
POC Export from Natural Iron Fertilization – Investigating the Sequestration Efficiency

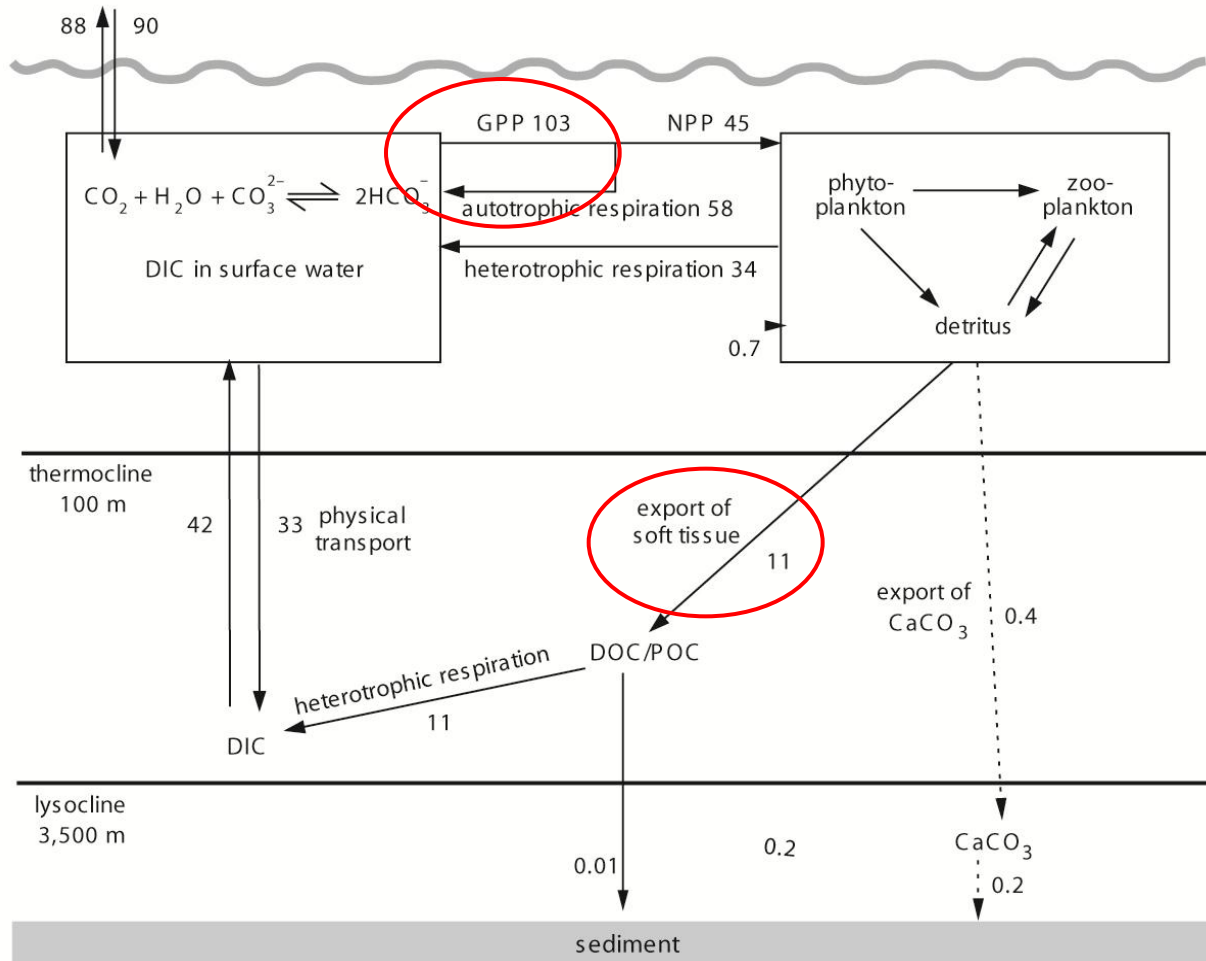
Paul J Morris

WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION

Talk Overview

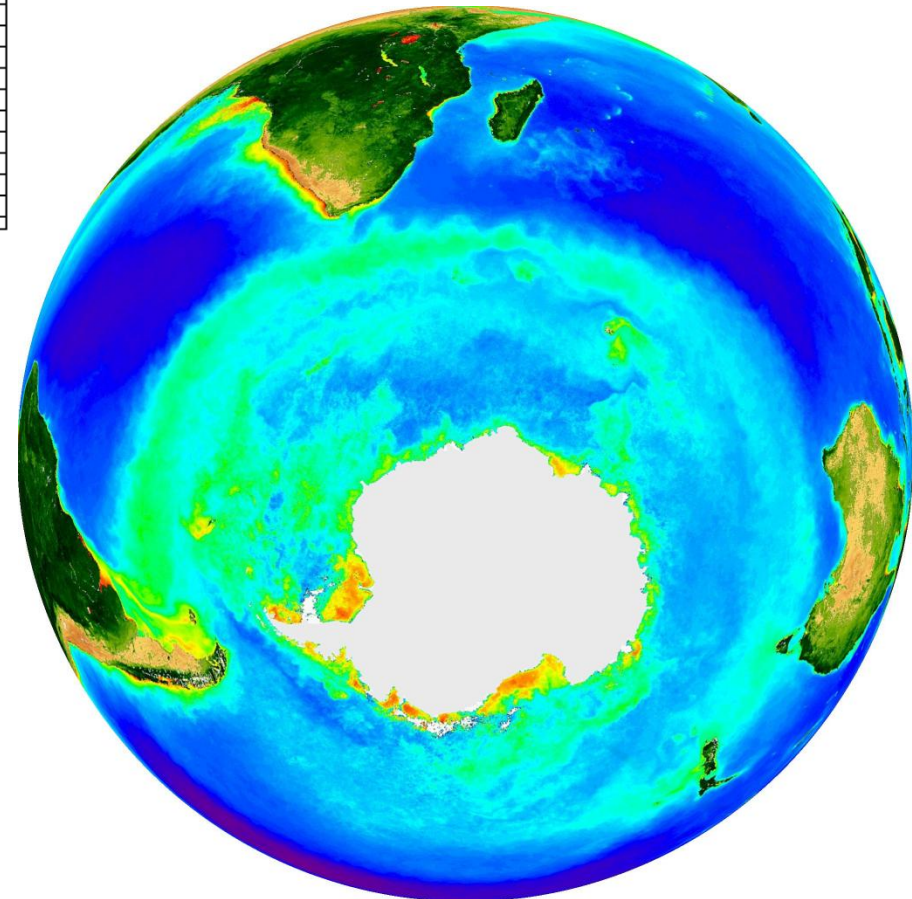
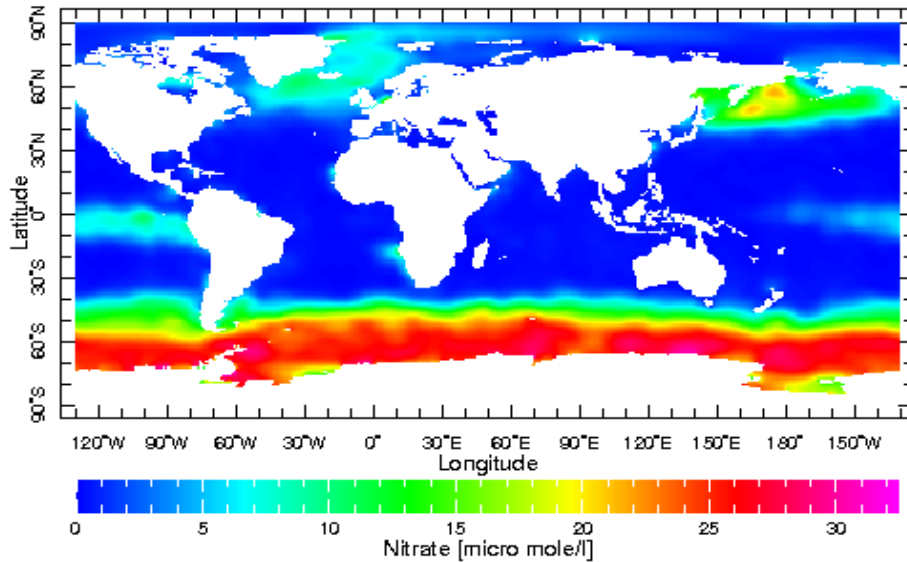
- Marine carbon cycle
- HNLC Southern Ocean and regions of interest
- Range of POC export estimates
- Scaling daily POC export to seasonal estimates
- Sensitivity of the sequestration efficiency
- New data from the Blue Water Zone – BWZ
- Summary

