



Supplement of

Characterizing regional oceanography and bottom environmental conditions at two contrasting sponge grounds on the northern Labrador Shelf

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Tables

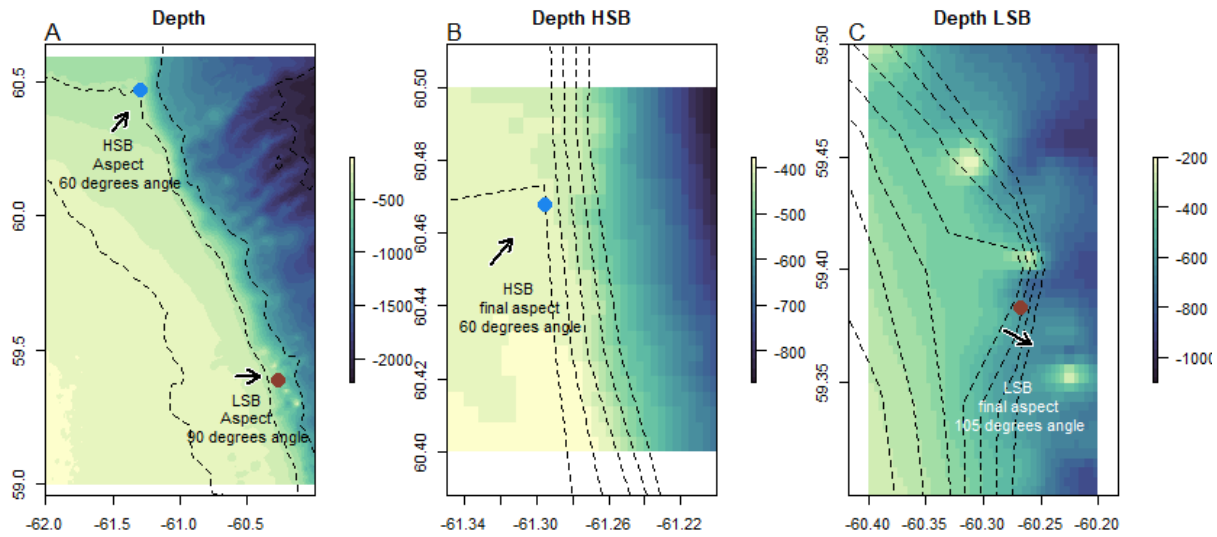
Table S1: Overview of lander deployment locations and CTD cast locations.

| station | instrument | date/period | latitude | longitude | depth |
|----------|----------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------|-------|
| HSB_bl | benthic_lander | 27-7-2018 to 2-7-2019 | 60.47 | -61.29 | 410 |
| LSB_bl | benthic_lander | 27-7-2018 to 1-7-2019 | 59.38 | -60.28 | 558 |
| HSB_ctd1 | CTD | 2018-08-03 07:37:08 | 60.47 | -59.26 | 2428 |
| HSB_ctd2 | CTD | 2018-08-02 17:21:58 | 60.47 | -60.38 | 1877 |
| HSB_ctd3 | CTD | 2018-07-30 15:27:05 | 60.47 | -61.30 | 391 |
| HSB_ctd4 | CTD | 2018-07-30 07:31:07 | 60.46 | -62.12 | 359 |
| HSB_ctd5 | CTD | 2018-07-27 19:41:58 | 60.40 | -62.90 | 289 |
| LSB_ctd1 | CTD | 2018-07-29 04:30:19 | 59.53 | -58.64 | 2563 |
| LSB_ctd2 | CTD | 2018-07-28 23:25:52 | 59.48 | -59.45 | 1938 |
| LSB_ctd3 | CTD | 2018-07-28 09:52:11 | 59.38 | -60.27 | 608 |
| LSB_ctd4 | CTD | 2018-07-28 06:12:07 | 59.31 | -61.02 | 192 |
| LSB_ctd5 | CTD | 2018-07-28 03:10:24 | 59.22 | -61.83 | 138 |

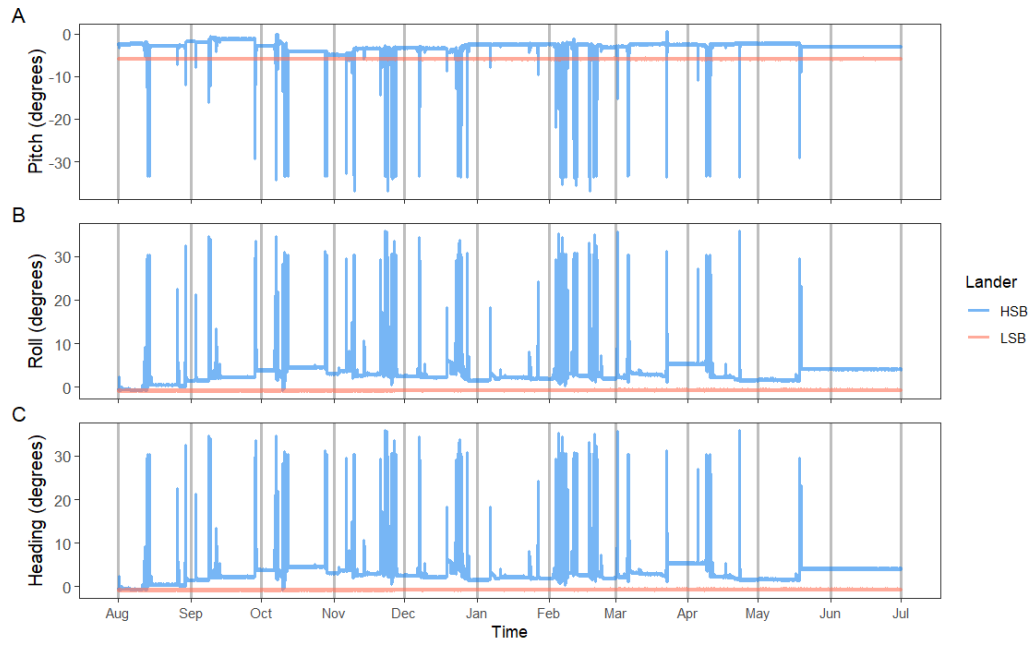
Table S2: Overview of rock dredge transects. HSB = high-sponge-biomass site, LSB = low-sponge-biomass site, (Coté et al., 2019).

