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Reactivity of natural organic matter in the Florida Everglades was examined across salinity gradients and coupled with PARAFAC analysis.

Photo-reactivity of natural dissolved organic matter from fresh to marine waters in the Florida Everglades, USA

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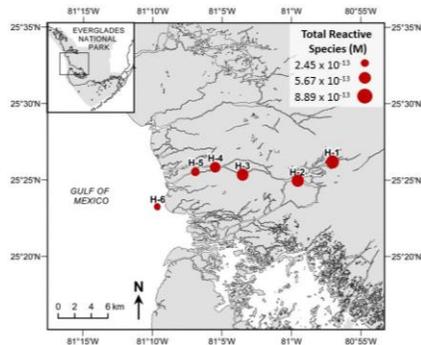
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1 Abstract

2 Natural dissolved organic matter (DOM) is the major absorber of sunlight in most natural waters
3 and a critical component of carbon cycling in aquatic systems. The combined effect of light
4 absorbance properties and related photo-production of reactive species are essential in
5 determining the reactivity of DOM. Optical properties and in particular excitation-emission
6 matrix fluorescence spectroscopy combined with parallel factor analysis (EEM-PARAFAC)
7 have been used increasingly to track sources and fate of DOM. Here we describe studies
8 conducted in water from two estuarine systems in the Florida Everglades, with a salinity gradient
9 of 2 to 37 and dissolved organic carbon concentrations from 19.3 to 5.74 mg C L⁻¹, aimed at
10 assessing how the quantity and quality of DOM is coupled to the formation rates and steady-state
11 concentrations of reactive species including singlet oxygen, hydroxyl radical, and the triplet
12 excited state of DOM. These species were related to optical properties and PARAFAC
13 components of the DOM. The formation rate and steady-state concentration of the carbonate
14 radical was calculated in all samples. The data suggests that formation rates, particularly for
15 singlet oxygen and hydroxyl radicals, are strongly coupled to the abundance of terrestrial humic-
16 like substances. A decrease in singlet oxygen, hydroxyl radical, and carbonate radical formation
17 rates and steady-state concentration along the estuarine salinity gradient was observed as the
18 relative concentration of terrestrial humic-like DOM decreased due to mixing with microbial
19 humic-like and protein-like DOM components, while the formation rate of triplet excited-state
20 DOM did not change. Fluorescent DOM was also found to be more tightly coupled to reactive
21 species generation than chromophoric DOM.



22

23 Environmental Impacts:

24 Reactive photo-produced species in sunlit surface waters are important in natural dissolved
25 organic matter (DOM) cycling and contaminant degradation. Formation rates and steady-state
26 concentrations of these species were found to be coupled to the abundance of humic-like DOM
27 components, where terrestrial humic-like components clearly drive the DOM reactivity
28 compared to those microbially derived. This study demonstrates the value of combining reactive
29 species quantification techniques with excitation emission matrix fluorescence spectroscopy and
30 parallel factor analysis modeling (EEM-PARAFAC) in order to help elucidate how changes in
31 DOM quantity and quality affect the formation and steady-state concentrations of these species.

32 1. Introduction

33 The Everglades is one of the largest sub-tropical wetlands in the world (*ca.* 6,200 km²),
34 and includes extensive freshwater marsh and estuarine areas, which are characterized by open
35 prairies and fringe mangrove swamps, respectively. Dissolved organic matter (DOM) dynamics
36 in the Everglades are to a large extent controlled by regional soil and vegetation patterns and
37 seasonal hydrology. Clear spatial patterns have been observed for DOM optical properties
38 throughout the systems,^{1,2} seasonally,^{3,4} and along salinity transects in the fringe mangrove
39 rivers.⁵⁻⁷ As such, optical properties of DOM in the Everglades have been well defined and
40 related to both physical (hydroperiod, water discharge, tidal pumping, and saltwater intrusions)
41 and biological (primary productivity) drivers. While several studies reported on the potential
42 effects of photo-exposure on the mineralization and degradation of chromophoric and fluorescent
43 DOM (CDOM and FDOM, respectively) in the Shark River,⁸⁻¹¹ the photo-dissolution of
44 particulate organic matter in the Everglades and Florida Bay,^{12,13} and differences in optical
45 properties between surface and groundwater in the Everglades as a potential result of light
46 exposure,⁴ little is known about the photo-reactivity of DOM in this system and its relationship
47 to the production of reactive species.

48 One of the greatest impacts of DOM on water chemistry is its role as a major source and
49 sink of reactive photo-produced species in surface waters.¹⁴ Singlet molecular oxygen (¹O₂)¹⁵⁻¹⁷
50 and hydroxyl radical (•OH)¹⁸ have long been understood to react with DOM^{19,20} and organic
51 contaminants^{21,22} in sunlit surface waters. More recently, the contribution of triplet excited states
52 of DOM (³DOM*) to either enhance or inhibit the degradation of different classes of
53 contaminants have been the subject of extensive study.²³⁻³² Steady-state concentrations of ¹O₂

54 and $^3\text{DOM}^*$ typically range on the order of $\sim 10^{-15}$ - 10^{-13} M in sunlit surface waters.³³ In estuarine
55 and marine systems, the highly reactive, but much less abundant $\bullet\text{OH}$ (10^{-19} - 10^{-16} M) reacts with
56 bicarbonate and carbonate to form longer-lived carbonate radicals, which can be present at up to
57 two orders of magnitude higher than $\bullet\text{OH}$.^{34, 35} Hydroxyl radicals can be formed from other
58 sources as well, such as photo-Fenton reactions with iron or the photolysis of nitrate and nitrite.¹⁸
59 These pathways are not as important as DOM in the Taylor- and Shark River Sloughs of the
60 Everglades as nitrate and nitrite concentrations are well below 0.1 mg/L^{36, 37} and concentrations
61 of dissolved iron have been reported to be very low (0-0.03 mgL⁻¹).³⁸

62 The effects of reactive species on the photodegradation of DOM are different depending
63 on the reactant: singlet oxygen, while reacting with fulvic acids on the order of $10^5 \text{ M}\cdot\text{C}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$,
64 does not change the DOC concentration or optical properties,³⁹ but can lead to partial oxidation
65 and an increase in oxygen content⁴⁰; $^3\text{DOM}^*$ has been proposed as a major source of DOM
66 photo-oxidation, although the mechanisms are not well understood⁴¹; hydroxyl radical, on the
67 other hand, is not suspected to be a major contributor to the photodegradation of DOM due to its
68 low formation rates,⁴¹ although high levels of $\bullet\text{OH}$ formation, such as in waters with a high
69 nitrate/DOC ratio, could lead to photomineralization.⁴²⁻⁴⁴ Other reactive species, such as halide
70 radicals, could contribute significantly to the photodegradation of DOM as well.⁴⁵ Understanding
71 the quantity and speciation of photo-produced reactive species is therefore essential in predicting
72 the potential for photochemical processing of organic matter, as well as contaminants, in surface
73 waters.

74 There have been several studies that have looked at the changes in molecular character of
75 DOM from fresh to marine systems.⁴⁶⁻⁵⁰ Photolytic effects can result in a change in the overall
76 aromatic character of the DOM⁵¹ as well as the formation of lower molecular weight compounds,
77 ^{8, 9, 52, 53} but the effect of these structural changes on reactive species photo-production are not
78 well understood. A study of the plumes of the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers in the Gulf of
79 Mexico showed that $^1\text{O}_2$ production did not vary across the salinity gradient, although total free
80 radicals decreased.⁵⁴ Due to the low DOC concentrations and detection methods, samples were
81 ultrafiltered and concentrated through freeze-drying in order to measure reactive species
82 production. In contrast, the organic-rich mangrove estuaries of the Everglades provide ideal
83 study sites for conducting a detailed investigation into DOM-produced reactive species in whole
84 waters (no preconcentration steps required) across estuarine systems, and they have been well

85 characterized with regards to DOM dynamics, quality, and quantity over spatial and temporal
86 scales.^{2, 3, 5, 6}

87 In recent years, excitation emission matrix fluorescence spectroscopy combined with
88 parallel factor analysis modeling (EEM-PARAFAC) has been widely applied in the assessment
89 of DOM dynamics in aquatic ecosystems. For the Everglades, a PARAFAC model has been
90 established and applied to a variety of studies including spatial,^{1, 55} and seasonal^{2, 3} DOM source
91 assessments, as well as for the estimation of source changes in the Shark River estuary.⁶ The
92 model consists of four terrestrial humic-like, two microbial humic-like and two protein-like
93 PARAFAC components.^{1, 4} Consequently, PARAFAC components in this system are well
94 characterized and ideally suited to be applied in the development of reactivity proxies for DOM
95 as evidenced by prior reports on potential use of two Everglades PARAFAC components as
96 indicators of DOM light exposure.^{4, 56} In this study we attempt to correlate organic matter
97 quantity and quality using reactive species generation as the measure of photoreactivity. We
98 present measured formation rates of singlet oxygen, ³DOM*, and hydroxyl radical, and their
99 relation to optical properties and PARAFAC components in two Everglades estuaries. Steady-
100 state concentrations of these species as well as those calculated for carbonate radical are reported
101 across the two systems.

