



*Supplement of*

## **Seasonal dynamics of carbon and nutrients from two contrasting tropical floodplain systems in the Zambezi River Basin**

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| Barotse Plains        | Distance along<br>floodplain (km) | Year sampled | Discharge<br>(m <sup>3</sup> /s) | δ <sup>18</sup> O<br>(‰ VSMOW) | δ <sup>18</sup> O stdev<br>(‰ VSMOW) | POC<br>(µM) | DOC<br>(µM) | DIC<br>(µM) | PN<br>(µM) | DON<br>(µM) | DIN<br>(µM) | PP<br>(µM) | DOP<br>(µM) | DIP<br>(µM) | POC δ <sup>13</sup> C<br>(‰ VPDB) |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Wet season            |                                   |              |                                  |                                |                                      |             |             |             |            |             |             |            |             |             |                                   |
| <b>Station number</b> |                                   |              |                                  |                                |                                      |             |             |             |            |             |             |            |             |             |                                   |
| BP03                  | 0                                 | 2013         | 1977                             | -1.80                          | 0.10                                 | 36          | 206         | 316         | 3.2        | 11.6        | 0.00        | 0.25       | 0.30        | 0.06        | -26.5                             |
| BP05                  | 15                                | 2013         |                                  | -1.92                          | 0.03                                 | 41          | 197         | 298         | 3.3        | 10.3        | 0.00        | 0.28       | 0.12        | 0.05        | -26.2                             |
| BP06                  | 30                                | 2013         |                                  | -2.04                          | 0.07                                 | 28          | 210         | 487         | 2.7        | 11.7        | 0.00        | 0.27       | 0.11        | 0.05        | -27.4                             |
| BP07                  | 45                                | 2013         | 1957                             | -2.10                          | 0.05                                 | 21          | 198         | 526         | 2.0        | 11.3        | 0.00        | 0.32       | 0.18        | 0.05        | -27.7                             |
| BP11                  | 60                                | 2013         |                                  | -2.03                          | 0.06                                 | 28          | 197         | 481         | 2.6        | 11.6        | 0.00        | 0.24       | 0.12        | 0.04        | -27.4                             |
| BP12                  | 75                                | 2013         |                                  | -2.01                          | 0.06                                 | 32          | 196         | 472         | 2.9        | 11.4        | 0.00        | 0.29       | 0.11        | 0.03        | -26.8                             |
| BP13                  | 90                                | 2013         | 1317                             | -1.95                          | 0.04                                 | 18          | 180         | 417         | 1.7        | 10.9        | 0.00        | 0.19       | 0.09        | 0.03        | -26.5                             |
| BP16                  | 105                               | 2013         |                                  | -1.31                          | 0.04                                 | 21          | 213         | 339         | 1.8        | 11.6        | 0.00        | 0.09       | 0.13        | 0.02        | -25.7                             |
| BP17                  | 120                               | 2013         |                                  | -1.37                          | 0.03                                 | 20          | 207         | 359         | 2.0        | 13.0        | 0.00        | 0.10       | 0.20        | 0.02        | -25.6                             |
| BP01a                 | 120                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.03                          |                                      |             | 191         |             |            | 23.4        | 1.58        |            | 0.14        | 0.13        |                                   |
| BP02a                 | 122                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.56                          |                                      |             | 169         |             |            | 23.2        | 0.66        |            | 0.25        | 0.13        |                                   |
| BP03a                 | 130                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.54                          |                                      |             | 173         |             |            | 26.8        | 0.83        |            | 0.21        | 0.14        |                                   |
| BP18                  | 135                               | 2013         | 1717                             | -1.66                          | 0.06                                 | 11          | 202         | 450         | 1.1        | 12.4        | 0.00        | 0.10       | 0.13        | 0.02        | -27.2                             |
| BP04a                 | 140                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.44                          |                                      |             | 180         |             |            | 22.0        | 0.45        |            | 0.17        | 0.20        |                                   |
| BP20                  | 150                               | 2013         |                                  | -1.36                          | 0.05                                 | 7           | 206         | 351         | 0.6        | 12.4        | 0.00        | 0.09       | 0.13        | 0.02        | -26.6                             |
| BP05a                 | 152                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.25                          |                                      |             | 175         |             |            | 26.4        | 0.50        |            | 0.26        | 0.10        |                                   |
