1	Diversity of intact polar lipids in the oxygen minimum zone of the Eastern Tropical North Pacific:
2	Biogeochemical implications of non-phosphorus lipids
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20	Keywords: intact polar lipids, phospholipids, glycolipids, betaine lipids, ether lipids, oxylipins,
21	phospholipid substitution, oxygen minimum zone

Abstract

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Intact polar lipids (IPLs) are the main building blocks of cellular membranes and contain chemotaxonomic, ecophysiologic and metabolic information, making them valuable biomarkers in microbial ecology and biogeochemistry. This study investigates IPLs in suspended particulate matter (SPM) in the water column of the Eastern Tropical North Pacific Ocean (ETNP), one of the most extensive open ocean oxygen minimum zones (OMZ) in the world with strong gradients of nutrients, temperature and redox conditions. A wide structural variety in polar lipid head group composition and core structures exists along physical and geochemical gradients within the OMZ. We use this structural diversity in IPLs to evaluate the microbial ecology and ecophysiological adaptations that affect organisms inhabiting the mid-depth OMZ in the context of biogeochemical cycles. Diacylglycerol phospholipids are present at all depths, but exhibit highest relative abundance and compositional variety (including mixed acyl/ether core structures) in the upper and core OMZ where prokaryotic biomass was enriched. Surface ocean SPM is dominated by diacylglycerol glycolipids that are found in photosynthetic membranes. other glycolipids with varying core structures composed of ceramides and hydroxylated fatty acids are also detected with varying relative abundances in the OMZ and deep oxycline, signifying additional nonphototrophic bacterial sources for these lipids. Betaine lipids (with zero or multiple hydroxylations in the core structures) that are typically assigned to microalgae are found throughout the water column down to the deep oxycline but do not show a depth-related trend in relative abundance. Archaeal IPLs comprised of glycosidic and mixed glycosidic-phosphatidic glycerol dibiphytanyl glycerol tetraethers (GDGTs) are most abundant in the upper OMZ where nitrate maxima point to ammonium oxidation, but increase in relative abundance in the core OMZ and deep oxycline. Abundant non-phosphorus

- 43 "substitute" lipids within the OMZ suggest that the indigenous microbes might be phosphorus limited (P
- starved) at ambient phosphate concentrations of 1 to 3.5 µM, although specific microbial sources for many
- of these lipids still remain unknown.

1. Introduction

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Oxygen Minimum Zones (OMZ) are permanently oxygen-deficient regions in the ocean defined by O₂ concentrations <20 μM. They occur in areas where coastal or open ocean upwelling of cold, nutrientrich waters drive elevated levels of primary production and the subsequent respiration of organic matter exported out of productive surface waters consumes oxygen faster than it is replaced by ventilation or by mid-depth lateral injections of oxygenated water. Low oxygen levels cause habitat compression, whereby species intolerant to low levels of oxygen are restricted to oxygenated surface waters (Keeling et al., 2010; Rush et al., 2012). But even these low levels of oxygen permit vertical migration of some zooplankton taxa into hypoxic waters (e.g., Seibel, 2011; Wishner et al., 2013). Oxygen depletion stimulates diverse microbial life capable of utilizing alternative electron acceptors for respiration under microaerobic conditions (e.g., Ulloa et al., 2012; Tiano et al., 2014; Carolan et al., 2015; Kalvelage et al., 2015; Duret et al., 2015). Important prokaryote-mediated processes within OMZs include denitrification and the anaerobic oxidation of ammonium (anammox), which together may account for 30-50% of the total nitrogen loss from the ocean to the atmosphere (Gruber, 2008; Lam and Kuypers, 2011). Modern day OMZs comprise ~8% of global ocean volume (Karstensen et al., 2008; Paulmier and Ruiz-Pino, 2009; Lam and Kuypers, 2011), but any expansion in the coming decades as a consequence of global warming and increased stratification (Stramma et al., 2008; Keeling et al., 2010) would have profound effects on marine ecology, oceanic productivity, global carbon and nitrogen cycles, the biological pump and sequestration of carbon (Karstensen et al., 2008; Stramma et al., 2010; Wright et al., 2012). A better understanding of the effect of low-O₂ on marine biogeochemistry and microbial ecology is thus warranted.

The Eastern Tropical North Pacific Ocean (ETNP), situated off the west coast of Mexico and Central America, hosts one of the largest OMZs in the open ocean, extending halfway across the Pacific Ocean and comprising ~41% of global OMZs (Lavín and Fiedler, 2006; Fiedler and Talley, 2006; Paulmier and Ruiz-Pino, 2009). By comparison, OMZs of the Eastern Tropical South Pacific Ocean off Peru and Chile and in the Arabian Sea are ~14% and ~8%, respectively, of global OMZs. In the ETNP, a sharp permanent pycnocline develops where warm, saline surface waters lie on top of a shallow thermocline, producing a highly stratified water column. Moderate primary production, dominated by picoplankton, depends on oceanic upwelling and wind mixing of coastal waters but is generally limited by the lack of micronutrient dissolved iron (Franck et al., 2005; Pennington et al., 2006). Remineralization, ~70% of which is microbially mediated (Cavan et al., 2017), of particulate organic carbon exported out of surface waters consumes oxygen at rates that cannot be balanced by ventilation across the pycnocline and by sluggish lateral circulation, leading to O₂ levels <2 µM at depths between ~100 and ~800 m. Abundances of micro- (Olson and Daly, 2013) and macro-zooplankton (Wishner et al., 2013; Williams et al., 2014) that are high in surface waters are reduced in the OMZ, and those macrozooplankton that are diel vertical migrators survive in the OMZ with reduced metabolic rates (Maas et al., 2014; Cass and Daly, 2015). Microbial abundances and activities for both heterotrophic and chemoautotrophic metabolisms are high in both surface waters and within the OMZ, but again with reduced metabolic rates in the OMZ (Podlaska et al., 2012). A strong nutricline indicates microbial nitrogen cycling involving co-occurring nitrification, denitrification and anammox (Rush et al., 2012; Podlaska et al., 2012), perhaps contributing up to 45% of the global pelagic denitrification (Codispoti and Richards, 1976). Microbial communities are mainly comprised of proteobacteria, with increasing contributions of archaea in deeper waters. Yet, on

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average ca. 50% of the prokaryotic communities within the OMZ of the ETNP remained uncharacterized (Podlaska et al., 2012).

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Intact polar lipids (IPLs) are the main building blocks of cellular membranes and may be used to characterize abundance and physiology of aquatic microorganisms from all three domains of life. IPLs represent a diverse range of molecular structures, including phosphatidyl, glycosidic, phospho-glycosidic, and amino acid polar head groups linked to glyceryl-acyl and glyceryl-O-alkyl apolar moieties. IPL distributions have been documented in surface waters of the Eastern Subtropical South Pacific (Van Mooy and Fredricks, 2010), the Western North Atlantic Ocean (Van Mooy et al., 2006; 200; Popendorf et al., 2011a), the South Pacific Ocean (Kharbush et al., 2016), the Mediterranean Sea (Popendorf, et al., 2011b), the North Sea (Brandsma et al., 2012), lakes (Bale et al., 2016), the Western English Channel (White et al., 2015) and throughout the water columns of stratified water bodies (Ertefai et al., 2008; Schubotz et al., 2009; Wakeham et al., 2012; Pitcher et al., 2011; Xie et l., 2014; Basse et al., 2014; Sollai et al., 2015). Surface waters are typically dominated by nine IPL classes. Three diacylglycerol glycolipids, monoglycosyl (1G-), diglycosyl (2G-) and sulfoquinovosyl diacylglycerol (SQ-DAG), are main IPLs found in all thylakoid membranes of phototrophs, including those of cyanobacteria (Siegenthaler et al., Three betaine lipids, diacylglyceryl homoserine (DGTS), hydroxymethyl-trimethyl-\beta-alanine (DGTA) and carboxy-N-hydroxymethyl-choline (DGCC), are also generally abundant. Betaine lipids are widely distributed in lower plants and green algae (Dembitsky, 1996) and are thus usually assigned to

¹ Elsewhere in the literature 1G-DAG, 2G-DAG, and SQ-DAG are also termed MGDG, DGDG and SQDG. However, we have opted to retain the 1G-DAG, 2-DAG, etc. nomenclature as other IPLs discussed throughout also contain monoglycosyland diglycosyl-moieties (e.g., 1G-GDGT and 2G-GDGT). Likewise, we retain the nomenclature PC-DAG, PE-DAG, and PG-DAG for phospholipids elsewhere termed PC, PE, PG.

