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Oceanic source strength of carbon monoxide on the basis of basin-wide observations in the Atlantic†

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We measured the carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations in the marine boundary layer and the surface waters of the Atlantic Ocean from 50°N to 50°S during the UK Atlantic Meridional Transect expedition (AMT-7) in October 1998, covering the open ocean and coastal regions. Throughout the cruise track, atmospheric CO concentrations continually decreased southwards in the northern hemisphere with sporadic low and high concentrations encountered. South of the intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ) atmospheric CO was enhanced by ~10 ppb compared to north of the ITCZ due likely to biomass burning emissions prevailing in the tropical continents. The remainder of the southern hemisphere remains nearly invariable except for the vicinity of Rio de la Plata. The surface seawater was supersaturated everywhere along the track and its saturation anomaly oscillated up to 90, exhibiting a typical diurnal cycle. The maximal dissolved CO concentration in the diurnal cycle appeared 2–5 hours behind the local maximum of solar insolation in the open ocean and the time lag further increased in the coastal region. The global ocean flux of CO to the atmosphere was estimated to be 14 Tg(CO) a⁻¹ within the range of 4–24 Tg(CO) a⁻¹. This is within uncertainty almost identical to what was estimated on the basis of the basin-wide observations in the Pacific and the Atlantic, but more than ~4 times lower than the values appeared in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports.

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Environmental impact

Photochemical processes in the marine boundary layer impact the fate of atmospheric trace gases including pollutants and greenhouse gases. Carbon monoxide plays a key role in atmospheric chemistry because of the predominant sink of hydroxyl radicals which oxidize pollutants and greenhouse gases emitted to the atmosphere by human activities. Due to the limited accessibility to the remote oceans, few basin-wide observations have been conducted so far, leading to large uncertainties and even bias in the oceanic CO emissions in the atmospheric CO budget. Rectifying oceanic CO emissions will help constrain the atmospheric budget and understand the behavior of atmospheric pollutants and greenhouse gases, particularly in the remote ocean where anthropogenic impacts are limited.

1. Introduction

Carbon monoxide (CO) has little direct radiative impact, but its strong reaction with the OH radical and the production or destruction of ozone along the photochemical chain reactions in the troposphere indirectly influence the budget of other important greenhouse gases.^{1–3} Because of its critical role in climate change and atmospheric chemistry, numerous studies have investigated the budget of CO in the atmosphere by means of measurements in the field^{4,5} and space,^{6,7} or modeling studies.^{8,9}

The open ocean has been identified as a minor contributor for CO. The oceanic CO flux was estimated to be 6–30 Tg(CO) a⁻¹ based on the basin-wide observations in the Pacific¹⁰ and the Atlantic.¹¹ The oceanic flux of CO corresponds to ~2% of all natural sources.¹² Since the Pacific occupies 50% of the world ocean,¹³ scaling the flux from the Pacific to the world ocean may not lead to a large bias. Even the emission estimated from the Atlantic expedition turned out to be lower than that from the Pacific.¹¹ However, the CO flux from the ocean estimated by Bates *et al.*¹⁰ and Stubbins *et al.*¹¹ is far lower than the estimations by a series of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, which basically refer to the observations in the 1970s. Since CO is pertinent to climate change as well as atmospheric chemistry, it is urgently required to resolve these large discrepancies and further to evaluate reliably the budget in the atmosphere. The main goal of this paper is to accurately estimate the emission

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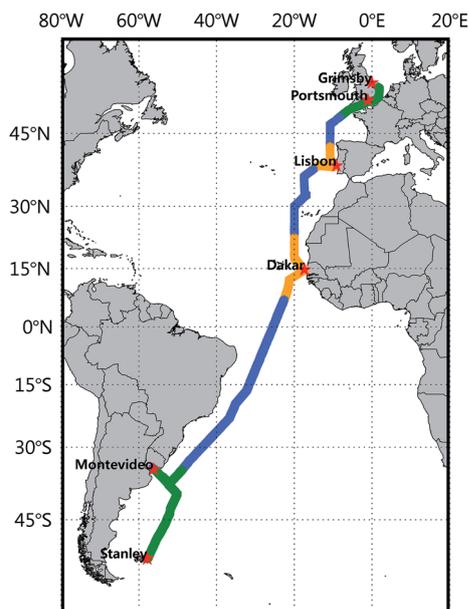


Fig. 1 Cruise track of the 7th Atlantic Meridional Transect (AMT-7). Color code designates oceanographic provinces of the coastal region (green), the coastal upwelling (orange), and the open ocean (blue) which are defined by the chlorophyll *a* concentration along the track.

of CO from the ocean based on the direct basin-wide observations.

A campaign was conducted onboard RRS James Clark Ross as the 7th expedition of the Atlantic Meridional Transect research program (AMT-7).¹⁴ The details of the goal and activities of AMT-7 have been described in detail elsewhere.^{15,16} In brief, the cruise commenced in Grimsby, U.K., on September 12, and ended in the Falkland Islands, U.K. on October 25, 1998 (Fig. 1). During the cruise, we sailed several different oceanographic regimes in the Atlantic Ocean such as the coastal region, coastal and equatorial upwelling zones, and the open ocean. Various characteristic air masses in synoptic scales were encountered based on *in situ* measurements of meteorological parameters and 4 day backward trajectory analyses.¹⁵ During this period, over 2300 measurements of CO in the surface water and overlying air were conducted.

2. Experimental

2.1. Underway measurement

Atmospheric and dissolved gas sampling methods have been described in detail elsewhere.¹⁵ In brief, the air sampling inlet was mounted on the foremast of the ship 19 m above the sea surface, located ~53 m far from the exhaust of the ship so that the flow of contaminated air into the detector was minimized. Air samples were drawn through polyethylene inner-coated aluminum tubing (Dekabon) at a flow rate of ~10 L min⁻¹ using an Air-Cadet pump. No production of CO from the tubing was confirmed in the laboratory before going to sea and Bates *et al.*¹⁰ also reported the same results.

