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## ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE RESEARCH CENTRE

## **University College London**

## **RESEARCH REPORT**

## No. 35

**Epilithic diatoms in Welsh lakes and streams** 

## T.E.H. Allott & R.J. Flower

Final Report to the Welsh Office on Contract No. PAE 22-01-004

## May 1997

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#### **Executive Summary**

- This is the final report to the Welsh Office under contract PAE 22-01-004: Acid Waters Survey

   Diatom Analysis.
- 2. 236 epilithic diatom samples have been analysed from the 104 stream sites and 32 lake sites included in the 1995 Welsh Acid Waters Survey. Sampling methodologies followed those of the Acid Waters Monitoring Network, and diatom taxonomy and nomenclature follows the Surface Waters Acidification Project (SWAP).
- 3. Multivariate data analyses have been used to;
  - (i) describe the variation in diatom assemblages in the stream and lake sample datasets;
  - (ii) explore the relationships between the diatom assemblages and site-specific environmental variables.
- 4. Species composition of the stream sample assemblages is strongly related to stream-water alkalinity and co-variables. There are also significant but less pronounced relationships between the diatom assemblages and (i) stream-water Fe concentrations, (ii) catchment variables representing stream-water flow and current velocity conditions, and (iii) sampling period. The stream samples have been classified into 10 assemblage groups which reflect a gradient of stream-water alkalinity. These groups have been described in terms of species composition and environmental characteristics.
- 5. Variation in species composition within the lake sample assemblages is most strongly related to lake-water pH and co-variables. The lake dataset is small, and further environmental influences on the diatoms are difficult to identify with confidence. The lake sample dataset has been classified into six assemblage groups, which reflect variation in lake-water acidity.
- 6. Slides from all samples have been archived at the Environmental Change Research Centre, University College London, the Natural History Museum, and the National Museum of Wales.
- 7. The epilithic diatom datasets described in this report provide an important resource for (i) comparison with other chemical and biological components of the 1995 Welsh Acid Waters Survey, and (ii) potential comparison with future change in diatom assemblages at the survey sites.

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#### 1 Introduction

This report presents results from the diatom component of the 1994/95 Welsh Acid Waters Survey, incorporating 120 lake and stream sites. Diatoms assemblages in upland surface waters are strongly related to surface water acidity (e.g. Charles 1985, Flower 1986, Stevenson *et al.* 1991, Juggins 1992) and epilithic diatoms potentially provide a powerful ecological tool for monitoring and assessing freshwater acidification (e.g. Patrick *et al.* 1995, Lancaster *et al.* 1996). Although epilithic diatoms were not sampled in the first Welsh Acid Waters Survey in 1984, and are therefore not available for comparative purposes, samples were taken in the recent survey to (i) establish the patterns of variation in epilithic diatom assemblages for comparison with other chemical and biological components of the survey and (ii) provide a dataset for comparison with possible future surveys. This report describes the epilithic diatom assemblages in both the stream and lake samples, and relates the assemblage variation to site-specific environmental data. The data analytical strategy is broadly based on Juggins (1992) analyses of the Scottish Baseline Survey epilithic diatom dataset.

#### 2 Methods

#### 2.1 Field sampling and sample coding

Epilithic diatom samples were obtained from each survey site on two occasions; April 1995 (spring sample) and July 1995 (summer sample). Stream samples were obtained by staff from the Catchment Research Group, University of Wales College of Cardiff, and lake samples obtained by staff from the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Bangor. Samples were coded in the field by date and NRA site code. These NRA site codes are incompatible with the Environmental Change Research Centre's (ECRC) AMPHORA database. Consequently in this report samples have been re-coded, and these ECRC codes are used throughout the report. Full site and sample details, with NRA and ECRC codes, are provided in appendix A.

Samples were taken according to the protocols of the Acid Waters Monitoring Network (see Patrick *et al.* 1991). At stream sites ten cobble sized stones were selected from pools at a depth below that of minimum flow. At lake sites ten cobble sized stones were selected from the permanently submerged littoral, with areas close to inflow or outflow streams being avoided. Epilithic diatoms were removed by brushing into a tray, decanting into plastic vials and were preserved with Lugols iodine.

#### 2.2 Diatom sample preparation and enumeration

On arrival at the laboratory all diatom samples were logged and site and sample details added to the AMPHORA database. Samples were prepared for diatom analysis using the standard Environmental Change Research Centre procedures and Quality Assurance protocols (Battarbee 1986, ECRC 1996). Diatoms were examined and enumerated by light microscopy at x1000. Three hundred valves were counted from each sample and identified to species level, and the abundance of each-taxon expressed as a percentage of the total count. Identification and nomenclature follows that developed by the Royal Society Surface Waters Acidification (SWAP) Programme (Flower & Kreiser 1988, Stevenson *et al.* 1991, Battarbee 1994). Consistent taxonomy was maintained between the diatom counts via the internal laboratory Analytical Quality Control (AQC) procedures detailed by Munro *et al.* (1990), including

exchange of slides and taxonomic harmonization for consistency with SWAP. Diatom solutions and slides are archived at the ECRC for inter-laboratory quality control. Additional sets of slides were prepared for archiving at the Natural History Museum and National Museum of Wales. The diatom data are stored in numerical format in the ECRC's AMPHORA database (Beare 1996 and see the ECRC's internet web page, http://www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/~abeare/Amphora.html).

Although the taxonomy used in this report follows SWAP (Stevenson *et al.* 1991), several undescribed taxa were identified which are not present in the SWAP database. These taxa have been assigned temporary species codes, and include *Achnanthes* [cf. *doenensis*], *Navicula* [cf. *subrotunda*], *Nitzschia* [cf. *palea*], *Achnanthes* [cf. *minima*] and *Achnanthes* [cf. *strenzkii*]. Additionally it was decided not to separate the taxa *Gomphonema angustatum* and *Gomphonema parvulum*. These taxa represent a complex of forms (see Krammer & Lange-Bertalot 1986), are difficult to separate in softwaters and have often been confused elsewhere (see Patrick et al. 1995). In this study they are combined into the taxon *Gomphonema* [angustatum/parvulum], a strategy consistent with the Acid Waters Monitoring Network (Patrick et al. 1995).

A total of 238 diatom samples were collected during the survey. Two stream sites (W071 and W072) were dry during the July 1995 sampling period and no diatom sample was obtained. Two of the remaining samples (W059A and W072A) were devoid of diatoms. Additionally, eight samples contained very low concentrations of diatoms, despite repeated preparation and concentration of sample material. In these cases it was not possible to identify 300 valves and a smaller count was obtained (W020A - 60 valves; W020B - 186 valves; W026B - 100 valves; W053A - 45 valves; W059B - 99 valves; W073A - 101 valves; W101A - 87 valves; W101B - 142 valves). Although total counts for these samples are low they have still been included in the data analyses. Problems with low concentrations in epilithic diatom samples are uncommon but can occur when sampling temporally dynamic streams. In high flow conditions care needs to be taken to sample diatoms above the level of minimum flow. It is possible that the problematic samples were taken from ephemerally flooded areas of the stream bed.

Diatom data is therefore available for 236 samples from 120 sites, and a total of 242 taxa were identified. The stream sample dataset contains 204 samples and 204 taxa, and the lake sample dataset contains 32 samples and 161 taxa. Full lists of taxa, taxon codes and authorities for the lake and stream samples are provided in appendices B and C.

#### 2.3 Data analysis

#### 2.3.1 Data manipulation

Diatom data were manipulated to calculate species abundance and occurrence using the program TRAN written by Steve Juggins. Sample diversity was calculated using Hill's  $N_2$  (Hill 1973). This provides a relatively simple diversity measure corresponding to the *effective* number of species present in a sample (see Ludwig & Reynolds 1988).

A series of multivariate data analyses were performed on the two diatom dataset to (I) explore the main gradients of floristic variation, (ii) identify environmental variables accounting for a significant proportion of the variance in diatom data, and (iii) produce a classification of diatom samples. The diatom samples contained many rare taxa occurring in very low abundances. In proportional data of this type, rare taxa provide little ecological information and consequently prior to ordination and

classification the datasets were screened by excluding taxa occurring in less than five samples which also achieved a maximum relative abundance of less than 2%. The screened stream dataset contains 108 taxa, and the screened lake dataset 81 taxa. Stream sample W071A was excluded from multivariate analysis of the stream diatom data, as environmental data (chemistry and catchment variables) were unavailable for this site. The multivariate analyses of stream diatom data are therefore based on 203 samples.

#### Table 1Environmental variables included in the data analyses

Water-chemistry variables:	Alkalinity (mg l <sup>-1</sup> CaCO <sub>3</sub> )
•	pH
	Hardness (mg l <sup>-1</sup> CaCO <sub>3</sub> )
	$H^{+}(mg l^{-1})$
	Conductivity ( $\mu$ S cm <sup>-1</sup> )
	Calcium $(Ca^{2+})$ (mg l <sup>-1</sup> )
	Magnesium $(Mg^{2+})$ $(mg l^{-1})$
	Sodium $(Na^+)$ (mg l <sup>-1</sup> )
	Potassium ( $K^+$ ) (mg l <sup>-1</sup> )
	Sulphate $(SO_4^{2*})$ (mg l <sup>-1</sup> )
	Total oxidised nitrogen (TON-N) (mg $l^{-1}$ )
	Total organic nitrogen (TORN-N) (mg l <sup>-1</sup> )
	Chloride (Cl') (mg $l^{-1}$ )
	Aluminium (Al) (mg $l^{-1}$ )
	$Zinc (Zn) (\mu g l^{-1})$
	Manganese (Mn) ( $\mu$ g l <sup>-1</sup> )
	Iron (Fe) (µg I)
	Dissolved organic carbon (DOC) (mg l <sup>-1</sup> )
C ( )	
Catchment variables:	Area $(km^2)$
	% conifer afforestation (% conifer)
	Average catchment gradient (Gradient)
	Site altitude (Alt)
	% Brown earth soils (%BrEarth)
	% Brown podzolic soils (%BrPodz)
	% Stagno-podzolic soils (%StagPod)
	% Gley soils (%Gley)
	% Peat soils (%Peat)
	Distance to west coast (ToWCoast)
River Habitat Survey variables:	Eight synthetic variables based on PCA analysis of Environment Agency River Habitat
	Surveys (RHS) of the stream sites
	PCA-spot (four axes)
	PCA-sweep (four axes)
Sampling period:	Spring samples (1/0)
. U	Summer samples (1/0)

Table 1 indicates the environmental variables available and included in the data analyses. Spot water

chemistry was used in the analyses, with water chemistry samples taken on 10/11 April 1995 used for the spring diatom samples (30 March - 27 April 1995) and water chemistry taken on 10/11 July 1995 used for the summer diatom samples (21 June - 21 July 1995). Spot water chemistry samples were used in preference to mean or seasonal data due to the rapid turnover rates of epilithic diatom communities with changing environmental conditions reported in the literature (e.g. Cox 1990a, 1990b, Moore 1977). However, exploratory analyses of the diatom data against mean annual chemistry revealed very similar overall results to the analyses based on the spot chemistry samples. Only the latter are presented in this report.

Prior to the multivariate analyses environmental varaibles were transformed as appropriate to normalize distributions. The following variables were transformed by log (x+1): %conifer, %BrEarth, % BrPodz, %StagPod, %Gley, %Peat, H, alkalinity, hardness, conductivity, Cl, SO<sub>4</sub>, Na, K, Mg, Ca, Al, Zn, Mn, Fe, TON-N, TORN-N, DOC. The variables Area and ToWCoast were normalised by log transformation, and the River Habitat Survey PCA variables, pH, altitude and sampling period variables were not transformed as their distributions were approximately normal.

#### 2.3.2 Ordination

Detrended correspondence analysis (DCA) (Hill & Gauch 1980) was used to identify the main patterns of floristic variation in the diatom data. DCA is an indirect gradient technique which assumes a unimodal response of species to their environment (ter Braak & Prentice 1988), and provides a robust ordination technique for data that have a large number of taxa and many zero values. DCA with detrending by polynomials was undertaken on the diatom data in the stream and lake sample datasets using CANOCO version 3.10 (ter Braak 1990a, 1990b). The DCA can be displayed as species and sample plots, in which the samples that lie close to the point of a species are likely to have a high abundance of that species and the probability of occurrence of a species declines with distance from its location on the plot.

The relationship between diatom data and environmental variables in both datasets was explored using canonical correspondence analysis (CCA) (ter Braak 1986, 1987). CCA is a multivariate direct gradient analysis technique, in which ordination axes are constrained to be linear combinations of environmental variables. CCA can therefore be used to identify the environmental variables which directly account for variance in the diatom data. CCA was implemented on the diatom data in the stream and lake datasets using CANOCO version 3.10 (ter Braak 1990a, 1990b). An additional feature of CANOCO 3.10 is the ability to identify the minimal number of explanatory environmental variables to be included in the ordination which explain a statistically significant proportion of the variance in diatom data. This is implemented through CANOCO's forward selection procedure, analogous to stepwise multiple regression (ter Braak 1990b), with Monte Carlo permutation tests (499 unrestricted permutations) to test the significance of the selected variables. In CCA of the lake and stream diatom datasets, forward selection was used to identify subsets of environmental variables that independently explained significant ( $P \le 0.05$ ) amounts of variation. Probability levels were adjusted for Bonferroni inequality (Manly 1991).

In the resulting CCA ordination diagrams, arrows represent environmental variables and point in the direction of maximum change. The length of the arrows represents the magnitude of change in that direction. Environmental variables with long arrows are more strongly correlated with the ordination axes, and are also more closely related to patterns of floristic variation, than variables with short arrows

(ter Braak 1986). Weighted intra-set correlation coefficients indicate the relative contribution of environmental variables in determining the axes derived from ordination of the species data.

Analysis of the stream diatom data also included a series of partial CCAs (ter Braak 1986) based on three types of explanatory variables; water chemistry, catchment variables and sampling period. The variance in the diatom data was partitioned into components representing (I) the unique contribution of the three types of environmental variable; (ii) the interaction or conditional effects between the variable types; and (iii) unexplained variance (Borcard *et al.* 1992). This approach allowed the relative influence and interactions of chemistry, catchment factors and sampling period on the diatom data to be evaluated (e.g. Jones & Juggins 1995, Qinghong & Bråkenhielm 1995).

