

1 **Barium isotopes reveal role of ocean circulation on barium cycling in the Atlantic**

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14 **Abstract**

15 We diagnose the relative influences of local-scale biogeochemical cycling and regional-scale ocean
16 circulation on Atlantic barium cycling by analyzing four new depth profiles of dissolved Ba
17 concentrations and isotope compositions from the South and tropical North Atlantic. These new
18 profiles exhibit systematic vertical, zonal, and meridional variations that reflect the influence of both
19 local-scale barite cycling and large-scale ocean circulation. Previously reported epipelagic decoupling
20 of Ba and Si in the tropics is also found to be associated with significant Ba isotope heterogeneity.
21 We contend that this decoupling originates from the depth segregation of opal & barite formation
22 but is exacerbated by weak vertical mixing, as in the tropics. Zonal influence from isotopically-
23 'heavy' water masses in the western North Atlantic evidence the advective inflow of Ba-depleted
24 Upper Labrador Sea Water, which is not seen in the eastern basin or the South Atlantic. Meridional
25 variations in Atlantic Ba isotope systematics below 2,000 m appear entirely controlled by
26 conservative mixing. Using an inverse isotopic mixing model, we calculate the Ba isotope
27 composition of the Ba-poor northern end member as +0.45 ‰ and the Ba-rich southern end
28 member +0.26 ‰, relative to NIST SRM 3104a. The near-conservative behaviour of Ba in the deep
29 ocean indicates that Ba isotopes may serve as an independent tracer of the provenance of advected
30 water masses in the Atlantic Ocean. The clearly resolved Ba-isotope signatures of northern- and
31 southern-sourced waters may also prove useful in paleoceanographic studies, should appropriate
32 sedimentary archives be identified. Overall, our results offer new insights into the controls on Ba
33 cycling in seawater and thus the mechanisms that underpin the utility of Ba-based proxies in
34 paleoceanography.

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1. Introduction

The oceanic biological pump effectively strips nutrients and carbon out of the surface into deep waters (Riebesell et al., 2007). Silicic acid (Si(OH)_4) is a crucial nutrient for organisms such as diatoms, which are responsible for exporting half of the organic matter that becomes sequestered in marine sediments (Nelson et al., 1995; Tréguer and De la Rocha, 2013). Si(OH)_4 and other nutrients in low-latitude regions are sourced from thermocline waters, which are fed largely from high-latitude preformed nutrients, in addition to the spatially variable fraction sourced from remineralisation (Sarmiento et al., 2004). Quantifying past changes in the supply of nutrients, such as Si(OH)_4 , is key to understanding past variations in the biological pump, carbon cycling and the global climate. Barium (Ba) can help us understand such processes, because there are strong, global links between Ba and other key elements in both dissolved and particulate phases: dissolved Ba shows links with Si(OH)_4 both vertically and spatially, and particulate Ba varies spatially with particulate organic carbon (POC) (Bishop, 1989).

The associations between dissolved Ba and Si(OH)_4 , and particulate Ba and POC export, have led to the development of a number of Ba-based palaeoceanographic proxies. For example, Ba incorporation into carbonates (denoted by Ba/Ca) is used as a proxy for seawater dissolved Ba concentration (denoted by [Ba]) and by extension any tracer with a similarly-shaped dissolved profile e.g. alkalinity, Si(OH)_4 , and DIC (Hall and Chan, 2004a, b; Lea and Boyle, 1989, 1991). Another approach builds on evidence that particulate ‘excess Ba’ (denoted as Ba_{xs} ; i.e. any Ba present in particles that is unsupported by lithogenic material) correlates with POC fluxes in suspended particulates (Dehairs et al., 1991), sediment traps (Cardinal et al., 2005), and POC export (Eagle et al., 2003). These observations instigated the interpretation of Ba_{xs} from marine sediment cores as a proxy for POC fluxes, allowing the reconstruction of export production and the biological pump through time (Dymond et al., 1992; Eagle et al., 2003; Gingele and Dahmke, 1994; Nurnberg et al., 1997). Ba_{xs} that reaches the sediments with sequestered organic matter is assumed to be well-preserved due to the saturation of porewaters with respect to barite (Paytan and Kastner, 1996). However, quantification of nutrient cycling and export production from sedimentary Ba-based archives is still hampered by the lack of a complete mechanistic understanding of barite preservation and the linkages between Ba_{xs} , nutrients, POC export, and their spatially variable relationships (Hernandez-Sanchez et al., 2011).

68 Given the strong empirical correlations between particulate Ba and POC export fluxes, and
69 dissolved Si and Ba concentrations in seawater, then what is known about the mechanistic controls
70 on Ba distributions? Several explanations have been proposed for the nutrient-like behaviour of Ba
71 in seawater, though there is now considerable laboratory (Ganeshram et al., 2003; González-Munoz
72 et al., 2003), field (Collier and Edmond, 1984; Dehairs et al., 1980), morphological (Bertram and
73 Cowen, 1997), geochemical (Griffith and Paytan, 2012), and thermodynamic (Monnin et al., 1999)
74 evidence to suggest that the formation of discrete, micron-sized barite (BaSO_4) crystals in the water
75 column is a biological or biologically-mediated process, and that BaSO_4 is the major vector of
76 particulate Ba in the modern water column. However, these observations do not address the
77 mechanisms behind the similar depth profiles of [Ba] and Si(OH)_4 , which have been proposed to
78 relate to the similar remineralization depths of their respective carrier phases (BaSO_4 and opal,
79 respectively; e.g. Broecker and Peng, 1982), or perhaps due to the lateral advection and circulation
80 of conservative nutrients (Horner et al., 2015), with a Ba/Si ratio set by surface processes in the high-
81 latitudes where the water masses form (Sarmiento et al., 2004). Although advected and organic
82 matter-derived nutrients are traditionally labelled ‘preformed’ and ‘regenerated’ respectively, here
83 we instead use the terms ‘conservative’ and ‘non-conservative’ to refer to these two components of
84 Ba distributions. This choice of terminology is intended to highlight that not only organic matter
85 remineralisation but also other processes, such as barite cycling, have potentially important effects
86 on ‘regenerated’ Ba, and because there is no ‘Redfieldian’ (i.e. fixed) stoichiometry between
87 dissolved Ba and organic matter that that enables back-calculation of preformed Ba from P or O_2
88 (e.g. Collier and Edmond, 1984).

89 Barium stable isotope analysis provides a new and powerful approach for investigating Ba
90 cycling in seawater (Cao et al., 2016; Horner et al., 2015), as isotopic tracers are sensitive to ocean
91 mixing *and* biogeochemistry: the precipitation of barite—a non-conservative process—preferentially
92 incorporates the lighter isotopes of Ba (Böttcher et al., 2012; Miyazaki et al., 2014; Nan et al., 2015;
93 Von Allmen et al., 2010), rendering residual waters depleted in Ba and isotopically ‘heavier’ than
94 before precipitation occurred. In contrast, ocean mixing—a conservative process—does not
95 fractionate isotopic distributions; resultant concentration and isotopic patterns follow predictable
96 isotopic mixing schemes (Hoefs, 2015). Hence, the information provided by seawater Ba isotopes,
97 when used in combination with [Ba], can shed light on whether variations in [Ba] are driven by
98 conservative mixing of different water masses or by non-conservative barite cycling, including both
99 the formation and dissolution of particles via lateral and vertical transport. Only a few data exist for
100 the isotopic composition of barium in seawater (Cao et al., 2016; Horner et al., 2015), and they show
101 that isotopic variations reflect a combination of ocean circulation and barite cycling, with the latter

102 evidenced by the presence of Ba-depleted, isotopically heavy subsurface waters. A South Atlantic
103 profile showed that, in the deep ocean, Ba isotopic values are largely a function of the circulation of
104 major water masses falling on a conservative mixing line between Antarctic Intermediate Water
105 (AAIW), North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW), and Antarctic Bottom Water (AABW), with end-
106 members likely determined by barite cycling in high latitude surface waters (Horner et al., 2015). A
107 Ba isotope profile from the East China Sea illustrated that freshwater input can also influence the Ba
108 isotopic composition of near-surface seawater, with Ba cycling in the upper water column
109 dominated by removal of lighter isotopes onto particles (Cao et al., 2016).

110 The main aim of this study is to investigate water column Ba concentrations and isotopic
111 distributions both vertically, zonally, and meridionally within the Atlantic. We use these data to
112 examine the impact of BaSO₄ precipitation and dissolution on Atlantic Ba cycling, and quantify the
113 relative mixing proportions of northern- and southern-sourced water masses using new seawater
114 depth profiles from both the eastern and western basins. Firstly, we use the isotopic composition of
115 dissolved Ba in seawater to investigate subtle near-surface variations in its concentration, and its
116 decoupling from Si, in the tropical North Atlantic. Secondly, we use seawater Ba isotopes to trace the
117 proportion of deep ocean variation that is attributable to lateral advection (conservative mixing) vs.
118 barite cycling (and other non-conservative vertical processes) in these tropical locations. Lastly, we
119 compare our new tropical North Atlantic data with our profiles from the South Atlantic in order to
120 investigate the extent to which basin-scale Ba distributions are driven by mixing, as opposed to
121 barite cycling.