| BP06a                 | 161                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.38                          |                                      |             | 179         |             |            | 23.5        | 0.47        |            | 0.24        | 0.10        |                                   |
| BP21                  | 165                               | 2013         |                                  | -1.39                          | 0.03                                 | 15          | 202         | 362         | 1.5        | 12.4        | 0.00        | 0.10       | 0.13        | 0.02        | -26.1                             |
| BP07a                 | 171                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.43                          |                                      |             | 178         |             |            | 24.1        | 0.47        |            | 0.19        | 0.14        |                                   |
| BP23                  | 180                               | 2013         | 1740                             | -1.22                          | 0.10                                 | 13          | 200         | 392         | 1.2        | 12.5        | 0.00        | 0.09       | 0.08        | 0.02        | -29.3                             |
| BP08a                 | 182                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.43                          |                                      |             | 185         |             |            | 24.5        | 0.48        |            | 0.02        | 0.28        |                                   |
| BP24                  | 195                               | 2013         |                                  | -1.19                          | 0.05                                 | 16          | 296         | 392         | 1.6        | 12.4        | 0.00        | 0.11       | 0.08        | 0.03        | -26.1                             |
| BP09a                 | 195                               | 2009         |                                  | -3.20                          |                                      |             | 181         |             |            | 22.4        | 0.32        |            | 0.27        |             |                                   |
| BP25                  | 210                               | 2013         |                                  | -0.89                          | 0.07                                 | 16          | 222         | 401         | 1.4        | 13.5        | 0.00        | 0.10       | 0.13        | 0.04        | -29.3                             |
| BP26                  | 225                               | 2013         | 2413                             | -0.99                          | 0.05                                 | 14          | 236         | 367         | 1.3        | 13.8        | 0.00        | 0.15       | 0.08        | 0.05        | -26.4                             |

| <b>Barotse Plains</b> | <b>Distance along</b> | <b>Year sampled</b> | <b>Discharge</b>    | <b><math>\delta^{18}\text{O}</math></b> | <b><math>\delta^{18}\text{O}</math> stdev</b> | <b>POC</b> | <b>DOC</b> | <b>DIC</b> | <b>PN</b> | <b>DON</b> | <b>DIN</b> | <b>PP</b> | <b>DOP</b> | <b>DIP</b> | <b>POC <math>\delta^{13}\text{C}</math></b> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|---|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|---|
| <i>Dry season</i>     | floodplain (km)       |                     | (m <sup>3</sup> /s) | (‰ VSMOW)                               |   | (µM)       | (µM)       | (µM)       | (µM)      | (µM)       | (µM)       | (µM)      | (µM)       | (µM)       | (‰ VPDB)                                    |
| <b>Station number</b> |                       |                     |                     |   |   |            |            |            |           |            |            |           |            |            |   |
| BP37                  | 0                     | 2013                | 203                 | -2.44                                   | 0.05  | 31         | 134        | 1641       | 3.4       | 0.7        | 0.07       |           | -0.05      | 0.06       | -29.6                                       |
| BP39                  | 110                   | 2013                | 227                 | -2.86                                   | 0.06  | 55         |            | 1006       | 4.6       | 1.5        | 0.22       |           | -0.02      | 0.05       | -28.1                                       |
| BP01a                 | 120                   | 2008                |                     | -2.71                                   |   |            | 177        |            |           |            | 0.38       |           | 0.27       | 0.51       |   |
| BP02a                 | 122                   | 2008                |                     | -3.23                                   |   |            | 124        |            |           |            | 0.50       |           | 0.06       | 0.55       |   |
| BP03a                 | 130                   | 2008                |                     | -3.06                                   |   |            | 115        |            |           |            | 0.53       |           | 0.17       | 0.43       |   |
| BP04a                 | 140                   | 2008                |                     | -3.06                                   |   |            | 111        |            |           |            | 0.55       |           | 0.02       | 0.56       |   |
| BP05a                 | 152                   | 2008                |                     | -3.21                                   |   |            | 120        |            |           |            | 0.55       |           | 0.14       | 0.52       |   |
| BP06a                 | 161                   | 2008                |                     | -2.95                                   |   |            | 112        |            |           |            | 0.48       |           | 0.04       | 0.54       |   |
| BP07a                 | 171                   | 2008                |                     | -3.14                                   |   |            | 121        |            |           |            | 0.87       |           | 0.08       | 0.53       |   |
| BP08a                 | 182                   | 2008                |                     | -3.29                                   |   |            | 111        |            |           |            | 0.57       |           | 0.12       | 0.54       |   |
| BP09a                 | 195                   | 2008                |                     | -2.87                                   |   |            | 123        |            |           |            | 0.61       |           | 0.14       | 0.47       |   |
