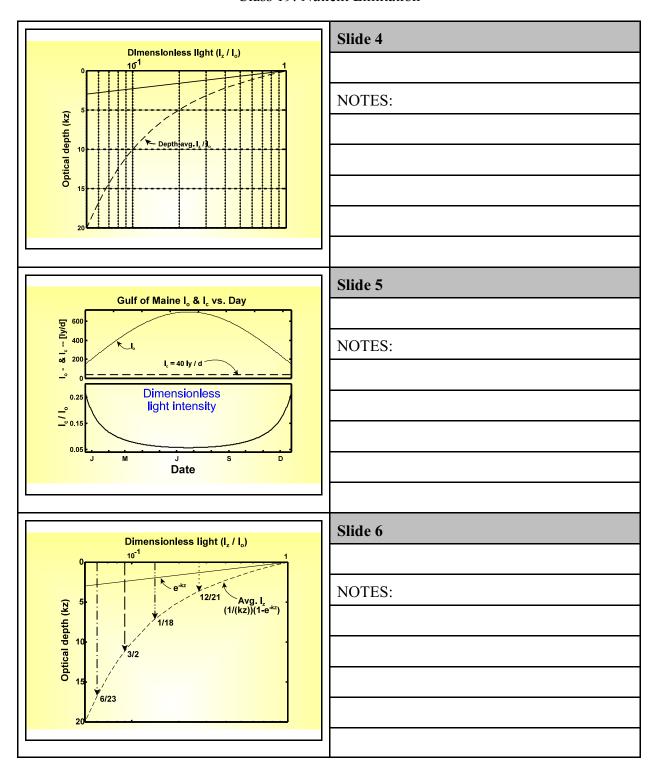
Nutrient Effects on Phytoplankton: Liebig's law, Goldman's relative growth theory (chemostats, internal nutrient pools & Redfield stoichiometry), and the Geritol solution to global warming  Class 19, 11/04/08  EEOS630	Slide 1 Nutrient Effects on Phytoplankton: Liebig's law, Goldman's relative growth theory (chemostats, internal nutrient pools & Redfield stoichiometry), and the Geritol solution to global warming  NOTES:
Wimba Sessions	Slide 2 Wimba Sessions
Tonight, Tuesday, 7 pm	
Quantitative community analysis using Matlab	NOTES:
<ul> <li>I've had to rewrite many of my Matlab m.files.</li> <li>Run the tutorial at the Mathworks site</li> <li>I'll be logged on at 7 pm tonight to demonstrate</li> </ul>	
community analysis using the West Falmouth oilspill data as an example using Matlab  I'll also present the solution to the Synnechococcus problem	
Due date: papers due 4 weeks after projects posted.	
EEOS630	
Dhutanlanktan Daadinaa	Slide 3 Phytoplankton Readings
Phytoplankton Readings  Nutrients and the spring bloom	
<ul> <li>Nutrient effects, 11/4 (today)</li> <li>Chapter 10: Nitrogen cycle, nutrient limitation &amp; chemostats</li> <li>Howarth, R. W. 1988. Nutrient limitation of net primary production</li> </ul>	NOTES:
in marine ecosystems. Ann. Rev. Ecol. Syst. 19: 89-110.  ■ Spring bloom, Thursday  ► Readings	
<ul> <li>Chapter 11: Sverdrup's critical depth concept &amp; the vernal phytoplaInkton</li> <li>Sverdrup, H. U. 1953. On conditions for the vernal blooming of phytoplankton. J. Conseil perm. int. Explor. Mer. 18: 287-295.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Parsons, T. R., M. Takahashi, and B. Hargrave. 1984. Biological Oceanographic Processes. 3rd Edition. Pergamon Press, Oxford &amp; New York, Pages 87-100.</li> <li>Townsend, D. W. and R. W. Spinrad. 1986. Early phytoplankton blooms in</li> </ul>	
the Gulf of Maine. Cont. Shelf Res. 6: 515-529.	





### Four major revolutions

### In our understanding of nutrient limitation

- Brandt (1899) was correct to focus on N limitation, Liebig's law, and the role of denitrification, but he missed the role of vertical mixing providing vertical flux of
- nutrients

  The anammox pathway, missed until 2003 provides further insight into the central role of nitrogen removal

  Chemostat work by Droop (1968), Caperon & Meyer (1972), Fuhs & Rhee
- revealed the central importance of the  ${\color{red}Internal nutrient\ pool}$  in controlling  $\mu$
- Goldman (Goldman et al. 1979, 1980) argued that phytoplankton in nature tend to grow at high relative growth rates, otherwise they would not exhibit Redfield stoichiometry. The internal nutrient pool tends to follow Redfield stoichiometry. Nutrient input controls phytoplankton biomass & species composition
   One phytoplankton assemblage rapidly replaced by another, each with high relative growth rate.
- Martin's Iron hypothesis: iron is the Liebigian nutrient in major areas of the world's ocean

## Slide 7 Four major revolutions

NOTES:

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### **Terms & concepts**

### **Quick List**

- Nitrogen cyclenitrification
- ► denitrification (dissimilatory nitrate reduction)
- ► Assimilatory nitrate reduction
- Nutrient limitation: What are the different meanings
- Chemostats
- ▶ What are they?
- ▶ Michaelis-Menten Equation
- ▶ Monod Equation
- ► Droop Equation
- ► Caperon & Meyer's (1972)'s equation
- Four major revolutions in understanding nutrient limitation

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### Slide 8 Terms & concepts

NOTES:

### Hensen's Nets & major cruise

From Mills (1989): 50-µm nets, 1889 National cruise





### Slide 9 Hensen's Nets & major cruise

# Slide 10 Hensen's "Blood of the Ocean" Hensen's "Blood of the Ocean" Uniformly distributed phytoplankton! • The German Hensen introduced quantitative NOTES: Plankton sampling to oceanography (1840s-1880s) ► Hensen introduced quantitative plankton sampling (50µm silk mesh) ▶ Phytoplankton are uniformly distributed Conclusions from 1889 National Cruise Within a biogeographic province, phytoplankton are uniformly distributed in the ocean, like oxygen and other chemical constituents The oceans were in general very poor in plankton standing stocks, especially the tropics. EEOS630 Slide 11 SeaWiFS Average Chl a SeaWiFS Average Chl a Oct 1997 -April 2002 http://seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEAWIFS/IMAGES/SEAWIFS\_GALLERY.html NOTES: Slide 12 Brandt's denitrification

### **Brandt's denitrification hypothesis**

Proposed in 1899, see Mills' (1989) history

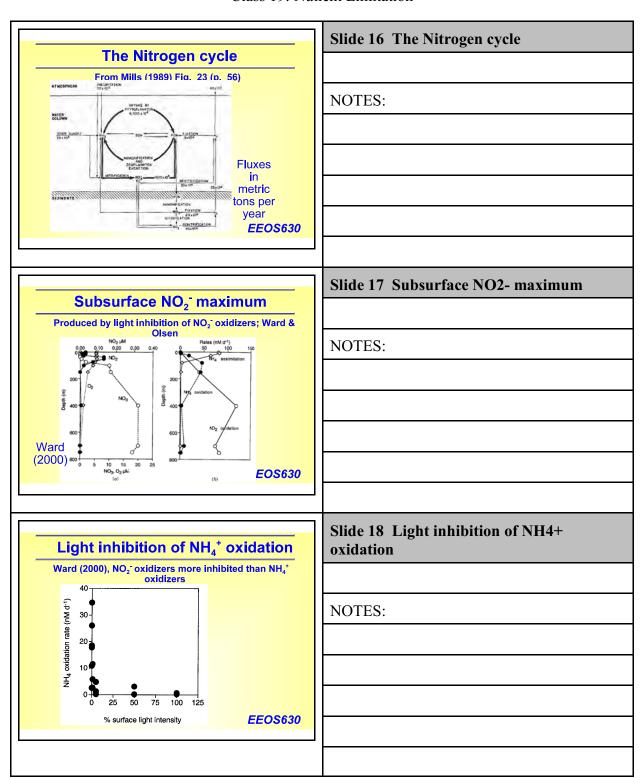
- Nitrogen is the Liebigian (1876) limiting nutrient in the ocean, first proposed in 1840 (quoted in Danger et al.
- 'essential material available in amounts most closely approaching the critical minimum needed will tend to be the limiting one'
- ► Liebig proposed 50 agricultural laws, the law of the minimum was
- #33 (de Baar 1994) ► The law was proposed for monospecific crops
- Why is N the Liebigian nutrient according to Brandt (1899)?
- Land is the major source of nitrogen to the sea
  Denitrifying bacteria have higher activities at higher temperatures
  Nitrogen should be scarcer in warmer waters
- ► Phytoplankton production should be less in tropical waters.

