

Nocturnal river water temperatures: Spatial and temporal variations

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ABSTRACT

Nocturnal water temperature (T_w) affects the behaviour of aquatic biota and metabolism of whole rivers. However, night-time water temperature (nT_w) is poorly understood because spot samples are typically taken during daylight hours, or T_w series are aggregated in ways that mask sub-daily properties. This paper examines 15-minute measurements of T_w and air temperature (T_a) collected at 36 sites in the Rivers Dove and Manifold, English Peak District. Data were stratified by day and night then analysed using hysteresis, auto-correlation and logistic regression techniques. Daily hysteresis loops show lagged responses between nT_w and previous daylight air temperatures (dT_a), plus the influence of groundwater and discharge variations. Logistic regression models were modified using a seasonal factor and explained between 80 to 94% of the variance in daily maximum nT_w ; minimum nT_w were predicted with less skill, particularly for headwater sites in summer. Downstream variations in model parameters also reflect the influence of groundwater and/or riparian shade, and prevailing weather conditions. A case is presented where an intense summer storm resulted in the propagation of a thermal wave that produced maximum T_w at some sites during hours of darkness. Hence, our findings show that T_w management by riparian shade has to be seen in a catchment wide context, with anticipated benefits normalised for weather variability, extreme rainfall events, local influence of groundwater, and channel structures.

Keywords: Water temperature; logistic regression; hysteresis curve; thermal wave; riparian shade; river management.

INTRODUCTION

Ambient water temperature (T_w) regulates the photosynthesis of aquatic plants and the metabolism of cold-blooded poikilotherms, including fish, amphibians and aquatic invertebrates (Berry & Björkman 1980; Farrell 2009). Extreme T_w can stress or ultimately prove lethal to biota (e.g. Dallas & Rivers-Moore 2012; Martins *et al.* 2011) although some fauna can deploy avoidance strategies and/or acclimate to high temperatures (Breau *et al.* 2011; Cox & Rutherford, 2000; Geist *et al.* 2011). Nonetheless, sub-lethal T_w can still impact on spawning and breeding, hatching, growth, behaviour, distribution and phenology, thereby altering population structure and dynamics (Durance and Ormerod, 2007; Thackeray *et al.* 2010; Ward & Stanford 1982). There is evidence that T_w is rising in response to climate and environmental drivers, such as land-use change, land-drainage and modification of riparian vegetation (Broadmeadow *et al.* 2011; Langan *et al.*, 2001; Malcolm *et al.*, 2008; Webb, 1996). Consequently, there have been calls to manage rivers in ways that mitigate temperature increases to ‘buy time’ for ecosystems to adapt (Hansen *et al.*, 2003; Wilby *et al.*, 2010) whilst achieving other co-benefits (see for example: Nõges *et al.*, 2010).

To date, nocturnal water temperatures (nT_w) have received relatively little if any explicit attention (see for example the review of Webb *et al.* [2008]). This is because spot T_w measurements for compliance monitoring are normally made during daylight working hours (e.g. Orr *et al.* 2010) or continuous data are summarised as daily means, maxima, minima or ranges (e.g. Cassie *et al.* 2001; Imholt *et al.*, 2012; Johnson *et al.* 2013). However, such statistics mask sub-daily variations in T_w that are biologically significant (see below) or misrepresent ‘true’ T_w through biased sampling. For instance, Everall *et al.* (2014) show how systematic 15 minute sampling of T_w throughout day and night yields an annual mean T_w estimate for the River Dove that is ~ 1 °C cooler than the mean of monthly spot samples taken only during daylight hours.

Night-time water temperatures influence the behaviour, distribution, refuge use and phenology of cold-blooded organisms (Williams and Boorman, 2012), as well as the metabolism of whole rivers (Demars *et al.*, 2011) (Table 1). For example, timing of feeding in juvenile Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) depends on T_w , with fish feeding preferentially at night when T_w falls below 10 °C (Fraser *et al.* 1993). Furthermore, relatively low nT_w may provide relief from higher daytime water temperatures (dT_w) in summer or act as a signal in

the diel activity cycle of some organisms. Nocturnal temperature also affects aeration rates, oxygen saturation levels, and dissolved oxygen concentrations in rivers (Odum, 1956).

Distinguishing between *Tw drivers* (energy sources) and *controls* (mechanisms regulating temperature change) is key to understanding the thermal dynamics of river systems (Caissie 2006). Variations in nTw are not well understood compared with dTw . The latter is largely governed by solar radiation, mediated by flow volume, local shading and groundwater inputs (Webb and Walling, 1985). During the day, incoming short-wave radiation is the dominant heat flux; at night heat is lost through long-wave radiation and river bed conduction (Evans et al. 1998; Webb and Zhang 1997). Unfortunately, comprehensive measurement of the energy fluxes and hydromorphological processes governing heat dynamics is seldom undertaken, particularly at the spatial and temporal scales needed to understand (sub-)daily Tw over extended periods (Hannah et al. 2008; Webb and Zhang, 1997).

An alternate to the energy balance approach is to infer Tw from air temperature (Ta) (Erikson and Stefan 2000; Stefan and Preud'homme, 1993; Webb et al. 2003). Both Ta and Tw are forced by solar radiation and weather conditions so Ta is widely used as a surrogate, (recognising that Ta is not always a useful predictor – for instance when local Ta is strongly influenced by groundwater or artificial heat from urban surfaces and reservoirs). When Ta is the primary predictor of Tw in statistical models, then the coefficients can be assumed to reflect local environmental and catchment controls. For example, previous studies have shown that regression parameters are related to catchment area (Ozaki et al. 2003; Webb et al. 2003), extent of upstream riparian shade and groundwater inputs (Johnson et al. 2013; Toone et al., 2011), baseflow index, percent forest cover and stream order (Chang and Psaris, 2013).

The purpose of this paper is to undertake the first comprehensive assessment of spatial and temporal variations in nTw and then show how a conventional model of dTw can be extended to nTw . We also seek to establish the extent to which riparian shade reduces both dTw and nTw , and the circumstances under which this management option might be less effective. The next section describes our high-density network of paired Ta and Tw measurements, and methods of analysis. This is followed by a description of the temporal and spatial dynamics of Ta - Tw relationships shown by analysis of hysteresis loops and regression model residuals. Finally, we interpret these results from the point of view of nTw modelling and management, in other catchments then close with suggestions for further research.

FIELD SITES AND METHODOLOGY

Water temperature network

The Loughborough University TEMperature Network (LUTEN) consists of 36 sites with paired T_a and T_w monitoring in the rivers Dove and Manifold of the English Peak District (Figure 1). Catchment elevations range from 150 to 450 m, and the dominant land-use in both cases is pasture. The Manifold is mainly underlain by Millstone Grit whereas the Dove flows along then intersects a Carboniferous Limestone outcrop. As a consequence of the contrasting geological context, the Manifold has a dense, dendritic drainage network whereas the Dove has few tributaries but is fed largely by groundwater seepage and surface springs. The sampled lengths from source are 2 to 30 km in the Dove, and 4 to 18 km in the Manifold. Bank full channel widths vary between 1.7 to 11.7 m and 2.9 to 8.5 m respectively.

Gemini *Tinytag* Aquatic 2 thermistors were installed at each site, one at the river bed surface in riffles measuring T_w and one approximately 2 m above the water surface measuring T_a . The instruments log maximum, mean and minimum temperatures every 15-minutes and results are reported here for the two years March 2011 to February 2013. *Tinytag* sensors have a quoted accuracy of 0.2 °C which has been confirmed under field and laboratory conditions (Johnson and Wilby, 2013). Sensors were situated in deep environmental shade to minimise the risk of heating by direct solar radiation. Further details of LUTEN, the Dove, and Manifold catchments can be found in Wilby et al. (2012) and Johnson et al. (2013).

Environmental characteristics of reaches between monitoring sites were quantified using field and desk-based techniques. A GIS model was constructed from field survey, aerial photography, a 5 m resolution Digital Elevation Model (DEM) and Ordnance Survey maps. This information was used to quantify the dimensions of the catchment and drainage network. Shading by vegetation was estimated from aerial photographs by calculating the length of river reach between sites that is bordered by narrow (<10 m) tree cover, either linearly along the bank or via wider (>10 m) bands of broadleaf woodland (Johnson et al., 2013).

Hourly precipitation data were obtained from a UK Met Office station at Leek (ref 30690) which lies ~13 km to the west of the Dove. Accompanying 15-minute discharge data were obtained from two river gauges maintained by the Environment Agency of England and Wales (EA). The Hollinsclough (HC) gauge has a drainage area of 8 km² in the upper catchment; the Izaak Walton (IW) gauge is downstream and collects from 83 km² of the Dove (Figure 1). Both discharge records are defined as 'natural to within 10% at the 95th

percentile' by the National River Flow Archive. However, flows in the lower reaches of the Dove (between D17 and D24) are affected by more than 100 shallow weirs and occasional sub-surface field drains.

The Limestone outcrop denotes a zone of substantial groundwater inputs, including several large non-thermal and semi-thermal springs along the Dove (Edmunds, 1971; Abesser and Smedley, 2008). Bi-monthly spot measurements of T_w , conductivity and pH were taken from surface springs and in the main river channel between springs. Johnson *et al.* (2013) report that these springs discharge at relatively constant temperatures year-round thereby lowering local T_w in summer but increasing T_w in winter.

Summary statistics and hysteresis loops

The NOAA solar calculator¹ was used to classify 15-minute temperature data as either 'day' or 'night' according to sunrise and sunset times based on site latitude and longitude. Daily maximum, mean and minimum temperatures for day and night were then calculated, noting that the number of values in each varies seasonally. The time lag between maximum daily air and water temperatures, and water temperature range during day and night were also derived for each year, month and site. An extreme rainfall event was used to explore downstream propagation and travel velocities of a thermal wave that affected nT_w .

1 <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/index.html>

Next, temperature series were analysed by constructing hysteresis loops for every day in the two-year monitoring period. Previous studies have used hysteresis loops based on discharge-temperature to diagnose seasonal variations in dominant flow paths (e.g., Subehi *et al.*, 2010). We explore the diel thermal regime (i.e., temperature variation over a 24-hour period) by plotting 15-minute T_a and T_w from 12:00 noon on one day to 11:45 am on the next. The resultant daily hysteresis loop reveals the proportion of time that T_w either lags or leads T_a . Loop dimensions were determined by the diel range of T_a and T_w , and by the time difference between maximum and minimum values (Figure 2).

We are particularly interested in the proportion of time that T_a and T_w were not rising (\uparrow) or falling (\downarrow) synchronously (i.e., $T_a\downarrow$ with $T_w\uparrow$ or $T_a\uparrow$ with $T_w\downarrow$) during either day or night. Hysteresis may be interpreted as a dynamic lag between cause and effect (here T_a and T_w). During nocturnal clockwise hysteresis (or day-time anti-clockwise hysteresis) T_w rise as T_a falls, signalling advection of warmer water from upstream. Conversely, during nocturnal anti-clockwise hysteresis (or day-time clockwise hysteresis) T_w falls as T_a rises, potentially

indicating arrival of cooler water affected by net radiant heat loss or snowmelt. Hence, we use hysteresis loops as a tool for detecting conditions under which lagged or de-coupling of Ta-Tw invalidate the assumptions of conventional logistic regression modelling.

