

# Results of proteomic analysis on diatom response to allelopathy from red tide dinoflagellate (*Karenia brevis*)

**Website:** <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/536893>

**Version:** 31 October 2014

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## Project

» [Waterborne chemical cues in the plankton: a systems biology approach](#) (Plankton Chemical Cues)

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## Dataset Description

Data files in .raw format are available from the Chorus repository (<https://chorusproject.org>) under project ID number 650 (project name: "Diatom response to allelopathy"), experiment ID number 843.

Files can be downloaded from the following URL. Note the total file size is **13.4 GB**:

<https://chorusproject.org/anonymous/download/experiment/6729965144923166962>

The data files are in Thermo-Finnigan .raw format. Vendor software can be used to view these files, and there are free viewers that can also be used (one example is [PVIEW](#)). The files can also be converted to mzXML files using MSconvert.

## Methods & Sampling

Field assemblages of plankton were sampled during two cruises (EN496 and EN509), and shipboard experiments were conducted to test the community-level effects of *Karenia brevis* allelopathy on Gulf of Mexico plankton. The sampling and shipboard experiments are described fully in: Poulson-Ellestad et al. 2014. Are offshore phytoplankton susceptible to *Karenia brevis* allelopathy? J. Plankton Res. 36:1344-1356. doi: [10.1093/plankt/fbu064](https://doi.org/10.1093/plankt/fbu064)

All raw files collected in DDA fashion with 90 minute gradient. These diatom species (either *A. glacialis* or *T. pseudonana*) were grown in flasks containing the toxic red tide forming dinoflagellate *K. brevis* in dialysis bags. This experimental design allowed allelopathic chemicals to be released by the dinoflagellate to the diatom of interest without contaminating the diatoms collected.

See related publication:

Poulson-Ellestad, K.L., Jones, C.M., Roy, J., Viant, M.R., Fernandez, F.M., Kubanek, J., & Nunn, B.L. 2014. Metabolomics and proteomics reveal impacts of chemically mediated competition on marine plankton. PNAS Proc Natl Acad Sci USA, 111(24): 9009-14. doi:[10.1073/pnas.1402130111](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1402130111)

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## Data Files

File
<b>proteomics_data.csv</b> (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 259 bytes) MD5:bff04be793deabeb893995a499859b66
Primary data file for dataset ID 536893

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## Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
description	Description of the data file.	text
repository	Name of the external repository where the data file is located.	text
project_id	Chorus project ID number.	integer
experiment_id	Chorus experiment ID number.	integer
file_size	Size of the downloadable file.	GB
file_link	Link to the data file (.zip).	text

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## Instruments

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	GPS
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Global Positioning System Receiver
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	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.

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	QEplus
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	Mass Spectrometer
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	General term for instruments used to measure the mass-to-charge ratio of ions; generally used to find the composition of a sample by generating a mass spectrum representing the masses of sample components.

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## Deployments

### EN496

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/58932">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/58932</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Endeavor
<b>Start Date</b>	2011-07-02
<b>End Date</b>	2011-07-27
<b>Description</b>	Original data are available from the NSF R2R data catalog

### EN509

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/58933">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/58933</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Endeavor
<b>Start Date</b>	2012-05-25
<b>End Date</b>	2012-06-20
<b>Description</b>	Original data are available from the NSF R2R data catalog

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## Project Information

**Waterborne chemical cues in the plankton: a systems biology approach (Plankton Chemical Cues)**

*Description from NSF award abstract:*

Competition is a major force structuring communities, including the marine plankton. The release of compounds that inhibit competitors, a process known as allelopathy, is hypothesized to be important among phytoplankton, especially for species that compete poorly for resources yet form dense blooms. Ecological interactions involving the toxic red tide dinoflagellate *Karenia brevis* present an ideal system for understanding chemically mediated interactions. Blooms of this species occur frequently in accessible coastal areas of the Gulf of Mexico, causing massive fish kills and contaminating shellfish. The dramatic consequences of these blooms motivate the following questions. What strategies does this harmful alga use in competition with other phytoplankton? What lethal and sub-lethal effects are experienced by competitors? How do phytoplankton respond, resist, and detoxify their surroundings? What roles do chemical cues play in these interactions? How are different phytoplankton communities affected by allelopathy?

Previous studies have shown that *K. brevis* is allelopathic to several naturally co-occurring phytoplankton species, but compounds other than the known neurotoxic brevetoxins produced by *K. brevis* generally were responsible. This species produces allelopathic mixtures of unstable, 500-1000 Da organic compounds which cause reduced photosystem II activity and disrupt cell membranes of sensitive species, whereas some other competitors remain unaffected. Moreover, natural blooms of *K. brevis* were allelopathic to the competing diatom *Skeletonema grethae*. This species, in turn, appeared to influence the chemistry of *K. brevis*, reducing its allelopathic effects. Death is a rare outcome of *K. brevis* allelopathy; more subtle, non-lethal responses have predominated. Overall, environmental context may be critical for predicting what ecologically important chemical mediators are released into marine systems and the consequences of these compounds to plankton communities.

The project will:

- 1) Characterize the exudate metabolome among *K. brevis* samples of varying allelopathic potency. Exudates of *K. brevis* strains and natural bloom samples will be studied by mass spectrometry (MS) and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) metabolomics to pinpoint candidate chemical cues involved in competition. *Karenia brevis* protein expression will be examined by MS proteomics to test whether *K. brevis* up- or down-regulates key proteins involved in pathway networks in response to challenges by competitors.
- 2) Seek to understand sub-lethal metabolic impacts of exposure to allelopathy on target phytoplankton, by studying responses of phytoplankton to *K. brevis* allelopathy by MS-based metabolomics and proteomics. This work will provide an unbiased approach to determining molecular targets of allelopathy and allow testing of whether sub-lethal responses to allelopathy include suppressed fundamental cellular functioning and up-regulated pathways related to stress and detoxification.
- 3) Relate allelopathic sensitivity to metabolic responses in target phytoplankton, by comparing metabolomic and proteomic changes of sensitive versus resistant competitors to *K. brevis* allelopathy. The expectation is that more resistant species experience enhancement of detoxification pathways and more robust, unaffected cellular function relative to competitors most sensitive to allelopathy.
- 4) Determine how estuarine and off-shore phytoplankton differ in their physiological responses to allelopathy, because allelopathy may be more important for maintaining dense blooms in near-shore waters than in the initiation of blooms off-shore.

Phytoplankton blooms can be devastating to local economies and pose human health risks. The discovery of new chemically mediated interactions and metabolic responses in the marine plankton could eventually lead to prediction and control strategies to alleviate the harmful consequences of these blooms. Continued effort to characterize mixtures of allelopathic compounds and determine their effects on competing species could lead to biodegradable treatments for reducing phytoplankton or microbial growth in aquatic and terrestrial environments. This study builds on past successes, applying lessons learned from chemistry about ecological processes and using ecological insights to discover unique natural products with important biological functions.

## Funding

Funding Source	Award
<a href="#">NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)</a>	<a href="#">OCE-1060300</a>

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