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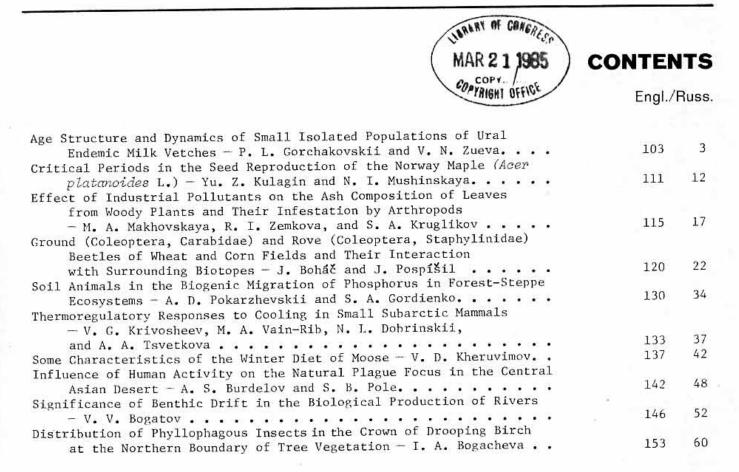
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New parameters are presented for comparing the drift of benthic invertebrates with the density of organisms on the bottom and the magnitude of the daily production of their population: The minimum drift distance and its intensity. The minimum drift distance is negatively correlated with the biomass of benthic animals and positively correlated with drift intensity. The drift of hydrobionts greatly exceeds their production. It is postulated that the benthic community of a stream can attain a more stable state as a result of drift.

Plankton is virtually absent in most rivers with a rapid current, and benthic invertebrates are the main source of food for many fish. Of importance in this case is the drift of benthic organisms, by which is understood the movement of invertebrate animals downstream in the river current.

Even the earliest studies of benthic drift showed that vast numbers of organisms are carried off in rivers. Therefore, many hydrobiologists in the 1950s and 1960s asked how benthic communities could sustain such a seemingly high level of depletion. Two hypotheses have been defined. The first, proposed by Müller (1954), consists of the so-called "colonization cycle," which involves the flight of adult insects upstream, oviposition, and the mass hatching of young in the upper reaches of the stream, followed by the drift of nonsexually mature larvae for the colonization of all accessible habitats and a new imago flight upstream for the completion of the cycle. Waters (1972), after analyzing numerous observations made by various authors, concluded that two elements of Muller's hypothesis (drift of benthic invertebrates and their movements upstream) are apparently unrelated to one another. To explain the mechanism of regulation of population density, Waters (1961) proposed a new hypothesis that assumes the compensation of drift by imago production regardless of the direction of imago flight. However, the existing parameters by which benthos drift has been estimated have not permitted a confirmation of Water's hypothesis.

The problem is that in the great majority of studies the drift of benthic invertebrates has been estimated by the quantity (biomass) of migrants removed across a unit of cross-sectional stream area or across the river profile per unit of time, or by the quantity (biomass) of animals per unit of volume of water or those trapped per unit of time. These parameters are highly dependent upon stream hydrodynamics, making their comparison and systemization quite difficult. Thus, Waters (1972), after analyzing 115 sources, was able to compare hydrobiont drift in different streams in only four studies. In this same review Waters proposed that the drift intensity in rivers with different runoffs be compared by the quantity (biomass) of organisms carried per day across the river profile divided by the discharge rate. Thus, as the author points out, an estimate is gained of the average density of migrants per unit discharge rate, equal to 1 m³/sec. Actually, Waters' parameter denotes only the daily average quantity of organisms in 86,400 m³ water, since 1 m³/sec × 86,400 sec (24 h) = 86,400 m³.

