



# Measuring Ocean Acidification in Blue and Green Waters: *Capabilities and Challenges*

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May 22, 2014 SAML Acidification Workshop

## Outline

1. Measurement Capabilities and Limitations
2. Lessons Learned from Internal Consistency Evaluations
3. Challenges in the Coastal Zone  
(heterogeneity and non-carbonate alkalinity)
4. Remedy for Monitoring-Challenges Created by High Spatial and Temporal Variability
5. Remedy for Problems Created by Total-Alkalinity Ambiguities

## What CO<sub>2</sub> System Parameters Should Be Measured?

### Characteristics of Current Measurements

Parameter	Precision	Calibration	Matrix Effects
DIC	± 1-2 μM	CRM	No
TA	± 2-4 μM	CRM	Yes
pH	± 0.0004-0.0010	Internal	No (?)
<i>f</i> CO <sub>2</sub>	± 0.1%	Gas standards	No
[CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> ]	± 2%	Internal	No (?)
Ω	Highly variable	No direct observation	Possibly

## Selection of Measured Parameters

Choices should be made in view of measurement resolution

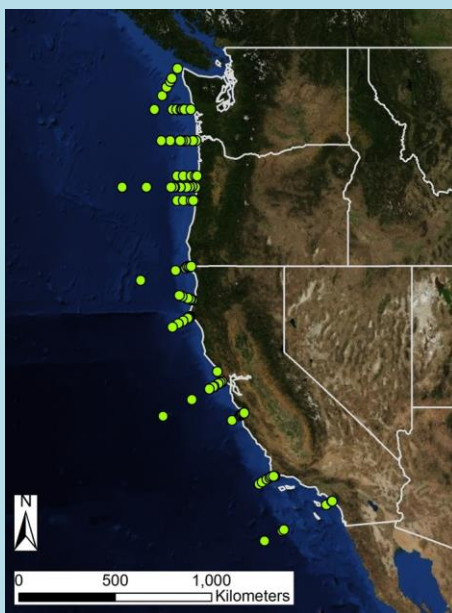
Parameter	Range	Precision	Range/Precision
pH	0.8	0.0004	2000
DIC (μmol/kg)	500	1	500
TA (μmol/kg)	220	2	110
pCO <sub>2</sub> (μatm)	1840	1	1840

J.-Z Zhang (2000) *Mar. Chem.* 70: 121-131

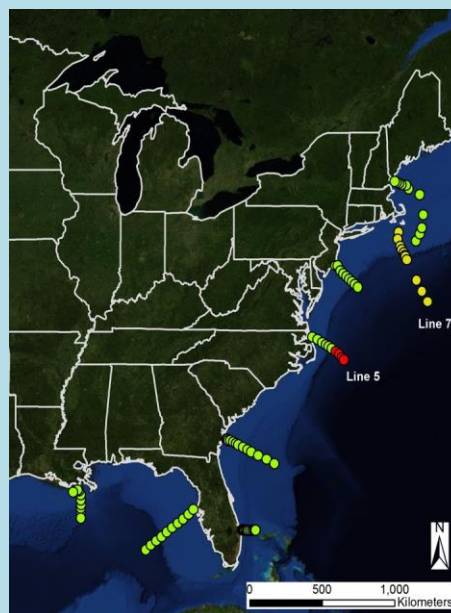
## Lessons Learned From Redundant Measurements

