



CO₂ system Calculation Part 2

**Using CO₂ system calculations
for experimental CO₂ manipulations**

Introduction

- Impact of changing seawater chemistry as a result of OA on marine organisms is not well constrained
- Experimental data are needed to understand the consequences
- Perturbation experiments of seawater chemistry are key approaches to investigating biological responses to increasing $p\text{CO}_2$
- We will examine several techniques carried out in closed and open cell vessels and discuss pros and cons of these approaches

Main approaches to manipulate CO₂-system chemistry

Change TCO₂ at constant TA

- Gas bubbling
- Add high-CO₂ sea water
- Add CO₃²⁻ and/or HCO₃⁻ followed by strong acid

Change TA at constant TCO₂

- Add strong acids and base

Change TA & TCO₂

- Add CO₃²⁻ and/or HCO₃⁻

Manipulate [Ca²⁺]

We will follow modified Gattuso et al. 2009 examples

also section 2 of Guide to Best Practices

Assumptions:

Seawater pCO ₂	= 384 μatm (Year = 2007)
Target pCO ₂	= 793 μatm (Year = 2100)
Salinity	= 34.9
Temperature	= 18.9°C
Depth	= 0 m
Phosphate & Silicate	= 0.63 μmol/kg SW & 7.63 μmol/kg SW
TA	= 2325

Except we will use Lueker et al. 2000 K_1, K_2 , Dickson 1990 KHSO_4 constants ; pH-total scale ; Uppstrom et al., 2010 Boron constant

Bubbling gas in a vessel is fairly easy effective way to manipulate CO₂- system chemistry

Systems that have been used:

- control atmospheric CO₂ and then bubble that into container
- pH-stat- pH is monitored continuously and controller opens or closes valves when pH goes above or below the target value

Lets get started “bubbling”

- Scenario: You have a seawater sample that has the following conditions-“2007 condition”

Sal = 34.9 T = 18.9C pH = 8.07 TA = 2325 $\mu\text{mol/kg}$

Nutrients : 0.63 $\mu\text{mol/kgsw}$ Tphos; 7.63 $\mu\text{mol/kgsw}$ TSi

Now, to “mimic” year 2100, you bubble in a CO₂ –air mixture of 793 μatm – what is your final pH? Note that we are assuming that TA will not change significantly over the next 100 years.

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Constants: K_1, K_2 : Leuker, K_{SO_4} : Dickson, pH_{tot} , B_t : Uppstrom



Manual Calculation: Input

Input

Results

Sample Metadata (Optional)

Name

2007Input

Date

Set Date

<M/d/yyyy>

15

Time

Set Time

Latitude

Longitude

N

W

Comment

fixed TA

Clear Metadata

Sample Data

Physical Data (All Fields Required)

Salinity

34.9

Temperature (°C)

18.9

Pressure (dbars)

Adjusted Conditions (Optional)

Temperature (°C)

Pressure (dbars)

Clear Sample Data

Carbonate Data (Two Fields Required)

*Enter any two fields except both
fCO₂ and pCO₂ together*

TA (μmol/kgSW)

2325

TCO₂ (μmol/kgSW)

pH (chosen scale)

8.07

fCO₂ water (μatm)pCO₂ water (μatm)CO₃ (μmol/kgSW)

Nutrient Data (Optional)

Total P (μmol/kgSW)

0.63

Total Si (μmol/kgSW)

7.35

Additional Data (Optional)

Total Ca (choose units)

Air-Sea Flux Data (Optional)

pCO₂ Air (μatm)

Windspeed (choose units)

"2007 CONDITIONS"

Sample Results

Input Conditions

Computed Constants

Physical Parameters

Salinity

34.900

Temperature (°C)

18.900

Pressure (dbars)

0.000

Density (kg m⁻³)

1024.971

Nutrient Data

Total P (μmol/kgSW)

0.630

Total Si (μmol/kgSW)

7.350

Air-Sea CO₂ Flux

Flux (mmol/m²/d)

Carbonate

TA (μmol/kgSW)

2325.000

TCO₂ (μmol/kgSW)

2061.391

pH (chosen scale)

8.070

fCO₂ water (μatm)

377.975

pCO₂ water (μatm)

379.279

CO₃ (μmol/kgSW)

188.004

Calcium

Calculated (μmol/kgSW)