Regression analysis

Predictability of nTw was determined through correlation (with concurrent nTa and lagged dTa) then auto-correlation analysis (with lagged nTw and dTw). Separate air-water temperature regression models were then built for day and night using maximum values from each sub-set of the data, noting that maximum nTw nearly always occurs immediately after sunset. Regression models for the Dove were built using Ta at site D11, and for the Manifold site M8 (Figure 1). These Ta series are highly correlated with others in the rest of the network (at least $r=0.97$) and have been quality assured with respect to daily values at Buxton meteorological station (Johnson et al. 2013). Data were stratified into two years: March 2011 to February 2012 (Year 1); and March 2012 to February 2013 (Year 2). Regression models were constructed using 22 sites in Year 1, and 12 sites in Year 2. [Note that there are fewer data for Year 2 because high flows in 2012 damaged or dislodged some sensors]. Sites with both years of data were used to cross-validate regression model skill and stationarity.

Logistic regression (rather than linear regression) was used to relate dTw to dTa because this function accounts for freezing and evaporative cooling in the lower and upper asymptotes respectively (Mohensi et al., 1998). The form of the model is:

$$dT_w = \alpha / (1 + e^{(\beta - dT_a)}) \quad (1)$$

where α is the maximum Tw the model can predict, β is the inflection point of the logistic curve, and γ is the maximum unit change in dTw per unit change in dTa. The standard model was modified for daily maximum nTw as follows:

$$nT_w = dT_w \cdot \delta \quad (2)$$

where δ is a seasonally varying factor based on the assumption that over short intervals (less than 24 hours) nTw is highly correlated with preceding maximum dTw (from Eq.1). In other words, dTw provides the initial thermal conditions for subsequent nTw, where the rate of cooling (or warming) is a function of the time elapsed and prevailing weather/river flow conditions. The δ factor was estimated from the gradient of linear regressions between daily maximum nTw and daily maximum dTw (having stratified data by site, year and season). Although the following analysis focuses on daily maximum nTw we also evaluate δ scaling for daily minimum nTw using the same approach.

Regression model residuals were tested for autocorrelation using the Durbin-Watson statistic. Residuals for dTw and nTw models were further analysed with respect to daily discharge. Finally, regression model parameters were correlated with environmental metrics (such as distance downstream, altitude, slope, sinuosity, number of upstream weirs, drainage area, bankfull width and depth, water conductivity, cumulative upstream tree cover, and total time in topographic shade).

RESULTS

Daily mean and range

Across all sites and years mean dTw and nTw were 10.0°C and 9.8°C respectively (Table 2). This is within the accuracy of the thermistors so the difference is actually insignificant. The equivalent values for summer are 13.7°C and 13.2°C, whilst for winter values are 5.3°C and 5.6°C. Hence, on average, water temperatures are marginally lower at night than during the day in summer but warmer at night than during the day in winter. Yet, these summary statistics conceal subtle variations at the site scale. For instance, the difference between day and night water temperatures in the Manifold is greatest at headwater sites (such as M2 and M8 in summer). In the Dove downstream sites (D20 and D23) are cooler at night in summer, and approximately the same temperature as daytime in winter.

Standard deviations of dTw and nTw are lowest at the site with major spring flows (D23) (Table 2). The location of greatest variability is less obvious but was generally at or above D10 during Year 2. The range of nTw and dTw peaks in May-June and is at a minimum in December (Figure 3). Consistent with previous studies, the diel range tends to be greatest at upstream sites (Webb and Walling, 1985). This spatial and temporal variability appears to be related weakly to discharge: the largest average temperature ranges in dTw during the

summer half year (April to September) tend to be associated with the smallest volumes of water (Figure 4). Conversely, higher discharges in the winter half year (October to March) plus weaker solar forcing tend to dampen diel ranges. Overall, least temperature variability occurs in nTw during winter (Table 2).

Daily extremes

The time lag between daily maximum air and water temperature also has a spatial and temporal signature. Across all sites the average time difference was ~180 minutes in Year 1. However, there is a gradual increase in lag interval with distance downstream in Year 1 that is greatest at D17 (Figure 5). Again, this is consistent with a downstream increase in flow volume and thermal capacity which lead to a slower response to solar heating. The shortest lag times are close to the source (D1) and in the zone affected by spring-flow (D20 to D23). The latter is contrary to expectation and could be due to relatively limited riparian and landscape shade immediately upstream (Johnson et al., 2013). Year 2 had relatively high flows and, therefore, might be expected to have greater mean lag intervals between maximum air and water temperatures. However, the data show an average lag time of 144 minutes in Year 2 compared with 196 minutes for the same sites used in Year 1. Even so, the mean conceals considerable variability in lag interval at each site and the differences between Year 1 and 2 are not statistically significant (Figure 5).

An exceptional rainfall event on 28 June 2012 created an opportunity for more detailed analysis of lagged responses and timing of Tw maxima at different points along the Dove. The rain gauge at Leek indicates that the storm achieved a peak rainfall intensity >11 mm hr⁻¹ between 13:00 and 14:00. Water temperatures at D1 (0.4 km from river source) peaked ~75 minutes later (Figure 6a), approximately 2.5 hours *before* the maximum Ta recorded on the same day (Figure 6c). The highest Tw was recorded at D10 (9.6 km from source) where the temperature changed +3.8°C in 2 hours. The thermal wave then propagated and dispersed with distance downstream, arriving at D20 (25.8 km from source) approximately 11 hours later at just after midnight. Hence, maximum nTw at D20 occurred just before minimum nTa (recorded at 01:00 hrs). A similar thermal wave was observed in the Manifold (Figure 6b). A plot of lag time (between storm peak and Tw peak) versus distance of site from source shows a gradual deceleration of the thermal wave from initial travel velocities ~1.2 m s⁻¹ in the headwaters to ~0.5 m s⁻¹ in the lower reaches of the Dove (Figure 6d). Travel times in the Manifold fall on the same curve. [Note that the early peak at D23 and first peak at D20 were excluded from travel time estimates on suspicion that they were generated by rapid runoff

from paved surfaces in Milldale and sub-surface field drainage downstream of D22]. This event is significant because it demonstrates that the timing and peak nT_w need not always be driven by antecedent solar heating. A more systematic investigation of thermal shockwaves revealed that these storm-temperature responses can be generated several times per summer in the Dove (Wilby and Johnson, 2014).

Hysteresis

Maximum air temperature during the day (dT_a) exceeded maximum dT_w on 80% of days during the two-year period (site D11). Conversely, maximum air temperature during the night (nT_a) exceeded nT_w on only 42% of days. Hence, nT_w is generally warmer than nT_a , whereas dT_w is generally cooler than dT_a . The timing of these maxima and minima broadly define the shape of hysteresis curves (Figure 2). Day-time anti-clockwise or nocturnal clockwise hysteresis can be indicative of heat advection from upstream (as in the case of the 28 June 2012 storm). Under these conditions, T_w rises as T_a falls because T_w is reflecting the advection of warmer water from upstream. Loops can also exhibit mixed behaviours, for example, when T_w lags behind T_a during the day but then leads T_a during the night.

In general, T_w increases with distance downstream because of heat gains from solar radiation (counteracted by discharge accretion, greater thermal capacity and heat loss by conduction). This results in rising and expanding hysteresis loops with distance (Figure 7). In the Dove, a substantial change occurs at D17 where loops contract due to intermittent groundwater inputs. At D23, loop shape changes again as groundwater not only diminishes diel T_w range but also reduces absolute values (Figure 7). The Manifold has limited groundwater seepage so hysteresis shape is more consistent between sites (not shown).

Anti-clockwise hysteresis occurs 63% of the time in the Dove, and 66% of the time in the Manifold. This is most notable during periods of low flow but even then there can be temporary reversals associated with cloud cover and/or rainfall (e.g., 7 September 2011 in Figure 8). Hysteresis was more frequently anti-clockwise at downstream than upstream sites, particularly in Year 2 when loops were anti-clockwise just 30% and 42% of the time in the headwaters of the Dove and Manifold, respectively. On average, anti-clockwise (i.e., lagged) behaviour accounted for a significantly greater proportion of night-time than day time hours (t -test, $p < 0.0001$ at all sites). Clockwise loops occur irregularly throughout the monitoring period and are typically associated with periods of higher flow (Figure 9).

Thermal inertia

The above hysteresis analysis showed that T_a does not always lead T_w . Nonetheless, logistic regression modelling of T_w maxima is conventionally based on T_a maxima recorded within the same 24 hour period, assuming that T_a is a proxy for solar heating. In fact, dT_w is strongly correlated ($r > 0.8$) with dT_a occurring up to a week earlier (Figure 10, upper panel). The effect is less pronounced for nT_w , for which there is a rapid decay in predictability beyond the preceding dT_a (i.e., lag one day). However, nT_w was more strongly correlated with lagged dT_a during the wetter Year 2; the opposite applied to dT_w . Drier conditions in Year 1 favoured higher daytime temperatures and ground heating which exerts significant thermal inertia and influence on dT_w (see Webb and Walling, 1992); wetter conditions in Year 2 imply more overcast conditions and reduced heat loss affecting nT_w .

Overall, it is evident that nT_w is better predicted by lagged dT_a than concurrent nT_a confirming that river temperatures at night are largely determined by the solar energy flux and heat accumulation from the previous day, as well as the rate at which the water column loses heat via back radiation, sensible heat, conductive transfer and evaporation (Evans et al., 1998). Moreover, both dT_w and nT_w exhibit significant autocorrelation at all sites except D20 (Figure 10, lower panel) where the thermal regime of the river is a mixture of upstream surface flow, local spring flow and weir effects. In summary, nT_w is more strongly correlated with lagged T_w than lagged T_a , supporting the inclusion of the δ factor in Eq.2 to represent thermal inertia.

Figure 11 shows that the δ factor for maximum nT_w varied between 0.92 (D20, summer Year 2) and 1.03 (D17, winter Year 1 and Year 2). This simple factor explained on average 96% and 84% of the variance in maximum nT_w (Year 1) for winter and summer respectively. Downstream variations in δ were greatest during the dry summer conditions of Year 1 and appear to reflect presence or absence of springflow and weirs. Conversely, wetter conditions in the summer and winter of Year 2 reduced downstream heterogeneity in δ and elevated mean values (signalling lower rates of heat loss).

Most marked summer cooling between maximum dT_w and nT_w occurred at D20 – a site just below a sequence of weirs. Conversely, the greatest winter day to night warming is generally downstream of the semi-thermal springs at D17. Values of δ greater than 1.0 also arise when the length of day is short in relation to the time-lag between daily maximum T_a and T_w

(Figure 5). During winter months T_w maxima often occur after sunset, particularly at the most downstream sites.

The δ factor for daily minimum nT_w was less than 1.0 at all sites in the Dove and least near source (Figure S1). This is because water entering the channel near source at sunrise would not have been subject to direct solar heating. Conversely, water arriving at D20 by sunrise could have been in transit for nearly 12 hours (given the velocities recorded on 28 June 2012). In mid-summer, this packet of water could have been exposed to up to 5 hours of daylight before arriving at the time of minimum nT_w .

