



1 **Title :**

2 **ORCHIDEE MICT-LEAK (r5459), a global model for the production, transport and**
3 **transformation of dissolved organic carbon from Arctic permafrost regions, Part**
4 **2: Model evaluation over the Lena River basin.**

5
6 **Authors:**

7 **Simon P.K. Bowring¹, Ronny Lauerwald², Bertrand Guenet¹, Dan Zhu¹, Matthieu**
8 **Guimberteau^{1,3}, Pierre Regnier², Ardalan Tootchi³, Agnès Ducharne³, Philippe**
9 **Ciais¹**

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11 **Affiliations:**

12 [1] Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement, LSCE, CEA, CNRS, UVSQ,
13 91191 Gif Sur Yvette, France

14 [2] Department of Geoscience, Environment & Society, Université Libre de Bruxelles,
15 Bruxelles, Belgium

16 [3] Sorbonne Université, CNRS, EPHE, Milieux environnementaux, transferts et
17 interaction dans les hydrosystèmes et les sols, Metis, 75005 Paris, France

18

19 **Abstract**

20 In this second part of a two-part study, we perform a simulation of the carbon and water
21 budget of the Lena catchment with the land surface model ORCHIDEE MICT-LEAK,
22 enabled to simulate dissolved organic carbon (DOC) production in soils and its transport
23 and fate in high latitudes inland waters. The model results are evaluated in their ability
24 to reproduce the fluxes of DOC and carbon dioxide (CO₂) along the soil-inland water
25 continuum, and the exchange of CO₂ with the atmosphere, including the evasion
26 outgassing of CO₂ from inland waters. We present simulation results over years 1901-
27 2007, and show that the model is able to broadly reproduce observed state variables
28 and their emergent properties across a range of interacting physical and biogeochemical
29 processes, including: 1) Net primary production (NPP), respiration and riverine
30 hydrologic amplitude, seasonality and inter-annual variation; 2) DOC concentrations,
31 bulk annual flow and their volumetric attribution at the sub-catchment level; 3) High
32 headwater versus downstream CO₂ evasion, an emergent phenomenon consistent with
33 observations over a spectrum of high latitude observational studies. (4) These quantities
34 obey emergent relationships with environmental variables like air temperature and
35 topographic slope that have been described in the literature. This gives us confidence in
36 reporting the following additional findings: (5) Of the ~34TgC yr⁻¹ left over as input to
37 terrestrial and aquatic systems after NPP is diminished by heterotrophic respiration, 7
38 TgC yr⁻¹ is leached and transported into the aquatic system. Of this, over half (3.6 TgC yr⁻¹)
39 is evaded from the inland water surface back into the atmosphere and the remainder
40 (3.4 TgC yr⁻¹) flushed out into the Arctic Ocean, proportions in keeping with other,
41 empirically derived studies. (6) DOC exported from the floodplains is dominantly
42 sourced from recent, more 'labile' terrestrial production, in contrast to DOC leached
43 from the rest of the watershed with runoff and drainage, which is mostly sourced from
44 recalcitrant soil and litter. (7) All else equal, both historical climate change (a
45 spring/summer warming of 1.8°C over the catchment) and rising atmospheric CO₂
46 (+85.6ppm) are diagnosed from factorial simulations to contribute similar, significant
47 increases in DOC transport via primary production, although this similarity may not
48 hold in the future.

49



50 **1 Introduction**

51

52 A new branch of the high latitude-specific land surface component of the IPSL Earth
53 System model, ORCHIDEE MICT-LEAK (r5459), was enabled to simulate new model
54 processes of soil dissolved organic carbon (DOC) and CO₂ production, and their
55 advective/diffusive vertical transport within a discretized soil column as well as their
56 transport and transformation within the inland water network, in addition to improved
57 representation of hydrological and carbon processes in floodplains. These additions,
58 processes first coded in the model ORCHILEAK (Lauerwald et al., 2017) and
59 implemented within the high latitude base model ORCHIDEE-MICT v8.4.1 (Guimberteau
60 et al., 2018), were described in detail in Part 1 of this study. This second part of our
61 study deals with the validation and application of our model. We validate simulation
62 outputs against observation for present-day and run transient simulations over the
63 historical period (1901-2007) using the Lena River basin as test case. The simulation
64 setup and rationale for choice of simulation basin are outlined below.

65

66 **2 Simulation Rationale**

67

68 The Lena river basin, which is bounded by the region 52-72°N; 102-142°E, was chosen
69 as the basin for model evaluation because it is the largest DOC discharge contribution
70 amongst the Arctic rivers, according to some estimates (Raymond et al., 2007; Holmes et
71 al., 2012), with its 2.5 million km² area (befitting our coarse-grid resolution) discharging
72 almost 20% of the summed discharge of the largest six Arctic rivers, its large areal
73 coverage by Podzols (DeLuca and Boisvenue, 2012), and the dominance of DOC versus
74 particulate organic carbon (POC) with 3-6Tg DOC-C yr⁻¹ vs. 0.03-0.04 Tg POC-C yr⁻¹
75 (Semiletov et al., 2011) in the total OC discharge load –factors all broadly representative
76 of the Eurasian Arctic rivers. Compared to other Eurasian rivers, the Lena is relatively
77 well studied, which provides data across the range of soil, hydrologic, geochemical and
78 ecological domains over space and time, that enable us to perform adequate model
79 evaluation.

80

81 Climatological forcing is input from the Global Soil Wetness Project Phase 3 (GSWP3)
82 v.0 data at a 1 degree 3-hourly resolution covering the period 1901 to 2007
83 (Supplement, Table S1), which is then interpolated to a 30 minute timestep to comply
84 with the timestep of the model's surface water and energy balance calculation period.
85 This dataset was chosen for its suitability as input for reproducing the amplitude and
86 seasonality of Northern Hemisphere high latitude riverine discharge in ORCHIDEE-
87 MICT, as compared to other datasets (Guimberteau et al., 2018). An improved
88 floodplains area input file for the Lena basin (Tootchi et al., 2019) was used to drive the
89 simulation of floodplain dynamics (Supplement, Table S1).

90

91 Simulations were run over the Lena river basin (Fig. 3a) at a 1 degree resolution (Fig. 1)
92 for the historical period between 1901 and 2007 to evaluate the simulated output of
93 relevant carbon fluxes and hydrologic variables against their observed values, as well as
94 those of emergent phenomena arising from their interplay (Fig. 1), at both the grid and
95 basin scale. We evaluate at the basin scale because the isolation of a single geographic
96 unit allows for a more refined analysis of simulated variables than doing the same over
97 the global Pan-Arctic, much of which remains poorly accounted for in empirical
98 databases and literature.



99

100 3 Simulation Setup

101

102 As detailed in Part 1 (Section 3.1), the soil carbon stock used by our model was
103 reconstituted from the soil carbon spinup of an ORCHIDEE-MICT run from Guimberteau
104 et al. (2018) and run to quasi-steady state equilibrium for the Active and Slow carbon
105 pools (Supplement, Fig. S1) under the new soil carbon scheme used in the model
106 configuration of the present study (Fig. 1). After some adjustment runs to account for
107 different data read/write norms between ORCHIDEE-MICT and this model version, the
108 model was then run in transient mode under historical climate, land cover and
109 atmospheric CO₂ concentrations. A summary of the step-wise procedure for simulation
110 setup described above is detailed graphically in Fig. 1. The model was forced with and
111 run over the climate, CO₂ and vegetation input forcing data for the period spanning
112 1901-2007 (Supplement, Table S1).

113

114 In order to derive an understanding of the environmental drivers of carbon cycling in
115 the Lena watershed and analyze the model sensitivity to the corresponding forcing
116 data, alternative simulations were run with constant climate and CO₂ conditions (Table
117 1, and Supplement Table S1). Thus a factorial simulation was devised, consisting of 2
118 factors and 3 simulations whose inputs were otherwise identical but for the investigated
119 factor (Table 1).

120

121

122 4 Results and Discussion

123

124 We refer to different simulations performed in this study according to the sensitivity
125 factors to which they are subjected. The 'Control' (CTRL) simulation is that for which
126 transient climate and atmospheric CO₂ forcings are used. CLIM and CO₂ are those
127 simulations for which climate variability and atmospheric CO₂ were held constant at
128 their pre-industrial levels, respectively (Table 1). The following evaluation sections
129 compare observations solely against the CTRL. The subsequent section will evaluate this
130 comparison against the factorial simulations described above.

131

132 The overall carbon budgets and their fluxes as generated by each of the simulations are
133 shown in Figs. 2 and 11 and discussed in detail at the end of the evaluation. Below, we
134 examine that budget's component parts, in the following sequential order: In section 4.1
135 we briefly look through the overall carbon budget of the entire basin, discussing
136 component fluxes of the budget, their values and what they mean. Section 4.2 evaluates
137 DOC discharge, followed by DOC concentrations in export (4.3), dissolved CO₂ transport
138 in rivers and its evasion from the river surface (4.4), emergent phenomena with respect
139 to CO₂ evasion compared to river size (4.5.1) and DOC concentrations and slope (4.5.2),
140 followed by DOC reactivity pools (4.6) and NPP and soil respiration (4.7). Wherever
141 possible, model output are compared with available in situ observations, while
142 emergent relationships between fluxes or concentrations and environmental controls
143 found in observations are also drawn from the model output, to provide a 'process
144 oriented' evaluation of the model. In Section 4.8 we discuss the overall drivers of the
145 fluxes simulated by our model with respect to the two CLIM and CO₂ factorial
146 simulations and the implications of these for the future.

147



148 **4.1 Carbon Budget: Simulated yearly fluxes**

149

150 Fig. 2 summarises the components of the carbon cycle across the Lena basin, averaged
151 over the decade 1998-2007. All units are in TgC yr^{-1} and the errors are derived from
152 average yearly standard deviations for each of these fluxes. Modelled carbon inputs to
153 terrestrial ecosystems are dominated by photosynthetic input (GPP). GPP assimilates
154 (875 TgC yr^{-1}) are either used as metabolic substrate by plants and lost as CO_2 by plant
155 respiration processes (376 TgC yr^{-1}) or soil respiration processes (465 TgC yr^{-1}), leaving
156 behind annual terrestrial carbon storage in living biomass and soil, known as net biome
157 productivity (NBP, a sink of atmospheric CO_2 of 34 TgC yr^{-1}). Further carbon inputs are
158 delivered to the terrestrial surface via a combination of atmospheric deposition,
159 rainwater dissolved carbon, and the leaching of canopy carbon compounds, all of which
160 summing up to a flux transported to the soil surface (4.6 TgC yr^{-1}) by throughfall (see
161 Part 1, Section 2.5).

162

163 In the soil, DOC is produced by the decomposition of litter and soil organic carbon (SOC)
164 pools (see Part 1, Section 2.4 and Fig. 2) and can be ad- or de- sorbed to solid particles
165 (see Part 1, Section 2.11), while there is a continuous exchange of DOC with (solid) soil
166 organic carbon. The interplay between decomposition and sorption leads to DOC
167 concentration changes in the soil solution. DOC in the soil solution as well as a fraction of
168 dissolved CO_2 produced in the root zone from root and microbial respiration is exported
169 to rivers along the model's two hydrological export vectors, surface runoff and deep
170 drainage (Part 1, Section 2.6). For the Lena basin simulations, these fluxes of C exported
171 from soils amount to 5.1 and 0.2 TgC yr^{-1} , for DOC and CO_2 respectively. Three water
172 pools, representing streams, rivers and groundwater and each containing dissolved CO_2
173 and well as DOC of different reactivity, are routed through the landscape and between
174 grid cells following the river network in the catchment (Part 1, Section 2.7). In addition,
175 seasonally flooded soils located in low, flat grid cells next to the river network (see Part
176 1, Section 2.8) export DOC (0.57 TgC yr^{-1}) and CO_2 (1.54 TgC yr^{-1}) to the river network
177 when their inundation occurs. Part of this leached inundated material is reinfiltrated
178 back into the soil from the water column during floodplain recession ('Return' flux, 0.45
179 TgC yr^{-1}). During its transport through inland waters, DOC can be decomposed into CO_2
180 (2.1 TgC yr^{-1}) and a fraction of river CO_2 produced from DOC and transferred from soil
181 escapes to the atmosphere (3.6 TgC yr^{-1}) through gas exchange kinetics (Part 1, Section
182 2.10). This flux is termed 'CO₂ evasion' in Fig. 2 of this study. Carbon that 'survives' the
183 inland water reactor is exported to the coastal ocean in the form of DOC (3.16 TgC yr^{-1})
184 and CO_2 (0.26 TgC yr^{-1}). These fluxes and their interpretation within the context of the
185 Land-Ocean-Aquatic Continuum (LOAC) are returned to in Section 4.8 of this study.

186

187 **4.2 Discharge and DOC flux to the ocean**

188

189 Simulated river water discharge captures the key feature of Arctic river discharge – that
190 of a massive increase in flow to $\sim 80,000 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ in April-June caused by melting snow and
191 ice, otherwise known as ice-out or spring freshet, but underestimates observed river
192 discharge in August to October by around 70% which is in the range of $\sim 15,000$ - $28,000$
193 $\text{m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Figs. 3c, 4b). Given that DOC fluxes are almost directly proportional to river
194 discharge in the Lena basin (Fig. 3d), this sub-optimal performance with regard to
195 hydrology during August to October seeming to be the main cause of a substantial
196 underestimation in simulated bulk DOC outflow. Another cause may simply be the lack



197 of peat representation in the model, for which DOC flux concentrations in outflowing
198 fluvial water can be very high (e.g. Frey et al., 2005; 2009: see Section 4.5.1).

199

200 In addition, the mean spring (June) discharge peak flows are slightly underestimated or
201 out of phase in simulations (Figs. 3c, 4b) compared to observations (Ye et al., 2009); this
202 is caused by a large amount of water throughput being simulated in May ($\sim 10,000 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)
203 in excess of observed rates. Finally, during the winter low-flow period, it seems that
204 the model consistently under-estimates water flow-through volumes reaching the river
205 main stem (see Fig. 3c, winter months). Although this underestimate is not severe
206 relative to annual bulk flows, the divergence is large as a percentage of observations
207 (see right-hand axis, Fig. 3c), and may point to an issue in how ice is represented in the
208 model, such as the fact that solid ice inclusions in the soil column are not represented, or
209 the possibility that much slower groundwater dynamics than those represented in the
210 model are feeding discharge.

211

212 In addition to this, the presence of a dam on the Vilui tributary of the Lena has been
213 shown to reduce main stem winter low-flow rates by up to 90% (Ye et al., 2003), similar
214 to the discrepancy of our low-flow rates: given that our model only simulates ‘natural’
215 hydrological flows and thus does not include dams, we expect that this effect is also at
216 play. Evaluating these considerations, if presently possible, remains beyond the scope of
217 this paper. We note that discharge simulations with ORCHIDEE MICT (Fig. 12 of
218 Guimberteau et al. (2018)) performed with the same climate forcing over the basin are
219 comparable with those from ORCHIDEE MICT-L, with similar overall seasonality and
220 discharge peaks of $\sim 60,000 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ in the former over the period 1981-2007. This
221 indicates that the modifications made in Bowring et al. (Part 1) focussing on the DOC
222 cycle did not degrade the hydrological performance of the model in this regard.

223

224 Our CTRL simulation shows that the yearly sum of DOC output to the Arctic Ocean has
225 increased steadily over course of the 20th Century, from $\sim 1.4 \text{ Tg DOC-C yr}^{-1}$ in 1901 to
226 $\sim 4 \text{ Tg DOC-C yr}^{-1}$ in 2007 (Fig. 4a). Smoothing the DOC discharge over a 30-year
227 running mean shows that the increasing trend (Fig. 4a) over this averaging scale is
228 almost linear, at $\sim 0.11 \text{ TgC per decade}$, or a net increase of 40% using this averaging
229 scale. Empirically based estimates of total contemporary DOC entering the Laptev Sea
230 from Lena river discharge vary around $\sim 2.5\text{-}5.8 \text{ TgC-DOC}$ (Cauwet and Sidorov, 1996;
231 Dolman et al., 2012; Holmes et al., 2012; Lara et al., 1998; Raymond et al., 2007;
232 Semiletov et al., 2011).

233

234 The red bar in Fig. 4a shows the average simulated DOC discharge of the last decade
235 (1998-2007) of 3.2 TgC yr^{-1} , to be compared with estimates of 3.6 TgC yr^{-1} (black bar)
236 from Lara et al. (1998) and 5.8 TgC yr^{-1} (orange bar) from Raymond et al. (2007) and 5.7
237 TgC yr^{-1} from Holmes et al. (2012). These estimates are based on different years,
238 different data and different scaling approaches, whose veracity or accuracy are beyond
239 the scope of this study to address or assess.

