

# Particle Aggregation & Disaggregation

**Adrian Burd**

**University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, USA**

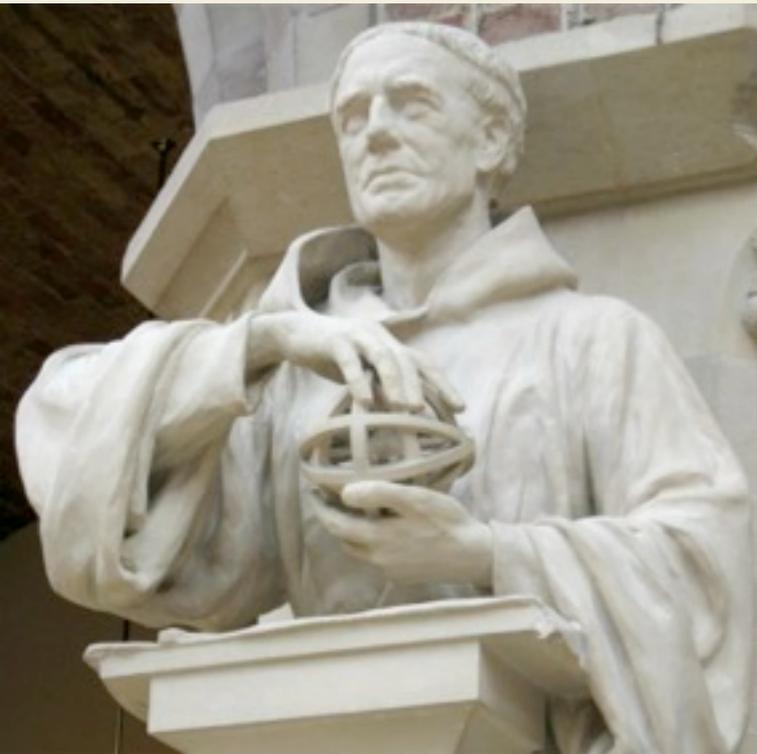
**George Jackson, Iris Kriest, Lars Stemmann, Lionel Guidi**



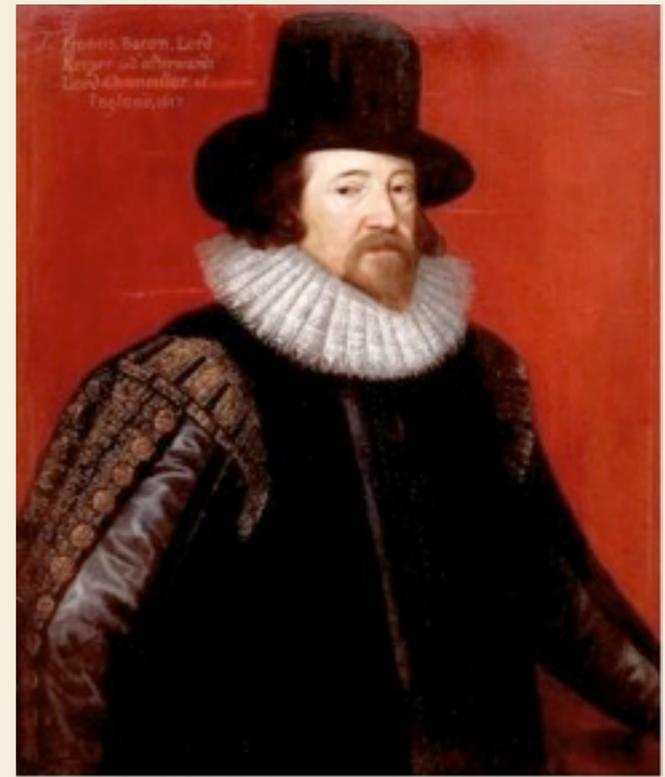
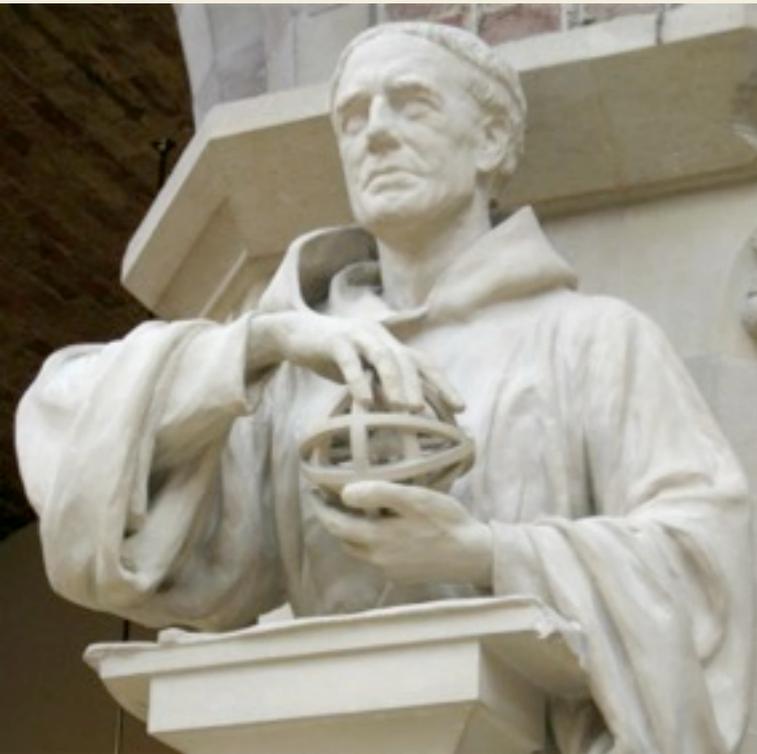
# A Tale of Two Bacons



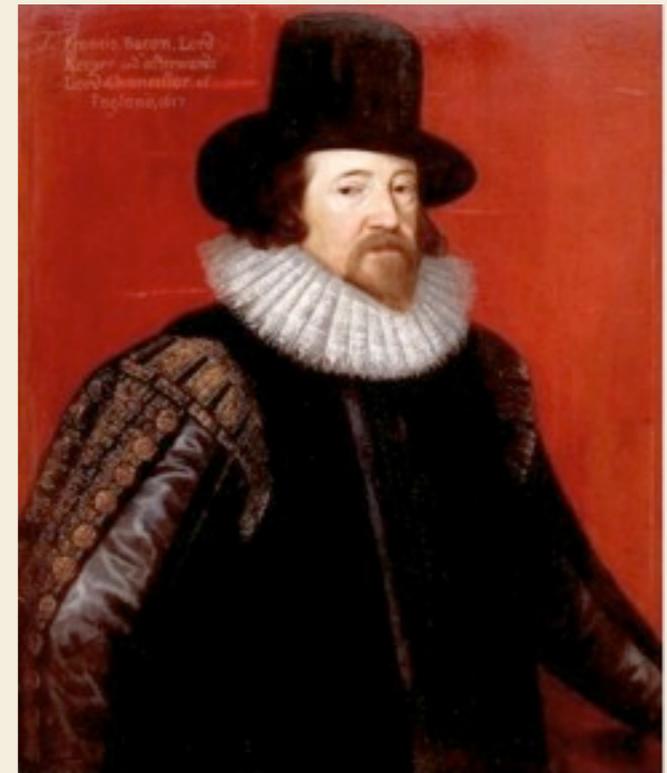
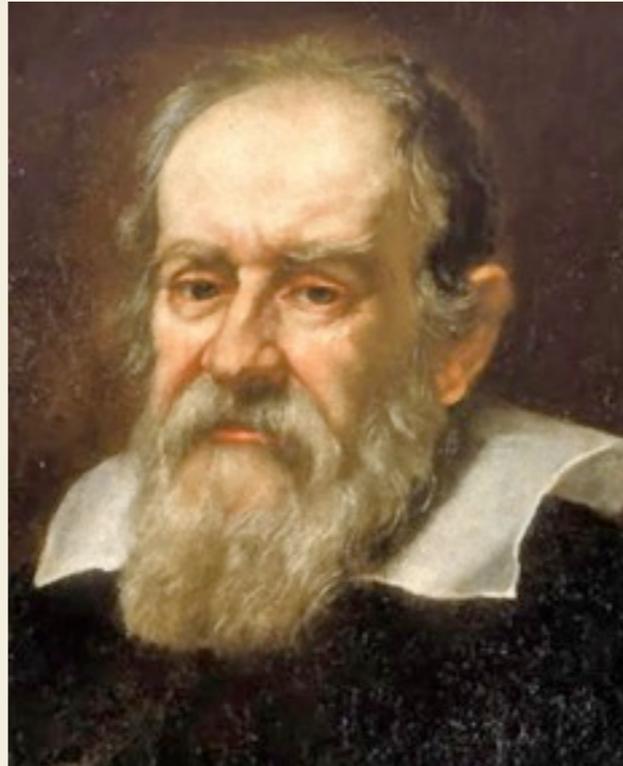
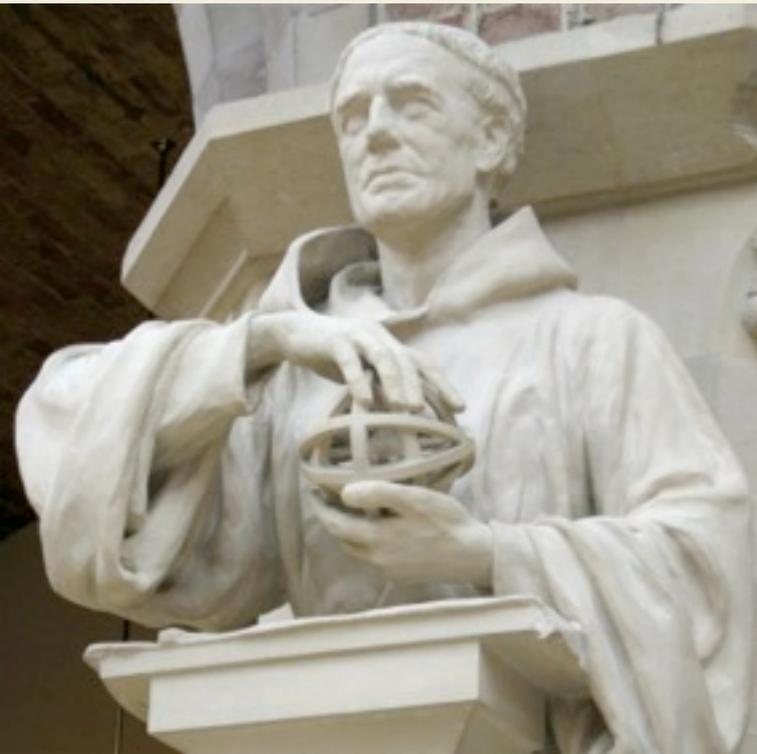
# A Tale of Two Bacons



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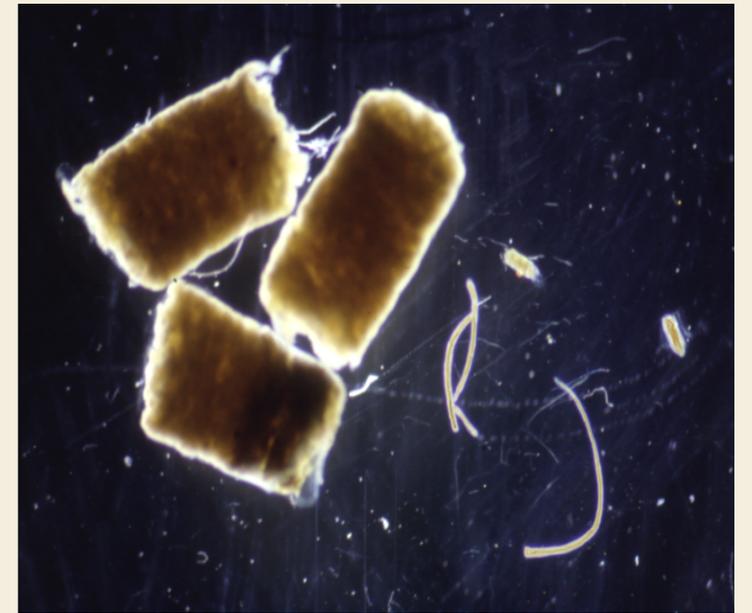
# Aggregates



