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2015-04-27 Dnr: S/Gbg-2015-57

Report from the SMHI monitoring cruise with R/V Aranda



Survey period: Survey area: Principal: 2015-04-20 - 2015-04-27 Skagerrak, Kattegat, the Sound and the Baltic Proper SMHI and the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management

SUMMARY

The expedition was part of the Swedish regular marine monitoring programme and covered Skagerrak, Kattegat, the Sound and the Baltic Proper. Data presented in this report have been subject to preliminary quality control procedures only.

The water temperature in the surface layer was essentially normal for the season. In the Skagerrak nutrient concentrations in the surface water has risen slightly since the previous survey, while they in the Kattegat showed, for the season, typical concentrations. Phosphate and silicate were generally above normal in most parts of the Baltic proper, while the concentrations of inorganic nitrogen was below the detection limit, in almost the whole area. In the Eastern Gotland Basin, a bloom was ongoing and high fluorescence was registered. In other areas phytoplankton activity was low. The effects of inflows during December 2014 were now clearly seen in the central part of the Eastern Gotland Basin. In the Western Gotland Basin, the oxygen situation remains serious as acute hypoxia occurred from depths exceeding 70-80 meters and hydrogen sulphide from about 90 meters depth.

The next cruise is planned to start June 12, 2015.

SMHI

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

The cruise, performed on board the Finnish research vessel Aranda, began in Helsinki on April 20 and ended in the same port on the 27^{th} . The winds during the expedition were mainly mild to moderate. Air temperatures ranged from 4.5 to 10.5° C. The station BY15 in the Eastern Gotland Basin could not be sampled and was moved somewhat westwards into Swedish waters, due to a Russian navy exercise.

Two researchers from University of Helsinki took part in the expedition in order to study the formation of N_2O in hypoxic waters.

The Skagerrak

The salinity in the surface layer showed small variations around 30 psu. Surface water temperature was normal for the season and varied between 7.1 and 7.8° C. The halocline and thermocline were weakly developed near the coast while they were sharper further west and found at around 10-15 meters depth.

Surface nutrient concentrations had generally increased slightly compared to the previous survey in March, when all nutrients were almost consumed. Phosphate concentrations in the surface water ranged between 0.04 and 0.09 μ mol/l, nitrite + nitrate varied from 0.3 to 2.1 μ mol/l, while the concentrations of silicate varied between 0.7 and 1.3 μ mol/l.

Fluorescence measurements together with oxygen saturation showed low biological activity, except in the outer Skagerrak, where a strong bloom was found at 15 meters depth. Turquoise waters suggest that a diatom bloom of *Emiliania Huxleyi* was ongoing.

The Kattegat and the Sound

The temperature of the surface water was normal for the season and varied from 8° C in the south to 9° C in the north. In the Kattegat surface salinity was normal, between 20.1 - 23.5 psu. In the Sound, the salinity was slightly lower than normal, about 10 psu. Halocline and thermocline was found at 5 to 15 meters deep.

Concentrations of nutrients in surface waters were normal for the season except for silicate which showed levels above normal. The spring bloom was still ongoing and high fluorescence values were measured adjacent to the halocline. Phosphate concentrations varied from 0.06 μ mol/l in the north, to 0.11 μ mol/l in the south, while silicate concentrations were in the range 2.9 to 4.0 μ mol/l. In the Sound the corresponding values were 0.27 for phosphate and 5.8 μ mol/l for silicate. Inorganic nitrogen was below the detection limit (< 0.10 μ mol/l) in the southern Kattegat and the Sound, but showed a concentration of 0.39 μ mol/l in the northern Kattegat. The lowest oxygen concentrations were measured at Anholt E in the Kattegat, 5.6 ml/l, and at W Landskrona in the Sound, 4.9 ml/l.

The Baltic Proper

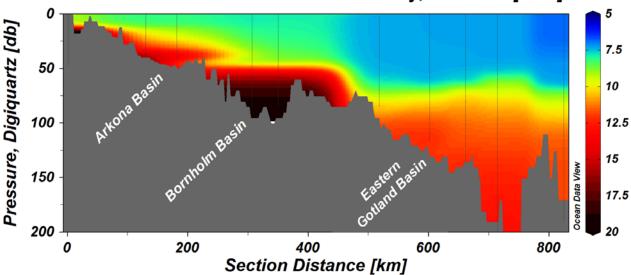
The temperature in the surface layer was slightly above average for the season and ranged from 4.1° C in the northeast to 7.0° C in the southwest. Surface salinity was slightly above normal in the Arkona and Bornholm Basin and ranged from 6.8 psu in the northeast to 8.3 psu. The halocline was found at 60-70 m depth in the western and eastern Gotland Basins, while it was shallower in the south, at depths between 30 and 50 meters.

Phosphate and silicate concentrations were generally above normal and ranged between 0.3 - 0.7 μ mol/l and 10 - 18 μ mol/l respectively. The concentration of inorganic nitrogen was below the detection limit throughout the area, except in the Southeast where the levels were around 1.2 μ mol/l.



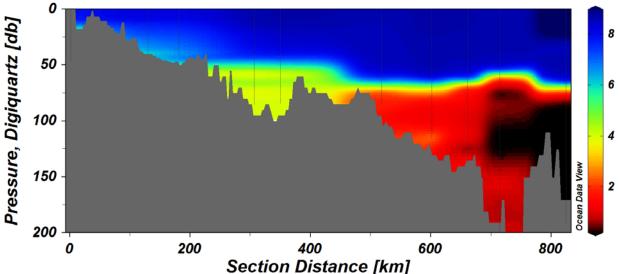
The spring bloom was ongoing in the northern parts of the Eastern Gotland Basin, where high fluorescence was recorded at 5-25 meters depth. In other areas the phytoplankton activity was low.

The inflow to the Baltic Sea that occurred in December 2014 had now reached the central parts of Eastern Gotland Basin. At the Gotland Deep acute hypoxia occurred from 70 meters depth and hydrogen sulfide (oxygen-free conditions) at intermediate depths, 125-150 meters. Below this anoxic layer bottom water was oxygenated and oxygen levels had increased from about 1 ml/l to around 3 ml/l since the previous survey in March. The salinity of the bottom water had also increased with about 0.5 psu. In the northern part of the Eastern Gotland Basin no effects of the inflow were seen and hydrogen sulphide was recorded from depths exceeding 90 meters. In the Bornholm Basin, Arkona Basin and Hanö Bight there were no lack of oxygen in the bottom waters but oxygen concentrations had decreased since the previous measurement with 0.5-1 ml/l. In Western Gotland Basin, the oxygen situation remains serious. Anoxic conditions was recorded from 90 meters and acute hypoxia (<2ml/l) from about 70 meters.



Salinity, Practical [PSU]







PARTICIPANTS

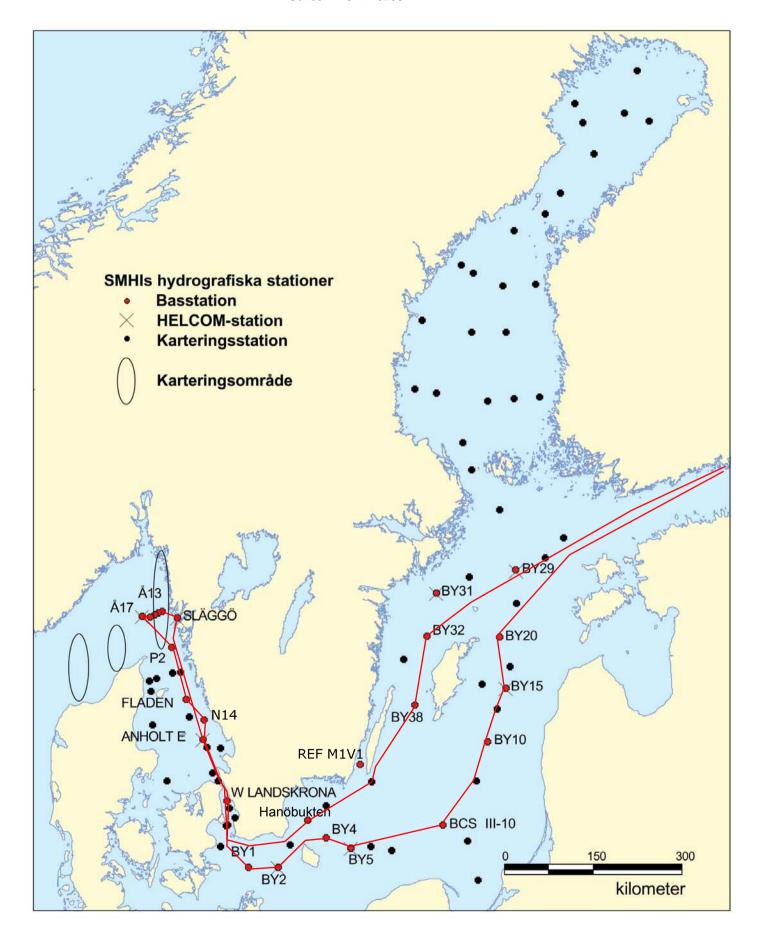
Name		Institute
Lars Andersson	Chief scientis	st SMHI
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Sara Johansson		SMHI
Johan Kronsell		SMHI
Sari Sipilä		SMHI
Magnus Wenzer	(Helsingfors-Lysekil)	SMHI
Jukka-Pekka Myl	lykangas	University of Helsinki
Gunnar Jacobs		University of Helsinki

APPENDICES

- Track chart

- Table over stations, parameters and sampling depths
 Map showing bottom oxygen concentrations
 Monthly average surface water plots for selected stations
 Vertical profiles for selected stations

TRACKCHART Country: Sweden Ship: R/V ARANDA Date: 20150420-20150427 Series: 0177-0206