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123 **2. Methods and materials**

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125 *2.1. Oceanographic setting*

126 We present data from the South and tropical North Atlantic, which are both influenced by
127 similar water masses at different stages of the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (Talley,
128 2013). In the South Atlantic, the water column is composed of southern-sourced AABW (below
129 3500m), southward flowing NADW (2000-3500m), Upper Circumpolar Deep Water (core at c.
130 1500m), AAIW (core at c. 600m) and a mixture of Subantarctic Surface Water (SASW) and
131 Subtropical Surface Water (STSW). In the Equatorial Atlantic, AABW occurs below ~4000m, AAIW at
132 c. 1000m (mixed with Mediterranean Water), NADW below ~1500-2000m, and tropical mode and
133 surface waters subduct to form the thermocline (Talley et al., 2011).

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135 *2.2. Sample collection*

136 Seawater collection and processing procedures for samples from the South Atlantic
 137 (D357/GA10E; Oct-Nov 2010) are discussed in Horner et al. (2015). Samples from the tropical North
 138 Atlantic (JC094; Oct-Nov 2013) were collected using Niskin bottles attached to a CTD rosette system,
 139 filtered cleanly through a 0.2 micron Acropak filter (Pall Life Sciences) and samples for Ba analysis
 140 were acidified (0.1% v/v; pH \approx 2.0) the same day using concentrated hydrochloric acid (HCl Romil
 141 UpA). Samples were stored in a cool container (+4°C) for transport back to the UK. Sampling stations
 142 are shown in Table 1.

143 Temperature, conductivity, and fluorescence were measured using a Sea-Bird (SBE) *9plus*
 144 with a Chelsea Technology Group (CTG) Aquatracka MKIII fluorimeter, and data were post-processed
 145 using SBE Data Processing (V7.20g) software. Salinity was calculated from conductivity, and
 146 calibrated on board using bottle samples measured using a GuildLine Autosal salinometer, with
 147 Autosal software (2009). Dissolved Oxygen was measured using an SBE 43 dissolved oxygen sensor
 148 mounted on the CTD, and calibrated using bottle measurements, which were carried out on board
 149 by the Winkler titration method using a Ω -Metrohm 848 Titrino plus unit, with potentiometric end
 150 point detection (Carritt and Carpenete, 1966; Robinson, 2014).

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Cruise	CTD number	Station	Latitude	Longitude	Water depth (m)
JC094	CTD002 (CTD2)	002	9° 17.1'N	21° 38.0'W	4524
JC094	CTD005 (CTD5)	039	10° 51.8'N	44° 29.5'W	5161
JC094	CTD006 (CTD6)	044	15° 16.2'N	48° 15.6'W	4183
D357	CTD025 ^a	6	39° 59.4'S	0° 55.2'E	4927
D357	CTD013	3	36° 27.6'S	13° 23.4'E	4894

152 *Table 1: Locations of CTD profiles used in this study. ^a From Horner et al., 2015.*

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154 Additional unfiltered samples were collected for nutrient analysis and frozen at -20°C for
 155 transport back to the UK. Nitrate+Nitrite, Nitrite, Silicate, Phosphate and Ammonium were analysed
 156 using a Bran and Luebbe 5 channel segmented flow autoanalyser (Plymouth Marine Laboratories,
 157 UK), and with high resolution colorimeters (Brewer and Riley, 1965; Grasshoff et al., 1999; Kirkwood,
 158 1989; Zhang and Chi, 2002). Samples were defrosted back on land over 48 hours at room
 159 temperature, in the dark, before being analysed alongside a certified nutrient reference material
 160 produced by KANSO Technos, Japan. The KANSO Technos reference materials are analysed on a daily
 161 basis as part of the regular analytical protocols, and have allowed the results stated here to have an
 162 accuracy of 2% or better when compared to these reference concentrations. By adopting analytical

163 methods and techniques according to GO-SHIP protocols, improvements and checks are made to
164 ensure and check the analytical accuracy of the analyses of the nutrients. Precision is again at or
165 better than 2% when this is determined along with the regular sample analysis. The standard used
166 are all high quality materials, and will always be analysed to have the highest standard as greater
167 than the highest concentrations of the samples, and standards will be ensured as being a linear slope
168 to allow full confidence of the reported concentrations of samples.

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170 *2.3. Barium isotope analysis*

171 Seawater Ba concentrations and isotopic compositions were measured at the NIRVANA Lab
172 at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) using a method similar to that of Horner et al.
173 (2015), which consists of double spiking, co-precipitation, and ion-exchange chromatography
174 followed by Ba isotope analysis via MC-ICP-MS (multiple-collector inductively-coupled plasma mass
175 spectrometry). A new double spike composed of roughly equal proportions of ^{135}Ba and ^{136}Ba was
176 used instead of the ^{135}Ba - ^{137}Ba double spike previously described by Horner et al. (2015; see
177 Supplement for spike composition). The new choice of spike combination was optimized to minimize
178 the impact of interferences from Xe – present as a trace impurity in the Ar carrier gas – found on m/z
179 136 (Xe, Ba, Ce) during MC-ICP-MS analysis.

180 Barium concentrations were estimated from dissolved [Si] values and an appropriate
181 amount of ^{135}Ba - ^{136}Ba double spike was added to 5 ml of seawater to achieve roughly equal
182 proportions of spike- and sample-derived Ba in the spike—sample mixture. In accordance with
183 GEOTRACES protocols (Cutter et al., 2010), additional ultra-pure HCl was added to the tropical North
184 Atlantic samples at WHOI to achieve a final HCl concentration of 0.024 M (pH < 2). Spike-sample
185 mixtures were refluxed at 60 °C for 24 hours, allowed to cool to room temperature, then co-
186 precipitated through the addition of 350 μl of 1 M Na_2CO_3 solution in 50 μl increments (Foster et al.,
187 2004). After centrifugation and decantation of residual seawater, precipitates were dissolved in ~2
188 M HCl, dried, and resuspended in 250 μl of 2.3 M HCl for ion-exchange chromatography. Purification
189 of Ba was achieved by passing samples twice through 500 μl of AG 50W-X8 (200–400 mesh) cation
190 exchange resin that was precleaned and conditioned with 6 M and 2.3 M HCl, respectively. Non-Ba
191 matrix elements were eluted with 2.3 M HCl, followed by Ba elution using 2 M nitric acid (HNO_3).
192 Purified samples were subsequently dried, to oxidize any resin-derived organic material that may
193 have co-eluted with Ba – dried again, and finally re-dissolved in 2 % HNO_3 for mass spectrometric
194 analysis.

195 Samples were analysed for barium isotope compositions at the WHOI Plasma Facility using a
196 Thermo Neptune MC-ICP-MS operated in low-resolution mode, fitted with 'Regular'- and 'X'-type

197 sampler and skimmer Ni interface cones, respectively. Samples were aspirated at ~120 $\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$ using
 198 an Elemental Scientific PFA μFlow nebulizer, via a CETAC Aridus II desolvator, and admixed with 3–5
 199 ml/min N_2 gas to reduce BaO^+ formation $\leq 0.1\%$ during Ba ionization (Miyazaki et al., 2014).
 200 Baseline-corrected ion beams corresponding to $m/z = 131$ (Xe), 135 (Ba), 136 (Xe, Ba, Ce), 137 (Ba),
 201 138 (Ba, La, Ce), 139 (La), and 140 (Ce) were measured simultaneously by 40×4.194 s integrations at
 202 sample-derived Ba concentrations of around 20 ng/ml; Ba^+ transmission efficiencies were generally
 203 $\geq 1\%$. Barium isotope compositions were calculated in MATLAB using the three-dimensional
 204 geometric interpretation of the double spike problem (Siebert et al., 2001). In this interpretation,
 205 the x -, y -, and z - axes are defined by $^{138}\text{Ba}/^{135}\text{Ba}$, $^{137}\text{Ba}/^{135}\text{Ba}$, and $^{136}\text{Ba}/^{135}\text{Ba}$, and interference
 206 corrections for Xe, Ce, and La were performed via the nested iterative approach described in Horner
 207 et al. (2015). Sample-derived Ba concentrations are calculated based on the instrumental mass bias-
 208 corrected $^{138}\text{Ba}/^{135}\text{Ba}$ ratio (noting that most ^{135}Ba is spike-derived) and *a priori* knowledge of the
 209 spike added to each sample. Isotopic compositions are reported in the δ -notation relative to
 210 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Standard Reference Material 3104a (Ba):

$$211 \quad \delta^{138/134}\text{Ba}_{\text{NIST}} = \left\{ \frac{\left(\frac{^{138}\text{Ba}}{^{134}\text{Ba}} \right)_{\text{sample}}}{\left(\frac{^{138}\text{Ba}}{^{134}\text{Ba}} \right)_{\text{NISTSRM 3104a}}} - 1 \right\} \times 1000 \quad (1)$$

212 Isotopic uncertainties are reported as the larger of either the long-term $2 \times \text{SD}$ (Standard Deviation)
 213 uncertainty on sample unknowns ($\pm 0.03\%$, $n = 8$) or the pooled internal $2 \times \text{SE}$ (Standard Error) of
 214 repeat sample measurements (median number of replicate analyses = 4.), as described in Horner et
 215 al. (2015).

216 Blanks were monitored by passing aliquots containing ~ 1 ng of Ba double spike through the
 217 procedures described above and treating as sample unknowns. The mean analytical blank (from
 218 reagents and ion-exchange chemistry) was measured as 11 ± 8 pg (mean ± 1 SD; $n = 4$) and the
 219 procedural blank (co-precipitation plus analytical blank) was determined as 726 ± 124 pg (mean ± 1
 220 SD; $n = 6$). All seawater Ba concentration data were procedural-blank corrected but Ba isotope data
 221 were not as the small proportion of blank-derived Ba in seawater samples was deemed unlikely to
 222 alter Ba isotope compositions outside of long-term uncertainty ($\pm 0.03\%$; Horner et al., 2015).
 223 Additional details regarding the reporting of uncertainty are presented in the Supplementary
 224 Information.

