



Technical Note: Controlled experimental aquarium system for multi-stressor investigation of carbonate chemistry, oxygen saturation, and temperature

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Abstract. As the field of ocean acidification has grown, researchers have increasingly turned to laboratory experiments to understand the impacts of increased CO₂ on marine organisms. However, other changes such as ocean warming and deoxygenation are occurring concurrently with the increasing CO₂ concentrations, complicating the understanding of the impacts of anthropogenic changes on organisms. This experimental aquarium design allows for independent regulation of CO₂ concentration, O₂ levels, and temperature in a controlled environment to study the impacts of multiple stressors. The system has the flexibility for a wide range of treatment chemistry, seawater volumes, and study organisms. Control of the seawater chemistry is achieved by equilibration of a chosen gas mixture with seawater using a Liqui-Cel[®] membrane contactor. Included as examples, two experiments performed using the system have shown control of CO₂ at values between approximately 500 and 1400 μatm and O₂ at values from 80 to 240 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. Temperature has been maintained to 0.5 °C or better in the range of 10–17 °C. On a weeklong timescale, the system has achieved variability in pH of less than 0.007 pH units and in oxygen concentration of less than 3.5 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. Longer experiments, over a month in duration, have been completed with control to better than 0.08 pH units and 13 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ O₂. The ability to study the impacts of multiple stressors in the laboratory simultaneously, as well as independently, will be an important

part of understanding the response of marine organisms to a high-CO₂ world.

1 Introduction

The amount of inorganic carbon in the oceans is increasing and the pH decreasing, a process commonly known as ocean acidification (Caldeira and Wickett, 2003). This is a consequence of the oceans taking up a proportion of the anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions added to the atmosphere each year. In the past decade, ocean acidification has received increasing attention from the scientific community, particularly the impact of the expected changes in carbonate chemistry on organisms (Doney et al., 2009a). Experimental studies in the laboratory are an important part of this research (Doney et al., 2009b). While significant insight has been gained from these laboratory experiments, it has also become clear that the questions are not simple to answer, and that reasonable control of the experimental conditions can be challenging.

In 2010 EPOCA published a *Guide to best practices for ocean acidification research and data reporting* (Riebesell et al., 2010), which includes several chapters that are relevant to setting up experimental aquaria with the intent to control carbonate chemistry. Various options for modifying carbonate

chemistry are suggested, which change the total dissolved inorganic carbon (C_T) of the seawater, the total alkalinity (A_T), or both simultaneously. A variety of experimental systems have been designed and used, with varying degrees of success, by researchers interested in controlling seawater carbonate chemistry in the laboratory. For example, several experiments have been performed by bubbling seawater directly with gas mixtures created by combining pure CO_2 with ambient or CO_2 -stripped air to create an elevated partial pressure of CO_2 : $p(\text{CO}_2)$ (Miller et al., 2009; Talmage and Gobler, 2009). One published system bubbles a custom gas mixture while monitoring $p(\text{CO}_2)$ (Fangue et al., 2010); yet another uses acid additions to create constant pH seawater as determined by spectrophotometric measurements (McGraw et al., 2010). Some discussion has surrounded the various accepted methods of manipulation, and the differences in carbonate chemistry have been evaluated and found to be small (Gattuso and Lavigne, 2009; Schulz et al., 2009). Nevertheless, bubbling is often recommended as the “first choice” because it “exactly mimics carbonate chemistry changes occurring in the years to come” (Gattuso et al., 2010). However, direct bubbling with gas can lead to difficulties in sustaining phytoplankton cultures (Shi et al., 2009), and hence header tanks are often used for equilibration to eliminate the impact of bubbling on the experimental organism.