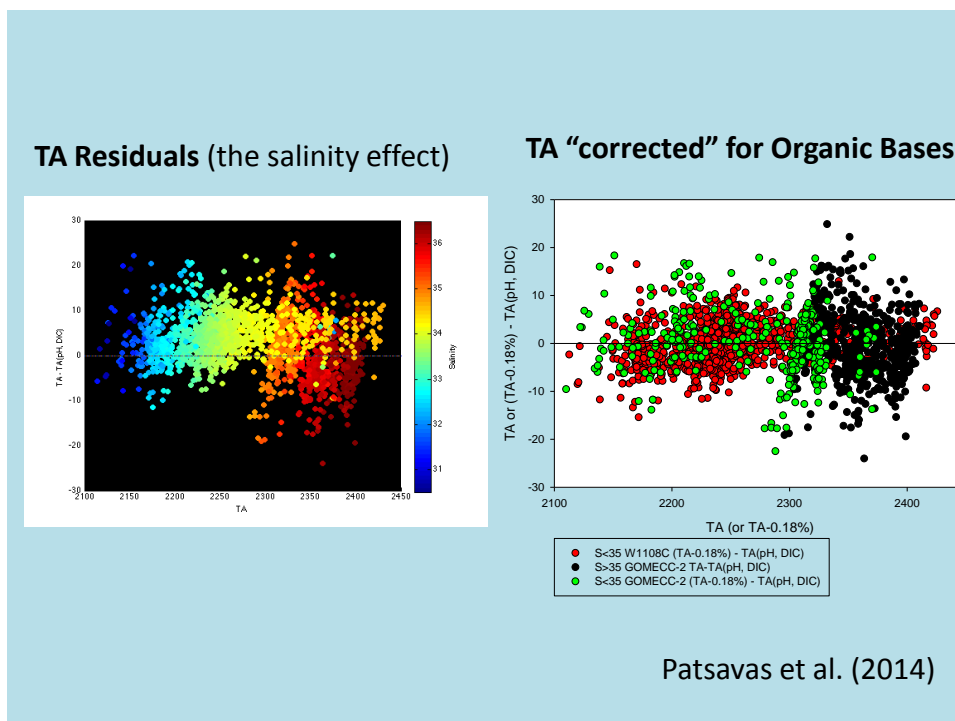
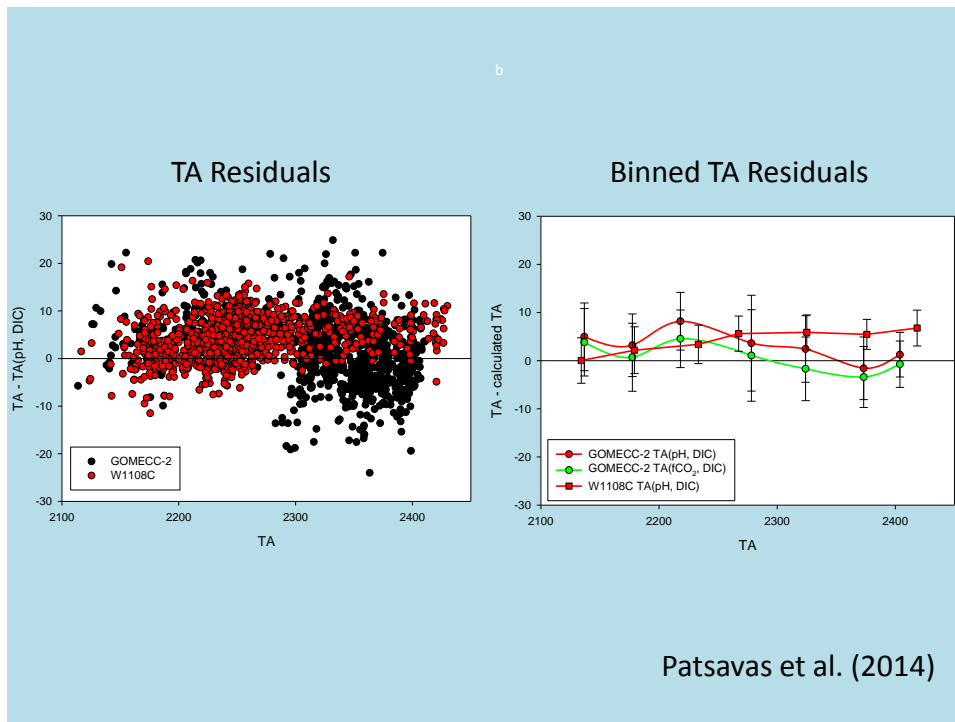
Internal Consistency and Saturation State Measurements

