

1 **Diel Redox Cycle of Manganese in the Surface Arctic Ocean**

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6 **Key Points:**

- 7 • Particulate manganese oxidation states are more reduced in the day and more oxidized at
8 night in the surface Arctic Ocean;
- 9 • The Mn diel cycle results from the conversion between dissolved Mn and particulate
10 Mn(III/IV) oxides regulated by light;
- 11 • The length of night and intensity of light exposure are two main controls on the
12 magnitude of particulate Mn average oxidation states.

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21 **Abstract**

22 Knowledge of the chemical speciation of particulate manganese (pMn) is important for
23 understanding the biogeochemical cycling of Mn and other particle-reactive elements. Here, we
24 present the synchrotron-based X-ray spectroscopy derived average oxidation state (AOS) of pMn
25 in the surface Arctic Ocean collected during the U.S. GEOTRACES Arctic cruise (GN01) in
26 2015. We show that the pMn AOS is less than 2.4 when sampled during the day and more than
27 ~3.0 when sampled at night. We hypothesize that an active light-dependent redox cycle between
28 dissolved Mn and particulate Mn(III/IV) exists during the day-night cycle in the surface Arctic
29 Ocean, which occurs on the time scale of hours. The magnitude of observed pMn AOS is likely
30 determined by the net effect of the length of the previous night and integrated light level before
31 the end of pMn sampling.

32 **Plain Language Summary**

33 Manganese (Mn) exists in three oxidation states (II, III, and IV) in the ocean. The difference in
34 oxidation states of Mn minerals leads to differences in their capacities to oxidize and sorb other
35 elements, and thereby affects their role in marine redox and nutrient cycling. In this study, we
36 measured the oxidation states of marine particulate Mn in the surface Arctic Ocean. Our results
37 demonstrate a tight coupling between sunlight and particulate Mn oxidation states: more Mn(II)
38 exists in the daytime, whereas more Mn(III/IV) exists during the night. The light-dark cycle is an
39 important driver in the rapid transition between Mn(II) and Mn(III/IV).

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41 **Keywords:** Manganese; Photoreduction; Oxidation; Arctic Ocean; Synchrotron X-ray
42 fluorescence (XRF); GEOTRACES

43 **1 Introduction**

44 Manganese (Mn) is the 3rd most abundant transition metal in Earth's crust and exists in
45 three oxidation states (II, III, and IV) in the ocean. Mn is an essential element to life and used to
46 catalyze the oxidation of water to O₂ in Photosystem II (Yano et al., 2006) by phytoplankton, and
47 to detoxify cells from superoxide radicals via the antioxidant enzyme Mn superoxide dismutase
48 (Peers & Price, 2004). Oxidation from dissolved Mn(II) to particulate Mn(III/IV) oxides is
49 known to proceed through two sequential one-electron reactions (Luther, 2005). The final
50 oxidation product, Mn(III/IV) oxide, is a strong natural oxidant and is also known as the
51 "scavenger of the sea" (Goldberg, 1954; Tebo et al., 2004). Although Mn is an important
52 micronutrient for phytoplankton growth, dissolved Mn is often characterized by maximum
53 concentrations at the surface ocean (van Hulst et al., 2017) due to photoreduction of Mn(III/IV)
54 oxides (Sunda & Huntsman, 1987, 1994; Sunda et al., 1983) and is thus not typically limiting,
55 except for in the Southern Ocean (Browning et al., 2021; Middag et al., 2013).

56 Recent GEOTRACES cruises have demonstrated that the Arctic Ocean is enriched in Mn
57 because of riverine, sedimentary and hydrothermal sources (Charette et al., 2020; Colombo et al.,
58 2020; Jensen et al., 2020; Middag et al., 2011; Xiang & Lam, 2020). The Mn concentration
59 distribution in the Western Arctic Ocean is characterized by surface maxima in the Polar Mixed
60 Layer in the dissolved phase and distinct elevations at halocline depths in the particulate phase
61 (Jensen et al., 2020; Xiang & Lam, 2020). Investigations of Mn cycling in the Arctic Ocean have
62 generally focused on processes spanning time scales of several months to years during transport
63 from shelves to central basins. However, a diel cycle in the concentrations of Mn, in both
64 dissolved and particulate phases, has been observed in the coastal Northwest Atlantic Ocean
65 (Oldham et al., 2020; Sunda & Huntsman, 1990).

66 Here, we use synchrotron-based X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) to examine the
67 chemical speciation of particulate Mn (pMn) and its relationship with light during the U.S.
68 GEOTRACES Arctic cruise (GN01) in 2015. We take advantage of sampling times that spanned
69 a range of light conditions and relatively constant hydrographic parameters throughout the Polar
70 Mixed Layer to reconstruct a pseudo-diel cycle. This study is one of few that focuses on the
71 oxidation state of pMn in the ocean (Hermans et al., 2019; Lee et al., 2021; Oldham et al., 2021),
72 and the first one in the Arctic Ocean. Lee et al. (2021) showed that changes in pMn speciation in
73 the near- vs. far-field 15°S East Pacific Rise hydrothermal plume were associated with
74 differences in its scavenging affinity for other trace elements and isotopes. Therefore, insights
75 gained in this work help us understand the diel cycling of Mn and potentially also of other pMn-
76 associated elements in the surface Arctic Ocean.

