

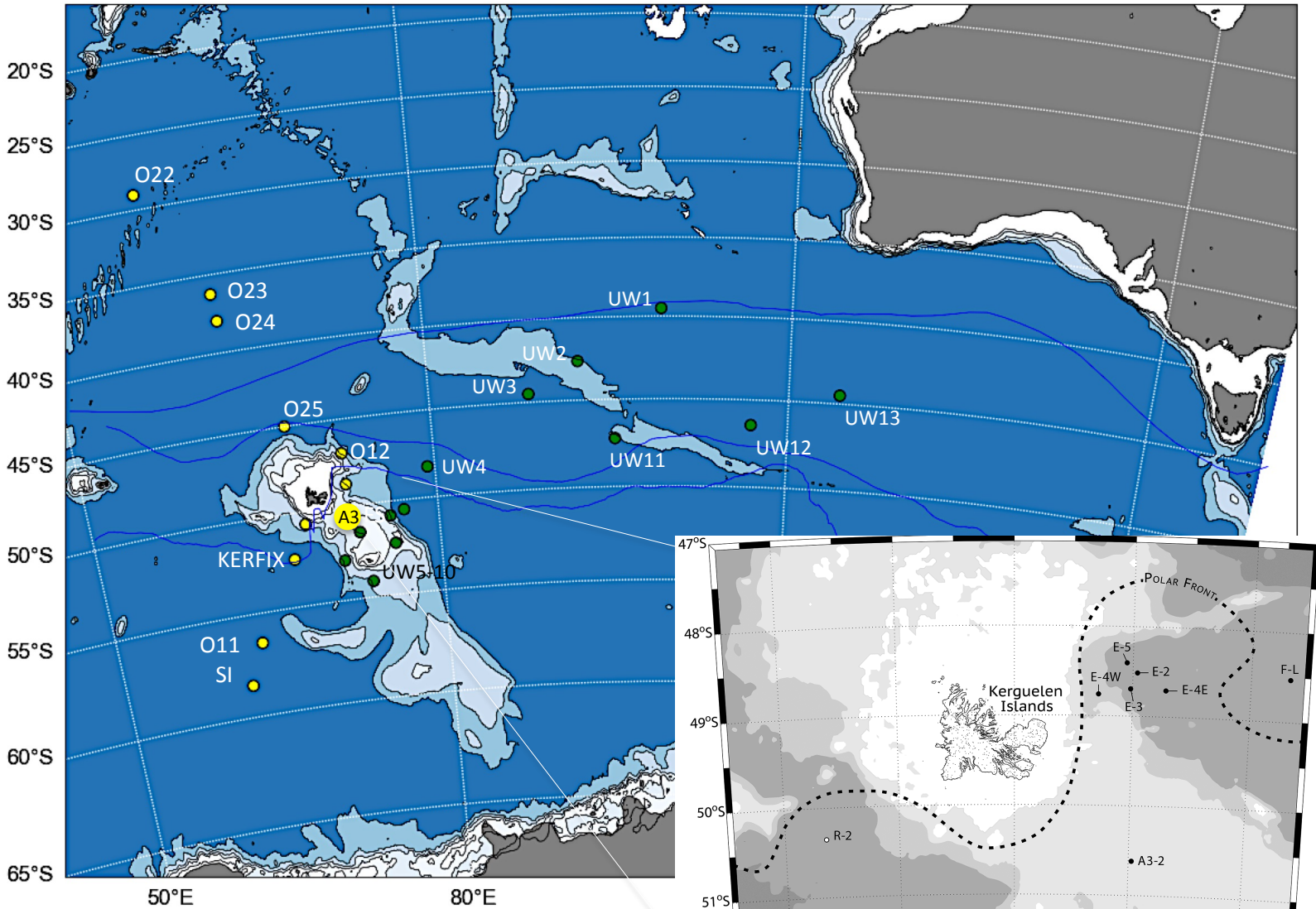
# Microbial abundance and activity

Audrey Guenegues, Pavla Debeljak, Matthieu  
Rembauville, Stéphane Blain – at sea  
Philippe Catala, Ingrid Obernosterer

