

Welcome to the C-CAN Ocean Acidification Roundtable!



We will begin at 1:00 pm PT using the free VOIP
(Voice Over Internet Protocol).

If you need technical assistance, please type your questions into the Question box in in the control panel on the right hand side of your screen.

If you are unable to connect using VOIP, dial Toll: +1 1 (415) 930-5321 Access code: 993-398-541

You will be charged for this call.

To connect you **MUST HAVE** the audio pin number shown after joining the seminar

Today's Webinar:

How ocean acidification works hand in hand with warming and other global change stressors to promote toxic *Pseudo-nitzschia* harmful algal blooms along the West Coast

Hosted by:

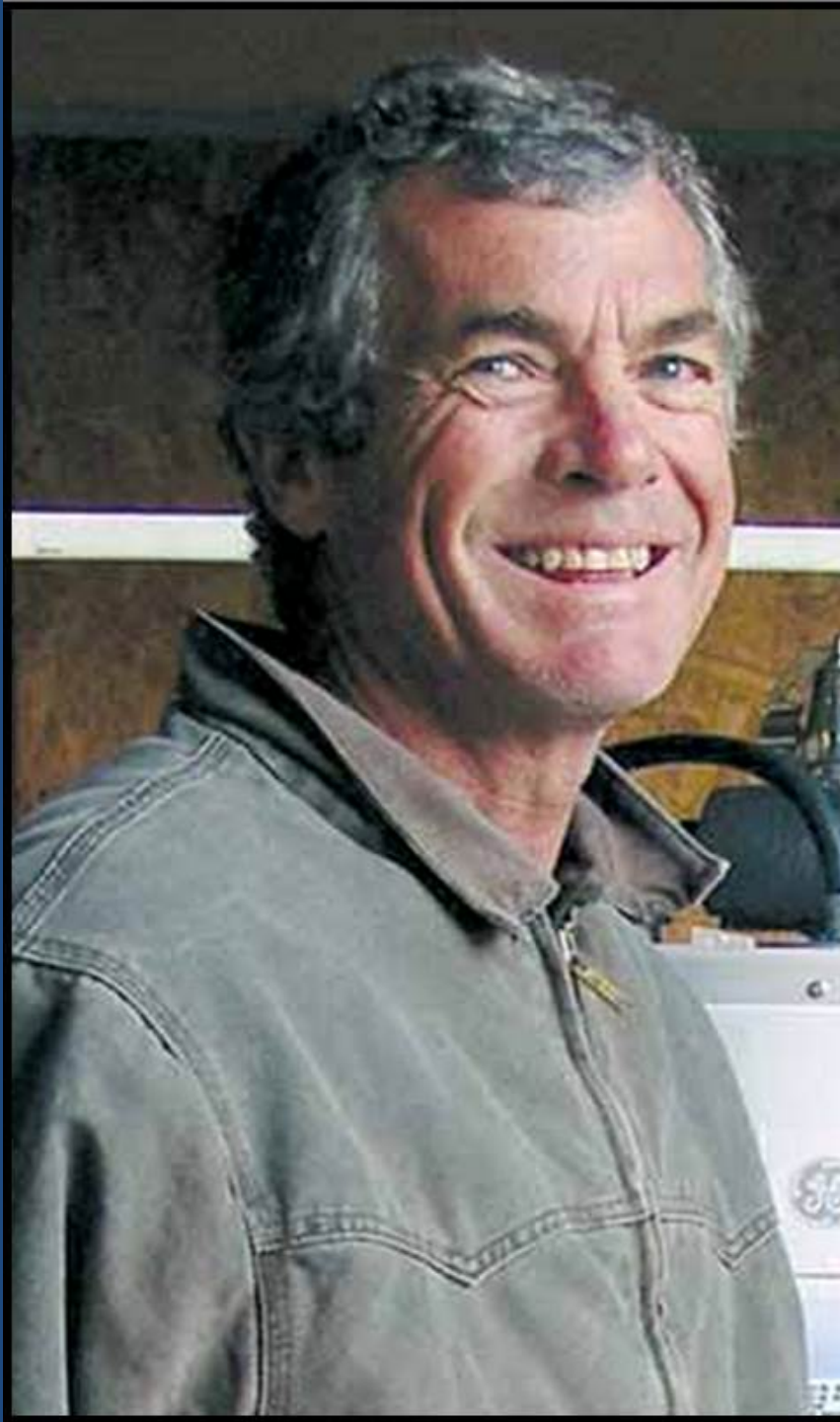


Hosted by:

- Today's moderator:

Bruce Steele

C-CAN Steering
Committee
Commercial
diver/fisherman



Logistics coordinated by:

Washington Sea
Grant

Teri King



Today's format:

Presentation by Dr. Dave Hutchins:

How ocean acidification works hand-in-hand with warming and other global change stressors to promote toxic *Pseudo-nitzschia* harmful algal blooms along the West Coast

Q&A

Adjourn

Introducing our Speaker

Dr. Dave Hutchins

Professor of Marine and Environmental Biology at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

~Ph.D. at UC Santa Cruz, followed by a postdoc at Stony Brook, and then worked for 10 years on the faculty of the Univ. of Delaware before moving to USC 12 years ago.

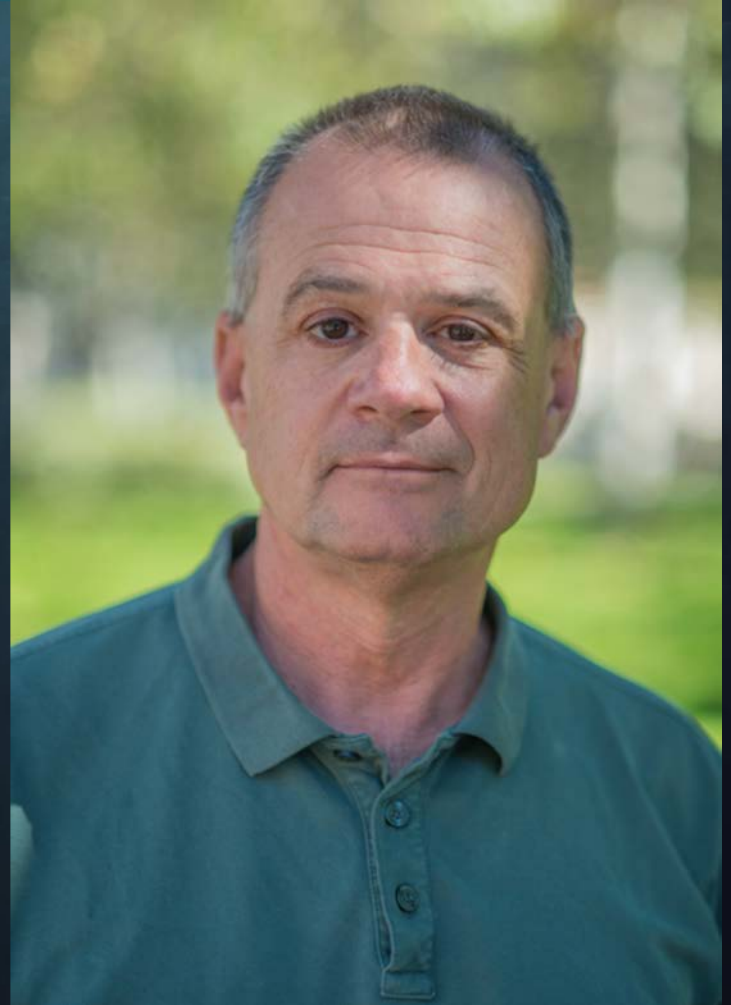
~ Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography,

~ Chairman of the 1st Ocean Global Change Biology Gordon Research Conference,

~Associate Editor for Marine Climate Change and Ocean Acidification at the journal Proceedings B of the Royal Society.

Current research examines how global change processes affect ocean biology and biogeochemistry

Including how future ocean acidification, sea surface warming, and changing ocean biology, chemistry and physics will impact toxic harmful algal blooms, carbon and nutrient cycling, iron and trace metal cycling, nitrogen fixation, and phytoplankton community structure in marine ecosystems ranging from California coastal waters, to the remote polar Southern Ocean and the open ocean subtropical gyres.





Dave Hutchins

Marine and Environmental Biology
University of Southern California

**How ocean acidification works hand-in-hand
with warming and other global change stressors
to promote toxic *Pseudo-nitzschia*
harmful algal blooms along
the West Coast**



Proposition 84



OCEAN ACIDIFICATION 101

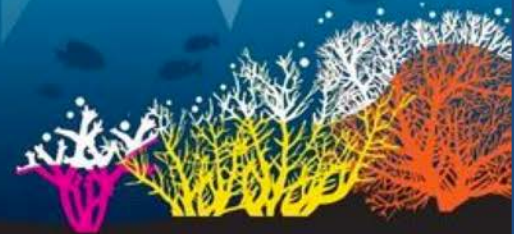
1 Ocean acidification (OA) is caused by burning fossil fuels like coal, oil and natural gas, which releases carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere.

2 Excess CO₂ from burning fossil fuels doesn't just stay in the air: like a giant sponge, the ocean naturally absorbs much of it. And, as a result, the ocean's chemistry changes.



3 OA has been documented all over the world—but, because of the unique geography of the Pacific Northwest, OA and its effects are particularly intense in our local waters. Many local marine species are already being affected by OA.

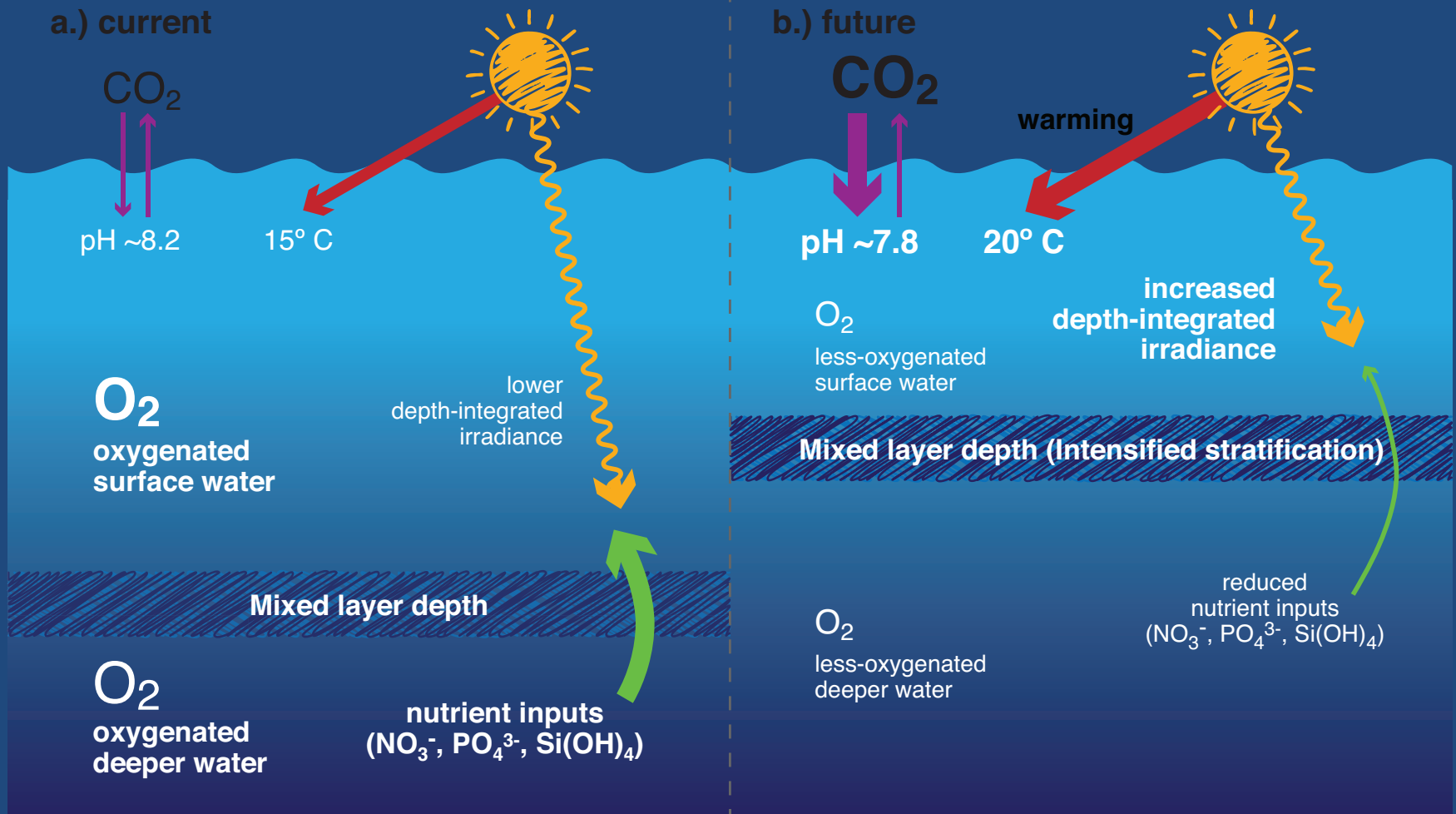
4 Without action, the impacts seen in Puget Sound will soon be felt throughout the entire ocean. Moving to renewable energy sources on a large scale will decrease the amount of CO₂ absorbed by the ocean, slowing the acidification process and its impact on all marine life.



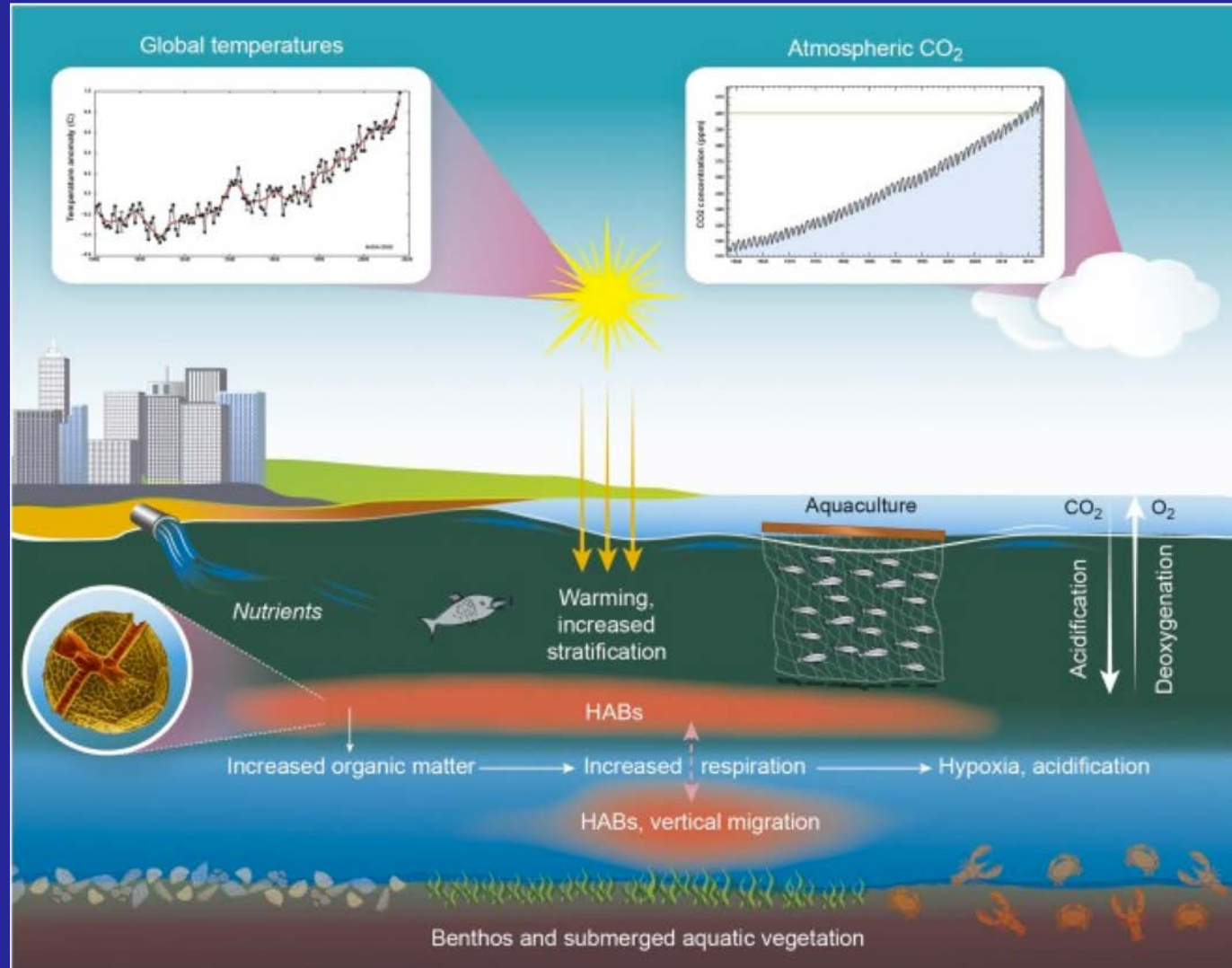
C-CAN

California Current Acidification Network

Some of the physical and chemical changes expected in the future ocean



Numerous global change factors may be related to worldwide increases in the frequency and severity of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)



