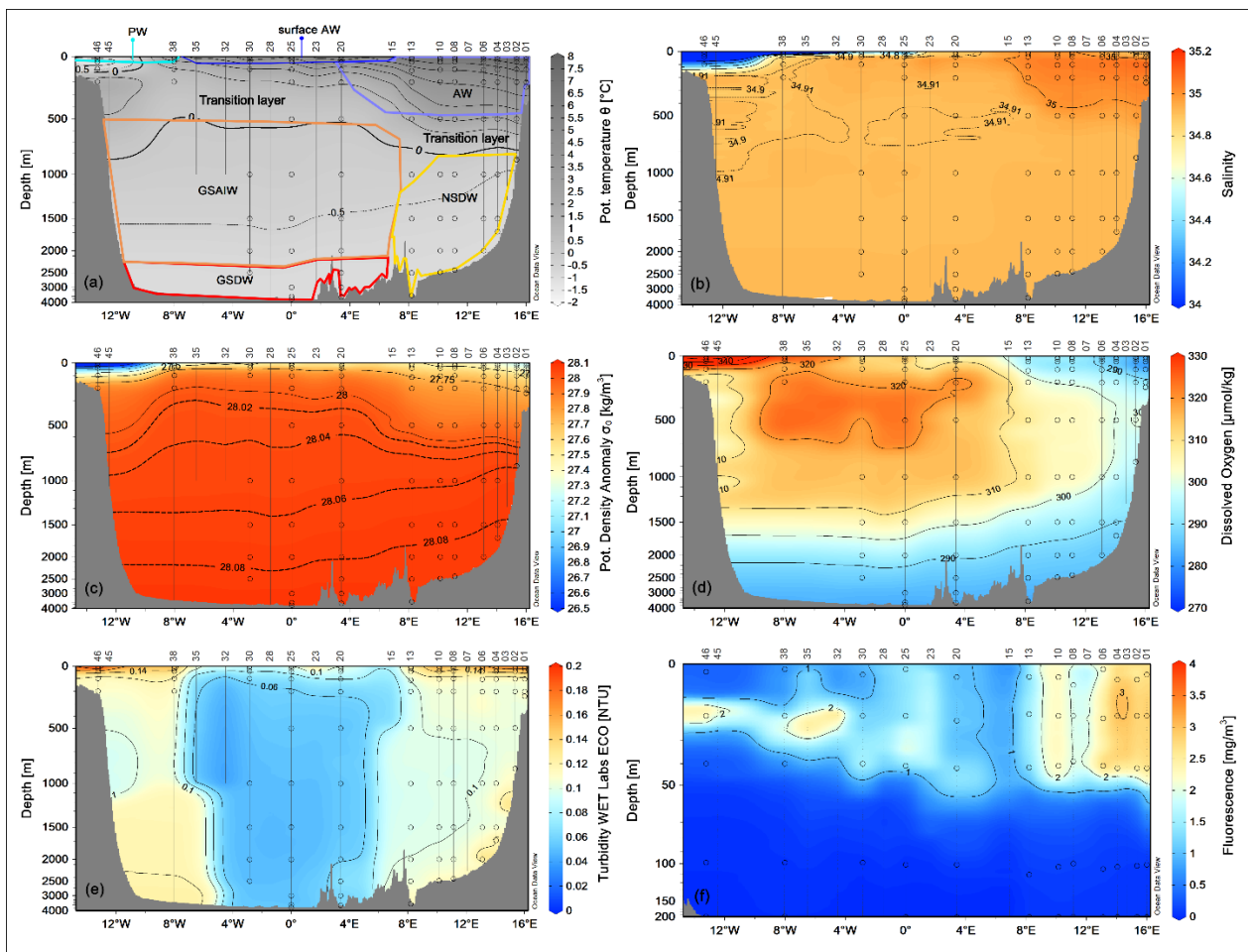
Answer to comments raised by Reviewer #1

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for the comments, which help us to improve our manuscript. We have carefully considered all your comments, and we modified figures and text accordingly. Please see below the answers to each comment.

This MS is a very nice description of the field data and analyses of the collected samples.

It is a pity though that data of water turbidly and fluorescence collected by WET Labs ECO-AFL/FL are not analyzed and described. I believe reported increase of the DOC/POC values at the depth could be nicely connected to the turbidity profiles.

Thanks for the comment, we have now included data from turbidity and fluorescence sensors. Figure 3 (see below) now shows two additional panels (e, f) and the text was updated accordingly.

I believe this MS can be published after minor revision after fixing a few remarks below.

Ln 374: should it be 'easternmost'?

Yes, corrected

Fig. 5: I would suggest to use non-linear depth axis (as in Fig. 3) to better illustrate the upper photic layer.