# Overview of data on

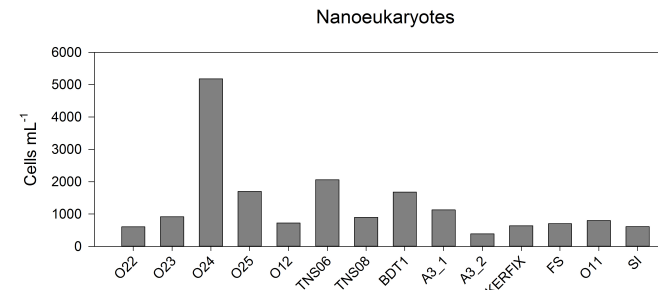
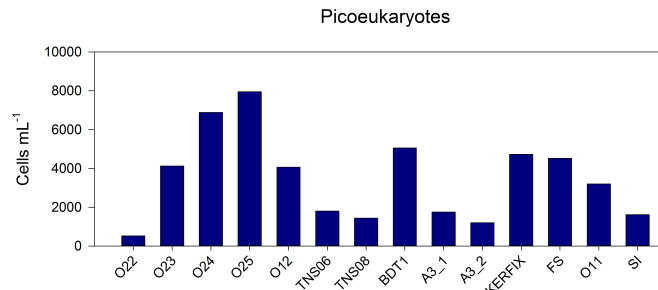
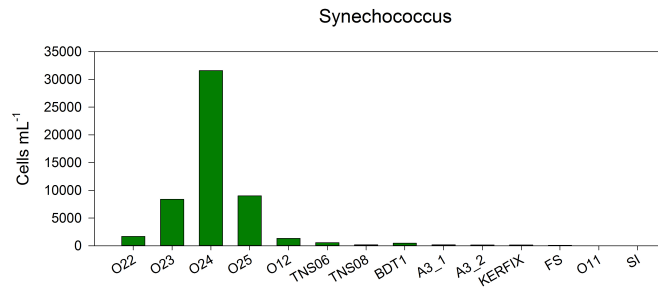
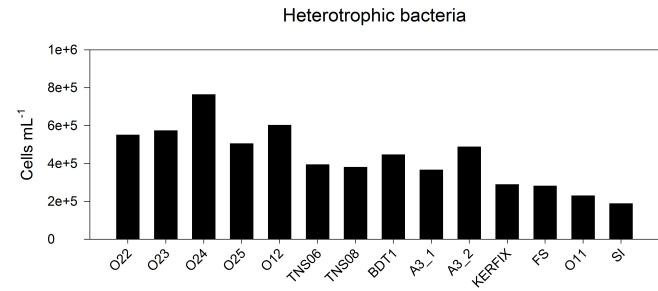
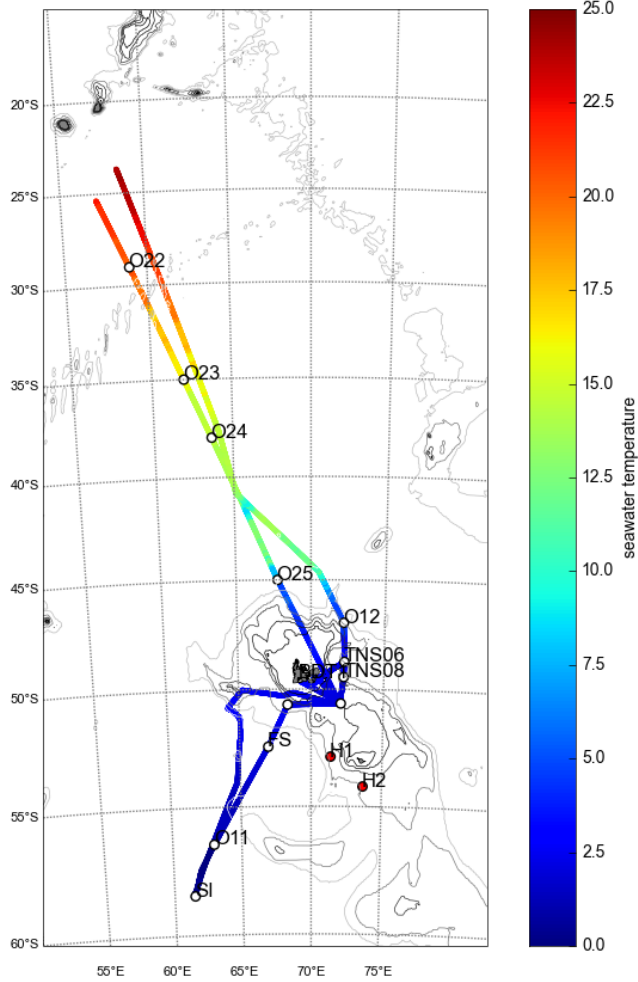
- Microbial abundance and biomass
- Microbial respiration
- Net and gross community production

