

DON sinks

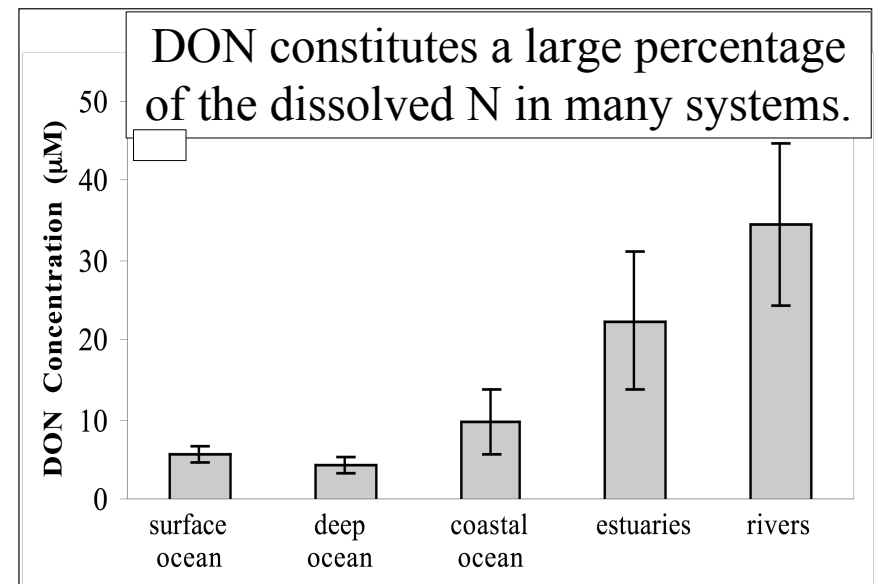
Deborah A. Bronk
Department of Physical Sciences



**Traditional
Dogma**

**DON is
refractory!**

- DON sinks
Autochthonous vs
allochthonous
- Mechanisms of use DON
- Who is using what?



Allochthonous sources:

Rivers
Terrestrial runoff
 Agricultural
 Urban
 Forested
Combined sewage overflows
Sewage effluent
Atmospheric deposition

Methods for studying release:

- 1. Bioassays**
- 2. Radioactive tracers**
- 3. Stable isotope tracers**
 - a. Direct measures**
 - b. Isotope dilution**

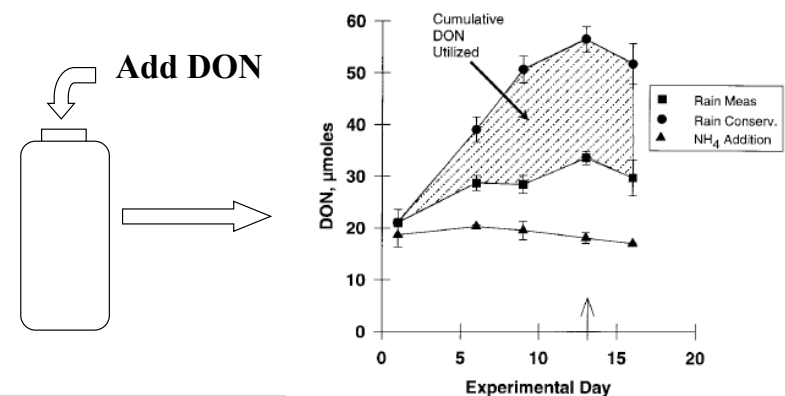
**2 - 84% of N in atmospheric
deposition is DON**