Harmful algal blooms are increasing in severity, duration, and extent all over the world



Dinoflagellate range extensions in a warming ocean

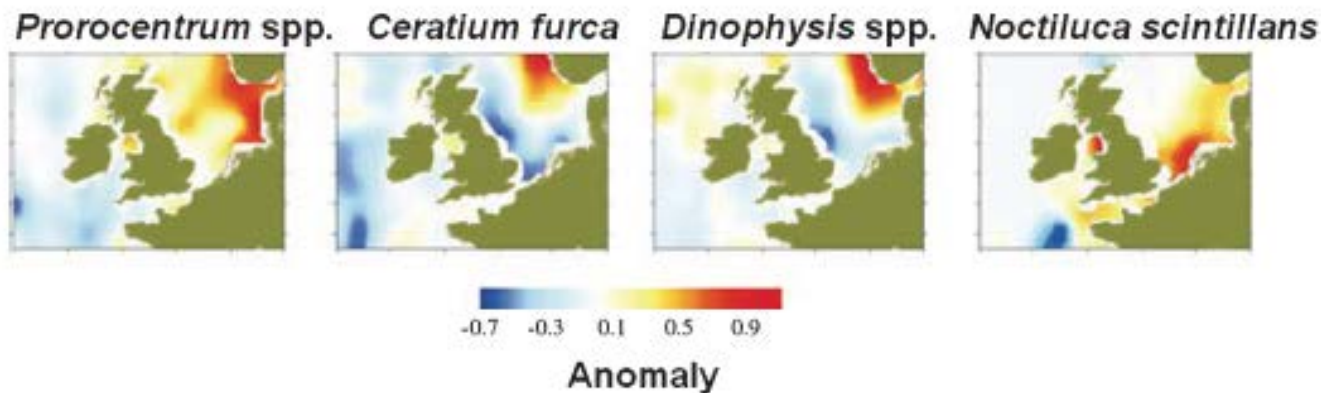


FIG. 5. Decadal anomaly maps (difference between long-term 1960–1989 mean and the 1990–2002 period) for four common HAB species (from left to right): *Prorocentrum*, *Ceratium furca*, *Dinophysis*, and *Noctiluca* in the North Atlantic. Note the increase in *Prorocentrum*, *C. furca*, and *Dinophysis* along the Norwegian coast, and increase in *Noctiluca* in the southern North Sea, reportedly associated with a contraction of the Subpolar Gyre to the west allowing subtropical water to penetrate farther north (adapted from Edwards et al. 2008, with permission).

Hallegraef 2010, J. Phycol 46

Effects of warming (1982-2016) on potential growth rates and bloom season length of the ichthyotoxic dinoflagellate *Cochlodinium polykrikoides*

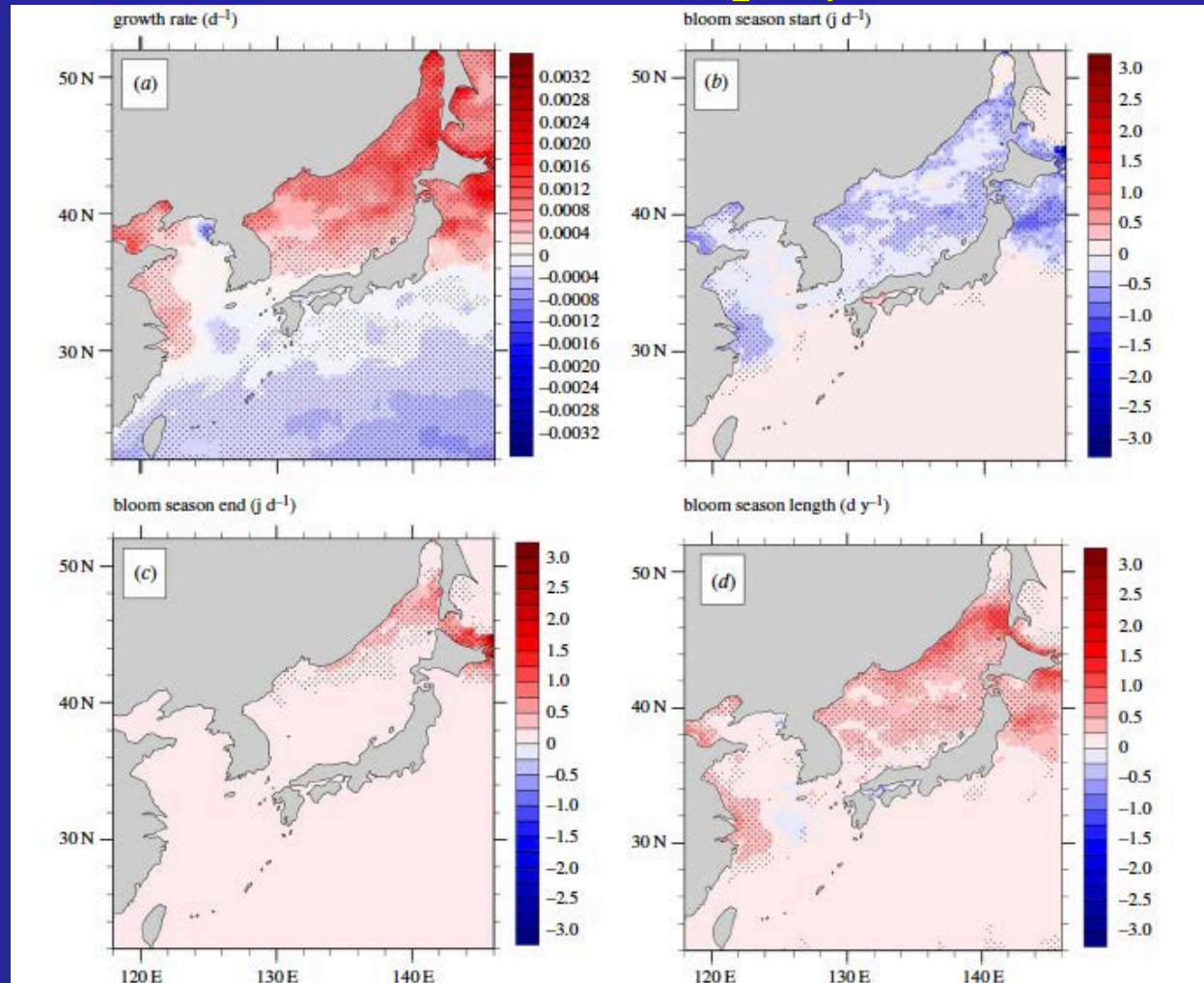
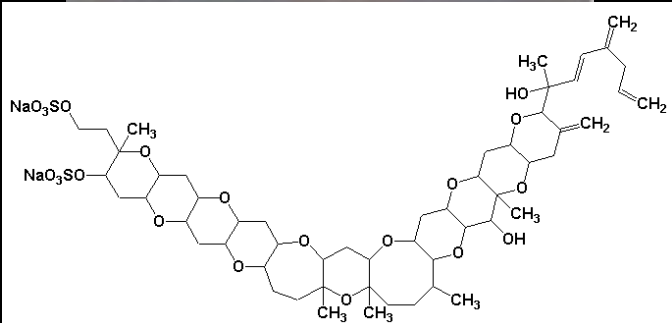


Figure 4. Trends (1982–2016) in the (a) growth rate, (b) beginning of bloom-favourable conditions, (c) termination of bloom-favourable conditions, and (d) bloom season length for *C. polykrikoides* (East Asian ribotype) in East Asia using standard resolution ($\frac{1}{4}$ degree) data product. Stippling indicates regions where trends are statistically significant ($p < 0.05$; Mann–Kendall test). (Online version in colour.)

Griffith et al 2019
Proceedings B

Gonyaulax spinifera



Effects of a warming-induced extended growing season on *Alexandrium catenella*

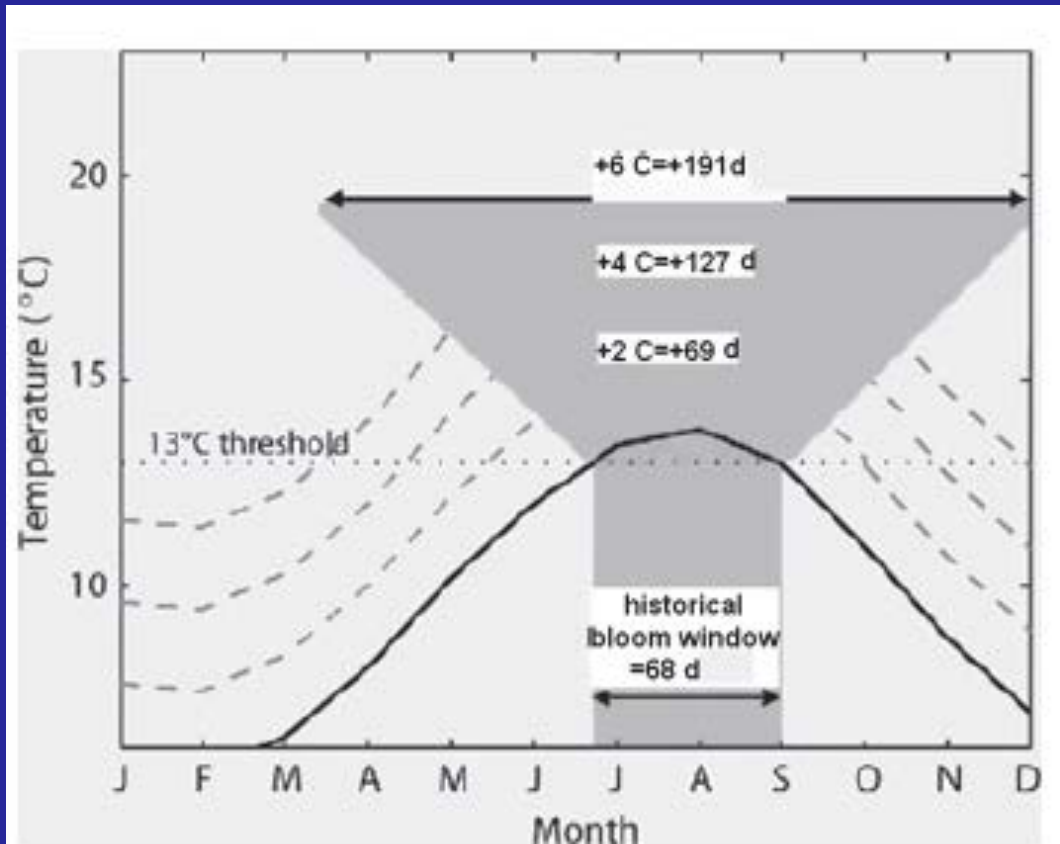


FIG. 7. Scenarios for warmer sea surface temperature conditions in Puget Sound by 2, 4, and 6°C would widen the >13°C window (in gray) of accelerated growth for the PSP dinoflagellate *Alexandrium catenella*. After Moore et al. (2008b). PSP, paralytic shellfish poisoning.

Warming-induced shifts towards dinoflagellate blooms

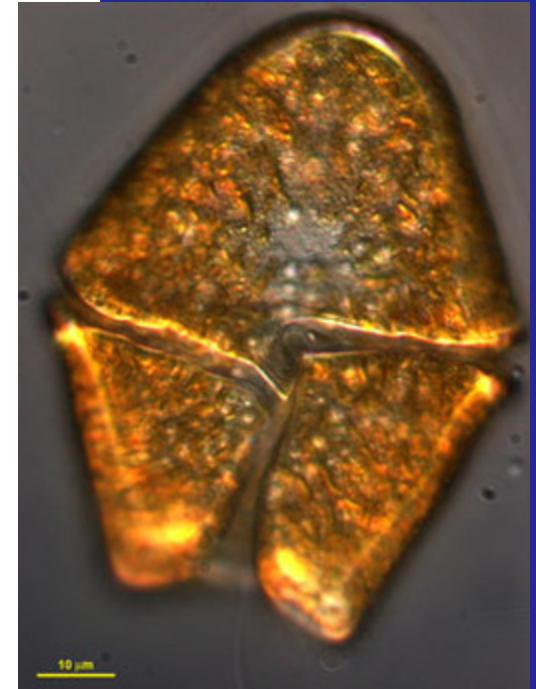
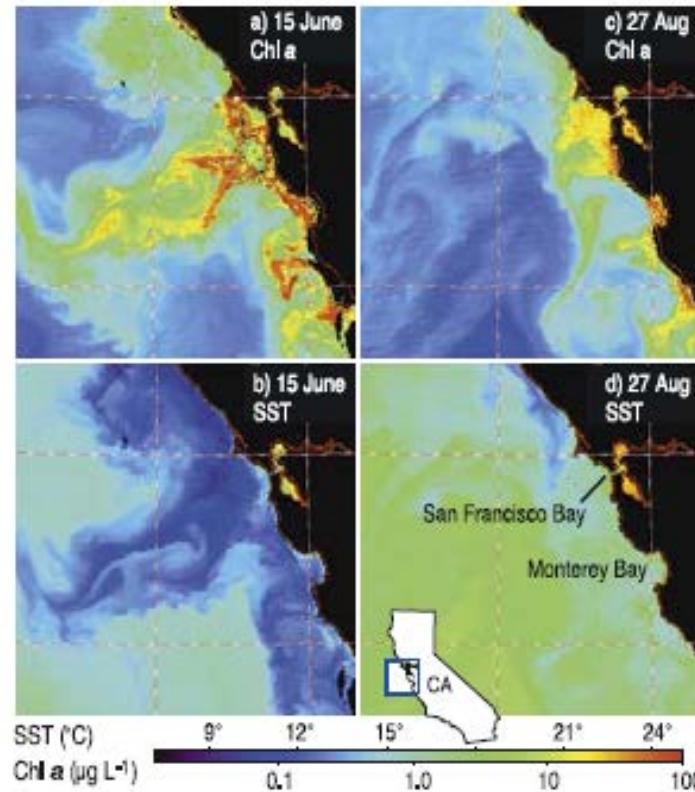
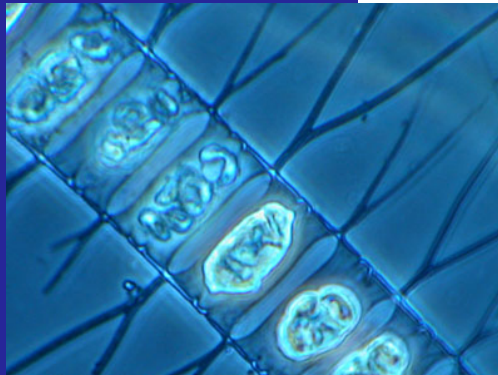


Figure 4. MODIS chlorophyll *a* (top) and surface temperature (bottom) images for 15 June (strong upwelling, left) and 27 August 2004 (weak upwelling, right).



