

1 **REVISED MANUSCRIPT**

2 **A strong CO₂ sink enhanced by eutrophication in a tropical coastal embayment**

3 **(Guanabara Bay, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)**

4

5 Luiz C. Cotovicz Jr.^{1,2,*}, Bastiaan A. Knoppers¹, Nilva Brandini¹, Suzan J. Costa

6 Santos¹, and Gwenaël Abril^{1,2}

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8 [1] Programa de Geoquímica, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Outeiro São João

9 Batista s/n, 24020015, Niterói, RJ, Brazil.

10 [2] Laboratoire Environnements et Paléoenvironnements Océaniques et Continentaux

11 (EPOC), CNRS, Université de Bordeaux, Allée Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 33615 Pessac

12 Cedex France.

13 [*] Correspondance to Luiz C. Cotovicz Jr (lccjunior@id.uff.br)

14

15 **Abstract**

16 In contrast to its small surface area, the coastal zone plays a disproportionate role in the
17 global carbon cycle. Carbon production, transformation, emission and burial rates at the
18 land-ocean interface are significant at the global scale, but still poorly known, especially
19 in tropical regions. Surface water pCO₂ and ancillary parameters were monitored during
20 nine field campaigns between April 2013 and April 2014 in Guanabara Bay, a tropical
21 eutrophic to hypertrophic semi-enclosed estuarine embayment surrounded by the city of
22 Rio de Janeiro, SE-Brazil. Water pCO₂ varied between 22 and 3715 ppmv in the Bay
23 showing spatial, diurnal and seasonal trends that mirrored those of dissolved oxygen (DO)
24 and Chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*). Marked pCO₂ undersaturation was prevalent in the shallow,
25 confined and thermally stratified waters of the upper bay, whereas pCO₂ oversaturation
26 was restricted to sites close to the small river mouths and small sewage channels, which
27 covered only 10 % of the bay's area. Substantial daily variations in pCO₂ (up to 395 ppmv
28 between dawn and dusk) were also registered and could be integrated temporally and

1 spatially for the establishment of net diurnal, seasonal and annual CO₂ fluxes. In contrast
2 to other estuaries worldwide, Guanabara Bay behaved as a net sink of atmospheric CO₂,
3 a property enhanced by the concomitant effects of strong radiation intensity, thermal
4 stratification, and high availability of nutrients, which promotes phytoplankton
5 development and net autotrophy. The calculated CO₂ fluxes for Guanabara Bay ranged
6 between -9.6 to -18.3 mol C m⁻² yr⁻¹, in the same order of magnitude of the organic carbon
7 burial and organic carbon inputs from the watershed. The positive and high net
8 community production (52.1 mol C m⁻² yr⁻¹) confirms the high carbon production in the
9 bay, and its autotrophic status apparently enhanced by eutrophication. Our results show
10 that global CO₂ budgetary assertions still lack information on tropical, marine-dominated
11 estuarine systems, which are affected by thermal stratification and eutrophication and
12 behave specifically with respect to atmospheric CO₂.

13 **Key words:** CO₂ fluxes, eutrophication, estuarine embayment, tropical, SE-Brazil.

14

15 **1 Introduction**

16 The rising of atmospheric CO₂ concentration in the last decades has worldwide concern,
17 mainly due to global atmospheric temperature increases (Allen et al., 2009; Matthews et
18 al., 2009) and ocean acidification (Doney et al., 2009). The oceans are known to act as
19 the major sink of atmospheric CO₂, with well quantified air–sea exchange and uptake of
20 excess anthropogenic CO₂ (Takahashi et al., 2002; Sabine et al., 2004; Orr et al., 2005).
21 The coastal ocean, however, is still subject to controversy and poorly understood due to
22 its intrinsic intra- and inter-specific heterogeneity. The lack of sufficient studies covering
23 the spatial and temporal variability with a common standardized sampling strategy and
24 methodology and the manifold diverse types of ecosystems types (estuaries, deltas,
25 embayments and coastal lagoons) affected by multiple external and internal sources, are
26 some of the reasons for these uncertainties (Gattuso et al., 1998; Borges, 2005; Chen et
27 al., 2013; Cloern et al., 2014). Despite the small surface area of the coastal ocean of about
28 7 % of the global ocean, it exerts a disproportionately large influence upon the carbon
29 cycle, especially on the role of primary production, remineralisation and sedimentation
30 of organic matter (Gattuso et al., 1998; Wollast, 1998). Coastal ecosystems receive
31 material from land via river inputs, submerged groundwater discharge, atmospheric
32 deposition, as well as from the adjacent open ocean. The climatological regime has great
33 influence over these areas, and contributes to the great variability of biogeochemical

1 processes in space and time. In addition, approximately 37% of human population lives
2 within 100 km of coastline (Cohen et al., 2007), making this area subject to intense human
3 impact upon the marine environment, including enhanced loading of nutrients, suspended
4 matter, organic and inorganic matter with associated pollutants, and also overfishing
5 (Bauer et al., 2013).

6

7 Several authors have demonstrated that the CO₂ emissions from estuaries are globally
8 significant (Borges and Abril, 2011; Chen et al., 2013). Total ecosystem respiration
9 generally exceeds gross primary production in most estuaries (Gattuso et al., 1998), which
10 are net heterotrophic and sources of atmospheric CO₂ (Borges and Abril, 2011; Cloern et
11 al., 2014). The Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone Program (LOICZ) budgetary
12 assertions of more than 250 estuaries and lagoons have also shown that most of them are
13 heterotrophic or may have a balanced metabolism (Knoppers, 1994; Smith et al., 2010).
14 CO₂ outgassing in most sectors of the estuaries is supported by the inputs of CO₂-enriched
15 freshwaters, and by the CO₂ generated in the estuarine system itself, planktonic and
16 benthic net heterotrophy and CO₂ advection from saltmarshes and mangroves (*e.g.*
17 Borges and Abril, 2011; Cai, 2011). On the other hand, low pCO₂ waters and autotrophic
18 metabolism has been observed in some estuarine plumes but with a small percentage of
19 the surface area when compared to the freshwater influence (Borges and Abril, 2011). As
20 more systems are being included in the budgeting effort, the global estuarine CO₂
21 emission estimate at the air-water interface has been declining (Borges and Abril, 2011;
22 Guo et al., 2012; Chen et al., 2013; Huang et al 2015). The pioneer estimate of the CO₂
23 released by estuaries was 0.51 Pg C yr⁻¹ (Borges, 2005) and the latest estimate has been
24 adjusted to 0.094 Pg C yr⁻¹. (Chen et al., 2013). In fact, first budgets were based on data
25 in systems generally located at temperate regions, being river-dominated, macrotidal and
26 turbid (Borges, 2005; Borges and Abril, 2011). The more recent estimate includes a set
27 of new data from estuaries located at low wind regions and the Arctic Ocean, which
28 contributed to the decrease of the carbon released (Chen et al., 2013). Additionally, Jiang
29 et al. (2008) demonstrated that pCO₂ can be significantly lower in marine-dominated
30 estuaries than river-dominated, and according to Maher and Eyre (2012) marine
31 dominated estuaries with low freshwater influences can be CO₂ sink.

32

1 In tropical regions, the spatial coverage of CO₂ fluxes of estuaries is still scarce. However,
2 the limited number of available studies suggest that tropical estuaries are generally
3 sources of CO₂ to the atmosphere (Souza et al., 2009; Sarma et al., 2012; Araujo et al.,
4 2014), except for one lagoon (Koné et al., 2009). Also, most studies are potentially biased
5 by the lack of information on the diurnal variations of CO₂, which corresponds to a crucial
6 component of mass balance calculations (Borges and Frankignoulle, 1999; Zhang et al.,
7 2013; Maher et al., 2015).

8

9 The CO₂ budgets of coastal ecosystems may also be altered by eutrophication generated
10 by the anthropogenic nutrient inputs from sewage and fertilizer usage in agriculture,
11 which has become a widespread water quality issue (Nixon, 1995; Cloern, 2001). The
12 consequences of eutrophication, like the development of excessive algal blooms, toxic
13 algae, loss of submerged aquatic vegetation and increase of hypoxia and anoxia, has been
14 well documented (Bricker et al., 2003; Rabalais et al., 2009). However, the influence of
15 eutrophication *per se* on the CO₂ budgets is poorly documented. In fact, the response of
16 estuarine metabolism to eutrophication seems to be system type-specific. Some papers
17 discussed that eutrophication can amplify autotrophy and favour CO₂ uptake (Gypens et
18 al., 2009), while others show that eutrophication can reinforce heterotrophy and CO₂
19 degassing (Sarma et al., 2012; Chou et al., 2013; Wallace et al., 2014).

