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Journal

# Graphical abstract:



# Dissolved iodide in marine waters determined with Diffusive Gradients in Thin-films technique.

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# 12 Graphical abstract:



# 15 Keywords:

- 16 Iodine; Redox speciation; Diffusive Gradients in Thin-films; Time-series experiment; Laboratory
- 17 validation; Iodide; Marine waters.

# 18 Highligths:

19 - A new DGT binding gel is proposed for selective iodide sampling.

- 20 The diffusion coefficient of I species through agarose diffusive gel is reported.
- A DGT equation is developed to simultaneously consider DBL and kinetic effects.
- The method was successfully applied to measure iodide concentrations in seawater.

# 23 Abstract

24 For the first time, Diffusive Gradient in Thin-films (DGT) focuses on the inorganic iodine species 25 iodate ( $IO_3$ ) and iodide (I). A silver-doped Cl resin (AgdCl), which is known to selectively 26 accumulate  $\Gamma$ , was used to make a binding gel. Laboratory investigations were designed to verify 27 the suitability of the AgdCl-DGT method to measure the total I concentration in environmental waters. Total recovery of  $\Gamma$  was obtained using an elution solution containing 100 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> 28 KCN. DGT validation experiments in 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl showed linear accumulation of I<sup>-</sup> over 29 30 time, contrary to IO<sub>3</sub>, thus confirming the selectivity of AgdCl-binding gel. The AgdCl-DGT 31 measurement of total  $\Gamma$  concentration was independent of pH (4.5 – 8.8) and was not impacted by the presence of bicarbonate (1-5 mmol  $L^{-1}$ ). Finally, the performance of AgdCl-DGT samplers 32 33 were tested in two continental waters and a synthetic seawater. The AgdCl-DGT samplers measured 27-33 % of the total I concentration in the two continental waters up to 24 h of 34 deployment time, whereas the AgdCl-DGT response retrieved the total I concentration in 35 36 seawater up to 72 h (106  $\pm$  7 %). The difference in DGT response was attributed to the low ionic 37 strength of the two continental waters, limiting the application of AgdCl-DGT method to media 38 with higher ionic strength.

# 39 **1. Introduction**

Natural iodine (I) is composed of the stable isotope <sup>127</sup>I and the long-lived beta-emitting 40 radioisotope <sup>129</sup>I ( $t_{1/2} = 15.7 \times 10^6$  years), which is mainly produced by nuclear activities (uranium 41 and released plutonium fission in the environment especially by fuel reprocessing plants) [1]. 42 Indeed, the  ${}^{129}\text{I}/{}^{127}\text{I}$  ratio can reach  $10^{-8}-10^{-6}$  in marine waters at the vicinity (<50 km) of 43 European fuel reprocessing plants, values significantly higher in comparison of the representative 44 ratio commonly considered in the hydrosphere  $(1.5 \times 10^{-12})$  [2]. The behaviour and the transfer 45 between compartments of <sup>129</sup>I highly depends on it speciation, which thus must be taken into 46 account to assess short- and long-term consequences of <sup>129</sup>I releases. 47

48 Iodine is occurring as a redox sensitive trace element in environment with concentration generally lower than 100  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup> (for the stable isotope) [3-8]. Data on its speciation are generally 49 50 restricted to surface seawater environment, in which the most common I species found are iodide 51 ( $\Gamma$ ), iodate (IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) and dissolved organic iodine [9-12]. In contrast, few data are available on the 52 behavior of I species at the water-sediment interface. These ones are mainly documented in marine environment, where total I concentrations are the most elevated [13-15], reflecting the 53 high level of difficulty to analyze its speciation at very low concentration in continental 54 55 environment. One solution to overcome these difficulties in aquatic environment is to use passive 56 samplers, which concentrate the analyte of interest. Here, we propose to use the Diffusive 57 Gradient in Thin film (DGT) technique, which is a passive sampling technique [16, 17]. The 58 DGT sampling allows the preconcentration of the target species, leading to the improvement of 59 their determination by chemical analysis. Nowadays, the development of DGT method permits to 60 partially or totally access the redox speciation of the following elements: As [18-20], Br [21], Cr 61 [22-24], Hg [25, 26], N [27-29], P [30], S [31, 32], Sb [33, 34], Se [35] and V [36]. But, to best of
62 our knowledge there is no DGT method for I species.

63 In this study, we have investigated the possibility to develop a binding gel able to accumulate 64 specifically Γ. The silver-doped C1 resin, developed by Triskem international 65 (https://www.triskem-international.com/) has been tested as an adsorbent phase. It was already 66 used to preconcentrate I in extraction chromatography, due to its strong interaction with silver [37, 38]. Laboratory validation experiments were designed: (i) to find an inert filter membrane 67 68 and diffusive gel to make DGT samplers; (ii) to define the selectivity of the new binding gel for inorganic I species in the presence of potential competing ions (Cl<sup>-</sup> and  $SO_4^{2-}$ ) from batch 69 experiments; and (iii) to evaluate its performance in DGT in synthetic and natural matrices 70 71 (selectivity, effect of pH, intrinsic capacity, carbonate interferences, continental and marine 72 waters).

# 73 2. Experimental section

# 74 2.1. Reagents, materials and solutions

75 All the solutions were prepared with deionized water (18.2 M $\Omega$  cm resistivity, Milli-Q water, Millipore). The polypropylene plastic containers were acid-cleaned in 1.5 mol  $L^{-1}$  HNO<sub>3</sub> solution 76 77 over 24 h, then rinsed several times with deionized water prior to DGT sampler deployment. The 78 following chemicals were used: agarose (Bio-rad), AgNO<sub>3</sub> (VWR), KCN (VWR, normapur), HCl 79 (Merck, Emsure 37 %), HNO<sub>3</sub> (VWR Chemicals, Normapur 68 %), KI (VWR, normapur), NaCl (Merck, suprapur), Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (Merck, suprapur), NaOH (Merck, normapur), NH<sub>3</sub> (Merck, utrapur 80 81 20 %), cellulose acetate (CA; Sartorius, 0.45 µm pore size), polycarbonate (PC; Pall, 0.45 µm 82 pore size), polyester sulfone (PES; Pall, 0.45 µm pore size) and polyvinylidene fluoride filter discs (PVDF; Merck Durapore, 0.45 µm pore size). Concerning standard solutions we used IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> 83

solution (1 g L<sup>-1</sup>; conditioned in deionized water; VWR), anions chromatography solution
including Cl<sup>-</sup>, Br<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, Γ, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> and PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup> (100 mg L<sup>-1</sup>; conditioned in deionized water;
VWR), acidified Te and Pt solution (1 g L<sup>-1</sup>; VWR).

