

1 **Particulate trace element distributions along the Canadian Arctic**  
2 **GEOTRACES section: shelf-water interactions, advective transport and contrasting**  
3 **biological production**

4 Manuel Colombo <sup>1,†</sup>, Jingxuan Li <sup>1,†</sup>, Birgit Rogalla <sup>1</sup>, Susan E. Allen<sup>1</sup>, Maria T. Maldonado <sup>1</sup>

5 <sup>1</sup>Department of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences, University of British Columbia, BC, V6T 1Z4, Canada

6 Corresponding author: Manuel Colombo ([manuel.colombo@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:manuel.colombo@alumni.ubc.ca))

7 † Current Address: Department of Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry, Woods Hole Oceanographic

8 Institution, 360 Woods Hole Road, Woods Hole, MA 02543-1543, USA

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10  
11 *Key Points:*

- 12 • Advective transport shapes the distributions of lithogenic-derived particulate trace elements such  
13 as pAl, pV, pFe in the deep Canadian Arctic basins.
- 14 • Manganese oxides, likely related to bacterially-mediated authigenic precipitation, dominate bulk  
15 distributions in the Canada Basin (CB) and Baffin Bay (BB).
- 16 • A strong productivity gradient in the Canadian Arctic Ocean (CB << BB = Labrador Sea)  
17 controls particulate phosphorus, organic carbon and nitrogen cycling.

26 *Abstract*

27 Marine particles are important regulators of the biogeochemistry of many trace elements and isotopes  
28 in the ocean, and as such, there has been an increasing motivation to unravel the processes which control  
29 their cycling. Here, we present vertical distributions of total particulate trace elements (Al, V, Fe, Mn and  
30 P) and particulate organic carbon and particulate nitrogen (POC and pN) collected during the GEOTRACES  
31 Canadian cruise in 2015 in the Canada Basin (CB), the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA), Baffin Bay  
32 (BB) and the Labrador Sea (LS), where particulate trace metal data are scarce. While particulate trace  
33 elements are generally affected by one-dimensional dynamics in ocean waters (e.g. deposition,  
34 scavenging/remineralization, and sinking), lateral transport of lithogenic-derived particles (pAl, pV and  
35 pFe) plays a dominant role in shaping their distributions in the deep CB, BB and LS basins. Higher  
36 concentrations of the aforementioned particulate trace elements are measured along the flow path of  
37 boundary currents and in near-bottom waters. Unlike pAl, pV and pFe, primarily controlled by lithogenic  
38 sources, bulk pMn distributions in our study regions (with the exception of LS) are dominated by authigenic  
39  $Mn^{+3/4}$  oxides, with distinctively high concentrations in CB and BB subsurface halocline waters, as well as  
40 in the deepest samples in BB. Enhanced bacterially-mediated  $Mn^{+2}$  oxide formation is anticipated to occur  
41 in these halocline waters which have the potential to sustain large populations of Mn oxidizing bacteria as  
42 result of the close sediment-water interactions and distinct environmental conditions of these water masses.  
43 Overall, the highest concentrations of pP, POC and pN occurred in surface and near-surface waters (> 100  
44 m) at the same density as a chlorophyll-a peak and transmissivity drop, with a clear west-east increasing  
45 concentration gradient from the CB to LS. In summary, biogeochemical cycles of particulate elements in  
46 the Canadian Arctic Ocean are controlled by enhanced lateral transport and sediment resuspension (pAl,  
47 pFe and pV), authigenic formation of Mn and biological production (pP, POC and pN).

48 **Keywords:** Advective transport, Lithogenic sources, Particle dynamics, Sediment resuspension, Trace metal  
49 biogeochemistry, Canadian Arctic Ocean, Redfield stoichiometry, GEOTRACES.

## 50 **1 Introduction**

51 Marine particles –operationally defined as material collected onto 0.2-0.4  $\mu\text{m}$  pore size filters– are  
52 important trace metal reservoirs, largely exceeding the dissolved pool in shelf regions, which strongly  
53 modulate oceanic biogeochemistry by controlling the residence time of most elements (Lam and Bishop,  
54 2008; Jeandel et al., 2015; Ohnemus and Lam, 2015; Homoky et al., 2016; Jeandel, 2016). Particulate  
55 material is a heterogeneous phase, with diverse sources and complex composition. Lithogenic particles,  
56 derived from weathering and erosion of the continental crust, are primarily delivered to ocean waters by  
57 means of atmospheric deposition (Mahowald et al., 2018), river discharge (Aguilar-Islas et al., 2013;  
58 Jeandel and Oelkers, 2015; Charette et al., 2016; Jeandel, 2016; Colombo et al., 2019a) and sea ice melt  
59 (Measures, 1999; Tovar-Sánchez et al., 2010; Aguilar-Islas et al., 2013; Giesbrecht et al., 2013). Mid-depth  
60 lateral transport of continental margin sediments and near-bottom sediment resuspension events are also  
61 important sources of lithogenic particulate trace elements (e.g. Al, Ti, V, Fe) to the water column (Lam and  
62 Bishop, 2008; Jeandel et al., 2015; Ohnemus and Lam, 2015; Charette et al., 2016; Jeandel, 2016; Gourain  
63 et al., 2019; Morton et al., 2019). In addition to lithogenic sources, vast quantities of biogenic marine  
64 particles are produced in surface waters through the assimilation of dissolved carbon, macronutrients (e.g.  
65 silicic acid, nitrate, phosphate) and micronutrients (e.g. Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Cd) by phytoplankton  
66 (Yigiterhan et al., 2011; Jeandel et al., 2015; Lam et al., 2015a; Twining et al., 2015). Moreover, authigenic  
67 particles such as Fe and Mn oxides, are generated at the ocean floor above reducing sediment conditions  
68 and in the water column where dissolved species of redox-sensitive elements are oxidized, producing  
69 particles enriched in these elements over their crustal abundances (Lam and Bishop, 2008; Yigiterhan et  
70 al., 2011; Hansel, 2017; Oldham et al., 2017; Morton et al., 2019; Vieira et al., 2019).

71 Given the relevance of particles in the cycling of trace elements and isotopes (TEIs), the fact that many  
72 particulate TEIs are useful tracers of biogeochemical and physical ocean processes, and, as TEIs dissolve  
73 and/or remineralize, they release important micronutrients for phytoplankton (Lam and Bishop, 2008;  
74 Jeandel et al., 2011; Anderson et al., 2014; Jeandel and Oelkers, 2015; Cheize et al., 2019), the study of

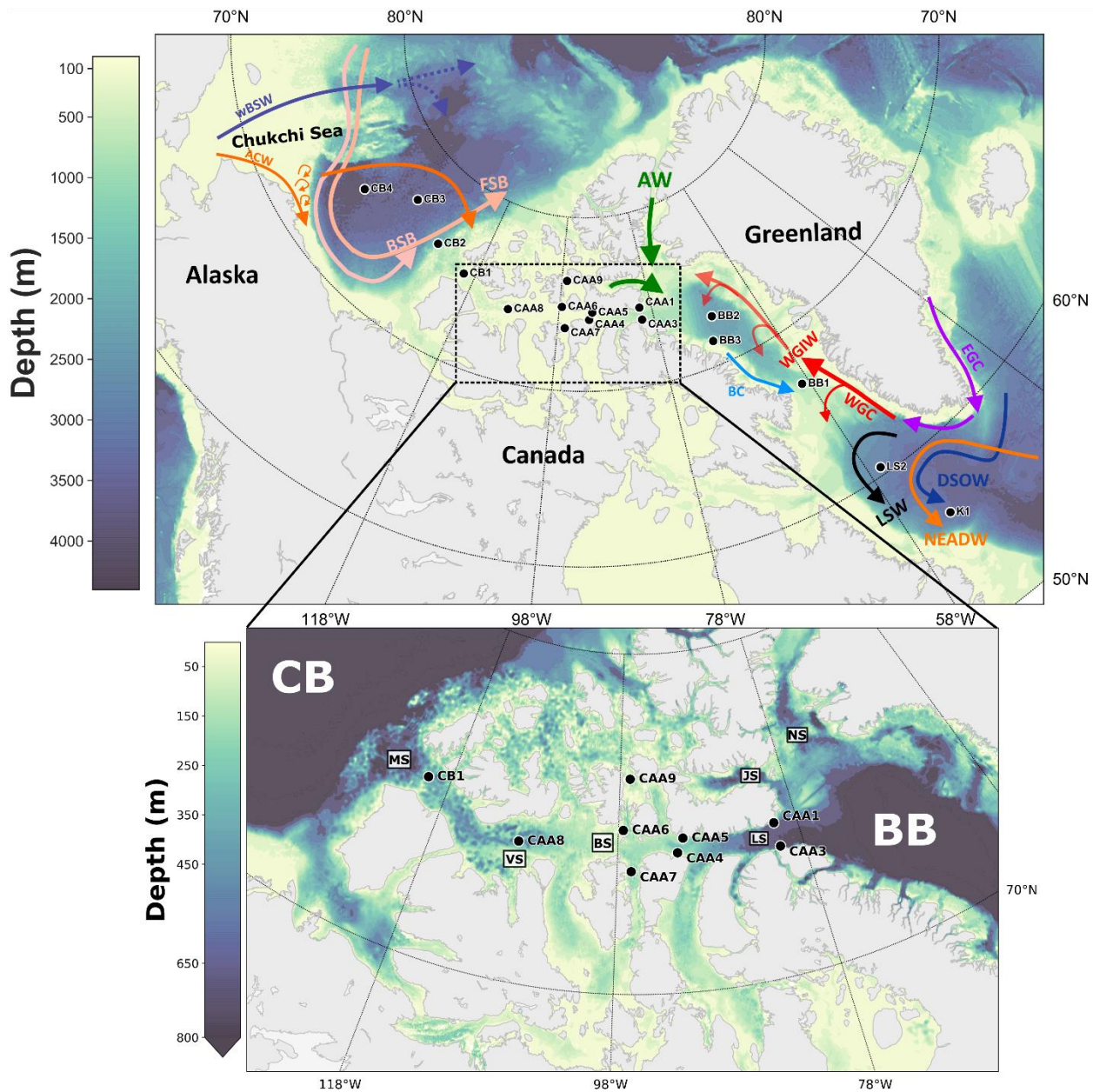
75 particulate trace element distributions is one of the main objectives of the international GEOTRACES  
76 program. In recent years, large oceanographic campaigns, framed within the international GEOTRACES  
77 program, have shed light on the biogeochemistry of particulate trace elements on the North Atlantic Zonal  
78 Transect (Lam et al., 2015; Ohnemus & Lam, 2015; GA03 GEOTRACES cruise), the Eastern Pacific Zonal  
79 Transect (Ohnemus et al., 2017; Lam et al., 2018; Lee et al., 2018; GP16 GEOTRACES cruise), and the  
80 North Subarctic Atlantic from the Iberian margin to the Labrador Sea (Gourain et al., 2019; GEOTRACES  
81 GA01 cruise). Nonetheless, our knowledge of particulate trace metal distributions in other regions, such as  
82 the Arctic Ocean, is still very limited. A handful of studies have reported concentrations of total dissolvable  
83 trace metals in the Chukchi Sea and adjacent shelf break areas of the Canada Basin, however, these studies  
84 focused on the leachable fraction of the particulate pool (Thuróczy et al., 2011; Cid et al., 2012; Giesbrecht  
85 et al., 2013; Kondo et al., 2016; Vieira et al., 2019). To the best of our knowledge, three studies have  
86 described the distributions of particulate elements in the Chukchi Sea and Western Arctic Ocean (GN01  
87 GEOTRACES cruise; Aguilar-Islas et al., 2013; Whitmore et al., 2019; Xiang and Lam, 2020), and three  
88 other studies have reported particulate organic carbon distributions in the Canada Basin (Trimble and  
89 Baskaran, 2005; Jackson et al., 2010; Brown et al., 2014).

90 This study contributes to the growing body of literature by presenting spatial and vertical distributions  
91 of total particulate trace elements (pAl, pV, pFe, pMn and pP) and particulate organic carbon and particulate  
92 nitrogen (POC and pN) across the deep Canada Basin, Baffin Bay and Labrador Sea, as well as pP, POC  
93 and pN distributions in the shallow Canadian Arctic Archipelago. With the aid of ancillary data, modeled  
94 tidal stresses and particle tracking simulations, we unravel the sources and processes shaping particulate  
95 distributions in the unique Canadian Arctic Ocean, a land-influenced environment characterized by  
96 extensive continental margins and shelves.