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 226

227 3. Results

228

229 3.1. Temperature, salinity, oxygen and nutrient profiles

230 The potential temperature and salinity measurements show typical profiles for the South
231 Atlantic and tropical Atlantic sites, with marked latitudinal differences above 3000m water depth.
232 Near-surface and subsurface temperatures are over 15°C warmer in the tropics than the South
233 Atlantic, and significantly more saline (Fig. 2 A, B). The oxygen profiles from the tropical Atlantic sites
234 show a pronounced minimum centred on approximately 500m water depth, absent from the South
235 Atlantic sites, and higher oxygen levels at depth than at 40°S (Fig. 2C).

236 Nutrients showed expected concentration profiles (Fig. 2 D, F), with low concentrations at
237 the surface as a result of biological uptake, and higher values at depth as a result of lateral transport
238 of conservative nutrients and regeneration. Regenerated nutrients are represented by N^* (not
239 plotted; $N^* = NO_3^- - 16PO_4$) and Si^* (Fig. 2E) where $Si^* = [Si(OH)_4] - [NO_3] + dN^*$, where the
240 denitrification correction $d = 1$ for $N^* < -3 \mu M$ ($d = 0$ otherwise) (Gruber and Sarmiento, 1997;
241 Sarmiento et al., 2004). No denitrification correction was required for the Equatorial Atlantic
242 samples. Si^* is only conserved when remineralisation (or uptake) processes release (or take up)
243 $Si(OH)_4$ and NO_3 in a 1:1 ratio, which is not the case in regions of the Southern Ocean where AAIW
244 and mode waters are formed as a result of strong nutrient uptake by iron limited diatoms
245 ($Si(OH)_4:NO_3$ uptake ratio $\sim 4:1$; Brzezinski et al., 2002; Sarmiento et al., 2004). Hence, Si^* is a
246 powerful tracer of Southern Ocean intermediate depth waters, and can be used to pinpoint AAIW at
247 $\sim 1000m$ depth in our North Atlantic depth profiles (Fig. 2).

248

249 3.2. Barium and barium isotopes

250 Water column Ba concentrations from our new seawater profiles show the now well-
251 established vertical fractionation of [Ba], with lower values in surface waters (~ 40 nM) and higher
252 values at depth (~ 80 nM for the tropical Atlantic profiles, ~ 100 nM for the new Southern Atlantic
253 profile; Fig. 3; Supplementary information). [Ba] increases down the water column from $\sim 1500m$ to
254 $5000m$ in all the new profiles; the tropical Atlantic profiles show a slight increase of < 5 nM at
255 $\sim 1000m$, before declining again towards the subsurface. The shallower samples of the profiles,
256 above $\sim 50m$, show that [Ba] increases slightly by ~ 5 nM towards the surface. The $\delta^{138}Ba$ values
257 generally mirror [Ba], becoming progressively lighter as [Ba] increases, in good agreement with the
258 previously published South Atlantic $\delta^{138}Ba$ profile (Horner et al., 2015). The tropical Atlantic $\delta^{138}Ba$
259 data differ from the published South Atlantic profile in two respects. Firstly, surface $\delta^{138}Ba$ profiles
260 show heavier values at approximately $200m$ ($\sim +0.6 \text{ ‰}$), followed by a decline of $\sim 0.1 \text{ ‰}$ towards
261 lighter values at the surface in the tropical Atlantic samples only (Fig. 3). Secondly, there is a

262 divergence in both [Ba] and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ between the tropical Northwest Atlantic and Northeast Atlantic
263 samples in the mid-depths, centred around a core at approximately 1500m.

264

265 4. Discussion

266

267 4.1. Ba^* (barium star)

268 These new [Ba] and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ profiles, especially when assessed in the context of a previously
269 published South Atlantic depth profile (Horner et al., 2015), provide a new insight into the relative
270 roles of different processes that affect Atlantic Ba cycling: conservative versus non-conservative
271 barium, the depth ranges of organic matter and barite remineralisation, and water mass mixing.
272 These processes can be further quantified by combining measurements of $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ with Ba^* , which is
273 defined as the difference between *in situ* and predicted [Ba]:

$$274 \text{Ba}^* = [\text{Ba}]_{in\ situ} - 0.6296(\pm 0.0022) * [\text{Si}(\text{OH})_4]_{in\ situ} - 38.63(\pm 0.07) \quad (2)$$

275 This formulation of Ba^* is based on a York Regression of 1,505 globally-distributed [Ba]–[Si]
276 measurements from the GEOSECS expeditions (Geochemical Ocean Sections; e.g. Craig and Turekian,
277 1980), and differs slightly from the formulation used by Horner et al. (2015), which was based only
278 on GEOTRACES-era co-located [Ba]–[Si] measurements from the South Atlantic. Regardless, the
279 absolute values of Ba^* are essentially arbitrary – the utility of Ba^* is derived from the shape of the
280 depth profiles. Vertical profiles of Ba^* that vary with depth arise from subtle variations in the
281 integrated histories of Ba and Si cycling that relate to differences in the ventilation of preformed
282 water masses, and uptake and remineralisation processes of the two elements: barite precipitation
283 and dissolution affects the cycling of Ba but not Si, whereas biological opal formation and dissolution
284 impacts the cycling of Si but not Ba. For example, the water column profiles of Ba^* show more
285 negative values in the mesopelagic zone, in both the North and South Atlantic, which trending
286 towards more positive values below approximately 2000m before become more negative again
287 below 3000m (Figure 4). The shape of these profiles arise as a result of sampling different water
288 masses with different physiochemical properties, locations of origin and ventilation ages.

289

290 4.2. Surface and near-surface cycling of barium

291 The depth profiles of Ba^* , and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ - Ba^* plots (Figs. 3, 4), of our new data indicate that
292 there are marked latitudinal differences in sub-surface processes that influence the barium cycle in
293 the Atlantic, with a gradient in Ba^* between latitudes and more heterogeneous $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ near surface
294 values in the tropics compared to the South Atlantic. Of particular interest are the heavy near-
295 surface isotopic values that trend lighter towards the surface in the North Atlantic, compared to the

296 relatively homogeneous near-surface waters of the South Atlantic at 40°S (Fig. 4; Fig. 5; Horner et al.,
297 2015)—this could potentially relate to differences in biological production (Tilstone et al., 2015), or
298 to differences in the physical structure of the mesopelagic layer between the N and S Atlantic.

299 The heavy Ba-isotopic values in the sub-surface (relative to deeper waters) throughout the
300 Atlantic are likely a result of barite formation, which preferentially incorporates isotopically light Ba
301 (Von Allmen et al., 2010), thus rendering residual seawater isotopically heavier and depleted in Ba.
302 We can calculate an apparent fractionation factor (ϵ') for barite formation in the mesopelagic and
303 near-surface layers, by solving the following equations using iterative linear regression (Marquardt-
304 Levenberg algorithm), which assume a closed or open fractionation respectively:

$$305 \quad \delta^{138}\text{Ba} = \epsilon' \ln([\text{Ba}]) + c$$

$$306 \quad \delta^{138}\text{Ba} = \epsilon' ([\text{Ba}]/[\text{Ba}]_0) + c \quad (3)$$

307 Where $[\text{Ba}]_0$ is the barium concentration of the water supplying the mesopelagic layer (after
308 Varela et al., 2004), and c is the intercept (for more details, see the Supplementary Information).
309 Using this method, the apparent fractionation factor is calculated to be $-0.34 \pm 0.06\text{‰}$ (closed) or -
310 $0.45 \pm 0.08\text{‰}$ (open) for the North Atlantic, and $-0.28 \pm 0.03\text{‰}$ (closed) or $-0.39 \pm 0.04\text{‰}$ (open) for
311 the South Atlantic (uncertainties represent the standard error). Whilst these values agree well with
312 previous estimates of Ba isotopic fractionation during barite formation in the laboratory (Von Allmen
313 et al., 2010), these estimates are likely to underestimate the true fractionation factor as the simple
314 assumptions of the fractionation models are often violated in complex oceanic settings. Moreover,
315 the study of Cao et al (2016), identified that the $\Delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ offset between particles and seawater was
316 significantly larger than estimated here using Rayleigh-type fractionation models.

317 Barite formation is likely associated with organic matter decomposition by heterotrophic
318 bacteria, and high particulate Ba_{xs} has been seen to be associated with organic matter
319 remineralisation and oxygen consumption at the top of the mesopelagic layer (Cardinal et al., 2005;
320 Dehairs et al., 2008; Jacquet et al., 2007; Jacquet et al., 2008). The oxygen minimum (which mirrors
321 the apparent oxygen utilization and is more pronounced in the tropics) and chlorophyll maxima
322 occur at different depths in the two locations (Fig. 5), potentially contributing to differences in sub-
323 surface Ba^* and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ profiles. Biological net community production at 40°S is markedly higher than
324 in the Equatorial Atlantic (Tilstone et al., 2015), and variations in organic matter availability, and
325 hence barite formation, could explain the sub-surface latitudinal differences observed here.
326 However, mass balance considerations suggest that, whilst it is important for particulate barite
327 formation, Ba directly associated with organic matter is likely to be unimportant in terms of setting
328 the depth profile of Ba and Ba isotopes in the dissolved phase (Horner et al., 2015). Thus, neither the
329 amount of nor depth of organic matter degradation (and so barite formation) can account for the

330 trend towards lighter Ba-isotopic signatures towards the surface in the tropics, a feature that is
331 absent from the South Atlantic profiles.

