

*Supplement of*  
Drivers of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during the dry phase  
of Mediterranean and Temperate ponds

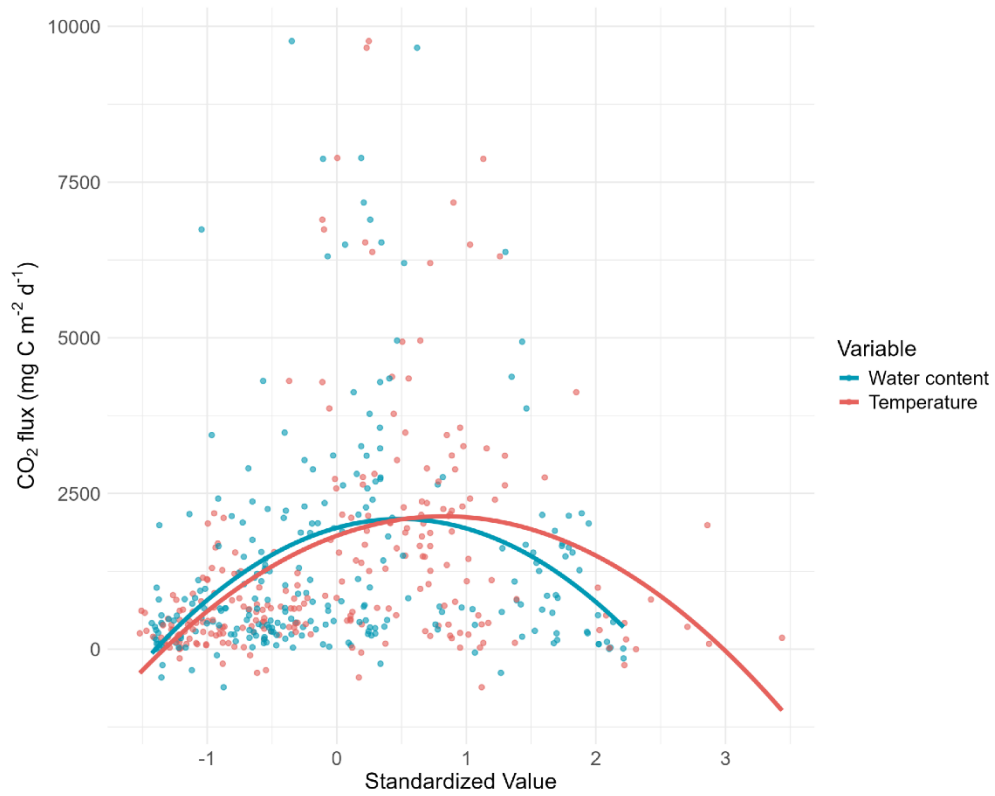
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**Table S1** Comparison of environmental variables between climate regions. Results of independent t-tests comparing the mean values between Mediterranean and Temperate ponds. Statistically significant differences ( $p < .05$ ) are highlighted.