## 97 **2 Study Area and Hydrography**

98 The Canada Basin is strongly salinity stratified, with a fresh polar mixed layer (PML), seasonally  
99 modified by freeze-thaw cycles of sea ice and snow, and a multilayered halocline (~30-400 m) which  
100 insulates the PML from the underlying saltier and warmer Atlantic Layer (AL). The halocline assembly  
101 consists of the Alaskan Coastal Water (ACW), with a potential temperature ( $\theta$ ) of about  $\sim 0$  °C and a salinity  
102 (S) range of  $30 < S < 32$ , a relatively saltier ( $32 < S < 33$ ) summer Bering Sea Water (sBSW) occupying the  
103 bulk of the central Chukchi Sea, and the winter Bering Sea Water (wBSW), distinguished by a weak  
104 temperature minimum near  $S = 33.1$ , which is advected from Bering Strait and contributes to the middle  
105 halocline layer (Steele et al., 2004; McLaughlin et al., 2005; Timmermans et al., 2017; Figure 1 and Figure  
106 S1a in the supporting information). Unlike the upper and middle halocline, the lower halocline (LH)  
107 consists mostly of Atlantic-origin waters, and is identified by a sharp increase in temperature at salinities  
108 between 33.3 and 34.6 (McLaughlin et al., 2005; Shimada et al., 2005; Woodgate & Aagaard, 2005). The  
109 AL (~400-1200 m) has two components: the Fram Strait Branch (FSB), distinguished by a temperature  
110 maximum and the Barents Sea Branch (BSB), which is deeper and colder (Smethie et al., 2000; McLaughlin  
111 et al., 2004; Aksenov et al., 2011). Underlying the AL lies the old, cold and more saline Canada Basin Deep  
112 Water (CBDW  $> 1200$  m; Timmermans et al., 2003; Figures 1 and S1a).

113 The Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA) is a complex network of islands and shallow straits,  
114 connecting the Arctic Ocean to Baffin Bay. This shelf dominated region is an important export conduit for  
115 fresh and nutrient rich Pacific waters (phosphate, silicic acid and bio-active trace metals) to the North  
116 Atlantic, enhancing the productivity downstream (Michel et al., 2006; Beszczynska-Möller et al., 2011;  
117 Wang et al., 2012; Hill et al., 2013; Colombo et al., 2021). The CAA links the Arctic Ocean with Baffin  
118 Bay by three main pathways: 1- Parry Channel (sill depth:  $\sim 120$  m), running from M'Clure Strait to  
119 Lancaster Sound, where Arctic Water (AW) is exported to Baffin Bay, 2- Nares Strait (sill depth:  $\sim 220$  m),  
120 and 3- Jones Sound (sill depth:  $\sim 125$  m; Figure 1).



121

122 **Figure 1.** Sampled stations for particulate trace elements, organic carbon and nitrogen during the Canadian Arctic  
 123 GEOTRACES cruises (GN02 and GN03), alongside bathymetry and a schematic of water circulation in the Canada Basin (after  
 124 Aksenov et al., 2011; Kondo et al., 2016) and Baffin Bay and the Labrador Sea (after Yashayaev and Clarke, 2008; Curry et al.,  
 125 2011; Lozier et al., 2017). ACW: Alaskan Coastal Water, wBSW: winter Bering Sea Water, FSB: Fram Strait Branch, BSB: Barents  
 126 Sea Branch, AW: Arctic Water, EGC: East Greenland Current, WGC: West Greenland Current, WGIW: West Greenland  
 127 Intermediate Water, BC: Baffin Current, LSW: Labrador Sea Water, NSDW: Northeast Atlantic Deep Water, DSOW: Denmark  
 128 Strait Overflow Water. Canada Basin stations: CB2-CB4, Canadian Arctic Archipelago stations: CB1 and CAA1-CAA9 (only  
 129 particulate phosphorus, organic carbon and nitrogen data from the CAA are presented in this study), Baffin Bay stations: BB1-  
 130 BB3, Labrador Sea stations: LS2 and K1. Landmarks and straits of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago are displayed in the inset; MS:  
 131 M'Clure Strait, VS: Viscount Melville Sound, BS: Barrow Strait, LS: Lancaster Sound NS: Nares Strait, JS: Jones Sound. Parry  
 132 Channel is the main pathway in central CAA connecting M'Clure Strait with Lancaster Sound.

133 Baffin Bay is connected to the Labrador Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean through Davis Strait

134 (~650 m). The overall circulation in this bay is cyclonic, with a northward flow on the eastern side of Davis

135 Strait, the West Greenland Current (WGC), which consists of subsurface freshwater of Arctic origin (East  
136 Greenland Current), and the warm and salty West Greenland Intermediate Water (WGIW: ~300-800 m;  
137  $\theta > 1.3$  °C and  $S > 34.2$ ) of North Atlantic origin (Cuny et al., 2005; Curry et al., 2011; Lozier et al., 2017).  
138 This northward inflow is modified during its cyclonic circulation, and the upper layers of the WGC are  
139 mixed with Arctic Waters, resulting in the fresh and cold Arctic Water (AW;  $\theta < 0$  °C and  $32.0 < S < 33.7$ ),  
140 which continues its flow to the Labrador Sea as the Baffin Current (Tang et al., 2004; Cuny et al., 2005).  
141 Underlying the WGIW, lies the Baffin Bay Deep Water (BBDW), which is characterized by a small change  
142 in salinity and a steady decrease in potential temperature (Tang et al., 2004; Figures 1 and S1c).

143 The subsurface circulation in the Labrador Sea is cyclonic, consisting of two components: the WGC  
144 and the Labrador Current. The Labrador Current flows southward along the Labrador Shelf and Slope and  
145 is the extension of the Baffin Current (BC; Cuny et al., 2002; Fischer et al., 2004). The Labrador Sea Water  
146 (LSW) lies between the subsurface water and the deep western boundary current. Two LSW classes were  
147 distinguished from the CTD data in 2015: the newly ventilated and fresher LSW formed during the winters  
148 of 2014 and 2015 (LSW-2015), and the oldest, saltiest and least oxygenated LSW produced in the winters  
149 of 1987-1994 (LSW-87/94; Yashayaev and Loder, 2016). Underlying the LSW-87/94, lies the saline, warm  
150 ( $\theta \sim 3$  °C,  $S \sim 34.92$ ) and less oxygenated Northeast Atlantic Deep Water (NSDW), and the deepest, less  
151 saline, colder ( $\theta \leq 2.6$  °C,  $S \sim 34.9$ ) and more-recently oxygenated Denmark Strait Overflow Water  
152 (DSOW; Yashayaev et al., 2007; Yashayaev and Loder, 2016; Figures 1 and S1d).

153

154

## 155 **3 Methods**

### 156 **3.1 Sample collection**

157 Samples were collected on the *CCGS Amundsen* as part of GEOTRACES sections GN02 and GN03  
158 (10/07/2015-1/10/2015) which covered an area from 56°N to 77°N and 53°W to 150°W in the Canadian  
159 Arctic. The sampling was carried out during summer and early fall months, and hence, most stations were  
160 ice-free when seawater samples were collected (Colombo et al., 2020). Vertical profiles ranging from  
161 approximately 10 to 3500 m depth were obtained at 17 stations: three in the Canada Basin, nine in the CAA  
162 (only pP, POC and pN distributions from the CAA are discussed in this paper), three in Baffin Bay and two  
163 in the Labrador Sea (Figure 1). A trace-metal clean sampling system consisting of a powder-coated  
164 aluminum frame, which held twelve 12 L Teflon-coated GO-FLO bottles (General Oceanics, Miami FL  
165 USA) and a SeaBird 911 CTD/SBE 43 oxygen sensor instrument package (Seabird Electronics Inc,  
166 Bellevue WA USA), attached by a 4000 m 4-member conducting Vectran cable encased in polyurethane  
167 (Cortland Cable Co., Cortland NY USA) was used to collect seawater samples for particulate trace element  
168 analysis.

169 On-board the ship, these samples were transferred to a trace metal clean sampling van (HEPA filtered  
170 environment), where ten liters of unfiltered seawater were collected into pre-cleaned 10 L LDPE cubitainers  
171 (Bel Art and Nalgene) by the use of a piece of C-flex tubing (Masterflex) together with a Teflon straw.  
172 Seawater was then filtered through a 0.45 µm Supor filter (47 mm diameter) inside a HEPA-filtered clean  
173 air bubble. The filtration system included a cubitainer, a spigot, C-flex tubing, a peristaltic pump (Cole-  
174 Palmer), a 47 mm filter holder (Millipore) with customized screws, waste tubing and a waste container for  
175 volume recording. After filtration, filters were dried inside a laminar flow hood, folded in half, and stored  
176 in clean poly bags until analysis. Supor filters were always handled using pre-cleaned forceps and clean  
177 gloves. The sampling devices, containers and the filtration system were cleaned according to GEOTRACES  
178 protocols (Cutter et al., 2010).



179 Particulate organic carbon and nitrogen (POC and pN) samples were collected using the *CCGS*  
180 *Amundsen* rosette, consisting of 24 × 12 L Niskin bottles, a Sea-Bird SBE 911 CTD, and fluorometer,  
181 transmissometer, colored dissolved organic matter and oxygen sensors. POC and pN samples were collected  
182 at the same stations (excepting station CAA9) and depths where particulate trace elements were sampled.  
183 On-board the ship, between two to nine liters of seawater were filtered through 0.7 µm / 25 mm pre-  
184 combusted (450 °C for 4 h) glass fiber (GF) filters (Whatman), which were later stored at -20 °C (Brown  
185 et al., 2014).

## 186 **3.2 Sample processing and analysis**

187 In order to prevent contamination, the processing and analysis of particulate trace elements was  
188 conducted at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in class 1000 laboratories, pressurized with HEPA  
189 filtered air, and under class 100 laminar flow fume hoods. All the plasticware used during the sample  
190 preparation and analysis were cleaned according to GEOTRACES protocols (Cutter et al., 2010).

### 191 *3.2.1 Particulate trace elements*

192 Filters containing the particulate fraction were digested at UBC following the protocol described by  
193 Ohnemus et al. (2014). In brief, the organic fraction and the Supor filter matrix were dissolved by reflux  
194 heating with sulfuric acid and hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>), followed by mineral matrix dissolution by  
195 reflux heating using a mixture of mineral acids (HNO<sub>3</sub>, hydrochloric acid [HCl] and hydrofluoric acid  
196 [HF]). After the digestion procedure, the clear residues were resuspended in 1% HNO<sub>3</sub> with 10 ppb of  
197 indium as an internal standard; particulate samples were diluted prior to ICP-MS analysis (the particulate  
198 digestion protocol is fully described in the supporting information: Supplementary methods). All reagents  
199 used in the digestion and subsequent sample preparation (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, HNO<sub>3</sub>, HCl, HF and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) were Optima  
200 grade (Fisher Scientific, Ontario, Canada).

201 Particulate Al, V, Fe, Mn and P were analyzed from a twelve-point calibration curve prepared in 1%  
202 trace metal grade HNO<sub>3</sub> from 1 ppm certified single element standards. The analyses were conducted by a

203 high resolution Thermo Finnigan Element2 ICP-MS in the Pacific Centre for Isotopic and Geochemical  
204 Research (PCIGR), an analytical center at UBC. A medium mass resolution was selected for Fe, V and Mn  
205 in order to remove isobaric interferences, and Al and P were analyzed using low mass resolution. During  
206 sample analysis, solution blanks (1% HNO<sub>3</sub> Milli-q water with indium) and filter blanks were run to ensure  
207 quality throughout the measurements; particulate trace element concentrations reported here were corrected  
208 for the analytical blank by subtracting the average solution blank on the corresponding analytical day and  
209 from the filter blank measurements. The accuracy and precision of this method was tested by analyzing the  
210 certified reference material BCR-414, and GEOTRACES inter-calibration samples collected in the Pacific  
211 Ocean. The BCR-414, as well as GEOTRACES inter-calibration samples underwent the same digestion  
212 and analytical method used to analyze the Canadian Arctic GEOTRACES samples. Results from these  
213 analyses (mean, standard deviation and relative standard deviation values) as well as, solution and filter  
214 blank concentrations are listed in Table S1. Measured values in this study are in good agreement with  
215 consensus values, yielding recoveries ranging from 76 to 123% (104±11%) for Al, V, Fe, Mn and P (Table  
216 S1).

### 217 3.2.2 *Particulate organic carbon and particulate nitrogen (POC and pN)*

218 Frozen filters containing POC and pN were oven dried at 60 °C for 24 h at UBC, and then acid fumed  
219 with concentrated HCl for three days and dried at 50 °C for 24 h to remove particulate inorganic carbon  
220 (Brown et al., 2014). POC and pN analyses were conducted by the use of a carbon/nitrogen/sulfur vario  
221 MICRO cube analyzer (Elementar), and the concentrations reported here were corrected by subtracting the  
222 average concentrations of pre-combusted blank GF filters. The detection limits of the analyses  $-3 \sigma$  of  
223 replicate measurement of pre-combusted blank GF filters– were 0.012 mg for POC (n= 10) and 0.009 mg  
224 for pN (n= 8).

## 225 **3.3 Tidal stress estimates, particle tracking simulations and statistical analysis**

226 Tidal flow over topography can generate strong sediment resuspension events. In order to identify the  
227 spatial distribution and the prevalence of these events in Baffin Bay and the Labrador Sea, we mapped tidal

228 stress, calculated by squaring the barotropic tidal speeds. The magnitude of the tidal stress is proportional  
229 to the integrated effect of resuspension on an area, i.e. high tidal stress suggests frequent resuspension  
230 events (Wang, 2002). The barotropic tidal speeds were extracted from the MOG2D-G hydrodynamic  
231 gravity waves model (Carrère and Lyard, 2003) by Epstein (2018).

