Commentary on Community Structure Debbie Steinberg Virginia Institute of Marine Science

- Bloom dynamics and particle flux
- Twilight zone processes

– Zooplankton & microbial community structure

Salp blooms at BATS



Steinberg & Madin (in prep.)

3200 m trap contents, June 1999



Conte & Horgan

QuickTime[™] and a Cinepak decompressor are needed to see this picture.

> MBARI, Steinberg, Silver, & Pilskaln video courtesy of MBARI © 1990

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Goldthwait, Alldredge, & Yen

Vertical distribution of prokaryotic cell abundance at HOT



Karner et al., 2001

Mean annual C export terms BATS & HOT

(mol C m⁻² y⁻¹)



papers by Steinberg, Landry, Lomas, Carlson, & Schnetzer

Migratory active dissolved flux vs. passive POC flux

Location	Migrating biomass (mg C/ m ²)	Migratory flux (% mean POC flux)	Reference
BATS	85	13	Steinberg et al. (2000)
Subtropical & Tropical Atlantic	-	9	Longhurst et al. (1990)
BATS	191	44	Dam et al. (1995)
North Atlantic	(5-480)	(25-52)	Morales (1999)
НОТ	142	19	Al-Mutairi & Landry (2001)
<u>Eq. Pacific</u> March/April- October-	96 1 55	24 33	Zhang & Dam (1997)
Oligotrophic- HNLC area-	47 53	10 5	LeBorgne & Rodier (1997)

Updated from Steinberg et al. 2000

Conclusions

- Even rare shifts in community structure can have remarkable effects
- Just beginning to understand communities and processes below euphotic zone
- Likely to have significant impact on remineralization length scale, cycling of elements