

Acidification de l'océan et son impact sur les organismes et écosystèmes marins

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CNRS-Université Pierre et Marie Curie



Une thématique de recherche récente

news

Researchers seek to turn the tide on problem of acid seas

Quirin Schiermeier, Munich

Researchers met last week to map out plans to study a serious but largely neglected

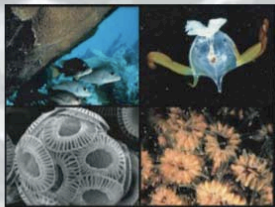
marine organisms will play a prominent part in the research plan. Last month, researchers showed that the shells and hard skeletons of



Ocean acidification due to increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide

IMPACTS OF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ON CORAL REEFS AND OTHER MARINE CALCIFIERS

A GUIDE FOR FUTURE RESEARCH



REPORT OF A WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY

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news

Ocean fix for climate change finds tentative support

Jim Giles

Marine organisms can sense and avoid high concentrations of carbon dioxide, according to a study of a seafloor vent off the coast of Hawaii. The result provides tentative

bubbles up from a subsea volcano called Loihi, near Hawaii. They wanted to assess fears that adding CO₂ to the ocean might create a 'mortality sink' — a spot where marine organisms die, attracting scavenging creatures that would in turn be killed.

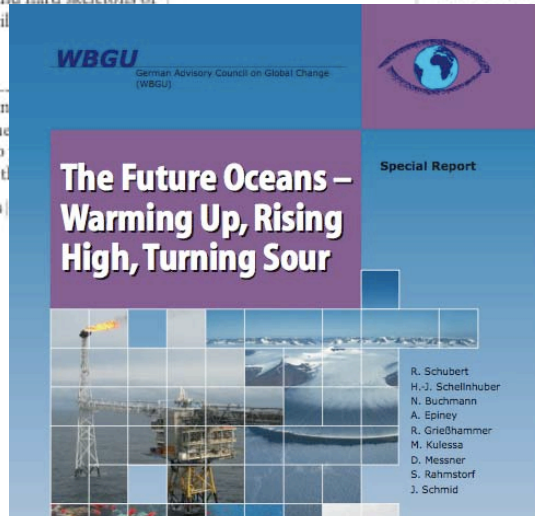
But this kind of death trap is unlikely to occur, says Jeffrey Summers, a physicist with the Office of Fossil Energy at the US energy department in Washington DC. Summers and colleagues set cages baited with mackerel close to the Loihi plume and at various distances from the CO₂. The bait away from the plume was eaten in less than 24 hours, whereas the bait over the vent remained untouched for more than a week.

Eric Vetter, a marine biologist at Hawaii Pacific University who worked with Summers on the project, thinks animals

are avoiding the cages because they can sense the high CO₂ levels. "The results are promising," he says.

The study, scheduled to be presented on 6 September at the 7th International Conference on Greenhouse Gas Control Technologies in Vancouver, Canada, also suggests that sea creatures can recover from short blasts of CO₂. Summers' team dragged cages of amphipods — shrimp-like creatures — over the vent. The animals seemed to be anaesthetized by the gas within 10 minutes, but became active again around half an hour after being removed from the plume.

Vetter stresses that the work is "very preliminary"; and adds that much more data are needed before conclusions can be drawn about the wisdom of dumping CO₂ in the sea.



The Future Oceans - Warming Up, Rising High, Turning Sour

Special Report

R. Schubert
H.-J. Schellnhuber
N. Buchmann
A. Epiney
R. Grieshammer
M. Kulesa
D. Messner
S. Rahmstorf
J. Schmid

OCEAN SCIENCE

The Fate of Industrial Carbon Dioxide

Taro Takahashi

The atmospheric CO₂ concentration has increased from about 280 parts per million (ppm) in 1800—beginning of the industrial age—to 370 today (1). During this time, the annual rate of increase has been about 0.5 ppm per year, less than that expected from the estimate

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Ocean Acidification Bad for Shells and Reefs

news

Project probes impact of waste carbon dioxide on marine life

David Cyranoski, Tokyo

Japanese researchers are beginning to make public the first data from a project that could allow waste carbon dioxide to be dumped in the ocean. The tests are aimed at finding what concentrations of carbon dioxide can be tolerated by various

NATURE | VOL 430 | 22 JULY 2004 | www.nature.com/nature

Une thématique de recherche récente

Le Soir Mardi 3 avril 2007

2 2007-2107

La science du climat

« On transforme l'océan en Coca-Cola ! »

LE RAPPORT DU GIEC affine les impacts de l'augmentation des concentrations de CO₂ dans l'atmosphère. Etat de la question avec le climatologue belge Jean-Pascal van Ypersele.

Professeur en climatologie à l'Université catholique de Louvain, Jean-Pascal van Ypersele est également vice-président du groupe II du Giec, consacré aux « impacts » et à l'« adaptation ».

Quelles sont les grandes différences entre ce rapport et celui de 2001 ? Il n'y a pas énormément de différences. (...) Sur le réchauffement, on avait l'habitude depuis 20 ans, pour ne pas dire 30. Le cœur du problème était déjà là, pour ceux qui voulaient bien en prendre conscience. L'évidence est aujourd'hui plus précise, plus largement disponible et dispose d'une couverture géographique plus vaste.

Le rapport comporte des originalités, notamment sur l'objectif ultime de stabiliser les émissions de gaz à effet de serre de manière à éviter toute perturbation anthropique dangereuse du système climatique. Devoir-il y avoir une priorité entre les politiques de réduction d'émission et l'adaptation ?

L'immense majorité des glaciers recule à cause des changements climatiques. Mais dans les régions où ils sont les réservoirs d'eau pour des villes entières (...) il n'y aura plus d'eau... sauf quand il pleut »

Les deux sont nécessaires. Anciennement, on n'abordait pas ces questions ensemble. Ici, nous faisons l'interaction des deux, sur les liens et les limites entre adaptation et la prévention. Un exemple : on peut très bien se protéger dans les pays développés contre une montée des mers de cinquante centimètres, mais cinq mètres, c'est autre chose. Économiquement libéré, puis d'un point de vue de la population. Qui voudrait habiter derrière un mur haut de cinq mètres qui contient une mer ou un océan ? Les Hollandais ont travaillé sur cette question. Dans un tel cas, on ne peut qu'envoyer la bannière du territoire.

Le Giec constate que l'augmentation des concentrations de CO₂ aura un impact positif sur les rendements de l'agriculture dans le nord de l'Europe...

Oui, mais jusqu'à un certain niveau de concentration, ensuite la qualité risque ensuite de chuter. Mais bien sûr, pour l'agriculture, il faut aussi tenir compte des événements extrêmes. Il y a, à ce propos, beaucoup de discussions.

L'accès à l'eau ne devrait pas être menacé en Belgique. Ce qui n'est pas le cas de nombreux pays...

L'immense majorité des glaciers recule à cause des changements climatiques. Mais dans les régions où ils sont les réservoirs d'eau pour des villes entières se trouvant en contrainte, dans le voisinage, il n'y aura plus d'eau... quand il pleut. Cela change tout. C'est dramatique. C'est le cas en Europe, dans les An-



LE GIEC PRÉVOIT la disparition de la plupart des petits glaciers, en Europe, d'ici à 2050. Situé dans la baie du Roi (Kongjoforden), en Norvège, le glacier Blomstrandbreen a reculé d'environ deux kilomètres depuis 80 ans. PHOTOS AP

des, au Népal. Que pensez-vous du scénario de l'arrêt du Gulf Stream et d'un refroidissement de l'Europe subit ? C'est un des sujets qui méritent. (...) Le groupe II du Giec a dit très clairement ce qu'il en était. Ce risque est très faible pour l'Europe ou l'ACP arctique. À l'opposé, le climat pourrait-il s'embaler si l'homme ne limite pas les émissions de gaz à effet de serre ?

Ce phénomène est également très peu probable. Il est intéressant d'en avoir conscience. De grandes quantités de méthane gelées pourraient se relâcher en raison de l'effritement. C'est important de le savoir en raison de la puissance vingt-cinq fois plus élevée par kilo de ce gaz relâché dans l'atmosphère par rapport au CO₂. Mais la Terre n'est pas sur Vénus, plus proche du Soleil que notre planète, et la position de

difficile à résoudre que l'on attend pour s'y attaquer.

Or, comme le note bien le rapport, l'océan se sature petit à petit en CO₂. C'est un problème majeur dans ce qui parler beaucoup dans les années qui viennent. Il faut savoir que l'on transforme la composition chimique de l'océan. On le transforme d'une certaine manière en Coca-Cola ! Et je ne pense pas que la vie marine puisse s'y développer aussi facilement que dans de l'eau normale. Est-ce encore utile de produire trois rapports différents mais complémentaires tous les cinq ans. Le Giec ne nécessite-t-il pas d'être réformé ?

Peut-être. Une réflexion informelle a commencé à se faire. Rien ne dit que le prochain rapport du Giec, s'il y en a un, dans 5, 6, 7 ans, aura la même structure. Une approche plus intégrée que maintenant est nécessaire. Il y aura une certaine clarification de certains aspects grâce à l'interaction entre les scientifiques et les décideurs.

On parle de consensus scientifique sur les changements climatiques. Mais des scientifiques continuent à contester la thèse du réchauffement d'origine humaine. Les rapports du Giec en tiennent-ils compte ?

Le Giec fait de l'évaluation de la science et des connaissances scientifiques d'une manière très stricte. Prenons un peu

le processus du Giec est exhaustif, rigoureux et très lourd. Ses rapports ne sont donc pas manipulés comme on pourrait vouloir le laisser croire. Ils sont au contraire relativement conservateurs... »

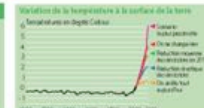
de recul pour constater que ce processus totalement transparent est unique au monde. Dans le cas de ce rapport-ci, la table des matières a été adoptée en 2003. On a lancé un appel ouvert pendant trois mois pour solliciter des auteurs proposés par les gouvernements et désignés par le bureau du Giec en fonction de la qualité des curriculum vitae. (...) C'est très large. Le projet est ainsi couvert de milliers de commentaires dûment consignés. On sait d'où provient chaque commentaire et le mot qui lui est rattaché. (...) Le processus du Giec est exhaustif, rigoureux et très lourd. Ses rapports ne sont donc pas manipulés comme on pourrait vouloir le laisser croire. Au contraire, ils sont relativement conservateurs... »

propos recueillis par CHRISTIAN DURVILLE ET CHRISTOPHE SOUVIGNY

CONTROVERSE

C'est l'histoire d'une courbe de hockey (figure de droite) controversée. Établissant un lien entre la concentration des émissions de carbone dans l'atmosphère et l'augmentation des températures, ce graphique utilisé en 2001 par le Giec a été épinglé du

rapport 2007. Et pour cause, ces calculs (Man, 1999) auraient omis la période chaude médievale pour cause de sélection inappropriée des données (Me, 1999, 2006). Un argument utilisé par les sceptiques pour contester l'origine humaine du réchauffement.



Chaud

La température moyenne du globe a gagné 0,7° depuis cent ans (2° en Belgique). Selon les scénarios, elle devrait encore augmenter de 1,8 à 4° d'ici à 2100. Les températures enregistrées entre décembre et le mois 2007 ont été les plus élevées jamais rapportées à cette période de l'année, avec une température moyenne supérieure de 0,72°C à la moyenne du XX^e siècle, selon l'administration américaine.

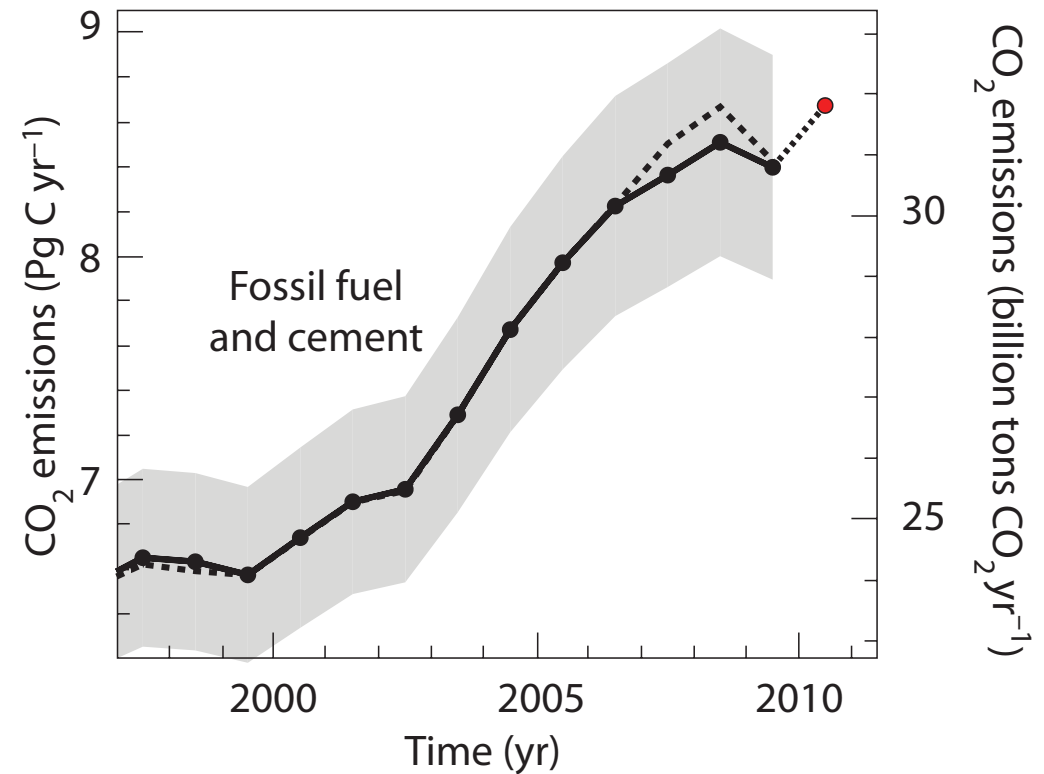
What is the cause of OA?