Variable	Mediterranean		Temperate		P value
	Mean	Sd	Mean	Sd	
<b>Temperature 40 (K)</b>	287.31	1.57	282.44	0.47	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Precipitation 40 (mm S<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	2.52	0.64	1.97	0.19	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Annual temperature (° C)</b>	15.97	1.70	10.80	0.54	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Annual precipitation (mm)	0.08	0.02	0.07	0.01	NS
<b>Hydroperiod length (months)</b>	6.29	3.52	9.15	2.31	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	2884.14	4827.94	912.00	773.62	n.s
Max depth (Cm)	111.82	27.73	104.08	54.53	n.s
<b>Coverage (%)</b>	59.75	22.12	84.29	31.59	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
PVI (%)	55.36	36.41	37.65	35.64	n.s
Conservation status	72.68	17.17	79.79	16.23	n.s
<b>Sediment temperature (° C)</b>	20.44	8.52	15.91	5.26	<b>&lt;0.01</b>
<b>Water content (%)</b>	22.97	13.47	55.42	24.40	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
pH	6.54	1.08	6.70	0.72	n.s
Conductivity (µS/cm)	420.26	269.29	603.52	500.30	n.s
Carbonate content (%)	4.76	7.54	4.31	5.72	n.s
<b>Organic matter (%)</b>	10.21	9.57	23.07	18.93	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
<b>DOC (mg C g<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	1.02	1.71	2.77	3.67	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
<b>Absorbance 254</b>	0.24	0.23	0.57	0.44	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
<b>Absorbance 300</b>	16.79	8.11	20.23	8.78	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
SUVA (L mg C <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> )	1.89	0.87	1.35	1.54	n.s
BIX	0.53	0.07	0.58	0.18	n.s
FI	1.21	0.11	1.21	0.13	n.s
HIX	0.87	0.06	0.84	0.11	n.s
C1	42.66	8.61	41.81	9.72	n.s
<b>C2</b>	42.70	6.88	37.70	5.97	<b>&lt;0.01</b>
C3	14.64	7.47	20.50	12.89	n.s
Open nature 100 (%)	29.67	36.35	8.85	16.21	n.s
Forest 100 (%)	34.38	33.94	18.59	18.13	n.s
<b>Pasture 100 (%)</b>	3.61	10.59	29.86	27.47	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Arable 100 (%)	31.99	41.57	31.24	29.24	n.s
Grassland 100 (%)	0.00	0.00	3.78	12.55	n.s
Urban 100 (%)	0.35	1.28	7.69	15.78	n.s
Open nature 5 (%)	50.81	29.17	29.73	39.28	n.s
Forest 5 (%)	41.91	31.61	28.97	34.10	n.s
<b>Pasture 5 (%)</b>	3.80	13.29	25.96	35.59	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
Arable 5 (%)	3.48	12.77	14.33	31.24	n.s
Grassland 5 (%)	0.00	0.00	1.03	2.88	n.s
Urban 5 (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	n.s
TN water (mg/L)	1.91	1.24	4.29	4.88	n.s
<b>TP water (mg/L)</b>	0.20	0.27	0.63	0.56	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>
DOC water (mg/L)	26.49	18.83	21.64	9.95	n.s
<b>Chlorophyll a (µg/L)</b>	20.53	21.65	54.73	47.67	<b>&lt; 0.05</b>

**Figure S1.** Relationship between sediments water content, temperature and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The plot shows the standardized relationship between sediment temperature and water content with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during the dry phase. Each point represents an individual observation, color-coded by variable (red = sediment temperature and blue = water content). Fitted quadratic regression lines depict the non-linear trends in the data.



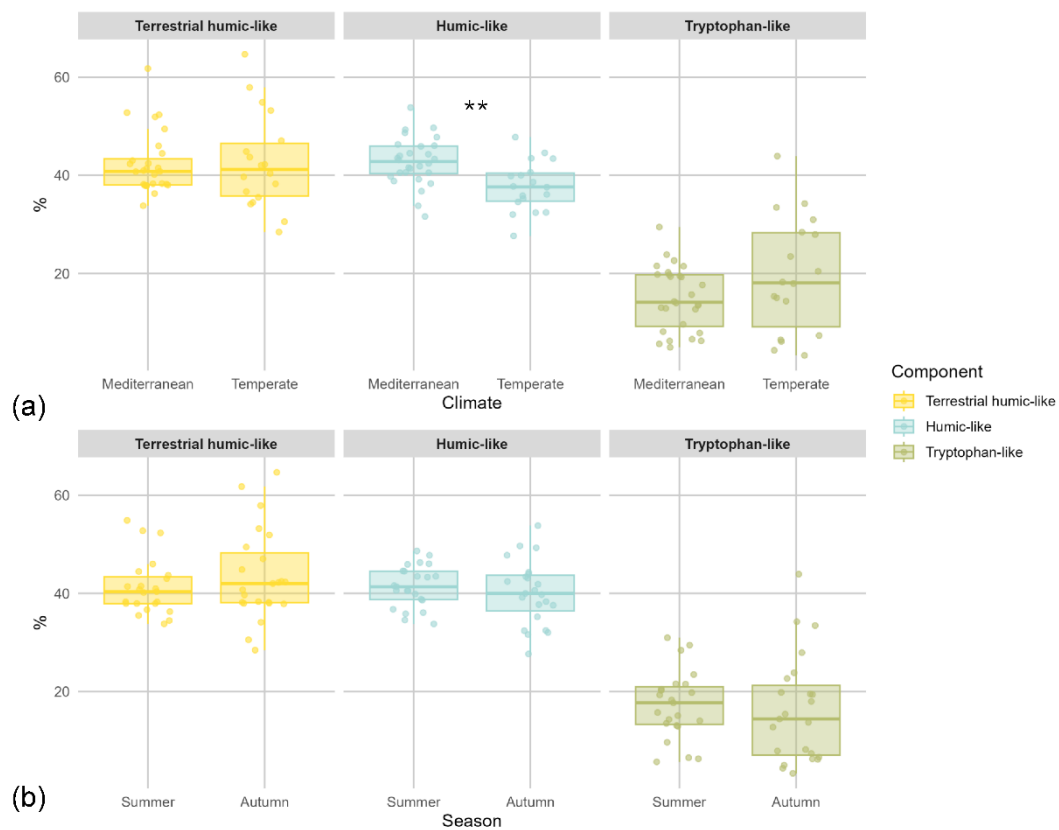
## Analysis components of the dissolved organic matter