Due to the larger volume of water (and hence thermal inertia) the correlation between nT_w and dT_w would be expected to be greater in winter. This is indeed the case: the δ factor explained on average 86% and 46% of the variance in minimum nT_w (Year 1) for winter and summer respectively. Overall, predictability was on average lower for minimum nT_w than maximum nT_w given dT_a , and predictability was least for minimum nT_w in summer at D2 ($r^2 = 0.05$).

Logistic regression modelling

Logistic regression models were fitted to dT_w and nT_w for each year, using dT_a as the predictor in each case. The δ factor was also used to estimate nT_w from modelled dT_w (henceforth referred to as the “delta” model). Figure 12 shows the logistic relationships produced by the three models for site D11. Greater variability is evident in observed dT_w and nT_w in Year 2. This is reflected by the amount of explained variance which ranges from 94% for dT_w in Year 1 to 83% for nT_w in Year 2. The delta model yields marginally better skill than nT_w predicted directly from dT_a . Moreover, the delta model is regarded as more robust conceptually since the premise of the logistic model (that maximum daytime air temperatures affect maximum daytime water temperatures) and thermal inertia are both respected.

Table 3 shows the explanatory power and standard error of models cross-validated using Year 1 and Year 2 data. All models fit well despite contrasting weather conditions in Year 1 (drought) and Year 2 (the wettest on record in the UK) (Parry *et al.* 2013). All models fit Year 1 better than or as well as Year 2. However, when calibrated using Year 2, models validate better in Year 1. There is a slight tendency for weaker models in the lower reaches of both rivers that is more evident in the Manifold (Figure S2). Durbin-Watson tests confirm positive, first-order autocorrelation in the residuals of dT_w and nT_w models. In general, this

means that the regression model standard errors and levels of significance reported in Table 3 are inflated.

Analysis of residuals

Weak seasonality is evident in the residuals of day (not shown) and night models (Figure 13) with consistent under-estimation of summer nTw and over-estimation of winter nTw. This bias is slightly greater for delta models, and much greater for nTw models than for dTw. Models for the Manifold tend to over-predict a greater range of temperatures than those in the Dove. Despite the apparent seasonality in residuals, Ta does not correlate with residuals from any model (i.e., there is no heteroscedasticity).

Visual inspection of Figure 13 suggests that some model residuals (most notably during the wet summer of 2012) may be explained by discharge. However, this is not supported by scatterplots of daily residuals versus daily discharge. Residuals for dTw vary between $\pm 4^\circ\text{C}$ regardless of the discharge or site (Figure 14, left column). Residuals for nTw tend to be negative, are generally greater at low flows, and increase in range with distance downstream (Figure 14, right column). For example, the mean residuals from the delta model at D11 for the winter and summer half Year 2 were $+0.24^\circ\text{C}$ and -0.34°C respectively.

This implies that the delta model is still missing important information about other energy fluxes and processes that are not captured by dTw alone. For example, under summer low flow conditions under-prediction of nTw might occur when overcast conditions limit cooling by net long-wave radiation; conversely over-prediction might be explained by clear skies at night. Nonetheless, residuals from the delta model exhibit less flow dependence than those predicted by dTa, suggesting that heat advection from upstream and flow effects are better resolved by scaling modelled dTw.

Variations in logistic regression parameters

Logistic regression parameters vary between years and with distance downstream in the Dove but were relatively stable in the Manifold (Figure 15). In the Dove, values of α and β were significantly higher in Year 1 than Year 2, whereas the γ parameter was lower at most sites. The interplay between these parameters produced more damped responses in high-end dTw in Year 2 for given dTa, probably reflecting the overcast conditions and reduced solar radiation. The effect was most marked at sites with least (<20%) riparian shading (such as D1, D17 and D20). In contrast, all sites analysed in the Manifold have greater than 55% riparian cover so were less responsive to variations in solar forcing.

DISCUSSION

Temporal and spatial variations in Tw

Temporal and spatial variations in mean dTw and nTw are broadly similar. Maximum nTw is on average 0.4 to 0.5 °C less than maximum dTw. In the Dove, both dTw and nTw increase with distance downstream at a rate of 0.07 °C km⁻¹ between sites D2 and D20. Hence, hysteresis loops generally rise with distance from source except where groundwater inputs substantially alter both the range and absolute values of Tw in the lower Dove (Figure 7). In Year 1, groundwater discharged continuously at site D23 but was intermittent elsewhere only flowing in autumn-winter between sites D16 and D22. In Year 2, extremely wet weather sustained flows from normally intermittent springs and affected Tw downstream of D16. Groundwater not only dampened seasonal variations in Tw, but also reduced the diel range. Hence, dTw and nTw converged when and where groundwater was discharging into the river.

Discharge and lag effects

Ta responds more rapidly to variations in solar radiation than Tw and, consequently, Tw often lags behind Ta, creating anti-clockwise hysteresis in diel temperature under stable, low flow conditions (Figure 8). On average, ~55% of diel cycles in the Dove and Manifold exhibit lagged responses. This pattern is more prevalent at night because nTw is dominated by negative heat fluxes (such as net radiation, sensible heat and conduction), partially controlled by initial water temperature passed from the preceding day.

Local groundwater inputs, high flow episodes and extreme weather can modify this behaviour. For example, some flood pulses can produce a thermal ‘shockwave’ that is at variance to diel solar radiation because the Tw maximum is experienced during hours of darkness at some sites (as with the storm-temperature response on 28 June 2012, Figure 6). Hence, nocturnal fauna would be impacted first by a thermal wave at a time of day when abrupt Tw increases would not be expected.

Thermal waves have been reported for other upland catchments (e.g., Langan et al., 2001; Subei et al., 2010) and in regulated rivers (Webb, 1995; Toffolon et al., 2011). Summer reservoir releases can cause abrupt temperature increases of 2-3 °C that persist for tens of kilometres downstream until diminished by tributary inputs, dispersion and heat exchange. Seasonal (clockwise) hysteresis has also been described for diel Tw variations in unregulated rivers. Over this time-scale, solar radiation in spring elevates dTw but not nTw; heat

accumulated in the catchment over the summer then maintains both dT_w and nT_w (reducing the diel range) in autumn (Webb and Walling, 1992).

All models performed better in Year 1 (lower average flows) compared with Year 2 (higher average flows). This is consistent with Webb et al. (2003) who found that linear regression models for T_w had greater explanatory power when discharge was below the median. On average, the lag interval between dT_a and dT_w is of the order 3 hours but depends on thermal inertia and the velocity of flow through the drainage network. Water body velocity governs exposure time to solar radiation flux as it moves from source to sites downstream. Maximum exposure occurs when a water parcel moves from headwater to outlet during hours of daylight, under low flow conditions with high levels of solar radiation.

In contrast, nT_w is indirectly driven by solar heating accumulated by the water body and landscape. Heat is advected downstream but is lost as the night progresses due to the negative heat fluxes noted above. The rate of heat loss is governed by the initial T_w (at sunset), the volume of water (thermal inertia), flow velocity (friction and conduction heat exchanges) and ambient weather conditions (sensible heat flux and net radiation) (Evans et al., 1998). The lack of a memory term in the standard logistic regression limits the physical plausibility of the model when applied to nT_w .

Variations in regression parameters

Regression parameters for dT_w and the delta factor for nT_w differ between sites partly due to environmental and hydrological factors (Figures 11 and 15). It is clear that groundwater strongly affects all regression parameters. In general, α and β rise with distance downstream as increased net exposure to solar radiation elevates the maximum attainable T_w , described by α . Groundwater discharges at a constant 8.5 °C in the lower Dove, constraining maximum T_w and hence α and β in affected reaches. Groundwater also contributes to variation in regression parameters between years because wet conditions in Year 2 meant that intermittent springs flowed year round. In the Manifold there are no groundwater inputs over the monitored stretch, so variations in γ are modest.

Johnson *et al.* (2013) report a significant correlation between γ for daily maximum T_w and cumulative upstream riparian shade. We confirm that γ is strongly correlated ($r=0.82$) with the same index of shade. However, inter-annual variations in cloud cover (inferred from dry- and wet-year comparisons) affected solar radiation receipts and hence the shape of the logistic regression between dT_a and dT_w (Figure S3). For example, when $dT_a = 25$ °C, the

logistic regression model for the unshaded site (D17) predicts maximum dTw of 13.5 °C (wet year) and 17.9 °C (dry year). Even at dTa = 30 °C the maximum dTw predicted for a wet year is 13.8 °C, well below levels known to harm resident brown trout (Solomon, 2008). As would be expected the greatest benefit of riparian cover occurs under sunny conditions when dTa = 30 °C gives maximum dTw of 18.3 °C (shaded) and 20.4 °C (unshaded) sites. In this case, the difference in dTw is sufficient to affect trout feeding behaviour (Solomon, 2008).

Stationarity and skill of regression models

The logistic regression models performed well, with the weakest explaining 80% of variance (site D23, Year 2 validation, nTw). Models calibrated using the more variable Year 2 conditions performed consistently better in Year 1. Overall, the most problematic sites to model are in zones of intermittent groundwater which buffer against Tw during the winter half year, or year round under wet weather. Reaches with no groundwater or constant groundwater performed better, as did sites in Year 2 because otherwise intermittent springs were flowing year-round. When models were cross-validated they performed well despite the dissimilarity in weather conditions. This was regarded as stringent test of the model stationarity and skill.

Furthermore, our results suggest that the basic logistic regression model for dTw is readily modified for nTw estimation using a seasonal factor (δ). This simple adaptation works better for daily maxima than minima nTw, and performs better for winter than summer. Again, inter-annual variations in δ are attributed to the complex inter-play between drivers (net long-wave radiation, bed conduction, heat advection from upstream and spring flows) and controls (local shade, pooling by weirs, flow velocity).

CONCLUSIONS

Water temperatures during hours of darkness are understudied yet can affect the behaviour and well-being of nocturnal biota. Sub-daily, seasonal and inter-annual Ta and Tw variations were investigated using a high-resolution monitoring network in the Dove and Manifold catchments. Hysteresis loops, autocorrelation, regression modelling, and residual analyses were used to explore variations in air-water relationships for daylight and night periods, with the aim of identifying key controls of the sub-daily thermal regime. By statistically modelling day and night water temperatures separately, dTw was confirmed as strongly related to

concurrent dT_a , but nT_w was better explained by lagged dT_w than by dT_a . Hence, nocturnal water temperatures cannot be understood in isolation of day-time water temperatures.

