



1 **Estimation of bubbled-mediated air/sea gas exchange from**
2 **concurrent DMS and CO₂ transfer velocities at**
3 **intermediate-high wind speeds**

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16 **Abstract**

17 Simultaneous air/sea fluxes and concentration differences of dimethylsulfide (DMS) and
18 carbon dioxide (CO₂) were measured during a summertime North Atlantic cruise in 2011.
19 This dataset reveals significant differences between the gas transfer velocities of these two
20 gases (Δk_w) over a range of wind speeds up to 21 m s⁻¹. These differences occur at and above
21 the approximate wind speed threshold when waves begin breaking. Whitecap fraction (a
22 proxy for bubbles) was also measured and has a positive relationship with Δk_w , consistent
23 with enhanced bubble-mediated transfer of the less soluble CO₂ relative to that of the more
24 soluble DMS. However, the correlation of Δk_w with whitecap fraction is no stronger than with
25 wind speed. Models used to estimate bubble-mediated transfer from *in situ* whitecap fraction
26 under-predict the observations, particularly at intermediate wind speeds. Examining the
27 differences between gas transfer velocities of gases with different solubilities is a useful way
28 to detect the impact of bubble-mediated exchange. More simultaneous gas transfer



29 measurements of different solubility gases across a wide range of oceanic conditions are
30 needed to understand the factors controlling the magnitude and scaling of bubble-mediated
31 gas exchange.

32 1 Introduction

33 Air/sea exchange is a significant process for many compounds that have biogeochemical and
34 climatic importance. Approximately 25% of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) released into the
35 atmosphere by anthropogenic activities has been taken up by the world oceans, which has
36 tempered its climate forcing while leading to ocean acidification (Le Quéré et al., 2015). The
37 biogenic gas dimethylsulfide (DMS) is a major contributor to the mass of marine atmospheric
38 aerosol (Virkkula et al., 2006). Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as isoprene,
39 acetone and acetaldehyde alter the oxidising capacity of the troposphere (Carpenter et al.,
40 2012). The solubility differences between these VOCs mean that their exchange is controlled
41 to differing degrees by processes on the water and air side of the air/sea interface (Yang et al.,
42 2014). Many of the factors influencing air/sea gas exchange will be altered by future changes
43 in climate, ocean circulation and biology. Earth system models and air quality models require
44 more accurate understanding of the processes that influence air/sea gas transfer.

45 Air/sea gas exchange is typically parameterised as a function of the ocean/atmosphere bulk
46 concentration difference (ΔC) and the physical mixing induced by wind stress at the interface
47 (Liss and Slater, 1974). The air/sea flux is typically described using the expression:

$$48 \quad \text{Flux} = K(C_w - \alpha C_a) \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

49 where C_w and C_a are the trace gas bulk concentration on either side of the interface, α is the
50 dimensionless water/air solubility of the gas in seawater and K is the gas transfer velocity.
51 The physics of gas transfer are implicitly represented by the gas transfer velocity, which is
52 commonly expressed in water-side units of velocity (cm hr⁻¹) and parameterized as a function
53 of wind speed (U_{10}) and Schmidt number (Sc). The simplicity of Equation 1 belies the
54 complexity of the processes involved in air/sea gas transfer. These processes include
55 diffusion, surface renewal, buoyancy effects, wave-induced mixing, wave breaking and
56 bubble-mediated transport. A variety of theoretical, laboratory, and field approaches have
57 been used to study these processes but we do not yet have a firm understanding of factors that
58 control air/sea transfer under a range of oceanic conditions.



59 The gas transfer-wind speed relationships for gases of different solubility may be affected by
60 breaking waves and bubbles (Woolf, 1993; Keeling, 1993; Woolf, 1997). Gas transfer via
61 bubbles (k_{bub}) is sensitive to the void fraction (ratio of air volume to total volume) of the
62 bubble plume as well as the bubble size distribution. Bubble injection depth and cleanliness
63 of the surface (influenced by surfactants) affect bubble rise velocity and residence time.
64 Bubble residence time determines the time available for equilibration to occur while bubble
65 volume and gas diffusivity (Sc) govern the time needed for a bubble to equilibrate. The
66 magnitude of k_{bub} is expected to be greater for sparingly soluble gases (e.g. CO_2 ,
67 dimensionless solubility ~ 1) than for more soluble gases such as DMS (dimensionless
68 solubility ~ 15), particularly when bubbles are fully equilibrated. Bubble-mediated gas
69 transfer has been studied in the laboratory (Rhee et al., 2007; Asher et al., 1996) and using
70 models (e.g. Woolf, 2005; Fairall et al., 2011; Woolf et al., 2007; Goddijn-Murphy et al.,
71 2016).

72 Deliberate, dual-tracer techniques have estimated gas transfer by measuring the evasion of a
73 pair of sparingly soluble gases with different diffusivity (3He and SF_6 , dimensionless
74 solubility ≤ 0.01). These studies indicate non-linear wind speed dependence of the gas transfer
75 velocity, in qualitative agreement with earlier studies in wind-wave tanks (e.g. Watson et al.,
76 1991; Wanninkhof et al., 1985; Liss and Merlivat, 1986). Direct, shipboard measurements of
77 waterside gas transfer have also been made by eddy covariance (e.g. Bell et al., 2013;
78 Marandino et al., 2007; McGillis et al., 2001; Miller et al., 2010; Huebert et al., 2004). These
79 measurements typically show DMS gas transfer velocities that are lower and exhibit more
80 linear wind speed dependence than those estimated for CO_2 based on dual tracer studies (e.g.
81 Bell et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2011; Goddijn-Murphy et al., 2012). It has been suggested that
82 the difference between the open ocean gas transfer velocities of CO_2 and DMS is due to the
83 reduced importance of bubble-mediated exchange for DMS (Goddijn-Murphy et al., 2016;
84 Blomquist et al., 2006; Fairall et al., 2011).

85 Only one set of concurrent CO_2 and DMS gas transfer velocity measurements have been
86 published to date (Miller et al., 2009). In that study, no statistically significant difference was
87 observed in gas transfer-wind speed relationships of CO_2 and DMS for winds below 10 m s^{-1} .
88 This study presents a more extensive set of CO_2 and DMS gas transfer velocities that were
89 measured simultaneously aboard the R/V Knorr in the 2011 summertime North Atlantic in
90 both oligotrophic and highly productive waters. The DMS and CO_2 gas transfer velocities



91 are discussed separately in detail by Bell et al. (2013) and Miller et al., In Prep. Here we
92 focus specifically on what can be learned about gas transfer from the differences in behaviour
93 of two different solubility gases at intermediate and high wind speeds.

94 **2 Methods**

95 **2.1 Seawater, atmospheric and flux measurement systems**

96 The measurement setups for DMS and CO₂ concentrations in air and water and the eddy
97 covariance flux systems have been discussed in detail elsewhere (Bell et al., 2015; Bell et al.,
98 2013; Miller et al., 2010; Miller et al., 2008; Landwehr et al., 2014; Landwehr et al., 2015;
99 Saltzman et al., 2009). We provide a summary and some additional details in the Appendix
100 (Section 6).

101 **2.2 Gas transfer velocity calculations**

102 In this section we describe the calculation of DMS and CO₂ gas transfer velocities from the
103 Knorr_11 cruise data. Measured gas transfer velocities are transformed into water side only
104 gas transfer velocities in order to remove the influence of air-side resistance. Air-side
105 resistance is a function of solubility and thus different for the two gases. Finally, we discuss
106 the most appropriate approach for comparing the water-side gas transfer velocities, given that
107 the two gases have different molecular diffusivity and solubility.