# 87 **2.2.** Gel preparation and DGT assembly

88 Agarose (AGE) and agarose-polyacrylamide (APA) diffusive gel were made as in [39] and [40], respectively. The diffusive gel was stored in  $10^{-2}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup> ultrapure NaCl solution. The thickness 89 90 of diffusive gel was 800 µm, value controlled with an optical microscope as in [39]. The binding 91 layer was constituted by an Ag<sup>+</sup> loaded Cl resin (AgdCl) embedded in agarose gel. The Cl resin 92  $(50 - 100 \text{ }\mu\text{m})$  was provided by Triskem international. The AgdCl resin was prepared by contacting 1 g of the Cl resin with 10 mL of 10 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> AgNO<sub>3</sub> solution in an orbital shaker 93 94 over a period of 2 hours. During this step, the color of the Cl resin changed from white to beige. 95 Then, the AgdCl resin was rinsed with 80 - 100 mL of ultrapure water in a polypropylene 96 column connected to a vacuum box (Triskem international). The interstitial water was eliminated 97 by increasing pressure to the maximum in the vacuum box. Finally, the AgdCl resin was mixed with 10 mL of 1.5% (w/v) hot agarose solution. This mixture was, then, poured between two hot 98 99 glass plates (50 °C) separated by a 0.8 mm Teflon plastic spacer at room temperature for at least 100 30 minutes. Once binding gel was completely polymerized, it was removed from the glass plates, 101 rinsed three times to remove unreacted reagents (during 24 hours), and placed into ultrapure 102 water bath (2 weeks maximum). The AgdCl binding gel, the diffusive gel and the filter were then assembled in a piston-type ABS DGT sampler with a sampling area of 3.14 cm<sup>2</sup> (DGT Research 103 104 Ltd).

# 105 **2.3. Analytical procedures**

106 Total iodine concentration was measured by Inductively Coupled Plasma -Mass Spectrometry 107 (ICP-MS; Agilent 8800). The ICP-MS was equipped with a PFA concentric nebulizer (ESI), a 108 double-pass PFA spray chamber cooled at 2°C, a PFA T-piece with an internal solution, a 109 demountable torch with a sapphire injector, and Ni cones. ICP-MS spectrometer was calibrated 110 using freshly standard solutions following a matrix-matching procedure between samples and standard solutions (*i.e.*, 150 mmol  $L^{-1}$  NH<sub>3</sub> for basified water samples and 10 mmol  $L^{-1}$  KCN for 111 eluent solution). Internal standard ( $^{125}$ Te in 150 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>3</sub> for basified water samples [4] or 112 <sup>195</sup>Pt (element selected due to its stability in cyanide media [41]) in 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> KCN for eluent 113 114 solution) was used to correct for instrumental signal drift of ICP-MS over time; the concentration 115 of the internal standard concentrations was adjusted to obtain 50000 - 70000 cps at m/z 125 or 116 195.

117 Speciation measurement was carried out on filtered water samples by chromatographic separation 118 using a Metrohm 940 Professional IC Vario Ion Chromatography (IC) system. The 119 chromatographic system was equipped with Metrosep A Supp 10 guard column (4.6 µm particle 120 diameter, 2 mm i.d.  $\times$  5 mm) coupled with a Metrosep A Supp 10 analytical column (4.6  $\mu$ m 121 particle diameter, 2 mm i.d. × 250 mm), a 20 µL PEEK injection loop, a thermostatic column oven set at  $35 \pm 0.1^{\circ}$ C, a mobile phase containing 50 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (pH 5.5 ± 0.1), a PEEK 122 123 capillary (15 cm) connecting the column outlet to the nebulizer of ICP-MS. The flow rate of 124 mobile phase was fixed at 250 µL min<sup>-1</sup>. Standard solutions were freshly prepared in deionized 125 water. The chromatographic conditions were developed in partnership with Metrohm France (see 126 section S1-S5, Figure S1-S4, Table S1 and S2 in supplementary information).

128 axial view) was used to evaluate the uptake capacity of AgdCl-DGT sampler for inorganic I

species (section 2.5.5). Standard solutions were prepared as for ICP-MS calibration.

# 130 **2.4. Experiments with DGT components**

### 131 **2.4.1. Reactivity of filter, diffusive gel and DGT plastic holder**

Before performing DGT experiments, the reactivity of common diffusive gel (AGE and APA), filter membrane (CA, PC, PES and PVDF) and ABS-DGT plastic holder was tested regarding inorganic I species. Batch experiments were performed with each component immersed in 20 ml of solution containing 25  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup> of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or  $\Gamma$ . Experimental solution was vigorously shaken for 24 h using an orbital shaker. Filtered batch solutions were, then, basified with ultrapure NH<sub>3</sub> at 150 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> before elemental analysis. The recovery of inorganic I species (*R*, %) in immersion solution was calculated using the following equation (Eq. 1).

$$R = \frac{M_{\rm f}}{M_{\rm i}} \times 100$$
where *M* and *M* are respectively the initial and final mass (u.g.) of increasing L species in

where  $M_i$  and  $M_f$  are respectively the initial and final mass (µg) of inorganic I species in deployment solution.

# 141 **2.4.2. Reactivity of binding gel**

142 The first step was devoted to define the uptake capacities of inorganic I species by the AgdCl-143 binding gel to confirm the possibility of using it as a new DGT binding gel. The affinity of 144 inorganic I species with AgdCl binding gels were examined by batch experiments with 20 mL of 145 solution containing 100  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup> of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or  $\Gamma$  where one binding gel was immersed to float freely. 146 The experiments were performed at various ionic strength ([NaCl] or [Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>] = 1 – 500 mmol 147 L<sup>-1</sup>; pH 5.5 ± 0.1). The solution was vigorously shaken for 24 h with an orbital shaker. Filtered

batch solutions were, then, basified with ultrapure NH<sub>3</sub> at 150 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> before elemental analysis. The uptake factor ( $f_u$ , %, Eq. 2) was calculated from the initial mass of inorganic I species in the deployment solution ( $M_i$ , µg), and the remaining mass of iodine species ( $M_{f_i}$ , µg):

$$f_{\rm u} = \frac{M_{\rm i} - M_{\rm f}}{M_{\rm i}} \times 100$$

The second step was to find a suitable eluent solution that could quantitatively recover the inorganic I species from AgdCl-binding gel. As cyanides are known to form strong complexes with  $Ag^+$  [41], the AgdCl-binding gel was immersed for 24 h in 3 mL of KCN solution (0.1 – 100 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>) containing 100 µg L<sup>-1</sup> of inorganic I species. The recovery of inorganic I species in KCN solution was calculated using Eq. 1.