20

21 The present study addresses the question whether a tropical, marine-dominated, and
22 eutrophic estuarine system Guanabara Bay (SE-Brazil) is a sink or a source of
23 atmospheric CO₂. The bay, surrounded by the City of Rio de Janeiro, is the second largest
24 Brazilian estuarine embayment (Kjerfve et al., 1997). The system is one of the most
25 degraded estuaries worldwide. The waters of Guanabara are eutrophic to hypertrophic
26 (according to the classification of Nixon, 1995) and provide ideal conditions to assess the
27 response of aquatic CO₂ metabolism under marked eutrophication. CO₂ fluxes at the air-
28 water interface of Guanabara Bay were estimated with continuous monitoring of surface
29 water pCO₂, taking into account different temporal (daily and seasonal) and spatial scales.
30 Our results show a very different behaviour in terms of carbon cycling of Guanabara Bay
31 compared to previously documented estuaries, with extremely low values of pCO₂ and a
32 net uptake of atmospheric CO₂ annually.

1

2 **2 Material and Methods**

3 **2.1 Study Site**

4 Guanabara Bay (22°41' - 22°58' S and 43°02' - 43°18' W) is located at the SE-Brazil
5 coast, SW-Atlantic, and embedded within the metropolitan area of Rio de Janeiro, the
6 second most densely populated region of the Brazilian Coast (Fig. 1). The bay has a
7 surface area of 384 km², a mean depth of about 5.7 m, and a volume of 1870 x 10⁶ m³.
8 The main subaqueous channel runs from the bay's 1.8 km wide entrance with depths
9 varying from 25 to 50 m up to 6 km inwards and along 24 km to the upper 20 km wide
10 bay, with depths down to about 2 to 3 m. The lateral portions of the bay are spiked by
11 small bays, with depths of about 2 m. It is a partially mixed estuarine embayment (Kjerfve
12 et al., 1997), being completely mixed in wintertime but can exhibit stratified conditions
13 in summertime due to concomitant effects of sunlight (thermal stratification) and
14 freshwater discharge (haline stratification) mostly in the central and inner regions
15 (Bérgamo, 2010).

16

17 The Bay is subject to a semi-diurnal microtidal regime with an annual mean of 0.7 m and
18 spring tides attaining 1.3 m. With the exception of the entrances of small rivers, salinities
19 vary between 25 and 34. The time for renewal of 50% of the total water volume is 11.4
20 days and water circulation is complex, as currents are modulated by tide and abrupt
21 changes in the geomorphological configuration (Kjerfve et al., 1997). Circulation
22 between the central and upper western regions is hampered by the presence of a large
23 island (Ilha do Governador, Fig. 1). At the bay's mouth, maximum water velocities vary
24 between 0.8 – 1.5 m s⁻¹ and seawater residence time is much shorter than in most inner
25 regions, particularly behind Governador Island, where maximum current velocities are
26 less than 0.3 m s⁻¹ (Kjerfve et al., 1997).

27

28 Guanabara Bay is located in the intertropical zone and its climate is subject to variability
29 of both the annual temperature and precipitation regimes. The weather is tropical humid
30 (Bidone and Lacerda, 2004), with a warm and wet summer in October-March, and a
31 cooler and drier winter in April-November. The most frequent winds in the bay from the
32 N and NE in spring and summer, with monthly average velocity of 5 m s⁻¹. Winds from

1 the S and SE are associated with polar cold weather fronts being more common in autumn
2 and winter (Amarante et al., 2002).

3 The drainage basin has an area of 4080 km² and includes 35 small rivers and streams, 6
4 of which flow into the upper region of the bay and contribute with up to 85% of the total
5 runoff to the bay. The average annual freshwater water discharge to the bay is 100 ± 59
6 m³ s⁻¹ and ranges from around 40 m³ s⁻¹ in winter to 190 m³ s⁻¹ in summer. Annual
7 freshwater discharge is nine times smaller than the bay's volume, which also contributes
8 to the two-layered gravitational circulation (the ebb-flood oscillatory tidal current),
9 resulting in the predominant saline (i.e. polyhaline) character of the waters (Kjerfve et al.,
10 1997).

11

12 More than 7 million inhabitants discharge 25 m³ s⁻¹ of untreated domestic wastewaters
13 into the bay (Kjerfve et al., 1997; Bidone and Lacerda, 2004), which contributes to a load
14 of about 465 T day⁻¹ of organic matter (FEEMA, 1998). Small channels directly
15 connected to sewage outlets are totally anoxic, but represent less than 5% of the surface
16 area of the Bay. More intense cultural eutrophication since the 50's (Borges et al., 2009)
17 also contributed to hypoxic conditions of bottom waters in some of the more confined
18 lateral and upper regions of the bay (Paranhos et al., 1998, Ribeiro and Kjerfve, 2002).
19 Fluxes of phosphorous are currently 9-times higher than those estimated since the late
20 1800s (Borges et al., 2009). According to Godoy et al. (1998), sedimentation rates have
21 increased up to 14 times over the last 50 years, in parallel with a 10-fold increase in the
22 flux of organic matter to the sediments (Carreira et al., 2002).

23

24 In this study, five sectors were defined for the treatment, computations and interpretation
25 of the data (Fig. 1): Sector one (S1) corresponds to the region up to 3 km inwards from
26 the narrow and deeper tidal channel, is characterized by a maximum of seawater
27 exchange, material dispersion and is partially mixed. Sector two (S2), located towards the
28 western part of the bay, is delimited on the north by the Governador Island, which creates
29 a barrier for direct tidal advection of waters into the upper north-western area of the bay.
30 It is one of the most contaminated areas of Guanabara Bay. Sector three (S3) corresponds
31 to the deeper channel which connects S1 (i.e. the bay's outlet to the South Atlantic) with
32 the upper region. Sector four (S4) in the upper northeastern part of the bay, is shallow,

1 moderately impacted and bordered by 90 km² of mangrove forest and non-urbanized land.
2 Sector five (S5) is the most confined area of the bay, located at the northwest and behind
3 Ilha do Governador. It is shallow, has the longest residence time of waters and also
4 receives significant amounts of sewage waters. The small western channel connecting S2
5 and S5 was disregarded from our analysis, due to its difficult access and extreme degree
6 of contamination. However, it only covers less than 10 % of the entire sampled area.

7

8 **2.2 Sampling Strategy**

9 Nine sampling campaigns were performed with a frequency varying between 30 to 45
10 days from April 2013 to April 2014. Each campaign consisted in continuous
11 measurements of the partial pressure of CO₂ (pCO₂), salinity, temperature, Chl *a*, DO, pH
12 and GPS position, all at a frequency of 1 minute. Sub-surface (~30cm) water was pumped
13 alongside the boat. In addition to the spatial screening, the diurnal variations of water
14 pCO₂ were estimated on four occasions within the upper and most eutrophic sectors (S4
15 and S5) and also once in S1, by performing lateral trajectories forth and back across the
16 sectors from dawn (04:30 am) to afternoon or dusk (at the latest until 09:30 pm). Diurnal
17 measurements were made in Aug. 2013 and Jan. 2014, Feb. and Apr. 2014 (S4 and S5)
18 and in S1 in Apr. 2014.

19

20 In addition, discrete sampling was performed at 16 to 19 stations along the continuous
21 tracks (Fig. 1), except in Dec. 2013, when only 8 stations could be sampled due to
22 logistical problems. Water samples were collected in sub-surface waters at a ~30cm depth
23 with a Niskin bottle, and then conditioned (i.e. fixed and/or kept on ice in the dark) for
24 further chemical analysis in the laboratory. Vertical profiles of temperature, salinity,
25 fluorescence and DO were performed at all discrete stations with an YSI 6600 V2
26 multiparameter probe.

27

28 **2.3 Analytical Procedures**

29 **2.3.1 Discrete parameters**

30 Total alkalinity (TA) was determined on 100 ml filtrate from GF/F filtered samples, using
31 the classical Gran (1952) electro-titration method by an automated titration system

1 (Metler Toledo Mod. T50). The reproducibility of TA was $4 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ($n=7$).
2 Measurements were compared to certified reference material (CRM provided by A.G.
3 Dickson from Scripps Institution of Oceanography) and consistent at a maximum
4 precision level of $\pm 7 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. Dissolved inorganic nitrogen (ammonia, nitrite, and
5 nitrate) and phosphate were quantified as in Grasshof et al. (1999) and Chl *a* as in
6 Strickland and Parsons (1972). Whatman GF/F filters were used for the Chl *a* analyses
7 and the filtrate for the nutrient analyses. All water samples were kept in the dark and on
8 ice during transport to the respective laboratories and nutrient samples and Chl *a* filters
9 kept at $-18 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ in a freezer prior to analyses.