232 The paths of the winter Bering Sea water (wBSW) sampled at the three Canada Basin stations were  
233 traced from August 2015 backward two years using Ocean Parcels (Lange and Seville, 2017) with five-day  
234 averaged velocity fields from a 1/12 degree coupled ocean-ice model of the Arctic and Northern  
235 Hemispheric Atlantic (Hu et al., 2018) configuration of the Nucleus for European Modeling of the Ocean  
236 (NEMO; Madec et al., 2017). In order to trace the wBSW, water parcels were released at model depth levels  
237 23-30 (i.e. 110-380 m).

238 Python 3.6.0. programming language and NumPy, Matplotlib, SciPy and pandas libraries were used  
239 for statistical analysis and graphic design. Particulate trace element data, as well as POC and pN, are  
240 presented as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation (otherwise noted), and differences between concentration means  
241 have been tested using student t-test at a significance level of 5% or lower. A linear least-squares regression  
242 fit (slope, intercept, correlation coefficient and p-value) has been applied to evaluate the relationship among  
243 different trace elements.

244

## 245 **4 Results**

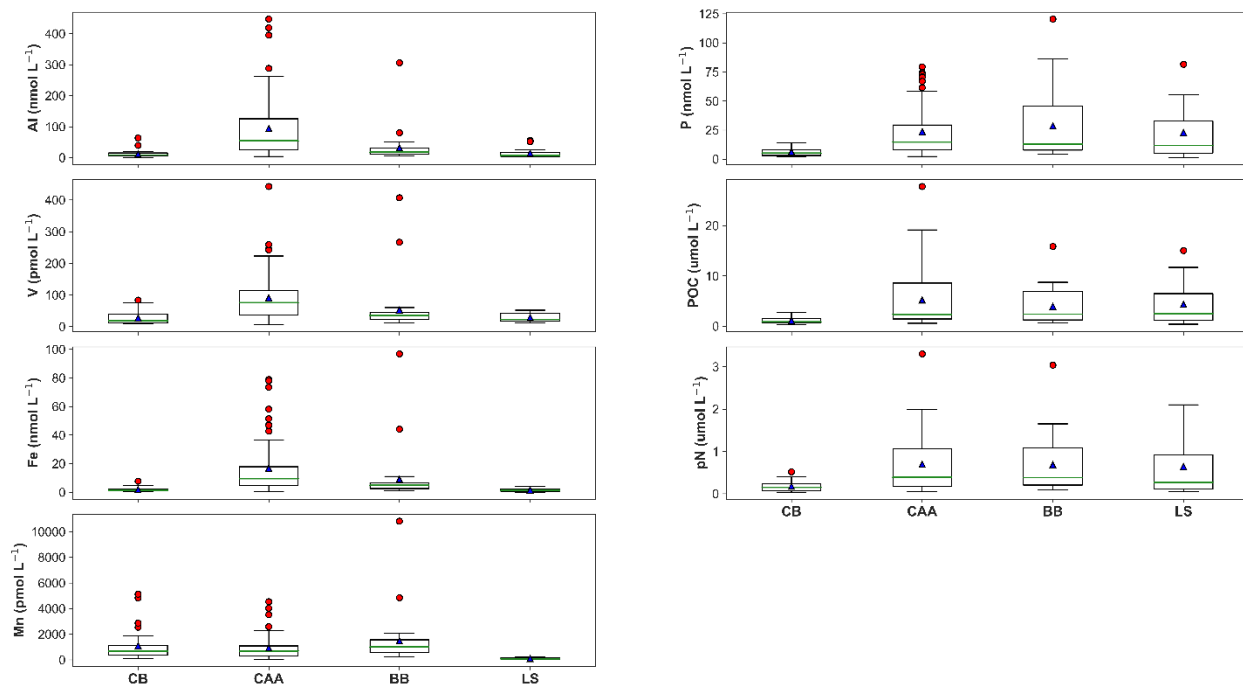
### 246 **4.1 Dataset overview**

247 This study presents total pAl, pV, pFe, pMn, pP, POC and pN distribution in the Canadian Arctic  
248 Ocean (CAO), across three deep basins: The Canada Basin, Baffin Bay and the Labrador Sea, as well as  
249 pP, POC and pN distributions in the shallow Canadian Arctic Archipelago. These are the first observations

250 collected in the CAO for many of these elements (full dataset presented in this manuscript is included in  
251 the Research Data Electronic Annex).

252 Among the deep CAO basins, the Canada Basin (CB) and the Labrador Sea (LS) had low  
253 concentrations of lithogenic-derived particulate elements, such as pAl, pFe and pV (albeit pV surface and  
254 subsurface distributions are not associated with lithogenic phases; discussed below), while the  
255 concentrations of these elements were higher in Baffin Bay (BB; Table S2 and Figure 2). However, even  
256 for BB, lithogenic particle concentrations in the deep (~1000-3500 m) basins were significantly lower than  
257 those measured in the shallow and shelf-dominated Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA; Table S2 and  
258 Figure 2).

259 The concentrations of pP, POC and pN in the Canadian Arctic Ocean did not follow the trends  
260 described above for lithogenic elements. Concentrations of these biogenic-derived elements were similar  
261 across the CAA, BB and LS, while significantly ( $p$ -value < 0.05) lower values were observed in the CB  
262 (Table S2 and Figure 2). The highest values of lithogenic particulate elements (Figure 2, red points) were  
263 commonly associated with near bottom waters, while biogenic-derived elements (pP, POC and pN) peak at  
264 the surface. The distribution of particulate Mn, unlike the other elements, was similar across the CB, CAA  
265 and BB, whereas much lower concentrations were measured in the LS (Table S2 and Figure 2).



266

267 **Figure 2.** Observed concentration ranges of particulate trace elements (pAl, pV, pFe, pMn and pP) and particulate organic  
 268 carbon and particulate nitrogen (POC and pN) in the Canada Basin (CB), Baffin Bay (BB) and the Labrador Sea (LS). Particulate  
 269 Al, V, Fe and Mn data in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA) were retrieved from Colombo et al. (2021). Boxes mark the 25th  
 270 and 75th percentiles for all data points, whisker bars represent 10<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles, solid green horizontal lines in each box  
 271 represent the median, blue triangles represent average values, and red points are the outliers representing data that extend beyond  
 272 the whiskers.

273

## 274 4.2 Vertical distributions of particulate elements in the Canadian Arctic Ocean

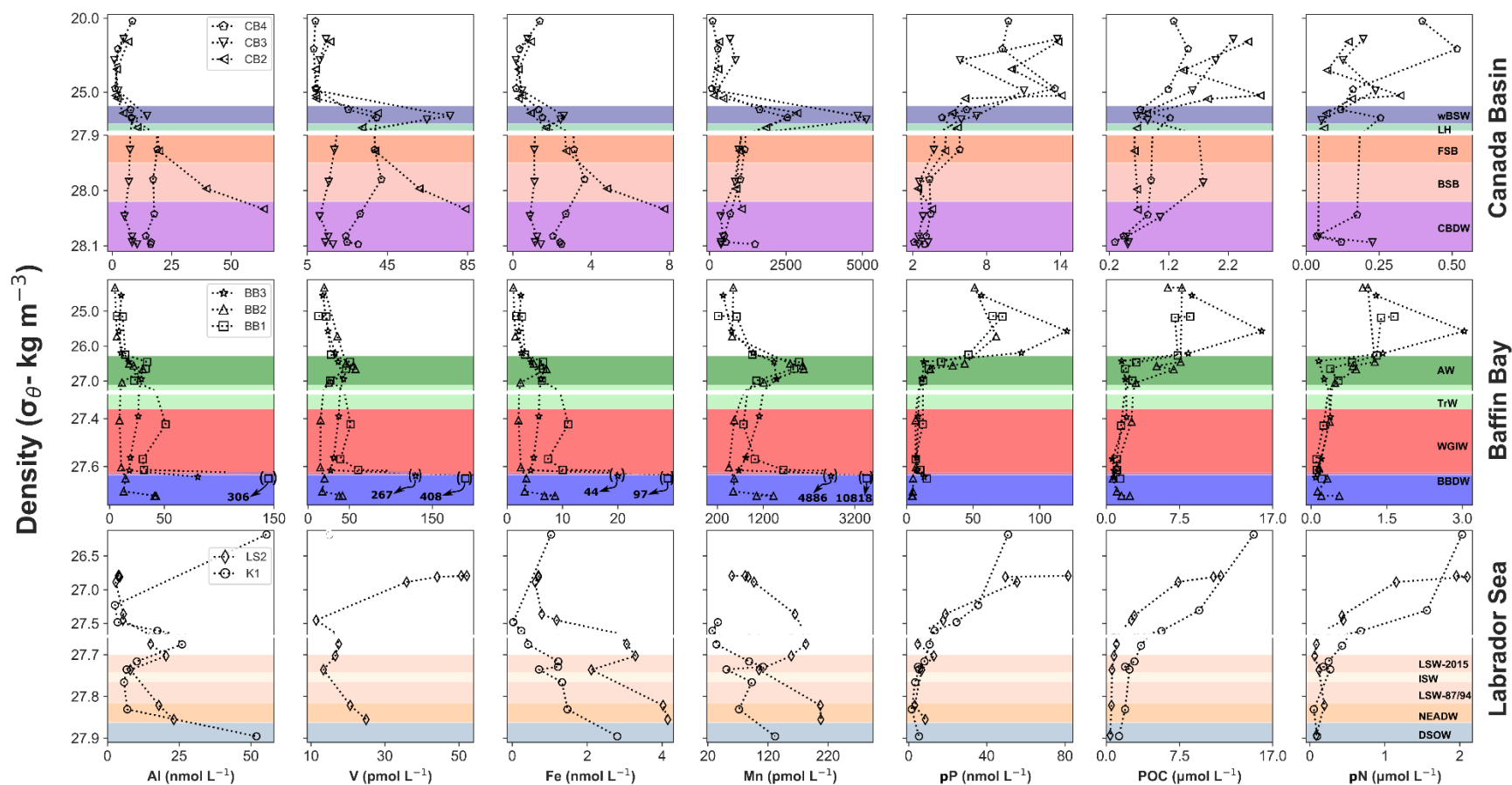
### 275 4.2.1 Particulate Al, V, Fe and Mn

276 *The Canada Basin:* Surface ( $\sigma_{\theta} < 24$  and  $z < 40$  m) concentrations of pAl, pV, pFe and pMn slowly  
 277 decreased with depth down to the top of the winter Bering Sea Water halocline layer (wBSW), where  
 278 concentrations increased with depth, especially for pV and pMn. At the shelf-break CB2 station, a steady  
 279 increase of pAl, pV and pFe was observed with depth below the halocline assembly. This increase contrasts  
 280 with the low and relatively uniform values measured across the Atlantic Layer (AL= FSB+BSB) and  
 281 Canada Basin Deep Waters (CBDW) at CB3 (Figure 3). Particulate trace metal concentrations in the AL  
 282 and CBDW at CB4 were significantly higher ( $p\text{-value} < 0.001$ ) than those of CB3. Particulate Mn profiles  
 283 resembled those of pAl, pV and pFe for surface and subsurface waters, but, unlike the previous elements,  
 284 no differences were found among the three stations below the halocline assembly (Figure 3).

285 *Baffin Bay:* Similar to CB, particulate concentrations in BB surface waters ( $\sigma_{\theta} < 26.3$ ) were uniformly  
286 low. This low signature extended down to the top of the Arctic Water (AW), where a subsurface peak was  
287 observed, reaching concentrations as high as 34.2 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, 57.3 pmol L<sup>-1</sup>, 7.12 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, 2084 pmol L<sup>-1</sup> for  
288 pAl, pV, pFe and pMn, respectively (Figure 3). Underneath the AW, vertical distributions of pAl, pV and  
289 pFe across the West Greenland Intermediate Waters (WGIW) and Baffin Bay Deep Waters (BBDW)  
290 exhibited distinct spatial differences. The lowest concentrations of these elements were measured at station  
291 BB2, followed by BB3 and BB1 (Figure 3). Clear maxima of pAl, pV and pFe were observed in the deepest  
292 samples, close to the sea-floor, where concentrations were two to ten-fold higher than WGIW and BBDW  
293 values (Figure 3). For pMn, this spatial difference in deep water (WGIW + BBDW) distributions among  
294 BB stations was not as clear as that described for pAl, pV and pFe (BB1 > BB3 > BB2), albeit two to ten-fold  
295 higher maximum concentrations were also found in the deepest samples (Figure 3).