# 156 2.5. Laboratory evaluation of DGT performances

157 This section focuses on the laboratory evaluation of AgdCl-DGT method in deployment 158 solutions. The general experimental setup and calculations are firstly described, followed-up by a 159 description of classical tests to specify the performances of the new DGT binding gel in terms of 160 selectivity, pH influence, uptake capacity and deployment in natural matrices.

# 161 **2.5.1. Experimental setup and calculations**

All DGT experiments were performed in polypropylene containers (30 L). After equilibration of the deployment solution with the atmosphere during at least 24 hours, AgdCl-DGT samplers were deployed at specific time interval. The temperature and pH were monitored. Prior to the retrieval of the AgdCl-DGT, aliquots of the deployment solution were taken, filtered through acetate cellulose filter (0.45  $\mu$ m), then basified with ultrapur NH<sub>3</sub> at 150 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> before elemental analysis. Mean values of temperature, pH, concentration of inorganic I species are

included in the figures and uncertainties are expressed as the standard deviation of the variationof these parameters during the experiments.

170 The accumulated mass of inorganic I species by AgdCl-binding gel ( $M_{DGT}$ , ng) was calculated

171 using Eq. 3.

$$M_{\rm DGT} = \frac{C_{\rm e} \times \left(V_{\rm KCN} + V_{\rm gel}\right)}{f_{\rm e}/100}$$
 Eq. 3

where  $C_{\rm e}$  is the eluted concentration of I in the selected elution solution (ng mL<sup>-1</sup>),  $V_{KCN}$  the eluent solution volume (mL),  $V_{\rm gel}$  the volume of the AgdCl-binding gel (mL) and  $f_{\rm e}$  the eluent factor (%).

To determine the experimental DGT performances, the theoretical mass of inorganic I species  $(M_{\text{th}1}, \text{ ng})$  accumulated in the AgdCl-binding gel was calculated using Eq. 4, which is based on the well-established DGT equation [17].

$$M_{\rm th1} = \frac{C_{\rm I} \times A_{\rm P} \times t}{\left(\frac{\delta^{\rm mdl}}{D^{\rm mdl}}\right)}$$
Eq. 4

where  $C_{\rm I}$  is the concentration of  $\rm IO_3^-$  or  $\Gamma$  in the deployment solution (ng cm<sup>-3</sup>),  $D^{\rm mdl}$  the diffusion coefficient of each inorganic I species (in the material diffusion layer) obtained by the diffusion cell method (cm<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>),  $A_{\rm P}$  the geometric area of the DGT device window (3.14 cm<sup>2</sup>), t the deployment time (s) and  $\delta^{\rm mdl}$  the thickness of the diffusive gel plus the filter membrane (0.093 cm).

# 183 **2.5.2.** Selectivity and determination of the effective diffusion coefficient

184 The accumulation of inorganic I species was investigated by deploying five sets of triplicate 185 AgdCl-DGT samplers in 8 L of 30  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup> IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or  $\Gamma$  (prepared in 10<sup>-2</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl at pH 5.5 ±

186 0.1). Triplicate AgdCl-DGT samplers were removed at around 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 h. In condition 187 where all inorganic I species are labile, if a linear accumulation is observed over time with  $R^2 >$ 188 0.95, the effective diffusion coefficient ( $D^{eff}$ , cm<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) of considered inorganic I species value can 189 be calculated using Eq.5.

$$D^{\rm eff} = \frac{\alpha \times \delta^{\rm mdl}}{C_{\rm I} \times A_{\rm P}}$$

190 where  $\alpha$  is the slope of linear regression of the mass accumulated of considered inorganic I 191 species over time (ng s<sup>-1</sup>).

192 To check the selectivity of AgdCl-DGT samplers for both inorganic I species, complementary 193 experiments were carried out in 8 L of  $10^{-2}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl at pH 5.5 ± 0.1 containing inorganic I 194 species with different weight ratio [I<sup>-</sup>] / [IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>] (0, 0.4, 0.9, 1.7, 2.4 and 4.6; values obtained after 195 speciation control by IC-ICP-MS). The concentration of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> was fixed at a value close to 20 µg 196 L<sup>-1</sup>, whereas  $\Gamma$  concentrations varied. Triplicate AgdCl-DGT samplers were deployed for 10 h.

# 197 **2.5.3. Effect of pH**

The effect of pH on Γ accumulation was evaluated by deploying four AgdCl-DGT samplers in 8 L of 20 µg L<sup>-1</sup> Γ (prepared in 10<sup>-2</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl at pH 5.5 ± 0.1) for 10 h. The pH selected for these experiments were the following: 4.5, 5.5, 6.6, 7.6 and 8.8. Acidification at pH 4.5 was performed using 6 mol L<sup>-1</sup> HCl solution. A pH titrator (Metler Toledo), equipped with a DGi115 glass electrode (Metler Toledo) and dilute NaOH solution were used to control and adjust the pH of the deployment solutions for pH > 6.

Eq. 5

# 204 **2.5.4. Effect of bicarbonate**

The effect of bicarbonate was tested by deploying five sets of triplicate AgdCl-DGT samplers in 8 L of 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl solution containing either 1 or 5 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The concentration of  $\Gamma$  was close to 30 µg L<sup>-1</sup> in the two deployment solutions. Triplicate DGT samplers were removed after 4, 6, 8, 10 and 24 h.

# 209 2.5.5. Binding capacity of AgdCl-DGT samplers

210 The intrinsic binding capacity of AgdCl-binding gel was investigated by deploying six sets of

211 triplicate AgdCl-DGT samplers in 8 L of around 20 mg  $L^{-1} \Gamma$  (prepared in 10<sup>-2</sup> mol  $L^{-1}$  NaCl at

212 pH 5.5  $\pm$  0.1). Triplicate DGT samplers were removed after 2, 4, 6, 8, 24 and 28 h.

# 213 **2.5.6.** Time-series experiment in natural and synthetic matrix

214 To determine the performances of AgdCl-DGT in environmentally relevant matrices, AgdCl-215 DGT samplers were deployed in 8 L of Vittel®, Volvic® or synthetic seawater. The Vittel® and Volvic® continental waters were spiked with  $\Gamma$  at around 25 µg  $L^{-1}$ , and the synthetic seawater at 216 100  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup> (a higher level, due to important dilution before elemental and speciation 217 218 measurements). Physico-chemical characteristics of drinking waters are reported in Table 1. 219 Triplicate AgdCl-DGT samplers were removed after a defined deployment time (2 - 72 h). For samplers deployed in seawater, each AgdCl-binding gel was rinsed in 5 mL of ultrapure water for 220 221 2 h to remove unbound salts.

