

Carbonate chemistry data describing the behavior of coral larvae in high pCO₂ within shallow tropical reefs in Okinawa, Japan from 2016-07 to 2016-08

Website: <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/750996>

Data Type: Other Field Results

Version: 1

Version Date: 2018-12-07

Project

» [Collaborative Research: Ocean Acidification and Coral Reefs: Scale Dependence and Adaptive Capacity](#) (OA coral adaptation)

Program

» [Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability NSF-Wide Investment \(SEES\): Ocean Acidification \(formerly CRI-OA\)](#) (SEES-OA)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
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Coverage

Spatial Extent: Lat:26.6717 Lon:127.8847

Temporal Extent: 2016-07 - 2016-08

Dataset Description

Twelve colonies of *Pocillopora damicornis* (Linnaeus 1758) were collected in July and August 2016 from ~ 1-m depth on a patch reef on the northwest shore of Okinawa (26°40'18.24" N, 127°53'4.78" E). Colonies were collected prior to expected larval release in Okinawa in July and August (S. Harii, unpublished data on the study site), with peak release occurring ~ 7 days after the new moon.

Following collection, colonies were transferred to Sesoko Station, part of the Tropical Biosphere Research Center University of the Ryukyus, where they were incubated outdoors in individual containers exposed to natural irradiance in flow-through seawater. Ambient seawater was pumped at 3.0 L min⁻¹ (AC Flowmeter, Tokyo Keiso Co., Japan) from 4–5 m depth and stored in two 10 L reservoirs. Air was bubbled constantly in to the reservoirs at 3.0 L min⁻¹ to maintain ambient seawater pCO₂ (i.e., the control conditions). Seawater temperature was measured hourly at 1–2-m depth near the collection site prior to, and during, the experiment (HOBO Pro v2, Onset Computer Corporation, USA), and was 29.9 ± 0.2°C (mean ± SE, n = 45 days), with a daily minimum of 28.3°C and daily maximum of 31.8°C (R. Prasetia & S. Harii, unpublished data) that reflects

summertime diurnal warming in this location. Temperature in the containers holding the corals was maintained within this range during the experiment ($29.8 \pm < 0.2^{\circ}\text{C}$, mean \pm SE, $n = 31$) using a chiller (ZR-130E, Zensui, Japan).

Planulae released from *P. damicornis* during the first quarter moon of July and August were collected at \sim 05:00 hrs following their release at \sim 03:00 hrs, using containers lined with 110 μm plankton mesh. As larvae from *P. damicornis* are physiologically dissimilar among days of release, larvae were collected from the inferred day of peak release and pooled among colonies releasing larvae on this day. Larvae from July and August were used to test the effects of pCO₂ (two levels) and depths (two levels) on larval behavior, and the experiment was conducted in two parts. The first part (July 2016) tested the effects of two pCO₂ regimes on larval behavior with the tubes positioned with their upper opening adjacent to the air-water interface of the seawater (hereafter “shallow” tubes), and the second part (August 2016) tested the effects of the same two pCO₂ regimes on larval behavior with the tubes positioned with their upper opening \sim 3–4 m below the surface (hereafter “deep” tubes).

Methods & Sampling

High pCO₂ seawater was prepared in a single 10 L plastic reservoir by bubbling air or pure CO₂ gas into seawater using a mass-flow controller (HORIBASTEC, SEC-E40, Japan) that supplied gas at 16 mL min⁻¹. Adjustments of \pm 0.1 mL min⁻¹ in the flow rate of CO₂ gas were made manually as necessary each morning leading up to the experiment to maintain the desired pCO₂, as evaluated from daily measurements of seawater pH and total alkalinity (AT) used to calculate seawater pCO₂ using CO₂SYN software. Seawater pH and temperature in the reservoir were measured daily between 09:00 hrs and 11:00 hrs using a handheld meter (Multi 3410, WTW, Germany) fitted with a combination probe that recorded pH (\pm 0.001 pH unit) and temperature (\pm 0.1 $^{\circ}\text{C}$) (SenTix 940, WTW, Germany). The probe was calibrated daily prior to use with three NBS buffers (Nacalai Tesque, Japan). The salinity of the seawater used to fill the larval incubation tubes was measured using a conductivity meter (TetraCon 325, WTW, Germany), and AT was determined using open-cell titrations conducted with an autoburette titrator (Kimoto, ATT-05, Japan). Titrations of certified reference materials (batch 155) provided by A.G. Dickson (Scripps Institute of Oceanography) yielded AT values that differed on average \leq 1.3 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ from the certified value (SE = 9.2 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$, $n = 6$). Seawater pCO₂, HCO₃⁻, CO₃²⁻, and Ω_{arag} were calculated from pH, temperature, AT, and salinity using CO₂SYN with dissociation constants K₁ and K₂ from Mehrbach et al. (1973).