In addition to changes in the carbon parameters, other impacts of anthropogenic climate change on the ocean are expected. Temperatures in the upper 300 m of the oceans are rising (Lyman et al., 2010), and changes in stratification have occurred (Palacios et al., 2004). Also, oxygen saturation is expected to decrease as the oceans warm, stratify, and absorb carbon (Keeling et al., 2010; Shaffer et al., 2009). Predictions of the consequences of ocean acidification must consider synergistic effects between changing inorganic carbon parameters and changes to these other variables. Multi-stressor, or multi-variable, interactions have gained a lot of attention recently as researchers have begun to examine the many simultaneous impacts that climate change will have on organisms (Boyd, 2011; Pörtner et al., 2005). However, a review of marine climate change papers found that most were single-factor experiments, most often focusing on acidification alone (Wernberg et al., 2012). In particular, there is a need for experiments focusing on the combination of CO_2 and O_2 (Melzner et al., 2012; Pörtner et al., 2005). Changes in oxygen and pH are strongly, positively correlated in systems dominated by photosynthesis and respiration, as has been documented recently in coastal upwelling systems (Frieder et al., 2012; Paulmier et al., 2011); the implications for organisms simultaneously experiencing low pH and low oxygen levels in seawater are just starting to be investigated. The ability to modify CO_2 and O_2 levels independently in an experimental laboratory, in addition to temperature, will be critical to understanding the response of organisms that live in natural environments with these multiple stressors.

The Multiple Stressor Experimental Aquarium at Scripps (MSEAS) presented here is designed to enable such experiments and to facilitate the study of organisms under future ocean scenarios. The system is capable of independent manipulation and control of the inorganic carbon chemistry, oxygen levels, and temperature of the seawater in each tank. Additionally, the system is designed with flexibility so that it may be adapted for a variety of marine organisms and life stages. Finally, chemical data from two separate experiments are used to illustrate the stability and accuracy of the system.

2 Methods

2.1 Carbon parameter control

Achieving good control in an experimental laboratory setting is difficult, in part because the carbonate chemistry is complicated. Factors affecting control of the carbonate chemistry include gas exchange, temperature influences, and direct modification by the study organisms through processes such as photosynthesis, respiration, and calcification. Another obstacle is that measurement of the carbon parameters is neither simple nor inexpensive (Dickson et al., 2007; Dickson, 2010). Acid-base chemistry in clean seawater can be described using known equilibrium constants (given salinity, temperature, pressure, and the total boron / salinity ratio), together with two other measured parameters (typically from A_T , C_T , $p(\text{CO}_2)$, and pH). (This is only strictly true when the other minor acid-base systems in the seawater (e.g., phosphate, silicate, ammonia, organic bases, etc.) do not contribute significantly to the alkalinity.) Consequently, for a particular seawater at a given temperature and salinity, it is only necessary to control two of these parameters to achieve control over the carbonate chemistry.

Controlling two parameters at once is not accomplished easily. However, by assuming a constant A_T in the aquarium, only a single parameter needs to be explicitly controlled (Dickson, 2010). Constant A_T is a reasonable assumption for the seawater system that supplies MSEAS; over a three-year period, the observed range of A_T for the seawater system was $50 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ (Fig. 1). This would change pH calculated from A_T at a constant $p(\text{CO}_2)$ by less than 0.01 pH units. More often A_T is similar from one day to the next, showing large changes over months, rather than days. Consequently, the assumption of constant A_T only leads to small errors in the understanding of the carbonate chemistry when paired with controlled $p(\text{CO}_2)$, and thus serves as a reasonable assumption for this experimental system.

However, some care must be taken to ensure that the assumption of constant A_T remains true in an aquarium setting. Organisms continually modify the chemistry of their environment. For A_T , this usually means calcification or the assimilation and remineralization of other nutrients and ions (for further discussion, see Wolf-Gladrow et al., 2007). To

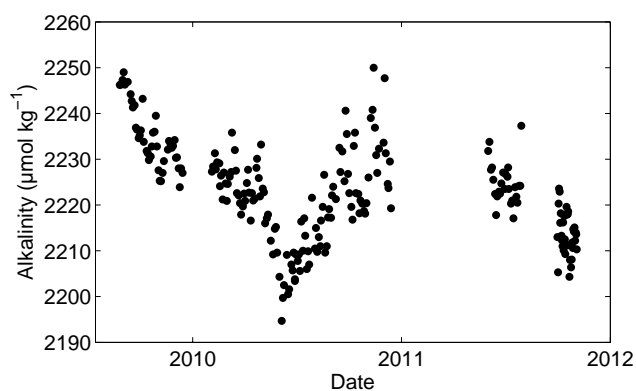


Fig. 1. Measured total alkalinity ($\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$) in the Scripps Institution of Oceanography seawater system over several years. Discrete samples were poisoned for later analysis. The mean is 2223 and the standard deviation is $11 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$.

maintain A_T levels throughout the duration of the experiment, some action must be taken to counteract these modifications. The most straightforward solution is the continual addition of new seawater to the tanks, which replenishes A_T . Sufficient seawater replacement, depending on the organisms and their respective biomasses in the aquaria, will guarantee that the A_T in each tank reflects the assumed constant A_T of the seawater supply system.

