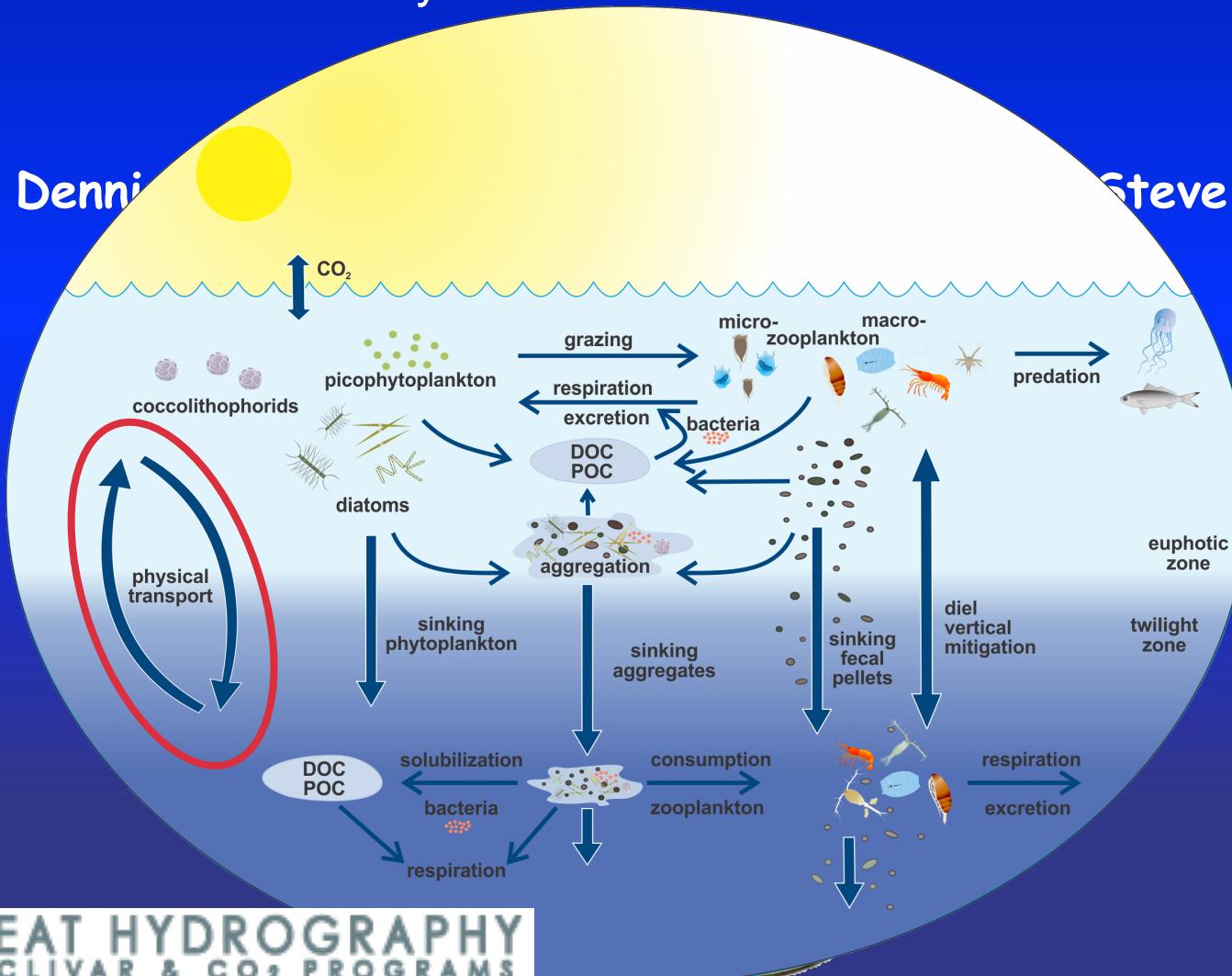


# Dissolved Organic Carbon Accumulation, Export and Microbial Transformation

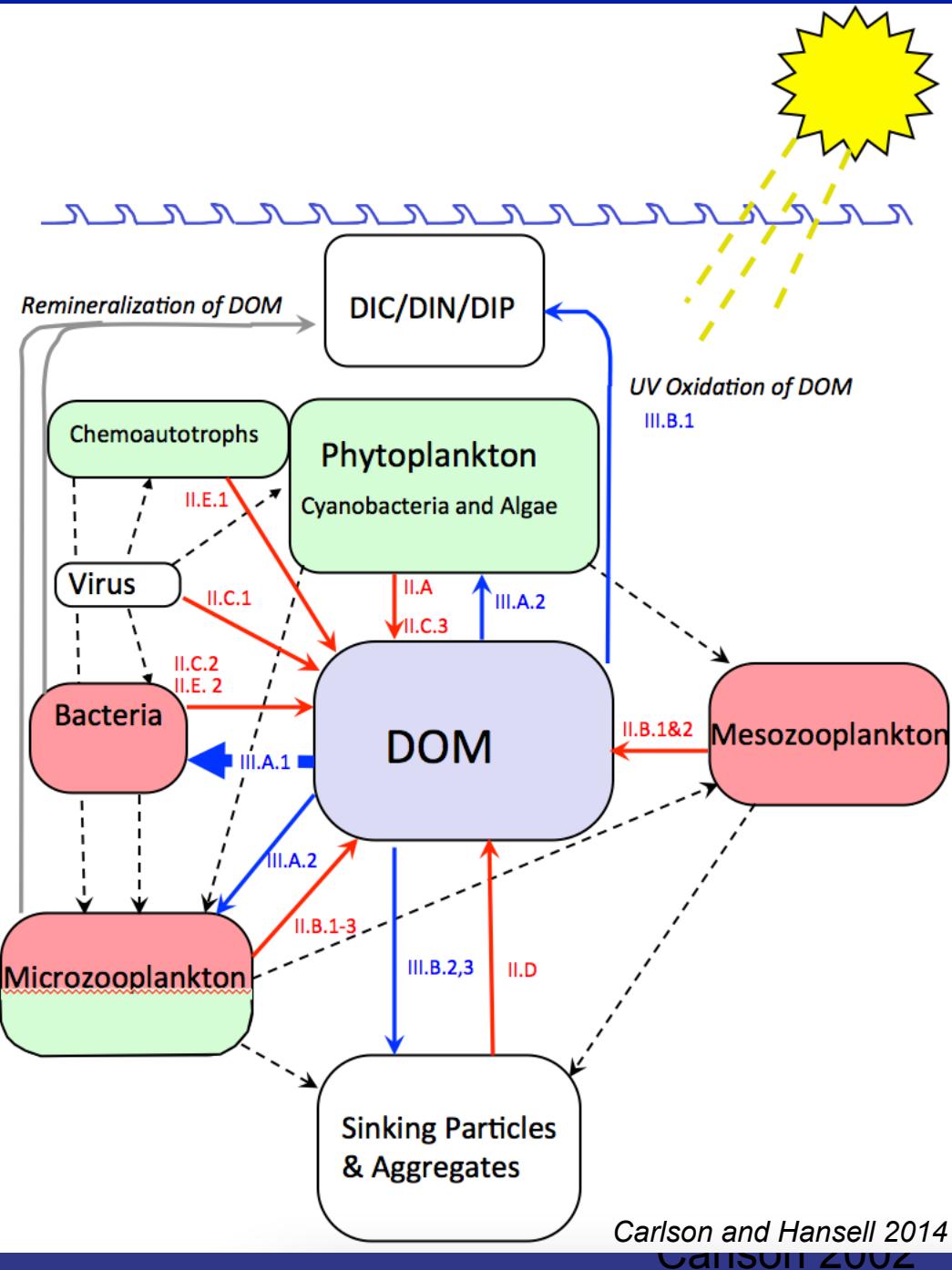
Craig Carlson

University of California at Santa Barbara



REPEAT HYDROGRAPHY  
U.S. CLIVAR & CO<sub>2</sub> PROGRAMS

# DOC production and removal mechanisms



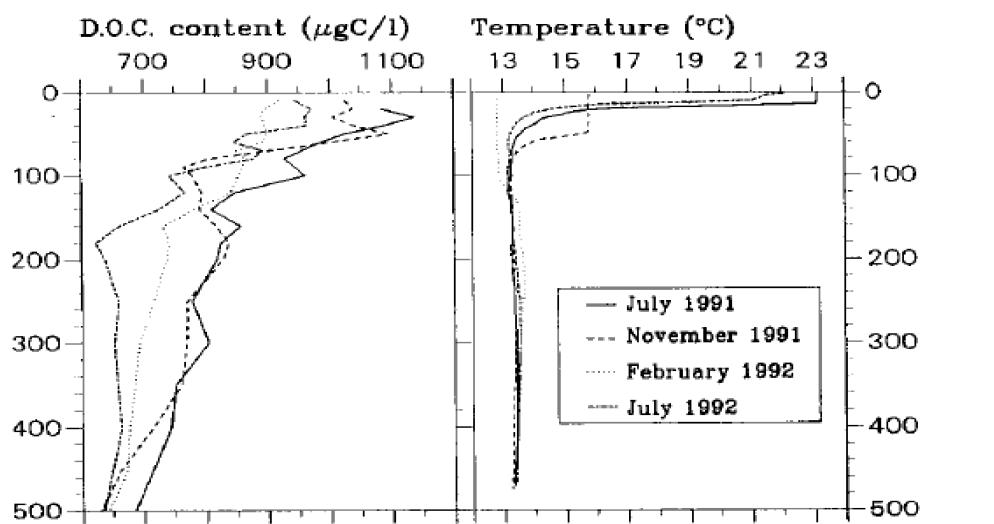
NPP  $\sim 54 \text{ Pg C yr}^{-1}$ ... Dunne et al, 2007