Seitzinger and Sanders 1999 L&O

14 - 90% of N in rivers is DON

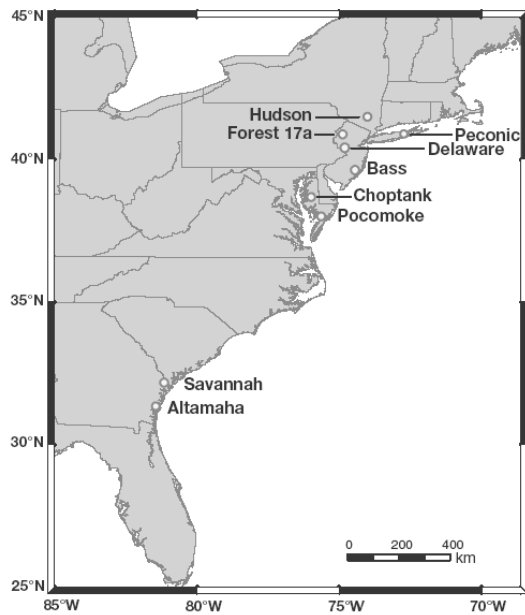
Seitzinger and Sanders 1997 MEPS

Atmospheric DON

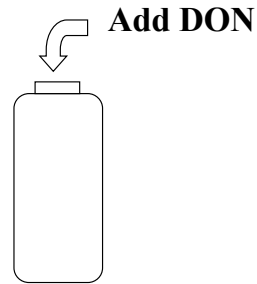


**45 to 75% of the DON
was consumed**

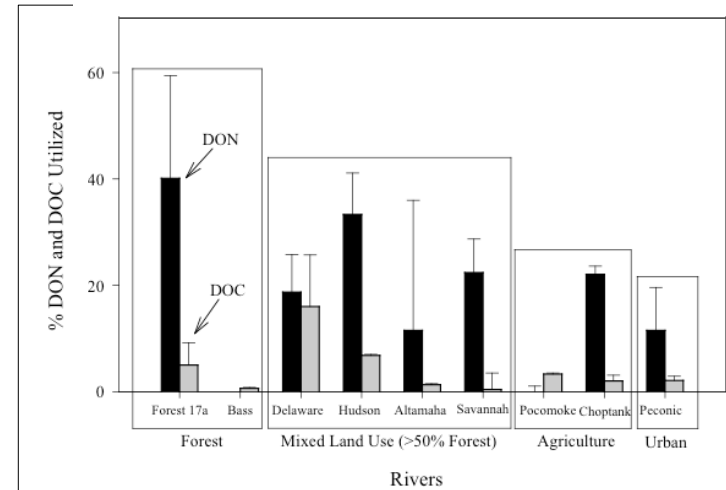
Seitzinger and Sanders 1999 L&O



Riverine DON



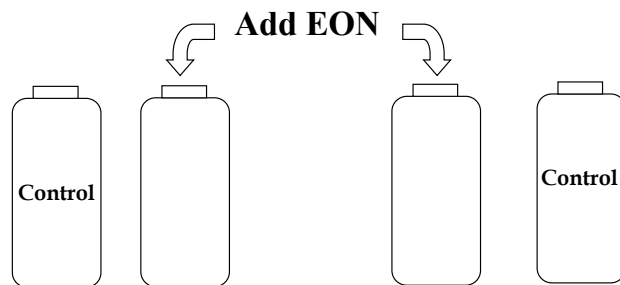
Wiegner et al. 2006 AME



Up to 60% of the DON was consumed in 6 days

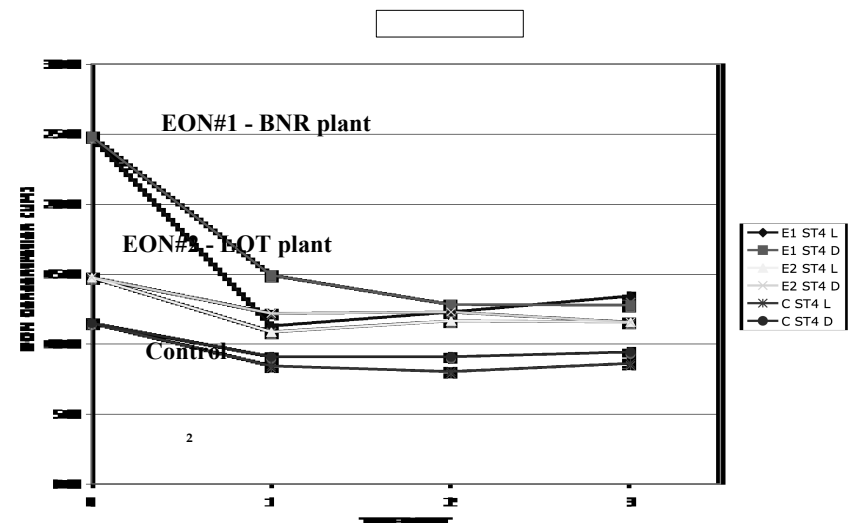
Wiegner et al. 2006 AME

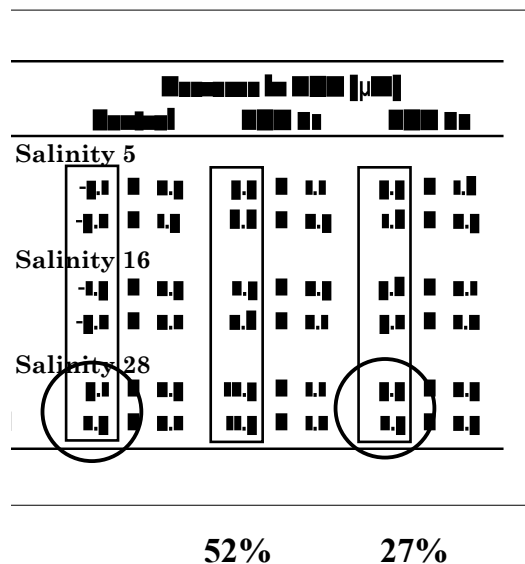
Water collected at 5, 16 and 28 %



Mulholland et al. in prep.

**Incubated for ~2, 4, and 7 days - monitored
nutrient and biomass parameters.**

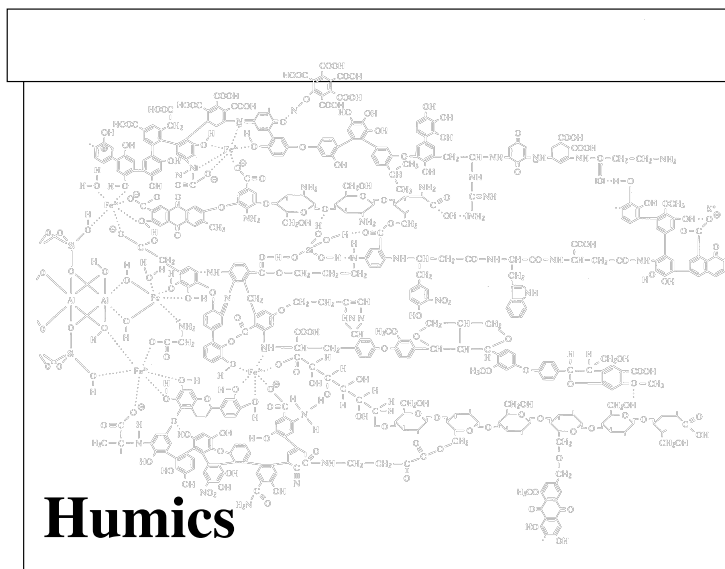




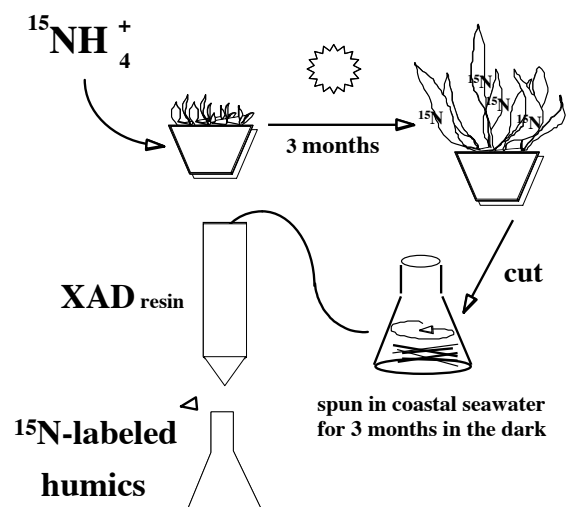
Response varied with salinity

+ EON = net consumption

Control - production and consumption

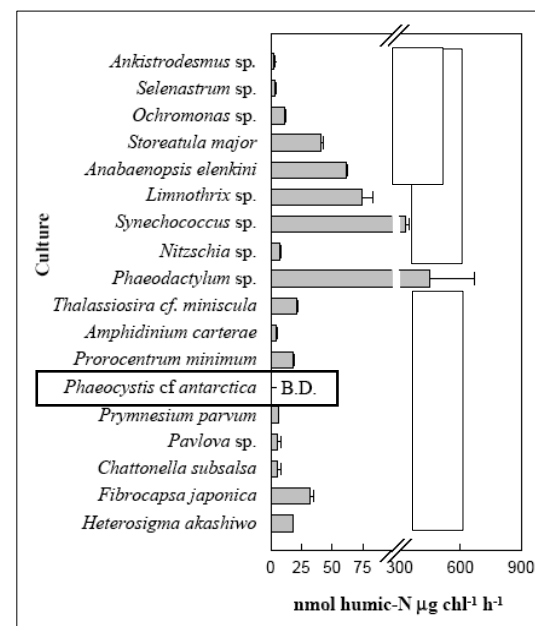


Making ^{15}N -labeled humics



Use Killed Controls!