Alkalinity is particularly useful as a control variable for carbonate chemistry in an ocean acidification experimental laboratory. Not only is it conservative with respect to mixing and not affected by changes in temperature, but also the addition or removal of CO_2 gas from seawater does not change A_T . This allows for modification of the total amount of CO_2 (and of O_2) in the seawater as a means to control a second parameter without invalidating the assumption of constant A_T . In MSEAS, the second parameter is controlled by reacting a gas of a particular CO_2 and O_2 content with seawater using a membrane contactor, which allows a desired $p(\text{CO}_2)$ and oxygen percent saturation to be achieved. This direct equilibration of a known gas with seawater has the same effect on carbonate chemistry as if bubbling had been used to modify the seawater sample.

2.2 Apparatus

To achieve the desired chemistry in MSEAS, a gas mixture is equilibrated with seawater using a Membrana Liqui-Cel[®] 2.5×8 Extra-Flow membrane contactor for each aquarium (Fig. 2). The desired gas composition (N_2 , O_2 , CO_2) is mixed from individual gas cylinders using Omega[®] mass flow controllers (FMA 5418 0–5 SLM; FMA 5411 0–2 SLM; and FMA 5402 0–10 sccm, respectively). The mass flow controllers are operated by a laptop running NI LabVIEW[™] software with communication using a voltage generating NI 9265 4-Channel Analog Output Module[™] combined with an NI USB-9162 Single Module Carrier[™]. Mass flow controller

function is monitored using a NI USB-6210 Multifunction DAQ[™] (Fig. 2). Mixing individual gases gives the user complete control over both the CO_2 and O_2 concentrations. After the three gases mix in the desired proportions, the line is split, providing an identical gas mixture to two or more replicate tanks. Currently the system is designed with two sets of three mass flow controllers, allowing for two independent treatment levels.

A submerged MARINELAND[®] Maxi-Jet 1200 Power Head pumps seawater from each treatment tank through a $5 \mu\text{m}$ filter and then through the tank's associated Liqui-Cel membrane contactor. The gas mixture is introduced to the Liqui-Cel in the opposite direction, enhancing equilibration. The seawater is returned to the corresponding treatment tank, and the gas flows to waste (Fig. 2). Despite this continuous recirculation of the treatment seawater, it is not expected that the seawater will equilibrate perfectly with the gas phase. Fluctuations in temperature, flow rates, and in the degree of disequilibrium brought about by changes in the composition of the seawater in the tank due to gas exchange or biological processes all work against achieving complete equilibrium. Nevertheless, as will be seen, a reasonable degree of control can be achieved.

The temperature of each tank is maintained with a titanium coil through which temperature-controlled water flows from a Thermo Scientific NESLAB[™] RTE 7 Refrigerated Bath. The system design allows the seawater in each aquarium to be exchanged in a flow-through mode, where raw seawater is added continually at a slow rate, maintaining A_T levels. The excess seawater overflows, removing organism waste. This rate of overturning must be optimized, and will be organism and biomass dependent. Although the system was originally designed with a large, 50 L tank in mind, the size of the treatment tank is easily exchangeable. Several of the experiments performed have used much smaller volumes to fit the experimental organism better and to maximize control over the chosen parameters. The size of the tank, and therefore the volume of water needing to be equilibrated, must be chosen for each experimental organism and desired biomass. Smaller volumes of water will recirculate through the membrane and interact with the gas more often, leading to better control.

Equilibration between the gas and seawater using the Liqui-Cel is done independently for each replicate aquarium tank, so there is no mixing of treated seawater. The only shared part of any replicate is the gas composition and the original source water. An often-used technique in ocean acidification experiments involves modifying the composition of a header tank that then provides identical source water to many replicate tanks. In these systems, the actual composition of an individual tank can diverge from that of the source water due to gas exchange or biological processes. By modifying the composition of individual tanks directly, we hope to mitigate such divergences and achieve better control.