eukarvotic algae in the ocean (Popendorf, et al., 2011a), but DGTS was recently also found in bacteria when phosphorus is limited (Yao et al., 2015; Sebastian et al. 2016). Three common detected phospholipids are diacylglycerol phosphatidyl choline (PC-DAG; often simply referred to elsewhere as PC), phosphatidyl ethanolamine (PE-DAG, often PE), and phosphatidyl glycerol (PG-DAG, often PG), all of which have mixed eukaryotic or bacterial sources in the upper water column (Sohlenkamp et al., 2003; Popendorf, et al., 2011a). Microbial source assignments have been broadly confirmed by isotope labeling studies (Popendorf, et al., 2011a). In oxygen-deficient subsurface waters IPL distributions are more diverse and other phospholipids such as diacylglycerol phosphatidyl (N)-methylethanolamine (PME-DAG), phosphatidyl (N,N)-dimethylethanolamine (PDME-DAG) and diphosphatidyl glycerol (DPG) increase in abundance; these IPLs occur in a number of bacteria that may inhabit low oxygen environments (Schubotz et al., 2009; Wakeham et al., 2012). Dietherglycerol phospholipids and glycosidic ceramides with unidentified sources have also been detected (Schubotz et al., 2009; Wakeham et al., 2012), the latter have been recently observed to be abundant in phosphorus-limited diatoms (Hunter et al., 2018). IPLs that are unique to marine archaea are comprised of glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraethers (GDGT) core lipids with various glycosidic, diglycosidic and mixed phospho-glyco polar head groups (e.g., Schouten et al., 2008; Pitcher et al., 2011; Zhu et al., 2016; Elling et al., 2017). Abundances of archaeal IP-GDGTs vary considerably with depth, but are typically elevated in zones of water column oxygen depletion, especially where ammonium oxidizing thaumarchaea are abundant (Pitcher et al., 2011; Schouten et al., 2012; Sollai et al., 2015).

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IPL can also be indicators of metabolic and physiologic status. Many organisms remodel their IPL composition when faced with environmental stressors such as changes in pH, salinity, temperature or

availability of nutrients (Zhang and Rock, 2008; Van Mooy et al., 2009; Meador et al., 2014; Carini et al., 2015; Elling et al., 2015). Replacing phospholipids with non-phosphorus containing substitute lipids is an important mechanism when facing nutrient phosphate starvation in oligotrophic surface waters where phosphate concentrations may be as low as nanomolar levels. Cyanobacteria replace PG-DAG with SQ-DAG (Benning et al., 1993; Van Mooy et al., 2006) and microalgae and some bacteria replace PC-DAG with DGTS (Geiger et al., 1999; Van Mooy et al., 2009; Popendorf, et al., 2011b) due to their similar ionic charge at physiological pH. Heterotrophic marine bacteria can replace PE-DAG with either 1G-DAG or DGTS (Carini et al., 2015; Sebastian et al., 2016; Yao et al., 2015). Notably, substitute lipids are also biosynthesized under micromolar concentrations of phosphate (Bosak et al., 2016).

Here, we use IPL distributions in suspended particulate matter (SPM) to characterize eukaryotic, bacterial and archaeal communities inhabiting the OMZ of the ETNP. This study is an extension of that of Xie et al. (2014), which focused on the distribution of core and intact polar archaeal and bacterial tetraether lipids at two stations investigated here (stations 1 and 8). The water column of the ETNP comprises distinct biogeochemical zones based on oxygen concentrations and IPL distributions reflect the localized ecology. Abundant non-phosphorus substitute lipids within the core of the OMZ suggest phosphorus limitation of the source microorganisms even at micromolar concentrations of phosphate. Overall our results provide deeper insight into the broad community composition and the physiologic state of microorganisms inhabiting OMZs.

2. Methods

2.1 Sample collection and CTD data

Suspended particulate matter (SPM) samples were collected at four stations (distance to shore: 400~600 km; Fig 1) along a northwest-southeast transect (Station 1: 13° 01.87'N, 104° 99.83'W; Station 2: 11° 99.96' N, 101° 22.82' W; Station 5: 10° 68.94' N, 96° 34.12' W; and Station 8: 8° 99.46'N, 90°00.18'W) in the ETNP during the R/V *Seward Johnson* cruise in November 2007 (R/V *Seward Johnson* Cruise Scientists, 2007). Station 1 in the Tehuantepec Bowl is an area of relatively low primary productivity (e.g., 0.05 mg Chl-a/m²; (Fiedler and Talley, 2006; Pennington et al., 2006) whereas Station 8 in the Costa Rica Dome is moderately productive (1 mg Chl-a/m²). All stations are characterized by a strong thermocline/pycnocline/oxycline (at 20-50 m depths depending on location) and a profound and thick OMZ (down to ~2 μM O₂ between ~300-800 m depth). Station 1 is a reoccupation of the Vertical Transport and Exchange II/III site from the early 1980's (Lee and Cronin, 1984; Martin et al., 1987; Wakeham and Canuel, 1988; Wakeham, 1987, 1989).

Seawater was filtered *in-situ* using submersible pumps (McLane Research Laboratories WTS-142 filtration systems) deployed on the conducting cable of the CTD/rosette that measured temperature, conductivity, oxygen, fluorescence/chlorophyll-*a* and transmissivity during pump deployments and during pumping. Filtered water volumes ranged between 130 and 1800 L (Suppl. Table 1). Pumps were fitted with two-tier 142 mm diameter filter holders: a 53 μm mesh Nitex "prefiltration" screen to remove larger eukaryotes and marine snow aggregates and a double-stacked tier of ashed glass fiber filters (142 mm Gelman type A/E, nominal pore size 0.7 μm). IPL concentrations we report represent minimum values to reflect potentially inefficient collection of 0.7 μm particles by GFFs. Since pore size of the filters may also decrease during filtration the recovered material may vary dependent on filtration time.

Following pump recovery, GFF filters and Nitex screens were wrapped in pre-combusted foil and stored frozen at -20°C until extraction.

2.2 Elemental, pigment and nutrient analysis

Particulate organic carbon (POC) and total particulate nitrogen (TN) were measured on 14 mm-diameter subsamples of each glass fiber filter (GFF) prior to lipid extraction; therefore, POC and TN concentrations reported here are only for <53 µm material. The plugs were acidified in HCl vapor in a desiccator for 12 hours to remove inorganic carbon. Elemental analysis was performed with a ThermoFinnigan Flash EA Series 1112 interfaced to a ThermoFinnigan Delta V isotope ratio mass spectrometer at the Skidaway Institute Scientific Stable Isotope Laboratory. Organic carbon and nitrogen contents were calibrated against internal laboratory chitin powder standards which in turn had previously been cross-calibrated against USGS 40 and 41 international standards.

Chlorophyll-*a* (Chl-*a*) and pheopigment concentrations were measured on-board the ship (Olson and Daly, 2013). Seawater samples (100 – 500 ml) from CTD casts were filtered onto Whatman GF/F filters (0.7 μm) which were immediately extracted with 90% acetone. Fluorescence was measured with a Turner Designs 10AU fluorometer and Chl-*a* concentrations were determined after Parsons et al (1984). Post-cruise HPLC analysis of pigments in 100 – 500 ml seawater samples filtered onto Whatman GF/F (0.7 μm) filters were conducted at the College of Charleston Grice Marine Laboratory, Charleston, SC on a Hewlett Packard 1050 system (DiTullio and Geesey, 2002).

Seawater samples for nutrient analyses (NO₂-, NO₃-2, NH₄+ and PO₄3-) were collected directly from Niskin bottles into acid-washed, 30-mL high-density polyethylene (HDP) bottles. After three rinses,

bottles were filled to the shoulder, sealed, and frozen (-20°C). All frozen samples were transported to the Oceanic Nutrient Laboratory at USF for analysis using a Technicon Autoanalyzer II.

2.3 Lipid extraction and analysis of intact polar lipids

Lipids associated with the <53 μm SPM on the GFFs were Soxhlet-extracted shortly after the expedition in 2008 using dichloromethane:methanol (DCM:MeOH; 9:1 v/v) for 8 h. Extracted lipids were partitioned into DCM against 5% NaCl solution and dried over Na₂SO₄. Total lipid extracts (TLEs) were stored at -20°C. More recent IPL analyses typically utilize less harsh modified Bligh-Dyer extraction procedures, however, we believe that our finding labile IPLs, such as hexose-phosphate-hexose GDGTs, indicates that our results are not compromised (cf. Lengger et al., 2012).