Diatom species data were transformed by square root transformation prior to all ordination analyses in order to stabilize variance, and rare species were downweighted (ter Braak 1990a). Environmental variables were transformed as outlined above. Ordination diagrams were prepared using the program CALIBRATE (Juggins & ter Braak 1992).

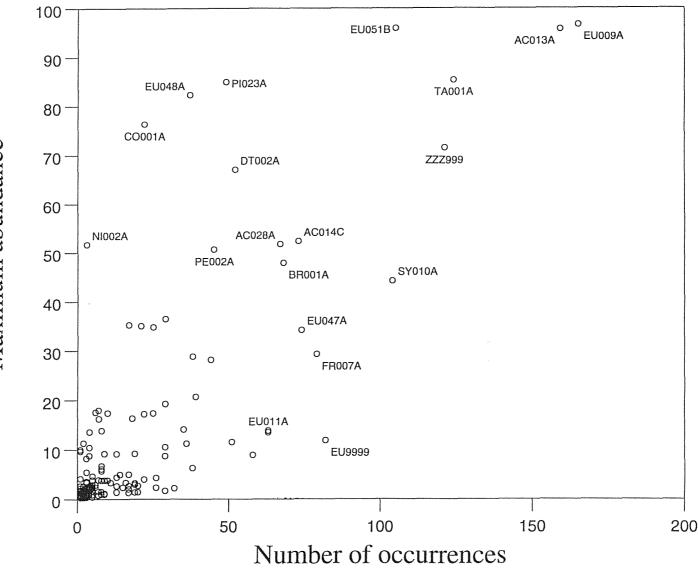
#### 2.3.3 Sample classification

Diatom samples from the stream and lake datasets were classified into sample groups by two-way indicator species analysis of the diatom percentage data using the program COINSPAN (Carleton *et al.* 1996a). COINSPAN is an extension of the commonly used classification technique TWINSPAN (Hill 1979). In a COINSPAN analysis the classification is constrained by a set of supplied environmental variables, and the resulting sample groups can be interpreted directly in terms of explanatory factors. A further advantage of the technique is that with noisy data (e.g. epilithic diatom data) COINSPAN can potentially provide a more stable and interpretable classification than produced by TWINSPAN analysis (see Carleton *et al.* 1996b). COINSPAN analysis was performed on the stream and lake datasets using the transformed environmental variables forward selected during canonical correspondence analysis.

#### 3 Stream samples

#### 3.1 Diatom occurrence and abundance

Figure 1 shows the relationship between diatom occurrence and maximum abundance in the stream samples. The majority of taxa plot in the lower left corner and occur in low abundance in relatively few samples. However, several taxa occur in a large number of the samples and can dominate the assemblages. These taxa include *Eunotia exigua, Achnanthes minutissima, Tabellaria flocculosa, Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia* and *Gomphonema* [*angustatum/parvulum*]. The dataset also includes taxa which can be abundant, but in relatively few samples (e.g. *Cocconeis placentula, Eunotia naegelii* and *Pinnularia irrorata*) and less abundant taxa which are nevertheless common (e.g. *Eunotia incisa, Synedra minuscula* and *Fragilaria vaucheriae*). The number and distribution of taxa within the samples can be summarised using a measure of sample diversity (see Juggins 1992). Table 2 indicates that the majority of samples have very low diversity, with c.77% of the samples having N<sub>2</sub> values < 4. Additionally 33% of the samples have N<sub>2</sub> values < 2 and can be considered species poor. These findings reflect Juggins (1992) study of diatoms in Scottish streams, and a general tendency for epilithon diatom samples in acid streams to be dominated by a very few abundant taxa.



Maximum abundance

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Table 2	Frequency distribution	of $N_2$ sam	ple div	ersity fo	or strea	m samp	oles
N <sub>2</sub> diversity		0-2	2-4	4-6	6-8	8-10	>10
No. of sample	25	68	88	30	9	5	3

#### **3.2** Detrended correspondence analysis (DCA)

The main patterns of floristic variation in the stream diatom dataset were analysed using DCA. In the analysis detrending was by third order polynomials (ter Braak 1990b), species data were transformed by square root transformation, and rare species were downweighted (ter Braak 1990a).

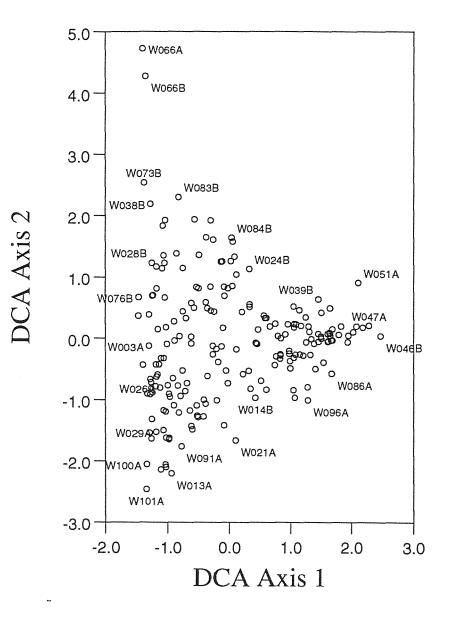
The DCA axes do not capture a large proportion of the variance in the species data (Table 3), and the first two axes account for 20% of the cumulative variance in diatom data. This relatively low percentage of variance explained is typical of noisy data sets such as this, which contain a large number of samples, taxa and zero values (e.g. Stevenson *et al.* 1991). As DCA and CCA are data reduction techniques (Hill & Gauch 1980, ter Braak 1986), the amount of variance explained is not as important as the significance of the ordination axes and the ecological patterns revealed by the analyses (ter Braak 1988, Pienitz *et al.* 1995). DCA analyses effectively identify coherent ecological signals on the first few ordination axes, with noise in the data represented on latter axes (see Hill & Gauch 1980).

The DCA shows one dominant axis of variation ( $\lambda_1 = 0.523$ ) which explains 13.2% of the variation in the floristic data (Table 3). This first DCA axis is strongly correlated with variables reflecting acid-base status, including alkalinity (r = 0.718), pH (r = 0.676), hardness (r = 0.662), calcium (r = 0.656) and aluminium (r = -0.450), and represents a gradient from samples with low pH/alkalinity (e.g. W003A, W028B, W029A) to samples with high pH/alkalinity (e.g. W051A, W046B, W086A) (Figure 2). Taxa with high axis 1 scores include *Achnanthes minutissima*, *Cocconeis placentula*, *Amphora pediculus* and *Achnanthes lanceolata*, all species known to occur in relatively high pH surface waters (Figure 3). Conversely, taxa with low axis 1 scores include acidophilous (i.e. pH preference < 7) to acidobiontic (i.e. pH preference < 5) taxa such as *Eunotia exigua*, *Eunotia rhomboidea*, *Peronia fibula* and *Navicula leptostriata*.

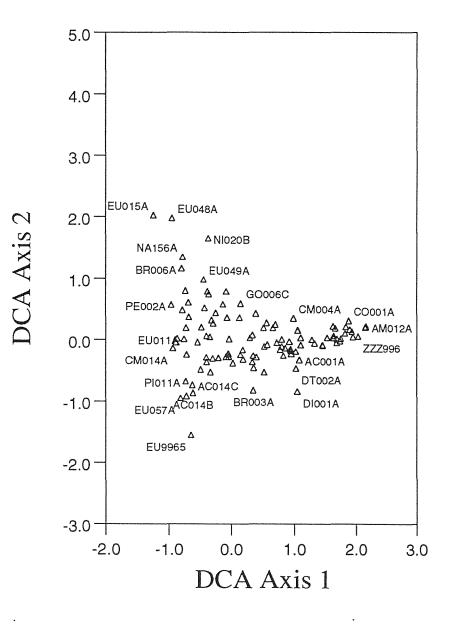
The second DCA axis explains a smaller fraction of the variance ( $\lambda_2 = 0.256$ ), and represents a gradation within sites with low axis 1 scores. Sites with high axis 2 scores include W066A, W028B and W073A, and are associated with taxa such as *Tabellaria flocculosa*, *Eunotia denticulata*, *Eunotia naegelii* and *Brachysira brebissonii* (Figures 2 and 3). Sites with low scores on this axis are associated with taxa such as *Achnanthes austriaca* var. *helvetica* and *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia*, and include W110A, W013A and W091A. The axis is correlated with a variety of environmental variables (see Table 3), most notably %Conifer (r = -0.430), Fe (r = 0.319) and Gradient (r = 0.318).

Later axes are less important in explaining variance in the diatom data ( $\lambda_3 = 0.182$ ,  $\lambda_4 = 0.139$ ). DCA axis 3 accounts for 4.6% of the variance, and is most strongly correlated with gradient (r = 0.300) and Fe (r = -0.308). *Peronia fibula* has a high score on DCA axis 3, and *Pinnularia irrorata* 

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a low score on this axis. The fourth axis accounts for 3.5% of the variance; taxa with high scores include Amphora pediculus and Gomphonema intricatum, and taxa with low scores include Hannea arcus and Diatoma hyemale. The axis is correlated with TON-N (r = 0.173), Mg (r = 0.165) and %Conifer (r = 0.159) (Table 3).

enviro		nd the ordina	tion axis. On	ly statistically significant variables
	DCA axis 1	DCA axis 2	DCA axis 3	DCA axis 4
Eigenvalue	0.523	0.256	0.182	0.139
Variance explained	13.2 %	6.4 %	4.6 %	3.5 %
pH	r=0.676	-	-	-
Alkalinity	r=0.719	r=0.155	-	-
Conductivity	r=0.607	-	-	-
Hardness	r=0.662	-	-	-
Ca	r=0.656	-	r=0,153	-
Mg	r=0.560	-	-	r=0.165
Na	r=0.194	r=-0.267	-	_
Al	r=-0.450	r=-0.220	-	-
Mn	r=-0.597	-	r=-0.137	-
Fe	r=-0.345	r=0.319	r=-0.308	-
TON-N	r=0.433	r=-0.259	r=0.243	r=0.173
%Conifer	r=-0.159	r=-0.430		r=0.159
Gradient		r=-0.318	r=0.300	-
Altitude	r=-0.189	r=0.233	r=-0.231	r=-0.159
%BrEarth	r=0.414		-	_
%BrPodz	-	r=-0.259	r=0.212	-
%StagPod		r=-0.138	-	-
Spring/Summer	-	r=0.241	-	-

Table 3	DCA results for the 203 stream samples, where r is the correlation between
	environmental variables and the ordination axis. Only statistically significant
	values ( $p \le 0.05$ ) are shown for selected environmental variables

#### 3.3 Canonical correspondence analysis (CCA)

CCA was used to directly explore the relationships between the stream diatom assemblages and environmental variables. The results of forward selection of environmental variables for CCA are shown in Table 4. The analysis identified a minimal subset of 13 environmental variables that independently explained significant ( $P \le 0.05$ ) proportions of the variance in the diatom species data. Alkalinity and Fe represent 47% of the total variance explained by the 13 environmental subset, indicating their importance as explanatory variables. Although the first environmental variable selected in the procedure was alkalinity. Table 4 indicates that prior to forward selection several other variables indicative of acidbase status (e.g. pH, hardness, calcium) could also account for relatively large fractions of the variance. Due to the strong co-variance with alkalinity these variables were not subsequently also selected in the

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Table 4	selection, and	tentially explained by selected env d variance explained with the add ard selection in CCA of stream	lition of each environme		
Variable Before forward Added with					

Variable	Before forward selection	Added with selection	
na segu parte e angene e constant que forma de analisma de la constant de la constant de la constant de la cons			<u> </u>
Alkalinity	0.30	0.30	
Fe	0.17	0.15	
Mn	0.22	0.06	
Mg	0.21	0.06	
%BrEarth	0.16	0.06	
%StagPod	0.05	0.05	
%Conifer	0.08	0.05	
Na	0.07	0.05	
Spring/Summer	0.05	0.04	
%BrPodz	0.06	0.04	
Gradient	0.09	0.04	
Altitude	0.08	0.04	
TON-N	0.16	0.03	
Calcium	0.28		
Hardness	0.28		•
pН	0.26		•
Conductivity	0.25		
Aluminium	0.13		
DOC	0.10		
	Sum of variance	0.96	

CCA was performed on the stream diatom dataset using the 13 forward selected environmental variables. The CCA (Table 5) shows one dominant axis of variation ( $\lambda_1 = 0.386$ ) explaining 9.7% of the variance in the diatom data, and a second, smaller axis ( $\lambda_2 = 0.173$ ) explaining a further 4.4% of the floristic variation. These axes are both significant on the basis of Monte Carlo permutation tests (P <0.01; 499 permutations). CCA axis 1 shows a strong correlation with alkalinity (r = 0.751), Mg (r =0.609) and Mn (r = -0.620), and separates low alkalinity samples with high levels of Mn from higher alkalinity samples with high levels of Mg and TON-N and relatively high proportions of brown earth soils in the catchment. Samples with high axis 1 scores include W065B, W048B and W046A (Figure 4), and are associated with circumneutral taxa such as Cymbella laevis, Amphora pediculus, Achnanthes minutissima, Fragilaria vaucheriae and Cocconeis placentula (Figure 5). Samples with low axis 1 scores include W026B, W035B and W017B, and are associated with acidophilous to

