

Dear Editor,

Please find below our responses to the two referees together with a description of the changes made in the MS. We took care to satisfy most of the comments by the two referees and to improve the quality of the MS. In this revision, we displace some statements from the Results section to the Material and Methods section, we rewrote entire sections of text of discussion (mainly in the section 4.2) and we rewrote as well the entire conclusion in a more generalized way as suggested previously by the two referees. From the last submitted version of our MS we modified Figure 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 (basically we edited colour in the figures) and 7 (we added more details in our conceptual model). From the last submitted version of our MS we deleted Table 1 (by the way, we deleted all the abbreviations in the MS except DIC and DOC) and we modified Table 2 (we edited all units in mm d^{-1}), 3 (we added header) and 5 (we added the number of samples for each hydrological period). We also shortened the MS (in font 12, 776 lines for the previous version against 730 lines for this revised version that is a cut of 6% in length). In the following responses we referred to the marked version of the revised MS.

REFEREE#1

Comment#1:

Major Comments

I appreciate authors' efforts in addressing the previous issues.

Answer#1:

We thank the Referee for his/her overall positive feedbacks concerning our MS.

Comment#2:

I am sorry but I still have some concerns that need to be addressed. First, I still think the Result section is way too long. Authors need to carefully edit the section to make it easy for readers to follow, while keeping information to length ratio in mind.

Answer#2:

We agree with the referee's comment, also shared by the other referee. First, we moved the parts L.252-269 (water mass balance explanation), 366-397 (carbon export explanation), 421-429 (degassing explanation) from the Results section to the Materials and Methods section L.340-358 (water mass balance explanation), L.360-391 (we created in the Materials and Methods a section 2.6 entitled carbon stocks in groundwater, exports to streams and degassing to the atmosphere). Second, we considerably reduced the use of abbreviations in the text. Only DIC and DOC abbreviations are still used and thus we deleted the table 1 that contained a list of abbreviations used in our MS. Third, we deleted and/or shortening some useless parts of the Results section (L.405-409, 421-432, 464-465, 488-490, 501-505, 508-511; 513-515) and the Discussion section (L.876-881). We also made the whole MS easier to follow, revising the style and making the discussion much more focused on the new finding of our study

Comment#3:

Second, authors have divided the study period into several seasons/flow conditions but do they really have enough sample size to understand the catchment processes for each season or flow condition? In my opinion, this is a limitation of the study and should be clearly mentioned in the paper.

Answer#3:

We agree with the referee's comment that sampling frequency is one limitation of the study because we have few carbon samples in each hydrological season (Tab. S1). Indeed, carbon sampling less time-spaced (e.g., weekly or bimonthly) could have improved the quantification of carbon exports accounting for sudden hydrological events. However, our sampling frequency allowed a relatively precise description and understanding of the mechanisms involved in carbon mobilization in soils and groundwaters. The observed trends were consistent from one hydrological cycle to another and from one sampling station to another the second year of monitoring (Fig. 4, 5). Because of the characteristics of the soil and watershed, changes in DIC/DOC concentrations in groundwater and streams are relatively slow. Moreover, as we observed in the figure 5 of the MS, temporal evolution of DIC/DOC in groundwater and streams is quite well described. In the revised MS, we specified those

important points L.465-468, 746-756 and we also added in the revised table 4 (page 66) the number (N) of samples for each hydrological period and for each sampled piezometer and stream.

Comment#4:

Third, there are still lots of typos that need to be fixed. Specific Comments: Introduction-Line 49 Authors could add some more references as this was established long ago.

Answer#4:

We revised the sentence as follows (L.63-66):

Indeed, biogeochemical cycling within and across the terrestrial–aquatic interface is dynamically linked to the water cycle (Johnson et al., 2006; Battin et al., 2009), because dissolved carbon is primarily mobilized and transported by the movement of water (Hope et al., 1994; Hagerdon et al., 2000; Kawasaki et al., 2005).

Comment#5:

Line 76- Would “provide” be a better choice? Enable doesn’t seem appropriate here?

Answer#5:

We replaced the word “enable” with “provide”. L.108

Comment#6:

Line 85- Odd word usage- “migration of water table”?

Answer#6:

This sentence was deleted in the revised MS (L.119)

Comment#7:

Line 84-90- The language of the objectives could be tightened as they are long and very descriptive. I would recommend turning these loose objectives into more concrete and impactful questions.

Answer#7:

We agree with the referee comment and thus re-wrote the objectives as follows: “In this study, we instrumented a temperate watershed that offers the convenience of a homogeneous lithology (permeable sandy soil), vegetation (pine forest) and topography (very flat coastal plain), as well as a simple hydrological functioning exclusively as shallow groundwater drainage. This simple configuration with no surface runoff allows us to identify what are the main factors that control the DIC/DOC leaching to streams, the DIC:DOC ratio in groundwater and streams, and their variation in space and over time. At the plot scale, we relate DIC and DOC temporal dynamics in groundwater with hydrology and metabolic activity of the forest ecosystem. At the watershed scale, we quantify DIC and DOC transfers through the groundwater-stream interface, and we describe the fate of this carbon in first-order streams”

See changes at L.114-130

Comment#8:

Line 113- Can we use “ recharge” instead of fuels?

Answer#8:

We modified as suggested. L.165

Comment#9:

Line 246- drainage “enrichment”? What does it mean?

Answer#9:

The drainage enrichment parameter was defined as the ratio between two stream drainages of successive orders. However, we re-wrote this paragraph in a more specific way and deleted this confusing term (L.319-337).

Comment#10:

Line 249- “Low/lower” order not “inferior” order.

Answer#10:

We-rewrote this part in a more specific way (L.319-337).

Comment#10:

Line 250 It would be nice to add few text on how authors got "2.3 fold". Citing an unpublished paper doesn't help here and several other places in the draft.

Answer#10:

We found this comment a bit confusing because we already written an entirely paragraph to explain our methodology to estimate groundwater inputs in first-order stream at the scale of the watershed. We re-wrote this part in a more specific way (L.319-337) and we hope that it is now clear enough. Note that our companion paper containing a full table with all drainage calculations has been accepted with minor revision in Journal of Hydrology a couple of weeks ago, so we hope to be able to provide a doi in the published version of the present paper.

Comment#11:

Results- It is confusing and distracting to have results and methods together in the same section. Both together have made results way longer than what it should have been without methods.

Answer#11:

We agree with the referee's comment and thus we moved the parts L.252-269 (water mass balance explanation), 366-397 (carbon export explanation), 421-429 (degassing explanation) from the Results section to the Materials and Methods section L.340-358 (water mass balance explanation), L.360-391 (we created in the Materials and Methods a section 2.6 entitled carbon stocks in groundwater, exports to streams and degassing to the atmosphere).

Comment#12:

Line 275- 305 Too much text has been dedicated to a single figure. Most of the information shared in the text can be easily read and understood from the figure 2.

Answer#12:

We agree with the referee's comment and we shortened the section 3.1 (Hydrological parameters and water mass balance). See changes L.391-443.

Comment#13:

It is unclear that why author choose to show precipitation on a negative scale? Is it because of the input versus output?

Answer#13:

As it suggested by the referee we revised this figure, precipitation is on a positive scale, drainage and evapotranspiration are on a negative scale, groundwater storage could be on a negative or a positive scale depending if the groundwater gained or lose water during the month. See changes at page 73.

Comment#14:

Discussion-Line 438- I am not sure this statement is entirely true. The study was conducted for 18 months but there are several gaps in the collected datasets. As per Table S1, there are only 6 occasions when the datasets were available for all groundwater wells and stream. Is it

OK to divide such short period (18 months) in multiple flow conditions and seasons when some of the flow conditions have 1-2 GW observations?

Answer#14:

As we explained in the MS in the 2.5 (Hydrological monitoring) section (L.301) the 4 hydrological parameters (P, D, ETR and GWS) used in the hydrological mass balance originated from continuous measurements with a daily timescale for D, and with a half hour timescale for ETR, P and GWS. We chose to present the water mass balance in a monthly timescale (Fig. 2) to be consistent with our monthly timescale carbon sampling. There is no gap in our hydrological dataset. Moreover, the objective of the present study was not to describe very precisely the water budget at short timescale but rather to understand and quantify the water budget at monthly timescales to discuss DIC/DOC variations at the same monthly timescale. We made some changes L.610-613 in order to satisfy this comment.

Comment#15:

Line 454- Please edit this sentence - “transpiration flow through plants and the evapotranspiration were maximum....”?

Answer#15:

We edited this sentence as follows: “The evapotranspiration was high during growing season and late summer periods when the precipitations were low” (L.631-631)

Comment#16:

Line 496- Please edit this sentence! It may make sense to start the sentence with “ During base flow conditions...”

Answer#16:

First, note that we rewrote more clearly the 4.2 section. We edited this sentence as follows: “During base flow conditions, the DOC concentrations in groundwater were relatively stable at our study sites, even after rainy periods (Tab. 4; Figs. 2c, 5c), which suggests that soil DOC

in upper horizons was not preferentially mobilized to groundwater by rainwater infiltration”.
See changes at L.772-775.

Comment#17:

Line 490-Line 533 It would be nice to break this 1.5 page long paragraph into more readable
2-3 paragraphs

Answer#17:

We agree with this comment and we did the same for the rest of the text (see as an example
the 2.1 and 4.2 sections at page 7 and 38).

Comment#18:

Figures-Fig1 – Please add units to topography in the map legend.

Answer#18:

The figure 1 has been edited. We added units to topography in the map legend (page 72)

Comment#19:

Fig7 – Please Fix typo in GS column- decreasing

Answer#19:

We fixed typo as it was suggested (Page 78)

REFEREE#2

Comment#1:

General comment

The authors well considered and responded to the comments by reviewers. I think this version of manuscript is acceptable after the minor revision about the following points.

Answer#1:

We thank the Referee for his/her overall positive feedbacks concerning our MS.

Comment#2:

However, to tell the truth, I hope to the authors more clearly address the message what we, the readers of BG, should learn from this study in conclusion. The conclusion of this version only shows the results of the Leyre catchment. Is this just a case study? Please consider this point again before preparing the final version of manuscript

Answer#2:

We agree with the referee's comment when he/she mentions that our conclusion was too much focused on the studied Leyre catchment. However, the description of mechanisms that mobilize and export dissolved C from the soils will be useful for all the community working on soil carbon. In addition, our quantitative results can be easily compared to other lowland environments having shallow groundwater as well as other podzols ecosystems which has a surface of 485 million ha (3% of the land surface area) worldwide (Driessen et al., 2000).

We re-wrote part of the discussion and the conclusion insisting on the processes occurring in the soil and groundwater and how these processes compare with the literature in similar or different environments. See changes at L.842-871, 963-977, 989-1021.

Comment#3:

Reduce the abbreviations. For example, TA is less used. HF, GS, LS, and EW (L.275-) is never used in other sections, e.g. L.351.

Answer#3:

We agree with the referee's comment and thus we reduced the abbreviations in the MS. In the revised MS, only DIC and DOC abbreviations are still used in the text and thus we deleted the table 1 that listed the abbreviations of the MS.

Comment#4:

L.366-397 and L.421-430. These parts should be move to method section.

Answer#4:

We agree with the referee's comment, also shared by the other referee. First, we moved the parts L.252-269 (water mass balance explanation), 366-397 (carbon export explanation), 421-429 (degassing explanation) from the Results section to the Materials and Methods section L.340-358 (water mass balance explanation), L.360-391 (we created in the Materials and Methods a section 2.6 entitled carbon stocks in groundwater, exports to streams and degassing to the atmosphere).

Comment#5:

L.617. Remove 'with'

Answer#5:

We removed this term as suggested. See changes at L.950

Hydro-ecological ~~and metabolic~~ controls on dissolved carbon dynamics in groundwater and export to ~~surface waters~~ streams in a temperate pine forest

Loris Deirmendjian¹, Denis Loustau², Laurent Augusto², Sébastien Lafont², Christophe Chipeaux², Dominique Poirier¹, and Gwenaël Abril^{1,3,*}.

5 ¹Laboratoire Environnements et Paléoenvironnements Océaniques et Continentaux (EPOC), CNRS, Université de Bordeaux, Allée Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 33615 Pessac Cedex France.

²INRA, UMR 1391 Interactions Sol-Plante-Atmosphère (ISPA), 33140 Villenave d'Ornon, France.

³Departamento de Geoquímica, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Outeiro São João Batista s/n, 24020015, Niterói, RJ, Brazil.

10 *Now also at Laboratoire d'Océanographie et du Climat, Expérimentations et Approches Numériques (LOCEAN), Centre IRD France-Nord, 32, Avenue Henri Varagnat, F-93143 Bondy, France.

Correspondence to Loris Deirmendjian: lorisdeir@gmail.com

Abstract. We studied the export of dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) from forested shallow groundwater to ~~first order~~ first-order streams, based on groundwater and surface water sampling and ~~discharge hydrological~~ data. ~~In t~~The selected ~~watershed was particularly convenient for such study, with a very low slope, with pine forested and growing on sandy permeable podzol watershed, owing to the very low slope and the high permeability of the soil and with~~ hydrology ~~occurrences~~ exclusively through drainage of shallow groundwater ~~and (no surface runoff) occurs~~. A

forest plot ~~on the studied watershed~~ was instrumented for continuous eddy covariance measurements of precipitation, evapotranspiration and net ecosystem exchanges of sensible and latent heat fluxes as well as CO₂ fluxes. Shallow groundwater was sampled ~~in~~ 3 piezometers located in different ~~pine~~ plots and surface waters were sampled in 6 ~~first-order first-order streams with catchments dominated by pines; and streams;~~ river discharge and drainage ~~were~~ modeled based on 4 gauging stations. On a monthly basis and at the plot scale, we found a good consistency between precipitation on the one hand and the sum of evapotranspiration, shallow groundwater storage and drainage on the other hand. DOC and DIC stocks in groundwater and exports to ~~first-order~~ first-order streams varied drastically during the hydrological cycle, in relation with water table depth and amplitude. In the groundwater, DOC concentrations were maximal in winter when the water table reached the superficial organic-rich layer of the soil. In contrast, DIC (in majority excess CO₂) in groundwater, ~~which was in majority in the form of excess CO₂~~ showed maximum concentrations at low water table during late summer, concomitantly with heterotrophic conditions of the forest ~~ecosystem~~ plot. Our data also suggests that a large part of the DOC mobilized at high water table was mineralized to DIC during the following months within the groundwater itself. In ~~first-order~~ first-order streams, DOC and DIC followed an opposed ~~similar~~ seasonal trend similar as into groundwater but with lower concentrations. On an annual basis, leaching of carbon to streams occurred as DIC and DOC in similar proportion, but DOC export occurred in majority during short periods of highest water table, whereas DIC export was more constant throughout the year. Leaching of forest carbon to ~~first-order~~ first-order streams represented a small portion (~~about~~ approximately 2%) of the net land CO₂ sink at the plot. In addition, ~~about~~ approximately 756% of

the DIC exported from groundwater was not found in streams, as it returned very fast to the atmosphere
40 through CO₂ degassing.

I. Introduction

Since the beginning of the Industrial Era, human activities have greatly modified the ~~exchange fluxes~~ of
~~carbon~~C between the atmosphere and ~~the~~ continents, as well as those occurring along the aquatic
continuum that connect the land and the coastal ocean (Cole et al., 2007; Ciais et al., 2013; Regnier et
45 al., 2013)(Ciais et al., 2013; Regnier et al., 2013). Globally, the land (~~i.e.~~, vegetation and soil) is a major
reservoir of ~~carbon~~C that acts as a net annual ~~C~~-sink ~~of atmospheric CO₂~~ (Ciais et al., 2013), and
therefore ~~plays a modulator modulating role of~~ the climate system (Heimann and Reichstein, 2008;
~~Ciais et al., 2013~~)(Heimann and Reichstein, 2008) ~~and are thought to offer a mitigation strategy to reduce~~
50 ~~global warming~~ (Schimel et al., 2001). ~~Within the land, forest ecosystems account for 70% of the~~
~~storage of all terrestrial plants and 20% of all soil C~~ (Luyssaert et al., 2010), and are consequently
~~important components of the C cycle~~. In European forests, 70% of the net land sink is sequestered in
plants as woody biomass increments and 30% is sequestered in soils (Luyssaert et al., 2010). However,
large uncertainty remains concerning the drivers and future of the soil organic carbon (Luyssaert et al.,
2010). ~~Therefore, i~~Investigat~~e~~ing the mechanisms that impact storage and export of ~~soil carbon~~C from
55 forest ecosystems is of first interest in both ecosystem and climate researches.