# **3. Results and discussion**

# **3.1. Experiments with DGT components**

## **3.1.1. Reactivity of filter, diffusive gel and DGT plastic holder**

225 The ABS DGT holder did not react with  $IO_3$  or I (R = 101-102 %). All filter membranes (CA, 226 PC, PES or PVDF) and diffusive gels (AGE or APA) tested did not accumulate inorganic I 227 species (R = 98-102 %). For more details, data are available in Figure S5 in the supplementary 228 information. To make DGT samplers for inorganic I species, there is consequently no limitation 229 using a specific combination of filter membrane and diffusive gel rather than another. This is not 230 the case when working, for example, with mercury (which adsorbs on APA diffusive gel) [42-231 44]. For the next experiments, the CA filter membrane and AGE diffusive gel were used as 232 standard DGT components.

# 233 **3.1.2. Reactivity of binding gel**

234 The uptake efficiency of the AgdCl-binding gel disc is shown as a function of NaCl or Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> 235 concentration in Figure 1 (A) and (B), respectively. Immersion time was 24 h.  $\Gamma$  was totally 236 accumulated by the AgdCl-binding gel without being impacted by the NaCl and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> 237 concentrations in the immersion solution ( $f_u > 98$  %). Consequently, chloride (Cl<sup>-</sup>) and sulfate  $(SO_4^{2-})$  ions are not a competing ion for the uptake of  $\Gamma$  by the AgdCl-binding gel for 238 concentration up to 500 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>. The uptake factor by AgdCl-binding gel is very limited for 239  $IO_3^-$  ( $f_u < 15$  %). For these batch experiments, no speciation controls were done. The aim was 240 241 only to roughly determine the selectivity of AgdCl-binding gel. It might be that some redox 242 interconversion of  $IO_3^-$  to  $\Gamma$  could explain the low  $IO_3^-$  uptake in NaCl media. In any case, these 243 results open up the possibility to develop a DGT method selective to  $\Gamma$ . This hypothesis will be

tested through DGT experiments in the section 3.2, in which the speciation of I was checked ineach deployment solution.

Then, the binding dynamics of  $\Gamma$  by AgdCl-binding gel disc was studied in 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl 246 247 and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> immersion solution as shown Figure 1 (C). The mass of I<sup>-</sup> bound to AgdCl-binding gel disc increased steeply at the first 10-20 min, followed by a slow increase later on. The binding 248 rates at 5 min are 0.68 and 1.08 ng s<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> for NaCl and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> immersion solution, 249 respectively. These values are much greater than DGT fluxes (0.022 ng s<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>) calculated 250 251 through a 0.093 cm a diffusive layer (typically used in DGT assemblies), the diffusion coefficient 252 of  $\Gamma$  in free water (Table 2), and a deployment solution containing the same concentration of  $\Gamma$  at 25°C. It shows that I binding to AgdCl-binding gel can be high enough to satisfy DGT uptake. 253 Furthermore, Figure 1 (C) indicates a lower uptake for the lower ionic strength (10 mmol  $L^{-1}$  for 254 NaCl solution vs 30 mmol  $L^{-1}$  for Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution), which was not observable in previous 255 256 experiments due to long immersion time (24 h). This is probably linked to the nature of AgdClresin. One possible mechanism is hypothesized next. Once  $\Gamma$ , Cl<sup>-</sup> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> enter into the AgdCl-257 258 resin bead, these anions react with  $Ag^+$  to form precipitates. The precipitation of  $Ag_2SO_4$  and 259 AgCl does not hinder the formation of AgI because of its lower solubility product constant value  $(pKsp = 4.8, 9.75 \text{ and } 16.1 \text{ for } Ag_2SO_4, AgCl and AgI precipitates [41], respectively). This was$ 260 261 also confirmed by our previous batch experiments showing total uptake of  $\Gamma$  by AgdCl-binding 262 gel disc whatever the concentration of NaCl and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> in immersion solution. Nevertheless, the 263 penetration of the negatively charged  $\Gamma$  inside the AgdCl-resin bead could be restricted due to 264 residual negatively charged sites on the AgdCl-resin. The electrostatic potential difference 265 (between the resin and the solution) increases with decreasing of ionic strength [45-48], and  $\Gamma$ tends to be excluded from the AgdCl-resin. So, less accumulation will follow in low ionic 266

strength. This hypothetical mechanism would explain why a faster uptake was observed in Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> immersion solution than in the NaCl (Figure 1(C)) one with the same analyte concentration, but different ionic strength. These results point out to a potential limitation of the use the AgdCl-DGT method. In section 3.2, experiments will designed to better understand how to use the AgdCl-DGT method, but also to check whether this decreased accumulation at lower ionic strength is negligible or not.

273 To define the eluent solution, the recovery of  $\Gamma$  from AgdCl-binding gel was tested using 3 mL of KCN solution at different concentrations  $(0.1 - 100 \text{ mmol } L^{-1})$ , as shown in Figure 2. Total 274 recovery of  $\Gamma$  was obtained for KCN concentration higher than 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> (R = 101 - 103 %). 275 The AgdCl-binding gel disc became white (initial color of Cl resin) when using 100 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> 276 KCN, suggesting that Ag is totally removed in the eluent solution and there is no  $\Gamma$  left in the 277 278 AgdCl binding gel. Hence, this concentration was used to totally elute I from AgdCl binding gel. 279 To prevent signal suppression of ICP-MS linked to high potassium concentration, the eluent 280 solutions were diluted at least 10 fold with deionized water. Finally, no elution factor is needed to calculate the mass of  $\Gamma$  accumulated by the AgdCl-binding gel ( $f_e = 100$  % in Eq. 3). 281 282 Furthermore, the AgdCl-DGT blank values for  $\Gamma$  species were 5 ng (n = 10) following this 283 elution procedure. This blank value of AgdCl-DGT method is low enough to measure the low 284 concentration of  $\Gamma$  in environmental waters.

