



Type II photosensitized oxidation in senescent microalgal cells at different latitudes: Does low under-ice irradiance in polar regions enhance efficiency?



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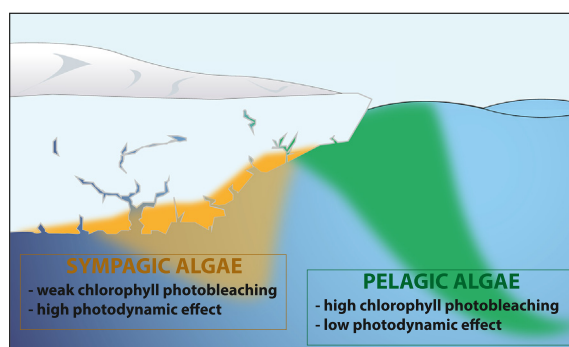
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HIGHLIGHTS

- Photodynamic effect efficiency in POM is compared at different latitudes.
- Efficiency of lipid photooxidation is low in temperate and equatorial regions.
- Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids is highest in polar regions.
- Photodynamic effect is particularly efficient in particles sinking under sea ice.
- Photooxidation of lipids in senescent phytoplankton is favoured at low irradiance.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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ABSTRACT

Comparison of Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids (the photodynamic effect) and photodegradation of chlorophyll (sensitizer photobleaching) in samples of particulate matter collected previously from locations representing a diverse range of latitudes reveals an enhancement of the photooxidation of lipids at the expense of chlorophyll photodegradation in the polar regions. The efficiency of the photodynamic effect appears to be particularly high in sinking particles collected under sea ice and is attributed to the rapid settling of highly aggregated sympagic algae to depths of low light transmission favouring the photodynamic effect at the expense of photobleaching of the sensitizer. Paradoxically, the low efficiency of Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids observed in temperate and equatorial regions is associated with high solar irradiances in these regions. Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids in senescent phytoplankton seems thus to be strongly dependent of the intensity of solar irradiance.

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1. Introduction

Reconstructions of sedimentary palaeoenvironments are essential to place the current global warming trends into the context of natural and long-term climate variability. Lipid biomarkers preserved in sediments are often used for this purpose since they are key indicators of organic matter (OM) sources (Volkman et al., 1998; Wakeham et al., 1997). Maximizing the reliability of these reconstructions requires careful consideration of the processes that affect the fate of OM – notably OM degradation and/or preservation – during its transport down the water column from the euphotic zone to the seafloor. Degradation may be biotic (i.e. induced by zooplankton and bacteria, Harvey et al., 1987; Grossart et al., 2007) or abiotic (i.e. induced by light or radicals, Rontani, 2012). Photooxidation (which has generally received little attention until now in the literature) that destroys most of the unsaturated components of biogenic OM initially present in the settling material (for a recent review see Rontani and Belt, 2020) can strongly alter the lipid signature of OM reaching the seafloor. It is thus essential to take into account the potential effects of abiotic degradation when making palaeoenvironmental reconstructions from sedimentary OM.

In healthy phytoplankton cells, light absorption by chlorophyll creates an excited singlet state (^1Chl), which leads to the classical fast reactions of photosynthesis (Foote, 1976). The energy of this excited state is then transferred to various substrates, where it promotes photosynthetic reactions, while a relatively small proportion of ^1Chl (<0.1%) undergoes intersystem crossing (ISC) to form the longer-lived triplet state (^3Chl ; Knox and Dodge, 1985) (Fig. 1). ^3Chl is not only potentially damaging in itself in Type I reactions (Knox and Dodge, 1985), but can also generate reactive singlet oxygen ($^1\text{O}_2$) by reaction with ground state oxygen ($^3\text{O}_2$) via Type II photoprocesses (Fig. 1) (Krieger-Liszskay, 2005). Despite the production of other Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS), it is generally considered that the photo-production of $^1\text{O}_2$ plays the major role in light-induced damage to plant cells (Triantaphylides et al., 2008).

In view of the susceptibility of plant cells to oxidative damage, there are many antioxidant protective mechanisms in chloroplasts. For

example, carotenoids quench ^3Chl and $^1\text{O}_2$ by energy transfer mechanisms at very high rates (Fig. 1). Such antioxidants have a dual role: first, they limit $^1\text{O}_2$ formation, and second, they help remove any $^1\text{O}_2$ that does form (Foote, 1976; Telfer, 2002). Tocopherols and ascorbic acid are also efficient quenchers of $^1\text{O}_2$ (Halliwell, 1987; Havaux et al., 2005).

