is presumably caused by improved metal chelation in aqueous solution (Anderson and Morel 1982). Under low-Fe conditions, Fe allocation in the diatoms *Thalassiosira weissflogii* and *Thalassiosira oceanica* is localized in photosynthetic light-harvesting and electron-transport proteins (Strzepek and Harrison 2004). Increased iron quotas and lowered iron-use efficiencies are often observed in phytoplankton, in response to decreased light levels (Hopkinson and Barbeau 2008; Strzepek and Harrison 2004; Sunda and Huntsman 1997). Iron requirements by phytoplankton increase as available light for photosynthesis decreases, which can lead to the hypothesis that phytoplankton may be colimited by iron and light in low-light environments (Sunda and Huntsman 1997). In an iron–light colimited state growth and photosynthesis are ultimately limited by light processing, whilst production of photosynthetic proteins able to harvest and process light is constrained by iron availability (Hopkinson and Barbeau 2008). Iron–light colimitation may occur in low-iron regions with deep mixed layers, such as the Southern Ocean, or even in macronutrient-limited and stratified waters, near the base of the euphotic zone (Sunda and Huntsman 1997). An iron–light colimitation is observed during winter in the subarctic North Pacific. Here a deep mixed layer (80 m), low incident irradiance, and lack of available iron are all combined to limit photosynthesis, which maintains low phytoplankton biomass (Maldonado et al. 1999). Iron can limit growth in an area with a relatively shallow (40 m) mixed layer in the Subantarctic Front. However light, in conjunction with iron, can control growth in an area with deeper (90 m) mixed layers (Boyd et al. 2001). Iron–light colimitation should also be a factor influencing phytoplankton growth during the North Atlantic spring bloom (Moore et al. 2006).

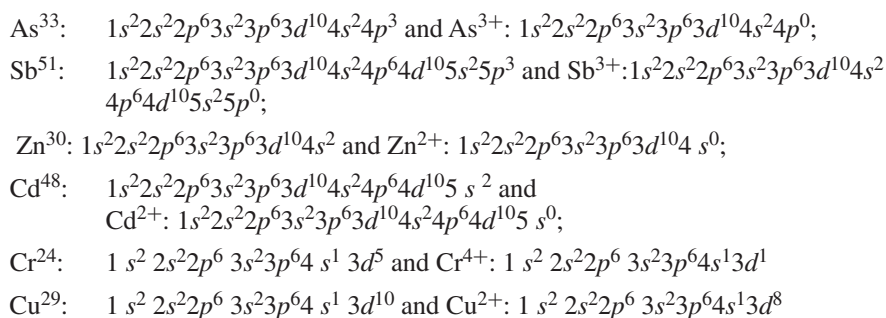
Availability of iron alone has also been implicated as an important factor in the bloom of some harmful algal species (Bruland et al. 2001; Maldonado et al. 2002), whilst an increase in the toxicity of *Microcystis aeruginosa* has been observed when iron is limited (Lukač and Aegerter 1993). Iron deficiency can affect the electron transfer rate in *Pisum sativum* chloroplasts (Muthuchelian et al. 2001), and stable organic Fe(III) complexes (FeL) photolytically produce dissolved inorganic iron at a higher extent than thermal decomposition and cell-surface reduction of FeL. Such a process can facilitate phytoplankton uptake of iron in the ocean (Fan 2008). On the other hand, during nighttime the reactive oxygen species (H_2O_2 and $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) produced by reductases on cell surfaces react with FeL, producing Fe(II). Such a process slows down the oxidation of Fe(II) and the subsequent formation of FeL, thereby maintaining significant levels of bio-available Fe (Fan 2008).

A significant effect of toxic metals on photosynthesis is observed, and the relevant photosynthetic efficiency can be either enhanced or suppressed in natural waters (Zhang et al. 2010; Burda et al. 2003; Koukal et al. 2003; Sigfridsson et al. 2004; Berden-Zrimec et al. 2007; Pan et al. 2009; Mayer et al. 1997; Horton and

Bowyer 1990; Prasad et al. 1991; Barraza and Carballeira 1999; Susplugas et al. 2000; Appenroth et al. 2001; Franklin et al. 2001; Drinovec et al. 2004; Miller-Morey and van Dolah 2004; Shanker et al. 2005; Alam et al. 2007; Hayat et al. 2007; Perales-Vela et al. 2007; Ali et al. 2008; Hasan et al. 2008; Vernay et al. 2008). The esterase activity in several species of marine and freshwater cyanobacteria can be either enhanced or suppressed by copper (Franklin et al. 2001), and antimony (Sb) exposure at concentrations ranging from 1.0 to 10.0 mg L⁻¹ inhibits O₂ evolution (Zhang et al. 2010). A decrease in photosynthetic efficiency is caused by the reduction of phytoplankton enzyme activity, which may be a general indicator of cell stress. The stimulating action of Cu for a definite concentration level (e.g. 0.02 mg Cu L⁻¹) on PSII system is often observed in natural waters (Franklin et al. 2001; Burda et al. 2002; Schaffer and Sebetich 2004).

Toxicity of Cd and Zn to the green alga *Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata*s can be significantly ($p < 0.05$) reduced in the presence of humic acids (soil and peat), but not in the presence of Suwannee River fulvic acid (SRFA) (Koukal et al. 2003). It is postulated that humic acid can reduce Cd and Zn toxicity in two different ways (Koukal et al. 2003): (i) Humic acid is capable of decreasing the amount of free metal ions through complex formation with the metal. Humic acid has high molecular weight and is relatively stable with regard to metal-exchange reactions, which can make the metals less bioavailable. (ii) Humic acid can be adsorbed onto algal surfaces, shielded the cells from free Cd and Zn ions. On the other hand, several hypotheses have been advanced to explain why SRFA is unable to reduce metal toxicity (Koukal et al. 2003): (i) Cd- and Zn-SRFA complexes are thought to be labile (i.e. to undergo rapid dissociation); (ii) SRFA can coagulate, presumably during equilibration, which can alter their metal complexing behavior; and (iii) SRFA has a low ability to adsorb on cell membranes at pH > 7.

For better understanding the mechanism of metal toxicity to organisms, it is interesting to have a look at the outer-shell electronic configurations of toxic metals:



These metal ions have empty *s*-, *p*- or *d*-orbitals in the outer shell, which allows them to be involved in a strong π -electron bonding system through donation of electrons from the functional groups of PSII (e.g. N- and S-containing carboxylic, amino, thio and hydroxyl groups) (see chapter “[Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters](#)” for detailed discussion)

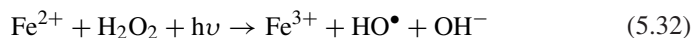
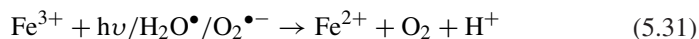
(Mostofa et al. 2009, 2011). After formation of the strong π -electron bonding system in the metal-protein (or organism) complex, the remaining outer-shell electrons (e.g. $4s^2$ for As) are loosely bound and can easily move (see chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters” for detailed explanation). After complex formation between metals and proteins (or amino acids) in PSII, the normal cells metabolism can be disrupted by electrons in the outer shell of the metal ion itself, or via HO^\bullet formation in Fenton or Fenton-like or other unknown processes, finally leading to cell death.

Interestingly, As-protein complexes may be accumulated in the human skin and, when the skin is exposed to natural sunlight (mostly UV-light), irradiation induces the formation of HO^\bullet or other reactive oxygen species (e.g. $O_2^{\bullet-}$ and H_2O_2). These species can cause damage to DNA and finally induce cancer in the human body. Coherently, it has been suggested that DNA damage induced by methylated trivalent arsenicals is mediated by reactive oxygen species (Nesnow et al. 2002). Furthermore, arsenite can play a role in the enhancement of UV-induced skin cancers (Rossman et al. 2004). The carcinogenic effects may be connected with accumulation of As^{3+} or Sb^{3+} and other toxic metals. As^{3+} or Sb^{3+} have two electrons in the outer shell, while their inner shells are entirely filled with electrons. This situation makes the outer-shell electrons of metal-protein complexes highly mobile.

As and cigarette smoke are synergistic, producing an elevated risk of bladder and lung cancer in smokers (Hopenhayn-Rich et al. 1998; Steinmaus et al. 2003; Chen et al. 2004). Smoking could help promoting the excitation of electrons from the outer shells of As in As-protein complexes, which can finally induce formation of HO^\bullet that damages DNA. While eating soil is quite unusual for humans, in some rural Bangladesh villages it is customary for pregnant women to eat *shikal* (it sounds like “chain” in English), which consists of small (2 in. \times 1 in. \times 1/2 in.) pellets made out of flooded soil (information source is personal experience of one of the authors). While the origin of this tradition is quite uncertain, it is noteworthy that it was observed in one of the world’s regions where human exposure to As is the highest. Interestingly, intake of black soil (dark brown soil) with high contents of humic acid could reduce As levels in the human body, because complexes between As and humic acids are much stronger than As-protein or As-fulvic acids ones (see chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters” for detailed discussion).

Coming back to photosynthetic microorganisms, the decrease in photosynthetic efficiency can be caused by complex formation between metals and the functional groups of PSII. Two possible mechanisms can be operational. First, the formed metal-cells or metal-proteins complexes in the PSII of aquatic microorganisms can produce electrons (e^-) photolytically upon exposure to sunlight, which can finally lead to H_2O_2 generation. (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” for detailed mechanism) (Komissarov 2003; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa et al. 2011; Fujiwara et al. 1993). Coherently, it has been observed that methyl viologen acts as an inducer of photo-oxidative stress (Donahue et al. 1997; Mano et al. 2001) and can induce the photoreduction of dioxygen (O_2) by accepting electrons from

the iron-sulfur cluster Fe-S_A/Fe-S_B of PS1. This process could induce the production of superoxide radical (O₂^{•-}) and H₂O₂ (Fujii et al. 1990). When catalytic free metals [e.g., Fe(II), Cu(I) and Mn(II)] are present near the production site of O₂^{•-} and H₂O₂, the strong oxidizing agent OH[•] can be produced via a Fenton reaction or by direct photodissociation (Zepp et al. 1992; Nakatani et al. 2007; Zellner et al. 1990; Goldstein and Rabani 2008; Halliwell and Gutteridge 1984; Stadtman 1993). The photo-Fenton reaction could proceed as follows (Eqs. 5.31, 5.32):



The HO[•] radical thus generated kills the cells of microorganisms in natural waters. Fe concentration and pH can significantly affect both the growth and the reactive oxygen species (ROS) production in *Chattonella marina*, a harmful algal bloom species (Liu et al. 2007). The rapid photoinduced release of electrons from the outer shell of metal ions in PSII metal-protein complexes can be involved in chronic toxicity. It has recently been shown that exposure of PSII to Sb³⁺ and Cr⁴⁺ in *Synechocystis* sp. can increase the dissipated energy flux and decrease the performance index and the maximum quantum yield for primary photochemistry (ϕP_0) (Zhang et al. 2010; Pan et al. 2009). It can also cause damage to cellular components and to the overall photosynthetic driving force. The fluorescence yield at 684 nm, which is connected to the maximum quantum yield for primary photochemistry (Zhang et al. 2010) is affected by the metal-functional groups of PSII. It can be the easiest way by which electrons are released, which can subsequently result into high production of HO[•] via O₂^{•-} or H₂O₂. Such a process can decrease photosynthetic efficiency or damage the PSII or DNA. Along with this effect, complexation between metal ions and the functional groups of PSII can inhibit electron transport and cause the overall photosynthetic efficiency to decline. Severe damage in the water-splitting site of PSII can produce an increased ratio of F_0/F_V (fluorescence level before and after flash) (Pan et al. 2009), which may occur because of HO[•] photoproduction. Note that Sb³⁺ compounds are approximately ten times more toxic than Sb⁵⁺ ones, possibly because of the two unpaired electrons in Sb³⁺ species. In contrast, Sb⁵⁺ species have no outer shell electrons.

Another possible effect linked with complex formation between metals and the functional groups bound to PSII is the blockage of the normal function of electron release by PSII-bound functional groups. This can also significantly decrease the photosynthetic efficiency of aquatic organisms.

The stimulating effect of Cu²⁺ (1s² 2s² 2p⁶ 3s² 3p⁶ 4s¹ 3d⁸) on PSII is presumably caused by the partially and completely filled outer shell of its *s*- and *d*-orbitals. Therefore, the complexes formed between Cu²⁺ and the PSII functional groups are not as strong as those involving other metal ions with empty orbitals. This effect can roughly recover the normal function of PSII in organisms. In addition, the electrons released from the metal-protein complexes of PSII can induce the generation of relatively low amounts of H₂O₂, which might enhance

photosynthesis in aquatic organisms. Further studies will be needed to evaluate the exact mechanism behind this phenomenon. The formation of complexes between metals and the functional groups of either PSII or PSI is a relatively new hypothesis, which could greatly help improving the present understanding of the effects of metal ions on the photosynthetic efficiency of aquatic organisms.

5.8 Effect of Salinity or Salt Stress

Salinity is an important controlling factor for photosynthesis, its effect depending on the organisms such as higher plants or aquatic microorganisms. Therefore, the effect of salinity can be divided into two classes: (i) effect on aquatic microorganisms; (ii) effect on higher plants.

Effects of Salinity on Aquatic Microorganisms

Water salinity or salt stress has a significant impact on the photosynthetic capability of organisms, but the actual effect is highly dependent on the different kinds of microorganisms (Liu et al. 2007; Satoh et al. 1983; Ahel et al. 1996; Moisaner et al. 2002; Marcarelli et al. 2006; Segal et al. 2006; Demetriou et al. 2007; Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008). It has been shown that salinity in marine waters can alter the PSI and PSII of organisms, which is connected to salt stress. However, some organisms such as cyanobacteria or phytoplankton can overcome the salt stress and are capable of growing under salinity conditions which would be harmful to most other organisms. The basic physiological responses of cyanobacterial cells to salt stress occur in three phases (Hagemann and Erdmann 1997). First, within seconds an increase of the ambient concentration of NaCl can cause an influx of Na⁺ and Cl⁻ ions into the cytoplasm. Second, within an hour it starts the replacement of Na⁺ by K⁺ ions, leading to a decline in the toxic effects of high Na⁺ concentrations. Third, within several hours the cells become acclimatized to the elevated ion concentrations. During this phase, the synthesis or uptake of compatible solutes/components mitigates the toxic effects of salts and preserves the structures of complex proteins and cell membranes (Bhagwat and Apte 1989; Reed et al. 1985; Hagemann et al. 1990, 1991; Hayashi and Murata 1998; Chen and Murata 2002). The cyclic electron transport via PSI is also activated (Joset et al. 1996; Hibino et al. 1996). However, over a longer period of time, such as within several days, salt stress can inhibit cell division (Ferjani et al. 2003).

The increase in the intracellular concentrations of Na⁺ and Cl⁻ ions can cause irreversible inactivation of the oxygen-evolving machinery and of the electron-transport activity of PSI (Kuwabara and Murata 1983; Miyao and Murata 1983; Murata and Miyao 1985; Allakhverdiev et al. 2000a, b). For instance, incubation

of *Synechococcus* cells with 0.5 M NaCl can suppress the reduction of P700⁺ (Allakhverdiev et al. 2000a). Because P700⁺ is reduced by plastocyanin, it is suggested that the association of this compound with the PSI complex is disturbed by the presence of NaCl (Allakhverdiev et al. 2000a, b).

In cyanobacteria, the oxygen-evolving machinery of PSII located on the luminal side of thylakoid membranes is stabilized by three extrinsic proteins. They are PsbO (33-kD protein), PsbV (cytochrome *c*₅₅₀), and PsbU (Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008; Shen et al. 1998; Nishiyama et al. 1999). Cyt *c*₅₅₀ and PsbU are loosely bound to the donor side of the core complex of PSII (Nishiyama et al. 1997, 1999). These proteins could be easily dissociated from the cyanobacterial PSII complex in the presence of elevated concentrations of NaCl (Shen et al. 1998, 1992). Moreover, pulse-chase experiments revealed that salt stress can inhibit the de novo synthesis of D1 in *Synechococcus* (Ohnishi and Murata 2006).

Light is an important factor in restoring the activity of PSII and PSI during dark incubation of cyanobacterial cells under salt stress (Allakhverdiev et al. 2005). When light is applied to *Synechococcus* cells, protein synthesis occurs for the recovery of the photosystems from salt stress (Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008; Hagemann et al. 1991; Allakhverdiev et al. 1999, 2005). Weak light at 70 mE m⁻² s⁻¹ is sufficient to generate ATP, which seems to support recovery (Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008). Such conditions are sufficient to induce the necessary excitation, because of the formation of complexes between cations (e.g. Na⁺ and other cations from salts) and the functional groups bound to PSII and PSI. Recent studies of PSII photoinhibition in cyanobacteria suggest that oxidative stress due to reactive oxygen species (ROS) can inhibit protein synthesis and the repair of PSII. However, it does not stimulate photodamage to PSII (Nishiyama et al. 2005, 2006; Takahashi and Murata 2008; Murata et al. 2007). Note that salinity in marine waters is accounted for various salts including NaCl (86 %), but comparison of river and sea water shows that Na⁺, Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺, K⁺, HCO₃⁻, Cl⁻ and SO₄²⁻ in the sea are typically 1,670, 27, 330, 170, 2.4, 2,400 and 245 times, respectively, higher than in rivers (see chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters” for more discussion). Also note that the occurrence of these salts can cause changes in the absorption properties of chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM), and in the fluorescence properties of fluorescent dissolved organic matter (FDOM). A change in the optical properties (generally shifting from shorter towards longer wavelengths) and in the complexation behavior of both CDOM and FDOM can be linked to an enhanced photoinduced generation of H₂O₂ (see chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”, “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, and “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters”, respectively for their detailed discussion).

A proposed mechanism for the decline of photosynthesis of microorganisms is that cations (e.g. Na⁺, Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺, Sr²⁺) of various salts occurring in marine waters can form complexes with functional groups bound to microorganisms (or

with their PSII). This complexation can decrease photosynthesis, either by inducing high photoinduced formation of HO^\bullet from H_2O_2 , which would damage PSII, or by blocking the normal function of electron release by the PSII functional groups. Either effect could alter the normal function of PSII, as extensively discussed in an earlier section (see the “effect of trace metal ions” section). In addition, complexes of trace metal ions in marine waters with autochthonous DOM of algal/phytoplankton origin and with terrestrial DOM of vascular plant origin can induce rapid photoinduced excitation of electrons (e^-). Such a process can produce $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet that can subsequently either decompose the proteins and the functional groups bound to microorganisms, decreasing their photosynthetic efficiency, or transform the DOM components with production of a number of photoproducts such as CO_2 , DIC, H_2O_2 and LMW DOM. These products are directly linked with an enhancement of photosynthesis and might account for algal blooms, particularly in coastal marine environments.

This mechanism is supported by earlier studies, showing that the inhibition of electron flow on the oxidizing (water) side of PSII causes photoinhibition. Moreover, photoactivation and dark-inactivation of electron flow on the reducing side of PSI is completely inhibited at high salinity (Satoh et al. 1983). It is known that photobleaching of carotenoids and Chl can take place when the oxidizing side of PSII is inhibited (Yamashita et al. 1969; Katoh 1972). It has also been observed that inhibition on the reducing side of PSI can give rise to strong reductants, which can also destroy the reaction centers of both PSI and PSII (Satoh and Fork 1982a, b). Photobleaching of carotenoids and Chl might be caused by HO^\bullet or other oxidants, generated photolytically by the above mechanism, in analogy with the well-known phenomena concerning DOM photobleaching in natural waters (see chapters “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” for detailed discussion).

Effects of Salinity on Higher Plants

Salinity of soil or water is one of the key environmental factors that limit plant growth and productivity, particularly in arid, semi-arid and freshwater land near coastal regions. Salinity can have a two-fold effect on plants: (i) osmotic stress, by which salt in the soil can reduce the availability of water to the roots, and (ii) ionic stress due to the salt taken up by the plant that can be accumulated to toxic levels in certain tissues (Munns et al. 1995). Reduction of photosynthesis caused by salt stress has an impact on several physiological responses, such as inhibition of growth and development, modification of ion balance, mineral nutrition, water status, stomatal behavior, decrease in photosynthetic efficiency and in chlorophyll content (which leads to a corresponding reduction of light absorption by leaves), decrease of carotenoids, carbon allocation and utilization, net carbon dioxide exchange, respiration and protein synthesis, and finally, induction of cell

expansion in both roots and leaves in salt-sensitive plants (Bybordi 2010; Tunçtürk et al. 2011; Melgar et al. 2008; Pandey and Yeo 2008; Pandey et al. 2009; Bybordi et al. 2010a, b; Flowers et al. 1977; Munns and Termaat 1986; Zidan et al. 1990; Ashraf and Wu 1994; Neumann et al. 1994; Evans 1996; Jungklang et al. 2003; Meloni et al. 2003; Qiu and Lu 2003; Lee et al. 2004; Pal et al. 2004; Suwa et al. 2006; Ali et al. 2007; Desingh and Kanagaraj 2007; Šiler et al. 2007; Ahmed et al. 2008). It has been shown that some physiological responses (e.g. chlorophyll and carotenoids) are initially increased at moderate NaCl levels, but they are generally decreased by increasing salinity. It has also been observed that cations or metal ions in all plant parts are typically increased with an increase in salt stress.

The effects of salinity are mostly linked to a decrease in stomatal conductance and/or to the non-stomatal limitation related to carbon fixation (Bongi and Loreto 1989; Brugnoli and Björkman 1992; Delfine et al. 1998, 1999; Centritto et al. 2003). It is suggested that stomatal limitation prevails at intermediate salinity levels, while the non-stomatal limitations predominate under severe salt stress conditions (Bongi and Loreto 1989). The photosynthetic rate, PSII efficiency, root and shoot growth of *Centaureum erythraea* is increased or remains the same at moderate salt levels (50–200 mM NaCl), but it is decreased significantly at high salt concentration (400 mM NaCl). Root growth is more adversely affected by increasing NaCl concentration than shoot growth (Šiler et al. 2007). Chlorophyll contents are decreased under elevated salinity conditions for some salt-sensitive plant species, but they are not modified at moderate salt levels (Jungklang et al. 2003; Lee et al. 2004; Šiler et al. 2007; Delfine et al. 1998, 1999; Ashraf et al. 2002). This suggests that the decline of chlorophyll content depends on the salinity level, on the time of exposure to salts and on the plant species. Salinity can rapidly inhibit root growth and subsequently decrease the uptake of water and essential mineral nutrients from soil (Neumann 1997). An increase of NaCl concentration in solution can reduce N and NO₃ concentrations in leaves, when plants are treated with NaCl and NH₄NO₃ (Bybordi 2010). An apparent increase in salt tolerance is observed when N levels, supplied under saline conditions, exceed the optimum ones observed under non-saline conditions (Bybordi et al. 2010a; Papadopoulos and Rendig 1983). This indicates that increased fertilization, especially by N, may improve the deleterious effect of salinity (Ravikovitch and Porath 1967).

A contribution to salt stress in salt-sensitive plants may derive from the fact that an increase of salinity can enhance the metal ion contents in plant cells, because metal ions can form complexes with PSII functional groups. As already mentioned, such a complexation may cause either a high production of photoinduced electrons (e⁻) and of superoxide anion (O₂^{•-}), H₂O₂ and HO[•], which can damage PSII, or block further photoinduced generation of electrons from PSII itself.

Conversely, the plant growth at moderate levels of NaCl might also be favored by photoinduced generation of H₂O₂ from PSII-metal complexes. If moderate, such H₂O₂ levels could be favourable to photosynthesis as discussed before (Eq. 3.1). The balance is delicate, however, because excessive salt can cause high production of H₂O₂ and HO[•] that can damage the PSII. These proposed mechanisms can be justified by the observation of several physiological functions caused by salt stress, such as: (i) salinity stress in plants can produce reactive oxygen species (ROS) such

as $O_2^{\bullet-}$, H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet , particularly in chloroplasts and mitochondria (Mittler 2002; Masood et al. 2006). Plants possess a number of antioxidant enzymes such as superoxide dismutase (SOD), ascorbate peroxidase (APX) and glutathione reductase (GR) for protection against the damaging effects of ROS (Asada 1992; Prochazkova and Wilhelmova 2007), but ROS-linked salinity stress can cause membrane disorganization, metabolic toxicity and attenuated nutrients (Frommer et al. 1999; Zhu 2000; Costa et al. 2005) These initial effects can then induce more catastrophic events in plants. Excessive salt stress can eventually cause photoinhibition and photodamage of PSII (Krause and Weis 1991; Belkhodja et al. 1994). (ii) Strong salt stress in salt-sensitive species can severely reduce the potential of electron transport in PSII (Jungklang et al. 2003). (iii) Salinity can increase or decrease uptake of some nutrients (e.g. Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, K, etc.) depending on the plant species (Villora et al. 2000; Turhan and Eris 2005; Wang and Han 2007; Achakzai et al. 2010; Tunçtürk et al. 2011; Greenway and Munns 1980; Martinez et al. 1987; Cornillon and Palloix 1997; Alpaslan et al. 1998). The increase in these metals can enhance complexation with the PSI and PSII functional groups, leading to ROS production. High Na^+ content is generally responsible for alteration of the nutrient balance, which can cause specific ion toxicity in addition to disturbing the osmotic regulation (Greenway and Munns 1980). (iv) Due to the complex formation between metals and PSII functional groups, electron excitation at low irradiance can induce effective generation of H_2O_2 and ROS. This can be justified by the in vivo observation of ROS generation inside PSII membranes. Salt stress may thus damage the photosynthetic activity of PSII even at low irradiance (Pandey et al. 2009). (v) Complexation of trace metal ions with functional groups bound to PSII under salinity conditions can enhance electron release and, as a consequence, ROS production (see chapter “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters”). Such effects are able to photodamage PSII in *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*, barley leaves (*Hordeum vulgare*), sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*), rye (*Secale cereal*), and *Spirulina platensis* (Neale and Melis 1989; Sharma and Hall 1991; Hertwig et al. 1992; Lu and Zhang 1999).

Chl content in salt-tolerant plants would either remain the same or be significantly enhanced with increasing salinity (Qiu and Lu 2003; Brugnoli and Björkman 1992), and accumulation of compatible solutes (e.g. proline, betaine, polyols, sugar alcohols, and soluble sugars) in many plants can increase the tolerance of PSI and PSII to salt stress (Chen and Murata 2002; Fulda et al. 1999; Zhu 2002; Reed and Stewart 1988). The increase of Na^+ and Cl^- ions in both leaves and roots is accompanied with an increase in proline and soluble sugars which could play a role in salt tolerance (Melgar et al. 2008; Ahmed et al. 2008).

While functioning in an otherwise similar way as non-tolerant plants, salt-tolerant plant species may supply relatively low amounts of salt ions to leaves through roots. The consequence may be the occurrence of relatively low contents of H_2O_2 . If the latter be present in moderate amount, it would mostly be used in photosynthesis and would not produce dangerous levels of HO^\bullet . Therefore, the plant may maintain normal photosynthesis in the presence of high salt levels. Salt tolerance in canola is associated with the ability to reduce uptake and/or transport of saline ions (Bybordí 2010).

In addition, resistance to salinity may occur when a plant is capable of producing large amounts of antioxidant enzymes such as superoxide dismutase (SOD), ascorbate peroxidase (APX) and glutathione reductase (GR) (Asada 1992; Prochazkova and Wilhelmova 2007; Mittova et al. 2002; Gossett et al. 1994; Pastori and Trippi 1993). These enzymes can significantly scavenge free radicals under stress conditions.

Elevated levels of GR are capable of increasing the amount of NADP⁺, which accepts electrons from the photosynthetic electron transport chain (Peltzer et al. 2002; Reddy et al. 2004). The activity of antioxidant enzymes under saline conditions are typically increased in the case of salt-tolerant cotton varieties, shoot cultures of rice, cucumber, wheat shoot and pea (Bybordi et al. 2010b, c; Meloni et al. 2003; Desingh and Kanagaraj 2007; Fadzilla et al. 1997; Lechno et al. 1997; Hernandez et al. 1999; Meneguzzo et al. 1999). Due to salinity stress, plants can accumulate osmolytes such as proline and glycine betaine, which are known to protect macromolecules by stabilizing protein structure during dehydration and/or by scavenging ROS produced under stress conditions (Desingh and Kanagaraj 2007; McNeil et al. 2001; Zhu 2001; Matsyik et al. 2002; Rontein et al. 2002). Tolerance of photosystems to salt stress can be enhanced by genetically engineered increase in the unsaturation of fatty acids in membrane lipids, and by intracellular synthesis of compatible solutes (e.g. glucosylglycerol and glycinebetaine) (Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008). When photosynthetic organisms are exposed to salt stress, fatty acids of membrane lipids are desaturated (Huflejt et al. 1990). Therefore, unsaturation of fatty acid in membrane lipids can enhance tolerance of PSI and PSII to salt stress (Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008).

Enhanced tolerance of PSII to salt stress upon unsaturation of membrane lipids is probably accounted for by the fact that unsaturated fatty acids are generally capable of surrounding the cations [e.g. Na⁺/H⁺ antiporter(s) and/or H⁺-ATPase(s)] with their electron-rich double bonds. An increase in the levels of the antiport system components can decrease the concentration of Na⁺ ions in the cytosol, which may protect PSII and PSI against NaCl-induced inactivation (Allakhverdiev and Murata 2008).

5.9 Effects of Toxic Pollutants on Aquatic Microorganisms

Environmentally-occurring toxic organic pollutants can decrease the efficiency of photosynthesis, most presumably by adversely affecting the PSII (Berden-Zrimec et al. 2007; Mayer et al. 1997; Halling-Sørensen et al. 2000; Katsumata et al. 2005, 2006; Kvíderová and Henley 2005; Zrimec et al. 2005; Pan et al. 2009; Yates and Rogers 2011). Some antibiotics (e.g. ampicillin, streptomycin, levofloxacin hydrochloride, mecillinam, trimethoprim, ciprofloxacin), phenols (e.g. 3,5-dichlorophenol), pesticides and herbicides (e.g. DCMU or diuron, simazine, atrazine) are highly toxic to microorganisms such as cyanobacteria or phytoplankton cells (Berden-Zrimec et al. 2007; Halling-Sørensen et al. 2000; Katsumata et al. 2005, 2006; Kvíderová and Henley 2005; Zrimec et al. 2005; Pan et al. 2009; Yates and Rogers 2011; DeLorenzo et al. 2001). The toxic organic compounds

are effective in inhibiting O_2 evolution and PSII activity of microorganisms. The inhibitory effect on PSII is often increased with increasing concentration of toxic compounds. Levofloxacin hydrochloride, one of the most commonly used fluoroquinolone antibiotics, can decrease the density of the active photosynthetic reaction centers of *Synechocystis* sp., inhibit electron transport, and increase the dissipated energy flux per reaction center. All these effects together are able to decrease the photosynthetic efficiency (Pan et al. 2009).

The adverse effect on photosynthesis is thought to be caused by two facts. First, the molecular structures of organic contaminants are mostly composed of N-, S-, O-, and/or P-containing functional groups, which are susceptible to form H-bonding with the functional groups of PSII. This effect can decrease the efficiency of electron release from PSII. It has in fact been demonstrated that the herbicide DCMU can directly block the electron transport in PSII (Berden-Zrimec et al. 2007; Tissut et al. 1987; Behrenfeld et al. 1998). The second issue is that N-, S-, O-, or P-containing functional groups can release electrons upon excitation by light, which can produce ROS such as $O_2^{\bullet-}$, H_2O_2 and HO^{\bullet} . These oxidizing species can damage the PSII system, thereby reducing the photosynthetic efficiency as a whole.

KCN (an inhibitor of mitochondrial respiration) and 3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1,1-dimethylurea (an inhibitor of photosynthesis) had no significant effects on ROS production. In contrast, vitamin K3 (a plasma membrane electron shuttle) can enhance ROS production and its antagonist, dicumarol, can decrease it (Liu et al. 2007). Photosynthetic organisms can produce ROS by activating various oxidases and peroxidases, in response to environmental stresses such as pathogens, drought, light intensity, an increase in temperature from 7 °C to 30 °C, and contaminants such as paraquat (Peng and Kuc 1992; Moran et al. 1994; Karpinski et al. 1997; Iturbe-Ormaetxe et al. 1998; Twiner and Trick 2000).

5.10 Effect of Size-Fractionated Phytoplankton

Planktonic algae of $<5\ \mu\text{m}$ in size are major fixers of inorganic carbon in the ocean and dominate phytoplankton biomass in post-bloom, stratified oceanic temperate waters (Li 1994; Tarran et al. 2001). Large and small algae are viewed as having a critical growth dependence on inorganic nutrients. The latter can be assimilated at lower ambient concentrations due to the higher surface-area-to-volume ratios of small vs. larger organisms (Malone 1980; Chisholm 1992; Zubkov and Tarran 2008). Experimental studies that adopted phosphate tracer suggest that small algae can uptake inorganic phosphate indirectly, possibly through feeding on bacterioplankton (Hansen and Hjorth 2002; Stibor and Sommer 2003; Tittel et al. 2003; Unrein et al. 2007; Zubkov et al. 2007; Jones 2000; Bird and Kalff 1986; Arenovski et al. 1995; Rothhaupt 1996; Thingstad et al. 1996; Caron 2000). Inorganic phosphate and other nutrients (e.g. NO_3^-) can originate mostly from two processes: (i) photoinduced and microbial assimilations of algae (or cyanobacteria), and (ii)

photoinduced and microbial degradation of allochthonous DOM of plant origin and autochthonous DOM of algal/phytoplankton origin (see also chapters “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, and “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”). Small algae can carry out 40–95 % of the bacterivory activity in the euphotic layer of the temperate North Atlantic Ocean in summer, and 37–70 % in the surface waters of the tropical North-East Atlantic Ocean (Zubkov and Tarran 2008). This reveals that the smallest algae have less dependence on dissolved inorganic nutrients (Zubkov and Tarran 2008).

The volume of planktonic bacteria increases as water temperature decreases (Albright and McCrae 1987; Chrzanowski et al. 1988; Bjørnson et al. 1989), and thus the occurrence of larger cells in the hypolimnion is linked to its low temperature (Wiebe et al. 1992; Callieri et al. 2009; Bertoni et al. 2010). Bacterial cells are often observed to be approximately 30 % larger in the Arctic Ocean and Antarctic coastal waters than in temperate regimes (Straza et al. 2009).

The mechanism behind this size shift is presumably that low temperature in hypolimnion and Arctic or Antarctic regions can protect against cell degradation, whereas microbial assimilations of planktonic bacteria cells can release both nutrients and autochthonous DOM. Correspondingly, high temperatures along with solar radiation and surface waters mixing by strong waves are effective in photolytically and microbially releasing nutrients and autochthonous DOM. These two effects could be responsible for the occurrence of large cells in low temperature regions including the hypolimnion. The photoinduced and microbial releases of nutrients, photo-/microbial products, and autochthonous DOM from algae/phytoplankton (Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Tranvik et al. 2009; Zepp et al. 2011; Ma and Green 2004; White et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2010; Mostofa et al. 2005; Bushaw et al. 1996; Molot et al. 2005; Johannessen et al. 2007; Borges et al. 2008; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Lohrenz et al. 2010; Omar et al. 2010; Cai 2011) are responsible for low photosynthesis in most upper surface layers.

It has also been observed that lower photosynthesis in the shallower epilimnion (1 m) than in the deeper epilimnion (3 m) (Nozaki et al. 2002) might be the effect of higher photoinduced degradation of algae near the water surface. This effect, coupled with strong wind mixing and turbulence can decrease the size structure of phytoplankton or algae in the upper epilimnion, thereby decreasing the photosynthetic efficiency (Cermeno et al. 2005; Nozaki et al. 2002). Note that physical mixing in the surface mixing zone is an important factor for promoting the photoinduced degradation of DOM (see chapter “[Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter With Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters](#)”).

5.11 Effects of Global Warming

Global warming causes an increase in water temperature, lengthens the summer season, extends the surface water mixing zone and increases the stability of

the vertical stratification in large parts of lakes and oceans. An increase in photoinduced and microbial degradation rates of OM (DOM and POM) by global warming may affect water transparency and generation of photo- and microbial products (H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, and so on), may modify seasonal patterns in chlorophyll or primary production, contents of nutrients (NO_2^- , NO_3^- , and PO_4^{3-}), carbon cycling, pH values, microbial food web stimulation that varies seasonally on a variety of time scales, and the depth of the mixing layer (see also chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Chlorophylls and Their Degradation in Nature”, and “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Baulch et al. 2005; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Cooke et al. 2006; Huisman et al. 2006; Malkin et al. 2008; Davis et al. 2009; Castle and Rodgers 2009; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Keeling et al. 2010; Zepp et al. 2011; Granéli et al. 1998). Two phenomena can result from this. First, in water with high contents of OM, photoinduced and microbial processes that correspond to high photosynthesis may be prolonged, thereby causing the prolongation of the primary productivity (Malkin et al. 2008). This may eventually result into toxic or harmful algal bloom in natural waters. Second, low photosynthesis could take place in waters with low contents of OM, causing low production of photo- and microbial products. This can subsequently reduce the vertical mixing and suppress the upward flux of nutrients, leading to a decrease in primary production in oceans (Huisman et al. 2006).

An increase in water temperature by global warming can also decrease the concentration of dissolved oxygen (O_2) in natural waters (Keeling et al. 2010; Epstein et al. 1993; Garcia et al. 1998; Sarmiento et al. 1998; Plattner et al. 2001; Bopp et al. 2002; Keeling and Garcia 2002; Matear and Hirst 2003). This could enhance the growth of cyanobacteria and other algae (Epstein et al. 1993) and/or decrease the growth of other organisms (Keeling et al. 2010). The decrease of dissolved O_2 in the upper surface layer would occur because of decreased O_2 solubility in warmer water and due to photoinduced generation of superoxide radical ion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) and H_2O_2 (see chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” for detailed mechanism) by the effect of global warming. An increase in O_2 can enhance the production of H_2O_2 (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990) and different algae can show unlike responses to O_2 concentration (Pope 1975). This may for instance be linked to eutrophication from excess algal growth. The most prominent symptoms of eutrophication are oxygen depletion in bottom waters and harmful algal blooms (Richardson and Jorgensen 1996).

The decrease of dissolved O_2 in deeper waters would be caused by the decrease in vertical mixing of the water column due to the longer stratification period as a consequence of global warming. This effect can reduce the primary production as well as to survival of organisms in deeper water layers, particularly in lakes and oceans. Earlier studies did not provide any clear mechanisms about the decrease of dissolved O_2 , which includes changes in ocean circulation rates (Bindoff and McDougall 2000; Shaffer et al. 2000; Emerson et al. 2001; Keller

et al. 2001), in preformed values (Garcia et al. 1998), in Redfield ratios (Pahlow and Riebesell 2000), and in biological production (Emerson et al. 2001). The abundance and geographic distribution of toxin-producing algae is significantly increasing with respect to global warming and because of increased anthropogenic input of nutrients to aquatic environments (Shumway 1990; Harvell et al. 1999; Haines et al. 2000; vanDolah 2000; Shumway et al. 2003; Philips et al. 2004; Yan and Zhou 2004; Luckas et al. 2005). The effects of global warming on waters are extensively discussed in the global warming chapter, which can help understanding the overall effects on photosynthesis and other key biogeochemical issues (see chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”).

5.11.1 Harmful Algal Blooms

The harmful algal blooms are presumably an effect of global warming on waters with high content of DOM and POM, as extensively discussed in earlier sections. Harmful algal blooms can cause loss of phytoplankton competitor motility, inhibition of photosynthesis, inhibition of enzymes, membrane damage, large fish kills, shellfish poisoning, deaths of livestock and wildlife, death of coral reefs and, finally, illness or even death in humans (Yates and Rogers 2011; Llewellyn 2006; Richardson 2007; Prince et al. 2008; Etheridge 2010; Harvell et al. 1999; Hallock and Schlager 1986; Hallegraeff 1993; Negri et al. 1995; Braun and Pfeiffer 2002; Landsberg 2002; Legrand et al. 2003). Autochthonous organic compounds (e.g. autochthonous fulvic acids) and nutrients are generally produced by algae or phytoplankton, either biologically (also termed allelopathy: a biological phenomenon by which an organism can produce various types of biochemicals, which can influence growth, survival, death, and reproduction of other organisms) or photolytically (see also chapters “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” and “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” for detailed description) (Mostofa et al. 2009, 2011; Prince et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2009). In addition, various types of algae such as diatoms, dinoflagellates and cyanobacteria can produce toxins that can cause death of higher organisms (Castle and Rodgers 2009; Falconer 1993). Blooms of a red-tide dinoflagellate such as *Karenia brevis*, occurring in the coastal seawaters, and *Prymnesium parvum*, also known as golden algae, can produce neurotoxic compounds (brevetoxins) that can kill fish and accumulate in shellfish (Yates and Rogers 2011; Landsberg 2002; Southard et al. 2010; Tester et al. 1991). Moreover, autochthonous compounds and toxins produced during toxic algal blooms are susceptible to decrease the photosynthetic efficiency of natural waters.

6 Scope of the Future Researches

The mechanisms of the photosynthetic reaction and the changes of the photosynthetic efficiency of organisms are affected by the different factors discussed in this study. A number of issues may greatly assist to improve the present understanding of photosynthesis. For example, formation of complexes between metal ions and the functional groups of PSII or PSI is a new suggestion about the processes that might occur in aquatic environments. Earlier studies did not place much attention on the complexation theory, which may greatly assist a better understanding of similar researches. The effects of organic matter (DOM and POM) and of other factors on photosynthesis are important for understanding the mechanisms of the release of electrons and O₂, as well as other vital phenomena. The complexation theory may provide a better understanding of the molecular basis for the mechanisms of photosystem tolerance to salt or metal ions stress. If proven, such a theory may greatly help the introduction, by plant breeding and genetic engineering, of salt tolerance in crop plants.

The need for additional studies in photosynthesis can be summarized as follows: (i) Observations are required of the effects of diverse toxic and non-toxic organic substances and metals on efficiency of the photosynthesis of various microorganisms; (ii) The mechanism of release of O₂ from H₂O₂ during photosynthesis should be substantiated; (iii) Special attention should be paid to the photosystems crystal structure, to find out any presence of H₂O₂ (or O₂) instead of H₂O. Concurrently, further studies are needed that take special attention during sample preparation, to avoid the possible decomposition of H₂O₂. Such studies would help solving the debate concerning the process of oxygen release; (iv) A better understanding is required of the effect on photosynthesis of exogenous H₂O₂, produced from allochthonous DOM (humic substances including fulvic and humic acids); (v) The effect of autochthonous DOM (autochthonous fulvic acids of algal/phytoplankton origin) on photosynthesis also requires better understanding; (vi) Crystal structures of PSI or PSII do not include any information about dissolved O₂, but they are composed of about 1,300 water molecules (Umena et al. 2011) and issue that will need further studies to be clarified. Finally, it is important to remember during the sample processing of any photosynthesis experiments that H₂O₂ is rapidly decomposed microbially and it is also rapidly produced under light condition.

7 Nomenclature

CCM	Carbon-concentrating mechanism
Chl	Chlorophyll
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
DIC	Dissolved inorganic carbon = dissolved CO ₂ , H ₂ CO ₃ , HCO ₃ ⁻ , and CO ₃ ²⁻
DOM	Dissolved organic matter

Ga	Gigaannum: 10^9 years
H ₂ O	Water
H ₂ O ₂	Hydrogen peroxide
MAAs	Mycosporine-like amino acids
¹ O ₂	Singlet state of oxygen
³ O ₂	Triplet state of oxygen
O ₂ ^{•-}	Superoxide radical anion
OEC	Oxygen-evolving complex
POM	Particulate organic matter
PSI	Photosystem I
PSII	Photosystem II
ROS	Reactive oxygen species
Rubisco	Ribulose Bisphosphate Carboxylase-Oxygenase
UV	Ultraviolet
WOC	Water-oxidizing complex

Problems

1. Define oxygenic photosynthesis and how does it differ from anoxygenic photosynthesis. Explain three key functions of photosynthesis in aquatic environments.
2. Define the key photosynthetic reactions under the hypotheses of H₂O and H₂O₂ involvement.
3. Which and how many Chl molecules can participate in the primary donor sites in PSI and PS II under illumination?
4. Explain the mechanism of H₂O₂ formation from chlorophyll bound in photosynthetic cells and ultrapure water under illumination.
5. Why are PSI and PSII composed of a number of chlorophyll molecules in their structures?
6. Explain the mechanism of electron transfer and O₂ release from PSII during photosynthesis.
7. Distinguish the various factors that influence photosynthesis. How do seasonal light cycle and temperature affect photosynthesis?
8. Why do precipitation/rainfall substantially enhance plant photosynthesis?
9. Explain the mechanism for the occurrence of algal (cyanobacterial) bloom in waters with high contents of DOM and POM. How does global warming accelerate the algal bloom in natural waters?
10. How do trace metal ions become toxic during phytoplankton photosynthesis? Explain the mechanism.
11. Explain how does salinity affect both plant and phytoplankton photosynthesis.
12. How can UV radiation affect phytoplankton photosynthesis?
13. How does metal toxicity impact organisms or induce cancer in humans?

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“If H_2O would decompose by the reaction with CO_2 in photosynthesis, then all H_2O would convert into O_2 by organisms and plants after the origin of life on earth to date and no H_2O would remain in the biosphere.

Instead of H_2O , photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 from dissolved O_2 in water bound in photosynthetic cells is reacted with CO_2 in photosynthesis that can limit the photosynthesis under light condition.

Then further conversion of H_2O_2 to O_2 either through photosynthesis [xCO_2 (H_2O) + $yH_2O_2(H_2O)$ → $C_x(H_2O)_y$ + O_2 + E (\pm)] or both photolytically ($2H_2O_2$ + $h\nu$ → O_2 + unknown oxidant) and biologically ($2H_2O_2$ + catalases/ peroxidases → O_2 + $2H_2O$) may balance the environment.”

Chlorophylls and their Degradation in Nature

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Kazuhide Hayakawa, Takahito Yoshioka and Gennady G. Komissarov**

1 Introduction

Phytoplankton are responsible for approximately 40–50 % of the total primary production on Earth. They contribute to controlling the total CO₂ concentration and pH of the ocean, which together with physical processes (e.g. solar energy input, sea–air heat exchanges, upwelling of subsurface waters and mixed layer thickness) dictates the air-to-sea CO₂ gas exchanges (Longhurst et al. 1995; Field et al. 1998; Takahashi et al. 2002; Falkowski et al. 2004). The global net primary production from phytoplankton is 45–50 Gt C year⁻¹, whilst from land plants

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it is of 45–68 Gt C year⁻¹ and from coastal vegetation it is of 1.9 Gt C year⁻¹ (Longhurst et al. 1995; Box 2004; Haberl et al. 2007).

Since the development of techniques for Chl *a* detection in water in the decade of 1930 and 1940s (Harvey 1934, 1939), a number of research works has been published to develop analytical methodologies (Richards and Thompson 1952; Parsons and Strickland 1963; Jeffrey and Humphrey 1975), to elucidate Chl *a* origin (Fennel and Boss 2003; Letelier et al. 2004; Huisman et al. 2006) and to understand its photoinduced degradation into various pheopigments (Welschmeyer and Lorenzen 1985; Barlow et al. 1993; Stephens et al. 1997). An additional issue is the production of autochthonous DOM by photoinduced degradation of Chl *a* or phytoplankton biomass, under both photoinduced and microbial (bacterial) metabolism/assimilation/respiration (Kirchman et al. 1991, 1995; Tranvik 1993; Nelson et al. 1998, 2004; Hart et al. 2000; Parlanti et al. 2000; Carrillo et al. 2002; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Nieto-Cid et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009).

The spatial variability of the net primary productivity over the globe is substantially high, varying from about 1,000 g C m⁻² for evergreen tropical rain forests to less than 30 g C m⁻² for deserts (Scurlock et al. 1999). On the other hand, chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*) concentrations vary from 0.0 to 2,080 µg L⁻¹ in a variety of natural waters. Such a variability in Chl *a* concentration can produce either a surface/subsurface Chl *a* maximum (SCM) or a deep Chl *a* maximum (DCM) in natural waters (Huisman et al. 1999, 2006; Riley et al. 1949; Bainbridge 1957; Steele and Yentsch 1960; Anderson 1969; Derenbach et al. 1979; Dortch 1987; Viličić et al. 1989; Bjørnsen and Nielsen 1991; Donaghay et al. 1992; Huisman and Weissing 1995; Djurfeldt 1994; Gentien et al. 1995; Odate and Furuya 1998; Deksheniaks et al. 2001; Franks and Jaffe 2001; Klausmeier and Litchman 2001; Diehl 2002; Rines et al. 2002; Yoshiyama and Nakajima 2002; Aristegui Ruiz et al. 2003; Hodges and Rudnick 2004; Matondkar et al. 2005; Weston et al. 2005; Lund-Hansen et al. 2006; Beckmann and Hense 2007; Hense and Beckmann 2008; Hopkinson and Barbeau 2008; Whitehouse et al. 2008; Yoshiyama et al. 2009; Lu et al. 2010; Martin et al. 2010; Ryabov et al. 2010; Velo-Suárez et al. 2010).

The high variation in Chl *a* content is generally used as a universal signature of cyanobacteria (algae), or of phytoplankton bloom or eutrophication in a variety of waters (Fielding and Seiderer 1991; Ondrusek et al. 1991; Williams and Claustre 1991; Millie et al. 1993; Jeffrey et al. 1999; Bianchi et al. 1993, 2002, Blanco et al. 2008; Kasprzak et al. 2008). Variations in Chl *a* concentrations or primary production is entirely dependent on various environmental factors in natural waters, which have been extensively discussed before (see also chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”).

It has been found that Chl *a* bound to phytoplankton can be degraded by photoinduced and microbial processes, thereby producing a number of pigments and colourless organic compounds in natural waters (Welschmeyer and Lorenzen 1985; Barlow et al. 1993; Stephens et al. 1997; Zhang et al. 2009; Bianchi et al. 2002; Schulte-Elte et al. 1979; Falkowski and Sucher 1981; Pietta et al. 1981; Mantoura and Llewellyn 1983; Keely and Maxwell 1991; Nelson 1993; Sun et al. 1993; Rontani et al. 1995, 1998, 2003, 2011; Rontani and Marchand 2000; Yacobi et al. 1996; Cuny et al.

1999; Marchand and Rontani 2001; Rontani 2001; Lemaire et al. 2002; Rontani and Volkman 2003; Marchand et al. 2005; Christodoulou et al. 2009; Christodoulou et al. 2010). Chl can also be degraded in higher plants, which for instance causes the colour change in leaves from green to yellow or red that is naturally observed in autumn. However, degradation can also occur as a consequence of cell death caused by external factors, such as injuries due to low or high temperature, pathogen attack, as well as phenomena taking place during various phases of the life cycle of plants (Hendry et al. 1987; Takamiya et al. 2000). Conversion of Chls to pheophytins can take place during discolouration of green vegetable upon processing by several chemicals, photoinduced or enzymatic reactions including simultaneous actions of enzymes, weak acids or changes in pH, oxygen, light and heat (Blair and Ayres 1943; Gupte et al. 1964; Hayakawa and Timbers 1977; Minguez-Mosquera et al. 1989; Mangos and Berger 1997; Koca et al. 2007). Moreover, the key PSII degradation reactions of Chls are photooxidation, involving attack of singlet oxygen or HO[•] via H₂O₂, and enzymatic degradation (Takamiya et al. 2000; Brown et al. 1991; Hörtensteiner 2006; Kräutler and Hörtensteiner 2006; Moser et al. 2009; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Gálvez et al. 1988).

This chapter will give an overview of the various kinds of Chl, their properties, functions, and techniques for their precise determination. It extensively discusses the distribution of Chl *a* providing information about SCM and DCM depths, the formation mechanisms of such maxima as well as the changes of Chl *a* concentrations in a variety of natural waters, under both field and experimental conditions. It also discusses the degradation and degradation mechanisms of Chl *a* bound to aquatic microorganisms and higher plants, as well as the modifications taking place during food processing. Finally, an explanation will be provided of how Chl *a* acts as a universal signature of phytoplankton bloom, and of the possible actions to be adopted for the management of eutrophication by controlling primary production or Chl *a*.

2 Chlorophylls (Pigments) in Phytoplankton

Photosynthetic organisms can collect light energy with their light-harvesting systems that are composed of core and peripheral antenna complexes (Green and Durnford 1996). Core antenna complexes of oxygen-evolving photosynthetic organisms have Chl *a* as pigment. In contrast peripheral antenna complexes, particularly for photosystem II (PSII), have various pigments depending on the group of photosynthetic organisms. They are Chl *b*, Chl *c* (made up of *c*₁, *c*₂ and *c*₃), Chl *d*, phycobilins, fucoxanthin, zeaxanthin (carotenoids), echinenone, peridinin, and so on (Bianchi et al. 2002; Woodward et al. 1960, 1990; Dougherty et al. 1966; Fleming 1967; Wu and Rebeiz 1985; Jeffrey and Wright 1987; Verne-Mismer et al. 1988, 1990; Fookes and Jeffrey 1989; Rowan 1989; Grossman et al. 1995; Miyashita et al. 1996, 1997; Motilva 2008).

Chl *b* is detected in various forms such as: divinyl Chl *b*, with two vinyl groups at R₁ and R₂ positions; monovinyl Chl *b*, with vinyl at R₁ and ethyl at

monolayers and colloidal dispersions used as models for the *in vivo* systems (Katz et al. 1991). Red shifts generally occur when electron releases follow the easiest way in the functional groups bound to the component system (see also chapters “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) in Natural Waters” and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Mostofa et al. 2009; Senesi 1990). Chl *b* found in chlorophytes and prochlorophytes can absorb sunlight at around 470 nm (highest peak) and 650 nm (small peak) (Satoh et al. 2001). The Chl *c* isolated from *Peridinium gatunense* showed two peaks at 448–449 and 634–635 nm (Yacobi et al. 1996).

All pigments can bind to their specific proteins to form pigment-protein complexes (Cogdell et al. 1996; Pearlstein 1996). Complexation can provide the easiest way of electron release, as depicted in other chapters (see “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look” and “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter with Trace Metal ions in Natural Waters”). The Chl *b* content of the light-harvesting complex (LHC) of PSII in higher plants is highly preserved, approximately between 45 and 50 % or in the approximate ratio of 3:1 of Chl *a* to Chl *b* (Anderson 1986; von Elbe and Schwartz 1996). Conversely, the contents of Chl *b* in cyanobacteria are variable and relatively low (1.4–10.6 % or more) (Bianchi et al. 2002; Satoh et al. 2001). Experimental and other observation have shown that Chl *a* molecules can bind to LHC of PSII at Chl *b* binding sites (Thornber and Highkin 1974; Terao and Katoh 1989; Murray and Kohorn 1991; Paulsen et al. 1993; Polle et al. 2000). Correspondingly, Chl *b* is vital for the stability of LHC of PSII in the thylakoid membrane (Murray and Kohorn 1991; Bellemare et al. 1982). The core antenna complexes of chlorophytes have Chl *a* and do not bind Chl *b*, despite its presence (Satoh et al. 2001; Anderson et al. 1978).

2.1 Properties and Functions of Chlorophyll

Chlorophyll (Chl) *a* has a methyl group at the C-3 carbon (molecular formula $C_{55}H_{72}MgN_4O_5$), while Chl *b* has the same chemical structure as Chl *a* but with a $-CH_3$ group replaced by a $-CHO$ one, providing the molecular formula $C_{55}H_{70}MgN_4O_6$ (Fig. 1) (Clarke et al. 1976). The correct gross structure of Chl has been suggested at first by Fischer (Fischer and Wenderoth 1940) and verified in a synthesis by Woodward (Woodward et al. 1960; Woodward 1961). The relative configuration of the methyl and propionic ester groups on the D ring in the structure was shown to be *trans* by Ficken and his colleagues (Ficken et al. 1956). The stereochemistry and absolute configuration of the phytyl group is *2'-trans-7'R,11'R*, as discovered in 1959 (Burrell et al. 1959; Crabbe et al. 1959). The relative configuration at C_{10} is such that the methoxycarbonyl group is *trans* to the propionic ester side chain on C_7 (Closs et al. 1963; Wolf et al. 1967). In addition to their structural differences, Chl *a* is observed to be thermally less stable than Chl *b* (Buckle and Edwards 1970; Lajollo et al. 1971; Schwartz and von Elbe 1983; Canjura et al. 1991; Schwartz and Lorenz 1991).

