

Cruise Report

July, R/V Svea

Swedish National Marine Monitoring Program



Survey period:

2020-07-07 - 2020-07-13

Survey area:

Skagerrak, Kattegat, the Sound and the Baltic Proper

Principal:

Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) &

Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM)

Cooperation partners:

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) &

Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA)

SUMMARY

During the cruise, which is part of the Swedish pelagic monitoring program, the Skagerrak, the Kattegat, the Sound and the Baltic Proper were visited.

The surface water temperature varied between 12.5-17.3 °C, which is lower than normal for the season. The salinity in the surface in the Baltic Proper was above normal at all stations visited.

Dissolved inorganic nitrogen in the surface water was below detection limit from the surface to 20-40 m at most every visited station, which is normal for the season. Phosphate levels were normal for the season in all sea areas. The silicate levels were above normal in the Baltic Proper except in the Western Gotland Basin and at BY20 Fårö Depth where the levels were normal. In the Kattegat the silicate levels were normal to below normal and in the Skagerrak measured normal levels.

The oxygen situation in the Baltic Sea continues to be severe. Completely oxygen-free conditions, when toxic hydrogen sulphide is formed, were found in the Western Gotland Basin from 80 meters deep and in the Eastern Gotland Basin from 125 meters deep. Acute oxygen deficiency (<2 ml/l) was found from 60-75 meters depth throughout the area. At BY1 in Arkona the oxygen level has decreased to the limit for acute oxygen deficiency, 2ml/l. The oxygen situation was good in the Skagerrak and Kattegat.

SMHI's next expedition is scheduled for 16-22 August with R/V Svea.

RESULTS

The cruise was performed onboard R/V Svea and started in Lysekil on the 7th of July and ended in Göteborg on the 13th of July. The winds were strong during the first 24 hours and decreased to moderate the rest of the cruise and directions from mainly south west to west. The air temperature varied between 12.2 and 17.3°C.

A bottom system that measures temperature, salinity, oxygen and current was deployed at station Hanö Bight.

The wave buoy at Knolls ground were changed.

Samples were also taken from water and plankton samples for measuring selenium for EAWAG in Switzerland (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology). Samples from the surface were taken for Uppsala University.

During the expedition, phytoplankton samples were analysed on board by the phytoplankton expert Marie Johansen, the results are presented in the Algaware report for July; <https://www.smhi.se/publikationer/publikationer/algrapporter>.

Daily algae monitoring via satellite is performed by SMHI during the summer and is available at <http://www.smhi.se/vadret/hav-och-kust/alsituasjonen>.

This report is based on data that has undergone an initial quality control. After further quality controls, certain values or quality flags may have changed. Data from this cruise is published as soon as possible on the data host's website, normally this is done within a week after the cruise is completed. Some analyzes are done after the cruise and will be published later.

Data and cruise reports can be downloaded here:

<https://www.smhi.se/en/theme/marine-environment-2-885>

The Skagerrak

The surface water temperature varied between 12.5 and 17.3°C which were lower than normal for the season. It was warmest near the coast. Deeper in the water column, the temperature was also normal or slightly above normal. The salinity in the surface water was between 33-34 psu and was higher than normal at all stations except at Släggö where it was lower. The stratification was developed and the thermocline and the halocline coincided at a depth of 15-70 meters.

The concentration of nutrients was low from the surface to 20 m. In the surface water, 0-10 m, normal levels were noted at all stations and the phosphate levels varied between 0.04-0.07 µmol/l, the silicate levels varied between 0.1 µmol/l in offshore Skagerrak to 0.3 µmol/l near the coast. The content of dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) was below detection limit (<0.1 µmol/l) at all stations except at P2 where the level was 0.7 µmol/l. In the deep water the concentrations of nutrients were normal to lower than normal.

The oxygen situation was good at all stations in the Skagerrak, with values normal for the season. The lowest concentration was noted at Släggö, 3.9 ml/l.

Plankton activity, measured by CTD fluorescence, was noted at nearly all stations about 20-30 meters depth.

The Kattegat and the Sound

The surface water temperature was lower than normal for the season and varied between 15.6-16.3°C. The salinity in the surface water was slightly higher than normal and varied between 18 and 26 psu, lowest in the Sound and highest in the northern Kattegat. Thermocline and halocline coincided and were found at a depth of 17-23 meters. In the deep water, below the stratification, the salinity was normal and the temperature was generally normal or slightly above normal.

Dissolved inorganic nitrogen and phosphate were consumed down to stratification which is normal for the season. Phosphate levels in the surface water varied between 0.05-0.06 µmol/l. The content of dissolved inorganic nitrogen was below detection limit (<0.1 µmol/l) at all stations. The silicate concentrations were lower or much lower than normal at all stations and varied between 0.1-0.3 µmol/l. The nutrient levels in the deep water were normal to lower than normal for the season.

At all the stations visited, the oxygen content in the bottom water was good. In Kattegat the bottom water oxygen concentration ranged from 4.9 to 5.2 ml/l and in the Sound it was 3.7 ml/l.

Fluorescence measurements from the CTD indicated low plankton activity from the surface down to a depth of 20 meters. A fluorescence peak was noted at Anholt E at about 20 meters.

The Baltic Proper

The surface water temperature, 0-10 m, was slightly lower than normal throughout the entire Baltic Proper and varied between 13.5-16.2°C. The salinity in the surface water was still above normal at all stations visited, and varied between 6.7 and 8.2 psu. The halocline was found at about 60-70 meters depth in the Eastern and Western Gotland Basin. In the Bornholm Basin, Hanö Bight and in Arkona it was found about 40 meters depth. The thermocline was found in the whole area at 20-30 meters depth.

The levels of phosphate in the surface water were normal in the whole area and varied between 0.07–0.28 µmol/l. Dissolved inorganic nitrogen was detected from below the detection limit (<0.10 µmol/l) in almost the whole area to 0.5 µmol/l at the stations in the north. The silicate content in the surface water was above normal throughout the entire Baltic Proper, except in the Western Gotland Basin and at BY20 Fårö Depth where it was normal. The levels varied between 9.1-16.9 µmol/l.

The oxygen situation in the Baltic Sea continues to be severe. Completely oxygen-free conditions, when toxic hydrogen sulphide is formed, were found in the Western Gotland Basin from 80 meters deep and in the Eastern Gotland Basin from 125 meters deep. Acute oxygen deficiency (<2 ml/l) was found from 60-75 meters depth throughout the area. At BY1 in Arkona the oxygen level has decreased to the limit for acute oxygen deficiency, 2ml/l.

The inflow that occurred in November/December 2019 was still visible at the southeastern Baltic Proper. Oxygen levels just below 1.0 ml/l were observed close to the bottom at BCSIII-10 and at intermediate depth, 80-120 meters, at BY10. The inflow was weakly visible at between 115 and 120 meters depth at BY15

Plankton activity, estimated from the chlorophyll fluorescence on the CTD probe, occurred throughout the investigated area.

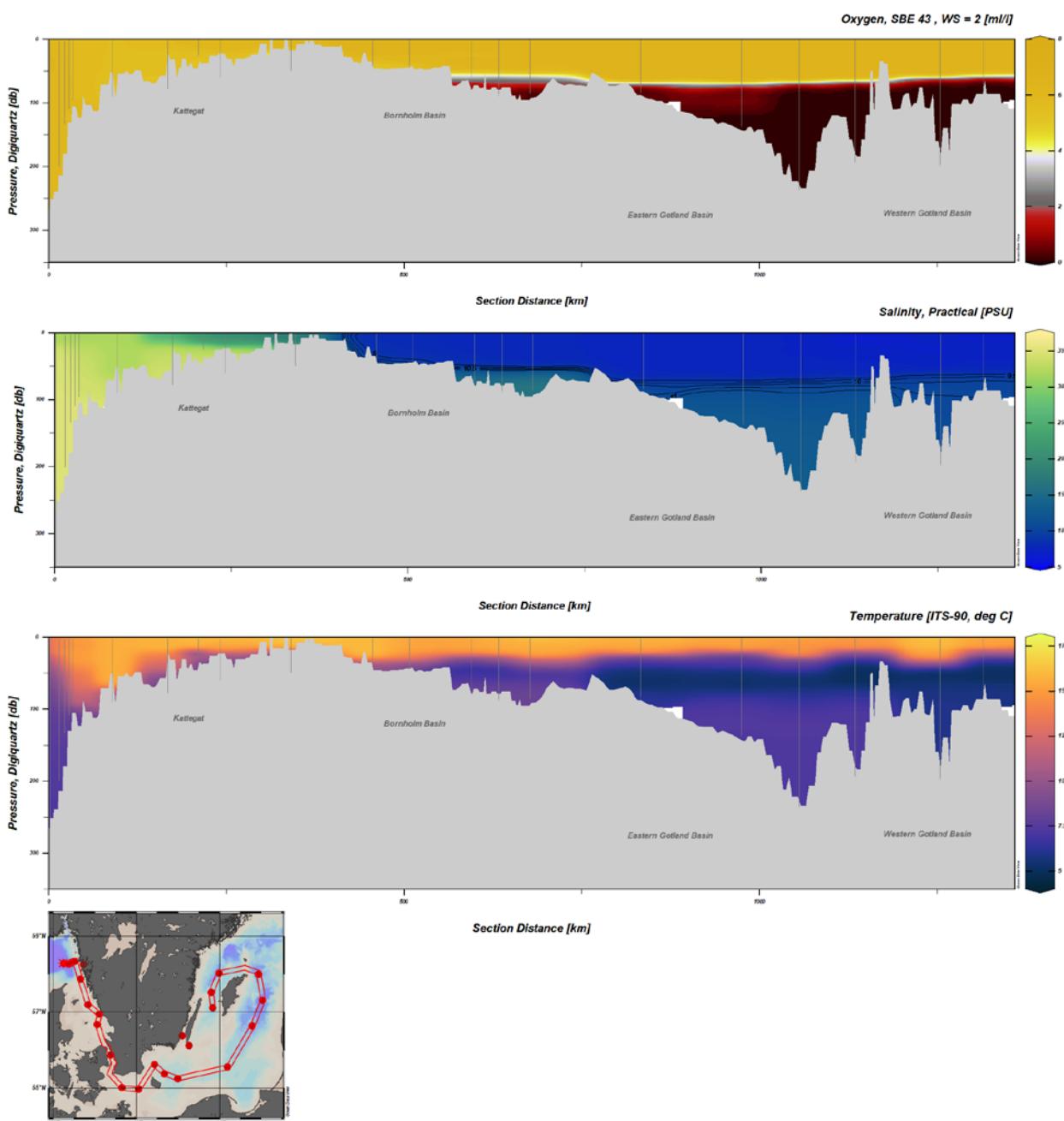


Figure 1. Transect showing dissolved oxygen, salinity and temperature from the Skagerrak, Kattegat, the Sound, through the Baltic Proper, to the Western Gotland Basin.

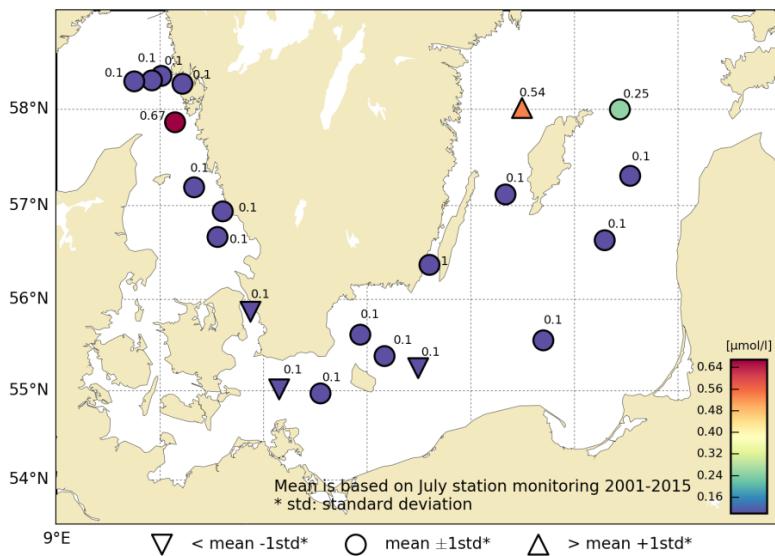


Figure 2: Concentration of dissolved inorganic nitrogen in the surface water (0-10m).

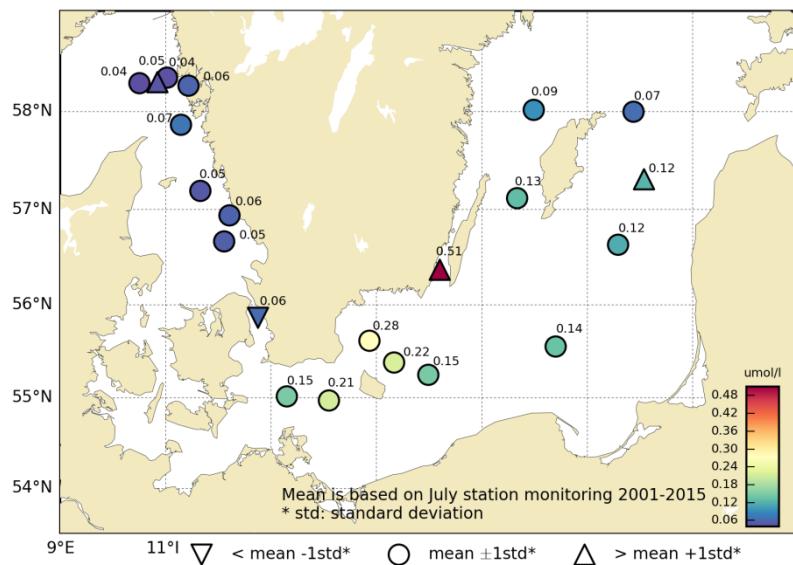


Figure 3: Concentration of phosphate in the surface water (0-10m).

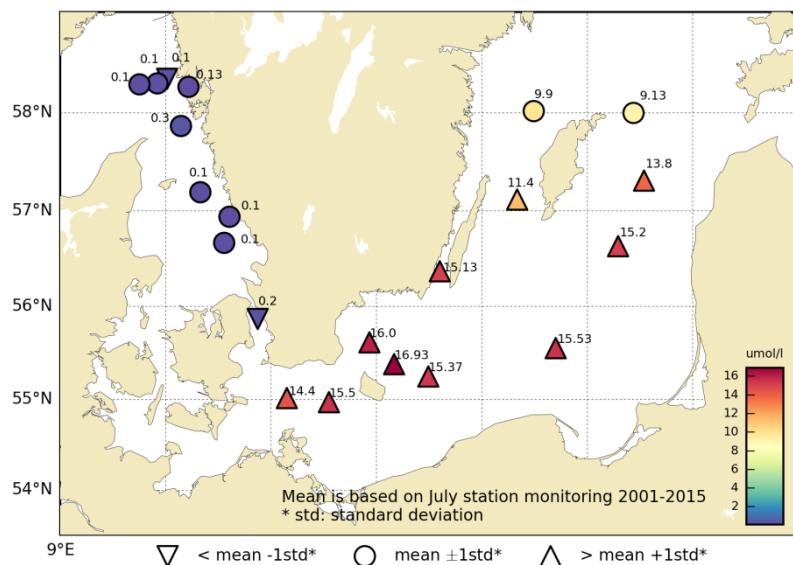


Figure 4: Concentration of silicate in the surface water (0-10m).

PARTICIPANTS

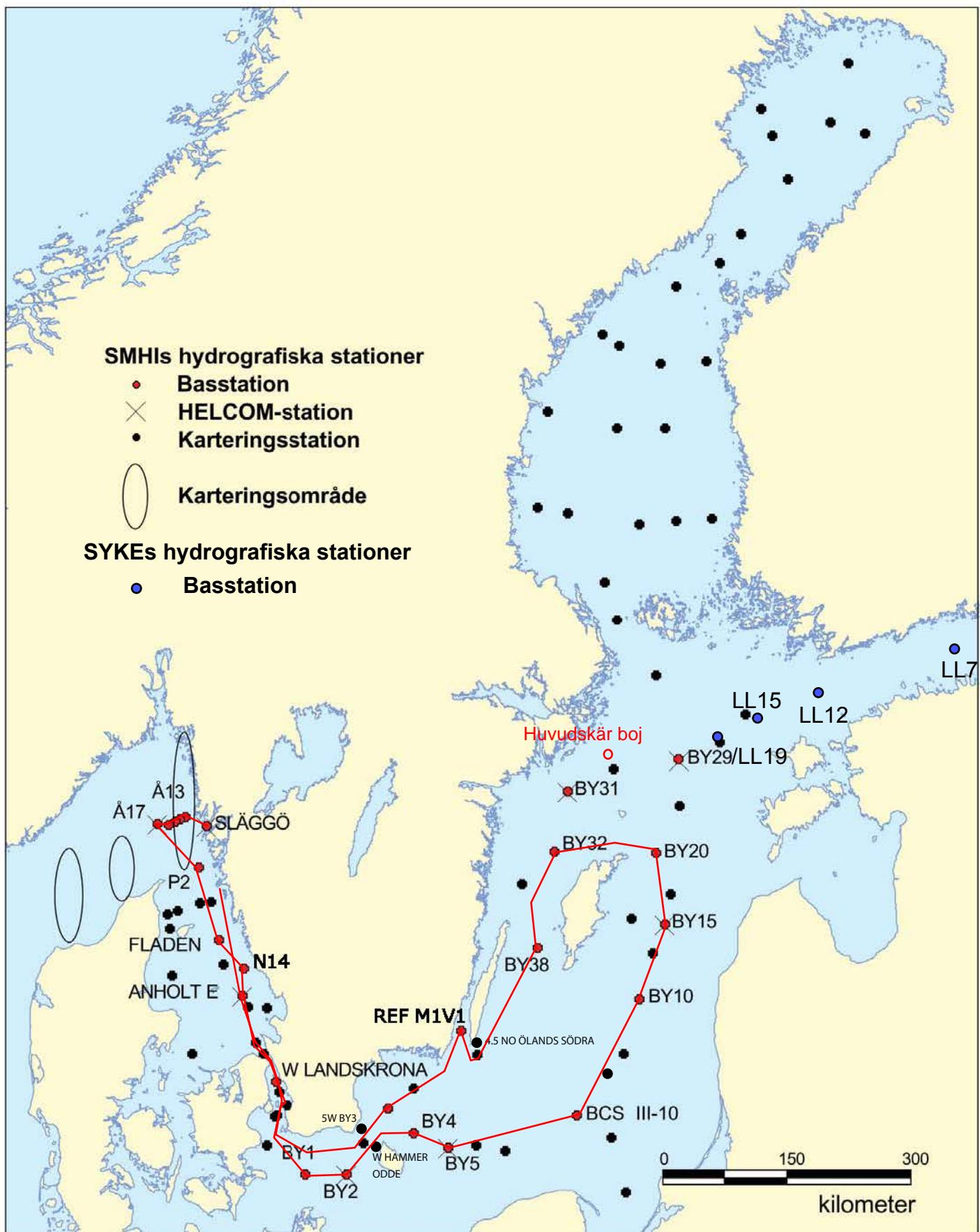
Name		Leg	From
Anna-Kerstin Thell	Chief Scientist		SMHI
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Marie Johansen			SMHI
Johan Kronsell			SMHI
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APPENDICES

- Track chart
- Table over stations, sampled parameters and number of sampling depths
- Map showing bottom oxygen concentrations and surface salinity, temperature and nutrient concentrations
- Vertical profiles for regular monitoring stations
- Monthly average surface water plots for regular monitoring stations



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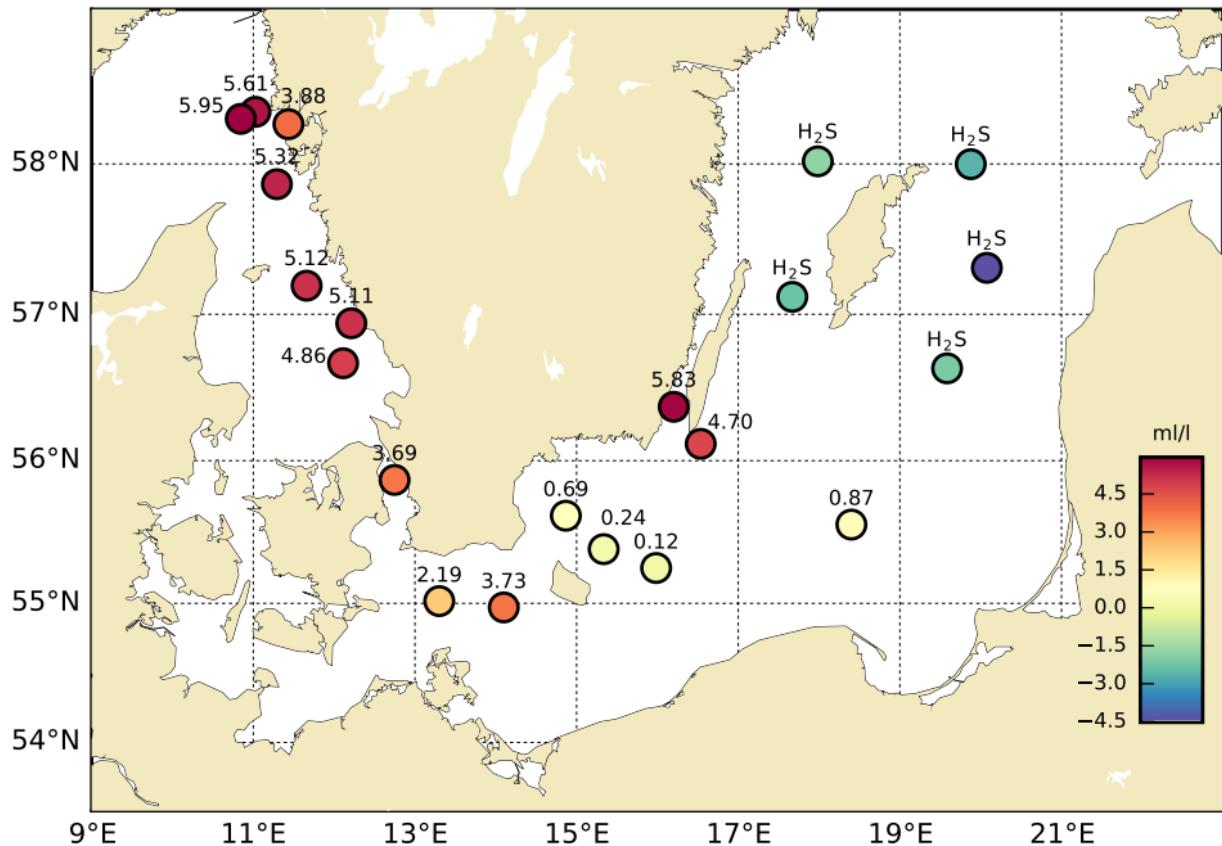
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Bottom water oxygen concentration (ml/l)

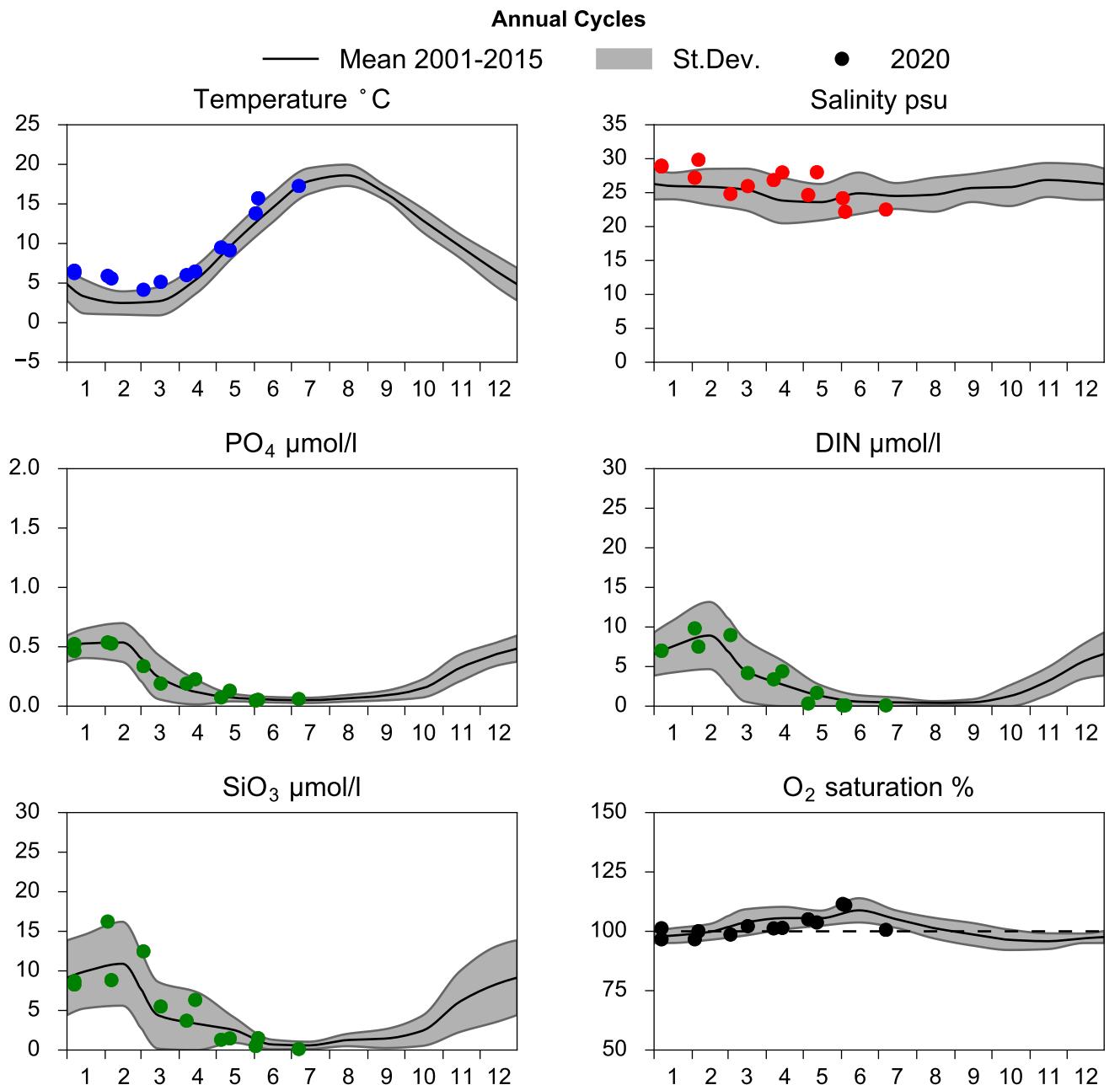
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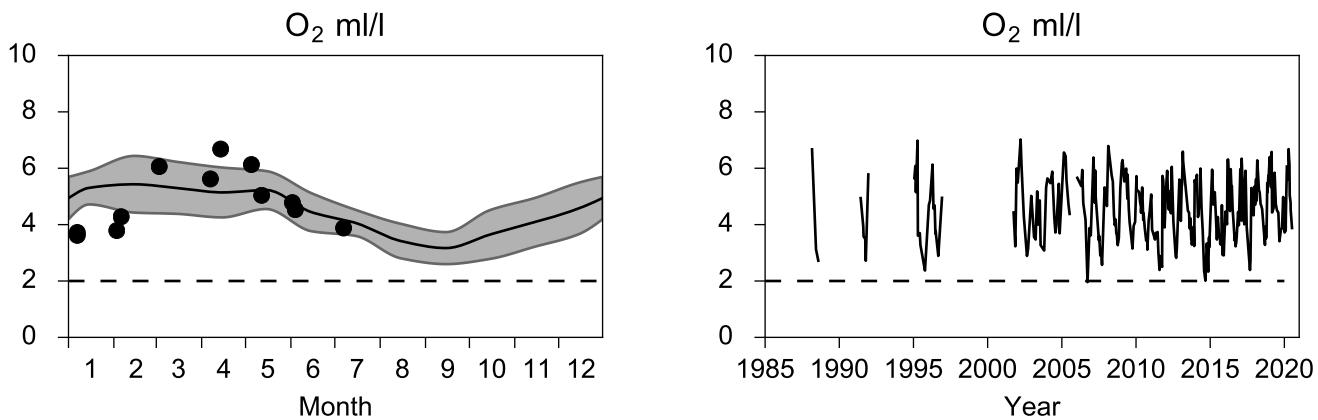
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STATION SLÄGGÖ SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 64 m)

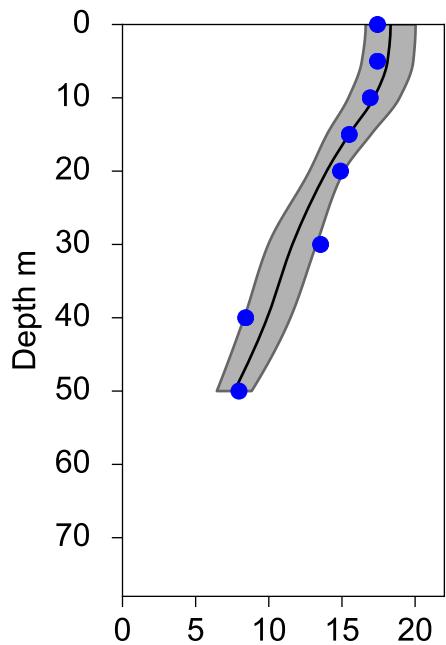


Vertical profiles SLÄGGÖ

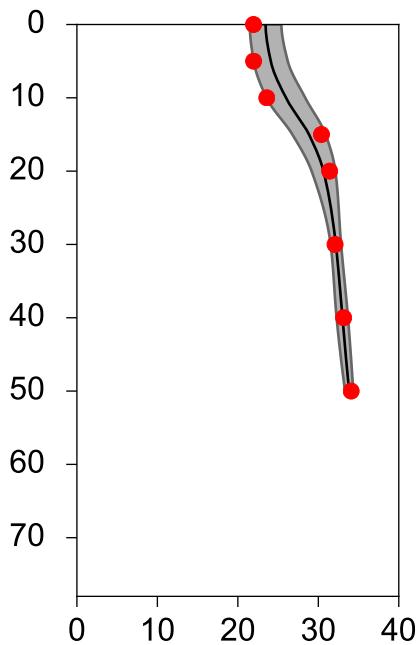
July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-07

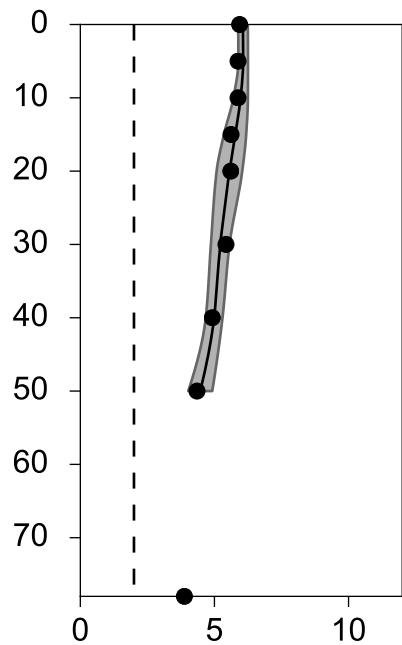
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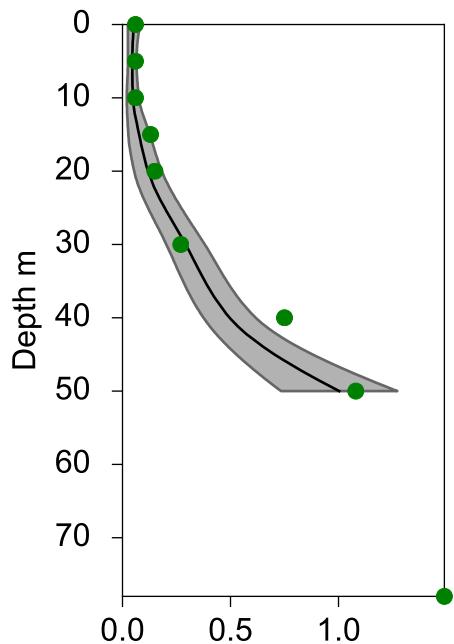
Salinity psu