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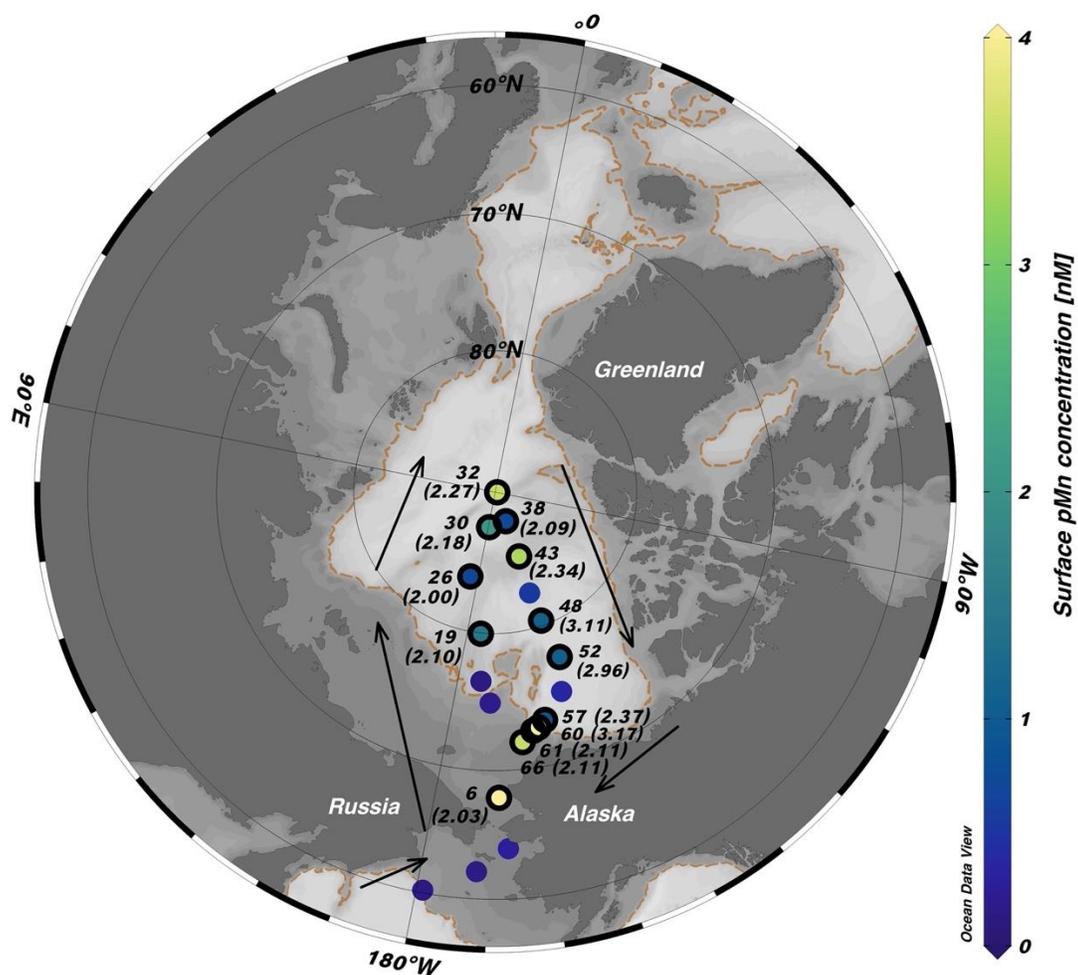
78 **2 Materials and Methods**

79 2.1 Marine particle sampling and chemical analysis

80 Marine particles were sampled using dual-flow McLane Research in-situ pumps (WTS-
81 LV) during the U.S. Arctic GEOTRACES cruise (GN01) onboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter
82 Healy between 9 August and 11 October 2015 (Figure 1). The day-night cycle varied
83 tremendously over the course of the cruise due to changes in sampling latitude and season, with
84 the length of night ranging from 0 to ~14 hours (Table S1).

85 Particles (0.8-51 μm) were collected with paired 0.8 μm pore-size polyethersulfone
86 Supor™ filters that were downstream of a 51 μm pore-size polyester pre-filter. The typical time

87 of pumping in the water column was 3-4 hours. Concentrations of pMn were measured by high-
 88 resolution inductively coupled mass spectrometry after total digestion (Xiang & Lam, 2020).



89
 90 **Figure 1.** Sampling locations of the GN01 cruise (cruise track: clockwise). Colors show the
 91 surface particulate Mn (pMn) concentrations (unit: nmol/L). The ocean bathymetry with 1,000 m
 92 contour is indicated as brown dashed lines. Samples analyzed by XANES are outlined by thick
 93 black circles and labeled by station numbers. Average oxidation states (AOS) of pMn are labeled
 94 next to station numbers within parenthesis.