W1108C Cruise Track

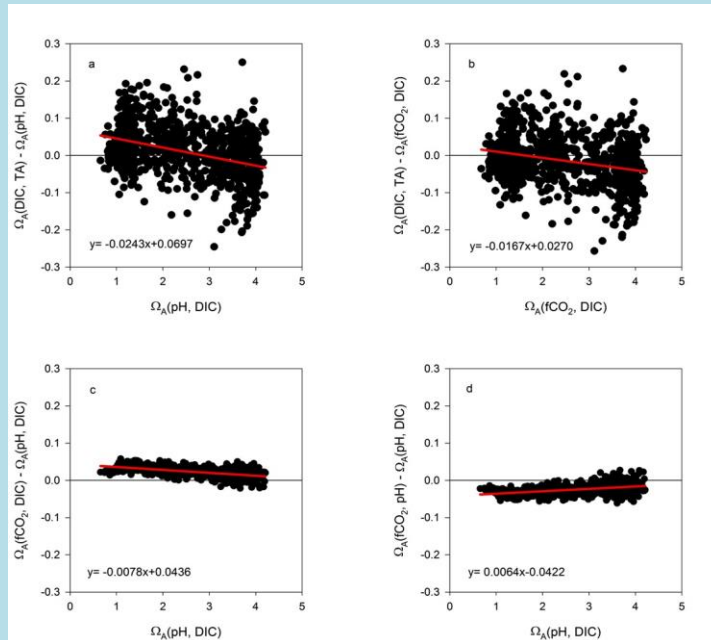


GOMECC-2 Cruise Track





## GOMECC-2 Saturation State Residuals



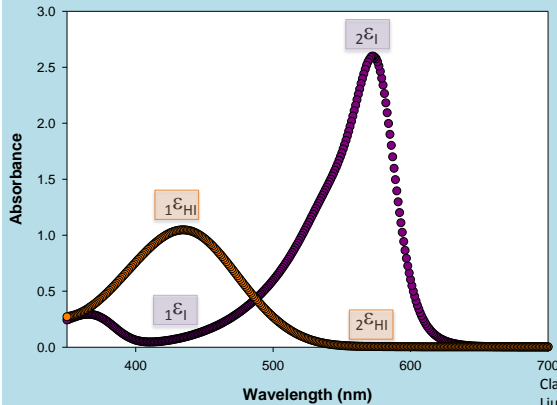
## Coastal Zone Challenges (A)

- 1. High temporal variability**  
(→ need for high-frequency measurements)
- 2. High spatial variability**  
(→ need for measurements on broad spatial scales)

**Response:**  
Multiple-parameter autonomous instrumentation  
(e.g., MICA)

# Principles of Spectrophotometric Measurements: pH, $f\text{CO}_2$ , DIC, TA

$$\text{pH}_T = -\log(K_2^T e_2) + \log\left(\frac{R - e_1}{1 - R \frac{e_3}{e_2}}\right)$$



$$K_2^T = \frac{[\text{I}^{2-}][\text{H}^+]_T}{[\text{HI}^-]}$$

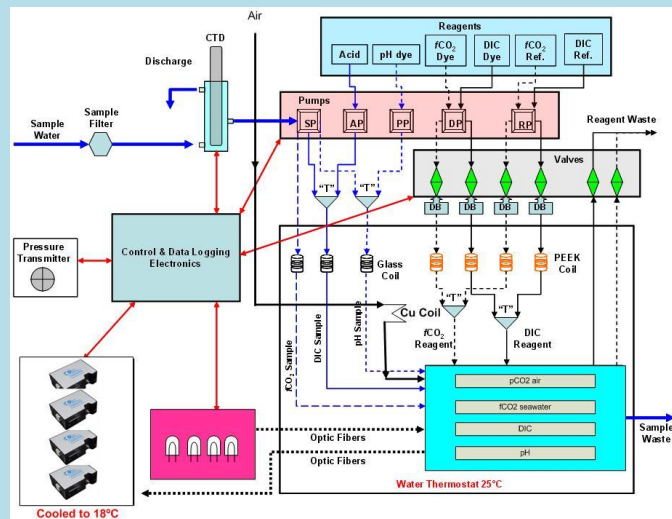
$$e_1 = \frac{2\epsilon_{\text{HI}}}{1\epsilon_{\text{HI}}}, e_2 = \frac{2\epsilon_{\text{I}}}{1\epsilon_{\text{HI}}}, e_3 = \frac{1\epsilon_{\text{I}}}{1\epsilon_{\text{HI}}}$$