The influence of dT_a on subsequent nT_w is interpreted here as the downstream advection of water heated during preceding daylight hours: the greater the amount of solar radiation during previous days (and months) the higher nT_w . This relationship is modulated by discharge and distance downstream. The former controls the thermal heat capacity and rate of advection. The latter determines the range of factors that must be integrated as the water transits from source to site, including mixing of thermally contrasting spring flow. Data from extreme rainfalls in summer 2012 illustrate that abrupt increases in nT_w can occur out of synchrony with normal solar forcing of the diel cycle, and are still evident 30 km from source. Groundwater and riparian shade add further complexity to the thermal regime by dampening nT_w variations driven by solar forcing. Important considerations are whether the groundwater sources are intermittent or perennial, semi-thermal or cool, surface or sub-surface. Hot/dry/sunny weather conditions maximise the sensitivity of T_w to T_a and the gradient term in dT_w regression models is strongly correlated with cumulative upstream riparian shade. Conversely, under cool/wet/cloudy conditions differences in T_w between heavily shaded and partly shaded sites are diminished. Further work is needed to test the generality of these findings in other geological and hydrological settings.

The level of analysis reported in this paper is only possible where there are high resolution temporal and spatial data for T_w . Such data are relatively rare so it is important to draw out transferrable, policy-relevant insights. We identify three headline messages for agencies deploying shade management to retard long-term rises in T_w (see: Nõges et al., 2010; Lenane, 2012).

First, local controls of T_w change should be thoroughly assessed (including potential influence of groundwater, heat advection from upstream, topographic shade, channel orientation and structures, reservoirs thermopeaking, etc.). In other words, site selection for possible tree planting has to be seen in a catchment wide context. Detailed quantitative analysis will clearly be beyond the scope of most agencies, but routine river surveys and fluvial audits could form the basis of qualitative assessment or preliminary site screening. In practice, availability of land and support of land owners will be critical to eventual site choice. Second, realised benefits of tree-planting will depend on weather variability because the differential between shaded and un-shaded reaches is maximised under hot/sunny conditions

when high-end T_w are ameliorated most. Our findings support the view that reducing dT_w by shade will likely reduce nT_w because of thermal inertia. However, there may be circumstances under which shade offers less protection, as evidenced by storm-temperature responses (and reservoir effects reported elsewhere) which can trigger abrupt changes in nT_w . Further research is needed into the source area(s) of the heat in thermal waves in the Dove, and whether there is scope for amelioration by shade management.

Third, the widely used logistic regression model is readily modified to reflect site-specific and time-varying conditions, including estimation of nT_w maxima and minima. National T_w archives could be used to estimate logistic regression parameters and relate these to standard catchment properties and hydrological indices. The feasibility of grouping rivers with similar T_a - T_w response has already been established for the Dove (Toone et al., 2011) and elsewhere (e.g., Kano et al., 2013).

Finally, the analysis has revealed further opportunities for research. These include the need for a more thorough appraisal of thermal shocks produced by extreme weather events and their associated ecological impacts. The latter may only be feasible to study under the controlled conditions of laboratory experiments. Estimation of nT_w minima from T_a remains problematic, particularly for headwaters, yet these may be the preferred locations for riparian tree planting. The search for simple rules that predict T_w model parameters from readily available topographic and remotely sensed data should be a priority. This would enable estimation of the sub-daily thermal regime for ungauged rivers.

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TABLES

Table 1 Examples of nocturnal temperature effects on biota and river metabolism

Biota	Effect	Source
Fish	Juvenile Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) become increasingly nocturnal foragers as temperatures fall below 10 °C. Fish that are more active at night are less aggressive, indicating changes in social structure.	Fraser et al. (1993, 1995); Gries et al. (1997); Johnston et al. (2004)
	Minnows (<i>Phoxinus phoxinus</i>) become increasingly nocturnal as Tw decreases.	Greenwood & Metcalfe (1998)
	Steelhead salmon (<i>Orcorhynchus mykiss</i>) swim deeper during the day than during the night.	Teo et al. (2013)
	Timing and duration of dusk/dawn activity in barbel (<i>Barbus barbus</i>) is to achieve thermal homeostasis in a variable environment. Timing and intensity of drift migration in laval/juvenile cyprinids increases with Tw.	Baras (2005); Zitek et al. (2004)
	Nocturnal activity of glass eels and elvers (<i>A.japonica</i>) is repressed at Tw < 15 °C. Upstream migration of European eel with maximum catch at Tw > 18-20 °C and zero catches for Tw < 10 °C.	Dou et al. (2003); White and Knights (1997)
Amphibian	Tadpoles of the American Toad (<i>Bufo americanus</i>) exhibit diel activity related to Tw and light gradients.	Beiswenger (1977)
Crustacean	The crayfish (<i>Orconectes immunis</i>) selected higher mean Tw (22 °C) in experimental conditions when active at night than when inactive during the day (18 °C).	Crawshaw (1974)
Insect larvae	Many insect species (e.g. chironomidae) emerge during daylight in colder latitudes or cold seasons whereas they emerge at night in warm latitudes and seasons.	Oliver (1971); Sjoberg & Danell (1982); Pinder et al. (1993)
	Diel pattern of emergence of multiple chironomid species track Tw fluctuations.	Wartinbee (1979)
	Diel drift periodicity and amplitude affected by Tw.	Wojtalik & Waters (1970)
	Toxicity of agricultural pollutants to aquatic invertebrates is related to diel temperature variations.	Willming et al. (2013)
Algae and bacteria	Activity of bacteria related to diel temperature cycle.	Kaplan and Bott (1989)
River metabolism	Effect	Source
Dissolved oxygen	Temperature-dependent non-linear aeration process increases nocturnal dissolved oxygen concentrations	Loperfido et al. (2009); Demars and Manson (2013)
	Lower nocturnal temperatures increase oxygen saturation	Guasch et al. (1998); Neal et al. (1998)
Respiration	Metabolic rates at night are determined by variations in temperature and biological activity	Riley and Dodds (2013)

Table 2 Annual, summer (June to August) and winter (December to February) mean day and night-time water temperatures at selected sites for Years 1 and 2 of monitoring. The standard deviation (SD) is also given. Missing data are denoted by (-).

	Day						Night					
	Annual		Summer		Winter		Annual		Summer		Winter	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
YEAR 1 (drought)												
<i>D1</i>	9.7	2.6	11.9	0.8	5.1	1.4	9.2	2.4	11.2	0.7	5.1	1.5
<i>D6</i>	11.2	2.6	13.1	1.3	6.7	1.3	10.9	2.5	12.8	1.3	6.7	1.3
<i>D10</i>	10.4	3.7	14.2	1.6	5.8	1.6	10.2	3.4	13.7	1.4	5.9	1.6
<i>D12</i>	10.9	3.7	14.9	1.7	6.3	1.2	10.7	3.5	14.5	1.6	6.4	1.2
<i>D16</i>	10.6	3.3	14.2	1.4	6.5	1.1	10.7	3.3	14.3	1.4	6.6	1.1
<i>D17</i>	10.3	3.4	14.4	1.7	6.3	1.1	10.5	3.3	14.3	1.3	6.5	1.1
<i>D20</i>	11.7	4.2	16.2	1.8	6.0	1.3	11.3	3.7	14.9	1.5	6.1	1.3
<i>D23</i>	9.8	2.1	11.7	0.7	7.0	1.1	9.5	1.7	11.0	0.6	7.1	1.0
YEAR 2 (exceptionally wet)												
<i>M2</i>	10.5	4.0	14.2	1.6	4.6	2.1	9.8	3.2	12.7	1.3	5.1	1.7
<i>M8</i>	11.2	4.5	15.9	1.9	5.4	1.9	10.6	4.0	14.8	1.7	5.8	1.6
<i>M11</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>M12</i>	11.0	4.4	15.6	1.8	5.3	2.0	10.8	4.2	15.4	1.7	5.6	1.8
<i>M14</i>	11.3	4.4	15.5	1.7	5.0	2.2	11.3	3.9	15.3	1.6	5.8	1.7
<i>M17</i>	10.1	4.2	15.2	1.6	5.5	2.1	10.4	3.9	15.3	1.6	6.5	1.6
<i>D1</i>	8.6	3.0	11.6	1.0	4.8	1.7	8.2	2.7	11.1	1.1	4.9	1.8
<i>D6</i>	8.9	3.6	12.6	1.3	4.5	1.7	8.8	3.5	12.4	1.4	4.6	1.8
<i>D10</i>	9.2	3.6	13.0	1.5	5.0	1.4	9.3	3.4	12.9	1.5	5.2	1.3
<i>D12</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>D16</i>	9.6	6.5	12.2	1.2	6.4	0.9	9.2	2.1	11.3	0.9	6.6	0.8
<i>D17</i>	9.2	2.4	11.6	0.9	6.3	1.0	9.2	2.3	11.6	0.9	6.4	0.9
<i>D20</i>	9.9	2.6	12.2	1.1	6.2	0.9	9.8	2.4	12.0	1.0	6.3	0.8
<i>D23</i>	9.5	1.9	11.4	0.7	7.1	0.8	9.4	1.8	11.3	0.7	7.2	0.8
<i>M2</i>	8.8	4.3	13.4	1.7	3.2	1.8	8.4	3.9	12.8	1.5	3.6	1.8
<i>M8</i>	9.3	4.5	14.2	1.9	3.6	1.8	8.9	4.1	13.4	1.7	4.2	1.8
<i>M11</i>	9.3	4.7	14.2	1.9	3.7	1.8	9.0	4.3	13.5	1.6	4.3	1.9
<i>M12</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>M14</i>	9.7	4.7	14.6	1.7	3.5	1.8	9.6	4.5	14.5	1.8	4.2	1.9
<i>M17</i>	9.5	4.4	14.2	1.7	3.7	2.0	9.6	4.3	14.2	1.6	4.3	2.0

Table 3 Cross-calibration and validation of logistic regression and delta models at selected sites, showing amount of explained variance (r^2) and standard error (SE) in each case.

Model		<i>Site</i>		D11		D16		D23		M2		M14	
		r^2	SE	r^2	SE	r^2	SE	r^2	SE	r^2	SE	r^2	SE
dT _w	Calibration Yr 1	0.94	0.05	0.92	0.05	0.89	0.04	0.92	0.06	0.90	0.08		
	Validation Yr 2	0.83	0.08	0.82	0.08	0.82	0.05	0.90	0.07	0.89	0.08		
	Calibration Yr 2	0.83	0.08	0.82	0.05	0.83	0.04	0.90	0.07	0.89	0.08		
	Validation Yr 1	0.94	0.05	0.91	0.08	0.88	0.04	0.92	0.06	0.90	0.08		
nT _w	Calibration Yr 1	0.92	0.05	0.90	0.05	0.87	0.04	0.83	0.06	0.83	0.10		
	Validation Yr 2	0.83	0.08	0.82	0.07	0.80	0.04	0.83	0.08	0.83	0.09		
	Calibration Yr 2	0.83	0.08	0.80	0.05	0.82	0.04	0.83	0.08	0.83	0.09		
	Validation Yr 1	0.91	0.05	0.86	0.08	0.85	0.04	0.83	0.09	0.83	0.10		
Delta	Calibration Yr 1	0.92	0.05	0.90	0.05	0.87	0.04	0.84	0.06	0.84	0.10		
	Validation Yr 2	0.83	0.08	0.82	0.07	0.81	0.04	0.84	0.08	0.84	0.09		
	Calibration Yr 2	0.83	0.08	0.82	0.05	0.82	0.04	0.84	0.08	0.84	0.09		
	Validation Yr 1	0.92	0.05	0.90	0.08	0.85	0.04	0.84	0.09	0.84	0.10		

FIGURES

Figure 1 Dove and Manifold catchments showing LUTEN monitoring sites (red circles), EA gauging stations (black circles), limestone outcrop (grey shading), sandstone and mudstones areas (un-shaded).