We analysed the composition of organic matter components to assess their distribution across climate regions, seasons and hydroperiods, as well as their relationship with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Significant differences were observed between climate regions in the humic-like component (C2) (Fig. S5a). In contrast, the overall composition of organic matter remained consistent across seasons (Fig. S4 and S5b). Regarding hydroperiod, we found a correlation between hydroperiod length and tryptophan-like component (C3) (Fig S6). Moreover, the effect of these components on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions was significant only during the summer, particularly for the humic-like (C2) and tryptophan-like (C3) components (Fig. S7).

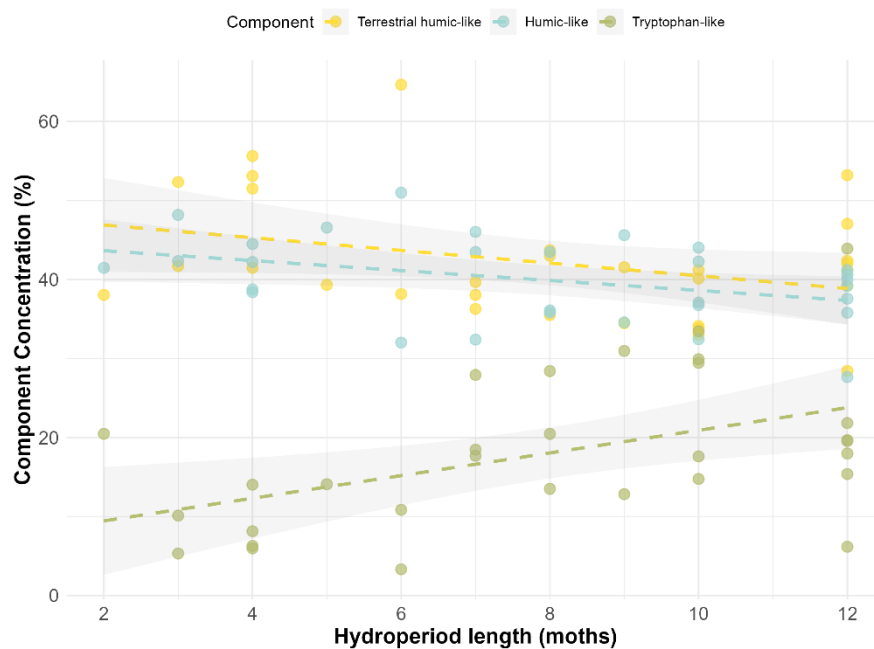
**Figure S2.** PARAFAC-extracted components of dissolved organic matter by season (summer and autumn). C1 represents terrestrial humic-like substances (yellow), C2 humic-like (blue), and C3 tryptophan like substances (green).