IPL analyses by high-performance liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (HPLC-MS) were carried out initially in 2010/2011 and again in 2015 as instrument protocols improved. In between these analyses we did not observe a notable selective loss of IPL compounds, instead we were able to detect a much larger suite of IPL structures due to improved detection and chromatographic separation techniques (Wörmer et al., 2013). The confidence in these results are supported by the analysis of IPL standards (Suppl. Table 2) that are stored at -20 °C over several years (fresh standard mixtures are typically prepared every 2 to 3 years), which do not indicate degradation of any particular IPL over time. The analysis in 2010/2011 focused on absolute concentrations of the major IPLs (for distinction between major and minor IPLs see results section). Aliquots of the TLE were dissolved in DCM/methanol (5:1 v/v) for injection on a ThermoFinnigan Surveyor HPLC system coupled to a ThermoFinnigan LCQ DecaXP Plus ion-trap MS via electrospray interface (HPLC-ESI-IT-MSⁿ) using conditions described previously (Sturt et al.,

2004; Xie et al., 2014). Ten uL of a known TLE aliquot spiked with C₁₉-PC as internal standard was injected onto a LiChrosphere Diol-100 column (150 × 2.1 mm, 5 μm, Alltech, Germany) equipped with a guard column of the same packing material. Absolute IPL concentrations were determined in positive ionization mode with automated data-dependent fragmentation of the two most abundant base peak ions. Acyl moieties of glycolipids and aminolipids were identified via HPLC-IT-ESI-MS² experiments in positive ionization mode, whereas phospholipid side chain composition was analyzed in negative ionization mode. Details of mass spectral interpretation, and identification of fatty acid moieties are described in Sturt et al. (2004) and Schubotz et al. (2009) and are exemplified in Suppl. Table 3. HPLC-MS analysis is not able to differentiate between double bonds or rings, therefore in the subsequent text we will refer to double bond equivalents (DBE) to include both possibilities, similarly absolute chain length cannot be determined as branched and straight chain alkyl chains cannot be differentiated, therefore we report total carbon atom numbers for the alkyl side chains. Assignment of the betaine lipid DGTS was according to the retention time of the commercially available standard DGTS (Avanti Polar Lipids, USA). The isomer DGTA, which elutes at a different retention time due to its structural difference (e.g., Brandsma et al., 2012) was not observed in the HPLC-MS chromatograms. For all analyses, response factors of individual IPLs relative to the injection standard C₁₀-PC were determined using dilution series of commercially available standards (Suppl. Table 2). Subsequent analyses in 2015 were used to obtain sum formulas and IPL structures based on exact

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masses in the MS1 and MS-MS experiments and to additionally provide data on minor lipids, which were below detection limit during the 2010/2011 ion trap analyses (for distinction between major and minor lipids see results section). For these measurements absolute quantities could not be determined since the

TLE had been used for other experiments and the information on TLE amounts used was unknown; therefore, these analyses are used to describe relative abundances. Analyses were performed on a Bruker maXis Plus ultra-high resolution quadrupole time-of-flight mass spectrometer (Q-TOF) with an ESI source coupled to a Dionex Ultimate 3000RS UHPLC. Separation of IPLs was achieved using a Waters Acquity UPLC BEH Amide column as described in Wörmer et al. (2013), which resulted in better chromatographic separation of compounds and higher sensitivity compared to the 2010/2011 analyses. Relative proportions of compounds were quantified taking the different response factors of IPL classes into account. Peak areas in extracted mass chromatograms were corrected with absolute response factors determined in dilution series of commercially available standards (Suppl. Table 2). Some ions assigned to either PE-AEG and PC-AEG could not be quantified individually due to co-elution of these compounds and were thus quantified as one group using the mean response factor of PE- and PC-DAG. compound classes for which no standards were available, (e.g., PI-DAG, OL and the unknown aminolipids AL-I and AL-II) the relative responses could not be corrected for. Assuming these compounds may ionize similarly as structurally related IPLs, values may be off by a factor of 0.2 to 1.4, which is the maximum range of response factors observed for the standards.

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2.4 Statistical analysis

Nonmetric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) analysis was used to illustrate the relationships among objects hidden in a complex data matrix (Rabinowitz, 1975) and was performed in the free software R (version 3.4.3, www.r-project.org/) with *metaMDS* (vegan library, version 2.4-6) as described by Wakeham et al. (2012). The datasets of relative lipid distribution and variations in carbon number and

double bond equivalents were standardized by Hellinger transformation using the function *decostand*, while for all other variables (environmental parameters, microbial groups) absolute numbers were used. The compositional dissimilarity was calculated by Euclidean distance measure. The resulting plot shows the distribution of lipids and sampling depths. Microbial groups and geochemical parameters were overlaid by function *envfit*. Lower stress is related to high quality of solution, and stress values ≤ 0.1 indicate results of good quality (Rabinowitz, 1975). Non-parametric Spearman Rank Order Correlation analysis was performed on combined data of environmental variables and IPL ratios and IPL relative abundances of all four stations using SigmaPlot 11.0 (Systat Software Inc., San Jose, USA).

3. Results

3.1 Biogeochemical setting

All along the transect, the thin mixed layer (upper ~20 m) was warm, ~25–28 °C, with oxygen concentrations approaching air saturation at ~200 μ M (Fig. 2). The thermocline was abrupt at ~20-50 m, where temperatures dropped to ~15–18 °C and oxygen decreased to ~20 μ M. Temperatures stabilized by ~250–300 m depth at ~10–12 °C and oxygen levels were <2 μ M; especially at Station 8 there were spatially and temporally variable oxygen intrusions into the upper portion of the OMZ. By ~600–800 m depth, a deep oxycline was observed where oxygen concentrations began to rise again to ~40 μ M at temperatures of ~4 °C by 1250 m. For the purposes of this discussion, the water column of the ETNP was partitioned into four horizons based on oxygen content: an oxic epipelagic zone down to the thermocline (0–50 m; 200 μ M > O₂ > 20 μ M); an upper OMZ (Station 1 and 8: 50–300 m, Station 5: 50 – 350 m, Station 2: 50–200 m; 20 μ M > O₂ > 2 μ M); the core OMZ (Station 1 and 8: 300–800 m, Station

5: 350 - 600 m Station 2: 200 - 600 m; $O_2 < 2 \mu M$); and a deep oxycline (Station 1 and $8 \ge 800$ m, Station 2 and $5 \ge 600$ m; $O_2 > 2 \mu M$) of rising O_2 levels (Fig. 1a). Note that sampling at stations 1 and 8 reached to 1250 m depth so SPM from >750 m depth best represents the core OMZ and deep oxycline.

Chl- α was highest in surface waters with maximum values of 1.8 µg/L at 10 m at station 5, was between 0.2 and 0.7 µg/L at station 1, 2 and 8 and decreased to values close to zero below 100 m at all stations (Fig. 2; see also Fiedler and Talley, 2006, and Pennington et al., 2006, for additional results from previous surveys). HPLC analysis of accessory pigments (Goericke et al., 2000; Ma et al., 2009) showed that picoplankton, primarily *Prochlorococcus* (indicated by divinyl chlorophyll α), were an important component of the photoautotrophic community, along with diatoms (fucoxanthin), especially *Rhizosolenia* at the deep fluorescence maximum at stations 1 and 5 but *Chaetoceros* at station 8, and prymnesiophytes (19'hexanoyloxyfucoxanthin and 19'butanoyloxyfucoxanthin; DiTullio and Geesey, 2002; Suppl. Table 4). High phaeopigment abundances (up to 90% of [Chl- α + phaeopigments]) attested to algal senescence or grazing by macro- (Wishner et al., 2013; Williams et al. 2014) and micro-zooplankton (Olson and Daly, 2013) above and into the oxycline. Primary maxima in transmissivity corresponded with the peak Chl- α concentrations and fluorescence maxima, but secondary transmissivity maxima between 300 and 400 m at stations 1, 5, and 8 indicated elevated particle abundances in the core of the OMZ (Fig. 2).

Nitrite (NO₂⁻) maxima in the OMZ at all stations coincided with nitrate (NO₃²⁻) deficits (Fig. 3). Ammonium (NH₄⁺) concentrations changed little through the water column (Fig. 3). Phosphate (PO₄³⁻; Fig. 3) and total dissolved nitrogen (TDN; not shown) were low (respectively, < 0.5 and < 3 μ M) in the upper 20 m of the oxic zone, but increased in the OMZ. High PO₄³⁻ (up to 3.4 μ M) and high TDN (up to 44.5 μ M) were observed in the deep OMZ at stations 2, 5 and 8 (Fig. 3). N:P ratios were lower than

the Redfield ratio (16) at all sites and depths (Fig. 3); N:P minima were lowest in surface waters (2.6 to 10 in the upper 20 m) and at ~500 m within the core OMZ and the deep oxycline at station 1 (<9).

POC and TN concentrations ($< 53 \mu m$ material) were highest in the euphotic zone (POC: $20 - 100 \mu g/L$; TN: $4 - 15 \mu g/L$), rapidly dropping to $5 \mu g/L$ and $1 \mu g/L$ below the upper OMZ, respectively (Fig. 2; Suppl. Fig. 1). Secondary maxima for POC ($\sim 10 \mu g/L$) and TN ($\sim 2 \mu g/L$) within the core of the OMZ might reflect elevated microbial biomass there. Concentrations dropped in the deep oxycline to $\leq 3 \mu g/L$ and $\leq 0.5 \mu g/L$ for POC and TN, respectively.

Absolute IPL concentrations were determined by ion trap LCMS and varied between 250 and 1500 ng/L in the oxic zone and abruptly decreased more than 10-fold (to <20 ng/L) in the upper OMZ (Fig. 2). Secondary maxima in IPL concentrations (15–40 ng/L) within the OMZ at all stations roughly coincided with elevated numbers of prokaryotes (Fig. 2). IPL:POC ratios decreased with increasing depth (Fig. 2), tracking trends of POC, TN and IPL concentrations.

