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Heterotrophic prokaryote distribution along a 2300 km transect in the North Pacific subtropical gyre during a strong La Niña conditions: relationship between distribution and hydrological conditions

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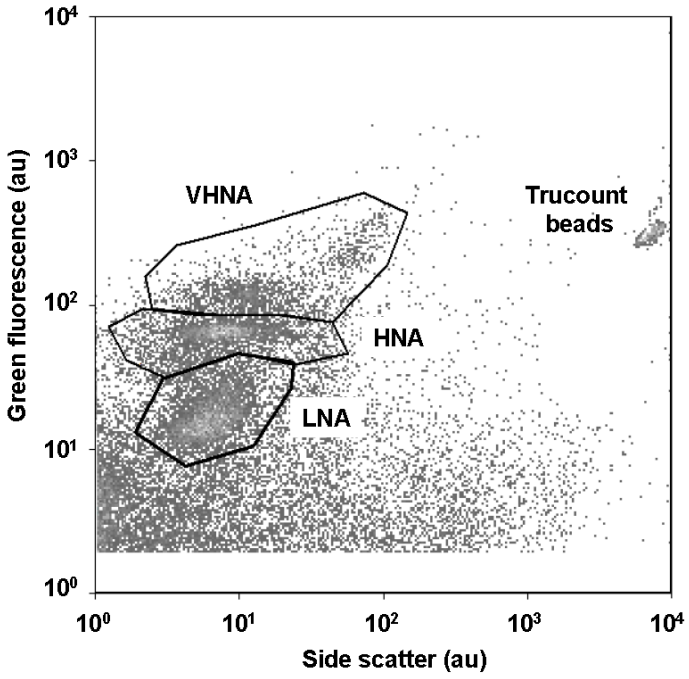

Figure S1: Example of flow cytometry analysis performed to discriminate and count the heterotrophic prokaryote assemblages during the Tokyo-Palau cruise at station 8 (25 m depth). This cytogram of green fluorescence intensity (SYBR Green II ®) versus side scatter intensity evidences three groups of heterotrophic prokaryotes with various nucleic acid contents: one defined by prokaryotes with a low nucleic acid content (LNA), one defined by prokaryotes with a high nucleic acid content (HNA) and one defined by those with a very high nucleic acid content (VHNA). Trucount calibration beads (Beckton Dickinson ®) were used both as an internal standard and to determine the volume analysed by the flow cytometer in order to perform accurate absolute counts.

