

Distributions of Dissolved Manganese in the Surface Waters of the Tropical North-Eastern Atlantic Ocean

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ABSTRACT

The tropical North-Eastern Atlantic (TNEA) Ocean region receives high atmospheric input every year, mostly from the Saharan dust and soil. This atmospheric dust and its deposition in the surface ocean are considered to be an important supply of nutrients and trace metal (e.g. dissolved manganese (DMn)) to the euphotic zone of the open ocean regions. Therefore, the objective of this study was to investigate the input of DMn from atmospheric sources and from nearby islands into the TNEA Ocean. A set of surface samples were collected from the Tropical NE Atlantic Ocean, and were analysed for DMn by using the flow injection analyser with chemiluminescence (FIA-CL). Results suggest the land-sources of DMn near to the Canary Islands, the Cape Verde Islands and the African Continent contributed the major inputs of DMn, where high DMn concentrations were determined, with the highest is 3.87 ± 0.05 nM. The lateral advective flux of DMn was higher ($47 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{d}$) than the atmospheric flux of DMn ($0.17 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{d}$), thus making the shelf and sediment as the most prominent sources of DMn in the seawater close to the islands. From this atmospheric flux of DMn, it was then possible to estimate the DMn enrichment at further offshore dust event regions of 0.73 nM/yr and consistent with the DMn background concentrations. This support the low residence time calculated in dust event regions of around 1 year. In conclusion, the shelf and sediment are the most prominent DMn sources in the seawater close to the islands and mainland, while in further offshore, the atmospheric inputs are dominant.

Keywords: Dissolved manganese, Tropical NE Atlantic Ocean, atmospheric input

INTRODUCTION

The distributions of DMn in the water column strongly reflect local sources, removal, and recycling processes. In remote ocean regions where there are low Mn inputs, the distribution of DMn are reported to be a scavenged type where the concentrations are depleted at depth relative to surface values. However, Mn distributions can be significantly modified when there are major atmospheric inputs (Statham & Burton, 1986; Spokes *et al.*, 2001; de Jong *et al.*, 2007), sedimentary inputs from shelf and island systems (Gordon *et al.*, 1998; Bucciarelli *et al.*, 2001; Chase *et al.*, 2005), and local biological activity (may remove manganese). Photochemical reactions can also enhance the concentrations of DMn in surface waters when this particulate Mn and Mn oxides are brought to the surface during upwelling or/and vertical mixing; or atmospheric inputs may be photo-reduced to the dissolved form, which can be measured using FIA methods (Chase *et al.*, 2005). Removal of DMn may occur by: (1) uptake by the biota (Luengen *et al.*, 2007);

(2) precipitation (Mendez *et al.*, 2010); and (3) scavenging removal of Mn from dissolved to particulate phases (Statham *et al.*, 1998). Therefore, in productive oceanic systems with high inputs from the atmosphere, shelf, and islands, there are a series of complex interacting processes that influence the biogeochemical cycles of DMn, and one of the factors is the water movement.

In the present study, DMn was determined in seawater samples collected across the TNEA Ocean which receives episodic atmospheric dust inputs from the Sahara Desert. These oceanic waters also contain islands (i.e. Cape Verde and Canary) which can also supply Mn from benthic sources in shallow waters. Therefore, this study was important in improving our understanding of the complex biogeochemistry of DMn in surface waters receiving high atmospheric dust deposition. The objective of this study was to investigate the input of DMn from atmospheric sources and from nearby islands into the TNEA Ocean.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area and Sampling Sites

TNEA Ocean region receives about a third of global oceanic dust inputs (Jickells & Spokes, 2001), and most originate from the Sahara Desert. During the UK SOLAS project cruise (D326) in the TNEA Ocean on board *RRS Discovery* between 5 January and 5 February 2008, 189 underway surface seawater samples were collected for DMn analysis, that started and finished at Santa Cruz, Tenerife (Canary Islands) and covered an oceanic area between 12–27°N and 17–36°W. Underway surface seawater was sampled by pumping it into a trace metal clean container laboratory using a Teflon diaphragm pump (Almatec A-15, Germany) connected by an acid-washed braided PVC tubing to a towed fish positioned at approximately 2 m depth alongside the ship. The seawater was filtered in-line through an acid-washed Sartobran 300 MF 0.2 µm filter cartridge, and collected in Nalgene LDPE bottles after being rinsed three times with the seawater sample. There were two dust events during the sampling period, as shown in Figure 1. The underway stations were divided into three regions based on the locations of the dust events, islands, and water masses in the study region as shown in Figure 1: TNEA (north of ~20°N), Cape Verde Islands (CV) (~14–20°N), and Equatorial (EQ) (below ~14°N).