10

11 **2.3.2 On-Line parameters**

12 Continuous measurements of temperature, salinity, fluorescence and DO were performed
13 with a calibrated YSI 6600 V2 multiparameter probe inserted in a flow-through
14 customized acrylic chamber. The values of the fluorescence sensor were correlated with
15 the discrete analysis of Chl *a* to derive a conversion factor. pH was measured continuously
16 with a pH-meter WTW 3310, equipped with a Sentix 41 electrode which was also
17 inserted in the chamber, and calibrated with a three-point standard (pH 4.01, pH 7.00 and
18 pH 10.01) according to the National Bureau Standard (NBS), before each sampling
19 campaign. The precision of the pH measurements was about 0.01 (after 7 verifications
20 against standards). As we have over determined the carbonate system (pCO_2 , pH, and
21 TA), we have chosen to use direct pCO_2 measurements and TA to calculate DIC. The pH
22 measurements only served for a quality check. pCO_2 was measured using the marble-type
23 equilibrator method, through which seawater flowed ($1\text{-}2 \text{ L min}^{-1}$) from the top to the
24 bottom of the cylinder filled with marbles and air was pumped upwards (1 L min^{-1})
25 (Frankignoulle et al., 2001; Abril et al., 2006). The air in the equilibrator was dried before
26 passing to a non-dispersive infrared gas analyser (LICOR®, Type LI-820). We used three
27 gas mixture standards (pCO_2 of 410, 1007 and 5035 ppmv) to calibrate the LICOR before
28 each sampling (White Martins Certified Material, RJ, Brazil). We used N_2 passing
29 through fresh soda lime to set the zero, and we used the standard at 1007 ppmv to set the
30 span. We used the 410 and 5035 ppmv standards to check for linearity. The number of
31 verifications after each calibration was about 7. The LICOR signal was stable and linear
32 in the range of calibration and observations in the field (0-5000 ppmv). We also verified
33 the drift before and after each sampling campaign. The partial pressure of atmospheric

1 CO₂ was measured in dry air twice a day, at the start and the end of the continuous runs.
2 The precision and the accuracy of the pCO₂ measurements were about 3 and 5 ppmv,
3 respectively.

4
5 Solar radiation, wind velocity (U10), accumulated precipitation and atmospheric
6 temperature were recorded in the meteorological stations of Santos Dumont and Galeão
7 airports (red squares in Fig. 1) and were provided by Brazilian Institute of Aerial Space
8 Control (ICEA). The data sets of solar radiation (Rs) were converted into daily-averaged
9 photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) using a conversion factor PAR/Rs of 0.5
10 (Monteith, 1977).

11

12 **2.3.3 Calculations**

13 **2.3.3.1 The Carbonate System**

14 Dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) was calculated using two different pairs of measured
15 parameters: pCO₂/TA and pH/TA using the carbonic acid constants sets proposed by
16 Mehrbach et al. (1973) refitted by Dickson and Millero (1987), the borate acidity constant
17 from Lee et al. (2010) and the CO₂ solubility coefficient of Weiss (1974). Calculations
18 were performed in the CO2calc 1.2.9 program (Robbins et al., 2010). Both calculations
19 gave very consistent DIC concentrations at $\pm 6.5 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. DIC calculated from
20 pCO₂/TA and pH/TA pairs gave an excellent agreement (slope: 1.008, R²=0.995). The
21 slope was not statistically different from 1 (p = 0.20) and the intercept was not
22 significantly different from 0 (p = 0.86). The excess of DIC (E-DIC, $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$) was
23 calculated as the difference between the in-situ DIC (DIC in situ $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$) and a
24 theoretical DIC at atmospheric equilibrium (DIC equilibrium $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$) according to
25 Abril et al. (2003). The DIC equilibrium was calculated from observed TA and the
26 atmospheric pCO₂ measured in the Bay. The apparent oxygen utilization (AOU, $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$)
27 was calculated from the temperature, salinity and DO concentrations measured
28 continuously with the probe and the theoretical DO saturation (Benson and Krause, 1984).

29 Diffusive air-sea CO₂ fluxes were computed from pCO₂ measured in the water and the
30 atmosphere and a gas transfer velocity derived from wind and other physical drivers. We
31 used the k-wind parameterization of Raymond and Cole (2001) and Abril et al. (2009),
32 which are gas exchange coefficients specific for estuarine waters. The Raymond and Cole

1 (2001) (RC01) equation is based on the compilation of gas transfer velocities derived
2 from tracers applied to nine rivers and estuaries, using only wind speed as an entry
3 parameter. The Abril et al. (2009) (A09) relationship is based on chamber flux
4 measurements in seven estuaries, and uses wind speed, estuarine surface area, and water
5 current velocity as entry parameters. We also calculated the fluxes with the
6 parameterization of Wanninkhof (1992) (W92), which was initially developed for open
7 ocean waters. The gas transfer coefficients normalized to a Schmidt number of 600
8 obtained with the three parameterizations were then converted to the gas transfer velocity
9 of CO₂ at *in situ* temperature and salinity following the procedure of Jähne et al. (1987).
10 Fluxes were computed for each sector of Guanabara Bay, using water pCO₂ representative
11 for diurnal and seasonal variations.

12 **2.3.3.2 The Net Community Production (NCP)**

13 The NCP was calculated by the changes in dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) obtained
14 from a set of lateral trajectories performed forth and back from dawn to dusk. As such,
15 sampling addressed different times of the day at similar locations and NCP was computed
16 from the diurnal DIC variations according to the following equation:

$$17 \text{NCP} = ((\text{DIC}_1 - \text{DIC}_2) \rho d) / \Delta t - \text{FCO}_2 \quad (1)$$

18 where NCP is the net community production (mmol m⁻² h⁻¹), DIC₁ and DIC₂ represents
19 the salinity-normalized concentration of dissolved inorganic carbon (mmol kg⁻¹) during
20 two consecutive trajectories (from dawn to dusk), ρ is the seawater density (kg m⁻³), d is
21 the average depth (m) of the area, t represents the time interval (hours) and F is the carbon
22 dioxide flux (mmol m⁻² h⁻¹) across the water-atmosphere interface. The computations
23 were carried out with the mean values of DIC during each trajectory.

24 **2.3.3.3 Temperature and biological effect on pCO₂ variations**

25 The temperature *versus* biological effect on pCO₂ variations in Guanabara Bay was
26 verified using the Takahashi et al. (2002) approach. The relative importance of the
27 temperature and biological effects can be expressed as a ratio between both the
28 temperature and the biology effect. The biological component is estimated by the seasonal
29 amplitude of the temperature-normalized pCO₂ and the temperature component is
30 characterized by the seasonal amplitude of the annual mean pCO₂ corrected for the
31 seasonal temperature variation. The following equations were applied (Takahashi et al.,
32 2002):

1 $p\text{CO}_2$ at $T_{\text{mean}} = p\text{CO}_{2\text{obs}} \times \exp[0.0423(T_{\text{mean}}-T_{\text{obs}})]$ (variations driven by biological
2 effect); (2)

3 $p\text{CO}_2$ at $T_{\text{obs}} = p\text{CO}_{2\text{mean}} \times \exp[0.0423(T_{\text{obs}}-T_{\text{mean}})]$ (variations driven by thermodynamic
4 effect); (3)

5 where T is the temperature in $^{\circ}\text{C}$, and the subscripts “mean” and “obs ” indicate the
6 annual average and observed values, respectively. These equations were applied to
7 summer and winter conditions as a whole. The biologic effect on the surface-water $p\text{CO}_2$
8 ($\Delta p\text{CO}_2$)_{Bio} is represented by the seasonal amplitude of $p\text{CO}_2$ values corrected by the
9 mean annual temperature, ($p\text{CO}_2$ at T_{mean}), using Eq. (1):

10 $(\Delta p\text{CO}_2)_{\text{Bio}} = (p\text{CO}_2 \text{ at } T_{\text{mean}})_{\text{max}} - (p\text{CO}_2 \text{ at } T_{\text{mean}})_{\text{min}}$; (4)

11 where the subscripts “max” and “min” indicate the seasonal maximum and minimum
12 values. The effect of temperature changes on the mean annual $p\text{CO}_2$ value, ($\Delta p\text{CO}_2$)_{temp},
13 is represented by the seasonal amplitude of ($p\text{CO}_2$ at T_{obs}) values computed using Eq. (2):

14 $(\Delta p\text{CO}_2)_{\text{Temp}} = (p\text{CO}_2 \text{ at } T_{\text{obs}})_{\text{max}} - (p\text{CO}_2 \text{ at } T_{\text{obs}})_{\text{min}}$; (5)

15 A ratio $(\Delta p\text{CO}_2)_{\text{Temp}}/(\Delta p\text{CO}_2)_{\text{Bio}}$ (Temp/Bio) > 1 indicates a dominance of the
16 temperature effect over mean annual $p\text{CO}_2$ values, whereas a ratio < 1 indicates
17 dominance of a biological effect (Takahashi et al., 2002).