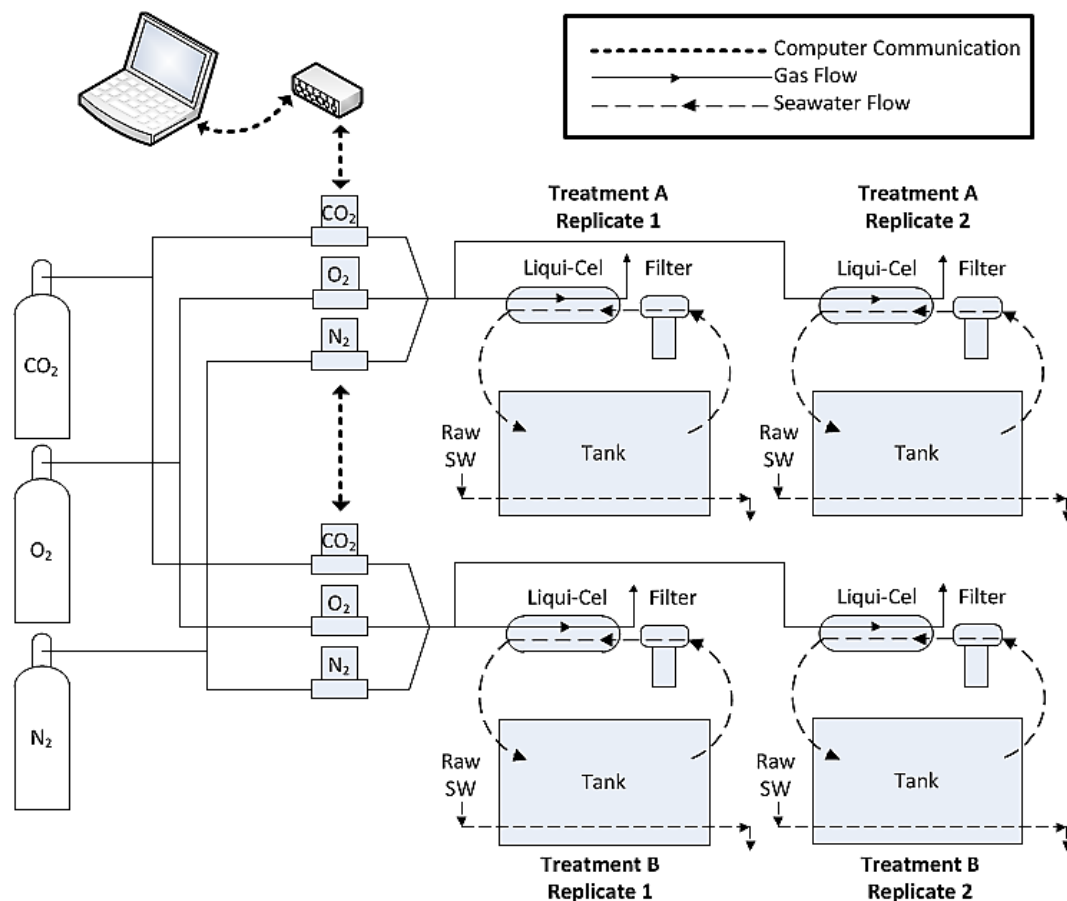


Fig. 2. Schematic of the aquarium control system. Solid lines indicate gas tubing and flow, and thin dashed lines indicate seawater tubing and flow. Thick dashed lines represent data communication between instruments.

One of the primary advantages of MSEAS, is that it allows the user to choose a desired CO_2 and O_2 composition, within a large range. The CO_2 level of the gas mixture can be chosen by the user to be any value between 0 and 5000 ppm, although the maximum $p(\text{CO}_2)$ of any experiment performed to date is approximately $1500 \mu\text{atm}$. Barry et al. (2010) includes suggestions of CO_2 levels for ocean acidification laboratory experiments; the recommendation for a two treatment system is for one treatment near a “present-day” (mid-2008) atmospheric value of 385 ppm and the other at a “future” value of 750 ppm. MSEAS is well suited to perform experiments at these specified values, but also has the advantage of flexibility in terms of its target CO_2 . This is especially valuable, in that it easily allows investigation of environments that are not at equilibrium with the atmosphere. For example, the coastal region of western North America experiences upwelling events, in which seawater already elevated in CO_2 flows onto parts of the continental shelf (Feely et al., 2008).