$\sim 21 \text{ Pg C yr}^{-1}$  is partitioned as DOC of which >90% is remineralized in the epipelagic (Williams, 2000; Hansell 2013)

- small fraction of the DOC production accumulates

# Mediterranean Sea

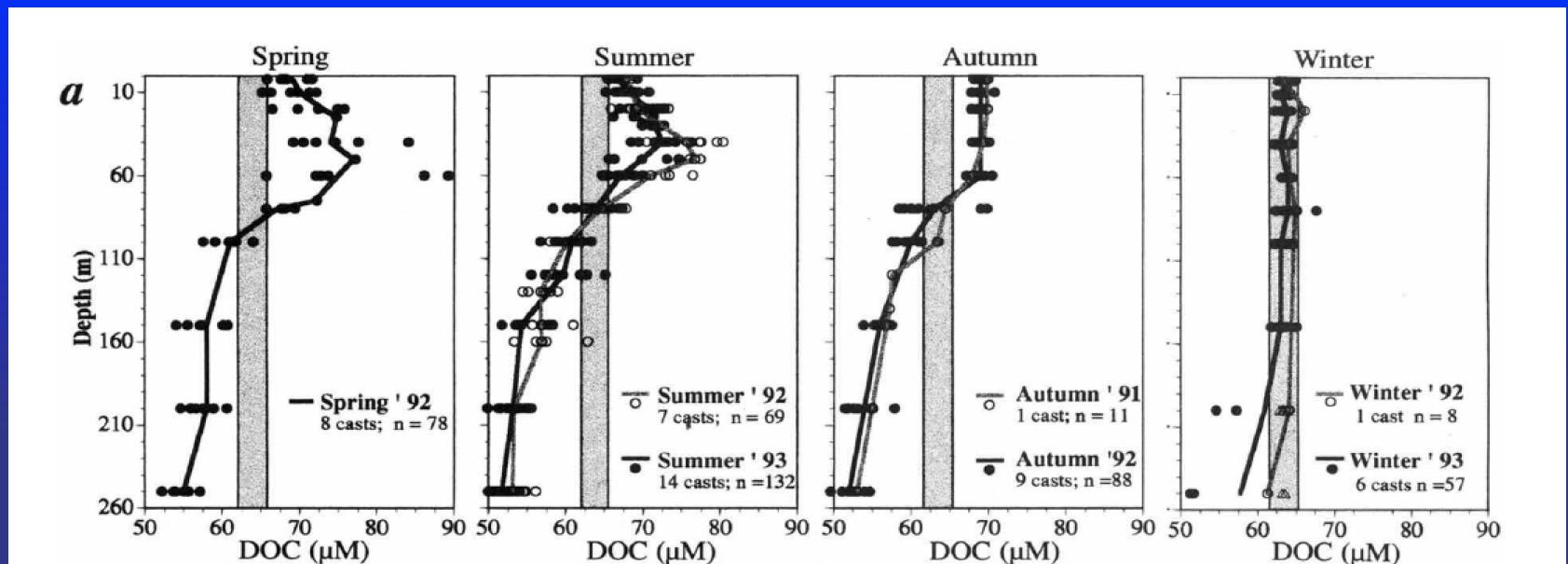
## DOC in the Mediterranean Sea



Copin-Montegut and Avril 1993

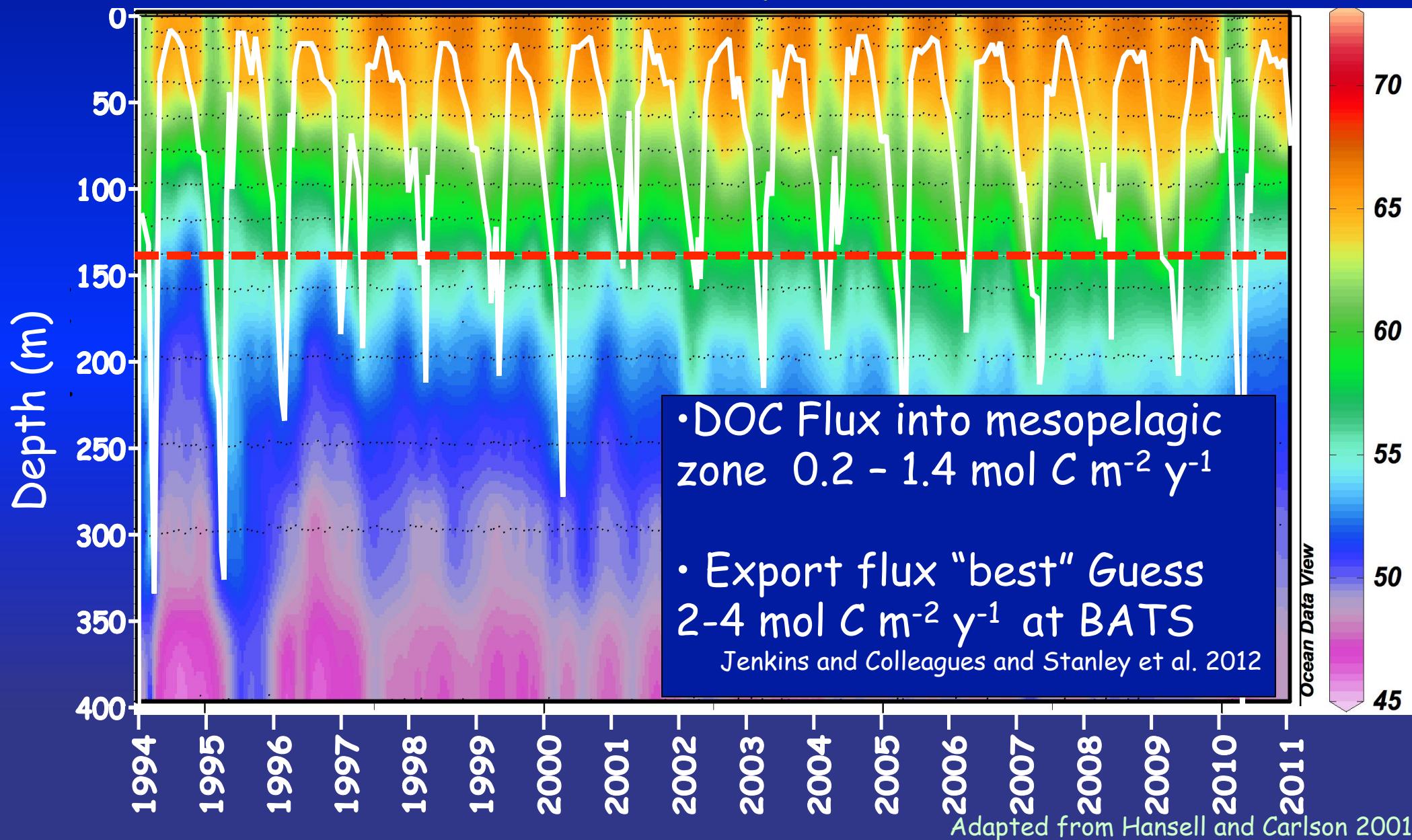
- Early 1990's - Observation of seasonal variability and redistribution of DOC via mixing
- DOC contributes to vertical export