# 285 **3.2. DGT experiments**

# 286 **3.2.1. Speciation and lability**

To be sure of the stability of inorganic I species in deployment solution, speciation was checked
 with IC-ICP-MS measurements during DGT experiment. The concentration of inorganic I species

was relatively stable over time in each deployment solution with RSD < 5 %, confirming that 289 290 there is no redox interconversion in these DGT experiments. Concerning the lability of inorganic 291 species. speciation calculations were performed with PHREEOC version Ι 3 292 (https://www.usgs.gov/software/phreeqc) with the thermodynamic database ThermoChimie 293 version 9b0 developed by Andra (http://www.thermochimie-tdb.com/) [49, 50]. Input data were 294 the concentrations of each component in deployment solution. Atmosphere-water equilibrium with CO<sub>2</sub> was also assumed. pH and temperature was also introduced. Whatever the simulated 295 deployment solution,  $IO_3^-$  and  $\Gamma$  were mainly present as free ions (> 95 %). Hence, it was 296 297 considered that inorganic I species were totally available for the AgdCl-DGT samplers.

# 298 **3.2.2. Selectivity of AgdCl-DGT method**

299 Time-series experiments were used to characterize the selectivity of AgdCl-DGT samplers for 300 inorganic I species (Figure 3). AgdCl-DGT samplers were deployed up to 10 h in the presence of either IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or  $\Gamma$  (~ 30 µg L<sup>-1</sup>). The mass of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> stabilized at 14 ± 2 ng after 2 h of deployment 301 302 time, which coincides with the amount for equilibrium ( $[IO_3]_{solution} \times V_{gel} \sim 12$  ng with  $V_{gel} = 0.42$  $\pm$  0.03 mL), assuming no electrostatic effect. This indicated that IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> was not trapped over time in 303 304 the AgdCl binding gel. Consequently, this DGT method should not suffer from any IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> 305 interference. Selectivity control was performed using a deployment solution containing the two 306 inorganic I species, and results are discussed later on. A good linear regression was obtained between the accumulated mass of  $\Gamma$  and the deployment time of DGT samplers ( $R^2 = 0.994$ ), 307 308 confirming previous results on the selectivity of AgdCl-binding gel (section 3.1.2). The slope of linear fitting was used to calculate  $D^{eff}$  according to Eq. 5. The  $D^{eff}$  value for  $\Gamma$  was 1.20  $10^{-5}$  cm<sup>2</sup> 309  $s^{-1}$  (RSD = 6 %) at 25°C value. Complementarily, the diffusion cell method was used to measure 310 the diffusion coefficient of each inorganic I species in hydrogel alone  $(D^{\text{gel}})$  and with the addition 311

of a filter  $(D^{mdl})$ . Experimental details are presented in section S6, and the diffusion cell is shown 312 313 in Figure S6. The concentration of  $IO_3^-$  or  $\Gamma$  were both constant in the source solution during each 314 diffusion cell experiments with a RSD < 4 %, confirming the non-adsorption of inorganic I 315 species by the components and the walls of diffusive cell. Linear accumulation of  $IO_3^-$  or  $I^-$  in the acceptor compartment was observed over time ( $R^2 = 0.997-0.999$ ; Figure S7), and each slope was 316 317 used to calculate the diffusion coefficient of inorganic I species according to Eq. S1. Results are 318 displayed in Table 2. The diffusion of inorganic I species is slightly higher in hydrogel than in pure water ( $D^{\text{gel}} / D^{\text{w}} \sim 110$  %). Slower diffusion of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and  $\Gamma$  was observed with the addition of 319 filter  $(D^{\text{mdl}} / D^{\text{w}} \sim 80 \%)$ , suggesting some resistance in the ensemble. These results seem to be 320 321 consistent with previous experimental observations with anions [18, 51, 52]. Furthermore, there is a significant difference between  $D^{\text{mdl}}$  and  $D^{\text{eff}}$  ( $D^{\text{eff}}$  /  $D^{\text{mdl}}$  ~ 75 %). Consequently,  $M_{\text{tb1}}$  does not 322 match with  $M_{DGT}$  as shown with the red dashed line in Figure 3. Investigations were carried out 323 324 to check whether this lower than expected  $M_{\text{DGT}}$  could be the result from a longer diffusion path. 325 A thin diffusion-controlled layer, known as diffusive boundary layer (DBL), exists at any solid 326 surface in aqueous environment, even in vigorously stirred solutions. The DBL is known to affect the DGT results [53, 54]. That is the reason why its thickness ( $\delta^{dbl1}$ ) was assessed by using 327 328 different thickness of diffusive gel in the AgdCl-DGT samplers. Experimental details are presented in section S7. A linear plot of the reciprocal mass of  $\Gamma$  versus  $\delta^{mdl}$  was observed ( $R^2 =$ 329 0.998; Figure S8). The slope and the intercept were classically used to calculate  $\delta^{dbl1}$  according to 330 Eq. S2. Our  $\delta^{dbl1}$  is  $361 \pm 40 \ \mu m$ , indicating that the mixing of deployment solution was not 331 optimal. Indeed, common  $\delta^{dbl}$  values were close to 200 µm in well mixed solution [55]. As  $\delta^{dbl1}$  is 332 333 not negligible, we propose now to include it in calculation of the theoretical mass accumulated of 334 Γ (Eq. 6):

$$M_{\rm th2} = \frac{C_{\rm I} \times A_{\rm P} \times t}{\left(\frac{\delta^{\rm dbl1}}{D^{\rm w}} + \frac{\delta^{\rm mdl}}{D^{\rm mdl}}\right)}$$

335 Results are displayed with the orange dashed line in Figure 3. The impact of considering the DBL is a decrease of 23.5 % in theoretical accumulation when comparing  $M_{\text{th}1}$  and  $M_{\text{th}2}$ , but there is 336 337 still some difference with  $M_{\rm DGT}$  points. The reduced slope could indicate that the accumulation of  $\Gamma$  does not fulfil perfect sink condition *i.e.*, the concentration of  $\Gamma$  in the resin-diffusive gel 338 339 interface is not zero and I penetrates into the resin domain [56]. This assumption was tested 340 using DGT samplers equipped with a stack of two AgdCl-binding gels in two deployment solution containing 1 and 10 mmol  $L^{-1}$  NaCl (see experiment details in section S8).  $\Gamma$  was present 341 342 at 8.7 and 0.3 % in the back binding gel when AgdCl-DGT samplers were deployed in 1 and 10 mmol  $L^{-1}$  NaCl solution, respectively. Knowing the distribution of  $\Gamma$  in the stack of two AgdCl-343 binding gels, it is now possible to determine the penetration factor  $\lambda_M i.e.$ , the mean distance that 344 I can penetrate into an AgdCl-binding gel.  $\lambda_M$  is calculated from Eq. S3, and the average value 345 346 obtained is  $312 \pm 100 \ \mu\text{m}$  and  $140.8 \pm 8.4 \ \mu\text{m}$  for deployment solution composed of 1 and 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl, respectively. The AgdCl-resin beads have a size ranging between 40 to 125 µm 347 348 (Figure S9). More precisely, the diameter of AgdCl-resin beads defining 10%, 50% and 90% of 349 the cumulative volume undersize is 55  $\mu$ m, 73  $\mu$ m and 97  $\mu$ m, respectively. As  $\lambda_M$  is significantly 350 higher than the diameter of AgdCl-resin beads, we confirm that the AgdCl-resin does not act as a 351 perfect sink and there is a non-null concentration of  $\Gamma$  all along the resin disc. Consequently, for 352 this case where there is a resulting kinetic limitation, we propose a new expression to estimate the 353 accumulation of DGT samplers (Eq. 7):

