²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in the ocean model of the Community Earth System Model

- 2 **(CESM1.3)**
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Abstract

Sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio is emerging as an important proxy for deep ocean circulation in the past. In order to allow for a direct model-data comparison and to improve our understanding of sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio, we implement ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in the ocean component of the Community Earth System Model (CESM). In addition to the fully coupled implementation of the scavenging behavior of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th with the active marine ecosystem module (pcoupled), another form of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th have also been implemented with prescribed particle flux fields of the present climate (p-fixed). The comparison of the two forms of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th helps to isolate the influence of the particle fluxes from that of ocean circulation. Under present day climate forcing, our model is able to simulate water column ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activity and sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio in good agreement with available observations. In addition, the p-coupled and p-fixed sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratios behave similarly over large areas of low productivity on long timescale to freshwater forcing, but can differ substantially in some regions of high productivity and on short timescale, indicating the importance of biological productivity in addition to ocean transport. Therefore, our model provides a potentially powerful tool to help our interpretation of sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th reconstructions and to improve our understanding of past ocean circulation and climate changes.

1. Introduction

Sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio has been used as a proxy for ocean circulation in the past (e.g. Yu et al. 1996; McManus et al. 2004; Gherardi et al. 2009). 231 Pa (32.5 ka half-life) and 230 Th (75.2 ka half-life) are produced at a constant rate approximately uniformly in the ocean by the α decay of 235 U and 234 U, respectively, with a production activity ratio of 0.093 (Henderson and Anderson, 2003). Water column 231 Pa and 230 Th are subject to particle scavenging and transport to sediments (Bacon and Anderson, 1982; Nozaki et al., 1987). Different scavenging efficiency results in different ocean residence time: 231 Pa has a residence time of approximately 111 years and 230 Th has a residence time of approximately 26 years (Yu et al., 1996). Longer residence time of 231 Pa than 230 Th makes 231 Pa more subject to ocean transport and therefore in the modern ocean about 45% of 231 Pa produced in the Atlantic is transported to the Southern Ocean (Yu et al., 1996), resulting a lower than 0.093 sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio in the North Atlantic and higher than 0.093 sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio in the Southern Ocean.

The application of the principle above to interpret sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th as the strength of Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC), however, can be complicated by other factors, leading to uncertainties in using 231 Pa $/^{230}$ Th as a proxy for past circulation (Keigwin and Boyle, 2008; Lippold et al., 2009; Scholten et al., 2008). In addition to the ocean transport, sediment 231 Pa $/^{230}$ Th is also influenced by particle flux and composition (Chase et al., 2002; Geibert and Usbeck, 2004; Scholten et al., 2008; Siddall et al., 2007; Walter et al., 1997). The region of a higher particle flux tends to have a higher ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th (Kumar et al., 1993; Yong Lao et al., 1992), which is referred to as the "particle flux effect" (Siddall et al., 2005). Regional high particle flux in the water column will favor the removal of isotopes into the sediment, which leads to more isotopes transported into this region due to the down-gradient diffusive flux and subsequently more removal of isotopes into the sediment. Since ²³¹Pa has a longer residence time, this effect is more prominent on ²³¹Pa than on ²³⁰Th and therefore sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th will be higher in high productivity regions. Also, opal is able to scavenge ²³¹Pa much more effectively than ²³⁰Th, leading to higher ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th in high opal flux regions such as the Southern Ocean (Chase et al., 2002). Moreover, sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is suggested to record circulation change only within 1,000 m above the sediment, instead of the whole water column, complicating the interpretation of sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th reconstructions (Thomas et al., 2006). For example, sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th approaching 0.093 during Heinrich Stadial event 1(HS1) from the subtropical North Atlantic is interpreted as the collapse of AMOC (McManus et al., 2004). If sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th only records deepest water mass, it is possible that during HS1, AMOC shoals, as opposed to a fully collapse, yet an increase of deep water imported from the Southern Ocean featuring high ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th can increase the sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th approaching the production ratio (0.093) (Thomas et al., 2006). Therefore, it is important to incorporate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th into climate models for a direct model-data comparison and to promote a thorough understanding of sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th as well as past ocean circulation.

²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th have been simulated in previous modeling studies (Dutay et al., 2009; Luo et al., 2010; Marchal et al., 2000; Rempfer et al., 2017; Siddall et al., 2005). Marchal et al., (2000) simulates ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in a zonally averaged circulation model, using the reversible scavenging model of Bacon and Anderson, (1982). One step further, Siddall et al. (2005) extends Marchal et al., (2000) by including particle dissolution with prescribed particle export production in a 3-D circulation model. Rempfer et al., (2017) further couples ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th with active biogeochemical model and includes boundary scavenging and sediment resuspensions to improve model performance in simulating water column ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activity. Here we follow previous studies to implement ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th into the Community Earth System Model (CESM). Our ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th are coupled with active marine ecosystem model ("p-coupled") and p-coupled ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is influenced by both ocean circulation change and particle flux change. To help to understand the influence of the particle flux, we have also implemented a "p-fixed" version of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th, for which the particle fluxes are fixed at prescribed values. Therefore, p-fixed 231 Pa/ 230 Th is only influenced by ocean circulation change. By comparing the p-fixed ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th with the p-coupled ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th, we will be able to separate the effect of circulation change from particle flux change. In addition, the p-fixed ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th can be run without the marine ecosystem module, reducing computational cost by a factor of 3 in the ocean-alone model simulation, making it a computationally efficient tracer for sensitivity studies.

This paper describes the details of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in CESM and serves as a reference for future studies using this tracer module. In section 2, we describe the model and the implementation of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th. In sections 3, we describe the experimental design. We will finally compare simulated ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th fields with observations, show model sensitivities on model parameter and also sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio response to freshwater forcing in Section 4.

2. Model Description

2.1 Physical Ocean Model

We implement ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in the ocean model (Parallel Ocean Program version 2, POP2) (Danabasoglu et al., 2012) of CESM (Hurrell et al., 2013). CESM is a state-of-the-art coupled climate model and studies describing model components and analyzing results can be found in a special collection in Journal of Climate (http://journals.ametsoc.org/topic/ccsm4-cesm1). We run the ocean-alone model, which is coupled to data atmosphere, land, ice and river runoff under the normal year forcing of CORE-II data (Large and Yeager, 2008), using the low-resolution version of POP2 with a nominal 3° horizontal resolution and 60 vertical layers.