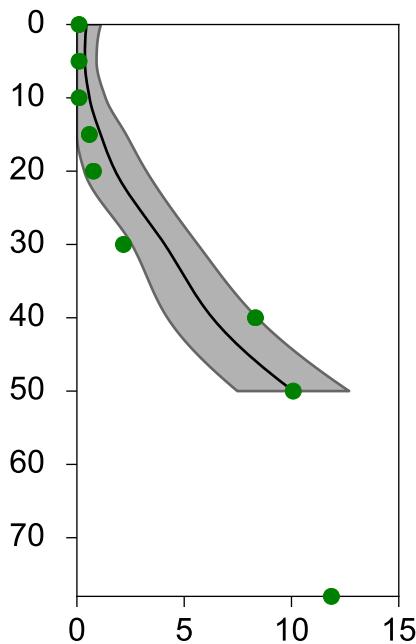
Oxygen ml/l



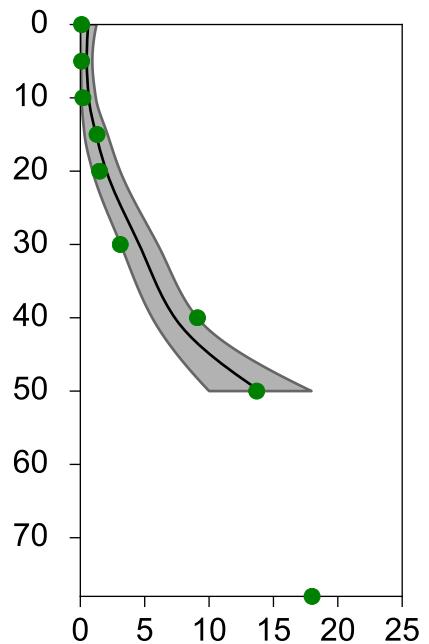
PO₄ µmol/l



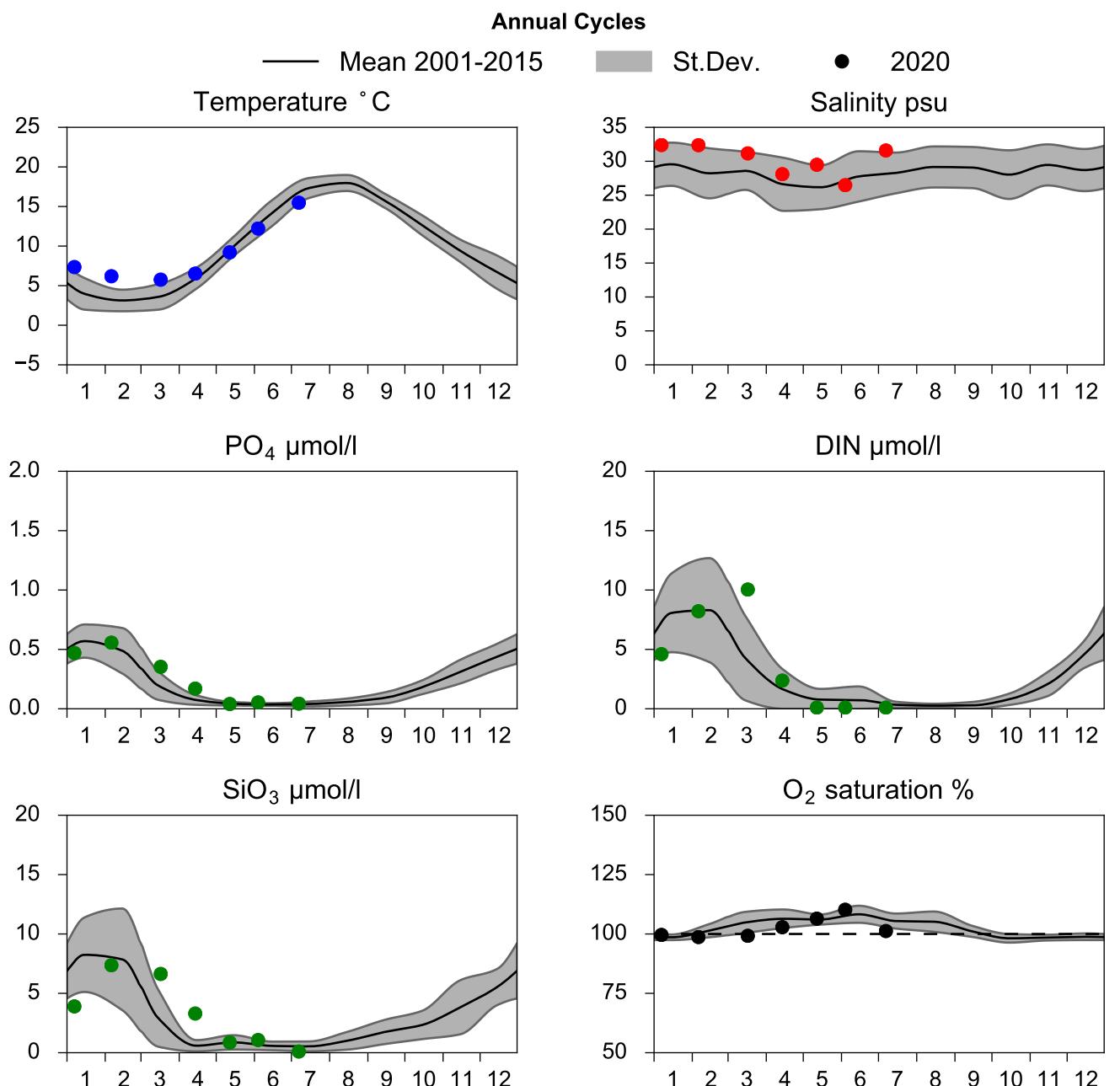
DIN µmol/l



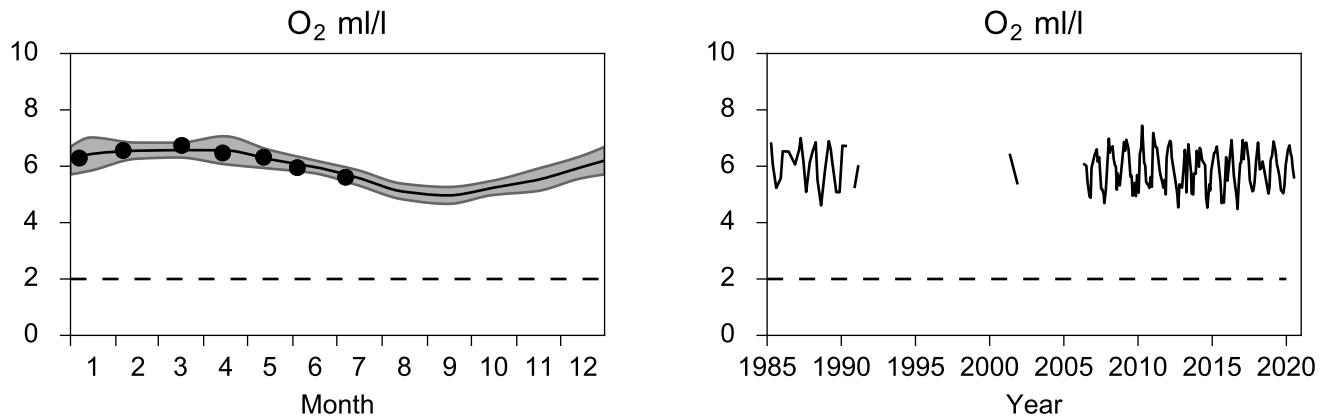
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION Å13 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



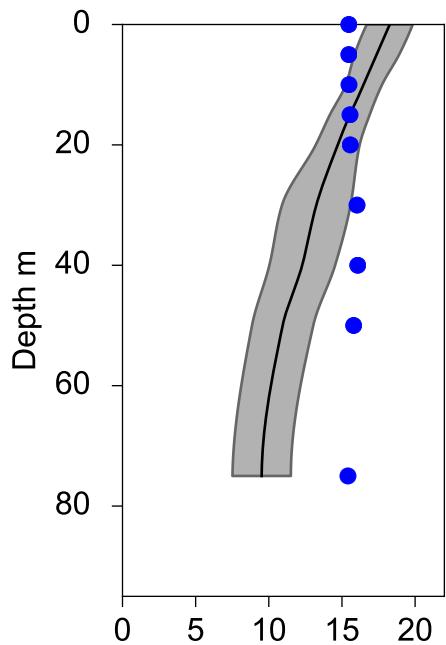
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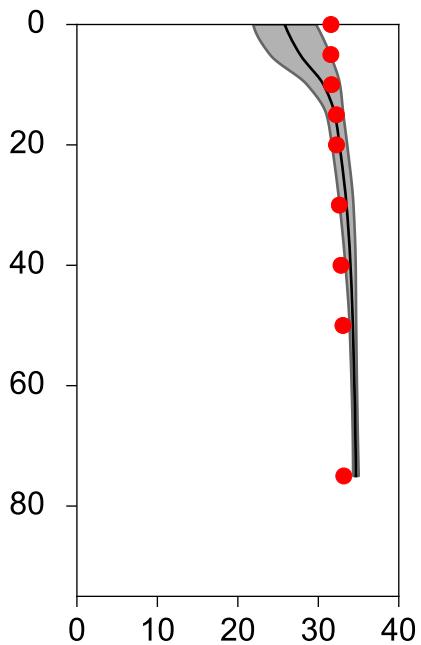
Vertical profiles Å13 July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-07

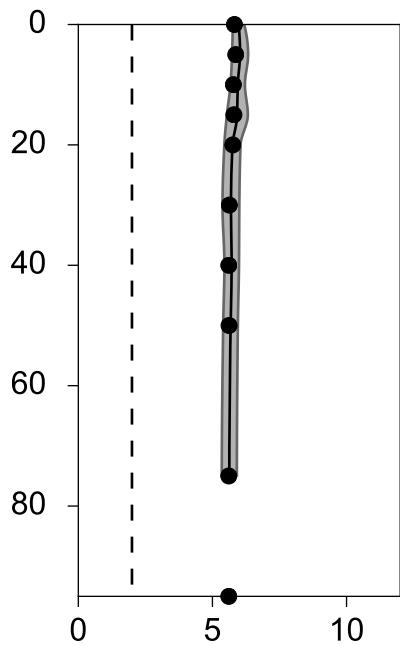
Temperature °C



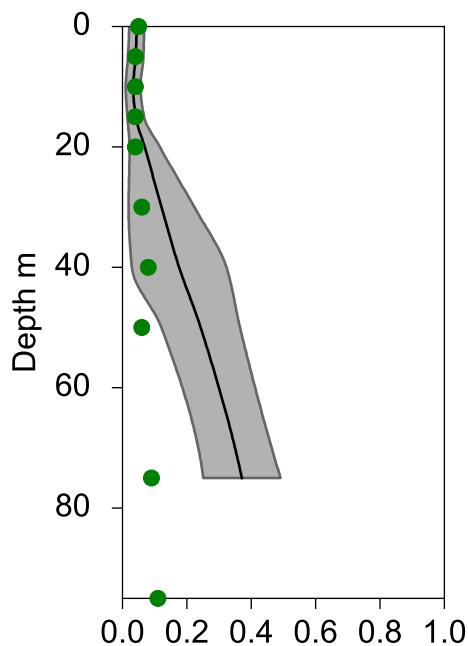
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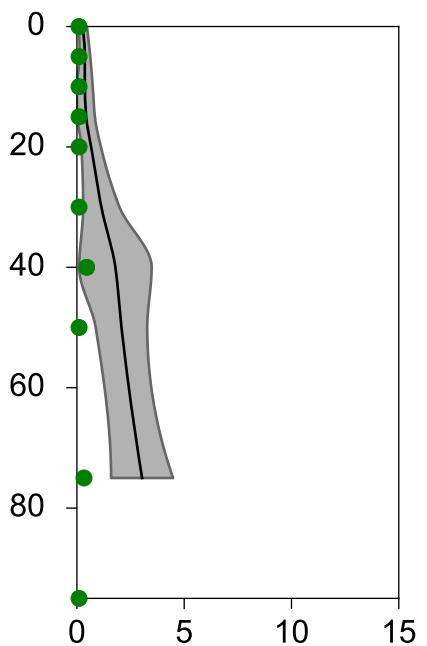
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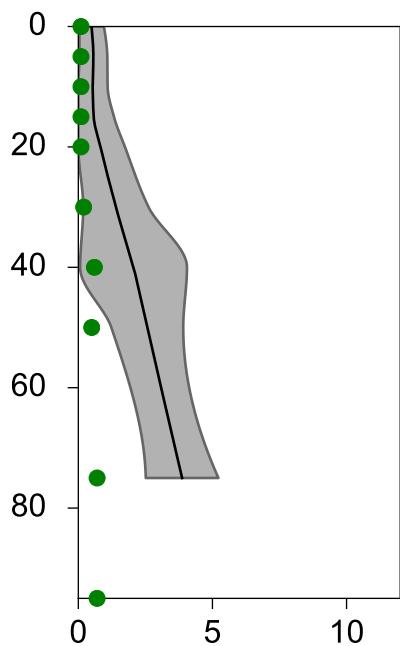
PO₄ µmol/l



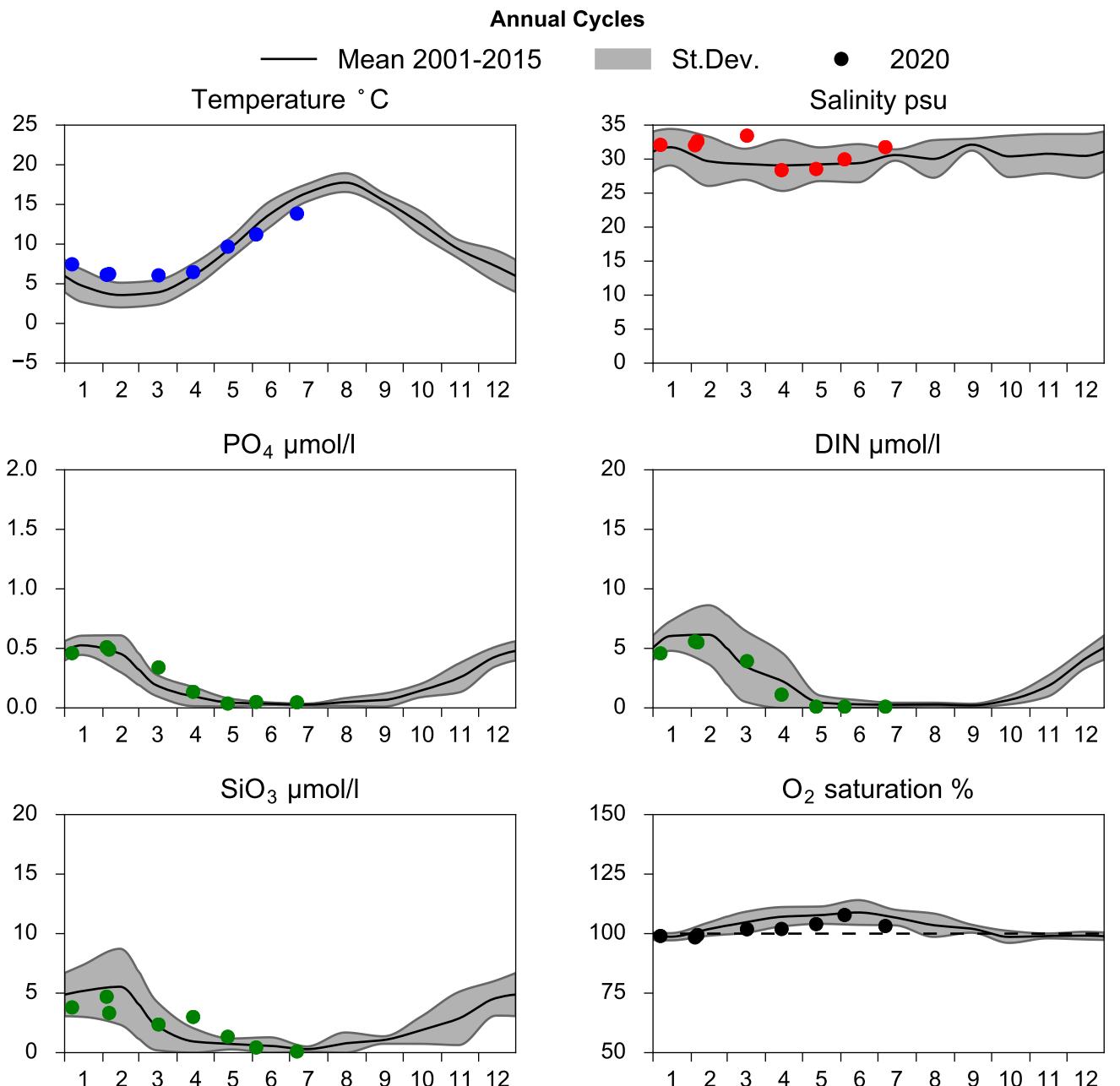
DIN µmol/l



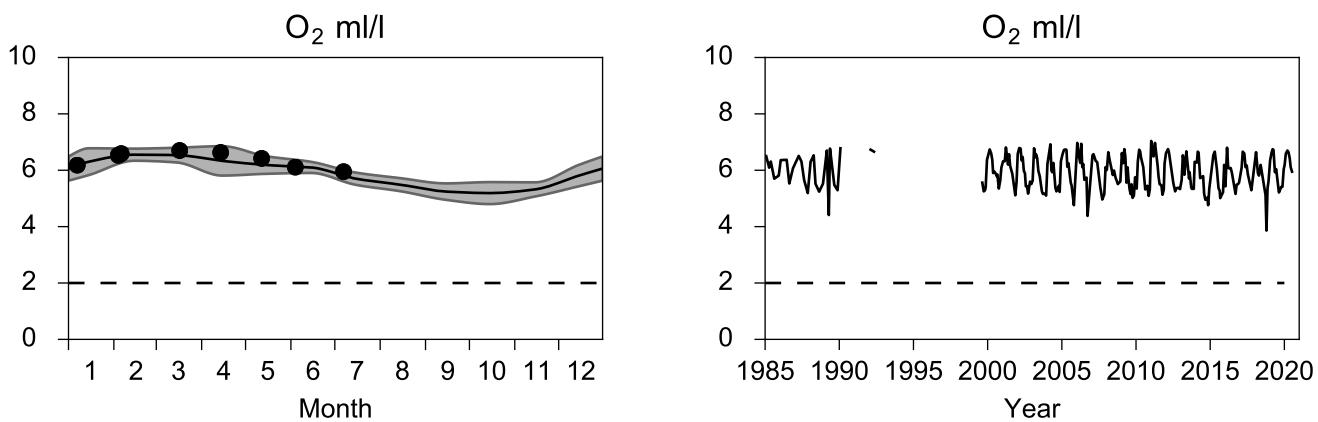
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION Å15 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



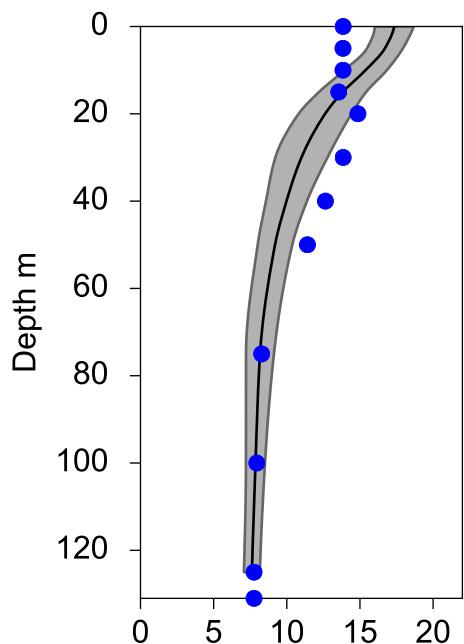
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 125 m)



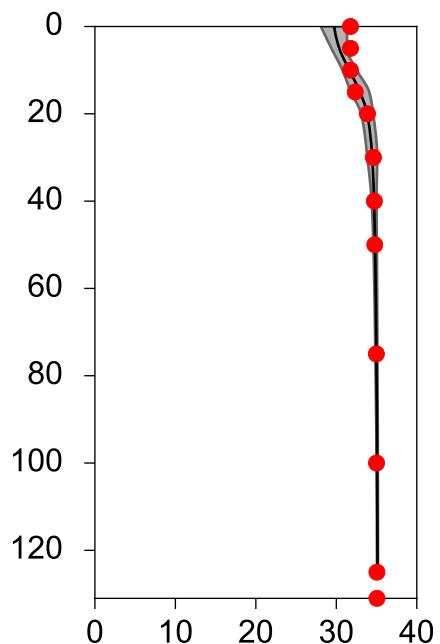
Vertical profiles Å15 July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-07

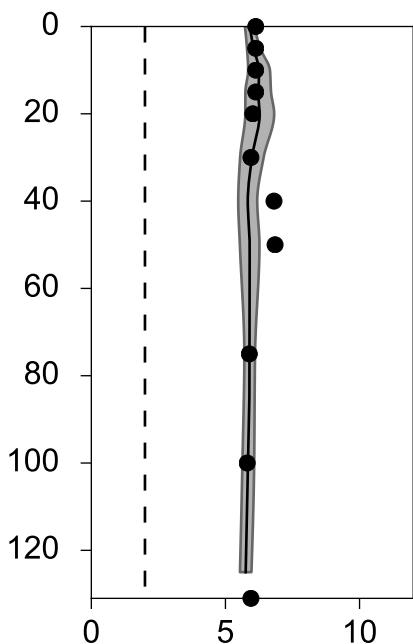
Temperature °C



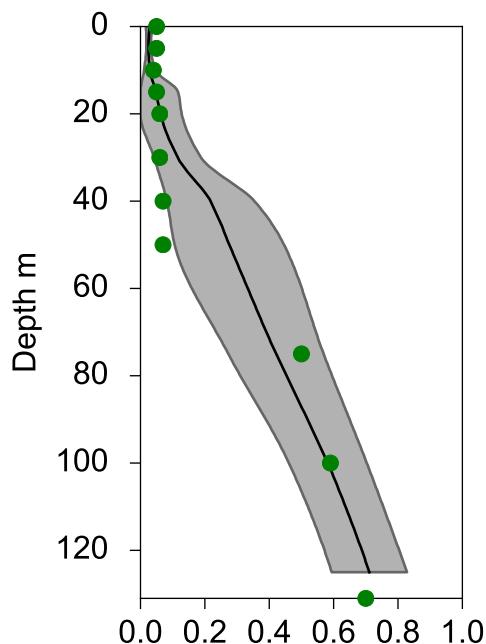
Salinity psu



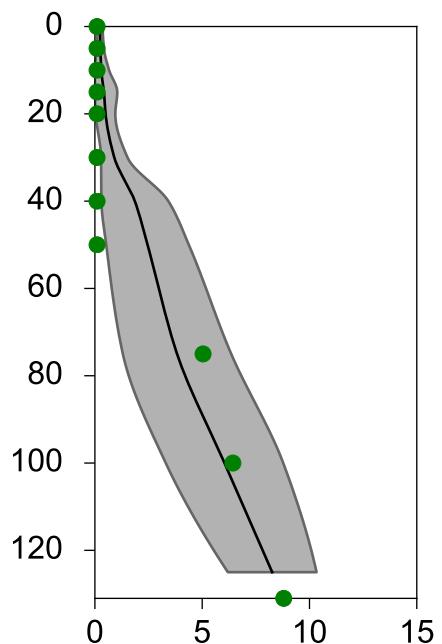
Oxygen ml/l



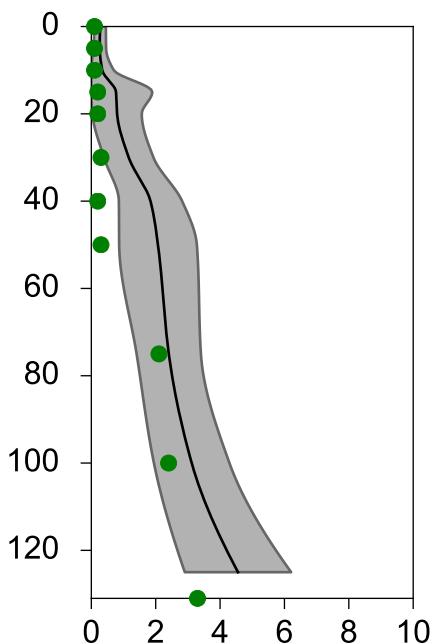
PO₄ µmol/l



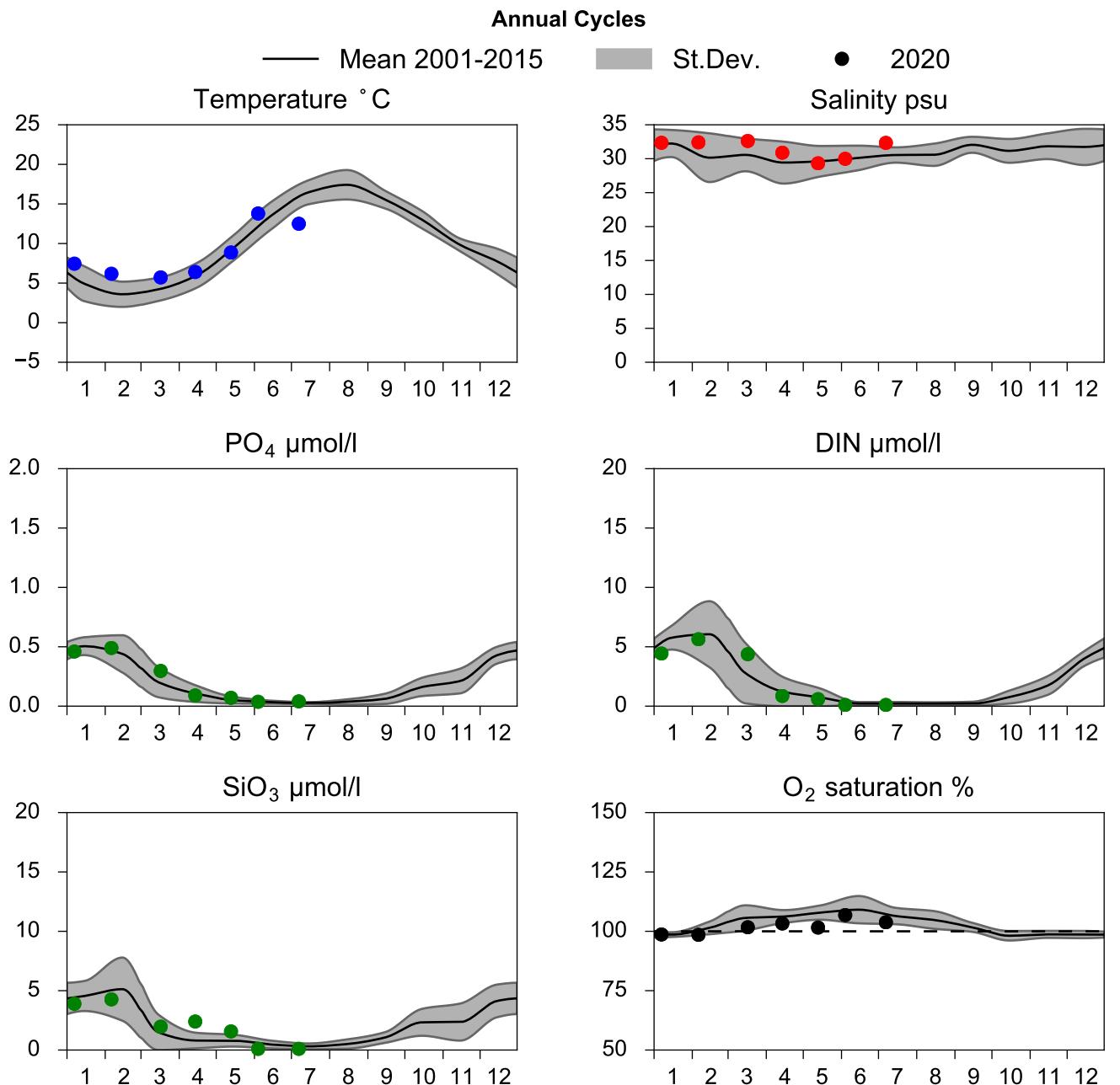
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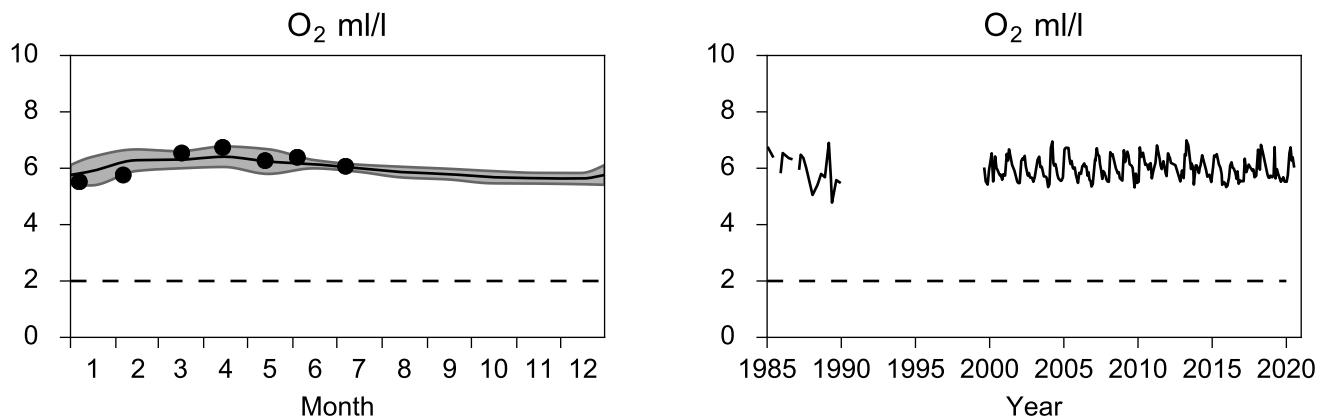
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION Å17 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



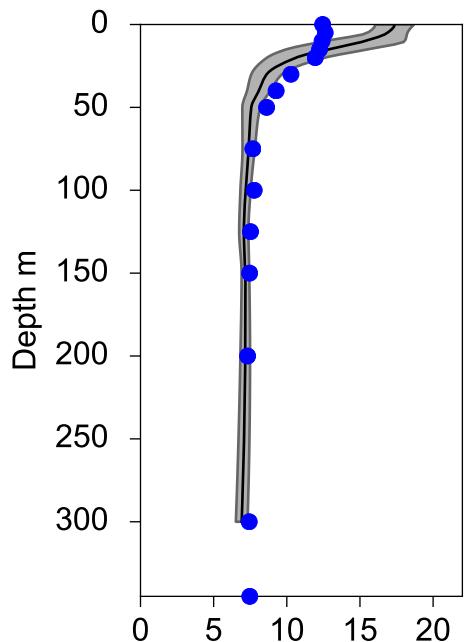
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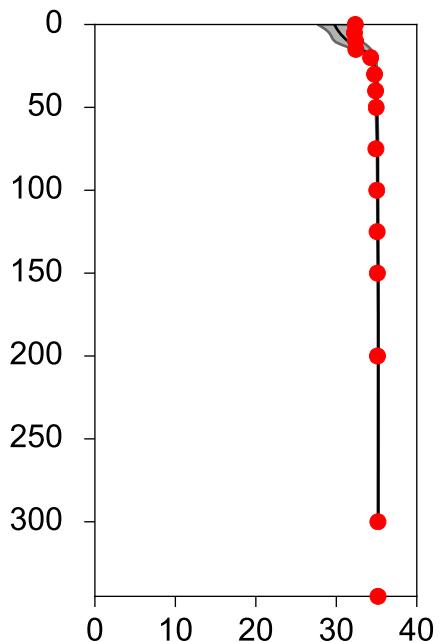
Vertical profiles Å17 July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-07