# Study sites



October-November: SOCLIM, KEOPS2  
January-February: KEOPS1 and HEObI

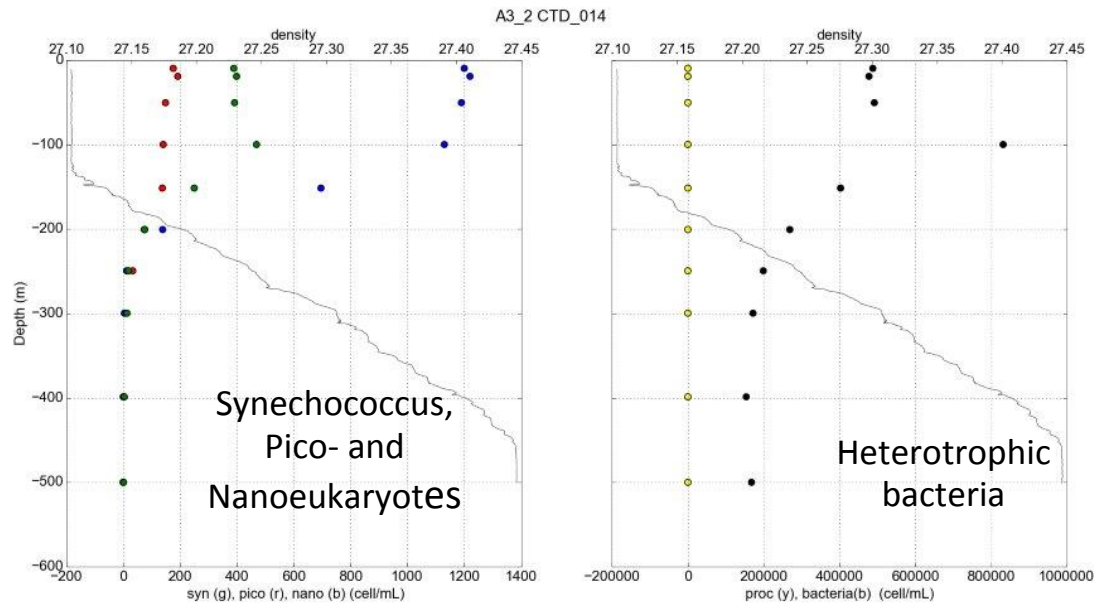
# Microbial abundances in surface waters



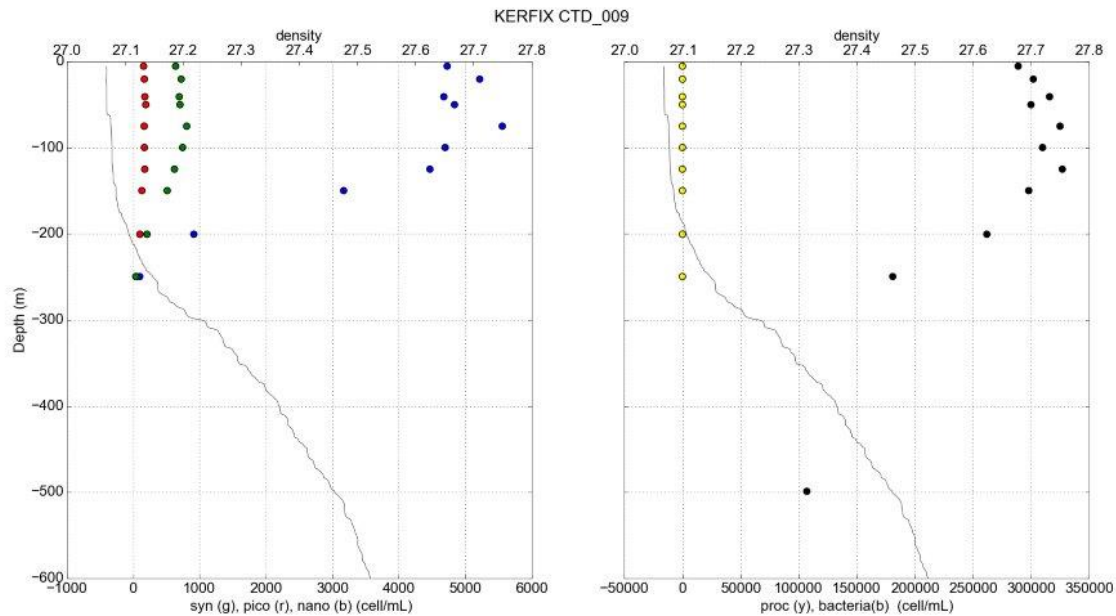
Pico: 0.2-2  $\mu\text{m}$   
 Nano: 2-20  $\mu\text{m}$

# Microbial abundance: vertical distribution

Station A3-2



Station KERFIX



# Composition of plankton carbon biomass

**Table 1:** Plankton groups considered in this study and their associated characteristics.

| Plankton group | Contains                   | Method             | Volume ( $\mu\text{m}^3$ ) | Carbon content (pgC)  |
|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bact           | Heterotrophic bacteria     | Cytometry          | 0.25 <sup>a</sup>          | 0.015 <sup>a</sup>    |
| Pico           | Prochlorococcus            |                    | 0.68 <sup>b</sup>          | 0.029 <sup>b</sup>    |
|                | Synechococcus              |                    | 0.86 <sup>b</sup>          | 0.080 <sup>b</sup>    |
|                | Picoeukaryotes             |                    | 2.76 <sup>b</sup>          | 0.73 <sup>b</sup>     |
| Nano           | Nanoplankton               |                    | 284 <sup>c</sup>           | 15 <sup>c</sup>       |
| Micro          | Diatom (55 groups)         | Optical microscopy | Shape-specific             | $C = 0.117V^{0.881d}$ |
|                | Dinoflagellate (14 groups) |                    | Shape-specific             | $C = 0.760V^{0.819d}$ |
|                | Ciliate (4 groups)         |                    | Shape-specific             | $C = 0.216V^{0.939d}$ |
|                | Silicoflagellate (1 group) |                    |                            | 3288                  |