2.2 Biogeochemical component (BGC)

CESM has incorporated a marine ecosystem module that simulates biological variables (Moore et al., 2013). The marine ecosystem module has been validated against present day observations extensively (e.g. Doney et al., 2009; Long et al., 2013; Moore et al., 2002, 2004; Moore and Braucher, 2008). The implementation of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th requires particle fields: CaCO₃, opal and particulate organic carbon (POC). These particle fields can be obtained through the ecosystem driver from the ecosystem module (Jahn et al., 2015). The ecosystem module simulates the particle fluxes in reasonable agreement with the present-day observations. The pattern and magnitude of the annual mean particle fluxes (CaCO₃, opal, POC) leaving the

euphotic zone at 105m are similar to the satellite observations (Fig. 7.2.5 and 9.2.2 in Sarmiento and Gruber 2006) (Fig. 1 a \sim c): particle fluxes are higher in the high productivity regions such as high latitudes and equatorial Pacific; opal flux is high in the Southern Ocean. The remineralization scheme of particle is based on the ballast model of Armstrong et al., (2002). Detailed parameterizations for particle remineralization are documented in Moore et al., (2004) with temperature dependent remineralization length scales for POC and opal. We do not consider dust because it is suggested to be unimportant for 231 Pa and 230 Th fractionation (Chase et al., 2002; Siddall et al., 2005).

2.3 ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th implementation

 231 Pa and 230 Th are produced from the α decay of 235 U and 234 U uniformly everywhere at constant rate β^i (β^{Pa} = 2.33*10⁻³ dpm m⁻³ yr⁻¹, β^{Th} = 2.52*10⁻² dpm m⁻³ yr⁻¹). 231 Pa and 230 Th are also subjective to radioactive decay with the decay constant of λ^i (λ^{Pa} = 2.13*10⁻⁵ yr⁻¹, λ^{Th} = 9.22*10⁻⁶ yr⁻¹).

Another important process contributes to 231 Pa and 230 Th activity is the reversible scavenging by sinking particles (Bacon and Anderson, 1982), which describes the adsorption of isotopes onto sinking particles and desorption after the dissolution of particles. This process transports 231 Pa and 230 Th downward and leads to a general increase of 231 Pa and 230 Th activity with depth. The reversible scavenging considers total isotope activity (A_t^i) as two categories (Eq. (1)): dissolved isotopes (A_d^i) and particulate isotopes (A_p^i) (superscript i refers to 231 Pa and 230 Th) and A_p^i is the sum of the isotopes associated with different particle types ($A_{l,p}^i$) (subscript j refers to different particle types: CaCO₃, opal and POC):

$$A_t^i = A_d^i + A_p^i = A_d^i + \sum_j A_{j,p}^i$$
149 (1)

Dissolved and particulate isotopes are assumed to be in equilibrium, which is a reasonable assumption in the open ocean (Bacon and Anderson, 1982; Henderson et

al., 1999; Moore and Hunter, 1985). The ratio between the particulate isotope 153 154 activity and the dissolved isotope activity is set by a partition coefficient, K (Eq. (2)):

$$K_j^i = \frac{A_{j,p}^i}{A_d^i \cdot R_j} \tag{2}$$

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157 , where R_i is the ratio of particle concentration (C_i) to the density of seawater (1024.5 kg m⁻³). Subscript j refers to different particle types (CaCO₃, opal and POC). 158 Values of partition coefficient K used in our control simulation follows Chase et al., 159 160

2002 and Siddall et al., 2005 (Table 2).

Particulate isotopes (A_n^i) will be transported by sinking particles, which is described by $w_S \frac{\partial A_p^i}{\partial z}$ (Eq. (3)), where w_S is the sinking velocity. We don't differentiate between slow sinking small particles and rapid sinking large particles as in Dutay et al., (2009) and consider all particles as slowly sinking small particles with sinking velocity of $w_s = 1000$ m yr⁻¹ (Arsouze et al., 2009; Dutay et al., 2009; Kriest, 2002), which is similar to Rempfer et al., (2017) and Siddall et al., (2005). Any particulate isotopes (A_n^i) at the ocean bottom layer are removed from the ocean as sediment, which is the sink for the isotope budget. Detailed vertical differentiation scheme to calculate this term in the model is provided in the supplementary material. The reversible scavenging scheme applied here is the same as the neodymium implementation in POP2 (Gu et al., 2017).

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Therefore, the conservation equation for ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activity can be 173 174 written as

$$\frac{\partial A_t^i}{\partial t} = \beta^i - \lambda^i A_t^i - w_s \frac{\partial A_p^i}{\partial z} + Transport$$
(3),

176 where the total isotope activity is controlled by decay from U (first term), 177 radioactive decay (second term), reversible scavenging (third term) and physical 178 transport by the ocean model (fourth term, including advection, convection and 179 diffusion). A_p^i can be calculated by combining Eq. (1) and Eq. (2):

$$180 A_t^i = A_d^i + A_d^i \cdot (K_{POC}^i \cdot R_{POC} + K_{CaCO_3}^i \cdot R_{CaCO_3} + K_{opal}^i \cdot R_{opal})$$

$$181 = A_d^i \cdot (1 + K_{POC}^i \cdot R_{POC} + K_{CaCO_3}^i \cdot R_{CaCO_3} + K_{opal}^i \cdot R_{opal}), (4)$$

which leads to

$$A_d^i = \frac{A_t^i}{1 + K_{POC}^i \cdot R_{POC} + K_{CaCO_3}^i \cdot R_{CaCO_3} + K_{opal}^i \cdot R_{opal}},$$
 (5)

put this back to Eq. (1), we get

$$A_p^i = A_t^i \cdot (1 - \frac{1}{1 + K_{POC}^i \cdot R_{POC} + K_{CaCO_3}^i \cdot R_{CaCO_3} + K_{opal}^i \cdot R_{opal}})$$
(6)

Particle fields used in the reversible scavenging can be either prescribed or simultaneously generated from the marine ecosystem module. Therefore, two forms of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th are implemented in POP2: "p-fixed" and "p-coupled". P-fixed ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th use particle fluxes prescribed as annual mean particle fluxes generated from the marine ecosystem module under present day climate forcing (Fig.1). P-coupled ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th use particle fluxes computed simultaneously from the marine ecosystem module. P-fixed and p-coupled ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th can be turned on at the case build time and the p-coupled ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th requires the ecosystem module to be turned on at the same time.