## Sargasso Sea

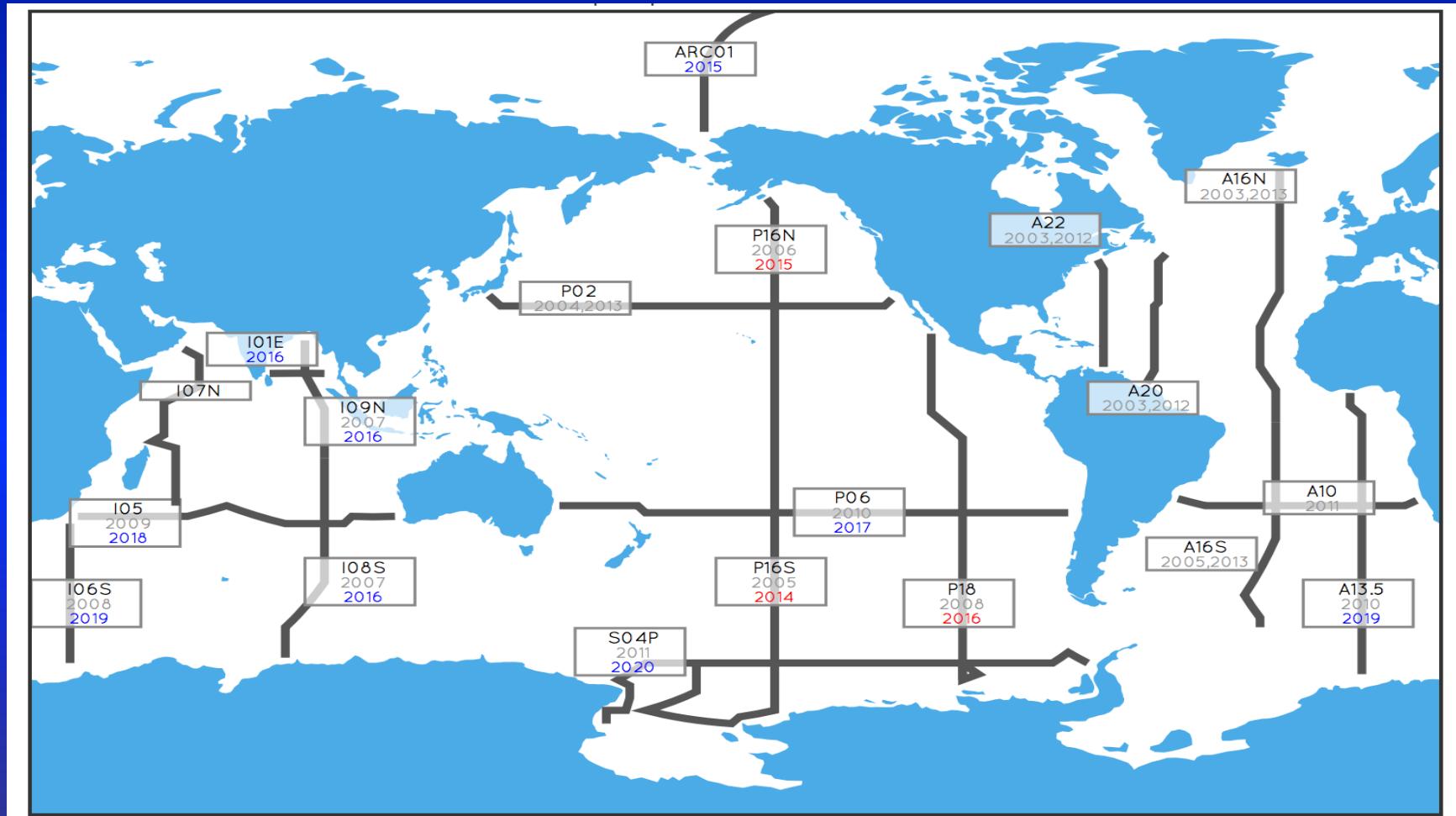


Carlson et al. 1994

# DOC ( $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ) dynamics at BATS



2003- 2014  
High Resolution DOC Data



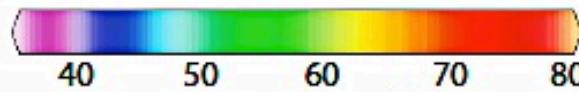
> 50,000 DOC data points



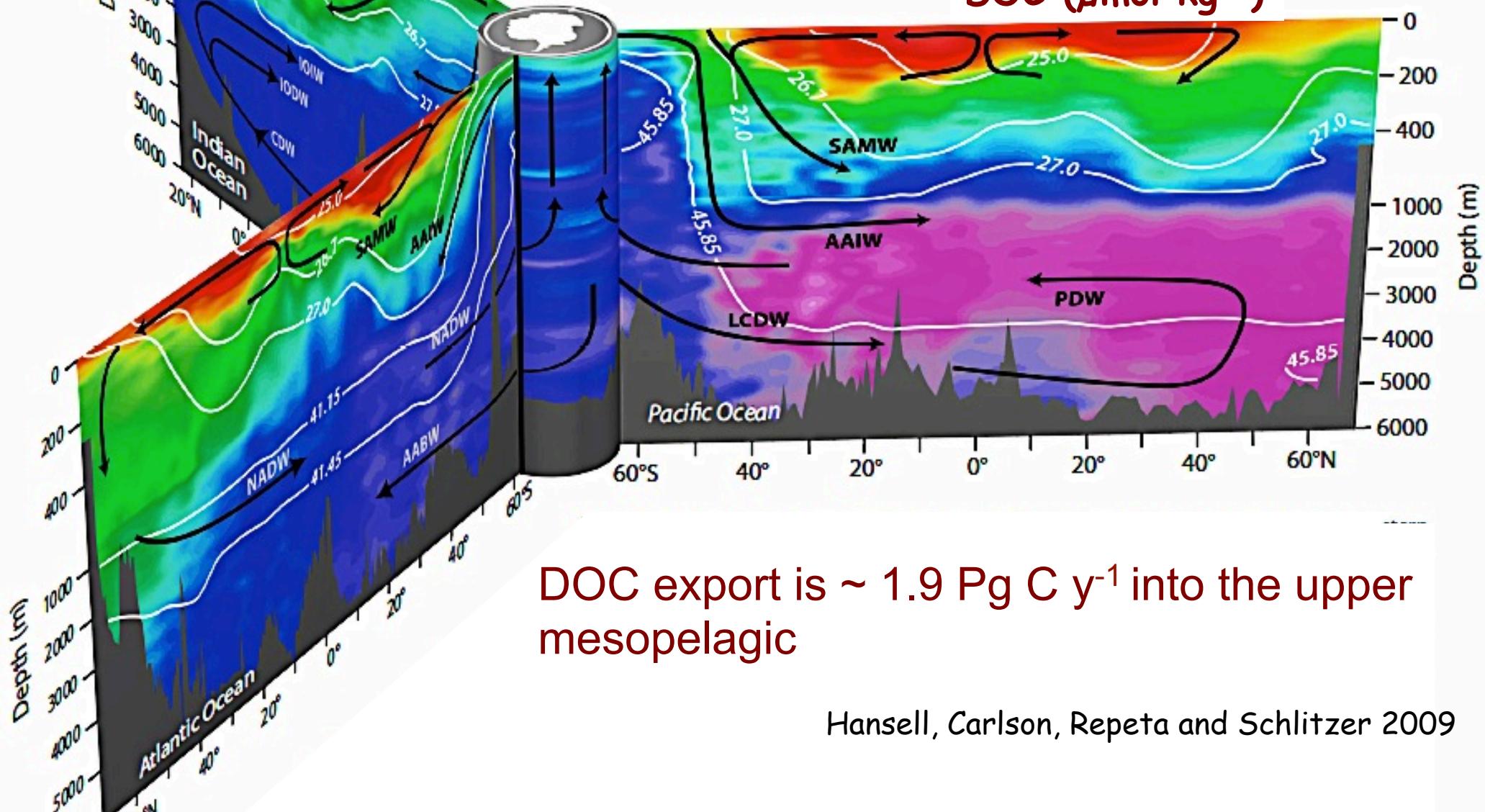
REPEAT HYDROGRAPHY  
U.S. CLIVAR & CO<sub>2</sub> PROGRAMS

