

## 1 **Supplementary Information**

### 3 **Materials and Methods**

#### 4 **Pump-CTD and nutrient measurements**

5 The pump-CTD system had an approximate water flow of  $1.5 \text{ l min}^{-1}$  in a FALMAT-hose  
6 cable with an outer diameter of 18 and an inner diameter of 6 mm. The pump tube was  
7 directed into the lab and split into a nutrient and a gas line. Measurements with custom-made  
8 STOX-sensors (Unisense, Denmark) revealed a background concentration of 25 nmol/l  
9 oxygen originating from the pump-CTD system. Pumping volume was constantly controlled  
10 via precision flow-through devices, and delay time between pump inlet and sample outlet was  
11 continuously calculated and converted to sampling depth. All samples were measured during  
12 lowering of the system with a speed of  $1 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$  (further details in the cruise report: DOI:  
13 10.2323/cr\_msm33). To construct depth profiles from successive casts, data were aligned  
14 according to density; for all these profiles the depths showing the respective densities during  
15 the first cast were used.

16  
17 For continuous nutrient measurements in the outflow of the pump-CTD, the auto-analyzer  
18 was connected to the water outlet of the pump-CTD system. The injection syringe of the auto-  
19 sampler dipped directly into the core pool of the outflowing water and thereby avoided any  
20 contact of the samples with laboratory air prior to analysis. This procedure considerably  
21 reduced contamination, particularly of ammonium. Sampling time was set to 26 s and  
22 washing time to 7 s. As the lowering speed of the pump-CTD was set to 1 cm/s, the vertical  
23 resolution of sampling was 33 cm throughout the observed water column, of which 26 cm  
24 were included in successive analytical pulses and thereby integrated, and 7 cm were lost due  
25 to rinsing and blank measurements between the injections.

27 **Nucleic acid extractions**

28 For metagenome analysis 6 l of water were filtered on Sterivex-GV 0.22  $\mu\text{m}$ , PVDF. DNA  
29 from frozen Sterivex-filters was extracted using a QIAmp DNA Mini kit (Qiagen, Hilden,  
30 Germany) after removing the filter from the plastic support. For physical cell disruption, the  
31 filter pieces were added to a tube containing lysis buffer and low-binding zirconium beads  
32 (200  $\mu\text{m}$ , OPS diagnostics, Lebanon, NJ, USA) and vortexed for 5 min before proceeding  
33 with the manufacturer's instructions. The extracted DNA was sent for library preparation  
34 (BS80: Illumina TruSeq PCR free library; BS90, BS102, BS115: Rubicon ThruPLEX library  
35 prep) and Illumina HiSeq sequencing to the SciLife Lab (Stockholm, Sweden). For  
36 metatranscriptomic analyses from six selected depths, 1.5 l of fixed water samples from the  
37 AFIS system were filtered on 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  polycarbonate filter and stored at  $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ . RNA from  
38 frozen filters was extracted as described elsewhere (1). For downstream absolute  
39 quantification of RNA transcripts, standards were added to the lysis buffer before the start of  
40 RNA extraction (2). Due to a lysis buffer spill during the extraction of the sample from 111 m  
41 water depth, absolute transcript numbers will be slightly overestimated in this sample. DNA  
42 leftovers in the RNA extracts were removed using a Turbo DNA-free Kit (Thermo-Fisher  
43 Scientific, Waltham, MA USA) and subsequently concentrated and purified using the RNA  
44 Clean & Concentrator™-5 Kit (Zymo Research, Irvine, CA, USA). Because positive PCR  
45 amplifications with the 16S rRNA specific primers Com1f/Comr2r-Ph (3) indicated the  
46 presence of DNA traces in the RNA extracts, DNase digestion and subsequent purification  
47 was repeated as described above. The purified RNA was sent to Fasteris (Plan-les-Ouates,  
48 Switzerland) for Illumina-HiSeq sequencing after rRNA depletion with the RiboZero kit for  
49 bacteria (Epicentre, Madison, WI, USA). Library preparation for single reads was performed  
50 using the TruSeq stranded mRNA kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA).