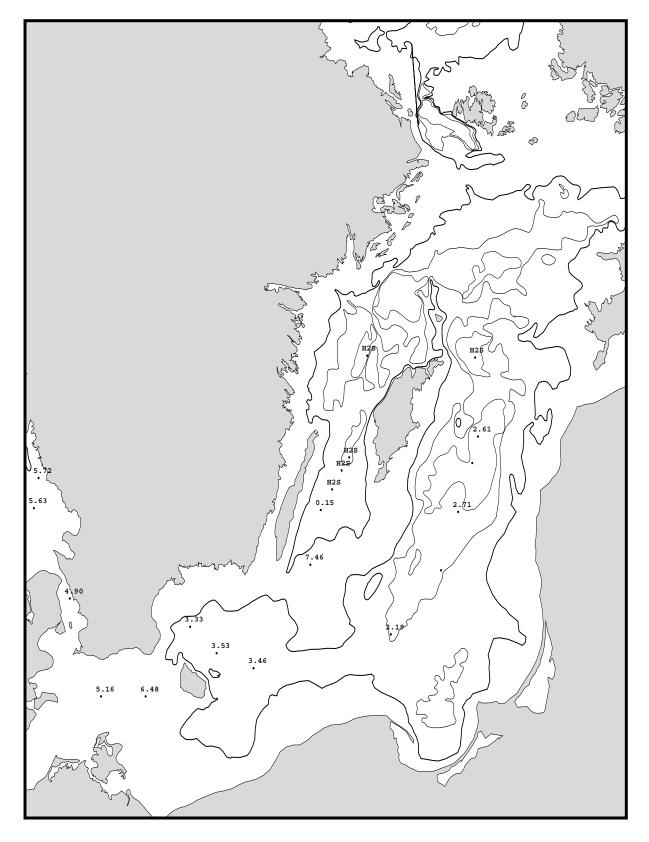


SMHI Ocean enh	***** Hydro ***** serie		Ship: 01-Aran Year: 2015	la	***** ****	Date: 2015-04-27 Time: 06:14
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0178 BPEX21BAS BY15 W	N5718.79 E1956.0	9 20150421 0811	224 9	36 8	4.9 1020 0030 x -xxxx 18 x x x x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x
0179 BPEX21EXT BY15 W	N5718.79 E1956.0	9 20150421 0945	224	36 8	3 5.0 1021 1130 x 6 x x - x x x x x x x	x x - x x
0180 BPEX14BAS BY11	N5704 E1950	20150421 1130	205 13	36 8		
0181 BPEX13BAS BY10	N5638 E1935	20150421 15	144 17	02 6	4.8 1021 0030 xx 15 x x - x - x x x x x	x x - x x
0182 BPSE12BAS BY9 KLAIPEDA	N5607.5 E1917	20150421 1900	120		9990 x 14	
0183 BPSE11BAS BCS III-10	N5533.3 E1824	20150421 2358	90	32 3	4.7 1023 9990 xx 12 x x - x - x x x x x	к x - x x
0184 BPSB07BAS BY5 BORNHOLMSDJ	N5515 E1559	20150422 0735	89	18 3		
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0186 BPSA03BAS BY2 ARKONA	N5500 E1405	20150422 1704	48	25 8	7.5 1021 1130 xxxx 8 x x - x - x x x x x	к x - x
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0188 SOCX39BAS W LANDSKRONA	N5552.0 E1245.0	20150423 0240	51	28 6	8.5 1014 9990 xx 9 x x - x - x x x x x	x - x x
0189 KAEX29BAS ANHOLT E	N5640.0 E1207.0	20150423 0830	63	28 14	8.3 1012 2740 x -xxx 10 x x x x - x x x x x	x x x x x x
0190 KANX50BAS N14 FALKENBERG	N5656.40 E1212.7	0 20150423 1100	31 4	27 13	8 8.4 1010 2740 x -xxxx 7 x x x x - x x x x x	кххх
0191 KANX25BAS FLADEN	N5711.5 E1140	20150423 1405	85 5	28 11	9.9 1009 1140 xx 12 x x - x - x x x x x	к x - x
0192 SKEX23BAS P2	N5752 E1118	20150423 1830	94	27 15	5 7.7 1006 1450 xx 10 x x - x - x x x x x	к х - х
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0194 SKEX17BAS Å16	N5816 E1043.5	20150424 0040	203	28 11	7.6 1006 9990 x 13	
0195 SKEX16BAS Å15	N5817.7 E1051	20150424 0240	137	28 10	7.5 1006 9990 xx 12 x x - x - x x x x x	x x - x x
0196 SKEX15BAS Å14	N5819 E1056.5	20150424 0400	113	27 12	2 7.3 1006 2840 x 10	
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0200 BPSH05BAS HANÖBUKTEN	N5537 E1452	20150425 1130	80 11	20 8	8.1 1005 2820 xx 11 x x - x - x x x x x	x x - x
0201 BPSE00EXT 4.4NE ÖLANDS SÖDRA	N5610.06 E1659	20150425 1745	58	24 5	7.8 1004 4820 x 9 x x - x	x
0202 BPWX00EXT 14SE KAPELLUDDEN	N5639.50 E1710.1	3 20150425 2145	83	20 8	6.4 1003 6990 x 11 x x - x x	
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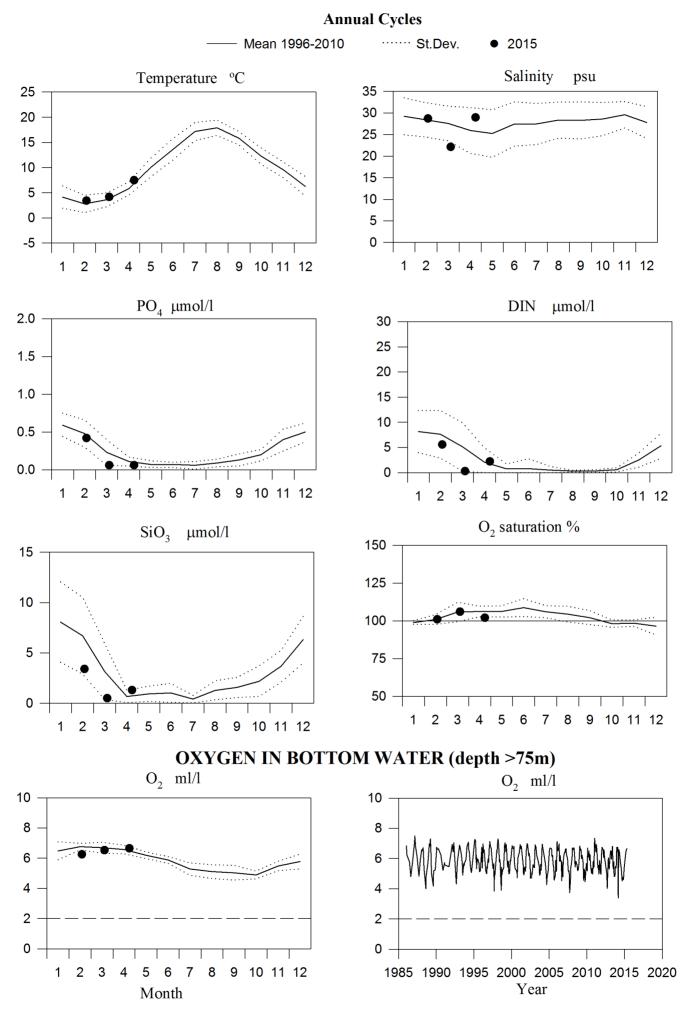
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0205 BPWX45BAS BY38 KARLSÖDJ	N5707 E1740	20150426 0250) 110	22 7 6.6 1002	2 9990 xx 14 x x - x x x x x x x	x x - x x
0206 BPWX38BAS BY32 NORRKÖPINGSDJ □E	N5801 E1759	20150426 0800	0 201 7	22 5 6.5 1001	1 4320 xx 17 x x - x x x x x x x	x x - x x

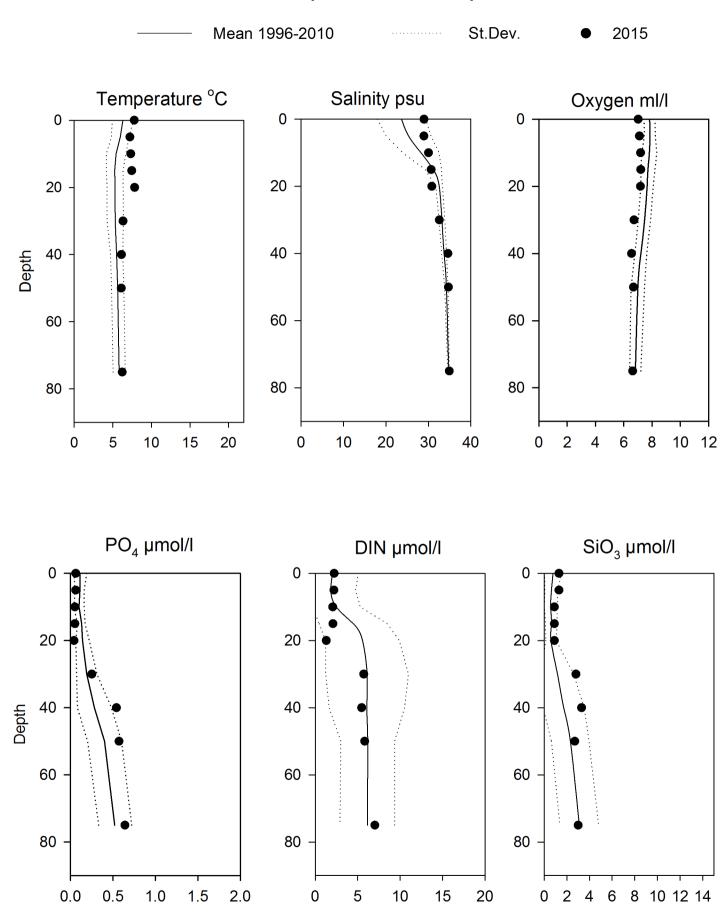
Bottom water oxygen concentration (ml/l)