Chlorophyll *a* (Chl-*a*) and Macronutrients

Chl-*a* and macronutrients (nitrate, nitrite, phosphate) were analysed on board the cruise.

Chl-*a* analysis

Approximately 200 mL of seawater sample at each station was filtered onto a Whatman GF/F 25 mm filter with a pore size 0.7 µm following the method from Seeyave *et al.* (2007). The filters were placed in 20 mL glass scintillation vials and 10 mL 90% acetone (HPLC grade, Fisher Chemical) was added for pigment extraction over 24 hours in a dark fridge. Chl-*a* pigment was measured fluorometrically on board, using a Turner Designs fluorometer following the Welschmeyer (1994) protocol. The fluorometer was calibrated with a chl-*a* commercial grade standard (Sigma).

Macronutrients analysis

Analysis for nitrate and nitrite (hereafter write as nitrate+nitrite) and phosphate at nanomolar concentration were measured by, and following a method described in Patey *et al.* (2008). A segmented-flow auto-analyser with liquid waveguide capillary flow cells each having a two-metre path-length enabled the detection of nanomolar levels of the nutrients. Two tungsten-halogen light sources were used in conjunction with fibre-optic spectrometers to monitor the

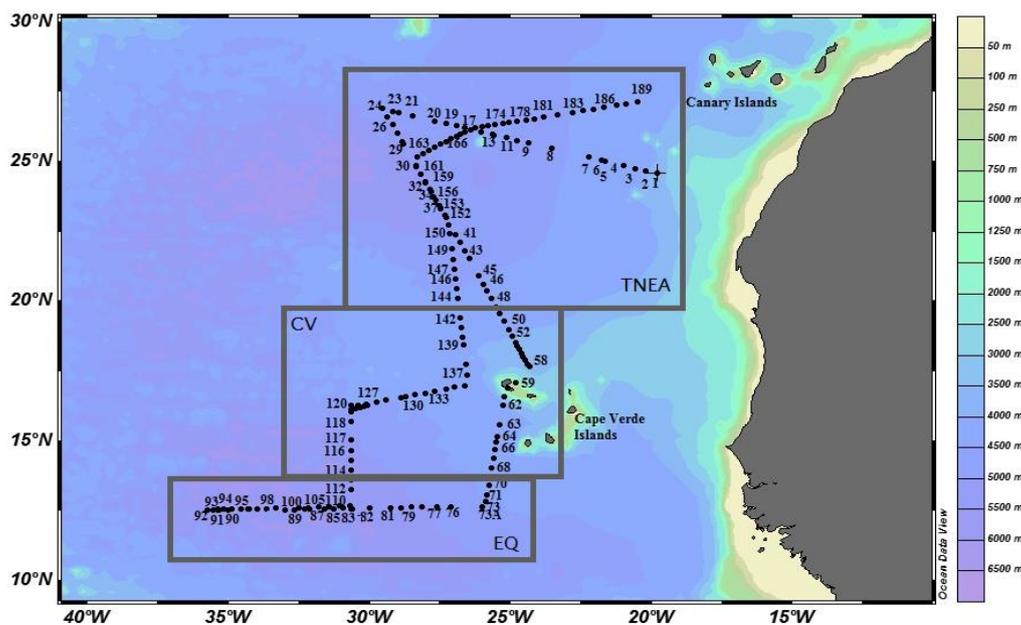


Figure 1. Map of the underway stations sampled for dissolved manganese analysis during D326 in the Tropical NE Atlantic Ocean. The stations were divided into three regions as marked in grey boxes (the first event was in the EQ region and the second event was in the TNEA and CV regions). TNEA: Tropical NE Atlantic; CV: Cape Verde; and EQ: Equatorial.

absorbance of the solution flowing through the waveguides. Samples were taken in HCl-washed 60 mL LDPE bottles.

