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Iron isotopes track the uptake and exchange of iron across an oxic shelf sea

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Aims

- To differentiate the (i) source inputs of Fe fluxes (ii) and effects of primary productivity on the shelf seasonally
- Track the transport of sediment-derived dFe off the shelf



Fe isotope biogeochemistry



Sampling



Site A – Pre bloom





N. Atlantic δ^{56} dFe range <200 m depth

Site A – Bloom/post bloom



- Pore water δ^{56} dFe ranges from -3 to -0.6 ‰ >85 % is soluble Fe (II)
- Bottom waters 72 % colloidal Fe δ^{56} dFe ranges from -0.5 to -0.2 ‰

Site A – Post Bloom





- Pore water δ^{56} dFe ranges from -3 to -0.6 ‰ >85 % is soluble Fe (II)
- Bottom waters 72 % colloidal δ^{56} dFe ranges from -0.6 to -0.3 ‰

Site A – Summary











• N. Atlantic data (grey) 35° W, 22° N, Conway & John (2014)

Shelf edge





• N. Atlantic data (grey) 35° W, 22° N, Conway & John (2014)

Shelf slope

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• N. Atlantic data (grey) 35° W, 22° N, Conway & John (2014)

Shelf slope

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• N. Atlantic data (grey) 35° W, 22° N, Conway & John (2014) shelf slope profile A. Birchill (2016)

Conclusions & Future work

- Bottom water Fe isotope signatures on the shelf are indicative of ligand stabilised pore water flux of Fe post bloom.
- Shift to isotopically lighter Fe throughout water column as bloom progresses and Fe flux increases.
- Shelf edge isotope compositions similar to N. Atlantic waters (so far), lighter isotope composition on shelf slope associated with (re-suspended) colloidal Fe mixed into overlying waters.
- Analysis of more shelf slope and shelf edge samples (incl. nepheloid layers) to complete depth profiles.

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