HABs along the U.S. West Coast

Dangerous levels of Paralytic Shellfish Poison
biotoxin found in many areas of central and south
Puget Sound



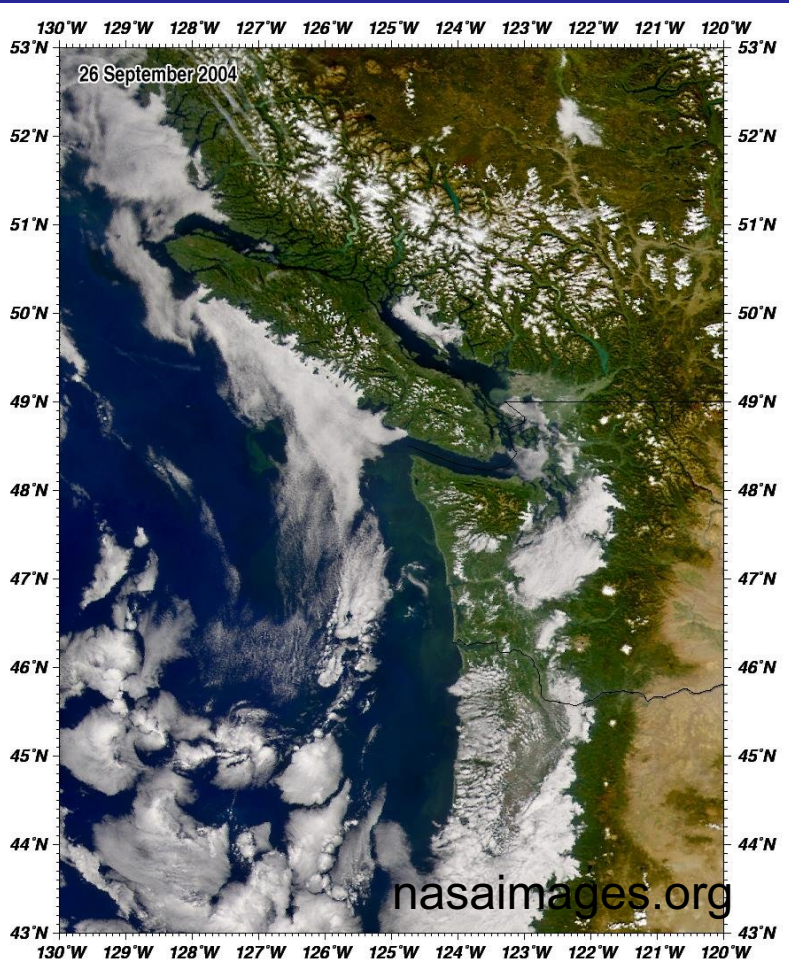
Clam opener canceled due to high toxin count

OLYMPIA — The first razor clam dig of the fall season has been postponed due to elevated levels of marine toxins on Washington's

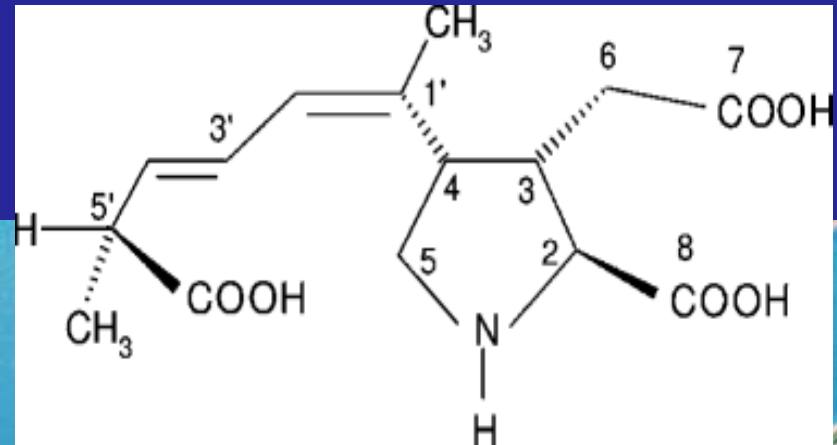
Beaches affected by the health closure include Long Beach, Twin Harbors, Copalis, Mocrocks and Kalaloch.



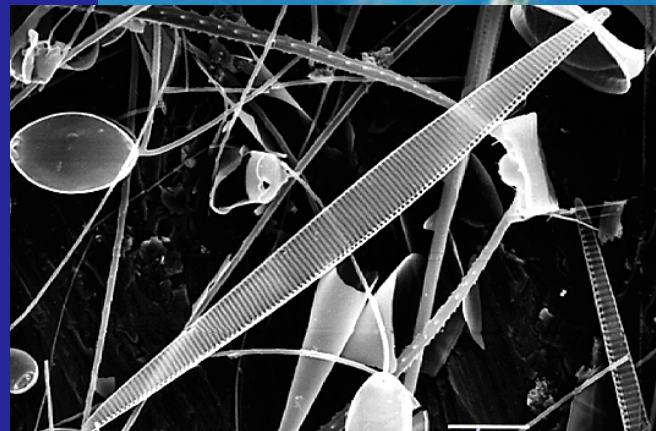
Pseudo-nitzschia blooms



Pseudo-nitzschia bloom,
Juan de Fuca eddy



Domoic Acid

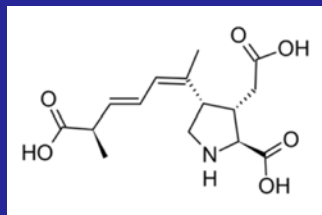


www.whoi.edu/redtide/



© 2001 Photo courtesy of Brian Bill
Northwest Fisheries Science Center

Pseudo-nitzschia and Domoic Acid



Effects of changing $p\text{CO}_2$ and phosphate availability on domoic acid production and physiology of the marine harmful bloom diatom *Pseudo-nitzschia multiseries*

Jun Sun,^{a,b} David A. Hutchins,^a Yuanyuan Feng,^{a,b} Erica L. Seubert,^a David A. Caron,^a and Fei-Xue Fu^{a,*}

Pseudo-nitzschia multiseries

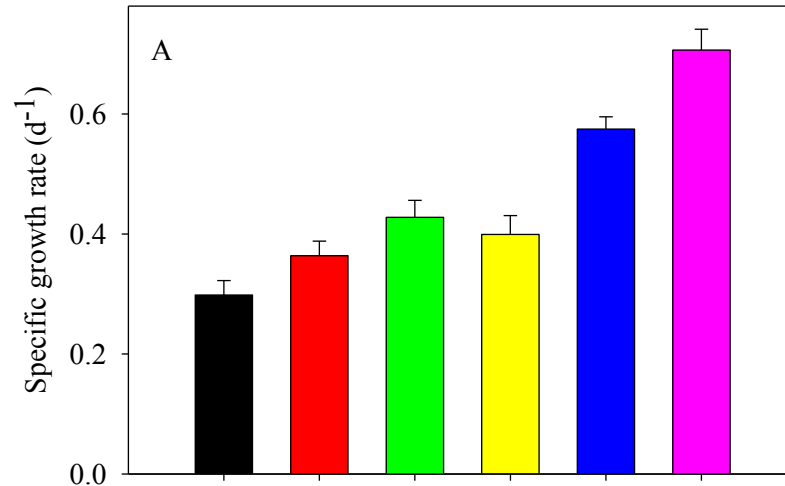


- CO_2 [190, 380, 750] ppm
- P-replete vs. P-limited
- Measurements of growth rates, physiology
- Domoic acid measurements using ELISA
- RNA samples for gene expression

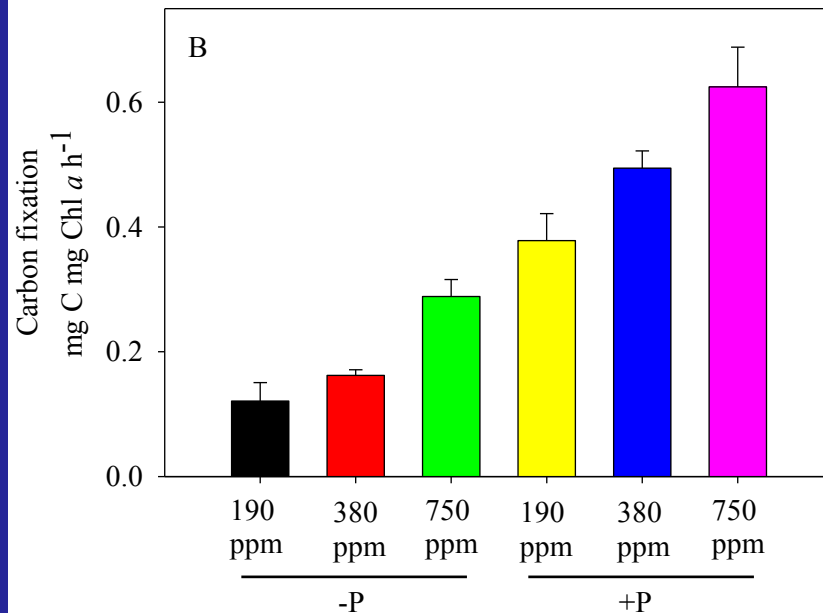
Sun et al. 2011
Limnology &
Oceanography 56

Pseudo-nitzschia multiseri- growth and carbon fixation rates

Growth rates

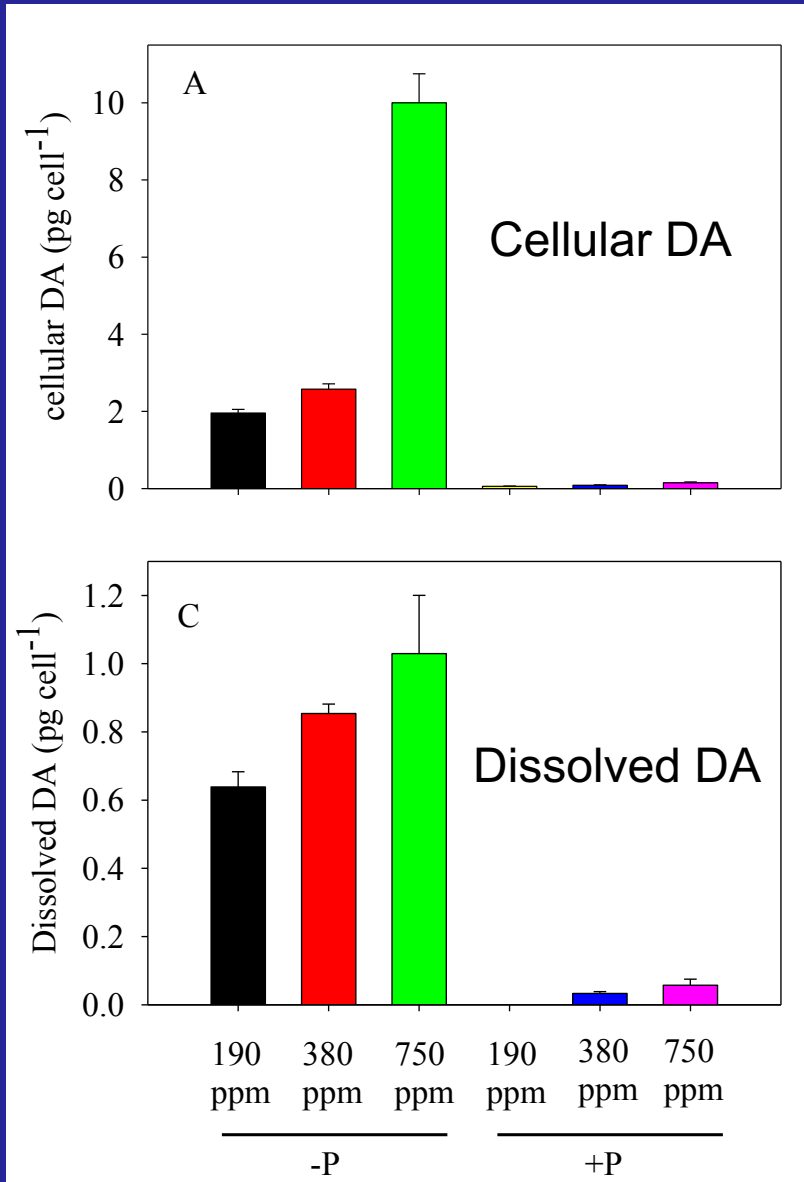


Carbon fixation
rates



Sun et al. 2011
*Limnology &
Oceanography* 56

Domoic acid production versus pCO₂ and P availability



Sun et al. 2011
Limnology &
Oceanography 56

Biosynthesis of the neurotoxin domoic acid in a bloom-forming diatom

John K. Brunson^{1,2*}, Shaun M. K. McKinnie^{1*}, Jonathan R. Chekan¹, John P. McCrow², Zachary D. Miles¹, Erin M. Bertrand^{2,3}, Vincent A. Bielinski⁴, Hanna Luhavaya¹, Miroslav Oborník⁵, G. Jason Smith⁶, David A. Hutchins⁷, Andrew E. Allen^{2,8†}, Bradley S. Moore^{1,9†}

Oceanic harmful algal blooms of *Pseudo-nitzschia* diatoms produce the potent mammalian neurotoxin domoic acid (DA). Despite decades of research, the molecular basis for its biosynthesis is not known. By using growth conditions known to induce DA production in *Pseudo-nitzschia multiseries*, we implemented transcriptome sequencing in order to identify DA biosynthesis genes that colocalize in a genomic four-gene cluster. We biochemically investigated the recombinant DA biosynthetic enzymes and linked their mechanisms to the construction of DA's diagnostic pyrrolidine skeleton, establishing a model for DA biosynthesis. Knowledge of the genetic basis for toxin production provides an orthogonal approach to bloom monitoring and enables study of environmental factors that drive oceanic DA production.

Brunson et al. 2018
Science 361, 1356–1358

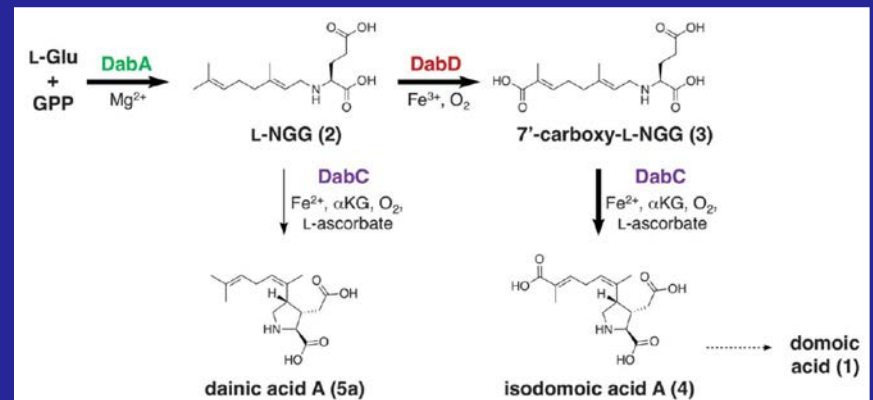
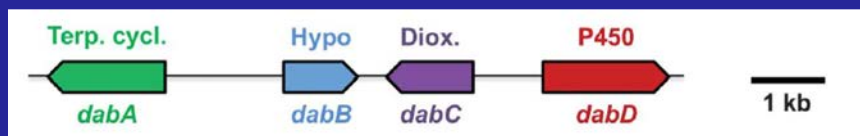
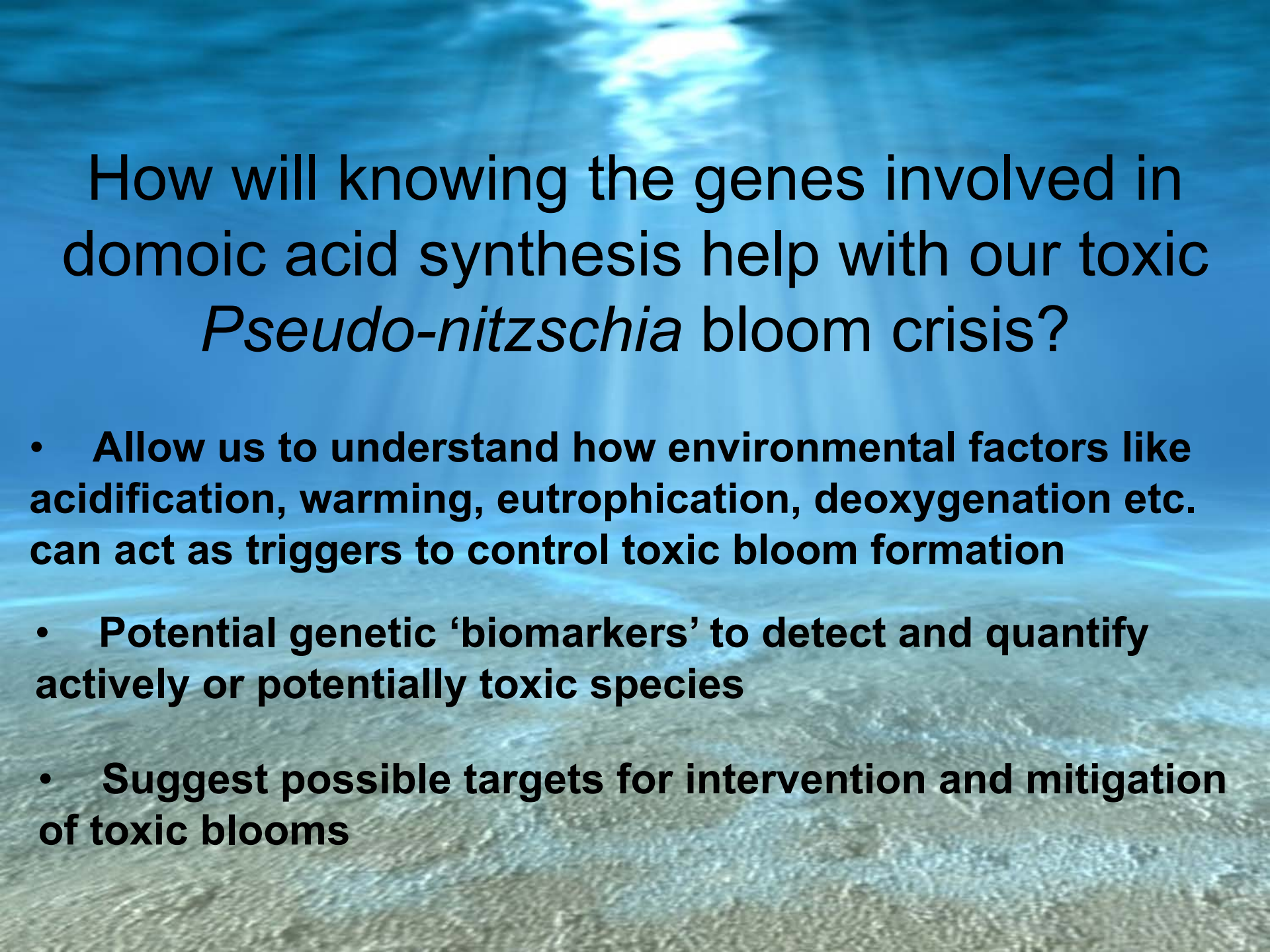


Fig. 2. Domoic acid (1) biosynthetic pathway based on *dab* gene annotations and in vitro enzyme activities.



