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Siliceous phytoplankton flux reflecting oceanographic variation in the southern Northwind Abyssal Plain

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**Summer sea-ice decrease in the Arctic Ocean (Stroeve et al., 2012)
and change of hydrographic condition (i.e., Beaufort Gyre intensification (McPhee, 2013)**

**The impacts to
lower-trophic marine ecosystems,
material transportation such as lateral advection, and biological pump**

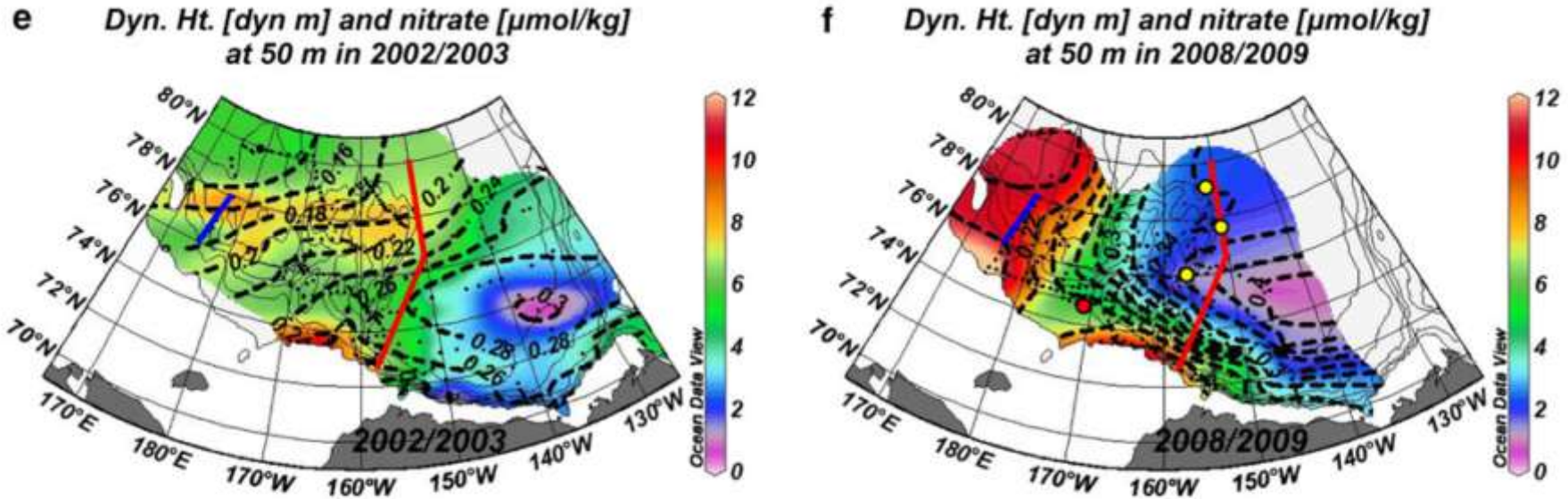
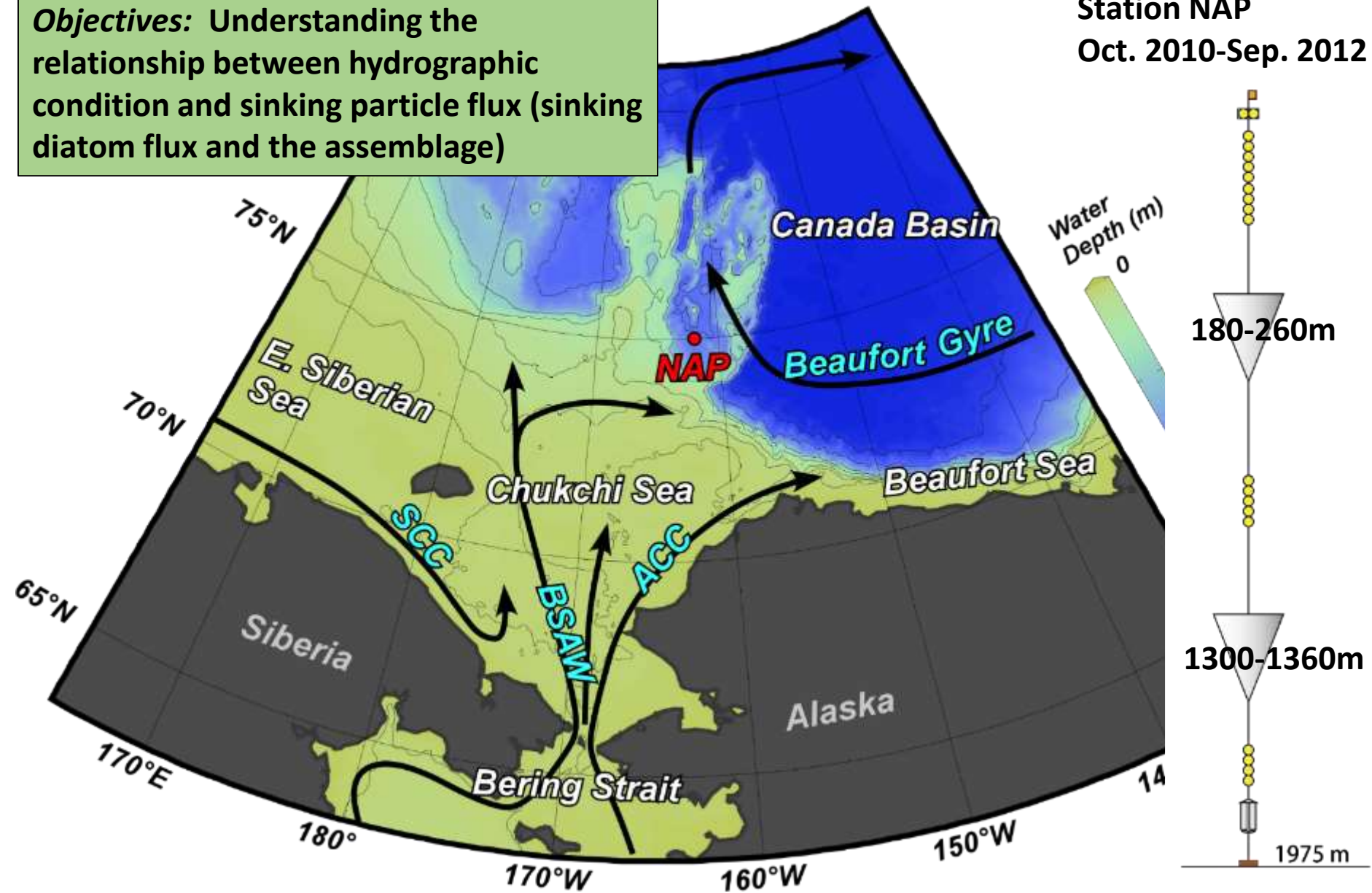