- CO₂ emissions:
 - 1990-1999 : +1% per year
 - 2000-2007 : +3.4% per year



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2000-2007

1.4 Pg C y⁻¹



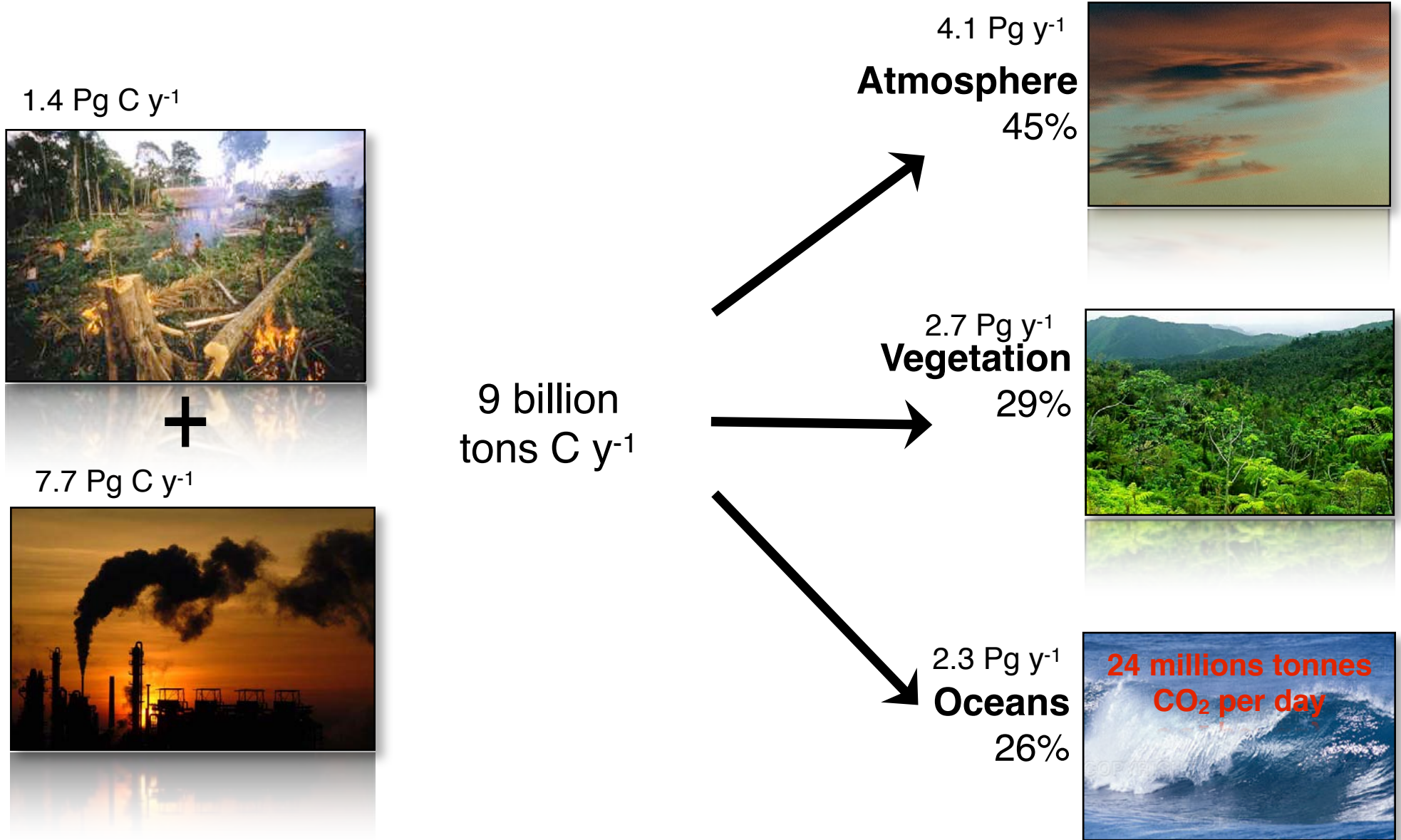
+

7.7 Pg C y⁻¹

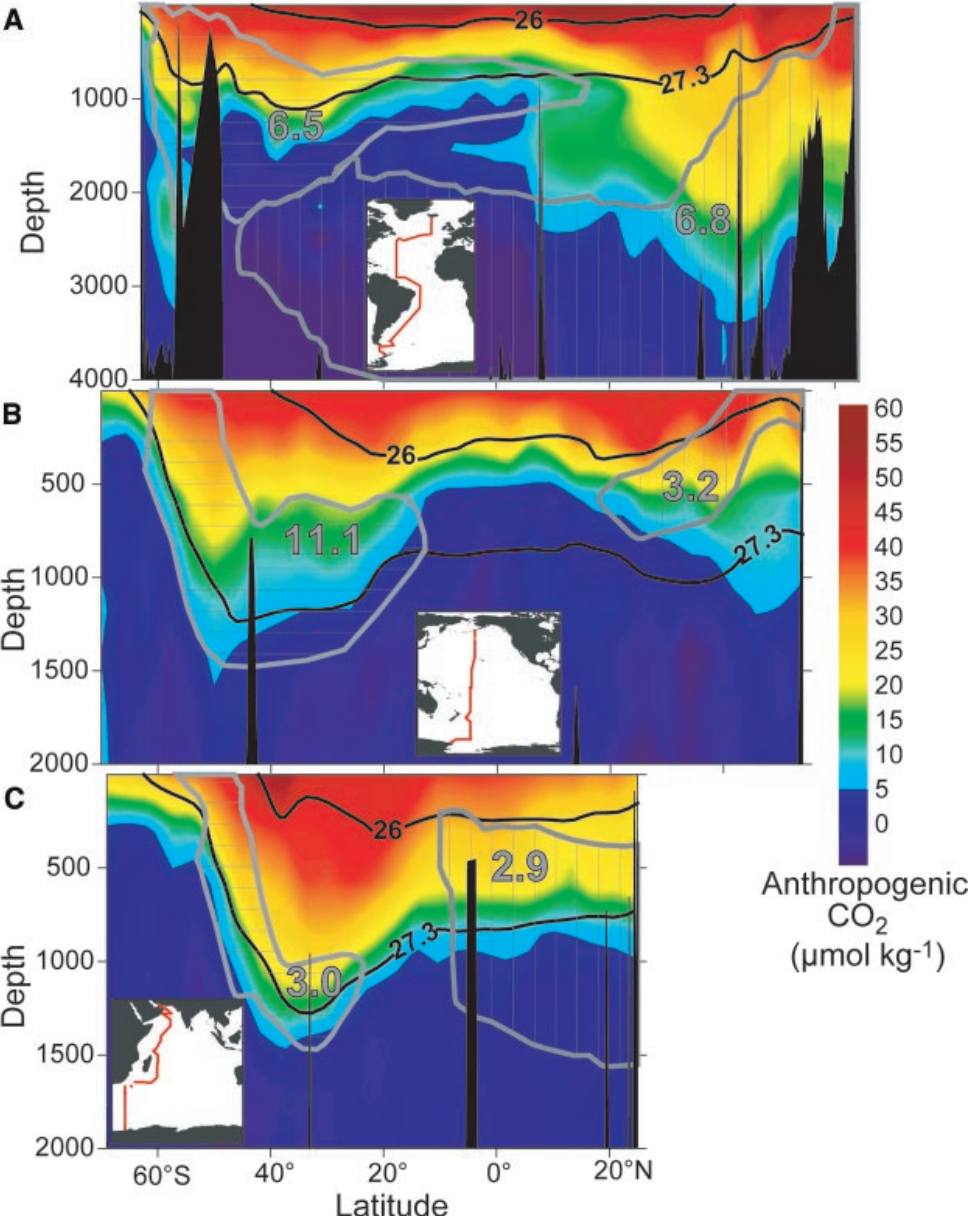


9 billion
tons C y⁻¹

2000-2007



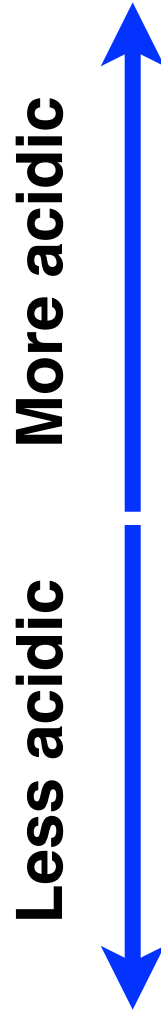
CO₂ invasion



Sabine et al. (2004)

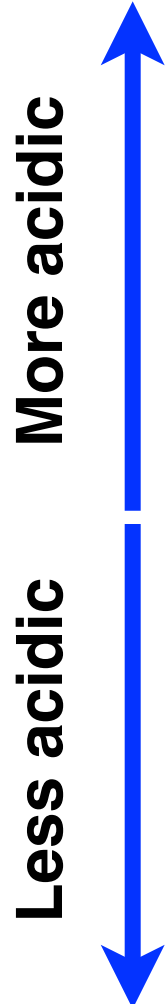
Acidity and pH

- Logarithmic scale
- Like the Richter scale
- Decrease of pH from 8 to 7 = 10 times increase in acidity!



Acidity and pH

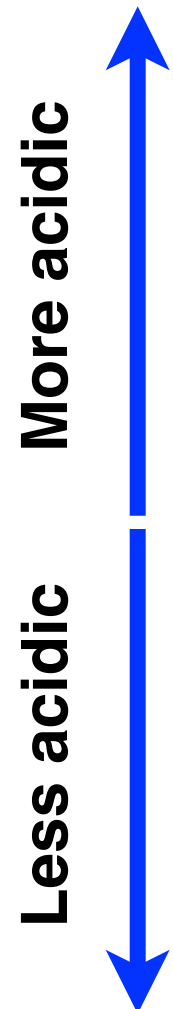
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Concentrations of Hydrogen ions compared to distilled water (pH)		Examples of solutions and their respective pH
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1,000,000	1	Hydrochloric Acid
100,000	2	Lemon Juice, Vinegar
10,000	3	Orange Juice, Soda
1,000	4	Tomato Juice
100	5	Black Coffee, Acid Rain
10	6	Urine, Saliva
1	7	"Pure" Water
1/10	8	Sea Water
1/100	9	Baking Soda, Toothpaste
1/1,000	10	Milk of Magnesium
1/10,000	11	Household Ammonia
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Acidity and pH

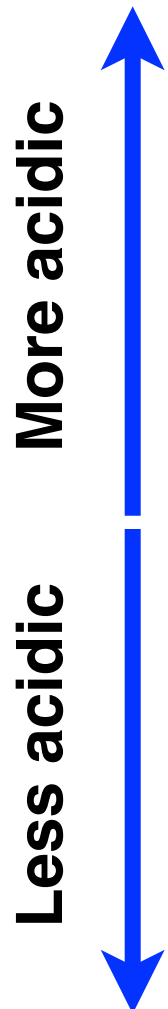
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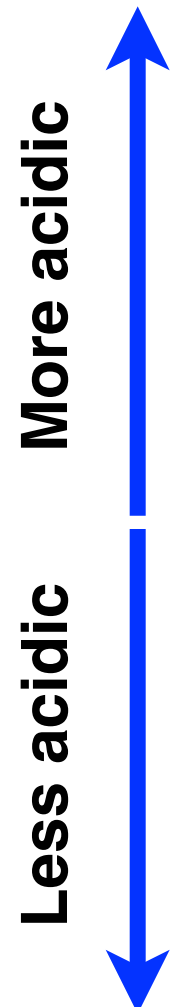
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Acidity and pH

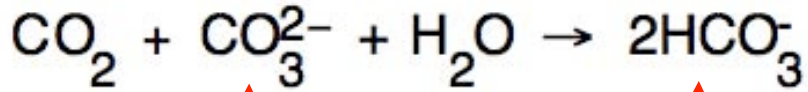
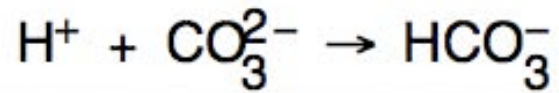
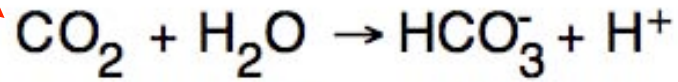
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What is ocean acidification?

Increased
CO₂

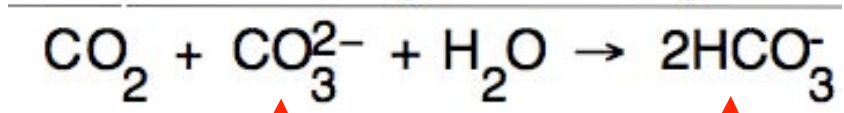
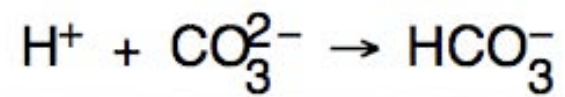
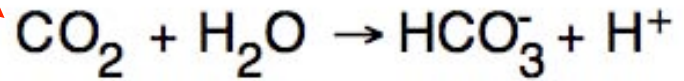


Decreased
carbonate

Increased
bicarbonate

What is ocean acidification?