Uncontaminated surface seawater drawn at a depth of ~6 m was continuously supplied at 10–13 L min⁻¹ to a Weiss-type

equilibrator to sample dissolved CO molecules. The equilibrator was mounted inside the laboratory to avoid sunlight. 100 mL of the headspace air in the equilibrator was sampled every 40 or 50 minutes to flush the sample loop and to determine the dissolved CO concentration. Since the e-folding time of the equilibration of CO in the headspace is ~30 minutes with a headspace volume of 3.7 L, 40 to 50 minutes of equilibration is enough to collect dissolved CO equilibrated in the seawater.¹⁷ To keep the analyzing system from being wet, water traps soaked in an ice bath were connected to the sampling lines before the pump.

2.2. Determination of gas concentrations

Sample gas from either the ambient air, the headspace gas in the equilibrator, or calibration gases was dried by passing it through Sicapent™ (P₂O₅) before entering the sample loop (Fig. 2). Laboratory tests showed that neither absorption nor production of CO from the Sicapent dryer was detected. Two different sizes of commercial sample loops (0.5 mL and 2 mL, VICI™) were installed to the 10 port VICI valve to account for the large differences in the CO concentration in seawater and air. Being critical to determine the atmospheric and dissolved concentrations of CO accurately, the volumes of sample loops were accurately calibrated and tested using standard gases in the laboratory.¹⁸

The RGA-3 gas chromatographic system consisted of a carrier gas purifying train, two CO separating columns, and a hot mercuric oxide reduction detector. The carrier gas purifying train consisted of metallic oxide, molecular sieve A, and drierite. By switching the position of the VICI valve, the CO-free synthetic air carried the sample to the RGA-3 gas chromatograph at 40 mL min⁻¹. The two columns were made of Uni-beads® 1S and Molecular Sieve 5A, and they were coiled on the aluminum mandrel in the oven, whose temperature remained constant at 130°C. When entering the detector, CO molecules reacted with mercuric oxide (HgO) on the heated bed producing mercury vapor,¹⁹ which absorbs at the specific ultraviolet (UV) line of 254 nm. The analyzing system was calibrated using three standard gases which were prepared by mixing CO molecules in synthetic air and scaled to NOAA primary standards²⁰ (see ESI†).

2.3. Data treatment and reduction

Peak areas of the chromatograms were stored in a storage module during the campaign. As samples from the air and the equilibrator and standard gases were alternately analyzed, mole fractions of the samples were calculated using the linear regression curve obtained from the measurement of standards which bracketed the samples (see ESI for the linearity of the calibration gases†). Since gas solubility in seawater depends on the temperature and salinity, the mole fraction of dissolved gas which was equilibrated at the equilibrator temperature was corrected to the *in situ* seawater temperature using the ratio of the solubilities at two temperatures.¹⁵ We used the empirical solubility equations of Wiesenburg and Guinasso.²¹

Abnormally high concentrations in the atmosphere were often encountered when the ship was stopped on station or near

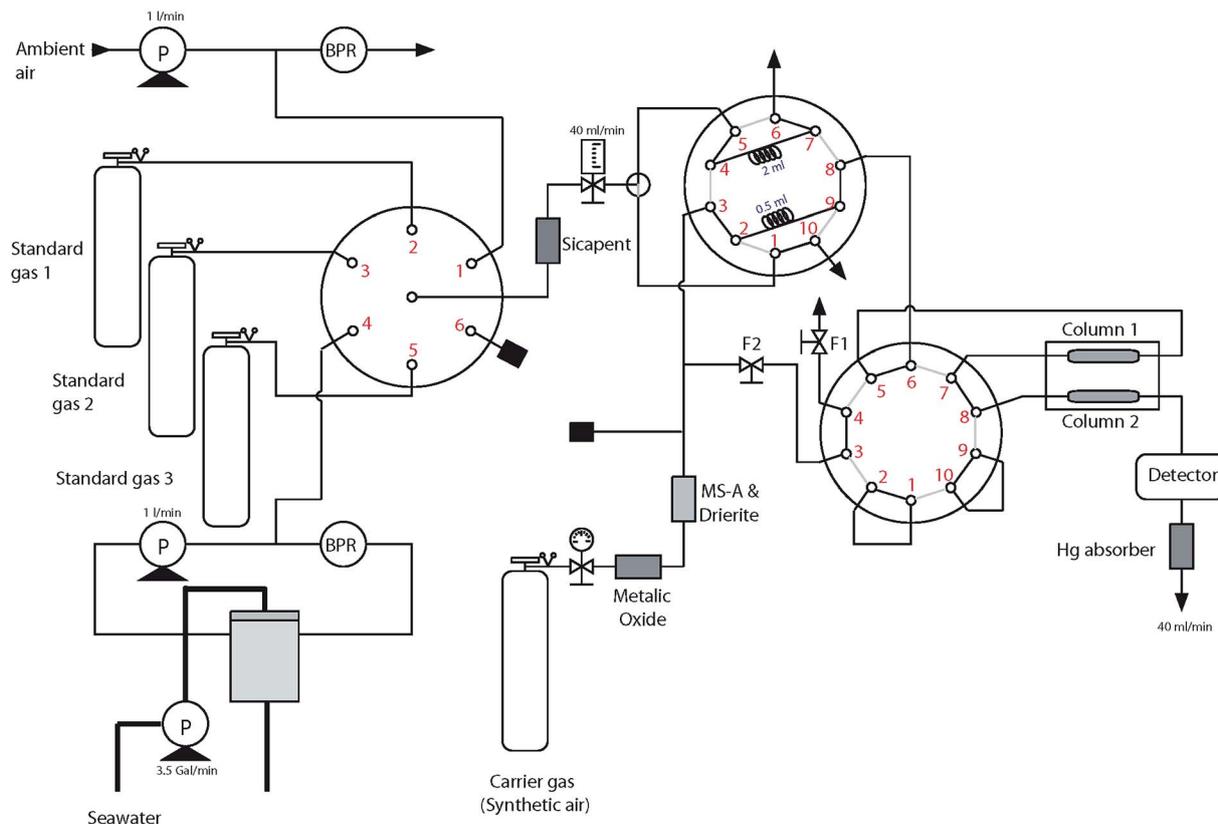


Fig. 2 Schematic diagram of the instrumental system for analyzing atmospheric and dissolved CO. P and BPR stand for the air-cadet membrane pump and back-pressure regulator, respectively, and F1 and F2 indicate the needle valve which controls the flow rate of back-flushing the column 1.