240

241 Nonetheless, the most recent and elaborate of those estimates is that of Holmes et al.
242 (2012) who used a rating curve approach based on 17 samples collected from 2003 to
243 2006 and covering the full seasonal cycle, which was then applied to 10 years of daily
244 discharge data (1999-2008) for extrapolation. Given that their estimate is also based on
245 Arctic-GRO-1/PARTNERS data (<https://www.arcticgreatrivers.org/data>), which stands



246 as the highest temporal resolution dataset to date, we presume that their estimate can
247 be taken to be the most accurate of the actual riverine discharge of DOC from the Lena
248 basin. Compared to their average annual estimate of 5.7 Tg C yr⁻¹ then, our simulated
249 DOC export is somewhat low, which can be due to multiple causes:

250
251 Firstly, as noted above, the model underestimates observed river discharge. We plot
252 seasonal DOC discharge against river discharge for the Lena outflow grid cell (Kusur
253 station –see Fig. 3a) over 1901-2007 in Fig. 3d, which shows a quasi-linear positive
254 relationship between the two. This dependence is particular to the Arctic rivers, in
255 which the DOC yield of rivers experiences disproportionately large increases in output
256 with increases in discharge yield (Fig. 4, Raymond et al., 2007), relative to the same
257 relationship in e.g. temperate rivers like the Mississippi (Fig. 3, Raymond et al., 2007),
258 owing largely to the ‘flushing’ out of terrestrially fixed carbon from the previous year’s
259 production by the massive runoff generated by ice and snow melt during the spring
260 thaw.

261
262 Average river discharge almost doubled between the first and last decades of our
263 simulation (Fig 4c), giving further credence to the relationship between DOC and water
264 discharge. Comparing simulated annual mean discharge rate (m³ s⁻¹) with long-term
265 observations (Ye et al. 2003) over years 1940-2000 (Fig. 4c) shows that though absolute
266 discharge rates are underestimated by simulations, their interannual variation
267 reasonably tracks the direction and magnitude of observations. Linear regressions
268 through each trend yield very similar yearly increases of 29 vs 38 m³ s⁻¹ yr⁻¹ for
269 simulations and observations, respectively, while the mean annual water discharge
270 differential hovers at 30% (Fig. 4c), a fraction similar to that of the simulated and
271 observed (Raymond et al., 2007; Holmes et al., 2012) bulk annual DOC discharge
272 discrepancy (Fig. 4a).

273
274 Figure 4b plots discharge over the first (1901-1910) and last (1998-2007) decades of
275 simulated monthly DOC and river discharge with observed river discharge. The bulk of
276 the DOC outflow occurs during the spring freshet or snow/ice-melting period of
277 increased discharge, accounting for ~50-70% of the year’s total Lena outflow to the
278 Arctic (Lammers et al., 2001; Ye et al., 2009), with peak river discharge rates in June of
279 ~80,000 m³ s⁻¹. DOC concentrations increase immensely at this time, as meltwater
280 flushes out DOC accumulated from the previous year’s litter and SOC generation
281 (Raymond et al., 2007; Kutscher et al., 2017).

282
283 This is reproduced in our simulations given that DOC discharge peak occurs at the onset
284 of the growing season, meaning that outflow DOC is generated from a temporally prior
285 stock of organic carbon. Simulation of the hydrological dynamic is presented in maps of
286 river discharge through the basin in Fig. 3b, which show low-flows in April with
287 substantial hydrographic flow from upstream mountainous headwaters and Lake Baikal
288 inflow in the south, peak flow in June with substantial headwater input in the northern
289 portion and a moderate flow through the mainstem with little headwater input in
290 September.

291
292 In Fig. 4b we observe that (i) DOC discharge fluxes closely track hydrological fluxes
293 (solid versus dashed lines); (ii) the simulated modern river discharge peak is very close
294 to the historical observed discharge peak, however it slightly overestimates spring



295 fluxes and substantially underestimates fluxes in the Autumn (dashed red versus black
296 lines). Thus the discrepancy between simulated bulk DOC discharge fluxes and
297 empirical estimates may largely be found in the simulated hydrology. (iii) The curve
298 shape of discharge fluxes differs greatly between the first and last decades of simulation.
299

300 The difference between the first and last decades of the simulation in Fig. 4b is mostly
301 attributable to a large increase in the DOC flux mobilised by spring freshet waters that
302 culminate in the early summer outflow of DOC to the ocean, which generate the peaks in
303 DOC flux. This suggests both greater peaks in simulated DOC flux and a shift to earlier
304 peak timing, owing to an increase in river discharge indicative of an earlier spring and a
305 progressively warmer environment. (iv) The maximum modeled modern monthly DOC
306 flux rate of $\sim 1.3 \text{ TgC month}^{-1}$ (Fig. 4b, solid red line) is comparable to the mean
307 maximum DOC flux rate measured in a recent study, which showed that the aggregate
308 carbon discharge flux of the Lena River over its 2-month peak period in 2013 was 3.5
309 TgC, giving a mean flux of $1.75 \text{ TgC month}^{-1}$ (Kutscher et al., 2017, Fig. 2).
310

311 The monthly pattern of DOC discharge approximates the seasonal pattern found in an
312 empirical Pan-Arctic DOC discharge study by Raymond et al. (2007), which they take to
313 represent total Lena river DOC discharge. The latter study, which looks at Pan-Arctic
314 DOC discharge rates, finding them to be 15-20% higher than in prior estimates, gives
315 discharge maxima in May, whereas our simulated maxima are in June. We compare the
316 Raymond et al. (2007) modern DOC outflow (Fig. 4d, solid black line) from the Lena
317 river at Zhigansk (Raymond et al., 2007) against simulated DOC outflow from the
318 Zhigansk site as well as from the river outflow site (Kusur) 500km downstream (Fig. 4d,
319 solid blue and solid red lines, respectively).
320

321 Simulated DOC flux is underestimated for both sites. Peakflow at Zhigansk seems to be
322 attenuated over May and June in simulations, as opposed to May peakflow in
323 observations, while peakflow at Kusur is definitively in June. This suggests that
324 simulated outflow timing at Zhigansk may slightly delayed, causing a split in peak
325 discharge when averaged in the model output. Thus the aggregation of model output to
326 monthly averages from calculated daily and 30 minute timesteps can result in the
327 artificial imposition of a normative temporal boundary (i.e. month) on a continuous
328 series. This may cause the less distinctive 'sharp' peak seen in Fig. 4d, which is instead
329 simulated at the downstream Kusur site, whose distance some 500km away from
330 Zhigansk more clearly explains the delay difference in seasonality.
331

332
333 We further evaluate our DOC discharge at the sub-basin scale, to see if the simulated
334 aggregate flux exiting the Lena river mouth is composed of a coarsely realistic
335 breakdown of source matter geography. In other words, whether the fractional
336 contribution of different DOC flows from rivers draining the simulated Lena basin
337 correspond to those in the observed basin. This comparison is depicted in Fig. 5, where,
338 again using data from Kutscher et al., (2017), the observed and simulated percentage
339 DOC contributions of the Aldan, Vilui, and Upper and Lower Lena sub-basins to total flux
340 rates are 19 (24)%, 20(10%), 33 (38%) and 30 (28)% in simulations (observations) for
341 the four basins, respectively.
342



343 While deviations between simulation and observation can be expected given the
344 difference in magnitude and timing of DOC discharge previously discussed, in addition
345 to interannual variability, the nearly twofold value mismatch of the Vilui basin likely has
346 its roots in the fact in its real-world damming, not represented here. On the other hand,
347 we cannot explain the ~5% discrepancies in other sub-basin fluxes, particularly for the
348 Aldan.

349
350 Of the shortcomings in our model with respect to observations, year-on-year variations
351 over the decade 1998-2007 may be of significance, given that the Holmes et al. (2012)
352 and Raymond et al. (2007) DOC discharge values are significantly higher than total
353 organic carbon (DOC+POC) outflow estimates (~5.0-5.4 TgC yr⁻¹, Fig. 4a blue boundary)
354 as presented in Lara et al. (1998). To this we can add scale-related inaccuracies in the
355 routing protocol that can lead to small geographic inconsistencies in simulated versus
356 observed phenomena, as well as the exclusion of explicit peatland formation and related
357 dynamics in this model, which is the subject of further model developments within the
358 ORCHIDEE-MICT envelope (Qiu et al., 2018) that have yet to be included in this
359 iteration. With peatlands thought to cover ~17% of the Arctic land surface (Tarnocai et
360 al., 2009), and with substantially higher leaching concentrations, this may be a
361 significant omission from our model's representation of high latitude DOC dynamics.

362 363 4.3 DOC Concentrations in lateral transport

364
365 The range of simulated riverine DOC concentrations approximates those found in the
366 literature for the Lena and other Eurasian high-latitude river basins (e.g. Arctic-GRO 1
367 (<https://www.arcticgreatrivers.org/data>); Denfeld et al., 2013; Mann et al., 2015;
368 Raymond et al., 2007; Semiletov et al., 2011). In those for the Lena, observed average
369 DOC concentrations hover at ~10mgC L⁻¹. Likewise, simulated DOC concentrations
370 mostly lie in the range of 0-10 mgC L⁻¹, with monthly grid cell maxima of 1-200 mgC L⁻¹,
371 and on flow-weighted average exhibit the observed seasonal range and amplitude.
372 Figure 6 summarises some of this simulated output, showing maps of mean monthly
373 DOC concentration for stream water, river water and groundwater (Fig. 6a,b,c,
374 respectively) in April, June and September –the beginning, middle and end of the non-
375 frozen period in the basin, respectively, over 1998-2007.

376
377 For both the stream and river water reservoirs, DOC concentrations appear to have
378 spatio-temporal gradients correlated with the flux of water over the basin during the
379 thaw period, with high concentrations of 10-15 mgC L⁻¹ as the snow and ice melts in
380 April in the upstream portions of the basin, these high concentrations moving
381 northward to the coldest downstream regions of the basin in June. Lower DOC
382 concentrations of ~5 mgC L⁻¹ dominate the basin in September when the bulk of
383 simulated lateral flux of DOC has dissipated into the Laptev Sea, bearing in mind that we
384 underestimate the river discharge flux in the Autumn. In contrast, groundwater DOC
385 concentrations are generally stable with time, although some pixels appear to
386 experience some 'recharge' in their concentrations during the first two of the three
387 displayed thaw months. Significantly, highest groundwater DOC concentrations of up to
388 20 mgC L⁻¹ are focussed on the highest elevation areas of the Lena basin on its Eastern
389 boundary, which are characterized by a dominance of Podzols (SI, Fig. 2b).

390
391 This region, the Verkhoyansk range, is clearly visible as the high groundwater DOC



392 concentration (2–20 mgC L⁻¹) arc (in red) in Fig. 6a, as well as other high elevation areas
393 in the south-western portion of the basin (see Fig. 3a for the basin grid cell mean
394 topographic slope), while the central basin of very low mean topographic slope exhibits
395 much smaller groundwater DOC concentrations (0–2 mgC L⁻¹). The range of simulated
396 groundwater DOC concentration comes close to those aggregated from the empirical
397 literature by Shvartsev (2008) in his seminal review of global groundwater
398 geochemistry, which finds from >9000 observations that groundwater in permafrost
399 regions exhibit a mean concentration of ~10 mgC L⁻¹ after peatlands and swamps (not
400 simulated here) are removed (Table 2).

401

402 The high groundwater reservoir DOC concentrations simulated in high altitude regions
403 by ORCHIDEE MICT-L is related to the fact that, in the model, DOC is rapidly produced
404 and infiltrated deep into soil above the permafrost table, to the point that it reaches the
405 simulated groundwater pool relatively quickly, allowing it to enter this reservoir before
406 being metabolised through the soil column –hence allowing for the relatively high
407 groundwater concentrations found in mountain areas. Because of the prevailing low
408 temperatures, this DOC is not quickly decomposed by microbes and instead feed the
409 groundwater DOC pool.

410

411 **4.4 In-Stream CO₂ Production, Transport, Evasion**

412

413 In our model, the fate of DOC once it enters the fluvial system is either to remain as DOC
414 and be exported to the ocean, or to be degraded to dissolved CO₂ (CO_{2(aq.)}), which is
415 itself either also transported to the marine system or outgassed from the fluvial surface
416 to the atmosphere (see Part 1, Section 2.10). The latter two outcomes also apply to
417 CO_{2(aq.)} produced in the soil by organic matter degradation and subsequently
418 transported by runoff and drainage flows to the water column. As shown in Fig. 2, a
419 large proportion of DOC (38%, 2.1 TgC yr⁻¹) that enters the water column is degraded to
420 CO_{2(aq.)} during transport, which adds to the 1.65 TgC yr⁻¹ of direct CO_{2(aq.)} input from the
421 terrestrial land surface. Of this bulk CO₂ exported into and generated within the water
422 column, 3.6 TgC yr⁻¹ evades from the water surface to the atmosphere before reaching
423 the river delta. In what follows, we evaluate first inputs of CO_{2(aq.)} to the water column in
424 terms of their seasonality, before evaluating CO₂ evasion rates and the relation of this to
425 smaller and larger water bodies (river versus stream).

426

427 The seasonality of riverine dissolved CO₂ concentrations (CO_{2(aq.)}, mgC L⁻¹) is evaluated
428 in Fig. 4d to compare CO_{2(aq.)} concentrations with DOC bulk flows, since CO_{2(aq.)}
429 concentrations follow an inverse seasonal pattern to those of DOC, being highest during
430 the winter baseflow period and lowest in summer due to dilution during its high
431 discharge phase (Semiletov et al., 2011). The simulated flow of CO_{2(aq.)} at Kusur (Fig. 4d,
432 dashed red) reproduces the seasonality of observations from Cauwet and Sidorov
433 (1996), who sampled the Lower Lena (ship-board, several sites in river delta region (see
434 Fig. 3a)), but somewhat underestimates concentrations, this perhaps due to the absence
435 of peat representation in our model, in combination with underestimated hydrological
436 discharge. Also included in Fig. 4d is the basin average for all non-zero values, whose
437 shape also tracks that of observations. Thus the model represents on the one hand
438 increasing hydrological flow mobilising increasing quantities and concentrations of DOC
439 while on the other hand those same increasing hydrological flows increasing the flux,
440 but decreasing the concentration, of CO_{2(aq.)} throughput.



441

442 To our knowledge, no direct measurements for CO₂ evasion from the surface of the Lena
443 river are available in the literature, presumably owing to the notorious difficulty in
444 successfully obtaining such data. We refer to Denfeld et al. (2013) for evaluating our
445 evasion flux results, since their basin of study, the Kolyma River, is the most
446 geographically proximate existing dataset to the Lena, despite biogeographical
447 differences between the two basins –namely that the Kolyma is almost entirely
448 underlain by continuous permafrost. The Kolyma River CO₂ evasion study measured
449 evasion at 29 different sites along the river basin (~158-163°E; 68-69.5°N), with these
450 sites distinguished from one another as ‘main stem’, ‘inflowing river’ or ‘stream’ on the
451 basis of reach length. The study showed that during the summer low-flow period
452 (August), areal river mainstem CO₂ evasion fluxes were ~0.35 gC m⁻² d⁻¹, whereas for
453 streams of stream order 1-3 (widths 1-19m), evasion fluxes were up to ~7 gC m⁻² d⁻¹,
454 and for non-mainstem rivers (widths 20-400m) mean net fluxes were roughly zero
455 (Table 3 of Denfeld et al., 2013). Thus, while small streams have been observed to
456 contribute to roughly 2% of the Kolyma basin surface area, their measured percentage
457 contribution to total basin-wide CO₂ evasion ~40%, whereas for the main stem the
458 surface area and evasion fractions were ~80% and 60%, respectively.

459

460 Results such as these, in addition to permafrost soil incubation experiments (e.g. Drake
461 et al., 2015; Vonk et al., 2013, 2015b, 2015a) suggest that small streams, which
462 represent the initial (headwater) drainage sites of these basins, rapidly process
463 hydrologically leached carbon to the atmosphere, and that this high-reactivity carbon is
464 a mix of recently thawed ancient permafrost material, as well as decomposing matter
465 from the previous growth year. This is given as evidence that the total carbon
466 processing of high-latitude rivers is significantly underestimated if only mainstem
467 carbon concentrations are used in the accounting framework, since a large amount of
468 carbon is metabolised to the atmosphere before reaching the site of measurement.