3 Assessment and discussion

The usefulness and capability of this system is demonstrated by the experiments performed to date. Two of these experiments are described below as examples of the stability that can be maintained – one a week long, the other lasting longer than a month. Both experiments modified the CO_2 and O_2 of the seawater for each treatment and were performed at different temperatures. Discrete samples for A_T , pH, and O_2 were taken daily during the experiments and analyzed at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. A_T samples were poisoned with saturated mercuric chloride and stored for later analysis which was done by open-cell titration (Dickson et al., 2007). Discrete pH samples were analyzed spectrophotometrically (Dickson et al., 2007) on the same day as sampling. Values are reported at the in situ temperature and on the total pH scale. Discrete oxygen samples were pickled immediately and analyzed within a few days by Winkler titration (Dickson, 1996). Temperature was monitored every five minutes in all tanks by HOB0 Pendant™ Temperature/Light Data Loggers.

Table 1. Average \pm standard deviation for chemical parameters during experiment M7. The $p(\text{CO}_2)$, Ω_{calcite} , and $\Omega_{\text{aragonite}}$ reported here were calculated using CO2calc (Robbins et al., 2010) with dissociation constants from Mehrbach et al. (1973) as refit by Dickson and Millero (1987). For most values $n = 8$, except for oxygen for which some samples from each tank were lost (see Fig. 3).

	Temp (°C)	Salinity	Alkalinity ($\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$)	pH _(in situ) total scale	Oxygen ($\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$)	Calculated $p(\text{CO}_2)$ (μatm)	Calculated Ω_{Calcite}	Calculated $\Omega_{\text{Aragonite}}$
Treatment A								
Replicate 1	17.2 \pm 0.3	33.65 \pm 0.01	2249.3 \pm 6.1	7.924 \pm 0.004	230.9 \pm 2.2	546.1 \pm 5.8	3.09 \pm 0.03	1.99 \pm 0.02
Replicate 2	17.2 \pm 0.2	33.64 \pm 0.01	2250.4 \pm 5.9	7.905 \pm 0.007	227.7 \pm 1.3	574.6 \pm 9.5	2.96 \pm 0.05	1.91 \pm 0.03
Treatment B								
Replicate 1	17.0 \pm 0.4	33.66 \pm 0.01	2254.1 \pm 7.0	7.619 \pm 0.007	86.2 \pm 3.4	1188.4 \pm 17.7	1.64 \pm 0.03	1.05 \pm 0.02
Replicate 2	17.2 \pm 0.3	33.65 \pm 0.01	2250.5 \pm 4.0	7.612 \pm 0.005	83.9 \pm 2.7	1209.8 \pm 15.8	1.62 \pm 0.02	1.04 \pm 0.01

3.1 Experiment M7

A week-long experiment was performed on mussel larvae (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*) with one treatment of pH and oxygen levels, typical of a present-day California coastal upwelling environment (Frieder et al., 2012), and the other with lower pH and oxygen levels indicative of a future upwelling environment. For this experiment, the treatment tanks were round 7.5 L buckets with lids. The larvae were protected from the flowing seawater recirculation by containment in a smaller nested bucket that freely exchanged seawater with the main tank. Both treatments were held at an average temperature of 17.2 °C. Alkalinity varied only slightly over the week, and consequent control of pH and oxygen levels were very good (Table 1 and Fig. 3).

In addition to the discrete sampling, a Honeywell Durafet® pH sensor was used throughout the experiment to monitor the carbonate chemistry on short timescales, switching between tanks daily. The Durafet sensor data in Fig. 4 show day-long variability in pH, beginning each day when the sensor's location was changed. Four consecutive examples are given, one from each tank. Some fluctuation is seen, possibly a result of temperature changing throughout the day, or a respiration signal in response to the 12 h light cycle. This fluctuation is possible due to the somewhat passive approach to controlling the carbonate chemistry in the current system design, supplying a constant composition gas mixture to each Liqui-Cel. Such fluctuations could be damped if a more active approach to pH control was taken, using information gathered by chemical sensors in the tanks as a basis to adjust the gas composition supplied to the Liqui-Cels, to compensate for divergences from the desired seawater chemistry. Adjustments to the gas mixture would not only dampen or eliminate the small diurnal signal seen, but would also ensure that large changes in seawater chemistry did not occur over the course of the experiment.