*Alice Alldredge*



*Alice Alldredge*



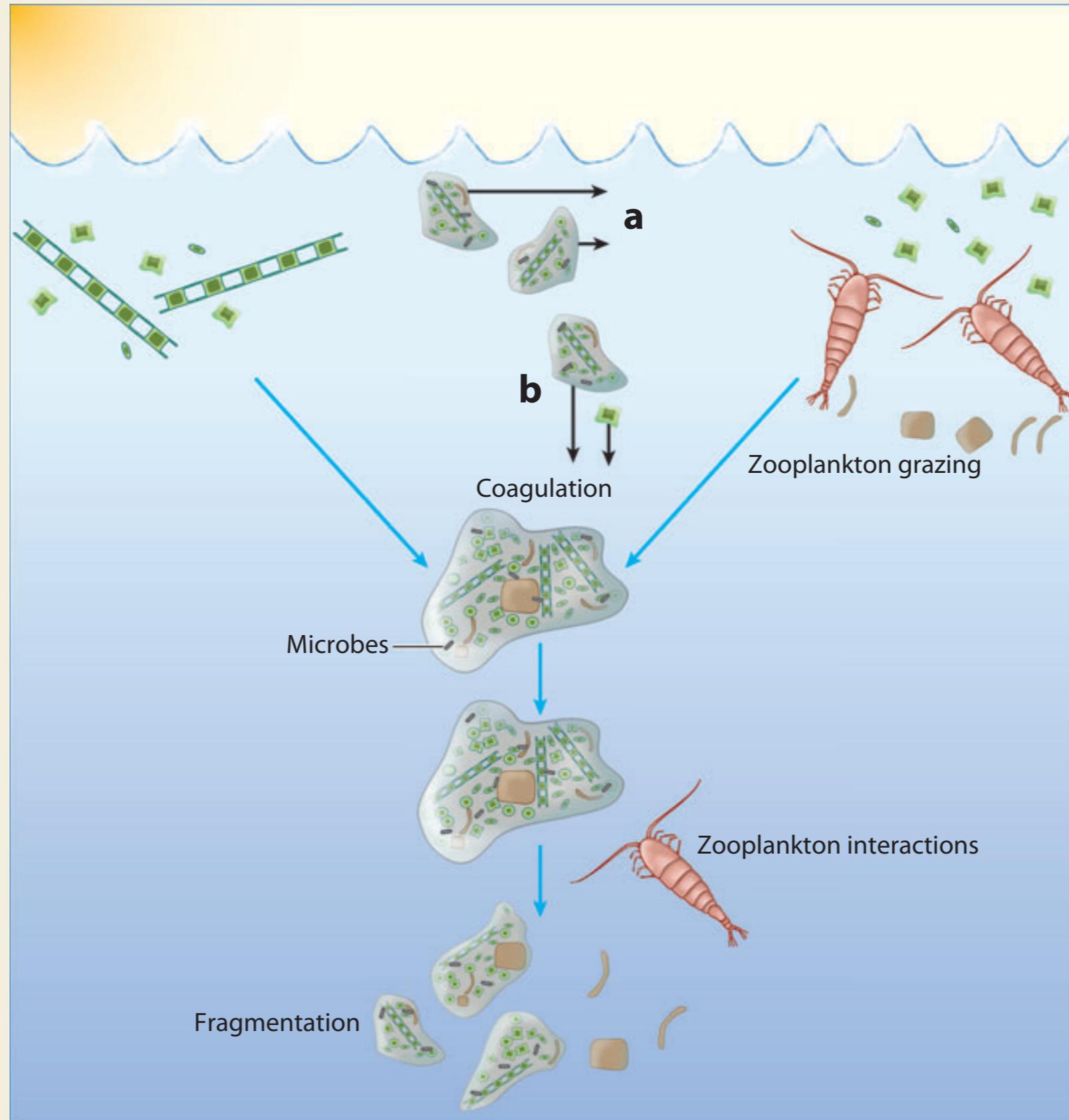
*Debbie Steinberg*

*Richard Lampitt*



# Processes affecting particles

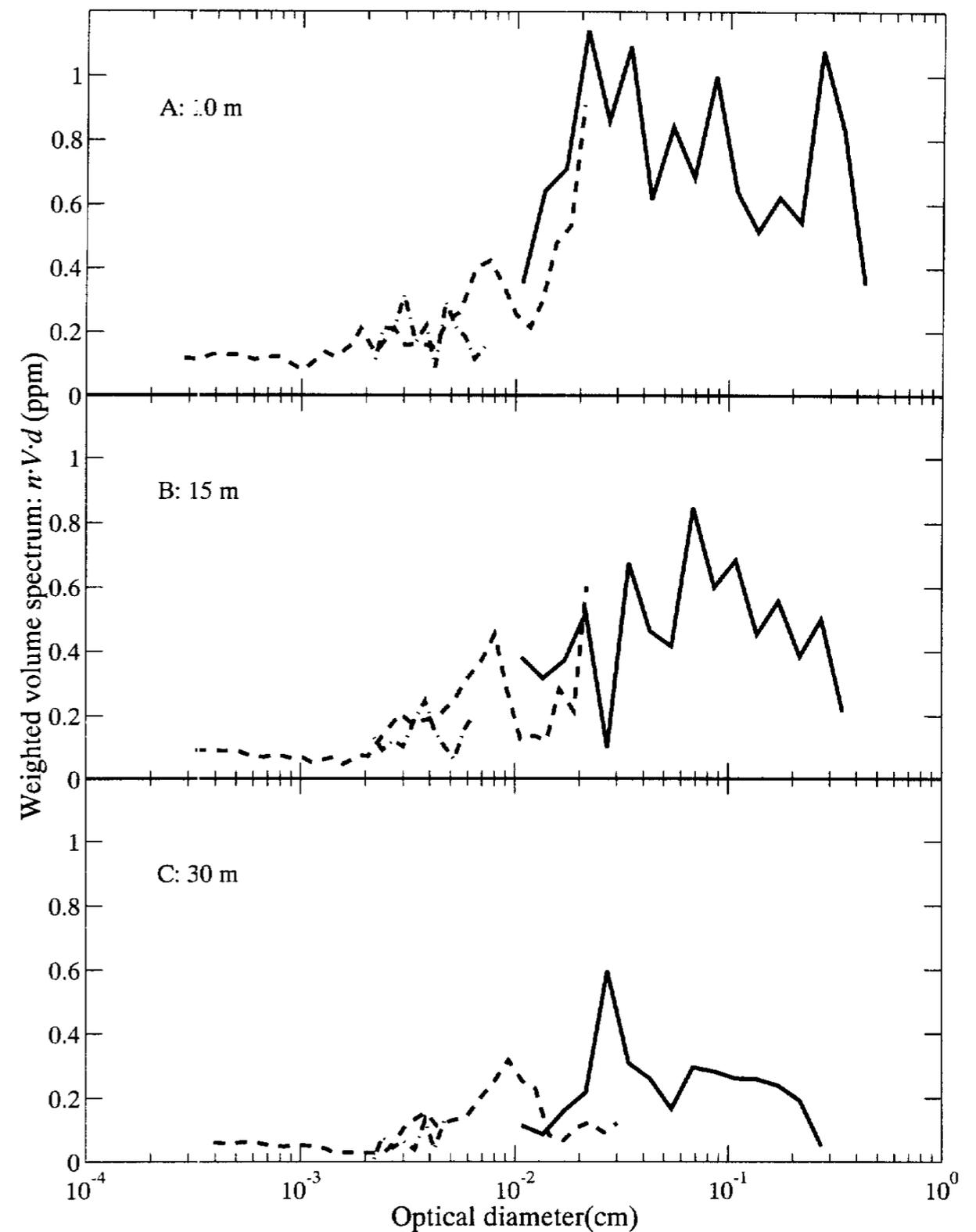
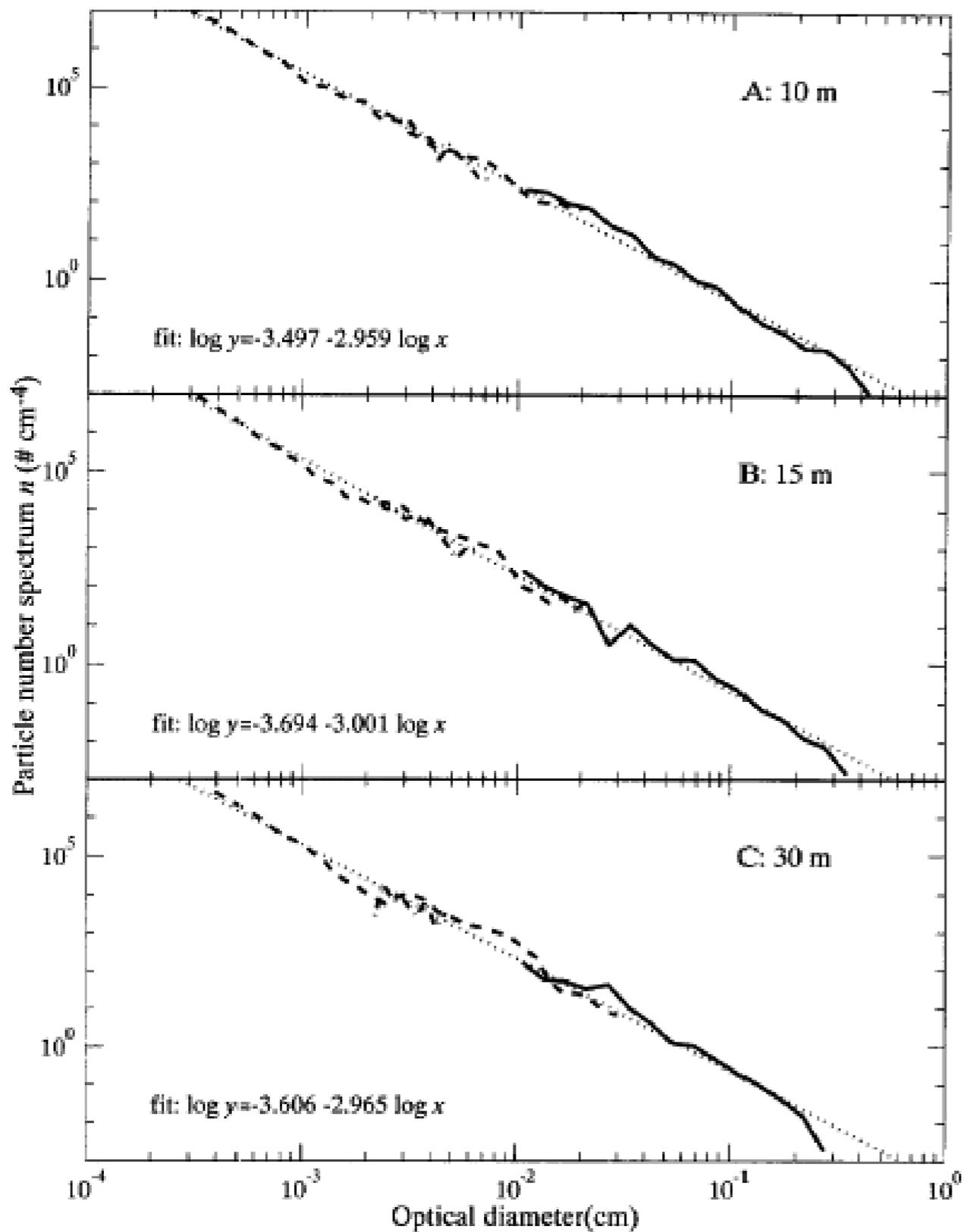
Burd & Jackson,  
*Ann. Rev. Mar. Sci.*,  
1, 65–90 (2009)



# Coagulation Theory

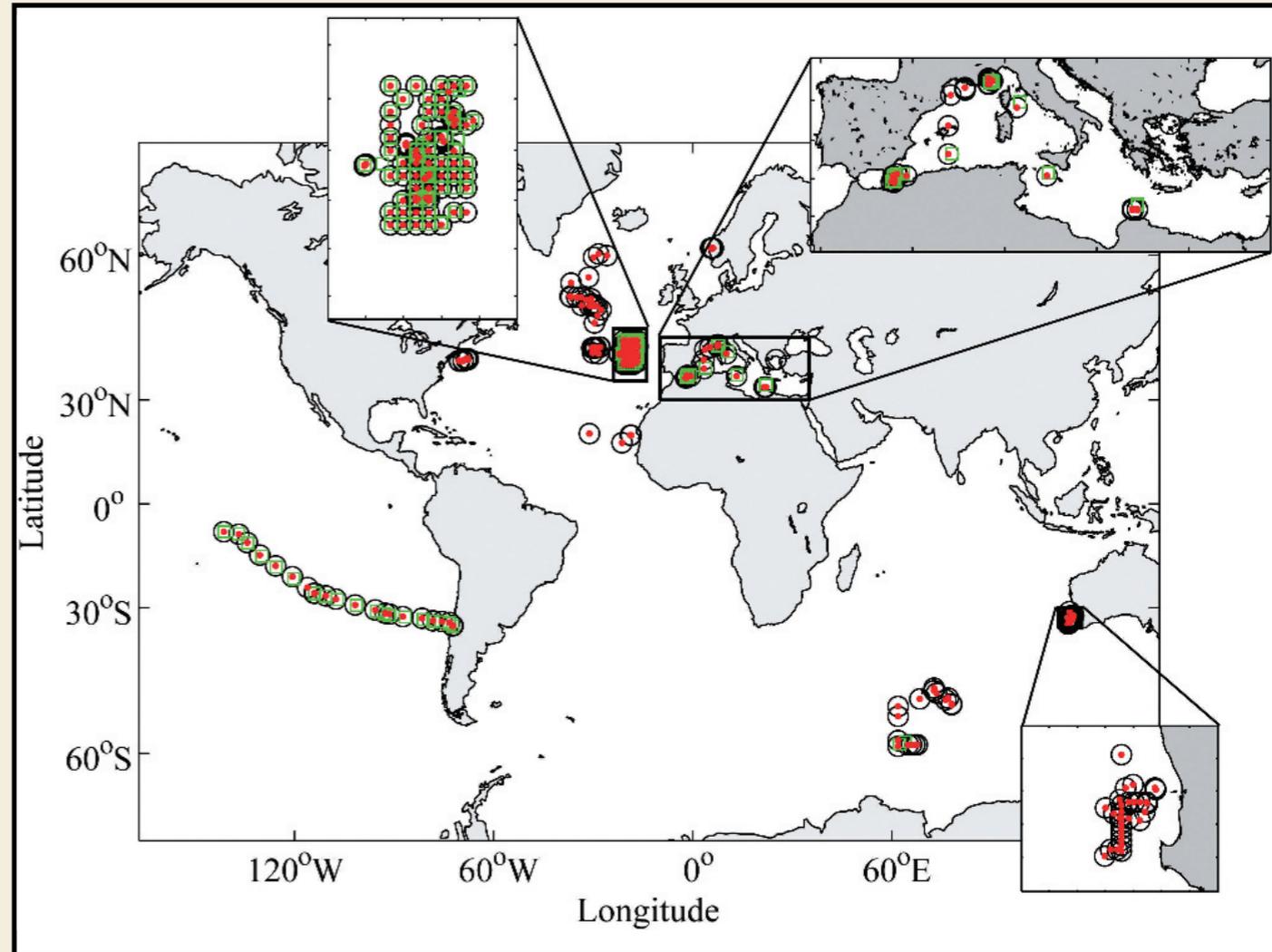
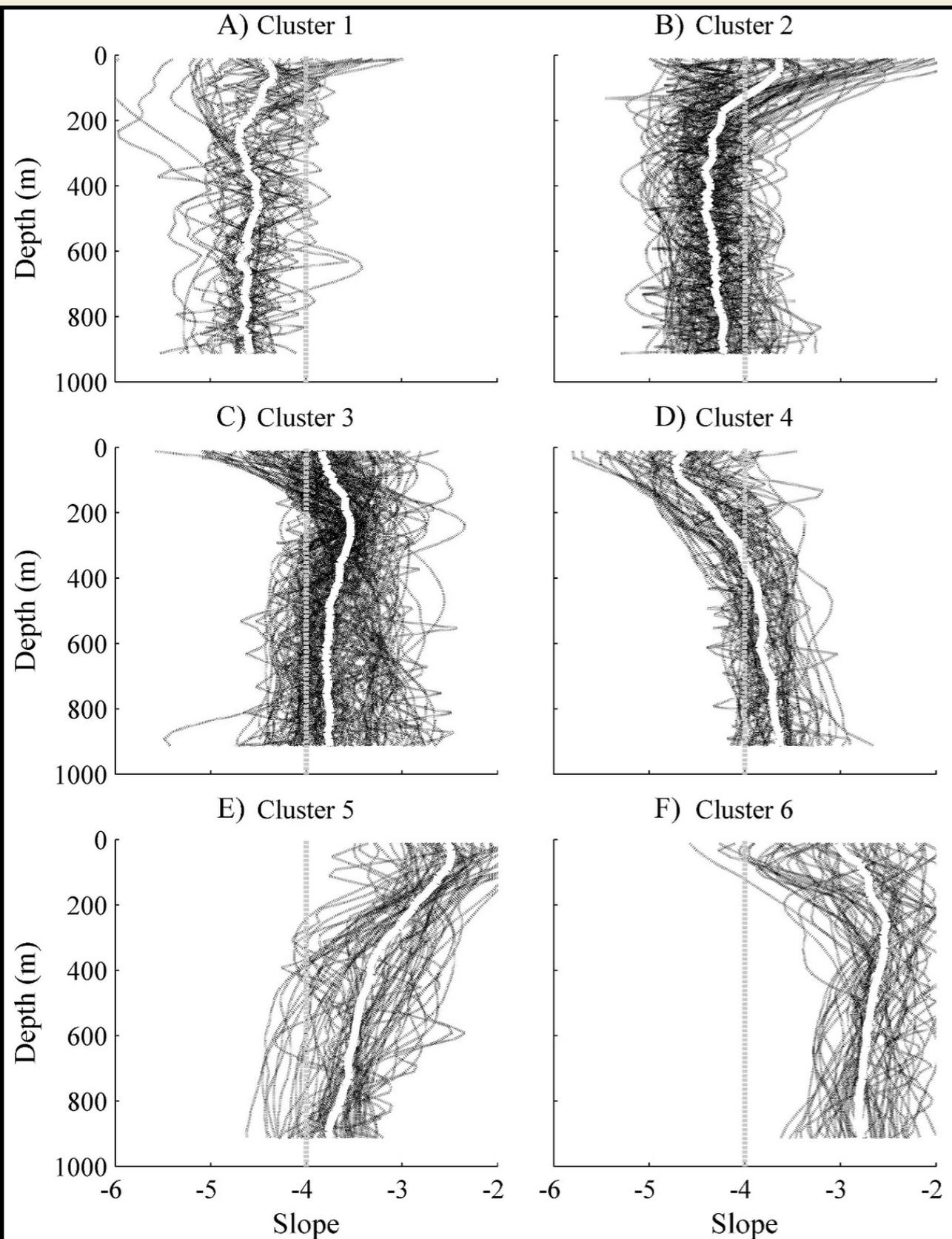
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dn(m, t)}{dt} = & \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^m \beta(m_j, m - m_j) n(m - m_j, t) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ & - \alpha n(m, t) \int_0^\infty \beta(m, m_j) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ & - n(m, t) \frac{w_s(m)}{z} + I(m, t) \end{aligned}$$

