

# The Effects of Ocean Acidification on Multiple Life History Stages of the Pacific Oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*: Implications for Physiological Trade-offs

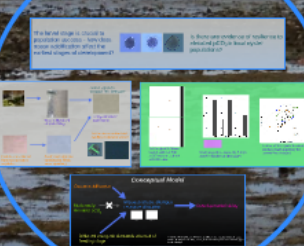
*A dissertation defense by Emma Timmins-Schiffman  
February 5, 2014*

**Introduction**



The introduction slide contains several sub-slides. It includes a green circular graphic with text, a diagram showing a flow from 'Introduction' to 'Why are invertebrate larvae more susceptible to ocean acidification?', and various charts and images related to the topic.

**Why are invertebrate larvae more susceptible to ocean acidification?**



This slide features a central diagram with arrows pointing to different stages of oyster development. It includes text boxes explaining the susceptibility of larvae to ocean acidification and the underlying physiological mechanisms.

**Tools for investigating responses to ocean acidification**



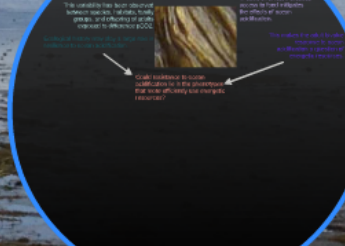
The slide displays several images of laboratory equipment and experimental setups used for studying oyster responses to ocean acidification, including tanks and monitoring devices.

**The integrated physiological response of oysters to ocean acidification**



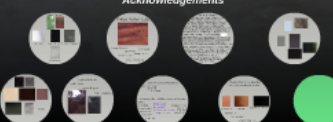
This slide shows a series of graphs and charts illustrating the physiological responses of oysters to ocean acidification, such as changes in growth, survival, and metabolic rates.

**Conclusions**



The conclusions slide features a central image of an oyster shell with arrows pointing to key findings. It summarizes the negative impacts of ocean acidification on oyster viability and the physiological trade-offs observed.

**Acknowledgements**



The acknowledgements slide contains a grid of circular icons representing the various individuals and institutions that supported the research.

# The Effects of Ocean Acidification on Multiple Life History Stages of the Pacific Oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*: Implications for Physiological Trade-offs

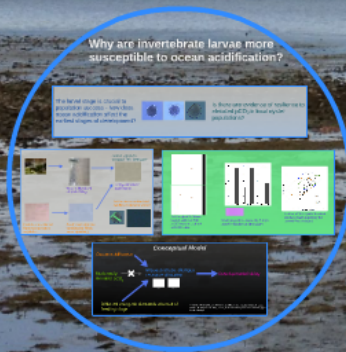
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**Introduction**



Thumbnail of the Introduction slide, showing a title slide and several smaller images related to oyster biology and ocean acidification.

**Why are invertebrate larvae more susceptible to ocean acidification?**




Thumbnail of the slide titled "Why are invertebrate larvae more susceptible to ocean acidification?", featuring a diagram of a larva and text explaining its vulnerability.

**Tools for investigating responses to ocean acidification**



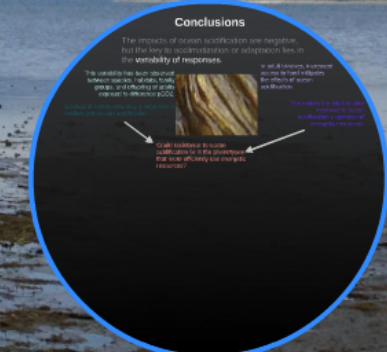
Thumbnail of the slide titled "Tools for investigating responses to ocean acidification", showing various scientific equipment and data plots.

**The integrated physiological response of oysters to ocean acidification**



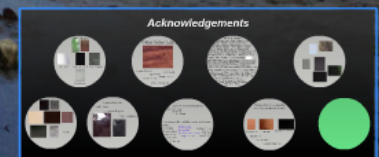
Thumbnail of the slide titled "The integrated physiological response of oysters to ocean acidification", displaying a flowchart of physiological processes.

**Conclusions**



Thumbnail of the Conclusions slide, summarizing the findings of the study and their implications for oyster populations.

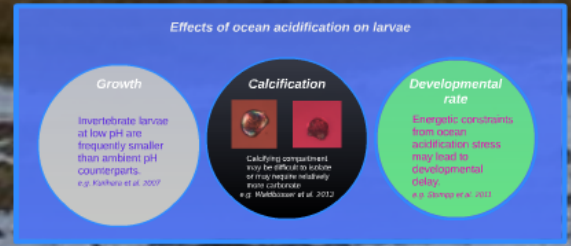
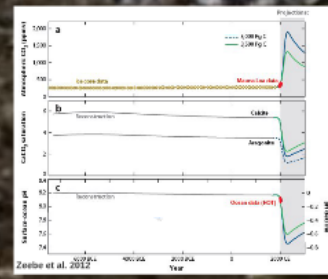
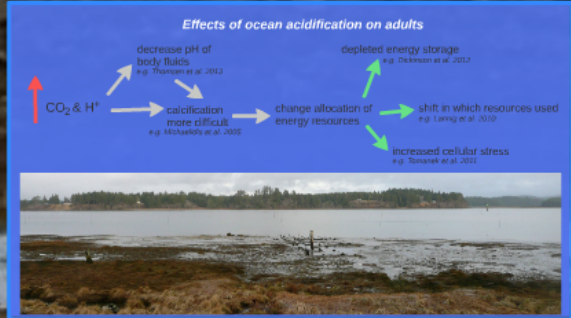
**Acknowledgements**



Thumbnail of the Acknowledgements slide, listing the individuals and organizations that supported the research.

# Introduction

How will ocean acidification affect oysters?  
 Will they all respond the same way or is there evidence of resilience?



What about species that already inhabit a variable environment?

**Why oysters?**

**Ecology:**

- sessile
- filter feeders
- bioaccumulate
- many molecular tools
- improve water quality

**Economics:** molluscs = 75.5% of marine aquaculture



# *How will ocean acidification affect oysters?*

*Will they all respond the same way or is there evidence of resilience?*

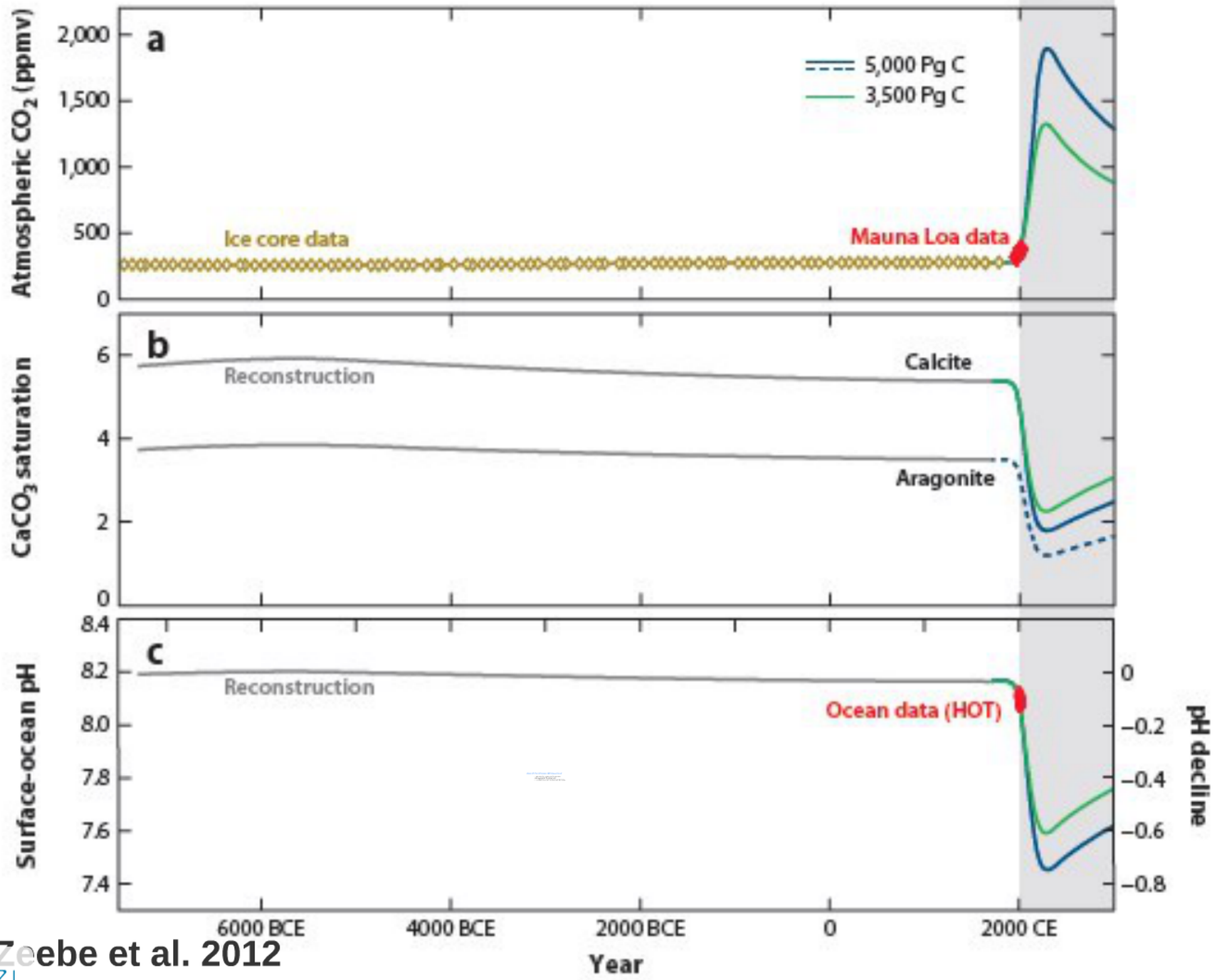


- Background on ocean acidification
- Why are invertebrate larvae more susceptible to ocean acidification?
- Tools for investigating responses to ocean acidification
- The integrated physiological response of oysters to ocean acidification



- Background on ocean acidification
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Projections:



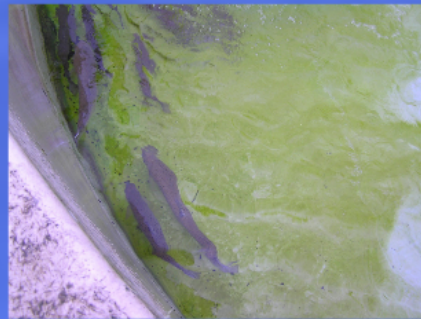
Zeebe et al. 2012



## *Ocean Chemistry Changes with Increased $p\text{CO}_2$*

- Hydrogen ion concentration goes up
- pH goes down ("acidification")
- Saturation state of carbonate ion decreases

# Populations in a changing climate



acclimatize



adapt

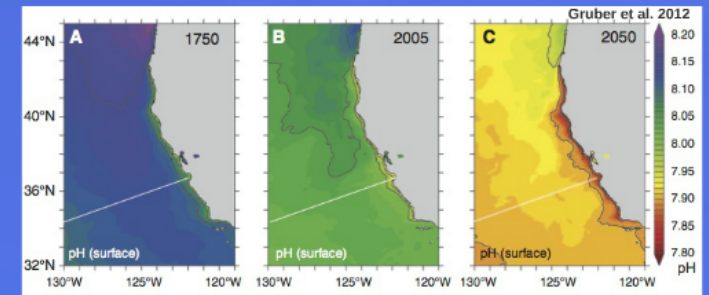
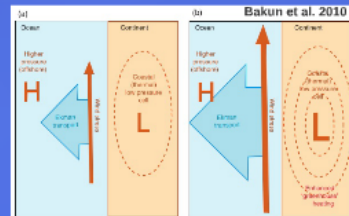
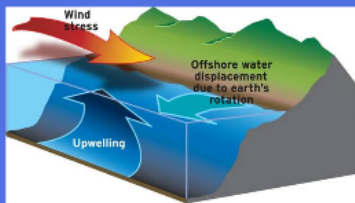
shift range

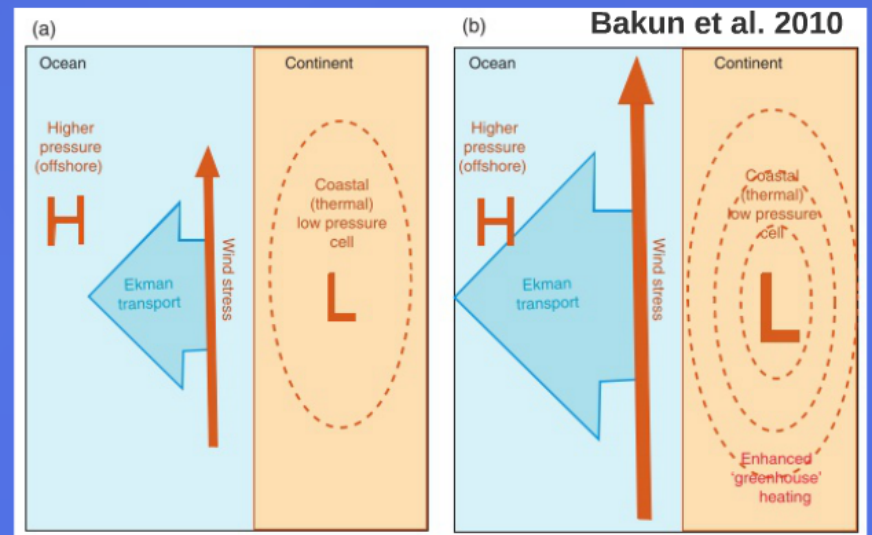
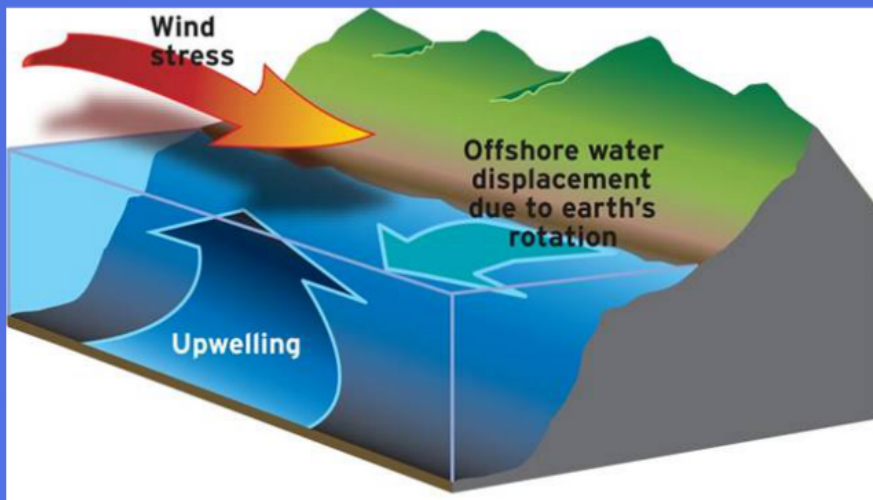


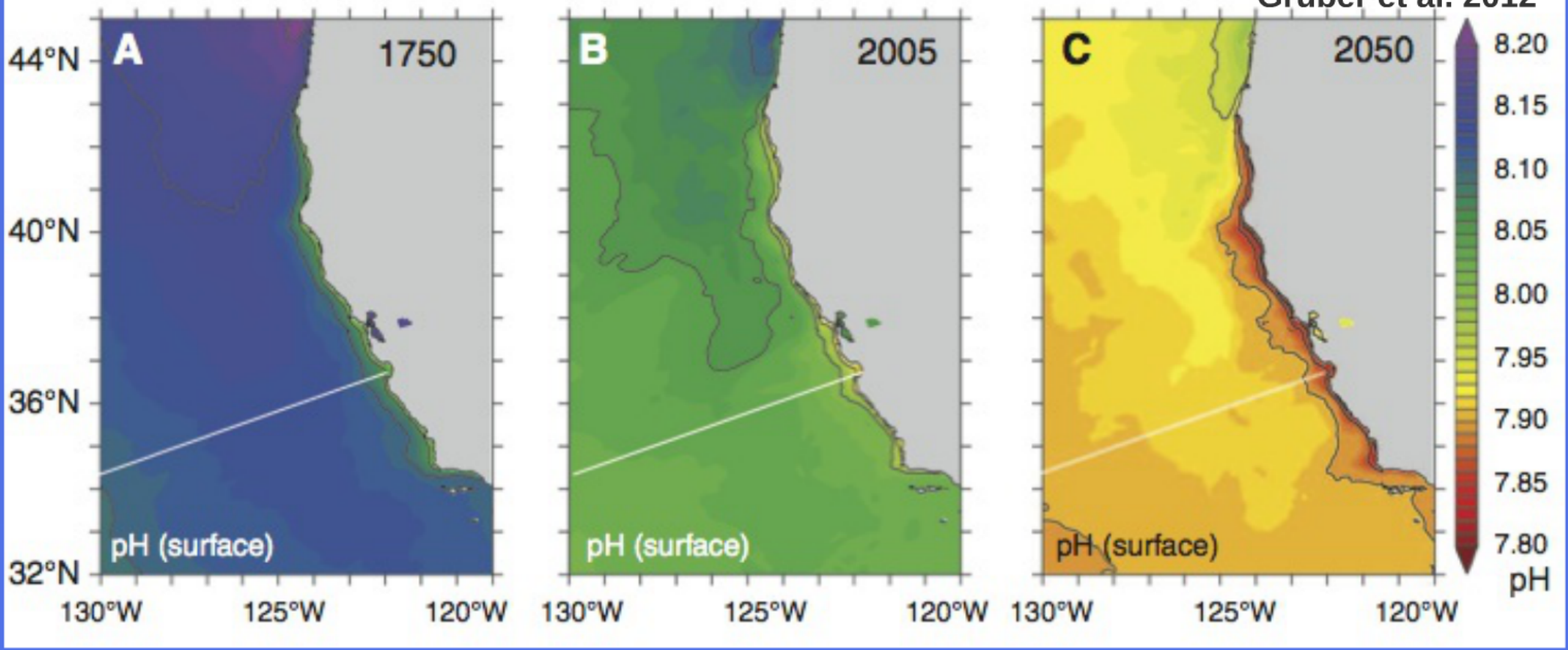
**What about species that already inhabit a variable environment?**



# The nearshore environment







# Why oysters?

## Ecology:

- sessile
- filter feeders
- bioaccumulate
- many molecular tools
- improve water quality



Economics:  
molluscs = 75.5%  
of marine  
aquaculture



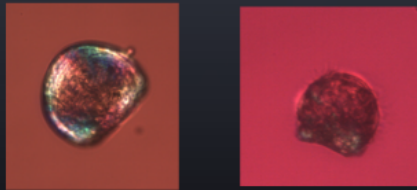
## Effects of ocean acidification on larvae

### Growth

Invertebrate larvae at low pH are frequently smaller than ambient pH counterparts.