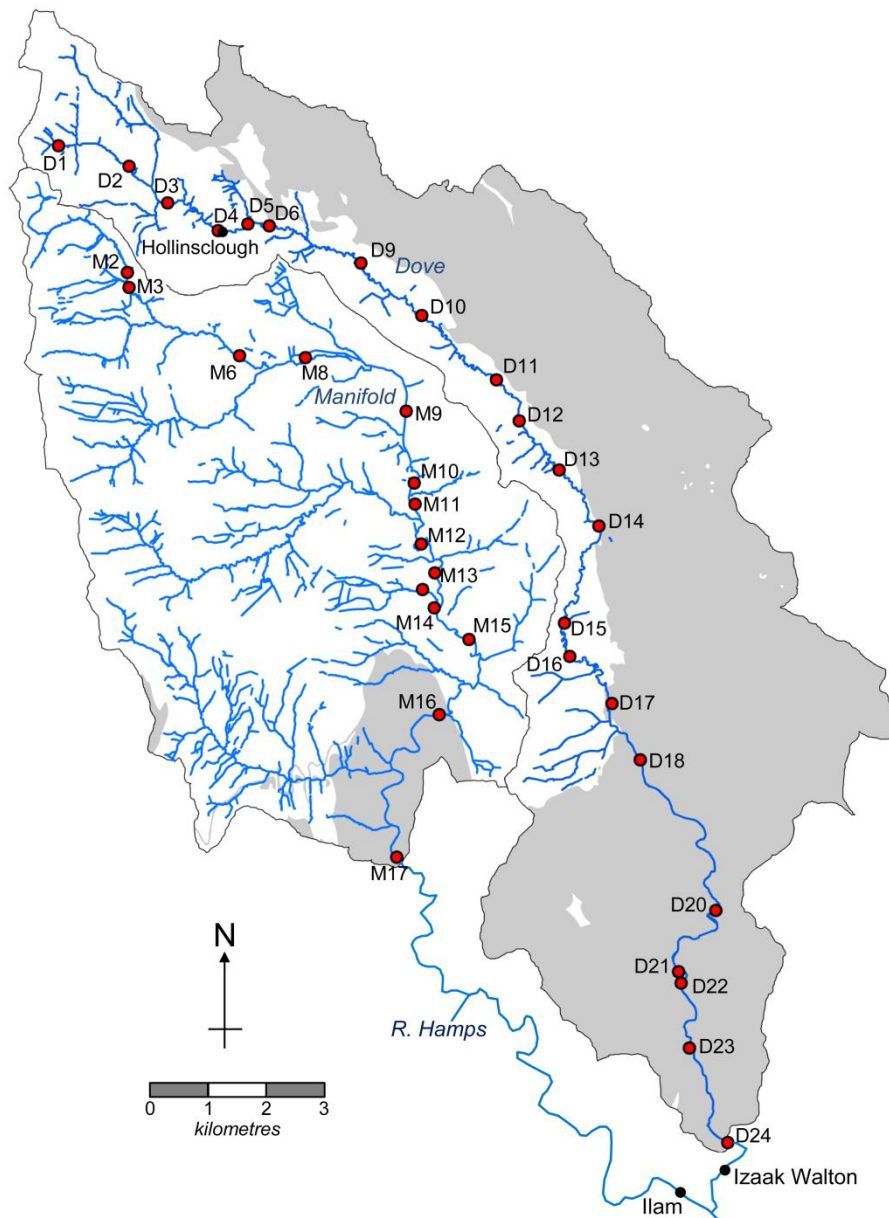


Figure 2 Example of an anti-clockwise hysteresis loop for paired T_w and T_a at site D11 beginning 12:00 pm on 11 July 2011 and ending 11:45 am on 12 July 2011. Open circles are daylight measurements; closed circles are nocturnal measurements. Maximum and minimum values are highlighted by dashed lines.

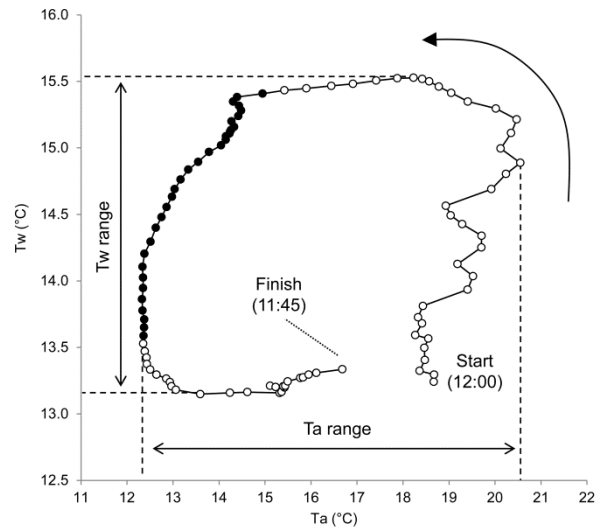


Figure 3 Monthly mean water temperature range during day (dT_w) and night (nT_w) at selected sites in the Dove from March 2011 to February 2012: a, b) D12; c, d) D10; e, f) D16; g, h) D23. T-bars show the full range between maximum and minimum

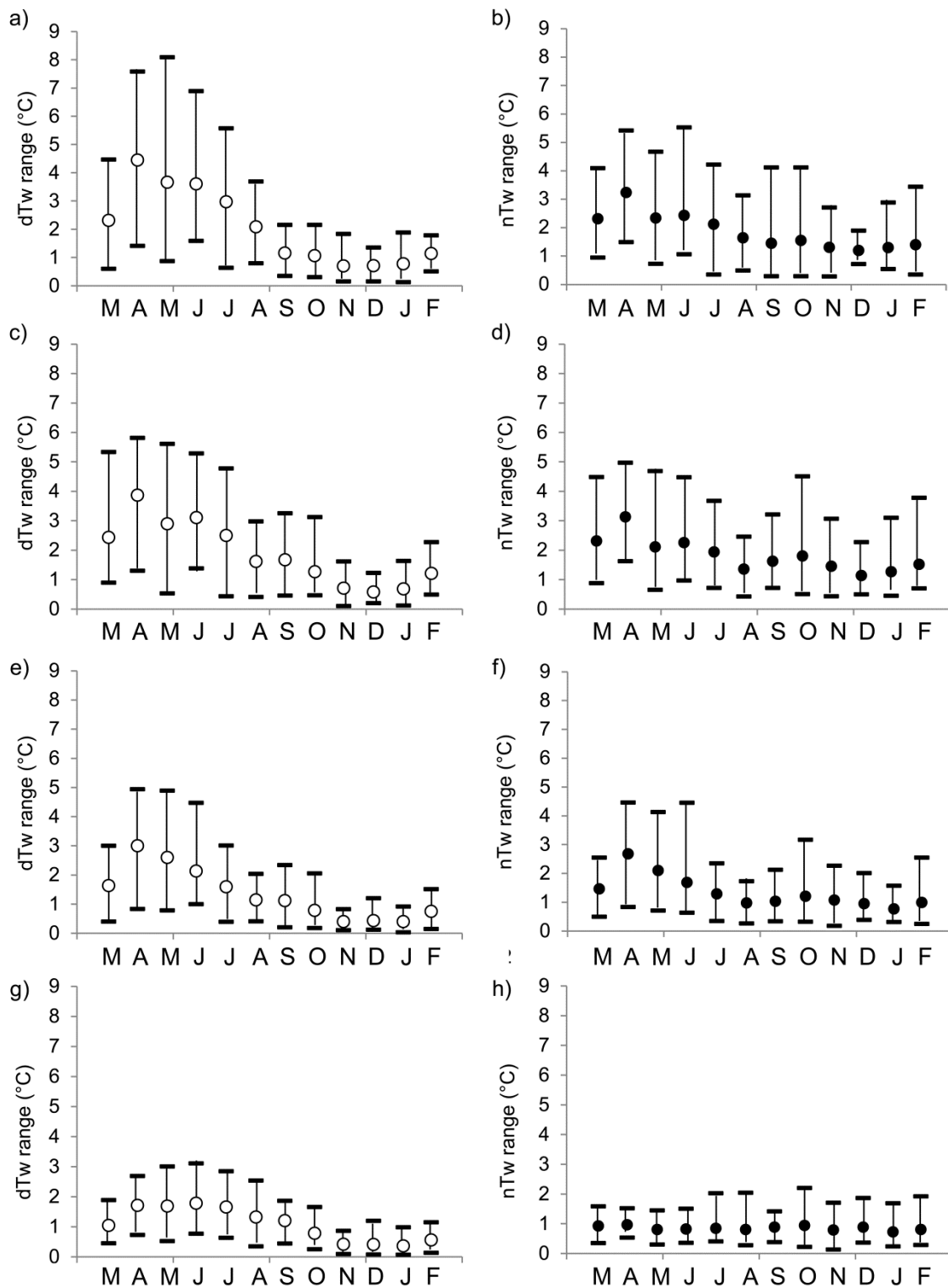


Figure 4 Relationship between diel range in Tw and discharge at D11 over both years during a) summer half year (April to September) and b) winter half year (October to March). Note that the two outliers in a) coincided with snow melt in April.

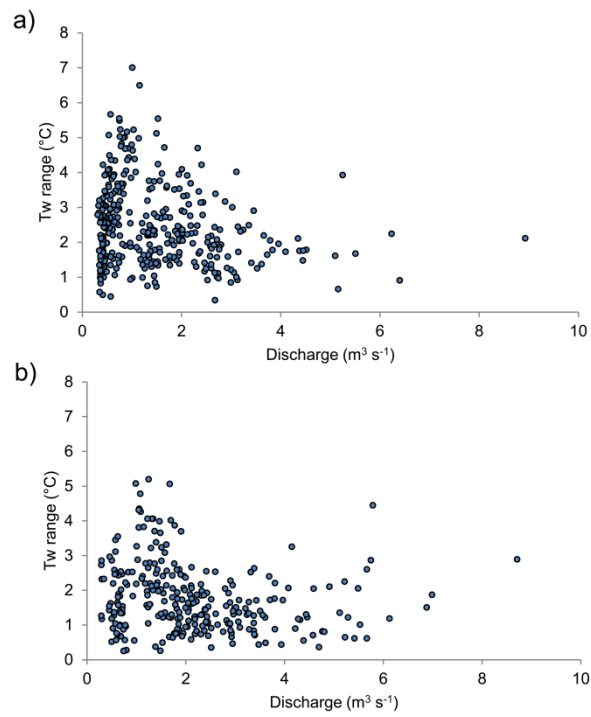


Figure 5 Time lag between daily maximum Ta and Tw for sites in the Dove during a) Year 1 and b) Year 2. Boxes denote one standard deviation about the mean; whiskers show the full range. The sample only includes days with anti-clockwise hysteresis.