# Global Ocean Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC)

~ 662 Pg C



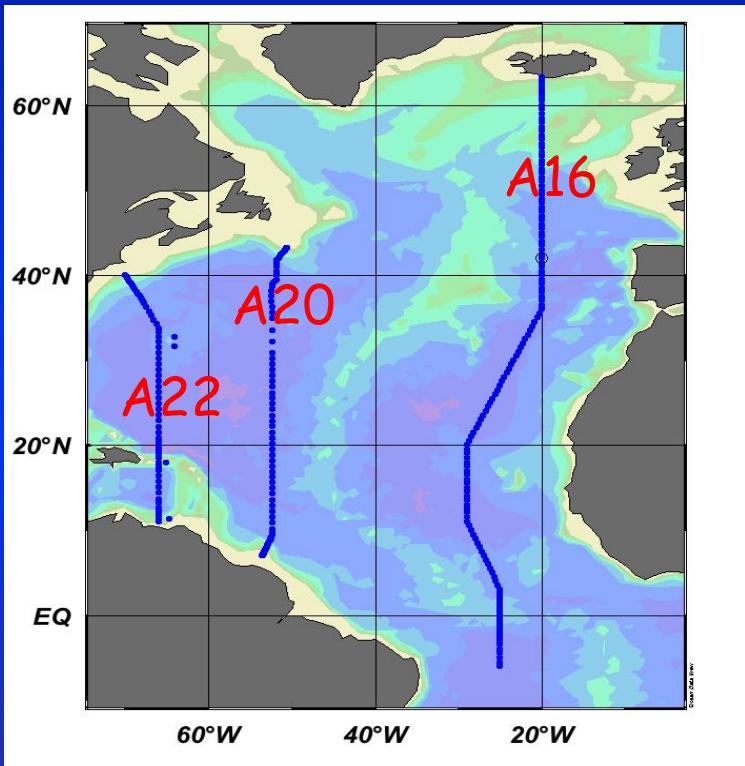
DOC ( $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ )



DOC export is ~ 1.9 Pg C  $\text{y}^{-1}$  into the upper mesopelagic

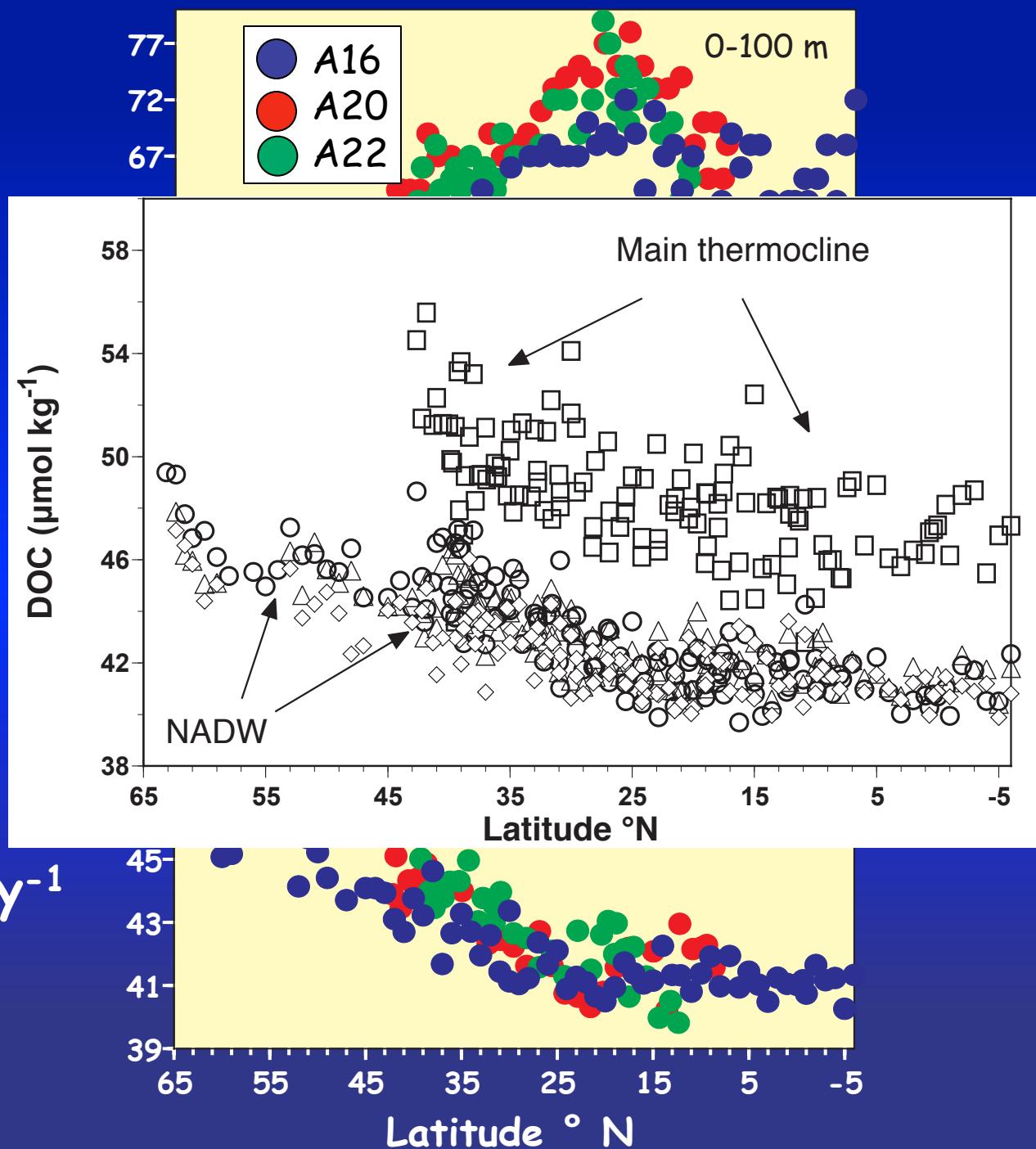
Hansell, Carlson, Repeta and Schlitzer 2009