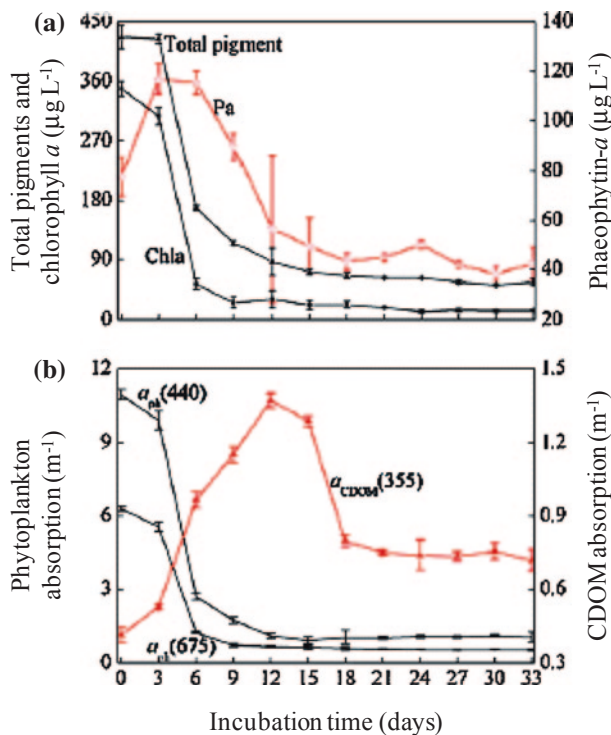
Functions of Chls and their degradation products can be discriminated as follows: (i) Chl is an efficient visible-light photosensitizer and a key component required for the absorption of sunlight. It is essential for the occurrence of photosynthesis as it is involved into the initiation of electron release in aquatic microorganisms and higher plants (see also chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”) (Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Foote 1976; Kimball 1979; Knox and Dodge 1985). Under specific conditions (e.g. high light conditions, high temperature, drought and so on) Chl can significantly produce reactive oxygen species (ROS) such as singlet oxygen ($^1\text{O}_2$), superoxide radical anion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and HO^\bullet (see chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). In turn, these species can degrade Chl and cause cell death (Rontani 2001; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Marshall et al. 2002; Oda et al. 1998). ROS also play a role during senescence of photosynthetic cells or fruit ripening. Strong light gradients cause unbalanced excitation of the two photosystems and reduce photosynthetic efficiency (Dietzel et al. 2011). (ii) According to the Treibs hypothesis, petroporphyrins can originate from Chl (Treibs 1936; Liang et al. 1993). (iii) Chl, some of its synthetic analogues, metal complexes of porphyrins and phthalocyanines are all photoactive. As key components bound to organisms they can cause production of H_2O_2 in vivo under light, in aqueous solutions saturated with dioxygen (Hong et al. 1987; Bazanov et al. 1999; Premkumar and Ramaraj 1999; Lobanov et al. 2008). (iv) Chls, the pigments responsible for green color in fruits and vegetables, are highly susceptible to degradation during processing. This can result into changes from bright green to olive brown or other colors, during storage and processing in the agriculture and food industry (Schwartz and von Elbe 1983; Sweeney and Martin 1961). Color, the major quality attribute of vegetables and fruits, is a key factor in the commercial value of food to the consumer and can be highly affected by Chl breakdown as an important catabolic process of leaf senescence and fruit ripening (Takamiya et al. 2000; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Schwartz and von Elbe 1983; Steet and Tong 1996). (v) The colorless “non-fluorescent Chl catabolites (NCC)” found in ripening fruits (e.g. apples and pears) can act as antioxidants, in a similar way as bilirubin (Moser et al. 2009; Stocker et al. 1987; Barañano et al. 2002). It has been shown that the rates of formation of hydroperoxides of linoleic acid in the presence of NCC is significantly reduced. The observed effect is a function of time and of the concentration of the added antioxidants. Moreover, the (concentration-dependent) peroxy radical scavenging effect of NCC is only slightly inferior to that of bilirubin (Moser et al. 2009; Stocker et al. 1987; Müller et al. 2007). (vi) Chl *a* is generally used to estimate the primary biomass production or the phytoplankton/cyanobacterial biomass or bloom in natural waters. In contrast, carotenoids and the degradation intermediates xanthophylls could be effective biomarkers of different classes of phytoplankton (Fielding and Seiderer 1991; Ondrusek et al. 1991; Williams and Claustre 1991; Millie et al. 1993; Jeffrey et al. 1999; Bianchi et al. 1993, 2002; Kasprzak et al. 2008). Therefore, Chl *a* and its degradation products could be useful indicators of the fate and composition of phytoplankton species and of transformation and degradation of phytoplanktonic carbon. As a key characteristic of phototrophic

organisms, they can be used as a criterion in the classification of autotrophic bacteria and cyanobacteria or algae (Williams and Claustre 1991; Marchand et al. 2005; Rowan 1989; Liang et al. 1993; Downs and Lorenzen 1985; Trüper 1987; Volkman et al. 1988; Vaulot et al. 1990; Veldhuis and Kraay 1990; Wilhelm et al. 1991; Brunet et al. 1992; Head and Horne 1993; Soma et al. 1993). Similarly, phaeopigments (Chl degradation products) represent the dominant form of plant pigments in marine sediments (Brown et al. 1991; Baker and Louda 1983; Furlong and Carpenter 1988; Leavitt and Carpenter 1990; Bianchi and Findlay 1991; Bianchi et al. 1993; Jeffrey et al. 1997). Chl *b* is used as a biomarker for chlorophytes (Bianchi et al. 2002). (vii) Primary production (e.g. algae) is substantially high in ice bed ($0.1\text{--}1,000\ \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) and can provide food resources for organisms in higher trophic levels, in seasons and regions where the water-column biological production is low or negligible (Palmisano et al. 1985; Garrison et al. 1986; Wheeler et al. 1996; Mock and Gradinger 1999; Lizotte 2001). (viii) The specific Chl *a* content per unit of phytoplankton biomass is typically decreased with increasing phytoplankton standing stocks, and with Chl *a* concentration in natural waters and also in laboratory cultures of certain species (Kasprzak et al. 2008; Desortová 1981; Shlgren 1983; Wojciechowska 1989; Watson et al. 1992; Talling 1993; Chow-Fraser et al. 1994; Schmid et al. 1998; Felip and Catalan 2000; Sandu et al. 2003; Kiss et al. 2006). Such a trend might reflect several phenomena such as: degradation of Chl *a* bound in phytoplankton; lake trophic status; phytoplankton community structure; size frequency distribution of algal cells; and seasonal shifts within the plankton community (Bianchi et al. 2002; Bursche 1961; Nusch and Palme 1975; Harris 1986; Watson and McCauley 1988; Arnott and Vanni 1993; Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). (ix) Chloropigments (Chl *a* and carotenoids) and their degradation products could be important determinants of UV and PAR attenuation in natural waters, due to their efficient radiation absorption (see also chapter “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) in Natural Waters”) (Zhang et al. 2009; Devlin et al. 2009; Zhang and Qin 2007; Dupouy et al. 2010; Zhang et al. 2007). (x) The ultimate degradation products of Chls and pigments are colorless (Zhang et al. 2009; Marchand et al. 2005; Mostofa K et al. unpublished data; Wakeham and Lee 1993; Mostofa K et al. unpublished data; Meyers 1997). They may contribute to autochthonous DOM and, therefore, to DOM dynamics in natural waters. Lipids, one of the three major classes of organic matter in algal material, are often used as biomarkers because of their lower lability compared to proteins and carbohydrates (Mostofa et al. 2009; Sun et al. 2002; Wakeham 1995; Volkman 1986).

2.2 Determination of Chls and Other Pigments

For the measurement of Chls, and particularly of Chl *a*, Chl *b* and Chl *c*, various absorption peaks have been used. Absorption peaks have small variations depending on the phytoplankton species (Goedheer 1970; Prezelin 1981; Aguirre-Gomez

Fig. 2 Changes in the (a) mean concentrations of total pigment, chlorophyll *a* and Phaeophytin-*a* (*Pa*); and (b) phytoplankton pigment absorption at the Chl *a* absorption maxima at 440 and 675 nm and CDOM absorption at 355 nm during the degradation experiment period (0–33 days). *Error bar* indicates the means and standard deviations ($n = 3$). *Data source* Zhang et al. (2009)



et al. 2001; Pérez et al. 2007). For Chl *a*, peaks that are often used are those at 412–425, 435–455, 618–623 and 662–675 nm, respectively (Zhang et al. 2009; Goedheer 1970; Prezelin 1981; Aguirre-Gomez et al. 2001; Pérez et al. 2007). The in vivo absorption spectra of the brown alga *Laminaria digitata* have Chl *a* peaks at 418, 437, 618 and 673 nm. Moreover, absorption peaks of *Glenodinium* sp. occur at 419, 437, 618 and 675 nm, and absorption peaks (average) of three different groups of algae are located at 412, 435, 623 and 675 nm (Goedheer 1970; Prezelin 1981; Hoepffner and Sathyendranath 1991). The structural configuration of PSI and PSII in the reaction center shows that they may have two wavelength positions: uncoupled Chls can absorb at 670 nm (close to their site energy), and electronically coupled chlorins (the central cofactors) or Chl dimers can absorb between 676 and 684 nm (see also chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”) (Telfer et al. 1990; Durrant et al. 1995; Renger and Marcus 2002).

Microbial degradation experiments show that absorbance of Chl *a* in the shorter wavelength region (~440 nm) disappears relatively faster compared to the longer wavelength region (~675 nm). Therefore, only the 675 nm absorption peak remains visible in the suspension if degradation time is long enough (Fig. 2; see also chapter “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) in Natural Waters”) (Zhang et al. 2009). Absorption peaks in the shorter wavelength region

are generally accounted for by various substances such as proteins, amino acids and other organic components bound to PSI and PSII. These compounds are all susceptible to undergo microbial decomposition (see chapters “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter \(CDOM\) in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). On the other hand, Chls that absorb radiation in the longer wavelength region are susceptible to undergo photochemical decomposition (see chapters “[Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter \(CDOM\) in Natural Waters](#)”, “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). Absorbance in the longer wavelength regions (>600 nm) is generally linked to the easiest way of electron release from the functional groups bound to the parent molecule. Chl molecules are thus responsible for the absorption peaks located at $\lambda > 600$ nm. Interestingly, longer wavelength absorption peaks (>600 nm) are often observed for some functional groups that are present in terrestrial humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) in riverine ecosystems (see chapter “[Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter \(CDOM\) in Natural Waters](#)”). Therefore, changes in functional groups or molecules bound to PSI and PSII, which take place through either photoinduced or microbial processes, may affect the absorption peaks. Note that peaks appearing in the green region (500–600 nm) are small compared to those located in the blue (<500 nm) and red (>600 nm) regions (Aguirre-Gomez et al. 2001).

Considering the previously reported findings, the following suggestions can be followed for Chl determination: First, measurement of Chl *a* should be conducted only at a single wavelength, not at several ones. The most suitable is at around 665–675 nm, and absence of light should be ensured during sample processing and measuring. Second, Chl *b* should be measured only at around 643–650 nm. In earlier studies, the measurement of Chl *b* has been carried out using its absorption peaks at 465–470 or 483, 585–595 and 643–650 nm, but only the latter provides sufficiently accurate results (Satoh et al. 2001; Aguirre-Gomez et al. 2001; Bidigare et al. 1989; Millie et al. 1997). Some differences in absorption wavelengths in Chl *b* can be caused by the occurrence of various forms of this Chl, as mentioned before. The third issue is that Chl *c* should be detected at 630–639 nm, although earlier studies have adopted absorption peaks at 465–470, 589, and 630–639 nm (Bidigare et al. 1989; Millie et al. 1995, 1997). The many absorption peaks used in earlier studies, in particular at short wavelengths, should not be adopted for the measurement of any Chl molecule. The reason is that absorbance at shorter wavelengths has been observed for other pigments that could interfere with Chl determination, such as hycoerythrin (detected at 543–550 and 566–568 nm) (Payri et al. 2001; Smith and Alberte 1994); phycoerythrocyanin (~550 nm and ~575 nm) (Millie et al. 2002); phycocyanin (625–630 nm) (Payri et al. 2001; Millie et al. 2002); fucoxanthin (521–531 nm) (Bidigare et al. 1989); and different carotenoids (490–495 nm) (Millie et al. 1997; Owens et al. 1987). Furthermore, CDOM absorbs radiation in lower wavelength regions (250–500 nm) because of the functional groups present in allochthonous and autochthonous

organic substances (see chapter “[Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter \(CDOM\) in Natural Waters](#)”).

3 Distribution of Chlorophyll (Chl *a*)

Chl *a* concentrations are significantly varied in the water column, where a given set of parameters may lead to either a surface or a subsurface Chl *a* maximum (SCM), or to a deep Chl *a* maximum (DCM) (Huisman et al. 2006; Riley et al. 1949; Bainbridge 1957; Steele and Yentsch 1960; Anderson 1969; Derenbach et al. 1979; Dortch 1987; Viličić et al. 1989; Bjørnsen and Nielsen 1991; Donaghay et al. 1992; Huisman and Weissing 1995; Djurfeldt 1994; Gentien et al. 1995; Odate and Furuya 1998; Huisman et al. 1999; Dekshenieks et al. 2001; Franks and Jaffe 2001; Klausmeier and Litchman 2001; Diehl 2002; Rines et al. 2002; Yoshiyama and Nakajima 2002; Arístegui Ruiz et al. 2003; Hodges and Rudnick 2004; Matondkar et al. 2005; Weston et al. 2005; Lund-Hansen et al. 2006; Beckmann and Hense 2007; Hense and Beckmann 2008; Hopkinson and Barbeau 2008; Whitehouse et al. 2008; Yoshiyama et al. 2009; Lu et al. 2010; Martin et al. 2010; Ryabov et al. 2010; Velo-Suárez et al. 2010). The location of the maximum is entirely determined by the environmental conditions. The cited studies have shown that SCM and DCM of phytoplankton can occur in a variety of conditions in lake and marine waters. They can range in the vertical dimension from centimeters to a few meters, and have been observed to extend horizontally for kilometers.

3.1 *Surface or Subsurface Chl a Maximum*

The surface or subsurface Chl *a* maximum (SCM) is detected in the surface layer, which varies in different waters and may range between 0–25 m in lakes and 0–30 m or more in seawater (Fig. 3a; Table 1) (Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa K et al. unpublished data; Apollonio 1980; Vicente and Miracle 1984; Kimor et al. 1987; Pedros-Alio et al. 1987; Millán-Núñez et al. 1996; Gomes et al. 2000; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Li and Harrison 2001; Echevin et al. 2004; Koné et al. 2005; Camacho 2006; Ediger et al. 2006; Parab et al. 2006; Roy et al. 2006; Satoh et al. 2006; Sawatzky et al. 2006; Yacobi 2006; Norrbin et al. 2009; Xiu et al. 2009; Zhu et al. 2009; Hamilton et al. 2010). According to these studies, SCM can be defined as a zone of maximum photosynthetic activity that shows the highest Chl *a* contents. It occurs in the upper surface layer of the euphotic zone in the presence of strong light, high DOM contents and nutrients, and under high temperature as well as low or high turbulence. It is a remarkable feature of highly turbid water in the surface layer of stagnant natural waters, particularly in lakes and oceans. High variation with depth of SCM in seawater is presumably caused by an increase of the surface-water mixing zone, due to strong wind and wave compared

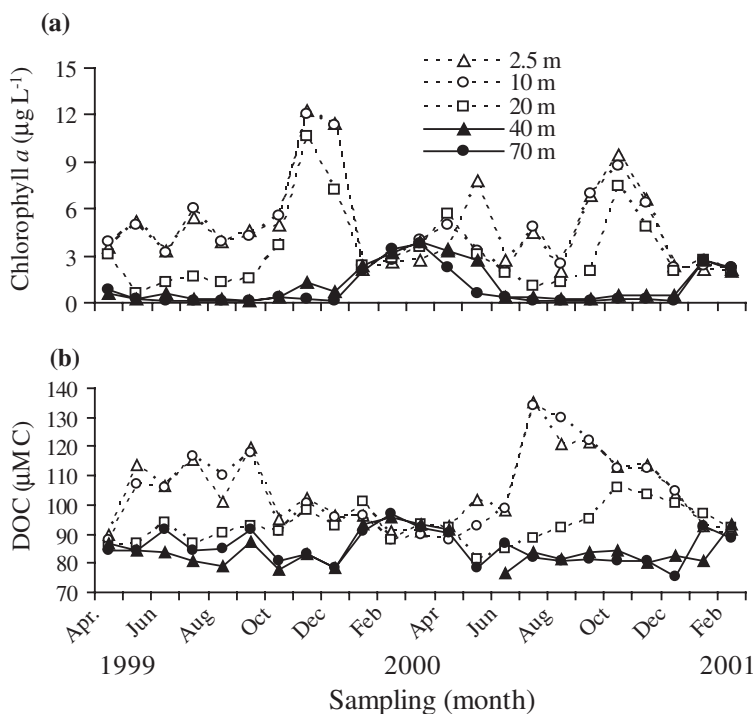


Fig. 3 Vertical changes in the chlorophyll *a* (a) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentrations (b) in monthly collected samples from Lake Biwa and *Error bars* indicate the standard deviation *Data source* Mostofa et al. (2005), Mostofa KMG et al. (unpublished data)

to conditions in lakes. An upper-surface mixed layer commonly occurs in lakes and oceans, due to mechanical perturbation of surface waters (e.g. by wind, waves and storms) (Deuser 1987; Venrick 1993; Law et al. 2003; Moum et al. 1989; Brainerd and Gregg 1995). It is characterized by strong turbulent mixing, up to a depth of approximately 30–200 m or more. Note that few studies have reported the occurrence of DCM (or subsurface Chl *a* maximum) at a depth of 5–25 m or more (Table 1) (Parab et al. 2006; Sawatzky et al. 2006; Xiu et al. 2009; Hamilton et al. 2010; Fee 1976; Sommaruga and Augustin 2006). Considering the surface mixing zone of the water column, it might be supposed to have a similar meaning as the surface Chl *a* maximum (SCM). A high content of Chl *a* at a depth of 5–15 m may be due to the occurrence of strong photoinduced degradation of Chl *a* in the upper surface layer, e.g. at 0–4 m depth. Note that subsurface Chl *a* maxima have been considered as DCM in several earlier studies, while in this chapter a similar meaning (SCM) is adopted for the subsurface Chl *a* maximum (at e.g. 5–15 m depth) and for the surface Chl *a* maximum (0–30 m depth). SCM should thus be well differentiated from DCM to avoid any confusion. Such a rationalization could be useful to avoid confusion between SCM and DCM in future studies.

Table 1 Variation in chlorophyll *a* concentrations along with pH, water temperature and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentrations in a variety of natural waters

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i> (µg L ⁻¹)		Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM (µg L ⁻¹ ; m)		DOC Epilimnion (µM C)	Hypolimnion	Reference
			Epilimnion	Hypolimnion		Epilimnion	Hypolimnion			
<i>Streams and rivers</i>										
Streams (n = 9)	-	-	0.0-12.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	Gao et al. (2004)
Temperate streams (USA)	-	-	0.4-170	-	-	-	-	-	-	van Nieuwenhuysse and Jones (1996)
Ozark Streams (USA)	-	-	0.5-44.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	Lohman and Jones (1999)
Chalk stream (UK)	-	-	0.5-17.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	Palmer-Felgate et al. (2008)
La Trobe River Streams (Victoria, Australia)	-	-	<65	-	-	-	-	-	-	Chessman (1985)
Streams and Rivers (USA)	-	-	1.0-97.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	Royer et al. (2008)
Streams and Rivers (Illinois, USA)	-	6.0-27.0	-00.0-18.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	Morgan et al. (2006)
Streams and Rivers (Paraná River basin; Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay)	6.74-7.78	11.7-21.5	0.14-216	-	-	-	-	-	-	Devercelli and Peruchet (2008)
Red River and its basin (USA)	-	-	0.1-263	-	-	-	-	-	-	Longing and Haggard (2010)
Rideau River (Ontario, Canada)	-	-	<27	-	-	-	-	-	-	Basu and Pick (1997)
Yukon River (Canada)	7.4-7.9	-	0.20-5.07	-	-	-	508-2835	-	-	Guéguen et al. (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i> Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)	DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
River Avon (Warwickshire, UK)	-	-	<100	-	-	-	-	Foster et al. (1997)
River Alne (Warwickshire, UK)	-	-	<280	-	-	-	-	Foster et al. (1997)
River Arrow (Warwickshire, UK)	-	-	<240	-	-	-	-	Foster et al. (1997) ^a
Jacupiranguinha and Pariquera-Açu Rivers	-	-	1.4–12.0	-	-	-	-	Calijuri et al. (2008)
<i>Lakes and reservoirs</i>								
Lake Hongfeng (Southwest China)	-	7.0–31.0	2.7–47.8 (0–8 m)	1.4–32.7 (10–25 m)	43.6–47.8; SCM (4–5 m)	170–250	134–237	Fu et al. (2010)
Lake Baihua (Southwest China)	-	6.5–25	4.1–65.5 (0–8 m)	1.4–41.0 (10–25 m)	58.7–65.5; SCM (0–2 m)	169–330	157–303	Fu et al. (2010)
Subtropical and urban shallow lakes (Wuhan, China)	6.8–9.1	3.7–31.6	2.1–189.8	-	-	-	-	Lu et al. (2011)
Lakes (38 Chinese lakes)	7.31–9.73 (8.67 ± 0.43)	13.3–28.3 (23.2 ± 2.69)	0.01–133.22	-	-	-	-	Zhang et al. (2007)
Lakes (3 Chinese lakes)	-	16.5–16.7 (mean)	0.85 ± 0.17–9.67 ± 2.25	-	-	-	-	Pan et al. (2009)
Lake Taihu (China)	-	5.0–30.0	~5.0–30.0	-	-	-	-	James et al. (2009) ^a , Liu et al. (2011)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i>		Hypolimnion (40–80 m)	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)		DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
			Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	–		–	–			
Lake Baiyangdian (China)	–	–	0.0–66.93	–	–	–	–	–	–	Wang et al. (2012)
Lake Biwa: (Japan)	–	–	0.5–12.3 (0–20 m)	0.1–3.9 (40–80 m)	9.4–12.3; SCM (2.5–10 m)	–	81.5–135.1	75.6–96.9	–	Mostofa et al. (unpublished data)
Lake Kizaki (Japan)	7.68–9.55	8.40–21.49	15.3–82.1 (2 m)	–	–	–	–	–	–	Yoshioka (1997)
Lakes (Japan)	–	–	0.2–189	–	–	–	–	–	–	Aizaki et al. (1981)
Lake Baikal (Russia)	–	0–17.9 (s)	0.5–5.8	–	<5.8; SCM (~10 m)	–	–	–	–	Satoh et al. (2006) ^a , Yuma et al. (2006)
Lake Baikal (Southern Basin) during late winter	–	0.40–0.84 (average)	0.67–2.0 (0–25 m)	–	–	–	–	–	–	Straškrabová et al. (2005)
Lake Victoria (Africa)	–	–	~15–110	–	–	–	–	–	–	Silsbe et al. (2006) ^a
Lake Victoria (Africa)	–	–	4.7–78.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Lake Tanganyika (Africa)	–	23–37 (surface layer)	0.1–4.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	Yuma et al. (2006)
Lake Malawi (Africa)	–	–	0.03–18.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Lakes (16 shallow Danish lakes)	–	–	33–276	–	–	–	–	–	–	Windolf et al. (1996)
Lakes (Lake Ánnsjön, Erken and Balaton, Sweden)	7.3–8.4	6–11.3	1.2–10 (1 m)	–	–	–	–	–	–	Kahlert (2002)
Lakes (Stechlin, Kleiner Väter, Großer Väter, Tiefwaren & Feldberger Haus)	–	–	0.7–175.9	–	–	–	–	–	–	Kasprzak et al. (2008)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i> Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)	DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
Lakes (Förchensee, Brunnensee, Klostersee, Langbürgenersee, Thalersee, Bausee)	-	-	0.2-53.4	-	-	-	-	Striebel et al. (2008)
Lake Krankesjön (Sweden)	-	-	10-60 (0-2 m)	-	-	-	-	Blindow et al. (2006)
Lake Börringesjön (Sweden)	-	-	60-145 (0-2 m)	-	-	-	-	Blindow et al. (2006)
Lake La Caldera (Southern Spain)	-	1.2-12.4	0.14-2.85	-	-	42	-	Carrillo et al. (2002)
Lake Cisó (Spain)	-	-	<850	-	850; SCM or DCM? (1.0-1.5 m)	-	-	Pedros-Alio et al. (1987)
Lake Arcas (Spain)	-	-	<298	-	298; SCM or DCM? (8-9 m)	-	-	Camacho (1997)
Lake El Tobar (Spain)	-	-	<90	-	90; SCM or DCM? (11-12 m)	-	-	Miracle et al. (1993); Camacho (2006)
Lake La Cruz (Spain)	-	-	<25	-	25; SCM or DCM? (10-12 m)	-	-	Rojo and Miracle (1987), Dasí and Miracle (1991)
Lake La Parra (Spain)	-	-	<15	-	15; SCM or DCM? (9 m)	-	-	Camacho et al. (2003)
Lake Lagunillo del Tejo (Spain)	-	-	<15	-	15; SCM or DCM? (4-11 m)	-	-	Vicente and Miracle (1984)
Lakes (26 lakes in Austria, Italy and Spain)	-	-	0.3-7.97	-	-	-	-	Laurion et al. (2002)
Amazon flood plain lakes (shallow lakes, 1-3 m)	-	-	8.2-89.2	-	-	-	-	de Moraes Novo et al. (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i>		Hypolimnion		DOC Epilimnion (µM C)	Reference
			Epilimnion (µg L ⁻¹)	Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM (µg L ⁻¹ ; m)	Epilimnion		
Lakes (New Zealand, n = 11)	-	-	0.39-4.38	-	-	-	25-833	Rae et al. (2001)
Lake Taupo (New Zealand)	-	11.1-20.6 (s); 10.6-11.1 (b)	0.75 (annual mean)	-	~3-6; SCM/DCM? (~10-40-85 m)	-	-	Hamilton et al. (2010) ^a
Lake Rotoma (New Zealand)	-	11.2-22.1 (s); 10.7-12.6 (b)	0.93 (annual mean)	-	~2-8; SCM/DCM? (~10-20, 75 m)	-	-	Hamilton et al. (2010) ^a
Lake Tarawera (New Zealand)	-	11.0-21.7 (s); 10.9-11.7 (b)	1.26 (annual mean)	-	~1-5.8; SCM/DCM? (~10-25; 25-30 m)	-	-	Hamilton et al. (2010) ^a
Lake Rotiti (New Zealand)	-	11.1-22.0 (s); 10.7-13.5 (b)	8.7 (annual mean)	-	~10-30; SCM/DCM? (~0-10, 50-90 m)	-	-	Hamilton et al. (2010) ^a
Lake Superior (USA)	-	-	0.57-1.3	-	-	110-119	-	Biddanda et al. (2001), Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Lake Superior (USA)	-	6.0-18.0	0.10-1.82 (0-80 m)	-	<1.82; DCM (23-35 m)	-	-	Barbiero and Tuchman (2004)
Lake Michigan (USA)	-	~3.0-24.0	-0.5-8.0 (0-70 m)	-	<~4; SCM? (15 m) or <~8.0; DCM (25-70 m)	-	-	Fahnenstiel and Scavia (1987) ^a
Lake Josephine (USA)	-	-	11.57	-	-	545	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Johanna (USA)	-	-	20.2	-	-	484	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Eagle (USA)	-	-	25.16	-	-	643	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Medicine (USA)	-	-	40.49	-	-	615	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Christmas (USA)	-	-	1.37	-	-	551	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i> Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)	DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
Lake Turtle (USA)	-	-	2.47	-	-	600	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Minnetonka (USA)	-	-	3.35	-	-	712	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Round (USA)	-	-	8.74	-	-	537	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Owasso (USA)	-	-	4.25	-	-	695	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Mitchell (USA)	-	-	52.7	-	-	784	-	Biddanda et al. (2001)
Lake Okeechobee (USA)	-	14.8–30.2 (monthly mean)	10.0–60.0	-	-	-	-	James et al. (2009) ^a
Lake Tahoe (USA)	-	~5.0–16.0	0.2–0.9 (0–100 m)	-	~0.9; DCM (40–60 m)	-	-	Winder et al. (2009) ^a
Lake Tahoe (USA)	-	~4–14	-0.1–0.7 (0–500 m)	-	~0.3–0.7; DCM (100, 320, 350 m)	-	-	Kiefer et al. (1972) ^a
Florida Lakes (n = 438)	-	-	2–265	-	-	-	-	Bachmann et al. (2003)
Yellow Belly Lake (USA)	-	~3–17 (4–9 at DCM)	0.7–3 (0–20 m)	-	~2–3; SCM? (~8–15 m)	-	-	Sawatzky et al. (2006)
Redfish Lake (USA)	-	-	<4.8	-	2.2–4.8; DCM (~18–35 m)	-	-	Gross et al. (1997) ^a
Lakes of the Experimental Lakes Area, northwestern Ontario (Canada)	-	4.0–20.0	~1.0–327 (0–15 m)	-	311; SCM or DCM? (5–7 m)	-	-	Fee (1976)
Quebec lakes (n = 8), Canada	-	-	1.5–6.9 (0.5–1.0 m)	-	-	233–625	-	McCallister and Del Giorgio (2008)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i> Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)	DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
Lakes (small sizes in Northwestern Ontario)	-	-	0.3-7.9	-	-	-	-	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Lakes (large sizes in Northwestern Ontario)	-	-	0.7-18.1	-	-	-	-	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Alpine lake (Gossenköllesee)	-	-	0.3-8.5 (0-9 m)	-	8.5; DCM? (9 m)	10-54.	-	Sommaruga and Augustin (2006)
High Arctic Lake (Canada)	~7.0-8.2	~1.0-8.45	0.03-0.23	-	-	-	-	Antoniades et al. (2009)
Atazar Reservoir (Spain)	-	-	<22	-	<22; SCM Or DCM (0-10 m)	-	-	Almodovar et al. (2004)
La Concepción Reservoir (Spain)	-	-	<58	-	<58; SCM Or DCM? (8-10 m)	-	-	Gálvez et al. (1988)
Forata Reservoir (Spain)	-	-	<15	-	15; SCM or DCM? (8 m)	-	-	Dasí et al. (1998)
Taechung Reservoir (South Korea)	-	-	2-173	-	-	-	-	An and Park (2002)
Stanford Reservoir (UK)	-	-	-0.0-9.19	-	-	-	-	Foster et al. (1997) ^a
Lower Bittel Reservoir (UK)	-	-	~<120	-	-	-	-	Foster et al. (1997) ^a
Draycote Reservoir (UK)	-	-	<200	-	-	-	-	Foster et al. (1997) ^a
Gorky Reservoir (Russia)	7.8-8.2	19.7-21.9	5.9-28.0	-	-	-	-	Mineeva et al. (2008)
Cheboksary Reservoir (Russia)	7.6-8.4	19.9-24.0	4.2-72.4	-	-	-	-	Mineeva et al. (2008)
Cheboksary Reservoir (Russia)	-	11.0-24.0	6.6 ± 0.7-239.8 ± 68.2	-	-	-	-	Mineeva and Abramova (2009)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i>		Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)		DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
			Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion		Epilimnion	Hypolimnion			
Upper Volga Chain of Reservoirs (Russia)	-	-	0.4–54.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sigareva and Pyrina (2006)
<i>Estuaries</i>										
Upper reach, Pearl River Estuary (China)	-	-	15.5–40.0	-	-	-	199–473	-	-	He et al. (2010)
Lower reach, Pearl River Estuary (China)	-	-	1.5–9.3	-	-	-	84–161	-	-	He et al. (2010)
Mixing zone, Pearl River Estuary (China)	-	-	1.2–14.6	-	-	-	165–278	-	-	He et al. (2010)
Changjiang (Yangtze River) Estuary (China)	-	18.0 (mean)	0.4–11.0	-	-	11.0; SCM (surface)	-	-	-	Zhu et al. (2009)
Patuxent River Estuary, USA	7.6–8.2	0.0–28.6	3.7–33.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	Stross and Stottlemeyer (1965)
Rhine Estuary (Germany, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, France, Netherlands)	-	-	0.5–5.1	-	-	-	142–258	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
Gironde Estuary	-	-	0.3–3.5	-	-	-	92–208	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
Thames Estuary	-	-	1.5–5.1	-	-	-	217–417	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
Elbe Estuary	-	-	3.2–8.9	-	-	-	258–367	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
Ems Estuary	-	-	4.5–5.4	-	-	-	425–592	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
Sado Estuary	-	-	1.6–13.8	-	-	-	300–525	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
Douro Estuary	-	-	2.0–5.0	-	-	-	158–208	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
Loire Estuary	-	-	5.1–60	-	-	-	200–292	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i>		Hypolimnion		Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM		DOC Epilimnion (µM C)	Hypolimnion	Reference
			Epilimnion (µg L ⁻¹)	Hypolimnion (µg L ⁻¹)	Epilimnion (µg L ⁻¹ ; m)	DCM (µg L ⁻¹ ; m)					
Scheldt Estuary	-	-	1.2–220	-	-	-	183–517	-	-	-	Abril et al. (2002)
European Estuaries (n = 9)	-	-	0.2–220	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Lemaire et al. (2002)
Estuaries: Chesapeake Bay	-	-	9–77.4 (surface)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Gitelson et al. (2007)
Delaware Estuary	-	-	15–60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Pennock (1985)
The Exe Estuary SPA	-	-	>101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Langston et al. (2003)
North Carolina estuaries (n = 6)	-	-	0–184	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mallin (1994)
Neuse River Estuary	-	~10.0–30.0	-0.0–80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Gaulke et al. (2010)
Estuary, Bedford Basin (Canada)	-	-	0.58–18.02	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Craig et al. (2012)
Temperate Estuaries (n = 7)	-	-	4.0–23.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Hauxwell et al. (2003)
<i>Coastal and open oceans</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow Sea (Southern region)	-	~9.0–20.0	0.06–152	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Li et al. (2007)
East China Sea	-	15–24.0	-0.06–3.2 (3–70 m)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Hung et al. (2000), Gong et al. (2000)
East China Sea surrounding Cheju Island	-	12.0–28	0.08–4.14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Kim et al. (2009)
Subtropical coastal waters (Hong Kong)	-	15.0–30.6	0.6–14.5 (0.0–10 m)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Chen et al. (2011)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i>		Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)	DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
			Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion					
Bay of Bengal, Inshore to offshore waters (Bangladesh-India)	-	-	0.1-2.5 (0-250 m)	-	-	2.5; SCM (0-10 m); 0.5-0.8; DCM (60-80 m)	-	-	Gomes et al. (2000) ^a
Southwest coastal waters (India)	-	23.8-27.8	0.04-8.3 (0-45 m)	-	-	8.3; SCM (5 m)	-	-	Roy et al. (2006)
Concepción Bay (Chile)	-	-	1.0-25	-	-	-	-	-	Gonzalez et al. (1989), Ahumada et al. (1991)
Mejillones Bay (Chile)	-	-	1.0-35	-	-	-	-	-	Iriarte and González (2004)
Inner Sea of Chiloé and austral fjord (Chile)	-	-	0.1-40	-	-	-	-	-	Dellarossa (1998), Pizarro et al. (2000)
Coastal waters, Inner Sea of Chiloé (Chile)	-	~10.0-17.0	0.0-32	-	-	-	-	-	Iriarte et al. (2007)
Upwelling seawaters of northern Chile	-	14.4-22.1	0.2-16.8	-	-	-	-	-	Morales et al. (1996)
The Kattagat, shallow marginal sea	-	~14.7	1.27-2.98	-	-	-	-	-	Carstensen et al. (2004)
Chesapeake Bay (USA)	-	-	0.2-23.3	-	-	-	100-341	-	Rochelle-Newall and Fisher (2002)
Scotian Shelf	-	-	0.5-5.6	-	-	-	-	-	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Continental Slope	-	-	00.01-1.1	-	-	-	-	-	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Southwest Florida Shelf (Shark River: Sts 26-30)	-	-	3.66-4.57	-	-	-	391-671	-	Clark et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i>		Hypolimnion		DOC Epilimnion (µM C)	Hypolimnion	Reference
			Epilimnion (µg L ⁻¹)	Epilimnion (µg L ⁻¹ ; m)	SCM and DCM (µg L ⁻¹ ; m)	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM			
Southwest Florida Shelf (Caloosahatchee River: Sts 51-55)	-	-	4.41-11.60	-	-	-	419-1425	-	Clark et al. (2004)
Southwest Florida Shelf (Charlotte Harbor/Peace River: Sts 62-68)	-	-	0.97-15.54	-	-	-	165-966	-	Clark et al. (2004)
Southwest Florida Shelf (Gulf of Mexico: St 73)	-	-	0.38	-	-	-	146	-	Clark et al. (2004)
California Current System, seawater	-	~12-22	0.06-15.23 (mean)	-	<7.33; SCM (0-11 m)	-	-	-	Millán-Núñez et al. (1996) ^a
California Current System, seawater	-	~12-22	0.06-15.23 (mean)	-	~1.17-6.45; DCM (31-78 m)	-	-	-	Millán-Núñez et al. (1996) [*]
Scotia Sea (near South Georgia)	-	-	0.06-14.6	-	-	-	-	-	Holm-Hansen et al. (2004)
Gulf of St. Lawrence (Canada)	-	-	0.13-10.88	-	-	-	-	-	Doyon et al. (2000)
Gulf of Mexico (North-central location)	-	21.1-32.0	0.7-5.9 ± 1.5 (~<20 m)	-	-	-	-	-	Grippo et al. (2010)
Bohai Sea at station (38.1 N, 119.5E)	-	~24.7-25.6	~1-2 (~0-20 m)	-	~1.9; SCM or DCM? (5-6 m)	-	-	-	Xiu et al. (2009)
Sargasso Sea	-	-	0.03-0.5	-	-	-	-	-	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
Baltic Sea	-	12.0-24.0	1.0-12.5	-	-	-	-	-	Seppälä et al. (2007)
Bering Sea (Southeast region)	-	1.5-10.5	0.40-4.45 (4-30 m)	-	-	-	-	-	Olson and Strom (2002)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i>		Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)	DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
			Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion					
Alboran Sea (North-western region) or W-Mediterranean)	-	14.0-18.0	0.4 ± 0.3-148 ± 63.1 (0-200 m)	-	-	-	-	Reul et al. (2005)	
Arabian Sea	-	~20-30	~0.0-2.1	-	-	-	-	Kinkade et al. (2001)	
Arabian Sea (Eastern region)	-	20.6-29.4	0.17-2.080	-	7.52; SCM or DCM? (~10-15 m)	-	-	Parab et al. (2006)	
Black Sea (Southwestern region)	-	~8.0-18.05	0.0-1.7	-	~1.7; SCM (0-15 m)	-	-	Ediger et al. (2006) ^a	
Eastern North Pacific marine water	-	~11-28	-0.1-0.31	-	~ < 0.33-1.0; DCM (~60-75 m)	-	-	Hopkinson and Barbeau (2008) ^a	
Central Atlantic Ocean	-	-	0.02-0.88	-	0.23-0.88; DCM (50-139 m)	-	-	Plamas et al. (1999)	
Atlantic subtropical gyres	-	-	0.06 ± 0.01-0.09 ± 0.01 (surface)	-	0.29 ± 0.01-0.34 ± 0.02; DCM (93 ± 3-119 ± 4 m)	-	-	Pérez et al. (2006)	
Atlantic Ocean	-	-	0.1-4.0	-	-	-	-	Gibb et al. (2000)	
Atlantic Ocean	-	13.8-27.3 (mean)	0.13-0.96 (mean)	-	-	-	-	Calbet et al. (2009)	
North Atlantic Ocean	-	-	0.0-17.0	-	<17; SCM (0.0-30 m); DCM (40-100 m)	-	-	Li and Harrison (2001) ^a	
North Atlantic Sub-tropical Gyral East province	-	-	~0.0-0.6	-	<0.6; DCM (80-110 m)	-	-	Li and Harrison (2001) ^a	
North Pacific Subtropical-Gyre	-	-	<0.12-1.08	-	0.12-1.08; DCM (100-136 m)	-	-	Letelier et al. (2004)	
Western equatorial Pacific Ocean	-	-	0.1-0.4	-	0.4; DCM (74-96 m)	-	-	Mackey et al. (1995)	

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i> Epilimnion ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)	Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; m)	DOC Epilimnion ($\mu\text{M C}$)	Hypolimnion	Reference
Pacific Ocean (North-west region)	-	2.4-14.8	0.37-17.0	-	-	-	-	Isada et al. (2010)
Pacific Ocean (western subarctic region)	-	~3.0-8.0	~0.1-30 (0-200 m)	-	-	-	-	Sasaoka et al. (2002) ^a
<i>Arctic and Antarctic ice waters</i>								
Barents and Greenland Sea ice (Arctic Ocean)	-	-	<86 (ice)	-	-	-	-	Mock and Gradinger (1999)
Dumbell Bay, Arctic Ocean	-	(-)1.7 to (+)1.9	0.5-8.2 (1-25 m)	-	8.2; SCM (5 m)	-	-	Apollonio (1980)
Arctic coastal waters (Summer and Winter)	-	(-)1.8 \pm 0 to (+)4.1 \pm 1.3	0.06 \pm 0.01-0.48 \pm 0.11 (2 m)	-	-	-	-	Cottrell and Kirchman (2009)
Barents Sea (Arctic Ocean)	-	-	<0.11-2.27	-	<2.27; SCM? (2.5-32 m)	-	-	Norrbin et al. (2009)
Central Arctic Ocean	-	-	0.1-297 (ice)	0.1-5.2 (water)	-	70-208	-	Wheeler et al. (1996)
Arctic Ocean	-	-	0.2-7.8	-	-	-	-	Guildford and Hecky (2000)
South Shetland Islands (Antarctica)	-	0.0-2.4	<0.6-4.0 (<70 m)	-	-	-	-	Hewes et al. (2009)
Gerlache and south Bransfield Straits (Antarctic Peninsula)	-	-	~<25 (0-70 m)	-	-	-	-	Varela et al. (2002)
Coastal seawater ice, Antarctic Ocean	-	(-)2 to (+)1.0	0.45-4.03 (surface)	-	-	-	-	Verlencar et al. (1990)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Sampling	pH	Water temperature (°C)	Chl <i>a</i> Epilimnion (µg L ⁻¹)	Hypolimnion	Chl <i>a</i> and depth in SCM and DCM (µg L ⁻¹ ; m)	DOC Epilimnion (µM C)	Hypolimnion	Reference
Oceanic seawater, Antarctic Ocean	-	(-)2 to (+)0.5	0.19-0.43 (surface)	-	-	-	-	Verencar et al. (1990)
Antarctica ice seawater (control and light perturbation experiment)	-	-	3.54 ± 1.00-111 ± 30	-	-	-	-	Palmisano et al. (1985)
Southern Ocean (Antarctic marine waters)	-	(-) (0.3 to 1.4)	-0.87-30.0 (experimental growth)	-	-	-	-	Spies (1987)
Southern Ocean (Antarctic marine waters)	-	-	10.0-50.0 (experimental growth)	-	-	-	-	Sakshang and Holm-Hansen (1986)

SCM surface Chlorophyll *a* maximum; DCM deep chlorophyll *a* maximum; S surface temperature; b bottom temperature; ? remark either SCM or DCM which reasonably formed in water column

^aSome data used approximately which are taken from the graphs of the related paper

SCM is often observed in coastal seawater and subsequently decreases in the offshore direction, whereas DCM is increased along the offshore direction with its enhanced depth (Millán-Núñez et al. 1996; Hayward et al. 1995; Maranón et al. 2004). Chl *a* values are quite high in SCM in coastal seawater, and decrease much more rapidly in the offshore direction (Millán-Núñez et al. 1996; Echevin et al. 2004). The occurrence of SCM in coastal seawater is possibly responsible for the high contents of DOM and nutrients, which is a general phenomenon in coastal environments. High contents of DOM can protect surface waters against sunlight exposure (Laurion et al. 2000; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008), and the photoproducts generated from photoinduced degradation of DOM and POM can enhance photosynthesis. The consequence is SCM formation in surface waters. For similar reasons, SCM is limited at the epilimnion (~0–5 m) in Lake Kinneret, Lake Hongfeng (4–5 m), Lake Baihua (0–2 m); Lake Biwa (2.5–10 m) and Lake Baikal (~0–30 m, with a peak at 10 m). DOC concentrations are quite higher (258–485 $\mu\text{M C}$) in Lake Kinneret compared to Lake Hongfeng (134–250 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–25 m), Lake Baihua (157–330 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–25 m), Lake Biwa (76–135 $\mu\text{M C}$ at 0–80 m), and Lake Baikal (88–142 at 0–1,620 m) (Table 1) (Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data; Satoh et al. 2006; Yacobi 2006; Berman et al. 1995; Yoshioka et al. 2002, 2007; Annual Report 2004; Sugiyama et al. 2004; Yuma et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2005). The overall penetration depth in Lake Kinneret was on average 1.77 m, and the uppermost layer is supposed to be representative of the entire euphotic zone (Yacobi 2006). Therefore, it is suggested that DOM and mechanical perturbation of surface waters (e.g., by wind, waves and storms), which also depends on the depth and size of the water ecosystem (particularly for lakes), are the two key factors for SCM formation.

Lakes having high water temperature (WT) often exhibit the SCM in the epilimnion, such as Lake Hongfeng (10.9–47.8 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ at 4–5 m and 15.3–31.0 °C), Lake Baihua (15.0–65.5 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ at 0–2 m and 15.3–31.0 °C), Lake Biwa (2.0–12.3 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ at 2.5–10 m and 11.6–28.7 °C), Lake Kinneret (95 % of Chl *a* at 0–5 m and 15–30 °C), Lake Baikal (0.7–5.8 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ at 0–30 m and 16.5–17.9 °C); Lake Malawi (0.03–18.7 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ at upper mixing layer and ~40 °C); Lake Victoria (4.7–78.5 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ at upper mixing layer and 25–29 °C) and Lakes of Experimental Lakes Area (<311–327 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ at 5–7 m and 4–20 °C) (Table 1) (Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa K et al. unpublished data; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Satoh et al. 2006; Yacobi 2006; Fee 1976; Berman et al. 1995; Mostofa et al. 2005). Therefore, high contents of DOM in surface water under high WT, driven by strong sunlight, can photochemically decompose DOM and POM to produce high amounts of DIC, CO₂, and H₂O₂. These species are directly linked with occurrence of high photosynthesis and high primary production. Moreover, in mesocosm experiments it has been observed that increasing DOM concentrations from ~10 mg C. L⁻¹ to ~20 mg C. L⁻¹ had a negative effect on total phytoplankton growth. The most likely explanation is the reduction of irradiance because of radiation absorption by DOM (Klug 2002).

DOC concentrations are relatively low in the offshore direction, which may afford easy penetration of sunlight (UVR) that can reach the deeper layers. This issue may

increase the photosynthetic layer depth in the water column, i.e. increase the DCM depth. A significant contribution to Chl *a* may come from phytoplankton in deeper layers, in the case of a low-DOC lake water when UV attenuation increases with Chl *a* concentrations (Laurion et al. 2000). Moreover, the mixing depth can play an important role in SCM or DCM formation in lakes or oceans. A low mixing depth can often induce SCM formation, whilst high mixing depth can cause DCM formation. For example, SCM formation (~0–15 m) occurs when mixed-layer depth is low (3–15 m), whilst DCM formation (~65 m) takes place when the mixed-layer depth is high (e.g. 33 m in East China Sea) (Hung et al. 2000).

The Chl *a* concentrations in Lake Biwa are several times (~15–24) higher at the epilimnion (0–10 m), compared to those of deeper layers (40 and 70 m) during the summer stratification period (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). SCM is often observed during autumn, e.g. November in 1999 and October in 2000 at the epilimnion. Chl concentration largely fluctuates and it is lower during the summer stratification period compared to early spring and autumn seasons (Fig. 3a) (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). The low Chl *a* contents in SCM and its fluctuation during the summer stratification period is presumably caused by photodegradation induced by strong sunlight, coupled with high WT (maximum 28.7 °C). However, an early bloom in 2000 compared to 1999 was probably caused by a longer summer period. WT was 26.8 to 21.9 °C during September–October in 1999, which is lower compared to 2000 (WT: 23.6 to 19.5 °C at the same time).

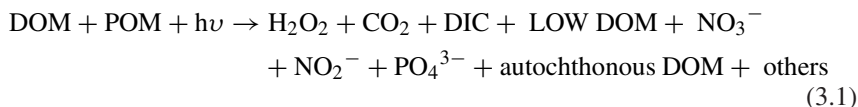
Moreover, reduction of water clarity through eutrophication can cause a shift in phytoplankton distributions, from a DCM in spring or summer to a SCM within the surface mixed layer. This may happen when the depth of the euphotic zone is consistently shallower than the depth of the surface mixed layer (Hamilton et al. 2010). Such a SCM, which is susceptible to occur because of high primary production in spring or summer, is initially caused by the photoinduced generation of photoproducts in waters. Simultaneously, the decrease of primary production because of photoinduced degradation does not predominantly occur during that period. Therefore, the new primary production may prevail over photoinduced degradation processes. The DOM that is generated as a consequence of the high primary production can substantially absorb sunlight and cause the depth of the euphotic zone to be shallow.

These results may suggest that two important phenomena account for the occurrence of SCM and DCM in natural waters: First, waters with high contents of DOM and POM can have intense solar radiation in the surface layer. In contrast, photoproducts (DIC, CO₂, H₂O₂, and so on) are generated photochemically under high WT (caused by strong sunlight) from DOM and POM. They are responsible for the occurrence of high photosynthesis, with the consequence that high primary production can form SCM in surface waters. The second phenomenon is that water with low contents of DOM and POM lets sunlight to penetrate in the deeper water layer. Photoinduced or microbial products (DIC, CO₂, H₂O₂, nutrients, and so on) are generated from DOM and POM and are responsible for occurrence of photosynthesis. As a consequence, enhanced primary production at depth can produce DCM in deep water. The two described phenomena are extensively discussed in the next sections.

3.1.1 Mechanism of SCM Formation

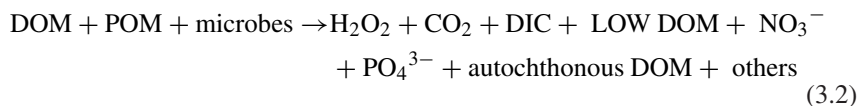
SCM is driven by sunlight and it is formed during the summer stratification period in waters with high contents of DOM and POM and high temperature. High contents of DOM (of both allochthonous and autochthonous origin) and POM (e.g. algae) along with Chl *a* or phytoplankton, together with incident light wavelengths or solar zenith angle are the main limiting factors for sunlight in the surface layer (see also chapter “Colored and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) in Natural Waters” for detailed description) (Laurion et al. 2000; Hayakawa and Sugiyama 2008; Markager and Vincent 2000; Belzile et al. 2002; Shank et al. 2005; Zhao et al. 2009). High contents of DOM and POM are thus responsible for having most of the sunlight intensity in the upper surface layer. Therefore, most of the photoinduced degradation processes would occur in the surface layers or in epilimnion. OM including DOM and POM is one of the key factors that can produce nutrients (NO_3^- , NH_4^+ and PO_4^{3-}) and various photo- and microbial products (H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, LMW DOM, and so on) (see also chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”, “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look” and “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters”) (Zepp et al. 1987; Palenik et al. 1987; Palenik and Morel 1988; Cooper and Lean 1992; Miller and Zepp 1995; Bushaw et al. 1996; Graneli et al. 1996, 1998; Miller and Moran 1997; Sarthou et al. 1997; Gao and Zepp 1998; Jørgensen et al. 1998; Bertilsson et al. 1999; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000; Anesio and Granéli 2003; Scully et al. 2003; Obernosterer and Benner 2004; Ma and Green 2004; Croot et al. 2005; Molot et al. 2005; Johannessen et al. 2007; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Finlay et al. 2009; Stets et al. 2009; Jiao et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2010; Lohrenz et al. 2010; Omar et al. 2010; White et al. 2010; Zepp et al. 2011; Borges et al. 2008). All these species can influence photosynthesis directly and indirectly in waters.

Photoinduced degradation of DOM and POM (e.g. degradation of phytoplankton) can be described as follows:



where DIC is usually defined as the sum of an equilibrium mixture of dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-} .

Microbial degradation of DOM and POM is as follows:



The mechanism behind the formation of SCM might be that H_2O_2 , photogenerated intracellularly in a photosynthetic cell or extracellularly from DOM and POM in surface waters can induce photosynthesis in the presence of CO_2 or DIC (dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , CO_3^{2-}). Dependence of photosynthesis by aquatic microorganisms on OM (DOM and POM) is extensively documented in the literature (see

Sect. 5.5, chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). It has recently been shown that dissolved O_2 is significantly related to benthic or sestonic Chl concentration (Heiskary and Markus 2003; Miltner 2010). Moreover, a 10 mg L^{-1} difference between daytime and nighttime dissolved O_2 concentrations was observed at an enriched site, where benthic Chl *a* levels exceeded 500 mg m^{-2} (Sabater et al. 2000). Variation in dissolved O_2 concentration forced by algal respiration is an important link between increasing nutrients and decreasing biological quality, as shown in a study of medium to large rivers (Heiskary and Markus 2003). These findings are consistent with the hypothesis that photoinduced formation of H_2O_2 from dissolved O_2 may be involved in SCM formation or primary production. Correspondingly, when cyanobacterial blooms are accumulated as scums in surface waters, prolonged exposure to UV radiation can cause enhanced carotenoid production, which can subsequently increase Chl *a*-specific photosynthetic production of O_2 (Jeffrey et al. 1997).

3.2 Deep Chl *a* Maximum

The Deep Chl *a* maximum (DCM) is a well-known phenomenon occurring in the presence of maximal Chl *a* contents in the deeper layer of the euphotic zone of the water column (Table 1) (Fennel and Boss 2003; Letelier et al. 2004; Huisman et al. 2006; Steele and Yentsch 1960; Anderson 1969; Klausmeier and Litchman 2001; Hodges and Rudnick 2004; Beckmann and Hense 2007; Hense and Beckmann 2008; Ryabov et al. 2010; Pérez et al. 2007; Gomes et al. 2000; Camacho 2006; Sawatzky et al. 2006; Fee 1976; Kiefer et al. 1972; Cullen 1982; Moll and Stoermer 1982; Abbott et al. 1984; Pick et al. 1984; Steinhart et al. 1994; Varela et al. 1994; Budy et al. 1995; Ediger and Yilmaz 1996; Gross et al. 1997; Goericke and Welschmeyer 1998; Marañón et al. 2000; Wurtsbaugh et al. 2001; Cuny et al. 2002; Pérez et al. 2002; Tittel et al. 2003; Barbiero and Tuchman 2004; Chapin et al. 2004; Holm-Hansen and Hewes 2004; Park et al. 2004; Ghai et al. 2010; Johnson et al. 2010; Harrison and Smith 2011; Mellard et al. 2011). According to these studies, DCM can be defined as a zone of maximum photosynthetic activity with highest Chl *a* contents. It is usually a region lacking a pronounced density gradient, generally occurring in or below the thermocline (the metalimnion). It is a stable and common feature occurring in the presence of sufficient light and nutrients under low temperature and low turbulence, and it is a remarkable characteristic of clear water with low nutrients in the deep layer, particularly in lakes and oceans. The DCM is a stable feature in tropical waters whilst it is a seasonal phenomenon in the Mediterranean and other temperate waters, following seasonal changes in incident light intensity and nutrient conditions (Letelier et al. 2004; Huisman et al. 2006; Ghai et al. 2010). The DCM is found to vary from 20 to 350 m in lakes and from 30 to 139 m in oceans (Table 1).

DCM is entirely different in Lake Superior and Lake Michigan. It is observed in the upper hypolimnion at a depth of 23–35 m in Lake Superior, whilst its depth in Lake Michigan changes seasonally. Depth varies from 15 to 30 m during early thermal stratification primarily in June, to 25–50 m by mid-stratification in July,

and finally reaches 40–70 m in August (Barbiero and Tuchman 2004; Moll et al. 1984; Fahnenstiel and Scavia 1987). It has been shown that WT is relatively higher (3–24 °C) in Lake Michigan than in Lake Superior (6–18 °C), and high WT along with DOM contents may affect the DCM depth variation in Lake Michigan. Redfish Lake and other Sawtooth Valley (Idaho) lakes had DCM with mean Chl *a* peaks reaching 240–1,000 % of the mean epilimnetic Chl *a* concentrations. The DCM can be present at low light levels and account for 36.72 % of the lake primary production (Gross et al. 1997). The Sawtooth Valley lakes have DCM Chl values that can be up to 10 times higher in the metalimnia and hypolimnia than in the epilimnia (Steinhart et al. 1994; Budy et al. 1995). The DCM in the Sawtooth Valley lakes are located at depths where the light levels are near or below 1 % of surface light (Gross et al. 1997).

Seasonal changes in mixing and light intensity can produce a seasonal reset of Chl distributions, which can alter the DCM or SCM formation and ablation as a regime shift (Hense and Beckmann 2008; Hamilton et al. 2010; Abbott et al. 1984; Vincent 1983; Vincent et al. 1984; Marshall and Peters 1989; Bayley et al. 2007; Carpenter et al. 2003). Three different ‘regimes’ can occur during the seasonal occurrence of a DCM in Lake Tahoe, with transitions alternatively controlled by diffusion, nutrient supply and light (Abbott et al. 1984). Seasonal changes of DCM in the water column can depend on the depth of light penetration, which can largely affect DCM depth during the summer stratification period (Hamilton et al. 2010). Seasonal variations in the water-column attenuation coefficient of the photosynthetically available radiation (PAR) can shift the 1 % sea-surface PAR depth from approximately 105 m in winter to 121 m in summer, in the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre (Letelier et al. 2004). Such a seasonal depth shift of isolumes (constant daily integrated photon flux strata) can also be increased to 31 m due to the added effect of changes in sea-surface PAR (Letelier et al. 2004). Such a discrepancy can induce a significant deepening of the DCM during the summer period, with a concomitant increase in Chl *a* (Letelier et al. 2004).

The DCM phytoplankton contains higher amounts of phosphorus than for the epilimnion, which is likely caused by the rapid photochemical degradation of SCM phytoplankton in epilimnion. Nutrient-rich DCM might be useful as a food source for grazers, including deep-living calanoid copepods that may have a substantial impact on total lake phytoplankton productivity (Barbiero and Tuchman 2004; Moll et al. 1984). The DCM also releases the new DOM and nutrients in the hypolimnion under microbial assimilation (Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Maurin et al. 1997; Yamashita and Tanoue 2008). Phytoplankton from DCM do not show marked differences from epilimnetic communities in taxonomy or nutrient status, but can exhibit substantially higher photosynthetic impairment under UVR exposure (Harrison and Smith 2011). This suggests that epilimnetic phytoplankton can be acclimated to in situ light conditions in a spectrally-specific manner, and that ultraviolet-A radiation may be a stronger stressor than ultraviolet-B or photosynthetically active radiation in the mixed layers of lakes (Harrison and Smith 2011). DCM has varying characteristics that suggest multiple processes contributing to its formation and maintenance in lakes and oceans (Anderson 1969; Steele 1964; Hobson and Lorenzen 1972).

3.2.1 Mechanism of DCM Formation

It has been shown that DCM is generally developed in clear water at low temperature. The main effect of these conditions result is the penetration of radiation into deep water, in which case photosynthesis can enhance the primary production and produce the DCM in deeper water. The mechanism behind DCM formation is presumably that H_2O_2 and HCO_3^- produced in the DCM water layer are susceptible to take part in phytoplankton photosynthesis. It has been shown that DIC (dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , CO_3^{2-}) is mostly produced from particulate organic matter (POM: e.g. algae or cyanobacteria) and DOM microbiologically in natural waters as well as under in situ experiments (Ma and Green 2004; Finlay et al. 2009; Stets et al. 2009; Jiao et al. 2010). Correspondingly, most H_2O_2 can be produced either from algae (cyanobacteria or phytoplankton or biota) or from DOM, by several biological or photochemical processes (see also chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” for more references and description) (Palenik et al. 1987; Palenik and Morel 1988; Cooper and Lean 1992; Sarthou et al. 1997; Croot et al. 2005; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zepp et al. 1987; Angel et al. 1999; Wentworth et al. 2000; Wentworth et al. 2001; Moreno 2012; Moffett and Zafriou 1990). Such processes are: (i) extracellular phenomena, (ii) biological processes such as glycolate oxidation during photorespiration, (iii) enzymatic reduction of oxygen at the cell surface, and (iv) microbial degradation of DOM under dark incubation. Most phytoplankton cells have the enzyme superoxide dismutase (SOD), which can catalyse the conversion of superoxide to H_2O_2 . This is one of the many biological reactions that produce H_2O_2 in seawater (Croot et al. 2005).

In a field study, dark production of H_2O_2 was highest at 40–60 m depth and the corresponding DCM was detected at 90 m. The finding suggests that photosynthesis, which causes the DCM may reduce the dark production of H_2O_2 at 90 m depth (Palenik and Morel 1988). Simultaneously, the increase in pigment production caused by phytoplankton under the low-light conditions of the DCM layer (Steele 1964; Hobson and Lorenzen 1972; Kiefer et al. 1976) may lead to high contents of H_2O_2 and contribute to DCM formation. Note that pigments made up of Chls can rapidly absorb light energy upon irradiation. Radiation absorption can excite an electron to form the superoxide radical anion ($\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$) and then H_2O_2 (see chapters “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look” and “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”). The H_2O_2 concentration increase at the depth of the Chl maximum is possibly due to biological production (Croot et al. 2005). The formation of H_2O_2 by phytoplankton in the DCM layer can be supported by the observation that *Chattonella marina*, a harmful algal bloom species, is capable of producing reactive oxygen species (ROS) including $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$, H_2O_2 , and HO^\bullet at levels 100 times higher than those produced by most algae (Marshall et al. 2002; Oda et al. 1998). ROS are often produced as by-products of various metabolic pathways localized in mitochondria, chloroplasts, and peroxisomes (see also chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”) (Apel and Hirt 2004). The presence of the cyanobacterium *Microcystis* sp. can produce

a buildup of apoptosis-inducing ROS in the competing dinoflagellate *Peridinium gatunense* (Vardi et al. 2002). A distinct H_2O_2 maximum at depth in the Southern Ocean can correspond to a DCM, which also suggest a significant biological source of H_2O_2 (Sarhou et al. 1997; Croot et al. 2005). The decay of H_2O_2 apparently follows first-order kinetics (Petasne and Zika 1997; Yuan and Shiller 2001) and is biologically mediated by small microorganisms (Petasne and Zika 1997).