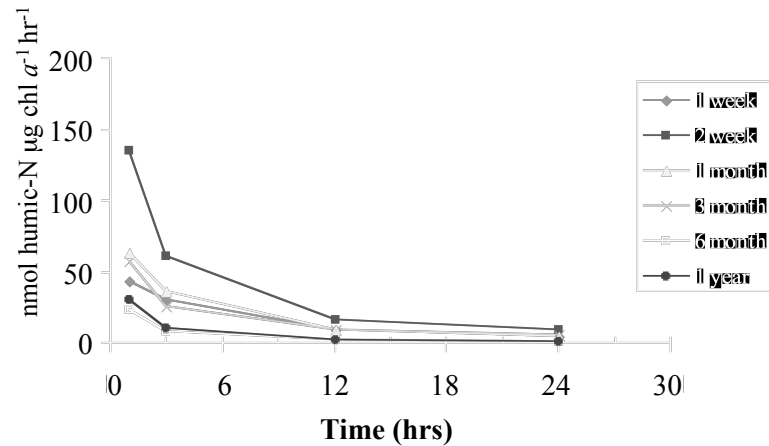
Humic uptake in culture



See et al. 2006 L&O

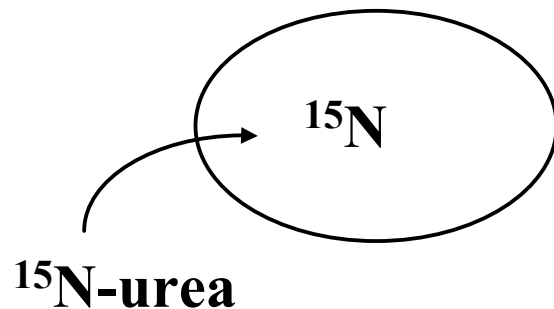
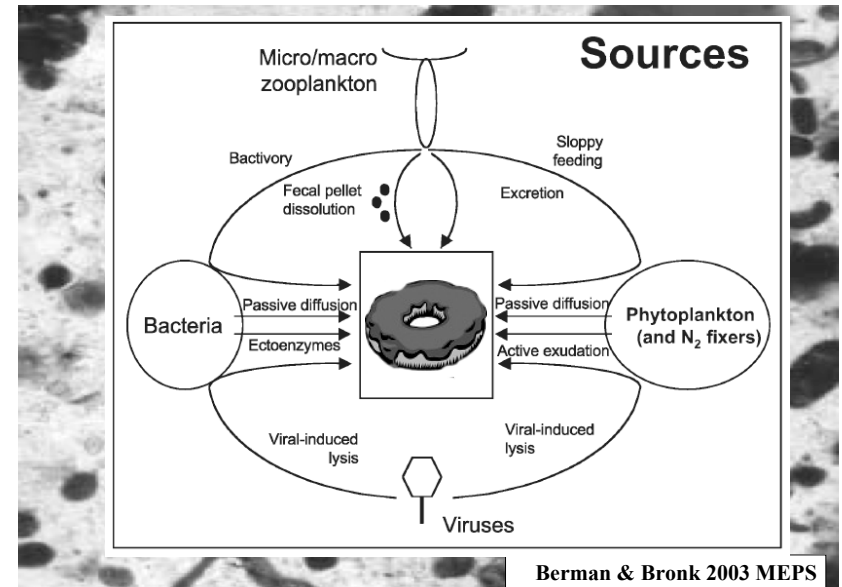
Humic Uptake Rates

Thalassiosira cf. miniscula



See et al. 2006 L&O

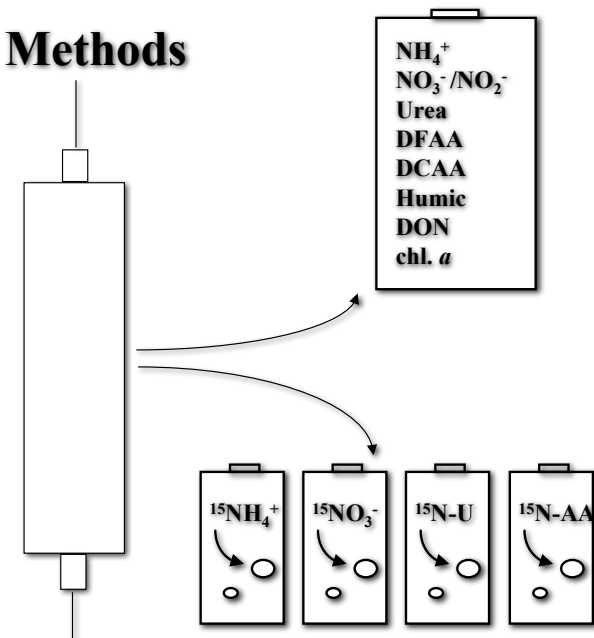
Autochthonous sources of DON



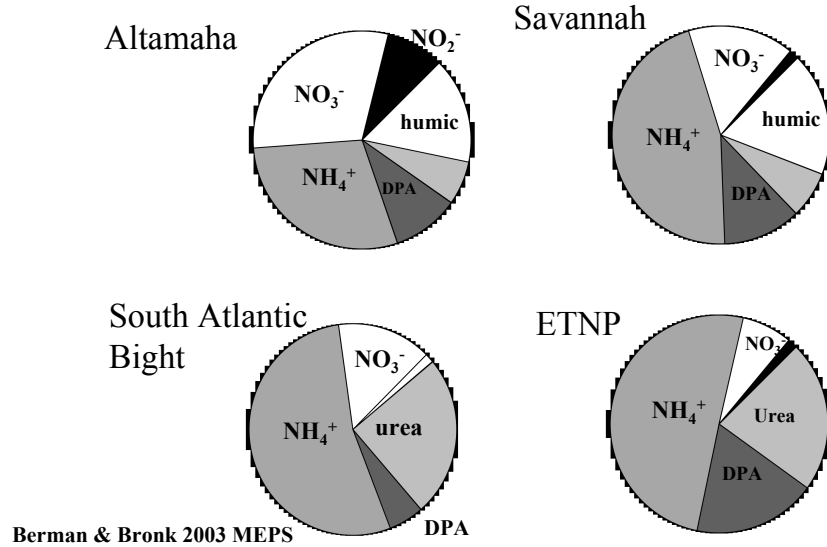
Drawbacks:

- DON pool of unknown composition
- Few commercially available tracers
- \$\$\$\$

