

## Supplementary File 1: Supplementary Text

### Supplementary Materials and Methods

#### ***Sample Collection***

Samples were collected in association with Ottesen et al. 2013 off the coast of California from September 16-19, 2010 along the warm side of an upwelling-driven front (1). Briefly, the Environmental Sample Processor (ESP; 2) was suspended at 23 m depth below a semi-Lagrangian surface float, collecting 1L of seawater every ~4 h for 61 h (~2.6 days). Retained particulates were size fractionated onto 5  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0.22  $\mu\text{m}$  Durapore 25 mm filters (Millipore, Billerica, MA, USA), preserved immediately *in situ* via a 2 min incubation in RNALater (Ambion) and stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  within 36 hours of ESP recovery. Nutrients, chlorophyll, and other oceanographic metadata was obtained via shipboard CTD/niskin rosette casts (Supplementary Dataset 12) as previously described (3). Drift speed was determined via a surface-float mounted GPS sensor. Water speed relative to the drifter was measured using a surface-float mounted ADCP (Supplementary Dataset 12A) in order to detect deviations from truly Lagrangian sampling (e.g. wind forcing).

#### ***Metatranscriptome library preparation and sequencing***

Small size class metatranscriptomes were sequenced by Ottesen et al. using a GS Titanium system (Roche) according to their previously published methods (1). Large size class cDNA was prepared as in Ottesen et al. from ribosomal RNA-depleted

23 total RNA (1). 1 ul of cDNA per sample was used to prepare metatranscriptome libraries  
24 with the Truseq RNA Sample Prep kit v2 (Illumina™) according to manufacturer's  
25 instructions starting from the end repair step. Libraries were paired-end sequenced on  
26 the Illumina HiSeq 2000 platform to obtain 2x100bp reads.

### 27 ***Amplicon library preparation and sequencing***

28 Large size class 16S and 18S ribosomal RNA were sequenced using 454 GS  
29 FLX Titanium pyrosequencing. Nearly universal bacterial primers 341F (5'-  
30 CCTACGGGNGGCWGCAG-3') (4) and 926R (5'-CCGTCAATTCMTTTRAGT-3')(5)  
31 were used to target the v3v5 region of 16S and primers and TAREuk454FWD1 (5'-  
32 CCAGCASCYGCGGTAATTCC-3') and TAREukREV3 (5'-ACTTTCGTTCTTGATYRA-3')  
33 (6), were used to target the v4 region of 18S, each amplifying an approximately 500 bp  
34 region of cDNA. FLX Titanium adapters (A adapter sequence: 5' 127  
35 CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAG 3'; B adapter sequence: 5' 128  
36 CCTATCCCCTGTGTGCCTTGGCAGTCTCAG 3') and 10bp multiplex identifier (MID)  
37 barcodes were used for multiplexed 454 sequencing.

38 cDNA was prepared from 50 ng per sample of total RNA using the Life  
39 Technologies SuperScript III First Strand Synthesis system with random hexamer  
40 primers. cDNA concentration ranged from 312 – 18,440 pg/microliter. 1 µl of cDNA was  
41 used as a template amplified using Life Technologies AccuPrime PCR system kit, in a  
42 reaction containing 1X AccuPrime Buffer II, .75 units of AccuPrime Taq High Fidelity,  
43 and a final primer concentration of 200 nM, alongside a no template negative control for  
44 cDNA synthesis. Amplifications were performed using a Life Technologies ProFlex  
45 PCR system, with an initial denaturation at 95°C for 2 minutes, 30 cycles of 95°C for 20

46 seconds, 56°C for 30 seconds, 72°C for 5 minutes. PCR products (2 µl of each sample  
47 and 5 µl of negative control) were run on a 1% agarose gel at 105 V for 35 minutes,  
48 then cleaned with Ampure XP beads (Beckman Coulter, Brea CA), and resuspended in  
49 25 µL of Qiagen elution buffer. 2.5 µL was used for visualization on an agarose gel, 1  
50 µL was used in a LifeTechnologies' PicoGreen Quant-IT assay to quantify the final  
51 product, and 45 ng of both 16S and 18S amplicons were pooled separately for 454  
52 pyrosequencing.