Country:	Finland
Ship :	Aranda
Date :	20150421-20150426
Series :	0177-0206



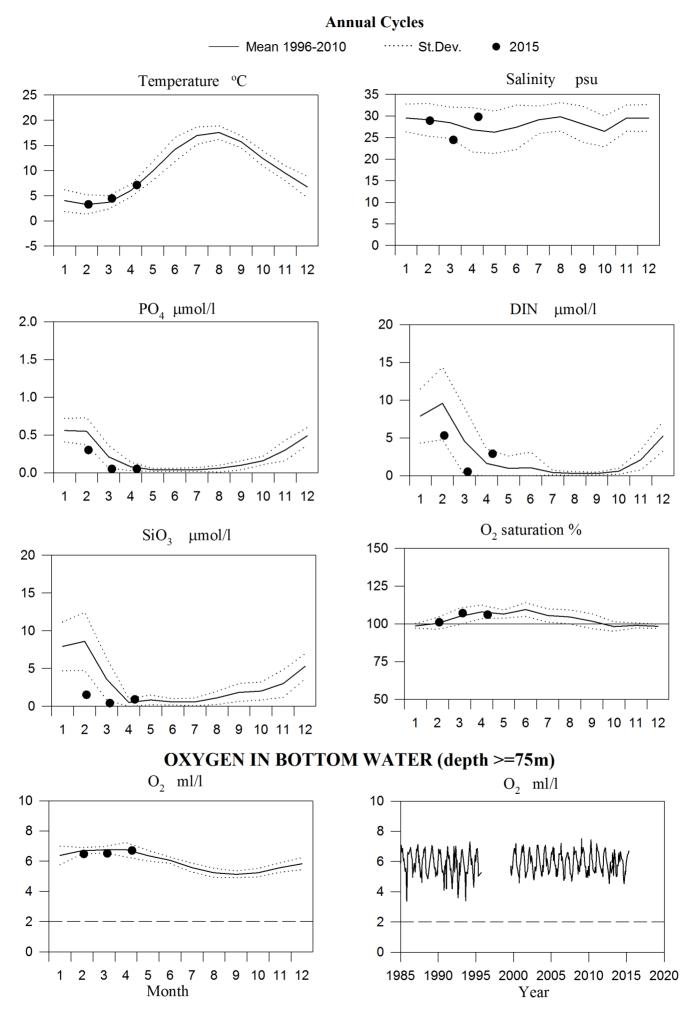
STATION P2 SURFACE WATER

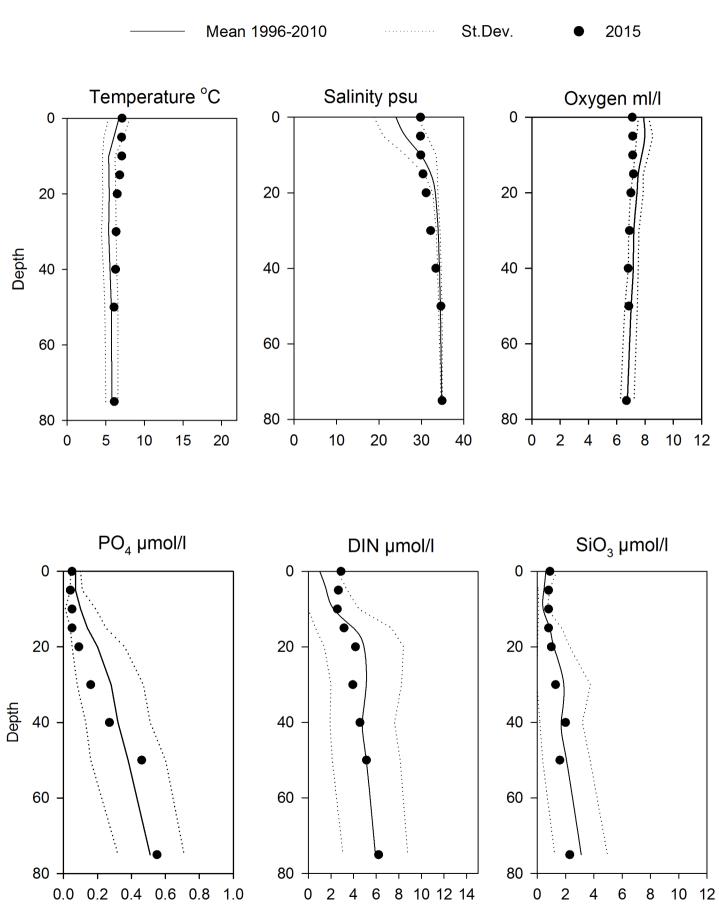




Vertical profiles P2 April

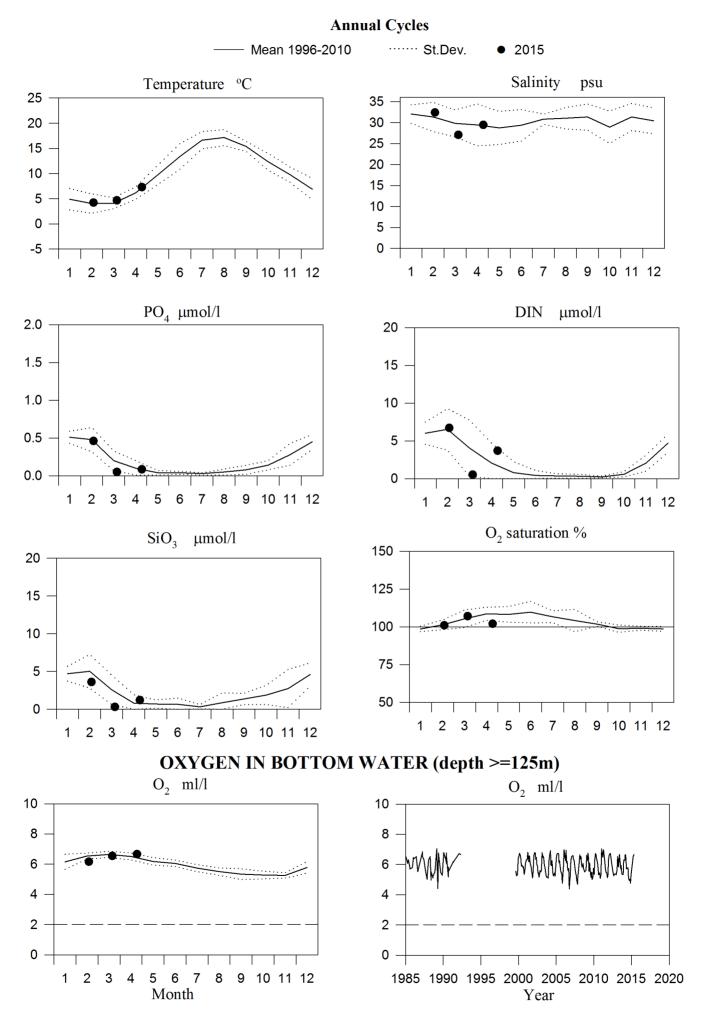
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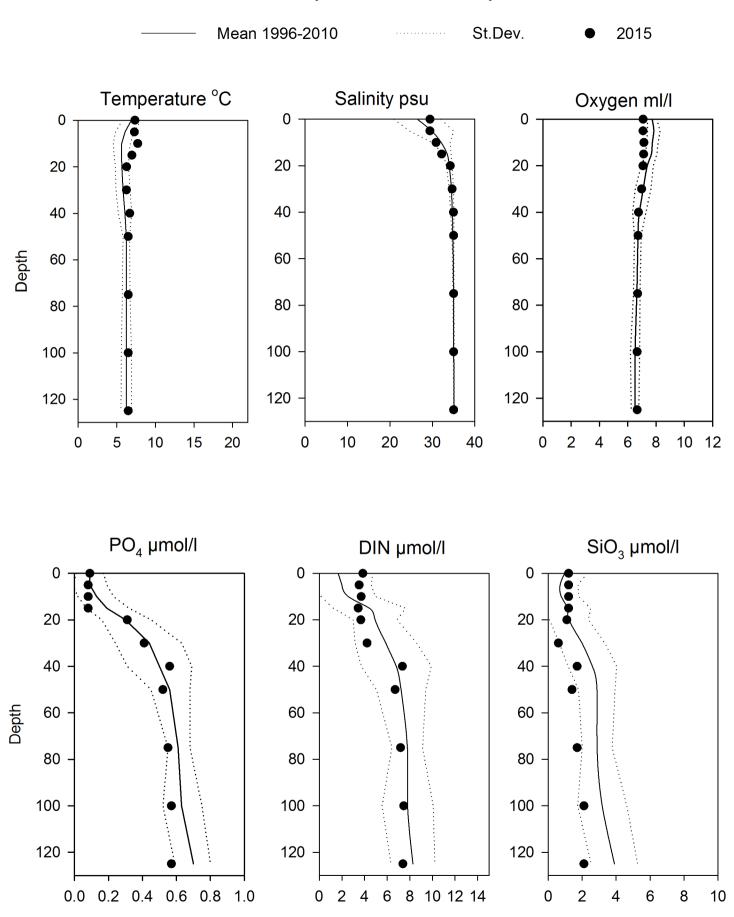




Vertical profiles Å13 April

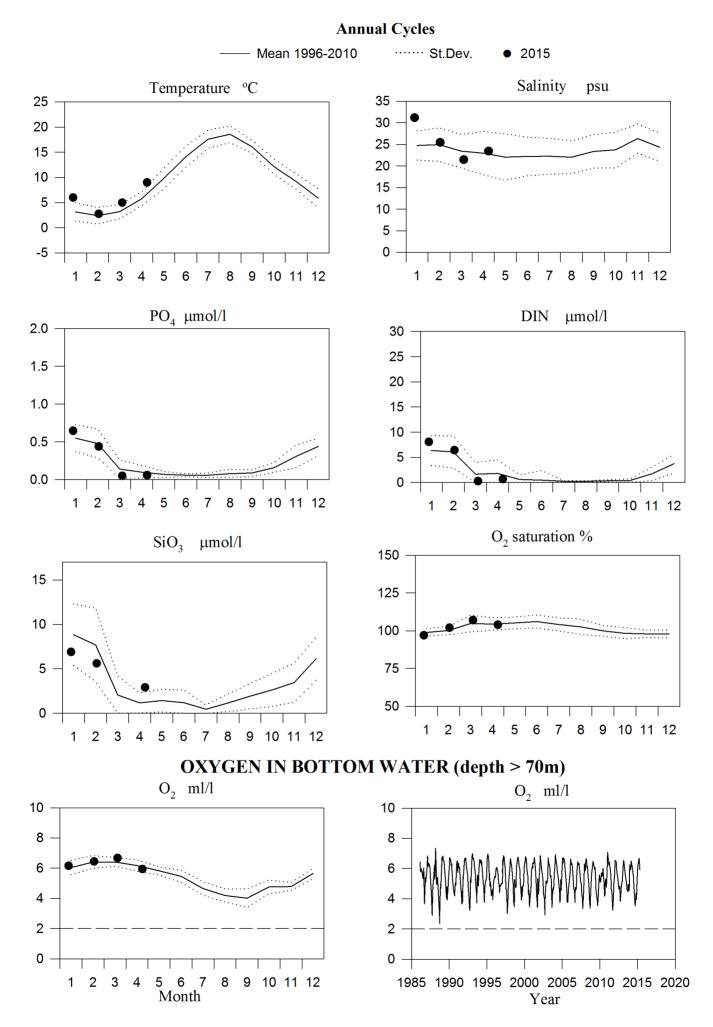
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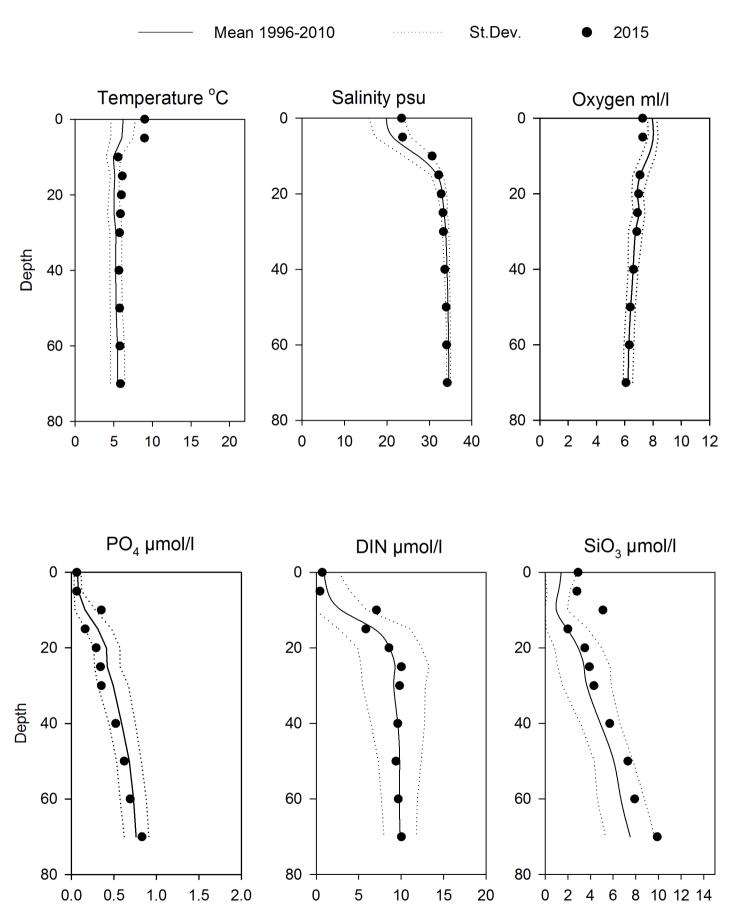




Vertical profiles Å15 April

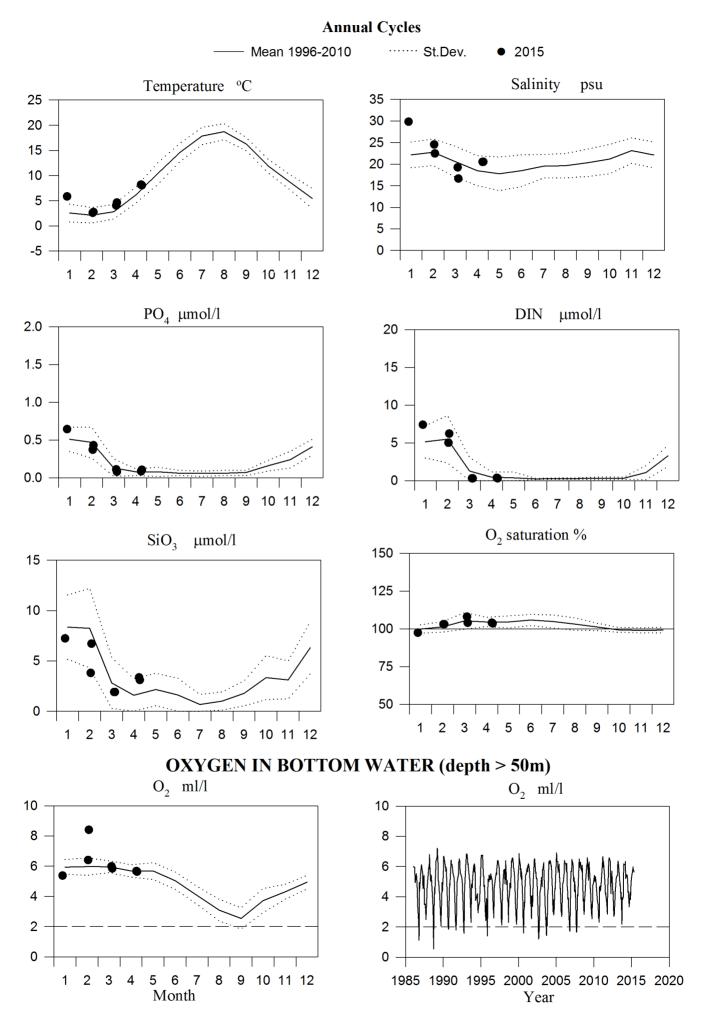
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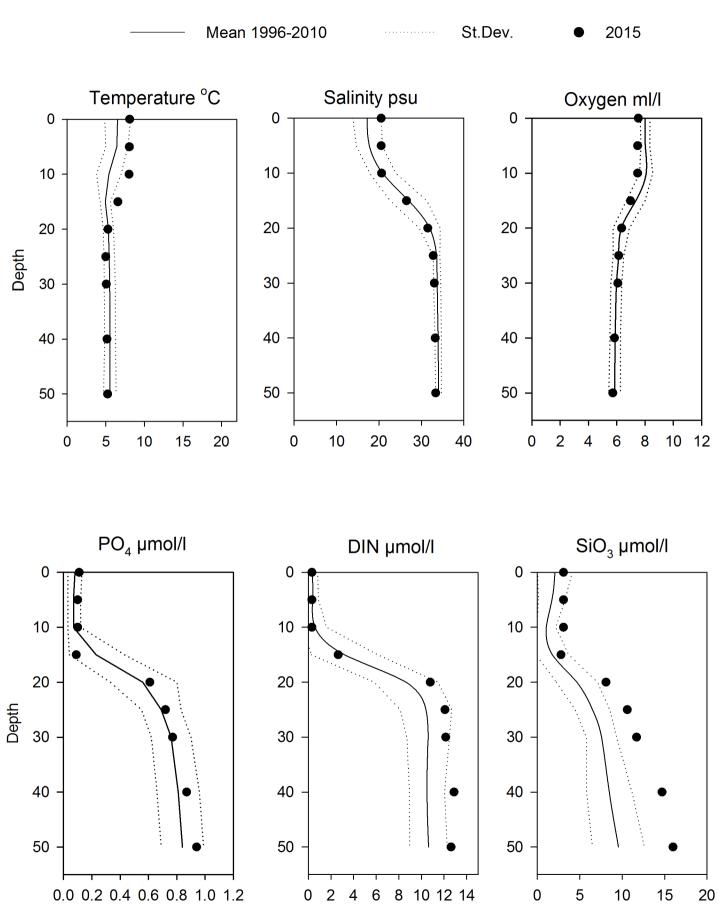