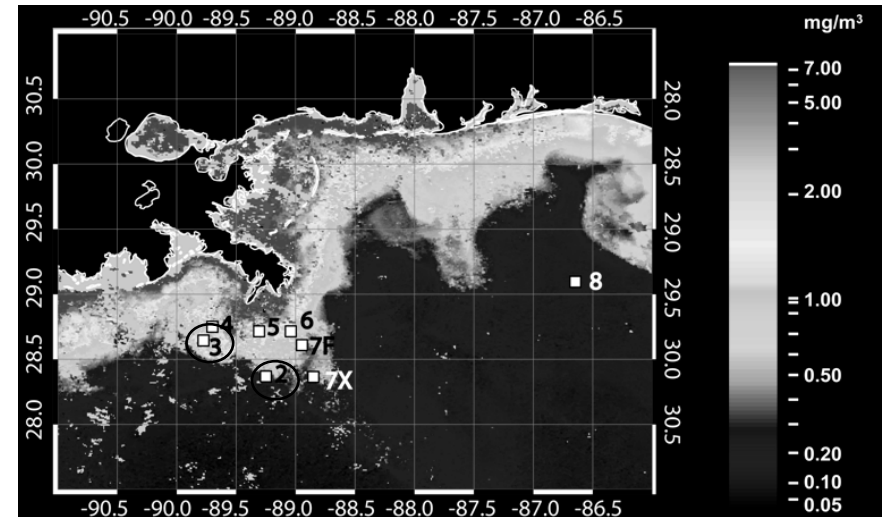
Field Methods



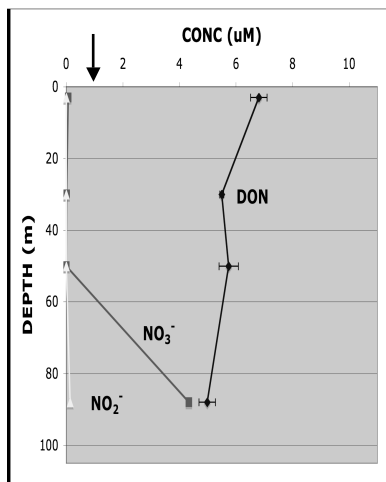
Uptake characterization



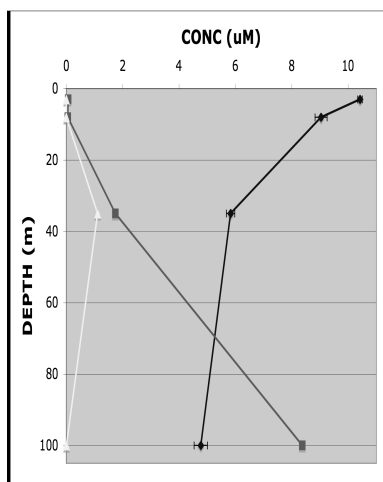
Mississippi River Plume - July 2005



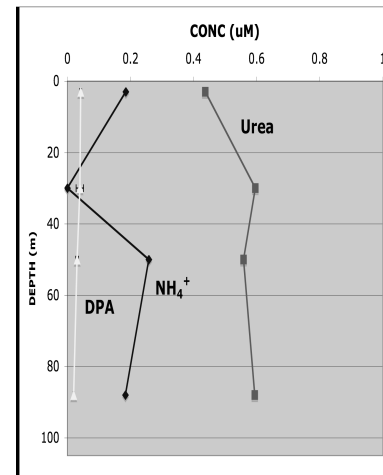
Outside Plume



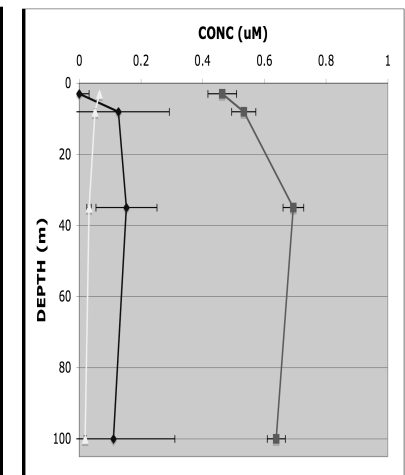
Inside Plume



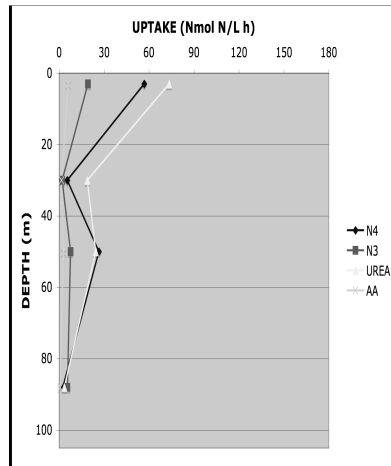
Outside Plume



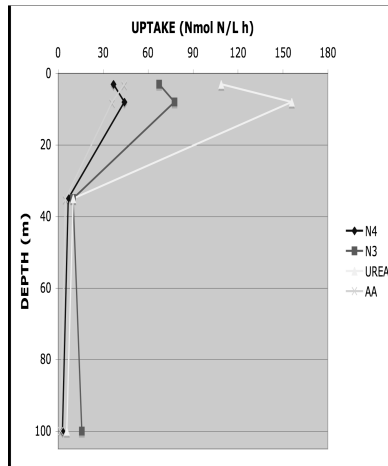
Inside Plume



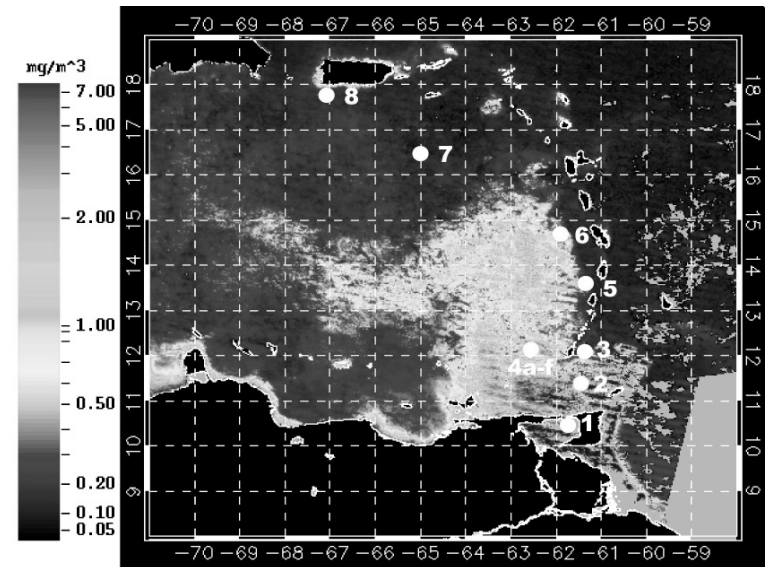
Outside Plume



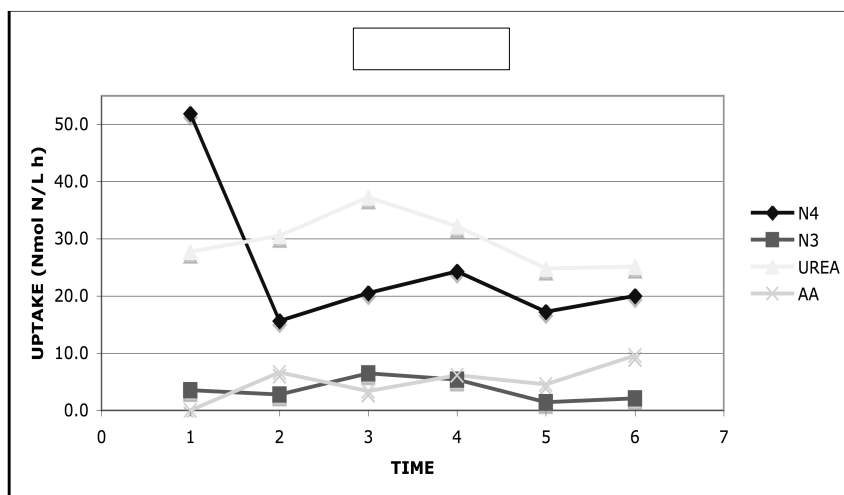
Inside Plume



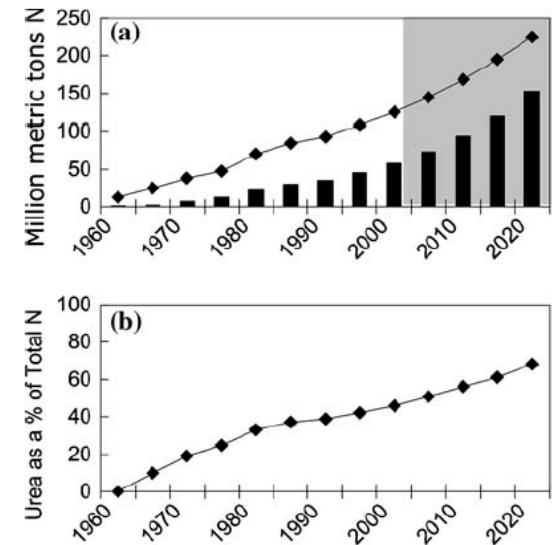