51

52

### 53 **Bioinformatic processing of Illumina sequence data**

54 Paired Illumina reads from 4 individual metagenome libraries were screened for rRNA-reads  
55 using SortMeRNA 1.9 on the default rRNA-databases provided by the program. Remaining  
56 non-rRNA-reads were adaptor-clipped using mira 4.0.2 (4) and quality clipped using sickle  
57 1.33 (default settings) (5). Remaining intact read pairs from all four libraries were combined  
58 and assembled using idba\_ud 1.1.1 (--mink 25 --maxk 97 --step 18) (6). Contigs shorter than  
59 200 nt were discarded. Gene calling was performed using Prodigal's meta-procedure (v2.6.1)  
60 (7). CDSs from the Prodigal output were functionally and taxonomically annotated using  
61 NCBI's blastp (8) against KEGG and NCBI's NR. Genes of special interest were identified  
62 using IHAT as described by Temperton et al. (2011) (9). Single-end metatranscriptome reads  
63 were also adaptor- and quality clipped as described above and mapped onto the previously  
64 generated metagenome using bowtie2 2.2.4 (10) with the very-sensitive settings. Mapped  
65 reads were summarized using featureCounts 1.4.6 (11), requiring a minimum of 20  
66 overlapped bases to assign a read to a feature. The number of reads coding for internal  
67 standards of the metatranscriptome data were determined in every sample by a LAST search  
68 (12) of the non-protein coding reads against a database containing sequence information of  
69 the internal standards as well as representative rRNA and tRNA sequences (cutoff score:  
70 500). The number of transcripts  $l^{-1}$  for Ppk1, Ppk2 and Ppx was estimated as detailed in  
71 Satinsky et al. (2013) (2). In short, knowledge of the sequence of internal standards and the  
72 exact amount of ng internal standard RNA added allowed us to calculate the number of RNA  
73 internal standard molecules that were added to each RNA extractions. The recovery rate of  
74 the standard molecules in the sequencing data reads can be used to estimate fraction of RNA  
75 molecules in the sample that were sequenced and deduce from this value the absolute number  
76 of transcripts that were in the filtered water volume.

77

78 **Analysis of bacterial community composition, probe design and catalysed reporter**  
79 **deposition-fluorescence in situ hybridization**

80 Of the Phenol/Chloroform extracted DNA/RNA mixture, DNA was digested using the Turbo  
81 DNA free kit (Ambion). The RNA was transcribed in cDNA utilizing the iScript Select  
82 cDNA synthesis kit (Bio-Rad Laboratories GmbH; Munich, Germany). After 16S rRNA gene  
83 amplification the amplicons were purified using Agencourt© AMPure® XP (Becker Coulter)  
84 and sent for sequencing. The resulting sequences were analyzed using SILVA\_NGS  
85 (Glöckner et al., 2017) with the settings Min. Align. Identity: 50%; Min. Align. Score: 40;  
86 Min. Sequence Quality 30%; Min Length: 200, Max Ambiguties: 2%, Min OTU Identity:  
87 97%, Min. Smilarity: 93%. SILVA NGS performs additional quality checks according to the  
88 SINA-based alignments (Pruesse et al., 2012) with a curated seed database in which PCR  
89 artifacts or non-SSU reads are excluded. The longest read serves as a reference for the  
90 taxonomic classification in a BLAST (version 2.2.28+) search against the SILVA SSURef  
91 dataset. The classification of the reference sequence of a cluster (97% sequence identity) is  
92 then mapped to all members of the respective cluster and to their replicates. Best BLAST hits  
93 were only accepted if they had a  $(\text{sequence identity} + \text{alignment coverage})/2 \geq 93$  or  
94 otherwise defined as unclassified.

95

96 CARD-FISH was carried out using the horseradish-peroxidase-labeled probe MaCo983. The  
97 competitor probe MaCo983 without horseradish-peroxidase label was applied in parallel. For  
98 signal amplification, tyramide labeled with the fluorescent dye carboxyfluoresceine was  
99 incubated for 30 min at 37 °C. The filters were embedded in a Citifluor/Vetashield mix (5: 1)  
100 containing 4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole ( $1 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  final concentration). Images were  
101 acquired using a  $100\times$  Plan-Apochromat objective (Zeiss) and the Zeiss multi-band filter set  
102 62HE.

103

## 104 **Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and energy dispersive x-ray micro analysis (EDX)**

105 Suspended particulate matter in 1 l seawater samples taken from the CTD rosette bottle was  
106 filtered on 0.4  $\mu\text{m}$  polycarbonate filters (Millipore) and rinsed with 50 ml purified water to  
107 remove salt. After drying at 40  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 48 h, the filters were covered (vacuum sputter) with  
108 elemental carbon for electrical conductivity. Analysis of carbon in these samples is thus not  
109 possible, but this technique is optimal for analyzing all other elements. The identification of  
110 minerals after automated particle element analyses is based on boundary values of  
111 characteristic elements. These boundary values were defined by analyses of standard minerals  
112 and adjusted by analyses of samples with known mineral composition. However, besides the  
113 additional information about the detected minerals or particle groups, the whole data set for  
114 each sample was analyzed with a statistic software (xls; DataDesk) to verify the detected  
115 clusters of particles in a "multi element space". Using this method, we were able to  
116 characterize the general mineral and particle group composition of the samples and to search  
117 for P in different binding forms.

