



**Transport and dispersion of radiocesium from
Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident
in the Ocean**

Makio Honda

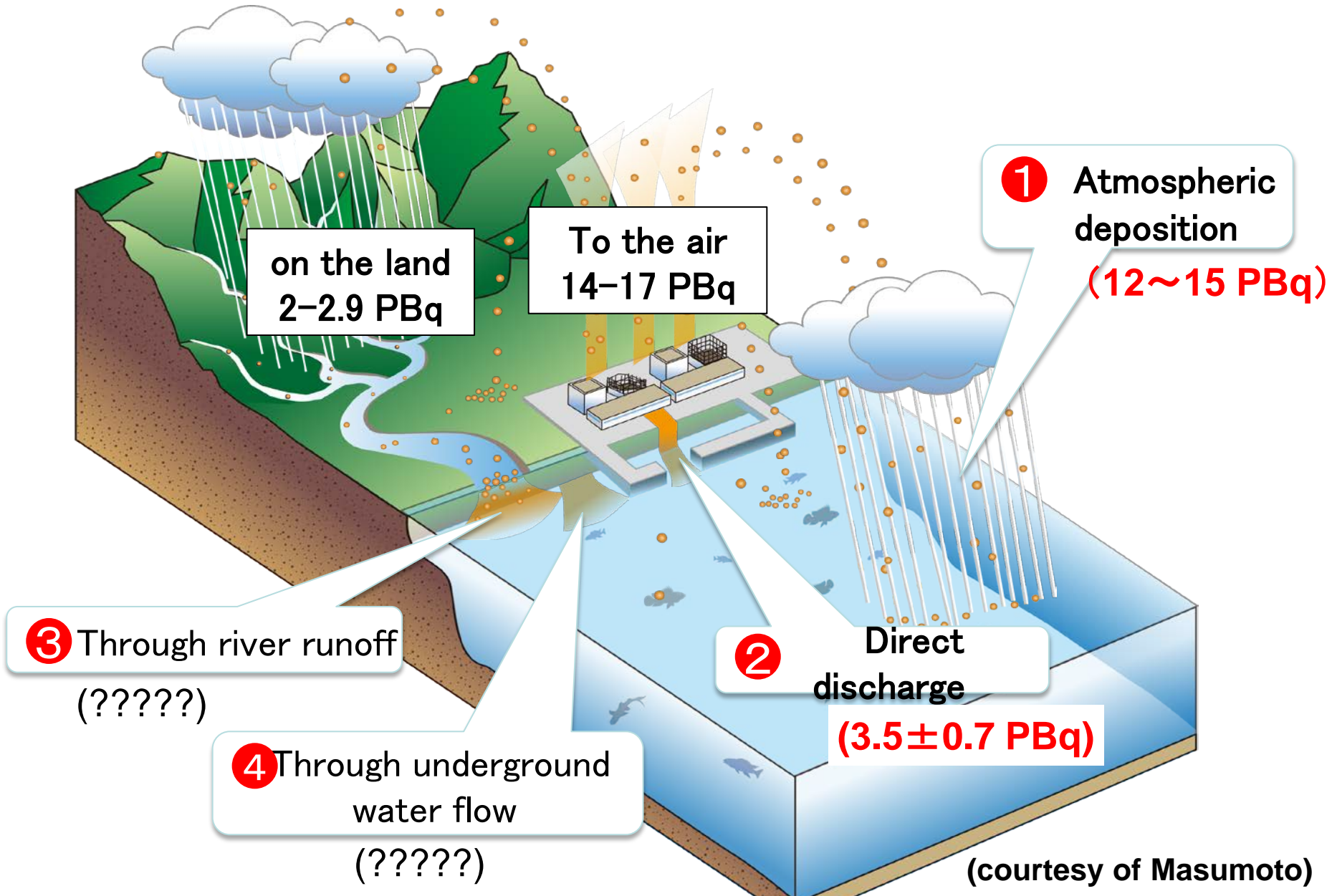
Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

**福島第一原子力発電所事故による
放射性セシウムの海洋への輸送・拡散**

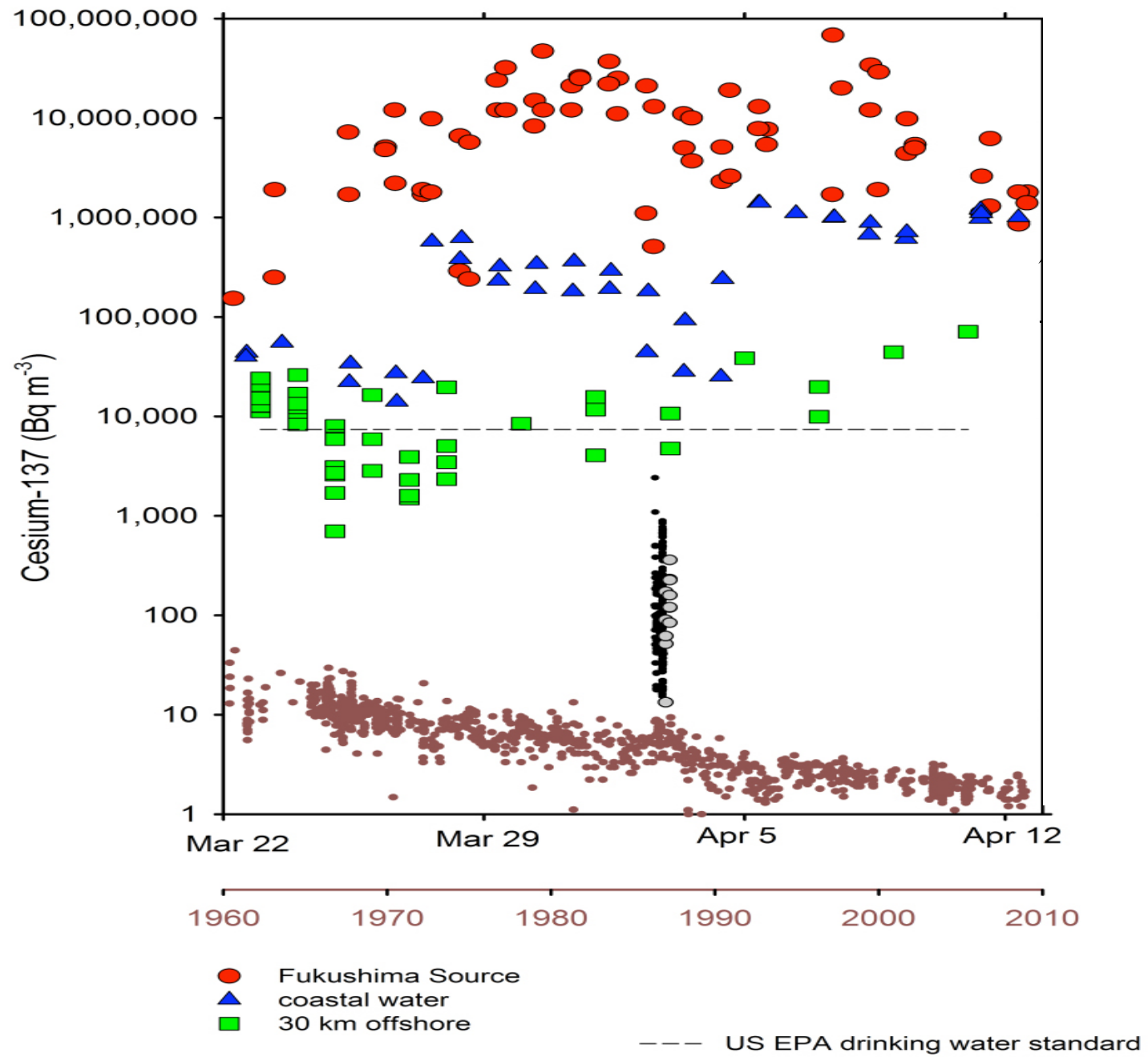
海洋研究開発機構

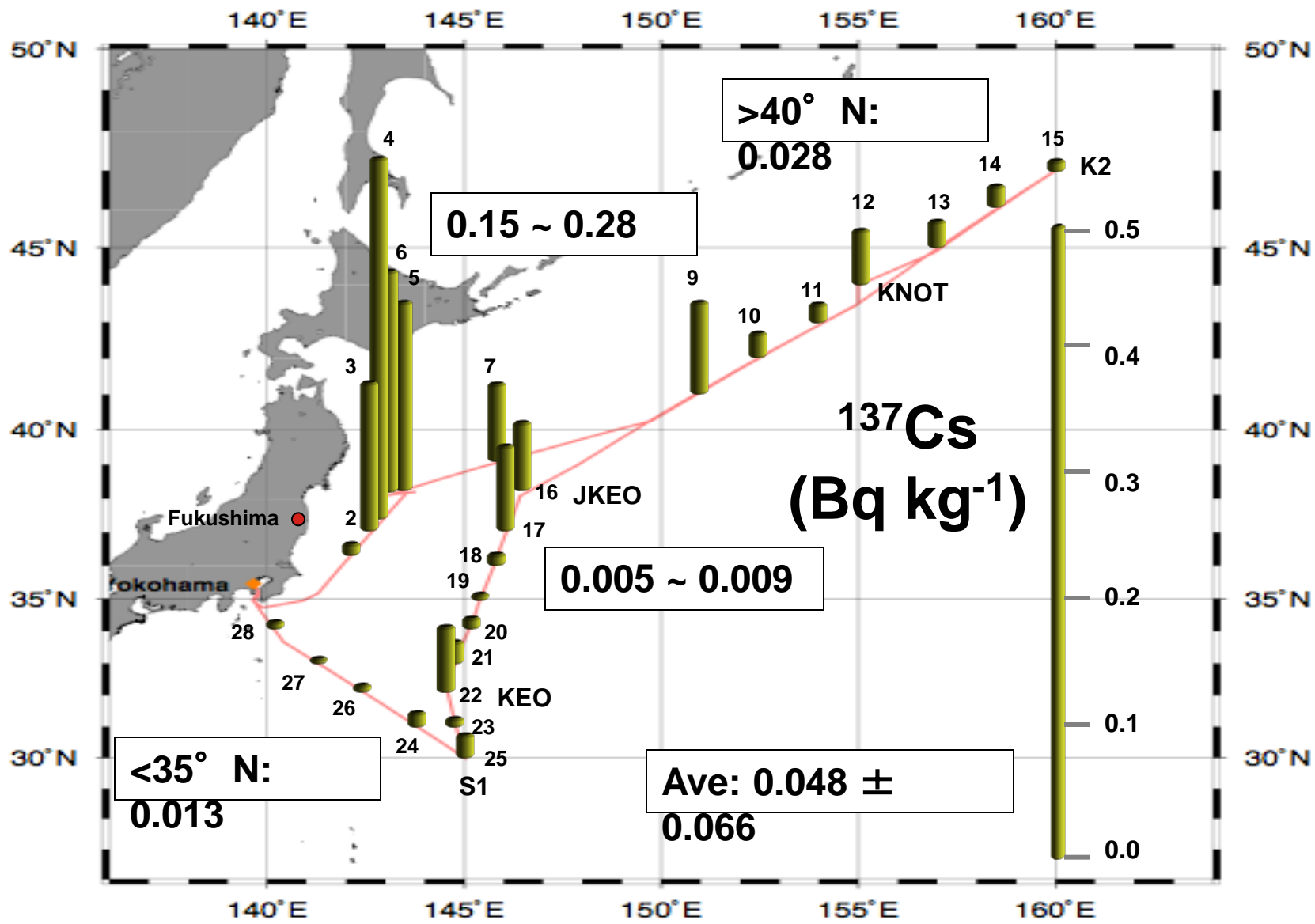
本多牧生

Summary of budget of ^{137}Cs (by Aoyama of MRI)



(after Buessler, Aoyama and Fukasawa, 2011)





GMT 2011 Apr 26 16:43:39

Figure 1 Horizontal distribution of ^{137}Cs in surface seawater of the western North Pacific

(Honda et al., Geochemical Journal, 2012)