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(Royaume-Uni)

Streams and small rivers are important links between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems because they receive inputs of [carbon](#) from land and then transform these materials at the land-stream interface and in stream channels, as water flows to larger rivers (McClain et al., 2003; Raymond et al., 2013). The [carbon](#) dynamics in forest stream ecosystems results from the interaction [in soils](#) between biological activity, [weathering, and](#) retention mechanisms ~~in soils,~~ [and](#) water infiltration ~~in soils~~ and drainage (Jones and Mulholland, 1998; Shibata et al., 2001; Kawasaki et al., 2005)(~~Shibata et al., 2001; Kawasaki et al., 2005~~). Indeed, biogeochemical cycling within ~~terrestrial ecosystems~~ and across the terrestrial-aquatic interface is dynamically linked ~~with to~~ the water cycle (Johnson et al., 2006; Battin et al., 2009)(~~Johnson et al., 2006~~), because dissolved [carbon](#) is primarily [mobilized and](#) transported by the movement of water (Hope et al., 1994; Hagerdon et al., 2000; Kawasaki et al., 2005)(~~Kawasaki et al., 2005~~). Furthermore, numerous works in different environments ~~converged came~~ to the ~~same~~ conclusion ~~that~~ streams and small rivers are hotspots of CO₂ degassing (Johnson et al., 2008; Butman and Raymond, 2011; Polsenare and Abril, 2012; Wallin et al., 2013; Kokic et al., 2015). [In small stream, the](#) This CO₂ degassing flux results [mostly](#) from inputs of groundwater enriched in CO₂ (Hotchkiss et al., 2015), which comes from plant roots respiration and from microbial respiration in soils and groundwater.

The quantification of dissolved [carbon](#) fluxes transported by water from terrestrial to aquatic environments is fundamental to resolving the [carbon](#) balance at the catchment scale ([Billett et al., 2004; Shibata et al., 2005; Jonsson et al., 2007; Kindler et al., 2011; Magin et al., 2017](#))(~~Billett et al.,~~

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2004; Shibata et al., 2005; Jonsson et al., 2007; Kindler et al., 2011; Dinsmore et al., 2010). Leaching of carbon from terrestrial ecosystems to streams could potentially represent up to 40% to 100% of the Net Ecosystem Exchange (i.e., Net Ecosystem Exchange NEE) in a Scotland peat catchment with vegetation consisting of a patchy mix of grasses and sedges (Billett et al., 2004; Dinsmore et al., 2010), 6% in a Sweden boreal catchment dominated by coniferous (Jonsson et al., 2007), on average 6% in five forest plots across Europe (Kindler et al., 2011), and 2% in a Japanese temperate catchment dominated by deciduous forest (Shibata et al., 2005) or 2.7% of the Net Primary Production in different woody and tilled subcatchments across the southwest Germany (Magin et al., 2017). Such large variations in carbon export rates are not well understood and it is therefore important to extend this investigation to other catchments with different landscapes and climatic zones, soil types, vegetation and hydrology, that could considerably More studies focused on the processes that govern the mobilization of soil carbon to surface waters are necessary to improve and predict estimates of Carbon budgets in terrestrial ecosystems.

Some authors reported high concentrations of dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) (Kawasaki et al., 2005; Venkiteswaran et al., 2014) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) (Artinger et al., 2000; Baker et al., 2000) concentrations in forest dominated groundwater (i.e., in the saturated zone of the soil). However, estimations of terrestrial carbon leaching from direct simultaneous measurements at the land-water interface (i.e., simultaneously in groundwater and streams) are scarce. These studies, which are generally restricted to submarine and coastal environments (Santos et al., 2012; Atkins et al., 2013;

Sadat-Noori et al., 2016) and boreal lakes (Einarsdottir et al., 2017), but rarely streams. The few ~~available works~~ studies that estimates exports of carbon from forested landscapes to streams ~~in forested catchments~~ are generally based: (i) on carbon observations in soil water (i.e., in the unsaturated zone of the soil) combined with soil water model that simulates the volume of soil water leached ~~soil water~~ to streams (Öquist et al., 2009; Kindler et al., 2011; Leith et al., 2015), (ii) on differences in the dissolved carbon flux between upper and lower stream reaches combined with stream discharge (Shibata et al., 2001; Dawson et al., 2002; Billett et al., 2004; Shibata et al., 2005; Olefeldt et al., 2013) (~~Shibata et al., 2001, 2005~~), (iii) ~~on C observations in stream water combined with stream discharge~~ (Dawson et al., 2002; Billett et al., 2004; Dinsmore et al., 2010; Olefeldt et al., 2013), or (iiiiv) as described by the active pipe concept (Cole et al., 2007), as the sum of the three major other riverine carbon fluxes ~~occurring at the scale of a catchment in river systems~~: CO₂ degassing, organic carbon burial in sediments and carbon export downstream (Jonsson et al., 2007). These studies do not ~~enable provide~~ a complete understanding of the link between carbon hydrological export and the physicochemical and biological processes occurring in soils and groundwater. In addition, the approaches based on only stream sampling may miss part of the DIC export flux as excess CO₂ that might rapidly degas upstream of the sampling points (Venkiteswaran et al., 2014).

In this study, we instrumented a ~~relatively small~~ temperate watershed that offers the convenience of a homogeneous lithology (permeable sandy soil), vegetation (pine forest), topography (very flat coastal plain), as well as a simple hydrological functioning exclusively (~~water outputs mainly~~ as shallow

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groundwater drainage; ~~there is no surface runoff~~). The objectives of our study were (i) to investigate the temporal dynamics of dissolved C species in groundwater in relation with hydrological processes in the soil (in particular migration of the water table and groundwater mass balance) and metabolic activity of the forest ecosystem; (ii) to compare spatio-temporal variations of C concentrations in groundwater and first order streams in order to study the fate of dissolved C species at the groundwater-stream interface; (iii) to quantify the leaching of DIC and DOC from groundwater to first order streams in the case of the study site where no surface runoff occurs, based on concentrations of C and discharge data; (iv) to compare this leaching of terrestrial C with net CO₂ exchange of the forest ecosystem and degassing in first order streams. This simple configuration with no surface runoff allows us to identify what are the main factors that control the DIC/DOC leaching to streams, the DIC:DOC ratio in groundwater and streams, and their variation in space and over time. At the plot scale, we relate DIC and DOC temporal dynamics in groundwater with hydrology and metabolic activity of the forest ecosystem. At the watershed scale, we quantify DIC and DOC transfers through the groundwater-stream interface, and we describe the fate of this carbon in first-order streams

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Study site

The Leyre watershed (2,100 km²) is located in the southwestern part of France near Bordeaux, in the “Landes de Gascogne” area (Fig. 1). The landscape is a very flat coastal plain with a mean slope lower

135 than 0.125% (generally NW-SE) (Jolivet et al., 2007), but with local gentle slopes (notably near some streams). The mean altitude is lower than 50 m (Fig. 1) (Jolivet et al., 2007). The lithology is relatively homogeneous and ~~constituted~~ composed of sandy permeable surface layers dating from the Pliocene-Quaternary period (Legigan, 1979; Bertran et al., 2009, 2011).

140 The podzolic soil is ~~composed of sandy permeable podzols~~ characterized by a low pH (4), low nutrient availability, and high organic carbon content that can reach 55 g per kg of soil (Augusto et al., 2010).

~~There are 3~~ Three types of podzols are present: wet Landes (humic podzol), mesophyllous Landes (duric podzol) and dry Landes (loose podzol) ~~and mesophyl Landes (duric podzol)~~ (Augusto et al., 2006; Jolivet et al., 2007). ~~The dry Landes, the mesophyl Landes and the wet Landes that~~ represents respectively 47%, 36% and 17%, ~~36% and 47%~~ of the watershed area (Jolivet et al., 2007; Augusto et al., 2010) ~~(Augusto et al., 2010)~~.

145 Moreover, there is a gradient of soil carbon ~~C~~ content from dry Landes ($C = 6$ to 17 kg m^{-2}) to mesophyllous Landes ($C = 13$ to 30 kg m^{-2}) and wet Landes ($C = 15$ to 30 kg m^{-2}) (Augusto et al., 2010). ~~Furthermore, each type of podzol is characterized with different amplitude of water table depth (Augusto et al., 2006).~~ In the dry Landes of the upper parts of the watershed, as well as near watercourses, the water table is always more than 2 meter deep. In the wet Landes of the lower parts, and in the vast interfluves, the groundwater is close to the surface of the soil surface in winter (0.0-0.5 m depth) and generally remains 1.0-1.5 meter deep close to it, even in summer (1.0-1.5 m). The mesophyllous Landes corresponds to the intermediate situation (Augusto et al., 2006).

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155 The region was a vast wetland until the 19th century, when a wide forest of maritime pine (pinus
pinaster) was sown, following landscape drainage ~~from in~~ 1850. ~~Nowadays, Currently,~~ the catchment is
~~mainly~~ occupied mainly by pine forest (~~about~~approximately 80%), with a modest proportion of
croplands (~~about~~approximately 15%) (Jolivet et al., 2007). The typical rotation period of pine forest is
~40 years, ending in clear-cutting, tilling and re-planting (Kowalski et al., 2003). The climate is oceanic
160 with a mean annual air temperature of 13°C and a mean annual precipitation of 930 mm (Moreaux et
al., 2011). Moreover, the average annual evapotranspiration of maritime pine is in the range of 234-570
mm ~~for maritime pine~~ (Govind et al., 2012). Owing to the low slope and the high permeability of the
soil (~~i.e.~~, hydraulic conductivity is ~~about~~approximately 40 cm h⁻¹, Corbier et al., 2010), the infiltration
of rain water is fast (55 cm h⁻¹ on average, Vernier and Castro, 2010) and ~~thus~~ surface runoff ~~cannot~~
165 does not occur; ~~as~~ the excess of rainfall percolates into the soil and ~~fuels~~ recharges the shallow
groundwater, ~~rising~~ causing the water table to rise. Moreover, very low content in feldspars and allover
clay minerals in the ~~Leyre~~ sandy podzols induce low water soil retention (Augusto et al., 2010). The
superficial sandy ~~permeable~~ surface soil layers contains a free and continuous water table strongly
interconnected with the superficial river network; ~~drainage is also,~~ facilitated by a dense network of
170 drainage ditches, ~~initiated~~ built in the 19th century, and currently maintained by forest managers in order
to ~~increase~~ optimize trees growth ~~rates~~ (Thivolle-Cazat and Najar, 2001). In this study, we sampled
first-order streams defined as streams and ditches with no tributaries and/or being seasonally dry.
~~Furthermore, each type of podzol is characterized with different amplitude of water table depth~~
~~(Augusto et al., 2006). In the dry Landes of the upper parts of the watershed, as well as near~~

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175 ~~watercourses, the water table is always more than 2 m deep. In the wet Landes of the lower parts, or in~~
~~the vast interfluves, the groundwater is close to the surface of the soil in winter (0.0-0.5 m depth) and~~
~~generally remains close to it, even in summer (1.0-1.5 m). The mesophyl Landes corresponds to the~~
~~intermediate situation. Finally, we adapted the Strahler definition of first order stream by sampling~~
180 ~~streams and ditches either having no tributaries and/or being seasonally dry.~~

2.2. Eddy covariance measurements at the forest plot scale

~~In order to~~To quantify exchanges of carbon and water between the atmosphere and ~~the a~~ pine forest plot, we ~~selected used~~ the ~~site of~~ Bilos ~~site (FR-BIL)~~ (Fig. 1) (0.6 km², 44°29'38.08''N, 0°57'21.9''W, altitude: 40 m), ~~that is a quasi rectangular parcel, owned by the Commune of Salles (France, Gironde)~~
185 ~~and managed by the National Forest Office. This site is as~~ part of the ICOS research infrastructure (<http://icos-ri.eu>). In December 1999, ~~cutting of~~ the 50 years old ~~pine forests~~ ~~was clear-cut began with~~
~~on one quarter of the plot (15 ha)~~ (Kowalski et al., 2003). ~~Following clear cutting, the~~The site was ploughed to 30 cm depth and fertilized with 60 kg of P₂O₅ per ha in 2001 (Moreaux et al., 2011). In November 2004, the site was divided into two parts, which were seeded with maritime pine (pinus
190 pinaster) with a 1-year lag, in 2004 and 2005, respectively, ~~tree rows being spaced at 4 m~~ (Moreaux et al., 2011). ~~The forest plot was thus 10- and 11-year old during our sampling.~~ The site was equipped with an eddy covariance measurement system soon after clear-cutting, and the system has been maintained since. The eddy covariance technique allows ~~to~~ determine continuously the exchange

between the ecosystem and the atmosphere of sensible heat, CO₂ ~~and~~ H₂O by measuring the
195 turbulent-scale covariance between vertical wind velocity and the scalar concentration of sensible heat,
CO₂ ~~and~~ H₂O. ~~The atmospheric exchange originates from atmospheric eddies (turbulence) caused by
buoyancy and shear of upward and downward moving air that transport gases such as CO₂ and H₂O.~~

~~Here, w~~Wind velocity, temperature and CO₂/water vapor fluctuations were measured with, respectively,
200 a sonic anemometer (model R3, Gill instruments Lymington, UK) and an open path dual CO₂/H₂O
infrared gas analyzer (model Li7500, LiCor, Lincoln, USA) at the top of a 9.6 m tower (01/01/2014 to
10/05/2014) and with another sonic anemometer (model HS50, Gill instruments) and an enclosed dual
CO₂/H₂O infrared gas analyzer (model Li7200, LiCor ©) at the top of a 15 m tower (09/07/14 to
31/12/2015). Consequently, there were no eddy covariance measurements available between
205 11/05/2014 and 08/07/2014 and thus between these two dates the latent heat fluxes were determined
following the procedure of Thornthwaite (1948).

~~In this paper, r~~Raw data were processed following a standard methodology (Aubinet et al., 1999). The
post-processing software EddyPro v6.0 (www.licor.com) was used to treat raw data and compute
210 average fluxes (30 min period) by applying the following steps: (1) spike removal in anemometer or gas
analyzer data by statistical analysis, (2) coordinating rotation to align coordinate system with the stream
lines of the 30 min averages, (3) block average detrending of sonic temperature, H₂O and CO₂ channels
(4) determining time lag values for H₂O and CO₂ channels using a cross-correlation procedure, (5)

computing mean values, turbulent fluxes and characteristic parameters, and (6) spectral corrections
215 (Ibrom et al., 2007). Thereafter, CO₂ and H₂O fluxes were filtered in order to remove points
corresponding to technical problems, meteorological conditions not satisfying eddy correlation theory
or data out of realistic bounds. Different statistical tests were applied for this filtering: stationarity and
turbulent conditions were tested with the steady state test and the turbulence characteristic test
recommended by Kaimal and Finnigan (1994) and Foken and Wichura (1996).

220

~~Based on several tests, only~~ Only values of CO₂ and H₂O fluxes that pass all the filters ~~mentioned above~~
were retained. Then, missing values of CO₂ and H₂O fluxes were gap-filled. The ~~carbon flux (noted~~
NEE) of CO₂ was partitioned into 2 components, ~~GPP (Gross Primary Production (GPP)) and R_{eco}~~
(Ecosystem respiration (R_{eco})) with the R package Reddyproc (version 0.8-2) ~~applying the following~~
225 ~~steps that implements the procedure of~~ (Reichstein et al (2005). ~~During this procedure, NEE was~~
~~partitioned into GPP and R_{eco} by applying the following steps:~~

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(1) during nighttime GPP = 0 so NEE = R_{eco}
(2) statistical regression between R_{eco} and night air temperature and meteorological conditions is
230 adjusted with a Arrhenius type equation (Lloyd and Taylor, 1994) : ~~The width of the adjustment~~
~~window depends on data availability.~~

$$R_{eco} = R_{10} \left(\exp \left[E_0 \left(\frac{1}{T_{ref}} - T_0 \right) - \left(\frac{1}{T_{soil}} - T_0 \right) \right] \right)$$

(Eq. 1)

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(États Unis)

235 where,

~~T_{soil} is the soil temperature measured at 10 cm. T_{ref} , R_{10} , E_0 and T_0 are respectively a temperature of 283.15 K, the ecosystem respiration for a reference soil temperature of 10 °C, the activation energy and a calibrated temperature (227.13 K).~~

240 (3) day-time R_{eco} is obtained by extrapolating night-time fluxes using the temperature response

(4) GPP is calculated as the difference between daytime NEE and R_{eco} , additional checks are performed to avoid unrealistic values of GPP.

~~The usual sign convention means that p~~Positive NEE indicates an upward flux whereas a negative NEE indicates a downward flux, GPP is positive or zero and R_{eco} is positive. $NEE = R_{\text{eco}} - GPP$

2.3. Groundwater and surface water monitoring

~~In order t~~To compare groundwater carbon dynamics at both the plot scale and at the watershed scales, we selected 3 piezometers located in different forest types (Fig. 1). According to the depth and amplitude of the water table depth, the three piezometers were representative of dry Landes (Piezometer 2), mesophyllous Landes (Piezometer 3) and a situation between mesophyllous and wet Landes (Piezometer Bilos). Moreover, the piezometer 2 is located in a riparian mixed pine and oak forest near a

~~first-order~~ stream whereas the piezometer 3 is located in another pine forest (approximately same age as Bilos pine forest).

255 We also selected six ~~first-order~~ streams whose watersheds were dominated largely ~~with~~ by pine forest (~90 %), ~~for the purpose to~~ which limit biogeochemical signal from ~~water that have been in~~ ~~contact with~~ croplands.