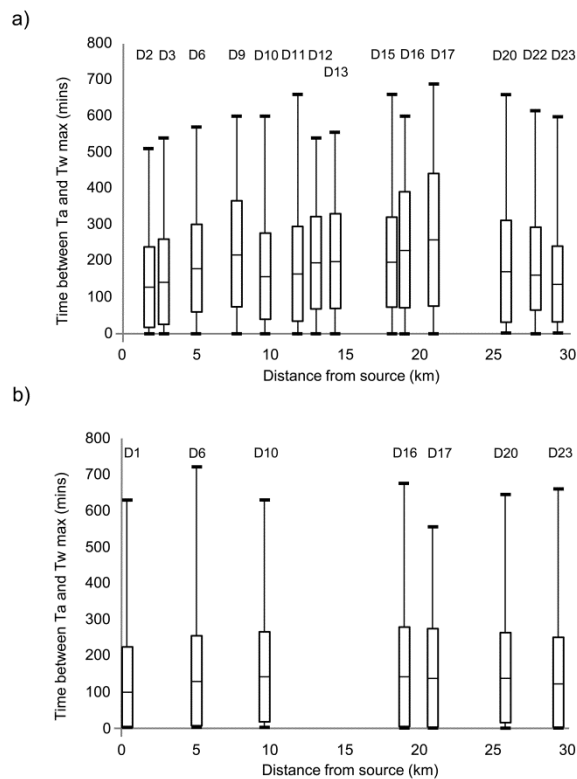
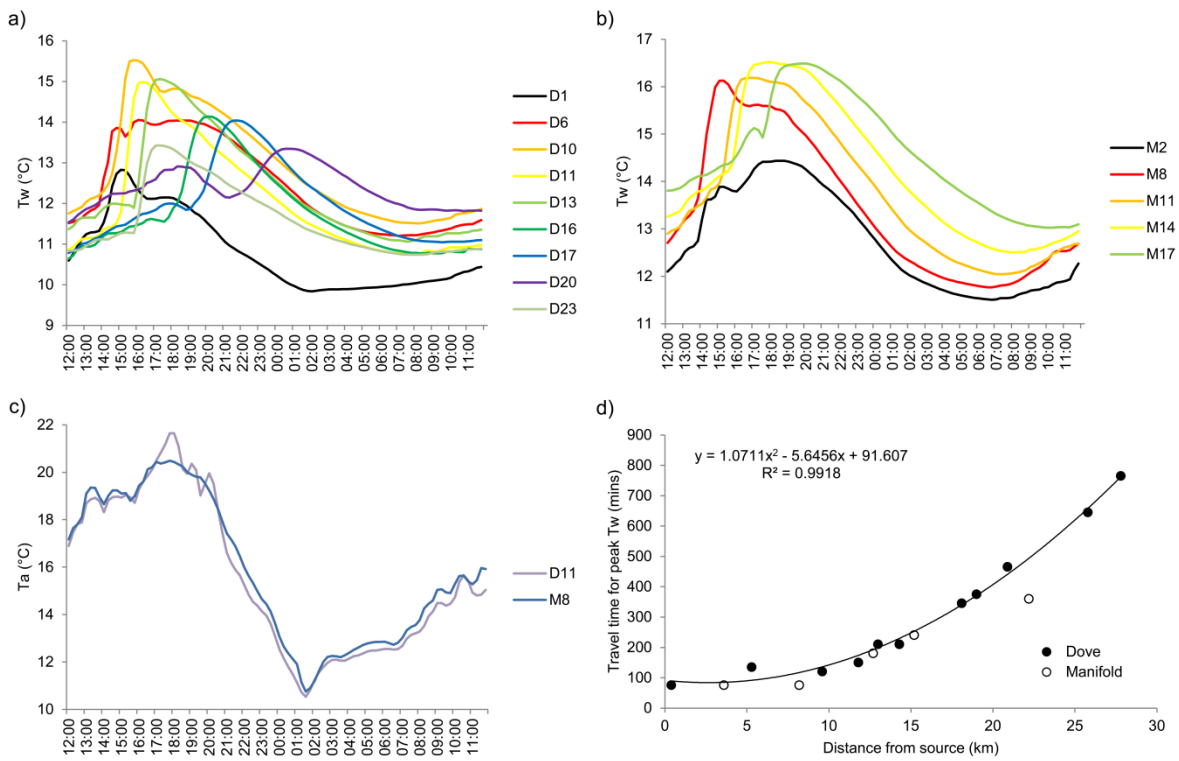
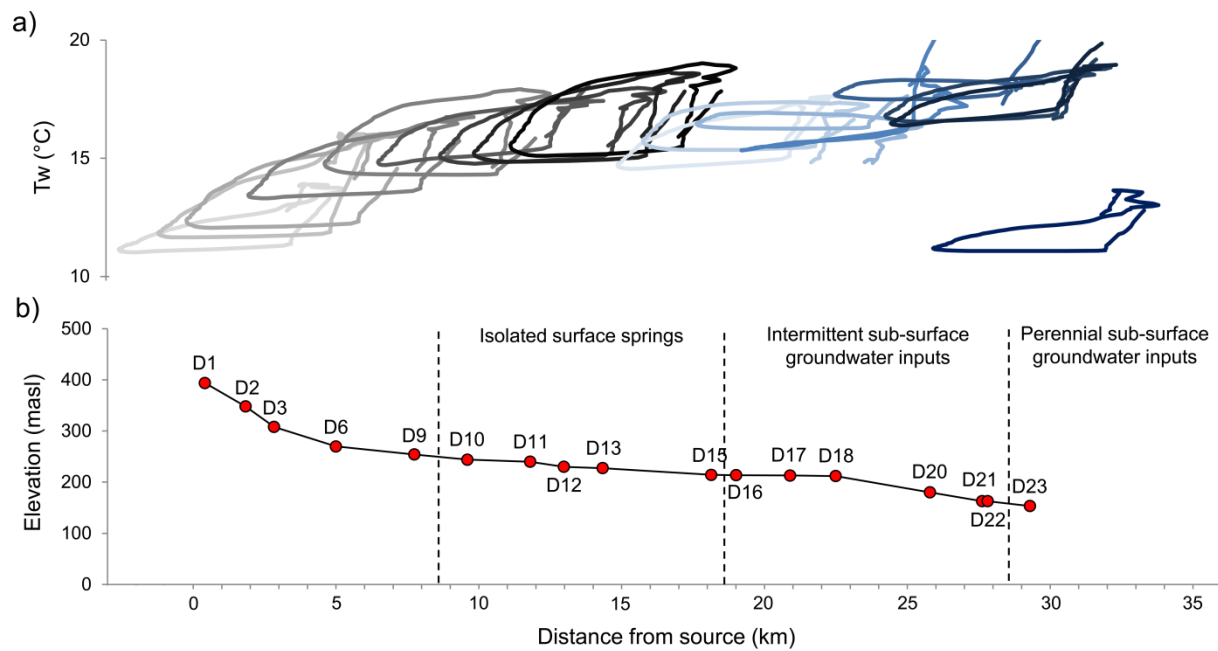


Figure 6 Thermal waves produced by the storm of 28 June 2012: a) 15 minute Tw variation at selected sites in the Dove and b) Manifold; c) 15 minute Ta variation at sites D11 and M8; d) travel time of the Tw peak to all sites above D23.



- 1 **Figure 7** a) Hysteresis loops on 26 June 2011 for sites in the Dove with distance downstream (zones of groundwater influence are shown in blue; grey shading denotes sites above the major springs); b) Longitudinal profile of the Dove showing monitoring sites and extent of groundwater.
- 2



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Figure 8 Hysteresis loops for D1 (left) and D11 (right) on low flow days: a, b) 26 June 2011 ($Q = 0.58 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$); c, d) 11 July 2011 ($Q = 0.40 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$); and e, f) 7 Sept 2011 ($Q = 0.40 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)

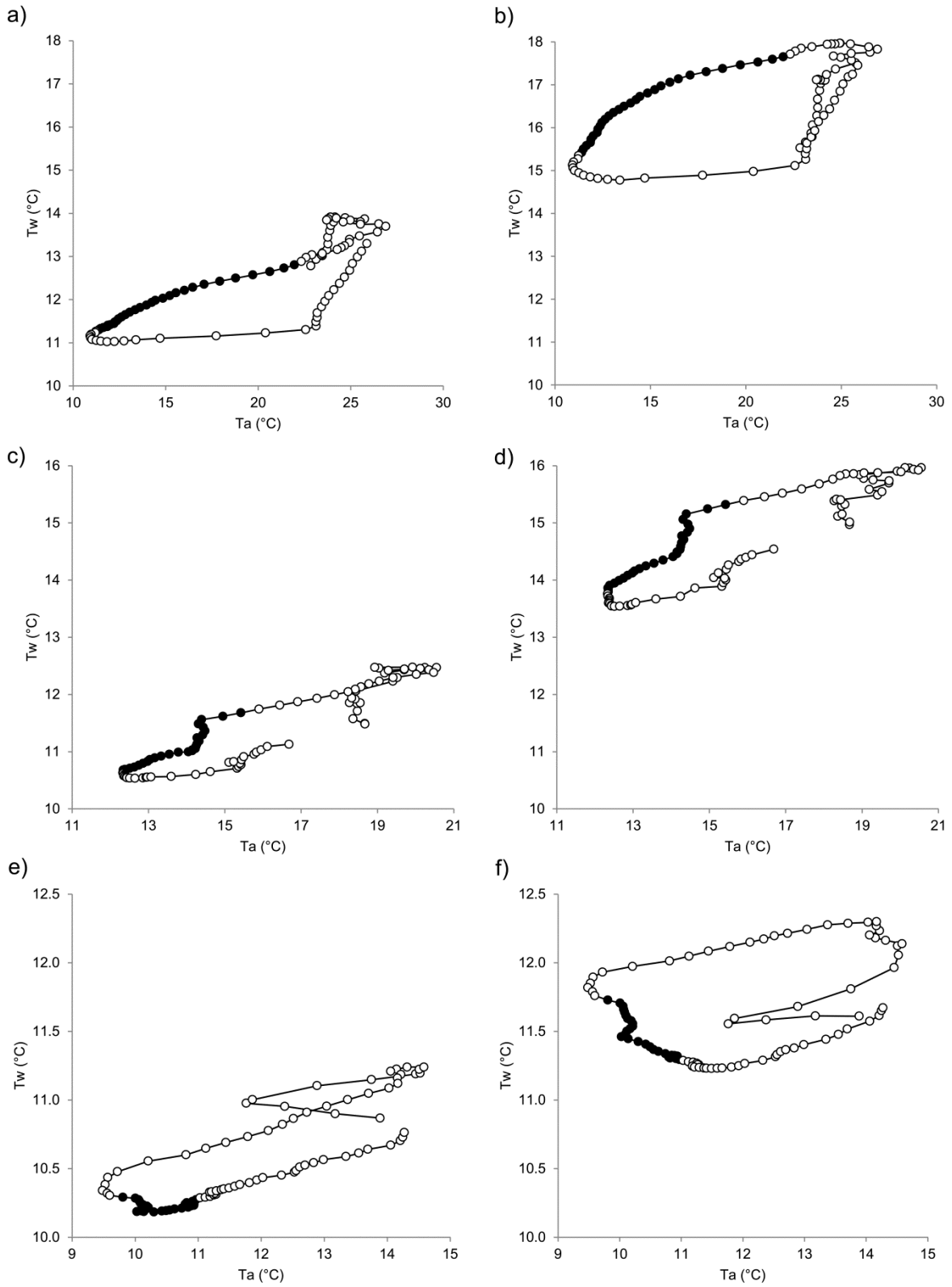


Figure 9 Selected hysteresis plots for D1 (left) and D10 (right) on high flow days: a, b) 8 June 2012 ($Q = 8.93 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$); c, d) 22 June 2012 ($Q = 4.38 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$); and e, f) 28 June 2012 ($Q = 3.11 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$)