102 **2. Methods and Materials**

103 *2.1 Sample Sites*

104 Surface water samples for this study were collected in two different estuarine regions in
105 Everglades National Park, Florida, USA: the Shark River Slough (SRS) and Taylor Slough (TS).
106 Estuarine inundation characteristics are quite different for these two main drainage systems for
107 the Everglades, as the SRS is tidally influenced through the Gulf of Mexico, while the TS
108 features no significant tidal action due to the dampening effects of the multiple mud banks
109 throughout Florida Bay. Consequently, the mangrove swamps of the TS estuary feature longer
110 inundation periods compared to those of the SRS, resulting in differences in mangrove forest
111 structure, soil type (peat vs. marl) and organic matter accumulation.⁵⁷ Throughout the estuary,
112 the freshwater slough environment is replaced by mangrove channels, tidal creeks and rivers
113 such as the Shark and Harney rivers (for SRS) and Taylor River (for TS). Surface water samples
114 were collected in late April 2013 (early wet season) from the Harney River and Taylor

115 River/Florida Bay, covering a salinity range from the oligohaline ecotone to the respective
116 marine end-member (Fig. 1). The Harney River samples consisted of a salinity transect (six
117 samples) covering the estuarine section between Tarpon Bay (oligo/meso-haline zone) and Ponce
118 de Leon Bay (coastal end-member; Fig. 1a). The Taylor River samples consisted of a salinity
119 transect along the lower Taylor River estuary (four samples) extended into Florida Bay (two
120 samples; Fig. 1b). While low salinity samples were obtained for the upper Harney River estuary,
121 the lowest salinity sample for the Taylor River was higher at 11.2. During the late dry season
122 (early April), saltwater intrusions from NE Florida Bay reach up into the Taylor River due to
123 reduced freshwater head; this effect was still evident at the time of sampling.

124 *2.2 Sample Collection*

125 Whole water samples for reactive species analysis were collected in 1 L glass jars, stored
126 on ice and in the dark during transport to the lab, and then stored at 4 °C until use. Samples for
127 DOM analysis were collected in 2 L pre-washed (soaked in 0.1 M HCl and 0.1 M NaOH for 24 h
128 each) brown Nalgene[®] polyethylene bottles and stored on ice until return to the lab where they
129 were filtered through pre-combusted GF/F fiber filters prior to analysis. Salinity, temperature and
130 pH were determined on site using a 600XL YSI probe (Xylem Inc., Yellow Springs, OH).

131 *2.3 Reagents*

132 Furfuryl alcohol (FFA), terephthalic acid (TPA), and sorbic acid (SA), were purchased
133 from Sigma Aldrich (St. Louis, MO) at the highest purities available. HPLC solvents and
134 additional reagents were purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc. (Waltham, MA).

135 *2.4 DOC Measurement*

136 DOC concentrations were measured by high temperature combustion with a Shimadzu
137 TOC-5000 analyzer. Each sample (4 mL) was acidified with 10 µL of concentrated HCl and
138 sparged for 5 min with nitrogen to remove inorganic carbon. The mean of 3–6 injections
139 (coefficient of variation < 2 %) was reported for each sample. The system was standardized daily
140 with a potassium hydrogen phthalate standard.

141 *2.5 Optical Properties*

142 UV-Vis analyses were performed using a Varian Cary 50 Bio spectrophotometer with a 1
143 cm quartz cuvette, scanning from 250 nm to 800 nm. Absorption coefficients were calculated
144 applying the equation:

$$145 \quad a_{(\lambda)} = 2.303 \cdot \text{abs}(\lambda) / L \quad (1)$$

146 where $\text{abs}(\lambda)$ is the absorbance at wavelength λ , and L is the cell length in meters. Spectral slope
147 (S) was obtained by fitting the absorbance spectra to the equation:

$$148 \quad a_{(\lambda)} = a_{(\lambda_0)} \cdot e^{[-S(\lambda_0 - \lambda)]} + K \quad (2)$$

149 where λ_0 is 250 nm and K is a background constant due to residual scattering by fine particle
150 fractions or micro-air bubbles that allow for any baseline shift. Spectral slope ratio (S_R) was
151 calculated following Helms, et al.⁵⁸ as the ratio of $S_{(275-295)}/S_{(350-400)}$. Both spectral slopes were
152 obtained using the linear regression of the narrow wavelength ranges, $S_{(275-295)}$ and $S_{(350-400)}$, of
153 the natural log-transformed $a_{(\lambda)}$ spectra. The carbon-specific absorption coefficient at 254 nm,
154 SUVA_{254} (expressed in $\text{L m}^{-1} \text{mg C}^{-1}$), was calculated by dividing the decadic a_{254} by DOC
155 concentration.⁵⁹ UV-Vis analyses were also used to correct the inner filter effects from the
156 fluorescence measurements.

157 *2.6 Fluorescence and PARAFAC Analysis*

158 Excitation-emission matrix fluorescence spectra (EEMs) were measured using a Horiba
159 Jovin Yvon SPEX Fluoromax-3 spectrofluorometer equipped with a 150 W continuous output
160 Xe arc lamp. Slits were set at 5.7 nm for excitation and 2 nm for emission. Forty-four emission
161 spectral scans were acquired in a 1 cm quartz cell at excitation wavelengths (λ_{ex}) between 240
162 and 455 nm at 5 nm intervals. The emission wavelengths (λ_{em}) were scanned from 250 nm to 705
163 nm in 2 nm steps. Fluorescence signals were acquired in signal over reference ratio mode (S/R)
164 to eliminate potential errors from fluctuations of the Xe lamp. More detailed information of post-
165 acquisition steps for correction (inner filter effects, instrumental bias) and unit conversion to
166 quinine sulphate units (QSU) can be found elsewhere.⁴ PARAFAC modeling statistically
167 decomposes the complex fluorescent matrix into individual, quantifiable components without
168 any assumptions regarding their spectral shape or their number.⁶⁰ PARAFAC modeling applied
169 here was achieved by fitting the EEMs of all the samples to an already established PARAFAC

170 model for surface water from the Everglades.^{1,4} Briefly, the eight components are ($\lambda_{\text{ex}}/\lambda_{\text{em}}$): C1
 171 (<260(345)/462) ubiquitous humic-like; C2 (<260/454) terrestrial humic-like possibly photo-
 172 refractory; C3 (<260(305)/416) terrestrial humic-like, fulvic acid-type; C4 (<260(305)/376)
 173 microbial humic-like; C5 (275(405)/>500) terrestrial humic-like, humic acid-type; C6 (325/406)
 174 ubiquitous humic-like, possibly generated during biodegradation, photo-labile and agricultural
 175 land use derived; C7 (275/326) and C8 (300/342) protein-like.^{1,4} PARAFAC component spectral
 176 characteristics and split-half validation can be found elsewhere.⁴ The analysis was carried out in
 177 MATLAB 7.0.4. (Mathworks, Natick, MA) with the DOMFluor toolbox.⁶¹

178 *2.7 Irradiation Experiments*

179 Irradiation experiments were carried out in a Luzchem SolSim solar simulator (Ottawa,
 180 Canada). The output of the 300W ceramic Xe lamp was adjusted with a 1/8" Esco optical glass
 181 filter and dimmer to best match the AM 1.5 solar spectrum with irradiation from 300 nm- 900
 182 nm. Lamp output was measured daily with the Reliability Direct (League City, Texas) AR823
 183 power meter that comes standard with the system. The sample chamber was well-ventilated,
 184 keeping the samples at a constant 20°C. Samples were placed in sealed quartz cells (1 cm path
 185 length) on a rotating sample holder to ensure even irradiation. Aliquots were taken at intervals
 186 ranging from 5-30 minutes, and the samples analyzed by HPLC with on-line UV or fluorescence
 187 detection.