# Meridional Distribution of Mean DOC Concentrations



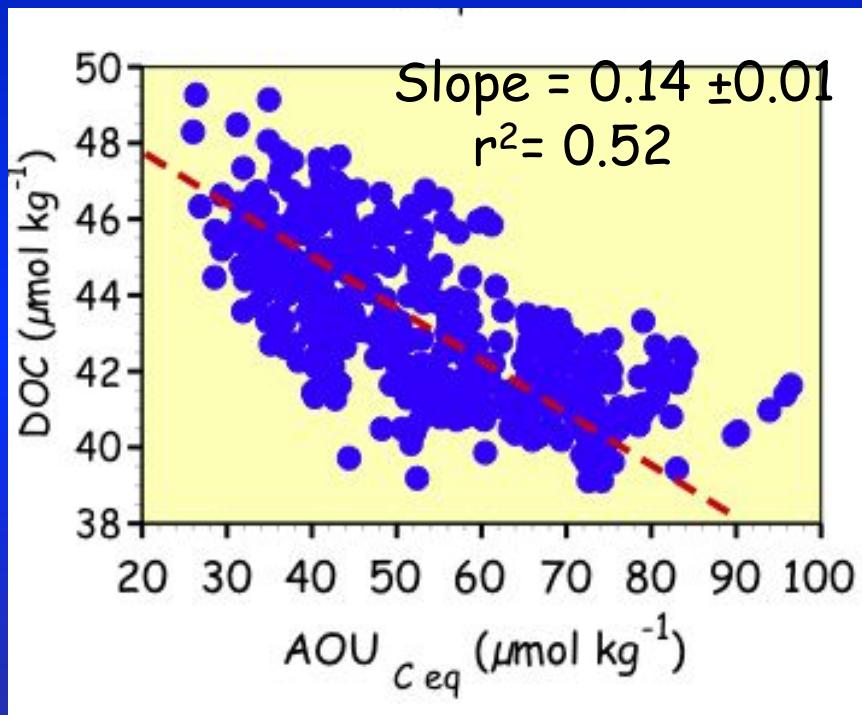
• DOC export  $\sim 77 \text{ Tg C yr}^{-1}$

~ 10 - 20% of export  
production in the North  
Atlantic



# Contribution of DOC oxidation to AOU in various neutral density layers in the North Atlantic

Labrador Sea Water

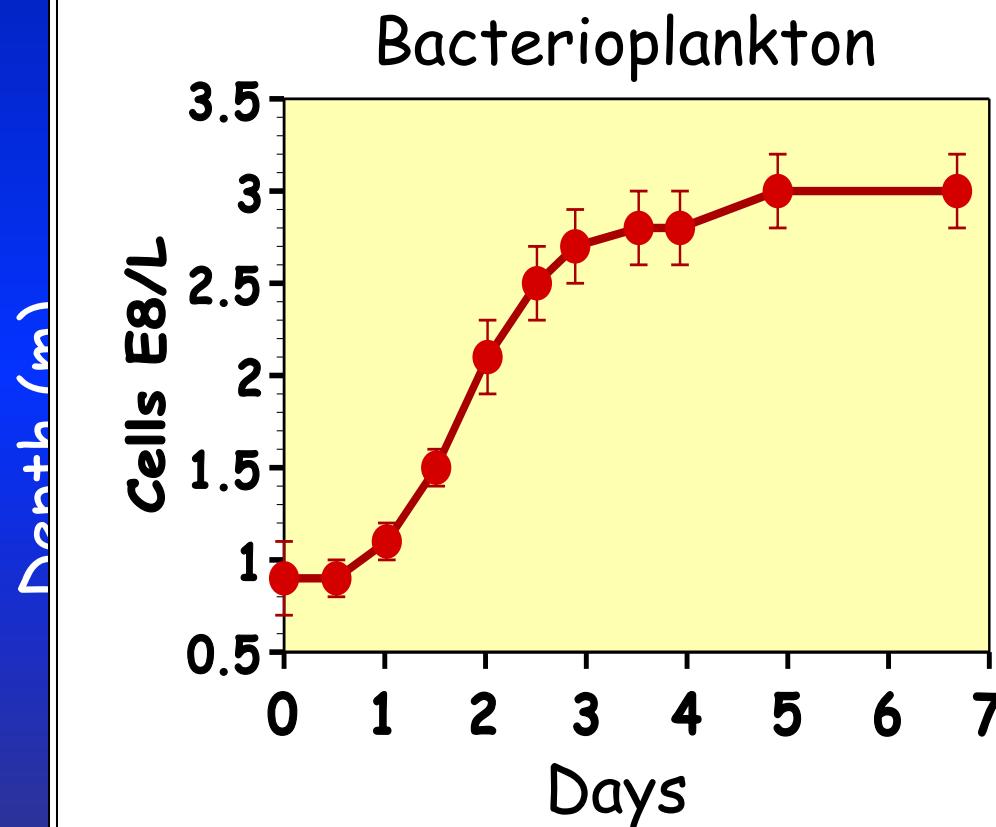


Water mass	Contribution of DOC Oxidation to $AOU-C_{eq}$		
	%	n	$r^2$
<b>Single end-member mixing</b>			
UTCL	$28 \pm 2$	161	0.24
STMW	$9 \pm 1$	109	0.17
LTCL	$7 \pm 1$	332	0.34
LSW	$14 \pm 1$	464	0.52
ISOW	$19 \pm 1$	192	0.55
DSOW	$16 \pm 1$	487	0.35