296 *The Labrador Sea:* The concentrations of pAl, pFe and pMn in surface waters ( $\sigma_{\theta} < 27.4$ ) were lower  
297 than those measured in BB, but in the same range as the CB values, with the exception of high surface pV  
298 ( $45.7 \pm 6.43$  pmol L<sup>-1</sup>), and the rather high pAl measured at 9 m depth (55.4 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>; Figure 3).  
299 Interestingly, subsurface and deep water pFe and pMn concentrations at station LS2 were considerably  
300 higher than at K1, which was not the case for pAl (Figure 3). At LS2 station, from ~300-500 m, a subsurface  
301 peak with concentrations as high as pAl: 20.4 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, pV: 17.5 pmol L<sup>-1</sup>, pFe: 3.29 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, pMn:  
302 182 pmol L<sup>-1</sup> was present. Particulate concentrations increased from the base of Labrador Sea Waters-2015  
303 (LSW-2015) towards the sea floor, with the highest values found at the base of the Northeast Atlantic Deep  
304 Water (NSDW; Figure 3). At station K1, a shallower subsurface peak of pAl was observed from  
305 approximately 100-150 m, while pAl deep water concentrations remained nearly uniform across  
306 LSW-2015, LSW-87/94 and NSDW, with much higher concentrations (7-fold higher than LSW and  
307 NSDW) in the Denmark Strait Overflow Water (DSOW). Similarly, pFe and pMn did not change  
308 significantly across LSW and NSDW, but a sharp increase in their concentrations was measured in DSOW  
309 (~ two-fold higher than LSW and NSDW; Figure 3).

310 Despite the spatial variability across the deep CAO basins, as a general trend, pAl and pV  
311 concentrations from CB, BB and LS, not accounting for benthic nepheloid layers, are higher than those  
312 reported for the East Pacific Zonal transect (GP16), the South Atlantic Ocean (GA06\_w), the Eastern  
313 Tropical Atlantic Ocean (GA06\_w) and the North Atlantic (GA01\_e; Fitzsimmons et al., 2017; Milne et  
314 al., 2017; Gourain et al., 2019; GEOTRACES Intermediate Data Product Group, 2021). Similarly, pMn  
315 concentrations in CB and BB are considerably higher than those of aforementioned basins (~100-300  
316 pmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), while LS concentrations fall within the range of reported values for other major basins. For pFe,  
317 CAO concentrations are within the same range as those reported for the South Atlantic Ocean, the Eastern  
318 Tropical Atlantic Ocean and the North Atlantic (~0.5-5 nmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), but higher than pFe measured in the  
319 East Pacific Zonal transect (<1 nmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), where particulate trace metal concentrations are generally low  
320 (Fitzsimmons et al., 2017; Milne et al., 2017; Gourain et al., 2019; GEOTRACES Intermediate Data  
321 Product Group, 2021).



322

323 **Figure 3.** Profiles of particulate Al, V, Fe, Mn, pP, POC, pN versus potential density ( $\sigma_\theta$ ) for the deep stations in the Canada Basin (upper panel: CB2-CB4), Baffin Bay  
 324 (middle panel: BB1-BB3) and the Labrador Sea (lower panel: LS2 and K1). As the deepest samples from Baffin Bay had extremely high concentrations of Al, V, Fe and Mn, these  
 325 values are shown between parenthesis to emphasize the features of the rest of the profile. Colored bands label important water masses to facilitate the interpretation and discussion  
 326 of the trace element data following Aksenov et al. (2011), Kondo et al. (2016), Tang et al. (2004), Curry et al. (2011), Yashayaev and Loder (2009 and 2016). wBSW: winter Bering  
 327 Sea Water ( $\sigma_\theta = 25.9-27.1$  and  $z = \sim 100-300$  m), LH: Lower Halocline, FSB: Fram Strait Branch, BSB: Barents Sea Branch (FSB+BSB:  $\sigma_\theta = 27.9-28.0$  and  $z = \sim 350-1200$  m), CBDW:  
 328 Canada Basin Deep Water ( $\sigma_\theta > 28.1$  and  $z > 1200$  m), AW: Arctic Water ( $\sigma_\theta = 26.3-27.1$  and  $z = \sim 40-180$  m), TrW: transitional water ( $\sim 180-300$  m), WGIW: West Greenland  
 329 Intermediate Water ( $\sigma_\theta = 27.3-27.6$  and  $z = \sim 300-800$  m), BBDW: Baffin Bay Deep Water ( $\sigma_\theta > 27.6$  and  $z > 800$  m), LSW: Labrador Sea Water ( $\sigma_\theta = 27.70-27.81$ ; LS2:  $\sim 470-1870$  m  
 330 and K1:  $\sim 140-2060$  m), ISW: Icelandic Slope Water, NSDW: Northeast Atlantic Deep Water ( $\sigma_\theta = 27.81-27.86$ ; LS2:  $\sim 1870-2400$  m and K1:  $\sim 2060-2640$  m), DSOW: Denmark  
 331 Strait Overflow Water ( $\sigma_\theta > 27.86$ ; LS2:  $> 2400$  and K1:  $> 2640$  m).



332 4.2.2 *Particulate phosphate (pP), organic carbon (POC) and nitrogen (pN)*

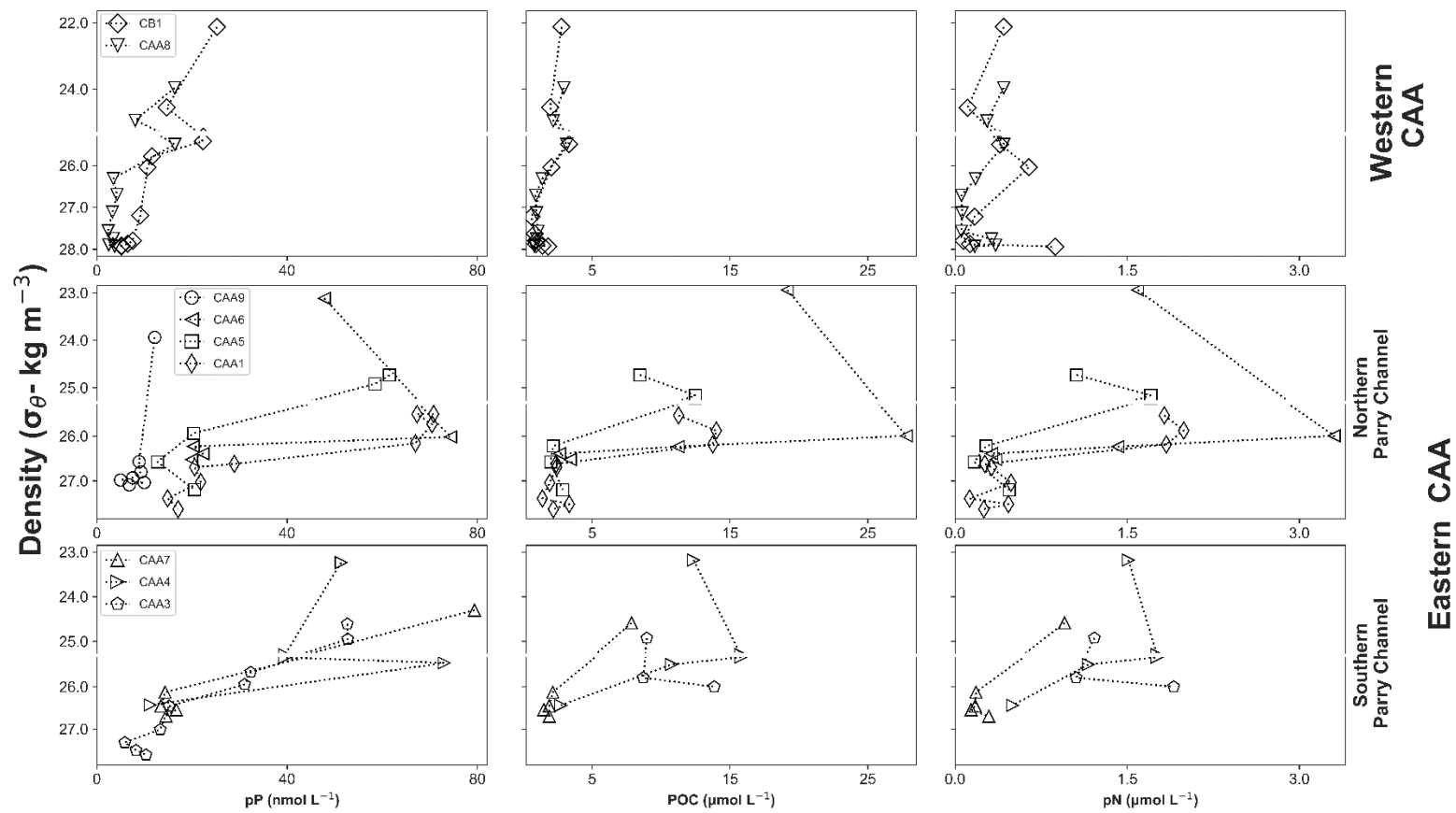
333 *The Canada Basin:* The lowest pP, POC and pN concentrations of this study were measured in this  
334 basin; these elements peaked at the surface ( $z = \sim 10$ ) and subsurface ( $\sigma_{\theta} = 24.8-25.2$  and  $z = 60-70$  m; Figure  
335 3), where transmissivity diminished and chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) was highest (Figure S2). Below 100 m  
336 ( $\sigma_{\theta} = \sim 25.7-26.1$ ), pP, POC and pN decreased with depth, although the difference in concentrations between  
337 surface and deep waters was not as large as that observed in the CAA, BB and LS (Figure 3 and 4).

338 *Baffin Bay:* pP, POC and pN were highest in the upper 40 m ( $\sigma_{\theta} < 26.3$ ), with concentrations ranging  
339 from 43.7 to 72.1 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, 6.29 to 8.57  $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$  and 1.02 to 1.65  $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ , respectively, at BB1 and BB2,  
340 and highest at BB3 (pP: 120 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, POC: 15.9  $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ , pN: 3.04  $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ ; Figure 3). Across AW, POC  
341 and pN concentrations were lowest at station BB3, followed by BB1 and BB2 (Figure 3), where a deeper  
342 subsurface Chl-a peak and transmissivity drop were recorded (Figure S2). Underneath AW, pP, POC and  
343 pN continued to decline with depth through the WGIW (Figure 3)

344 *The Labrador Sea:* pP, POC and pN were elevated in surface waters ( $z < 40$  m) and sharply decreased  
345 from the subsurface waters to the top of LSW-2015 (Figure 3). Underneath LSW-2015, pP, POC and pN  
346 concentrations steadily decreased with depth to the DSOW, where minima in POC and pN concentrations  
347 were reached.

348 *The Canadian Arctic Archipelago:* As described for the deep basins, pP, POC and pN were highest in  
349 surface waters, while much lower concentrations were measured in deeper waters ( $\sigma_{\theta} = \sim 26.3-26.8$  and  
350  $z > 100$  m). Marked differences in the distributions of these elements were noticed in the CAA, with  
351 considerably lower concentrations measured in the western CAA (CB1 and CAA8 stations) compared to  
352 eastern CAA regions (CAA1-CAA7 and CAA9; Figure 4). Surface concentrations of pP, POC and pN in  
353 the western CAA ranged between 8.08 to 25.3 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, 1.95 to 3.33  $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$  and 0.109 to 0.425  $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ ,  
354 respectively (Figure 4). On the other hand, in the eastern CAA, surface and subsurface concentrations were

355 higher (pP: 31.1-74.9 nmol L<sup>-1</sup>, POC: 7.86-27.78 μmol L<sup>-1</sup>, pN: 0.953-3.304 μmol L<sup>-1</sup>), and decreased  
356 uniformly to the bottom (Figure 4).



**Figure 4.** Profiles of pP, POC and pN versus potential density ( $\sigma_\theta$ ) in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA). Note that the vertical axis scales vary.