118

## 119 **Modeling**

120 In our modeling approach the differential equation for diffusive transport (Fick's second law):

$$121 \quad (1) \quad \delta c / \delta t = D \cdot \delta^2 c / \delta x^2$$

122 (D = diffusion coefficient,  $c$  = concentration,  $t$  = time;  $x$  = distance-coordinate), is solved by  
123 using the explicit numerical solution:

$$124 \quad (2) \quad C_{PO_4(x,t+\Delta t)} = C_{PO_4(x,t)} + \Delta t \cdot D_x \cdot (C_{PO_4(x+\Delta x,t)} - 2 \cdot C_{PO_4(x,t)} + C_{PO_4(x-\Delta x,t)}) / \Delta x^2 + \Delta t \cdot Prod_x$$

125 where  $C_{PO_4}$  is the concentration of phosphate at a given place  $x$  and time  $t$ ,  $D_x$  is the diapycnal  
126 diffusivity at the depth  $x$ , as determined by Gregg and Yakushev (13),  $x$  is the depth and  $Prod_x$   
127 is a change of concentration at a given depth per time step, caused by the release of phosphate  
128 from the particulate phosphorus pool, or visa versa a negative release is an incorporation into  
129 the particulate phosphorus pool. When the calculation of all concentrations of a time step is

130 completed, the next time step starts with the final concentrations of the preceding time step.  
131 By this approach, the concentration of phosphate with depth is calculated in cell E12-E172 for  
132 depths between 80 and 120 m (cell C12-C172) with a  $\Delta x$  of 0.25 m (cell B12). Under starting  
133 conditions (cell F12-F172), when the model is reset with the switch in cell B10, phosphate  
134 increases linearly with depth. This starting condition is without influence on the  
135 concentrations in a final steady state. Only the concentration of the first cell (E12) and the  
136 rates with which phosphate is released from the particulate pool or incorporated into it (cells  
137 G12-G172) determine the final phosphate concentration. These latter rates were manually  
138 adjusted until they resulted, under steady state, in a profile similar to the measured one.  
139 Steady state is reached after approximately 3 years (cell B26).

140 The modelled concentrations of particulate phosphorus originate only from the fluxes into and  
141 out of the dissolved pool. These fluxes are adjusted to produce the same shape of the  
142 phosphate profile as observed in nature. According to the depth-dependent rates  $Prod_x$ , with  
143 which phosphate is released from or incorporated into the particulate pool (cells G12-G172),  
144 the concentration of  $PartP$  (cells H12-H172) changes with each time step, which is expressed  
145 by:

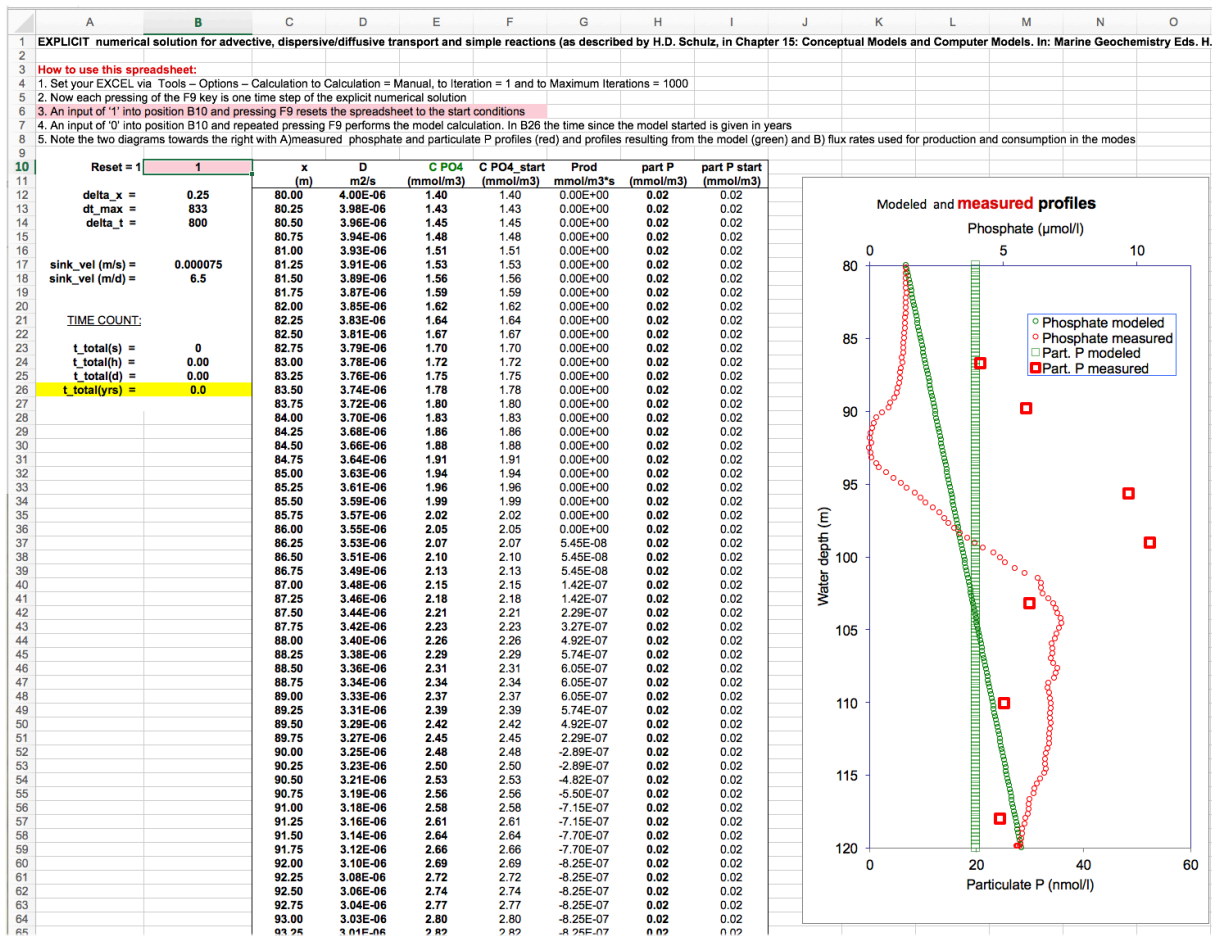
$$146 \quad (3) \quad PartP_{(x,t+\Delta t)} = PartP_{(x,t)} - \Delta t \cdot Prod_{(x)}$$