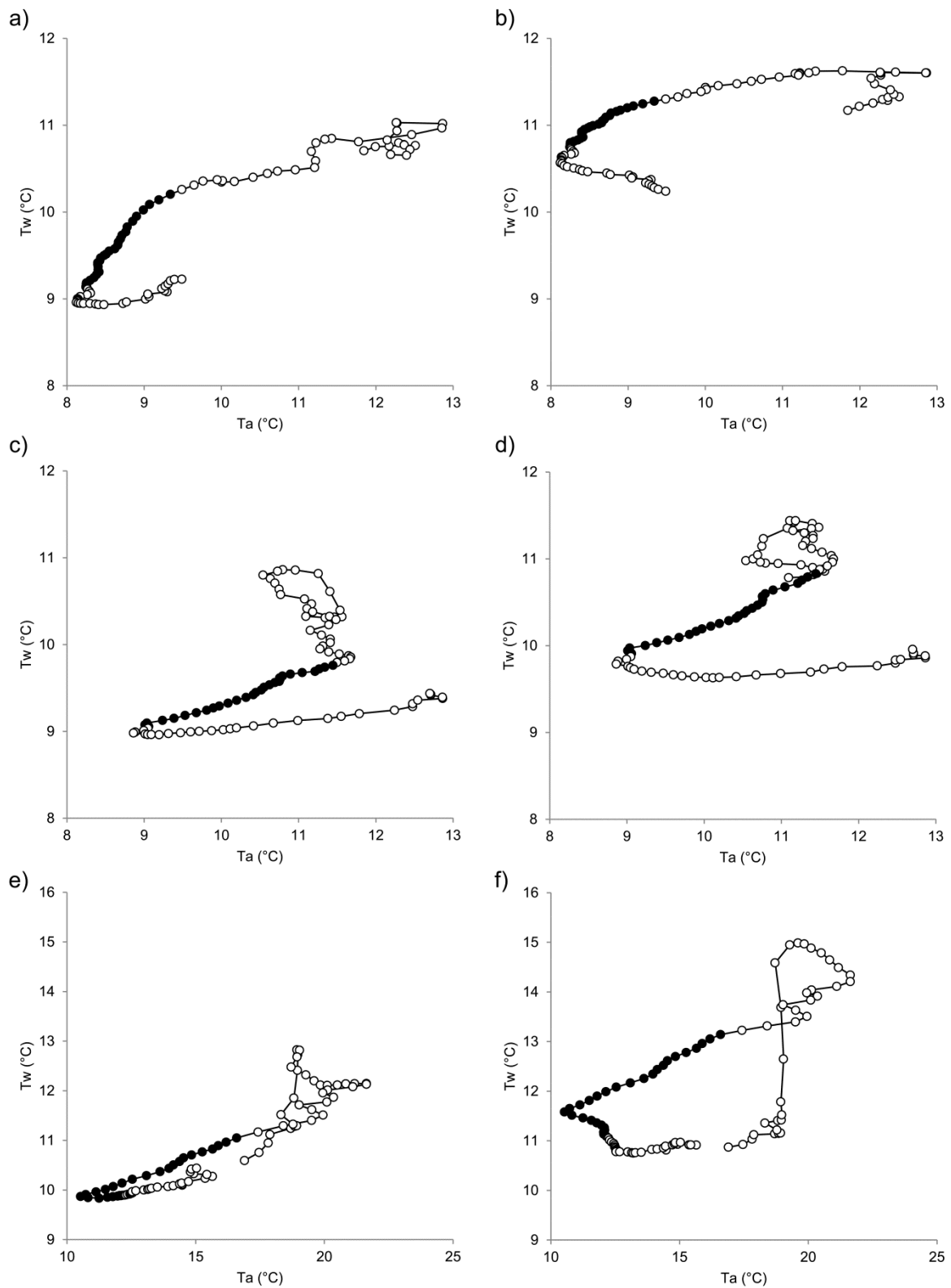


Figure 10 Correlation of a) Tw versus lagged Ta maxima and b) Tw versus lagged Tw maxima for sites in the Dove. Day is red, night is blue, Year 1 is solid and Year 2 is dashed lines.

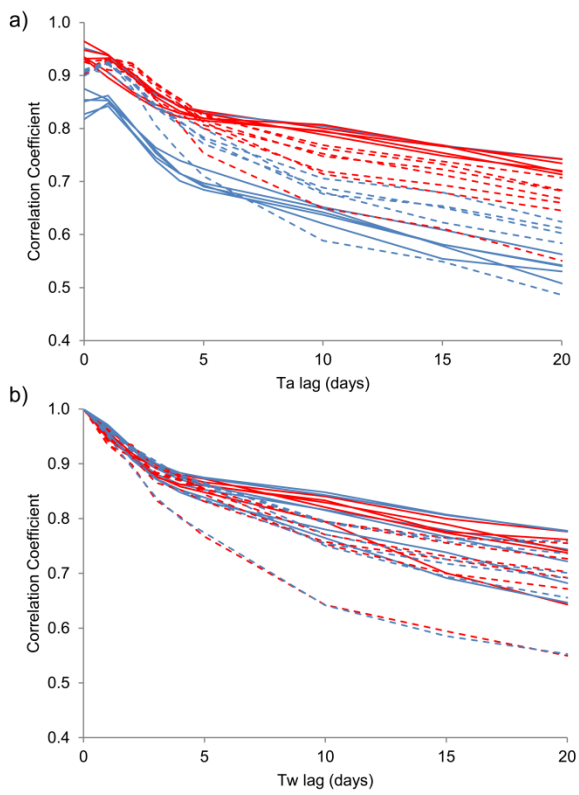


Figure 11 Downstream and seasonal variations in the δ factor for daily maximum nTw in the Dove during (a) Year 1 and (b) Year 2. Summer is defined as June to August and winter is December to February.

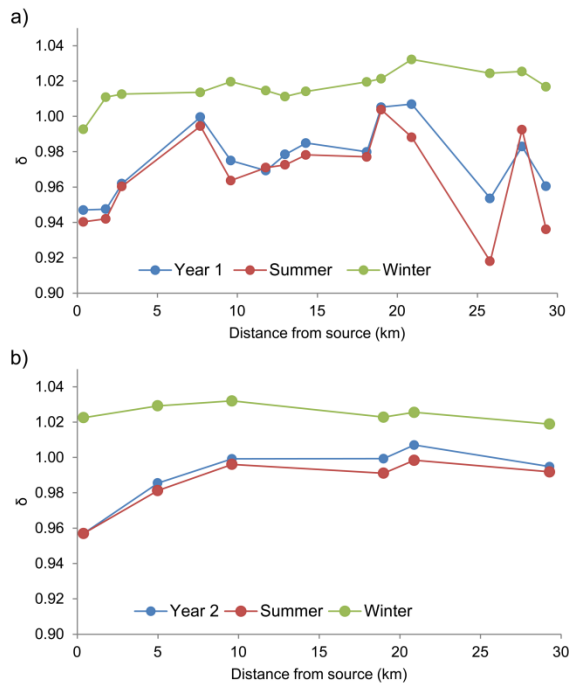


Figure 12 Logistic regression models of dTw based on dTa (solid black line), nTw estimated from dTa (black dashed line), and nTw estimated from dTw (red dashed line) at site D11 in (a) Year 1 and (b) Year 2. Open circles denote observed dTw, grey circles nTw.

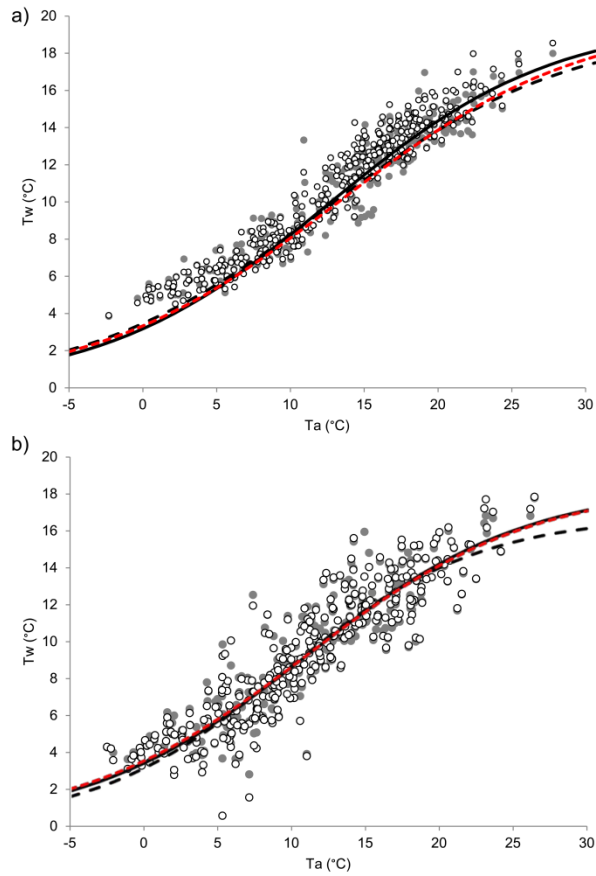


Figure 13 Model residuals (grey line) for nTw estimated from dTw at site D11 with daily discharge shown for Izaak Walton (blue line).

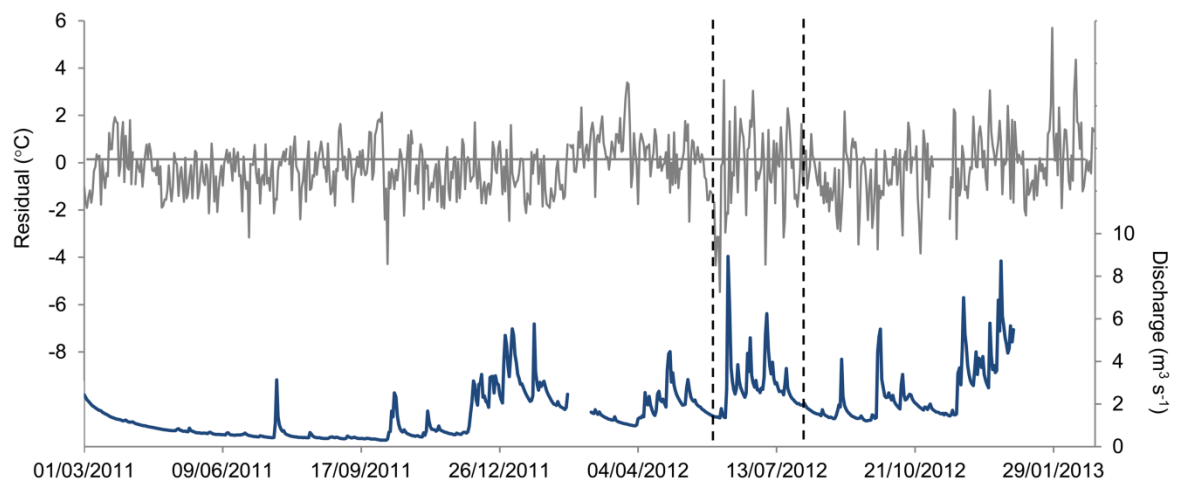


Figure 14 Discharge versus regression model residuals for dTw (left) and nTw (right) at selected sites in the Dove for models calibrated on both years at sites a, b) D1; c, d) D11; and e, f) D16.