Unfortunately, the foregoing parameters permit no comparison of the drift of organisms taking into account their population density on the bottom. The ratios of the quantity of organisms in 1 m³ water (Radford and Hartland-Rowe, 1971) or in the water thickness above 1 m² bottom area (Elliott, 1965) to the animal population density on 1 m² bottom area proposed for these purposes do not take current velocity into account. This is a significant deficiency, since if the parameters are equal the drift will be greater in those regions of the river where the current velocity is higher. The inability to estimate benthic drift

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taking into account either the density of hydrobionts on the bottom or stream hydrodynamics has greatly complicated the study of the relation between the drift of benthic animals and their production.

Our research goals included study of the relative magnitude of invertebrate drift and production. In this case, attention was mainly directed at searching for quantitative estimates of the drift of organisms, considering not only the stream hydrology but also the dynamics of populations and the magnitude of their production.

The research material was provided by field observations of communities of benthic animals at two gates on the Ukhta R. (160 m distance between gates) and on the Pil'de R. (Lower Amur basin, 1977-1979). In addition, published data were used.

The streams studied are characterized by a gravel-pebble bottom on which amphipods and mayfly, caddisfly, stonefly, and midge larvae are dominant. The production of their populations was calculated using the specific productions presented by V. E. Zaika (1972). Measurements of the water discharge and current velocity were used to characterize the conditions in the hydrobiont habitats.

Earlier (Bogatov, 1979a) we showed that the drift of benthic animals N_d , expressed by the numbers (biomass) of animals carried during a specified time across an elementary area of a current cross-section of width 1 and height equal to the depth is determined by the migrational activity of the animals M, measured by the quantity (biomass) of organisms passing during the same time into the water thickness from a bottom area equal to l^2 , and by the distance of their drift L:

$$N_d = LM/l, (1)$$

Hence it follows that the population density N, expressed by the numbers (biomass) of individuals inhabiting a bottom area equal to l^2 , is not directly related to the drift N_d. However, when N = M, N will determine the maximum possible values of M. In this case L will take minimum values or, on the basis of Eq. (1),

$$L_{\min} = N_d l / M_{\max}, \tag{2}$$

and since $M_{max} = N$, then

$$L_{\min} = N_d l / N. \tag{3}$$

It is apparent from Eq. (3) that the drift of organisms can be compared with an estimate of their population density on the bottom using the parameter L_{\min} , which denotes the distance by which benthic invertebrates can move in a stream if all animals in the population are involved in movement at an observed drift magnitude. It is important that the current hydrodynamics automatically be taken into account here.

When drift samples are taken in pools a large number of animals that normally inhabit rifles are noted among the drifting organisms. It is understood that in this case L_{\min} must be calculated from the population density observed in a rifle. And by contrast, when the migrants in a rifle include invertebrates whose habitat is confined to pools L_{\min} in this case should be calculated by the density the hydrobionts attained in the pools. In both cases the degree of contraction or expansion of the river bed in the file or pool must be accounted for. Thus, if the drift of animals in a pool is to be compared with their population density on 1 m² area of rifle bottom, i.e. l=1 m, then the magnitude of N_d in the pool is calculated for an elementary current sectional area S, equal to

$$S = (1 \cdot \mathbf{M} \cdot l_1/l_2) h \mathbf{M}, \tag{4}$$

where l_1 and l_2 are the width of the pool and rifle, respectively, and h is the pool depth.

Our calculations of L_{\min} for, as an example, the Gammarus lacustris populations in Ukhta and Pil'de rivers showed that when l=1 m this parameter has a significant negative correlation (correlation coefficient r=-0.51) with the amphipod biomass per 1 m² bottom area (Fig. 1a). Insofar as the high crustacean biomass on the bottom was due primarily to adult individuals, it can be assumed that the obtained dependence is explained not by the extreme density of organisms but rather by the low intensity of migrations of adult Gramma-