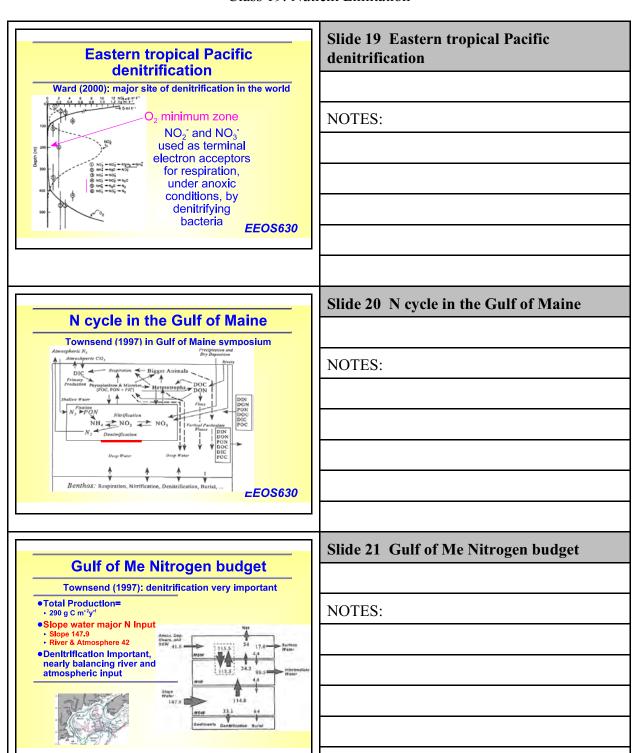
# **hypothesis**

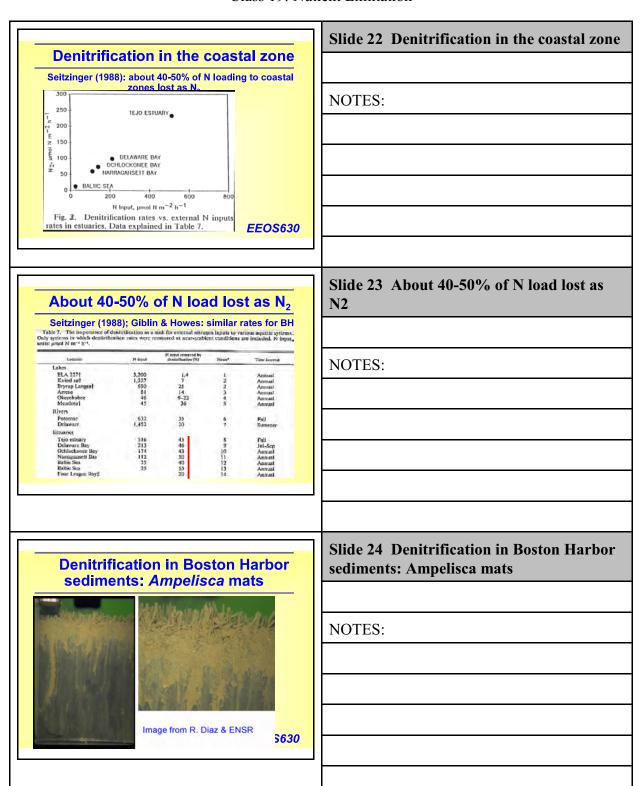
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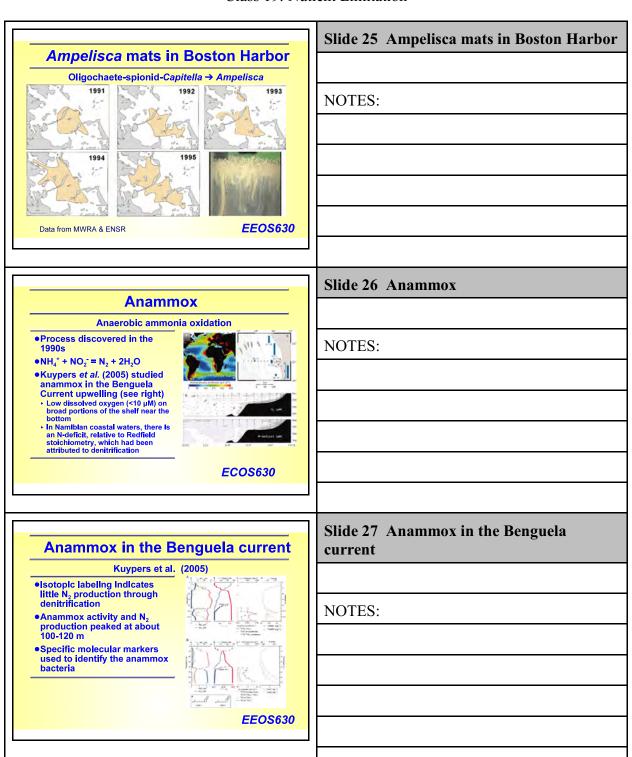
### Slide 13 The refutation of Brandt The refutation of Brandt Mixing & methodological problems Brandt assumed a terrestrial source for N. NOTES: Terrestrial sources are not the major source of Nitrogen fueling coastal production ▶ the Norwegians proposed vertical mixing from deep, N-► More vertical mixing in coastal waters, less in the tropics Methodological problems: ► DIN could not be measured (until the 20s & 30s) Denitrifying activity not measured until the 70s (Seitzenger) ▶ Nitrifying bacterial activity not measured accurately until the 80's (Olson, Ward) EEOS630 Slide 14 Brandt abandons his hypothesis Brandt abandons his hypothesis In 1929, opts for vertical mixing (Mills 1989, p. 161) "The explanation is so evident that my NOTES: explanation of 1899 that denitrifying bacteria are the cause of plankton deficiency in the tropical oceans is invalidated by it. However, I still maintain the view "that denitrifying bacteria break down an excess of nitrogen compounds and that it is they that maintain the existing equilibrium in nature." EEOS630 Slide 15 Brandt's strengths & weaknesses **Brandt's strengths & weaknesses** Brandt was correct, but before his time in emphasizing: NOTES: ▶ Liebig's law of the minimum. This has been tested experimentally, and it is usually only 1 nutrient, a rate-limiting nutrient that controls primary production Multiple nutrient limitation not a major factor ▶ Denitrification ■ Largely responsible for low N:P in marine waters Phosphorus may be a limiting nutrient over geologic time scales & during glacial periods (Fe & N fixation) Major flaws ► Overestimated terrestrial input of nitrogen Ignorance of vertical mixing Overemphasis of temperature effects EEOS630

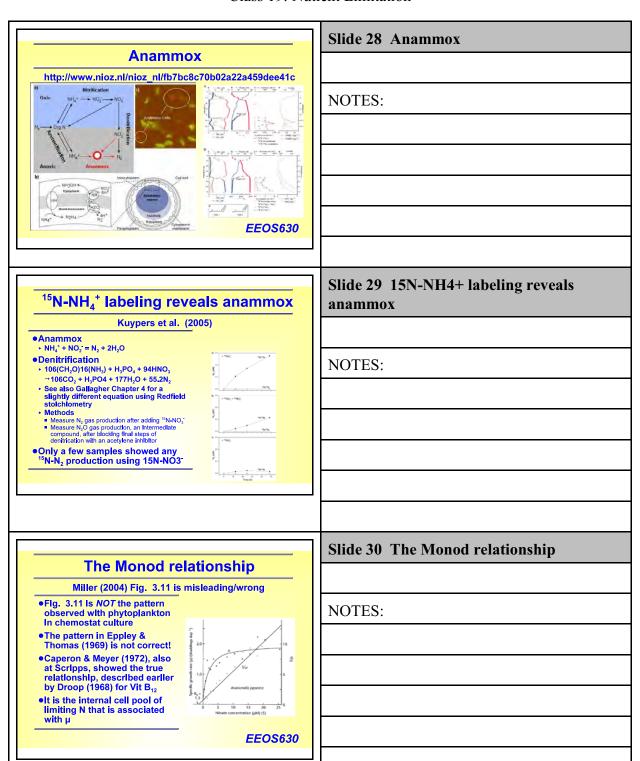


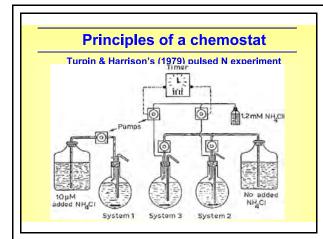












Slide 31	Principles	of a	chemostat
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NOTES:

### The Michaelis-Menten Equation

1905: Used to model the rate of enzyme reactions

$$V = \frac{V_{max} S}{K_M + S},$$
where,  $K_M = Half$ -saturation constant.
$$= S \text{ at which } V = \frac{1}{2} V_{max},$$

$$S = Substrate concentration.$$

$$V = Reaction \text{ velocity.}$$

$$= \frac{-d S}{dt} = \frac{d \text{ Product}}{dt}$$

$$V_{max} = Maximum V.$$

### Slide 32 The Michaelis-Menten Equation

NOTES:

### Monod (1948): μ=f (S<sub>external</sub>)

Adapted the Michaelis-Menten equation

$$\begin{split} \mu &= \frac{\mu_{max} | S|}{K_m + S},\\ where, & | K_m | = \textit{Half-saturation constant},\\ &= | S| | \textit{at} | \mu - \frac{1}{2} | \mu_{max}|. \end{split}$$

S - Substrate concentration. μ - Specific growth rate.