3.2 Changes in IPL composition with water column depth in the ETNP

In total, 24 IPL classes were identified in the ETNP (Fig. 4, Suppl. Fig. 2). Eleven major and thirteen minor IPL classes were detected in the QTOF analyses, which were classified according to their relative abundance: if an individual IPL comprised more than 10% of total IPLs at any depth of the four stations it was classified as a major IPL, compounds <10% were minor IPLs. Based on their head group composition IPLs were grouped into glycolipids, phospholipids or aminolipids. Figure 3 shows changes in the relative abundances (as percentages of total IPLs, excluding isoprenoidal archaeal IPLs) of glycolipids, phospholipids and aminolipids as well as several substitute lipid ratios, reflecting preferential

biosynthesis of non-phosphorus lipids to replace phospholipids under phosphate-limiting growth (cf. Van Mooy et al., 2006; Popendorf, et al., 2011b; Carini et al., 2015; Bosak et al., 2016). Relative abundances of non-isoprenoidal phospholipids were highest in the core OMZ between 400 and 600 m at all sites, where they comprise up to 45–76% at stations 1, 2 and 5 and between 12 and 61% at station 8. Phospholipid abundances were lower within the upper OMZ and oxic zone at all stations (between 4 and 55%) and in the deep oxycline at station 8 (<1%). Aminolipid content was highest in SPM from the upper 55 m at station 5 and 8 (10 to 25%), the core OMZ at station 8 (15 to 34%) and the deep oxycline at station 1 (17%). Lower aminolipid contents (2 to 11%) were observed in the oxic zone and the core OMZ at stations 1 and 2, the upper OMZ at station 5 (0 to 11%) and the deep oxycline at station 8 (<2%). Glycolipid abundance was >9% at all depths, with highest abundance (average 54%, max. 82%) within the upper OMZ and oxic zone at all stations and the deep oxycline at station 8. Values down to 9% were observed within the core OMZ.

3.2.1 Major lipids

The eleven major IPL classes included three IP-GDTs of archaeal origin: (1G-GDGT, 2G-GDGT and HPH-GDGT); and eight IPLs assigned to either a bacterial or eukaryotic origin: three glycolipids (1G-DAG, 2G-DAG, SQ-DAG), four phospholipids (PG-DAG, PE-DAG, PC-DAG, PE+PC-AEG) and one aminolipid (DGTS). All major lipid classes were found at almost all depths at all four stations, but with varying relative abundances (as % of total IPL; Fig. 4, Suppl. Table 1).

Archaeal IP-GDGTs: Relative abundances of archaeal IPL (IP-GDGTs) generally increased with depth from non-detectable in surface waters to >50% of total IPLs at station 8 (bottom of core OMZ and deep oxycline). Archaeal IP-GDGT abundances at stations 1 and 2 peaked at 30% (bottom of upper

OMZ, core OMZ and deep oxycline) but were generally <10% at station 5 (Fig. 4). At station 1 and 2, 1G-GDGT and 2G-GDGT were most abundant with variable amounts of HPH-GDGTs, whereas 1G-GDGT and HPH-GDGT dominated archaeal IPLs at station 5 and 8 at most depths. Distributions of glycosidic IPL-GDGTs obtained in the present investigation corroborate the absolute values reported by (Xie et al., 2014) for stations 1 and 8: 1G-GDGT was more abundant than 2G-GDGT at station 8 when compared to station 1. The core GDGTs of 1G-GDGTs and HPH-GDGTs are dominated by GDGT-0 and crenarchaeol (Suppl. Fig. 3), whereas 2G-GDGTs are dominated by GDGT-2 and a small amount of crenarchaeol (Zhu et al., 2016)

Diacylglycerol lipids: The oxic zone and the upper OMZ were dominated (~50–80% of IPL) at all sites by the diacylglycerol glycolipids, 1G-DAG, 2G-DAG and SQ-DAG (Fig. 4). In the core OMZ and deep oxycline, relative amounts of 2G-DAG and SQ-DAG decreased to 4% and 12%, respectively. 1G-DAG abundances were lowest in the core OMZ at all stations, but were up to 47% of total IPL in the deep oxycline. Diacylglycerol phospholipids, PE-, PG- and PC-DAG, were the second most abundant IPLs. Abundances of PE- and PG-DAG were highest within the upper and core OMZ, constituting >50% in the core OMZ at station 1, >30% at stations 2 and 5, and 16% at station 8. PC-DAG, with average abundances of 5% at stations 1, 2, 8 and 3% at station 5, did not exhibit depth-related trends. The third most abundant diacylglycerol class was the betaine lipid DGTS, which was present throughout the water column at average abundances of 7% at station 1, 2 and 8, and 5% at station 5.

Major diacylglycerol lipids showed changes in average number of carbon atoms and double bond equivalents (DBE) with depth (Fig. 5, Suppl. Table 5). The glycolipids and PC-DAG decreased in average carbon number by up to three carbons and decreased in DBE by up to 2 at the top of the upper OMZ and

within the core OMZ compared to the oxic zone and the deep oxycline. Average carbon numbers for PE- and PG-DAG and DGTS showed an inverse trend, both generally increasing up to two carbons between the upper OMZ and the core OMZ. Changes in DBE were not as pronounced for PG-DAG and DGTS, on average 1 to 2 DBE greater in surface waters than in deeper waters, while the number of DBE increased on average with depth for PE-DAG.

Acyl-ether glycerol lipids: Mixed ether-ester glycerol core structures with either PE or PC head groups were observed at all stations and all depths (generally 4-12%) except for the deep oxycline at station 8.

3.2.2 Minor lipids

Thirteen minor IPL classes were identified, five of which were glycolipids, four phospholipids and four aminolipids. All minor lipid classes were detected at each site except for OH-DGTS which was absent at station 1. Some minor lipids were found at all depths, whereas others were restricted to specific depth zones as defined by oxygen content (Fig. 4).

Diacylglycerol lipids: Two minor diacylglycerol glycolipids, 1G-OH-DAG and 3G-DAG, were most abundant within the oxic zone and the upper OMZ, comprising between 2 to 15% of minor lipids on average (0.1 to 0.6% of total IPLs), but were only sporadically found within the core OMZ and deep oxycline. 1G-OH-DAG showed highest relative abundances at station 5, constituting up to 40% of minor lipids. Four additional phospholipids with diacylglycerol core structures with the following head groups were identified: diphosphatidylglycerol (DPG), phosphatidyl-(N)-methylethanolamine (PME), phosphatidyl-(N,N)-dimethylethanolamine (PDME) and phosphatidyl inositol (PI). DPG, PME-DAG and

PDME-DAG had highest relative abundances (respectively 65, 56 and 35% of minor IPL) within the upper and core OMZ, but at lower abundances within the oxic zone at all stations and in the deep oxycline at stations 1, 2 and 5. PI-DAG was most abundant in the oxic zone and the upper OMZ (up to 25% of minor IPL), but was also present in the core OMZ and the deep oxycline, except for station 8. Three types of aminolipids were observed as minor lipids. OH-DGTS with up to three hydroxyl-groups attached to the fatty acyl side chains (Suppl. Fig. 4) was observed at most depths at station 8 with an average relative abundance of 23% among the minor lipids; it was also occasionally detected at stations 2 and 5 within the oxic zone and upper OMZ. Two additional aminolipids had an undefined head group that exhibited fragmentation patterns characteristic of betaine lipids, but without established betaine head group fragments (Suppl. Fig. 5b, c). The tentatively assigned sum formula for the head group of the first unknown aminolipid (AL-I) at ca. 6.7 minutes LC retention time was C₈H₁₇NO₃ and for the second unknown aminolipid (AL-II) at 10.5 minutes was C₇H₁₅NO₃. The head group sum formula for AL-II matches that of DGCC, but the diagnostic head group fragment of m/z 252 was not detected, and furthermore, AL-II did not elute at the expected earlier retention time for DGCC. AL-I and AL-II were detected at most depths at all four stations, with average abundances of 1 to 6% of the minor lipids for AL-I and comparably higher relative abundances ranging from 16 to 36% for AL-II.

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Acyl-ether glycerol lipid: One minor compound that eluted slightly earlier than SQ-DAG had a fragmentation pattern similar to SQ-DAG but with exact masses of the parent ion and MS-MS fragments in both positive and negative ion mode that suggested a mixed acyl-ether glycerol core lipid structure (Suppl. Fig. 5d, e). Tentatively assigned as SQ-AEG, this IPL was observed at most depths at all four stations with highest relative abundances of 5 to 60% of minor IPLs within the oxic zone.

Sphingolipids: Two types of sphingolipids were identified, monoglycosyl ceramide (1G-CER), and hydroxylated monoglycosyl ceramide (1G-OH-CER) with up to two hydroxyl groups attached to the hydrophobic side chains (Suppl Fig. 3e). Both were observed at all depths at stations 1, 2, and 5 at average relative abundances between 3 and 8% of minor IPLs, but neither was detected in the deeper part of the core OMZ or deep oxycline at station 8.