Marine Carbon Cycle



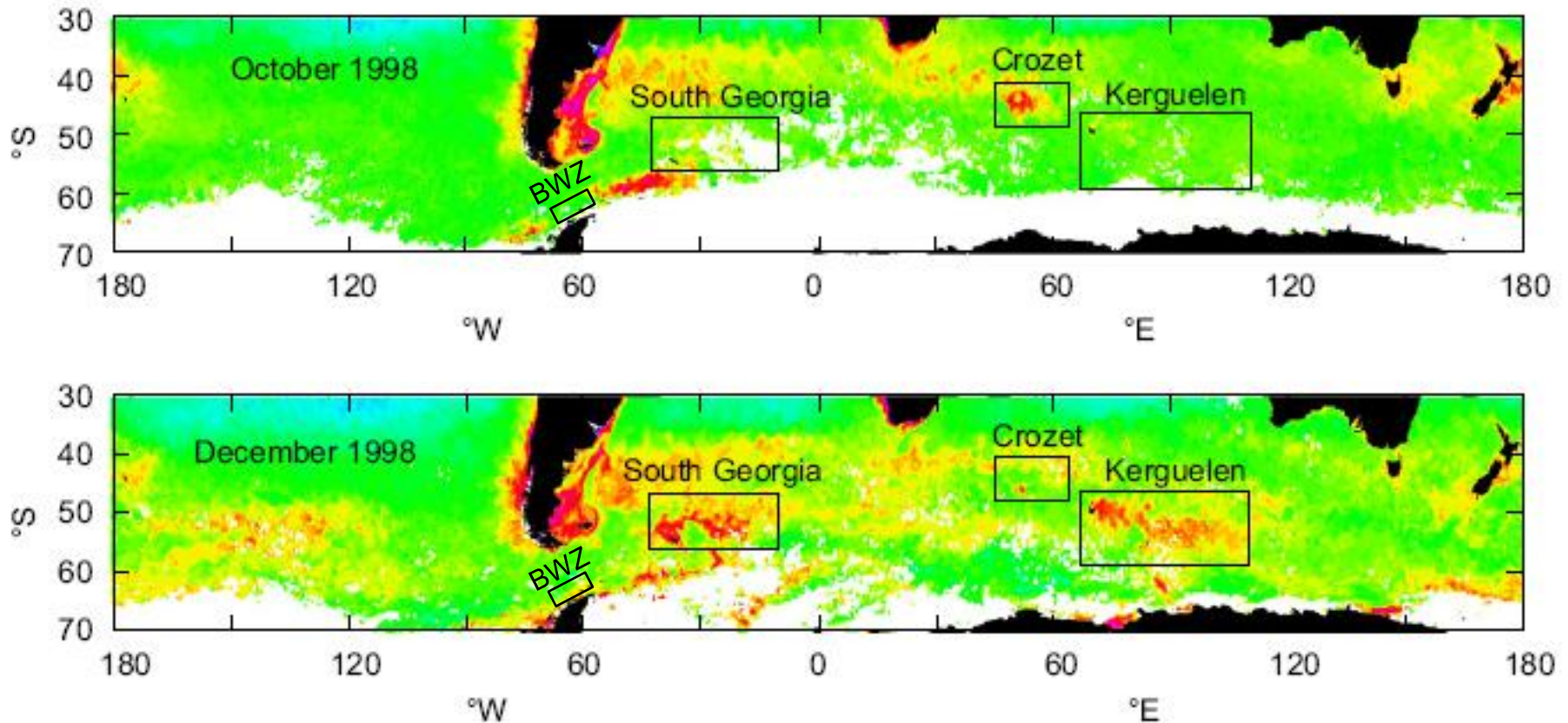
Modified from Prentice *et al.* (2001) IPCC Report

The HNLC Southern Ocean



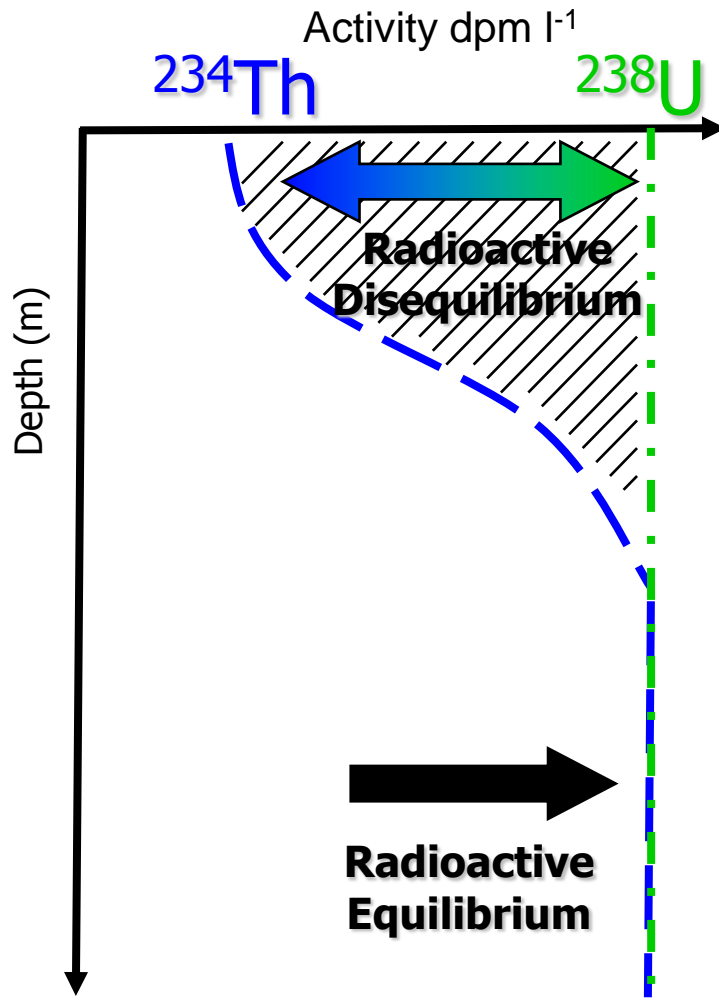
- Region of interest
- Southern Ocean nutrient levels are high
- However, large areas have persistently low chlorophyll
- Iron limitation

The HNLC Southern Ocean

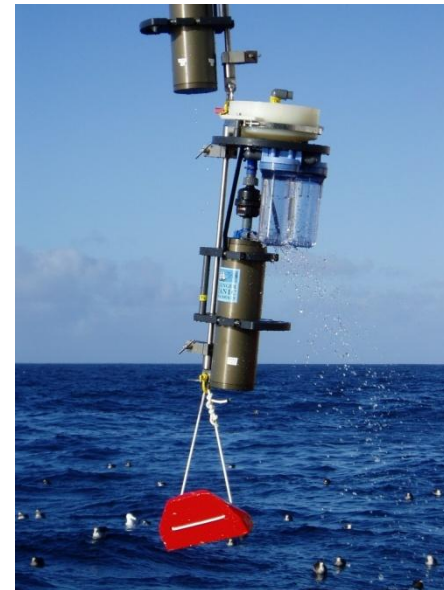


- Large regions of relatively low chlorophyll despite high nutrients
- Topographically associated blooms
- Hypothesis: Are these regions areas of enhanced carbon export?