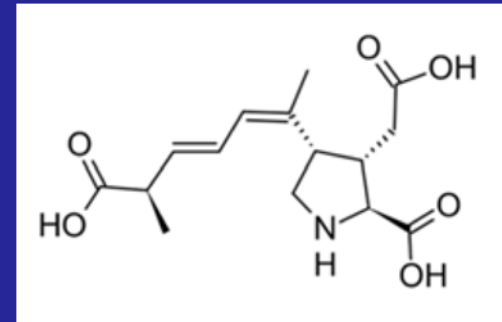
How will knowing the genes involved in domoic acid synthesis help with our toxic *Pseudo-nitzschia* bloom crisis?

- Allow us to understand how environmental factors like acidification, warming, eutrophication, deoxygenation etc. can act as triggers to control toxic bloom formation
- Potential genetic ‘biomarkers’ to detect and quantify actively or potentially toxic species
- Suggest possible targets for intervention and mitigation of toxic blooms

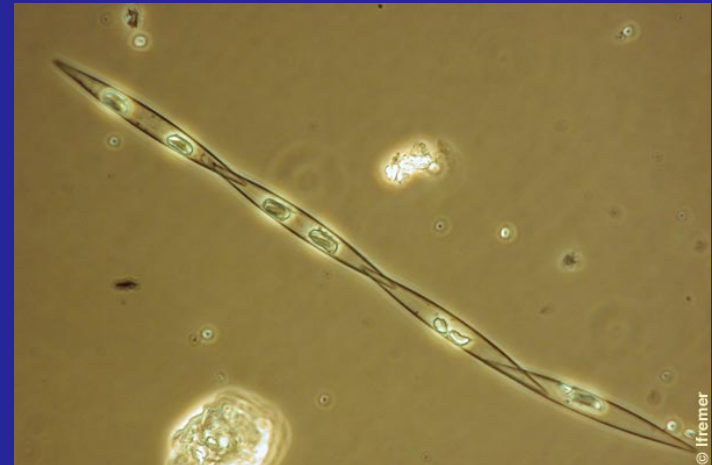
High CO₂ and Silicate Limitation Synergistically Increase the Toxicity of *Pseudo-nitzschia fraudulenta*

Avery O. Tatters, Fei-Xue Fu, David A. Hutchins*

- Si-replete vs. Si-limited
- CO₂ 190, 380, 750 ppm
 - four months of pre-conditioning
 - Toxin measured with HPLC



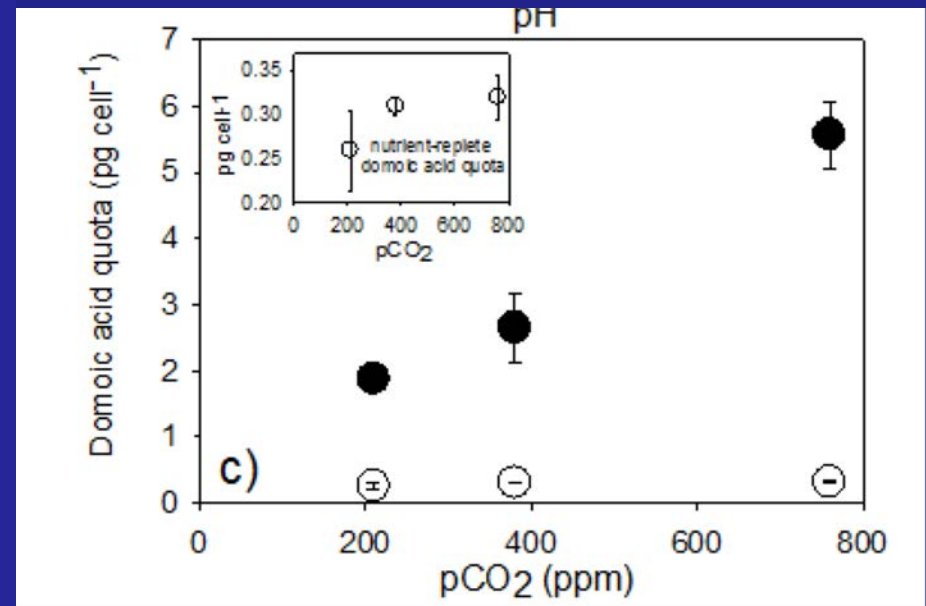
Pseudo-nitzschia
fraudulenta
(from Southern California)



**Domoic acid
production
increases
dramatically
with rising
acidification-
especially during
Si-limited growth**

○ Si-replete

● Si-limited



Tatters et al. 2012

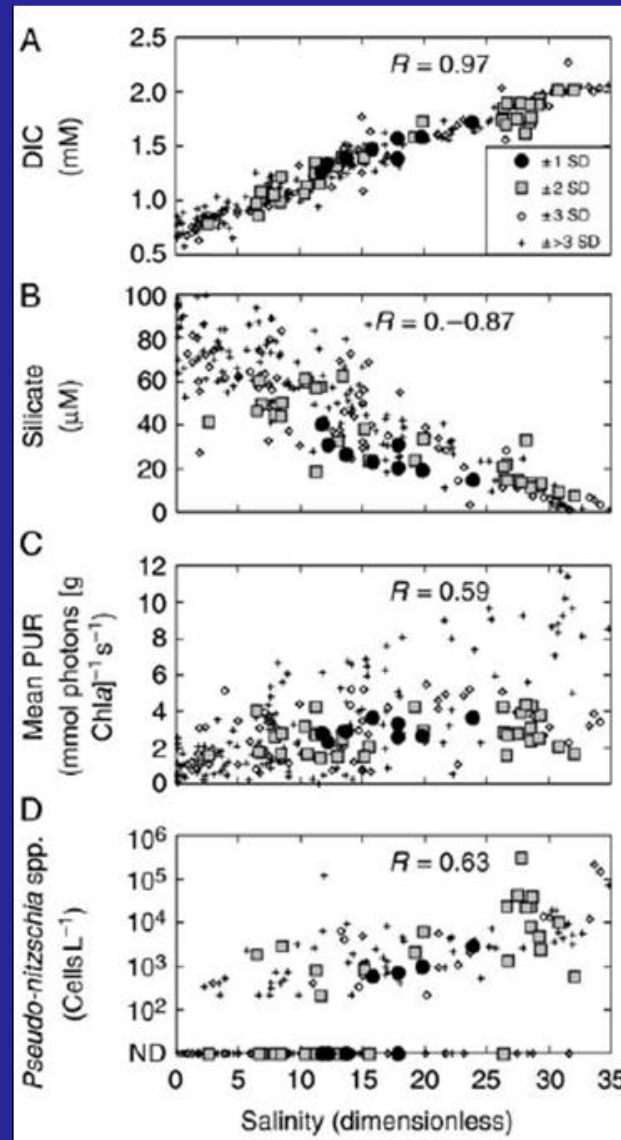
PLoS ONE 7

Supporting correlative field data from MacIntyre et al. (2011)

CO₂ concentrations

Si concentrations

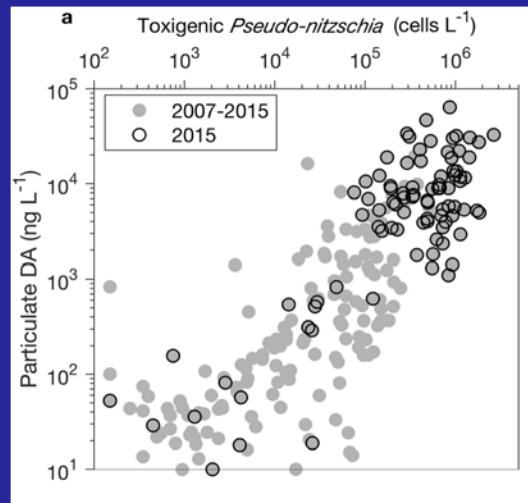
Pseudo-nitzschia
abundance (also
domoic acid levels)



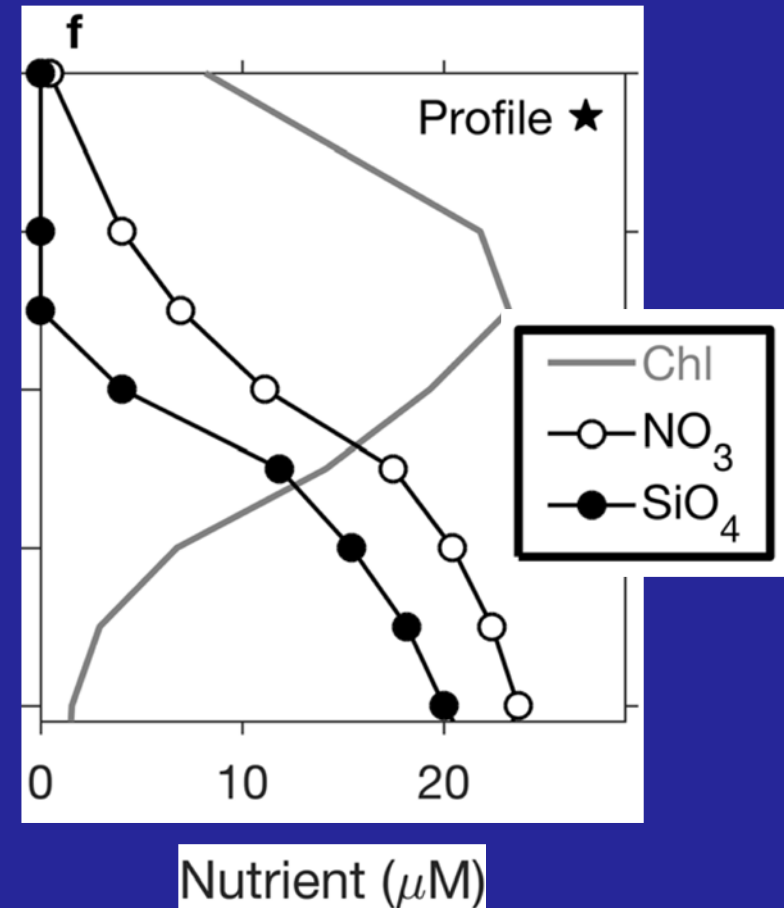
Si depletion increases the toxicity of a Monterey Bay bloom event during the 2015 heat wave event

Causality of an extreme harmful algal bloom in Monterey Bay, California, during the 2014–2016 northeast Pacific warm anomaly

J. P. Ryan¹, R. M. Kudela², J. M. Birch¹, M. Blum¹, H. A. Bowers^{1,3}, F. P. Chavez¹, G. J. Doucette⁴, K. Hayashi², R. Marin III¹, C. M. Mikulski⁴, J. T. Pennington¹, C. A. Scholin¹, G. J. Smith³, A. Woods³, and Y. Zhang¹



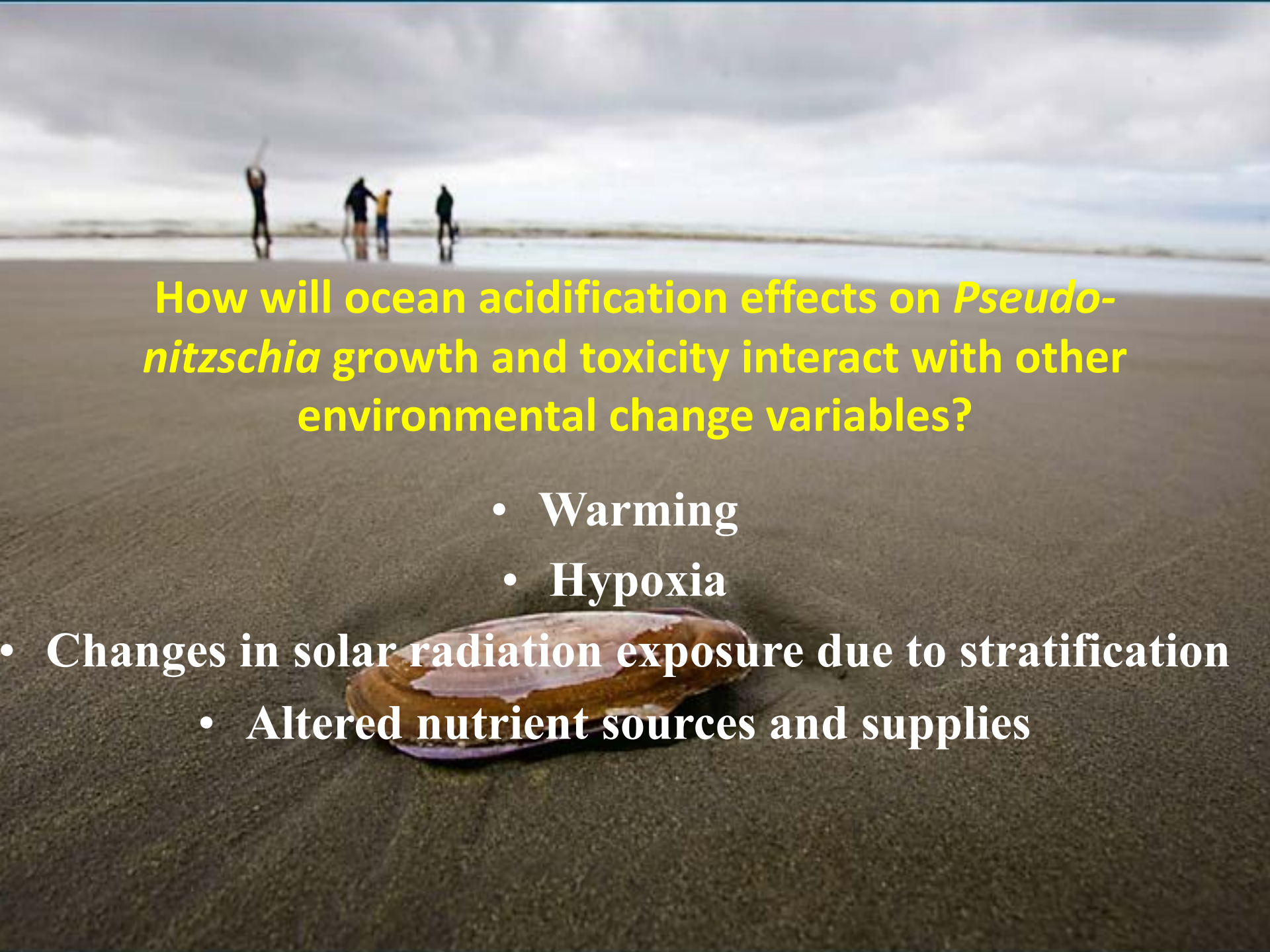
eos.ubc.ca



Take Home Message for Domoic Acid and CO₂

The toxicity of *Pseudo-nitzschia* spp. isn't increased that much by ocean acidification alone- but high pCO₂ can greatly magnify the increases in domoic acid production typically seen during limitation by the nutrients Si and P