# Particle Size Spectra



Jackson et al., *Deep-Sea Res I*, 44, 1739–1767 (1997)

# Variations in spectral slope

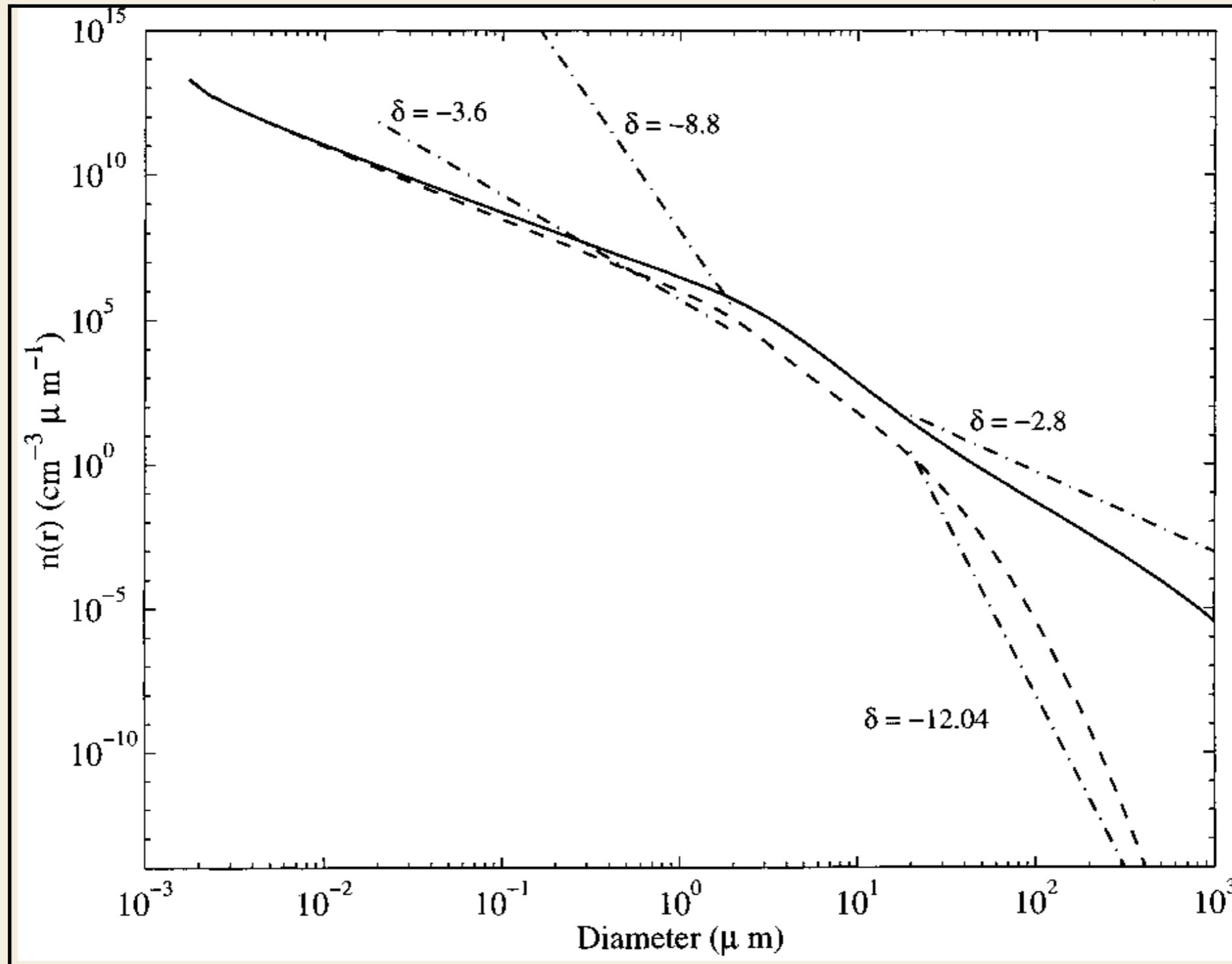


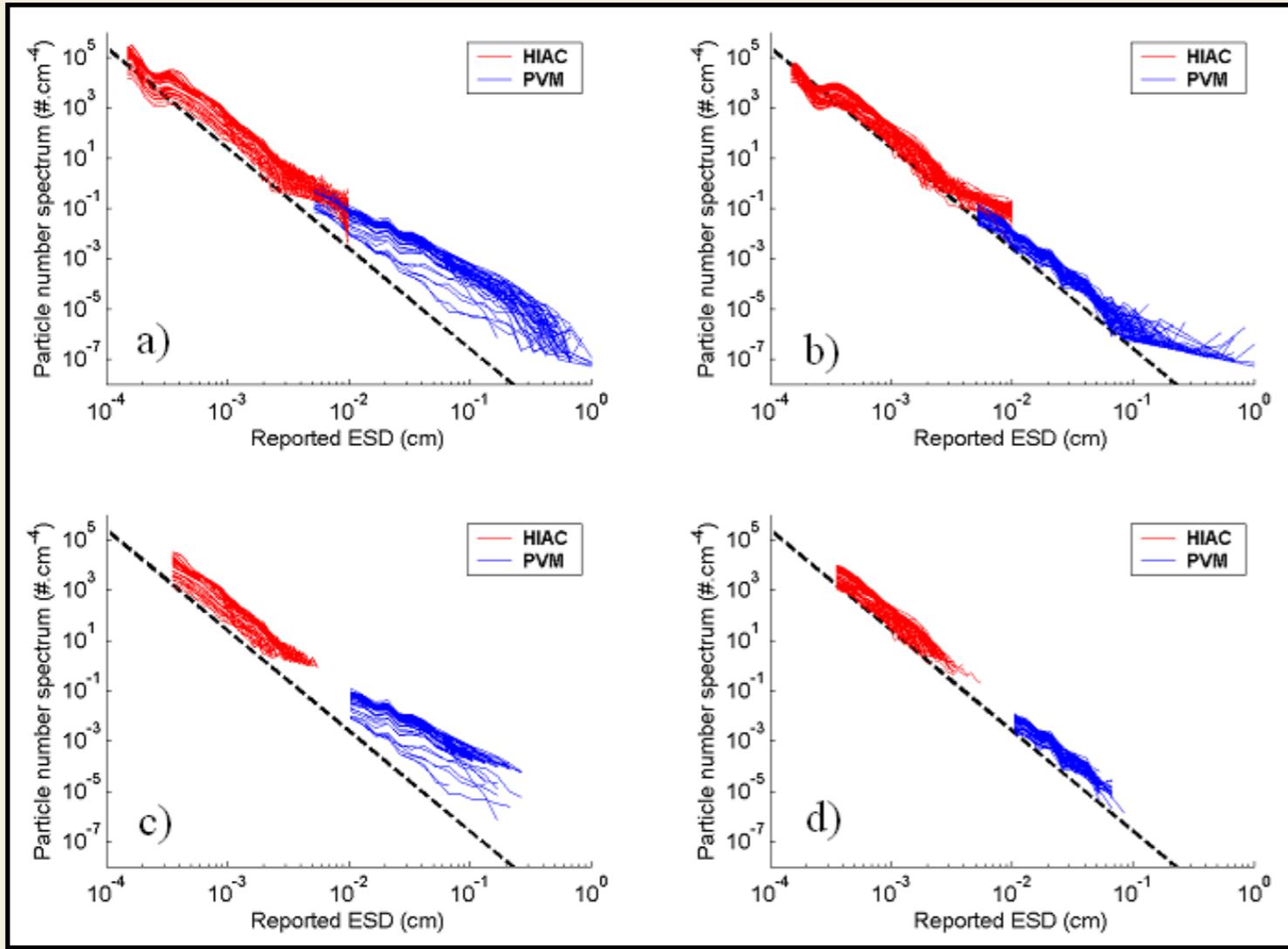
Guidi et al., *Limnology & Oceanogr.*, 54, 1951–1963 (2009)

$$n(r) = ar^{-b}$$

# Modeled Size Spectra

Jackson & Burd., *Env. Sci. Technol.*, 32, 2805–2814 (1998)



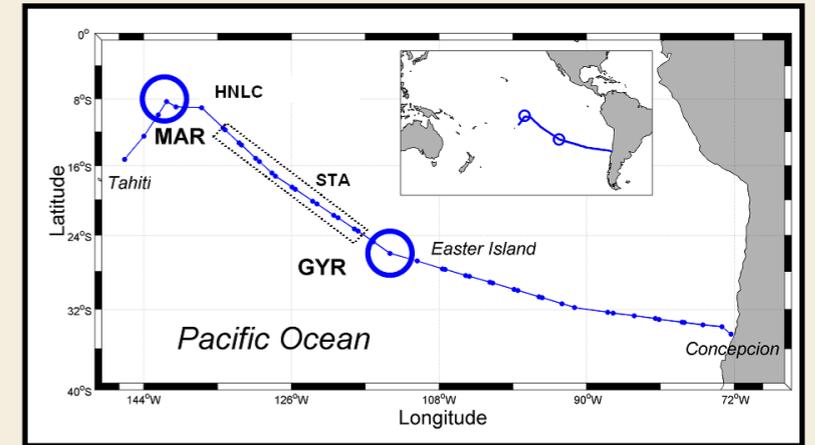


MAR

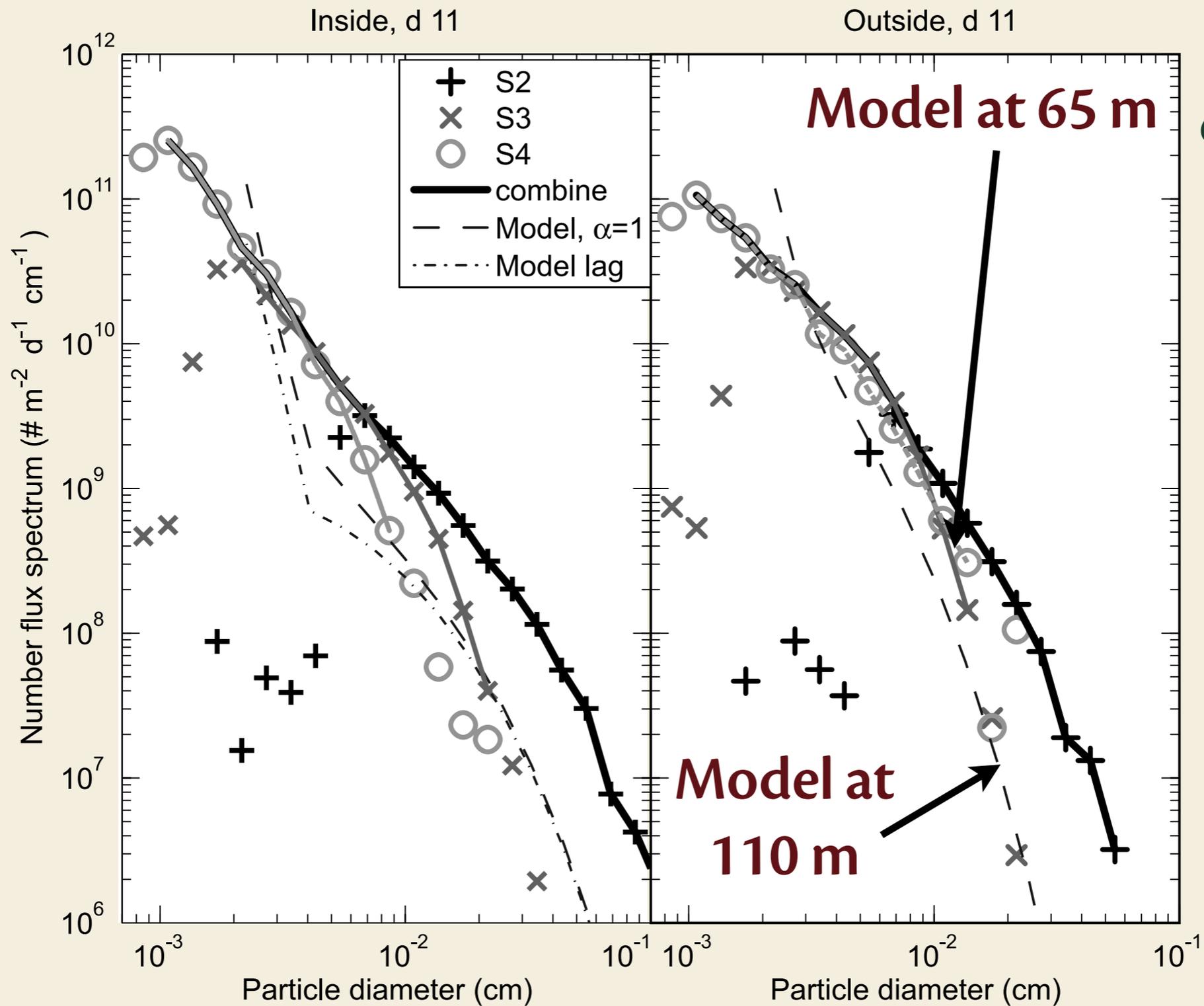
GYR

Raw Spectra

Corrected Spectra

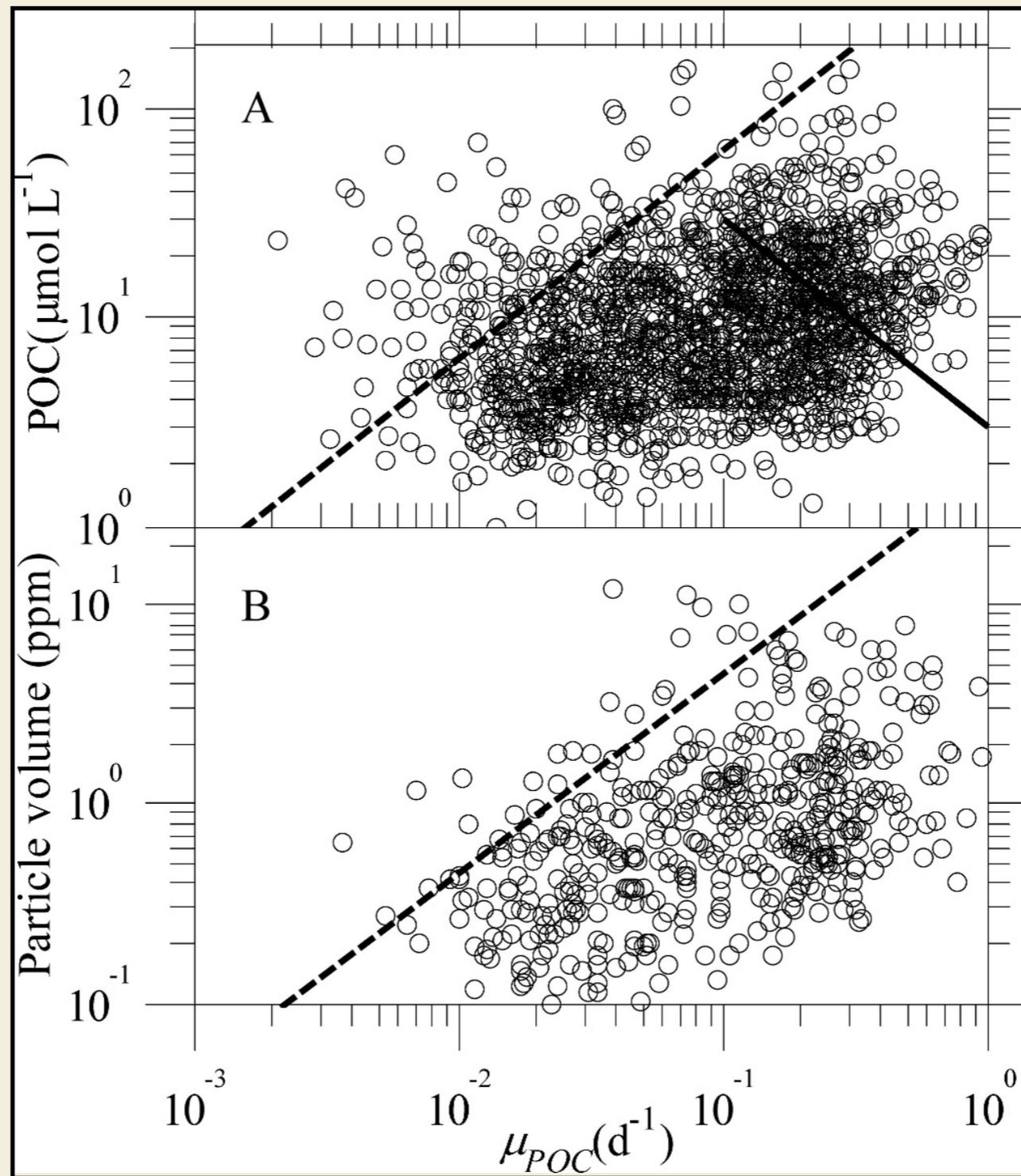


# Size spectrum



Jackson et al.,  
*Geophys. Res. Lett.*,  
32, L13607 (2005)