188 *2.8 Hydroxyl and Carbonate Radicals*

189 Hydroxyl radical formation and steady-state concentrations were monitored using
 190 terephthalic acid (TPA).⁶² To measure the rate of •OH production, each sample was adjusted to
 191 pH<2 with HCl and bubbled with air to strip off any (bi)carbonate in the system. The samples
 192 were raised back to the original pH with NaOH and spiked with TPA (6 µM final concentration).
 193 Formation of 2-hydroxyterephthalic acid, 2HTPA, is described by Equation 3:

$$194 \quad \frac{d[2HTPA]}{dt} = k_{\text{OH,TPA}} Y[\text{TPA}][\bullet\text{OH}]^*_{\text{ss}} \quad (3)$$

195 where $k_{\text{OH,TPA}} = 4.4 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, the yield $Y = 0.35$, and $[\bullet\text{OH}]^*_{\text{ss}}$ is the steady-state
 196 concentration of •OH in carbonate-free solutions. Formation rates of •OH, R_{OH} , were calculated

197 by dividing the rate of 2HTPA formation by the reaction yield. While 2HTPA is subject to
 198 photolysis by light below 360 nm, no loss of 2HTPA was seen in irradiations <100 min, so in
 199 order to keep the light source constant between experiments, no additional filters were added to
 200 the lamp for •OH measurements. Whole water [$\bullet\text{OH}$]_{ss} were then determined with Equation 4:

$$201 \quad [\bullet\text{OH}]_{\text{ss}} = \frac{R_{\text{OH}}}{k_{\text{OH,HCO}_3^-} [\text{HCO}_3^-] + k_{\text{OH,CO}_3^{2-}} [\text{CO}_3^{2-}] + k_{\text{OH,DOM}} [\text{DOM}]} \quad (4)$$

202 with the reaction rates between hydroxyl radical and bicarbonate and carbonate ($k_{\text{OH,HCO}_3^-} = 8.50$
 203 $\times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, and $k_{\text{OH,CO}_3^{2-}} = 3.9 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively),⁶³ and the reaction rate with
 204 DOM, $k_{\text{OH,DOM}}$, calculated as the average of the values for organic matter determined by
 205 Westerhoff, et al.²⁰ (excluding effluent organic matter), $(1.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^4 \text{ L (mg C)}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.
 206 Bicarbonate and carbonate concentrations were determined with a Metrohm 855 Robotic
 207 Titrosampler (Riverview, FL). Carbonate radical concentrations were calculated with the
 208 following equation:

$$209 \quad [\text{CO}_3^{\cdot-}]_{\text{ss}} = \frac{[k_{\text{OH,HCO}_3^-} [\text{HCO}_3^-] + k_{\text{OH,CO}_3^{2-}} [\text{CO}_3^{2-}]] [\bullet\text{OH}]_{\text{ss}}^*}{k_{\text{CO}_3^{\cdot-},\text{DOM}} [\text{DOM}]} \quad (5)$$

210 where $k_{\text{CO}_3^{\cdot-},\text{DOM}} = 280 \pm 90 \text{ L (mg C)}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.³⁵ Carbonate radicals are also produced by the
 211 reaction between carbonate ions with triplet excited state DOM, but the reaction rate ($1 \times 10^5 \text{ M}$
 212 s^{-1})³⁵ is such that the contribution of $^3\text{DOM}^*$ to carbonate radical formation was negligible. Due
 213 to long-term monitoring data that has consistently shown low (<0.1 mg/L) concentrations of
 214 nitrate and nitrite,^{36, 37} these species were not measured. Dissolved iron concentrations were not
 215 determined, but have been reported to be low in the Everglades (0-0.03 mg/L). In addition, total
 216 Fe concentrations in Everglades' soils and sediments have been reported to be low
 217 (<http://fcelter.fiu.edu/>), and sulfate reducing conditions in the ecotonal fringe mangrove
 218 sediments further limit iron solubility due to the formation of insoluble sulfides.⁶⁴ All •OH
 219 production was therefore attributed to DOM.

220 2.9 Singlet Oxygen

221 Steady-state concentrations of singlet oxygen were determined using furfuryl alcohol
 222 (FFA) as a probe.⁶⁵ Water samples were spiked with FFA (1.5 mM final concentration), placed

223 in the solar simulator, and aliquots taken every 10 minutes. The concentration of FFA was
 224 plotted versus time to determine the initial rate of FFA loss, R_{FFA} . The rate of 1O_2 production was
 225 then determined by incorporating the deactivation of 1O_2 due to solvent effects, $k_d = 2.5 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 226 ,⁶⁶ with Equation 6⁶⁷:

$$227 \quad R_{^1O_2} = R_{FFA} \frac{k_{FFA, ^1O_2} FFA_0 + k_d}{k_{FFA, ^1O_2} FFA_0} \quad (6)$$

228 where FFA_0 is the initial FFA concentration and $k_{FFA, ^1O_2}$ is the reaction rate between FFA and
 229 1O_2 , $1.2 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.⁶⁵ While there is potential for error due to reaction with hydroxyl radical
 230 ($k_{FFA, OH} = 1.2 \times 10^{10}$)⁶³, $R_{OH} \ll R_{^1O_2}$, making the contribution of hydroxyl radical negligible.
 231 Steady-state concentrations in the absence of the probe were determined by dividing the
 232 formation rate by k_d :

$$233 \quad [^1O_2]_{ss} = \frac{R_{^1O_2}}{k_d} \quad (7)$$

234 2.10 Triplet Excited State of DOM ($^3DOM^*$)

235 $^3DOM^*$ formation was measured with sorbic acid as described in Grebel et al.⁶⁸ 2,4,6-
 236 trimethylphenol (TMP) was not used as a probe due to changes in its reaction rate with $^3DOM^*$
 237 at varying ionic strengths.⁶⁹ Formation rates of the cis-trans isomer of sorbic acid were divided
 238 by the yield, 0.18, to obtain the removal rate of $^3DOM^*$ by sorbic acid, R_{SA} . The concentration of
 239 the probe, [SA], divided by R_{SA} was plotted against the concentration of the probe:

$$240 \quad \frac{[SA]}{R_{SA}} = \frac{[SA]}{R_{^3DOM^*}} + \frac{k'_s}{R_{^3DOM^*} k_{SA, ^3DOM^*}} \quad (8)$$

241 where $R_{^3DOM^*}$ is the formation rate of triplets, k'_s is the reaction rate of solution scavengers with
 242 the triplets (inverse of triplet lifetimes), and $k_{SA, ^3DOM^*}$ is the reaction rate between sorbic acid
 243 and $^3DOM^*$, calculated as the average of reported values between sorbic acid and various
 244 organic matters, $(3.35 \pm 1.00) \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.⁷⁰ Formation rates of triplets were therefore
 245 calculated as the inverse of the slope, while k'_s and steady-state concentrations, $[^3DOM^*]_{ss}$, (in
 246 the absence of probe) were determined as follows:

$$247 \quad k'_s = k_{SA, ^3DOM^*} \cdot \frac{\text{intercept}}{\text{slope}} \quad (9)$$

$$248 \quad [^3DOM^*]_{ss} = \frac{R_{^3DOM^*}}{k'_s} \quad (10)$$

249 2.11 Analytical Methods

250 Probe compounds were quantified using an Agilent 1200 Series HPLC with UV detection
251 at wavelengths 254 nm for TPA and SA and 219 nm for FFA. Formation of 2HTPA was
252 monitored using on-line fluorescence, $\lambda_{ex} = 240$ nm, $\lambda_{em} = 425$ nm. The isocratic mobile phase for
253 TPA/2HTPA detection was 50:50 0.08% H₃PO₄:methanol. The remaining compounds used 30
254 mM sodium acetate buffer at pH=4.75 with ratios of 90:10 acetate:methanol for FFA, and 85:15
255 acetate:acetonitrile for SA. FFA was monitored using a Phenomenex Gemini 3 μ m C18 column
256 (50 x 4.6 mm i.d.), while TPA and SA were monitored using a Phenomenex Gemini 5 μ m C18
257 column (250 x 4.6 mm i.d.).

258 3. Results

259 3.1 DOC distribution

260 Samples along the Harney River and the Taylor Slough showed decreasing DOC with
261 increasing salinity (Table 1), which was expected due to the dilution of freshwater marsh-derived
262 DOC with the marine end-members. The observed decrease in the Harney River shows non-
263 conservative mixing indicative of DOC contributions from the fringe mangroves as previously
264 reported.⁶ The Taylor Slough, with minimal tidal activity and significantly lower freshwater
265 discharge compared to the Harney, did not show this same trend. However, as mentioned above,
266 low-salinity samples of the Taylor River were not obtained due to the low-discharge conditions
267 during time of sampling, and the two high salinity end-member points of the Taylor Slough
268 sample set were taken in Florida Bay (Fig. 1b). Since these samples are not part of a spatial,
269 riverine salinity transect, the DOC origin in the TS sample set cannot be exclusively linked to the
270 Taylor River, and the apparent conservative mixing trend cannot be confirmed. The changes in
271 DOC concentration along the salinity gradient in these two systems were nonetheless quite
272 similar, allowing for a comparison of formation rates and steady-state concentrations of reactive
273 species between the Harney River and Taylor River/Florida Bay estuaries.