| BP38                  | 225                   | 2013                | 250                 | -2.50                                   | 0.08  | 81         | 103        | 1030       | 7.9       | 0.7        | 0.05       |           | -0.05      | 0.05       | -27.9                                       |

| <b>Kafue Flats</b> | <b>Distance along</b> | <b>Year sampled</b> | <b>Discharge</b> | <b>δ18O</b> | <b>δ18O stdev</b> | <b>POC</b> | <b>DOC</b> | <b>DIC</b> | <b>PN</b> | <b>DON</b> | <b>DIN</b> | <b>PP</b> | <b>DOP</b> | <b>DIP</b> | <b>POC δ13C</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| <i>Wet season</i>  | floodplain (km)       |                     | (m3/s)           | (‰ VSMOW)   |                   | (µM)       | (µM)       | (µM)       | (µM)      | (µM)       | (µM)       | (µM)      | (µM)       | (µM)       | (‰ VPDB)        |
| Station number     |                       |                     |                  |             |                   |            |            |            |           |            |            |           |            |            |                 |
| KFS00              | 0                     | average 2009/2010   | 483              | -4.89       | 0.05              | 36         | 228        | 1170       | 4.8       | 9.6        | 1.36       | 0.14      | 0.06       | 0.25       | -30.5           |
| KFS05              | 9.3                   | average 2009/2010   |                  | -4.89       | 0.03              |            | 268        | 1080       |           | 11.1       | 2.20       | 0.00      | 0.03       | 0.32       | -30.4           |
| KFS03              | 38.9                  | average 2009/2010   | 526              | -4.87       | 0.06              | 43         | 280        | 1080       | 5.5       | 11.2       | 1.04       | 0.19      | 0.30       | 0.17       | -29.3           |
| KFS01              | 64.8                  | average 2009/2010   | 602              | -4.88       | 0.02              | 38         | 255        | 1250       | 5.1       | 10.6       | 1.03       | 0.17      | 0.35       | 0.27       | -28.2           |
| KFS27              | 88.5                  | average 2009/2010   | 575              | -4.77       | 0.04              | 45         | 265        | 1260       | 5.4       | 13.9       | 0.81       | 0.17      | 0.14       | 0.28       | -28.3           |
| KFS28              | 173.3                 | average 2009/2010   | 572              | -4.41       | 0                 | 27         | 277        |            | 3.8       | 15.0       | 0.32       | 0.20      | 0.00       | 0.23       | -27.5           |
| KFS11              | 199.1                 | average 2009/2010   | 334              | -4.36       | 0.07              | 31         | 298        | 1390       | 4.4       | 11.9       | 0.36       | 0.21      | 0.58       | 0.19       | -28.1           |
| KFS10              | 230.4                 | average 2009/2010   |                  | 0.00        | 0                 |            | 335        |            |           | 10.1       | 0.81       | 0.13      | 0.00       | 0.29       | -28.7           |
| KFS12              | 231                   | average 2009/2010   | 231              | -4.18       | 0.06              | 27         | 282        | 1640       | 4.0       | 15.3       | 0.64       | 0.17      | 0.17       | 0.36       | -27.6           |
| KFS14              | 254.6                 | average 2009/2010   | 185              | -4.05       | 0.02              | 17         | 317        | 1520       | 2.7       | 13.1       | 0.65       | 0.11      | 0.07       | 0.24       | -27.3           |
| KFS16              | 268.8                 | average 2009/2010   | 218              | -3.68       | 0.09              | 14         | 348        | 1440       | 2.0       | 14.4       | 0.67       | 0.12      | 0.05       | 0.36       | -28.3           |
| KFS17              | 288.3                 | average 2009/2010   | 190              | -3.45       | 0.07              | 18         | 363        | 1470       | 2.6       | 15.5       | 0.70       | 0.12      | 0.01       | 0.33       | -28.5           |
| KFS18              | 321.5                 | average 2009/2010   | 491              | -2.80       | 0.01              | 21         | 405        | 1570       | 2.8       | 16.4       | 0.94       | 0.13      | 0.05       | 0.35       | -29.0           |
| KFS21              | 346.5                 | average 2009/2010   | 344              | -2.47       |                   | 23         | 359        |            | 3.1       | 13.1       | 0.70       | 0.21      | 0.00       | 0.19       | -28.3           |
| KFS22              | 359                   | average 2009/2010   | 538              | -2.93       | 0.02              | 23         | 418        | 1710       | 2.7       | 17.2       | 1.21       |           | 0.00       | 0.30       | -28.9           |
| KFS23              | 381.7                 | average 2009/2010   | 528              | -2.74       | 0.04              | 23         | 413        | 1810       | 3.0       | 18.2       | 0.97       | 0.15      | 0.00       | 0.42       | -27.8           |
| KFS24              | 398.2                 | average 2009/2010   | 719              | -2.66       | 0                 | 25         | 439        | 1900       | 2.9       | 17.6       | 1.04       | 0.13      | 0.00       | 0.45       | -28.3           |
| KFS26              | 409.6                 | average 2009/2010   | 677              | -2.58       | 0.19              | 35         | 393        | 1750       | 4.1       | 19.8       | 1.11       | 0.16      | 0.00       | 0.36       | -27.8           |

| <b>Kafue Flats</b>    | <b>Distance along<br/>floodplain (km)</b> | <b>Year sampled</b> | <b>Discharge<br/>(m<sup>3</sup>/s)</b> | <b>δ<sup>18</sup>O<br/>(‰ VSMOW)</b> | <b>δ<sup>18</sup>O stdev</b> | <b>POC<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>DOC<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>DIC<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>PN<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>DON<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>DIN<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>PP<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>DOP<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>DIP<br/>(µM)</b> | <b>POC δ<sup>13</sup>C<br/>(‰ VPDB)</b> |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| <i>Dry season</i>     |   |                     |  |                                      |                              |                     |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |   |
| <b>Station number</b> |   |                     |  |                                      |                              |                     |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |   |