^{234}Th Thorium Method

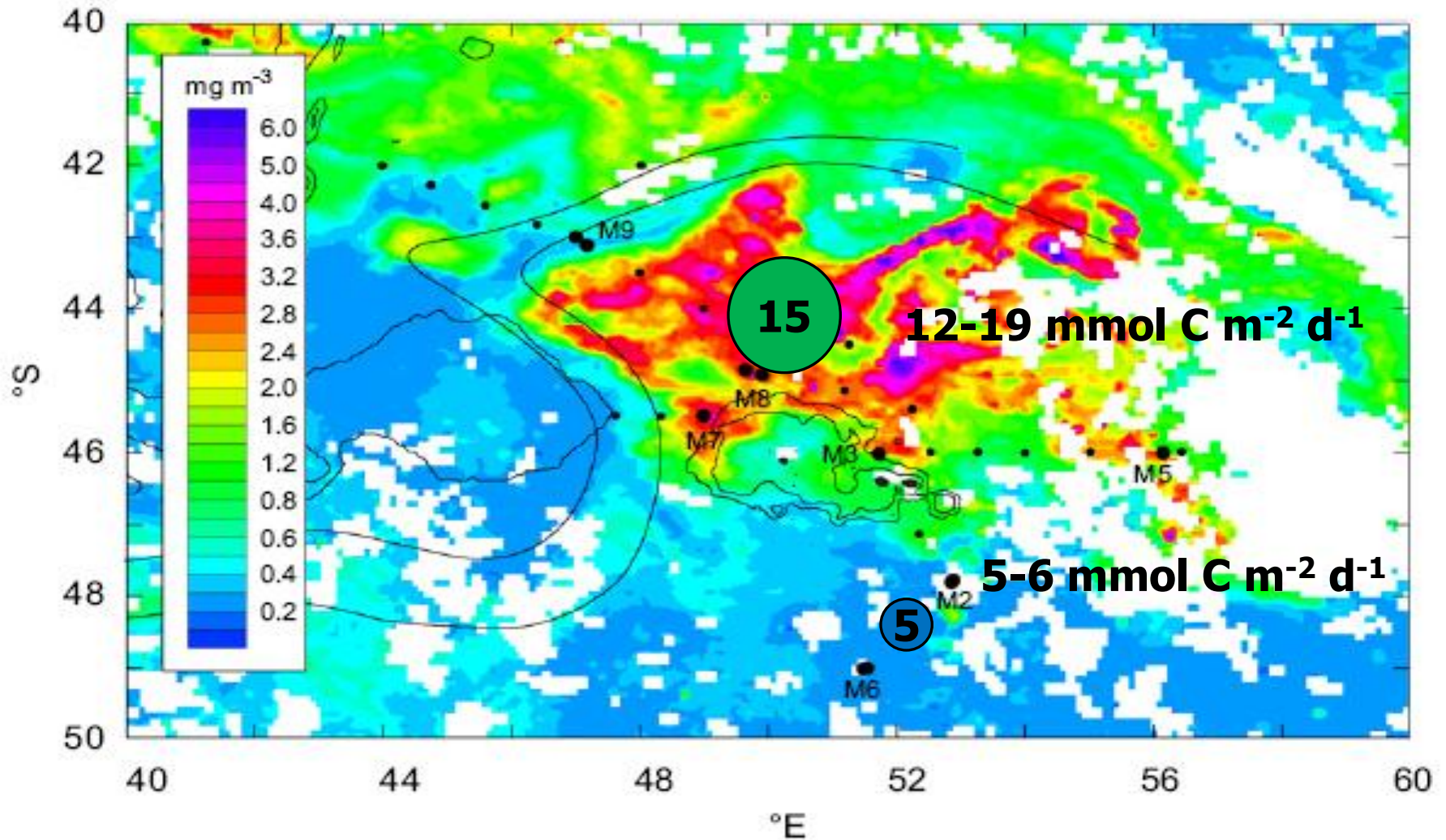


- MnO_2 precipitation method
Rutgers van der Loeff & Moore (1999)
- C:Th ratio samples collected with *in situ* pumps with 50 μm mesh



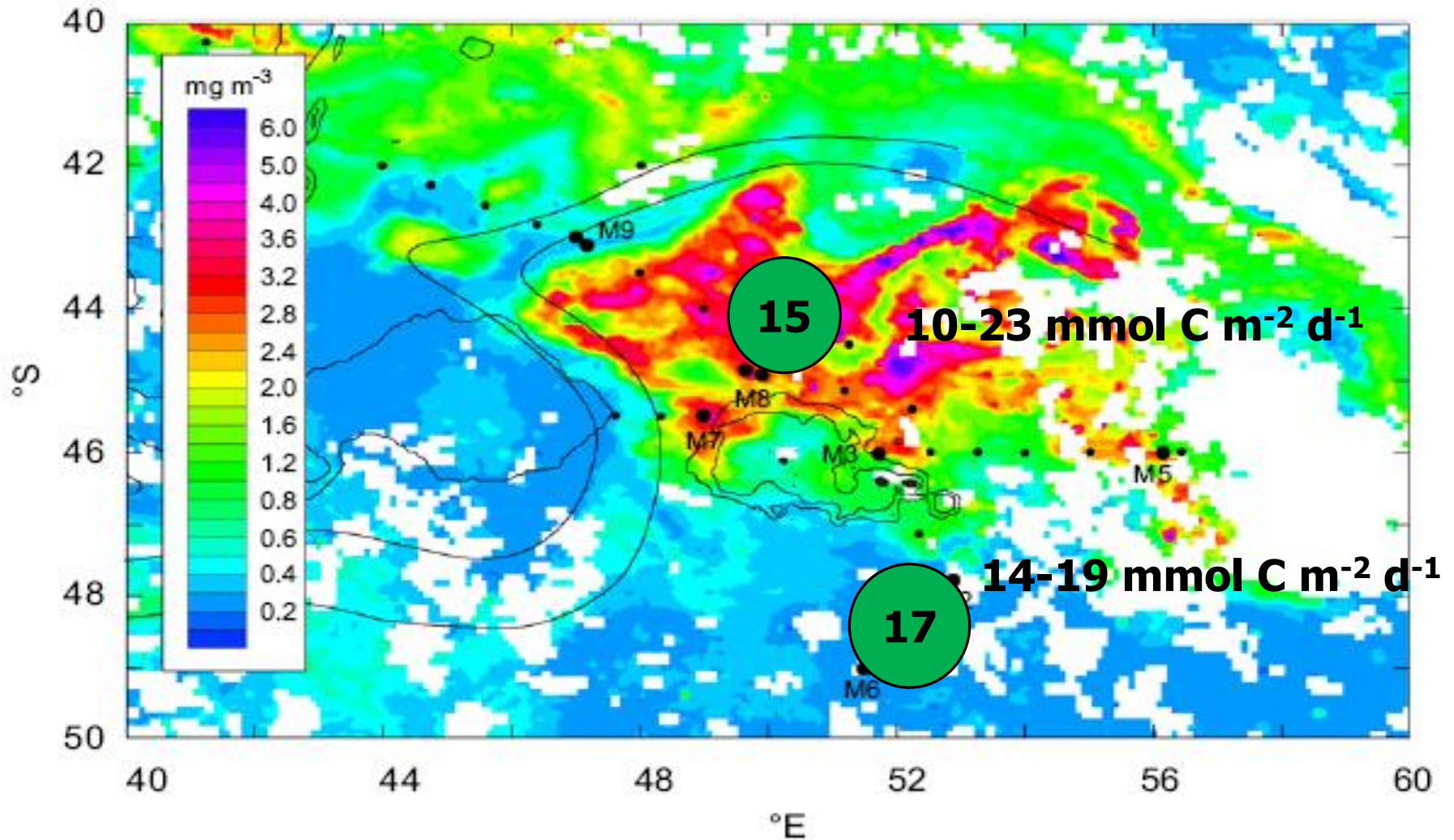
$$\text{POC Export} = {}^{234}\text{Th Flux} \times \text{POC}/{}^{234}\text{Th ratio}$$

