

Assignment #3: Ocean Carbon Chemistry
Due Tuesday, Nov 17

- 1) Use the expressions of chemical equilibria in the ocean carbonate system to calculate the partial pressure (or mole fraction) of CO_2 in the atmosphere, assuming a global average surface salinity of 34.78‰ and temperature of 16 °C:
 - i) For preindustrial equilibrium with surface ocean conditions:
 - $\text{TA} = 2311 \mu\text{eq kg}^{-1}$
 - $\text{DIC} = 2002 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$
 - ii) For hypothetical equilibrium between the atmosphere and the deep ocean, assuming the entire ocean was mixed and warmed to 16 °C, and with:
 - $\text{TA} = 2393 \mu\text{eq kg}^{-1}$
 - $\text{DIC} = 2288 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$

For help please consult the attached article by Tans (1998) and also feel free to copy-paste from the class website (Carbonate Chemistry Toy Model).

- 2) An empirical relationship between air-sea fluxes and environmental conditions based on a quadratic dependence on wind speed, temperature, salinity, and the difference in pCO_2 between the air and the ocean surface (Wanninkhof, 1992) is widely used to estimate air-sea gas exchange of CO_2 .

Assume that the atmospheric CO_2 mole fraction is 400 ppmv. Using the quadratic wind-speed relationship described in the attached article, calculate the piston velocity (m s^{-1}) for air-sea gas exchange and the flux of CO_2 into the ocean ($\text{mol CO}_2 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$) under the following conditions:

- **Arctic ocean:** $T=0 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, wind speed = 20 m s^{-1} , sea-surface $\text{pCO}_2=375 \mu\text{atm}$, salinity=35‰;
- **Subtropical gyre:** $T=26 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, wind speed = 5 m s^{-1} , sea-surface $\text{pCO}_2=398 \mu\text{atm}$, salinity=35.5‰;
- **Equatorial East Pacific:** $T=21 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, wind speed = 2 m s^{-1} , sea-surface $\text{pCO}_2=425 \mu\text{atm}$, salinity=34‰;

The Wanninkhof article is attached, and you're welcome to copy-paste empirical values of his coefficients from the class website (3-box ocean toy model).

- 3) Please read the short attached article on Ocean Acidification by Feeley et al (2009).
 - a) Use the values for the modern ocean in Feeley's Table 1 to estimate the pCO_2 and $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ for the North Pacific and the Arctic Ocean.
 - b) Assuming that $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ remains constant, estimate the saturation states for aragonite Ω_{ar} and calcite Ω_{ca} if atmospheric CO_2 reaches 600 and 1000 ppm.