274 3.2 Optical properties and PARAFAC analysis

275 Optical properties for the twelve sample sites are summarized in Table 2. The distribution
276 of CDOM as indicated by a_{254} was in general agreement with the DOC concentrations in both
277 systems. The Harney River was enriched significantly with CDOM compared to the Taylor River
278 sample set. This is, in part, due to the fact that the DOM loadings to the Taylor River are

279 enriched in microbial sources,² particularly during the end of the dry season, when intrusions of
280 Florida Bay waters upriver are prominent. Waters from Florida Bay are enriched in seagrass-
281 derived DOM and therefore feature higher abundances in carbohydrates and proteins (protein-
282 like fluorescence) compared to the humic-like materials and lignins found in the SRS mangrove
283 rivers such as the Harney River.^{3,5} The higher SUVA₂₅₄ values and PARAFAC component
284 fluorescence confirm these differences in DOM source and character between the two systems
285 (Table 2). Fluorescent PARAFAC components showed a similar behavior to DOC, with a
286 decrease of the fluorescent intensity with the increase of salinity. Humic-like components C1,
287 C3, C4, C5 and C6 and the protein-like C7 presented a non-conservative behavior, showing clear
288 DOM contributions from the fringe mangrove swamps (values above the theoretical conservative
289 mixing line)⁶; however, humic-like C2 and protein-like C8 showed a nearly conservative
290 behavior. In all the cases, fluorescent intensity values of Harney River were higher than that of
291 Taylor Slough. In terms of abundance (percent total fluorescence), the Harney was enriched in
292 terrestrial humic-like components C1 (p<0.005), C3 (p<0.01), and C5 (p<0.05), while the Taylor
293 was enriched in microbial humic-like C4 (p<0.05), and protein-like C7 (p<0.005) and C8
294 (p<0.001). DOC and PARAFAC results from the Harney River agree with those previously
295 observed for the same season.⁵⁶ Spectral slope ratios (S_R), an established proxy for DOM
296 molecular weight (MW),⁵⁸ showed a general trend of decreasing MW (increasing S_R) with
297 increasing salinity (Table 2). This is expected due to the formation of lower MW DOM
298 compounds due to photobleaching⁷¹ as well as the predominance of lower molecular weight
299 autochthonous material at the marine end-member sites. Sample H1, the uppermost and most
300 freshwater-influenced sample of the Harney River, showed lower MW compared to the
301 oligohaline zone samples due to contributions of periphyton-derived DOM (lower MW) from the
302 freshwater marshes.² DOM from the most saline site of the Taylor Slough, T6, showed a slightly
303 higher MW (lower S_R) than the preceding estuarine sites. This site is located in a region of the
304 bay that has low water exchange and consequently high residence times. It is also in a zone of
305 high seagrass mortality and associated detritus. Bio- and photo-polymerization reactions could
306 therefore be responsible for the MW increase seen in this region.

307 *3.3 Reactive Species*

308 Normalized formation rates and steady-state concentrations for the four photo-produced
309 reactive species are shown in Figures 2 and 3. Formation rates and steady-state concentrations of

310 singlet oxygen (normalized to DOC concentration) decreased ($p < 0.01$) in the Harney River by
311 only 13 % across the salinity gradient, compared to the Taylor Slough sites, which decreased
312 ($p < 0.01$) by 56 % (Fig. 2a, 3a). Formation rates and steady-state concentrations of $^3\text{DOM}^*$
313 normalized to DOC did not change significantly along the two transects (Fig. 2b, 3b). The
314 average normalized formation rates of $^3\text{DOM}^*$ for the Harney River and Taylor Slough were
315 4.80×10^{-9} and $3.38 \times 10^{-9} \text{ M s}^{-1} (\text{mg C/L})^{-1}$, respectively, while the average normalized steady-
316 state concentrations were 2.55×10^{-14} and $1.26 \times 10^{-14} \text{ M} (\text{mg C/L})^{-1}$, respectively. The decrease
317 in normalized formation rates of $\bullet\text{OH}$ (Fig. 2c) was much greater than the decrease in singlet
318 oxygen, and was similar in the two systems: 90 % in the Harney River and 87 % in the Taylor
319 Slough. The normalized steady-state concentrations decreased by 75 % and 71 %, respectively
320 (Fig. 3c). This trend is likely due to both the loss of DOM as well as decreasing bicarbonate and
321 carbonate concentrations along transects (Table 2), resulting in less scavenging and therefore
322 higher relative steady-state concentrations. The soils of the Everglades contain significant
323 amounts of calcareous periphyton remains. Dissolution of these carbonates results in the fresher
324 waters having higher bicarbonate and carbonate (total alkalinity) concentrations than the marine
325 end-member, particularly for the Harney River. The gradient was less steep for the Taylor system
326 as the marine end-member, Florida Bay, is characterized by calcareous mud sediments.
327 Normalized carbonate radical formation rates therefore decreased by 91 % and 88 % and
328 normalized steady-state concentrations decreased by 72 % and 70 % and along the transects of
329 the Harney and Taylor Rivers, respectively, as the major reactants decreased.

330

331 4. Discussion

332 4.1 Reactive species

333 In a recent study, Parker et al.⁶⁹ reported an increase in $^3\text{DOM}^*$ lifetimes and therefore
334 steady-state concentrations of $^3\text{DOM}^*$ with increasing ionic strength. These results are supported
335 in the present study, as normalized $^3\text{DOM}^*$ lifetimes increased in the Harney river until the
336 marine end-member, where a significant increase in the abundance of protein-like C7 and C8 and
337 microbial humic-like C4 and decrease in terrestrial humic-like C1 and C5 was observed (Fig.
338 S1). The Taylor River did not show a significant change in normalized $[\text{}^3\text{DOM}^*]_{\text{ss}}$ across the
339 salinity gradient, possibly due to a balance between the loss of $^3\text{DOM}^*$ due to marine end-
340 member dilution with an increase of $^3\text{DOM}^*$ lifetimes. It should be noted that the high

341 uncertainties in the steady-state concentrations (~30 %) are due mainly to the uncertainty
342 associated with the estimation of the rate constant between SA and $^3\text{DOM}^*$ (Equations 9, 10).
343 Experimental error in determining the formation rates were much lower (<10 %), as evident in
344 Table 3.

345 Previous studies showed that increases in ionic strength do not affect $[\text{}^1\text{O}_2]_{\text{ss}}$,^{54, 69}
346 suggesting that changes in $^1\text{O}_2$ production along a salinity transect and between the two sites
347 were due to changes in the quality of the DOM. The ratios of formation rates of $^1\text{O}_2$ and $^3\text{DOM}^*$,
348 $R_{^1\text{O}_2}/R_{^3\text{DOM}^*}$, ranged from 0.76-1.40 in the Harney River, and from 0.48-1.28 in the Taylor
349 Slough. While it may seem counter-intuitive that at some sites $^1\text{O}_2$ is forming faster than its
350 precursor, $^3\text{DOM}^*$, the $^3\text{DOM}^*$ formation reported only accounts for $^3\text{DOM}^*$ with triplet
351 energies $\geq 250 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ necessary to react with sorbic acid, while the energy required to excite
352 ground-state molecular oxygen to $^1\text{O}_2$ is only 94 kJ mol^{-1} . These high-energy triplets- on average,
353 35 % of total triplets- possess the range of energies required for triplets to react with many
354 contaminants, making the reported formation rates and steady-state concentrations relevant for
355 calculating environmental fate of contaminants.³³ The decrease in $^1\text{O}_2$ formation across the
356 transects could be due to the loss of either oxygen in the system or $^3\text{DOM}^*$ with triplet energies
357 between 94 and 250 kJ mol^{-1} , as $R_{^3\text{DOM}^*}$ did not vary significantly across either system. While
358 the solubility of oxygen decreases with increasing salinity, if the loss of O_2 was the cause of the
359 decrease in $^1\text{O}_2$, the Harney River would theoretically show greater $^1\text{O}_2$ decrease than the Taylor
360 Slough as the salinity range was greater. As this was not the case- decrease in the Harney was
361 only 13 %, compared to 56 % in the TS- this mechanism is unlikely. No evidence of significant
362 bio- or photodegradation of the DOM was found in the optical properties or PARAFAC analysis,
363 in support of the latter mechanism. Therefore, the most likely cause for changes in $^1\text{O}_2$ is the
364 change in DOM quality resulting from increased contributions of DOM from the marine end-
365 member. This is evident from the data shown in Table 2, where optical properties indicative of
366 higher abundance of humic-like substances and aromaticity such as a_{254} , SUVA_{254} and the
367 relative abundance of the terrestrial humic-like PARAFAC components (C1, C3 and C5) were
368 enriched in the Harney compared to the Taylor estuarine samples, and also changed along the
369 salinity transect with lower a_{254} and humic-like fluorescence and higher protein-like fluorescence
370 at higher salinities. Grandbois, et al.⁷² showed that a microbial-derived DOM isolate (Pony Lake
371 Fulvic Acid) has lower formation rates of $^1\text{O}_2$ than a terrestrial-derived DOM isolate (Suwannee

372 River Humic Acid), and that the ratio of steady-state concentrations constrained in the DOM
373 micelles to that in the bulk solution were higher in microbial-derived DOM by over a factor of
374 seven. These results support the hypothesis that changes in DOM source from terrestrial to
375 microbial were the main drivers behind the measured changes in $^1\text{O}_2$ formation.