Pico: 0.2-2  $\mu\text{m}$

Nano: 2-20  $\mu\text{m}$

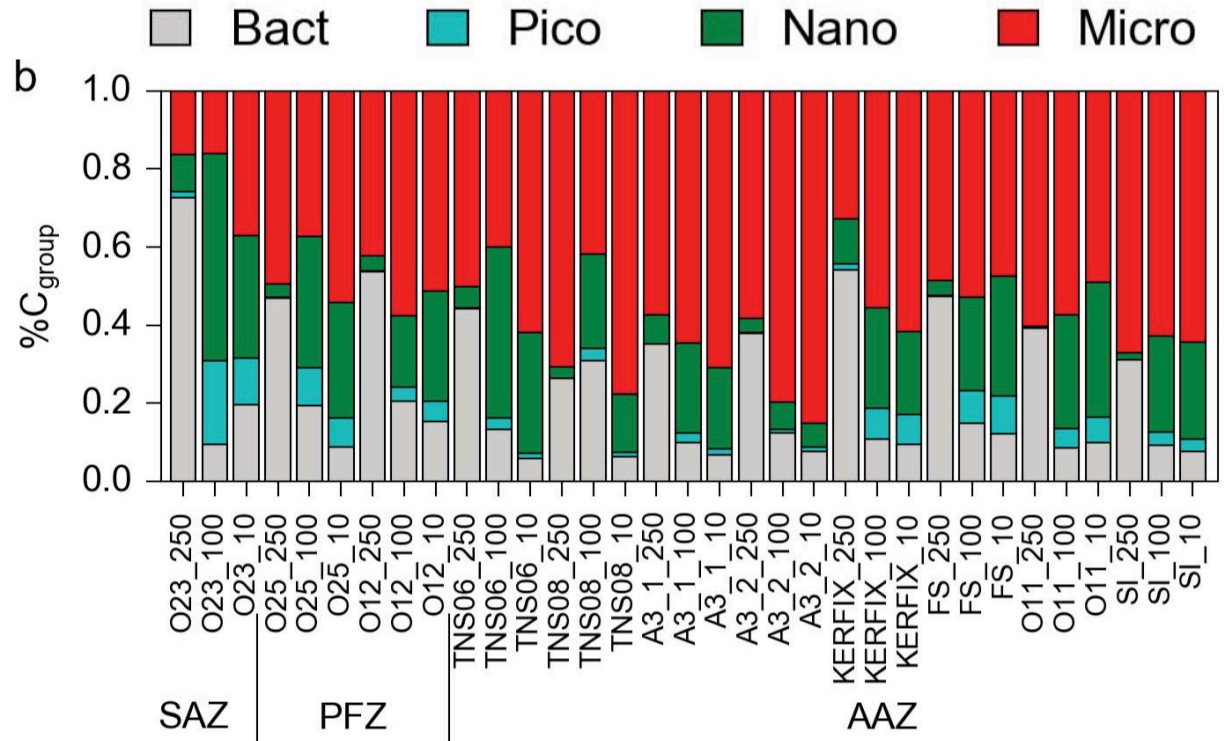
Micro: 20-200  $\mu\text{m}$

<sup>a</sup> Bratbak [1985]

<sup>b</sup> Grob et al. [2007]

<sup>c</sup> Verity et al. [1992]

<sup>d</sup> Menden-Deuer and Lessard [2000]