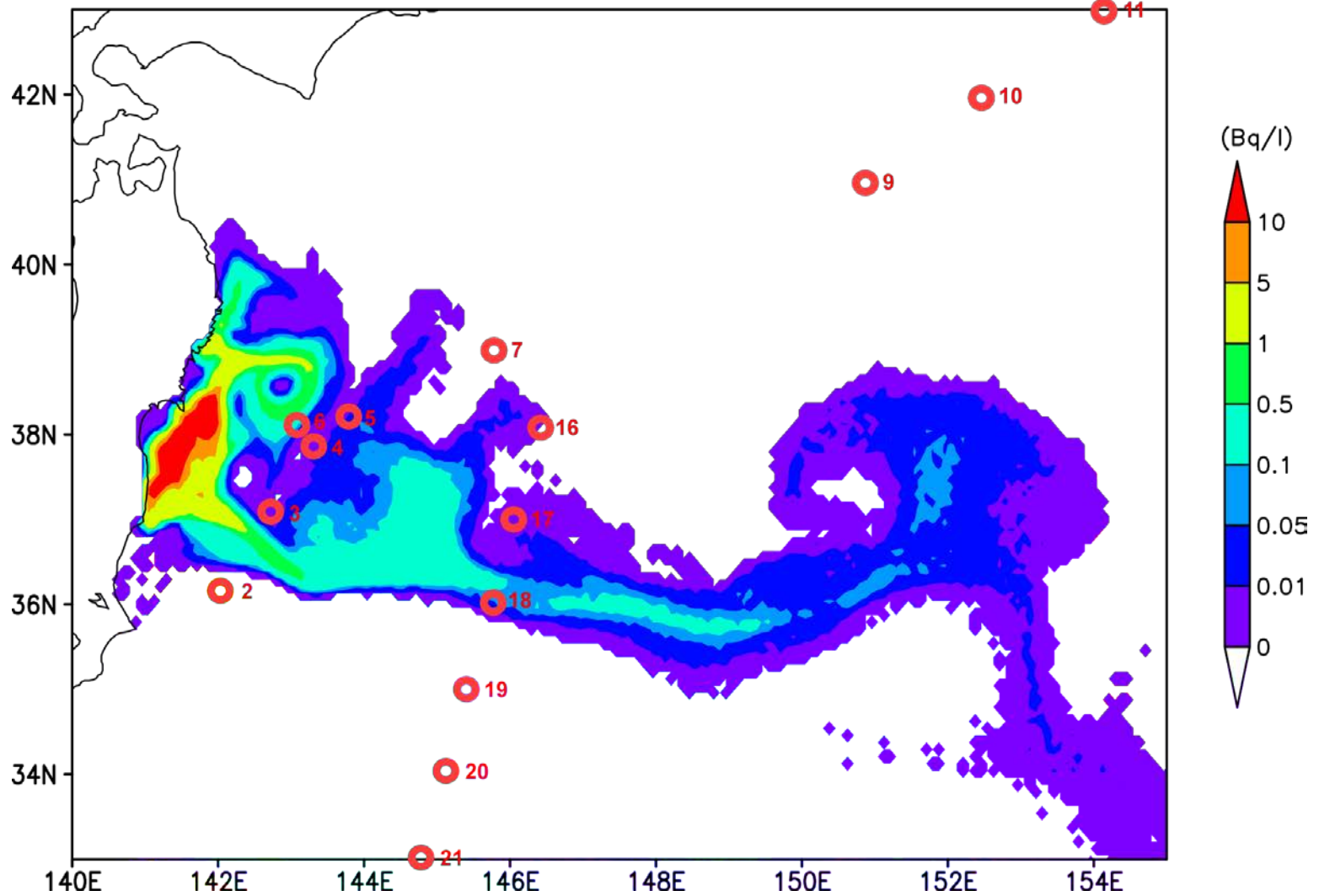
Numerical simulation (1)

Dispersion of Contaminated Water



○ K2

JCOPE2 (Cesium137) 2011/04/14–2011/04/26

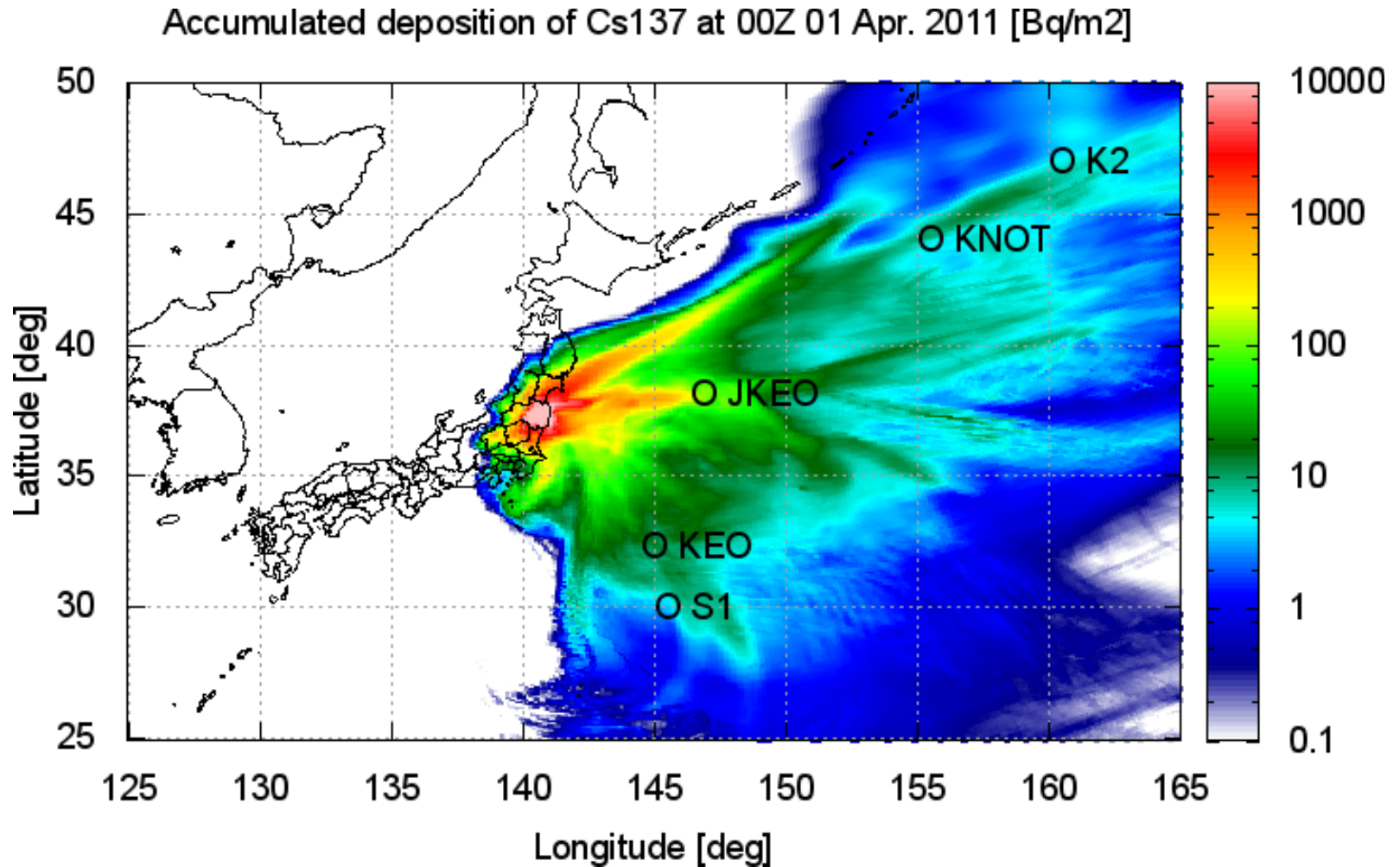


○ S1

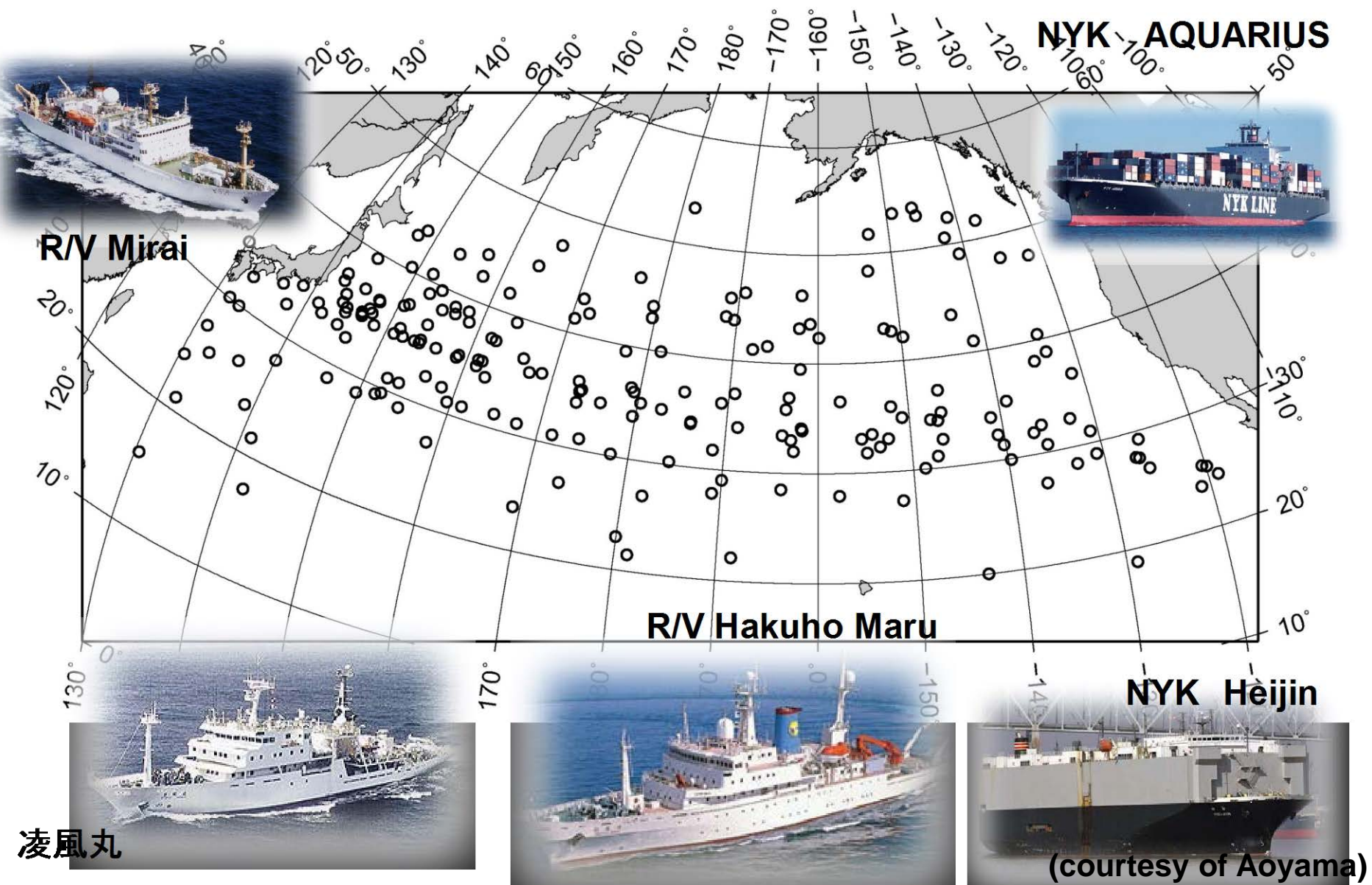
(Honda et al., Geochemical Journal, 2012)