# Maximum Cell Concentrations



Jackson & Kjørboe,  
*Limnol. Oceanogr.*, 53,  
395–399 (2008)

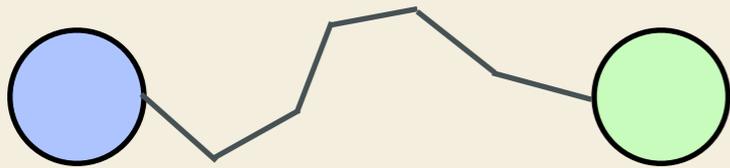
# Coagulation kernels

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dn(m, t)}{dt} &= \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^m \beta(m_j, m - m_j) n(m - m_j, t) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ &\quad - \alpha n(m, t) \int_0^\infty \beta(m, m_j) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ &\quad - n(m, t) \frac{w_s(m)}{z} + I(m, t) \end{aligned}$$

Determines the rate of collisions between particles — we have good theories for these

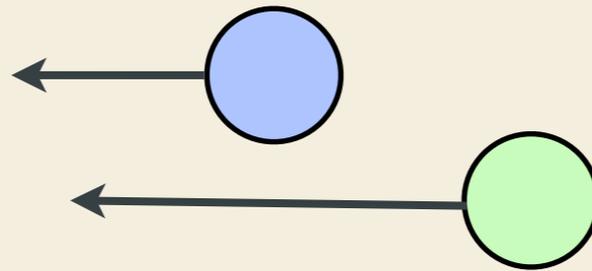
# Physical Coagulation

## Brownian Motion



$$\beta(r_i, r_j) = \frac{2}{3} \frac{kT}{\mu} \frac{(r_i + r_j)^2}{r_i r_j}$$

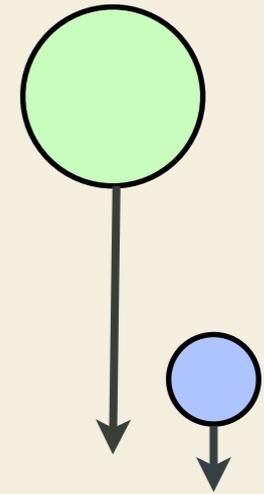
## Fluid Shear



$$\beta(r_i, r_j) = 1.3 \left(\frac{\epsilon}{\nu}\right)^{1/2} (r_i + r_j)^3$$

$$\beta(r_i, r_j) = \frac{p^2}{1 + 2p^2} \left(\frac{\epsilon}{\nu}\right)^{1/2} (r_i + r_j)^3$$

## Differential Sedimentation



$$\beta(r_i, r_j) = \pi(r_i + r_j)^2 |w_j - w_i|$$

$$\beta(r_i, r_j) = 0.5\pi r_j^2 |w_j - w_i|$$

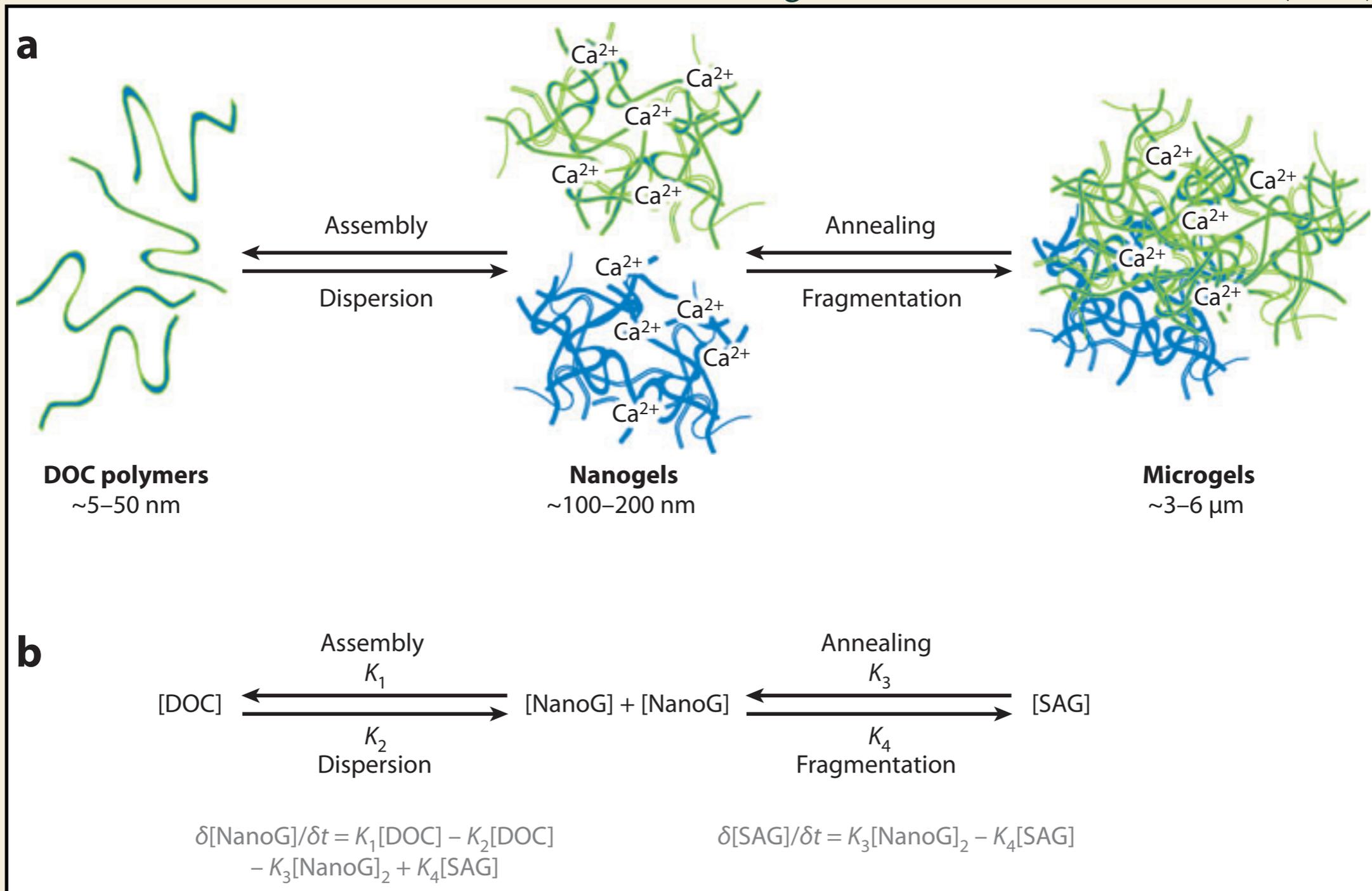
# Stickiness

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dn(m, t)}{dt} = & \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^m \beta(m_j, m - m_j) n(m - m_j, t) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ & - \alpha n(m, t) \int_0^\infty \beta(m, m_j) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ & - n(m, t) \frac{w_s(m)}{z} + I(m, t) \end{aligned}$$

Determines the probability that particles will adhere once they have collided.

# Nanoparticles

Verdugo, *Ann. Rev. Mar. Sci.*, 4, 375–400 (2012)

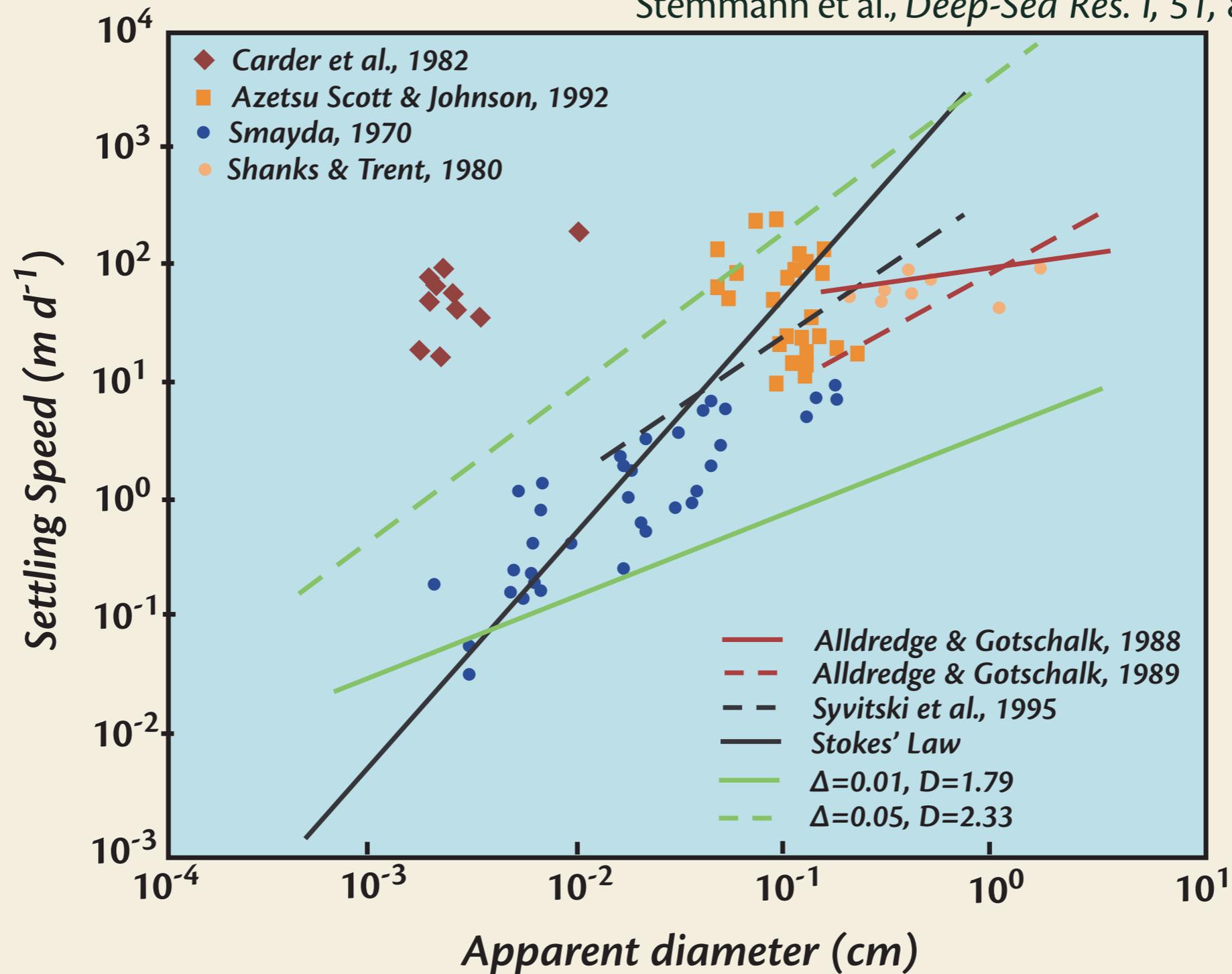


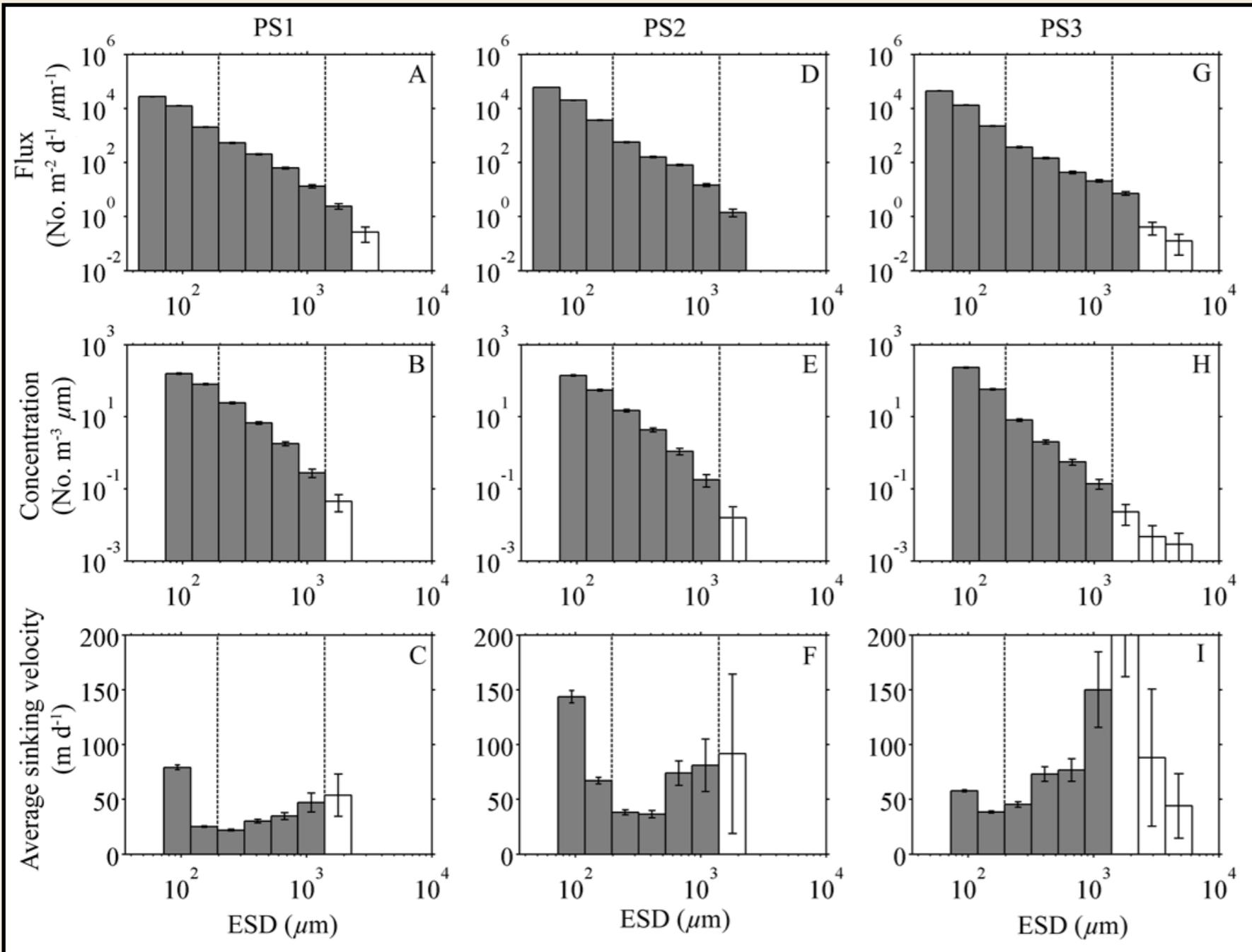
# Settling

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dn(m, t)}{dt} &= \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^m \beta(m_j, m - m_j) n(m - m_j, t) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ &\quad - \alpha n(m, t) \int_0^\infty \beta(m, m_j) n(m_j, t) dm_j \\ &\quad - n(m, t) \frac{w_s(m)}{z} + I(m, t) \end{aligned}$$