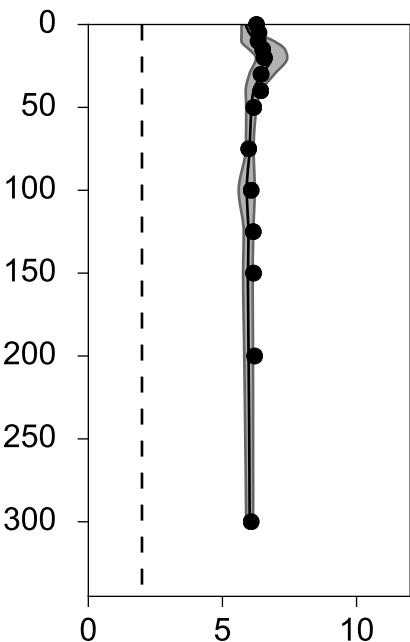
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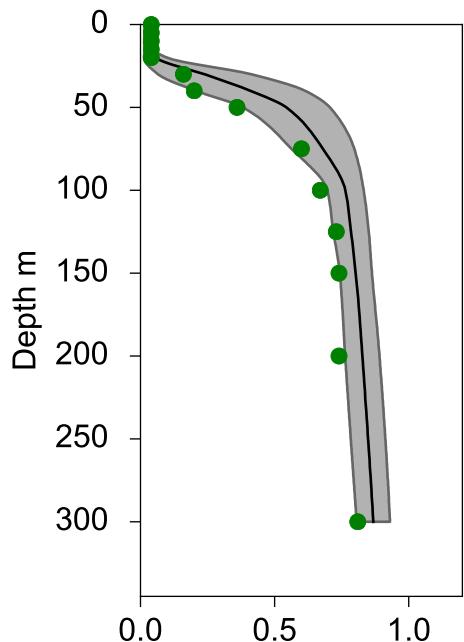
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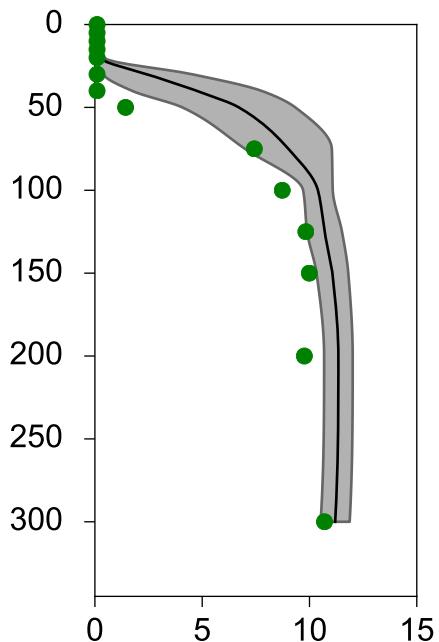
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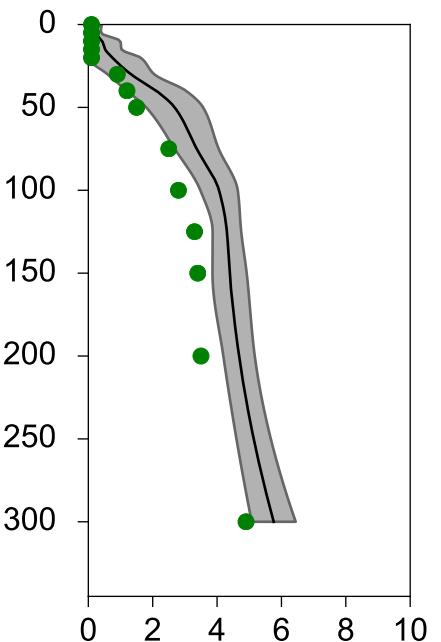
PO₄ µmol/l



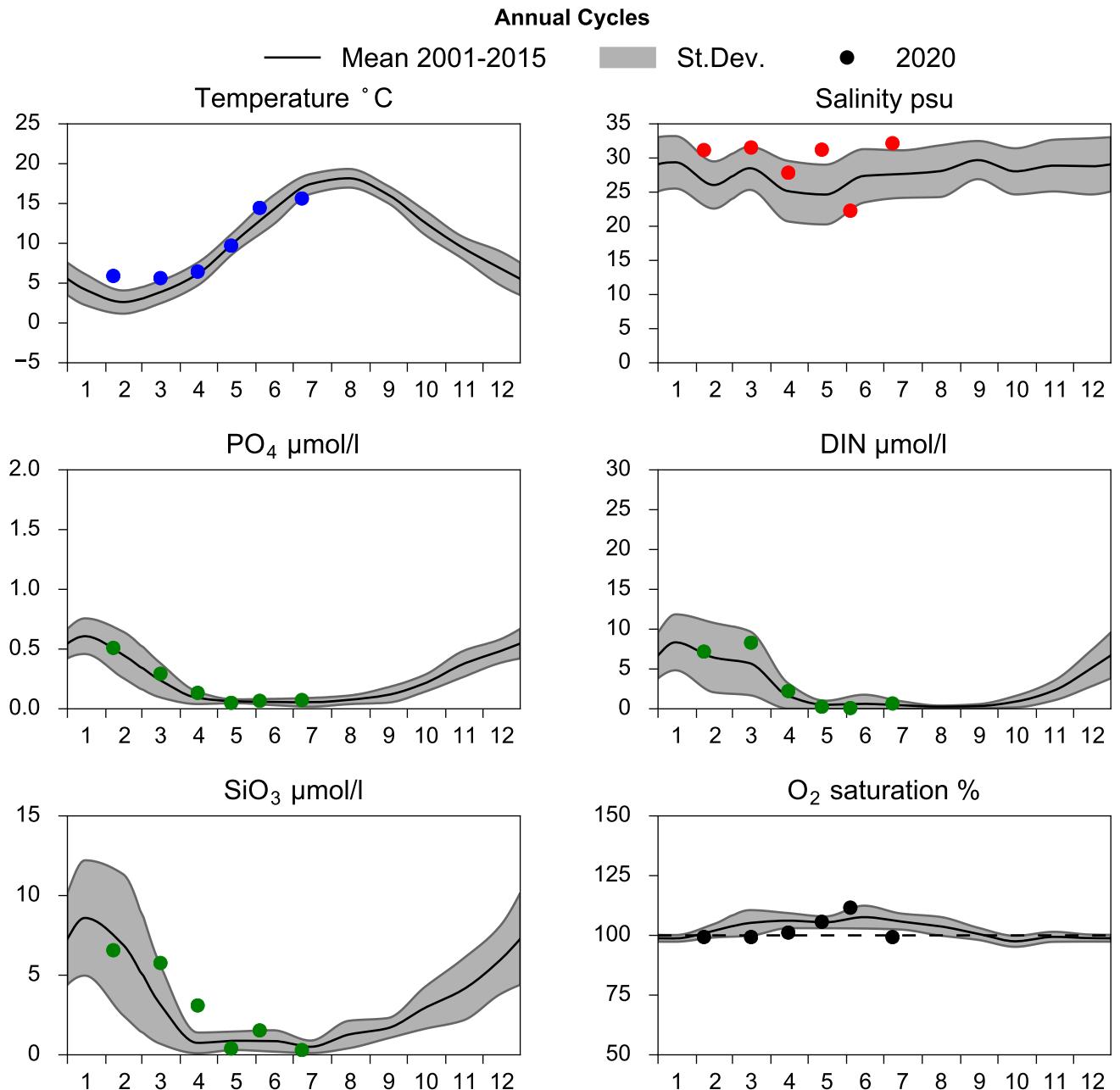
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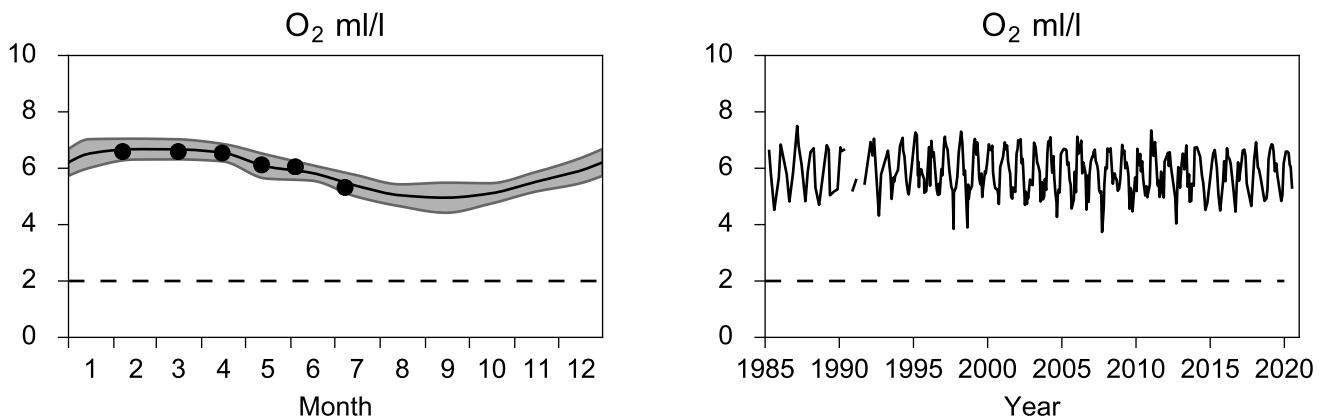
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION P2 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



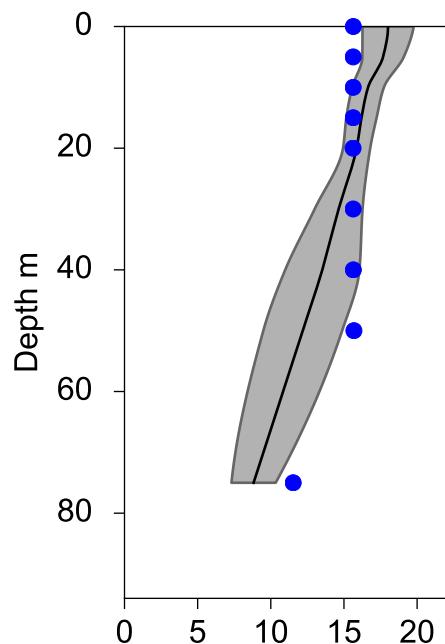
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 75 m)



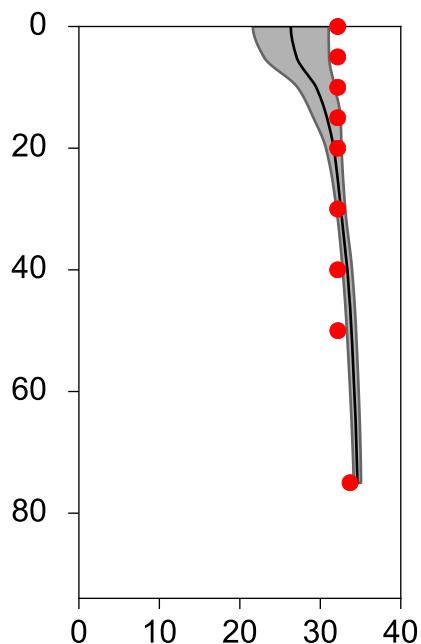
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— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-08

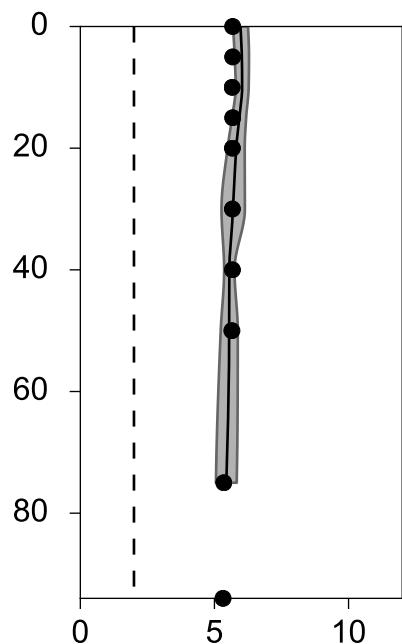
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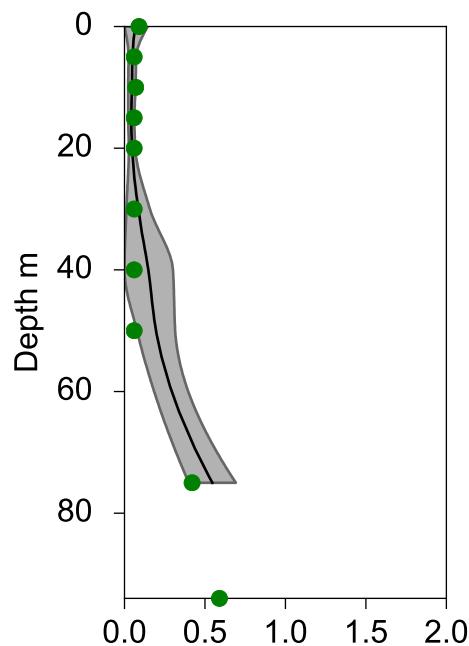
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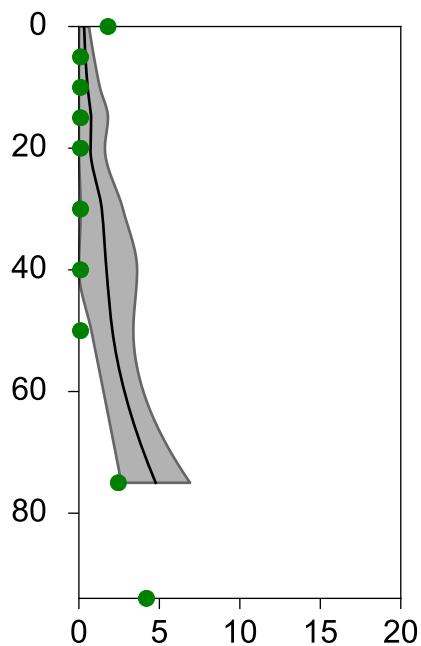
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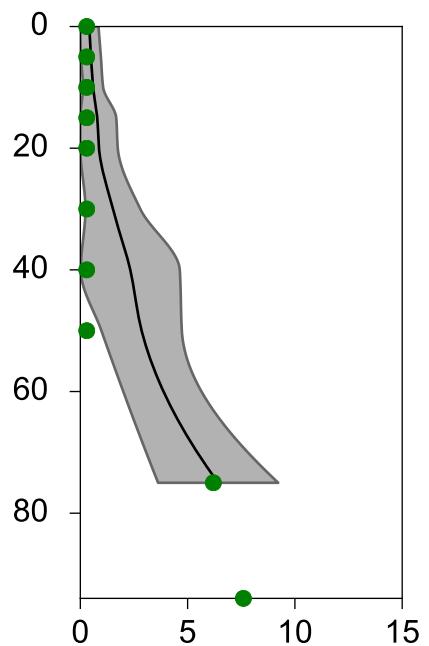
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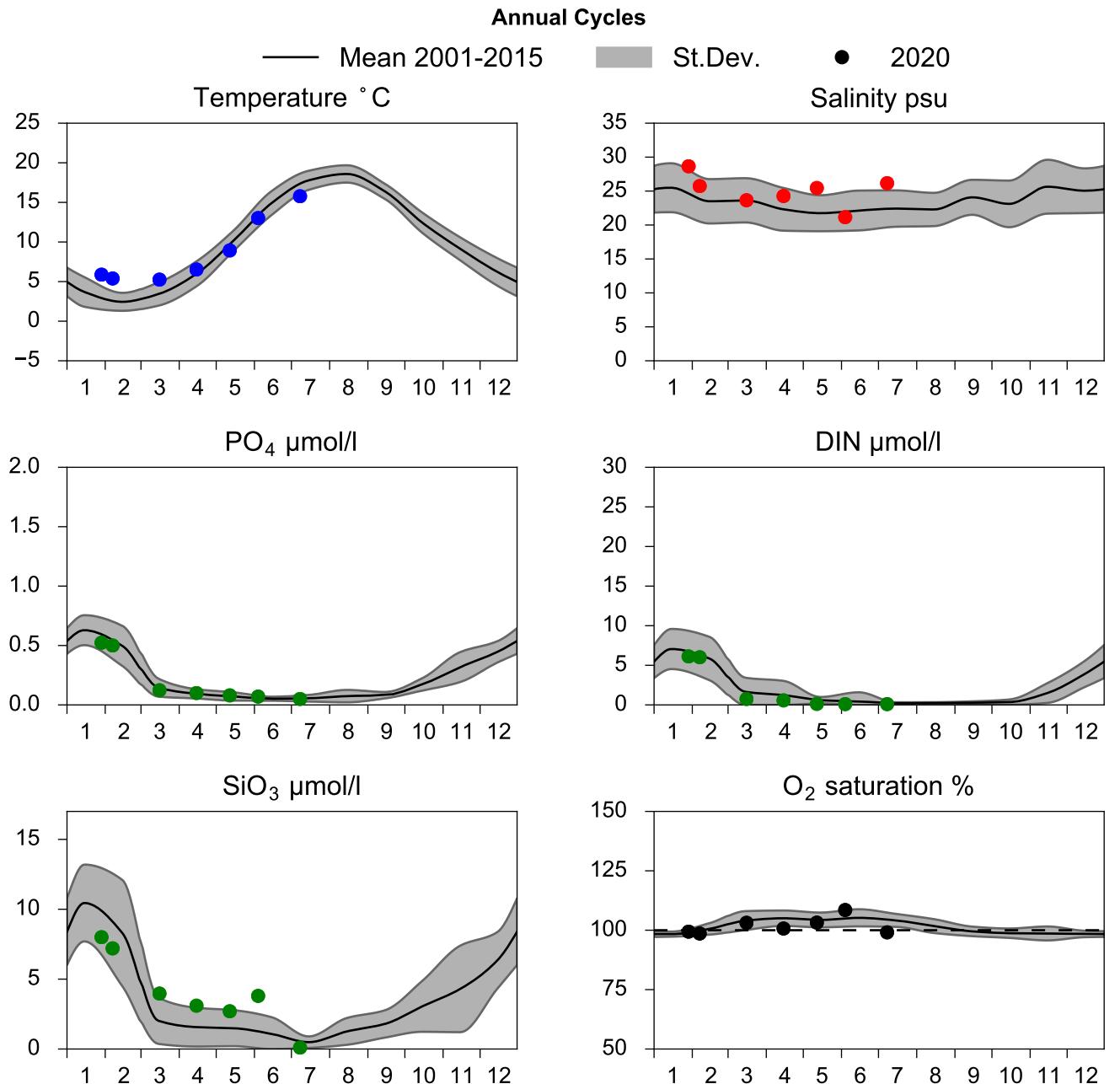
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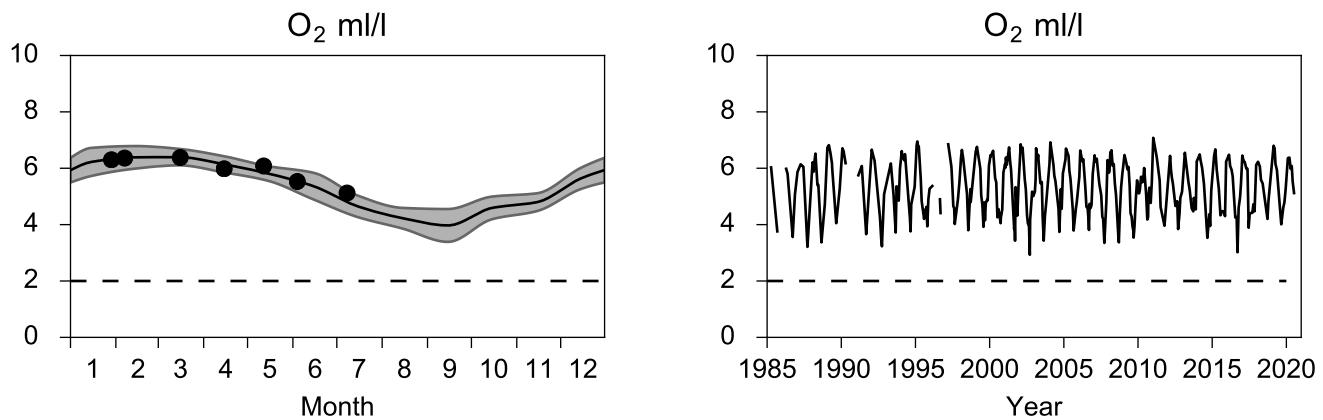
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION FLADEN SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



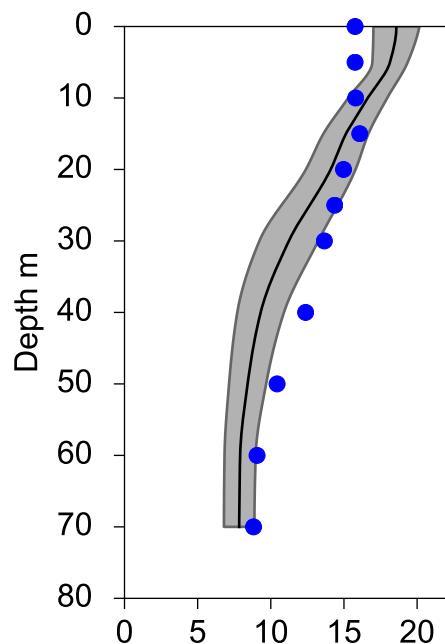
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 74 m)



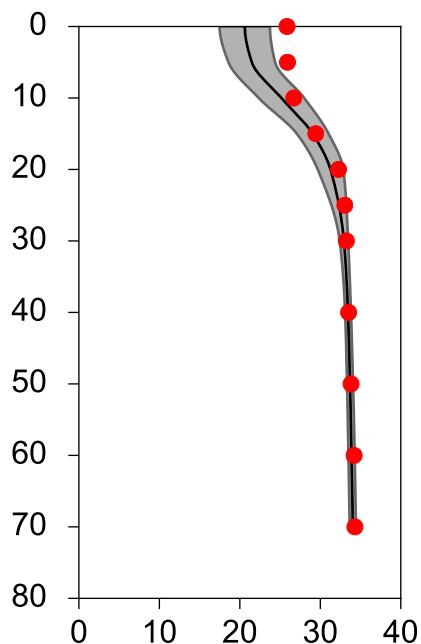
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— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-08

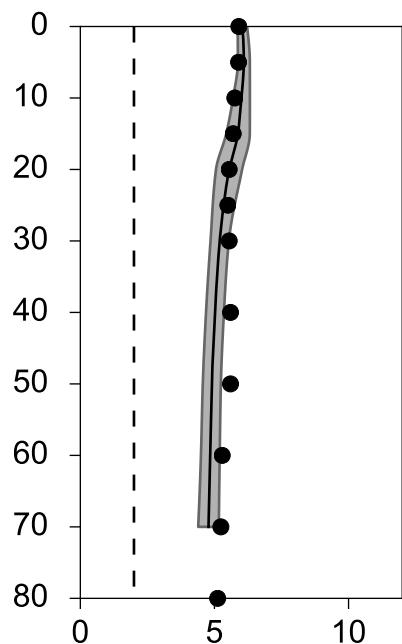
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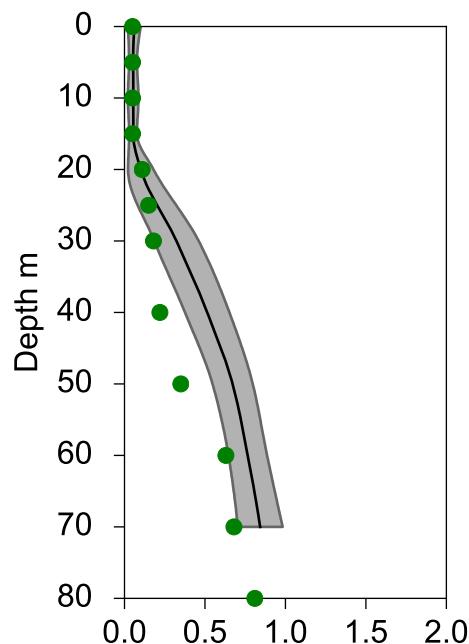
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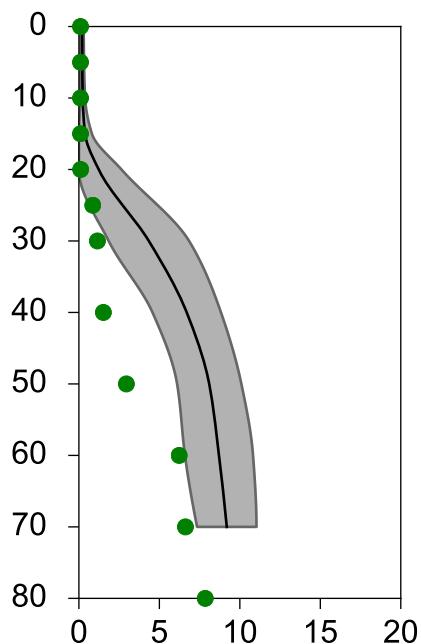
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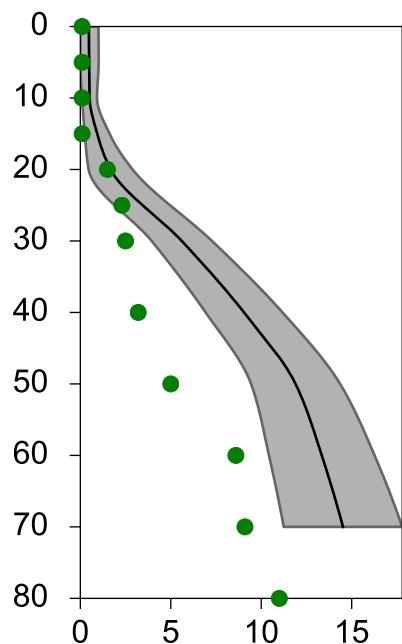
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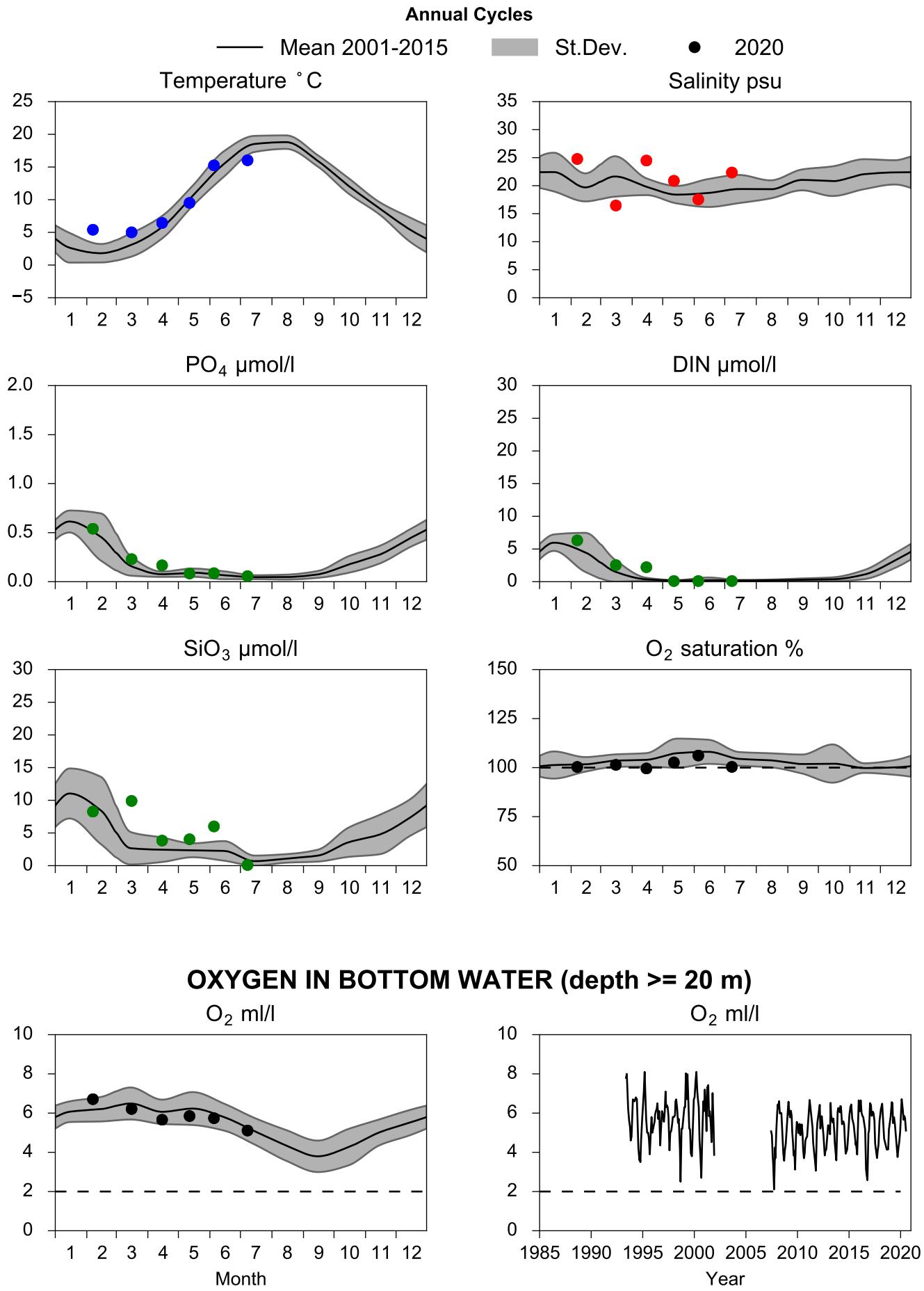
DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION N14 FALKENBERG SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)

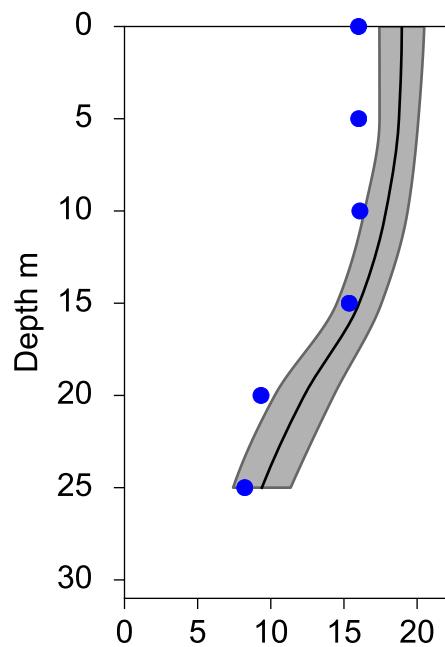


Vertical profiles N14 FALKENBERG

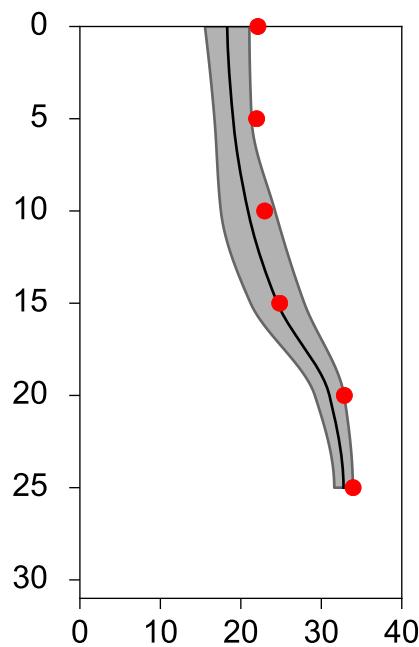
July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-08