In senescent phototrophic organisms, the cessation of photosynthetic reactions results in an accelerated rate of formation of ^3Chl and ROS (mainly $^1\text{O}_2$) (Nelson, 1993; Triantaphylides et al., 2008). The rate of formation of these potentially damaging species then often exceeds the quenching capacity of the photoprotective system such that photodegradation of cell components can occur via the so-called photodynamic effect (Merzlyak and Hendry, 1994) (Fig. 1). Direct and irreversible reaction of ^3Chl with $^3\text{O}_2$ (photobleaching) gives photooxidation products (Harbour and Bolton, 1978) (Fig. 1), while $^1\text{O}_2$ reacts extremely rapidly with nearby biomolecules at near diffusion-controlled rates (photodynamic effect) (Knox and Dodge, 1985; Cadenas, 1989; Skovsen et al., 2005). The very high reactivity of $^1\text{O}_2$ with numerous cell components (unsaturated lipids, some amino acids, nucleic acids; Rontani, 2012; Devasagayam and Kamat, 2002) is a consequence of the loss of the spin restriction that normally hinders reaction of $^3\text{O}_2$ with these biomolecules (Zolla and Rinalducci, 2002). $^1\text{O}_2$ also reacts with the sensitizer (chlorophyll) inducing its photobleaching (Nelson, 1993; Rontani, 2012) (Fig. 1). It is important to note, however, that photobleaching of the sensitizer reduces $^1\text{O}_2$ production and is thus competitive with the photodynamic effect.

In this study, we investigated the photooxidation of chlorophyll (photobleaching) and some common algal unsaturated lipids (Δ^5 -sterols and monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFAs)) (photodynamic effect) in marine particulate matter from locations representing a diverse range of latitudes, from the Arctic to the Antarctic. In order to try to explain an increased, yet highly variable, efficiency of the photodynamic effect observed in material from the polar regions, particular attention was given to samples from the Canadian Arctic representing sea ice, the water column under the ice, and regions of open water.

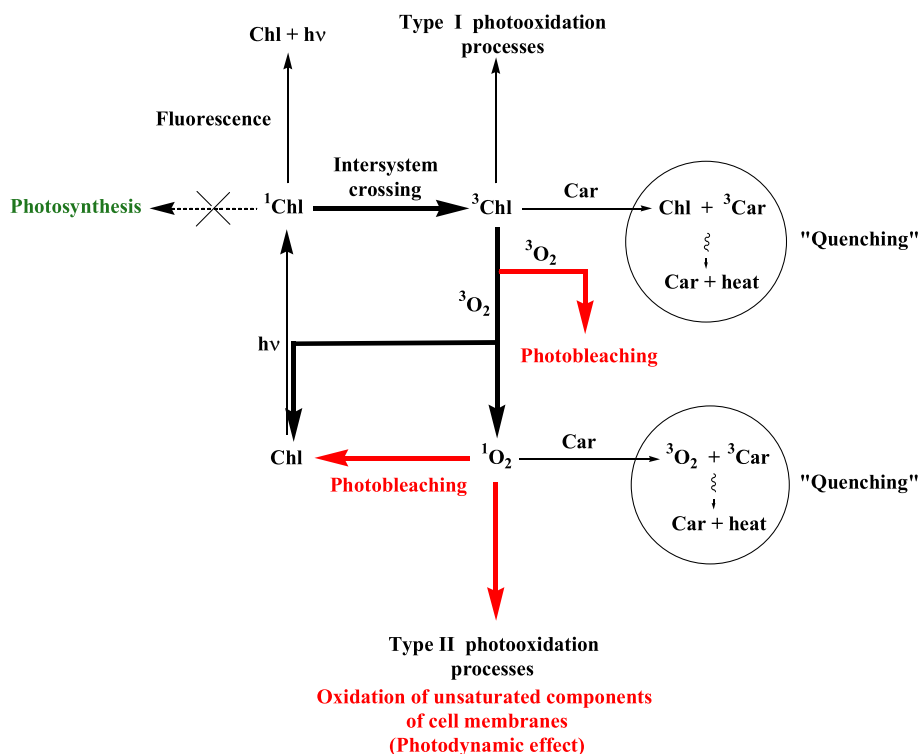


Fig. 1. Potential pathways for chlorophyll (Chl) excitation energy in senescent phytoplankton cells (simplified scheme limited to the formation of $^1\text{O}_2$ and photoprotective role of carotenoids (Car)).

2. Experimental

2.1. Sample collection

Detailed descriptions (e.g. sampling dates, depths, volumes, etc.) of the collection of samples of marine particulate matter from the Arctic, English Channel, Mediterranean Sea, Arabian Sea, Equatorial Pacific, Equatorial Atlantic, Peru upwelling and East Antarctica (Fig. 2) has been described previously (see references in Tables 1 and 2). Briefly, suspended particulate matter (SPM) samples were collected with Niskin bottles or an in situ multiple-unit large-volume filtration system (MULVFS), while sinking particles were collected with floating or fixed mooring sediment traps. Sub-samples for lipid analysis were then filtered onto GF/F filters and stored frozen (-80°C). Sympagic algae were obtained from the bottom-most layer of sea ice (0–10 cm) from Resolute Passage (Canadian Arctic) (Rontani et al., 2014). Samples of the sub-ice colonial diatom, *Melosira arctica*, which colonises the underside of sea ice and is widely distributed across the Arctic (Boetius et al., 2013), were collected from the Canadian icebreaker CCGS Amundsen under the ice (49 ± 4 cm) in Baffin Bay ($70^{\circ}28'32''\text{N}$, $64^{\circ}0'37''\text{W}$) in June 2016 (GreenEdge Campaign) and on board of R/V Lance ($81^{\circ}14'22''\text{N}$, $21^{\circ}54'50''\text{E}$) in August 2017 as part of an oceanographic transect north of Svalbard from Rijpfjorden towards the Nansen Basin. Near-surface (<10 m) water column samples (ca. 1–4 l) were collected along a N-S transect terminating in the Amundsen Sea (Antarctica) and filtered (GF/F) on board the Korean Icebreaker RV Araon in January/February 2016.