147

148

149

150 Screenshot of the model after reset:



151

152 When the model is reset to time zero (as explained in the head of the spreadsheet) the

153 particulate phosphorus pool *PartP* is set to a concentration of 20 nmol l<sup>-1</sup> at all depths, which

154 is the concentration measured directly above the suboxic zone. Over time the transport of

155 phosphorus from the dissolved into the particulate pool alone, without a removal of

156 particulate phosphorus, would result in *PartP* concentrations orders of magnitude higher than

157 observed in nature. Therefore, the model contains a function, which removes particulate

158 phosphorus by sinking of particles. For this, a certain amount of *PartP* in each cell on H12-

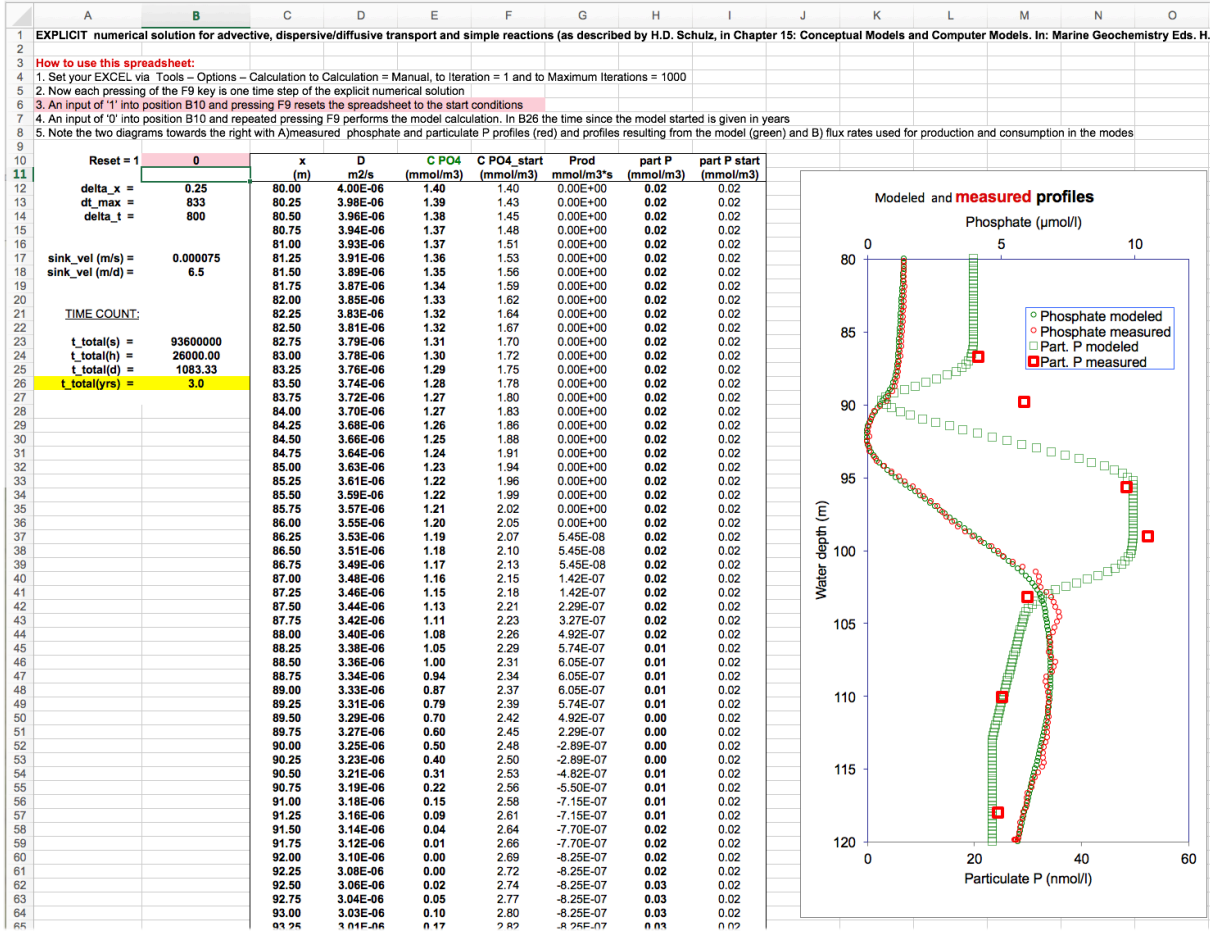
159 H172 is moved to the cell below with a sinking velocity, *sinkvel* (entered in cell B17 in m s<sup>-1</sup>)