Ornithine lipids: Trace amounts (<4%) of ornithine lipids were detected in the core OMZ of stations 2 and 5.

3.2.3 Statistical relationships between environmental parameters and lipid distribution

Spearman Rank Order Correlation was used to evaluate relationships between relative lipid abundance of lipid classes and environmental parameters (Table 1). The glycolipids 2G- and SQ-DAG showed highly significant (p<0.001) and positive correlations with depth, fluorescence, POC, TN, temperature and Chl-a, significant positive correlations were also observed with oxygen. Both also showed highly significant but negative correlations with phosphate and nitrate, and these overall trends were mirrored in the SQ-DAG:PG-DAG ratio. Total glycolipids (GL) and 1G-DAG only showed correlations with a few environmental parameters and total GL were only significantly positively correlated with oxygen. Most aminolipids and phospholipids did not show significant correlations with environmental parameters and any other correlations were neither strongly positive nor negative. Relative abundances of total aminolipids and aminolipid (AL) to phospholipid (PL) ratios correlated positively with ammonium. AL:PL also correlated positively with oxygen. Relative abundance of total phospholipids and most individual phospholipids (PG-, PE-, PME-, and PDME-DAG) correlated

negatively with oxygen. The only phospholipid that significantly correlated with phosphate was PDME, however, the positive correlation is not strong ($r^2 < 0.4$).

NMDS analysis revealed that all samples from the oxic zone had a negative loading on the NMDS2 axis along with environmental variables such as oxygen, fluorescence, TN, POC and Chl- α . IPLs with a strong negative loading on the NMDS2 axis (<-0.2) were 1G-OH-DAG, SQ-AEG, 2G-DAG, SQ-DAG, PI-DAG and OH-DGTS. Most samples from the core OMZ and deep oxycline had a positive loading on the NMDS2 axis, together with depth, phosphate and nitrate. IPLs that showed a strong positive loading on the NMDS2 axis (>0.2) were PDME-DAG, 2G-GDGT, DPG, PME-DAG and HPH-GDGT. Almost all environmental variables had low *p*-values (<0.001), indicating highly significant fitted vectors with the exception of temperature, salinity, ammonium and nitrate. Highest goodness of fit statistic was observed with oxygen (r^2 =0.54), followed by phosphate (r^2 =0.48) and then fluorescence (r^2 =0.46).

4. Discussion

The moderate primary productivity in surface waters of the ETNP, intense microbial degradation of particulate organic matter exported to the thermocline, and restricted midwater oxygen replenishment produce the strong, shallow (~20 m deep) oxycline and a ~500 m thick OMZ with dissolved oxygen concentrations of <2 μM, not unlike other oceanic OMZs (e.g., Ulloa et al., 2012). The ETNP is dominated by picoplankton, and micro-grazers reported consuming most phytoplankton production (Landry et al., 2011; Olsen and Daly, 2013). Peak macrozooplankton biomass was located at the thermocline, near the upper boundary of the OMZ, but a secondary biomass peak of a different zooplankton assemblage was present at the deep oxycline once O₂ concentrations rose to ~2 μM (Wishner

Shallow-water, plankton-derived particulate organic carbon is the primary food source for et al., 2013). 440 zooplankton in the mixed layer, upper oxycline and core OMZ, whereas deep POC, some of which might have been produced by microbes in the OMZ, is important for deep oxycline zooplankton (Williams et al., 442 2014). Microbial community structure and activities are typical of other OMZs (Taylor et al., 2001; Lin 443 et al., 2006; Woebken et al., 2007; Wakeham et al., 2007; 2012). Cell numbers of total prokaryotes were 444 highest in the euphotic layer and decreased with depth at the thermocline but rose again within the core 445 OMZ (Podlaska et al., 2012). Elevated rates of chemoautotrophy, measured by dark dissolved inorganic 446 carbon (DIC) assimilation, were observed at several depths in the OMZ and in the lower oxycline. 447 Transfer of chemoautotrophically-fixed carbon into zooplankton food webs is also evident (Williams et 448 al., 2014). Bacteria dominate the prokaryotic community at all stations. Nitrifying bacteria constituted 3-7% of total DAPI-positive prokaryotes in surface waters; sulfate-reducing bacteria (17 and 34% of total 450 prokaryotes), planctomycetes (up to 24% of total prokaryotes), and anammox bacteria (<1% of prokaryotes) in the upper OMZ and deep oxycline might be associated with anoxic microzones within 452 453 particle aggregates even at low dissolved oxygen concentrations (Woebken et al., 2007; Carolan et al., 454 2015). Archaeal cell abundances peaked at the start of the upper OMZ at all stations (up to 37% of total prokaryotes at station 2), within the core OMZ at station 2 (up to 54% of total detected cells) and within 455 456 the deep oxycline at station 5 and 8 (around 25%; Fig. 2e). Crenarchaeota/thaumarchaeota represented 457 ~20% of prokaryotes throughout the water column, generally being highest in the lower OMZ and deep oxycline, and at stations 2 and 5 just above the secondary Chl-a maxima at \sim 75 m. Euryarchaeota were 458 459 16-20% of total prokaryotes, especially in waters above the OMZ.

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Total IPL concentrations that were over 50 times higher in the surface waters than at deeper depths

coincided with high Chl-\$\alpha\$ concentrations, reflecting the importance of phototrophic sources to the IPL pool above the thermocline. Below the thermocline, IPL concentrations generally track trends in microbial cell abundances, and elevated IPL concentrations in the upper and core OMZ coincide with elevated nitrite concentrations. The rapid decrease in IPL concentrations below ~100 m probably results from a combination of a dearth of potential source organisms and the decomposition of sinking detrital lipids (Harvey et al., 1986; Matos and Pham-Thi, 2009). IPL concentration decreases below the euphotic zone are well established (Van Mooy et al., 2006; Schubotz et al., 2009; Van Mooy and Fredricks, 2010; Popendorf et al., 2011b; Wakeham et al., 2012). We believe that the diverse molecular compositions and shifts in relative abundances of IPLs with changing geochemistry reflect a complex biological community structure and their ecophysiologic adaptation throughout the water column.

4.1 Provenance of IPLs in the ETNP

Variations in IPL distributions and head group and core lipid compositions reflect the oxygen-driven biogeochemical stratification of the water column. Below we discuss potential sources of and possible physiological roles for IPLs in the different zones.

4.1.1 Oxic zone

The glycosyldiacylglycerides that dominate the IPL composition in oxic surface waters, 1G-DAG, 2G-DAG and SQ-DAG, are major constituents of photosynthetic thylakoid and chloroplast membranes (Wada and Murata, 1998; Siegenthaler, 1998) and are therefore generally assigned to photosynthetic algae or cyanobacteria (Van Mooy et al., 2006; Popendorf et al., 2011b). These are also the likely predominant

sources in our study, however, notably 1G-DAG may also be synthesized by heterotrophic bacteria (Popendorf et al., 2011a; Carini et al., 2015; Sebastian et al., 2016). In the oxic zone, 1G- and 2G-DAG are predominantly comprised of C₁₆ and C₁₈ fatty acids with zero to 5 double bond equivalents polyunsaturated acid (PUFA) combinations such as C_{16:4}/C_{18:3}, C_{16:4}/C_{18:4}, C_{18:3}/C_{16:2}, C_{18:4}/C_{14:0} and C_{18:5}/C_{14:0} (Suppl. Table 5, Fig. 5). These are characteristic of eukaryotic algae (Brett and Müller-Navarra, 1997; Okuyama et al., 1993), such as diatoms and prymnesiophytes that are the major eukaryotic phytoplankton in the ETNP. SQ-DAG biosynthesized by cyanobacteria do not contain PUFA, but instead predominantly contain combinations of C_{14:0}, C_{16:0}, and C_{16:1} fatty acids (e.g., Siegenthaler, 1998), yielding shorter chain lengths and a lower average number of double bonds (0.5 to 1) than the other glycolipids as observed at the ETNP (Fig. 5). Betaine lipids (DGTS) in surface waters of the ETNP are comprised of C₁₄, C₁₆, C₁₈ and C₂₀ with multiple unsaturations or rings (on average 1.5 to 3 double bond equivalents) and are also likely phytoplankton derived (Dembitsky, 1996; Popendorf et al., 2011a).

PC-DAG with fatty acyl combinations of C_{22:6} and C_{20:5} long-chain PUFA and C_{16:0} fatty acids (Suppl. Table 5) in surface waters also point to primarily eukaryotic algal sources. PG-DAG is the only phospholipid in cyanobacteria and thylakoid membranes of eukaryotic phototrophs (Wada and Murata, 1998). Heterotrophic bacteria are an additional source for PG-DAG since it can be a major phospholipid in bacterial membranes (Goldfine, 1984). PE-DAG is a minor phospholipid in eukaryotic algae (e.g., Dembitsky et al., 1996) but is common in membranes of bacteria (Oliver and Colwell, 1973; Goldfine, 1984) and is biosynthesized by heterotrophic marine bacteria (Popendorf et al., 2011a). Lower average number of double bond equivalents in PG- and PE-DAG (<2) in the upper water column of the ETNP are consistent with a bacterial origin (Fig. 5).