port. In particular, the influence of exhaust from the ship was clearly observed by the dramatic increase of the CO mole fraction. These data were visually eliminated.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. CO in the marine boundary layer

Along the cruise track, the mole fractions in the northern hemisphere ($131 (\pm 1, 1\text{se})$) were greater than those in the southern hemisphere by 46 ppb on average, with the transition occurring in the intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ) located at $8\text{--}12^\circ\text{N}$ (Table 1). The ITCZ was not so distinctive in the spatial distribution of CO mole fractions (Fig. 3(a)) apart from the sharp decrease in the CH_4 mole fraction and from the sudden change in the wind direction from north to south.¹⁵

The highest mole fraction reaching 229 ppb of CO was detected near the Strait of Dover, which can be attributed to anthropogenic sources coming from populated areas in the U.K. as the CH_4 and N_2O were high at the same period.¹⁵ As indicated in Fig. 3(a), anthropogenic point sources were also clearly detected by a sharp increase of CO mole fractions near Lisbon (38.8°N), the Madeira Islands (32.5°N), Dakar (14.6°N), and around the mouth of Rio de la Plata (34.5°S) which is encompassed by high population areas such as Buenos Aires and Montevideo.

Table 1 CO concentrations of air masses (units: ppb)^a

Air masses	Latitude	CO		
		Mean	se	<i>n</i>
Arctic polar	$53^\circ\text{N}\text{--}50.2^\circ\text{N}$	178	3	33
Polar front	$50.2^\circ\text{N}\text{--}49^\circ\text{N}$	143	1	25
N. Atlantic subtropical	$49^\circ\text{N}\text{--}39^\circ\text{N}$	154	1	86
Subtropical front	$39^\circ\text{N}\text{--}36.5^\circ\text{N}$	135	3	67
N. Atlantic subtropical	$36.5^\circ\text{N}\text{--}24^\circ\text{N}$	139	1	150
Subtropical high	$24^\circ\text{N}\text{--}21^\circ\text{N}$	103	2	23
N.W. African tropical	$21^\circ\text{N}\text{--}12^\circ\text{N}$	97	1	128
ITCZ	$12^\circ\text{N}\text{--}8^\circ\text{N}$	105	1	33
Eq. Atlantic tropical	$8^\circ\text{N}\text{--}3.5^\circ\text{S}$	108	1	102
Subtropical high	$3.5^\circ\text{S}\text{--}5.5^\circ\text{S}$	75	1	19
S. Atlantic tropical	$5.5^\circ\text{S}\text{--}22^\circ\text{S}$	78	0.4	139
Subtropical high	$22^\circ\text{S}\text{--}23^\circ\text{S}$	83	1	8
S. Atlantic subtropical	$23^\circ\text{S}\text{--}33^\circ\text{S}$	79	1	113
Subtropical front	$33^\circ\text{S}\text{--}34^\circ\text{S}$	71	0.4	9
S. American continent	$34^\circ\text{S}\text{--}41^\circ\text{S}$	90	1	150
Polar front	$41^\circ\text{S}\text{--}43^\circ\text{S}$	79	4	17
Antarctic polar	$43^\circ\text{S}\text{--}53^\circ\text{S}$	70	1	83
N. Hemisphere		131	1	529
S. Hemisphere		85	1	656
Global		106	1	1185

^a se denotes the standard error (or standard deviation of the mean = sd/\sqrt{N}).