160 by adding the term:

161 (4)  $+ (PartP_{(x-\Delta x,t)} \cdot sinkvel \cdot \Delta t / \Delta x - PartP_{(x,t)} \cdot sinkvel \cdot \Delta t / \Delta x$

162 The sinking velocity in the model was adjusted to result in similar particulate phosphorus  
 163 levels as observed in nature.

164 **Screenshot of the model at steady state after 3 years:**



165

166

167 In this overall approach, the dissolved phosphate concentrations, which we measured  
 168 accurately and with high vertical resolution, is the starting point of the model and the  
 169 modelled values follow closely the measured concentrations. The modelled values for  
 170 particulate phosphorus, which we determined with much lower resolution and accuracy, only  
 171 roughly represent the measured concentrations. Principally, this problem could be addressed,  
 172 e.g., by applying changing sinking velocities with depth, but unless more precise data on the  
 173 distribution of particulate phosphorus are available, this would not improve our overall  
 174 understanding of the system.

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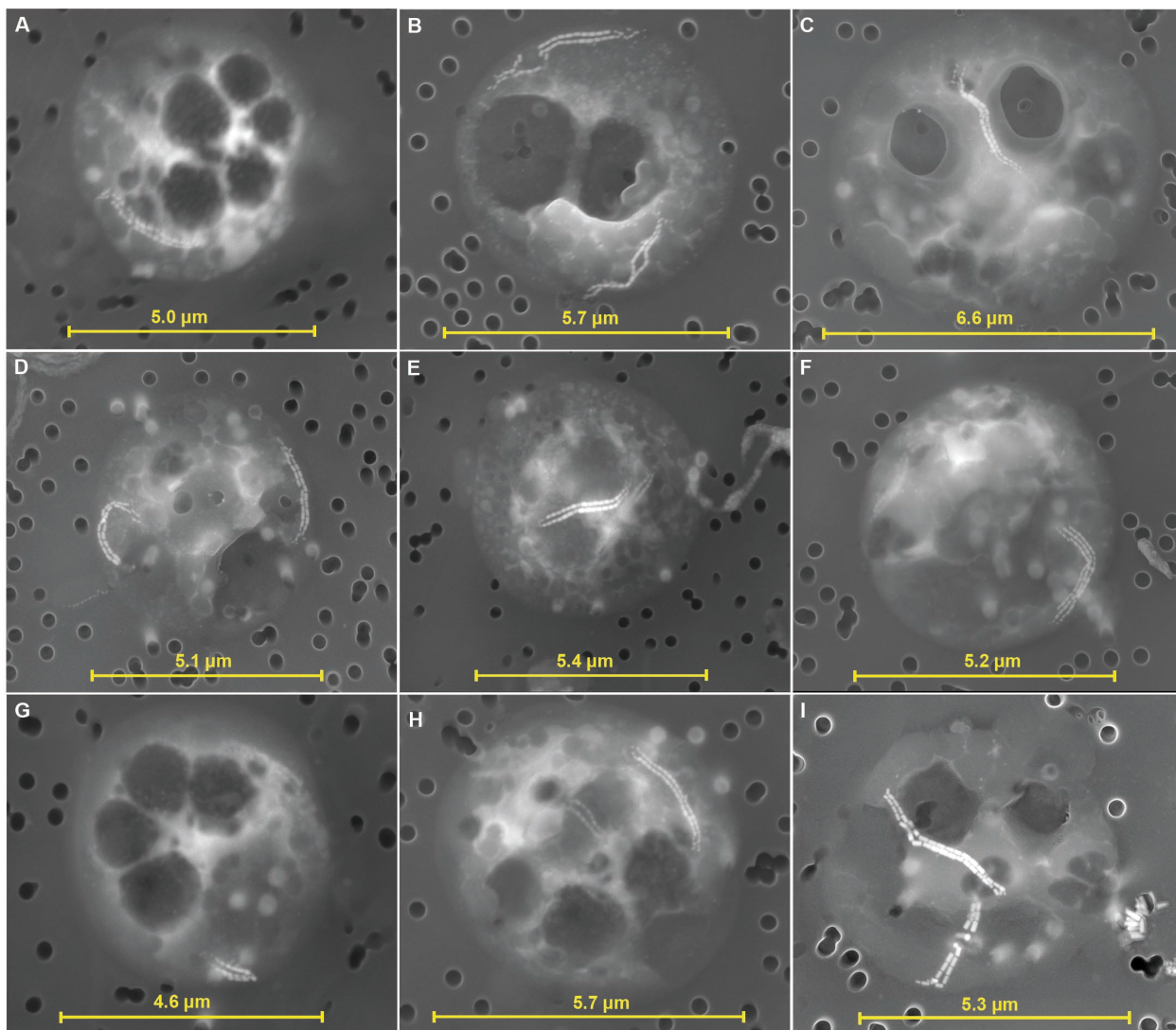