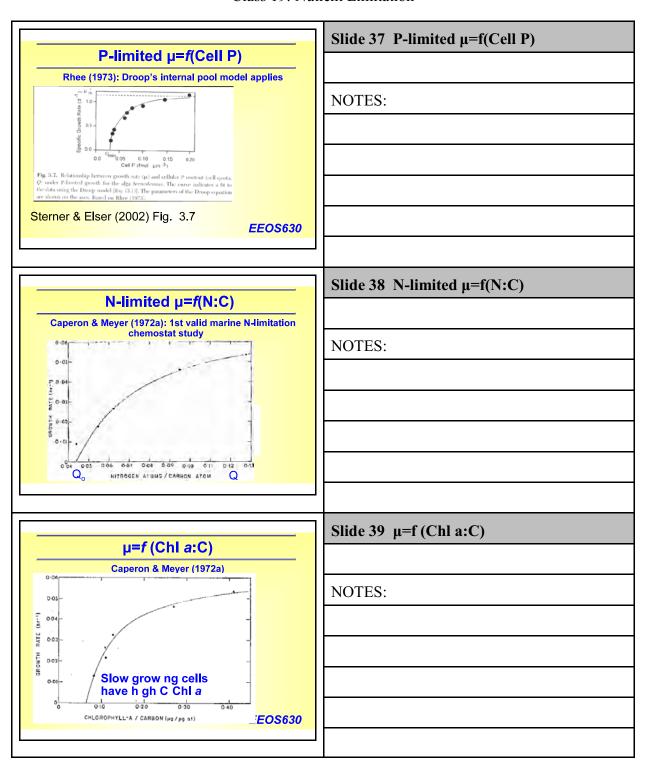
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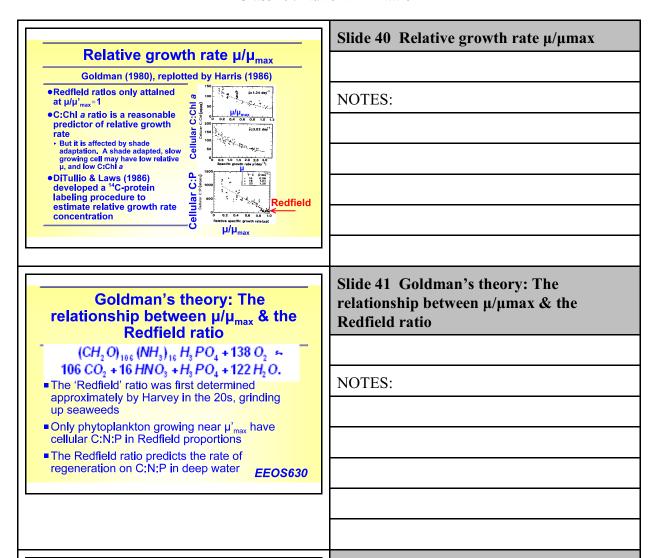
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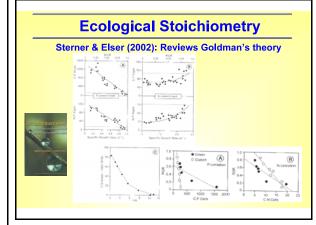
### Slide 33 Monod (1948): μ=f (Sexternal)

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### Slide 34 Early history of chemostats Early history of chemostats Discovery of the internal cell quotient, Q • Droop (1968) determined relationship NOTES: between $\mu$ , Q, and $k_q$ ► He was studying Vitamin B-12 limitation ▶ Monod's relationship did not work External nutrient concentration could not be used to predict µ ■ The internal nutrient pool, or cell quotient Q, could be used to predict µ Fuhs (1969) showed the clear relationship between q and µ and introduced q<sub>o</sub> for P limitation EEOS630 Slide 35 Droop's (1968) Landmark paper Droop's (1968) Landmark paper H gh µ low cell conc. NOTES: Low μ h gh cell conc. **Cell Concentration** Open: cell B12 Filled: Medium EEOS630 Substrate Conc Slide 36 Droop's Internal nutrient pool **Droop's Internal nutrient pool** A 2-parameter equation: $\mu'_{max}$ and $k_q$ NOTES: D Dr oop (1968): <sup>30</sup> Q







NOTES:

Slide 42 Ecological Stoichiometry

### The 3 meanings of N limitation

### From Howarth (1988)

- First, Limitation of the specific growth rate of cells that are there
- ► The cells that often dominate production are growing at high relative growth rates (μ/μ'<sub>max</sub>≈1)
- ► In blooms terminated by nutrient depletion, cells exhibit low relative growth rates
- Second, limitation of potential production or yield
- ► Nitrogen-spike experiments increase phytoplankton standing stock and production
- ► The cells that increase disproportionately in abundance & growth rate may have been rare in the original community

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Slide 43	The 3	meanings	of N	limitation
Slide 43	The 3	meanings	of N	limitation

NOTES:

### **Third Limitation of Ecosystem Production**

- See Howarth (1988)
  ► Eutrophication: increased loading of a nutrient that is in short supply
- If the MA Bay outfall had an effect on dissolved oxygen, would tertiary treatment reducing DIN input be the solution?
- Or, does tertiary sewage treatment merely reduce rates of coastal denitrification? Smith & Hollibaugh
- ► Fe limitation