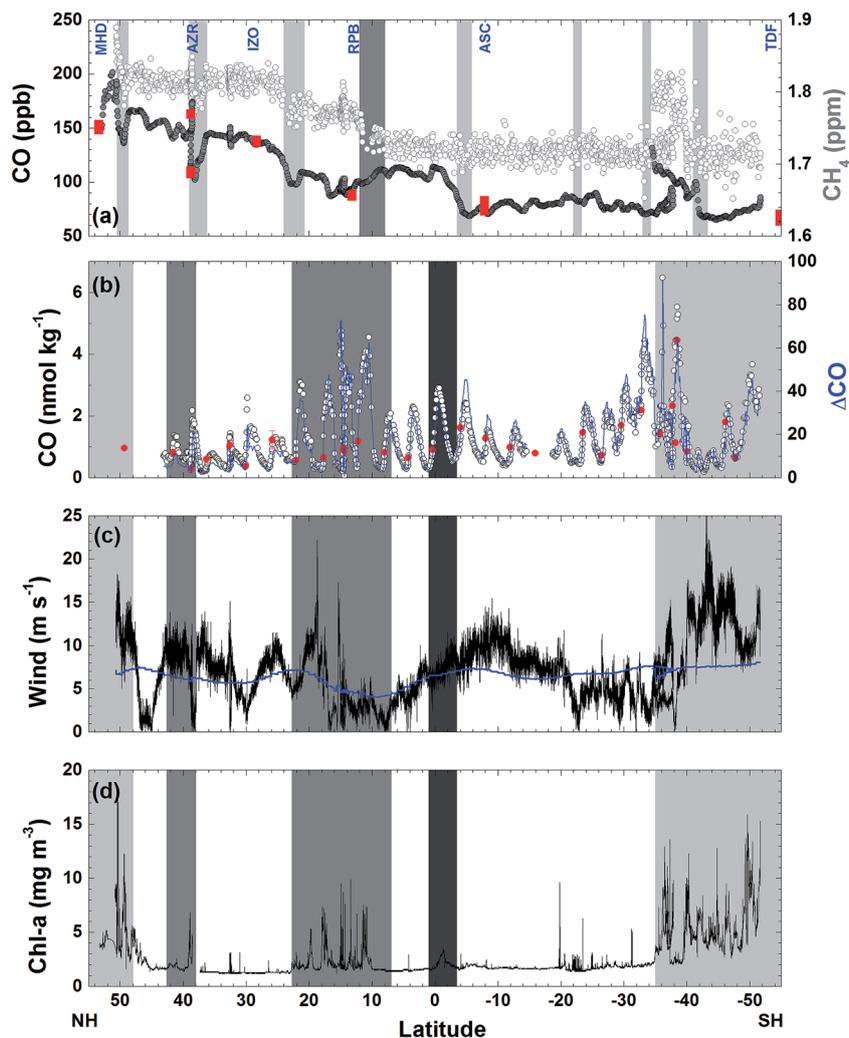


Fig. 3 Atmospheric (a) and dissolved (b) CO concentrations, shipboard and climatological wind speeds (c), and chlorophyll a concentration (d) along the AMT-7 cruise track. In panel (a) the atmospheric CO and CH₄ concentrations measured during the same period¹⁵ are shown with gray and open circles, respectively, for comparison, and red squares indicate the CO concentration at the NOAA/ESRL stations noted on the top of the panel. Light and dark gray bars indicate the frontal region of air masses and the intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), respectively (see Table 1 for different air masses). In panel (b) open circles designate dissolved CO concentration measured underway, blue solid lines indicate running mean Δ CO, and red circles for discrete measurements of dissolved CO at the surface waters. In panel (c) black line indicates the shipboard wind speed and blue one for the climatological wind speed in COADS/CMR5. In panels (b)–(d), light gray, gray, and dark gray shades indicate coastal, coastal upwelling, and equatorial upwelling regions, respectively, and the remainder for the open ocean.

On the other hand, several episodic decreases in the mole fractions of CO were observed at 50°N, 38°N, and 22°N, in which low CH₄ concentrations were also detected parallel to the sudden change in the wind direction (Fig. 3(a)).¹⁵ These dips in the atmospheric CO are likely to result from subsidence of the air masses from the clean free troposphere where either CO is predominantly destructed by the photochemical oxidation or an air mass with low CO could be transported from the Southern Hemisphere.^{15,22} This air mass variation in the synoptic scale is confirmed by the coherent variation of CO observed by NOAA/ESRL network stations in the time window of \sim 3 days with respect to the *in situ* measurements onboard (Fig. 3(a)). In particular, a rapid increase of CO concentration by 54 ppb at the Azores station (AZR) within 6 days coincides with the onboard measurements. The zonal mean mole fractions of CO between

the episodic events gradually decreased southward to the ITCZ in the NH (Table 1).

In the southern hemisphere, mole fractions of CO varied little (7 ppb) throughout the cruise track except for the strong enhancement near the Rio de la Plata, indicating the fairly homogeneous distribution of CO in the southern hemisphere over the Atlantic. Exception is south to the ITCZ where CO mole fractions gradually increased up to 150 ppb until the equator. This is due likely to strong emission of CO from biomass burning taking place in the south to the ITCZ which did not disclose in the atmospheric CH₄ and N₂O measured at the same time.¹⁵ Biomass burning produces CH₄ and N₂O molecules, but the emitted contents would be 11% and 0.1% of the amount of CO, respectively.^{15,23} Assuming that the zonal mean values of 3.5–34°S are the background concentrations in the southern

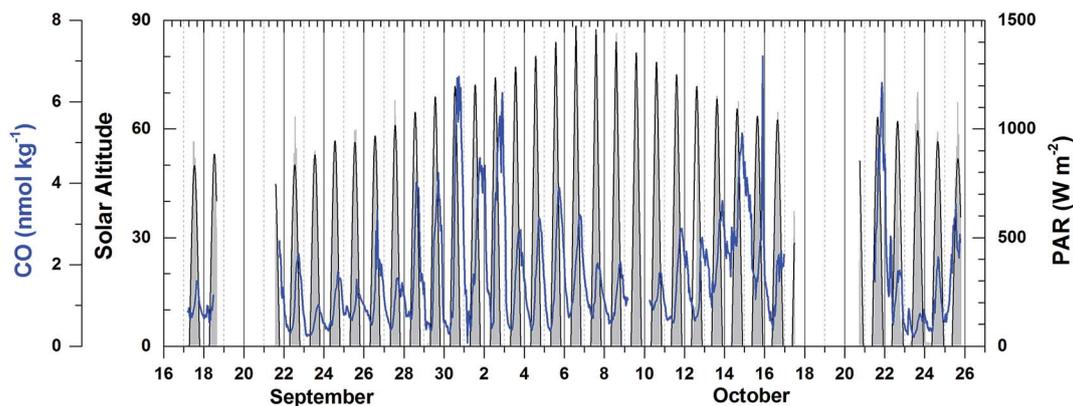


Fig. 4 Dissolved CO concentration, solar altitude, and photosynthetically available radiation (PAR) along the cruise track in the frame of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

hemisphere and the difference of the mean CO mole fractions between 8°N and 2°S and 3.5–34°S is due to biomass burning, and the additions of CH₄ and N₂O due to biomass burning are merely around 40% and 4% of the zonal difference between 8°N and 2°S and 3.5°S–34°S (Table 1).

3.2. Dissolved CO in the surface mixed layer

Concentrations of the dissolved CO and saturation anomaly (ΔCO) along the transect of the cruise track together with variations of the absorption of fluorescence (which indicates the amount of chlorophyll a (Chl-a)) are shown in Fig. 3. ΔCO is defined as the departure of the saturated mole fraction of a gas in seawater from the mole fraction in the overlying air, so that it is one lower than the saturation ratio, SR, which is the ratio of the dry mole fraction of a gas in seawater (x_{CO}) to that in the overlying air (y_{CO}):

$$\Delta\text{CO} = \frac{x_{\text{CO}} - y_{\text{CO}}}{y_{\text{CO}}} = \text{SR} - 1 \quad (1)$$

The mean CO concentration throughout the transect was 1.3 ($\pm 1.0, 1\sigma$) nmol kg⁻¹ for 978 data points, ranging from 0.19 to 6.5 nmol kg⁻¹. These values are slightly greater than those which Bates *et al.*¹⁰ reported from observations in the Pacific Ocean (which ranged from 0.1 to 5.8 nM and their mean was probably between 1.1 and 1.4 nM based on the text and Table 2 in their paper). In this work, the dissolved CO was supersaturated up to 91 times (Fig. 3(b)), with the area-weighted mean value of the ΔCO being 16, which is the same as the value Bates *et al.*¹⁰ reported, but approximately 1.8 times as large as that Conrad *et al.*²⁴ estimated based on measurements in the Atlantic about 20 years ago ($\Delta\text{CO} = 9$) and ~ 1.5 times larger on average than the value Stubbins *et al.*¹¹ observed in April, 2000 ($\Delta\text{CO} = 11$). Nevertheless, all these basin-wide observations appear to be the same magnitude of saturation anomaly within observational uncertainty.