2.2. Sample treatment

The whole material of the different samples was reduced with excess NaBH_4 in MeOH (25 ml; 30 min) to reduce labile hydroperoxides (resulting from Type II photooxidation) to their corresponding alcohols, which are more amenable to analysis using gas chromatography/electron ionization mass spectrometry (GC-EIMS), gas chromatography/electron ionization tandem mass spectrometry (GC-EIMS/MS) and gas chromatography/electron ionization quadrupole time of flight mass spectrometry (GC-QTOF). Water (25 ml) and KOH (2.8 g) were then added and the resulting mixture saponified by refluxing (2 h). After cooling, the mixture was acidified (HCl, 2 N) to pH 1 and extracted with dichloromethane (DCM; 3×20 ml). The combined DCM extracts were dried over

anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated via rotary evaporation at 40°C to give total lipid extracts (TLEs). All the solvents (pesticide/glass distilled grade) and reagents (Puriss grade) were obtained from Rathburn and Sigma-Aldrich, respectively. TLEs were derivatized by dissolving them in 300 μl pyridine/bis-(trimethylsilyl)trifluoroacetamide (BSTFA; Supelco; 2:1, v/v) and silylated (50°C , 1 h). After evaporation to dryness under a stream of N_2 , the derivatized residue was dissolved in hexane/BSTFA (to avoid desilylation) and analysed by the aforementioned mass spectrometric methods.

2.3. Assignment and quantification of lipids and their degradation products

Lipids and their degradation products were identified by comparison of retention times and mass spectra with those of standards and quantified using GC-EIMS, GC-EIMS/MS and GC-QTOF based on calibrations with external standards. Operating conditions employed during these analyses were as per those described previously (Rontani et al., 2019 and references therein). Standards of phytol, palmitoleic acid, 24-methylcholesta-5,22-dien-3 β -ol (brassicasterol) and 24-methylcholesta-5,(24/28)-dien-3 β -ol (24-methylenecholesterol) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich. Standard oxidation products of these compounds were produced according to previously described procedures (Rontani and Marchand, 2000; Marchand and Rontani, 2001; Rontani and Aubert, 2005).

2.4. Data treatment

2.4.1. Chlorophyll photooxidation estimates

The molar ratio 3-methylidene-7,11,15-trimethylhexadecan-1,2-diol (phytyldiol; Rontani et al., 1994):phytol (Chlorophyll Phytyl side-chain Photodegradation Index, CPPI) has been previously proposed to estimate the extent of photodegradation of chlorophylls possessing a phytol side-chain in natural marine samples through use of the empirical equation: chlorophyll photodegradation % = $(1 - [\text{CPPI} + 1]^{-18.5}) \times 100$ (Cuny et al., 1999).

2.4.2. Lipid photooxidation estimates

The extent of photooxidation (%) of sterols was estimated using the equation: Δ^5 -sterol photooxidation % = $(\Delta^4\text{-stera-6}\alpha/\beta\text{-diols \%} \times (1 + 0.3) / 0.3)$ (Christodoulou et al., 2009).