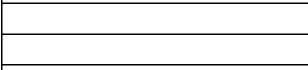
- May produce only short-term increases in areal production
  May not translate to long-term increases in oceanic production
  Phosphorus limitation on geologic time scales
  There is a better correlation between phosphorus and production than nitrogen and production over geologic time scales
- Nitrogen fixation can perhaps make up deficits in N, if iron is present for nitrogen fixation

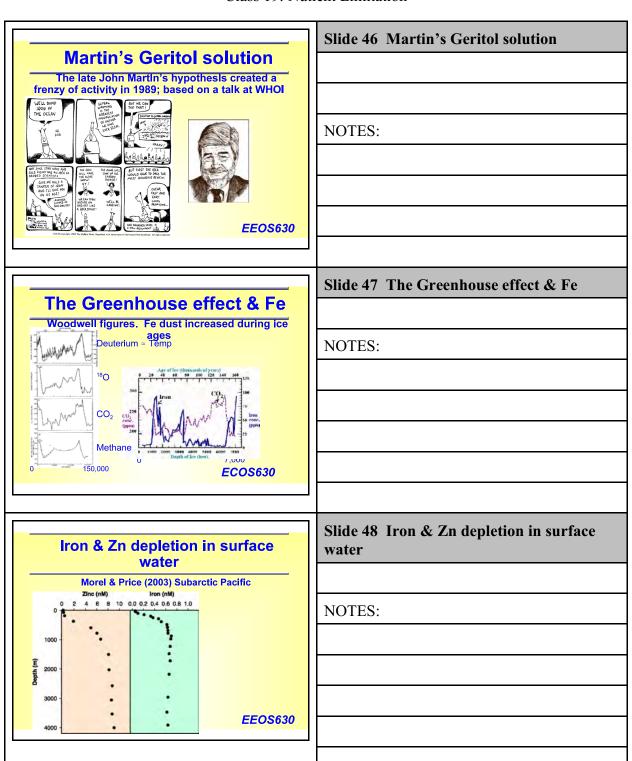
### Slide 44 Third Limitation of Ecosystem **Production**

**NOTES:** 

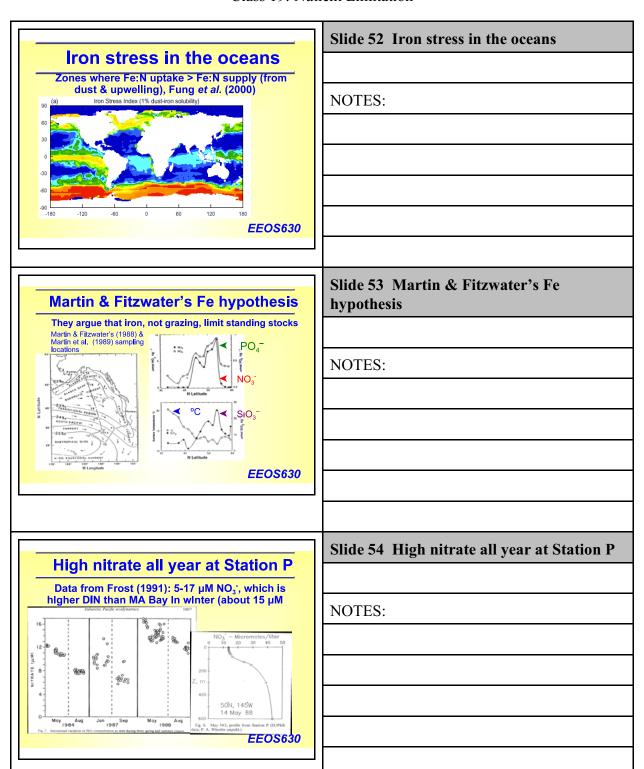
# Banse's three ocean types 1: Oligotrophic gyres, 2: HNLC, 3: Seasonal **Gulf of Maine is Domain 3** EEOS630

