The Awesome Ocean

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The Awesome Ocean- liquid gold

- The worldwide ocean economy is valued at around **\$1.5 trillion per year**, equivalent to the seventh largest economy in the world.
- The worldwide ocean economy is set to double by 2030 to \$3 trillion.

Top 10 Blue Economy Trends in 2024

The Oceans- Currently a huge carbon sponge

Year

- The oceans take up emissions at a rate of about 2 GtC/yr so have absorbed 500 Gt from a total 1300 Gt emissions**…currently**
- 20kyrs ago, when mammoths roamed the planet the oceans stored an additional 900 GtC
- **All for free (in the context of C markets)**

The Power of the Plankton Base of ecosystem productivity and 50-80% of global biodiversity Plankton are sentinels of change • 5-12 PgC/yr

Finkel, Z.V., Beardall, J., Flynn, K.J., Quigg, A., Rees, T.A.V. and Raven, J.A., 2010. Phytoplankton in a changing world: cell size and elemental stoichiometry. *Journal of plankton research*, *32*(1), pp.119-137.

The Oceans- a huge sponge of heat \sim 90% of our global warming

Argo Floats

Daily sea surface temperature for 60°S-60°N

Data: ERA5 1979-2024 • Credit: C3S/ECMWF

The altered Marine Environment

• Elevated CO2 (fertilization)

a

Global mean sea level (mm)

- pH- acidification
- Nutrients-stratification
- Oxygen-deoxygenation
- Temperature (P:R) (bleaching)
- Pollutants (including N2, plastics)
- Seasonal Change (mistimings: light and temperature)

PETM: 55800000yrs ago

- 3000 PgC over 5000 years (0.6 PgC/yr or 2.4 GtCO₂/yr) emissions of CO₂
- 5-8 °C rise of global temperature
- Dissolved CaCO₃ in ocean sediments (acidification),
- Ocean Deoxygenation
- Increased weathering, increased Corg burial
	- Timescale of recovery ~1-200000 years

 $\widehat{\mathscr{V}}$ $^{\circ}{\rm C}$ $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{5}$ $\frac{9}{\cos 15:24}$ $($ ok $)$ $(\!\mathsf{v}\!)$ \odot

CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL OPTIONS

- Do the kinetics work?
- Can the sequestered C be measured?
- What are the
	- unintended benefits?
	- And consequences?
- What is the carbon/resource footprint of the technique itself?
- Who/What drives the C market?

Ocean Carbon and Tipping Points

Daily Global 5km Satellite Coral Bleaching Heat Stress Alert Area

(Version 3.1, released August 1, 2018)

NOAA Coral Reef Watch Daily 5km Bleaching Alert Area 7-day Maximum (v3.1) 13 Feb 2024

20°E

N_°02

 S

20°S

Environment 'Literally off the charts': global coral reef heat stress monitor forced to add new alerts as temperatures rise

Three new levels added by US Coral Reef Watch after 'extreme' unprecedented heat, with highest alert warning of 'near complete mortality'

Graham Readfearn

 \blacktriangleright @readfearn Wed 31 Jan 2024 14.00 GMT

T tipping points of Photosynthesis versus Respiration (and C sink)

Barton et al., 2020

How close are we to the temperature tipping point of the terrestrial biosphere?

Katharyn A. Duffy^{1,2*}, Christopher R. Schwalm^{2,3}, Vickery L. Arcus⁴, George W. Koch², Liyin L. Liang^{4,5}, Louis A. Schipper⁴

MAD: Move Adapt or Die

Bung the $CO₂$ back where it came from.....

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

© 2011 Europa Technologies

© 2011 Google

US Dapt of State Google

 $\frac{a}{b}$

Eye alt 7567.76 mi

Google Ocean (real time who is living in each pixel)

Other search engines are available….