376 While the effects of ionic strength on $^3\text{DOM}^*$ and $^1\text{O}_2$ production were shown to be non-
377 halide-specific,⁶⁹ at constant ionic strength, chloride and bromide concentrations do affect the
378 production of these species as well as $\bullet\text{OH}$.⁷³ The influence of ionic strength on the production
379 of $\bullet\text{OH}$ is not known, although halides are known quenchers of $\bullet\text{OH}$. While the loss of $\bullet\text{OH}$ to
380 halides, namely bromide, could have influenced the measured formation rates in this study, it is
381 believed that these effects were minimal due to the high solution pH; however, the reduction in
382 quantum yield of production of $\bullet\text{OH}$ by halides may have contributed to the decreased formation
383 rates measured.⁷³ More research is needed to determine the mechanism of $\bullet\text{OH}$ formation so that
384 the effects of ionic strength as well as halides can be better understood.

385 Relationships between formation rates of reactive species and optical properties and
386 PARAFAC results were investigated in place of steady-state concentrations as formation of
387 reactive species is dependent on DOM composition, while steady-state concentrations are
388 heavily dependent on the presence of solution scavengers. No attempt was made to correlate
389 formation rates of carbonate radical with optical properties or PARAFAC components as the
390 majority of formation results from reactions with the hydroxyl radical and is not directly formed
391 as a result of DOM photochemistry.

392 *4.2 Optical properties and reactive species*

393 Photodegradation of DOM has previously been shown to decrease not only the average
394 molecular weight of the DOM,⁷¹ but also the reactive species production.⁴¹ In this dataset, as the
395 spectral slope ratios increased (higher S_R values are indicative of lower molecular weights),
396 nonlinear decreases in reactive species formation rates were observed when considering the
397 entire, combined dataset (Fig. S2). However, when considering the individual data for the two
398 systems, no clear trend was observed. Multiple studies have shown that the smaller size fractions
399 of DOM are more efficient at producing reactive species.^{54, 67, 74-76} These results come from the
400 size fractionation of individual DOM sources through filtration or size exclusion
401 chromatography. While the smallest size fractions of a single DOM sample may be the most

402 photoreactive, changes in S_R in this study more likely represent bulk MW changes across the
403 sample sites than photodegradation products. They are a result of changing DOM quality from
404 enriched soil/terrestrial sources at the freshwater end-member to microbial/autochthonous source
405 enriched DOM at the marine end-member. The decreased reactive species formation rates with
406 increasing S_R are consequently caused by a gradual shift (estuarine mixing) of more humic-like,
407 higher MW DOM to less humic-like, lower MW DOM along the salinity gradient. This source
408 change and associated DOM quality change is clearly reflected in its reactivity.

409 The absorbance at 254 nm, a_{254} , had a positive linear relationship ($R^2=0.959$) with singlet
410 oxygen production (Fig. 4a), which is in agreement with previous studies.⁷⁷ $SUVA_{254}$, an
411 established proxy for aromaticity,⁵⁹ increased linearly with formation rates of 1O_2 in the Taylor
412 Slough ($R^2=0.980$), but was only modestly correlated to the formation rates of 1O_2 in the Harney
413 River ($R=0.499$) (Fig 5a) possibly due to the DOM quality variations resulting from mangrove
414 swamp contributions (non-conservative behavior) for the mid-salinity range. Formation rates of
415 $^3DOM^*$ showed a strong positive correlation to a_{245} ($R=0.855$) and modest positive correlation
416 to $SUVA_{254}$ ($R=0.659$) (Fig. 4b, 5b). While it may seem surprising that the correlation to
417 $SUVA_{254}$, and by association aromaticity, was not stronger as aromatic ketones^{23-25, 78, 79} and
418 quinones⁷⁸⁻⁸⁰ are thought to be major sources of triplet excited states found in DOM, quinones
419 may play a lesser role in DOM optical properties⁸¹ and therefore, the contributions of quinones
420 to $^3DOM^*$ formation would not necessarily be captured by the $SUVA_{254}$ measurement.
421 Formation rates of hydroxyl radical in the Taylor Slough sample set showed a very strong
422 correlation to a_{245} ($R=0.995$), while the Harney River rates showed a less strong correlation
423 ($R=0.740$) (Fig 4c). Taylor Slough showed a very strong correlation between R_{OH} and $SUVA_{254}$
424 ($R=0.984$), while the Harney River showed a very weak correlation ($R=0.171$) (Fig. 5c). This
425 suggests that aromaticity may be more important for hydroxyl radical generation in microbial
426 and seagrass-derived DOM than in terrestrial humic-like DOM, a result that merits further study,
427 as the mechanisms of hydroxyl radical photo-production by DOM is poorly understood.⁴²
428 Seagrass- derived DOM has been reported to be enriched in non-lignin polyphenols⁵ which may
429 be important in this process.

430 4.3 PARAFAC and reactive species

431 The relationships between reactive species formation rates and the fluorescence intensity
432 of the PARAFAC components were investigated to examine the potential for use of fluorescence
433 as a proxy for reactive species formation. Excellent linear correlations between $^1\text{O}_2$ and
434 PARAFAC components were observed ($R^2 = 0.916\text{-}0.976$) for both Harney and Taylor rivers
435 and for all PARAFAC components (Fig. 6), suggesting that FDOM is a comparable proxy for
436 $^1\text{O}_2$ formation to a_{254} ($R^2 = 0.959$) and superior to SUVA_{254} ($R^2 = 0.701$). For the Harney River,
437 the correlation with C2 does not visually seem linear. While the reason for this difference is not
438 clear, this component has been proposed to be photo-stable or a product of photo-degradation,^{4,55}
439 which may affect its potential to generate reactive species. Similarly, excellent linear correlations
440 were observed between $\bullet\text{OH}$ formation rates and PARAFAC components (other than C2) in the
441 Taylor River ($R^2 = 0.854\text{-}0.991$; Fig. S3), while the relationship appeared nonlinear in the
442 Harney River. Formation rates of $^3\text{DOM}^*$ and PARAFAC component fluorescence were less
443 correlated ($R^2 = 0.558\text{-}0.839$; Fig. S4).

444 The relationships between the DOC-normalized formation rates of reactive species with
445 respect to the relative abundance of the PARAFAC components (% FDOM) were examined as
446 well. In general, $^1\text{O}_2$ showed positive relationship to the relative abundance of terrestrial humic-
447 like PARAFAC components C1, C3, and C5 and a negative relationship to percent of protein-
448 like components C7 and C8 and microbial humic-like C4 (and C6 for Taylor; Fig 7). These data
449 suggest that moieties present in the terrestrial humic substances are the main source of $^1\text{O}_2$ in the
450 bulk waters, with other fractions of the DOM playing a smaller role. The change in $[\text{}^1\text{O}_2]_{\text{ss}}$ with
451 the abundance of terrestrial or microbial PARAFAC components in the Harney River was
452 significantly lower than in the Taylor Slough, probably as a result of a significantly stronger
453 DOM quality gradient in the latter system. The influence of microbial and seagrass-derived
454 DOM in the Taylor samples is clearly reflected by a reduction in its photochemical reactivity
455 compared to the DOM in the Harney. While $\bullet\text{OH}$ formation showed a similar relationship with
456 PARAFAC components relative abundance (Fig. S5), $^3\text{DOM}^*$ formation did not show a strong
457 correlation to the abundance of any individual PARAFAC component (Fig. S6). This is not
458 unusual, as there was not a significant change in $^3\text{DOM}^*$ formation rates across the two systems.
459 The strongest correlations were modest negative correlations with the two protein-like
460 components, C7 ($R = -0.646$) and C8 (-0.617), followed by modest positive correlations to
461 terrestrial humic-like C5 ($R = 0.560$), C1 ($R = 0.553$) and C3 ($R = 0.530$)

462 As mentioned previously, the mechanisms of hydroxyl radical photoproduction by DOM
463 are poorly understood.⁴² Similar to $^1\text{O}_2$, absolute formation rates of the hydroxyl radical showed
464 positive correlation to the absolute fluorescence of each of the PARAFAC components, while the
465 normalized formation rates showed positive correlation to abundance of terrestrial humic-like
466 components C1, C3, and C5, and negative correlation to microbial humic-like C4, and C6, and
467 the protein-like C7 and C8 (Fig. S4). These relationships highlight the importance of caution
468 when attempting to correlate quantitative and qualitative PARAFAC component information
469 with photoreactivity of DOM: for example, simply looking at the relationship between absolute
470 formation rates of $\bullet\text{OH}$ and C8 fluorescence would give the impression that the two have a
471 strong positive correlation, while examining the normalized formation rate versus the abundance
472 of C8 shows an exponential decrease in $\bullet\text{OH}$ formation with higher C8 abundance. Thus, while
473 the abundance of FDOM is clearly a driver for reactive species formation rates, it is ultimately
474 the DOM quality (allochthonous vs. autochthonous) which is critical in this formation process.
475 As such, the relative abundance of terrestrial, humic-like PARAFAC components could serve as
476 a proxy for the potential for reactive species generation, particularly for $^1\text{O}_2$.