18

19 **2.4 Statistical Analysis**

20 Normality test was carried with the Shapiro-Wilk test. If the data showed parametric
21 distribution, we used t-test to comparing averages. If the data showed non-parametric
22 distribution, we used the Mann-Whitney test. The calculations of correlations between
23 variables were performed with the Spearman rank coefficient. Simple linear regressions
24 were calculated to compare calculated and measured variables (DIC and pH), and the
25 comparison between slopes was made with one test equivalent to an Analysis of
26 Covariance (ANCOVA). For the principal component analysis (PCA) calculation, the
27 sampling campaigns were taken as cases, and the parameters were taken as variables. The
28 PCA technique starts with a correlation matrix presenting the dispersion of the original
29 variables (data were normalized by z-scores with average data for each sampling
30 campaign), utilized for extracting the eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Henceforth, the
31 principal components were obtained by multiplying an eigenvector by the original

1 correlated variables. All statistical analysis were based on $\alpha = 0.05$. We utilized the
2 Statistic 7.0 program to perform all PCA steps and the GraphPad Prism 6 program to
3 perform the other statistical tests.

4 **3 Results**

5 **3.1. Climatic, hydrological and biogeochemical conditions**

6 Climatic conditions during the study period followed a classical seasonal trend (Fig. 2),
7 with exception of Jan. 2014 and Feb. 2014, when the air temperature was warmer (2.2 °C
8 higher, $p < 0.001$, t-test) than the averaged reference period of 60 years (1951-2010). The
9 other sampled months had air temperature and precipitation consistent with historical data
10 (Fig. 2), despite of some deviations from the historical average especially for accumulated
11 precipitation. Sector-averaged surface water temperature in Guanabara Bay (Table 1)
12 varied between 23.8 and 26.8 °C and salinity varied between 27.0 and 32.2. In the upper
13 portion of the bay (S4 and S5), salinity decreased in winter and temperature increased in
14 summer with an observed maximum of 33.9 °C. S1, at the entrance of the bay, exhibited
15 lowest temperatures and highest salinities, with little seasonal variation. A maximum
16 seasonal amplitude of 3.4 °C and 2.8 °C of sector-average temperature occurred in S4 and
17 S5, respectively. When considering sector-averaged values, seasonal contrasts were less
18 than 2 salinity units in all sectors. Spatially, the most confined northern sectors which
19 receive more river water, showed the lowest salinity, particularly at the vicinity of river
20 mouths, and during the rainy season, with a minimum of 14.6 in Apr. 2013 in S4.

21

22 Average values for pH, TA, DIC, Chl *a* and nutrient data reported for each sector in Table
23 1 reflect the eutrophic (S1 and S3) to hypertrophic (S2, S4 and S5) conditions prevailing
24 in Guanabara Bay, consistent with previous works (Rebello et al., 1988; Ribeiro and
25 Kjerve, 2001). All water quality parameters (nutrients and Chl *a*) exhibited a large
26 standard deviation (SD) to the mean. Ammonium (NH₄-N) was the dominant form of
27 dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) and reached average concentrations of around 45 and
28 27 μM in S2 and S5 and 8, 9 and 5 μM in sectors S1, S3 and S4, respectively. The
29 maximum range was recorded in S5 (0.13 to 130 μM NH₄-N) and the minimum range in
30 the lower S1 (8.15 to 22.5 μM NH₄-N).

31

1 Extremely high Chl *a* values were associated with high pH and moderately to low nutrient
2 concentrations, indicating that nutrients were fixed into phytoplankton biomass. Average
3 Chl *a* concentrations followed the trophic state gradient, increasing from the mouth of the
4 bay toward its upper portion and also in the lateral embayments (Table 1). All sectors
5 showed high spatial and temporal variability of Chl *a*. In general, highest values were
6 recorded during summer conditions and lower values during winter. This feature has also
7 been observed by other studies (Guenther et al., 2008; Guenther et al., 2012). Sectors 3,
8 4 and 5 experienced the densest phytoplankton blooms, Chl *a* reaching maxima on one
9 occasion of 537 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in S3, 289 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in S4 and 822 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ in S5.

10

11 **3.2 Vertical structure of the water column**

12 The vertical profiles for temperature, salinity, DO and Chl *a* in S1, S3 and S5, shown in
13 Figure 3 are well representative of other observations in the outer, middle and inner
14 regions of Guanabara Bay, both for summer and winter conditions. During winter, the
15 water column was well mixed in all sectors. Indeed, temperature and salinity showed little
16 vertical variations during this season (Figs. 3a, 3c and 3e). Chl *a* and oxygen profiles were
17 also vertically homogeneous, except in the most confined and shallow S5, where Chl *a*
18 was typically 2.5 times higher in the first two meters compared to the bottom (Fig. 3f).
19 During summer, all sectors showed important thermal and saline stratification (Figs. 3g,
20 3i and 3k), halocline and thermocline being located almost at the same depth. In 20m-
21 deep water columns (S1 and S3; Figs. 3g and 3i), a ~4m deep surface layer was ~2-3°C
22 warmer and had salinity ~1-2 units lower than the bottom layer; in 5m-deep water column
23 (S5; Fig. 3k), the warmer surface layer was ~2m deep with similar temperature and
24 salinity contrasts between the surface and the bottom. The vertical water profile was also
25 analysed to investigate the diurnal variations of temperature and salinity (Figs. 3k and 3l).
26 Comparison between daytime and nighttime conditions revealed that stratification was
27 subject to diurnal variations, driven by temperature convection concomitant with a
28 moderate mixing of water currents by microtidal action. Summer stratification of the
29 water column was accompanied by a consistent vertical distribution of Chl *a* and oxygen,
30 with maximum in the surface layers and minimum at the bottom. Note that the salinity
31 varied less than the temperature along the day (> 2°C of variation in 5 hours; Fig. 3K).
32 Stratification apparently favoured phytoplankton development, as Chl *a* concentrations
33 were highest (up to 240 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) at the surface of the stratified water columns. These

1 physical conditions were largely predominant in summer and in the shallowest, calmest
2 and most confined sectors of the Bay (S4 and S5).

3

4 **3.3 Spatial distributions of pCO₂ in surface waters**

5 Spatial distributions of surface water pCO₂ measured continuously along the trajectories,
6 revealed strong spatial gradients between and/or inside each sector, from over- to under-
7 saturation with respect to the atmosphere (Fig. 4). Temporally and spatially, water pCO₂
8 was inversely correlated with dissolved oxygen ($R^2 = -0.88$; $n=9002$; $p < 0.0001$) and Chl
9 *a* ($R^2 = -0.54$; $n=9004$; $p < 0.0001$). S1 presented pCO₂ values close to the atmospheric
10 equilibrium, with moderate temporal variation around this average (411 ± 145 ppmv). DO
11 and Chl. *a* in S1 were 103 ± 29 % and 19 ± 22 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$, respectively. S2, close to most
12 urbanized area, showed highest heterogeneity, from a maximum pCO₂ value of 3750
13 ppmv in hypoxic waters (DO=2% saturation) at the vicinity of the highly polluted urban
14 channels in Jan. 2014 (Fig. 4g), to strong undersaturation, as low as 50 ppmv related to a
15 bloom formation (Chl. *a* = 212 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) in Jan.2014. In S2, the extent of pCO₂
16 supersaturation apparently induced by the urban sewage loads was favoured by strong
17 rains the day before sampling and low PAR incidence in Jul., Aug. and Sep. 2013,
18 compared to all the other cruises (Fig. 4). In S3, S4 and S5, which account for 75% of the
19 surface sampled area of Guanabara Bay, pCO₂ was predominantly below the atmospheric
20 equilibrium, particularly during daytime summer cruises (Fig. 4 and Table 1). Massive
21 phytoplankton blooms were sampled during our survey, characterized by extreme
22 patchiness in summer. For example, an extreme of 22 ppmv of pCO₂, 350 % sat DO and
23 550 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ Chl *a* was recorded in Feb. 2014 in a brown/red bloom. In S3, S4 and S5, water
24 pCO₂ was lower than 150 ppmv around midday at all seasons. These blooms and
25 associated pCO₂ under-saturation occurred in S4 and S5 during winter and progressively
26 spread to the entire bay during summer months (Fig. 4). From Sep. 2013 to Feb. 2014,
27 midday undersaturation was encountered over the whole bay, except the urban impacted
28 S2 (Fig. 4). Finally, some increases in water pCO₂ above the atmospheric equilibrium (up
29 to a maximum of 2200 ppmv) were observed in Jul. 2013, Aug. 2013 and Apr. 2014, in
30 the northeastern part of S4 and S5, related to river plumes. Before reaching the bay waters
31 of S4, these riverine plumes flowed across a preserved mangrove area. However, the
32 extent of these small plumes was limited (Fig. 4) and their contribution to the sector CO₂
33 balance was apparently negligible.