Fig. 2 Vertical sections of phytoplankton chlorophyll *a* ($\mu\text{g/L}$) in large-sized cells of $>10 \mu\text{m}$ (colors) and salinity (contours) in **a** 2002/2003 and **b** 2008/2009, vertical sections of phytoplankton chlorophyll *a* ($\mu\text{g/L}$) in small size cells of $<10 \mu\text{m}$ (colors) and salinity (contours) in **c** 2002/2003 and **d** 2008/2009, and dynamic height (dyn m) at 50 m relative to 250 db (dashed contours) and nitrate ($\mu\text{mol/kg}$) at 50 m (colors) in **e** 2002/2003 and **f** 2008/2009. The sections in **a–d** are

illustrated along *red lines* in **e** and **f**. The *blue lines* in **e** and **f** show the sections of nitrate distributions in Figs. 4 and 5. *Red* and *yellow circles* in **f** indicate stations where nitrate uptake rates were measured in 2009 (Fig. 3). Data were obtained from cruises by the R/V Mirai in 2002, 2008, and 2009, USCGC Polar Star in 2002 (Woodgate et al. 2002), and CCGS Louis S. St-Laurent in 2003 (McLaughlin et al. 2010)

Objectives: Understanding the relationship between hydrographic condition and sinking particle flux (sinking diatom flux and the assemblage)

Station NAP
Oct. 2010-Sep. 2012



← Schematic Current (Naidu et al. 2004, Danielson et al. 2011)
ACC: Alaskan Coastal Water; BSAW: Bering Shelf - Anadyr Water; SCC: Siberian Coastal Current

Methods - Diatom Analysis

1/10 sample <1mm particle size fraction



Splitting 1/100-1/1000



Filtering membrane filter, 0.45µm pore size



SEM Observation



Valve Size Measurement



carbon : cell volume
(Menden-Deuer & Lessard, 2000)



Mounting on slide glass Canada Balsam



Diatom Valve Count >400 valves,
Light Microscope (x600)



Diatom Valve Flux
(Unit: number of valves m⁻² d⁻¹)



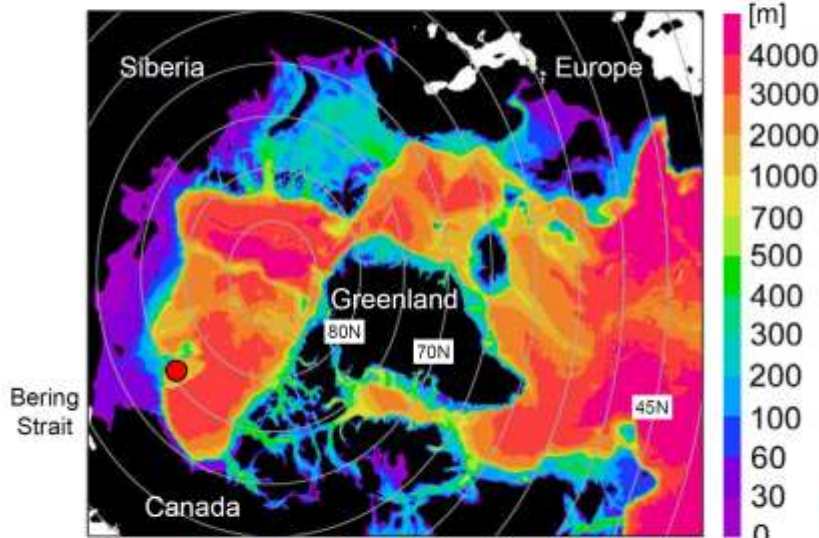
Diatom Carbon Flux (Unit: mg C m⁻² d⁻¹)



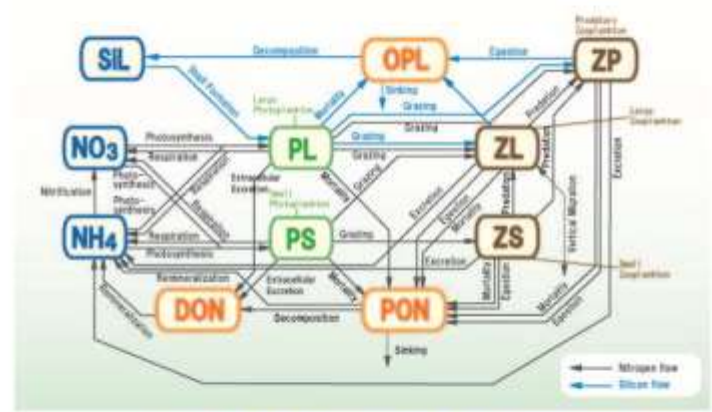
Pan-Arctic Ice-Ocean Model

Physical Part: COCO 4.9 [Hasumi, 2006]
(sea ice-ocean general circulation model)

Ecosystem Part: NEMURO [Kishi et al., 2007]
(lower-trophic marine ecosystem model)