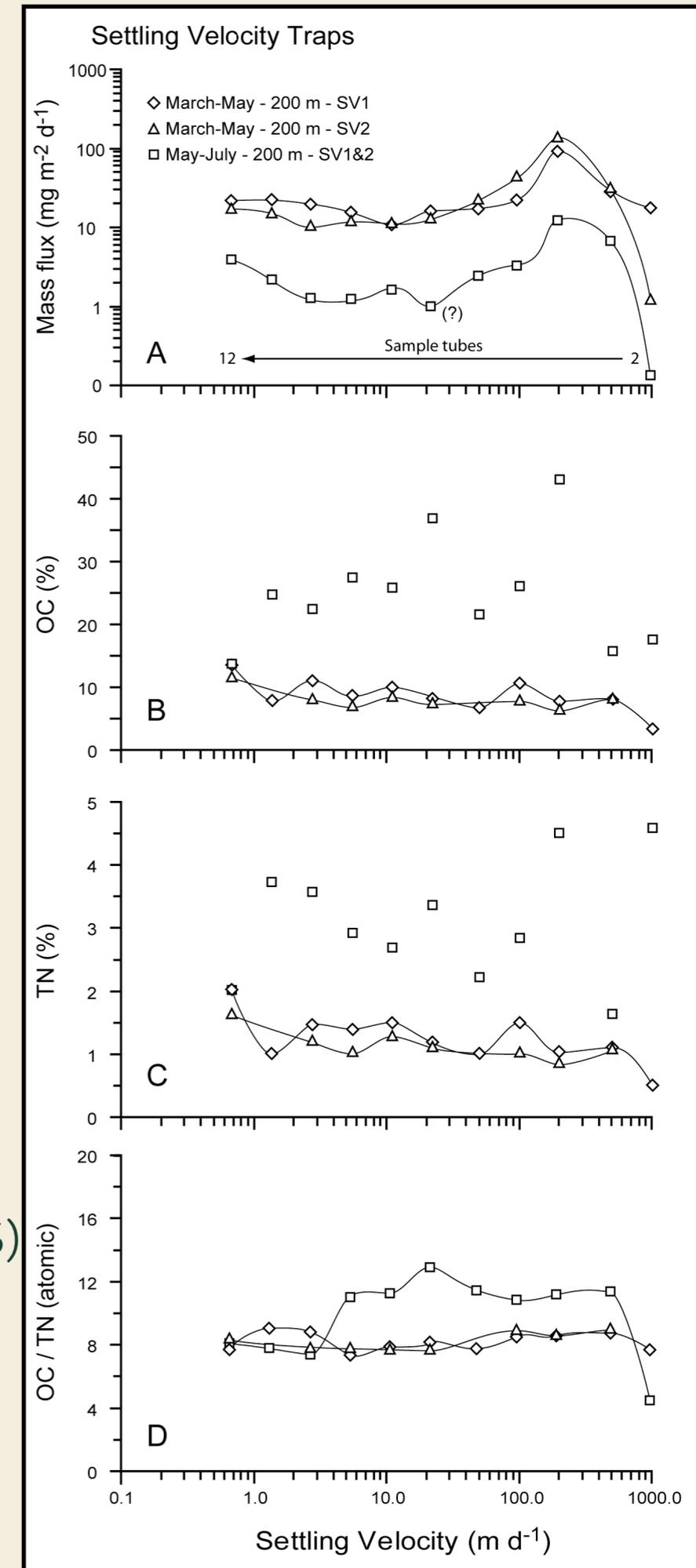
# Settling Velocity

Stemmann et al., *Deep-Sea Res. I*, 51, 865–884 (2004)

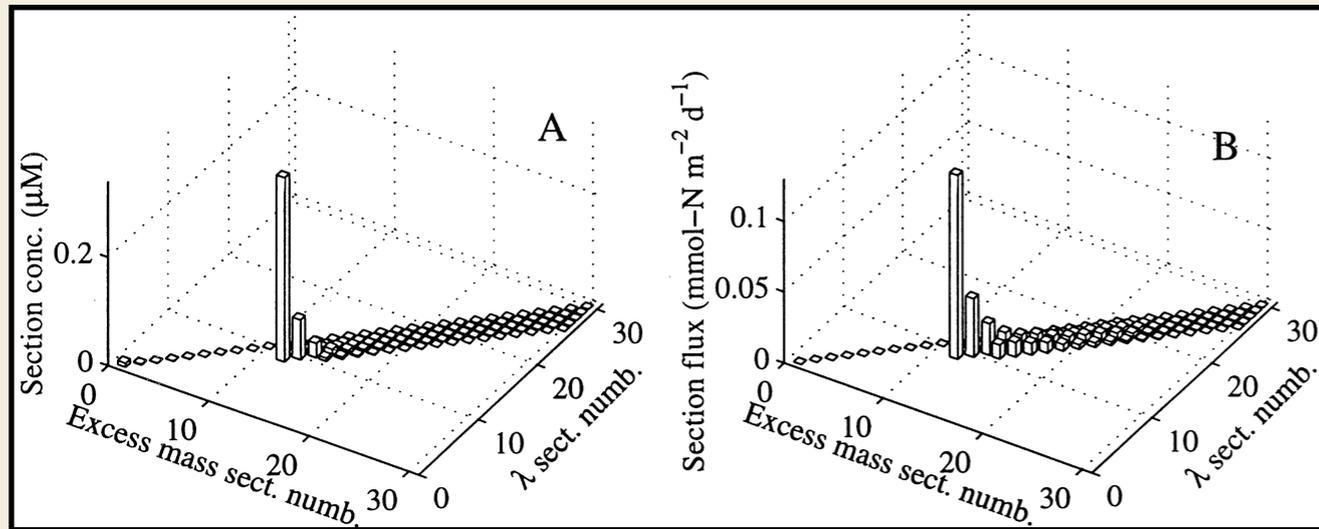




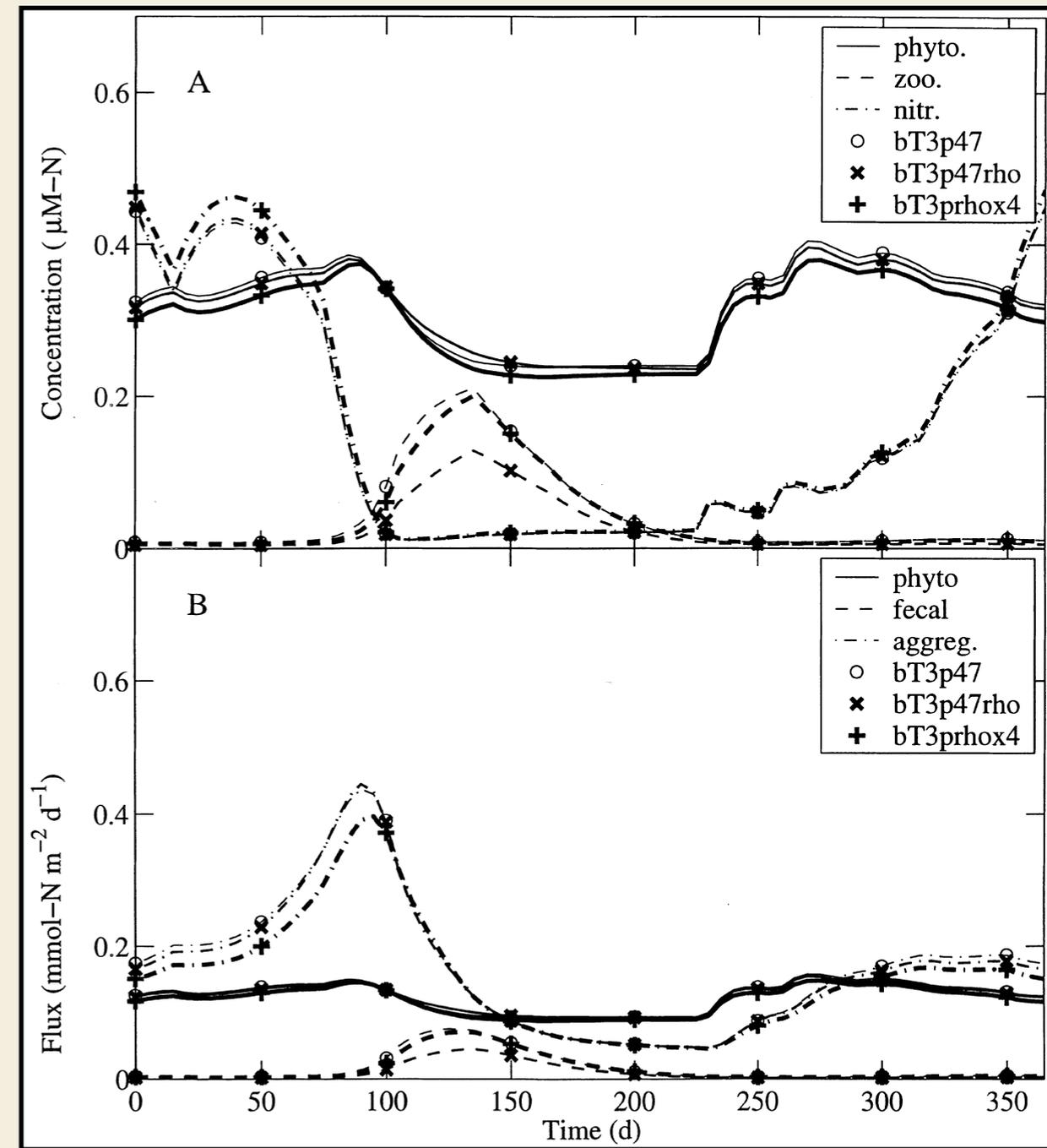
Peterson et al., *Limnol. Oceanogr. Methods*, 3, 520–532 (2005)



# Biological Aggregation



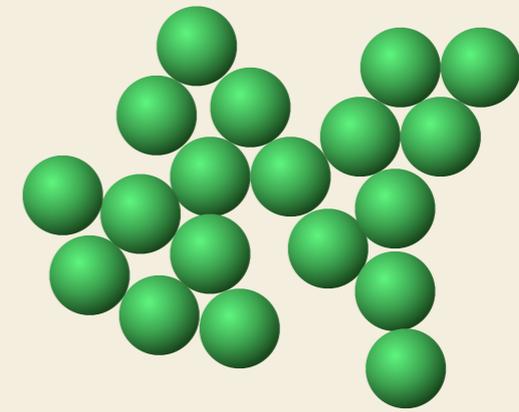
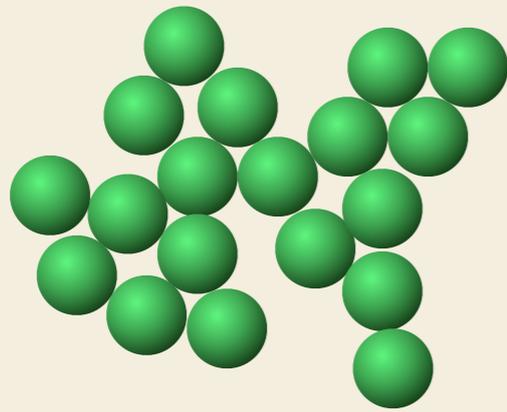
Jackson, *Deep-Sea Res. I*, 48, 95 – 123 (2001)



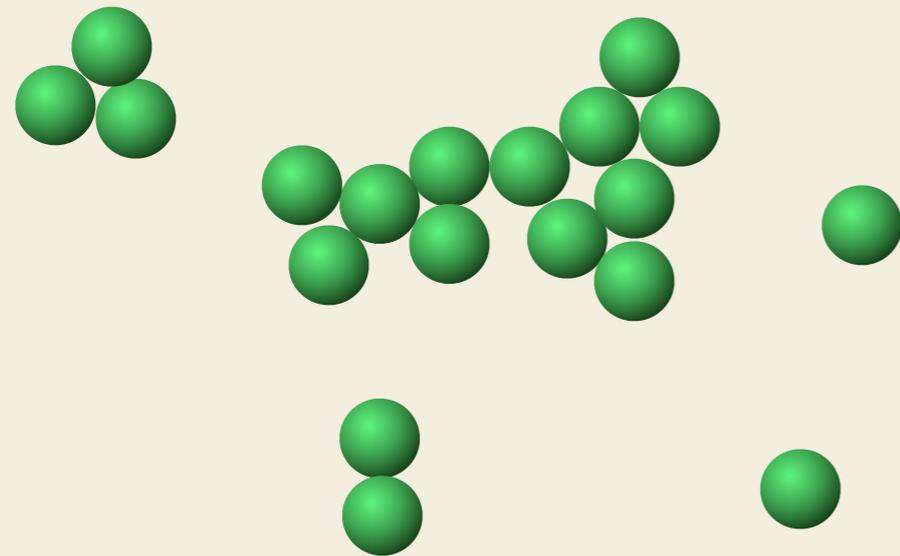
# Disaggregation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dQ_i(t)}{dt} = & - Q_i(t) \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \int_{v_{j-1}}^{v_j} \int_{v_{i-1}}^{v_{i-1}+w} \frac{(v-w)p_e(w)g_e(v)}{v(v_i-v_{i-1})P_e(v_{i-1})} dv dw \\
 & - Q_i(t) \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \int_{v_{j-1}}^{v_j} \int_{v_{i-1}}^{v_i} \frac{wp_e(w)g_e(v)}{v(v_i-v_{i-1})P_e(v_{i-1})} dv dw \\
 & + \sum_{l=i+1}^m Q_l(t) \sum_{j=1}^{l-1} \int_{v_{j-1}}^{v_j} \int_{v_{l-1}+w}^{v_i+w} \frac{(u-w)p_e(w)g_e(u)}{u(u_l-u_{l-1})P_e(u_{l-1})} du dw \\
 & + \sum_{l=i+1}^m Q_l(t) \int_{v_{i-1}}^{v_i} \int_{v_{l-1}}^{v_l} \frac{vp_e(v)g_e(u)}{u(u_l-u_{l-1})P_e(u_{l-1})} du dv \\
 & - Q_i(t) \int_{v_{i-1}}^{v_i} \frac{g_s(v)}{(v_i-v_{i-1})} dv \\
 & + \sum_{l=i+1}^m Q_l(t) \int_{v_{i-1}}^{v_i} \int_{u_{l-1}}^{u_l} \frac{vp_s(v,u)v(u)g_s(u)}{u(u_l-u_{l-1})} du dv \\
 & + Q_i(t) \int_{v_{i-1}}^{v_i} \int_{u_{i-1}}^v \frac{vp_s(v,u)v(u)g_s(u)}{u(u_l-u_{l-1})} du dv.
 \end{aligned}$$

