



## **The Changing Ocean Carbon Cycle, a midterm synthesis of Joint Global Ocean Flux Study**

**Edited by Roger B. Hanson, Hugh W. Ducklow and John G. Field**

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The first JGOFS Scientific Symposium held at Villefranche-sur-Mer, France, in May 1995, in which some 150 ocean scientists participated, inspired this book. The editors selected and re-structured some of the invited plenary presentations from the Symposium to provide a balanced synthesis of our understanding of ocean biogeochemistry towards the end of the twentieth century, as advanced by JGOFS since its inception.

Many organisations and people have worked to make this publication possible. The Symposium was organised by the French National JGOFS Committee and financed under SCOR, IGBP, US National Science Foundation, the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), Observatoire Océanologique de Villefranche-sur-Mer, and several National JGOFS Committees. The Organising Committee comprised: Liliane Merlivat (Chair), Arthur C.T. Chen, Hugh Ducklow, John Field, Elizabeth Gross, Guy Jacques, André Morel, Paul Nival, Trevor Platt, Jarl-Ove Strömberg and Neil Swanberg.

### **Description**

The world's oceans act as a reservoir, with the capacity to absorb and retain carbon dioxide. The air-sea exchange of carbon is driven by physico-chemical forces, photosynthesis and respiration, and has an important influence on atmospheric composition. Variability in the ocean carbon cycle could therefore exert significant feedback effects during conditions of climate change. The Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS) is the first multidisciplinary programme to directly address the interactions between the biology, chemistry and physics of marine systems, with emphasis on the transport and transformations of carbon within the ocean and across its boundaries. This unique volume, written by an international panel of scientists, provides a synthesis of JGOFS science and its achievements to date. It will therefore appeal to all those seeking a recent overview of the role of ocean processes in Earth system science and their wider implications on climate change.

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## **Table of Contents**

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### **Part I. Introduction**

1. The evolution of the Joint Global Ocean Flux Study project – J. J. McCarthy

### **Part II. Carbon Exchange Processes and Their Variability**

2. Marine primary production and the effects of wind – E. Sakshaug, K. Tangen and D. Slagstad

3. Net production, gross production and respiration: what are the interconnections and what controls them? – P. J. leB. Williams

4. The role of iron in plankton ecology and carbon dioxide transfer of the global oceans – H. J. W. de Baar and P. W. Boyd

5. The influence of iron on ocean biology and climate: insights from the IronEx studies in the equatorial Pacific – P. S. Liss and S. M. Turner

6. Testing importance of iron and grazing in maintenance of the high nitrate condition in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, a physical-biological model study – F. Chai, S. T. Lindley, J. T. Toggweiler and R. T. Barber

7. Continental margin carbon fluxes – K.-K. Liu, K. Iseki and S.-Y. Chao

8. Sediment trap sampling in surface waters: issues and recommendations – W. D. Gardner

### **Part III. Regional-Scale Analysis and Integration**

9. Mixed-layer dynamics and primary production in the Arabian Sea – S. Sathyendranath and T. Platt

10. Plankton ecology and biogeography in the Southern Ocean: a review of the Southern Ocean JGOFS – U. Bathmann, J. Priddle, P. Tréguer, M. Lucas, J. Hall and J. Parslow

11. Process studies in eutrophic, mesotrophic and oligotrophic oceanic regimes within the tropical northeast Atlantic – A. Morel

12. The North Atlantic carbon cycle: new perspectives from JGOFS and WOCE – S. C. Doney, D. W. R. Wallace and H. W. Ducklow

13. Temporal studies of biogeochemical dynamics in oligotrophic oceans – A. F. Michaels, D. M. Karl and A. H. Knap

### **Part IV. Global-Scale Analysis and Integration**

14. Advances in ecosystem modelling within JGOFS – M. J. R. Fasham and G. T. Evans

15. Remote sensing of primary production in the ocean: promise and fulfilment – T. Platt, S. Sathyendranath and A. Longhurst

### **Part V. Future Challenges**

16. Beyond JGOFS – K. L. Denman and M. A. Peña

### **Part VI. Conclusion**

17. Some conclusions and highlights of JGOFS mid-project achievements – J. G. Field, H. W. Ducklow and R. B. Hanson