● Station NAP

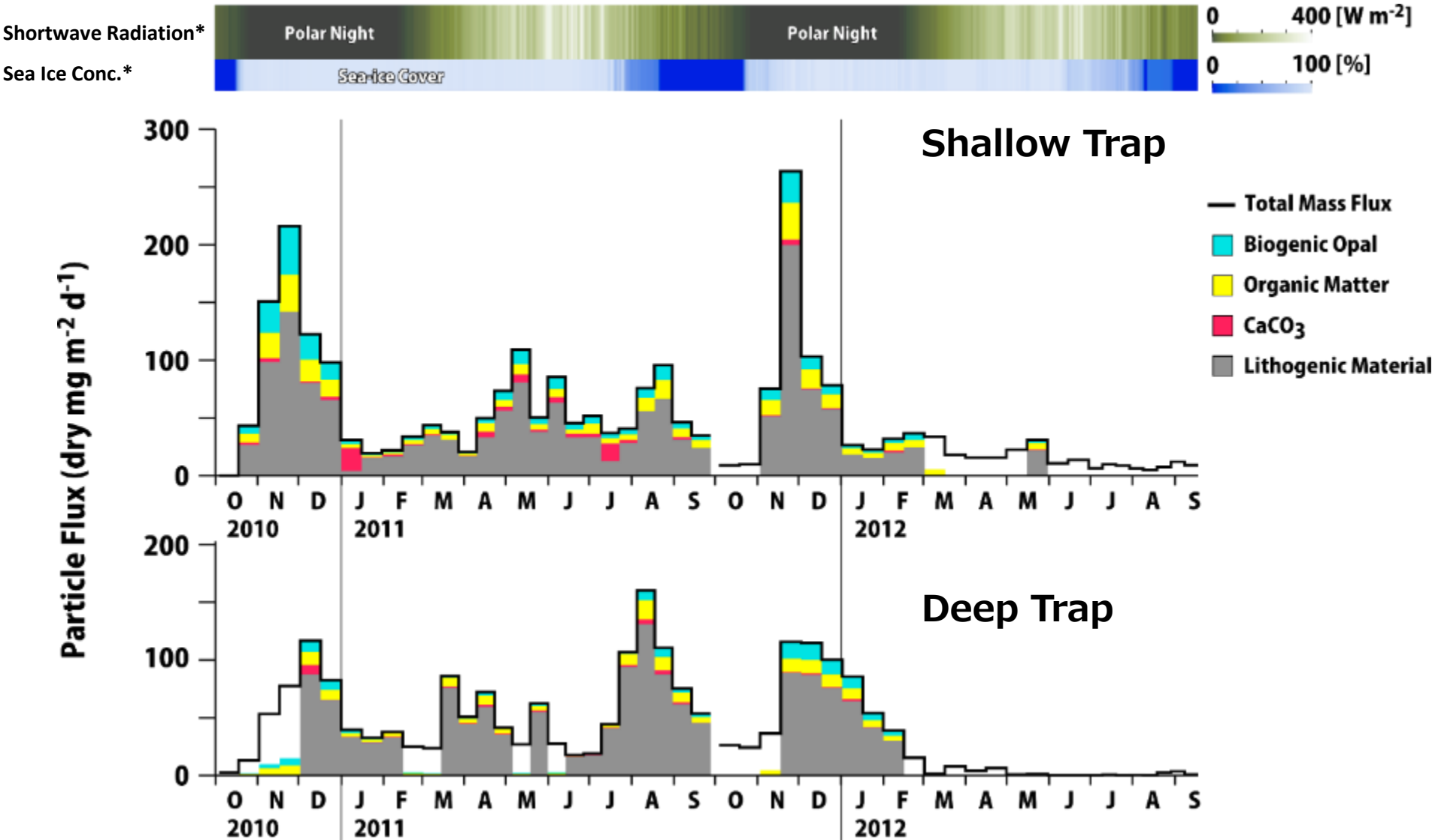


*No sea ice ecosystem (e.g., ice algae) yet

Experimental Design

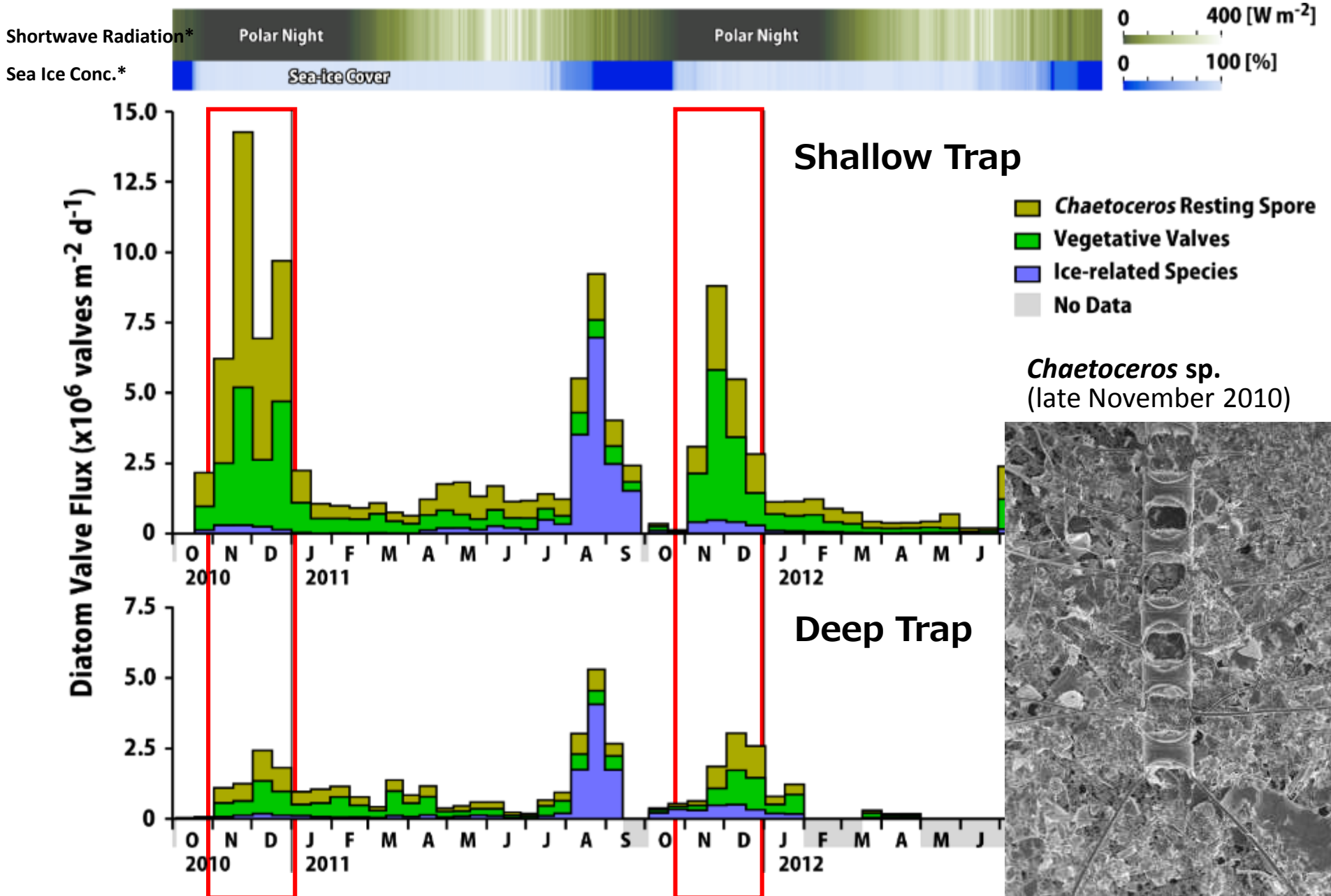
- NCEP/CFR atmospheric daily forcing
- AOMIP river water discharge
- Pacific water inflow at Bering Strait
- Integrated from PHC T/S, WOA09 NO3/SIL
- Nutrient input from sea bottom (NH4/DON/SIL)
- Sinking PON velocity increasing with depth