95

96 2.2 Synchrotron X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS) analysis

97 Surface samples collected at ~20 m from 13 stations (3 shelf, 1 slope, and 9 basin),
98 together with one sample within the benthic nepheloid layer over the shelf, were analyzed by
99 bulk XAS at the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource (SSRL) Beamline 11-2. Prior to
100 exposure to the light source, a subsample of the original filter (usually 1/32 of the whole,
101 equivalent to ~12.5 L of pumped seawater) was rolled into multiple layers to maximize the signal
102 from dilute marine particle samples. The speciation of pMn was determined by X-ray Absorption
103 Near Edge Structure (XANES) spectroscopy using a liquid nitrogen cryostat. Averaged spectra
104 were background removed, normalized and deglitched using the SIXPACK software package
105 (Webb, 2005). No obvious shifts of XANES peaks were observed within 10-20 scans in all
106 samples analyzed, indicating no Mn photoreduction had taken place during analysis (Figure S1).
107 To assess variations in the speciation of pMn in the surface Arctic, we calculated the average
108 oxidation state (AOS) of pMn from linear combination fitting (LCF) of sample XANES spectra
109 in the energy range of 6520-6600 eV using three Mn mineral endmembers to represent three
110 oxidation states of Mn. The Mn(II), Mn(III) and Mn (IV) reference endmembers used are the
111 most reduced pMn among our samples (GT11010s), feitknechtite ($\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}\text{OOH}$), and $\delta\text{-Mn}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}_2$,
112 respectively (Text S1). LCF was done using SIXPACK and the goodness of the fits was
113 evaluated by the magnitude of the R-factor (Newville, 2001).

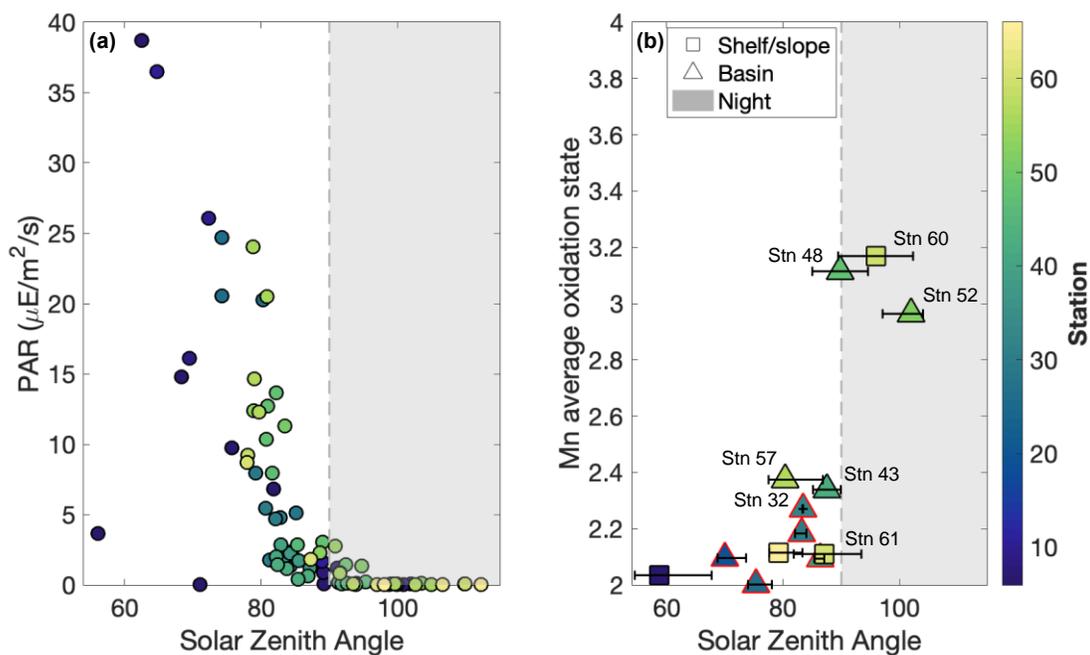
114 2.3 Environmental parameters

115 Environmental parameters that can affect Mn redox cycling such as pH, temperature,
116 oxygen, and light levels (Kim et al., 2012; Sunda & Huntsman, 1994; Toyoda & Tebo, 2016;
117 Von Langen et al., 1997) were measured on the Oceanographic Data Facility (ODF) CTD rosette
118 during the cruise (Landing et al., 2017; Woosley et al., 2017). For light levels, photosynthetically

119 available radiation (PAR; wavelength of 400-700 nm) data was collected by a QCP-2300-HP
120 Biospherical PAR sensor. Since shortwave radiation in the UV-A range (wavelength of 350-380
121 nm) is thought to contribute most to reduction of Mn(III/IV) oxides (Sunda & Huntsman, 1994),
122 and since PAR data were collected on different casts than particle samples, the solar zenith angle
123 (SZA), defined as the angle between the sun and the vertical plane, is used to estimate the light
124 level in the surface ocean during particle sampling. The SZA is less than 90° when the sun is
125 above the horizon (“daylight”), and greater than 90° when the sun is below the horizon (“night”).
126 The SZA was calculated with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Earth
127 Systems Research Laboratory Solar Position Calculator
128 (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/calcdetails.html>) by inputting sampling coordinates
129 and times.