357  
358

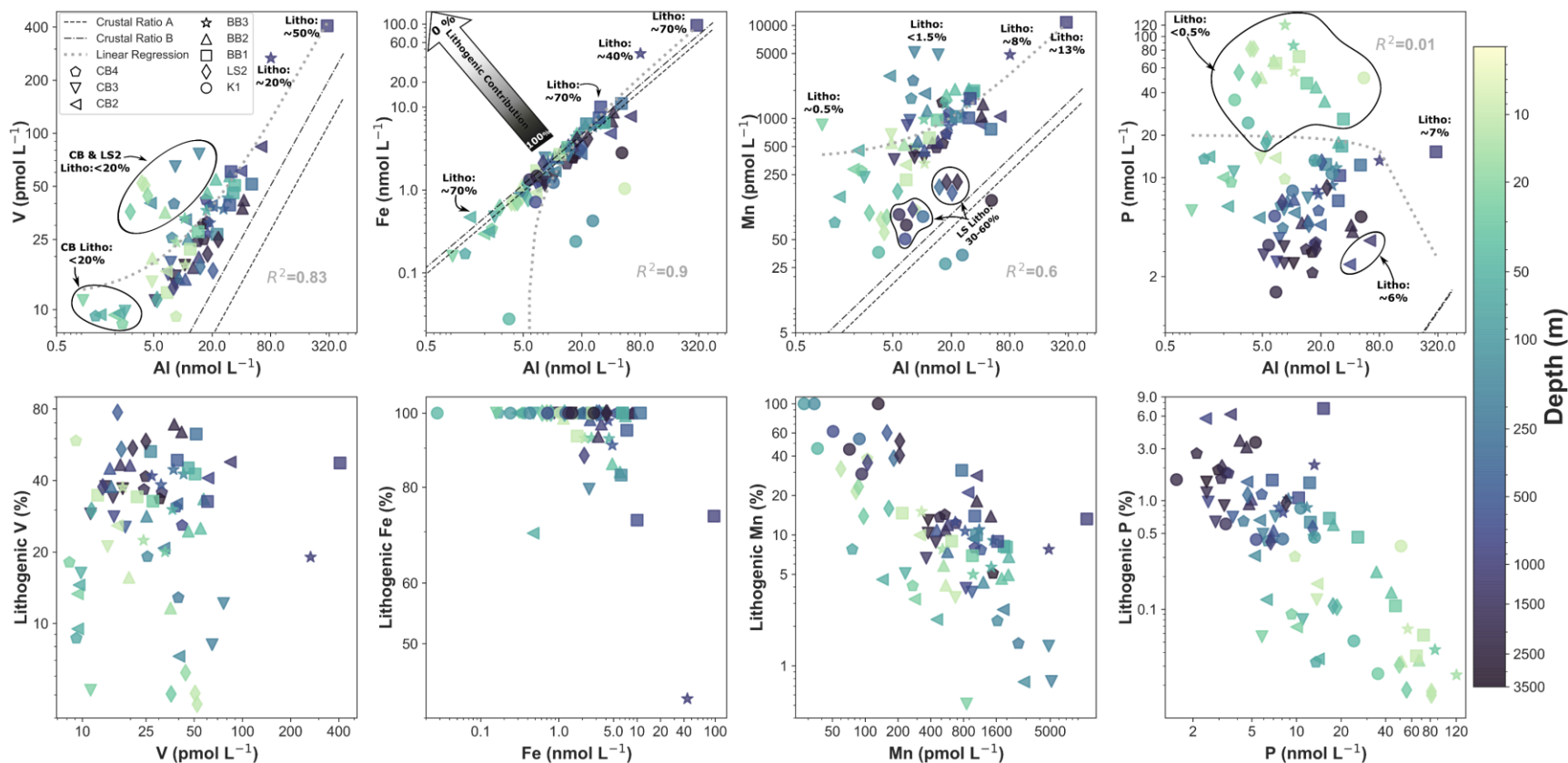
## 359 **5 Discussion**

### 360 **5.1 The importance of advective transport, nepheloid layers and authigenic Mn** 361 **oxides in modulating the distributions of lithogenic elements and Mn**

362 In order to elucidate the sources and dominant phases (i.e. lithogenic, biogenic, authigenic) of  
363 particulate samples in the Canadian Arctic Ocean (CAO), we normalized our data to pAl, and compared  
364 elemental pAl ratios to average upper continental crustal ratios (UCC; Shaw et al., 2008; Rudnick and Gao,  
365 2013). Particulate Al has been extensively used as a lithogenic tracer due to its high natural abundance in  
366 the earth's crust, its similar concentration range in both the UCC and bulk continental crust (the relatively  
367 constant ratio of metal to aluminum in crustal rocks) and its scarce anthropogenic sources (Covelli and  
368 Fontolan, 1997; Ohnemus and Lam, 2015; Lam et al., 2018; Lee et al., 2018; Gourain et al., 2019).

369 In the CB, BB and LS, particulate concentrations show three distinctive patterns. On one hand, pV and  
370 pFe were strongly positively correlated with pAl across many orders of magnitude ( $R^2= 0.83$  and  $0.90$ ,  
371 respectively), and their ratios were in agreement with those reported for the UCC (Figure 5, upper panel),  
372 reflecting the dominance of lithogenic-derived inputs of these elements. On the other hand, pP was instead  
373 correlated with POC and pN (section 5.2) and decoupled from pAl ( $R^2 = 0.01$ ), with ratios that strongly  
374 deviated from the UCC (Figure 5), which evidence the dominant role of biogenic sources (i.e.  
375 phytoplankton biomass). And last, unlike the aforementioned particulate elements, pMn display only a  
376 moderate correlation with pAl ( $R^2= 0.60$ ; Figure 5, upper panel), with distributions that vary greatly in the  
377 lithogenic fraction (from 1 to 100%; Figure 5, lower panel). These results suggest that distinct particle  
378 inputs and/or alteration processes modulate pMn in the deep CAO basins.

379 No significant correlations ( $R^2 < 0.01$  and  $p\text{-value} > 0.05$ ) were found between pAl, pV, pFe and pMn  
380 versus pP, which indicate that inputs from phytoplankton do not contribute substantially to variations in  
381 these particulate elements across the CAO. Therefore, the biogenic fraction of pFe –the most abundant trace  
382 metal in phytoplankton (Ho et al., 2003)– is completely masked by its lithogenic input (Figure 5).



383  
 384 **Figure 5.** Upper panels: relationship between pV, pFe, pMn and pP versus pAl in the Canada Basin (CB), Baffin Bay (BB) and the Labrador Sea (LS); note the logarithmic  
 385 scale of the plots. The depth of the samples is indicated with the color scale; data are from all deep basin stations and all depths. Linear regression lines and R<sup>2</sup> values are displayed  
 386 in the figure (light gray), as well as average upper continental crustal (UCC) ratios for these elements indicated by the dashed and dash-dotted black lines. UCC particulate elements  
 387 to Al molar ratios are selected from Shaw et al. (2008), who reported continental surface Precambrian shield composition in Canada (crustal ratio A), and from an updated continental  
 388 crust composition review (crustal ratio B; Rudnick and Gao 2013). Additionally, the lithogenic fraction (%) of some samples is annotated in the figure to illustrate differential sources  
 389 for these elements. Samples that lie along UCC lines are assumed to be entirely derived from lithogenic sources (100%). Samples plotting along the crustal ratios are assumed to be  
 390 lithogenically derived (lithogenic contribution arrow). Lower panels: lithogenic fractions (%) of pV, pFe, pMn and pP calculated as  $\%pTE_{litho} = 100x \left( \frac{pAl}{pTE} \right)_{sample} \times \left( \frac{pTE}{pAl} \right)_{UCC}$ ,  
 391 where pTE is the lithogenic fraction of a given particulate trace element, and the UCC are the upper continental crust ratios retrieved from Rudnick and Gao (2013), as this work  
 392 presented the most updated review of the continental crust composition.

393 *5.1.1 The influence of lateral advection of shelf-derived waters and Mn oxide formation on*  
394 *surface and subsurface particulate distributions in the CB, BB and the LS*

395 Due to the high latitude and remote location of the CAO, atmospheric fluxes tend to be attenuated in  
396 this region (Marsay et al., 2018; Shelley et al., 2018). This fact likely explains the relatively low surface  
397 concentrations measured in CB, BB and LS (Figure 3), far away from shelf areas where freshwater and  
398 landfast ice are important sources of particulate elements (Giesbrecht et al., 2013; Kondo et al., 2016;  
399 Gourain et al., 2019). Lithogenic inputs dominate the concentrations of pAl and pFe (> 90 %) in surface  
400 waters across the entire CAO (Figure 5). Among the deep water basins, the highest pAl and pFe  
401 concentrations were measured in BB surface waters (Figure 3), which captures the CAA outflow enriched  
402 in pAl and pFe (Colombo et al., 2021). In the CB, the downwelling Beaufort Gyre entrains and accumulates  
403 freshwater and sea ice (Proshutinsky et al., 2009). These freshwater inputs, and its associated lithogenic  
404 particulate load (Measures, 1999; Giesbrecht et al., 2013), to CB surface waters (S= 25.1–29.2; Figure S1)  
405 are expected to drive the higher pAl and pFe values found at the shallowest depths (200 to 400% higher)  
406 compared with underlying waters (Figure 3).

407 On the other hand, the lithogenic contribution of pV and pMn in CAO surface waters represents less  
408 than 40 and 30% of bulk concentrations. Elevated non-lithogenic contributions of pMn and pV could be  
409 linked to enhanced primary production at the surface, which increases the export of biogenic-derived  
410 particles (Twining et al., 2015; Lee et al., 2018; Gourain et al., 2019; Whitmore et al., 2019). Nonetheless,  
411 strong phytoplankton production of pMn (essential micronutrient) in surface waters is not supported by our  
412 dataset given that non-lithogenic pMn fractions do not change significantly across CB and BB (Figures 3  
413 and 6), despite the large differences in the biological productivity observed among these two deep basins  
414 (CB Chl-a <<< BB Chl-a; Figures S2, S3 and S4). Indeed, the lowest pMn concentrations were measured  
415 in LS (Figure 3), where intense phytoplankton spring blooms took place (Figures S3 and S4). Moreover,  
416 pMn distributions in the CAO did not follow the trends of pP, POC and pN, whose spatial and vertical  
417 distributions are strongly controlled by phytoplankton productivity (section 5.2). Hence, the excess of pMn

418 over UCC values are likely explained by authigenic formation of  $\text{Mn}^{3/4}$  oxides, most probably  
419 bacterially-mediated  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  oxidation/precipitation. Even though the abiotic oxidation of Mn is  
420 thermodynamically favored under typical pH and  $\text{pO}_2$  conditions in most oceanic waters, this reaction has  
421 an extremely low kinetic rate. Bacteria are known to accelerate  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  oxidation, and therefore are considered  
422 the most important drivers of Mn precipitation in aquatic environments (Cowen and Silver, 1984; Cowen  
423 and Bruland, 1985; Sunda and Huntsman, 1988; Moffett, 1997; Lam and Bishop, 2008; Yigiterhan et al.,  
424 2011; Noble et al., 2013; Lee et al., 2018; Wright et al., 2018; Morton et al., 2019). Surface pMn  
425 concentrations in the CAO are lowest in the upper water column, despite being largely dominated by  
426 non-lithogenic sources (~70-95%; Figures 3 and 6). This low surface pMn concentrations may reflect  
427 diminished bacterial Mn oxidizing activity (photoinhibition) and photoreduction of Mn oxides ( $\text{Mn}^{3+}$ ) by  
428 sunlight, resulting in lower rates of particulate Mn formation in surface waters (Sunda and Huntsman, 1988;  
429 Sunda and Huntsman, 1990; Francis et al., 2001). Particulate V cycling in CAO surface waters is tightly  
430 coupled with pMn, as dissolved V (dV) has proven to be easily scavenged onto Mn oxide particles  
431 (Whitmore et al., 2019 and references therein). The unexpectedly high pV in surface LS waters  
432 ( $45.7 \pm 6.43 \text{ pmol L}^{-1}$  and  $\text{Litho\_pV} < 7\%$ ; ~ 100 to 200 % higher than CB and BB surface concentrations;  
433 Figure 3) where the lowest pMn concentrations were measured, could be attributed to the stripping of dV  
434 by the increased particle flux (Whitmore et al., 2019) associated with the aforementioned phytoplankton  
435 bloom (Figures S2, S3 and S4).

436 Beneath surface waters, pAl and pFe concentrations rapidly increase within the winter Bering Sea  
437 Water (wBSW) in CB and the Arctic Water (AW) in BB (Figure 3). These subsurface waters are advected  
438 from the shallow and shelf-dominated Chukchi Sea and CAA, respectively, carrying a unique  
439 biogeochemical signature to the deep basins. The wBSW is distinguished by a weak temperature minimum,  
440 high nutrient concentrations, high dissolved nutrient-like trace metals, high colored dissolved organic  
441 matter (CDOM), and low oxygen concentrations (Hioki et al., 2014; Kondo et al., 2016; Colombo et al.,  
442 2020; Figures S1 and S2). These properties show the signature of the large organic matter remineralization

443 and sedimentary denitrification (low  $N^*$  values) that occurs over the Bering and Chukchi shelves (Hioki et  
444 al., 2014; Granger et al., 2018). The fresh CAA outflow into Baffin Bay is also characterized by a  
445 temperature minimum, high dissolved nutrient-like trace metals, high CDOM, and relatively high oxygen  
446 concentrations, resulting from the intense mixing and sediment resuspension in the CAA (Colombo et al.,  
447 2020; Colombo et al., 2021; Figures S1 and S2). The elevated values of pAl and pFe in both wBSW in CB  
448 and AW in BB are attributed to advective transport of lithogenic-derived particles (Litho\_pFe: ~80-100 %;  
449 Figure 5) from the shallow Chukchi and CAA shelves, where the incorporation of resuspended sediment  
450 into shelf waters has been recently reported (Xiang and Lam, 2020; Colombo et al., 2021). The sediment-  
451 rich wBSW in CB and AW in BB cascade downslope, and are then transported long distances along their  
452 flow paths (e.g. >1400 km from CAA3 and CAA4 in the southern Lancaster Sound, via BB3 on the Baffin  
453 Bay slope and out to BB1 in the Davis Strait).