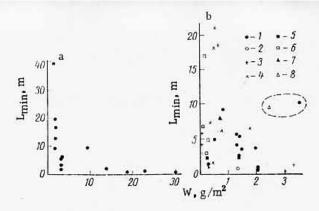


Fig. 1. Relation between minimum drift distance of hydrobionts (L_{min}) and their biomass on bottom (W): a) G. lacustris; b) insect larvae: 1) Cinygmula altaica, 2) Cinygmula sp., 3) Pseudocloeon fenestratum, 4) Ephemerella aurivillii, 5) Baetis sp., 6) stonefly larvae, 7) Baetis bioculatus, 8) Ameletus montanus.

rus, since it is known that among hydrobionts of different age the individuals of earlier stages of development are most actively involved in drift (Bogatov, 1979b). The significant variability at a low animal biomass is explained by the relatively greater importance in this case of young amphipods, which possess a lesser resistance to changing environmental factors than do adult organisms.

A negative correlation between the L_{\min} of hydrobionts and their biomass on the bottom (r=-0.43) was also noted for common larval insect forms (Fig. 1b). As in amphipods, significant variation in the intensity of larval drift was observed at a low biomass. We note that the high L_{\min} parameters in *Cinygmula altaica* and *Ameletus montanus*, indicated in Fig. 1b by the dashed circle, characterized animal populations in which many individuals were at the final stages of development, and mass imago emergence was imminent. Since it is known that the activity of insect larvae increases prior to imago emergence (Stoneburner and Smock, 1979), these data were ignored in calculating the correlation coefficient.

Our results made it possible to evaluate critically the generally accepted hypothesis explaining the drift of organisms by the competitive relationships between animals for substrate and food. Apparently, the assertion that competition induced by overpopulation is the major cause of drift cannot be considered convincing. It can be assumed that the attenuation of competitive relations between hydrobionts is best viewed as a result of the drift of organisms and not as its cause.

Calculations of L_{\min} for various invertebrate populations showed that the fluctuations in drift intensity under the action of environmental conditions sharply exceed the measured values. The L_{\min} magnitude is close to 10 m for insect larvae and 20 m for the more mobile amphipods. In this connection one can speak of a certain norm in the depletion of the animal biomass on the bottom within which the normal function of the community of benthic organisms is undisturbed. To express this norm of depletion we introduce the parameter of drift intensity C, which takes into account the fraction of the population production removed from the benthic community as a result of active drift:

$$C = (B_n/P_n) \cdot 100\%, \tag{5}$$

where P_n is the daily production of organisms on the bottom and B_n is the biomass of the organisms in the population carried across the river section in a day. Evidently, before examining the parameter of drift intensity C it is necessary to determine the boundaries of the population in the river and that part of the population with the production of which the biomass removed from the animal community as a result of drift will be compared.

It is important for the determination of population boundaries that there be no barrier preventing animal dispersal for species living under conditions of a rapid or slow current,

TABLE 1. Intensity of Hydrobiont Drift in Ukhta R.

Species	Date	Q m ³ /sec	Gate	S ₁ , thousand	W, g/m²	P_n	B_n ,	C. %
				m ²	Б,	g/day		- /0
Gam. lacustris	19—20 VIII.77	0,12	U L	10	2,44	122	97.5 21.7	80
	23-24 VIII.77	0,24	U L	10	2,44	122	90,5 71,1	74 58
	24-25 VIII.77	0,38	U	10	2,44	122	88,1 21,9	72
	20-21 VIII.78	0.58	T U L	15	1,51	113	171	150
	21—22 VIII.78	1,12	U	15	1,51	113	118 237	10- 209 223
	15—16 VII.79	0,54	Ĺ	12,5	13,82	864	253 108	13
	9—10 X.79	0,45	L	12,5	22,79	912	175	19
Cin. altaica	19—20 VIII.77	0,12	U	10	1,71	308	10,2	3
	23-24	0,24	U	10	1,71	308	3,6 29,8	10
	VIII.77 24—25 VIII.77	0,38	Ü	10	1,71	308	4,9 17,5	1
	20—21 VIII.78	0,58	U	15	1,64	443	12,3 25,8	£ 6
	21—22 VIII.78	1,12	Ŭ	15	1,64	443	21,0 46,6	11
	15-16	0,54	Ĺ	12,5	0,50	113	53,2 9,9	12
	VII.79 9—10 X.79	0,45	L	12,5	0,29	40	3,4	9
Am. montanus	15—16 VII.79	0,54	L	12,5	2,45	551	94,2	17
Ps.	15—16	0,54	L	12,5	0,06	13,5	1,4	10
fenestratum	VII.79 18—19	1,59	L	17,5	0,65	159	93,1	58
	1X.79 9—10 X.79	0,45	L	12,5	0,05	6,9	1,7	25
Eph.	15—16	0,54	L	12,5	0,45	101	2,9	3
aurivillii	VII.79 18—19	1,59	L	17,5	0,78	191	36,8	19
	IX.79 9—10 X.79	0,45	L	12,5	0,35	48	20,8	43