332 We suggest that the differences in the North and South Atlantic sub-surface water column
333 profiles of Ba* and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ are as a result of the interplay between the physical structure of the upper
334 water column and the vertical segregation of BaSO₄ and opal precipitation. Mixed layer depths
335 (MLD) are shallower (less than 50 m) in the tropical Atlantic compared to the South Atlantic
336 (maximum MLD greater than 100–150 m; Fig. 1), owing to a cap of low density water in the
337 Subtropics. Although both sampling events reported here were carried out in Oct–Nov, published
338 MLD climatologies indicate that these MLDs are likely to persist for the majority of the year (Kara et
339 al., 2003). Regardless, if the MLD were to penetrate to the depths of barite formation, typically
340 below 150 m (e.g. Dehairs et al., 2008; Jacquet et al., 2008), or able to entrain deeper waters that
341 have experienced higher degrees of Ba removal into barite, the upper water column would be
342 uniform for [Ba] Ba*, and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$. The relatively constant [Ba], Ba*, and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ observed in the
343 uppermost \approx 200 m of the South Atlantic water column is thus consistent with periodic
344 homogenization of the upper water column by vertical mixing (Figs. 1, 5).

345 In contrast, mixed layers in the tropical North Atlantic do not extend much below 50 m over
346 an annual cycle (Fig. 1; Schmidtke et al., 2013). This range does not penetrate to the depths
347 necessary to entrain Ba-depleted STUW (Subtropical Underwater; >200 m) or to those estimated for
348 barite formation (>150 m). The STUW are notable as they exhibit significant decoupling of Ba and Si,
349 first noted by Chan et al. (1977). This decoupling is clearly evident in the more negative values of Ba*
350 in STUW compared to surface waters, implying Ba depletion relative to Si (Fig. 5C). More negative
351 Ba* in STUW are also associated with \approx +0.1 ‰ increase in dissolved Ba isotope compositions
352 relative to surface waters, consistent with the removal of isotopically light Ba into BaSO₄ (e.g. Von
353 Allmen et al., 2010). Such a pattern of more negative Ba* associated with heavier Ba isotope
354 compositions in shallow subsurface waters is only expected if two conditions are met: both the
355 removal of Si and Ba are vertically segregated (e.g. via opal for Si and via BaSO₄ for Ba) and if the
356 segregation remains protected from homogenization via vertical mixing. As both of these conditions
357 are satisfied in the STUW of the subtropical North Atlantic, we conclude that the interplay between
358 physical mixing and the vertical segregation of BaSO₄ & opal formation must be responsible for the
359 differences between the profiles of Ba* and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ in the subtropical North- and South Atlantic (Fig
360 5).

361

362

363 *4.3. Barium concentrations and isotopic variations in deep and intermediate waters*

364 As with other elements with nutrient-like behaviour, an important issue in understanding
365 oceanic cycling surrounds the relative contribution of conservative versus non-conservative Ba – the
366 extent to which Ba distribution reflects simple mixing of different water masses rather than *in situ*
367 dissolution. Since Ba is not directly cycled in association with organic matter (Sternberg et al., 2005),
368 it is not possible to ‘back calculate’ conservative Ba for a given water mass from other hydrographic
369 parameters (e.g. using [O₂] and *in situ* P; Broecker et al., 1985), thus requiring an alternative
370 approach. A further complication arises when considering where the particles originate that are
371 involved in dissolution processes: particles may arrive at depth from vertical sinking and some others
372 from lateral transport. At depths below the MLD, our new profiles reveal key meridional and zonal
373 differences that reflect the relative role of ocean circulation and barite dissolution in Ba cycling, both
374 in deep waters ($\geq 2000\text{m}$) and intermediate depths (500-2000m).

375 We investigated mixing processes by plotting our data in a mixing diagram, in which
376 conservative mixing relationships will result in straight lines. The linear relationships shown in Fig. 6a
377 illustrates that the tropical Atlantic Ocean $\delta^{138}\text{Ba-1/Ba}$ systematics are consistent with conservative
378 mixing being a major control below approximately 500 m, but also that statistically-significant
379 differences exist between the tropical- and South Atlantic datasets. (Least squares fits to the data
380 possess statistically different intercepts and slopes for north and south Atlantic data.) The different
381 slopes in the mixing lines from the North and South Atlantic may reflect a subtle overprint from *in*
382 *situ* remineralisation of BaSO₄ and other Ba-bearing particles. This additional input of Ba would
383 result in Ba-depleted (and initially isotopically heavy) deep waters from the north Atlantic exhibiting
384 roughly similar Ba-isotope compositions to Ba-replete water masses from equivalent depths in the
385 South Atlantic, despite possessing significantly less Ba. Regardless, this effect is small as the overall
386 north Atlantic trend is linear (Fig. 6a), indicating that conservative mixing is the dominant control on
387 Ba systematics in both the deep north and south Atlantic. Importantly, our Ba isotope data
388 underscore the importance of conservative mixing as an important control on Atlantic Ba cycling
389 without the need to ratio to other biogeochemical tracers (e.g. [Si], \underline{I} , S). As we show in the next
390 section however, we can use these additional tracers to independently constrain relative deep-water
391 mass mixing proportions, thus enabling us to estimate the Ba-isotope compositions of the end-
392 member northern- and southern-sourced water masses that mix in the deep Atlantic.

393

394 4.3.1. Meridional overturning control of deep (>2,000 m) Ba isotope distributions

395 The linear relationships between Ba-isotope compositions and 1/[Ba] illustrates that
396 conservative mixing accounts for essentially all of the Ba-isotope variation in the deep Atlantic.
397 Below 2000 m, the Atlantic is dominated by the mixing of nutrient-poor (and O₂-rich) northern-

398 sourced waters (collectively termed NADW) with nutrient-rich southern-sourced bottom waters
 399 from the Weddell Sea (termed here AABW). Our data can be used to place constraints on the likely
 400 Ba isotope compositions of these two end-member water masses by independently calculating their
 401 relative mixing proportions. Broecker et al., 1991 suggested that the fraction of northern-sourced
 402 waters in a given sample, f_n , can be calculated using:

$$403 \quad f_n = (1.67 - PO_4^*) / (1.67 - 0.73) \quad (4)$$

404 where $PO_4^* = [PO_4^{3-}] + ([O_2] / 175) - 1.95$. If we compare our Ba isotope data for samples below
 405 2,000 m against f_n (Fig. 6b), we observe a distinct curvature that is indicative of a two-component
 406 hyperbolic isotopic mixing trend (e.g. Mariotti et al., 1988). In order to quantify the end-members
 407 responsible for generating the hyperbolic mixing trend, we make the simplifying assumption that
 408 there is no influence from non-conservative biogeochemical processes below 2,000 m. Though this is
 409 likely an oversimplification, the strong linear (mixing) relationships shown in Fig. 6a indicate that
 410 mixing is certainly the dominant control on Ba isotope systematics in the deep Atlantic, despite
 411 barite being below saturation at these depths. As such, we can approximate the Ba isotope
 412 composition of a deep water mass purely in terms of mixing between northern- and southern-
 413 sourced waters:

$$414 \quad \delta^{138/134}Ba_{in\ situ} = (f_n \times \delta^{138/134}Ba_n \times [Ba]_n) + ([1 - f_n] \times \delta^{138/134}Ba_s \times [Ba]_s) \dots \quad (5)$$

$$415 \quad \dots / (f_n \times [Ba]_n) + ([1 - f_n] \times [Ba]_s)$$

416 where $_n$ or $_s$ denote the northern- and southern-sourced end-members, respectively. The Ba
 417 concentration of the northern end member was estimated to be 50 nM based on data from the
 418 Atlantic GEOSECS Expedition (average of Labrador Sea Water, Iceland—Scotland Overflow Water,
 419 and Denmark Strait Overflow Water; Chan et al., 1977); the southern-sourced end member was
 420 assigned $[Ba] = 105$ nM (based on Weddel Sea water; Hoppema et al., 2010).

421 Using the independent estimates of water mass mixing proportions from Eq. 3 and literature
 422 values of $[Ba]$ for the northern- and southern-sourced end members, we solved Eq. 4 for the Ba
 423 isotope compositions of the two end-members by minimization of the data—line misfit, expressed
 424 as the RMSD (root-mean-square deviation; Fig. 6b). This calculation was restricted to the 21 samples
 425 from $\geq 2,000$ m and omitted sample #W0117 (JC094), as it possessed $f_n > 1$. The best-fit Ba isotope
 426 compositions for the northern- and southern-sourced water mass end members were calculated as
 427 $\delta^{138/134}Ba_{NIST} = +0.45$ ‰ and $+0.26$ ‰, respectively. These two end-member compositions achieve a
 428

432 data—line RMSD of 0.03 ‰, roughly equivalent to our measurement precision of 0.03 ‰ for Ba-rich
433 deep waters.

434 Importantly, this analysis suggests that the northern- and southern-sourced water masses
435 that fill the deep Atlantic possess clearly resolvable Ba isotope compositions ($\Delta^{138/134}\text{Ba}_{\text{north-south}} \approx 0.2$
436 ‰; Fig. 6b). If this pattern is verified throughout the Atlantic basin, Ba isotope analyses of deep
437 waters may have utility in constraining ‘ f_n ’ independently of existing methods. Moreover, if
438 sedimentary archives that faithfully record deep water Ba isotope signals can be identified, Ba
439 isotope analyses may enable temporal reconstruction of northern- versus southern-sourced waters
440 in the deep ocean—and thus the geometry of overturning circulation—from a single biogeochemical
441 tracer.