Carbon Export – CROZEX Leg 1



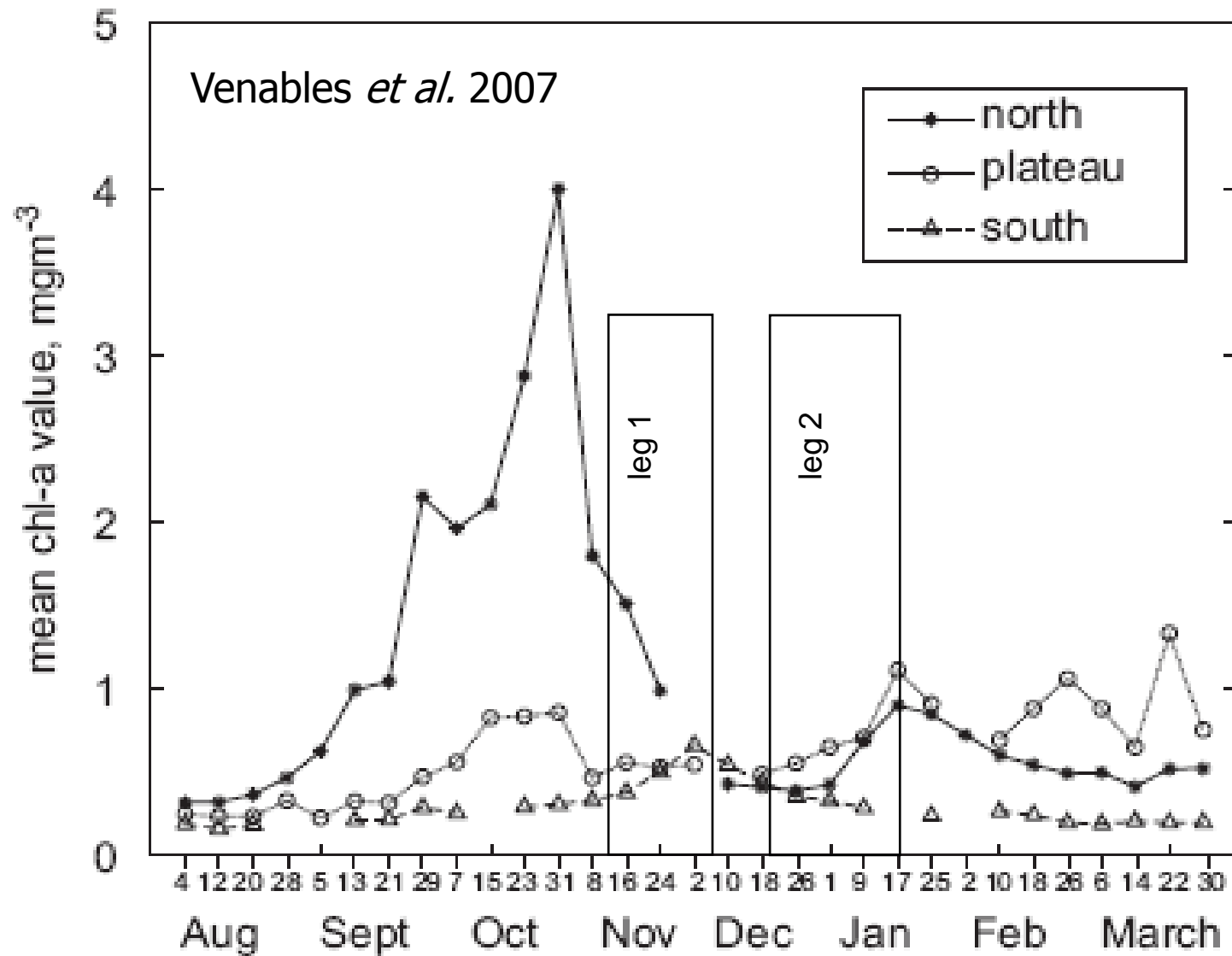
Morris et al. 2007

Carbon Export – CROZEX Leg 2

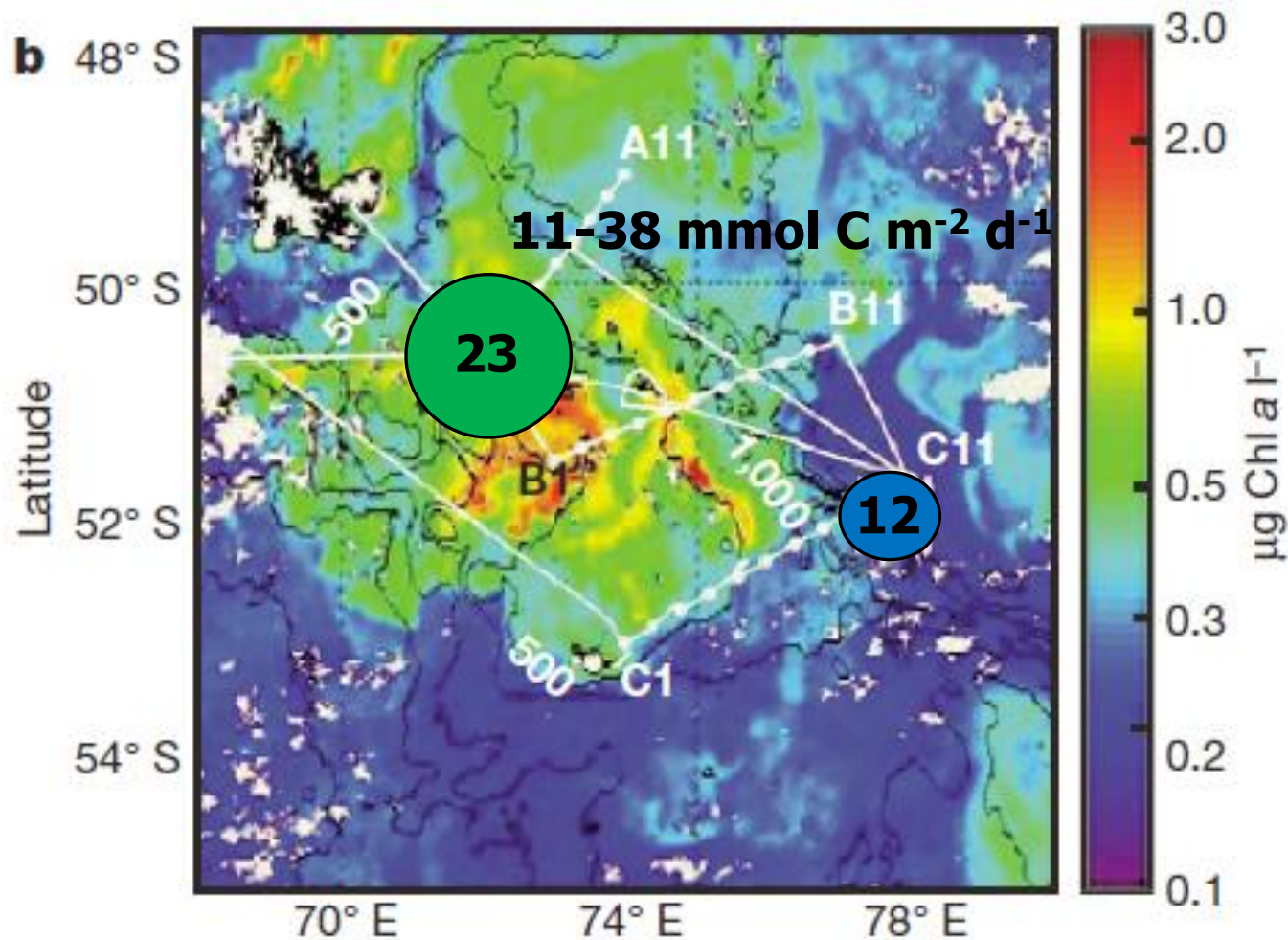


Morris et al. 2007

Bloom Progression



Carbon Export – KEOPS



Savoie et al. 2008

Daily Export to Seasonal Export

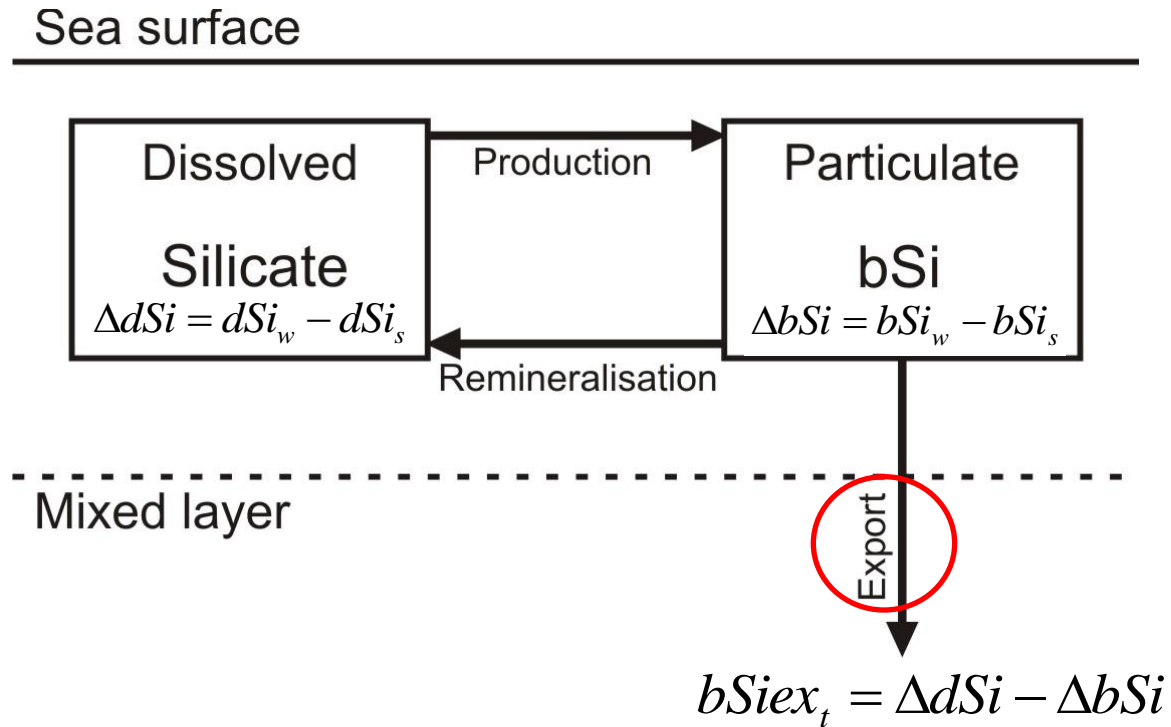
KEOPS – Blain et al. 2007

- POC export =
 - DIC draw down
 - + DIC vertical supply
 - + DIC air-sea supply
 - POC accumulation
 - DOC accumulation
- Assumes:
 - MLD export \approx 200 m export
 - Based on ^{234}Th profiles
- $+\text{Fe} = 5.0 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$
- $-\text{Fe} = 1.7 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$
- $\text{Xs export} = 3.3 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$

CROZEX – Pollard et al. 2009

- Lacked DOC data
- Independently scaled POC export by closing the silicon budget

CROZEX – Pollard et al. 2009



- What duration of the export is needed to balance the mixed layer silicon budget?
- This budget exercise was performed on the bloom and control region

Pollard et al. 2009

Daily Export to Seasonal Export

- What duration of export is needed to balance the mixed layer silicon budget?

$$t = \frac{bSiex_t}{{}^{234}Th-bSiex}$$

- t = Duration of export event
- $bSiex_t$ = model-derived theoretical seasonal biogenic silica export
- ${}^{234}Th-bSiex$ = measured daily rates of biogenic silica export

$$Cex_t = {}^{234}Th-Cex \times t$$

- Cex_t = model-derived theoretical seasonal carbon export
- ${}^{234}Th-Cex$ = measured daily rates of POC export

Pollard et al. 2009

Daily Export to Seasonal Export

KEOPS – Blain et al. 2007

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- $\text{Xs export} = 3.3 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$