108 Total gas transfer velocities (K) are calculated for CO₂ and DMS for each 10-minute flux
109 interval of the Knorr_11 cruise using Equation 1. The temperature-dependent dimensionless
110 solubility of CO₂ and DMS in seawater is calculated following Weiss (1974) and Dacey et al.
111 (1984). These gas transfer velocities reflect the result of resistance on both sides of the
112 interface (Liss and Slater, 1974). The water side contribution to the total resistance is
113 determined as follows:

$$114 \quad k_w = \left[\frac{1}{K} - \frac{\alpha}{k_a} \right]^{-1} \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

115 where k_w and k_a are the air side and water side gas transfer velocities and α is dimensionless
116 water/air solubility. Note that we use the α reported by Dacey et al. (1984) in these
117 calculations rather than H as there appears to be an error in conversion between α and H in
118 that study (see Supplemental information for discussion). CO₂ solubility is sufficiently low



119 that air side resistance is negligible and the water side gas transfer is assumed equal to the
120 total transfer velocity ($k_{CO_2} = K_{CO_2}$). The air side resistance for DMS needs to be accounted
121 for because it is a moderately soluble gas (McGillis et al., 2000). Air side gas transfer
122 velocities (k_a) for DMS were calculated for each 10 minute flux interval with the NOAA
123 COAREG 3.1 model, using sea surface temperature (SST) and horizontal wind speed
124 measured during the cruise. The NOAA COAREG 3.1 model (Fairall et al., 2011) is an
125 extension of the COARE bulk parameterization for air/sea energy and momentum fluxes to
126 simulate gas transfer (Fairall et al., 1998; Fairall et al., 2000). The air side gas transfer
127 contributes about 5% on average to the total resistance for DMS. NOAA COAREG 3.1
128 model calculations were carried out using a turbulent/molecular coefficient, $A = 1.6$, and
129 bubble-mediated coefficient, $B = 1.8$ (Fairall et al., 2011). Knorr_11 measurements of SST,
130 air temperature, relative humidity, air pressure, downward radiation and wind speed were
131 used as input parameters to the model.

132 To facilitate comparison of transfer coefficients for the two gases across a range of sea
133 surface temperatures, gas transfer velocities are corrected for changes in molecular diffusivity
134 and viscosity. The correction typically involves the normalisation of water side gas transfer
135 velocities to a common Schmidt number ($Sc=660$), equivalent to CO_2 in seawater at $20^\circ C$:

136
$$k_{X,660} = k_X \cdot \left(\frac{660}{Sc_X} \right)^{-0.5} \quad \text{Equation 3}$$

137 where subscript X refers to CO_2 or DMS (i.e. $k_{DMS,660}$ and $k_{CO_2,660}$). Temperature-dependent
138 Sc_{CO_2} and Sc_{DMS} were obtained using the *in situ* seawater temperature from the ship's bow
139 sensor and parameterisations from Wanninkhof (1992) and Saltzman et al. (1993).

140 The Sc number normalization (Equation 4) is commonly used across the whole range of wind
141 speeds. In fact, it is appropriate only for low or moderate winds in which interfacial gas
142 transfer dominates over bubble-mediated gas exchange. If bubbles are an important
143 component of gas transfer then solubility also plays a role and normalization based on Sc
144 alone may not be sufficient.

145 To develop a more rigorous comparison of k_{DMS} and k_{CO_2} , we normalized the water side
146 transfer velocities of DMS to the Schmidt number of CO_2 at the *in situ* sea surface
147 temperature of each 10-minute flux interval, as follows:



$$k_{DMS,Sc} = k_{DMS} \cdot \left(\frac{Sc_{CO_2}}{Sc_{DMS}} \right)^{-0.5} \quad \text{Equation 4}$$

149 where Sc_{CO_2} and Sc_{DMS} are the Schmidt numbers of CO_2 and DMS at the *in situ* sea surface
150 temperature. Compared to normalizing both DMS and CO_2 to $Sc=660$, this approach has the
151 advantage of correcting only k_{DMS} , with no correction to k_{CO_2} . The Sc correction for DMS
152 should be reasonably accurate, assuming that the bubble-mediated transfer for the more
153 soluble DMS is relatively small.

154 On the Knorr_11 cruise, the variability in sea surface temperature was small ($1\sigma = \pm 1^\circ C$). As
155 a result, there is little difference in the variability or wind speed dependence of Sc -corrected
156 k_{CO_2} compared to k_{CO_2} at the *in situ* temperature (Figure 5 vs. Figure S1 in Supplemental
157 information). In Section 3.4, the relationship between CO_2 and DMS gas transfer velocities
158 and wind speed is examined using $k_{DMS,Sc}$ and k_{CO_2} .

159 2.3 Calculation of k_{bub,CO_2}

160 The water-side controlled gas transfer velocity (k_w) is comprised of interfacial and bubble-
161 mediated transfer mechanisms, which operate in parallel, i.e. $k_w = k_{int} + k_{bub}$ (Woolf, 1997).
162 We assume that turbulence and diffusive mixing at the sea surface operate similarly upon the
163 interfacial air/sea transfer of CO_2 and DMS (i.e. $k_{int,CO_2} = k_{int,DMS}$), given appropriate
164 normalization for the differences in molecular diffusivity. Observed differences between
165 $k_{DMS,Sc}$ and k_{CO_2} should therefore be a measure of the difference between the bubble-mediated
166 contributions to DMS and CO_2 gas transfer:

$$\Delta k_w = k_{bub,CO_2} - k_{bub,DMS} \quad \text{Equation 5}$$

168 k_{bub,CO_2} and $k_{bub,DMS}$ are related by the influence of solubility and diffusivity upon bubble-
169 mediated transfer. We parameterize this relationship simply as $k_{bub,DMS} = f \cdot k_{bub,CO_2}$.
170 Substitution into Equation 6 yields:

$$k_{bub,CO_2} = \frac{\Delta k_w}{1 - f} \quad \text{Equation 6}$$



172 The value of f depends on seawater temperature and the complex dynamics of bubble
173 formation and cycling (size distributions, surfactants, etc.). At the mean SST encountered in
174 this study (9.8°C), the Woolf (1997) and Asher et al. (2002) bubble gas transfer models yield
175 values for f of 0.14 and 0.27, respectively (see Supplemental information for model
176 equations).

177 **2.4 Sea surface imaging**

178 Whitecap areal fraction was measured using images of the sea surface recorded with a digital
179 camera (5 mega pixel Arecont Vision, 16 mm focal length lens) mounted 14.6 m above the
180 ocean surface at an angle of $\sim 75^\circ$ from the nadir. Image footprints represent $\sim 7600 \text{ m}^2$ of sea
181 surface. Images were collected at a sample period of about 1 second and post-processed for
182 whitecap fraction according to the Automated Whitecap Extraction algorithm method
183 (Callaghan and White, 2009). Images were further processed to distinguish whitecap pixels
184 as either stage A or stage B whitecaps by applying a spatial separation technique (Scanlon
185 and Ward, 2013). The whitecap fraction measurements were averaged in the same way as the
186 gas transfer velocities (i.e. time-averaged mean values as well as 2 m s^{-1} wind speed bins).