There is a synergistic effect between acidification and nutrient limitation

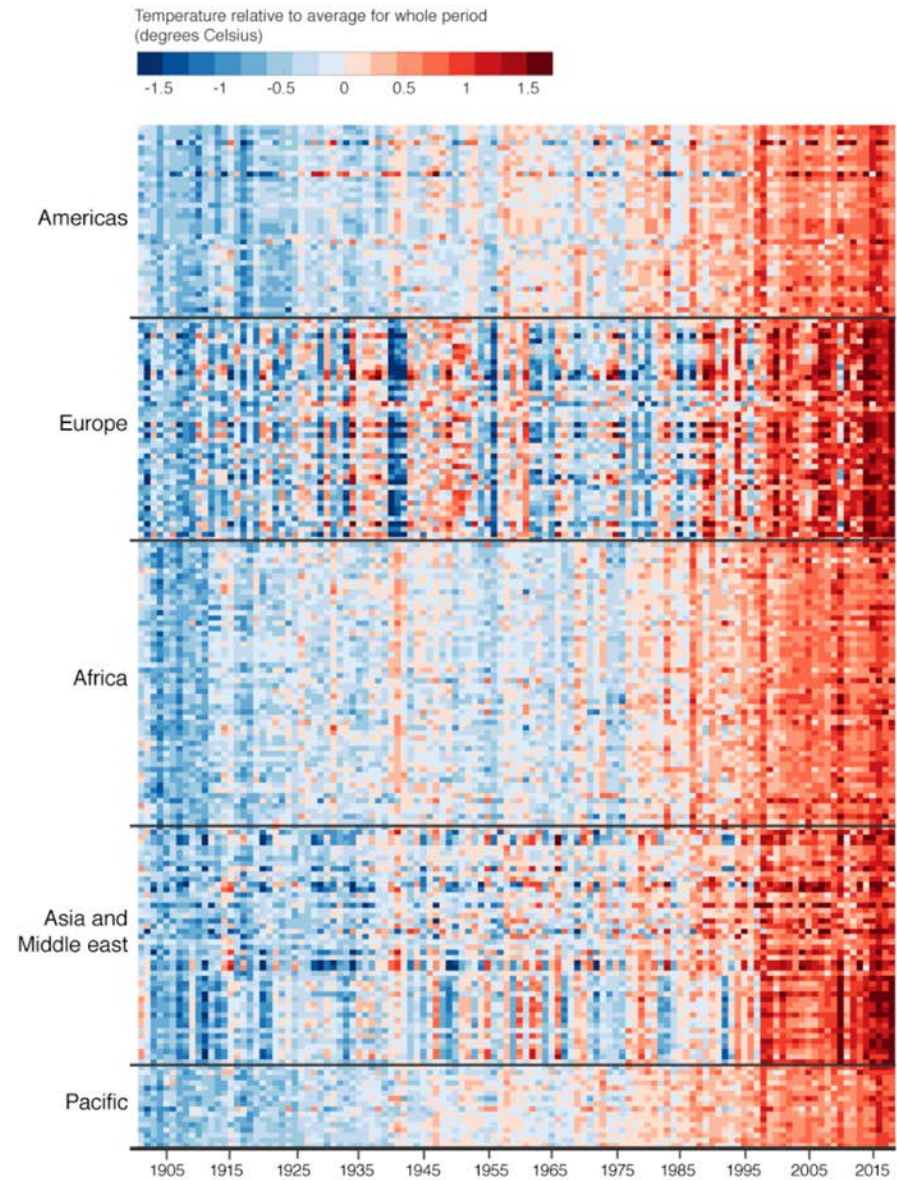
A background image of a beach under a cloudy sky. In the distance, four people are standing on the sand near the water's edge. In the foreground, a large, brown, oval-shaped seashell lies on the sand.

How will ocean acidification effects on *Pseudo-nitzschia* growth and toxicity interact with other environmental change variables?

- Warming
- Hypoxia
- Changes in solar radiation exposure due to stratification
 - Altered nutrient sources and supplies

The Earth
is getting
warmer...

Temperature changes around the world (1901-2018)

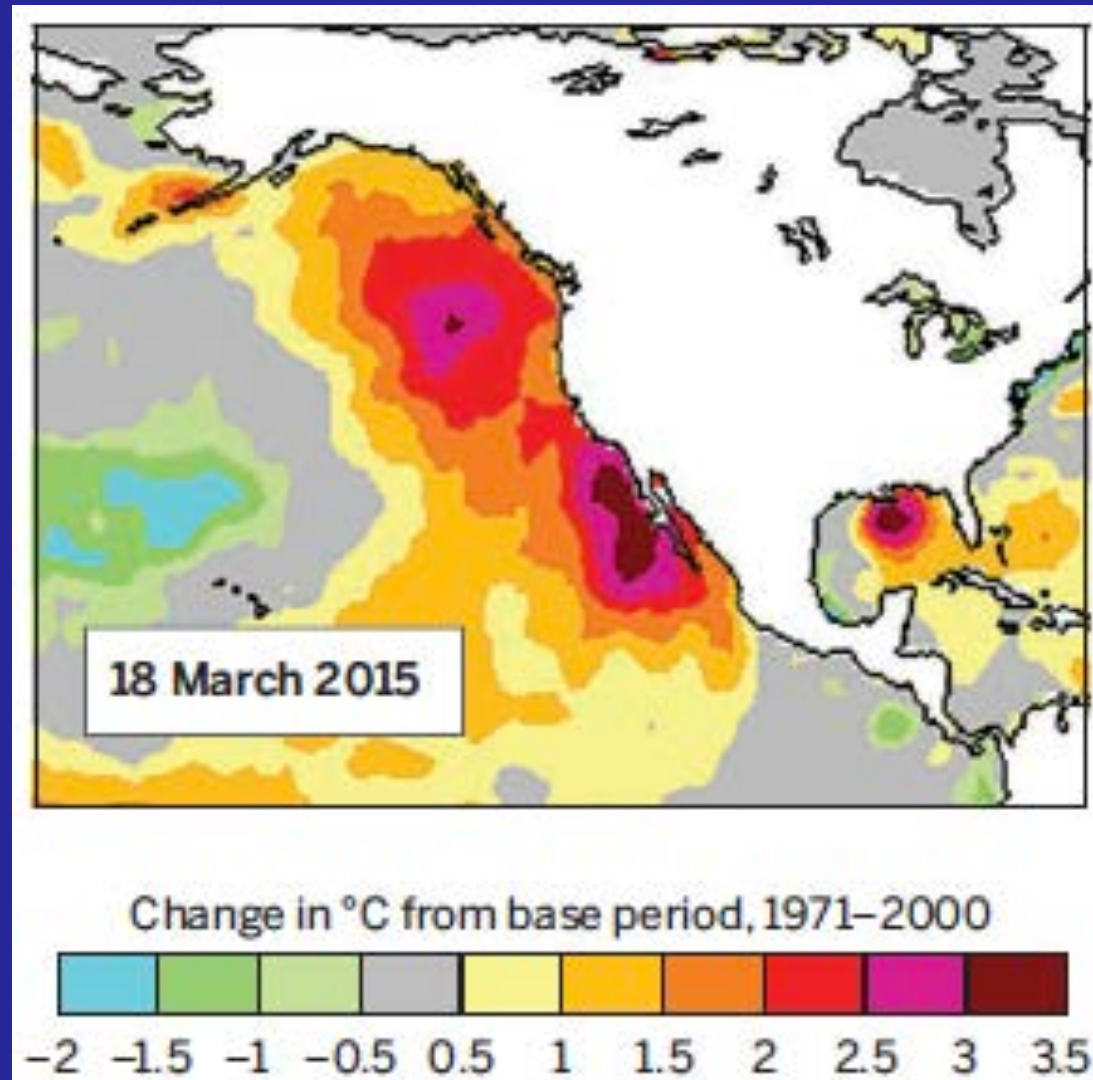


Source: Ed Hawkins/Reading University



Each row of coloured pixels represents the temperature record of an individual nation within its region. The countries are listed in alphabetical order in their bloc, eg running down from Albania to UK in Europe

Pseudo-nitzschia and warming: The Blob bloom





RESEARCH LETTER

10.1002/2016GL070023

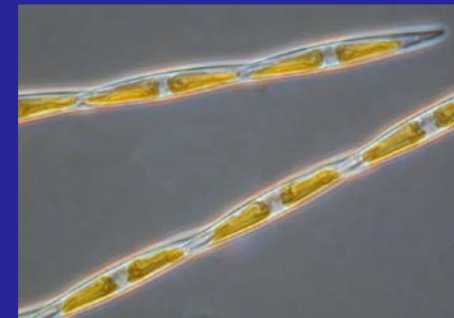
Special Section:

Midlatitude Marine Heatwaves:
Forcing and Impacts

An unprecedented coastwide toxic algal bloom
linked to anomalous ocean conditions

Ryan M. McCabe¹, Barbara M. Hickey², Raphael M. Kudela³, Kathi A. Lefebvre⁴, Nicolaus G. Adams⁴,
Brian D. Bill⁴, Frances M. D. Gulland⁵, Richard E. Thomson⁶, William P. Cochlan⁷, and Vera L. Trainer⁴

2015	Shellfish Harvest and Fishery Closures with Maximum Domoic Acid Values
7-May	Quinalt tribe razor clam harvest closure (WA)
8-May	Commercial, tribal & recreational razor clam harvest closure (WA)
9-May	Razor clam harvest closure (northern OR)
14-May	State wide razor clam harvest closure (OR)
15-May	Shellfish harvest closure (BC Canada)
29-May	Anchovy viscera maximum 1671 ppm (CA)
1-Jun	Anchovy, sardine fishery closure (CA)
3-Jun	Dungeness crab maximum 65 ppm (WA)
5-Jun	Dungeness crab fishery closure (WA)
3-Jul	Anchovy, sardine, mussel, & clam closures expanded to southern CA
11-Sep	Dungeness crab maximum 140 ppm (northern CA)
27-Oct	Razor clam maximum 170 ppm (southern OR)
3-Nov	Dungeness crab & rock crab warning for recreational harvest (CA)
6-Nov	Commercial rock crab fishery closed (CA)
8-Nov	Dungeness crab maximum 70 ppm (southern OR)
11-Nov	Dungeness crab & rock crab recreational & commercial fishery closure (CA)
22-Nov	Dungeness crab maximum 270 ppm (northern CA)
23-Nov	Rock crab maximum 1000 ppm (southern CA)
23-Nov	Delayed opening of commercial Dungeness crab fishery (WA, OR, CA)
9-Feb-2016	CA seeks federal disaster declaration for commercial crab fishery





Domoc acid closures cost the West Coast
Dungeness crab fishery ~\$50-100 million

Who's to blame for the neurotoxin that's poisoning the Pacific?

Why a Pacific coast fishing organization is suing 30 fossil fuel companies

By [Rachel Becker](#) | Mar 19, 2019, 10:00am EDT

Photos by [Vjeran Pavic](#)

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THE VERGE

GOOD DEALS



SimpliSafe's 11-piece home security system is \$100 off at Best Buy



<https://www.theverge.com/2019/3/19/18271856/crabs-domoic-acid-climate-change-big-oil-fossil-fuels-pacific-harmful-algal-bloom>

Fishermen Sue Big Oil For Climate Change Damages



PCFFA

The Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations

versus

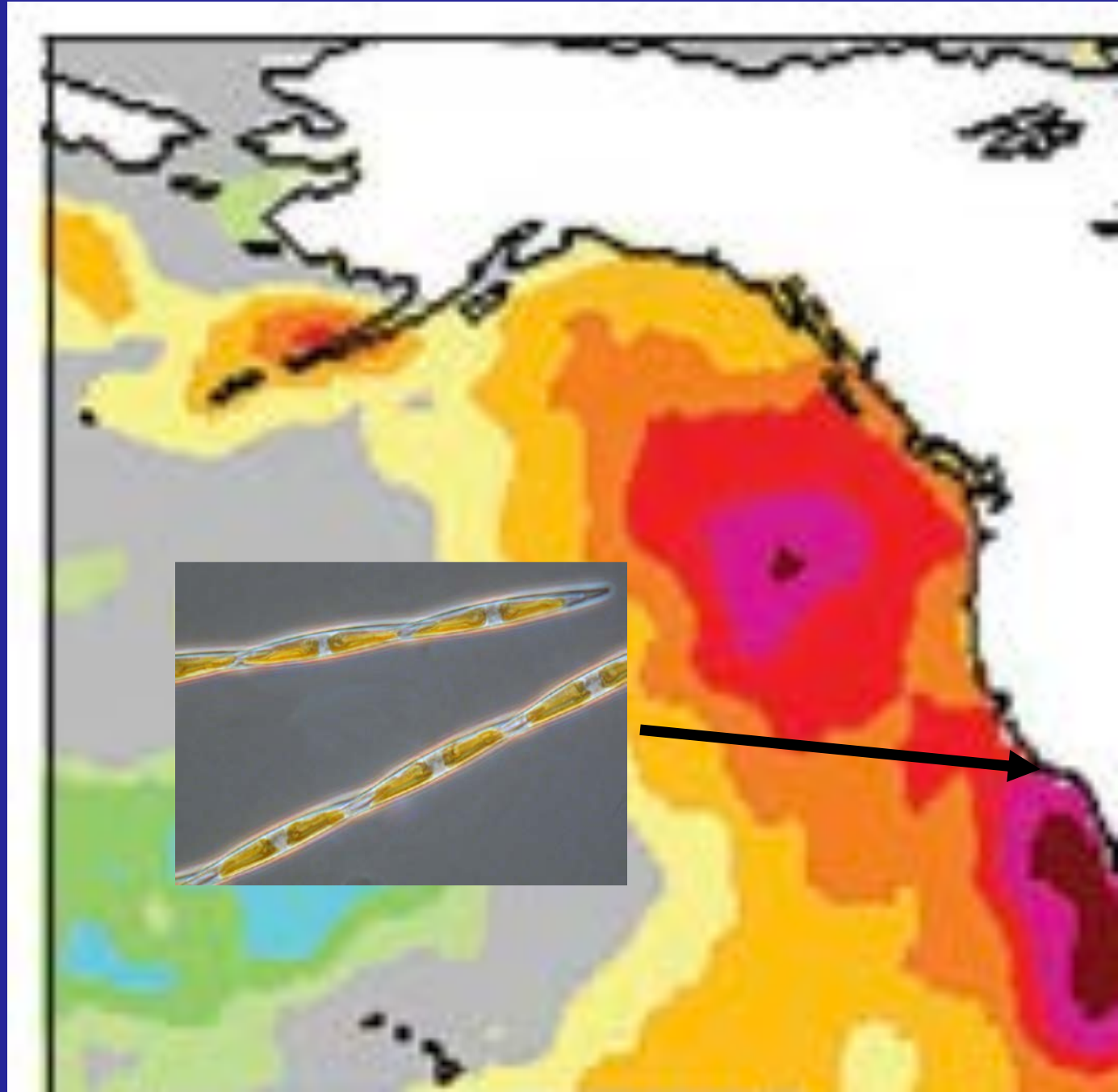


ExxonMobil



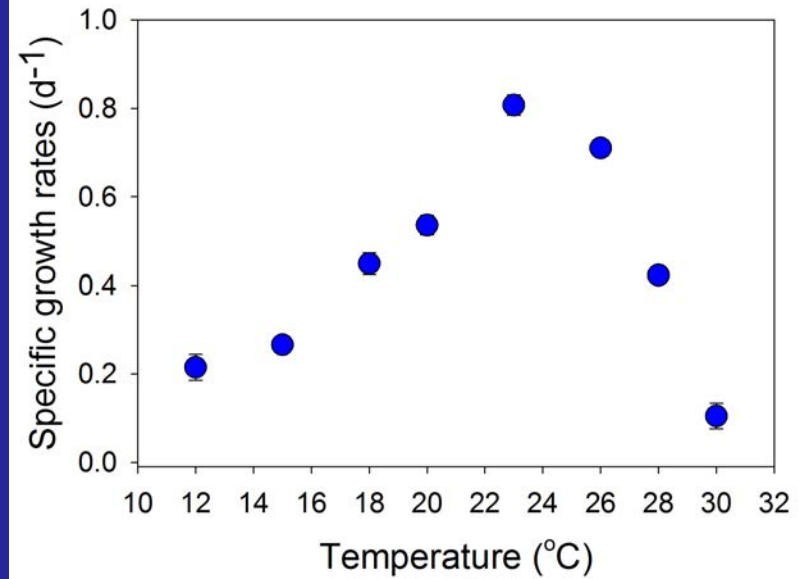
ConocoPhillips

We used a *Pseudo-nitzschia australis* culture isolated locally near the beginning of the Blob bloom to investigate the relationship between temperature and domoic acid production