469

470 Figure 7 summarises some of the results from the simulated water body CO₂ outgassing
471 flux. Year-on-year variation in basin-wide evasion from river, stream and floodplain
472 sources combined exhibits a marked increasing trend over the course of the 20th
473 Century, increasing from a minimum of ~1.6 TgCO₂-C yr⁻¹ in 1901 to a maximum of ~4.4
474 TgCO₂-C yr⁻¹ in 2007, an increase of almost 300% (Fig. 7a). Smoothing the data over a 30
475 year running average yields a dampened net increase in basin-wide evasion of ~30%
476 over the historical period on this averaging scale (Fig. 7a). Thus yearly evasion flux is
477 some 105% of yearly DOC discharge to the coast from the Lena basin and 51% of C
478 exported from soils to headwaters as CO₂ or DOC. If we compare the mean yearly rate of
479 increase in absolute (TgC yr⁻¹) CO₂ evasion and DOC discharge based on linear
480 regression over the whole simulation period, it appears that the rate of increase of both
481 fluxes has been strikingly similar over the simulated 20th Century, with mean increases
482 of 11.1 GgC yr⁻¹ and 11.5 GgC yr⁻¹ per year for evasion and export, respectively.

483

484 The heterogeneity of CO₂ evasion from different sources in the model is most evident in
485 terms of their geographic distribution and relative intensity, as shown in the evasion
486 flux rate maps (tons grid cell⁻¹ d⁻¹) over floodplain, stream and river areas in April, June
487 and September (Fig. 8a-c). Whereas floodplains (Fig. 8a) tend to have some of the
488 highest evasion rates in the basin, their limited geographic extent means that their
489 contribution to basinwide evasion is limited for the whole Lena. Stream evasion



490 meanwhile (Fig.8b), tends to be broadly distributed over the whole basin, representing
491 the fact that small streams and their evasion are the main hydrologic connectors outside
492 of the main river and tributary grid cells, whereas river evasion (Fig. 8c) is clearly linked
493 to the hydrographic representation of the Lena main stem itself, with higher total
494 quantities in some individual grid cells than for the stream reservoir, yet distributed
495 amongst a substantially smaller number of grid cells. Whereas the stream reservoir has
496 greatest absolute evasion flux rates earlier in the year (April-May), maximum evasion
497 rates occur later in the year and further downstream for the river reservoir, reflecting
498 the fact that headwaters are first-order integrators of soil-water carbon connectivity,
499 whereas the river mainstem and tributaries are of a secondary order. Note that the
500 September values must be interpreted with caution, given the underestimation in our
501 simulations of the river discharge during the Autumn period.

502

503 The spatio-temporal pattern of increasing evasion over the simulation period is shown
504 in Fig. 7b as a Hovmöller difference plot, between the last and first decade, of log-scale
505 average monthly evasion rates per latitudinal band. This shows that the vast majority of
506 outgassing increase occurs between March and June, corresponding to the progressive
507 onset of the thaw period moving northwards over this timespan. Although relatively
508 small, outgassing increases are apparent for most of the year, particularly at lower
509 latitudes. This would suggest that the change is driven most acutely by relatively greater
510 temperature increases at higher latitudes ('Arctic amplification' of climate warming, e.g.
511 Bekryaev et al., 2010) while less acute but more temporally homogenous evasion is
512 driven by seasonal warming at lower latitudes.

513

514 As previously discussed, the proportion of total basin-wide CO₂ evasion attributable to
515 headwater streams and rivers is substantially greater than their proportion of total
516 basin surface area. Figure 7c represents the mean monthly fractional contribution of
517 each surface hydrological water pool to the total evasion flux (unitless) over the period
518 1998-2007. This shows that over the entirety of the thaw period, the stream water pool
519 takes over from the river water pool as the dominant evasion source, particularly at the
520 height of the freshet period, where its fractional contribution rises to >75%.

521

522 The stream fraction of August outgassing is roughly 57% of the annual total, which is
523 higher than the ~40% found for streams in the Denfeld et al. (2013) study. However,
524 the values between the two studies are not directly comparable, different basins
525 notwithstanding. This is because in ORCHIDEE MICT-L, the 'stream' water reservoir is
526 water routed to the river network for all hydrologic flows calculated to not cross a 0.5
527 degree grid cell boundary (the resolution of the routing module, explained in Part 1,
528 Section 2.6), which may not be commensurate with long, <20m width streams in the
529 real-world, that were used in the Denfeld et al. (2013) study. In addition, this 'stream'
530 water reservoir in the model does not include any values for width or area in the model,
531 so we cannot directly compare our stream reservoir to the <20m width criterion
532 employed by Denfeld et al. (2013) in their definition of an observed stream. Thus our
533 'stream' water reservoir encompasses substantially greater surface area and hydrologic
534 throughput than that in the Denfeld et al. study. We also add the qualification that
535 because of its coarse-scale routing scheme, ORCHIDEE isn't able to simulate stream
536 orders lower than 4 or 5 thus missing a potentially substantial vector for the water-
537 surface evasion of CO₂.

538



539 Significantly, also shown in Fig. 7c, is the gradual onset of evasion from the floodplain
540 reservoir in April, as the meltwater driven surge in river outflow leads to soil inundation
541 and the gradual increase of proportional evasion from these flooded areas over the
542 course of the summer, with peaks in June-August as water temperatures over these
543 flooded areas likewise peak. We stress the importance of these simulation results as
544 they concur with large numbers of observational studies (cited above) which show
545 smaller headwater streams' disproportionately large contribution to total outgassing
546 (Fig. 7c), this being due to their comparatively high outgassing rates (Fig. 7e). In
547 addition, the contribution of floodplains to evasion, an otherwise rarely studied feature
548 of high latitude biomes, is shown here to be significant.

549
550 A Hovmöller plot (Fig. 7d) of the monthly longitude-averaged stream reservoir fraction
551 of total evasion, gives some indication as to the spatio-temporal pattern under which
552 evasion from this hydrological pool evolves over the course of the year. From this we
553 can infer that: (i) The dominance of stream evasion begins in the most southern
554 upstream headwaters in the lower latitude thaw period (April-May), and trickles
555 northward over the course of the next two months, following the riverflow. (ii) The
556 intensity of stream water evasion is greatest in the lower latitude regions of the basin,
557 which we speculate is the result of higher temperatures causing a greater proliferation
558 of small thaw water-driven flows and evasion. (iii) Areas where the stream fraction is
559 not dominant or only briefly dominant during the summer (58-60°N, 63-64°N, 70-71°N)
560 are all areas where floodplain CO₂ evasion plays a prominent role at that latitudinal
561 band.

562
563 Although not directly comparable due to the previously mentioned issues arising from
564 our model-derived representation of 'stream' water versus those in the real world, we
565 evaluate the approximate rate of areal CO₂ efflux from the water surface against
566 observations from Denfeld et al. (2013). The 'approximate' caveat refers to the fact that
567 model output doesn't define a precise surface area for the stream water reservoir, which
568 is instead bundled into a single value representing the riverine fraction of a grid cell's
569 total surface area. Thus, in order to break down the areal outgassing for the stream
570 versus river water reservoirs, we derive an approximate value for the fractional area
571 taken up by rivers and streams in a simple manner: we weight the total non-floodplain
572 inundated area of each grid cell by the relative total water mass of each of the two
573 hydrological pools, then divide the total daily CO₂ flux simulated by the model by this
574 value. The per-pool areal estimate is an approximation since it assumes that rivers and
575 streams have the same surface area: volume relationship. This is clearly not the case,
576 since streams are generally shallow, tending to have greater surface area per increment
577 increase in depth than rivers. Thus, our areal approximations are likely underestimated
578 (overestimated) for streams (rivers), respectively.

579
580 The comparison of simulated results with those from Denfeld et al. (2013) are displayed
581 in Fig. 7e, which shows boxplots for simulated CO₂ evasion (gC m⁻² d⁻¹) from the stream
582 water reservoir and river water reservoir averaged over 1998-2007. The empirical
583 (Kolyma river) analog of this data, from which this plot is inspired (Fig. 4d in Denfeld et
584 al., 2013), is shown inset in the figure, with whiskers in their case denoting measured
585 maxima and minima. Median efflux was 1.1 (6) versus 0.4 (0.8) for stream and river,
586 respectively, in simulations (observations). Like the observations, simulated stream
587 efflux had a substantially greater interquartile range, mean (24.6) and standard



588 deviation (73) than total river efflux (1.3 and 7.2, respectively). Note that from ~700
589 non-zero simulation datapoints, 7 were omitted as ‘outliers’ from the stream reservoir
590 efflux statistics described below, because very low stream:river reservoir values skewed
591 the estimation of total approximate stream surface area values very low, leading to
592 extreme efflux rate values of 1-3000gC m⁻² d⁻¹ and are thus considered numerical
593 artefacts of the areal approximation approach used here.

594

595 4.5 Emergent Phenomena

596

597 4.5.1 DOC and mean annual air temperature

598

598 A key emergent property of DOC concentrations in soils and inland waters should be
599 their positive partial determination by the temperature of the environment under which
600 their rates of production occur, as has been shown in the literature on permafrost
601 regions, most notably in Frey & Smith (2005) and Frey & McClelland (2009).

602

603 Increasing temperatures should lead to greater primary production, thaw,
604 decomposition and microbial mobilisation rates, and hence DOC production rates,
605 leading to (dilution effects notwithstanding) higher concentrations of DOC in thaw and
606 so stream waters. Looking at this emergent property allows us to evaluate the soil-level
607 production of both DOC and thaw water at the appropriate biogeographic and temporal
608 scale in our model. This provides a further constraint on model effectiveness at
609 simulating existing phenomena at greater process-resolution.

610

611 Figure 9 compares three datasets (simulated and two observational) of riverine DOC
612 concentration (in mgC L⁻¹) plotted against mean annual air temperature (MAAT). The
613 simulated grid-scale DOC versus MAAT averaged over July and August (for
614 comparability of DOC with observational sampling period) of 1998-2007 is shown in
615 red, and observed data compiled by Laudon et al. (2012) and Frey and Smith (2005) for
616 sites in temperate/cold regions globally and peatland-dominated Western Siberia,
617 respectively. The Laudon et al. (2012) data are taken from 49 observations including
618 MAAT over the period 1997-2011 from catchments north of 43°N, and aggregated to 10
619 regional biogeographies, along with datapoints from their own sampling; those in the
620 Frey and Smith study are from 55-68°N and ~65-85°E (for site locations, see Laudon et
621 al. (2012), Table 1 and 2; Frey and Smith (2005), Fig. 1).

622

623 Fig. 9 can be interpreted in a number of ways. First, this MAAT continuum spans the
624 range of areas that are both highly and moderately permafrost affected and permafrost
625 free (Fig. 9, blue and green versus orange shading, respectively), potentially allowing us
626 a glimpse of the behaviour of DOC concentration as the environment transitions from
627 the former to the latter. Simulated Lena DOC concentrations, all in pixels with MAAT < -
628 2°C and hence all bearing continuous or discontinuous permafrost (‘permafrost-
629 affected’ in the figure), only exhibit a weakly positive response to MAAT on the scale
630 used ($y=6.05e^{0.03MAAT}$), although the consistent increase in DOC minima with MAAT is
631 clearly visible.

632

633 Second, the Laudon et al. (2012) data exhibit an increasing then decreasing trend over
634 the range of MAAT (-2°C to 10°C) in their dataset, which they propose reflects an
635 ‘optimal’ MAAT range for the production and transport of DOC, occupying the 0°C to 3°C
636 range (Fig. 9, red shading). Below this optimum range, DOC concentrations may be



637 limited by transport due to freezing, and above this, smaller soil carbon pools and
638 temperature-driven decomposition would suppress the amount of DOC within rivers.
639 Third, the lower end of the Laudon et al. (2012) MAAT values correspond to a DOC
640 concentration roughly in line with DOC concentrations simulated by our model at those
641 temperatures.

642
643 Fourth, DOC concentrations in the Frey and Smith (2005) data exhibit a broad scattering
644 in permafrost-affected sites, with concentrations overlapping those of our simulations
645 (Fig. 9, green shading), before rapidly increasing to very high concentrations relative to
646 the Laudon et al. (2012) data, as sites transition to permafrost-free (red shading,
647 $y=3.6_{MAAT}+29.4$). Their data highlight the difference in DOC concentration regime
648 between areas of high (Frey and Smith, 2005) and low (Laudon et al., 2012) peatland
649 coverage and the different response of these to temperature changes. Fifth, because our
650 simulation results largely correspond with the observed data where the MAAT ranges
651 overlap (green shading), and because our model does not include peatland specific
652 processes, we should expect our model to broadly follow the polynomial regression
653 plotted for the Laudon et al. (2012) data as temperature inputs to the model increase.
654 Figure 9 implies that this increase should be on the order of a doubling of DOC
655 concentration as a system evolves from a MAAT of -2°C to 2°C . In addition, as the Arctic
656 environment warms we should expect the response of DOC concentrations as a whole to
657 reflect a mix of both observationally-derived curves, as a function of peatland coverage.

659 4.5.2 DOC and topographic slope

660 Subsurface water infiltration fluxes and transformations of dissolved matter represent
661 an important, if poorly understood and observationally under-represented
662 biogeochemical pathway of DOC export to river main stems, involving the complex
663 interplay of slope, parent material, temperature, permafrost material age and soil
664 physical-chemical processes, such as adsorption and priming.

665
666 In the Lena basin, as in other permafrost catchments, topographic slope has been shown
667 to be a powerful predictor for water infiltration depth, and concentration and age of
668 dissolved organic carbon (Jasechko et al., 2016; Kutscher et al., 2017; McGuire et al.,
669 2005), with deeper flow paths and older, lower DOC-concentrated waters found as the
670 topographic slope increases. This relationship was shown in Fig. 4 of Kutscher et al.
671 (2017) who surveyed DOC concentrations across a broad range of slope angle values in
672 the Lena basin and found a distinct negative relationship between the two. We compare
673 the Kutscher et al. (2017) values with our model output, by plotting stream and river
674 DOC concentrations averaged per gridpoint over 1998-2007 against the topographic
675 map used in the routing scheme, versus their empirically derived data (Fig. 10). As
676 shown therein, a similar negative relationship between the two variables is clearly
677 apparent.

678
679 A similar relationship was found in temperate rivers by Lauerwald et al. (2012), and a
680 recent paper by Connolly et al. (2018), based on their observational data and a synthesis
681 of Pan-Arctic empirical literature. They showed that for Arctic catchments in general, the
682 relationship of DOC concentration in fluvial waters scaled in a consistent and strongly
683 negative manner against topographic slope. This was found for all Arctic catchments,
684 globally, prompting Connolly et al. to argue that topographic slope may be a type of



685 'master variable' for estimating fluvial DOC concentrations in the absence of viable *in*
686 situ measurement programs.

687

688 The reasoning for the negative slope-DOC concentration relationship is that as elevation
689 increases, temperature and primary production decreases. This leads to a thinner
690 organic soil layer, meaning that mineral soil plays a stronger role in shallow hydrologic
691 flowpaths, allowing for deeper infiltration and shorter residence time in a given soil
692 layer. In addition, steeper terrain leads to a lower soil water residence time and lower
693 moisture than in flat areas.

694

695 As a result, a given patch of soil matter will be exposed to leaching for less (residence)
696 time, while the organic matter that is leached is thought to be adsorbed more readily to
697 mineral soil particles, leading to either their re-stabilisation in the soil column or
698 shallow retention and subsequent heterotrophic respiration *in situ*, cumulatively
699 resulting in lower DOC concentrations in the hydrologic export (Kaiser and Kalbitz,
700 2012; Klaminder et al., 2011). This line of reasoning was recently shown to apply also to
701 deep organic permafrost soils (Zhang et al., 2017), although the degree to which this is
702 the case in comparison to mineral soils is as yet unknown.

703

704 In addition, and as described in Part 1 (Section 2.5) of this study, MICT-L contains a
705 provision for increased soil column infiltration and lower decomposition rates in areas
706 underlain by Podzols and Arenosols. The map from the Harmonized World Soil Database
707 (Nachtergaele, 2010), which is used as the input to this criterion, shows areas underlain
708 by these soils in the Lena basin to also be co-incident with areas of high topographic
709 slope (Fig. 3a, SI, Fig S2b). Their Podzol effect is to increase the rate of decomposition
710 and infiltration of DOC, relative to all other soil types, thus also increasing the rate of
711 DOC flux into groundwater (see Part 1 of this study, Section 2.5).

712

713 Our modelling framework explicitly resolves the processes involved in these
714 documented dynamics –soil thermodynamics, solid vertical flow (turbation), infiltration
715 as a function of soil textures and types, adsorption as a function of soil parameters (see
716 Part 1 of this study, Section 2.11), DOC respiration as a function of soil temperature and
717 hence depth (Part 1, Section 2.12), lagging of DOC vertical flow behind hydrological
718 drainage flow (summary Figure in Part 1, Fig. 1). We thus have some confidence in
719 reporting that the simulated negative relationship of DOC concentration with
720 topographic slope may indeed emerge from the model. If generalisable to permafrost
721 basins as a whole, this relationship may be an emergent process-based signal with
722 which to evaluate the biogeographic performance of permafrost-region DOC modelling
723 initiatives in the future, as was recently suggested by Connolly et al. (2018).