187 **3 Results**

188 **3.1 Cruise location and environmental conditions**

189 This study took place in the summertime North Atlantic (June 24 – July 18, 2011; DOY 175-
190 199), departing and returning to Woods Hole, MA. Most of the data were collected north of
191 50°N , including the occupation of four 24-36 hr stations – ST181, ST184, ST187 and ST191
192 (Figures 1 & 2). The cruise track was designed to sample regions with high biological
193 productivity and phytoplankton blooms, with large air/sea concentration differences for CO_2
194 and DMS. The cruise meteorology and physical oceanography is discussed in detail by (Bell
195 et al., 2013). A series of weather systems travelling from West to East passed over the region
196 during the cruise. Wind speeds ranged from ~ 1 to 22 m s^{-1} , with strongest winds during the
197 frontal passages at stations ST184 and ST191 (Figure 1b). Atmospheric boundary layer
198 stability was close to neutral for most of the cruise ($|z/L| < 0.07$; 75% of the time), with
199 infrequent stable conditions ($z/L > 0.05$; $< 8\%$ of the time). There was no evidence that the
200 stable periods affected the flux measurements (Bell et al., 2013). Whitecap areal fraction
201 increased up to a maximum of ~ 0.06 in response to high wind speeds (Figure 1b).



202 **3.2 Whitecaps**

203 Whitecaps were observed during Knorr_11 when wind speeds exceeded 4.5 m s^{-1} , a typical
204 wind speed threshold for whitecap formation in the open ocean (Schwendeman and
205 Thomson, 2015; Callaghan et al., 2008). Whitecap areal fraction is a strong, non-linear
206 function of wind speed (Figure 3a). The whitecap vs. wind speed relationship for Knorr_11 is
207 similar in shape, but considerably lower than recent previously published wind speed-based
208 whitecap parameterisations (Schwendeman and Thomson, 2015; Callaghan et al., 2008). At
209 intermediate wind speeds the Knorr_11 whitecap data are as much as an order of magnitude
210 lower than the parameterisations (Figure 3a).

211 Total whitecap coverage is a function of (i) active ‘stage A whitecaps’ (W_A) produced from
212 recent wave breaking and (ii) maturing ‘stage B whitecaps’ (W_B) that are decaying foam from
213 previous breakers. The Stage A whitecap fraction data is highly variable at $\sim 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ wind
214 speeds (Figure 3b), which is driven by the difference in the wind-wave conditions during
215 Knorr_11 (ST184 vs ST191, Figure 4a). Stage A whitecap fraction data does not show the
216 same differences between ST184 and ST191 when plotted against the dimensionless
217 Reynolds number, R_H , which describes breaking waves using Knorr_11 measurements of
218 significant wave height (Zhao and Toba, 2001). The relationship between Stage A whitecap
219 fraction and R_H is more scattered when Stage A whitecaps are below $\sim 10^{-4}$ (Figure 4b). Wave
220 development and steepness (slope) influence the likelihood of breaking waves. Breaking
221 waves are more closely associated with steep, young waves. At a given wind speed and wave
222 height, older, swell-dominated waves do not produce as many stage A whitecaps compared to
223 young wave systems (Callaghan et al., 2008; Sugihara et al., 2007).

224 **3.3 Concentrations, fluxes and gas transfer velocities**

225 Seawater pCO_2 was consistently lower than the overlying atmosphere throughout the study
226 region due to biological uptake (Figure 1c). As a result, the air/sea concentration difference
227 (ΔpCO_2) was large and always into the ocean, with $\Delta\text{pCO}_2 < -45 \text{ ppm}$ for more than 80% of
228 the measurements. Periods with particularly enhanced ΔpCO_2 into the ocean were during the
229 transit between ST181 and ST184 (ΔpCO_2 as large as -120 ppm) and during ST191 (ΔpCO_2
230 consistently -75 ppm).



231 Seawater DMS levels were much higher than atmospheric levels, reflecting the biogenic
232 sources in seawater and the relatively short atmospheric lifetime (~1 day; Kloster et al.,
233 2006). The largest air/sea DMS concentration differences (Δ DMS) of 6-12 ppb were
234 observed during DOY 185-190 (Figure 2a). The Δ DMS and Δ pCO₂ did not co-vary
235 (Spearman $\rho = 0.11$, $n=918$, $p<0.001$). This is not surprising because, although seawater
236 DMS and CO₂ signals are both influenced by biological activity, they are controlled by
237 different processes. Seawater CO₂ levels reflect the net result of community photosynthesis
238 and respiration, while DMS production is related to metabolic processes that are highly
239 species-dependent (Stefels et al., 2007).

240 CO₂ fluxes (F_{CO_2}) were generally into the ocean, as expected given the direction of the air/sea
241 concentration difference (Figure 1d). The variability in F_{CO_2} observed on this cruise reflects
242 dependence on both wind speed and Δ pCO₂. For example, during DOY182 air-to-sea CO₂
243 fluxes increase due to a gradual increase in Δ pCO₂ with fairly constant wind speed. More
244 commonly, Δ pCO₂ was fairly constant and variability in F_{CO_2} reflected changes in wind
245 speed. For example, from DOY 185-187 wind speeds gradually declined from ~10 to 5 m s⁻¹
246 with a concurrent decline in F_{CO_2} . DMS eddy covariance fluxes were always out of the ocean.
247 Ten minute averaged DMS fluxes (F_{DMS}) clearly show the influence of both Δ DMS (e.g.
248 DOY 188) and wind speed (e.g. DOY 184).

249 Gas transfer velocities of CO₂ and DMS from this cruise exhibit two systematic differences:
250 i) k_{DMS} values are generally lower than k_{CO_2} , particularly during episodes of high wind speed;
251 and ii) k_{CO_2} is characterized by much larger scatter than k_{DMS} . We attribute the large scatter in
252 k_{CO_2} to the greater random uncertainty associated with the eddy covariance measurement of
253 air/sea CO₂ fluxes compared to those of DMS. As shown by Miller et al. (2010), the
254 analytical approach used in this study (dried air, closed path LI7500) has sufficient precision
255 to adequately resolve the turbulent fluctuations in pCO₂ associated with the surface flux over
256 most of the cruise (Δ pCO₂ < -30 ppm). The scatter in the CO₂ flux measurements is more
257 likely due to environmental variability resulting from fluctuations in boundary layer CO₂
258 mixing ratio arising from horizontal and/or vertical transport unrelated to air/sea flux (Edson
259 et al., 2008; Blomquist et al., 2014). These effects likely have a much smaller effect on
260 air/sea DMS fluxes, because the air/sea DMS concentration difference is always much larger
261 than the mean atmospheric DMS concentration (due to the short atmospheric lifetime of



262 DMS). For example, a $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ of 100 ppm at a wind speed of 10 m s^{-1} will produce turbulent
263 fluctuations that are $\sim 0.02\%$ of the background CO_2 on average. In contrast, a typical
264 seawater DMS concentration (2.6 nM) at 6 m s^{-1} generates fluctuations of 20% of the
265 background (Table 1; Blomquist et al., 2012). Thus, F_{CO_2} measurements are highly sensitive
266 to small fluctuations in background CO_2 and the relative uncertainty is expected to be much
267 larger than that for F_{DMS} .

268 3.4 Comparison of k_{CO_2} and $k_{\text{DMS},sc}$

269 The differences between CO_2 and DMS gas transfer velocities observed in the time series are
270 also evident when the data are examined as a function of wind speed. From the 10-minute
271 averaged data, it is clear that k_{CO_2} is greater than k_{DMS} and has a stronger wind speed-
272 dependence over most of the wind speed range (Figure 5a,b). These broad trends are also
273 easily seen in longer time-averaged data. Flux and ΔC measurements were averaged into 4
274 hour periods (minimum of 3 flux intervals per 4 hour period), which reduced the scatter in
275 F_{CO_2} while preserving the temporal variability (Figure S3). Gas transfer velocities were then
276 recalculated from the 4 hour averaged data. 10-minute k_{CO_2} and $k_{\text{DMS},sc}$ data were also
277 averaged into 2 m s^{-1} wind speed bins, with a minimum of 5 ten minute periods per bin. The 4
278 hour averaged data and the wind speed binned data show k_{CO_2} and $k_{\text{DMS},sc}$ diverging at
279 intermediate wind speeds, differing by a factor of roughly two at 10 m s^{-1} (Figure 5c,d).