| Station Name | Start Lat | Start Long | End Lat | End Long | Logged bottom depth (m) | Time at bottom (min) | Length of cable out (m) | Max vessel speed (knots) | Comments |
|--------------|-----------|------------|---------|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| LSB_rd | 59.38 | -60.27 | 59.37 | -60.29 | 552 | 10 | 1500 | 1 | NA |
| HSB_rd | 60.47 | -61.28 | 60.48 | -61.30 | 404 | 20 | 507 | 2 | Small catch |

Figures



10 **Figure S1: slope direction or aspect estimation for HSB and LSB. A) map of study area with estimated slope aspects of 60° and 90° angle for HSB and LSB, respectively. Contour lines at 200, 400, and 1000 metre is shown. B) expanded detail on HSB shows angle of 60° is a good estimate. Contour lines at 400, 425, 475, 500 are shown. C) expanded detail on LSB site shows angle of 105° is better estimate. Contour lines at 450, 475, 500, 525, 550, 575, 600 metre depth are shown. Note the different colour scales for depth. Locations of lander is indicated by coloured dots, with HSB = blue, and LSB = brown/red.**



15 **Figure S2: Pitch (A), Roll (B), and Heading (C) data of the ADCPs from both benthic landers.**

Argo float profile locations

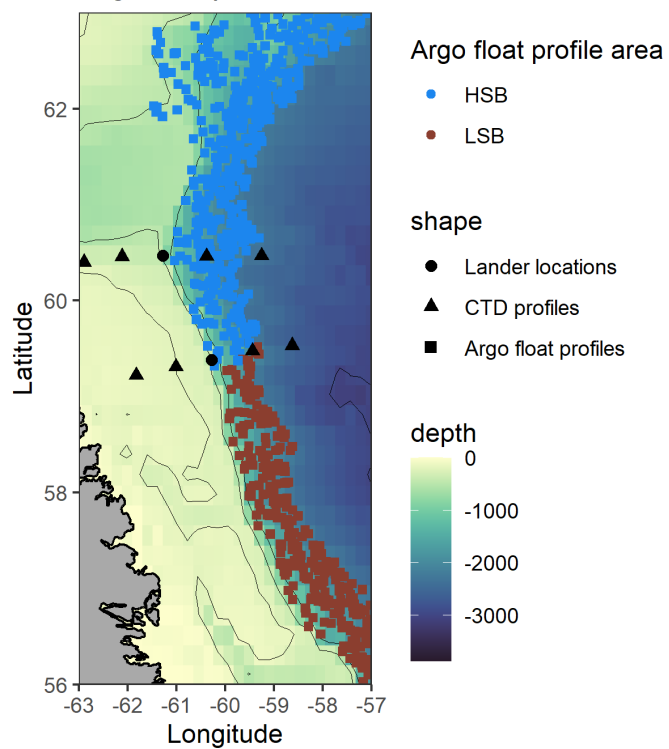
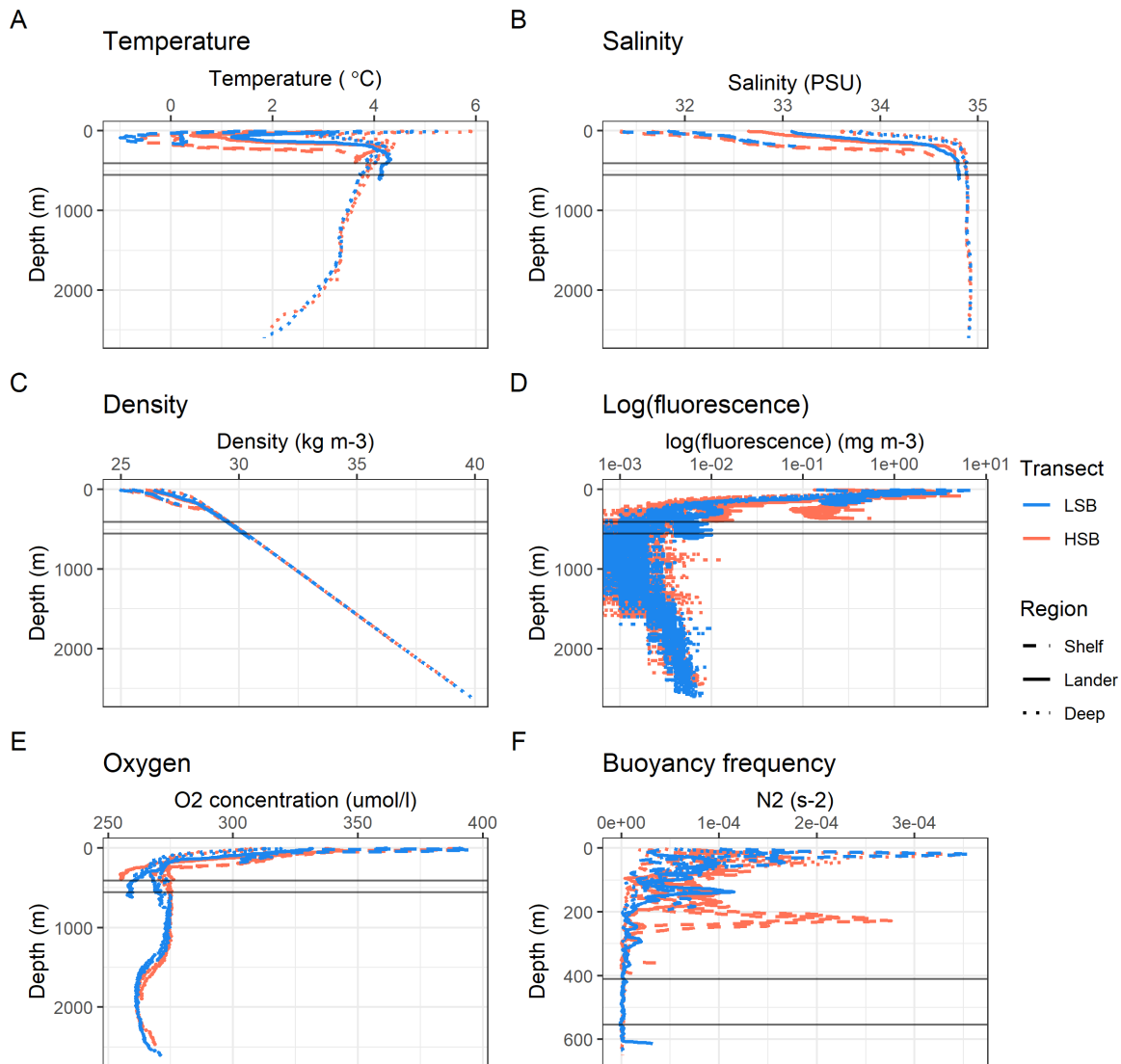
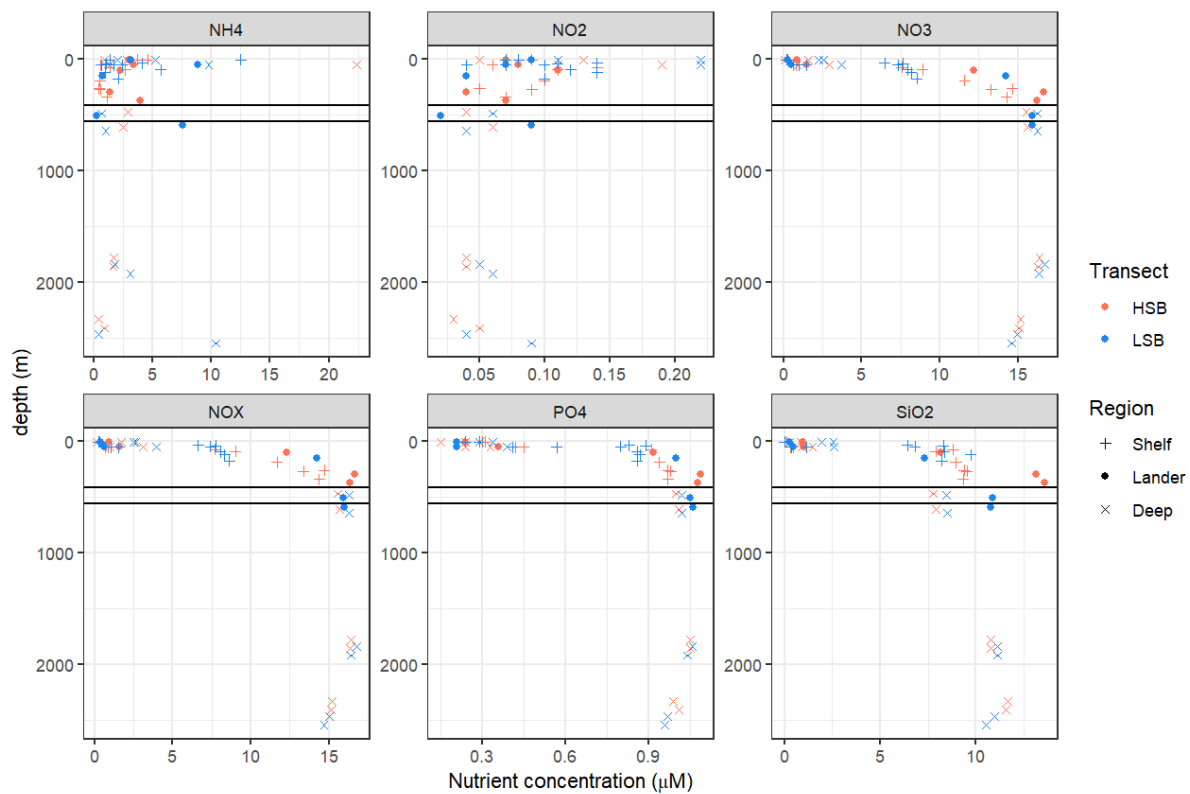