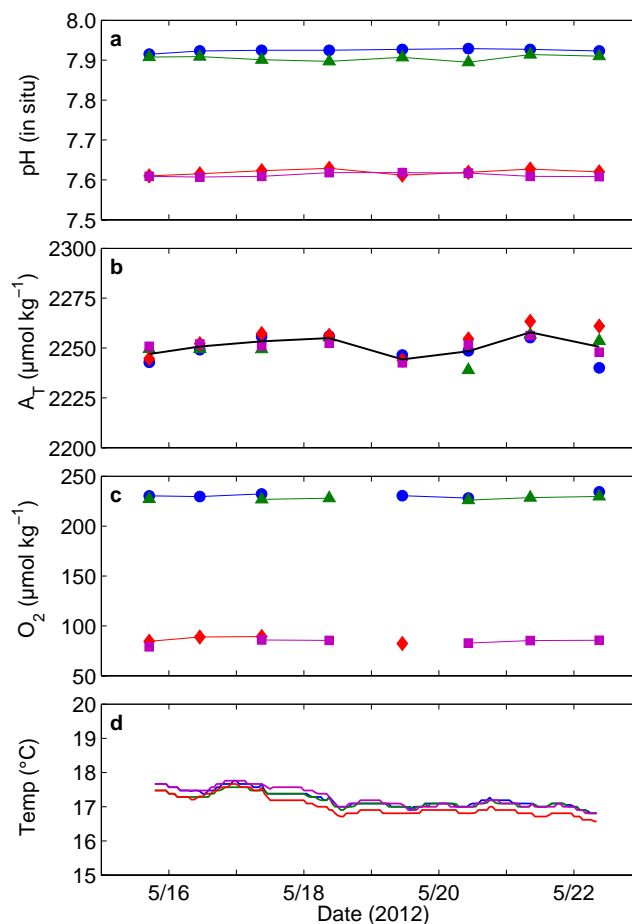


Fig. 3. Measured data from experiment M7. (a) pH: total pH scale; (b) A_T : the solid black line connects the daily average for all four tanks; (c) oxygen; and (d) temperature. Symbols indicate discrete samples: Treatment A Replicate 1 (blue circles), Treatment A Replicate 2 (green triangles), Treatment B Replicate 1 (red diamonds), and Treatment B Replicate 2 (purple squares).

3.2 Experiment S32

The system can be used on much longer timescales than a week, demonstrated by a 32-day experiment investigating the impacts of varied pH and oxygen levels on squid embryos (*Doryteuthis opalescens*). The experiment was performed in square 50 L insulated tanks, with the squid egg capsules attached to the bottom. Some turbulence was caused by the recirculation of the seawater for equilibration. Target pH and oxygen levels were chosen based on values recorded at a location near Scripps (Nam et al., 2011). For this experiment, low pH and high oxygen levels were paired in one treatment, and high pH and low oxygen levels in the other, to attempt to understand organismal responses to the individual parameters. This is in contrast to experiment M7, which paired low oxygen and low pH, thus demonstrating the system flexibility and independent control of chosen seawater chemistry. The longer duration of this experiment reflects a growing need in the scientific community to understand the effects of chronic exposure to low pH on organisms. Results from discrete samples indicate adequate control for a successful biological experiment, even over this extended period (Table 2 and Fig. 5). However, there are clear discrepancies from target values and both gradual and abrupt changes occur during the experiment, some of which are easily explained.

The control of the seawater chemistry in MSEAS is based on the mole fraction of CO₂ and O₂ in the gas that is supplied to the Liqui-Cel for equilibration. Any changes in that mole fraction will be apparent in the resulting seawater chemistry. Throughout experiment S32 several deliberate changes were made to the control parameters: on 11 March 2012, the amount of oxygen in the gas mixture was increased from 5.4% to 6.9% of the total gas flow in Treatment A, and from 19.7% to 20.1% in Treatment B. The subsequent increase in the dissolved oxygen content of the seawater on that day is apparent in Fig. 5. Similarly, the CO₂ fraction in the gas of Treatment B was increased from 1500 ppm to 1600 ppm during the experiment, likely causing the decrease in pH seen. The abrupt increase in seawater temperature of all tanks beginning 23 March 2012 results from a deliberate increase in the temperature setting of the thermostat baths. These changes are reflected in Table 2 by the much larger standard deviations for pH, oxygen level, and temperature than were observed during experiment M7. The reason for the significant pH decrease in Treatment A Replicate 2 on 24 March 2012, which is then maintained the rest of the experiment, is unknown, although it may indicate problems with the particular Liqui-Cel that was in use on the tank.