Dissolved CO oscillated in a diurnal pattern throughout the cruise track, and the amplitude of the sinusoidal curves was larger in the region of high Chl-a content such as the coastal region and coastal upwelling area (Fig. 3(b) and 4). The largest

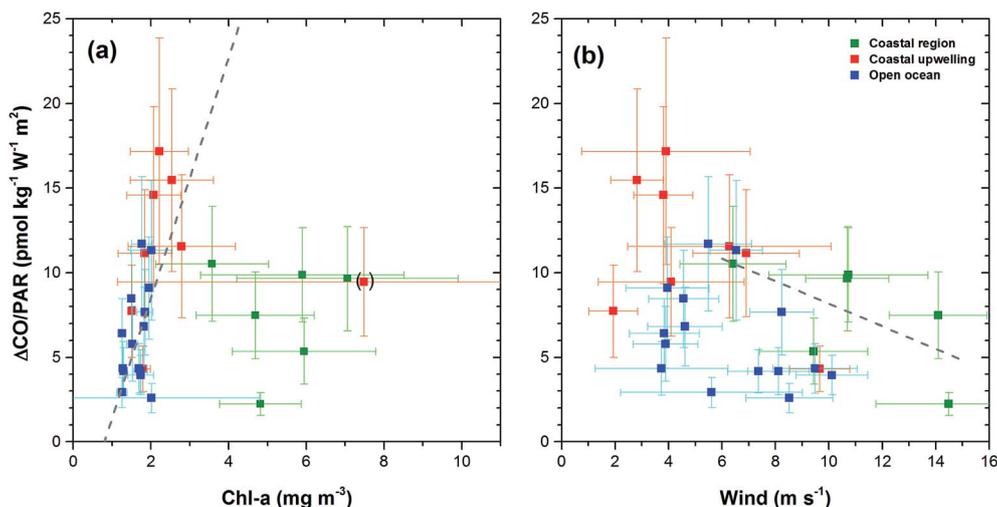


Fig. 5 Photosynthetically available-radiation-normalized difference between maximal and minimal CO values ($\Delta\text{CO}/\text{PAR}$) calculated from the daily harmonic fitting function of eqn (3) in text against daily mean chlorophyll a (a) and wind speed (b). Linear regression fitting for the data of the open ocean and the coastal upwelling region in (a) is shown with grey broken lines and that for the coastal region is shown in (b).

amplitude of the diurnal cycle was 4.5 nmol kg^{-1} in the west African upwelling region (30 September) and the smallest was $\sim 0.58 \text{ nmol kg}^{-1}$ near 36°N (23 September) and 43°S (23 October) in the open ocean. The high CO concentrations caused by African coastal upwelling and equatorial upwelling have been reported by Conrad *et al.*²⁴ These authors mentioned that the saturation ratio had a linear relationship with the chlorophyll-a content. However, we did not find such a good correlation between photosynthetically available-radiation-normalized difference of maximal and minimal CO ($\Delta\text{CO}/\text{PAR}$) and Chl-a (Fig. 5(a)). Although excluding the data from the coastal region gives the tendency of a linear relationship ($R^2 = 0.4$), $\Delta\text{CO}/\text{PAR}$ appears sensitive to small change in Chl-a. This suggests that parameters other than Chl-a should also play a role in governing the amplitude of the diurnal cycle of CO. The major source of CO in the ocean is the photodegradation of chromophoric (or colored) dissolved organic matter (CDOM) by ultraviolet light.^{25–27} Major sinks are microbial consumption,²⁸ the dilution

by mixed layer thickening, and the emission to the atmosphere by gas exchange.^{29–31} Thus, the large amplitude in the high Chl-a regions could be associated with the relatively large amount of CDOM and high density of microorganisms as well. Setser *et al.*³² also observed a good relationship between the daily amplitude of dissolved CO and *in vivo* fluorescence off Baja California in the east Pacific. In spite of the high chlorophyll content, the low amplitude between 40°S and 50°S is probably related to both high wind speed, which can drive the dilution of the dissolved CO content by deepening the mixed layer and the emission by the intensive gas exchange, and the overcast clouds, which prohibited UV light from reaching the ocean surface (Fig. 3 and 4). Indeed, $\Delta\text{CO}/\text{PAR}$ in the coastal region shows a tendency of reverse relationship with wind speed ($R^2 = 0.4$), which becomes lesser in the coastal upwelling region ($R^2 = 0.3$) and the open ocean ($R^2 = 0.1$) (Fig. 5(b)).

A smooth fit curve of measured dissolved CO is compared with the solar zenith angle to analyze the time lag between the