Increased
CO₂



Decreased
carbonate

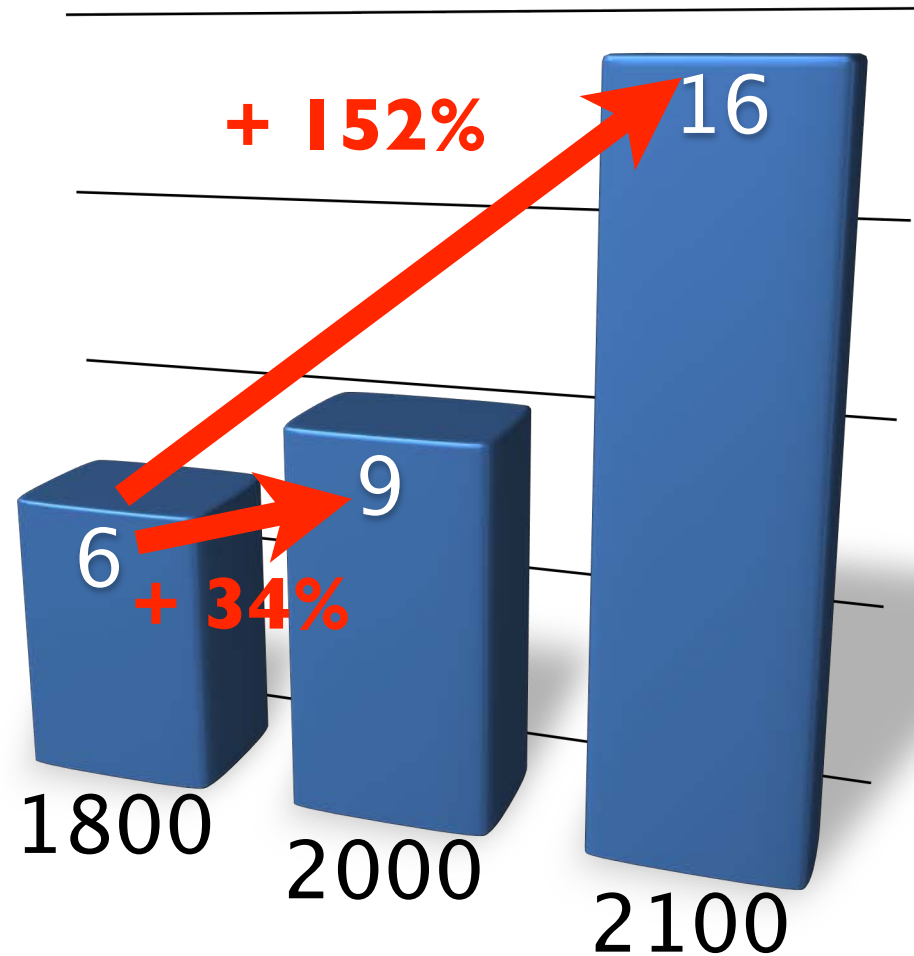
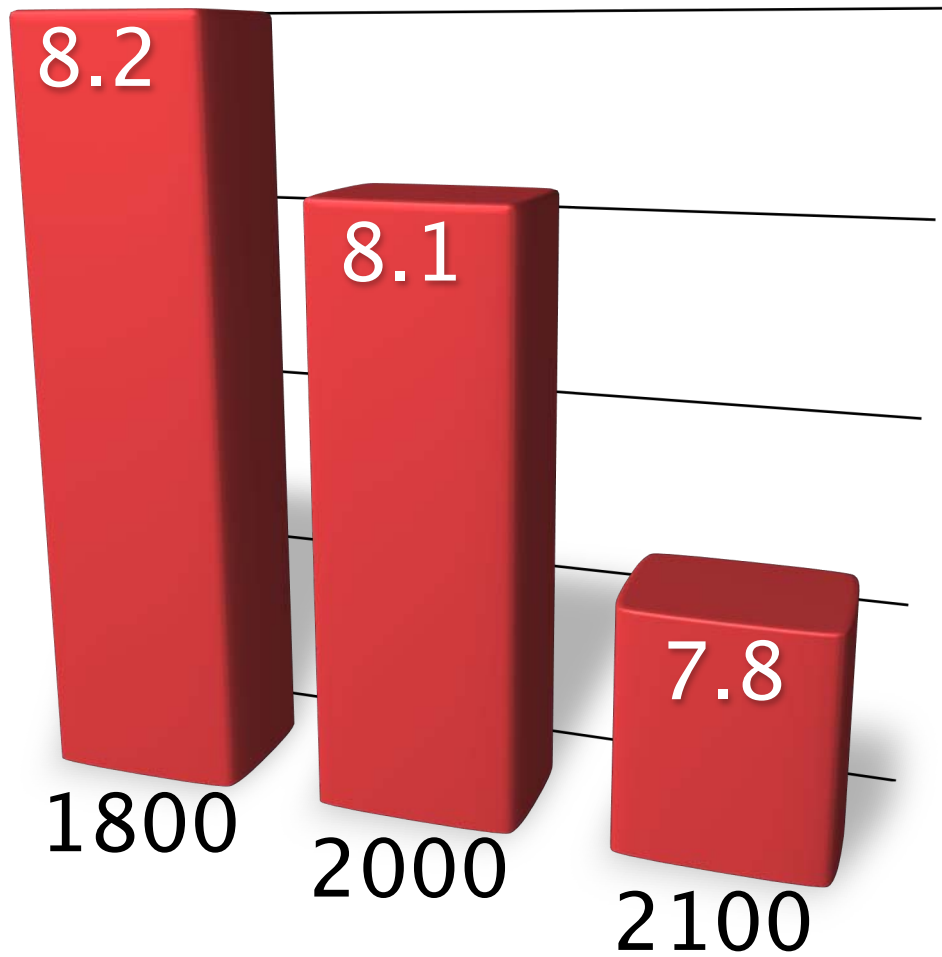
Increased
bicarbonate

$$[\text{H}^+] = K_2^* \frac{[\text{HCO}_3^-]}{[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]}$$

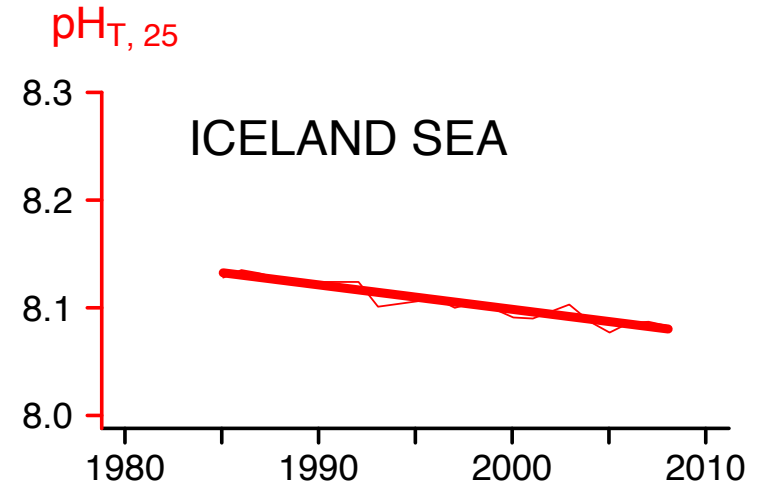
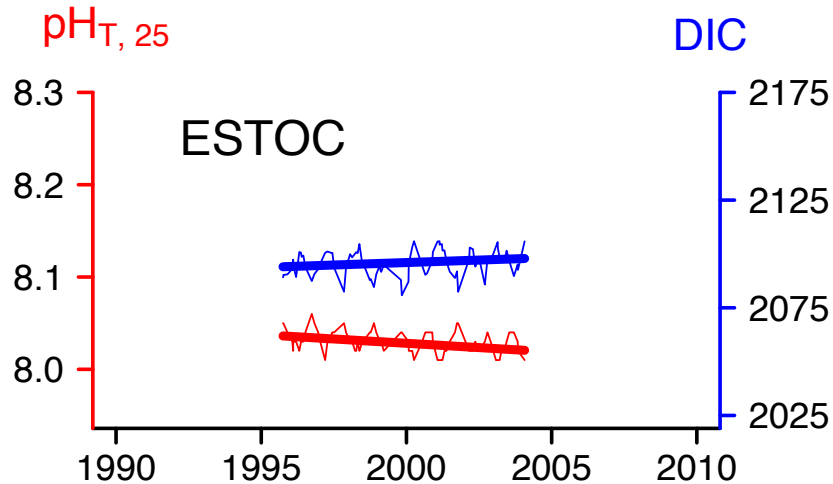
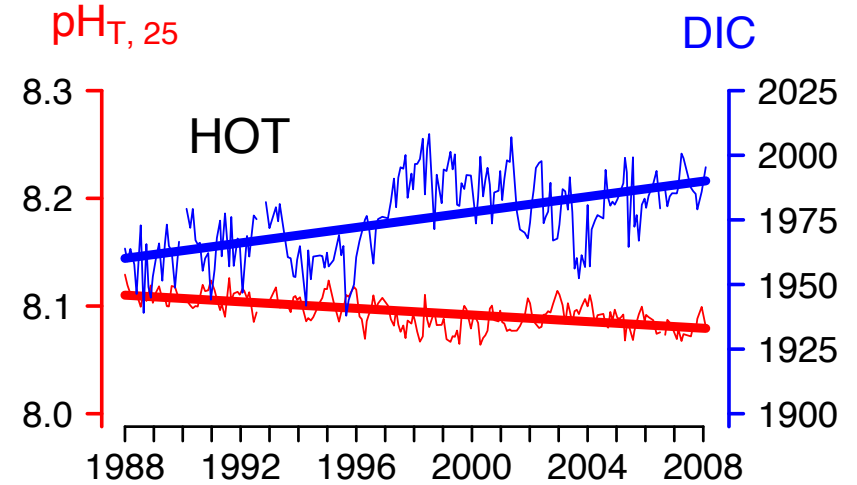
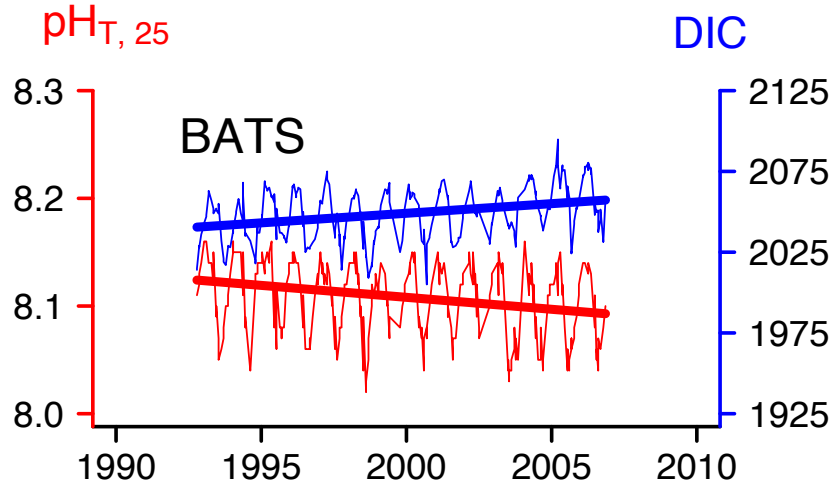
Hydrogen ion
concentration increases
and pH decreases

Acidity increases:
"ocean acidification"

What is ocean acidification?