Figure S3: Locations of Argo float profiles used for assessing the regional oceanography. Coloured squares indicate Argo float profiles, and black triangles/dots the location of CTD profiles/benthic lander location.

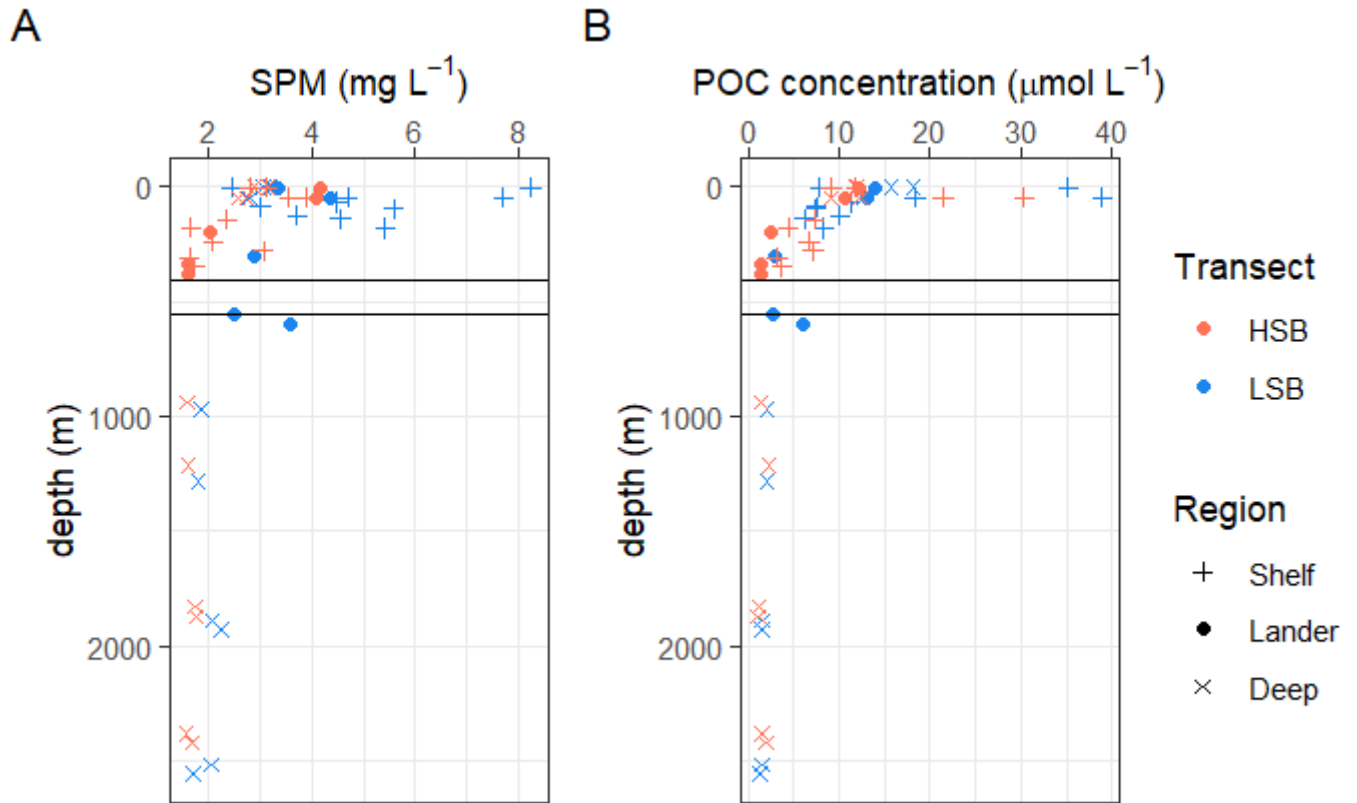


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Figure S4: CTD profiles with temperature (A), salinity (B), density (C), Fluorescence (D), Oxygen (E), Buoyancy frequency (F). LSB = Low-sponge-biomass transect, HSB = High-sponge-biomass transect. Buoyancy frequency is smoothed over 15 m for visibility, and the plot only shows top 650 m of the water column, as deeper waters have values close to zero.