# Composition of plankton carbon biomass

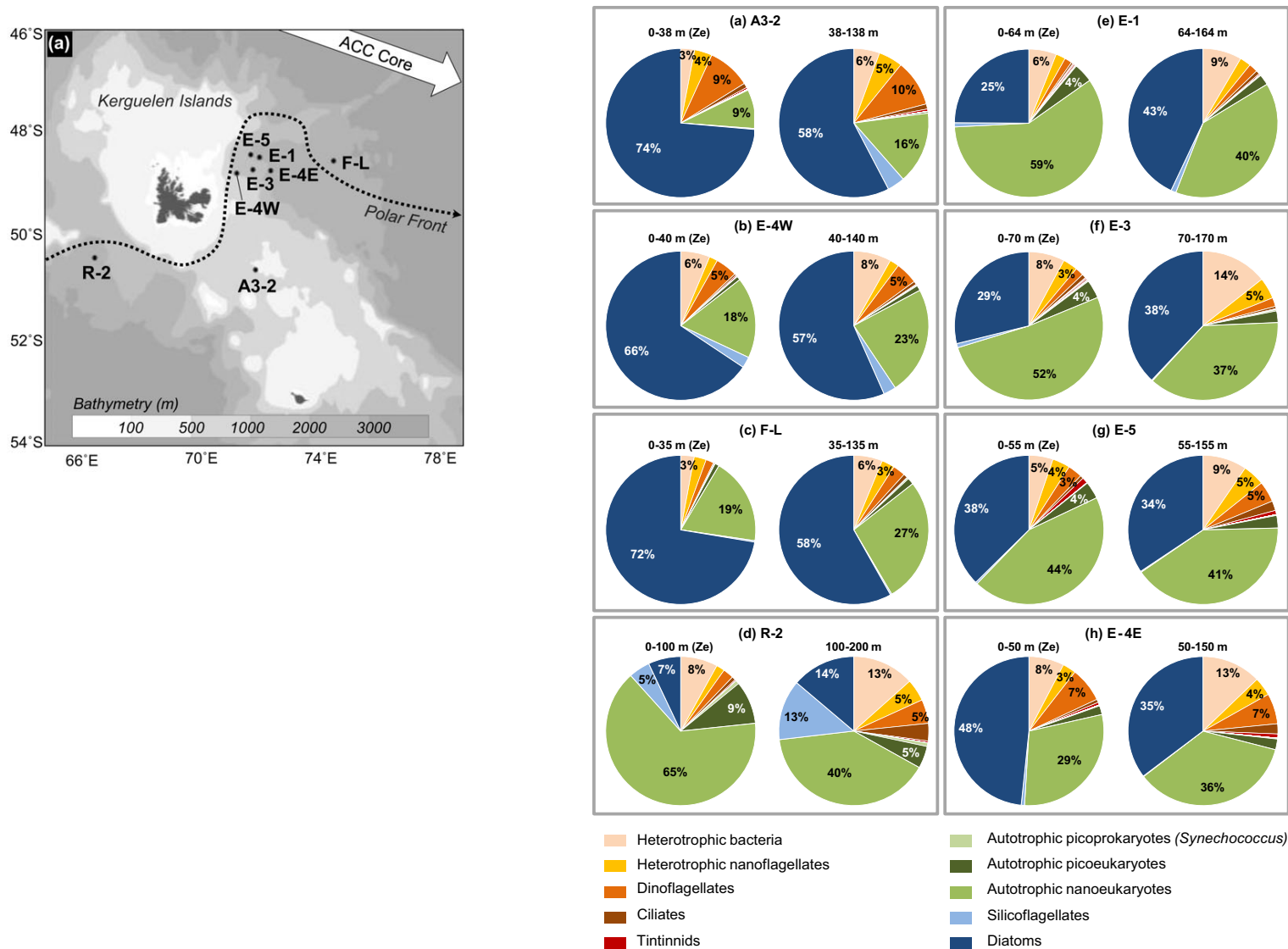
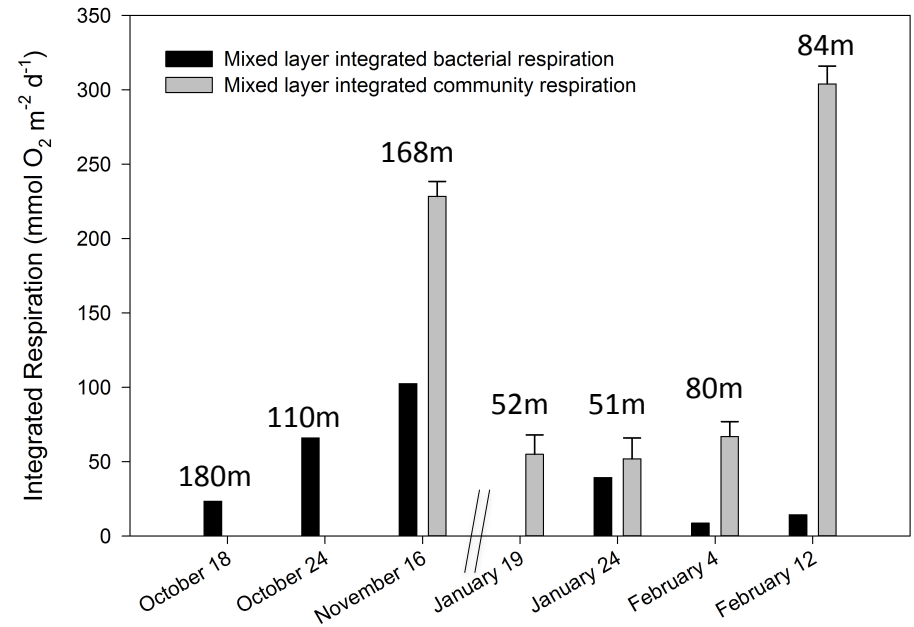
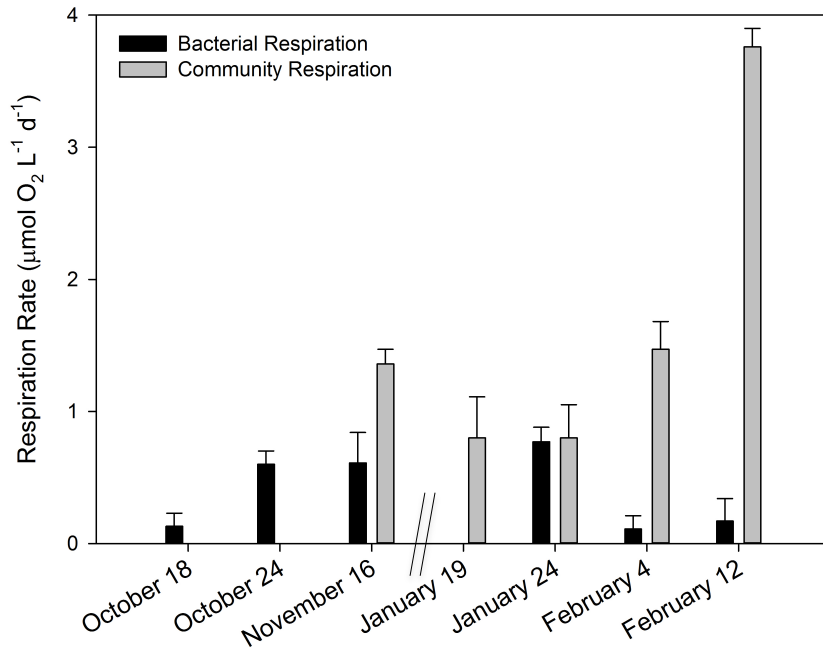