$$M_{\rm th3} = \frac{C_{\rm I} \times A_{\rm P} \times t}{\left(\frac{\delta^{\rm dbl2}}{D^{\rm w}} + \frac{\delta^{\rm mdl}}{D^{\rm mdl}} + \frac{\lambda_{\rm M} \times \coth(\delta^{\rm r}/\lambda_{\rm M})}{\Pi \times D^{\rm gel}}\right)}$$

Eq. 7

Eq. 6

where  $\delta^{\rm r}$  correspond to the thickness of AgdCl-binding gel (0.08 cm) and the term  $\lambda_{\rm M} \times$ *coth*( $\delta^{\rm r}/\lambda_{\rm M}$ ) to the effective distance of penetration of  $\Gamma$  in the AgdCl-resin domain (cm).  $\Pi$  is the ratio between the analyte concentration inside the binding gel disc and the concentration inside the diffusive gel disc, both at the limiting interface between the two gel discs [46]. Another new equation was used to recalculate the thickness of DBL ( $\delta^{\rm dbl2}$ , cm) taking into account the penetration phenomenon and the electrostatic partitioning between the two gel discs:

$$\delta^{\text{dbl2}} = D^{\text{w}} \left( \frac{y}{s \times D^{\text{mdl}}} - \frac{\lambda_{\text{M}} \times \coth(\delta^{\text{r}} / \lambda_{\text{M}})}{\Pi \times D^{\text{gel}}} \right)$$
Eq. 8

An electrostatic correction could be done, but it requires complementary experiments to 360 determine  $\Pi$ . As a first approximation, we have taken  $\Pi = 1$  in Eq.7 and Eq. 8. The  $\delta^{dbl2}$  value 361  $(326 \pm 42 \ \mu m)$  is slightly lower than  $\delta^{dbl1}$ . Results are shown with the green dashed line in Figure 362 3. The  $M_{th3}$  curve is a better fit to simulate the uptake of I by AgdCl-DGT sampler ( $M_{DGT} / M_{th3}$ 363 364 = 98 ± 8 %) compared to the  $M_{\text{th}1}$  and  $M_{\text{th}2}$  curves ( $M_{\text{DGT}}/M_{\text{th}1}$  = 71 ± 6 % and  $M_{\text{DGT}}/M_{\text{th}2}$  = 93 ± 365 7 %). Similar results were obtained for the DGT experiment using a stack of two AgdCl in 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl ( $M_{DGT} / M_{th3} = 106 \pm 6$  %). Eq. 7 will be used to evaluate the AgdCl-DGT 366 367 performances in the following sections. Nevertheless, application of Eq. 7 (with  $\Pi = 1$ ) does not 368 explain the low amount of I found in the two AgdCl-binding gels for the DGT experiment performed in 1 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl ( $M_{DGT} / M_{th3} = 4.1 \pm 0.3$  %). The low DGT response is probably 369 370 linked to the partial exclusion of anions from the resin at low ionic strength, which would be 371 quantified by the parameter  $\Pi$ . This exclusion from the AgdCl-resin seems more likely than 372 exclusion from the filter and diffusive gel as previously observed in previous laboratory validation of DGT methods [43, 48]. Additional experiments will focus on the effect of ionic 373 374 strength in section 3.2.6.

375 Complementary, DGT experiments were done to control the possibility of using the AgdCl-376 binding gel for redox speciation. For this experiment,  $IO_3^-$  and  $\Gamma$  were simultaneously present in 377 deployment solution with different weight ratio  $[I^-] / [IO_3^-]$  up to 4.6 (Figure 4). To confirm the 378 selectivity of AgdCl-DGT method for  $\Gamma$ ,  $M_{th3}$  was calculated using the concentration of  $\Gamma$ 379 measured by IC-ICP-MS (Eq. 7). Acceptable DGT measurements were obtained for  $M_{\rm DGT} / M_{\rm th3}$ 380 =  $100 \pm 15$  % (dashed lines in Figure 4), as in other previous DGT laboratory evaluations [19, 20, 381 39]. Whatever the weight ratio  $[I^-] / [IO_3^-]$  tested, the AgdCl-DGT estimations were good with 382  $M_{\rm DGT}$  /  $M_{\rm th3}$  values ranging between 89 and 107 %. As the DGT measurements were not 383 interfered by  $IO_3^{-}$ , it is confirmed that the AgdCl-binding gel is only selective to  $\Gamma$ .

#### 384 3.2.3. Effect of pH

385 The impact of pH on the accumulation of I was investigated for 10 h of deployment time. Over 386 the pH range from 4.5 to 8.8, excellent agreement was observed between the predicted and accumulated mass of  $\Gamma$  ( $M_{DGT}$  /  $M_{th3}$  = 93 - 113 %; Figure S10). These results indicate that the 387 388 performance of the AgdCl-DGT method is independent of pH over the typical range found in environmental waters (pH  $\sim$  5-9). 389

#### 390 **3.2.4.** AgdCl-DGT sampler binding capacity

391 To determine the AgdCl-DGT sampler binding capacity to accumulate I, a time-series experiment was performed using a high concentration of this species ( $\sim 20 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ) in deployment 392 solution with [NaCl] = 10 mmol  $L^{-1}$  and pH = 5.5. Linear accumulation of I<sup>-</sup> by AgdCl-DGT 393 samplers was observed up to 6 h ( $R^2 > 0.95$ ; Figure S11). The AgdCl-DGT response was in 394 395 agreement with predicted total  $\Gamma$  mass since the  $M_{\rm DGT}$  /  $M_{\rm th3}$  value was 106 ± 7 % (mean ± 396 standard deviation). After 8 h of deployment time, the  $M_{\text{DGT}}$  values decreased compared with 397  $M_{\text{th}3}$  values. The maximum mass of  $\Gamma$  accumulated by AgdCl-DGT samplers was 218 ± 25 µg. As

inorganic I species occur at trace levels in environmental waters (< 100  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup>), this binding capacity should be high enough to deploy AgdCl-DGT samplers during 24 - 96 h (typical deployment times).