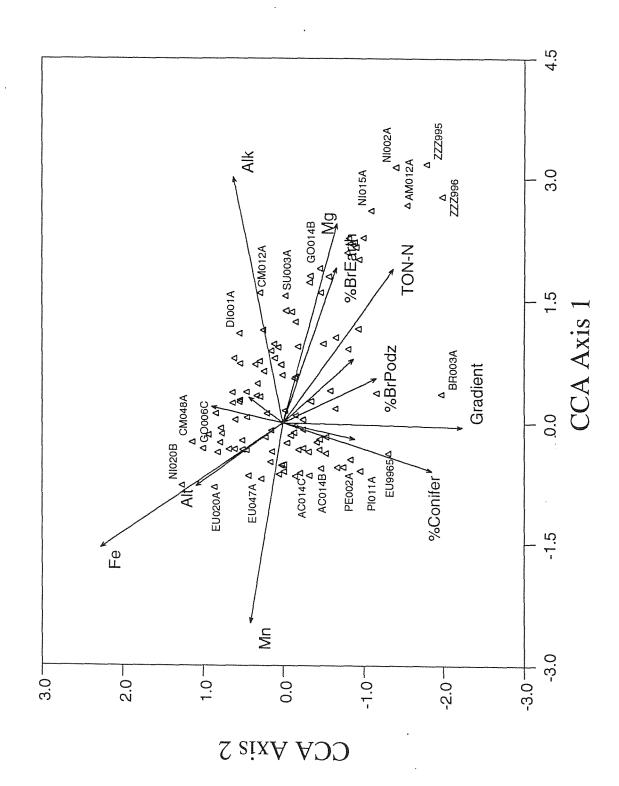
3.0 W045A 0 W045B Fe W035A 0 W064A 0 2.0 O O W065A 0 W035B 00 W064B 0 0 Ó 1.0 W025B 0 CCA Axis 2 W065B 0 0 0 0<sup>0</sup>0 00 00 Ro °°° Alk ,´°<sub>©</sub>0 0 Mn o W063B 00 в W026A 000 0.0-0 ഹ്റ о 0 W026B 0 O W088A 0 20° Mд C О %BrEarth C 0 0 W017B 000 8 0 8 0 -1.0 œ OW051B 0 %BrPodz o 00 8 W061A OW048B TON-N o 0 0 ବ ୫ . W047A о 0 %Conifer o 0 0 W046B 0 -2.0-0 W060A о W048A W027A O W014A Gradient о W046A -3.0 ----3.0 -1.5 0.0 1.5 3.0 4.5 CCA Axis 1

Figure 4 CCA sample-environmental variable biplot for stream samples



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acidobiontic taxa such as *Eunotia incisa*, *Eunotia exigua*, *Achnanthes austriaca* var. *helvetica* and *Peronia fibula*. The second axis is most strongly correlated with Fe (r = 0.528), gradient (r = -0.518) and %conifer (r = -0.430). Samples with low axis 2 scores (e.g. W060A and W014A) are associated with catchments with large gradients and % conifer cover, with taxa such as *Brachysira serians*, *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia* and *Eunotia* [sp.10 (*minima*)] common. Samples with high axis 1 scores are associated with high concentrations of Fe in stream waters, and with taxa such as *Cymbella lunata* and *Eunotia meisteri*.

Although later axes in the CCA are less important ( $\lambda_3 = 0.107$ ,  $\lambda_4 = 0.06$ ), they are still statistically significant on the basis of Monte Carlo permutation tests (P < 0.01; 499 permutations). The third axis is most strongly correlated with altitude (r = 0.383), %BrEarth (r = 0.351) and %StagPod (r = -0.327), and the fourth axis is most strongly correlated with %StagPod (r = -0.341).

Table 5	CCA results for the 203 stream samples, where r is the correlation between
	environmental variables and the ordination axis. Only statistically significant
	values ( $p \le 0.05$ ) are shown for the forward selected environmental variables

	CCA axis 1	CCA axis 2	CCA axis 3	CCA axis 4
Eigenvalue	0.386	0.173	0.107	0.060
Variance explained	9.7 %	4.4 %	2.7 %	1.5 %
Alkalinity	r=0.751	r=0.143	r=0.191	-
Mg	r=0.609	r=-0.155	r=0.165	-
Na	r=0.198	r=-0.203	r=-0.208	-
Mn	r=-0.602		r=0.217	-
Fe	r=-0.387	r=0.528	r=0.252	-
TON-N	r=0.470	r=-0.318	-	-
%Conifer	r=-0.148	r=-0.430	-	r=-0.257
Gradient	-	r=-0.518	-	-
Altitude	r=-0.196	r=0.252	r=0.383	-
%BrEarth	r=0.474	r=-0.153	r=0.351	-
%BrPodz	r=0.139	r=-0.269	r=-0.152	-
%StagPod	-	-	r=-0.327	r=-0.341
Spring/Summer		r=0.207	unia Katika ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang an	r=0.164

#### 3.4 Variance partitioning

Table 6 summarizes the results of the partial CCAs, and indicates how the variance in diatom data in the stream sample dataset is partitioned into components representing the unique contribution of different variable types and interactions between variable types. The results emphasise the importance of chemistry in explaining variation in the diatom data. Chemistry makes an independent contribution of 10.4%, and there is also a large interactive component (5.9%) between the chemistry and catchment

variables, reflecting co-variance between important chemical and catchment variables. The catchment variables alone (i.e. independent of chemistry) also explain a significant fraction (6.7%) of the variance in diatom data. The only other significant contribution is by sampling period alone, which is significant despite explaining a relatively small amount of the total variance (1.1%).

The large fraction of unexplained variation is typical for ecological analyses of this type, and is comparable to the findings of other multivariate analyses of diatom-environment relationships (e.g. Stevenson *et al.* 1991, Pienitz *et al.* 1995) and invertebrate-environment relationships (e.g. Gower *et al.* 1994). The model fit is for the square root percentage data for each of the 204 diatom taxa in each of the 203 samples, and is therefore a rather strict test of the relationships with the environmental variables. As the data include many rare taxa occurring in low abundances it is inherently noisy, and this noise will be partly responsible for the unexplained variation. However, the Monte Carlo permutation in the diatom assemblages not explained by the measured environmental variables. This variation may be due to aspects of streamwater flow not well represented in the dataset (e.g. episodicity of storm events) or to other environmental factors important to diatom assemblages such as light and temperature conditions.

Table 6	Results of partitioning the variance in the stream diatom data. Significance values
	were determined by Monte Carlo permutation tests ( $P \le 0.05$ ; 499 permutations)

Chemical variables:	Alkalinity, Fe, Mn, Mg, Na, TON-N		
Catchment variables:	%BrEarth, %StagPod, %Conifer, %BrP	odz, Gradient, Alt	
Sampling period variable:	Spring/Summer		
Source of variation		Percentage	Significance
Unexplained variation		75.80	0.01
Explained by chemistry indepen	ndent of other variables	10.43	0.01
Explained by catchment variable	les independent of other variables	6.69	0.01
Explained by sampling period i	ndependent of other variables	1.06	0.01
Explained by co-variance betwe	een chemistry and catchment variables	5.86	0.01
Explained by co-variance betwee variables	een chemistry and sampling period	0.15	ns
Explained by co-variance betw variables	een catchment and sampling period	0.00	ns
Explained by co-variance betw period variables	een chemistry, catchment and sampling	0.00	ns

#### 3.5 COINSPAN sample classification

The COINSPAN classification for the stream samples is shown in Figure 6, which indicates the mean abundance of common taxa in each group. Seven groups of samples were defined at three levels of division, and 10 subgroups defined at four levels of division. The first division, strongly associated with alkalinity, recognises the acidophilous/acidobiontic *Eunotia exigua*, *E. incisa* and *E. rhomboidea* as negative indicators (i.e. preferential species for Groups 1-4) and the circumneutral *Achmanthes minutissima*, *Fragilaria vaucheriae* and *Cymbella minuta* as positive indicators (i.e. preferential to Groups 5-7). The second division includes *Eunotia vanheurckii* as a negative indicator and *Tabellaria flocculosa*, *Gomphonema* [*angustatum/parvulum*] and *Synedra miniscula* as positive indicators, and separates Groups 1 and 2 from Groups 3 and 4. The division is associated with a gradient of Fe, with samples in Groups 1 and 2 having higher Fe concentrations. The third dichotomy divides Groups 5 and 6 from Group 7, with *Cocconeis placentula*, *Amphora pediculus* and *Cymbella sinuata* being positive

## Table 7Mean values of forward selected environmental variables in the stream sample<br/>COINSPAN groups. Figure in parentheses represent standard deviations.

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COINSPAN group	1	<u>2a</u>	<u>2b</u>	<u>3a</u>	3b	4	<u>5a</u>	<u>5b</u>	6	7
no. of samples	40	27	12	2	12	35	15	34	16	10
Alkalimity	1.83	2.74	4.50	0	5.25	5.22	4.67	12.26	32.07	69.7
	(3.54)	(4.09)	(8.65)	(-)	(6.41)	(3.48)	(2.69)	(17.76)	(23.67)	(18.2)
Na	5.04	5.87	4.75	4.40	5.07	4.43	5.66	5.41	5.71	4.99
	(0.94)	(1.31)	(1.36)	(-)	(1.70)	(0.63)	(0.91)	(1.10)	(1.49)	(0.75)
Mg	1.05	1.37	1.26	0.72	1.27	1.15	1.39	1.62	2.27	3.96
	(0.38)	(0.48)	(0.78)	(-)	(0.77)	(0.39)	(0.37)	(0.62)	(0.76)	(2.11)
Mn	68.4 (47.8)	31.5 (23.7)	21.0 (22.1)	35.9 (-)	178.5 (217)	53.6 (111)	6.33 (8.5)	13.33 (19.9)	4.55 (3.71)	1 (-)
Fe	133	27	89	36	1167	384	20	89	31	6
	(163)	(29)	(163)	(-)	(1737)	(576)	(34)	(113)	(63)	(7)
TON-N	0.14	0.40	0.19	0.05	0.06	0.10	0.29	0.39	0.56	0.61
	(0.11)	(0.27)	(0.15)	(-)	(0.04)	(0.12)	(0.27)	(0.30)	(0.45)	(0.42)
%Conifer	38.4	60.2	26.4	0	1.7	8.9	16.9	28.0	9.5	27.1
	(31.4)	(25.8)	(28.2)	(-)	(3.8)	(15.1)	(28.5)	(29.2)	(17.9)	(38.6)
Gradient	9.7	12.6	12.3	6.5	7.0	8.8	9.5	9.7	9.7	11.6
	(3.1)	(3.7)	(5.7)	(-)	(4.7)	(2.2)	(4.7)	(3.5)	(3.7)	(3.7)
Altitude	281	192	266	190	332	276	200	208	256	258
	(89)	(57)	(82)	(-)	(86)	(58)	(61)	(61)	(62)	(76)
%BrEarth	0	0.17	0	0	0	0.16	0.65	0.22	4.92	22.35
	(0)	(0.87)	(0)	(-)	(0)	(0.58)	(1.73)	(0.62)	(10.3)	(21.7)
%BrPodz	7.4	35.9	15.3	0	7.4	14.0	23.9	18.8	17.2	39.2
	(11.3)	(22.4)	(21.8)	(-)	(11.0)	(14.2)	(18.8)	(21.3)	(28.2)	(39.8)
%StagPodz	51.5	39.1	30.2	77.5	29.7	46.3	62.9	35.9	44.9	24.7
	(30.4)	(26.8)	(36.5)	(-)	(22.7)	(27.0)	(18.8)	(17.7)	(28.3)	(22.3)
Spring sample	0.58	0.57	0.58	0.5	0.08	0.54	0.66	0.26	0.44	0.60
Summer sample	0.42	0.43	0.52	0.5	0.92	0.51	0.33	0.74	0.56	0.40

Figure 6 COINSPAN classification of stream samples, showing mean abundance of common taxa in each group

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	1	2a	 2b			4	5a	[  5b	6	7
Eunotia exigua	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0	0	+	+
Achnanthes austriaca var. helvetica	Ο	0			+	0	+	+	+	
Eunotia vanheurckii var. intermedia	0	$\bigcirc$	0	+	0	+	0	0		
Peronia fibula	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+		
Eunotia incisa	0	0	Ο	0	Ο	+		+		5 * •
Eunotia naegelii	+	+	0	$\bigcirc$	0	+				÷
Tabellaria flocculosa	0	+	Ο	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0	+	0	+	+
Brachysira vitrea	+	+	0	+	Ο	Ο	+	+	+	+
Synedra miniscula	+	+	+		Ο	Õ	0	Ο	0	+
Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum	n] +	0	+		0	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	Ο
Achnanthes saxonica	+	+	+		+	0	Q	0	0	~
Achnanthes minutissima	0	Ο	+		Ο	$\bigcirc$	0	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
Fragilaria vaucheriae	0	+			+	+	Õ	Ο		+
Diatoma hyemale	0	+			+	+	0	0	+	+
Cymbella sinuata							+	+	+	0
Cocconeis placentula					+		+	+	+	$\odot$
+ 0-1 O 1-5 O 5-1	%									•

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preferentials (group 7), and Achnanthes minutissima, Fragilaria vaucheriae and Synedra miniscula associated with the negative side of the division (Groups 5 and 6).

At the third level, division 4 has *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia* and *Peronia fibula* as positive indicators (Group 2). This division is associated with catchment gradient, with samples in Group 2 having higher catchment gradients than samples in Group 1. Group 2 is further subdivided into subgroups 2a and 2b by the positive indicators *Peronia fibula* and *Tabellaria flocculosa* (preferential to subgroup 2b). Division 5 separates Groups 3 and 4, with *Eunotia incisa* and *Peronia fibula* as negative preferentials (Group 3) and *Achnanthes saxonica* and *Achnanthes minutissima* as positive preferentials (Group 4). At a lower level Group 3 is divided by the negative preferential *Eunotia naegelii* (preferential to subgroup 3a).

Division 6 divides Groups 5 and 6 on the basis of the negative preferentials *Eunotia exigua*, *Achnanthes saxonica*, *Diatoma hyemale* and *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia* (Group 5). Group 5 is further divided by the indicator taxa *Achnanthes saxonica* and *Diatoma hyemale* (preferential to subgroup 5a) and *Tabellaria flocculosa* (preferential to subgroup 5b).

Table 7 shows mean values of the forward selected environmental variables in the COINSPAN groups, and Figure 7 presents a boxplot of COINSPAN groups against  $N_2$  sample diversity.

The stream sample COINSPAN groups can be summarised according to their species composition and environmental characteristics.