10255.185

User Value

Auxiliary Results

HCO₃ (μmol/kgSW)

1860.748

CO₂ (μmol/kgSW)

12.639

B Alk (μmol/kgSW)

83.246

OH (μmol/kgSW)

4.038

P Alk (μmol/kgSW)

0.701

Si Alk (μmol/kgSW)

0.268

Revelle

10.452

xCO₂ (dry @ 1 atm)
(ppm)

387.465

Ω Ca (Using:
Ca from Salinity
CO₃ from Carbonates)

4.495

Ω Ar (Using:
Ca from Salinity
CO₃ from Carbonates)

2.913

Ω Ca (Using User Values)

Ω Ar (Using User Values)

NOW 793 μatm (2100)

CO2Calc v4.0.4



CO2Calc v4.0.4

Manual Input

Batch Input

Tools

Report

About

Install

Manual Calculation: Input

Input

Results

Sample Metadata (Optional)

Name

Date

Set Date

<M/d/yyyy>

15

Time

Set Time

▼

▼

▼

Latitude

N ▼

Longitude

W ▼

Comment

Clear Metadata

Sample Data

Physical Data (All Fields Required)

Salinity

34.9

Temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)

18.9

Pressure (dbars)

Adjusted Conditions (Optional)

Temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)

Pressure (dbars)

Clear Sample Data

Carbonate Data (Two Fields Required)

Enter any two fields except both $f\text{CO}_2$ and $p\text{CO}_2$ together

TA ($\mu\text{mol/kgSW}$)

2325

TCO₂ ($\mu\text{mol/kgSW}$)

pH (chosen scale)

$f\text{CO}_2$ water (μatm)

$p\text{CO}_2$ water (μatm)

793

CO₃ ($\mu\text{mol/kgSW}$)

Nutrient Data (Optional)

Total P ($\mu\text{mol/kgSW}$)

0.63

Total Si ($\mu\text{mol/kgSW}$)

7.350

Additional Data (Optional)

Total Ca (choose units)

▼

Air-Sea Flux Data (Optional)

$p\text{CO}_2$ Air (μatm)

Windspeed (choose units)

▼

At 793 uatm pH=7.793

CO2Calc v4.0.4

Sample Results

Input Conditions

Computed Constants

Physical Parameters

Salinity

34.900

Temperature (°C)

18.900

Pressure (dbars)

0.000

Density (kg m⁻³)

1024.971

Nutrient Data

Total P (μmol/kgSW)

0.630

Total Si (μmol/kgSW)

7.350

Air-Sea CO2 Flux

Flux (mmol/m²/d)

Carbonate

TA (μmol/kgSW)

2325.000

TCO2 (μmol/kgSW)

2190.343

pH (chosen scale)

7.793

fCO2 water (μatm)

790.273

pCO2 water (μatm)

793.000

CO3 (μmol/kgSW)

109.600

Calcium

Calculated (μmol/kgSW)

10255.185

User Value

Auxiliary Results

HCO3 (μmol/kgSW)

2054.317

CO2 (μmol/kgSW)

26.425

B Alk (μmol/kgSW)

48.560

OH (μmol/kgSW)

2.132

P Alk (μmol/kgSW)

0.663

Si Alk (μmol/kgSW)

0.144

Revelle

14.245

xCO2 (dry @ 1 atm)
(ppm)

810.116

Ω Ca (Using:
Ca from Salinity
CO3 from Carbonates)

2.621

Ω Ar (Using:
Ca from Salinity
CO3 from Carbonates)

1.698

Ω Ca (Using User Values)

Ω Ar (Using User Values)

TCO₂ increased

TA constant

Summary: Bubbling of CO₂ gas

Technique: Bubble different CO₂ gas mixtures in seawater

- (1) air and CO₂
- (2) CO₂-free air and CO₂
- (3) CO₂-free air, air and CO₂

- (1) pH-stat or pCO₂-stat
- (2) bubbling with premixed gases (purchased or made with mass flow controllers or gas mixing pumps)

In both cases, TCO₂ increased and TA remained same

Advantages: TA assumed constant (or measured)

Disadvantages: Requires daily calibration; Can cause coagulation of organic matter, or unwanted turbulence; changes in alkalinity because of precipitation or dissolution of CaCO₃ not accounted for

seacarb: p_{gas}

TCO₂ increased
TA constant

Bubbling of CO₂ gas

Example: Estimate the volume of CO₂ gas needed to adjust pCO₂ from 384 to 793 µatm