Filtration of seawater to remove the biota typically produces a dramatic reduction in the decay rate of H_2O_2 (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990; Petasne and Zika 1997; Fujiwara et al. 1993), whilst the amount of colloidal material influences the decay rate (Yuan and Shiller 2001). H_2O_2 may be concentrated by particulate organic matter or small fungi through rapid transpiration (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003). The decay process of H_2O_2 can be explained in two ways: one is the uptake possible of H_2O_2 by microorganisms during photosynthesis, the other is the decomposition of H_2O_2 by catalases and peroxidases bound to microorganisms. Catalases and peroxidase can enzymatically activate H_2O_2 to detoxify it to H_2O (see also chapter “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters”) (Moffett and Zafiriou 1990). Moreover, conversion of H_2O_2 to H_2O by catalases and peroxidases could play a key role in photosynthesis and needs further study to clarify the possible links. Note that dark reduction of CO_2 may take place because of the electrons that are released by organic molecules and sulfide (Jagannathan and Golbeck 2009). Some important phenomena relevant to this context are extensively discussed in the photosynthesis chapter (“Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”).

3.3 Changes in the Chl *a* Concentrations in Natural Waters

Chl *a* concentrations undergo significant variations in the water column, which can be seasonal, spatial and temporal depending on various factors that characterize water (Bianchi et al. 2002; Sommaruga and Augustin 2006; Biggs 2000; de Moraes Novo et al. 2006; Duan and Bianchi 2006; Lewis et al. 2010).

Streams and Rivers

Chl *a* concentrations range from 0.0 to $280 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in streams and rivers (Table 1) (Miltner 2010; Chessman 1985; Lohman and Jones 1999; van Nieuwenhuysse and Jones 1996; Basu and Pick 1997; Gao et al. 2004; Guéguen et al. 2006; Morgan et al. 2006; Devercelli and Peruchet 2008; Palmer-Felgate et al. 2008; Royer et al. 2008; Longing and Haggard 2010; Calijuri et al. 2008). The highest Chl *a* concentrations in freshwater riverine ecosystems are in the order of $<280 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in River Alne (Warwickshire, UK); $<263 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Red River and its basin (USA); $<240 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in River Arrow (Warwickshire, UK); $<216 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Paraná River basin (South America); $<170 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in temperate streams (USA); $<100 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$

in River Avon (Warwickshire, UK); $<97 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in streams and rivers (USA); $<65 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in La Trobe River Streams (Victoria, Australia); $<44.6 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Ozark Streams (Missouri, USA); $<27 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Rideau River (Ontario, Canada); $<18.0 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in sStreams and rivers (Illinois, USA); $<17 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Chalk stream (UK); and $0.0\text{--}12.7 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in other studied systems (Table 1).

Chl *a* mostly results from in-channel production rather than from tributary or outside inputs. Chl *a* concentrations in the Pearl River are high only during summer low-flow periods and are often controlled by temperature and by CDOM concentration (Duan and Bianchi 2006). Lower phytoplankton biomass (dominated by chlorophytes) in the Pearl River is likely linked with intense shading by CDOM and lower availability of nutrient inputs (Duan and Bianchi 2006). High concentrations of Chl *a* ($0.4\text{--}170 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) are strongly correlated with high contents of phosphorus ($5\text{--}1,030 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in temperate streams (van Nieuwenhuysse and Jones 1996). Chl *a* concentrations in the lower Mississippi River are high in summer low-flow periods and also during interims of winter and spring. They are not coupled with physical variables or nutrients, likely due to a combination of in situ production and inputs from reservoirs, navigation locks and oxbow lakes in the upper Mississippi River and Missouri River (Duan and Bianchi 2006). The high, diatom-dominated phytoplankton biomass in the lower Mississippi River is likely the result of decreasing total suspended solids (because of increased damming in the watershed) and increasing nutrients (due to enhanced agricultural runoff) over the past few decades (Duan and Bianchi 2006).

Lakes and Reservoirs

Chl *a* concentrations are significantly variable, from 0.01 to $850 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in a variety of lakes (Table 1) (Carrillo et al. 2002; Kasprzak et al. 2008; Fu et al. 2010; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data; Vicente and Miracle 1984; Pedros-Alio et al. 1987; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Camacho 2006; Satoh et al. 2006; Sawatzky et al. 2006; Hamilton et al. 2010; Fee 1976; Sommaruga and Augustin 2006; Yuma et al. 2006; Kiefer et al. 1972; Gross et al. 1997; Barbiero and Tuchman 2004; Fahnenstiel and Scavia 1987; de Moraes Novo et al. 2006; Aizaki et al. 1981; Rojo and Miracle 1987; Dasí and Miracle 1991; Miracle et al. 1993; Windolf et al. 1996; Camacho 1997; Yoshioka 1997; Biddanda et al. 2001; Kahlert 2002; Laurion et al. 2002; Bachmann et al. 2003; Camacho et al. 2003; Straškrábová et al. 2005; Blindow et al. 2006; Silsbe et al. 2006; McCallister and del Giorgio 2008; Striebel et al. 2008; Antoniadou et al. 2009; James et al. 2009; Pan et al. 2009; Winder et al. 2009; Lv et al. 2011; Wang et al. 2012; Liu et al. 2011; Zhang et al. 2007; Rae et al. 2001). These studies demonstrate that the highest detected Chl *a* concentrations can be ordered as follows: $<850 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Lake Cisó (Spain); $<327 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in lakes of the Experimental Lakes Area (northwestern Ontario, Canada); $<298 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Lake Arcas (Spain); $<276 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in several shallow Danish lakes; $<265 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in numerous Florida Lakes; $<189.8 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Subtropical and urban shallow Lakes (Wuhan, China); $<189 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in several lakes in Japan; $<175.9 \mu\text{g}$

L^{-1} in several lakes in Germany; $<145 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Böttingesjön (Sweden); $<133.22 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in several Chinese lakes; $<110 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Victoria; $<90 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake El Tobar (Spain); $<89.2 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Amazon flood plain lakes (shallow lakes: 1–3 m depth); $<82.1 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Kizaki (Japan); $<66.93 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Baiyangdian (China); $<65.5 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Hongfeng and Lake Baihua (China); $<60 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Okeechobee (USA) and Lake Krankesjön (Sweden); $53.4 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Bansee (Germany); $52.7 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Mitchell (USA); $40.49 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Medicine (Canada); $<30 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Taihu (China); $26.9 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Thalersee (Germany); $25.16 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Eagle (Canada); $<25 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake La Cruz (Spain); $20.2 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Johanna; $<18.7 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Malawi (Africa); $<18.1 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in large Northwestern Ontario lakes; $<15 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake La Parra and Lake Lagunillo del Tejo (Spain); $<12.3 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Biwa (Japan); $11.57 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in Lake Josephine (USA); $0.03\text{--}10.0 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in other lakes studied including relatively low Chl *a* concentrations in some famous lakes such as in Lake Superior ($<0.73 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$); Lake Michigan ($< \sim 8.0 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$), Lake Baikal ($<5.8 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$) and Lake Tanganyika ($<4.5 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$) (Table 1).

In Lake Biwa, Chl *a* concentration ranged from 2.1 to $12.3 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in the upper epilimnion (2.5 and 10 m), from 0.5 to $10.7 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in the deeper epilimnion (20 m), and from 0.1 to $3.3 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ in the hypolimnion (40 and 70 m) during the summer stratification period (Fig. 3a) (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). From January to March, Chl *a* ($2.0\text{--}4.0 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$) was almost uniformly distributed throughout the entire water column, due to vertical mixing during the overturn period (Fig. 3a) (Mostofa et al. 2005).

The summer maximum of *Microcystis* biomass in Lake Taihu peaked at $112.0 \text{ mg } L^{-1}$ in August 1998, which accounted for 94.5 % of the total phytoplankton biomass. In contrast, Chl *a* concentrations varied from approximately $5\text{--}30 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$ (Table 1) (James et al. 2009; Liu et al. 2011). It has also been shown that the annual cycles of WT showed a regular summer peak each year in lake Taihu, in accordance with fluctuations in *Microcystis* biomass. WT reached almost up to $30 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ during summer and declined to $5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ by January (Liu et al. 2011). However, WT is relatively high ($14.5\text{--}30.2 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) in Lake Okeechobee (USA) that showed substantially high contents of Chl *a* ($10\text{--}60 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$, Table 1) (James et al. 2009).

In two eutrophic lakes, e.g. Lake Hongfeng and Baihua (Southwestern China), Chl *a* concentration showed the highest level ($44\text{--}66 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$) in the epilimnion (0–6 m) in July, during the summer stratification period (Fu et al. 2010). WT and DOC concentrations for these two lake waters were $25\text{--}31 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ and $134\text{--}330 \mu\text{M C}$, respectively. Similarly, in the warm monomictic Lake Kinneret (Israel) Chl *a* concentrations exhibited a maximum at the epilimnion (0–5 m) during the spring season (April–May) (Yacobi 2006; Berman et al. 1995). WT and lake DOC concentrations were $15\text{--}30 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ and $258\text{--}485 \mu\text{M C}$, respectively (Yacobi 2006; Annual Report 2004). On the other hand, in water of monomictic Lake Biwa Chl *a* maximum was observed in the epilimnion during the autumn season: November 1999 ($12.3 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$) and October 2000 ($9.4 \mu\text{g } L^{-1}$) (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data). Moreover, WT and DOC concentrations were $17.0\text{--}19.5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ and $76\text{--}135 \mu\text{M C}$, respectively (Mostofa et al. 2005; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data).

Chl *a* concentrations are greatly variable, ranging from 0.01 to 133.22 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in 38 Chinese lakes. Most of them are mesotrophic (TN = 0.31–2.30 mg L^{-1} ; TP = 0.01–0.11 mg L^{-1}), five lakes are oligotrophic (TN < 0.31 mg L^{-1} ; TP < 0.01 mg L^{-1}), and another four lakes are eutrophic (TN > 2.30 mg L^{-1} ; TP > 0.11 mg L^{-1}) with algal blooms during the summer period (Zhang et al. 2007). The TN:TP ratio ranged from 2:1 to 253:1 for all 38 lakes (Zhang et al. 2007). Chl *a* concentrations significantly varied (10–145 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in two Swedish lakes. In Lake B rningesj n the highest concentration (145 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) has been found in September, when light attenuation ranged from 4.61 to 7.81 m^{-1} (Blindow et al. 2006). Chl *a* concentrations were low (0.3–1.2 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in an alpine lake during the ice-cover period, but after ice-break the values increased particularly in the deep layers. The maximum was observed at 9 m depth (8.5 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), whilst DOC concentrations in the water column ranged from 10 to 54 $\mu\text{M C}$ (Sommaruga and Augustin 2006). Chl *a* concentrations were also very low (0.14–2.85 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in lake water with low WT (1.2–12.4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$) and low DOC concentrations (such as $\sim 42 \mu\text{M C}$) (Carrillo et al. 2002). In Bohai Sea the vertical distribution of Chl *a* and water temperature at depth 0–20 m was approximately 1–2 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ and 24.7–25.6 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. The diffuse attenuation coefficient increased with depth, producing a DCM at around 5–6 m depth (Xiu et al. 2009). High temperature and other factors suggest that this low variation of Chl *a* (1–2 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) might be caused by high photoinduced decomposition of Chl *a* in the surface layer (0–5 m). This result is not accounted for by DCM, rather it can be considered as SCM or mixed layer depth.

On the other hand, Chl *a* concentrations in reservoirs are substantially high, ranging from approximately 0.0–919 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ (G lvez et al. 1988; Foster et al. 1997; Das  et al. 1998; An and Park 2002; Almodovar et al. 2004; Sigareva and Pyrina 2006; Mineeva et al. 2008; Mineeva and Abramova 2009). The highest Chl *a* concentrations were detected in several UK reservoirs, such as <120–919 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; Chl *a* was then found at <54.5–239.8 $\pm 68.2 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in several Russia’s reservoirs and <173 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Taechung Reservoir (South Korea) (Table 1). The Chl *a* concentrations in Gorky Reservoir varied from 6.3 to 28.0 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in both right and left banks, and from 5.9 to 20.6 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in riverbed with variation of water temperature (WT) from 19.7 to 21.9 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. In Cheboksary reservoir, Chl *a* concentrations were 4.2–72.4 and 6.6 $\pm 0.7 - 239.8 \pm 68.2 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$, respectively, with variation of WT from 11.0 to 24.0 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (Table 1) (Mineeva et al. 2008; Mineeva and Abremova 2009). The peak Chl *a* levels in Stanford reservoir exceeded 916 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in June and July, but they remained below 25 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ for the remainder of the sampling period (Foster et al. 1997).

Estuaries

The Chl *a* concentrations are quite high (0.0–220 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in estuaries (Table 1) (Lemaire et al. 2002; Zhu et al. 2009; Stross and Stottlemeyer 1965; Pennock 1985; Abril et al. 2002; Hauxwell et al. 2003; Langston et al. 2003; Gitelson et al. 2007; He et al. 2010; Craig et al. 2012; Mallin 1994; Gaulke et al. 2010). The highest Chl *a* concentrations are <220 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in European estuaries; <184 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in North Carolina estuaries; >101 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in the Exe Estuary SPA; <80 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Neuse River Estuary; <77.4 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in estuaries of Chesapeake Bay; <60 μg

L^{-1} in Delaware and Loire Estuaries; $<40.0 \mu g L^{-1}$ in Pearl River Estuary; $<33.3 \mu g L^{-1}$ in Patuxent River Estuary; $<23.0 \mu g L^{-1}$ in several temperate estuaries; $<18.02 \mu g L^{-1}$ in estuary of Bedford Basin, Canada; $<13.8 \mu g L^{-1}$ in Sado Estuary; $<11.0 \mu g L^{-1}$ in Changjiang (Yangtze River) Estuary; $<8.9 \mu g L^{-1}$ in Elbe Estuary; and $0.3\text{--}5.4 \mu g L^{-1}$ in all other estuaries studied (Table 1). Such high contents of Chl *a* in estuaries are indicative of highly productive waters, which might be caused by several factors: (i) Estuarine waters contain high contents of DOM, such as $84\text{--}525 \mu M C$, which are mostly originated from terrestrial DOM along with the autochthonous DOM and land-derived nutrients (Table 1; see also in chapter “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”) (Hauxwell et al. 2003; Monbet 1992). Water with high contents of DOM can significantly enhance primary production in estuaries, along with factors that have been discussed previously (see also chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). (ii) Tidally-driven resuspension along with other associated processes (e.g. tidal mixing, current velocity, light penetration, and sediment resuspension) can influence the variability of suspended particulate matter in estuaries (Monbet 1992; Nichols and Biggs 1985; Allen et al. 1980; Schubel 1971). Estuaries with a low tidal range have maximum suspended sediment load, on the order of $100\text{--}200 mg L^{-1}$. In contrast, systems with high tidal ranges have sediment concentrations of about $1,000\text{--}10,000 mg L^{-1}$ (Nichols and Biggs 1985). Comparative data analysis from 40 microtidal and macrotidal estuaries shows that mean annual Chl *a* levels are significantly lower in systems with high tidal energy (Monbet 1992). In contrast, nitrogen concentrations are equal to nitrogen levels in the microtidal systems (Monbet 1992). The mechanism behind these phenomena is presumably that strong tidal wave along with strong wind mixing can produce high concentrations of H_2O_2 , DIC, nutrients, and so on. These species can be produced either photochemically or microbially from DOM and POM, and can strongly influence photosynthesis and primary production as discussed in an earlier chapter (see “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”).

Coastal and Open Oceanic Environments

The Chl *a* concentrations undergo higher variations, from 0.02 to $2080 \mu g L^{-1}$ in the waters of coastal and open oceans compared to those of lakes and estuaries (Table 1) (Letelier et al. 2004; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Hopkinson and Barbeau 2008; Wheeler et al. 1996; Millán-Núñez et al. 1996; Gomes et al. 2000; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Li and Harrison 2001; Ediger et al. 2006; Parab et al. 2006; Roy et al. 2006; Norrbin et al. 2009; Xiu et al. 2009; Hung et al. 2000; Ahumada et al. 1991; Morales et al. 1996; Dellarossa 1998; Planas et al. 1999; Doyon et al. 2000; Gibb et al. 2000; Gong et al. 2000; Pizarro et al. 2000; Kinkade et al. 2001; Olson and Strom 2002; Sasaoka et al. 2002; Carstensen et al. 2004; Clark et al. 2004; Reul et al. 2005; Holm-Hansen et al. 2004; Pérez et al. 2006; Iriarte et al. 2007; Li et al. 2007; Seppälä et al. 2007; Calbet et al. 2009; Kim et al.

2009; Grippo et al. 2010; Isada et al. 2010; Chen et al. 2011; Iriarte and González 2004; Gonzalez et al. 1989; Mackey et al. 1995). Detected Chl *a* concentrations are as high as 2080 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Arabian Sea, <152 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Yellow Sea, <148 \pm 63.1 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in north-western Alboran Sea or W-Mediterranean (0–200 m depth), <40 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Chiloé and austral fjord (Chile), <35 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Concepción and Mejillones Bay (Chile), <30 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in western subarctic waters of the Pacific Ocean (0–200 m depth), <23.3 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Chesapeake Bay (USA), <17 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Northwest Pacific Ocean, <17 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in North Atlantic Ocean, <16.8 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in upwelling seawater of northern Chile, <15.54 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Southwest Florida Shelf, <15.23 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in California Current System, <14.6 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Scotia Sea (near South Georgia), <14.5 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Subtropical coastal waters (Hong Kong: 0–10 m depth), <12.5 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Baltic Sea, <11.6 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Southwest Florida Shelf (Caloosahatchee River: Sts 51–55), <10.88 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Gulf of St. Lawrence (Canada), <8.3 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Southwest coastal waters (India), and 0.0–4.45 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in rest of the coastal and other oceans (Table 1). Very low values have been found in Southeast Bering Sea (4.45 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), Atlantic Ocean (<4.0 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) and East China Sea (<4.14 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) (Table 1).

Extremely high Chl *a* concentrations at the surface of eastern Arabian Sea (the highest ever observed in natural water) are responsible for the surface growth of *Trichodesmium* spp. (Parab et al. 2006). This effect is probably linked to high water temperature (20.6–29.4 °C) (Parab et al. 2006) and relatively high DOC contents, varying from 80 to 300 $\mu\text{M C}$ (Menzel 1964; Dileep Kumar et al. 1990; Breves et al. 2003). High contents of Chl *a* in Yellow seawater are also presumably caused by the occurrence of high contents of DOM (129–268 $\mu\text{M C}$) (Xia et al. 2010) and relatively high water temperature (9–20 °C) (Li et al. 2007) driven by solar irradiance. High contents of Chl *a* are generally detected in coastal seawaters, probably due to high terrestrial input of DOM and POM. Both DOM and POM can produce DIC, CO₂ and H₂O₂ upon photoinduced or microbial respiration/degradation, which are responsible for high photosynthesis and high primary production (see chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look” for detailed mechanisms).

In the Baltic Sea, the Chl *a* concentrations are highest in the water column during the spring bloom in late April and during the cyanobacterial bloom in August, which are the two major bloom events (Bianchi et al. 2002). In contrast Chl *a* concentration is low during the summer period, despite the extensive development of cyanobacterial surface blooms (Bianchi et al. 2002). The contents of Chl *a* vary from 0.3 to 13.5 nmol L^{-1} , whilst those of Chl *b* vary from 0.05 to 0.92 nmol L^{-1} (Bianchi et al. 2002). Chl *a* is approximately 15 times higher than Chl *b* in the Baltic Sea.

The observed, relatively low concentrations of Chl *a* in oceanic environments are presumably due to several facts: (i) Low contents of DOM and POM, particularly in open Oceanic environments, may cause the occurrence of low contents of CO₂, DIC, H₂O₂, nutrients, and so on. They are responsible for low photosynthesis and low primary production, as extensively discussed in the photosynthesis chapter (see chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”). In contrast, high

contents of organic matter (DOM and POM) in coastal waters are responsible for the higher observed contents of Chl *a* compared to the open ocean (Clark et al. 2004). It is generally known that DOM and POM (e.g. phytoplankton) can release NO_3^- and PO_4^{3-} , by either photoinduced or microbial assimilation/respiration in waters (see chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters, Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”).

(ii) Strong wind and wave mixing along with the solar (UV and PAR) radiation may degrade Chl *a*, DNA or biomolecules bound to PSI and PSII of microorganisms. The effect would be more marked in the open ocean compared to coastal waters. This issue would be supported by the observation that UV-B radiation (280–315 nm) can inhibit photosynthetic carbon fixation by tropical phytoplankton assemblages in coastal to pelagic surface seawaters (Li et al. 2011). The inhibition of photosynthesis by UV-A (315–400 nm) increases from coastal to offshore waters (Li et al. 2011). It has also been shown that UV-B inhibits photosynthesis by up to 27 % and UV-A by up to 29 % (Li et al. 2011). In East China Sea, lower concentration of Chl *a* ($0.06\text{--}0.07 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; Kuroshio sites) has been detected in the open ocean, with high water temperature ($23.9\text{--}24.0 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) and low NO_3^- ($<0.1 \mu\text{M}$), than in coastal seawater ($0.43\text{--}2.44 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) (Hung et al. 2000). The latter had low temperature ($16.3\text{--}18.9 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) and high NO_3^- ($<0.4\text{--}6.0 \mu\text{M}$) (Hung et al. 2000).

Similarly and interestingly, Chl *a* concentrations are largely variable ($0.06\text{--}1,000 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) and substantially high (occasionally $>1,000 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in ice-covered Antarctic and Arctic Oceans (Table 1) (Palmisano et al. 1985; Garrison et al. 1986; Wheeler et al. 1996; Mock and Gradinger 1999; Apollonio 1980; Guildford and Hecky 2000; Norrbin et al. 2009; Sakshaug and Holm-Hansen 1986; Spies 1987; Verlençar et al. 1990; Varela et al. 2002; Cottrell and Kirchman 2009; Hewes et al. 2009). The highest Chl *a* concentrations, reaching values higher than $1,000 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$, have been detected in bottom-ice communities of Antarctica Ocean. Otherwise, Chl *a* is largely variable: it reached $<297 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in the ice undersurface; <5.2 in the water column of central Arctic Ocean; $<86 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Barents and Greenland Sea ice (Arctic Ocean); $<25 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Gerlache and south Bransfield Straits (Antarctic Peninsula); $<8.2 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in Dumbell Bay (Arctic Ocean); $<4.03 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in ocean seawater (Antarctic Ocean); $<4.0 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in South Shetland Islands (Antarctica), $0.10\text{--}2.27$ in other ice seawater; and finally $111 \pm 30 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in incubation experimental studies using Antarctic ice seawater (Table 1).

It has been shown that Chl *a* varies significantly, from 0.1 to $297 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in ice undersurface and from 0.1 to $5.2 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in the water column (Wheeler et al. 1996). The values of Chl *a* can increase in the range of the potential phytoplankton standing stock ($25\text{--}50 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in Antarctic marine waters, Southern Ocean (Sakshaug and Holm-Hansen 1986; Spies 1987). Similarly, Chl *a* contents in bottom ice communities reach $300\text{--}400 \text{ mg m}^{-2}$ (Steemann-Nielsen 1962; Palmisano and Sullivan 1983). Such numerous algal communities are presumably the consequence of several phenomena: (i) Algal growth may be prolonged due to low temperature and low solar irradiance, which are unable to form $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ and subsequently H_2O_2 or HO^\bullet . This phenomenon can protect algal cells from death, allowing high primary production

caused by accumulation of algal species in the ice bed. Interestingly, observation of a series of ice age classes indicated that older ice has higher concentrations of particulate organic carbon, Chl and algal cells (Gleitz and Thomas 1993). Substantial increases have been observed for the abundance of *Chaetoceros neogracile*, *F. cylindrus*, and *Nitzschia lecointei*, implying growth of these algae (Gleitz and Thomas 1993). The abundance of other species (*F. kerguelensis*, *Dactyliosolen*) decreased with the age of the sea ice, implying that they can possibly accumulate in ice but are selected against over time (Gleitz and Thomas 1993). Correspondingly, algal pigment signatures in sea ice also suggest that older ice is more diatom-dominated (Lizotte et al. 1998). Lower concentrations of Chl *a*, which have been observed in a light perturbation experiment (3.54 ± 1.00 to $14.2 \pm 12.4 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) compared to the control experiment (5.21 ± 2.33 to $111 \pm 30 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in Antarctica ice seawater (Palmisano et al. 1985) can also support the above phenomena. The occurrence of more elevated concentrations of dissolved O_2 in Arctic and Antarctic Oceans compared to tropical and subtropical waters (Codispoti and Christensen 1985; Falkner et al. 2005; Garcia et al. 2005; Schmittner et al. 2007; Araoye 2009; Abowei 2010; Keeling et al. 2010) are also responsible for the rapid formation of H_2O_2 under low irradiance. These phenomena can support high photosynthesis in seawater ice. (ii) The occurrence of the ozone hole, and a corresponding increase in UV-B exposure, can cause unequivocal increase of direct or indirect oxidative damage, either directly or indirectly through formation of ROS. It has been shown that the latter can alter biomolecules (lipids, DNA, amino acids, proteins, Chls) and can affect photosynthetic efficiency, reproduction and development in Antarctic marine organisms (see also chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”) (Bidigare 1989; Smith et al. 1992; Arrigo 1994; Lesser et al. 2001, 2004; Lesser and Barry 2003; Karentz et al. 2004; Leu et al. 2007; Lister et al. 2010; Cullen and Neale 1997). The effects of the ozone hole and of the corresponding UV-B exposure is largely mitigated by sea ice coverage, in the case of aquatic organisms that live beneath the ice cover (Moreno 2012; Karentz et al. 2004; Lister et al. 2010; Tremblay et al. 2006; Perovich 1993; Trodahl and Buckley 1989). (iii) Intracellular and extracellular production of H_2O_2 from algae (or phytoplankton species) can take place under light conditions in the ice layer (see also chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”) (Hong et al. 1987; Bazanov et al. 1999; Premkumar and Ramaraj 1999; Lobanov et al. 2008; Palenik et al. 1987; Palenik and Morel 1988; Komissarov 2003), and could enhance photosynthesis. A further enhancement effect could be caused by relatively high amounts of DIC, H_2O_2 and nutrients produced from DOM and POM, either by microbial or photoinduced processes in Arctic and Antarctic Oceans.

Photosynthesis could rapidly occur under low irradiance conditions in the presence of large amounts of algae (or phytoplankton), and if H_2O_2 , DIC and nutrients are available. It has been shown that nutrient concentrations (e.g. nitrate) are considerably high (2–12 μM) in the Arctic Ocean (Tremblay et al. 2006). In the Antarctic Ocean, Chl *a* concentrations in coastal surface seawater ice are high (0.45–4.03 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), and at the same time there are low contents of NH_4^+ (0.05–2.21 μM), NO_3^- (7.82–23.1 μM), and PO_4^{3-} (0.60–3.0 μM) compared to those of oceanic offshore waters (Table 1) (Verlencar et al. 1990). In contrast, Chl *a* concentrations are

relatively low ($0.19\text{--}0.43\ \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in the presence of rather elevated amounts of NH_4^+ ($0.14\text{--}1.36\ \mu\text{M}$), NO_3^- ($22.55\text{--}29.50\ \mu\text{M}$), and PO_4^{3-} ($1.71\text{--}2.35\ \mu\text{M}$), even in the presence of similar water temperatures (Table 1) (Verlencar et al. 1990). This result can imply that nutrients have limited influence on photosynthesis in offshore seawater. A more important effect could be that high contents of algae (or phytoplankton species) in coastal Antarctic seawater ice can absorb irradiance by Chl *a* bound to PSI and PSII. A possible consequence would be intracellular or extracellular H_2O_2 formation, which could directly affect photosynthesis. This effect could be more important in coastal seawater ice than in offshore oceanic seawater ice. The covariation of dissolved nitrate and phosphate maintained by ocean circulation (Weber and Deutsch 2010) might be a factor that affects photosynthesis in offshore regions. However, future studies will be required to provide evidence for this mechanism.

4 Factors Controlling Chl *a* in Natural Waters

There are a numbers of environmental factors that substantially influence Chl *a* concentrations or primary production in natural waters. The key factors affecting photosynthetic and respiratory activities can be detected based on the growth and development of organisms. They are: (i) seasonal variation in sunlight and UV radiation, which affect photosynthesis; (ii) occurrence of CO_2 forms; (iii) variation in temperature; (iv) effects of water stress (drought) and precipitation/rainfall; (v) effects of the amount and nature of DOM and POM; (vi) variation in nutrient contents; (vii) variation in trace metal ions; (viii) effect of salinity or salt stress; (ix) effects of toxic pollutants on aquatic microorganisms; (x) effect of size-fractionated phytoplankton; (xi) effects of global warming. These factors are similar to those affecting primary production or cyanobacterial bloom, which the exception of the effect of global warming (see chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)” and “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”).

4.1 Effects of Global Warming

Global warming can affect the heat budget and other physical processes of a water body, and can subsequently alter the stratification and mixed layer depths (Huisman et al. 2006; Schindler 1997; Magnuson et al. 1997). Such changes, along with global warming-induced changes in the seasonal light cycle, can alter the seasonal patterns of Chl contents (or primary production), phytoplankton composition and nutrient concentrations in SCM and DCM (Huisman et al. 2006; Walsby et al. 1997; O’Reilly et al. 2003; Verburg et al. 2003; Baulch et al. 2005; Fu et al. 2007; Jöhnk et al. 2008; Castle and Rodgers 2009; Davis et al. 2009; Paerl and Huisman 2009). Correspondingly, an extension of the summer season due to global warming

may prolong the photochemical processes, with high production of photoproducts, pH alteration, and microbial food web stimulation (Baulch et al. 2005; Morris and Hargreaves 1997; Cooke et al. 2006; Malkin et al. 2008). These issues can result into high photosynthesis, thereby enhancing phytoplankton productivity in lakes and oceans. These phenomena will particularly affect the Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Climate models predict that global warming will increase the stability of the vertical stratification in large parts of lakes and oceans (Huisman et al. 2006; Sarmiento et al. 1998, 2004; Bopp et al. 2001, 2005; Schmittner 2005). This will subsequently reduce vertical mixing and suppress the upward flux of nutrients, leading to a decrease in primary production. However, increased stability of the water column might also increase the photochemical degradation of DOM, and cause high photosynthesis via high temperature and longer summer season. Reduced vertical mixing can generate oscillations and chaos in phytoplankton biomass, size and species composition of DCM (Huisman et al. 2006; Barbiero and Tuchman 2004; Winder et al. 2009). These perturbations are generated by the difference in timescale between the sinking flux of phytoplankton and the upward flux of nutrients. Increasing background light attenuation can increase light limitation, shifting phytoplankton towards the surface and generally decreasing DCM depth and total biomass, particularly in the mixed layer (Mellard et al. 2011). Climate warming may promote the growth of toxic, rather than non-toxic, phytoplankton populations (Davis et al. 2009). Therefore, changes induced by global warming can significantly impact the SCM, DCM, species composition, nutrients dynamics, and carbon cycle. This issue is also extensively discussed in other chapters (see chapters “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look” and “Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters”).

5 Degradation of Chl

It has been shown that terrestrial plants adapt their annual life cycles of growth, reproduction and senescence to the annual climate cycle with period of one year. In contrast, phytoplankton biomass can turn over around 100 times each year as a result of fast growth and equally fast consumption by grazers (Calbet and Landry 2004; Behrenfeld et al. 2006; Winder and Cloern 2010). Therefore, the significance of the degradation of Chl *a* bound to higher plants and aquatic microorganisms shows characteristic differences.

5.1 Degradation of Chl *a* in Aquatic Microorganisms

Chl *a* bound to phytoplankton or cyanobacteria can be degraded by both photoinduced and microbial degradation processes and can produce chlorophyllide *a*, pheophorbide *a*, pheophytin *a*, and pyropheophytin *a* in aqueous media

(Welschmeyer and Lorenzen 1985; Stephens et al. 1997; Zhang et al. 2009; Bianchi et al. 2002; Schulte-Elte et al. 1979; Falkowski and Sucher 1981; Pietta et al. 1981; Mantoura and Llewellyn 1983; Keely and Maxwell 1991; Nelson 1993; Sun et al. 1993; Rontani et al. 1995; Rontani et al. 1998, 2003, 2011; Rontani and Marchand 2000; Yacobi et al. 1996; Cuny et al. 1999; Marchand and Rontani 2001; Rontani 2001; Lemaire et al. 2002; Rontani and Volkman 2003; Marchand et al. 2005; Christodoulou et al. 2009; Christodoulou et al. 2010; Rontani et al. 2000). Photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) and UV radiation (UV-B: 280–315 nm and UV-A: 315–400 nm) are responsible for the degradation of Chls, of PSI, and of PSII bound to phytoplankton species, either directly or through photoinduced generation of ROS in the natural environment (see also chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”) (Schulte-Elte et al. 1979; Nelson 1993; Rontani et al. 1995; Nelson and Wakeham 1989; Rontani et al. 1994; Sinha and Häder 2002; Häder and Sinha 2005; Rath and Adhikary 2007; Gao et al. 2008; Pattanaik et al. 2008; Jiang and Qiu 2011). It has also been shown that the degradation rates of Chl *a* bound to algae are several times higher than those of sediment TOC or of algae themselves (Leavitt and Carpenter 1990; Westrich and Berner 1984; Garber 1984; Henrichs and Doyle 1986). The photodegradation of different lipid compounds in killed cells of *Phaeodactylum tricoratum* and *Dunaliella* sp. shows that Chl phytyl chain is degraded to 6,10,14-trimethylpentadecan-2-one and 3-methylidene-7,11,15-trimethylhexadecan-1,2-diol, sterols to 5 α - and 6 α /6 β -hydroxysterols, carotenoids to loliolide and *iso*-loliolide, and unsaturated fatty acids to C₇–C₁₁ ω -oxocarboxylic and α , ω -dicarboxylic acids (Rontani et al. 1998). After elimination of insufficiently specific photoproducts, the compounds 3-methylidene-7,11,15-trimethylhexadecan-1,2-diol, 5 α - and 6 α /6 β -hydroxysterols, C₇–C₁₁ ω -oxocarboxylic and α , ω -dicarboxylic acids (with C₉ as the most abundant species) have been selected to constitute a “pool” of useful indicators of photooxidative alteration of phytoplankton (Rontani et al. 1998).

Irradiation of killed non-axenic cells of *Emiliania huxleyi* (Prymnesiophyceae) under PAR and UV radiation can degrade most of the unsaturated lipid components, such as Chls, unsaturated fatty acids and brassicasterol (Christodoulou et al. 2010). Exposure to UV radiation can also induce photosensitized stereomutation (cis–trans isomerization) of the double bonds of some lipids (e.g. monounsaturated fatty acids and Chl phytyl side-chain) and of some of their oxidation products. These processes yield (after reduction) some compounds (e.g. 9-hydroxyoctadec-cis-10-enoic and 10-hydroxyoctadec-cis-8-enoic acids arising from oleic acid oxidation and 11-hydroxyoctadec-cis-12-enoic and 12-hydroxyoctadec-cis-10-enoic acids arising from cis-vaccenic acid oxidation), which are sufficiently specific to act as tracers of UV-induced in situ photodegradation (Christodoulou et al. 2010). The abiotic degradation processes can act on most of the unsaturated lipid components of senescent phytoplankton, such as sterols, unsaturated fatty acids, Chl phytyl side-chain, carotenoids, alkenones and alkenes (Rontani et al. 1998; Rontani 2001, 2008; Christodoulou et al. 2010). In phytodetritus, the visible light-dependent degradation rates are 3–4 times higher for the Chl tetrapyrrolic structure than for the phytyl side-chain (Cuny et al. 1999; Cuny and Rontani 1999).

Planktonic lipids are more susceptible to biodegradation than terrestrial lipids. Moreover, biodegradation is more intense in sinking particulate organic matter (POM) than in suspended POM (Rontani et al. 2011). Simultaneously, there would be efficient transfer of singlet oxygen from suspended and senescent phytoplankton cells to associated bacteria, with subsequent inhibition of heterotrophic degradation (Rontani et al. 2011). The *in vitro* enzymatic degradation of Chl *a* in several species of marine phytoplankton can produce chlorophyllide *a*, pheophorbide *a*, pheophytin *a*, and pyropheophytin *a* (Owens and Falkowskit 1982). In some species, Chl *a* can be degraded to products that do not absorb visible light. It has also been observed that losses of phytol and Mg^{2+} are catalysed by chlorophyllase and by a magnesium-releasing enzyme, respectively. Both enzymes are activated by cell disintegration (Owens and Falkowskit 1982). Phaeophytin *a*, pyropheophytin *a*, phaeophorbide *a*, and pyropheophorbide *a* are the phaeopigments found in largest amount in both sediments and water column (Furlong and Carpenter 1988). Tetrapyrrole derivatives of chloropigments (phaeopigments) are formed as a result of bacterial or autolytic cell lysis, and of metazoan grazing activities (Welschmeyer and Lorenzen 1985; Sanger and Gorham 1970; Shuman and Lorenzen 1975; Bianchi et al. 1988, 1991). Further degradation may produce several colorless organic substances (Brown et al. 1991; Westrich and Berner 1984; Henrichs and Doyle 1986).

From the differences between anoxic and oxic decomposition in incubation experiments, together with naturally observed concentration profiles, it can be inferred that Chl *a* in natural sediments can be degraded during the oscillation between oxic and anoxic conditions caused by physical and biological mixing processes (Ming-Yi et al. 1993). Oscillation experiments (oxic vs. anoxic and anoxic vs. oxic) also suggest that the activity of aerobic organisms may be an important factor that affects Chl *a* degradation (Ming-Yi et al. 1993). Examination of the effects of meiofauna on Chl *a* degradation under oxic conditions, implies that microorganisms may play a stronger role in Chl *a* degradation than meiofauna (Ming-Yi et al. 1993). The relative temperature independence of anoxic degradation and temperature dependence of oxic degradation suggest that anoxic degradation may be largely controlled by chemical factors, while oxic degradation may be more strongly controlled by biophysical and biochemical processes (Ming-Yi et al. 1993).

It is shown that the maximum DOM production lags in time relative to Chl *a* concentration in surface waters, whilst Chl *a* concentrations were relatively low and fluctuated during the summer stratification period in Lake Biwa (Fig. 3a and b) (Zhang et al. 2009; Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data; Mostofa et al. 2005; Sasaki et al. 2005; Hanamachi et al. 2008). The summertime fluctuation of Chl *a* is possibly linked to its photoinduced degradation, which can contribute to the DOC increase in the surface water of Lake Biwa (Fig. 3a and b) (Mostofa KMG et al. unpublished data; Mostofa et al. 2005). The release of DOM from algae or phytoplankton might be one of the key causes for the decrease of Chl *a* or of the primary production in the surface layer, during the summer season. It is shown that both 'labile' and 'refractory' fractions of DOM are produced during phytoplankton or algal biomass degradation. However, the 'labile' fraction of organic matter, such as glucose, is rapidly decomposed within a few days and the 'refractory' fraction

is decomposed more slowly (Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Mostofa KMG et al. 2008; Ogawa et al. 2001).

Low concentrations of Chl *a* during the summer stratification period in upper surface waters might be the effect of photoinduced degradation of Chl *a* by sunlight. Degradation of Chl *a* presumably involves two facts. First of all, cyanobacteria can generate internally reactive oxygen species (ROS) such as superoxide radical anion ($O_2^{\bullet-}$), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and hydroxyl radical (HO^{\bullet}) in PSII, which can all be involved into cells decomposition (see chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look” for a detailed description). The second fact is the photoinduced generation of ROS from DOM (of both allochthonous and autochthonous origin), NO_2^- and NO_3^- (see also chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters” and “Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”). These ROS can decompose Chl *a* that is found outside the cells (see chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”). H_2O_2 involvement can be justified by the observation that autoxidation is substantially enhanced in the presence of a peroxide or hydroperoxide initiator (Fossey et al. 1996; Wilson et al. 2000; Kwan and Voelker 2003). Dissolved O_2 is substantially varied (from 6.0 to 12.0 mg L^{-1}) in a variety of surface waters, whereas the saturated dissolved O_2 concentration in pure water is 7.5 mg L^{-1} at 30 °C (Falkner et al. 2005; Garcia et al. 2005; Schmittner et al. 2007; Araoye 2009; Abowei 2010; Keeling et al. 2010; Hatcher 1987). High contents are generally found at low temperature, particularly in the Arctic and Antarctic Oceans. Such high contents of dissolved O_2 prompt the rapid absorption of electrons released from either chromophoric DOM (CDOM) or POM (e.g. phytoplankton or algae) upon light illumination, which enhances production of $O_2^{\bullet-}$ and H_2O_2 . Dissolved O_2 in water is the ultimate electron acceptor upon illumination by light, forming $O_2^{\bullet-}$ that is a long-suspected first intermediate in photoinduced reactions that take place in natural surface waters (Baxter and Carey 1983; Bielski et al. 1985; Petasne and Zika 1987; Micinski et al. 1993). The involvement of dissolved O_2 in H_2O_2 production can be justified by the experimental observation that 5–40 % of the oxygen produced by photosynthetically active organisms can be fixed through photochemical reactions in natural waters (Laane et al. 1985).

Experimental studies show that H_2O_2 can affect cyanobacteria at concentration values that are 10 times lower than for green algae and diatoms. Strong light-dependent toxicity can enhance the difference, for which reason H_2O_2 can act as a limiting factor for cyanobacterial growth (Drábková et al. 2007). H_2O_2 concentrations of approximately 2–8 μM , which are produced during light exposure of aquatic macrophyte leachates or DOM, can inhibit microbial growth or bacterial carbon production (Farjalla et al. 2001; Anesio et al. 2005). The addition of 0.1 μM H_2O_2 to humic lake water can inhibit BCP by as much as 40 % (Xenopoulos and Bird 1997). Photobleaching and CO_2 production in irradiated waters can be significantly decreased upon addition of ROS scavengers, whilst post-irradiation bacterial growth in samples containing a ROS scavenger can be significantly increased Scully et al. (2003). The decrease of ROS activity (CO_2 production) can likely cause an accumulation of bioavailable DOM and enhance microbial processes (Scully et al. 2003). Chl *a* is more susceptible to photochemical decomposition than

zeaxanthin in the epilimnion, because zeaxanthin is generally a more stable compound. It is photo-resistant and is found in higher contents than Chl *a* during the summer period (Bianchi et al. 2002; Rowan 1989, 2000). Photoresistance of carotenoids such as zeaxanthin and β , β -carotene involves quenching of singlet oxygen, which prevents photooxidation reactions (Rowan 1989; Jeffrey et al. 1997).

5.2 Degradation of Chl *a* in Higher Plants

Degradation of Chl can have two visible effects on plant leaves (Hendry et al. 1987; Takamiya et al. 2000; Matile et al. 1996; Amir-Shapira et al. 1987; Merzlyak et al. 1999; Park et al. 2007; Pruzinská et al. 2005; Zimmermann and Zentgraf 2005; Kratsch and Wise 2000; Karuppanapandian et al. 2011; Hillman et al. 1994). The first is the colour change from green to yellow or red, which naturally occurs during the season change in autumn and is the most conspicuous and rapid event. The second is cell death caused by external factors, such as injuries sustained by low or high temperature, pathogen attack during various phases of the life cycle of plants, and so on. It has been estimated that approximately 1.2 billion tons of Chl is degraded globally each year (Hendry et al. 1987). The conversions of Chl to chlorophyllide and of pheophytin to pheophorbide in coleslaw, cucumbers and brined olives are the result of chlorophyllase activity (Heaton et al. 1996). Chl *a* in crude extracts of *Chenopodium album* (white goose foot) in the dark can produce chlorophyllide *a*, pheophorbide *a*, 13^2 -hydroxychlorophyllide *a* and pyropheophorbide *a*, the increase of which is accompanied by a concomitant decrease in levels of Chl *a* (Shioi et al. 1991). Chl *a* is degraded in a crude extract of *C. album* via enzymatically catalyzed reactions (Shioi et al. 1991).

Chl of detached rice leaves undergoes an initial long lag that lasts for one whole day, after which it is rapidly degraded in the second and third days during experiments conducted under total darkness at 30 °C (Okada et al. 1992). Light only has a weak protecting effect on soluble proteins, and ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase rapidly disappeared under illumination with weak white light (Okada et al. 1992). In an in vitro system of extracted broccoli florets, Chl *a* is degraded initially to chlorophyllide *a* or 13^2 -hydroxychlorophyll *a*. Subsequently, chlorophyllide *a* is degraded to pyropheophorbide *a* through 13^2 -hydroxychlorophyll *a* (Yamauchi et al. 1997). Finally, 13^2 -hydroxychlorophyll *a* and pyropheophorbide *a* can be degraded to colourless, low molecular weight compounds.

5.3 Degradation of Chl During Food Processing

It is well-known that blanching can inactivate chlorophyllase and enzymes, producing a subsequent decrease in the photosynthetic capacity that is responsible for senescence and rapid loss of green colour. The discolouration of green vegetable

during processing is caused by conversion of Chls to pheophytins, which is also influenced by pH (Blair and Ayres 1943; Gupte et al. 1964; Minguez-Mosquera et al. 1989; Koca et al. 2007). Chl degradation reactions can be caused by several chemical, photoinduced or enzymatic processes, including simultaneous actions of enzymes, weak acids or pH changes, oxygen, light and heat. Such processes can lead to the formation of a large number of degradation products (Hayakawa and Timbers 1977; Koca et al. 2007). Major chemical degradation processes are pheophytinization, epimerization, pyrolysis, as well as hydroxylation, oxidation or photoinduced oxidation (Mangos and Berger 1997).

The green colour of vegetables can be altered to an olive green under mild acidic conditions, whereas hydrogen ions can transform Chls to their corresponding pheophytins by substitution of the magnesium ion in the porphyrin ring (Minguez-Mosquera et al. 1989; Gold and Weckel 1958; Gunawan and Barringer 2000). Preferential degradation of Chl *b* in the degreening of ‘Satsuma’ mandarin (*Citrus unshiu* Marc.) is found in ethylene-treated fruits and in fruits ripening on the tree. In contrast, Chl *a* is predominantly degraded in non-treated fruits (Keishi 1979). Methyl jasmonate and ethylene can markedly enhance the mRNA levels and chlorophyllase activity, which presumably accelerates leaf senescence and fruit ripening (Drazkiewicz 1994; Smart 1994; Creelman and Mullet 1997; Jacob-Wilk et al. 1999; Tsuchiya et al. 1999). Stimulatory effects by methyl jasmonate and ethylene also indicate that chlorophyllases are key enzymes for senescence or ripening.

5.4 Mechanism for Degradation of Chl

The key PSII reactions of Chls are photooxidation, involving attack of $^1\text{O}_2$, HO^\bullet or H_2O_2 , and enzymatic degradation (see also chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”) (Takamiya et al. 2000; Brown et al. 1991; Gossauer and Engel 1996; Hörtensteiner 2006; Kräutler and Hörtensteiner 2006; Moser et al. 2009; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011). The processes occurring under high irradiance or UV light and high temperature have been documented in the photosynthesis chapter (see chapter “Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look”). Three Chl catabolic enzymes, such as chlorophyllase, pheophorbide *a* oxygenase, and red Chl catabolite reductase (RCCR) are susceptible to play key roles into Chl degradation, either during leaf senescence and fruit ripening or in response to pathogens and wounding (Hörtensteiner 2006; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Kariola et al. 2005; Azoulay Shemer et al. 2008).

The mechanism responsible for the degreening of plants and the degradation of Chl involves enzymatic reactions in two phases, through several chain reactions (Fig. 4) (Takamiya et al. 2000; Hörtensteiner 2006; Kräutler and Hörtensteiner 2006; Moser et al. 2009; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011). In the first phase, Chl degradation is caused by the removal of the phytol tail (dephytylation) and of the central Mg atom (magnesium dechelataase). Dephytylation occurs first by

1991; Janave 1997; Maeda et al. 1998; Ziegler et al. 1988). Pheophorbide *a* oxygenase is thought to catalyze the reaction that produces RCC in various leaves and fruits (Fig. 4) (Hörtensteiner 2006; Kräutler et al. 1997; Mühlecker et al. 1997; Hörtensteiner et al. 1998). Pheophytinase, a chloroplast-located and senescence-induced hydrolase that is widely distributed in algae and land plants can also specifically dephytylate the Mg-free Chl pigment, pheophytin (phein), yielding pheophorbide (Schelbert et al. 2009).

In the second phase, *p*FCC-modifying reactions produce FCCs that are imported into the vacuole by a primary active transport process. FCCs are further converted to nonfluorescent Chl catabolites (NCCs) by an acid-catalyzed isomerization, taking place inside the vacuole (Fig. 4) (Hörtensteiner 2006; Moser et al. 2009; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Hinder et al. 1996; Kräutler 2003; Christ et al. 2012). Transfer of catabolites from senescent chloroplasts to the vacuole is mediated by primary activated transport processes (Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011). Note that the vacuole is a membrane-bound organelle within the cell cytoplasm. It occurs in plant cells and other microorganisms and can store water, salts, minerals, nutrients, proteins, pigments and enzymes. It is involved in growth, protection, waste disposal and structural support and tends to be very large in mature plant cells. Degradation products and enzymes involved in the described reactions have been identified in leaves and fruits (Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Hörtensteiner et al. 1995, 1998; Hinder et al. 1996; Christ et al. 2012; Kräutler et al. 1991; Matile et al. 1992; Ginsburg and Matile 1993; Mühlecker and Kräutler 1996; Matile et al. 1999).

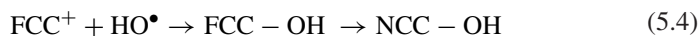
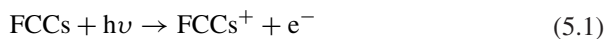
A process that is closely coupled with the oxygenase reaction is a reduction of the δ -methine bridge of the RCC by a stromal enzyme, termed RCC reductase (RCCR). The reaction yields colorless fluorescent products (Fig. 4) (Hörtensteiner 2006; Rodoni et al. 1997; Wüthrich et al. 2000; Oberhuber and Kräutler 2002; Oberhuber et al. 2008). RCCR has been purified and cloned recently in barley and *Arabidopsis* (Wüthrich et al. 2000).

Spectroscopic analysis shows that *p*FCC has been identified from senescent leaves of various plants (Matile et al. 1996; Mühlecker et al. 1997, 2000; Kräutler and Matile 1999). The *p*FCC is converted to FCCs by several modifications depending on the plants, such as demethylation and hydroxylation (Hörtensteiner 2006; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Matile et al. 1992). Modified FCCs are transported to the central vacuole by ATP-dependent translocator(s) in the tonoplast. They are non-enzymatically converted to NCCs by rearrangement of double bonds, in the pyrrole IV ring and adjacent *g*-methine bridge (Fig. 4) (Hörtensteiner 2006; Moser et al. 2009; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Hinder et al. 1996; Kräutler 2003; Christ et al. 2012; Matile et al. 1999). The *p*FCC and all fluorescent Chl catabolites have the same absorption spectrum, with a major peak at around 320 nm and a shoulder at around 360 nm (Takamiya et al. 2000). In contrast, NCCs have an absorption maximum at 316 nm with no shoulder (Takamiya et al. 2000). Finally, three degradation products of monopyrrole derivatives such as hematinic acid, methyl ethyl maleimide and methyl vinyl maleimide aldehyde have been detected in senescent leaves and cotyledons of barley, spinach, pea and cucumber (Suzuki and Shioi 1999).

Senescent mes16 mutants exhibit a strong UV-excitable fluorescence, which is due to accumulation of FCCs. This derives, at least in part, from the fact that FCC isomerization to the respective NCC in the presence of an intact C132-carboxymethylester is slower than with a free carboxylic acid group (Christ et al. 2012; Oberhuber et al. 2008). The most likely reason is differences in the vacuolar pH, which determine the rate of FCC-to-NCC isomerization. Therefore, whether a plant can accumulate FCCs or NCCs might depend on the presence/absence of O13⁴-demethylation and/or on the vacuolar pH (Christ et al. 2012). Accumulation of 'hypermodified' FCCs (*h*FCCs) in ripening bananas (*Musa acuminata*, Cavendish cultivar) can indicate a new role of Chl catabolites. Moreover, *h*FCCs are a group of unprecedented FCC-esters, and their accumulation in the peels of ripening bananas is rationalized by the corresponding deactivation of the natural, acid-induced (FCC-to-NCC) isomerization (Moser et al. 2008). Such isomerization occurs rapidly in weakly acidic solution (at pH 4.9) and at ambient temperature in aqueous solution. It also occurs in the vacuoles of senescent leaves, in senescent leaves of banana plants and of the peace lily (*Spathiphyllum wallisii*) (Matile et al. 1988; Matile 1997; Oberhuber et al. 2003; Moser et al. 2009; Banala et al. 2010; Kräutler et al. 2010). The *h*FCCs are esterified at the C17-propionic acid side chain, but they are not isomerized to NCCs in some senescing leaves and in ripening banana fruits (Moser et al. 2009; Banala et al. 2010; Kräutler et al. 2010).

The conversion of FCCs to NCCs in vacuole is partly due to either Fenton-type or photo-Fenton type reactions that can generate the HO[•], a strong oxidizing agent. This issue is supported by the observation of hydroxylated NCC products or of products with OH-containing other functional groups in place of CH₃ (R₁ or R₃ positions) (Moser et al. 2009; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011; Müller et al. 2007; Pruzinská et al. 2005; Christ et al. 2012; Kräutler et al. 1991; Mühlecker and Kräutler 1996; Oberhuber et al. 2003; Kräutler et al. 1992; Curty and Engel 1996; Berghold et al. 2004; Berghold et al. 2006). Further evidence is the occurrence of the reactions under acidic conditions (pH 4.9), which is vital for obtaining sufficiently high efficiency of Fenton or photo-Fenton reactions. Note that Fenton reaction occurs in an aqueous solution of H₂O₂ and ferrous or ferric salts, which can produce HO[•] (see also 'Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters') (Fenton 1894; Barb et al. 1951; Zepp et al. 1992; Kwan and Voelker 2002). The efficiency of the Fenton reaction is highest at pH 3, whilst the photo-Fenton process takes place in the presence of light. The occurrence of various salts, minerals, proteins, FCCs, water and so on in vacuole may favor such type of reactions. The reduction of the rate of formation of hydroperoxides of linoleic acid (induced by H₂O₂) in the presence of NCC may also support the occurrence of such reactions in vacuole (Moser et al. 2009; Müller et al. 2007). High production rates of H₂O₂ in vacuole can be due either to light-sensitive FCCs or from the complexes of FCCs with metal ions present in vacuole. Upon irradiation, such compounds yield electrons (e⁻) that can subsequently produce superoxide radical anions (O₂^{•-}), H₂O₂, and finally HO[•] from H₂O₂. The latter process can take place by either direct photodissociation (H₂O₂ + hν → HO[•]) or upon Fenton and photo-Fenton reactions. Such processes are discussed in detail in other chapters (see chapters "Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters",

Photoinduced Generation of Hydroxyl Radical in Natural Waters”, and “Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter with Trace Metal ions in Natural Waters”). The transformation of FCCs to NCCs can be depicted shortly as below (Eqs. 5.1–5.4):



where FCCs upon illumination by light are excited and produce e^- , (Eq. 5.1) which then reacts with aqueous dissolved oxygen to generate $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ (Eq. 5.2). $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ then produces H_2O_2 and subsequently HO^\bullet upon several pathways as mentioned earlier (Eq. 5.3). The HO^\bullet radical can then react with FCC^+ to convert it into FCCs-OH and then into NCCs-OH (Eq. 5.4). Organic peroxides (ROOH) are produced either by similar processes or by breakdown of other organic components. They can generate the organic peroxide radical (RO^\bullet) and give NCC-OR. These reactions are extensively discussed in earlier chapters (see chapters “Photoinduced and Microbial Generation of Hydrogen Peroxide and Organic Peroxides in Natural Waters and Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”). Such a mechanism can also be supported by the observation that Chl degradation of chloroplast lysate or leaf extracts can be induced by intrinsic (per)oxidation with phenolic compounds and H_2O_2 , and by lipoxygenation with linolenic acid (‘oxidative Chl bleaching’) (Janave 1997; Johnson-Flanagan and Spencer 1996; Adachi et al. 1999). Similarly, peroxidase or oxidase activity rise in parallel to the degreening of seeds or cotyledons in some plants (Johnson-Flanagan and Spencer 1996; Adachi et al. 1999). Therefore, HO^\bullet or RO^\bullet may play a significant role in the transformation of FCCs to NCCs in vacuole. Chl breakdown is a prerequisite to detoxify potentially phototoxic pigments within the vacuoles, to allow the remobilization of nitrogen from Chl-binding proteins that takes place during senescence (Hörtensteiner 2006).

On the other hand, Chl *b* is degraded to chlorophyllide *b* by chlorophyllase, then chlorophyllide *b* is converted to chlorophyllide *a* by ‘Chl *b* reductase’ (Schelbert et al. 2009; Ito et al. 1996; Folly and Engel 1999; Scheumann et al. 1999; Tanaka and Tanaka 2006; Rüdiger 2003). The further degradation of chlorophyllide *a* proceeds in similar ways as mentioned before.

6 Chl Acting as Universal Signature of Cyanobacteria (Algae) or Phytoplankton Dynamics

Chl *a* concentrations are very variable in waters, ranging from 0.0 to 280 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in streams and rivers, 0.01–850 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in lakes, 0.0–919 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in reservoirs, 0.0–220 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in estuaries, 0.0–2080 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in coastal and marine waters, and 0.06–1,000 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in ice-covered Arctic and Antarctic Oceans (Table 1). Changes in Chl *a*

concentrations reflect the occurrence and features of microorganisms present in natural waters. Therefore, Chl *a* can be used to estimate the primary production or the cyanobacterial (algal) bloom in a variety of waters (Fielding and Seiderer 1991; Ondrusek et al. 1991; Williams and Claustre 1991; Millie et al. 1993; Jeffrey et al. 1999; Bianchi et al. 1993, 2002; Kasprzak et al. 2008). Chl *a* concentration is a predictor of phytoplankton biomass across a broad trophic gradient of lakes, ranging from oligotrophic to highly eutrophic. It is also the most generally used indicator of eutrophication (Blanco et al. 2008; Kasprzak et al. 2008). Concentrations of Chl *a* depend on the fractional contributions of three phytoplankton size classes (micro-, nano- and picoplankton), whereas small cells dominate at low Chl *a* concentrations and large cells at high Chl *a* concentrations (Sathyendranath et al. 2001; Brewin et al. 2010).