280 DMS gas transfer velocities on this cruise exhibit complex behaviour at intermediate to high
281 wind speeds, as discussed in Bell et al. (2013). $k_{\text{DMS},sc}$ increases linearly with wind speed up
282 to $\sim 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ (Figure 5). Under the high wind, high wave conditions encountered during
283 ST191, the wind speed-dependence of $k_{\text{DMS},sc}$ was lower than expected, with a slope roughly
284 half that of the rest of the cruise data. This effect was not observed at ST184. Such coherent
285 spatial-temporal variation means that wind speed bin averaging of the higher wind speed
286 $k_{\text{DMS},sc}$ may mask real variability in the relationship with wind speed. Relationships
287 developed from wind speed bin-averaged gas transfer data should be interpreted with caution,
288 especially when it comes to developing generalizable air/sea gas transfer models.

289 The Knorr_11 k_{CO_2} data also demonstrate a clear wind speed dependence (Figure 5). The
290 NOAA COARE model for CO_2 has been tuned to previous eddy covariance flux



291 measurements (McGillis et al., 2001), with bubble-mediated transfer determining the non-
292 linear relationship with wind speed (Fairall et al., 2011). There is reasonable agreement
293 between the COARE model gas transfer velocity predictions and the Knorr_11 k_{CO_2} data
294 until $\sim 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ wind speed. Above 11 m s^{-1} , the COARE model over predicts k_{CO_2} . This
295 could be interpreted as indicating high wind speed suppression of gas transfer for CO_2 as
296 observed for DMS (as discussed by Bell et al., 2013). However, it is important to note that
297 the number of high wind speed ($>15 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) gas transfer measurements in this study is limited
298 to 9 hours and 16 hours of data for DMS and CO_2 respectively. Much more data are needed
299 in order to firmly establish the high wind speed behaviour.

300 The COAREG 3.1 model parameterizes interfacial gas transfer by scaling to Sc and friction
301 velocity and estimates bubble-mediated gas transfer following Woolf (1997). The lower
302 solubility of CO_2 leads to enhanced gas transfer relative to that of DMS at high wind speeds
303 where bubble transport is significant (Fairall et al., 2011). There is good agreement between
304 the COAREG model gas transfer velocity predictions and the Knorr_11 k_{CO_2} and k_{DMS} data
305 until $\sim 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ wind speed.

306 Earlier in this paper we introduced the quantity Δk_w as an observational measure of the
307 difference in gas transfer velocities of CO_2 and DMS (Section 2.3, equation 6). The
308 relationship between Δk_w and wind speed is positive and shows no systematic differences
309 related to temporal variability (Figure 6). Sea surface temperature (SST) is indicated by
310 symbol size. Some of the scatter in Figure 6 could be driven by changes in Sc due to SST
311 variability. Nearly all of the data in Figure 6 is from periods when SST was relatively
312 constant ($9.8 \pm 1.0^\circ\text{C}$). Many of the k_{CO_2} data with warm seawater (i.e. ST181, $SST > 12^\circ\text{C}$)
313 were rejected by our quality control criteria (see Section 6.3). These data were collected when
314 wind speeds were low, which resulted in small CO_2 fluxes with large variability at low
315 frequencies. Of the periods with $SST > 12^\circ\text{C}$ that passed the quality control criteria, the
316 majority contributed fewer data within a 4 hour averaging period than the minimum threshold
317 (three 10 minute averaged data points). Only one 4 hour period passed the thresholds for flux
318 quality control and number of points, and this was associated with the most negative Δk_w
319 value.



320 4 Discussion

321 The bubble-mediated component of gas transfer is a strong function of wind speed and
322 breaking waves. Previous estimates of bubble-mediated air/sea gas exchange have been
323 based on laboratory experiments (Asher et al., 1996; Woolf, 1997; Keeling, 1993). The
324 differences between gas transfer velocities for DMS and CO₂ provide a unique way to
325 constrain the importance of bubble-mediated transfer under natural conditions. This study
326 shows that Δk_w is near zero at very low wind speeds ($U_{10} \leq 4.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$), which is consistent
327 with the wind speed at which whitecap fraction becomes significant ($> 10^{-5}$, Figure 3a).
328 Above 4.5 m s^{-1} , Δk_w increases non-linearly, consistent with an increase in bubble-mediated
329 CO₂ transfer associated with wave breaking. The relationship between Δk_w and wind speed is
330 non-linear, and the quadratic wind speed-dependence yields a good fit ($R^2 = 0.77$; Figure 6):

$$331 \quad \Delta k_w = 0.157U_{10}^2 - 0.535U_{10} + 4.289 \quad \text{Equation 7}$$

332 The functional form of this relationship is qualitatively consistent with those found between
333 U_{10} and breaking waves/wave energy dissipation (Melville and Matusov, 2002) and U_{10} vs.
334 whitecap areal fraction (e.g. Callaghan et al., 2008; Schwendeman and Thomson, 2015).
335 Bubble-mediated gas transfer is the only viable explanation for the magnitude and wind-
336 speed dependence of Δk_w . The only alternative explanation would require a large systematic
337 bias in the measurement of relative gas transfer velocities of DMS and CO₂. There are no
338 obvious candidates for such biases.

339 During strong wind/large wave conditions, the Knorr_11 data suggest that bubble-mediated
340 exchange is a dominant contributor to the total transfer of CO₂. For example, when wind
341 speeds were $11\text{-}12 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, Δk_w was about 50% of the total CO₂ gas transfer (k_{CO_2}). A
342 significant contribution by bubbles to the total gas transfer velocity means that bubble-
343 mediated exchange must be included and adequately parameterised by gas transfer models.
344 The Schmidt number (Sc) normalisation (Equation 4) assumes that the gas transfer velocity is
345 purely interfacial. An alternative normalisation (involving Sc and solubility) is required when
346 bubble-mediated transfer is significant. Our data suggest that the current Sc normalisation
347 should be applied with caution to gas transfer data for different solubility gases at wind
348 speeds greater than 10 m s^{-1} .

349 If Δk_w reflects the difference between the bubble-mediated contribution to the transfer of CO₂
350 and DMS, one would expect Δk_w to correlate with wave-breaking, and hence with the areal



351 coverage of whitecaps. Breaking waves generate plumes of bubbles (Stage A whitecaps,
352 W_A), which then rise to the surface and persist for a short period as foam (Stage B whitecaps,
353 W_B). Almost all whitecap measurements represent the fraction of the sea surface that is
354 covered by bubble plumes and/or foam i.e. $W_T = W_A + W_B$. Δk_w is positively correlated with
355 both W_T (Spearman $\rho = 0.81$, $n=32$, $p < 0.001$) and W_A (Spearman $\rho = 0.82$, $n=26$, $p < 0.001$)
356 (Figure 7a,b). These correlations are approximately the same strength as the correlation
357 between Δk_w and wind speed (Spearman $\rho = 0.83$, $n=55$, $p < 0.001$). The functional form of the
358 relationship between Δk_w and whitecap areal extent appears to be linear. However, the
359 Knorr_11 dataset is small and quite scattered. More data are required to fully test the validity
360 of whitecap areal fraction as a proxy for bubbles and bubble-mediated exchange.