Probably the easiest way to improve the consistency of pH and oxygen levels in this system would be to improve the seawater temperature control. In both example experiments, the temperature of the treatment seawater in the tanks was influenced in part by the room air temperature, which was strongly influenced by the San Diego weather. This effect was much stronger in S32, with a daily seawater tem-

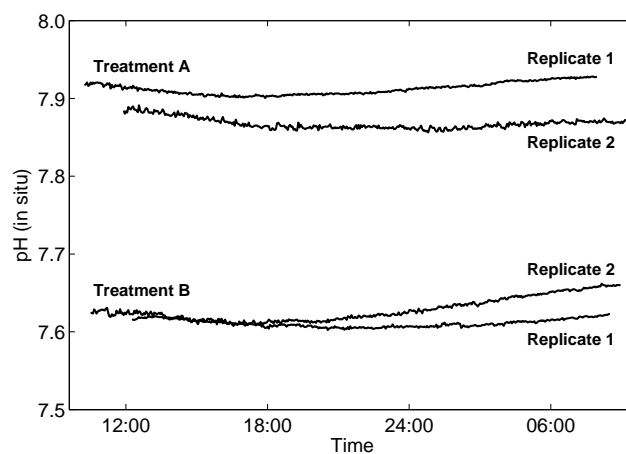


Fig. 4. pH recorded by a single Durafet sensor. The sensor was used to monitor each of the four tanks on four consecutive days. Data begins and ends at the time the sensor was moved each day, allowing for sensor equilibration once placed in the tank.

perature cycle of approximately 0.5 °C occurring throughout most of the experiment. This likely contributed to the poorer control over the carbonate chemistry compared to experiment M7. Such temperature changes strongly influence the carbonate parameters; a 1 °C change in temperature causes about a 0.015 change in pH and a 20–50 µatm change in $p(\text{CO}_2)$. Between experiments S32 and M7, the location of MSEAS was moved from an uninsulated building (located at the Birch Aquarium at Scripps) to a more protected location (the Scripps Experimental Aquarium facility). This change in location likely helps account for the difference in seawater temperature control, as there was less room temperature variability in the second location.

4 Conclusions

MSEAS will be useful to help elucidate responses of organisms to expected future ocean scenarios, which involve changes to multiple physical and chemical parameters. The system design allows for manipulation of any one or multiple of the three control parameters: CO₂ concentration, O₂ levels, and temperature. This independent control is a potentially useful experimental approach for investigating drivers underlying organismal responses. The automated prototype presented here is easily scalable to larger numbers of replicates by splitting the gas line (provided one ensures adequate gas flow) and adding Liqui-Cels for each tank. Implementation of additional simultaneous treatments requires more mass flow controllers for creation of a separate gas composition, in addition to Liqui-Cels and tanks.

The use of Liqui-Cel membrane contactors in the system design allows for rapid equilibration between the gas and seawater. Equilibration by bubbling can be quite slow depending on the volume of seawater needed (Schulz et al., 2009).

Table 2. Average \pm standard deviation for chemical parameters during experiment S32. The $p(\text{CO}_2)$, Ω_{Calcite} , and $\Omega_{\text{Aragonite}}$ reported here were calculated using CO2calc (Robbins et al., 2010) with dissociation constants from Mehrbach et al. (1973) as refit by Dickson and Millero (1987). For most values $n = 29\text{--}32$, except for oxygen for which some samples from each tank were lost (see Fig. 5).