The specific Chl *a* content per unit of phytoplankton biomass typically decreases with an increase of phytoplankton standing stocks in field and experimental observations (Zhang et al. 2009; Kasprzak et al. 2008; Desortová 1981; Shlgren 1983; Wojciechowska 1989; Watson et al. 1992; Talling 1993; Chow-Fraser et al. 1994; Schmid et al. 1998; Felip and Catalan 2000; Sandu et al. 2003; Kiss et al. 2006). The decreases in Chl *a* content per unit of phytoplankton biomass presumably involves two facts: First, Chl *a* bound to microorganisms is the individual component that can be rapidly degraded by either photoinduced or microbial processes (Zhang et al. 2009; Takamiya et al. 2000; Hörtensteiner 2006; Kräutler and Hörtensteiner 2006; Moser et al. 2009; Hörtensteiner and Kräutler 2011). Second, the release of autochthonous DOM from phytoplankton biomass, by either photoinduced or microbial assimilation/respiration (see also chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Parlanti et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009) may affect the decrease in the total content of Chl *a* in phytoplankton standing stocks. In addition, Chl *a* concentrations are substantially affected by the occurrence of phytoplankton species or of size-fractionated phytoplankton, which undergoes seasonal variations in different waters (Bianchi et al. 2002; Satoh et al. 2001; Goedheer 1970; Prezelin 1981; Aguirre-Gomez et al. 2001; Pérez et al. 2007; Hoepffner and Sathyendranath 1991; Parab et al. 2006; Huang et al. 2004, 2005; Buchanan et al. 2005; Qiu et al. 2010). Micro- and nano-Chl *a* are both higher than pico-Chl *a*, but pico-Chl *a* can reach 40 % of total Chl *a* in Wanshan islands in summer (Huang et al. 2005). Micro- and nano-Chl *a* in Pearl River Estuary (South China Sea) generally account for 60 % of total Chl *a*, and pico-Chl *a* account for 20 % of total Chl *a* in most samples (Qiu et al. 2010). In September, picophytoplankton is dominant except for the estuary head, where nano-phytoplankton is predominant. Pico-Chl *a* in far offshore samples accounts for 69 and 75 % of total Chl *a* (Qiu et al. 2010). Picophytoplankton typically accounts for less than 10 % of the total phytoplankton biomass during winter and early spring in Chesapeake Bay. However, it can often contribute to more than 50 % of total phytoplankton biomass in summer and early autumn, particularly in mesohaline and polyhaline waters (Buchanan et al. 2005). Variations in Chl *a* concentrations among phytoplankton species and changes in Chl *a* concentrations per unit of phytoplankton biomass are caused by environmental factors, but Chl *a* is the only parameter that allows precise and rapid determination of phytoplankton biomass or primary production in natural waters.

6.1 Possible Mechanisms For the Management of Eutrophication by Control of Primary Production

Most present studies try to correlate Chl *a* with nutrients, in order to regulate Chl *a*, primary production or photosynthesis by controlling nutrients or by other measures of flood disturbance frequency or of days available for accrual (Biggs 1985, 1995, 2000; Biggs et al. 1998, 1999; Lohman et al. 1992; Welch and Lindell 1992; Chapra 1997; Dodds et al. 1998; Chetelat et al. 1999; Huszar et al. 2006). Nutrients, particularly NO_3^- and PO_4^{3-} are produced mostly by DOM and POM (e.g. phytoplankton species or algae or cyanobacteria), via photoinduced or microbial respiration and degradation. This issue strongly suggests that regulating Chl *a* is vital for the control of DOM and POM in aquatic environments. DOM and POM are in fact the sources of all reactants such as CO_2 , DIC, H_2O_2 , nutrients and autochthonous DOM, which are responsible for photosynthesis and, therefore, for the primary production of Chl *a* (see chapters “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)” and “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”). DOM and POM along with global warming can lead to excess primary production and to photosynthesis, as shown in chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”. A conceptual model of primary production enhancement and three important steps for remediation, to control algal blooms are extensively discussed in Sects. 5 and 5.1 of chapter “[Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters](#)”. The same measures can be adopted to control photosynthesis and, therefore, to limit primary production or Chl *a* concentration. This activity can reduce eutrophication in natural waters.

7 Scope of the Future Research

DOM along with POM (e.g., algae or phytoplankton) can play an important role in the formation of SCM and DCM. The mechanism behind SCM and DCM formation may pave the way for future research. Formation of H_2O_2 in DCM layer by phytoplankton might be important, and distribution of H_2O_2 as well as its formation from the existing phytoplankton in DCM could be interesting to understand the mechanism of DCM formation. Almost all of previous studies dealt with nutrients (total nitrogen, NO_3^- or NH_4^+ , and total phosphate or PO_4^{3-}), but they have some problems. First, DOM and POM can release nutrients in natural waters by photoinduced or microbial respiration or degradation. Therefore, release and uptake of nutrients during photosynthesis has limited importance in waters with high contents of DOM and POM or high contents of nutrients. Second, waters with high contents of DOM and POM can produce DIC, CO_2 , H_2O_2 and so on, which are directly linked to photosynthesis and, therefore, to primary production (see chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). Therefore, DOM and POM should be more directly linked to Chl *a* than nutrients are. Important research needs can thus

be listed as follows: (i) Investigation on the relationship between Chl *a* and DOM and POM in a variety of waters, with high and low DOM contents; (ii) Investigation on phytoplankton photosynthesis along with measurement of Chl *a*, DIC, CO₂, H₂O₂ and dissolved O₂. Note that H₂O₂ is photochemically produced from dissolved O₂ (see chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). Recently, significant correlation has been found between dissolved O₂ and benthic or sestonic Chl concentration (Heiskary and Markus 2003; Miltner 2010), possibly due to H₂O₂ generation from dissolved O₂ followed by in algal production. (iii) New model studies are required, dealing with the mechanism of SCM and DCM formation and elucidating the role of organic matter (DOM and POM), solar radiation, photoinduced formation of DIC, CO₂ and H₂O₂, and water temperature. Note that solar radiation and water temperature are vital for the photoinduced generation of H₂O₂, DIC, CO₂ and nutrients from DOM and POM (see chapter “[Photosynthesis in Nature: A New Look](#)”). (iv) Investigation on photosynthesis in natural waters, with and without addition of phytoplankton/algae/cyanobacteria (POM) Such a study could elucidate the effect and role of POM on the photosynthesis, allowing a distinction between photosynthetic processes conducted by DOM and POM. (v) Study of changes of dissolved O₂ concentration along with those of H₂O₂ and Chl *a*. (vi) Elucidation of the role and contribution of H₂O₂, produced either intramolecularly or extracellularly on photosynthesis, in aquatic phytoplankton and higher plants.

8 Nomenclature

CDOM	Chromophoric dissolved organic matter
Chl	Chlorophyll
Chls	Chlorophylls
DCM	Deep chlorophyll <i>a</i> maximum
DIC	Dissolved inorganic carbon (dissolved CO ₂ , H ₂ CO ₃ , HCO ₃ ⁻ , and CO ₃ ²⁻)
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
FDOM	Fluorescent dissolved organic matter
H ₂ O ₂	Hydrogen peroxide
NCC	Nonfluorescent chlorophyll catabolites
¹ O ₂	Singlet oxygen
O ₂ ⁻	Super oxide anion radical
HO [•]	Hydroxyl radical
OM	Organic matter
Pfcc	Primary fluorescent chlorophyll catabolite
POM	Particulate organic matter
RCC	Red chlorophyll catabolite
RCCR	Red Chl catabolite reductase
ROS	Reactive oxygen species
SCM	Surface or subsurface chlorophyll <i>a</i> maximum
WT	Water temperature

Problems

- (1) List the various kinds of Chl found in organisms
- (2) Explain shortly the Chl *a* functions.
- (3) How does the surface or subsurface Chl *a* maximum (SCM) differ from the deep Chl *a* maximum (DCM)?
- (4) Explain the mechanisms of SCM and DCM formation in the water column.
- (5) How does global warming affect SCM or DCM?
- (6) Explain the mechanism of Chl *a* degradation
- (7) How does Chl act as universal signature of cyanobacteria (algae) or phytoplankton biomass?
- (8) Explain possible actions for the management of eutrophication by controlling primary production (Chl *a*).

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Complexation of Dissolved Organic Matter with Trace Metal Ions in Natural Waters

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1 Introduction

Complexation of the metal ions (M) with dissolved organic matter (DOM), i.e. M-DOM formation is of fundamental importance in metal ion chemistry and can control the occurrence of free toxic metals, the transport or migration of metals, acid–base balance and solubility in water, occurrence of the photo-Fenton reaction in surface water, biological effects, the bioavailability and toxicity to organisms in water, sediment and soil environments. DOM in natural waters can either enhance or decrease metal transport and affect the bioavailability of metals depending on its composition. DOM is a complex mixture of organic compounds of allochthonous

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and autochthonous origin. Allochthonous organic substances are generally derived from terrestrial plant material in soil ecosystems (and may reach the aquatic environment because of soil leaching and runoff), while autochthonous organic substances are produced mostly from algae and phytoplankton within the water column. The contribution of fulvic and humic acids (terrestrial humic substances) accounts for the most of the dissolved organic carbon (DOC), approximately 20–85 % in rivers and 14–90 % in lakes (Moran et al. 1991; Moran and Hodson 1994; Malcolm 1985; Hedges et al. 1997; Ma et al. 2001; Mostofa et al. 2009a). In contrast, they account for a relatively minor fraction in oceans, approximately 1–35 % except the shelf (see also chapter “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (Moran et al. 1991; Moran and Hodson 1994; Malcolm 1985; Hedges et al. 1997; Ma et al. 2001; Mostofa et al. 2009a). They play an important role on DOM physical, chemical and biological characteristics in the aquatic environments.

On the other hand, autochthonous DOM of algal, phytoplankton or bacterial origin is generally composed of autochthonous fulvic acids, carbohydrates, amino acids, proteins, lipids, organic acids and so on (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Coble 1996; Parlanti et al. 2000; Tanoue 2000; Jennings and Steinberg 1994; Yamashita and Tanoue 2003; Wada et al. 2007; Hulatt et al. 2009; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009). Phytoplankton is capable of releasing 10–60 % of the carbon and 15–50 % of the nitrogen assimilated during photosynthesis in natural waters (Sundh 1992; Bronk et al. 1994; Braven et al. 1995; MalinskyRushansky and Legrand 1996; Slawyk et al. 1998, 2000). The autochthonous DOM in the surface waters is significantly high, by approximately 0–102 % in lakes and 0–194 % in oceans estimated compared to the deeper waters during the summer stratification period (Mostofa et al. 2009a; see also DOM chapter). Therefore, autochthonous DOM plays an important role in M-DOM complexation, particularly in the surface layer of lakes, estuaries, wetlands and oceans. Extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) are produced by many microorganisms in natural waters and are mainly composed of polysaccharides, proteins, uronic acids, lipids and so on (Beech and Sunner 2004; Quiroz et al. 2006; Pal and Paul 2008; Merroun and Selenska-Pobell 2008; Zhang et al. 2008, 2010).

Most of the DOM components, such as allochthonous fulvic and humic acids of vascular plant origin, autochthonous fulvic acids of algal or phytoplankton origin, proteins, aromatic amino acids (tryptophan, tyrosine and phenylalanine), extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) and so on, show fluorescence properties and can simultaneously exhibit complexing properties (Saar and Weber 1980; Ryan and Weber 1982a; Cabaniss 1992; daSilva et al. 1996, 1998a; Smith and Kramer 1998, 1999; Mounier et al. 1999; Wu and Tanoue 2001a; Wu et al. 2004a; Dudal et al. 2006; Manciuola et al. 2009, 2011). DOM components are composed of diverse functional groups (including fluorophores or chromophores) in their molecular structures, which have strong binding capacity with metals in water (Malcolm 1985; Mostofa et al. 2009a; Saar and Weber 1980; Senesi 1990; Morel and Hering 1993; Morra et al. 1997; Xia et al. 1998; Leenheer et al. 1998; Bloom et al. 2001; Steelink 2002; Leenheer and Croue 2003; Stenson et al. 2003; Schwartz et al. 2004; Klinck et al. 2005). Therefore, it has been possible to assess the complexing properties of fluorescent DOM from

the fluorescence quenching upon complexation between various DOM components and metal ions.

The M-DOM interaction is generally estimated by determining the conditional stability constant, which significantly depends on several important factors in aqueous solution such as contents, nature and molecular size of DOM (Nair and Chander 1983; Kim et al. 1990; Wu et al. 2004b; Sonke and Salters 2006; Shcherbina et al. 2007; Konstantinou et al. 2009; Vidali et al. 2009); effect of pH (Zhang et al. 2009, 2010; Ryan and Weber 1982a; Sonke and Salters 2006; Shcherbina et al. 2007; Christoforidis et al. 2010; Iskrenova-Tchoukova et al. 2010; Liu and Cai 2010); effect of ions (cations and anions) and ionic strength (Sonke and Salters 2006; Christoforidis et al. 2010; Iskrenova-Tchoukova et al. 2010; Smith and Martell 1987; Cabaniss and Shuman 1988; Fu et al. 2007); effect of photoinduced processes (Zhang et al. 2009; Wu et al. 2004a; Bergquist and Blum 2007; Brooks et al. 2007; Yang and Sturgeon 2009; Sanchez-Marin et al. 2010; Vidali et al. 2010; Yin et al. 2010); effect of microbial processes (Bergquist and Blum 2007; Yin et al. 2010; Tabak et al. 2005; Francis and Dodge 2008; Fletcher et al. 2010), and finally effects of freshwater and seawater (Wu et al. 2004a, c; Fu et al. 2007; Harper et al. 2008). M-DOM complexation plays a vital role in the toxicity and bioavailability of heavy metals in the environment (Christoforidis et al. 2010; Winner 1985; Stackhouse and Benson 1988; Jiang et al. 2009). Optically darker DOM (or deep lake and marine DOM) has higher metal binding capability and typically tends to decrease metal toxicity to fish and algae in natural waters (Schwartz et al. 2004; Winch et al. 2002; Luider et al. 2004). Ternary complexes between organic ligands and trace metal ions and their relative stability constants may pave the way to find out high variations in conditional stability constants of binary complexes of DOM in aqueous solution (Martin and Prados 1974; Khalil and Radalla 1998; Khalil and Attia 1999, 2000; Khalil 2000a, b; Khalil and Taha 2004; Khalil and Fazary 2004; Radalla 2010; Rosas et al. 2010). A review by Hays et al. (2004) on the determination of conditional stability constants and ligand concentrations of fulvic acid with metal ions covers the Stern–Volmer equation for non-linear relationship, the differences between linear and non-linear relationship of formed complex and fluorescence quenching, and finally the Modified Multisite Stern–Volmer Equation. A review by Mostofa et al. (2011) summarizes the studies into metal ion complexation with various organic substances, and discusses about the possible mechanisms behind the quenching or enhancement in metal-DOM complexation in waters.

This chapter will give a general overview on the complexation of metal ions (M) with DOM (M-DOM), fluorescence characteristics of M-DOM complexes, theories for binary and ternary complexes as well as their conditional stability constants in aqueous solution, and finally the binding sites (or functional groups or fluorophores or chromophores) in various DOM components. A mechanism will be provided on M-DOM complexation, with use of tryptophan, a well known molecularly characterized fluorescent DOM component, as a model to understand the complexing properties. This review will discuss the key factors affecting the M-DOM complexation and the importance of the M-DOM complexation in waters.

2 Complexation of Metal Ions (M) With DOM (M-DOM) in Natural Waters

Dissolved organic matter (DOM) is composed of a variety of organic compounds, which are the most important sources of organic ligands that can form complexes with trace metal ions in natural surface water, soil, sediment pore water and groundwater (Wu et al. 2004a, b, c; Christoforidis et al. 2010; Liu and Cai 2010; Lu and Allen 2002; Filella 2008; Yamashita and Jaffe 2008; Schmeide and Bernhard 2009; Reiller and Brevet 2010; Sachs et al. 2010; Weng et al. 2010; Tserenpil and Liu 2011). The most important organic ligands in DOM that can form complexes with metal ions are allochthonous fulvic acids (Sonke and Salters 2006; Wu et al. 2002a, b, 2004c; Schmeide and Bernhard 2009; Reiller and Brevet 2010; Vlassopoulos et al. 1990; Mandal et al. 1999; 2000; Sekaly et al. 1999, 2003; Shin et al. 2001; Haitzer et al. 2003; Cao et al. 2004; Fujii et al. 2008); allochthonous humic acids (Sonke and Salters 2006; Shcherbina et al. 2007; Christoforidis et al. 2010; Liu and Cai 2010; Wu et al. 2004c; Reiller and Brevet 2010; Sachs et al. 2010; Tserenpil and Liu 2011; Haitzer et al. 2003; Cao et al. 2004; Takahashi et al. 1997; Buschmann and Sigg 2004; Filella and May 2005; Lippold and Lippmann-Pipke 2009; Pourret and Martinez 2009; Tella and Pokrovski 2009; Kim and Czerwinski 1996); hydrophobic acids extracted from natural waters (Haitzer et al. 2002, 2003); hydrophylic acids extracted from olive cake (Konstantinou et al. 2009); autochthonous DOM (ca. autochthonous fulvic acids or marine fulvic acids) of algal origin (see also chapters “Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters” and “Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters”) (daSilva et al. 1996; Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995); tryptophan amino acid (Wu and Tanoue 2001a, b); glycine and other amino acid having O- and N-functional groups (carboxyl, alcoholic hydroxyl, phenolic hydroxyl and amine) (Tella and Pokrovski 2009); cysteine, histidine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid (Rosas et al. 2010; Santana-Casiano et al. 2000; Shoukry 2005; Shiozawa et al. 2011); picolinic acid and dipicolinic acid (Rosas et al. 2010; Shiozawa et al. 2011; Lubes et al. 2010; Da Costa et al. 2011); protein, peptide and selenoprotein P (Shoukry 2005; Sidenius et al. 1999; Motson et al. 2004); glycoprotein exopolymer produced by *Pseudoalteromonas* sp. strain (Gutierrez et al. 2008); extracellular polymeric substances (Zhang et al. 2009; Harper et al. 2008; Guibaud et al. 2004, 2006; Comte et al. 2008; d’Abzac et al. 2010); melanin (Felix et al. 1978); 2,4-diiodo-6-(((2-pyridinylmethyl)amino) methyl)phenol (Frezza et al. 2009); indolo[3,2-*c*]quinolines (Primik et al. 2010); 2-[4-dimethylaminocinnamalamino]-benzoic acid (Yalcin et al. 1998); 8-hydroxyquinoline (oxine) (Xia et al. 1996; Sarmiento et al. 2010); thenoyltrifluoroacetone (HTTA) (Xia et al. 1996); bipyridyl and 2,2’-bipyridine (Sarmiento et al. 2010; Bhattacharyya et al. 2010); 1,10-phenanthroline (Xia et al. 1996; Sarmiento et al. 2010; Bhattacharyya et al. 2010); phenols (e.g., catechol, hydroquinone, resorcinol) and polyphenols (Shcherbina et al. 2007; Tella and Pokrovski 2009; Thakur et al. 2006); quinonoid compounds (Shcherbina et al. 2007); benzylmalonic acid and n-hexadecylmalonic

acid (Palmer et al. 1998); bis (2,4,4-trimethylpentyl) dithiophosphinic acid (Bhattacharyya et al. 2010); 2-(aminomethyl)-benzimidazole (El-Sherif 2010); α -isosaccharinic acid and α -isosaccharinate (Vercammen et al. 2001; van Loon et al. 2004; Warwick et al. 2003, 2004); citrate (Fujii et al. 2008); acetate (Saito et al. 2010); phthalic and salicylic acids (Panak et al. 1995); salicylate and thiosalicylate (Vlassopoulos et al. 1990); ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) (Fu et al. 2007; Fujii et al. 2008); galacturonic acid (Harper et al. 2008); gluconic acid (Warwick et al. 2003, 2004); aminopolycarboxylic acids (Smith and Martell 1987); and finally O-bearing organic compounds such as carboxylic acids (acetic, adipic, succinic, malic, malonic, maleic, lactic, oxalic, tartaric, citric and orthophosphoric acids) (Francis and Dodge 2008; Radalla 2010; Filella and May 2005; Tella and Pokrovski 2009; Shoukry 2005; Da Costa et al. 2011; El-Sherif 2010). Besides these organic ligands, the gill membrane in fish can form complexes with metal ions such as Ag^+ , Ca^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , and Co^{2+} (Playle et al. 1993; Janes and Playle 1995; Richards and Playle 1998; Playle 1998; Tao et al. 2002). In addition, algae can complex or uptake trace metals either directly or in the presence of humic acid that can enhance the metals uptake substantially (Zhou and Wangersky 1985, 1989; Xue and Sigg 1990; Koukal et al. 2003; Mylon et al. 2003; Lamelas and Slaveykova 2007; Lamelas et al. 2009).

The studied trace metal ions that form M-DOM complexes are the transition metals [Sc^{3+} , Y^{3+} , V^{2+} or VO_2^+ , Cr^{2+} or Cr^{3+} , Mn^{2+} , Fe (Fe^{2+} or Fe^{3+}), Co^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Au^+ , Mo^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , Hg^{2+}]; lanthanides [Sc, Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Pm, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, and Lu, hereafter Ln^{3+}]; actinides [Th^{4+} , U^{4+} , UO_2^{2+} , Np (Np^{4+} , Np^{5+}), NpO_2^+ , Pu^{3+} , Am^{3+} , Cm^{3+}]; metal/metalloid [Al^{3+} , Ga^{3+} , As^{3+} , Sb^{3+} , Sb^{5+} , Tl^{3+} , Sn^{2+} , Pb^{2+}], as well as the alkali/alkaline earth elements [H^+ , Be^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Ca^{2+} , Sr^{2+} , Ba^{2+}] (Nair and Chander 1983; Cabaniss and Shuman 1988; Vlassopoulos et al. 1990; Cabaniss 1992; Panak et al. 1995; Xia et al. 1996; Bidoglio et al. 1997; Takahashi et al. 1997; Kaiser 1998; Murphy et al. 1999; Sekaly et al. 1999; Wu et al. 2004a, b; Kautenburger et al. 2006; Sonke and Salters 2006; de Zarruk et al. 2007; Fu et al. 2007; Reszat and Hendry 2007; Shcherbina et al. 2007; Lippold and Lippmann-Pipke 2009; Pourret and Martinez 2009; Schmeide and Bernhard 2009; Vidali et al. 2009; Bhattacharyya et al. 2010; Christoforidis et al. 2010; Reiller and Brevet 2010; Saito et al. 2010; Tserenpil and Liu 2011). Any given metal ion in the natural environment may potentially be found in many diverse forms, namely, 'free' (hydrated), complexed by 'simple' inorganic or organic ligands, complexed by ligand atoms which are part of the structure of naturally occurring macromolecules or colloids, and adsorbed on suspended organic or inorganic particles or living organisms (Huber et al. 2002; Filella et al. 2007).

Heavy metals (e.g. Cd^{2+} , Pb^{2+} , and Sr^{2+}) show strong interaction with humic acids (HA) in forming M-DOM complexes, leading to formation of covalent bonds with the radicals of humic acids (Christoforidis et al. 2010). Metal partitioning between colloidal (1 μm –1 kDa) and truly dissolved (<1 kDa) fractions is detected to match a decrease of metal toxicity (for Cd and Zn ions) in the presence of humic acid, but not in the presence of Suwannee River Fulvic Acid (Koukal et al. 2003). This suggest that metal-HA complexes are of high molecular weight and relatively

stable with regard to metal-exchange reactions, thus the cited metals (Cd and Zn ions) are less bioavailable (Koukal et al. 2003). Chemodynamic modeling suggests that the enhancement of the metal uptake flux in the presence of HA originates from an increasing amount of metal bound to the internalization sites, through ternary complex formation between metal—HA complex and internalization sites (Lamelas et al. 2009). Cell wall speciation calculations indicate that the metal—humic acid complex is the predominant species in the cell wall layer in algae, while for some other metals [e.g. Cu(II) and Cd(II)] the binding to the internalization (Cu) and adsorption (Cd) sites significantly dominates over the M—HA complexes (Lamelas et al. 2009).

2.1 Fluorescence Characteristics of the M-DOM Complexation

Allochthonous fulvic acids of vascular plant origin are generally composed of two fluorescence excitation-emission (Ex/Em) peaks (or maxima) such as the peak C at the peak C-region (280–400/380–550 nm) and the peak A at the peak A-region (215–280/380–550 nm) (see chapter “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” for detailed description) (Fig. 1a) (Mostofa et al. 2005, 2009a; Coble 1996; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mounier et al. 2011; Yamashita and Jaffe 2008; Coble 2007). In contrast, allochthonous humic acids of vascular plant origin are composed of three or more fluorescence Ex/Em peaks such as the peak C at the peak C-region (280–400/380–550 nm) and the peak A at the peak A-region (215–280/380–550 nm) (Fig. 1b; see also chapter “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”) (Mostofa et al. 2005, 2009a; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Yamashita and Jaffe 2008). Similarly, the fluorescence Ex/Em peaks of autochthonous fulvic acids of algal origin resemble those of allochthonous fulvic acids (Fig. 1c, d) (Parlanti et al. 2000; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Stedmon et al. 2007). The tryptophan (or protein-like) component shows two fluorescence peaks such as the peak T at the peak T-region (260–285/290–380 nm) and the peak T_{UV} at the peak T_{UV}-region (215–260/280–380 nm) (Fig. 1e; see chapter “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)”). The fluorophores or functional groups in fluorescent DOM are susceptible to show their fluorescent properties as well as to interact with metals via complex formation. Therefore, the fluorescence intensity of M-DOM is either enhanced or quenched compared to the original fluorescent DOM (Saar and Weber 1980; Ryan and Weber 1982a; Cabaniss and Shuman 1988; Grimm et al. 1991; Cabaniss 1992; dasilva et al. 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998; Smith and Kramer 1998; Lu and Jaffe 2001; Wu and Tanoue 2001a; Wu et al. 2004a; b; Dudal et al. 2006; Plaza et al. 2006; Fu et al. 2007; Antunes et al. 2007; Ohno et al. 2008; Manciulea et al. 2009, 2011).

Many studies show that complexation of DOM with trace elements often decreases the overall fluorescence intensity of DOM (peak C, peak A, peak T and peak T_{UV}), after addition of metal ions and with increasing their concentration. On the other hand, elements such as Al³⁺, Be³⁺, actinides (ca. Cm³⁺), Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ are responsible for an enhancement of the fluorescence intensity of organic ligands (fulvic acid, humic

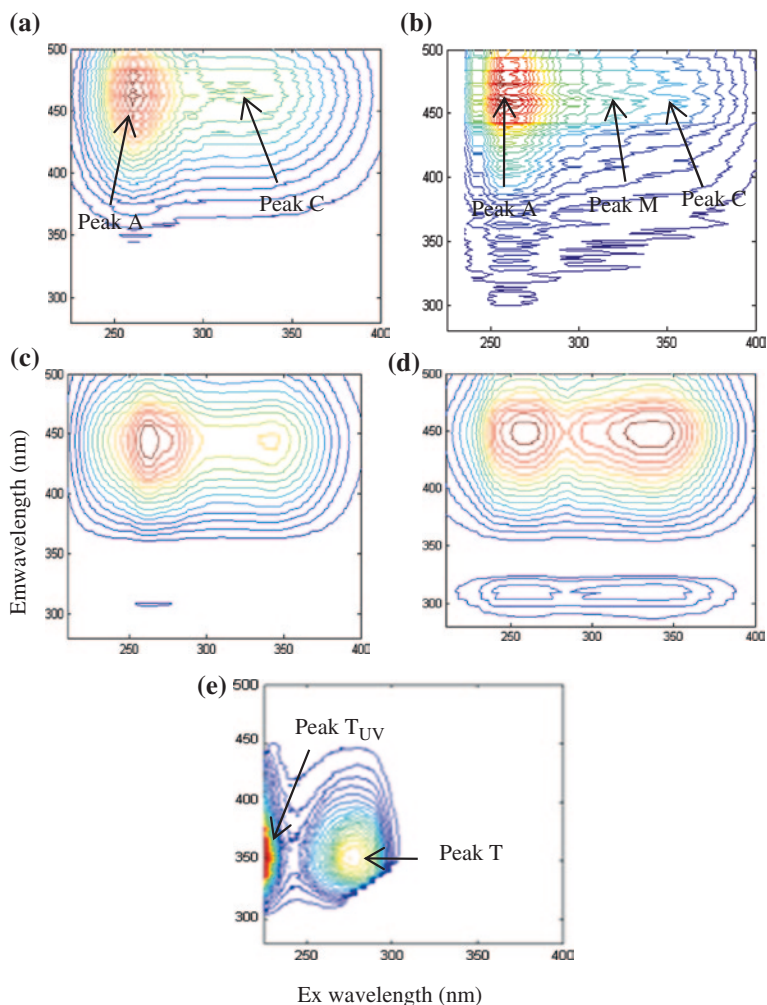


Fig. 1 The fluorescent components of allochthonous Suwannee River fulvic acid standard (C-like, **a**); allochthonous Suwannee River humic acid standard (C-like, **b**), autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of microbial assimilation (**c**) and photoinduced assimilation (**d**) of lake algae in aqueous samples (Milli-Q and river waters), and tryptophan standard in Milli-Q waters (**e**) identified using PARAFAC modeling. *Data source* Mostofa and Sakugawa (2009); Mostofa et al. (2009b)

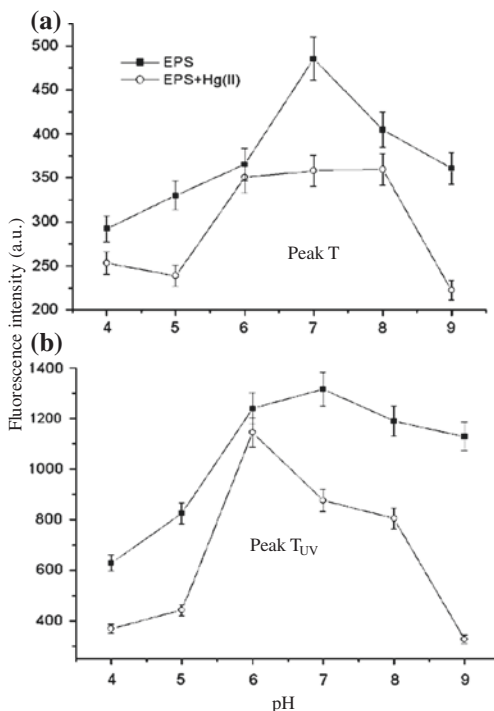
acid, 5-sulfosalicylic acid, and other organic compounds) that is linked with complexation (Cabaniss 1992; Smith and Kramer 1998, 1999; Cabaniss and Shuman 1988; Fu et al. 2007; Panak et al. 1995; dasilva et al. 1995; Ohno et al. 2008; Silva et al. 1994; Lakshman et al. 1993, 1996; Seritti et al. 1994). The increase in fluorescence intensity upon complexation of Cm^{3+} with 5-sulfosalicylic acid, fulvic acid, and humic acid suggests that the salicylic acid-like functional group may present in the molecular structure in allochthonous fulvic and humic acids (Panak et al. 1995). The fluorophores in

fluorescent DOM (or functional groups or chromophores) are likely responsible for the formation of complexes with trace elements.

The key fluorophores in allochthonous fulvic and humic acids, tryptophan amino acid and protein in natural waters are composed of Schiff-base derivatives ($-\text{N}=\text{C}-\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{N}-$), $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{COOCH}_3$, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{CH}=\text{O}$, $-\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}-$, $-\text{SH}$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2-(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$, S-, O- or N-containing aromatic compounds, and so on (Malcolm 1985; Mostofa et al. 2009a; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Senesi 1990; Steelink 2002; Leenheer and Croue 2003; Fu et al. 2007; Corin et al. 1996; Peña-Méndez et al. 2005; Seitzinger et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2005). The complexation of trace elements with fluorescent substances also affects the fluorescence peak position of the respective fluorophore. Usually, both excitation and emission wavelengths of the respective peak position gradually shift toward the longer wavelength with increase in the reaction time (Wu et al. 2004a, c; Plaza et al. 2006). It has also been found that comparison of the EEM spectra before and after binding in metal-DOM complexes shows that the fast binding site in fulvic acid is responsible for 71–87 % of the total fluorescence decrease, while the remainder is associated with the slow binding site (Wu et al. 2004c).

EPSs show two fluorescence peaks (peak T and T_{UV}) in the absence and presence of trace elements such as Hg^{2+} , with the maximal fluorescence intensity at neutral pH (Fig. 2) (Zhang et al. 2010). The excitation-emission matrix (EEM)

Fig. 2 Changes in the fluorescence intensities of peak T (a) and peak T_{UV} (b) for extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) with solution pH in the absence and presence of $3.0 \text{ mg L}^{-1} \text{ Hg(II)}$. The error bar indicates the standard deviation of three independent measurements. *Data source* Zhang et al. (2010)



spectra of EPS show that the fluorescence intensity of the peak T_{UV}-region is higher than the peak T-region, which is a similar behavior as tryptophan (Fig. 1e) (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Zhang et al. 2010). The fluorescence intensity of EPS and its complexation with Hg²⁺ significantly varies with pH, and is highest under neutral conditions (Fig. 2; Zhang et al. (2010)).

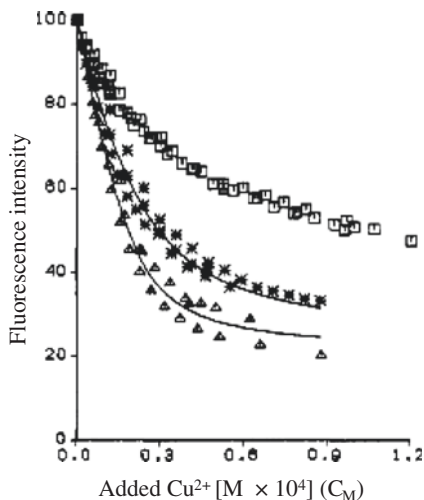
3 Complexation Theorem

The complexation theorem depends on the linear or non-linear relationship between formed complex and fluorescence quenching (Ryan and Weber 1982a; Cabaniss and Shuman 1988; Hays et al. 2003, 2004; Ryan and Ventry 1990; Cook and Langford 1995). The nonlinearity depends on several factors (Hays et al. 2004; Cook and Langford 1995), which can be distinguished as (i) Sample type, pretreatment, and age of the DOM; (ii) Overlap of fluorophores that typify chemically different complexation sites; (iii) The wavelengths (or scanning method) at which the fluorescence measurements are acquired; (iv) The varied physicochemical microenvironments of the fulvic acid structure as characterized by either a single fluorophore or fluorophore set; (v) Cooperational and molecular configuration changes due to metal loading or ionization state; and (vi) Shielding of binding sites or fluorescence (i.e., controlling photophysical effects). In addition (vii) the fluorescence intensity of fulvic and humic acids either at peak C-region or peak A-region might be the result of various types of fluorophores (functional groups) associated with those substances (Malcolm 1985; Senesi 1990; Steelink 2002). Sequential decomposition of the fluorophores bound at peak C- and A-regions in fulvic and humic acids by photoinduced degradation decreases the fluorescence intensity at the cited peaks during the transport from rivers to lakes and oceans (Mostofa et al. 2005a; b, 2007, 2010; Amador et al. 1989; Malcolm 1990; Allard et al. 1994; Moran et al. 2000; Xie et al. 2004; Li and Crittenden 2009; Minakata et al. 2009). Such changes may affect the nature and contents of fluorophores bound to fulvic and humic acids in various types of natural waters. Such changes are responsible for the variation of the binding capacity of metal ions, thereby exerting a significantly effect on the cited linear or non-linear relationship. The complexation theorem can therefore be expressed in two ways: (1) Theory of metal–ligand complexation based on linearity; and (2) Theory of modified Multisite Stern–Volmer (MSV) equation based on nonlinearity.

3.1 Theory of the M-DOM Complexation Based on Linearity

The fluorescence quenching of an organic ligand (e.g. fulvic acid, termed as L) by complexation with a metal ion (e.g. Cu²⁺, termed as M) assuming a simple 1:1 metal ligand coordination ratio (Fig. 3) can be expressed in terms of the individual fluorescence of each species, as depicted by Ryan and Weber (1982a, b). The

Fig. 3 Fluorescence quenching curves for 10 mg L⁻¹ soil fulvic acid with Cu²⁺ in 0.1 M KNO₃ at 25 °C: (*squares*) pH 5, four replicates; (*asterisk*) pH 6, three replicates; (*triangles*) pH 7, three replicates. *Data source* Ryan and Weber (1982a)

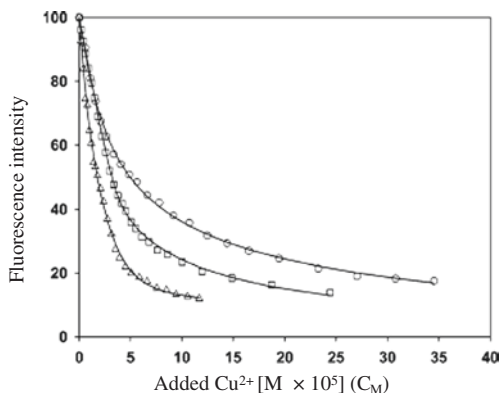


concentration of bound metal ion with an organic ligand (ML) is the difference between total and free metal ion concentration. A titration of naturally occurring fulvic acid ligand with a metal ion can allow determination of the stability constant (K) and of the complexing capacity (C_L) of the ligand if a stoichiometry is considered (Hart 1981).

3.2 Theory of Multisite Stern–Volmer Equation for Determination of M-DOM Complexation

The multisite Stern–Volmer (MSV) equation is modified, simulated, validated for predictive capability with a suitable model compound set by Hays and his colleagues (2004), and applied to fluorescence titration data in the complexation of fulvic acid with Cu²⁺ (Fig. 4). The MSV approach assumes a simple 1:1 coordination ratio between Cu²⁺ and the fluorescent ligand components, giving the following reversible solution equilibria: $M + L1 \rightleftharpoons ML1$ and $M + L2 \rightleftharpoons ML2$ where L1 and L2 are the free ligand species (all forms of metal-free ligand) at sites 1 and 2, respectively, M is free metal, and ML1 and ML2 are the metal-bound species at these sites. Other reaction stoichiometries are possible, which rely on metal loading. For example, at low metal loadings, chelation (2:1 = ligand:metal) may be induced, contorting the fulvic acid shape and affecting fluorescence. Evidences for the effect of these molecular conformation changes on fluorescence are scarce, inconclusive, and not easily quantified.

Fig. 4 Multisite Stern–Volmer (MSV)-fitted fluorescence quenching data of soil fulvic acid (15 mg L⁻¹) titrated with Cu²⁺ at 0.1 M ionic strength: (*circles*) pH 5 data; (*squares*) pH 6 data; (*triangles*) pH 7 data; (*solid lines*) MSV predicted intensity values. *Data source* Ryan and Weber (1982a)



3.3 Theory for Conditional Stability Constant of M-DOM Complexation

The conditional stability constant of a M-DOM complex is operationally defined as the binding efficiency of the newly formed bond between the functional group of the DOM component (acting as an organic ligand) and the trace metal ion M, when they are mixed up under specific conditions in aqueous media. Conditional stability constants of a M-DOM complex can be useful to characterize the formed complex, to apply the strong binding capacity of organic substances to control speciation, toxicity, bioavailability and fate of toxic metals used e.g. in industries, and for predicting biological effects of metals in natural water, sediment and soil environments (Shcherbina et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2011; Sekaly et al. 2003; Huber et al. 2002; Filella et al. 2007; Hörnström et al. 1984; Hughes et al. 1995; Markich 2002; Matsumoto et al. 2005; Martel and Motekaitis 1988).

A conditional stability constant has been determined by Midorikawa and Tanoue (Appendix A) (Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998), adopting the relationship between measured fluorescence intensity and complexation for a divalent metal ion (M, ca. Cu²⁺) with organic ligands, and assuming a 1:1 stoichiometry (Ryan and Weber 1982a). The complexing reactions that fit the experimental data can be described by the linear regression program. The relationship between measured fluorescence intensity and complexation can be described as follows (Eq. 3.1) (Ryan and Weber 1982a):

$$X = \frac{[\text{ML}]}{C_L} = \frac{F_0 - F}{F_0 - F_{\text{end}}} \quad (3.1)$$

where the quantity [ML]/C is the fraction of the ligand bound to the metal to form the complex ML. Such a fraction can be expressed in terms of the measured fluorescence intensity, F . F_0 and F_{end} are the limiting intensities before and after metal titration. They correspond to the intensities when all ligands are entirely free and bound, respectively.

The estimated fraction $[ML]/C_L$ is applied to the approach of Ruzic (1982). The conditional stability constants (K'_{ML}) for complex formation between M and the ligand, L, assuming simple 1:1 equilibrium can be written as follows (Eq. 3.2):

$$K'_{ML} = \frac{[ML]}{[M] \cdot [L']} = \frac{[ML \cdot \alpha_M]}{(C_M - [ML]) (C_L - [ML])} \quad (3.2)$$

where K'_{ML} is the constant with regard to the concentration of free metal ion, [M]; $[M']$ and $[L']$ are the total concentrations of all inorganic forms of M and of L unbound to M, respectively; α_M is the inorganic side-reaction coefficient for M that is estimated to be $\alpha_M = [M']/[M] = 11$ at pH 8.15 under the same conditions (Midorikawa et al. 1990).

Substituting for $[ML] = C_L X$, Eq. (3.2) can be rewritten as (Eq. 3.3)

$$C_M \cdot \left(\frac{1 - X}{X} \right) = C_L \cdot (1 - X) + \frac{\alpha_M}{K'_{ML}} \quad (3.3)$$

By plotting of $C_M (1-X)/X$ versus. $(1 - X)$, a linear regression is observed by the least-squares analysis that will give the best-fit values of C_L from the slope, and the conditional stability constant K'_{ML} from the intercept. For the nonlinear diagram, two 1:1 complexes by two discrete ligand classes with different stability constants are assumed, which can be treated by another model (van Den Berg 1984).

3.4 Theory for Protonation Constants of DOM in M-DOM Complexation

The protonation constants of organic ligands are estimated from the changes in fluorescence according to the changes in pH with regard to single protonation (Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998). The fluorescence (F) of the ligand (L) during the acid–base titration can be expressed by the concentration of each species of the ligand by the molar fluorescence coefficient (ϵ) as follows (Eqs. 3.4–3.6):

$$F_{H-pH} = \epsilon_L C_L \quad \text{at high pH} \quad (3.4)$$

$$F_{L-pH} = \epsilon_{HL} C_L \quad \text{at low pH} \quad (3.5)$$

$$F = \epsilon_{HL}[L] + \epsilon_{HL}[HL] \quad \text{at middle pH} \quad (3.6)$$

where the quantities F_{H-pH} and F_{L-pH} are the limiting fluorescence intensities at either extreme of the titration: F_{H-pH} is for the free ligand (L) that is dissociated at high pH; and F_{L-pH} is for HL that is protonated at low pH.

From the mass balance of the ligand, $C_L = [L] + [HL]$, the above equations can be rewritten as follows:

$$F_{H-pH} - F = (\epsilon_L - \epsilon_{HL}) [HL] \quad (3.7)$$

$$F - F_{L-pH} = (\epsilon_L - \epsilon_{HL}) [L] \quad (3.8)$$

From Eqs. (3.7) and (3.8), the fluorescence of the ligand can be expressed in terms of the protonation constant and the proton concentration as follows:

$$\frac{F_{\text{H-pH}} - F}{F - F_{\text{L-pH}}} = \frac{[\text{HL}]}{L} = K'_{\text{HL}} \cdot [\text{H}] \quad (3.9)$$

Using the logarithm, Eq. (3.9) becomes

$$\log \frac{F_{\text{H-pH}} - F}{F - F_{\text{L-pH}}} = \log K'_{\text{HL}} - \text{pH} \quad (3.10)$$

The plot of $\log(F_{\text{H-pH}} - F)/(F - F_{\text{L-pH}})$ versus pH gives the values of $\log K'_{\text{HL}}$ from the intercept. For the occurrence of a further protonation at lower pH, two protonation constants are operational that can be treated by another model (van Den Berg 1984).

3.5 Kinetics of *M-Fulvic Acid Complexation*

It has been shown that allochthonous fulvic acids are the main DOM components studied in natural waters (Moran et al. 1991; Malcolm 1990; Ma et al. 2001; Mostofa et al. 2009a). Therefore, it is vital to know how they form complexes with metal ions. Changes in the full fluorescence spectral kinetic, i.e., in both Ex/Em wavelengths of the fluorescence maxima occur in the EEM spectra of fulvic acid or DOM during their complexation with trace elements (Wu et al. 2004a, c). The complexation of a fulvic acid (extracted from Cavan Bog, Canada) with several metals (Cu^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Co^{2+} , Cd^{2+} and Ca^{2+}) at pH 7 shows that the fulvic acid can react rapidly with all metals studied (Wu et al. 2004c). The result of pseudo-first order kinetic plots demonstrates that fulvic acid has two major kinetically distinguishable binding sites, 'fast' and 'slow', having reaction half-lives of 1.3–3.9 and 34.7–69.3 s, respectively (Wu et al. 2004c). The binding of copper to fulvic acid is found to be fairly rapid, and the reaction is virtually at equilibrium after approximately 20–30 s (Lin et al. 1995). Another study demonstrates that the three lifetimes and emission wavelength maxima for three fluorophores in fulvic acid are as follows: ~50 ps (392 nm), ~430 ps (465 nm), and 4.2 ns (512 nm) (Cook and Langford 1995). Kinetic changes of excitation-emission wavelengths of the fluorescence maxima also suggest the presence of two major binding sites. For the fast-reacting binding site, the rate constant and the site relative contribution are in the order $\text{Cu}^{2+} > \text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Co}^{2+} > \text{Cd}^{2+} > \text{Ca}^{2+}$, which agrees with the Irving-Williams series, indicating affinity dependence of complexation kinetics (Wu et al. 2004c). For the fast-reacting binding site in fulvic acid, proteins and other organic ligands, the relative contribution of rate constant for bivalent metal complexes follows the same order (Wu et al. 2002a, 2004c; Sidenius et al. 1999; Irving and Williams 1953; Winzerling et al. 1992). This result implies that metal ions react

initially with the fast reacting and strong binding site on fulvic acid; after the fast binding site is entirely occupied, the slow reacting and weak binding site starts to bind with the metal ions (Wu et al. 2004c). In each phase, the red-shifted excitation-emission spectra suggest physical structural changes (ca. molecular conformation or rigidity) of the fulvic acid-metal complex (Wu et al. 2004c). Changes in the molecular conformation and formation of aggregates of fulvic acid upon complexation are also supported by other studies (Hays et al. 2004; Filella 2008; Chakraborty et al. 2007).

Within each kinetic phase, both excitation-emission wavelengths of fluorescence maxima gradually increase with reaction time (Wu et al. 2004a, c). Such red-shifted phenomena are also observed in humic acid extracted from sewerage sludge (Plaza et al. 2006). The kinetics of metal-fulvic acid complexation depends on the concentration; chemical nature and sources of DOM components; temperature; pH; molecular size; occurrence of anions and cations; salinity; and metal affinity (da Silva et al. 1998a; Wu and Tanoue 2001a, b; Wu et al. 2004b, c; Fu et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2011; Lu and Jaffe 2001; Lin et al. 1995; Plankey and Patterson 1987). Recent studies show that all protonated and unprotonated forms of both the ligand and the hydrated central metal ion are involved in the formation of the precursor inner- and outer-sphere complexes, which control the kinetics of complex formation/dissociation (van Leeuwen et al. 2007; van Leeuwen and Town 2009a, b). It has also been shown that stronger the affinity of the metal, the greater proportion of strong and fast reacting fulvic acid binding sites are involved in the complexation process. This finding indicates that metal affinity affects both the thermodynamic equilibrium and the reaction kinetics (Wu et al. 2004c).

3.6 Conditional Stability Constants ($\log_{10}K$) for M-DOM Complexation in Water

Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$) for M-DOM complexation are presented for various DOM components in water (Table 1) (Zhang et al. 2010; Wu et al. 2001, 2004a; Nair and Chander 1983; Kim et al. 1990; Sonke and Salters 2006; Shcherbina et al. 2007; Konstantinou et al. 2009; Vidali et al. 2009; Liu and Cai 2010; Fu et al. 2007; Brooks et al. 2007; Hays et al. 2004; Cao et al. 2004; Takahashi et al. 1997; Haitzer et al. 2002; Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995; Wu and Tanoue 2001b; Guibaud et al. 2004, 2006; Thakur et al. 2006; van Loon et al. 2004; Plaza et al. 2006; Antunes et al. 2007; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998; Tipping 1994; Breault et al. 1996; Mcknight et al. 1983; van Den Berg et al. 1987; Sunda and Huntsman 1991; Sunda and Hanson 1987; Sunda and Ferguson 1983; Moffett et al. 1990; Coale and Bruland 1988, 1990; van Den Berg 1984; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1996; Benoit et al. 2001; Buckau et al. 1992; Comte et al. 2006; Drexel et al. 2002; Gasper et al. 2007; Hsu and Sedlak 2003; Kim et al. 1991; Sander et al. 2005; Shank et al. 2006; Smith 1974). Fulvic acids (FA) of different origin can exhibit two major binding sites in the

Table 1 Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$) of the M-DOM complexes in aqueous solution

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)					pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a	Other organic ligands ^a		
<i>Model ligands</i>							
Cu ²⁺ with COOH and OH group	-	-	-	-	3.0-6.0	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with NH ₂ (NH ₃)	-	-	-	-	2.8	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with ethanol amine	-	-	-	-	4.4	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with glycine (NH ₂ -CH ₂ -COOH or NH ₃ ⁺ -CH ₂ -COO ⁻)	-	-	-	-	6.6	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with ethylene diamine (NH ₂ -CH ₂ -CH ₂ -NH ₂)	-	-	-	-	8.5	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with aspartic acid [HOOC-CH(NH ₂)-CH ₂ -COOH]	-	-	-	-	7.2	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with iminoacetic acid (HOOC-CH ₂ -NH ₂ -CH ₂ -COOH)	-	-	-	-	9.4	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with diaminopropanol	-	-	-	-	8.3	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with ethylenediamine-N-acetic acid	-	-	-	-	11.4	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with diethylenetriamine	-	-	-	-	13.0	8.15	Martell and Smith (1974)
Cu ²⁺ with fulvic acid (modeled)	9.64 (K ₁); 3.26 (K ₂)	-	-	-	-	?	Tipping (1994)
Cu ²⁺ with fulvic acid (modeled) from soil)	4.37 (K ₂)	-	-	-	-	6	Antunes et al. (2007)
Cu ²⁺ with fulvic acid (extracted from soil)	5.30 (K ₁)	-	-	-	-	4	Cao et al. (2004)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)				pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a		
Cu ²⁺ with fulvic acid (extracted from soil) (Ex/Em = 335/350 nm)	4.78–5.70 (K_1)	–	–	–	5.0–7.0	Hays et al. (2004)
Fe ³⁺ with fulvic acid (modeled)	5.66 (K_1)	–	–	–	4	Antunes et al. (2007)
Hg ²⁺ with fulvic acid (modeled)	4.44 (K_1)	–	–	–	6	Antunes et al. (2007)
UO ₂ ²⁺ with fulvic acid (modeled)	5.46 (K_1)	–	–	–	3.5	Antunes et al. (2007)
Cu ²⁺ with humic acid (modeled)	–	4.83 (K_1)	–	–	6	Antunes et al. (2007)
Cu ²⁺ with humic acid (modeled)	–	8.55 (K_1); 4.02 (K_2)	–	–	?	Tipping (1994)
Cu ²⁺ with humic acid (extracted from soil)	–	3.99–4.49 (K_1)	–	–	4	Cao et al. (2004)
Fe ³⁺ with humic acid (modeled)	–	6.79 (K_1)	–	–	4	Antunes et al. (2007)
Hg ²⁺ with humic acid (modeled)	–	5.50 (K_1)	–	–	6	Antunes et al. (2007)
UO ₂ ²⁺ with humic acid (modeled)	–	4.27 (K_1)	–	–	3.5	Antunes et al. (2007)
As ³⁺ with Aldrich humic acid (modeled)	–	5.8–7.2 (K_1); 4.5–5.3 (K_2)	–	–	5.2–9.3	Liu and Cai (2010)
Cu ²⁺ with tryptophan (modeled) (Ex/Em = 285/360 nm)	–	–	4.88–4.90 (K_1)	–	6	Hays et al. (2004)
Cu ²⁺ with glycyl-tryptophan (modeled) (C ₁₃ H ₁₅ N ₃ O ₃) (Ex/Em = 285/360 nm)	–	–	5.81–6.02 (K_1)	–	6	Hays et al. (2004)
Acid/alkali/alkaline earth elements	–	–	–	–	–	–

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)			pH	References	
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a			Autochthonous or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a
H ⁺ with humic acid of various sources	–	7.15–9.80 (K_1); 2.80–4.94 (K_2)	–	–	–	Vidali et al. (2009)
Be ²⁺	–	4.0	–	–	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Ca ²⁺	–	1.0	–	–	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Ca ²⁺ with alpha-isosaccharinate	–	–	–	–	1.70–1.80	van Loon et al. (2004)
Sr ²⁺	–	0.5	–	–	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Ba ²⁺	–	0.5	–	–	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Ga ³⁺	–	10.0	–	–	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
<i>Transition metals</i>						
Cu ²⁺ with river DOM/humic substances	7.0–8.1 (K_1); 5.4–6.1 (K_2)	–	–	–	?	Breault et al. (1996)
Cu ²⁺ with river and canal DOM/humic substances	8.3–8.5 (K_1); 6.0–6.6 (K_2)	–	–	–	?	Mcknight et al. (1983)
Cu ²⁺ with river fulvic acid (Ex/Em = 315–330/426–434 nm)	7.21–7.31 (K_1)	–	–	–	?	Wu et al. (2001)
Cu ²⁺	5.3	–	–	–	6	Konstantinou et al. 2009
Cu ²⁺ with lake autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like: 310–320/376–386 nm) at 2.5 m	7.84–7.96 (K_1)	–	–	–	?	Wu et al. (2001)
Cu ²⁺ with lake autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like: 250/414–438 nm) at 2.5 m	7.06–7.67 (K_2)	–	–	–	?	Wu et al. (2001)
Cu ²⁺ with lake autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like: 310–320/376–386 nm) at 70 m	9.23 (K_1)	–	–	–	?	Wu et al. (2001)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)				pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a		
Cu ²⁺ with lake autochthonous fulvic acid (M-like; 250/414–438 nm) at 70 m	8.69 (K_2)	–	–	–	?	Wu et al. (2001)
Cu ²⁺ with lake DOM/humic substances	7.0 (K_1); 5.4 (K_2)	–	–	–	?	McKnight et al. (1983)
Cu ²⁺ with fulvic acid (lake)	7.05–8.78 (K_1)	–	–	–	?	Wu and Tanoue (2001b)
Cu ²⁺ with humic acid, sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 340/438 nm)	–	4.65	–	–	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Cu ²⁺ with humic acid, soil (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	–	5.55	–	–	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Cu ²⁺ with humic acid, amended soil + sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	–	5.36	–	–	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Zn ²⁺ with autochthonous DOM (Lake Greifen)	–	–	–	7.8–9.6	8.0	Xue et al. (1995)
Cu ²⁺ with autochthonous DOM (Lake Greifen)	–	–	–	13.9–14.9 (K_1); 11.8–12.9 (K_2)	7.8	Xue and Sigg (1993)
Cu ²⁺ with autochthonous DOM (Scheidt estuary)	–	–	–	13.0–14.9 (K_1); 11.5–12.8 (K_2)	7.7	van Den Berg et al. (1987)
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (Shelf water)	–	–	–	13.2; 10.0	8.1	Sunda and Huntsman (1991)
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (Mississippi River plume)	–	–	–	11.1; 8.9	8.1	Sunda and Ferguson (1983)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)				pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a		
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (Southeastern Gulf of Mexico)	-	-	-	≥12; 9.8	8.2	Sunda and Ferguson (1983)
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (Coast of Peru)	-	-	-	12.3; 9.2	8.2	Sunda and Hanson (1987)
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (Sargasso Sea)	-	-	-	13.2; 9.7	?	Moffett et al. (1990)
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (North Pacific)	-	-	-	13.0; 10.0	?	Coale and Bruland (1988)
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (South Atlantic)	-	-	-	12.2; 10.2	7.7	van Den Berg (1984)
Cu ²⁺ with DOM (equatorial Pacific)	-	-	-	8.92–9.26 (K ₁); 6.87–7.44 (K ₂)	8.15	Midorikawa and Tanoue (1996, 1998)
Cu ²⁺ (groundwater)	-	5.60	-	-	-	Kim et al. (1990)
Hg ²⁺ with isolated hydrophobic fraction of DOM (Florida Everglades surface waters)	-	-	-	11.6–12.0 (K ₁); 10.5–10.9 (K ₂)	-	Benoit et al. (2001)
Mn ²⁺	-	0.40	-	-	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Co ²⁺	-	0.50	-	-	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Zn ²⁺ with humic acid, sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 340/438 nm)	-	4.08	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Zn ²⁺ with humic acid, soil (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	-	4.43	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Zn ²⁺ with humic acid, amended soil + sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	-	4.31	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)				pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a		
Zn ²⁺	-	0.50	-	-	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Cr ³⁺	-	6.00	-	-	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Fe ³⁺	-	10.0	-	-	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Sc ³⁺	-	15.0	-	-	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
VO ₂ ⁺	-	2.1	-	-	7	Takahashi et al. (1997)
Hg ²⁺ with stream humic substances (peak C: 340–355/430–455 nm)	4.34–5.20	-	-	-	7.92	Fu et al. (2007)
Hg ²⁺ with river fulvic acid (peak A: 245/432–438 nm)	5.62–5.72	-	-	-	7.92	Fu et al. (2007)
Hg ²⁺ with river fulvic acid (peak C: 330–335/426–434 nm)	5.01–5.55	-	-	-	7.92	Fu et al. (2007)
Hg ²⁺ with stream DOM	4.34–5.2	-	-	-	4.37–7.01	Wu et al. (2004)
Hg ²⁺ with surface waters	-	-	-	21.2–30.2	7	Hsu and Sedlak (2003)
Hg ²⁺ with hydrophobic acid extracted from Florida Everglades surface waters	-	-	-	26–31	7	Gaspar et al. (2007)
Hg ²⁺ with hydrophobic acid	-	-	-	25.5	7	Haitzer et al. (2002)
Hg ²⁺ with hydrophobic acid	-	-	-	19.8	6	Benoit et al. (2001)
Hg ²⁺ with peat DOC (Florida Everglades peats)	-	-	-	23.2	6	Drexel et al. (2002)
Hg ²⁺ with tryptophan (peak T: 275/340–346 nm)	-	-	4.99–5.33	-	7.92	Fu et al. (2007)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)				pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a		
Cu ²⁺ with tryptophan-like or protein-like component	-	-	7.82–9.56	-	?	Wu and Tanoue (2001b)
Pb ²⁺ with humic acid, sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 340/438 nm)	-	4.95	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Pb ²⁺ with humic acid, soil (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	-	5.81	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Pb ²⁺ with humic acid, amended soil + sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	-	5.53	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Cd ²⁺ with humic acid, sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 340/438 nm)	-	4.24	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Cd ²⁺ with humic acid, soil (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	-	4.63	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Cd ²⁺ with humic acid, amended soil + sewage sludge (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm)	-	4.47	-	-	8.1	Plaza et al. (2006)
Hg ²⁺ with extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) (peak T: 275–280/428–334 nm)	-	-	3.28–4.12 (K ₁)	-	4.0–8.0	Zhang et al. (2010)
Hg ²⁺ with EPS (peak TuV: 220–230/422–336 nm)	-	-	4.28–4.49 (K ₂)	-	4.0–8.0	Zhang et al. (2010)
Pb ²⁺ with EPS	-	-	3.1–4.9 (K ₁); 3.2–4.6 (K ₂)	-	7	Comte et al. (2006)
Pb ²⁺ with EPS	-	-	0.45–1.28	-	7	Guibaud et al. (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)				pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonou DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a		
Cd ²⁺ with EPS	-	-	3.0–3.5 (K_1); 2.7–3.8 (K_2)	-	7	Comte et al. (2006)
Cd ²⁺ with EPS	-	-	1.54–3.35	-	7	Guibaud et al. (2006)
Cu ²⁺ with EPS	-	-	3.0–4.4	-	7	Guibaud et al. (2004)
Ni ²⁺ with EPS	-	-	2.6–3.0	-	7	Guibaud et al. (2004)
Sc ³⁺	17.57	17.54–20.47	-	-	7–9.	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Y ³⁺	9.21–13.67	10.95–14.94	-	-	6–9.	Sonke and Salters (2006)
<i>Nanithnides (14 elements)</i>						
La ³⁺	9.15–11.65	10.64–13.29	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Ce ³⁺	8.90–12.09	10.56–13.55	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Pr ³⁺	8.93–12.36	10.39–13.84	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Nd ³⁺	9.07–12.54	10.34–13.96	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Pm ³⁺	-	-	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Sm ³⁺	9.56–12.65	10.58–14.38	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Eu ³⁺	9.36–11.52	10.71–14.30	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Gd ³⁺	9.14–11.39	10.75–14.20	-	-	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)				pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a		
Tb ³⁺	9.39–11.75	11.19–14.80	–	–	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Dy ³⁺	9.47–13.64	11.31–15.30	–	–	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Ho ³⁺	9.67–13.91	11.44–15.49	–	–	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Er ³⁺	9.97–14.29	12.85–15.78	–	–	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Tm ³⁺	10.25–14.45	11.89–16.20	–	–	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Yb ³⁺	10.34–14.32	13.26–16.23	–	–	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Lu ³⁺	10.44–14.58	12.25–16.50	–	–	6.0–9.0	Sonke and Salters (2006)
Eu ³⁺	–	–	–	6.3	6	Konstantinou et al. (2009)
Eu ³⁺ with 5-Sulfosalicylic acid	–	–	–	–	6.27; 11.76 ?	Nair and Chander (1983)
<i>Actinides</i>						
Np ⁵⁺	–	3.3–3.7 (2.5–3.2)	–	–	7.4 (4.7)	Shcherbina et al. (2007)
Cm ³⁺	5.9	6.22	–	–	?	Buckau et al. (1992); Kim et al. (1991)
Cm ³⁺ with 5-sulfosalicylic acid	–	–	–	–	6.44; 11.99 ?	Nair and Chander (1983)
Am ³⁺ with 5-sulfosalicylic acid	–	–	–	–	8.06; 15.34 ?	Nair and Chander (1983)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)					pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a	Other organic ligands ^a		
Pu ³⁺ with 5-sulfosalicylic acid	–	–	–	–	8.56; 17.51	?	Nair and Chander (1983)
Th ⁴⁺ with catechol	–	–	–	–	59.65; 14.06	?	Thakur et al. (2006)
Th ⁴⁺ with hydroquinone	–	–	–	–	48.51; 64.86	?	Thakur et al. (2006)
Th ⁴⁺ with resorcinol	–	–	–	–	16.98; 46.46; 59.65	?	Thakur et al. (2006)
<i>Irradiation effect on metal-DOM complexation</i>							
Hg ²⁺ with stream DOM (before irradiation)	4.9 (K ₁)	–	–	–	–	?	Wu et al. (2004)
Hg ²⁺ with stream DOM (after irradiation: 1–8 d)	4.6 (1 d); 4.1 (8 d)	–	–	–	–	?	Wu et al. (2004)
Cu ²⁺ with river DOM (before irradiation)	7.59 (K ₁); 5.83 (K ₂)	–	–	–	–	?	Brooks et al. (2007)
Cu ²⁺ with river DOM (after irradiation: 72 h)	7.63 (K ₁); 5.88 (K ₂)	–	–	–	–	?	Brooks et al. (2007)
Cu ²⁺ with wetland DOM (before irradiation)	–	–	–	–	8.02 (K ₁); 6.31 (K ₂)	?	Brooks et al. (2007)
Cu ²⁺ with wetland DOM (after irradiation: 72 h)	–	–	–	–	7.61 (K ₁); 5.85 (K ₂)	?	Brooks et al. (2007)
Cu ²⁺ with lake DOM (before irradiation)	–	–	–	–	16.3 (K ₁)	?	Sander et al. (2005)
Cu ²⁺ with lake DOM (after irradiation: 30 h and 175 h)	–	–	–	–	16.7 (30 h); 16.8 (175 h)	?	Sander et al. (2005)

(continued)

Table 1 (continued)

Elements or groups	Conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$)					pH	References
	Fulvic acid ^a	Humic acid ^a	Tryptophan or protein or EPS ^a	Autochthonous DOM or hydrophilic or hydrophobic ^a	Other organic ligands ^a		
Cu ²⁺ with autochthonous DOM (Estuary: before irradiation)	–	–	–	–	13.5	?	Shank et al. (2006)
Cu ²⁺ with autochthonous DOM (Estuary: after irradiation: 1.5 and 14.5 d)	–	–	–	–	13.5	?	Shank et al. (2006)

^aIndicates the components which are extracted or standard or under natural condition used
pH values in parentheses indicates the conditional stability constant in parentheses
Standard deviations do not mention in the results to avoid the complexity
K₁ and K₂ values for two binding sites are mentioned using semicolon (;)
h = hours; d = days

complexation of different trace elements (Wu et al. 2004a; c; Plaza et al. 2006; Cook and Langford 1995; Kumke et al. 1998; MCGOWN et al. 1995): The conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K_1$ and $\log_{10} K_2$) for the complexation of two major binding sites of fulvic acid with metal ions are 3.26–6.66 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 7.0–9.64 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for Cu^{2+} -FA; 5.66 for Fe^{3+} -FA; 4.34–5.70 for Hg^{2+} -FA; 5.46 for UO_2^{2+} -FA; and 5.9 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Cm^{3+} -FA, determined in aqueous solution except for lanthanides (Table 1) (Wu et al. 2002a, 2004; Fu et al. 2007; Hays et al. 2004; Cao et al. 2004; Sidenius et al. 1999; Antunes et al. 2007; Winzerling et al. 1992; Tipping 1994; Breault et al. 1996; MCKNIGHT et al. 1983; Buckau et al. 1992; Kim et al. 1991). Lanthanides (Ln) are strong complexing agents for Suwannee River Fulvic Acid and show relatively high conditional stability constants that range from 8.90 to 14.58 for Ln-SRFA (Suwannee River Fulvic Acid) complexes at pH 6–9 in aqueous solution. The values obtained for SRFA are relatively lower than for humic acids extracted from various sources (Table 1; Sonke and Salters (2006)).