724

725 **4.6 DOC Reactivity Pools**

726

727 Here we examine the reactivity of DOC leached from the soil and litter to different
728 hydrological export pools. Surface runoff DOC export is dominated by refractory carbon
729 (Fig. 11a), with export rates largely following discharge rates as they drain the basin
730 with an increasing delay when latitude increases. As the thaw period gets underway
731 (April), the fraction of labile carbon in surface runoff DOC increases substantially from
732 south to north, reflecting the hydrologic uptake of the previous year's undecomposed
733 high-reactivity organic matter, as well as the addition of new inputs from the onset of



734 the current year's growing season.

735

736 Refractory carbon-dominated drainage DOC export rates (Fig. 11a) are centered on the
737 months June through October, with refractory export rate intensities per latitudinal
738 band during this period largely consistent with the fraction of inundated area (Fig. S1)
739 experienced by these bands during the course of the year, these centering on the areas
740 bounded by 52-65N and 70-72N. The high refractory proportion of drainage flow is
741 expected, as drainage leaches older, relict soil and litter matter. Because of its longer
742 water residence time, labile DOC carried vertically downward through the soil
743 infiltration flux will tend to be metabolised in situ before it can be exported to the
744 hydrological network, thus further increasing the proportion of refractory carbon.

745

746 By contrast floodplain DOC export (Fig. 11a) is dominated by the labile carbon pool but
747 is composed of more nuanced mix of both reactivity classes, reflecting its relatively
748 greater dependence on the current year's 'fresh' biomass as source material (62% labile
749 DOC versus 38% refractory DOC, year-averaged) for carbon leaching. This can be
750 expected, since DOC and CO₂ production that would normally occur first in soil free DOC
751 concentrations before being gradually exported into surface runoff and drainage inputs
752 to the hydrological network are instead directly supplied to the water column as they
753 are generated, meaning that there is less of a time lag for the rapid decomposition of the
754 labile portion than through the other two hydrological export pathways.

755

756 For both the river and stream pool, mean DOC concentrations are also dominated by
757 refractory carbon sources. Interestingly, very high concentrations in the stream
758 reservoir are maintained year-round in the northernmost reaches of the Lena basin, the
759 causes of which are not directly deducible from our data. Likely, very high stream
760 concentrations are obtained from the confluence of relatively low volumetric water
761 fluxes in these regions that owe themselves to the freezing temperatures, with these low
762 temperatures likewise retarding direct heterotrophic respiration of contemporary plant
763 litter and favouring instead their environmental mobilisation by hydrological leaching,
764 when liquid water is available for matter dissolution.

765

766 When averaged over the year, the dominance of the refractory DOC carbon pool over its
767 labile counterpart is also evident for all DOC inputs to the hydrological routing except
768 for floodplain inputs, as well as within the 'flowing' stream and river pools themselves.
769 This is shown in Table 2, where the year-averaged percentage of each carbon
770 component of the total input or reservoir is subdivided between the 'North' and 'South'
771 of the basin, these splits being arbitrarily imposed as the latitudinal mid-point of the
772 basin itself (63N). This reinforces the generalised finding from our simulations that
773 refractory carbon dominates runoff and drainage inflows to rivers (89% refractory, on
774 average), while floodplains export mostly labile DOC to the basin (64%), these values
775 being effectively independent of this latitudinal sub-division (Table 2). This may be
776 expected, given that almost the entire basin is underlain by continuous permafrost,
777 whereas in areas with discontinuous or sporadic permafrost, the combination of higher
778 primary productivity and so litter input, with seasonal thaw of labile permafrost soil
779 matter may be expected to substantially increase the labile portion of the overall sum of
780 these quantities. Nonetheless, there appears to be a small consistent difference between
781 North and South in the stream and river water DOC makeup, in that the labile portion
782 decreases between North and South ; this may be an attenuated reflection of the portion



783 of labile DOC that is decomposed to CO₂ within the water column during its transport
784 northward, affecting the bulk average proportions contained within the water in each
785 'hemisphere'.
786

787 **4.7 NPP and Soil Respiration**

788
789 Rates of yearly net primary production (NPP) for Russian and Siberian forests have been
790 inferred in situ from eddy flux and inventory techniques to range from 123-250 gC m⁻²
791 yr⁻¹ (Beer et al., 2006; Lloyd et al., 2002; Roser et al., 2002; Schulze et al., 1999;
792 Shvidenko and Nilsson, 2003). We likewise simulate a broad range of NPP carbon
793 uptake rates, of 61-469 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹ averaged per grid cell over the Lena basin, with a
794 mean value of 210 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹. NPP is heterogeneously distributed over space and
795 between PFTs (SI, Fig. S4c), with forests averaging 90 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹ and grasslands
796 averaging 104 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹ over the basin as a whole. Low values tended to originate in
797 basin grid cells with elevated topography or high mean slope, while the maximum value
798 was standalone, exceeding the next greatest by ~100 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹, and is most likely
799 caused by the edge effects of upscaling a coastal gridcell's small fraction of terrestrial
800 area where high productivity occurs in a small plot, to the grid cell as a whole. By
801 evaluating NPP we are also evaluating at a secondary level litter production, which is at
802 a third level a major component of DOC production.

803
804 Taken as a whole, gross primary production (GPP) was performed under simulations by
805 four PFT groups, with the largest basin-wide bulk contributions coming from boreal
806 needleleaf summer-green trees and C3 grasses (SI, Fig. S4a), the highest GPP uptake
807 rates (3 TgC pixel⁻¹ yr⁻¹) generated by boreal needleleaf evergreen trees, and the
808 remainder of GPP contributed by Boreal broad-leaved summer-green trees (SI, Fig. S4a).
809

810 Soil respiration rates, of combined soil heterotroph and plant root respiration in our
811 Control simulation, averaged 208 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹ (0.57 gC m⁻² d⁻¹) over the Lena basin over
812 the period 1990-2000, which is somewhat higher than those found by Elberling (2007)
813 in forest soils over Svalbard, of 103-176 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹ (0.28-0.48 gC m⁻² d⁻¹). Sawamoto, et
814 al. (2000) measured in situ summertime soil respiration over the central Lena basin and
815 found rates of 1.6-34 gC m⁻² d⁻¹, while Sommerkorn (2008) observed rates of 0.1-3.9 gC
816 m⁻² d⁻¹ at higher latitudes, these appearing to vary with vegetation and fire history,
817 water table depth and temperature. Mean heterotrophic respiration rates of 1.6 gC m⁻²
818 d⁻¹ are simulated here during July and August, in the range 0.0-2.2 gC m⁻² d⁻¹ for each of
819 the above PFT groups. The spatial distribution of, and difference in respiration rates
820 between PFT groups largely mirrors those for NPP (SI Fig. S4c), with maximum rates of
821 1.4 gC m² d⁻¹ over forested sites, versus a maximum of 2.2 gC m² d⁻¹ over
822 grassland/tundra sites (SI, Fig. S4b).

823
824 Aggregated over the basin, results show that increases over the course of the 20th
825 Century were simulated for NPP, GPP, River Discharge, DOC, CO_{2(aq.)}, autotrophic and
826 heterotrophic respiration and CO₂ evasion, with percentage changes in the last versus
827 first decade of +25%, +27%, 38%, +73%, +60%, +30%, +33% and +63%, respectively.
828 (Fig. 11b). It thus appears that rising temperatures and CO₂ concentrations
829 disproportionately favoured the metabolisation of carbon within the soil and its
830 transport and mineralisation within the water column, fed by higher rates of primary
831 production and litter formation as well as an accelerated hydrological cycle (see Fig. 4b



832 and 13a).

833

834 In Figure 11c we run linear regressions through scatter-plots of yearly DOC and CO₂
835 export and CO₂ evasion fluxes, versus rates of NPP (TgC yr⁻¹). These show that whereas
836 bulk DOC flux appears most sensitive (steeper slope) to increases in NPP, it is also least
837 coupled to it (more scattered, R²=0.42). CO₂ evasion is least sensitive yet most tightly
838 coupled to NPP (R²=0.52), while CO₂ export is intermediate between the two for both
839 (R²=0.43) –this is expected given that CO₂ export is also the intermediate state between
840 DOC export and CO₂ evasion. The greater scattering of DOC:NPP compared to
841 evasion:NPP is understandable, given that the initial of leaching is a covariate of both
842 primary production and runoff, whereas the actual evasion flux is largely dependent on
843 organic inputs (production) and temperature.

844

845 **4.8 Land-Ocean Aquatic Continuum (LOAC)**

846

847 **4.8.1 LOAC Fluxes**

848

849 Overall, our simulation results show that dissolved carbon entering the Lena river
850 system is significantly transformed during its transport to the ocean. Taking the average
851 throughput of carbon into the system over the last ten years of our simulation, our
852 results show that whereas 7 TgC yr⁻¹ (after reinfiltration following flooding of 0.45 TgC
853 yr⁻¹; see Fig. 2 ‘Return’ flux) of carbon enters the Lena from terrestrial sources as
854 dissolved carbon and CO₂, only 3.4 TgC yr⁻¹ is discharged into the Laptev Sea and
855 beyond from the river mouth. The remainder (3.6TgC yr⁻¹) is metabolised in the water
856 column during transport and evaded to the atmosphere (bottom panel, Fig. 12a). The
857 terrestrial DOC inflow estimate is comparable to that made by Kicklighter et al. (2013),
858 who estimated in a modelling study terrestrial dissolved carbon loading of the Lena is
859 ~7.7 TgC yr⁻¹.

860

861 The relative quantities of carbon inflow, evasion and outflow in the river system that are
862 presented for the Lena in Fig. 12a can be compared to the same relative quantities –that
863 is, the ratios of evasion:in and out:in, where ‘in’ refers to dissolved terrestrial input, –
864 from the global study by Cole et al. (2007), who estimated these fluxes from empirical or
865 empirically-derived data at the global scale. This is shown in the top panel of Fig. 12a,
866 where we simplify the Cole et al. (2007) data to exclude global groundwater CO₂ flux
867 from the coast to the ocean (because our basin mask has a single coastal pixel whereas
868 coastal groundwater seepage is distributed along the entire continental boundary) and
869 the POC fraction of in-river transport and sedimentation (since ORCHIDEE MICT lacks a
870 POC erosion/sedimentation module) from their budget.

871

872 This gives global terrestrial dissolved carbon input of 1.45 PgC yr⁻¹, 0.7 PgC of which is
873 discharged to the ocean, and the other 0.75 PgC evaded to the atmosphere. Taking the
874 previously mentioned [evasion:in] and [out:in] ratios as a percentage, the outflow and
875 evasion fluxes for the Lena versus the global aggregate are remarkably similar, at 48.6
876 vs. 48.3% and 51.4 vs 51.7%, for the two respective flows. Thus our results agree with
877 the proposition that the riverine portion of the ‘land-ocean aquatic continuum’ (Regnier
878 et al., 2013) or ‘boundless carbon cycle’ (Battin et al., 2009) is indeed a substantial
879 reactor for matter transported along it.

880



881 **4.8.2 LOAC drivers**

882

883 The constant climate (CLIM) and constant CO₂ (CO₂) simulations were undertaken to
884 assess the extent –and the extent of the difference –to which these two factors are
885 drivers of model processes and fluxes. These differences are summarised in Figs. 12(b-
886 c), in which we show the same 1998-2007 –averaged yearly variable fluxes as in the
887 CTRL simulation, expressed as percentages of the CTRL values given in Fig. 2. A number
888 of conclusions can be drawn from these diagrams.

889

890 First, all fluxes are lower in the factorial simulations, which can be expected due to
891 lower carbon input to vegetation from the atmosphere (constant CO₂) and colder
892 temperatures (constant climate) inhibiting more vigorous growth and carbon cycling.
893 Second, broadly speaking, both climate and CO₂ appear to have similar effects on all
894 fluxes, at least within the range of climatic and CO₂ values to which they have subjected
895 the model in these historical runs. With regard to lateral export fluxes in isolation,
896 variable climate (temperature increase) is a more powerful driver than CO₂ increase
897 (see below). Third, the greatest difference between the constant climate and CO₂
898 simulation carbon fluxes appear to be those associated with terrestrial inflow of
899 dissolved matter to the aquatic network, these being more sensitive to climatic than CO₂
900 variability. This is evidenced by a 49% and 32% decline in CO₂ and DOC export,
901 respectively, from the land to rivers in the constant climate simulation, versus a 27%
902 and 23% decline in these same variables in the constant CO₂ simulation. Given that the
903 decline in primary production and respiration in both factorial simulations was roughly
904 the same, this difference in terrestrial dissolved input is attributable to the effect of
905 climate (increased temperatures) on the hydrological cycle, driving changes in lateral
906 export fluxes.

907

908 This would imply that at these carbon dioxide and climatic ranges, the modelled DOC
909 inputs are slightly more sensitive to changes in the climate rather than to changes in
910 atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration and the first order biospheric response to
911 this. However, while the model biospheric response to carbon dioxide concentration
912 may be linear, thresholds in environmental variables such as MAAT may prove to be
913 tipping points in the system's emergent response to change, as implied by Fig. 9,
914 meaning that the Lena, as with the Arctic in general, may soon become much more
915 temperature-dominated, with regard to the drivers of its own change.

916

917 **4.8.3 LOAC export flux considerations**

918

919 Despite our simulations' agreement with observations regarding the proportional fate of
920 terrestrial DOC inputs as evasion and marine export (Section 4.8.1, Fig. 12a), our results
921 suggest substantial and meaningful differences in the magnitude of those fluxes relative
922 to NPP in the Lena, compared to those estimated by other studies in temperate or
923 tropical biomes. Our simulations' cumulative DOC and CO₂ export from the terrestrial
924 realm into inland waters is equivalent to ~1.5 % of NPP.

925

926 This is considerably lower than Cole et al. (2007) and Regnier et al. (2013) who find
927 lateral transfer to approximate ~5% (1.9PgC yr⁻¹) of NPP at the global scale, while
928 Lauerwald et al. (2017) found similar rates for the Amazon. The cause of this
929 discrepancy with our results is beyond the scope of this study to definitively address,



930 given the lack of tracers for carbon source and age in our model. Nonetheless, our
931 analysis leads us to hypothesise the following.

932

933 Temperature limitation of soil microbial respiration at the end of the growing season
934 (approaching zero by October, SI Fig. S4d) makes this flux negligible from November
935 through May (SI Fig. S4d). In late spring, mobilisation of organic carbon is performed by
936 both microbial respiration and leaching of DOC via runoff and drainage water fluxes.
937 However, because the latter are controlled by the initial spring meltwater flux period,
938 which occurs before the growing season has had time to produce litter or new soil
939 carbon (May-June, Fig. 4b), aggregate yearly DOC transport reactivity is characterised by
940 the available plant matter from the previous year, which is overwhelmingly derived
941 from recalcitrant soil matter (Fig. 11a) and is itself less available for leaching based on
942 soil carbon residence times.

943

944 This causes relatively low leaching rates and riverine DOC concentrations (e.g. Fig. 9), as
945 compared to the case of leaching from the same year's biological production.
946 Highlighting this point are floodplains' domination by labile carbon sourced from that
947 year's production with a mean DOC concentration of 12.4 mgC L^{-1} (1998-2007 average),
948 with mean riverine DOC concentrations around half that value (6.9 mgC L^{-1}).
949 Nonetheless the May-June meltwater pulse period dominates aggregate DOC discharge.
950 As this pulse rapidly subsides by late July, so does the leaching and transport of organic
951 matter. Warmer temperatures come in conjunction with increased primary production
952 and the temperature driven soil heterotrophic degradation of contemporary and older
953 matter (via active layer deepening). These all indicate that transported dissolved matter
954 in rivers, at least at peak outflow, is dominated by sources originating in the previous
955 year's primary production, that was literally 'frozen out' of more complete
956 decomposition by soil heterotrophs.

957

958 Further, we infer from the fact that all of our simulation grid cells fall within areas of low
959 ($< -2^\circ\text{C}$) MAAT, far below the threshold MAAT ($> 3^\circ\text{C}$) proposed by Laudon et al. (2012)
960 for soil respiration-dominated carbon cycling systems (Fig. 9), that the Lena is
961 hydrologically-limited with respect to DOC concentration and its lateral flux. Indeed, the
962 seasonal discharge trend of the Lena –massive snowmelt-driven hydrological and
963 absolute DOC flux, coupled with relatively low DOC concentrations at the river mouth
964 (Fig. 4b, simulation data of Fig. 9), are in line with the Laudon et al. (2012) typology.

965

966 We therefore suggest that relatively low lateral transport relative to primary production
967 rates (e.g. as a percentage of net primary production, (%NPP)) in our simulations
968 compared to the lateral transport : NPP percentages reported from the literature in
969 other biomes is driven by meltwater (vs. precipitation) dominated DOC mobilisation,
970 which occurs during a largely pre-litter deposition period of the growing season. DOC is
971 then less readily mobilised by being sourced from recalcitrant matter, leading to low
972 leaching concentrations relative to those from labile material. As discharge rates
973 decline, the growing season reaches its peak, leaving carbon mobilisation of fresh
974 organic matter to be overwhelmingly driven by in situ heterotrophic respiration.