*e.g. Kurihara et al. 2007*

### Calcification



Calcifying compartment may be difficult to isolate or may require relatively more carbonate  
*e.g. Waldbusser et al. 2013*

### Developmental rate

Energetic constraints from ocean acidification stress may lead to developmental delay.

*e.g. Stumpp et al. 2011*

# Why oyst

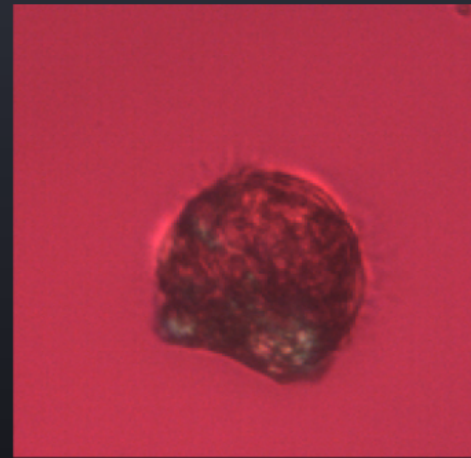
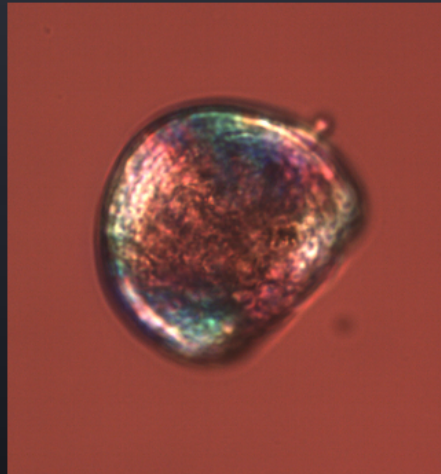
Ecology:

# *Growth*

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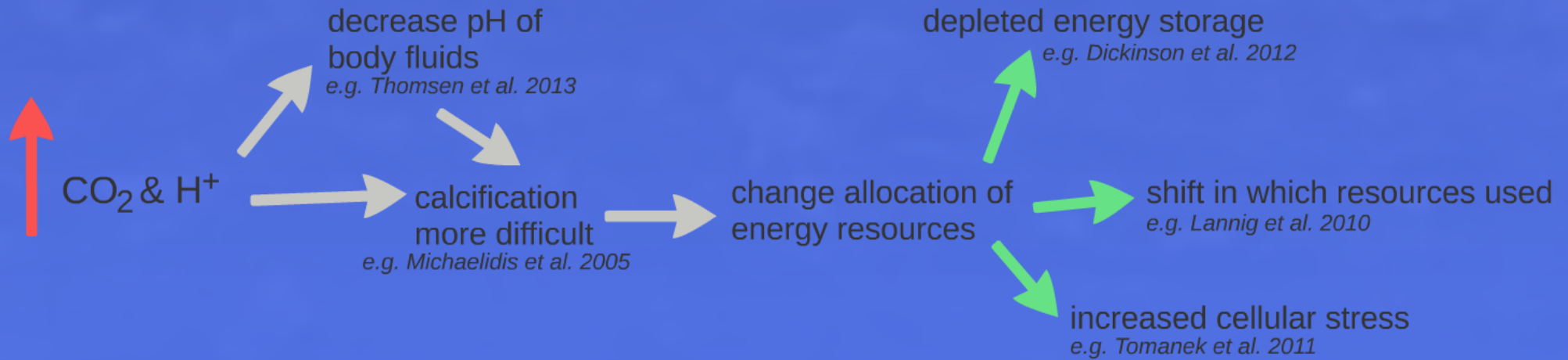


# *Developmental rate*

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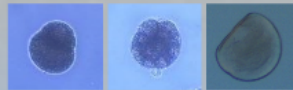
*e.g. Stumpp et al. 2011*

## Effects of ocean acidification on adults

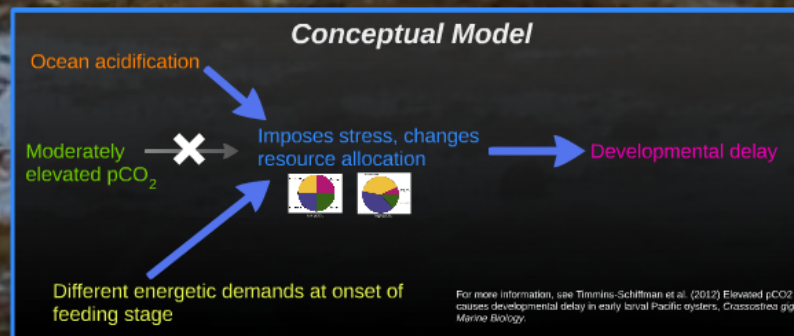
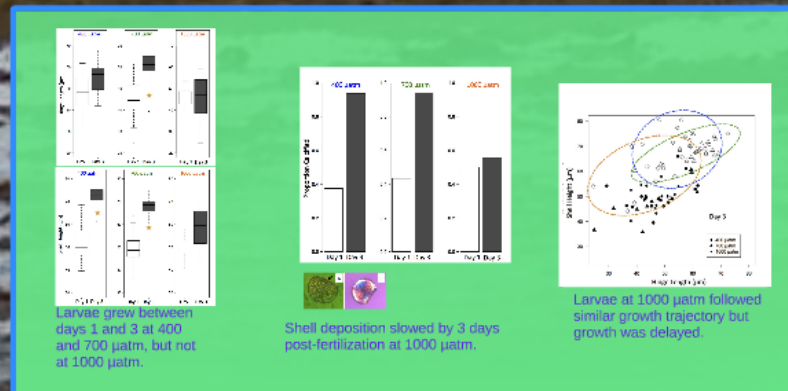
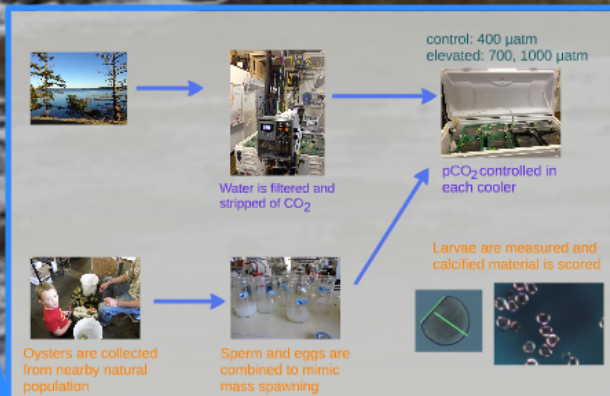


# Why are invertebrate larvae more susceptible to ocean acidification?

The larval stage is crucial to population success - how does ocean acidification affect the earliest stages of development?

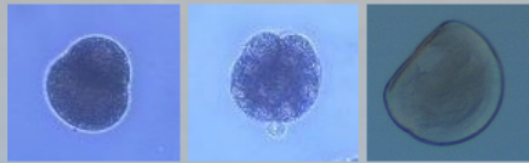


Is there any evidence of resilience to elevated pCO<sub>2</sub> in local oyster populations?



# Why are invertebrate larvae more susceptible to ocean acidification?

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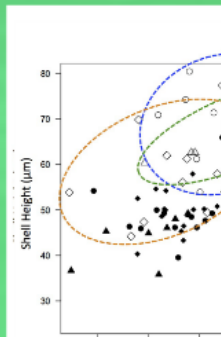
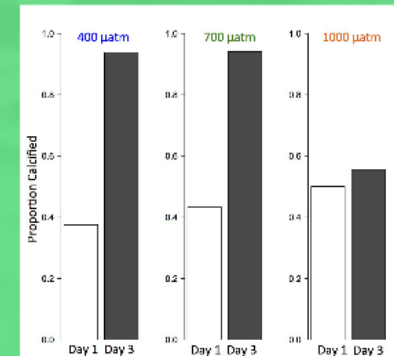
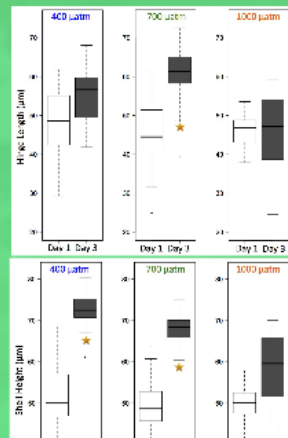
Water is filtered and stripped of CO<sub>2</sub>

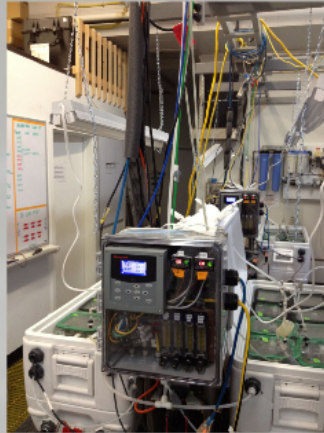
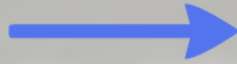
control: 400  $\mu\text{atm}$   
elevated: 700, 1000  $\mu\text{atm}$



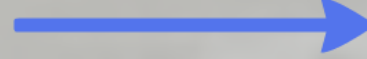
pCO<sub>2</sub> controlled in each cooler

Larvae are measured and calcified material is scored





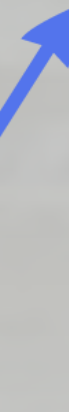
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control: 400  $\mu$ atm  
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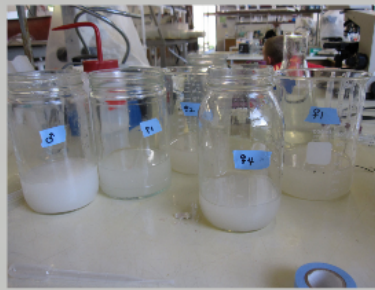
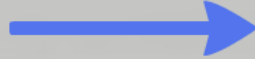
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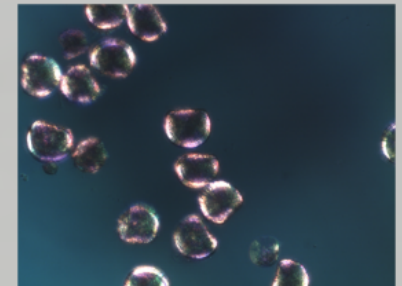
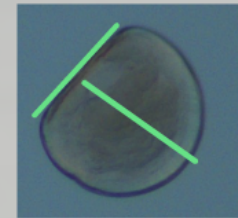
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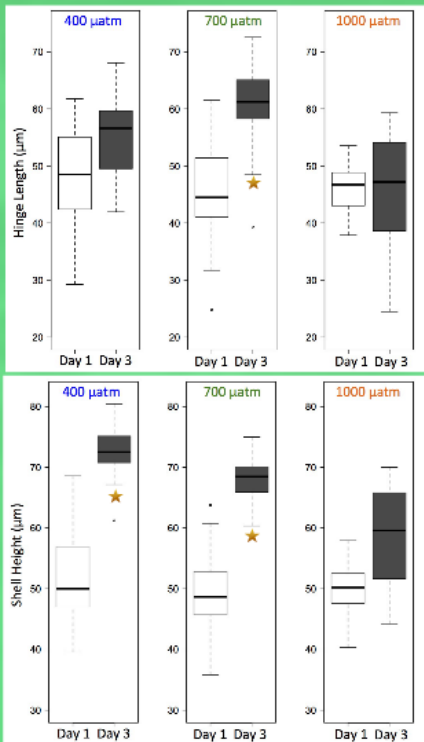


Oysters are collected from nearby natural population

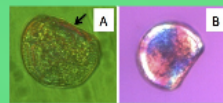
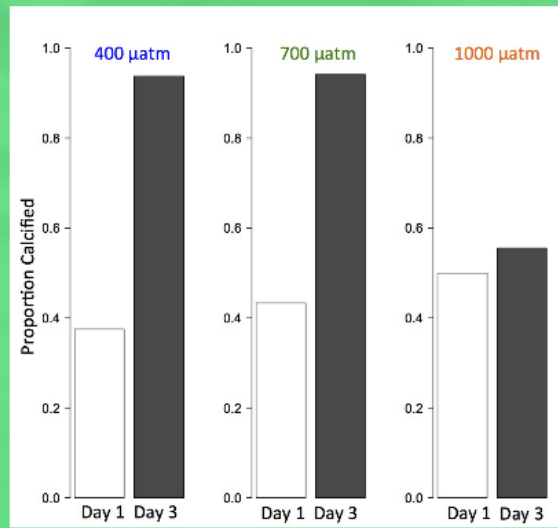


Sperm and eggs are combined to mimic mass spawning

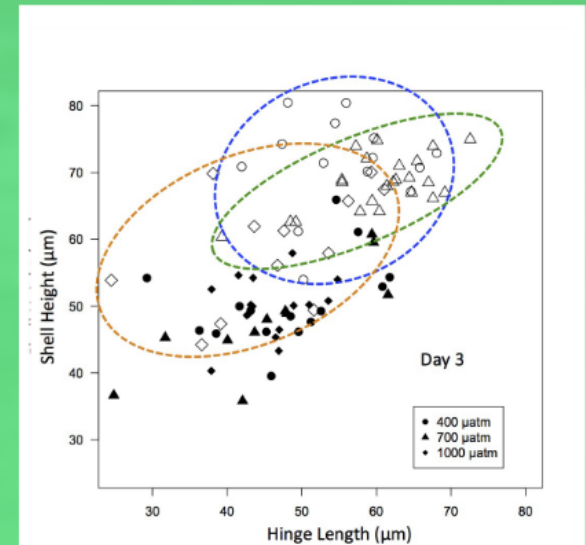




Larvae grew between days 1 and 3 at 400 and 700  $\mu\text{atm}$ , but not at 1000  $\mu\text{atm}$ .



Shell deposition slowed by 3 days post-fertilization at 1000  $\mu\text{atm}$ .