260 Shallow groundwater and stream waters were sampled for ~~partial pressure of CO₂~~ (pCO₂), ~~total alkalinity~~TA and DOC ~~with approximately a monthly time intervals (Tab. S1).~~ ~~The Bilos piezometer was sampled with a frequency of approximately once a month, on 15 occasions between Feb 2014 and Jul 2015 (Tab. S1). In addition, piezometer 2 and 3 were sampled respectively on 11 (Aug. 2014 Jul. 2015) and 6 occasions (Jan. 2015 Jul. 2015) (Tab. S1). The 6 first order streams were sampled on 17 occasions (generally the same day than we sampled piezometers) between Jan. 2014 and Jul. 2015 (Tab. S1).~~
265

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2.4. Chemical analysis

We measured the ~~partial pressure of CO₂~~ (pCO₂) directly in the field and total alkalinity ~~and (TA) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC)~~ back in the laboratory.

270 | ~~Partial pressure of The~~ pCO₂ in ~~the~~ groundwater and streams was measured directly using an
equilibrator (Frankignoulle and Borges, 2001; Polsenaere et al., 2013). This equilibrator was connected
to an Infra-Red Gas Analyzer (LI-COR®, LI-820), which was calibrated one day before sampling, on
two linear segments because of its non-linear response in the range of observed pCO₂ values (0–90,000
ppmv). This non-linearity was due to saturation of the ~~infraredIR~~ cell at pCO₂ values above 20,000
275 | ppmv. We used certified standards (Air Liquide™ France) of 2,079±42; 19,500±390 and 90,200±1,800
ppmv, as well as nitrogen flowing through soda lime for ~~the~~ zero. For the first linear segment [0-20,000
ppmv], which corresponded to ~~the~~ river waters, we set the zero and we ~~spanned~~ the LI-COR at 19,500
ppmv, and ~~then we~~ checked for linearity at 2,042 ppmv. For the second segment [20,000-90,000 ppmv],
which corresponded to the sampled groundwater, we measured the response of the LICOR with the
280 | standard at 90,000 ppmv, and used this measured value to make a post correction of the measured value
in the field. ~~For groundwater, we took the precaution to renew the water in the piezometers by pumping
of about 300 L with a submersible pump before sampling. Before sampling, the groundwater was
pumped from the piezometer during the time necessary to obtain stable readings of temperature, pH,
electrical conductivity and dissolved oxygen concentration.~~

285

Total alkalinity was analyzed on filtered samples by automated electro-titration on 50 mL filtered
samples with 0.1N HCl as ~~the~~ titrant. ~~The~~ equivalence point was determined from pH between 4 and 3
~~with the Gran method (Gran, 1952). The~~ precision based on replicate analyses was better than ± 5 µM.
For samples with a very low pH (<4.5), we bubbled the water with atmospheric air in order to degas ~~the~~

290 CO₂. Consequently, the initial pH increased above the value of 5, and [total alkalinity](#) titration could be performed (Abril et al., 2015). We calculated DIC from pCO₂, [total alkalinity](#), and temperature measurements using carbonic acid dissociation constants of Millero (1979) and the CO₂ solubility from Weiss (1974) as implemented in the CO₂SYS programme (Lewis et al., 1998). Contrary to [the](#) pCO₂ calculation from pH and [total alkalinity](#) (Abril et al., 2015), [the](#) DIC calculation from measured pCO₂ and [total alkalinity](#) was weakly affected by the presence of organic alkalinity, because 80±20 % of DIC in our samples was dissolved CO₂. [The](#) DOC samples were obtained after filtration, in the field through pre-combusted GF/F filters (porosity of 0.7 µm). [The were](#) acidified with 50 µL of HCl 37% to reach pH 2 [and stored in pre-combusted Pyrex 25 mL vials](#) at 4 °C in the [dark](#) before analysis. [The](#) DOC concentrations were measured with a SHIMADZU TOC 500 analyzer (in TOC-IC mode), [with](#) repeatability better than 0.1 mg L⁻¹.

2.5. Hydrological monitoring

[The p](#)Precipitation (P) was measured continuously at the Bilos plot using automatic rain gauges with a 30 minutes integration: one Young EML SBS 500 (EML, North Shields, UK) was located in a small clear-cut at 3 m above ground from 01/01/2014 to 10/05/2014 and one electronic gravimetric heated precipitation gauge TRwS (MPS system; Bratislava, Slovakia) was located at the top of the canopy on a 305 6 m tower, from 01/07/2014 to 31/12/2015. Hence, between 11/05/2014 and 31/06/2014, ~~[there were](#)~~ [none precipitation](#) measurements [were](#) available at the Bilos site. Thus, during this period, we used data

from Meteo France © station at Belin-Béliet (~~about~~approximately 30 km from the Bilos site). The precipitation measurements were also checked weekly in the field with manual reports.

310

The groundwater table depth (~~H~~) was measured continuously at the Bilos plot using high performance level pressure sensors (PDCR/PTX 1830, Druck and CS451451, Campbell Scientific) in one piezometer located amid the Bilos site. The pressure measurements were fully compensated for temperature and air pressure fluctuations. The measurements were obtained at ~~60~~seconds intervals and integrated on ~~30~~minutes period. They were checked with manual probe weekly. The groundwater table depth was also measured punctually with a manual piezometric probe in the piezometer 2 and 3 before each groundwater sampling.

315

Our study ~~took benefit~~benefited from four calibrated gauging stations of the DIREN (French water ~~quality survey~~ agency), (~~with a daily temporal resolution~~), located on two ~~second~~order streams (BR and GAR), one ~~third~~order stream (PL) and one ~~fourth~~order stream (GL) (Fig.1). We also performed additional discharge measurements in ~~first order~~first-order streams (Fig. 1). For each stream order, we calculated with a daily temporal resolution for a two years period the drainage (i.e., discharge divided by the corresponding catchment area, in $\text{m}^3 \text{ km}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ or in mm d^{-1}) (Deirmendjian and Abril, ~~submitted in~~ revision). We then determined the increase of drainage ~~enrichment α , defined as the ratio~~ between ~~drainage of two~~ streams of successive orders. Because of the specific characteristics of the Leyre watershed with no surface runoff, we ~~showed~~observed a regular increase in drainage values (~~hence the~~

320

325

330 ~~drainage enrichment α is > 1) between two streams of increasing successive orders. In addition, the~~
~~proportion of additional drainage occurring in each stream order was , with drainage enrichment~~
relatively constant temporally. This enabled a precise quantification of additional diffusive groundwater
inputs in stream reach compare to that coming from the stream of inferior order. Our analysis led to
the conclusion that monthly drainage values in first order streams were on average 2.3 times lower than
that measured in fourth order stream (Deirmendjian and Abril, submitted). Our analysis based on daily
335 ~~discharge monitoring in second-, third-, and fourth-order streams and seasonal gauging of first-order~~
~~streams revealed that monthly drainage values in first order streams were on average 2.3 times lower~~
~~than that measured in fourth order stream and allowed us to reconstruct robust monthly drainage values~~
~~in first order streams (Deirmendjian and Abril, in revision).~~

~~3. Results~~

~~3.1. Water mass balance and hydrological parameters dynamics~~

340 We wrote the water mass balance equation at the Bilos forest plot as follows:

$$P = D + ETR + GWS + \Delta S \quad (\text{Eq.}$$

~~12)~~

345 ~~W~~where, P, D, ETR, GWS and ΔS were respectively, precipitation, drainage, evapotranspiration,
groundwater storage and change of soil water content in the unsaturated zone, all expressed in mm d^{-1} .

350 ~~These five parameters were determined respectively as follows: (1) P was the cumulative precipitation measured over a given period t as measured at the Bilos site (Fig. 2c); (2) D was the drainage at the Bilos site deduced from daily observation at four gauging stations and the hydrological model (Deirmendjian and Abril, in revision); because the flows of the different stream orders were synchronous (Fig. 2a), we estimated D as the mean Leyre River flow over a period t divided by the catchment size at the gauging station and the correction factor of 2.3 due to additional groundwater inputs in reaches of increasing order (Fig. 2e). (3) ETR was the cumulative evapotranspiration obtained from eddy covariance measurements of latent heat fluxes over a period t at the Bilos site (Fig. 2c). (4) GWS was the groundwater storage estimated as calculated as the net change in water table depth over the period t times the representative soil effective porosity at the Bilos site of 0.2 ((Augusto et al., 2010; Moreaux et al., 2011) (Fig. 2e). (5) ΔS . Finally, ~~None~~ reliable measurements of soil water content were available and the ΔS term being likely small the variation of soil water content in the unsaturated zone was neglected in the water mass balance. ~~this term was not measured therefore. This term was neglected in our water mass balance.~~~~

360 2.6. Carbon stocks in groundwater, exports to streams and degassing to the atmosphere

We calculated four different terms that describe the dynamics of carbon at the Bilos plot: the stocks of DIC (DIC_{stock}) and DOC (DOC_{stock}) in groundwater and the exports of DIC (DIC_{export}) and DOC (DOC_{export}) from groundwater to first-order streams; all integrated between two sampling dates (Tab. S2). Because we do not know the total height of the permeable surface soil layer in the piezometer 2

Code de champ modifié

365 and 3, we calculated the stocks of C in the groundwater only at the Bilos site. However, in order to
account for spatial differences between the dry, mesophyllous and wet Landes, specific DIC and DOC
exports were calculated for the three study sites piezometers. We wrote:

$$\text{DIC}_{\text{stock}} = (S_i + S_f) / 2 = (\text{DIC}_i \times V_i + \text{DIC}_f \times V_f) / 2 \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

370 where $\text{DIC}_{\text{stock}}$ was the mean stock of DIC in groundwater between two sampling dates in mmol m^2 . S_f
and S_i were the final and the initial stock of DIC in groundwater in mmol m^2 . DIC_i and DIC_f were the
initial and the final concentration of DIC in groundwater in mmol m^{-3} , respectively. V_i and V_f were the
initial and the final volume of groundwater in $\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-2}$. The volume of groundwater (V) was calculated as
follows:

$$375 \quad V = (h + H) \times \Phi_{\text{effective}} \quad (\text{Eq. 3})$$

where h and H (H is negative), were respectively the total height of the permeable surface layer (equals
to 10 m, Corbier et al., 2010) and the height of groundwater table. $\Phi_{\text{effective}}$ was the effective porosity of
the soil and it was equal to 0.2.

380 Export of DIC in first-order streams through drainage of shallow groundwater was calculated from
discharge and concentration as follows:

$$\text{DIC}_{\text{export}} = D \times (\text{DIC}_i + \text{DIC}_f) / 2 \quad (\text{Eq. 4})$$

385 where D was the mean drainage of shallow groundwater by first-order streams between the initial and
the final sampling dates in $m\ d^{-1}$. DIC_i and DIC_f were the initial and the final concentration of DIC in
groundwater in $mmol\ m^{-3}$. We calculated DOC_{stock} and DOC_{export} as the same manner as DIC_{stock} and
 DIC_{export} . In addition, we also calculated the DIC exported from first-order streams to second-order
streams by replacing in the equation 4 the concentrations of carbon in the groundwater by carbon
concentrations in first-order streams. Between two sampling dates, the degassing of CO_2 in first-order
390 streams could thus be obtained from the difference between the DIC exported from groundwater and
from first-order streams.

3. Results

3.1. Hydrological parameters and water mass balance

Water mass balance at the Bilos site was calculated on a monthly basis over a two--years period (2014-
395 2015) (Tab. 12; Figs. 2c, 3). Monthly precipitation P on the one hand and the sum of
evapotranspiration E_{TR} , groundwater storage GWS and drainage D on the other hand closely followed
the 1:1 line (Fig. 3), showing the consistency of the water mass balance estimated with different
techniques and independent devices, even with a monthly temporal resolution not sufficient to account
for very sudden processes. During the years 2014 and 2015, we distinguished ~~could define four~~
400 different hydrological periods, ~~HF, GS, LS and EW periods, respectively for that were~~ high flow,
growing season, late summer and early winter periods (Fig. 2). High flow (~~HF~~) periods were

characterized by two relatively short flood events in Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 (~~maximum Leyre river flowpeak~~ of $120 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$) and in Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015 (~~maximum Leyre river flow-peak~~ of $80 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$), and associated with high drainage values (maximum of 1.9 mm d^{-1} in Feb. 2014) and a water table close to the soil surface (Tab. 12; Figs. 2a-c). ~~These short periods of high flow in winter~~ High flow periods (HF) were followed by ~~the forest-growing season (GS) periods in spring and summer that were associated with decreasing groundwater table (negative groundwater storage), highest evapotranspiration (maximum of 5.3 mm d^{-1} in Apr. 2014) and with both highest GPP and R_{eco} (maximum of 880 and $660 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, respectively, in May 2015)~~ in May. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015 (Tab. 2, 5; Fig. 2). ~~characterized by highest GPP and R_{eco} (maximum of 880 and $660 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, respectively, in May 2015) and highest evapotranspiration (maximum of 5.3 mm d^{-1} in Apr. 2014); during this growing period, the groundwater table decreased and groundwater storage was negative (Tabs. 1, 3; Fig. 2).~~ Growing season (GS) periods were followed by late summer periods (LS) that were characterized ~~with-by~~ low precipitations (mimumum of 0.2 mm d^{-1} in Sep. 2014), and the lowest groundwater table depth in Sept. 2014-Oct. 2014 and in Sep. 2015-Oct-2015 (Tab. 12; Fig. 2a-c). Late summer periods (LS) were followed by early winter (EW) periods that were associated with heavy precipitations (maximum of 4.7 mm d^{-1} in Nov. 2014) and ~~with-increasing~~ rising groundwater table (positive groundwater storage) in Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and in Nov. 2015-Dec.2015 (Tab. 12; Figs. 2a-c). We considered that, growing season, late summer and early winter periods, merged together, represented periods of base flow. (~~BF~~).

Hydrological parameters (i.e., P, D, ETR, GWS) differed considerably between the year 2014 and 2015 (Tab. 2; Fig. 2c). P, D, ETR and GWS were much higher in 2014 (1,102 mm; 912 mm; 191 mm; -72 mm; respectively) than in 2015 (681 mm; 621 mm; 108 mm; -174 mm; respectively) (Tab. 2; Fig. 2c).

425 Evapotranspiration (ETR), precipitation (P) and drainage (D) exhibited strong temporal variabilities (Tab. 2; Fig. 2c). Overall, ETR was higher during high flow and growing season periods (maximum value of 5.3 mm d⁻¹ in Apr. 2014) than during late summer and early winter periods (minimum value of 0.33 mm d⁻¹ in Dec. 2014) (Tab. 2; Fig. 2c). P was higher during early winter and high flow periods (maximum value of 8.0 mm d⁻¹ in Jan. 2014) than during growing season and late summer periods

430 (minimum value of 0.2 mm d⁻¹ in Sep. 2014) (Tab. 2; Fig. 2c). D was mostly impacted by river flow (Fig. 2a-c) and groundwater table depth (H_m) (Tab. 3) and therefore was highest during periods of high flow and was lowest during periods of base flow, particularly during late summer (Tab. 2; Fig. 2a-c).

Periods ~~offor~~ groundwater discharge with negative ing (decreasing water table) groundwater storage ~~were~~ (Feb. 2014-Sep. 2014 and Mar. 2015-Aug. 2015) ~~and these two periods~~ were characterized ~~both~~

435 by evapotranspiration higher than precipitations ~~and by negative groundwater storage~~ (Figs. 2a-c). Conversely, periods of groundwater loading-recharge with positive groundwater storage (rising groundwater table) ~~were~~ (Oct. 2014-Feb. 2015 and Sep. 2015-Dec. 2015) ~~and~~ were characterized ~~both~~

440 by precipitations higher than evapotranspiration ~~and positive groundwater storage~~ (Figs. 2a-c). Consequently, at the plot scale, ~~there was a good significant linear relationship~~ correlations between groundwater storage and precipitations and between groundwater storage and evapotranspiration were

[observed](#) (Tab. [23](#)), attesting that evapotranspiration and precipitations played a significant role in the groundwater storage.

3.2. Net Ecosystem exchange of CO₂ in the forest plot (Bilos plot)

445 | GPP, R_{eco} and NEE exhibited a strong seasonal variability (Tab. [34](#); Fig. 2b). GPP, R_{eco} and NEE were
respectively 400±220 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹, 310±150 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ and -90±110 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ throughout the
years 2014 and 2015 (~~here we excluded the 16/05/14-07/07/14 period when, because there were none~~
~~Eddy covariance data measurements were~~ available), equivalent to 1,750±960; 1,360±660 and
390±480 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹ (Tab. [34](#); Fig. 2b). These results were close from Moreaux et al (2011) estimates
450 | of 1,720; 1,480 and 340 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹ respectively, as measured at a younger forest stage in the same
forest plot. GPP increased from early winter (210±30 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) to growing season (640±150 mmol
m⁻² d⁻¹) periods (Tab. [34](#); Fig. 2b). R_{eco} followed the same temporal trend (Tab. [34](#); Fig. 2b). During late
summer and early winter periods, NEE could be positive (R_{eco}>GPP), meaning that the pine forest
ecosystems [had](#) [switched](#) from autotrophic to heterotrophic metabolism, notably in Oct., ~~Nov~~ and Dec.
455 | 2014, ~~respectively equals to 10, 55 and 20 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹~~ (Tab. [3](#); Fig. 2b). NEE was always negative
(R_{eco}<GPP) during high flow and growing season periods, except ~~infor~~ Jul. 2015 (~~Tab. ; Fig. 2b~~), ~~that~~
~~was~~ probably [as a](#) consequence of ~~a period of low~~ [temporary low](#) precipitation (Tab. 3; Figs. 2b-c).
(~~Fig. 2e~~).