Oxic ETNP waters contain PE- and PC-based phospholipids with mixed acyl and ether core lipids (AEG), which are often referred to as 1-O-monoalkyl glycerol ethers (MAGE) if detected as core lipids. PE-AEG have been described in some sulfate-reducing bacteria (Rütters et al., 2001), which in the oxic zone or OMZ of the ETNP would require anoxic microzones in fecal pellets or aggregates (e.g., Bianchi et al., 1992; Shanks and Reeder, 1993). In the ETNP, MAGE-based phospholipids were 1 to 30% of total IPLs. MAGE, detected as core lipids in surface waters of the Southern Ocean and eastern South Atlantic are thought to be breakdown products of IP-AEGs of aerobic bacterial origin (Hernandez-Sanchez et al., 2014), but culturing experiments have yet to confirm this conclusion. Similarly, aerobic bacteria (possibly cyanobacteria) are likely sources for SQ-AEG, since sulfoquinovosyl is a diagnostic headgroup found in cyanobacteria, although, again, these lipids have not been reported in cultured cyanobacteria. Other minor phospholipids in the euphotic zone include PI-DAG and DPG. They are minor components in several marine algae (Dembitsky, 1996) and bacteria (Morita et al., 2010; Diervo et al., 1975; Mileykovskaya and Dowhan, 2009). Bacteria may also be the source of the low detected levels of Nmethylated phospholipids PME-DAG and PDME-DAG (Goldfine and Ellis, 1964). 3G-DAG comprised of C₁₄, C₁₆ and C₁₈ fatty acids with up to six double bond equivalents is another minor IPL detected in the euphotic zone at all stations except for station 5. It has been found in some plants (Hölzl and Dörmann, 2007) and some anaerobic gram-positive bacteria (Exterkate and Veerkamp, 1969), which could both be probable sources in the oxic euphotic zone of the ETNP.

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The sphingolipid, 1G-CER, consists of a sphingosine backbone linked to a fatty acid via an amide bond and was a minor component in the oxic zone (<5% of IPL) at all stations (Fig. 4). Glycosidic ceramides occur in eukaryotic algae such as the coccolithophore *Emiliania huxleyi* (Vardi et al., 2009).

We also detected 1G-OH-CER with up to 2 hydroxylations in the core lipid structure (Suppl. Fig. 4). Multiple-hydroxylated sphingoid bases are potential markers of viral infection and cell death in at least some marine phytoplankton, notably E. huxleyi (Vardi et al., 2009). We did not, however, find mass spectral evidence for the presence of viral polyhydroxylated 1G-CER, as described by Vardi et al. (2009) and therefore rather suggest that eukaryotic algal cells are potential sources for the 1G-CER (Lynch and Dunn et al., 2004) in surface waters of the ETNP. We also detected hydroxylated glycolipids (1G-OH-DAG) and aminolipids (OH-DGTS) with up to two hydroxyl-groups or one hydroxyl group combined with an epoxy or keto function attached to the acyl groups (Suppl. Fig. 4). The addition of hydroxyl groups or general oxidation of fatty acids in plants, algae and yeast is a defense mechanism and response to oxidative stress (Kato et al., 1984; Andreou et al., 2009). Hydroxy fatty acids, for example, are intermediates in oxidative degradation of fatty acids (Lehninger, 1970), and since they are constituents of structural biopolymers of many microorganisms (Ratledge and Wilkinson, 1988), they are present in marine particulate matter (e.g., Wakeham, 1999), likely derived from membrane constituents of Gramnegative bacteria, the most abundant bacteria in seawater (Rappé and Giovannoni, 2000).

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4.1.2 Upper OMZ

Glycolipid abundance varied between 15 to 80% of total IPL within the upper OMZ below the thermocline/oxycline. SQ-DAG and 2G-DAG exhibited strong decreases in relative and absolute abundance below 125 m at all stations consistent with the decrease in their phototrophic biomass. Number of carbon atoms in the core lipid chains and number of double bond equivalents of glycolipids showed considerable variations within the upper OMZ (Fig. 5), indicating a different assemblage of source

organisms compared to the oxic zone. Likewise, decreasing carbon numbers and double bond equivalents for PC-DAG and DGTS combined with a dominance by C₁₄, C₁₆ and C₁₈ saturated and monounsaturated fatty acids (Suppl. Table 5) supports a shift from eukaryotic to bacterial sources. This suggests the diverse proteobacteria in the upper OMZ may biosynthesize non-phosphorus substitute IPLs. 1G-DAG or DGTS are known to replace phospholipids, primarily PE-DAG and PC-DAG under phosphorus limited growth (Geske et al., 2012; Carini et al., 2015; Sebastian et al., 2016; Yao et al., 2015), including at the phosphate concentrations of 2 to 2.5 μM in the upper OMZ. Sulfate-reducing proteobacteria, which comprise up to 10% of the total bacteria in the ETNP (Podlaska et al., 2012) may be candidate organisms for this phospholipid to glycolipid replacement (Bosak et al., 2016). Structures of minor IPLs, AL-I and AL-II were not fully elucidated (see Suppl. Fig. 5) and their origins remain uncertain. PME- and PDME-DAG, DPG, 1G-CER and 1G-OH-CER within the upper OMZ are consistent with previous reports of their production by (unidentified) bacteria near redox boundaries in other stratified water bodies (Schubotz et al., 2009; Wakeham et al., 2012).

Archaeal IPLs with glycosidic headgroups and tetraether core structures (1G- and 2G-GDGT) comprised a greater proportion of the overall IPL pool within the upper OMZ than in surface waters. Analysis of these same samples by Xie et al. (2014) first reported that concentrations of glycosidic GDGTs peak in the ETNP roughly at depths where nitrite maxima are observed. IP-GDGTs with the hexose-phosphate-hexose (HPH) headgroups and the core GDGT crenarchaeol (Suppl. Fig. 3) of thaumarchaeota (Schouten et al., 2008; Elling et al., 2017) were most abundant at depths of nitrate maxima at all ETNP stations, as they are in other oxygen-deficient water columns (e.g., Pitcher et al., 2011; Lengger et al., 2012; Schouten et al., 2012; Sollai et al., 2015), although they were present at greater depths in the ENTP

as well. The microbial enumerations by Podlaska et al. (2012) had shown previously that thaumarchaeota (referred to as crenarchaeota) and euryarchaeota constitute almost equal amounts to <10% of total cell number in the upper OMZ of the ETNP. Therefore, we conclude that uncultured marine Group II euryarchaeota, are also potential sources for glycosidic GDGTs as has been suggested previously (Lincoln et al., 2014; Zhu et al., 2016).

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4.1.3 Core OMZ and deep oxycline

IPL distributions in the core OMZ and at the deep oxycline of the ETNP that were notably different from the oxic zone and the upper OMZ are consistent with *in-situ* microbial origins. abundance at all stations generally increased to over 50% (except for station 8) at the expense of PE and PG-DAG are the most abundant phospholipids in the core OMZ, along with PCglycolipids. DAG and PE- and PC-AEG, DPG. PME and PDME-DAG are all common lipids in α -, γ - and some β proteobacteria (Oliver and Colwell, 1973; Goldfine, 1984) that are present in the OMZ (Podlaska et al., Changes in phospholipids chain length and number of double bond equivalents further support in-situ IPL production (Fig. 5). Fatty acid combinations for phospholipids were dominated by saturated $C_{14:0}$, $C_{15:0}$ and $C_{16:0}$ and monounsaturated $C_{16:0}$ C_{17} and $C_{18:0}$ (Suppl. Table 5); PUFA were generally of reduced abundance, and odd-numbered fatty acids increased in proportion. In the case of PUFA, even though they may be biosynthesized by piezophilic aerobic deep-sea bacteria (DeLong and Yayanos, 1986, Fang et al. 2003; Valentine and Valentine, 2004), either the microaerophilic bacteria in the deep OMZ of the ETNP do not produce PUFA or these labile fatty acids are rapidly degraded *in-situ* (DeBaar et al., 1983; Prahl et al., 1984; Neal et al., 1986).