The conditional stability constants for Hg^{2+} -DOM complexation are 4.34–5.20 for the peak C at Ex/Em = 340–355/430–455 nm of humic substances (possibly fulvic acid) at pH 4.37–7.01 (Wu et al. 2004a). The conditional stability constants for Hg^{2+} -FA complexation are 5.01–5.55 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for peak C detected at Ex/Em = 330–335/426–434 nm and 5.62–5.72 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for peak A detected at Ex/Em = 245/432–438 nm (Fu et al. 2007). Complexation of river DOM with Hg^{2+} is 3.54–4.93 and 3.64–4.85, determined using linear and non-linear model fitting of the fluorescence maxima at Ex/Em = 304, 306/426, 430 nm (Bai et al. 2008). The fluorophores or functional groups bound for peak C at longer wavelength are presumably considered to be the fast binding sites and the fluorophores bound for peak A, correspondingly, the slow binding sites in fulvic acid. Generally, $\log_{10} K_1$ should be higher than in $\log_{10} K_2$ but the result is, in fact, the opposite. The reason behind this phenomenon is that during the complexation of the fast binding site at peak C, the decrease in fluorescence intensity occurs simultaneously at peak A of fulvic acid. Note that the fluorophores bound at a particular peak (e.g., peak C, peak A, peak T or T_{UV}) of a fluorescent molecule are the result of all fluorophores existing in the molecule. Therefore, any changes in the molecule by photoinduced or microbial degradation can alter its fluorescence properties, inducing new peak position and fluorescence intensity (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011; Senesi 1990). For the fast-reacting binding site of fulvic acid, the kinetic rate constant (k_1) ranges from 0.18 to 0.55 s^{-1} , whilst the k_2 values for the slow reacting binding site are similar for all metals (Cu^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Co^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , and Ca^{2+}) at 0.01 – 0.02 s^{-1} (Wu et al. 2004c).

The conditional stability constants for the complexation of humic acid (HA, two binding sites) with metal ions are 3.99–5.60 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 8.55 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for Cu^{2+} -HA; 0.40 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Mn^{2+} -HA; 0.50 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Co^{2+} -HA; 0.50–4.43 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Zn^{2+} -HA; 6.79–10.0 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Fe^{3+} -HA; 6.00 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Cr^{3+} -HA; 15.0 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Sc^{3+} -HA; 2.1 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for VO_2^{+} -HA; 5.50 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Hg^{2+} -HA; 4.5–5.3 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 5.8–7.2 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for As^{3+} -HA; 2.80–4.94 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 7.15–9.80 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for H^{+} -HA; 4.0 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Be^{2+} -HA; 1.0 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Ca^{2+} -HA; 0.5 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Sr^{2+} -HA; 0.5 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Ba^{2+} -HA; 10.0 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Ga^{3+} -HA; 4.95–5.81 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Pb^{2+} -HA;

4.24–4.63 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Cd^{3+} -HA; 4.27 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for UO_2^{2+} -HA; 3.3–3.7 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Np^{5+} -HA; and 6.22 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Cm^{3+} -HA in aqueous solution except lanthanides (Table 1) (Liu and Cai 2010; Cao et al. 2004; Antunes et al. 2007; Tipping 1994; Buckau et al. 1992; Kim et al. 1991). Lanthanides (Ln) are strong complexing agents for humic acid, showing relatively high conditional stability constants that range from 10.34 to 16.50 for Ln-LHA (Leonardite coal humic acid standard) and from 12.17 to 16.22 for Ln-EHA (Elliot soil humic acid standard) at pH 7–9 in aqueous media (Table 1) (Sonke and Salters 2006). The stability constants of the standard Aldrich humic acid show significantly low values (2.65–2.75 at 5 mg L^{-1}) for lanthanides. These values are greatly increased with increasing the humic acid concentration (e.g. La ranges from 2.65 to 3.85 for humic acid concentrations of 5 and 20 mg L^{-1} , respectively) for each lanthanide (Pourret and Martinez 2009). For the concentration of 20 mg L^{-1} of the standard Aldrich humic acid, the stability constants increase from La (3.85) to Eu (4.15) and then decrease from Gd (4.06) to Lu (3.95).

The stability constants of the M-HA complexes reached high values ($\log_{10} K_{\text{Pb}} = 5.81$, $\log_{10} K_{\text{Cu}} = 5.55$, $\log_{10} K_{\text{Cd}} = 4.63$ and $\log_{10} K_{\text{Zn}} = 4.43$) for the peak C (Ex/Em = 440/510 nm) of humic acid extracted from the corresponding soil (nonamended and control) compared to those of sewage sludge (4.95, 4.65, 4.24 and 4.08, respectively) and to soil amended with sewage sludge at a rate of 40 tons ha^{-1} (5.53, 5.36, 4.47 and 4.31, respectively), for metal ions such as Pb^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , and Zn^{2+} in aqueous solution at pH 8.1 (Table 1) (Plaza et al. 2006). The overall stability constant for M-HA complexes can follow the order $\text{Pb(II)} > \text{Cu(II)} > \text{Cd(II)} > \text{Zn(II)}$ (Plaza et al. 2006). These results suggest that the fluorophores or functional groups of humic acid of different origin are highly variable and may affect the metal-DOM complexation and transport in soil and natural water ecosystems.

The conditional stability constants for complexation between humic acid and alkaline earth metal ions follow the order $\text{Be} > \text{Ca} > \text{Sr}, \text{Ba}$ humate. It can be hypothesized that the humates of alkaline earth metal ions with smaller ionic radii are more stable, and that humic acid is a 'hard' ligand (Takahashi et al. 1997). Correspondingly, Sc and heavy lanthanide elements (Yb and Lu) can form more stable complexes than light lanthanide elements (Ce and Eu), depending on the ionic radii (Takahashi et al. 1997). In addition, humic acid complexes of trivalent Fe and Ga are more stable than those of rare earth elements (REEs) except for Sc, while the Cr(III)-humic acid complex is less stable than REE-humic acid complexes (Takahashi et al. 1997). It has also been shown that the conditional stability constant ($\log_{10} K$) between lanthanides and humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) of varied sources significantly increases from La to Lu and increases with increasing pH and decreasing ionic strength (I) of the solution (Fig. 5a–c) (Sonke and Salters 2006). The $\log K$ values also significantly increase with decreasing ionic radius (Fig. 6) (Sonke and Salters 2006). The strength of M-DOM complexation between lanthanides and humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) thus follows the order $\text{Lu} > \text{Yb} > \text{Tm} > \text{Er} > \text{Ho} > \text{Dy} > \text{Tb} > \text{Gd} > \text{Eu} > \text{Sm} > \text{Pm} > \text{Nd} > \text{Pr} > \text{Ce} > \text{La}$.

Fig. 5 Conditional binding constants ($\log K$) for rare earth elements (REE)–Leonardite coal humic acid standard (LHA) and REE–SRFA complex formation at pH 7 with various ionic strength (a) and the effect pH on $\log K$ for complexation of LHA (b) and SRFA (c) with REE. Error bars (0.16 log units) are only shown for pH 7 (a), but apply to all $\log K$ values. Nominal total concentrations are 100 nM REE; 20 mg L⁻¹ SRFA, 130 nM EDTA for SRFA experiments (b and c). *Data source* Sonke and Salters (2006)

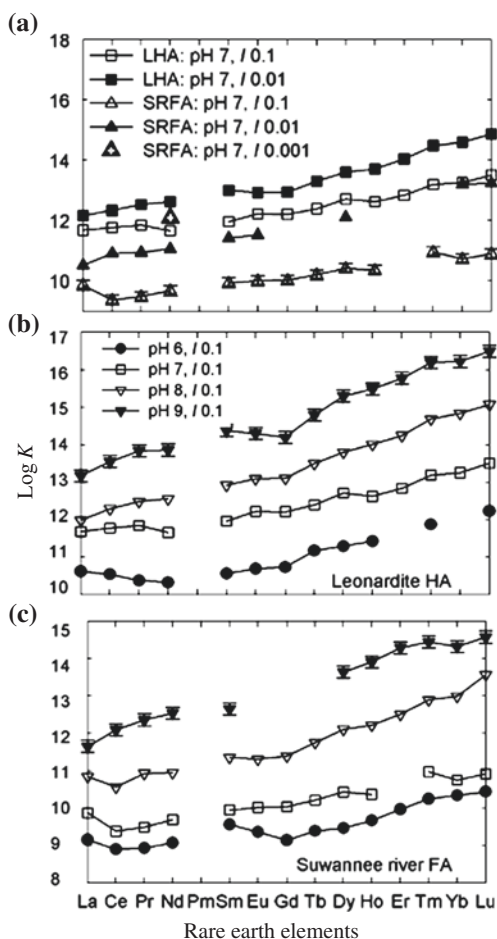
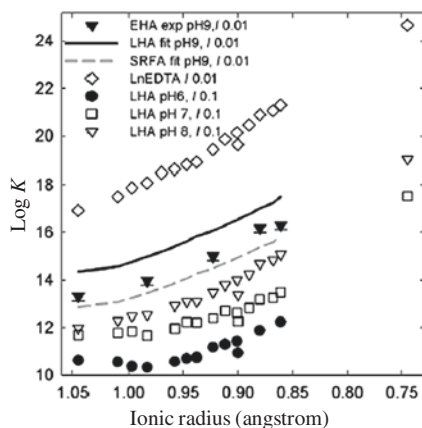


Fig. 6 $\log K$ for lanthanides and organic ligands of various sources at pH 6, 7, and 8 as a function of ionic radius (sixfold hydrated), including Sc and Y transition metals. $\log K$ for Y and Leonardite coal humic acid standard (LHA) values are represented by singular data points, floating just below the main rare earth elements (REE) data trends at an ionic radius of 0.900 Å. $\log K$ for lanthanides and Elliot soil humic acid standard (EHA) values observed at pH 9, and 0.01 mol L⁻¹ I and extrapolated $\log K$ values for SRFA and LHA under those conditions. EDTA conditional binding constants for 0.01 mol L⁻¹ I are included for comparison. *Data source* Sonke and Salters (2006)



The conditional stability constants for the complexation of hydrophobic or hydrophilic fractions of DOM or autochthonous DOM with metal ions are 7.8–9.6 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Zn^{2+} -DOM; 8.92–16.3 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 6.87–12.9 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for Cu^{2+} -DOM; 11.6–31.0 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 10.5–11.2 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for Hg^{2+} -DOM in lakes, estuaries and oceans (Table 1) (Haitzer et al. 2002; Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995; van Den Berg et al. 1987; Sunda and Huntsman 1991; Sunda and Hanson 1987; Sunda and Ferguson 1983; Moffett et al. 1990; Coale and Bruland 1988, 1990; van Den Berg 1984; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1996; Benoit et al. 2001; Drexel et al. 2002; Gasper et al. 2007; Hsu and Sedlak 2003; Sander et al. 2005; Shank et al. 2006). It has been shown that the conditional stability constants between autochthonous DOM of phytoplankton or algal origin and Cu^{2+} are much higher ($\log_{10} K_1 = 13.9$ – 15.6 and $\log_{10} K_2 = 11.8$ – 13.4) in lakes, and they are similar to those of organic ligands of phytoplankton or biological sources (11.1–13.2 and 9.2–10.2, respectively) in estuaries and seawater compared to those of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids (Table 1) (Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995; van Den Berg et al. 1987; Moffett et al. 1990; Coale and Bruland 1988; Coale and Bruland 1990; Sunda 1988). Surface water from the Irish Sea and the Atlantic Ocean contains ligand concentrations of 1.7×10^{-7} and 1.1×10^{-7} M, with conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$) of 9.84 ± 0.13 and 9.86 ± 0.23 , respectively, at pH 8.0 (van Den Berg 1982).

The conditional stability constants of the Hg^{2+} -DOM complexation are significantly higher for the hydrophobic fraction of DOM or DOM in natural surface waters (Table 1) (Haitzer et al. 2002, 2003; Benoit et al. 2001; Drexel et al. 2002; Gasper et al. 2007; Hsu and Sedlak 2003; Ravichandran et al. 1998; 1999; Lamborg et al. 2003, 2004; Waples et al. 2005). The high affinity of the Hg^{2+} -DOM complexation is responsible for the reduced S-containing binding sites (thiol and disulfide/disulfane functional groups) bound in DOM, presumably autochthonously produced in natural waters (Haitzer et al. 2002; Benoit et al. 2001; Gasper et al. 2007; Dyrssen and Wedborg 1986; Schuster 1991; Guentzel et al. 1996; Wallschläger et al. 1996; Xia et al. 1999). The possible complexation reaction can be written as $[\text{Hg}^{2+} + \text{R-SH}^{n-} = \text{HgR-S}^{(n-1)-} + \text{H}^+]$ (Benoit et al. 2001; Dyrssen and Wedborg 1991).

The conditional stability constants for the complexation of the two major binding sites of tryptophan with metal ions are 4.88–4.90 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Cu^{2+} -tryptophan; 7.82–9.56 for Cu^{2+} -tryptophan; and 4.99–5.33 for Hg^{2+} -tryptophan for peak T at $\text{Ex/Em} = 275$ – $285/330$ – 360 nm in aqueous solution (Table 1) (Fu et al. 2007; Hays et al. 2004; Wu and Tanoue 2001b).

The conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K_1$ and $\log_{10} K_2$) for the complexation of two major binding sites of EPS with metal ions are 3.98–4.12 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 4.28–4.48 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for Hg^{2+} -EPS; 0.45–4.9 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 3.2–4.6 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for Pb^{2+} -EPS; 1.54–3.5 ($\log_{10} K_1$) and 2.7–3.8 ($\log_{10} K_2$) for Cd^{2+} -EPS; 3.0–4.4 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Cu^{2+} -EPS; and 2.6–3.0 ($\log_{10} K_1$) for Ni^{2+} -EPS in aqueous solution (Table 1) (Zhang et al. 2010; Guibaud et al. 2004, 2006; Comte et al. 2006). The conditional stability constants of Hg^{2+} -EPS complexes are relatively low (3.98–4.12: $\log_{10} K_1$) at peak T ($\text{Ex/Em} = 275$ – $280/328$ – 334 nm) compared to those (4.28–4.48: $\log_{10} K_2$) at peak T_{UV} (Ex/

$\text{Em} = 220\text{--}230/322\text{--}336$ nm) in aqueous solution (Zhang et al. 2010). Note that the fluorescence properties of EPS are similar to those of tryptophan, with higher fluorescence intensity at peak T_{UV} -region than at peak T-region and similar Ex/Em maxima.

The conditional stability constants ($\log_{10} K$) for the complexation of some standard organic and inorganic ligands with metal ions are identified in aqueous solution as 3–6 for Cu^{2+} -carboxylic or HO group; 2.8 for Cu^{2+} -amine (NH_2); 4.4 for Cu^{2+} -ethanol amine; 6.6 for Cu^{2+} -glycine ($\text{NH}_2\text{--CH}_2\text{--COOH}$ or $\text{NH}_3^+\text{--CH}_2\text{--COO}^-$); 8.5 for Cu^{2+} -ethylene diamine ($\text{NH}_2\text{--CH}_2\text{--CH}_2\text{--NH}_2$); 7.2 for Cu^{2+} - aspartic acid [$\text{HOOC--CH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{--CH}_2\text{--COOH}$]; 9.4 for Cu^{2+} - iminodi-acetic acid ($\text{HOOC--CH}_2\text{--NH}_2\text{--CH}_2\text{--COOH}$); 8.3 for Cu^{2+} - diaminopropanol; 11.4 for Cu^{2+} - ethylenediamine-N-acetic acid; 13.0 for Cu^{2+} -diethylenetriamine; 6.27 and 11.76 for Eu^{3+} -5-sulfosalicylic acid; 6.4 and 11.99 for Cm^{3+} -5-sulfosalicylic acid; 8.06 and 15.34 for Am^{3+} -5-sulfosalicylic acid; 8.56 and 17.51 for Pu^{3+} -5-sulfosalicylic acid; 59.65 and 14.06 for Th^{4+} - catechol; 48.51 and 64.86 for Th^{4+} -hydroquinone; and 16.98, 46.46, and 59.65 for Th^{4+} - resorcinol (Table 1) (Nair and Chander 1983; Martin and Prados 1974; Thakur et al. 2006; Smith 1974). The stability constants of various standard organic substances are similar to those of allochthonous and autochthonous DOM in natural waters, indicating that carboxylic, phenolic and amino group-containing carboxylic acid bound in allochthonous and autochthonous DOM may form complexes with metal ions in aqueous solution.

The binary complexes of Cu^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Co^{2+} and Zn^{2+} with resorcinol and some biologically important aliphatic dicarboxylic acids (adipic, succinic, malic, malonic, maleic, tartaric and oxalic) in aqueous solution at 25 °C and $I = 0.1$ mol dm^{-3} NaNO_3 suggest the following hypotheses (Radalla 2010): (i) Stability of the 1:1 binary complexes for all investigated ligands is higher than that of the corresponding 1:2 ones. (ii) Normal 1:1 and 1:2 complexes of resorcinol are formed with all of the metal ions studied. (iii) The order of stability constants of the 1:1 complexes of all investigated ligands with respect to the divalent transition metal ions follows the Irving-Williams series ($\text{Zn} < \text{Cu} > \text{Ni} > \text{Co}$) (Irving and Williams 1948). (iv) Stability of the 1:1 metal-complexes of aliphatic dicarboxylic acids follows their basicity ($\text{p}K_{a1} + \text{p}K_{a2}$), where K_{a1} and K_{a2} are the first and second dissociation constants, respectively.

Experimental studies show that photoinduced degradation can decrease the conditional stability constants of M-DOM complexes in stream waters ($\log K_1 = 4.9$ to 4.1) and in wetland waters ($\log K_1 = 8.02$ and $\log K_2 = 6.1$ to 7.61 and 5.85, respectively), whilst their values are increased in river DOM ($\log K_1 = 7.59$ and $\log K_2 = 5.83$ to 7.63 and 5.88, respectively) and in lake DOM ($\log K_1 = 16.3$ to 16.8). The values remain the same ($\log K_1 = 13.5$) before and after irradiation of estuarine waters (Wu et al. 2004a; Brooks et al. 2007; Sander et al. 2005; Shank et al. 2006). The decomposition of the functional groups in DOM is susceptible to decrease the stability constants of the M-DOM complexes in natural waters. In contrast, the increase in stability constants of the M-DOM complexes is likely caused by the formation of new photoproducts

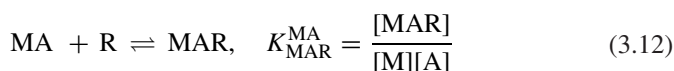
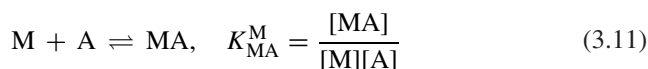
with stronger functional groups for M-DOM complexation. Irradiation of waters with high contents of DOM is not able to substantially modify the degree of M-DOM complexation, which is the most likely explanation for the cases where the same stability constants have been observed before and after irradiation. The effect of photoinduced degradation on M-DOM complexation will be explained in details later.

3.6.1 Conditional Stability Constants for Ternary Complexes in Waters

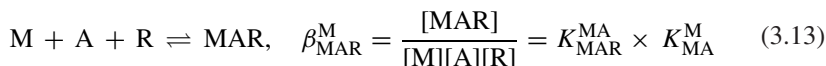
Ternary complexes are operationally defined as complexes involving two newly successive bonds between a metal ion and two different types of DOM components or organic ligands (e.g. allochthonous fulvic acid and tryptophan). It is assumed that fulvic acid (FA) acts as a primary ligand to form bonds with a metal ion (M). Therefore, one initially observes binary complex formation such as $M - FA$ ($M + FA \rightleftharpoons M - FA$). Then another molecule, e.g. tryptophan (T) acts as a secondary ligand and forms ternary complexes that can be represented as such as $T - M - FA$ ($M - FA + T \rightleftharpoons T - M - FA$).

Formation of ternary complexes is observed in aqueous solution (Martin and Prados 1974; Khalil and Radalla 1998; Khalil and Attia 1999; Khalil 2000a, b; Khalil and Taha 2004; Khalil and Fazary 2004; Radalla 2010; Rosas et al. 2010).

For the formation of ternary complexes of the selected bivalent metal ions (M) in the presence of resorcinol = R and aliphatic dicarboxylic acid = A, the following equilibria may be considered (Eqs. 3.11 and 3.12) (Radalla 2010):



In the presence of both ligands, A is presumably considered to interact first with M forming a 1:1 MA binary complex. It follows interaction of R in a step-wise manner. The overall stability constant β_{MAR}^M can be described as below (Eq. 3.13):



The β_{MAR}^M constant expresses the stability of the mixed-ligand species and it does not represent the binding strength between R and M^{2+} ions directly in the presence of A. This effect is much better reflected by the equilibrium constant, K_{MAR}^{MA} calculated according to Eq. 3.14:

$$\log_{10} K_{MAR}^M \rightleftharpoons \log_{10} \beta_{MAR}^M - \log K_{MA}^M \quad (3.14)$$

The equilibrium constant expressed in Eq. 3.14 indicates how tightly R is bound to the simple MA binary complex in aqueous solution (Radalla 2010).

The ternary complexes of Cu^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Co^{2+} and Zn^{2+} with resorcinol as primary ligand and with some biologically important aliphatic dicarboxylic acids (adipic, succinic, malic, malonic, maleic, tartaric and oxalic) as secondary ligands in aqueous solution at 25 °C and $I = 0.1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ NaNO}_3$ show very high conditional stability constants, such as $\log_{10} \beta_{\text{MAR}}^{\text{M}} = 13.05 - 16.48$ for Cu^{2+} , 11.72–13.32 for Ni^{2+} , 10.01–11.29 for Zn^{2+} , and 8.78–10.01 for Co^{2+} , compared to those of the respective binary complexes (2.29–7.30, 2.29–6.10, 2.33–5.80 and 2.19–5.80, respectively, ranges including both $\log_{10} K_1$ and $\log_{10} K_2$) (Table 2) (Radalla 2010). The ternary complexes between vanadium(III)-picolinic acid (or dipicolinic acid) and the amino acids cysteine, histidine, aspartic acid and glutamic acid have been examined in aqueous solution at 25 °C and $3.0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3} \text{ KCl}$ as ionic medium (Table 2) (Rosas et al. 2010; Shiozawa et al. 2011). The results show that the stability constants range from -1.96 – 4.8 for three ternary complexes of aspartic acid, 0.74 – 2.26 for three ternary complexes of glutamic acid, 1.71 – 8.69 for four ternary complexes of cysteine, and -0.35 – 10.22 for histidine (Rosas et al. 2010). For dipicolinic acid as a primary ligand, the stability constants range from -5.98 to 8.17 for five ternary complexes of aspartic acid, -6.2 to 10.59 for five ternary complexes of glutamic acid, -1.54 to 13.91 for four ternary complexes of cysteine, and -9.7 to 14.1 for five ternary complexes of histidine (Shiozawa et al. 2011). The significantly high values of the stability constants of ternary complexes are similar to those of DOM in natural surface waters or hydrophobic acids extracted from surface waters ($K_1 = 8$ – 15 ; Table 1) (Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998; Sunda and Hanson 1987, 1991; Sunda and Ferguson 1983; Moffett et al. 1990; Coale and Bruland 1988, 1990; van Den Berg 1984; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1996). Therefore, formation of ternary complexes could be vital to understand the M-DOM complexation in natural waters. The results of a species distribution obtained for the Cu^{2+} + malonic acid + resorcinol system shows that the formation of MA starts at $\text{pH} < 3$, reaches a maximum concentration (70 % total Cu^{2+}) at $\text{pH} 4.2$ and decreases to a minimum when MAR becomes predominant. The maximum concentrations of MA_2 and MR are less than 5 % of total Cu^{2+} in solution (Radalla 2010).

These results suggest the following hypotheses (Radalla 2010): (i) Stabilities of ternary complexes with respect to the aliphatic dicarboxylic acids follow the order: adipic > succinic > malic > malonic > maleic > tartaric > oxalic; this behavior can be explained in terms of the decrease in basicity of the aliphatic dicarboxylic acids in the same direction. (ii) The complex stability of the ternary complexes with respect to the metal ion present follows the Irving-Williams series (Irving and Williams 1948). (iii) The stabilities of the ternary complexes are higher than for the 1:1 binary complexes of the corresponding aliphatic dicarboxylic acid or resorcinol for all systems studied; this behavior can be attributed to some cooperative interaction in the ternary complex between the carboxylic acid and resorcinol, such as H-bond formation. Finally, it is vital to examine the formation of ternary complexes of metal ions with fulvic acids and tryptophan in aqueous media, under laboratory conditions. This should be the focus for future studies.

Table 2 Conditional stability constants for Cu^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , and Co^{2+} binary and ternary complexes in aqueous media at 25 °C and $I = 0.10 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{dm}^{-3}$

Elements or groups	Cu^{2+}					References
	$\text{Log}_{10} K_1$	$\text{Log}_{10} K_2$	$\text{log}_{10} K_{\text{MAR}}^{\text{MA}}$	$\text{log}_{10} \beta_{\text{MAR}}^{\text{M}}$		
Resorcinol (1,3-dihydroxybenzene)	7.30	5.50				Radalla (2010)
Adipic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	3.84	2.29	9.17	13.81		Radalla (2010)
Succinic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	3.2	–	9.83	13.05		Radalla (2010)
Malic acid [$\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{COOH}$]	6.8	–	7.3	16.48		Radalla (2010)
Malonic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	4.82	3.37	7.3	14.31		Radalla (2010)
Maleic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$)	4.08	2.82	7.3	13.5		Radalla (2010)
Tartaric acid [$\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{COOH}$]	6.69	5.7	7.3	16.31		Radalla (2010)
Oxalic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{COOH}$)	4.66	4.06	7.3	13.75		Radalla (2010)
	Ni^{2+}					
Resorcinol (1,3-dihydroxybenzene)	6.10	5.30				Radalla (2010)
Adipic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	3.54	2.29	9.17	12.71		Radalla (2010)
Succinic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	3.17		8.84	12.01		Radalla (2010)
Malic acid [$\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{COOH}$]	4.63		8.69	13.32		Radalla (2010)
Malonic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	3.93	2.92	8.58	12.51		Radalla (2010)
Maleic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$)	3.68	2.82	8.42	12.10		Radalla (2010)
Tartaric acid [$\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{COOH}$]	4.67	3.38	8.36	13.03		Radalla (2010)
Oxalic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{COOH}$)	3.46	2.96	8.26	11.72		Radalla (2010)
	Zn^{2+}					
Resorcinol (1,3-dihydroxybenzene)	5.15	3.90				Radalla (2010)
Adipic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	3.41	2.35	7.88	11.29		Radalla (2010)
Succinic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	3.06		7.79	10.83		Radalla (2010)
Malic acid [$\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{COOH}$]	3.38		7.54	10.72		Radalla (2010)
Malonic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)	2.98	2.33	7.48	10.82		Radalla (2010)
Maleic acid ($\text{HOOC}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{COOH}$)	3.40	2.45	7.37	10.77		Radalla (2010)

(continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Elements or groups	Cu ²⁺				References
	Log ₁₀ K ₁	Log ₁₀ K ₂	log ₁₀ K _{MAR} ^{MA}	log ₁₀ β _{MAR} ^M	
Tartaric acid [HOOC-CH(OH)-CH(OH)-COOH]	3.81	2.75	7.21	11.02	Radalla (2010)
Oxalic acid (HOOC-COOH)	3.03	2.47	6.98	10.01	Radalla (2010)
	Co ²⁺				
Resorcinol (1,3-dihydroxybenzene)	5.80	4.90			Radalla (2010)
Adipic acid (HOOC-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -CH ₂ -CH ₂ -COOH)	3.31	2.19	6.70	10.01	Radalla (2010)
Succinic acid (HOOC-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -COOH)	2.97		6.58	9.55	Radalla (2010)
Malic acid [HOOC-CH ₂ -CH(OH)-COOH]	3.12		6.39	9.51	Radalla (2010)
Malonic acid (HOOC-CH ₂ -COOH)	2.94	2.28	6.35	9.29	Radalla (2010)
Maleic acid (HOOC-CH=CH-COOH)	3.08	2.24	6.09	9.17	Radalla (2010)
Tartaric acid [HOOC-CH(OH)-CH(OH)-COOH]	3.15	2.37	6.00	9.15	Radalla (2010)
Oxalic acid (HOOC-COOH)	2.88	2.38	5.90	8.78	Radalla (2010)
	V ³⁺				
Picolinic acid (pyridine-2-carboxylic acid)	-	-	-	2.12-4.8	Rosas et al. (2010)*
Picolinic acid + aspartic acid [HOOC-CH(NH ₂)-CH ₂ -COOH]	-	-	-	-	-
Dipicolinic acid + glutamic acid [HOOC-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -CH(NH ₂)-COOH]	-	-	-	0.74-2.26	Rosas et al. (2010)*
Dipicolinic acid + cysteine [HOOC-CH(NH ₂)-CH ₂ -SH]	-	-	-	1.7-8.69	Rosas et al. (2010)*
Dipicolinic acid + histidine [2-amino-3-(1H-imidazol-4-yl)propanoic acid]	-	-	-	5.48-10.22	Rosas et al. (2010)*
Dipicolinic acid (pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid)	-	-	-	-	-
Dipicolinic acid + aspartic acid [HOOC-CH(NH ₂)-CH ₂ -COOH]	-	-	-	3.15-8.17	Shiozawa et al. (2011)*
Dipicolinic acid + glutamic acid [HOOC-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -CH(NH ₂)-COOH]	-	-	-	5.57-10.59	Shiozawa et al. (2011)*
Dipicolinic acid + cysteine [HOOC-CH(NH ₂)-CH ₂ -SH]	-	-	-	5.30-13.91	Shiozawa et al. (2011)*
Dipicolinic acid + histidine [2-amino-3-(1H-imidazol-4-yl)propanoic acid]	-	-	-	5.7-14.1	Shiozawa et al. (2011)*

* indicates the positive stability constant values of several ternary complexes formed in the aqueous solution

3.7 Homogeneous and Heterogeneous Complexation of Fulvic and Humic Acids to Metals

Homogeneous complexation is operationally defined as a chemical binding equilibrium behavior (approximately in the ratio of 0.8–1:1) between metal ion and a ligand, when they are mixed up under specific conditions in aqueous media. Heterogeneous complexation is operationally defined as a chemical binding equilibrium behavior with a <0.8:1 ratio between metal ion and a ligand.

It has been shown that fulvic and humic acids (humic substances) can behave as homogeneous and heterogeneous complexants to trace metals in waters (Filella 2008; Chakraborty et al. 2007; Pinheiro et al. 1994; Town and Filella 2000; Murimboh 2002). A comparison of the heterogeneity parameter (Γ , termed Gamma: Greek Capital Letter) for Zn(II), Cd(II), Pb(II) and Cu(II) complexes in different model solutions of SRFA shows that $\Gamma_{\text{Cd}} > \Gamma_{\text{Zn}} > \Gamma_{\text{Pb}} > \Gamma_{\text{Cu}}$ (Chakraborty et al. 2007). The results show that the value of Γ remains about the same for a given metal: the value of Γ for Cu(II) is ~0.50 in all metal to SRFA solutions with $C_{\text{M}}/C_{\text{SRFA}} = 0.01, 0.001, \text{ and } 0.0005$, suggesting that SRFA behaves as a heterogeneous complexant for Cu(II) (Chakraborty et al. 2007). The value of Γ for Pb(II) is ~0.70 in comparable solutions, suggesting that SRFA behaved as a less heterogeneous complexant for Pb(II) compared to Cu(II). The Γ value obtained for Cd is ~0.94, suggesting that SRFA almost behaved as a homogeneous complexant for Cd, and a bit lower for Zn ($\Gamma \sim 0.86$) (Chakraborty et al. 2007). These results in combination with other studies suggest that SRFA behaves as a relatively homogeneous complexant for Zn(II) and Cd(II), as a relatively heterogeneous complexant for Pb(II) and as an even more heterogeneous complexant for Cu(II) (Chakraborty et al. 2007; Town and Filella 2000; Murimboh 2002). Coherently, it has also been shown that humic acid derived from peat performs more heterogeneous complexation of Pb(II) compared to Cd(II) (Pinheiro et al. 1994).

4 Binding Sites (or Functional Groups) in Fulvic Acid, Humic Acid and Other Ligands

Humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), autochthonous fulvic acids of phytoplankton origin (see chapters “[Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” and “[Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter in Natural Waters](#)” for detailed discussion), polysaccharides, proteins, peptides, nucleic acids, extracellular polymeric substances and amino acids, which have properties of polyfunctionality, polyelectrolyticity, size polydispersity, physical heterogeneity and structural lability, are natural organic ligands with binding sites (or functional groups) that can form complexes with trace metals (Malcolm 1985; Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Zhang et al. 2009, 2010; Merroun and Selenska-Pobell 2008; Filella 2008; Mandal et al. 1999; Xue et al. 1995; Hatch et al. 2009). The molecular structure of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids is composed

of a variety of functional groups (or fluorophores) such as benzene-containing carboxyl, methoxylate and phenolic groups (catechol-type), carboxylic and di-carboxylic groups, alcoholic OH, carbohydrate OH, $-C=C-$, hydroxycoumarin-like structures, fluorophores containing Schiff-base derivatives, chromone, xanthone, quinoline, O, N, S, and P-atom-containing functional groups including aromatic carbon (17–30 %) and aliphatic carbon (47–63 %) (Malcolm 1985; Senesi 1990; Morel and Hering 1993; Leenheer et al. 1998; Steelink 2002; Leenheer and Croue 2003; Stenson et al. 2003; Fimmen et al. 2007). In humic substances, 60–90 % of the acidic groups are carboxylic and the remainder are phenolic (Morel and Hering 1993). S-XANES measures have shown that sulphur is present in humic substances in many different oxidation states: thiol, thiophene or disulfide, sulfoxide, sulfone, sulfonate and sulfate esters (Morra et al. 1997; Xia et al. 1998; Fimmen et al. 2007). A typical humic acid containing 0.2 % reduced sulphur has only 63 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$ of thiol sites (Bloom et al. 2001).

Fulvic and humic acids can be roughly classified into two categories: minor (approximately 1–10 %), strong sites, and major (approximately 90–99 %), weak sites (Mandal et al. 1999; Chakraborty et al. 2007; Buffle and Filella 1995). Wu and Tanoue 2001c The strong binding sites are first occupied entirely, after which the weak binding sites are occupied (Mandal et al. 1999; Chakraborty et al. 2007; Buffle and Filella 1995; Wu and Tanoue 2001c). The major sites are less diverse in type, but in number they represent the majority of the complexation sites (e.g., carboxylate and phenolate groups in humic substances). The minor sites, which are fewer in number, include all those which exhibit a wide range of binding energies, including strongly complexing nitrogen- and sulphur-containing sites (Filella 2008). Major sites represent the largest proportion of dissociable groups. They play an important role in the polyelectrolytic properties of the complexant (Filella 2008). The distinction between major and minor sites also reflects a chemical selectivity: since the major sites have oxygen-containing groups, they will preferably react with hard metals such as calcium and magnesium (Filella 2008).

EEM spectroscopy (EEMS) during the complexation between extracted fulvic acid and several metals [Cu(II), Ni(II), Co(II), Cd(II) and Ca(II)] also showed two major kinetically distinguishable binding sites on fulvic acid, 'fast' and 'slow', having reaction half-lives of 1.3–3.9 and 34.7–69.3 s, respectively (Wu et al. 2004c). The 'fast' sites in fulvic and humic acids are susceptible to be the fluorophores (or functional groups) bound at the longer wavelength peak C-region, which are rapidly complexed with metal ions. In contrast, the 'slow' sites are considered to be the fluorophores at the shorter wavelength peak A-region.

Another time-resolved fluorescence study demonstrates that fulvic acid during its complexation with metal ions has three binding sites, which can be assigned lifetimes and wavelength maxima as follows: ~50 ps at 392 nm, ~430 ps at 465 nm and 4.2 ns at 512 nm (Cook and Langford 1995). The functional groups in humic acid exhibit different proton binding properties as their concentration increases from 20 to 100 mg L^{-1} . The acidic functional group content values suggest that 40 % of the total acidity is accounted for by carboxylic-type sites in humic acids extracted from peat and soil (Vidali et al. 2009). Proton affinity constants to humic acids extracted from various sources suggest that carboxylic

and phenolic-type groups in humic acids can bind to H^+ , whereas carboxylic-type binding sites exhibit a smaller apparent heterogeneity than phenolic-type sites in humic acids (Vidali et al. 2009; Benedetti et al. 1996; Kinniburgh et al. 1996; Pinheiro et al. 1999; Plaza et al. 2005). Copper(II) complexation with DOM suggests that sites characterized as phenolic based on alkalimetric titration, and not carboxylic sites, account for the majority of Cu complexation under natural water conditions. Cu–DOM complexation mainly takes place through replacement of H^+ by Cu^{2+} at the phenolic binding sites (Lu and Allen 2002). Ca/Mg–Cu exchange experiments with DOM suggest that Ca and Mg are preferably bound by carboxylic sites, particularly at relatively high concentrations, which results in a weakened apparent competition effect (Lu and Allen 2002).

Conditional distribution coefficients (K'_{DOM}) for the binding of Hg(II) to dissolved organic matter (extracted hydrophobic acids) shows that very strong interactions ($K'_{DOM} = 10^{23.2 \pm 1.0} \text{ L kg}^{-1}$ at pH = 7.0), at Hg/DOM ratios below approximately 1 μg of Hg/mg of DOM, are indicative of mercury – thiol bonds. In contrast, much weaker interactions ($K'_{DOM} = 10^{10.7 \pm 1.0} \text{ L kg}^{-1}$ at pH = 4.9 – 5.6), at Hg/DOM ratios above approximately 10 μg of Hg/mg of DOM, are consistent with Hg binding to oxygen functional groups (Haitzer et al. 2002). Similar results have been found in another study where conditional distribution coefficients ($\log K'_{DOM}$) for Hg(II) binding to extracted humic acids, fulvic acids and hydrophobic acids from diverse aquatic environments indicate very strong interaction, suggesting the involvement of thiol groups (Haitzer et al. 2003). It has also been shown that K'_{DOM} values decrease at low pH (4) compared to pH 7, suggesting proton competition for the strong Hg(II) binding sites that is consistent with bidentate binding of Hg(II) by one thiol group ($p^{K_a} = 10.3$) and by another group ($p^{K_a} = 6.3$) in the DOM (Haitzer et al. 2003). In addition, the hydrophobic fraction of DOM is composed of thiol functional groups with high conditional stability constant of the Hg^{2+} -DOM complexes (Benoit et al. 2001; Dyrssen and Wedborg 1986, 1991; Schuster 1991; Xia et al. 1999).

It has been shown that each SRFA molecule has approximately 3 carboxyl sites available for coordination in the pH 6–9 range (Sonke and Salters 2006). However, coordination depends on other environmental factors such as metal concentration, ligand concentration, pH and so on (Sonke and Salters 2006; Thomason et al. 1996). Lanthanide ion probe spectroscopy (LIPS) suggested that an increase in the metal/DOM ratio can result in progressively less chelated complexes, with a gradual succession from 4 to 3 to 2 to 1 carboxyl groups bound to Eu^{3+} (Thomason et al. 1996). The LIPS study indicated that Eu^{3+} complexation by Suwannee river DOM (mixture of HA and FA) at pH 3.5 is dominated by tetra-dentate complexes at low metal to ligands ratios (100 nM Eu^{3+} , 30 mg L^{-1} DOM) (Thomason et al. 1996). The complex formation of quinonoid-enriched humic derivatives with actinides (ca. Np^{5+}) demonstrated that hydroquinone-enriched derivatives have higher stability constants than the catechol ones, and that enriched humic derivatives are more effective than the parent humic acid (Shcherbina et al. 2007). Moreover, interaction between HA and Np^{5+} in the neutral pH range is dominated by carboxylate groups in aqueous media (Sachs et al. 2005). Conditional stability

constants between Cm^{3+} and 5-sulfosalicylic acid ($\log_{10} K = 6.44$), fulvic acid ($\log_{10} K = 5.90$), and humic acid ($\log_{10} K = 6.22$) are all very similar, suggesting the salicylic acid-like functional groups may be present in the molecular structure of humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) (Panak et al. 1995). This can be further highlighted by the observation of enhanced fluorescence intensity in the complexes of Cm^{3+} with 5-sulfosalicylic acid, fulvic acid, and humic acid (Panak et al. 1995). The U^{4+} complexation with humic acids with different sulfur contents (1.9, 3.9, 6.9 wt %) shows that increasing sulfur (>2 wt %) leads to an increase of the number of humic acid binding sites. This is also reflected in increased U^{4+} loading capacities and increased total humic acid ligand concentrations for U^{4+} (Sachs et al. 2010). This increase of the fraction of humic acid binding sites for U^{4+} indicates an involvement of reduced sulfur functionalities, such as thiol groups, in the complexation between U^{4+} and humic acid (Sachs et al. 2010). However, for environmentally relevant sulfur contents of humic acids (<2 wt %), compared to the oxygen functionalities and in particular to carboxylic groups, reduced sulfur functionalities play only a subordinate role in U^{4+} complexation in the acidic pH range. Notes that reduced sulfur species such as thiols, dialkylsulfides and/or disulfides are the dominating sulfur functionalities in extracted humic acids with different sulfur contents (Sachs et al. 2010). Therefore, the functional groups in fulvic and humic acids that form complexes with trace metals are phenolic OH and acidic OH groups, among which are hydroquinone-like moieties and non-quinoid phenols, O-, N- and S-containing functional groups or thiol groups (Lu and Allen 2002; Schmeide and Bernhard 2009; Haitzer et al. 2003; Zhang et al. 2004; Smith et al. 2002).

Strong organic ligands for copper (II) in seawater are likely to derive from biological sources, rather than being refractory organic materials (Wu and Tanoue 2001a, b; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998; Moffett et al. 1990). The exudates from certain phytoplankton and bacteria, which are important sources of protein-like fluorescence, are strong Cu chelators (Zhang et al. 2009; Mcknight and Morel 1980; Determann et al. 1998). Autochthonous DOM from phytoplankton or algal biomass may contain amino and sulfidic functional groups in its molecular structure, which may form complexes with trace metals in water (Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995).

EEMS of tryptophan amino acid shows two fluorescence peaks: peak T for the amino carboxylic acid functional group $[-\text{CH}-(\text{NH}_2)-\text{COOH}]$ and peak T_{UV} for the $-\text{NH}$ group in the aromatic functionality $[\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-]$ (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011). Interestingly, proteins and oligopeptides are important constituents of high molecular mass-DOM that contains primary amines in seawater (Lee and Bada 1975; Tanoue et al. 1996).

The EPS is primarily composed of polysaccharides, proteins, uronic acid, fatty acids, nucleic acids and lipids containing ionizable functional groups such as carboxyl, phosphoric, amine, acidic amino acids, hydroxyl, phenolic, sulfates, and organic phosphates (Beech and Sunner 2004; Quiroz et al. 2006; Merroun and Selenska-Pobell 2008; Zhang et al. 2008; Wingender et al. 1999; Liu and Fang 2002, 2003; Guibaud et al. 2003; Merroun et al. 2003; Sponza 2003; Guibaud

et al. 2005). Such groups can form complexes with trace metals depending on the different environmental conditions. The complexation between EPS and metal ions (ca. Pu^{4+}) suggests that the carboxylic groups in EPS are the primary binding sites at pH 4 and with a ionic strength of 0.1 M NaCl (Harper et al. 2008). The amide functional groups of proteins in the EPS are susceptible to form complexes with trace metals, which have been detected using spectroscopic analysis (Guibaud et al. 2005a; b; Zhang et al. 2006). Polysaccharides can form complexes with trace metal ions, and the hydroxyl groups of neutral polysaccharides and the carboxyl groups of anionic polysaccharides are the probable binding sites for such complexes (Guibaud et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2006; Brown and Lester 1982). The organic phosphate groups of EPS of *A. ferrooxidans* or phosphate groups in nucleic acids play a major role in the binding of U from aqueous solutions, although this bacterium contains small amounts of phosphates (Merroun and Selenska-Pobell 2008). Bacteria, algae and their exudates also consist of a mosaic of functional groups (i.e., amino, phosphoryl, sulfhydryl and carboxylic groups) and the net charge on the cell wall depends on the pH of the medium (Filella 2008). In addition, trace metals such as Th^{4+} and U form complexes with organic ligand in particulate matter that might be a nonmetal-specific chelator originating from the cell surface of microorganisms (Hirose 2004).

4.1 The Mechanism for Complex Formation Between Trace Metals and DOM in Waters

A relationship between the lability of metal–DOM complexes involving 3d transition metals in freshwater and their *d*-electron configuration is discussed by Sekaly and his colleagues (2003). The order of the lability of the metal complexes, $\text{Co(II)} d^7 > \text{Ni(II)} d^8 > \text{Cu(II)} d^9 < \text{Zn(II)} d^{10}$, follows the reverse order of the ligand field stabilization energy (LFSE). There is an exception for Cu(II), the behavior of which is due to the Jahn–Teller effect that shortens the equatorial bonds and lengthens the axial bonds of a tetragonally distorted Cu(II)- L_6 complex (Sekaly et al. 2003). Another mechanism is commonly provided by several studies (Chen et al. 1986; Dixon and Larive 1999; Sharpless and McGown 1999; Simpson et al. 2002; Wrobel et al. 2003), which hypothesize that macromolecules (humic substances) can form aggregations that can be induced by complexation with metal cations. These mechanisms do not explain how the functional groups in DOM or the organic ligands can bind to trace metal ions. Recently, Mostofa and his colleagues (2009a, 2011) firstly provided a comprehensive mechanism for M-DOM complexation using tryptophan as a model compound. A strong π -electron bond between the functional group (F:) of tryptophan and the empty *d*-orbitals of the transition metal (M^{n+}) is formed by donation of electrons (Fig. 7).

Based on the available literature data that concern M-DOM complexation, it is suggested that the functional groups in DOM (or the organic ligands) can form complexes with trace metal ions by two ways. First, donation of electrons occurs

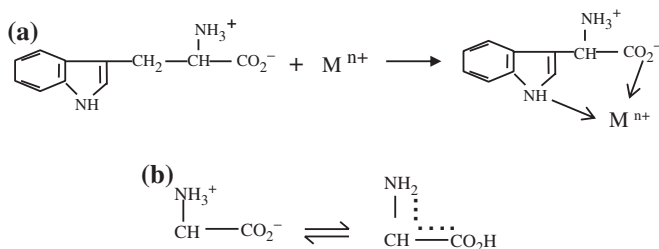


Fig. 7 The mechanism of the chemical bonding of two functional groups (amino-carboxylic and amide) in tryptophan with metal ion (M^{n+}) (a) and the resonance configuration of the amino-carboxylic group [$-\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)-\text{COOH}$] (b). *Data source* with modifications Mostofa et al. (2009a; 2011)

from O-containing functional groups (carboxylic, amino-carboxylic, phenolic, alcoholic and so on) of DOM or organic ligands to metal ions. Second, donation to metal ions of non-bonding π -electrons occurs from S-, N-, and P-containing functional groups in DOM or highly unsaturated π -electrons either in aromatic or aliphatic systems. In both cases, donation of electrons takes place from the functional groups (F:) of DOM to the empty or partially filled d -orbitals of transition metals/lanthanides/actinides. Complex formation can also involve s - and p -orbitals in alkali/alkaline earth metals (M^{n+}) that form a strong covalent or π -electron bonding system with DOM functional groups ($F:M^{n+}$). This can simply be expressed as follows (Eq. 4.1):



The formation of such a bond in M-DOM complexes can greatly reduce the electron density of the functional groups (F:) in DOM. Donation of electrons from functional groups (F:) then causes the s -, p - or d -orbitals in metal ions (M) to be either stabilized or destabilized. Therefore, the M-DOM complexation causes the fluorescence properties of DOM to be either decreased or increased (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011). A stabilizing effect from a functional group in DOM lowers the energy of the interacting s -, p -, d -orbitals, which can considerably decrease the electron transfer probability and decrease as a consequence the fluorescence intensity of the functional groups (or fluorophores) in DOM. It is generally known that the metal ions are excellent Lewis acids and accept electron density from many molecules or ions that act as Lewis bases. On the other hand, M-DOM formation may enhance the probability of an electron transfer if a destabilizing effect from the functional groups in DOM raises the energy of the s -, p -, d -orbitals. This effect subsequently leads to an increase in the fluorescence intensity of the functional group (or fluorophores) in DOM.

The two types of mechanism for M-DOM complexation can be clarified by considering tryptophan amino acid as an example, because its molecular structure ($\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-\text{CH}_2(\text{NH}_3^+)\text{CHCOO}^-$) is composed of two functional groups such as [$-\text{CH}_2(\text{NH}_3^+)\text{CHCOO}^-$] and [$\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-$] (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011). The

two functional groups of tryptophan can electronically bind metal ions, creating strong covalent and π -electron bonds, respectively, with the metal-ion d -orbitals (Fig. 7). In fact, the $[-\text{CH}_2(\text{NH}_3^+)\text{CHCOO}^-]$ functional group has a strong affinity toward a resonance configuration, and the $[\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-]$ moiety has the non-bonding electrons of the NH- group in the aromatic ring (Fig. 7) that can form complexes with metal ions. The formation of the M-DOM bonding system can greatly reduce the electron density of the functional groups, i.e. the fluorophores in tryptophan, which results in a lower probability of electron transition of those fluorophores and decreases as a consequence the fluorescence intensity of tryptophan after complexation with the metal ions. On the other hand, an increase in fluorescence intensity of the DOM in M-DOM complexation may arise from enhanced probability of electron transition of the fluorophores due to M-DOM complexation that depends on the occurrences of the trace metal ions. The fluorescence peak T in the longer wavelength region is caused by the functional group $[-\text{CH}_2(\text{NH}_3^+)\text{CHCOO}^-]$ and the peak T_{UV} at shorter wavelengths is linked with the group $[\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-]$ (Mostofa et al. 2011). The conditional stability constant ($\log_{10} K_1$) for tryptophan-like or protein-like material of biological origin is 7.82–9.56 for peak T that has stronger bonding capacity than the humic-like component ($\log K_1 = 7.05\text{--}8.78$) in lake water (Wu and Tanoue 2001b). Moreover, the order of complex formation of the transition metals and other metals to DOM in natural waters depends on several associated effects (Mostofa et al. 2011). Therefore: (i) Fluorophores with high electron density will merely compete for the metal ions with stabilizing effects of d -orbitals.

(ii) Among the transition metals, the size or atomic radius generally decreases with increasing nuclear charge, because the electrons that experience a greater nuclear charge are pulled more strongly towards the nucleus. However, the last few elements (Cu, Zn, Ag, Cd, Pt, Au, Hg, etc.) in each row of the d -block are slightly larger than those preceding them because in these cases the electron–electron repulsions caused by the filling of the d -orbitals outweigh the increasing nuclear charge. Therefore, the two competing effects of nuclear charge and electron–electron repulsion affect the chemical binding of the d -orbital metals with the fluorophores. As one moves across a period, the increasing nuclear charge is usually more significant than the electron–electron repulsion. These combined effects make Cu and other metals of the same row more susceptible to complexation with DOM than the transition metals of the second and third rows. Moreover, the ground states of Sc, Ti, Fe, Co and Ni are ferromagnetic because of the presence of one unpaired electron, while V, Cr, and Mn are antiferromagnetic (Tung and Guo 2007; Iota et al. 2007). It can be proposed that the unpaired electron of ferromagnetic transition metals would easily form a bond with an electron donated by functional groups in DOM, which is not possible for antiferromagnetic metals. This hypothesis can account for the rapid complexation of the ferromagnetic transition metals compared to the antiferromagnetic elements. For example, Fe^{3+} has one electron each in its outer d -orbitals and no electron in its outer shell s -orbital ($\text{Fe}^{3+}: 1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3d^5 3s^0$). Therefore, it can accept electrons in its outer unpaired d -orbitals from functional groups in DOM to form M-DOM complexes. Cr^{3+} has

3 electrons in its outer d -orbitals and an empty s -orbital in its outer shell (Cr^{3+} : $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3d^3 3s^0$). It can accept electrons in its two empty and three unpaired d -orbitals from functional groups in DOM to form complexes. Cu^{2+} has one unpaired d -orbital and one empty s -orbital in its outer shell (Cu^{2+} : $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3d^9 3s^0$), to which the functional groups in DOM can donate electrons when forming complexes. It is assumed that donation of electrons from functional groups in DOM to unpaired d -orbitals can enhance the stability of the M-DOM complexes. This gives a strong bonding capacity of Cu^{2+} ions toward functional groups in DOM or organic ligands. Finally, Sc^{3+} has empty d - and s -orbitals (Sc^{3+} : $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 3d^0 4s^0$) that can accept electrons when forming M-DOM complexes. Entirely empty d -orbitals of Sc^{3+} ions gives exceptionally strong bonding properties toward fulvic and humic acids (ca. $\log_{10} K = 17.57$ for fulvic acid and 17.54–20.47 for humic acid) among all the metal ions ($\log_{10} K = 3.26$ –14.58 and 0.5–16.50, respectively) studied in aqueous solutions (Table 1).

