

Event log from R/V Atlantic Explorer AE1319 in the NW Atlantic from Aug-Sept. 2013 (Biological C:N:P ratios project)

Website: <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/540233>

Data Type: Cruise Results

Version: 1

Version Date: 2014-11-20

Project

» [Biological Controls on the Ocean C:N:P ratios](#) (Biological C:N:P ratios)

Programs

» [Ocean Carbon and Biogeochemistry](#) (OCB)

» [Dimensions of Biodiversity](#) (Dimensions of Biodiversity)

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Abstract

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Coverage

Spatial Extent: N:55.00382 E:-39.99997 S:31.66275 W:-69.2163

Temporal Extent: 2013-08-15 - 2013-09-09

Dataset Description

Events, dates/times, positions, event type, cast number and lead scientist at each event.

Acquisition Description

Generated aboard vessel by science party.

Processing Description

Generated from original Excel file: AE1319_event_log.xlsx contributed by Mike Lomas.

BCO-DMO Processing:

- added conventional header with dataset name, PI name, version date
- renamed parameters to BCO-DMO standard
- reformatted data from mmddyyyy to yyyy-mm-dd
- replaced spaces and other special characters with underscore
- replaced blank cells with nd
- converted lat/lon to decimal degrees

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Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
date	UTC date	yyyy-mm-dd
time	UTC time	HH:MM
ISO_DateTime_UTC	Date/Time (UTC) ISO formatted	yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MMZ
yrday_utc	UTC day and decimal time: 326.5 for the 326th day of the year or November 22 at 1200 hours (noon)	unitless
lat	latitude; north is positive	decimal degrees
lon	longitude; east is positive	decimal degrees
instrument	sampling instrument	unitless
cast	cast identification	unitless
event_type	deploy or recover	unitless
depth	maximum depth of cast	meters
person	scientist in charge of activity	unitless
brief_desc	description of activity	unitless

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Instruments

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	GPS
Generic Instrument Name	Global Positioning System Receiver
Generic Instrument Description	The Global Positioning System (GPS) is a U.S. space-based radionavigation system that provides reliable positioning, navigation, and timing services to civilian users on a continuous worldwide basis. The U.S. Air Force develops, maintains, and operates the space and control segments of the NAVSTAR GPS transmitter system. Ships use a variety of receivers (e.g. Trimble and Ashtech) to interpret the GPS signal and determine accurate latitude and longitude.

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Deployments

AE1319

Website	https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/537979
Platform	R/V Atlantic Explorer
Report	http://dmoserv3.whoi.edu/data_docs/Bio_CNP_Ratios/AE1319_Cruise_Report_09182013_reduced2.pdf
Start Date	2013-08-14
End Date	2013-09-11
Description	Cruise for project 'Dimensions of Biodiversity: Biological Controls on the Ocean C:N:P ratios'.

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Project Information

Biological Controls on the Ocean C:N:P ratios (Biological C:N:P ratios)

Coverage: western North Atlantic; 60N to 20N along 66W longitude; 20N to 15S in the tropical Pacific

One of the fundamental patterns of ocean biogeochemistry is the Redfield ratio, linking the stoichiometry of surface plankton with the chemistry of the deep ocean. There is no obvious mechanism for the globally consistent C:N:P ratio of 106:16:1 (Redfield ratio), especially as there is substantial elemental variation among plankton communities in different ocean regions. Thus, knowing how biodiversity regulates the elemental composition of the ocean is important for understanding the ocean and climate as a whole -- now and in the future.

The conceptual hypotheses for this study are as follows: 1. The C:N:P ratio of a cell is constrained by its broad taxonomic group, which determines, for example, whether it has an outer shell, its size, functional metabolism, membrane lipid composition. 2. Within a taxon, there is high genetic diversity. Some of this genetic diversity is potentially laterally transferred, or can be lost within taxa, and confers various functional abilities (organic phosphate assimilation, nitrate assimilation, photoheterotrophy, etc.). Functional diversity provides the cell with further flexibility, such as the ability to respond to varying nutrient supply rates/ratios, and affects a cell's C:N:P ratio within the range specified by the taxon. 3. Given these taxonomic and genetic constraints, a cell is physiologically plastic and modifies how it allocates cellular resources in response to nutrient supply rates/ratios in the environment. 4. The microbial diversity (taxonomic, genetic, and functional) of the surface ocean varies over time and space, driven by many factors in addition to nutrients. The sum of this mixture composes the ecosystem C:N:P, the ratio that Redfield described.