Among glycolipids, 1G-DAG was most abundant at the deep OMZ/oxycline at stations 1 and 8; here 1G-DAG abundance actually increases over that of shallower depths. Carbon number and number of double bond equivalents for glycolipids are again distinct from the surface waters, with on average 1 to 2 carbon atoms shorter chain lengths and 1 to 3 fewer double bonds (Fig. 5), supporting the notion that at least some of these glycolipids are biosynthesized *in-situ* and not simply exported from the surface waters. In particular, SQ-DAG in the core OMZ/oxycline contained odd-carbon numbered fatty acids (e.g., $C_{15:0}/C_{16:0}$ and $C_{14:0}/C_{15:0}$) different from the cyanobacterial SQ-DAG in surface waters (Suppl. Table 5). Some Gram-positive bacillus and firmicutes biosynthesize 1G, 2G- and SQ-DAG (Hölzl and Dörmann, 2007) and 1G-, 2G- and SQ-DAG in deeply buried Wadden Sea sediments are attributed to anaerobic bacteria (Seidel et al., 2012). However, Gram-positive bacteria are generally not abundant in seawater. The core OMZ/deep oxycline are particularly enriched in archaeal GDGT, notably 1G-GDGT and HPH-GDGT, with predominantly GDGT-0 and crenarchaeol as core lipids (Suppl. Fig. 3). At stations 1 and 8 where sampling penetrated below ~800 m depth, 1G-GDGT and HPH-GDGT constitute up to ~60% and ~22%, respectively, of total IPL. Significantly, the elevated abundances of 1G-GDGT and HPH-GDGT at the bottoms of the sampling depth profiles in the deep oxycline of stations 1 and 8 correspond to depths at which ammonium concentrations are higher than shallower in the core OMZ (Fig. 2). Remineralization at the deep-oxycline might provide additional ammonium to drive thaumarchaeotal ammonium oxidation and production of archaeal IPLs.

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- 4.2 Factors influencing IPL distribution in the ENTP
- 607 4.2.1 Factors affecting structural diversity of the core lipid composition

IPL in the ETNP display considerable diversity not only in the headgroup but also core lipid types. from diacylglycerol lipids with varying number of carbon atoms (likely chain lengths) and zero to multiple double bond equivalents (likely reflecting the number of unsaturations), with or without hydroxylations to mixed ether/ester glycerolipids, sphingolipids and ornithine lipids. Statistical analysis provides aids in illuminating influences of environmental factors and microbial community structure on the lipid composition in the water column of the ETNP. Changes in core alkyl lipid chain length and degree of unsaturation are often associated with temperature (Neidleman, 1987), even at the range of temperatures of the ETNP water column. However, NMDS analysis did not yield any strong correlations between temperature and number of carbon atoms in the side chains or double bond equivalents of the major IPL classes ($r^2 < 0.02$, Suppl. Table 6), nor with other environmental parameters ($r^2 < 0.3$, Suppl. Table 6). Instead, changing biological sources may play a decisive role in determining number of carbon atoms and double bond equivalents in the ETNP. For instance, long-chain PUFAs in surface waters are mainly synthesized by phytoplankton, while in deeper waters some bacteria may biosynthesize these PUFAs. The degree of hydroxylation in the acyl side chains also did not show any clear link to specific environmental factors, although, both 1G-OH-CER and OH-DGTS had negative loadings on the NMDS-2 axis indicating a higher abundance of these compounds in oxic samples. It is possible that hydroxylated IPLs play a role during oxidative stress and/or are involved in other defense mechanisms (Kato et al., 1984; Andreou et al., 2009).

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Mixed ether-acyl lipids have been reported in various oceanic settings (Hernandez-Sanchez et al., 2014). In our study, there was no noticeable correlation between PE- and PC-AEG and depth or oxygen concentrations (Fig. 6). Ornithine lipids were strongly negatively loaded on the NMDS-1 axis, but none

of the measured environmental parameters could account for this negative loading (Fig. 6). Therefore, it remains unclear what factor(s) ultimately determine their distribution. Likewise, there were no significant correlations between the sphingolipid 1G-CER and any environmental parameter. Since ether-acyl lipids, ornithine lipids and sphingolipids play many functional roles in biological systems, their variable distribution within the water column reflect most likely the diversity of microbes inhabiting the dynamic oxygen regime of the ETNP.

4.2.2 Factors influencing head group composition

NMDS analysis of normalized IPL composition and quantitative microbial data (abundance of α , β , γ , ϵ -proteobacteria, sulfate-reducing bacteria δ -proteobacteria, planctomycetes, crenarchaeota including thaumarchaeota and euryarchaeota) did not yield any high goodness of fit statistic ($r^2 < 0.3$; Suppl. Table 6) that would clearly delineate specific prokaryotic sources for the various IPL. This absence of statistical correlation would result if neither the IPL compositions of SPM nor the structure and lipid composition of the prokaryotic community were sufficiently unique to strongly distinguish the biogeochemical zones. Indeed, although there are depth-related differences in IPL composition of SPM and prokaryotic community, there is considerable overlap. Therefore, instead of trying to elucidate specific IPL sources, we here query the affect environmental factors such as temperature, nutrient or oxygen concentrations may have on the IPL compositions in the ENTP, and by analogy to natural marine settings in general. Most the major and minor glycolipids were loaded negatively on the NMDS2 axis, as were oxygen, fluorescence, Chl- α , POC and TN (Fig. 6). A notable exception was 1G-DAG which had only a slightly negative loading on the NMDS-2 axis.

the vertical distribution of IPLs in the water column of the ETNP. Glycolipids, particularly 2G-DAG and SQ-DAG, were most abundant in the oxic zone characterized by high oxygen concentration and moderate primary productivity, dominated by phytoplankton, primarily cyanobacteria (high POC, TN and Spearman Rank Order Correlations confirm these observations, elevated Chl- α and fluorescence). including the lack of significant correlations between 1G-DAG and depth or any other environmental One explanation is that 1G-DAG originates from assorted sources throughout the water column independent of any single environmental variable. Similarly, PC-DAG, PG-DAG, and DGTS did not correlate with any of the tested environmental variables, because their compositions are relatively homogeneous across all biogeochemical zones. PE-, PME- and PDME-DAG, and DPG, on the other hand, that became more prevalent within the core OMZ, and at deeper depths where oxygen concentrations decrease and nutrient (NO₃⁻ and PO₄³⁻) concentrations were elevated due to organic matter remineralization, gave positive loadings with these environmental parameters on the NDMS2 axis. Archaeal IPLs showed positive loadings on the NMDS2 axis, consistent with the increasing importance of archaeal abundance with depth and at reduced oxygen concentrations.

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4.2.3 Links between substitute lipid ratios and nutrient concentrations

SQ-DAG and PC-DAG are often the most abundant respective glycolipids and phospholipids in the surface ocean (Popendorf et al., 2011a,b), including the Eastern Tropical South Pacific (Van Mooy and Fredricks, 2010). The abundance of SQ-DAG in the surface waters of the ETNP (18-50% of total IPL) is thus not unusual. In the ETNP, however, PC-DAG was comparably minor (3-13% of total IPL). Instead, DGTS was abundant at some stations, up to ~20% of major IPL at station 5. SQ-DAG and

DGTS serve similar biochemical functions as the phospholipids PG-DAG and PC-DAG, respectively, due to similar ionic charges at physiological pH. The former may be preferentially biosynthesized by phytoplankton and some bacteria as substitute lipids for PG-DAG and PC-DAG when phosphate starved (Benning, 1993; Van Mooy et al., 2006, 2009). Likewise, 1G-DAG, glycuronic acid diacylglycerol (GADG) and ornithine lipids may substitute for PE-DAG in marine bacteria (e.g., chemoheterotrophic αproteobacteria of the SAR11 clade of *Pelagibacter* sp.: Carini et al., 2015; the sulfate reducing bacterium, Desulfovibrio alaskensis: Bosak et al., 2016). In oligotrophic surface waters of the Sargasso Sea (PO₄³⁻ <10 nM) ratios of SQ-DAG:PG-DAG and DGTS:PC-DAG are high (4 to 13) compared to the same ratios (3) in the phosphate replete South Pacific (PO₄³⁻ >100 nM), consistent with cyanobacteria synthesizing phosphorus-free substitute lipids to maintain growth in response to phosphorus deprivation (Van Mooy et al., 2009). At the ETNP, SQ-DAG:PG-DAG ratios ranged between 1 and 10 within the upper 100-200 m along the transect and were <1 deeper into the OMZ (Fig. 3). DGTS:PC-DAG ratios in the ETNP were quite variable, ranging between 0.4 and 2.4 at most depths, but with notable spikes (>30) within the oxic zone at station 5, within the upper core OMZ at station 2 and 8 and in the lower portion of the core OMZ at station 8. 1G-DAG:PE-DAG ratios where highly variable (0.2 to 945) and were highest within the upper OMZ at station 2, 5 and 8 and within the deep oxycline at station 8, where 1G-DAG:PE ratios range between 290 and 945 (Fig. 3). To test the substitute lipid hypothesis for the ETNP, we performed a Spearman Rank Order Correlation analysis of known substitute lipid ratios as well as total aminolipid (AL) to phospholipid (PL) and total glycolipid (GL) to PL ratios with nutrient concentrations and other environmental parameters. Only SQ-DAG:PG-DAG was significantly correlated with phosphate (-0.56, p<0.001) but also correlated with other parameters, such as depth (-0.76, p<0.001) and oxygen

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concentration (0.58, p<0.001). These correlations reflect the elevated SO-DAG:PG-DAG ratios (2-8) in the surface waters and upper OMZ (Fig. 3) and support the notion that SQ-DAG might serve as a substitute lipid in both surface waters and the OMZ when phosphate concentrations are in the low micromolar range (~0.1-0.4 μM in surface waters; ~2-3.5 μM in the OMZ). Other proposed substitute lipid ratios, DGTS:PC-DAG (Van Mooy et al., 2009) and 1G-DAG:PE-DAG (Carini et al., 2015), did not correlate with nutrient concentrations in the water column of the ETNP but rather showed highly variable Similarly, AL:PL ratios did not exhibit strong relationships with any environmental distributions. parameter, and GL:PL ratios showed similar but less pronounced trends as SQ-DAG:PG-DAG ratios. Overall, we observed no correlation between these substitute lipid ratios and phosphate concentration in the ETNP. We propose that non-phosphorus IPL within the OMZ of the ETNP originate from bacteria growing under low micromolar concentrations of phosphate. Indeed, the culture experiments of Bosak et al. (2016) demonstrated that the sulfate reducer, Desulfovibrio alaskensis, begins to replace most of its membrane phospholipids with 1G-DAG, glycuronic acid diacylglycerol and ornithine lipids even at phosphate concentrations as high as 20 µM.