975

976 While we have shown that bulk DOC fluxes scale linearly to bulk discharge flows (Fig.
977 3d), DOC concentrations (mgC L^{-1}) hold a more complex and weaker positive
978 relationship with discharge rates, with correlation coefficients (R^2) of 0.05 and 0.25 for



979 river and stream DOC concentrations, respectively (Fig. 13). This implies that while
980 increasing discharge reflects increasing runoff and an increasing vector for DOC
981 leaching, particularly in smaller tributary streams, by the time this higher input of
982 carbon reaches the river main stem there is a confounding effect of dilution by increased
983 water fluxes which reduces DOC concentrations, explaining the difference between
984 stream and river discharge vs. DOC concentration regressions in the Figure. Thus, and
985 as a broad generalisation, with increasing discharge rates we can also expect somewhat
986 higher concentrations of terrestrial DOC input to streams and rivers. Over the
987 floodplains, DOC concentrations hold no linear relationship with discharge rates
988 ($R^2=0.003$, SI Fig. S5), largely reflecting the fact that DOC leaching is here limited by
989 terrestrial primary production rates more than by hydrology. To the extent that
990 floodplains fundamentally require flooding and hence do depend on floodwater inputs
991 at a primary level, we hypothesise that DOC leaching rates are not limited by that water
992 input, at least over the simulated Lena basin.

993
994 As discussed above simulated DOC and CO_2 export as a percentage of simulated NPP
995 over the Lena basin was 1.5% over 1998-2007. However, this proportion appears to be
996 highly dynamic at the decadal timescale. As shown in Fig. 11b, all lateral flux
997 components in our simulations increased their relative throughput at a rate double to
998 triple that of NPP or respiration fluxes over the 20th century, also doing so at a rate
999 substantially higher than the rate increase in discharge. In addition, differentials of
1000 these lateral flux rates with the rates of their drivers (discharge, primary production)
1001 have on average increased over the century (Fig. 11b). This suggests that there are
1002 potential additive effects of the production and discharge drivers of lateral fluxes that
1003 could lead to non-linear responses to changes in these drivers as the Arctic environment
1004 transforms, as suggested by the Laudon et al. (2012) data plotted in Fig. 4. Acceleration
1005 of the hydrological cycle compounded by temperature and CO_2 -driven increases in
1006 primary production could therefore increase the amount of matter available for
1007 leaching, increase the carbon concentration of leachate, and increase the aggregate
1008 generation of runoff to be used as a DOC transport vector. Given that these causal
1009 dynamics apply generally to permafrost regions, both low lateral flux as %NPP and the
1010 hypothesised response of those fluxes to future warming may be a feature particular to
1011 most high latitude river basins.

1012

1013 5. Conclusion

1014

1015 This study has shown that the new DOC-representing high latitude model version of
1016 ORCHIDEE, ORCHIDEE MICT-LEAK, is able to reproduce with reasonable accuracy
1017 modern concentrations, rates and absolute fluxes of carbon in dissolved form, as well as
1018 the relative seasonality of these quantities through the year. When combined with a
1019 reasonable reproduction of real-world stream, river and floodplain dynamics, we
1020 demonstrate that this model is a potentially powerful new tool for diagnosing and
1021 reproducing past, present and potentially future states of the Arctic carbon cycle. Our
1022 simulations show that of the 34 TgC yr^{-1} remaining after GPP is respired autotrophically
1023 and heterotrophically in the Lena basin, over one-fifth of this captured carbon is
1024 removed into the aquatic system. Of this, over half is released to the atmosphere from
1025 the river surface during its period of transport to the ocean, in agreement with previous
1026 empirically-derived global-scale studies. Both this transport and its transformation are
1027 therefore non-trivial components of the carbon system at these latitudes that we have



1028 shown are sensitive to changes in temperature, precipitation and atmospheric CO₂
1029 concentration. Our results, in combination with empirical data, further suggest that
1030 changes to these drivers –in particular climate –may provoke non-linear responses in
1031 the transport and transformation of carbon across the terrestrial-aquatic system’s
1032 interface as change progresses in an Arctic environment increasingly characterised by
1033 amplified warming.

1034

1035 **Code and data availability**

1036 The source code for ORCHIDEE MICT-LEAK revision 5459 is available via
1037 [http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/wiki/GroupActivities/CodeAvailabilityPublication/
1038 ORCHIDEE_gmd-2018-MICT-LEAK_r5459](http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee/wiki/GroupActivities/CodeAvailabilityPublication/ORCHIDEE_gmd-2018-MICT-LEAK_r5459)

1039

1040 Primary data and scripts used in the analysis and other supplementary information that
1041 may be useful in reproducing the author’s work can be obtained by contacting the
1042 corresponding author.

1043

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1048

1049

1050 **Authors' contribution**

1051 SB coded this model version, conducted the simulations and wrote the main body of the
1052 paper. RL gave consistent input to the coding process and made numerous code
1053 improvements and bug fixes. BG advised on the inclusion of priming processes in the
1054 model and advised on the study design and model configuration; DZ gave input on the
1055 modelled soil carbon processes and model configuration. PR contributed to the
1056 interpretation of results and made substantial contributions to the manuscript text. MG,
1057 AT and AD contributed to improvements in hydrological representation and floodplain
1058 forcing data. PC oversaw all developments leading to the publication of this study. All
1059 authors contributed to suggestions regarding the final content of the study.

1060

1061 **Competing interests**

1062 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

1063

1064 **Acknowledgements**

1065 Simon Bowring acknowledges funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020
1066 research and innovation program under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement
1067 No. 643052, ‘C-CASCADES’ program. Simon Bowring received a PhD grant. Matthieu
1068 Guimberteau acknowledges funding from the European Research Council Synergy grant
1069 ERC-2013-SyG-610028 IMBALANCE-P. RL acknowledges funding from the European
1070 Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement
1071 no.703813 for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Individual Fellowship “C-Leak”.

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1243 **Tables and Figures:**

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1245 **Table 1:** Summary describing of the factorial simulations undertaken to examine the
 1246 relative drivers of lateral fluxes in our model.

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Simulation Name	Abbreviation	Historical Input Data	Input* Held Constant
Control	CTRL	Climate, CO ₂ , Vegetation	None
Constant Climate	CLIM	CO ₂ , Vegetation	Climate
Constant CO ₂	CO ₂	Climate, Vegetation	CO ₂ (Pre-industrial)

*Historically-variable input

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1250 **Table 2:** Mean observed groundwater CO₂ and DOC concentrations for global
 1251 permafrost regions subdivided by biogeographic province and compiled by Shvartsev
 1252 (2008) from over 9000 observations.

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	Permafrost Groundwater Provinces			Average	Average (-Swamp)
	Swamp	Tundra	Taiga		
CO ₂ (mgC L ⁻¹)	12.3	14	10.8	12.4	12.4
DOC (mgC L ⁻¹)	17.6	10.1	9.3	12.3	9.7

1254

1255 **Table 3:** Summary of the average carbon reactivity types comprising the hydrological
 1256 inputs to rivers and streams (runoff, drainage and floodplain inputs), and within the
 1257 rivers and streams themselves, subdivided between the 'North' and 'South' of the Lena
 1258 basin (greater or less than 63N, respectively).

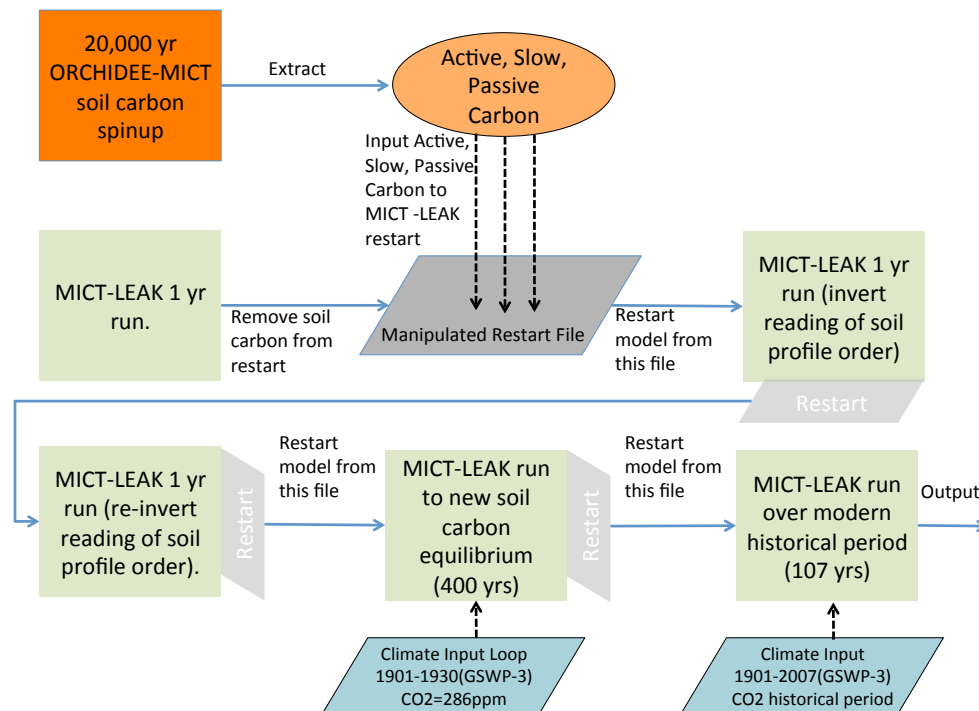
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Hydrological Source	Model Carbon Reactivity Pool	North	South
Runoff Input	Refractory	81%	83%
	Labile	19%	17%



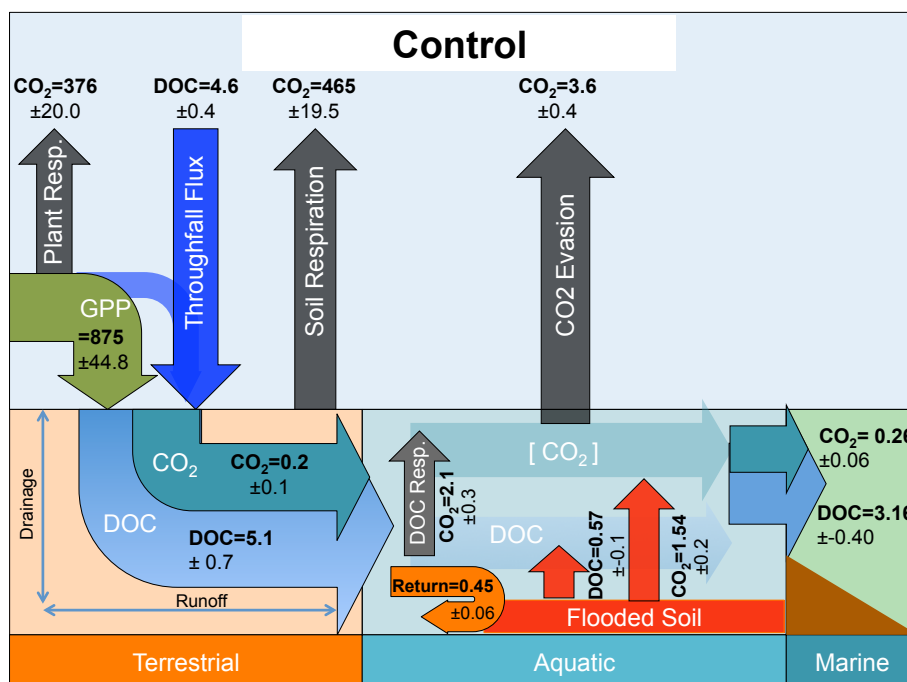
Drainage Input	Refractory	96%	94%
	Labile	4%	6%
Flood Input	Refractory	36%	37%
	Labile	64%	63%
Streams	Refractory	91%	89%
	Labile	9%	11%
Rivers	Refractory	92%	90%
	Labile	8%	10%

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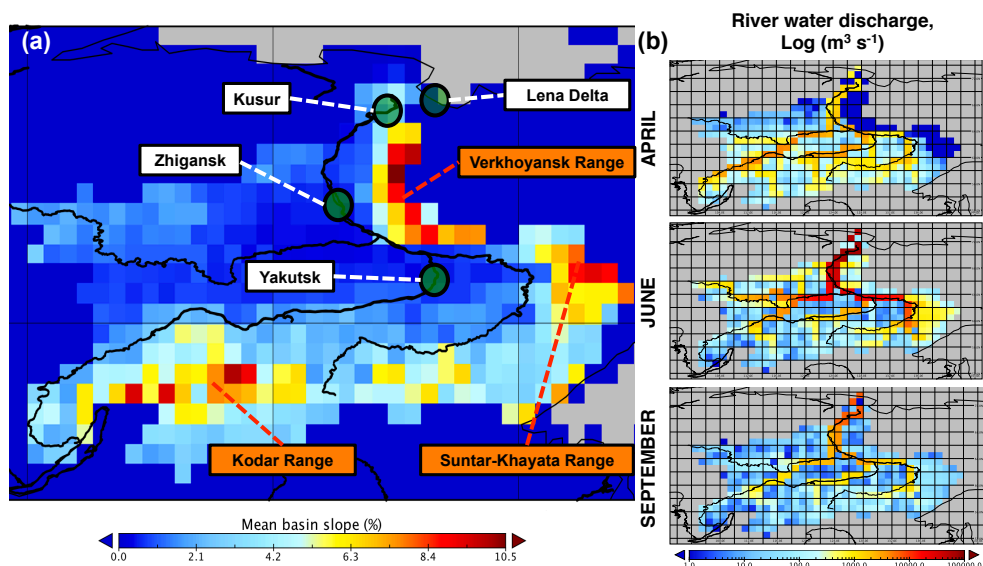


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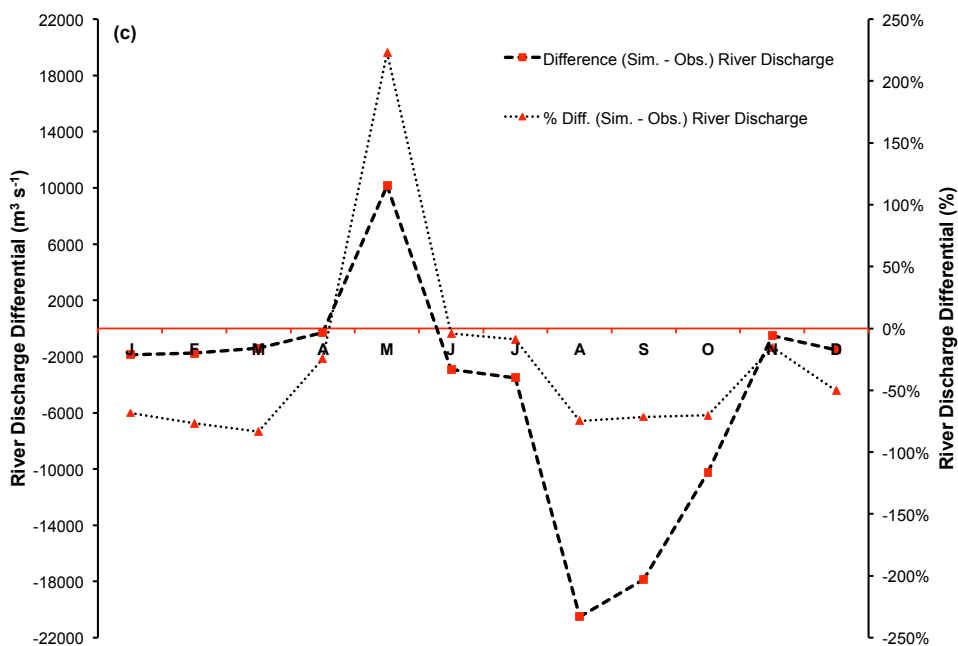
Figure 1: Flow diagram illustrating the step-wise stages required to set up the model, up to and including the historical period. The two stages that refer to the inverted reading of restart soil profile order point to the fact that the restart inputs from ORCHIDEE-MICT are read by our model in inverse order, so that one year must be run in which an activated flag reads it properly, before the reading of soil profile restarts is re-inverted for all subsequent years.