Clayton and Byrne (1993) *Mar. Chem.*, **40**(10): 2115-2129  
Liu et al. (2011) *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, **45**(11): 4862-4868

## MICA Measurements of Marine $\text{CO}_2$ System

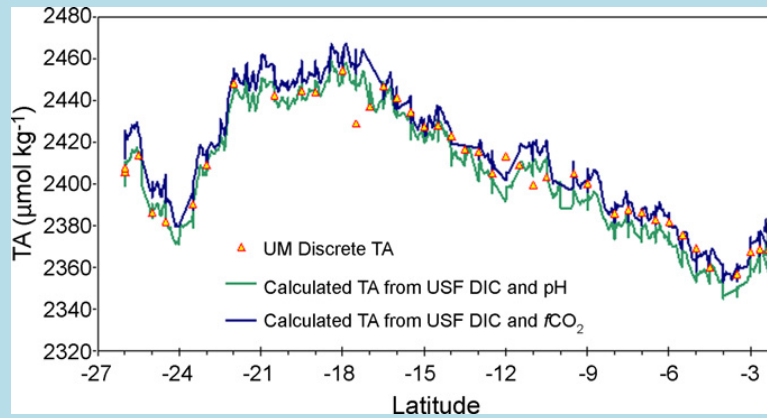
### Spectrophotometric Measurements

- $f\text{CO}_2$
- DIC
- pH
- (TA)