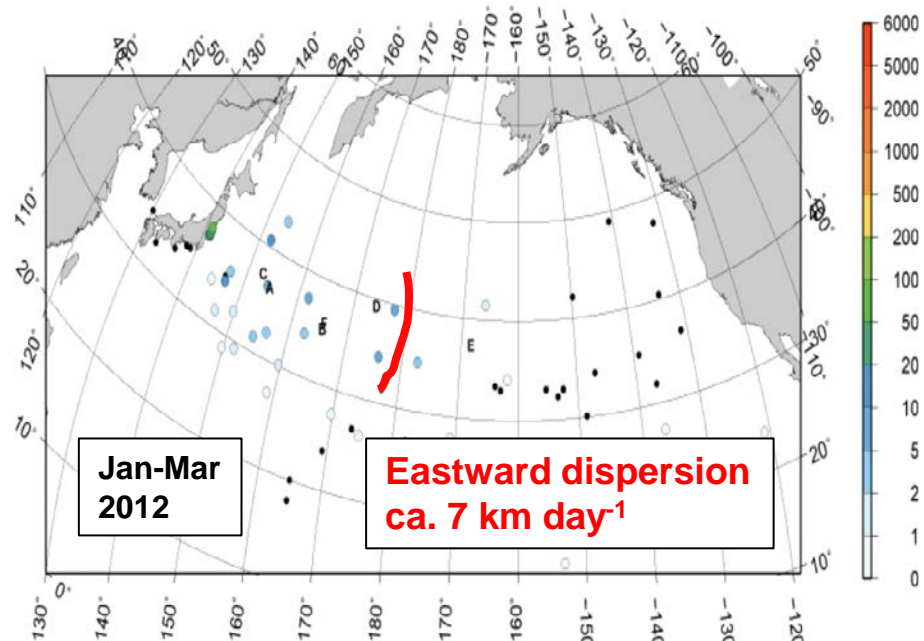
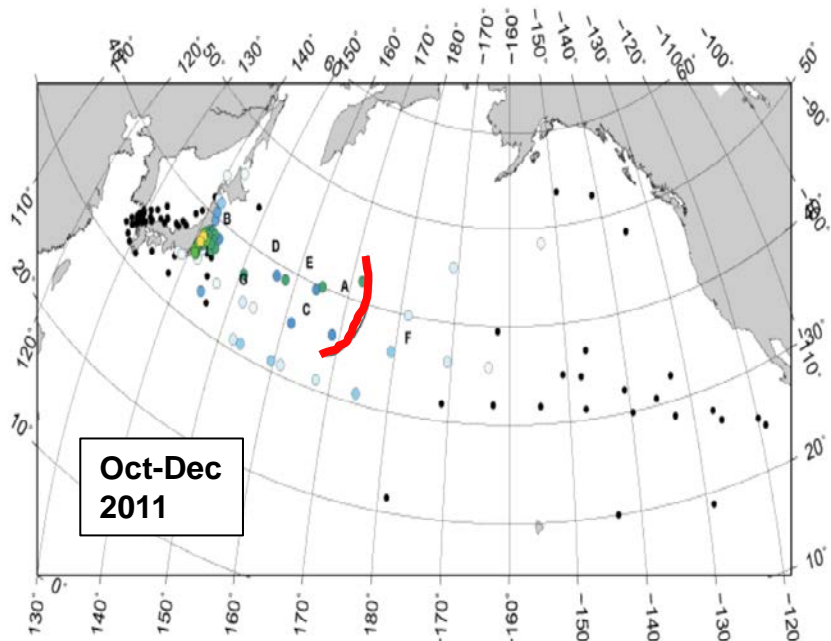
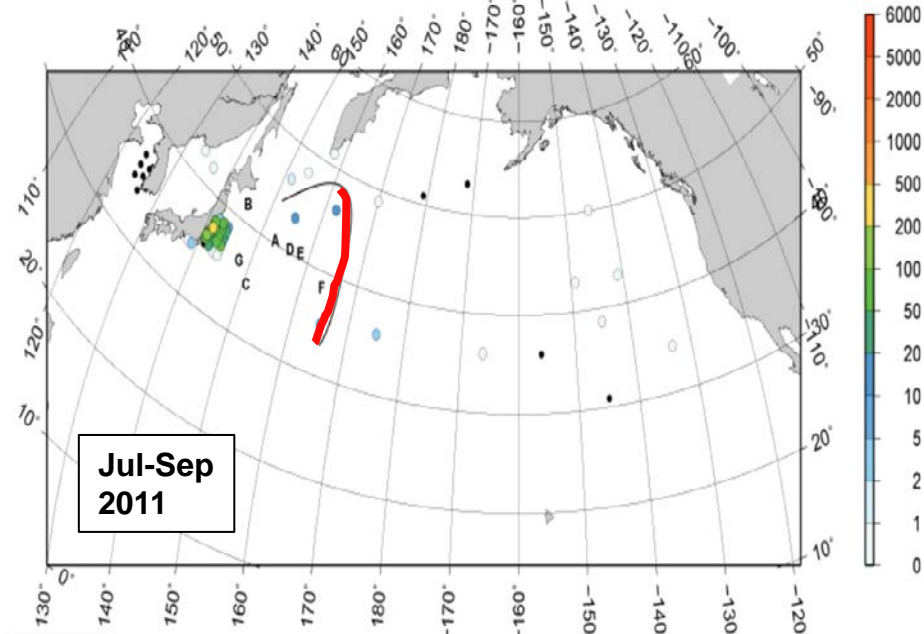
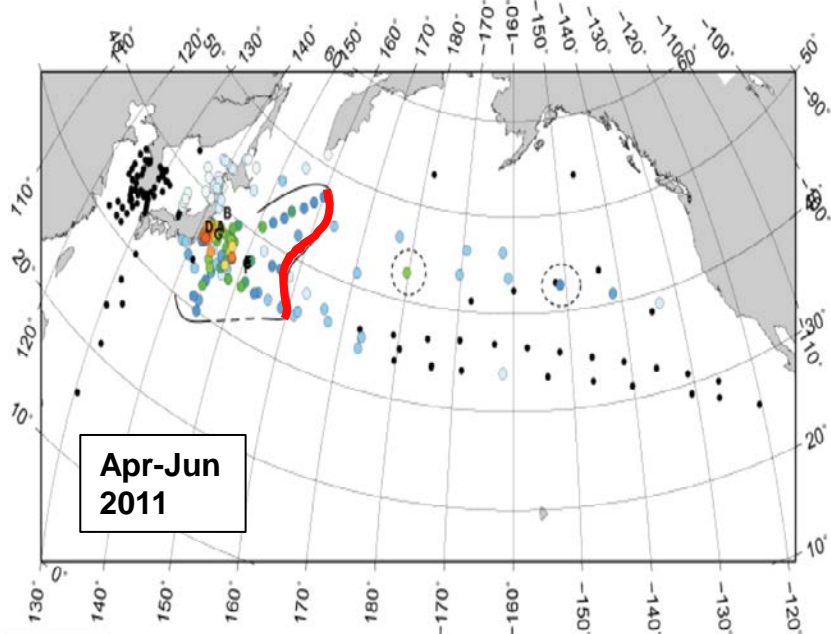
Numerical simulation (2)

Dispersion of Contaminated Aerosol



Sampling locations during the period from March 2011 to Oct. 2012

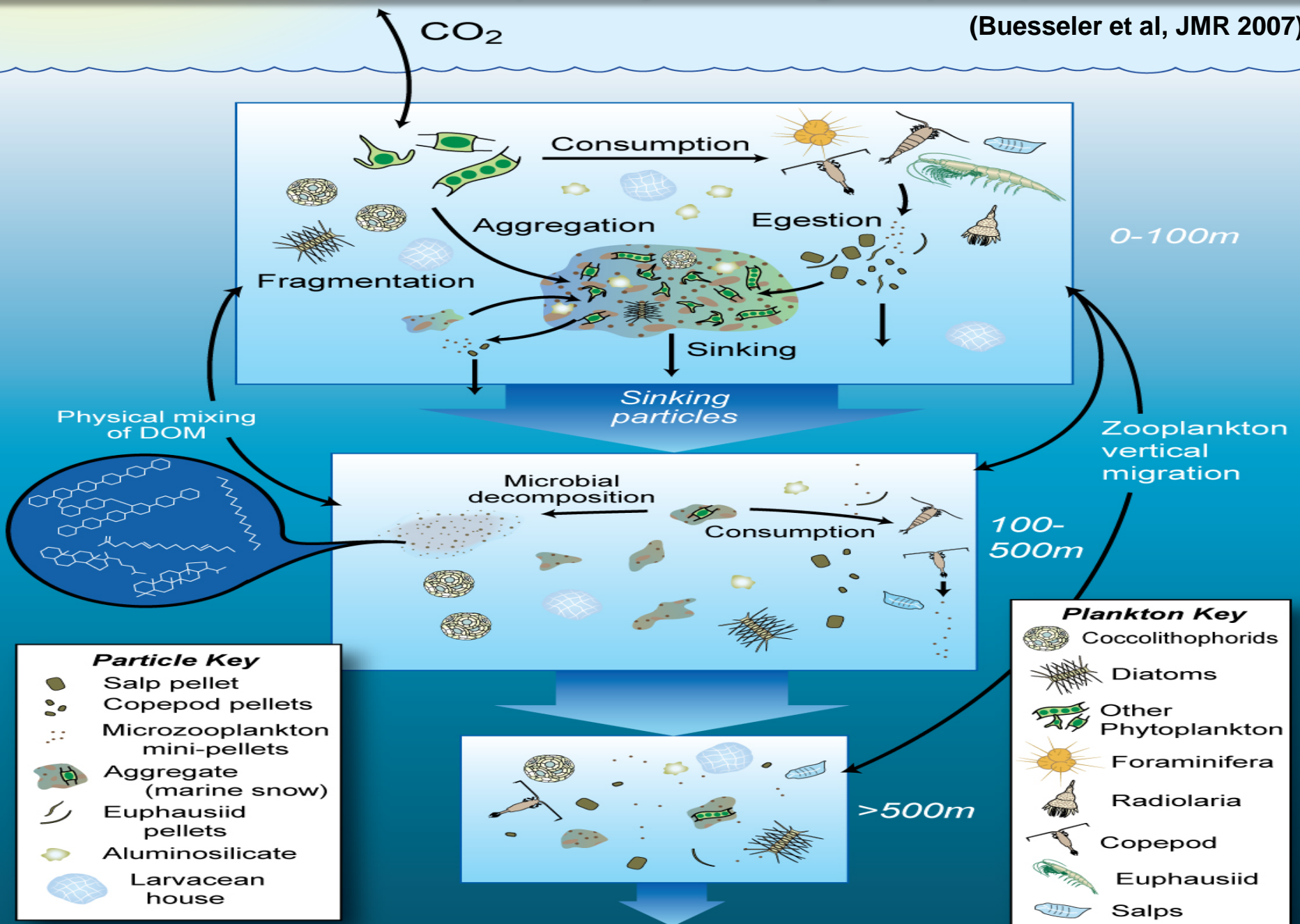




(after Aoyama et al., BG 10 3067-3078, 2013)

Vertical transport by “Biological pump”

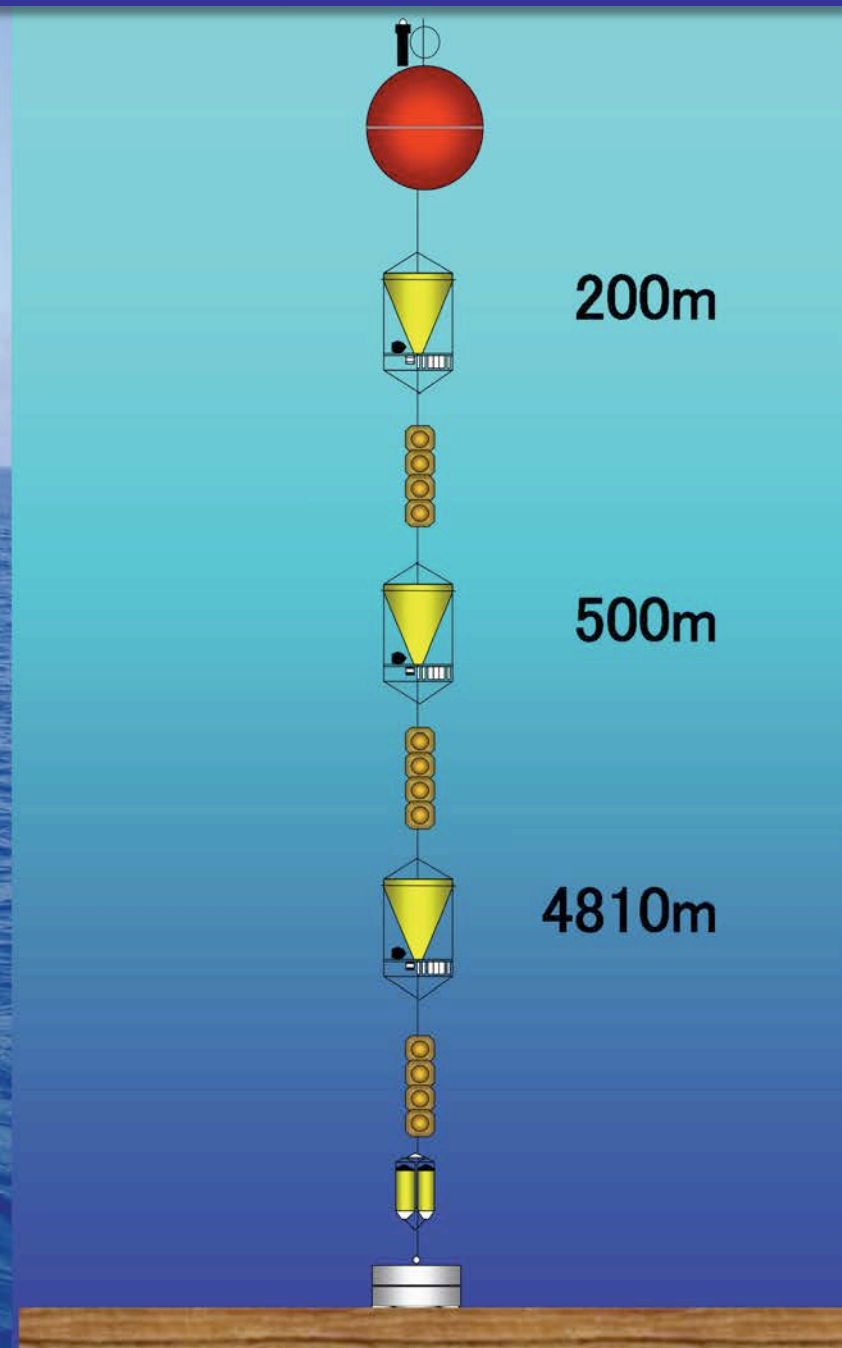
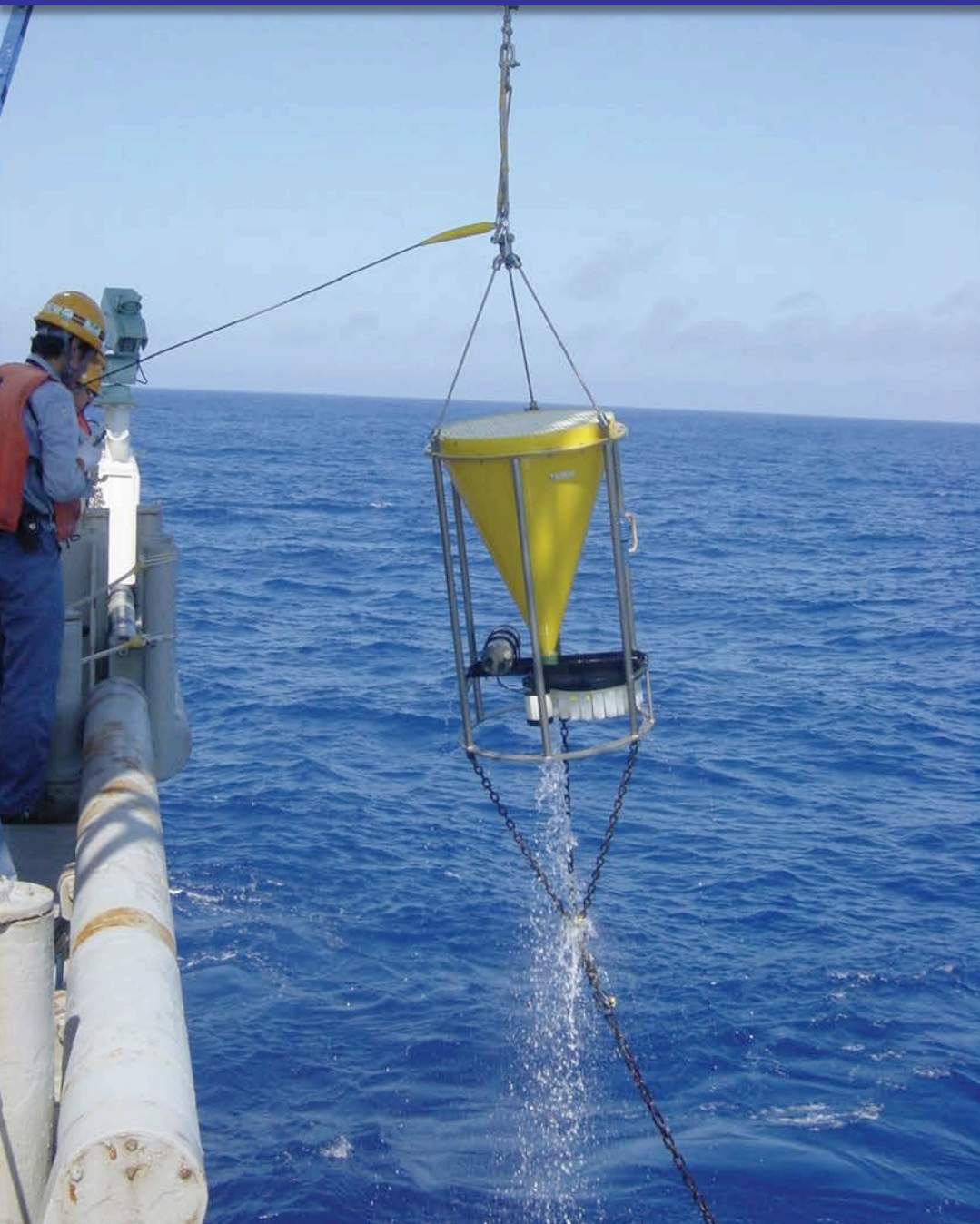
(Buesseler et al, JMR 2007)