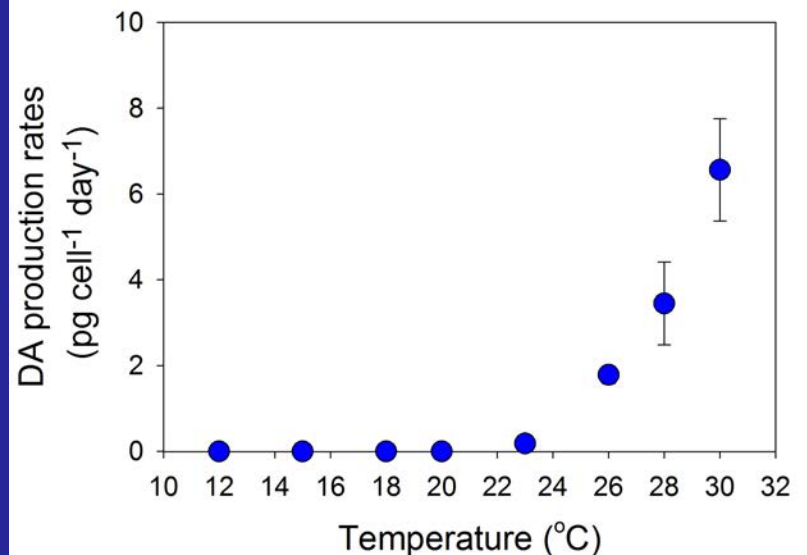


Pseudo-nitzschia australis temperature responses

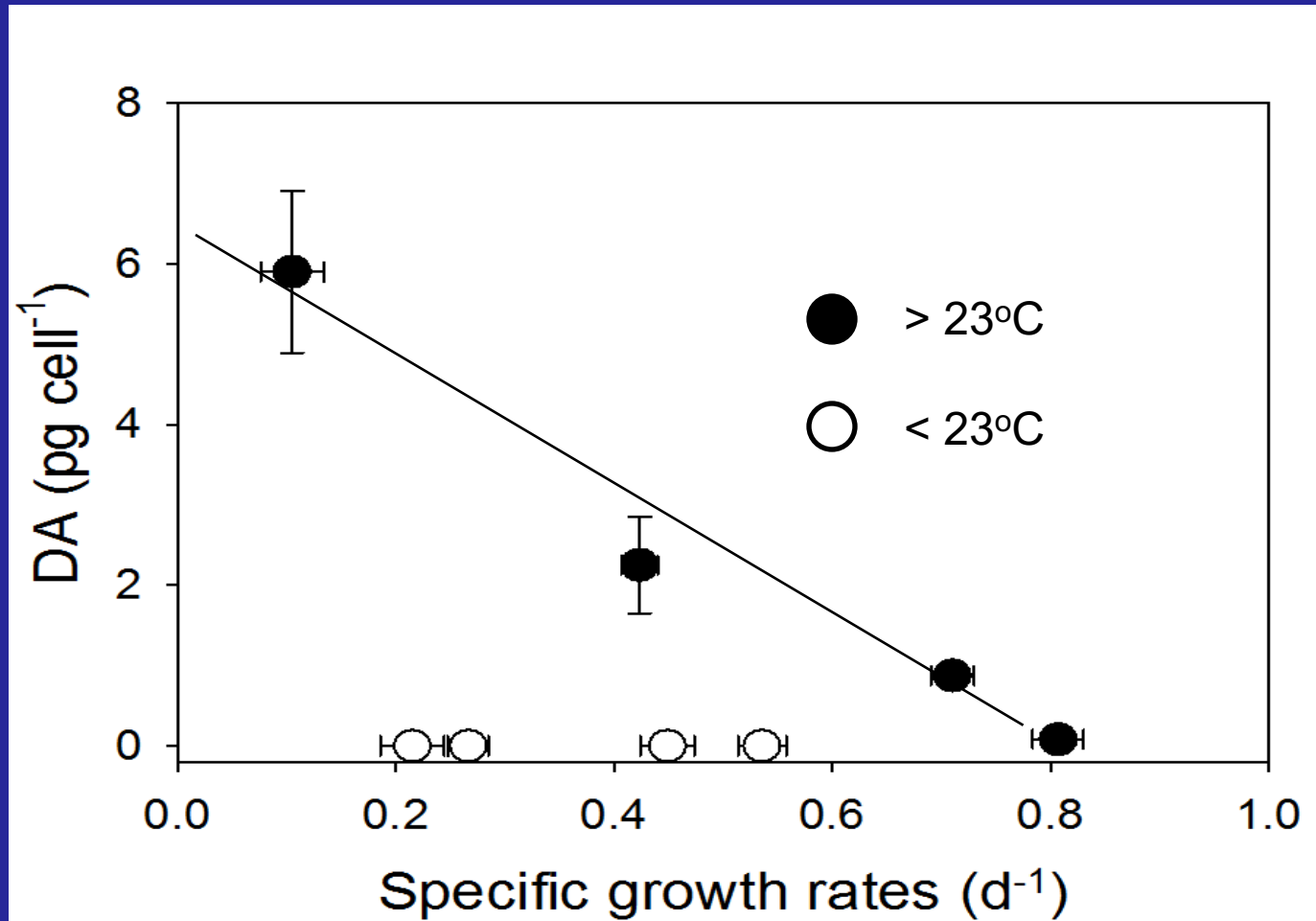
Growth rates



Domoic acid production rates

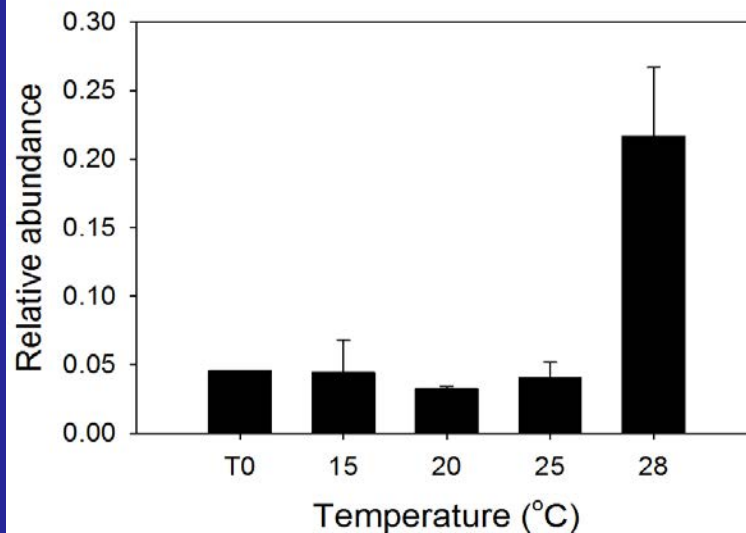
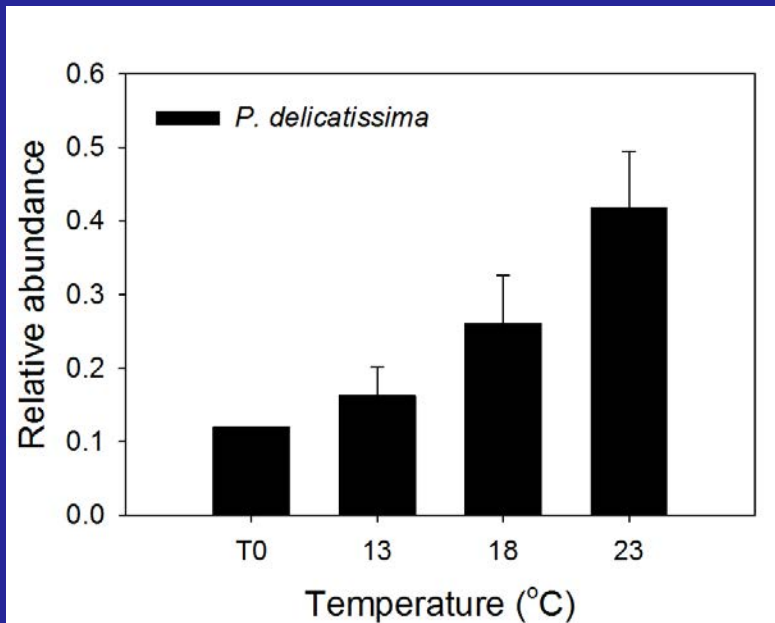


Cellular toxin content versus growth rate

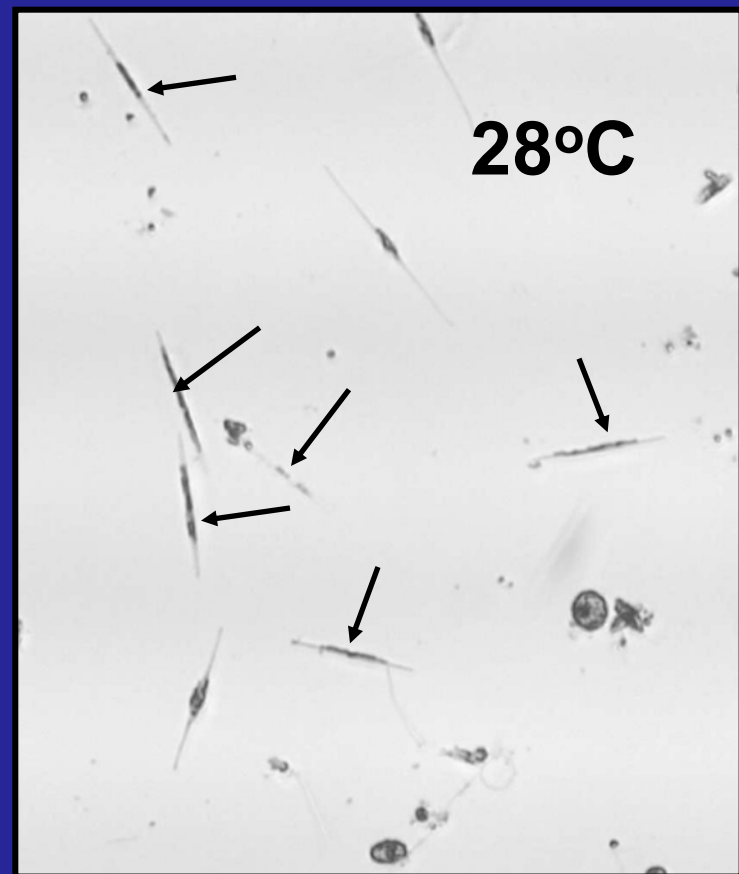
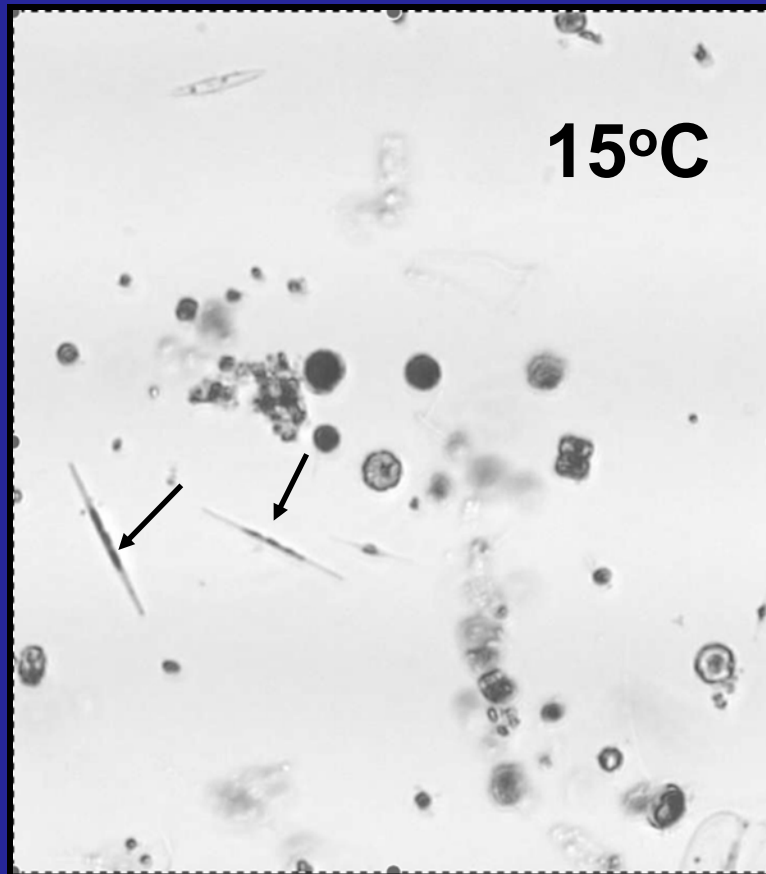


Natural community experiments:

P. delicatissima abundance increases with temperature

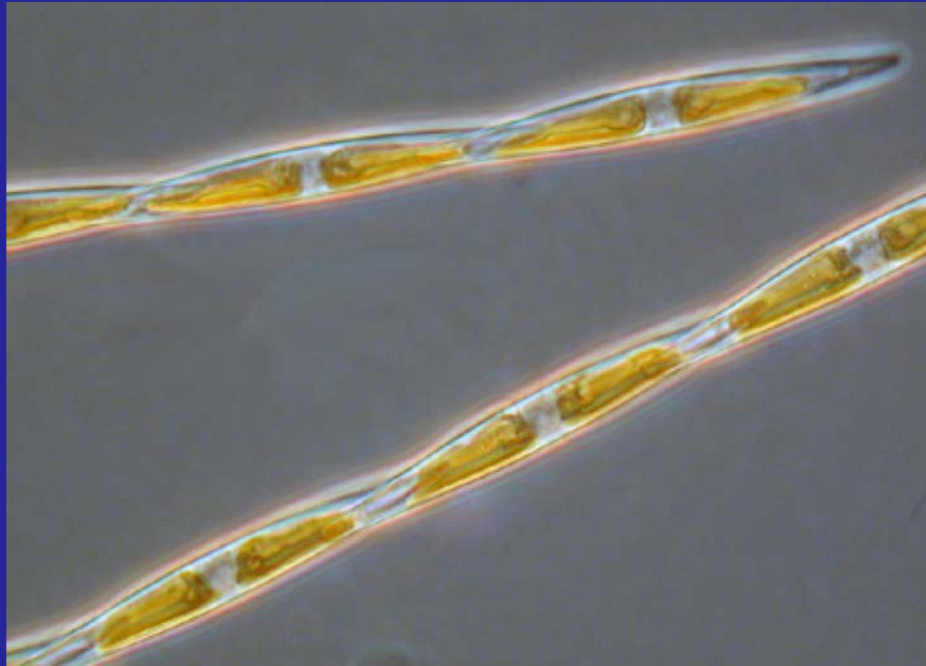


Natural community experiments:
P. delicatissima abundance increases with temperature

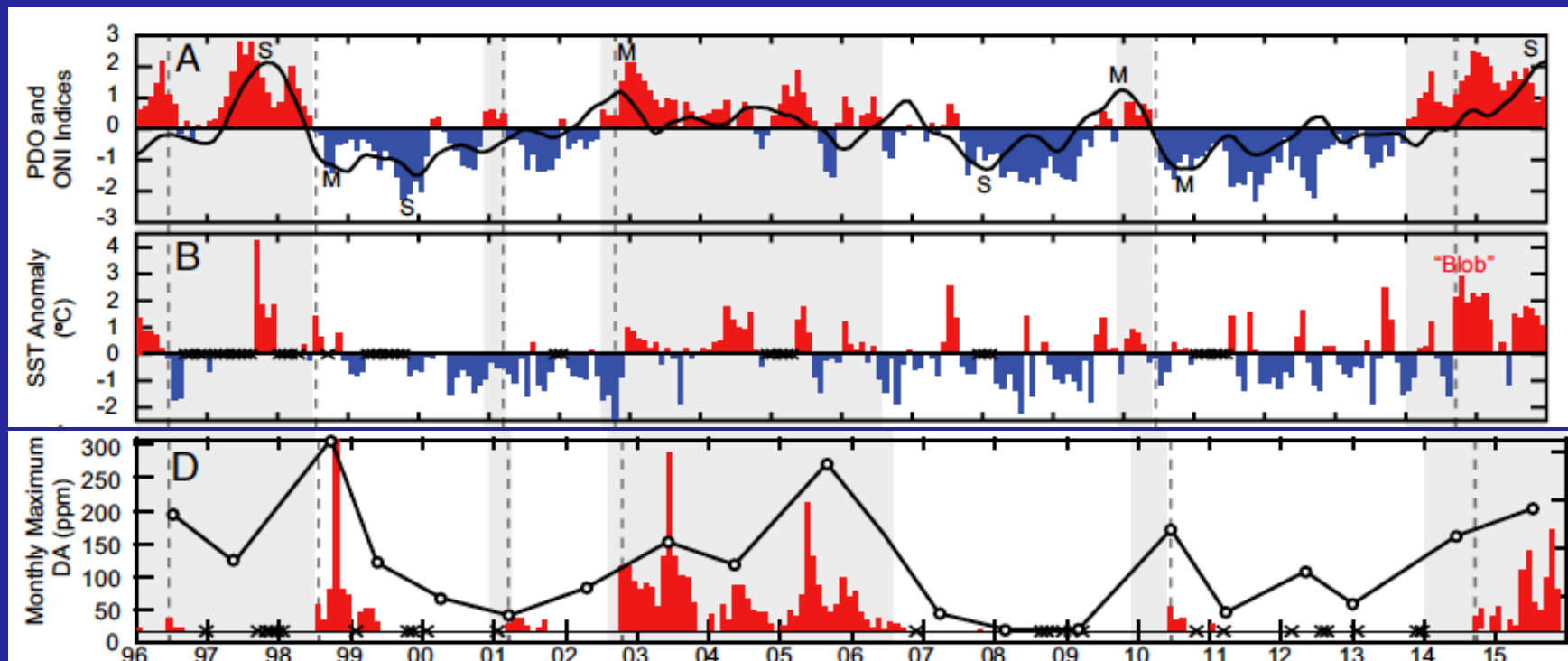


Domoic Acid and Warming

Both the toxicity and the abundance of some toxic *Pseudo-nitzschia* spp. can be greatly increased by warming