442

443

444

445 *4.3.2. Zonal differences: influence from Labrador Sea Water at intermediate depths (500-2000m)*

446 A zonal (east-west) difference in Atlantic Ba concentrations and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ systematics becomes
447 clear in our new profiles centred at approximately 1500 m water depth (e.g. Fig. 3). In the western
448 tropics (CTD005 and CTD006), dissolved Ba-isotopic compositions are $\approx +0.1$ ‰ heavier than the
449 values of $\delta^{138}\text{Ba} \approx +0.4$ ‰ seen in the eastern basin (CTD002; Fig. 3). These depths correspond to
450 the depths of recently ventilated Upper Labrador Sea Water (ULSW) as shown by hydrographic data
451 (nutrients, dissolved oxygen, and ventilation tracers such as radiocarbon; (Chen et al., 2015; Jenkins
452 et al., 2015) . One possible interpretation for the elevated $\delta^{138/134}\text{Ba}$ in ULSW may relate to non-
453 conservative processes, such as extensive barite formation or input of isotopically heavy Ba in the
454 Labrador Sea. Input of isotopically heavy Ba into the Labrador Sea is unlikely since [Ba] is lower in
455 ULSW compared to the equivalent water depths in the eastern tropical Atlantic (Fig. 3a). Similarly,
456 the E—W difference in [Ba] is only ≈ 3 nM, and depth profiles of Ba* from the east and western
457 north Atlantic show similar gradients, suggesting that extensive barite formation is unlikely to be
458 responsible for removing significant quantities of Ba from the Labrador Sea. Moreover, non-
459 conservative processes are largely precluded by the linear mixing relationships (Fig. 6a), suggesting
460 that the isotopically heavy Ba at the depths corresponding to ULSW are a conservative mixing
461 feature. Thus, a simple explanation for this Ba isotope feature is that the influence from the
462 advective inflow of ULSW is far greater in the western basin (CTD005, 006) compared to the eastern
463 basin (CTD002), and that—since ULSW is recently ventilated—this imparts an isotopically-heavy Ba
464 signal at the depths where the influence from ULSW is greatest.

465 These subtle features in the depth profile that are largely undetectable from examination of

466 [Ba] illustrate that Ba isotope distributions are highly sensitive to ocean circulation, highlighting the
467 possible utility of Ba isotopes as a powerful tracer of basin-scale hydrography in paleoceanographic
468 studies.

469

470 *4.3.3. The sediment-water interface: a sedimentary source for dissolved Ba?*

471 The limited number of near-bottom water samples collected from the tropical North
472 Atlantic, in particular the eastern basin, show a slight deviation towards heavier $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ at the very
473 base of the profile (Fig. 3). We have no reason to believe that these signals are an analytical artefact
474 or a blank issue for two reasons. Firstly, these samples were not atypical in other respects (e.g. T, S,
475 $[\text{O}_2]$), suggesting that the bottles fired at the correct depths. Secondly, the Ba-isotopic composition
476 of the procedural Ba blank was measured as $\approx 0\text{‰}$ (Horner et al., 2015), whereas these bottom
477 water samples exhibit shifts toward isotopically heavy Ba of $\approx +0.4\text{‰}$ rather than towards the
478 isotopic composition of the blank. Our results hint towards a sedimentary source of dissolved Ba into
479 these bottom waters since dissolved [Ba] and Ba^* show significant upticks at the very base of the
480 profile, whereas a water mass signal would presumably also affect [Si] or other hydrographic
481 parameters. The direction of the $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ anomaly is opposite of that expected if the signature was a
482 result of sinking barite, which would be expected to add Ba with an isotopic composition $\approx +0.3\text{‰}$
483 (assuming BaSO_4 precipitates are ≈ -0.2 to -0.4‰ lighter than mesopelagic waters; e.g. Von Allmen
484 et al., 2010; Horner et al., 2015; Cao et al., 2016). Instead, this Ba may be sourced from seafloor
485 sediments, which would indicate possible Ba-isotopic fractionation effects during sediment
486 diagenesis. Significant diffusive efflux of Ba from sediments under sulphate-reducing conditions has
487 been previously noted (Hoppema et al., 2010; McManus et al., 1994), and could provide a possible
488 mechanism for the apparent injection of isotopically 'heavy' Ba into overlying seawaters with lighter
489 compositions. However, recent laboratory experiments (van Zuilen et al., 2016) have shown that
490 diffusive transport results in a preferential release of isotopically light Ba, and that adsorption
491 preferentially retains isotopically heavy Ba—both of these effects have the opposite fractionation
492 factor to the patterns observed here. Clearly, further work into the nature of this isotopic
493 enrichment is justified, including further field-based studies, given that sediments are a potentially
494 important source of dissolved Ba to abyssal depths.

495

496 *4.4. Synthesis: Decoupling of barium concentrations and isotopic composition in the Atlantic*

497

498 *4.4.1. A conceptual model for Ba cycling in the Atlantic*

499 One of the key observations in our new data is that there is a stronger meridional variation

500 in Ba concentrations compared to $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ (Fig. 3). This apparent decoupling may be as a result of a
501 low fractionation of Ba during barite formation, resulting in relatively subtle variations in $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ and
502 a larger dissolved pool relative to particulate phases (Dehairs et al., 1991). Despite the overprint of
503 barite remineralisation, Ba and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ variations can be traced along the meridional ocean
504 circulation resulting in a conceptual model (Fig. 7) of the Ba cycle that is consistent with our new
505 observations.

506 A greater concentration of Ba in southern sourced mode waters in the tropics compared to
507 40°S is consistent with a gradual stripping of Ba in the upper mesopelagic layer (200-400m) as a
508 result of barite formation as the water mass is transported north by meridional circulation. Barite
509 formation results in a small fractionation of Ba isotopes, resulting in the insignificant difference in
510 $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ between mode waters in the near-surface waters of the tropics compared to the South
511 Atlantic, despite having undergone extensive Ba removal into BaSO_4 formation. In addition, there is
512 also a re-entrainment of deeper water in the Equatorial upwelling regions, potentially allowing a
513 certain degree of resetting on Ba-isotopic values. The rapid transit of water via LSW will also mean
514 that samples in the mid-depths of the western basin will have heavier Ba-isotopes and lower [Ba]
515 than waters from the corresponding isopycnal in the eastern basin centred at approximately 1500m.
516 Similarly, NADW at 40°S has a greater Ba concentration than in the North Atlantic as a result of
517 “ageing” (barite dissolution, with a small contribution from the remineralisation of other Ba-bearing
518 minerals e.g. celestite) along the meridional ocean circulation path and more AABW entrainment at
519 depth.

520

521 *4.4.2 Implications for the use of Ba-based proxies in palaeoceanography*

522 Our [Ba] and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ depth profiles provide useful insights into the utility of carbonate Ba/Ca
523 as geochemical archives of ocean conditions. Firstly, the $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ data from the North Atlantic are
524 consistent with the formation of barite in subsurface waters, below 150 m, at the top of the
525 mesopelagic layer rather than deeper in the water column, supporting the paradigm that barite
526 formation occurs at similar depths associated with organic carbon remineralization and export.
527 Secondly, our data support the recently advanced hypothesis that variations in the relationship
528 between [Ba], $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ and dissolved [Si] are largely driven by ocean circulation and are set by the
529 degree of barite formation in the subsurface waters of the high latitudes – where intermediate and
530 deep waters are ventilated and subducted into the ocean interior (Horner et al., 2015). Small
531 variations in the relationship between [Ba] and [Si]—quantified here using Ba^* —point to Ba-specific
532 overprinting through barite cycling, which imparts minor changes to Ba distributions but does not
533 affect Si. However, these changes in Ba cycling are small relative to the overall structure of dissolved

534 [Ba] and [Si] profiles, which are set by large-scale circulation processes. These observations suggest
535 that geochemical archives of [Ba], such as foraminiferal Ba/Ca, coupled together with proxies for
536 marine silicon cycling, could shed light on changes in high latitude carbon export and recycling.
537 Moreover, reconstruction of deep ocean Ba isotopes could provide insight into the advective origin
538 of water masses in the deep ocean and thus the geometry of the MOC through time, subject to the
539 identification of appropriate sedimentary archives.

540

541 **5. Conclusion**

542

543 We present four new full barium isotope depth profiles from the North and South Atlantic
544 Ocean, allowing a robust assessment of both zonal and meridional Ba cycling across the Atlantic. Our
545 data show that sub-surface barite formation results in heavy seawater $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ at approximately 200-
546 400m depth, at the top of the mesopelagic layer, and that mesopelagic Ba-isotopic heterogeneity is
547 likely determined by the depth of the mixed layer relative to that of barite formation. Below the
548 depths of barite formation, Ba and $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ systematics are mostly controlled by large-scale ocean
549 circulation (i.e. conservative Ba cycling), with a subtle overprint from regenerated Ba that we
550 attribute to *in situ* barite dissolution. We synthesize these findings to present a conceptual model of
551 barium systematics in the Atlantic, which indicates that deep-water barium concentrations and
552 isotopic variations can be explained by conservative mixing between NADW and AABW with $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$
553 of the two end-members determined as +0.45 and +0.26 ‰, respectively. This mixing model
554 suggests that Ba isotopes may facilitate tracing the proportion of northern- versus southern-sourced
555 waters filling the deep Atlantic in the geological past—and therefore the geometry of deep ocean
556 circulation—from a single biogeochemical tracer. These results underscore the importance of large-
557 scale mixing as the proximal cause of the strong correlation between dissolved [Ba] and [silicate] in
558 the Atlantic, thereby highlighting the utility of barium isotopes to understand the processes
559 governing marine Ba cycling. Application of Ba isotopes to marine chemistry thus harbours great
560 promise as a new means to probe the mechanisms governing Ba-based tracers in paleoceanography,
561 and how these relate to the temporal evolution of the oceans biological carbon pump.