Note. U denotes upper gate; L, lower gate; Q) water discharge; S_1 , stream area between source and observation gate; W, benthos biomass on bottom.

pools or rifles. The true distance over which drifting organisms, move, for example during frequent summer floods, may be from several tens to several hundreds of meters per day (Bogatov, 1983). Insofar as the durations of the life cycle of amphipods and several common larval insect forms comprise about two years, it can be stated with assurance that certain hydrobionts during ontogenesis can, thanks to an active migration, transfer genetic information over quite large distances. Thus, in the semialpine streams we studied, which, as a rule, have a uniform character of substrate, the entire section of river inhabited by a given species can be considered as the population territory.

At each region of a river the drift of invertebrates across a current cross-section occurs from a specified area, the length of which corresponds to L. However, the organisms that are carried off are replaced by animals from a region upstream, which are in turn replaced by hydrobionts living even farther upstream, and so on. Because of this, the population density of the animals at a given point in the stream may long remain stable in spite of an intensive drift. It follows from the foregoing that the biomass of the organisms carried across the river profile must be considered the result of the distribution of the population production in the whole territory situated above the gate where the samples are

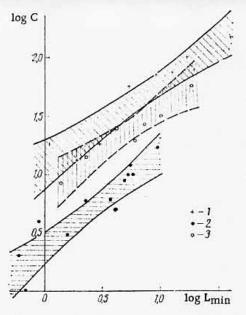


Fig. 2. Relation between parameter of drift intensity (C) and minimum drift distance (L_{\min}) in G. lacustris (1) and mayfly larvae in summer (2) and autumn (3). Logarithmic scale.

collected and not only in the area from which the animals were directly removed, an assumption made, for example, by Waters and Hokenstrom (1980).

In calculating the intensity of the removal of benthic animals in Ukhta R. (Table 1) it was found that the biomass B_n of drifting G. lacustris at an L_{\min} of up to 15 m did not exceed the population's production, and the C parameter was within the range of 10-80%. The biomass of migrating amphipods exceeded their production in the river only during the flood of 1978. Clearly, the biomass of the Gammarus population would decline as a result of such drift. The B_n of mayfly larvae was considerably lower than the mayfly production even during floods, and C averaged 5-10%.

A calculation of C for hydrobionts (Fig. 2) made it possible to establish the high positive correlation of this parameter with the minimum drift distance in amphipods and mayfly larvae. On the basis of the obtained results, the relation between C and L_{\min} can be approximated by the following equations:

for G. lacustris drifting in the summer:

$$C = 12,24 \pm 2.23 L_{\min}^{0.71 \pm 0.09}; \tag{6}$$

for mayfly larvae drifting in the summer:

$$C = 2.33 \pm 0.27 L_{\min}^{0.82 \pm 0.12}; \tag{7}$$

for mayfly larvae drifting in the autumn:

$$C = 7.40 \pm 1.45 L_{\min}^{0.71 \pm 0.12}.$$
 (8)

Thus, it becomes possible for specific river regions to calculate C by way of L_{\min} , which is considerably easier to find than P_n . It is readily noted that there are statistically significant differences between Eqs. (6), (7), and (8) at the accepted level of significance, which are explained by the differing magnitude of the specific production, dependent both upon the temperature conditions of the stream and upon the systematic position of the hydrobionts.

