

1 **Supporting information**

2 This supplementary includes the following supporting information:

3 **Supplementary Methods:** Detailed description of dissolved organic carbon and dissolved oxygen flux calculations.

4 **Supplementary Discussion:** Discussion about the incubation of extracellular enzyme samples under N₂ atmosphere.

5 **Supplementary Figure 1:** Extracellular enzyme rates with all samples incubated under N₂ atmosphere irrespective
6 of the *in situ* oxygen concentration.

7 **Supplementary Table 1:** Cruise, date, positions, sampled depths and bottom depth of all stations represented within
8 the manuscript.

9 **Supplementary Table 2:** Average and standard deviation at different oxygen regimes of all discussed parameters.

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11 **Supplementary Methods:**

12 **Diapycnal fluxes of oxygen and dissolved organic carbon**

13 The mixing of DOC and oxygen across density surfaces is derived following Fischer et al. (2013) and Schafstall et
14 al. (2010). Gradients of DOC were calculated between sampled bottles assuming a constant gradient in between
15 while oxygen gradients were derived by fitting a linear trend over 3 m intervals, as oxygen is available on a much
16 higher vertical resolution of 1dbar.

17 The diapycnal flux of solutes, i.e. DOC and oxygen, is calculated as

$$\Phi_S = -K_\rho \nabla C_S$$

18 Where ∇C_S is the vertical gradient of the solute – in case of oxygen the concentration is converted from $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ to
19 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-3}$ beforehand – and K_ρ is the diapycnal diffusivity of mass. We assume K_ρ to be equal to the diffusivity of
20 DOC and oxygen, i.e. $K_\rho = K_{DOC} = K_{DO}$ as done by Fischer et al. (2013) for oxygen.

21 The diapycnal diffusivity is calculated following Osborn (1980):

$$K_\rho = \Gamma \frac{\varepsilon}{N^2}$$

22 Where $\Gamma = 0.2$ is the mixing efficiency, ε ($\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-3}$) is the dissipation rate of turbulent kinetic energy calculated by
23 integrating the shear spectra derived from measurements on a freefalling microstructure probe at stations G-N & Q-T
24 (Sea & Sun Technology, MSS90D, S/N26 up to CTD 43, S/N 73 afterwards) (Schafstall et al., 2010), and N (s^{-1}) is
25 the buoyancy frequency derived from CTD downcast profiles over 7 dbar intervals where DOC and oxygen were
26 measured as well.

27 To calculate K_ρ , data from CTD profiles we combined with nearby microstructure profiles conducted directly before
28 or after the CTD profile which existed for 12 profile. For each solutes gradient between two samples a K_ρ value was
29 derived from dissipation and buoyancy frequency averaged between the potential densities of the two solutes
30 samples. The mean K_ρ profile exhibits only weak vertical variations (Supplementary Figure 2a) therefore a constant
31 $K_\rho = 10^{-3} \text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$ was used to calculate fluxes.

32 For each profile a Φ_S profile is calculated in 20 m depth bins, from these a mean profile of diapycnal flux is derived.
33 Subsequent, the vertical divergence of the mean flux profile of DOC or oxygen is given by $\nabla \Phi_S = -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \Phi_S$.

34 The error estimates of these terms are calculated following Schafstall et al. (2010), with the error of the mean
35 K_ρ given by:

$$\Delta K_\rho = K_\rho \left[\left(\frac{\Delta \Gamma}{\Gamma} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta \varepsilon}{\varepsilon} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta N^2}{N^2} \right)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