Dissolved Manganese Analysis

Ruzicka and Hansen (1988) described flow injection analysis (FIA) as an automated method based on injection of a liquid sample into a continuous flow and mixing of suitable carrier solutions (reagents) before transport towards a detector that continuously records the absorbance. DMn was determined using a FIA based on the luminol (5-amino-2,3-dihydro-1,4-phthalazinedione) chemiluminescent technique as described in Castrillejo *et al.* (2013), in which Mn is initially pre-concentrated onto the Toyopearl 650 AF resin, prior to elution and separation from potentially interfering metal ions using a nitrilotriacetic (NTA) resin and determination using the luminol light-emitting reaction. Samples were individually buffered prior to analysis. Procedural blank was 40 pM with a precision of 20 pM. The detection limit (calculated as three times the standard deviation of the blank) was 60 pM with an average relative standard deviation of 11.7%. Accuracy was determined using Certified International Standard Material NASS-5 (National Research Council of Canada) that was processed in the same way as the samples (16.53 ± 0.60 nM ($n=4$)).

RESULTS

Water Masses

Between 27°N (north of Canary Islands) and 12°N (south of Cape Verde Islands), the Canary Current flows southward along the African coast at 10-30 cm s^{-1} , and about 1000 km wide and ~500 m deep (Batten *et al.*, 2000; Zhou *et al.*, 2000). To the north of the Cape Verde Islands (north of 13°N), there is the North Equatorial Current (NEC) and Canary Current (CC) (Stramma *et al.*, 2005) characterized by lower temperatures and higher Chl-*a* concentrations due to the North West African Upwelling (Sarhou *et al.*, 2003). A distinct oxygen minimum zone is positioned south of the NEC and north of the North Equatorial Counter-current (nNECC). In the region of 15°N, the current diverges westward under the influence of the Equatorial Counter-current (Peterson *et al.*, 1996). The northern region at 30°N is in the subtropical gyre and is characterized by oligotrophic conditions with a deep pycnocline and lower atmospheric dust inputs than the stations close to 10°N. The 10°N site is on the edge of the subtropical gyre and equatorial system, and has a shallow pycnocline and higher dust inputs (Bergquist & Boyle, 2006). The hydrography around the Canary Islands and Cape Verde Islands themselves are additionally influenced by coastal upwelling, filaments and eddies (Johnson & Stevens, 2000) (Figure 2).

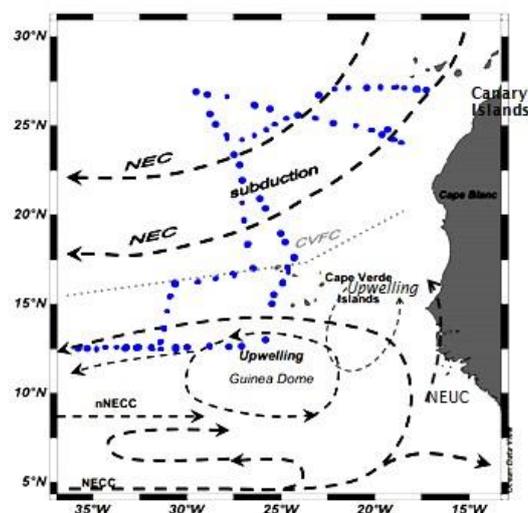


Figure 2. Map of the study area with the cruise track of the RRS Discovery 326 sailed in January-February 2008. The cruise track is shown in the map with dots together with the large scale near-surface flow field described by black-dashed arrows (Stramma *et al.*, 2005). NEC: North Equatorial Current; nNECC: the return flow of the northern North Equatorial Counter-current; NECC: the north flowing part of the North Equatorial Counter-current which is connected to the NEUC; NEUC: North Equatorial Undercurrent; CVFC: Cape Verde Frontal Zone; and the upwelling regions around the Guinea Dome and Cape Verde Islands.

Temperature-salinity diagrams for all stations indicated three distinct regions, which have been termed as the TNEA, CV, and EQ regions (Figure 3). The TNEA region had mixed layer depth between 100 and 150 m, with a moderate temperature gradient between upper and lower layers. Warm waters with shallow mixed layers of 35 to 70 m were evident in the EQ region. A complex surface temperature-salinity pattern was shown in the vicinity of the CV, particularly in the CVFC (Figure 3) where waters around the CV region received influences from the topography of the CV. Based on these water masses, station numbers 1 – 48 and 144 – 189 correspond to TNEA, station numbers 49 – 68 and 114 – 143 correspond to CV, and station numbers 69 – 113 correspond to EQ (Figure 3).