53 The vendor's standard protocols (Roche Diagnostics) were used for library QC,  
54 emPCR, enrichment and 454 sequencing with the following modifications: KAPA  
55 Biosystems Library Quantification Kit for qPCR was used to accurately estimate the  
56 number of molecules needed for emPCR, automation (BioMek FX) was used to "break"  
57 the emulsions after emPCR, and butanol was used to for ease of handling during the  
58 breaking process. The bead enrichment process was automated by using Roche's REM  
59 e (Robotic Enrichment Module).

60

### 61 ***Bioinformatic analysis of metatranscriptomes***

62 See Figure S2 for illustration of metatranscriptomic analysis pipeline.

#### 63 *Open reading frame (ORF) calling and annotation*

64 Large fraction Illumina reads and small fraction 454 reads were processed via  
65 the RNAseq Annotation Pipeline (rap) v0.4 (7). Small fraction reads were obtained via  
66 DBCLS SRA (<http://sra.dbcls.jp/>) using accession number SRA062433. Reads from  
67 both fractions were trimmed to remove primers and areas of low sequence quality  
68 (reads must be at least 30 base pairs (bp) long and have a quality score of at least 33 to

69 be retained). Illumina reads were paired. Ribosomal RNA (rRNA) reads were removed  
70 using Ribopicker v.0.4.3 (8). Large fraction reads were assembled using CLC Genomics  
71 Workbench 9.5.3 (<https://www.qiagenbioinformatics.com/>) first by library, then overall.  
72 Small fraction reads were left unassembled due to the longer read length, lower  
73 coverage nature of 454 sequencing. *Ab initio* ORF prediction was performed with  
74 FragGeneScan v1.16 (9) with parameters: complete=0 and train=complete. ORFs were  
75 once again screened for contamination in the form of rRNA, ITS, and primers. ITS  
76 sequences were downloaded from NCBI, and reduced to 397,062 non-redundant  
77 sequences at 0.95 level using cd-hit-est v4.6. Sequences that aligned with an ITS  
78 sequence with BLASTN e-value  $\leq 1e-5$  were removed. Primer and adapter sequences  
79 used in Illumina sequencing were searched using BLASTN and were identified at e-  
80 value  $\leq 10$ . Reads were removed with hits to terminal ends at least 10bp in length, or  
81 internal hits at least 15bp in length. Possible organelle genes were classified for query  
82 sequences that had closer homology to an organelle gene than a nuclear gene within  
83 the organism with the closest known segregated organelle and nuclear genomes based  
84 on best BLASTP e-value  $\leq 1e-3$ .

85 ORFs were annotated via BLASTP (10,11) alignment (e-value threshold  $1e^{-3}$ ) to  
86 a comprehensive protein database, *phyloDB*, as well as screened for function *de novo*  
87 by assigning Pfams, TIGRfams and transmembrane tmHMMs with hmmer 3.0  
88 (<http://hmmer.org/>; 12) using an e-value threshold of  $1.0e^{-4}$ . PhyloDB version 1.076  
89 consists of 24,509,327 peptides from 19,962 viral, 230 archaeal, 4910 bacterial, and  
90 894 eukaryotic taxa (13–15). It includes peptides from the 410 taxa of the Marine  
91 Microbial Eukaryotic Transcriptome Sequencing Project

92 (<http://marinemicroeukaryotes.org/>), as well as peptides from KEGG, GenBank, JGI,  
93 ENSEMBL, CAMERA to KEGG, GenBank, JGI, ENSEMBL, iMicrobe, and the  
94 Chloroplast Genome Database (cpbase). Taxonomic annotation of ORFs was also  
95 conducted via a BLASTP to phyloDB, and a Lineage Probability Index (LPI) was  
96 calculated to avoid biases introduced by classifying ORFs based on best BLAST hit  
97 alone (7,16,17). Briefly, LPI was calculated here as a value between 0 and 1 indicating  
98 lineage commonality among the top 95-percentile of sequences based on BLAST bit-  
99 score.