Comparing with previous studies of modeling 231 Pa and 230 Th, our p-fixed version is the same as Siddall et al., (2002), except that different prescribed particle fluxes are used. The p-coupled version allows coupling to biogeochemical module, which is similar to Rempfer et al., (2017), but we do not include boundary scavenging and sediment resuspensions as in Rempfer et al., (2017) because boundary scavenging and sediment resuspensions are suggested to be unimportant to influence the relationship between 231 Pa_p/ 230 Th_p and AMOC strength (Rempfer et al., 2017).

3. Experiments

We run a control experiment (CTRL) and two experiments with different partition coefficients to show model sensitivity. We have both p-fixed and p-coupled ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in CTRL, but only p-fixed ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in sensitivity experiments. Equilibrium partition coefficients for ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th vary among different particle types and the magnitude of the partition coefficients for different particle types remains uncertain (Chase et al., 2002; Chase and Robert F, 2004; Luo and Ku, 1999). Since the control experiment in Siddall et al., (2005) is able to simulate major features of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th distributions, we use the partition coefficients from the control experiment in Siddall et al., (2005) in our CTRL (Table 2). Two sensitivity experiments are performed with decreased (EXP_1) and increased (EXP_2) partition coefficients by a factor of 5 (Table 2).

All the experiments are ocean-alone experiments with the normal year forcing by CORE-II data (Large and Yeager, 2008). The ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activities are initiated from 0 in CTRL and are integrated for 2,000 model years until equilibrium is reached. EXP_1 and EXP_2 are initiated from 1,400 model year in CTRL and are integrated for another 800 model years to reach equilibrium.

Since sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th in North Atlantic has been used to reflect the strength of AMOC, to test how sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th in our model responds to the change of AMOC and the change of particle fluxes, we carried out a fresh water perturbation experiment (HOSING) with both p-fixed and p-coupled 231 Pa and 230 Th. Starting from 2,000 model year of CTRL, a freshwater flux of 1 Sv is imposed over the North Atlantic region of 50° N \sim 70 $^{\circ}$ N and the experiment is integrated for 1400 model years until both p-fixed and p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio have reached quasi-equilibrium. The partition coefficients used in HOSING are the same as in CTRL.

4. Results

4.1 Control Experiment

P-fixed and p-coupled version of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in CTRL show identical results (Fig. 2-4). P-fixed and p-coupled dissolved and particulate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in CTRL are highly correlated with each other with correlations greater than 0.995 and

regression coefficients are all near 1.0 ($R^2>0.995$). The correlation coefficient between p-fixed and p-coupled sediment $^{231}Pa/^{230}Th$ activity ratios in CTRL is 0.99 and the regression coefficient is 0.9 ($R^2=0.98$). This is expected because the particle fields used in p-fixed version are prescribed as the climatology of the particle fields used in the p-coupled version. Therefore, under the same climate forcing, p-fixed and p-coupled version of ^{231}Pa and ^{230}Th should be very similar. For the discussion of results in CTRL below, we only discuss the p-fixed ^{231}Pa and ^{230}Th .

The residence time of both ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in CTRL are comparable with observations. The residence time is calculated as the ratio of global average total isotope activity and the radioactive ingrowth of the isotope. Residence time in CTRL is 118 yr for ²³¹Pa and 33 yr for ²³⁰Th (Table 2), which are of the same magnitude as 111 yr for ²³¹Pa and 26 yr for ²³⁰Th in observation (Yu et al., 1996).

CTRL can simulate the general features of dissolved water column ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activities. Dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activities increase with depth in CTRL, as shown in two GEOTRACES transects (Deng et al., 2014; Hayes et al., 2015) in the Atlantic (Fig. 2 and 3). The dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activities in CTRL are also at the same order of magnitude as in observations in the most of the ocean, except that simulated values are larger than observations in the abyssal, which is also the case in Siddall et al., (2005) and Rempfer et al., (2017) (their Fig. 2 and 3, experiment Re3d). Our model is unable to simulate the realistic dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activities in abyssal because boundary scavenging and sediment resuspensions are not included in our model. With boundary scavenging and sediment resuspensions added, dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activities in the abyssal should be greatly reduced (Rempfer et al., 2017).

A more quantitative model-data comparison is shown in Fig. 5. The linear regression coefficient between model results and observations (references of observations are listed in Table 3), an indication of model ability to simulate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activity (Dutay et al., 2009), is near 1.0 for dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th (1.02 for [²³¹Pa]_d and 1.14 for [²³⁰Th]_d), suggesting that CTRL can simulate the dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in good agreement with observations. However, the simulation of the particulate activity is not as good as the dissolved activity. Particulate activity is

overall larger than observation in the surface ocean and smaller than observation in the deep ocean for both particulate 231 Pa and 230 Th. The regression coefficient for particulate 231 Pa and 230 Th is 0.02 for $[^{231}$ Pa]_p and 0.05 for $[^{230}$ Th]_p. The poor performance in simulating water column particulate 231 Pa and 230 Th activities is also in previous modeling studies (Dutay et al., 2009; Siddall et al., 2005), because of similar modelling scheme are applied. However, the simulated 231 Pa_p/ 230 Th_p is in reasonable agreement with observations. The 231 Pa_p/ 230 Th_p along two GEOTRACES transects (Fig. 2 and 3) show the similar pattern and magnitude as in Rempfer et al., (2017), consistent with observations. Decrease of 231 Pa_p/ 230 Th_p with depth is well simulated, which is suggested to be caused by the lateral transport of 231 Pa from North Atlantic to Southern Ocean by AMOC (Gherardi et al., 2009; Lippold et al., 2011, 2012a; Luo et al., 2010; Rempfer et al., 2017).

The sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th in CTRL is overall consistent with observations (references of observations are listed in Table 3). The North Atlantic shows low sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio as in observations because ²³¹Pa is more subject to the southward transport by active ocean circulation than 230Th because of its longer residence time. The Southern Ocean maximum in the sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio is also simulated in CTRL. High opal fluxes in the Southern Ocean, which preferentially removes 231 Pa into sediment $(K_{opal}^{^{231}Pa} > K_{opal}^{^{230}Th})$ (Chase et al., 2002), leading to increased sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio. In addition, upwelling in the Southern Ocean brings up deep water enriched with ²³¹Pa, which is transported from the North Atlantic, to shallower depth and further contribute to the scavenging. CTRL can also produce higher sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio in regions with high particle production (e.g. the Eastern equatorial Pacific, the North Pacific and the Indian Ocean) due to the "particle flux effect". Specifically, in North Atlantic, the distribution of sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th matches the distribution of particle, especially opal, production: sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is higher where opal production is high, and vice versa (Fig. 4 and Fig. 1c).

