

We apologize for that, but an error occurred when presenting the new Figure 4 in our author comments AC1 and AC2. The codes of stations were correct, the color codes were correct, and consequently 4a (blue) is WGY and not WMA, 4b (dark green) is WMA, and not EMA, and 4c (light green) is EMA, but not WGY. The mean phosphacline depths of EMA and WMA group of stations have been moved accordingly.

Note also that we were informed by an e-mail dated on March 17, 2018 that the ms by Duhamel et al ‘Mixotrophic metabolism by natural communities of unicellular cyanobacteria in the western tropical South Pacific Ocean’ has been accepted for publication in ‘Environmental Microbiology’. It seems to us that this information is relevant as a part of the discussion on our ms discuss the bias related to assimilation of leucine by *Prochlorococcus*.

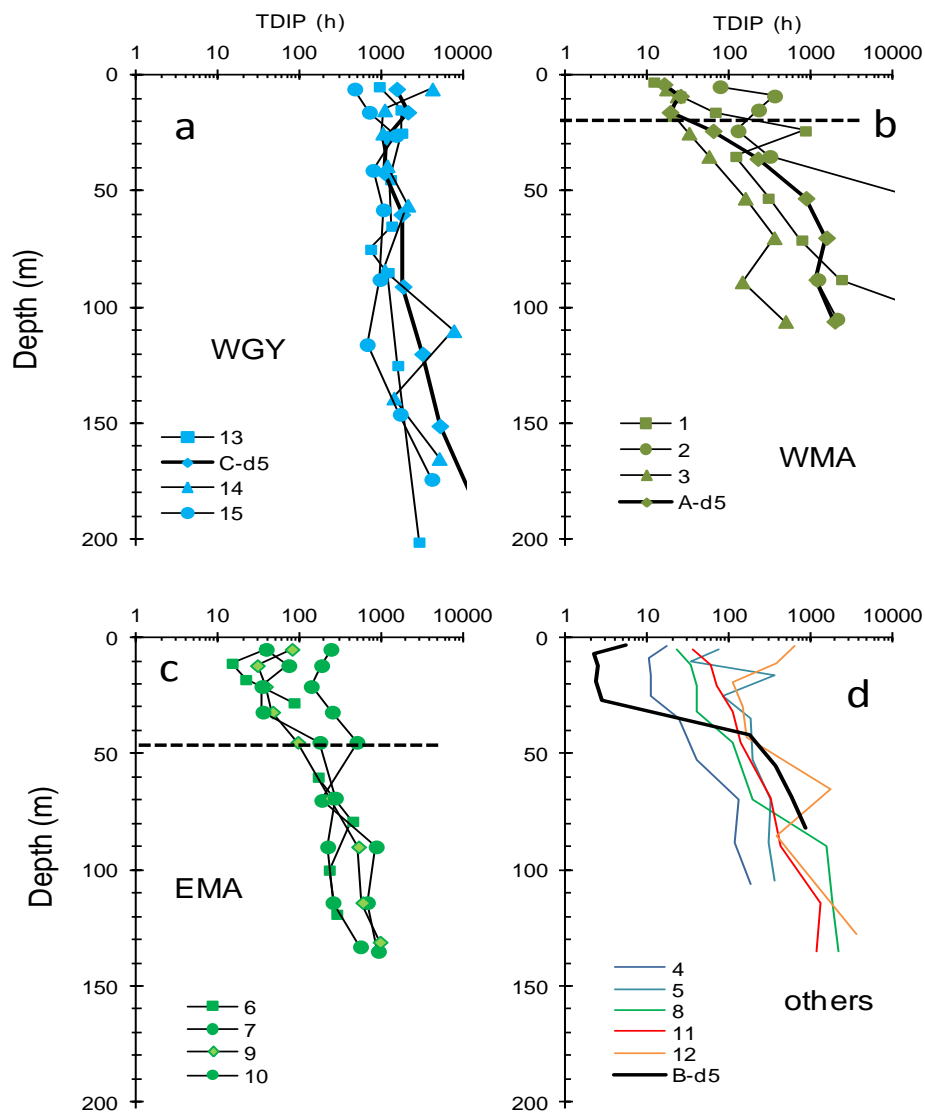


Figure 4 Vertical distributions of phosphate turnover times (T_{DIP}) in groups of stations WGY (a), WMA (b), EMA (c) and other stations (d). At the long-duration stations LDA, LDB and LDC, T_{DIP} profiles were determined at day 5 (bold lines). Horizontal bar in b (WMA) and c (EMA) delineates the mean phosphacline depth (mean \pm SD: 20 ± 7 m, and 44 ± 10 m, respectively) as determined by Moutin et al. (2018). At WGY (a), DIP concentrations were > 100 nM at all depths.