1

2 **3.4 pCO₂ diurnal variations**

3 The five back and forth tracks revealed important diurnal changes in water pCO₂ in S4
4 and S5, but not in S1 (Fig. 5). In the S1 in Feb.2014 (Fig. 5d), nighttime (predawn) pCO₂
5 (451 ± 38 ppmv) was not significantly different ($p > 0.05$ Mann-Whitney Test) from
6 daytime pCO₂ (466 ± 26 ppmv). In contrast, in S4 and S5, rapid and significant decreases
7 in water pCO₂ were recorded in the early hours of the morning, followed by a relatively
8 stable undersaturation from 10:00 AM to all over the afternoon (Fig. 5). For instance, in
9 Sep. 2014, pCO₂ decreased from 800 ppmv at 8:30 AM to 200 ppmv at 13:40 PM at the
10 same geographical location (Fig. 5a). The decrease in water pCO₂ occurred relatively
11 quick on all occasions at around 9:30 AM, which apparently corresponded to the hour of
12 maximum photosynthetic activity by phytoplankton. 9:30 AM was then used as the limit
13 to separate nighttime pCO₂ from daytime pCO₂. In S4 and S5, pCO₂ changes from
14 nighttime to daytime were from 591 ± 231 to 194 ± 114 ppmv in Sep. 2013, from $163 \pm$
15 40 to 116 ± 25 ppmv in Jan. 2014, from 346 ± 166 to 146 ± 106 ppmv in Feb. 2014, and
16 from 637 ± 421 to 265 ± 186 ppmv in Apr. 2014. In all these cases, water pCO₂ was
17 significantly higher ($p < 0.001$; Mann-Whitney Test) before than after 9:30 AM.
18 Consequently, S4 and S5 shifted from a CO₂ source at nighttime to a CO₂ sink at daytime
19 in Sep.2013 and Apr.2014, but remained a CO₂ sink all day and night long in Jan. and
20 Feb. 2014. In addition to these five back and forth tracks described in Fig. 5, we could
21 compare water pCO₂ values measured on the same day in the early morning (before 9:30
22 AM) with those measured in late afternoon in S1, S3 and S4. Consequently, our data
23 provided a fairly good indication of the diurnal variability of pCO₂ throughout the entire
24 sampling period, in all sectors, except S2 (Fig. 6).

25

26 **3.5 Seasonal Variations**

27 Clear seasonal changes were observed in pCO₂ of surface waters (Fig. 6), with higher
28 values in winter (Apr. 2013, Jul. 2013, Aug. 2013, Sep. 2013 and Apr. 2014) than in
29 summer (Oct. 2013, Dec. 2013, Jan. 2014 and Feb. 2014). Seasonal variations in DO and
30 Chl. *a* mirrored the pCO₂ variations, with a maximum phytoplanktonic biomass and
31 oxygen saturation in summer, when pCO₂ was at its minimum. S1 was a source of
32 atmospheric CO₂ during winter (pCO₂ of 501 ± 98 ppmv), but a sink during summer

1 (pCO₂ of 304 ± 117 ppmv). S2 presented the highest pCO₂ differences between winter
2 (923 ± 484 ppmv) and summer (423 ± 530 ppmv), with high standard deviations resulting
3 from spatial heterogeneity for both periods (Fig. 4). In S3, S4 and S5, CO₂ undersaturation
4 prevailed along the year, except in winter and nighttime, where oversaturations prevailed.
5 In these three sectors, oxygen remained oversaturated all over the year. Average measured
6 values of pCO₂ for winter and summer respectively, were 353 ± 141 and 194 ± 127 in S3,
7 380 ± 286 and 203 ± 159 in S4, and 364 ± 343 and 132 ± 74 ppmv in S5. Note that these
8 averages are in its majority based on daytime measurements and that integrated yearly
9 average CO₂ fluxes had to be quantified by accounting for both seasonal and diurnal
10 variations (see following section and discussion).

11

12 **3.6 Gas transfer velocities, CO₂ fluxes at the air-sea interface and NCP**

13 Wind speeds (12h-averaged) varied between 1.4 and 3.9 m s⁻¹, were significantly higher
14 during summer than during winter (p < 0.001; t-test) and significantly higher during
15 daytime than during nighttime (p < 0.001; t-test) (Table 2). Instantaneous wind speed
16 showed some peaks at a maximum of 15 m s⁻¹ during short (<1h) events. Wind speeds
17 measured at the meteorological station in the southern part of the Bay were higher (S1,
18 S2 and S3) than those recorded at the station in the northern region (S4 and S5) (Table
19 2).

20

21 Calculated gas transfer velocities averaged over daytime and nighttime periods varied
22 between 0.8 and 12.3 cm h⁻¹ (Table 2). k₆₀₀ values calculated from the equation of Abril
23 et al. (2009) that accounts for the wind velocity, the fetch effect linked to estuarine size
24 and the current velocity, was systematically higher than those calculated from the
25 relationships of Raymond and Cole (2001) and Wannikhof (1992), which consists in
26 exponential functions of wind velocity, with the former being specific for estuarine waters
27 and the latter primarily developed for open ocean waters. Average k₆₀₀ values based on
28 15min wind speed were not significantly different from k₆₀₀ based on 12h average wind
29 speed, showing that short storms had negligible impact on daily-integrated gas transfer
30 velocities. CO₂ fluxes were calculated using the measured pCO₂ in each sector during the
31 respective period: summer and winter, daytime and night-time. In the absence of data, we
32 interpolated pCO₂ from surrounding areas and/or measurement periods. For S2, the only

1 sector that was not sampled at night, we applied the mean diurnal variations of S1 and
2 S3. Because of the relatively narrow range of k_{600} variation, calculated CO_2 fluxes
3 followed the pattern of surface water pCO_2 and varied between $14.6 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ in the
4 polluted S2 during winter and nighttime, to $-9.7 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ in dense phytoplanktonic
5 blooms of S5 during summer and daytime (Table 2). Time-integrated CO_2 fluxes,
6 accounting for seasonal and daily variations, revealed that all sectors except S2 behaved
7 as CO_2 sinks on an annual basis.

8 The NCP estimates to Guanabara Bay encompassed four sampling campaigns (Sep. 2013,
9 Jan. 2014, Feb. 2014 and Apr. 2014). The values ranged between 51 to $255 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$,
10 ¹, with an annual average of $143 \pm 56 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$. The summertime period presented an
11 average of $161 \pm 49 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, whereas for wintertime the NCP was $126 \pm 51 \text{ mmol}$
12 $\text{m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$. All values of NCP were positive indicating that upper sectors of Guanabara Bay
13 were autotrophic.

14

15 **4. Discussion**

16 **4.1 Estuarine Typology: Comparing Guanabara Bay with other estuaries**

17 The results of the continuous measurements and the concomitant discrete sampling of
18 water quality parameters, showed that, in terms of CO_2 atmospheric exchange, Guanabara
19 Bay does not follow the patterns of a typical drowned-river valley estuary with a marked
20 longitudinal estuarine gradient between its fresh and marine water end-member sources
21 (Pritchard, 1952). Rather, Guanabara Bay corresponds to a tropical marine dominated
22 system, owing to the small freshwater discharge relative to its water volume and tidal
23 exchange, maintaining 85 % of the bay with salinities always higher than 25. Its
24 geomorphological characteristics and rather complex circulation of water masses, makes
25 the application of standard approaches to discern sources or sinks from composite plots
26 between salinity and material concentrations difficult (Bourton and Liss, 1976).
27 Furthermore, Guanabara Bay has been considered as one of the world's most degraded
28 embayment characterized by constant eutrophic to hypertrophic conditions and the
29 frequent occurrence of red tides (Rebello et al., 1988; Villac and Tennenbaum, 2010;
30 Guenther et al., 2012).