Vertical profiles Fladen April

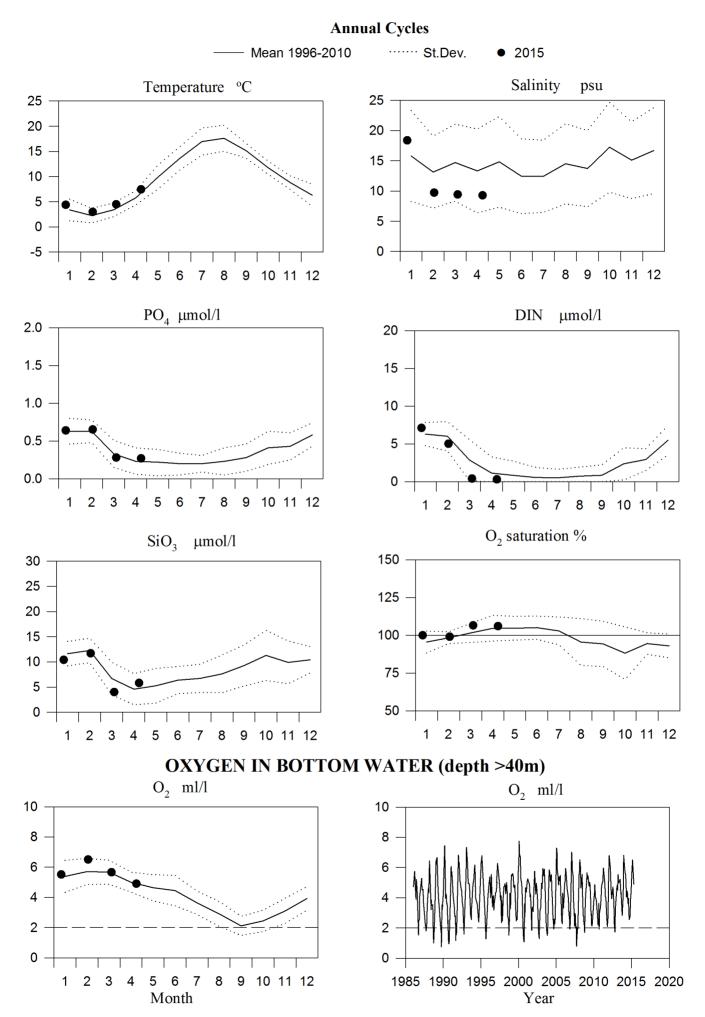
STATION ANHOLT E SURFACE WATER

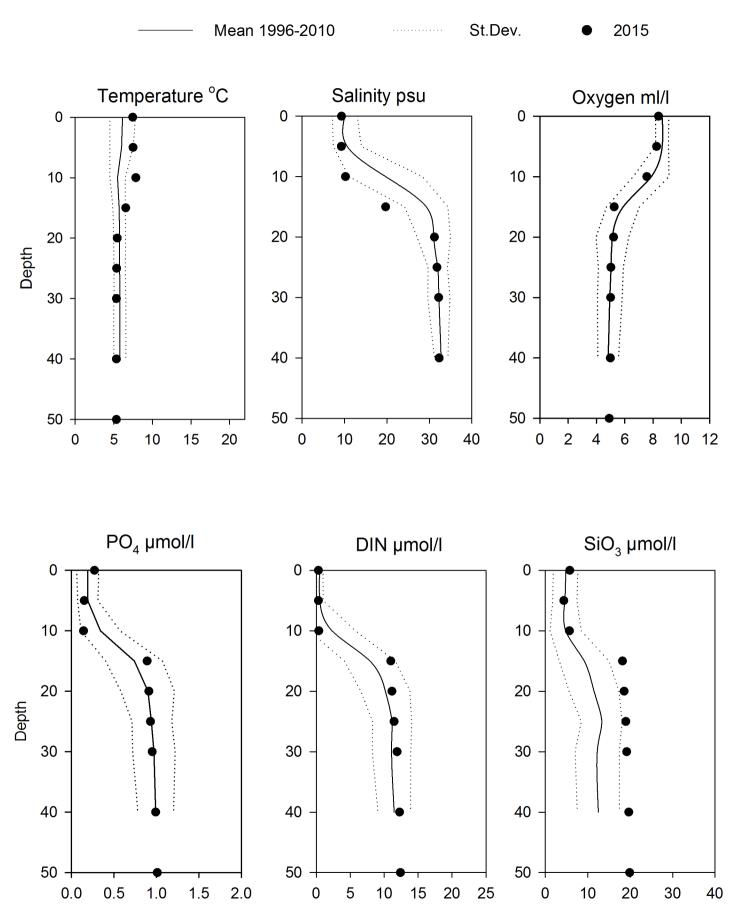




Vertical profiles Anholt E April

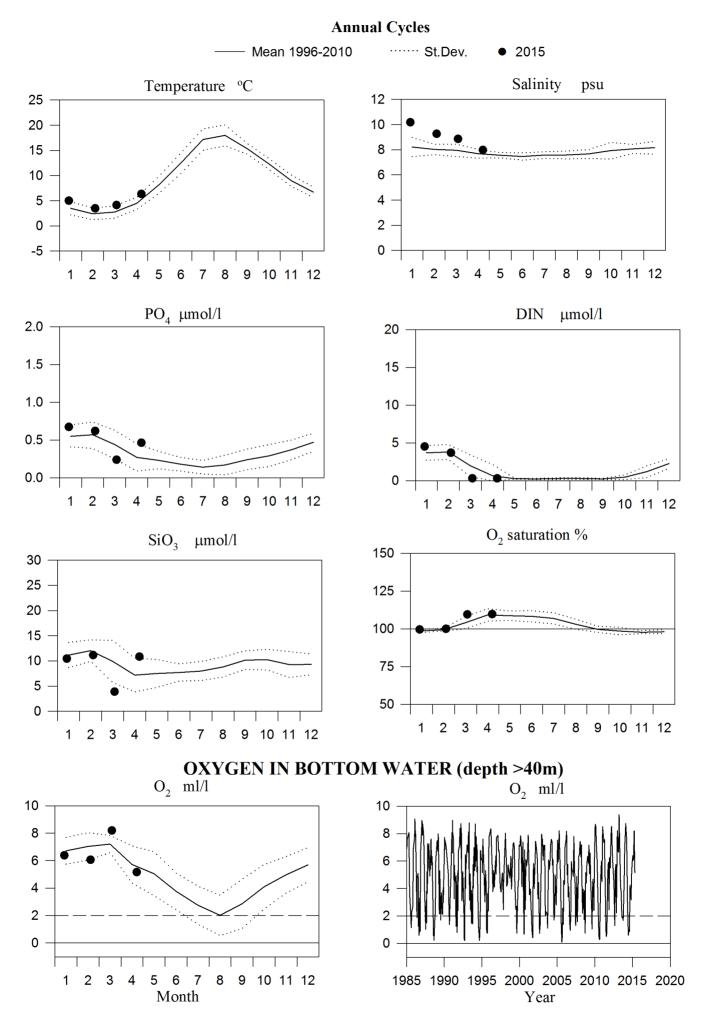
STATION W LANDSKRONA SURFACE WATER

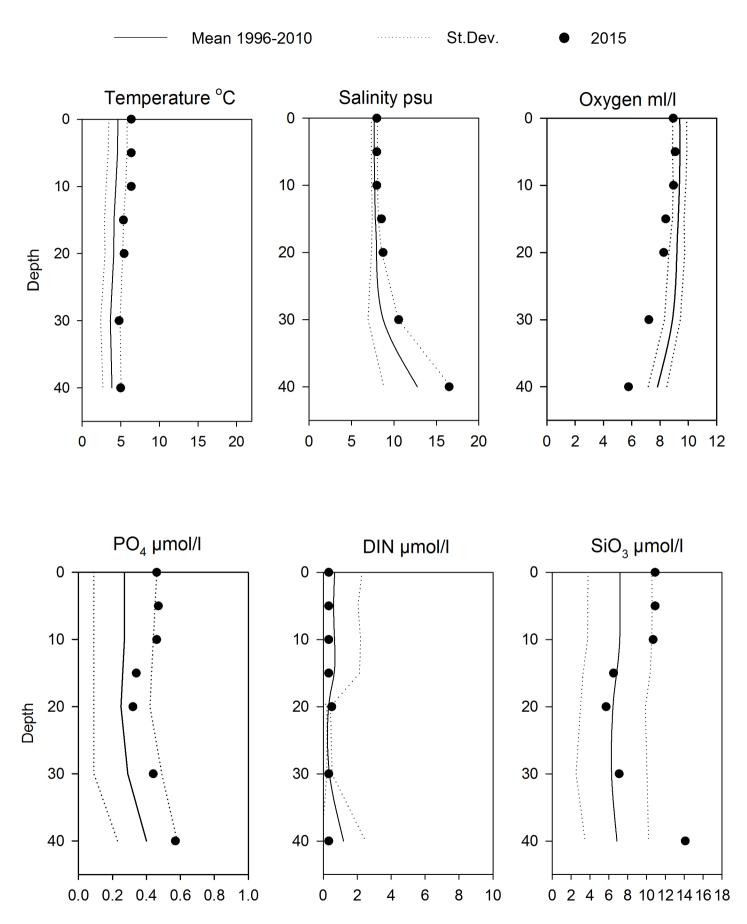




Vertical profiles W Landskrona April

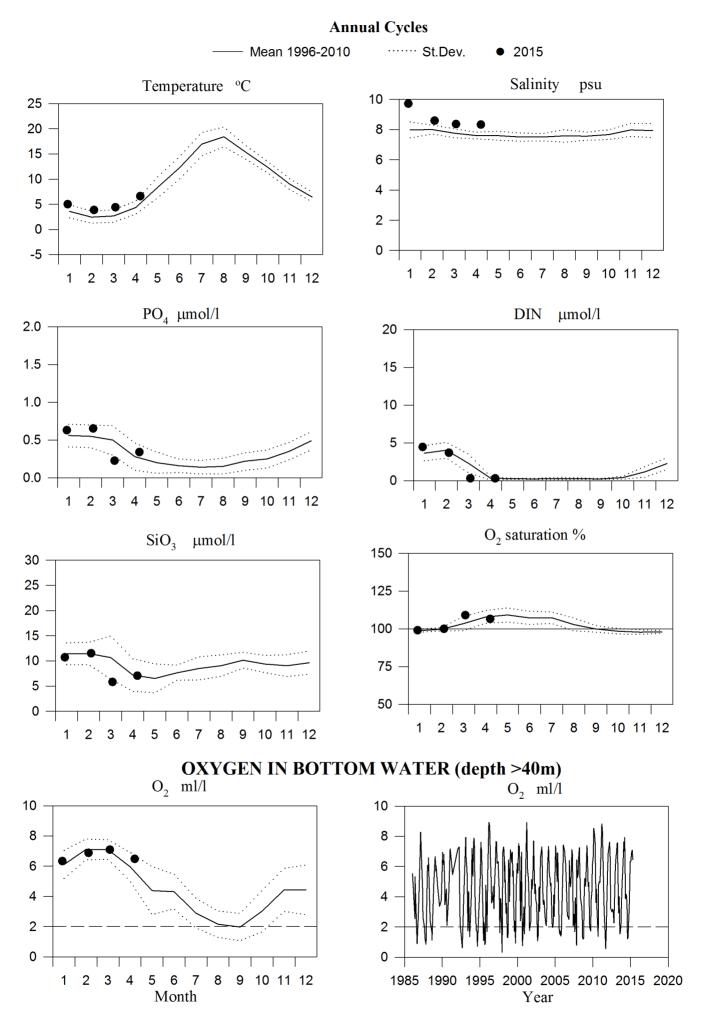
STATION BY1 SURFACE WATER

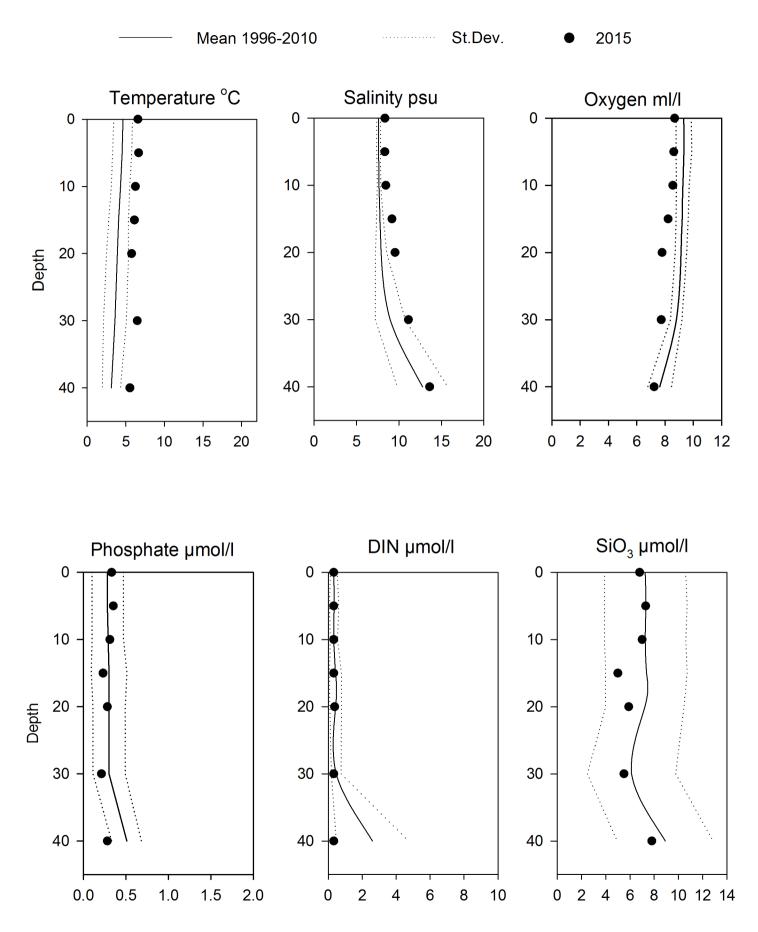




Vertical profiles BY1 April