100       Illumina sequencing of large size fraction total ribosomal-depleted RNA yielded  
101 623,461,310 raw reads across 16 time points, of which 265,345,754 were mRNA  
102 (~43%). A total of 283,760 contigs were assembled upon which 345,355 ORFs were  
103 called. 32,271,421 reads (~12%) mapped to the 111,655 ORFs that remained after  
104 strict filtering (~32%). Ottesen et al.'s GS FLX Titanium (Roche) sequencing of small  
105 fraction cDNA yielded 9,985,281 raw reads across 13 time points (1). 2,802,084 ORFs  
106 were called on the 5,618,280 trimmed reads remaining after quality control (~56%). Full  
107 assembly and annotation statistics in Supplementary Dataset 1. Coverage across taxa  
108 groups can be seen in Figure S3A.

109

#### 110 *Mapping to reference transcriptomes*

111       Reference transcriptomes were chosen for read mapping that appeared with high  
112 abundance and percent identity among *ab initio* large fraction ORFs. Representative  
113 references were chosen from all major taxonomic groups found in *ab initio* ORFs.  
114 Large and small fraction reads were aligned to reference ORFs using BWA-MEM

115 version 0.7.12-r1039 (18,19) using default parameters. At least 50% of each read must  
116 map to a reference gene at least 80% identity to be considered a hit. References with at  
117 least 1000 genes with at least 5 reads mapped were functionally annotated via rap v0.4  
118 as above and considered for downstream analysis. Coverage of annotated references  
119 can be seen in Figure S3B.

120

### 121 *Hierarchical clustering*

122 Reference transcriptome ORFs were hierarchically clustered together with all  
123 large and small fraction *ab initio* ORFs (including organellar ORFs) to form peptide  
124 ortholog groups via the Markov Cluster Algorithm (MCL; <https://micans.org/mcl/>; 20).  
125 Directional edge weights were defined as the ratio of pairwise- to self- BLASTP scores,  
126 and default parameters were used to assign ORFs to clusters. Clusters were assigned a  
127 consensus annotation if found to be statistically enriched in that annotation with a  
128 Fisher's exact test ( $p < 0.05$ ). Consensus annotations must also represent at least 10%  
129 of the reads in the cluster and account for a minimum of 200 reads. Clusters with  
130 identical consensus annotations were grouped together into "functional clusters."

131

### 132 *Identification of significantly periodic ORFs*

133 ORFs with significantly periodic diel expression were identified using harmonic  
134 regression analysis (HRA) as previously described (1,21,22). Briefly, for each taxa  
135 group of interest, raw ORF counts over time were fit to a generalized linear model (glm)  
136 of a sinusoid with a 24-hour period with taxa-specific library sums serving as an offset at  
137 each time point. The model was constructed using the "glm" function in R (23) and

138 statistical significance was determined by False Discovery Rate (FDR; (24) adjusted p-  
139 values of  $\leq 0.1$  (Benjamini-Hochberg), on both a permutation test (500-50,000  
140 permutations) and a chi-squared test.

141

#### 142 *Identification of conserved expression modules*

143 The Weighted Gene Correlation Network Analysis (WGCNA) R package (25,26)  
144 was used as previously described (22) to identify modules of conserved expression  
145 among reference ORFs (Figure S13) and functional clusters (Figures 2, 3E, S5).  
146 ORFs/functional clusters with at least 10 raw counts in at least 80% of time points were  
147 considered. For Figure 3E, it was further stipulated that clusters must have at least 100  
148 raw reads overall to be considered. In all cases, expression was normalized by total  
149 pre-filtration counts at a single time point (library) before constructing a Pearson  
150 correlation matrix. An adjacency matrix was then constructed from the correlation matrix  
151 by applying a power function ( $AF(s)=s^b$ ). The lowest b value that allowed for a scale-  
152 free topology R-squared value above 0.8 was chosen, as recommended in the WGCNA  
153 user manual, in order to optimize the mean number of connections of the network while  
154 preserving scale independence. A signed Topological Overlap Matrix (TOM) was  
155 constructed from the correlation matrix to measure dissimilarity between each pair of  
156 nodes based on shared neighbors. Average linkage hierarchical clustering was used to  
157 define a dendrogram (cluster tree) of the network via the “blockwiseModules” function. A  
158 cut height of .995 as well as a minimum module size of 30 ORFs/functional clusters was  
159 used to delineate branches of the hierarchical clustering tree into modules of co-  
160 expression. The “moduleEigengenes” function was used with default parameters to