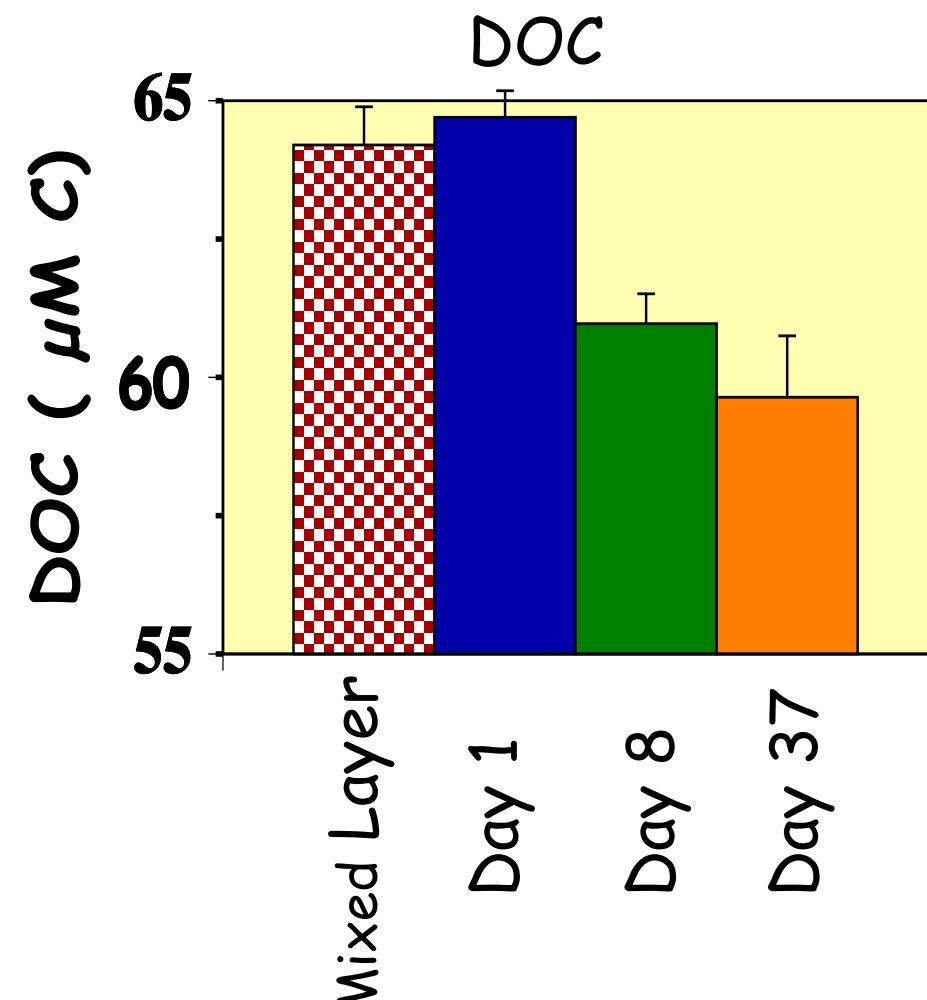
Microbial perspective....