Figure 6. Relative contribution of each plankton group to carbon biomass (%) at the eight studied stations within the euphotic layer and the subeuphotic layer (defined as the layer extending 100 m below the euphotic depth, Ze). The color code ensures easy identification of autotrophic and heterotrophic organisms: blue-green colors are associated to autotrophic organisms while heterotrophic organisms are represented in red-orange.

# Microbial Respiration

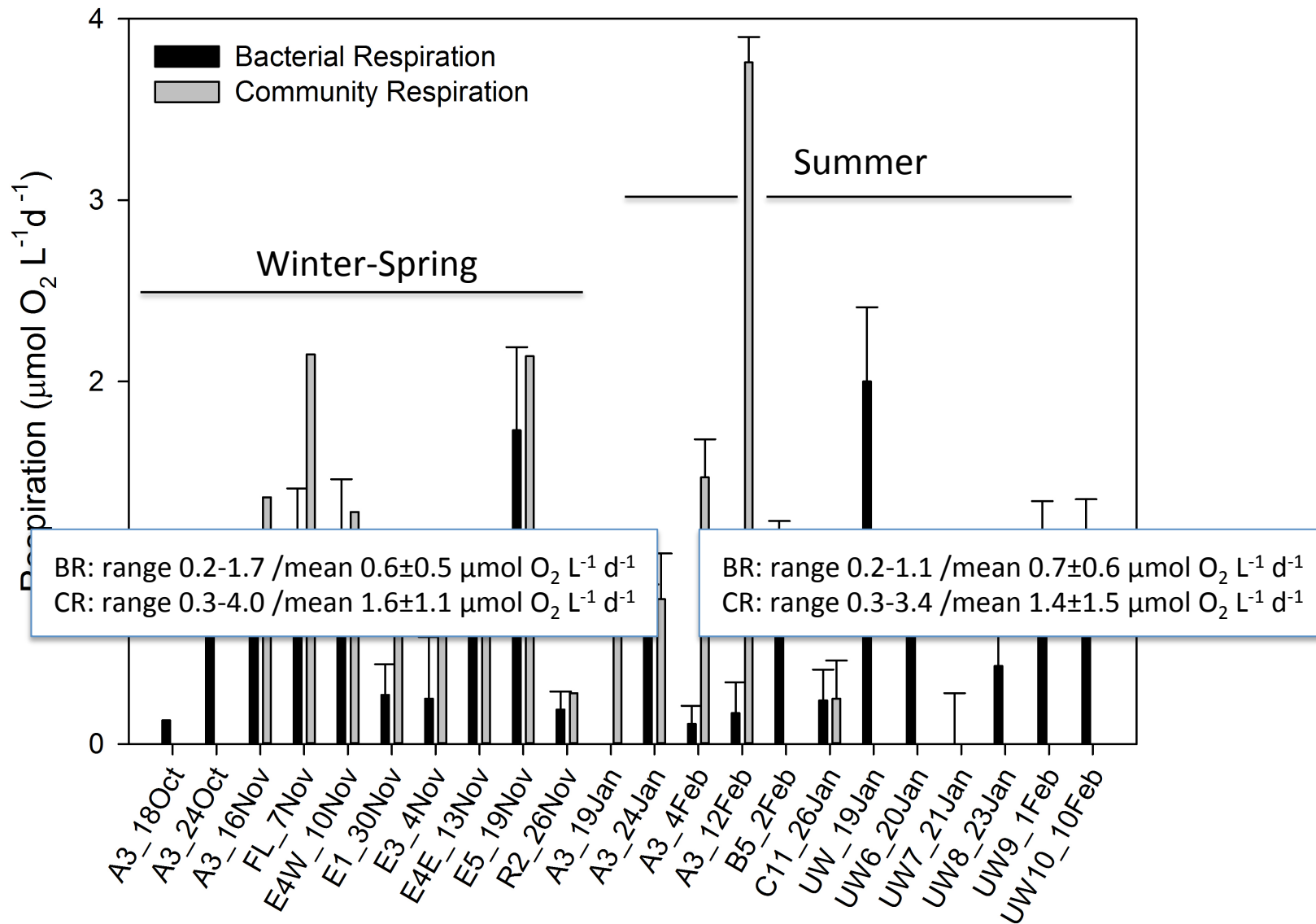
## Focus on station A3: Temporal variability