454 In contrast, the much sharper subsurface pMn peak in CB and BB is dominated by the non-lithogenic  
455 fraction (wBSW: > 97 % and AW: > 90 %, respectively; Figures 3 and 6). Distinctively high Mn oxide  
456 concentration, many times higher than those found in other oceanographic regions, was also described by  
457 Xiang and Lam (2020) in halocline waters in the Chukchi Abyssal Plain, the Makarov Basin and western  
458 Canada Basin. Here, we demonstrate that this Mn oxide signature is still prevalent in the Beaufort Sea (CB  
459 stations), and in BB (Figure 3). The pMn peak in wBSW and AW is hypothesized to be produced within  
460 the water column (bacterially-mediated Mn oxide precipitation), rather than being an advected sedimentary  
461 signature (reduction in the sediment → diffusion to the overlying water → oxidation → precipitation of redox  
462 sensitive elements such as Fe and Mn).

463 In the Chukchi Sea, where large pulses of organic matter trigger strong reducing conditions in  
464 sediments, large fluxes of dissolved manganese ( $Mn^{+2}$ ) are generated in porewater and diffused into the  
465 overlying seawater (Granger et al., 2018; Vieira et al., 2019; Xiang and Lam, 2020). Given its slow  
466 oxidation kinetics and the potential photoinhibition of Mn oxidizing bacteria in the shallow Chukchi shelves  
467 (< 50 m), most of  $Mn^{+2}$  remains in the dissolved phase for a long time in the halocline waters (wBSW) –



468 leaving Chukchi shelf waters depleted of pMn oxides and highly enriched in dMn (Xiang and Lam, 2020),  
469 which are transported to the slope region where Mn authigenically re-precipitates.

470 In the CAA, characterized by reduced pulses of organic matter and strong mixing regimes, the  
471 reductive benthic supply of  $Mn^{+2}$  and its subsequent precipitation is not anticipated to be significant, and  
472 the dominance of Mn oxides in the CAA is related to the advection of wBSW from the CB (Colombo et  
473 al., 2021). The strongly reduced authigenic sedimentary formation of Mn oxides in the Chukchi Sea and  
474 CAA, and the ubiquity of non-lithogenic pMn across the entire water column in CAO (with the exception  
475 of LS), suggest that pMn in wBSW and in AW is a result of increased oxidative Mn precipitation in the  
476 water column, as described for other basins (Sunda and Huntsman, 1988; Yigiterhan et al., 2011; Noble et  
477 al., 2013; Morton et al., 2019). In effect, the pMn peak in both wBSW in CB and AW in BB is associated  
478 with a rapid decrease with depth in dMn concentrations in these basins, where the pMn fraction transitions  
479 from less than 20% of total Mn (dMn + pMn) in surface waters (dMn is dominant) to ~55-70% in wBSW  
480 and AW (Figures S5 and S6).

481 Marine microbial communities, including Mn oxidizing bacteria, are widely distributed in ocean  
482 waters, however, their abundance and diversity vary both spatially and vertically based on environmental  
483 conditions (e.g. light penetration, temperature, availability of labile organic matter, nutrients and  
484 micronutrients such as Fe and Mn; Dick et al., 2006; Zakharova et al., 2010; Zinger et al., 2011). Both, the  
485 wBSW and AW have the potential to sustain large populations of Mn oxidizing bacteria given their  
486 distinctive environmental conditions. These water masses are relatively deep –where sunlight, and  
487 therefore, microbial photoinhibition is attenuated– and have elevated concentrations of dissolved Mn and  
488 Fe, advected from the shallow Chukchi and CAA shelves, which would allow Mn oxidizing bacteria to  
489 proliferate (Sunda and Huntsman, 1988; Moffett, 1997; Zakharova et al., 2010; Colombo et al., 2020).  
490 Another feature that wBSW and AW have in common is their close interaction with the seafloor upstream  
491 while they transit shallow shelf environments (Chukchi Sea and the CAA). As result of the interaction with  
492 the seafloor, where microbe communities are taxonomically richer and more abundant than in the water

493 column (Feng et al., 2009; Zinger et al., 2011), wBSW and AW are not only enriched in lithogenic particles  
494 (as evidenced by pAl and pFe distributions) and CDOM, but they also could potentially entrain sedimentary  
495 microbes (Walsh et al., 2016). An analogous process has been described for hydrothermal plumes, which  
496 entrain manganese oxidizing bacteria from surficial sediments and transport them long distances; resulting  
497 in high rates of bacterially-mediated  $\text{Mn}^{+2}$  oxidation within these plumes (Dick et al., 2006; Dick et al.,  
498 2013; Fitzsimmons et al., 2017).

499 We posit two complementary mechanisms which could be driving the sharp non-lithogenic pMn peak  
500 in wBSW in the CB interior: 1) advective transport of small Mn oxides particles precipitated over the  
501 Chukchi shelf-break and/or slope region 2) enhanced precipitation/concentration effect of dMn supplied  
502 from above. Strong bacterially-mediated oxidation occurs in the water column over the shallow Chukchi  
503 shelf-break, where the high dMn signature ( $\sim 40\text{-}200 \text{ nmol kg}^{-1}$ ) is rapidly lost (Kondo et al., 2016; Vieira  
504 et al., 2019; Jensen et al., 2020). Once the wBSW is advected to the ocean interior, dMn concentrations are  
505 further diminished over the Chukchi slope, dropping to  $1.34 \pm 0.57 \text{ nM}$  about 350 km away from Chukchi  
506 shelf (Kondo et al., 2016). Beyond the slope towards the CB interior, dMn is conserved, as the dMn  
507 concentrations measured in the CB interior ( $1.37 \pm 0.41 \text{ nmol kg}^{-1}$ ; Colombo et al., 2020) are nearly the  
508 same as those measured  $\sim 350 \text{ km}$  offshore Chukchi Sea. The rapid loss of dMn over the slope and the  
509 bacterially-mediated Mn oxide precipitation is reflected in the sediment record. The nearshore shallow  
510 sediments within the Chukchi shelves, contain low and lithogenic derived Mn, whereas in the slope region,  
511 the sediments are greatly enriched in non-lithogenic Mn (Macdonald and Gobeil, 2012). Although most of  
512 the non-lithogenic Mn particulates originating in the shelf-break and/or slope region are rapidly lost due to  
513 sinking, the smaller sized Mn oxides could be entrained and transported long distances to the CB interior.  
514 Small microbially catalyzed pMn oxides (Cowen and Silver, 1984; Cowen and Bruland, 1985) have been  
515 shown to be transported long distances ( $4000 \text{ km}$  at  $0.2\text{-}0.5 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ ) from hydrothermal vent sources  
516 (Fitzsimmons et al., 2017). In addition, no significant pMn settling across isopycnals was observed in the  
517 distal hydrothermal plume due to the small ( $0.5\text{-}1 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ) and low density nature of Mn oxide coatings on

518 bacterial cells (Fitzsimmons et al., 2017; González-Santana et al., 2020). The Stokesian settling velocities  
519 of pure birnessite (major manganese-bearing mineral; density= 2900 kg m<sup>-3</sup>) particles with 0.5 to 1 µm  
520 diameters are 4-17 m y<sup>-1</sup>, however, these values are likely reduced if we account for the lower specific  
521 gravity of bacterial-Mn oxide capsule complexes. Results from Ocean Parcels particle track simulations  
522 (Methods, section 3.3) suggest that it takes from about one to three years for the wBSW to travel from the  
523 Chukchi shelves to our sampled stations (CB2: 580 km at 1.8 cm s<sup>-1</sup>, CB3: 896 km at 2.8 cm s<sup>-1</sup>, CB4: 410  
524 km at 1.3 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; speeds are an average estimate based on the distance the parcels travelled in a given time  
525 period within Ocean Parcels). Given the timescale of wBSW circulation in the CB, and even considering  
526 the sinking rates of pure birnessite, advective transport of small-size pMn from the Chukchi shelf-break is  
527 a plausible mechanism explaining the wBSW pMn peaks observed in the CB.

528       Enhanced oxidative precipitation of the Mn flux (pMn + dMn) falling through the water column could  
529 be a complementary mechanism. Ice-rafted sediments likely supply a significant Mn flux to the Canada  
530 Basin upper ocean (Measures, 1999; Rogalla et al., 2021). Because of the fast reversible oxidation /  
531 reduction cycling of Mn, with timescale of a couple of weeks (oxidation rate 0.06 per day and reduction  
532 rate 0.04 per day; Bruland et al., 1994; Rogalla et al., 2021), Mn is cycled back and forth between the  
533 dissolved and oxidized pools multiple times once it is sourced from surface waters. While Mn is in its  
534 oxidized phase, particles will sink at rates governed by their density and size, thus generating a downward  
535 flux. This Mn flux is then entrained in wBSW, where Mn oxidizing bacteria populations are potentially  
536 abundant and Mn oxidation rates may be greater. The lighter and smaller bacterially-mediated Mn oxides  
537 (Fitzsimmons et al., 2017) that are formed in the wBSW barely sink (Stokesian settling velocities for 0.5-  
538 1 µm particles < 17 m y<sup>-1</sup>), and thus, would be concentrated in this water mass. These two mechanisms  
539 described above are also expected to take place in AW in the BB, where sharp non-lithogenic pMn peaks  
540 were observed in this study.

541       The pV maxima in wBSW and AW have relatively high non-lithogenic contributions (~70-92 and  
542 ~55-75 %, respectively; Figures 3 and 6), attributed to the scavenging of dV onto the abundant authigenic

543 Mn oxides present in these subsurface waters. A similar pV peak in CB around the 26.6 kg m<sup>-3</sup> isopycnal  
544 surface (wBSW) was reported by Whitmore et al. (2019), who argued that the strong dV removal and the  
545 subsequent pV enrichment is largely controlled by the adsorption of dV onto Mn oxides, strong scavengers  
546 of many trace elements, in deep basins.

547 In the LS, lithogenic inputs govern the subsurface distribution of pAl and pFe (100 %), as well as those  
548 of pV (~54-78 %) and pMn (~38-60 %), compared to CB and BB where authigenic Mn oxides exert a  
549 dominant role shaping pV and pMn subsurface distributions (Figure 5). The diminished influence of pMn  
550 oxides in the LS could be explained by micronutrient limitation (such as dissolved Mn or Fe) of Mn  
551 oxidizing bacteria in this region (Colombo et al., 2020), and/or the relative isolation of LS from continental  
552 margins with regards to CB and BB. Further research, such as bioassay/incubation experiments, genomic  
553 measurements and taxonomic identification, is required to unravel the authigenic Mn cycling in CB and  
554 BB, and the notable reduction of authigenic Mn formation in LS.

### 555 *5.1.2 Boundary transport of resuspended sediments and near-bottom enrichment of pTE*

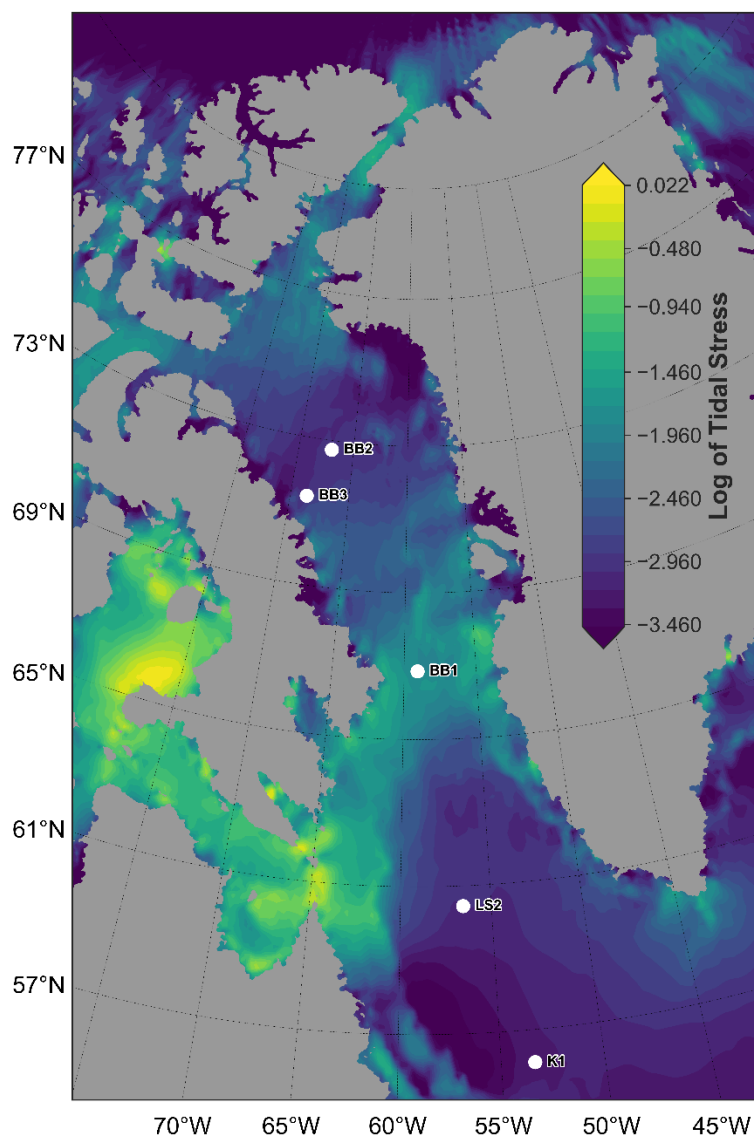
556 The Arctic Circumpolar Boundary Current (ACBC;  $\sigma_\theta > 27.9$  and  $z > 350$  m) is anticipated to modulate  
557 the distributions of pAl, pV and pFe in CB, causing higher concentrations of these elements at CB2 station,  
558 followed by CB4 and CB3 (Figure 3). The main ACBC components, the Fram Strait Branch (FSB) and  
559 Barents Sea Branch (BSB), travel around the rim of the Arctic Ocean (Figure 1), mobilizing sediment  
560 particles from the continental margin, and advecting these particle-rich waters to the Canada Basin interior  
561 (Aksenov et al., 2011; Aguilar-Islas et al., 2013; Giesbrecht et al., 2013; Kondo et al., 2016; Xiang and  
562 Lam, 2020). As a result of their locations, both CB2 and CB4 are more directly impacted by FSB and BSB  
563 cyclonic circulation than CB3 station. This difference is notably reflected in substantially contrasting  
564 concentrations of pAl, pV and pFe in open ocean CB stations (CB4 >> CB3), and much higher  
565 concentrations observed at the shelf-break CB2 station, where transmissivity values were lowest (Figures  
566 1, 3 and S2). The relative isolation of CB3 station from the ACBC and enhanced advective transport of  
567 dissolved Fe and Mn to CB4 has been recently documented (Grenier et al., 2019; Colombo et al., 2020).