OA can be measured



Research projects

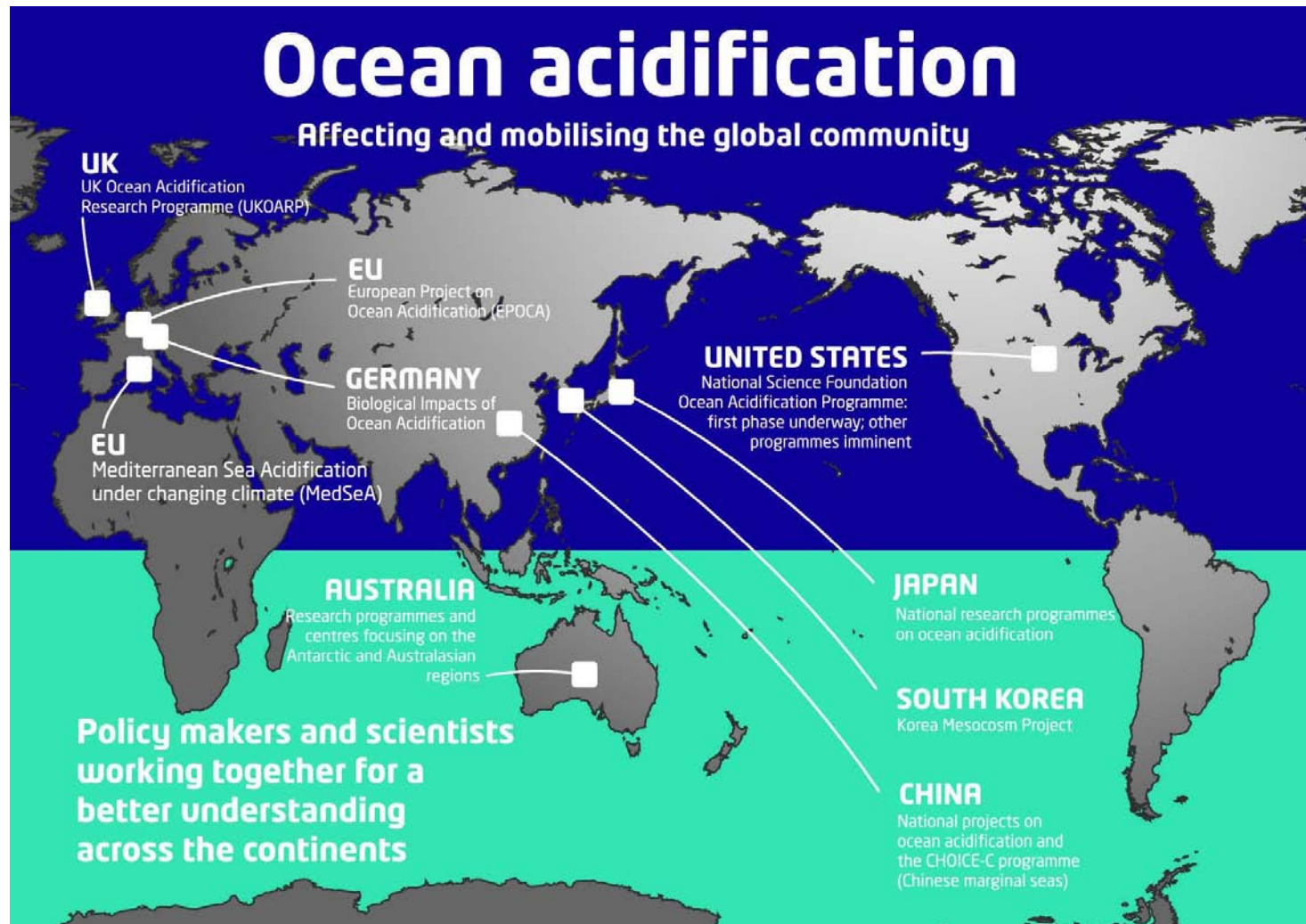
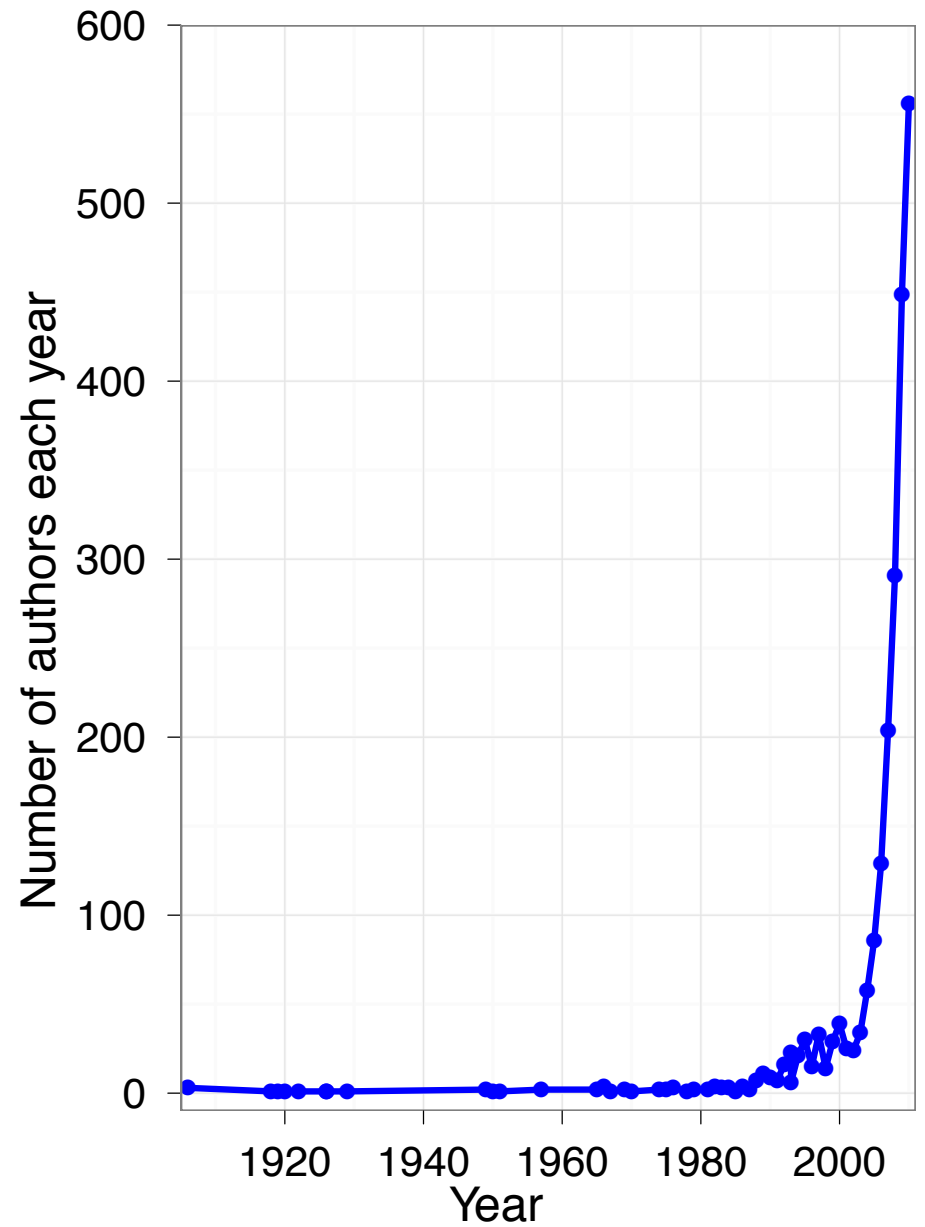
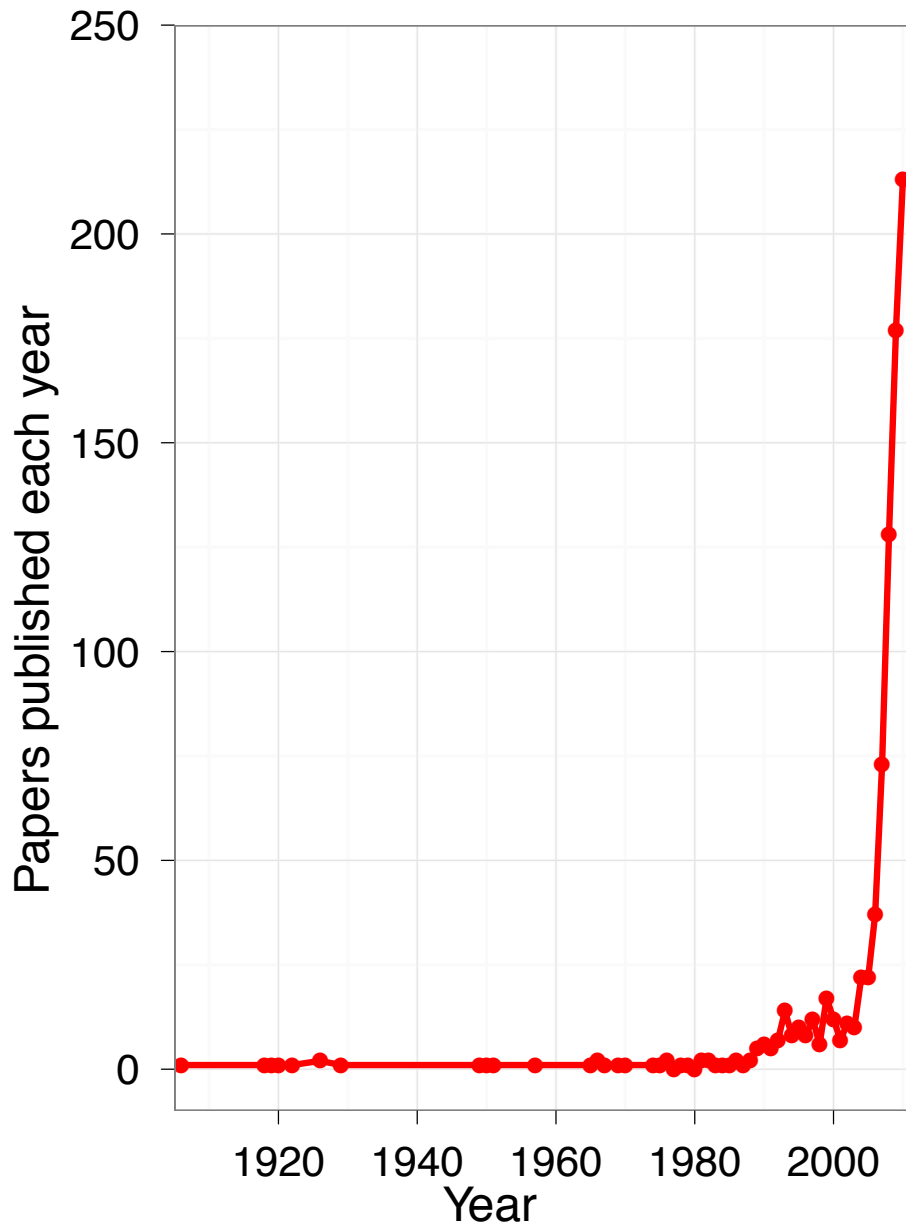


Figure 1: Major ocean acidification research programmes around the world in 2011 (Courtesy Keizer et al., PML).

Considerable increase in research efforts



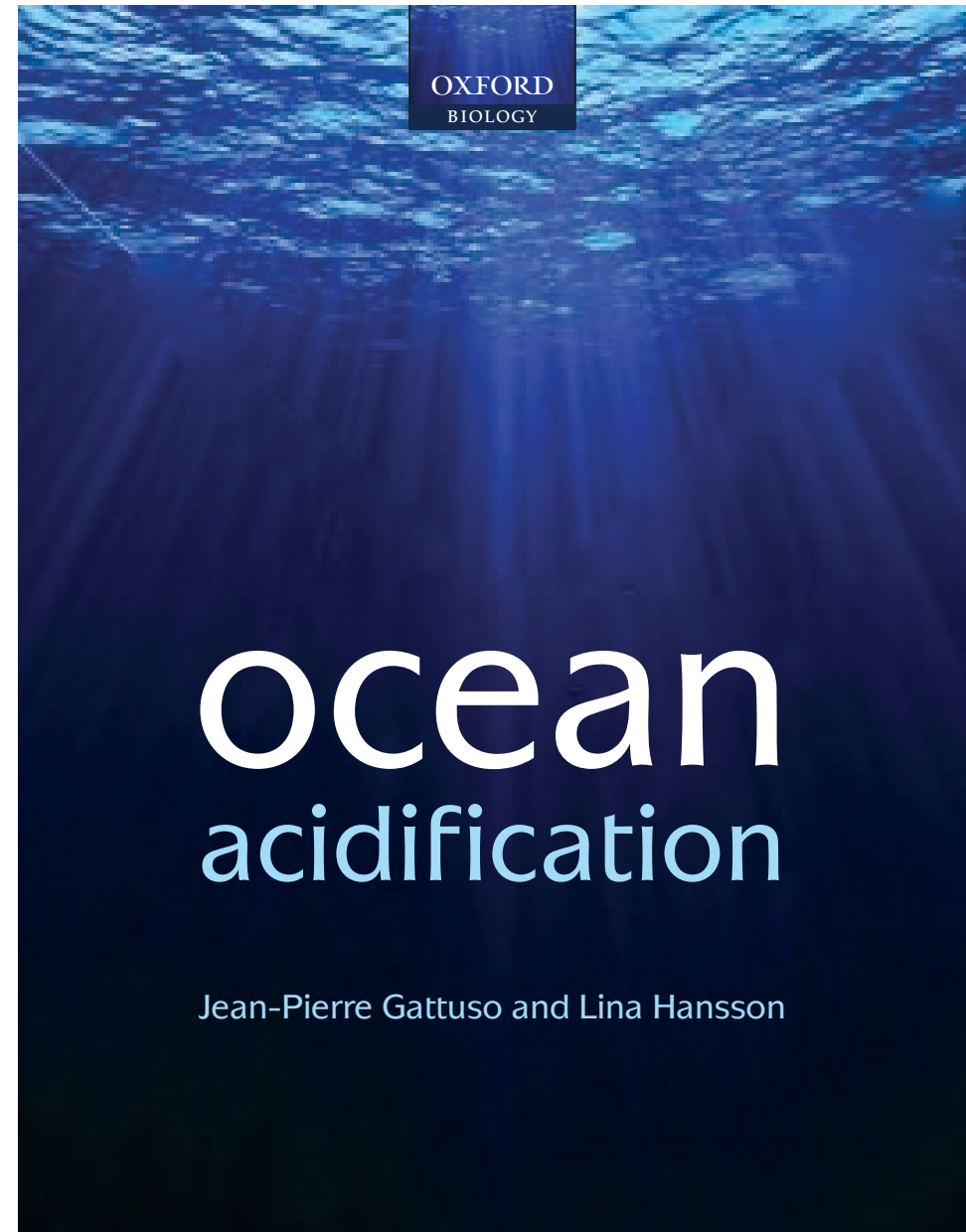
Biological response: meta-analyses

Biological response: meta-analyses

- **Hendriks & Duarte (2010):** ... *limited impact of experimental acidification on organism processes... except on calcification*
- **Kroeker et al. (2010):** ... *biological effects of ocean acidification are generally large and negative...*
- **Liu et al. (2010):** *This review and analysis ... suggest that ... the rates of several (microbial) processes will be affected by ocean acidification, some positively (N₂ fixation...), others negatively.*

OA: knowns, unknowns and perspectives

1. Ocean acidification: background and history (Gattuso & Hansson)
2. Past changes of ocean carbonate chemistry (Zeebe & Ridgwell)
3. Recent and future changes in ocean carbonate chemistry (Orr)
4. Skeletons and ocean chemistry: the long view (Knoll & Fischer)
5. Effect of ocean acidification on the diversity and activity of heterotrophic marine microorganisms (Weinbauer et al.)
6. Effects of ocean acidification on pelagic organisms and ecosystems (Riebesell & Tortell)
7. Effects of ocean acidification on benthic processes, organisms, and ecosystems (Andersson et al.)
8. Effects of ocean acidification on nektonic organisms (Pörtner et al.)
9. Effects of ocean acidification on sediment fauna (Widdicombe et al.)
10. Effects of ocean acidification on marine biodiversity and ecosystem function (Barry et al.)
11. Effects of ocean acidification on the marine source of atmospherically-active trace gases (Hopkins et al.)
12. Biogeochemical consequences of ocean acidification and feedback to the Earth system (Gehlen et al.)
13. The ocean acidification challenges facing science and society (Turley & Kelvin)
14. Impact of climate change mitigation on ocean acidification projections (Joos et al.)
15. Ocean acidification: knowns, unknowns and perspectives (Gattuso et al.)