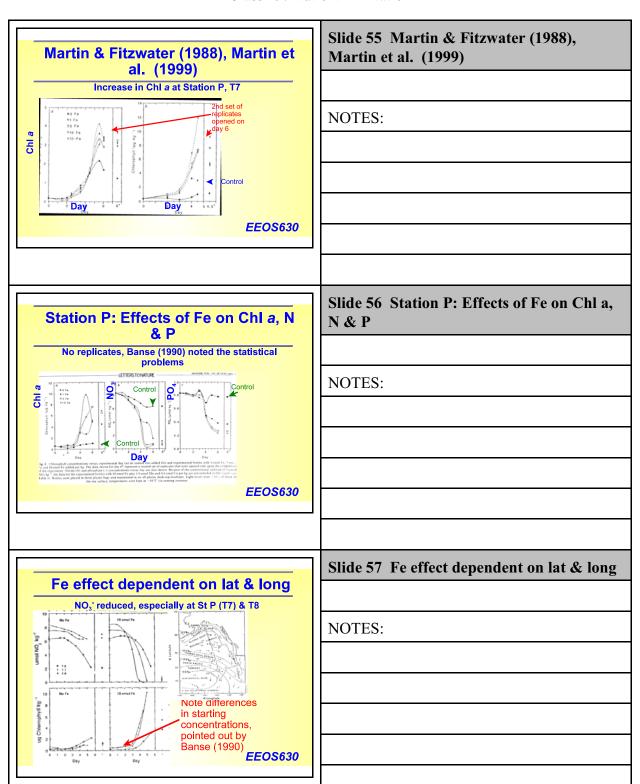
### Slide 45 Banse's three ocean types

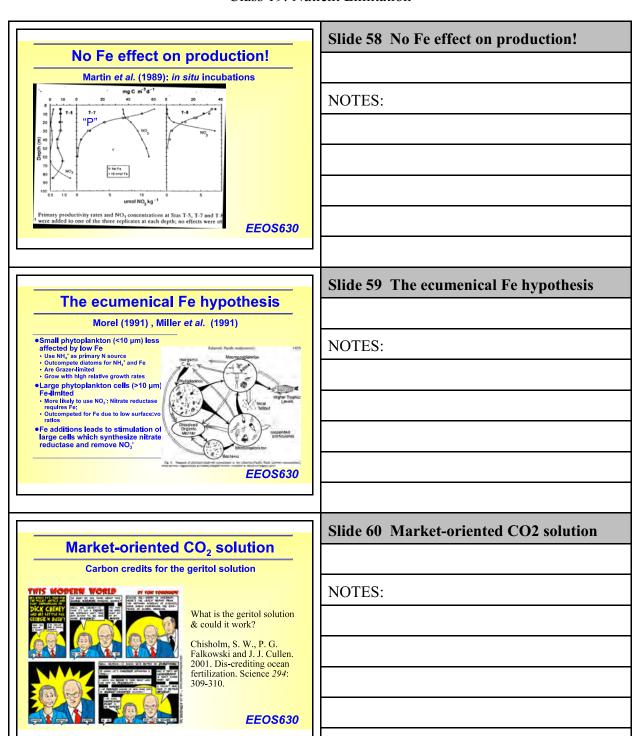


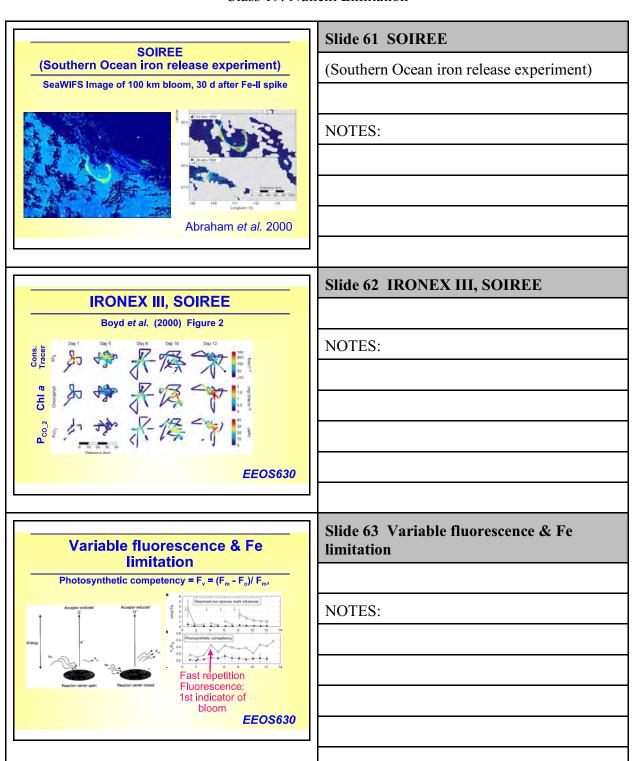


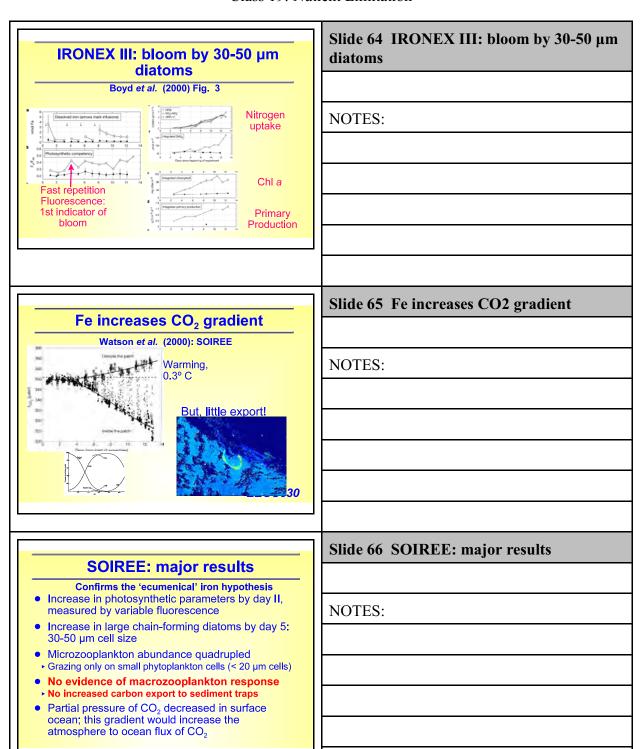
### Slide 49 Roles of Fe in plant metabolism Roles of Fe in plant metabolism Geider & LaRoche (1994) Cytochrome oxidase NOTES: • Fe-superoxidize dismutase Catalase Peroxidase Ferrodoxin (needed for N<sub>2</sub> fixation) Nitrate reductase, nitrite reductase Glutamate synthetase Others EEOS630 Slide 50 Key uses of Fe & Zn by microbes Key uses of Fe & Zn by microbes Morel & Price (2003) NOTES: Slide 51 C:N:P:Fe Redfield ratios C:N:P:Fe Redfield ratios C:N:P:Fe = 106:16:1:(0.003 to 0.0003) Lab cultures NOTES: ► Geider & LaRoche (1994) ■ Dinoflagellate (*Gymnodinium*) N:Fe ≈2000 ■ Diatom N:Fe ≈ 10,000 ■ Synechococcus (blue green) N:Fe ≈3000 ► Sunda *et al.* (1995), quoted in Fung et al. (2000) ■ Measured range N:Fe 13,000 - 116,000 Low productivity N:Fe ≈60,000 C:Fe 400,000 High productivity N:Fe ≈34,000 C:Fe 220,000 ▶ Boyd et al. (2004) Gulf of Alaska bloom ■ N:Fe 5800 C:Fe 38,000 EEOS630