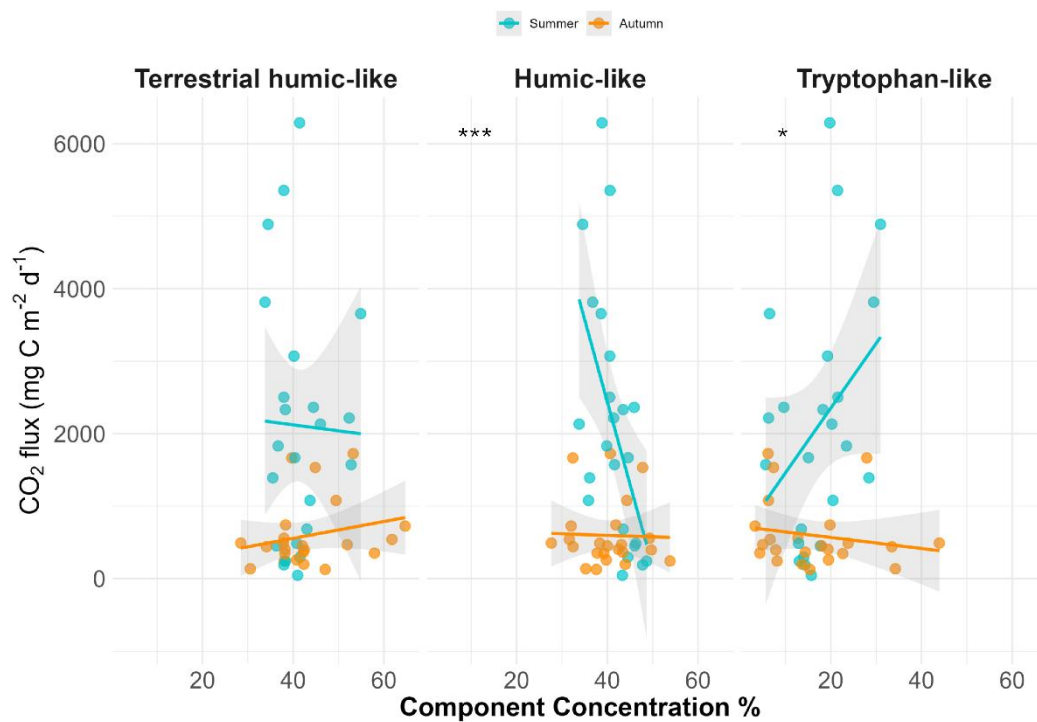
**Figure S3.** ANOVA results for dissolved organic matter components by climate regions (a) and seasons (b). C1 = terrestrial humic-like (yellow), C2 = humic-like (blue), and C3 = tryptophan like (green). Asterisks indicate significant differences between groups  $p < 0.01$ ; absence of asterisk indicate no significant difference.



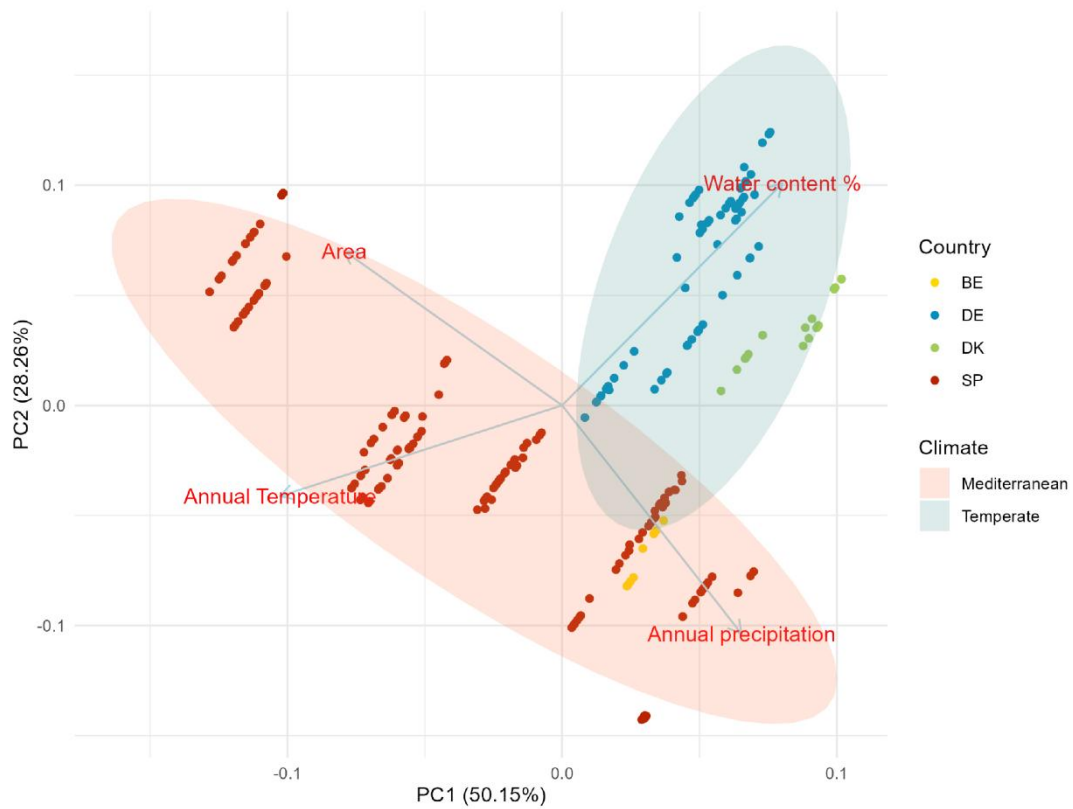
**Figure S4.** Scatterplots with fitted linear regressions (dashed lines) and 95% confidence intervals (grey shaded areas) showing the relationship between hydroperiod length and the concentration of three DOM components: C1= terrestrial humic-like (yellow), C2= humic-like (blue) and C3 = tryptophan-like (green). Each dot represents an individual pond measurement.