477 **Conclusions**

478 Formation rates and steady-state concentrations of singlet oxygen, triplet excited-state
479 DOM, and hydroxyl radical were determined for two different estuarine transects of the Florida
480 Everglades. Carbonate radical formation rates and steady-state concentrations were calculated
481 from the hydroxyl radical and alkalinity data. Both formation rates and steady-state
482 concentrations were directly related to CDOM, SUVA_{254} and FDOM, but were clearly driven by
483 the relative abundance of terrestrial humic-like DOM components, while they correlated
484 negatively with the microbial humic-like and protein-like components of DOM. This is in
485 agreement with a study of Arctic waters that similarly showed a positive correlation of $\bullet\text{OH}$
486 formation to terrestrial organic matter fluorescence and a negative correlation to protein-like
487 fluorescence⁸² as well as a previous study that showed higher $[\text{}^1\text{O}_2]_{\text{ss}}$ in bulk solutions from
488 terrestrial-derived DOM compared to microbial-derived DOM.⁷² Singlet oxygen formation rates
489 and steady-state concentrations (normalized to DOC) decreased slightly in the Harney River and
490 more so in the Taylor Slough along the salinity gradient, most likely due to changes in the
491 abundance of humic-like substances along the salinity gradient, and due to differences in

492 dissolved organic matter quality (microbial vs. terrestrial) between the two estuarine systems.
493 Normalized formation rates and steady-state concentrations of $^3\text{DOM}^*$ were found not to change
494 significantly along the salinity gradients. Hydroxyl radical formation (normalized to DOC)
495 decreased by $>87\%$ across the transects of both systems, and showed similar relationships to
496 DOM as singlet oxygen, with higher production in waters with a higher abundance of terrestrial
497 humic-like components and decreased production in waters with higher abundance of microbial
498 humic-like and protein-like DOM. A strong correlation between $\bullet\text{OH}$ formation and SUVA_{245} ,
499 an established proxy for aromaticity, was seen in the Taylor Slough samples, but not in the
500 Harney River, suggesting that aromaticity may be more important in $\bullet\text{OH}$ formation from
501 microbial/autochthonous DOM than terrestrial-derived DOM. Carbonate radical decreased along
502 the transects as well, as its major precursor is $\bullet\text{OH}$.

503 This study demonstrates the strength of combining reactive species measurements with
504 DOM optical properties as a means to assess environmental drivers and molecular controls on
505 DOM reactivity in aquatic environments. PARAFAC analysis has been demonstrated as a useful
506 tool to qualitatively assess the contributions of different organic matter components to the photo-
507 production of reactive species. The correlations between FDOM and reactive species production
508 are to be expected: fluorescent emissions are generated by excited singlet states of DOM, which
509 are the precursors of $^3\text{DOM}^*$, the main source of $^1\text{O}_2$ in sunlit natural waters. Recent work has
510 also shown that electron transfer from excited singlet states could form intermediates that
511 produce superoxide.⁸³ Additional research is needed on greater spatial and temporal scales to be
512 able to use PARAFAC analyses to not only determine reactive species source, but also as
513 quantitative proxies for the estimation of reactive species potential as a measure of DOM
514 photoreactivity.

515
516 **Acknowledgments** - The authors thank the Southeast Environmental Research Center (SERC) at
517 FIU for providing partial funds through the Eminent Scholars Program to WJC in support of this
518 study and field logistics. This work was partially funded through NSF grants DBI 0220409 (FCE
519 LTER) and CBET-1034555 to RJ and WJC, respectively. RJ thanks SERC for additional support
520 through the George Barley Endowment. CRC thanks Generalitat de Catalunya for support
521 through the Postdoctoral Beatriu de Pinós Fellowship. This material is based upon work
522 supported by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program under

523 Grant No. DGE-1321846 (SAT). This is contribution number 649 from the Southeast
524 Environmental Research Center.

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Table 1: Site information and water quality analysis of sample sites

Station	Latitude °N	Longitude °W	Salinity	pH	DOC (mg L ⁻¹)	Total Alkalinity (mg CaCO ₃ L ⁻¹)
H1	25.43798	80.9513	2.30	7.11	19.34	278.2
H2	25.41641	80.99297	8.03	7.51	17.80	295.4
H3	25.42352	81.05861	17.19	7.47	16.36	308.2
H4	25.43184	81.09126	26.63	7.40	13.87	293.8
H5	25.42671	81.1148	33.89	7.68	8.98	244.4
H6	25.38675	81.16042	37.96	7.94	6.37	217.6
T1	25.19582	80.63785	11.15	7.80	14.43	217.3
T2	25.20554	80.64632	19.82	8.00	12.26	210.2
T3	25.20044	80.64553	23.87	8.09	11.45	207.9
T4	25.17505	80.6292	27.17	8.15	8.86	192.7
T5	25.11645	80.72102	35.25	8.09	9.26	180.2
T6	25.01301	80.69453	37.37	8.15	5.74	171.3

Table 2: Optical Properties and PARAFAC

Site	S _R	$a_{CDOM}(254)$ (m ⁻¹)	SUVA ₂₅₄ (L·m ⁻¹ ·mg C ⁻¹)	C1 (QSU)	C2 (QSU)	C3 (QSU)	C4 (QSU)	C5 (QSU)	C6 (QSU)	C7 (QSU)	C8 (QSU)	Total Fluor (QSU)
H1	5.04	138.65	3.11	224.62	84.12	105.84	85.92	102.81	57.28	24.37	24.37	709.32
H2	4.95	135.69	3.31	189.59	70.98	75.17	72.83	87.58	53.05	21.22	22.02	592.43
H3	4.61	144.38	3.83	192.04	59.10	72.17	66.85	92.07	50.52	20.62	18.87	572.24
H4	4.57	118.41	3.71	153.07	33.06	56.89	50.86	74.53	39.18	14.77	13.95	436.31
H5	4.92	70.47	3.41	80.81	15.55	28.71	30.21	38.95	23.24	10.61	9.17	237.25
H6	6.52	34.26	2.33	30.39	10.55	11.11	15.18	14.77	9.74	6.40	5.22	103.36
T1	6.60	80.69	2.43	66.25	20.45	30.40	31.51	31.93	17.94	21.20	12.79	232.47
T2	7.43	56.84	2.01	39.22	16.35	14.47	21.23	21.24	12.99	14.57	8.29	148.37
T3	9.46	40.90	1.55	25.29	14.59	6.26	15.35	12.30	9.81	11.73	6.30	101.64
T4	13.77	26.81	1.31	13.88	10.26	1.57	9.64	6.67	6.37	10.51	4.69	63.58
T5	13.65	28.32	1.33	15.21	10.12	2.49	11.25	6.01	7.54	13.54	5.89	72.06
T6	8.94	13.19	1.00	7.25	3.37	0.65	4.40	3.09	3.60	7.89	2.77	33.02

Table 3: Reactive species formation rates and steady-state concentrations

Site	$^1\text{O}_2$		$^3\text{DOM}^*$		$\text{CO}_3^{\cdot-}$		$\cdot\text{OH}$	
	R ($\times 10^8 \text{ M s}^{-1}$)	[SS] ($\times 10^{14} \text{ M}$)	R ($\times 10^8 \text{ M s}^{-1}$)	[SS] ($\times 10^{15} \text{ M}$)	R ($\times 10^{12} \text{ M s}^{-1}$)	[SS] ($\times 10^{16} \text{ M}$)	R ($\times 10^{12} \text{ M s}^{-1}$)	[SS] ($\times 10^{17} \text{ M}$)
H1	9.76 ± 0.07	39.0 ± 0.3	9.45 ± 0.64	25.8 ± 8.2	42.6 ± 1.2	78.7 ± 25.4	44.9 ± 2.2	15.1 ± 2.7
H2	10.2 ± 0.9	41.0 ± 3.7	10.6 ± 0.5	25.1 ± 14.5	25.5 ± 0.3	51.2 ± 16.5	22.5 ± 0.2	8.01 ± 1.41
H3	8.48 ± 0.28	33.9 ± 1.1	6.05 ± 0.14	23.9 ± 7.3	20.1 ± 0.4	43.9 ± 14.1	18.3 ± 0.5	7.04 ± 1.25
H4	6.79 ± 0.51	27.2 ± 2.0	6.60 ± 0.14	33.8 ± 10.2	11.9 ± 0.5	30.6 ± 9.9	11.5 ± 0.3	5.14 ± 0.91
H5	4.36 ± 0.56	17.4 ± 2.2	3.48 ± 0.18	26.4 ± 8.3	5.06 ± 0.26	20.1 ± 6.6	5.58 ± 0.16	3.70 ± 0.66
H6	2.80 ± 0.28	11.2 ± 1.1	3.69 ± 0.18	12.0 ± 3.7	1.28 ± 0.02	7.20 ± 2.32	1.44 ± 0.10	1.27 ± 0.24
T1	5.13 ± 0.18	20.5 ± 0.7	4.02 ± 0.25	20.7 ± 6.6	8.82 ± 0.15	21.8 ± 7.0	10.5 ± 0.2	4.65 ± 0.82
T2	3.43 ± 0.10	13.7 ± 0.4	5.17 ± 0.47	13.9 ± 4.6	6.44 ± 0.25	18.8 ± 6.1	6.31 ± 0.14	3.15 ± 0.56
T3	2.62 ± 0.11	10.5 ± 0.4	4.96 ± 0.52	12.4 ± 4.3	2.76 ± 0.08	8.61 ± 2.78	3.10 ± 0.05	1.67 ± 0.29
T4	1.94 ± 0.18	7.74 ± 0.73	2.80 ± 0.27	10.0 ± 3.4	1.82 ± 0.06	7.36 ± 2.38	2.09 ± 0.09	1.41 ± 0.26
T5	2.04 ± 0.26	8.16 ± 1.06	2.33 ± 0.08	12.7 ± 3.9	1.11 ± 0.12	4.29 ± 1.46	1.41 ± 0.02	0.93 ± 0.16
T6	0.90 ± 0.16	3.61 ± 0.63	1.86 ± 0.10	6.07 ± 1.87	0.41 ± 0.04	2.58 ± 0.87	0.55 ± 0.16	0.55 ± 0.18