4.2 Sensitivity on partition coefficient K

In this section, we show model sensitivity on partition coefficient by increasing and decreasing the partition coefficient, K, by a factor of 5, but keep the relative ratio for different particles the same (Table 2). Our model shows similar model sensitivity as in Siddall et al., (2005) as discussed below.

As stated in Siddall et al., (2005), the isotope decay term in Eq. (3) is three orders of magnitude less than the production term. If we neglect the transport term and the decay term in Eq. (3) and assume particulate phase activity at the surface as 0, when reach equilibrium, the activity of particulate phase will be as in Eq. (7). Eq. (7) combined with Eq.(2) and $R_i = \frac{F}{w_s * \rho}$, we can get Eq.(8). Under the assumption that there is isotope decay and ocean transport, Eq. (7) suggests that the particulate isotope activity depends on the production rate and settling velocity and will increase linearly with depth. Eq. (8) suggests that the dissolved isotope activity depends on the production rate, partition coefficient K and particle flux and will also increase linearly with depth. Any departure from this linear relationship with depth is due to ocean transport, which is suggested by observations (Bacon and Anderson, 1982; Roy-Barman et al., 1996). Results of Eq. (7) and Eq. (8) can help to understand the differences in Exp_1 and Exp_2.

Increasing K will decrease water column dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activities but won't change particulate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th too much (Fig. 6). Magnitude of dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in Exp_1 (smaller K) is at least one order larger than that in Exp_2 (larger K), while magnitude of particulate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in Exp_1 and Exp_2 is in the same order. As suggested by Eq. (8), if there is no isotope decay and no ocean transport, larger K will lead to smaller dissolved isotope activity but unchanged particulate activity. Intuitively, larger K will lead to more ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th attached to particles and further buried into sediment, which increases the sink for the ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th budget. With the sources for ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th staying the same, dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th will be reduced. Increasing K will also reduce the vertical gradient of dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th as reversible scavenging act as the vertical transport and increase this vertical transport can decrease the vertical gradient. However, changes in the particulate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th is relatively small (Fig. 6). Eq.

329 (7) suggests that particulate phase activity it is independent of K. Therefore, 330 changing K will have limited influence on particulate phase activity.

$$A_p^i(z) = \frac{\beta^i}{w_s} \cdot z \tag{7}$$

$$A_d^i(z) = \frac{\rho \beta^i}{K^i F} \cdot z \tag{8}$$

Increasing K will also reduce the spatial gradient in sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio and vice versa (Fig. 7). Larger K will decrease the ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th residence time and most isotopes produced in the water column are removed into sediment locally (Table 2). Therefore, sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio becomes more homogeneous and approaching the production ration of 0.093 (Fig. 7b). The deviation (the root mean squared error) of sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is 0.0726 in CTRL, 0.0770 in Exp_1 and 0.0739 in Exp_2. Together with the water column isotope activity, it suggests that the partition coefficient in CTRL is of the right order of magnitude.

4.3. Sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio in HOSING

Potential changes in the export of biogenic particles makes using 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio to reconstructing AMOC strength under debate. In response to freshwater perturbation in the North Atlantic, both biological productivity and AMOC strength will change and will influence sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th in different ways. Our model with p-fixed and p-coupled 231 Pa and 230 Th can help to detangle these two effects. In this section, we examine the sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th (p-fixed and p-coupled) response in the North Atlantic to idealized fresh water perturbation.

In HOSING, after applying freshwater forcing to the North Atlantic, AMOC strength quickly decreases to a minimum of 2 Sv (AMOC_off) (Fig. 9a). During the AMOC_off state, compared with CTRL with active AMOC (AMOC_on), p-fixed sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th shows an overall increase in the North Atlantic and a decrease in the South Atlantic (Fig. 10b) because of the reduced southward transport of ²³¹Pa

from the North Atlantic by AMOC, consistent with paleo proxy evidence there (e.g. Gherardi et al., 2005, 2009; McManus et al., 2004). The overall increase of sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio in the North Atlantic in response to the AMOC collapse can be seen more clearly in the time evolution of the sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio averaged from 20°N to 60°N in the North Atlantic (Fig.9b, green). Quantitatively, the 231 Pa/ 230 Th increases from 0.074 in AMOC_on to 0.098 in AMOC_off in the p-fixed version, approaching the production ration of 0.093. This increase of 231 Pa/ 230 Th is also in the subtropical North Atlantic from the two sites near Bermuda Rise (Fig. 9e and f), which is of comparable magnitude with the change from LGM to HS1 in reconstructions there (McManus et al., 2004). In addition, the pattern of p-fixed (Fig.10a) sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio during the Atlantic in AMOC_off state is similar to the opal distribution (Fig.1b) because, without active circulation, sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio is more controlled by particle flux effect, which is similar to the Pacific in CTRL. It is further noted that our p-fixed sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio in HOSING behaves similarly to that in Siddall et al., (2007).

The overall increase in p-fixed sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio in the North Atlantic is not homogenous and the magnitude of the change between AMOC_on and AMOC_off varies with location because of the distribution of particle flux, especially opal flux (Fig.9 and 10). The maximum increase in p-fixed sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio occurs near 40°N western Atlantic, where the opal production in our model is maximum in North Atlantic (Fig. 1b). It should be noted that the opal maximum in this region is not in the observation (Fig. 7.2.5 in Sarmiento and Gruber 2006). However, our sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th response in HOSING is self-consistent with the particle flux in our model. The sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio in this region during AMOC_on is larger than production ratio of 0.093 because opal maximum provides extra ²³¹Pa to this region ("particle flux effect"), which overwhelms the active ocean circulation transporting ²³¹Pa southward outside this region (Fig. 9d, green). During AMOC_off, without active ocean circulation, the particle flux effect becomes even stronger because less ²³¹Pa is transported out of the North Atlantic and p-fixed sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio gets even larger.