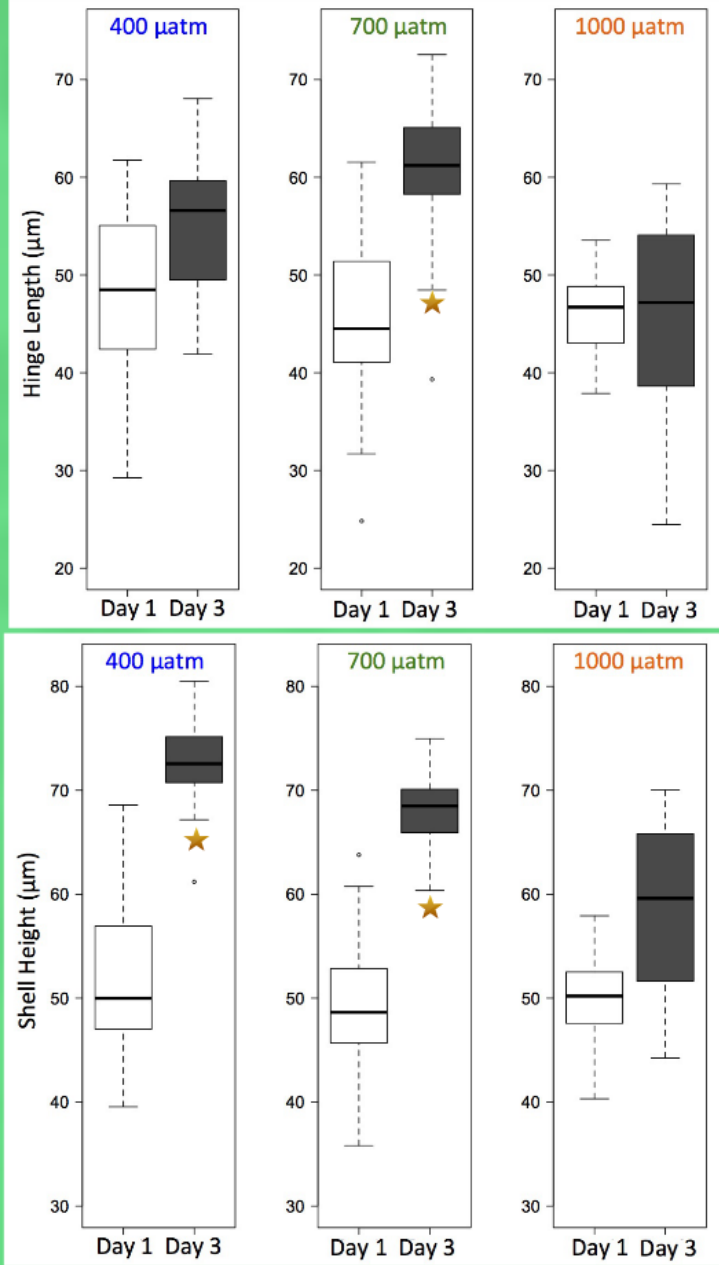
Larvae at 1000  $\mu\text{atm}$  followed similar growth trajectory but growth was delayed.

0  $\mu\text{atm}$

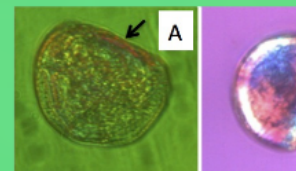
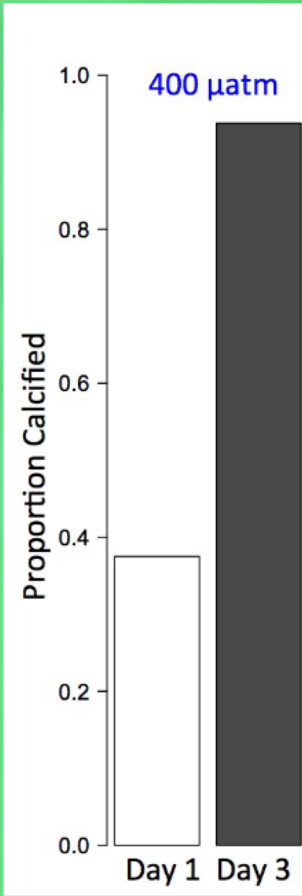


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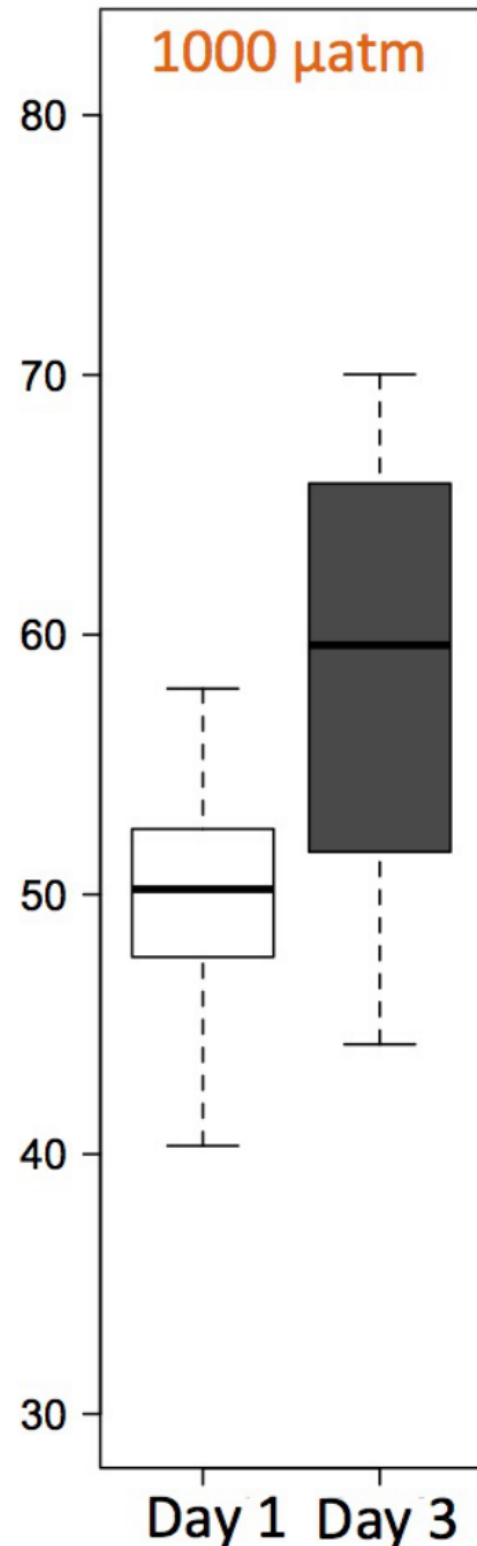
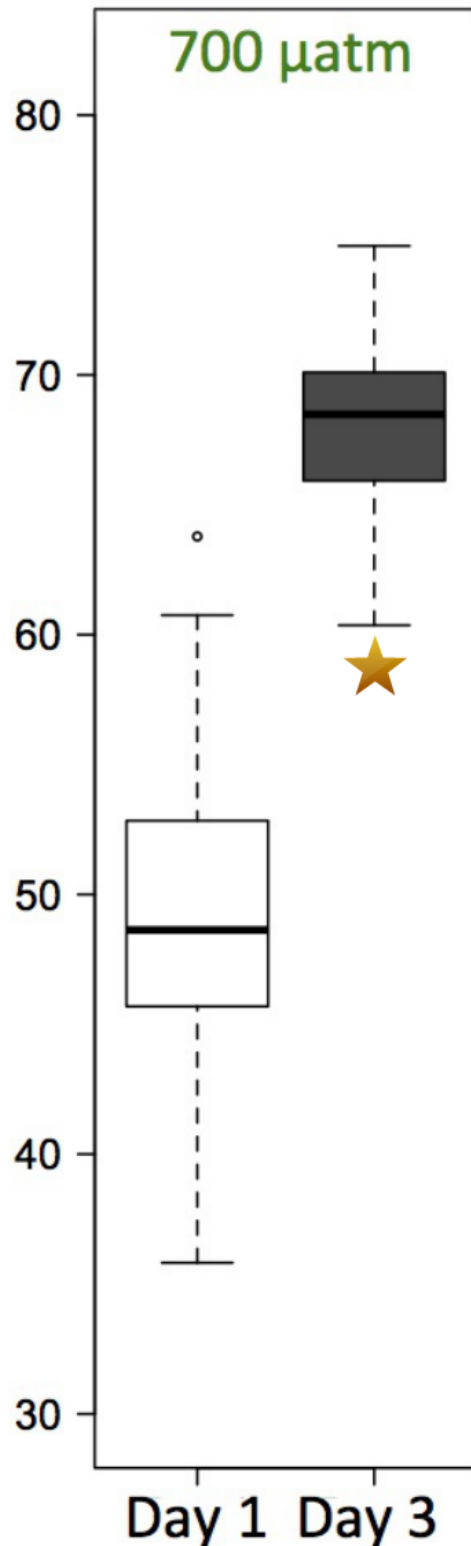
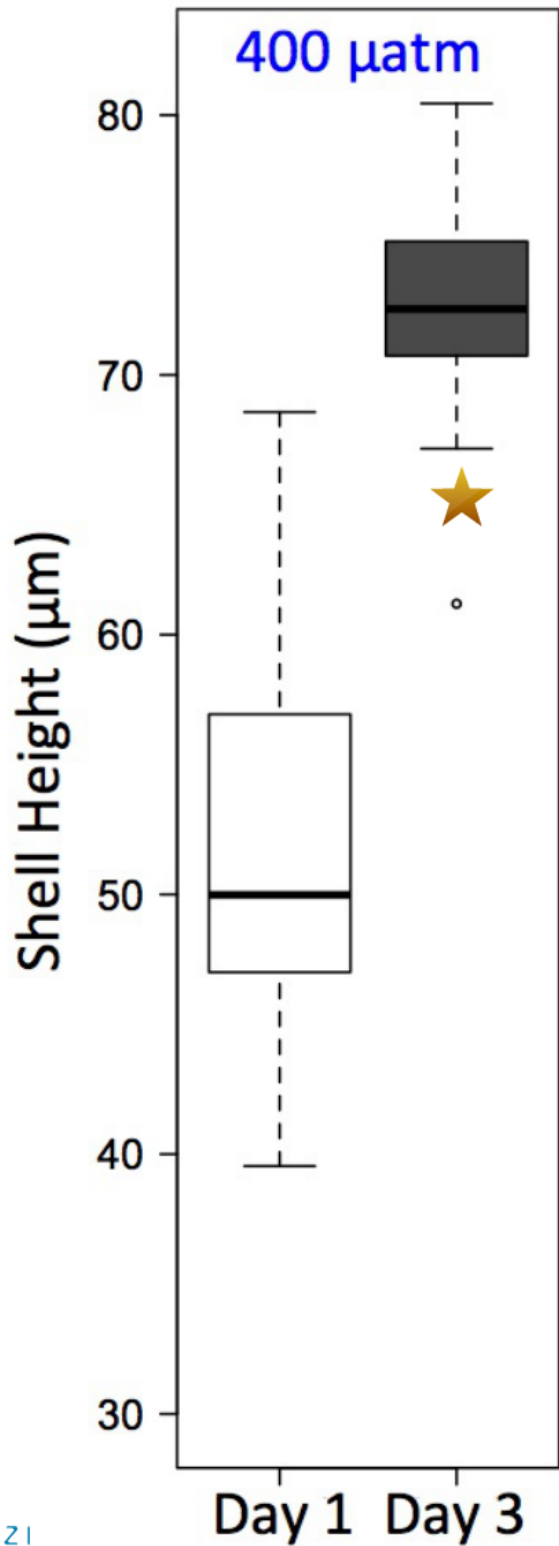
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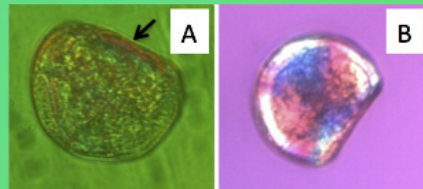
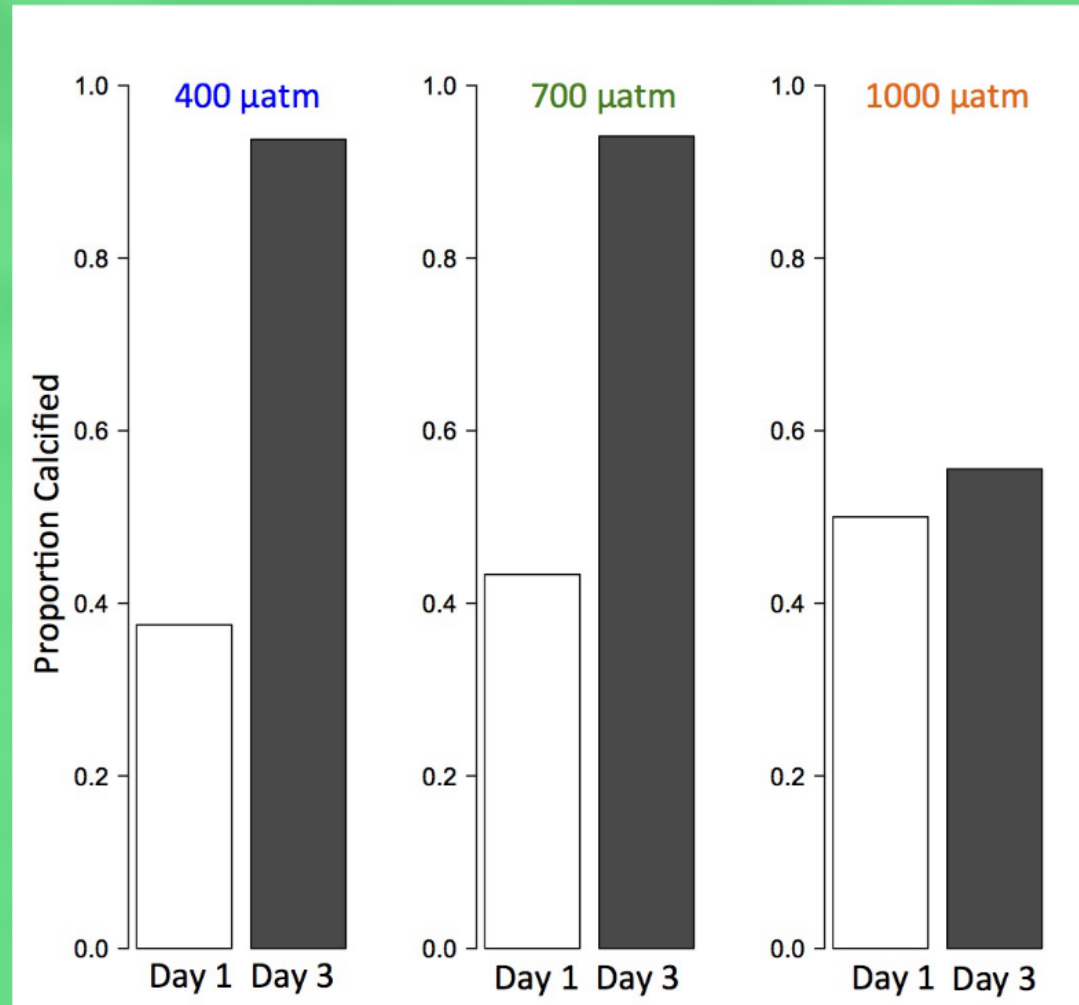
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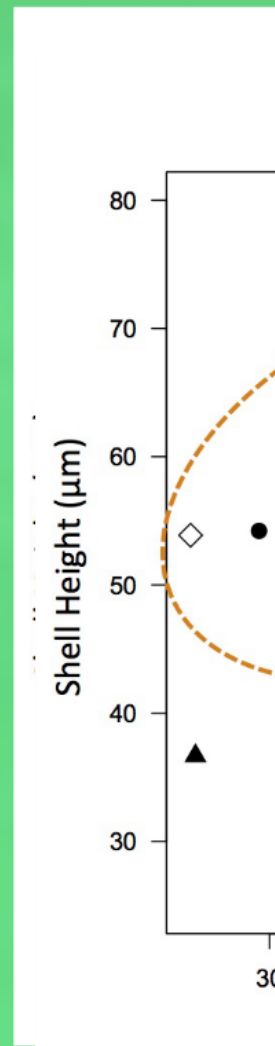
Shell deposition post-fertilization







Shell deposition slowed by 3 days post-fertilization at 1000 μatm.