DMn, Chl-*a* and Macronutrients

The concentrations of DMn, Chl-*a*, nitrate+nitrite, phosphate and residence time of DMn are shown in Table S1. The concentrations of DMn in the surface layer of the TNEA region (Figure 4(a)) were generally below 2 nM, with the exceptions of station 1 and station 146 where the concentrations of DMn were above 3 nM. Higher DMn concentrations that were observed close to the Canary Islands coincided with higher phosphate concentrations (~100 nM). However, concentrations of nitrate+nitrite (Figure 4(d)) and Chl-*a* (Figure 4(b)) were also elevated at this station with ~50 nM and ~0.8 µg/L, respectively. These elevated concentrations showed that there were additional

inputs of nutrients and Mn from the Canary Islands and possibly also the African coast, which subsequently increased the Chl-*a* concentrations. The minimum concentration of the surface Chl-*a* (~0.02 µg/L) was observed in the TNEA region (station 21) at some distance from the Canary Islands, during the second dust event (Figure 4(b)) where the concentrations of DMn were not uniform due to sporadic inputs from the atmosphere. In areas where there were assumed to have been high dust inputs recently (containing high soluble Mn), increased concentrations of DMn (e.g. at station 146 (~3 nM)) were observed. When the cruise approached the CV, elevated DMn concentrations were observed, coinciding with the increased concentrations of phosphate. In the EQ region, there were variable concentrations of Chl-*a* during the first dust event that occurred, with highest and lowest concentrations of ~0.6 µg/L and ~0.1 µg/L respectively, to give an average concentration of ~0.26 µg/L (Figure 4(b)).

The concentration of Chl-*a* was at a maximum at station 69, coinciding with low phosphate and DMn concentrations. As the concentrations of Chl-*a* gradually decreased along the underway stations, the phosphate and DMn concentrations showed an inverse pattern. Phosphate concentrations were enhanced significantly (~20 nM) during the first dust event at station 82 and at station 93 to approximately 24 nM, corresponding with elevated DMn concentrations at both stations (Figure 4(a)).

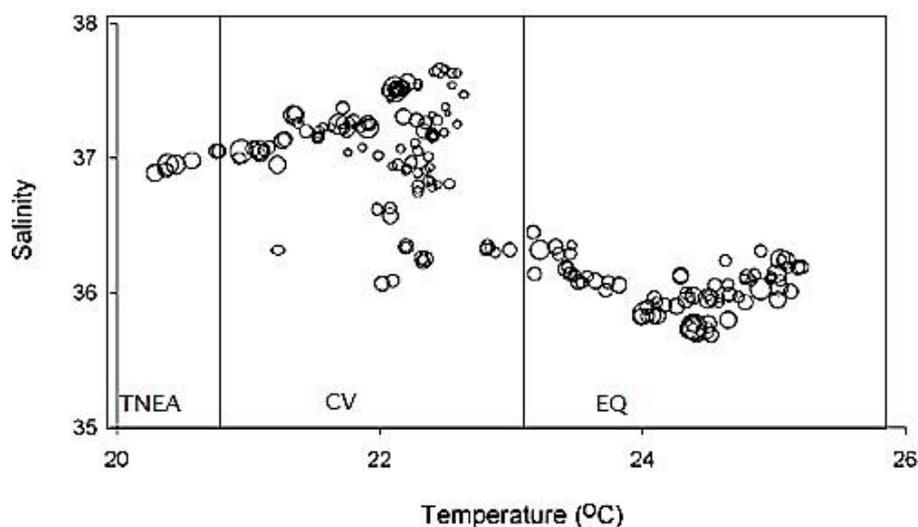


Figure 3. Temperature-salinity plot during the D326 cruise. T-S plot is divided according to three regions: TNEA (Tropical NE Atlantic), CV (Cape Verde), and EQ (Equatorial) regions (adapted from Rijkenberg *et al.*, 2012).