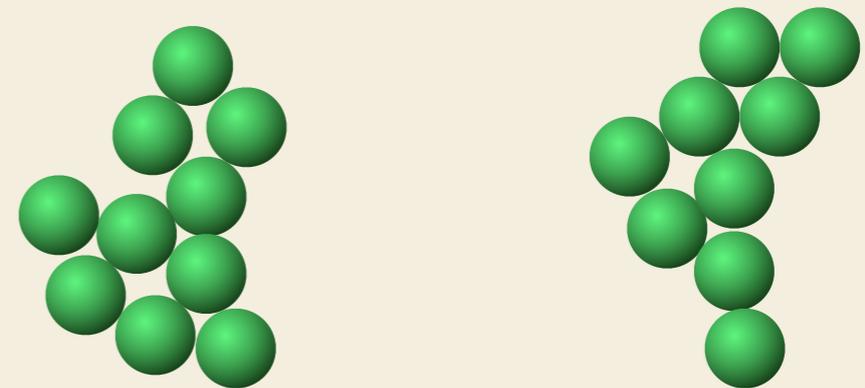
# Disaggregation



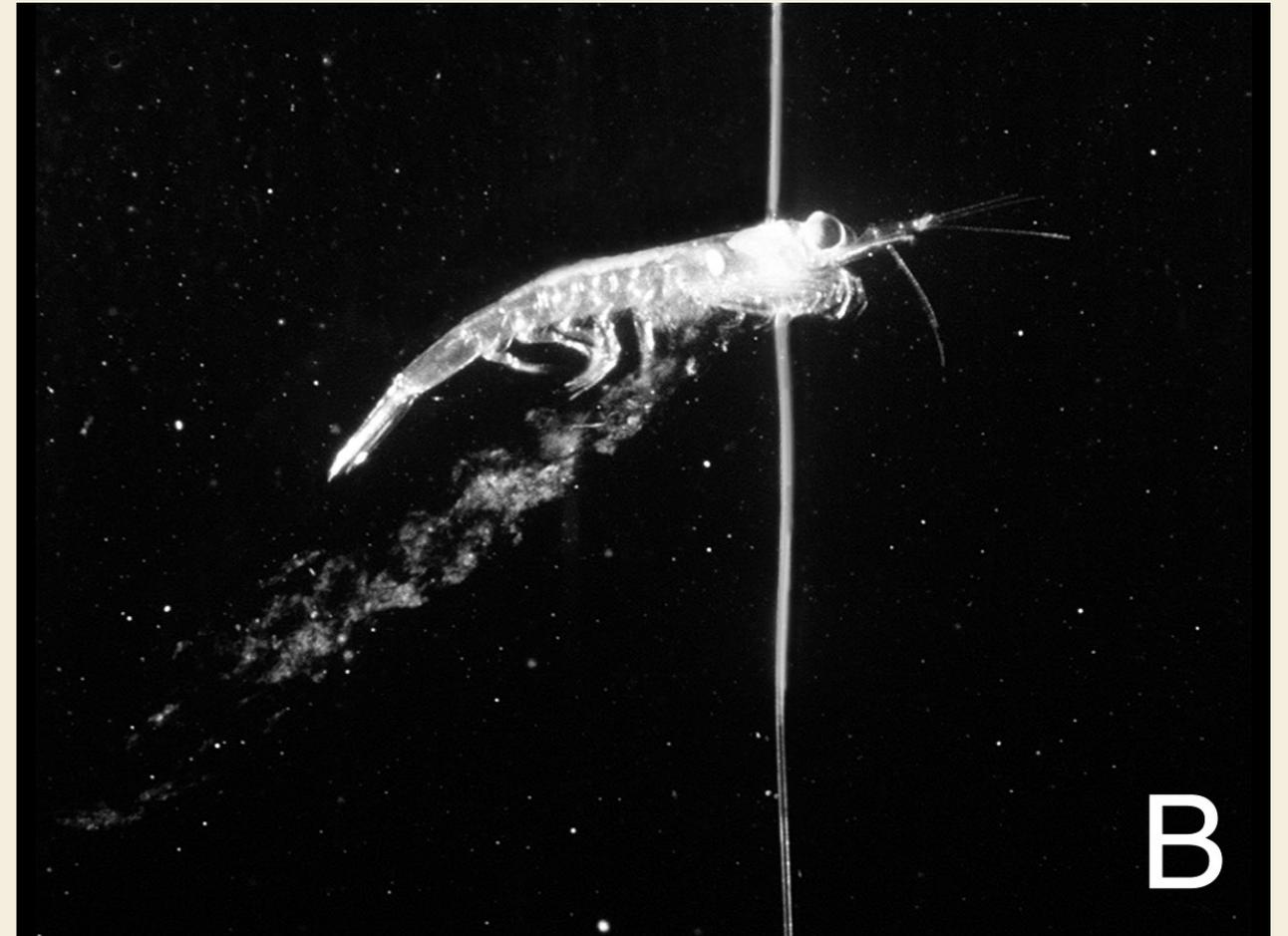
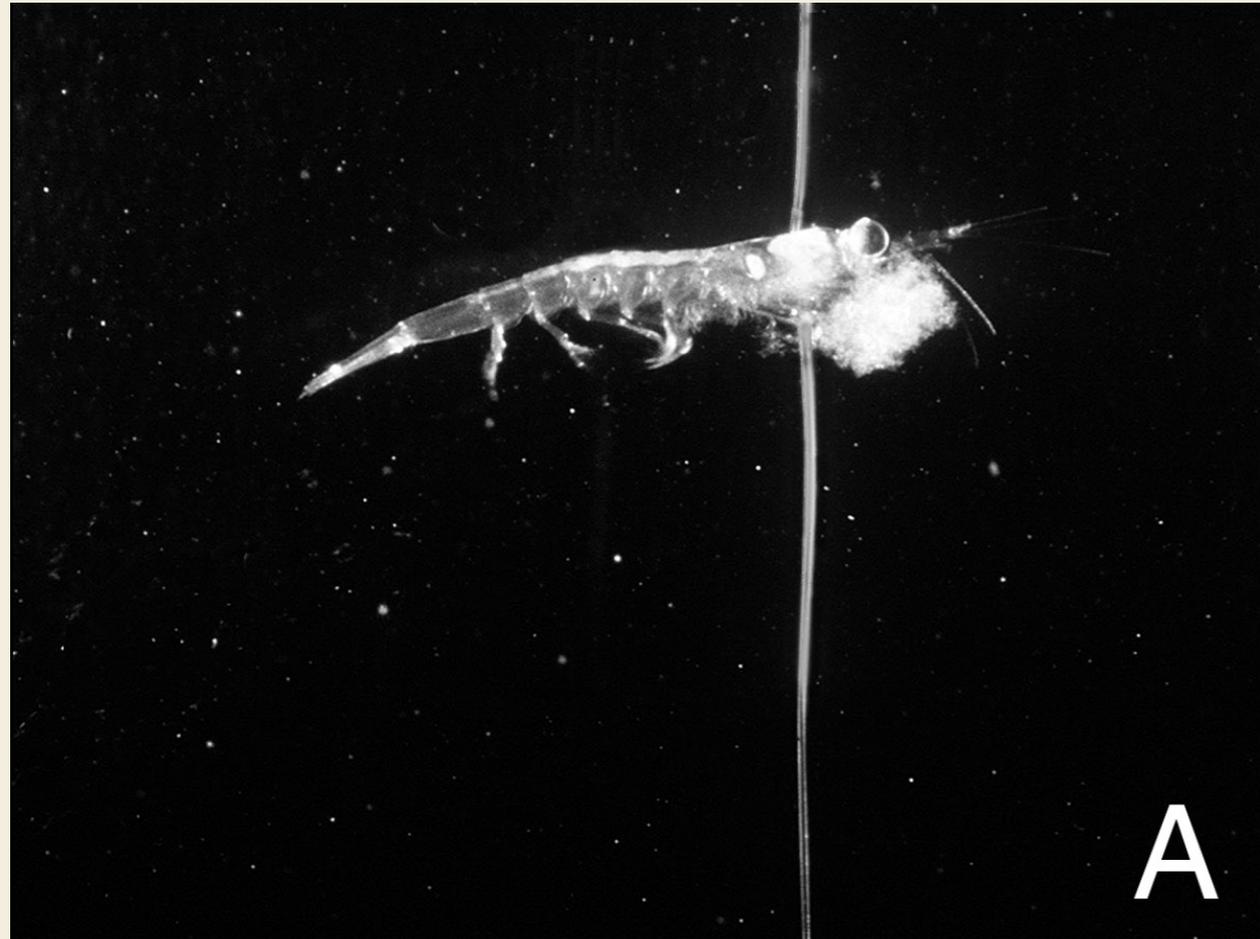
**Erosion of Fines**



**Splitting into approximately equal particles**



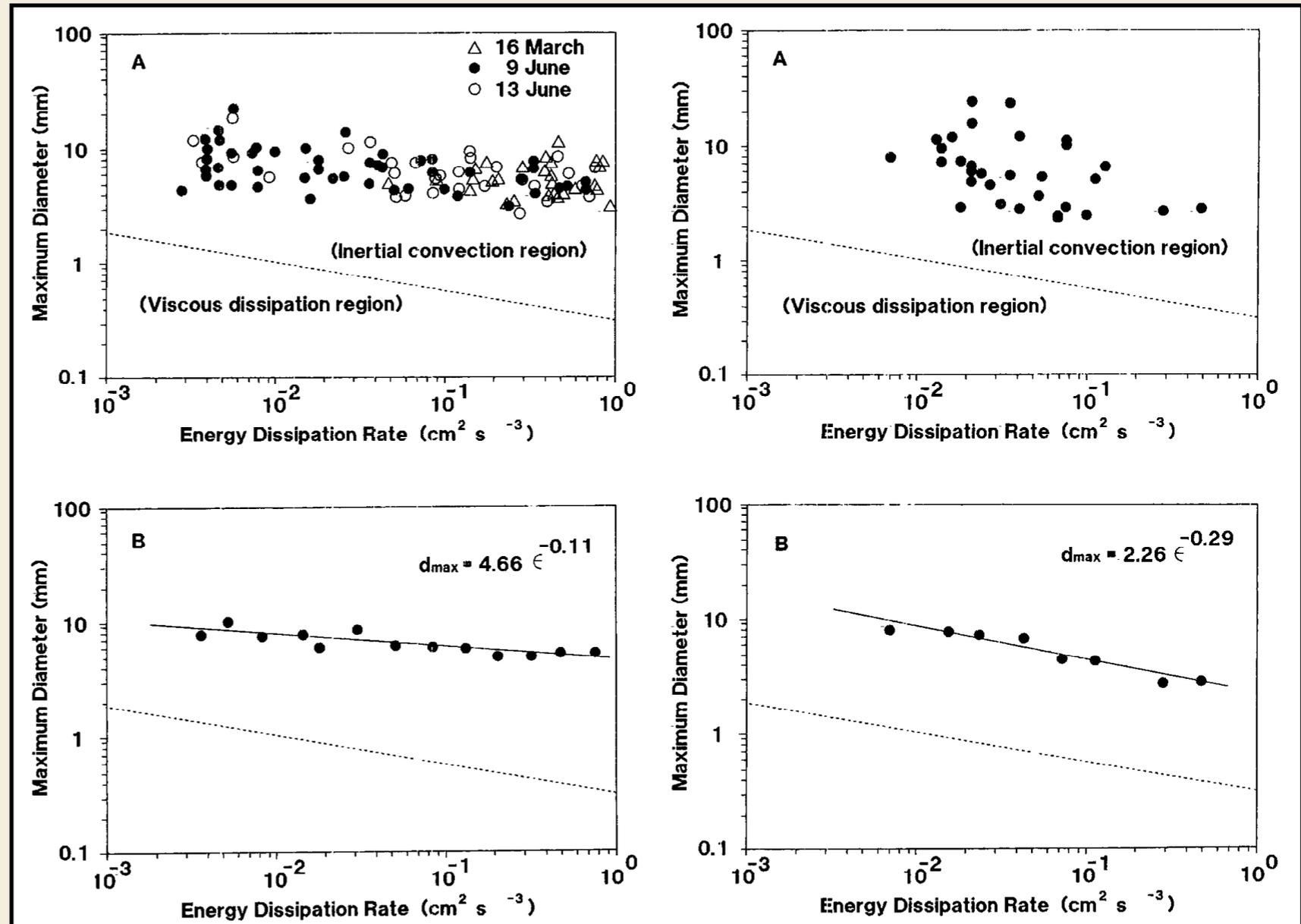
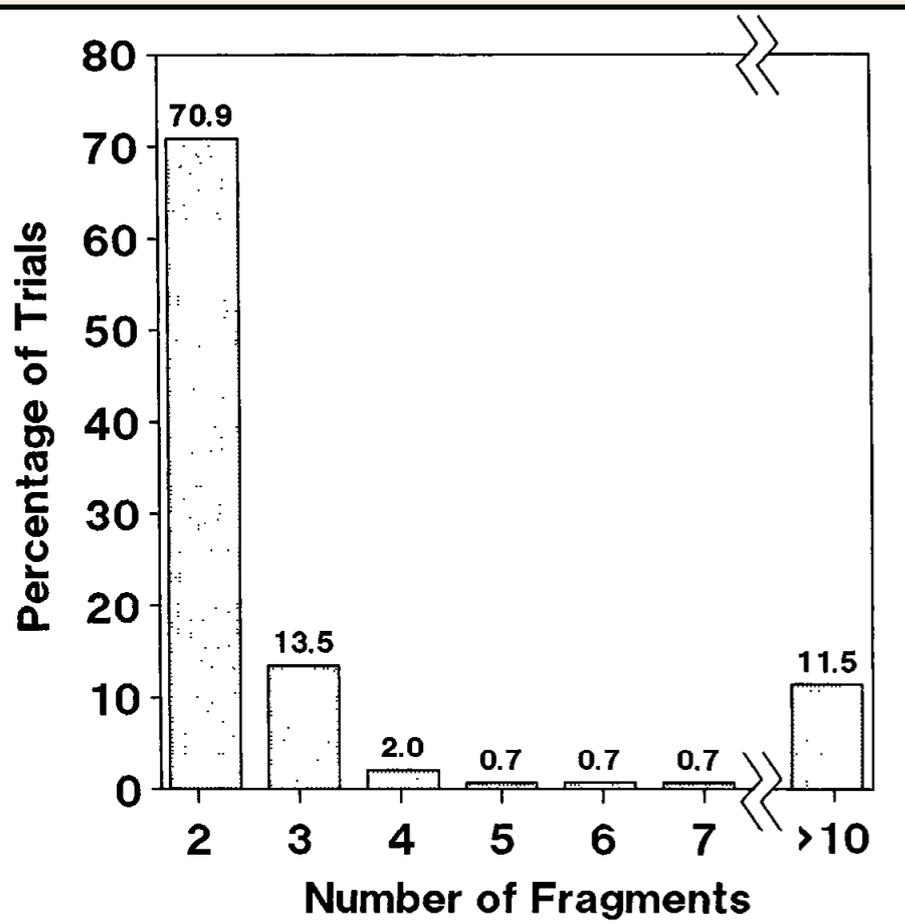
# Bio-disaggregation