Orinoco River Plume - Oct 2006



Orinoco River Plume



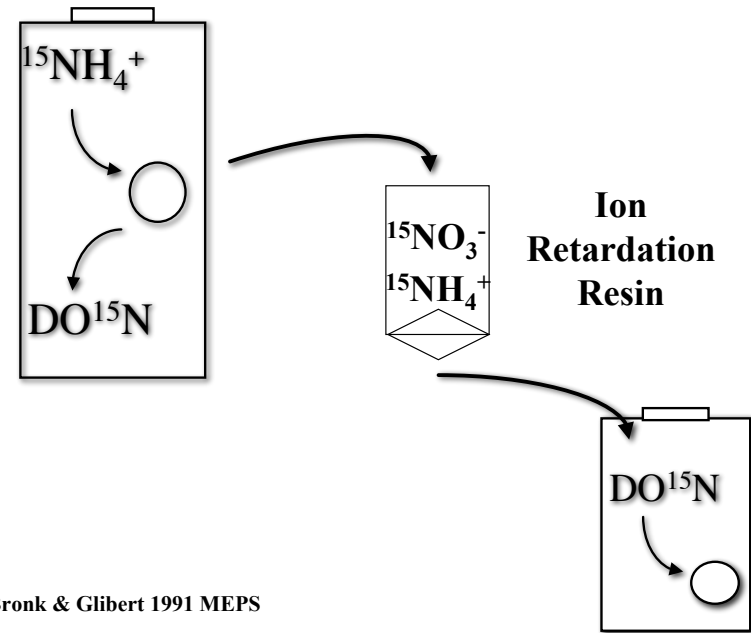
The rise of urea



$$f\text{-ratio} = \frac{\text{New production}}{\text{New} + \text{Regenerated Production}}$$

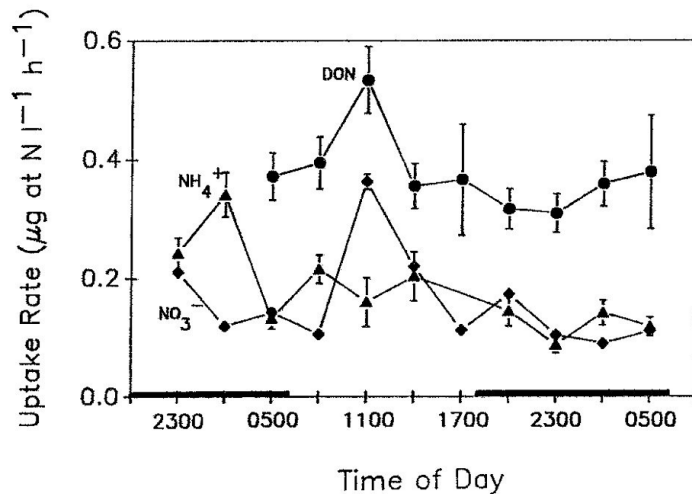
$$f\text{-ratio} = \frac{\text{NO}_3^- \text{ uptake}}{\text{NH}_4^+ + \text{NO}_3^- + \text{U} + \text{DPA uptake}}$$

Is the urea really regenerated?
Is the NO_3^- really new?



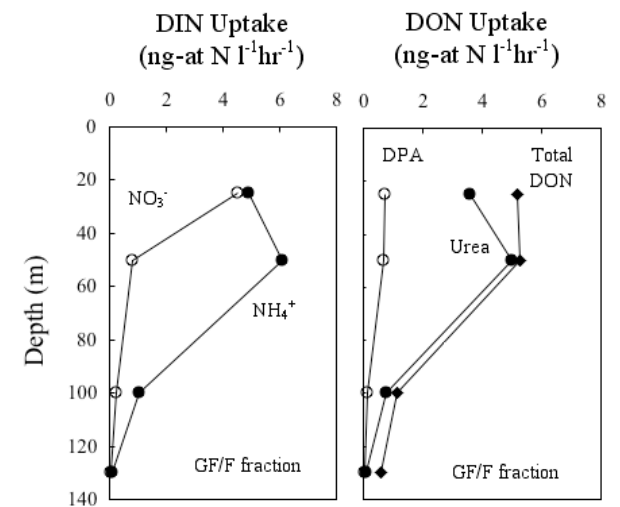
Bronk & Glibert 1991 MEPS

Chesapeake Bay - August



Bronk and Glibert 1993 Mar Biol

South Pacific



Bronk & Campbell In prep.