130 PAR values from the ODF CTD are negatively correlated with their corresponding SZA
131 at 20 decibars during the daytime (SZA<90°), and they are relatively constant and small at night
132 (SZA>90°) (Figure 2a). The close relationship between PAR and SZA observed during the ODF
133 CTD casts suggests that the magnitude of SZA is a good proxy for visible light levels at 20 m
134 where surface particles were collected, and by extension, possibly for UV-A light as well, given
135 their similar attenuation coefficients (Lee et al., 2013). To account for different weather
136 conditions experienced during the particle sampling at each station, which partly lead to scatter
137 in the relationship between PAR and SZA, we also use underway shortwave radiation
138 (wavelength of ~0.3-3 μm) data measured using a pyranometer above the sea surface at the
139 helicopter deck. Note that underway shortwave radiation data cannot account for variable light
140 attenuation by either ice cover (Stations 19-46: permanent ice cover) or particles in the water
141 column.

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143

144 **Figure 2.** The relationships between solar zenith angle (SZA) and photosynthetically available
 145 radiation (PAR) measured in the ODF CTD casts at pressure = 20 decibars (a), and between SZA
 146 and Mn average oxidation states (AOS) measured on particles collected in the pump casts at ~20
 147 m (b). The symbols in (b) are the SZA at mid-cast and error bars demonstrate the minimum and
 148 maximum SZA during particle sampling. Samples collected under 24-h light conditions are
 149 outlined in red.

150

151 3 Results and Discussion

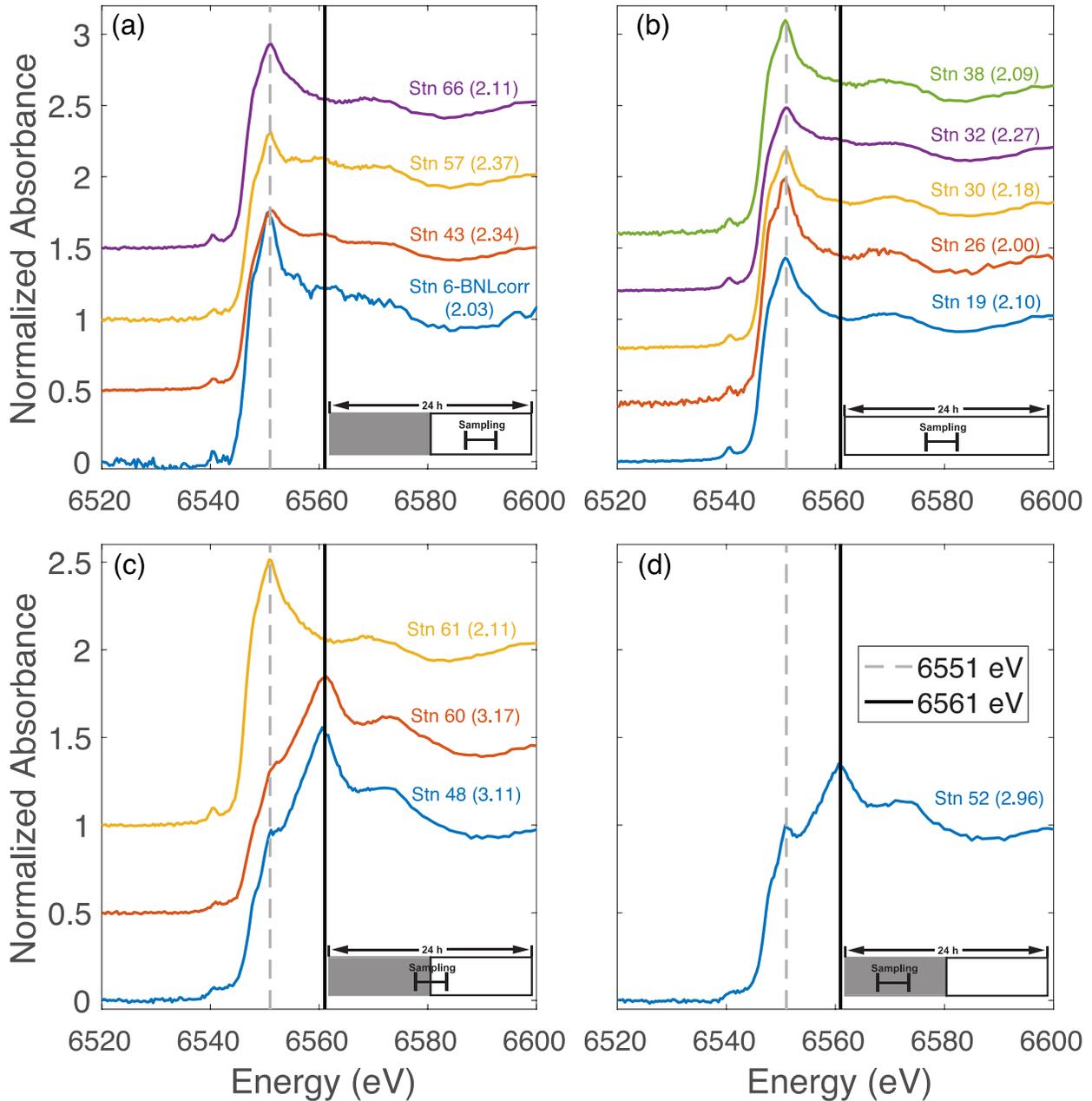
152 3.1 Surface particulate Mn (pMn) speciation

