

Table 2 The contradictory findings of this study and other studies

Sites	TN	TP	Reference
Malacca Straits	0.12 to 0.98 mg NO ₃ -N/L	0.17 to 0.42 mg PO ₄ -P/L	Chua and Bronk, 1997
Surface sea water	Nitrate, nitrite and ammonium in the surface seawater are 0.827, 0.167 and 2.248 µg at N/L respectively	0.242 µg at P/L	Law et al., 2001
Sea water	Nitrate (1-500 µg NO ₃ -N dm ⁻³), nitrite (<1-50 µg NO ₂ -N dm ⁻³) and ammonia (<1-50 µg NH ₄ -N dm ⁻³)	1-75 µg P dm ⁻³	Johnston, 1976