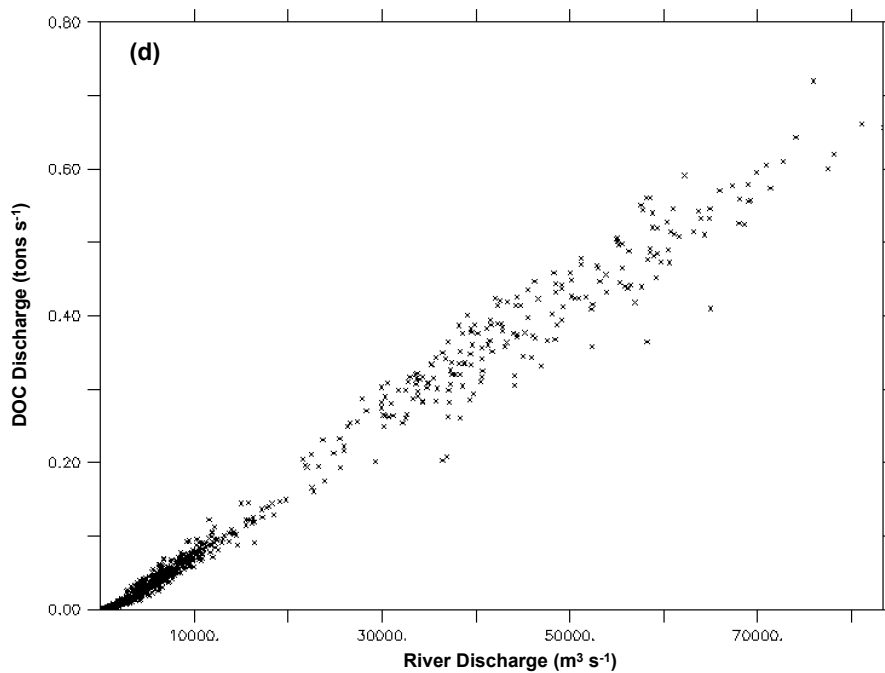
1270
 1271 **Figure 2:** Schematic diagrams detailing the major yearly carbon flux outputs (TgC yr⁻¹)
 1272 from the Control simulation averaged over the period 1998-2007 as they are
 1273 transformed and transported across the land-aquatic continuum.
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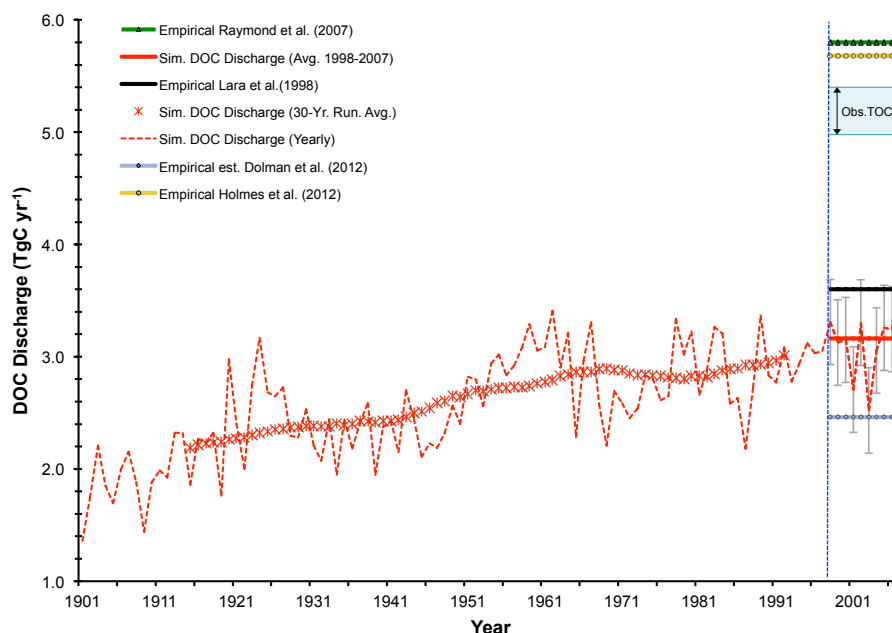


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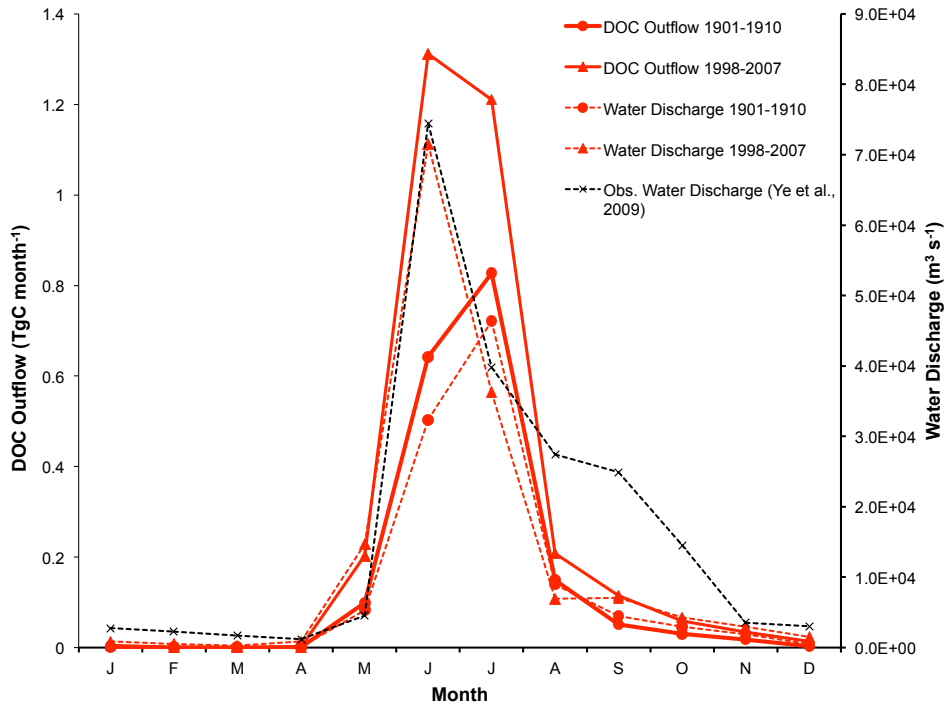


1281 **Figure 3:** Map of the Lena **(a)** with the scale bar showing the mean grid cell topographic
 1282 slope from the simulation, and the black line the satellite-derived overlay of the river
 1283 main stem and sub-basins. Mountain ranges of the Lena basin are shown in orange.
 1284 Green circles denote the outflow gridcell (Kusur) from which our simulation outflow
 1285 data are derived, as well as the Zhigansk site, from which out evaluation against data
 1286 from Raymond et al. (2007) are assessed. The regional capital (Yakutsk) is also included
 1287 for geographic reference. **(b)** Maps of river water discharge ($\log(\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1})$) in April, June
 1288 and September, averaged over 1998-2007. **(c)** The mean monthly river discharge
 1289 differential between observed discharge for the Lena (Ye et al., 2009) and simulated
 1290 discharge averaged over 1998-2007, in absolute ($\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$) and percentage terms. **(d)**
 1291 Regression of simulated monthly DOC discharge versus simulated river discharge at the
 1292 river mouth (Kusur) over the entire simulation period (1901-2007).

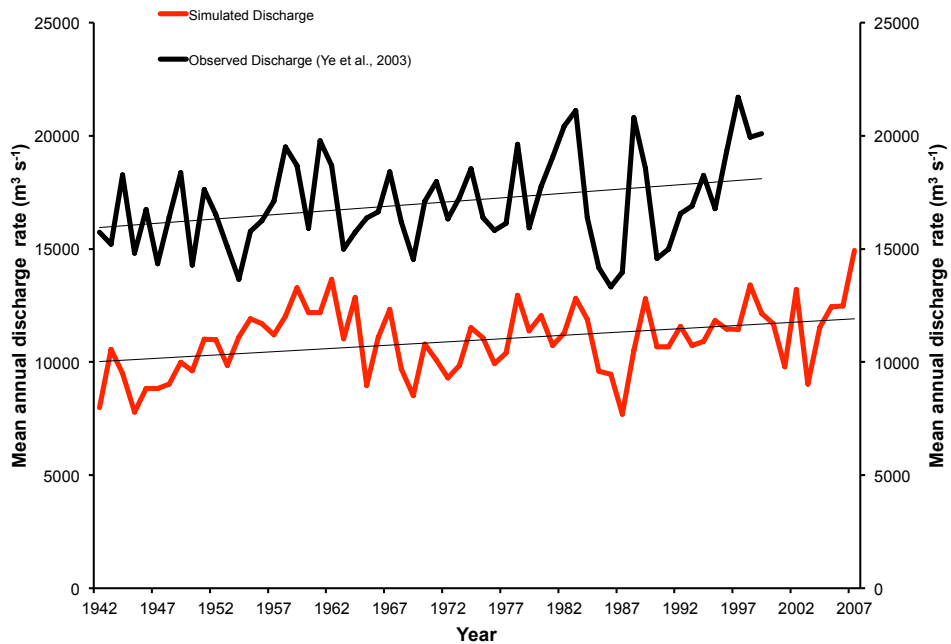
1293
 1294 **(a)**



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 1297 **(b)**



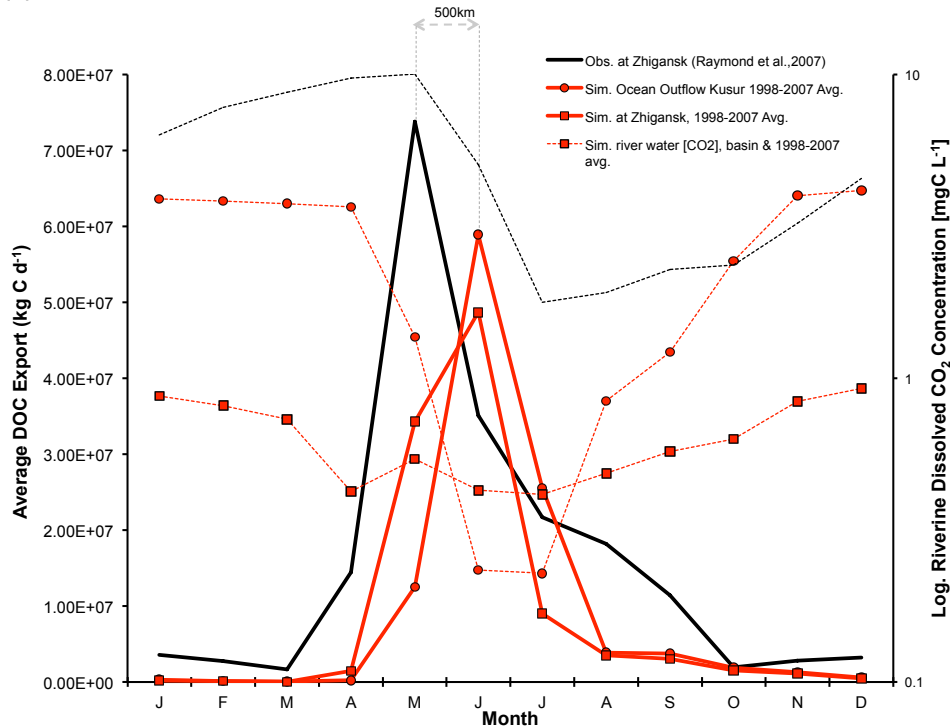
1298
 1299 (c)



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1301 (d)

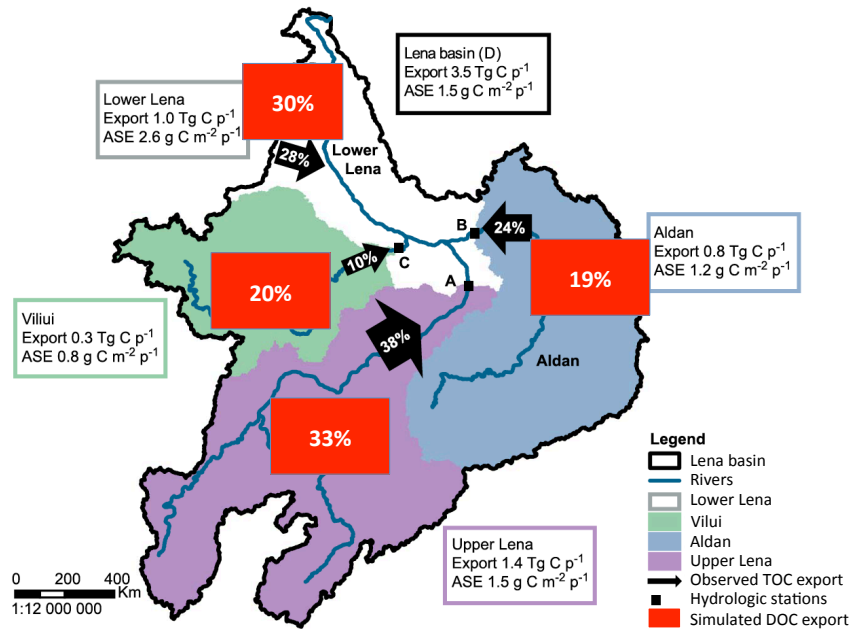


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Figure 4: (a) Yearly DOC discharged from the Lena river into the Laptev sea is shown here in tC yr^{-1} , over the entire simulation period (dashed red line), with the smoothed, 30-year running mean shown in asterisk. Observation based estimates for DOC discharge from Lara et al. (1998), Raymond et al. (2007), Dolman et al. (2012) and Holmes et al. (2012) are shown by the horizontal black, green triangle, blue diamond and yellow circle line colours and symbols, respectively, and are to be compared against the simulated mean over the last decade of simulation (1998-2007, horizontal red line), with error bars added in grey displaying the standard deviation of simulated values over that period. The range of estimates for total organic carbon discharged as shown in Lara et al. (1998) are shown by the blue bounded region, where TOC here refers to DOC+POC. (b) Average monthly DOC discharge (solid red, tC month^{-1}) and water discharge (dashed red, $\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$) to the Laptev Sea over the period averaged for 1901-1910 (circles) and 1997-2007 (squares) are compared, with modern maxima closely tracking observed values. Observed water discharge over 1936-2000 from R-ArcticNet v.4 (Lammers et al., 2001) and published in Ye et al. (2009) are shown by the dashed black line. (c) (d) Observed (black) and simulated (red) seasonal DOC fluxes (solid lines) and CO_2 discharge concentrations (dashed lines). Observed DOC discharge as published in Raymond et al. (2007) from 2004-2005 observations at Zhigansk, a site $\sim 500\text{km}$ upstream of the Lena delta. This is plotted against simulated discharge for: (i) the Lena delta at Kusur (red circles) and (ii) the approximate grid pixel corresponding to the Zhigansk site (red squares) averaged over 1998-2008. Observed CO_2 discharge from a downstream site (Cauwet & Sidorov, 1996; dashed black), and simulated from the

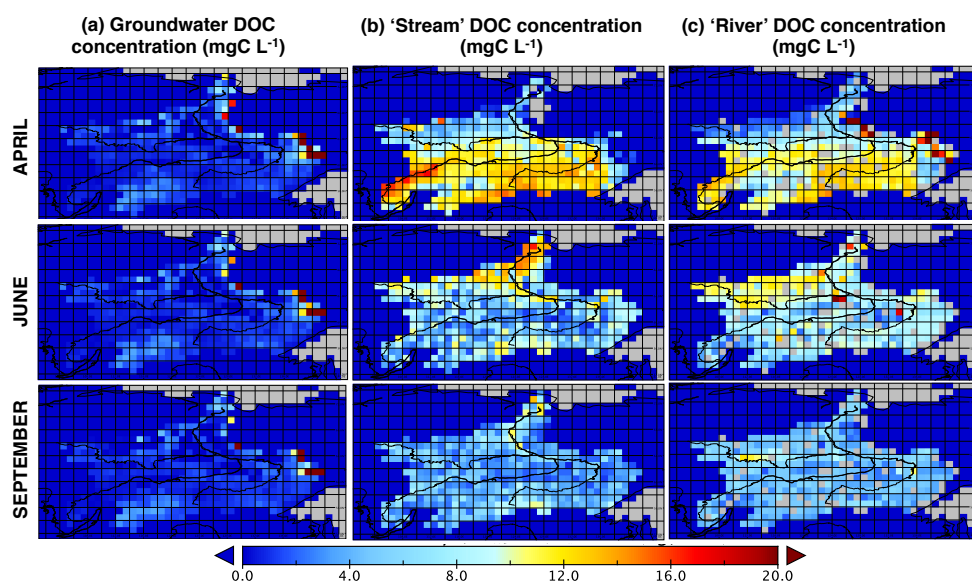


1327 outflow site (dashed circle) and the basin average (dashed square) are shown on the
 1328 log-scale right-hand axis for 1998-2008.
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Figure 5: Map adapted from Fig. 2 in Kutscher et al. (2017) showing proportional sub-basin contributions of TOC outflow to total TOC discharge in 2012-2013 as observed in Kutscher et al., 2017 (black arrows), and DOC export contributions as simulated over the period 1998-2007 by ORCHIDEE MICT-L (red boxes). Simulation pixels used in the calculation are correlates of the real-world sampling locations unless the site coordinates deviated from a mainstem hydrographic flowpath pixel –in which case a nearest ‘next-best’ pixel was used. Here the percentages are out of the summed mean bulk DOC flow of each tributary, not the mean DOC discharge from the river mouth, because doing so would negate the in-stream loss of DOC via degradation to CO₂ while in-stream.