**Figure S5.** Relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes and the relative concentration (%) of fluorescent DOM components, grouped as terrestrial humic-like, humic-like, and tryptophan-like compounds. Each point represents the average CO<sub>2</sub> flux from a pond during the dry phase (summer or autumn). Lines show linear regressions with 95% confidence intervals (shaded areas) with blue indicating summer data and orange indicating autumn. Asterisks above each panel denote the significance of the interaction between component concentration and season on linear models: \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ ; \* $p < 0.05$ ; absence of asterisk indicate no significant difference.



**Figure S6.** Principal Component Analysis (PCA) showing the distribution of ponds and the main environmental variables driving their separation. Points are coloured by country: Spain (red), Denmark (green), Germany (blue) and Belgium (yellow), as indicated in the legend. Ellipses represent the confidence intervals for the climate groups: Mediterranean (red) and Temperate (blue). Each dot corresponds to an individual pond measurement.





## WEOM and DOM PROTOCOL

First, we ground the sediment samples in a mixer mill (MM 400 RETSCH MM400) for 2 minutes at 400 Hz. We prepared a sediment-to-water solution at a 1:40 ratio (w/w) using milli-Q water and placed it in an agitator (IKA ® KS 260) set at 150 rpm inside a dark incubator at 4°C for 48h. Samples were then centrifuged for 10 minutes at 4500 rpm and 4°C (Beckman coulter avanti J-26XPI) and subsequently filtered through pre-combusted (450°C for 4 h) 0.47 µm GF/F filters (Whatman) followed by 0.2 µm nylon filters (Whatman). The filtered water was used for analyses of dissolved organic matter (DOM) (see below) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC). For DOC measurements, samples were acidified to a pH 2 by adding 1 M hydrochloric acid (HCl) and stored in darkness at 4 °C until analysis with a Shimadzu TOC-VCS.

### Dissolved Organic Matter (DOM)

We analysed DOM samples by their absorbance and fluorescence properties. We measured UV-VIS absorbance spectra (200-800 nm) using a Cary 4000 UV-Vis spectrophotometer with a 1 cm quartz cuvette. We processed the measurements using the Scan software. We used Milli-Q water as the reference baseline before analyzing the samples and rinsed the cuvette thoroughly with Milli-Q water between measurements to prevent cross-contamination. Before analysis, we equilibrated the samples to room temperature in the dark to avoid photochemical alterations. We calculated the absorption coefficient at wavelength  $\lambda$  ( $a_{\lambda}$ , m<sup>-1</sup>) using the equation:

$$a_{\lambda} = a_{\lambda_0} e^{S(\lambda_0 - \lambda)}$$

Where  $\lambda_0$  is a reference wavelength, as described by (Stedmon et al., 2000).

We obtained the fluorescence Excitation Emission Matrix (EEMs) using a HITACHI F-700 fluorescence spectrophotometer, with excitation wavelengths set between 250 and 450 in 3 nm intervals and emission wavelengths between 250 and 600 nm within 3 nm intervals. We processed the data using FL Solutions software. We measured a Milli-Q water blank prior to sample analysis and subtracted it from each spectrum to correct for background fluorescence and eliminate solvent interference. We normalized fluorescence intensities using the Raman peak area of Milli-Q water to ensure consistency across samples.

We analysed the fluorescence and absorbance data of DOM using the R package StaRdom (Pucher et al., 2019). Data pre-processing included smoothing to enhance peak detection, subtraction of blanks, correction for inner-filter effects and instrument-specific biases, removal of scattering regions (Rayleigh and Raman scattering) and normalization of fluorescence intensities using the Raman peak area.

