

**CONTRASTING CO CYCLES
IN THE SURFACE MIXED LAYER
BETWEEN THE NORTH PACIFIC AND THE AMUNDSEN SEA**

Young Shin Kwon

Young Shin Kwon^{1}, Tae Siek Rhee¹, and Hyoun-woo Kang²*

¹Korea Polar Research Institute, Korea

²Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology, Korea

kwonys@kopri.re.kr

ABSTRACT

Carbon monoxide (CO) plays a primary role in regulating the oxidizing power of the atmosphere. In the upper ocean, CO exhibits a strong diurnal cycle being produced by photolytic decomposition of chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM), consumed by microbes, and outgassed by the gas exchange process. To investigate dominant processes that govern the budget of dissolved CO in the mixed layer, we measured air-sea CO flux and microbial consumption of CO during the two expeditions in the Amundsen Sea and the North Pacific in summer season of 2012. In the North Pacific, the sea-to-air flux density was ~ 2 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{d}$, slightly larger than that in the Amundsen Sea although the Amundsen Sea was more supersaturated with respect to the CO in the overlying air. Irradiation for the photolytic production was also twice more intense in the North Pacific. Dark incubation experiments conducted onboard revealed that microbial consumption rate of the CO in the mixed layer are quite different. The mean residence time against the microbial consumption in the North Pacific was about 4 hours while 60 hours in the Amundsen Sea. The surface mixed layer depth was far deeper in the Amundsen Sea than in the North Pacific. Our observation indicates that indistinct diurnal variation of dissolved CO in the Amundsen Sea likely to be due to deep mixed layer and slow microbial consumption while the shallow mixed layer and intense microbial consumption of dissolved CO in the North Pacific render diurnal variation to be stronger.