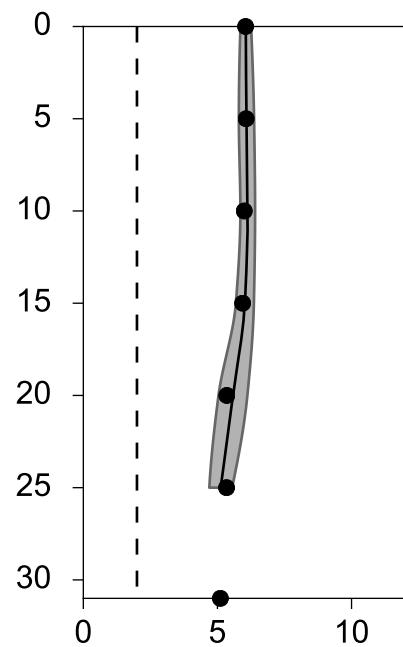
Temperature °C



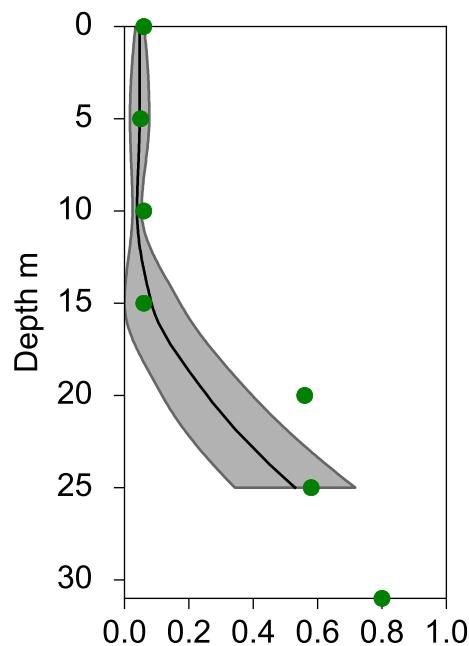
Salinity psu



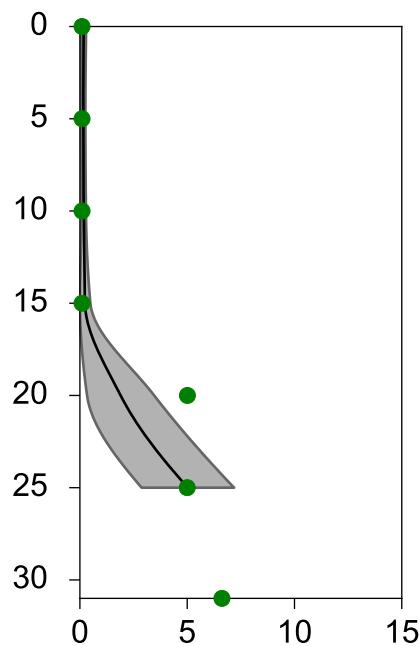
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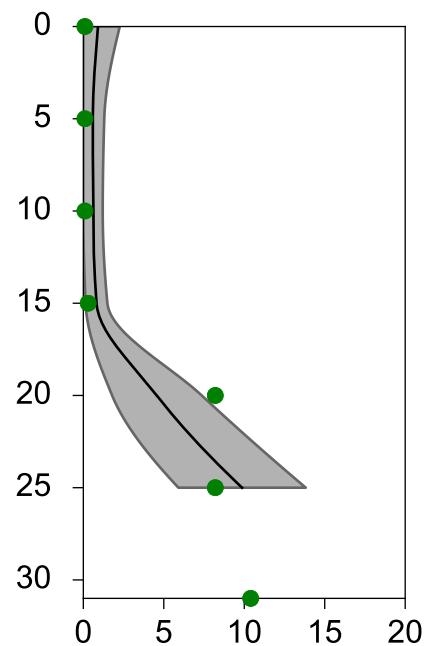
PO₄ µmol/l



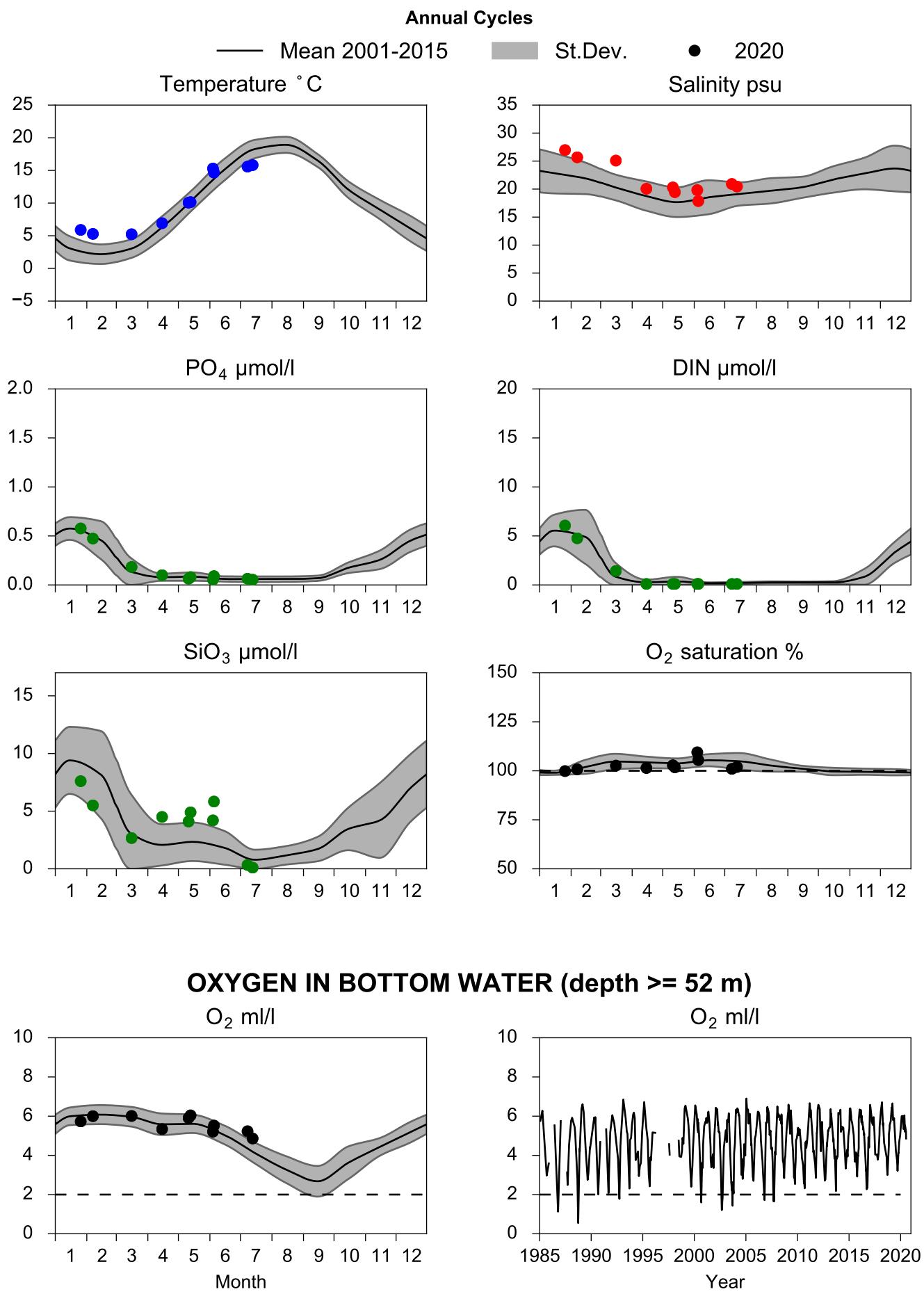
DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l



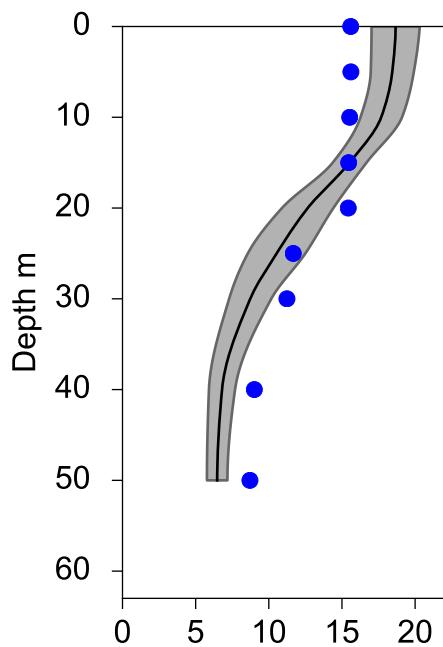
STATION ANHOLT E SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



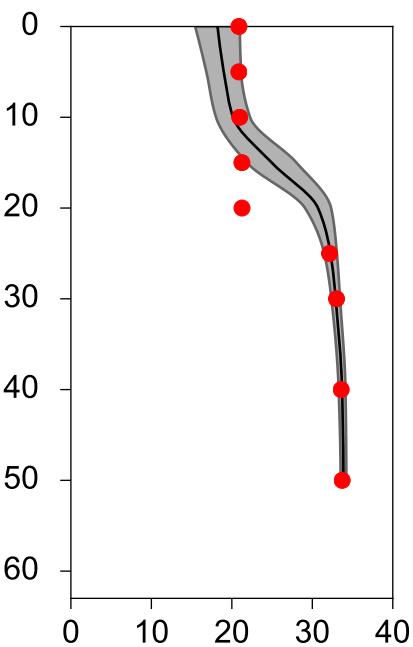
Vertical profiles ANHOLT E July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-08

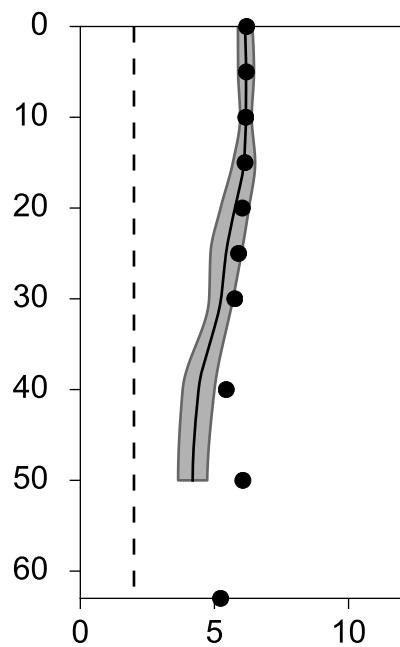
Temperature °C



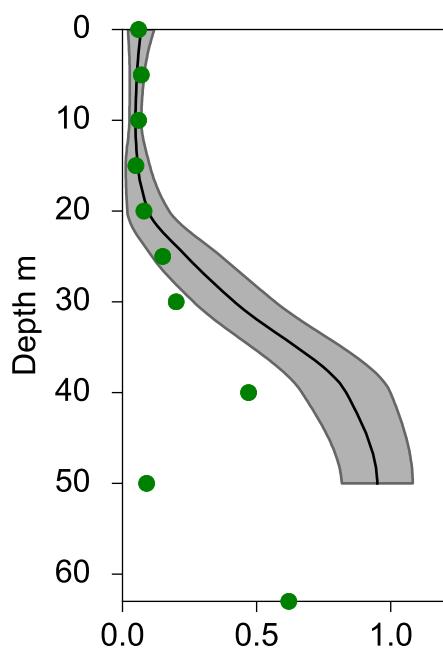
Salinity psu



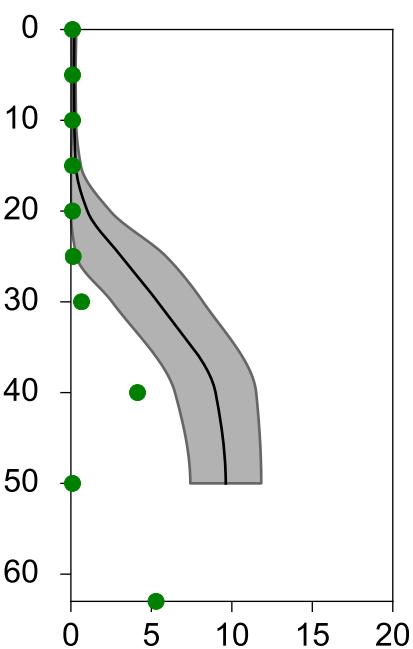
Oxygen ml/l



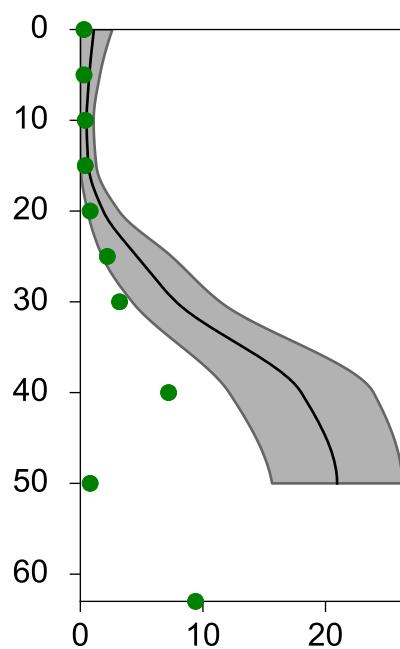
PO₄ µmol/l



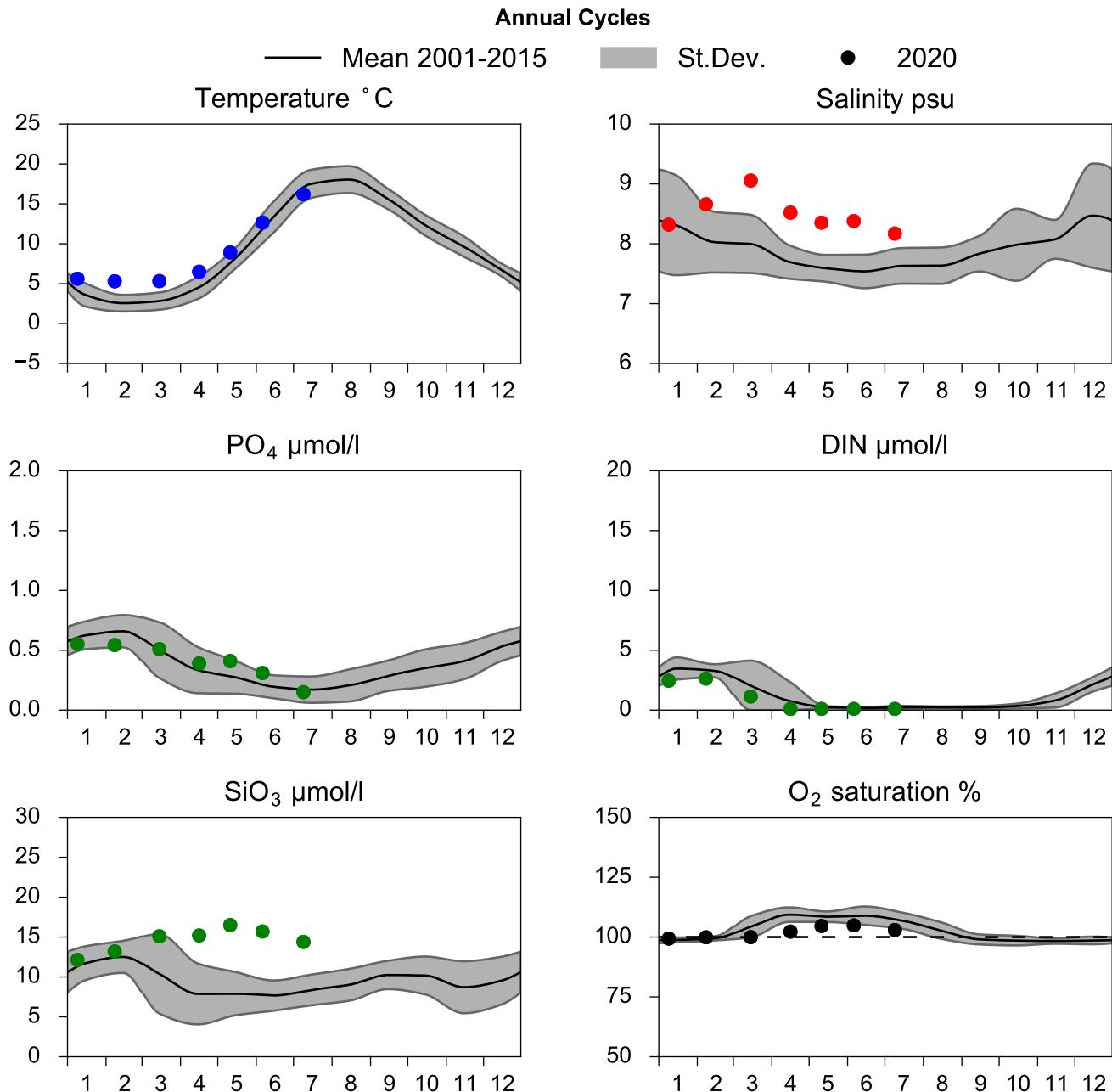
DIN µmol/l



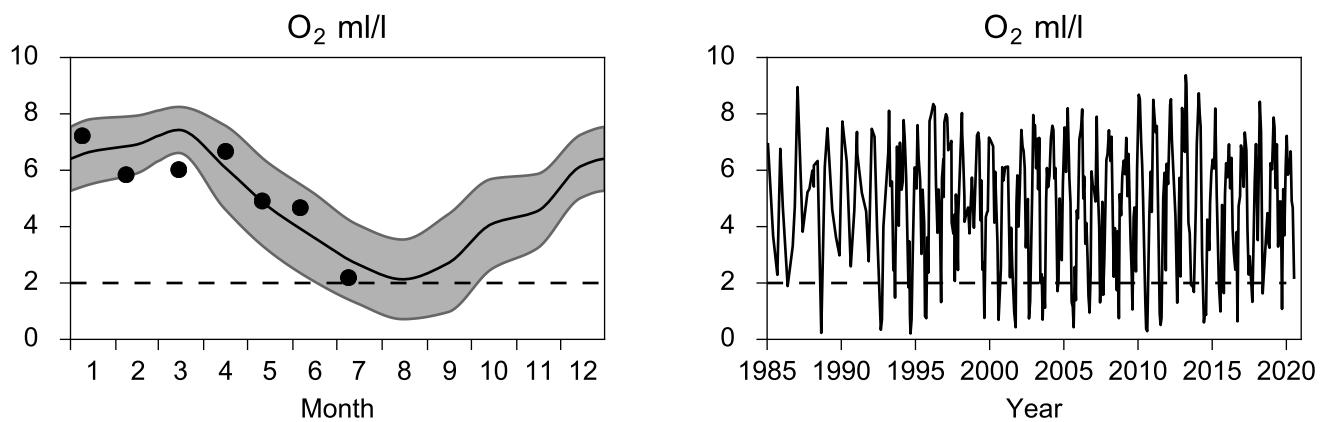
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION BY1 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



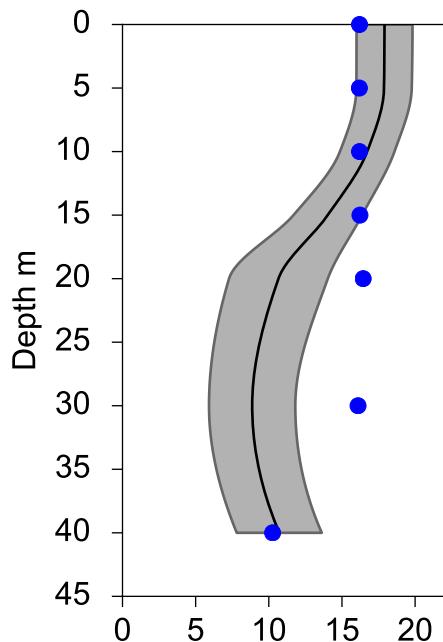
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 40 m)



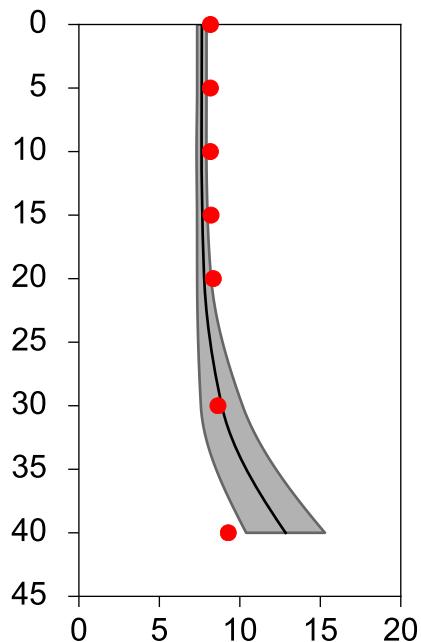
Vertical profiles BY1 July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-09

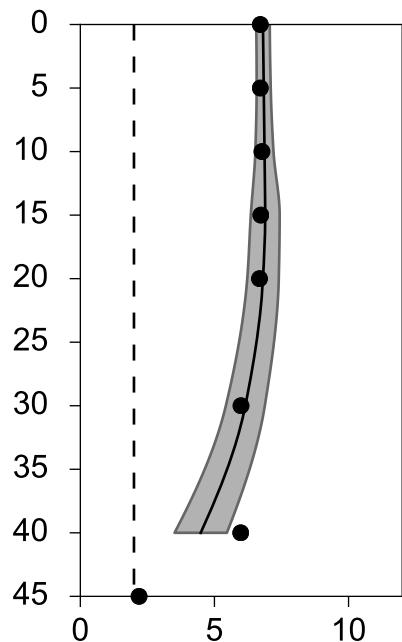
Temperature °C



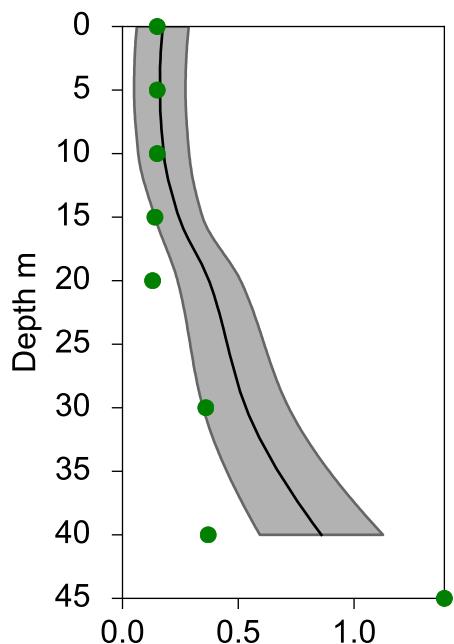
Salinity psu



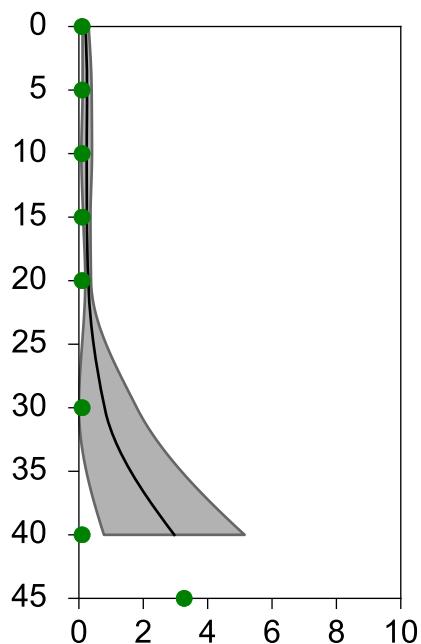
Oxygen ml/l



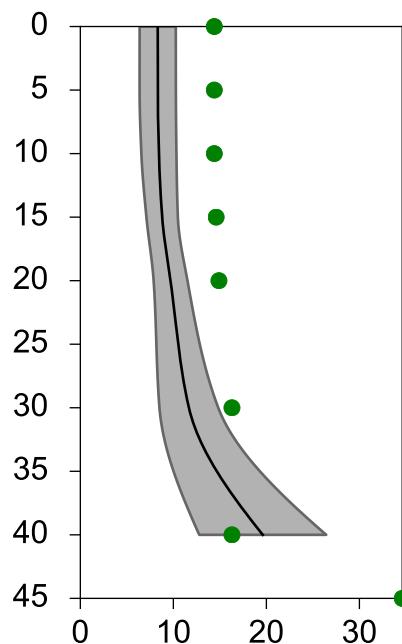
PO₄ µmol/l



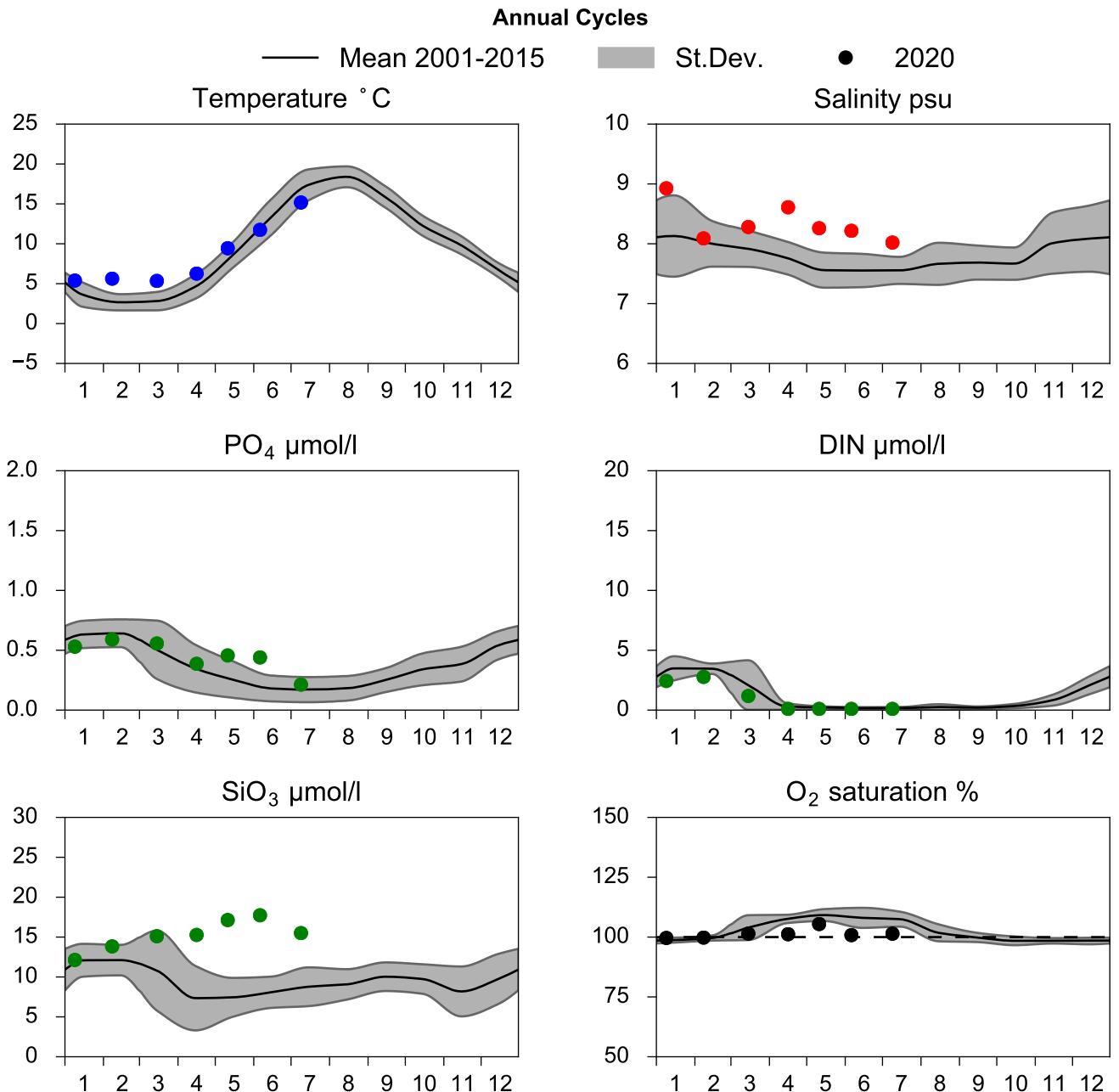
DIN µmol/l



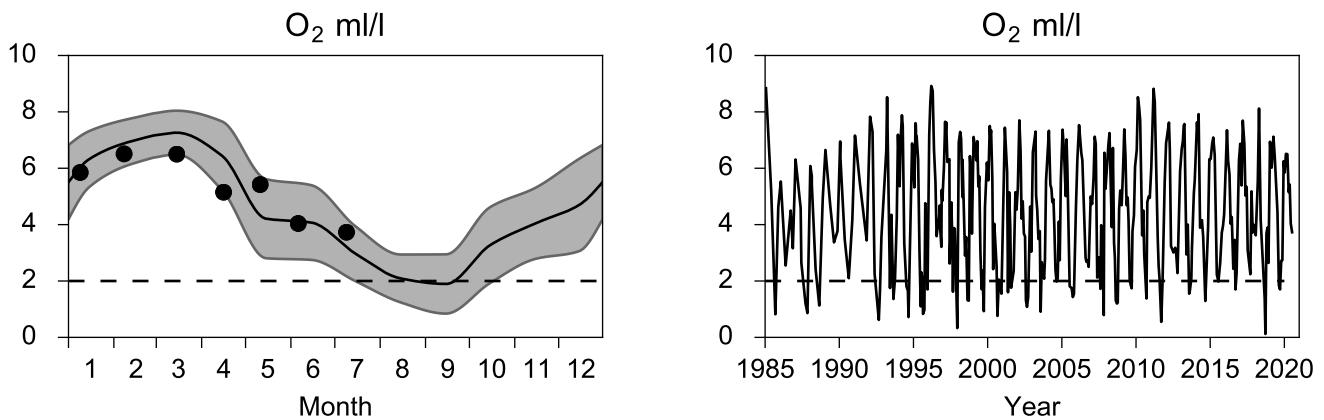
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION BY2 ARKONA SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



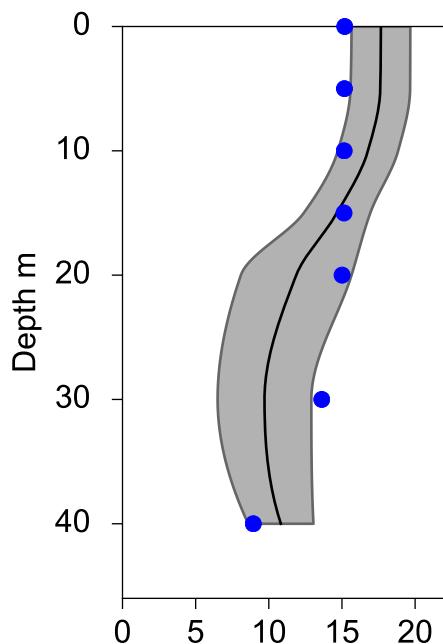
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 40 m)