562

563

564 **Acknowledgements**

565 The authors would like to thank the captain and crew of the RRS James Cook and the RRS Discovery,
566 and all who took part in JC094 and GA10E/D357. Thanks to Paul Morris for bottle oxygen
567 concentration measurements on JC094, Clark Richards for CTD data processing, and Sune Nielsen for

568 discussions. D357/GA10E was funded by the UK-GEOTRACES National Environment Research Council
569 Consortium Grant (NE/H006095/1) and JC094 by the European Research Council. KH thanks The
570 Royal Society (University Research Fellowship UF120084) and FP7-PEOPLE-2012-CIG Proposal No
571 320070 for funding; TJH thanks The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Endowed Fund for Innovative
572 Research, NSF (OCE-1443577), and the Agouron Institute Geobiology Postdoctoral Fellowship
573 Program for supporting isotope research at NIRVANA. The authors express sincere thanks to the
574 three anonymous reviewers who helped us to substantially improve the manuscript with their
575 constructive comments.

576

577 **Figure captions**

578

579 Figure 1: Map showing locations of seawater profiles: CTD002, CTD005 and CTD006 (stations
580 2, 39 and 49, respectively) from cruise JC094; CTD013 and CTD025 (stations 3 and 6 from cruise
581 D357/GA10E); CTD025 data from Horner et al., 2015. Colour contours show maximum mixed layer
582 depths (calculated from the monthly means) from National Oceanographic and Atmospheric
583 Administration Monthly Isopycnal & Mixed-layer Ocean Climatology (Schmidtko et al., 2013).
584 Produced using Ocean Data View (Schlitzer, 2000).

585

586 Figure 2: Water properties at the CTD stations used in this study: A) Potential temperature;
587 B) Salinity; C) Oxygen; D) Nitrate; E) Si*; and F) Si(OH)₄ concentration. The figure legends apply to all
588 subsequent figures.

589

590 Figure 3: A) Barium concentrations and B) Barium isotopic compositions of the seawater
591 samples analysed in this study. Equatorial Atlantic data are plotted in red (Eastern Equatorial) and
592 blue (Western Equatorial) with circle symbols, South Eastern Atlantic data are plotted in black with
593 triangle symbols. Open triangle symbols and black dashed curves show previously-published data
594 from the South East Atlantic at 40°S (Horner et al., 2015). Error bar shows representative $\pm 2SD$
595 ($\pm 0.035\%$). The uncertainties on the barium concentration are within the size of the symbols. See
596 Figure 2 for legend.

597

598 Figure 4: Ba* plotted against depth and barium isotopic composition for seawater for A) the
599 Eastern Equatorial Atlantic (red) and Western Equatorial Atlantic (blue) and B) the South East
600 Atlantic, including previously-published data from the South East Atlantic at 40°S (open triangle

601 symbols and black dashed curves; Horner et al., 2015). See main text for details on how Ba* is
602 calculated. Error bar shows representative $\pm 2SD$ ($\pm 0.035\%$). See Figure 2 for legend.

603

604 Figure 5: Plots of A) fluorescence, B) oxygen concentration, C) Ba* and D) $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ in the top
605 1000m at the different study sites. Tropical Atlantic data are plotted in red (Eastern Equatorial) and
606 blue (Western Equatorial) with circle symbols, South Eastern Atlantic data are plotted in black with
607 triangle symbols. Open triangle symbols and black dashed curves show previously-published data
608 from the South East Atlantic at 40°S (Horner et al., 2015) (see Figure 2 for legend). Error bar shows
609 representative $\pm 2SD$ ($\pm 0.035\%$).

610

611 Figure 6: A) Mixing lines of $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$ plotted against $1/\text{Ba}$ for the seawater samples from the
612 tropical North Atlantic (circles) and the South Atlantic at approximately 40°S (triangles; Horner et al.,
613 2015). Error bars show representative $\pm 2SD$ ($\pm 0.035\%$). Least-squares linear regression lines are
614 plotted separately for the tropical North Atlantic (solid line; $r^2 = 0.73$, $p < 0.05$) and South East
615 Atlantic (dashed line; $r^2 = 0.93$, $p < 0.05$) using data from $\geq 500\text{m}$. Grey symbols show samples from
616 shallower than 500m, which were not included in the regression calculation. B) Calculated best-fit
617 mixing line between northern- and southern-sourced water masses in the Atlantic below 2,000 m
618 (see text for calculation details). The excellent agreement between the simple mixing relationship
619 and our seawater data suggest that it is possible to independently estimate f_n from Ba isotope
620 analyses using the relationship: $f_n \approx [21 (50 \delta^{138/134}\text{Ba}_{\text{NIST}} - 13)] / (550 \delta^{138/134}\text{Ba}_{\text{NIST}} - 48)$, which is
621 valid over the range of $\delta^{138/134}\text{Ba}_{\text{NIST}} = +0.26$ to $+0.45 \%$; predictive error = 13 %.

622

623 Figure 7: Conceptual model of Ba cycling in the Atlantic. Southern component waters are
624 enriched in Ba relative to Si. Southern sourced intermediate/mode waters (i.e. AAIW) are gradually
625 stripped of Ba as a result of barite formation and mixing as the water mass moves north, reducing
626 Ba* but having minimal impact on $\delta^{138}\text{Ba}$. NADW/CDW at 40°S has a greater Ba concentration than
627 in the North Atlantic as a result of barite dissolution and AABW entrainment during water mass
628 ageing. (Figure design by Jack Cook, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.)