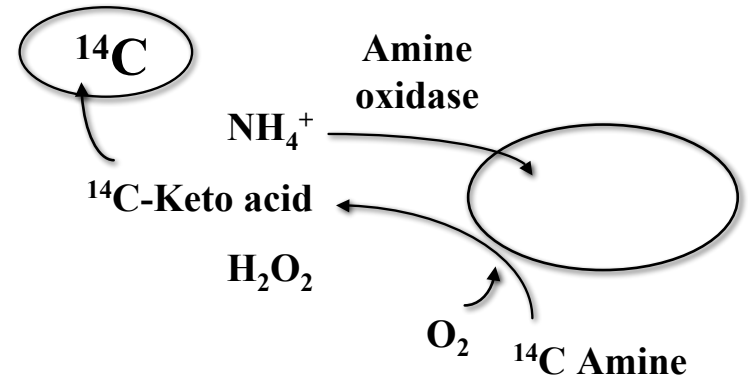
Phytoplankton mechanisms to access organic N:

Organic oxidases
Peptide hydrolysis
Pinocytosis
Phagocytosis
Photochemical processes
Adsorption - Desorption



Farming nitrogen from
“refractory” compounds!

Cell Surface Enzymes

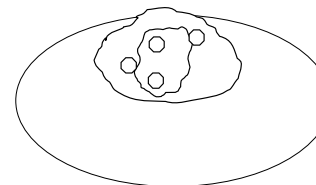


Palenik et al. 1988

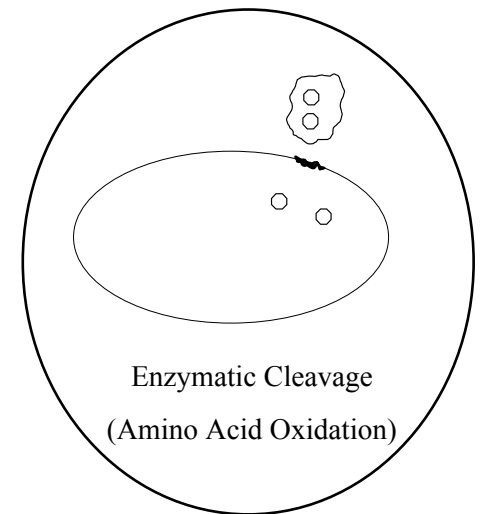
Humic Uptake Mechanisms?

○ = ^{13}C

○ = ^{15}N

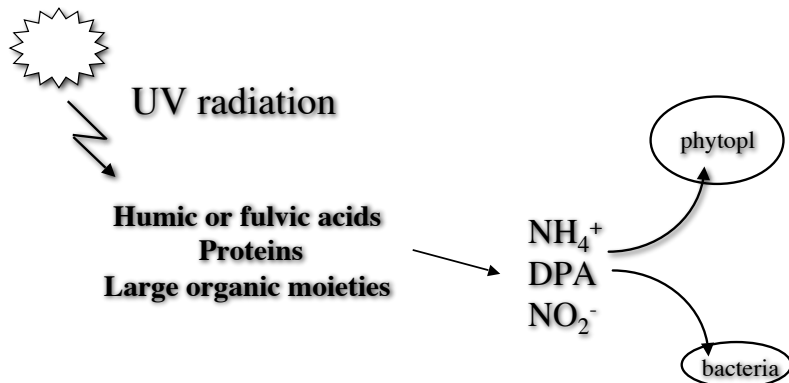


Direct Uptake
(Pinocytosis)



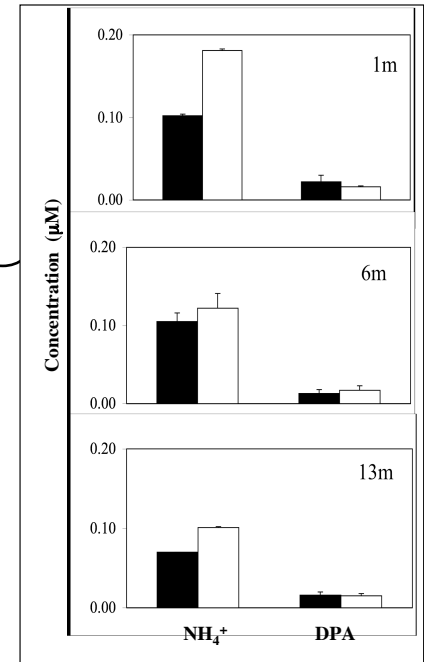
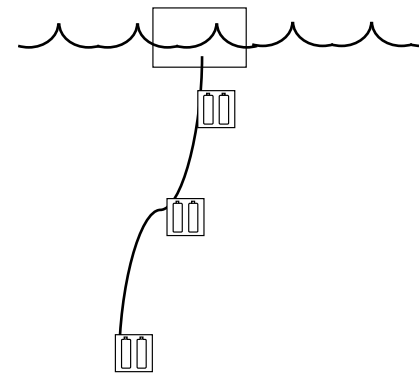
Enzymatic Cleavage
(Amino Acid Oxidation)