#### COINSPAN Group 1 Eunotia exigua/Achnanthes austriaca var. helvetica

Low diversity samples dominated (> 50% abundance) by *Eunotia exigua*, but characterised by high abundances of *Achananthes austriaca* var. *helvetica*. Other taxa occurring in the samples include *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia*, *Tabellaria flocculosa* and *Eunotia incisa*. These species are indicative of acidophilous to acidobiontic conditions. The samples are associated with very low alkalinity, elevated levels of Mn and Fe and relatively high catchment altitudes (Table 7).

#### COINSPAN Group 2a Eunotia vanheurckii var. intermedia/Eunotia exigua

The samples in this subgroup are dominated by *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia* (abundance generally > 40%) with *Eunotia exigua* also abundant. *Achnanthes minutissima* is present in many of the samples. The samples are associated with low alkalinity, high TON-N streams in catchments with large gradients and % conifer cover.

#### COINSPAN Group 2b Eunotia exigua/Peronia fibula

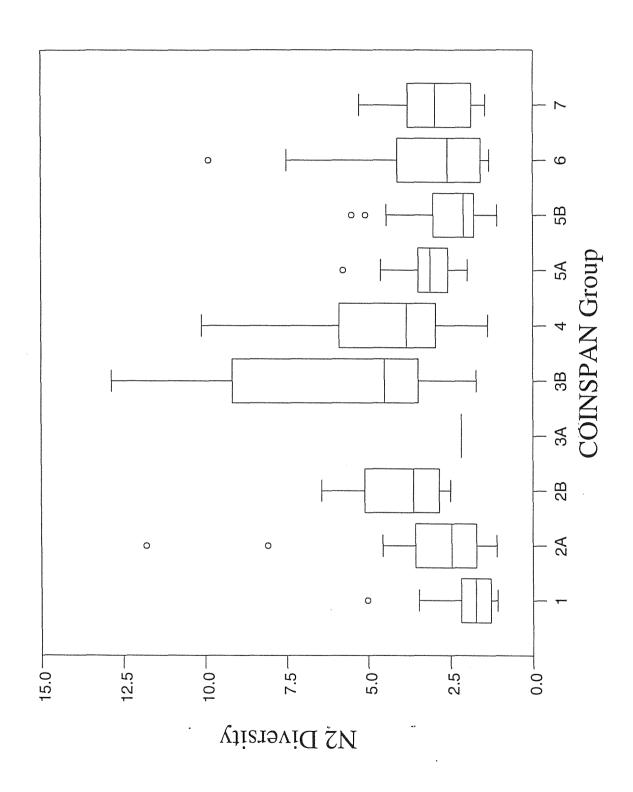
Characterised by co-dominance of *Eunotia exigua* and *Peronia fibula*. *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia*, *Tabellaria flocculosa* and *Eunotia incisa* are also common in many of the samples. The species present in the samples are all acidophilous to acidobiontic. The samples are associated with relatively low, but variable alkalinity and high catchment gradients.

Figure 7 Boxplot of distribution of  $N_2$  sample diversity across the stream sample COINSPAN groups

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### COINSPAN Group 3a Eunotia naegelii/Tabellaria flocculosa

This subgroup, containing only two samples, is characterised by the dominance (> 50%) of *Eunotia naegelii*, a species achieving only low abundance (< 5%) in other samples. The two samples in the subgroup both come from the same site (W066), which has very low measured alkalinity.

#### COINSPAN Group 3b Eunotia exigua/Tabellaria flocculosa

Characterised by co-dominance of *Eunotia exigua* and *Tabellaria flocculosa*. Several other taxa can also occur in high abundances, including *Brachysira vitrea*, *Eunotia incisa* and *Synedra miniscula*. The samples have relatively high diversity, and come from high altitude, low gradient streams with intermediate alkalinity levels. Some of the samples have exceptionally high levels of stream-water Fe and Mn. The majority of the samples (92%) were taken during the summer samping period.

#### COINSPAN Group 4 Eunotia exigua/Tabellaria flocculosa/Gomphonema [angustatum/ parvulum]/Achnanthes minutissima

These samples have high  $N_2$  diversity, and are characterised by assemblages including *Eunotia exigua*, *Tabellaria flocculosa*, *Gomphonema* [angustatum/parvulum] and Achnanthes minutissima. Other taxa common in the samples include Synedra miniscula, Brachysira vitrea and Achnanthes saxonica. These species range between acidobiontic/acidophilous forms to more circumneutral taxa. The samples are associated with intermediate alkalinity, elevated (but variable) Mn and Fe, and relatively low catchment gradients.

#### COINSPAN Group 5a Achnanthes minutissima/Diatoma hyemale

Generally dominated by Achnanthes minutissima, but characterised by high abundances of Diatoma hyemale. Fragilaria vaucheriae, Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum] and Achnanthes saxonica are also common. The taxa present in these samples are generally indicative of circumneutral conditions. The samples are associated with intermediate alkalinity, high TON-N, low altitude sites with catchment soils dominated by Stagno-podzols. The majority of the samples (66%) were taken during the spring sampling period.

### COINSPAN Group 5b Achnanthes minutissima

The samples are characterised by low diversity and the dominance (>50%) of Achnanthes minutissima, with the occasional presence of more acidophilous taxa. Synedra miniscula and Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum] are also usually present but in relatively low abundance. Other taxa occasionally present include Fragilaria vaucheriae and Achnanthes saxonica, with Eunotia exigua and Tabellaria flocculosa occurring in very low abundances. The samples have low N<sub>2</sub> diversity, and are associated with high stream-water alkalinity. The majority of the samples (74%) were taken during the summer sampling period.

### **COINSPAN Group 6** Achnanthes minutissima/Gomphonema angustatum/parvulum]

These samples are dominated by *Achnanthes minutissima*, with *Gomphonema* [angustatum/ parvulum] common. *Cymbella minuta* and *Fragilaria vaucheriae* occur in low abundance in many of the samples. The samples are associated with very high stream-water alkalinity and TON-N.

### COINSPAN Group 7 Achnanthes minutissima/Cocconeis placentula

Dominated by *Achnanthes minutissima* and characterised by the presence of *Cocconeis placentula*. Other species indicative of high alkalinity surface waters are also present, including *Amphora pediculus* 

and *Cymbella sinuata*. The samples are associated with extremely high alkalinity values, high streamwater TON-N, and catchments with brown earth soils.

#### 3.6 Discussion

The stream samples in general have low species diversity, and many are dominated by a few abundant taxa. This is an established characteristic of epilithic diatom samples from low pH/alkalinity upland streams (e.g. Juggins 1992, Round 1993). In the current dataset some of the samples are dominated by a single taxon (e.g.  $N_2$  diversity < 2) and can be considered species poor. In particular, the samples in COINSPAN Group 1 are dominated by Eunotia exigua, and samples in COINSPAN Group 5b by Achnanthes minutissima. These two taxa are common across the entire sample dataset (see Figure 6), and their importance in stream diatom assemblages is apparent from many other studies (e.g. Leclercq 1977, Round 1991, Allott & Juggins 1991, Juggins 1992). In general, Eunotia exigua is associated with acidic streams (pH  $\leq$  5.5), whereas Acharanthes minutissima is characteristic of more circumneutral conditions. The only other taxon which completely dominates samples in the dataset are *Eunotia* naegelii (which dominates the two samples in COINSPAN Group 3a), and Pinnularia irrorata. This latter taxon dominates sample W071A, which was taken from an ephemeral forest ditch and was excluded from the main data analyses. *Pinnularia irrorata* is often associated with ephemeral, highly acidic surface waters such as moorland pools. Several other taxa are common, but not dominant across the dataset. These include the acidophilous Eunotia vanheurckii var. intermedia, Peronia fibula, and Tabellaria flocculosa, the acidophilous-circumneutral Brachysira vitrea, and the circumneutral Synedra miniscula, Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum] and Fragilaria vaucheriae.

The common taxa within the present dataset have also commonly been recorded in other studies of epilithic diatoms in Wales (e.g. Allott & Juggins 1991, Round 1991). Round (1993) has developed a general classification scheme for epilithic diatoms in British rivers, including those in Wales. The assemblages in the current study generally correspond to Round's Zone 1 assemblages, characteristic of low pH waters in the uppermost reaches of rivers and dominated by Eunotia exigua and Achnanthes minutissima. However, the samples in COINSPAN Group 7, characterised by the dominance of Achnanthes minutissima but with Cocconeis placentula, Amphora pediculus and Cymbella sinuata common, correspond to Round's Zone 3 which is indicative of nutrient rich waters with higher alkalinity  $(5-25 \text{ mg } l^{-1} \text{ CaCO}_3)$ . Allott and Juggins (1991) studied epilithic diatoms in 30 Welsh lakes and streams. Higher pH (6 - 6.5) stream sites were dominated by Achnanthes minutissima, with Synedra miniscula also common. Streams with pH within the range 5 - 6 were characterised by Tabellaria flocculosa and Peronia fibula. Round (1991) has also studied the epilithic diatom assemblages of streams flowing into Llyn Brianne, and identified four associations of diatoms. The first, characterised by Eunotia exigua and Achnanthes marginulata is not represented in the current study. The second of Round's (1991) associations, Achnanthes minutissima/Cymbella minuta/Diatoma mesodon, is reflected in some of the samples within COINSPAN group 5a. Round's third association contains Eunotia vanheurckii (possibly synonymous with Eunotia vanheurckii var. intermedia in this study) and Eunotia exigua, and matches the samples in COINSPAN Group 2a. The final association is characterised by Eunotia exigua with Tabellaria flocculosa and Eunotia rhomboidea also common, a combination of taxa found in some of the samples with COINSPAN Group 3a. The current study contains many more samples than have previously been studied from upland Welsh streams, and unsurprisingly contains a greater variety of assemblage types as reflected in the COINSPAN groups.

Some of the assemblages identified in the present study also correspond to those found in the 11 streams included in the Acid Waters Monitoring Network (AWMN) (Patrick et al. 1991, Patrick et al. 1995). All of the AWMN stream diatom assemblages contain taxa also apparent in the current dataset, and some of the assemblages correspond closely to the COINSPAN Groups defined in this study. For example, three of the AWMN sites (Old Lodge, Afon Hafren, Afon Gwv) are dominated by Eunotia exigua and have assemblages corresponding to COINSPAN Group 1. The AWMN sites at the Allt a'Mharcaidh, Allt na Coire nan Con and Coneyglen Burn are characterised by Achnanthes minutissima/Synedra minuscula/Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum] and correspond to COINSPAN Group 5b. Beagh's Burn and the River Etherow are characterised by co-dominance of *Eunotia exigua* and Achnanthes minutissima, assemblages which are similar but less diverse than those in COINSPAN Group 4. However, some of the more acidic AWMN stream sites (pH < 5.5) contain assemblages of acidophilous taxa which are not well represented in the current dataset. These include the Dargall Lane (characterised by a combination of *Peronia fibula*, *Eunotia incisa* and *Eunotia naegelii*), and the Bencrom River (Eunotia naegelii/Brachysira brebissonii). The closest assemblages to these sites are provided by the two samples in COINSPAN Group 3a, which are dominated by Eunotia naegelii. The low pH (<5.5) sites in the current dataset tend to be dominated by *Eunotia exigua*. This contrasts with the low pH AWMN sites, where a greater variety of assemblage types represented.

The dominant gradient in diatom assemblages within the current dataset, as revealed by the first DCA axis, is very strongly associated with stream-water alkalinity and co-variables. This interpretation is reinforced by the CCA and COINSPAN analyses. The first CCA axis shows very similar patterns of species and sample variation as shown in the primary DCA axis, both being strongly correlated with alkalinity and co-variables of acid-base status. The COINSPAN groups also show a clear relationship with alkalinity (see Table 7). In the forward selection procedure alkalinity was the first variable selected, showing the strongest fit to the diatom data (Table 4). However, in the dataset pH is strongly correlated with alkalinity and consequently also shows a very strong relationship with the primary gradient in the diatom data. This is emphasised by the strong relationship between pH and the stream sample COINSPAN groups (Figure 8).

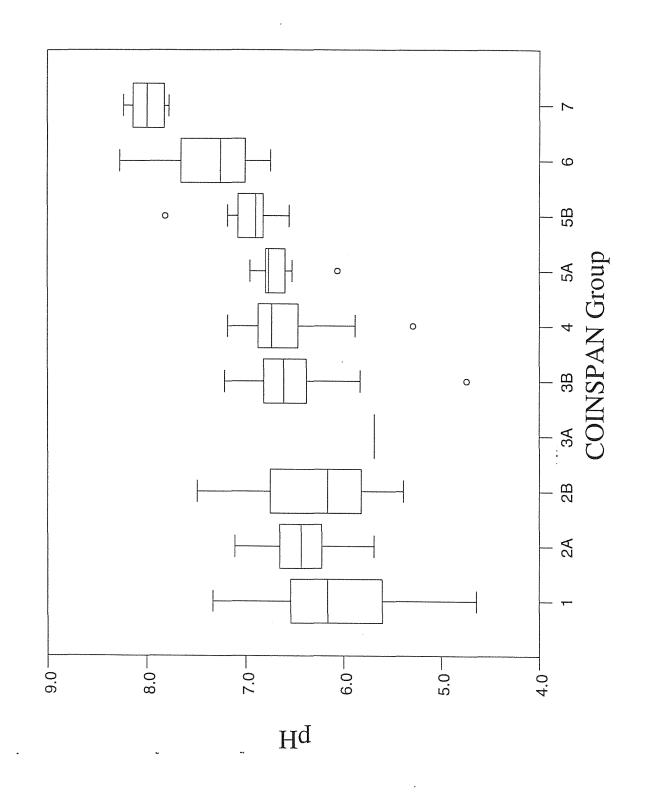
Common species associated with very low stream-water alkalinity (< 4.5 mg l<sup>-1</sup>) and pH (< 6.5) include *Eunotia exigua, Achnanthes austriaca* var. *helvetica, Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia, Peronia fibula* and *Eunotia incisa*. These species are all indicative of acidobiontic to acidophilousconditions (e.g. Stevenson *et al,* 1991). Species associated with slightly higher alkalinity (c.5 mg l<sup>-1</sup>) and pH (6.3-6.7) include acidophilous taxa such as *Tabellaria flocculosa* and *Brachysira vitrea*. More circumneutral streams with relatively high alkalinity (5-30 mg l<sup>-1</sup>) and pH (c.7) are dominated by *Achnanthes minutissima*, with *Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum], Fragilaria vaucheriae* and *Achnanthes saxonica* also common. The very high alkalinity sites (> 40 mg l<sup>-1</sup>) with high pH (>7.5) are characterised by *Achnanthes minutissima* and *Cocconeis placentula* with *Amphora pediculus* and *Cymbella sinuata* also common. Several other species are important in specific groups of samples (e.g. *Diatoma hyemale* is associated with COINSPAN Group 5a).