31

1 The CO₂ behavior in Guanabara Bay was different from that in most of documented
2 estuaries worldwide. Indeed, the majority of studies that were conducted in macrotidal,
3 turbid and river-dominated estuaries reveal that these systems are heterotrophic and emit
4 large amounts of CO₂ both in temperate and tropical regions (Frankignoulle et al., 1998;
5 Borges and Abril, 2011; Sarma et al., 2012). These drowned valley, river-dominated,
6 estuaries also exhibited a significant inverse trend between salinity and pCO₂
7 (Frankignoulle et al., 1998), which was not observed in Guanabara Bay. The absence of
8 a negative relationship between pCO₂ and salinity for the range of 27 to 32 is in fact more
9 consistent with observations in some estuarine plumes (although less pronounced), where
10 pCO₂ undersaturation and diurnal variations are often reported (Borges and
11 Frankignoulle, 1999; Borges and Frankignoulle, 2002; Dai et al., 2009; Bozec et al.,
12 2011). Therefore, our results in Guanabara Bay are still consistent with the comparative
13 analysis of CO₂ dynamics in river- and marine-dominated estuaries by Jiang et al. (2008).
14 In Guanabara Bay, salinities lower than 27 were confined to the upper region at the
15 mouths of the small rivers in S4 (max. pCO₂ = 2222 ppmv), S5 (max. pCO₂ = 2203 ppmv)
16 and some polluted channels of S2 (max. pCO₂ = 3715 ppmv) (Table 1 and Fig. 4).
17 However, these heterotrophic and strong CO₂ degassing regions are relatively small when
18 compared to the total surface area. In contrast, pCO₂ in S1, which is directly affected by
19 marine water intrusion, exhibited minor diurnal and seasonal variations oscillating around
20 the atmospheric value of 400 ppmv. But, sectors 3, 4 and 5 as a whole, which cover around
21 75 % of the bay's area, behaved as a net CO₂ sink on an annual basis, with concentrations
22 even down to about 30 ppmv on some occasions (Table 2). These three sectors are subject
23 to weaker tidal currents, higher water residence times, and stratification at shallow depths,
24 favouring CO₂ uptake by phytoplankton primary production and autotrophic metabolism,
25 especially during summer. Indeed, thermal or haline stratification of estuarine waters has
26 been identified as a determinant factor that favours the ecosystem to act as a CO₂ sink
27 (Borges 2005; Chou et al., 2013). Low pCO₂ values at surface waters were reported for
28 the inner shelf of the Changjiang estuary (Chou et al., 2013), the outer Loire estuary
29 (Bozec et al., 2012), the lower Pearl River estuary (Dai et al., 2008), the Amazon river
30 plume (Körtzinger, 2003) and on the Mississippi River-dominated continental shelf
31 (Huang et al., 2015), all with enhancement of stratification stimulating phytoplankton
32 bloom development and uptake of CO₂. Low pCO₂ values were also observed in estuaries
33 which receive low freshwater discharge and present low water exchange with the sea
34 (Jiang et al., 2008; Koné et al., 2009; Maher and Eyre, 2012; Sarma et al., 2012).

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The comparison of the E-DIC versus AOU values (Fig. 7) from our study with a compilation of data obtained for 24 estuaries, in majority river-dominated estuaries located in temperate regions (Borges and Abril, 2011) illustrates the specific metabolic characteristics of Guanabara Bay. The negative E-DIC and AOU values found for Guanabara Bay suggest the system is autotrophic. The 1:1 line represents the quotient between CO₂ and O₂ during planktonic primary production and community respiration (Borges and Abril 2011). The values close along this line for Guanabara Bay suggest that gross primary production and total (autotrophic and heterotrophic) respiration are coupled, and largely dominated the signal, with a strong biological control on the production/consumption of these gases. Many data from other estuaries are situated well above the 1:1 line, especially at high pCO₂ values, indicating lateral inputs of dissolved CO₂ from tidal marshes or mangroves, faster equilibration of oxygen with the atmosphere than carbon dioxide due to differences in solubility and the buffering capacity of the carbonate system, and/or anoxic respiration in sediments (Cai et al., 1999; Abril et al., 2002; Bouillon et al., 2008; Borges and Abril, 2011). In Guanabara Bay, mangrove forests are not so extended, and the volume of water exchanged with the mangrove sediments is moderate due to the modest tidal amplitude. For that reason, we could not find supersaturated pCO₂ conditions near of the mangrove region, at least at about 2km distance from the mangrove. This suggests that dissolved CO₂ export from the mangrove is low and probably associated with a rapid consumption of mangrove-derived DIC by the phytoplankton.

4.2 Meteorological and biological control of pCO₂ in Guanabara Bay

A PCA was performed to better identify the variable contributions of the data. For each sampling day, we calculated the mean values of pCO₂, DO, pH, Chl *a*, temperature, salinity, wind velocity, PAR incidence and also the seven days of accumulated precipitation. The PCA revealed a strong meteorological control on the pCO₂ dynamics in Guanabara Bay (Fig. 8). Factor 1 explains 65% of the total variance revealing that pCO₂ was well separated and negatively related to DO, Chl *a*, temperature, wind velocity and PAR incidence. This suggests a strong external meteorological control on phytoplankton dynamics and, in turn, on the CO₂, DO and Chl *a* at spatial and temporal scales. Indeed, the high incident light simultaneously provides energy for phytoplankton

1 growth and favors the development of thermal stratification, particularly in the shallow
2 and less hydrodynamic regions (Fig. 3). In the tropics, high light incidence combined with
3 the presence of nutrients contributes to phytoplankton blooms and CO₂ depletion both
4 directly, by supplying light for photosynthesis, and indirectly by favoring stratification of
5 the water column. It is noteworthy that high wind speed in the region of Guanabara was
6 correlated with high PAR, and consequently, gas exchange was favored during daytime,
7 when CO₂ depletion attained its maximum. In contrast, salinity and the 7-day
8 accumulated precipitation were not related to the other parameters, and dominating the
9 factor 2, that explain about 19% of the variance in the data. This suggests that pulsed
10 inputs of freshwater, typical of tropical storms affects salinity in Guanabara Bay, but has
11 little impact on the intensity of blooms and the CO₂ uptake by the phytoplankton.

12

13 Our diurnal measurements along the hypertrophic sectors 4 and 5 also showed marked
14 differences of pCO₂ concentrations between daytime and nighttime. The nighttime pCO₂
15 values were about 30% higher than daytime (differing by up to 395 ppmv). As the PAR
16 incidence increased along the day, the surface pCO₂ decreased due to the enhancement
17 of photosynthesis and rapid formation of thermal stratification (Figs. 3 and 5). Our report
18 of strong diurnal variation in pCO₂ in Guanabara Bay (Fig. 5) reveals how photosynthesis
19 and respiration processes vary temporally, especially in areas with high phytoplankton
20 biomass (indicated by Chl *a* values above 50, sometimes reaching 200 µg L⁻¹). In their
21 study of primary production based on oxygen incubations in Guanabara Bay, Rebello et
22 al. (1988) postulated that some intriguing very low rates in Chl *a* rich samples were due
23 to the occurrence of CO₂ limitation. Indeed, the extremely low values of pCO₂ observed
24 in S5 (ex. 24 ppm or 0.6 µmol kg⁻¹ of dissolved CO₂) confirm that CO₂ might be one of
25 the limiting factors for primary production. However, in such CO₂ limiting conditions,
26 phytoplankton would need to take up bicarbonate using the proton pump mechanism and
27 the carbonic anhydrase enzyme (Kirk, 2011). Some diurnal variations of pCO₂ controlled
28 by biological activity have been reported in several other estuarine systems worldwide
29 (Dai et al., 2009; Bozec et al., 2011; Yates et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2013). In the Bay of
30 Brest, a temperate coastal embayment, the phytoplankton blooms were responsible for 10
31 to 60% of the seasonal pCO₂ drawdown observed during spring, equivalent to 100-200
32 ppmv (Bozec et al., 2011). In Tampa Bay, a shallow subtropical estuary, the diurnal
33 variations in pCO₂ (median of 218 ppmv) were largely influenced by primary productivity

1 and respiration of benthic communities (Yates et al. 2007). Also, Zhang et al. (2013)
2 reported diurnal pCO₂ variations mainly controlled by biological activities (maximum
3 218 ppm in autumn) in a Chinese tropical open bay dominated by fringing reefs; however,
4 calcification was also important driver of diurnal pCO₂ variations in winter. In one suite
5 of different coastal ecosystems in the South China Sea, including inshore and onshore
6 locations, Dai et al. (2009) concluded that temperature was a major driver of pCO₂ diurnal
7 variability in the oligotrophic and offshore regions (10-16 ppmv variations), tidal effects
8 in the nearshore (41-152 ppmv), and biological metabolism in the coral reef system (up
9 to 608 ppmv of diurnal variations). Henceforth, it is clear that diurnal variations must be
10 accounted for in estuarine CO₂ budget assertions, otherwise estimates based on daytime
11 pCO₂ measurements only might shift the conclusions towards an overestimate of the CO₂
12 sink, or an underestimate of the CO₂ source. Henceforth, we use pCO₂ measurements at
13 different hours of the day and night in order to integrate the diurnal variations.