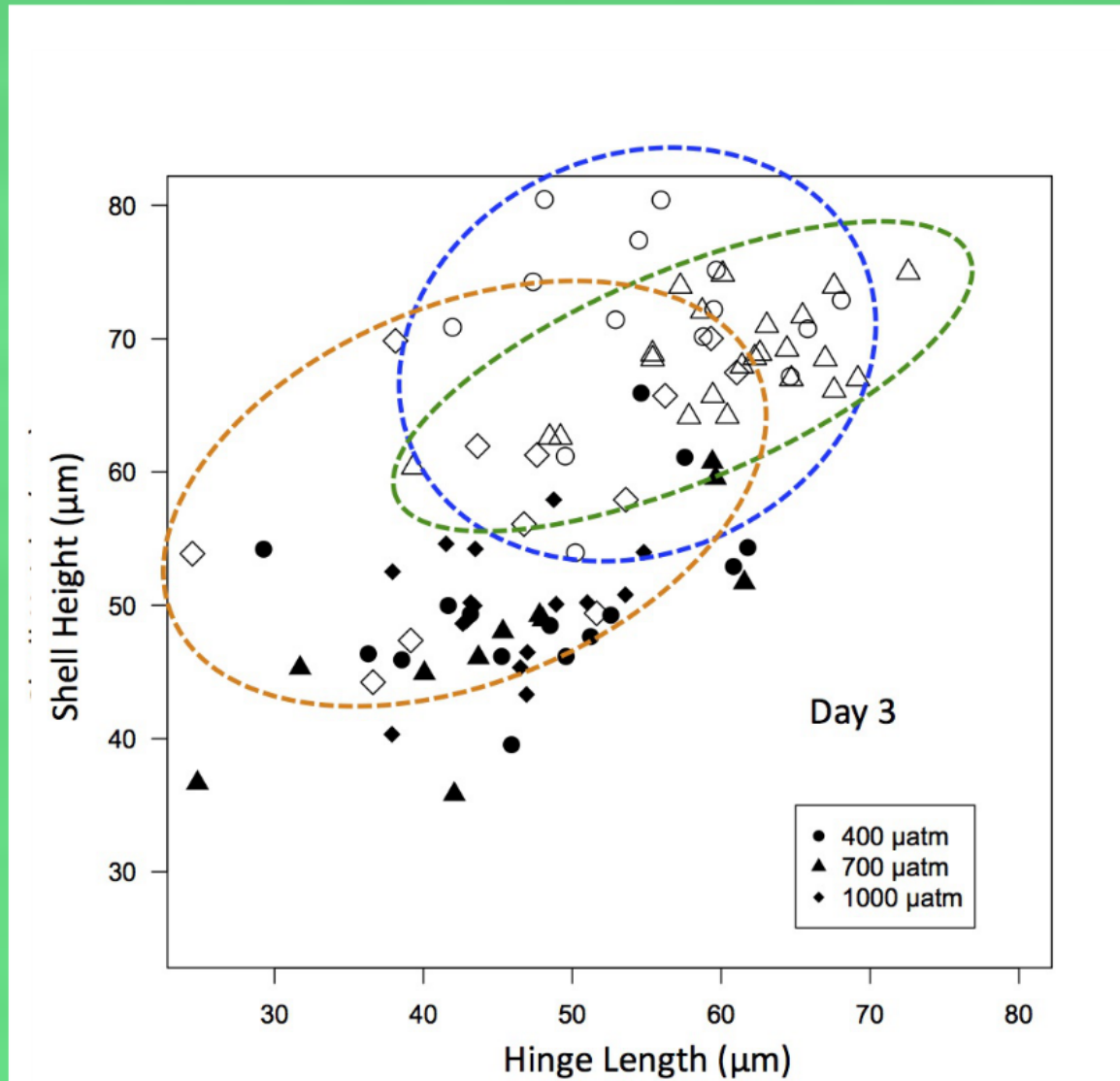


Larva  
simila  
growt

0  $\mu\text{atm}$

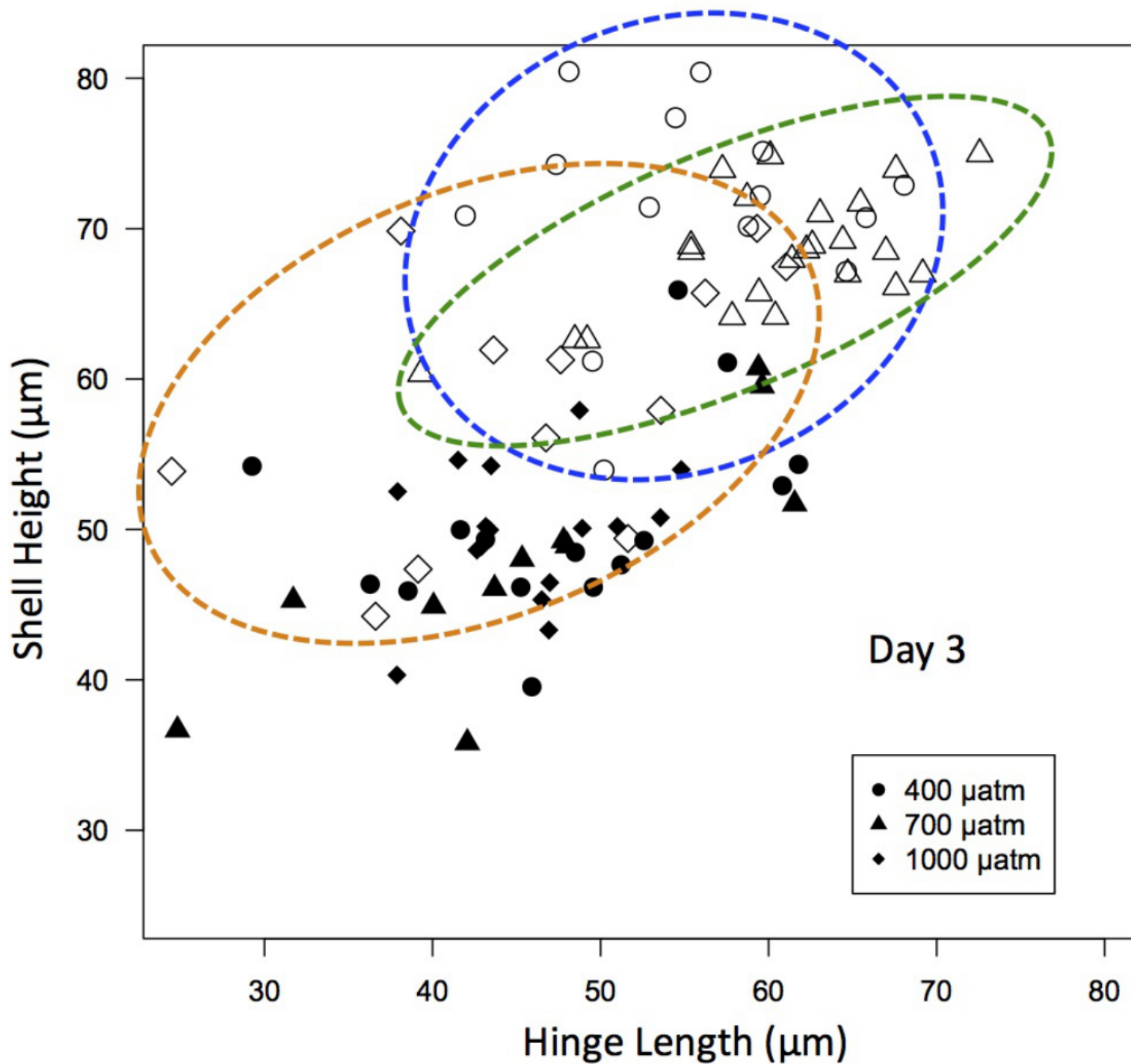


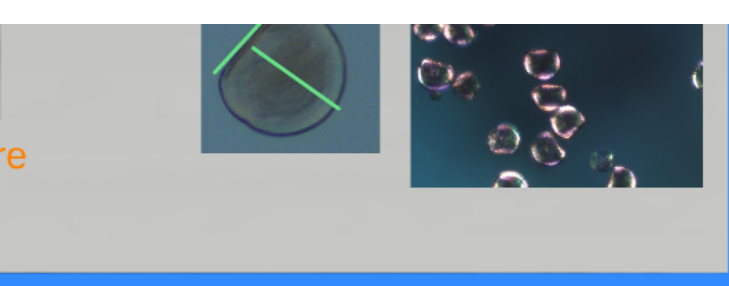
Day 3



Larvae at 1000  $\mu\text{atm}$  followed similar growth trajectory but growth was delayed.

ays



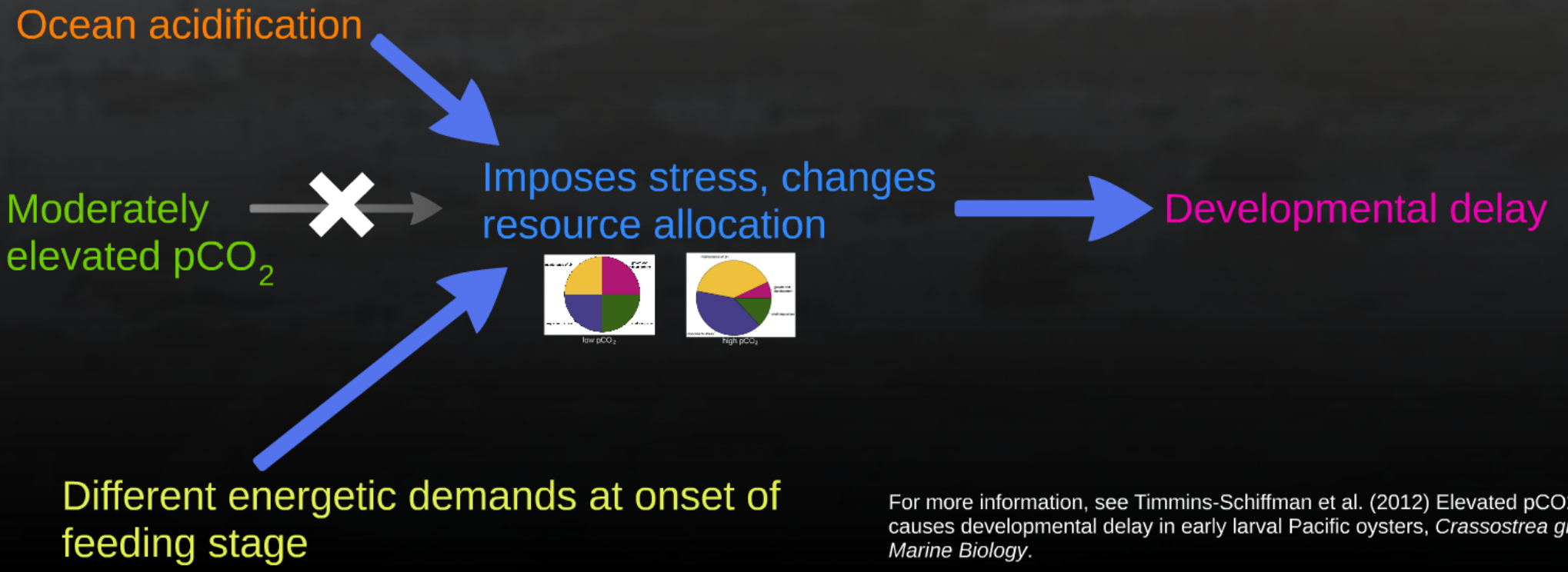


Day 1 Day 3 Day 1 Day 3 Day 1 Day 3

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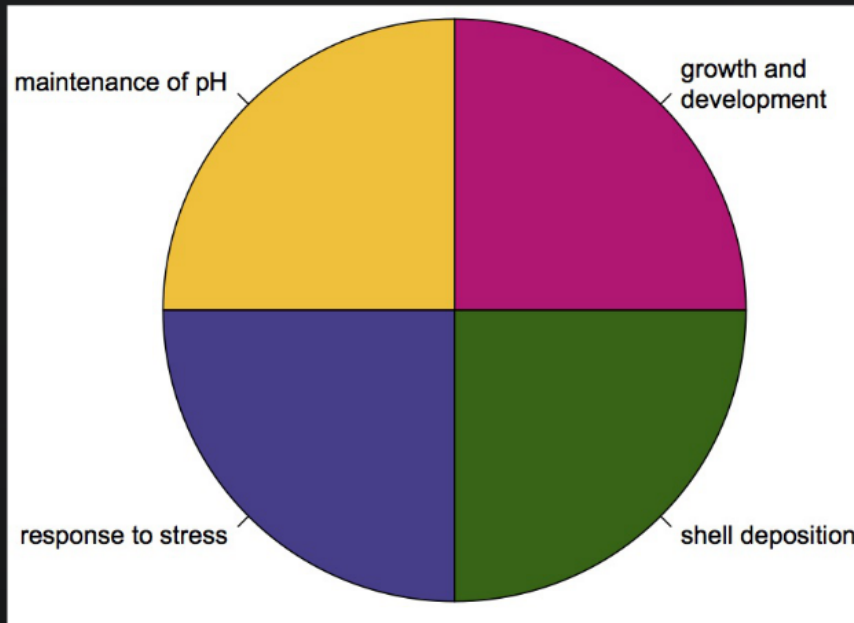
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# Conceptual Model

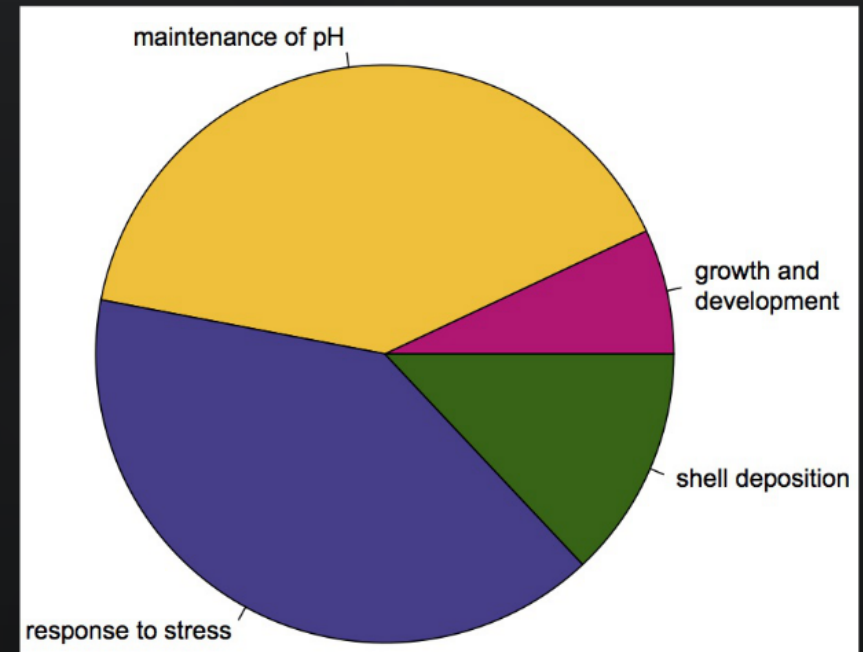


For more information, see Timmins-Schiffman et al. (2012) Elevated  $p\text{CO}_2$  causes developmental delay in early larval Pacific oysters, *Crassostrea gigas*. *Marine Biology*.

# source allocation

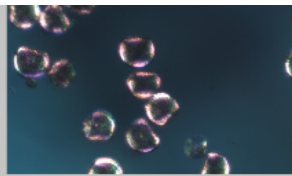
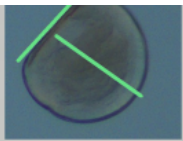


low pCO<sub>2</sub>



high pCO<sub>2</sub>

ure  
c



Day 1 Day 3

Day 1 Day 3

Day 1 Day 3

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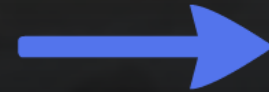
# Conceptual Model

Ocean acidification

Moderately elevated  $\text{pCO}_2$



Imposes stress, changes resource allocation



Developmental delay




Different energetic demands at onset of feeding stage

For more information, see Timmins-Schiffman et al. (2012) Elevated  $\text{pCO}_2$  causes developmental delay in early larval Pacific oysters, *Crassostrea gigas*. *Marine Biology*.

# Tools for investigating responses to ocean acidification

**Approach**

Environmental change →  → Proteomics

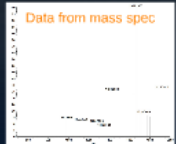
collaboration with Brook Yuan and Dave Coakley

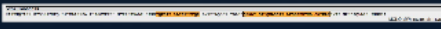
Main functions of ctenidia include ion regulation, respiration, and sorting of food particles. Which physiological processes are changing? How are interactions among processes changing?

**How it works**

extract proteins → cleave into peptides → sequence on mass spec


Data from mass spec = peptide sequence → match to entire protein sequence in database

 = peptide sequence → match to entire protein sequence in database




**The Gill Proteome**

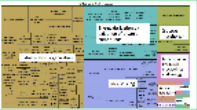
1,043 proteins identified



The gill proteome has an 80% representation of some subset of proteins, including those with conserved functions.



Technical and biological replication were consistent.



Proteomics is a viable tool for determining changes in resource allocation.

The ctenidium, as the interface between the oyster and its environment has a large, multifunctional proteome.

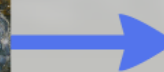
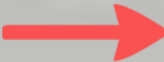


For more information, see Timmins-Schiffman et al. (2013) Shotgun proteomics as a viable approach for biological discovery in the Pacific oyster. *Conservation Physiology*.