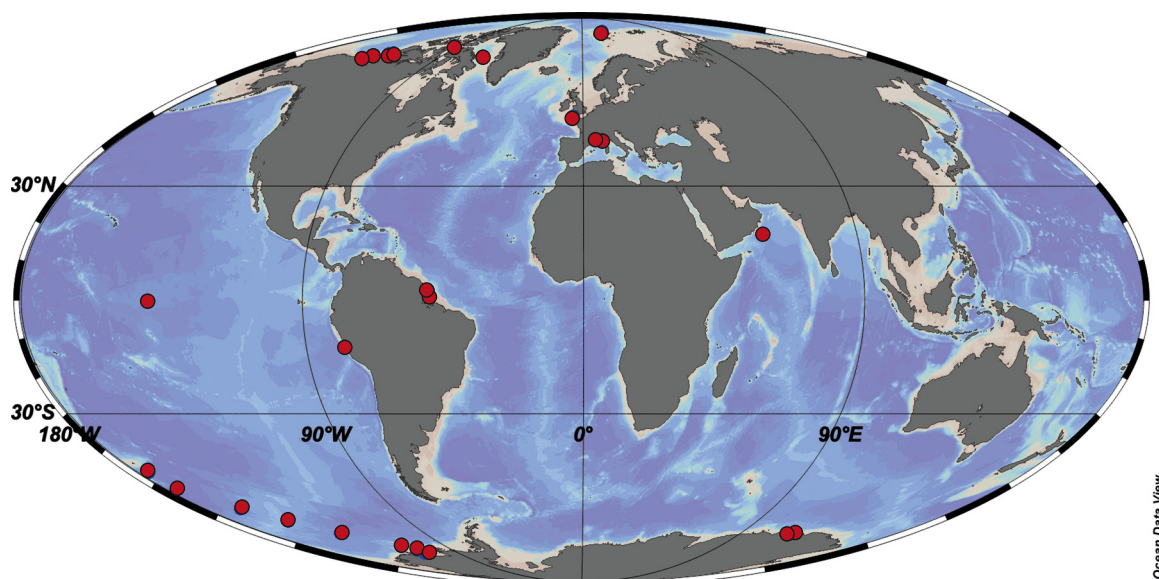


Fig. 2. Sampling locations.

Table 1

Variation of the ratio brassicasterol photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation % in particulate matter samples according to the latitude.

Latitude	Location	Nature of particles	n	Brassicasterol h _v %/Chlorophyll h _v %	References
71–74°N	Canadian Arctic	Suspended and sinking	46	0.77 ± 1.10	Rontani et al., 2012, 2016
50°N	English Channel	Suspended	24	0.02 ± 0.04	Rontani et al., 2021
43°N	Rhône Prodelta	Suspended	21	0.21 ± 0.11	Galeron et al., 2018
43°N	Ligurian Sea	Sinking	12	0.21 ± 0.10	Christodoulou et al., 2009
17°N	Arabian Sea	Suspended and sinking	7	0.07 ± 0.04	Wakeham et al., 2002
0°	Equatorial Atlantic	Suspended	2	0.10 ± 0.12	Galeron et al., 2018
0°	Equatorial Pacific	Suspended and sinking	11	0.11 ± 0.07	Wakeham et al., 2002; Rontani et al., 2011
12°S	Peru Upwelling	Sinking	10	0.18 ± 0.04	Bretagnon et al., 2018
40–67°S	South Pacific	Suspended	5	0.09 ± 0.04	Rontani, Unpublished data
67–75°S	Antarctica	Suspended	23	0.50 ± 0.45	Rontani et al., 2019; Rontani, Unpublished data

Type II photosensitized oxidation of MUFAs was estimated after quantification of isomeric *trans* allylic hydroxyacids resulting from NaBH₄-reduction of the corresponding photochemically-produced hydroperoxides after subtraction of the amounts of these compounds arising from autoxidation (Marchand and Rontani, 2001).

2.4.3. Statistical analysis

Mann – Whitney – Wilcoxon tests were performed to identify any significant differences in: (i) the ratio of brassicasterol photooxidation percentage/chlorophyll photo-oxidation percentage with latitude (Table S1), and (ii) the ratios of 24-methylenecholesterol photooxidation percentage/chlorophyll photooxidation percentage, palmitoleic acid photooxidation percentage/chlorophyll photooxidation percentage and brassicasterol photooxidation percentage/chlorophyll photooxidation percentage between different sample types (i.e. sea ice POM, SPM and sediment traps) (Table S2).

3. Results and discussion

Since photodynamic processes and sensitizer photobleaching are competitive processes (Fig. 1), we used the ratio of the % photooxidation of membrane lipids to that of chlorophyll to estimate the efficiency of Type II photosensitized oxidation processes (the photodynamic effect in Fig. 1) in senescent phytoplankton at different latitudes. In the case of brassicasterol, a phytoplanktonic Δ⁵-sterol widely distributed in the oceans (Volkman, 1986, 2003), values of this ratio obtained from previously published and unpublished data sets (Table 1) show a strong increase (albeit with high variability) in samples from the polar regions in comparison to samples collected from temperate and equatorial settings (Fig. 3). Such increases were found to be significant when the data from the temperate and equatorial settings were compared with those from the Arctic and Antarctic datasets (and the combined Arctic/Antarctic dataset), yet no significant difference was found between the high latitude datasets (Table S1). Low temperatures have previously been shown to reduce diffusion rate of ¹O₂ through cell membranes (Ehrenberg et al., 1998), thus favouring the intra-cellular involvement of the photodynamic effect. More recently, Amiraux et al. (2016)

confirmed these results in the case of the centric diatom *Chaetoceros neogracilis* (strain RCC2022) and observed an increase (3.0 ± 0.5 fold) of the ratio k_{camp}/k_{chl} (where k_{camp} is the first-order photodegradation rate of campesterol and k_{chl} this of chlorophyll) when the temperature decreased from 17 to 7 °C. The characteristic low temperatures of the Arctic and Antarctic could thus be the cause of the high values of the ratio % photooxidation brassicasterol/% photooxidation chlorophyll measured in samples from these regions. However, low temperatures alone cannot explain the very high variability of this ratio observed within these samples (Fig. 3).