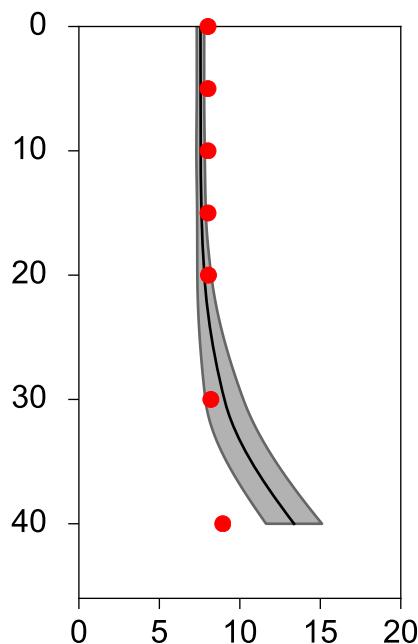
Vertical profiles BY2 ARKONA July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-09

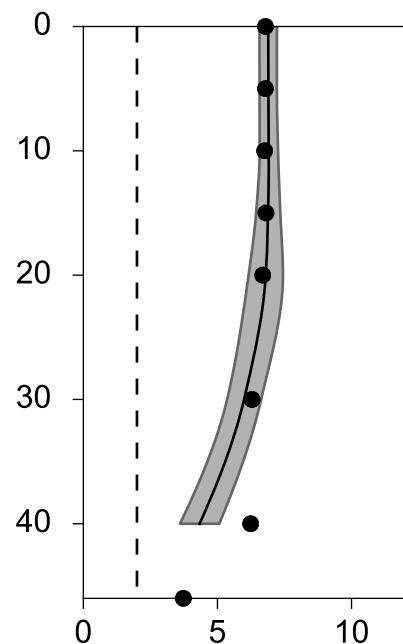
Temperature °C



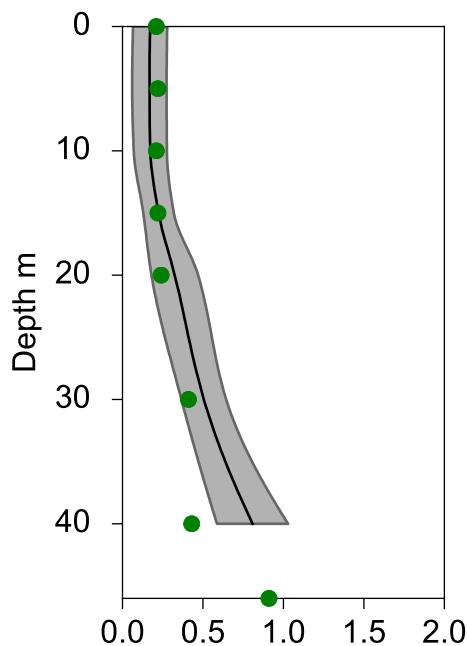
Salinity psu



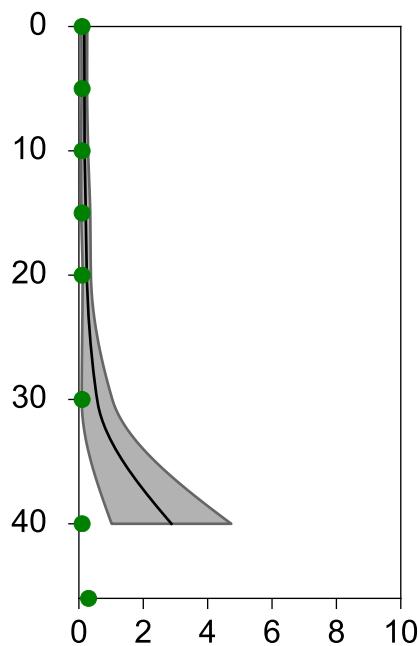
Oxygen ml/l



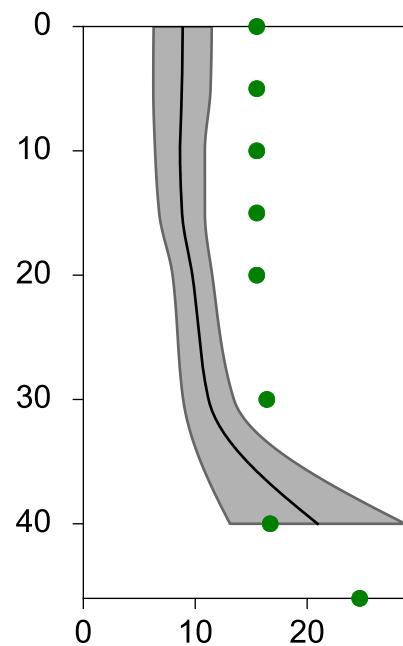
PO₄ µmol/l



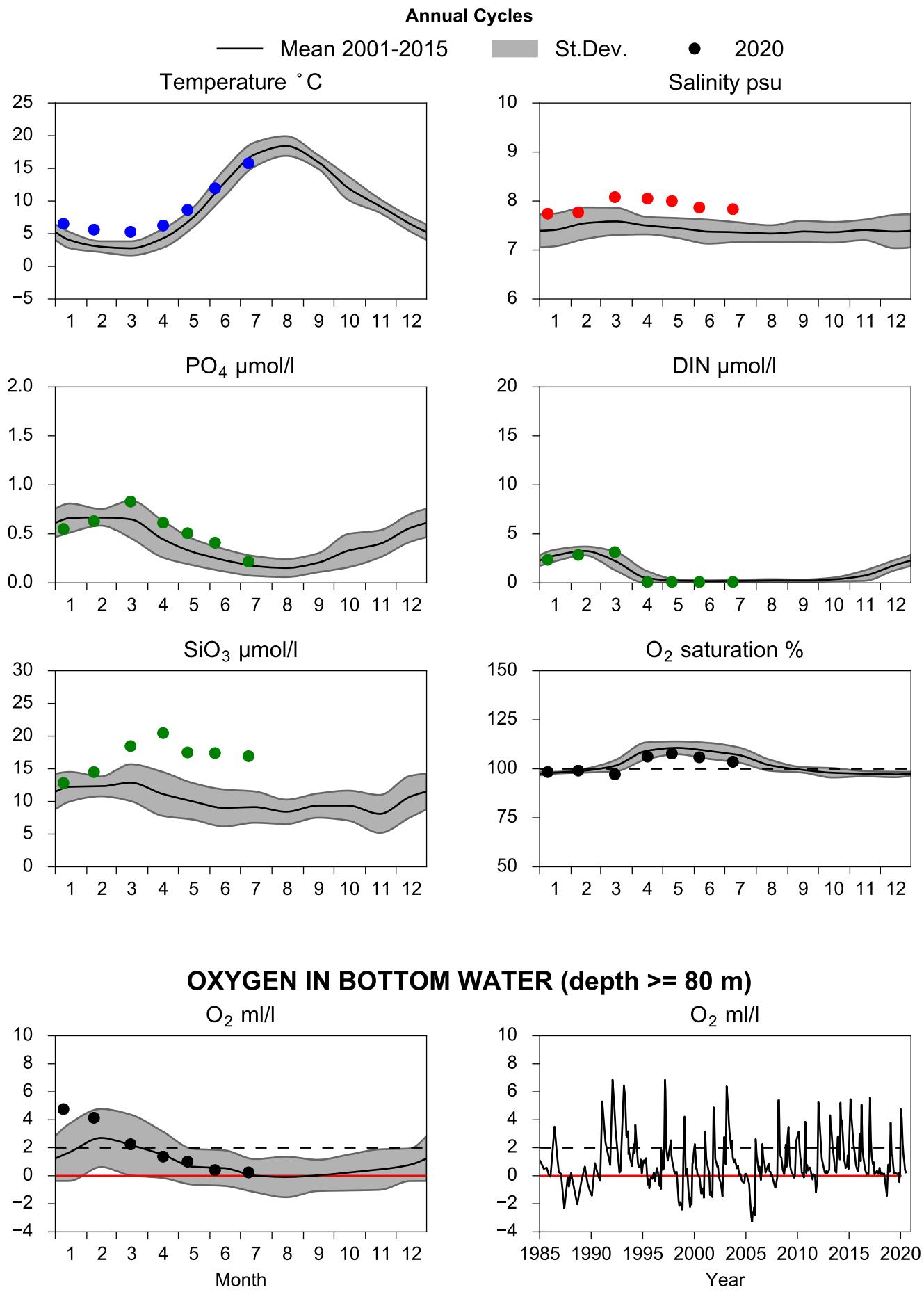
DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l



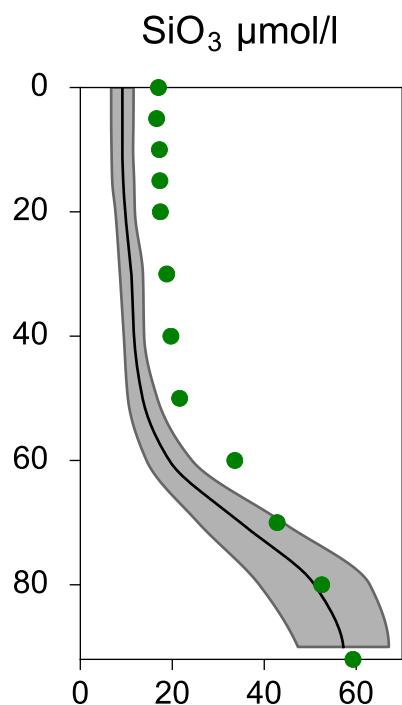
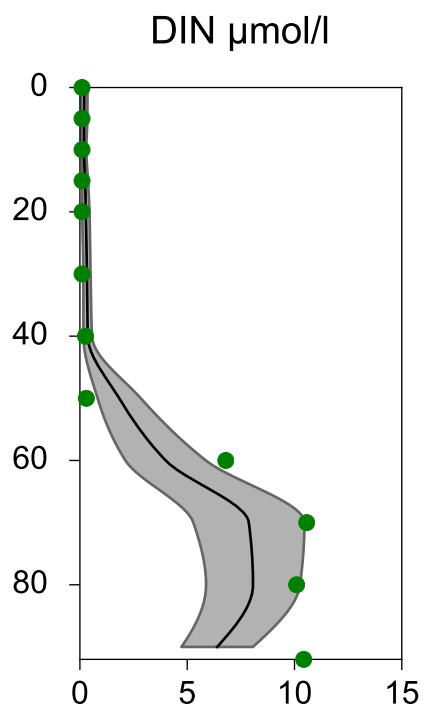
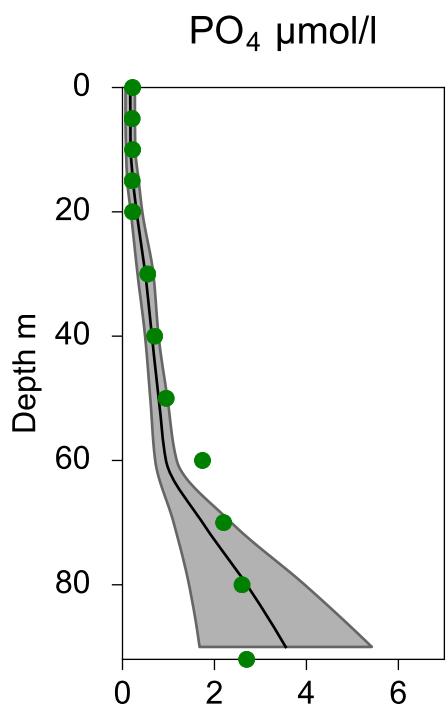
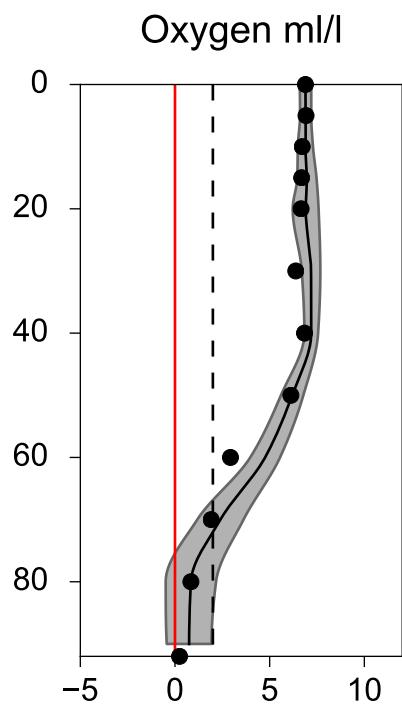
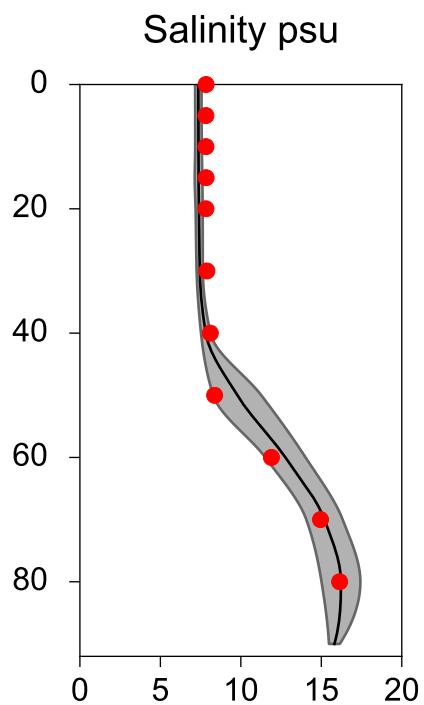
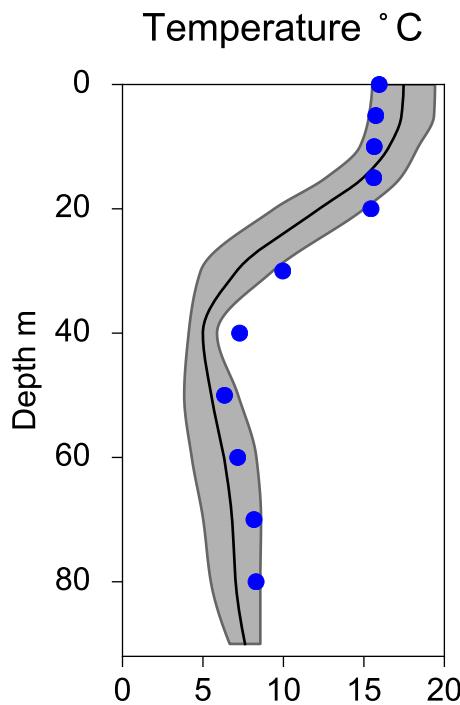
STATION BY4 CHRISTIANSÖ SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



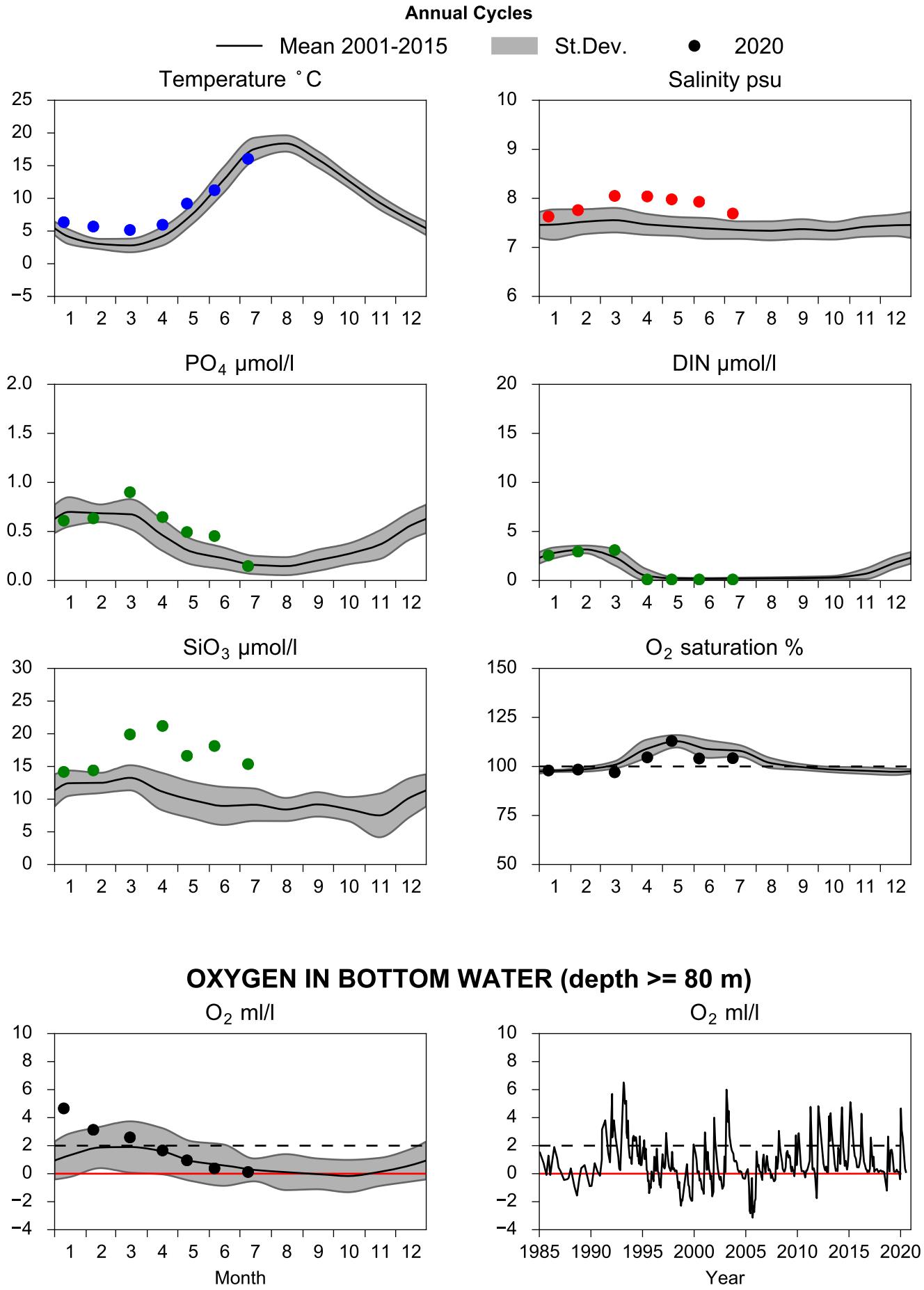
Vertical profiles BY4 CHRISTIANSÖ

July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-09

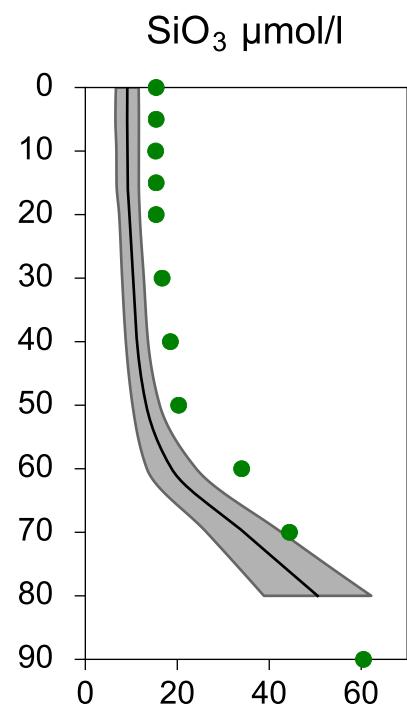
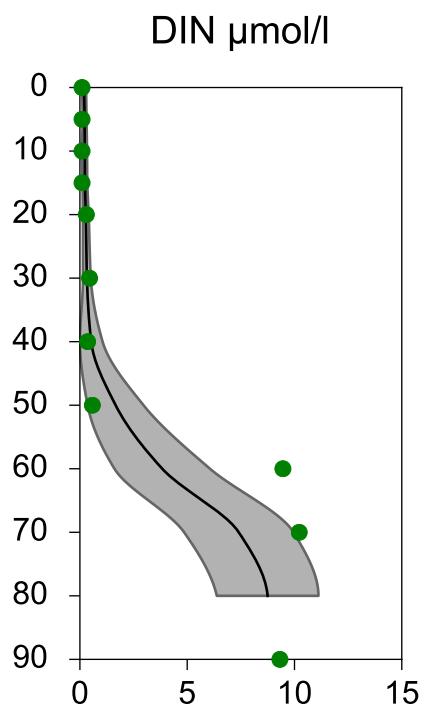
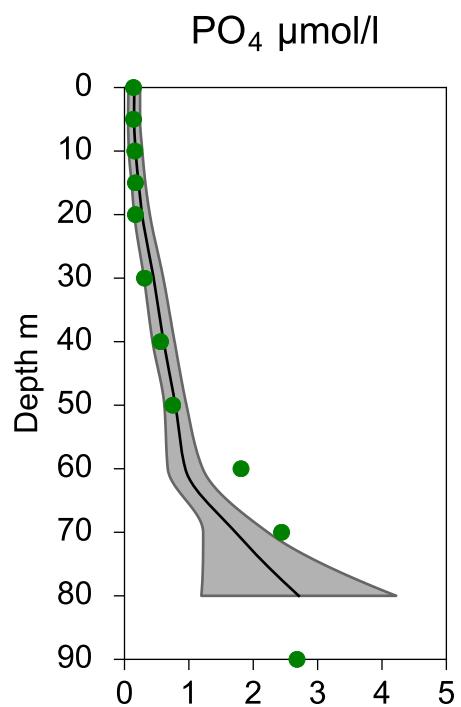
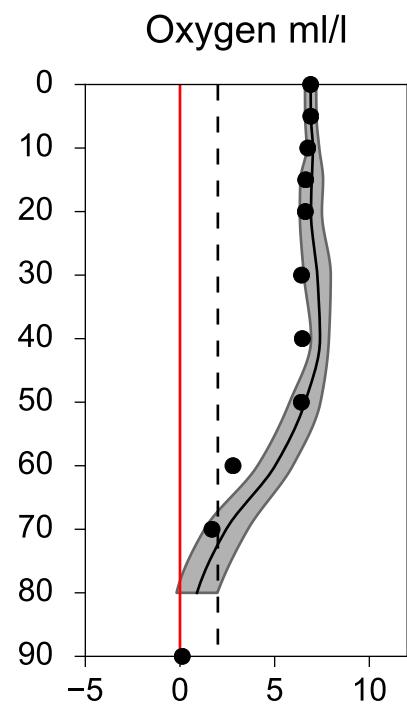
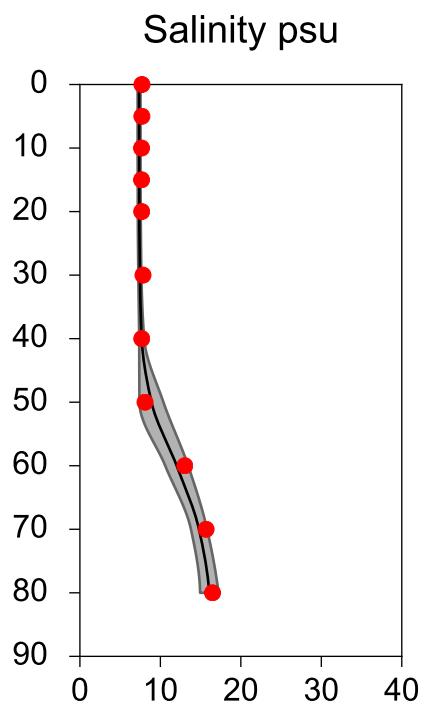
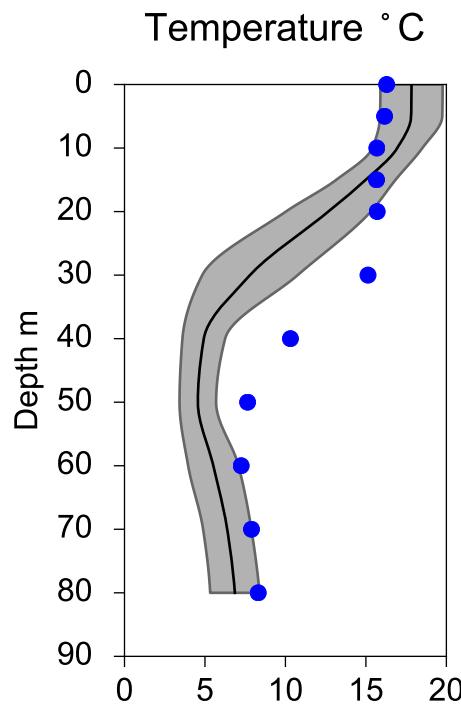


STATION BY5 BORNHOLMSDJ SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)

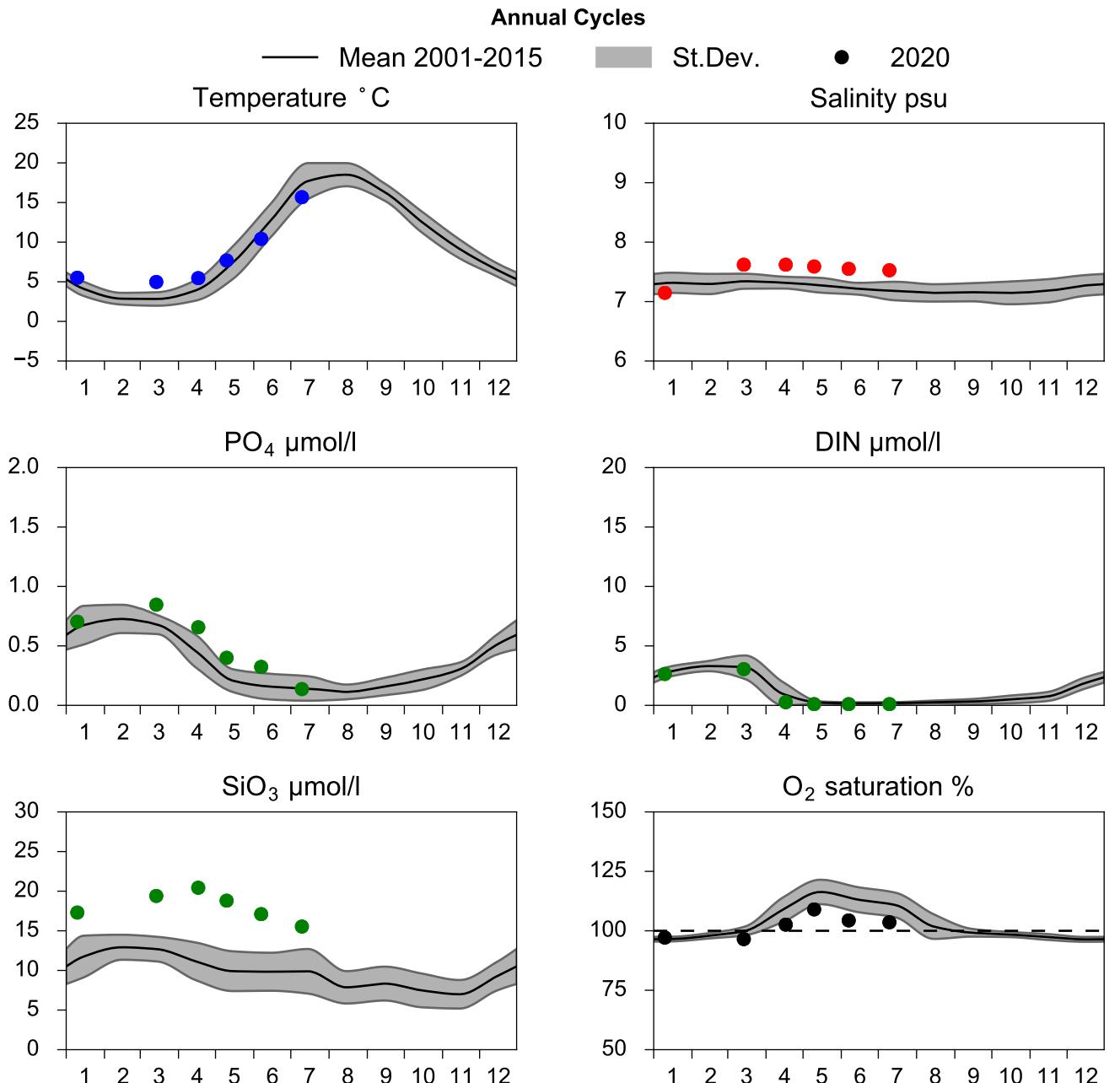


Vertical profiles BY5 BORNHOLMSDJ July

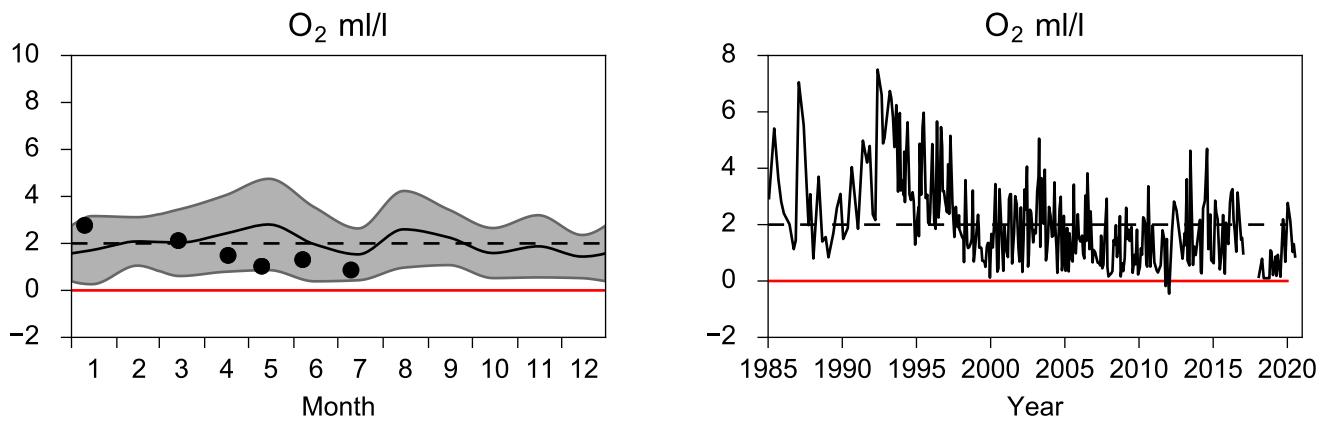
— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-09



STATION BCS III-10 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



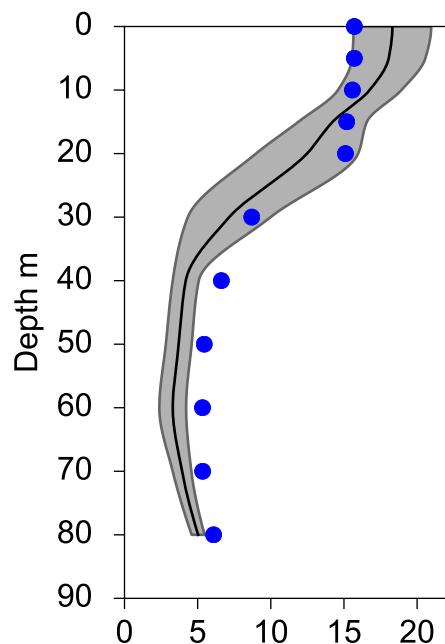
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 80 m)



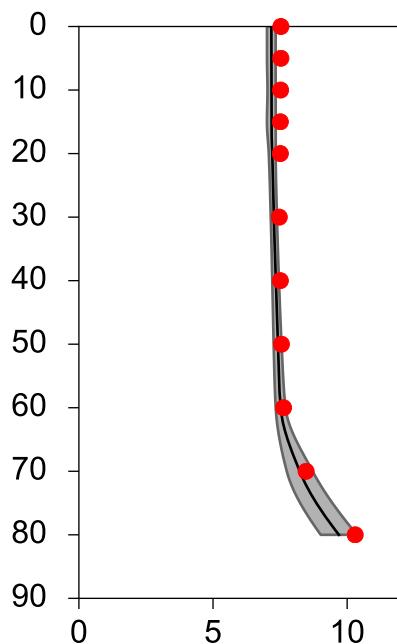
Vertical profiles BCS III-10 July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-10