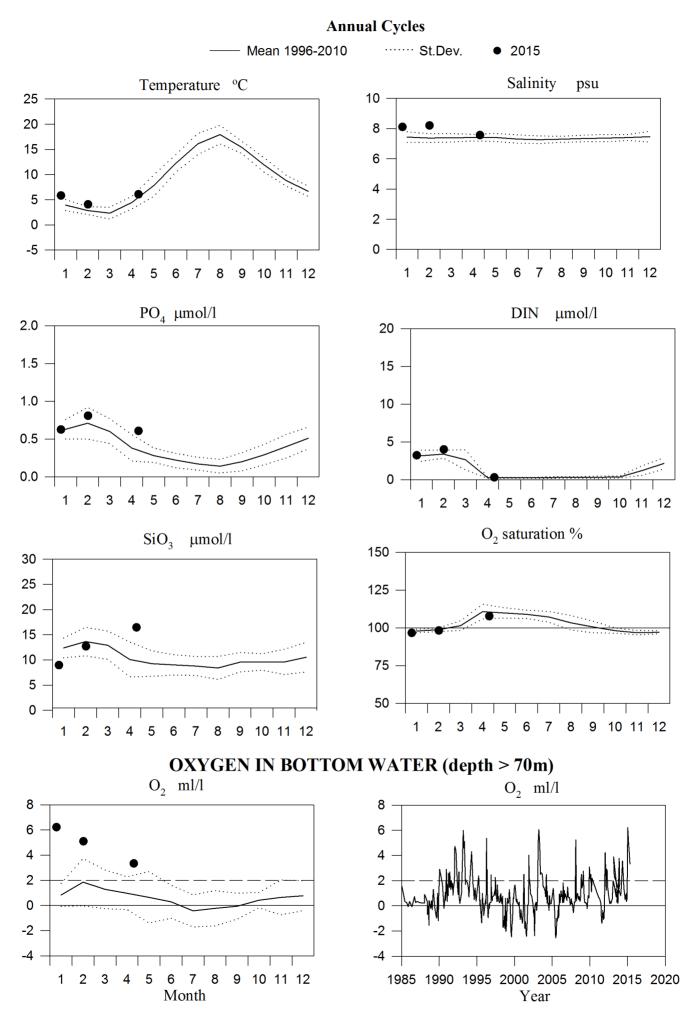
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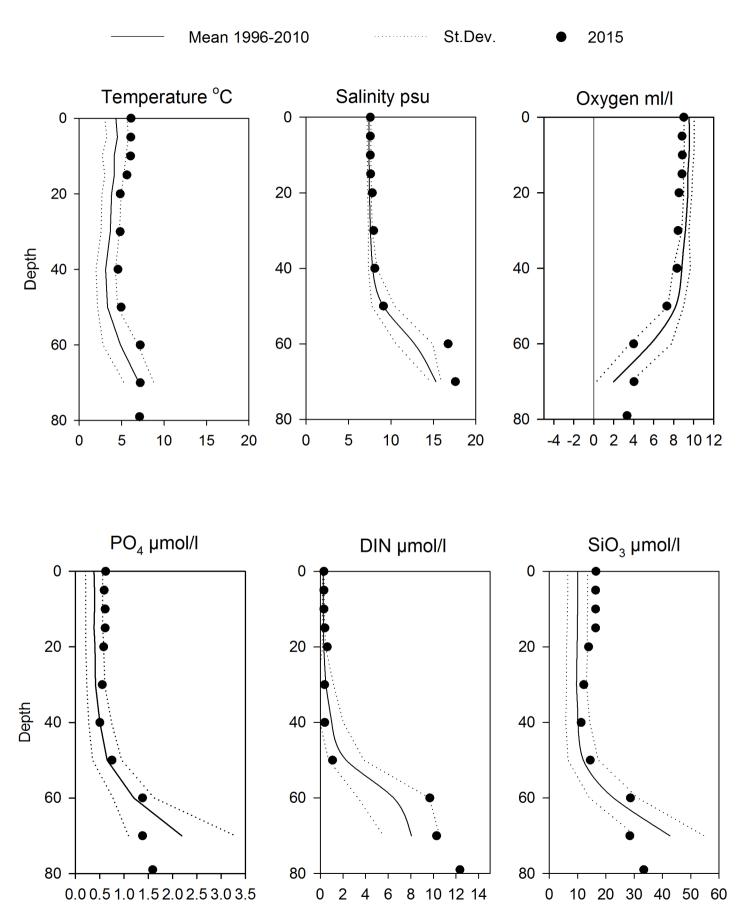




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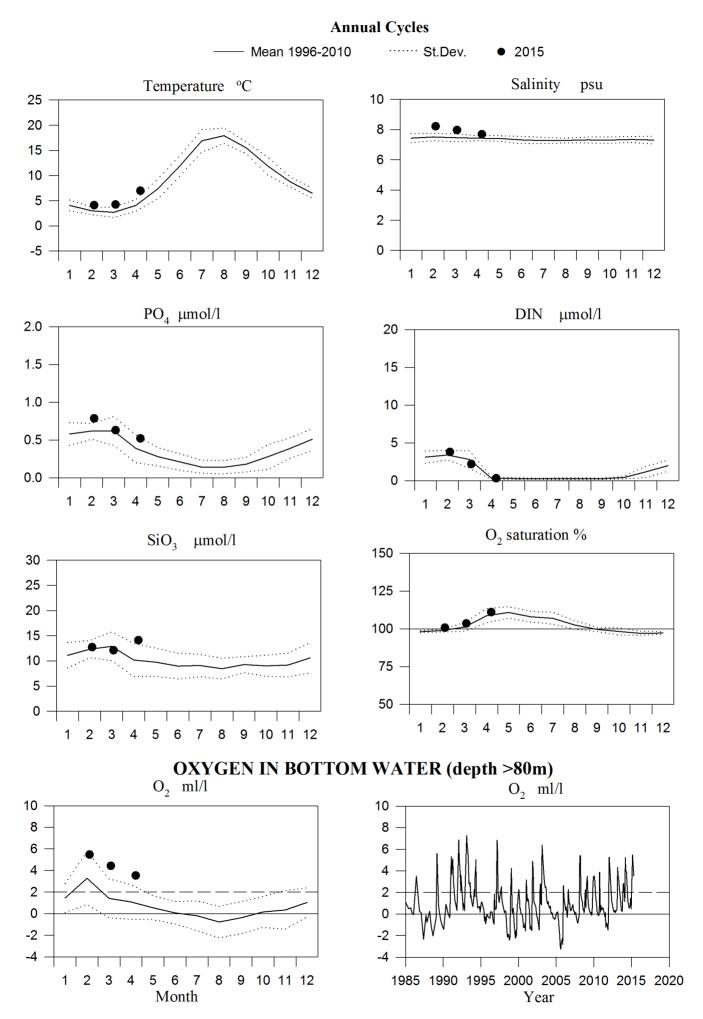
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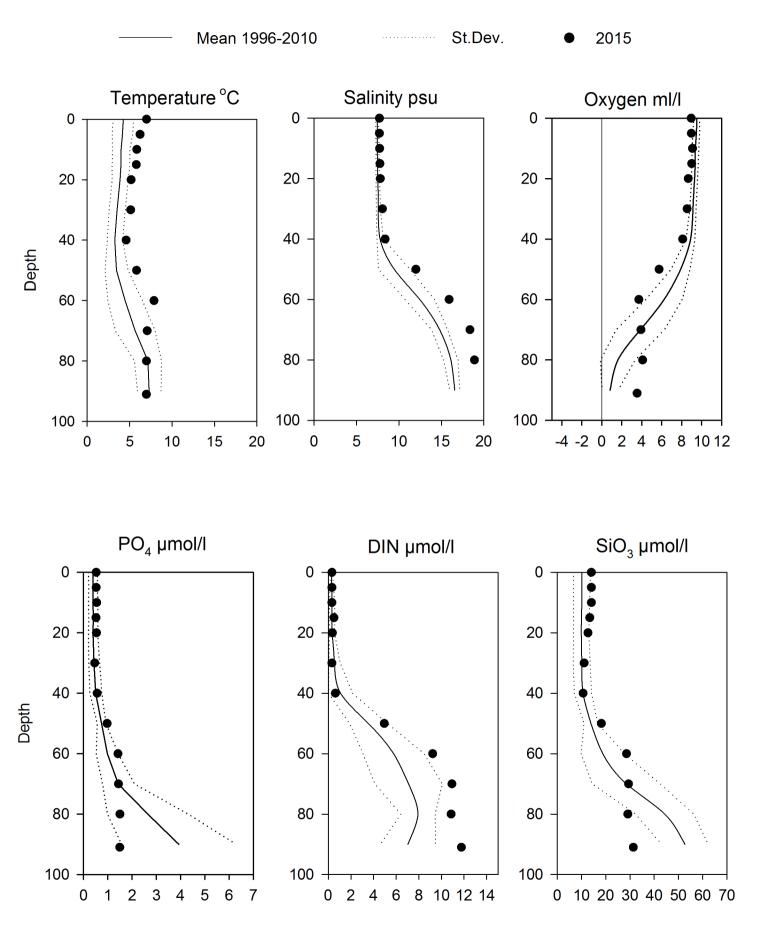




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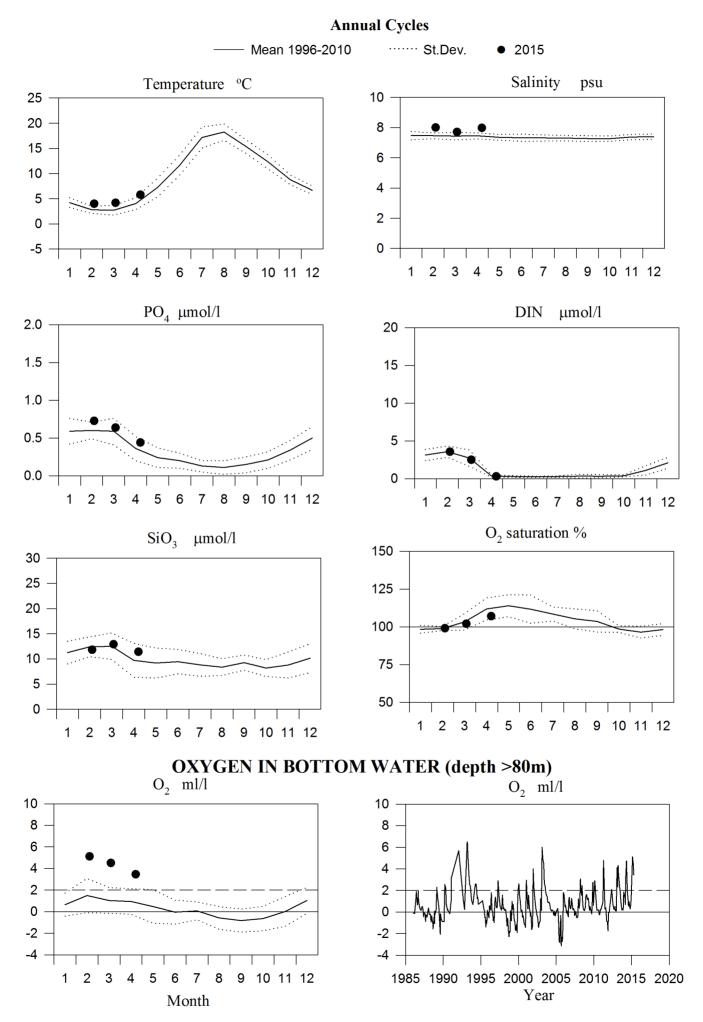
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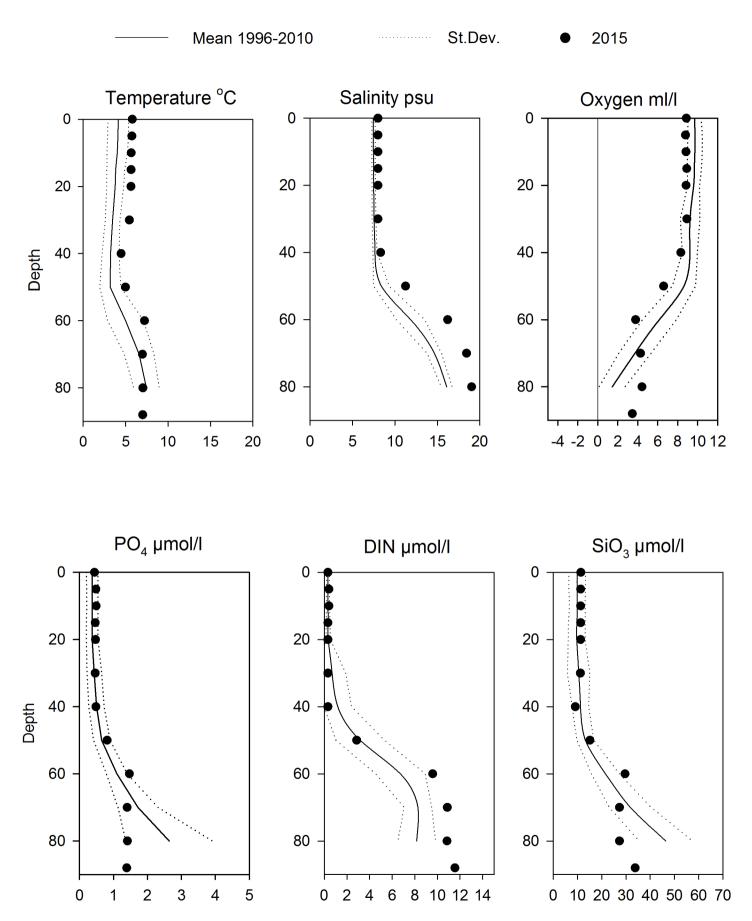