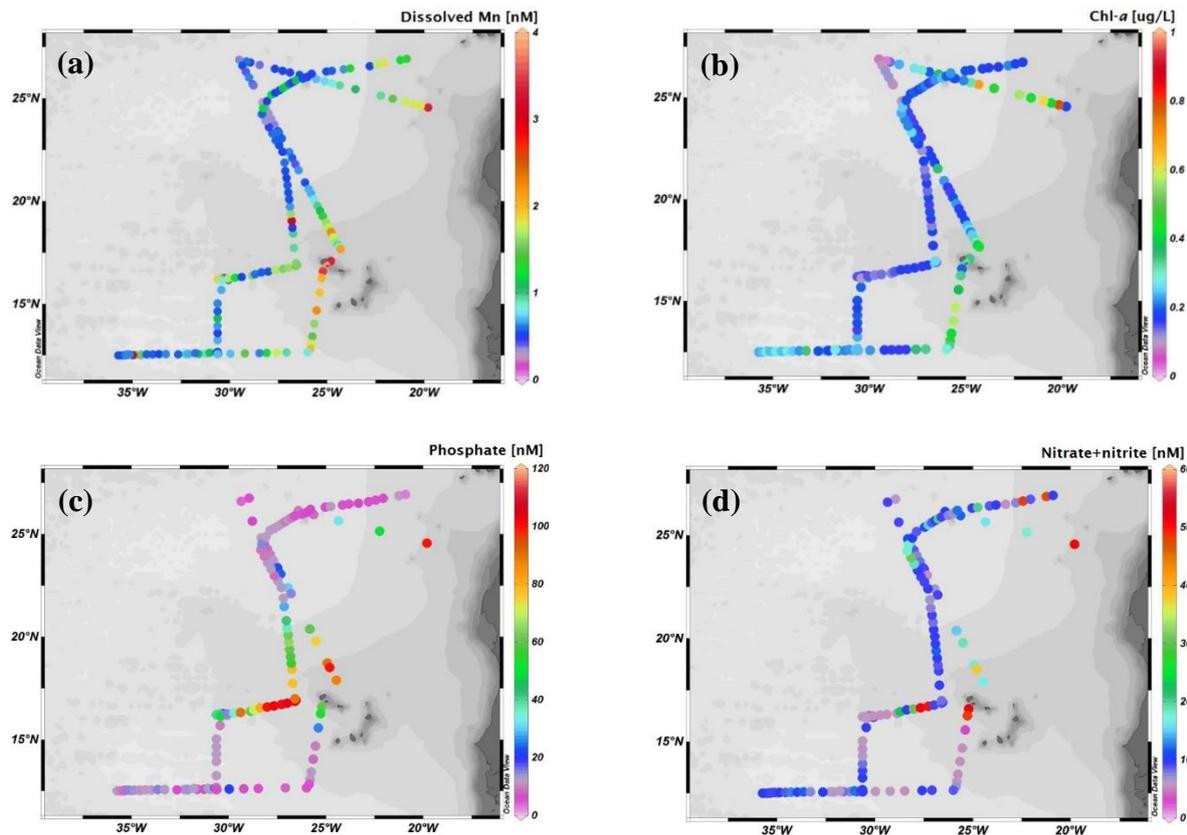


Figure 4. Distributions of surface dissolved manganese (nM) (a), Chl-*a* concentrations ($\mu\text{g/L}$) (b), phosphate concentrations (nM) (c), and nitrate+nitrite concentrations (nM) (d) observed during the UK SOLAS Discovery (cruise D326) in the tropical NE Atlantic Ocean.

However, nitrate+nitrite and Chl-*a* concentrations were low during the first dust event, with an exception at station 90 where the Chl-*a* concentration was elevated, when both nitrate and phosphate concentrations were low. Apart from the dust event, these variable concentrations of DMn, Chl-*a*, and major nutrients observed at this region were also influenced by the large scale near-surface currents flow (Figure 2) across this EQ region, such as the NECC, the nNECC and the upwelling around the Guinea Dome. Chl-*a* and macronutrients are variable depending on bloom development.

In the CV region, the concentrations of Chl-*a* were increased up to $\sim 0.6 \mu\text{g/L}$ (Figure 4(b)) particularly around the CV. However, the concentrations of Chl-*a* decreased (until $\sim 0.1 \mu\text{g/L}$) during the sampling periods (when the cruise sailed back to the Canary Islands) of the second dust event occurred. The surface concentrations of DMn around the CV ranged between approximately 0.5 nM and 3.87 nM, with an average of $1.41 \pm 0.78 \text{ nM}$ (Figure 4(a)).