3.3. Dissolved carbon evolution in shallow groundwater

460 In shallow groundwater, total alkalinity was low andTA originated from slow weathering of silicate minerals with vegetation-derived CO₂ (Polsenaere and Abril, 2012). ~~In addition, t~~The mean proportion of ~~TA~~total alkalinity in the DIC pool in shallow groundwater was 5% ~~in shallow groundwater~~, the large majority of the DIC being composed of dissolved CO₂ resulting from microbial and plant root respiration in the soil. ~~This was also consistent with the isotopic signature of the DIC (-26 ‰) and the~~
465 ~~acidic pH (3-4) in these sampled groundwater (Deirmendjian and Abril, submitted).~~ Although the sampling frequency was monthly or more, it allowed to detect significant changes in the groundwater DIC and DOC concentrations, consistent from one year to another at Bilos site and from one site to another during the second hydrological year of the study (Figs. 4,5). One first and relevant key result was the opposite temporal evolution of DIC and DOC concentrations in groundwater with water table
470 depth (Tab. 2; Fig. 4, 5). Indeed, DIC and DOC concentrations in groundwater exhibited strong temporal variations in relation with the hydrological cycle (Tab. 4; Fig. 4, 5). On the one hand, during high flow and growing season periods of 2014, the increase of DIC in Bilos groundwater (570 to 3,030 μmol L⁻¹) was associated with ~~both~~ a fast decrease of DOC in Bilos groundwater (3,625 to 950 μmol L⁻¹), in parallel with a decline in the water table (Fig. 5b-e). In 2015, the same temporal trend was
475 observed at the same period, but with a lesser extent (Fig. 5b-e). On the other hand, during period of late summer, the ~~second~~ increase of DIC concentrations in Bilos groundwater (2,700 to 5,400 μmol L⁻¹) was this time not related with any decrease of DOC concentrations in groundwater (Figs. 5b-c). This maximum of DIC concentrations in groundwater corresponded of late summer period when ~~re~~ the

overlying forest ecosystems ~~had~~ switched from autotrophic ~~metabolism~~ to heterotopic metabolism (Figs. 2b, 5). During early winter and high flow periods, DIC concentrations in Bilos groundwater decreased from 4,000 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ (Nov. 2014) to 1,700 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ (Mar. 2015), in parallel with a rise in the water table (Figs. 5a-b). Concomitantly, a fast increase in DOC concentrations from 670 to 3,600 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ occurred in Bilos groundwater between the same time periods (Fig. 5a-c).

The DIC concentrations in the three sampled piezometers exhibited a ~~small-modest~~ spatial heterogeneity (Tab. 45; Fig. 5b). DIC concentrations were low (e.g., 570 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ in the Bilos piezometer in Feb. 2014) during periods of high flow and were high (e.g., 5,370 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ in the Bilos piezometer in Sep. 2014) during period of late summer (Tab. 45; Fig. 5a-b). ~~In addition, the three sampled groundwater were supersaturated in CO_2 with partial pressure between 7,680 ppmv (during high flow periods) and 116,380 ppmv (during late summer period) (Deirmendjian and Abril, submitted). Alternatively~~In contrast to DIC, the DOC concentrations exhibited a ~~large-significant~~ spatial heterogeneity, particularly during high flow periods (Tab. 45; Fig. 5). During these periods of high flow, DOC concentrations were higher in the Bilos piezometer ($3,800 \pm 200 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) than in the piezometer 2 ($280 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) and 3 ($1,500 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) (Tab. 45; Fig. 5a-c). During the other hydrological periods (periods of base flow), DOC concentrations in the piezometer 2 were still lower than the two other piezometers (Bilos & 3) (Tab. 5). However, during periods of base flow, ~~groundwater~~ DOC concentrations in the three sampled ~~sites groundwater~~ remained more or less constant (Tab. 45; Fig. 5a-c).

3.4. Dissolved carbon evolution in ~~first-order~~ first-order streams

In ~~first-order~~ first-order streams, the DIC concentrations exhibited smaller temporal variations and significantly lower values than in groundwater, attesting that degassing occurred at the groundwater-stream interface (Tab. ~~45~~; Fig. 5b). ~~However, as in groundwater, period of late summer also corresponded to a maximum ($1,030 \pm 240 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) of DIC concentrations in first order streams (Tab. 5; Fig. 5b). First order streams were still supersaturated with CO_2 with values as high as from 3,100 ppmv (during high flow periods) to 27,200 ppmv (during late summer period) (Deirmendjian and Abril, submitted).~~ In contrast to DIC, the DOC concentrations in ~~first-order~~ first-order streams were in of the same order of magnitude than in the piezometer 2 (dry Landes) and significantly lower than in the two other piezometers (wet to mesophyllous Landes), in particular during periods of high flow (Tab. 4; Fig. ~~5c~~); ~~which was located in the dry Landes near a first order stream. However, DOC concentrations in first order streams were lower than in the two other piezometers, which were located in the wet mesophyl Landes (Bilos) and in the mesophyll Landes (Piezometer 3), in particular during periods of high flow (Tab. 5; Fig. 5c).~~ As in groundwater, DOC and DIC concentrations in ~~first-order~~ first-order streams were significantly negatively anti-correlated (Tab. ~~23~~), suggesting that carbon dynamics in ~~first-order~~ first-order streams was mostly impacted by groundwater inputs. ~~Indeed, we observed higher DOC concentrations and lower DIC concentrations in streams during periods of early winter and high flow than during periods of growing season and late summer (Tab. 5).~~

3.5. Carbon stocks in groundwater and exports to streams

In order to describe quantitatively the dynamics of C at the Bilos plot scale we calculated four different terms: the stocks of DIC (DIC_{stock}) and DOC (DOC_{stock}) in Bilos groundwater (Fig. 6); and the exports of DIC (DIC_{export}) and DOC (DOC_{export}) from Bilos groundwater to first order streams; all integrated between two sampling dates (Tab. S2). The stocks of C in the groundwater can be estimated only for the piezometer Bilos, because we did not have data about the total height of the permeable surface layer in the piezometer 2 and 3. In contrast, because of spatial differences between the dry, mesophyll and wet Landes, the exports of DIC and DOC were calculated for the three study sites (Bilos, piezometers 2 and 3) (Tab. 6).

We wrote:

$$DIC_{stock} = (S_f + S_i) / 2 = (DIC_i \times V_i + DIC_f \times V_f) / 2 \quad \text{--- (Eq. 3)}$$

where,

DIC_{stock} was the mean stock of DIC in groundwater between two sampling dates in $mmol \cdot m^2$. S_f and S_i were the final and the initial stock of DIC in groundwater in $mmol \cdot m^2$. DIC_i and DIC_f were the initial and the final concentration of DIC in groundwater in $mmol \cdot m^{-3}$, respectively. V_i and V_f were the initial and the final volume of groundwater in $m^3 \cdot m^{-2}$.

The volume of groundwater (V) was calculated as the following manner:

$$V = (h + H) \times \Phi_{\text{effective}} \quad \text{--- (Eq. 4)}$$

where,

h and H (H is negative), were respectively the total height of the permeable surface layer (equals to 10 m, Corbier et al., 2010) and the height of groundwater table. $\Phi_{\text{effective}}$ was the effective porosity of the soil and it was equal to 0.2.

Export of DIC in first order streams through drainage of shallow groundwater was calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{DIC}_{\text{export}} = D \times \text{DIC}_m \quad \text{--- (Eq. 5)}$$

where,

D and DIC_m were the drainage of shallow groundwater by first order streams and the mean concentration of DIC in groundwater between two sampling dates, respectively in $\text{m} \cdot \text{d}^{-1}$ and $\text{mmol} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$.

We calculated $\text{DOC}_{\text{stock}}$ and $\text{DOC}_{\text{export}}$ as the same manner.

At the Bilos site, the stocks of DIC and DOC in groundwater followed the same temporal trend than DIC and DOC concentrations (Figs. 5, 6). The stock of DIC increased from high flow (1,140 mmol m⁻² the 12/02/14) to late summer (8,700 mmol m⁻² the 24/09/2014) periods, whereas at the same time intervals, the stock of DOC decreased from 7,240 mmol m⁻² to 780 mmol m⁻² (Fig. 6). Furthermore, 560 between 12/02/2014 and 16/05/2014 (95 days), we observed an increase of 4,500 mmol m⁻² in DIC stocks very close to the decrease of DOC stocks of 5,500 mmol m⁻². This suggests that during the following months after the DOC peak in groundwater at high flow period, DOC is degraded to DIC suggesting that after the peak of DOC stocks and concentrations at high flow period, groundwater DIC could originates from the degradation of DOC within the groundwater itself. During this period, the 565 degradation rate of DOC in the groundwater was thus could be estimated of about approximately 60 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹.

The export of DOC occurred in majority during high flow periods (e.g., 90% of the total DOC export in Bilos plot occurred during high flow periods), for each sampled groundwater (Tab. 56). During high 570 flow periods, the groundwater DOC concentrations and exports exhibited an important spatial heterogeneity at the three sampled site As observed for DOC concentrations in groundwater, during high flow periods the three sampled groundwater exhibited a large spatial heterogeneity of DOC exports (Tab. 56). During these periods of high flow, DOC export was higher in the Bilos piezometer (3.4±1.1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) than in the piezometer 2 (0.4±0.02 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) and in the piezometer 3 (1.5±0.2 mmol 575 m⁻² d⁻¹) (Tab. 56). These contrasts in DOC exports were related to the water table depth and amplitude

(Fig. 4), and the gradient in soil [carbon](#) between the different podzols. In contrast to DOC exports, [about](#)[approximately](#) the same quantity of DIC was exported during high flow periods (e.g., 50% of the total DIC export in Bilos plot occurred during HF period) than during the other hydrological periods, for each sampled groundwater (Tab. [56](#)). ~~Alternatively to DOC exports,~~[Groundwater](#) DIC exports, exhibited a smaller spatial heterogeneity [than DOC exports between the three sampled groundwater, for each hydrological period \(Tab. 6\)](#). ~~Finally,~~ although [DOC and DIC concentrations showed opposite seasonal trend differences occurred](#) in groundwater ~~between both carbon forms~~ (Tab. [4, 55](#), Figs. 5b-c); ~~throughout the sampling period, the mean,~~ the time-integrated value of carbon export [for the sampling period](#) was $0.9 \pm 0.5 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ ($3.9 \pm 2.2 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) for DIC and $0.7 \pm 0.7 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ ($3.1 \pm 3.1 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) for DOC ~~in the three sampled groundwater~~ (Tab. [56](#)). ~~In the Leyre watershed, a~~ drainage of groundwater was the only hydrological pathway [in the Leyre watershed](#), terrestrial [carbon](#) leaching to streams was estimated to be $1.6 \pm 0.9 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ ($7.0 \pm 3.9 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$).

3.6. Degassing in ~~first order~~[first-order](#) streams

~~Because there was no surface runoff in the Leyre watershed we consider that degassing in first order streams (F_{degass}) between two sampling dates could be obtained by the difference between pCO_2 in groundwater and pCO_2 in first order streams as in (Eq. 6).~~

$$F_{\text{degass}} = \frac{(\Delta\text{CO}_{2(t)} + \Delta\text{CO}_{2(t+1)})}{2} \times D$$

~~(Eq. 6)~~

595 where,
 $\Delta\text{CO}_{2(t)}$ and $\Delta\text{CO}_{2(t+1)}$ were the differences between the mean concentrations of CO_2 in mmol m^{-3} in the
3 sampled groundwater and in the 6 first order streams at time t and $t+1$, expressed in mmol m^{-3} . D is
the drainage of the first order streams between time t and $t+1$ in m d^{-1} .

600 F_{degass} —Degassing in first-order streams was $0.76 \pm 0.53 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ ($32.15 \pm 24.23 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$)
throughout the sampling period (Tab. 56). Degassing was more important during periods of high flow
than during the other hydrological periods (Tab. 56). In addition, degassing in first-order
stream was positively correlated to the export of DIC (Tab. 23), suggesting-revealing that degassing was
mostly impacted by groundwater inputs. Over a hydrological year, 7565% of the DIC exported from the
605 Leyre watershed based on the three sampled-groundwater sampling sites, almost immediately returned
directly in the atmosphere in first-order through CO_2 degassing in first-order -streams
streams through
 CO_2 degassing (Tab. 56).

4. Discussion

4.1. Water mass balance and the role of groundwater in hydrological carbon export

610 Our hydrological dataset monitored continuously during 18 months —obtained during an 18 months
long monitoring—allows us to separate partition understanding how the water budget in four terms at
the monthly timescales is partitioned between the different hydrological parameters (e.g., P, D, ETR and

GWS) in the “Landes de Gascogne” area (Tab. 12; Figs. 2c, 3). The water budget established at the Bilos plot scale was primarily impacted by precipitation and ~~secondarily by~~ evapotranspiration (Tab. 12; Fig. 2c), ~~as revealed by the annual quantity of precipitation and evapotranspiration (Moreaux et al., 2014).~~ The transfer of precipitation to rivers involves temporary water storage in groundwater (Alley et al., 2002; Oki and Kanae, 2006)(~~Oki and Kanae, 2006~~). The lag time between precipitation and groundwater storage was short at our study site, as attested by the ~~strong significant linear relationship~~ correlation between these two parameters (Tab. 23). Thus, when precipitations are high (during early winter and high flow periods), water infiltration in the sandy podzols is faster than ~~the~~ water capture by vegetation. Consequently, ~~groundwater is filled directly by~~ rain-water infiltration rapidly, ~~which raises the~~ causes the water table to rise and thus increases the groundwater storage (Figs. 2a-c). This fast infiltration is ~~consistent due with to~~ the sandy texture of soils ~~with a high proportion of coarse sands with a low water soil retention~~ (Augusto et al., 2010; ~~which makes the infiltration of rain water fast~~ (Vernier and Castro, 2010). ~~In addition, the correlation between groundwater storage and precipitation is also consistent with findings of Alley et al. (2002) who highlight that groundwater recharge can occur as a result of precipitation over large areas, infiltrating and percolating through the unsaturated zone in regions having shallow groundwater table.~~

630 ~~On the contrary, the transpiration flow through plants and the~~ The evapotranspiration was ~~ere~~ maximum high during growing season and late summer periods when the precipitations were low (Tab. 12, Fig. 2c). For that reason, the groundwater storage decreases with increasing evapotranspiration (Tab. 23;

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Fig. 2c), revealing that soil water ~~and water table~~ uptake by the pine trees directly lowers the water table. Soil water retention properties usually vary with depth and thus soil water uptake by plant roots generally occurs from areas in the soil with the highest water potential (Warren et al., 2005; Domec et al., 2010). Previous studies suggest that the ordinary soil depth at which most water is taken up in pines is usually 30–40 cm (Querejeta et al., 2001; Klein et al., 2014) where nutrient concentrations are also the highest (Achat et al., 2008). In an experimental Scots Pine plot in a flat and sandy area of Belgium, similar as our study site, This is consistent with reports of Vincke and Thiry (2008) who found reported

635 that water table uptake could contributes to 60% of the evapotranspiration ~~for an experimental Scots Pine plot in a flat and sandy area of Belgium, similar as our study site, which thanks to process occurred through~~ capillary rise from the groundwater up to the rooted soil layers. To the contrary to the pine trees, direct Furthermore, groundwater table uptake has been ~~also~~ observed for deciduous trees in a flat and sandy area of Portugal (cork oak trees) (Mendes et al., 2016), and associated this time with a

640 process that occurred through a dimorphic root system which allows the access and use of groundwater resources (David et al., 2013) in particular during drought period (Del Castillo et al., 2016). ~~The positive correlation between groundwater storage and evapotranspiration is also consistent with a water table more elevated after harvesting pine forest due to reduced evapotranspiration (Bosch and Hewlett, 1982; Sun et al., 2000; Xu et al., 2002). Evapotranspiration strongly controls the groundwater storage in~~

645 pine forests and, as a result, water table generally rises after clear-cut (Bosch and Hewlett, 1982; Sun et al., 2000; Xu et al., 2002)In the “Landes de Gascogne” area. At our study site, also drainage also significantly increased ~~in after clear-cut wood harvesting areas~~ due to reduced evapotranspiration,

650

(Kowalski et al., 2003; Loustau and Guillot, 2009). Indeed, the network of drainage ditches created by foresters evacuates very rapidly the water in excess when the groundwater level rises (Thivolle-Cazat and Najar, 2001). Since most pine roots are located in the first meter of the soil (Bakker et al., 2006), to avoid winter anoxia caused by rising water table (Bakker et al., 2006, 2009), the pine trees do not exhibit any transpiration reduction when the groundwater level is high (Figs. 2a-c; Loustau et al., 1990).