In most regions of the Atlantic, p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th shows a similar response to p-fixed 231 Pa/ 230 Th in HOSING. The evolution of p-fixed and p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio in HOSING are highly correlated (Fig. 11a). The change of sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio from AMOC_on to AMOC_off are similar in both p-fixed and p-coupled version (Fig.11b). The correlation between p-fixed and p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio change from AMOC_on to AMOC_off is 0.72 (1455points) and the linear regression coefficient is 0.71 (R² = 0.52). High correlation between p-fixed and p-coupled response mainly happens over low productivity regions (Fig.1, 10, and 11), where circulation effect on sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th is more important than the particle flux change in HOSING.

However, the responses of p-fixed and p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th to the fresh water forcing can differ significantly in high productivity regions because of the importance of the productivity change. With persistent freshwater forcing over the North Atlantic, most regions in the North Atlantic show reduced production of CaCO₃, opal and POC (Fig. 8). Productivity in the North Atlantic is suggested to be halved during AMOC collapse because of increased stratification, which reduces nutrient supply from deep ocean (Schmittner, 2005). In our model, the productivity in the mid-latitude North Atlantic is indeed greatly reduced after the freshwater forcing is applied. For example, opal production from 30°N-50°N in the Atlantic at the end of HOSING is reduced by 50%~90% of its original value in CTRL. However, opal production increases in high latitude North Atlantic (north of 50°N). The pattern of opal production changes with high opal production region shifts northward in HOSING (Fig. 8 d, e and f). These particle flux changes will influence sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th as discussed below.

North of 50°N in the Atlantic, the opal productivity increases during AMOC_off (Fig. 8f) and will result an increase in sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th. The increase caused by greater opal productivity enhances the sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th increase caused by reduced AMOC. Therefore, the increase in p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th from AMOC_on to AMOC_off is larger than p-fixed sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th change (Fig.9c).

In the mid-latitude North Atlantic, the opal productivity decreases during AMOC off (Fig.8 f) and will lead to a decrease in sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th, which is opposite to the effect of reduced AMOC. P-coupled sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th shows an initial decrease in first 200 years (Fig.9 d, e, and f, red dash lines) caused by the reduced opal productivity. But this decrease trend is reversed eventually, suggesting that the influence of particle flux change is overwhelmed by the effect of reduced AMOC. It the long run, most regions in the subtropical and mid-latitude Atlantic show increased sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th in HOSING (Fig.10 d), indicating the dominant effect of reduced AMOC. However, sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th at 40°N west Atlantic, where opal productivity is maximum during AMOC_on, show a decrease from AMOC_on to AMOC_off (Fig.9 d and Fig.10 d). During AMOC_on, the opal productivity maximum at 40°N west Atlantic lead to regional maximum sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th because of the particle flux effect (Fig. 4). During AMOC_off, this opal productivity maximum is eliminated (Fig.8 e) and there is no more extra ²³¹Pa supplied by surroundings to this region, which leads to a decrease in sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th. This decrease in sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th caused by productivity change is greater than the increase caused by the reduced AMOC. Therefore, sediment 231 Pa 230 Th experiences a decrease from AMOC_on to AMOC_off at this location (Fig.9 d and Fig.10 d). Our results suggest that although the circulation effect is more dominant than the particle flux change in controlling sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th on long time scale over most of North Atlantic (Fig. 11), particle flux change can be important on short time scale and in high productivity regions. With p-fixed and p-coupled ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th, our model can help to detangle the circulation effect and particle flux effect.

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It is suggested that the particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th response to the change of AMOC depends on the location and depth. Above 2km and high latitude North Atlantic, particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th decreases with the increased AMOC (Rempfer et al., 2017). Our results are consistent with this finding (Fig. 12 a and b). Both p-fixed and p-coupled particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th show similar patterns of change from AMOC_on to AMOC_off: decrease in particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th at shallow depth and north of 60°N and increase in particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th below 2km and south of 60°N during

AMOC off. Therefore, sediment depth should also be taken into consideration when interpreting sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th. Since the pattern in p-coupled is similar to the pattern in p-fixed, the opposite particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th changes in shallow and deep North Atlantic is associated with AMOC change. During AMOC_on, upper limb of AMOC (about upper 1km) transport water northward, which provides extra ²³¹Pa to North Atlantic and particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is larger than the production ratio of 0.093. In contrast, the lower limb of AMOC (2km-3km) features southward transport, which transports ²³¹Pa to the Southern Ocean and particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is smaller than the production ratio of 0.093 (Fig. 12 solid). Particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th decreases with depth (Fig. 12 c solid). During AMOC_off, ocean transport of ²³¹Pa is greatly reduced. Therefore, shallow (deep) depth experiences a decrease (increase) in particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th and the vertical gradient in the particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is also greatly reduced (Fig. 12 c dash). Our results support that the depth dependence of particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th is mainly caused by lateral transport of ²³¹Pa by circulation (Gherardi et al., 2009; Lippold et al., 2011, 2012a; Luo et al., 2010; Rempfer et al., 2017).

Overall, our model is able to simulate the correct magnitude of the sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio response to the freshwater forcing. Change of circulation has the dominant influence on sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th on long time scale over most of regions in the idealized hosing experiment, although the detailed difference between p-fixed and p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th ratio response to freshwater forcing in different locations can be complicated.

5. Summary

 231 Pa and 230 Th have been implemented in the ocean model of the CESM in both the p-coupled and p-fixed forms. Our control experiment under present day climate forcing is able to simulate most 231 Pa and 230 Th water column activity and sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio consistent with observations by using the parameters that are suggested by Chase et al., (2002) and used in Siddall et al.

(2005). Our sensitivity experiments with varying parameters suggest that these parameters are of the right order of magnitude.

Furthermore, our model is able to simulate the overall sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th ratio change in the North Atlantic with a magnitude comparable to the reconstruction in response to the collapse of AMOC, although the detailed response can be complicated in different regions. Finally, the p-fixed form is able to capture many major features of that of the p-coupled form over large ocean areas on long time scale, although the two forms can also differ significantly in some regions, especially the region with high opal productivity.