14

15 The contributions of temperature and biological activity for Guanabara Bay were
16 estimated at 33 and 255 ppmv, respectively, showing the strong influence of biological
17 productivity upon pCO₂ dynamics in this tropical coastal embayment (ratio of 0.12).
18 Some authors utilized the same approach in other estuarine systems with different
19 dominances between temperature and the biological effect (Bozec et al., 2011; Zhang et
20 al. 2012; Hunt et al., 2014). The temperature dominating effect was detected for Jiaozhou
21 Bay (China Sea), Zhang et al. (2012) obtained pCO₂ variations differences of 93 and 78
22 ppmv for temperature and biological activity respectively (weak temperature prevalence
23 and ratio of 1.19). In the Kennebec Estuary (USA), Hunt et al. (2014) found different
24 ratios according to the salinity zones and showed that, in general, higher ratios prevailed
25 at low salinities (1.9-2.1), with higher temperature control on pCO₂ variations. Bozec et
26 al. (2011), on the other hand, in one inter-annual approach encountered a mean value of
27 0.49, in the Bay of Brest, a temperate embayment in France, confirming that the biological
28 processes were the main driver of the seasonal pCO₂ dynamic. The ratio for Guanabara
29 Bay is much lower than in all these systems, and also consistent with an atypical CO₂
30 dynamics.

31

32 **4.3 Eutrophication and CO₂ Dynamics**

1 In several coastal systems worldwide, important CO₂ changes, either increasing or
2 decreasing, have been attributed to eutrophication processes (Gypens et al., 2009; Borges
3 and Gypens, 2010; Cai et al., 2011; Sunda and Cai, 2012; Chou et al., 2013).
4 Eutrophication occurs when massive anthropogenic inputs of both organic (mainly
5 domestic) and inorganic (agricultural or industrial) nutrients (sometimes during several
6 decades) have enriched estuarine waters and sediments with bioavailable nitrogen and
7 phosphorus (Rabalais et al., 2009). Increases in pCO₂ have been reported in river-
8 dominated estuaries at the vicinity of megacities (Frankignoulle et al 1998; Zhai et al.,
9 2007; Sarma et al., 2012). When sewage is discharged in such river-dominated systems,
10 heterotrophy is enhanced and CO₂ outgassing increases (Zhai et al., 2007; Sarma et al.,
11 2012). Indeed, environmental conditions in these turbid estuarine waters strongly limit
12 primary production in favor of heterotrophy. Turbidity, together with stratification, is
13 indeed a key parameter that explains pCO₂ variation in estuaries (Jiang et al. 2008; Borges
14 and Abril 2011). In Guanabara Bay, sewage also predominates as source of organic
15 nutrients (Bidone and Lacerda, 2004). However, the pCO₂ spatial distribution (Fig. 4)
16 suggests that mineralization of this domestic organic matter occurs predominantly within
17 the sewage network itself and in small rivers and channels and their plumes that represent
18 a small surface area in the Bay. It can be noted for example that pCO₂ oversaturation was
19 more extended in S2 in Aug. 2013, which corresponds to a sampling just after strong rains
20 on the city of Rio de Janeiro. Mineralization of organic matter in these extremely polluted
21 areas leads to rapid CO₂ (and probably CH₄) outgassing, and concomitantly, contributes
22 to a long-term enrichment of the Bay in bioavailable nitrogen and phosphorus (Paranhos
23 et al., 1998; Ribeiro and Kjerfve, 2002).

24

25 Except for these peripheral zones, most sectors of Guanabara Bay experienced massive
26 algal blooms due to the optimal conditions for primary production, including nutrient,
27 light, and water column stratification. The driving phytoplankton assemblages of
28 Guanabara Bay are typical for eutrophic to hypertrophic systems, largely dominated by
29 bloom and also red tide forming nanoplankton, filamentous cyanobacteria and some
30 microplankton (Valentin et al., 1999; Santos et al., 2007; Villac and Tennenbaum, 2010).
31 Preliminary investigations of the collected material from this study suggests that
32 cyanobacteria were frequently encountered in S2, S4 and S5, during the 9 sampling
33 periods, and great deal of patchiness was observed with a succession of intense red, brown

1 and/or green colored waters, leading to the marked short spatial variability of pCO₂, DO
2 and Chl *a*. In the waters dominated by phytoplankton blooms the pCO₂ values were
3 always extremely low, and the sink characteristics were prevalent, with high CO₂ uptake
4 and autotrophy characteristics. It has been shown, that during summer the heterotrophic
5 bacterial production (BP) lied within the range of only 0.4-19 % of primary production
6 (PP) at the surface and 5-52 % at the bottom, being nutrient dependent (Guenther et al.,
7 2008). Our spatial and temporal pCO₂ dataset (Fig. 4) also suggests that the most confined
8 part of the inner bay apparently behaved as the "bloom genesis region" that can spread
9 phytoplanktonic production, biomass, and associate CO₂ consumption over the rest of the
10 estuarine system. Indeed, CO₂-depleted waters were confined to S4 and S5 in Oct. 2013,
11 and progressively extended to all sectors (except S2) in Jan. 2014, During this period,
12 conditions became ideal for bloom developments with increasing air and water
13 temperature, and the development of water stratification (Figs. 4 and 6).

14

15 Eutrophication, thus enhances the low surface pCO₂ concentrations in Guanabara Bay.
16 Phytoplankton uses more nutrients and dissolved CO₂ in the surface waters, and produce
17 larger biomass of organic matter. When this additional material reaches the bottom, the
18 organic matter and associated nutrients are recycled, increasing pCO₂ and decreasing the
19 oxygenation of bottom waters (Fig. 3,k,l). Some authors recently discussed the increasing
20 of bottom water acidification enhanced by coastal eutrophication especially in stratified
21 ecosystems (Cai et al., 2011; Sunda and Cai, 2012). It has been shown, that water column
22 stratification and bottom water stagnation enhances the isolation of O₂ and CO₂ in deeper
23 waters and consequently their exchange between bottom and surface waters (Chen et al.,
24 2007). Koné et al. (2009) reported a consistent CO₂ vertical distribution in Aby and Tendo
25 lagoons, in Ivory Coast, where a warmer, fresher, Chl *a*-rich surface layer was depleted
26 in CO₂ and nutrients, whereas a more saline and anoxic bottom layer was enriched in CO₂
27 and nutrients. Gypens et al. (2009) developed and validated a process-based model in the
28 Scheldt estuary plume, that revealed that eutrophication could make the system shift from
29 a net source of atmospheric CO₂ to a net sink, when anthropogenic nutrient loads
30 increased, stimulating the carbon fixation by autotrophs. Chou et al. (2013) also suggested
31 that human-induced increase in nutrient loading may have stimulated primary production
32 and thus enhanced the CO₂ uptake capacity on the inner shelf off the Changjiang Estuary.
33 Our results reveal that the impact of eutrophication on estuarine systems in terms of CO₂

1 exchange strongly depends on their typology. Drowned-valley, river-dominated, “funnel-
2 type” estuaries, which are generally light-limited and heterotrophic, respond totally
3 differently from estuarine plumes, marine-dominated lagoons or embayments like
4 Guanabara Bay, where optimal condition for autotrophic primary production occur over
5 large surface areas. These estuarine types are different in their hydrological and
6 geomorphological configuration, availability of light, diversity of primary producer and
7 heterotrophic assemblages, and their response to increasing nutrient loading (Smith et al.
8 2010; Cloern et al. 2004). Depending on the hydrodynamics, the additional organic
9 carbon produced by enhanced eutrophication can be buried, mineralized, and/or exported.
10 In quiescent embayments like Guanabara Bay, long-term burial can be significant
11 (Carreira et al., 2002), resulting in a net uptake and storage of atmospheric carbon within
12 the ecosystem.