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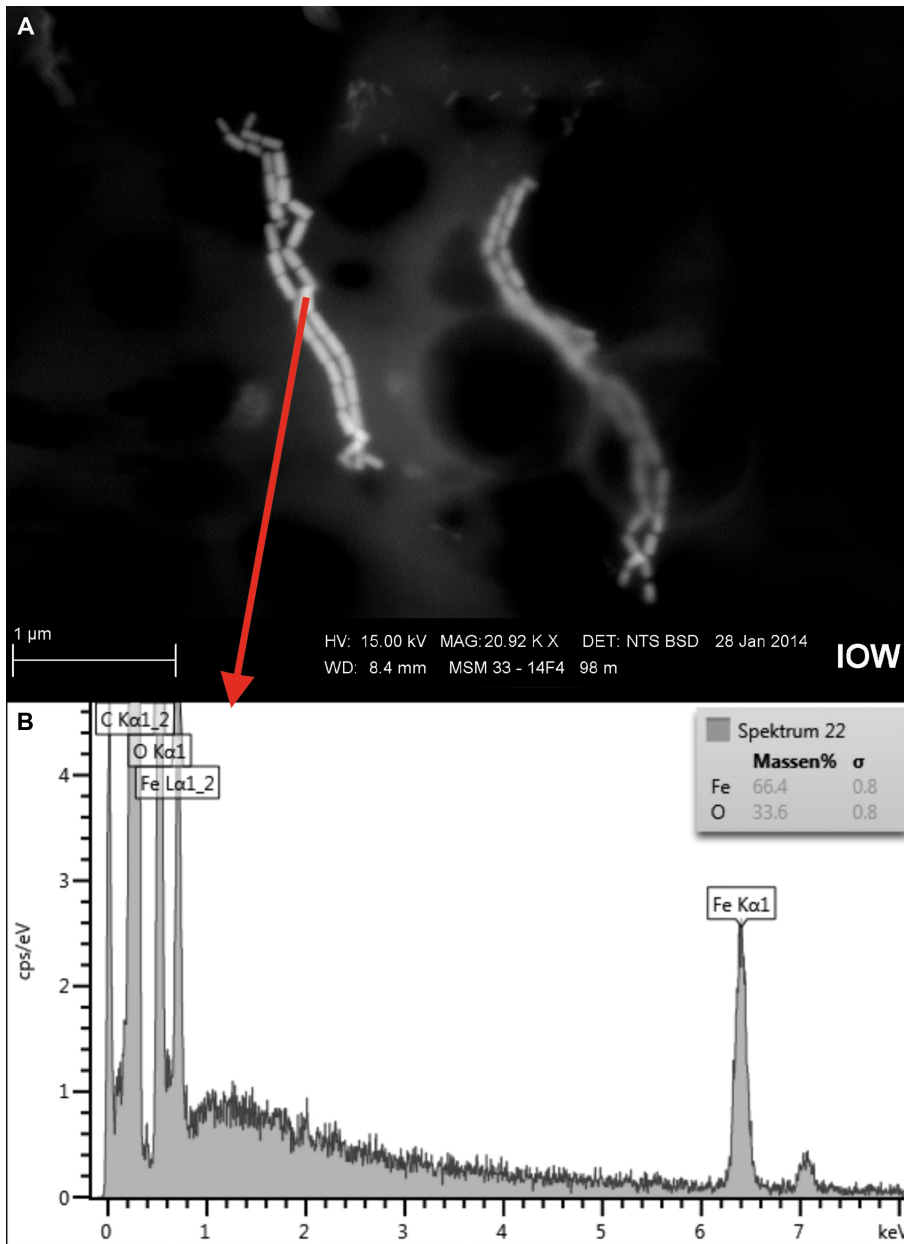
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- 211

212 **Figure 1**  
213 Further examples for phosphorus rich particles with chains of magnetite from the suboxic  
214 zone of the Black Sea. The approximate diameter of the spherical cells (4.6 - 6.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ) are  
215 given below.  
216