36 And the error of the mean flux by

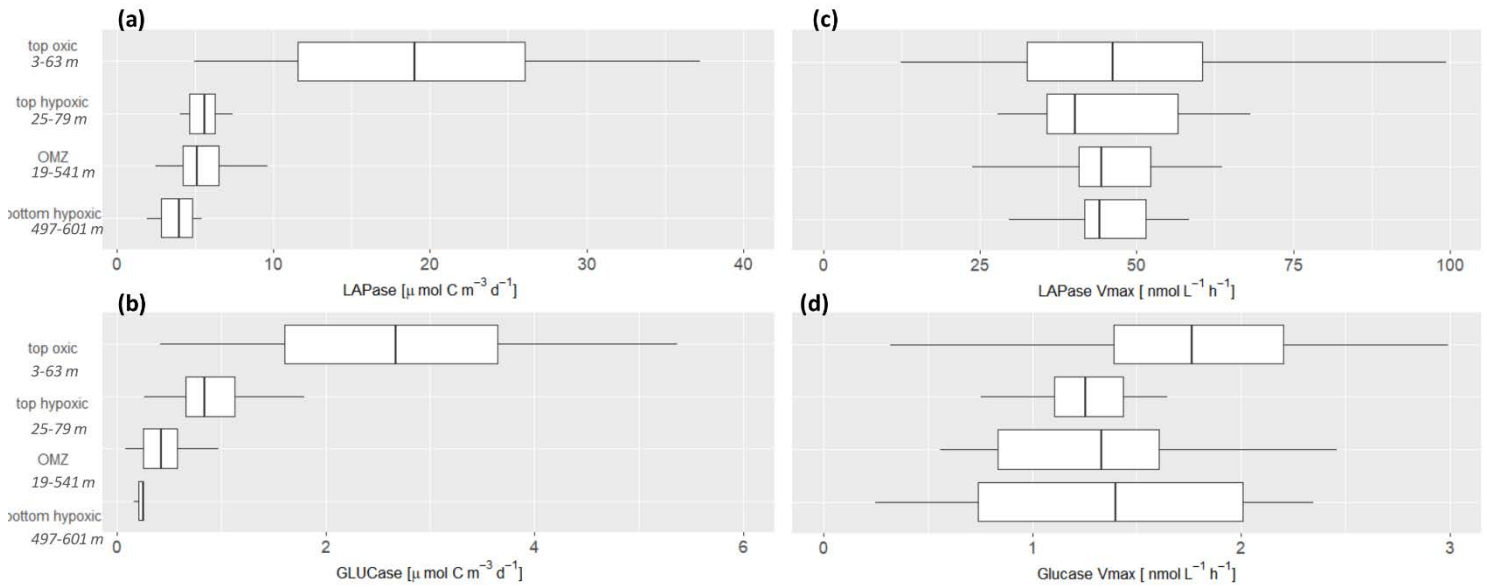
$$\Delta\Phi_S = \Phi_S \left[\left(\frac{\Delta\Gamma}{\Gamma} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta N^2}{N^2} \right) + \left(\frac{\Delta\nabla C_S}{\nabla C_S} \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

37 Where K_p and Φ_S are the mean profiles calculated from the individual profiles in 20 m depth bins, a constant
38 $\Delta\Gamma = 0.04$ is used (Schafstall et al., 2010), the error of dissipation $\Delta\varepsilon$ is the 95%-confidence interval derived by
39 bootstrapping, ΔN^2 and $\Delta\nabla C_S$ are the standard deviations of the mean. Bootstrapping and standard deviations are
40 performed on the values of the individual profiles in 20 m bins. The error of the change in the diapycnal flux over
41 depth is derived by error propagation from the flux.