This clear relationship between diatom assemblages and surface water acidity is well documented in the literature (e.g. ter Braak & van Dam 1989, Stevenson *et al.* 1991, Battarbee 1994, van Dam 1996), and has also been clearly established for epilithic diatoms in upland streams. In a study of epilithic diatoms in streams in Belgium, for example, Leclercq (1977) stressed the importance of acidity in determining assemblage composition and species distributions. Juggins (1992) also found stream-water pH to be the most important factor controlling epilithic diatom assemblages in a series of 149 Scottish streams. This study confirms such findings, and demonstrates that the most important influence on the epilithic

Figure 8 Boxplot of distribution of pH across the stream sample COINSPAN groups

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diatom assembages in the Welsh stream dataset is alkalinity and co-variables.

In addition to the pH/alkalinity gradient, the DCA and CCA reveal several other significant chemical variables. The most notable of these (see Table 3) is Fe, but the Monte Carlo permutation tests within the forward selection procedure indicate that Mn, Mg, Na and TON-N also show significant, independent relationships with the diatom data. These latter relationships are difficult to interpret with clarity, and may be a result of the noisy structure of the data or the tendancy for over-selection of variables within the CANOCO forward selection procedure (see ter Braak & Verdonschot 1995). The relationship with Fe, however, is better defined, with several species (e.g. Eunotia meisteri, Eunotia *exigua* and *Cymbella lunata*) associated with samples with high Fe concentrations. The influence of Fe (and to some extent Mn) is also apparent in the COINSPAN analysis. Groups 1, 3b and 4 are all associated with elevated levels of these metals, and all contain high abundances of Eunotia exigua. Diatom response to surface water metal concentrations, independently of acidity, have been noted by several authors (see Dixit et al. 1992). In particular, Eunotia exigua is known to be tolerant of elevated metal concentrations. For example, Besch et al. (1972) reported the dominance of this species in mine waste polluted streams, and van Dam and Mertens (1990) reported its importance in Lake Orta, a metal contaminated lake in Italy. It is also possible that the relationship between the diatom assemblages and Fe reflects redox conditions rather than a reponse to metals per se.

A further strong gradient of variation in the diatom data is associated with certain of the catchment variables. It is clear from the variance partitioning (Table 6) that the forward selected catchment variables explain a significant amount of the variation in diatom data independently from the betweensample variation in chemistry that might be controlled by catchment factors (e.g. the very high alkalinity sites are associated with brown earth soils - COINSPAN Group 7). This is most clearly reflected in the second DCA axis, which is strongly correlated with %conifer and catchment gradient in particular (see Table 3). Sites with high %conifer and gradient are associated with small, firmly attached (adnate) species such as *Achmanthes austriaca* var. *helvetica*, *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia* and *Eunotia* [sp. 10(*minima*)]. Sites with low gradient and %conifer are associated with species such as *Tabellaria flocculosa* and *Eunotia nagelii*, and more loosely attached pendunculate (stalked) taxa. This pattern is also apparent in the second CCA axis, although the pattern is less distinct than in the DCA due to the additional influence of Fe on CCA axis 2, and in the COINSPAN analysis. COINSPAN Group 2 is associated with high catchment gradients with *Eunotia exigua* and *Eunotia vanheurckii* var *intermedia* important taxa, and COINSPAN groups 3b and 4 are both associated with low catchment gradients and an abundance of *Tabellaria flocculosa*.

These patterns are interpreted as the influence of stream-water flow conditions and current velocity on diatom assemblages. In fast flowing, high velocity upland streams there is generally a greater representation of firmly attached forms (e.g. Cox 1990a, Sabater & Roca 1990, Round 1993), and larger stalked forms are restricted due to high shear-stress. Although no direct data is available on local flow characteristics at the sampling sites, it seems reasonable to assume a correlation between catchment gradient and stream-water flow conditions within the dataset. The samples dominated by the small adnate forms (e.g. *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia*) therefore most probably represent fast flowing systems, whereas the samples which contain larger, pendunculate, sometimes colonial forms such as *Tabellaria flocculosa* probably come from more slowly flowing streams or reaches. These relationships are probably also responsible for some of the other significant realtionships between the assemblages and catchment variables. The relationship with %conifer, for example, is similar to the relationship with gradient and may reflect the flow characteristics of forested catchments, although it is also possible that shading effects influence the diatom assemblages in conifer forests (e.g. Stockner

& Armstrong 1971). This latter hypothesis is difficult to test with the current dataset, which lacks information on shading at the sample sites.

The analyses also show a relatively minor, but statistically significant, relationship between the diatom assemblages and sampling period (see Table 6). There are therefore significant differences between the assemblages of the diatom assemblages of the spring and summer samples which are independent of changes in chemical conditions. This variation is associated with two species in particular, both of which occur in intermediate to high alkalinity samples. *Gomphonema* [angustatum/parvulum] is associated with spring samples and is most abundant in the samples from COINSPAN Group 5a, whereas *Synedra miniscula* is associated with summer samples and is most abundant in COINSPAN groups 3b and 5b. The potential importance of seasonality on epilithic diatom assemblages has been discussed by several authors (e.g. Cox 1990a, 1990b), but is generally more prevalent in higher alkalinity systems. Moore (1977), for example, observed seasonal variation in the abundance of *Synedra* species in a high alkalinity, lowland river. In contrast studies in more acid systems have shown a lack of significant seasonal response in diatom assemblages (e.g. Jones & Flower 1986). However, it is clear from the current study that seasonal variability is an important factor influencing diatom assemblages at the higher alkalinity sites.

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#### 4 Lake samples

#### 4.1 Diatom occurrence and abundance

Figure 9 shows the relationship between diatom occurrence and maximum abundance in the lake samples. Achnanthes minutissima and Tabellaria flocculosa plot in the top right hand corner, and represent taxa which occur in a high proportion of the samples and can dominate the assemblages. Achnanthes marginulata can also be dominant, but occurs in fewer samples. The data also include a series of species relatively abundant in many of the samples (e.g. Eunotia naegelii, Eunotia incisa, Fragilaria vaucheriae), and species which are abundant in relatively few samples (e.g. Eunotia vanheurckii var. intermedia, Achnanthes austriaca var. minor, Diatoma hyemale). The majority of taxa plot in the lower left corner of the plot, and occur in low abundance in relatively few samples. Table 8 shows the frequency distribution of N<sub>2</sub> sample diversity for the lake samples. N<sub>2</sub> diversity is generally low in comparison to lake sediment diatom assemblages (N<sub>2</sub> typically 5-20, Juggins 1992) but 60% of the samples have N<sub>2</sub> > 4. Few of the samples can be considered species poor (e.g. N<sub>2</sub> < 2).

#### Table 8Frequency distribution of N2 sample diversity for lake samples

N <sub>2</sub> diversity	0-2	2-4	4-6	6-8	8-10	>10
No. of samples	4	9	8	6	4	1

#### 4.2 Detrended correspondence analysis (DCA)

DCA analysis was performed for exploration of the main gradients of floristic variation in the lake diatom samples. Detrending was by third order polynomials (ter Braak 1990b). The DCA shows one dominant axis ( $\lambda_1 = 0.599$ ) which explains 17.5% of the variance in diatom data (Table 9). This first axis is strongly correlated with variables representative of acid-base status, most notably alkalinity (r = 0.790) and pH (r = 0.776). Samples with low axis 1 scores include IRDA, DULA, and MANOB, and are associated with acidophilous and acidobiontic species such as *Achnanthes marginulata*, *Navicula leprostriata* and *Peronia fibula* (see Figures 10 and 11). Samples with high scores on this axis are associated with more acidophilous to circumneutral taxa such as *Achanthes minutissima*, *Achnanthes saxonica*, *Cymbella microcephela* and *Navicula jaernfeltii*. The axis clearly represents a floristic gradient associated with lake-water acidity

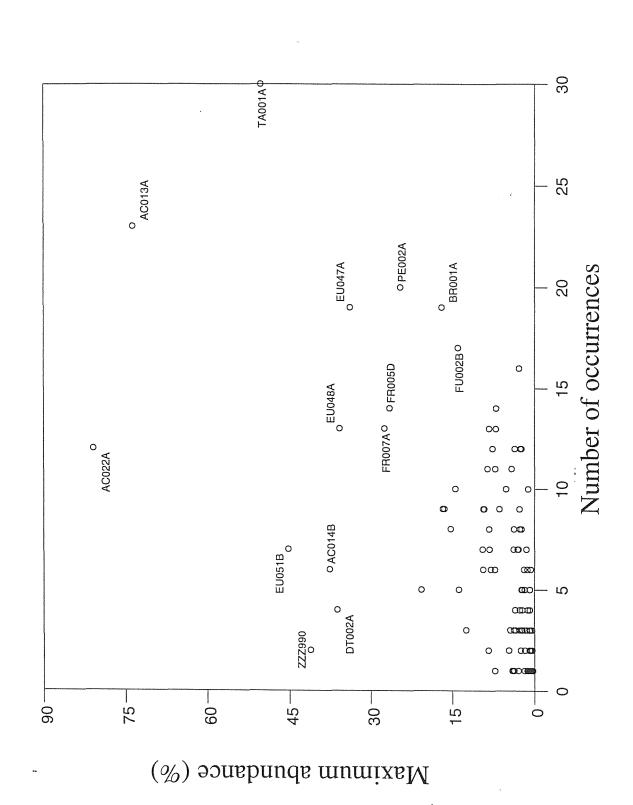
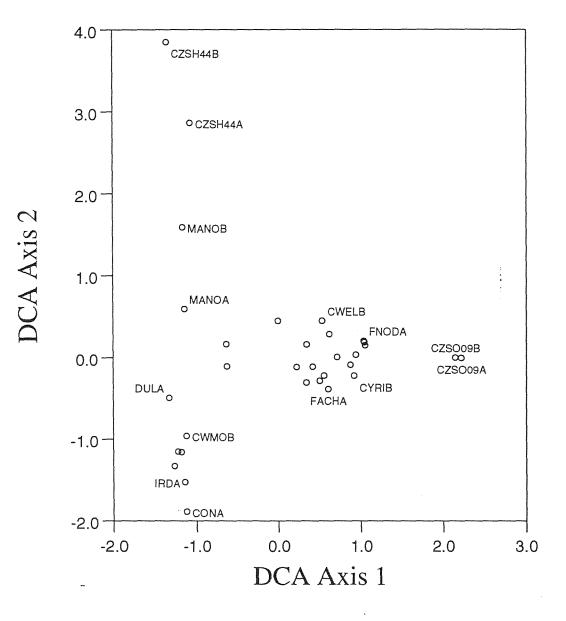


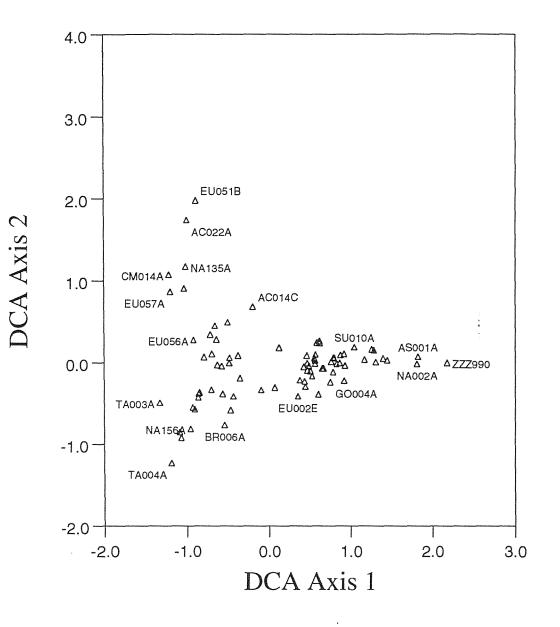
Figure 9 Scatterplot of diatom occurrence and maximum abundance in the lake samples

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The second DCA axis is less important ( $\lambda_2 = 0.316$ ), but still explains 9.1% of the variation in the diatom data. The axes separates samples with low axis 1 scores (Figure 10). CZSH44B, CZSH44A and MANOB have high scores on axis 2, and these samples are particularly associated with *Achnanthes marginulata*, *Achnanthes austriaca* var. *helvetica*, *Navicula tenuicephela* and *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia*. Conversely samples with low axis 2 scores are also dominated by acidophilous to acidobiontic taxa, but characterised by high abundances of *Tabellaria quadriseptata*, *Eunotia naegelii*, *Tabellaria flocculosa*, *Brachysira vitrea* and *Navicula leptostriata*. The axis is difficult to interpreet, but is correlated with the proportion of Stagno-podzol soils in the catchment. The axis seems to distinguish between samples dominated by smaller, generally adnate (attached) diatoms (e.g. small *Achnanthes*) and samples which also contain larger, pendunculate (stalked) taxa (e.g. *Tabellaria quadriseptata*).

DCA axes 3 and 4 explain relatively little of the variance in diatom data, and more importantly contain no coherent, interpretable pattern of variation in the diatom data.