Total Mass Flux & Bulk Particle Components

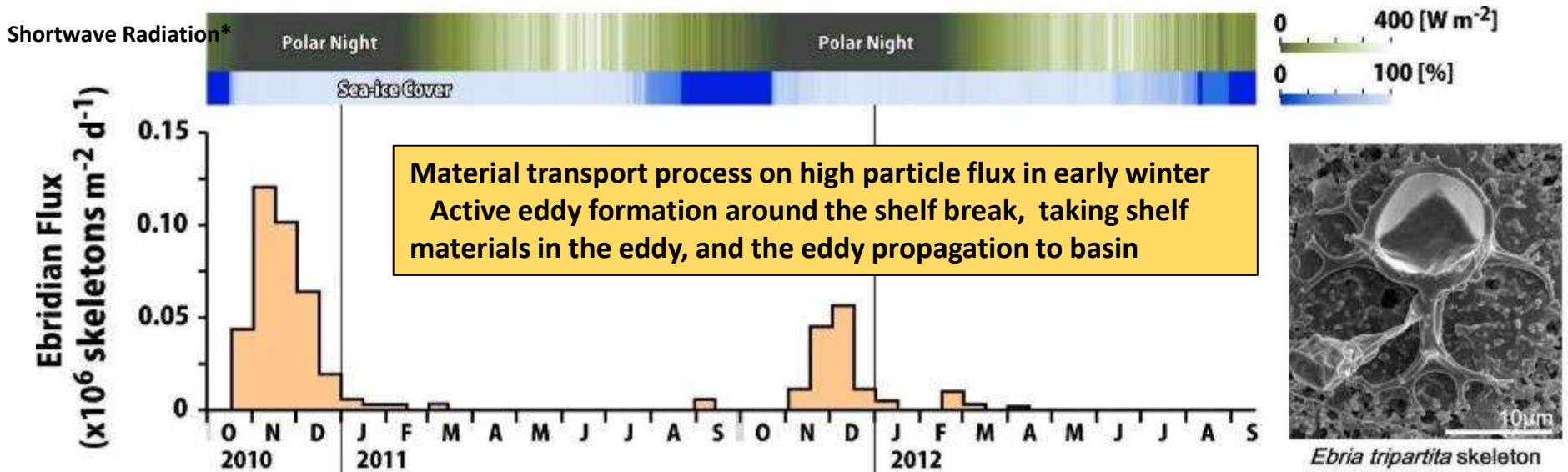


*: NCEP-CFSR (Saha et al. 2010)

Diatom Valve Flux in Nov.-Dec.

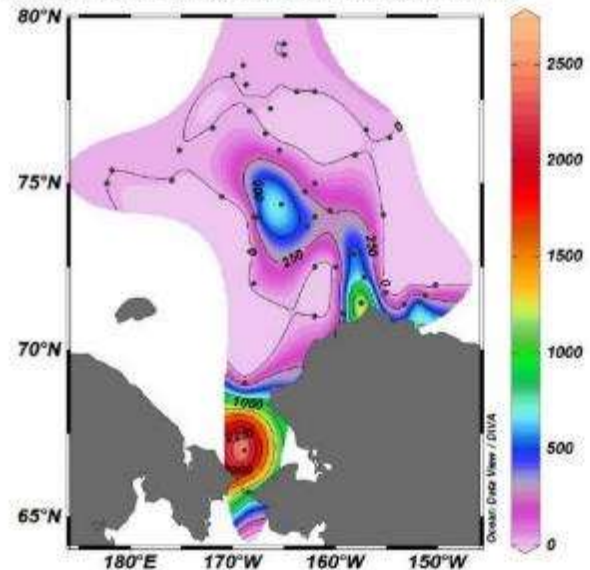


Ebridian Skeleton Flux in Nov.-Dec.

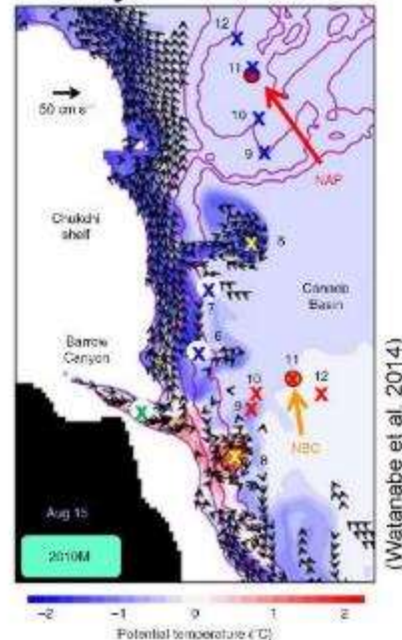


Sep.-Oct. 2010

Sea surface distribution of ebridians



Pathway of shelf break eddies



(Watanabe et al. 2014)

Temperature [°C] at 50 m

(Nishino et al. 2011)