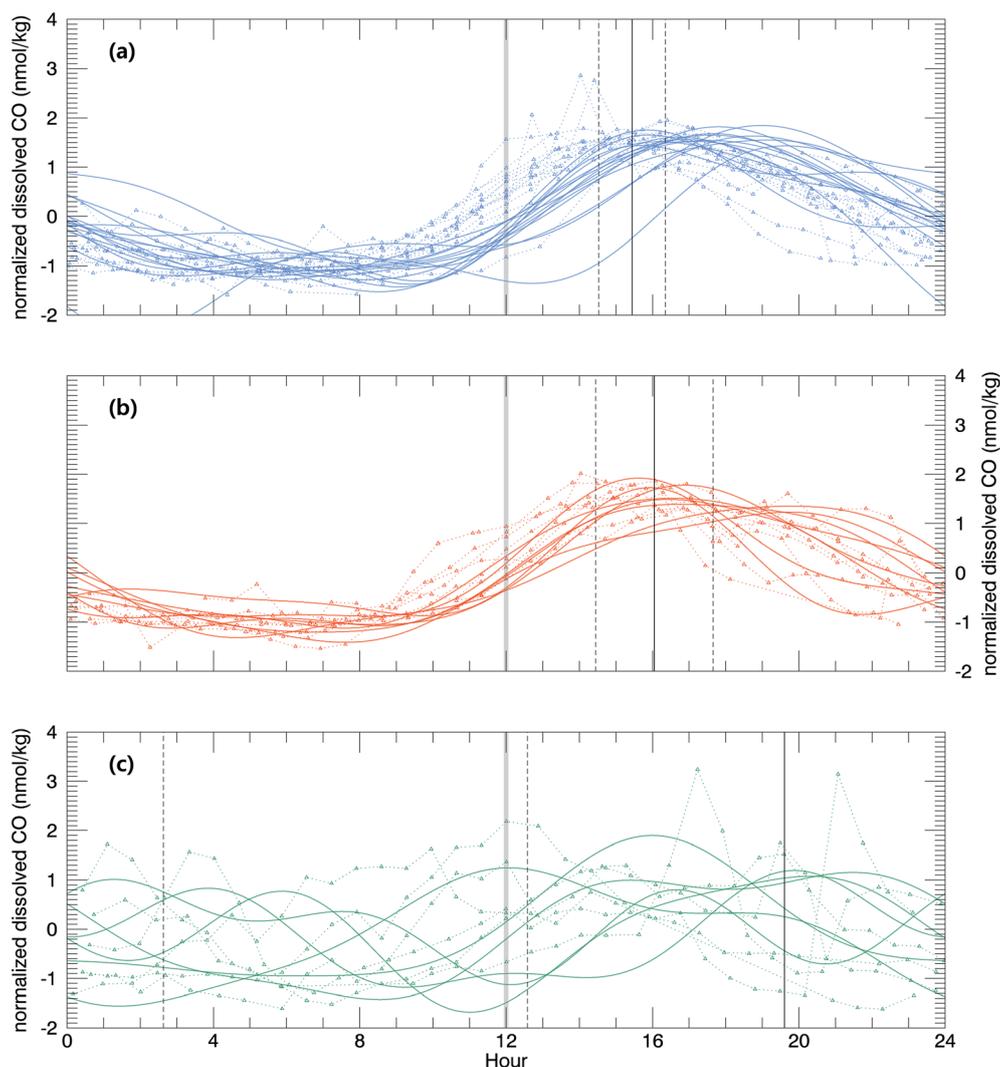


Fig. 6 Diurnal variation of normalized dissolved CO in the open ocean (a), the coastal upwelling zone (b), and the coastal region (c). For the sake of comparison, the observation time was adjusted such that the minimal solar zenith angle (and thus maximal solar altitude) was always at noon. Vertical black solid and dotted lines indicate mean high CO time and 1 standard deviation, respectively, and gray bar for noon.

diurnal cycle of dissolved CO and solar radiation. To derive a smooth fit curve of the daily dissolved CO cycle, each measurement is normalized by daily mean ($\overline{x\text{CO}}$) and standard deviation ($\sigma_{x\text{CO}}$):

$$x\text{CO}_{\text{normal}} = \frac{x\text{CO} - \overline{x\text{CO}}}{\sigma_{x\text{CO}}} \quad (2)$$

A third harmonic function was fitted to the normalized dissolved CO:

$$x\text{CO}_{\text{fit}} = x\text{CO}_0 + \sum_{i=1}^3 A_i \cos(\omega_i t) + B_i \sin(\omega_i t) \quad (3)$$

Then, the time lag between the minimal solar zenith angle and the maximal value of $x\text{CO}_{\text{fit}}$ was determined. This time lag depends on the relative strengths of the sinks and sources of dissolved CO such that it is smaller when the sink strengths are superior to the source or *vice versa*. As shown in Fig. 6, the time lag is on average shorter in the open ocean ($\Delta t = 3.4 (\pm 0.9)$ h) than that in the coastal upwelling ($\Delta t = 4.0 (\pm 1.6)$ h) and the coastal regions ($\Delta t = 7.64 (\pm 7.0)$ h). This suggests that the sink strengths of CO in the open ocean are relatively stronger than sources. As mentioned earlier, the major sink of dissolved CO is microbial oxidation and the major source is photochemical degradation of CDOM.²⁷ Microbes are ubiquitous and their density would vary depending on the vital substance while photoproduction depends on the amount of CDOM. In general the CDOM content becomes larger approaching the continental coast since most of them originate from the continent. Our results abide by such common sense that the CDOM content is rather small in the open ocean.

3.3. CO emission from the ocean

The CO flux from the ocean was calculated following the procedure described in detail by Rhee *et al.*¹⁵ In brief, flux density was determined by multiplying gas transfer velocity and difference of CO concentrations between the surface seawater and overlying atmosphere. Since the concentrations are interchangeable with partial pressure by Henry's law, the flux density can be given by:

$$j = k(C_w - LC_a) = kK_0 p_a \Delta\text{CO} \quad (4)$$

where k is the gas transfer velocity, C_w and C_a are the concentrations in water and the overlying atmosphere, respectively, L is the Ostwald coefficient of solubility, K_0 is the reciprocal of Henry's law constant, p_a is the atmospheric partial pressure, and ΔCO indicates the saturation anomaly as defined in (1).

We chose parameterizations for gas transfer velocity k reported by Liss and Merlivat³³ (LM86), Wanninkhof³⁴ (W92), Erickson³⁵ (E93), and Nightingale *et al.*³⁶ (N00) as they have been widely used to estimate gas flux. In general, k is a function of wind as a proxy of momentum flux across the sea surface. The shipboard wind speeds were measured along the cruise track using an anemometer which was mounted on the foremast at

~ 20 m above sea level. These apparent wind speeds were corrected to true wind speeds according to Smith *et al.*³⁷ and then adjusted to a 10 m height assuming a logarithmic profile of the wind speed.³⁸ For the sake of comparison, the Compressed Marine Reports – Product 5 of the Comprehensive Ocean-Atmosphere Data Set (COADS/CMR-5)³⁹ was chosen to obtain climatological wind speeds, sea surface temperature and salinity, surface air temperature, and relative humidity. These are mean values of 45 years of climatological data covering 1945 through 1989, and were binned as $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ monthly means. Since the wind speeds in COADS/CMR-5 are averages at the height of the anemometer on the shipboard (approximately 19.5 m), it was assumed that they are representative of 20 m above sea level. The COADS/CMR-5 wind speed did not reproduce the variability of our shipboard wind speed (Fig. 3(c)). Nonetheless the mean wind speeds are similar to each other; the mean values from shipboard observation and COADS/CMR-5 are $6.8 (\pm 3.7, 1\sigma)$ m s^{-1} and $6.4 (\pm 0.9, 1\sigma)$ m s^{-1} , respectively.