- To introduce the world to the ocean
- Driver to map the diversity of the ocean comprehensively
- Invaluable data for plankton as monitors of climate and tipping points- the sentinels of the ocean
- Invaluable data for fisheries and macrofaunal conservation
- Baseline and disturbance data for all marine use
- Carbon/Biodiversity credits

A plankton sensor (low cost/low power)

- We monitor the chlorophyll *a* fluorescence signal of living phytoplankton cells, and measure the decay of this signal in response to electrochemically driven oxidative stress

Taken from Barton *et al*., 2023, *Limnology and Oceanography: Methods*

Applying a potential to seawater sample does two things:

- H⁺ ions generated, creating acidic conditions $\,$ = dissolution of CaCO $_3$
- Oxygen radicals (or reactive oxygen species) are created (e.g. hydroxyl radicals, OH)

= oxidative destruction of Chlorophyll a

Liquid Gold **How do we protect the valuable sea…. A huge sponge of our carbon and heat -all done for free The poor ocean accumulates waste- it sits right in the mix We must circularise flows; slow inputs- there is no quick fix No doubt there is gold in them thar seas, Marine robots, green transport, renewable energies New food, new life, awesome blue opportunities But each of these uses splashes a disruptive bomb Across the network of life and marine carbon And these must be real time charted, valued and controlled Before we can turn the blue one gold**

The value of plankton to the UK

- The UK has stewardship of around 7 665 586 km² of neighbouring sea bed including *OTCD*
- UK's exclusive economic zone (EEZ) the fifth largest in the world
- 2% of the world's ocean surface (Pro rata component of the Bio Pump admittedly imperfect: 100-240 MtC/yr (£7.4-17.8 billion)
- Biotech resources of the plankton are currently underexplored

What should we do? With all our CO_2 ? Bung it in the ground or p'rhaps the deep blue? **Well**

The evolution of algae tells us a thing or two-These biosolar panels split water to make toxic O. But life made a cycle - with invention and time It used oxygen to fly, hunt, mineralize, and climb Just how many things life can do By finding both the cycle and value In all of our waste, CO₂ and ….poo

• Need integration of different methods (and new technologies) to capture biodiversity of the communities, to quantify abundance of different phytoplankton species/functional groups and their impact on flux of carbon

Coral bleaching….but some hope...

FEATURE ARTICLE

Global biogeography of coral recruitment:
tropical decline and subtropical increase

N. N. Price^{1,*}, S. Muko², L. Legendre³, R. Steneck⁴, M. J. H. van Oppen^{5,6}, R. Albright^{5,7,18}, P. Ang Jr.⁸, R. C. Carpenter⁹, A. P. Y. Chui⁸, T.-Y. Fan¹⁰, R. D. Gates¹¹, S. Harii¹², H. Kitano¹³, H. Kurihara¹⁴, S. Mitarai¹⁵, J. L. Padilla-Gamiño¹⁶, K. Sakai¹², G. Suzuki¹⁷, P. J. Edmunds⁹

Shikoku, Japan Solitary Islands, Australia Midway, Hawaii USA Flower Garden Banks, Texas USA Mackay Whitsunday, Australia Burdekin, Australia St. John, US Virgin Islands Tahiti, French Polynesia Wet Tropics, Australia

Tropicalisation of the subtropics…

Carbon versus biodiversity?

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ARTICLE

https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-022-00625-0

Offshore wind farms are projected to impact primary production and bottom water deoxygenation in the North Sea

OPEN

Ute Daewel ^{1⊠}, Naveed Akhtar ¹, Nils Christiansen¹ & Corinna Schrum^{1,2}

Clean Energy + Carbon Pump + Benthic Biodiversity -

Colbourn et al., 2015

Move, Adapt or Die (MAD)

iv) More than half of cool temperature Euroepan tree genera did not survive glacial cycles starting end Pliocene v) An adaptive mutation of heamoglobin enabled mammoths to tolerate v low Ts at high latitude vi) More than 70& megafauna in the Americas and Australia and 40% in Eurasia underwent extinction (5-10 ka) but climate or human? vii) Plants in N. America migrated northwards between 450 and 2200 km in <10kyrs under a warming of 5oC

i) PETM extinctions benthic forams and polward range shifts in dinos, mammals, reptiles, plants and high community turnover ii) >4oC cooler EO boundary, extinction many European terrestrial mammals and globally marine invertebrates iii)Late Mio cooling, thermophilous plants shifted southwards and finally went extinct

Figure I. Future Climate Forcing will Surpass those of the Previous Several Million Years [2]. Abbreviations: Eo, Eccene, Hol, Holocene; Mi, Miccene, Ol, Oligocene, P, Palaeocene, Pli, Pliccene, Ple, Pleistocene.

