Photosynthetic picoplankton abundances from samples collected during Hawaii Ocean Time-series (HOT) cruises from 2011-2013 (PhytoNsubResponse project)

Website: https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/728072
Version:

Project
» Oligotrophic phytoplankton community response to changes in N substrates and the resulting impact on genetic, taxonomic and functional diversity (PhytoNsubResponse)

Program
» Dimensions of Biodiversity (Dimensions of Biodiversity)

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Dataset Description

These data have been submitted to BCO-DMO and are in the process of being served.

These data contain photosynthetic picoplankton abundances from nitrogen perturbation experiments conducted at Station ALOHA using 25 m seawater during HOT and CMORE cruises between 2011 and 2013.

Methods & Sampling

Sampling and Analytical Methodology:

Experiments were conducted between July 2011 and April 2013 during five research cruises to Station ALOHA (22.75°N, 158°W), the well-characterized study site of the Hawaii Ocean Time-series (HOT) program. Sampling occurred during four HOT cruises and one Center for Microbial Oceanography: Research and Education (C-MORE) cruise (termed HOE-DYLAN 5) aboard the R/V Kilo Moana. Seawater was collected in 12 L polyvinylchloride bottles affixed to a 24-bottle rosette sampler equipped with a Sea-Bird 911+ conductivity, temperature, and depth profiler. Nine 20-L polycarbonate carboys were filled with 25 m Station ALOHA seawater pre-filtered off the rosette sampler through a Nitex mesh (pore size ~202 µm) to exclude larger zooplankton. Of these, 3 carboys received additions of nitrate (target ~2.8 µM N final concentration as NaNO3) and three carboys received additions of ammonium (target ~2.8 µM N final concentration as NH4Cl). All carboys, including three 'Control' carboys, received additions of phosphate (target ~0.2 µM P final concentration as KH2PO4) and silicic acid (target ~2.8 µM Si final concentration as Na2SiO3) to achieve a final

N:P:Si stoichiometric ratio (14:1:14). Carboys were incubated for 120 to 144 hours and subsampled at approximately daily scales throughout the experiment (Table 1). All sampling was conducted before sunrise in order to allow productivity rate measurements to span the full photoperiod.

Seawater samples (2 mL) for photosynthetic picoeukaryote cell abundance measurements were collected for each experiment into cryotubes (Corning) containing 30 µl of 16% paraformaldehyde for a final concentration of 0.24% (w/v), kept for 15 minutes in the dark, flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at -80°C until analyzed. Photosynthetic picoeukaryote cells were distinguished using a BD InfluxTM flow cytometer (triggered on forward scatter) with the data acquisition software Spigot. Cells were enumerated based on forward scatter, side scatter, chlorophyll-based red fluorescence (692 ± 20 nm), and phycoerythrin-based orange fluorescence (585 ± 20 nm) on two lasers, 488 nm and 457 nm. Cell counts were determined using the data analysis software FlowJo 10.0.7.

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Parameters

Parameters for this dataset have not yet been identified

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Instruments

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	Packard TRI-Carb 4640
Generic Instrument Name	Liquid Scintillation Counter
Generic Instrument Description	Liquid scintillation counting is an analytical technique which is defined by the incorporation of the radiolabeled analyte into uniform distribution with a liquid chemical medium capable of converting the kinetic energy of nuclear emissions into light energy. Although the liquid scintillation counter is a sophisticated laboratory counting system used the quantify the activity of particulate emitting (ß and a) radioactive samples, it can also detect the auger electrons emitted from 51Cr and 125I samples. Liquid scintillation counters are instruments assaying alpha and beta radiation by quantitative detection of visible light produced by the passage of rays or particles through a suitable scintillant incorporated into the sample.

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Deployments

HOT_cruises

Website	https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/58879
Platform	Multiple Vessels
Report	http://hahana.soest.hawaii.edu/hot/
Start Date	1988-10-31
Description	Since October 1988, the Hawaii Ocean Time-series (HOT) program has investigated temporal dynamics in biology, physics, and chemistry at Stn. ALOHA (22°45' N, 158°W), a deep ocean field site in the oligotrophic North Pacific Subtropical Gyre (NPSG). HOT conducts near monthly ship-based sampling and makes continuous observations from moored instruments to document and study NPSG climate and ecosystem variability over semi-diurnal to decadal time scales. **Methods & Sampling** Hawaii Ocean Time-series (HOT) program cruises 230-252

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Project Information

Oligotrophic phytoplankton community response to changes in N substrates and the resulting impact on genetic, taxonomic and functional diversity (PhytoNsubResponse)

Coverage: North Pacific Subtropical Gyre at Station ALOHA, and a transect from San Diego, CA to Hawaii

(Extracted from NSF award abstract)

Marine phytoplankton are a diverse group of Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic unicellular organisms that account for approximately 50% of global carbon fixation. Nitrogen (N) is an essential element for microbial growth, but concentrations of bioavailable nitrogen in vast regions of subtropical ocean gyres are extremely low (submicromolar to nanomolar concentrations), and generally limit phytoplankton growth. Phytoplankton taxa differ in their genetic capabilities to take up and assimilate nutrients, and thus competition for different chemical forms of N (NH4+, NO3- and urea) and supply of these N-containing compounds are important controls on phytoplankton growth, productivity, and ultimately ecosystem function. The form and supply of N to phytoplankton have already been altered by anthropogenic activities, and with increasing environmental perturbations the effects will accelerate. To date however, there is limited information on how the N forms and fluxes impact the marine phytoplankton community composition and primary production. Similarly, determining the mechanisms of the response are crucial to assessing how ocean ecosystem function will respond to global climate change.

This project seeks to determine how taxonomic, genetic and functional dimensions of phytoplankton diversity are linked with community-level responses to the availability of different N substrates (NH4+, NO3-, and urea) in one of Earth's largest aquatic habitats, the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre. The project will characterize phytoplankton community composition change and gene expression, photosynthetic performance, carbon fixation, and single-cell level N and C uptake in different taxa within the phytoplankton assemblage in response to different N compounds. The research project is unique in investigating community-to-single-cell level function and species (strain)-specific gene expression patterns using state-of-the-art methods including fast repetition rate fluorometry, nanoscale secondary ion mass spectrometry and a comprehensive marine microbial community microarray. The results will provide predictive understanding of how changes in the availability of key nitrogen pools (N) may impact phytoplankton dynamics and function in the ocean.

References:

Karl, D. M., Bjorkman, K. M., Dore, J. E., Fujieki, L., Hebel, D. V., Houlihan, T., Letelier, R. M., Tupas, L. M. 2001. Ecological nitrogen-to-phosphorus stoichiometry at station ALOHA. Deep-Sea Research II. 48:1529 - 1566.

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McCarthy, J., Taylor, W. R., Taft, J. 1997. Nitrogenous nutrition of the plankton in the Chesapeake Bay. Limnology and Oceanography. 35:822 - 829.

Letelier, R., Karl, D. M. 1996. Role of Trichodesmium spp. in the productivity of the subtropical North Pacific Ocean. Marine Ecology Progress Series. 133:263 - 273.

Lipschultz, F. 1995. Nitrogen-specific uptake rates of marine phytoplankton isolated from natura populations of particles by flow cytometry. Marine Ecology Progress Series. 123:245-258.

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Program Information

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-1241263

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