361 Observations of the decaying white cap signal (W_B) suggest that the persistence of surface
362 foam is related to sea surface chemistry (Callaghan et al., 2013). W_B is approximately an
363 order of magnitude larger than W_A and thus dominates the W_T signal. It is often assumed that
364 gas exchange takes place in bubble plumes formed by active wave breaking (i.e. W_A), while
365 W_B may vary widely due to surfactant concentration with little or no impact upon bubble-
366 mediated gas exchange (e.g. Pereira et al., 2016). In this case, Δk_w should be more strongly
367 correlated with W_A than W_B or W_T . The Knorr_11 data do not suggest that W_A is an
368 improvement upon either W_T or even wind speed as a measure of bubble mediated exchange.
369 This may be because whitecaps do not fully represent the bubbles facilitating gas exchange as
370 these may dissolve before they reach the sea surface. Alternatively, W_T and W_A may be
371 equally good (or poor) proxies for bubbles because: (i) surfactant activity was minimal in the
372 study region (despite high biological productivity) such that W_B does not confound the
373 relationship between W_T and W_A ; (ii) W_A is no better than W_T at representing the volume of air
374 entrained by breaking waves; and/or (iii) bubbles residing at the surface (i.e. W_B) continue to
375 contribute to gas transfer (Goddijn-Murphy et al., 2016).

376 As shown earlier, the bubble-mediated contribution to gas transfer (k_{bub,CO_2}) can be obtained
377 from Δk_w using information from mechanistic bubble gas transfer models (f , see Section 2.3).
378 The k_{bub,CO_2} datasets derived from the Knorr_11 data using the Asher et al. (2002) and Woolf
379 (1997) models differ by about 15% (Figure 8). The field-based estimates of k_{bub,CO_2} can also
380 be compared to model-only estimates for the Knorr_11 conditions using the Asher et al.
381 (2002) and Woolf (1997) models. Both models are based on whitecap areal fraction, W_T . A



382 non-linear fit of the Knorr_11 W_T and wind speed measurements ($W_T = 1.9 \times 10^{-6} U_{10m}^{3.36}$) was
383 used to drive both models (Figure 8). Asher et al. (2002) is based on laboratory tipping
384 bucket gas evasion experiments (Asher and Wanninkhof, 1998) and the model was then
385 adjusted to represent the flux of CO₂ into the ocean (invasion). Woolf (1997) scaled a single
386 bubble model to the open ocean based on laboratory experiments.

387 Both models significantly underestimate k_{bub,CO_2} at wind speeds below about 11 m s⁻¹. At
388 higher wind speeds, the Asher et al. (2002) model increases rapidly with wind speed to agree
389 slightly better with the Knorr_11 data. In contrast, Woolf (1997) consistently underestimates
390 k_{bub,CO_2} at all wind speeds. A ‘dense plume model’ was also developed by Woolf et al. (2007)
391 to take account of the interaction of a bubble plume with the interstitial water between
392 bubbles. This model yields estimates of k_{bub,CO_2} that are even lower than the original Woolf
393 (1997) ‘single bubble model’ (data not shown).

394 It is likely that the Knorr_11 cruise data will be compared with estimates of k_{bub,CO_2} derived
395 from future field campaigns, which will be conducted under different environmental
396 conditions. Our k_{bub,CO_2} data is at *in situ* seawater temperature (~10°C) and thus *in situ* CO₂
397 solubility ($\alpha=1.03$) and diffusivity ($Sc=1150$). We use the Asher et al. (2002) and Woolf
398 (1997) bubble models to make estimates of k_{bub,CO_2} normalised to a standard seawater
399 temperature of 20°C ($k_{bub,CO_2,20^\circ C}$, where $\alpha=0.78$ and $Sc=666$). The 4 hour averaged Knorr_11
400 cruise data, including estimates of Δk_w , k_{bub,CO_2} and $k_{bub,CO_2,20^\circ C}$, are provided in Supplemental
401 Table S1.

402 The approach used in this study to estimate Δk_w and k_{bub,CO_2} from the Knorr_11 field data
403 neglect the effect of sea surface skin temperature and CO₂ chemical enhancement. Skin
404 temperature is typically only a few tenths of a degree less than bulk seawater under the
405 conditions encountered in this study (Fairall et al., 1996). The impact upon k_{CO_2} due to skin
406 temperature effects on CO₂ solubility and carbonate speciation is likely on the order of 3%
407 (Woolf et al., 2016). There is a chemical enhancement of the CO₂ flux due to ionization at
408 the sea surface (Hoover and Berkshire, 1969). The effect on k_{CO_2} has been estimated to be up
409 to about 8% at a wind speed of 4-6 m s⁻¹ (Wanninkhof and Knox, 1996), which amounts to a
410 maximum impact of a few cm hr⁻¹. By neglecting these effects we have slightly



411 overestimated Δk_w and k_{bub,CO_2} , but the magnitude of these corrections would be small relative
412 to the environmental scatter or measurement uncertainty.

413 5 Conclusions

414 The Knorr_11 concurrent measurements of DMS and CO₂ gas transfer velocities show
415 significant differences in gas transfer between the two gases at intermediate-high wind
416 speeds. These data indicate that: i) bubble-mediated gas transfer becomes significant for CO₂
417 at or above the threshold for wave-breaking; and ii) the wind speed-dependence is non-linear,
418 with a similar functional form to proposed relationships predicting whitecap areal extent from
419 wind speed. However, existing models of bubble-mediated gas transfer using the Knorr_11 *in*
420 *situ* observations of whitecap fraction significantly underestimate the importance of this
421 process.

422 There are a number of assumptions behind model estimates of bubble-mediated gas exchange
423 (Goddijn-Murphy et al., 2016). Model bias can be crudely split into: i) uncertainties in the
424 scaling of whitecap fraction to the bubble population (e.g. using Cipriano and Blanchard,
425 1981); and ii) the relationship between gas exchange and bubble properties, which are
426 predicted as a function of air entrainment into the surface ocean by a breaking wave, bubble
427 injection depth, size distribution and mobility through the water (a function of surface
428 cleanliness and surfactants). The underestimation of bubble-mediated CO₂ gas transfer by
429 both models is particularly apparent at low-intermediate wind speeds and low whitecap
430 fraction. This could indicate that either bubble production during microscale breaking is an
431 important process for gas transfer or the relationship between whitecap fraction and the
432 bubble population is poorly constrained.

433 In summary, the approach of using simultaneous measurements of multiple gases with
434 different solubility appears to be a viable way to constrain the magnitude of bubble-mediated
435 gas transfer. Analysis of additional sparingly soluble gases, such as methane or oxygenated
436 hydrocarbons would further strengthen this approach. A much larger data set, under a wider
437 range of oceanographic conditions is certainly needed. In particular, it would be useful to
438 examine DMS and CO₂ gas transfer velocities in ocean regions with different temperatures,
439 where the solubility of each gas is significantly different from this study.

440



441 **Appendix A**

442 **A.1 Seawater CO₂ and DMS measurements**

443 Seawater CO₂ and DMS were monitored in the supply of seawater pumped continuously
444 through the ship from an intake on the bow located 6 m below the sea surface. CO₂ was
445 equilibrated with air in a recirculating showerhead-type system. Alternate air and water side
446 pCO₂ were each measured for 5 min by the same Infrared Gas Analyser (IRGA). Seawater
447 DMS was equilibrated with DMS-free air in a tubular porous membrane equilibrator,
448 operated in a single-pass, counterflow mode. DMS was measured at 1 Hz using chemical
449 ionization mass spectrometry and bin-averaged at 1 minute intervals (UCI miniCIMS;
450 Saltzman et al., 2009). DMS was calibrated by continuously pumping an internal standard of
451 tri-deuterated, DMS (d₃-DMS) into the seawater flow just before the equilibrator. Details of
452 the methods and instrumentation used for equilibration and detection of seawater DMS are
453 described in Saltzman et al. (2009).