25 **Figure S5: nutrient profiles for the two transects over the complete depth. HSB = high-sponge-biomass, LSB = low-sponge-biomass.**



30 **Figure S6: A) Suspended particulate matter (SPM) concentration and B) particulate organic carbon concentration of the CTD the two transects. HSB = high-sponge-biomass transect, LSB = low-sponge-biomass transect. The horizontal lines resemble depth of benthic landers, where the top line is the HSB lander depth, and lowest line resembles LSB lander depth.**

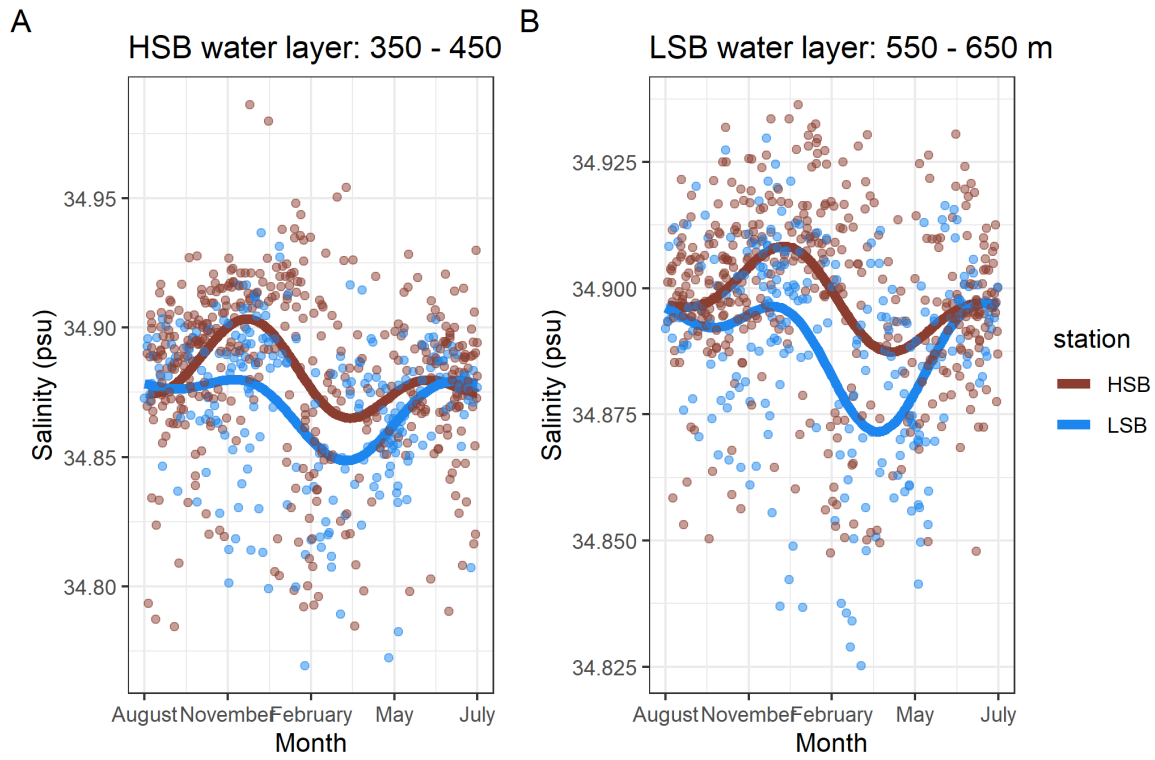
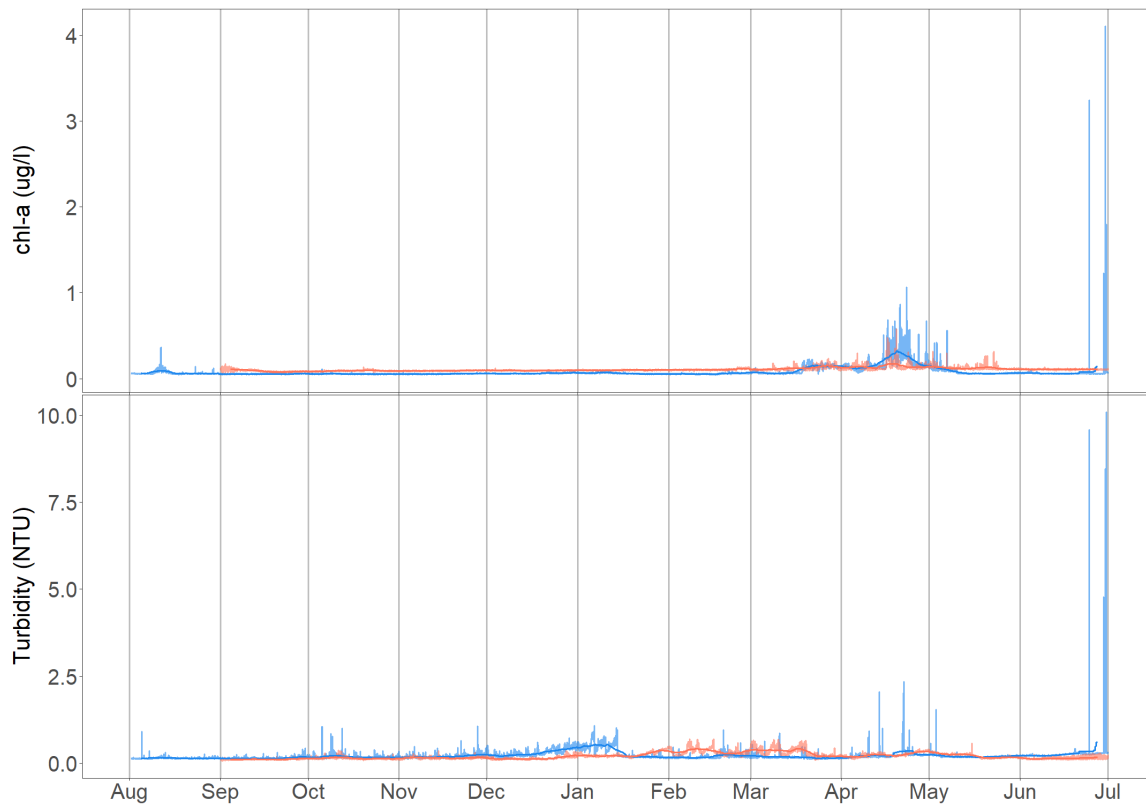