CROZEX – Pollard et al. 2009

- Lacked DOC data
- Independently scaled POC export by closing the silicon budget
- Assumes:
 - Average 100 m MLD
 - $F_{200} = F_{100}(200/100)^{-0.99}$
- $+\text{Fe} = 1.0 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$
- $-\text{Fe} = 0.3 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$
- $\text{Xs export} = 0.7 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$ (100 m)
- $\text{Xs export} = 0.3 \text{ mol m}^{-2}$ (200 m)

Sequestration Efficiency – C:Fe Ratio

KEOPS – Blain et al. 2007

- Xs export = 3.3 mol m^{-2}
- Xs Fe supplied to bloom
 - $0.000005 \text{ mol Fe m}^{-2}$
- C:Fe = $668,000 \text{ mol mol}^{-1}$

CROZEX – Pollard et al. 2009

- Xs export = 0.3 mol m^{-2}
- Xs Fe supplied to bloom
 - $0.000039 \text{ mol Fe m}^{-2}$
- C:Fe = $8,640 \text{ mol mol}^{-1}$

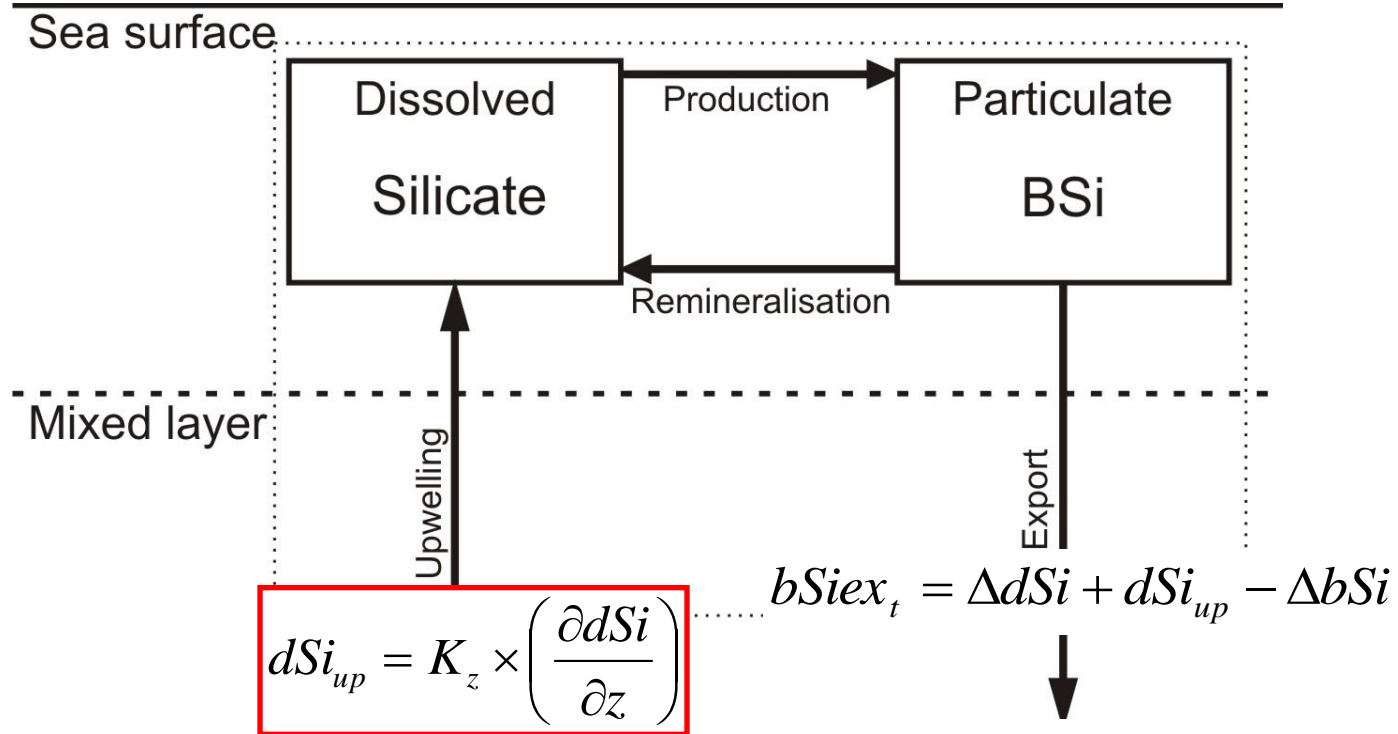
77-fold difference at 200 m

C:Fe ratios have since been re-assessed

Blain et al 2008

Planquette et al. & Charette et al. 2007

Daily Export to Seasonal Export



- For CROZEX the Si-scaling model was updated to include an upwelling component

Morris & Sanders 2011

Daily Export to Seasonal Export

- What duration of export is needed to balance the mixed layer silicon budget?

$$t = \frac{bSiex_t}{^{234}Th-bSiex}$$

- t = Duration of export event
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$$Cex_t = ^{234}Th-Cex \times t$$

- Cex_t = model-derived theoretical seasonal carbon export
- $^{234}Th-Cex$ = measured daily rates of POC export

Sequestration Efficiency – C:Fe Ratio

KEOPS – Blain et al. 2007

- Xs export = 3.3 mol m⁻²
- Xs Fe supplied to bloom
 - 0.000005 mol Fe m⁻²
- C:Fe = 668,000 mol mol⁻¹