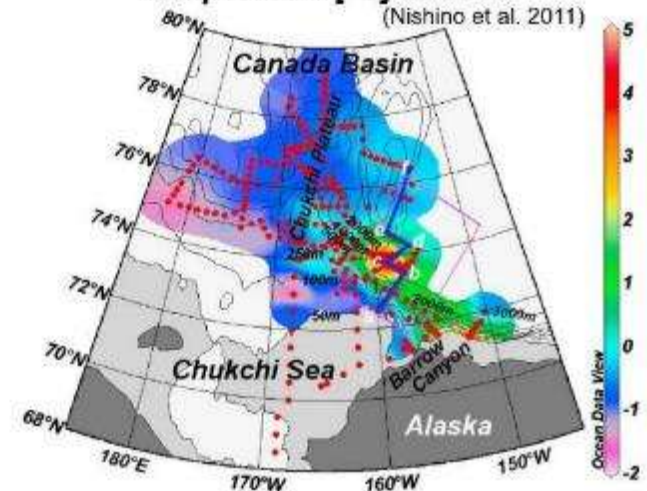
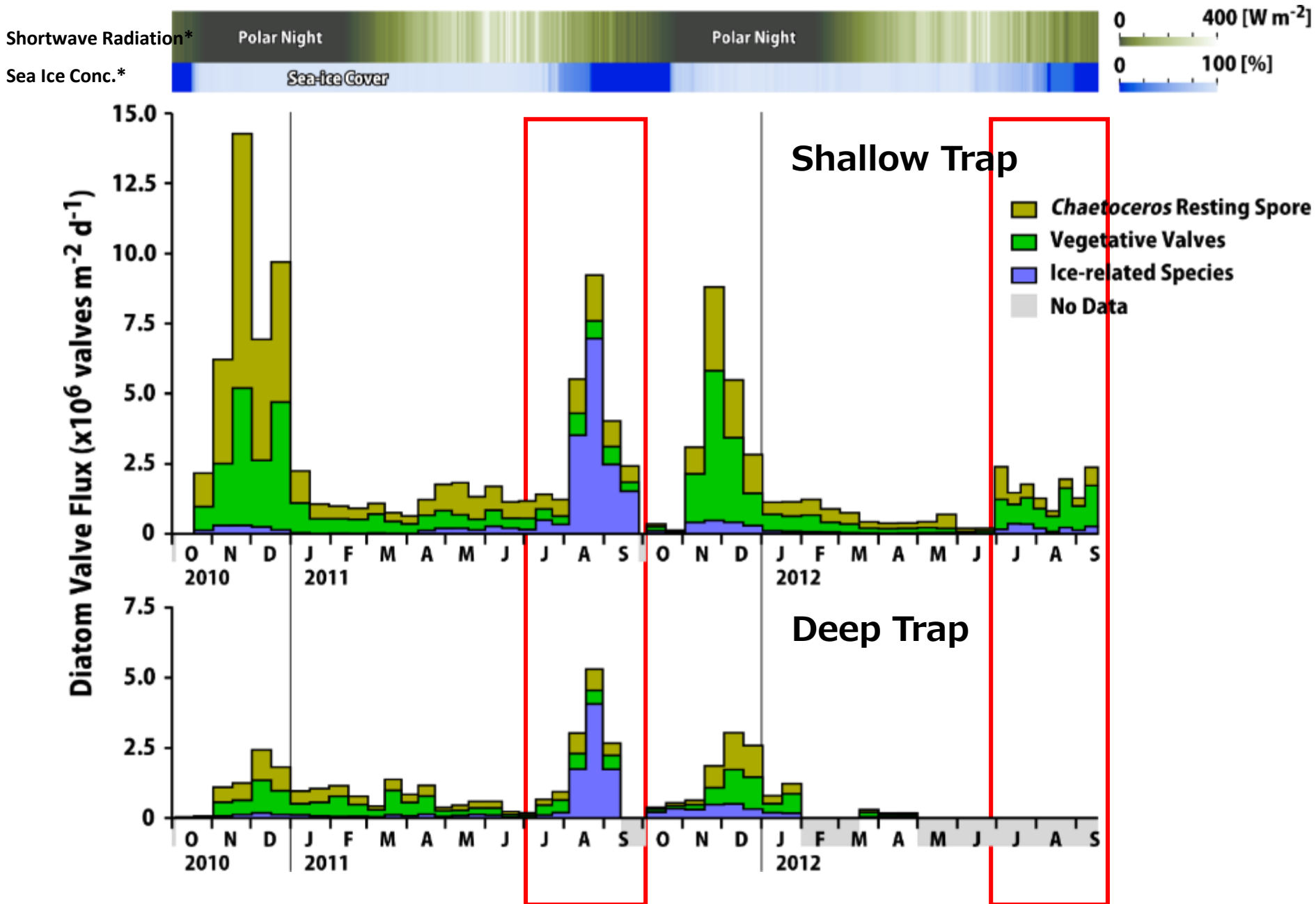


Figure 1. Hydrographic stations of CTD/water sampling and XCTD (red dots) of the R/V *Mirai* Arctic Ocean cruise in 2010 and temperature distribution at 50 m depth (color).

Diatom Valve Flux in July-Sept.

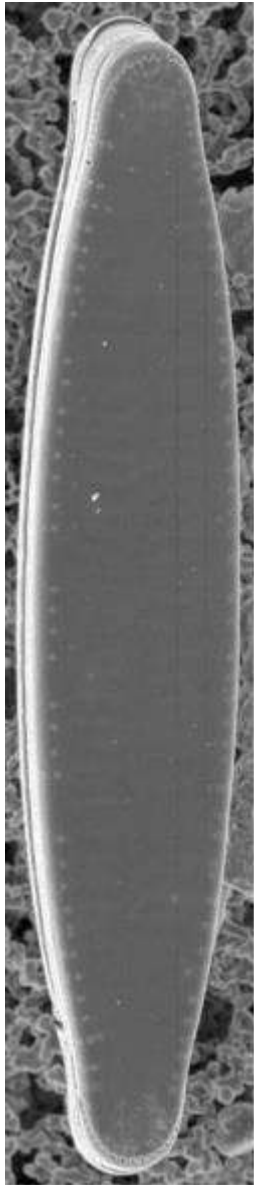


Fossula arctica

- Common in the shelf of Laptev and Chukchi Seas

-(Cremer 1998, Quifeldt et al. 2003)