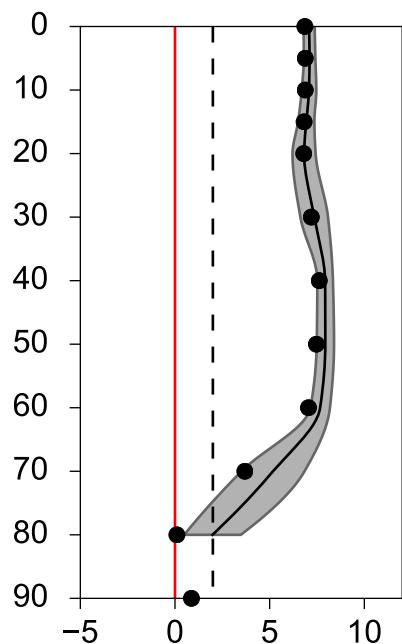
Temperature °C



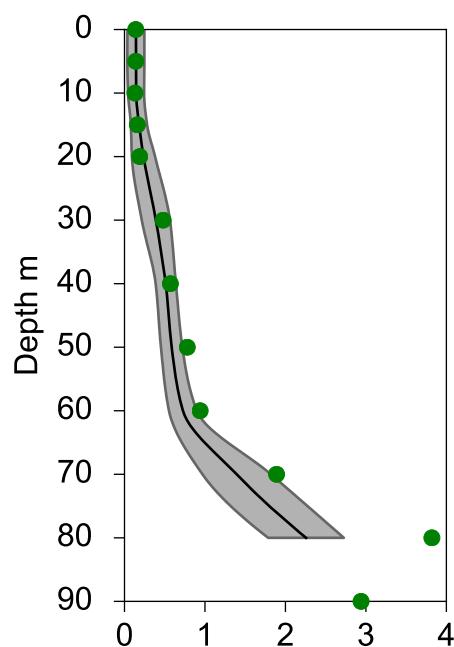
Salinity psu



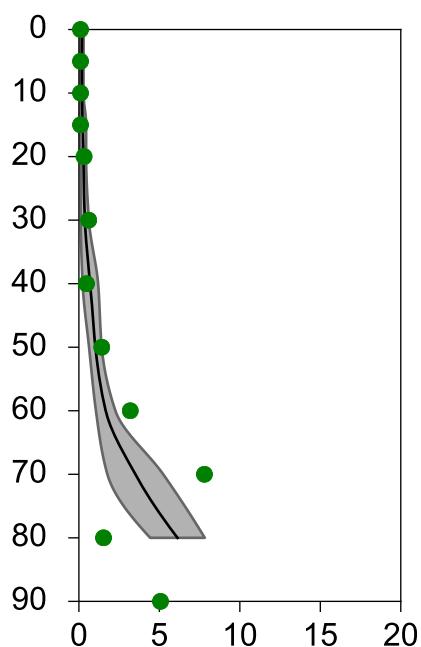
Oxygen ml/l



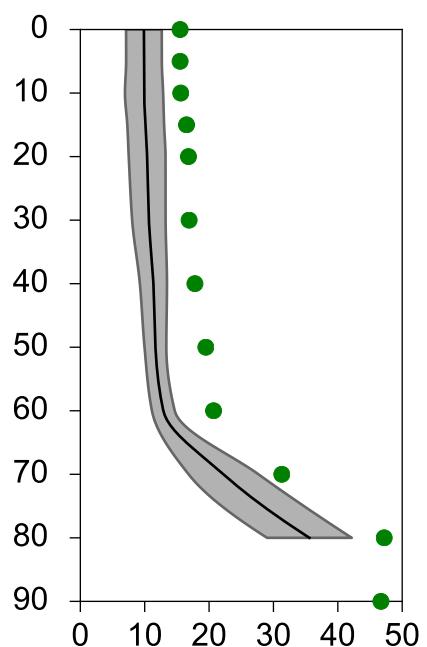
PO₄ µmol/l



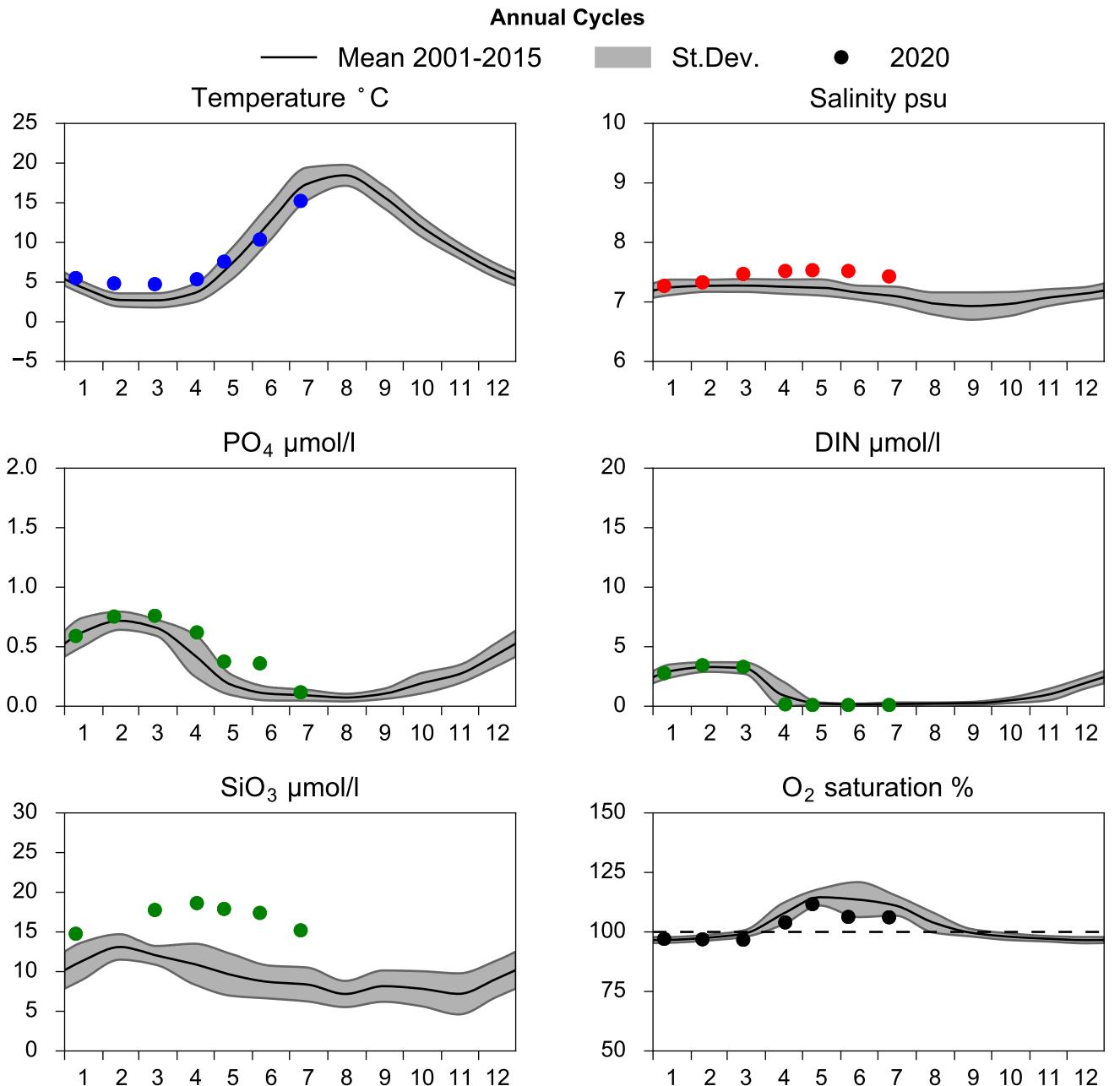
DIN µmol/l



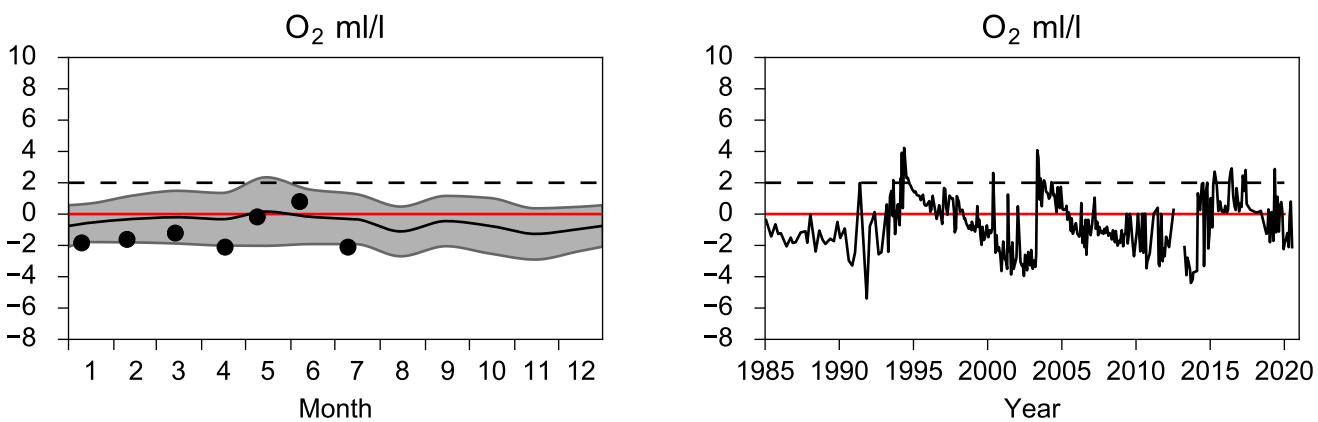
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION BY10 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



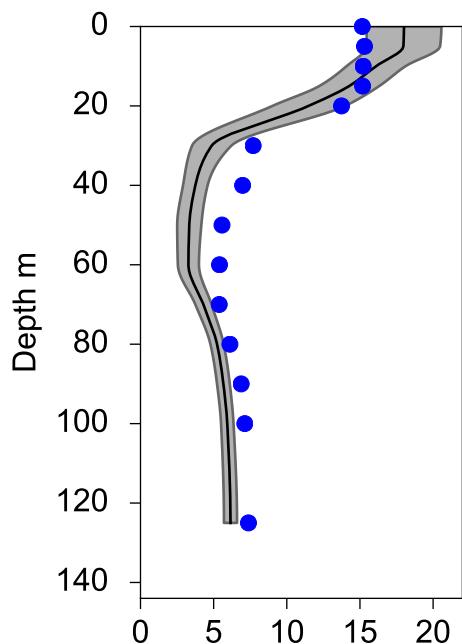
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 125 m)



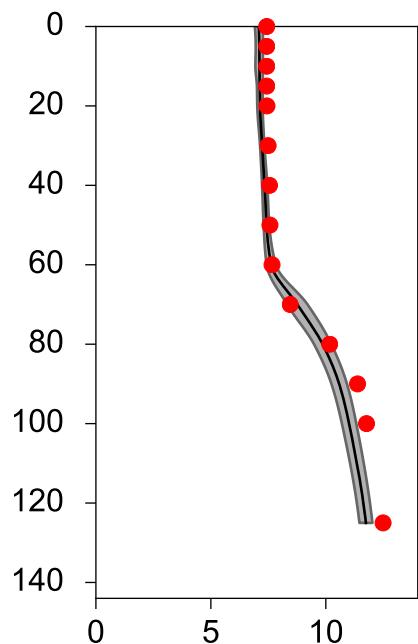
Vertical profiles BY10 July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-10

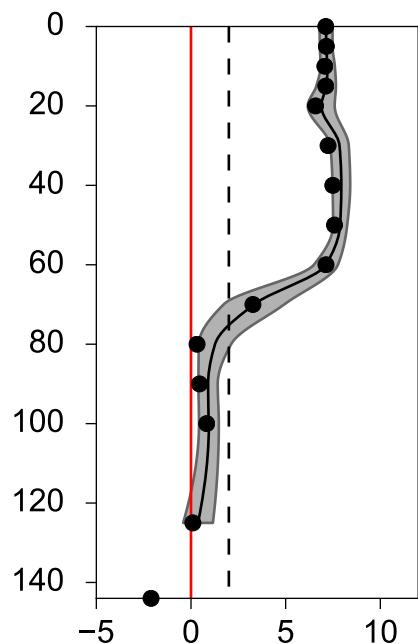
Temperature °C



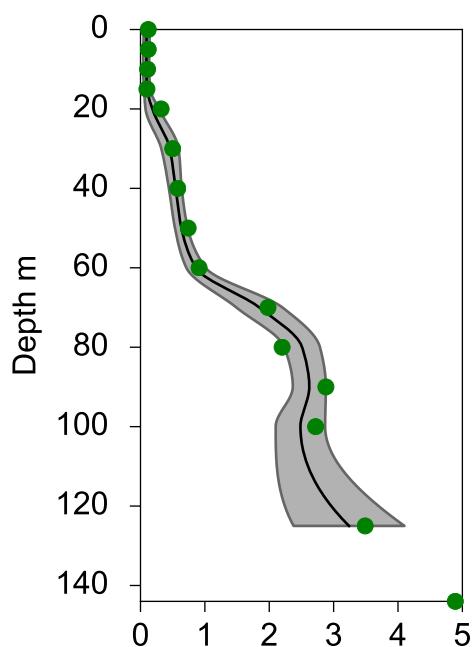
Salinity psu



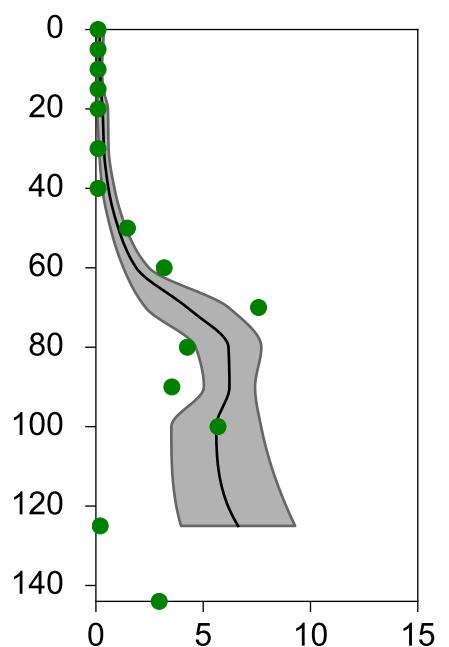
Oxygen ml/l



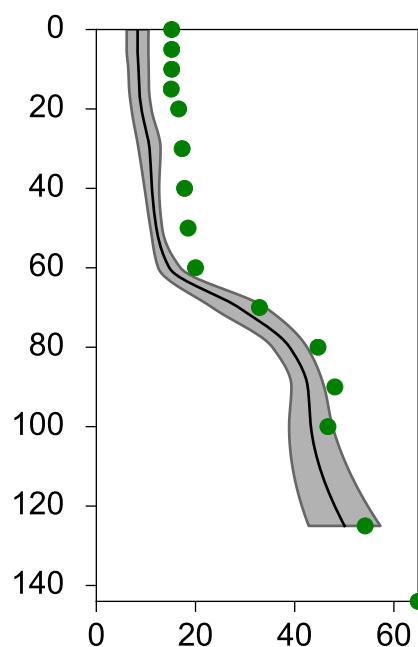
PO₄ µmol/l



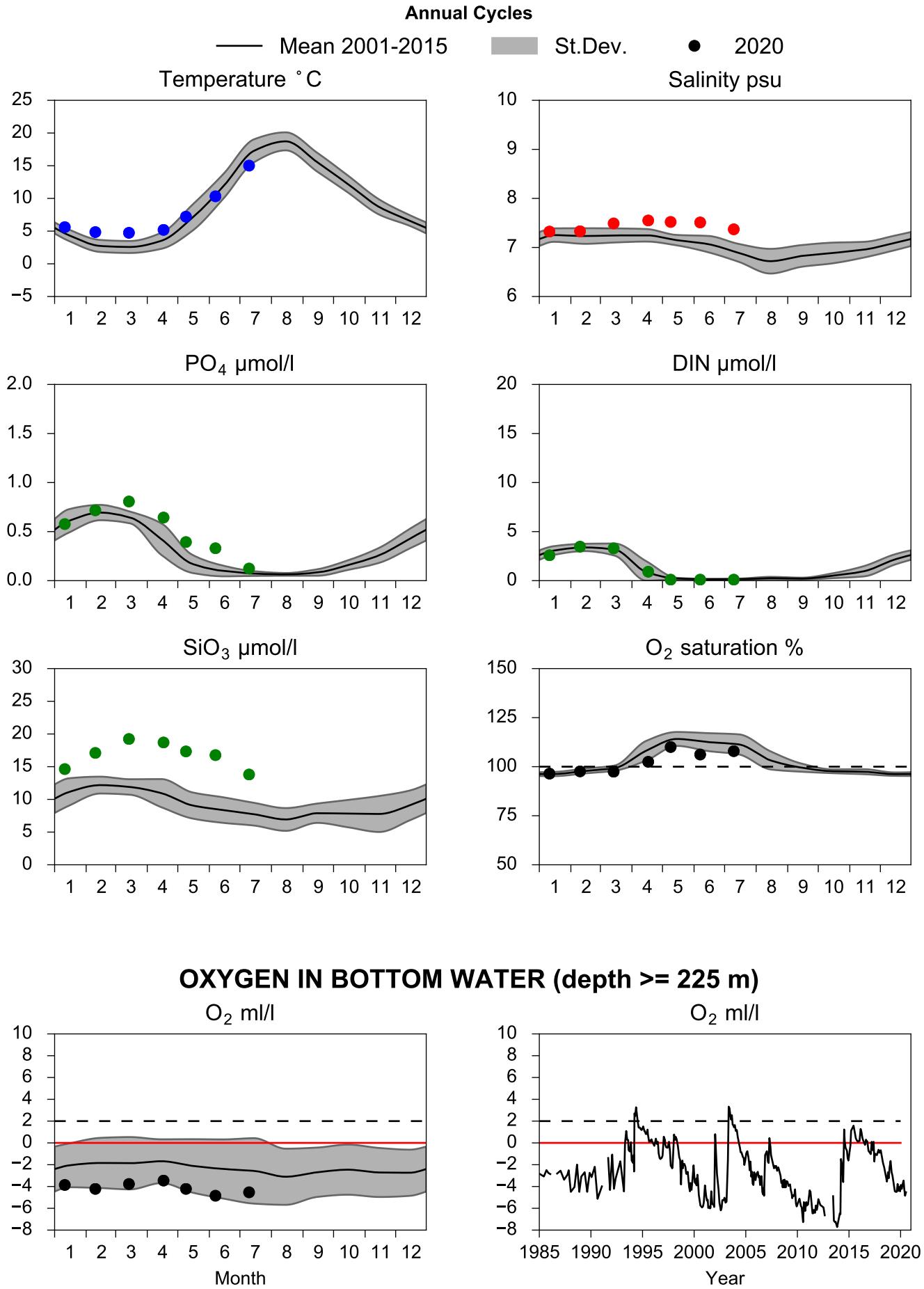
DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION BY15 GOTLANDSDJ SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)

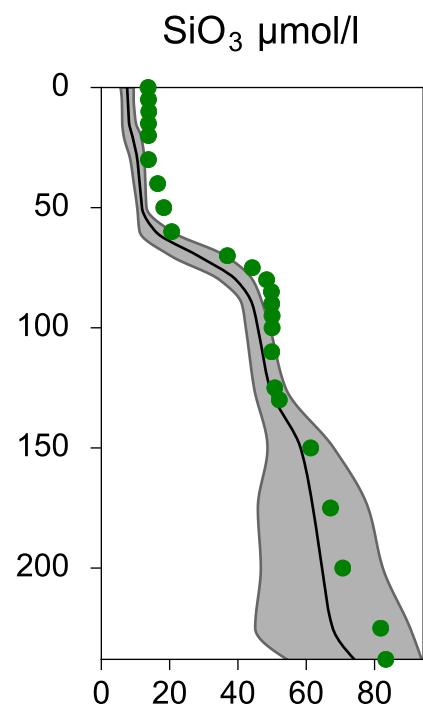
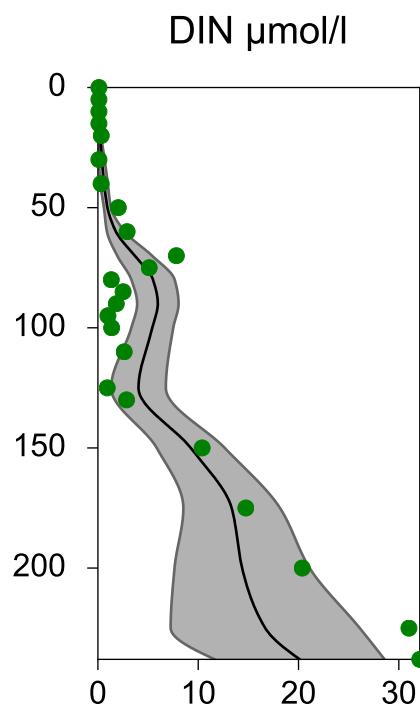
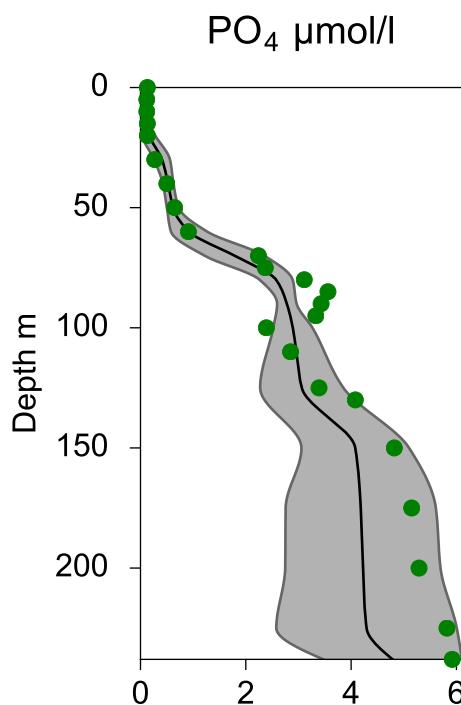
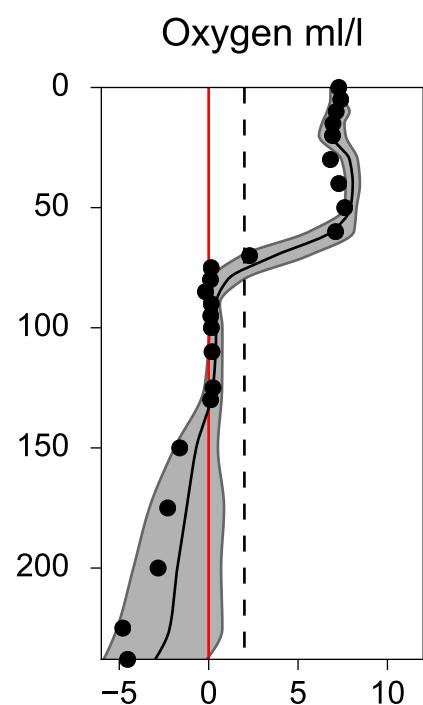
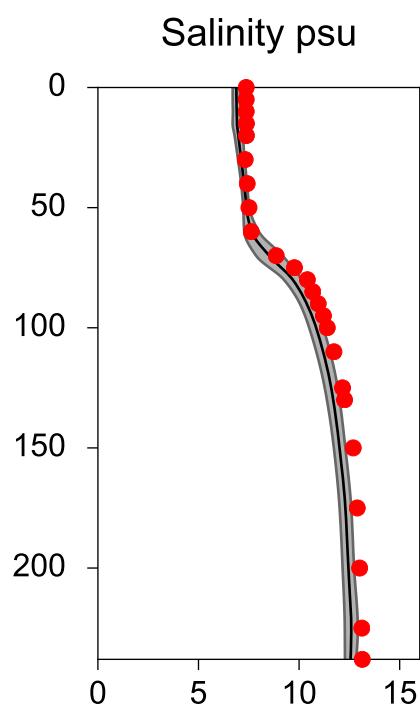
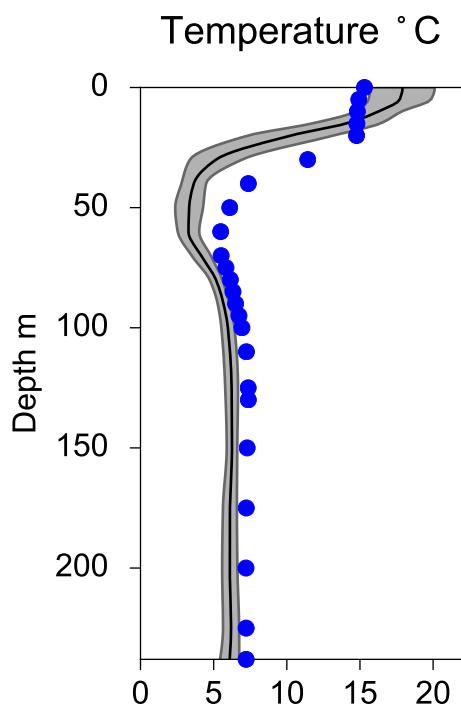


Vertical profiles BY15 GOTLANDSDJ July

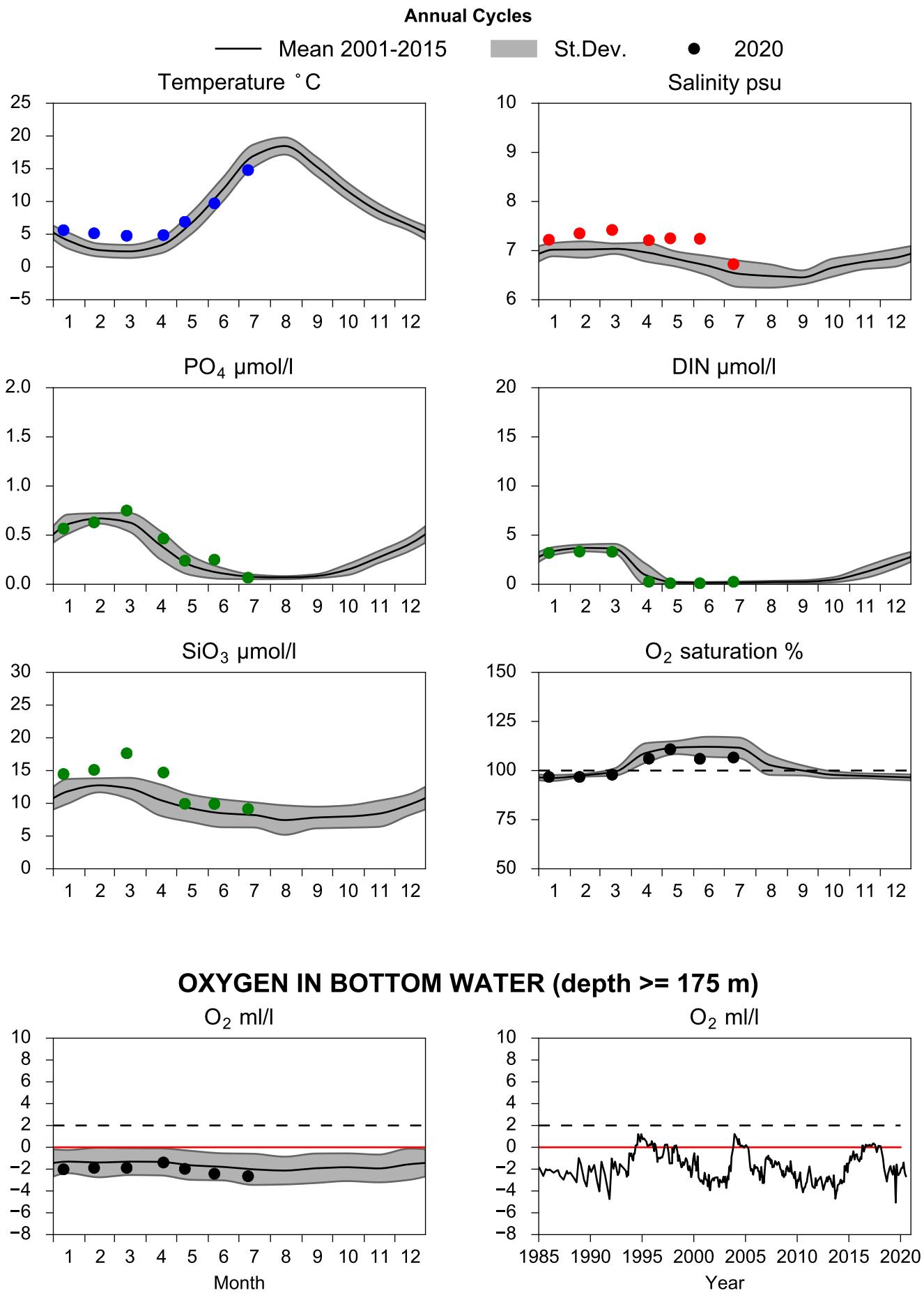
— Mean 2001-2015

St.Dev.