CROZEX – Pollard et al. 2009

- Xs export = 0.3 mol m⁻²
- Xs Fe supplied to bloom
 - 0.000039 mol Fe m⁻²
- C:Fe = 8,640 mol mol⁻¹

77-fold difference at 200 m

Sequestration Efficiency – C:Fe Ratio

KEOPS – Chever et al. 2010

- Xs export = 3.3 mol m⁻²
- Xs Fe supplied to bloom
 - 0.000022 mol Fe m⁻²
- C:Fe = 154,000 mol mol⁻¹

CROZEX – Morris & Sanders 2011

- Xs export = 0.5 mol m⁻²
- Xs Fe supplied to bloom
 - 0.000062 mol Fe m⁻²
- C:Fe = 8,450 mol mol⁻¹

18-fold difference at 200 m

Sensitivity of the C:Fe Ratio

KEOPS – Chever et al. 2010

■ Xs export = 1.7 mol m⁻²

■ Xs Fe supplied to bloom

□ 0.000022 mol Fe m⁻²

■ C:Fe = 77,300 mol mol⁻¹

CROZEX – Morris & Sanders 2011

■ Xs export = 0.5 mol m⁻²

■ Xs Fe supplied to bloom

□ 0.000062 mol Fe m⁻²

■ C:Fe = 8,450 mol mol⁻¹

9-fold difference at 200 m

$$F = F_{100} \left(\frac{z}{100} \right)^b$$

b = -0.99 (based on 3000 m)
KEOPS b value?

Martin et al. 1987

Sensitivity of the C:Fe Ratio

KEOPS – Chever et al. 2010

■ Xs export = 3.3 mol m⁻²

■ Xs Fe supplied to bloom

□ 0.000022 mol Fe m⁻²

■ C:Fe = 154,000 mol mol⁻¹

CROZEX – Morris & Sanders 2011

■ Xs export = 1.0 mol m⁻²

Assume 100 m export = 200 m export

■ Xs Fe supplied to bloom

□ 0.000062 mol Fe m⁻²

■ C:Fe = 17,200 mol mol⁻¹

9-fold difference at 200 m

$$F = F_{100} \left(\frac{z}{100} \right)^b$$

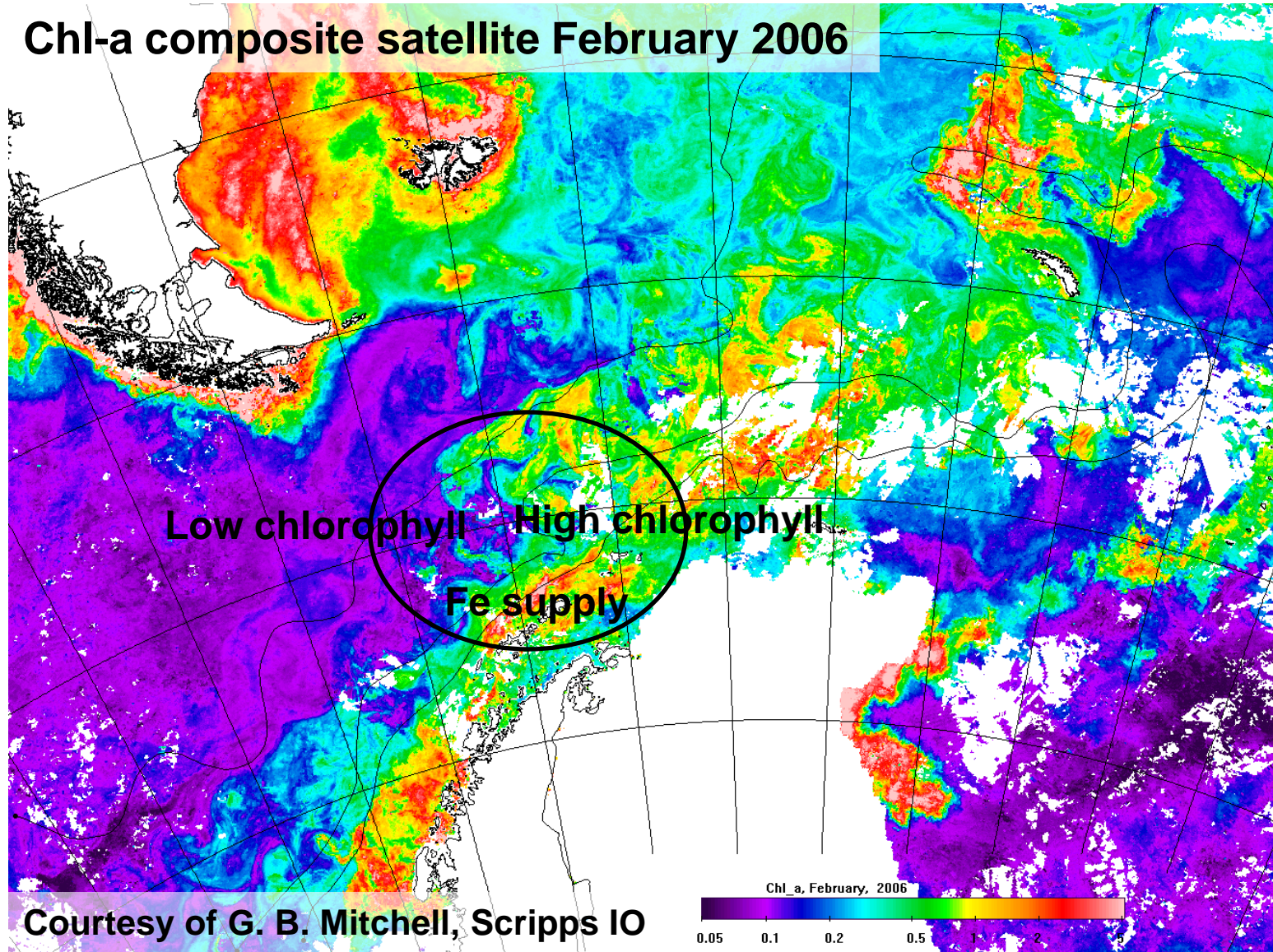
b = -0.99 (based on 3000 m)

KEOPS b value?