We calculated classical fluorescence peaks B, T, A, M and C based on manual peak picking and indices as follows: the humification index (HIX; unitless) defined as the ratio between the peak area under the fluorescence emission spectra of 435–480 nm and 300–345 nm at an excitation wavelength of 254 nm; and the autochthonous productivity index or freshness index, biological index (BIX; unitless) calculated as the ratio of the fluorescence intensity emitted at 380 and 430 nm for an excitation of 310 nm (Fellman et al., 2010; Gabor et al., 2014; Huguet et al., 2009). We also calculated the fluorescence index (FI; unitless) as the ratio of emission spectra of 475–500 nm at an excitation of 370 nm, and specific ultraviolet absorbance (SUVA; L mg<sup>-1</sup> m<sup>-1</sup>), an indicator of aromaticity, by dividing the UV coefficient absorbance at 254 nm by DOC (mg/L) (Weishaar et al., 2003). Additionally, we calculated absorbance at 254 nm and at 300 nm, the ratio of absorbance at 250 to 365 nm (E2/E3), the ratio at 465 to 665 nm (E4/E6), the spectral slope for log-transformed absorption spectra ranges (S275-295, S350-400, S300-700) and the slope ratio (SR) of S275-295 to S350-400 (Helms et al., 2007).

### Parallel Factor Analysis (PARAFAC)

We applied Parallel factor analysis (PARAFAC) following Murphy et al., (2013) to characterize the DOM and identify its main components. We used StaRdom package (Pucher et al., 2019) to split the 252 EEMs via PARAFAC (Fig S4). We processed data as previously outlined for DOM analysis, removed scatter peaks and normalized each to its total fluorescence.

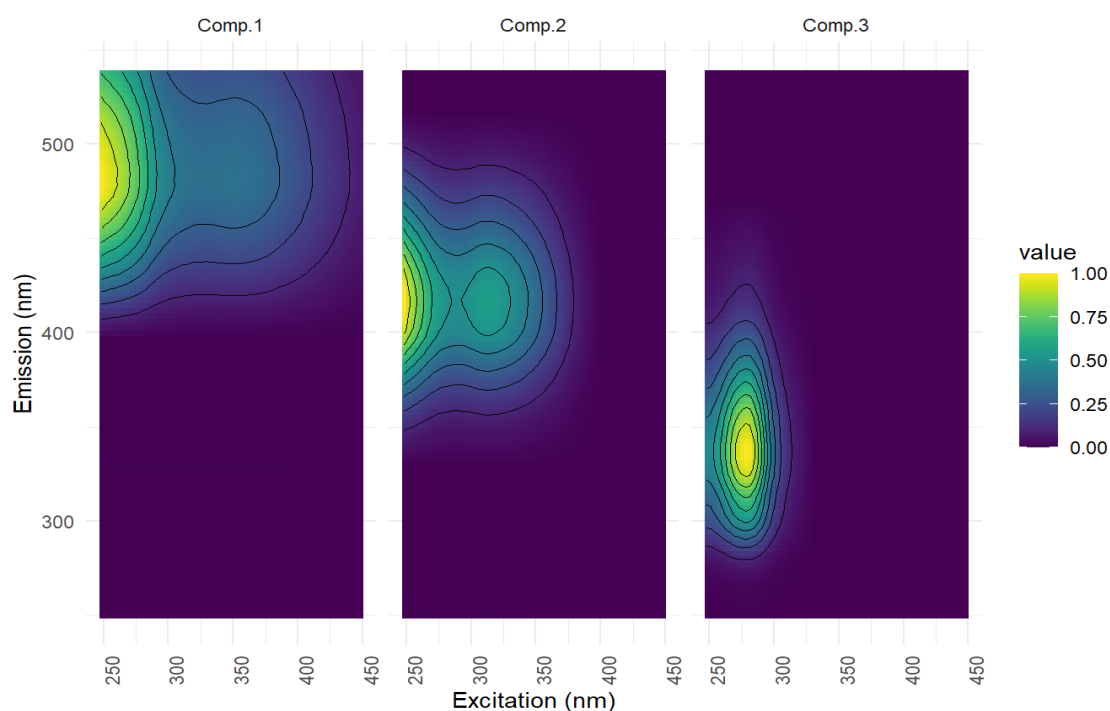
We built several models to determine the most suitable number of components, using split-half analysis validation, core consistency, model fit, and residual examination. Based on these criteria, we selected a PARAFAC model with three components (Murphy et al., 2013). We identified the origin and nature of these components using the [Openfluor.org](https://openfluor.org) platform, achieving 0.99 Tucker Congruence Coefficients (TCC) in both excitation and emission spectra, based on model matches in the repository (Table S3).