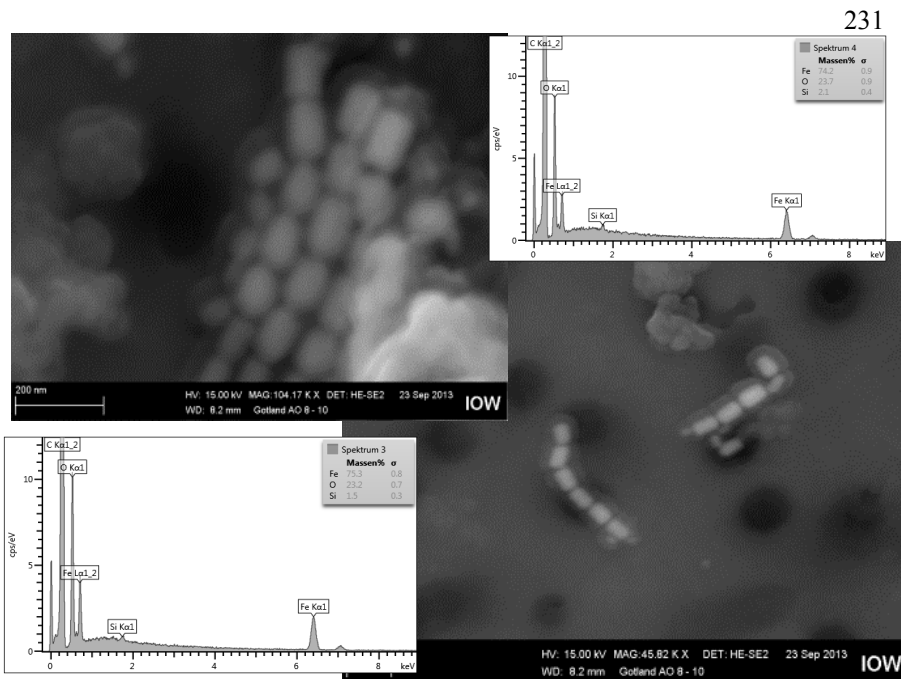
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220 **Figure 2**  
 221 Identification of magnetosomes from the suboxic zone of the Black Sea by EDX analysis. (A)  
 222 A chain of magnetosomes within a cell. (B) Spectrum of a magnetite crystal showing the high  
 223 iron content.  
 224



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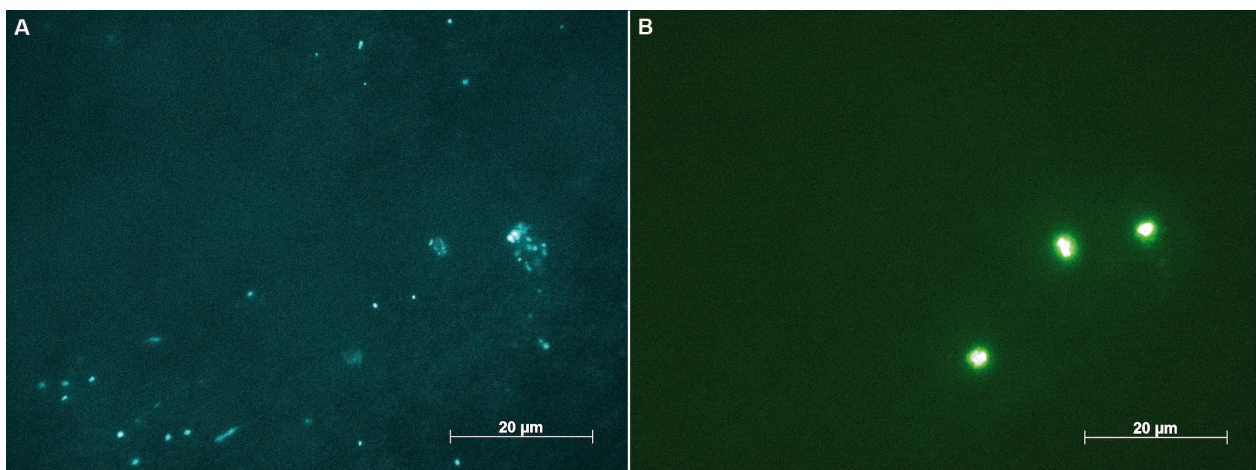
228 **Figure 3**  
 229 Chains of magnetites detected in sediment traps from the redoxcline in the Gotland Basin of  
 230 the Baltic Sea. Similar chains were also observed in samples taken from the redoxcline.