(iii) For alkali/alkaline earth metals and metalloids, the functional groups in DOM can donate electrons to the outer empty s - and/or p -orbitals. For example, H^+ has no electrons in its outer empty s -orbital (H^+ : $1s$) and can accept electrons. Ca^{2+} has one empty s - and one p -orbital in its outer shell (Ca^{2+} : $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^0 3p_x^0 3p_y^0 3p_z^0$) that can accept electrons. Donation of electrons to s - and p -orbitals possibly explains the weak bonding properties of Ca^{2+} toward functional groups in DOM. Al^{3+} has an empty s - and two p -orbitals in its outer shell (Al^{3+} : $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3d^3 3s^0 3p_x^0 3p_y^0 3p_z^0$) that can accept electrons. However, the involvement of these orbitals in complexation with functional groups in DOM would ultimately destabilize the Al^{3+} -complexes. This effect can enhance the fluorescence intensity of Al-DOM complexes in aqueous media. Sb^{3+} has empty p -orbitals in its outer shell (Sb^{3+} : $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 3d^{10} 4s^2 4p^6 4d^{10} 5s^2 5p_x^0 5p_y^0 5p_z^0$) that can receive electrons from functional groups in DOM. Therefore, alkali and metals/metalloids can form complexes with DOM or organic ligands in aqueous media.

5 Factors Affecting the Metal-DOM Complexation in Natural Waters

The formation of M-DOM complexes is greatly affected by several factors in natural waters, which can be distinguished as (i) Quantity, nature and molecular size of DOM; (ii) Occurrence and affinity of trace metals; (iii) Effect of pH; (iv) Effects of ions (cations and anions) and their ionic strength (I); (v) Effects of photoinduced processes; (vi) Effects of microbial processes; and (vii) Effects of freshwater and sea waters.

5.1 Quantity, Nature and Molecular Size of DOM

The most common organic ligands in DOM are allochthonous fulvic acid, allochthonous humic acid, tryptophan and extracellular polymeric substances (EPS).

The complexation between DOM and trace elements depends on the nature and quantity of DOM in natural waters (Sonke and Salters 2006; Iskrenova-Tchoukova et al. 2010; Sanchez-Marin et al. 2010; Cao et al. 2004; Kaiser 1998; Reszat and Hendry 2007; Jansen et al. 2003; Naka et al. 2006).

Extracted humic acid shows a 65-fold higher affinity for lanthanide metals than SRFA, which suggests that affinity depends on the sources and nature of fulvic and humic acids (Sonke and Salters 2006). Allocthonous fulvic and humic acids have poly-carboxylic, phenolic (catechol), iminodiacetic and aminocarboxylic functionalities in their molecular structures; furthermore, the quantity of the functional groups and the aromaticity are significantly varied between them (Malcolm 1985; Senesi 1990; Morel and Hering 1993; Leenheer et al. 1998; Steelink 2002; Sonke and Salters 2006; Fimmen et al. 2007). Each SRFA molecule has ~ 3 carboxylic sites available for coordination that can be judged from the carboxyl site density in SRFA (Sonke and Salters 2006; Ritchie and Perdue 2003). The study of SRFA complexation with the lanthanide series hypothesizes that poly-dentate carboxylic, phenolic, and N-containing carboxylic binding sites may be involved under environmental conditions (Sonke and Salters 2006). Correspondingly, autochthonous DOM of phytoplankton or algal origin is composed of amino and sulfidic functional groups, although its exact structure remains unknown (Xue and Sigg 1993; Xue et al. 1995). The conditional stability constants of the M-DOM complexation are thus significantly variable for different DOM sources, even for the same metal ion (Table 1).

DOM in sediment elutriates and sewage-influenced water (i) was enriched by 1.4–1.7 times in DOC; (ii) absorbed and reemitted more light; and (iii) presented higher Cu complexation capacities than the natural seawater (Sanchez-Marin et al. 2010). This suggests that differences in DOC and DOM may control the metal toxicity in natural waters (Sanchez-Marin et al. 2010). The total DOC concentrations decrease slightly when the C/metal ratio is less than 10, particularly for Al^{3+} and Fe^{3+} . Hydrophilic DOC increases and hydrophobic DOC decreases with increasing concentrations of polyvalent metal cations in the order $\text{Ca}^{2+} < \text{Al}^{3+} < \text{Fe}^{3+}$, whilst Na^+ remains unaltered (Fig. 8) (Kaiser 1998). Such an effect is more pronounced at low DOC concentrations and high pH values (Fig. 8). This result suggests that the formation of insoluble M-DOM complexes is susceptible to reduce DOC concentrations, whilst soluble metal-DOM complexes may induce an alteration of the distribution between hydrophilic and hydrophobic DOC in natural waters (Kaiser 1998). Therefore, the polyvalent cations and their concentrations can considerably affect the distributions of the DOM fractions and their contents, determined using XAD-8 resins, particularly at low DOC and high pH (Kaiser 1998).

The interaction of several elements (Cu, Mn, Mo, Ni, Sr, U, and Zn) with high dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentrations (21–143 mg C L⁻¹) showed that only U and Zn can form complexes with all DOC samples. The in situ association constant (K'_d) for U decreases with depth in pore waters (Reszat and Hendry 2007). It is also suggested that minor amounts of U and Zn (less than or equal to 4 % of total) can form complexes with this DOC under in situ pH conditions. Competitive complexation by other ligands may limit the importance of

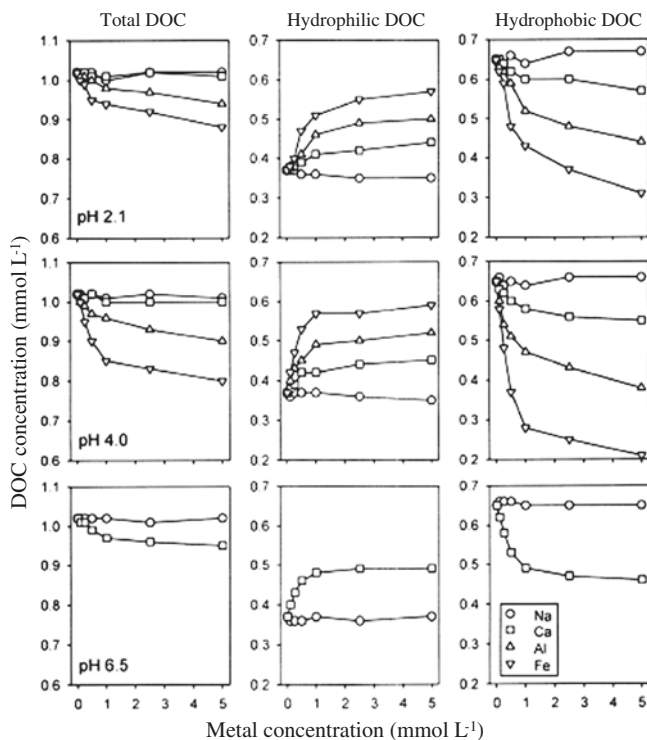


Fig. 8 Effects of increasing concentrations of Na^+ , Ca^{2+} , Al^{3+} and Fe^{3+} on the total, hydrophilic and hydrophobic DOC at three pH levels (2.1, 4.0 and 6.5) and an initial total DOC concentration of 1.0 mmol L^{-1} . *Data source* Kaiser (1998)

DOC-facilitated transport of elements (Reszat and Hendry 2007). The ability of actinide ions such as uranyl to form complexes with DOC is very variable depending on the occurrence of humic fractions (fulvic and humic acids) in DOM, which undergo in turn large variations (5–80 %) in the aquatic environments (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Kim and Czerwinski 1996; Giesy et al. 1986; Kim et al. 1994; Artinger et al. 2002; Crancon and van der Lee 2003; Jackson et al. 2005). Interestingly, the complexation of U to DOM is kinetically controlled (Artinger et al. 2002).

Studies on M-DOM complexation suggest that trace metals with high binding strength are primarily distributed in the larger molecular size fractions, and metals with low binding strength are mostly distributed in the smaller molecular size fractions (Wu et al. 2004b; Shin et al. 2001; Lakshman et al. 1993; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1996, 1998; Lin et al. 1995; Rao and Choppin 1995; Sekaly et al. 1998; Sposito et al. 1982). The larger molecular size fractions have a higher affinity for metals such as Al, Cu, $\text{UO}_2(\text{II})$, and $\text{Np}(\text{V})$ than smaller molecular size fractions (Shin et al. 2001; Lakshman et al. 1993; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998; Lin et al. 1995; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1996; Rao and Choppin 1995; Sekaly et al. 1998; Sposito et al. 1982). Kinetic studies show that strong affinity metals

can form complexes with DOM more rapidly than the weak metals, and that their DOM complexes undergo a slower dissociation process (Wu et al. 2004c; Lin et al. 1995). It is also shown that the distribution of transition metals in DOM is shifted towards the larger molecular size fractions as the binding strength increases. Fe along with V and Ce is distributed mainly in the larger size fractions, but heavy metals such as U, Th and Mo are distributed mainly in the smaller molecular size fractions (Wu et al. 2004b). These studies hypothesize that the strong affinity metal ions can form complexes with the functional groups or replace the weak affinity metal ions in the larger molecular size fractions in the first binding site. Weaker metals then occupy other available sites in the small molecular size fractions.

Molecular size (or mass) distribution and levels of organic ligands suggest that new organic ligands with high molecular masses are produced during periods of high biological productivity in natural waters (Midorikawa and Tanoue 1996, 1998; Mopper et al. 1996). Such new organic ligands are considered to be the autochthonous fulvic acids (C-like) that have recently been found to originate under photoinduced or microbial assimilation of algal or phytoplankton biomass (Fig. 1c, d) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009). The fluorescence excitation-emission maxima of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) are similar to those of the allochthonous fulvic acid and humic acid (C-like), showing two fluorescence peaks in the C- and A-regions (Fig. 1a–d). In the molecular mass distribution of organic ligands, the relative contribution of the fraction with <5 kDa molecular masses is dominant (67–79 %), while 17–30 % of the total organic ligands are in the 5 kDa–0.1 μm fraction, leaving 3–6 % in the 0.1 μm -GF/F fraction in lake water (Wu and Tanoue 2001a). The contribution of organic ligands in the <1 kDa fraction is 41 % of the total in estuarine water (Gordon et al. 1996). The contribution of total organic ligands in DOM accounts for 10–62 % in the case of molecular masses of >1 kDa and 50–90 % for the <1 kDa fraction in sea waters (Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998, 1996; Maurer 1976; Zsolnay 1979; Carlson et al. 1985; Benner et al. 1992; Guo et al. 1994, 1995, 1996; Buessler et al. 1996; Guo and Santschi 1996). Contributions of total organic ligands are 0.63–4.68 % of the bulk DOM in the water of rivers, lakes and oceans (Wu and Tanoue 2001a, c; Midorikawa and Tanoue 1998; Wu et al. 2001). It has also been observed that the quantities of the weak ligands are relatively high, approximately 0.54–1.21 % of the total DOM whilst the quantities of strong ligands are low, approximately 0.06–0.21 % in stream waters (Wu and Tanoue 2001a). High-affinity nitrogenous moieties account for only 2–4 % of DOM in water (McKnight et al. 1997; Croue et al. 2003). Finally, the M-DOM complexation significantly depends on the quantities, nature and molecular size of DOM in natural waters.

5.2 Occurrences and Affinity of Trace Metals in M-DOM Complexation

The M-DOM complexation significantly depends on the occurrence of the trace metal ions and on their affinity toward organic ligands. Complexation shows

high variation in the conditional stability constants for alkali, alkaline, heavy metals, transition metals, lanthanides and actinides (Table 1) (Nair and Chander 1983; Kim et al. 1990, 1991; Buckau et al. 1992; Xue et al. 1995; Takahashi et al. 1997; Mandal et al. 1999; Sekaly et al. 2003; van Loon et al. 2004; Wu et al. 2004b; Sonke and Salters 2006; Thakur et al. 2006; Shcherbina et al. 2007). The trace metals have different affinities toward the functional groups and the donor atoms in DOM. Affinity depends on the occurrence of trace metals and on their outer-shell electronic configuration in aqueous media (Wu et al. 2004b, c; Sonke and Salters 2006; Konstantinou et al. 2009; Fu et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2011; Duffus 2002; Konstantinou et al. 2007; Marang et al. 2008; Kolokassidou and Pashalidis 2006). The complexation of various trace transitional metals with different molecular size fractions of DOM in natural waters indicates that the number-averaged molecular weight follows the order: $\text{Cu} > \text{Ni} > (\text{Co}, \text{Zn}, \text{Cr}) > \text{Pb} > \text{Cd}$ for the DOM-bound complexes. This is consistent with the Irving-Williams series. For DOM-bound complexes with other metals, the order is followed $(\text{Fe}, \text{V}, \text{Ce}) > \text{Th} > \text{U} > \text{Mo}$ (Wu et al. 2004b). The complexation between fulvic acid and several metals (Cu^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Co^{2+} , Cd^{2+} and Ca^{2+}) at pH 7 demonstrates that for the fast-reacting binding site, the rate constant and the site relative contribution shows an order of $\text{Cu}^{2+} > \text{Ni}^{2+} > \text{Co}^{2+} > \text{Cd}^{2+} > \text{Ca}^{2+}$ that agrees with the Irving-Williams series. This indicates that the complexation kinetics is affinity-dependent (Wu et al. 2004c). The competitive binding of Cu(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) ions by fulvic acid shows that in the absence of Cu(II) and Co(II), the strong binding sites of the fulvic acid are occupied by Ni(II), forming strong complexes that are inert. In contrast, in the presence of Cu(II) and Co(II), the strong binding sites of the fulvic acid are occupied by Cu(II). Co(II), Ni(II) and the remaining Cu(II) occupy the weak binding sites of the fulvic acid, forming weak complexes that are labile (Mandal et al. 1999). The enhanced lability of the Ni-FA complexes in the presence of Cu(II) and Co(II) suggests that Cu(II) and Co(II) successfully compete with Ni(II) for the strong binding sites of the fulvic acid (Mandal et al. 1999). The order of the lability of the metal complexes, $\text{Co(II)} > \text{Ni(II)} > \text{Cu(II)} < \text{Zn(II)}$, follows the reverse order of the ligand field stabilization energy with the exception of Cu(II). The behavior of Cu(II) is also due to the Jahn–Teller effect, which shortens the equatorial bonds and lengthens the axial bonds of a tetragonally distorted Cu(II)-L6 complex (Sekaly et al. 2003).

It is known that the rate of octahedral ligand substitution reactions of 3d transition metal complexes is influenced by several factors such as effective nuclear charge, ionic radius (Douglas et al. 1994; Margerum et al. 1978) and ligand field stabilization energy (LFSE) (Morel and Hering 1993; Butler and Harrod 1989). The dissociation kinetics of the 3d transition metal complexes agrees with the trend predicted by the LFSE (weak field): $\text{Co(II)} d^7 > \text{Ni(II)} d^8 > \text{Cu(II)} d^9 < \text{Zn(II)} d^{10}$ whereas the behavior of Cu(II) is also due to the Jahn–Teller effect cited above (Sekaly et al. 2003). A gradual increase in complexation strength is observed with decreasing ionic radius, an expression of the lanthanide contraction during the complexation between lanthanides and humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) in waters (Sonke and Salters 2006).

Trace metal ions have a specific interaction affinity with organic ligands or DOM that generally depends on the size and outer electronic configuration level of the metal ions. Replacement of a metal ion by a higher affinity metal ion in M-DOM complexation occurs because the number of complexing sites remains constant for a specific amount of DOM. A decrease in fluorescence intensity is often detected after further addition of Cu^{2+} to Hg-DOM complexes, which suggests that Cu^{2+} can act as a stronger quencher for DOM than Hg(II) in aqueous media (Fu et al. 2007). The complexation of humic acid, olive cake and its hydrophilic extracts with Cu^{2+} and Eu^{3+} shows that Cu^{2+} is replaced by Eu^{3+} in the aqueous solution (Konstantinou et al. 2007, 2009; Konstantinou and Pashalidis 2010). Eu^{3+} has only one electron in its outer *d*-orbital shell, which gives it strong affinity to bind to DOM compared with Cu^{2+} . Comparison between Ca-DOM and Cu-DOM complexation demonstrates that (i) Ca-DOM complexation increases of much less than an order of magnitude per pH unit and decreases at higher Ca concentration, differently from Cu-DOM complexation; and (ii) Cu-DOM complexation is highly non-linear, in contrast to the very reduced extent of non-linearity of Ca-DOM complexation (Lu and Allen 2002).

The effective distribution of affinities (Conditional Affinity Spectrum, CAS) of a metal ion binding to a humic substance under natural water conditions suggests three groups of cations (Rey-Castro et al. 2009): (a) Al, H, Pb, Hg, and Cr, which are preferentially bound to the phenolic sites of the fulvic ligand; (b) Ca, Mg, Cd, Fe(II), and Mn, which display a higher affinity for carboxylic sites, in contrast to expectations based on the individual complexation parameters; and (c) Fe(III), Cu, Zn, and Ni, for which phenolic and carboxylic distributions are overlapped.

The complexation of trace metals with the functional groups in EPS varies depending on the environmental conditions. The order is $\text{Pb} > \text{Cd} > \text{Zn}$ for exopolysaccharides of bacterial origin (Loaec et al. 1997); $\text{Cu} > \text{Cd} > \text{Ni} > \text{Cr(III)} > \text{Cr(VI)}$ for contaminated effluents (Bux et al. 1994); $\text{Cu} > \text{Cr} > \text{Zn} > \text{Pb}$ for activated sludge microorganisms (Chua et al. 1999); $\text{Zn} > \text{Cu} > \text{Co} > \text{Cd} > \text{Cr(III)} > \text{CrO}_4^{2-} > \text{Ni}$ for activated sludge (Liu et al. 2001); $\text{Pb} > \text{Cd} > \text{Cu} > \text{Zn}$ for polluted waters of sewage sludge and paper mill waste (Lister and Line 2001); $\text{Cu} > \text{Cd} > \text{Ni}$ for pure cultures of bacteria originated from activated sludge (Kim et al. 2002); $\text{Pb} > \text{Cu} > \text{Zn} > \text{Ni}$ for the first site and $\text{Pb} > \text{Cu} > \text{Ni} > \text{Zn}$ for the second site of an acidogenic thermophilic anaerobic reactor (Leighton and Forster 1997); $\text{Cd} > \text{Pb} \approx \text{Cu}$ for activated sludge originated from wastewater treatment plants (Guibaud et al. 2003); and $\text{Cu} > \text{Ni} \gg \text{Zn}$ for activated sludge (Guibaud et al. 2003).

Trace metals have highly variable affinity towards various functional groups in DOM and they show strong differences in the conditional stability constants of M-DOM complexation (Table 1) (Sonke and Salters 2006). The complexation between lanthanides and humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) suggests that a gradual increase by 2–3 orders of magnitude in the conditional stability constants from La to Lu follows the decreasing ionic radius and is an expression of the lanthanide contraction (Sonke and Salters 2006).

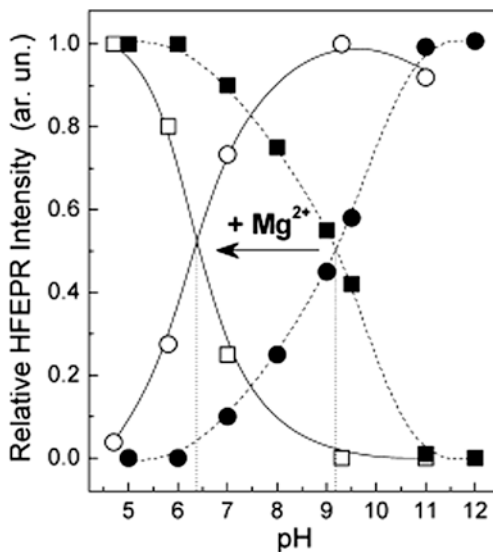
Overall, the M-DOM complexation greatly depends on the outer-shell electronic configuration of the metal ions in aqueous media.

5.3 Effects of pH

Complexation between DOM and trace elements is highly dependent on pH (Fig. 5) (Zhang et al. 2009, 2010; da Silva et al. 1998a, b, 2002; Sonke and Salters 2006; Shcherbina et al. 2007; Christoforidis et al. 2010; Iskrenova-Tchoukova et al. 2010; Liu and Cai 2010; Cao et al. 2004; Takahashi et al. 1997; Naka et al. 2006; Ghassemi and Christman 1968; Glaus et al. 2000). Fe can strongly form complexes with colored humic substances at low pH (Ghassemi and Christman 1968) and the iron-holding capacity of color increases with pH up to a value of 10, after which it decreases rather abruptly (Shapiro 1964). The complexation of Aldrich humic acid with As^{3+} shows that the stability constants for the first binding site are maximum under acidic conditions ($\log_{10} K_1 = 6.9\text{--}7.2$ at pH 5.2), gradually decrease under neutral conditions (6.2–7.1 at pH 7.0) and become lowest at basic pH (5.8–6.2 at pH 9.3) (Table 1) (Liu and Cai 2010). In contrast, in the case of the second binding sites the constants remain similar or increase a little, from $\log_{10} K_1 = 4.5\text{--}5.0$ (mean = 4.6) at pH 5.2 to $\log_{10} K_1 = 4.7\text{--}5.3$ (mean = 4.9) at pH 9.3 (Table 1) (Liu and Cai 2010). As^{3+} complexation to Aldrich humic acid increases with pH (particularly at and above pH 9.3), whereas the conditional stability constants decrease for the strong binding sites and remain approximately constant for weak binding sites (Liu and Cai 2010). The interaction of Cu(II), Ni(II), and Fe(III) with extracted soil fulvic acids results into quite stable soluble complexes in the acidic pH range from 3 to 6 (da Silva et al. 1998b, 2002). The pH effect can change the complexation capacity toward metals. In fact, the metal order at pH 6 is $\text{Pb} > \text{Cu} > \text{Cd}$ and at pH 7 and 8 it is $\text{Cu} > \text{Pb} \gg \text{Cd}$ (Comte et al. 2008). The conditional stability constants (K) between lanthanide series (14 elements) and humic substances (standard fulvic and humic acids) increases with increasing pH in waters (Sonke and Salters 2006).

The fluorescence intensity of EPS at both peak T- and T_{UV} -regions is strongly dependent on the solution pH in the absence and presence of Hg(II), with the maximal fluorescence intensity at neutral pH (Fig. 2) (Zhang et al. 2010). EPS shows higher fluorescence intensity at the peak T_{UV} -region than at peak T, and the trend resembles that of a tryptophan standard (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Zhang et al. 2010). The effects of pH on M-DOM complexation in water imply two things. First, the pH variation (low-pH or high-pH) generates protonation-deprotonation phenomena in functional groups of DOM (or of organic ligands) that subsequently alters the complexation capacity between DOM and trace metals. An increase in pH generally increases the binding capacity between the trace metals and DOM in aqueous media. Second, the presence of cations (ca. Mg^{2+}) can significantly influence the generation of the high-pH forms of functional groups in DOM, even under circumneutral conditions, which increases M-DOM complexation (Fig. 9) (Christoforidis et al. 2010). For example, at neutral pH the resonance configuration of the amino-carboxylic group $[-\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{--COOH}]$ in tryptophan can exist in the highest form that can require the lowest energy for the excitation of electrons (Fig. 2). This effect can result in high fluorescence intensity at

Fig. 9 Relative intensities of the HFEP spectra of [HA-Mg²⁺] sample (solid lines, open symbols) and metal-free HA (dashed lines, solid symbols) at different pH. The intensities are measured at $g = 2.0041$ {for [HA-Mg²⁺] (square) and the metal-free HA (filled square)}, at $g = 2.0054$ for [HA-Mg²⁺] (circle) and at $g = 2.0057$ for metal-free HA (●). Squares correspond to the low-pH radical forms and circles correspond to the high-pH radical forms. Data source: Christoforidis et al. (2010)



pH 7 and in donation of electrons from carboxylic functional groups to metal ions. Changes of pH (either acidic or basic) can result in protonation and deprotonation that ultimately increase the excitation energy of the functional groups, thereby decreasing the fluorescence intensity and the electron donation from the functional group to the metal ions. The changes of the fluorescence intensity of EPS and its complexation with Hg(II) as a function of pH are depicted in Fig. 2. Similarly, donation of unpaired electrons from the $-\text{NH}$ group in the aromatic ring $[\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-]$ of the tryptophan structure is highest under neutral condition (pH 7). Donation of electrons is significantly reduced with changes of pH (either acidic or basic), following either protonation of the unpaired electrons by H^+ in acidic conditions or deprotonation by OH^- in basic solution.

Overall, the pH effect therefore plays a very significant role in metal-DOM complexation in natural waters.

5.4 Effects of Ions (Cations and Anions) and of Ionic Strength (I)

The M-DOM complexation is significantly affected by the occurrence of ions (cations ca. Na^+ , Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} and anions ca. Cl^- , CO_3^{2-} , OH^-) and by the ionic strength (I) (Cabaniss 1992; Sonke and Salters 2006; Christoforidis et al. 2010; Iskrenova-Tchoukova et al. 2010; Smith and Martell 1987; Cabaniss and Shuman 1988; Fu et al. 2007; Cao et al. 2004; Takahashi et al. 1997; van Loon et al. 2004; Lu and Jaffe 2001; Glaus et al. 2000; Pinheiro et al. 2000). A computational

molecular dynamics (MD) study of the interactions of Na^+ , Mg^{2+} , and Ca^{2+} with the carboxylic groups of a model DOM suggests that aggregation of the DOM molecules occurs in the presence of Ca^{2+} but not of Na^+ or Mg^{2+} (Iskrenova-Tchoukova et al. 2010). These results suggest that Ca^{2+} ion bridging between NOM molecules can decrease repulsion due to the reduced net charge of the NOM–metal complexes (Iskrenova-Tchoukova et al. 2010).

An increase of Ca^{2+} can enhance the fluorescence intensity of fulvic acid involved in Hg-DOM complexation (Fu et al. 2007). In contrast, the Mg^{2+} ion has no effect on fluorescence and, therefore, on Hg-DOM complexation under natural conditions at pH 7.5 in urban river waters (Fu et al. 2007). On the other hand, the Cl^- ion is an inorganic ligand that can complex Hg(II) to form HgCl_n^{2-n} depending on the concentration of Cl^- in natural waters (Lu and Jaffe 2001). It has been shown that the addition of Cl^- to Hg–DOM complexes increases the fluorescence emission intensity at both pH 7.50 and 9.50 due to the competition between DOM and Cl^- for Hg(II) (Fu et al. 2007). For divalent transition metal ions (Mn^{2+} , Co^{2+} and Zn^{2+}), carbonate complexes may be as important species as humate complexes (Takahashi et al. 1997). Hydroxide species are important for Fe^{3+} , VO^{2+} and Ga^{3+} , and significantly affect the complexation between humic acids and trace metal ions (Takahashi et al. 1997).

Mg^{2+} generates only electrostatic interaction with humic acid during complexation with heavy metals such as Cd^{2+} , Pb^{2+} and Sr^{2+} (Christoforidis et al. 2010). Furthermore, the two types of indigenous radicals that exist in all humic acids are influenced by the metal cations in a similar way, because of the presence of a unique phenolic moiety in humic acid (Christoforidis et al. 2010). Mg^{2+} ions can change the pH profile of the two radical types of humic acid, downshifting their interconversion pK_a by ca. 3 pH units (Fig. 9) (Christoforidis et al. 2010). The competition of Al^{3+} with divalent metal ions such as Pb(II) occurs primarily at carboxylic-type groups. Aluminum can reduce by a factor of 2 to 3 the amount of lead bound to humic acid (Pinheiro et al. 2000). In the case of Cd(II), the aluminum competition mainly affects the bound Cd, with only smaller changes in $[\text{Cd}^{2+}]$. Therefore, Al^{3+} competition is likely to increase Pb(II) toxicity and bio-availability and Cd(II) transport in aqueous solution (Pinheiro et al. 2000).

The conditional stability constants of the M-DOM complexation are decreased with increasing supporting electrolyte concentration in aqueous media (Sonke and Salters 2006; Cao et al. 2004; Benoit et al. 2001; Pinheiro et al. 2000; Stevenson et al. 1993; Bryan et al. 2002). It has been shown that conditional stability constants (K) values increase with decreasing ionic strength (I) (from 0.1 to 0.001 mol L^{-1} NaNO_3) for complexation of lanthanides with SRFA and extracted humic acids (Fig. 5a) (Sonke and Salters 2006). Similarly, the conditional stability constants of the Hg^{2+} -DOM complexes were increased by 7–12 % at $I = 0$ compared to those at $I = 0.06$ for the hydrophobic fraction of DOM extracted from the Florida Everglades surface waters (Benoit et al. 2001). An increase of ionic strength can lead to a decrease of Pb and Cd bound to humic acid in aqueous solution (Pinheiro et al. 1999, 2000). With a ionic strength of 0.1 M NaCl, the EPS from *P.*

fluorescens exhibited a much stronger affinity for the Na^+ ion compared to other EPS that originated from *S. putrefaciens* and *Clostridium* sp. This finding allows the hypothesis that the deprotonated carboxylic sites of EPS from *P. fluorescens* are mostly bound to Na^+ in solution at pH 4 (Harper et al. 2008). The mechanism behind the lower binding capacity at high ionic strength is probably that complexation at one site will decrease the tendency of a neighboring functional group to form an electrostatic complex with another metal ion. The increasing counter ion condensation in the diffuse double layer of the macromolecule will also weaken the affinity of the binding site (Stevenson et al. 1993; Bryan et al. 2002).

5.5 Effect of Photoinduced Processes

Photoinduced processes have a significant role in metal-DOM complexation in natural waters (Wu et al. 2004a; Bergquist and Blum 2007; Brooks et al. 2007; Yang and Sturgeon 2009; Sanchez-Marin et al. 2010; Vidali et al. 2010; Yin et al. 2010; Zheng and Hintelmann 2009). The protective effect of DOM on Cu and Pb toxicity greatly disappears when the samples are irradiated with high intensity UV-light (Sanchez-Marin et al. 2010). After UV irradiation, the bulk DOC has been found to decrease by between 60 and 75 %, whereas the decreases in fluorescence and absorbance of CDOM range from 85 to 99 % (Sanchez-Marin et al. 2010). The capacity of humic acid to bind copper appears significantly reduced for irradiated humic acid solutions in the pH range from 3 to 6 (Vidali et al. 2010). The observed apparent convergence of the percentage of copper bound to humic acid for photolytically unaltered and irradiated humic acid in the pH range from 6 to 7 is due to the precipitation of copper-soluble species and to the binding on available ionized binding sites (Vidali et al. 2010).

The photoinduced reduction of ionic Hg in natural water can result in the production of elemental Hg in presence of DOM, which is strongly affected by the Hg-DOM interaction. The subsequent reoxidation of elemental mercury to ionic mercury can occur in the presence of DOM in natural waters (Bergquist and Blum 2007; Zheng and Hintelmann 2009; Xiao et al. 1995; Costa and Liss 1999; Zhang and Lindberg 2001; Ravichandran 2004). Photochemistry can thus affect loss by volatilization and bioavailability of mercury to organisms (Ravichandran 2004).

Photoinduced degradation processes can significantly decrease the absorbance (approximately 8–100 %) and fluorescence intensity of humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) (up to 84 %), tryptophan (up to 88 %) and tyrosine (0–100 %) upon irradiation for hours to months in natural waters (Brooks et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2011; Stedmon et al. 2007; Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007, 2010; Skoog et al. 1996; Winter et al. 2007; Abboudi et al. 2008; Osburn et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2009); Norman et al. 2011 Photoinduced degradation is able to sequentially decompose the functional groups of DOM, particularly in macromolecular fulvic and humic acids. It is induced the formation of low molecular weight photo-products, with simultaneous mineralization of dissolved organic

carbon (DOC) in natural waters (Brooks et al. 2007; Corin et al. 1996; Amador et al. 1989; Allard et al. 1994; Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007; Backlund 1992; Kulovaara 1996; Bertilsson and Tranvik 1998; del Vecchio and Blough 2002; Vahatalo and Wetzel 2004; Lou and Xie 2006; Vione et al. 2009).

The most important functional groups or fluorophores in humic substances (fulvic and humic acids), which are responsible for complex formation with trace metals, are carboxylic and phenolic-type groups containing hydroquinone-like moieties and non-quinoid phenols, as well as non-bonding O-, N- and S-atoms contained in functional groups of DOM, such as thiols (Vidali et al. 2009; Mostofa et al. 2011; Lu and Allen 2002; Schmeide and Bernhard 2009; Haitzer et al. 2003; Benedetti et al. 1996; Kinniburgh et al. 1996; Pinheiro et al. 1999; Plaza et al. 2005; Zhang et al. 2004; Smith et al. 2002). High-affinity nitrogenous moieties that make up 2–4 % of DOM can dominate complexation at low Cu concentrations (McKnight et al. 1997; Croue et al. 2003), but model and natural organic nitrogen are readily decomposed by photoinduced processes (Langford 1973; Bushaw et al. 1996). Photoinduced losses of amide carboxyls (15 %) are responsible for a decrease of complexation between Cu and DOM in river water (Brooks et al. 2007). It is suggested that the photoinduced changes in the strong binding sites of parent organic compounds are responsible for the decrease of the stability constants of M-DOM complexes in natural waters.

On the other hand, photoirradiation can increase the conditional stability constants between Cu and DOM in river water whilst it decreases the corresponding values in wetland water (Table 1) (Brooks et al. 2007). Coherently, the ligand concentrations in DOM after photoinduced degradation are decreased by 41–45 % in rivers whilst they are increased by 65–161 % in wetland waters (Brooks et al. 2007). Cu complexation is increased by approximately 150 % in wetland DOM after photoinduced degradation, differently from riverine DOM at the same dissolved organic carbon concentrations (Brooks et al. 2007). It has similarly been found that the conditional stability constants remained the same ($\log_{10} K = 13.5$) after photoinduced degradation of estuarine DOM, but they increased a little in lake DOM after hours to days of photoirradiation. In contrast, in both cases the ligand concentrations were decreased photolytically by up to 95 and 24 %, respectively (Table 1) (Sander et al. 2005; Shank et al. 2006). DOM in wetland, lake and estuarine water is mostly composed of algal-derived material that contains comparatively high proportions of lipids, autochthonous fulvic acids and allochthonous DOM (Parlanti et al. 2000; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Brooks et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2009b; McCarthy et al. 1998; McCallister et al. 2006). Photolysis can decrease the binding affinity via scission of the allochthonous fraction of lignin-derived polyphenols in wetland DOM (Opsahl and Benner 1998; Sun et al. 1998). Simultaneously, it is hypothesized that photoirradiation can double the binding-site density of wetland DOM by polymerizing and photooxidizing the polyunsaturated lipids produced by microbial communities. This assumption is supported by the experimental observation that photooxidation of polyunsaturated fatty acids and triacylglycerides can increase their content of oxygen functional groups and produce aliphatic aldehydes (Kieber et al. 1997).

Therefore, lipid photooxidation causes a 165 % increase in ketone and aldehyde carbonyls (C-II region), which also increases the ratio of carbonyl groups to aromatic ones (Brooks et al. 2007). Correspondingly, the number of metal-binding substituents per aromatic moiety can increase, producing binding sites with weaker conditional stability constants in the residual (or photobleached) wetland DOM (Brooks et al. 2007).

Photoinduced irradiation is unable to cause complete degradation in waters having high levels of DOM, such as 2.3–32.2 mg L⁻¹ in rivers, 43.3 mg L⁻¹ in wetland, and 22.6–24 mg L⁻¹ in estuaries. In contrast, photochemistry can degrade most of the DOM in waters having low levels of DOM, such as ≤ 1 mg L⁻¹ in upstream rivers (Brooks et al. 2007; Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007). Therefore, 16–23 % DOM losses can occur in waters with high levels of DOM, whilst higher losses (32–36 %) occur in waters with low levels of DOM. As a consequence, the effects of the photoinduced degradation on M-DOM complexes are expected to be lower in high-DOM waters than in low-DOM ones.

The functional groups in protein or tryptophan are amino carboxylic acid [$-\text{CH}-(\text{NH}_2)-\text{COOH}$] and $-\text{NH}$ group in an aromatic system [$\text{C}_8\text{H}_5(\text{NH})-$] (Mostofa et al. 2009a, 2011). Similarly, EPS is primarily composed of several ionisable functional groups such as carboxyl, phosphoric, amine, acidic amino acids, hydroxyl, phenolic, sulfates and organic phosphates. These groups can form complexes with trace metals depending on the environmental conditions (Beech and Sunner 2004; Quiroz et al. 2006; Merroun and Selenska-Pobell 2008; Zhang et al. 2008; Merroun et al. 2003; Guibaud et al. 2005)

It has recently been shown that the functional groups of humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) and tryptophan undergo preferential photoinduced decomposition in natural waters (Xie et al. 2004; Minakata et al. 2009). Decomposition and mineralization of the functional groups of DOM by solar irradiation are responsible for the disappearance of complexation between DOM and metal ions (Sachs et al. 2010; Kulovaara 1996; Kulovaara et al. 1996; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000). Therefore, photoinduced processes can produce a marked increase of metal toxicity in natural waters.

5.6 Effect of Microbial Processes

Microbial processes such as bacterial reductive precipitation, immobilization of soluble metals and M-DOM complexation can significantly affect the mobility (or transport) and toxicity of the trace metals and radionuclides in the aquatic environments (Bergquist and Blum 2007; Yin et al. 2010; Tabak et al. 2005; Francis and Dodge 2008; Fletcher et al. 2010). Key microbial processes such as biotransformation, biosorption and bioaccumulation, as well as degradation or synthesis of DOM can alter the solubility of metals and radionuclides (Fig. 10) (Bergquist and Blum 2007; Yin et al. 2010; Tabak et al. 2005; Francis and Dodge 2008; Fletcher et al. 2010). Metal-reducing or sulfate-reducing microorganisms can directly or indirectly reduce the soluble and mobile trace metals (Cr^{6+} , U^{6+} , Tc^{7+}) to metals (Cr^{3+} , U^{4+} ,

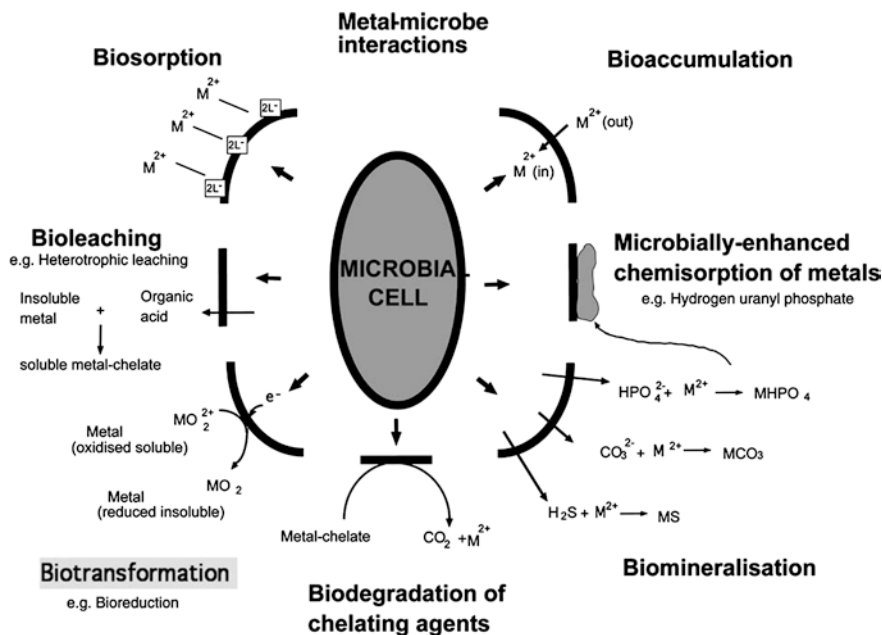


Fig. 10 Metal-microbe interactions impacting bioremediation. Data source Tabak et al. (2005)

Tc^{4+}) that are insoluble and less mobile in water, also affecting the M-DOM complexation (Tabak et al. 2005). Another study has shown that the anaerobic spore-forming bacteria *Clostridia*, ubiquitous in soils, sediments, and wastes, are able to reduce Fe^{3+} to Fe^{2+} , Mn^{4+} to Mn^{2+} , U^{6+} to U^{4+} , Pu^{4+} to Pu^{3+} , and Tc^{6+} to Tc^{4+} . They also reduce U^{6+} associated with citric acid in a dinuclear 2:2 U^{6+} :citric acid complex to a biligand mononuclear 1:2 U^{4+} :citric acid complex that remains in solution, in contrast to the reduction and precipitation of uranium (Francis and Dodge 2008). The bioreduction of U^{6+} to U^{4+} also occurs by environmentally relevant bacteria (Gram-positive and Gram-negative), yielding a phase or mineral composed of mononuclear U^{4+} atoms that can form inner-sphere bonds with C/N/O- or P/S-containing ligands (Fletcher et al. 2010; Bernier-Latmani et al. 2010).

Bioaccumulation and biosorption occurs in three ways (Tabak et al. 2005): (i) Sorption on surface sites: sorption of metals and actinides can take place with cell surface active sites. (ii) Surface precipitation: following initial surface sorption, additional surface complexation of metals and actinides can happen by precipitation. (iii) Precipitation with bacterial cell lysate: it occurs by both complexation and precipitation. In addition, microbes can degrade the functional groups of DOM (e.g. fulvic acid, humic acid and tryptophan amino acid) and of synthetic organic ligands (ca. EDTA), or complexes between DOM and trace metals (Tabak et al. 2005). Microbial processes can alter the functional groups (or chromophores or fluorophores) of DOM, causing significant changes (either increase or decrease) in their absorption and fluorescence properties (Moran et al. 2000; Mostofa et al. 2007; Winter et al. 2007; Helms et al. 2008). Microbial changes in the functional

groups of DOM that are responsible for complex formation with trace metals are thus susceptible to alter M-DOM complexation in natural waters.

In addition, accumulation of metals by plants (phytoremediation) can reduce the toxicity and content of metals (Tabak et al. 2005; Salt et al. 1995, 1998; Raskin et al. 1997; Pulford and Watson 2003; Schwitzguébel et al. 2002) and, as a consequence, the metal complexation with DOM in the aquatic environments. The key processes are: (i) phytoextraction; the use of metal-accumulating plants to remove toxic metals from soil; (ii) rhizofiltration; the use of plant roots to remove toxic metals from polluted waters; and (iii) phytostabilization or phytoremediation; the use of plants to eliminate the bioavailability of toxic metals in soil.

5.7 Effects of Freshwater and Marine Water (Salinity)

The ionic strength and the occurrence of trace elements can affect the complexation between DOM and trace metals and can induce structural modifications of DOM in waters (Wu et al. 2004a, c; Fu et al. 2007; Harper et al. 2008). Sea water is mostly a solution of NaCl where Na and Cl contribute for more than 86 % of the salt content by mass. The order of the other cations is $Mg^{2+} > Ca^{2+} > K^{+} > Sr^{2+}$ and the other main anions are SO_4^{2-} , HCO_3^{-} , Br^{-} , and F^{-} (Livingstone 1963; Carpena and Manella 1973; Hem 1985). Comparison of river and sea water shows that Na^{+} , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , K^{+} , HCO_3^{-} , Cl^{-} and SO_4^{2-} in the sea are typically 1670 times, 27 times, 330 times, 170 times, 2.4 times, 2,400 times and 245 times, respectively, higher than in rivers (Livingstone 1963; Hem 1985). Recently it has been shown that the affinity of EPS for complexing Pu^{4+} decreases in the order of *Clostridium* sp. > *S. putrefaciens* > *P. fluorescens*, although the concentrations of carboxylic groups in EPS isolated in laboratory cultures decrease in the order of *P. fluorescens* > *S. putrefaciens* > *Clostridium* sp. (Harper et al. 2008). The deprotonated carboxylic sites of EPS from *P. fluorescens* are mostly bound by Na^{+} at a ionic strength of 0.1 M NaCl, which might be caused by a much stronger affinity of the Na^{+} ion for the EPS from *P. fluorescens* compared to other EPS (Harper et al. 2008). The high quantities of cations in sea water can induce more rapid complex formation in DOM, even with metals that are relatively less effective in fresh waters. Therefore, DOM is expected to form more complexes with cations in sea waters than in fresh waters.

6 Shifts in Fluorescence Spectral Patterns Due to Metal-DOM Complexation

The complexation of trace elements with fulvic and humic acid (extracted from sewerage sludge) can shift the excitation-emission wavelengths to longer wavelength regions during the initial complexation process (Wu et al. 2004a, c; Plaza et al. 2006). During the Hg-DOM complexation, both excitation and emission wavelengths are increased by up to $Ex/Em = 40/25$ nm in the first 20 s, after which

they remain stable over a period of 100 s (Wu et al. 2004a). The mixing of standard fluorescent organic substances with Milli-Q water and seawater shows that the excitation-emission wavelength maxima of SRFA, DAS1, tyrosine, benzoic acid, *p*-hydroxy benzoic acid, *p*-hydroxy benzaldehyde and *p*-hydroxy acetophenone in seawater are significantly shifted from shorter to longer wavelength regions compared to Milli-Q water (Nakajima 2006). For example, the fluorescence peak C of SRFA dissolved in seawater is detected Ex/Em = 345/452 nm whilst the same peak in Milli-Q water is detected at Ex/Em = 325/442 nm. The peak A remains almost the same in both aqueous media (Nakajima 2006). The fluorescence peak C of autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin is detected at Ex/Em = 340/442–448 nm in Milli-Q water, and at Ex/Em = 340/454–455 nm in river water during the photoinduced and microbial assimilations of algae (Mostofa et al. 2009b). In another study, the same autochthonous fulvic acid (C-like) of algal origin has been detected at Ex/Em = 365/453 nm and 270/453 nm in an isotonic solution during the microbial assimilation of lake phytoplankton (0.5 ‰ salinity) (Zhang et al. 2009). The autochthonous fulvic acid or marine humic-like material of algal origin (peak M) at the peak C-region is found to be shifted from shorter excitation wavelengths (290/400–410 nm in pure Milli-Q water) to a longer wavelength region (300–310/400–410 nm in seawater) (Parlanti et al. 2000).

The shift in excitation and emission wavelength maxima with salinity is presumably caused by the anions and cations present in sea water. Such a shift in excitation-emission from shorter to longer wavelengths is termed the red shift of fulvic acid-like fluorescence. The mechanism behind this red shift in sea water is attributed to the complex formation of the functional groups (or fluorophores at peak C-region) in fulvic acid with trace elements or ions markedly present in sea water. The complexation of trace elements with the SRFA functional group (or fluorophore) can significantly enhance the electron transfer of that functional group bound at peak C from the ground state to the excited state upon absorption of longer wavelength radiation. The effect is a shift of the excitation-emission maxima of the peak C to longer wavelengths. This is evidenced by the photoinduced formation of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) from organic substances, which is higher in the presence of NaCl than with organic substances alone in aqueous solution (Gopinath et al. 1972; Zepp et al. 1987; Assel et al. 1998; Richard and Canonica 2005; Fujiwara et al. 1993). Rapid excitation of electrons in ionic (saline) FDOM solution is susceptible to shift both excitation and emission maxima of fluorophores (or functional groups) associated to the peak C of allochthonous fulvic and humic acids or autochthonous fulvic acids or other autochthonous DOM. This effect is presumably responsible for the high production of hydrogen peroxide in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Fujiwara et al. 1993). Indeed, photogeneration of H_2O_2 from ultrafiltered river DOM is substantially increased with salinity, from 15 to 368 nM h^{-1} at circumneutral pH (Osburn et al. 2009). The mechanism behind this phenomenon apparently can be factors: first, irradiated CDOM can induce photoinduced production of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) that is a hydroxyl radical (HO^*) source via photolysis or the Fenton reaction, and the photoinduced generation of H_2O_2 is enhanced by salinity. Trace metal ions (M) in

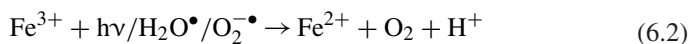
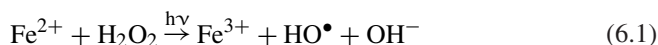
salinity or sea waters can complex with DOM (M-DOM) forming a strong π -electron bonding system between metal ions and the functional groups in DOM. This π -electron in M-DOM complex is rapidly excited photolytically, which is responsible for high production of aqueous electrons (e_{aq}^-) and subsequently the high production of superoxide ion ($O_2^{\bullet -}$), H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet , respectively.

On the other hand, the mixing of some standard FDOM (e.g. DSBP, phenol, and tryptophan) with seawater show that the fluorescence excitation-emission wavelength maxima (peak C- region and peak T- region) are shifted from longer to shorter wavelength regions compared to Milli-Q water (Nakajima 2006). Such changes in fluorescence excitation-emission maxima are termed as blue-shift of the fluorophores in FDOM. The blue-shift of the FDOM fluorescence peaks can be hypothesized to occur upon loss of high molecular weight fluorescent components by physico-chemical modifications such as flocculation, aggregation or precipitation when the ionic strength is increased (Sholkovitz 1976; Carlson and Mayer 1983; Sierra et al. 1997; van Heemst et al. 2000; Benner and Opsahl 2001; McCarthy et al. 1996). The mechanism behind the blue-shift phenomenon in metal-DOM complexation is presumably the fact that anions or cations can form complexes with the fluorophores (or functional groups) of few fluorescent organic components and may increase the excitation energy of the fluorophores associated to the peak C or peak A-region. The result can be a change in the excitation-emission from longer to shorter wavelengths.

7 Importance of the Metal-DOM Complexation

The complexation of DOM with trace metals is connected to several major biogeochemical phenomena that can be distinguished as: (i) Chemical speciation of the trace metals is of key importance for their biological effects and biogeochemical cycling in natural water, sediment and soil environments (Sekaly et al. 2003; Huber et al. 2002; Hughes et al. 1995; Markich 2002). (ii) DOM including humic substances can control the occurrence of free toxic metals through formation of M-DOM complexes that can significantly reduce the bioavailability and toxicity to organisms in natural waters (Shcherbina et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2011; Filella et al. 2007; Hörnström et al. 1984; Markich 2002; Managaki and Takada 2005; Yadav and Trivedi 2006). The bioavailability of toxic metals, their ability to bind to or traverse the cell surface of an organism, is generally dependent on the metal speciation or physicochemical form in the aquatic environments. For example, U^{4+} complexes with humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) and inorganic ligands (e.g., carbonate or phosphate) apparently reduce the bioavailability of U by reducing the activity of UO_2^{2+} and UO_2OH^+ , which are the major forms of U^{4+} available to organisms, rather than U in strong complexes (e.g. uranyl fulvate) or adsorbed to colloidal and/or particulate matter (Markich 2002). (iii) Formation of M-DOM complexes can influence the transport or migration of metals, the acid-base balance and

the solubility in water, sediment and soil environments (Shcherbina et al. 2007; Sekaly et al. 2003; Lippold and Lippmann-Pipke 2009). The complexation of trace metal ions with specific binding sites in fulvic acid can result in conformational folding, thereby changing the outer appearance of the molecule and affecting its mobility (Chakraborty et al. 2007). (iv) Toxic metals and radionuclides can form complexes with humic substances (fulvic and humic acids) in natural aquatic ecosystems (Tabak et al. 2005; Mantoura et al. 1978; Choppin 1988; Higgo et al. 1993; Christensen et al. 1996; Lenhart et al. 2000; Freyer et al. 2009). These trace metals can subsequently undergo facilitated transport with natural DOM via groundwater into the biosphere. As an alternative, they can remain in waters under both oxic and anoxic conditions by forming various soluble complexes with DOM (Francis and Dodge 2008; Fletcher et al. 2010; Kim and Czerwinski 1996; Kim et al. 1994; McCarthy et al. 1998; Bernier-Latmani et al. 2010; Freyer et al. 2009; Artinger et al. 1998; Schussler et al. 2001; Ranville et al. 2007). These results suggest that the complexation of DOM with toxic metals, actinides and radionuclides may affect mobility, toxicity and fate of these elements in the contaminated subsurface environments. (v) Due to the steady-state existence of DOM as M-DOM complexes in natural waters, DOM itself may substantially enhance the production of H_2O_2 by rapid charge transfer, excited-state electron transfer or intramolecular energy transfer in natural waters (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Dalrymple et al. 2010). The H_2O_2 upon irradiation of river DOM is substantially increased (from 15 to 368 nM h^{-1}) with increasing salinity at circumneutral pH values (Osburn et al. 2009). Therefore, M-DOM complexation plays a significant role in the initiation of photoinduced processes in natural waters. (vi) The M-DOM complexes are highly susceptible to inducing the photo-Fenton reaction, in the presence of the H_2O_2 produced photolytically in surface waters. Such a process is a potential pathway to produce the hydroxyl radical (HO^\bullet) (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Fujiwara et al. 1993; Zepp et al. 1992; Vermilyea and Voelker 2009). The photo-Fenton reaction for iron can be depicted as follows (Zepp et al. 1992):



↓

Recycling of reaction 6. 1

Therefore, the M-DOM complexation can regulate the photoinduced degradation processes of DOM and other solutes in natural waters. (vii) Production of pure chemicals in petrochemical industry for extraction, separation and recycling of metals from aqueous and organic phases, where the M-DOM complexes are selectively dissolved (Mostofa et al. 2011; Bhattacharyya et al. 2010). (viii) Metal–organic ligand complexes are less bioavailable than metals and thus are less toxic to a variety of aquatic species (Koukal et al. 2003; Knezovich

et al. 1981; van Leeuwen et al. 2005). These complexes can undergo partitioning between liquid–solid and solid–solid phases, thereby affecting the environmental fate and transport of metals (Hays et al. 2004). (ix) The polyvalent cations and their concentrations are considerably affected by the distribution of DOM fractions and by their quantities (which can for instance be determined using XAD-8 resins), particularly at low DOC concentrations and high pH (Kaiser 1998). It is also shown that hydrophilic DOC increases and hydrophobic DOC decreases with increasing concentrations of metal cations, in the order $\text{Ca} < \text{Al} < \text{Fe}$, due to formation of metal-DOM complexes (Kaiser 1998). (x) Complexation of Fe^{2+} by catechol and thiol ligands leads to the formation of aqueous species that are capable of reducing substituted nitroaromatic compounds to the corresponding anilines, and thus play an important role in the reductive transformation of persistent organic contaminants (Naka et al. 2006). (xi) Competition of Cu(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) for the few (~1–10 % of the total) strong binding sites of humic substances suggest that Ni(II) is bound to the much more numerous (~99–90 % of the total) weak binding sites, forming labile nickel complexes. The consequence is that Ni(II) is largely present as free nickel ion (Ni(II)-aquo complex), which is reported to be toxic (Mandal et al. 1999, 2000; Lavigne et al. 1987). (xii) Metal binding properties of DOM and the interaction of iron-DOM complexes with phosphate can decrease the concentration of dissolved nutrients and subsequently act as nutrient reservoirs during periods of low availability (Francko and Heath 1983; Jones 1998; Vahatalo et al. 2003). (xiii) Complexes between As and humic acids are much stronger than As-protein or As-fulvic acids ones. Therefore, intake of black soil (or dark brown soil) with high amounts of humic acid could reduce As levels in the human body. Note that while eating soil is quite unusual for humans, in some rural Bangladesh villages it is customary for pregnant women to eat *shikal* (it sounds like “chain” in English), which consists of small (2 in. \times 1 in. \times 1/2 in.) pellets made out of flooded soil (information source is personal experience of one of the authors). While the origin of this tradition is quite uncertain, it is noteworthy that it was observed in one of the world’s regions where human exposure to As is the highest.

8 Scope of the Future Research

It is reported that autochthonous fulvic acid of algal or phytoplankton origin, typically shows fluorescence properties at peak C- and A-regions, which is a similar behavior as allochthonous fulvic and humic acids (Coble 1996, 2007; Parlanti et al. 2000; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Yamashita and Jaffe 2008; Stedmon et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fulton et al. 2004; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004; Fu et al. 2010). Currently, PARAFAC modeling has been applied to the identification of various fluorescent components and of their characteristic changes (optical and chemical) when autochthonous fluorescent DOM originates from algae or phytoplankton and undergoes photoinduced and microbial

degradation in seawater (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Zhang et al. 2009; Stedmon et al. 2007). The current works do not distinguish between the photoinduced, microbial and metal-complexation processing of the autochthonous DOM and do not differentiate between e.g. autochthonous fulvic acids and terrestrial fulvic and humic acids. Such a differentiation and the elucidation of the behavior of the single components should be a key focus for future research.

An increase in water temperature due to global warming may significantly alter the biogeochemical functions in natural aquatic ecosystems. However, there is currently no study that examines the temperature effect on the metal-complexation features of fluorescent DOM in waters, which might be another key issue for future study. It may lead to understand the impacts of global warming on M-DOM complexation in the aquatic environments.

Fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs) and household detergents show fluorescence properties and are widely distributed in the waters and sediments of rivers, lakes and oceans (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa et al. 2005, 2010; Managaki and Takada 2005; Stoll and Giger 1998; Poiger et al. 1999; Baker 2002; Yamaji et al. 2010). The complexation of trace elements with FWAs such as diaminostilbene-type (DAS1) and distyryl biphenyl (DSBP) and household detergents might be an interesting concern for future research.

The stability constants for the formation of ternary complexes are similar to those of DOM in surface waters (Tables 1 and 2) (Khalil and Taha 2004; Khalil and Fazary 2004; Radalla 2010; Rosas et al. 2010; Shiozawa et al. 2011). Considering the similarity of the stability constants, ternary complex formation should be taken into account in a speciation description of M-DOM complexation. It could be vital to understand the high variability of stability constants in natural waters and should be a focus for future research.

9 Nomenclature

CDOM	Chromophoric dissolved organic matter
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
EHA	Elliot soil humic acid standard
EPS	Extracellular polymeric substances
FA	Fulvic acid
FDOM	Fluorescent dissolved organic matter
HA	Humic acid
I	Ionic strength
$\log_{10} K$	Conditional stability constant (logarithm)
LFSE	Ligand field stabilization energy
LHA	Leonardite coal humic acid standard
SRFA	Suwannee River fulvic acid
SRHA	Suwannee River humic acid

Problems

- (1) Mention the ten key organic ligands of DOM that can complex trace metal ions.
- (2) Mention the key DOM components that show fluorescence properties. Explain the application of fluorescence properties to identify the complexation between metal ions (M) and DOM in aqueous media.
- (3) Mention the DOM components of natural origin that can complex metal ions in aqueous solution.
- (4) Mention the key possible fluorophores in the molecular structures of fulvic acid, humic acid, and tryptophan.
- (5) Explain the theory of multisite Stern–Volmer equation for the determination of M-DOM complexation.
- (6) Explain the kinetics of the M-fulvic acid complexation regarding the binding sites of fulvic acid.
- (7) Derive the equation for the conditional stability constant of M-DOM complexes in aqueous solution.
- (8) How does SRFA behave as homogeneous and heterogeneous complexant to trace metals?
- (9) Explain the binding sites in fulvic acid and humic acid and how they differ from autochthonous DOM and tryptophan.
- (10) Explain the mechanism for the complexation of metal ions with DOM and explain how the functional groups in tryptophan amino acid form complexes with trace metal ions.
- (11) Describe the effects of the M-DOM complexation that depend on the order of complex formation of transition metals and other metals to DOM in natural waters.
- (12) Explain the electronic configuration of transition metals (Cu^{2+} and Cr^{3+}), alkaline earths (Ca^{2+}), and heavy metals (Sb^{3+}) and how does it influence the interaction with functional DOM groups in M-DOM complexation.
- (13) Explain why transition metals generally have higher bonding properties with DOM functional groups than alkali or alkaline earth metals.
- (14) What are the controlling factors for the M-DOM complexation in aqueous solution? Describe four important factors that can regulate the M-DOM complexation in aqueous solution.
- (15) Why are the fluorescence excitation-emission maxima shifted in metal-DOM complexes? Explain the mechanisms.
- (16) Explain the importance of M-DOM complexation in the aquatic environment.