## DOC ( $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ) dynamics at BATS

### Deep Microbes grown on Surface DOC - Exp. HS893

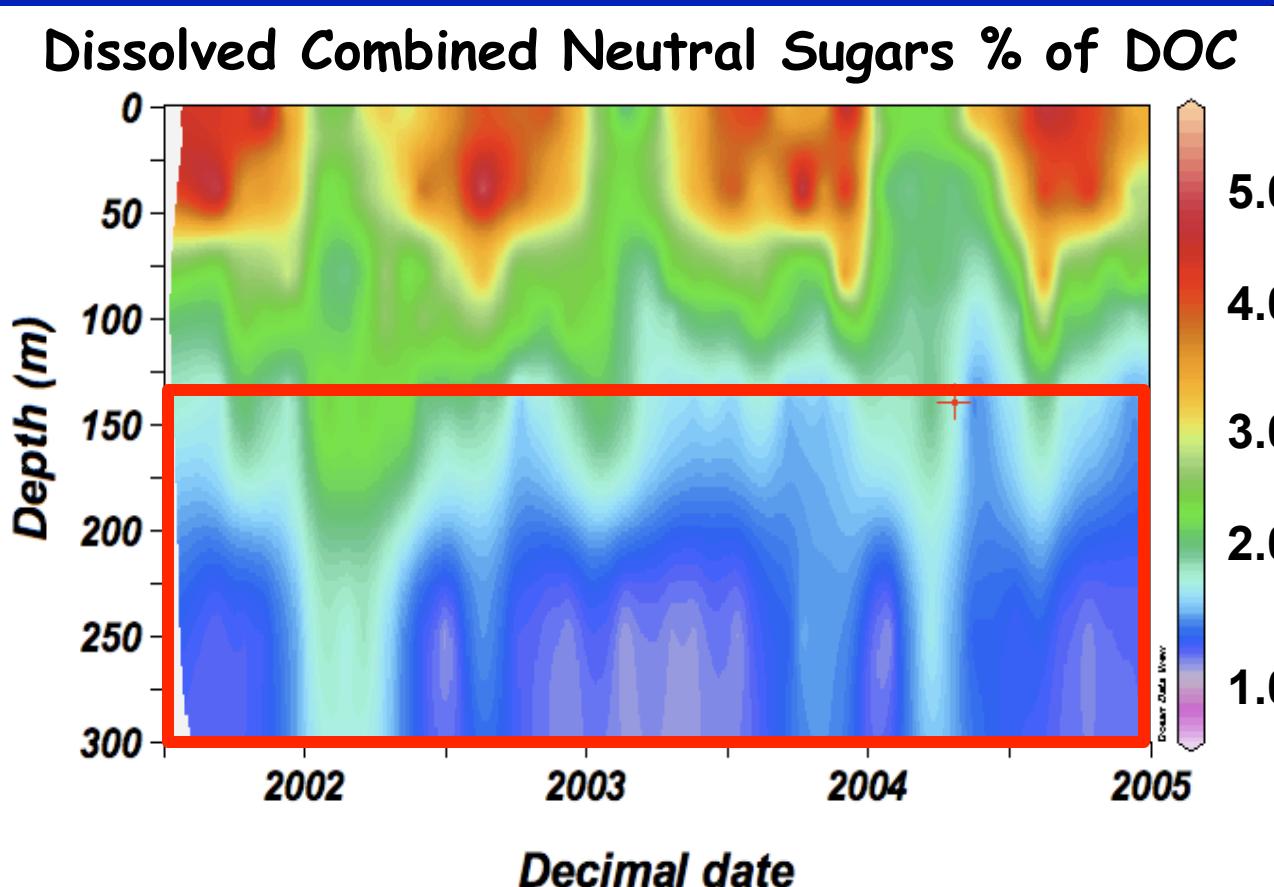


Carlson et al. 2004



Adapted from Hansell and Carlson 2001

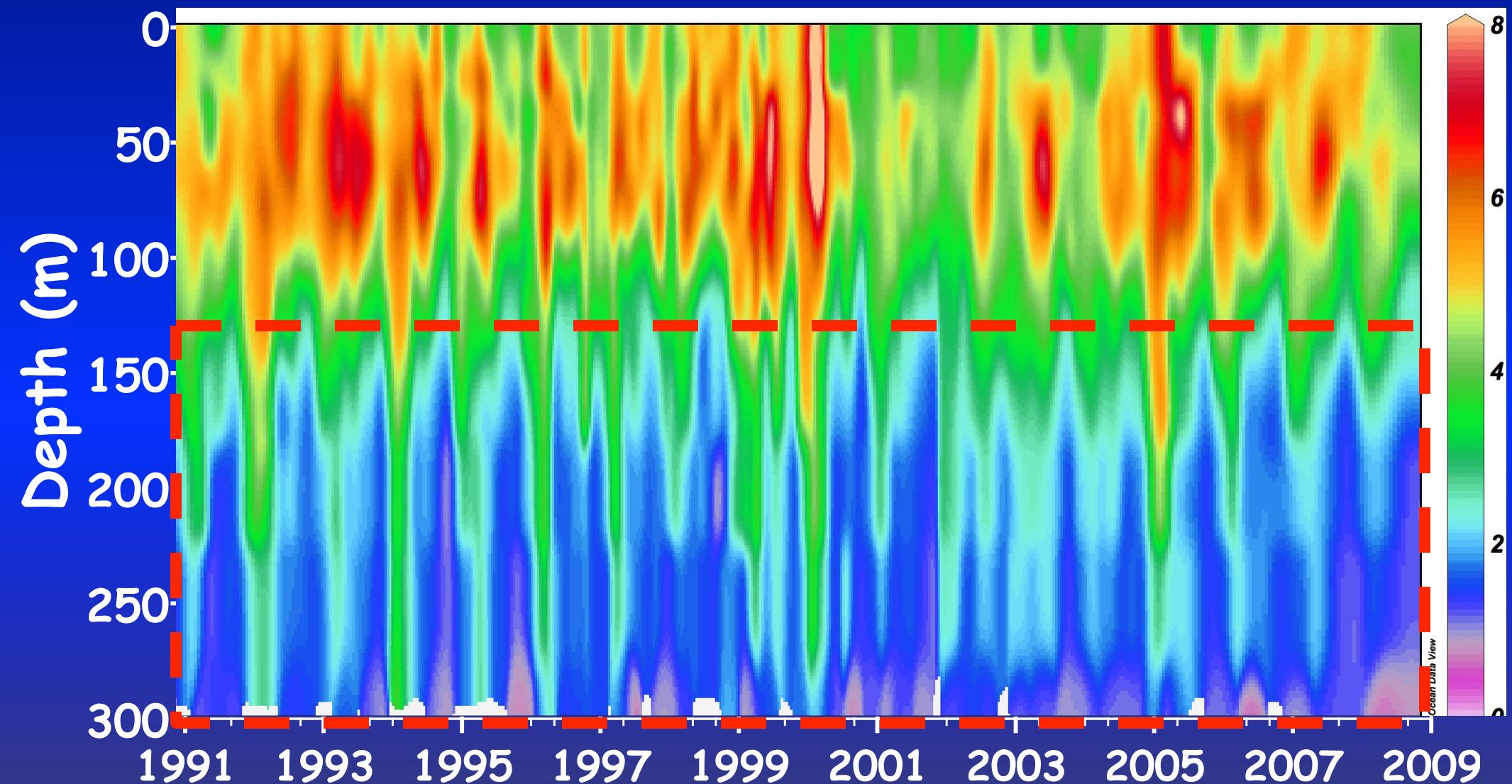
# Characterization of DOC pool at BATS



- Quality of DOC in surface water is diagenetically “fresher” than in the upper mesopelagic zone

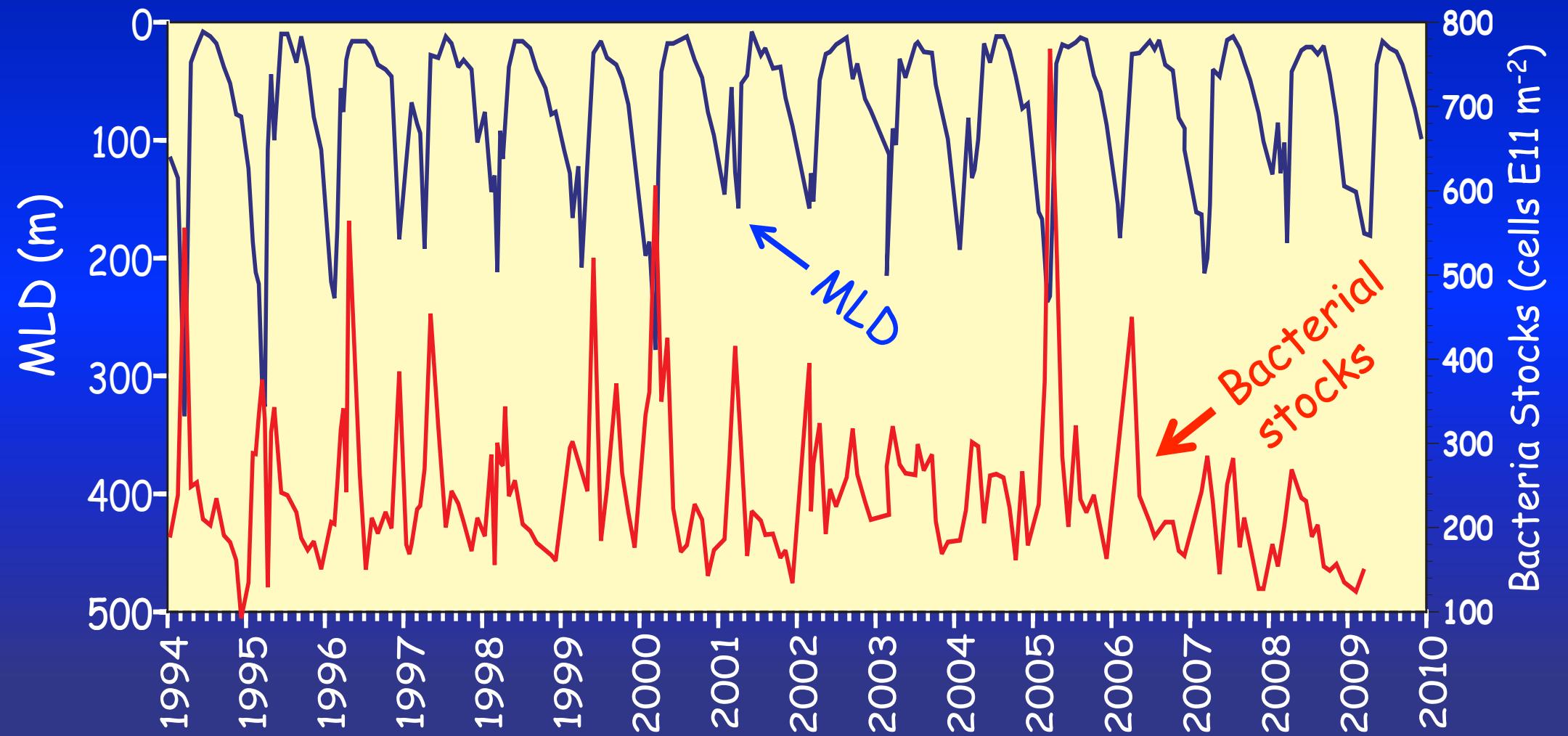
Decrease in DCNS % after stratification indicates DOC is diagenetically altered within the upper mesopelagic zone