Domoic acid in shellfish correlates with climate trends



The future- predictions of a warmer eastern Pacific Ocean

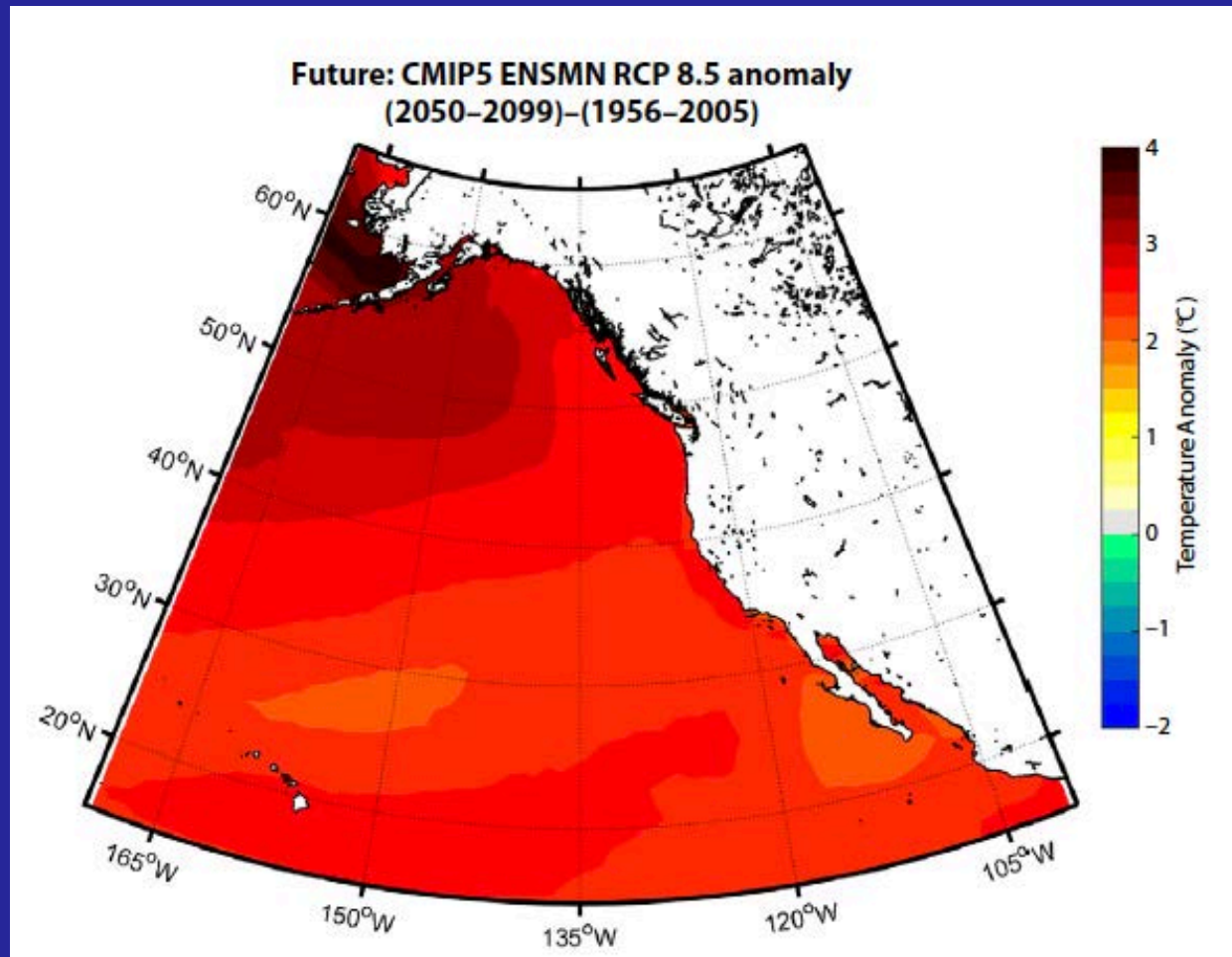
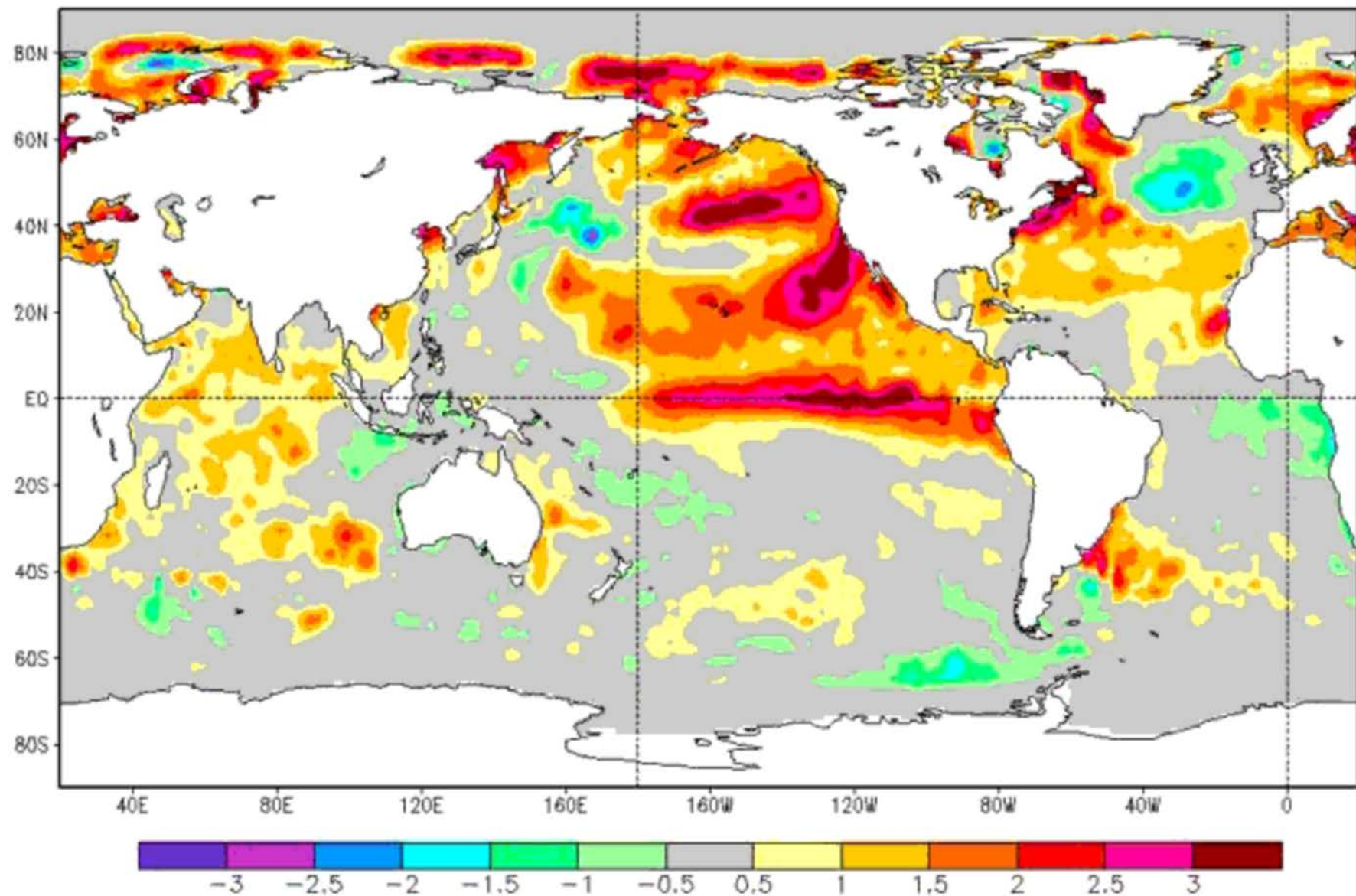


FIGURE 4. Temperature anomalies predicted for 2050–2099 using the RCP8.5 climate 368 model, calculated relative to temperature records from 1956–2005. Data were obtained from the NOAA climate change Web portal (NOAA, 2016a).

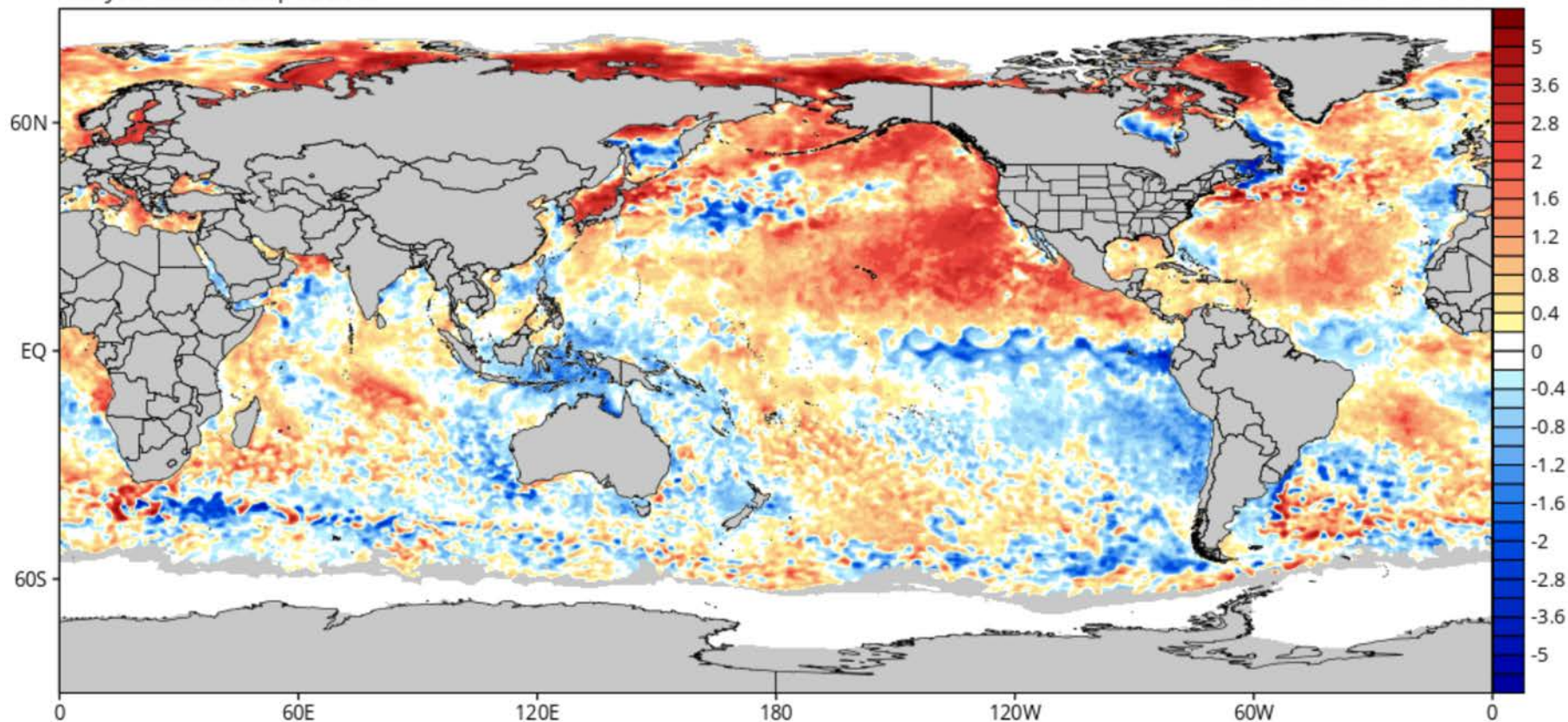
Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), Base Period 1971–2000
Week of 26 AUG 2015



CDAS Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) (based on CFSR 1981-2010 Climatology)

Analysis Time: 06z Sep 12 2019

TROPICALTIDBITS.COM

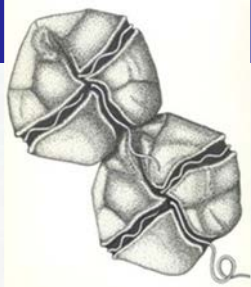


Sea surface temperature differences, compared to the average from 1981-2010, in the Pacific Ocean on September 12, 2019. (Data from NOAA, via [TropicalTidbits.com](https://tropicaltidbits.com))

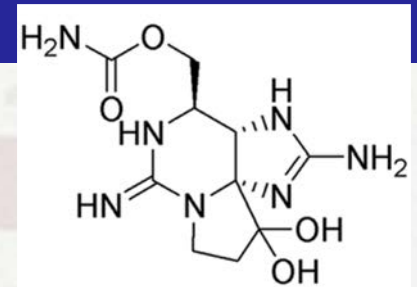
How will long-term warming trends and transitory heat wave events interact with other global change factors like acidification and stratification to affect toxic *Pseudo-nitzschia* blooms?



The interactive effects of acidification, warming and nutrient limitation on toxic *Alexandrium*



Alexandrium catenella

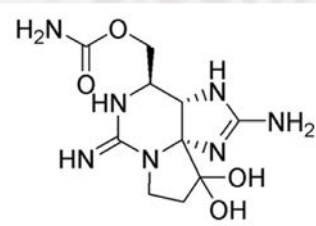


- produces saxitoxin and derivatives, collectively known as Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning Toxins (PSPs)
- Phosphate limitation increases toxicity
- growth and toxicity were measured in a local clone of *Alexandrium catenella*
- eight months of conditioning in an experimental matrix of:

Two CO₂ concentrations

Two temperatures

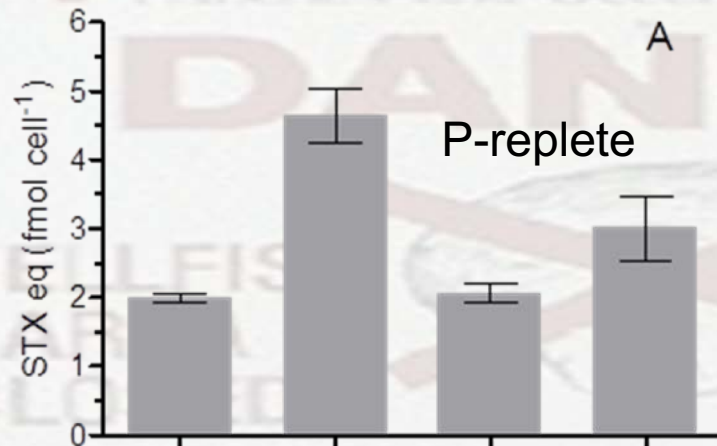
Two phosphate concentrations



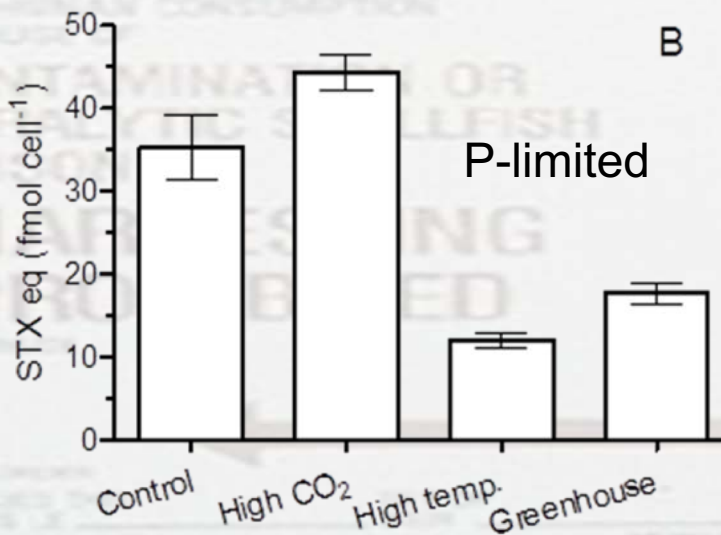
High CO₂ promotes the production of paralytic shellfish poisoning toxins by *Alexandrium catenella* from Southern California waters

Avery O. Tatters^a, Leanne J. Flewelling^b, Feixue Fu^a, April A. Granholm^b,
David A. Hutchins^{a,*}





High CO₂ led to increased cellular toxin levels, regardless of temperature or phosphate status examined.