# 401 **3.2.5. Effect of bicarbonates**

The effect of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> on the accumulation was investigated up to 24 h.  $M_{DGT}$  agrees with  $M_{th3}$ within an error of 15 % (Figure S12; 105 ± 5 and 104 ± 7 % for 1 and 5 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, respectively). In these conditions, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> is not a competing ion for the accumulation of  $\Gamma$  by AgdCl-DGT samplers. That is consistent with thermodynamic data. Indeed, the precipitation of Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> does not hinder AgI formation when comparing solubility product constant values (pK<sub>sp</sub> = 11.1 and 16.1 for Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and AgI, respectively [41]).

# 408 **3.2.6.** Time-series experiment in natural and synthetic waters

After carrying out numerous experiments in 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl solutions, the performances of 409 410 AgdCl-DGT method were studied in Vittel® and Volvic® water spiked with I with a concentration close to 20  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup>. The concentration of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> was negligible in these deployment 411 solutions with values lower than 1  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup>. The ionic strength for these two drinking waters are 412 22.6 and 3.2 mmol  $L^{-1}$ , respectively (calculations performed by using data in Table 1 and 413 414 PHREEQC software). The mass of  $\Gamma$  accumulated by AgdCl-DGT samplers was monitored over 415 time, and compared to  $M_{th3}$  (black line in Figure 5). Linear accumulation of total I mass by AgdCl-DGT samplers was observed up to 24 h for Vittel® and Volvic® waters ( $R^2 > 0.9$ ; Figure 416 417 5 (A) and (B)). However, the amount of I<sup>-</sup> measured by AgdCl-DGT samplers was  $33 \pm 8$  and 27  $\pm$  5 % in Vittel® and Volvic® waters, respectively. Assuming 15 % of error on predicted total  $\Gamma$ 418 419 mass (dashed lines in Figure 5), the AgdCl-DGT measurements were not quantitative whatever 420 the deployment times. Although the ionic strength of these two drinking waters was significantly

421 different, similar DGT responses were obtained. It is also noted that Vittel® water had a higher 422 ionic strength than the synthetic deployment solution employed to characterize the AgdCl-DGT 423 performances, but the pH was much higher in the natural waters. Possibly, AgdCl-resin has acid-424 base properties (data not found in the literature). If pH overcomes the pKa of the AgdCl-resin, the 425 amount of negative charge sites in the AgdCl-resin might increase remarkably. More charge 426 means more electrostatic potential, more exclusion of anions from the resin and less 427 accumulation. This speculation is not however fully consistent with the pH-impact figure (Figure 428 S10).

429 New time-series experiments were performed to verify whether the AgdCl-DGT method depends on the concentration of Cl<sup>-</sup>. Vittel® and Volvic® water were consequently spiked with ultrapure 430 NaCl salt to reach a concentration of Cl<sup>-</sup> at 10 mmol  $L^{-1}$  (value used in previous experiments 431 using synthetic waters). The ionic strength values are 32.9 and 13 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> for NaCl-doped 432 433 Vittel® and Volvic® water, respectively. When AgdCl-DGT samplers are deployed in the two 434 NaCl-doped drinking waters, better DGT responses were obtained compared with non-spiked drinking waters (Figure 5 (C) and (D)). Indeed, the amount of total mass of  $\Gamma$  measured by 435 AgdCl-DGT samplers were  $77 \pm 4$  and  $72 \pm 4$  % in NaCl-doped Vittel® and Volvic® waters, 436 respectively. The presence of  $SO_4^{2-}$  was then tested only with Volvic® water spiked with 437 ultrapure Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> salt to a concentration of SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> at 10 mmol  $L^{-1}$ . This time, the amount of I 438 439 measured by AgdCl-DGT samplers reached  $107 \pm 3$  % (Figure 5 (E)). This means an increase of the AgdCl-DGT response with anions another than Cl<sup>-</sup> and supports the key role of ionic strength. 440

441 Although the direct application of AgdCl-DGT method will not be possible in continental waters, 442 the deployment of AgdCl-DGT samplers could be envisaged in seawater and brine due to high 443 concentration of  $Cl^{-}$  and  $SO_4^{2-}$ . To confirm the latter hypothesis, a time-series experiment was

performed in synthetic seawater spiked with  $\Gamma$  concentration close to 100 µg  $L^{-1}$ . Long 444 445 deployment times were used to reveal possible interferences of AgdCl-binding gel. As shown in Figure 5 (F), linear accumulation of  $\Gamma$  by AgdCl-DGT samplers was observed up to 72 h (R<sup>2</sup> > 446 0.95). The mass of  $\Gamma$  recovered by the AgdCl-DGT samplers reached 107 ± 5 %, validating the 447 448 suitability of the AgdCl-DGT method for application in seawater. The AgdCl-DGT method 449 allowed to concentrate I by a factor 24 ( $C_e$  /  $C_I$ ), which is useful to measure low I450 concentrations. Furthermore, the saturation of AgdCl-binding gel was not experimentally 451 observed in this long time-series experiment. This result also confirms that there is no interference with  $HCO_3^-$  (2.38 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>). 452

#### 4. Conclusions 453

454 The DGT performances of AgdCl-DGT binding gel to measure the concentration of at least one 455 inorganic I species have been tested. A rigorous experimental design involving batch and time-456 series experiments was performed in order to gain knowledge on AgdCl-binding gel selectivity 457 and limitations as well as to establish a robust DGT deployment protocol. This works shows that 458 the AgdCl-DGT sampler is able to accumulate selectively  $\Gamma$ . The AgdCl-DGT response is not pH 459 dependent (4.5 -8.8). The quantification of  $\Gamma$  concentration is not impacted by the presence of 460 IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Nevertheless, the current AgdCl-DGT method requires high ionic strength<sup>-</sup> in 461 deployment solution limiting the application of to sea or brine waters. Further work should 462 investigate the possibility of analyzing freshwaters using an effective diffusion coefficient 463 determined at the same pH and ionic strength as the one of the natural sample.