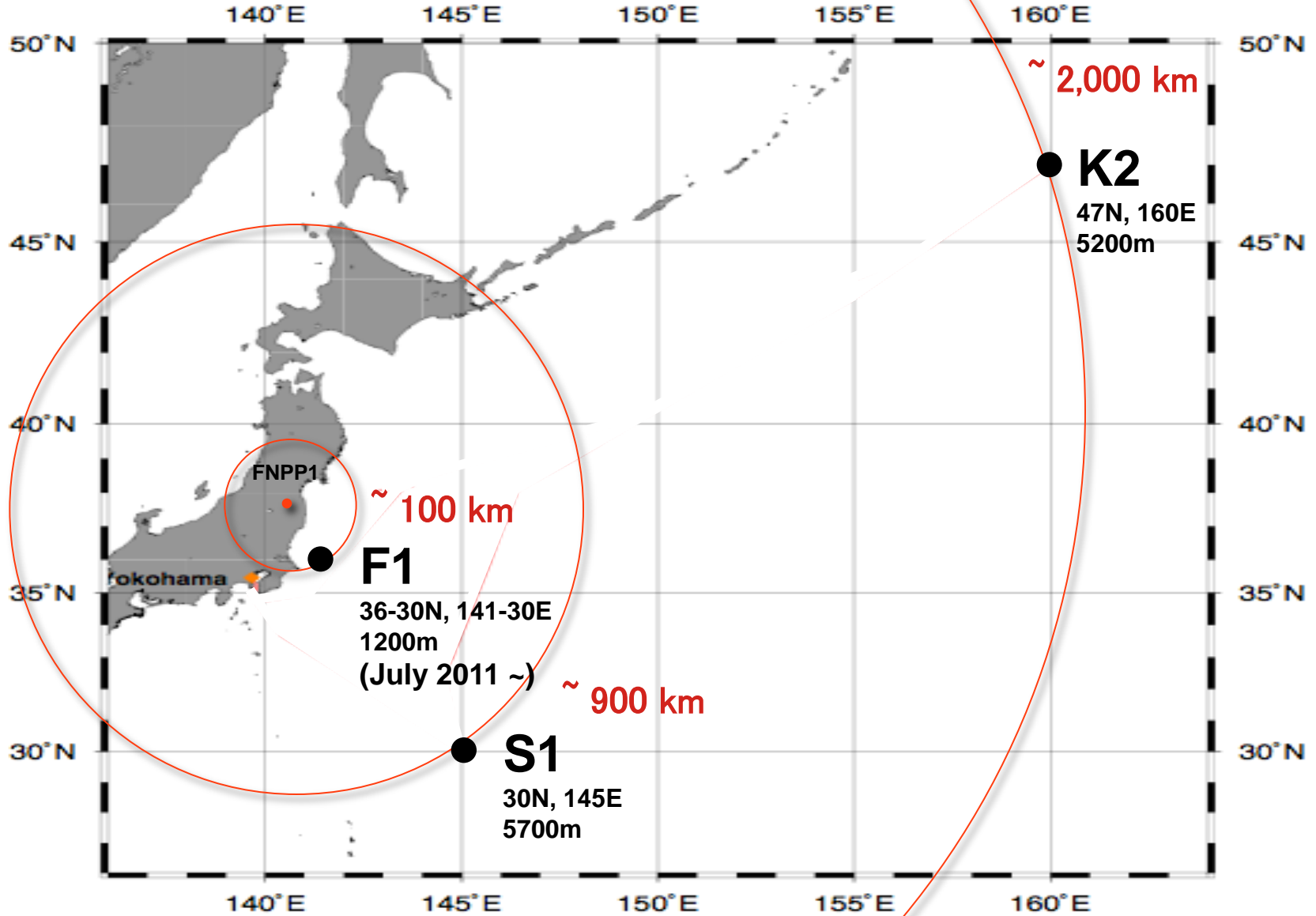
- Particle Key**
- Salp pellet
 - Copepod pellets
 - Microzooplankton mini-pellets
 - Aggregate (marine snow)
 - Euphausiid pellets
 - Aluminosilicate
 - Larvacean house

- Plankton Key**
- Coccolithophorids
 - Diatoms
 - Other Phytoplankton
 - Foraminifera
 - Radiolaria
 - Copepod
 - Euphausiid
 - Salps

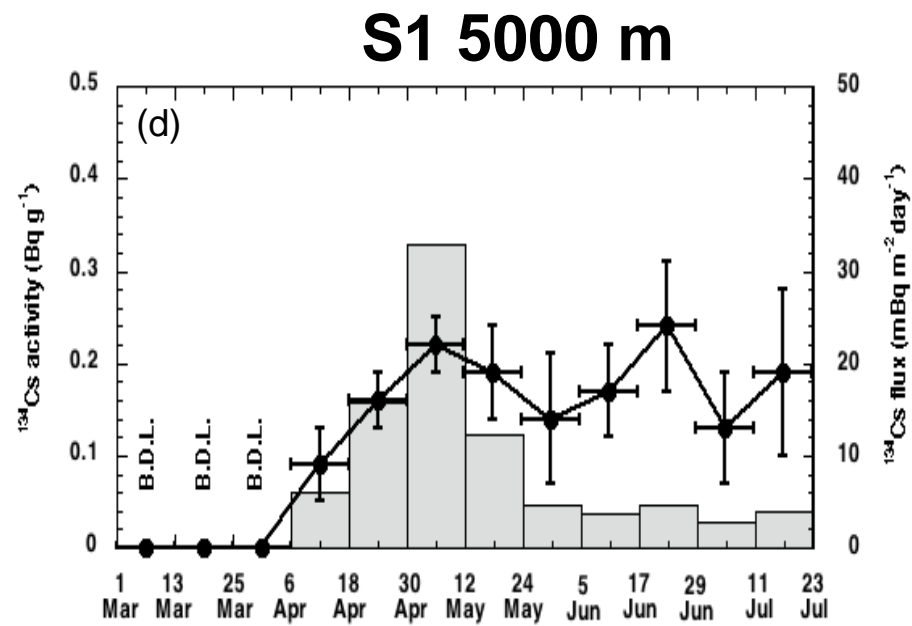
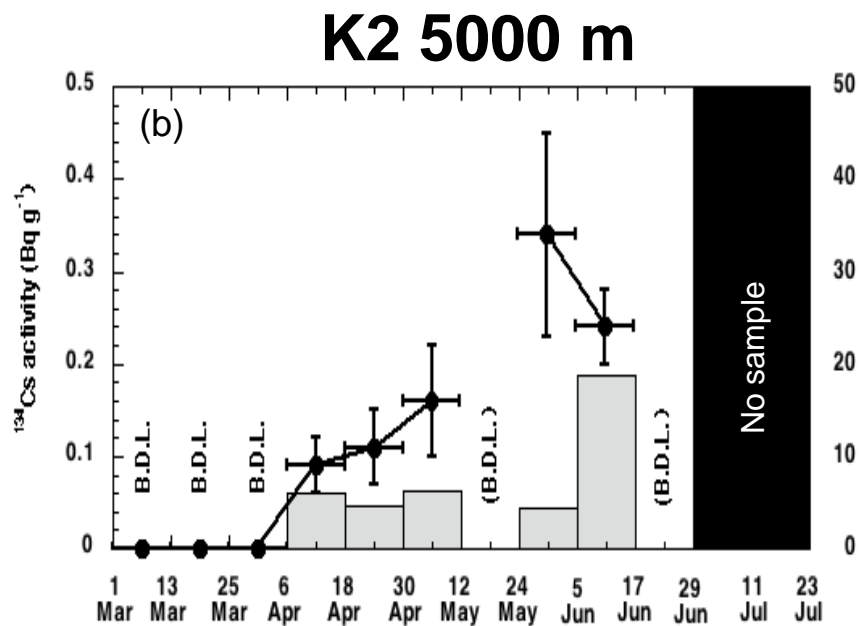
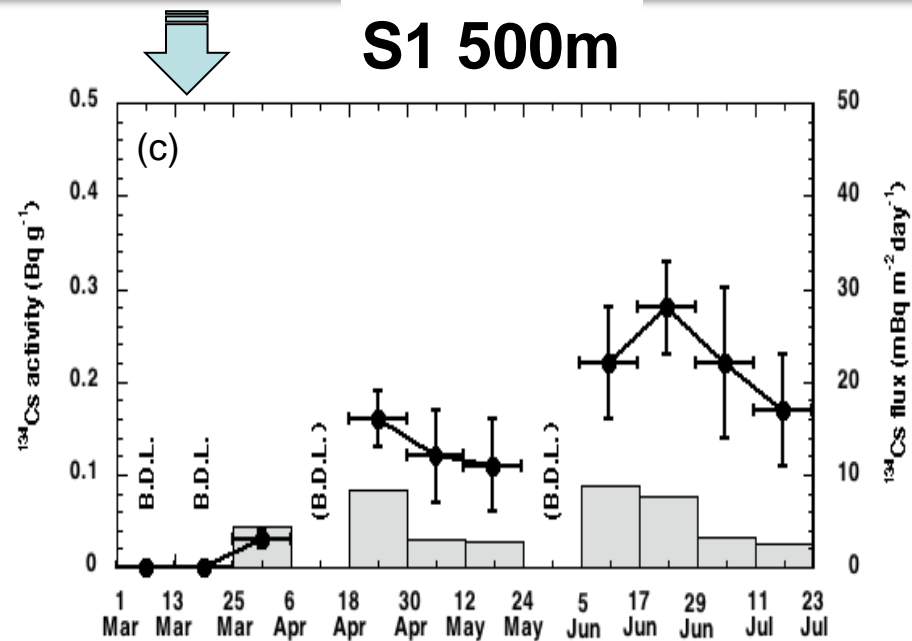
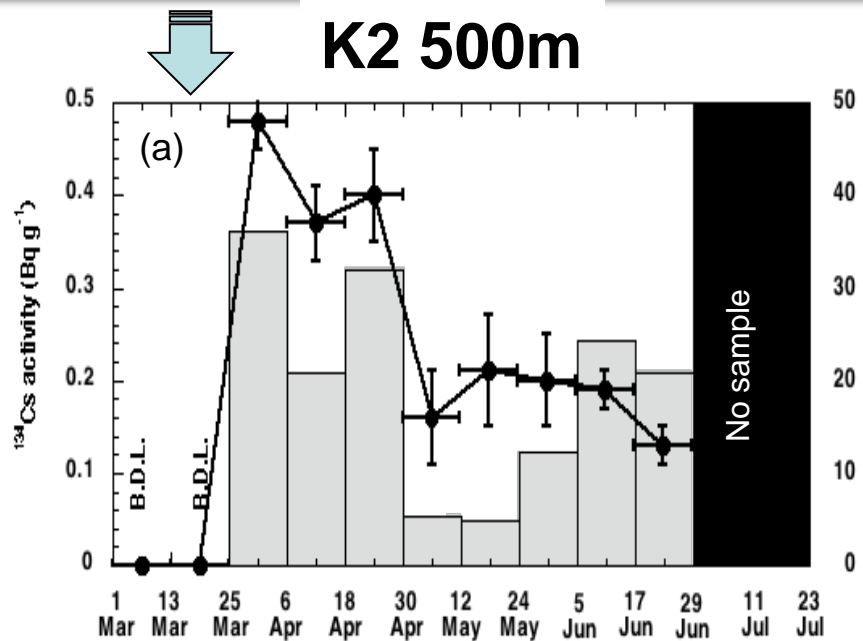
Time-series Sediment trap