@STP:

$$\text{L of CO}_{2(g)} = \Delta \text{TCO}_2 (\text{mol kg}^{-1} \text{ SW}) * \text{Mol. Wt. CO}_2 / \text{density of CO}_{2(g)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{L of CO}_{2(g)} &= (0.000129 \text{ mol kg}^{-1} \text{ SW} * 44.01 \text{ g CO}_2 \text{ mol}^{-1}) / 1.808 \text{ g L}^{-1} \\ &= 0.00314 \text{ L kg}^{-1} \text{ SW} \\ &= 3.14 \text{ mL kg}^{-1} \text{ SW} \end{aligned}$$

***In reality, this calculation is not very useful.
The best way to determine volume of gas needed is to
experiment with it!***

TCO₂ increased
TA constant

Adding high-CO₂ water

Technique: Mixing of two water masses

($T=18.9^{\circ}\text{C}$; $S=34.9$; $\text{TA}=2325\ \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$)

Water mass #1: $p\text{CO}_2=10^6\ \mu\text{atm}$ (CO₂-saturated)

Water mass #2: $p\text{CO}_2=384\ \mu\text{atm}$

Desired water mass $p\text{CO}_2$: $p\text{CO}_2=793\ \mu\text{atm}$

Q: What proportions of water masses #1 and #2 should be mixed to achieve the desired concentration?

TCO₂ increased
TA constant

Adding high-CO₂ water

Technique: Mixing of two water masses

(T=18.9°C; S=34.9; TA=2325 μmol kg⁻¹)

Water mass #1: pCO₂=10⁶ μatm -> TCO₂ = 35666 μmol kg⁻¹

Water mass #2: pCO₂=384 μatm -> TCO₂ = 2063 μmol kg⁻¹

Desired mass: pCO₂=793 μatm -> TCO₂ = 2190 μmol kg⁻¹

TCO₂ increased
TA constant

Adding high-CO₂ water

Technique: Mixing of two water masses

(T=18.9°C; S=34.9; TA=2325 μmol kg⁻¹)

Water mass #1: pCO₂=10⁶ μatm → TCO₂ = 35666 μmol kg⁻¹

Water mass #2: pCO₂=384 μatm → TCO₂ = 2063 μmol kg⁻¹

Desired mass: pCO₂=793 μatm → TCO₂ = 2190 μmol kg⁻¹

Basic Mixing Equation:

$$\text{Conc}_1 \times \text{Vol}_1 + \text{Conc}_2 \times (\text{Vol}_2 - \text{Vol}_1) = \text{Conc}_3 \times (\text{Vol}_2)$$

$$35666 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1} \times (V_1) + 2063 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1} \times (1 - V_1) = 2190 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1} \times (1)$$

Vol₁ = 0.00378 kg of high pCO₂ seawater

1-V₁ = 0.99622 kg of normal pCO₂ seawater

TCO₂ increased

TA constant

Summary: Adding high-CO₂ water

Technique: Mixing of two water masses

1. Water with normal values (e.g. pCO₂=373 μatm)
2. Water that has been saturated with CO₂ (pCO₂=10⁶ μatm)

Advantages:

- Natural simulation of future conditions
- No effect on TA

Disadvantages:

- High pCO₂ waters can easily lose CO₂ due to gas exchange

Seacarb function: pmix

TCO₂ changed
TA changed

Adding CO₃²⁻ and/or HCO₃⁻ (no acid addition)

Technique: Add CO₃ and/or HCO₃ to obtain desired TCO₂ level

1. Closed system:

TA increases by: $2 \times \Delta[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$ and $1 \times \Delta[\text{HCO}_3^-]$

DIC increases by: $1 \times \Delta[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$ and $1 \times \Delta[\text{HCO}_3^-]$

2. Open system: DIC equilibrates due to air-sea gas exchange

Advantages:

- Can be used to examine physiological responses to different components of the carbonate chemistry

Disadvantages:

- Both TCO₂ and TA changes and not realistic of year 2100

TCO₂ increased
TA constant

Adding CO₃²⁻ and/or HCO₃⁻ + acid

Technique:

1. Add CO₃ and/or HCO₃ to obtain desired TCO₂ level
2. Add acid to lower TA to desired target level

Example:

1. Add $15.3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ of Na₂CO₃
Add $111.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ of NaHCO₃

Note that this elevates DIC by
126.5 umol
But also elevates TA by 141.8
umol

Remember: DIC increases by: $1 \times \Delta[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$ and
 $1 \times \Delta[\text{HCO}_3^-]$

TA increases by: $2 \times \Delta[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$ and $1 \times \Delta[\text{HCO}_3^-]$

2. Both DIC and TA increased, so reduce TA to initial value by adding
14.18 ml of 0.01N HCl to restore TA to initial value

Adding CO_3^{2-} and/or HCO_3^- + acid

	$\text{pCO}_{2,sw}$ (μatm)	pH_T (-)	$[\text{H}^+]$ (a)	TA (b)	DIC (b)	$[\text{CO}_2]$ (b)	$[\text{HCO}_3^-]$ (b)	$[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$ (b)	Ω_c (-)	Ω_a (-)
Year 2007	384	8.065	8.6	2325	2065	12.8	1865	187	4.5	2.9
Year 2100	793	7.793	16.1	2325	2191	26.4	2055	110	2.6	1.7

Addition of:

CO_3^{2-} and HCO_3^- ; closed sys.

followed by acid addition; closed sys.

400	8.073	8.4	2467	2191	13.3	1977	201	4.8	3.1
793	7.793	16.1	2325	2191	26.4	2055	110	2.6	1.7

TCO₂ constant
TA increased

Adding strong acids, bases

Technique: Add strong acids to decrease TA - OR –
Add strong bases to increase TA

1. In a closed system, DIC remains unchanged
2. In an open system, DIC will change due to air-sea gas exchange

Example:

1. *How much acid do you need to change the alkalinity to cause a pCO₂ change from 394 to 793 uatm?*

Answer 140.8 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$

2. **Add 14.08 ml of 0.01N HCl to 1 kg seawater**

seacarb function: ppH

Addition of strong acid

	$\text{pCO}_{2\text{sw}}$ (μatm)	pH_T (–)	$[\text{H}^+]$ (a)	TA (b)	DIC (b)	$[\text{CO}_2]$ (b)	$[\text{HCO}_3^-]$ (b)	$[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$ (b)	Ω_c (–)	Ω_a (–)
Year 2007	384	8.065	8.6	2325	2065	12.8	1865	187	4.5	2.9
Year 2100	793	7.793	16.1	2325	2191	26.4	2055	110	2.6	1.7
Acid addition; closed sys.	793	7.768	17.1	2184	2065	26.4	1940	98	2.3	1.5
Acid addition; open sys.	384	8.042	9.1	2184	194	12.8	1767	167	4	2.6

TCO₂ constant
TA increased

Adding strong acids, bases to bring pCO₂ to target

Technique: Add strong acids to decrease TA - OR –
Add strong bases to increase TA

1. In a closed system, DIC remains unchanged
2. In an open system, DIC will change due to air-sea gas exchange

Advantages:

Relatively easy to do

Can be used in flow-through systems

Disadvantages:

Not a realistic representation of the CO₂ chemistry but depends on your question

Manipulate $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$

Manipulation of $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$

Technique: Add or reduce the $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ levels

Causes changes in the CaCO_3 saturation states

Advantages:

Can be used to examine the role of Ca^{2+} in saturation state and its effects on organisms

seacarb function: pCa

Summary of Methods

Approach	Target values reached?	Ease of use	Relative cost
Acid addition	No (only pCO ₂)	***	*
Acid addition and restoration of TA	Yes	*	*
Gas bubbling	Yes	***	***
Mixing with high-CO ₂ seawater	Yes	**	*
Addition of HCO ₃ ⁻ and/or CO ₃ ²⁻	No	**	*
Calcium manipulation	No (only Ω)	*	*



LAST THOUGHTS

- ✓ Understand how your choice of approach affects carbonate chemistry
- ✓ The more information you have for planning, the better
- ✓ Choose reasonable target conditions
- ✓ Know your chemistry...don't rely on CO₂calc (or any other program) to know it for you...this is a VERY common mistake
- ✓ Biological effects on the chemistry must be considered in experimental design
- ✓ Monitor closely - before, during, and after chemical manipulations and throughout experiments