The observed high DMn concentrations in this region coincided with a complex temperature-salinity pattern in the vicinity of the CVFZ (Figure 3). The DMn concentrations increased (up to 3.87 nM) in the shallow water (<250 m) depth of the CV, coinciding with low Chl-*a* and nitrate concentrations. In addition to upwelling, there was also input from the atmosphere at this location. Chiapello *et al.* (1995) observed that the CV receive maximum dust inputs between November and April as winds direction which transport dusts from the African continent in the trade-wind layer affects only the TNEA Ocean. At station 68, where the highest Chl-*a* concentration ($\sim 0.6 \mu\text{g/L}$) of this region was recorded, both major nutrients (phosphate and nitrate+nitrite) concentrations were at minimum (Figure 4(c) & (d)), and the concentration of DMn was also decreased to approximately 1.6 nM. When the second dust storm started (on 25th January 2008), DMn concentrations were reduced to $\sim 1.09 \text{ nM}$ before gradually increasing to approximately 1.90 nM. The phosphate concentrations were also following a similar trend, but with significant increases. Enhanced

phosphate concentrations during the dust events have been observed in the Mediterranean Sea, where aerosols form a crucial source of phosphate to oligotrophic oceans (Rijkenberg *et al.*, 2012).

DISCUSSION

DMn and associated data (e.g. chl-*a* concentration, macronutrients, temperature, and salinity) were used to study the biogeochemistry of DMn the surface TNEA Ocean. Overall, DMn concentrations obtained in this study were about double the concentrations observed by de Jong *et al.* (2007) who found an average value of approximately 0.50 ± 0.08 nM. However, values obtained here were lower than the values determined by Bergquist and Boyle (2006) further offshore in the Tropical and Subtropical Atlantic Ocean, who found an average concentration of 2.60 ± 0.36 nM. Values presented here are in the range of values obtained by Statham *et al.* (1998) within the range of 0.90-2.12 nM in the NE Atlantic Ocean.

Dust – Potential Source of DMn

Distributions of Mn in seawater are controlled by a combination of several important factors, particularly the sources of Mn. Atmospheric input is the most important source of Mn in the open ocean. Modifications of biogeochemical fluxes in surface waters mainly depend on atmospheric inputs, plus photo-reduction and physical processes. However, tracing individual sources of Mn to specific regions is complicated by several factors and really depends on the physical and chemical properties of the waters at the stations. During the research cruise, two significant dust events were noticeable. The first dust event was encountered between 17 and 22 January 2008 (EQ area) and the second dust event (further north) was longer, from 25 January to 1 February 2008.

Dissolved aluminium (DAI) data have been used as a proxy of atmospheric dust deposition in the ocean (Measures & Vink, 2000). From Al data obtained from this cruise (Patey *et al.*, 2015), estimated atmospheric fluxes of soluble Mn to the TNEA Ocean can be calculated.

Atmospheric deposition occurs by dry (dust) and wet (rain) deposition. However, it is not possible to calculate wet deposition fluxes as there was no rain samples collected during the

sampling period. In addition, dry dusts originating from the arid regions of western Africa are associated with very little rainfall, thus it make dry deposition the dominant atmospheric mode of input (Baker *et al.*, 2007). The dust input *D* ($8.55 \text{ g/m}^2/\text{yr}$), was estimated using the Equation 1 below, as described by Measures and Vink (2000) and de Jong *et al.* (2007):

$$D = ([\text{DAI}]_{\text{sw}} M_{\text{Al}} z_{\text{mix}} / \tau_{\text{DAI}}) / (S_{\text{Al}} A_{\text{Al}}) \quad (\text{Equation 1}),$$

where $[\text{DAI}]_{\text{sw}}$ is the average concentration of dissolved aluminium in surface seawater (27.53 nmol/m^3 , (Patey, 2010)), M_{Al} is the atomic weight of aluminium (26.98 g/mol), z_{mix} is the mixed layer depth (90 m), τ_{DAI} is upper ocean residence time of dissolved aluminium (4 year), S_{Al} is the Al solubility of Saharan dust (3.0 %) from Baker *et al.* (2006), A_{Al} is the abundance of Al in Saharan dust (6.51 % by weight (Guieu *et al.*, 2002)).

From the calculated atmospheric dust flux above, the atmospheric flux of manganese was calculated using the Equation 2:

$$F_{\text{atm, TMn}} = (D A_{\text{Mn}}) / M_{\text{Mn}} \quad (\text{Equation 2}),$$

where $F_{\text{atm, TMn}}$ is the total atmospheric flux ($111 \text{ } \mu\text{mol/m}^2/\text{yr}$) of manganese, *D* is dust input ($8.55 \text{ g/m}^2/\text{yr}$), A_{Mn} is manganese abundance in Saharan dust (0.0712%, Wedepohl, 1995), M_{Mn} is atomic weight of manganese (54.94 g/mol).