Photoproduction of labile N

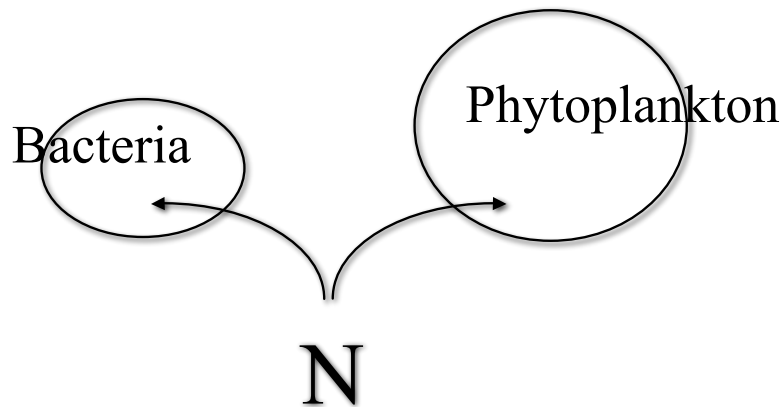


Based on Bushaw et al. 1996 Nature

ETNP Buoy



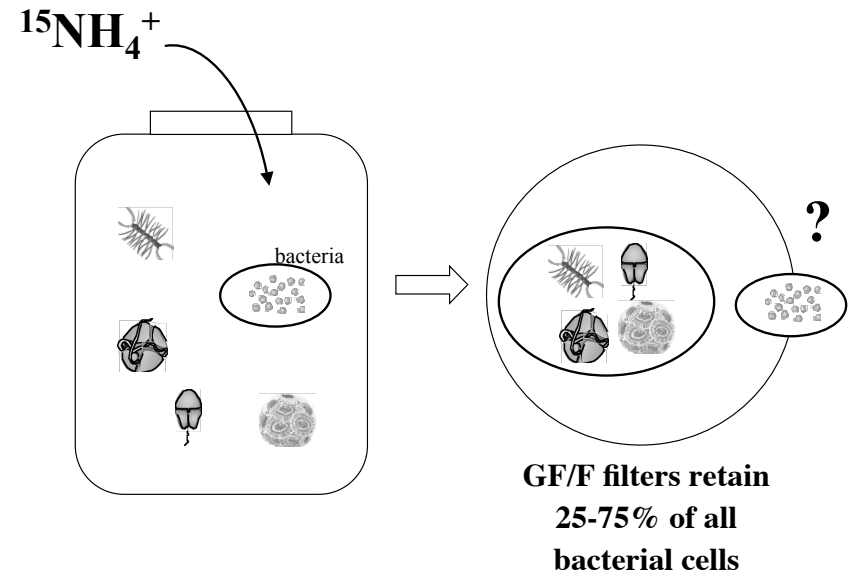
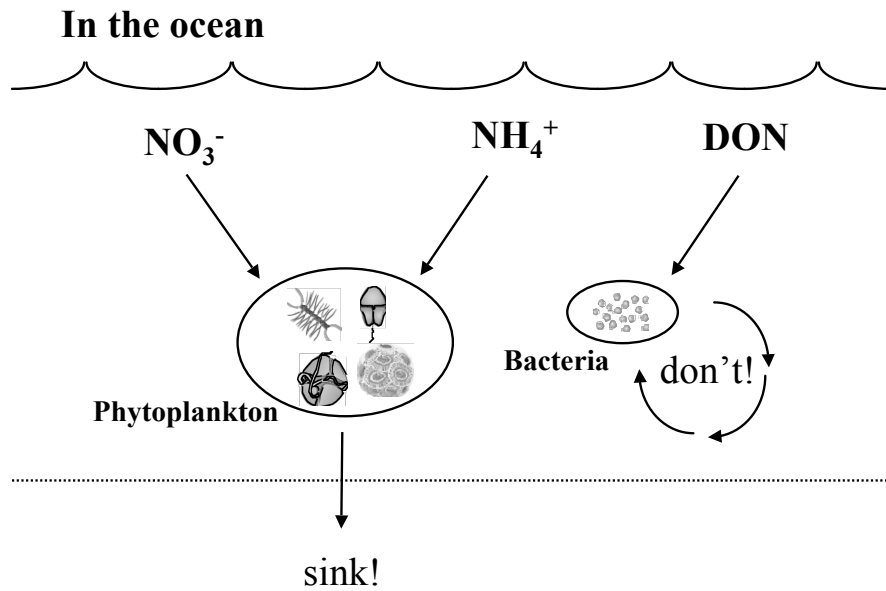
Who uses what?



Who cares?

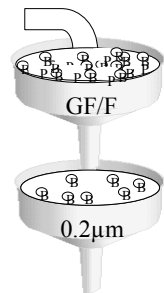
In estuaries and lakes...

- Phytoplankton $\rightarrow \text{O}_2$
- Bacteria take up $\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$
- Phytoplankton \rightarrow higher trophic levels
- Phytoplankton can \rightarrow HABs



Phytoplankton vs. Bacteria N Uptake

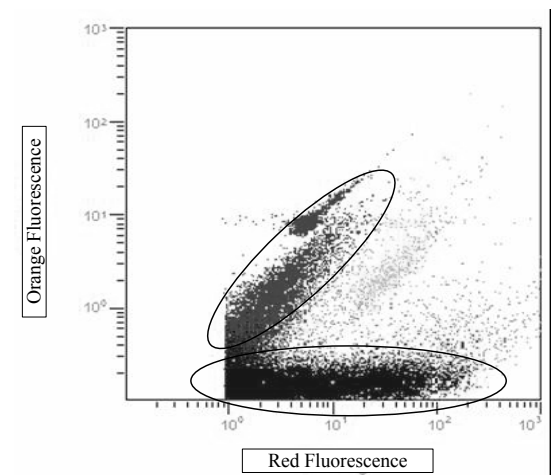
Size fractionation



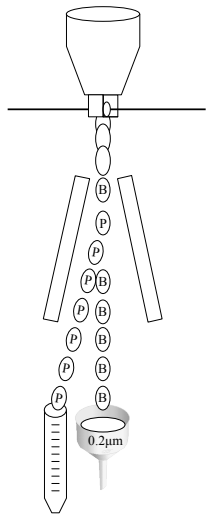
GF/F filters retain
50-65% of all bacterial cells