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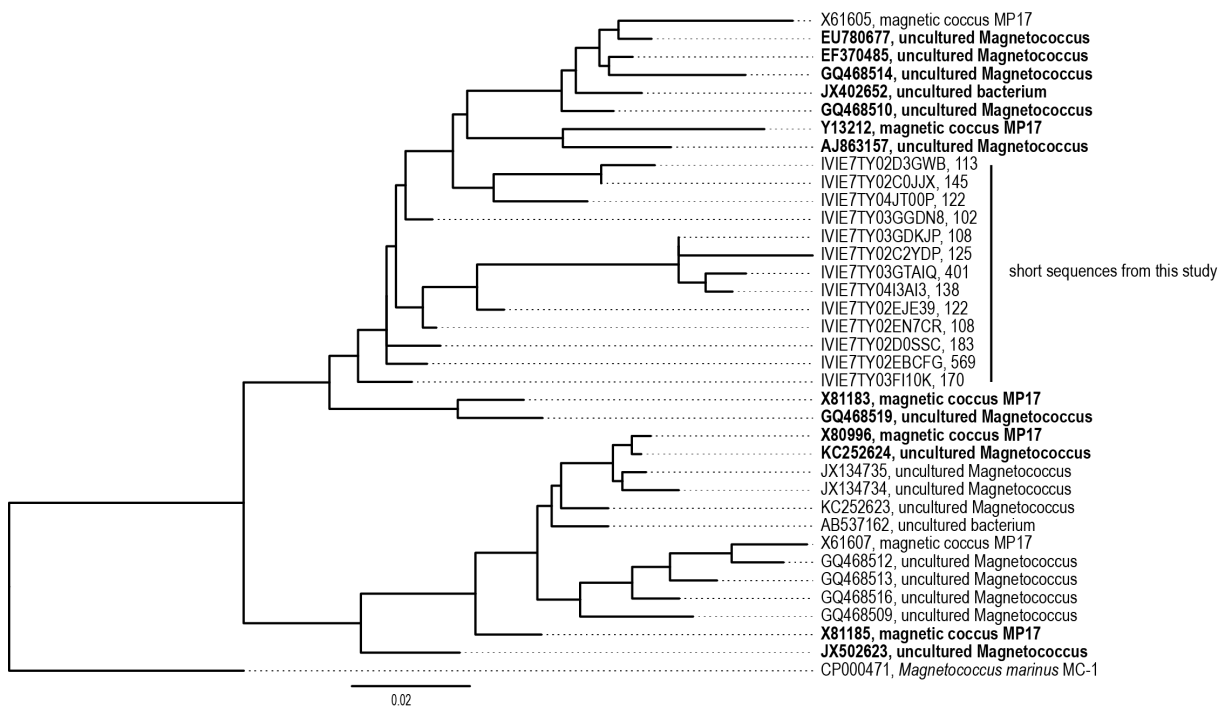
259 **Figure 4**  
 260 Example for the specific staining of large spherical cells with the probe specific for  
 261 *Magnetococcus* related bacteria in samples from the Black Sea. (A) All microbial cells stained  
 262 with 4,6-Diamidin-2-phenylindol (DAPI). (B) Cells hybridized with the probe specific for  
 263 *Magnetococcus* related bacteria.

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268 **Figure 5**  
 269 Maximum likelihood tree of the abundant sequences derived from the Black Sea samples  
 270 affiliated to the Magnetococcaceae and related sequences from the ARB Silva database. A  
 271 core tree based on 1274 unambiguously aligned sequence positions of the full-length  
 272 sequences from the database was calculated and short sequences added without changing the  
 273 tree topology. *Magnetococcus marinus* MC-1 was set as outgroup. Original sequence  
 274 definitions in the GenBank database were replaced with a consistent nomenclature including  
 275 accession number, name and for the sequences from this study the number of reads detected.  
 276 Bold sequences indicate the sequences with a 100% match to MaCo983. Short 16S rRNA  
 277 sequences that were used for the phylogenetic analysis are deposited in the European  
 278 Nucleotide Archive (ENA) under accession numbers LT960764-LT960776.  
 279



280  
 281

282 **Table 1**  
 283 Concentration of total dissolved phosphorus in  $\mu\text{mol/l}$  determined by ICP-OES and phosphate  
 284 determined colorimetrically at different water depths.  
 285

Depth (m)	diss P ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Phosphate ( $\mu\text{M}$ )
72	1.6	1.3
77	1.6	1.4
87	1.3	1.3
90	0.9	0.7
92	0.2	0.0
96	2.2	1.7
99	4.6	4.0
103	6.7	6.9

286

287 **Table 2**  
 288 Relative abundance of particles rich in iron (>15%), rich in manganese (>10%), and rich in P  
 289 (>20%) in % of all particles.  
 290

Depth (m)	Fe-rich (%)	Mn-rich (%)	P-rich(%)
72	3.3	57.7	0.0
87	6.8	41.9	1.1
90	3.3	60.3	0.2
95	17.8	29.3	13.5
100	28.6	6.8	2.9
103	25.1	40.3	18.1
110	34.2	0.7	0.2
118	15.8	0.2	0.1

291

292

293 **Table 3**  
 294 Concentration of phosphorus, iron and manganese in the particulate pool determined by ICP-  
 295 OES in nmol/l.  
 296

Depth (m)	P <sub>part</sub> (nM)	Fe <sub>part</sub> (nM)	Mn <sub>part</sub> (nM)
72	21.8	34.3	45.2
87	20.8	33.4	28.5
90	29.4	25.3	47.7
95	48.6	28.6	6.7
100	52.6	31,8	5.3
103	29.9	24.5	15.6
110	25.2	22.7	5.1
118	24.4	21.1	2.0

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