161 calculate “eigengenes” (a measure of “average” expression calculated as the first  
162 principal component of the module's expression matrix) for each module. Modules with  
163 correlated eigengenes were merged by setting a “mergeCutHeight” threshold of 0.5.  
164 ORFs/functional clusters with a correlation of less than 0.3 to their respective module  
165 eigengene were removed and classified as “unassigned” (module 0). The igraph  
166 package (27) was used to visualize expression networks.

167

### 168 *Differential expression analysis*

169 Differential expression of ORFs, ortholog clusters, taxa groups, and genera  
170 across size classes was identified using the R package edgeR (28). Categories (i.e.  
171 ORFs, ortholog clusters, taxa groups, genera) with least 1 read per million in at least 3  
172 samples were included and used to calculate log fold changes. Counts were  
173 normalized using the “calcNormFactors” function, which accounts for both library size  
174 and varied library composition. An exact test with tagwise dispersion estimation was  
175 used to determine ORFs or clusters with significantly different expression across size  
176 classes (FDR-corrected  $p < 0.05$ ).

177

### 178 *Identification and phylogenetic analyses of LOV domain containing transcripts*

179 A two-step approach was taken to identify LOV domain containing proteins in our  
180 reference and *ab initio* transcript sets. LOV domains are a subset of the PAS domain  
181 family, and initial survey of a number of known LOV domain proteins using InterproScan  
182 (29) suggested the PAS\_9 Pfam domain (PF13426) has the highest similarity to the LOV  
183 domain. For this reason, we curated a list of transcripts harboring the PAS\_9 domain



184 (detail of domain annotation is provided in the 'Bioinformatics analysis of  
185 metatranscriptomes' section). LOV domains have a signature motif that has a conserved  
186 cysteine at the fourth position, however, some degeneracy can exist at other positions of  
187 this domain (30). Given this fact, we further screened the amino acid sequences of the  
188 transcripts harboring the PAS\_9 domain for the presence of previously-identified LOV  
189 specific motifs (30). We constructed a maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree from only  
190 the regions of the proteins that aligned to the PAS\_9 HMM. Alignment was performed  
191 using MUSCLE (31). The tree was constructed in PhyML (32) with aLRT-SH like node  
192 support. The tree and the heatmap of the expression profile were visualized in the  
193 interactive Tree of Life (33).

194

#### 195 *Analyses of circular "time of day" data*

196 The R package "circular" (34) was used to conduct circular statistics on time-of-  
197 day data with a 0-24 hour range. This includes peak time of day comparisons,  
198 calculating the mean peak time of expression of a group of periodic ORFs, and statistics  
199 on the photosynthetic cascade (Figure 5): Watson-Wheeler Test of homogeneity of  
200 means, Watson-Williams Test of homogeneity of means (35).

201

#### 202 *Figures*

203 Sorting and plotting of data was conducted in R version 3.2.1 (2015-06-18) using  
204 the following packages: plyr (36), dplyr (37), reshape2 (38), ggplot2 (39), lubridate (40),  
205 ggmap (41), gridExtra (42).