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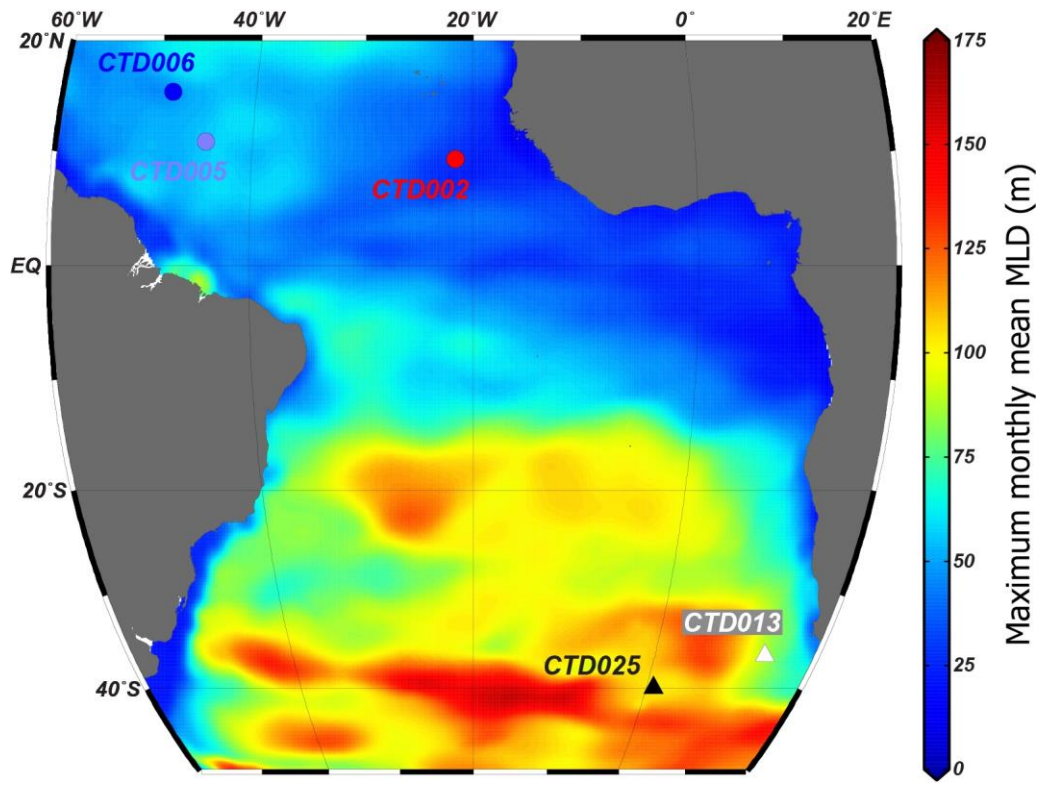
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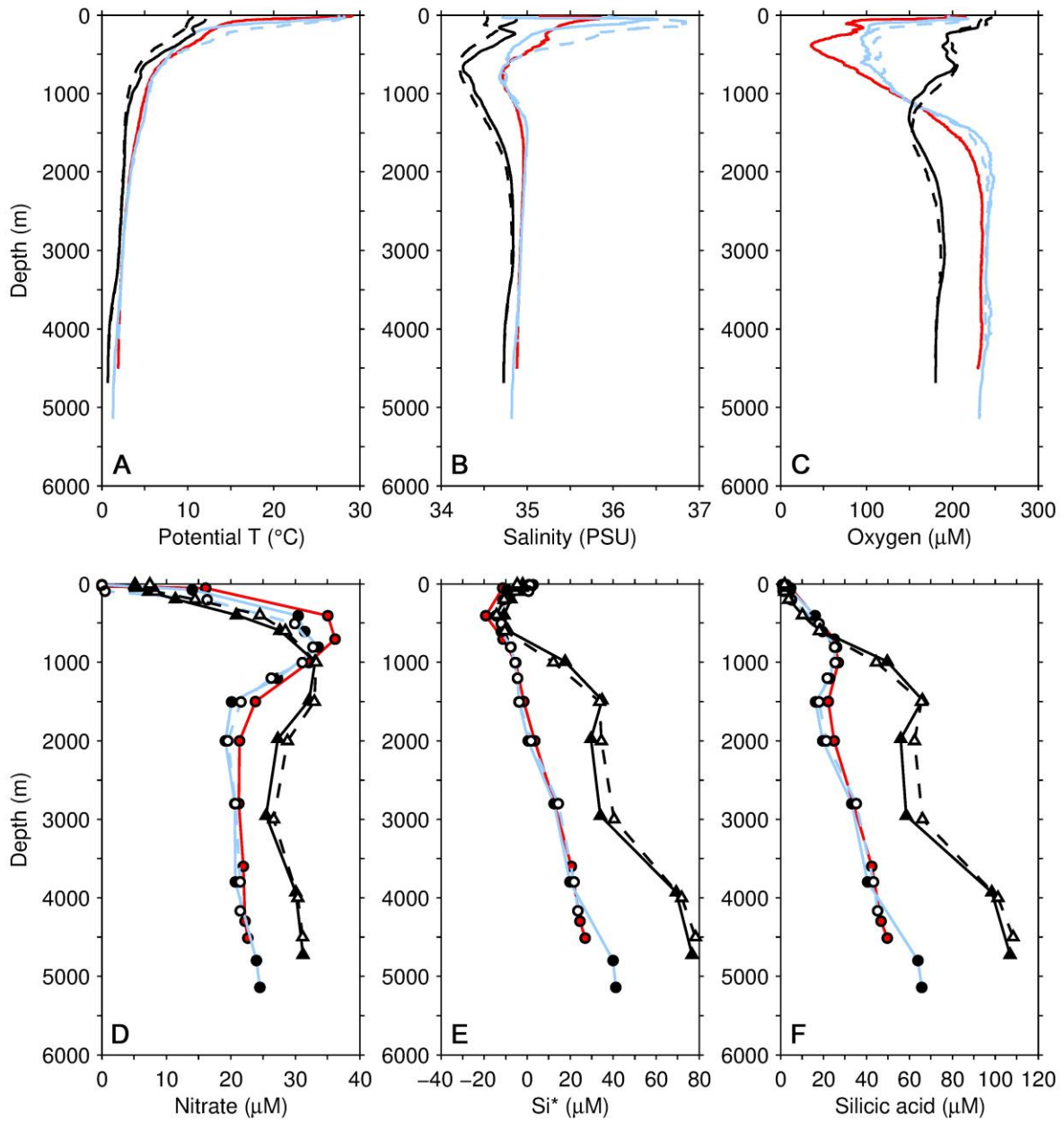
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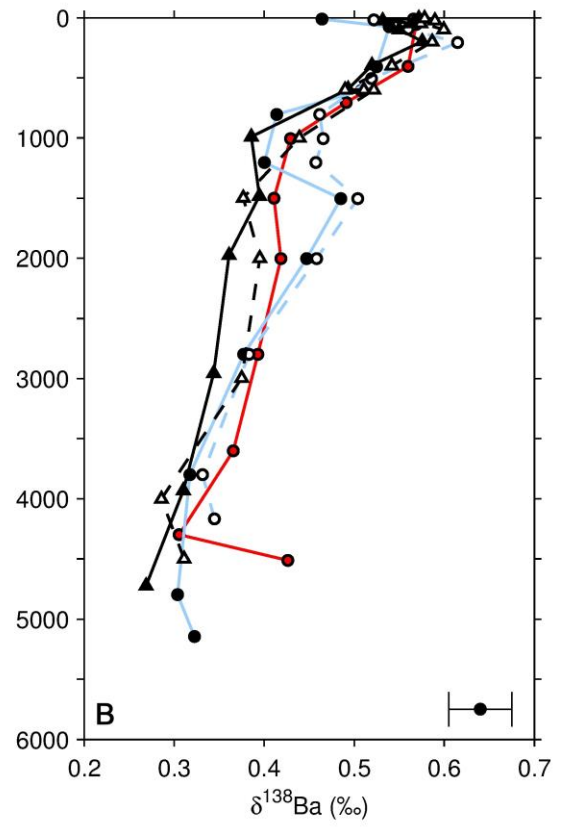
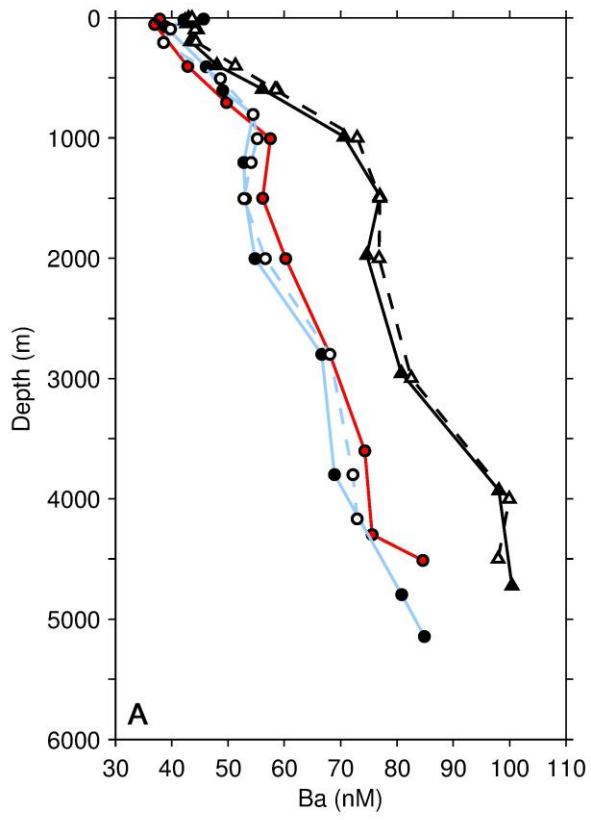


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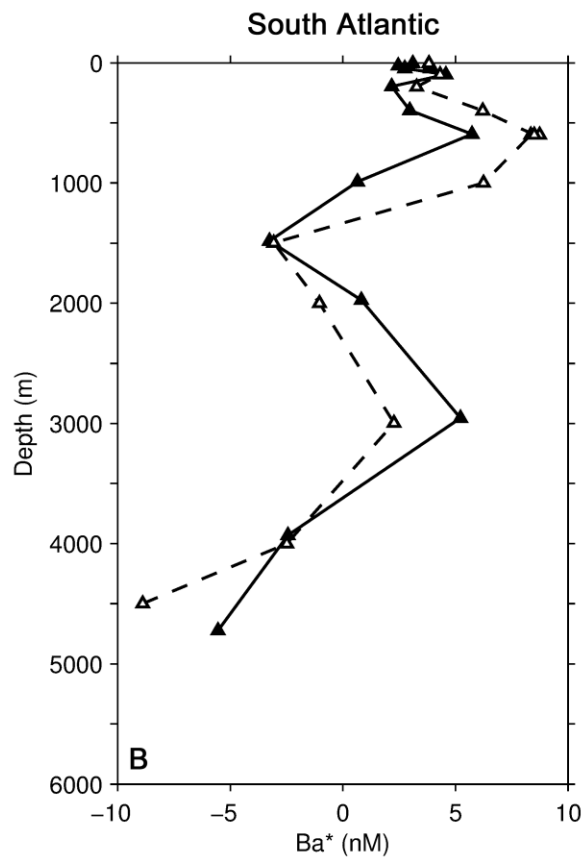
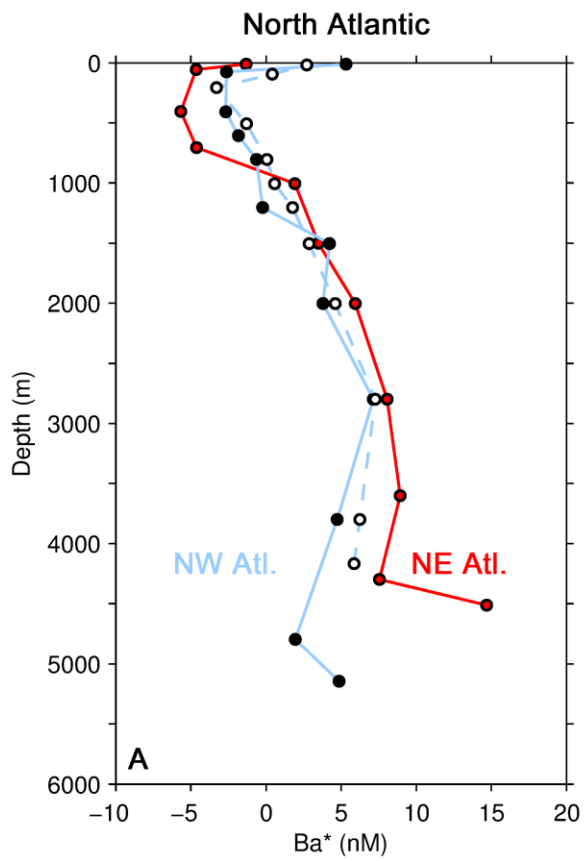
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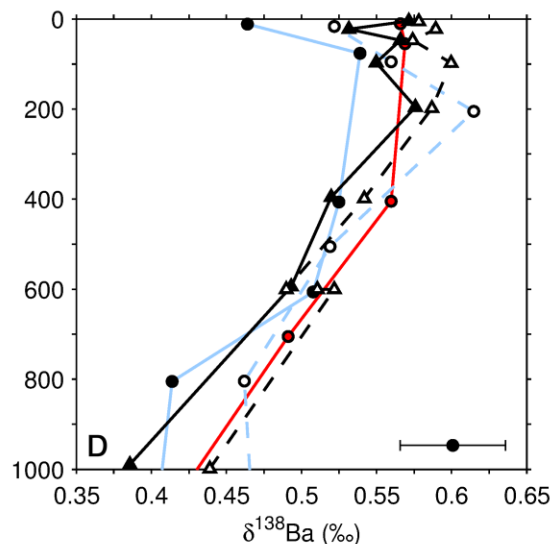
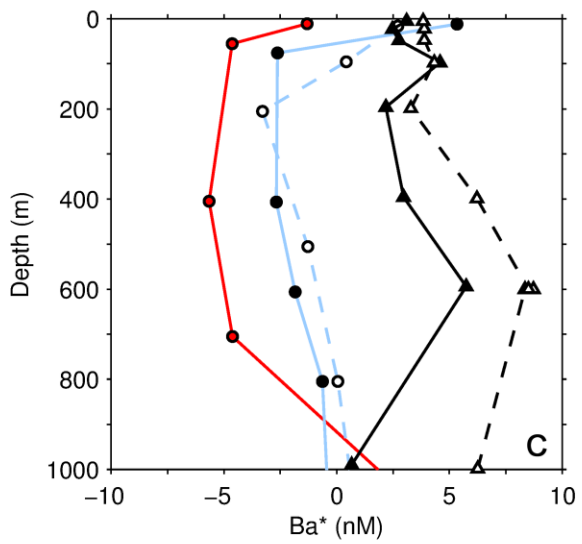
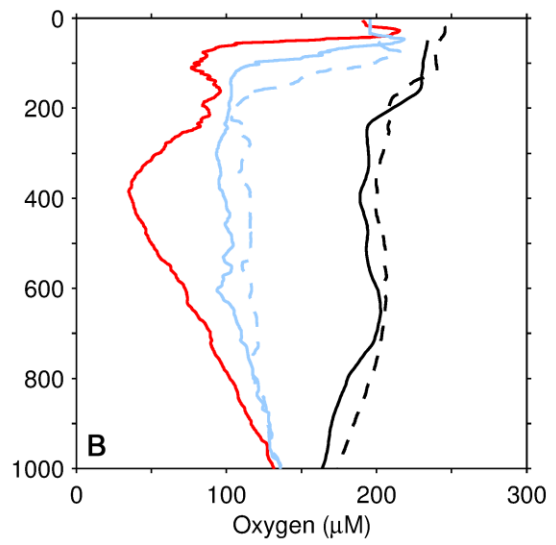
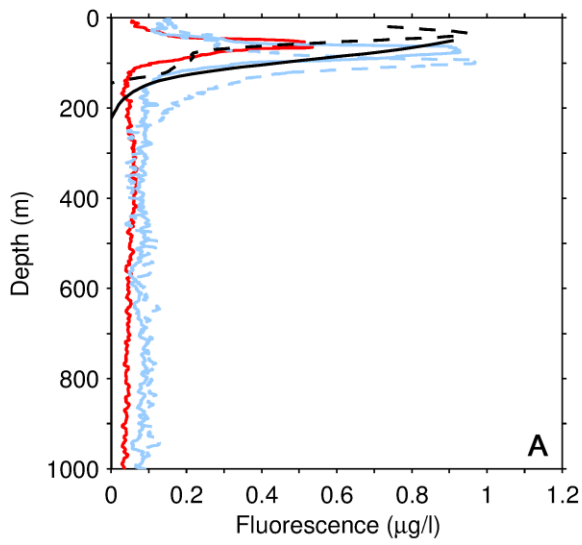
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Sensor data (A, B)