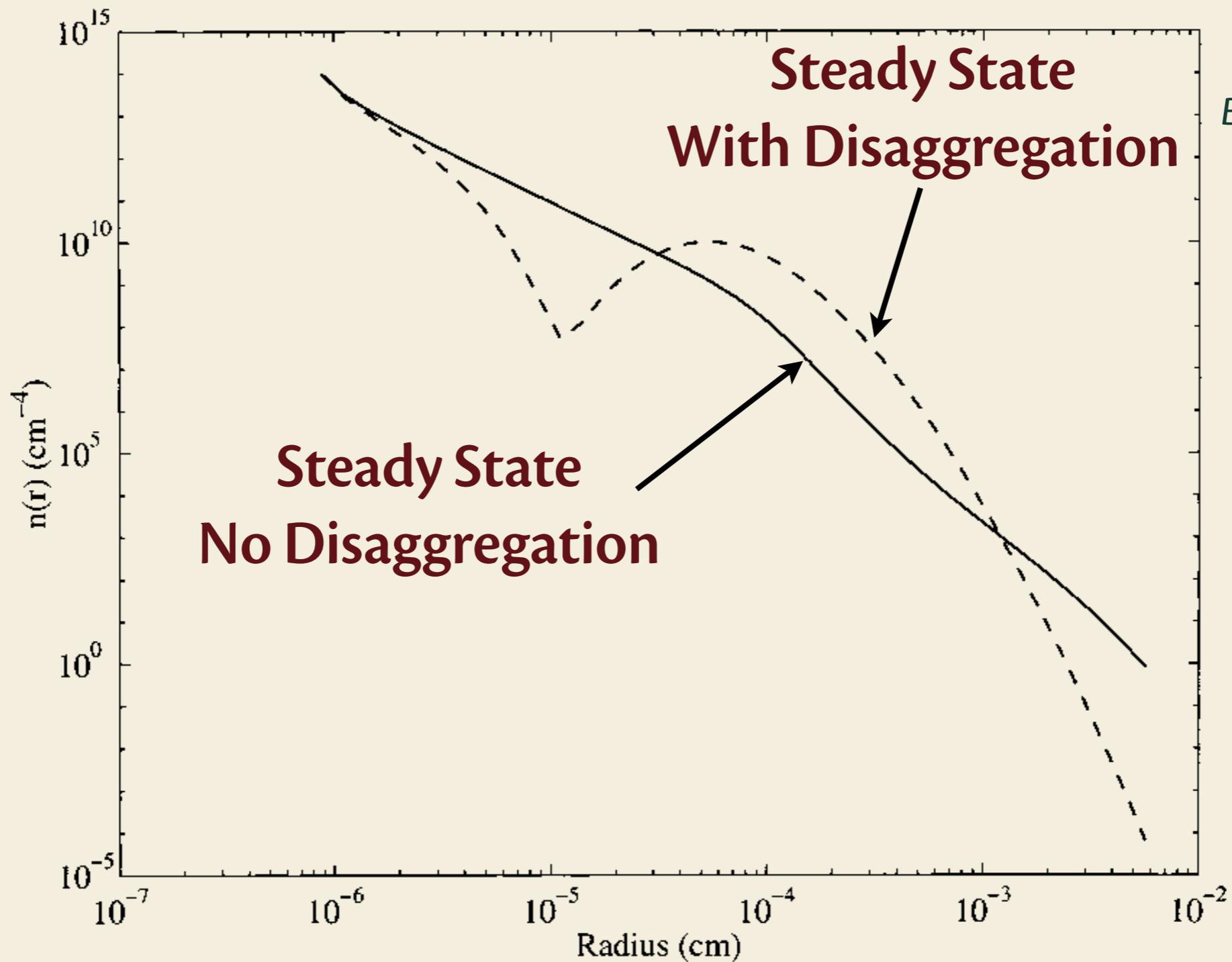
Dilling & Alldrege, *Deep-Sea Res. I*, 47, 1227–1245 (2000)

# Physical Disaggregation

Alldrege et al., *Limnol. Oceanogr.*, 35, 1415–1428 (1990)



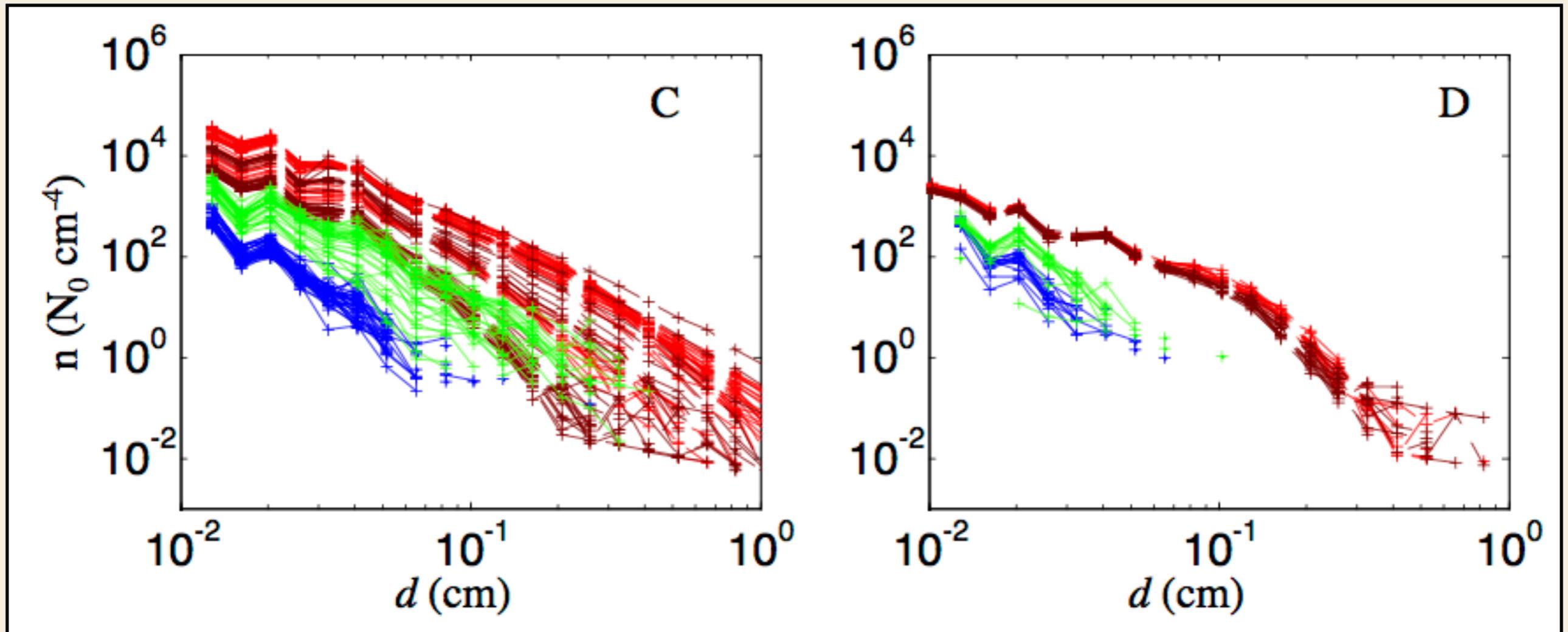
# Disaggregation: Theory



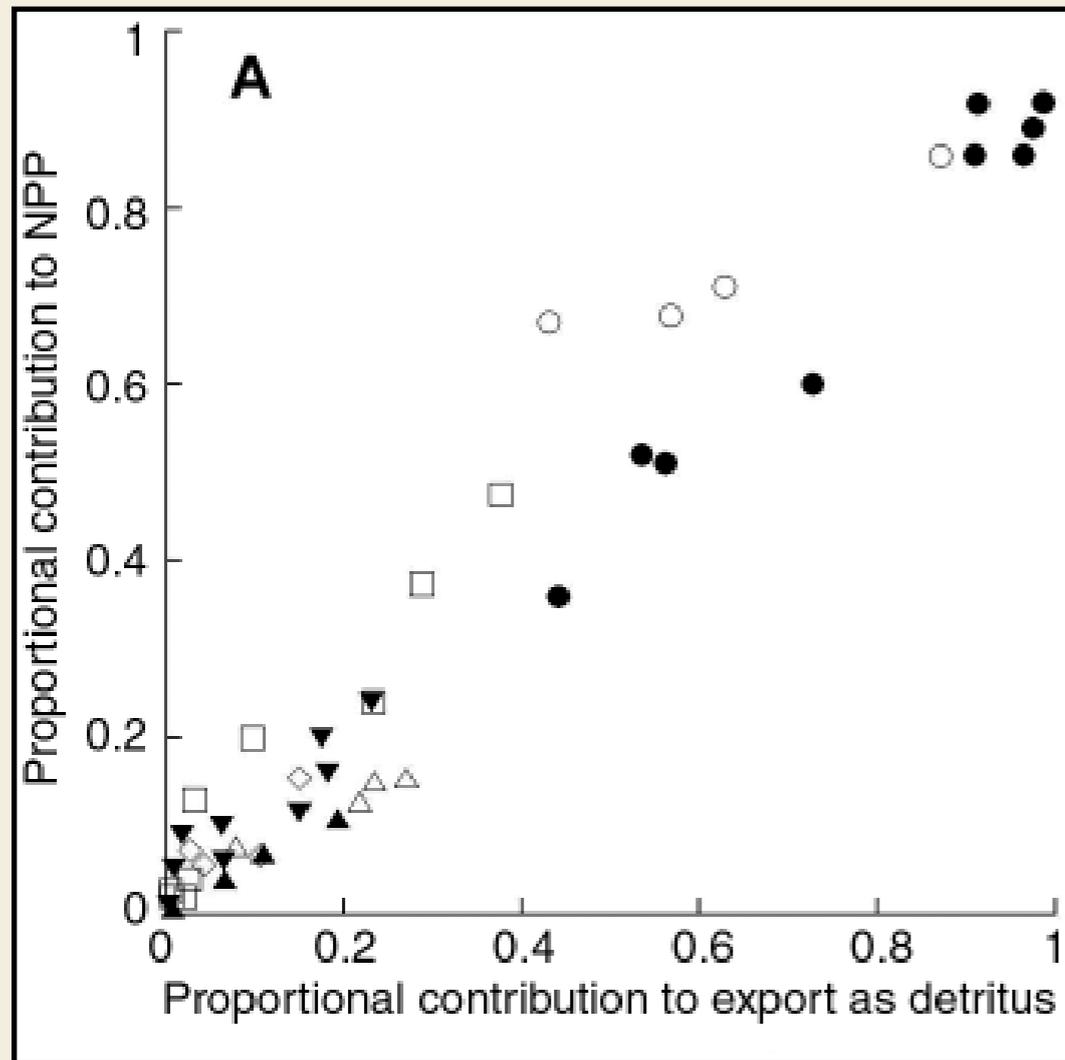
Burd & Jackson,  
*Env. Sci. Technol.*,  
36, 323–327  
(2002)

# Disaggregation?

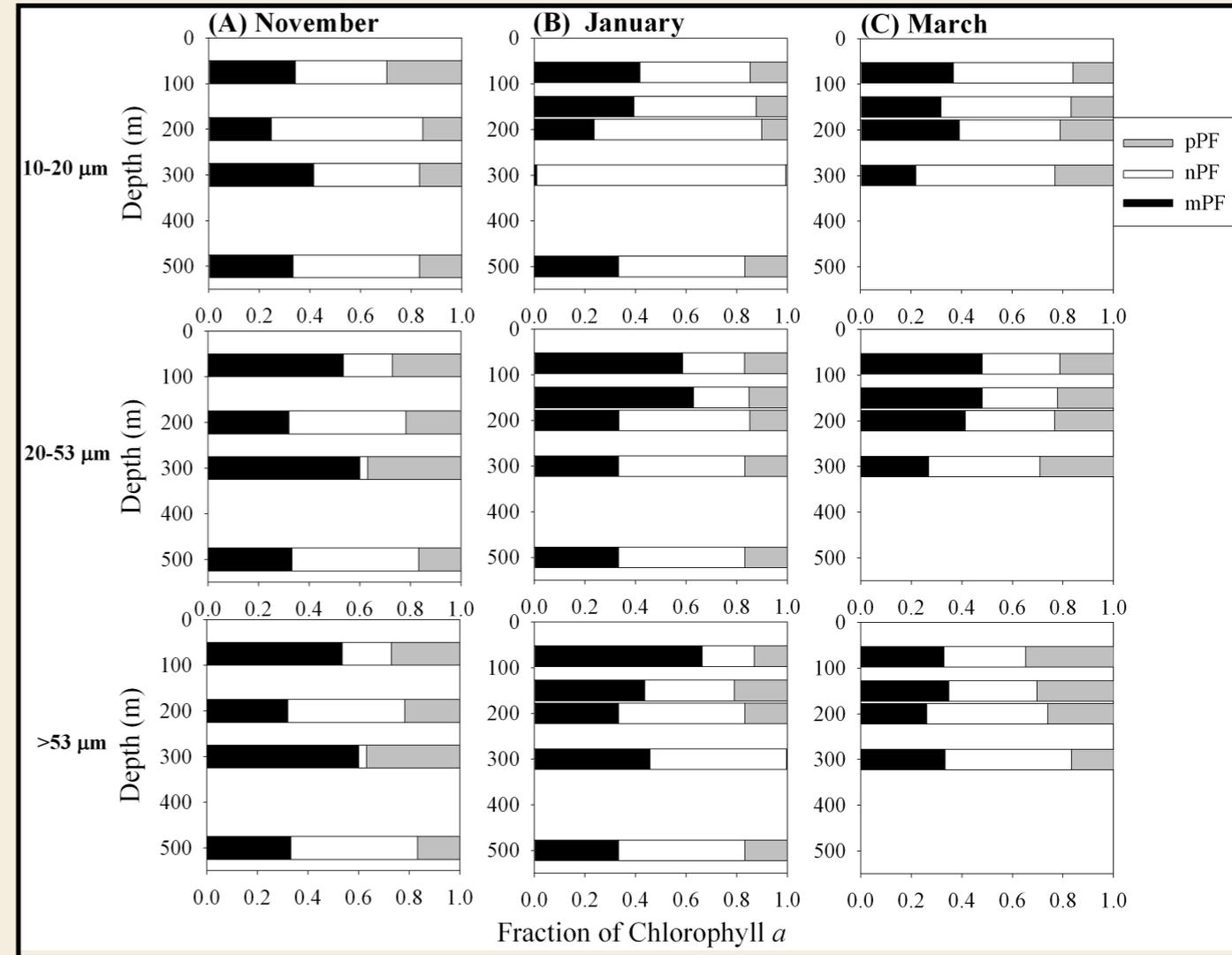
Jouandet et al. (2014, accepted)