206

207 ***Bioinformatic analysis of amplicon data***

208 *rRNA read processing and annotation*

209           16S and 18S rRNA 454 reads were demultiplexed using Roche/454's sfffile utility  
210 and converted from standard flowgram to fasta format using sff2fastq ([https://](https://github.com/indraniel/sff2fastq)  
211 [github.com/indraniel/sff2fastq](https://github.com/indraniel/sff2fastq)). Primer removal, quality control, trimming, dereplication,  
212 and taxonomic annotation were conducted using an in-house rRNA pipeline  
213 ([https://github.com/allenlab/rRNA\\_pipeline](https://github.com/allenlab/rRNA_pipeline)). Chimeric sequences were removed using  
214 USEARCH (43), reads were trimmed to a quality score of 10 over a 2 base window,  
215 operational taxonomic units were clustered using SWARM (44) and classified using  
216 FASTA36 from the FASTA package  
217 (<http://faculty.virginia.edu/wrpearson/fasta/fasta36/>). Taxonomic annotations were  
218 assigned by using GLSEARCH36 (45) with the version 119 of the SILVA reference  
219 database (46) for 16S rRNA and a modified PR2 database with updates from Tara  
220 Oceans W2 (47) for 18S rRNA.

221           Roche 454 sequencing of large fraction amplicons across all 16 time points  
222 yielded 820,700 raw 16S rRNA reads and 970,927 raw 18S rRNA reads, of which  
223 36.7% (301,244) and 38.7% (375,904), respectively, remained after filtration. After de-  
224 replication, the large fraction contained 8,522 unique 18S and 5,420 unique 16S reads  
225 (1,595 of which were plastid in origin). Full pipeline statistics shown in Supplementary  
226 Dataset 2.

227

228 *Phylogenetic placement*

229 rRNA amplicons were processed against rRNA reference covariance models  
230 using Infernal (48). A blastn (11) search was performed against SILVA (46) with e-value  
231 threshold  $\leq 1E-100$  to identify representative (reference) sequences to be included in  
232 the reference phylogenetic trees (eukaryotic 18S, bacterial 16S, and plastidic 16S).  
233 Reference sequences were then aligned with MAFFT (49) using the G-INS-i setting for  
234 global homology. The generated multiple sequence alignments were visually inspected,  
235 manually edited and refined using JalView (50). Maximum likelihood reference trees  
236 were inferred under the general time-reversible model with gamma-distributed rate  
237 heterogeneity using FastTree (51). Processed rRNA sequences were mapped onto the  
238 corresponding reference trees using pplacer (52) with the default settings. The number  
239 of the mapped sequences to trees nodes was normalized to the total number of mapped  
240 sequences from the corresponding samples. Normalized abundances were visualized  
241 as circles mapped onto the reference trees such that the diameters of the circles were  
242 proportion to the taxonomic abundances.

243

## 244 Supplementary Results and Discussion

### 245 *A molecular window into biogeochemistry*

246 Several lines of evidence indicated that during the drift cells were experiencing  
247 iron-limitation and that this factor shaped community composition. WGCNA was used to  
248 examine functional clusters related to nutrient cycling (Figure S5). The expression of  
249 several low-iron response genes, including iron-starvation-induced proteins ISIP1,  
250 ISIP2A (phytotransferrin; (53), ISIP2B, and ISIP3 (54) in diatoms and haptophytes  
251 (module 5) indicated cellular iron stress. Phytotransferrin and “silicon transporter”

252 annotations clustered into the same module these iron-response genes (Figure S5;  
253 module 5; green) and were dominated by centric diatom expression. Module 5 peaks  
254 sharply at the end of the drift track when the measured silica:nitrate ratio, which was  
255 initially around 1, dropped most dramatically (Figure S1B). Low silica:nitrate ratios (in  
256 the range of 0.8 to 1.1) have been observed in association with iron limitation (55) and  
257 are thought to result from silica draw-down by iron-stressed diatoms (56). In our study,  
258 this ratio dropped by an order of magnitude along the drift track. While the main feature  
259 of module 5 is its sharp peak at the end of the drift track, there also appears to be some  
260 underlying diel periodicity in the signal (upregulated more during night hours). This  
261 convolution of expression patterns speaks to the difficulty of teasing apart various  
262 physical drivers of transcription in a dynamic natural context. In the future, sampling for  
263 a longer period of time could provide the statistical resolution to address these  
264 questions more conclusively.