Vertical profiles BY4 April

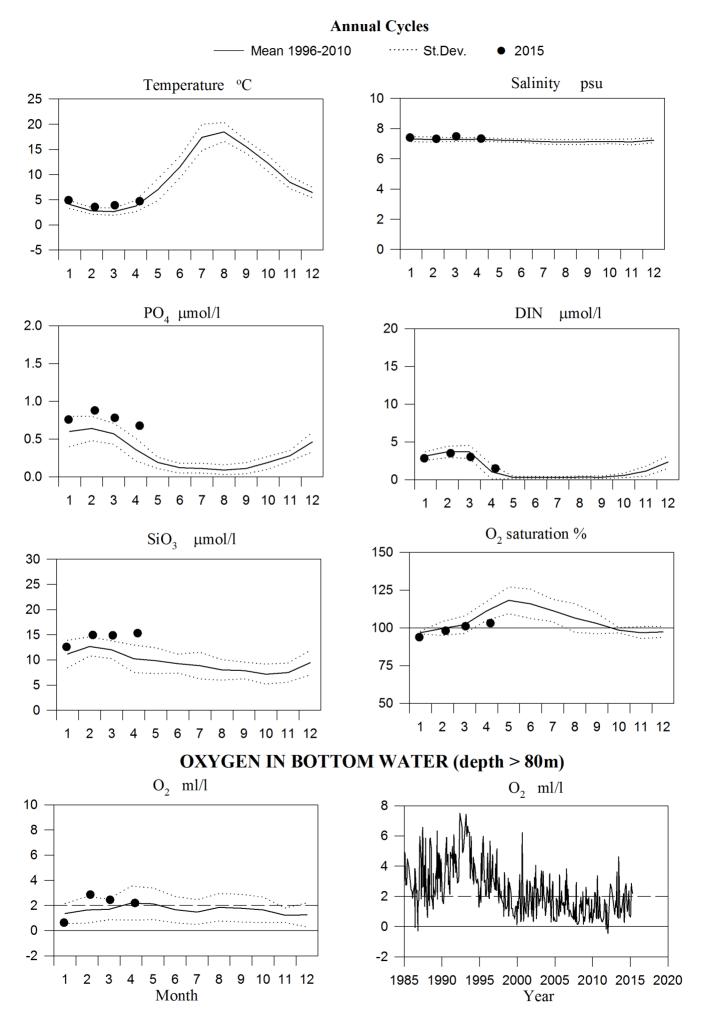
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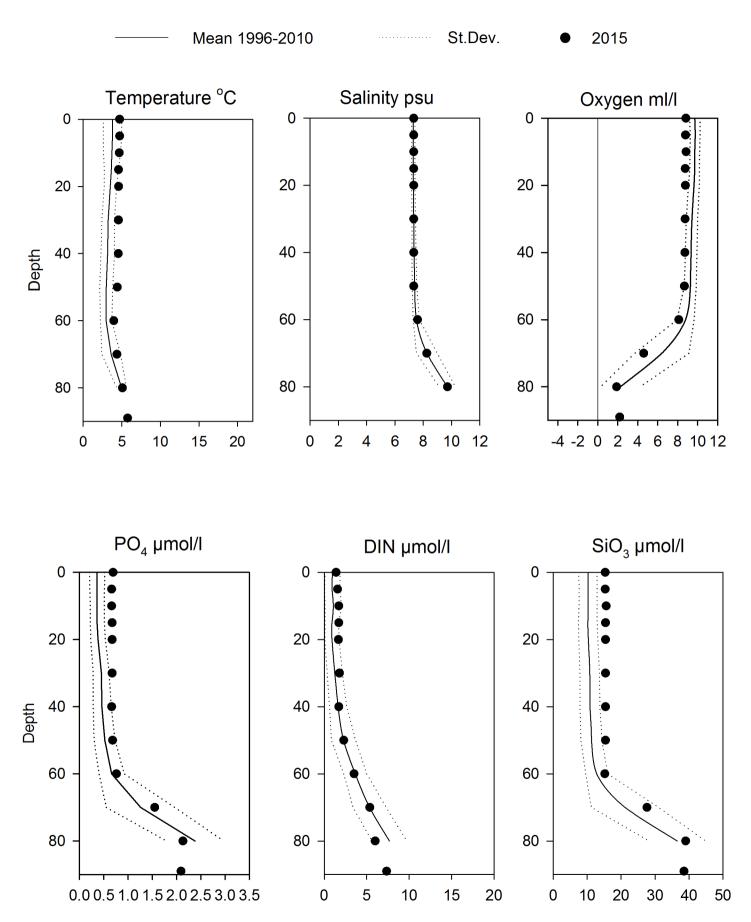




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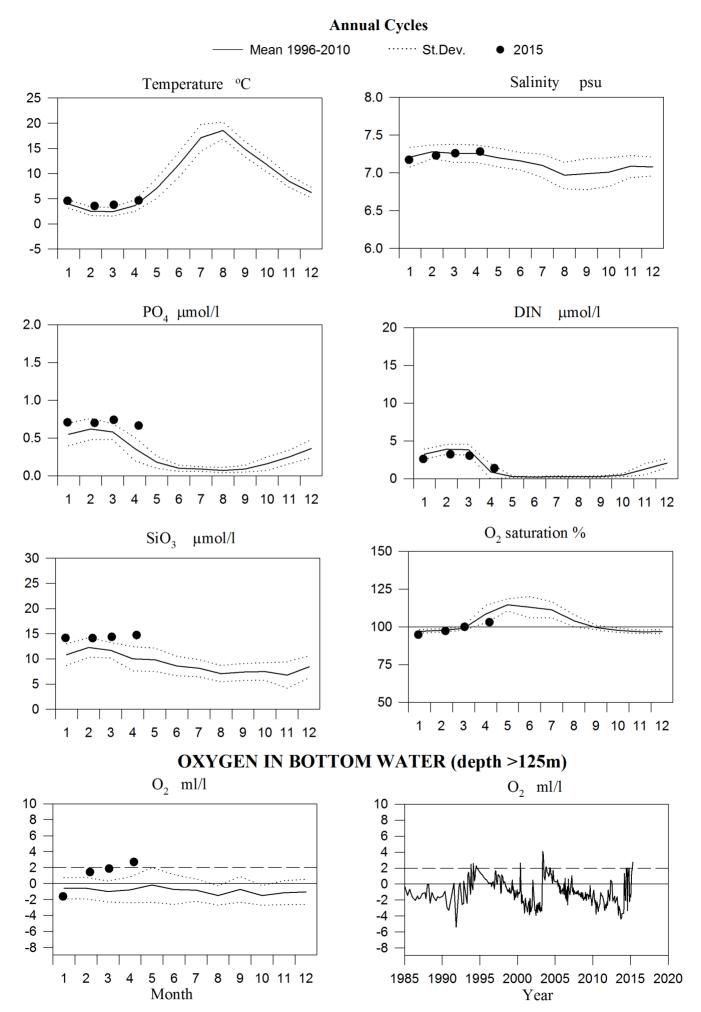
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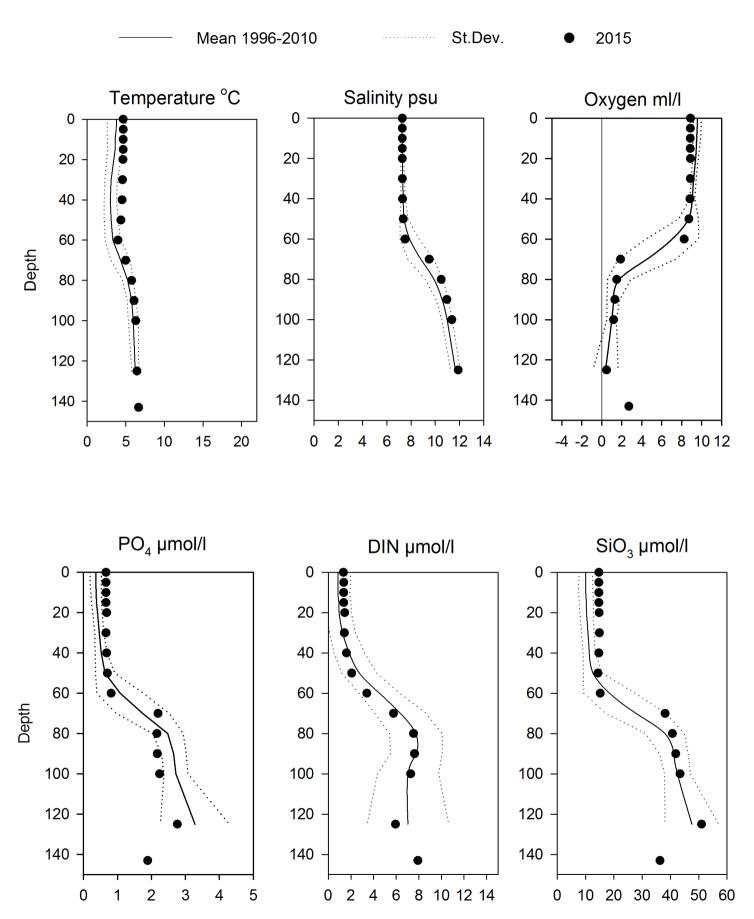