42 **Supplementary Discussion:**

43 **Incubation of extracellular enzyme samples under N₂ atmosphere**

44 Enzyme rates of suboxic waters have been obtained by incubating samples under N₂ atmosphere to reduce oxygen
45 concentrations. For the assessment of extracellular enzyme rates we chose to incubate samples at oxic and reduced
46 oxygen concentrations depending on oxygen concentrations at *in situ* depth (see methods for details). Incubation
47 conditions slightly influenced the resulting enzyme rates. Incubating samples from depths with *in situ* oxygen
48 concentrations <5 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ under N₂ atmosphere, instead of under atmospheric oxygen concentrations, yielded on
49 average 2-27% higher rates. Consequently, the differences in rates between oxic and suboxic waters became reduced,
50 when all samples were incubated under N₂ atmosphere (supplementary Figure 2). However, the observed trends over
51 depth remained similar. Possible reasons for higher extracellular enzyme rates after incubation under N₂ atmosphere
52 are changes in (i) pH, (ii) the abundance of oxygen radicals and/or (iii) changes in enzyme production. (i) Higher
53 extracellular enzyme rates after incubations at low oxygen concentrations are less likely driven by the resulting
54 increase in pH ($\Delta 0.4$), since earlier studies rather suggested that extracellular enzyme rates decrease with pH
55 (Endres et al., 2014; Piontek et al., 2013). (ii) Oxygen radicals can destroy enzymes (Elstner, 1990). Since our
56 incubations were not completely anoxic, an influence of oxygen radicals on enzyme activity cannot be excluded, but
57 would appear under aerobic and N₂ atmosphere. (iii) Finally, an enhanced production of enzymes within the 12 hours
58 of incubation time might be the reason for higher rates after incubations under N₂ atmosphere. It has been shown
59 before that enzymes can be produced within 30 minutes (Both et al., 1972), making this explanation likely. The final
60 reason for higher enzyme productions under N₂ atmosphere remains a matter of speculation, but supports the trends
61 seen in the depth profiles and does not restrict the interpretation of the extracellular enzyme data.



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65 **Supplementary Figure 1:** Extracellular enzyme rates with all samples incubated under N_2 atmosphere irrespective
 66 of the *in situ* oxygen concentration. Degradation rates of dissolved amino acids (DHAA) by leucine-aminopeptidase
 67 (LAPase) (a), degradation rates of high molecular weight dissolved carbohydrates (DCHO) by β -glucosidase
 68 (GLUCase) (b) total potential LAPase rates (V_{max}) (c), Glucose V_{max} (d) at different oxygen regimes.

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81 **Supplementary Table 1:** Cruise, date, positions, sampled depths and bottom depth of all stations represented within the
82 manuscript. Extracellular enzyme rates were sampled at stations A-K, whereas some depths were not used for further
83 analyses, since the standard deviation was over 30%. Bacterial biomass production was sampled at stations G-T.
84 Stations G-T were included in the estimation of carbon and oxygen loss rates. Cell abundance was sampled at every
85 station.

Cruise	Station	Latitude	Longitude	Date	Sampled Depth					Bottom Depth
M138	A	-15.5393	-75.6149	06/19/2017	3	17	24	28	39	2507
					99	197	396	596	1499	
M138	B	-15.8595	-76.1099	06/21/2017	5	18	40	50	53	2624
					90	199	398	600		
M138	C	-16.1593	-76.5711	06/21/2017	3	13	19	58	63	3679
					79	99	149	197	347	600
M138	D	-13.9971	-76.6598	06/16/2017	3	8	19	48	70	586
					98	117	197	397	498	541
M138	E	-14.2988	-77.1796	06/17/2017	19	38	47	66	97	4702
					147	198	299	398	497	601
M138	F	-14.7596	-77.4829	06/23/2017	9	28	48	53	99	4154
					148	197	297	397	497	601
M136	G	-12.2248	-77.1795	04/27/2017	4	20	25	30	39	75
					49	59	72			
M136	H	-12.3584	-77.3621	04/25/2017	3	6	27	39	48	194
					58	68	79	98	128	
M136	I	-12.453	-77.4918	04/26/2017	4	18	28	39	49	403
					59	73	199			
M136	J	-12.5807	-77.6731	04/29/2017	4	28	49	68	78	973
					99	195	393	448	498	598
M136	K	-12.338	-78.0512	04/26/2017	9	50	75	99	148	1970
					157	199	299	398	499	599
M136	L	-12.2782	-77.2493	04/20/2017	4	9	13	19	23	130
					28	43	48	58		
M136	M	-12.5806	-77.6731	04/19/2017	3	19	39	55	65	242
					90	98	199	238		
M136	N	-12.4134	-77.4425	04/21/2017	3	18	50	99	124	307
					149	174	224	272	300	
M136	O	-12.5226	-77.5834	04/20/2017	4	29	39	49	59	751
					79	89	98	147	597	745
M136	P	-12.9873	-78.2471	04/21/2017	4	29	49	60	74	5410
					99	196	296	396	599	800
M136	Q	-13.8938	-76.5101	04.12.2017	4	10	15	19	30	166
					39	50	69	99	128	159
M136	R	-14.1878	-76.9312	04/13/2017	5	14	29	49	81	3042
					101	123	199	399	599	
M136	S	-14.3986	-77.2389	04/14/2017	1	49	89	99	148	5149
					198	299	399	499	599	
M136	T	-12.2254	-77.1797	04/24/2017	4	19	24	28	49	76