In calculating C for G. lacustris in the Pil'de R. it was found that the fraction of the population's production removed as a result of drift from the region located above the observation site declined from 5.6% in the upper reaches of the river to 1.6% in the central region (Table 2). Thus, with distance from the river source an increasing portion of the population's production is distributed within the ecosystem of the given stream. Therefore, the relation between L_{\min} and C may have special features for each river segment. This conclusion is supported by the results calculated from the data of Pearson and Kramer (1972) on the distribution of the production of Oligophlebodes sigma and Baetis bicaudatus in the

TABLE 2. Intensity of Drift of G. lacustris in Pil'de R.

Station number	Date	Q, m ³ /sec	S ₁ , thousands m ²	P_n ,	B n	C, %	
				kg/day			
1	2-3 VII.78	7,6	259	84,5	4,75	5,6	
2	7—8 VII.78	15,6	637	107,8	4,28	3,9	
3	8—9 VII.78	15,6	724	113,2	3,50	3,1	
4	15—16 VII.78	43,9	1799	197,5	3,11	-1,6	

TABLE 3. Production, Drift, and C Parameter in O. sigma and B. bicaudatus in Temple Fork R. (USA)

Station number	Production weight/m	n, g dry ² per year	Drift, g dry across river year	weight profile per	C, %		
	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	
			O. sigma				
1 2 3	1,28 3,85	1,29	30 2567	134	4	17	
$\tilde{3}$	4,30	3,31	5987	2318 1335	11	11 3	
			B. bicaudai	tus		ar Table	
1 2 3	1,96	1,95	1342	1990	112	167	
3	1,18 2,13	1,07 1,76	2137 1085	2621 4381	26 4	35 18	

Note. Production and drift cited from Pearson and Kramer (1972).

small mountain stream Temple Fork (Utah, USA). The observation stations were located at 0.2, 1.8, and 4.2 km from the source, while the average area of the river bottom was 620 m² between the source and the first station, 5856 m² between the first and second stations, and 9504 m² between the second and third stations. It was found that, with some exception, as the distance of the observation gate from the source was increased in Temple Fork, as in the Pil'de R., the fraction of production removed from the region located above the selected gate declined regularly, although the total hydrobiont drift in some cases increased (Table 3).

Evidently, estimation of the magnitude of the animal biomass removed from a community of organisms located in the region bounded by upper and lower gates requires knowledge of the magnitude of biomass at the input to the system, i.e. drift samples should also be taken at the upper gate. In this case C will be calculated as

$$C = \frac{B_n'' - B_n'}{P_-'} 100, \tag{9}$$

where P_n' is the daily production of organisms in the population that are located in the region of river between the two gates, and B'_n and B_n'' are the biomasses of organisms carried in one day across the river profile at the upper and lower gate, respectively. In this case, the production will be removed from the animal community located in the region provided $B_n'' > B_n'$. However, situations are frequently encountered in practice where $B_n'' < B_n'$, i.e. biomass can increase not only due to the production of hydrobionts but also due to their intensive drift from the upper regions of the river. In this case C will have negative values.

The obtained data make it possible to state certain postulates concerning the calculation of the food base of fish in streams, as well as the functional meaning of river benthos drift.

The calculation of the biocenotic production P_b during some time period t_1 , t_2 , taking into account the relative significance of trophic levels, is presently very important for estimating the productivity of bodies of water (Alimov, 1979):

$$P_b = P_i + P_\rho - A_\rho, \tag{10}$$

where P_f and P_p are the prey and predator production, respectively, during the time t_1 , t_2 , and A_p is the energy assimilated during the time t_1 , t_2 by the predators included in the community.