# Bacterioplankton cell abundance (E8 L<sup>-1</sup>)



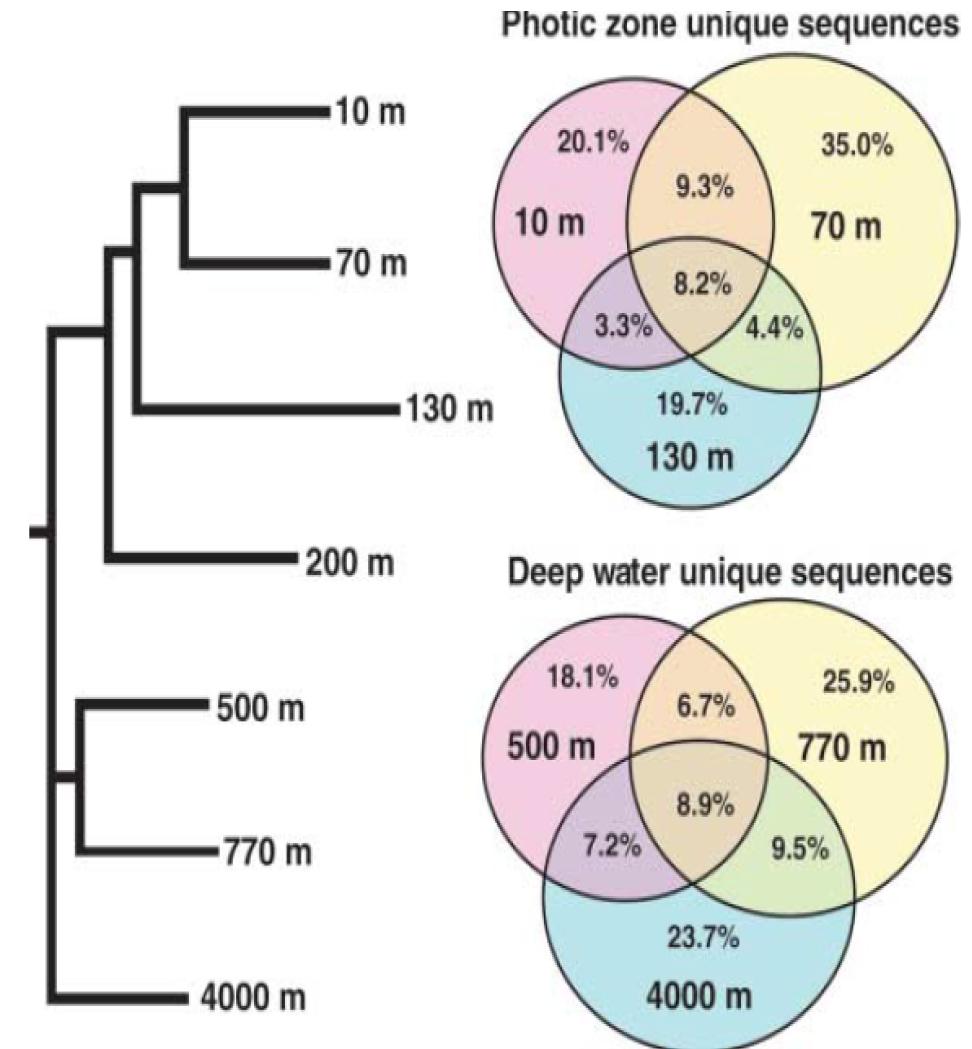
BATS Core data

# MLD and Integrated Bacterial Stocks in the Upper Mesopelagic (140-250m) at BATS



# Community Genomics Among Stratified Microbial Assemblages in the Ocean's Interior

Edward F. DeLong,<sup>1,\*</sup> Christina M. Preston,<sup>2</sup> Tracy Mincer,<sup>1</sup> Virginia Rich,<sup>1</sup> Steven J. Hallam,<sup>1</sup> Niels-Ulrik Frigaard,<sup>1</sup> Asuncion Martinez,<sup>1</sup> Matthew B. Sullivan,<sup>1</sup> Robert Edwards,<sup>3</sup> Beltran Rodriguez Brito,<sup>3</sup> Sallie W. Chisholm,<sup>1</sup> David M. Karl<sup>4</sup>

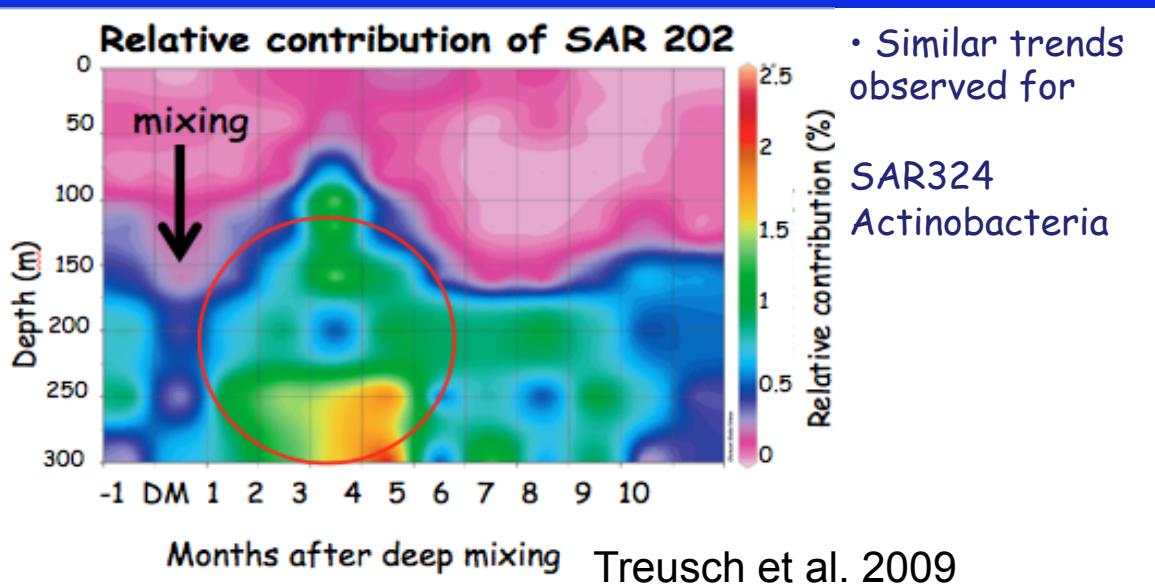
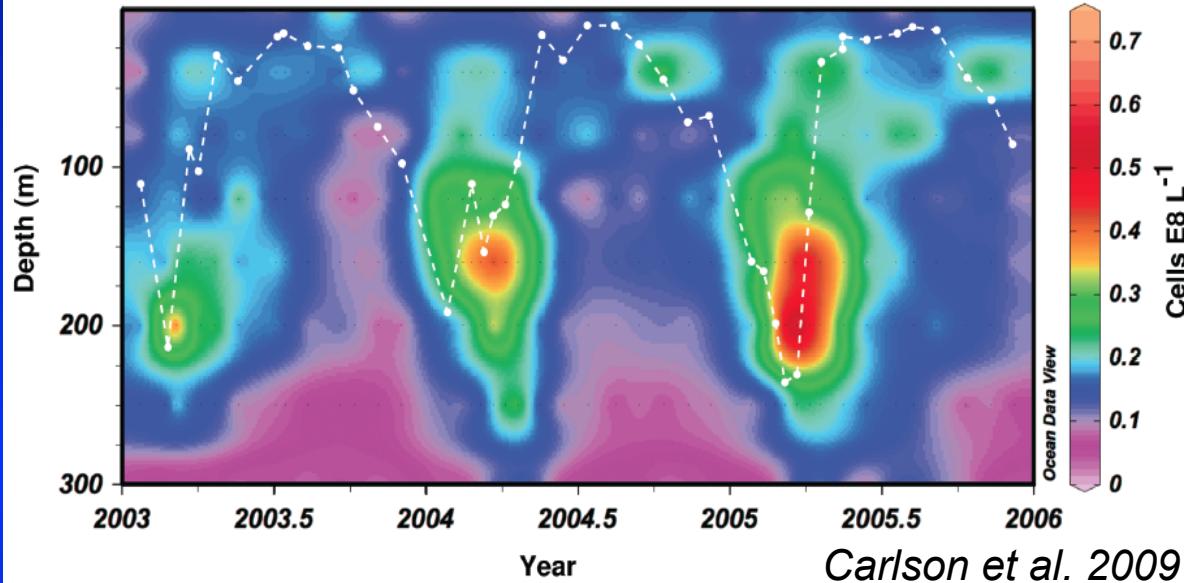


## Microbial communities are highly structured over depth

- Gordon et al 1996.
- Giovannoni et al. 1996.
- Field et al. 1997.
- Wright et al 1997
- Giovannoni 2000.
- Morris et al. 2002
- Morris et al. 2005
- Carlson et al. 2009
- Treusch et al. 2009

Bacterial community is highly structured over depth : Molecular approaches reveal response of specific bacterial lineages in the mesopelagic zone after mixing

SAR 11 subclade II



- distinct mesopelagic microbial assemblages respond to mixing
- mesopelagic microbial response cued to the delivery of DOM
- DOM that persists at one depth horizon can become available to microbial degradation at another

# Summary

- DOC can be an important export term in the biological pump. Global contribution is approximately 1.9 Pg C y-1 ~ 20% of export production
- contribution of DOC as an export term varies in space and time
- DOC that is persistent at one geographical location or depth horizon may be bioavailable at another
- there are apparent responses by specific mesopelagic microbial lineages that coincide with DOM export, nutrient field, diagenetic state of exported DOM
- **BIG UNANSWERED QUESTION:** How do specific microbes interact with specific compounds?