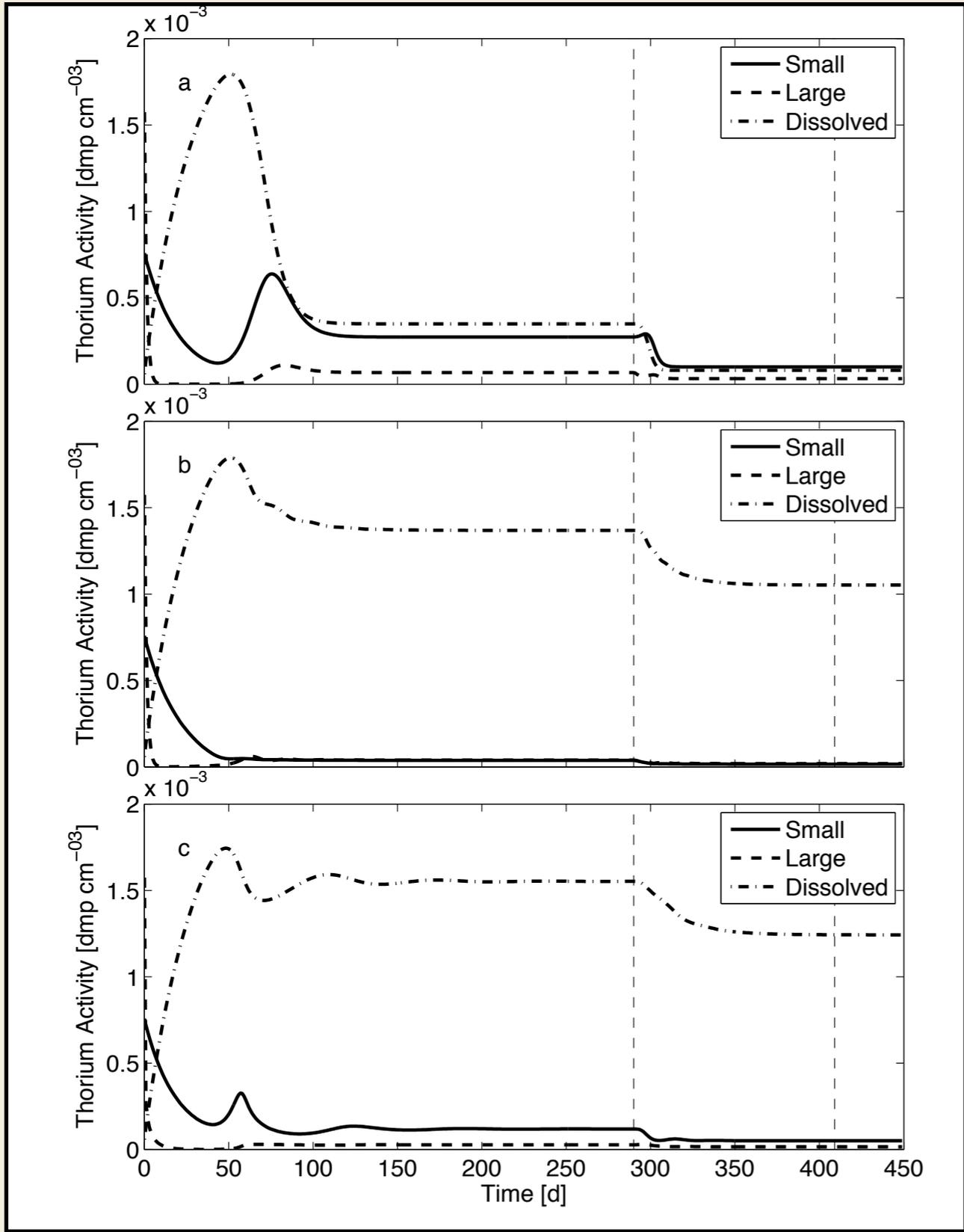
# Flux of Small Cells



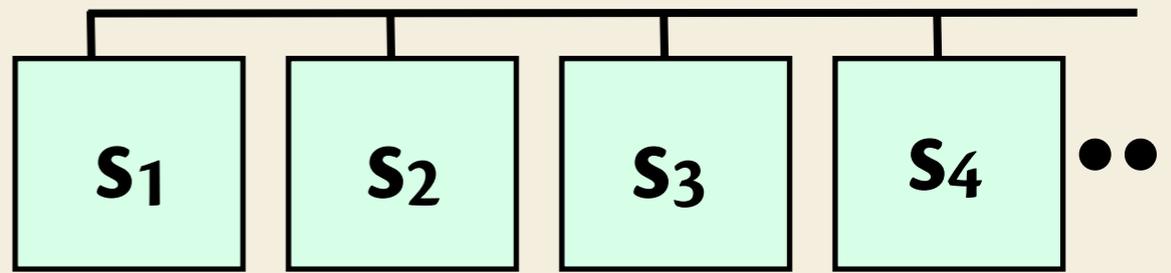
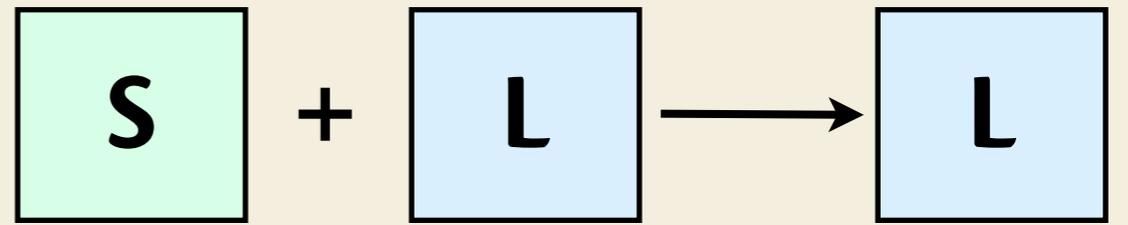
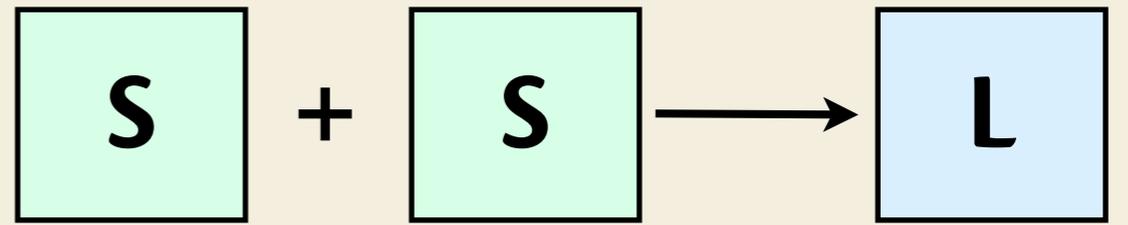
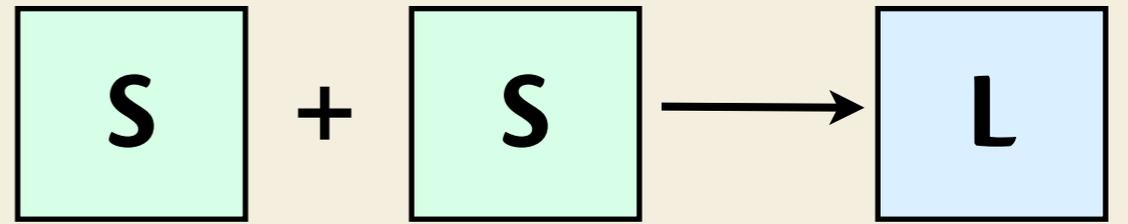
Richardson & Jackson., *Science*, 315, 838–840 (2007)



Lomas & Moran, *Biogeosciences*, 8, 203–216 (2011)

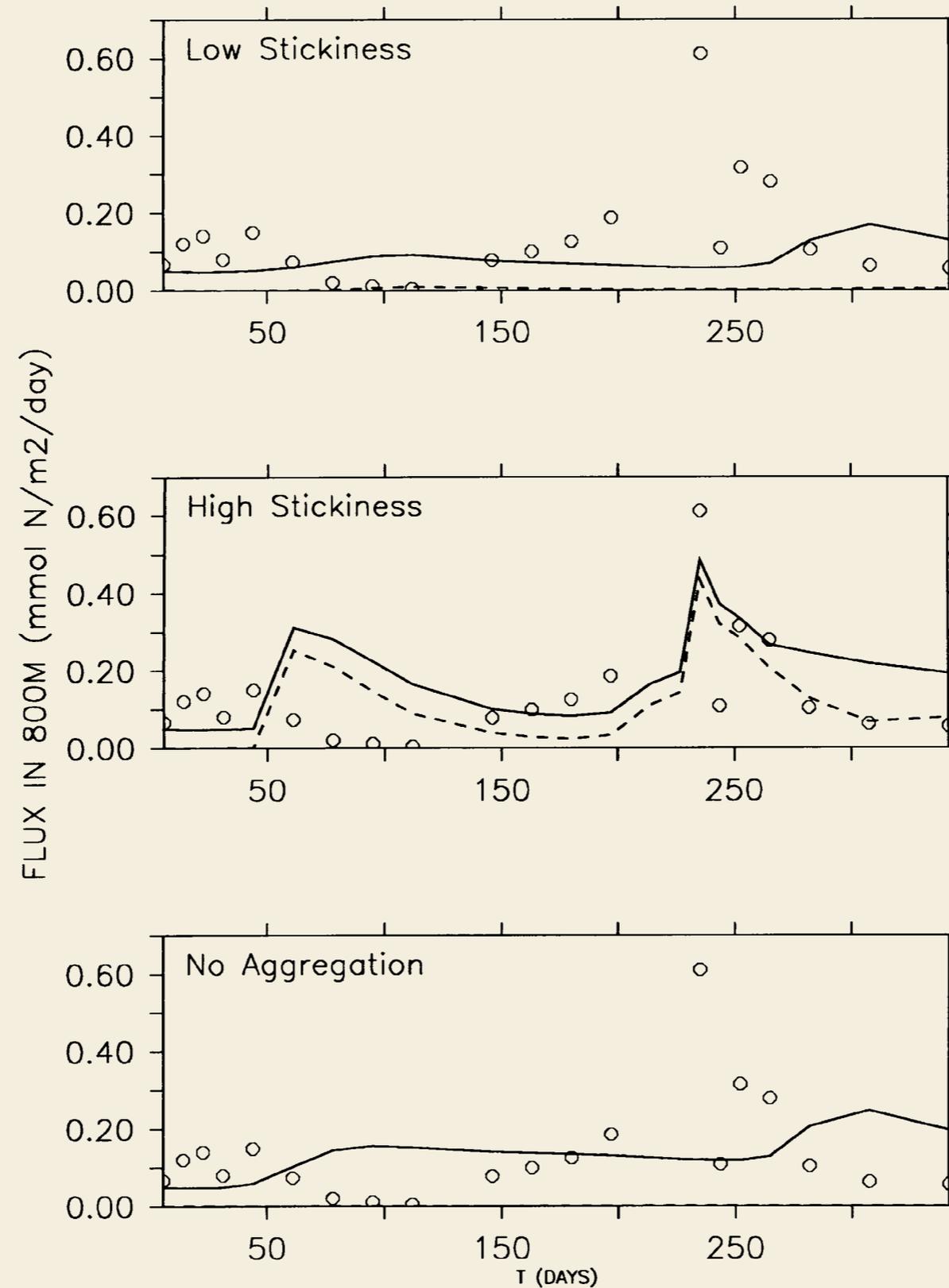


Jackson & Burd, 2014



# Integrated Approaches

Kriest & Evans, *Earth Planet. Sci.*, 109, 453–469 (2000)



# What do we still need to know?

- ◎ **A lot more about disaggregation**
  - *Rates, daughter particle size distributions, particle strengths, preferred modes of breakup...*
- ◎ **The relative contributions to physical and biological aggregation.**
  - *Particle type & properties, concentration, settling speed, biology*
- ◎ **Representing remineralization in models**
  - *How do particles degrade? How does particle structure affect degradation rates?*

# What do we still need to know?

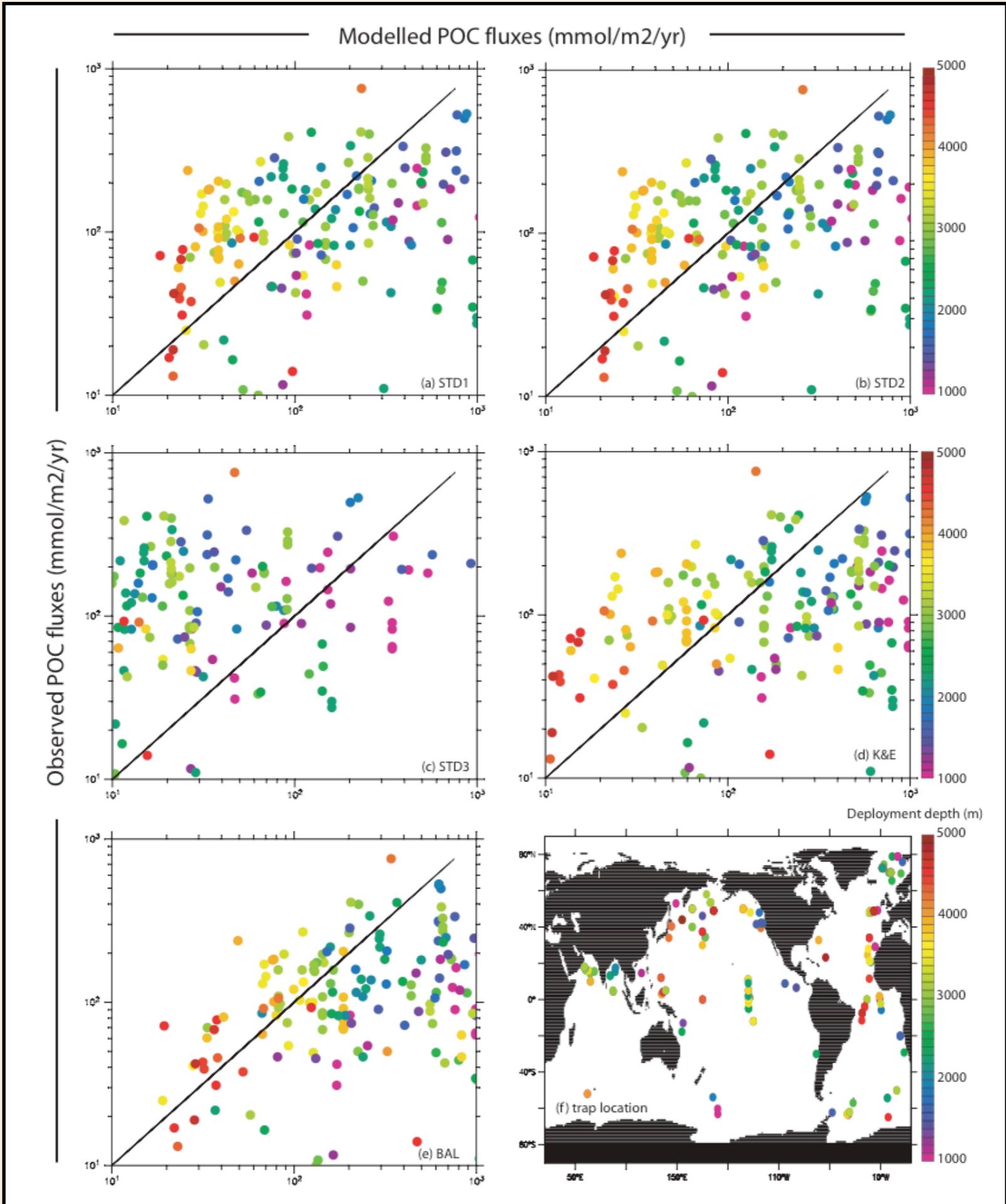
- ◎ **Representing remineralization in models**
  - *How do particles degrade? How does particle structure affect degradation rates?*



2 size classes,  
prescribed  
settling.

2 size classes,  
prescribed  
settling,  
high grazing

Ballast Model



2 size classes,  
no aggregation,  
prescribed  
settling

Simple Spectral  
Model

Gehlen et al., *Biogeosciences*, 3, 521–537 (2006)