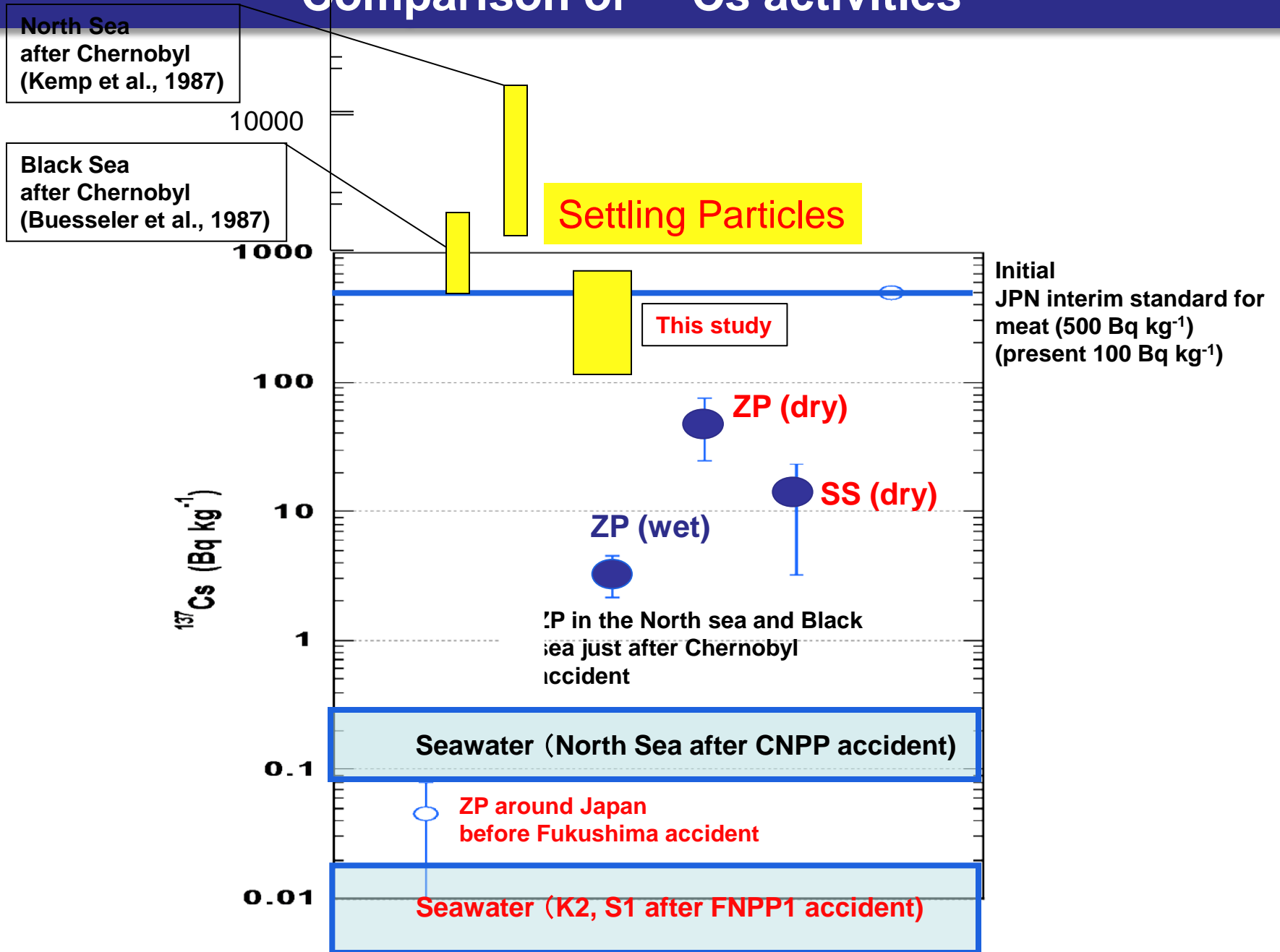
K2, S1 and F1



K2, S1: Activities and fluxes of ^{134}Cs



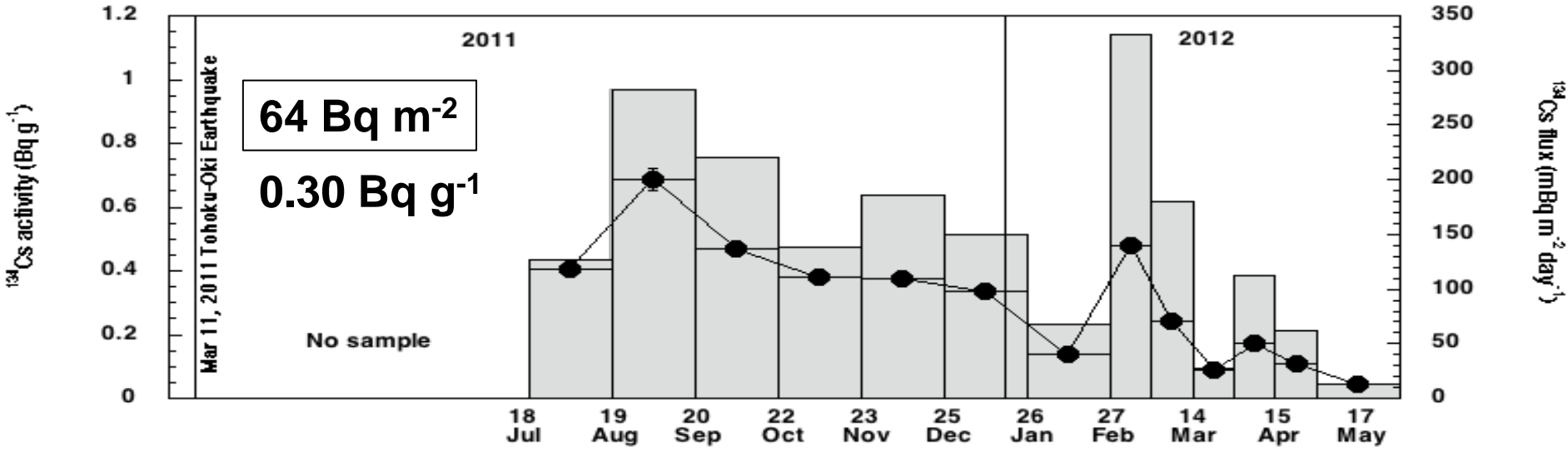
Comparison of ^{137}Cs activities



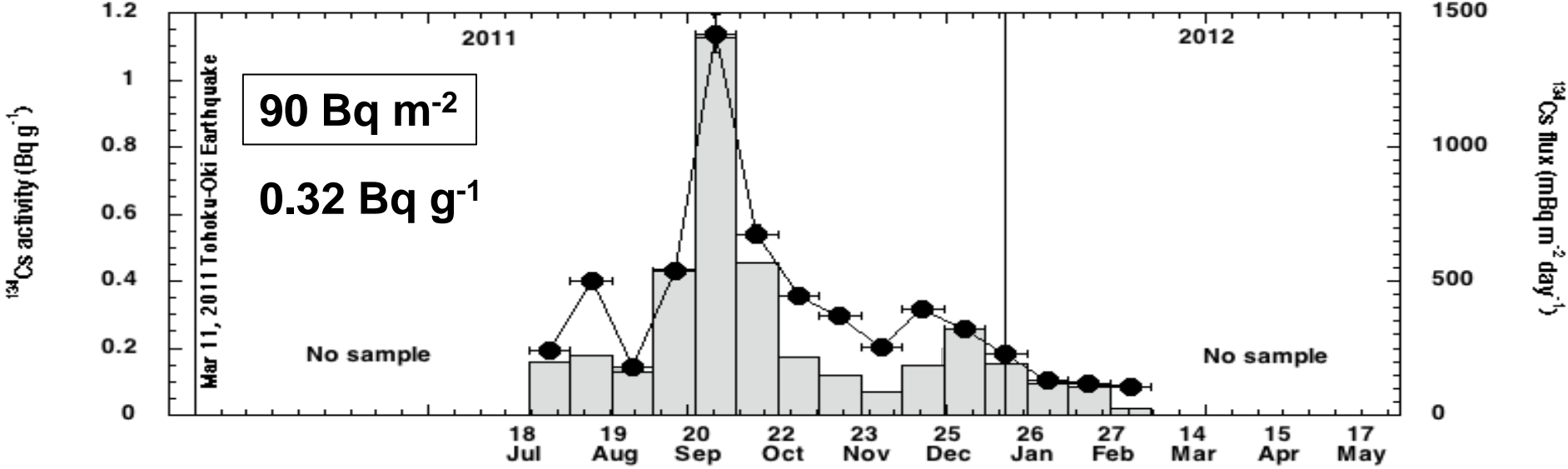
^{137}Cs activities of seawater, suspended substances (SS) and zooplankton (ZP) are quoted from Honda et al., (2012).

F1: Flux is 20 ~ 50 times larger than that at K2 and S1

F1 500m



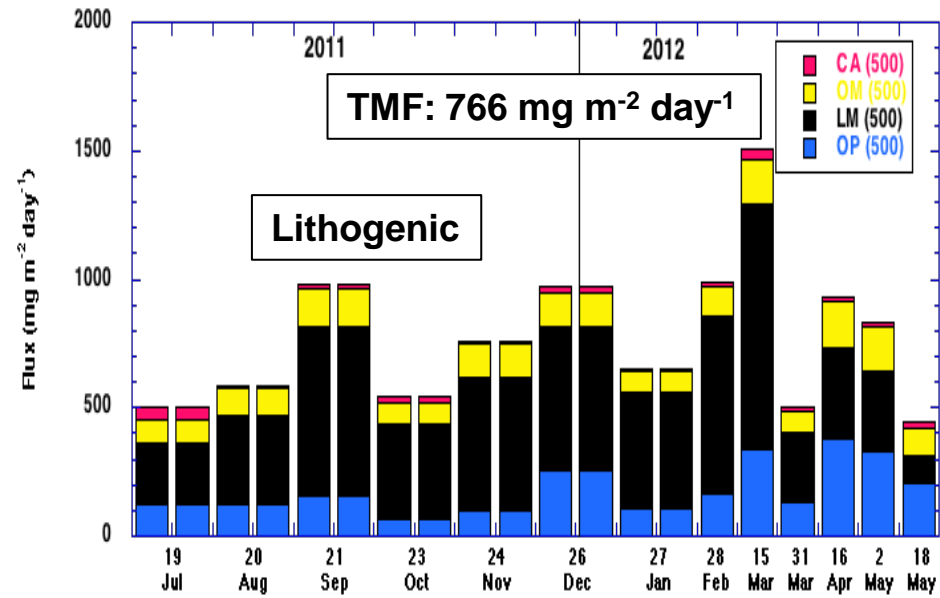
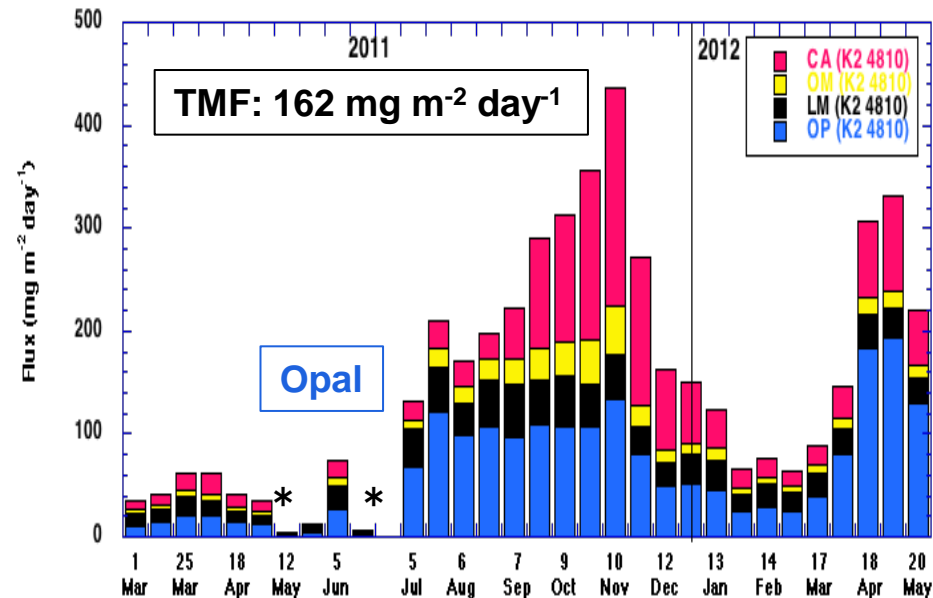
F1 1000m