Oxford University Press, September 2011

Assessment

ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change



Guidance Note for Lead Authors of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report on Consistent Treatment of Uncertainties

IPCC Cross-Working Group Meeting on Consistent Treatment of Uncertainties
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		Level of confidence				
		Very low	Low	Medium	High	Very high
Level of evidence	Limited					
	Medium					
	Robust					

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Confidence

	VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence					
L					
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R					

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Level of confidence

	Very low	Low	Medium	High	Very high
Level of evidence	Limited				
	Medium				
	Robust				

Confidence

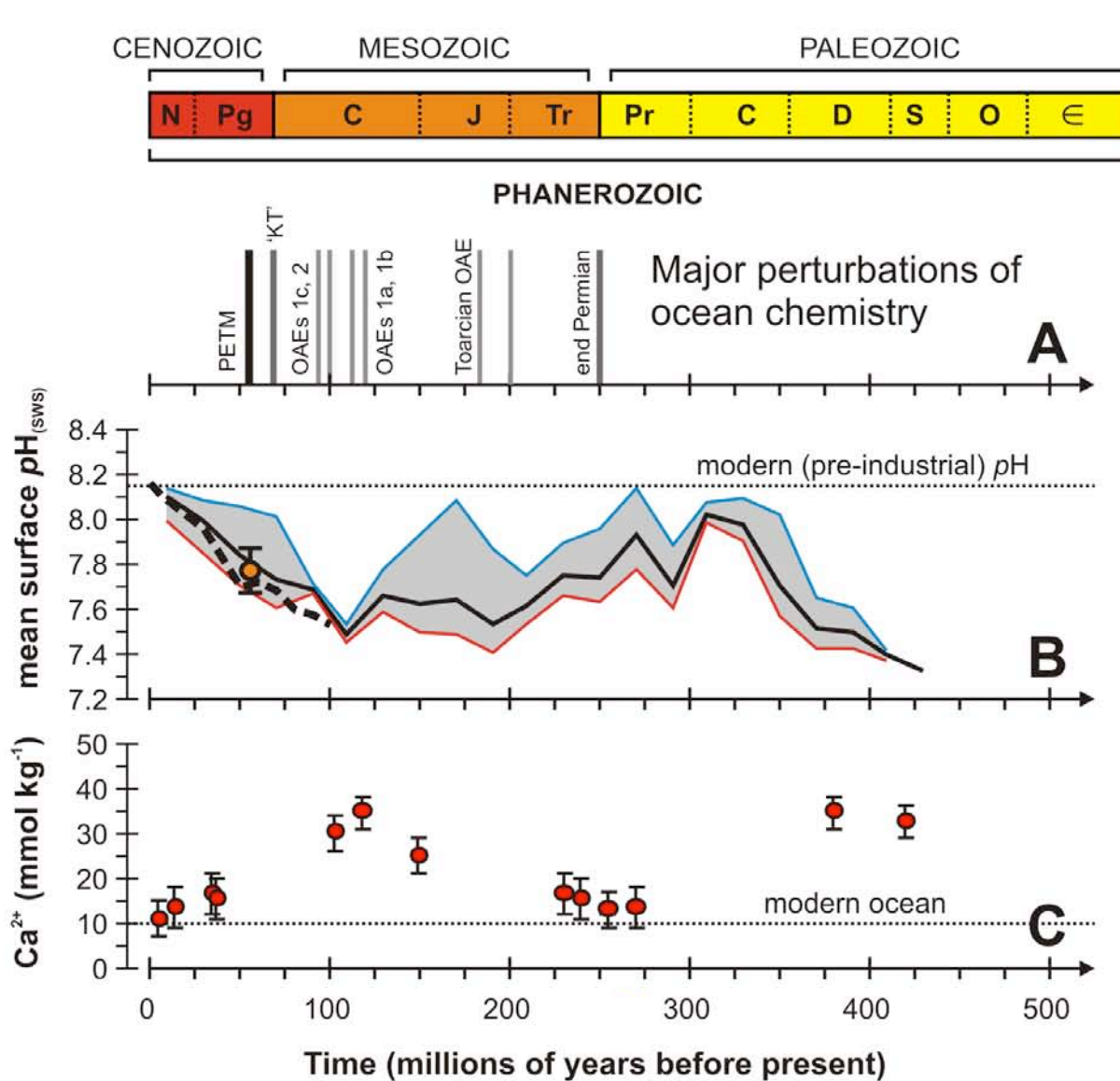
	VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L				
	M				
	R				

15 declarative statements assessed:

- Chemical aspects
- Biological and biogeochemical responses
- Policy and socio-economic aspects

Chemical aspects

OA occurred in the past



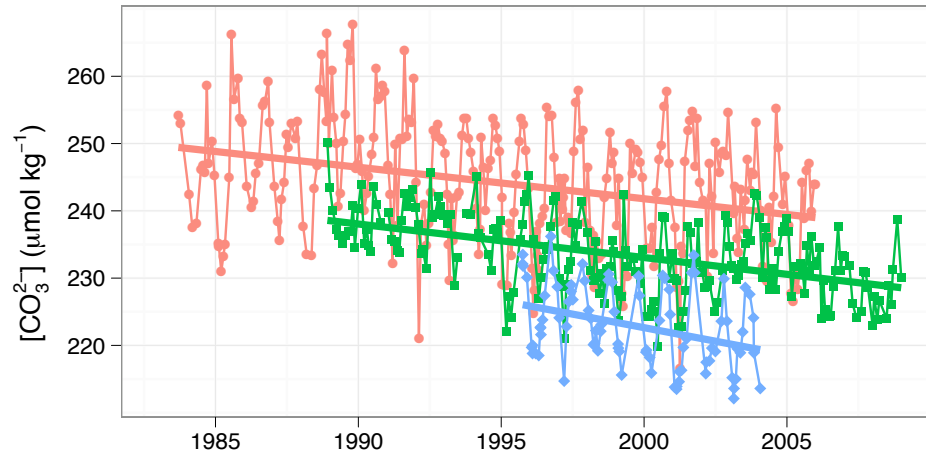
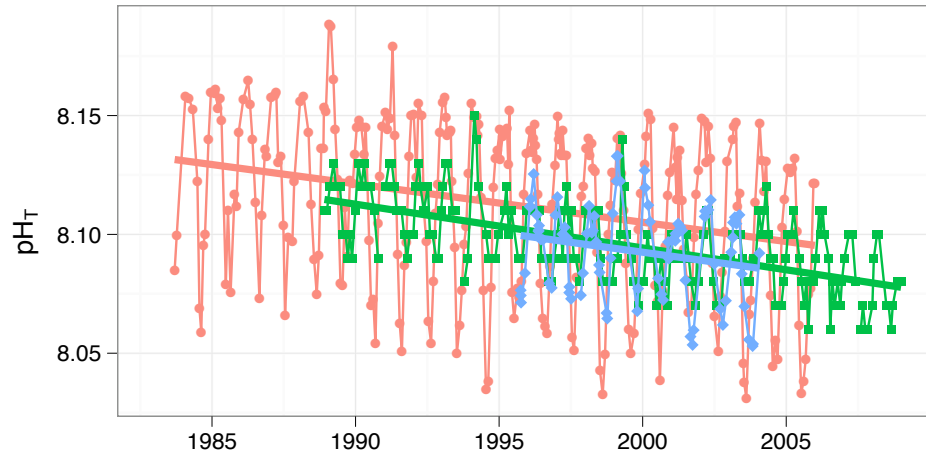
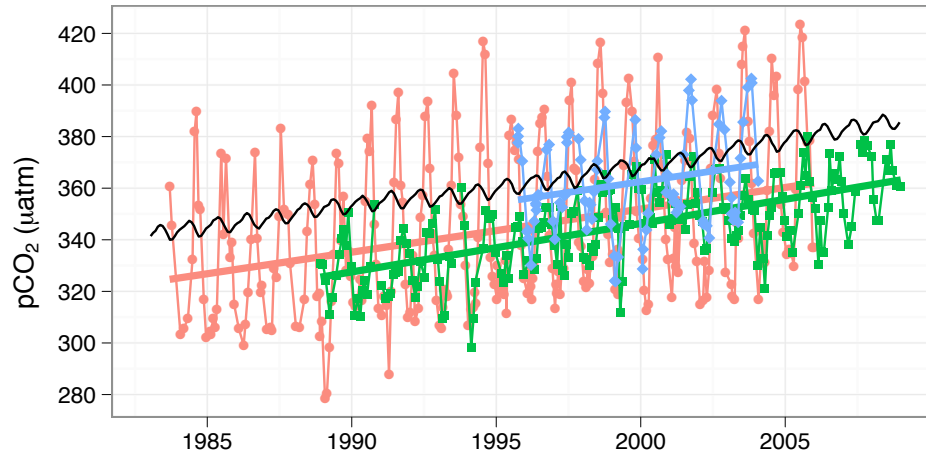
		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

Challenge:

Better constrain paleo-reconstructions of the carbonate system

OA is in progress

HOT
BATS
ESTOC



Orr (in press); Gattuso et al. (in press)

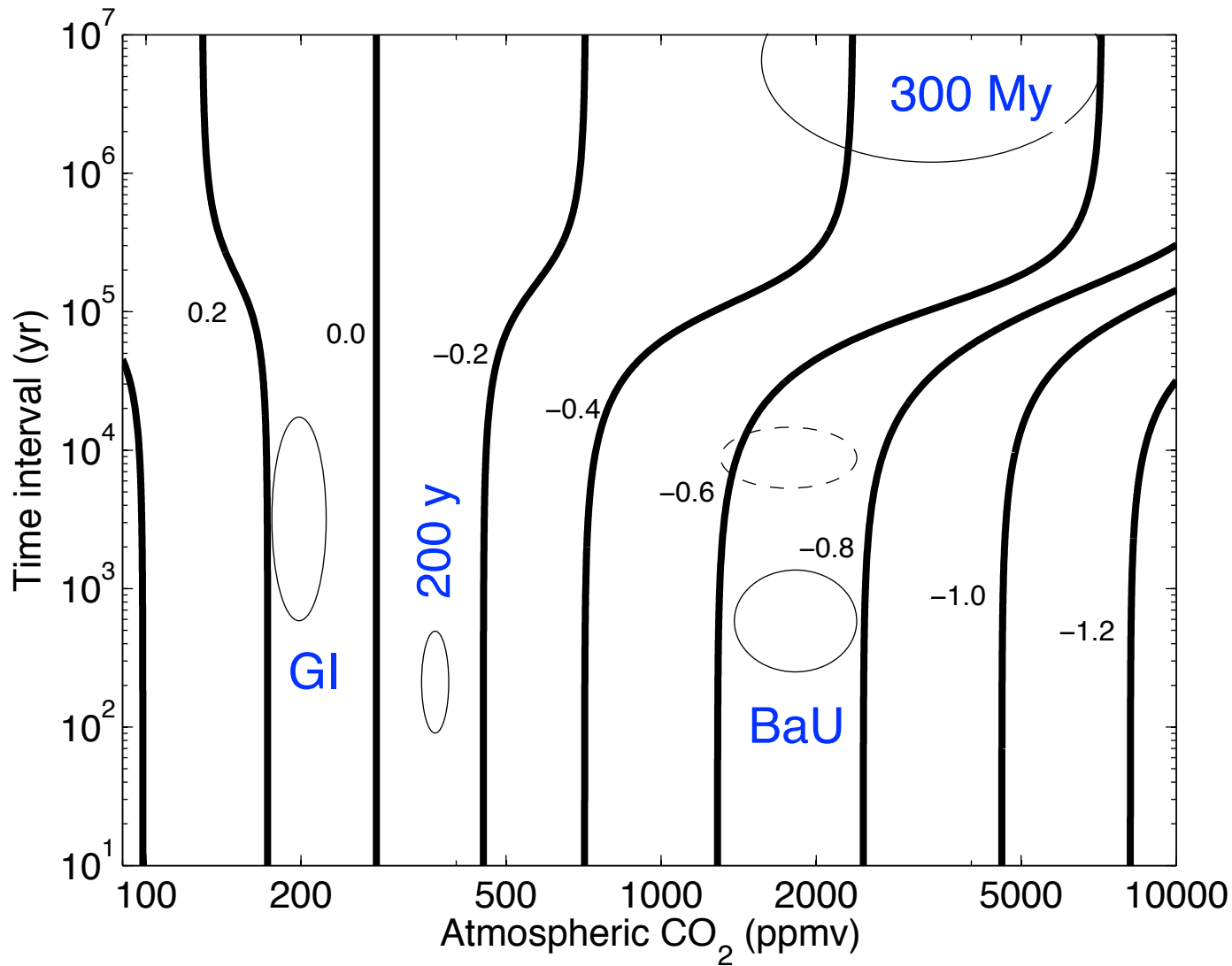
Confidence

Evidence	Confidence				
	VL	L	M	H	VH
L					
M					
R					

Challenge:

Better monitoring of key areas (e.g., coastal sites, coral reefs, polar regions and the deep sea)

OA will continue at a rate never encountered in the past 55 Myr



Confidence

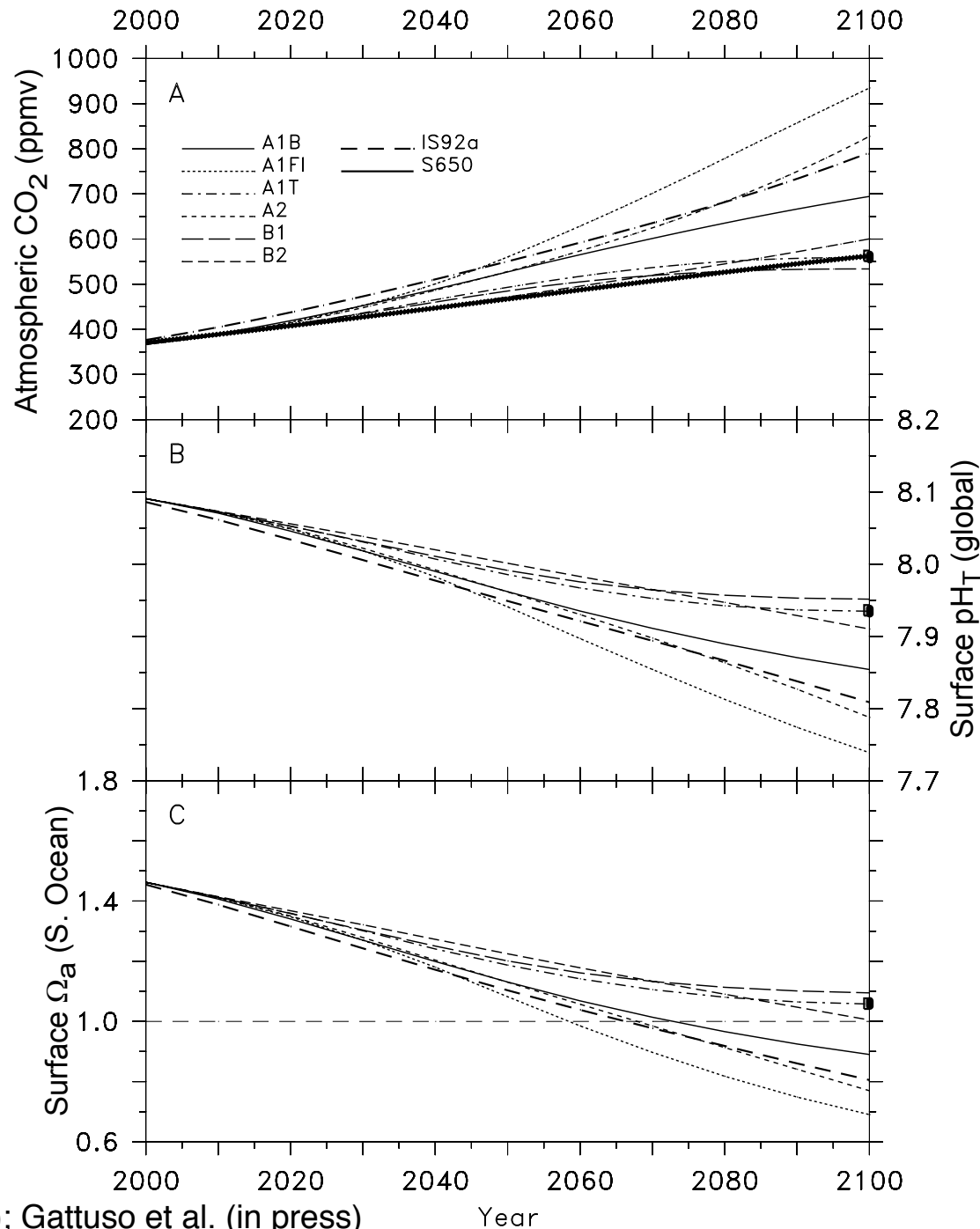
	VL	L	M	H	VH
L					
M					
R					

Evidence

Challenge:

Find two independent carbonate chemistry proxies to reconstruct the ocean carbonate chemistry with a high degree of confidence

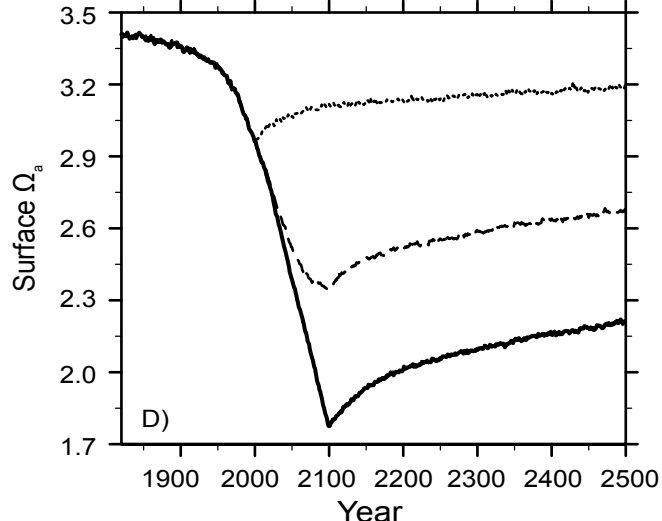
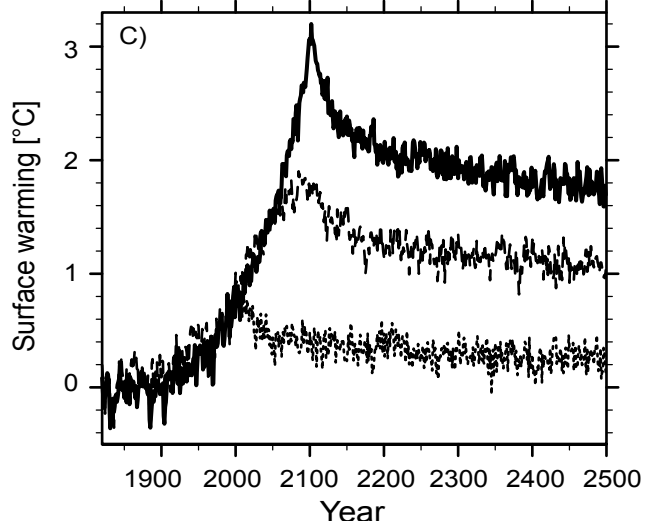
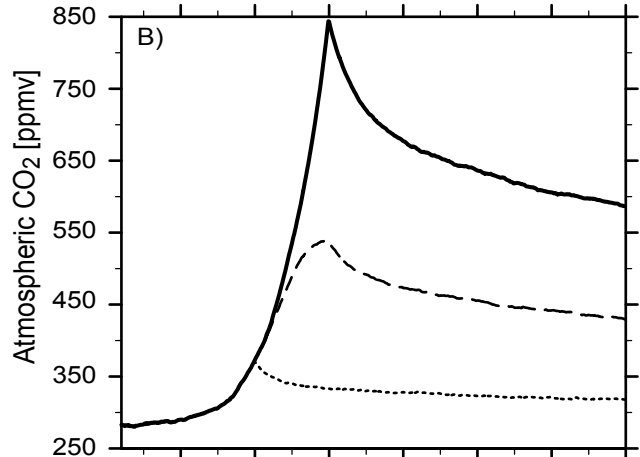
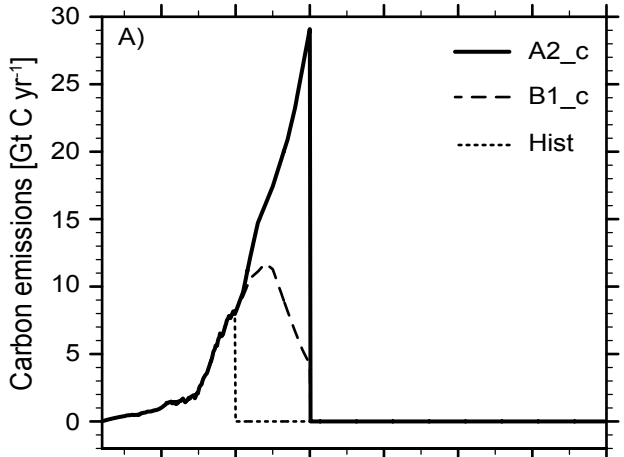
Future OA depends on emission pathways



		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

Challenge:
 Improve the representation of physical regimes at the regional scale to derive regional estimates

The legacy of historical fossil fuel emissions on OA will be felt for centuries



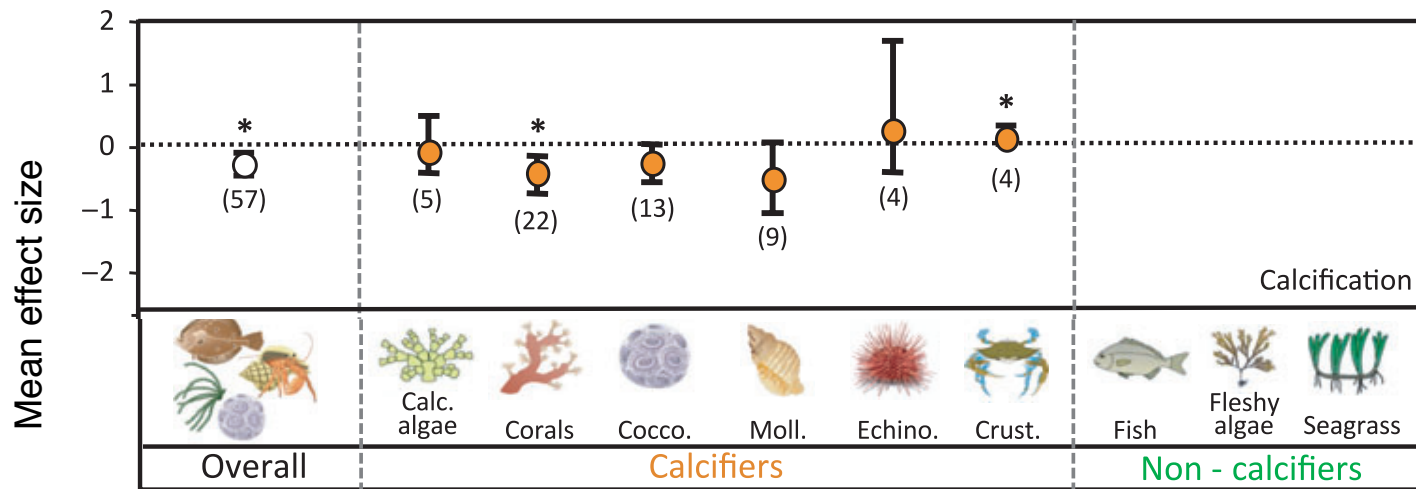
Confidence

	VL	L	M	H	VH
L					
M					
R					

Challenge:
 Improve the representation of physical regimes at the regional scale to derive regional estimates

Biological and biogeochemical responses

OA will adversely affect calcification



Evidence	Confidence				
	VL	L	M	H	VH
L					
M					
R					

Challenges:

- Determine the mechanisms explaining why a few calcifiers are not affected or stimulated
- Estimate the energetic and physiological trade-offs
- Gain field evidence in addition to that available from CO₂ vents
- Identify approaches to improve attribution on field observations

OA will stimulate photosynthetic carbon fixation

Group	Response	References
Diatoms	↑	Riebesell <i>et al.</i> (1993), Burkhardt and Riebesell (1997), Burkhardt <i>et al.</i> (1999), Gervais and Riebesell (2001), Wu <i>et al.</i> (2010)
Coccolithophores	↑	Buitenhuis <i>et al.</i> (1999), Riebesell <i>et al.</i> (2000), Rost <i>et al.</i> (2002), Zondervan <i>et al.</i> (2002), Leonardos and Geider (2005), Feng <i>et al.</i> (2008), Barcelos e Ramos <i>et al.</i> (2010), Shi <i>et al.</i> (2009), De Bodt <i>et al.</i> (2010), Müller <i>et al.</i> (2010), Rickaby <i>et al.</i> (2010)
	↓	Sciandra <i>et al.</i> (2003)
	↔	Langer <i>et al.</i> (2006)
Dinoflagellates	↑	Burkhardt <i>et al.</i> (1999), Rost <i>et al.</i> (2006)
Cyanobacteria	↑	Barcelos e Ramos <i>et al.</i> (2007), Hutchins <i>et al.</i> (2007, 2009), Levitan <i>et al.</i> (2007), Fu <i>et al.</i> (2008), Kranz <i>et al.</i> (2009)
	↔	Czerny <i>et al.</i> (2009)
Natural assemblages	↑	Hein and Sand-Jensen (1997), Tortell <i>et al.</i> (2002, 2008), Riebesell <i>et al.</i> (2007), Bellerby <i>et al.</i> (2008), Egge <i>et al.</i> (2009)