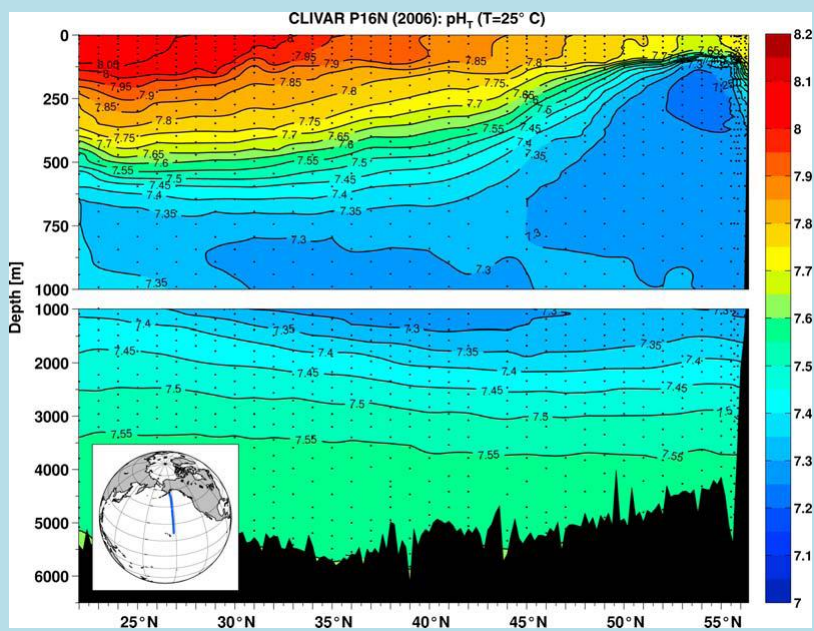


Wang et al. (2007) *Anal. Chim. Acta*, **596**: 23-36

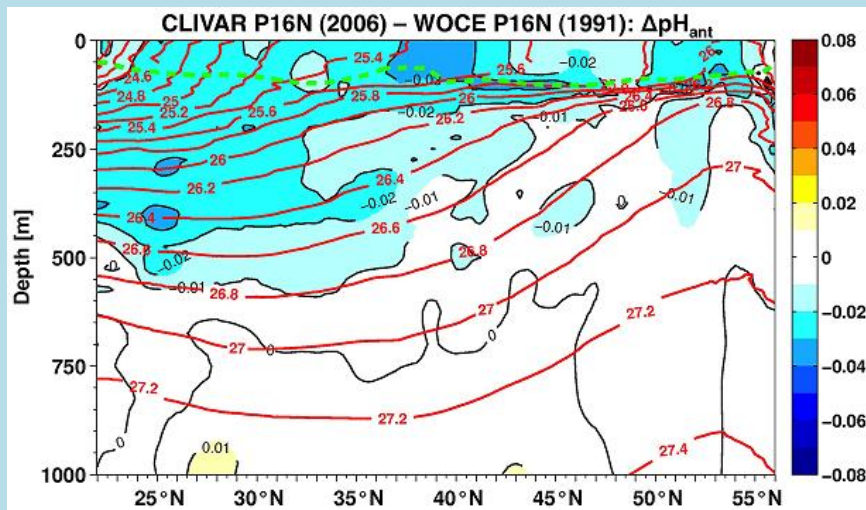
## Measured and Calculated TA (DIC- $f\text{CO}_2$ and DIC-pH)



