Drivers of biological O_2 flux in the Western Antarctic Peninsula

Motivating question

What are the biological and physical processes driving O₂ saturation and net community production variability at the Palmer LTER region?





Gas saturation at the Peninsula

+

Physical Q₂







Eveleth et al. (in prep.)



Eveleth et al. (in prep.)

January NCP Grid Variability





Regional Mean NCP

(Note: No correction for vertical mixing at this time)



Schoefield et al. 2013, Kavanaugh et al. 2015, in press





Cracking the black box...



Cracking the black box...





Lin et al., in prep.

Paleo-proxy of NCP?





 \clubsuit 3 of 5 most dominant Diatom OTUs show strong correlation \sim NCP

How interactions influence NCP?





Preliminary Conclusions

- Grid region: Biology dominates O₂ saturation (strong anti-correlation O₂/Ar vs. pCO₂)
- However, large physical Ar undersaturation at the ice edge in Grid (Drake: Physics dominates O₂)
- NCP: Diatoms are not equal, not just Crypto vs. Diatoms
- Light vs. Fe modulating NCP (Grazing?)
- Role of canyons in NCP (field, satellite observations & penguin colonies)
- Winter priming is important, biological response varies

Questions?

Wish list:

More winter measurements

Increased joint use of biogeochemical & molecular tools

Physical circulation in the canyons

Relation of NCP to carbon and other nutrients attenuation at depth