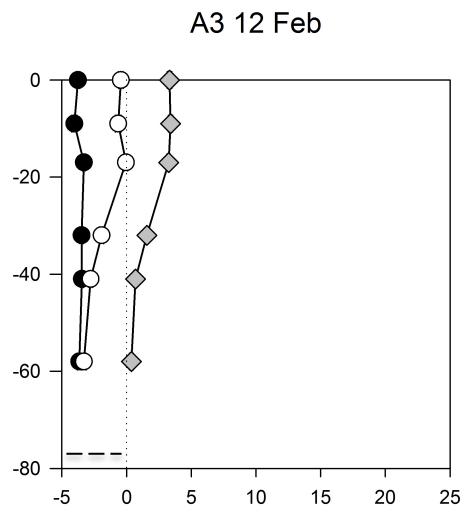
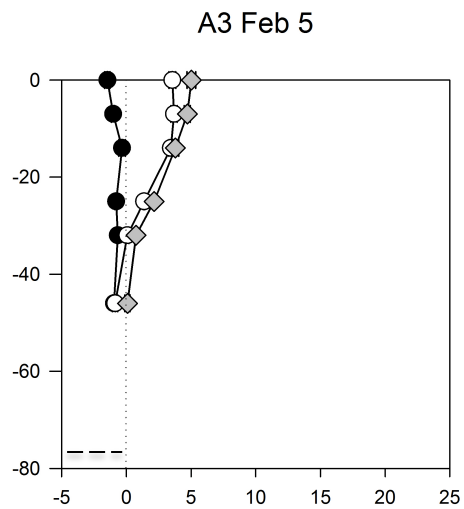
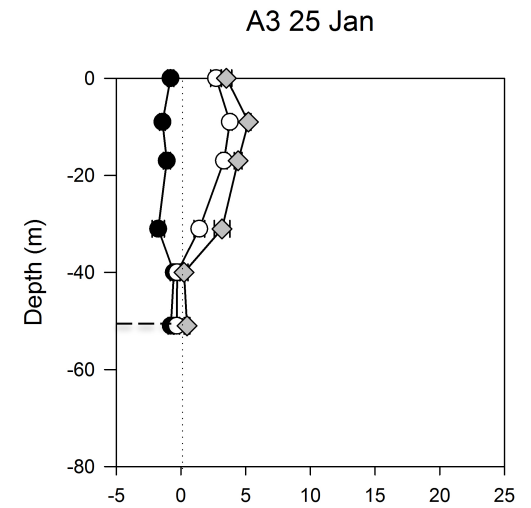
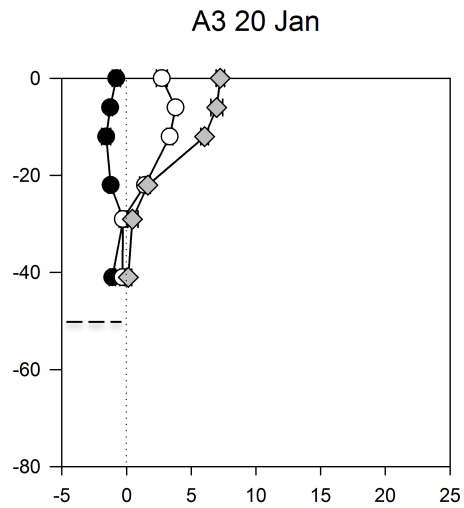
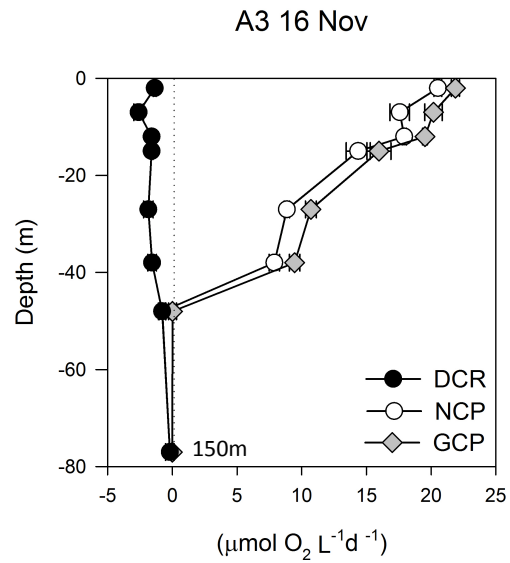
Bacterial respiration (< 0.8  $\mu\text{m}$  size fraction): range 0.2-0.8  $\mu\text{mol O}_2 \text{ L}^{-1} \text{ d}^{-1}$

Community respiration (< 50  $\mu\text{m}$  size fraction): range 0.8-3.8  $\mu\text{mol O}_2 \text{ L}^{-1} \text{ d}^{-1}$