568 Here we show that mid-depth lateral transport from continental margins also exerts a strong control over  
569 pAl, pV and pFe distributions, and possibly other lithogenic-derived elements. Preferential sinking of larger  
570 particles, with faster settling velocities than smaller ones, likely explains the high concentrations of pAl,  
571 pV and pFe observed close to the shelf-break and slope stations and their reduction along the flow path, as  
572 reported in studies where size-fractionated data were available (Lam et al., 2015b; Lam et al., 2018; Lee et  
573 al., 2018; Xiang and Lam, 2020).

574 The vertical distributions of pAl, pV and pFe are also strongly influenced by advective transport of  
575 resuspended sediments from continental margins in the WGIW in BB (Figure 1). The highest concentrations  
576 of pAl, pV and pFe were measured in Davis Strait (BB1), where the tidal stresses are the highest of BB  
577 ( $\sim 0.016$  to  $0.069 \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-2}$ ; Figures 3 and 7). These high concentrations are likely associated with the  
578 resuspension of sediments in this region where intense cyclonic boundary currents have been recorded  
579 (Tang et al., 2004). In contrast, pAl, pV and pFe were uniformly low at station BB2 (Figure 3), which is  
580 located in the center of Baffin Bay (Figure 1), largely isolated from the cyclonic circulation of WGIW  
581 (Colombo et al., 2019). Station BB2 has also low tidal stresses, suggesting reduced prevalence of sediment  
582 resuspension (tidal stress  $< 0.0009 \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-2}$ ; Figure 6). Vertical distributions of pMn in CB and BB, in contrast  
583 to pAl, pV and pFe, were similar among sampled stations, despite the disparate influence of advective  
584 transport of resuspended particles from continental margins in both basins (Figure 3). This distinctive  
585 behavior is linked to the relatively low lithogenic contributions of pMn ( $\sim 5$ -30%; Figures 3 and 6) in FSB,  
586 BSB and WGIW waters, which contrasts with those of pV and pFe ( $\sim 30$ -70 and  $> 90\%$ , respectively).

587 Distributions of particulate Al, V, and Fe in Labrador Sea deep waters (LSW, NSDW and DSOW) are  
588 predominantly controlled by lithogenic sources (Litho\_pV:  $\sim 55$ -77 and Litho\_pFe:  $> 90\%$ ). Their  
589 concentrations are relatively low and similar to those measured in the isolated central stations in CB and  
590 BB (CB3 and BB2; Figure 3), which reveals reduced lateral transport of these elements from continental  
591 slope regions. Compared to CB and BB deep waters, pMn has its lowest concentrations (Figure 3), and the

592 strongest lithogenic contribution (~ 30-100%; Figure 5) in LSW, NSDW and DSOW, presumably related  
593 to diminished Mn oxidizing activity in LS as discussed in section 5.1.1.



594  
595 **Figure 6.** Tidal stress, a proxy for the integrated effect of sediment resuspension (Methods, section 3.3). Barotropic tidal  
596 speeds were extracted from a hydrodynamic gravity waves model (Carrère and Lyard, 2003) by Epstein (2018).

597 Near-bottom enrichment of particulate metals is a widespread feature in deep basins, usually related  
598 to the interactions of deep currents with bottom topography (sediment resuspension) and/or to redox cycling  
599 within and above the sediment, as reported in numerous studies (Lam and Bishop, 2008; Jeandel et al.,  
600 2015; Lam et al., 2015a; Ohnemus and Lam, 2015; Hansel, 2017; Lam et al., 2018; Gourain et al., 2019;  
601 Vieira et al., 2019). In this study, pAl, pV, pFe and pMn spiked in the deepest samples in CB (CB2 and

602 CB4), BB (BB1-BB3) and LS (LS2 and K1), with concentrations considerably higher than those measured  
603 in overlying waters (Figure 3). At the Baffin Bay stations located along the slope (BB3) and Davis Strait  
604 (BB1), the bottom samples are highly enriched in particulate elements, and have pTE:pAl ratios largely  
605 exceeding those of UCC and relatively low lithogenic fractions (Litho\_pV: 20 and 47%, Litho\_pFe: 42 and  
606 73%, Litho\_pMn: 8 and 13%, for BB3 and BB1 respectively; Figures 3 and 6). The relatively low lithogenic  
607 fraction of pFe is particularly notable as its distribution is dominated by lithogenic sources (close to 100%)  
608 in the vast majority of the analyzed samples (Figure 5, lower panel). This evidence shows that redox  
609 mobilization of reduced Mn and Fe species and their subsequent precipitation is an important source of pFe  
610 and pMn for the deepest samples at BB1 and BB3. This signal is superimposed to that of the resuspension  
611 of lithogenic particles as demonstrated by a spike in pAl. At station BB2 in central Baffin Bay, the presence  
612 of authigenic Mn (redox-mobilized) differs from the lithogenic prevalence of pV and pFe (Litho\_pV: 64%,  
613 Litho\_pFe: 100%, Litho\_pMn: 13%). This difference is likely related to lower productivity and organic  
614 matter inputs in central Baffin Bay compared to shelf regions (Wyatt et al., 2013; Figures S2 and S3) and/or  
615 increased organic matter remineralization in the water column at the deeper BB2 station (BB1 & BB2: 1000  
616 m vs. BB2 > 2000 m). These environmental conditions would in turn presumably decrease reducing  
617 conditions in the sediments at BB2 station, yielding a redox potential appropriate for Mn reduction, but  
618 higher than that required for Fe reduction. In LS, where particulate concentrations rapidly increased towards  
619 near-bottom waters (Figure 3), the deepest samples have pTE:pAl ratios similar to those of UCC and greater  
620 lithogenic contributions (Litho\_pV: 60%, Litho\_pFe: 100 and 100%, Litho\_pMn: 52 and 100% for LS2  
621 and K1 respectively; Figure 5). The flow of deep water boundary currents (NSDW and DSOW) over bottom  
622 topography in LS (Figure 1) is expected to cause intense sediment resuspension events (Middag et al.,  
623 2015), as suggested by the sharp decrease of dissolved trace elements that are particle reactive, such as  
624 dissolved Pb and <sup>230</sup>Th at LS2 and K1 stations below 2500 m (Colombo et al., 2019; Grenier et al., 2018),  
625 and consequently results in elevated lithogenic-derived particulate elements (Figure 3). This energetic  
626 boundary current in LS, and associated sediment resuspension events, probably diminishes reductive

627 sedimentary processes, thereby explaining the lower contribution of authigenic pMn oxides to bottom LS  
628 waters, as suggested by Ohnemus and Lam (2015).

## 629 **5.2 Biogenic-derived elements: pP, POC and pN dynamics across the** 630 **productivity gradients of the Canadian Arctic Ocean**

631 In the Canadian Arctic Ocean (CAO), particulate phosphorous (pP) as well as particulate organic  
632 carbon and nitrogen (POC and pN) were elevated in the upper 100 m, where Chl-a peaked and  
633 transmissivity dropped, indicating the dominant role of biological production in modulating vertical  
634 distributions of these elements (Figures 3-5). In contrast, below ~100 m, the predominance of organic matter  
635 regeneration is reflected in a rapid decrease of pP, POC and pN with depth, with concentrations remaining  
636 uniformly low in deep waters (Figures 3 and 5). The spatial distributions of these elements revealed notable  
637 differences between CB and the rest of the CAO, with extremely low pP, POC and pN in CB, similar to  
638 those reported by Trimble and Baskaran (2005) and Brown et al. (2014), in contrast to those observed in  
639 CAA, BB and LS (Figure 2). These differences are linked to the low Chl-a (Figures S2, S3 and S4), primary  
640 productivity and export production rates in CB compared to the much higher values in the rest of CAO (Hill  
641 et al., 2013; Varela et al., 2013; Wyatt et al., 2013; Crawford et al., 2015; Lehmann et al., 2019; Xiang and  
642 Lam, 2020). The low levels of primary productivity in CB result from both light and nitrate limitation  
643 (Tremblay & Gagnon, 2009; Tremblay et al., 2008), which could be further limited by dissolved Fe  
644 availability in the summertime (during phytoplankton blooms) as described by Taylor et al. (2013).

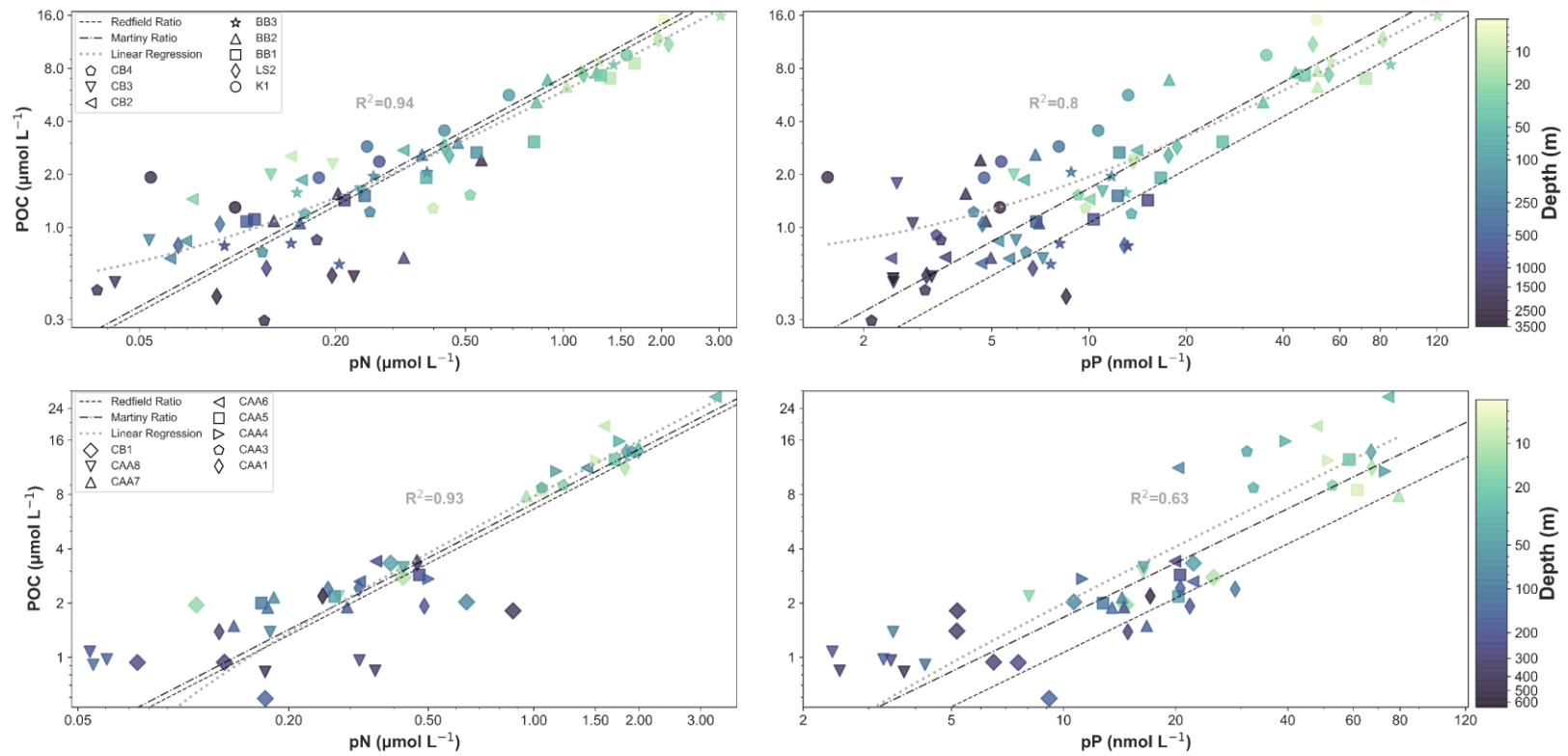
645 Within the CAA, pP, POC and pN also display a spatial contrast between western and eastern CAA  
646 regions, with lower concentrations measured from M'Clure Strait to Viscount Melville Sound (stations CB1  
647 and CAA8) versus those from Barrow Strait and Lancaster Sound (Figure 4). It should be noted that the  
648 stations CB1 and CAA8 in western CAA were sampled in early and late September, whereas eastern  
649 stations were sampled in early August, potentially affecting the distribution of pP, POC and pN due to the  
650 seasonal solar irradiance variation (Michel et al., 2015). However, the spatial differences in pP, POC and