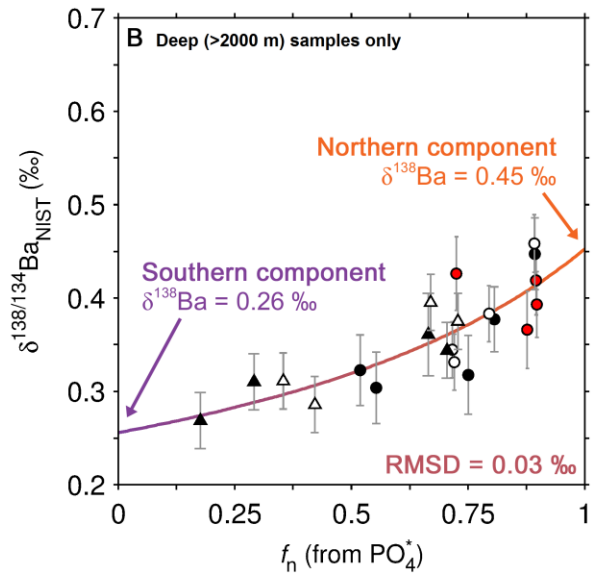
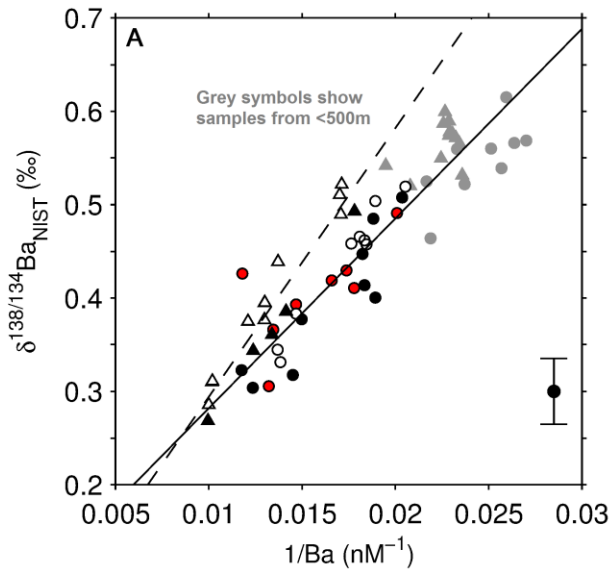
- NE (JC094 CTD2)
- NW (JC094 CTD5)
- - - NW (JC094 CTD6)
- SE (D357 CTD13)
- - - SE (D357 CTD25) (Horner et al., 2015)

Bottle data (C, D)

- NE (JC094 CTD2)
- NW (JC094 CTD5)
- NW (JC094 CTD6)
- ▲ SE (D357 CTD13)
- ▲ SE (D357 CTD25) (Horner et al., 2015)

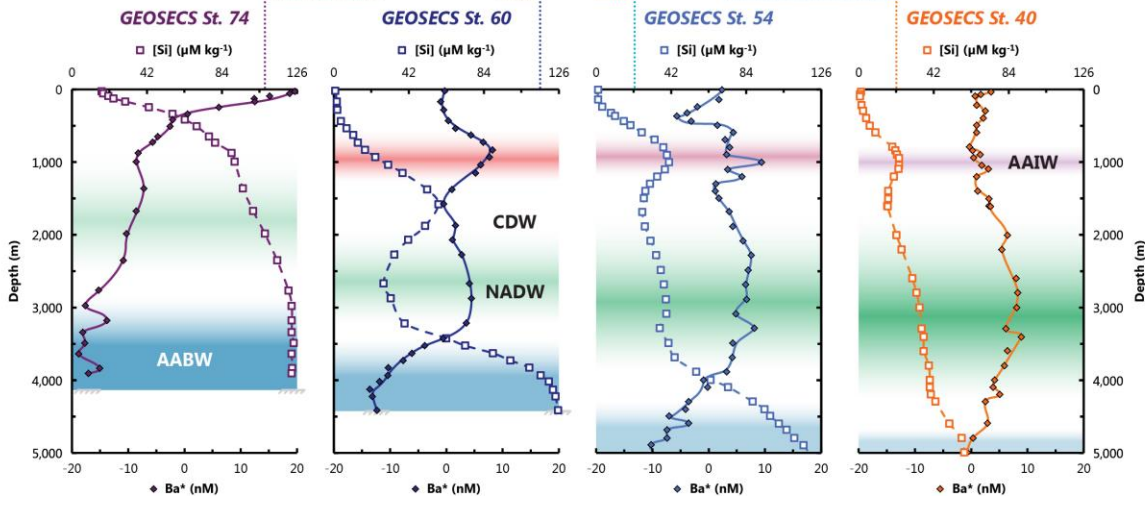
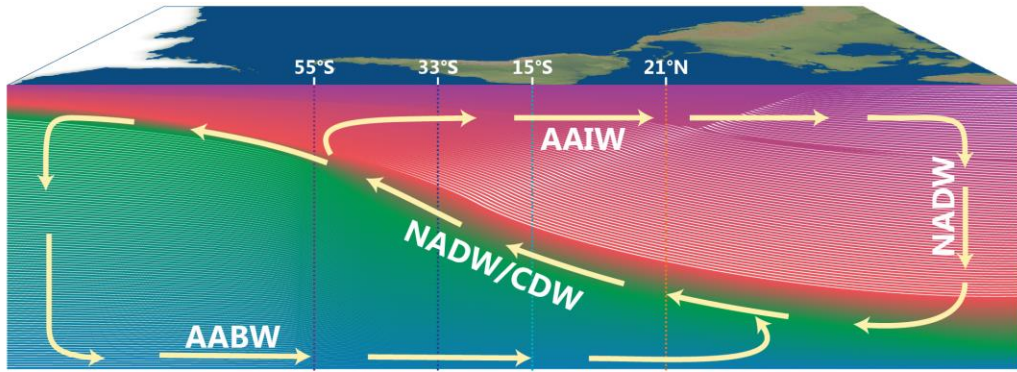
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