## Spatial variability – PFZ and AAZ

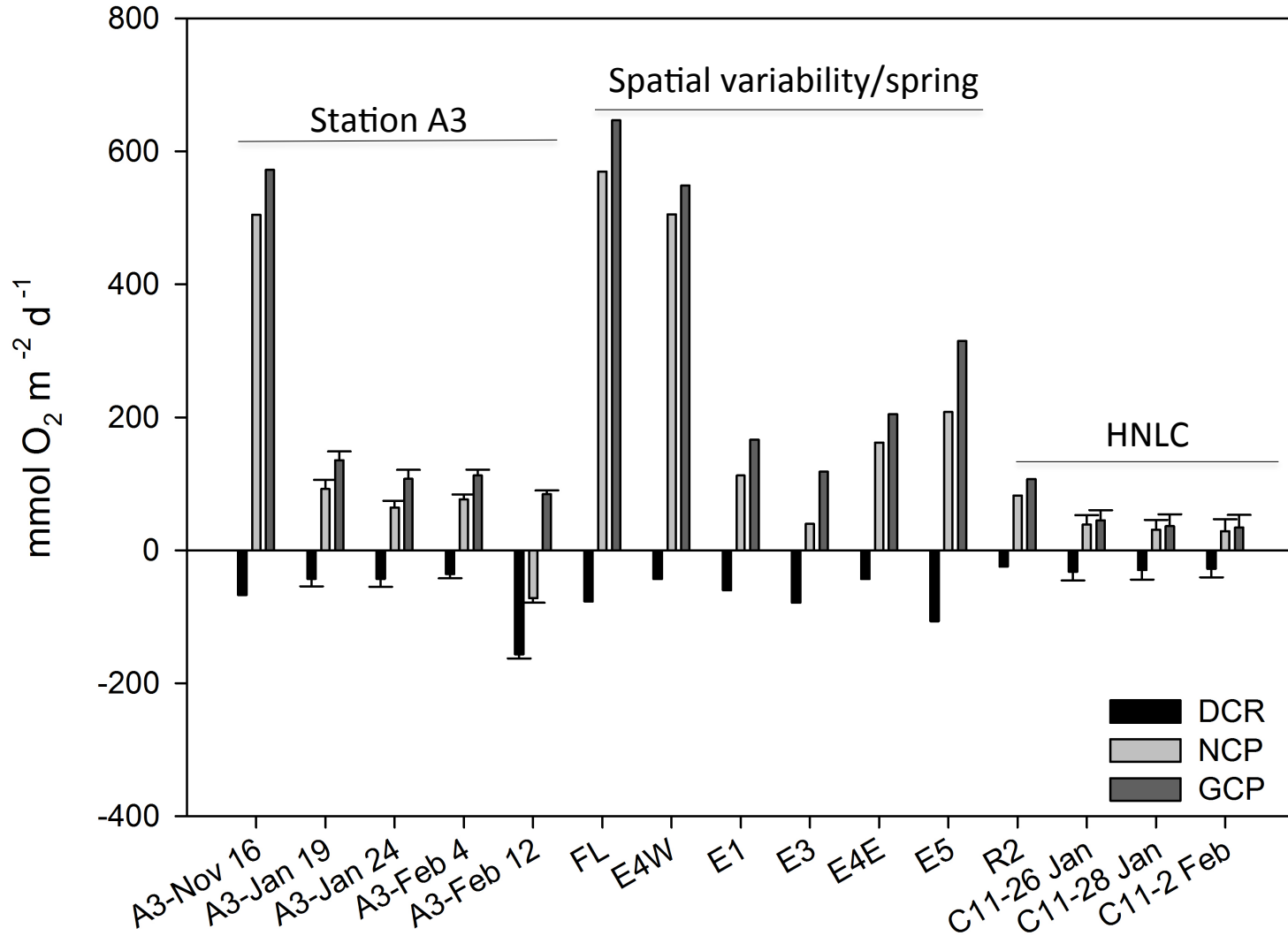


# Community respiration and net community production: Station A3



DCR: Dark community respiration  
 NCP: Net community production  
 GCP: Gross community production

# Euphotic zone integrated fluxes



## Photosynthetic and Respiratory Quotients

$$PQ = GCP(O_2) / GCP(TCO_2)$$

$$RQ = DCR(TCO_2) / DCR(O_2)$$

### January-February

Table 2

Photosynthetic (PQ) and respiratory quotients (RQ)

| Station | PQ ( $n = 6$ )  | RQ ( $n = 6$ )  |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A3-1    | $0.82 \pm 0.37$ | $1.29 \pm 0.85$ |
| A3-3    | $1.28 \pm 0.31$ | $0.89 \pm 0.61$ |
| A3-4    | $1.26 \pm 0.66$ | $0.83 \pm 0.42$ |
| A3-5    | $0.77 \pm 0.28$ | $1.03 \pm 0.18$ |

Mean values  $\pm$  SE are given.

Lefèvre et al. (2008)

### November

Station A3

PQ=4.12 $\pm$ 1.2

RQ=1.01 $\pm$ 0.67

Data KEOPS2, D. Lefèvre

# Summary

- Autotrophic and heterotrophic microbial abundance and biomass (0.2-200  $\mu\text{m}$ ) in the study region in spring and summer
- Community composition of prokaryotes and microplankton (samples for piconeukaryotes available)
- Microbial respiration and production measurements in the study region in spring and summer

# Gross Community Production, Net Community Production and Community Respiration at Station A3