In an effort to explain this strong variability, we examined, more closely, Arctic samples collected from sea ice, under the ice (suspended and sinking particles) and from open water conditions (sinking particles), which are all dominated by diatoms. The % photooxidation of the common diatom lipids brassicasterol, 24-methylenecholesterol and palmitoleic acid to that of chlorophyll are summarized in Table 2 and Fig. 4. Strong differences of photodynamic effect efficiency were observed between these different kinds of particles. These differences were found to be significant between surface samples (sea ice and SPM) and traps, and between under ice traps and open water traps (Table S2). These different samples having been collected at very close temperatures (ranging from –1 to –2 °C in surface waters of Arctic), it is clear that the low temperatures do not represent the main driver for the enhancement of photodynamic efficiency in the polar regions.

Riebesell et al. (1991) previously suggested that growing cells released by sea ice remain largely unaggregated (i.e. mainly in suspension). The very low photooxidation state of lipids and chlorophyll observed in SPM collected under the ice (Fig. 4) could thus result from the healthy state of the algal cells present in these samples (Rontani et al., 2016), which are largely unaffected by photooxidative damage. Indeed, in healthy cells, the greater part of the photoexcited chlorophyll singlet state is used in the fast photochemical reactions of photosynthesis.

The efficiency of the photodynamic effect appears to be considerably higher in material collected in sediment traps in spring from under sea ice compared to those collected in summer from open water (Fig. 4, Table S2), which is likely attributable to the respective contributions

Table 2Photooxidation of chlorophyll, brassicasterol, 24-methylenecholesterol and palmitoleic acid in different sea ice, *M. arctica* and particulate matter samples collected in the Arctic.

Samples	Location	n	Chlorophyll photooxidation %	Brassicasterol photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation %	24-Methylenecholesterol photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation %	Palmitoleic acid photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation %
Sea ice (0–3 cm)	Resolute Passage ^a and Davis Strait ^b	21	54.5 ± 38.4	0.02 ± 0.05	0.04 ± 0.10	0.05 ± 0.08
<i>Melosira arctica</i>	Baffin Bay and North of Svalbard	6	40.2 ± 12.8	–	–	0.03 ± 0.03
Under ice spm (<10 m)	Resolute Passage ^c	20	16.3 ± 13.9	0.05 ± 0.17	0.42 ± 0.96	1.00 ± 1.60
Under ice trap (5 m)	Resolute Passage ^c	11	55.7 ± 34.1	1.10 ± 0.62	1.22 ± 0.98	2.87 ± 2.78
Under ice trap (30 m)	Resolute Passage ^c	11	11.5 ± 8.6	2.00 ± 1.39	3.97 ± 2.22	8.39 ± 7.15
Open water trap (100 m)	Beaufort Sea ^d	12	99.8 ± 0.2	0.23 ± 0.07	0.48 ± 0.14	0.47 ± 0.19

^a Rontani et al. (2014).^b Amiraux et al. (2017).^c Rontani et al. (2016).^d Rontani et al. (2012).

of sympagic (i.e. living within ice) vs pelagic algae. Indeed, in contrast to healthy and largely unaggregated sympagic algal cells (see above), less metabolically-active sea ice algae that are released from the ice are generally concentrated into aggregates that become sinking particles (Riebesell et al., 1991). Moreover, sympagic diatoms exhibit a higher sensitivity towards light-induced stress than pelagic diatoms (Kvernvik et al., 2018). Such differences in sensitivity were attributed, in part, to the gradually changing and low amplitude irradiance typically experienced by sympagic algae (Hill et al., 2018), whereas pelagic cells in open water, in contrast, experience high amplitude changes in light intensity over much shorter timescales (MacIntyre et al., 2000). This interesting hypothesis is not supported, however, by: (i) the very low efficiency of the photodynamic effect observed in the bottom-most layer of sea ice (Table 2) and (ii) the lack of correlation between lipid photooxidation % and the concentration of the sea ice lipid biomarker IP_{25} (a well-known sea ice proxy, for reviews see Belt and Müller, 2013; Belt, 2018) in under ice traps ($R^2 < 0.008$).

During in vitro experiments carried out on senescent cells of the centric diatom *Chaetoceros neogracilis* (strain RCC2022), Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids was also observed to be strongly enhanced by low irradiance levels, whereas the opposite was true for the photodegradation of chlorophyll (Amiraux et al., 2016). The ratio k_{camp}/k_{chl} thus increased 4.2 ± 0.8 fold when irradiance decreased from 2038 to 165 $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$. In the Arctic, the mean PAR (Photosynthetically Active Radiation) irradiance in the surface mixed layer is considerably higher in open water than in ice-covered zones (365 ± 62 and $10.9 \pm 2.7 \mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$, respectively, Alou-Font et al., 2016). The intensity of solar irradiance may thus be at the origin of the contrasting efficiency of the photodynamic effect observed in sinking particles collected under sea ice compared to those from open water (Fig. 4). Further, the increase of this efficiency with depth in under ice samples (Fig. 4, Table S2) could result from enhanced aggregation of senescent sympagic algae as they sink to deeper traps (Riebesell et al., 1991; Rontani et al., 2016) where light transmission is lower. In contrast, the relatively high irradiance observed at the ice-water interface (up to ca. 100 $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ in Davis Strait, Galindo et al., 2017) could explain the greatly diminished photodynamic effect in sympagic algae inhabiting the bottom-most layer of sea ice and in