Wang et al. (2007) *Anal. Chim. Acta*, **596**: 23-36



Byrne et al. (2010) *GRL* **37**: L02601



### Anthropogenic pH change in the North Pacific Ocean

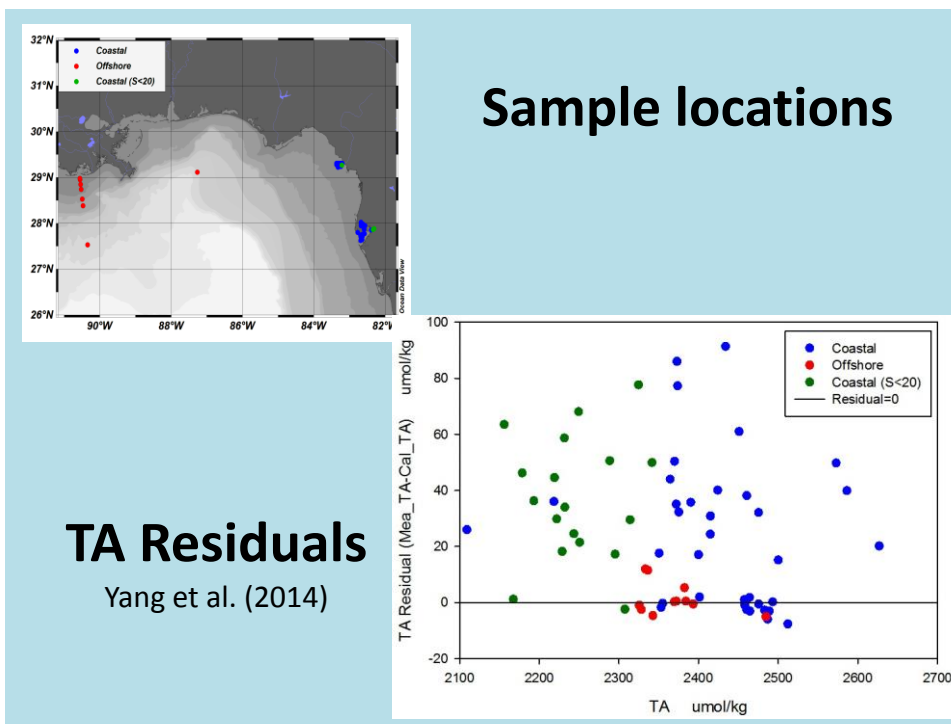
Byrne et al. (2010) *GRL* 37: L02601

## Coastal Zone Challenges (B)

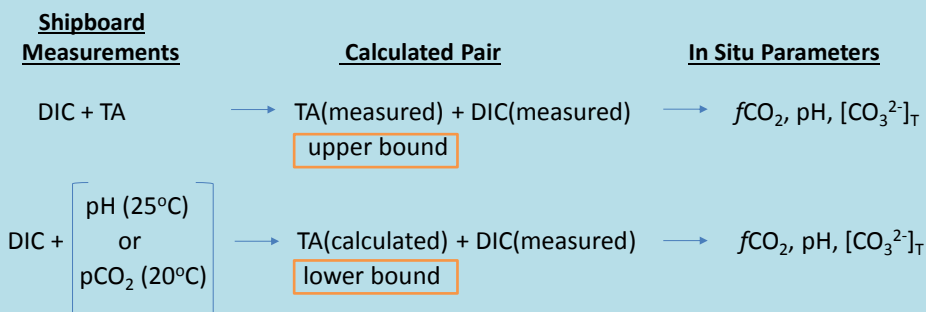
Large non-carbonate alkalinity contributions to TA imply that TA cannot be rigorously interpreted in CO<sub>2</sub> system calculations