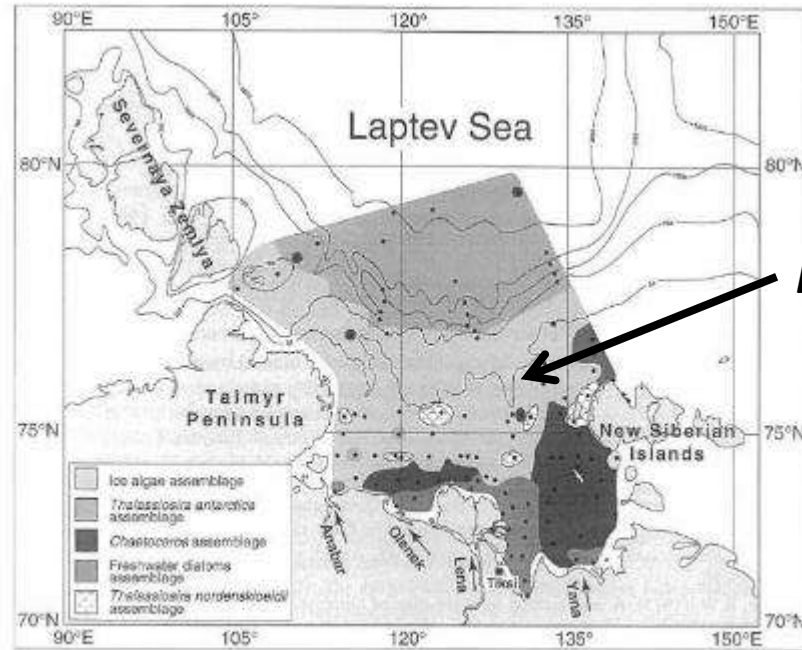
Outside view



Inside view

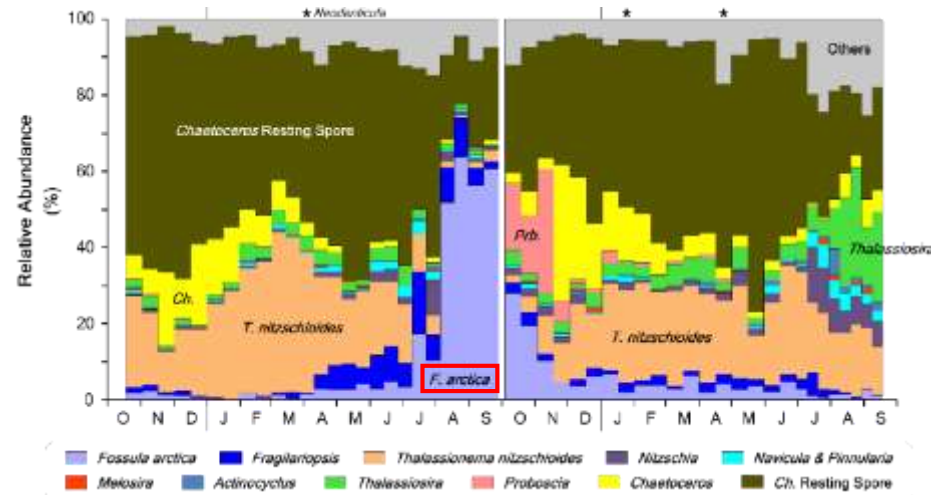
10µm

Sample NAP10t-180m #22 (July-Aug.2011)

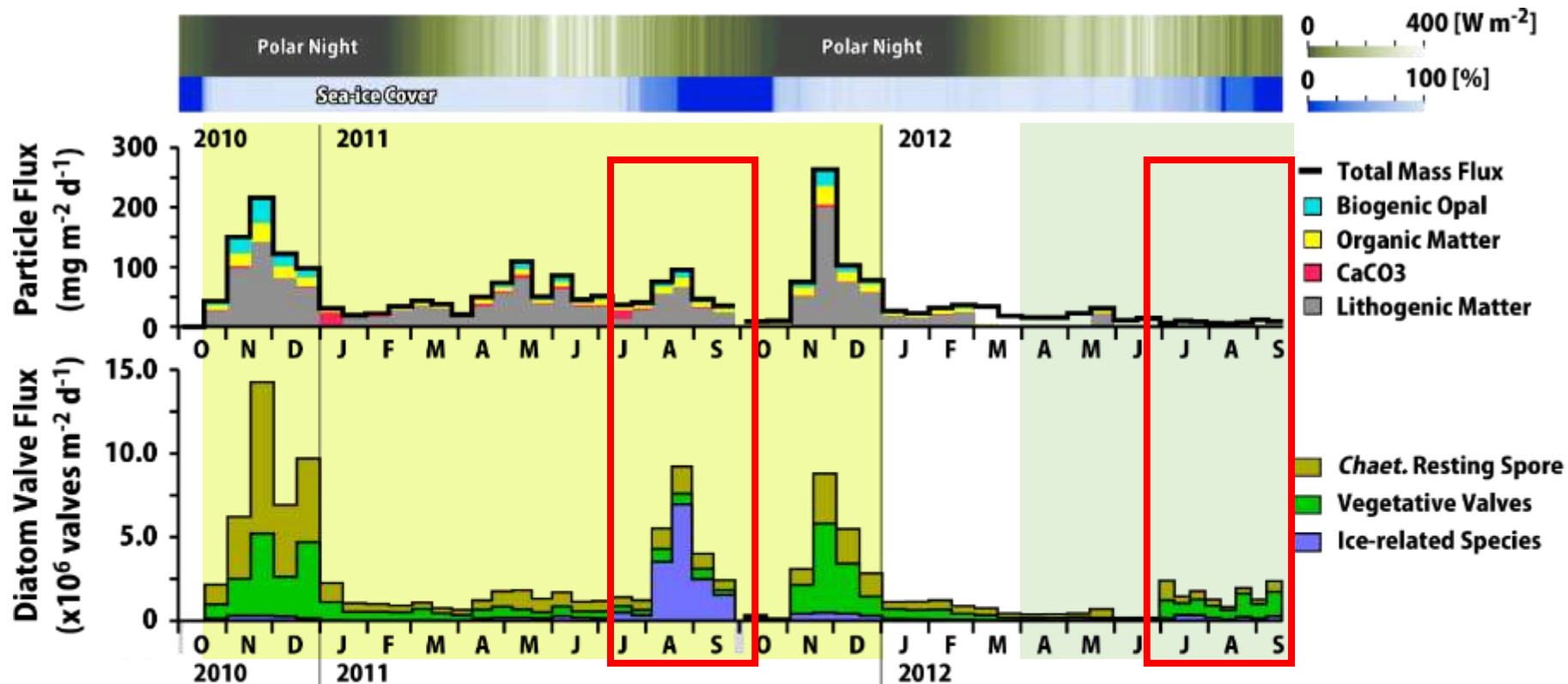


Fossula dominant

Figure 5: Geographic distribution of diatom sediment assemblages in the Laptev Sea (after Cremer 1998, modified).