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5. Conclusions

The water column of the ETNP is characterized by a diverse suite of intact polar lipids. IPL distributions reflect the dynamic nature of the biological community in the ETNP, with oxygen as a primary determinant, from fully oxygenated surface waters to a strong oxygen minimum zone at middepth. Highest concentrations of IPLs (250 – 1500 ng/L) in oxygenated surface waters zone results from abundant phototrophic eukaryotic and cyanobacterial sources above the OMZ. Secondary peaks in IPL

concentration (12 – 56 ng/L) within the core of the OMZ mirror elevated abundances of heterotrophic and chemoautotrophic bacteria and archaea under low oxygen conditions. Glycolipids derived from photoautotrophs generally accounted for more than 50% of total IPLs in the euphotic zone (< 200 m, oxic and upper OMZ zones), but bacterial phospholipids were more abundant (avg. 40%) in the OMZ and deep oxycline layers. Archaeal GDGTs were abundant within the OMZ and deep oxycline, consistent with elevated archaeal abundances there. Variations in major fatty acid constituents within IPL classes with acyl core moieties show that biological source(s) for the different IPL were distinct in each depth/oxygencontent horizon. Nevertheless, microbial sources for many of the detected lipids remain unclear and therefore potentially unique ecophysiological adaptations these lipids may represent remain to be explored. The presence of the glycolipid, monoglycosyl diacylglycerol (1G-DAG), and the betaine lipid, diacylglyceryl homoserine (DGTS), both with varying fatty acid compositions, within all biogeochemical zones, and especially in the OMZ, indicates that these canonical phototrophic markers are not only biosynthesized in surface waters, but may indeed be produced in the aphotic water column and by a much larger host of organisms than previously thought. Since 1G-DAG and DGTS can be biosynthesized by various bacteria to replace phospholipids under phosphorus limited growth, we suggest that they serve as non-phosphorus substitute lipids for some microorganisms in the OMZ. The presence of these substitute lipids at micromolar concentrations of phosphate of the ETNP suggests that the paradigm of substitute lipid biosynthesis being restricted to the PO₄³-depleted oligotrophic surface ocean may need to be reevaluated.

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Author contribution

SGW collected the samples. SGW, FS and KUH designed the study. SX and FS measured and processed the data. JSL and FS performed statistical analyses. FS and SGW wrote the paper with input from SX, KUH and JSL.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgments

We are grateful to the captain and the crew of R/V *Seward Johnson*, to K. Daly and K. Wishner as cochief scientists, and to the U.S. National Science Foundation for supporting the cruise. H. Albrecht, B. Olsen and S. Habtes helped with PM sampling. We thank K. Fanning and R. Masserini (University of South Florida) for providing their nutrient results; C. Flagg (Stony Brook) processed CTD hydrographic data; Jay Brandes and Mary Richards (Skidaway Institute) conducted the POC and TN analyses; B. Olson and K. Daly (University of South Florida) provided ship-board Chl-*a* analyses; and G. DeTullio (College of Charleston) conducted HPLC analyses of pigments. Lab supplies and analytical infrastructure for lipid analyses was funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, Germany) through the Cluster of Excellence/Research Center MARUM. The UHPLC-QTOF instrument was granted by the DFG, Germany through grants Inst 144/300-1. S. Xie was funded by the China Scholarship Council, F. Schubotz by the Zentrale Forschungsförderung of the University of Bremen, and U.S. National Science Foundation grant OCE-0550654 to S. G. Wakeham supported this project. SGW also acknowledges a

- Fellowship from the Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg (Hanse Institute for Advanced Studies) in Delmenhorst,
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adaptation and chemotaxonomy of planktonic archaea, Environ. Microbiol. 18, 4324-4336, 2016.

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Tables

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Table 1. Spearman Rank Order Correlation coefficients (r) for data combined from all four stations. Only

significant correlations, where p < 0.05 (highly significant p < 0.001, in bold), are presented.

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			Glye	Glycolipids				Amir	Aminolipids			Phospl	Phospholipids		
	% GL	% 1G	% 2G	òs %	% GL % 1G % 2G % SQ GL.PL SQ.PG	SQ:PG	% AL	% DGTS	AL:PL	% AL % DGTS AL:PL DGTS:PC	% br	% PG	% P E	% PME	% PC % PG % PE % PME % PDME
Depth	-0.32		-0.7	79.0- 2.0-	-0.41	-0.76									
Fluorescence			0.63 0.67	0.67		9.65									
POC			0.61	9.0		9.0									
NT			99.0	0.62		0.63									
Oxygen	0.57	0.3	0.48 0.35	0.35	0.55	0.58			0.36		-0.49	-0.38	-0.38 -0.33	-0.46	-0.52
Temperature	0.3		0.52	0.63	0.39	69.0									
Chl a	0.35		0.72	0.71	0.42	0.78									-0.33
Phosphate			-0.62 -0.53	-0.53	4.0-	-0.56									0.36
Nitrate			-0.53	-0.49		-0.38									
Nitrite		-0.33												0.3	
Ammonium							0.41	0.42	0.35	0.4					
N:P			-0.3	-0.3 -0.32								-0.36			

Abbreviations: GL – glycolipids, 1G – monoglycosyl, 2G – diglycosyl, SQ – sulfoquinovosyl, PL – phospholipids, AL – aminolipids, DGTS – diacylglyceryl trimethyl homoserine, PC - phosphatidyl choline, PG - phosphatidyl glycerol, PE - phosphatidyl ethanolamine, PME - phosphatidyl methyl-ethanolamine, PDME phosphatidyl dimethyl-ethanolamine

Figures

Figure 1. a) Map of ETNP with R/V Seward Johnson (November 2007) cruise sampling stations

investigated in this study.

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Figure 2. Depth profiles of (a) oxygen and temperature, (b) chlorophyll- α and transmissivity, (c)

particulate organic matter (POC) and C:N, (d) intact polar lipid (IPL) to POC ratio and IPL concentration,

and (e) absolute cell abundance and relative proportions of archaeal cells (data from Podlaska et al. (2012)).

C:N (SPM) is total carbon over total nitrogen of the solid phase collected by water filtration. Note that

C:N, POC and IPL/POC are only analyzed for <53 µm particle fraction. Also depicted are the different

geochemical zones in the water column.

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Figure 3. Depth profiles of (a) nitrate, nitrite, and ammonium, (b) phosphate and N:P, (c) total non-

archaeal (non-isoprenoidal) phospholipids, glycolipids and (d) aminolipids shown as percent of total intact

polar lipids and ratios of non-phospholipids to phospholipids for DGTS to PC-DAG (e) SQ-DAG to PG-

DAG, (e), and 1G-DAG to PE-DAG. Also depicted are the different geochemical zones in the water

column.

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Figure 4. Relative abundance of (a) major and (b) minor IPLs at sampled depths of stations 1, 2, 5, and 8

in the ETNP. Major IPLs are defined as those comprising more than 10% of total IPLs (minor compounds

comprised less than 10%) at more than one depth horizon at the four stations. Also depicted are the

different geochemical zones in the water column.

Figure 5. Changes in average carbon atoms (CA) and number of double bond equivalents (DB) of the alkyl side chains of major IPLs detected at stations 1, 2, 5 and 8 in the ETNP.

Figure 6. Nonmetric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) ordination plot assessing the relationship between

IPL biomarkers, sampling depths and geochemical parameters in the ETNP (stress=0.125). Squares

represent the water depth of each sample and are color-coded according to the defined geochemical

zonation. Filled circles stand for lipid distribution of major IPLs and open circles for minor IPLs on the

ordination. Vector lines of geochemical parameters are weighted by their p-values with each NMDS axis.