Vertical profiles BCS III-10 April

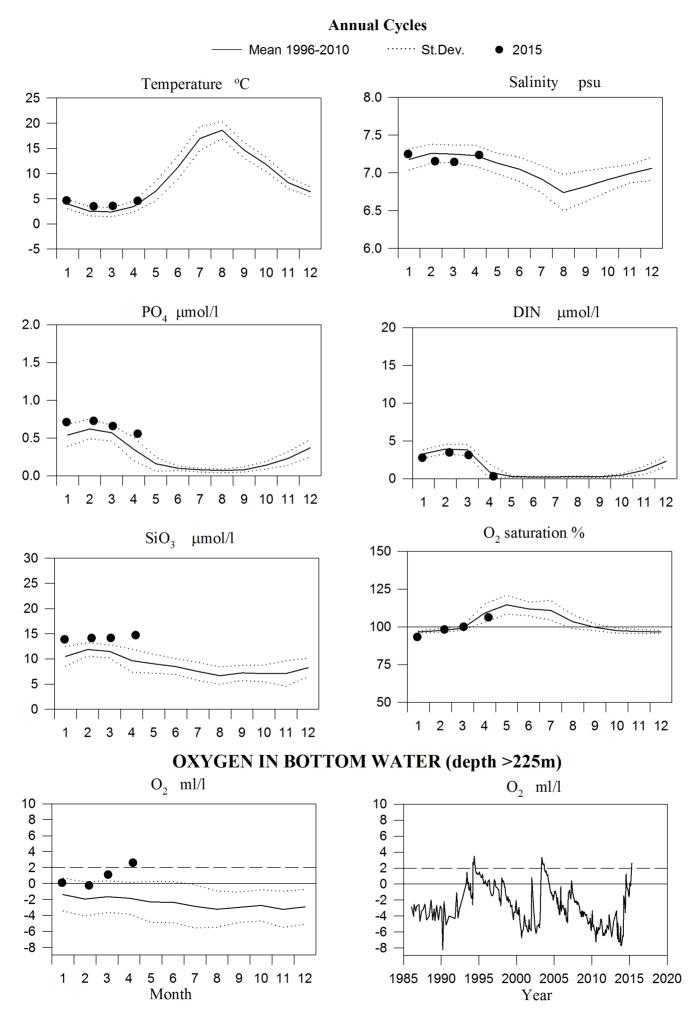
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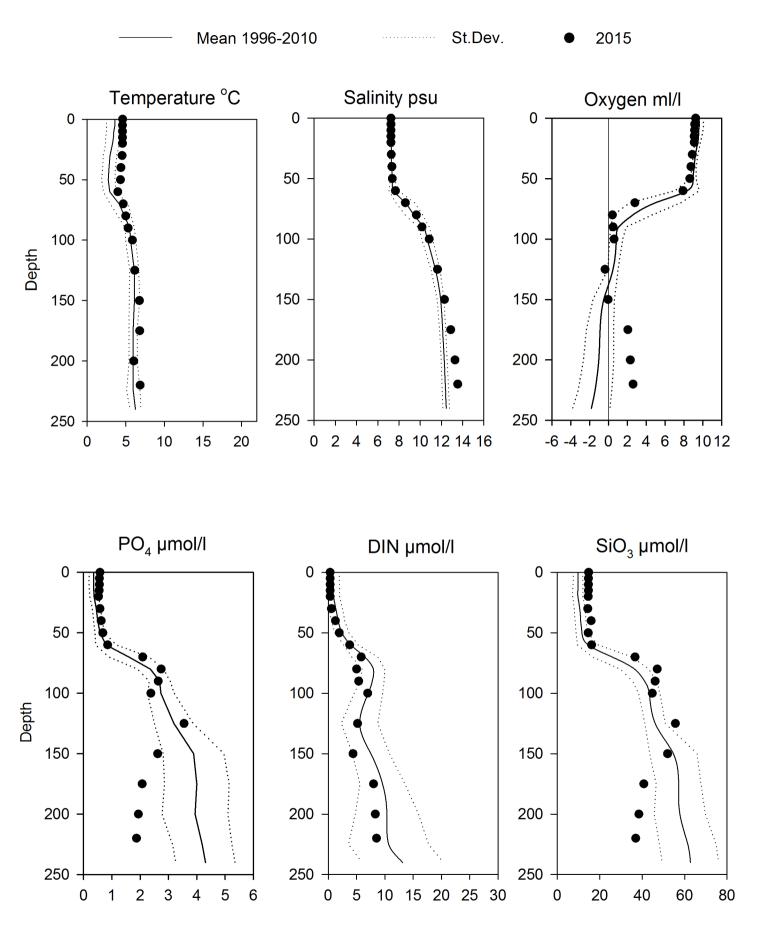




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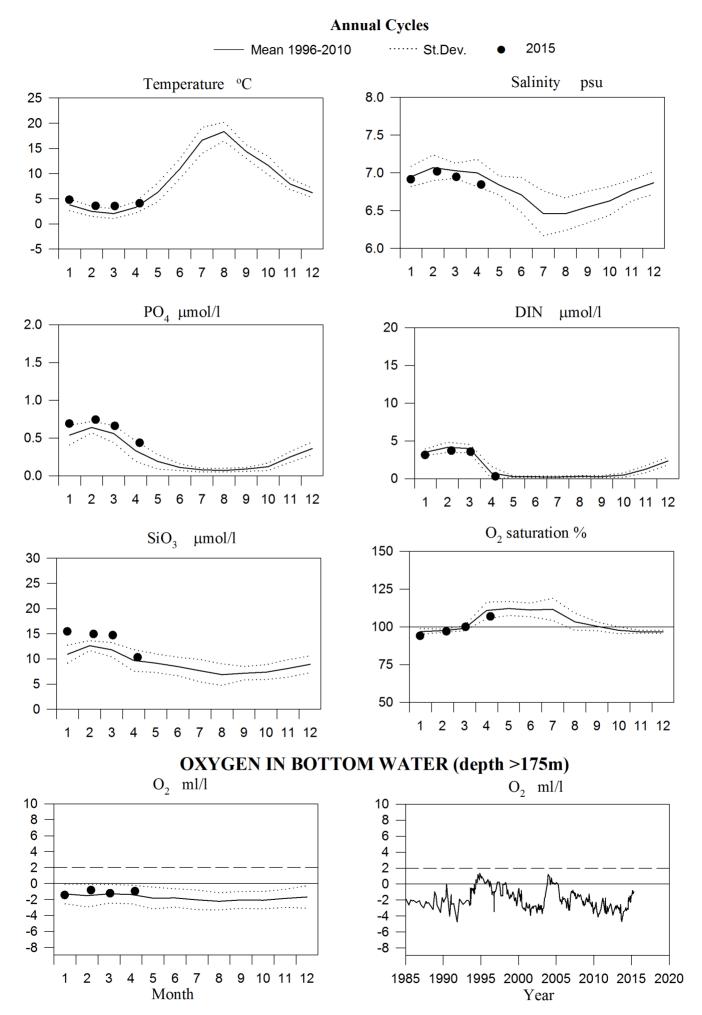
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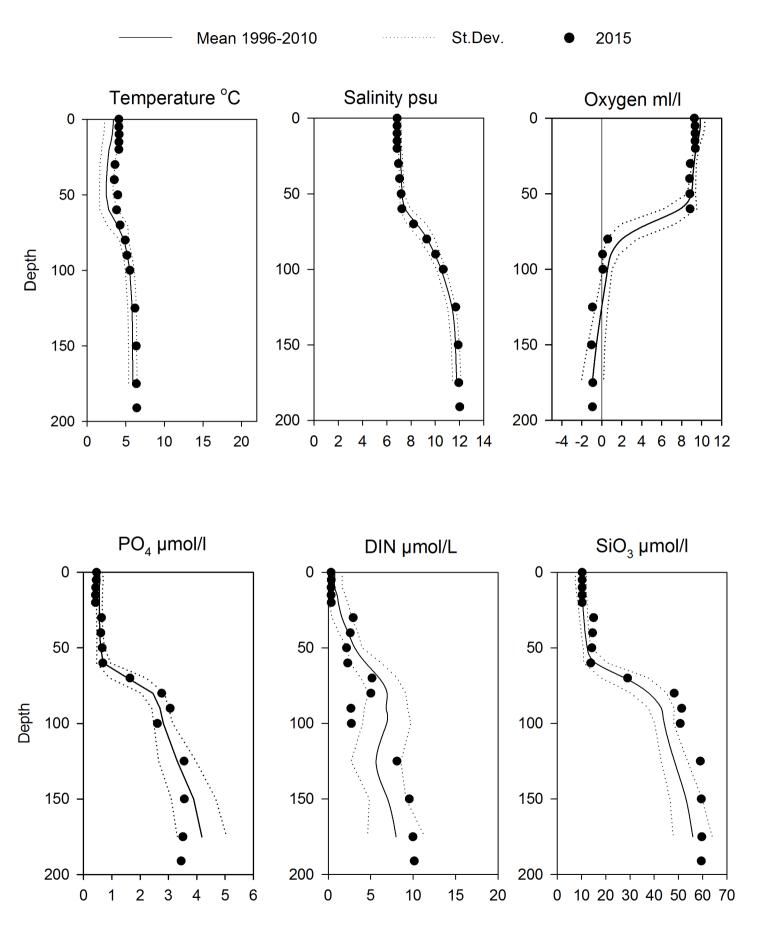




Vertical profiles BY15 April

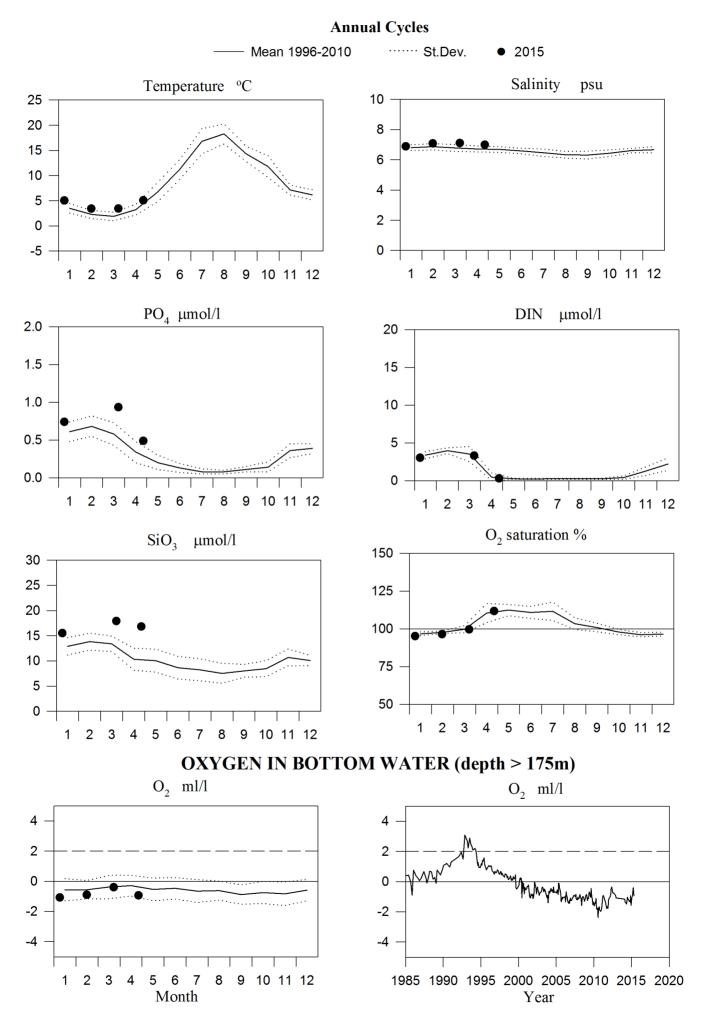
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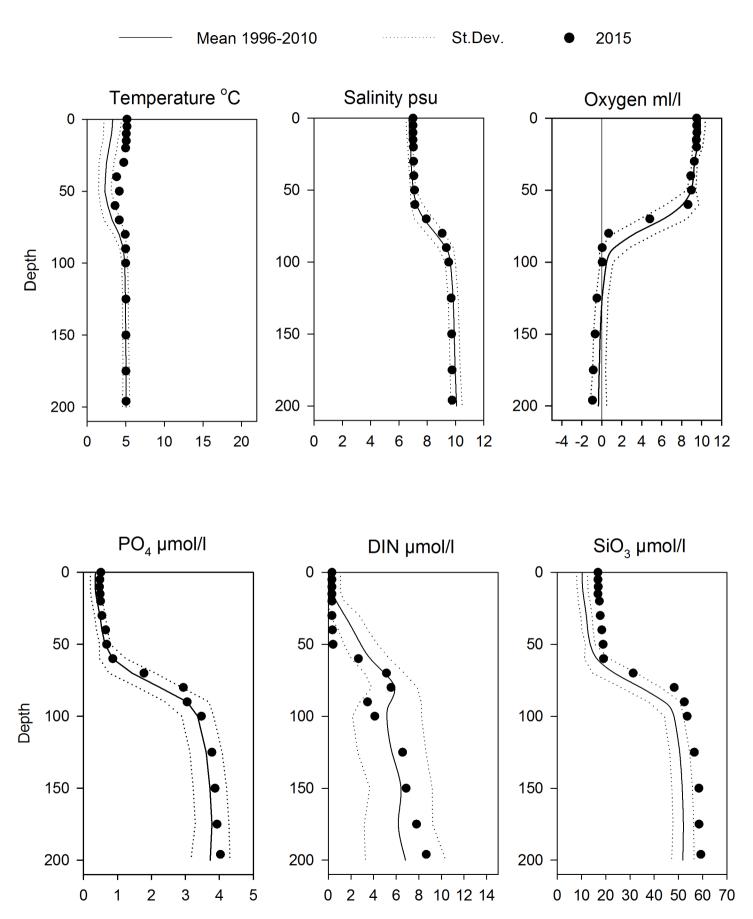