| KFS00                 | 0   | 2008                | 214                                    | -3.59                                | 0.19                         | 75                  | 248                 | 1650                | 6.1                | 12.8                | 1.03                | 0.21               | 0.16                | -25.6               |   |
| KFS03                 | 38.9                                      | 2008                |  | -3.48                                | 0.05                         | 74                  | 252                 | 1660                | 5.8                | 12.4                | 0.46                |                    |                     | -26.3               |   |
| KFS01                 | 64.8                                      | 2008                | 223                                    | -3.36                                | 0.02                         | 54                  | 324                 | 1590                | 4.1                | 14.9                | 0.33                | 0.26               | 0.23                | -25.4               |   |
| KFS27                 | 88.5                                      | 2008                |  |                                      |                              |                     |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |   |
| KFS28                 | 173.3                                     | 2008                |  |                                      |                              |                     |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |   |
| KFS11                 | 199.1                                     | 2008                |  |                                      |                              | 74                  | 315                 |                     | 7.6                |                     |                     |                    |                     | -25.3               |   |
| KFS10                 | 230.4                                     | 2008                | 170                                    |                                      |                              |                     | 510                 | 2300                |                    | 24.9                | 7.16                | 0.00               | 1.82                | -26.0               |   |
| KFS12                 | 231                                       | 2008                | 170                                    | -3.08                                | 0.25                         | 113                 |                     | 1750                | 12.8               | 14.8                | 0.65                | 0.36               | 0.36                |                     |   |
| KFS14                 | 254.6                                     | 2008                |  | -3.40                                | 0.12                         | 129                 | 313                 | 1810                | 12.2               | 14.0                | 0.48                | 0.41               | 0.35                | -24.1               |   |
| KFS15                 | 254.7                                     | 2008                |  |                                      |                              |                     |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |                    |                     |                     |   |
| KFS16                 | 268.8                                     | 2008                |  | -3.26                                | 0.24                         |                     | 191                 | 1740                |                    | 14.6                | 0.60                | 0.63               | 0.41                |                     |   |
| KFS17                 | 288.3                                     | 2008                |  | -3.46                                | 0.14                         | 107                 | 274                 | 1780                | 12.4               | 15.1                | 0.71                | 0.37               | 0.36                | -25.3               |   |
| KFS18                 | 321.5                                     | 2008                |  | -3.14                                | 0.13                         | 67                  | 376                 | 1750                | 6.9                | 15.1                | 0.90                | 0.24               | 0.41                | -27.3               |   |
| KFS21                 | 346.5                                     | 2008                |  | -2.95                                | 0.09                         | 72                  | 270                 |                     | 7.6                |                     |                     |                    |                     | -29.0               |   |
| KFS20                 | 348.1                                     | 2008                |  |                                      |                              |                     | 759                 | 3910                |                    | 43.2                | 0.83                | 2.78               | 0.59                |                     |   |
| KFS22                 | 359                                       | 2008                |  | -2.92                                | 0.11                         |                     | 264                 | 1810                |                    | 12.7                | 2.21                | 0.36               | 0.44                |                     |   |
| KFS23                 | 381.7                                     | 2008                |  | -2.88                                |                              | 68                  | 276                 | 1770                | 8.2                | 15.5                | 0.41                | 0.22               | 0.46                | -29.8               |   |
| KFS24                 | 398.2                                     | 2008                | 148                                    | -2.64                                | 0.11                         |                     | 285                 | 1810                |                    | 15.3                | 0.37                | 0.21               | 0.42                |                     |   |
| KFS26                 | 409.6                                     | 2008                | 148                                    | -2.87                                | 0.18                         |                     | 836                 |                     |                    | 14.2                | 0.57                | 0.13               | 0.49                |                     |   |