153 The surface Arctic has median (range) pMn concentrations of 1.0 (0.1-18.7) nmol/L
 154 (Figure 1 & Table S1). Surface samples with relatively high pMn concentrations were analyzed

155 by XANES. The XANES spectra show a pronounced maximum x-ray absorption peak either at
156 6561 eV or 6551 eV (Figure 3) which indicates oxidized and reduced pMn, respectively. It is
157 worth noting that oxidized pMn samples (Stations 48, 52, 60) also have a shoulder peak at 6551
158 eV, reflecting the existence of reduced Mn.

159 Two distinct x-ray absorption peaks at 6552 and 6557.5 eV occur in the benthic
160 nepheloid layer (BNL) sample (Figure S2). Similar XANES spectra have been observed in
161 estuarine sediments in San Francisco Bay (Carroll et al., 2002) and Baltic Sea sediments (Lenz et
162 al., 2014), potentially suggesting a detrital pool of Mn aluminosilicates. We used the BNL
163 XANES as a likely aluminosilicate reference to fit all surface Arctic samples and found that the
164 aluminosilicate signal is only present at shelf Station 6. The surface sample at Station 6 is
165 dominated by the putative Mn aluminosilicates, with the BNL fraction accounting for 68.1% of
166 the XANES signal (Figure S2), suggesting strong sediment resuspension on the Chukchi Shelf
167 (Xiang & Lam, 2020). To compare the non-aluminosilicate fraction to other surface samples, the
168 BNL fraction was removed from the bulk XANES spectrum, and the residual was renormalized.
169 The BNL-corrected sample at Station 6 has a maximum absorption peak at 6551 eV, like the
170 other reduced pMn (Figure 3a).

171 The pMn AOS estimated from XANES spectra range from 2.00 to 3.17 (Figure 1 &
172 Table S1). More samples (10 out of 13) were characterized by reduced pMn (AOS<2.9) than
173 oxidized pMn. The most oxidized surface pMn (Station 60; AOS=3.17) was best fit when the
174 Mn(IV) reference ($\delta\text{-Mn}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}_2$) was included in the fits (Figure S3). For context, the most oxidized
175 pMn AOS below the surface within the dark Pacific-derived halocline (Station 14) has an AOS
176 of 3.65 (Figure S4).



177

178 **Figure 3.** Mn K-edge bulk X-ray absorption near edge structure (XANES) spectra of surface
 179 pMn analyzed, grouped by different light levels experienced during the sampling and/or on a
 180 daily basis. The selection criteria for four groups are displayed as a cartoon in the bottom right
 181 corner of each subplot, illustrating whether there was a day-night cycle at that station during
 182 sampling (white-shaded rectangle) and the light level during sampling (horizontal bar). (a):

183 sampling entirely in the light but experiencing a day-night cycle; (b): sampling entirely in the
184 light and experiencing 24-h light; (c): sampling partially in the light; (d): sampling entirely in the
185 dark but experiencing a day-night cycle. The pMn AOS for each spectrum is labeled next to
186 station numbers within parenthesis.

187

188 3.2 Effect of light on pMn speciation

189 We separate XANES spectra into four groups based on the light level experienced during
190 the 4-hour in-situ sampling and the day-night cycle characterizing that station. The first group
191 experienced full light during sampling, even if a day-night cycle was present at that station
192 (Stations 6, 43, 57, and 66); pMn is generally reduced in this group (Figure 3a). Samples from
193 Stations 43 and 57 also show small peaks at 6561 eV, indicating some presence of oxidized Mn.
194 The second group comprises all surface samples at stations experiencing 24-hour light (Stations
195 19-38); these spectra exhibit a steep absorption peak at 6551 eV, characteristic of reduced Mn
196 (Figure 3b). A small peak at 6560 eV observed at Station 32 is associated with a high Mn(III)
197 fraction of 19.1% and little Mn(IV) (Table S1). Station 32, within the fast-flowing Transpolar
198 Drift, is characterized by the shortest transport time from the shelf (~6 months) among all surface
199 stations (Kipp et al., 2018). Thus, it may have received shelf-derived particulate Mn(III/IV) that
200 was transported laterally. The third group of samples were collected in partial darkness and are
201 characterized by reduced Mn (Station 61) or a mixture of reduced and oxidized Mn (Stations 48
202 and 60) (Figure 3c). The fourth group, comprising only one sample (Station 52), was collected in
203 complete darkness. Similar to the more oxidized samples at Stations 48 and 60, pMn at Station
204 52 is characterized by a mixture of reduced and oxidized Mn (Figure 3d).