# Table 9DCA results for the 32 lake samples, where r is the correlation between<br/>environmental variables and the ordination axis. Only statistically significant<br/>values ( $p \le 0.05$ ) are shown for selected environmental variables

	DCA axis 1	DCA axis 2	DCA axis 3	DCA axis 4
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Eigenvalue	0.599	0.316	0.237	0.135
Variance explained	17.5 %	9.1 %	6.9 %	4.0 %
pH	r=0.776	-	-	-
Alkalinity	r=0.790	-	-	-
Hardness	r=0.690	-	r=-0.403	-
Ca	r=0.605	-	-	-
Conductivity	r=0.471	-	-	-
Hardness	r=0.690	-	-	-
K	r=0.666			
Na	-		-	r=0.440
%StagPod	-	r=0.359	r=-0.362	-

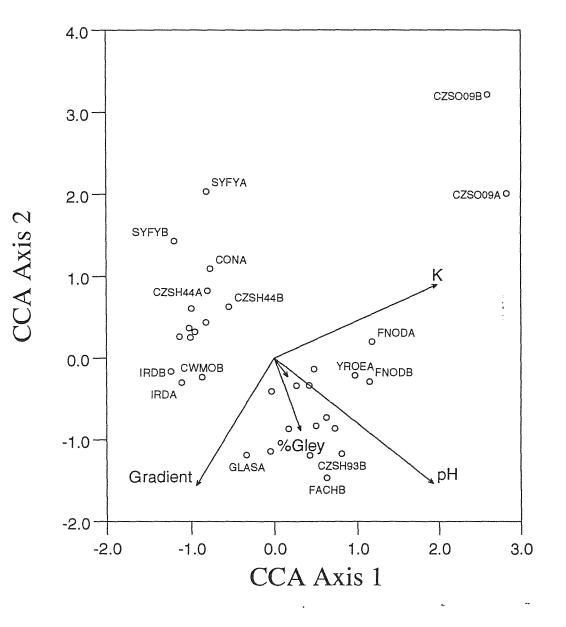
#### 4.3 Canonical correspondence analysis (CCA)

CCA was performed on the lake sample dataset to directly explore the relationship between diatom assemblages and environmental variables. The forward selection option within CANOCO was used to identify a minimal, independently significant set of explanatory variables (ter Braak 1990b) (see Table 10). A subset of five environmental variables were identified that each explain a significant ( $P \le 0.05$ ) proportion of the variance in diatom data. The most important explanatory variables are pH and K, which together account for 58% of the variance explained by the five forward selected variables.

Results of CCA analysis using the five selected variables are shown in Table 11 and Figures 12 and 13. The first CCA axis ( $\lambda_1 = 0.539$ ) explains 15.7% of the variance in diatom data, and is strongly correlated with pH (r = 0.742) and K (r = 0.763). The second axis explains 11.3% of the variance, and is negatively correlated with pH (r = -0.557) and catchment gradient(r = -0.558). These first two axes are both significant on the basis of Monte Carlo permutation tests ( $P \le 0.01$ , 499 permutations). Samples from site CZSO09 are clearly shown as outliers on the basis of the first two axes, plotting in the top right of Figure 12 and associated with taxa largely absent from other samples (e.g. Achnanthes detha, Navicula jaernfeltii, Nitzschia [cf. palea] and Navicula [cf. subrotunda]) (Figure 13). These two samples also have very high concentrations of lake-water K compared to other samples, and this variable significantly influences the CCA. The first two axes also distinguish between two other groupings of sites; those with low axis 1 scores (e.g. CZSH44A, IRDB), and those with intermediate axis 1 and low axis 2 scores (e.g. CZSH93B, YROEA) (Figure 12). This division is associated with a gradient of pH. The first grouping contains samples with relatively low pH, and is associated with acidophilous to acidobiontic taxa such as Eunotia naegelii, Eunotia incisa and Navicula leptostriata. The second grouping contains samples with relatively high pH associated with acidophilous to circumneutral taxa such as Achnanthes minutissima, Fragilaria construens var. venter and Nitzschia austriaca.

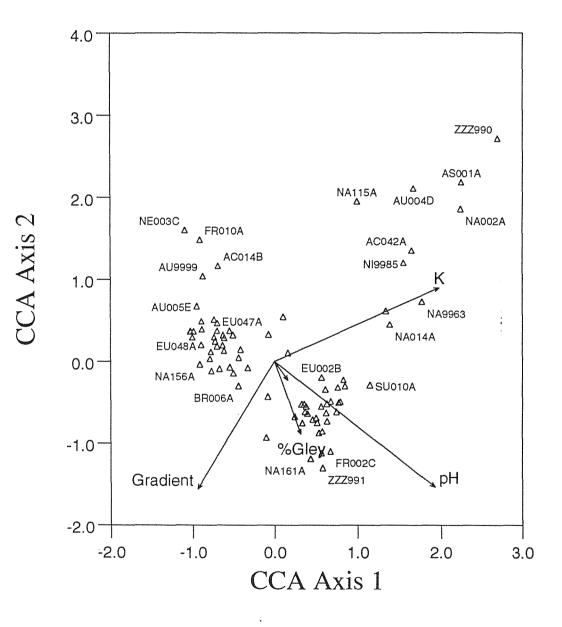
The third CCA axis explains 8.0% of the variance in diatom data, and is strongly correlated with %conifer. The axis is significant (P < 0.01, 499 permutations) and essentially isolates the two samples from site SYFY (which has high %conifer). These samples are associated with high proportions of the taxa *Achnanthes austriaca* var. *minor* and *Navicula difficillima*. The fourth CCA axis in not significant on the basis of Monte Carlo permutations tests.

Figure 12 CCA sample-environmental variable biplot for lake samples



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Figure 13 CCA species-environmental variable biplot for lake samples



Variable	<b>Before forward</b>	Added with selection		
	selection			
**	0.47	0.47		
pH	0.47	0.47		
K	0.45	0.36		
%Conifer	0.21	0.21		
%Gley	0.17	0.20		
Gradient	0.22	0.18		
Alkalinity	0.39			
Hardness	0.37			
Ca	0.31			
Conductivity	0.25		5 • •	
TON-N	0.22			
Al	0.18			
	Sum of variance	1.42		

Table 10Variance potentially explained by selected environmental variables before forward<br/>selection and variance explained with the addition of each environmental variable<br/>during forward selection in CCA of the lake sample data.

### Table 11 CCA results for the 32 lake samples, where r is the correlation between environmental variables and the ordination axis. Only statistically significant values ( $p \le 0.05$ ) are shown for the forward selected environmental variables.

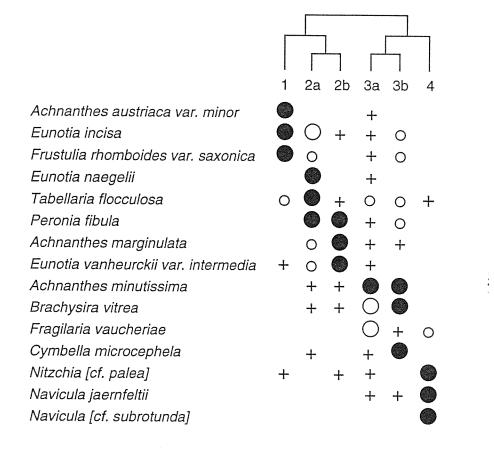
	CCA axis 1	CCA axis 2	CCA axis 3	CCA axis 4
		*******		
Eigenvalue	0.539	0.389	0.275	0.129
Variance explained	15.7 %	11.3 %	8.0 %	3.8 %
pH	r=0.742	r=-0.557	-	-
K	r=0.763	-	-	-
%Conifer	-	-	r=0.704	r=0.361
Gradient	r=-0.364	r=-0.558	-	-
%Gley	-	-		r=0.764

#### 4.4 COINSPAN sample classification

The COINSPAN classification of the lake samples is shown in Figure 14, which indicates the mean abundance of common taxa in each COINSPAN group. Four groups of samples were identified at two levels of division, and six subgroups at three levels of division. The first division is strongly associated with pH, and recognises the circumneutral taxon *Achnanthes minutissima* as a positive indicator (e.g. preferential to Groups 3 and 4). The second division isolates the two samples from site SYFY into Group 1 on the basis of the negative indicator *Achananthes austriaca* var. *minor*, and is associated with %Conifer. Similarly, the third division isolates the two samples from site CZSO09 with high values of lake-water K into Group 4, with *Achnanthes minutissima* as a negative indicator (preferential to Group 3). Group 2 is divided into subgroups on the basis of the indicator taxon *Eunotia naegelii* (preferential to subgroup 2a), effectively segregating the two samples from site CZSH44 into subgroup 2b. Group 3 is subdivided on the basis of the indicator taxon *Cymbella microcephela* (preferential to subgroup 3b). Table 12 shows the mean values of the forward selected environmental variables in the lake sample COINSPAN groups.

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# Figure 14 COINSPAN classification of lake samples, showing mean abundance of common taxa in each group



+ 0 -1 % 0 1 - 5 % 5 - 10 % 7 - 10 %

**COINSPAN** group 1 2a 2b 3a 3b 4 2 9 3 2 no. of samples 2 14 4.95 5.39 5.42 6.51 6.05 6.23 pH (-) (0.21)(-) (0.19)(0.93)(-) Κ 0.16 0.16 0.43 0.32 0.41 1.67 (0.08) (-) (-) (0.17)(0.31)(-) 54.5 0 0 0 2.27 35.8 %Conifer (-) (0) (-) (2.74)(31.0)(-) 5 17.1 9.9 2.4 Gradient 14.1 13.8 (-) (4.2)(6.3) (5.4)(-) (-) 0 0.01 0 0.15 %Gley 0.01 0.01 (-) (0.02)(-) (0.01)(0.07)(-)

Table 12Mean values of forward selected environmental variables in the lake sample<br/>COINSPAN groups. Figure in parentheses represent standard deviations.

The COINSPAN groups for the lake samples can be summarised according to their species composition and environmental characteristics.

## COINSPAN Group 1 Achnanthes austriaca var. minor/Eunotia incisa

Characterised by Achnanthes austriaca var. minor, but Eunotia incisa is also abundant and Frustulia rhomboides var. saxonica and Fragilaria constrict are common. Contains the two samples from site SYFY, which has very low pH and a high proportion of conifer afforestation in the catchment.

# COINSPAN Group 2a Eunotia naegelii/Tabellaria flocculosa/Eunotia incisa

Characterised by high abundances of *Eunotia naegelii*, with *Tabellaria flocculosa*, *Eunotia incisa* and *Peronia fibula* also abundant. Other common taxa include *Achnanthes marginulata*, *Tabellaria quadriseptata* and *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia*. The samples have relatively low lake-water pH (typically 5.2 - 5.6).

# COINSPAN Group 2b Achnanthes marginulata/Eunotia vanheurckii var. intermedia

This subgroup contains the two samples from site CZSH44 which contain diatom assemblages dominated by *Achnanthes marginulata*, *Peronia fibula* and *Eunotia vanheurckii* var. *intermedia*. The site has relatively low lake-water pH.

#### COINSPAN Group 3a Achnanthes minutissima/Brachysira vitrea/Tabellaria flocculosa

Dominated by Achnanthes minutissima, with Brachysira vitrea and Tabellaria flocculosa also common. Fragilaria virescens var. exigua and Fragilaria vaucheriae are present. These samples have relatively high lake-water pH (mean value 6.51).

#### **COINSPAN Group 3b** Achnanthes minutissima/Cymbella microcephela

Dominated by Achnanthes minutissima and characterised by the presence of Cymbella microcephela. Brachysira vitrea and Fragilaria virescens var. exigua are also common, and the more acidophilous Peronia fibula, Tabellaria flocculosa and Eunotia incisa are present in low abundance. The mean pH value for the samples is 6.05.

#### COINSPAN Group 4 Nitzschia [cf. palea]/Navicula jaernfeltii

This group contains the two samples from site CZSO09, which have relatively high lake-water pH and elevated concentrations of lake-water K (see Table 12). The samples are characterised by *Nitzschia* [cf. *palea*], *Navicula jaernfeltii* and *Navicula* [cf. *subrotunda*].

#### 4.5 Discussion

The lake samples contain relatively diverse assemblages when compared to the samples in the stream dataset. This reflects the influence of flow and current velocity on stream assemblages, and the more stable conditions and diverse microhabitats available for colonisation by diatoms on stones in lake systems. In particular, lake epilithon samples have a higher proportion of stalked (penduculate) or colonial forms which can be restricted in fast flowing streams (Round 1993). Stones in lake systems can also become covered with layers of mucilage or substantive algal growths, increasing the potential microhabitats available for different forms of diatoms (Round 1981). The lake samples generally contain species common to epilithic assemblages in dilute lakes indicative of acidophilous (e.g. Eunotia incisa, Achnanthes marginulata, Tabellaria flocculosa, Peronia fibula, Brachysira vitrea) to circumneutral (e.g. Achnanthes minutissima, Cymbella microcephela) conditions. In a study of Welsh lakes Allott & Juggins (1991) identified a very similar range of species occurrence. Round (1990a, 1990b) has also studied epilithic diatoms in Welsh lakes, and identified two discreet assemblage types; firstly, assemblages in acid lakes dominated by Eunotia incisa-Tabellaria flocculosa, and secondly assemblages in higher pH lakes dominated by Achnanthes minutissima. This distinction largely reflects the important division in the current dataset between COINSPAN Group 2 and COINSPAN Group 3. However, the dataset also contains samples dominated by other taxa, namely the samples in Group 1 (Achnanthes austriaca var. minor) and Group 4 (Nitzschia [cf. palea] and Navicula jaernfeltii).

The diatom assemblages can be related to those in the 11 Acid Waters Monitoring Network lakes (Patrick *et al.* 1991, Patrick *et al.* 1995). The assemblages of COINSPAN Group 3a (*Achnanthes minutissima/Brachysira vitrea/Tabellaria flocculosa*) closely correspond to the assemblages in several of the AWMN lakes with pH in the range 6.0 - 6.5 (e.g. Loch Coire nan Arr, Loch Tinker, Burnmoor Tarn). In addition, the assemblages of COINSPAN Group 2b reflect those of Lochnagar, both

containing very high proportions of *Achnanthes marginulata*. However, the remaining AWMN sites contain assemblages not represented in the Welsh lake dataset. These sites are characterised by high abundances of either *Eunotia incisa* (e.g. Loch Grannoch, Scoat Tarn, Llyn Llagi, Llyn Cwm Mynach) or the acidobiontic *Tabellaria quadriseptata* (e.g. Round Loch of Glenhead, Blue Loch). These sites represent the most acid sites in the AWMN (pH < 5.2). Such very acid sites are not well represented in this Welsh dataset.