However, our implementation of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th can be further improved by including nepheloid layers to better simulate water column ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activity as in Rempfer et al., 2017. In addition, partition coefficient for different particles can be further tuned in the future, which can improve our understanding of the affinity of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th to different particles, complementing the limited observational studies available (e.g. Chase et al., 2002; Scholten et al., 2005; Walter et al., 1997). Nevertheless, as the first attempt to implement ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in the CESM with both p-fixed and p-coupled versions, our model can serve as a useful tool to improve our understanding of the processes of ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th and also interpretations of sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th reconstructions for past ocean circulation and climate changes.

Code availability:

The ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th isotope source code of both p-fixed and p-coupled versions for CESM1.3 is included as supplementary material here.

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Symbol	Value	Units
β^{Pa}	2.33*10-3	dpm m ⁻³ yr ⁻¹
$eta^{ ext{Th}}$	2.52*10-2	dpm m ⁻³ yr ⁻¹
λ^{Pa}	2.13*10-5	yr-1
λ^{Th}	9.22*10-6	yr ⁻¹
i		
j		
A_t		dpm m ⁻³
A_d		dpm m ⁻³
A_p		dpm m ⁻³
W_S	1000	m yr ⁻¹
С		kg m ⁻³
	1024.5	kg m ⁻³
R		
	$eta^{ ext{Pa}}$ $eta^{ ext{Pa}}$ $eta^{ ext{Th}}$ $\lambda^{ ext{Pa}}$ $\lambda^{ ext{Th}}$ i j A_t A_d A_p w_s C	$eta^{ ext{Pa}}$ 2.33*10 ⁻³ $eta^{ ext{Th}}$ 2.52*10 ⁻² $\lambda^{ ext{Pa}}$ 2.13*10 ⁻⁵ $\lambda^{ ext{Th}}$ 9.22*10 ⁻⁶ i j A_t A_d A_p w_s 1000 C 1024.5

Table 1. List of parameters, abbreviations and values.

	CTRL		EXP_1		EXP_2	
	²³¹ Pa	²³⁰ Th	²³¹ Pa	²³⁰ Th	²³¹ Pa	²³⁰ Th
K_{CaCO_3}	2.5*105	1.0*107	5*104	2*106	1.25*106	5*107
K_{opal}	1.67*106	5*10 ⁵	3.33*105	1*105	8.33*106	2.5*106
K_{POC}	1.0*107	1.0*107	2*106	2*106	5*10 ⁷	5*10 ⁷
τ (yr)	118	33	501	143	27	9

Table 2. Partition coefficients for different particle types and residence time for 231 Pa and 230 Th in different experiments. Partition coefficients used in CTRL follows (Chase et al., 2002; Siddall et al., 2005). Both p-coupled and p-fixed versions are enabled in CTRL, which yields identical results (discussed in section 4.1). Only p-fixed version is enabled in Exp_1 and Exp_2. The residence time (τ) is for p-fixed version in each experiment.

WATER COLUMN ACTIVITY	Holocene core-top ²³¹ Pa/ ²³⁰ Th
(Guo et al., 1995)	(Yu, 1994)
(Cochran et al., 1987)	(DeMaster, 1979)
(Nozaki et al., 1987)	(Bacon and Rosholt, 1982)
(Bacon and Anderson, 1982)	(Mangini and Diester-Hass, 1983)
(Bacon et al., 1989)	(Kumar, 1994)

(Huh and Beasley, 1987)	(Yang et al., 1986)
(Rutgers van der Loeff and Berger, 1993)	(Anderson et al., 1983)
(Nozaki et al., 1981)	(Anderson et al., 1994)
(Nozaki and Nakanishi, 1985)	(Ku, 1966)
(Mangini and Key, 1983)	(Ku et al., 1972)
(Nozaki and Horibe, 1983)	(Frank et al., 1994)
(Moore, 1981)	(Shimmield et al., 1986)
(Nozaki and Yamada, 1987)	(Frank, 1996)
(Roy-Barman et al., 1996)	(Yong Lao et al., 1992)
(Nozaki and Yang, 1987)	(Francois et al., 1993)
(Moran et al., 1995)	(Anderson et al., 1990)
(Luo et al., 1995)	(Mangini and Sonntag, 1977)
(Colley et al., 1995)	(Schmitz et al., 1986)
(Scholten et al., 1995)	(Shimmield and Price, 1988)
(Cochran et al., 1995)	(Yong-Liang Yang et al., 1995)
(Vogler et al., 1998)	(Müller and Mangini, 1980)
(Moran et al., 1997)	(Mangini and U., 1987)
(Edmonds et al., 1998)	(Scholten et al., 1995)
(Moran et al., 2001)	(Walter et al., 1997)
(Edmonds et al., 2004)	(Lippold et al., 2011)
(Okubo et al., 2007b)	(Lippold et al., 2012b)
(Coppola et al., 2006)	(Bradtmiller et al., 2007)
(Moran et al., 2002)	(Gherardi et al., 2005)
(Okubo et al., 2004)	(Gutjahr et al., 2008)
(Okubo et al., 2007a)	(Hall et al., 2006)
(Okubo et al., 2012)	(Lippold et al., 2011)
(Robinson et al., 2004)	(Roberts et al., 2014)
(Thomas et al., 2006)	(Bradtmiller et al., 2014)
(Trimble et al., 2004)	(Burckel et al., 2016)
	(Hoffmann et al., 2013)
(Hsieh et al., 2011)	(Jonkers et al., 2015)
	(Negre et al., 2010)
(Luo et al., 2010)	
(Deng et al., 2014)	
(Hayes et al., 2013)	
(Hayes et al., 2015)	

Table 3. References for observations of water column 231 Pa and 230 Th activity and Holocene core-top 231 Pa/ 230 Th.

919 Figures:

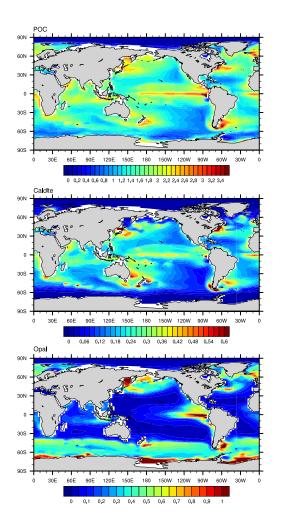


Figure 1. Annual mean particle fluxes in CESM. (a) $CaCO_3$ flux at 105m (mol m^{-2} yr⁻¹). (b) Opal flux at 105m (mol m^{-2} yr⁻¹). (c) POC flux at 105m (mol m^{-2} yr⁻¹).