We observed a lag time between groundwater storage and drainage at our study site (Figs. 2a-c, 3), ~~as attested~~confirmed by the non-~~significant~~linear relationship ~~correlation~~ between these two parameters (Tab. 23). This lag ~~of 2-3 months time effect~~ was due to the time ~~necessary for~~water to travel in groundwater, through the soil depending on the spatial temporal gradient of hydraulic head, hydraulic conductivity, and porosity of the system (Alley et al., 2002; Ahuja et al., 2010). At our study site, shallow groundwater acts as a buffer system, the drainage being mostly controlled by water table depth and the capacity of the porous soil to store or export water (Alley et al., 2002). ~~This is consistent with Vissers and van der Perk (2008) who highlight that groundwater flow of a shallow sandy aquifer is largely controlled by the drainage pattern of the streams and ditches, and thus by the water table depth and topography of the area. Indeed, groundwater flow in a shallow sandy aquifer is largely controlled by the drainage pattern of the streams and ditches, and thus by the water table depth and topography of the area (Vissers and van der Perk 2008).~~ At our study site, the buffer capacity of groundwater ~~induces regional hydrological characteristics; (i) explains why~~ the Leyre river discharge increased only in late winter, 2-3 months after the start of a period of high flows, while high precipitations and rising water

675 table started in early winter 2-3 months before (Figs. 2a-c); (ii) the river discharge remained relatively constant between periods of late summer and early winter, although the water table was rising (Fig. 2a-e). In the Leyre watershed, sudden hydrological events are thus buffered by this temporary groundwater storage in the porous soil. As a consequence, at our study site, temporary groundwater storage mediates almost all the carbon_C exports to the watershed. Moreover, storms would not have such crucial impact on the way we estimate carbon_C stocks and exports from groundwater to first-order streams, based on monthly sampling frequency. Indeed, with our monthly resolution we could appreciate the observed consistent seasonal effect of DIC and DOC in shallow groundwater and streams (Fig. 5b-e), suggesting that the main representative for the different processes that impact control carbon_C dynamics in groundwater and streams were taken into account. On the contrary, in other types of catchments (e.g., steeper and less permeable catchments), carbon_C stocks and exports are quickly affected by storms and/or pulsed hydrological events (e.g., Raymond and Saiers, 2010; Wilson et al., 685 2013). Finally, the water mass balance at the Bilos plot scale being consistent with drainage modeled and estimated at the watershed scale (Figs. 2c, 3), we used this drainage in the purpose of to estimate carbon_C exports at the plot scale (Tab. 56).

4.2. Soil carbon leaching to groundwater

690 Generally, dissolved organic matter includes a small proportion of identifiable, low molecular weight compounds such as carbohydrates and amino acids and a larger proportion of complex,

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high molecular weight compounds (Evans et al., 2005; Kawasaki et al., 2005), such as in our study region (Delprat, 1997). DOC in soil and river water originates from biological decomposition of dissolved organic matter, throughfall or litter leaching, root exudates (Bolan et al., 2011). Surface precipitation generally drives the transport of DOC through the soil column to the saturated zone (Kawasaki et al., 2005; Shen et al., 2015). In the sandy podzols of the Landes de Gascogne, soil DOC in upper horizons was not preferentially mobilized by rainwater percolation, as revealed by the relative stability of DOC concentrations and stocks in groundwater during periods of base flow, i.e. when groundwater table was low and the surface soil was drained (Tab. 5; Fig. 5c). Indeed, up to 90% of surface-derived DOC can be removed prior to reaching the saturated zone (Shen et al., 2015). This suggests the occurrence of retention mechanisms in soils during vertical infiltration that strongly impact DOC leaching from soil to groundwater (Kawasaki et al., 2005; Shen et al., 2015). As a matter of fact, a large fraction of DOC in soil solution is sorbed onto soil minerals or metal as it moves downward rather than mineralized by soil microorganisms (Kaiser and Guggenberger, 2000; Sanderman and Amundson, 2009). Sandy podzols contain almost no clay minerals (Augusto et al., 2010), and this absence of phyllosilicates likely prevents the formation of DOC-clay complex from occurring, and thus retention in soil is probably more influenced by DOC-metal complex. Indeed, organometallic associations play a key role in the development of podzols (Lundström et al., 2000a; Lundström et al., 2000b; Sauer et al., 2007). In temperate forested ecosystems, Michalzik et al (2001) and Kindler et al (2011) evidenced that leaching of DOC from subsoils was controlled by retention in the mineral B horizon of the soil,

715 this retention being related with the content of extractable aluminum and iron oxides in the soil (Kindler et al., 2011). These Al-Fe oxides are considered to be the most important sorbents for dissolved organic matter in soils (e.g., Kaiser et al., 1996). In podzols, the content in Al-Fe oxides, and their degree of complexation by soil organic matter, increased with depth (Ferro-Vázquez et al., 2014), such as our study site (Achat et al., 2011). Furthermore, where sorptive retention of DOC occurs, it contributes to carbon accumulation in subsoils due to the stabilization of organic matter against biological degradation (Kalbitz and Kaiser, 2008). The sorption processes being affected by molecular properties such as size, hydrophobicity and charge (Inamdar et al., 2012).
720 At our study site, the fraction of groundwater DOC that predominates at low water table was probably more recalcitrant, more stabilized and more aged. Indeed, in a small forested temperate basin, Schiff et al (1997) reported a wide range of ¹⁴C age of groundwater DOC, from old DOC at base flow under dry conditions to relative modern DOC during high flow or wetter conditions. At our study site, during these low water table periods, groundwater DOC was on average higher at
725 at the mesophyl to wet Landes station (Bilos and Piezometer 3), than at the dry Landes (Piezometer 2) (Tab. 5). Several studies have reported decreasing DOC concentrations in groundwater in concurrence with increasing subsoil thickness and water table depth (Pabich et al., 2001; Datry et al., 2004; Goldscheider et al., 2006), with DOC concentrations at or close to zero reported in deep (> 1 km) and old groundwater (Pabich et al., 2001). The transfer of DOC in
730 groundwater also depending on the level of hydraulic connectivity between subsoils horizons and water table depth (Kalbitz et al., 2000). At our study site, the saturation of the superficial organic-

rich horizon of the soil is necessary to generate high DOC concentrations in groundwater (Fig. 4, 5, 7). Under reducing conditions in soils, as during periods of high flow at our study site, the dissolution of Fe oxides in soil increases not only dissolved Fe concentrations but also DOC concentrations, as a consequence of the diminished sorptive retention of DOC (Hagedorn et al., 2000; Camino-Serrano et al., 2014; Fang et al., 2016). Furthermore, we calculated a stock of soil organic C in the 0-60 cm layer of 9.7 kg m^{-2} at the Bilos plot (Trichet and Loustau, personal communication), whereas the stock of DOC in Bilos groundwater was 0.08 kg m^{-2} during periods of high flow (Fig. 6). As a consequence, only a small part of the soil organic C content was leached into groundwater during high flow periods. During these high flow periods, groundwater DOC peaked at a significantly higher value at the mesophyll to wet Landes station (Bilos), than at the mesophyll Landes (piezometer 3) and at the dry Landes (Piezometer 2) (Tab. 5). This is a consequence of the water table depth and amplitude and the content of C in the superficial layers of the soil (Fig. 4).

Dissolved carbon concentrations varied considerably in groundwater (Tab. 4; Figs. 4, 5) according to seasonal changes in hydrology and forest metabolism and depending on the characteristics of the sampling site. Because the sampling frequency was approximately one month, we may have lost some short transitional periods significant for the annual carbon budget. This is most probable during the short period of high flow, when DOC mobilization and export were the highest (Tab. 5). However, the sampling frequency was sufficient to detect the major trends in groundwater DIC and DOC

755 concentrations, consistent from one hydrological cycle to another at the Bilos site and from one site to another during the second hydrological year of the study, although topographic differences explained spatial differences in DOC and DIC concentrations (Fig. 5). Thanks to the high permeability of the soil and the buffering capacity of the groundwater in response to hydrology, we could observe distinct biogeochemical processes that govern carbon leaching throughout the hydrological cycle.

760 Dissolved organic matter generally includes a small proportion of low molecular weight compounds such as carbohydrates and amino acids and a larger proportion of complex, high molecular weight compounds (Evans et al., 2005; Kawasaki et al., 2005). Dissolved organic matter is often quantified by its carbon content and referred to as DOC and nearly all DOC in soils come from photosynthesis (Bolan et al., 2011). Indeed, DOC in soils forests originates from throughfall and stemflow, leaf litter leaching, root exudation and decaying fine roots in soils (Bolan et al., 2011). However, a large fraction of DOC in soil solution is sorbed onto minerals and, before being exported to streams, DOC must be mobilized from the soil (Sanderman and Amundson, 2009). Surface precipitation has been described as an important process that transports DOC downward from the topsoil to the saturated zone (Kawasaki et al., 2005; Shen et al., 2015). The transfer of DOC in groundwater also depends on the level of hydraulic connectivity between subsoils horizons and water table depth (Kalbitz et al., 2000). However, up to 90% of surface-derived DOC can be removed by re-adsorption to minerals, prior reaching the saturated zone (Shen et al., 2015). Furthermore, when sorptive retention of DOC occurs, it contributes to carbon accumulation in subsoils due to the stabilization of organic matter against biological degradation

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(Kaiser and Guggenberger, 2000; Kalbitz and Kaiser, 2008). During base flow conditions, the DOC concentrations in groundwater were relatively stable at our study sites, even after rainy periods (Tab. 4; Figs. 2c, 5c), which suggests that soil DOC in upper horizons was not preferentially mobilized to groundwater by rainwater infiltration. Spatially, groundwater DOC was on average higher at the mesophyllous to wet Landes station (Bilos and Piezometer 3), than at the dry Landes (Piezometer 2) during low water table periods (Tab. 4). Indeed, several studies have reported decreasing DOC concentrations in groundwater in concurrence with increasing subsoil thickness and water table depth (Pabich et al., 2001; Datry et al., 2004; Goldscheider et al., 2006), with DOC concentrations at or close to zero reported in deep (> 1 km) and old groundwater (Pabich et al., 2001). At our study site, the fraction of groundwater DOC that predominates at low water table was probably more recalcitrant, more stabilized and more aged than during high flow. Indeed, in forested watersheds, the ¹⁴C age of groundwater DOC generally varies from old DOC at base flow to relatively modern DOC during high flow (Schiff et al 1997).

In the podzol soils of the Landes de Gascogne, the saturation of the superficial organic-rich horizon of the soil was necessary to generate very high DOC concentrations in the groundwater (Figs. 4, 5, 7). This suggests changes in the chemical conditions that altered the DOC retention capacity of the soil. In temperate forested ecosystems, leaching of DOC from subsoils is generally controlled by retention in the mineral B horizon of the soil with high content of extractable aluminum and iron oxides (Michalzik et al 2001; Kindler et al 2011). In sandy podzols that contain almost no clay minerals (Augusto et al.,

2010). DOC retention in soil is controlled mainly by DOC-metal complex (Lundström et al., 2000; Sauer et al., 2007). These Al-Fe oxides are considered as the most important sorbents for dissolved organic matter in soils (Kaiser et al., 1996). In podzols such as our study site, the content in Al-Fe oxides, and their degree of complexation by soil organic matter increases with depth (Ferro-Vázquez et al., 2014; Achat et al., 2011). When the water table rises and reaches the organic-rich horizon of the soil, reducing conditions in the saturated soil will prevail. Indeed, we observed anoxic conditions in groundwater all year round at the Bilos site (data not shown). Under such reducing conditions in the saturated soil, dissolution of Fe oxides can occur, limiting the sorptive retention of DOC (Hagedorn et al., 2000; Camino-Serrano et al., 2014; Fang et al., 2016). DOC is then released to groundwater, transported downward, partly retained in the mineral horizon of the soil and exported to streams. During these high flow periods, groundwater DOC peaked at a significantly higher value at the mesophyllous to wet Landes station (Bilos), than at the mesophyllous Landes (piezometer 3) and at the dry Landes (Piezometer 2) (Tab. 4). This is a consequence of the water table depth and amplitude and the different carbon content in the superficial layers of the soil (Fig. 4). We calculated a stock of soil organic carbon in the 0-60 cm layer of 9.7 kg m⁻² at the Bilos plot (Trichet and Loustau, personal communication), whereas the stocks of DOC and DIC in Bilos groundwater were on a yearly average respectively 0.03 and 0.06 kg m⁻² (Fig. 6). As dissolved carbon in groundwater represents approximately 1% of the soil carbon, only a small part of the soil organic carbon content is leached into groundwater and potentially exported to streams.

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The three months (Mar. 2014-May. 2014) following the flood peak of 2014, DOC concentrations and stocks in Bilos groundwater decreased regularly in parallel with an increase in DIC concentrations and stocks in groundwater (Figs. 5b-c, 6). The DOC degradation and DIC accumulation rates in Bilos groundwater were very similar and estimated of ~~about~~approximately 60 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹, or ~~about~~approximately 6.5 mmol m⁻³ d⁻¹. This DOC degradation occurred during decreasing water table periods although these periods are characterized with moderate groundwater temperature (<13°C). Moreover this DOC degradation rate is consistent with findings of Craft et al (2002) who reported respiration rates within the range of 3-100 mmol m⁻³ d⁻¹ within a floodplain aquifer of a large gravel-bed river in north-western Montana in USA. As the same manner, in a semi-arid mountain catchment in New Mexico, Baker et al (2000) also observed that groundwater DOC peaked during periods of high flow and resulted in higher rates of heterotrophic metabolism, presumably because of the supply of labile DOC via more intense hydrologic connections between the soil and the groundwater. The bioavailability of groundwater DOC ~~being is~~ related with the content of low molecular weight compounds, such as total dissolved amino acids, ~~(Shen et al., 2015);~~ high molecular weight compounds, such as fulvic or humic acids are ~~being more believed to be~~ recalcitrant to decomposition by ~~biota~~ microbes (Baker et al., 2000; Shen et al., 2015)(Baker et al., 2000). Our results suggest that DOC degradation within the groundwater occurred the following months after the mobilization of biodegradable DOC during high water table.

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The ~~second~~ increase of DIC concentrations in groundwater during late summer of 2014 (Sep-Oct. 2014) was due to another process, this time not associated with any DOC degradation in groundwater (Figs. 5b-c). ~~This DIC increase in late summer was concomitant with positive NEE and net heterotrophic conditions in the forest ecosystem (Fig. 2b, 5b). During drought period the soil water deficits stress the growing vegetation and leads to numerous physiological changes, including a decrease of the transpiration and the photosynthesis (Bray, 2001). The dehydration of plants lower the rates of photosynthesis (i) directly by closing stomatal pores, hence interfering with uptake of carbon dioxide by leaves, and (ii) indirectly by adversely influencing the photosynthetic mechanism (Kozłowski, 2002).~~ At our study site, the late summer period, when the forest ecosystem is a net source of CO₂ for the atmosphere (positive NEE), also corresponds to a maximum in CO₂ concentration in groundwater (Fig. 2b, 5b) and thus a maximum contribution of soil respiration to groundwater DIC. ~~To our best knowledge, this result is fully original.~~ Transfer of CO₂ from soil air to groundwater requires input of fluid, i.e., gas or water (Tsypin and Macpherson, 2012). Typical pathways are downward CO₂ transport from soil in the dissolved (Kessler and Harvey, 2001) or gaseous form (Appelo and Postma, 2004), upward flux of deep CO₂ of various origins through gas vents (Chiodini et al., 1999) or leakage from adjacent aquifers. At our study site there is no evidence of deep CO₂ source or leakage from adjacent aquifers (Bertran et al., 2011). In addition, during late dry summer no rainy events occurred (Fig. 2c), and the high temperature observed during this period are favorable for a high production of gaseous CO₂ in the unsaturated region of the soil which follows the Arrhenius equation (Lloyd and Taylor, 1994; Reth et al., 2005). During high temperature periods in summer, the amount of CO₂ in equilibrium

with groundwater lower than in soil upper horizons favored a downward flux of gaseous CO₂ (Tsy-pin and Macpherson, 2012). This warm period of the year is indeed favorable for a high production of gaseous CO₂ in the unsaturated region of the soil (Lloyd and Taylor, 1994; Kätterer et al., 1998; Epron et al., 1999; Reth et al., 2009). In general, the transfer of CO₂ from soil air to groundwater after a long dry period occurs through percolation of rainwater in the unsaturated soil, as reported in an Amazonian plot (Johnson et al., 2008). However, at our study site, no rainy events occurred at that period (Fig. 2e), which suggests that soil CO₂ must have been transported to groundwater in gaseous form by another process such as simple downward diffusion (Fig. 7), that is also reported for transfer of O₂ between soil atmosphere and floodplain aquifers (Malard and Hervant, 1999; Parker et al., 2014). In a North American tallgrass prairie resting on limestone, downward movement of CO₂ gas followed by equilibration with groundwater at the water table was favorable during drought period whereas transport of soil CO₂ in the dissolved form with diffuse flow of recharge water was the most effective during wet periods (Tsy-pin and Macpherson, 2012). In temperate forested landscapes, other authors noticed that during dry periods, a strong reduction in soil CO₂ flux to the atmosphere (upward diffusion) is associated with a decline in soil water content that stresses roots and microorganisms (Davidson et al., 1998; Epron et al., 1999). This suggests that the peak of groundwater pCO₂ observed in October (Fig. 5b) originates from soil CO₂ that was produced before, certainly during Jul-Aug when the temperature was the highest and precipitations were sufficient to maintain a soil moisture that did not limit soil respiration (Fig. 2b-c). The lag time of 2-3 months between the peak of groundwater CO₂ and soil CO₂ has been documented by Tsy-pin and Macpherson (2012) who concluded that it correspond to the travel

time of soil-generated CO₂ to the water table. In the Landes de Gascogne the sandy podzols, during the
drought period, the high porosity in the sandy soil may favor downward diffusion of CO₂ and its
dissolution in groundwater ~~(Fig. 7)~~. Thereafter, during early winter period, concentrations of DIC in
groundwater decreased as a consequence of dilution with rainwater with low DIC content (Fig. 7).