The data analyses show that the dominant gradient in diatom data in the lake sample dataset is associated with lake-water acidity. The first DCA axis is strongly correlated with pH, alkalinity and co-variables (Table 9), and reflects a gradient from sites containing acidobiontic-acidophilous taxa (e.g. *Achmanthes marginulata, Navicula leptostriata* and *Peronia fibula*) to sites associated with more circumneutral taxa (e.g. *Achmanthes minutissima*). This gradient is also apparent in the first CCA axis (Table 11) and the COINSPAN groups (Table 12), and reflects the established influence of acidity on diatom assemblages (e.g. Stevenson *et al.* 1991). Interpretation of other influences on the assemblages is more difficult due to the small number of samples in the dataset, and the 'noisy' characteristics of the diatom data. These factors have resulted in assemblages from individual sites having a strong influence on the multivariate analyses. This effect is illustrated by the samples from sites CZSO09 and SYFY, both of which have atypical assemblages within the dataset as a whole. In the CCA and COINSPAN analyses the association of these sets of samples with high lake-water K and %conifer respectively is accentuated, resulting in apparent significant relationships between these variables and the total variance in diatom data. In such a restricted dataset such relationships may be statistically significant, but cannot be interpreted with confidence in terms of **ecological** significance.

In addition to the acidity gradient, the DCA ordination reveals a second important pattern of variation in diatom data. This is the division within the relatively low pH, acidophilous assemblages between samples dominated by small, adnate taxa (e.g. *Achnanthes marginulata* and *Achnanthes austriaca* var. *minor*; COINSPAN Groups 1 and 2b) and those containing a larger proportion of stalked (pendunculate) forms and taxa such as *Eunotia nagelii* and *Tabellaria flocculosa* (COINSPAN Group 2a). This division is not represented in the CCA analysis, suggesting that it is not associated with any of the environmental variables included in the analysis. As the division seems to be related to the lifeforms of taxa it may be associated with the degree of turbulence in the littoral zone of the lakes, possibly as a result of exposure or fetch. However, this hypothesis is impossible to test with the data available.

## 5 Acknowledgements

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# Appendix A

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#### Appendix B

Code Taxon \*\* AC001A Achnanthes lanceolata AC002A Achnanthes linearis AC002B Achnanthes linearis curta AC002B Achnanthes linearis curta AC004A Achnanthes pseudoswazi AC013A Achnanthes minutissima minutissima AC014B Achnanthes austriaca minor AC014C Achnanthes austriaca helvetica AC022A Achnanthes marginulata AC023A Achnanthes conspicua conspicua AC024A Achnanthes depressa AC024A Achnanthes depressa AC022A Achianthes aconica AC035A Achianthes pusilla pusilla AC042A Achianthes detha AC042A Achnanthes detha AC048A Achnanthes scotica AC148A Achnanthes modestiformis AC152A Achnanthes carissima AC9975 Achnanthes (altaica var. minor) AC9996 Achnanthes cf. levanderi AC9999 Achnanthes sp. AM012A Amphora pediculus AS001A Asterionella formosa formosa AU005D Aulacoseira distans tenella AU005E Aulacoseira distans nivalis AU0105 Aulacoseira distans formiae AU005E Aulacoseira distans nivalis AU010B Aulacoseira perglabra floriniae AU9999 Aulacoseira perglabra floriniae BR01A Brachysira vitrea BR003A Brachysira serians BR006A Brachysira brebissonii brebissonii CA02A Caloneis bacillum bacillum CA018A Caloneis tenuis CM003A Cymbella sinuata sinuata CM004A Cymbella microcephala microcephala CM004A Cymbella naviculiformis CM010A Cymbella perpusilla CM012A Cymbella laevis CM014A Cymbella laevis CM014A Cymbella aegualis CM017A Cymbella hebridica CM014A Cymbella aequalis CM017A Cymbella hebridica CM02A Cymbella affinis CM031A Cymbella affinis CM038A Cymbella delicatula CM038A Cymbella lunata CM048A Cymbella lacustre CM9999 Cymbella ap. C0001A Cocconeis placentula placentula CC0010A Cocconeis placentula placentula CC0010A Cocconeis disculus CY006A Cyclotella kuetzingiana kuetzingiana DE001A Didymosphenia geminata DE001A Denticula tenuis tenuis DI001A Diatomella balfouriana balfouriana DP001A Diploneis ovalis DP001A Diploneis ovalis DT002A Diatoma hyemale hyemale DT004B Diatoma tenue elongatum DT002A Diatoma hyemale hyemale DT004B Diatoma tenue elongatum EP003A Epithemia argus argus EU002A Eunotia pectinalis pectinalis EU002B Eunotia pectinalis ventralis EU002C Eunotia pectinalis ventralis EU002E Eunotia pectinalis minor impressa EU003A Eunotia tenella EU004A Eunotia tenella EU009A Eunotia exigua exigua EU011A Eunotia tenella EU011A Eunotia denticulata denticulata EU017A Eunotia diodon EU017A Eunotia flexuosa flexuosa EU022A Eunotia sudetica EU022A Eunotia bigibba bigibba EU022A Eunotia fallax EU022A Eunotia fallax EU022A Eunotia trinacria trinacria EU022B Eunotia trinacria tridentata EU022B Eunotia meisceni EU022A Eunotia trinacria tridentata EU022B Eunotia and tridentata EU022B Eunotia paludosa EU043A Eunotia elegans EU045A Eunotia nymanniana EU045A Eunotia nymanniana EU047A Eunotia incisa EU048A Eunotia naegelii EU049A Eunotia curvata curvata EU049B Eunotia curvata subarcuata EU049D Eunotia curvata attenuata EU049D Eunotia curvata attenuata EU051A Eunotia vanheurckii vanheurckii EU051B Eunotia vanheurckii intermedia EU053A Eunotia tridentula EU053B Eunotia tridentula perminuta EU057A Eunotia minutissima EU057A Eunotia exgracilis EU9961 Eunotia [vanheurckii var. 1] EU9965 Eunotia [sp. 10 (minima)] EU9999 Eunotia sp. FR001A Fragilaria pinnata pinnata FR002A Fragilaria construens construens

Date Authority ----1880 (Breb. ex Kutz.) Grun. in Cleve & Grun. 1880 (W. Sm.) Grun. in Cleve & Grun. 1916 H.L. Sm. ex Boyer 1963 J.R. Carter 1833 Kutz. 1986 L. Grannoch (RJF) 1933 Hust. 1880 Grun. in Cleve & Grun. 1919 A. Mayer (Cleve) Hust. 1933 (Cleve) Hust. 1933 Krasske in Hust. 1880 Grun, in Cleve & Grun. Jones & Flower Lange-Bertalot Lange-Bertalot 1988 L. Grannoch (RJF) (Kutz.) Grun. 1850 Hassall 1986 (Nygaard) R. Ross in Hartley 1986 (Grun.) R. Ross in Hartley 1981 (Breb. ex Kutz.) Round & Mann 1986 R. Ross in Hartley 1894 (Grun.) Cleve 1985 Gregory (Krammer) 1856 Greg. 1880 Grun. in Van Heurck 1880 1863 Auersw. 1895 A. Cleve 1849 Naegeli ex Kutz. Sm. ex Grev. Cleve) (Grun. ex Cleve) Cleve 1894 1844 Kutz. 1862 Hilse ex Rabenh. 1849 1855 Kutz. W. Sm. in Grev. 1849 (Ag.) Kutz. 1838 Ehrenb. 1896 1848 (Schum.) Cleve Thwaites (Lyngb.) M. Schmidt in A. Schmidt 1899 1844 Kutz. 1855 Grev. (Hilse) Cleve (Roth) Heib. 1894 1863 1819 Lyngb. 1844 (Ehrenb.) Kutz. (O.F. Mull.) Rabenh. (Kutz.) Rabenh. (Ehrenb.) Hust. 1864 1864 1911 (Ehrenb., Hust. Ehrenb. (Grun. in Van Heurck) A. Cleve (Breb. ex Kutz.) Rabenh. 1843 1895 1864 1950 Hust. (Breb. ex Kutz.) Rabenh. 1864 1837 Ehrenh. 1849 Kutz. 1930 Hust O. Mull. Kutz. 1898 1849 1895 A. Cleve Berg 1929 Krasske (A. Mayer) Hust. 1930 Hust. 1862 Grun. Ostr. 1910 Ostr. Grun. in Van Heurck W. Sm. ex Greg. Migula (Kutz.) Lagerst. (Naegeli ex Kutz.) Woodhead & Tweed A. Berg (Cleve Euler) 1881 1854 1907 1884 1954 1958 Patr. (Krasske) Cleve 1843 Ehrenb. 1881 Grun. in Van Heurck 1934 A. Cleve-Euler 1953 A. Berg ex A. Cleve-Euler 1988 Round L. Glenhead (RJF) 1988 L. Grannoch (RJF) 1843 Ehrenb. 1862 (Ehrenb.) Grun.

FR002B Fragilaria construens binodis FR002C Fragilaria construens venter FR005A Fragilaria virescens virescens FR005D Fragilaria virescens exigua FR006A Fragilaria brevistriata brevistriata FR007A Fragilaria constricta vaucheriae FR010A Fragilaria constricta constricta FR9999 Fragilaria sp. FU001A Frustulia vulgaris vulgaris FU002A Frustulia rhomboides rhomboides FU002B Frustulia rhomboides saxonica FU002F Frustulia rhomboides viridula G0001A Gomphonema angustatum productum G0004A Gomphonema gracile G0005A Gomphonema lagerheimei G0006C Gomphonema acuminatum coronatum Gomphonema acuminatum coronatum Gomphonema intricatum Gomphonema intricatum pumilum Gomphonema lanceolatum Gomphonema clevei GO006C G0014A GO014B GO017A GO024C GO024C Gomphonema crever GO02999 Gomphonema sp. HN001A Hannaea arcus arcus MR001A Meridion circulare circulare NA002A Navicula jaernefeltii NA003B Navicula radiosa radiosa NA003B Navicula radiosa tenella NA003B Navicula radiosa tenella NA006A Navicula mediocris NA007A Navicula cryptocephala cryptocephala NA008A Navicula rhyncocephala rhyncocephala NA014A Navicula indifferens NA016A Navicula indifferens NA018A Navicula wittrockii NA021A Navicula cincta NAO2JA Navicula gregaria NAO2JA Navicula gregaria NAO2JA Navicula mutica mutica NAO2JA Navicula gracilis NAO3JA Navicula subtilissima NA037A Navicula angusta NA038A Navicula arvensis NA039A Navicula festiva NAO42A Navicula minima minima NAO44A Navicula krasskei NAO45A Navicula bryophila bryophila NA046A Navicula contenta contenta NAO58A Navicula phyllepta NAO64A Navicula exilis NAO86A Navicula tantula NA086A Navicula tantula NA112A Navicula minuscula minuscula NA135A Navicula tenuicephala NA138A Navicula pelliculosa NA149A Navicula digitulus NA156A Navicula leptostriata NA158A Navicula cumbriensis NA162A Navicula avenacea NA577A NA9939 Navicula porifera Navicula [cf. minima] Navicula [sp. 1] NA9963 NA9999 Navicula sp. NE004A Neidium bisulcatum bisulcatum NE006A Neidium alpinum NE020A Neidium hercynicum Neidium sp. Nitzschia fonticola NE9999 NI002A Nitzschia perminuta Nitzschia frustulum NI005A NIOOSA Nitzschia dissipata Nitzschia gracilis Nitzschia angustata angustata Nitzschia angustata acuta NI015A NI017A NI020A NI020B Nitzschia recta Nitzschia paleacea Nitzschia [cf. palea] NI025A NI033A NI9985 Nitzschia [cf. palea] Nitzschia sp. Peronia fibula Pinnularia viridis viridis Pinnularia divergens divergens Pinnularia microstauron microstauron Pinnularia borealis Pinnularia abaujensis abaujensis Pinnularia biceps biceps Pinnularia subcapitata subcapitata Pinnularia subcapitata hilseana Pinnularia irrorata Pinnularia stomatophora stomatophora Pinnularia acoricola NT 9999 PE002A PI007A PI008A PI011A PI012A PI015A PI018A PI022A PI022B PIO23A PIO24A PI030A PI030A Pinnularia acoricola PI9999 Pinnularia sp. SA001A Stauroneis anceps anceps SA001B Stauroneis anceps gracilis SA9999 Stauroneis sp. SP002A Stenopterobia sigmatella SU003A Surirella ovalis ovalis SU004A Surirella biseriata biseriata SU006A Surirella delicatissima delicatissima SU9999 Surirella sp. SU0909 Surifella sp. SV001A Synedra ulna ulna SV002A Synedra rumpens rumpens SV003A Synedra acus acus SV010A Synedra minuscula