454 **A.2 Mast-mounted instrumentation and data acquisition**

455 The eddy covariance setup was mounted 13.6 m above the sea surface on the bow mast.
456 Platform angular rates and accelerations were measured by two Systron Donner Motion Pak
457 II (MPII) units. Three dimensional winds and sonic temperature were measured by two
458 Campbell CSAT3 sonic anemometers. Air sampling inlets for DMS and CO₂ were located at
459 the same height as the anemometers and within 20 cm of the measurement region. GPS and
460 digital compass output were digitally logged at 1 Hz. Winds were corrected for ship motion
461 and orientation as described in Miller et al. (2008) and Landwehr et al. (2015). The eddy
462 covariance data streams were logged in both analog and digital format as described in Bell et
463 al. (2013) and Miller et al., In Prep.

464 **A.3 High frequency atmospheric DMS and CO₂ measurements**

465 Atmospheric DMS measurements were made at 10 Hz using an atmospheric pressure
466 chemical ionisation mass spectrometer located in a lab van (UCI mesoCIMS; Bell et al.
467 (2013)). Air was drawn to the instrument through a 28 m long ½ in OD Teflon tube. A
468 subsample of the air stream was passed through a Nafion drier prior to entering the mass



469 spectrometer. The measurement was calibrated using an internal gas standard of tri-
470 deuterated DMS added to the inlet (see Bell et al., 2013).

471 Atmospheric CO₂ measurements were made on air drawn at 8 L min⁻¹ through a filtered inlet
472 (90 mm diameter with 1 micron pore size, Savillex) near the sonic anemometers on the bow
473 mast, through 5 m of 5.9 mm ID polyethylene-lined Dekabon tubing to two fast-response
474 CO₂/H₂O IRGAs in an enclosure on the bow mast. The IRGAs were open-path style sensors
475 (LI7500, Licor Inc.) converted to a closed-path configuration (see Miller et al., 2010) and
476 were plumbed in series. A Nafion multi-tube membrane drier (PD-200T, PermaPure) with 6
477 L min⁻¹ dry air counter flow was installed between the two IRGAs such that the upstream
478 IRGA sampled undried air and the downstream IRGA sampled the same air after drying. This
479 technique removes 97% of the Webb Correction from the measured CO₂ flux (first shown by
480 Miller et al. (2010) and confirmed by Landwehr et al. (2014)).

481 The air flow through both the CO₂ and DMS inlets was fully turbulent (Re > 10,000). The
482 inlets used in this study introduced a small delay ($\Delta t = 2.2$ s for DMS, $\Delta t = 1.2$ s for CO₂)
483 between measured wind and atmospheric measurements, as well as minor loss of covariance
484 at high frequencies (<5%). The methods used to estimate the delay and loss of flux are given
485 in Bell et al. (2013).

486 Eddy covariance fluxes were computed for DMS and CO₂ as F_{DMS} or $F_{CO_2} = \sigma_{air} \langle w'c' \rangle$
487 where σ_{air} is the dry air density, w' is the fluctuation in vertical winds and c' is the delay-
488 adjusted fluctuation in gas concentration. Average covariance fluxes were processed in 10
489 minute and 9.5 minute intervals for DMS and CO₂, respectively (hereafter referred to as 10
490 minute intervals). Momentum and sensible heat fluxes were also computed for 10 minute
491 intervals (see Bell et al., 2013).

492 Sampling intervals with a mean wind direction relative to the bow of >90° were excluded
493 from the final data set. CO₂ fluxes were also excluded from intervals when either: i) relative
494 wind direction changed excessively (SD > 10°); ii) relative wind speed was low (< 1 m s⁻¹);
495 or iii) ΔCO_2 was low (< |30| ppm). DMS and CO₂ fluxes were quality controlled for excessive
496 low frequency flux as described in the Supplemental information of Bell et al. (2013). These
497 quality control criteria excluded 62% of the intervals for CO₂ and 55% for DMS and
498 significantly reduced the scatter in the data.

499



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507

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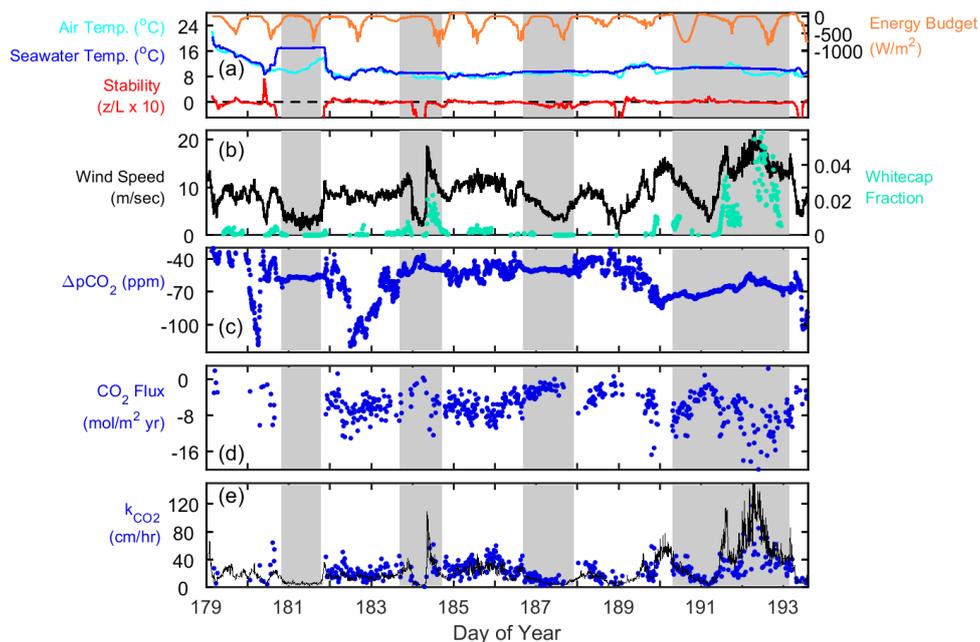
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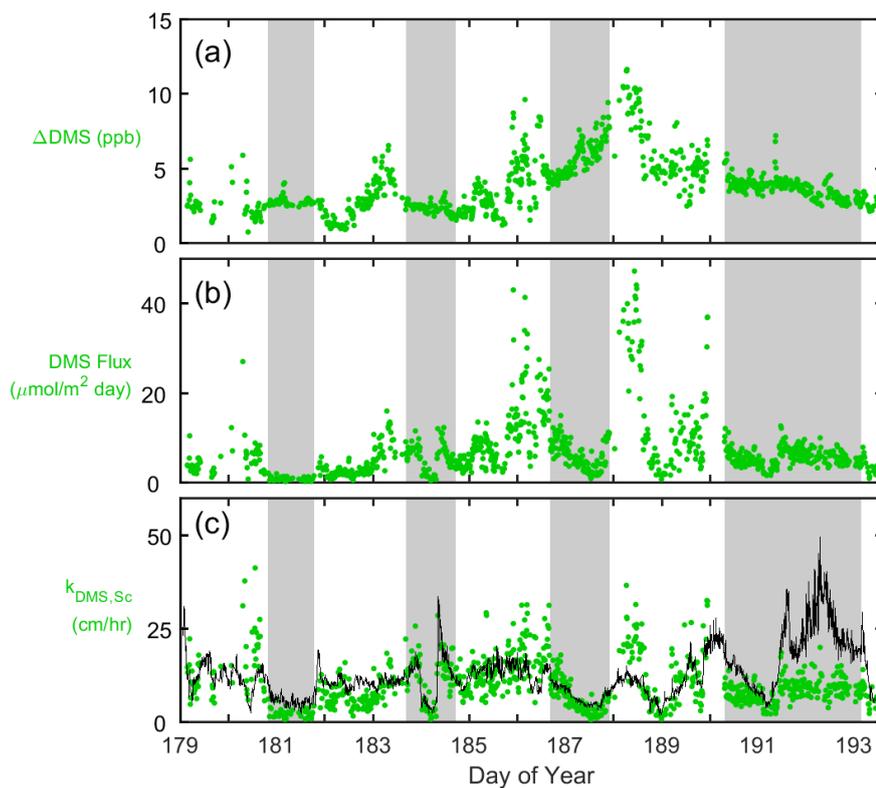