875 4.3. Carbon transfer at the groundwater-stream-atmosphere interface

During the sampling period, groundwater exports DOC at a significantly higher value at the mesophyll
to wet Landes station (Bilos, 0.9±0.9 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹), than at the mesophyll Landes (Piezometer 3,
0.6±0.6 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) and at the dry Landes (Piezometer 2, 0.1±0.1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) (Tab. 6). In contrast,
880 groundwater exports DIC at the same order of magnitude at the wet and mesophyll Landes (0.9±0.5
mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ and 1.0±0.6 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹, for Bilos and piezometer 3, respectively) that is significantly
higher than at the dry Landes (0.6±0.4 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹). In the Leyre watershed, carbon€ exports are

influenced with the soil types, which are characterized with a different water table depth and amplitude
(Fig. 4), as well as a gradient of carbon€ content in the different soil types (Augusto et al., 2006).

However, these last parameters have a stronger effect on the spatial heterogeneity of DOC exports than

885 DIC exports (Tab. 56). Indeed, drainage and DOC concentrations in groundwater have a cumulative
positive effect on DOC exports (Tabs 12, 23, 45, 56; Figs. 5b-c); in contrast, drainage and DIC
concentrations in groundwater have an antagonist effects on DIC exports (Tabs 1, 2, 4, 52, 3, 5, 6; Figs.
5b-c). As a consequence, groundwater exports the majority of DOC during the 2-3 months of high flow
periods, but about approximately the same quantity of DIC is exported during periods of high flow and

890 periods of base flow (Tab. 56). In addition, during the study period the discharge varied by up to 100-fold (Fig. 2a); the corresponding variations in DIC and DOC concentrations and exports from the groundwater were up to 10 times (Tabs. 45, 56; Figs. 4, 5). As reported in other studies (Fiedler et al., 2006; Öquist et al., 2009), carbon export rates ~~that were~~ mainly determined by discharge, ~~and that~~ the variations ~~of carbon~~ concentrations and exports ~~being~~ relatively small compared to the flow variation ~~agree with other works~~ (Fiedler et al., 2006; Öquist et al., 2009). However, for the whole sampling period, the mean weighted carbon export is almost the same both for DIC ($0.9 \pm 0.5 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) and DOC ($0.7 \pm 0.7 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) (Tab. 56), and ~~as drainage is the only hydrological pathway,~~ the forest ecosystem exports in total $1.6 \pm 0.9 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ (equivalent to $7.0 \pm 3.9 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), 40% as DOC and 60% as DIC (Tab. 6). This terrestrial carbon leaching from groundwater to streams is of the same order of magnitude of carbon leaching from subsoils ($11.9 \pm 5.9 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) in five temperate forest plots across Europe (Kindler et al., 2011), ~~or~~ in a temperate Japan-ese deciduous forests from soils to streams ($4.0 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) (Shibata et al., 2005), ~~or in European forests~~ ($9.6 \pm 3.2 \text{ g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$) (Luyssaert et al., 2010).

905 As in groundwater, DOC and DIC concentrations in ~~first-order~~ first-order streams were ~~linearly~~ significantly ~~negatively~~ anti-correlated (Tab. 23), suggesting that dissolved carbon dynamics in streams are mostly impacted by groundwater inputs (Kawasaki et al., 2005; Öquist et al., 2009). ~~That is~~ why, ~~we~~ We could ~~observed~~ higher DOC concentrations in streams during early winter and high flow

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periods than during growing season and late summer periods (Tab. 45) Increase in ~~riverine~~ DOC concentrations with discharge and high water table has been reported in the Leyre watershed (Polsenaere et al., 2013) and in many other forested catchments (Dawson et al., 2002; Striegl et al., 2005; Raymond and Saiers, 2010; Alvarez-Cobelas et al., 2012). At our study site, during periods of high flow, ~~first-order~~first-order streams exported $0.2 \pm 0.2 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ to second order streams; ~~it is a flux~~ significantly lower than DOC exports ($0.7 \pm 0.7 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) from groundwater to ~~first-order~~first-order streams (Tab. 56). As a consequence, during the sampling period, ~~0.5 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ of (equivalent to 2.2 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹)~~ 70% of ~~the~~ groundwater DOC ~~is was~~ either degraded or re-~~adsorbed-immobilized~~ at the groundwater-stream interface (Tab. 56). Indeed, when groundwater DOC enters the superficial river network through drainage part of it might be rapidly recycled by photo-oxidation (Macdonald and Minor, 2013; Moody and Worrall, 2016) ~~and-or~~ by respiration within the stream (Roberts et al., 2007; Hall Jr et al., 2016). ~~Alternatively, DOC can be, -or~~ re-adsorbed on Fe- ~~or~~ Al-oxides particularly abundant at the river-bed oxic/anoxic interface. As a matter of fact, flocculation with Fe or Al can remove DOC from solution (Sharp et al., 2006). In contrast, DOC concentrations and exports were similar and stable in groundwater and streams ~~were similar and stable~~ during periods of base flow (Tab. 56). This suggests that groundwater DOC behaved conservatively during low flow stages (Schiff et al., 1997), and that DOC in streams was more labile during high flow stages (Aravena et al., 2004). Indeed, in a small temperate and forested catchment in Pennsylvania (USA), McLaughlin and Kaplan, (2013) reported an increase in; increasing concentrations of labile DOC up to 27 fold during high flow stages

~~compared to base flow conditions, in a small temperate and forested catchment in Pennsylvania USA (McLaughlin and Kaplan, 2013).~~

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DIC concentration in streams increased during late summer period in parallel with those in groundwater ~~, during late summer period~~ (Tab. 45; Fig. 5b). Indeed, concentrations of DIC show an inverse relationship with discharge in the Leyre watershed (Polsenaere et al., 2013) and in other temperate catchments (Billett et al., 2004; Dawson and Smith, 2007), as the result of dilution with rain water and

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lower contribution of deep CO₂-enriched groundwater during high flow periods. The discharge of DIC-rich groundwater supersaturated with CO₂, together with the oxidation of dissolved organic matter in surface waters, results in a large CO₂ supersaturation of rivers (Stets et al., 2009; Hotchkiss et al.,

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~~2015)(Stets et al., 2009).~~ The quick loss of DIC ~~concentrations~~ between groundwater and ~~first order~~first-order streams is due to efficient ~~the~~ degassing of CO₂ from headwaters (Fiedler et al., 2006; Venkiteswaran et al., 2014)(~~Venkiteswaran et al., 2014~~). ~~Efficient outgassing of CO₂ has been observed from headwaters with a large fraction of young groundwater (e.g., Fiedler et al., 2006).~~ This rapid degassing ~~was~~is also attested by the change in the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ signature of the DIC (Polsenaere and Abril 2012; Venkiteswaran et al., 2014; Deirmendjian and Abril, submitted in revisions). Furthermore, the

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positive correlation between degassing and export of DIC (Tab. 23) ~~reveals~~confirms that groundwater DIC is the main source of CO₂ degassing in superficial stream waters (Öquist et al., 2009; ~~with low stream order~~ (Hotchkiss et al., 2015). ~~At our study site, this v~~Very fast degassing was confirmed by

950 observations ~~of Deirmendjian and Abril (submitted) wherein~~ spring waters ~~that~~ loose ~~up to~~ 70% of their CO₂ ~~in 40 few dozen~~ meters downstream (Öquist et al., 2009; Deirmendjian and Abril, in revision). ~~or with those of Öquist et al (2009) in boreal catchment who found that 65% of the DIC in the groundwater is lost within 200 meters of the water entering the stream. This also agree with~~ ~~with~~ Venkiteswaran et al (2014) ~~who~~ concluded that most of the stream CO₂ originating ~~in high CO₂ from~~ groundwater ~~drainage has been lost~~ was degassed before typical in-stream sampling occurs. ~~At our study site,~~ ~~throughout the sampling period degassing~~ ~~wasis~~ on a yearly average approximately 0.76 ± 0.53 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ (equivalent to 32.16 ± 24.23 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹). CO₂ degassing was higher during high flow periods than during periods of base flow (Tab. 56). ~~This is a as a~~ consequence of ~~both~~ higher discharge and inputs of groundwater DIC ~~to~~ streams ~~during periods of high flow~~ (Tab. 1, 45) and higher water turbulence. As a matter of fact, degassing ~~is a function of~~ depends on water velocity that induces water turbulence and thus increases the gas transfer velocity (Alin et al., 2011; Raymond et al., 2012). Finally Overall, during the whole sampling period CO₂ degassing in streams represented about approximately 765% of the DIC exported from groundwater and thus, a significant part of the carbon exported from forest plot rapidly returns in the atmosphere in the form of CO₂ through degassing.

965 Leaching of terrestrial carbon from the pine forest in the Leyre watershed calculated as the organic and inorganic carbon export per catchment area was 1.6 ± 0.9 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ (equivalents to 7.0 ± 3.9 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹). Eddy covariance measurements at the Bilos plot (Tab. 3) provided a forest net uptake of atmospheric CO₂ of approximately -90 ± 110 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ (equivalent to 390 ± 480 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹). In the

970 same way as groundwater DOC and DIC stocks represent a minor fraction of soil carbon, C leaching represents a very small (approximately 2%) fraction of forest NEE, a conclusion consistent with other studies in temperate forest ecosystems (Shibata et al., 2005; Kindler et al., 2011; Magin et al., 2017). Such weak export of carbon from forest ecosystems, at least in temperate regions, is at odds with recent studies that attempt to integrate the contribution of inland waters in the continents carbon budget (Ciais et al., 2013). Indeed, at the global scale, the quantity of terrestrial carbon necessary to account for the sum of CO₂ degassing from inland waters, organic carbon burial in sediments and carbon export to the ocean, represents more than 2 PgC y⁻¹, a number similar to the actual net land sink of atmospheric CO₂ (Ciais et al., 2013). Understanding why local and global carbon mass balances strongly diverge on the proportion of land NEE exported to aquatic systems appears a major challenge for the next years of research on the field.

980 Globally, if we consider the highest estimates of the different C fluxes (i.e., 2.1 Pg C yr⁻¹ for degassing of CO₂, 0.23 Pg C yr⁻¹ for organic C burial in sediments and 0.9 Pg C yr⁻¹, for C export to coastal systems; Meybeck, 1982; Cole et al., 2007; Raymond et al., 2013) occurring in inland waters (Cole et al., 2007), this would imply that the majority of the NEE (estimated to be 2.6±1.2 Pg C yr⁻¹; Ciais et al., 2013), is being exported to the hydrological network. At our study site, leaching of terrestrial C represents 1.6±0.9 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ (equivalent to 7.0±3.9 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹) whereas the net land sink is estimated at 90±110 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ (equivalent to 390±480 g C m⁻² yr⁻¹). As a consequence, leaching of

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terrestrial C represent a small (about 2%), but continuous loss of C from terrestrial ecosystems (Shibata et al., 2005; Kindler et al., 2011).

5. Conclusion

The monitoring of DIC and DOC concentrations in groundwater and first-order streams in podzol-dominated catchment overlaid by pine forest, brings new insights on the nature of processes that control carbon leaching from soils, transformation in groundwater and export to surface waters and back to the atmosphere (Fig. 7). This terrestrial-aquatic-atmosphere interface is believed to behave as a hotspot in the continental carbon cycle. The permeable character of the soil at the study site enables a clear temporal decomposition of processes involving carbon in groundwaters in relation with water table depth and amplitude, forest ecosystem production and respiration. Hydrology has a strong influence on the carbon concentrations in shallow groundwater. High precipitation caused the water table to rise and saturate the topsoil, inducing a large mobilization of soil organic matter as DOC in the shallow groundwater, a process also favored by temporary reducing conditions in the topsoil. These high water table periods are also associated with low DIC concentrations in groundwater caused by the groundwater dilution with rainwater. On the opposite way, groundwater was enriched in DIC during base flow stages, as the result of two distinct processes. First, microbial consumption of DOC occurs within the groundwater in spring and summer, the following months after the high water table periods. Second, heterotrophic conditions in the forest ecosystem during late summer favors the downward diffusion of soil CO₂ to shallow groundwater.

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In the absence of surface runoff, the comparison of dissolved carbon concentrations between groundwater and streams, associated with drainage data, allows to understand and quantify the processes at the groundwater-stream-atmosphere interface. In the studied catchment, this method reveals a fast degassing of DIC as CO₂ throughout the year in first-order streams. During base flow periods, groundwater DOC was exported conservatively to streams, probably because groundwater DOC was more recalcitrant, more stabilized and more aged during this period. However, during winter and high water table, the rise of DOC concentration in groundwater observed at some site but not at others, did not fully translate to streams, some spatial heterogeneity of export in the landscape, a fast degradation and/or some re-adsorption processes in soils close to the groundwater-streams interface.

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Although spatial extrapolation of quantitative information from the plot scale to first-order streams in the watershed may have generated some uncertainty, we could make a comparison of groundwater carbon export to stream with other carbon fluxes in the landscape. Representing 2% of the local forest NEE, DIC and DOC exports to surface waters do not seem a significant component of the carbon budget at our study site. More detailed work at the land-water interface is necessary in order to reconcile the contradictory findings at local and global scales on the significance of hydrological carbon export in the continental carbon budget.

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Monitoring DIC and DOC concentrations in groundwater and first order streams of the Leyre catchment brings new insights on the nature of processes that control C leaching from soils, transformation in groundwater and export to surface waters and back to the atmosphere (Fig. 7). This terrestrial-aquatic-atmosphere interface is believed to behave as a hotspot in the continental C cycle. The sandy acidic podzol soils have special feature that enable a clear temporal decomposition of processes in relation with hydrology, forest ecosystem production and respiration as monitored during the study. In winter, the rise of the water table and the saturation of the topsoil, induce a large mobilization of soil organic matter as DOC to groundwater; DIC concentrations are minimum at this high water stage, although export (particularly of DOC) to surface waters is promoted by high drainage in winter. In spring and until summer, when groundwater disconnected from the topsoil, DOC concentrations and stocks decreased in association with an equivalent gain in DIC. This suggests that respiration in groundwater occurs at this season and acts as an important sink of DOC and a source of DIC. Later in dry summer conditions, a second DIC peak occurred in groundwater, not associated with DOC consumption, but rather with high temperatures, low water table, and heterotrophic conditions in the forest ecosystem. These conditions probably result in high CO₂ concentrations in the air of the unsaturated soil and fast downward diffusion of CO₂ to deeper groundwater, favored by high porosity. Comparison of dissolved C concentrations between groundwater and streams reveal a fast degassing of DIC as CO₂ throughout the year. In contrast, groundwater DOC was exported conservatively to streams during base flow periods, but not during winter high flow probably because of spatial heterogeneity in the landscape and fast degradation processes in streams or in the groundwater itself. Although spatial extrapolation of

1045 information from the plot scale to first order streams in the watershed generate some uncertainty, thanks
to the relatively simple hydrological functioning of the watershed and our monitoring in three
piezometers and six streams, we could make a comparison of stream C export with other fluxes in the
landscape. Representing 2% of forest NEE, DIC and DOC exports are not very significant component
of the C budget of Landes de Gascogne ecosystems, dominated by *pinus pinaster* forest growing on
podzol sandy soils.

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	Precipitation (mm d ⁻¹)	Evapotranspiration (mm d ⁻¹)	Drainage (mm d ⁻¹)	Groundwater storage (mm d ⁻¹)
2014	3.0±2.1	2.5±1.4	0.5±0.5	-0.2±2.3
	[0.2~8.0]	[0.3~5.3]	[0.1~1.9]	[-2.9~.4.5]
2015	1.9±1.2	1.7±1.0	0.3±0.3	-0.5±1.9
	[0.2~4.1]	[0.3~3.4]	[0.1~0.9]	[-3.1~2.6]
High flow	4.7±2.1	2.4±1.0	1.1±0.4	-0.2
	[2.2~8.0]	[0.9~3.6]	[0.7~1.9]	[-2.9~4.0]
Growing season	1.8±0.8	3.0±0.9	0.3±0.2	-1.9
	[0.8~2.9]	[1.6~5.3]	[0.1~0.7]	[-3.1~-0.5]
Late summer	1.1±0.5	1.5±0.5	0.1±0.007	0.1
	[0.2~1.5]	[1.0~2.2]	[0.1~0.1]	[-1.2~0.7]
Early winter	2.7±1.5	0.5±0.2	0.2±0.07	1.9
	[0.2~4.7]	[0.3~0.7]	[0.1~0.3]	[0.7~4.5]

Table 1: Water budget at the Bilos plot scale for the year 2014 and 2015, as well as for high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec. 2015). Numbers represent the mean±SD and the range (between square brackets).