# or investigating responses to ocean acidification

## Approach

Environmental change



Proteomics

collaboration with  
Brook Nunn and Dave  
Goodlett

Main functions of ctenidia include ion regulation, respiration, and sorting of food particles.

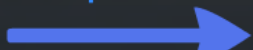
Which physiological processes are changing?

How are interactions among processes changing?

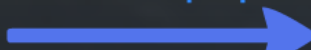
it works



extract proteins



cleave into peptides



sequence on mass spectrometer



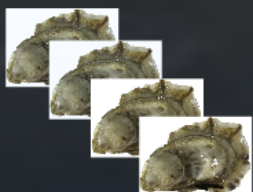
Environmental change



PROTEOMICS  
collaboration with  
Brook Nunn and Dave  
Goodlett

which physiological processes  
are changing?  
How are interactions among  
processes changing?

## How it works



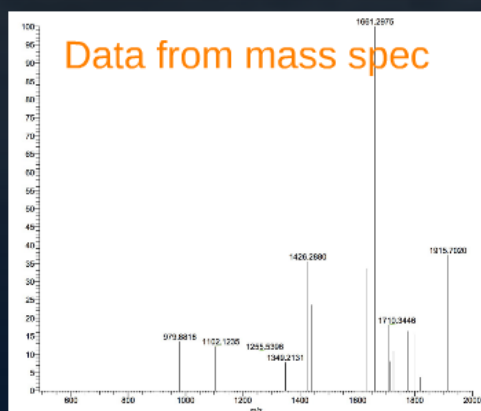
extract proteins



cleave into peptides



sequence on mass spec



= peptide sequence

**YQKSTE LLIRKLPFQR**

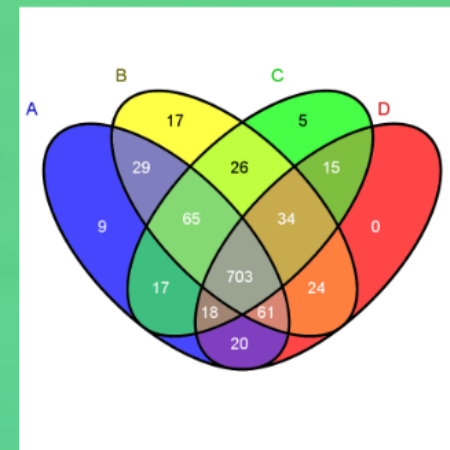
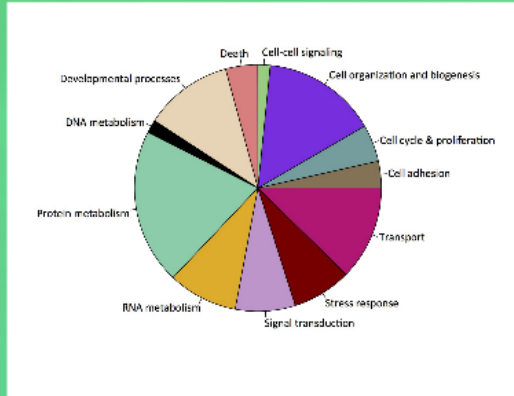
match to entire protein  
sequence in database

```
>COI_10000055
HARTKQZARK STGGKAPRQ LATKAARKSA FSTGGVKKPH RYRPGTVALR EIRRYQKSTE LLIRKLPFQR LVRSIAODFK TDLRFQSAAI GALQEASEAY LVGLFEDTNL CAIHARVVI MPKDIQLARR IRGERA
MONO MW: 18319, pl: 11.27
```

e Gill Proteome

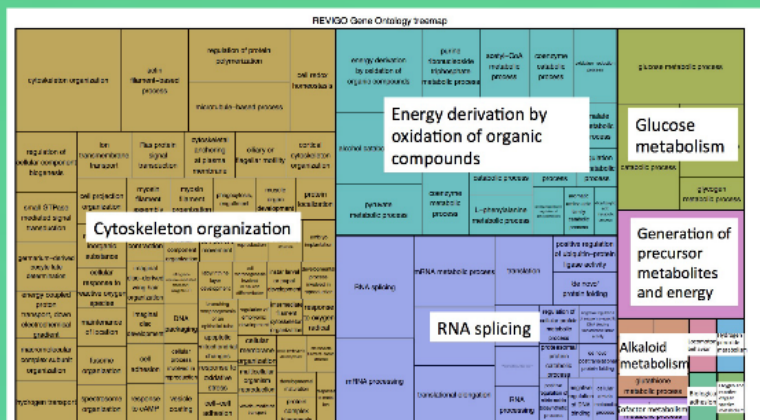
# The Gill Proteome

1,043 proteins identified

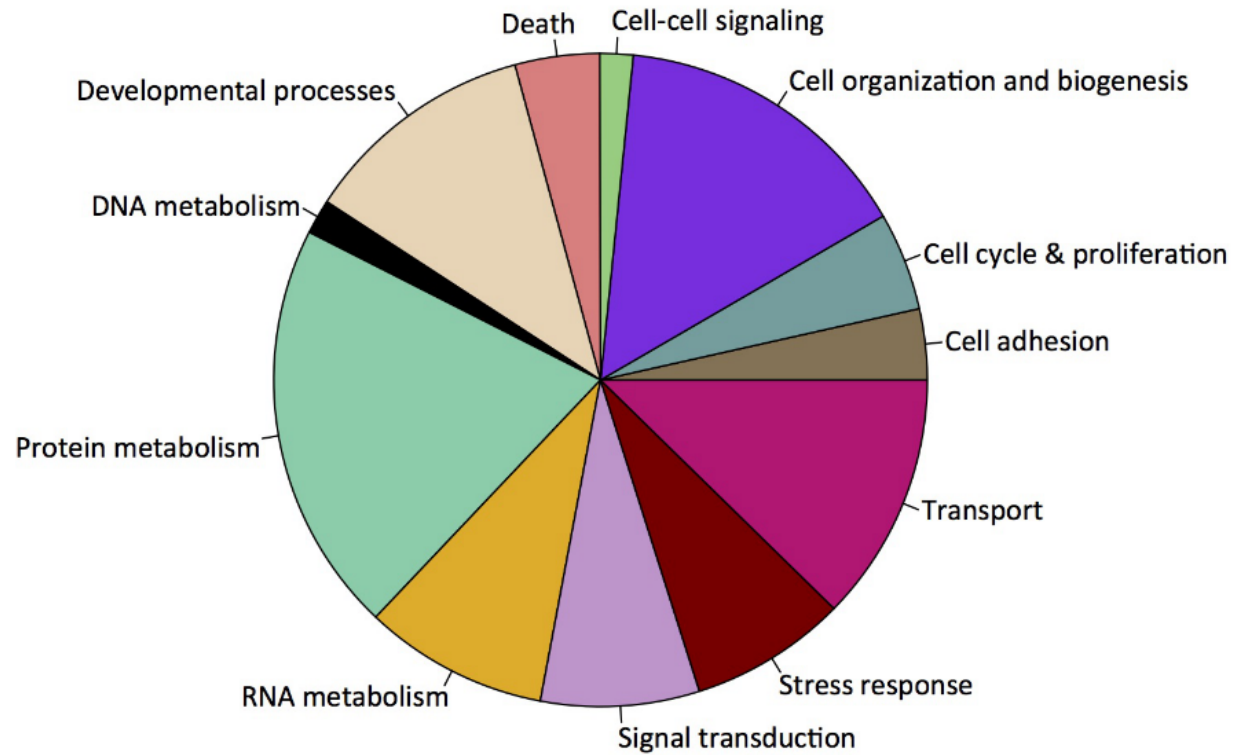


The gill tissue proteome has an over-representation of some biological processes, providing insight into tissue-specific functions.

Technical and biological replication were consistent.

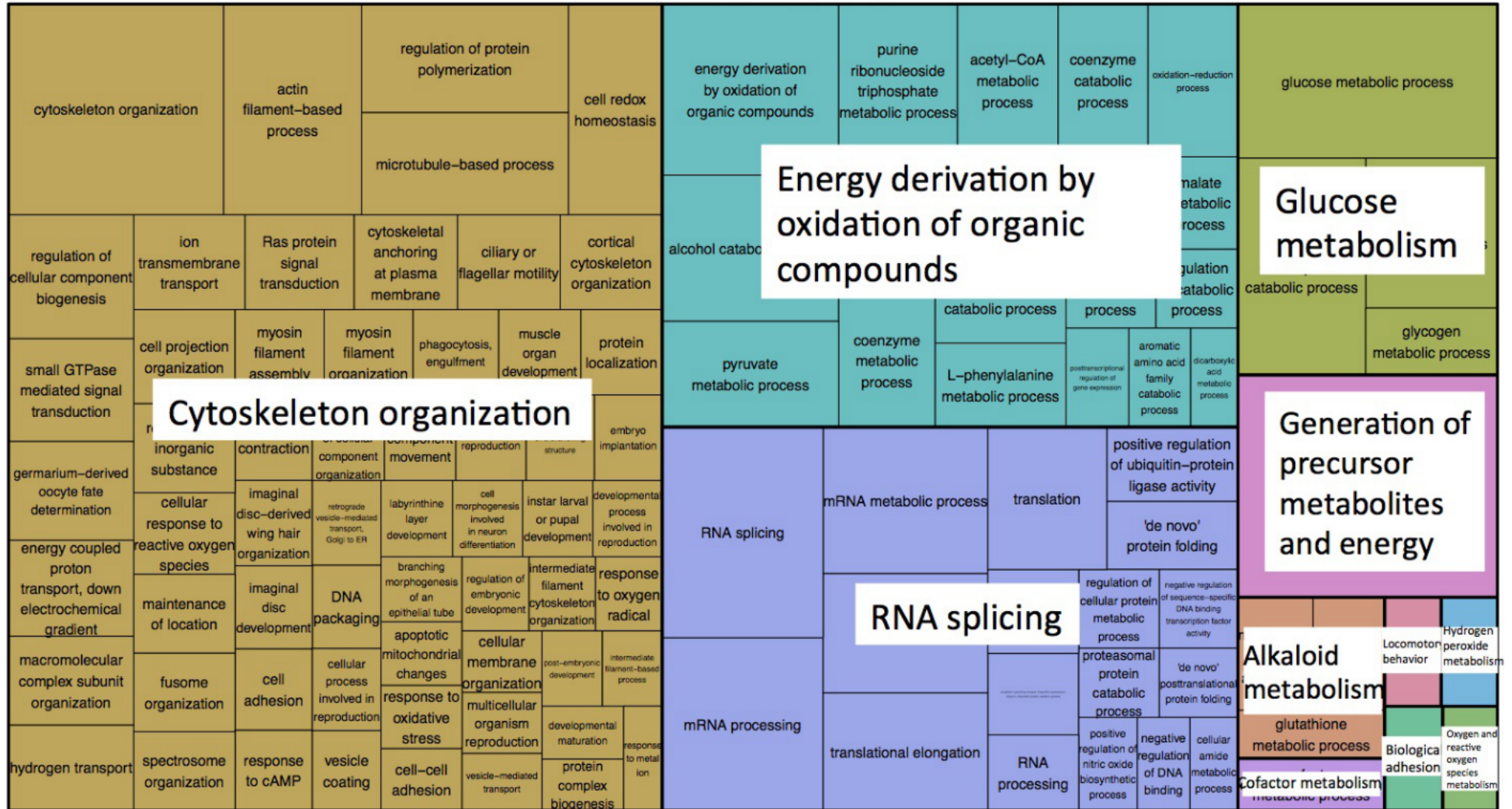


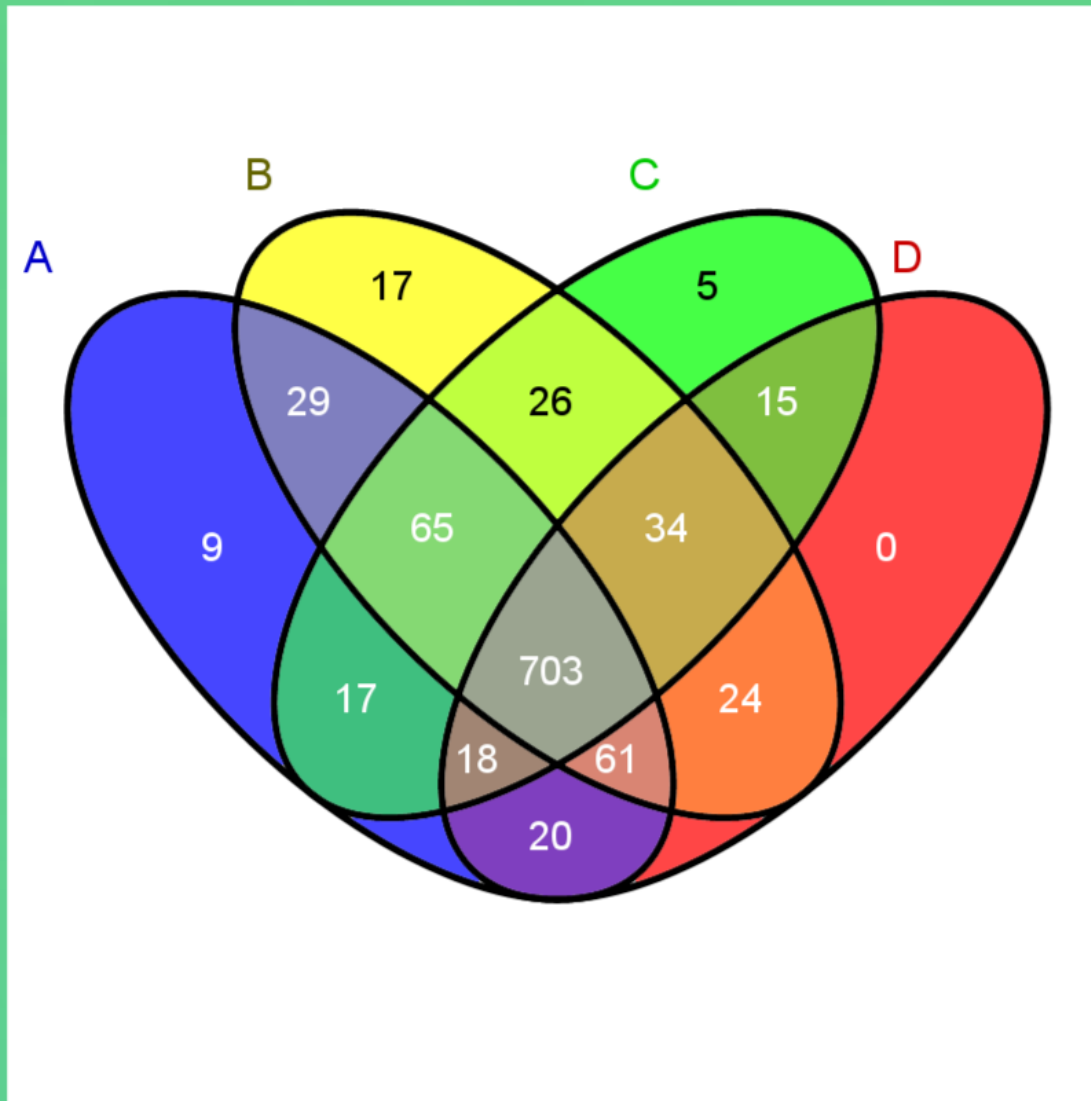
# 1,043 proteins identified



# The gill tissue proteome has an over-representation of some biological processes, providing insight into tissue-specific functions.

REVIGO Gene Ontology treemap





Technical and biological replication were consistent.

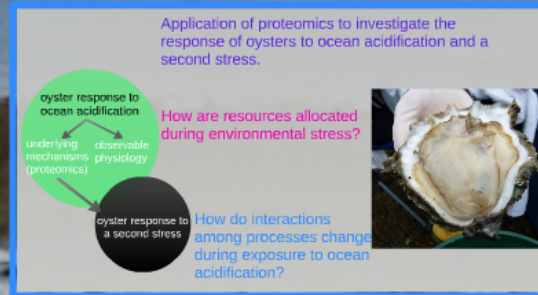
Proteomics is a viable tool for determining changes in resource allocation.

The ctenidium, as the interface between the oyster and its environment has a large, multifunctional proteome.



For more information, see Timmins-Schiffman et al. (2013) Shotgun proteomics as a viable approach for biological discovery in the Pacific oyster. *Conservation Physiology*.

# The integrated physiological response of oysters to ocean acidification



**Integrate multiple measurements of oyster physiology to better understand the effects of ocean acidification.**

- Shell deposition:** All oysters grew during the month-long experiment and there was no effect of pCO<sub>2</sub> on growth.
- Fatty acids:** Fatty acid reserves were not affected by ocean acidification.
- Proteomics:** Proteomics response to environmental stress. Proteomics response to a second stress.