 $CO₂$ used for photosynthesis

 $CO₃²⁻$ used for calcification $(CaCO₃)$

$CO₂$ Fertilisation

nature climate change

Article A constraint on historic growth in global photosynthesis due to rising $CO₂$

 -6.5

 -7 -7.5

 -8.5

1975

1980

-22 -22.5 Marine δ ¹³ C_{POC} (%o) -23 -23.5 -24 -24.5 -25

60

 -21

 -21.5

 -25.5

 -26

2010

30

0

Evidence for changes in carbon isotopic fractionation by phytoplankton between 1960 and 2010

2000

Year

2005

J. N. Young,^{1,2} J. Bruggeman,¹ R. E. M. Rickaby,¹ J. Erez,³ and M. Conte⁴

Ocean Acidification

Reduced calcification of marine plankton in response to increased atmospheric CO₂

Ulf Riebesell *, Ingrid Zondervan*, Björn Rost*, Philippe D. Tortell†, Richard E. Zeebe*‡ & François M. M. Morel†

Lower calcification………..?

Or higher…………..?

Phytoplankton Calcification in a High-CO₂ World

M. Debora Iglesias-Rodriguez,^{1*} Paul R. Halloran,^{2*} Rosalind E. M. Rickaby,² Ian R. Hall,³ Elena Colmenero-Hidalgo,³† John R. Gittins,¹ Darryl R. H. Green,¹ Toby Tyrrell,¹ Samantha J. Gibbs,¹ Peter von Dassow,⁴ Eric Rehm,⁵ E. Virginia Armbrust,⁵ Karin P. Boessenkool³

De'Ath et al., 2009

1700

Declining Coral Calcification on the Great Barrier Reef

Glenn De'ath,* Janice M. Lough, Katharina E. Fabricius

1600

1900

Reversal of ocean acidification enhances net coral reef calcification

b

10

8

6

2

0

Control

Experiment

Change in net calcification (%)

Rebecca Albright¹, Lilian Caldeira¹, Jessica Hosfelt², Lester Kwiatkowski¹, Jana K. Maclaren^{1,3}, Benjamin M. Mason⁴, Yana Nebuchina¹, Aaron Ninokawa², Julia Pongratz^{1,5}, Katharine L. Ricke^{1,6}, Tanya Riv

5

з

2

 -1

2000

UD Upstream

Control

QUI Downstream

1800

Year

Certainly impacts on coral reef calcification

Experiment

Ocean Deoxygen D Deoxygen and D ation D and D

has increased by 4.5 million km².¹ The world's oceans are now losing approximately 1 gigaton of oxygen each year (Keeling and Garcia 2002). 2011 the area of water with dissolved oxygen concentrations <2 mg L⁻¹ was nearly 80,000 km². (Carstensen et cl. 2014).

Deoxygenation alters the goods and services delivered by marine ecosystems to humans. Services reduced can include food production through Declining oxygen in the global ocea and aquaculture, climate regulation, nutrient cycling and resilience

and coastal waters

The estimate is for 200 m - a slighty shallower depth than shown on this map.

Denise Breitburg,* Lisa A. Levin, Andreas Oschlies, Marilaure Grégoire,

Observable trends

Table 1 | Oxygen content and change per basin

Trends that are more significant than two standard errors are marked in light grey. See Extended Data Table 1 for an extended version of this table.

 \sim

Increasing ocean stratification over the past half-century

Climate-driven trends in contemporary ocean productivity

150

 $100₁$

Michael J. Behrenfeld¹, Robert T. O'Malley¹, David A. Siegel³, Charles R. McClain⁴, Jorge L. Sarmiento⁵, Gene C. Feldman⁴, Allen J. Milligan¹, Paul G. Falkowski⁶, Ricardo M. Letelier² & Emmanuel S. Boss⁷

Marine Heatwaves

LETTERS https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-019-0412-1

nature climate change

Marine heatwaves threaten global biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services

gure 6

comparative view of climate change vulnerability from terrestrial to marine ecosystems. Representative species are shown with th ermal safety margins. The thermal safety margin is a relative (not absolute) proxy for the amount of warming an organism can erate. Lower annual and daily temperature variation in the ocean has left many marine species less evolutionarily conditioned to a th climate warming, which is reflected in narrower safety margins. These vulnerabilities are exacerbated by reduced access to the fuges in the ocean. The numbers at the bottom show the average annual and daily range of temperatures from local monitoring tions, as well as the expected warming by 2100. The examples here are drawn from the east coast of North America, including ather stations and oceanographic buoys in South Carolina. Illustration by N.R. Fuller of Sayo-Art LLC.