	Concentration in groundwater (mmol m ⁻³)		Concentration in streams (mmol m ⁻³)		Stock in groundwater (mmol m ⁻²)		Export from groundwater to streams (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)		Degassing in streams (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)	Hydrological parameters (mm d ⁻¹)				Water table depth (mm)	Metabolic parameters (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)			
	DIC _{gw}	DOC _{gw}	DIC _{stream}	DOC _{stream}	DIC _{stock}	DOC _{stock}	DIC _{export}	DOC _{export}	F _{degass}	P	GWS	ETR	D	H	NEE	GPP	R	
DIC _{gw}	1	-0.65	<u>0.86</u>	-0.34	<u>0.99</u>	-0.65	-0.44	-0.62	-0.48	-0.02	0.45	-0.41	-0.68	<u>-0.83</u>	0.52	-0.31	-0.09	
DOC _{gw}		1	-0.41	0.43	-0.64	<u>0.98</u>	0.69	<u>0.95</u>	0.56	0.17	-0.28	0.41	<u>0.93</u>	<u>0.85</u>	-0.19	-0.13	-0.36	
DIC _{stream}			1		<u>0.82</u>	-0.42	-0.35	-0.34	-0.54	-0.14	0.23	-0.25	-0.44	-0.75	0.43	-0.32	-0.16	
DOC _{stream}				1	-0.33	0.45	0.45	0.38	0.66	0.30	0.35	-0.39	0.46	-0.70	0.15	-0.41	-0.53	
DIC _{stock}					1	-0.63	0.37	-0.62	-0.44	-0.04	0.45	-0.44	0.67	-0.79	-0.48	0.28	-0.07	
DOC _{stock}							1	-0.82	<u>0.97</u>	0.21	-0.23	0.32	-0.97	<u>0.88</u>	0.20	-0.14	-0.39	
DIC _{export}								1	0.72	0.26	0.01	0.02	<u>0.83</u>	0.76	-0.18	-0.15	-0.39	
DOC _{export}									1	0.57	0.24	-0.22	0.28	<u>0.98</u>	<u>0.81</u>	-0.19	-0.17	-0.41
F _{degass}										1	0.45	0.24	0.17	0.70	<u>0.78</u>	0.06	-0.35	-0.50
P											1	0.76	-0.30	0.29	0.23	0.33	-0.44	-0.43
GWS												1	-0.73	-0.16	-0.15	0.62	-0.63	-0.51
ETR													1	0.22	0.17	-0.63	0.63	0.50
D														1	<u>0.88</u>	-0.23	-0.15	-0.41
H															1	-0.27	-0.06	0.31
NEE																1	<u>-0.85</u>	-0.55
GPP																	1	<u>0.91</u>
R																		1

Table 2: Linear correlation (Pearson) between the studied parameters at the Bilos plot scale, during the sampling period.

360 Numbers represent the Pearson's correlation coefficient at the Bilos plot between mean carbon concentrations (mmol m⁻³) in the Bilos groundwater and in the 6 first-order streams, carbon stocks (mmol m⁻² d⁻¹), carbon exports (mmol m⁻² d⁻¹), degassing (mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) in the 6 first-order streams, hydrological parameters (in mm d⁻¹, which are P, GWS, ETR and D for precipitation, groundwater storage, evapotranspiration and drainage, respectively), water table depth (mm), and metabolic parameters (mmol m⁻² d⁻¹). Here, degassing was calculated from the DIC data of the Bilos groundwater only.

365 Each parameter was integrated between two sampling dates (Tab. S2). Values in bold indicate correlation with p-value < 0.05, whereas underlined and bolded values indicate correlation with p-value < 0.001.

	GPP (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)	R _{eco} (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)	NEE (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)
2014-2015	400±210	310±150	-90±110
	[160~880]	[110~660]	[-340~100]
High flow	300±80	180±50	-120±50
	[180~420]	[105~260]	[-160~-30]
Growing season	640±150	490±100	-160±140
	[380~880]	[320~640]	[-330~100]
Late summer	350±120	300±80	-50±60
	[240~540]	[200~410]	[-160~10]
Early winter	210±30	230±50	20±20
	[160~260]	[170~320]	[-10~65]

Table 3: Metabolic parameters (GPP, R_{eco} and NEE) estimated at the Bilos plot with the eddy covariance techniques.

Numbers represent the mean±SD and the range (between square brackets) for the years 2014-2015, and for high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late
 370 summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec.

2015) periods. [Positive NEE indicates an upward flux whereas a negative NEE indicates a downward flux, GPP is positive or zero and R_{eco} is positive. NEE = R_{eco} - GPP.](#)

	DOC (mmol m ⁻³)				DIC (mmol m ⁻³)			
	Piezometer Bilos	Piezometer 2	Piezometer 3	Streams	Piezometer Bilos	Piezometer 2	Piezometer 3	Streams
High flow	3,500±200	280	1,500	490±10	1,160±470	1,380	1,510	280±40
	[3,200~3,700]			[460~510]	[570~1,700]			[220~310]
	N=3	N=1	N=1	N=15	N=3	N=1	N=1	N=15
Growing season	750±440	380±40	880±400	360±100	2,570±240	1,450±380	2,030±220	330±120
	[320~950]	[300~400]	[550~830]	[200~540]	[2,350~3,030]	[1,000~2,100]	[1,650~2,160]	[210~550]
	N=7	N=5	N=4	N=41	N=7	N=5	N=4	N=41
Late summer	540±60	420±80		370±30	5,240±140	3,900±100		1,030±240
	[480~600]	[340~500]		[340~400]	[5,100~5,400]	[3,800~4,000]		[790~1,270]
	N=2	N=2	N=0	N=4	N=2	N=2	N=0	N=4
Early winter	640±50	470±110	760	510±30	2,600±980	2,370±1,500	2,040	300±90
	[580~670]	[350~620]		[480~550]	[1,850~4,000]	[940~4,500]		[240~430]
	N=3	N=3	N=1	N=17	N=3	N=3	N=1	N=17

Table 4: Carbon concentrations in the sampled groundwater and in the sampled first-order streams during the sampling period (Jan. 2014-Jul. 2015) for high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec. 2015) periods. Numbers represent the mean±SD, the range (between square brackets) and the number (N) of samples for each hydrological period.

	DOC _{export}				DIC _{export}				Degassing
	mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹				mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹				mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹
	Bilos piezometer	Piezometer 2	Piezometer 3	Streams ^b	Bilos piezometer	Piezometer 2	Piezometer 3	Streams ^b	Streams
High flow	3.4±1.1	0.4±0.02	1.5±0.2	0.6±0.1	1.8±0.4	1.4±0.2	1.8±0.1	0.3±0.1	1.4±0.2
	[2.3~4.9]	[0.3~0.4]	[1.2~1.7]	[0.5~0.7]	[1.3~2.2]	[1.3~1.6]	[1.7~1.9]	[0.3~0.4]	[0.8~1.9]
Growing season	0.4±0.4	0.05±0.02	0.2±0.2	0.1±0.1	0.7±0.3	0.3±0.1	0.6±0.1	0.1±0.03	0.5±0.2
	[0.1~1.2]	[0.1~0.2]	[0.1~0.4]	[0.05~0.3]	[0.4~1.3]	[0.3~0.5]	[0.4~0.7]	[0.05~0.2]	[0.3~1.3]
Late summer	0.1±0.01	0.1±0.04		0.1±0.01	0.6±0.03	0.4±0.05		0.1±0.01	0.4±0.1
	[0.1~0.1]	[0.1~0.1]		[0.05~0.1]	[0.6~0.7]	[0.4~0.5]		[0.1~0.1]	[0.4~0.6]
Early winter	0.1±0.02	0.1±0.03	0.2	0.1±0.02	0.7±0.1	0.6±0.2	0.6	0.1±0.02	0.5±0.1
	[0.1~0.2]	[0.1~0.1]		[0.1~0.1]	[0.5~0.8]	[0.4~0.8]		[0.1~0.1]	[0.5~0.6]
2014-2015	0.9±1.4	0.1±0.1	0.6±0.5	0.2±0.2	0.9±0.5	0.6±0.4	1.0±0.6	0.2±0.1	0.6±0.3
	[0.1~4.9]	[0.05~0.4]	[0.1~1.7]	[0.05~0.7]	[0.4~2.2]	[0.3~1.6]	[0.4~1.9]	[0.05~0.4]	[0.2~1.3]
Entire watershed (2014-2015)		0.7±0.7 ^a		0.2±0.2		0.9±0.5 ^a		0.2±0.1	0.7±0.5

Table 5: Export of DIC and DOC from the sampled groundwater to first-order streams, as well as degassing in first-order streams; for the sampling period and for high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec. 2015) periods. Numbers represent the mean±SD whereas numbers between square brackets represent the range. Here, degassing was calculated with the DIC data from the 3 sampled groundwaters. ^a represents the mean carbon export weighted by surface assuming that the Bilos piezometer is representative of the wet Landes, that Piezometer 2 is representative of the dry Landes and that Piezometer 3 is

representative of the mesophyllous Landes and using the relative surface area of each type of Landes. ^b represents carbon exports from first to second order streams and it have been calculated from the drainage of first-order streams (mm d^{-1}) and the mean concentrations of DOC and DIC in first-order streams (mmol m^{-3}).

Figure captions

Figure 1: Map of the Leyre watershed with topography showing the location of the gauging stations (The Grande Leyre, the Petite Leyre, the Grand Arriou and the Bourron), the Bilos site, as well as the locations of the other sampled ~~groundwater piezometers~~ and ~~first-order~~first-order streams. Rain gauge and Eddy tower are located at the Bilos plot.

395 White circles indicate the first-order streams where additional discharge measurements have been made in Apr. 2014 and Feb. 2015.

Figure 2: Seasonal variations of hydrological parameters in the Leyre watershed. (a) Discharge of the Grande Leyre River, the Petite Leyre river, the Grand Arriou river and the Bourron river associated with water table at the Bilos site; (b) Metabolic parameters (NEE, GPP, R_{eco}) estimated at the Bilos site; (c) Monthly precipitation, evapotranspiration and

400 groundwater storage at the Bilos site as well as the drainage of ~~first-order~~first-order streams. Inputs of water (pprecipitation and positive groundwater storage) in the studied ecosystem are represented on a positive scale whereas outputs of water (drainage, evapotranspiration and negative groundwater storage) are represented on a negative scale. HF,

405 GS, LS and EW represent respectively high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec. 2015) periods.

Figure 3: Monthly water mass balance at the Bilos site for the 2014-2015 period. Pearson coefficient $R = 0.85$, p -value < 0.001 . Blue points represent months where GWS (~~Mar. 2014, Apr. 2014, Mar. 2015, Apr. 2015, Jun. 2015, Jul. 2015~~)

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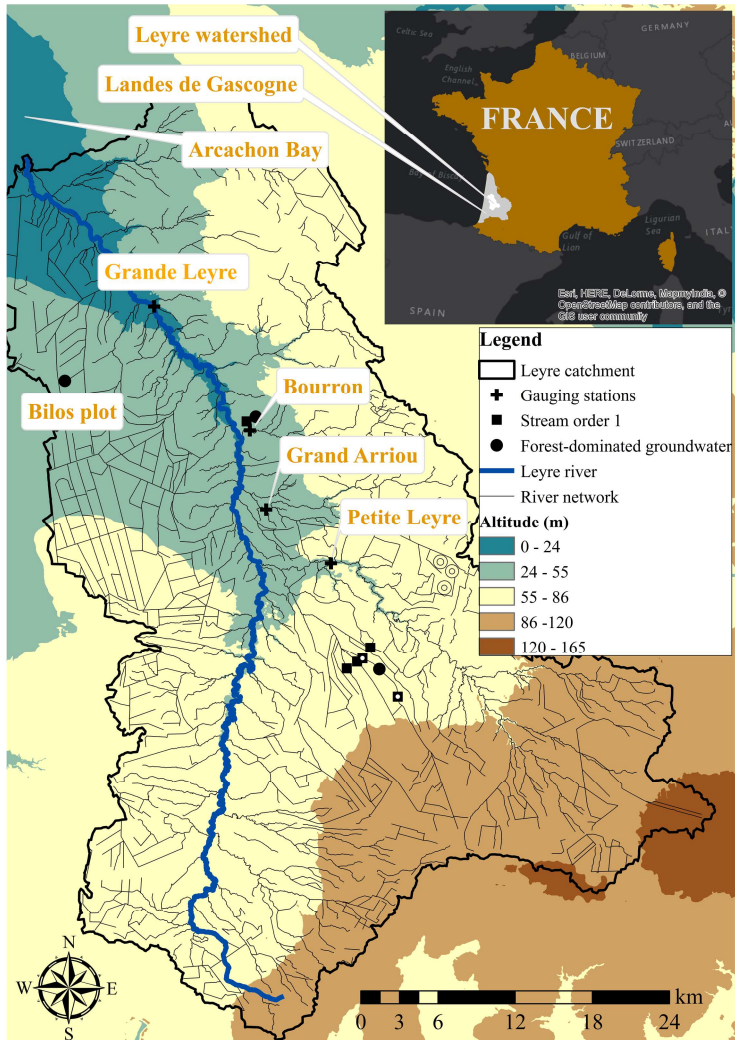
wasis extremely negative in Mar. 2014, Apr. 2014, Mar. 2015, Apr. 2015, Jun. 2015 and Jul. 2015) (see Fig. 2c). These blue points are further away from the 1:1 Line than the other months (represented in black). The drainage of the Leyre River is delayed compared to the drainage of the Bilos plot. Thus, when the loss of groundwater is extremely high (negative GWS ~~negative~~), estimated drainage ~~D~~ do not correspond exactly to the measured groundwater storage. ~~GWS~~. ~~Hence, we expected more mismatch when GWS is extremely negative.~~

Figure 4: The Concentrations of DIC and DOC in the three sampled groundwater as a function of water table depth.

Figure 5: (a) Discharge of the Leyre (GL), Petite Leyre (PL), Grand Arriou (GAR) and Bourron (BR) rivers associated with water table at the Bilos site. Temporal variations throughout the sampling period of (b) the DIC concentrations in the ~~three~~ sampled groundwater piezometers and in the ~~6~~ sampled first-order first-order streams (medium dashed line; errors bars represent standard deviation of the ~~six~~ 6 first-order first-order streams) and of (c) the DOC concentrations in the ~~three~~ sampled groundwater and DOC piezometers and in the ~~6~~ sampled first-order first-order streams (medium dashed line; errors bars represent standard deviation of the ~~six~~ 6 first-order first-order streams). HF, GS, LS and EW represent respectively high flow periods, growing season periods, late summer periods and early winter periods. high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec. 2015) periods.

Figure 6: (a) ~~The~~ mean ~~stock of~~ DIC and DOC ~~stocks~~ between two sampling dates in Bilos groundwater. HF, GS, LS and EW represent respectively high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec. 2015) periods, ~~high flow periods, growing season periods, late summer periods and early winter periods.~~

Figure 7: Conceptual model at the vegetation-soil-groundwater-stream interface in sandy ecosystems having shallow groundwater of the Leyre catchment. OH, WT and D are the organic horizon of the soil, the groundwater table and the drainage, respectively. Hydro-biogeochemical processes are represented in ~~medium dashed black~~ arrows. Carbon exports are represented in full arrows; the thickness of the arrow indicates the magnitude of ~~provides qualitative information on the~~ flux. ~~[DOC] and [DIC] represents the concentration of DOC and DIC in shallow groundwater, respectively.~~ HF, GS, LS and EW represent high flow (Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014 and Feb. 2015-Mar. 2015), growing season (Apr. 2014-Aug. 2014 and Apr. 2015-Aug. 2015), late summer (Sep. 2014-Oct. 2014 and Sep. 2015-Oct. 2015) and early winter (Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015 and Nov. 2015-Dec. 2015) respectively ~~high flow periods, growing season periods, late summer periods and early winter periods.~~