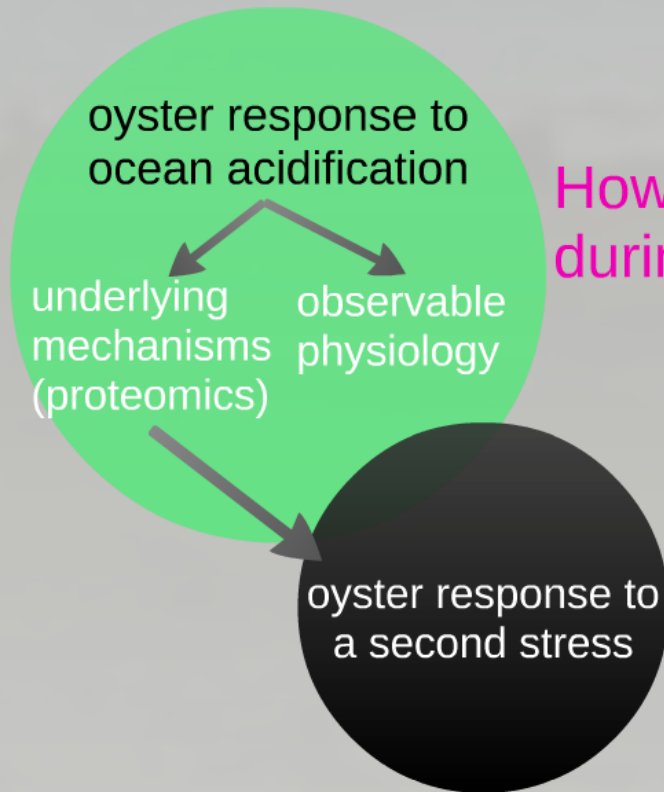
There are signs of resilience to ocean acidification:

- New shell was deposited
- Fatty acid reserves not affected
- Response to heat shock not affected

But there were limitations to this resilience:

- Integrity of new shell was compromised
- Proteins from diverse pathways/processes were affected by ocean acidification, implying wide-ranging effects on the organism-environment interaction
- The response to an additional stress was significantly altered, revealing that ocean acidification may inhibit how the oyster responds to other environmental changes

Application of proteomics to investigate the response of oysters to ocean acidification and a second stress.



How are resources allocated during environmental stress?

How do interactions among processes change during exposure to ocean acidification?



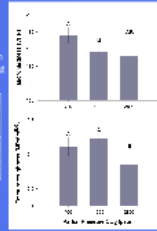


### Shell growth

Buoyant weight at beginning and end of experiment  
doi: 10.1002/lsm2.1000

All oysters grew during the month-long experiment and there was no effect of pCO<sub>2</sub> on growth.

### Shell micromechanics

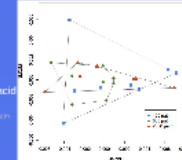


Ocean acidification affected both macro-hardness and fracture toughness.

High pCO<sub>2</sub> negatively impacts new shell integrity.

### Fatty acids

Whole body tissue fatty acid profiles  
doi: 10.1002/lsm2.1000



There was no change in fatty acid profile due to ocean acidification.

Lipid reserves were maintained.

### Proteomics: response to mechanical stress

Mechanical stress stimulates a general stress response in oysters.  
 How is the general stress response affected by ocean acidification?  
doi: 10.1002/lsm2.1000



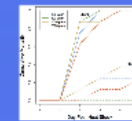
Carbohydrate metabolism was more affected at high 2800 µatm, especially in terms of using storage carbohydrates.

Greater antioxidant response at high pCO<sub>2</sub>  
 "Normal" apoptosis and cell stress responses change

Integrate multiple measurements of oyster physiology to better understand the effects of ocean acidification.

### Heat shock

Does lethal heat temperature change if oysters are exposed to ocean acidification?  
doi: 10.1002/lsm2.1000

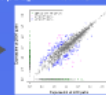


Ocean acidification did not affect susceptibility to acute heat shock.

### Proteomics: response to ocean acidification

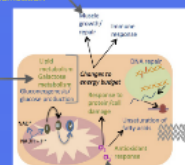
Which functional molecules change in response to ocean acidification? In response to mechanical stress at high and low pCO<sub>2</sub>?  
doi: 10.1002/lsm2.1000

Oyster encounters ocean acidification



Which proteins change?

Resources normally allocated to other processes are needed to combat ocean acidification



Changes in energy metabolism

Cellular stress: elevated expression of proteins involved in antioxidant response, apoptosis, general stress response proteins

Increased metabolism creates more reactive oxygen species

# Shell growth

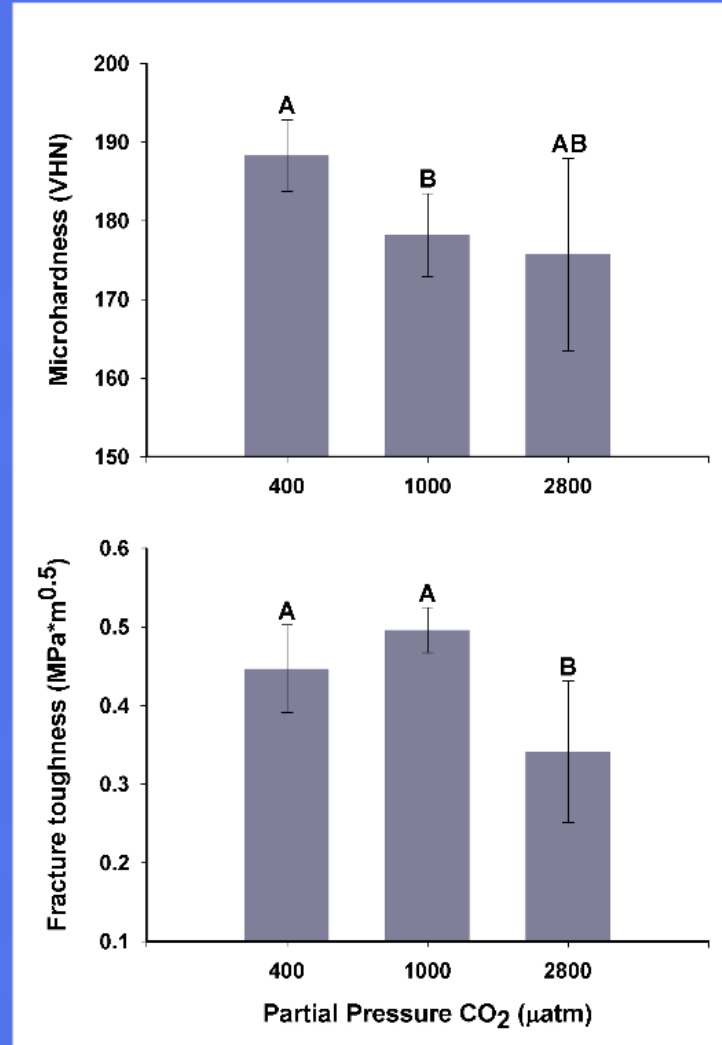
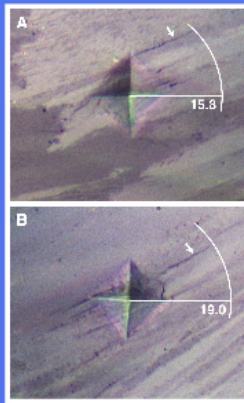
Buoyant weight at beginning and end of experiment

400, 800, 1000, 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$

All oysters grew during the month-long experiment and there was no effect of  $\text{pCO}_2$  on growth.

# Shell micromechanics

400, 1000, 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$   
collaboration with  
Gary Dickinson at  
TCNJ



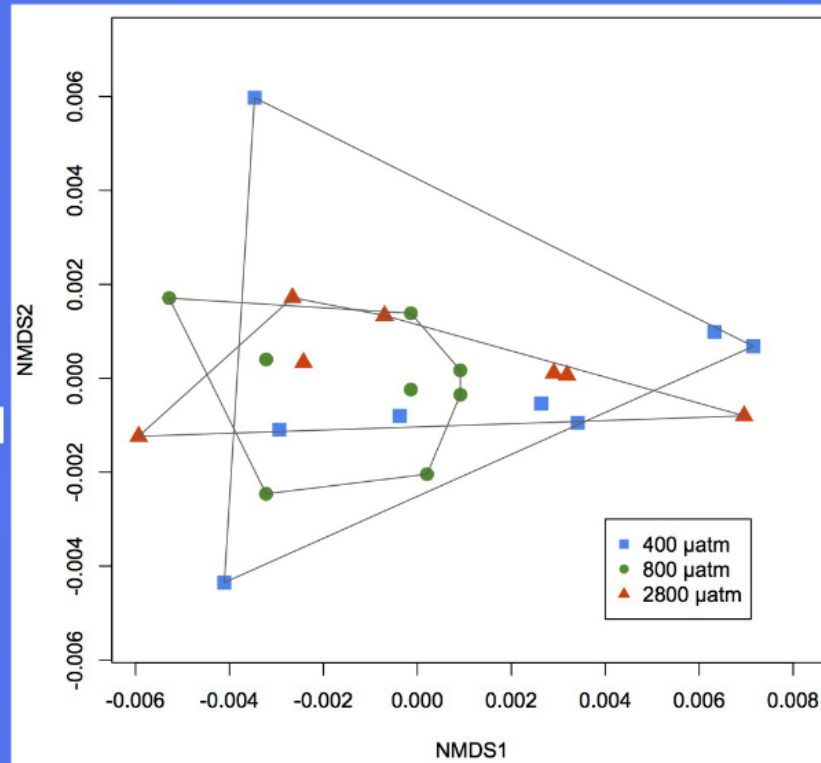
Ocean acidification affected both microhardness and fracture toughness.

High pCO<sub>2</sub> negatively impacts new shell integrity.

# Fatty acids

Whole body  
tissue fatty acid  
profiles.

400, 800, 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$

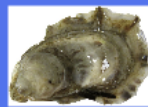


There was no change in  
fatty acid profile due to  
ocean acidification.

Lipid reserves were  
maintained.

# Heat shock

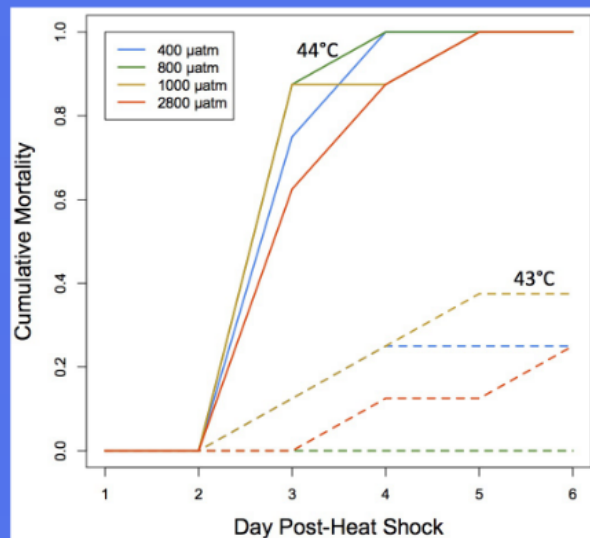
Does lethal heat temperature change if oysters are exposed to ocean acidification? 400, 800, 1000, 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$



42°C

43°C

44°C - LHT

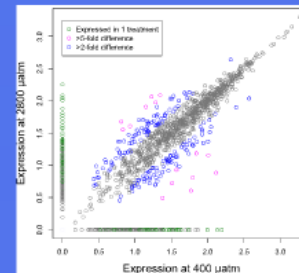


Ocean acidification did not affect susceptibility to acute heat shock.

# Proteomics: response to ocean acidification

Which functional molecules change in response to ocean acidification? In response to mechanical stress at high and low pCO<sub>2</sub>? 400, 2800 μatm

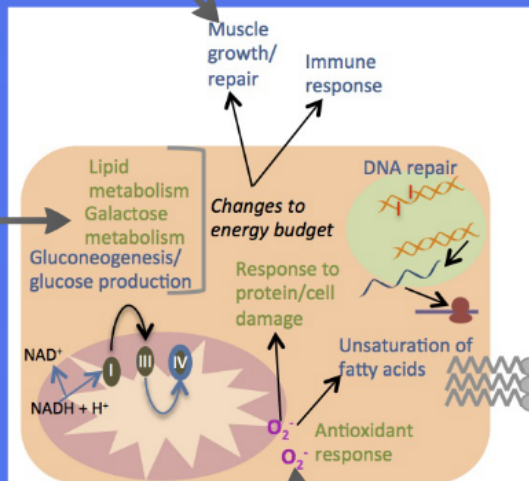
Oyster encounters ocean acidification



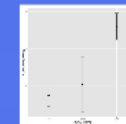
which proteins change?

Resources normally allocated to other processes are needed to combat ocean acidification

Changes in energy metabolism

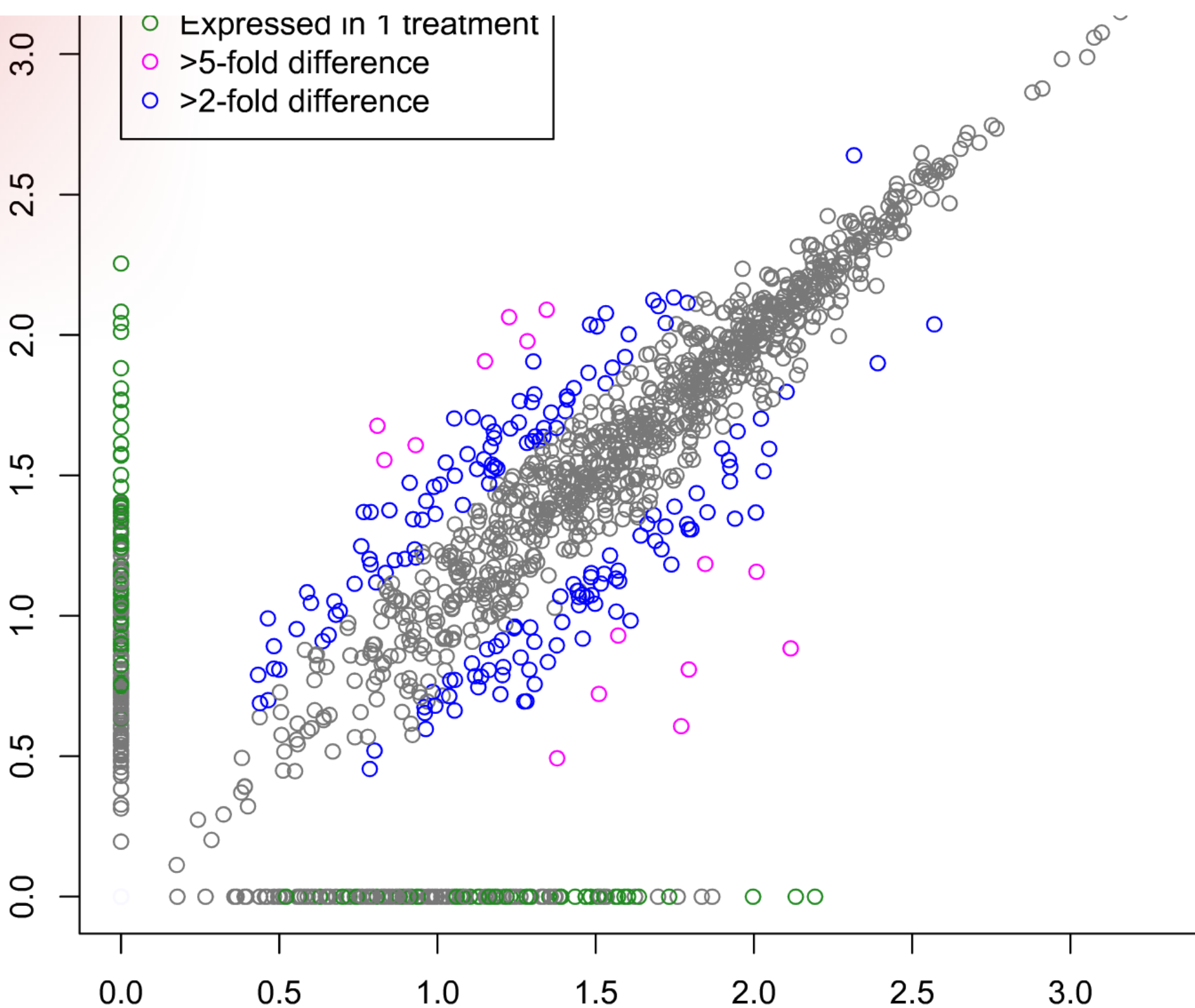


Cellular stress: elevated expression of proteins involved in antioxidant response, apoptosis, general stress response proteins