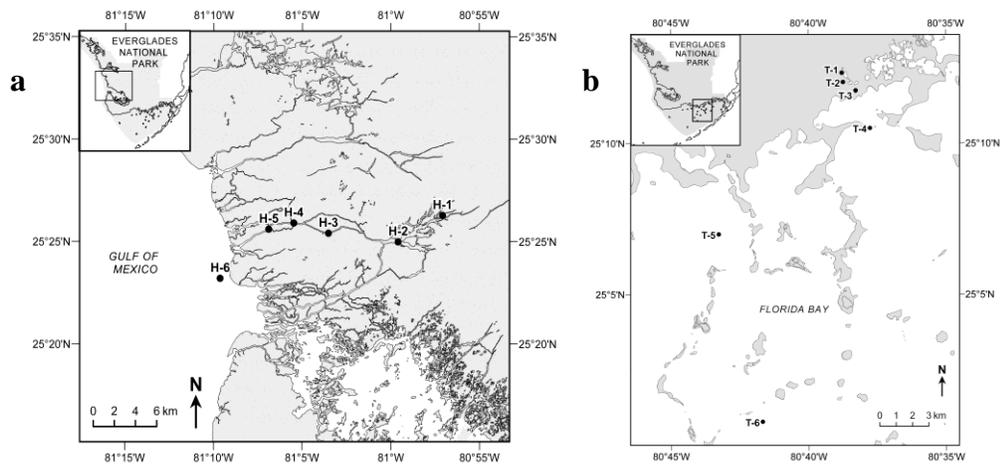


Figure 1: Sample site locations in Everglades National Park, Florida, USA (a) Harney River sample sites in the Shark River Slough, and (b) Taylor River and Florida Bay samples in the Taylor Slough.

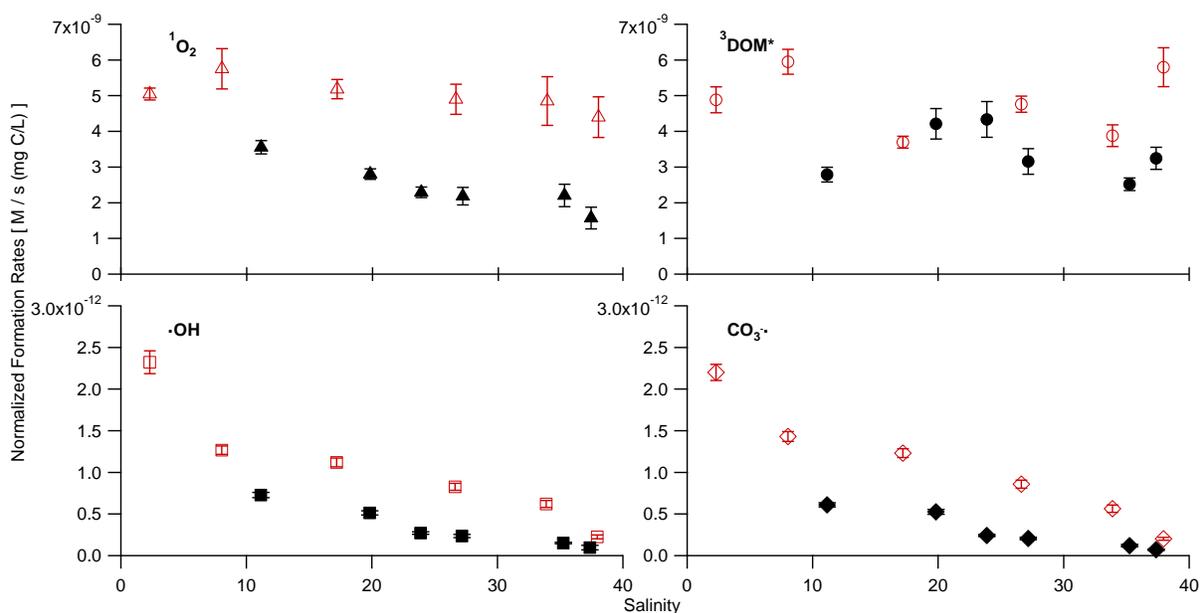


Figure 2: Normalized formation rates of (a) $^1\text{O}_2$ (triangles), (b) $^3\text{DOM}^*$ (circles), (c) $\bullet\text{OH}$ (squares) and (d) $\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$ (diamonds) across transects of the Harney River (red, open) and Taylor Slough (black, filled). Error bars represent standard deviations of triplicate experiments for $^1\text{O}_2$, $\bullet\text{OH}$, and $\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$. $^3\text{DOM}^*$ error bars are calculated from standard deviations of the regression analysis (Equation 8).

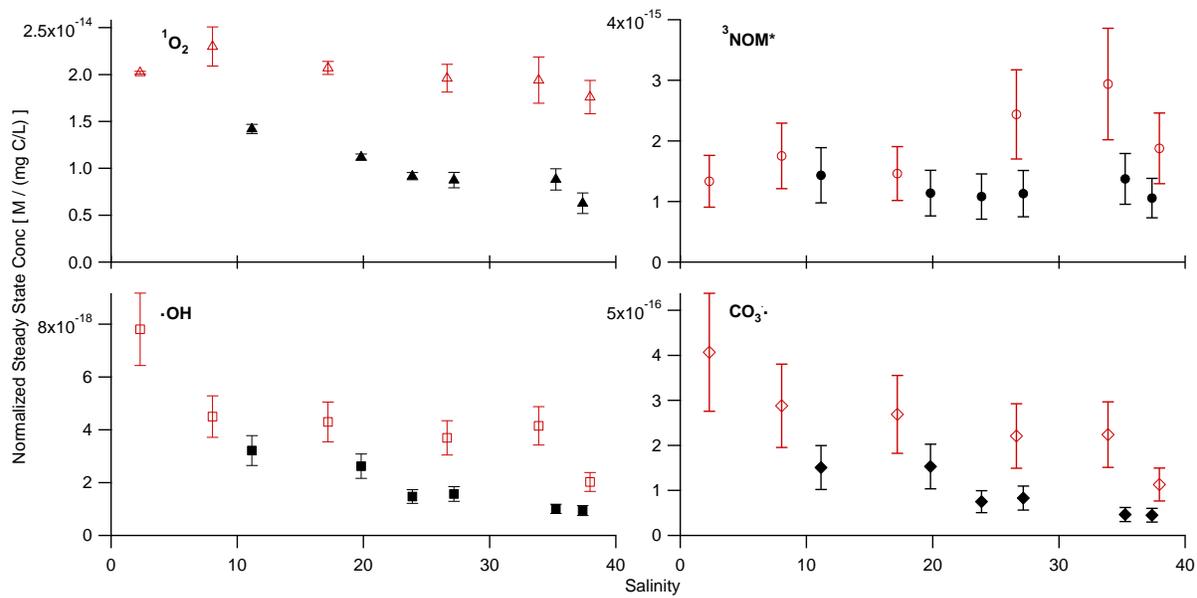


Figure 3: Normalized steady-state concentrations of (a) $^1\text{O}_2$ (triangles), (b) $^3\text{DOM}^*$ (circles), (c) $\bullet\text{OH}$ (squares) and (d) $\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$ (diamonds) across transects of the Harney River (red, open) and Taylor Slough (black, filled). Error bars represent standard deviations of triplicate experiments for $^1\text{O}_2$, $\bullet\text{OH}$, and $\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$. $^3\text{DOM}^*$ error bars are calculated from standard deviations of the regression analysis (Equation 8).