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Impacts of Global Warming on Biogeochemical Cycles in Natural Waters

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1 Introduction

The main source of energy that drives the dynamics of Earth's outer spheres, including its climate, is unquestionably the Sun (Kandel and Viollier 2005). Therefore, electromagnetic radiation enormously dominates the energy exchange between the Earth and its cosmic environment (Kandel and Viollier 2005). At a radiative balance of 235 W m^{-2} , the Earth would have an average surface temperature of only $-19 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, resulting in a perpetually frozen planet (Ruddiman 2001). Fortunately, the planetary atmosphere traps sufficient long-wave energy that is reradiated by the warm Earth's surface (greenhouse effect) to raise the surface temperature by approximately $33 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ to a more hospitable average of $14 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (Ferguson and Veizer 2007). The greenhouse effect is efficiently caused by the

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occurrence of the atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), the main one being water vapor (H_2O) followed to a lesser extent by CO_2 , CH_4 , N_2O , CFCs and so on (Wigley 1988, 1989; Charlson et al. 1989; Fisher et al. 1990; den Elzen et al. 1992; Kroeze and Reijnders 1992; Solomon and Daniel 1996; Kiehl and Trenberth 1997; Quaas et al. 2004; IPCC 2007a; Velders et al. 2007; May 2008; Schmidt et al. 2010; Zhang et al. 2011). A typical definition of global warming is an increase of the global average temperatures at the interface between Earth's near surface air and water. It is generally caused either by the absorption of long-wave (or thermal) infrared radiation by the GHGs and other atmospheric constituents or by high penetration of short-wave, e.g. ultraviolet (UV) radiation due to the depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer caused by ozone depleting substances.

GHGs and other atmospheric constituents are substantially released by increased soil respiration processes (Bradford et al. 2008; Bahn et al. 2010; Feng et al. 2010), high agricultural activities in soils (Mosier et al. 2004; Robertson and Grace 2004; Ambus and Robertson 2006; Smith et al. 2008), anthropogenic processes (IPCC 2007a; Sabine et al. 2004; Smith 2004; Archer 2005; Canadell et al. 2007; Hofmann et al. 2009), deforestation (IPCC 2001, 2007a; Kreileman and Bouwman 1994; van der Werf et al. 2009), photoinduced and microbial degradation of aquatic organic matter (OM) including dissolved organic matter (DOM) and particulate organic matter (POM) (Bozec et al. 2005, 2006; Schiettecatte et al. 2006, 2007; Borges et al. 2008; Omar et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011), and photoinduced and microbial degradation of OM in plants and soil environments (Brandt et al. 2009; Rutledge et al. 2010).

On the other hand, global warming significantly affects various biogeochemical processes of natural waters, including changes in light cycle, increase of water temperature (O'Reilly et al. 2003; Letelier et al. 2004; Huisman et al. 2006; Porcal et al. 2009), enhancement of the photoinduced activity of aquatic DOM and OM (Hiriart-Baer and Smith 2005; Molot et al. 2005; Johannessen et al. 2007; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009a, b, 2011), changes in the microbial processing of aquatic DOM and OM (Norf et al. 2007; Vázquez-Domínguez et al. 2007; Falkowski and Oliver 2008; Peters 2008; Norf and Weitere 2010; Sarmiento et al. 2010; Sawicka et al. 2010), enhancement of photosynthesis (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Marcoval et al. 2008; Zubkov and Tarran 2008; Beardall et al. 2009a, b), changes in the primary productivity (Huisman et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Baulch et al. 2005; Castle and Rodgers 2009; Davis et al. 2009), changes in the aquatic DOM dynamics and global carbon cycles (Zepp et al. 2011; Porcal et al. 2009; Burns et al. 2006; Vuorenmaa et al. 2006; Sobek et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2010), and changes in the nutrients cycle (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fu et al. 2005; Minero et al. 2007; Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Sterner et al. 2008).

The effects of ambient levels of UV radiation (UV-B: 280–315 nm and UV-A: 315–400 nm) can alter both planktonic and benthic communities within the biota of alpine lakes (Cabrera et al. 1997; Halac et al. 1997; Sommaruga et al. 1997, 1999a; Vinebrooke and Leavitt 1998; Sommaruga and Garcia-Pichel 1999). The impact of UV radiation may interact with other important environmental changes affecting high-latitude and high-altitude lakes, such as acidification and

climate warming (Vinebrooke and Leavitt 1998; Schindler et al. 1996; Yan et al. 1996; Sommaruga et al. 1999b). UV-B radiation strongly influences aquatic carbon, nitrogen, sulfur and metals cycles and affects a wide range of life processes (Epp et al. 2007). UV-B radiation changes the biological availability of dissolved organic matter (DOM) to microorganisms and accelerates DOM transformation into dissolved inorganic carbon and nitrogen, including carbon dioxide and ammonium (Epp et al. 2007). It is reported that large shifts in underwater UV-B, UV-A and photosynthetically available radiation (PAR) associated with changes in the input of colored DOM occurred into subarctic lakes during the Holocene (Pienitz and Vincent 2000). A moderate increase in UV-B also occurred in the northern hemisphere such as in the Arctic (von Der Gathen et al. 1995) and in the Swiss Alps (Blumthaler and Ambach 1990).

Global warming induces changes of climate, soil and water ecosystems (IPCC 2007a). Some 70 % of the Earth surface is covered by water containing an extremely complicated milieu of organic and inorganic chemical species (Erickson Iii et al. 2000). The photoinduced production and transformation of various greenhouse and chemically reactive gases in the ocean has been a focus of many studies over the last century (Erickson Iii et al. 2000). Increased UV radiation has implications on the biogeochemistry of the aquatic and marine boundary layer, with a focus on trace gases such as CO₂, DMS, CO, OCS, CH₄, N₂O, non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHCs) and organohalogens, which can be exchanged between the ocean and the atmosphere (Erickson Iii et al. 2000).

This chapter describes a general overview on the contributions to global warming of atmospheric constituents including GHGs, as well as their key emission processes. The aim of this review is to explain the impacts of global warming on the aquatic biogeochemical processes, including changes in light cycle and water temperature, photoinduced processes, microbial processes, photosynthesis, primary production, dissolved organic matter (DOM) dynamics and global carbon cycle, and finally the nutrients cycle in natural waters. This chapter also discusses a conceptual model for the effect of global warming on key biogeochemical processes and remedial measures for controlling algal blooms caused by global warming.

2 Global Warming

The atmospheric constituents accountable for global warming are: water vapor; clouds (condensed water in ice and liquid form); greenhouse gases (GHGs) such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) and halocarbons including chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), ozone, sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), methyl chloroform (CH₃CCl₃) and carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄) (Wigley 1988, 1989; Charlson et al. 1989; Fisher et al. 1990; den Elzen et al. 1992; Kroeze and Reijnders 1992; Solomon and Daniel 1996; Kiehl and Trenberth 1997; Quaas et al. 2004; IPCC 2007a; Velders

et al. 2007; May 2008; Schmidt et al. 2010; Zhang et al. 2011; Robertson and Grace 2004; Friedlingstein et al. 2003; Jones et al. 2003a, b, c; Le Quéré et al. 2003; Archer et al. 2004; Buffett and Archer 2004; Forster and Joshi 2005; Hansen and Sato 2004; Eliseev et al. 2007). Atmospheric constituents are responsible for increasing the atmospheric temperature via two main processes. First, long-wave (or thermal) radiation emitted from the terrestrial surface is absorbed at a particular frequency and reemitted at lower frequency by greenhouse gases and clouds throughout the earth's atmosphere. The earth's surface can emit long-wave (or thermal) radiation because it is heated by sunlight. Second, gases, clouds and aerosols can absorb and scatter short-wave radiation (UV and visible) significantly. The cooling effect via short-wave reflection is dominant for clouds and aerosols. The transfer of long-wave radiation depends on both the local temperature of the gaseous absorber and the efficiency of the gases to absorb radiation at a given wavelength (Kiehl and Trenberth 1997). The absorption efficiency varies with wavelength. Note that many greenhouse gases can absorb radiation at the same wavelengths, which is called the overlap effect. In the presence of clouds, the transfer of radiation depends on the cloud amount, on the efficiency of clouds to absorb and reemit the long-wave radiation (cloud emissivity) and on the cloud top and base temperatures (Kiehl and Trenberth 1997).

It has been shown that the sulfate aerosols have a negative forcing effect that partially counterbalances the warming effect of greenhouse gases (Charlson et al. 1989; Wigley 1989; Quaas et al. 2004; IPCC 2007a; Schmidt et al. 2010; Joshi et al. 2003; Eliseev et al. 2007; Rosenfeld 2000). It is suggested that aerosols scatter sunlight and enhance the planetary short-wave albedo, an effect known as the 'aerosol direct effect' (ADE). In addition, by their ability to act as cloud condensation nuclei, (hygroscopic) aerosols change cloud properties and produce essentially an increase in cloud albedo. These processes are called 'aerosol indirect effect' (AIE).

The increase in greenhouse gas concentration could lead to a reduction of clouds at all atmospheric levels, thus decreasing the total greenhouse effect in the long-wave spectrum but increasing absorption of solar radiation upon reduction of cloud albedo (Quaas et al. 2004). Increasing anthropogenic aerosols result in a decrease of high-level cloud cover by cooling of the atmosphere, and an increase in the low-level cloud cover through the second aerosol indirect effect (Quaas et al. 2004). The decrease of the high-level cloudiness and the increase of the low-level one due to the response of cloud processes to aerosols have a contrasting impact on the short-wave radiation, and the net effect is slightly positive (Quaas et al. 2004). The total aerosol effect, including the aerosol direct and first indirect effects, remains strongly negative (Quaas et al. 2004; IPCC 2007a).

In addition, the depletion of stratospheric ozone caused by atmospheric anthropogenic GHGs can enhance penetration of harmful UV-B radiation (280–315 nm), which can have a direct influence on living organisms and also affect the global warming (IPCC 2001; Huisman et al. 2006; Kerr and McElroy 1993; Varotsos and Kondratiev 1995; Hartmann et al. 2000; Qian et al. 2001; Sarmiento et al. 2004; Schmittner 2005). The impact of UV-B radiation on global warming is of two kinds. The first is a direct heating effect of UV-B radiation penetrating in the

troposphere. The second effect is the release of CO₂ to the atmosphere upon photoinduced degradation of DOM induced by UV-B radiation in natural waters (Qian et al. 2001; Sarmiento et al. 2004; Schmittner 2005). However, the observed losses in the stratospheric ozone layer over the past two decades have caused a negative climate forcing ($0.15 \pm 0.1 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$), i.e. a tendency toward cooling of the surface troposphere system (IPCC 2001). Model calculations indicate that increased penetration of ultraviolet radiation to the troposphere, as a result of stratospheric ozone depletion, leads to enhanced removal rates of gases like CH₄, with a resulting cooling effect (IPCC 2001).

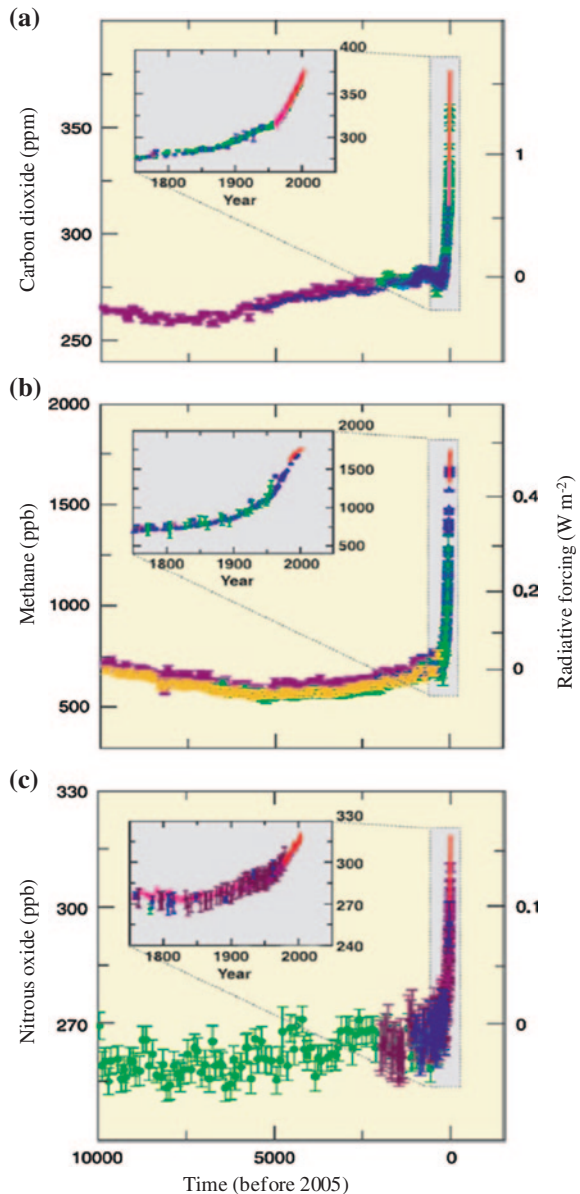
In contrast, other studies suggest that stratospheric ozone depletion and GHG warming may both be producing increased meridional temperature gradients in the extratropical lower stratosphere and upper troposphere, thereby acting synergistically to produce surprisingly large trends in both surface and stratospheric climate (Hartmann et al. 2000).

2.1 Occurrence and Contribution of Atmospheric Constituents to Global Warming

The global atmospheric concentration of CO₂ has increased from a pre-industrial value of about 280–379 ppm in 2005 (IPCC 2007a). The CO₂ concentrations in 2005 exceeded by far the natural range over the last 650,000 years (Fig. 1a) (IPCC 2007a). Despite the year-to-year variation of CO₂ concentration growth rate, it is estimated that the annual rate of CO₂ concentration growth has been larger over the past 10 years (1995–2005; average: 1.9 ppm per year) than in the whole record of continuous direct atmospheric measurements (1960–2005; average: 1.4 ppm per year). The atmospheric concentrations of CH₄ in 2005 exceeded by far the natural range over the last 650,000 years (Fig. 1b) (IPCC 2007a). The global atmospheric concentration of CH₄ increased from a pre-industrial value of about 715–1732 ppb in the early 1990s, then to 1774 ppb in 2005 (IPCC 2007a). The data also suggest that the growth rates have declined since the 1990s, coherently with total emissions (sum of anthropogenic and natural sources) being nearly constant during this period. The global atmospheric N₂O concentration increased from a pre-industrial value of about 270 ppb to 319 ppb in 2005 (Fig. 1c) (IPCC 2007a).

An important greenhouse gas in both the stratosphere and the troposphere is ozone (O₃), which is formed in the atmosphere from photoinduced processes that involve both natural and human-influenced precursor species (IPCC 2001). The residence time of ozone in the atmosphere is relatively short, varying from weeks to months (IPCC 2001). The total amount of O₃ in the troposphere is estimated to have increased by 36 % since 1750, due primarily to anthropogenic emissions of several O₃-forming gases (IPCC 2001). It is also suggested that O₃ climate forcing varies considerably depending on the region and that it responds more quickly to changes in emissions than the long-lived greenhouse gases, such as CO₂.

Fig. 1 Atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ (a), CH₄ (b) and N₂O (c) over the last 10,000 years (large panels) and since 1750 (inset panels). Measurements are shown from ice cores (symbols with different colours for different studies) and atmospheric samples (*red lines*). The corresponding radiative forcings relative to 1750 are shown on the right hand axes of the large panels. Data source IPCC (2007a)



Halocarbons have increased from a near-zero pre-industrial background concentration, and the increase is primarily due to human activities. The atmospheric concentrations of many halocarbon gases with ozone depleting and global warming potential (e.g. CFC1₃ and CF₂Cl₂) have been either increasing more slowly or even decreasing since 1995. This happened in response to reduced emissions

Table 1 Atmospheric lifetime and GWPs relative to CO₂ at different time horizon for various green house gases

Atmospheric gases	Global warming potentials (GWPs)			Lifetime (yrs)
	(Time horizon in years)			
	20 yrs	100 yrs	500 yrs	
Carbon dioxide (CO ₂)	1	1	1	~5–200 ^b
Methane ^a (CH ₄)	62	23	7	12 ^c
Nitrous oxide (N ₂ O)	275	296	156	114 ^c
<i>Hydrofluorocarbons</i>				
HFC-23 (CHF ₃)	9400	12000	10000	260
HFC-32 (CH ₂ F ₂)	1800	550	170	5.0
HFC-41 (CH ₃ F)	330	97	30	2.6
HFC-125 (CHF ₂ CF ₃)	5900	3400	1100	29
HFC-134 (CHF ₂ CHF ₂)	3200	1100	330	9.6
HFC-134a (CH ₂ FCF ₃)	3300	1300	400	13.8
HFC-143 (CHF ₂ CH ₂ F)	1100	330	100	3.4
HFC-143a (CF ₃ CH ₃)	5500	4300	1600	52
HFC-152 (CH ₃ CHF ₂)	140	43	13	0.5
HFC-152a (CH ₃ CHF ₂)	410	120	37	1.4
HFC-161 (CH ₃ CH ₂ F)	40	12	4	0.3
<i>Fully fluorinated gases</i>				
SF ₆	15100	22200	32400	3200
CF ₄	3900	5700	8900	50000
C ₂ F ₆	8000	11900	18000	10000

GWPs are an index for estimating relative global warming contribution due to atmospheric emission of a kg of a particular greenhouse gas compared to emission of a kg of carbon dioxide. *Data source* IPCC (2001)

^aThe methane GWPs include an indirect contribution from stratospheric H₂O and O₃ production

^bNo single lifetime can be defined for CO₂ because of the different rates of uptake by different removal processes

^cThe values for methane and nitrous oxide are adjustment times, which incorporate the indirect effects of emission of each gas on its own lifetime

under the regulations of the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments (IPCC 2001). The halocarbon substitute compounds (e.g. CHF₂Cl and CF₃CH₂F) and some other synthetic compounds such as perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride, SF₆, are also greenhouse gases. Their concentrations are currently increasing (Table 1) (IPCC 2001).

Atmospheric sulfate aerosols have increased sharply during the past one-and-a-half centuries or so, with an overall increase in sulfate emissions from 1 Mt S in 1850 to 70 Mt S in the 1990s. Sulfate aerosols are mostly concentrated in the Northern Hemisphere, with distinct concentration maxima near major polluted regions (Lefohn et al. 1999; Smith et al. 2001). Carbon monoxide (CO) is identified as an important indirect greenhouse gas, which acts as a HO[•] sink (thereby enhancing the lifetime of many direct greenhouse gases) and is involved in the formation of tropospheric O₃. A model study indicates that the emission of 100 Mt

CO is equivalent in terms of greenhouse gas perturbations to the emission of about 5 Mt CH₄ (IPCC 2001). The abundance of CO in the Northern Hemisphere is about twice that in the Southern Hemisphere and has increased in the second half of the twentieth century along with industrialisation and population growth (IPCC 2001). The reactive nitrogen species (NO and NO₂) and the volatile organic compounds, because of their impact over the oxidising capacity of the troposphere, may act as indirect greenhouse gases both through their influence on ozone and by impacting the lifetimes of CH₄ and other greenhouse gases via HO[•] scavenging, although this latter effect is compensated for to a variable extent by the HO[•] generation upon O₃ photolysis (IPCC 2001).

The contributions of different anthropogenic greenhouse gases to the 2004 total emissions in terms of CO₂ equivalents have been 56.6 % from fossil fuel use, 17.3 % from deforestation and decay of biomass, 2.8 % from other sources, 14.3 % from CH₄, 7.9 % from N₂O, and 1.1 % from fluorine gases (IPCC 2007a). The contributions of the different activity sectors to the total emissions of anthropogenic greenhouse gases in 2004, in terms of CO₂ equivalents are 25.9 % for energy supply, 19.4 % for industry, 17.4 % for forestry, 13.5 % for agriculture, 13.1 % for transport, 7.9 % for residential and commercial building purposes, and finally 2.8 % for waste and wastewater treatment (IPCC 2007a). In addition, recent studies shows that CO₂ can be significantly released to the atmosphere from other sources such as the photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and POM (e.g. algae or phytoplankton) in natural waters (Bozec et al. 2005, 2006; Schiettecatte et al. 2006, 2007; Borges et al. 2008; Omar et al. 2010; Kelley 1970; Kempe and Pegler 1991; Hoppema 1990, 1991; Borges and Frankignoulle 1999, 2002a, b). Also the photoinduced and microbial degradation of OM in terrestrial plant masses can release CO₂ to the atmosphere (Rutledge et al. 2010; Johannessen et al. 2007).

Among the atmospheric absorbers of long-wave radiation, H₂O vapor, clouds, CO₂, CH₄ and O₃ dominate while the aerosols and other species make small contributions to the overall effect (Schmidt et al. 2010). It has been shown that the contributions of atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs) to global warming are significantly variable depending on the occurrence of the atmospheric constituents and on the long-wave and short-wave fluxes under clear, cloudy or all-sky conditions (Kiehl and Trenberth 1997; IPCC 2007a; Schmidt et al. 2010).

The contributions of atmospheric GHGs to global warming are 39–70 % for H₂O vapor, 15–36 % for clouds, 14–31 % for CO₂, 8–18 % for O₃, and 6–9 % for other constituents including CH₄ and N₂O (Kiehl and Trenberth 1997; Schmidt et al. 2010; Harrison et al. 1990; IPCC 1990; Clough and Iacono 1995). In addition, the atmospheric short-wave (UV–Vis) absorbers are mostly H₂O vapor (38–43 W m⁻²), O₃ (14–15 W m⁻²), and O₂ (2 W m⁻²) under both clear and cloudy conditions. In contrast, CO₂ (1 W m⁻²) only gives a small contribution under clear-sky conditions (Kiehl and Trenberth 1997). It has also been shown that the all-sky contribution of water vapor and clouds together is approximately 72–80 % after removing all the other absorbers (Schmidt et al. 2010).

The direct emission of water vapor (a greenhouse gas) by human activities makes a negligible contribution to the radiative forcing, but an increase in global average temperature can enhance the tropospheric water vapor concentration and produce a key positive feedback for radiative forcing, thereby leading to further warming (IPCC 2007a). Interestingly, the so-called Humic-like Substances (HULIS) occurring on atmospheric aerosols can enhance water uptake and increase the role of particles as Cloud Condensation Nuclei (CCN), thereby contributing to direct and indirect climate forcing (Hatch et al. 2009). Warming also reduces terrestrial and ocean uptake of atmospheric CO₂, increasing the fraction of anthropogenic emissions that remain in the atmosphere. Such an effect is expected to lead to higher atmospheric CO₂ levels that are further involved into the global climate change (IPCC 2007a). The uptake by the oceans is approximately 25 % of the annual carbon emissions that result from fossil fuel burning and cement manufacturing (Canadell et al. 2007).

The infrared absorption cross-sections for eight commonly used CFCs (halogenated methanes and ethanes), as a function of temperature from 203 to 293 K, suggest that the combined effects of absorption by CFCs of the Earth's radiative energy in the 'window' region (700–1300 cm⁻¹) and of their O₃ depletion potential makes these compounds significant contributors to global warming (McDaniel et al. 1991). On the other hand, the sulfate aerosols can reduce global warming by about 0.1–0.4 K, depending on the scenario and on the time period. The maximum slowdown in warming (>1.5 K) is expected to occur in the Northern Hemisphere middle- and high-latitude land areas in the mid-twenty-first century (Eliseev et al. 2007). A recent study has shown that the indirect effect of stratospheric ozone depletion could have offset up to half of the predicted past increase in surface temperature that would otherwise have occurred as a result of the direct halocarbon effects (Forster and Joshi 2005). In both the troposphere and stratosphere, CFC-12 contributed most to the CFCs-related past temperature changes, and the emission projections suggest that HFC-134a could contribute most to the warming by halocarbons over the coming century (Forster and Joshi 2005).

2.2 Global Warming Determination

The radiative forcing (expressed in Watts per square metre, W m⁻²) is one of the primary issues associated with potential global warming constituents (IPCC 1990, 1994, 2001). Radiative forcing is a change of the net irradiance at the top of the troposphere because of modifications in either solar or infrared radiation. Such forcing perturbs the balance between incoming and outgoing radiation (IPCC 1990, 1994). Radiative forcing is a measure of the influence of a particular factor on the balance of incoming and outgoing energy in the Earth-atmosphere system, and it is also an index for a potential climate change mechanism (IPCC 2007a). A positive radiative forcing tends to warm the climatic system while the negative forcing has a cooling effect.

The global-mean radiative forcing (ΔF) is approximately related to the equilibrium global-mean surface temperature change (ΔT) by (IPCC 1994) (Eq. 2.1):

$$\Delta T = \lambda \Delta F \quad (2.1)$$

where λ is the climate sensitivity parameter. Although there is a large discrepancy in the actual value of λ in different models, its values are assumed to be approximately independent of the agent causing the forcing. The spread in the model estimates of λ varies from about 0.4–1.2 K (W m⁻²)⁻¹, that is, approximately by a factor of 3 (IPCC 1990, 2001). The models also indicate generic deviations of λ from the case of global CO₂ perturbations: increases of O₃ in the upper troposphere generally produce lower values of λ , while O₃ perturbations in the lower stratosphere lead to higher values of λ (Joshi et al. 2003).

Global average radiative forcings in 2005 (best estimates with 5–95 % uncertainty ranges) with respect to 1750 for atmospheric constituents are +1.66 (range: +1.49 to +1.83) W m⁻² for CO₂, +0.48 (+0.43 to +0.53) W m⁻² for CH₄, +0.16 (+0.14 to +0.18) W m⁻² for N₂O, +0.34 (+0.31 to +0.37) W m⁻² for halocarbons, +0.35 (+0.25 to +0.65) W m⁻² for tropospheric O₃, and +0.12 (+0.06 to +0.30) W m⁻² for changes in solar irradiance (Fig. 1) (IPCC 2007a). On the other hand, anthropogenic contributions to aerosols (primarily sulphate aerosol, organic carbon, black carbon, nitrate and dust) produce an overall cooling effect, with a total direct radiative forcing of -0.5 (-0.9 to -0.1) W m⁻² and an indirect cloud albedo forcing of -0.7 (-1.8 to -0.3) W m⁻² (IPCC 2007a). The CO₂ radiative forcing increased by 20 % from 1995 to 2005, the largest change for any decade in at least the last 200 years (IPCC 2007a).

The global warming potential (GWP) is used within the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a metric for weighting the climate impact of the emission of different greenhouse gases (IPCC 1990, 2001; Shine et al. 2005). The GWP is the time-integrated radiative forcing due to a pulse emission of a given gas, over some given time period (or horizon), relative to a pulse emission of carbon dioxide (IPCC 2001). GWPs are an index for estimating relative global warming contributions, due to the atmospheric emission of a kg of a particular greenhouse gas compared to the emission of a kg of carbon dioxide. For instance, CH₄ and N₂O have relatively long atmospheric residence times (12 and 114 years, respectively), which combined with their ability to efficiently absorb infrared radiation results into GWPs of 23 and 296 times, respectively, that of CO₂ on a per-kg basis and a 100 years time horizon (IPCC 2001). In addition, the perfluorocarbons (e.g. CF₄ and C₂F₆) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) have really long atmospheric residence times (50000, 10000, and 3200 years, respectively) and are strong absorbers of infrared radiation. The resulting GWPs are 5700, 11900, and 22200 times, respectively, that of CO₂ on a per-kg basis for 100 years time horizon (Table 1) (IPCC 2001). Most of the halocarbons recently used (halogenated methanes and ethanes) show high GWPs ranging from 12 to 12000 times that of CO₂ on a per-kg basis for 100 years time horizon. Their atmospheric lifetimes vary from 0.3 to 260 years (Table 1) (IPCC 2001).

2.3 Key Issues that are Influenced by Global Warming

The key changes to the terrestrial and aquatic environments in response to global warming can be distinguished as: (i) increase of global average air and water temperatures (Fig. 2) (IPCC 2007a). Global surface temperatures have increased by 0.74 °C since the late nineteenth century, and 11 out of the 12 warmest years on record have occurred since 1995 (IPCC 2007a). The temperature increase is widespread over the globe and is higher at higher northern latitudes. Indeed, average Arctic temperatures have increased at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years (IPCC 2007a). (ii) Decreases in snow cover and in the Northern Hemisphere sea ice extent. The result is a shorter freezing season for lakes, rivers and sea ice (Fig. 2) (IPCC 2007a). Since 1978, satellite data have been showing that the annual average Arctic sea ice extent has shrunk by 2.7 % (2.1–3.3 %) per

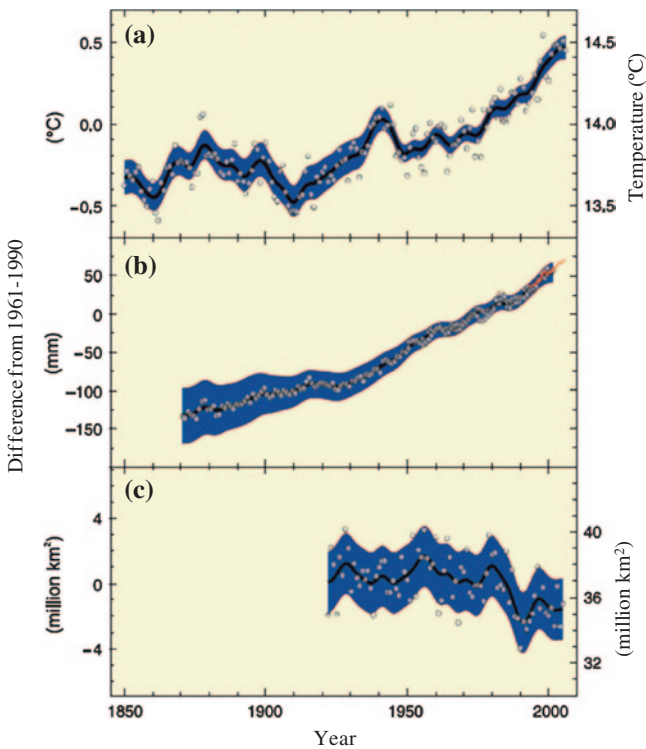


Fig. 2 Observed changes in **a** global average surface temperature; **b** global average sea level from tide gauge (blue) and satellite (red) data; and **c** Northern Hemisphere snow cover for March–April. All differences are relative to corresponding averages for the period 1961–1990. Smoothed curves represent decadal averaged values while circles show yearly values. The shaded areas are the uncertainty intervals estimated from a comprehensive analysis of known uncertainties (**a** and **b**) and from the time series (**c**). *Data source IPCC (2007a)*

decade, with summer decreases of 7.4 % (5.0–9.8 %) per decade (IPCC 2007a). The maximum surface of seasonally frozen ground has decreased by about 7 % in the Northern Hemisphere since 1900. There have been decreases in spring of up to 15 % (IPCC 2007a). (iii) Increase in soil temperature that subsequently enhances the soil respiration (Lloyd and Taylor 1994; Petersen and Klug 1994; Arnold et al. 1999; Feng and Simpson 2008, 2009; Frey et al. 2008). (iv) Weather modifications that can enhance natural disasters such as tornadoes, typhoons, storms, thunderstorms, and floods (Khalilov 2010). (v) Variations in water temperature profiles that cause changes in the euphotic zone, induce a longer summer stratification period and high photoinduced degradation of DOM and OM, make harmful algal blooms more likely, induce alteration of DOM dynamics, and change the seasonal patterns of chlorophyll or primary production and the nutrient concentrations. These effects induce as a consequence changes in species composition and in the seasonality of the water column, and finally modify food webs among phytoplankton, zooplankton, fish and birds in the aquatic environment (Huisman et al. 2006; Baulch et al. 2005; Castle and Rodgers 2009; Davis et al. 2009; Kitaysky and Golubova 2000; Hobson and McQuoid 2001; Mudie et al. 2002; Morrison et al. 2002; Johannessen and Macdonald 2009). (vi) Increases in sea level. They are consistent with warming and the global average sea level has risen at an average rate of 1.8 mm (1.3–2.3 mm) per year from 1961 to 2003. However, in the decade 1993–2003 the average rate has been of about 3.1 mm (2.4–3.8 mm) per year (IPCC 2007a). An increase of the global average temperature of about 2 °C may cause a warming of about 2.7 °C in the area around Greenland, possibly triggering the loss of the Greenland ice-sheet. Such a process may cause a global sea-level rise of 7 m over the next 1,000 years or more (Huybrechts et al. 1991; Gregory et al. 2004a, b). The rise of the sea level introduces vulnerability issues for agriculture, food, water resources, coral reefs, low-lying estuaries, intertidal zones, mudflats, mangrove forests, ecosystems and biodiversity (IPCC 2007a; Smith et al. 2001; Johannessen and Macdonald 2009; Doney et al. 2009; Masson and Cummins 2007; Burd et al. 2008a, b). The impacts on the coastal environments may lead to changes in the food web and affect the diversity of higher trophic levels such as marine mammals, fish and birds. (vii) A total ozone reduction of 2.5 % per decade during summer time causes a 5 % increase in UV irradiance (Varotsos and Kondratiev 1995), with a direct impact on terrestrial and aquatic environments.

3 Environmental Processes of GHGs Emission Affecting Global Warming

The key environmental processes of GHGs emission that may affect global warming can be categorized as follows: (i) soil respiration; (ii) agricultural activities in soil; (iii) anthropogenic sources of atmospheric greenhouse gases; (iv) deforestation; (v) photoinduced degradation of DOM and OM by natural sunlight; (vi) photoinduced degradation of OM in plants and soil environments.

3.1 Soil Respiration

In the soil respiration process, CO₂ fixed by terrestrial plants returns to the atmosphere. Changes in soil respiration in response to warming may contribute to the increase of CO₂ atmospheric levels (Bradford et al. 2008; Bahn et al. 2010; Feng et al. 2010; Raich and Schlesinger 1992; Oechel et al. 2000; Schlesinger and Andrews 2000; Luo et al. 2001; Melillo et al. 2002, 2004). CO₂ is produced in soils by roots, soil organisms and by chemical oxidation of carbon-containing materials (Lundegårdh 1927). Note that soil respiration through microbial activity can lead to the degradation to CO₂ of long chain (>C₂₀) alkanols, fatty acids (e.g. n-alkanoic acids), hydroxy fatty acids and di-acids that are major components of hydrolysable aliphatic lipids in soil organic matter (Feng et al. 2010; Nierop et al. 2003; Hajje and Jaffé 2006; Otto and Simpson 2006). These studies demonstrate that the average soil respiration rates are very variable depending on the nature of vegetation and on ambient temperature. For example, the lowest respiration rate is detected in tundra ($60 \pm 6 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), northern bogs and mires ($94 \pm 16 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), desert scrub ($224 \pm 38 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), boreal forests ($322 \pm 31 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) and marshes ($413 \pm 76 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$). In contrast, respiration rates are highest in tropical moist forests ($1260 \pm 57 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), Mediterranean woodlands and heath ($713 \pm 88 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), temperate coniferous forests ($681 \pm 95 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), tropical dry forests ($673 \pm 134 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) and temperate deciduous forests ($647 \pm 51 \text{ gC m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) (Raich and Schlesinger 1992). Temperature is the single best predictor of the annual respiration rate at a specific location, because soil respiration rates correlate significantly with average annual air temperatures and precipitation on a global scale (Raich and Schlesinger 1992).

Microbial decomposition of soil OM constituents such as lignin and hydrolysable lipids is promoted under both elevated CO₂ and N fertilization (Feng et al. 2010). Traditional tillage cultivation and rising temperature increase the flux of CO₂ from soils without increasing the stock of soil organic matter (Schlesinger and Andrews 2000). Soil warming can increase the relative abundance of Gram-positive bacteria (Frey et al. 2008; Bardgett et al. 1999; Biasi et al. 2005). It has also been shown that soil respiration is initially enhanced by warming for a few years, but that this effect is subsequently reduced over time (Frey et al. 2008; Oechel et al. 2000; Luo et al. 2001; Melillo et al. 2002, 2004). The following factors can be involved: (i) reduced plant production can lead to lower root respiration rates, decrease microbial activity because of soil drying, and to losses of labile soil organic carbon substrates such as amino acids, carbohydrates, and carboxylic acids (Frey et al. 2008; Oechel et al. 2000; Luo et al. 2001; Melillo et al. 2002). (ii) Increases in temperature can significantly change the microbial community structure that ultimately affects the soil respiration (Lloyd and Taylor 1994; Petersen and Klug 1994; Arnold et al. 1999; Feng and Simpson 2008, 2009; Frey et al. 2008).

Causes of diversity in respiration in the soil ecosystems are the variation in the decomposition factors of particulate detrital pools or vascular plant materials, which are regulated by numerous physical (temperature, moisture), chemical (redox, nutrient availability) and microbial (microfloral successional

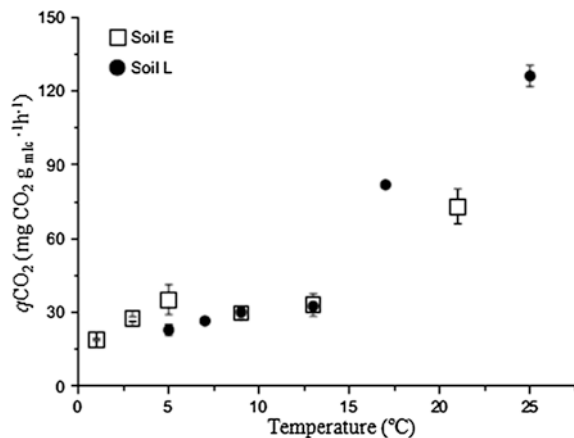
patterns, availability of microorganisms) factors (Mostofa et al. 2009a; Malcolm 1985; Wetzel 1992; Nakane et al. 1997; Uchida et al. 1998, 2000). Soil OM is typically lost upon agricultural conversion that reduces plant residue inputs, tillage-induced soil disturbance, erosion, and by the creation of more favorable conditions for microbial decomposition (Robertson and Grace 2004). The growth of typical terrestrial vegetation, rainforest, vascular plants and/or typical grassland and their degradation are significantly higher during the warm seasons than in the cold ones, because increased temperature would enhance respiration and decomposition in the soil environment (Nakane et al. 1997; Uchida et al. 1998, 2000; Duff et al. 1999; Fahey et al. 2005). The temperature increase is often found to enhance the soil CO₂ fluxes to the atmosphere (Fig. 3) (Feng and Simpson 2009).

However, the enhanced plant or litter inputs induced by warming have a stronger control on soil microbial responses than the temperature increase itself. Therefore, it is suggested that the quality of soil organic matter can control microbial responses to global warming (Feng and Simpson 2009; Rinnan et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2005). The temperature effects outlined above may be comparatively less important at temperate latitudes, because the soil respiration rate is highly increased by temperature in areas where the soil temperatures are low (Lloyd and Taylor 1994; Biasi et al. 2005).

Warming might affect the abundance of soil microorganisms, but contrasting data are presently available. A 20–60 % increase in the fungal:bacterial ratio has been observed in a tallgrass prairie site, exposed to a ~2 °C increase in temperature over a three-year period (Zhang et al. 2005), but another study has shown that the relative abundance of fungi was significantly reduced after 15 years of soil warming (1–2 °C) in northern Sweden (Rinnan et al. 2008).

The global warming effect might be significantly different depending on the soil ecosystems. Indeed, changes in soil respiration and CO₂ fluxes are the effects of temperature and vegetation differences (Table 1) (IPCC 2001; Trumbore

Fig. 3 Metabolic quotient ($q\text{CO}_2$) of both grassland soils on Day 1. Points show average values of triplicate ($n = 3$) and error bars represent standard error. Soil E and soil L are the two soil samples collected from the two different sites in Alberta, Canada. *Data source* Feng and Simpson (2009)



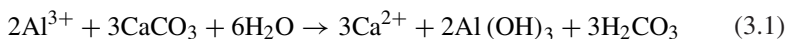
2000). Note that soil represents approximately 80 % of the carbon stocks in terrestrial ecosystems, ranging from 50 % in tropical forests to 95 % in tundra (IPCC 2002). The turnover times of OM, determined through ^{14}C tracer in well-drained boreal (Manitoba in Canada), temperate (central Massachusetts in the USA) and tropical forest soils (eastern Amazonia in Brazil), suggest that the average age of OM carbon is higher than the average age predicted from CO_2 production by OM decomposition (30, 8, and 3 yr for boreal, temperate, and tropical soil) or from total soil respiration (16, 3, and 1 yr, respectively) (Table 1) (IPCC 2001; Trumbore 2000). Most of the CO_2 produced during decomposition is derived from relatively short-lived soil organic matter (SOM) components. They do not represent a large fraction of the standing stock of soil organic matter (Trumbore 2000). Comparison of the ^{14}C in soil respiration with soil organic matter in temperate and boreal forest sites indicates a significant contribution from the decomposition of organic matter fixed >2 yr but <30 yr ago (Table 1) (IPCC 2001). Tropical soil respiration is dominated by C fixed <1 yr ago (Table 1) (IPCC 2001). Monitoring of the ^{14}C signature of CO_2 emitted from soils suggests that seasonal and interannual variability in soil respiration are the key factors in these ecosystems (IPCC 2001; Trumbore 2000) (Table 1).

These findings imply that the soil respiration is very variable in different ecosystems, with important effects on carbon sequestration and global carbon dynamics. It is estimated that on a global scale, the soil respiration in terrestrial ecosystems produces a CO_2 flux of approximately 75×10^{15} g C yr $^{-1}$, which is likely to increase due to changes in the Earth's condition (Schlesinger and Andrews 2000).

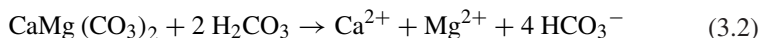
3.2 Agricultural Activities in Soil

The soil and the related agricultural activities can release significant amounts of CO_2 , CH_4 and N_2O to the atmosphere (Mosier et al. 1989, 1991, 2004; Robertson and Grace 2004; Ambus and Robertson 2006; Smith et al. 2008; Kreileman and Bouwman 1994; IPCC 2001; Raich and Schlesinger 1992; Aselmann and Crutzen 1989; Watson et al. 1992; Bowden et al. 1993; Subak et al. 1993; Zuidema et al. 1994; Freney 1997; Tsuruta et al. 1997; Stevens and Laughlin 1998; Cole et al. 1997; Tranvik et al. 2009). CO_2 is mostly released from agricultural activities and soil disturbances (IPCC 1996, 2007a; Subak et al. 1993; Bouwman 1990; Lal et al. 1999; Schlesinger 1999; Izaurrealde et al. 2000). Several processes are responsible for the production of CO_2 from such activities: (i) CO_2 is produced during the processing, transport and application of N-containing fertilizers, which cause the release of around 1.4 mol of CO_2 per mole of N applied (Schlesinger 1999; Izaurrealde et al. 2000; IPCC 1996). (ii) Land limes in the form of calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) and dolomite [$\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$] can produce bicarbonate and CO_2 (Robertson and Grace 2004; Liu et al. 2010, 2011). Note that CaCO_3 and $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$ are commonly applied to agricultural soils to counteract soil acidity

and to give supplies of Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} for plant uptake (Robertson and Grace 2004). CaCO_3 can react with soil Al^{3+} to form carbonic acid, raising the soil pH by the following reaction (Robertson and Grace 2004):



Similarly, carbonic acid formed in the presence of CO_2 from root and microbial respiration reacts with solid carbonates [ca. $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$] to produce bicarbonate by the following reaction (Eq. 3.2) (Robertson and Grace 2004):

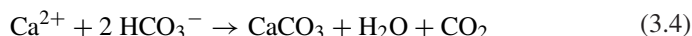


A strong mineral acid such as nitric acid (HNO_3) can react with carbonates [e.g. $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$] to produce CO_2 by the following reaction (Robertson and Grace 2004):



Nitric acid is formed by nitrifying bacteria in most soils, including acid tropical soils (Robertson 1982; Sollins et al. 1988).

(iii) Calcium-saturated groundwater can react with soil HCO_3^- to produce CO_2 by the following reaction (Robertson and Grace 2004; Schlesinger 1999):



Carbonate reactions also occur when calcium-saturated groundwater is sprayed on calcareous surface soils (Schlesinger 1999). In arid regions groundwater often contains as much as 1 % Ca and CO_2 (Robertson and Grace 2004).

CH_4 has a microbial origin from natural (e.g. wetlands) and human-influenced sources, such as agricultural activities (rice and crops cultivation), enteric fermentation, animal wastes and landfills (Mosier et al. 1991, 1998, 2004; Robertson and Grace 2004; Smith et al. 2008; IPCC 2001; Watson et al. 1992; Subak et al. 1993; Zuidema et al. 1994; Crutzen et al. 1986; Bingemer and Crutzen 1987; Cicerone and Oremland 1988; Robertson et al. 2000). Methane is produced when organic materials are decomposed in oxygen-deprived conditions, including fermentative digestion by ruminant livestock, stored manures and rice grown under flooding (Mosier et al. 1998). A recent study estimates that agriculture accounts for 52 % of the global anthropogenic CH_4 emissions (Smith et al. 2008).

N_2O emission by agricultural activities in soil is accounted for by microbial nitrification, denitrification and chemo-denitrification, especially under wet conditions. N_2O is also produced by the microbial transformation of nitrogen in soil and manure (IPCC 2007a; Robertson and Grace 2004; Smith et al. 2008; Kreileman and Bouwman 1994; Mosier et al. 1989, 1991; Frenay 1997; Tsuruta et al. 1997; Stevens and Laughlin 1998; Robertson et al. 2000; Cavigelli and Robertson 2000; Xing et al. 2002; Mahimairaja et al. 1994; Smith and Conen 2004; Oenema et al. 2005). Natural sources of N_2O have been estimated to be approximately 10 TgN/yr in 1990. Soils account for about 65 % of the sources, oceans for about 30 % (IPCC 2001). It is estimated that agriculture accounts for 84 % of the global anthropogenic N_2O emissions (Smith et al. 2008).

3.3 Anthropogenic Sources of Atmospheric GHGs

Anthropogenic sources are primarily responsible for the greenhouse gases (GHGs) inputs to the atmosphere. CO₂ is mostly produced anthropogenically from the burning of fossil fuels and plant litter and from oil flaring, cement manufacturing and other industrial activities (IPCC 2007a; Sabine et al. 2004; Smith 2004; Archer 2005; Canadell et al. 2007; Hofmann et al. 2009; Subak et al. 1993; Marland and Rotty 1984; Crutzen and Andreae 1990; Keeling et al. 1996). It has recently been shown that the annual emissions because of fossil fuel burning have grown by about 80 %, from 21 to 38 gigatonnes (Gt), between 1970 and 2004. The rate of growth of CO₂-eq emissions was much higher during the more recent decade 1995–2004 (0.92 GtCO₂-eq per year) than during the previous period 1970–1994 (0.43 GtCO₂-eq per year) (IPCC 2007a). CH₄ is produced from fossil fuel production and consumption including oil and gas field activities, coal mining, plant litter/wood processing, domestic sewage treatment, enteric fermentation and other biomass burning (Mosier et al. 2004; Smith 2004; Kreileman and Bouwman 1994; IPCC 2001; Subak et al. 1993; Crutzen 1991; Flessa et al. 2002). The major sources of anthropogenic aerosols are sulfur-containing fossil fuels, biomass burning and explosive volcanic eruptions (IPCC 2001, 2007a).

3.4 Deforestation

Deforestation or changes in land-surface cover can significantly affect atmospheric CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O (IPCC 2001, 2007a; Kreileman and Bouwman 1994; van der Werf et al. 2009; Raich and Schlesinger 1992; Subak et al. 1993; Bouwman 1990; Crutzen and Andreae 1990; Keller et al. 1986; Sitch et al. 2005; Detwiler and Hall 1988; Myers 1989; Houghton 1991). The above-cited processes can contribute in three ways to global warming: First, deforestation i.e. the decline of terrestrial plants can significantly reduce the uptake of CO₂ from the atmosphere by photosynthesis, which is vital for plants growth. Such a phenomenon would thus give indirect contribution to the increase of atmospheric CO₂. Second, deforestation can reduce evaporation and increases surface temperature. Third, changes in land-surface cover can enhance the degradation of soil DOM and OM by both photoinduced and microbial processes, thus uncovered land surfaces can release GHGs directly to atmosphere (Schiettecatte et al. 2006, 2007; Borges et al. 2008; Omar et al. 2010; Brandt et al. 2009; Rutledge et al. 2010; Thomas et al. 2004, 2005, 2007; Raich and Schlesinger 1992; Xie et al. 2004). Soil respiration rates are very high in the first year after the clear-cutting of plants, apparently due to the higher soil temperatures and to the decomposition of the debris that the soil incorporated during the deforestation (Raich and Schlesinger 1992). Deforestation is the second largest anthropogenic source of CO₂ to the atmosphere after fossil fuel burning. It accounted for 17.3 % of anthropogenic GHGs in the 2004 total emissions to the

atmosphere (IPCC 2007a; van der Werf et al. 2009). Large-scale deforestation in the humid tropics has been identified as the main, ongoing land-surface process caused by industrialization and by growing agricultural activities because of the increasing demands of a growing population.

3.5 Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of Organic Matter (OM) in Natural Waters

The production of CO₂ and of other dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC: generally defined as dissolved CO₂, H₂CO₃, HCO₃⁻, and CO₃²⁻) species upon photoinduced and microbial degradation of organic matter including DOM and POM (e.g. algae or phytoplankton) can potentially influence the carbon cycling and may have an impact on climate change (Bozec et al. 2005, 2006; Schiettecatte et al. 2006, 2007; Borges et al. 2008; Omar et al. 2010; Ballaré et al. 2011; Zepp et al. 2011; Kelley 1970; Kempe and Pegler 1991; Hoppema 1990, 1991; Borges and Frankignoulle 1999, 2002a, b; Brasse et al. 1999; Frankignoulle and Borges 2001; Thomas et al. 2004, 2005, 2007; Tranvik et al. 2009; Xie et al. 2004; Salonen and Vähätalo 1994; Granéli et al. 1998; Richey et al. 2002; Clark et al. 2004; Kujawinski et al. 2009; Koprivnjak et al. 2010). The waterbed in subtropical and tropical latitudes generally acts as a CO₂ source to the atmosphere, while at high and temperate latitudes it rather acts as a CO₂ sink by uptake from the atmosphere (Omar et al. 2010; Borges and Frankignoulle 2002a; Thomas et al. 2004; Sobek et al. 2005; Gattuso et al. 1993, 1997; Frankignoulle et al. 1996, 1998; Goyet et al. 1998; Tsunogai et al. 1999; Yool and Fasham 2000; Bates et al. 2001; Cai et al. 2003, 2006; Borges 2005; Ito et al. 2005; Ohde and van Woessik 1999; Wang and Cai 2004; Chen and Borges 2009; Wang et al. 2011). In temperate regions, increased temperatures and longer residence times of OM in water, which might be caused by decreased runoff could accelerate microbial respiration and photoinduced degradation of organic carbon. However, the combined effects of increased autochthonous production and increased organic carbon burial efficiency due to increased anoxia may offset increased CO₂ production (Tranvik et al. 2009). It should also be considered that increases in production, duration of stratification and sedimentation may favor the occurrence of hypolimnetic anoxia and, as a consequence, CH₄ production in temperate zones (Tranvik et al. 2009). Larger emissions of CO₂ and CH₄ may occur in Arctic regions, particularly where thermokarst erosion and ponding is occurring (Walter et al. 2006). Moreover some boreal streams, some major rivers, lakes in general or boreal lakes in particular are supersaturated in CO₂ and are considered to be net sources of CO₂ to the atmosphere (Fahey et al. 2005; Koprivnjak et al. 2010; Sobek et al. 2005; Jones and Mulholland 1998; Dawson et al. 2001; Hope et al. 2001; Finlay 2003; Öquist et al. 2009; Teodoru et al. 2009; Cole and Caraco 2001; Jones et al. 2003c; Yao et al. 2007; Huttunen et al. 2003a).

The air–sea CO₂ exchange occurs mostly in temperate regions (Borges and Frankignoulle 2002a, b; Borges 2005; Andersson et al. 2003; Andersson and Mackenzie 2004; Zhai et al. 2005). However, waters in upwelling regions act both as sinks (California and Oman coasts) and as sources (Galician and Oregon coasts) of atmospheric CO₂ (Borges and Frankignoulle 2002a, b; Goyet et al. 1998; Friederich et al. 2002; Hales et al. 2005). The global coastal zone is still a net source of CO₂ to the atmosphere, due to the combination of calcification and of net heterotrophy that is a feature of estuarine ecosystems (Frankignoulle et al. 1998; Borges 2005; Cai and Wang 1998; Raymond et al. 2000; Sarma et al. 2001; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2002; Bouillon et al. 2003; Abril et al. 2003, 2004; Mackenzie et al. 2004; Fagan and Mackenzie 2007). Indeed, when estuaries are included in the CO₂ exchange budget, the global shallow-water coastal ocean is a net source of CO₂ to the atmosphere (Borges 2005).

The production of CO₂ and its input to the atmosphere is considerably higher during the summer and fall (or dry) seasons than in winter and spring (or wet) seasons. In the latter case the waterbed actually acts as a net sink for atmospheric CO₂. The reason behind this phenomenon is that the photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and POM are greatly enhanced in surface waters during the summer period due to high solar radiation and longer summer day-time. CO₂ emission by boreal streams is quite high during summer and very low in spring, which might be a consequence of photoinduced processing of DOM and POM (Koprivnjak et al. 2010). Obviously, the solar intensity is significantly reduced during the winter season that also has shorter day-time. In addition, estuaries often have high contents of DOM that undergoes strong photoinduced degradation and makes these systems to be significant sources of CO₂ to the atmosphere. The concentration of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) explains the significant variation of lake *p*CO₂ (Sobek et al. 2005), which might be an effect of photoinduced and microbial release of CO₂ from DOM and POM in water as mentioned before. Supersaturation of CO₂ in freshwater ecosystems (streams, rivers and lakes) is possibly caused by the same photoinduced and microbial processes that degrade DOM and POM. Indeed, freshwater ecosystems generally contain high amounts of DOM and POM that are potentially important microbial or photoinduced sources of CO₂ or DIC.

The situation is much different at northern latitudes: it is estimated that the direct photo-oxidation of organic carbon to CO₂ accounted for less than 10 % of dark respiration in the epilimnion of six boreal lakes (Granéli et al. 1996). CO₂ emission is also mainly derived from in-lake respiration in the lake environments (del Giorgio et al. 1999; Jansson et al. 2000). Anyway, global warming will increase the atmospheric temperature that can enhance both the photoinduced and the microbial degradation of DOM and POM, during all seasons and at all latitudes. The consequence would obviously be a further increase of atmospheric CO₂. Warming is also expected to reduce terrestrial and ocean uptake of atmospheric CO₂, increasing the fraction of anthropogenic emissions that remain in the atmosphere. This would result into an additional increase of atmospheric CO₂ (IPCC 2007a).

A positive correlation of $p\text{CO}_2$ levels with CDOM and chlorophyll has been observed in the Southwest Florida Shelf, indicating that CO_2 may be produced from the photoinduced degradation of CDOM in natural waters (mostly in the dry season), from microbial respiration and from shifts in the carbonate equilibrium (Clark et al. 2004). The effect is a release of CO_2 into the atmosphere from DOM that has been formed by primary production (Thomas et al. 2009). On the other hand, microbial degradation of DOM and OM in natural waters and sediment pore waters can release CH_4 to the atmosphere (Mosier et al. 2004; Cicerone and Oremland 1988; Pepper et al. 1992; Bastviken et al. 2004, 2008; Bergström et al. 2007). Anoxia in freshwater sediments contributes to high CH_4 emissions, and the production of CH_4 in epilimnetic sediments is the main driver of methane emission from surface waters (Bastviken et al. 2004, 2008). Methane production can also be enhanced by water temperature and lake level fluctuations. Such effects can affect carbon balances depending on the predominant plant species and sediment properties (Bergström et al. 2007). It is estimated that the contribution of CH_4 to the atmosphere is 100–200 Tg yr^{-1} from wetlands, 5–20 Tg yr^{-1} from oceans, and 1–25 Tg yr^{-1} from freshwater (Mosier et al. 2004). N_2O can be released from freshwater and oceanic environments (Watson et al. 1992; Seitzinger 1990). Increases in oxygen-deficient regions in the ocean caused by climate change could enhance the emissions of nitrous oxide, an important greenhouse and ozone-depleting gas (Zepp et al. 2011).

The upper ocean microbial food web (mostly the autotrophs) is a huge carbon-processing machine that can remove CO_2 from the atmosphere, but part of the carbon fixed by autotrophy is actually respired in situ (Sarmiento et al. 2010). The heterotrophic bacteria are responsible for the major respiration (>95 %) in the ocean (del Giorgio and Duarte 2002), and half of it (approximately 37 Gt of C per year) takes place in the euphotic layer (del Giorgio and Williams 2005). Notes that global ocean respiration is approximately as important as the oceanic primary production (del Giorgio and Duarte 2002; Karl et al. 2003; Williams PJIB et al. 2004; Riser and Johnson 2008). Increasing temperature will often increase respiration rates in natural waters (Vázquez-Domínguez et al. 2007). Increasing aquatic respiration is presumably the result of enhanced photo- and microbial products (H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, etc.) derived from the photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and OM in the euphotic zone. The temperature increase accelerates the respiratory consumption of organic carbon relative to the autotrophic production, with a decrease in the biological drawdown of DIC. A decrease of up to 31 % has been observed in mesocosms warmed by 2, 4 and 6 °C (Wohlers et al. 2009). Changes in the biogenic carbon flow induced by warming have the potential to reduce the transfer of primary produced OM to higher trophic levels (Vázquez-Domínguez et al. 2007; Wohlers et al. 2009; Laws et al. 2000). This would weaken the ocean's biological carbon pump and provide a positive feedback to the rise of atmospheric CO_2 (Vázquez-Domínguez et al. 2007; Wohlers et al. 2009; Laws et al. 2000).

The photoinduced and microbial activities of DOM and POM in natural surface waters may act as sources or sinks of N_2O that is produced via nitrification and denitrification (Tranvik et al. 2009; Mengis et al. 1997; Huttunen et al. 2003b, 2004; Wang

et al. 2006). N_2O may be consumed in the hypolimnion, whilst shallow sediments contribute to N_2O emissions to the atmosphere (Huttunen et al. 2003b; Wang et al. 2006).

3.6 Photoinduced and Microbial Degradation of OM in Plants and Soil Environments

Photoinduced and microbial processes can directly degrade the organic matter (OM) in terrestrial plants and in soil environments, releasing CO_2 to the atmosphere (Brandt et al. 2009; Rutledge et al. 2010). Photodegradation contributes 19 % of the annual CO_2 flux from peatland and almost 60 % of the dry-season CO_2 flux from grassland. The respective fractions of the summer mid-day CO_2 fluxes are up to 62 and 92 % (Rutledge et al. 2010). Photodegradation may be important in a wide range of ecosystems with exposed OM (Rutledge et al. 2010). Plant litter can be exposed outdoors to natural solar radiation. It has been shown that in clear sunny days, close to the summer solstice at mid-latitude, UV radiation (280–400 nm) accounted for 55 % of the photolytically induced CO_2 production, while shortwave visible radiation (400–500 nm) accounted for the remaining 45 % (Brandt et al. 2009). Abiotic mineralization to CO_2 is the primary mechanism by which C is lost from litter during photodegradation. It is estimated that annual CO_2 production via photodegradation could be between 1 and 4 g C m⁻² a⁻¹ in arid ecosystems in the southwestern United States (Brandt et al. 2009).

4 Impacts of Global Warming on Natural Waters

Global warming may severely affect various physical, chemical and biological processes that involve DOM in natural waters. The main effects are the following: (i) Changes in the light cycle and increase of water temperature; (ii) Increase of the photoinduced activity of natural waters; (iii) Changes in the microbial activity in natural water; (iv) Changes in photosynthetic processes in natural waters; (v) Changes in the primary production and disorders in the chlorophyll *a* maxima; (vii) Changes in the DOM dynamics and in the global carbon cycle. (viii) Changes in the nutrients cycle.