Particle Flux at Shallow Trap Depth



Influence of shelf waters

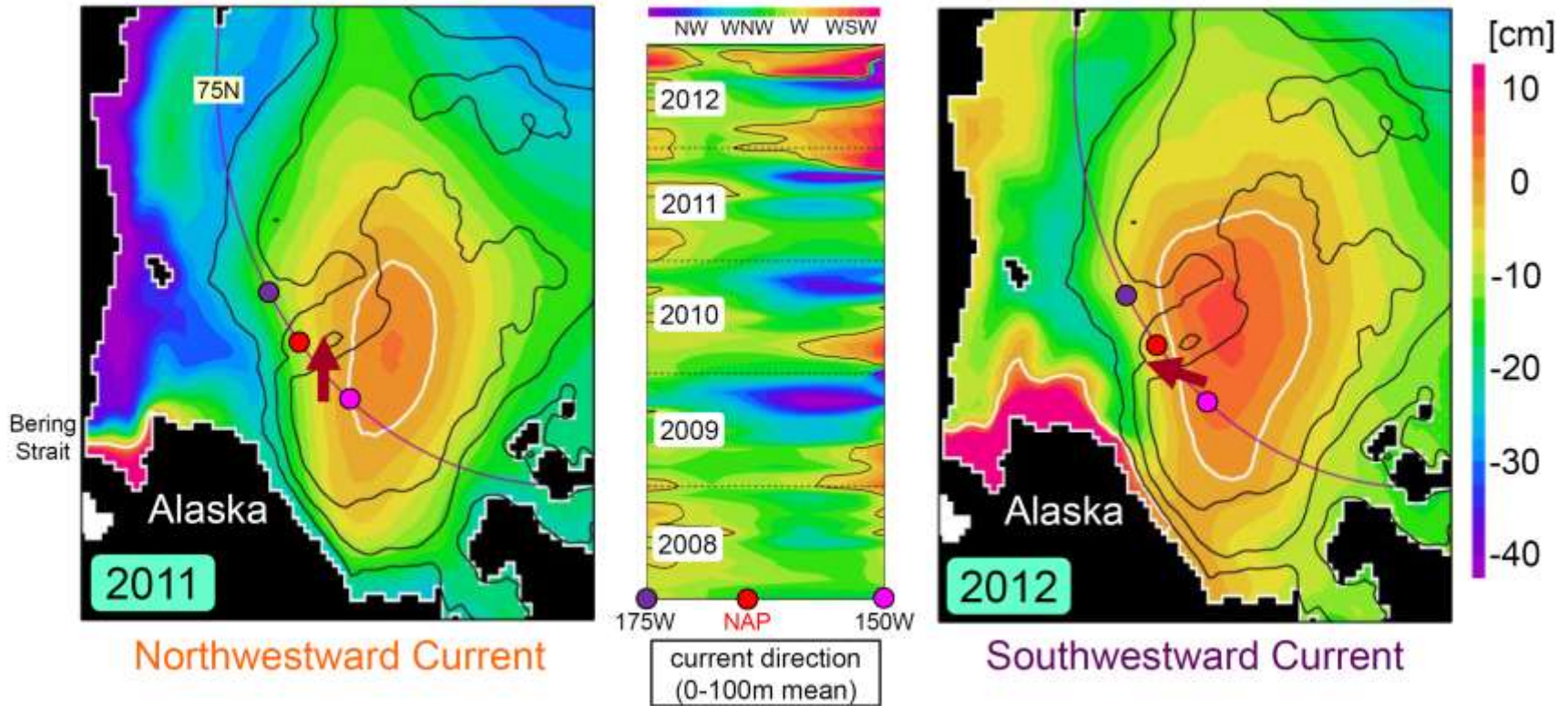
Oligotrophic waters

High particle flux
Abundant lithogenic matters
Coastal planktic diatoms and ice-algae