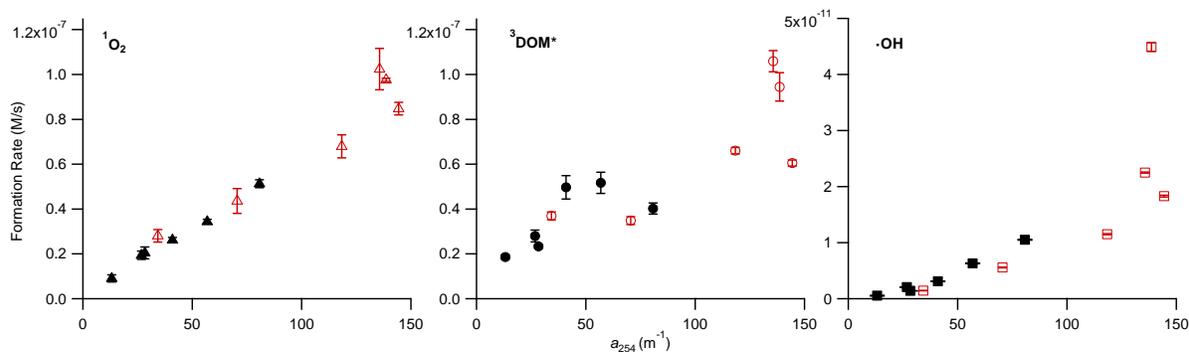


Figure 4: Formation rates of (a) $^1\text{O}_2$ (triangles) and (b) $^3\text{DOM}^*$ (circles), and (c) $\bullet\text{OH}$ (squares) in relation to the absorbance at 254 nm, a_{254} , of the Harney River (red, open) and Taylor Slough (black, filled). Error bars represent standard deviations of triplicate experiments for $^1\text{O}_2$, $\bullet\text{OH}$, and $\text{CO}_3^{\bullet-}$. $^3\text{DOM}^*$ error bars are calculated from standard deviations of the regression analysis (Equation 8).

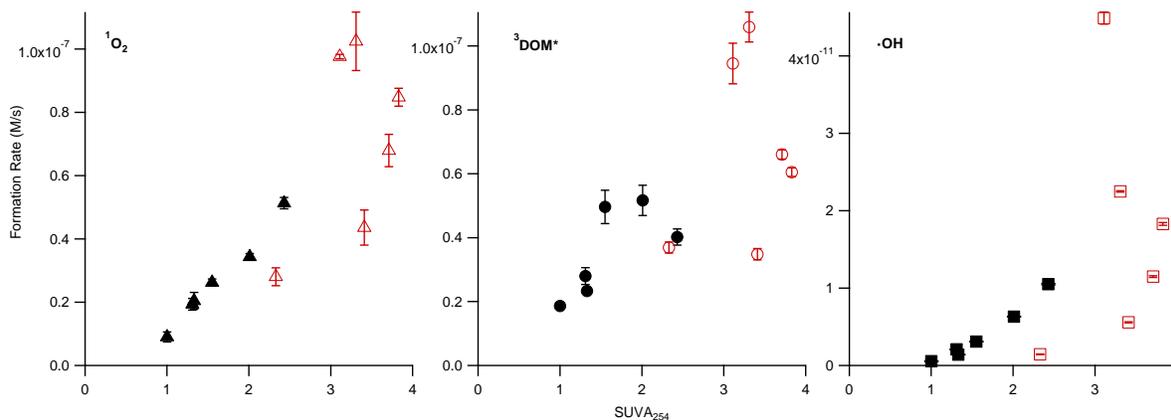


Figure 5: Formation rates of (a) $^1\text{O}_2$ (triangles) and (b) $^3\text{DOM}^*$ (circles), (c) $\bullet\text{OH}$ (squares) and (d) $\text{CO}_3^{\cdot-}$ (diamonds) in relation to SUVA_{254} of the Harney River (red, open) and Taylor Slough (black, filled). Error bars represent standard deviations of triplicate experiments for $^1\text{O}_2$, $\bullet\text{OH}$, and $\text{CO}_3^{\cdot-}$. $^3\text{DOM}^*$ error bars are calculated from standard deviations of the regression analysis (Equation 8).

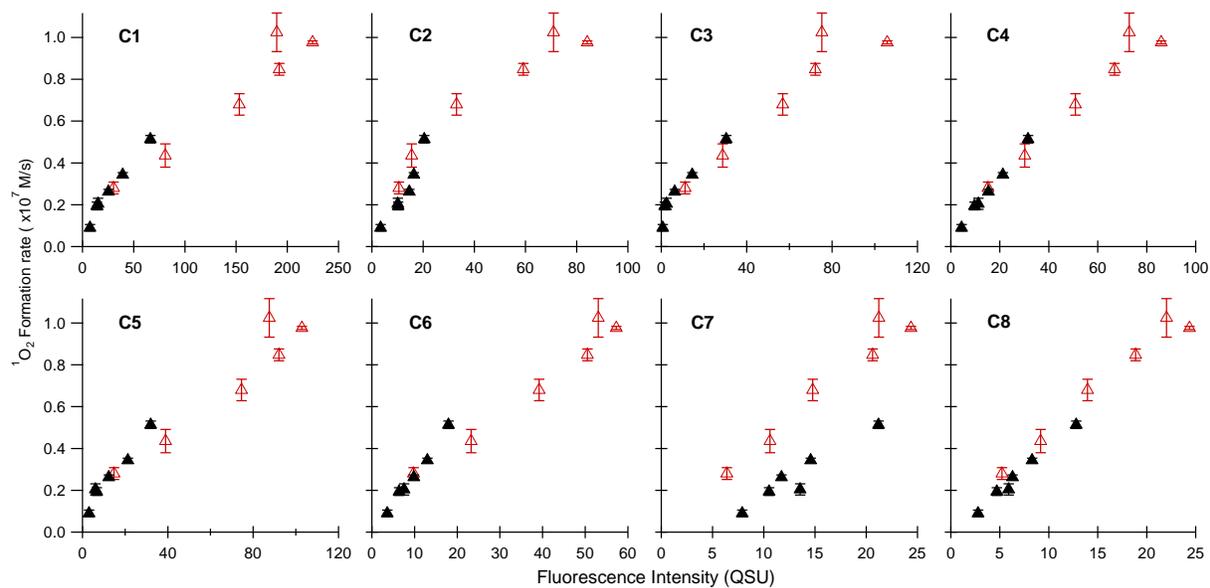


Figure 6: Formation rates of $^1\text{O}_2$ in the Harney River (red, open) and Taylor Slough (black, filled) as related to fluorescence intensity (QSU) of the different DOM components as identified by PARAFAC analysis. Error bars represent standard deviations of triplicate experiments

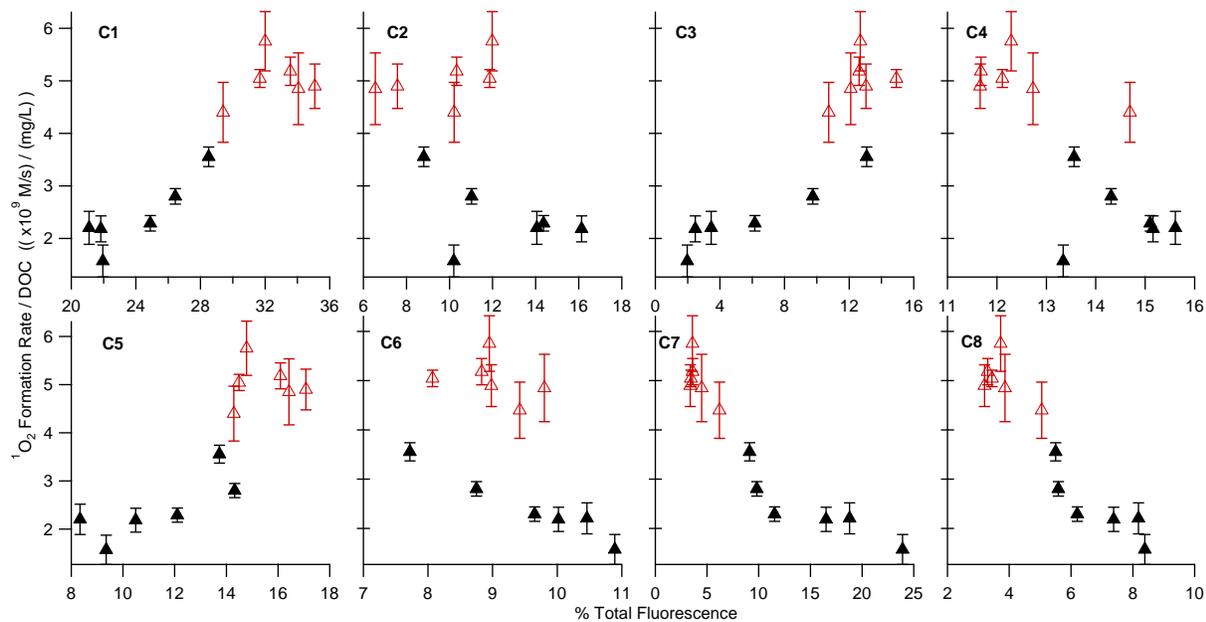


Figure 7: Normalized formation rates of $^1\text{O}_2$ in the Harney River (red, open) and Taylor Slough (black, filled) as related to percent total fluorescence intensity of the different DOM components as identified by PARAFAC analysis. Error bars represent standard deviations of triplicate experiments