the sub-ice colonial diatom *Melosira arctica* (Table 2) (Fig. 6). Examination of near-surface (<10 m) SPM samples collected along a N-S transect terminating in the Amundsen Sea (Antarctica) in open water and seasonally ice covered zones further confirmed the increase of photodynamic efficiency in regions of sea ice cover (Fig. 5) ($W = 52$, $p\text{-value} = 0.003205$). In addition, the relatively higher photooxidation state of these suspended particles compared to those collected in the Arctic (Fig. 4, Table 2) may be attributed to the low contribution (typically 0.5 to 2%) of sympagic algae to primary production in January–February in the Antarctic (Lizotte, 2001).

Due to their strong aggregation capability (Macdonald et al., 1998; Ambrose et al., 2001, 2005) and the low remineralizing potential of their associated bacteria (Amiraux et al., 2017, 2020), sympagic algae seem to contribute more significantly than open water phytoplankton to the export of carbon to Arctic sediments, providing an early season food source for benthic fauna (Macdonald et al., 1998; Mincks et al., 2005). Episodic massive falls of *M. arctica* can sink to the seafloor (Ambrose et al., 2005; Boetius et al., 2013; Lalande et al., 2019). The polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA) content in algal biomass that reached the seafloor is essential for growth and reproduction of benthic fauna (Brett and Müller-Navarra, 1997; MacMahon et al., 2006). Due to the high photosensitized oxidation of MUFAs observed in samples sinking under sea ice cover (Fig. 4), and the well-known increasing photooxidation rates of fatty acids with their degree of unsaturation (Frankel, 1998; Rontani et al., 1998), the PUFA content of sympagic material reaching the sediment would thus be greatly reduced. *Melosira* strands that are weakly affected by abiotic degradation processes under the ice (ratio $C_{20:5}$ acid vs palmitoleic acid ranging from 0.25 to 0.47), despite a significant photooxidation of chlorophyll (Table 2), and that sink very quickly to the seafloor (Syvertsen, 1991) in massive falls (Ambrose et al., 2005; Boetius et al., 2013; Lalande et al., 2019), may be an important source of fresh material rich in OM (i.e., PUFAs) for the benthos.

Further, the expected reduction of sea ice cover resulting from increased global warming may result in a shift in the relative contributions of ice-associated vs pelagic algae (Carroll and Carroll, 2003) to the seafloor. The high flux of fast-sinking aggregates of strongly abiotically-altered sympagic algae and fast sinking well preserved *M. arctica* reaching Arctic sediments could thus be replaced, progressively, by a

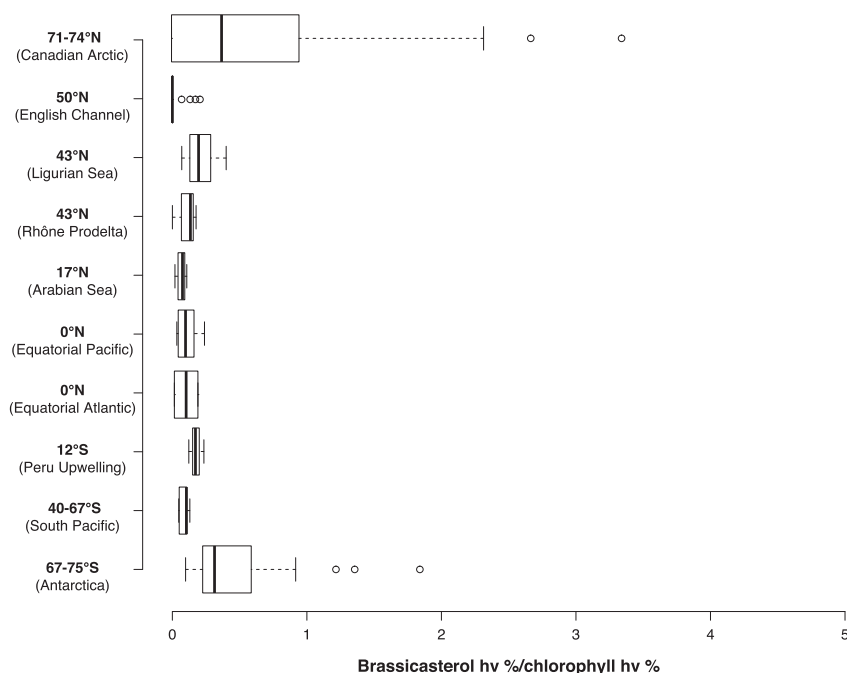


Fig. 3. Values of the ratio brassicasterol photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation % in particulate matter samples collected at different latitudes.

