

Assignment #3: Ocean Carbon Chemistry
Due Thursday, Nov 30

- 1) Use the expressions of chemical equilibria in the ocean carbonate system to calculate the partial pressure (or mole fraction) of CO₂ 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:
 - TA = 2311 μeq kg⁻¹
 - DIC = 2002 μmol 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:
 - TA = 2393 μeq kg⁻¹
 - DIC = 2288 μmol 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 pCO₂ between the air and the ocean surface (Wanninkhof, 1992) is widely used to estimate air-sea gas exchange of CO₂.

Assume that the atmospheric CO₂ 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 CO₂ into the ocean (mol CO₂ m⁻² s⁻¹) under the following conditions:

- **Arctic ocean:** T=0 °C, wind speed = 20 m s⁻¹, sea-surface pCO₂ = 375 μatm, salinity=35‰;
- **Subtropical gyre:** T=26 °C, wind speed = 5 m s⁻¹, sea-surface pCO₂ = 398 μatm, salinity=35.5‰;
- **Equatorial East Pacific:** T=21 °C, wind speed = 2 m s⁻¹, sea-surface pCO₂ = 425 μatm, 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 pCO₂ and [Ca²⁺] for the North Pacific and the Arctic Ocean.
 - b) Assuming that [Ca²⁺] remains constant, estimate the saturation states for aragonite Ω_{ar} and calcite Ω_{ca} if atmospheric CO₂ reaches 600 and 1000 ppm.