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- 656



657

658 **Figure 1:** Time series of ten minute averaged data collected during the Knorr_11 cruise. Dashed
 659 black line in panel (a) indicates neutral atmospheric stability ($z/L = 0$). Grey shaded regions represent
 660 intervals when the ship occupied stations ST181, ST184, ST187, and ST191. Panels (c), (d) and (e)
 661 are the CO_2 concentration difference ($\Delta p\text{CO}_2$), flux (F_{CO_2}) and gas transfer velocity (k_{CO_2}) (water-side
 662 only, no Sc correction), respectively. Panel (e) also shows k_{CO_2} calculated using the NOAA COARE
 663 model (black line). Note that negative k_{CO_2} data points in (e) were omitted for clarity (see
 664 Supplemental Figure S2 for full data set).
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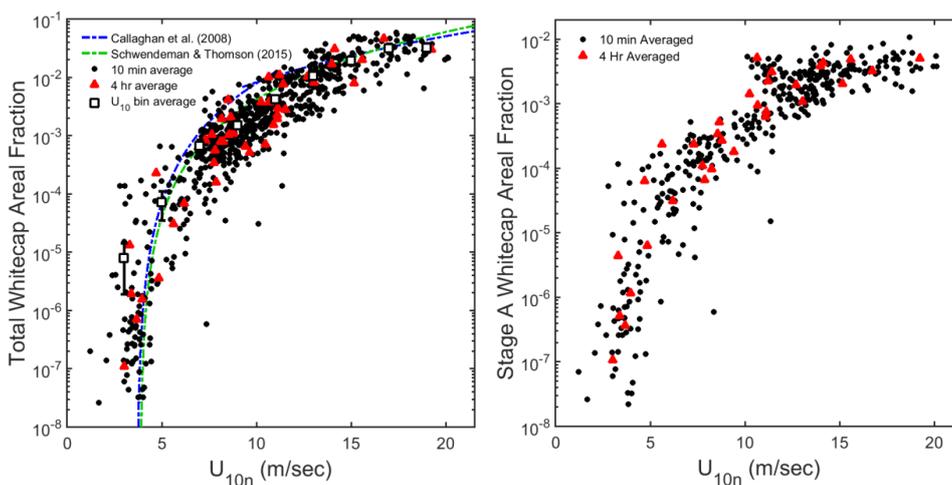


666

667 **Figure 2:** Knorr_11 cruise time series of ten minute averaged DMS: (a) air/sea concentration
668 difference (ΔDMS); (b) flux (F_{DMS}); and (c) gas transfer velocity normalised to the *in situ* CO_2 Sc
669 number ($k_{DMS,Sc}$). Panel (c), shows $k_{DMS,Sc}$ calculated using NOAA COARE model output (black line).
670 Grey shaded regions represent periods on station.
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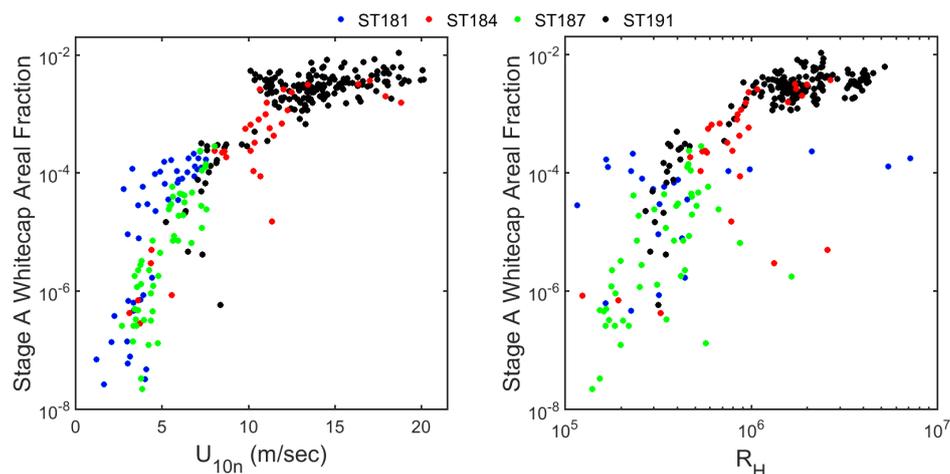


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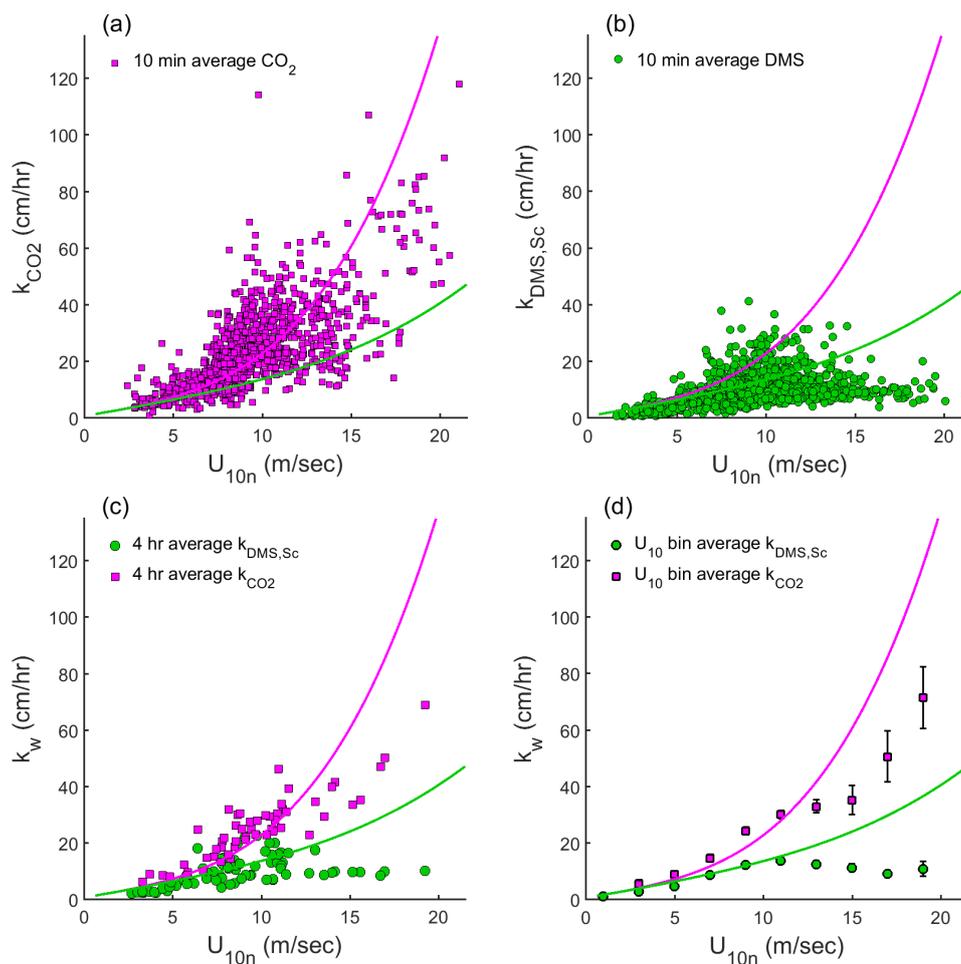
673

