

## The SouthEast Asian Time-series Study (SEATS) and the biogeochemistry of the South China Sea—An overview

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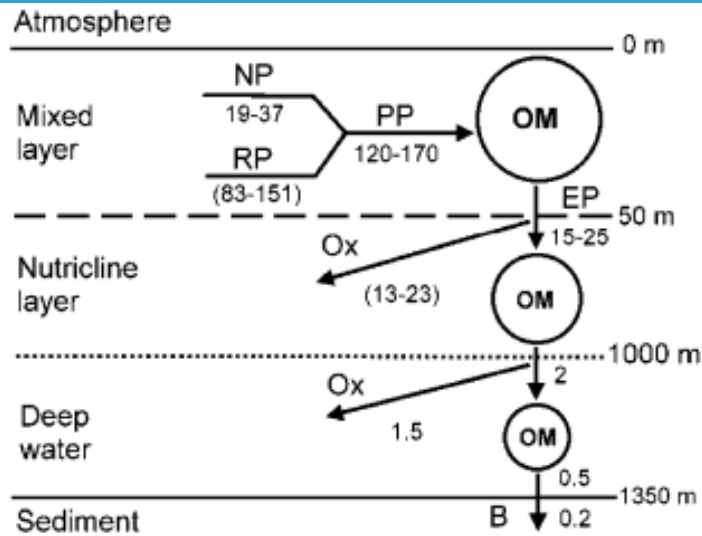
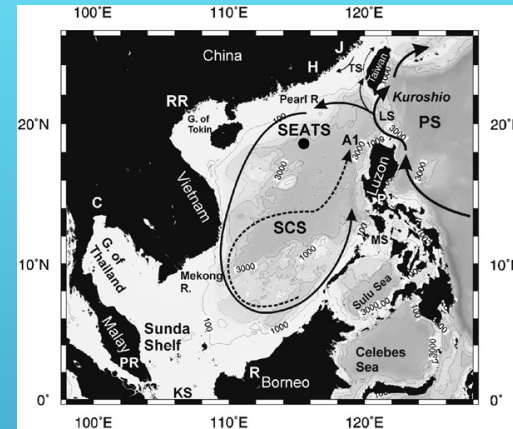


Fig. 4. A schematic diagram outlining the dynamics of particulate organic carbon in the South China Sea. OM—organic matter; PP—net primary production; NP—new production; RP—recycled production; EP—export production; Ox—remineralization by the oxidation of organic matter; B—burial. Fluxes are in  $\text{g-C m}^{-2}\text{year}^{-1}$ .

Table 1

Some characteristics of the South China Sea

Area ( $10^6 \text{ km}^2$ )	3.5
Average depth (m)	1350
Volume ( $10^6 \text{ km}^3$ )	4.7
Annual precipitation ( $\text{mm year}^{-1}$ )	2000
River inflow ( $\text{km}^3 \text{ year}^{-1}$ )	
Zhujiang	316
Mekong	470
Red River	123
Jiulongjiang	15
Hanjiang	30
Chao Phraya	
Pahang River	
Pasig River	
Rajang River	
Mixed layer depth (northern South China Sea, m)	20 (summer) 80 (winter)
Sea surface temperature (central South China Sea, $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	>22
Surface salinity (central South China Sea)	Mostly < 34