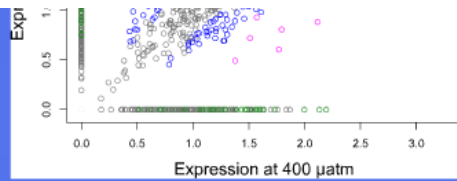


Increased metabolism creates more reactive oxygen species

# Expression at 2800 $\mu\text{atm}$

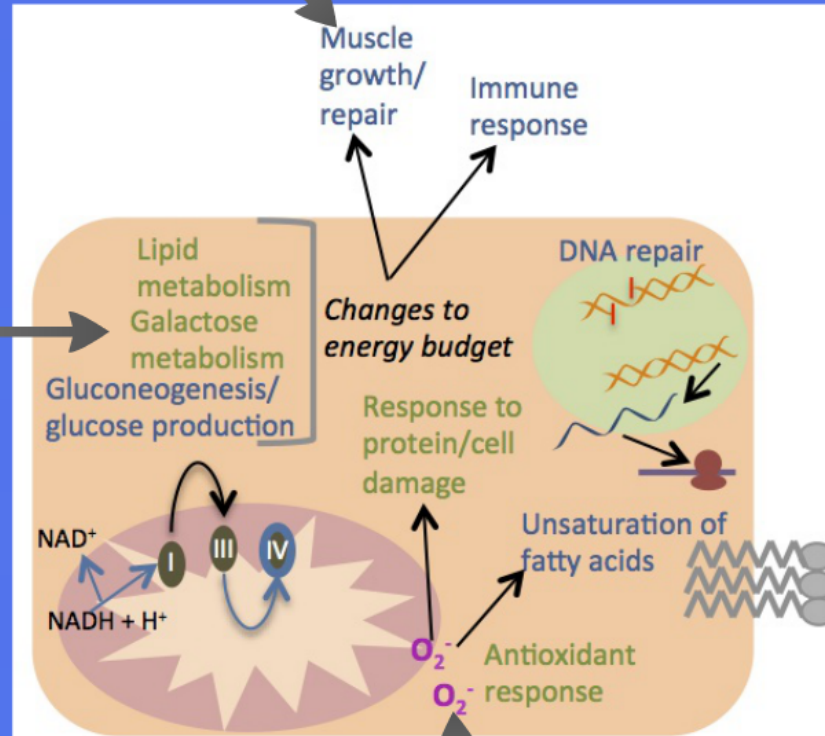


# Ocean acidification

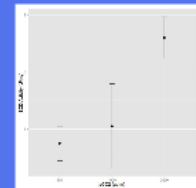


Resources normally allocated to other processes are needed to combat ocean acidification

Changes in energy metabolism



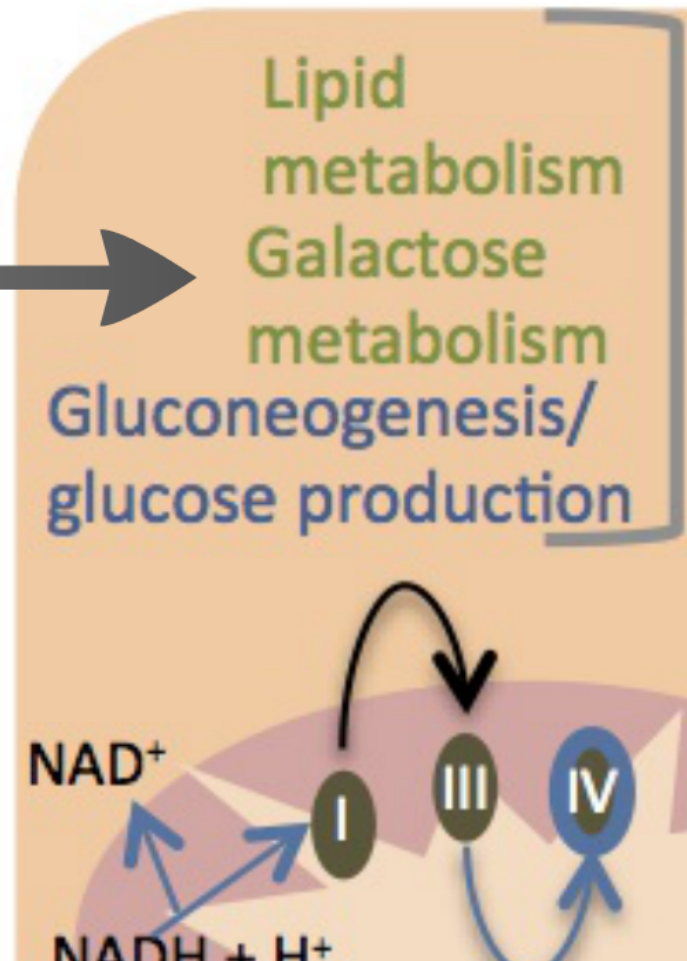
Cellular stress: elevated expression of proteins involved in antioxidant response, apoptosis, general stress response proteins



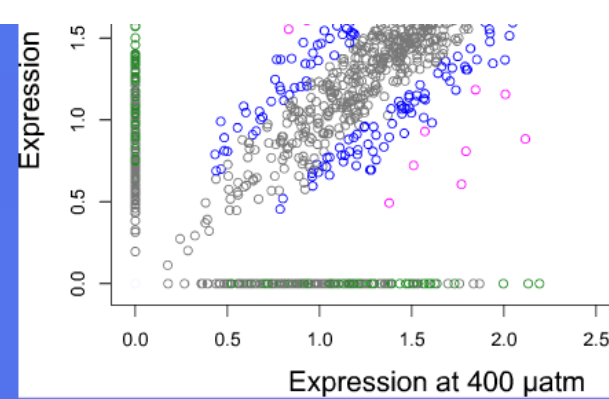
Increased metabolism creates more reactive oxygen species



# Changes in energy metabolism



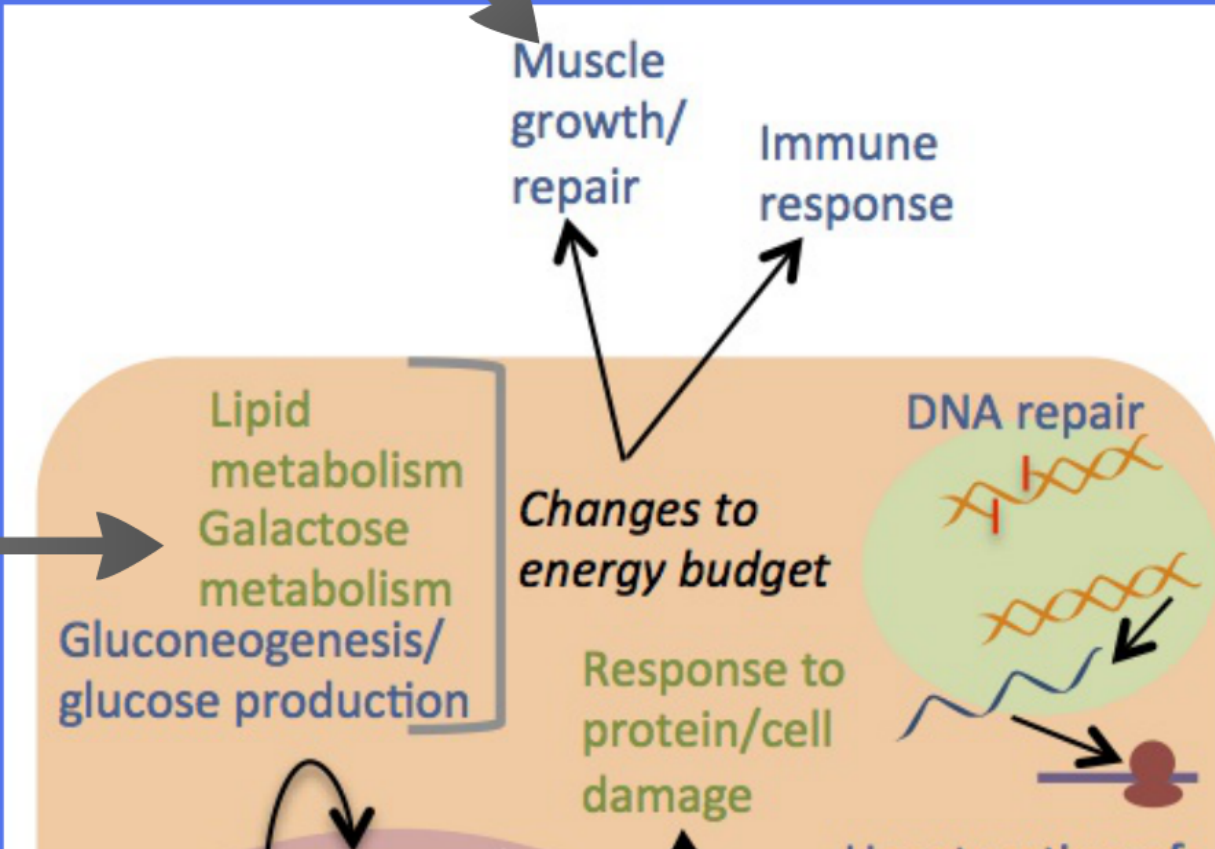
Oyster encounters ocean acidification

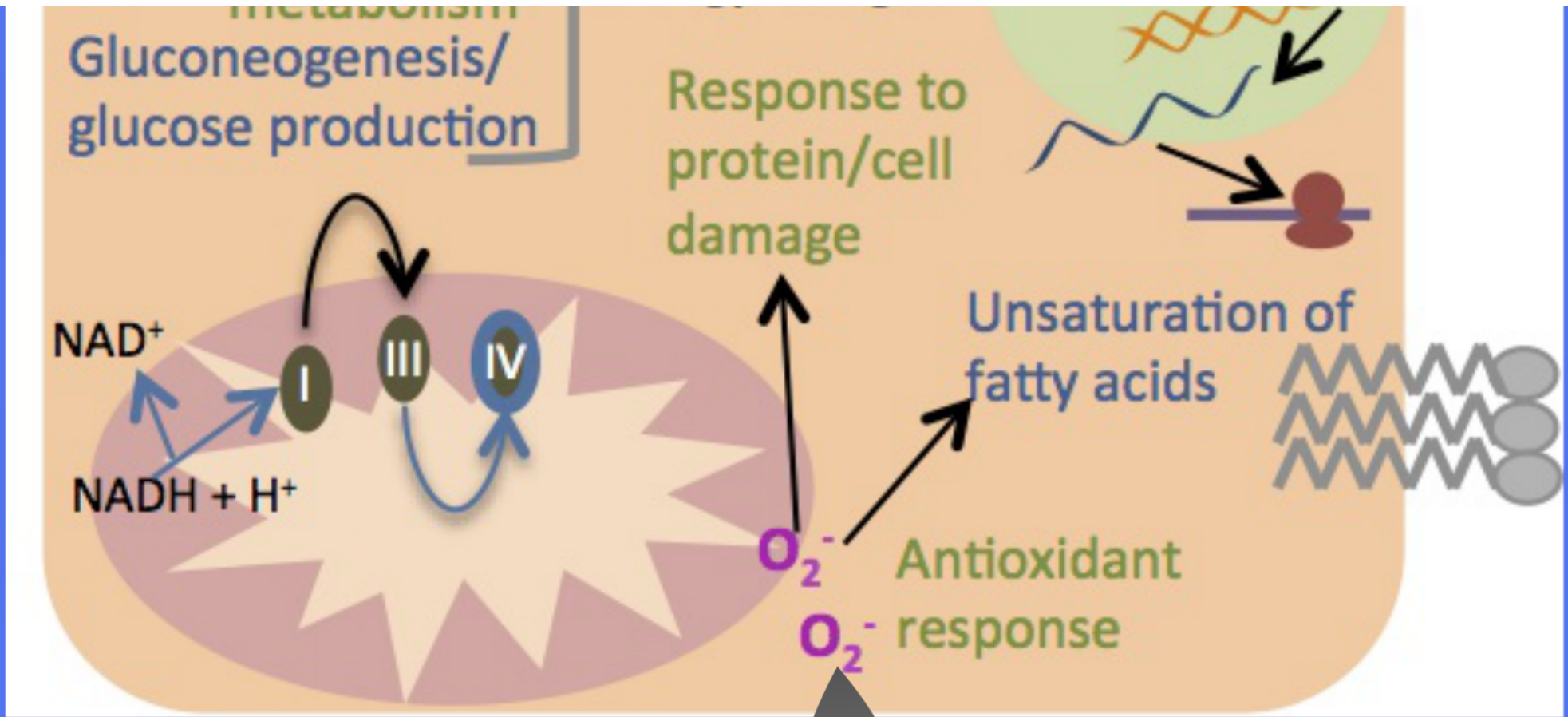


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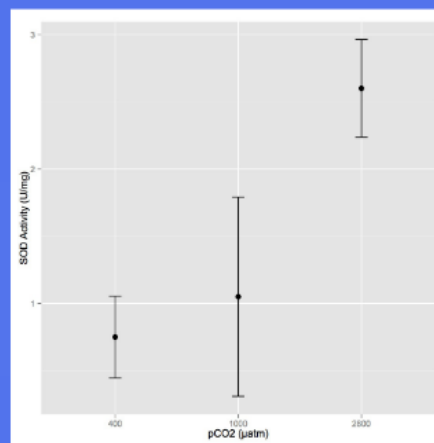
Changes in energy metabolism

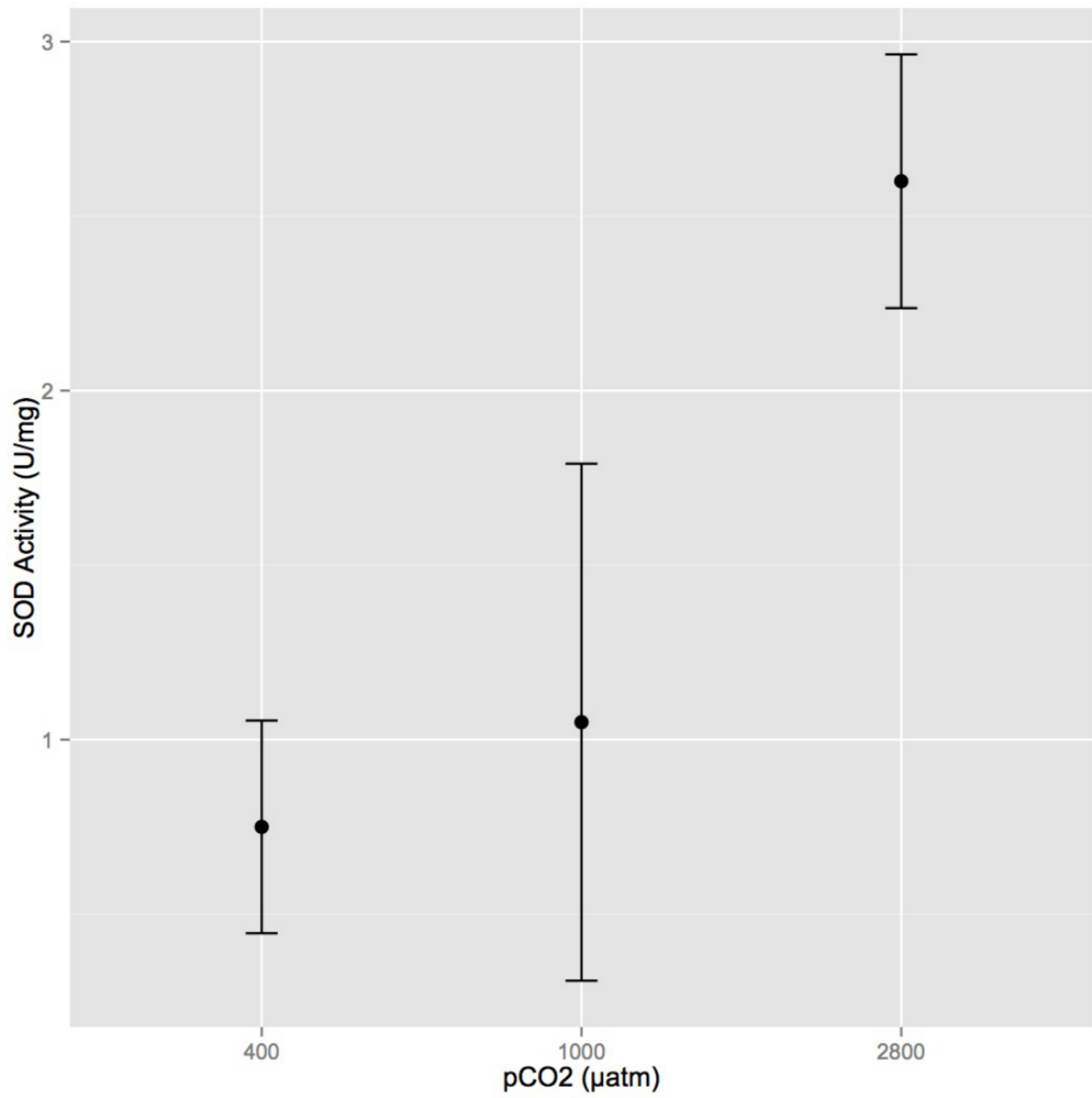




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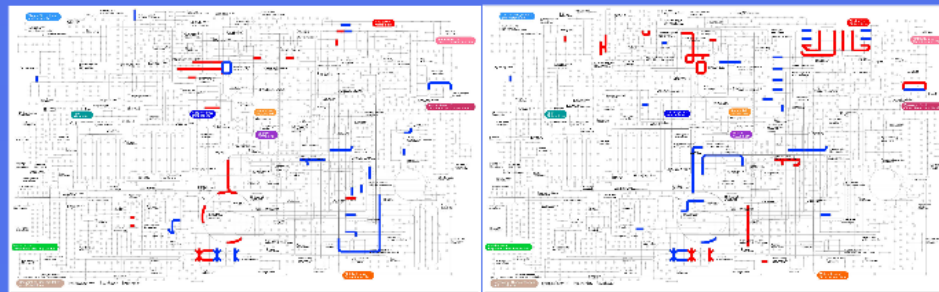




# Proteomics: response to mechanical stress

Mechanical stress stimulates a general stress response in oysters.