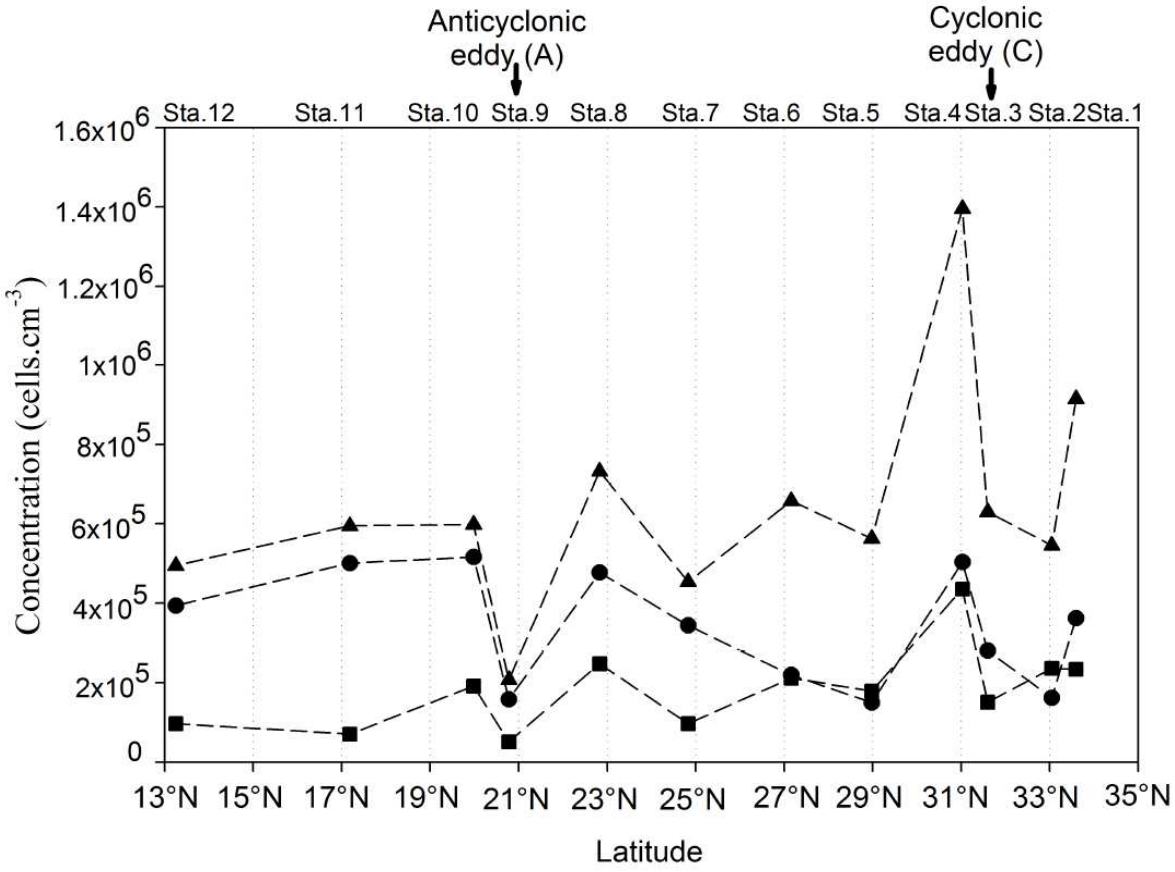

Figure S2: Latitudinal distribution of the heterotrophic prokaryote abundances at the surface along the 141.5°E meridian. (▲) is LNA heterotrophic prokaryotes, (●) the HNA heterotrophic prokaryotes and (■) the VHNA heterotrophic prokaryotes. Sampling stations are indicated on the upper scale axis.

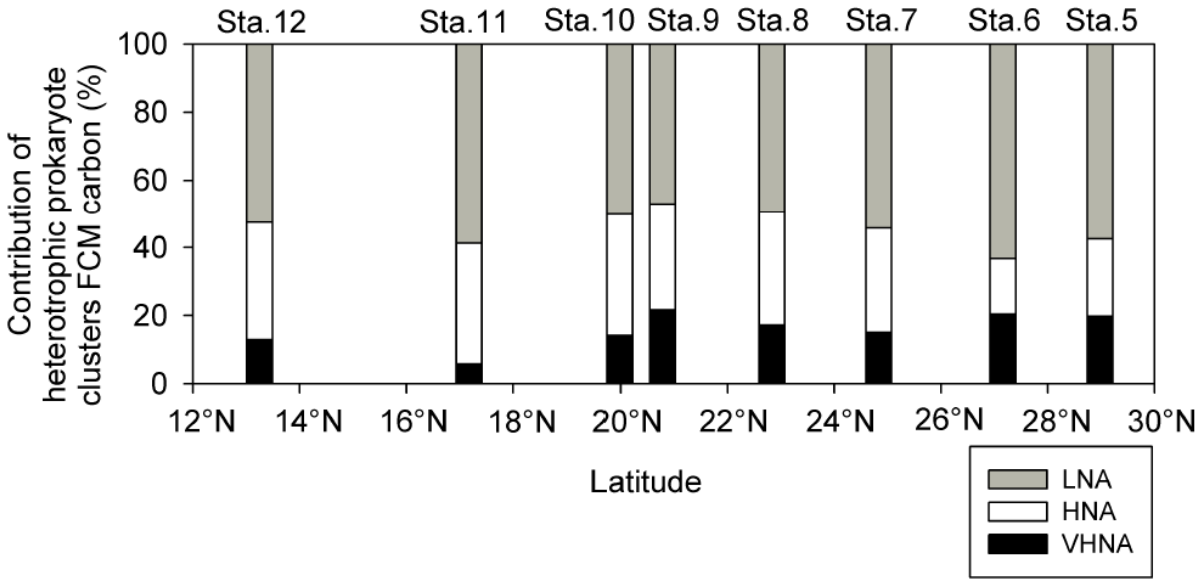

Figure S3: Latitudinal contributions (%) of each heterotrophic prokaryote cluster (LNA, HNA, VHNA) as defined by flow cytometry (FCM) to the whole heterotrophic prokaryote biomass integrated between surface and 200m depth.