265 Additional molecular evidence supported iron-limitation, such as high expression  
266 of iron complex outer membrane receptor proteins, which are associated with the  
267 uptake of siderophores (57), especially in the small fraction. Indeed, “iron complex outer  
268 membrane receptor protein” was the 34<sup>th</sup> most highly expressed annotation across both  
269 size classes (Supplementary Data 6). Furthermore, nitrate transporters and reductases  
270 were nearly undetectable across phytoplankton lineages whereas ammonium  
271 transporters were highly expressed, reflecting a reduced capacity for nitrate  
272 assimilation, which requires iron-rich heme cofactors (54). Finally, relative levels of  
273 ferredoxin and flavodoxin among photosynthetic organisms are often used as an  
274 indicator of iron stress (58,59). Iron-intensive ferredoxin proteins can be substituted by

275 flavodoxin, which performs the same role in photosynthesis but uses flavin  
276 mononucleotides in place of iron-sulfur clusters. Strikingly, in the large fraction, 98.12%  
277 of expression of these ORFs was attributed to flavodoxin (Pfam PF00258) over  
278 ferredoxin (Pfam PF00111) across the five major eukaryotic phytoplankton lineages  
279 (diatoms, chlorophytes, dinoflagellates, haptophytes, and pelagophytes; Figure S5).  
280 This ratio falls at the extreme edge of the distribution of previously observed cases (60),  
281 associated with the lowest iron concentrations. While direct trace-metal clean  
282 measurement of iron concentrations was not possible due to the nature of the robotic  
283 sampling, the gene sensors, historic oceanographic context (Figure S4), and nutrient  
284 proxies we present here establish a high likelihood of iron limitation.

285

### 286 ***Timing of diel ORF expression across taxonomic groups***

287       Periodic ORFs were only detected in Proteobacteria known to possess  
288 proteorhodopsin or carry out anoxygenic photosynthesis. However, previous  
289 observations that benefitted from a longer time course were able to detect a greater  
290 diversity of periodic ORFs in heterotrophic bacterioplankton (22), indicating that these  
291 results only capture the strongest oscillating genes. We observed only a single periodic  
292 ORF in the photoheterotrophic bacteria, SAR11 and SAR116, both peaking around  
293 12:30p.m. In SAR11, this ORF was in the isocitrate lyase family. This points to a  
294 daytime-shifted metabolism resulting from phototrophy; Glyoxylate shunt genes have  
295 been found to be expressed 300-fold more in light than darkness in the proteorhodopsin  
296 phototroph, *Dokdonia* (61), and were up during the day in photoheterotrophic  
297 bacterioplankton in a previous drift track (22). With the exception of a *Pseudomonas*

298 *marR* family transcriptional regulator peaking around 10a.m., all other periodic  
299 proteobacterial ORFs occurred in *Rhodobacter* species and were involved in nighttime  
300 chelatase, light-independent protochlorophyllide reductase, bacteriochlorophyll  
301 synthase, amine oxidases involved in carotenoid biosynthesis, diheme cytochrome c).

302

### 303 ***Viruses in the small size class***

304 In the small fraction, bacteriophages corresponding to several of the abundant  
305 bacterial groups were enriched (e.g. *Pelagibacter* phage,  $\log_2FC=11$ ; *Roseobacter*  
306 phage,  $\log_2FC=7.4$ ; *Vibrio* phage,  $\log_2FC=5.2$ ; Supplementary Dataset 10), as was a  
307 virus best annotated as the uncultivated *Ostreococcus* OsV5 virus for which the host  
308 *Ostreococcus* clade is still unclear (15). However, despite the picoprasinophytes  
309 *Ostreococcus* ( $\log_2FC=2.25$ ) and *Bathycoccus* ( $\log_2FC=2.36$ ) being enriched in the  
310 small size class, the largest signal for viruses most similar to isolates known to infect  
311 them (i.e. OIV1, OtV1, and BpV1), came from the large fraction. This could indicate that  
312 the close proximity of cells in particle-associated microenvironments promotes infection,  
313 that infected cells more easily attach to particles (13), or that infected hosts are larger in  
314 size.

315

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