From the $F_{\text{atm, TMn}}$ value, the dissolved manganese flux ($F_{\text{atm, DMn}} = 61.10 \text{ } \mu\text{mol/m}^2/\text{yr}$) was calculated after the Equation 3 of de Jong *et al.* (2007):

$$F_{\text{atm, DMn}} = (S_{\text{Mn}}) \cdot (F_{\text{atm, TMn}}) \quad (\text{Equation 3}),$$

where S_{Mn} is solubility for median particle size values for Saharan dust from Baker *et al.* (2006): Mn 55% (range 50-64%).

Therefore, the atmospheric dust deposition flux for soluble manganese in the study region is $0.17 \text{ } \mu\text{mol/m}^2/\text{d}$. This value is low compared to iron and aluminium values which are approximately $3870 \text{ } \mu\text{mol/m}^2/\text{d}$ and approximately $140 \text{ } \mu\text{mol/m}^2/\text{d}$, respectively (Patey, 2010).

Residence Time of DMn

Estimation of the residence time of DMn around the study region gives the average time that DMn spends in the surface waters. The residence time of DMn at a steady state can be calculated by using the Equation 4:

$$\tau_{\text{DMn}} = ([\text{DMn}]_{\text{obs}} \cdot Z_{\text{mix}}) / F_{\text{atm, dMn}} \quad (\text{Equation 4}),$$

where τ_{DMn} is the residence time for DMn, $[\text{DMn}]_{\text{obs}}$ is the measured surface average of DMn concentration (this is assumed to be constant throughout the mixed layer), Z_{mix} is the mixed layer depth (90 m), and $F_{\text{atm, dMn}}$ is the DMn atmospheric flux ($61.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1}$ or $170 \text{nmol/m}^2/\text{d}$). The residence times for individual stations are shown in Table S1, and results are summarized in Table 1.

Overall, average residence time of DMn at these study regions were approximately 1 year and the residence times obtained in this study were slightly shorter than previously estimated, for example, de Jong *et al.* (2007) estimated a range of 1.0 – 3.8 years, with an average of 1.9 year in the NEA Ocean. However, their atmospheric input was low compared to the atmospheric input during this study. The surface concentrations of DMn in this study are also higher than de Jong *et al.* (2007) values. Therefore, the DMn distributions at the TNEA Ocean and atmospheric sources are more temporally variable than previously thought.

On the repeat transect along the EQ section, the concentrations of DMn were lower than on the outbound leg. However, the concentrations of DMn and dissolved iron (DFe) (Rijkenberg *et al.*, 2012) were elevated in the surface layer, indicating an atmospheric source of trace metals

at these stations. The expected DMn concentrations enrichment in a cubic meter of seawater due to atmospheric inputs can be calculated by using Equation 5:

$$\text{DMn enrichment} = F_{\text{atm, DMn}} / \text{MLD} \quad (\text{Equation 5}),$$

where $F_{\text{atm, DMn}}$ is the atmospheric dust deposition flux for soluble Mn, ($170 \text{nmol/m}^2/\text{d}$) and MLD is mixed layer depth (90 m). By putting these values into Equation 5, the concentrations of DMn per 1m^3 (1000L) input around the dust event regions is 0.002nmol/L/d , to give approximately 0.73nmol/L/yr , which is consistent with the data obtained here (given typical concentration values and a residence time of about 1 year). These values thus supported the low average residence time calculated in dust event regions of around 1 year. Reason for the observed low Mn values compared to high Al and Fe is most likely the large inputs of Al and Fe relative to Mn in this zone.

Islands and Mainland – Potential Sources of DMn

The relationship between concentrations of DMn adjacent to the African continent, and the distance from the African continent (in km) were examined in order to investigate the source of DMn in the surface layer ocean (adapted from Rijkenberg *et al.* (2012)).

The distribution of DMn in the TNEA region decreased exponentially with increasing distance from the African continent ($R^2 = 0.897$, $[\text{DMn}] (\text{nM}) = 2.812e^{-(x)}$, where x is the distance in km) (Figure 5). However it must be remembered that a part of this signal may originate from the upstream Canary Islands, as well as the African coast.

Table 1. Average of DMn residence times for different regions. The mixed layer depth (MLD) is 90 m, and the atmospheric flux of DMn is $61.10 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1}$.