		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

Challenges:

More work needed at the community level and under field conditions to better assess the global magnitude of the response

OA will stimulate nitrogen fixation

		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

Species	Response	References
<i>Trichodesmium erythraeum</i>	↑	Barcelos e Ramos <i>et al.</i> (2007), Hutchins <i>et al.</i> (2007), Levitan <i>et al.</i> (2007), Kranz <i>et al.</i> (2009, 2010)
natural colonies of <i>Trichodesmium</i>	↑	preliminary data reported in Hutchins <i>et al.</i> (2009)
<i>Crocospaera watsonii</i>	↑ ↔	Fu <i>et al.</i> 2008
<i>Nodularia spumigena</i>	↓	Czerny <i>et al.</i> 2009

Challenges:

- Investigate more species to test whether it is a widespread response.
- Determine the interaction with other variables in order to better assess the global magnitude and biogeochemical consequences

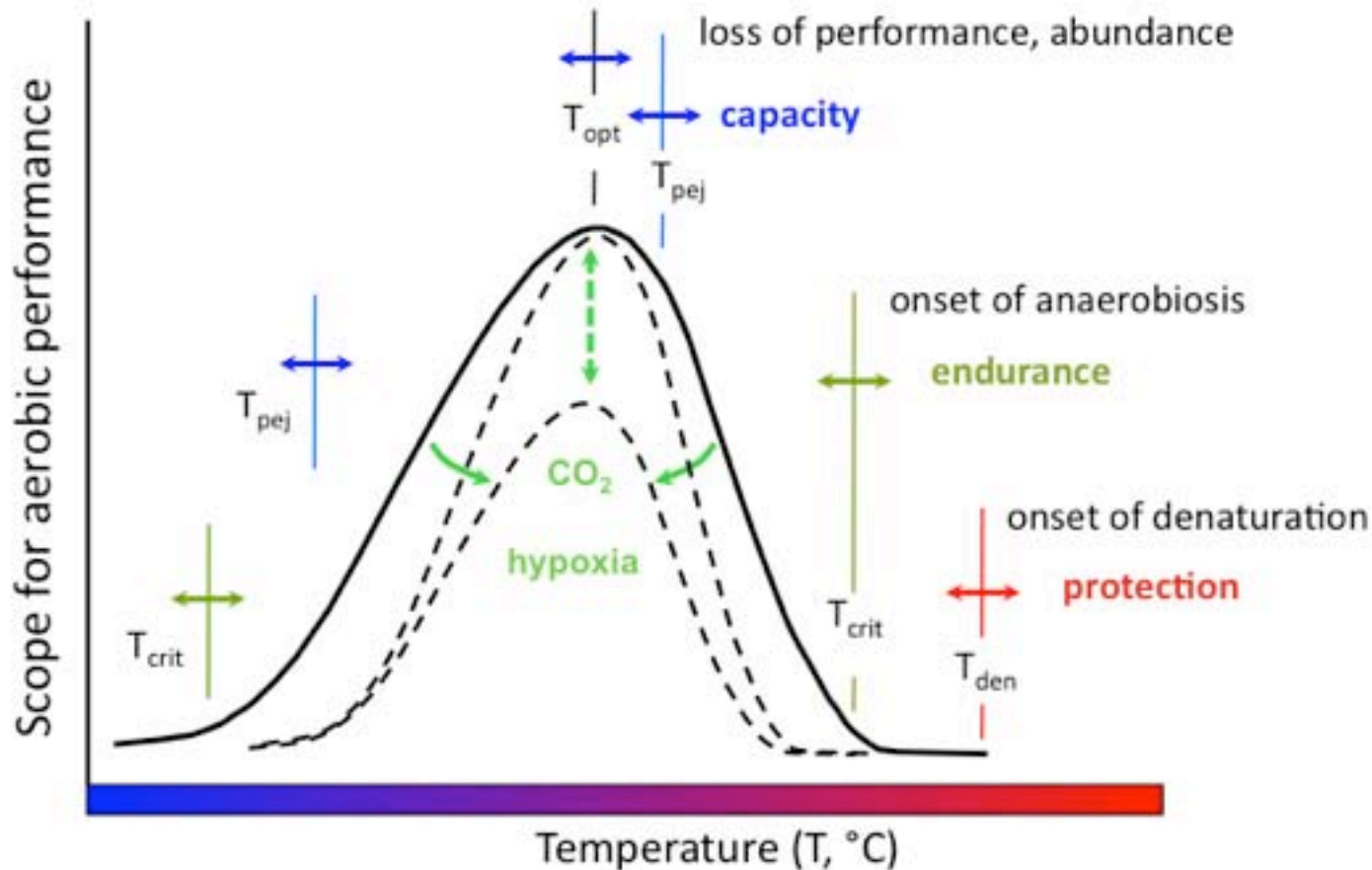
Some species or strains are tolerant to OA

		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

Challenges:

Gain a better understanding of the molecular and biochemical mechanisms underlying processes such as calcification

Some species or strains are tolerant to OA



passive - active - passive tolerance range
 short - long - short term tolerance

Confidence

	VL	L	M	H	VH
L					
M					
R					

Challenges:

Gain a better understanding of the molecular and biochemical mechanisms underlying processes such as calcification

Some taxonomic groups will be able to adapt to OA

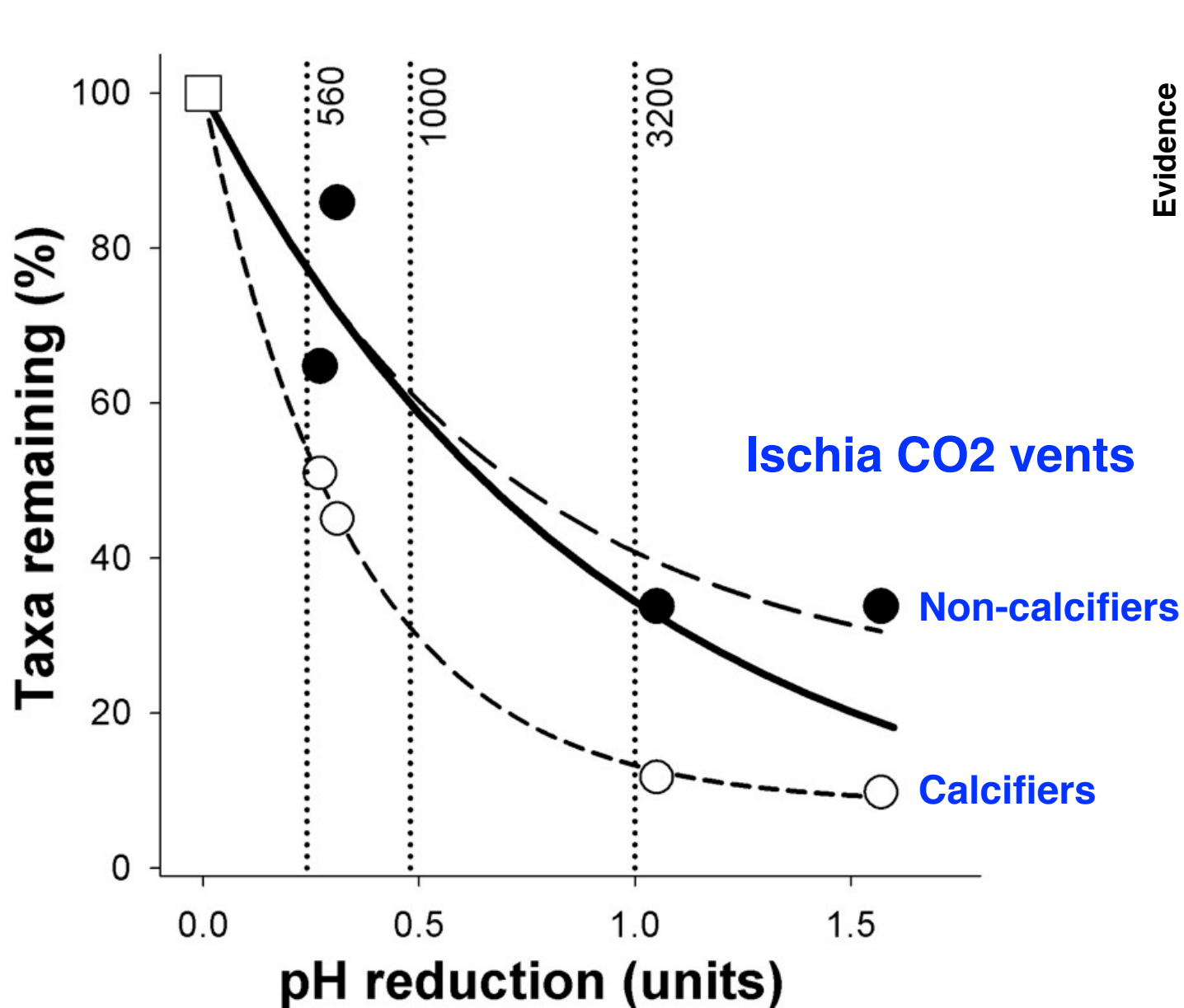
		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

- Two mechanisms to consider:
 - phenotypic plasticity
 - genetic (evolutionary) changes
- Geologic record: increased rate of extinction when environmental changes were fast

Challenges:

- Initiate long-term experiments
- Identify approaches and tools to estimate the adaptation potential

OA will change the composition of communities

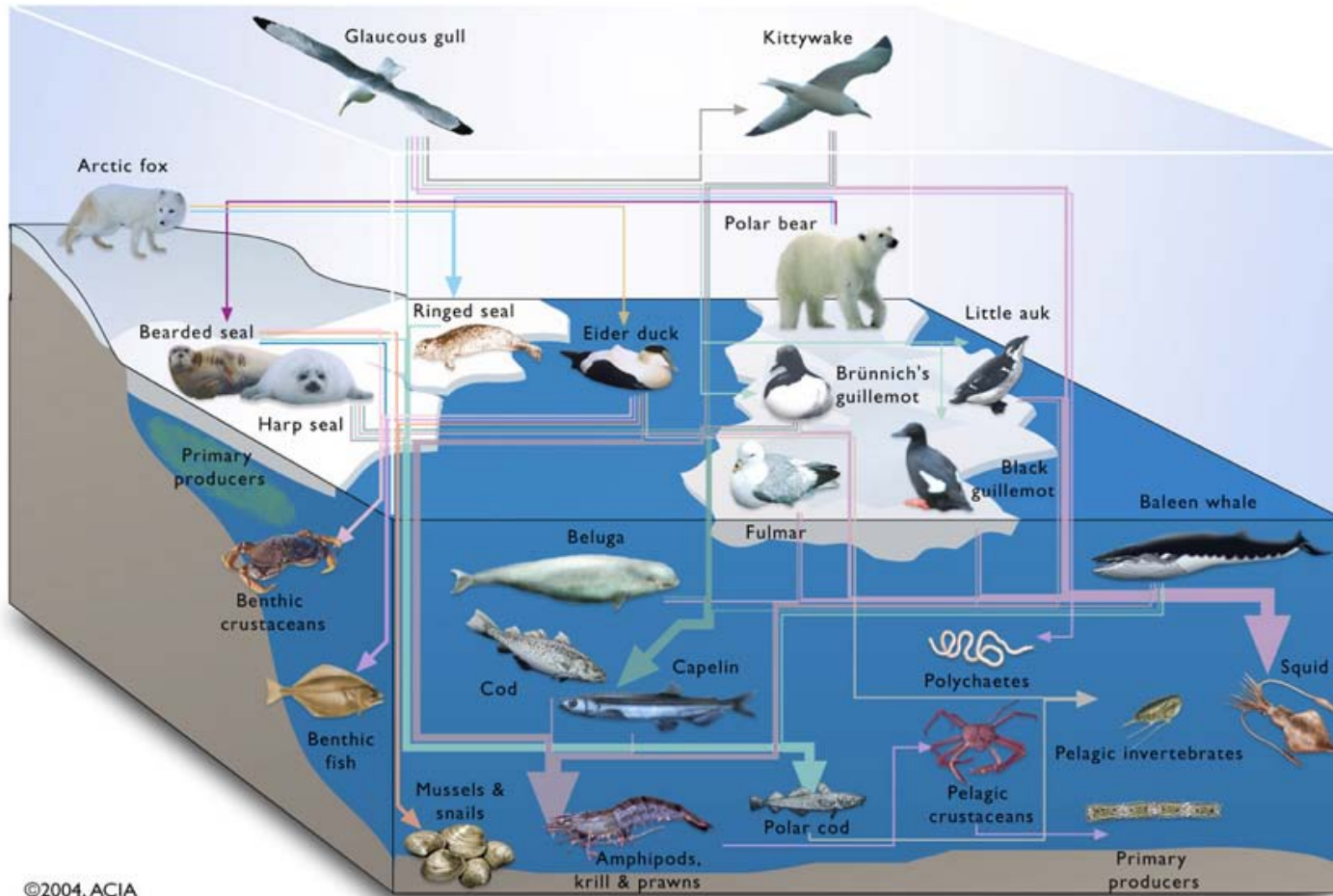


		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

Challenges:

- Collect better information on non-calcifiers in the paleorecord
- Determine the magnitude of the change in present key ecosystems

OA will impact food webs and higher trophic levels



©2004, ACIA

Confidence

Evidence	Confidence				
	VL	L	M	H	VH
L					
M					
R					

Challenges:

- Determine how species that may disappear will be replaced
- Will replacement species have a similar nutritional value?