Figure S7: A) seasonal salinity, from Argo float data, of the water layer in which HSB lander is located. B) seasonal salinity of the water layer in which LSB is located.



35 **Figure S8: Chlorophyll-a and turbidity data without cutting the y-axis at $1.25 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$, and 2.5 NTU, respectively.**

Current direction vs (detrended) temperature of HSB lander

Data from 1 - 7 September 2018

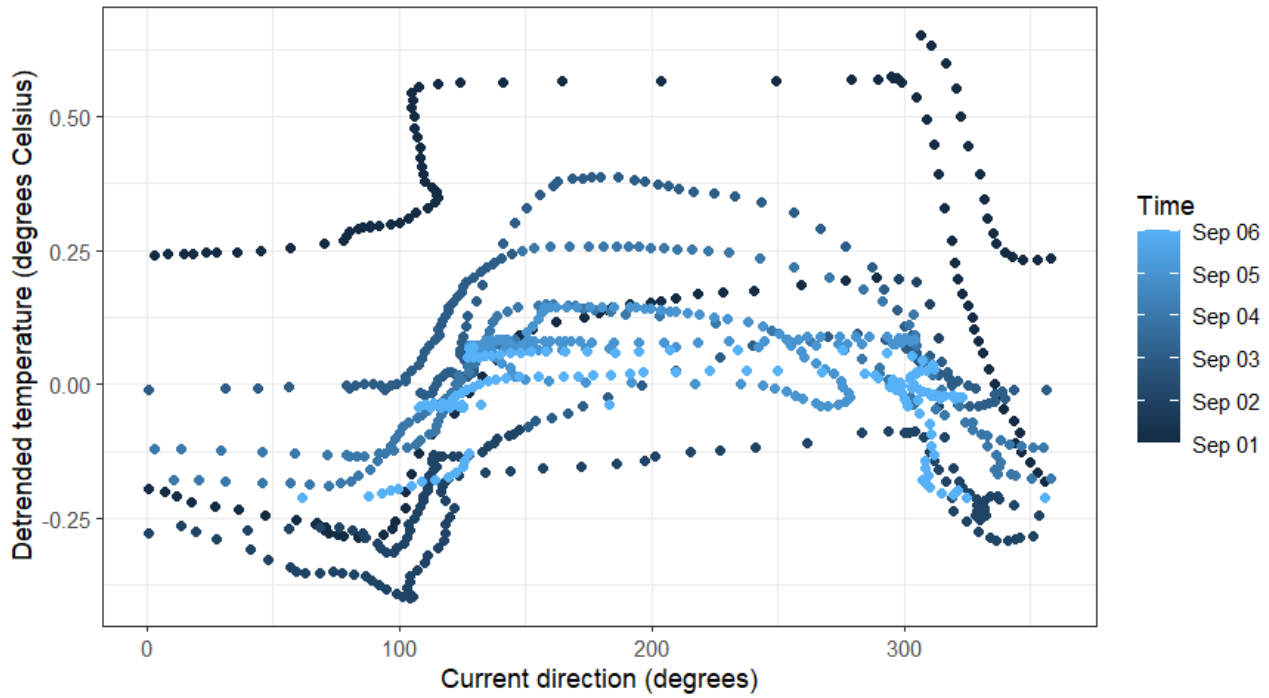
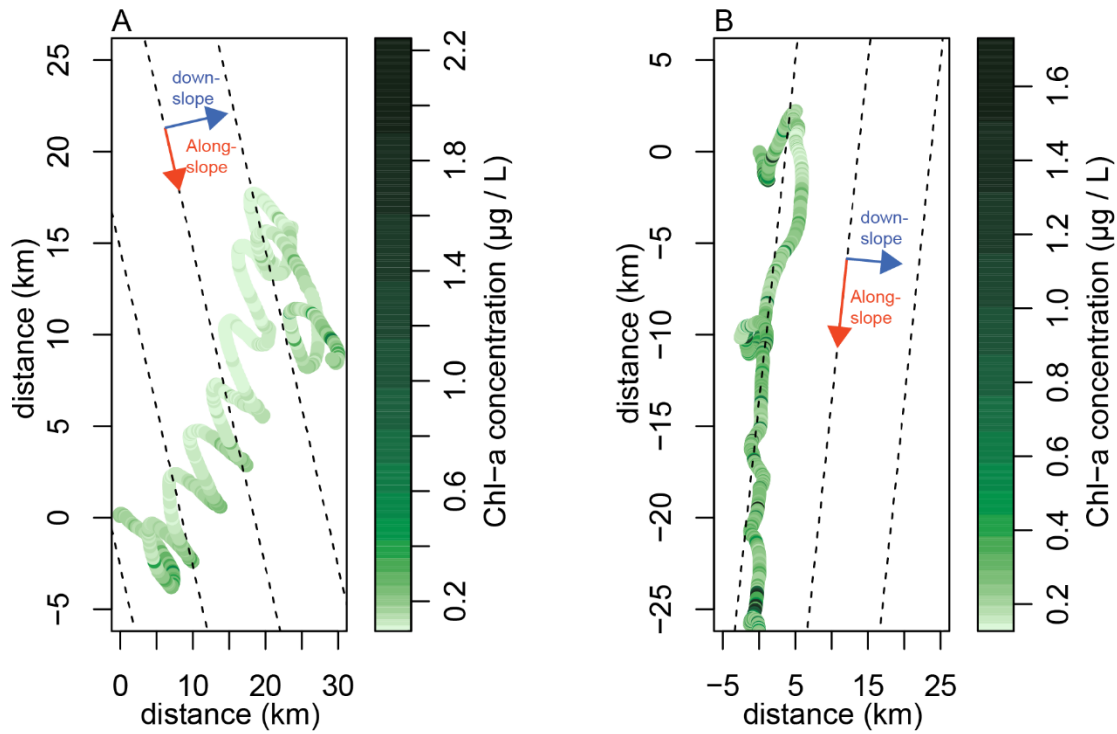
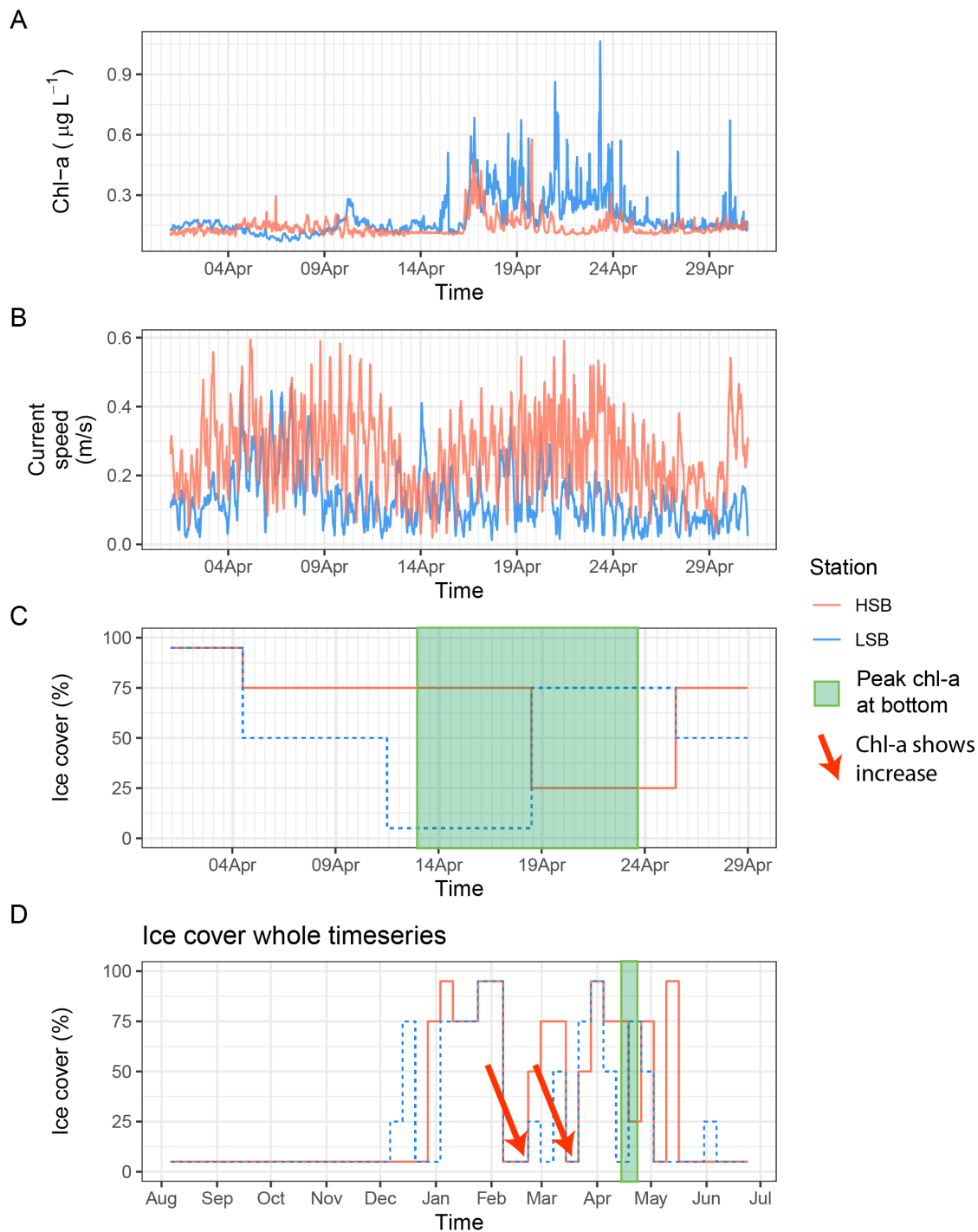


Figure S9: bottom current direction and (detrended temperature at the HSB lander with data from 1 - 7 September 2018.