Done, Figure 5 is now updated with non-linear depth axis (see below)

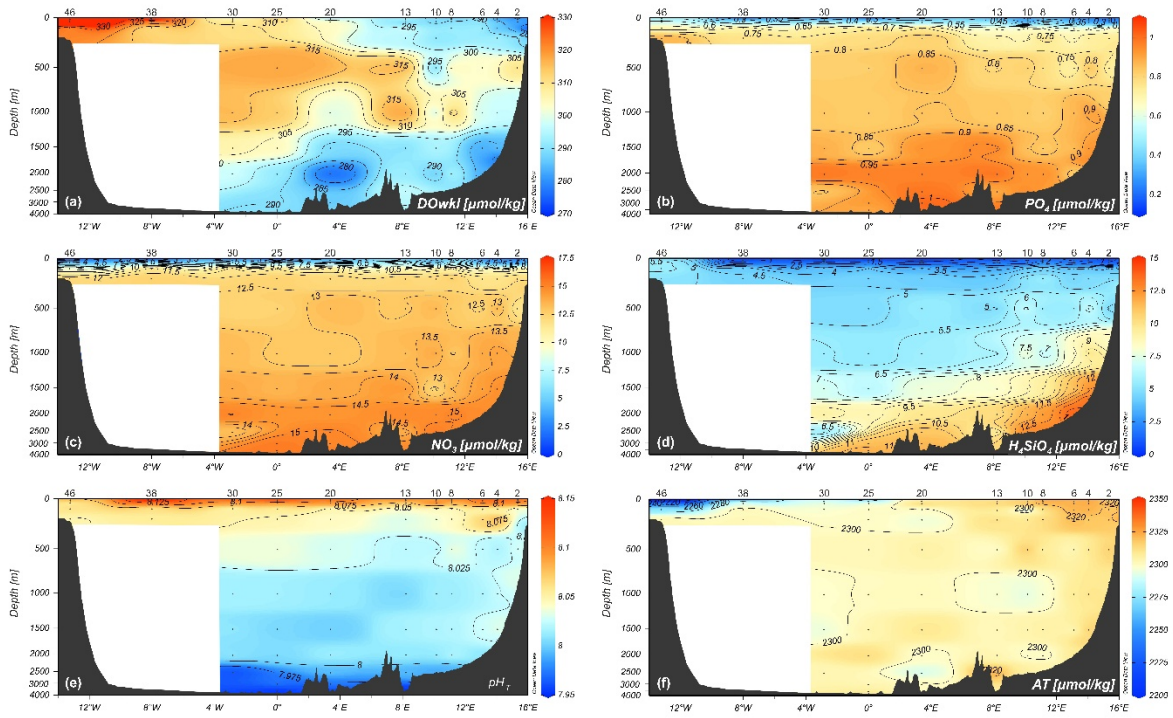
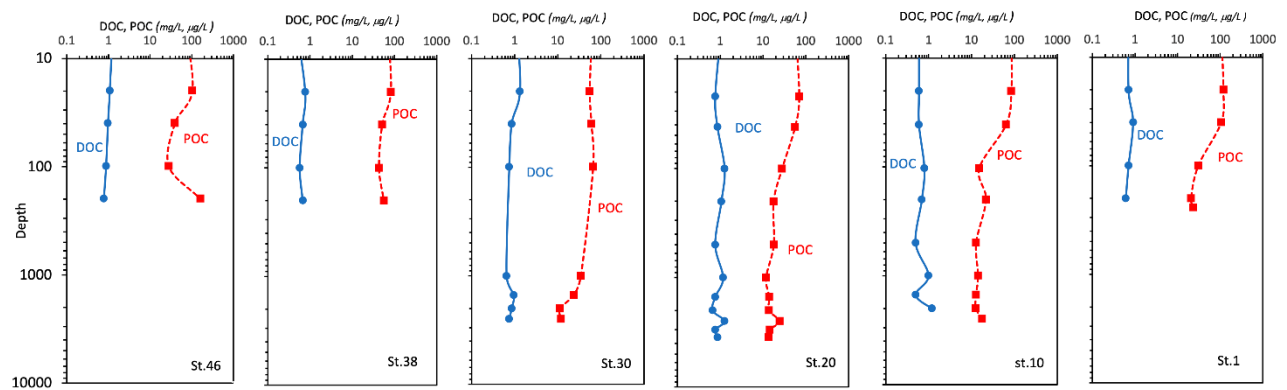



Fig.6: Edit units notation in the caption (i.e. L⁻¹, not L-1)

Corrected, and Figure 6 is now updated with new colors (see below)

Ln 421-422: Cold be that increase of DOC & POC be related to the bottom nepheloid layer? Are there any comparison with the turbidity records?

Having included turbidity in Fig. 3, we have now compared the data in Figure 6 to see if DOC/POC have a relationship with turbidity values. The data show that slightly higher values for POC are found near the seafloor at station 46 (westernmost station), but not at station 1. Hence, we do not see a clear relationship between DOC/POC and turbidity values, which are slightly higher both at surface and along the two continental slopes (westside and eastside).

Ln 441: Looks lie St. 46 is located at the westernmost end of the transect (as mentioned in Ln 447). Please check and correct.

Checked and corrected

Ln 465-466: I would say that Sts 20 and 30 are central (as it is referred to in Ln 481), not easternmost. Please check and correct.

Checked and corrected

Ln 602: Consider replace 'during' with 'along'

Corrected

Ln 606: consider replace 'lighter' with 'lower'

Corrected