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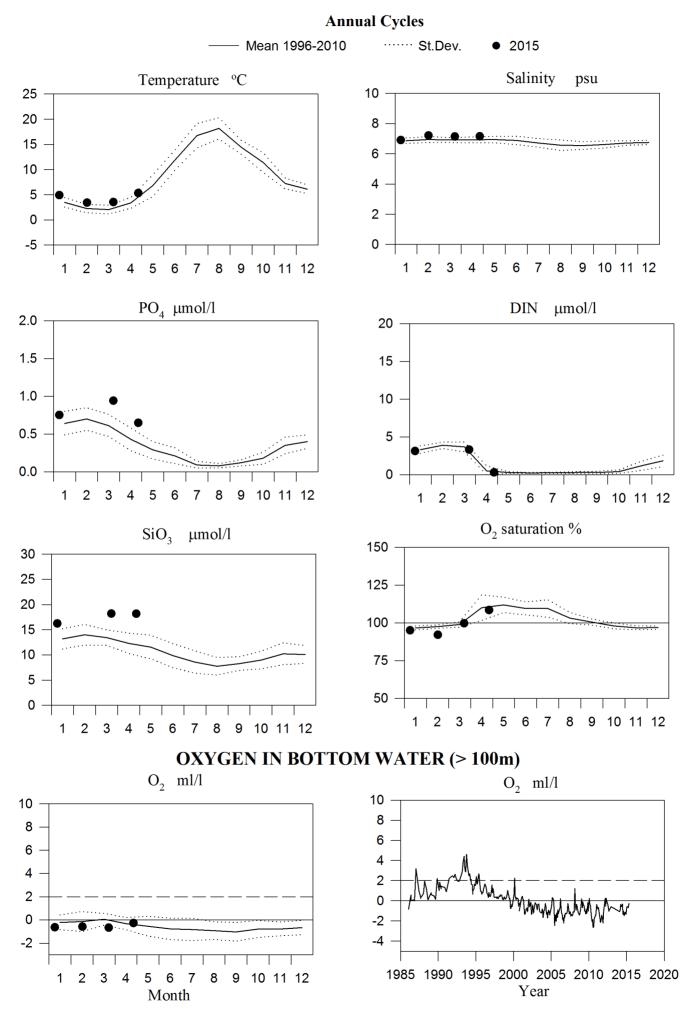
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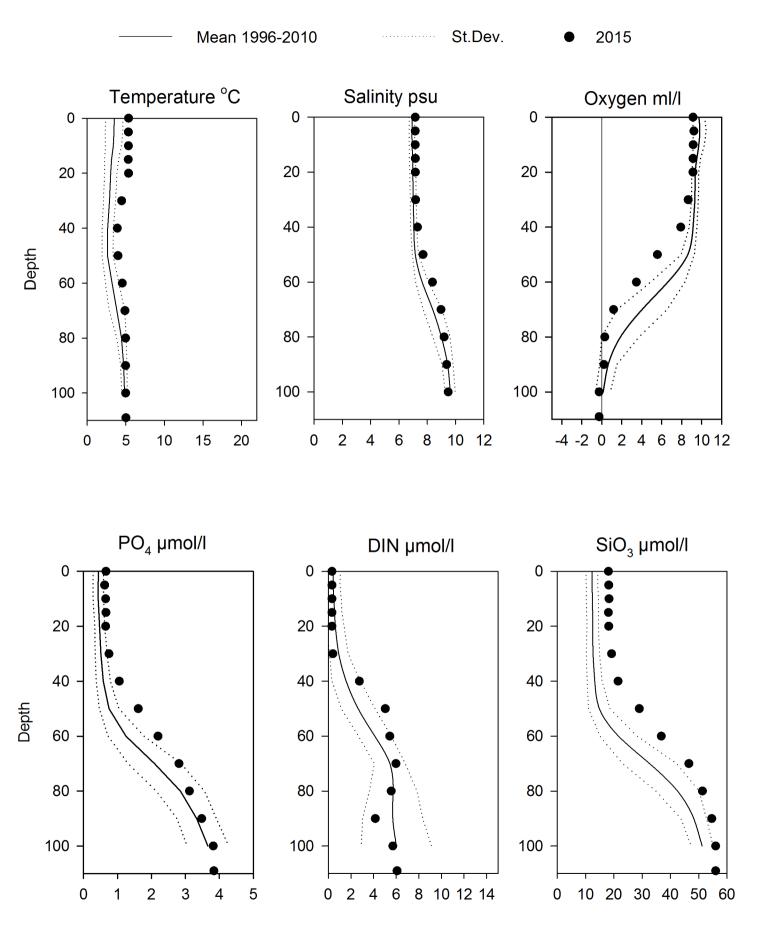




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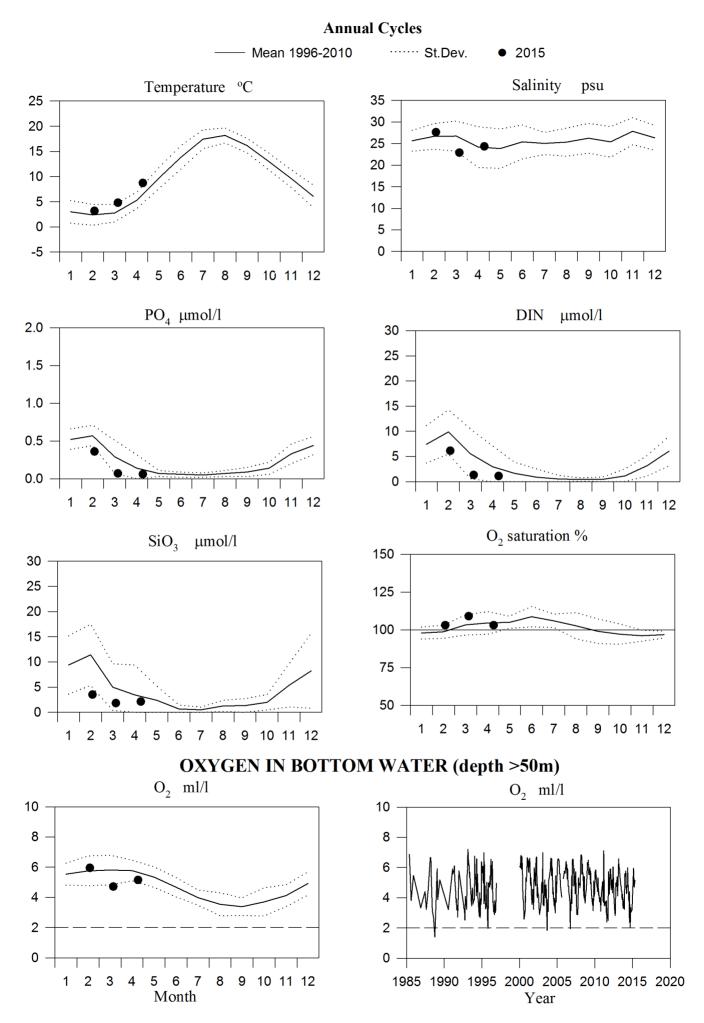
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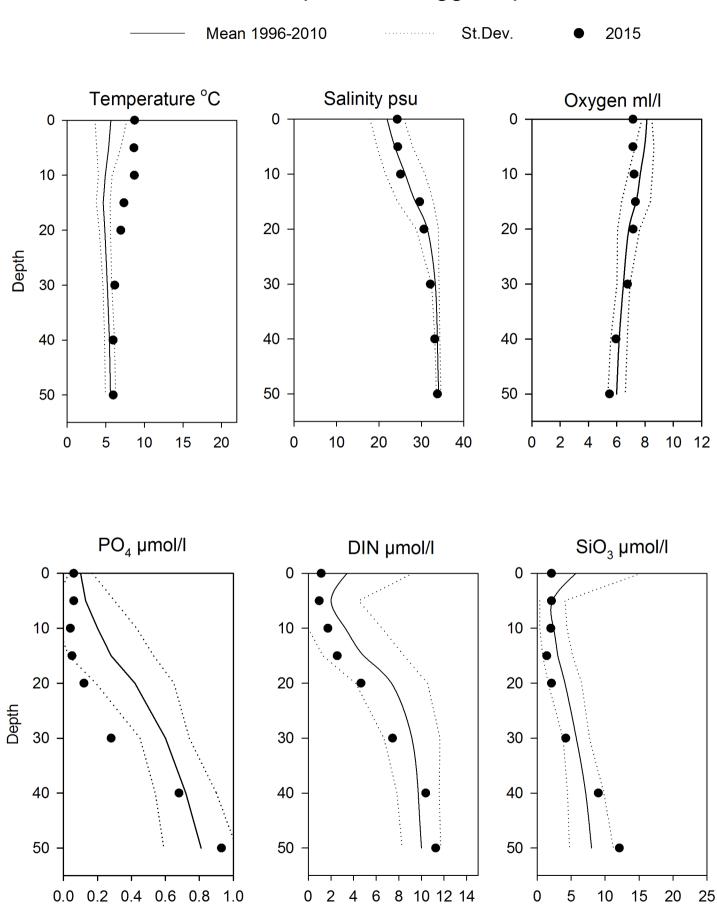




Vertical profiles BY38 April

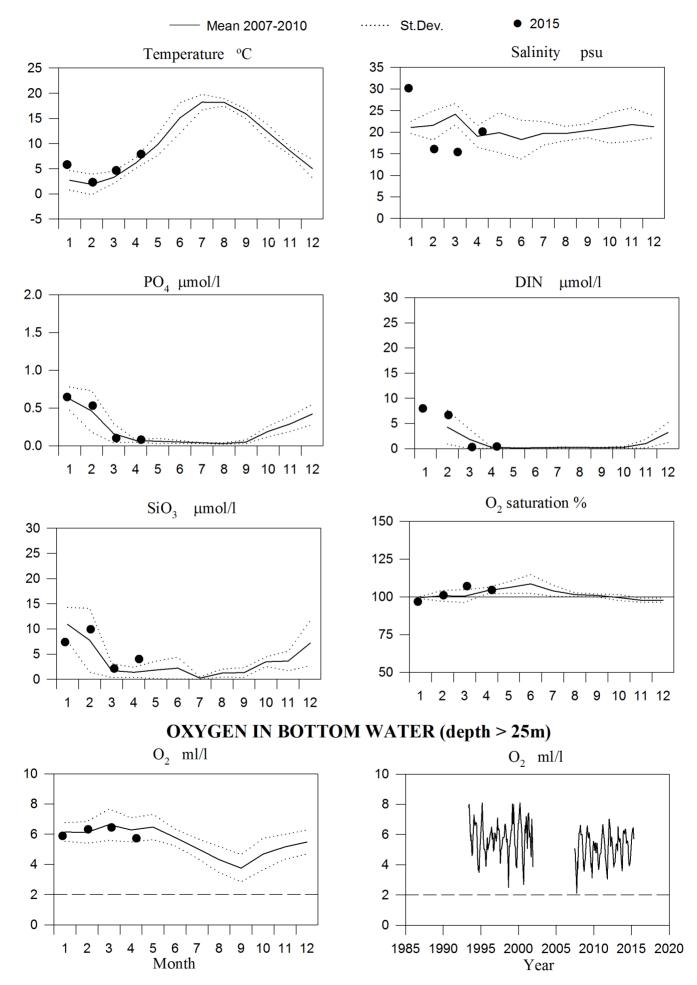
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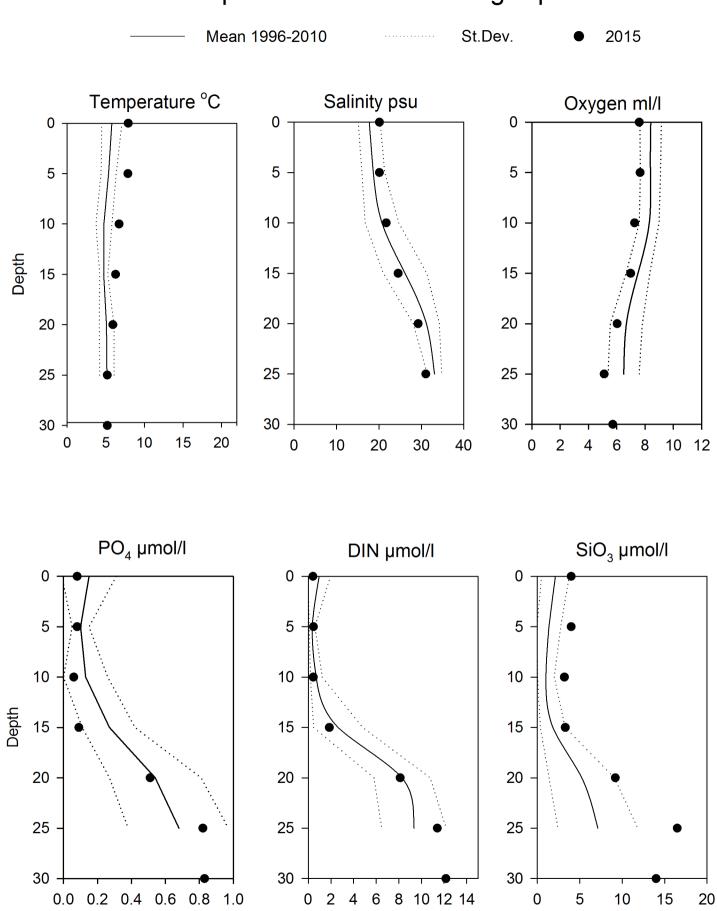


Vertical profiles Släggö April

STATION N14 Falkenberg SURFACE WATER



Annual Cycles



Vertical profiles N14 Falkenberg April