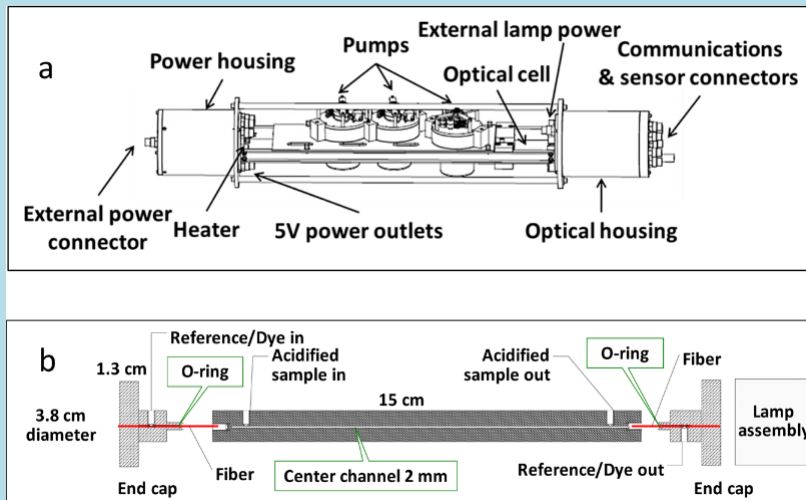
**Response:**  
In Situ Instrumentation



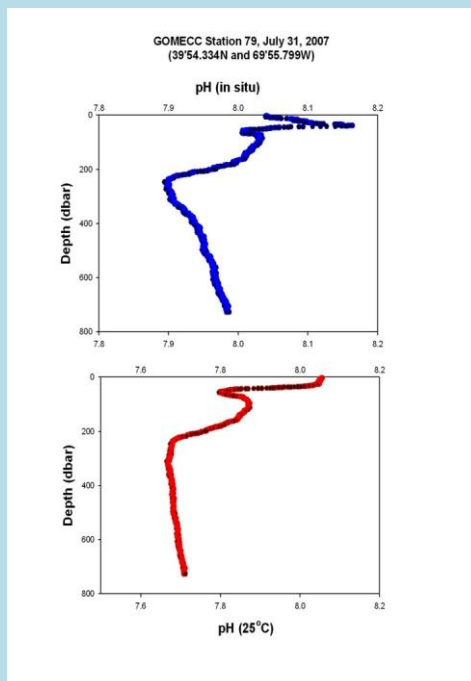


## Calculation of Parameters at In Situ Conditions

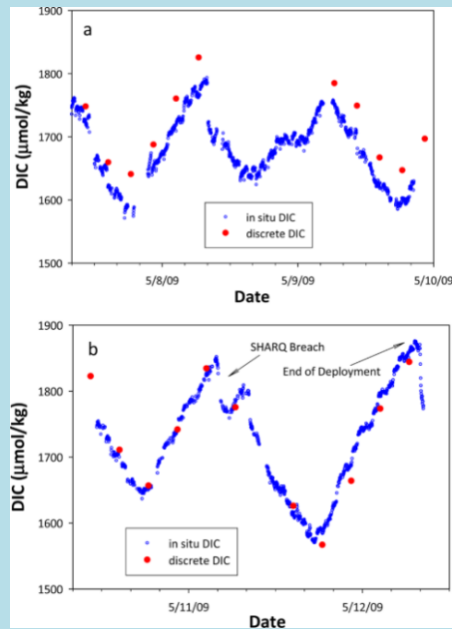




Liu et al. (2013) *Environ. Sci. Technol*, **47**: 11106-11114



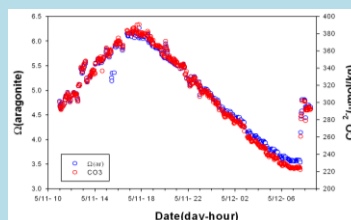
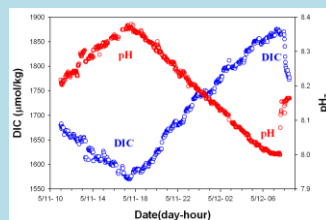
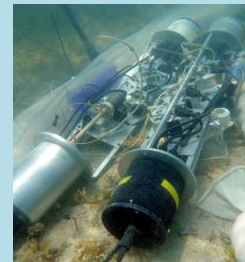
Byrne et al. (2010)  
*Proceedings of Ocean Obs' 09*



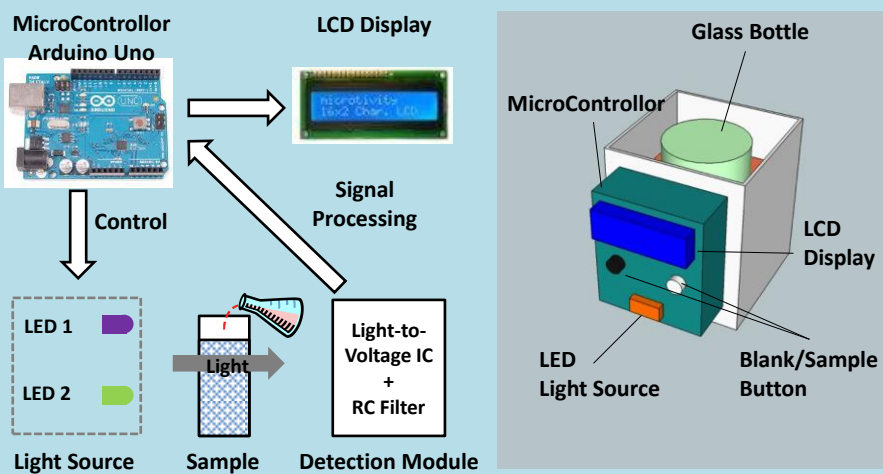
Liu et al. (2013) *ES&T*  
47: 11106-11114

## SEAS: in situ DIC and pH instrumentation

- Modular
  - Spectrometer
  - Three two-channel pumps
  - Internal or external lamp options
  - Configurable optical cell
  - Data collection from up to four peripheral sensors (e.g., CTD, fluorometer, transmissometer, second SEAS instrument)
  - Battery or externally powered
  - Heater option
- Sampling rate (pH = 1 Hz, DIC = 1 per minute)
- Ambient-temperature pH and DIC measurements
- Rated to 1000 m depth
- Configurable for carbon system, nutrient, or trace metal analysis

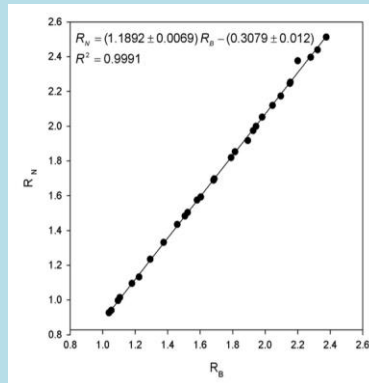
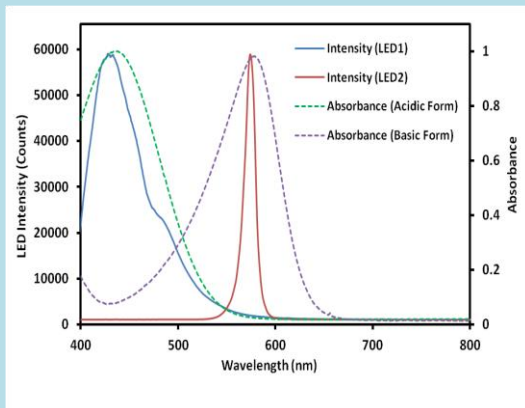