4.1 Changes in the Light Cycle and Increase of Water Temperature

Global warming could cause changes in the seasonal light cycle and an increase in water temperature, which affects the light distribution in the euphotic zone

(Rutledge et al. 2010; O'Reilly et al. 2003; Letelier et al. 2004; Porcal et al. 2009; Morrison et al. 2002; Ryther 1956). Notes that the depth of the euphotic zone is defined as the depth where the photon flux density equals 1 % of that measured at the air–sea interface (Ryther 1956). The temperature increase is a global effect, but it is higher northern latitudes. Average Arctic temperatures have in fact increased at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years (IPCC 2007a). Temperatures at the top of the permafrost layer have generally increased in the Arctic by up to 3 °C since the 1980s (IPCC 2007a). The global average surface air temperature has increased by 0.74 °C over the past century and is projected to rise by another 1.1 to 6.4 °C before 2100. The sea level could increase by 0.2 to 0.6 m or more before 2100 (Hansen and Sato 2004; IPCC 2007b). The long-term observations in European seas show that the increase of the sea-surface temperature rate is around 0.01 °C yr⁻¹ since the 1860s (Wiltshire and Manly 2004; Vargas-Yañez et al. 2005; Mackensie and Schiedek 2007). The combination of temperature increase and of the decrease in water flow allow the prediction of a 10-fold increase, by the end of this century, of the number of days when the temperature of the Fraser River exceeds 20 °C. Such a phenomenon may threaten the survival of some specific fish and other aquatic microorganisms (Morrison et al. 2002). Global warming may expand the summer season and increase the water column transparency as well as the water temperature, which might accelerate the photoinduced degradation of DOM through e.g. an enhanced production of HO• (Huisman et al. 2006; Zellner et al. 1990; Malkin et al. 2008). At the same time, there can be an increase of UV radiation during ozone hole events (Huisman et al. 2006; Kerr and McElroy 1993; Varotsos and Kondratiev 1995; Qian et al. 2001; Sarmiento et al. 2004; Schmittner 2005). Previous studies show that the incident UV-B radiation has increased at a rate of 10–20 % per decade at temperate latitudes (Kerr and McElroy 1993), and a total ozone reduction of 2.5 % per decade during summer would cause a 5 % increase in the UV irradiance (Varotsos and Kondratiev 1995).

Although the increase of the chlorine concentration in the stratosphere has slowed down, reflecting the execution of the Montreal Protocol, the time required for the recovery of the ozone layer is unconvincing and will rely on the impacts of the climate change on the stratosphere (Weatherhead and Andersen 2006). The global warming phenomenon is expected to enhance the temperature in the troposphere, but at the same time there will be cooling effects in the stratosphere that can enhance ozone depletion. An increase of UV-B radiation may greatly enhance the production of HO• due to an increase in direct photolysis rates of NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻ and Chromophoric Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM), and also other redox reactions may be enhanced, in particular in the Antarctic and Arctic regions (Qian et al. 2001; Randall and Harvey 2005). The HO• formation from nitrate, nitrite and CDOM significantly increases during ozone hole conditions (Qian et al. 2001). Two effects may derive from this scenario. First, ozone hole conditions may enhance the photoinduced degradation of aquatic DOM, which can subsequently release a large amount of CO₂ to atmosphere. Second, high production of HO• can reduce the biological activity through oxidative damages to the living cells of biota in the aquatic environments (Berlett and Stadtman 1997; Paradies et al. 2000;

Blokhina et al. 2003). Ocean warming and acidification due to increased atmospheric CO₂ concentration may exacerbate the detrimental effects of solar UV-B radiation (Häder 2011). Finally, exposure to solar UV radiation can reduce productivity, affect reproduction and development, and increase the mutation rate in phytoplankton, macroalgae, eggs, and larval stages of fish and other aquatic animals (Häder et al. 2007). Consequences of decreased productivity are a reduced sink capacity for atmospheric carbon dioxide and negative effects on species diversity, ecosystem stability, trophic interactions and ultimately global biogeochemical cycles (Zepp et al. 2007).

Since 1993 the thermal expansion of the oceans has contributed about 57 % of the overall sea level rise, while decreases in glaciers and ice caps contributed about 28 % and the remainder was accounted for by losses from the polar ice sheets (IPCC 2007a).

4.2 Increase of Photoinduced Activity in Natural Waters

Global warming causes an increase in water temperature that can accelerate the photoinduced activity of DOM and of other chemical constituents in surface waters. Photoinduced degradation of DOM and OM can produce a number of photo-products including H₂O₂ and DIC (dissolved CO₂, H₂CO₃, HCO₃⁻, and CO₃²⁻) (Molot et al. 2005; Johannessen et al. 2007; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009a, b, 2011; Xie et al. 2004; Clark et al. 2004; Miller and Zepp 1995; Thomas and Lara 1995; Dillon and Molot 1997; Miller 1998; Gennings et al. 2001; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Ma and Green 2004; Hiriart-Baer and Smith 2005). Autochthonous DOM can be released in natural waters by algae or phytoplankton upon photoinduced degradation or photorespiration (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Thomas and Lara 1995; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Fu et al. 2010), and it has recently been shown that the algal-derived CDOM is a more efficient photoinduced substrate than terrigenous material (Johannessen et al. 2007). In situ incubation of natural phytoplankton assemblages in Antarctic waters indicates that, under normal ozone conditions, UV-B radiation is responsible for a loss of approximately 4.9 % of the primary production in the euphotic zone. UV radiation with wavelengths between 320 and 360 nm causes a loss of approximately 6.2 % (Holm-Hansen et al. 1993a). Ambient levels of UV radiation (280–400 nm) are observed to decrease substantially the rates of carbon fixation by phytoplankton (Holm-Hansen et al. 1993a; Karentz et al. 1991; Cullen et al. 1992; Helbling et al. 1992; Smith et al. 1992; Li et al. 2011), and photoinduced release of DOM from phytoplankton can also take place. UV-B radiation accelerates the decomposition of colored DOM entering the sea via terrestrial runoff, thus having important effects on the oceanic carbon cycle (Zepp et al. 2003).

The increase of water temperature significantly enhances the efficiency of the Fenton and photo-Fenton reactions, as well as the photolysis of NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻ and

H₂O₂. All these compounds are responsible for the production of HO[•] towards the degradation of DOM or organic pollutants in aqueous solution (Zellner et al. 1990; Zafriou and Bonneau 1987; Millero and Sotolongo 1989; Zepp et al. 1992; Farias et al. 2007). It is estimated from data of Zellner et al. (Zellner et al. 1990) that a temperature increase from 278 to 298 K can enhance the quantum yield of HO[•] photoproduction (at 308 nm and at neutral pH), on average by 70 % for NO₂⁻ photolysis, 129 % for NO₃⁻ photolysis and 20 % for H₂O₂ photolysis. The efficiency of the photoinduced degradation of DOM is also significantly dependent on the wavelength, and the quantum yields (Φ_{HO}) of HO[•] production decrease with increasing wavelength (Zellner et al. 1990; Zafriou and Bonneau 1987). At pH 8 and at 298 K the Φ_{HO} for NO₂⁻ photolysis at 308 nm is on average 54 % higher ($\Phi_{\text{HO}} = 0.071 \pm 0.009$) than that at 351 nm ($\Phi_{\text{HO}} = 0.046 \pm 0.003$) (Zellner et al. 1990).

The formation of H₂O₂ is a key step of the photoinduced processes in surface waters (Mostofa et al. 2011) and it is as well largely dependent on the radiation wavelengths (Obernosterer et al. 2001; Richard et al. 2007). The contribution of UV-B, UV-A and photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) to H₂O₂ formation is 40, 33 and 27 %, respectively (Richard et al. 2007).

An increase in the photoinduced degradation rate of DOM may extend the water column transparency (which undergoes seasonal modifications on a variety of time scales) and the depth of the mixed layer that influences the incident UV radiation (Scully and Lean 1994; Morris et al. 1995; Morris and Hargreaves 1997). Diffuse light attenuation coefficients often undergo seasonal variations (39–81 %) in surface waters, and minimum values appear during the summer season (Morris and Hargreaves 1997). Therefore, an extension of the summer season due to global warming may enhance both photoinduced processes and photosynthesis, which could for instance increase the duration of the phytoplankton or algae productivity in lake ecosystems, particularly in the Arctic and Antarctic regions (Malkin et al. 2008). As already indicated, an increase in UV radiation due to depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer can accelerate the production of HO[•], which is a key factor for the photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters (Huisman et al. 2006; Qian et al. 2001; Sarmiento et al. 2004; Schmittner 2005; Crutzen 1992; Stolarski et al. 1992). Therefore, global warming can enhance both the photoinduced degradation of DOM and the release of autochthonous DOM and nutrients from algae or phytoplankton. Such processes can be partially offset by the fact that the production of higher amounts of H₂O₂, CO₂, DIC and other low molecular weight substances could increase photosynthesis and enhance the primary production (Mostofa et al. 2009b).

4.3 Changes in Microbial Activity in Natural Waters

Global warming may significantly affect microbial or biological processes in natural waters, with consequences on both autotrophs (plants, algae, bacteria) and

heterotrophs (animals, fungi, bacteria). An increase of temperature can change (or enhance) microbial activities including bacterial production, respiration, photosynthesis and growth efficiency, as well as bacterial–grazer trophic interactions, which can result in the rapid mineralization of organic matter in natural waters, particularly in Arctic and Antarctic ecosystems (Norf et al. 2007; Vázquez-Domínguez et al. 2007; Falkowski and Oliver 2007, 2008; Peters 2008; Norf and Weitere 2010; Sarmiento et al. 2010; Sawicka et al. 2010; Nedwell and Rutter 1994; Ochs et al. 1995; Felip et al. 1996; Nedwell 1999; Reay et al. 1999; Vrede 2005; Morán et al. 2006; López-Urrutia and Morán 2007). These studies show that an increase in temperature may enhance the availability of labile substrates, which is responsible for an increase of microbial activity at elevated temperature.

The response to temperature of a species or microorganism is characterized by a number of ‘cardinal temperatures’: upper and lower limits of temperature for growth, and an optimum growth temperature included between the two extremes (Morita 1975). Microorganisms living near the lower temperature limit of a species can be stimulated either by higher temperature or by higher concentrations of added substrates in natural waters (Pomeroy et al. 1991; Wiebe et al. 1992, 1993). The microbial metabolism modifies organic nutrients such as glucose and the functional groups of macromolecules such as fulvic and humic acids of vascular plant origin or autochthonous fulvic acids of algal origin. The consequence of microbial processing may be the release in water of a variety of end products such as H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, PO_4^{3-} , NH_4^+ and CH_4 (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Ma and Green 2004; Fu et al. 2010; Palenik and Morel 1988; Lovley et al. 1996; Zhang et al. 2004, 2009; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008). Algae or phytoplankton biomass can release autochthonous DOM by microbial degradation or assimilation (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b, 2011; Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Rochelle-Newall and Fisher 2002; Fu et al. 2010; Zhang et al. 2009; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Yamashita and Tanoue 2004, 2008; Stedmon and Markager 2005), and an increase in temperature can accelerate the bacterial degradation of phytoplankton-derived organic matter (Wohlers et al. 2009; Hoppe et al. 2008). Small algae carry out 40–95 % of total grazing on bacteria in the euphotic layer of the temperate North Atlantic Ocean in summer (Zubkov and Tarran 2008). A similar range (37–70 %) has been observed in the surface waters of the tropical Northeast Atlantic Ocean (Zubkov and Tarran 2008).

In Lake La Caldera it has been observed that at the lower temperature values (5.0–7.0 °C) one finds higher bacterial abundance ($3.9\text{--}7.9 \times 10^5$ cells ml^{-1} , mean = 6.4) and higher bacterial biomass ($4.0\text{--}6.7 \mu\text{g C L}^{-1}$, mean = 5.2) compared to the higher temperature values (7.5–11.1 °C), which yielded $1.3\text{--}2.5 \times 10^5$ cells ml^{-1} (mean = 1.8) and $1.3\text{--}2.4 \mu\text{g C L}^{-1}$ (mean = 1.7) for bacterial abundance and biomass, respectively (Carrillo et al. 2002). The grazing on bacteria increases with increasing temperature, but the rate of the increase is maximum at temperatures lower than 2 °C, whilst bacterial production increases at higher rates at temperatures higher than 2 °C. Such a finding, obtained in a microcosm experiment with temperature manipulation (–1 to 5 °C) of Antarctic waters, suggests that bacterial production and bacterial grazing could become uncoupled processes

at higher temperatures (Vaqué et al. 2009). Polar oceans at temperatures of -1 to $2-3$ °C have microbial communities, both bacterial and algal, which are physiologically stressed. In fact, the environmental temperature is well below the optimum temperature for growth of many inhabitants (Nedwell 1999). As average Arctic temperatures have increased at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years (IPCC 2007a), the microbial activity in the Arctic and Antarctic regions is expected to undergo a significant enhancement due to the effect of global warming.

Winter warming typically results in both stimulation (abundance and biomass) of the biofilm ciliate communities and in significant shifts in the community structure. Summer warming induces a significant decline in the ciliate biomass but does not affect the relative community composition (Norf and Weitere 2010). Gradual freeze-thaw incubation decreases the microbial activity in the frozen state to 0.25 % of the initial levels at 4 °C, but activity resumes rapidly reaching >60 % of the initial activity in the thawed state (Sawicka et al. 2010).

Uptake of nitrate by bacteria and algae is strongly dependent on temperature and consistently decreases at temperatures below the optimum. In contrast, ammonium uptake is increased at low temperatures (Reay et al. 1999). Increasing temperature can significantly accelerate the colonization speed and reduce the carrying capacity in particular seasons, e.g. during winter. At the same time, the strongest response to the temperature increase occurs during the highest DOC loadings (Norf et al. 2007). Overall, the response of microbial communities to local temperature increases strongly depends on the seasonal setting, the resource availability and the stage of succession (Norf et al. 2007).

Bacterioplankton production depends on ambient temperature, availability of nutrients and other labile substrates, and on the total DOM contents in natural waters (Ochs et al. 1995; Felip et al. 1996; Vrede 1996, 2005; Morris and Lewis 1992; Wang et al. 1992; Coveney and Wetzel 1995; Elser et al. 1995; Cotner et al. 1997; Simon and Wünsch 1998; Caron et al. 2000; Pomeroy and Wiebe 2001; Vrede et al. 1999). Bacteria in temperate lakes are temperature-dependent up to a certain threshold value, above which other factors regulate their growth (Ochs et al. 1995; Felip et al. 1996). In the mesotrophic Lake Constance it has been found that during most of the year the bacterial community is well adapted to in situ temperatures (ranging from 4 to 23 °C) in the upper water column, whilst in the deeper strata the bacterial growth is limited by temperature (ranging between 4 and 10 °C) (Simon and Wünsch 1998). The growth of bacteria that live at low temperatures is stimulated both by increases in temperature and by addition of organic substrates (Pomeroy et al. 1991). Bacterioplankton growth can be limited by inorganic nutrients, by phosphorus (P) and by organic carbon (C), and the limitation effect is observed either for each constituent alone or for variable constituent combinations in both freshwater and marine systems (Vrede 1996, 2005; Morris and Lewis 1992; Wang et al. 1992; Elser et al. 1995; Cotner et al. 1997; Caron et al. 2000; Vrede et al. 1999). Substrate concentrations and temperature intergo very close interactions, and the interactive effects can vary with the temperature regime (Pomeroy and Wiebe 2001). It has been shown that increased temperature can

stimulate bacterioplankton production when the in situ temperatures are low, i.e., in the hypolimnion in summer and in the mixed water column in autumn (Vrede 2005). At low temperatures, both the temperature increase and the addition of P (in the hypolimnion in summer) or C (in autumn) had strong effects on bacterioplankton production (Vrede 2005). The interaction between P and temperature is only significant in the epilimnion in summer. At the same time, temperature alone had no effect whilst P alone had a strong effect on bacterioplankton production (Vrede 2005). It is hypothesized that high temperature can accelerate the photoinduced and microbial release of nutrients, labile organic substrates and other products (e.g. H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC) from algae, phytoplankton or DOM. Such processes take place in both the epilimnion and the hypolimnion and are susceptible to enhance the bacterioplankton production in natural waters.

4.4 Changes in Photosynthetic Processes in Natural Waters

Phytoplankton cells within the euphotic zone utilize photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) to drive photosynthesis; at the same time, they are exposed to UV radiation (UVR, 280–400 nm) that can penetrate up to 60 m into the pelagic water column (Smith and Baker 1979). Short-term UV-B exposure can severely inhibit the photosynthetic capability, which can be restored quickly after transfer to low PAR conditions (Jiang and Qiu 2011). Solar UV-A radiation can act as an additional source of energy for the photosynthesis carried out by coastal marine phytoplankton assemblages in tropical areas (Li et al. 2011; Gao et al. 2007a, b), although a similar effect is not observed in pelagic water (Li et al. 2011). Global warming can significantly affect aquatic photosynthesis in different ways, by altering physical and chemical environmental conditions. First, warming of the upper ocean leads to stratification and to shoaling of the upper mixing layer. Phytoplankton cells in the upper mixing layer will be exposed to higher levels of solar UV radiation due to reduced mixing rate and depth. In this context, global warming and ozone depletion can act together to influence the primary producers. On the other hand, where higher contents of chemical constituents result in DOM-rich waters, ocean warming may stimulate photosynthesis by increasing the availability of limiting nutrients. The ongoing ocean acidification following enhanced dissolution of CO_2 may also interact with ocean warming and affect the primary production.

The photoinduced degradation of DOM and OM can produce H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC (Molot et al. 2005; Johannessen et al. 2007; Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Xie et al. 2004; Clark et al. 2004; Miller and Zepp 1995; Dillon and Molot 1997; Gennings et al. 2001; Johannessen and Miller 2001; Ma and Green 2004). Similarly, microbial degradation of DOM and OM yields for instance H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC, PO_4^{3-} , NH_4^+ and CH_4 (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Ma and Green 2004; Fu et al. 2010; Palenik and Morel 1988; Lovley et al. 1996; Zhang et al. 2004, 2009; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008). The CO_2

and other compounds that are produced either photolytically (photoproducts) or microbially (microbial products), together with other environmental factors, may then influence photosynthesis (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003):

Planktonic algae smaller than 5 μm are major fixers of inorganic carbon in the ocean (Li 1994) and dominate the phytoplankton biomass in post-bloom, stratified oceanic temperate waters (Tarran et al. 2001). Large and small phytoplankton cells have a critical and differential growth dependence on inorganic nutrients (Zubkov and Tarran 2008). UV-stimulated inorganic carbon acquisition is often observed in phytoplankton species (Beardall et al. 2009a, b; Wu and Gao 2009). Regeneration of autochthonous DOM and nutrients (NO_3^- , NO_2^- , PO_4^{3-} and NH_4^+) occurs during the photoinduced and microbial assimilation of algae or phytoplankton, and simultaneously also from the photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Fu et al. 2005, 2010; Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Ma and Green 2004; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2009; Carrillo et al. 2002; Mallet et al. 1998; Kopáček et al. 2004; Lehmann and Bernasconi 2004). Regeneration of nutrients significantly occurs in waters with high contents of DOM, which can control the uptake of nutrients during the photosynthetic process. Therefore, nutrients usually do not limit photosynthesis, particularly in waters with high contents of DOM. Primary production is enhanced significantly by DOM in the upper 30 m of the water column, where the production increase upon reduction of damaging UV radiation offsets the effects of attenuation of photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) (Arrigo and Brown 1996). At greater depths, where little UV radiation remains, primary production is often reduced due to removal of PAR by DOM (Arrigo and Brown 1996). When CDOM is distributed homogeneously within the euphotic zone, the depth-integrated daily primary productivity within the euphotic zone ($f_z\text{GPP}_{ez}$) is reduced under most bio-optical (i.e. solar zenith angle, Chl *a* and DOM absorption, ozone concentration) and photophysiological (i.e. sensitivity to UV radiation) conditions. In such cases, the predicted reduction in primary production at depth is greater than the enhancement of production at the surface (Arrigo and Brown 1996). The $f_z\text{GPP}_{ez}$ is decreased when DOM or phytoplankton is restricted to near-surface waters (-30 m) and it is enhanced when DOM or phytoplankton is restricted to a very shallow surface layer (-10 m) (Arrigo and Brown 1996). DOM effect on photosynthesis can also be justified from the observation of high primary productivity of phytoplankton biomass (Chl *a*) (Fig. 4a) and from the high photosynthetic carbon fixation rate (Fig. 4b, c) in coastal waters (usually with high contents of DOM) compared to pelagic ones (generally with low contents of DOM) (Li et al. 2011).

Another issue is the sustained photoinduced and/or microbial production of compounds such as H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC in DOM-rich waters, which can enhance primary production (Mostofa and Sakugawa 2009; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Malkin et al. 2008; Ma and Green 2004; Meriläinen et al. 2001; Komatsu et al. 2007). Algae are significantly produced in some Chinese lakes during the summer stratification period, leading to high production of autochthonous DOM and nutrients (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fu et al. 2010; Li et al. 2008). Such an effect is the consequence of

high DOM contents that provide nutrients and simultaneously attenuate high solar radiation. Model results reveal that the progressive release of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) in the ocean's upper layer during summer increases primary production by 30–300 %. This leads in turn to an enhancement of the dissolved organic carbon (DOC) production mainly from phytoplankton exudation in the upper layer and to solubilization of POM in the deeper layers (Druon et al. 2010).

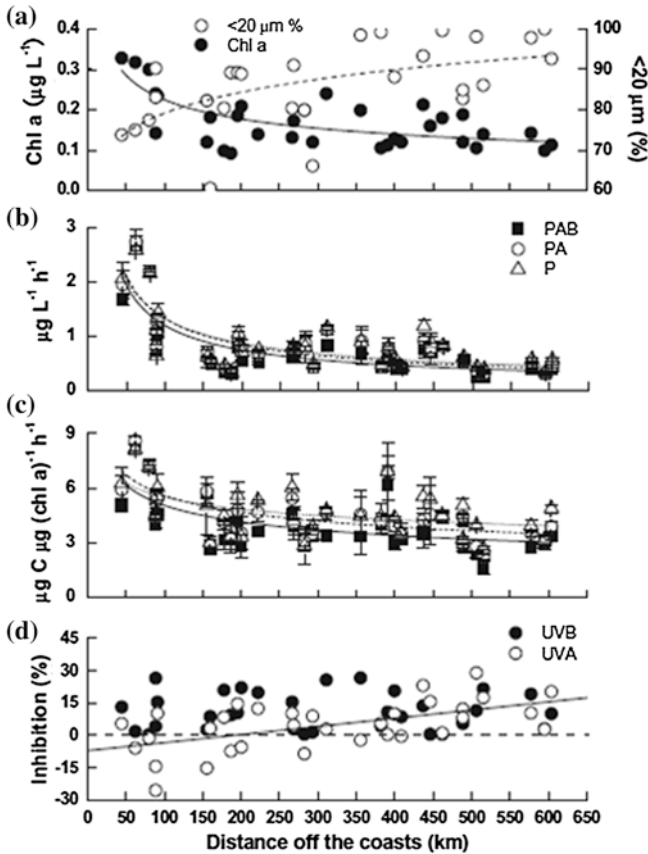


Fig. 4 Variations of biological characteristics in surface seawater from the coasts to pelagic waters. Phytoplankton biomass (Chl *a*, in $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) and piconanoplankton fractions (<20 μm , in %); the fitted lines are power functions ($Y = A x^B$, $R^2 = 0.47$ for Chl *a* and 0.32 for piconanofractions) (a); (b) and (c) Photosynthetic carbon fixation rates per volume of seawater (in $\mu\text{g C L}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$) (b) or based on Chl *a* [in $\mu\text{g C } (\mu\text{g Chl } a)^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$] (c) under PAR (P), PAR + UV-A (PA) or PAR + UV-A + B (PAB); the fitted lines are the power functions ($R^2 = 0.38\text{--}0.63$); Photosynthetic inhibition (in %) induced by UV-A or UV-B (d) where the solid line indicates the significant relationship between the UV-A-induced inhibition and the distance off the coast ($R^2 = 0.31$, $P < 0.01$, $n = 32$). Vertical bars present the standard deviations ($n = 3$). *Data source* Li et al. (2011)

UV-A does not enhance carbon fixation in pelagic (or oligotrophic) water because the picophytoplankton-dominated assemblages do not efficiently produce UV-absorbing compounds (Fig. 4) (Li et al. 2011; Garcia-Pichel 1994; Raven 1991). The UV-A related inhibition of carbon fixation increases from the coastal to pelagic waters, whereas UV-B impacts uniformly over time and space (Fig. 4d). Under reduced levels of solar radiation with heavy overcast, UV-A radiation enhances photosynthetic carbon fixation by up to 25 % in coastal waters where microplankton is abundant, but such a positive impact is not observed in offshore waters where piconanoplankton prevails (Li et al. 2011).

Water temperature, driven by solar radiation, is one of the crucial physical factors regulating photosynthesis in natural waters (Baulch et al. 2005; Mortain-Bertrand et al. 1988; Doyle et al. 2005; Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006). Primary production (approximately 67 % of variability) is mainly controlled by light availability and temperature. High nutrient concentrations do not stimulate primary production in estuary (Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006). Even the slight oceanic warming during the interglacials would result in increased affinity of active transport by algae and bacteria for nutrients (nitrate, phosphate and silicate) and would effectively increase the available pools of such nutrients in the oceans (Nedwell 1999). This increase in availability of nutrients with higher temperature would be predicted to enhance oceanic primary production and CO₂ drawdown during the interglacials (Nedwell 1999). Such a scenario is consistent with the data from the profiles of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ isotopic ratios in benthic foraminiferan in Southern Ocean sediment cores. Such data suggest in fact increased interglacial oceanic production (Broecker and Peng 1993; Neori and Holm-Hansen 1982). It is also shown that the highest NH₄ concentrations are detected in the colder months when temperature and daily irradiance are lower, but primary production does not increase linearly with ammonium (Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006). Global warming may lengthen the summer season and enhance the water column transparency with modification of the depth of the mixing layer or euphotic zone. Such processes would influence the doses of UV radiation and PAR received by the phytoplankton cells (Malkin et al. 2008; Scully and Lean 1994; Morris et al. 1995; Morris and Hargreaves 1997). The consequence could be a photoinhibition of the cells within the upper layer in sunny days. Enhanced photosynthetic rates of polar phytoplankton are observed in response to increasing temperatures (Broecker and Peng 1993; Neori and Holm-Hansen 1982; Reay et al. 2001; Jacques 1983). This effect ultimately causes an increase in photosynthesis in natural waters, in particular in the deeper layers, because of an enhancement in its duration.

Global warming can also induce an increase in DOM contents in natural waters because of enhanced DOM leaching from terrestrial soils connected to high soil respiration following elevated atmospheric CO₂ concentrations (Porcal et al. 2009). Global warming can enhance the photosynthesis of terrestrial plants because of higher atmospheric CO₂ levels, which results in high primary production. The parallel increase of atmospheric temperature would also increase the soil respiration (Porcal et al. 2009; Freeman et al. 2001, 2004; Tranvik and Jasson 2002;

Evans et al. 2005, 2006; Roulet and Moore 2006; de Wit et al. 2007; Monteith et al. 2007; Dorodnikov et al. 2011). The decomposition of soil OM by microbial biomass is significantly increased under elevated atmospheric CO₂ (Dorodnikov et al. 2011; Heath et al. 2005; Lagomarsino et al. 2009; Blagodatskaya et al. 2010, 2011). High turnover rates of soil OM are apparently driven by the increasing activity of soil microorganisms under elevated CO₂ conditions (Blagodatskaya et al. 2010, 2011; Dorodnikov et al. 2009). It is also shown that the increasing activity of soil microorganisms under elevated CO₂ could accelerate the decomposition of older and fresh plant residues (Dorodnikov et al. 2009, 2011; Blagodatskaya et al. 2010; Marhan et al. 2010). In addition, the labile organic carbon released by roots stimulates microbial activity, leading to enhanced degradation of soil OM. This process is known as the 'priming mechanism' (Kuzyakov 2002). Elevated CO₂ can enhance soil organic matter mineralization by 83–218 % in a simulated wetland (Wolf et al. 2007). Therefore, elevated atmospheric CO₂ concentrations could enhance both primary production and soil respiration, inducing increased export of DOC to nearby natural waters (Porcal et al. 2009).

4.5 Changes in the Primary Production and Disorders in Chlorophyll *a* Maxima

Global warming may affect the seasonal patterns of primary production, the chlorophyll concentrations in the surface chlorophyll *a* maxima (SCM) and in the deep chlorophyll *a* maxima (DCM) in natural waters (Letelier et al. 2004; Huisman et al. 2006; Mostofa et al. 2009b; Baulch et al. 2005; Castle and Rodgers 2009; Davis et al. 2009; Hobson and McQuoid 2001). It is estimated that, depending on location, ambient UV radiation can reduce carbon fixation rates up to 65 % in surface waters of the Antarctic region, down to undetectable levels at 36 m (Boucher and Prézélin 1996). A reduction of stratospheric O₃ concentrations by 50 % would further inhibit the near-surface primary production by 8 % and the integrated primary production by 5 % (Boucher and Prézélin 1996). This effect causes the occurrence of subsurface maxima of primary production in the presence of UVR (Boucher and Prézélin 1996). About 67 % of the variability of the observed primary production indicates that estuarine production is mainly controlled by light availability and temperature. In contrast, high nutrient concentrations do not stimulate primary production (Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006).

Global warming will increase the stability of the vertical stratification in large parts of the lakes and oceans, reducing vertical mixing and suppressing the upward flux of nutrients. The effect would be a decrease in primary production (O'Reilly et al. 2003; Huisman et al. 2006). Reduced vertical mixing can generate oscillations and chaos in phytoplankton biomass and species composition of DCM, which is generated by the difference in timescale between the sinking flux of phytoplankton and the upward flux of nutrients (Huisman et al. 2006; Barbiero and Tuchman 2004). The increased stability of the water column due to global warming can thus destabilize phytoplankton

dynamics in both DCM and SCM. The actual effect can be different in different types of water. Waters with low contents of DOM (apparently <100 mM C) can yield low contents of photo- and microbial products (H_2O_2 , CO_2 , DIC) in the euphotic zone, with limited enhancement of productivity. This effect is often found in the oligotrophic regions of the ocean where the nutrient-poor upper layer is made even poorer as a result of enhanced stratification. The phenomenon has a negative impact on net primary production and can produce oceanic ‘oligotrophication’ as a direct effect of global warming (Sarmiento et al. 2010; Falkowski and Oliver 2007; Falkowski and Wilson 1992; Karl et al. 2001; Polovina et al. 2008; Behrenfeld et al. 2006).

A regional decrease in wind velocity in Lake Tanganyika, East Africa has contributed to reduced mixing, decreasing the deep-water nutrient upwelling and entrainment into surface waters (O’Reilly et al. 2003).

Increased stability of the water column may enhance the photoinduced degradation of DOM by combination of high temperature and longer summer season. In waters with high contents of DOM this would lead to the production of high contents of photo- and microbial products (such as H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC). This process enhances photosynthesis and can result into high primary production. Phytoplankton or algae productivity in DOM-rich waters would also enhance the production of autochthonous DOM and nutrients (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Malkin et al. 2008; Fu et al. 2010; Li et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2009; Carrillo et al. 2002; Kopáček et al. 2000, 2004). High production of further DOM and nutrients would severely worsen the quality of waters with high contents of DOM, particularly in lakes, reservoirs, estuaries, coastal waters and in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Such effects of climate warming may simultaneously promote harmful algal blooms or toxic phytoplankton populations (Davis et al. 2009; Mudie et al. 2002; Richardson and Jorgensen 1996; Hallegraeff 1993; Harvell et al. 1999; Braun and Pfeiffer 2002). The occurrence of cyanobacterial blooms in freshwater has increased over the last few decades all over the world (Xu et al. 2000; Chen et al. 2003; McCarthy et al. 2007).

An increase in dissolved primary production is one of the consequences of the temperature rise in the Southern Ocean (Morán et al. 2006). Similar processes in subarctic lakes are likely to result in higher DOC concentration, bacterial production and respiration, and into emission of CO_2 to the atmosphere (Jansson et al. 2008).

The penetration to significant depths of solar UV radiation can affect arthropods, cyanobacteria, phytoplankton, macroalgae and aquatic plants in both freshwater and marine environments, including Antarctic and Arctic waters (Ballaré et al. 2011; Huisman et al. 2006; Häder et al. 2003, 2007, 2011; Karl et al. 2001; Sinha et al. 2001; Day and Neale 2002; Frenot et al. 2005; Rastogi et al. 2010). Changes in the timing of primary producers, possibly forced by UV-B radiation and temperature increase, would change connectivity in the food web among phytoplankton, zooplankton, crustaceans, amphibians, fish, corals and birds (Kitaysky and Golubova 2000; Morrison et al. 2002; Johannessen and Macdonald 2009; Häder et al. 2007, 2011; Pomeroy and Wiebe 2001).

The primary producers (e.g. phytoplankton cells) tend to be smaller in a warmer ocean (Falkowski and Oliver 2007; Daufresne et al. 2009; Morán et al. 2010). It has

also been shown that UV-B influences the CO₂-concentrating mechanism of *M. aeruginosa*, and this cyanobacterium has many adaptive strategies to cope with prolonged UV-B exposure (Jiang and Qiu 2005; Song and Qiu 2007). Enhanced solar UV-A (315–400 nm) and/or UV-B radiation (280–315 nm) can reduce growth and photosynthetic rates, inhibit pigment production, increase permeability of cell membranes, damage proteins or DNA molecules, and even lead to cell death (Jiang and Qiu 2005, 2011; Behrenfeld et al. 1993; Sass et al. 1997; Helbling et al. 2001; Buma et al. 2003; Sobrino et al. 2004; Litchman and Neale 2005; Wu et al. 2005; Agustí and Llabrés 2007; Rath and Adhikary 2007; Pattanaik et al. 2008; Gao et al. 2008). At normal ozone concentrations (i.e. 344 Dobson Units), UV radiation can reduce primary productivity in surface waters by as much as 50 % (Cullen et al. 1992; Holm-Hansen et al. 1993b; Cullen and Neale 1994). A normal level of UV radiation also reduces phytoplankton production by 57 % at a depth of 1 m, while such inhibition decreases to <5 % at 30 m, at 50°S in mid December (Arrigo 1994). Such effects on aquatic organisms might be caused directly by UV radiation and indirectly through high production of HO• in epilimnetic (upper layer) waters. Both effects are able to alter the structural configuration of organisms with release of many organic substances in epilimnetic (surface layer) waters (Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Sinha et al. 2001; Rastogi et al. 2010; Gauslaa and McEvoy 2005; Lesser 2008; Hylander et al. 2009; Ingalls et al. 2010).

To conclude, global warming may greatly impact primary production, species composition, carbon export, and finally biological activities in the aquatic environment (Huisman et al. 2006; Häder 2011; Häder et al. 2003, 2007; Sinha et al. 2001; Rastogi et al. 2010; Petchey et al. 1999).

4.6 Changes in DOM Dynamics and the Global Carbon Cycle

The increase of DOC concentration in many catchments in Europe and North America might be the consequence of a climate effect (Zepp et al. 2011; Burns et al. 2006; Vuorenmaa et al. 2006; Sobek et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2010; Freeman et al. 2001, 2004; Evans et al. 2005; Skjelkvåle et al. 2001; Löfgren et al. 2003; Hongve et al. 2004; Worrall et al. 2005; Larsen et al. 2011). An increase of DOC in natural waters because of global warming could be linked to the production of autochthonous DOM by phytoplankton or algae under both photoinduced and microbial-assimilation (Johannessen et al. 2007; Mostofa et al. 2009a, b; Fu et al. 2005, 2010; Stedmon et al. 2007a; Zhang et al. 2009; Biddanda and Benner 1997; Carrillo et al. 2002; Mallet et al. 1998; Lehmann and Bernasconi 2004). Indeed, increasing temperature can increase the release of organic substrates by phytoplankton (Morán et al. 2006; Watanabe 1980; Verity 1981; Zlotnik and Dubinsky 1989). Such phenomena can in turn enhance photosynthesis and primary production, as already explained, particularly in DOM-rich waters.

On the other hand, global warming can affect waters with low contents of DOM in the opposite direction, inhibiting the production of various compounds that ultimately limit photosynthesis and primary production. This effect can proceed either

by gradually decreasing the total contents of DOM and nutrients or by reducing the nutrients at equal DOM. The latter scenario can occur because in waters with low contents of DOM, as can be found for instance in Lake Biwa and Lake Baikal, allochthonous DOM usually dominates than autochthonous DOM (Yoshioka et al. 2002; Mostofa et al. 2005). The removal of total organic carbon (total internal and external inputs) is accounted for by respiration (50 %), sedimentation (40 %) and photo-oxidation (10 %) in acidic lakes (Kopáček et al. 2004).

Production of algae or phytoplankton and the related photoinduced and microbial release of new DOM are greatly influenced by several factors, such as high precipitation (Zhang et al. 2010; Freeman et al. 2001; Tranvik and Jasson 2002; Hejzlar et al. 2003), land use changes that induce high transport of DOC from catchments to adjacent surface waters (Worrall et al. 2004; Raymond and Oh 2007), nitrogen deposition (Pregitzer et al. 2004; Findlay 2005), sulfate deposition (Zhang et al. 2010; Evans et al. 2006; Monteith et al. 2007), drought and alteration of hydrologic pathways (Zhang et al. 2010; Hongve et al. 2004; Knorr et al. 2005), and change in total solar UV radiation or increase in temperature due to global warming (Sobek et al. 2007; Zhang et al. 2010; Freeman et al. 2001; Sinha et al. 2001; Rastogi et al. 2010). Higher temperatures in the tropical zone may accelerate bacterial metabolism, causing a larger fraction of incoming organic carbon to be respired (Tranvik et al. 2009). In temperate zones, the additive effect of decreased water availability and increased primary production may enhance organic carbon burial through increased autochthonous production and preservation (Cotner and Biddanda 2002; Downing et al. 2008). A recent study of DOC concentrations in over 7,500 lakes in six continents suggests that DOC export is potentially enhanced by global warming in aquatic ecosystems (Sobek et al. 2007). It has also been shown that total solar radiation and precipitation can account for 49–84 % of the variation in the long-term DOC patterns in various catchments (Zhang et al. 2010). DOC concentrations in Swedish lakes and streams have substantially increased during 1970–1980, despite a reduction in temperature, most likely because of higher precipitation (Tranvik and Jasson 2002).

The uptake of inorganic nitrogen by bacteria during a phytoplankton bloom occurs particularly in lake or coastal waters where the inputs of terrestrial humic substances are much higher (Kirchman et al. 1991; Amon and Benner 1994). Photolytically produced ammonium can be assimilated by bacterial populations, which can enhance the production of autotrophic and heterotrophic biomass in planktonic environments.

Carbon storage in high-latitude peatlands is estimated to represent one-third or more of the global soil carbon pool (Post et al. 1982; Zimov et al. 2006). Warming-induced decomposition of soil organic matter, particularly in arctic and subarctic soils (Anderson 1991), can result in greater transport of allochthonous DOC to adjacent natural waters. Water bodies that usually received low DOC inputs such as alpine lakes or those resulting from glacial retreat may be strongly affected by the altered DOC quality, which causes for instance the replacement of herbs by less productive shrubs (Shaver et al. 2000).

Beneath the sea ice in the Central Basin, relatively high values of $p\text{CO}_2$ have been detected, ranging between 425 and 475 μatm values. Such values are larger

than the mean atmospheric one in the Arctic in summertime, suggesting that CO₂ might derive from high rates of bacterial respiration (Semiletov et al. 2007). Ambient partial pressure values of CO₂ ($p\text{CO}_2 = 21\text{--}73.5$ Pa) are produced during the coral reef metabolism in Eastern Pacific reef sites. Such values are highly variable depending on depth, time, space and upwelling-nonupwelling period (Manzello 2010).

Photoinduced and microbial degradation of DOM and OM is a source of atmospheric greenhouse gases such as CO₂ and CH₄, thereby contributing to global carbon cycle and further global warming (Porcal et al. 2009; Knorr et al. 2005; Davidson and Janssens 2006). Elevated CO₂ enhances DOC supply in peat soils, an effect that is attributed to elevated net primary productivity and increased root exudation of DOC. Enhanced DOC in soil will ultimately leach into aquatic ecosystems (Freeman et al. 2004; Barbiero and Tuchman 2004; Kang et al. 2001; Pastor et al. 2003; Lavoie et al. 2005; Fenner et al. 2007a, b). Global warming could also increase soil respiration (Freeman et al. 2001, 2004; Tranvik and Jasson 2002; Evans et al. 2005, 2006; Roulet and Moore 2006; de Wit et al. 2007; Monteith et al. 2007; Dorodnikov et al. 2011).

Freshwater ecosystems that are presently located across vegetation gradients will experience significant shifts in underwater spectral irradiance. The main reasons are the effects of climate change on catchment vegetation and the export of colored DOM (Pienitz and Vincent 2000). Overall, elevated atmospheric CO₂ concentrations would increase primary production, with a consequent increase of the decomposition of soil OM and an increased export of DOC to nearby natural waters (Porcal et al. 2009). These processes can also contribute to enhance the DOM contents in natural waters.

4.7 Changes in Nutrients Cycle

The mass balance of nutrients (NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻, NH₄⁺ and total P) is linked with the major external inputs (terrestrial and atmospheric deposition), internal sources and transformations (primary and bacterial production, secondary production, photo- and/or microbial-assimilation of algae or phytoplankton and plant debris), photoinduced transformation of both external and internal sources of nutrients, nitrification, sedimentation and outputs in natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Fu et al. 2005; Minero et al. 2007; Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Sterner et al. 2008; Ma and Green 2004; Zhang et al. 2004; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Carrillo et al. 2002; Mallet et al. 1998; Kopáček et al. 1995, 2000, 2004; Lehmann and Bernasconi 2004; Schindler 1988, 1994; Carlsson et al. 1993; Urabe 1993; Bushaw et al. 1996; Goldman et al. 1996; Ramm and Scheps 1997; Mack and Bolton 1999; Sterner and Elser 2002; Demott 2003; Xie et al. 2003; Kopáček et al. 2003; Ahlgren et al. 2005). Coastal waters are generally nutrient-rich whereas open oceans are often oligotrophic, thus they are usually less productive due to

nutrient limitation (Kolber et al. 1990; Shen 2001; Falkowski et al. 2004; Ho et al. 2008). Nutrient enrichment is a common feature in lakes, estuaries and coastal oceans worldwide, which can be the primary cause of eutrophication from excess algal growth (Yoshiyama and Sharp 2006; Smith 2003). Large amounts of nutrients (NO_3^- , NH_4^+ and total P or PO_4^{3-}) are produced from photoinduced and microbial-assimilations of algae or phytoplankton biomass, as well as by photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters (Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Fu et al. 2010; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Kopáček et al. 2004; Kopáček et al. 2003). Formation of N-containing (NH_4^+ , NO_3^- , and NO_2^-) and P-containing inorganic compounds (PO_4^{3-}) may take place upon degradation of dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) and dissolved organic phosphorus (DOP) in the epilimnion of natural waters (Mostofa et al. 2011; Zhang et al. 2004; Kim et al. 2006; Li et al. 2008; Bronk 2002; Vähätalo and Järvinen 2007). DIC is also produced both photolytically and microbially from DOM in natural waters (Granéli et al. 1996; Ma and Green 2004; Miller and Moran 1997; Bertilsson and Tranvik 2000). Seasonal and long-term variations of N-containing compounds in natural waters are influenced by biological processes, in which uptake by algae or phytoplankton and denitrification in bottom water play a major role (Seitzinger et al. 2006). It is therefore suggested that algae or phytoplankton might be the key controlling factors that determine the total content of nutrients in natural waters.

Global warming could cause a loop by significantly increasing the photoinduced degradation of DOM with high production of photoproducts (e.g. CO_2 , DIC, H_2O_2), which can enhance photosynthesis and primary production. The effect is a higher production of nutrients, particularly in waters with high DOM contents. Therefore, global warming could lead to a considerable eutrophication of already DOM-rich waters.

The nutrients from external inputs (terrestrial and atmospheric deposition) and sedimentation sources are expected to play a less important role toward primary production. Indeed, high contents of nutrients are observed in waters with high contents of DOM or chlorophyll *a* (Stedmon et al. 2007a, b; Fu et al. 2010; Li et al. 2008; Carrillo et al. 2002; Kopáček et al. 2000, 2004). At the same time, N-compounds are strongly dependent on climatic factors in natural waters (Mitchell et al. 1996; Murdoch et al. 1998; Weyhenmeyer 2008; Hessen et al. 2009). An increase in temperature and changes in the precipitation regime can affect biological processes in soil and water, which are involved into the retention and release of N (Windolf et al. 1996; Khalili and Weyhenmeyer 2009). On the other hand, waters with low contents of either DOM or chlorophyll *a* often show low contents of nutrients that typically remain the same for long periods (Kim et al. 2006; Goldman et al. 1996; Fott et al. 1994; Vyhnálek et al. 1994; Sugiyama et al. 2005). These processes are affected by water temperature, thus climate parameters may exert a major control on nutrient variability in natural waters. Global warming could thus modify the seasonal patterns of nutrient concentrations in the water column of lakes and oceans (Letelier et al. 2004; Huisman et al. 2006). High concentrations of nutrients due to global warming could thus severely deteriorate the quality of DOM-rich waters.

5 Conceptual Model for the Impacts of Global Warming on Key Biogeochemical Processes

From the previous discussion of the 'Impacts of global warming on natural waters' section, it is possible to summarize the key biogeochemical steps that take place in natural waters. First, photoinduced transformation induced by natural sunlight is the primary step for the photo-induced generation of oxidizing species (e.g. H_2O_2 and HO^\bullet) from DOM and chemical species (such as NO_2^- and NO_3^-). Such processes can drive the photoinduced degradation of DOM in surface waters (Fig. 5), yielding a variety of photoproducts among which H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC. Second, photosynthesis is enhanced by the occurrence of the cited photoproducts in the euphotic zone, with a subsequent increase of the primary production (algae or phytoplankton). Third, primary productivity further induces photoinduced and microbial assimilations that release autochthonous DOM and nutrients. Fourth, autochthonous DOM and nutrients undergo photoinduced and microbial degradation that further yields H_2O_2 , CO_2 and DIC. Global warming can thus favor the photosynthesis and, as a consequence, the primary production.

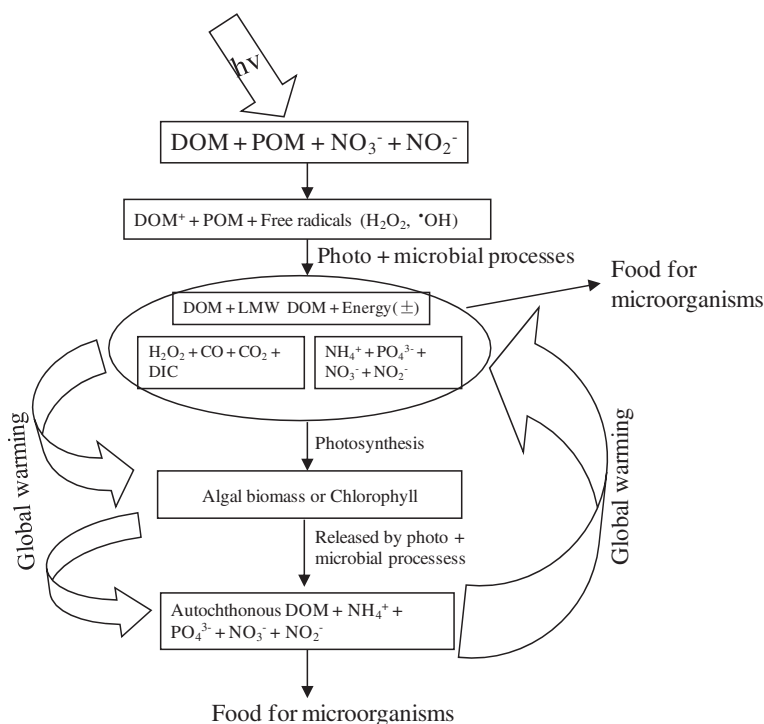


Fig. 5 Conceptual model on photochemical degradation of DOM and its possible effects on key biogeochemical processes in natural waters in response to global warming. *Data source* with few modifications Mostofa et al. (2009b)

The described processes (Fig. 5) are more important in waters having high contents of DOM, naturally or because of pollution, and can lead to further eutrophication of DOM-rich waters. The process would be enhanced by the extension of the summer season and of the euphotic zone that is expected to take place because of global warming. Total contents of DOM and global warming together thus severely affects on foodwebs, primary productivity, and nutrients cycles in freshwater environments which ultimately impact on drinking water quality, sustainable uses of agriculture and industrial purposes as well as the whole water ecosystem (Mostofa et al. 2009b; Li et al. 2008; Larsen et al. 2011; Hessen et al. 1990; Ask et al. 2009; Karlsson et al. 2009). The importance of the described processes would be much lower in DOC-poor (oligotrophic) systems. In such cases other phenomena could play a more important role, and the enhanced photoinduced DOM degradation could even lead to a further oligotrophication of DOC-poor systems.

The photoinduced degradation of DOM generally takes place through redox reactions that can lead to supply (+) or consumption (–) of energy in natural waters. Energy changes (\pm) also occur during photosynthesis (Komissarov 1994, 1995, 2003). DOM with its content of organic C and N is a thermodynamic anomaly that provides a major source of energy to drive aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems (Wetzel 1984, 1992; Salonen and Vähätalo 1994; Tranvik 1992; Hedges et al. 2000). Therefore, any changes in energy during the photoinduced degradation of DOM are thermodynamically vital for all the living organisms and for the aquatic environments.

The photoinduced degradation of DOM is interlinked free radical production, microbial processes, photosynthesis, autochthonous DOM, nutrients, end photoproducts and their utilization as food for microorganisms in natural waters. A conceptual schematic diagram for the global warming effects on photoinduced and microbial processes of DOM and POM, photoproducts and their importance in the aquatic environment is depicted below (Fig. 5):

Finally, it can be concluded that any changes in nature are absolutely interlinked with other changes in the natural ecosystem.

5.1 Remedial Measures for Controlling Algal Blooms due to Global Warming

The possible remedial measures for controlling the lake algal blooms that are severely affecting the water quality because of global warming are listed below: (i) The total DOM contents in lake waters should be reduced by applying coagulation processes that can reduce the regeneration of photoproducts, microbial products and nutrients. Such measures would thus reduce photosynthesis and, as a consequence, the primary production (algae or phytoplankton) in natural waters. During the algal blooms, algae or phytoplankton should be removed using fine, small-mesh nets. Such a procedure could reduce the further photoinduced and microbial release of DOM and nutrients from primary production. The consequence would be a significant reduction of further photosynthesis and, thus, of primary production. (ii) The sediments in the lake

bottom should be removed, which will reduce to pore water's DOM and nutrients and their transport to surface waters, a phenomenon that generally occurs during the overturn period or because of any other physical processes. (iii) Erosion should be reduced in the surrounding soil environments, because erosion can enhance the allochthonous DOM, POM and nutrient contents of natural waters. Erosion can be reduced by proper plantation in the surrounding soils of the watershed.

6 Challenges for Future Research

Global warming is expected to enhance primary production in Chinese lakes and reservoirs, which could severely deteriorate water quality and considerably impact the sustainable use of freshwater resources. Concurrently, DOM contents have been gradually increasing in some European lakes in the last few decades, possibly because of the effect of global warming. Global warming could lead to considerable eutrophication of DOM-rich waters, by gradually increasing the occurrence of autochthonous DOM and nutrients and severely deteriorating the water quality. On the other hand it can affect DOM-poor waters, either inducing a gradual decrease of the total contents of DOM and nutrients or maintaining the same range of DOM levels but causing the nutrients to decline.

The global warming has been found to increase the average Arctic temperatures at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years. Therefore, warming is expected to significantly impact the biogeochemical processes of Arctic and Antarctic regions. Therefore, a number of important researches can be distinguished as: (i) Monitoring the contents of DOM and nutrients in natural waters affected by global warming. (ii) Extensively studying the photoinduced and microbial release of autochthonous DOM and nutrients from DOM and algae or phytoplankton in natural waters. (iii) Investigating the photoinduced and microbial release of CO_2 , DIC and H_2O_2 from autochthonous DOM, algae or phytoplankton in natural waters. (iv) Studying the photoinduced and microbial release of autochthonous DOM from algae or phytoplankton in Arctic and Antarctic waters. (v) Development of remedial measures for high primary production caused by global warming in waters with high contents of DOM. (vi) Finally, development of remedial measures for low primary productivity caused by global warming in waters with low contents of DOM.

7 Nomenclature

CO_2	Carbon dioxide
DIC	Dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC: dissolved CO_2 , H_2CO_3 , HCO_3^- , and CO_3^{2-})
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
GHGs	Green house gases

GWPs	Global warming potentials
H ₂ O ₂	Hydrogen peroxide
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
Kyr	Kilo year (1000 year)
CH ₄	Methane
OM	Organic matter
NH ₄ ⁺	Ammonium
NO ₂ ⁻	Nitrite
NO ₃ ⁻	Nitrate
POM	Particulate organic matter
PO ₄ ³⁻	Phosphate
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UV	Ultraviolet
Yrs	Years

Problems

- (1) What is global warming? List the atmospheric greenhouse gases and other constituents which contribute to global warming.
- (2) Explain how atmospheric greenhouse gases increase global warming.
- (3) Explain how the atmospheric sulfate aerosols could reduce the global warming.
- (4) Explain how the stratospheric ozone depletion affects global warming and natural water chemistry.
- (5) Explain the contributions of atmospheric greenhouse gases to global warming.
- (6) What is radiative forcing by greenhouse gases? Explain how global warming potentials become indicators of global warming.
- (7) How are the environmental processes of greenhouse gases emission affected by global warming? Explain how global warming enhances the soil respiration that releases atmospheric greenhouse gases.
- (8) Explain the various processes of CO₂ emission during agricultural activities.
- (9) How does deforestation affect global warming?
- (10) Explain where and why the emissions of CO₂ occur by photoinduced degradation of DOM in natural waters.
- (11) What are the possible impacts of global warming on physical, chemical and biological processes in natural waters?
- (12) Explain how does global warming affect photoinduced and microbial activities in natural waters.
- (13) Explain how does global warming affect photosynthesis and primary productivity in natural waters.
- (14) Explain why and how does global warming impact on waters with high contents of DOM.

- (15) Explain the global warming impact on the DOM dynamics in natural waters.
- (16) What are the sources of nutrients in natural waters and how does the global warming impact the aquatic nutrient dynamics?
- (17) Explain the conceptual model for the impact of global warming on key biogeochemical processes in natural waters.

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Editors Biography



Dr. Khan M. G. Mostofa Photochemist and Geochemist, is a Research Scientist at the State Key Laboratory of Environmental Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, PR China. He received double MS degree (Chemistry, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1992 and Biogeochemistry, Institute for Hydrospheric-Atmospheric Sciences (IHAS), Nagoya University, Japan in 2001) and Ph.D degree

from Hiroshima University, Japan, in 2005 in the field of Environmental Dynamics and Management. Dr. Mostofa then joined as a postdoctoral fellow the Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China, 2006–2008. He has then been appointed as Associate Professor in the same Institute on 2008 and presently holds that position. Dr. Mostofa also worked as key researcher on several international projects, particularly on the Montreal Protocol Project entitled ‘Institutional strengthening for the Phase out of ODSs in Bangladesh’, 1996–1999, Bangladesh and the global “International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP)” project, 1999–2001, Japan. Currently, Dr. Mostofa served as reviewer for several international peer-reviewed Journals. His key researches are mostly focused on the photo-bio-geochemistry of organic matter and nutrients, characterization and identification of organic substances of both allochthonous and autochthonous origins, complexation of OM with trace metal ions, photosynthesis and global warming. Approximately three years were needed to complete the primary drafts of the manuscripts for the ten chapters in this book.



Davide Vione Received his summa cum laude Laurea degree in Chemistry at the University of Torino (Italy) in 1998, and the Ph.D. in Chemistry in 2001. In 2002–2011 he has been University Lecturer in Torino, and he was appointed Associate Professor in 2011. His research interests focus on environmental photochemistry, particularly the sunlight-driven processes that involve transient species in surface and atmospheric waters, and on Advanced Oxidation Processes for water and wastewater decontamination. In June 2012 the ISI database reported 107 entries under his name, with 1,499 citations and h index 22 (for Scopus: 110 entries, 1,549 citations, h index 22). In 2003 Dr. Vione was presented the Young Researcher's award from the Analytical Chemistry division of the Italian Chemical Society (SCI) and the "European Young Researcher of the Year" award by the European Association of Chemistry and the Environment (ACE). He is Editorial Board Member of the E-Journal of Chemistry, and reviews around 30 articles per year for several environmental chemistry journals. Dr. Vione has contributed some chapters as a co-author as well as an editor of this book.



Dr. M. Abdul Mottaleb Received B.Sc. (Honors) and Masters of Science degree in Applied Chemistry from the University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi, Bangladesh. He earned his Ph.D. degree in Analytical and Environmental Chemistry/Sciences from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK. Over past 22 years Dr. Mottaleb got experience in teaching and research in the area of analytical and environmental sciences in different countries: Bangladesh, United Kingdom, South Korea and the United States of America. Examples are (i) Scientific officer, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, (ii) Associate Professor in Chemistry, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh, (iii) KOSFE postdoctoral research fellow, South Korea, (iv) Research Associate, National Exposure Research Laboratory, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Las Vegas, Nevada, and (v) Research Scientist/Professor, Baylor University, Texas. Dr. Mottaleb was a recipient of the Science Achievement Awards (SAA) in Chemistry 2005, and Science & Technological Achievement Awards (STAA) 2005, offered by U.S. EPA and American Chemical Society, for his outstanding and impressive discovery of emerging contaminants and nitro musk-haemoglobin adducts in aquatic organisms such as fish. Currently Dr. Mottaleb is working as an Analytical Chemist at the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Northwest Missouri State University, USA and is

also serving as Editorial Board Member of peer-reviewed journals; *Phytochemical Analysis*, *Maejo International Journal of Science and Technology*, *International Journal of Current Research*, *International Journal of Pure and Applied Sciences and Technology* as well as a reviewer for many professional journals. Dr. Mottaleb contributes some chapters as a co-author as well as an editor of this book.



Dr. Takahito Yoshioka Received his Doctor of Science degree from Nagoya University on the mechanism of lacustrine nitrification. Dr. Yoshioka got experience in several organizations such as the Mitsubishi-Kasei Institute for Life Sciences (1984–1986), Faculty of Science in Shinshu University (1988–1992), Institute for Hydrospheric-Atmospheric Sciences in Nagoya University (1993–2000), Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (2001–2006) and Field Science Education and Research Center in Kyoto University (2007 to

date). Dr. Yoshioka is distinguished as one of the Japanese pioneers of stable isotope ecology. Dr. Yoshioka was awarded a Biwako Prize for Ecology in 1999, for his outstanding contribution to stable isotope studies of lacustrine ecosystems. During the IGBP project (1997–2001), Dr. Yoshioka studied the dynamics of freshwater dissolved organic matter with Dr. Mostofa, using three-dimensional Fluorescence Spectroscopy, Ultra-filtration and Stable Isotope Techniques. Dr. Yoshioka was former Editor-In-Chief of *Limnology* (Springer-Verlag) and will contribute some chapters as co-author as well as an editor of this book.