Total Mass Flux and Chemical composition

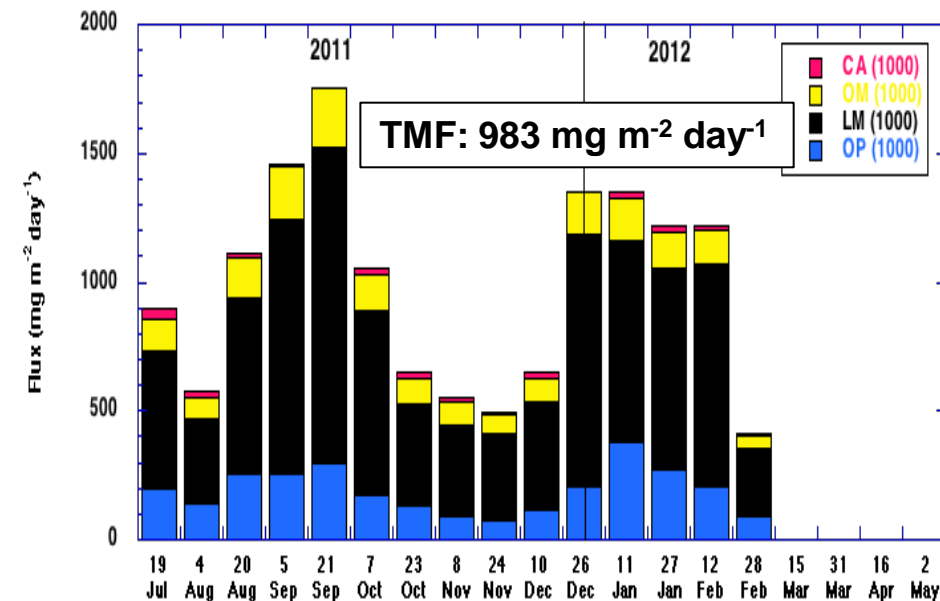
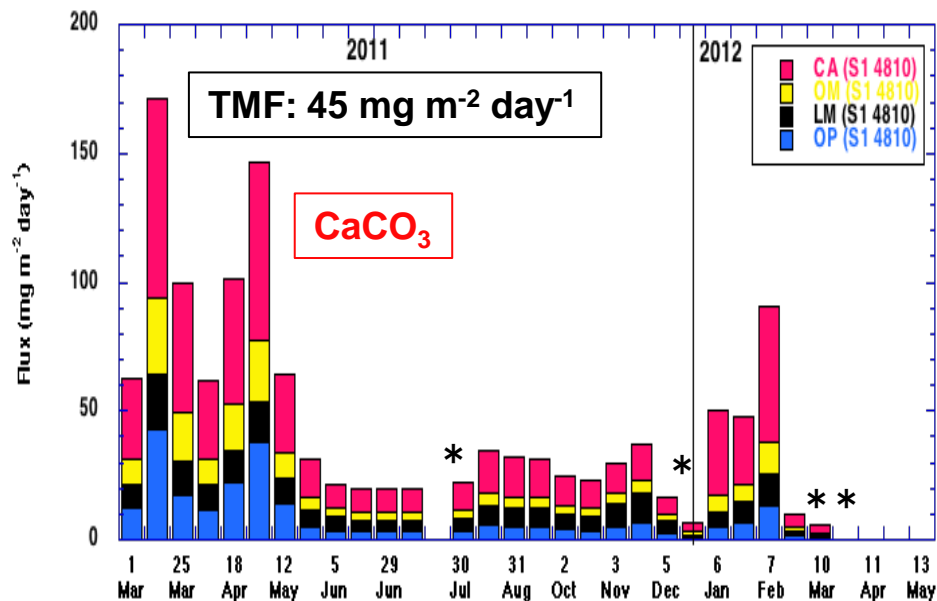
K2 5000m

F1 500m



S1 5000m

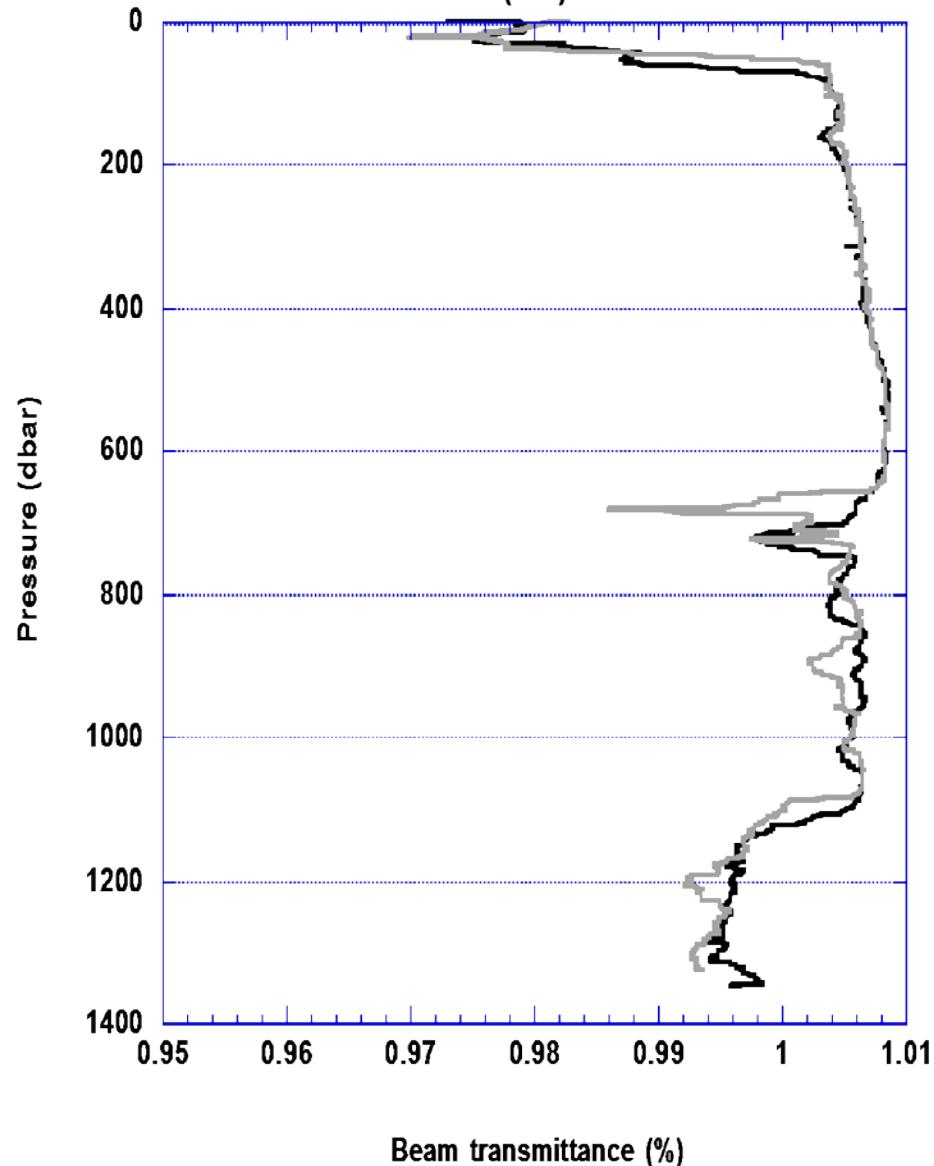
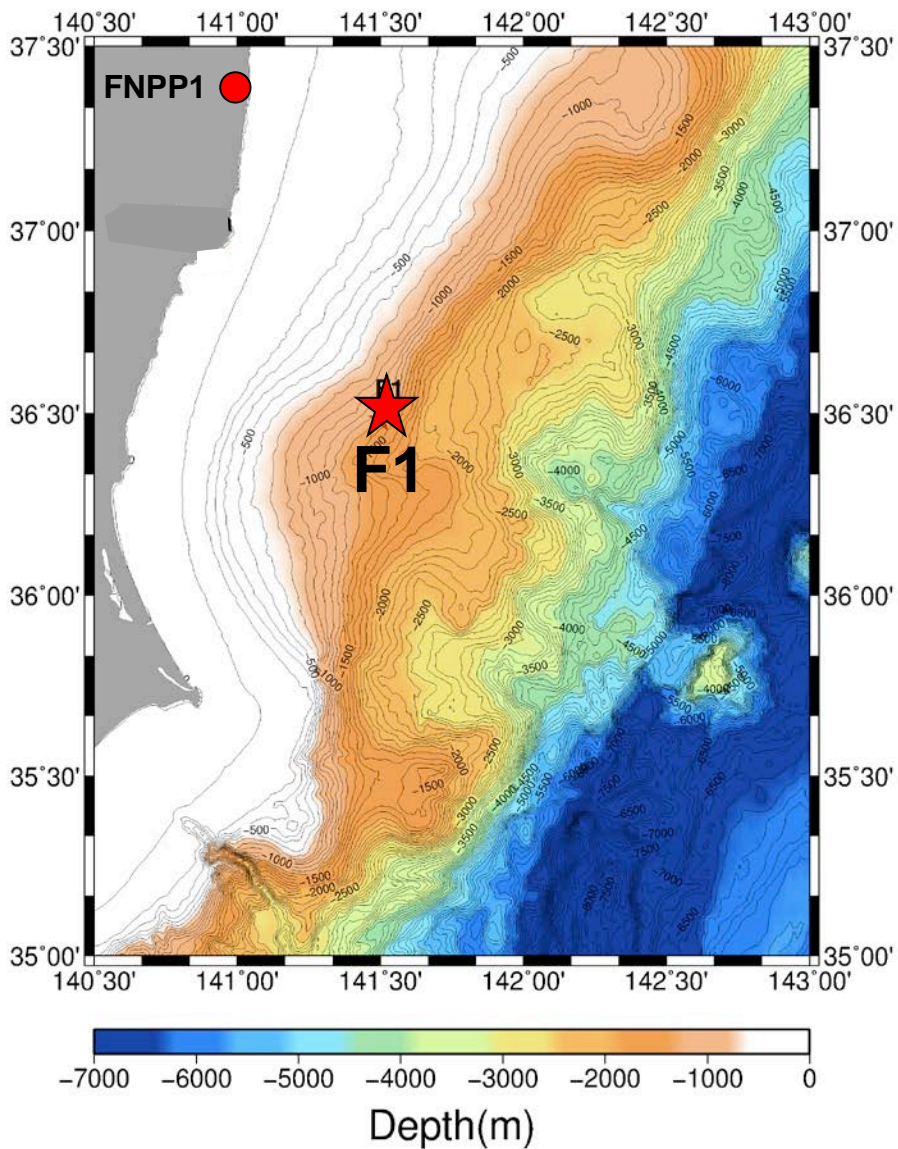
F1 1000m



Lateral transport of contaminated lithogenic materials (?!)

F1

Beam Transmittance
(F1)



Fish radioactivity is likely sustained by radioactive food.

