

# Thorium-234 flux rates from R/V Thomas G. Thompson cruises TT007, TT011 in the Equatorial Pacific in 1992 during the U.S. JGOFS Equatorial Pacific (EqPac) project

Website: <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/2638>

Version: June, 1996

Version Date: 1996-06-01

## Project

» [U.S. JGOFS Equatorial Pacific](#) (EqPac)

## Program

» [U.S. Joint Global Ocean Flux Study](#) (U.S. JGOFS)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
<a href="#">Hedges, John</a>	University of Washington (UW)	Principal Investigator
<a href="#">Lee, Cindy</a>	Stony Brook University (SUNY Stony Brook)	Co-Principal Investigator
<a href="#">Wakeham, Stuart</a>	Skidaway Institute of Oceanography (SkIO)	Co-Principal Investigator
<a href="#">Chandler, Cynthia L.</a>	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI BCO-DMO)	BCO-DMO Data Manager

## Table of Contents

- [Dataset Description](#)
  - [Methods & Sampling](#)
- [Parameters](#)
- [Instruments](#)
- [Deployments](#)
- [Project Information](#)
- [Program Information](#)

## Dataset Description

Thorium-234 flux rates from Indented Rotary Sphere Floating Sed. Traps

## Methods & Sampling

See Platform deployments for cruise specific documentation

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

## Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
event	event number for trap deployment from event log	
date_end	date trap recovered also defined as event number for trap recovery	MMDDHHmm
sta	station number from event log	
lat_n	nominal latitude of trap along 140 W (negative = south)	whole degrees
Th234_p_f	Particle Thorium-234 flux rate (dpm = disintegrations per minute)	dpm/cm2/day

## Instruments

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	Floating Sediment Trap
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Sediment Trap - Floating
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	Floating sediment traps are specially designed sampling devices deployed to float in the water column (as opposed to being secured to a mooring at a fixed depth) for periods of time to collect particles from the water column that are falling toward the sea floor. In general a sediment trap has a container at the bottom to collect the sample and a broad funnel-shaped opening at the top with baffles to keep out very large objects and help prevent the funnel from clogging. The 'Sediment Trap -Floating' designation is used for a floating type of sediment trap about which no other design details are known.

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	IRS Sediment Trap
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Sediment Trap - IRS
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	Sediment traps are specially designed containers deployed in the water column for periods of time to collect particles from the water column falling toward the sea floor. In general a sediment trap has a jar at the bottom to collect the sample and a broad funnel-shaped opening at the top with baffles to keep out very large objects and help prevent the funnel from clogging. The Indented Rotating Sphere (IRS) Sediment Trap is described in Peterson et al. (Field evaluation of a valved sediment trap. 1993. Limnology and Oceanography, 38, pp. 1741-1761 and Novel techniques for collection of sinking particles in the ocean and determining their settling rates. 2005. Limnology and Oceanography Methods 3, pp. 520-532). The IRS trap consists of four cylindrical modules; a particle interceptor, an IRS valve; a skewed funnel, and an eleven sample carousel (designated IRSC trap). The key to the trap design is the patented IRS valve located between the particle interceptor and particle accumulator portions of the trap. The valve and carousel are regulated by a TattleTale IVA (manufactured by Onset Computer Corp.) microprocessor and custom software. The IRS sediment trap was specifically designed to exclude zooplankton (Trull et al. 2008. Deep-Sea Research II v.55 pp. 1684-1695).

## Deployments

TT007

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/57728">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/57728</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Thomas G. Thompson
<b>Start Date</b>	1992-01-30
<b>End Date</b>	1992-03-13
<b>Description</b>	<p>Purpose: Spring Survey Cruise; 12°N-12°S at 140°W TT007 was one of five cruises conducted in 1992 in support of the U.S. Equatorial Pacific (EqPac) Process Study. The five EqPac cruises aboard R/V Thomas G. Thompson included two repeat meridional sections (12°N - 12°S), 2 equatorial surveys, and a benthic survey (all at 140° W). The scientific objectives of this study were to observe the processes in the Equatorial Pacific controlling the fluxes of carbon and related elements between the atmosphere, euphotic zone, and deep ocean. As luck would have it, the survey window coincided with an El Nino event. A bonus for the research team.</p> <p><b>Methods &amp; Sampling</b>  PI: (1)John Hedges, (2)Stuart Wakeham &amp; (3)Cindy Lee of: (1)University of Washington (2) Skidaway Institute of Oceanography (3)State University of New York, Stony Brook dataset: Thorium-234 flux rates Indented Rotary Sphere sediment trap samples dates: February 04, 1992 to March 07, 1992 location: N: 11.9988 S: -12.0082 W: -140.0418 E: -134.9867 project/cruise: EqPac/TT007 - Spring Survey ship: Thomas Thompson All traps deployed at approximately 100 meters Sampling Methodology Sampling Protocols</p>