651 pN distributions in the CAA observed in this study are consistent with the variability in phytoplankton  
652 communities and regimes identified by Ardyna et al. (2011). The Beaufort Sea and the western CAA are  
653 characterized by an oligotrophic flagellate-based system which transitions to an eutrophic diatom-based  
654 system in eastern CAA (Lancaster Sound). Therefore, an interplay of multiple environmental processes  
655 affecting light and nutrient availability may explain the above noted spatial differences in this shallow  
656 environment. Sea ice pervasiveness (limiting solar irradiation), increased stratification (hindering nutrient  
657 replenishment from bottom waters), and reduced availability of micronutrients (e.g. Fe) in the western  
658 CAA, contrast with the longer ice-free season and enhanced mixing, sediment resuspension and  
659 micronutrient availability of the eastern CAA (Ardyna et al., 2011; Colombo et al., 2021; Hughes et al.,  
660 2017; Michel et al., 2006; Michel et al., 2015). The distributions and concentrations of pP, POC and pN in  
661 the CAO, and in the CAA in particular, agree with previous studies in the Arctic region (Trimble and  
662 Baskaran, 2005; Wyatt et al., 2013; Brown et al., 2014), and correlate with primary production patterns  
663 (Chl-a) retrieved from both satellite data and in-situ measurements during the Canadian Arctic  
664 GEOTRACES cruise (CB and western CAA << eastern CAA, BB and LS; Figures 3, 5, and S2-S4).

665 The particulate C:N:P ratios from all particulate samples collected during the Canadian Arctic  
666 GEOTRACES cruise show strong POC:pN and POC:pP relationships in the deep basins ( $R^2 = 0.94$  and  
667  $0.80$ , respectively) and the shallow CAA ( $R^2 = 0.93$  and  $0.63$ , respectively, Figure 7). Although C:N:P ratios  
668 are known to be influenced by phytoplankton community composition, and hence, regional differences  
669 exist, our data compare well with the canonical Redfield ratio (106:16:1) and with recent global elemental  
670 phytoplankton composition estimates (166.6:23.4:1; Martiny et al., 2013; Figure 7). Within the euphotic  
671 zone, POC:pN and POC:pP ratios agree more closely with Redfield and Martiny ratios and the lithogenic  
672 contributions to pP are negligible, whereas the deeper samples (> 100 m) are more dispersed, deviating  
673 from phytoplankton ratios, and have slightly higher lithogenic contributions to pP (Figures 5 and 8). In the  
674 upper 100 m of BB and LS, the most productive basins in the CAO, particulate C:N ratios ( $6.3 \pm 1.3$ ) closely  
675 reflect phytoplankton stoichiometries (6.6-7.1; Martiny et al., 2013), while in the CAA these ratios are

676 somewhat higher ( $8.4 \pm 2.6$ ). This is most probably related to enhanced terrigenous-derived organic matter  
677 inputs with higher C:N ratios (Dittmar and Kattner, 2003) in this land-dominated environment where  
678 shelf-water interactions and freshwater inputs are increased (Colombo et al., 2021). In the upper 100 m of  
679 CB, however, particulate C:N ratios are very scattered and deviate from Redfield and Martiny ratios, with  
680 lower ratios at CB4 (3.0-7.4) and much higher ratios at CB2 and CB3 stations (6.7-19.9). A similarly high  
681 POC:pN ratio (17.9) is observed in the upper 50 m at the entrance of M'Clure Strait (station CB1). Past  
682 studies have described the large spatial variability in particulate C:N ratios in the CAO. While, extremely  
683 low ratios (2.1-3.5) in central CB are associated with low concentrations of phytoplankton carbon and larger  
684 contribution of small flagellates, higher ratios ( $> 10$ ) are observed in shelf waters, which are potentially  
685 related to the influence of freshwater inputs (riverine, glacial, and/or sea ice meltwater) of allochthonous  
686 carbon detritus (Brown et al., 2014; Crawford et al., 2015; Fragoso et al., 2017). Lastly, compared with  
687 phytoplankton stoichiometry, the consistently higher POC:pP ratios of the deepest samples in CB, BB and  
688 LS, as well as in M'Clure Strait (Figure 7), may reflect the preferential remineralization of P relative to C  
689 in sinking particulate matter (Faul et al., 2005).



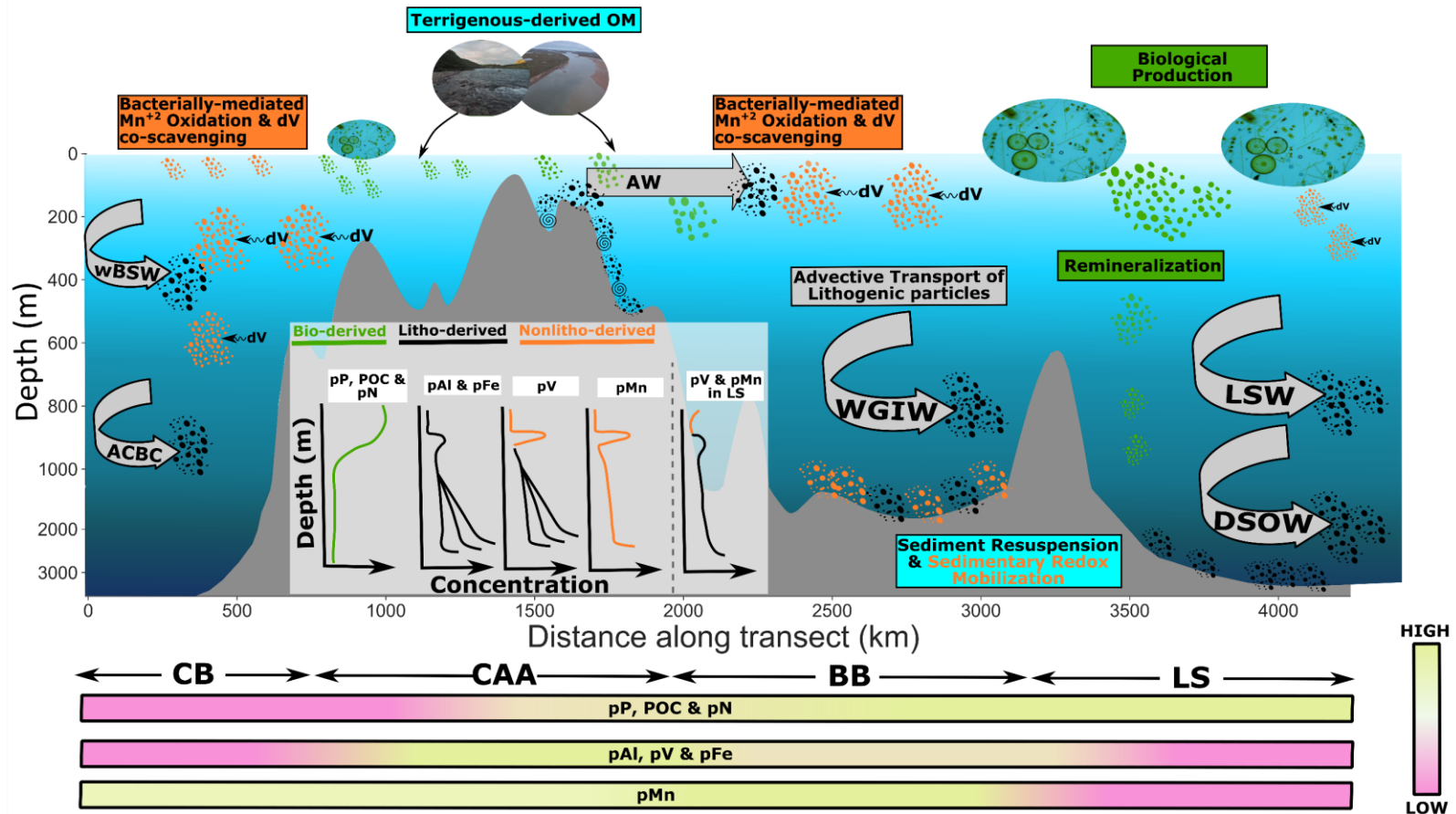
690

691 **Figure 7** Relationship between POC versus pN and pP in deep basins (upper panels) including the Canada Basin (CB), Baffin Bay (BB) and the Labrador Sea (LS and K1),  
 692 and in the shallow Canadian Arctic Archipelago (lower panels; CAA). Note the logarithmic scale of the plots. The depth of the samples is indicated with the color scale; data are  
 693 from all 16 stations and all depths. Linear regression lines and  $R^2$  values are displayed in the figure (light gray), as well as Redfield and Martiny POC:pN (6.6 and 7.2) and POC:pP  
 694 (106 and 167) stoichiometric ratios indicated by the dashed and dash dotted black lines (Martiny et al., 2013).

## 695 **6 Conclusions**

696 The present study investigates the processes which control the biogeochemical cycling of particulate  
697 elements (Al, V, Fe, Mn, P, POC and pN) in the Canadian Arctic Ocean (CAO) deep basins, as well as pP,  
698 POC and pN in the shallow Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA). A combination of both lithogenic sources  
699 and enhanced scavenging onto Mn oxides appears to shape pV distribution in surface and subsurface waters  
700 (Figure 8). Particulate Al, Fe and V have identical deep water profiles ( $z > 300$  m), revealing the importance  
701 of lateral transport of resuspended sediments from shelf/slope regions. The Canada Basin (CB), Baffin Bay  
702 (BB) and the Labrador Sea (LS) are all characterized by strong deep water boundary currents (ACBC,  
703 WGIW, NEADW and DSOW), which flow along shelf and slope regions, become enriched in resuspended  
704 particles, and transport this signature offshore into the basins (Figure 8). Indeed, the stations sampled along  
705 the flow path of the boundary currents have higher concentrations of pAl, pFe and pV than those located in  
706 the central basins. The distributions of particulate Mn, in contrast, are governed by water column  $Mn^{+2}$   
707 oxidation, showing maximum concentrations between ~100-300 m across the CB and BB, presumably  
708 related to strengthened activity of Mn-oxidizing bacteria –fueled by excess of dissolved Mn inputs advected  
709 from shallow shelves– and photoinhibition relief in subsurface waters (Figure 8). The occurrence of Mn  
710 oxides (non-lithogenic component) is greatly reduced in the LS, where the lithogenic sources dominate bulk  
711 particulate distributions of Al, Fe, V, and also Mn, despite the low concentrations measured in this basin,  
712 distant from continental margins. Benthic nepheloid layers are also abundant in the CAO, where above  
713 mentioned particulate elements are enriched in the deepest samples due to sediment resuspension and/or  
714 redox mobilization (Figure 8). The distributions and cycling of pP, POC and pN are tightly linked to the  
715 strong productivity gradient present in the CAO, with the lowest values registered in the oligotrophic CB,  
716 progressively increasing their concentrations towards the shallow CAA, BB and the LS, where large  
717 phytoplankton blooms have been registered. Accordingly, the C:N:P stoichiometry in the upper 100 m  
718 closely reflects that of phytoplankton, although higher C:N ratios have been observed in the land-dominated

719 CAA where terrigenous-derived inputs are likely increased. In the deep water column (> 100 m), where  
720 remineralization is prevalent, C:N:P ratios deviate from canonical ratios (Figure 8).



721

722 **Figure 8** Conceptual scheme of the dominant phases (biogenic, lithogenic and non-lithogenic) and key processes controlling the distributions of particulate Al, V, Fe, Mn, P  
 723 as well as particulate organic carbon and nitrogen (POC and pN) across the Canadian Arctic Ocean (CAO). CB: Canada Basin, CAA: Canadian Arctic Archipelago, BB: Baffin Bay,  
 724 LS: Labrador Sea, wBSW: winter Bering Sea Water, ACBC: Arctic Circumpolar Boundary Current, AW: Arctic Water, WGIW: West Greenland Intermediate Water, LSW: Labrador  
 725 Sea Water, DSOW: Denmark Strait Overflow Water. The size of the label fonts and symbols represent the relative abundance of particulate trace element and the importance of the  
 726 described processes.

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736           **Research Data**

737           The particulate Arctic data reported in this study is available in the Research Data document (Electronic  
738           Annex).

739           **Supporting Information**

740           Tables S1 & S2, Figures S1-S6 and Supplementary Methods are included in the supporting information.

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