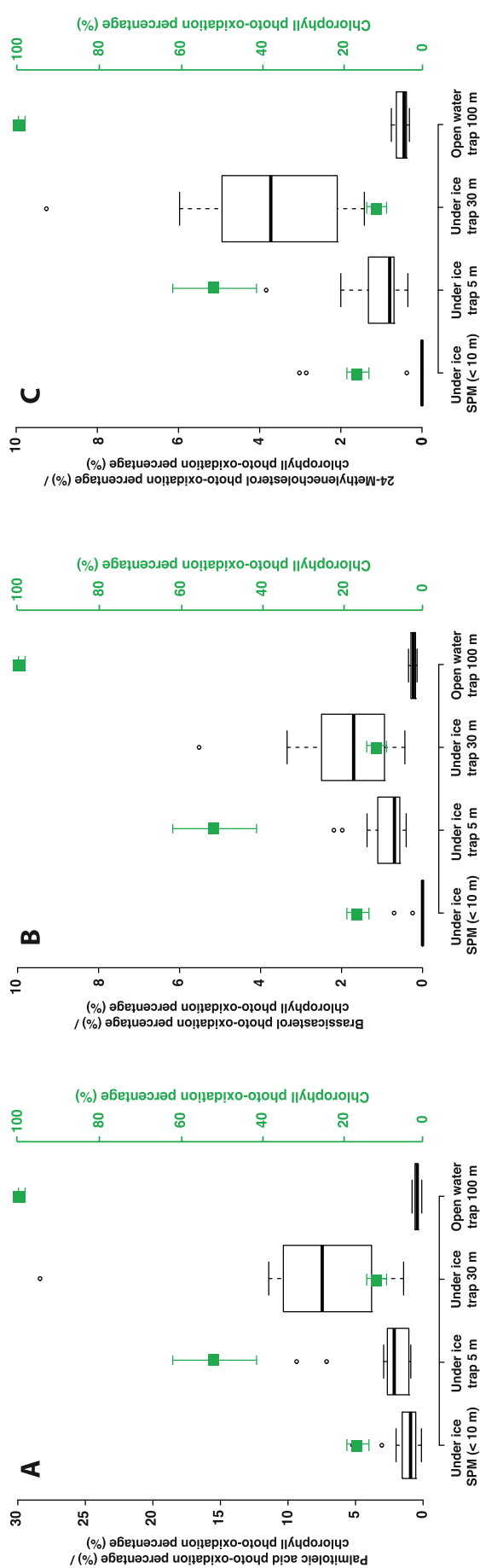


Fig. 4. Values of the ratios brassicasterol photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation %, 24-methylenecholesterol photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation % and palmitoleic acid photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation % in particulate matter samples collected in Arctic ice-covered and open water zones.

lower flux of weakly abiotically altered pelagic biomass. Such a shift should thus strongly impact the quality and quantity of food reaching benthic communities, as previously proposed by Sun et al. (2007), and could significantly alter the community structure and spatial distribution of the benthos.

4. Conclusions

During this work, Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids (photodynamic effect) and photodegradation of chlorophyll (photobleaching) were compared in several samples of particulate matter from locations ranging from the Arctic to the Antarctic. The results obtained clearly showed an enhancement of the photooxidation of lipids at the expense of chlorophyll photodegradation in polar regions compared to temperate and equatorial regions. Careful examination of different samples of sympagic and epiphytic algae, suspended and sinking particles collected in Arctic allowed us to show that the efficiency of the photodynamic effect was particularly high in sinking particles collected under the ice (Fig. 6). This high efficiency was attributed to the rapid settling of highly aggregated sympagic algae to depths of low light transmission favouring photodynamic effect at the expense of photobleaching of the sensitizer. In contrast, in the case of samples exposed to relatively high solar irradiances - sympagic and sub-ice colonial algae collected in the bottommost layer of ice or at the underside of ice, respectively, and particles collected from open waters - the efficiency of photodynamic effect appeared to be relatively weak (Fig. 6). The low efficiency of Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids observed in temperate and equatorial regions could, perhaps paradoxically, thus be attributed to the high solar irradiances received in these regions. The intensity of solar irradiance seems thus to be a key parameter during the Type II photosensitized oxidation of lipids in senescent phytoplankton.

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.146363>.