### Slide 67 SOIREE **SOIREE** Abraham et al. 2000. Importance of stirring NOTES: •150-km long bloom 6 weeks after the Fe fertiliaztion experiment 23 March 1999 3 mg Chl a m³ In an area where SeaWiFS indicates the mean Chl a was 0.2 ±0.06 mg Chl a m³ (15X increase) Stirring plays a key role Fit growth rates of µ=0.19 d<sup>-1</sup> Loss due to horizontal diffusion Loss due to grazing = 0.01 d<sup>-1</sup> Loss due to sinking = 0.02 d<sup>-1</sup> Accumulation of 600-3000 t of algal C Slide 68 Iron & Zn depletion Iron & Zn depletion Morel & Price (2003) Subarctic Pacific NOTES: 1000 Leblanc et al. (Deep-Sea Res. 2000 2005) documented Zn limitation in the sub Antarctic EEOS630 Slide 69 Problems with the Geritol **Problems with the Geritol solution** solution Not a solution for reducing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> • Fe may be the Liebigian nutrient now, but would be replaced by another, e.g., Zn or Si (Leblanc et al. 2005) Increased production may not reduce the partial pressure NOTES: of $CO_2$ sufficiently: no change in $CO_2$ in IronExI or IronEx II (only in SOIREE) ► No transport of carbon to deep waters in SOIREE Sarmiento: bottom waters, especially in the Southern Ocean, might go anoxic David Archer's calcite buffering effect: increased organic matter degradation in deep ocean sediments may dissolve calcite, increasing CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations: Fe only sequesters DIC on the century time scale EEOS630

### Four major revolutions

### In our understanding of nutrient limitation

- Brandt (1899) was correct to focus on N limitation, Liebig's law, and the role of denitrification, but he missed the role of vertical mixing providing vertical flux of nutrients
- The anammox pathway, missed until 2003 provides further insight into the central role of nitrogen removal
- Chemostat work by Droop (1968), Caperon & Meyer (1972), Fuhs & Rhee revealed the central importance of the Internal nutrient pool in
- Goldman (Goldman et al. 1979, 1980) argued that phytoplankton in nature tend to grow at high relative growth rates, otherwise they would not exhibit Redfield stoichiometry. The internal nutrient pool tends to
- follow Redfield stoichiometry.

  Nutrient input controls phytoplankton biomass & species composition

  One phytoplankton assemblage rapidly replaced by another, each with high relative growth rate.
- Martin's Iron hypothesis: iron is the Liebigian nutrient in major areas of the world's ocean

### Slide 71 Applications to MA Bay production

Slide 70 Four major revolutions

**NOTES:** 

NOTES:

### **Applications to MA Bay** production

- Studies funded by the MWRA since 1992

- ► Estimating production

   O₂ used for the 1992-1993 MA Bay monitoring by Kelly & Doering

   Model P vs. I approach introduced by Craig Taylor

   Current methods involve incubations with a photosynthetron (tungsten light source) at U. Rhode Island

- Notice is at ... indee is a many and it is not accurate a feer blooms.

  Assimilation numbers too high, especially at the start of the spring bloom.

  May indicate non-steady-state conditions at the onset of the spring bloom.

  Subsurface chlorophyll maximum can be a productivity maximum in MA Bay.

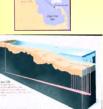
  Which P vs. I parameters should be used to estimate water-column production?

  Cole-Cloern model used recently, but it is not accurate after blooms (will be covered during Remote Sensing)

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### **BH-MA Bay: A tidal front**

MWRA State of the Harbor Report & Mann & Lazier



Outer MA Bay & Gulf of Maine Vertical -

Stratification can occur in any month (Winter snow melt inversions), but stable pycnocline develops in March

Slide 72	<b>BH-MA</b>	Rav. A	tidal	front
Jilut / L		Dav. A	uuai	IIVIIL

NOTES:

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# Realistic P vs. I parameters

Many published assimilation numbers and  $\alpha \space{-0.05em}{'}\spa$ high

- There are theoretical limits for α and A.N.
- Maximum α set by the quantum efficiency of photosynthesis
- ► A.N. is set by the maximum specific growth rate (assuming balanced growth)
- ► Falkowski published a theoretical maximum of about 20-25
- ► Harris in Phytoplankton Ecology, maximum assimilation numbers in the gyres should be: 6-8 mg C mg Chl a h-1

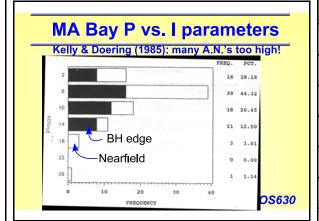
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### Slide 73 Realistic P vs. I parameters

NOTES:

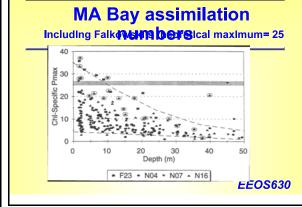
### Slide 74 MA Bay P vs. I parameters

NOTES:



# Slide 75 MA Bay assimilation numbers

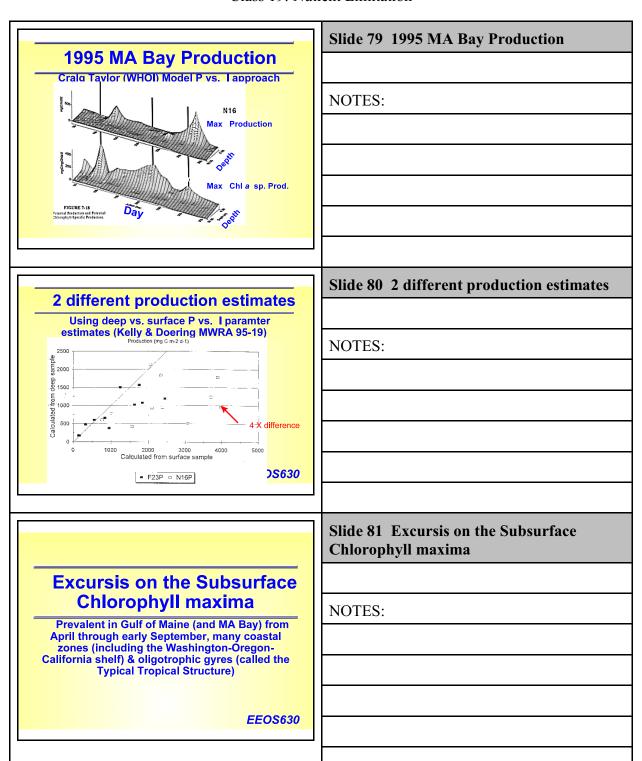
**NOTES:** 

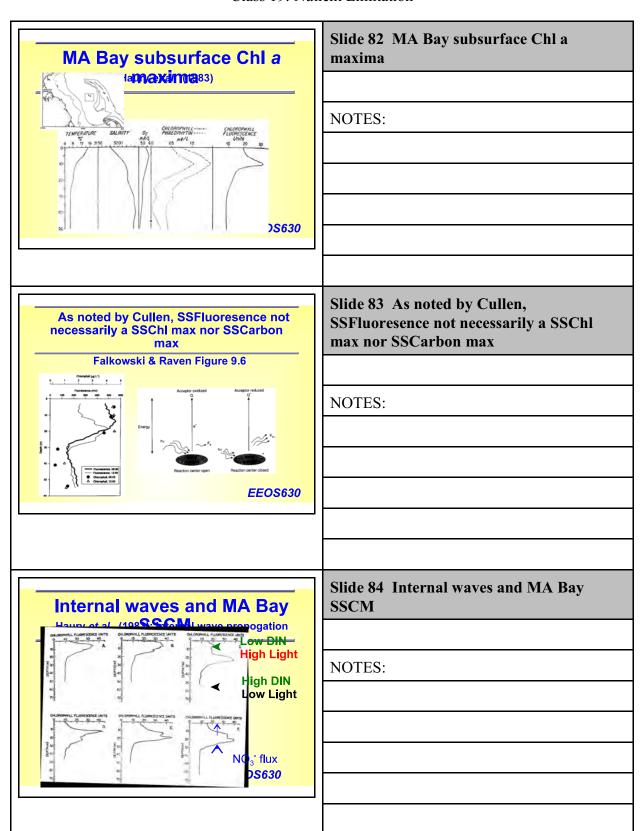


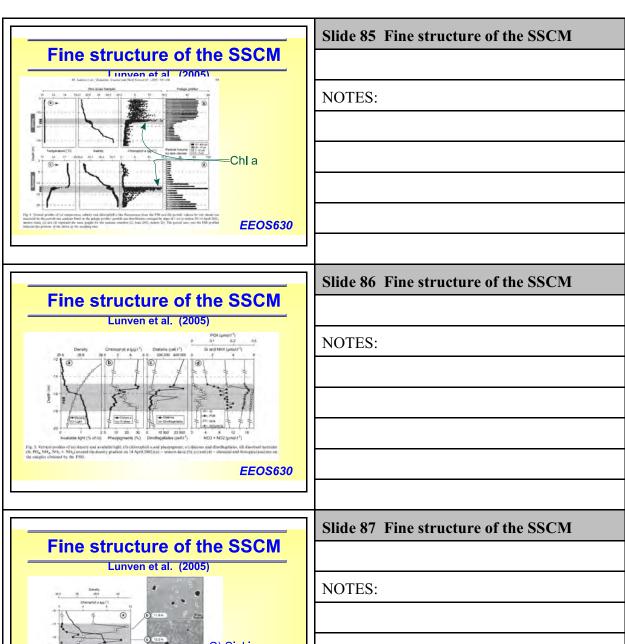
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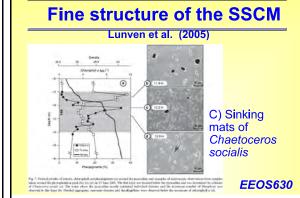


# Slide 76 Why might assimilation numbers Why might assimilation numbers be too high? be too high? Theoretical maximum assimilation numbers are are often exceeded, due to: **NOTES:** ► Improper methods Filters not retaining phytoplankton Improper estimate of Chl a ► Unbalanced growth = non-steady state conditions ▶ Failure to subtract controls EEOS630 Slide 77 Seasonal variation in A.N. Seasonal variation in A.N. Does this mean that production is **NOTES:** biomass in summer EEOS630 Slide 78 Model P vs. I approach: can Model P vs. I approach: can account account for differences in irradiance (due for differences in irradiance (due to to clouds) clouds) Rhode Island solar irradiance (from Kremer & Nixon) AUGUST 72 - AUGUST 73 NOTES: EEOS630

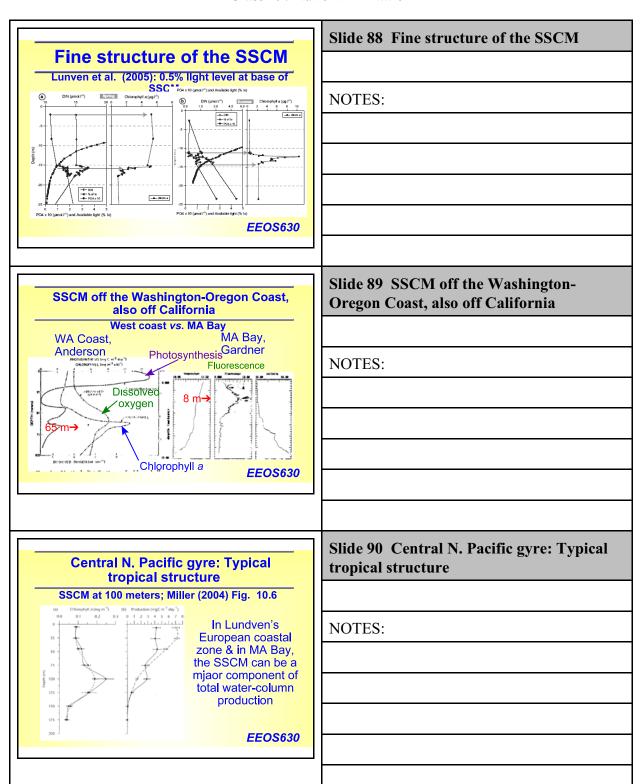








NOTES:		



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