Based on this framework, the CoPIs will make field observations of taxon-specific stoichiometry and growth rates, genomic analyses, and conduct laboratory chemostat experiments to improve understanding of how ocean taxonomic, genetic, and functional biodiversity control the stoichiometry of the surface ocean plankton. Their analyses of these data would lead to a mechanistic understanding of variations in the Redfield ratio, both spatially and temporally.

This study will greatly expand knowledge of the genomic diversity among ocean microbes and how this diversity affects biogeochemistry. The stoichiometry of the ocean's microbes is a parameter that nearly every chemical or biological oceanographer uses, from converting measurements made in one element to another, to estimating regional and global nitrogen budgets. The research also has important implications for the global carbon budget and any changes that might result from climate change.

To understand mechanistically temporal and spatial variability of the plankton C:N:P ratio, biodiversity must be studied not only at the traditional taxonomic level, but at the genetic and functional levels which dictate organism response to their environment. Data will be integrated into a combined ocean ecological, evolutionary, and biogeochemical model, with flexible stoichiometry, including cellular biochemical allocations. Seeding a coupled physical-biological model of the oceans with multiple competing genotypes enables the exploration of ecological and evolutionary patterns of resource acquisition and C:N:P ratios. Developing a more mechanistic examination of the course of ecology and evolution, in which laboratory and field data define tradeoffs between different growth and nutrient acquisition strategies, would establish the framework of adaptive dynamics for determining "evolutionarily convergence". Finally, model outcomes will be evaluated against field data.

The field work planned for this project includes several cruises: BV46 (September/October 2011), BV48 (September 2012), a June 2013 cruise from Bermuda to the Labrador Sea, and a cruise from Hawaii to Tahiti (May 2014). Additionally, samples will be acquired during cruises of opportunity.

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Program Information

Ocean Carbon and Biogeochemistry (OCB)

Website: <http://us-ocb.org/>

Coverage: Global

The Ocean Carbon and Biogeochemistry (OCB) program focuses on the ocean's role as a component of the global Earth system, bringing together research in geochemistry, ocean physics, and ecology that inform on and advance our understanding of ocean biogeochemistry. The overall program goals are to promote, plan, and coordinate collaborative, multidisciplinary research opportunities within the U.S. research community and with international partners. Important OCB-related activities currently include: the Ocean Carbon and Climate Change (OCCC) and the North American Carbon Program (NACP); U.S. contributions to IMBER, SOLAS, CARBOOCEAN; and numerous U.S. single-investigator and medium-size research projects funded by U.S. federal agencies including NASA, NOAA, and NSF.

The scientific mission of OCB is to study the evolving role of the ocean in the global carbon cycle, in the face of environmental variability and change through studies of marine biogeochemical cycles and associated ecosystems.

The overarching OCB science themes include improved understanding and prediction of: 1) oceanic uptake and release of atmospheric CO₂ and other greenhouse gases and 2) environmental sensitivities of biogeochemical cycles, marine ecosystems, and interactions between the two.

The OCB Research Priorities (updated January 2012) include: ocean acidification; terrestrial/coastal carbon fluxes and exchanges; climate sensitivities of and change in ecosystem structure and associated impacts on biogeochemical cycles; mesopelagic ecological and biogeochemical interactions; benthic-pelagic feedbacks on biogeochemical cycles; ocean carbon uptake and storage; and expanding low-oxygen conditions in the coastal and open oceans.

Dimensions of Biodiversity (Dimensions of Biodiversity)

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503446

Coverage: global

(adapted from the NSF Synopsis of Program)

Dimensions of Biodiversity is a program solicitation from the NSF Directorate for Biological Sciences. FY 2010 was year one of the program. [[MORE](#) from NSF]

The NSF Dimensions of Biodiversity program seeks to characterize biodiversity on Earth by using integrative, innovative approaches to fill rapidly the most substantial gaps in our understanding. The program will take a broad view of biodiversity, and in its initial phase will focus on the integration of genetic, taxonomic, and functional dimensions of biodiversity. Project investigators are encouraged to integrate these three dimensions to understand the interactions and feedbacks among them. While this focus complements several core NSF programs, it differs by requiring that multiple dimensions of biodiversity be addressed simultaneously, to understand the roles of biodiversity in critical ecological and evolutionary processes.

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Funding

Funding Source	Award
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1046368
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1046297
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1045966

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