For the PARAFAC analysis, we evaluated the model stability and robustness through split-half analysis (splithalf function in staRdom package (Pucher et al., 2019)), which randomly split the dataset into subsets

to ensure consistency across. We computed the Shift- and Shape-Sensitive Congruence (SSC) and the Total Congruence Coefficient (TCC), including the modified form (mTCC) that combines excitation and emission spectra (Parr et al., 2014; Wünsch et al., 2019). These metrics confirmed the stability and reproducibility of the final three-component model.

Additionally, we evaluated model adequacy using the core consistency diagnostic (eempf\_corcondia function in package (Pucher et al., 2019)), which compared the modelled and actual data structure. Finally, we integrated the EEMqual parameter to synthesize model fit, core consistency, and split-half results (Bro and Vidal, 2011).

**Figure S7.** Excitation-Emission Spectra (EEM) of the dissolved organic matter components (C1, C2, C3) identified through PARAFAC analysis.



**Table S2.** Tucker congruence coefficients (TCC = 0.99) with published spectra from OpenFluor.org, including matching PARAFAC models and the corresponding components from related studies.

<i>Components</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Component and PARAFAC models matched</i>	<i>Description at papers</i>
<i>C1</i>	18	Gueguen_NelsonR (C1);Shutova_G (C1);Combinations-R (C2);DarkOcean (C1);Peleato_biofilter (C2);Dainard_BeaufortBering2013 (C1);West Greenland Lakes (C1);Wheat (C2);Gueguen_JOIS (C1);Galveston Bay (C1);Lake_Ice (C1); RecyclePC(C1);Combinations-O/R/S (C2);Forest soil with freeze-thaw disturbance (C2);Macaronesia_POS533 (C3);vale3C (C2);ArnoRiver(C2); DOMIPEX (C1).	Terrestrial humic-like (plant/soil derived), traditionally peak C, Terrestrial origin, soil humic - like, terrestrial delivered OM, consisted of a combination of Peak A and Peak C, where terrestrial and non-processed OM would dominate, Fulvic-like.
<i>C2</i>	9	Sources_Soil_Leaf leachate (C3);Gueguen_NelsonR (C2);poyang_five river (C1); Shallow-Lakes Patagonia(C1);Uryu (C1);Combinations-R (C1); ORCA flume (C1);Lake_Ice(C2);Graeber_2012 (C1).	Humic-like, Humic-like fluorophorea, probably composed of humic-like compounds derived from biological/microbial activity, traditionally peak A.
<i>C3</i>	8	NeusePOMDOM (C5); Microcystis_BB (C3); AntarcticIce (C3); LeafLeachate (C2); Graeber-Macro_Acces (C2); MRE Model (C6);Anammox_EPS (C1);Borisover_wastewater treatment plants (C1).	Tryptophan-like, Autochthonous production, proteinaceous tryptophan-like matter, most ubiquitous, traditionally peak T
<i>Models</i>		<i>Cite</i>	<i>DOI</i>
<i>DarkOcean</i>		(Catalá et al., 2015)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms6986">https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms6986</a>
<i>Graeber_2012</i>		(Graeber et al., 2012)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2012.08.087">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2012.08.087</a>
<i>RecyclePC</i>		(Murphy et al., 2011)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1021/es103015e">https://doi.org/10.1021/es103015e</a>
<i>NeusePOMDOM</i>		(Osburn et al., 2012)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1021/es3007723">https://doi.org/10.1021/es3007723</a>
<i>Shallow-Lakes Patagonia</i>		(Soto Cárdenas et al., 2017)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/eco.1872">https://doi.org/10.1002/eco.1872</a>
<i>Shutova_G</i>		(Shutova et al., 2014)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2014.01.053">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2014.01.053</a>
<i>AntarcticIce</i>		(Stedmon et al., 2011)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/2011JG001716">https://doi.org/10.1029/2011JG001716</a>
<i>vale3C</i>		(Amaral et al., 2016)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.10258">https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.10258</a>
<i>Wheat</i>		(Romero et al., 2017)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2017.06.029">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2017.06.029</a>
<i>LeafLeachate</i>		(Wheeler et al., 2017)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/2016JG003677">https://doi.org/10.1002/2016JG003677</a>
<i>Microcystis_BB</i>		(Bittar et al., 2015)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.10090">https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.10090</a>
<i>Peleato_biofilter</i>		(Peleato et al., 2016)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2016.03.018">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2016.03.018</a>
<i>West Greenland Lakes</i>		(Osburn et al., 2017)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/2017JG003999">https://doi.org/10.1002/2017JG003999</a>
<i>Sources_Soil_Leafleachate</i>		(Garcia et al., 2018)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/fwb.13114">https://doi.org/10.1111/fwb.13114</a>
<i>poyang_five river</i>		(Yan et al., 2020)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-020-09500-x">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-020-09500-x</a>
<i>Borisover_wastewater treatment plants</i>		(Cohen et al., 2014)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2014.02.040">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2014.02.040</a>
<i>Galveston Bay</i>		(Gold-Bouchot et al., 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-021-14509-x">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-021-14509-x</a>
<i>Anammox_EPS</i>		(Jia et al., 2017)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.6b05761">https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.6b05761</a>
<i>ORCA flume</i>		(Weigellhofer et al., 2020)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/w12113246">https://doi.org/10.3390/w12113246</a>
<i>ArnoRiver</i>		(Retelletti Brogi et al., 2020)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.139212">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.139212</a>
<i>Forest soil with freeze-thaw disturbance</i>		(Wu et al., 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2020.105058">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2020.105058</a>
<i>Uryu</i>		(Yamashita et al., 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2021.12824">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2021.12824</a>
<i>Gueguen_JOIS</i>		(DeFrancesco and Guéguen, 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/2020JC016578">https://doi.org/10.1029/2020JC016578</a>
<i>Gueguen_NelsonR</i>		(Guéguen et al., 2016)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmarsys.2016.05.005">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmarsys.2016.05.005</a>
<i>Dainard_BeaufortBering2013</i>		(Dainard and Guéguen, 2013)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marchem.2013.10.007">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marchem.2013.10.007</a>
<i>Lake_Ice</i>		(Imbeau et al., 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/2020JG006233">https://doi.org/10.1029/2020JG006233</a>
<i>Combinations-R</i>		(Pitta and Zeri, 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.saa.2021.119800">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.saa.2021.119800</a>
<i>Combinations-O/R/S</i>		(Pitta and Zeri, 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.saa.2021.119800">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.saa.2021.119800</a>
<i>Macaronesia_POS533</i>		(Santana-Casiano et al., 2022)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.1c04512">https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.1c04512</a>
<i>DOMIPEX</i>		(Catalán et al., 2018)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/2018GB005919">https://doi.org/10.1029/2018GB005919</a>
<i>Graeber-Macro_Access</i>		(Graeber et al., 2021)	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10533-021-00809-4">https://doi.org/10.1007/s10533-021-00809-4</a>