## TT011

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/57730">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/57730</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Thomas G. Thompson
<b>Start Date</b>	1992-08-05
<b>End Date</b>	1992-09-18
<b>Description</b>	<p>Purpose: Fall Survey; 12°N-12°S at 140°W TT011 was one of five cruises conducted in 1992 in support of the U.S. Equatorial Pacific (EqPac) Process Study. The five EqPac cruises aboard R/V Thomas G. Thompson included two repeat meridional sections (12°N - 12°S), 2 equatorial surveys, and a benthic survey (all at 140° W). The scientific objectives of this study were to observe the processes in the Equatorial Pacific controlling the fluxes of carbon and related elements between the atmosphere, euphotic zone, and deep ocean. As luck would have it, the survey window coincided with an El Nino event. A bonus for the research team.</p> <p><b>Methods &amp; Sampling</b>  PI: (1)John Hedges, (2)Stuart Wakeham &amp; (3)Cindy Lee of: (1)University of Washington (2) Skidaway Institute of Oceanography (3)State University of New York, Stony Brook dataset: Thorium-234 flux rates Indented Rotary Sphere sediment trap samples dates: August 10, 1992 to September 07, 1992 location: N: 12.0133 S: -5.005 W: -140.0498 E: -139.9224 project/cruise: EqPac/TT011 - Fall Survey ship: Thomas Thompson All traps deployed at approximately 100 meters Sampling Methodology Sampling Protocols</p>

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

## Project Information

### U.S. JGOFS Equatorial Pacific (EqPac)

**Website:** <http://usjgofs.whoi.edu/research/eqpac.html>

**Coverage:** Equatorial Pacific

The U.S. EqPac process study consisted of repeat meridional sections (12°N -12°S) across the equator in the

central and eastern equatorial Pacific from 95°W to 170°W during 1992. The major scientific program was focused at 140° W consisting of two meridional surveys, two equatorial surveys, and a benthic survey aboard the R/V Thomas Thompson. Long-term deployments of current meter and sediment trap arrays augmented the survey cruises. NOAA conducted boreal spring and fall sections east and west of 140°W from the R/V Baldrige and R/V Discoverer. Meteorological and sea surface observations were obtained from NOAA's in place TOGA-TAO buoy network.

The scientific objectives of this study were to determine the fluxes of carbon and related elements, and the processes controlling these fluxes between the Equatorial Pacific euphotic zone and the atmosphere and deep ocean. A broad overview of the program at the 140°W site is given by Murray et al. (*Oceanography*, 5: 134-142, 1992). A full description of the Equatorial Pacific Process Study, including the international context and the scientific results, appears in a series of Deep-Sea Research Part II special volumes:

Topical Studies in Oceanography, A U.S. JGOFS Process Study in the Equatorial Pacific (1995), Deep-Sea Research Part II, Volume 42, No. 2/3.

Topical Studies in Oceanography, A U.S. JGOFS Process Study in the Equatorial Pacific. Part 2 (1996), Deep-Sea Research Part II, Volume 43, No. 4/6.

Topical Studies in Oceanography, A U.S. JGOFS Process Study in the Equatorial Pacific (1997), Deep-Sea Research Part II, Volume 44, No. 9/10.

Topical Studies in Oceanography, The Equatorial Pacific JGOFS Synthesis (2002), Deep-Sea Research Part II, Volume 49, Nos. 13/14.

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

---

## **Program Information**

### **U.S. Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (U.S. JGOFS)**

**Website:** <http://usjgofs.whoi.edu/>

**Coverage:** Global

The United States Joint Global Ocean Flux Study was a national component of international JGOFS and an integral part of global climate change research.

The U.S. launched the Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS) in the late 1980s to study the ocean carbon cycle. An ambitious goal was set to understand the controls on the concentrations and fluxes of carbon and associated nutrients in the ocean. A new field of ocean biogeochemistry emerged with an emphasis on quality measurements of carbon system parameters and interdisciplinary field studies of the biological, chemical and physical process which control the ocean carbon cycle. As we studied ocean biogeochemistry, we learned that our simple views of carbon uptake and transport were severely limited, and a new "wave" of ocean science was born. U.S. JGOFS has been supported primarily by the U.S. National Science Foundation in collaboration with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Department of Energy and the Office of Naval Research. U.S. JGOFS, ended in 2005 with the conclusion of the Synthesis and Modeling Project (SMP).

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]