1862 (Ehrenb.) Grun. 1881 (Ehrenb.) Grun. in Van Heurck 1843 Ralfs 1881 Grun. in Van Heurck 1885 Grun. in Van Heurck 1938 (Kutz.) J.B. Petersen 1843 Ehrenb. 1891 (Thwaites) De Toni (Ehrenb.) De Toni (Rabenh.) De Toni (Breb. ex Kutz.) Cleve 1891 1891 1894 1838 (Hornemann) Breb. Grun. in Van Heurck Ehrenb. 1880 1838 A. Cleve (Ehrenb.) W. Sm. 1895 1853 Kutz. Grun. in Van Heurck 1844 1880 1902 Fricke in A. Schmidt 1966 (Ehrenb.) Patr. in Patr. & Reimer (Grev.) Ag. 1831 1942 Hust. 1844 Kutz. 1885 (Breb. ex Kutz.) Grun. ex Van Heurck 1932 Krasske 1844 Kutz. 1844 Kutz. 1844 Kutz. 1942 1934 Hust. (Lagerst.) A. Cleve-Euler (Ehrenb.) Ralfs in Pritch. 1861 1861 Donk. Kutz. 1844 1830 Ehrenb. 1891 Cleve 1860 Grun. Hust. 1925 Krasske 1880 Grun. in Van Heurck Hust. J.B. Petersen 1930 1928 1885 Grun. in Van Heurck 1844 1844 Kutz. Kutz. 1943 Hust. Grun. in Van Heurck 1880 1942 Hust. 1862 (Kutz.) Hilse in Rabenh. 1943 Hust. 1948 1987 Jorgensen Haworth 1878 (Breb. & Godey) Breb. ex Grun. Hust. Oresjon (IR-SWAP) 1944 1987 1986 L. Hir (SF) 1894 (Lagerst.) Cleve 1943 Hust. 1917 A. Mayer Grun. in Van Heurck (Grun. in Van Heurck) M. Perag. (Kutz.) Grun. in Cleve & Grun. (Kutz.) Grun. 1881 1903 1880 1862 (NUL2.) Grun. Hantzsch (W. Sm.) Grun. in Cleve & Grun. Grun. in Cleve & Grun. Hantzsch ex Rabenh. (Grun. in Cleve & Grun.) Grun. in Van He Uisge (VJJ) 1860 1880 1880 1861 1881 1988 (Breb. ex Kutz.) R. Ross (Nitzsch) Ehrenb. 1956 1843 1853 W. Sm. (Ehrenb.) Cleve 1891 1843 Ehrenb. (Pant.) R. Ross in Hartley 1986 1856 Greg. Greg. 1856 1898 (Janisch ex Rabenh.) O. Mull. 1939 (Grun. in Van Heurck) Hust. (Grun. ex A. Schmidt) Cleve 1891 Hust. 1843 Ehrenb. 1864 Rabenh. 1986 (Greg.) R. Ross in Hartley 1838 1835 Breb. & Godey 1864 Lewis (Nitzsch) Ehrenb. 1836 1844 Kutz. 1844 Kutz. Grun. in Van Heurck 1881

- 5 SY043A Synedra famelica SY0939 Synedra sp. TA001A Tabellaria flocculosa flocculosa TA001B Tabellaria flocculosa flocculosa IIIp TA003A Tabellaria binalis TA004A Tabellaria guadriseptata TA005A Tabellaria kutzingiana UN9998 Unknown naviculaceae UN9999 Unknown UN9998 Unknown naviculaceae UN9999 Unknown ZZZ992 Achnanthes [cf. doenensis] ZZZ993 Eunotia arculus ZZZ994 Nitzschia diversa ZZZ995 Nitzschia lacuum ZZZ996 Achnanthes [cf. strenzkii] ZZZ998 Achnanthes biasolettiana ZZZ999 Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum]
- 1844 Kutz.

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1844 (Roth) Kutz. Koppen 1881 (Ehrenb.) Grun. in Van Heurck 1952 Knudson

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Lange-Bertalot

# Appendix C

Code	Taxon	Date	Authority
AC002A	Achmanthes linearis	1880	(W. Sm.) G
AC002B	Achnanthes linearis Achnanthes linearis curta Achnanthes pseudoswazi Achnanthes minutissima minutissima Achnanthes austriaca minor Achnanthes austriaca helvetica Achnanthes marginulata Achnanthes depressa Achnanthes savonica	1916	H.L. Sm. e
AC004A	Achnanthes pseudoswazi	1963	J.R. Carte
ACUI3A ACO14B	Achnanthes minutissima minutissima Achpanthes austriaca minor	1986	L Graphoc
AC014D	Achnanthes austriaca helvetica	1933	Hust.
AC022A	Achnanthes marginulata	1880	Grun. in C
AC024A	Achnanthes depressa Achnanthes saxonica	1933	(Cleve) Hu Krasske in
ACOLOR	Actilitation baselited	1933	Hust.
AC035A	Achnanthes suchlandtii Achnanthes pusilla pusilla	1880	Grun. in C
AC039A	Achnanthes didyma didyma Achnanthes detha	1933	Hust.
AC042A AC046A	Achmanthes altaica	1953	(Poretzky)
AC048A	Achnanthes scotica		Jones & Fl
AC9969	Achnanthes [scotica/marginulata]		Groningen
AC9975 AC9996	Achnanthes [altaica var. minor] Achnanthes of levanderi	1988	L. Grannoo
AC9999	Achnanthes cf. levanderi Achnanthes sp.		
AS001A	Asterionella formosa formosa	1850	Hassall
ASU03A	Asterionella ralfsii Aulacoseira lirata alpigena	1856	W. Sm. (Grun.) Ha
AU005B	Aulacoseira distans nivaloides	1987	Camburn
AU005E	Aulacoseira distans nivalis		
	Aulacoseira perglabra		
	Aulacoseira perglabra floriniae Aulacoseira sp.		
BR001A	Brachysira vitrea	1986	(Grun.) R
BR006A	Brachysira brebissonii brebissonii Cymbella microcephala microcephala	1986 1880 1895	R. Ross in
CM004A	Cymbella microcephaia microcephala Cymbella perpusilla	1880	Grun. in N A. Cleve
	Cymbella helvetica helvetica	1895	Kutz.
CM014A	Cymbella aequalis	1855	W. Sm. ex
	Cymbella hebridica	1894	
	Cymbella minuta minuta Cymbella incerta	1862 1878	
CM048A	Cymbella lunata	1855	W. Sm. in
CM052A	Cymbella descripta	1985	(Hust,) K
	Cymbella sp.	1000	103
	Cyclotella stelligera Cyclotella kuetzingiana kuetzingiana	1882 1848	(Cleve & ( Thwaites
CY006D	Cyclotella kuetzingiana minor Diatoma hyemale hyemale	1010	nov. nom.
DT002A	Diatoma hyemale hyemale		(Roth) He
EU002A EU002B	Eunotia pectinalis pectinalis Functia pectinalis minor	$1864 \\ 1864$	(O.F. Mul) (Kutz.) R
EU002C	Eunotia pectinalis pectinalis Eunotia pectinalis minor Eunotia pectinalis ventralis Eunotia pectinalis minor impressa	1911	
EU002E	Eunotia pectinalis minor impressa		(Ehr.) Hu
EUUU4A EUOO7A	Eunotia tenella Eunotia bidentula	1895 1856	(Grun. in W. Sm.
EU009A	Eunotia exigua exigua	1864	(Breb, ex
EU011A	Eunotia rhomboidea Eunotia denticulata denticulata	1950	Hust.
	Eunotia denticulata denticulata Eunotia sudetica	1864 1898	(Breb. ex O. Mull.
EU026A	Eunotia praerupta-nana	1000	Berg
EU027A	Eunotia praerupta-nana Eunotia trinacria trinacria	1929	Krasske
EU028B	Eunotia microcephala tridentata Eunotia valida Eunotia paludosa	1930	(A. Mayer Hust.
EU040A	Eunotia paludosa		Grun.
EU045A	Eunotia nymanniana Eunotia incisa	1881	
		1854 1907	
	Eunotia naegelii Eunotia curvata curvata	1884	
EU049B	Eunotia curvata subarcuata	1954	(Naegeli
	Eunotia curvata attenuata	1050	A. Berg (
	Eunotia vanheurckii vanheurckii Eunotia vanheurckii intermedia	1958	Patr. (Krasske)
EU053B	Eunotia tridentula perminuta	1881	
	Eunotia minutissima	1934	
	Eunotia exgracilis Eunotia sp.	1953	A. Berg e
	Fragilaria pinnata pinnata	1843	Ehrenb.
FR002A	Fragilaria construens construens	1862	(Ehrenb.)
	Fragilaria construens venter Fragilaria virescens virescens	1881	
	Fragilaria virescens virescens Fragilaria virescens exigua	1843 1881	
FR006A	Fragilaria brevistriata brevistriata	1885	Grun. in
FR007A	Fragilaria vaucheriae vaucheriae		(Kutz.) J
	Fragilaria constricta constricta Fragilaria elliptica	1843 1867	
	Fragilaria [cf. oldenburgiana PIRLA pl 20, 61		PIRLA
FR9999	Fragilaria sp.		
	Frustulia vulgaris vulgaris Frustulia rhomboides saxonica	1891	
	Frustulia rhomboides viridula		(Rabenh.) (Breb. e)
GO004A	Comphonema gracile	1838	Ehrenb.
G00060	Gomphonema acuminatum coronatum	1853	(Ehrenb.)
	Gomphonema constrictum capitatum Gomphonema intricatum pumilum	1885 1880	(Ehrenb.) Grun. in
GO019A	. Gomphonema augur	1000	Ehr.
	Gomphonema sp.		

Grun. in Cleve & Grun. ex Boyer ter och (RJF) Cleve & Grun. Hust. in Hust. Cleve & Grun. xy) A. Cleve-Euler Flower en (RJF) och (RJF) Haworth R. Ross in Hartley in Hartley Van Heurck ex Grev. ex Cleve) Cleve x Rabenh. n Cleve & Moller n Grev. Krammer & Lange-Bertalot Grun. in Cleve) Van Heurck n. Heib. Jll.) Rabenh. Rabenh. .) Hust. 1 Hust. in Van Heurck) A. Cleve ex Kutz.) Rabenh. ex Kutz.) Rabenh. er) Hust. n Van Heurck ex Greg. Lagerst. i ex Kutz.) Woodhead & Tweed (Cleve Euler) e) Cleve n Van Heurck 'e-Euler ( ex A. Cleve-Euler ) Grun. .) Grun. in Van Heurck n Van Heurck n Van Heurck J.B. Petersen . . tes) De Toni n.) De Toni ex Kutz.) Cleve . 5.) W. Sm. 5.) Grun. in Van Heurck in Van Heurck

	Mandani Parata anna 6 - 7 6 1 1	
NAUUZA	Navicula jaernefeltii	
NAUUSA	Navicula radiosa radiosa Navicula radiosa tenella	
NACCOD	Navicula mediocris	
NA006B	Navicula mediocris Navicula mediocris atomus Navicula cryptocephala cryptocephala Navicula pseudoscutiformis	
NA007A	Navicula crvptocephala crvptocephala	
NA013A	Navicula pseudoscutiformis	
NA014A	Navicula pupula pupula	
NA032A	Navicula cocconeiformis cocconeiformis ·	
NAO33A	Navicula subtilissima	
NA037A	Navicula pupula pupula Navicula cocconeiformis cocconeiformis Navicula subtilissima Navicula minima minima Navicula krasskei Navicula bryophila bryophila Navicula impexa Navicula atomus Navicula difficillima Navicula schassmannii Navicula tenuicenbala	
NA042A	Navicula minima minima	
NAUGGA	Navicula Arassker	
NACERA	Navicula impera	
NA084A	Navicula atomus	
NA115A	Navicula difficillima	
NA133A	Navicula schassmannii	
NA135A	Navicula tenuicephala	
NA156A	Navicula leptostriata	
NA158A	Navicula tenuicephala Navicula leptostriata Navicula cumbriensis	
NALGUA	Navicula submolesta	
NAIDIA NAIGTA	Navicula absoluta	
NA 9963	Navicula [sp. 1]	
NA9999	Navicula sp.	
NE003C	Navicula hoefleri Navicula [sp. 1] Navicula sp. Neidium affine amphirhynchus	
NE006A	Neidium alpinum	
NE020A	Neidium hercynicum	
NI002A	Nitzschia fonticola	
	Nitzschia perminuta	
	Nitzschia gracilis	
NIUZDA MTQQQ5	Nitzschia recta Nitzschia [cf. palea]	
NT9999	Nitzschia [cf. palea] Nitzschia sp.	
PE002A	Peronia fibula	
PI011A	Pinnularia microstauron microstauron	
PI015A	Pinnularia abaujensis abaujensis	
PI018A	Pinnularia biceps biceps	
	Pinnularia subcapitata subcapitata	
	Pinnularia subcapitata hilseana	
P1023A	Pinnularia irrorata Pinnularia sp.	
D19999	Pinnularia sp.	
SA001A SA001B	Stauroneis anceps anceps Stauroneis anceps gracilis	
	Stenopterobia sigmatella	
SU004A	Surirella biseriata biseriata	
SU006A	Surirella delicatissima delicatissima	
	Surirella robusta robusta	
SU9999	Surirella sp.	
SY001A	Synedra ulna ulna	
SYUUZA	Synedra rumpens rumpens	
SY003A SY010A		
SY010A SY043A		
TA001A	Tabellaria flocculosa flocculosa	
TA001B	Tabellaria flocculosa flocculosa IIIp	
TA002A		
TAOOJA		
TA004A	Tabellaria quadriseptata	
TAUU5A	Tabellaria kutzingiana	
777901	Nitzschia austriaca	
ZZZ992	Tetracyclus lacustris Nitzschia austriaca Achnanthes [cf. doenensis]	
ZZZ999	Gomphonema [angustatum/parvulum]	

1942 Hust. 1844 Kutz. 1885 (Breb. ex Kutz.) Grun. ex Van Heurck Krasske Hust. 1932 1844 Kutz. 1930 1844 Hust. Kutz. 1855 Greg. ex Greville Cleve Grun. 1891 1860 1880 Grun. in Van Heurck Hust. J.B. Petersen 1930 1928 1961 Hust. (Kutz.) Grun. Hust. 1860 1950 1937 Hust. 1942 Hust. 1948 Jorgensen Haworth 1987 1949 Hust. Hust. Sensu Ross et Sims 1950 1986 L. Hir (SF) 1894 (Ehrenb.) Cleve 1943 Hust. A. Mayer Grun. in Van Heurck (Grun. in Van Heurck) M. Perag. Hantzsch Hantzsch ex Rabenh. Uisge (VJJ) 1917 1881 1903 1860 1861 1988 (Breb. ex Kutz.) R. Ross (Ehrenb.) Cleve (Pant.) R. Ross in Hartley 1956 1891 1986 1856 1856 Greg. Greg. (Janisch ex Rabenh.) O. Mull. (Grun. in Van Heurck) Hust. 1898 1939 1843 Ehrenb. Enreno. Rabenh. (Greg.) R. Ross in Hartley Breb. & Godey Lewis 1864 1986 1835 1864 1840 Ehrenb. 1836 (Nitzsch) Ehrenb. 1844 1844 Kutz. Kutz. Grun. in Van Heurck 1881 Kutz. (Roth) Kutz. Koppen 1844 1844 (Lyngb.) Kutz. (Ehrenb.) Grun. in Van Heurck Knudson 1844 1881 1952 Lange-Bertalot Ralfs 1843

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