OA will have biogeochemical consequences at the global scale

		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

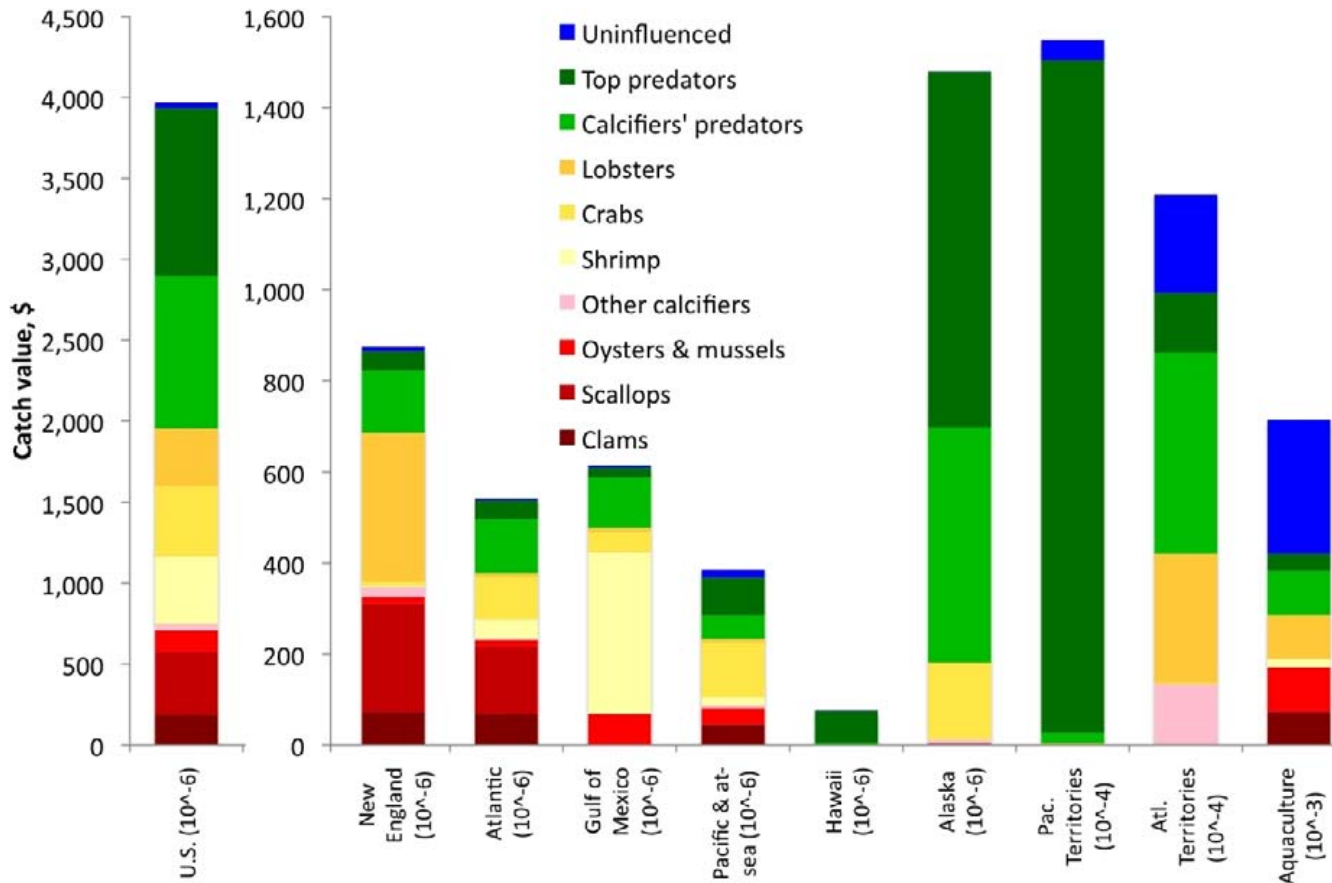
Process	Sign of feedback	Sensitivity	Capacity	Longevity
Calcification	negative	+ ¹	+	+ ¹
Ballast effect	positive		+++	+++
Extracellular organic matter prod.	negative	++ ¹	+++	²
Stoichiometry	negative	++ ¹	++	++
Nitrogen fixation	negative	++ ¹	+	²

Challenges:

Better understanding of key processes as a function of carbonate system variables needed to improve model parametrization

Policy and socio-economic aspects

There will be socio-economic consequences

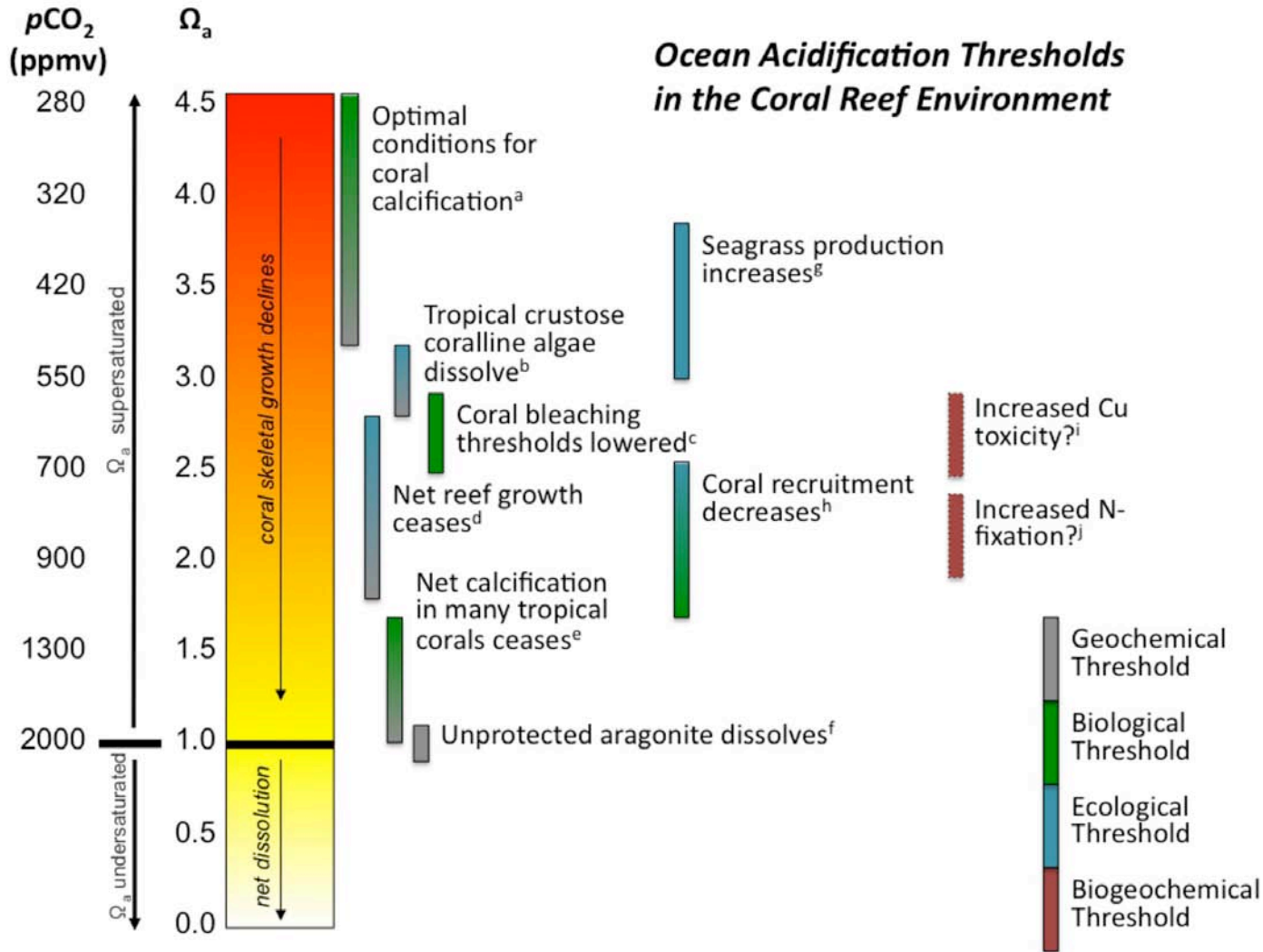


		Confidence				
		VL	L	M	H	VH
Evidence	L					
	M					
	R					

Challenges:

- Quantify the monetary value of the goods and services that oceans provide
- Assess how these may be impacted by ocean acidification.

An OA threshold that must not be exceeded can be defined



Evidence	Confidence				
	VL	L	M	H	VH
L					
M					
R					

Challenges:

- Initiate and sustain an international effort to compile the increasing number of data being published in order to defined threshold(s)
- Investigate the need to consider thresholds based on geographic location, species and ecosystems to advise decision-makers

Summary on statements

- **Chemical effects:** robust evidence and high certainty
- **Biological and ecological effects:** much less certain
 - calcification, primary production, nitrogen fixation and biodiversity will be altered but with an unknown magnitude
 - some cannot be assessed
- **Biogeochemistry, society and the economy** may change; whether it will be significant or not is also unknown

Systems at risk

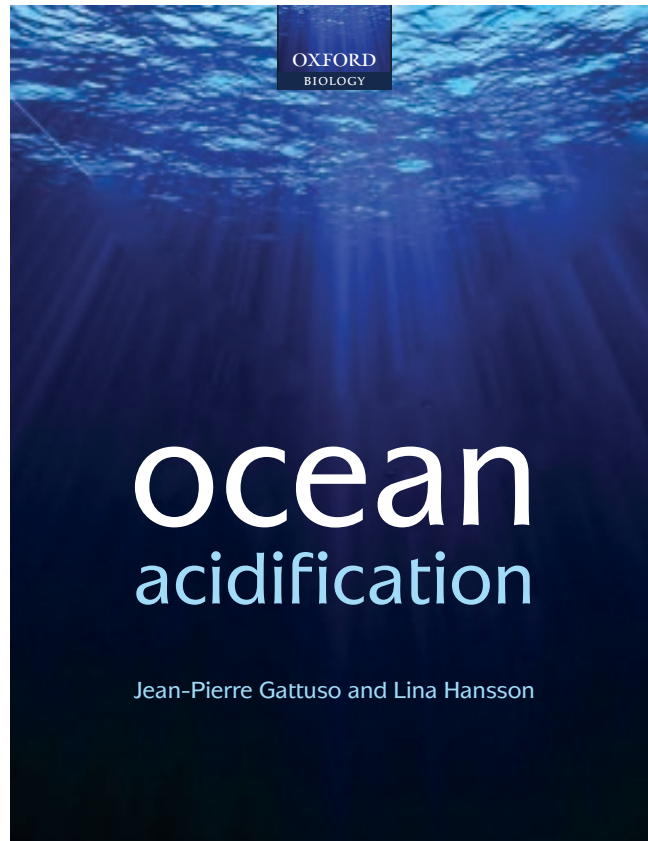
- Polar areas
- Deep-sea environments
- Coral reefs
- Nearshore ecosystems

Past limitations and future prospects

- Limited workforce and funding
- Inappropriate or inconsistent methods
- Duration of experiments
- Interactions with other stressors
- Lack of field evidence other than around CO₂ vents
- Limited work at the community level
- Difficulties to perform meta-analysis
- Model development
- Need for a coordinated international effort

More information

- Project web site: epoca-project.eu
- Ocean acidification blog
- Blog EPOCA Arctic campaigns
- Movie “Tipping Point”
- Book: Oxford University Press, Sep. 2011



Increasing levels of CO₂ in the atmosphere are not only causing Global warming. Oceans are absorbing huge quantities of CO₂ which in turn is changing their chemical composition and severely damaging the marine environment.

By following leading international researchers, **Tipping Point** will take us around the world and under water to discover how ocean acidification is changing marine ecosystems and what scientific solutions can be found to solve the problem.

Through beautifully shot under-sea images and a careful scientific approach, the film tackles the main issues of this relatively new phenomenon by providing solutions before it's too late!

From the producer/director of **Public Enemy Number 1: Carbon** and **Gulf Stream** successfully distributed worldwide.

The film will be available for public projections and events after the 15/12/2010.
For screeners or DVDs please contact:

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F-31480 Cadours
France
tel: +33 953 856250,
mob: +33 671 419549
email: georamatv@free.fr



« Tipping Point » © Georama TV, 52 min HDCAM, Scientific Advisers: Jean Pierre Gattuso, Ulf Riebesell
Locations : France, Allemagne, Norvège, Islande, Ny-Ålesund (Spitzberg), USA
Shooting: Mai à Oct 2010, Delivery December 2010
Versions : French and English



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