Another thing to consider when applying those parameterizations for the gas transfer velocity is the normalization of the Schmidt number, Sc . The Schmidt number is defined as the ratio of the kinematic viscosity of the solution to the diffusion coefficient of the dissolved gas. The LM86 and W92 models are based on the gas transfer velocities of CO_2 at 20°C for fresh water and for seawater at 35‰, respectively. The E93 model was basically based on radon (^{222}Rn) experiments during GEOSECS, but it did not specify the temperature or salinity. Therefore, it is necessary to make a conversion of these models, so they may be applied to other gases or different conditions. This has been done by normalizing Sc with a specific value of the exponent ($-2/3$ or $-1/2$) because different thermodynamic conditions affect the diffusion coefficient of the dissolving gas and the kinematic viscosity of the solution, and different gases have different diffusion coefficients under the same physicochemical conditions. The diffusion coefficient of CO was calculated using the empirical equations from Wise and Houghton.⁴⁰ The diffusion coefficient was reduced by 6% to correct for the salt effect,⁴¹ since all empirical equations were determined from experimental results in fresh water. The kinematic viscosity of the solution is defined as the ratio of the dynamic viscosity to the density of the solution. The dynamic viscosity of seawater was calculated by Korson *et al.*,⁴² correcting for the salt effect using the relative viscosity of seawater given by Millero.⁴³ The density of seawater was calculated by Millero and Poisson.⁴⁴ Zafriou *et al.*'s⁴⁵ parameterization of the Sc of CO does not count on salinity but temperature only, which prevents us from attempting the use of this simple parameterization.

The CO density flux was then calculated by feeding gas transfer velocity, solubility, and partial pressures measured underway from both the surface seawater and the overlying atmosphere in eqn (4). The ocean was divided into three typical oceanographic regions – the open ocean, coastal region, and coastal upwelling zone – and determined mean density fluxes in the individual regions. Assuming that these mean values of the flux densities are representative for each region, the regional and global fluxes were evaluated in Table 2. The open ocean appears to be a dominant source region for CO due to the area

Table 2 Regional and Global CO fluxes estimated from shipboard and climatological data

	Shipboard									Climatology						
	Area ($\times 10^6$ km ²)	ΔCO^b	Wind ^b (m s ⁻¹)	Flux ^a (Tg(CO) a ⁻¹)					Mean flux fraction (%)	Wind ^b (m s ⁻¹)	Flux ^a (Tg(CO) a ⁻¹)					Mean flux fraction (%)
				LM86	W92	E93	N00	Mean			LM86	W92	E93	N00	Mean	
Coastal region	48.4	19.0	11	2.4	4.3	3.9	3.3	3.5	25	7.5	1.6	3.2	1.7	2.1	2.2	15
Coastal upwelling	0.4	18.4	4.9	0.006	0.01	0.02	0.009	0.01	0.07	5.4	0.007	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.08
Open ocean	313.3	15.7	6.3	7.2	12.5	12.3	10.4	10.6	75	6.5	8.6	16.8	10.7	11.2	11.8	85
Global	362	16.2 ^b	6.8 ^b	9.6	16.8	16.2	13.7	14.1		6.6 ^b	10.2	20.0	12.5	13.3	14.0	

^a LM86, W92, E93, and N00 indicate k parameterizations from Liss and Merlivat,³³ Wanninkhof,³⁴ Erickson,³⁵ and Nightingale *et al.*,³⁶ respectively.

^b Global ΔCO and wind are area-weighted mean values.

weighting factor and small variation of the density flux in different regions. This agrees with Bates *et al.*'s¹⁰ observation in the Pacific.

The global flux of CO depends on the model of gas transfer velocities and the wind speed applied since it was assumed that the saturation anomalies and the partial pressures were invariable temporally. Taking all the fluxes calculated by the different models and winds into account, we estimate a global oceanic CO flux of 14 Tg(CO) a⁻¹, ranging from 9.6 to 20 Tg(CO) a⁻¹. Regardless of the wind speed taken from either shipboard measurements or climatological data, the mean values and ranges are astonishingly similar to each other probably due to diurnal variation of the dissolved CO concentration and its order of magnitude large saturation anomaly. Adopting the method of Nevison *et al.*⁴⁶ for evaluating the uncertainty of a flux, we assumed approximately a 70% uncertainty for the mean flux. The range of uncertainty with the most likely value is listed in Table 3 together with the previous estimates in the literature. Our estimate is very similar to that reported by Bates *et al.*¹⁰ and Stubbins *et al.*¹¹ and is within the range reported by Conrad *et al.*²⁴ Among the compiled data in Table 3, Bates *et al.*,¹⁰ Conrad *et al.*,²⁴ and Stubbins *et al.*¹¹ estimated the flux based on the basin-wide observations in the Pacific and the Atlantic. Bates *et al.*¹⁰ computed the global CO flux using a 6% smaller world ocean area compared with that reported by

Menard and Smith.¹³ However, this would be compensated for by employing the uncorrected climatological wind speeds, at a height of ~ 20 m; correction of this to a standard height of 10 m would decrease the wind speed by 7%. Thus, the reported data by Bates *et al.*¹⁰ can be compared with our estimation directly. However, the approach of Conrad *et al.*²⁴ to estimate the flux is quite different from ours and Bates *et al.*¹⁰ They employed the stagnant film model with a film thickness of 10 to 50 μm , which corresponds to the gas transfer velocities of 16 to 83 cm h⁻¹ following the stagnant film model which Conrad *et al.*²⁴ used. When those gas transfer velocities are deconvoluted to wind speeds, they correspond to from 8 to 20 m s⁻¹ winds using W92 parameterization. Those wind speeds are obviously higher than the mean values of our ship winds and climatological winds, as well as their observations of winds. In addition, although Conrad *et al.*²⁴ came up with a saturation ratio of 10 after normalizing the values obtained in the Atlantic to the world ocean, they took a range of 30 ± 20 when calculating the flux taking into account the enhancement of dissolved CO near the seawater surface in the depth profile. Consequently, Conrad *et al.*²⁴ may have overestimated the global flux of CO. Thus, accounting for the lower limit of their estimation, the emission from the ocean is likely to be within the range of 4 to 30 Tg(CO) a⁻¹. This probably led to the overestimated oceanic emission for CO in IPCC1992 which is based