Part of the biocenotic production in a river is constantly removed from the system as a result of active drift. The absolute magnitude of such removal may be high: Thus, the daily biomass of the removed benthos was 9-13 kg in the Pil'de R., and the total biodrift in the Ukhta R. ranged from 0.04 to 1.1 kg per day.

We assume that in alpine and semialpine streams the products of the vital activity of predators included in the biocenose are removed with the water masses due to vigorous water current. Then that part of the production of the benthic biocenose $P_b^{\ '}$ remaining in the region above the observation gate during the period t_1 , t_2 can be calculated from the equality

$$P_b'' = (P_f + P_p) - (B_d + C_p), \tag{11}$$

where B_d is the biomass of organisms carried across the river profile during time t_1 , t_2 , and C_p is the ratio of predators included in the community during the time t_1 , t_2 .

The ratio of the biocenotic production to the energy expenditures by all animals in the community for metabolic processes (P_b/R_b) is used as a parameter of the functional state of the system and is inversely related to its diversity (Alimov, 1982). At the same time the energy-metabolism expenditures for the biocenose R_b represent the sum of the expenditures for metabolism of all animals included in a specific community. In river biocenoses, due to the constant removal of a part of the community production as a result of drift, the P_b/R_b ratio will decline to $P_b^{\ \ \ \ \ \ }/R_b$ at specific river regions. Consequently, it can be assumed that as a result of drift the benthic community of a stream is capable of passing to a more stable state, permitting the system to maintain a high diversity, since it is believed that the system is more stable at a low P_b/R_b ratio and higher diversity (Alimov, 1982). However, the foregoing hypothesis requires more careful empirical verification. Apparently, analogously to the action on an ecosystem of "moderate predation" (Paine, 1966), the diversity of a river biocenosis depends upon the effectiveness with which the monopoly of the dominant species declines during hydrobiont drift. It is also known that the removal of the "excess" biomass from an animal community is capable of stimulating the production of the remaining organisms (Watt, 1969).

It follows from the foregoing that benthic biocenoses may have a simplified structure in streams where for any reason hydrobiont drift does not occur. In fact, in a small stream (Reinike Island, Maritime Krai), the water of which filtered underground to prevent the removal of a part of the organismic biomass by means of a drift, we observed a community on a gravel—pebble substrate in June that consisted of only two species: G. lacustris and Heptagenia sp. Possibly, the low diversity and moderate density of the benthos in certain northern rivers in Sweden (Ulfstrand, 1968) and Chukota (Levanidov, 1976, 1977) may also be a result of the decline in the activity of benthic organisms during the maximum day length. It is important that the predator pressure in this case be negligible, which was, incidently, noted by V. Ya. Levanidov (1976) in Chukota streams.

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DISTRIBUTION OF PHYLLOPHAGOUS INSECTS IN THE CROWN OF DROOPING BIRCH AT THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF TREE VEGETATION

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The susceptibility of various parts of the crown of drooping birch to phyllophagous insects was studied in the Ob forest tundra. It was shown that insects prefer the south part of the crown and certain of its height levels (0-0.5 and 1-2 m). Such an insect distribution in the birch crown and, also, the daily vertical migration of weevils demonstrated by the method of stratified entomological sweeps are largely explained by the requirements for temperature conditions.

The stratification of the insect population declines in moving from the forest zone to polar deserts (Chernov and Matveeva, 1979). This is particularly evident in the fact that whereas the highest-level tree branches are the most thoroughly exploited in the taiga zone (Baranchikov, 1981), plants of the shrub stratum are most thoroughly exploited in forest tundra (Bogacheva, 1979a).

The upper stratum of vegetation in the Ob forest tundra is mainly represented by drooping birch (Betula tortuosa Ldb.). Although only a very small part of the birch production is used annually (Bogacheva, 1980), rather complex insect groupings are associated with this birch. This circumstance, as well as the comparatively large vertical extent of the upper stratum (up to 4-5 m), determined the selection of birch as an object for studying the spatial organization of consortia at the northern limit of the distribution of tree vegetation; data were collected for phyllophagous insects.

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