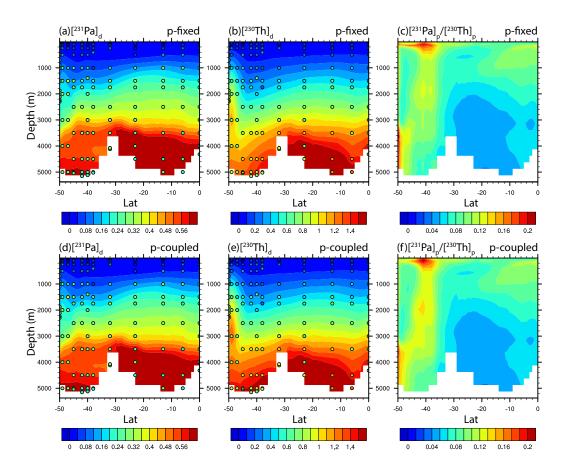


Figure 2. Dissolved ²³¹Pa, dissolved ²³⁰Th and particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th in CTRL along GEOTRACES transect GA02S (Deng et al., 2014) (the track is indicated in Fig. S4) for both p-fixed and p-coupled ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th. Observations of dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activity are superimposed using the same colormap.

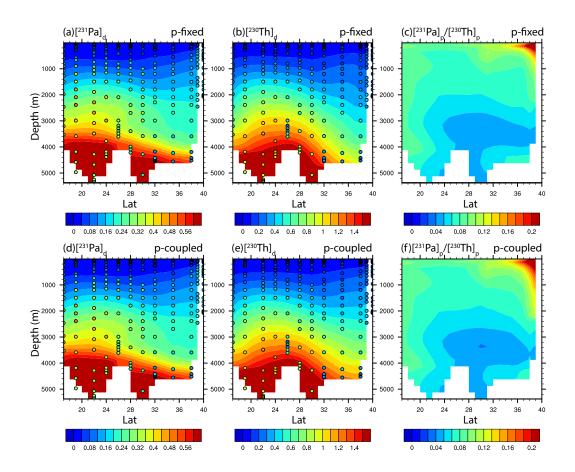


Figure 3. Dissolved ²³¹Pa, dissolved ²³⁰Th and particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th in CTRL along GEOTRACES transect GA03 (Hayes et al., 2015) (the track is indicated in Fig. S4) for both p-fixed and p-coupled ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th. Observations of dissolved ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th activity are superimposed using the same colormap.

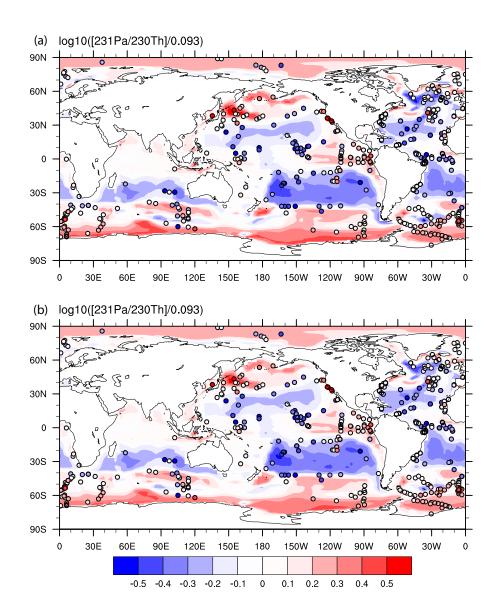


Figure 4. Sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio in CTRL for both p-fixed (a) and p-coupled version (b). Observations are attached as filled cycles using the same color map. The 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio is plotted relative to the production ratio of 0.093 on a log_{10} scale.

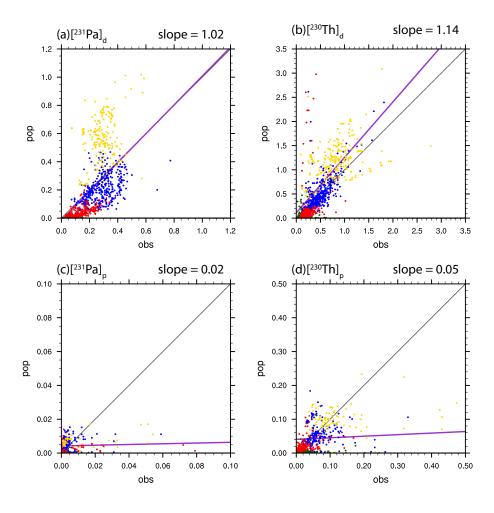


Figure 5. Scatter plot of global dissolved and particulate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th between observation and CTRL (p-fixed) (unit: dpm/m³). (a) dissolved ²³¹Pa; (b) particulate ²³¹Pa; (c) dissolved ²³⁰Th; (d) particulate ²³⁰Th. Observations in different depth range are indicated by different colors: green for 0-100m; red for 100m-1000m; blue for 1000m-3000m and yellow for deeper than 3000m. Purple line is the least squared linear regression line and slope is the linear regression coefficient.

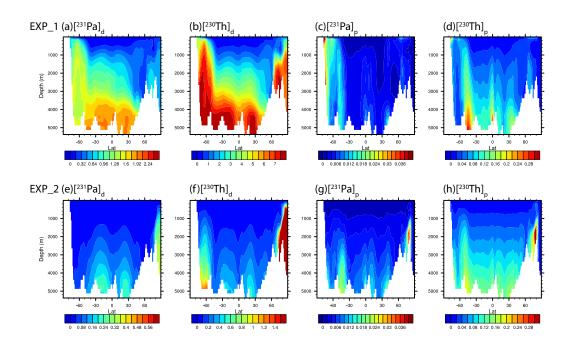


Figure 6. Atlantic zonal mean dissolved and particulate ²³¹Pa and ²³⁰Th in EXP_1 and EXP_2 (unit: dpm/m³). EXP_1: (a) dissolved ²³¹Pa; (b) dissolved ²³⁰Th; (c) particulate ²³¹Pa; (d) particulate ²³⁰Th. EXP_2: (e) dissolved ²³¹Pa; (f) dissolved ²³⁰Th; (g) particulate ²³¹Pa; (h) particulate ²³⁰Th.