How is the general stress response affected by ocean acidification? 400, 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$



Response at 400  $\mu\text{atm}$

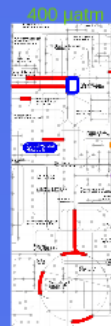
Response at 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$



400  $\mu\text{atm}$



2800  $\mu\text{atm}$



400  $\mu\text{atm}$



2800  $\mu\text{atm}$

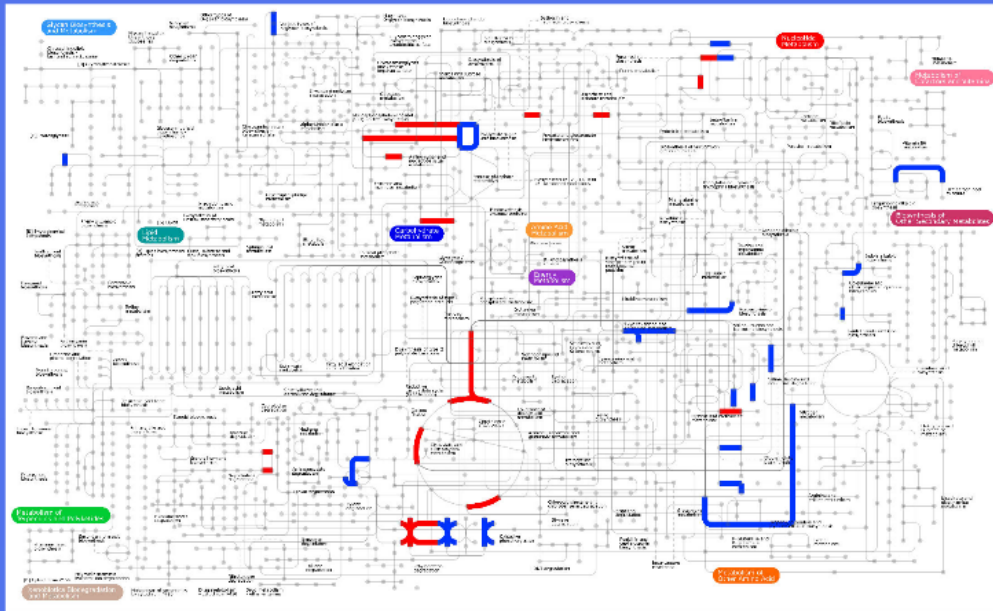
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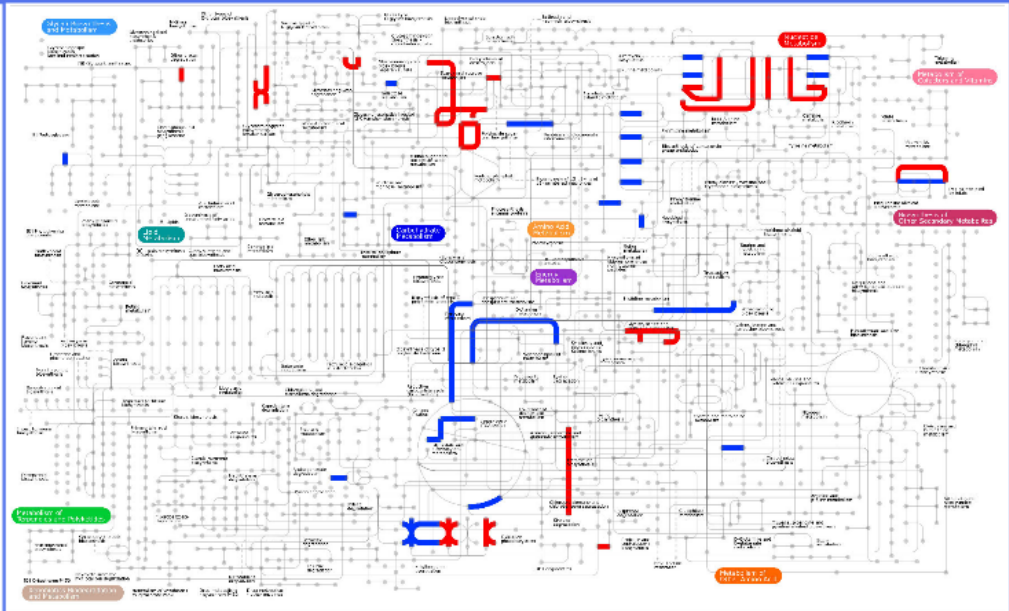
"Normal" apoptosis and cell stress responses change

# Mechanical stress

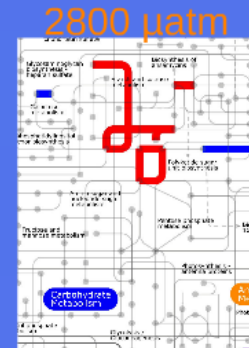
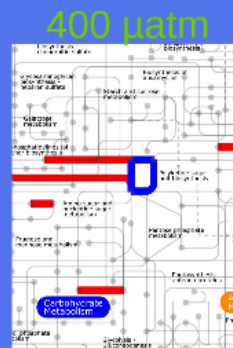
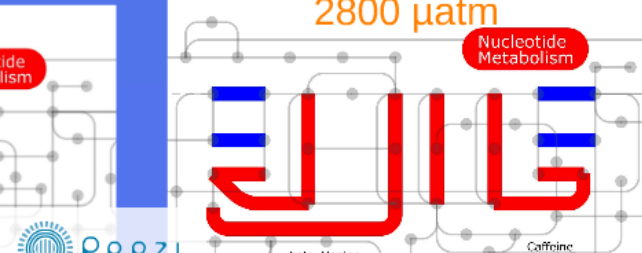
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Response at 400  $\mu\text{atm}$

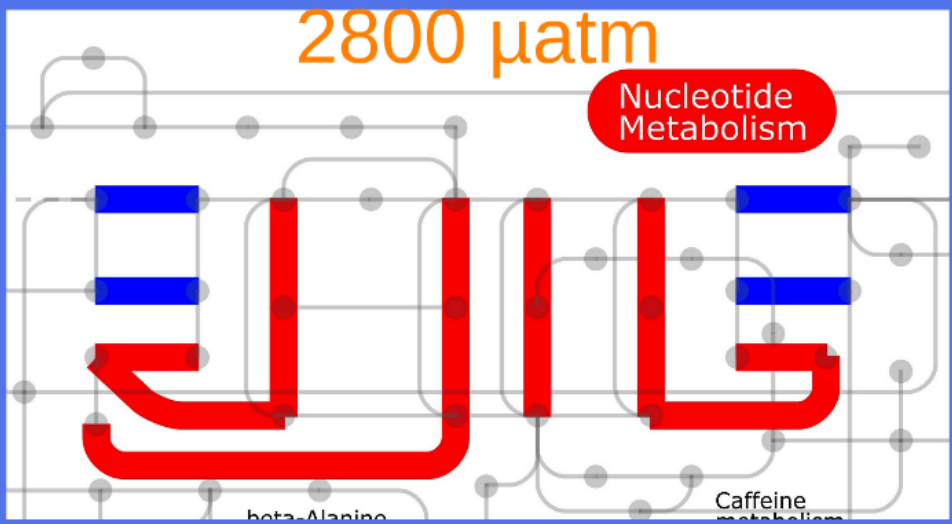
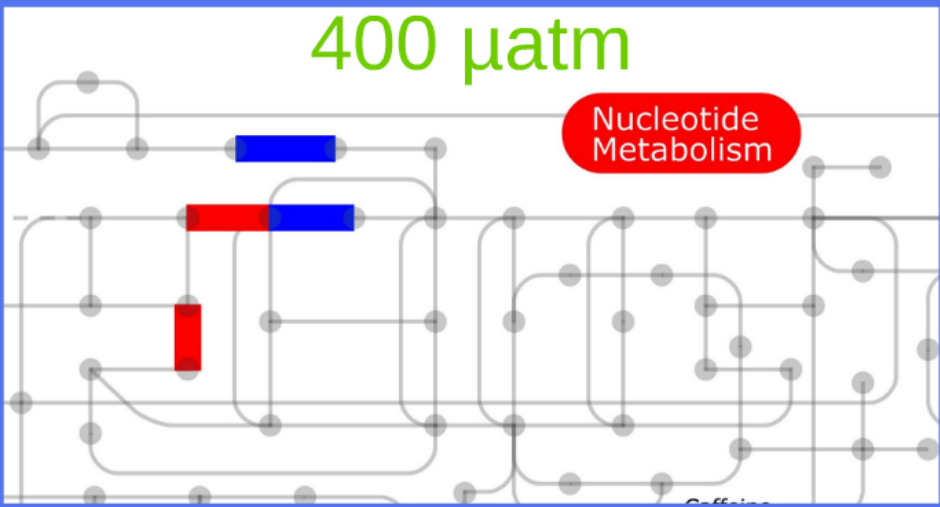


Response at 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$



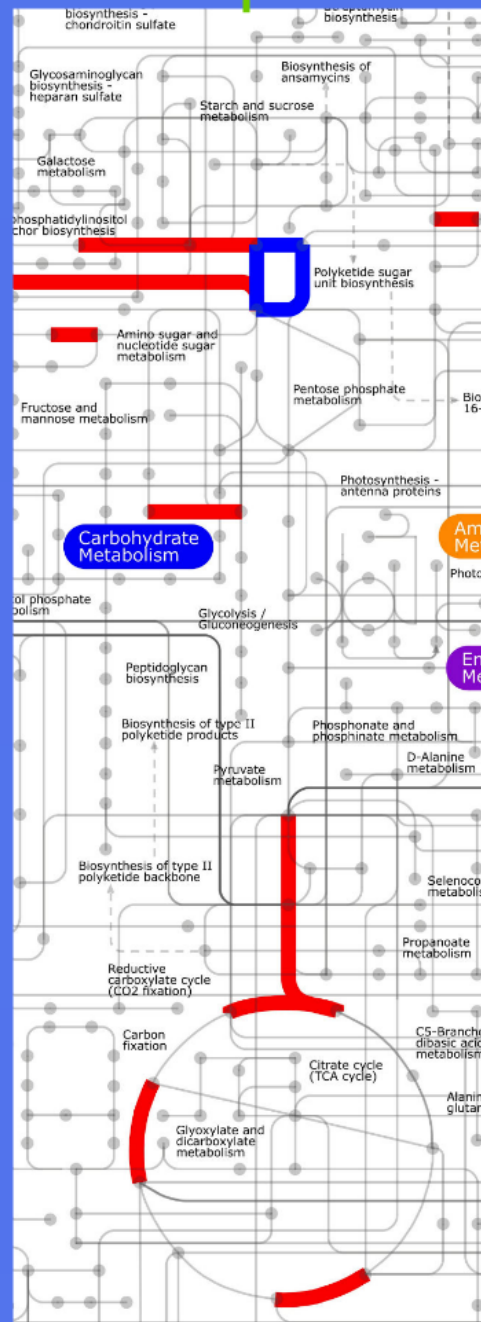
Carbohydrate  
metabolism v  
more affected  
high 2800  $\mu\text{atm}$

# Response at 400

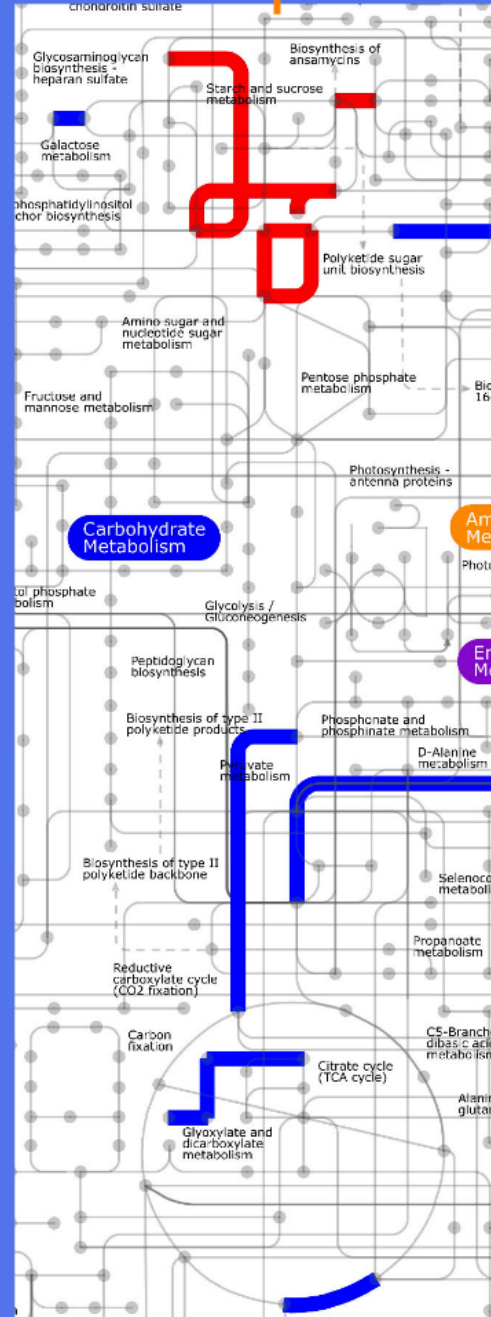




400  $\mu$ atm



2800  $\mu$ atm



Carbohydrate  
metabolism  
more  
highly  
expressed  
of  
carbohydrate

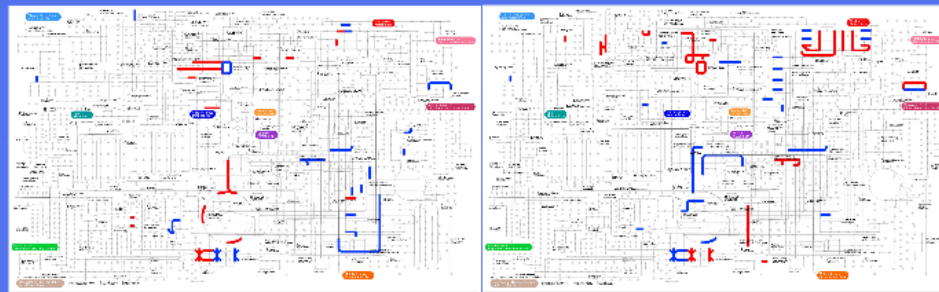
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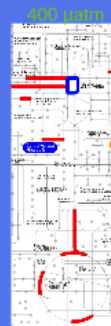
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- The response to an additional stress was significantly altered, revealing that ocean acidification may inhibit how the oyster responds to other environmental changes



## Conclusions

The impacts of ocean acidification are negative, but the key to acclimatization or adaptation lies in the **variability of responses**.

This variability has been observed between species, habitats, family groups, and offspring of adults exposed to difference pCO<sub>2</sub>.

Ecological history may play a large role in resilience to ocean acidification.



In adult bivalves, increased access to food mitigates the effects of ocean acidification.

This makes the adult bivalve response to ocean acidification a question of energetic resources.

Could resistance to ocean acidification lie in the phenotypes that more efficiently use energetic resources?

# Conclusions

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... species, habitats, family  
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This m  
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# Acknowledgements

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Patrick Timmins Jessica Schiffman

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Dustin Johnson

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