● 2020-07-10



STATION BY20 FÅRÖDJ SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)

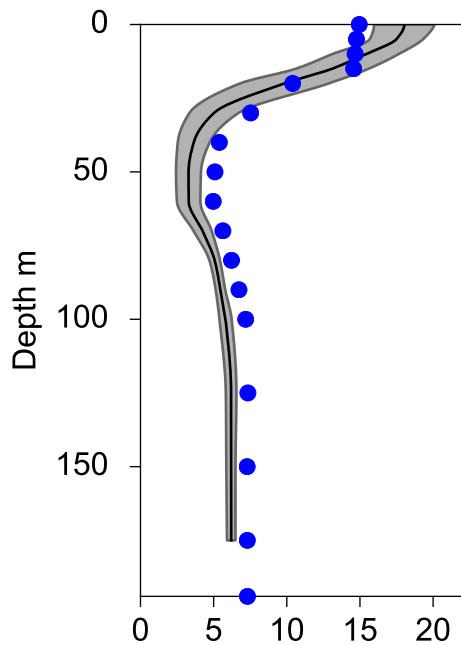


Vertical profiles BY20 FÅRÖDJ

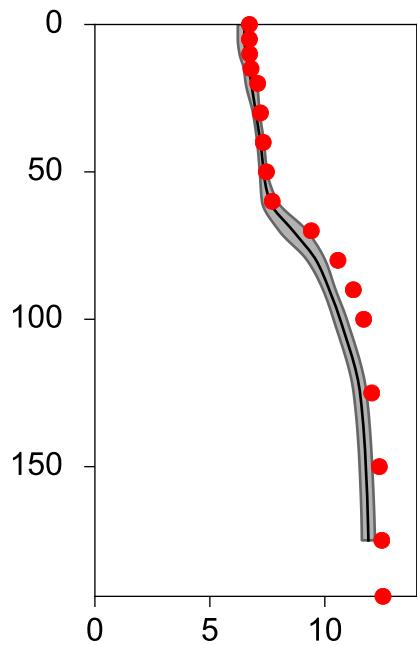
July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-10

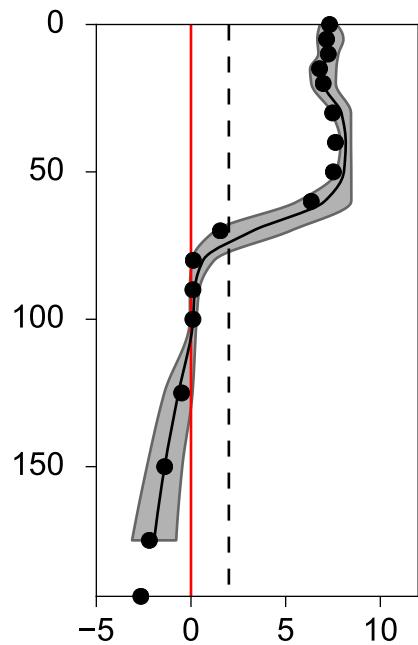
Temperature °C



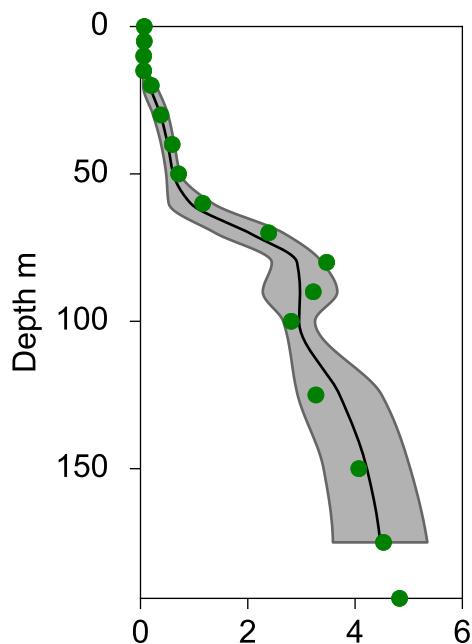
Salinity psu



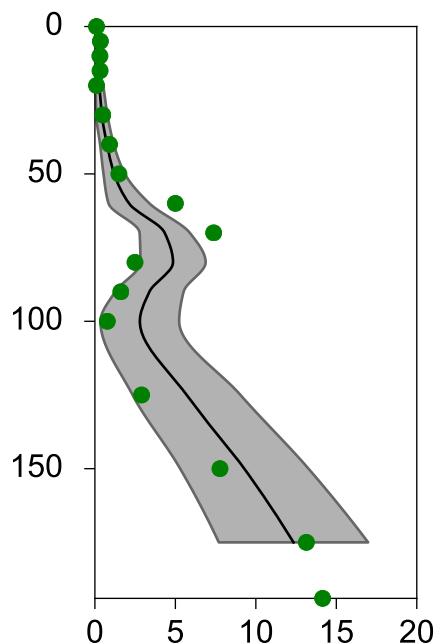
Oxygen ml/l



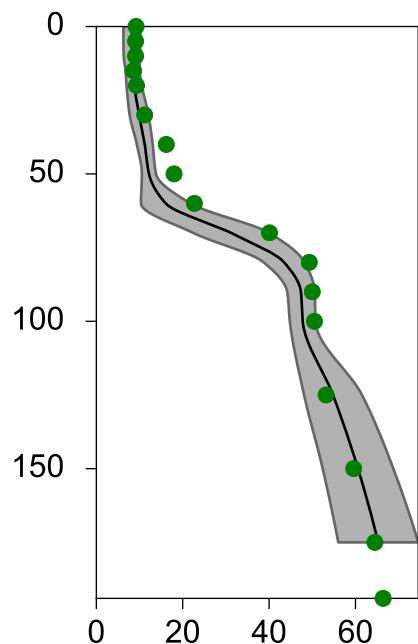
PO₄ µmol/l



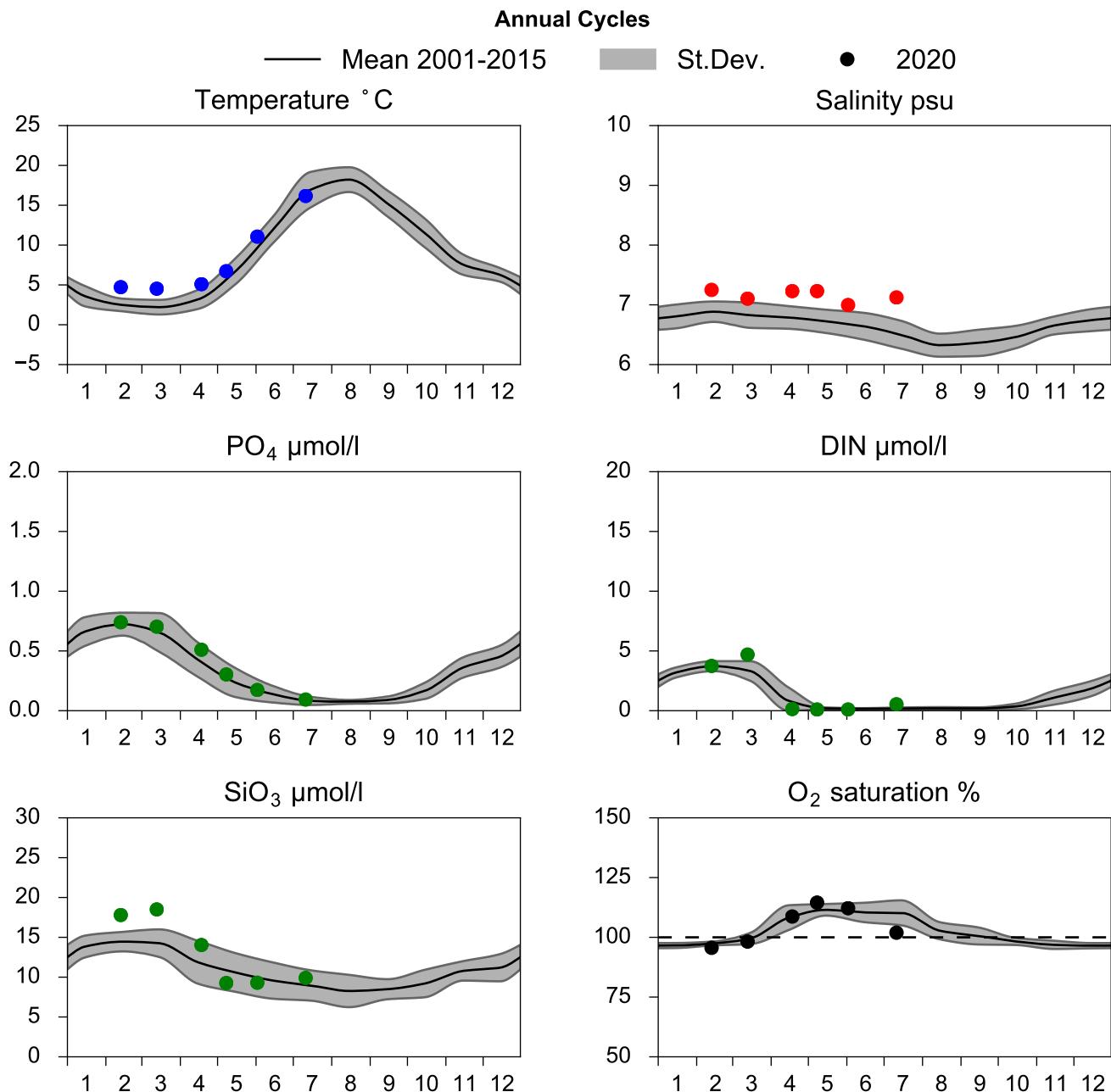
DIN µmol/l



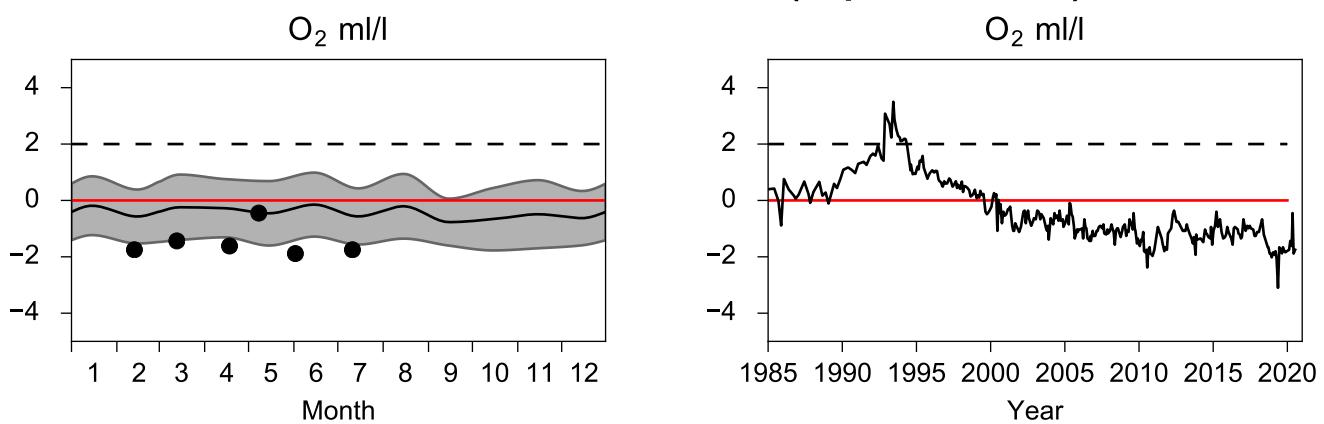
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION BY32 NORRKÖPINGSDJ SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



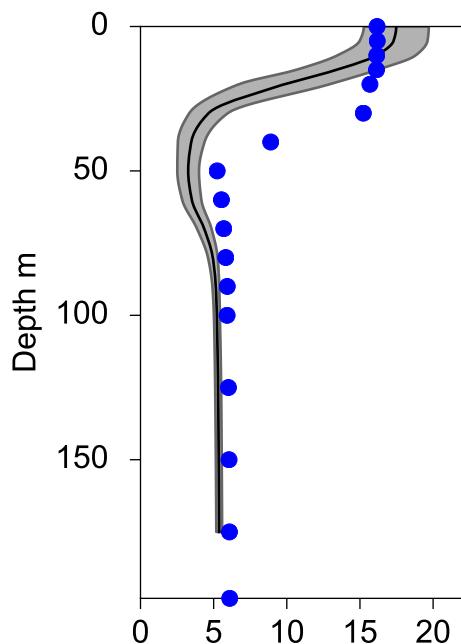
OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 175 m)



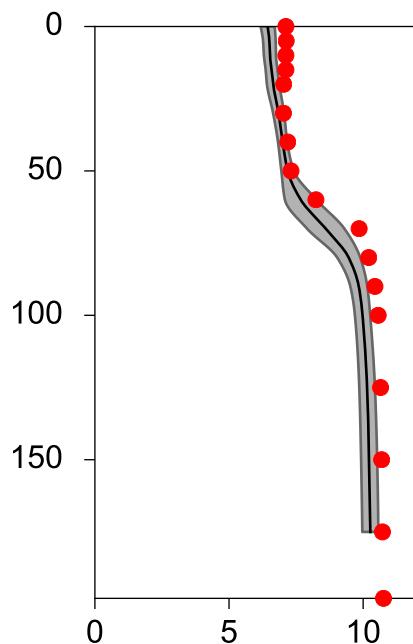
Vertical profiles BY32 NORRKÖPINGSDJ July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-11

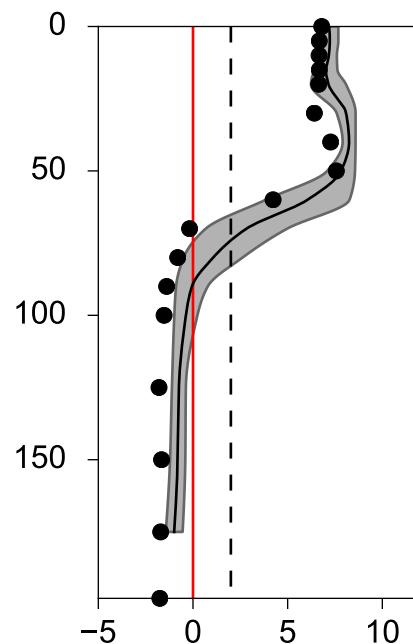
Temperature °C



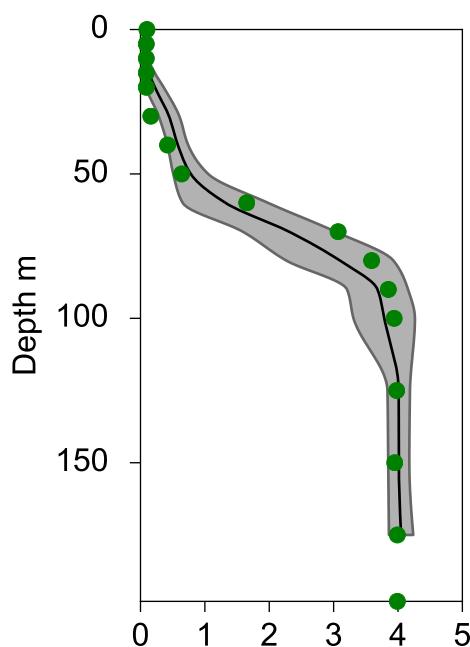
Salinity psu



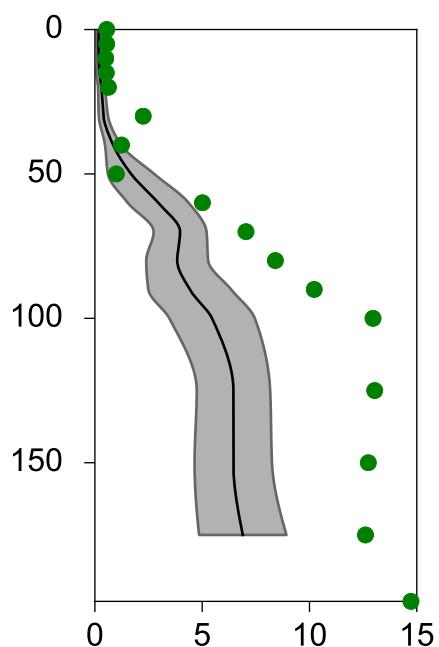
Oxygen ml/l



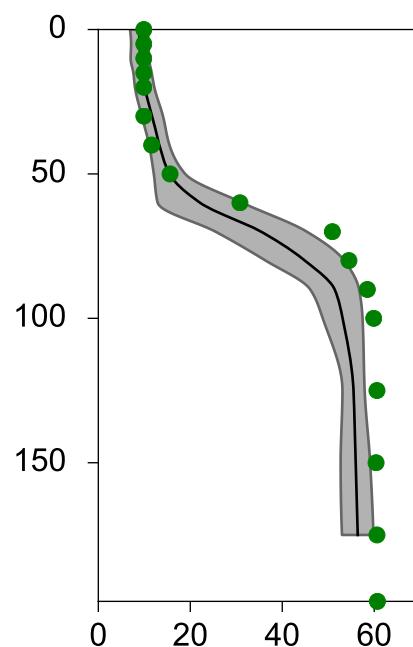
PO₄ µmol/l



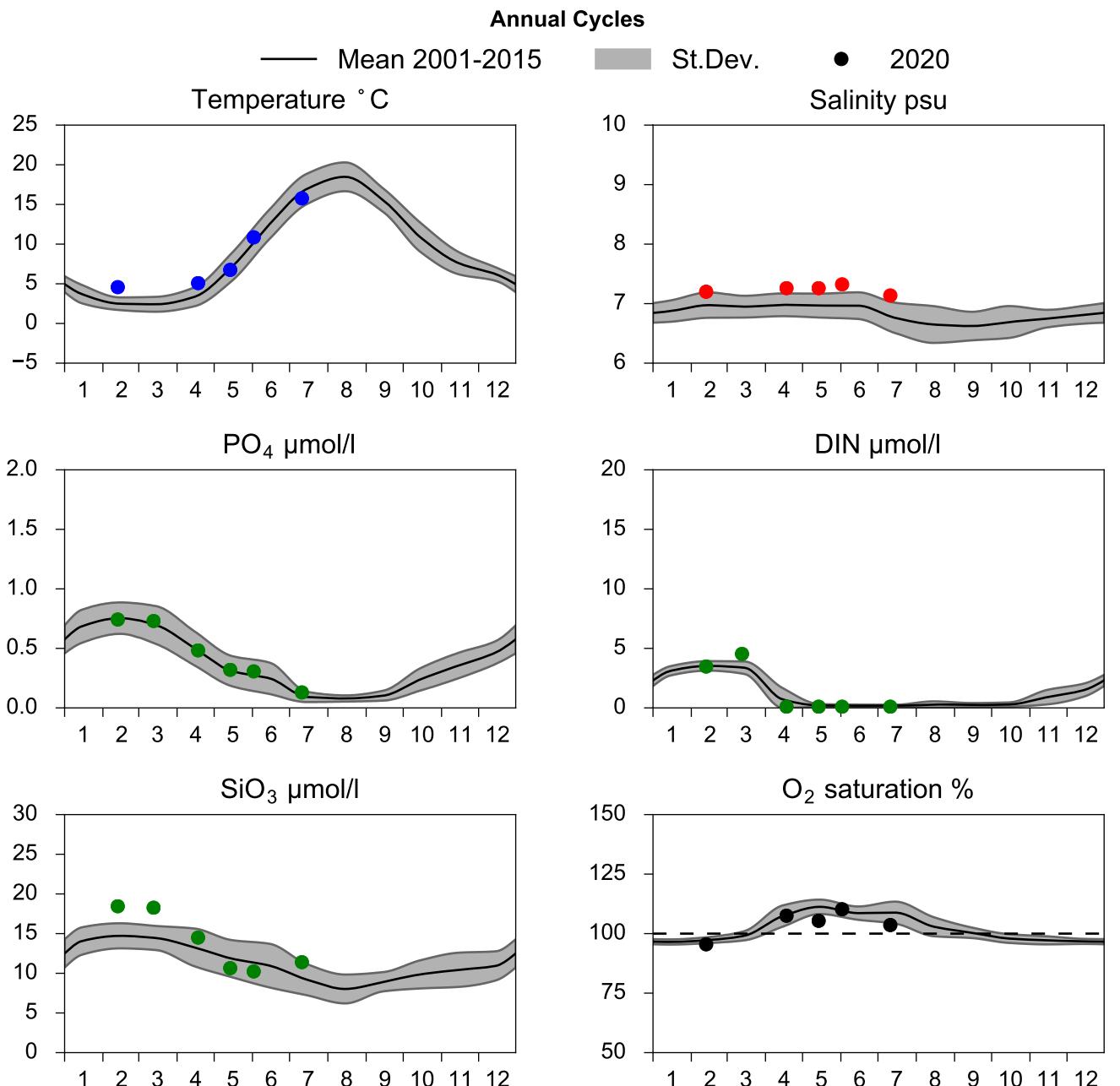
DIN µmol/l



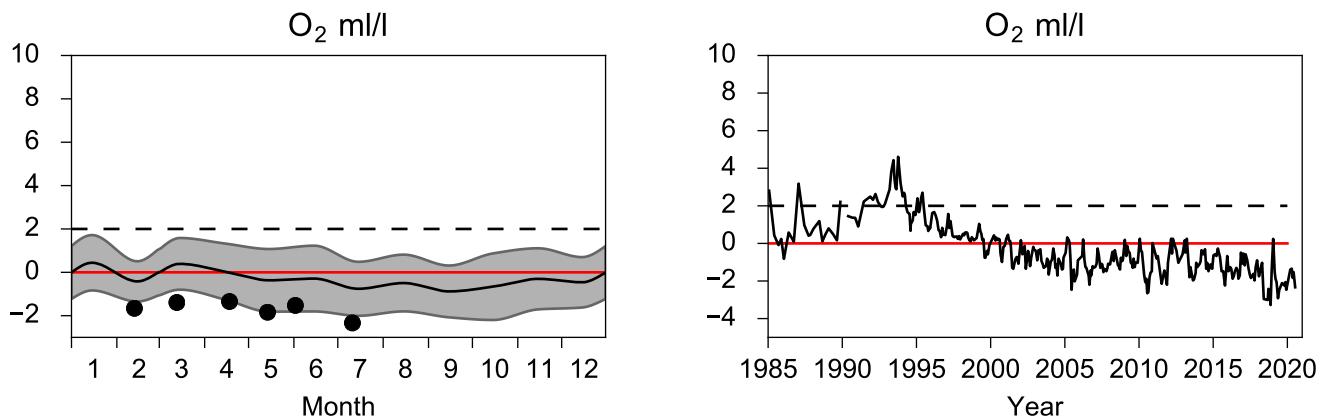
SiO₃ µmol/l



STATION BY38 KARLSÖDJ SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



OXYGEN IN BOTTOM WATER (depth >= 100 m)

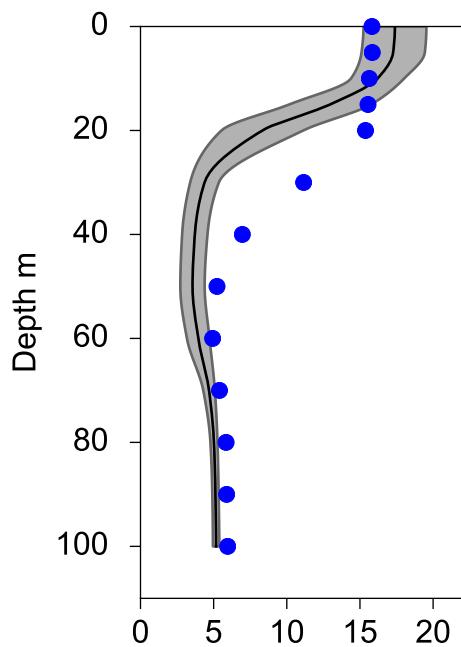


Vertical profiles BY38 KARLSÖDJ

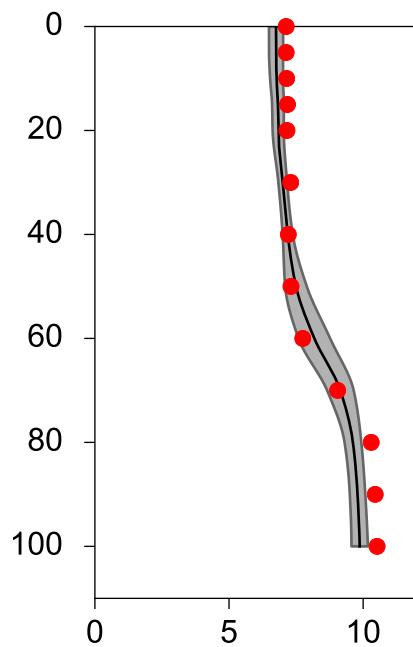
July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-11

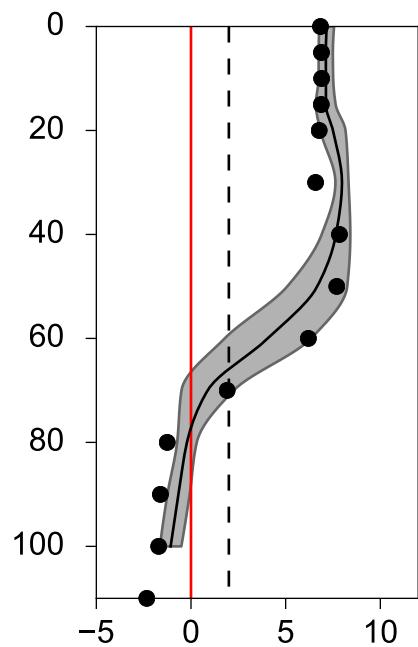
Temperature °C



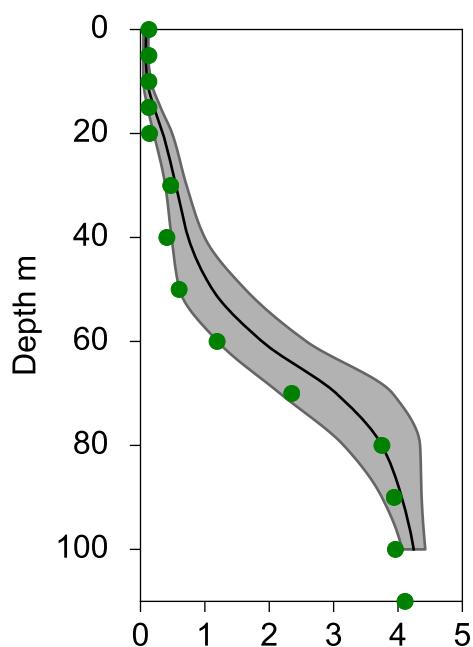
Salinity psu



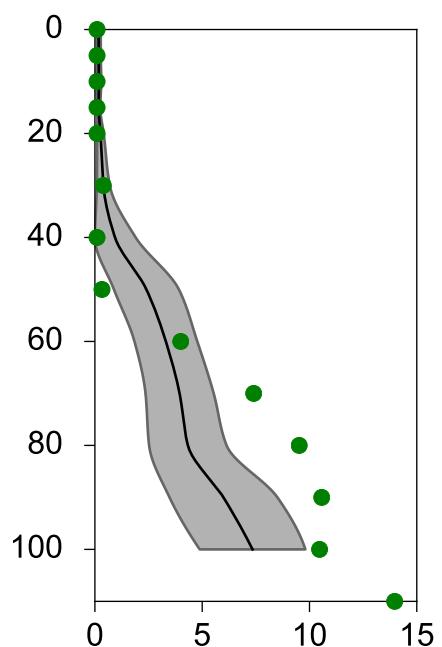
Oxygen ml/l



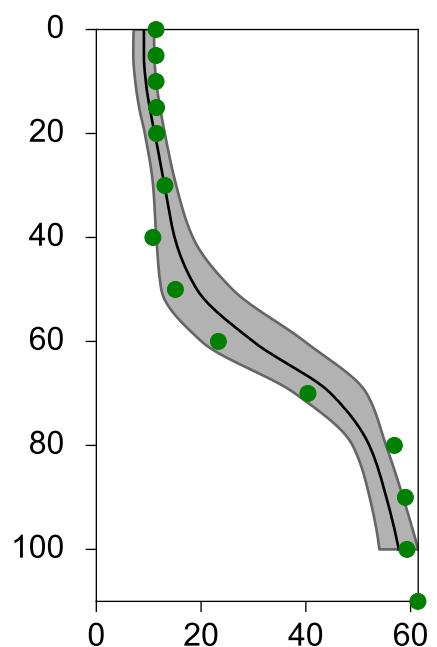
PO₄ µmol/l



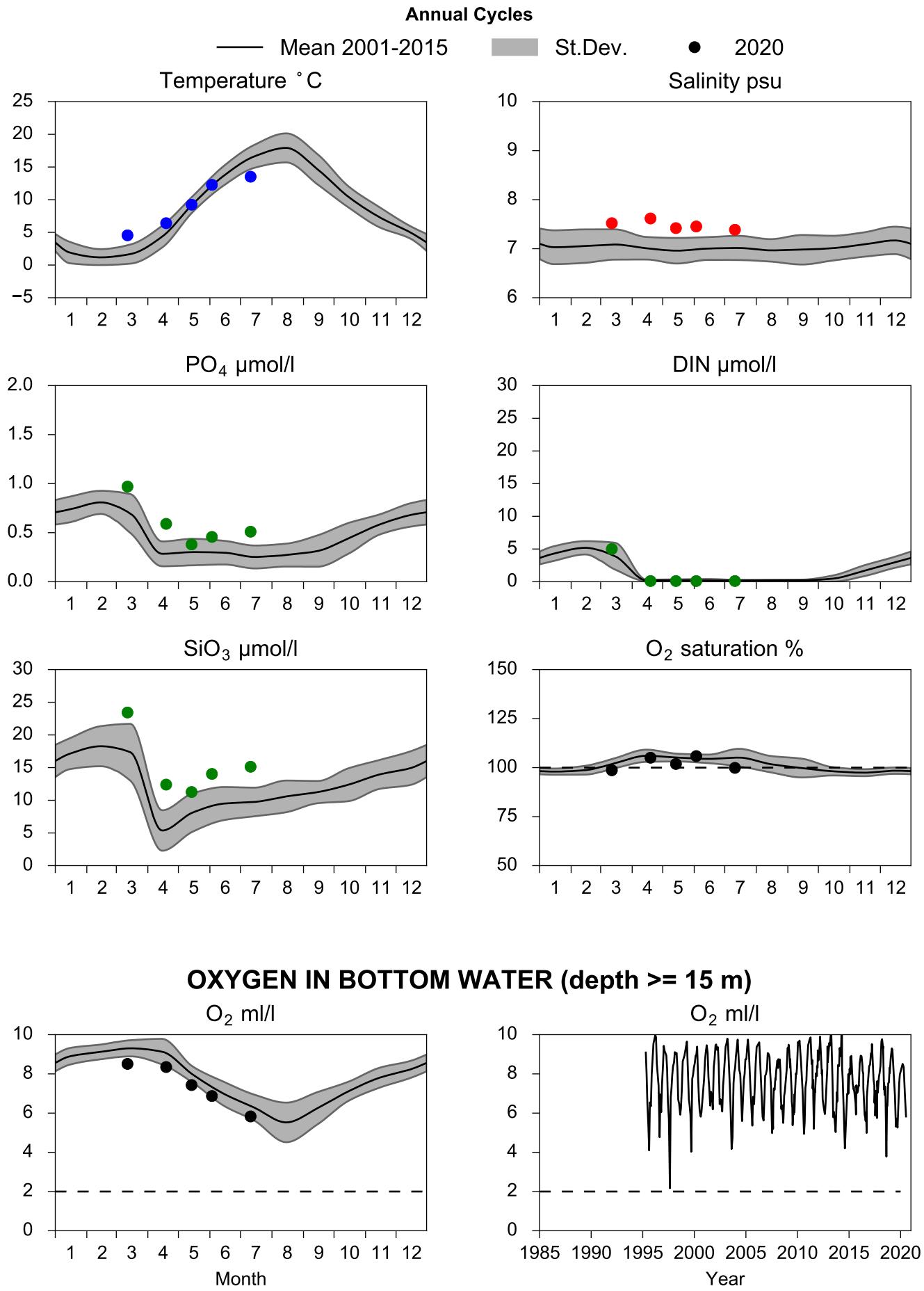
DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l