CRedit authorship contribution statement

Jean-François Rontani: Conceptualization, Investigation, Writing – original draft, Methodology, Resources. **Rémi Amiraux:** Investigation, Writing – original draft, Resources. **Lukas Smik:** Resources, Writing – original draft. **Stuart G. Wakeham:** Resources, Writing – original draft, Funding acquisition. **Aurélien Paulmier:** Resources, Funding acquisition. **Frédéric Vaultier:** Investigation. **Ha Sun-Yong:** Resources, Funding acquisition. **Min Jun-oh:** Resources, Funding acquisition. **Simon T. Belt:** Resources, Writing – original draft, Funding acquisition.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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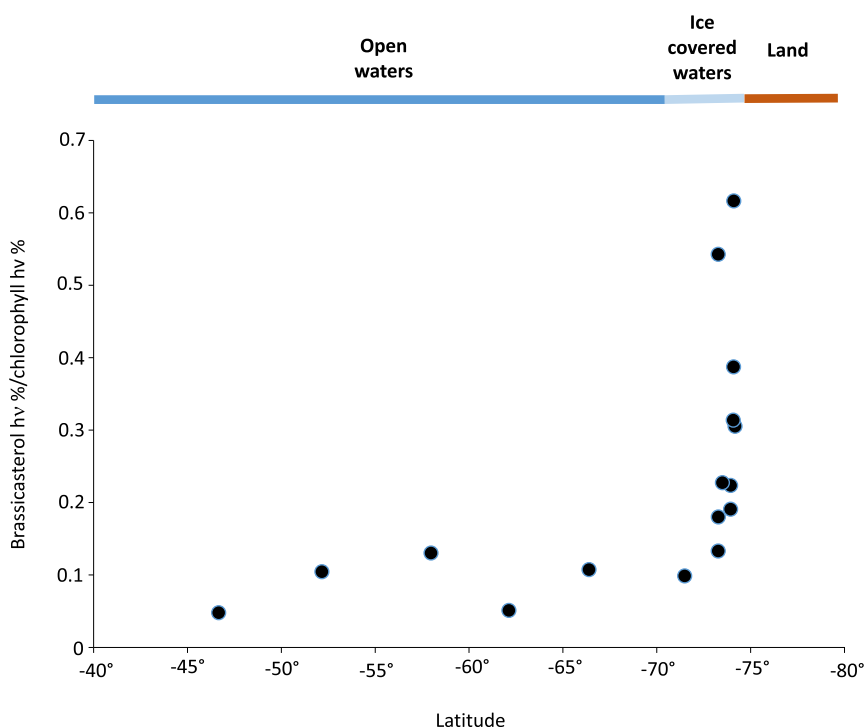


Fig. 5. Values of the ratio brassicasterol photooxidation %/chlorophyll photooxidation % in SPM samples collected in open and ice-covered zones along a N-S transect terminating in the Amundsen Sea (Antarctica).

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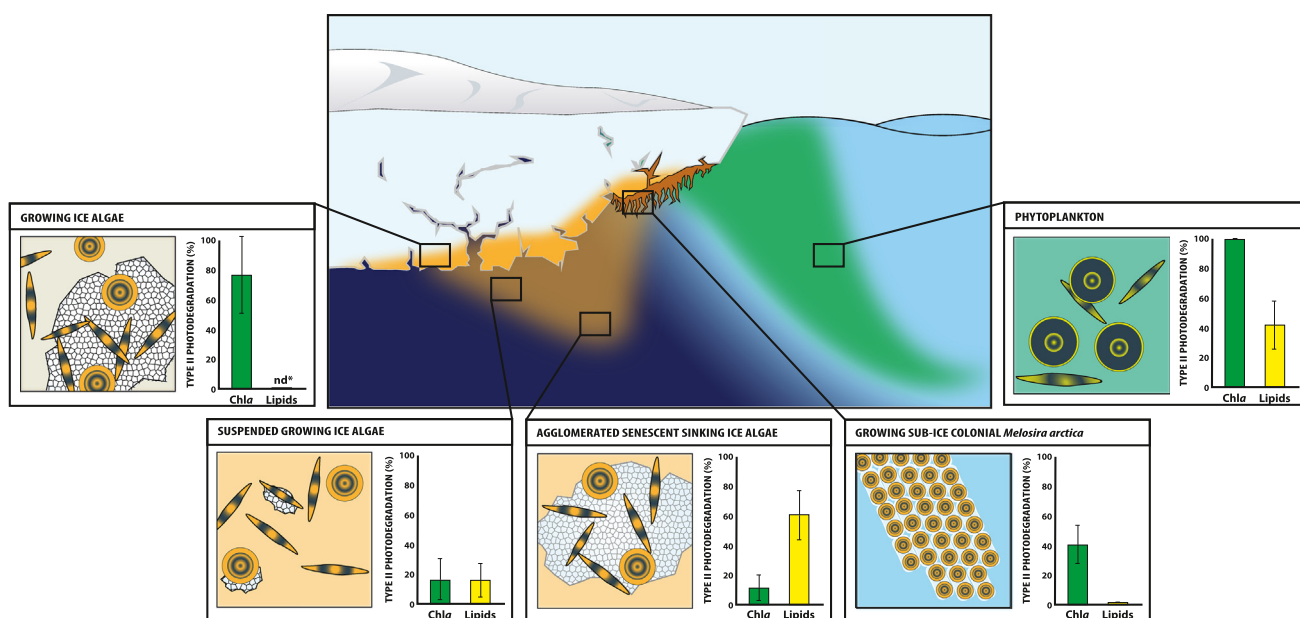


Fig. 6. Conceptual scheme summarizing the efficiency of photodynamic effect in sympagic, epiphytic and pelagic algae in polar regions. (To simplify the scheme only the Type II photosensitized oxidation of palmitoleic acid is shown) (nd = not detected).

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