Data Processing Description

BCO-DMO Processing Notes:

- translated Excel spreadsheet to a comma separated file
- added conventional header with dataset name, PI name, version date
- modified parameter names to conform with BCO-DMO naming conventions

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Data Files

File
carb_chem2.csv (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 536 bytes) MD5:8efc06328b0787b9f62e575cb8c09d34
Primary data file for dataset ID 750996

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Related Publications

Bergman, J. L., Harii, S., Kurihara, H., & Edmunds, P. J. (2018). Behavior of Brooded Coral Larvae in Response

to Elevated pCO₂. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 5. doi:[10.3389/fmars.2018.00051](https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2018.00051)
Results

Harii, S., Yamamoto, M., & Hoegh-Guldberg, O. (2010). The relative contribution of dinoflagellate photosynthesis and stored lipids to the survivorship of symbiotic larvae of the reef-building corals. *Marine Biology*, 157(6), 1215–1224. doi:[10.1007/s00227-010-1401-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00227-010-1401-0)
Methods

Mehrbach, C., Culberson, C. H., Hawley, J. E., & Pytkowicz, R. M. (1973). Measurement of the apparent dissociation constants of carbonic acid in seawater at atmospheric pressure. *Limnology and Oceanography*, 18(6), 897–907. doi:[10.4319/lb.1973.18.6.0897](https://doi.org/10.4319/lb.1973.18.6.0897)
Methods

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Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
Depth	Depth at which larvae were incubated	meters (m)
Treatment	Ambient (400 uatm) or high (1000 uatm) pCO ₂ conditions	unitless
Sample_Time	Beginning or end of 24-hour incubation	unitless
pCO ₂	calculated pCO ₂	microatmosphere (uatm)

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Instruments

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	autoburette titrator
Generic Instrument Name	Automatic titrator
Dataset-specific Description	The salinity of the seawater used to fill the larval incubation tubes was measured using a conductivity meter (TetraCon 325, WTW, Germany), and AT was determined using open-cell titrations conducted with an autoburette titrator (Kimoto, ATT-05, Japan).
Generic Instrument Description	Instruments that incrementally add quantified aliquots of a reagent to a sample until the end-point of a chemical reaction is reached.

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	handheld meter
Generic Instrument Name	Multi Parameter Portable Meter
Dataset-specific Description	Seawater pH and temperature in the reservoir were measured daily between 09:00 hrs and 11:00 hrs using a handheld meter (Multi 3410, WTW, Germany) fitted with a combination probe that recorded pH (± 0.001 pH unit) and temperature ($\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$) (SenTix 940, WTW, Germany).
Generic Instrument Description	An analytical instrument that can measure multiple parameters, such as pH, EC, TDS, DO and temperature with one device and is portable or hand-held.

Project Information

Collaborative Research: Ocean Acidification and Coral Reefs: Scale Dependence and Adaptive Capacity (OA coral adaptation)

Website: <http://mcr.lternet.edu>

Coverage: Moorea, French Polynesia

Extracted from the NSF award abstract:

This project focuses on the most serious threat to marine ecosystems, Ocean Acidification (OA), and addresses the problem in the most diverse and beautiful ecosystem on the planet, coral reefs. The research utilizes Moorea, French Polynesia as a model system, and builds from the NSF investment in the Moorea Coral Reef Long Term Ecological Research Site (LTER) to exploit physical and biological monitoring of coral reefs as a context for a program of studies focused on the ways in which OA will affect corals, calcified algae, and coral reef ecosystems. The project builds on a four-year NSF award with research in five new directions: (1) experiments of year-long duration, (2) studies of coral reefs to 20-m depth, (3) experiments in which carbon dioxide will be administered to plots of coral reef underwater, (4) measurements of the capacity of coral reef organisms to change through evolutionary and induced responses to improve their resistance to OA, and (5) application of emerging theories to couple studies of individual organisms to studies of whole coral reefs. Broader impacts will accrue through a better understanding of the ways in which OA will affect coral reefs that are the poster child for demonstrating climate change effects in the marine environment, and which provide income, food, and coastal protection to millions of people living in coastal areas, including in the United States.

This project focuses on the effects of Ocean Acidification on tropical coral reefs and builds on a program of research results from an existing 4-year award, and closely interfaces with the technical, hardware, and information infrastructure provided through the Moorea Coral Reef (MCR) LTER. The MCR-LTER, provides an unparalleled opportunity to partner with a study of OA effects on a coral reef with a location that arguably is better instrumented and studied in more ecological detail than any other coral reef in the world. Therefore, the results can be both contextualized by a high degree of ecological and physical relevance, and readily integrated into emerging theory seeking to predict the structure and function of coral reefs in warmer and more acidic future oceans. The existing award has involved a program of study in Moorea that has focused mostly on short-term organismic and ecological responses of corals and calcified algae, experiments conducted in mesocosms and flumes, and measurements of reef-scale calcification. This new award involves three new technical advances: for the first time, experiments will be conducted of year-long duration in replicate outdoor flumes; CO₂ treatments will be administered to fully intact reef ecosystems in situ using replicated underwater flumes; and replicated common garden cultivation techniques will be used to explore within-species genetic variation in the response to OA conditions. Together, these tools will be used to support research on corals and calcified algae in three thematic areas: (1) tests for long-term (1 year) effects of OA on growth, performance, and fitness, (2) tests for depth-dependent effects of OA on reef communities at 20-m depth where light regimes are attenuated compared to shallow water, and (3) tests for beneficial responses to OA through intrinsic, within-species genetic variability and phenotypic plasticity. Some of the key experiments in these thematic areas will be designed to exploit integral projection models (IPMs) to couple organism with community responses, and to support the use of the metabolic theory of ecology (MTE) to address scale-dependence of OA effects on coral reef organisms and the function of the communities they build.