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Figure 1

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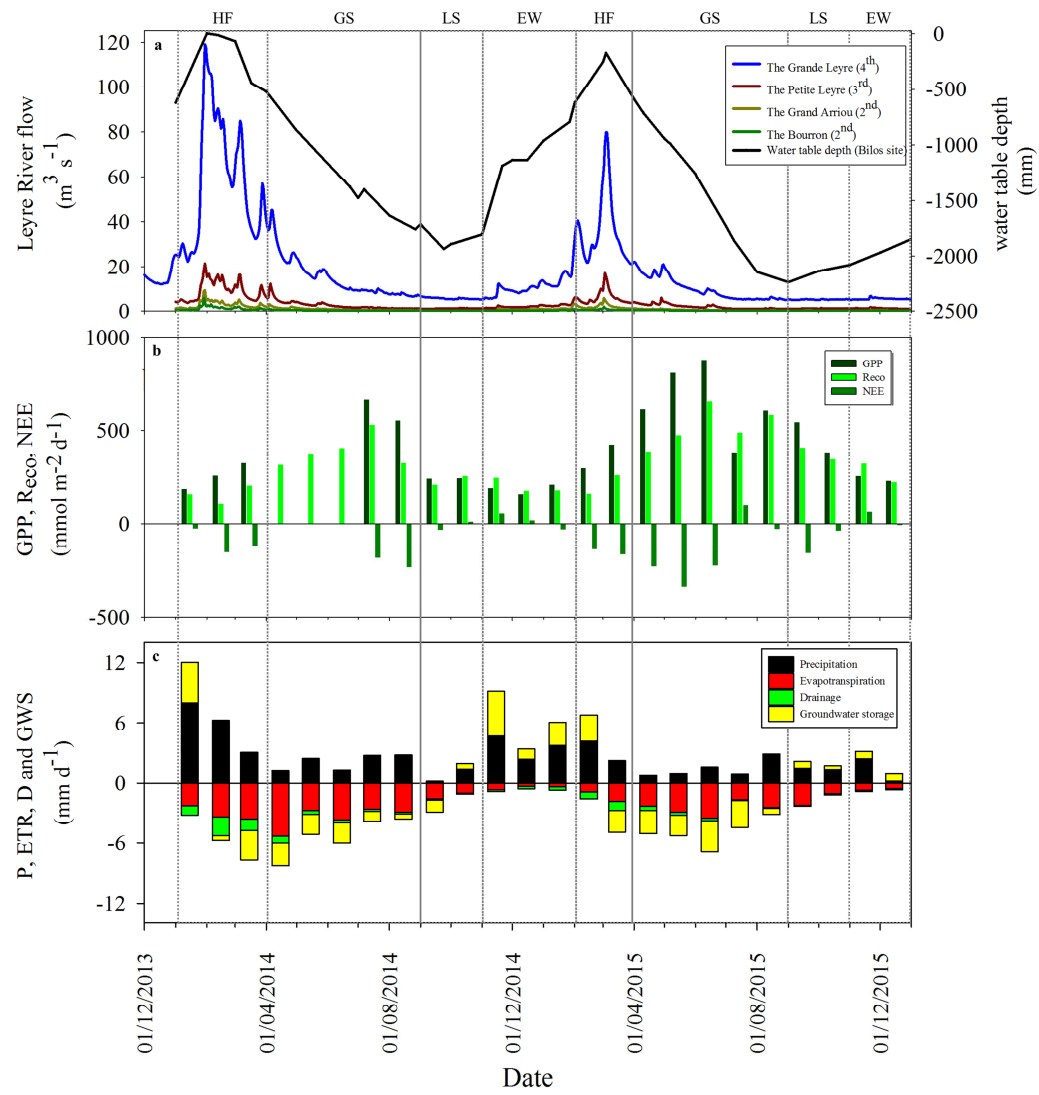
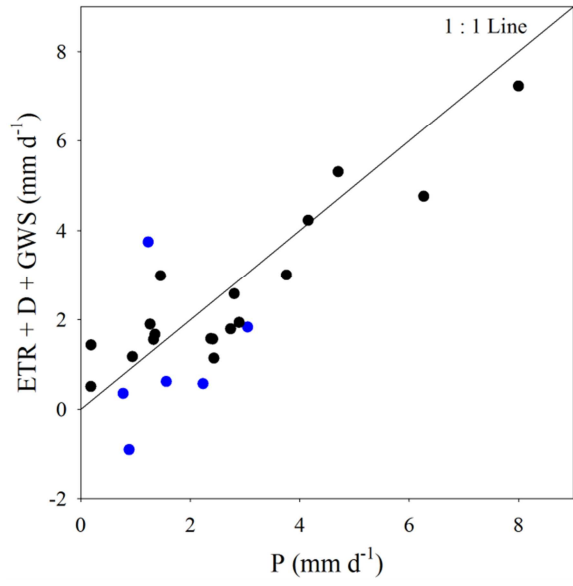


Figure 2



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Figure 3

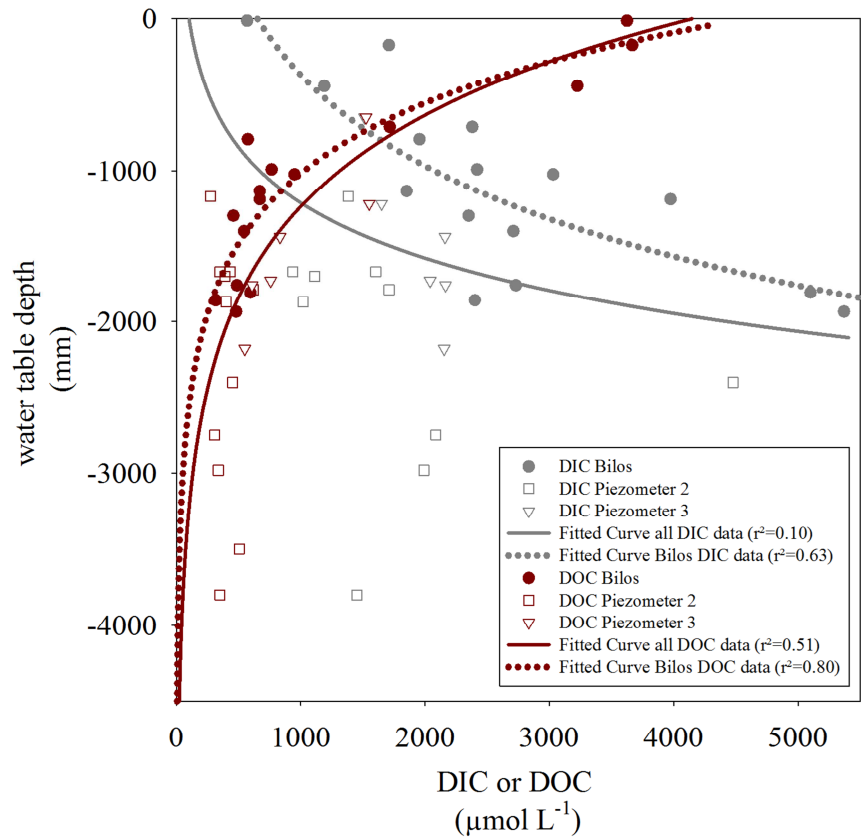
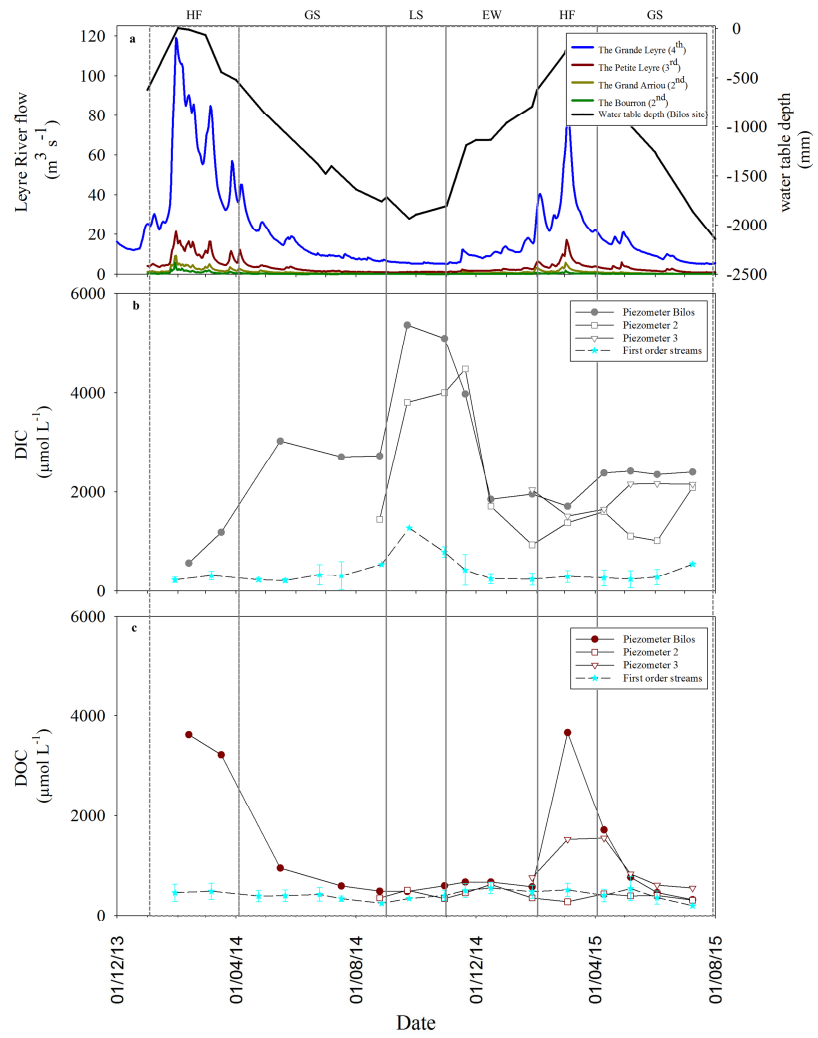


Figure 4



1450 Figure 5

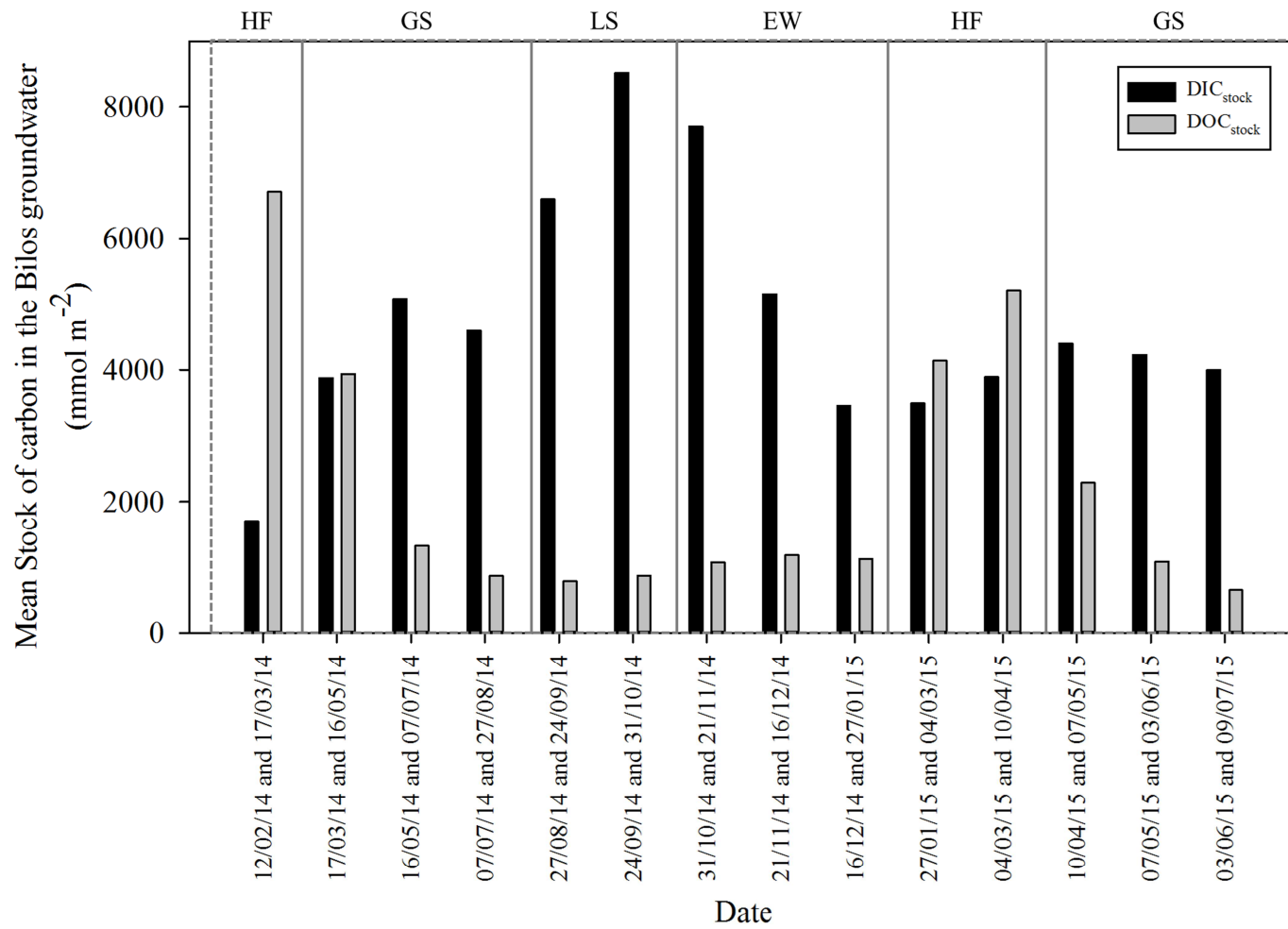


Figure 6

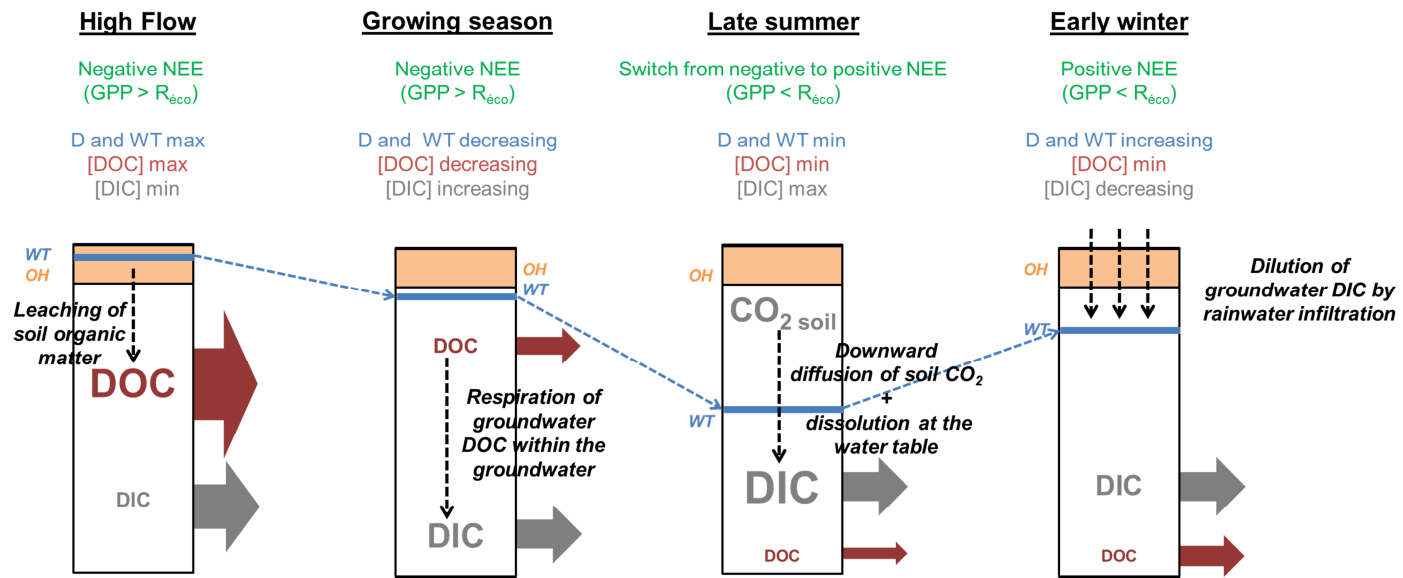


Figure 7

1455

Supplementary Material

Period	Date	Groundwater			Surface water
		Piezometer Bilos	Piezometer 2	Piezometer 3	First-order <u>First-order</u> streams
HF	29/01/2014				X
HF	12/02/2014	X			
HF	07/03/2014				X
HF	17/03/2014	X			
GS	24/04/2014				X
GS	16/05/2014	X			
GS	21/05/2014				X
GS	25/06/2014				X
GS	17/07/2014	X			X
GS	27/08/2014	X	X		X
LS	24/09/2014	X	X		X
LS	31/10/2014	X	X		X
EW	21/11/2014	X	X		X
EW	16/12/2014	X	X		X
EW	27/01/2015	X	X	X	X
HF	04/03/2015	X	X	X	X
GS	10/04/2015	X	X	X	X
GS	07/05/2015	X	X	X	X
GS	03/06/2015	X	X	X	X
GS	09/07/2015	X	X	X	X

Table S1: Sampling dates of groundwater and surface waters. X correspond to a sampling of pCO₂, TA and DOC. HF,

GS, LS and EW represent high flow, growing season, late summer and early winter periods, respectively

Period	Date	DIC _{stock} and DOC _{stock}		DIC _{export} and DOC _{export}			F _{degass}
		Piezometer Bilos	Piezometer Bilos	Piezometer 2	Piezometer 3	Streams	
HF	12/02/14 and 17/03/14	X	X				X ^a
GS	17/03/14 and 16/05/14	X	X				X ^b
GS	16/05/14 and 17/07/14	X	X				X ^c
GS	17/07/14 and 27/08/14	X	X				X
LS	27/08/14 and 24/09/14	X	X	X			X
LS	24/09/14 and 31/10/14	X	X	X			X
EW	31/10/14 and 21/11/14	X	X	X			X
EW	21/11/14 and 16/12/14	X	X	X			X
EW	16/12/14 and 27/01/15	X	X	X			X
HF	27/01/15 and 04/03/15	X	X	X	X		X
HF	04/03/15 and 10/04/15	X	X	X	X		X
GS	10/04/15 and 07/05/15	X	X	X	X		X
GS	07/05/15 and 03/06/15	X	X	X	X		X
GS	03/06/15 and 09/07/15	X	X	X	X		X

460 Table S2: Periods of calculation for C stocks, C exports and C degassing. X corresponds to a calculation. ^{a, b, c} for these periods the day of sampling of surface waters do not correspond exactly to the day of sampling of groundwater (Tab. S1). C stocks in groundwater can be calculated only for Bilos plot since we do not have data about the total height of the permeable layer in the other plots. HF, GS, LS and EW represent high flow, growing season, late summer and early winter periods, respectively.

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