**Table S3.** Fluorescence peaks of dissolved organic matter location and classification by Coble (1996).

<i>Component label</i>	<i>Excitation Location (nm)</i>	<i>Emission Location (nm)</i>	<i>Traditional classification by Coble et.al (1996)</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>C1</i>	350	481	Peak C (Ex 330-350; Em 420-480)	Terrestrial humic-like
<i>C2</i>	311	412	Peak A (Ex 250-260; Em 380-480)	Humic-like
<i>C3</i>	278	334	Peak T (Ex 270-280; Em 320-350)	Tryptophan-like

**Table S4.** Fluorescence components of dissolved organic matter: chemical interpretation and sources.

<i>Component label</i>	<i>Chemical interpretation</i>	<i>Source</i>
<i>C1</i>	Associated with low molecular weight humic-like substances. These are less aromatic and represent more degraded organic matter	Often linked to microbially processed or autochthonous DOM, typically found in aquatic environments with significant microbial activity.
<i>C2</i>	Represents high molecular weight humic-like substances. These are highly aromatic compounds indicative of terrestrial inputs	Derived from humification processes in soils and vegetation, reflecting terrestrial or allochthonous DOM inputs.
<i>C3</i>	Associated with protein-like substances, specifically aromatic amino acids such as tryptophan.	Indicates the presence of freshly produced, labile DOM. Often linked to microbial and phytoplankton activity, as well as wastewater inputs.

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