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89 **Supplementary Table 2:** Average and standard deviation at different oxygen regimes of all discussed parameters as
 90 total rates **(a)** and cell-specific rates **(b)**.

a						
parameter	station	oxygen regime	n	mean	SD	unit
cell abundance	A-T	top oxic	52	19	9	cells x 10 ⁵ mL ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	16	9	3	
		top low hypoxic	20	8	3	
		OMZ	93	9	5	
		bottom low hypoxic	14	1	0.1	
		top oxycline	36	9	3	
bacterial production	G-T	top oxic	34	194	189	μmol C m ⁻³ d ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	11	58	61	
		top low hypoxic	17	43	38	
		OMZ	48	26	32	
		bottom low hypoxic	5	5	3	
		oxycline	33	42	47	
degradation rates of DHAA by LAPase	A-K	top oxic	20	13.9	7.6	μmol C m ⁻³ d ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	6	4.5	3.0	
		top low hypoxic	9	2.4	1.2	
		OMZ	41	5.0	1.8	
		bottom low hypoxic	6	2.4	1.6	
degradation rates of DCHO by GLUCase	A-K	top oxic	22	2.7	2.5	μmol C m ⁻³ d ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	7	1.5	1.0	
		top low hypoxic	8	0.8	0.5	
		OMZ	35	0.7	1.4	
		bottom low hypoxic	3	0.4	0.3	
LAPase Vmax	A-K	top oxic	22	39.2	13.3	nmol L ⁻¹ h ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	10	41.1	24.0	
		top low hypoxic	10	28.9	13.6	
		OMZ	49	49.9	22.1	
		bottom low hypoxic	6	31.3	6.0	
GLUCase Vmax	A-K	top oxic	26	1.6	0.6	nmol L ⁻¹ h ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	9	1.4	0.5	
		top low hypoxic	11	1.0	0.3	
		OMZ	41	1.6	1.6	
		bottom low hypoxic	4	0.7	0.4	

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b						
parameter	station	oxygen regime	n	mean	SD	unit
cell-specific bacterial productio	G-T	top oxic	34	92	78	amol C cell d ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	11	50	36	
		top low hypoxic	17	46	27	
		OMZ	48	22	19	
		bottom low hypoxic	5	35	23	
		oxycline	33	45	29	
cell-specific Degradation rates of DHAA by LAPase	A-K	top oxic	20	6.5	3.4	amol C cell d ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	6	4.6	3.1	
		top low hypoxic	9	3.1	1.6	
		OMZ	41	9.9	6.8	
		bottom low hypoxic	6	21.6	15.4	
cell-specific Degradation rates of DCHO by GLUCase	A-K	top oxic	22	1.3	1.6	amol C cell d ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	7	1.4	1.1	
		top low hypoxic	8	1.1	0.8	
		OMZ	35	1.1	1.6	
		bottom low hypoxic	3	3.2	3.2	
cell-specific LAPase Vmax	A-K	top oxic	22	23.1	15.1	amol cell ⁻¹ h ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	10	44.1	29.7	
		top low hypoxic	10	39.9	23.0	
		OMZ	49	103.5	114.2	
		bottom low hypoxic	6	274.1	51.7	
cells-specific GLUCase Vmax	A-K	top oxic	26	0.9	0.4	amol cell ⁻¹ h ⁻¹
		top high hypoxic	9	1.5	0.6	
		top low hypoxic	11	1.3	0.5	
		OMZ	41	2.7	2.4	
		bottom low hypoxic	4	6.0	3.6	

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