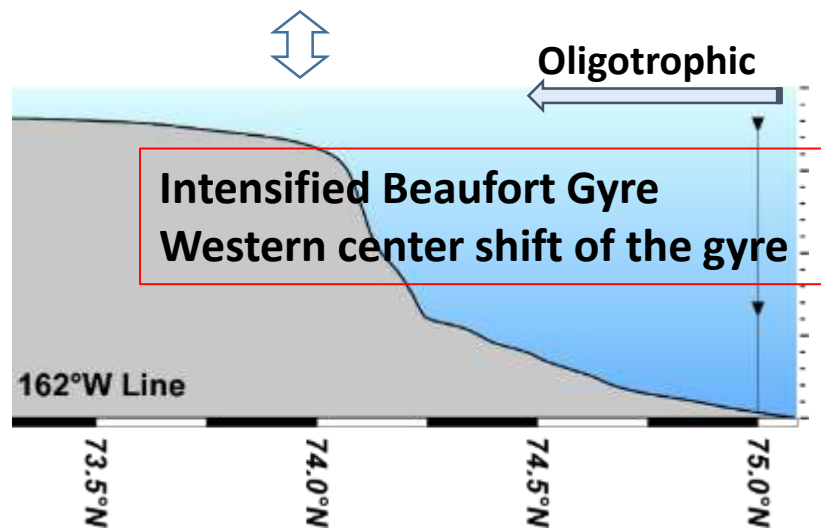
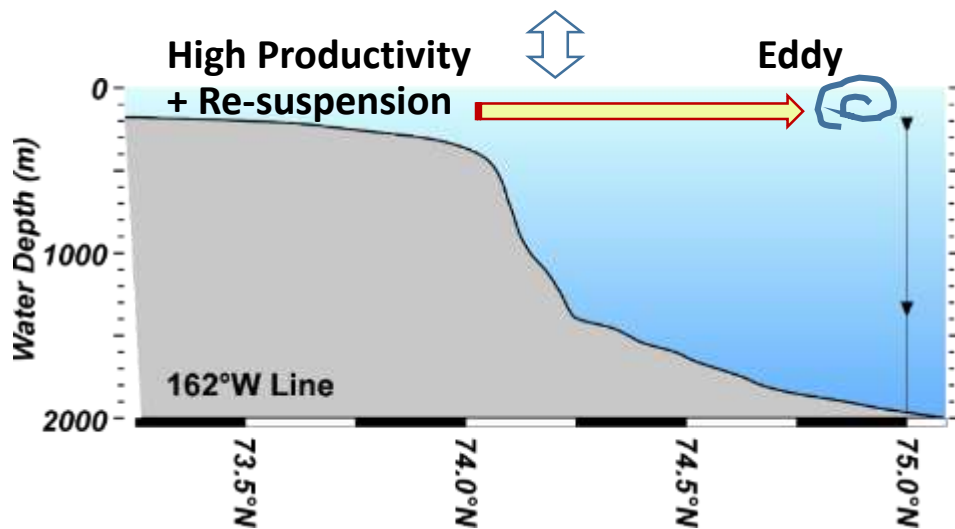
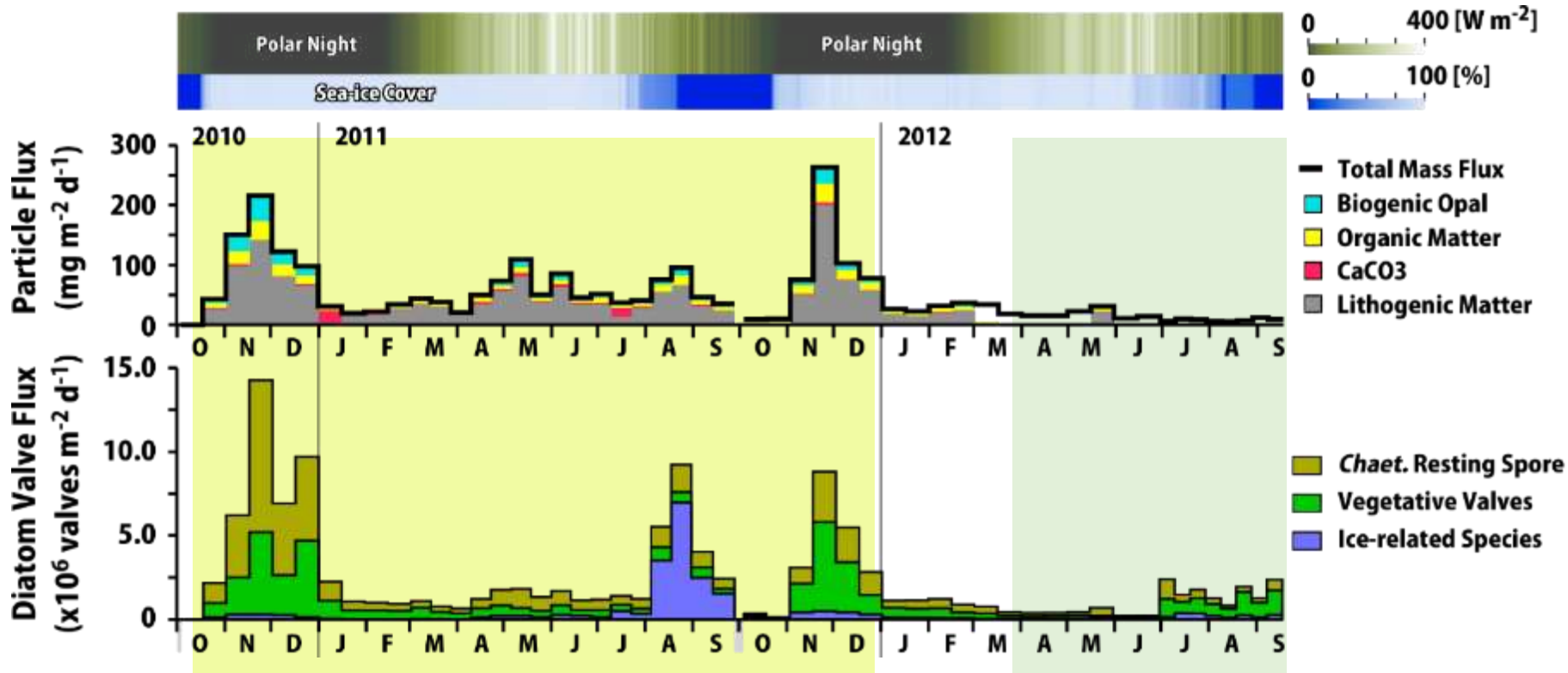
Low particle flux
Absence of summer flux maximum

Intensified Beaufort Gyre and oligotrophic water input to Station NAP in summer 2012

Sea surface height in the western Arctic (JJA mean, 25km exp.)

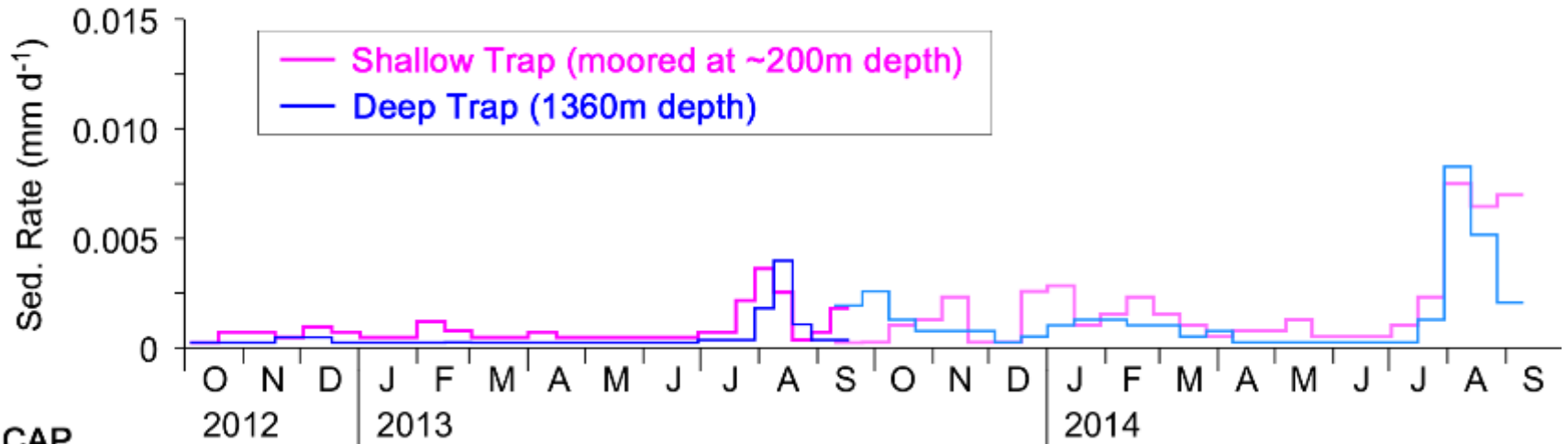


(Nutrient-poor) Canada Basin water was transported toward NAP in 2012



Preliminary Data – Sedimentation Rate based on the sediment thickness in trap bottle

(a) NAP



(b) CAP

Future works

- Data accumulation of sinking particle fluxes to find the interannual trend
- Quantitative estimation on the significance of each transportation process (effect of eddy formation and propagation, (biological pump by major planktons such as diatoms, copepod))

Acknowledgement

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