Station	Residence time (years)
	Average (year)
TNEA region	0.66
CV region	1.14
EQ region	0.75

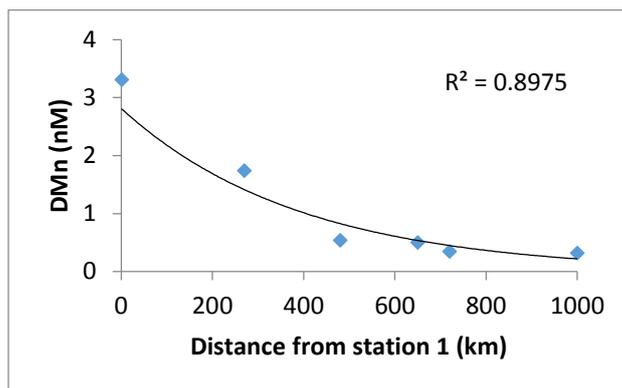


Figure 5. The DMn concentration in the surface layer for stations influenced by Canary Islands and the African continent inputs, and the offshore stations. Station 1 is the closest to the African continental shelf and its x-position is set to 0 km.

The horizontal flux of DMn (F_{DMn}) was calculated using Equation 6:

$$F_{DMn} = C_0 e^{-x/D} \quad (\text{Equation 6}),$$

where C_0 is the concentration at station 1, x is the distance (km) from station 1, and D is the scale length (451 km, Rijkenberg *et al.* (2012)). The exponential fit was $[DMn] = 2.812e^{-x/451}$ (Figure 5). Then, the parameterization to estimate lateral diffusion coefficient (K_h , m^2/s) can be calculated by using Equation 7 to give a value of $1.83 m^2/s$:

$$K_h = 7.3 \times 10^{-4} D^{0.15} \quad (\text{Equation 7})$$

Combining this estimated lateral diffusion coefficient, K_h , with the DMn gradient from near shore to further offshore (DMn_{gradient}), gives a lateral flux of DMn (DMn_h) of $47.4 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$ or $17.3 \text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1}$ (dependent on the coastline length), as calculated in Equation 8:

$$DMn_h = DMn_{\text{gradient}} \cdot K_h \quad (\text{Equation 8})$$

$$DMn_h = 0.003 \text{ nmol m}^{-3} \text{ m}^{-1} \cdot 1.83 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1} \cdot 3600 \text{ s} \cdot 24 = 47.4 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$$

The decrease in DMn coincided with an increase in DA1 (Rijkenberg *et al.*, 2012). Therefore, a continental source of waters rich in DMn but not DA1 appears to have influenced the DMn distribution. The source of DMn may either be anoxic shelf sediments (Chase *et al.*, 2005) or the upwelling of deep waters along the continental shelf which may have collected Mn from the shelf on its trajectory. Elevated concentrations of DMn in bottom waters may be due to the release of dissolved forms of Mn from

re-suspended particles and the diffusion from pore waters (Laes *et al.*, 2007). Sediment on the continental shelf may be high in dissolved and particulate Mn including manganese oxides (MnO_x). Particulate Mn from the sediment can be brought back to the surface water during the upwelling and strong sunlight in the TNEA Ocean can enhance the photo-reduction process which changes the particulate form of Mn to the dissolved form (Chase *et al.*, 2005; Sunda & Huntsman, 1983).

CONCLUSION

Relatively low concentrations of DMn were observed during both dust events, suggesting only small inputs. Dust inputs will be episodic, but an estimation of the annual atmospheric flux of DMn was calculated and gave a value of approximately $61 \mu\text{mol/m}^2/\text{yr}$ or about $0.17 \mu\text{mol/m}^2/\text{d}$, which was low compared to the atmospheric fluxes of DFe and DA1. The residence times obtained from this study were shorter, approximately 1 year, thus suggesting that the DMn distribution in the TNEA Ocean were more temporally variable. Furthermore, DMn enrichments of 0.002 nmol/L/d or 0.73 nmol/L/yr were estimated in the seawater around the dust events, which is consistent with the background concentrations of DMn obtained here. Higher surface concentrations of DMn were observed at stations in close proximity of the islands and coastal mainland sources (e.g. the Canary Islands, the CV, and the African continent), up to $\sim 3.90 \text{ nM}$. The distribution of DMn decreased with increasing distance away from the land sources (i.e. TNEA region). The

lateral DMn flux was calculated to give a value of approximately 47 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{d}$ or ~ 17.3 $\text{mmol}/\text{m}^2/\text{yr}$. However, the atmospheric input estimated for this study were small (0.17 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{d}^{-1}$), thus making the shelf+sediment are the most prominent DMn sources in the seawater close to the islands and mainland, while in further offshore, the atmospheric inputs are dominant.

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