464 This analytical development validates a first step to perform redox speciation for I using DGT 465 techniques, and other developments could be performed to find a binding gel only able to 466 accumulate  $IO_3^-$  or the two inorganic I species simultaneously. To avoid the harmful

467 manipulation of KCN eluent solution, laboratory equipped with pyrolyser could develop 468 alternative extraction strategies by trapping the gaseous iodine from AgdCl binding in alkaline 469 solution (TMAH, NaOH-NaHSO<sub>3</sub>) [57-61]. Finally, future research should focus on the 470 application of the AgdCl-DGT method to study the biochemistry of iodide in marine or brine 471 environments, but also to better predict the <sup>129</sup>I behavior from spent nuclear fuel reprocessing 472 plants.

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## 661 Figure caption

Figure 1: Uptake factor of inorganic I species by AgdCl-binding gel as a function of: (A) NaCl concentration for 24 h of immersion time; (B) Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> concentration for 24 h of immersion time; and (C) immersion time-series in an immersion solution containing either 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl or Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Experimental conditions: 20 mL of immersion solution; [NaCl] or [Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>] = 1-500 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>; [IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>] or [I<sup>-</sup>] ~ 100  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup>; pH = 5.5 ± 0.1.

Figure 2: Recovery of Γ species in the presence of AgdCl-binding gel as a function of KCN concentration. Black dashed line corresponds to the minimum acceptable recovery of Γ (75 %). Experimental conditions: 3 mL of eluent solution; [KCN] = 0.1-100 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>; [Γ] ~ 100 µg L<sup>-1</sup>; 24 h of immersion.

Figure 3: Evolution of the mass of  $IO_3^-$  or  $\Gamma$  accumulated by AgdCl-DGT samplers over time. Dashed lines correspond to the DGT response simulations using Eq. 4, Eq.6 and Eq. 7 for  $M_{th1}$ ,  $M_{th2}$  and  $M_{th3}$ , respectively. Experimental conditions: 8 L of deployment solution; [NaCl] = 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>; [IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>] or [ $\Gamma$ ] ~ 30 µg L<sup>-1</sup>; pH = 5.5 ± 0.1;  $T = 20.7 \pm 1.0^{\circ}$ C; up to 10 h of deployment time.

Figure 4: Confirmation of the selectivity of AgdCl-DGT samplers for inorganic I species. Black dashed lines correspond to  $\pm$  15 % acceptable error on the DGT measurement. Experimental conditions: 8 L of deployment solution; [NaCl] = 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>; weight ratio [\Gamma]/[IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>] = 0-4.6 obtained by IC-ICP-MS; [IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>] ~ 20 µg L<sup>-1</sup>; pH = 5.5 ± 0.1; 10 h of deployment time.

Figure 5: Results of time-series experiments performed with (A) Vittel® water ([ $\Gamma$ ] = 31.6 ± 0.6  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup>; T = 20.5 ± 1.1; pH = 8.3 ± 0.2), (B) Volvic® water ([I-] = 24.0 ± 0.4  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup>; T = 20.5 ±

683 1.1; pH = 8.0 ± 0.2), (C) Vittel® water with 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl salt addition ([ $\Gamma$ ] = 24.7 ± 1.1 µg 684 L<sup>-1</sup>; T = 20.5 ± 1.1 °C; pH = 8.3 ± 0.2); (D) Volvic® water with 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> NaCl salt addition 685 ([ $\Gamma$ ] = 26.3 ± 1.2; pH = 8.1 ± 0.2; T = 20.5 ± 1.1 °C); (E) Volvic® water with 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> 686 Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> salt addition ([ $\Gamma$ ] = 16.7 ± 0.9; pH = 8.0 ± 0.2; T = 20.4 ± 0.4 °C); and (F) synthetic 687 seawater ([ $\Gamma$ ] = 103.8 ± 1.2; T = 20.9 ± 0.3 °C; pH = 8.2 ± 0.1). The concentration of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> was 688 still lower than 1 µg L<sup>-1</sup> in each deployment solution. Lines for theoretical prediction as in Figure 689 4.

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Figure 2



Figure 3











# **Table caption**

Table 1: Continental water and seawater composition. Drinking-water physicochemical compositions provided in the bottle labels, and seawater was prepared according to Grasshoff et al. [62].

Table 2: Compilation of the experimental diffusion coefficients for  $IO_3^-$  and  $\Gamma$  at 25°C. Abbreviations:  $D^w$ : the diffusion coefficient in pure water;  $D^{gel}$ : the diffusion coefficient in AGE hydrogel;  $D^{mdl}$ : the diffusion coefficient in CA filter plus AGE hydrogel;  $D^{eff}$ : the effective diffusion coefficient measured by the DGT times-series method ([NaCl] = 10 mmol L<sup>-1</sup>; pH ~ 5.5); n.d.: not determined.

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| Element/dissolved species     | Volvic | Vittel | Seawater |        |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
| Са                            | 0.29   | 5.99   | 13.6     | mmol/L |
| Mg                            | 0.33   | 1.73   | 114      | mmol/L |
| Na                            | 0.50   | 0.23   | 471      | mmol/L |
| К                             | 0.16   | 0.05   | 9.46     | mmol/L |
| HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> | 1.16   | 6.29   | 2.38     | mmol/L |
| Cl                            | 0.38   | 0.23   | 675      | mmol/L |
| SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> | 0.08   | 4.16   | 28.2     | mmol/L |
| NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>  | 0.24   | 0.07   |          | mmol/L |
| рН                            | 7      | 7.6    | 8.22     | mmol/L |
| dry residue                   | 130    | 1084   |          | mg/L   |
| Salinity                      |        |        | 34.8     |        |

..nmo 675 mmol, 28.2 mmol/L 7 7.6 8.22 mmol/L 130 1084 mg/L 34.8

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| 1      |     | _ |

| 5                  | Diffusion coefficient (x $10^{-5}$ cm <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) |                  |  |
|--------------------|--|------------------|--|
|                    | IO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>   | Г                |  |
| $D^{\mathbf{w}}$   | 1.08 [63]  | 2.05 [63]        |  |
| $D^{\mathrm{gel}}$ | 1.19 (RSD = 5 %)   | 2.33 (RSD = 6 %) |  |
| $D^{mdl}$          | 0.87 (RSD = 5 %)   | 1.61 (RSD = 5 %) |  |
| $D^{\text{eff}}$   | n.d.   | 1.20 (RSD = 6 %) |  |

# **Highligths:**

- A new DGT binding gel is proposed for selective iodide sampling.
- The diffusion coefficient of I species through agarose diffusive gel is reported.
- A DGT equation is developed to consider diffusive boundary layer and kinetic effects.
- The method was successfully applied to measure iodide concentrations in seawater.

Journal Pre-proof

### **Declaration of interests**

 $\boxtimes$  The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

□The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

JUMAI MILON FIC