205 To further describe the relationship between pMn speciation and light, we plot the AOS
206 of pMn against the SZA (Figure 2b). We find that pMn is more oxidized when samples were
207 taken at night ($SZA > 90^\circ$), whereas it is more reduced when sampled during the day ($SZA < 90^\circ$).
208 Other environmental parameters, e.g., temperature, dissolved oxygen, and pH, that are known to
209 influence Mn oxidation (Toyoda & Tebo, 2016; Von Langen et al., 1997) and reduction (Kim et
210 al., 2012; Sunda & Huntsman, 1994) kinetics, do not have clear correlations with pMn AOS in
211 the surface Arctic during our cruise (Figure S5). Therefore, light levels appear to be the first-
212 order control for pMn AOS in the surface Western Arctic.

213 3.3 Different pMn phases in the surface Arctic

214 Diel variations in the redox cycling of Mn have been observed in the coastal Northwest
215 Atlantic Ocean (Oldham et al., 2020; Sunda & Huntsman, 1990). Although our data were not
216 conducted at a single location over a 24-hour period, we treat our dataset as a pseudo-diel study
217 and hypothesize that the high pMn AOS in the dark reflects the oxidation of dissolved Mn into
218 Mn(III/IV) oxides at night (Sunda & Huntsman, 1990), and reduced AOS in the light results
219 from the light-dependent reduction of Mn(III/IV) oxides during the day (Sunda & Huntsman,
220 1988, 1994; Sunda et al., 1983). Photo-enhanced Mn(II) oxidation in the light mediated by
221 reactions with reactive oxygen species has been reported in other environments and laboratory
222 settings (Hansel & Francis, 2006; Learman et al., 2011; Nico et al., 2002). The lower AOS that
223 we observed during the day suggests that light-dependent reduction is more important than
224 photo-enhanced oxidation in the surface Arctic.

225 In Sunda and Huntsman (1990)'s study of diel Mn cycling, it was the ascorbate reducible
226 fraction of pMn, i.e., Mn(III/IV) oxides, that exhibited a diel pattern, whereas the ascorbate-
227 resistant pMn remained relatively constant throughout the sampling period. The ascorbate-

228 resistant pMn likely consists of lithogenic Mn silicates and/or other forms of pMn(II), such as
229 organically bound Mn(II) and adsorbed Mn(II).

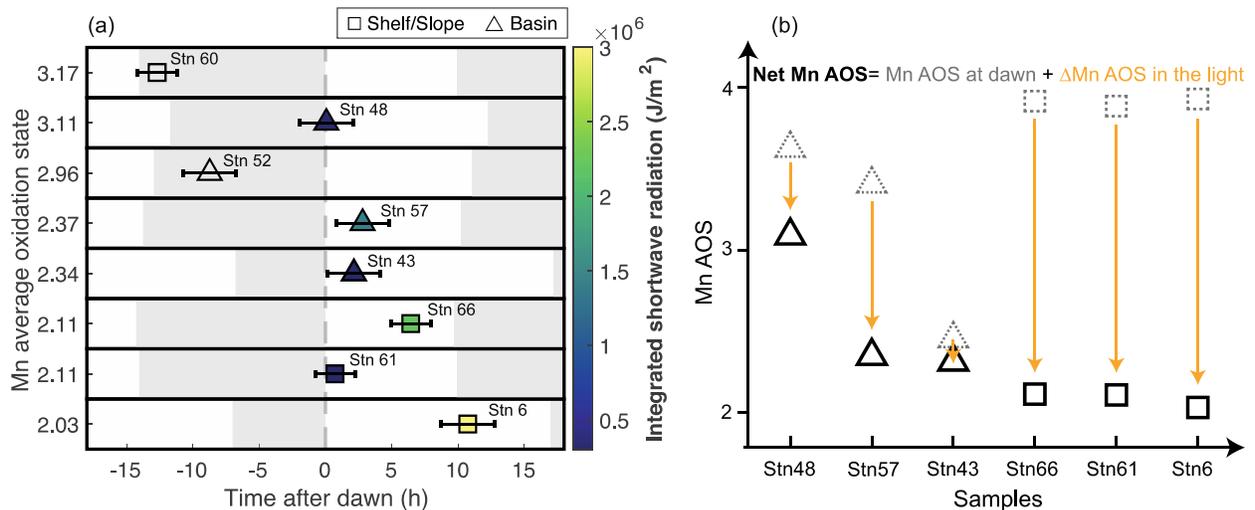
230 In the surface of the Western Arctic, both lithogenic Mn silicates and adsorbed Mn(II) are
231 unlikely to be important components of surface pMn, given their low abundance (cf., Xiang &
232 Lam, 2020) and different spectra shapes (Figure S6 & Table S2), respectively. We hypothesize
233 that the pMn(II) observed in the surface Arctic Ocean, accounting for a median (range) of 86.2%
234 (23.7-100.0%) of total pMn, is likely in the form of a strong organically complexed Mn(II) that
235 is incorporated by phytoplankton. The identity of this organically bound Mn(II) is yet unknown.
236 Model organic Mn compounds such as Mn(II)-citrate, Mn(II)-EDTA, Mn superoxide dismutase
237 (SOD), or Mn(II)-siderophores are characterized by maximum absorption peaks at higher
238 energies than what we observed in the samples (Figure S6 & Table S2) (Blamey et al., 2018;
239 Gunter et al., 2006; Harrington et al., 2012; Machado et al., 2019).