Warmer temperatures reduced toxicity

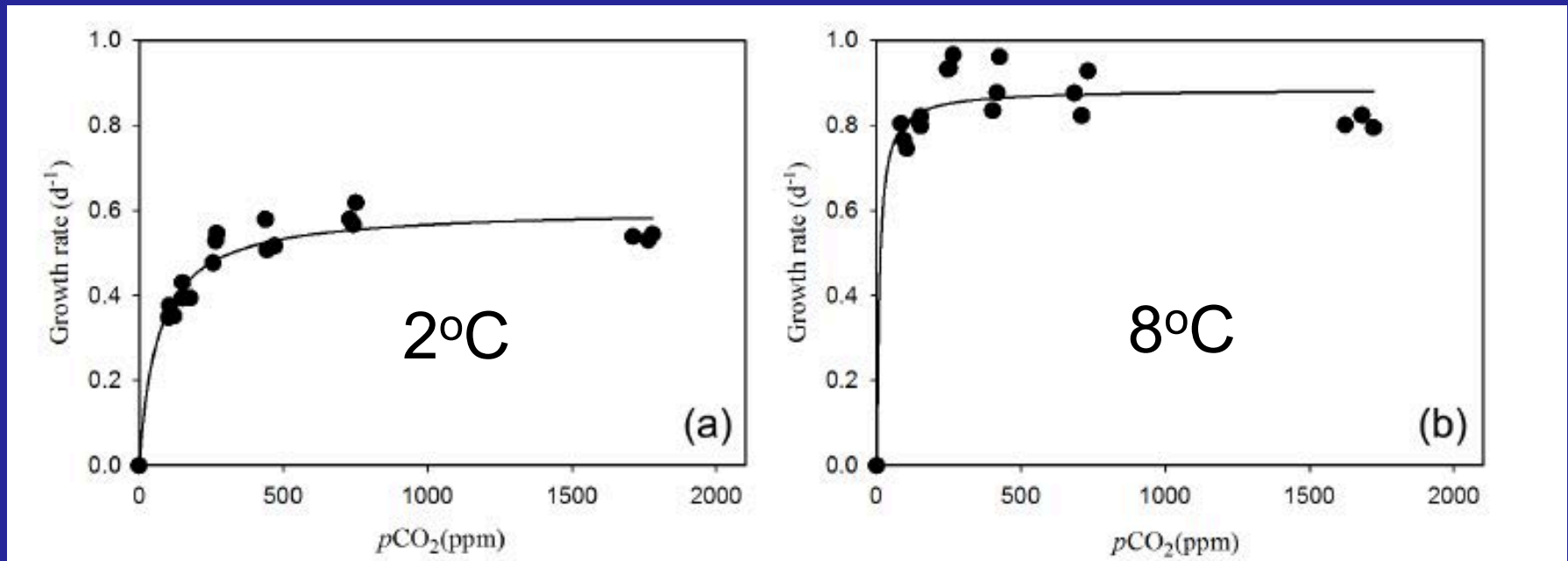
High CO₂, P-limited, low temperature conditioned cells- most toxic



Interactions between acidification and warming in a polar *Pseudo-nitzschia*

Individual and interactive effects of warming and CO₂ on *Pseudo-nitzschia subcurvata* and *Phaeocystis antarctica*, two dominant phytoplankton from the Ross Sea, Antarctica

Zhi Zhu, Pingping Qu, Jasmine Gale, Feixue Fu, and David A. Hutchins



- 1) Maximum growth rates are almost 50% higher under acidified conditions at the warmer temperature
- 2) Half-saturation constants for CO₂ are 6X lower (11 ppm vs 66 ppm) under acidified conditions at the warmer temperature

Our current project is supported by California Proposition 84 funds, administered by the Urban Ocean Sea Grant program

How will interactions between multiple global change stressors affect *Pseudo-nitzschia* growth and toxicity?



Kyla Kelly

Acidification

Warming

Nitrogen source

Light

UV radiation



Our first set of experiments examined *Pseudo-nitzschia multiseriis* growth and domoic acid production in an interactive experimental matrix of:

Temperature (20C and 25C)

Nitrogen source (Nitrate and urea)

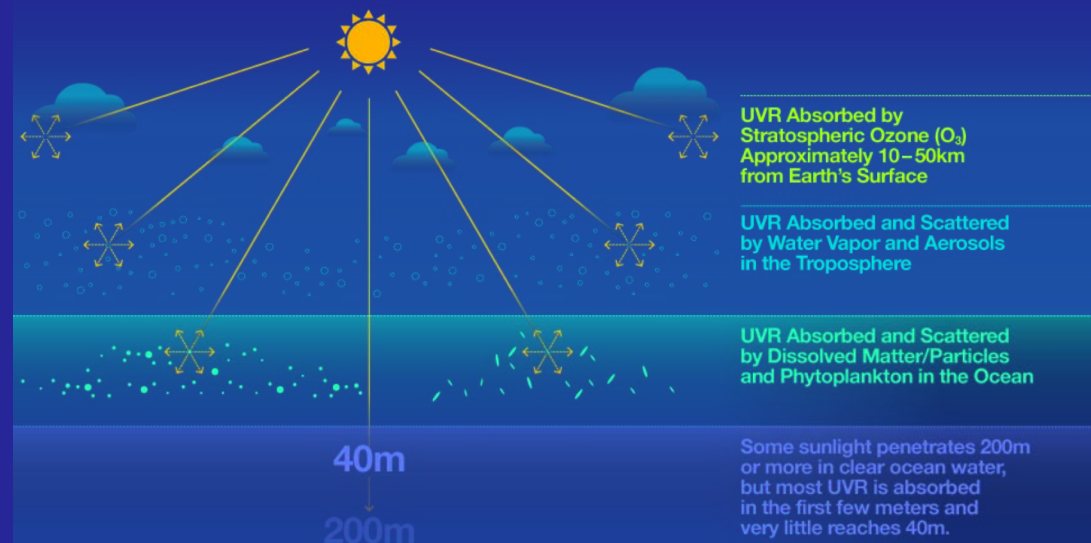
Solar radiation (Photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) alone, and PAR plus UV radiation)



Our early results suggest that *Pseudo-nitzschia multiseriis* is very sensitive to UV radiation

It's growth is almost completely inhibited at UV levels that are easily tolerated by other algae we have examined

Ultraviolet Radiation (UVR) Ocean Interaction



SOURCE:
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution [WHOI]: Oceanus

UVR only penetrates into the top few meters of the ocean

Does this unusual sensitivity to UV radiation help explain the common observation that *Pseudo-nitzschia* often forms sub-surface 'thin layer' blooms?

Cryptic Blooms: Are Thin Layers the Missing Connection?

Margaret A. McManus • Raphael M. Kudela •
Mary W. Silver • Grieg F. Steward •
Percy L. Donaghay • James M. Sullivan

Thin layers and camouflage: hidden
Pseudo-nitzschia spp. (Bacillariophyceae)
populations in a fjord in the San Juan Islands,
Washington, USA

Limnol. Oceanogr., 53(5), 2008, 1816–1834
© 2008, by the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, Inc.

J. E. B. Rines^{1,*}, P. L. Donaghay¹, M. M. Dekshenieks², J. M. Sullivan¹,
M. S. Twardowski³

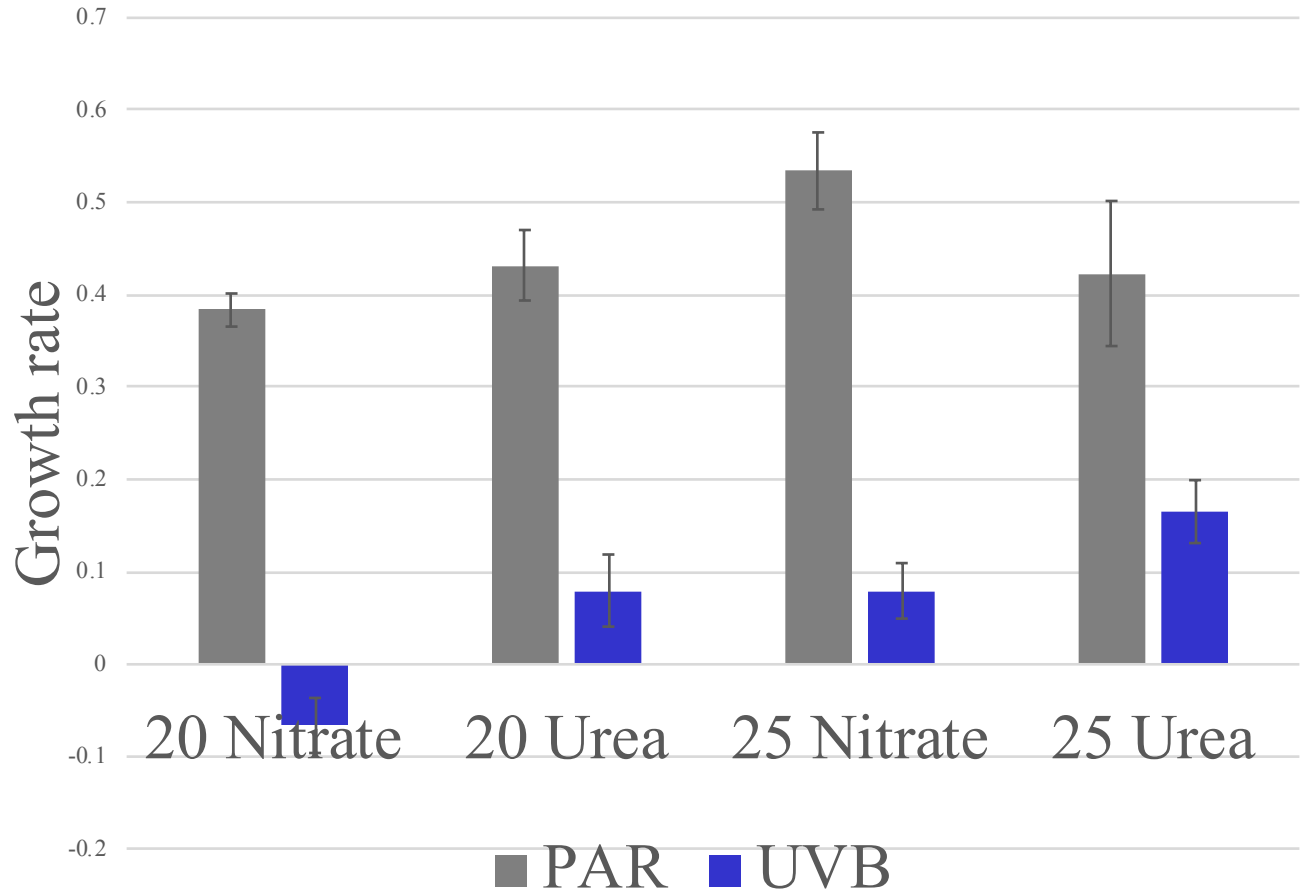
Thin layers of *Pseudo-nitzschia* spp. and the fate of *Dinophysis acuminata* during an upwelling–downwelling cycle in a Galician Ría

L. Velo-Suárez and S. González-Gil

Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Centro Oceanográfico de Vigo, Subida a Radiofaro 50-52, Cabo Estay, Canido, 36390
Vigo, Spain

What are the implications for toxic blooms if the surface mixed layer is getting shallower due to climate change, as predicted by many models?

Early results of our first multiple stressor experiment



1) This toxic species is very sensitive to UV

2) Highest growth rates are in the PAR, warming and nitrate treatment

3) The combination of warming and growth on urea seems to confer some resistance to UV

Global change and harmful *Pseudo-nitzschia* blooms

Many global change factors have the potential to affect our already serious problem with toxic *Pseudo-nitzschia* blooms, including ocean acidification, warming, stratification, deoxygenation, and changes in nutrient supplies and solar radiation.

Many of these environmental changes can individually promote *Pseudo-nitzschia* growth and/or toxicity, but it is the *interactions* between multiple factors that are likely to be far more important than any single factor alone.

We need to start considering global change holistically, as it is the combination of *all* these simultaneous changes together that will determine the future of harmful *Pseudo-nitzschia* blooms along the West Coast.

Acknowledgements

Senior collaborators

**Feixue Fu, Andy Allen, Jun Sun, Dave Caron,
Bradley Moore**

Students

**Avery Tatters, Kyla Kelly, Zhi Zhu, Pingping Qu,
Jasmine Gale**

Funding



USC Urban Ocean Sea Grant

California Proposition 84

NSF Polar Programs

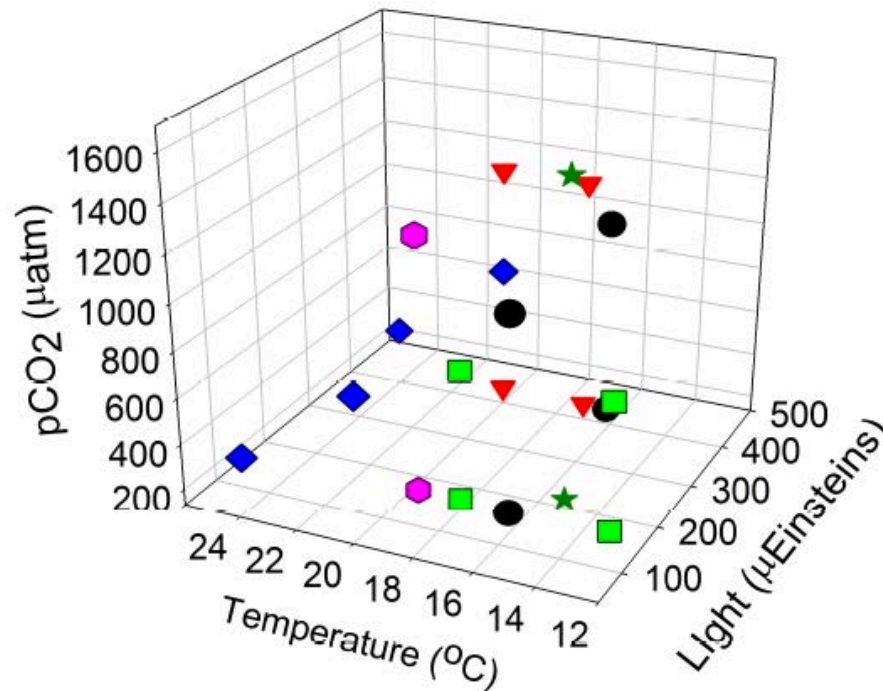


Proposition 84

Designing multiple variable global change experiments can be tricky!

Growth rates of phytoplankton in six published global change studies:

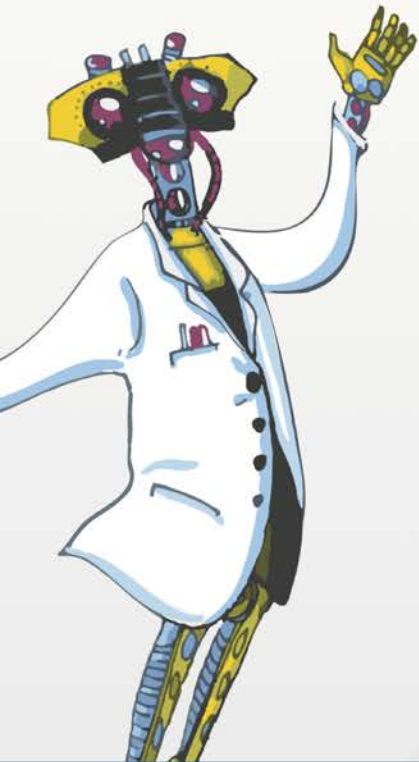
Experimental outcomes vary, at least partly because different experimental matrices were used



Hutchins
and Fu
2017
Nature
Microbiology

A digital Best Practices Guide on how to design and carry out complex multiple variable global change experiments

- <https://meddle-scor149.org>



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EXPERIMENTS IN OCEAN RESEARCH

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You can design and run an online simulated global change experiment of your own

M
—

SIMULATOR

Time to experiment! MEDDLE lets you design single and multi driver experiments and produce simulated data that you can analyze. Happy meddling!



Have fun designing a better experiment!

A video archive and pdf of this webinar will be available on the C-CAN website in the “workshop” page

- <http://c-can.info/workshopswebinars/>

Please contact Diane Pleschner-Steele at dplesch@gmail.com with any questions about C-CAN

The logo for C-CAN, consisting of the letters 'C-CAN' in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. The background of the slide features a photograph of a coastal scene with several large, dark, cylindrical structures (likely oyster or clam racks) in the water. A person wearing a red jacket and a dark hat is bent over, working on one of the racks. The water is choppy, and there are some white birds (possibly gulls) visible in the background.

C-CAN

California Current Acidification Network

Next Roundtable Discussion!
October 16, 2019 at 1 PM Pacific Time

To be announced

Registration and more info will be distributed via the C-CAN listserv shortly. You can sign up by visiting the C-CAN News page

<http://c-can.info/category/news/>

The logo for C-CAN, consisting of the letters 'C-CAN' in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. The background of the entire slide features a photograph of a coastal scene with several large, dark, cylindrical structures (likely oyster racks) in the water. A person wearing a red jacket and a dark hat is bent over, working on one of the racks. The water is calm, and the sky is overcast.

California Current Acidification Network