



Figure 6.21. The Oxygen utilization rate (OUR) versus depth determined by measuring ^3H , ^3He and AOU on isopycnal surfaces in the eastern subtropical North Atlantic Ocean. (A) The OUR results. Redrawn from Jenkins (1998). (B) A schematic diagram indicating the pathway of constant density surfaces (isopycnals) from the surface ocean into the thermocline. Because fresher organic matter degrades on surfaces closest to the euphotic zone, the OUR rates are greater on the shallower isopycnals even though O_2 concentrations are lower on the deeper ones.