Temperature effects at the level of the enzyme/cell

Enzymes reduce the Activation energy of a reaction for biological temperatures and so enhance the rate

Temperature speeds up the rate of the reaction and provides more thermal energy

But enzymes have thermal limits: the rate is catalyzed to an optima until the enzyme loses structure/denatures

Membrane fluidity is also strongly Tdependent

Annual Review of Biophysics The Effects of Temperature on **Cellular Physiology**

Benjamin D. Knapp¹ and Kerwyn Casey Huang^{1,2,3,4}

Figure 2

Cellular growth rates obey species-specific Arrhenius laws. (a) Growth rates of Escherichia coli in rich medium were measured at various temperatures (left). An Arrhenius plot [log(growth rate) versus $1/T$] reveals a range of temperatures (20–37°C) over which the data are approximately linear, a so-called Arrhenius range (right). Temperatures above and below the Arrhenius range produce a heat- and cold-shock response, respectively. Data from Reference 54. (b) Bacterial and eukaryotic species possess Arrhenius ranges (dotted boxes)

Coral bleaching….but some hope...

FEATURE ARTICLE

Global biogeography of coral recruitment:
tropical decline and subtropical increase

N. N. Price^{1,*}, S. Muko², L. Legendre³, R. Steneck⁴, M. J. H. van Oppen^{5,6}, R. Albright^{5,7,18}, P. Ang Jr.⁸, R. C. Carpenter⁹, A. P. Y. Chui⁸, T.-Y. Fan¹⁰, R. D. Gates¹¹, S. Harii¹², H. Kitano¹³, H. Kurihara¹⁴, S. Mitarai¹⁵, J. L. Padilla-Gamiño¹⁶, K. Sakai¹², G. Suzuki¹⁷, P. J. Edmunds⁹

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Tropicalisation of the subtropics…

Climate Change at the level of the organism/ecosystem

- Latitudinal Migration
- Ecosystem Restructure
- Phenological mismatch

Organism Impacts realized through Niches

The response curve for one driver can depend on other drivers (e.g. T and pH)

Impacts of multiple drivers can be additive, synertistic, or ntagonistic ie cumulative effect is equal to, larger than or smaller than the sumof the individual effects

But modelling latitudinal range based on niche alone neglects biotic interactions, evolutionary change and dispersal ability

Organismal responses to single and multiple drivers

 (a)

Drivers (e.g. elevated temperature and lowered pH)

IPCC

Latitudinal Shifts

- Help species maintain their niche
- But unless other dependent/ant species move concurrently leads to coccolithophore *Emiliania huxleyi* changes in ecosystem structure
- Can run out of thermal room (either poleward, with depth or with altitude)

Current Biology

Climate Change Drives Poleward Increases and Equatorward Declines in Marine Species

range of species. Our results show that abundance increases have been most prominent where sampling has taken place at the poleward side of species ranges, and abundance declines have been most prominent where sampling has taken place at the equatorward side of species ranges. These data pro-

Climate change: Seasonal shifts causing 'chaos' for UK nature

427 December 2023

Changing seasons are affecting the reproductive cycle of animals like red deer

Phenology mismatch Warm temperatures have prompted some Greenland Duckling Warm temperatures have prompted some shrubs to come into bloom early, making them susceptible to sudden cold snaps affecting pollinators, and the birds that feed on their seeds (and Ros' pear tree).

> The UK's most iconic tree, the oak, could be particularly hard hit ….Cold snaps are getting shorter- often doesn't leave enough time to kill off diseases.

> -the oak processionary moth, which has been steadily migrating northwards, whose caterpillars infest oak trees, thrive in these shorter cold spells making the oaks more vulnerable to attack from other parasites,…

Warmer winters also impact heathlands allowing the heather beetle to kill off huge areas of heather. Animals which hibernate, like dormice, are especially threatened. They emerge from their winter sleep earlier and can quickly use up their vital remaining stores of energy.

hatching and insect mismatch

Human Interventions: Unintended Consequences