Pelagic
food web

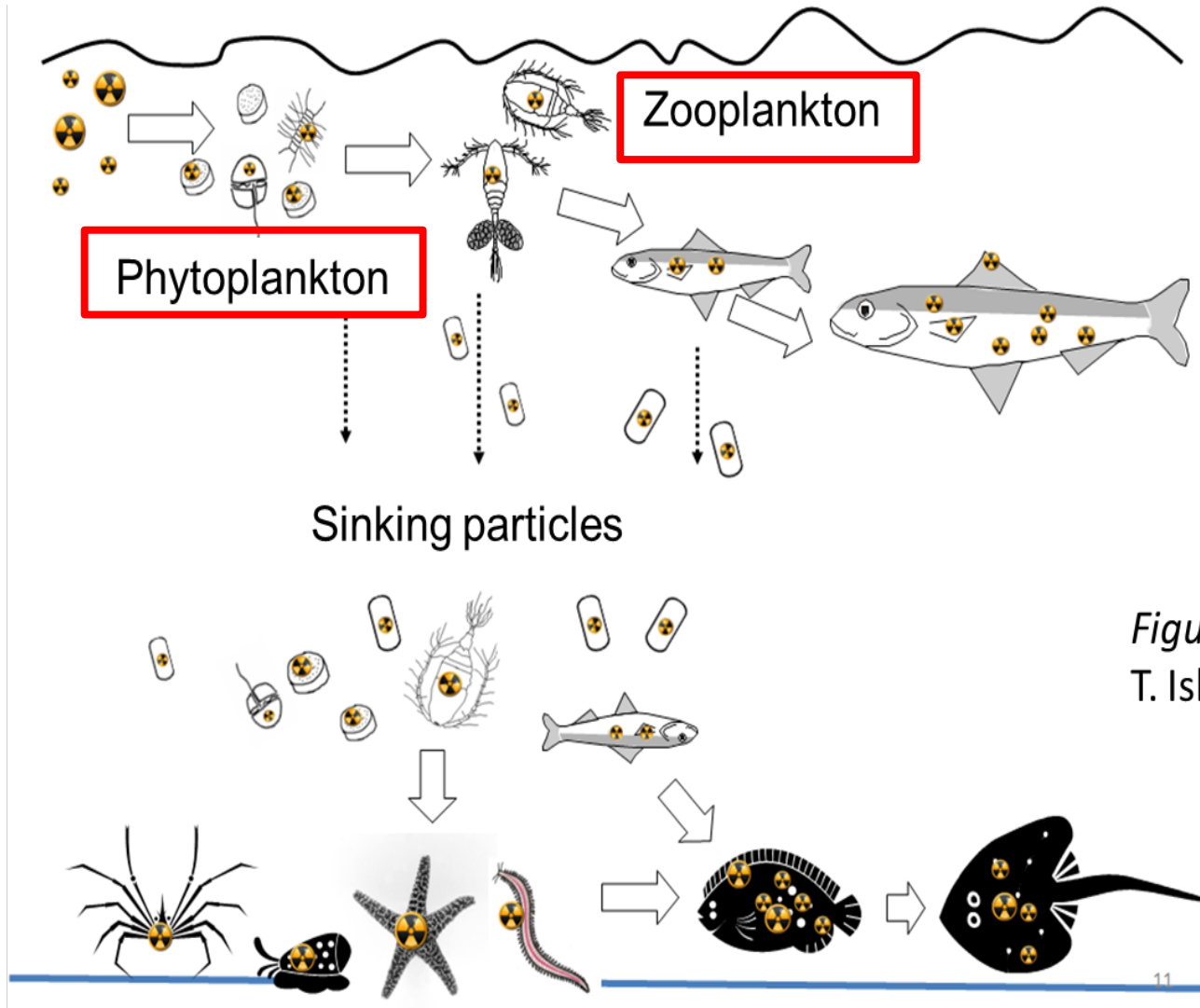


Figure drawn by
T. Ishimaru

Benthic
food web

Plankton sampling

MTD Net

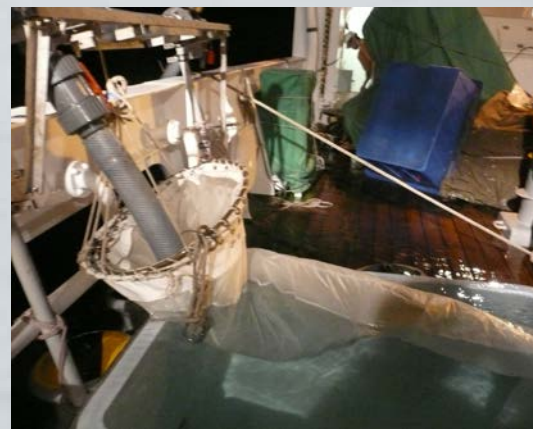


IONESS Multiple Opening/Closing Net



Sampling with a submersible pump

ORI Net



Dredge sampling for benthos



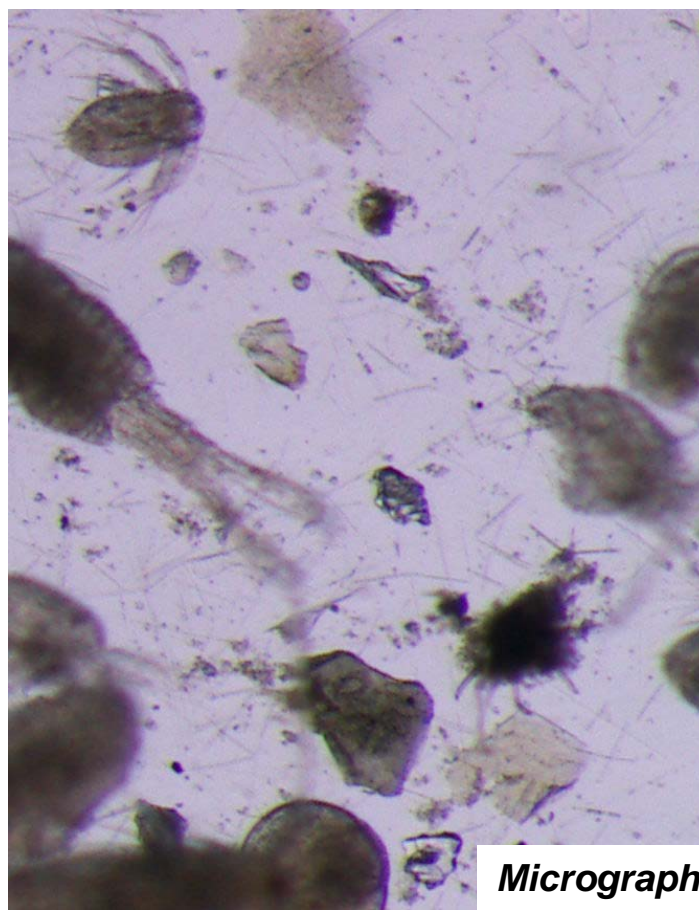
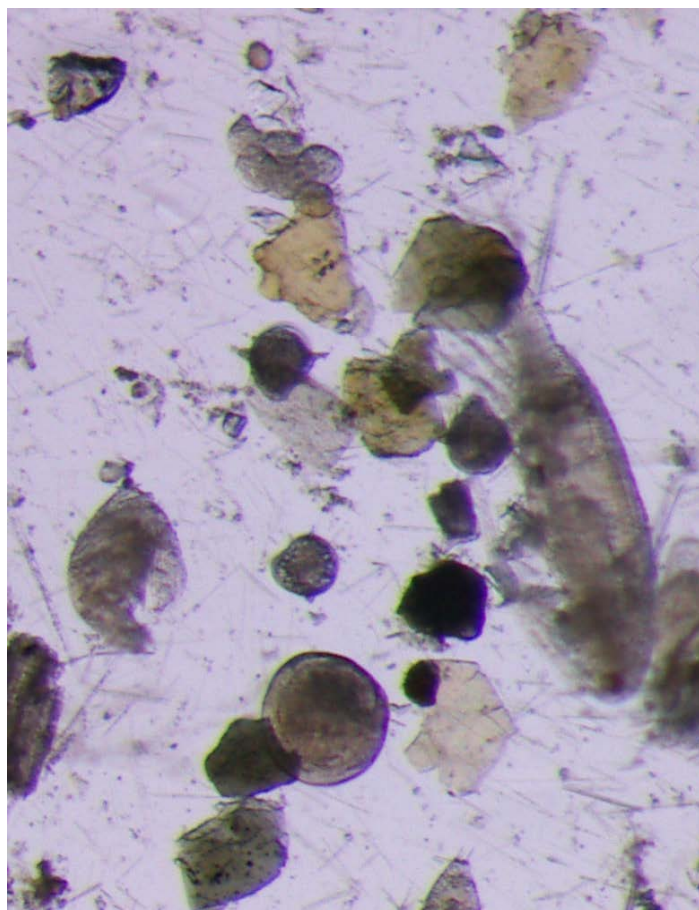
(courtesy of Kanda)

High ^{137}Cs in Plankton/Benthic organisms from shallow waters

Contaminated by suspended sediment?

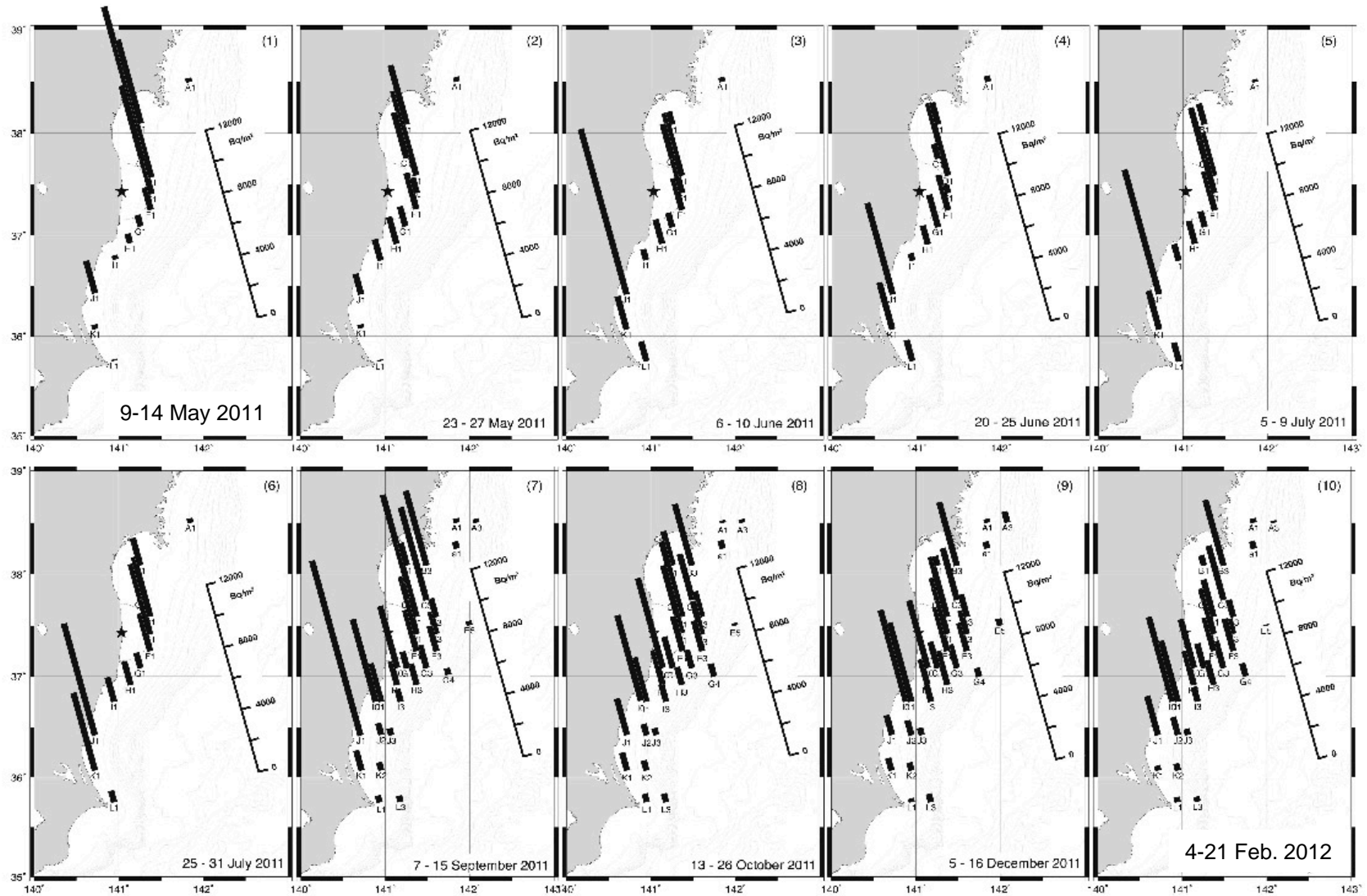
Terrestrial organic matter? “Spider leg hypothesis”

Transfer of ^{137}Cs from sediment to Plankton/Benthic org.?