240 We envision a conceptual model with a base level of organically bound pMn(II) that
241 remains relatively constant through the day and night. At night, oxidation of ambient dissolved
242 Mn adds pMn(III/IV) to the pMn pool. The fraction of pMn(III/IV) that remains suspended in the
243 euphotic zone is completely reduced and returns to the dissolved Mn pool during daytime. The
244 total pMn concentrations and fractions of Mn(III)+Mn(IV) for oxidized samples collected in the
245 dark from Stations 52 and 60 are 1.1 nM and 64.0%, and 18.7 nM and 76.3%, respectively
246 (Table S1). Assuming all particulate Mn(III/IV) is derived from nightly oxidation of dissolved
247 Mn, we calculate that particulate Mn(III/IV) concentrations are 0.7 nM at Station 52 and 14.3
248 nM at Station 60. For simplicity, if we further assume that oxidation starts at dusk and loss of
249 pMn by sinking is small, net Mn oxidation rates can be estimated by dividing the concentration
250 of oxidized Mn by the length of darkness experienced from dusk to the end of sampling at each

251 station (Stations 52 and 60: 6.2 and 2.9 hrs, respectively). Our estimated net Mn oxidation rates
 252 at Stations 52 and 60 are 0.11 and 4.9 nM/h, respectively. The much slower apparent oxidation
 253 rate at basin Station 52 might be explained by colder temperatures in the basin (~-1.5 °C)
 254 compared to 0 °C at Station 60 at the shelf/slope, lower dissolved Mn concentrations (Jensen et
 255 al., 2020), and/or by different microbial communities (e.g., Lee et al., 2019) affecting the rates of
 256 oxidation. These average rates integrating over 6.2 and 2.9 hours are probably lower than the
 257 maximum oxidation rate in the surface Arctic but are generally comparable with other reported
 258 microbially mediated Mn oxidation rates of 0.1-50 nM/h in marine environments (Clement et al.,
 259 2009; Dick et al., 2009; Sunda & Huntsman, 1990).

260 3.4 Examination of controls on AOS in the surface Arctic

261 To examine the controls on the magnitude of pMn AOS, we use the length of night from
 262 the SZA data to estimate the extent of oxidation, and calculate the integrated shortwave radiation
 263 from dawn to the end of particle sampling for each station to estimate the extent of light-
 264 dependent reduction (Table S1). We consider shelf/slope and basin stations separately, since they
 265 have very different temperatures (Figure S5), nutrient levels, and light attenuation.



266

267 **Figure 4.** The relationship between time after dawn (unit: hour) and pMn average oxidation state
268 (AOS) (a), and a schematic diagram of AOS during the day-night cycle (b). Shelf/slope and
269 basin stations are marked as squares and triangles respectively. In panel (a), the length of night is
270 indicated by the shaded rectangle for each station and the color bar is the integrated shortwave
271 radiation (unit: J/m^2) from dawn to the end of particle sampling. The black solid symbols in (b)
272 are the net pMn AOS measured by XANES, whereas grey dashed symbols are estimated AOS
273 maxima at dawn (AOS_{dawn}) calculated based on the length of night and Mn oxidation rates
274 (section 3.4).

275

276 Both the length of night and intensity of light exposure after dawn influence the measured
277 pMn AOS at the time of sampling: a longer period of darkness results in higher AOS at dawn,
278 whereas higher integrated shortwave radiation decreases AOS in the light (Figure 4). We assume
279 that all basin and shelf/slope stations have net Mn oxidation rates that were calculated from
280 Stations 52 (0.11 nM/h) and 60 (4.9 nM/h), respectively (see section 3.3), and estimate the
281 pMn(III/IV) formed at night by multiplying the length of night at each station by the Mn
282 oxidation rates (Table S1). To estimate the upper bound of AOS at dawn (hereafter the AOS_{dawn}),
283 we use the measured pMn(II) at time of sampling and assume it is constant throughout the day-
284 night cycle and the estimated pMn(III/IV) produced during nighttime oxidation as pMn(IV) to
285 calculate AOS_{dawn} (Figure 4b).

