



Tracing hyporheic zone-driven attenuation of polar organic pollutants using passive sampling

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'Defining' the Hyporheic Zone

hypo: under; rheo(s): (to) flow; hyporheic: 'under the flow'

HypoTRAIN proposal, SEP-210147419





Barrier against aquifer contamination



Research Goal

Test hypotheses

Tracing biotransformation of **polar** (**mobile**) organic pollutants in the HZ



- 1. Identification & quantification of organic pollutants
- 2. Identification of transformation products being indicative of hyporheic (bio)transformation



Passive Sampling in the HZ

R = receiving phase ULB = uptake limiting barrier WBL = water boundary layer



R UUB Cocity Coc

As insensitive as possible to changes in hydrodynamic conditions

Accumulation of sufficient analyte to enable instrumental analysis





Step 1 – Passive Sampler Design & Assembly

Inspired by o-DGT sampler



4x increased surface area Stainless steel housing 0.1 μm PES filter membrane SDB-RPS receiving phase





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'Sampling rates' – flow rate dependency



Criteria: increase of accumulated mass (m_t) from 2 to 14 days; %RSD of m_t among duplicates ≤30%



Step 3 – Field application

SDB AGAPES $\Delta R_S 84\%$







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Selected examples

Sartans



Irbesartan logD_{pH8.3} 5.2, anionic FF corrected Valsartan logD_{pH8.3} 1.6, neutral No FF Valsartan Acid logD_{pH8.3} -0.6, anionic No FF



Selected examples

Sulfamethoxazole



Sulfamethoxazole

logD_{pH8.3} -0.1, anionic FF corrected





Conclusions & Outlook

- Uptake by 'novel' passive samplers not flow rate independent but less flow rate dependent compared to standard configuration (SDB/PES) – though on the cost of sampling rates
- Static tank experiment feasible without renewal due to minute sampling rates and marginal depletion.
- Field factors available for 116 organic pollutants to correct for differences in hydrodynamic conditions (SDB/AGA/PES)
- Suspect screening to elucidate further transformation products characteristic of HZdriven biotransformation \rightarrow link parent attenuation to TP formation







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