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1345 **Figure 6:** Maps of (a) DOC concentrations (mgC L^{-1}) in groundwater ('slow' water pool),

1346 (b) stream water pool, (c) river water pool in April, June and September (first to third

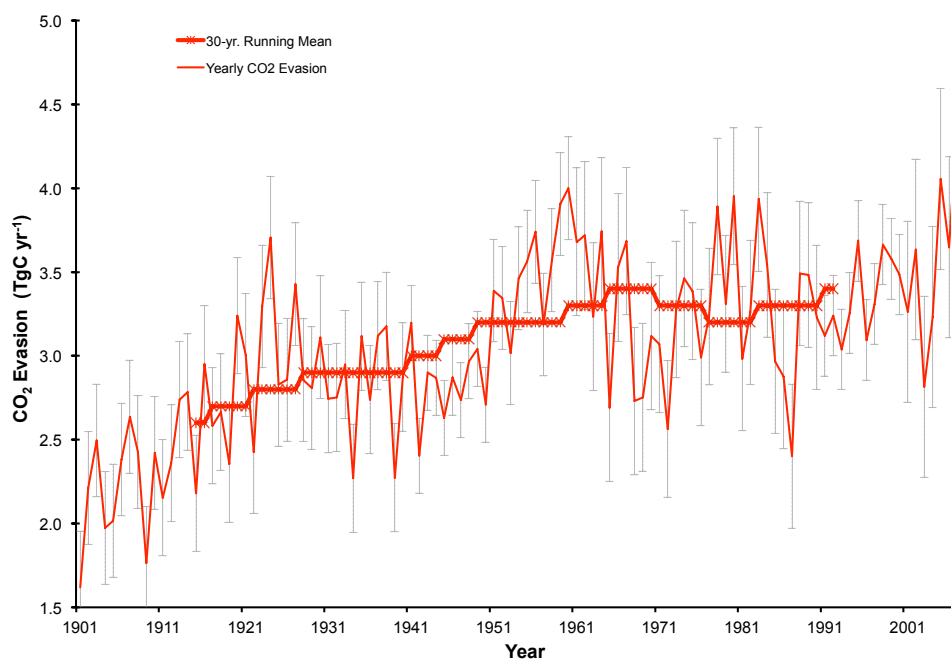
1347 rows, respectively), averaged over the period 1998-2007. The coastal boundary and a

1348 water body overlay have been applied to the graphic in black, and the same scale applies

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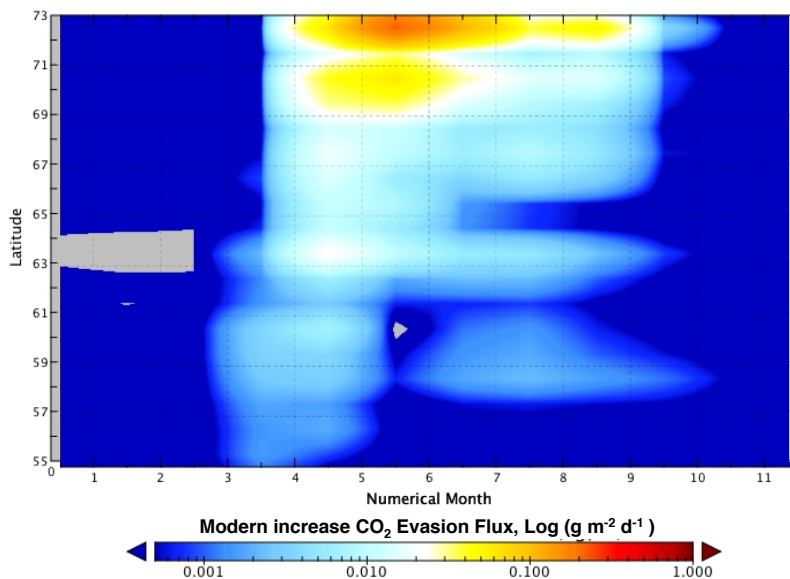
(a)



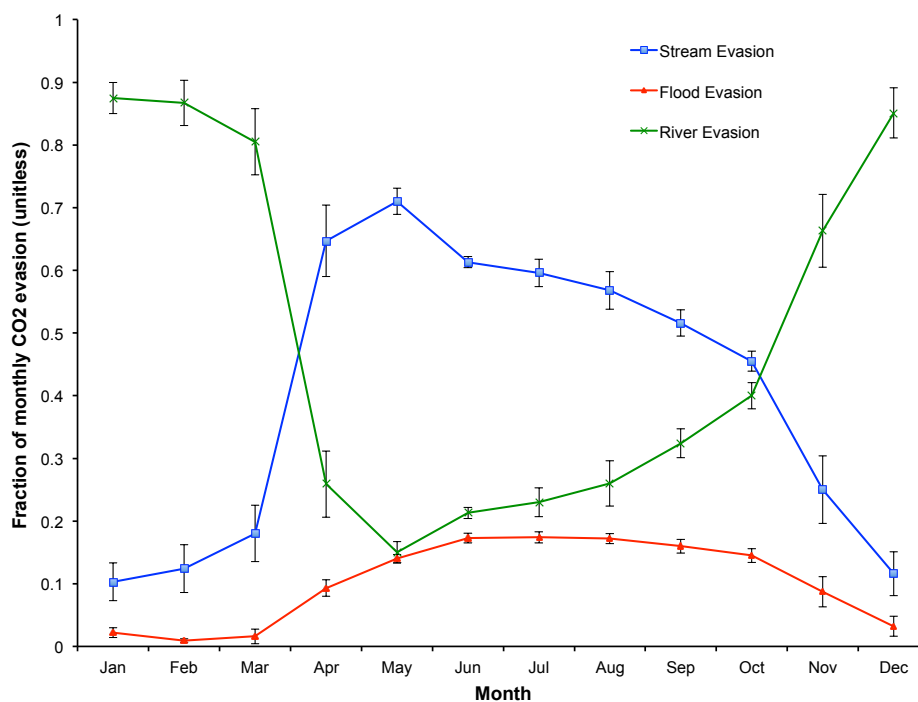
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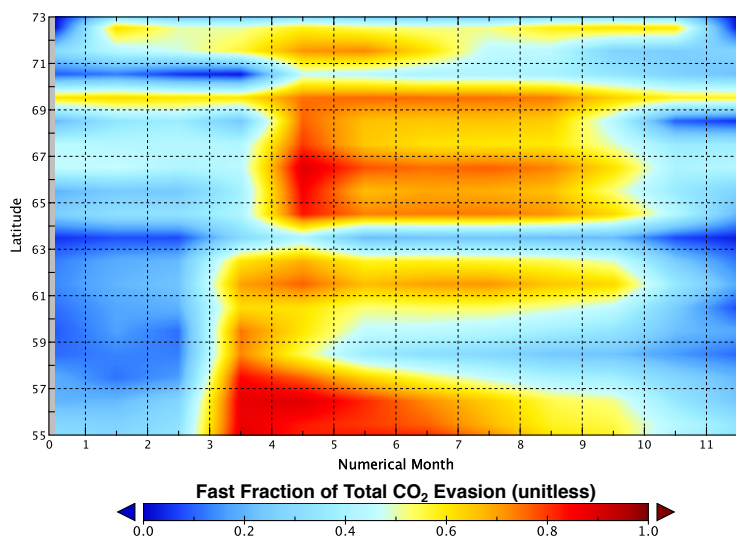
1352 (b)



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1354 (c)

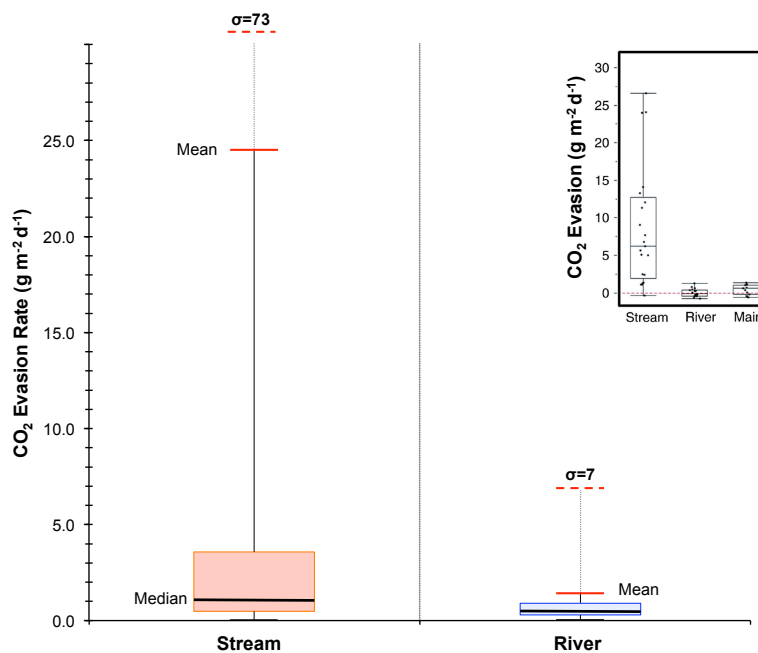


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1356 (d)



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(e)

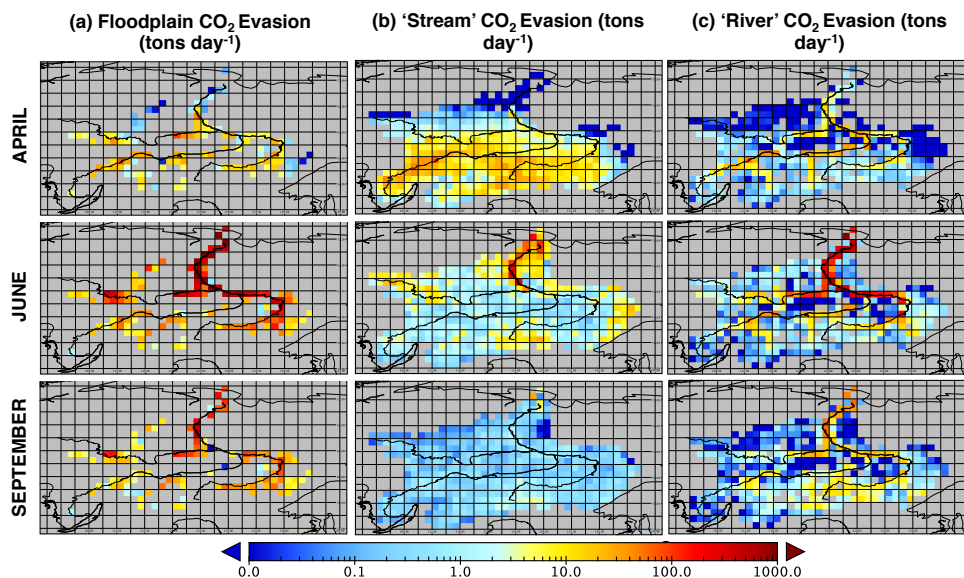


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Figure 7: CO₂ evasion from stream, river, flood reservoirs. **(a)** Timeseries of total yearly CO₂ evasion (tC yr⁻¹) summed over the three hydrological pools (red line) with

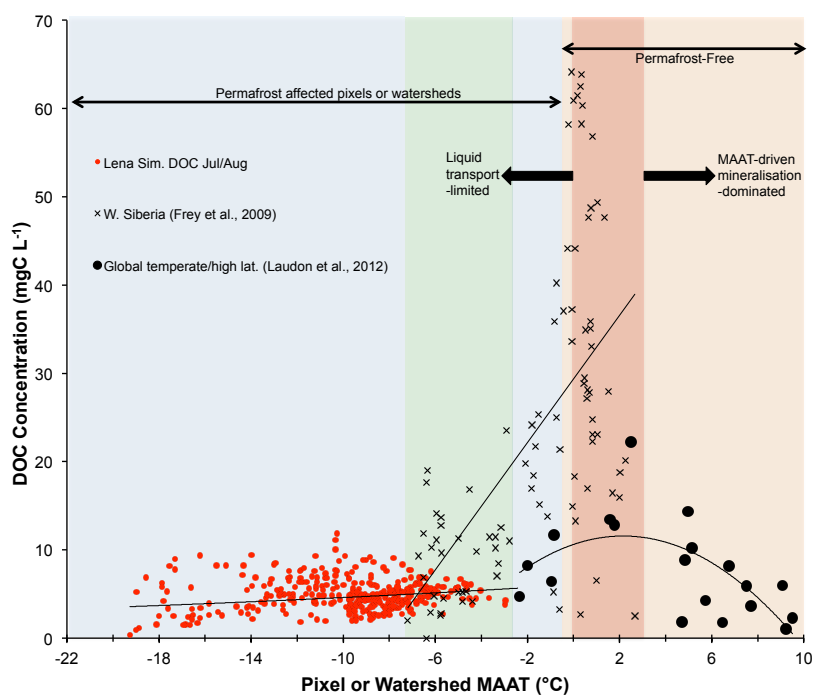


1366 the 30-year running mean of the same variable overlain in thick red (asterisk). Error
1367 bars give the standard deviation of each decade (e.g. 1901-1910) for each data point in
1368 that decade. **(b)** Log-scale Hovmöller diagram plotting the longitudinally-averaged
1369 difference (increase) in total CO₂ evaded from the Lena River basin between the average
1370 of the periods 1998-2007 and 1901-1910, over each monthly timestep, in (log) gC m⁻² d⁻¹.
1371 Thus as the river drains northward the month-on-month difference in water-body CO₂
1372 flux, between the beginning and end of the 20th Century is shown; **(c)** The fraction of
1373 total CO₂ evasion emitted from each of the hydrological pools for the average of each
1374 month over the period 1998-2007 is shown for river, flood and stream pools (blue,
1375 green and red lines, respectively), with error bars depicting the standard deviation of
1376 data values for each month displayed. **(d)** Hovmöller diagram showing the monthly
1377 evolution of the stream pool fraction (range 0-1) per month and per latitudinal band,
1378 averaged over the period 1998-2007. **(e)** Boxplot for approximate (see text) simulated
1379 CO₂ evasion (gC m⁻² d⁻¹) from the streamwater reservoir and river water reservoir
1380 averaged over 1998-2007. Coloured boxes denote the first and third quartiles of the
1381 data range, internal black bars the median. Whiskers give the mean (solid red bar) and
1382 standard deviation (dashed red bar) of the respective data. Empirical data on these
1383 quantities using the same scale for rivers, streams and mainstem of the Kolyma river
1384 from Denfeld et al., 2013 are shown inset.
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Figure 8: Maps of CO₂ evasion from the surface of the three surface hydrological pools, (a) the floodplains, (b) streams and (c) rivers in April, June and September. All maps use the same (log) scale in units of (tons pixel⁻¹ d⁻¹).



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1393 **Figure 9:** Mean summertime DOC concentrations (mgC L⁻¹) plotted against mean annual

1394 air temperature (MAAT, °Celsius) for simulated pixels over the Lena river basin (red

1395 circles), and observations for largely peat-influenced areas in western Siberia as

1396 reported in Frey et al., 2009 (black crosses), and observations from a global non-peat

1397 temperate and high latitude meta-analysis (black circles) reported in Laudon et al.

1398 (2012). The blue region represents permafrost-affected areas, while the orange region

1399 represents permafrost-free areas. The green region bounds the area of overlap in MAAT

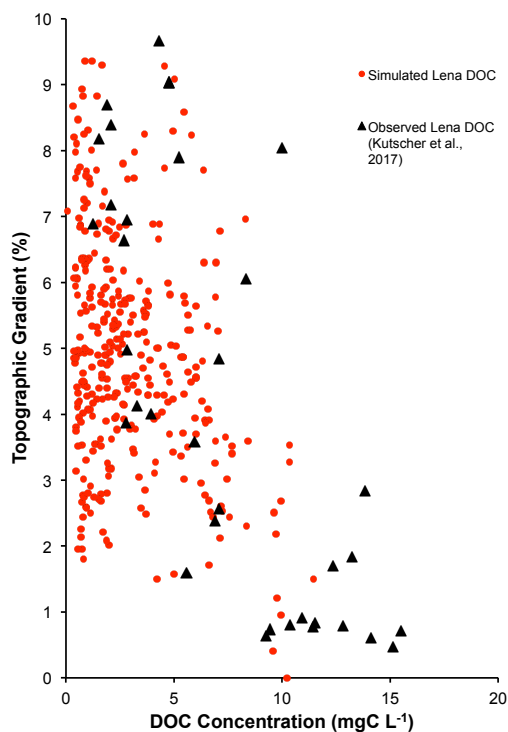
1400 between the observed and simulated datasets. The dark red shaded area corresponds to

1401 the MAAT 'zone of optimality' for DOC production and transport proposed by Laudon et

1402 al. (2012). Regression curves of DOC against MAAT for each of the separate datasets

1403 are shown for each individual dataset.