674 **Figure 3:** Semi-log plots of whitecap areal fraction as a function of mean horizontal wind speed at 10
675 m above the sea surface (U_{10}) during the Knorr_11 cruise. 10 min average (black dots) and 4 hour
676 average (red triangles) data are shown on both panels. Left panel shows total whitecap area versus U_{10}
677 bin averaged data (open squares, 2 m s^{-1} bins). Wind speed parameterisations from the recent
678 literature are shown for reference. Right panel is the whitecap area considered to be solely from wave
679 breaking (Stage A whitecaps, see text for definition).
680



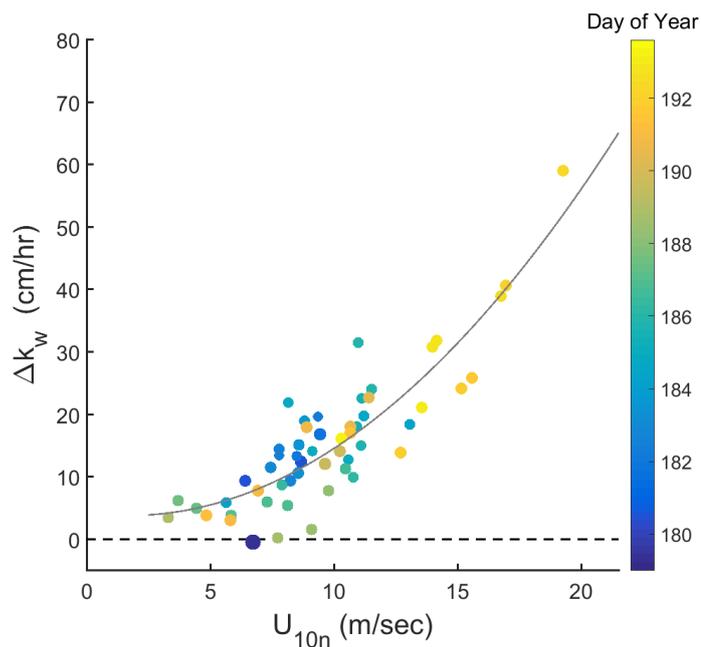
681

682 **Figure 4:** Semi-log plots of Stage A whitecap areal fraction as a function of wind speed (U_{10} , left
683 panel) and as a function of a non-dimensional Reynolds breaking wave parameter R_H (right panel),
684 calculated from Knorr_11 measurements of significant wave height (Zhao and Toba, 2001). Plots
685 show data only from when the ship was on station, segregated into ST181 (blue), ST184 (red), ST187
686 (green) and ST191 (black). The highly variable Stage A whitecap fraction vs. U_{10} at $\sim 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
687 is driven by differences in the wave environment during ST184 and ST191. Stage A whitecap fraction
688 vs. R_H exhibits no bimodal behaviour and there is no clear difference between ST184 and ST191. The
689 relationship between Stage A whitecap fraction and R_H is more scattered when Stage A whitecaps are
690 below $\sim 10^{-4}$.
691



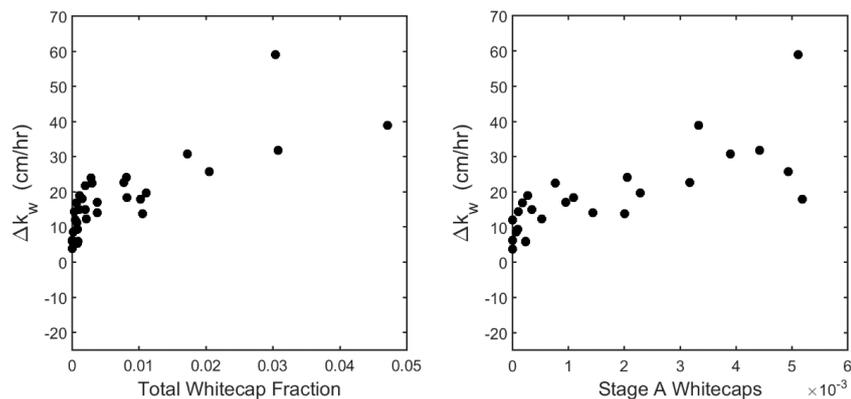
695 **Figure 5:** Gas transfer velocities plotted against mean horizontal wind speed (U_{10}) from the
696 Knorr_11 cruise. Ten minute average data for CO_2 (a) and DMS (b). DMS gas transfer velocities are
697 normalised to the *in situ* CO_2 Sc number. Data are averaged into 4 hour periods (c) and 2 m s^{-1} wind
698 speed bins (d). Note that negative k_{CO_2} data in (a) and (c) have not been plotted for clarity (see
699 Supplemental Figure S4 for full data set). For reference, the NOAA COAREG3.1 model output for
700 CO_2 (magenta line) and DMS (green line) is plotted on all four panels. The COARE model was run
701 with the turbulent/molecular coefficient, $A = 1.6$, and the bubble-mediated coefficient, $B = 1.8$, and
702 used mean Knorr_11 data for the input parameters.

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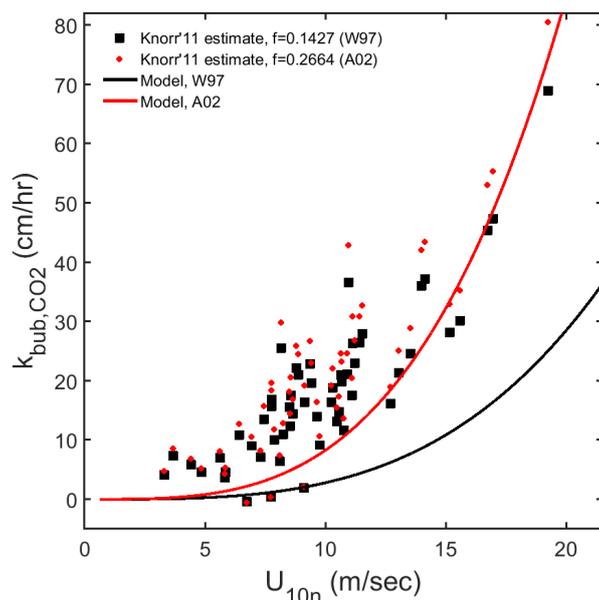
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705 **Figure 6:** Difference (Δk_w) between 4 hour average k_{CO_2} and $k_{DMS,Sc}$ plotted against U_{10} . Data are
706 coloured by the date of measurement (Day of Year). The solid grey line describes a cubic fit to the
707 data (see text for coefficients).
708



709

710 **Figure 7:** Knorr_11 Δk_w data plotted against total whitecap areal fraction (left panel) and against Stage
711 A whitecap areal fraction (right panel). Each point is a 4 hour average of coincident measurements of
712 whitecap fraction and DMS and CO_2 gas transfer.
713



714

715 **Figure 8:** Bubble-mediated transfer velocity of CO₂ (k_{bub,CO_2}) as a function of wind speed.
716 Individual points are Knorr_11 observations using solubility and diffusivity scaling from Woolf
717 (1997) (black squares) and Asher et al. (2002) (red circles). Continuous lines are model calculations
718 of k_{bub,CO_2} using the Knorr_11 wind speed-whitecap areal fraction relationship and mean SST (Woolf
719 (1997), black; Asher et al. (2002), red).

720