Flow Cytometric Sorting

Lipschultz (1995) – ^{15}N
Zubkov et al. (2004) – ^{35}S

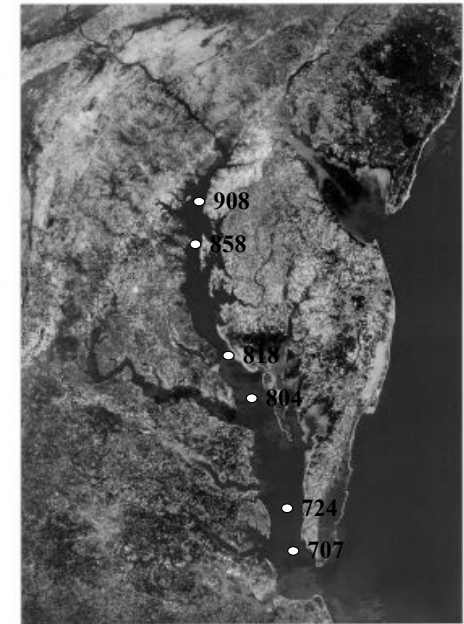


Flow Cytometric Sorting

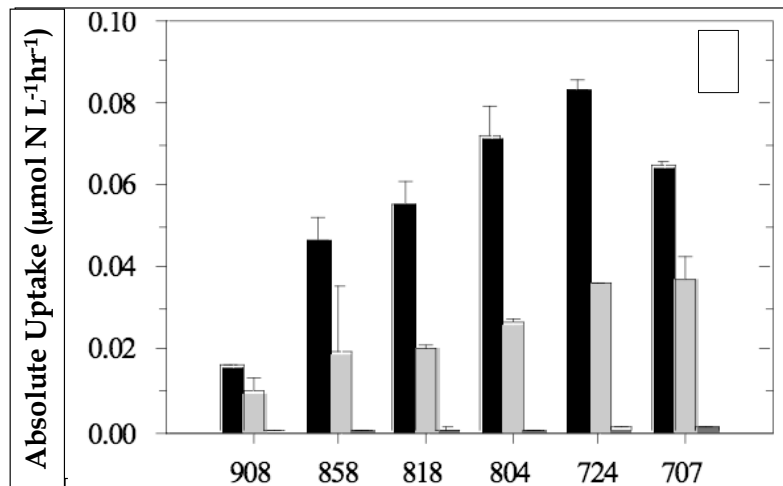


Chesapeake Bay

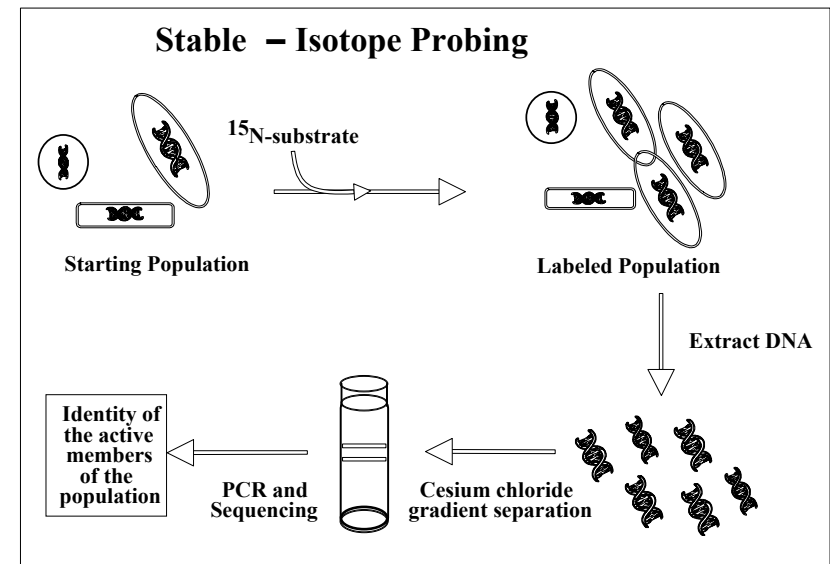
July 2004



Chesapeake Bay - AA uptake

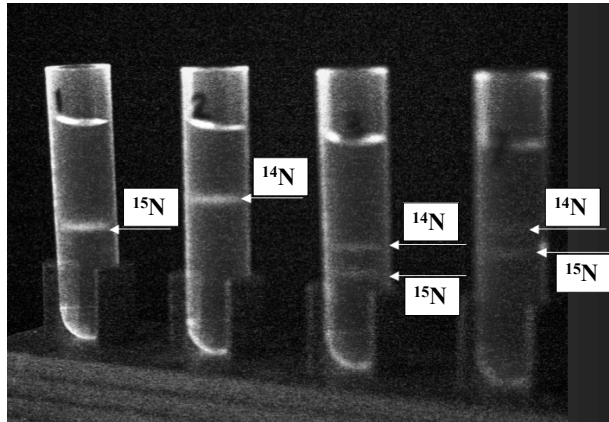


Bradley & Bronk In prep



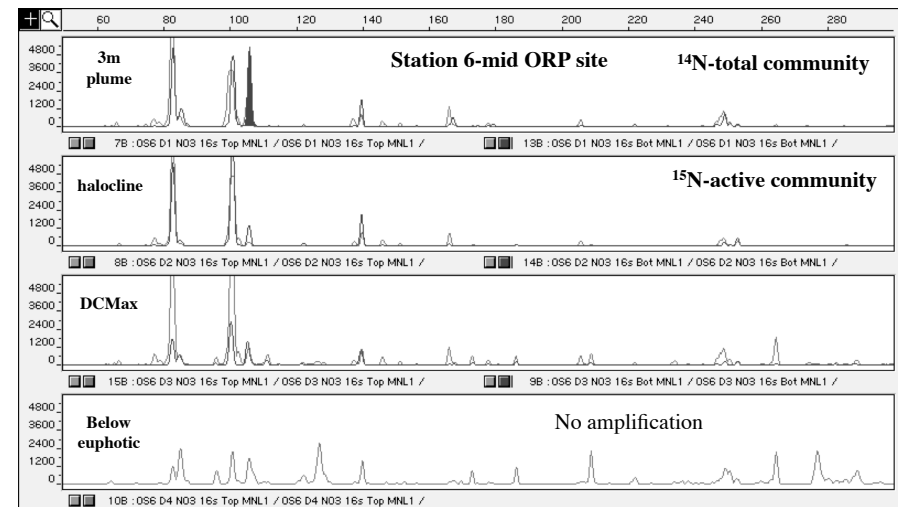
Modified from figure by Craig Phelps - Lee Kerkoff

Cesium Chloride (CsCl) Gradient



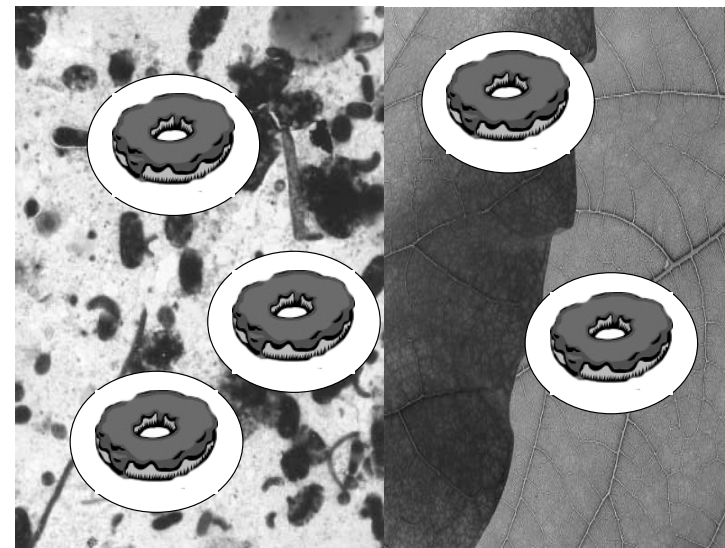
Modified from figure by Lee Kerkhoff

16S rRNA gene profiles of bacterial $^{15}\text{NO}_3^-$ uptake



Lee Kerkhoff et al. In prep.

DON



- A significant fraction of both autothonous and allochthonous DON is labile on time scales of days.
- Both bacteria AND phytoplankton use DON.

Big Question:
Who is using what?

- Acknowledgments:
Marta Sanderson and Quinn Roberts
Paul Bradley and Jason See

River stuff: David John, John Paul, Jorge Corredor,
Julio Morell, Lee Kerkhoff

EON stuff: Margie Mulholland, Nancy Love, Liz
Canuel