Table 3 Global emissions of CO from the ocean^a

Reference	Range	Most likely	Remark
Basin-wide observations			
This study	4–24	14	Estimate based on data from the Atlantic in October, 1998
Conrad <i>et al.</i> ⁶⁰	10–180	100	Estimate based on data from the Atlantic during 1978–1980
Bates <i>et al.</i> ⁶¹	6–30	13	Estimate based on data from the Pacific during 1987–1994
Stubbins <i>et al.</i> ¹¹	2.6–15	8.6	Estimate based on data from the Atlantic in April, 2000
IPCC reports			
IPCC1992 ⁵⁷	20–200		Refers to WMO1985, ⁴⁷ Seiler and Conrad, ⁴⁸ and Khalil and Rasmussen ⁴⁹ ^c
IPCC1994 ⁵⁸	20–200		Refers to IPCC1992 ⁵⁷
IPCC1996 ⁵⁹	20–200		Refers to IPCC1992 ⁵⁷
IPCC2001 ¹²	20–200	50	Refers to Bergamaschi <i>et al.</i> , ⁵² WMO1999, ⁶² IPCC1996 ⁵⁹

^a Emissions are in Tg(CO) a⁻¹. ^b WMO1985⁴⁷ essentially refers to Logan *et al.*⁶³ which is based on the observations by Linnenbom *et al.*⁵⁰ and Seiler.⁵¹

^c Khalil and Rasmussen⁴⁹ refers to Logan *et al.*⁶³

on WMO1985,⁴⁷ Seiler and Conrad,⁴⁸ and Khalil and Rasmusen⁴⁹ (Table 3). These studies again evaluated the flux using the observations in the 1970s by Linnenbom *et al.*⁵⁰ and Seiler,⁵¹ in which the dissolved concentrations were significantly higher as outlined by Bates *et al.*¹⁰ Although Seiler and Conrad⁴⁸ did not refer to Conrad *et al.*²⁴ nor did they state any other references for the source strength of the ocean, the values seemed to come from Conrad *et al.*²⁴ Therefore, it is unambiguous that the IPCC1992 report overestimated the oceanic flux of CO. The overestimation by Conrad *et al.*²⁴ is also supported by another Atlantic meridional observation by Stubbins *et al.*¹¹ in April, 2000. Their estimate of ocean emission of CO is $8.6 \pm 6 \text{ Tg(CO) a}^{-1}$, which is at the lower end of our estimates. In spite of direct observations of ocean flux of CO in the open ocean, a series of IPCC reports essentially refer to the estimation in IPCC1992 (Table 3). Although mentioning the most likely value of 50 Tg(CO) a^{-1} in IPCC2001, which is based on the global inverse model simulation by Bergamaschi *et al.*,⁵² the estimation is still 4–5 times larger than the value estimated on the basis of direct observations in the ocean, which Stubbins *et al.* also pointed out. Recent IPCC reports published in 2006³ and 2013⁵³ did not mention the CO emissions from the ocean. Recent inverse model simulation,⁸ which investigated the atmospheric CO budget by means of not only molecular concentration but also characteristic source signatures of oxygen isotope ratios in CO, came up with the reduced source strength of the ocean of 20 Tg(CO) a^{-1} , approaching to the value estimated by direct observations. This suggests that the previous estimates of ocean source strength are likely to be biased and we urged to count on the direct observations of ocean source strength in the model simulation and in the future IPCC reports.

At this point, it is worthwhile to mention the possible uncertainty of the dissolved concentration of CO above the sampling depth. As demonstrated in previous investigations,^{24,54} the dissolved CO concentration decreases exponentially with depth, and Conrad *et al.*²⁴ stated that their estimation of the CO flux might be a lower limit because the CO concentration within 1 m depth was twice that at a sampling depth of 4 m and because Seiler⁵⁵ had reported a saturation ratio of 1000. Along the same lines, Springer-Young *et al.*⁵⁶ argued that their estimated flux may represent the current oceanic flux of CO. However, such a large dissolved concentration in the upper few meters appears to be unlikely based on the measurements by Johnson¹⁷ that the dissolved CO concentrations within the upper 5 m were observed to be constant within analytical error. Diurnal variation of vertical profiles of CO in the BATS site in the Atlantic also demonstrated a well-mixed surface layer in less than 10 m deep.⁴⁵ In addition, Johnson¹⁷ tested the performance of the equilibrator which was used for the underway measurements of dissolved gas by Bates *et al.*,¹⁰ concluding that there might be a >25% error for dissolved CO measurements primarily due to the long e-folding time (or characteristic time) of CO, the large supersaturation of seawater, and diurnal variation. Our equilibrator was 5.7 times smaller than that Bates *et al.*¹⁰ used; thus the e-folding time is shorter. We tested the performance of our equilibrator to see if the underway measurement was underestimated. This was done by

comparing the results from the underway measurement and discrete sampling for dissolved CO. Throughout the campaign the Rosette was cast 32 times. The uppermost surface water was sampled from a depth of 4 to 12 m. As demonstrated in Fig. 3(b), there was no significant difference between the two depths. Therefore, analytical evidence of ours and Johnson¹⁷ shows that the global oceanic fluxes of CO estimated by Bates *et al.*,¹⁰ Stubbins *et al.*,¹¹ and by this work are more reliable than those values mentioned in IPCC reports.^{12,57–59}

4. Conclusions

The global emission of CO from the ocean was estimated to be $4\text{--}24 \text{ Tg(CO) a}^{-1}$ with a central value of 14 Tg(CO) a^{-1} based on observations in the Atlantic during fall 1998. This agrees well with those reported by Bates *et al.*¹⁰ and Stubbins *et al.*¹¹ Considering that the data of Bates *et al.*¹⁰ and Stubbins *et al.*¹¹ covered different seasons and regions in the Pacific and the Atlantic, direct basin-wide observations suggest the source strength of ocean for the atmospheric CO budget as $4\text{--}30 \text{ Tg(CO) a}^{-1}$, with the most likely value of 14 Tg(CO) a^{-1} . Consequently, a series of IPCC reports^{12,57–59} overestimated the global oceanic emission of CO by as much as five times or more by referring to model simulations or uncorrected observational results.

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