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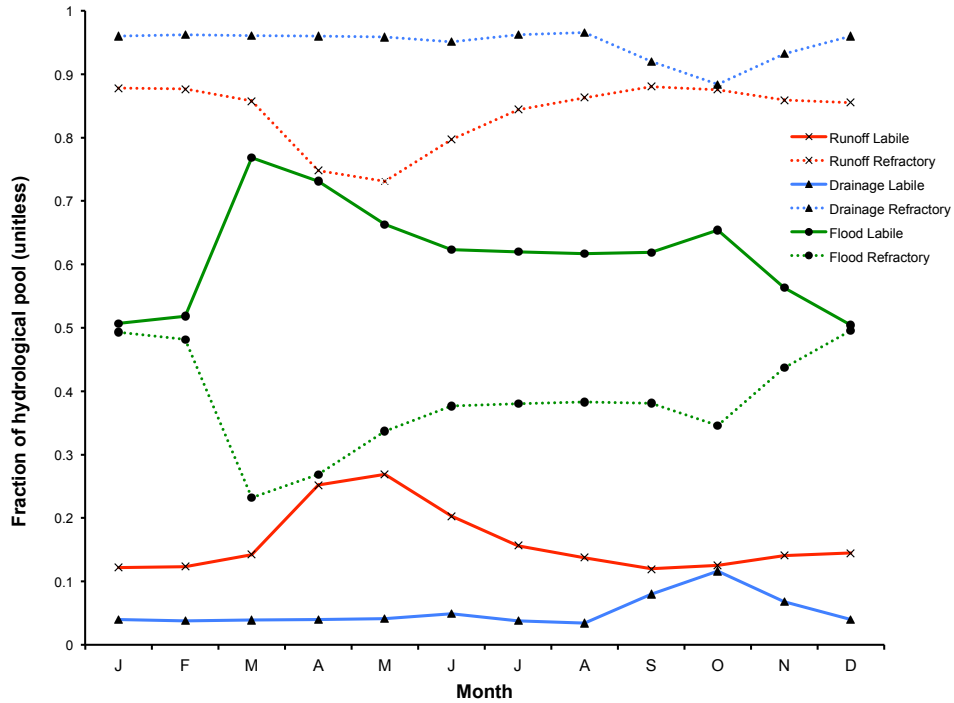
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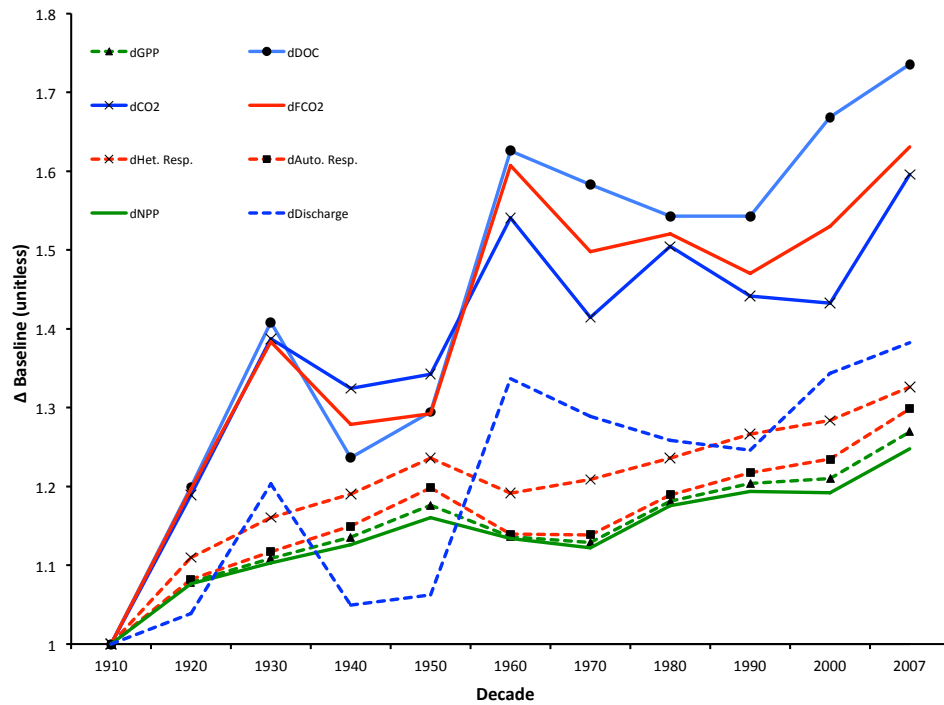
Figure 10: Variation of DOC concentrations versus topographic slope in Kutscher et al., 2017 (black triangles) and (red dots) as simulated and averaged for the summer months (JJA) over 1998-2007; observed values were measured during June and July 2012-2013.

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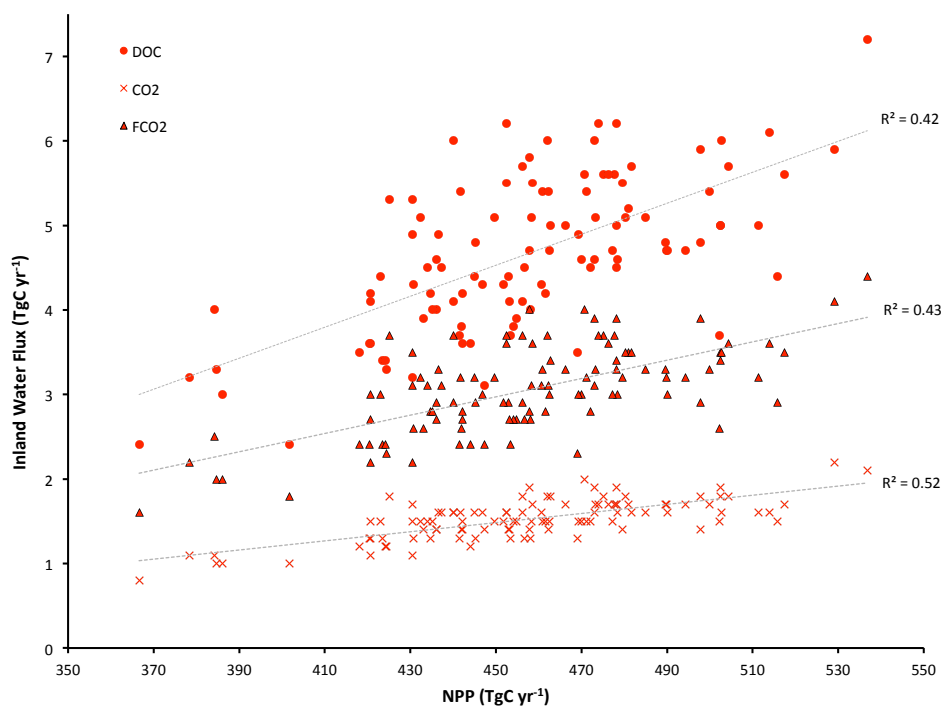
(b)



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1415 (c)



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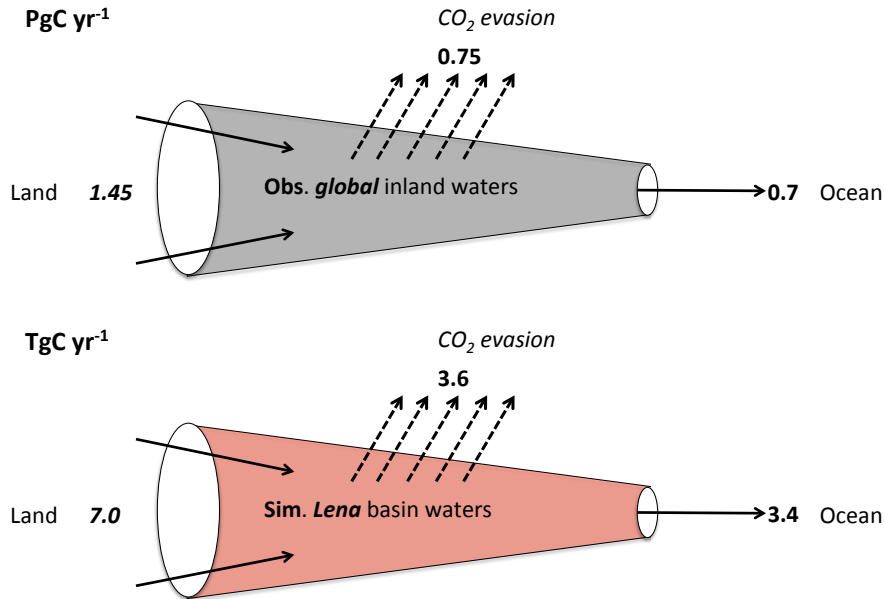
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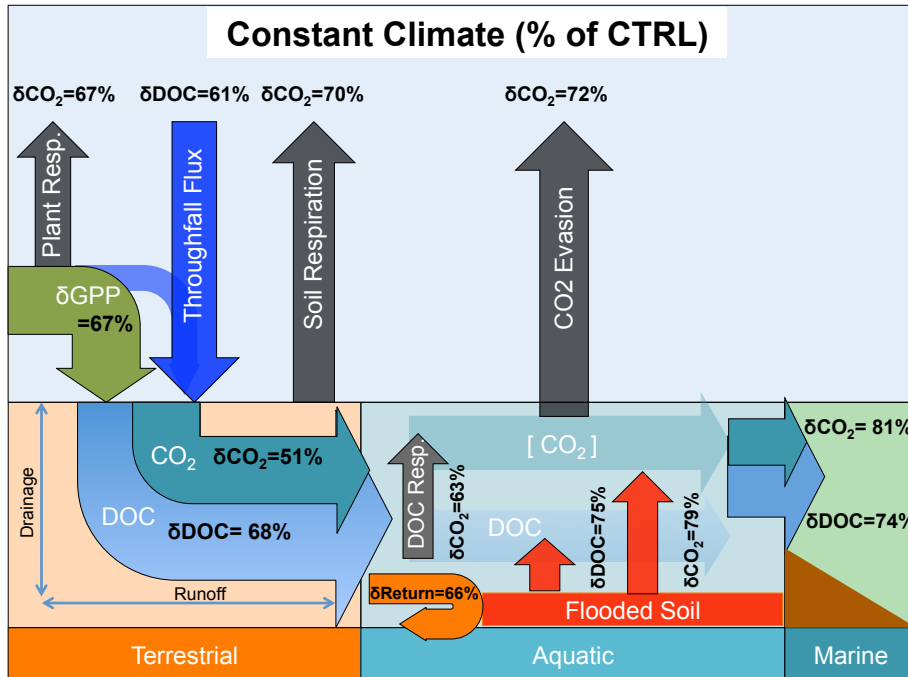
Figure 11: (a) The mean monthly fraction of each hydrological pool's (runoff, drainage, floodplains) carbon reactivity constituents (labile and refractory) averaged across the simulation area over 1998-2008. (b) Time series showing the decadal-mean fractional change in carbon fluxes normalised to a 1901-1910 average baseline (=1 on the y-axis) for NPP, GPP, autotrophic and heterotrophic respiration, DOC inputs to the water column, CO₂ inputs to the water column, CO₂ evasion from the water surface (FCO₂), and discharge. (c) Summed yearly lateral flux versus NPP values for DOC discharge, CO₂ discharge and CO₂ evasion (FCO₂) over the entire simulation period, with linear regression lines shown.



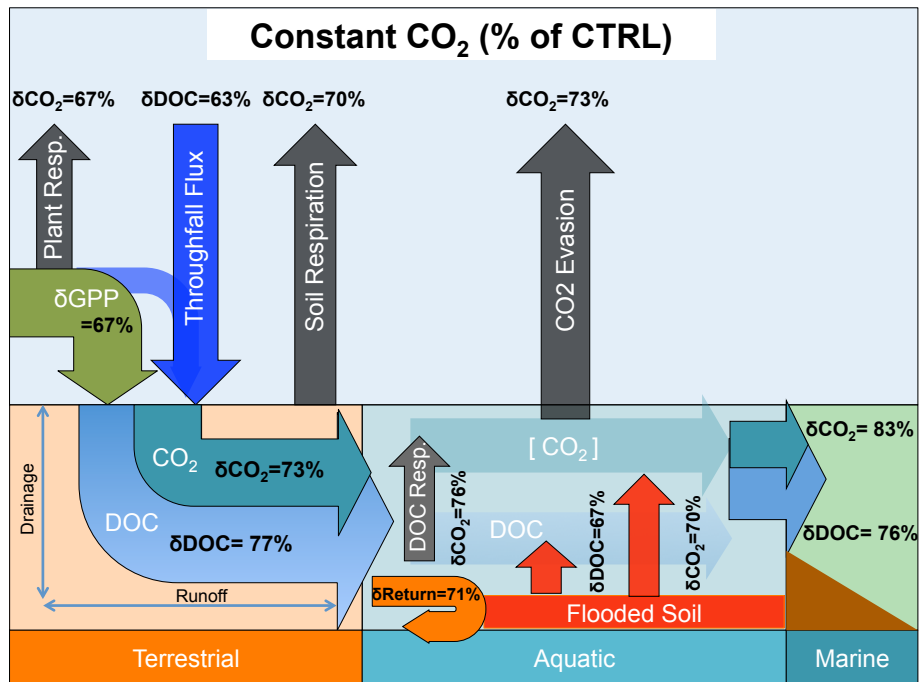
1427 (a)



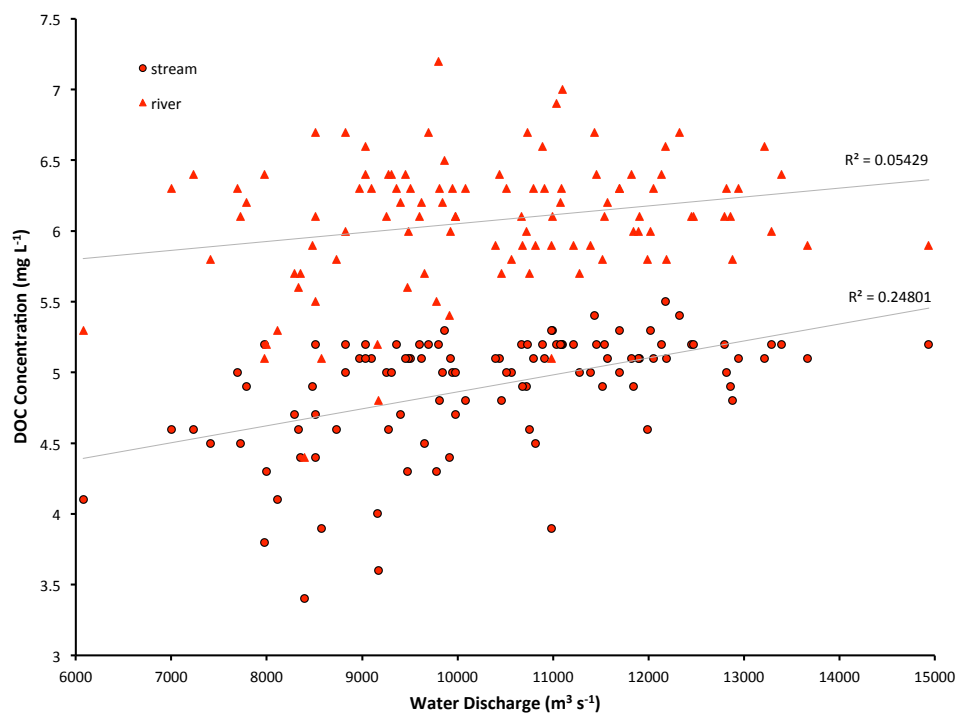
1428
 1429 (b)



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 1431 (c)



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 1433 **Figure 12: (a)** Simplified 'leaky pipe' diagram representing the transport and
 1434 processing of DOC within the land-ocean hydrologic continuum. The scheme template is
 1435 taken from Cole et al. (2007), where we reproduce their global estimate of DOC and non-
 1436 ground-water discharge portion of this flow in the top panel (PgC yr^{-1}), and the
 1437 equivalent flows from our Lena basin simulations in TgC yr^{-1} in the bottom panel. Thus
 1438 easy comparison would look at the relative fluxes within each system and compare them
 1439 to the other. **(b-c)**: Schematic diagrams detailing the major yearly carbon flux outputs
 1440 from simulations averaged over the period 1998-2007 as they are transformed and
 1441 transported across the land-aquatic continuum. Figures **(b)** and **(c)** give the same fluxes
 1442 as a percentage difference from the Control (CTRL-Simulation), for the constant climate
 1443 and CO_2 simulations, respectively.
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1448 **Figure 13:** Simulated basin-mean annual DOC concentrations (mg L^{-1}) for the stream

1449 and river water pools regressed against mean annual simulated discharge rates ($\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$)

1450 at Kusur over 1901-2007. Linear regression plots with corresponding R^2 values are

1451 shown.

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