Martin et al. 1987

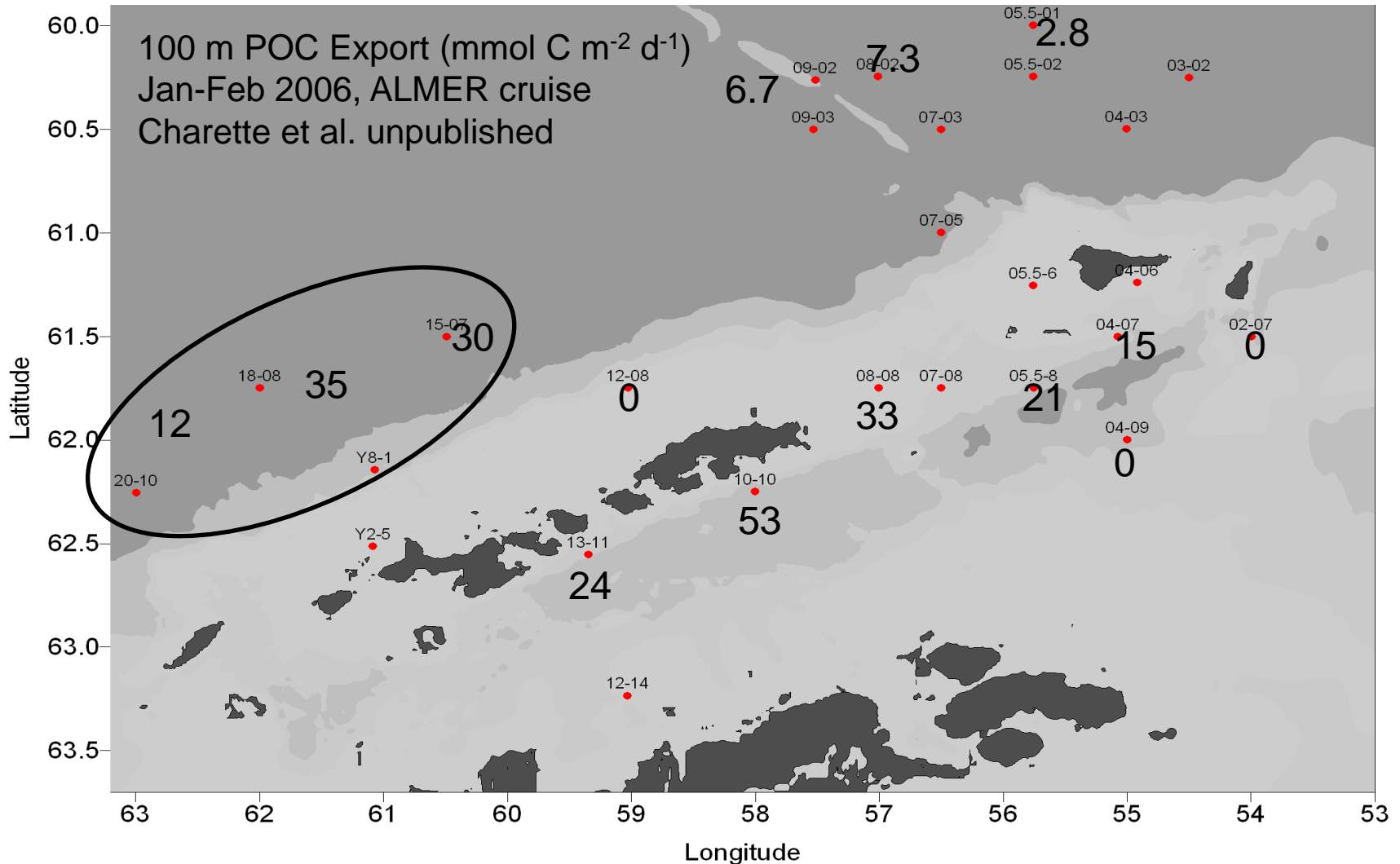
BWZ Study Region

Chl-a composite satellite February 2006

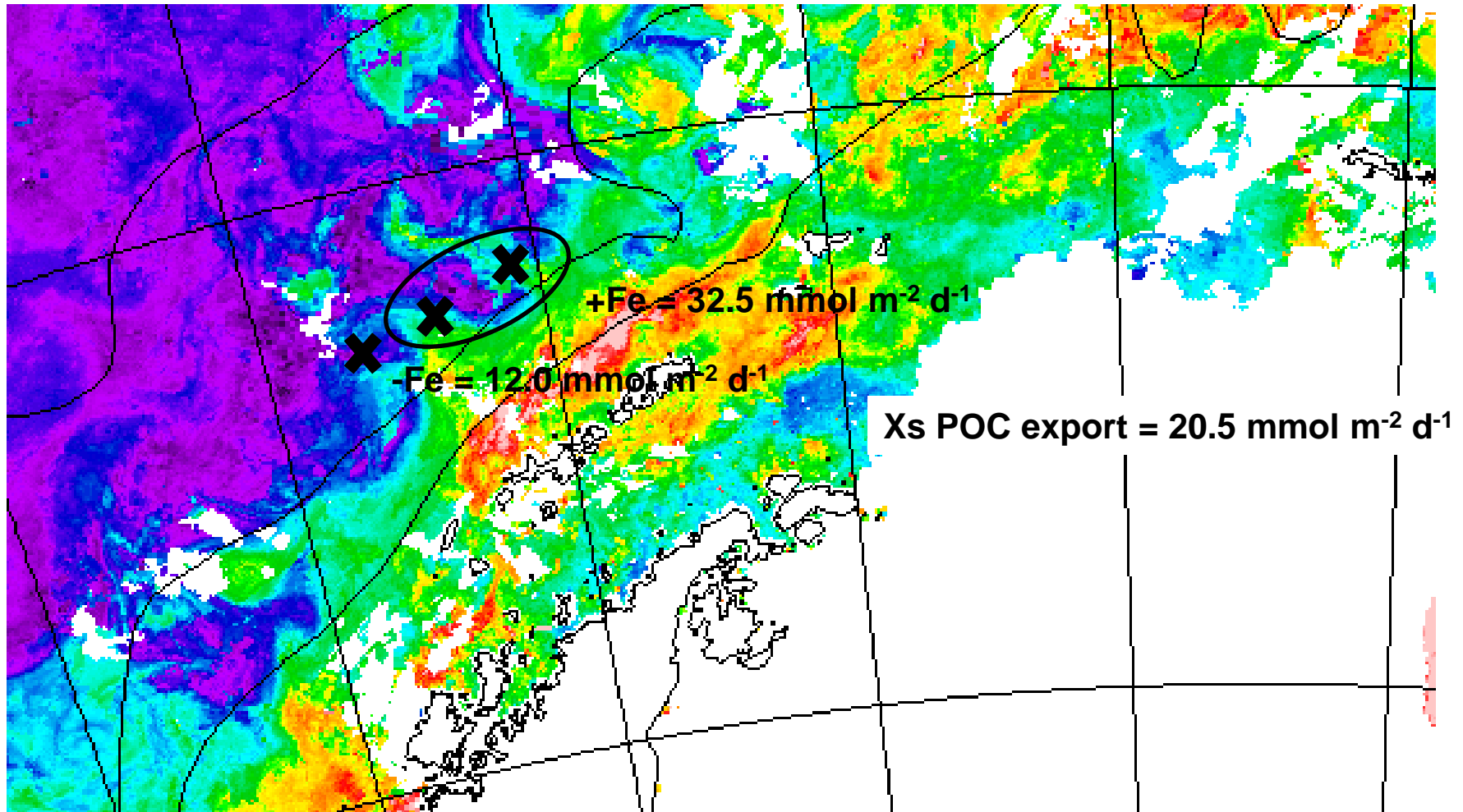


Courtesy of G. B. Mitchell, Scripps IO

BWZ – ^{234}Th -derived POC Export



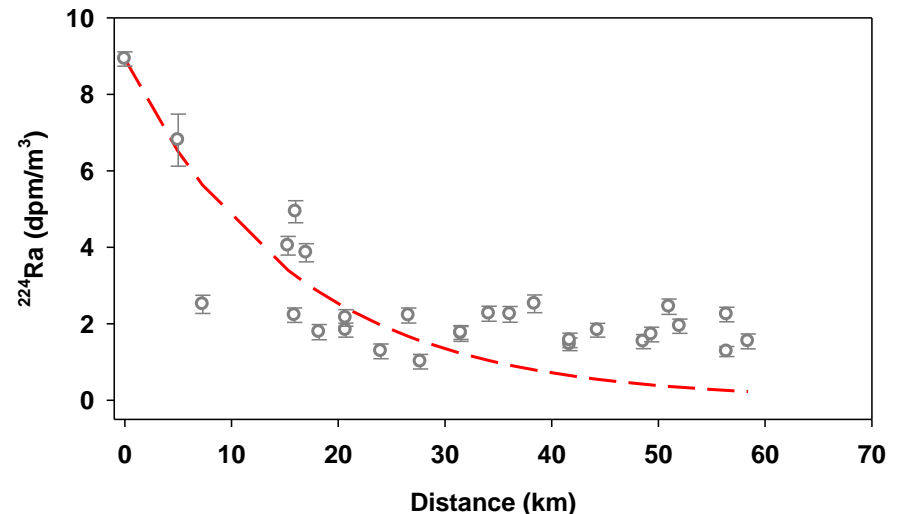
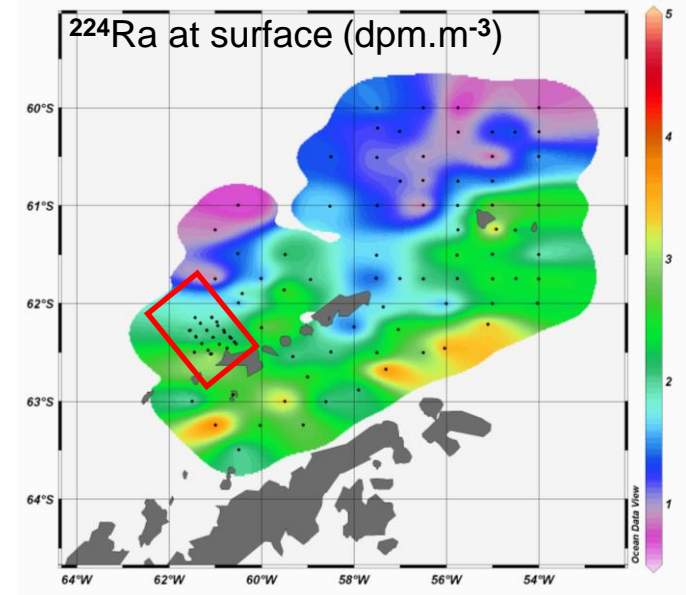
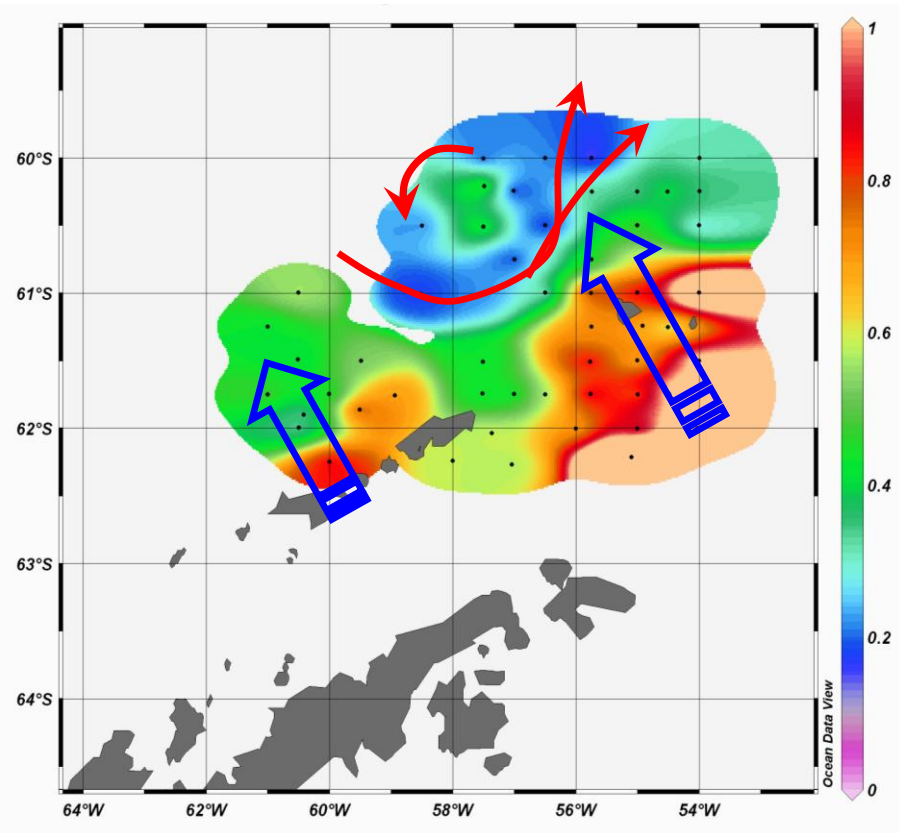
BWZ – Back of the Envelope C:Fe Ratio



Charette et al. unpub

BWZ – Fe supply

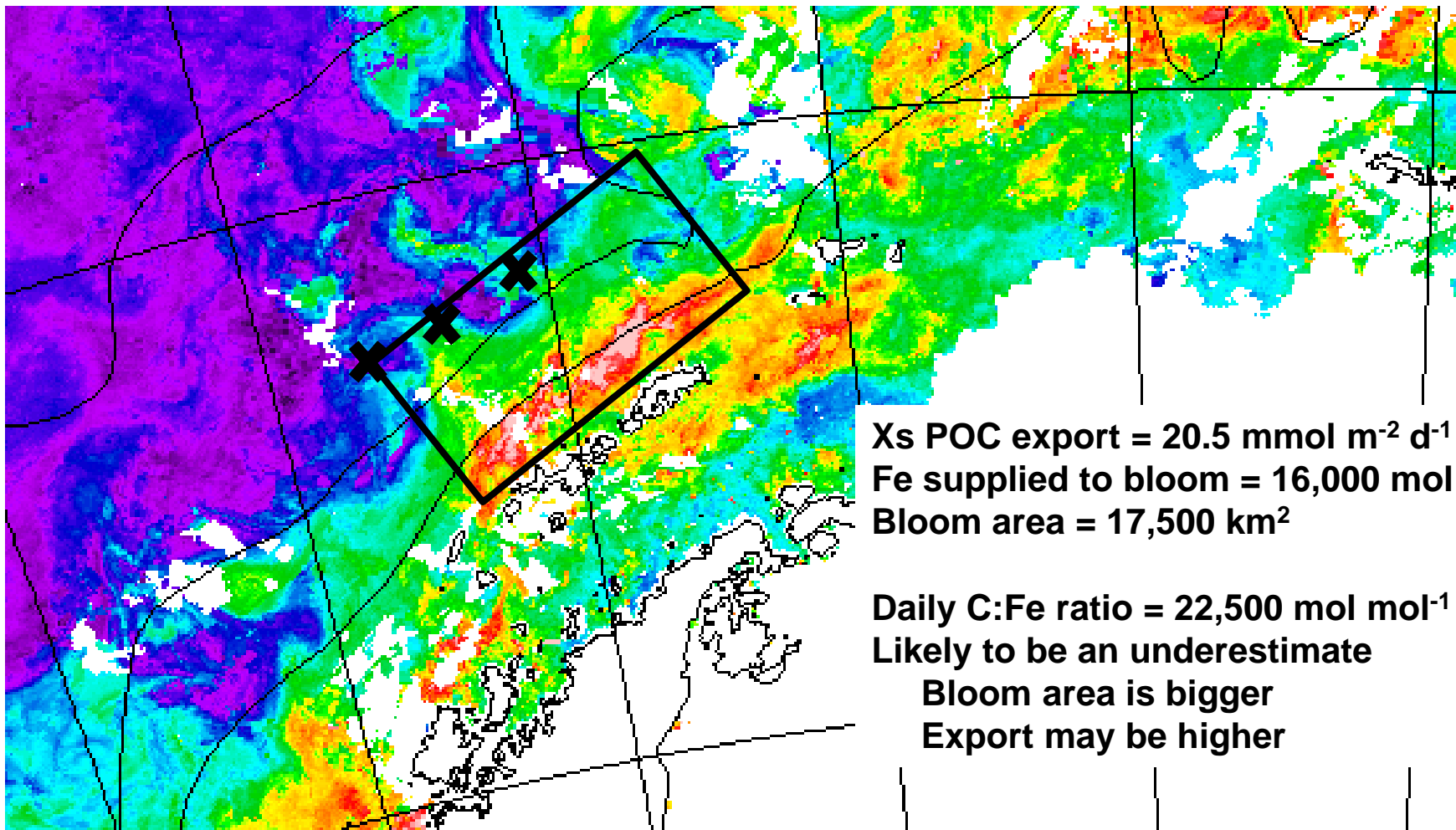
Salinity-derived mixing index for the upper 50 m
Dulaiova & Charette unpublished



Dulaiova et al. 2009; Charette et al. unpub

$$DW = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^Z \left\{ \left(\frac{T - T_A}{T_S - T_A} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{S - S_A}{S_S - S_A} \right)^2 \right\} dz$$

BWZ – Back of the Envelope C:Fe Ratio



Dulaiova et al. 2009; Charette et al. unpub

BWZ C:Fe Ratio in Context

- 100 m daily C:Fe ratio (not a seasonal estimate)
 - 22,500 mol mol⁻¹
- Daily 100 m C:Fe ratios for CROZEX & KEOPS
 - CROZEX – 28,200 mol mol⁻¹
 - KEOPS – 45,000 mol mol⁻¹
- How would a seasonal C:Fe ratio for BWZ look?
 - CROZEX – 17,200 mol mol⁻¹
 - KEOPS – 154,000 mol mol⁻¹

Summary – Areas of consideration

■ Integration depth

- 100 m, 200 m, winter mixed layer, site specific...
- The C:Fe ratio is very sensitive to the integration depth

■ Methods of integration over a seasonal cycle

- What is the best approach?
- DIC, Si-scaling, different approaches = different C:Fe

■ Can we agree on a common approach for cross comparisons?

Acknowledgements

Southern Ocean deep-water carbon export enhanced by natural iron fertilization

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Effect of natural iron fertilization on carbon sequestration in the Southern Ocean

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BWZ team