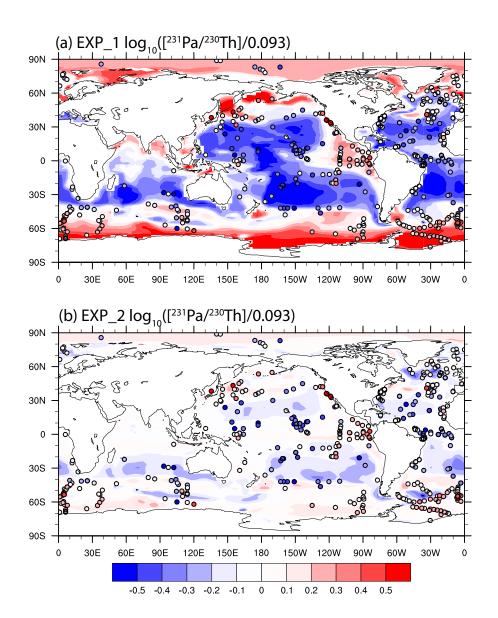


Figure 7. Sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio in EXP_1 (a) and EXP_2 (b). Observations are attached as filled cycles using the same color map. The 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio is plotted relative to the production ratio of 0.093 on a \log_{10} scale.

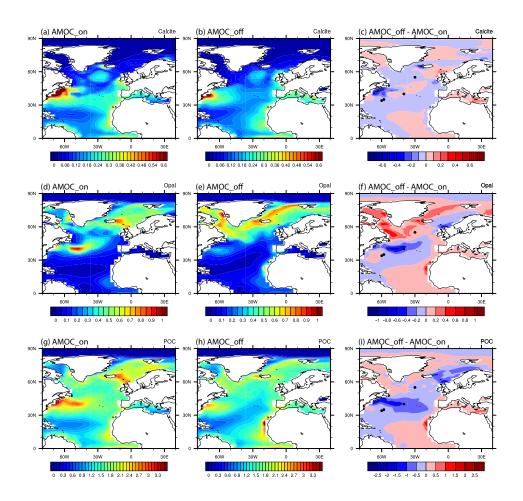


Figure 8. Comparison of particle fluxes between AMOC_on and AMOC_off. CaCO₃ flux at 105m (mol m⁻² yr⁻¹) during AMOC_on (a), AMOC_off (b) and difference between AMOC_off and AMOC_on. (b) Opal flux at 105m (mol m⁻² yr⁻¹) during AMOC_on (d), AMOC_off (e) and difference between AMOC_off and AMOC_on (f). POC flux at 105m (mol m⁻² yr⁻¹) during AMOC_on (g), AMOC_off (h) and difference between AMOC_off and AMOC_on (i).

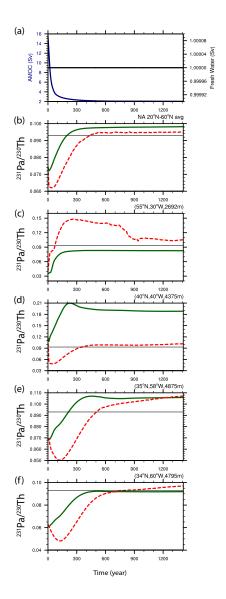


Figure 9. Time evolutions in HOSING. (a) Freshwater forcing (black) and AMOC strength (navy), which is defined as the maximum of the overturning streamfunction below 500m in the North Atlantic. (b) North Atlantic average sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio from 20°N to 60°N: p-fixed (green) and p-coupled (red). Production ratio of 0.093 is indicated by a solid black line (similar in c, d, e and f). (c) Sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio at (55°N, 30°W). (d) Sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio at (40°N, 40°W). (e) Sediment ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th activity ratio at (34°N, 60°W). (e) and (f) are near Bermuda Rise. Locations of each site are shown as dots in Fig. 8b.

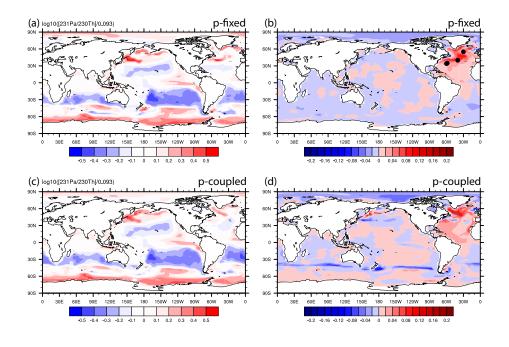


Figure 10. Sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio during AMOC off state and the difference between AMOC off and CTRL. (a) P-fixed $log_{10}([^{231}$ Pa/ 230 Th]/0.093) in AMOC_off. (b) Difference of p-fixed sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio between AMOC_off and AMOC_on. (c) and (d) are similar to (a) and (b) for p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio. Black dots in (b) shows the locations of sites in Fig. 9 from North to South.

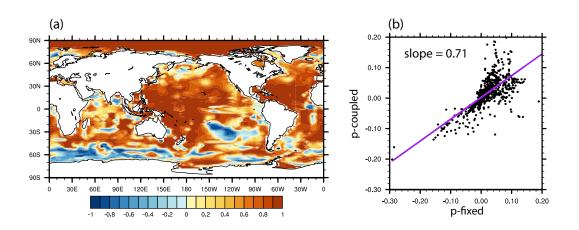


Figure 11. (a) Correlation of p-fixed and p-coupled evolution of sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio in HOSING. (b) Scatter plot of p-fixed and p-coupled sediment 231 Pa/ 230 Th activity ratio change from AMOC_on to AMOC_off in the Atlantic and the Southern Ocean (70°W-20°E). Purple line is the least squared linear regression line and slope is the linear regression coefficient.



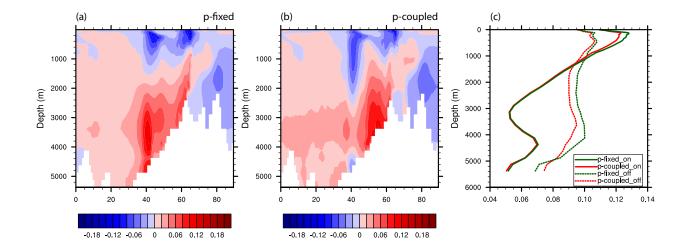


Figure 12. Difference of Atlantic zonal mean particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th between AMOC_off and AMOC_on: (a) p-fixed and (b) p-coupled. (c) North Atlantic (20°N-60°N) average profile during AMOC_on (solid) and AMOC_off (dash) for p-fixed (green) and p-coupled (red) particulate ²³¹Pa/²³⁰Th.