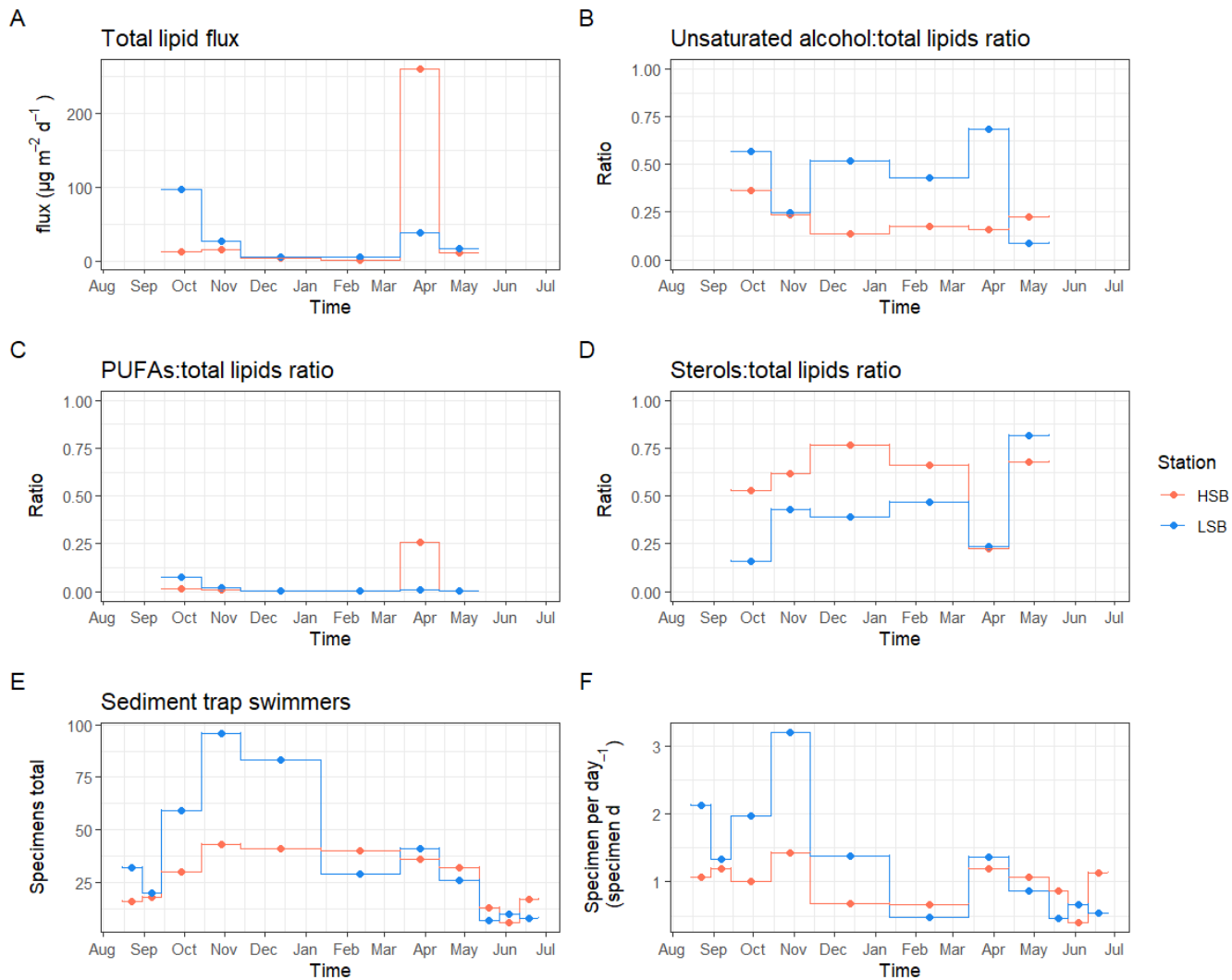


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Figure S10: progressive vector plots with chlorophyll-a as colour variable from 19 to 24 April 2019. With A) the high-sponge-biomass (HSB) lander and b) the low-sponge-biomass (LSB) lander. Dotted lines represent the along slope direction at the respective sites. Note colour is in log-scale.



45 **Figure S11: Spring Chlorophyll-a (A), bottom current speed (B), ice cover (C), during the spring bloom period (1 April-1 May, 2019), and ice cover for the whole deployment length (D). Green squares indicate peak bottom chl-a concentrations measured (Figure 9 in the paper), red arrows indicate moment after which chl-a increases at both landers (Figure 9 in paper).**



50 **Figure S12: Sediment trap lipid fluxes. A) Total lipid flux, B) unsaturated alcohol:total lipids ratio, C) poly-unsaturated fatty acid:total lipids ratio, D) sterol:total lipids ratio. E) Swimmers inside sediment trap bottles F) Swimmers per bottle divided by days that bottle was open.**