# Photometry

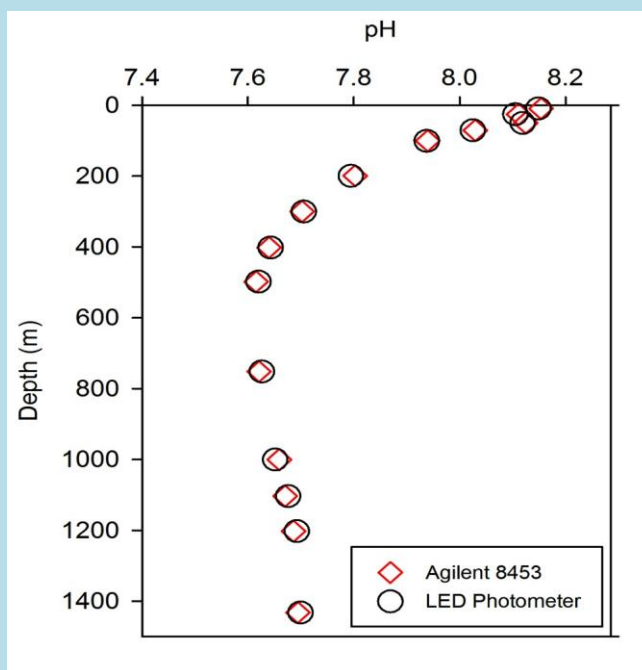


Yang et al. (2014) *Mar. Chem.* 160: 75-81

## Photometer Characteristics



Yang et al. (2014) *Mar. Chem.* 160: 75-81



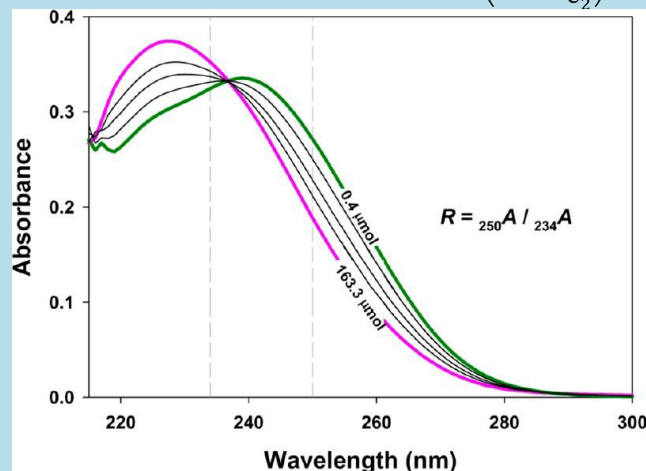
Yang et al. (2014) *Mar. Chem.* 160: 75-81

## Perspectives on Future Sensor Development

- In situ measurements of compatible parameters are urgently needed (DIC-pH or DIC-*f*CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Over-determination (measurement of ≥3 parameters) is an important means of assessing sensor and measurement quality
- High-frequency measurements are required in coastal regions where variability is high
- Sensors with poorer precision but high measurement frequency may be suitable for many coastal regions

## Carbonate Ion Measurement Characteristics

$$-\log[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]_T = \log\left(\frac{\text{CO}_3\beta_1}{e_2}\right) + \log\left(\frac{R - e_1}{1 - R\frac{e_3}{e_2}}\right)$$



Easley et al. (2012) *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 47: 1468-1477

### Carbonate ion concentration profiles: calculated or measured spectrophotometrically