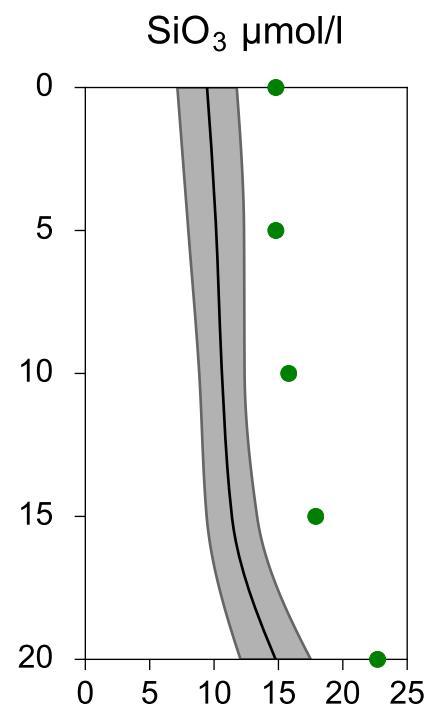
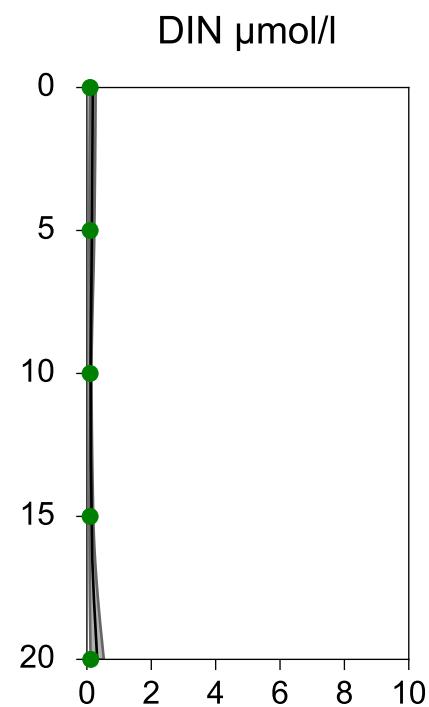
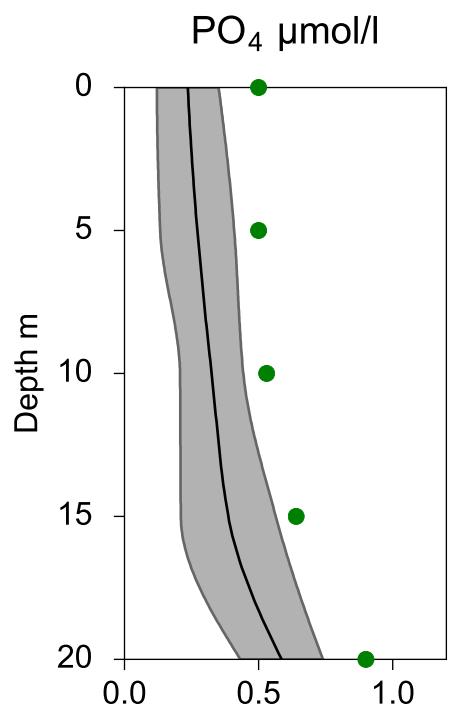
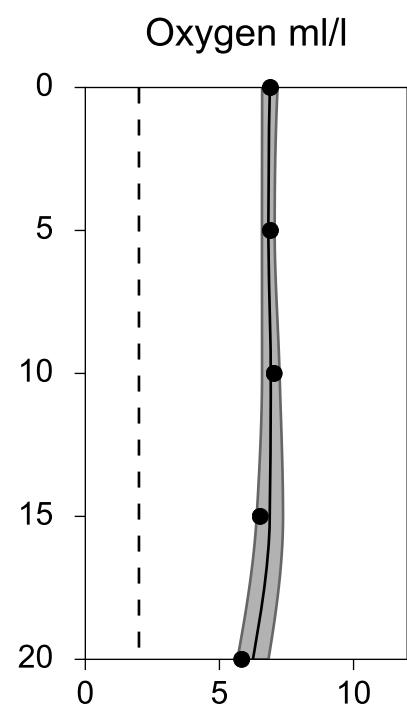
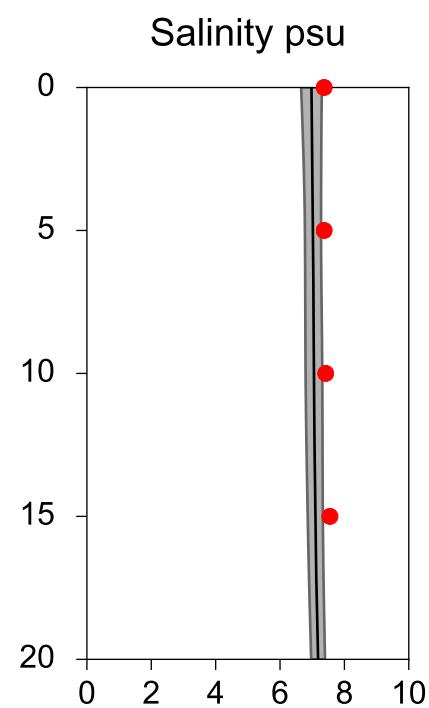
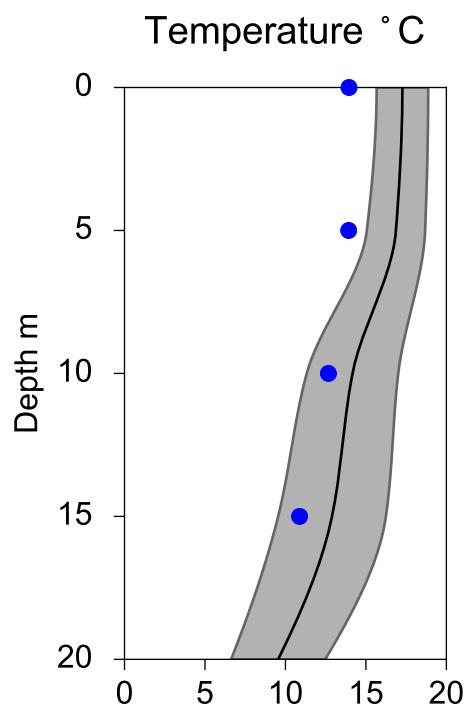
STATION REF M1V1 SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



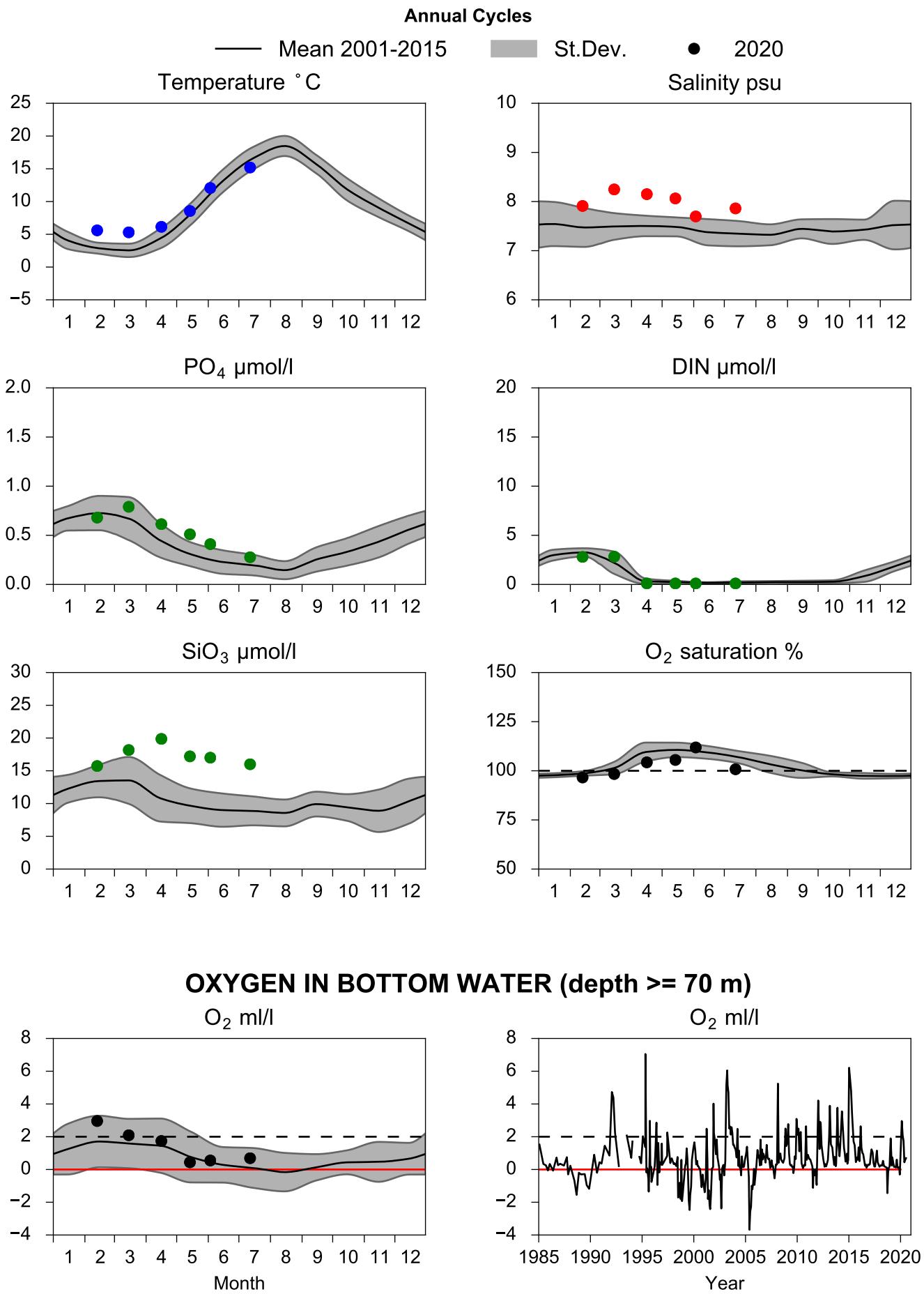
Vertical profiles REF M1V1

July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-11



STATION HANÖBUKTEN SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)

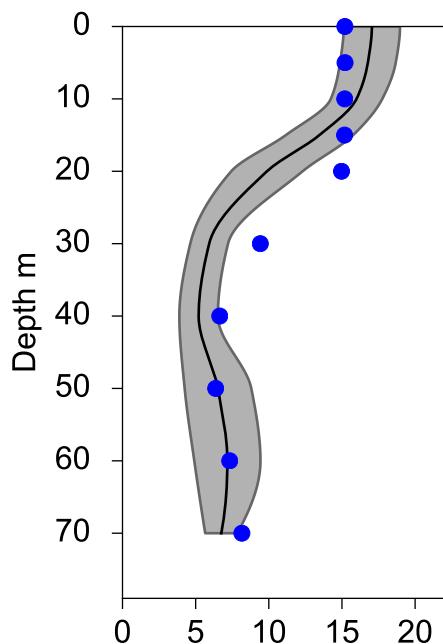


Vertical profiles HANÖBUKTEN

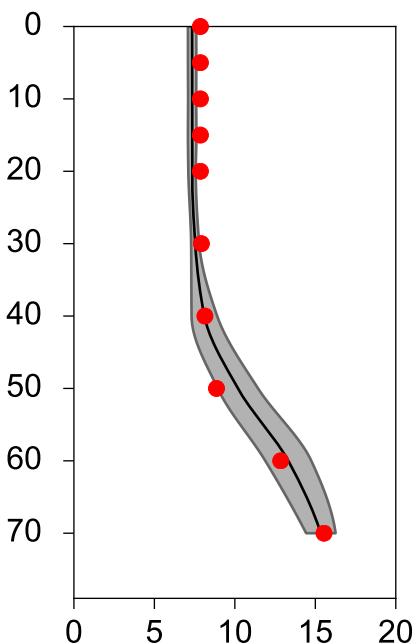
July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-12

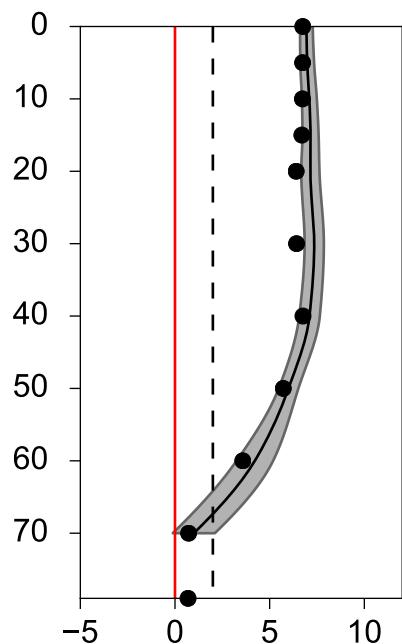
Temperature °C



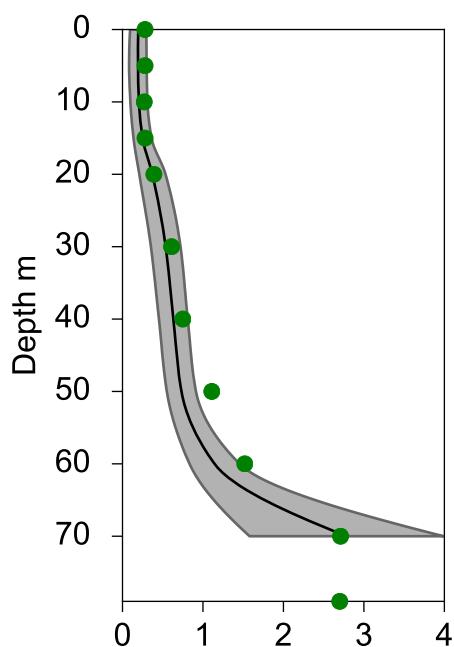
Salinity psu



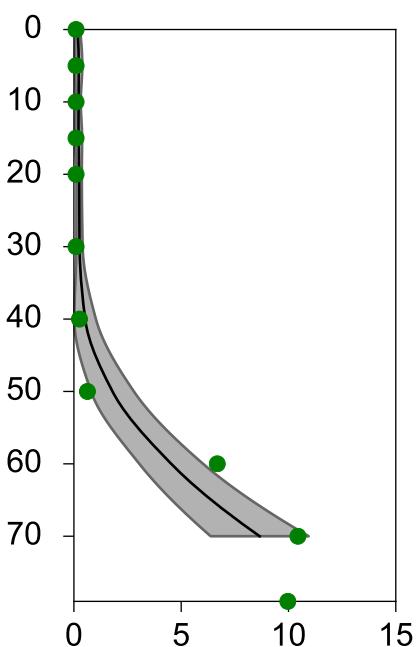
Oxygen ml/l



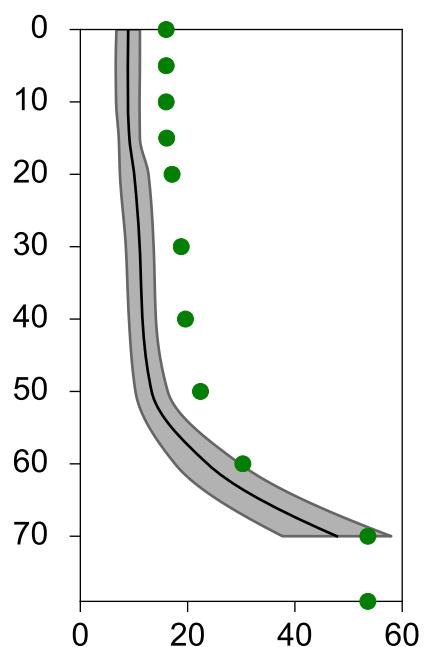
PO₄ µmol/l



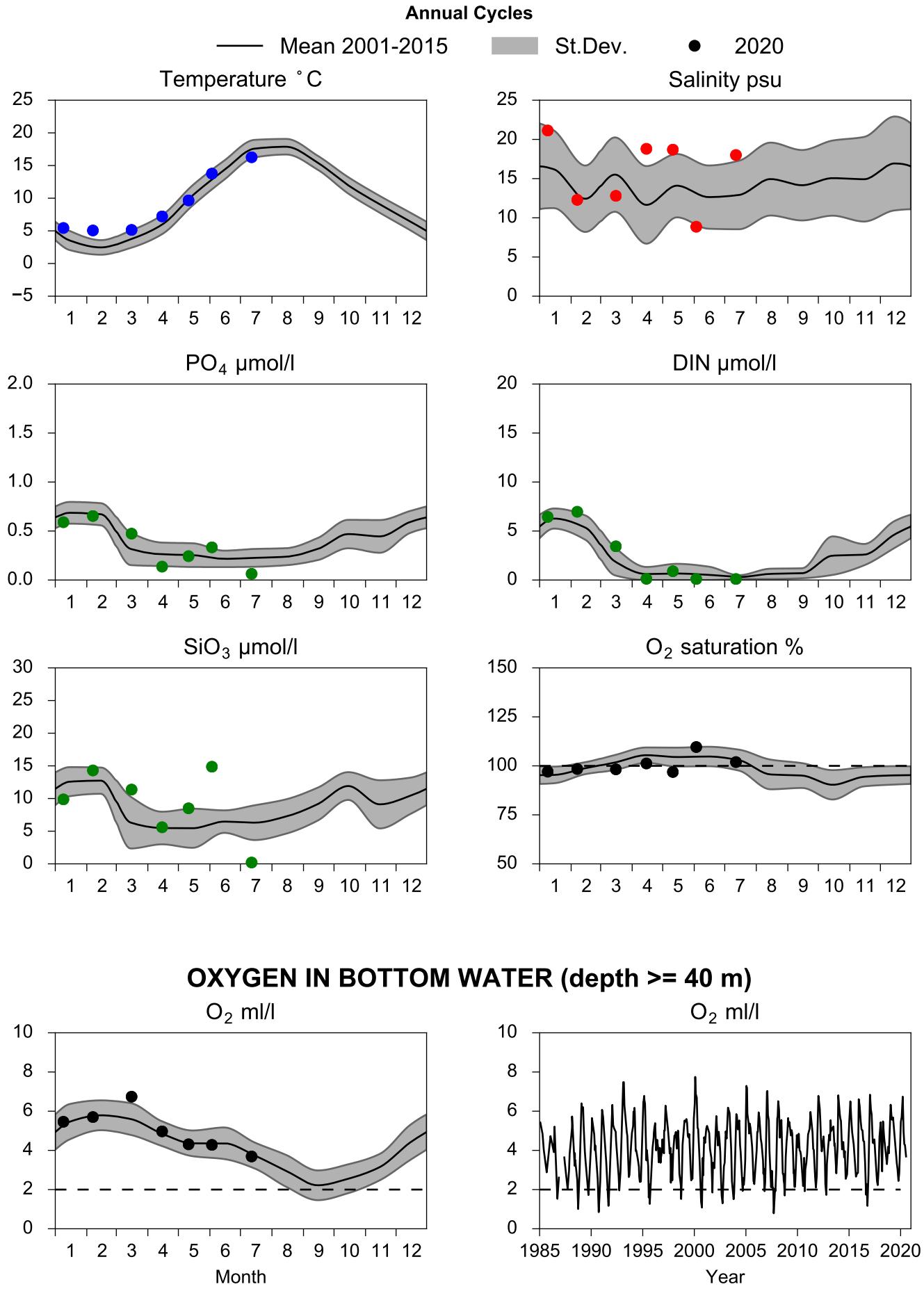
DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l



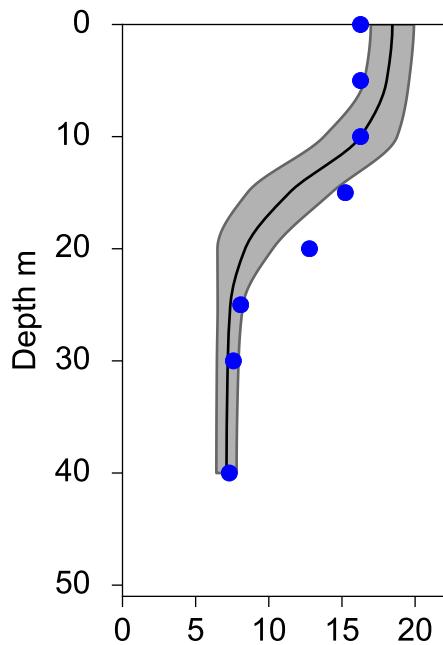
STATION W LANDSKRONA SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



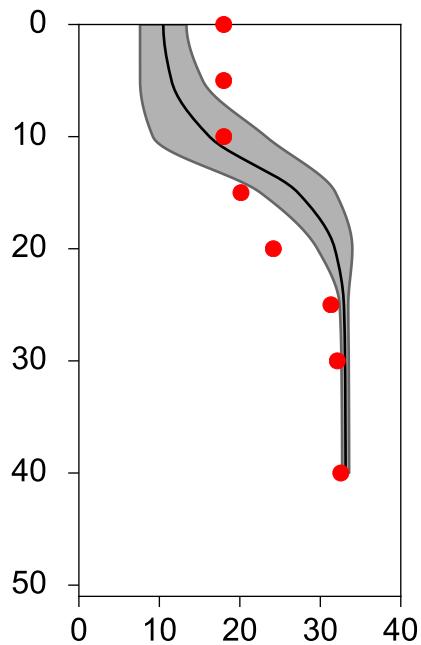
Vertical profiles W LANDSKRONA July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-12

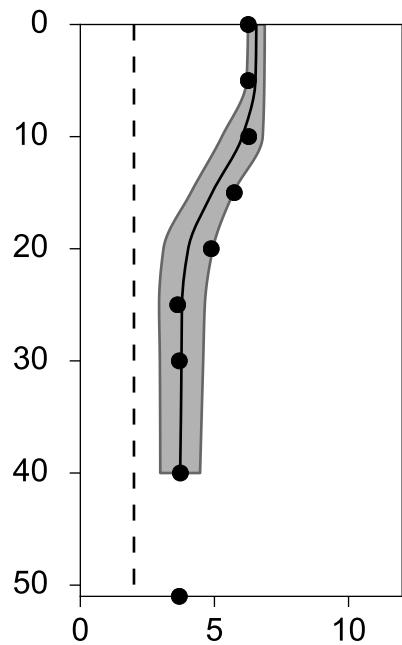
Temperature °C



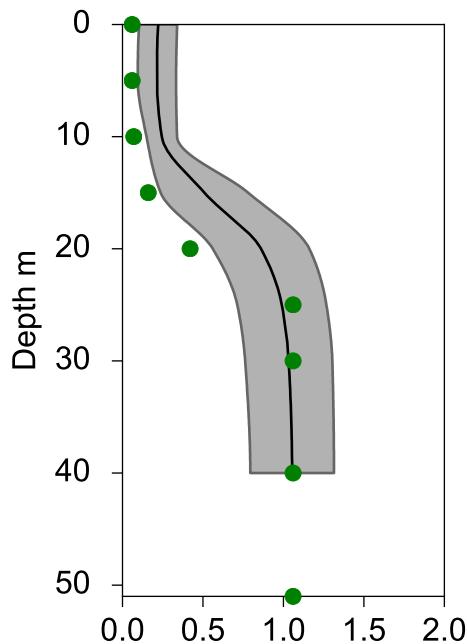
Salinity psu



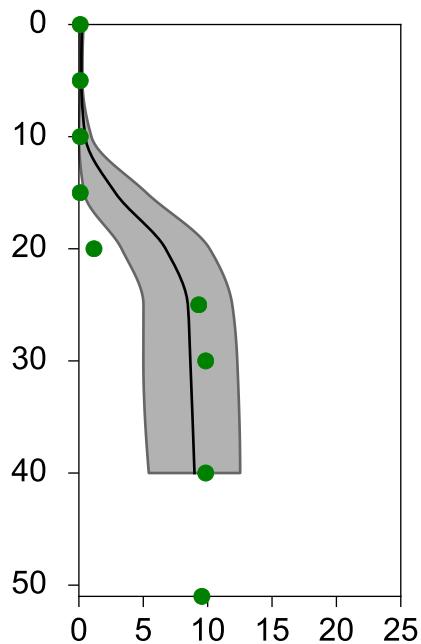
Oxygen ml/l



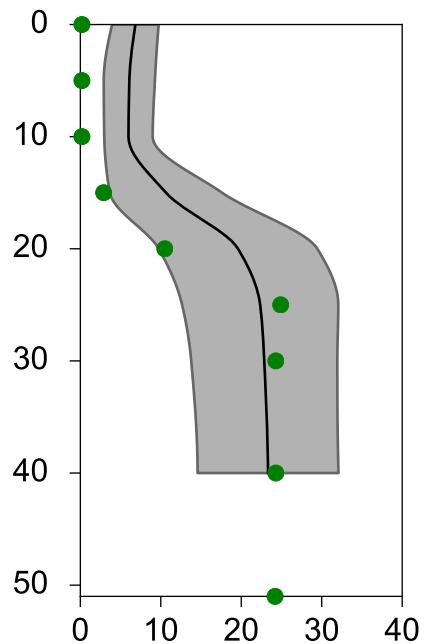
PO₄ µmol/l



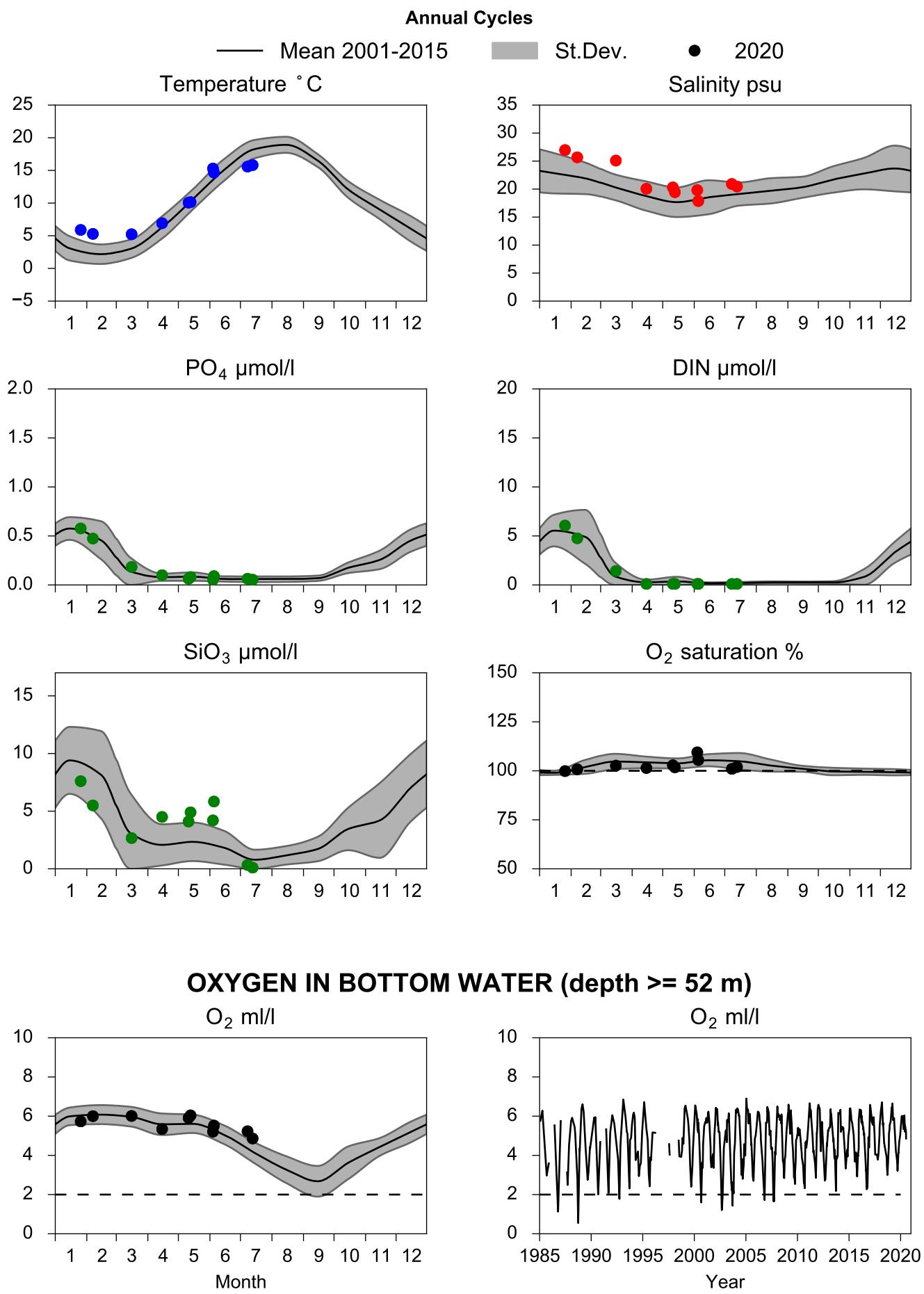
DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l



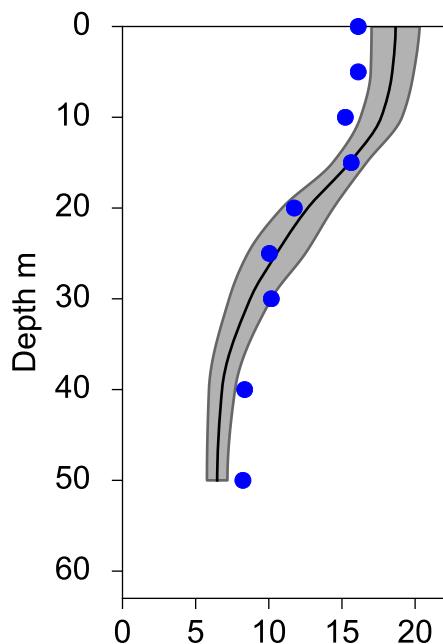
STATION ANHOLT E SURFACE WATER (0-10 m)



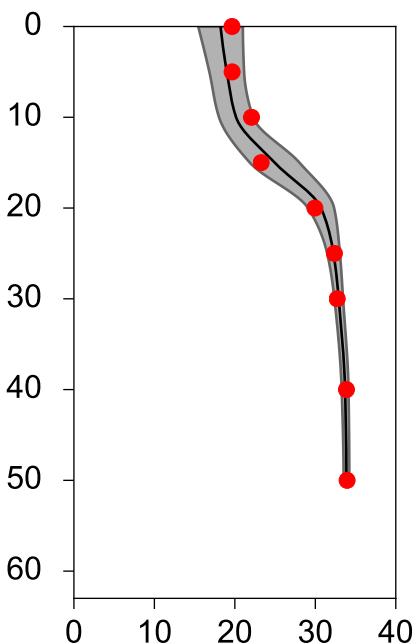
Vertical profiles ANHOLT E July

— Mean 2001-2015 ■ St.Dev. ● 2020-07-13

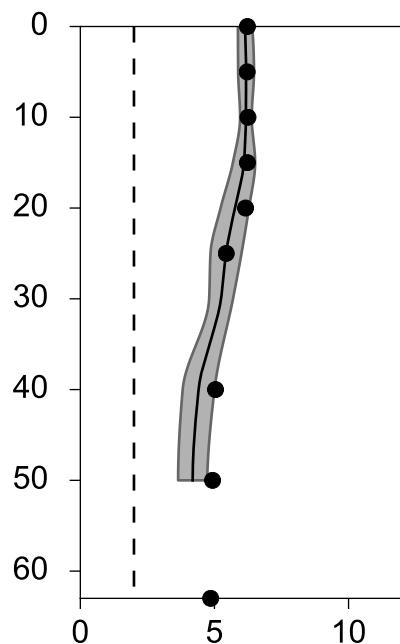
Temperature °C



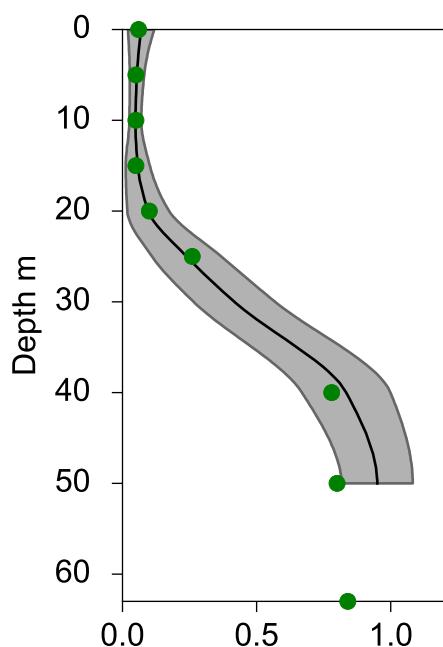
Salinity psu



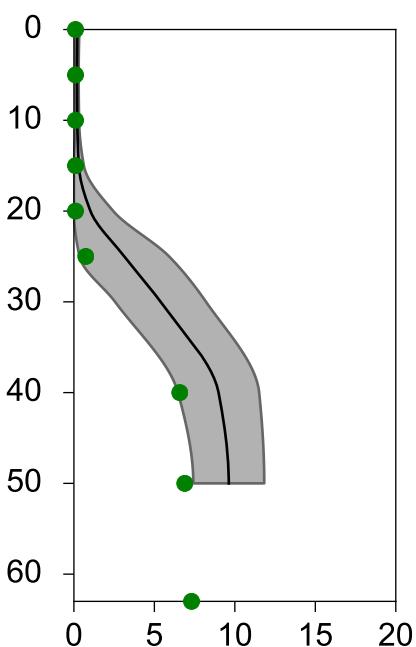
Oxygen ml/l



PO₄ µmol/l



DIN µmol/l



SiO₃ µmol/l