	Temp ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	Salinity	Alkalinity ($\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$)	pH _(in situ) total scale	Oxygen ($\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$)	Calculated $p(\text{CO}_2)$ (μatm)	Calculated Ω_{Calcite}	Calculated $\Omega_{\text{Aragonite}}$
Treatment A								
Replicate 1	11.2 ± 0.5	33.50 ± 0.07	2239.1 ± 5.5	7.923 ± 0.035	86.4 ± 8.3	540.7 ± 48.7	2.49 ± 0.15	1.58 ± 0.10
Replicate 2	11.6 ± 0.5	33.51 ± 0.05	2241.8 ± 4.5	7.908 ± 0.072	83.0 ± 12.9	570.4 ± 107.9	2.46 ± 0.32	1.57 ± 0.21
Treatment B								
Replicate 1	11.3 ± 0.5	33.49 ± 0.07	2241.1 ± 5.8	7.559 ± 0.029	241.1 ± 9.1	1337.3 ± 97.4	1.15 ± 0.06	0.73 ± 0.04
Replicate 2	11.6 ± 0.6	33.51 ± 0.06	2244.2 ± 7.1	7.552 ± 0.026	241.7 ± 7.6	1364.2 ± 88.1	1.15 ± 0.06	0.73 ± 0.04

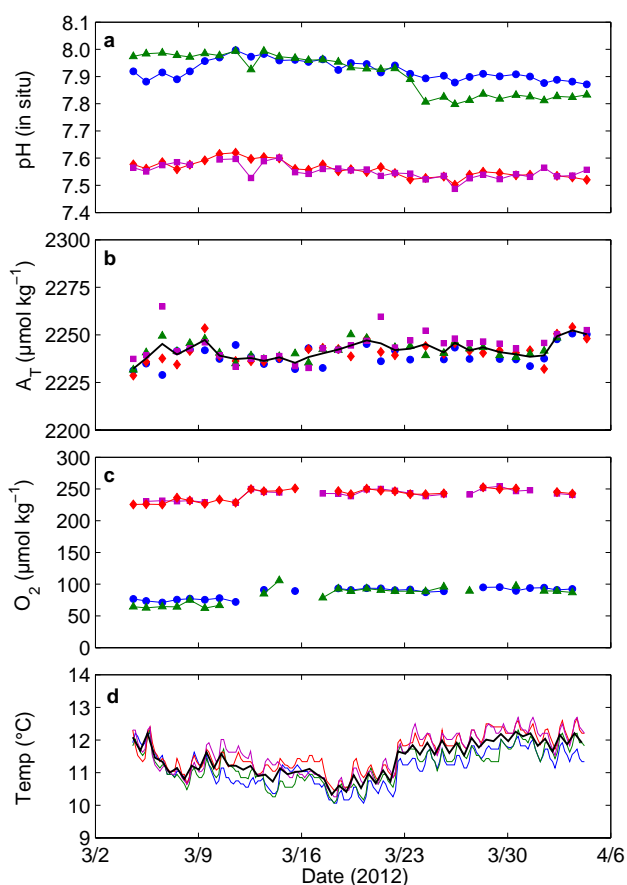


Fig. 5. Measured data from experiment S32. (a) pH: total pH scale; (b) A_T : the solid black line connects the daily average for all four tanks; (c) oxygen; and (d) temperature – the thick black line is the average of all tanks calculated at 12 h intervals. Symbols indicate discrete samples: Treatment A Replicate 1 (blue circles), Treatment A Replicate 2 (green triangles), Treatment B Replicate 1 (red diamonds), and Treatment B Replicate 2 (purple squares).

Membrane contactors also eliminate any concern over the direct impacts of bubbling on the experimental organism, and the continual cycling of the water through the Liqui-Cels allows for well-controlled experiments over a long time period.

The system is well suited to convert into one with feedback from chemical sensors in the individual aquaria, thus achieving a more active control over the carbonate chemistry. Such active control of each tank will allow for the transition of the system to one with intentional variability in each of the three controlled parameters. There is a growing need to understand the responses of organisms that live in variable environments, whether weekly, daily, or tidal timescales of variability, and how they may change in the future (Andersson and Mackenzie, 2012; Dufault et al., 2012).

MSEAS has been used successfully to study several organisms, life stages, and parameters. The flexibility of the system design has allowed for experimental organisms ranging from mussel larvae (C. A. Frieder, Experiment M7) to juvenile abalone (White, 2011) to adult oysters (M. Tresguerres, unpublished data, 2011). Experiments on moon jellies have been completed modifying only the oxygen levels in the seawater (Cawood, 2012), while in the experiment on adult oysters, O_2 levels were held steady between treatments while CO_2 concentration and temperature were modified. These examples indicate the large range of possible biological questions that can be examined using MSEAS, to expose a variety of species to future ocean conditions.

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