Micrograph: T. Ishimaru

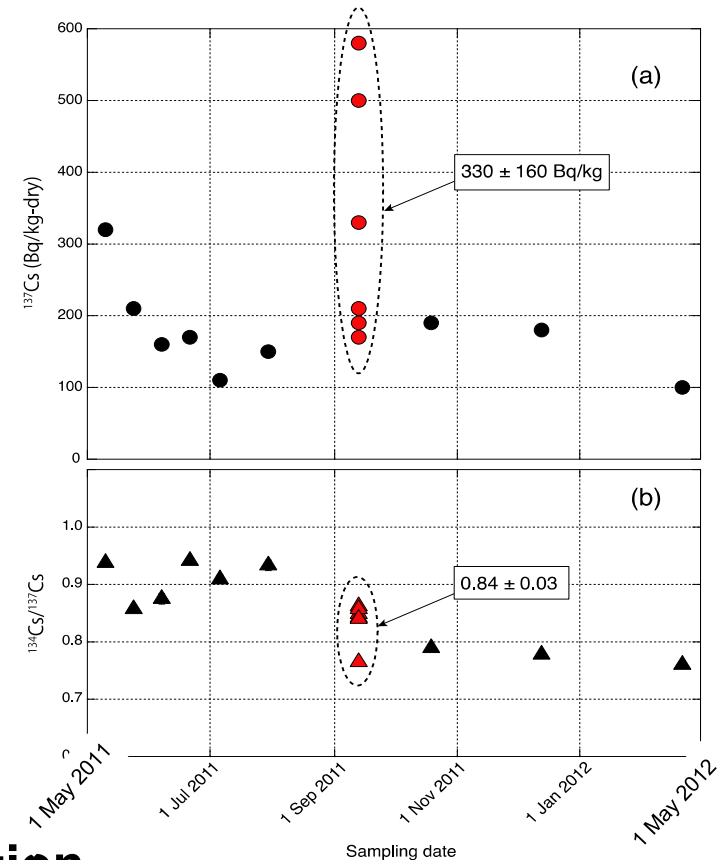
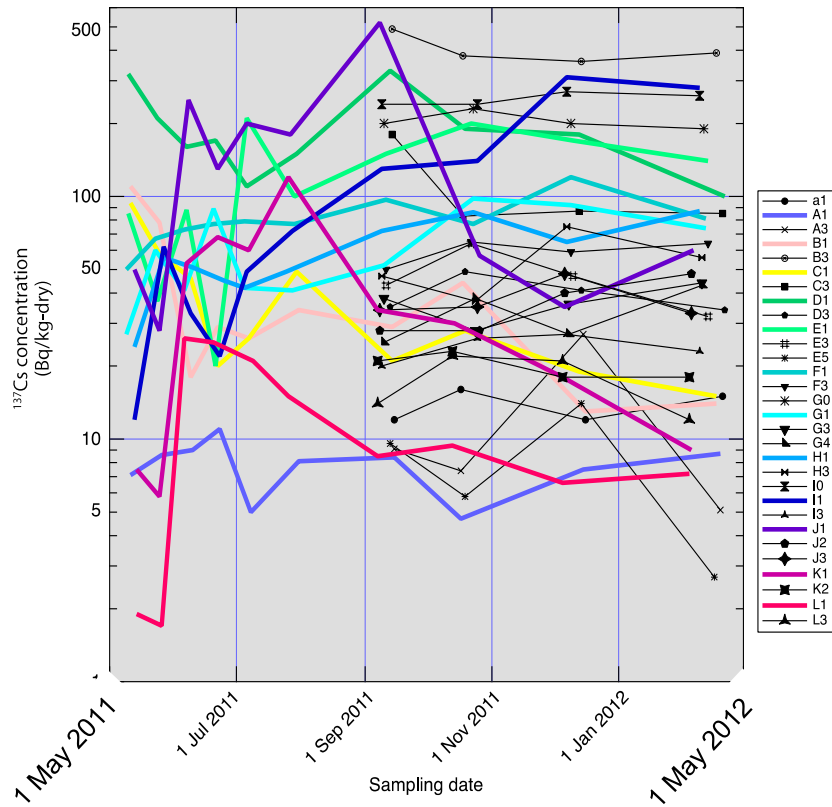
Inventory of ^{137}Cs in seafloor sediment off Fukushima, Miyagi and Ibaragi



Inventory of ^{137}Cs (upper 3cm): ~ 40 TBq (0.1 – 2% of direct discharge)
(Kusakabe et al. BGD 2013)

Temporal variability of ^{137}Cs (left) and Reproducibility of ^{137}Cs (right)

(Kusakabe et al. BGD 2013)

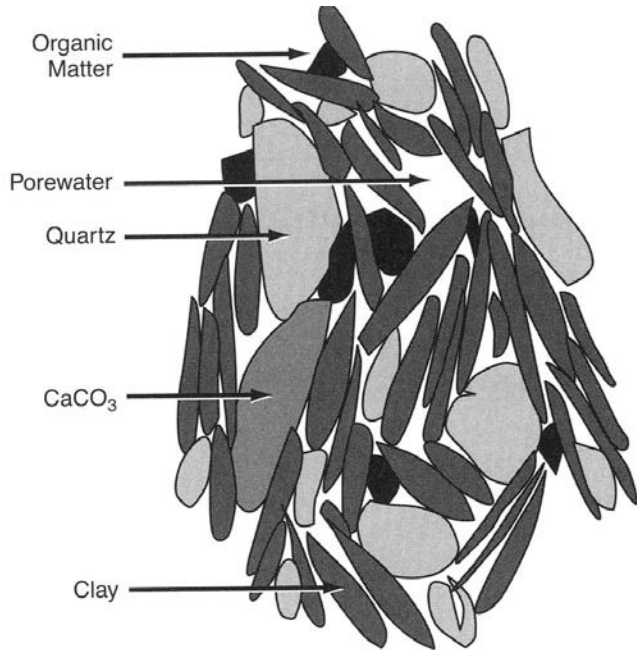


Lessons learned from sediment investigation

- >> Concentration of radiocesium in seafloor sediment is unstable.
- >> Distribution is not homogeneous.

Radiocesium is mobile (re-suspension, lateral transport, re-distribution).

Chemical structure of radiocesium is open question.



Marine sediment:

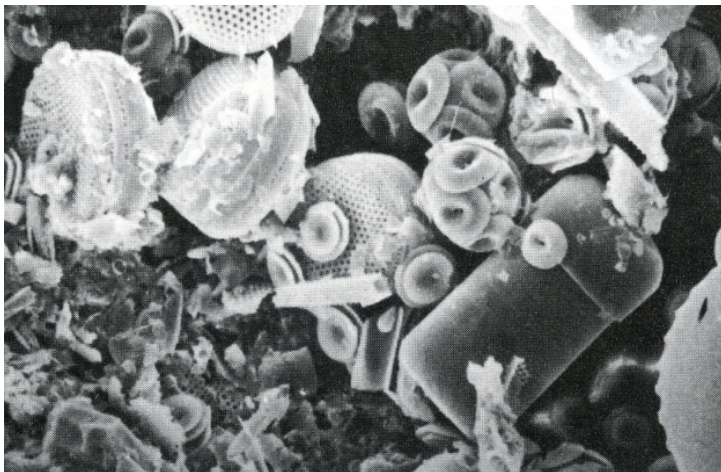
Biogenic particles

- Organic detritus
(transferrable to food web)
- Inorganic shells

Lithogenic particles (e.g. clay minerals)

- Terrestrial origin
- Cesium may bind strongly

Ocean Biogeochemical Dynamics, J.L. Sarmiento and N. Gruber, Princeton Univ. Press, 2006



Characterization of sediment and suspended particles is essential

An Introduction to the World's Oceans, 6th ed.,
A.C. Duxbury, A.B. Duxbury and K.A. Sverdrup,
McGraw-Hill, 2000

(courtesy of Kanda)

Interdisciplinary Study on Environmental Transfer of Radionuclides from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident



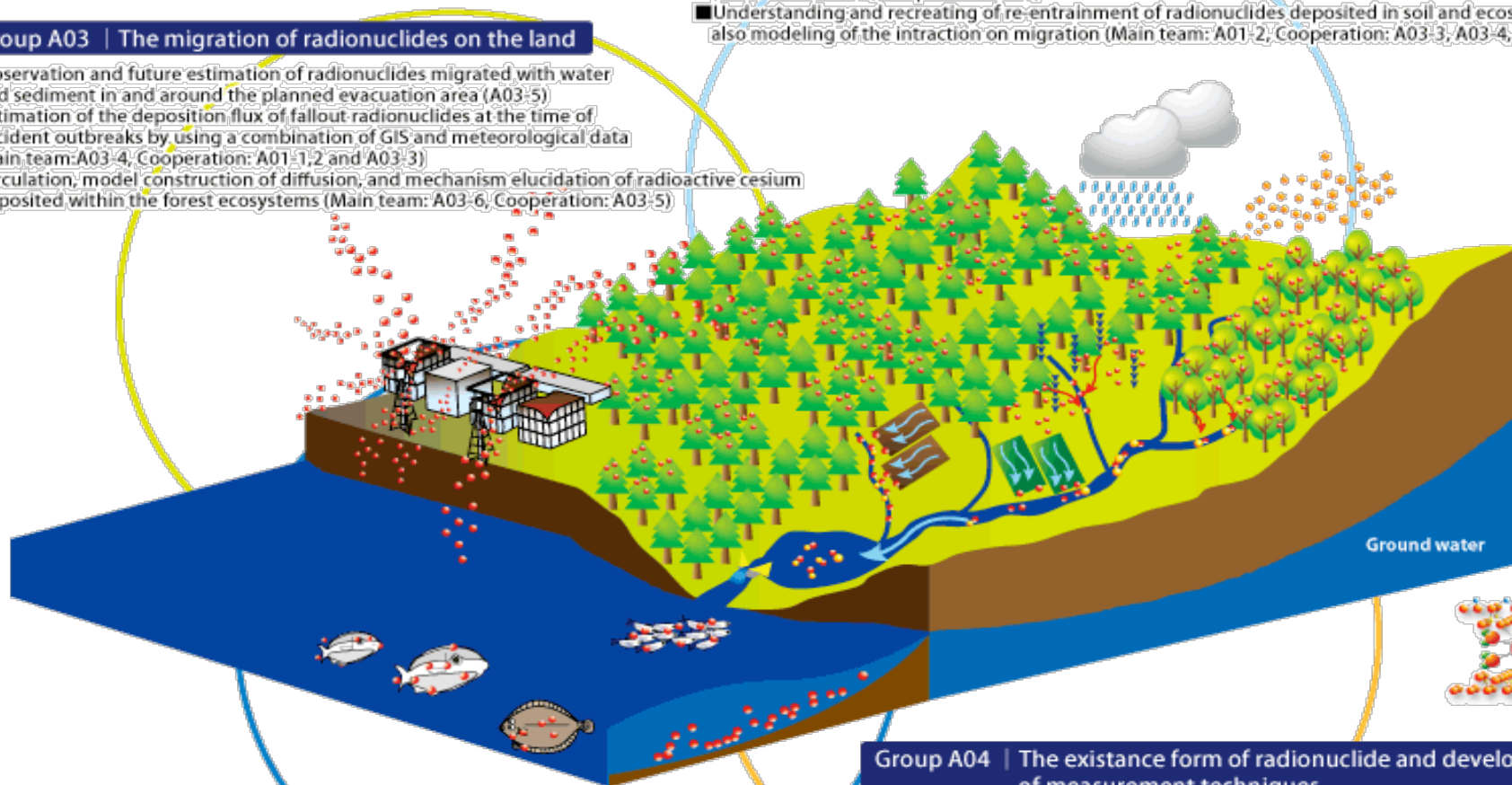
ISET-R
INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY ON
ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSFER OF RADIONUCLIDES
FROM THE FUKUSHIMA DAIICHI NPP ACCIDENT

Group A01 | The effect of radionuclides on the atmosphere

- Understanding the model of atmospheric circulation and migration process of radioactive fallout (Main team: A01-1; Cooperation: A01-2; A02-3)
- Understanding of atmospheric deposition, diffusion processes, and the interaction with land (Main team: A01-2; Cooperation: A04)
- Understanding and recreating of re-entrainment of radionuclides deposited in soil and ecosystems, also modeling of the interaction on migration (Main team: A01-2; Cooperation: A03-3, A03-4, and A01-1)

Group A03 | The migration of radionuclides on the land

- Observation and future estimation of radionuclides migrated with water and sediment in and around the planned evacuation area (A03-5)
- Estimation of the deposition flux of fallout radionuclides at the time of accident outbreaks by using a combination of GIS and meteorological data (Main team: A03-4; Cooperation: A01-1, 2 and A03-3)
- Circulation, model construction of diffusion, and mechanism elucidation of radioactive cesium deposited within the forest ecosystems (Main team: A03-6; Cooperation: A03-5)



Group A02 | The effect of radionuclides on the ocean

- Understanding the distribution factor and condition of radioactive materials in sea and seafloor
- Investigation of physical process and modeling of radionuclides in sea and seafloor
- Investigation of concentration process and estimation of migration process of radioactive materials in marine ecosystems (Main team: A02-3, 4; Cooperation: A01-1; A03-7, and A04)

Group A04 | The existence form of radionuclide and development of measurement techniques

- Development of microanalysis technology and chemical form of radioactive materials with migration; measurement support for Team A01-03
- Understanding the actual condition; measurement and future estimation of radionuclides diffused from Fukushima Daiichi NPP