286 The similar measured AOS at Stations 57 (2.37) and 43 (2.34) belies the different
287 processes at work at these two basin stations: Station 57 had a longer night and thus higher
288 estimated AOS_{dawn} , but it also had higher integrated shortwave radiation by the time of sampling
289 (1.42×10^6 vs. $2.06 \times 10^5 \text{ J/m}^2$), which decreased the AOS greatly (Figure 4a). Station 48 has the

290 highest measured AOS (3.11) as a result of the high estimated AOS_{dawn} (3.65) and the lowest
291 integrated shortwave radiation (1.44×10^5 J/m²). Fully ice-covered basin Stations 19-38 were
292 sampled under 24-hour light conditions. Extended exposure to light (>3000 hours) inhibits
293 oxidation, resulting in low measured AOS (median=2.10) (Figure 2b).

294 At relatively warm and nutrient-rich shelf stations, higher Mn dark oxidation rates lead to
295 higher estimated AOS (~4) at dawn compared to cold and oligotrophic basin stations (Figure 4b).
296 At Stations 6 and 66, a high magnitude of integrated shortwave radiation (9.21×10^6 and 2.22×10^6
297 J/m², respectively) leads to low measured AOS at the time of sampling (2.03 and 2.11,
298 respectively). It is puzzling, however, to observe low measured AOS (2.11) at Station 61, despite
299 having a high estimated AOS_{dawn} (3.88) and low integrated shortwave radiation (2.35×10^5 J/m²)
300 (Figure 4a). Similar to the faster oxidation rate at slope Station 60 compared to basin Station 52,
301 factors such as temperature and microbial communities may also lead to higher light-dependent
302 Mn reduction rates at the shelf stations compared to basin stations. Alternatively, given the high
303 concentrations of humic substances in the Chukchi Sea (Hioki et al., 2014; Nakayama et al.,
304 2011), it is possible that Mn oxidation at night was inhibited at shelf stations (6, 61, 66) due to
305 strong dissolved Mn(III)-ligand complexes (Oldham et al., 2021). However, the inhibition of Mn
306 oxidation cannot be a universal phenomenon in the Chukchi Sea, since slope Station 60 has a
307 high AOS.

308

309 **4 Conclusions**

310 The observed relationship between the pMn AOS and SZA demonstrates the significance
311 of light in the Mn redox cycling in the Western Arctic Ocean. Such a relationship could also

312 exist in other regions globally, but similar synchrotron-based analyses are more challenging due
313 to much lower pMn concentrations compared to the surface Arctic Ocean.

314 We estimated that the Mn oxidation rate at night in the surface oligotrophic Arctic basins
315 during our cruise is ~ 0.1 nM/h. Such rates of Mn oxidation take place even within the near-
316 freezing (~ -1.5 °C) Polar Mixed Layer in late summer. This study serves as the first study to
317 infer in-situ Mn oxidation at such cold temperatures. The oxidation of dissolved Mn(II) in the
318 extended polar winter with no sunlight could serve as a significant seasonal Mn removal
319 mechanism out of the surface layer. Assuming that the Mn oxidation rate remains at 0.1 nM/h in
320 the Arctic winter when it is dark 24 hrs a day, and that riverine and benthic sources of dissolved
321 Mn diminish in winter, it would only take ~ 50 hours (~ 2 days) to oxidize the entire reservoir of
322 dissolved Mn in the surface Western Arctic Ocean (~ 5 nM; Jensen et al., 2020) and then sink out
323 of the Polar Mixed Layer. To our knowledge, no measurements of dissolved or particulate Mn
324 exist in the Arctic winter to test this prediction.

325 To date, rapid redox cycles of Mn during the day-night cycle have been observed in the
326 Western Arctic Ocean (this study) and coastal North Atlantic Ocean (Oldham et al., 2020; Sunda
327 & Huntsman, 1990). In contrast, Mn oxidation is absent in the surface Sargasso Sea throughout
328 the day and night, whereas it is present in the dark subsurface (Sunda & Huntsman, 1988).
329 Oldham et al. (2021) did not detect particulate Mn(IV) formation in either sun-lit surface or dark
330 subsurface waters in the Ross Sea. The conditions that govern the diel Mn redox cycle are not
331 clear, but have important implications for availability of Mn and other pMn-associated
332 micronutrients such as cobalt (Oldham et al., 2021). Future work is needed to investigate the
333 relative importance of light levels, Mn(III)-ligand complexes, microbial communities, and/or

334 reactive oxygen species in controlling Mn redox cycling and its impacts on biogeochemical
335 cycles of different particle-reactive elements.

336

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345 Oceanographic Data Facility (ODF) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography for providing
346 photosynthetically available radiation data. The ODF hydrographic, PAR, and pH data are
347 available on the Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO)
348 (<https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/700817> and <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/646825>). The
349 conversion between voltage and $\mu\text{E}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ in PAR data is based on the calibration conducted
350 before the cruise. Particulate Mn data collected by in-situ pumps in the GN01 cruise are available
351 on the BCO-DMO (<https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/807340>). Many thanks to Ryan C. Davis
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354 feitknechtite, Jena E. Johnson for Mn silicates reference spectra, Peter Kopittke for Mn citrate
355 and oxalate reference spectra, and Hudson Carvalho for Mn-EDTA reference spectra.

356

357 **References**

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