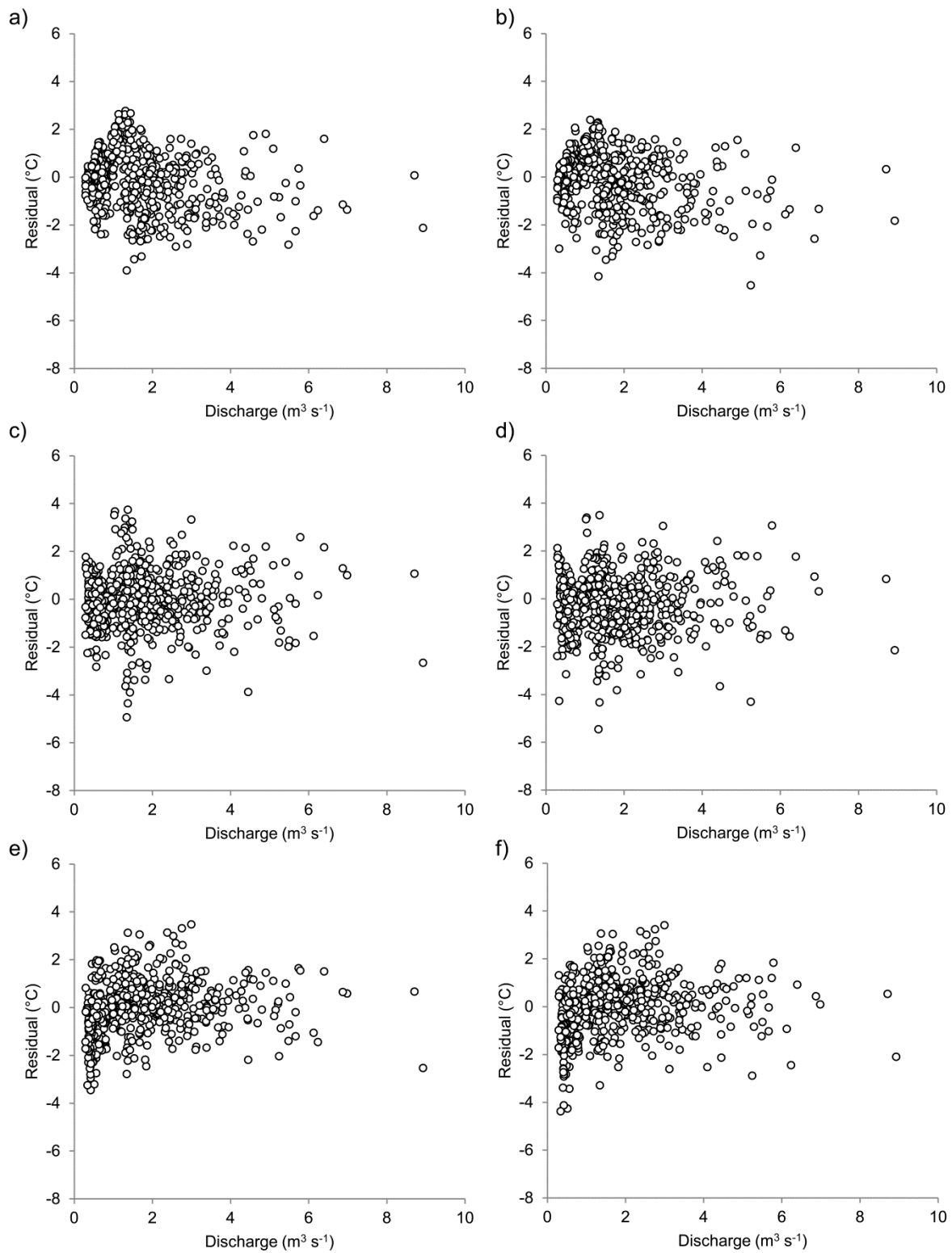
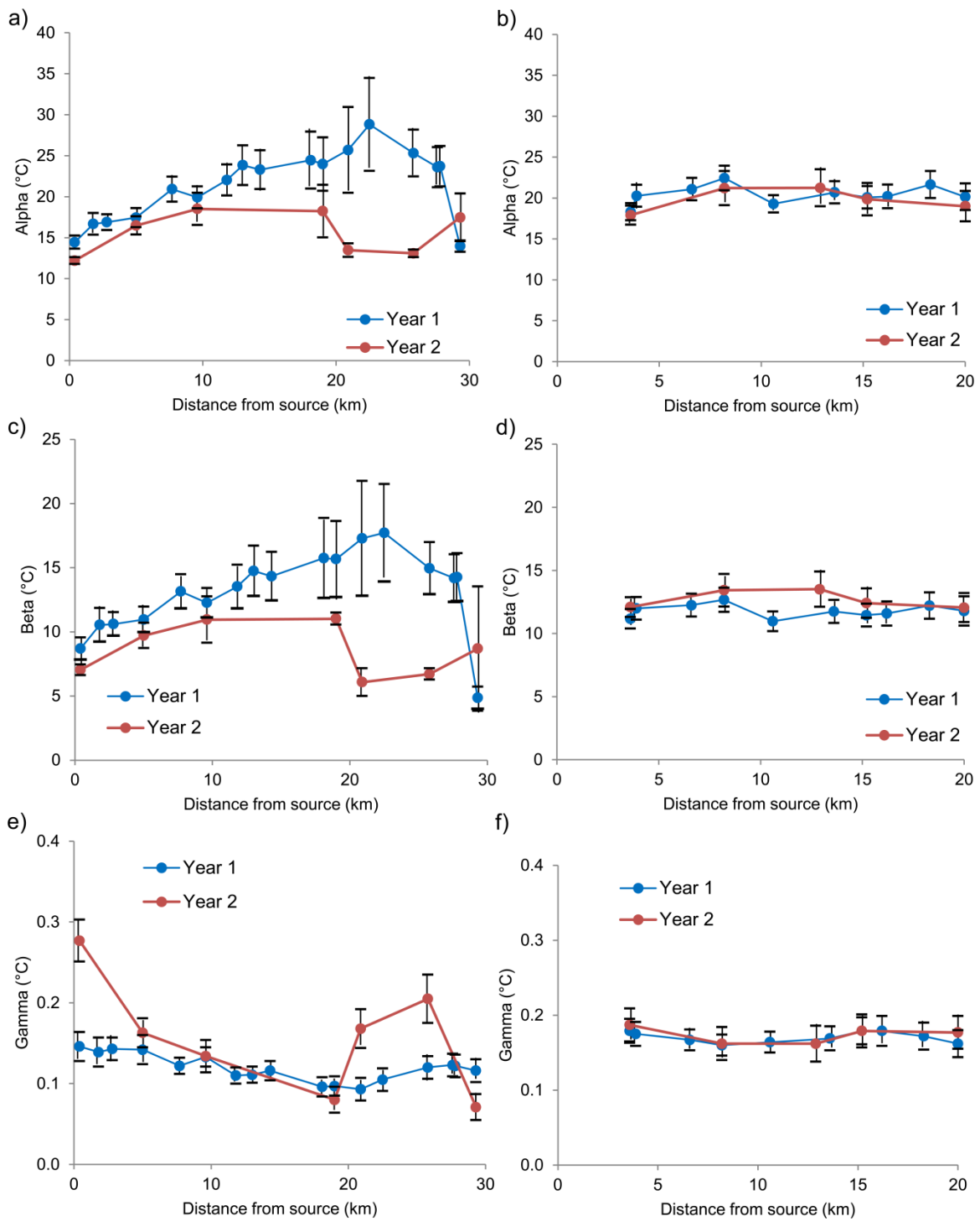


Figure 15 Logistic regression parameters for dTw with distance from source of the Dove (left) and Manifold (right) during Year 1 (blue) and Year 2 (red). T-bars show standard errors.



SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

Figure S1 Downstream and seasonal variations in the δ factor for daily minimum nTw in the Dove during Year 1.

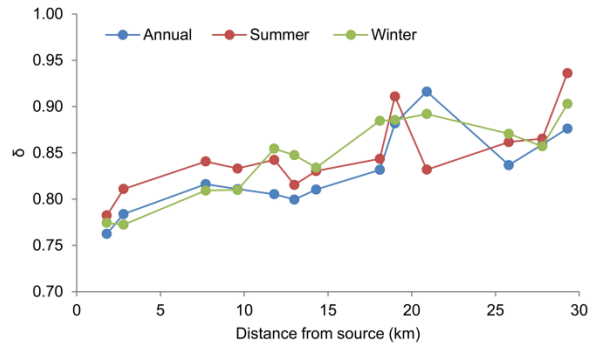


Figure S2 Amount of explained variance (R^2) in dTw and nTw maxima as a function of dTa with distance downstream in the Dove (upper panel) and Manifold (lower panel) in Year 1.

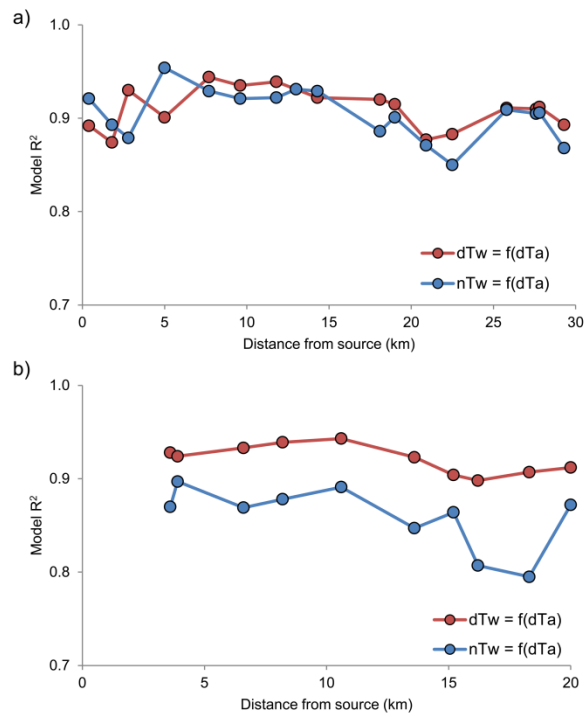


Figure S3 Logistic model estimates of maximum dTw for a) partly (<10%) shaded (D17) and b) heavily (> 80%) shaded (D10) sites during dry (Year 1) and wet (Year 2) weather.