The following publications and data resulted from this project:

Comeau S, Carpenter RC, Lantz CA, Edmunds PJ. (2016) Parameterization of the response of calcification to temperature and pCO₂ in the coral *Acropora pulchra* and the alga *Lithophyllum kotschyianum*. *Coral Reefs* 2016. DOI [10.1007/s00338-016-1425-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00338-016-1425-0).

[calcification rates](#) (2014)

[calcification rates](#) (2010)

Comeau, S., Carpenter, R.C., Edmunds, P.J. (2016) Effects of pCO₂ on photosynthesis and respiration of tropical scleractinian corals and calcified algae. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* doi:[10.1093/icesjms/fsv267](https://doi.org/10.1093/icesjms/fsv267).
[respiration and photosynthesis I](#)

[respiration and photosynthesis II](#)

Evensen, N.R. & Edmunds P. J. (2016) Interactive effects of ocean acidification and neighboring corals on the growth of *Pocillopora verrucosa*. *Marine Biology*, 163:148. doi: [10.1007/s00227-016-2921-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00227-016-2921-z)
[coral growth](#)
[seawater chemistry](#)
[coral colony interactions](#)

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Program Information

Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability NSF-Wide Investment (SEES): Ocean Acidification (formerly CRI-OA) (SEES-OA)

Website: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503477

Coverage: global

NSF Climate Research Investment (CRI) activities that were initiated in 2010 are now included under Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability NSF-Wide Investment (SEES). SEES is a portfolio of activities that highlights NSF's unique role in helping society address the challenge(s) of achieving sustainability. Detailed information about the SEES program is available from NSF (https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504707).

In recognition of the need for basic research concerning the nature, extent and impact of ocean acidification on oceanic environments in the past, present and future, the goal of the SEES: OA program is to understand (a) the chemistry and physical chemistry of ocean acidification; (b) how ocean acidification interacts with processes at the organismal level; and (c) how the earth system history informs our understanding of the effects of ocean acidification on the present day and future ocean.

Solicitations issued under this program:

[NSF 10-530](#), FY 2010-FY2011

[NSF 12-500](#), FY 2012

[NSF 12-600](#), FY 2013

[NSF 13-586](#), FY 2014

NSF 13-586 was the final solicitation that will be released for this program.

PI Meetings:

[1st U.S. Ocean Acidification PI Meeting](#) (March 22-24, 2011, Woods Hole, MA)

[2nd U.S. Ocean Acidification PI Meeting](#) (Sept. 18-20, 2013, Washington, DC)

3rd U.S. Ocean Acidification PI Meeting (June 9-11, 2015, Woods Hole, MA - Tentative)

NSF media releases for the Ocean Acidification Program:

[Press Release 10-186 NSF Awards Grants to Study Effects of Ocean Acidification](#)

[Discovery Blue Mussels "Hang On" Along Rocky Shores: For How Long?](#)

[Discovery nsf.gov - National Science Foundation \(NSF\) Discoveries - Trouble in Paradise: Ocean Acidification This Way Comes - US National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#)

[Press Release 12-179 nsf.gov - National Science Foundation \(NSF\) News - Ocean Acidification: Finding New Answers Through National Science Foundation Research Grants - US National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#)

[Press Release 13-102 World Oceans Month Brings Mixed News for Oysters](#)

[Press Release 13-108 nsf.gov - National Science Foundation \(NSF\) News - Natural Underwater Springs Show How Coral Reefs Respond to Ocean Acidification - US National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#)

[Press Release 13-148 Ocean acidification: Making new discoveries through National Science Foundation research grants](#)

[Press Release 13-148 - Video nsf.gov - News - Video - NSF Ocean Sciences Division Director David Conover answers questions about ocean acidification. - US National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#)

[Press Release 14-010 nsf.gov - National Science Foundation \(NSF\) News - Palau's coral reefs surprisingly resistant to ocean acidification - US National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#)

[Press Release 14-116 nsf.gov - National Science Foundation \(NSF\) News - Ocean Acidification: NSF awards \\$11.4 million in new grants to study effects on marine ecosystems - US National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#)

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Funding

Funding Source	Award
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1415268

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