13

14 **4.4 Air-Water CO₂ Fluxes in Guanabara Bay**

15

16 The spatial and temporal CO₂ fluxes were integrated for the Bay, taking into account the
17 diurnal and seasonal variations of pCO₂, wind speed, and gas exchange coefficients.
18 Efforts were made to sample all the sectors of the bay with different PAR intensities
19 (higher, medium and low intensity, for each sampling day and especially in the more
20 eutrophic waters). Characteristic daytime and nighttime pCO₂ were deduced from the
21 five back and forth observations in S4 and S5, and from the comparison of early morning
22 (before 9:30 AM) pCO₂ data with late afternoon data in S1, S3 and S4. Compared to
23 seasonal changes, diurnal changes were significant, surface pCO₂ sometimes shifted from
24 a sink behavior in the evening to source behavior at the end of the night, or sometimes
25 remained under-saturated all night long (Fig. 6). Except for S2, the more polluted sector,
26 and the only one acting as a CO₂ source, our data could be used to integrate diurnal
27 variability of pCO₂ throughout the sampling period (Fig. 6). For S2, the only region that
28 was not sampled during the night, the values of the diurnal differences obtained in S1 and
29 S3 were applied, which seems reasonable, owing to their similar Chl *a* concentrations.

30

31 Comparing the three k_{600} used for the calculated fluxes, the k_{600} of Abril et al. (2009) can
32 be considered the higher flux estimate, based on chamber measurements in 9 estuarine

1 systems, whereas the k_{600} of Wanninkhof (1992) provides a more conservative value. The
2 model of Raymond and Cole (2001) based on non-intrusive “tracers only” data, provided
3 intermediate fluxes compared to the other two models. k_{600} values varied from 0.8 to 12.3
4 cm h^{-1} , which correspond to wind speed velocities between 1.8 to 3.9 m s^{-1} . Current
5 velocity (few dozen of centimeters per second) contributed to a minor fraction of k_{600} in
6 the Abril et al. (2009) equation. On an annual basis, Guanabara Bay was a net sink of
7 atmospheric CO_2 (year-integrated flux of -9.6, -12.0 and -18.1 $\text{mol C m}^2 \text{yr}^{-1}$, for k_{W02} ,
8 k_{RC01} and k_{A09} , respectively), but with strong differences at temporal and spatial scales.
9 On a daily basis, summer CO_2 uptake was maximal in S3, S4 and S5, with daily fluxes of
10 -190, -110 and -170 $\text{mmol C m}^2 \text{d}^{-1}$, respectively), whereas in the winter fluxes decreased
11 to -14, -30 and +12 $\text{mmol C m}^2 \text{d}^{-1}$, respectively (note that S5 changed from a large sink
12 in summer to a slight source in winter). S1 was a moderate source in winter (+60 mmol
13 $\text{C m}^2 \text{d}^{-1}$) and a moderate sink in summer (-90 $\text{mmol C m}^2 \text{d}^{-1}$), as well as on an annual
14 basis (-4.45 $\text{mol C m}^2 \text{yr}^{-1}$). In the highly polluted S2 sector, where a large part of the
15 domestic organic matter is apparently respired, a strong annual outgassing occurred (+213
16 $\text{mmol C m}^2 \text{d}^{-1}$). However this region occupies only about 10% of the surface sampled
17 area of the bay. It is interesting to note that at the midday/afternoon periods the winds
18 were stronger than during the night/early-morning periods. This abides to the classical
19 daily wind cycle at coastal regions guided by the thermal difference between the land and
20 the water surface (Amarante et al., 2002), which apparently favors the CO_2 sink. Higher
21 wind speed at daytime, and in summer also favored the CO_2 uptake.

22

23 The sink of CO_2 at air-sea interface showed values very close to the burial rates of organic
24 carbon in the sediments. The table 3 presents one summary of the documented carbon
25 fluxes in the Guanabara Bay. Carreira et al. (2002) found a 10-fold increase in the flux of
26 organic carbon to the sediments in the last 50 years (maximum of 114 $\text{mmol C m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$ in
27 the S5). Our annual budget of carbon uptake at the air-water interface was 105 mmol C
28 $\text{m}^2 \text{d}^{-1}$ for this same region, showing that Guanabara Bay is, in fact, a strong CO_2 sink and
29 has an autotrophic metabolism. The autotrophic nature of Guanabara Bay is also
30 confirmed by the relationship between autotrophic and heterotrophic communities
31 (Guenther and Valentin, 2008; Guenther et al. 2008). Rebello et al. (1988) estimated
32 phytoplankton primary production rates from monthly measurements over an annual
33 cycle to vary between 60 to 300 $\text{mmol C m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$, with highest rates in the lateral and upper

1 regions of the bay. The bacterial production used only a small fraction of the dissolved
2 organic carbon pool, which had a turnover between 23 to 71 days in waters of the Bay
3 (Guenther et al., 2008). Average net primary production (NPP) was $170 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$.
4 Comparing with our results, the NPP values are very close to those found for the carbon
5 uptake at air-water interface for summer conditions in the S3, S4 and S5, being 200, 149
6 and $189 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, respectively. After normalization to the total surface area of
7 Guanabara Bay, the total average organic load from sewage and rivers is about 43 mmol
8 $\text{OrgC m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ (FEEMA, 1998), compared to the annual CO_2 uptake at the air-water
9 interface of $49 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$. However, the pCO_2 spatial distribution supports the idea
10 that most of the sewage-derived organic carbon is respired at the vicinity of the urban
11 area, and little contributes to the carbon budget in the rest of the bay, except the Sector 2.
12 In addition, molecular and isotopic characterization of the particulate organic matter of
13 Guanabara Bay revealed the predominance of autochthonous organic matter (Kalas et al.,
14 2009). Other fact that converges to the conclusion that Guanabara Bay behaves as a net
15 autotrophic system is the high positive values of NCP in sectors 4 and 5. The annual
16 average NCP was $143 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, and is the highest value compared to the compiled
17 data set of Borges and Abril (2011) that included 79 estuaries, where 66 are net
18 heterotrophic, 12 net autotrophic, and one balanced. The summertime period showed the
19 highest values of NCP and coincides with the strongest sink of CO_2 at air-water interface.
20 Guanabara Bay showed NCP values near that found in the tropical eutrophic Bojorquez
21 Lagoon (Mexico) at the annual scale (Reyes and Merino, 1991) and in the subtropical
22 coastal waters of Hong Kong at summertime (Yuan et al., 2011), both systems being
23 highly impacted by sewage discharge.

24

25 **5 Conclusions**

26 In Guanabara Bay, annual uptake of atmospheric CO_2 associated with a net burial of
27 organic matter in sediments was due to the synergic and cumulative effects of three
28 factors: (i) an estuarine typology of marine dominated embayment with fairly long
29 residence times of saline waters together with nutrient inputs in its upper sectors
30 permitting phytoplanktonic developments; (ii) the tropical climatic conditions that
31 increase light availability and favor the stratification of the water column; (iii) a long-
32 term discharge of untreated domestic waters that have enriched the bay in nutrients and
33 led to eutrophication. Eutrophication has also modified the phytoplanktonic assemblages

1 toward smaller, more productive and short-live groups (Villac and Tennenbaum, 2010),
2 including some nitrogen-fixing species (cyanobacteria). A net autotrophic metabolism of
3 Guanabara Bay is attested by the annual CO₂ uptake at the air-water interface, the positive
4 and high NCP values, the low bacterial production relative to the primary production
5 (Guenther et al., 2008), and the large burial of autochthonous organic carbon to the
6 sediments (Carreira et al., 2002). It is the first estuarine system where the synergy of these
7 three factors is clearly identified as the predominant driver of CO₂ dynamics and of
8 carbon balance. Indeed, some other cases of net CO₂ uptake have been reported in some
9 relatively polluted tropical coastal lagoons in Ivory Coast (Koné et al., 2010), in three
10 temperate and marine-dominated Australian estuaries (Maher and Eyre, 2012), in
11 temperate and tropical estuarine plumes either preserved (Körtzinger, 2003) or human-
12 impacted (Cai, 2003; Zhai and Dai, 2009; Bozec et al., 2012), and in some pristine arctic
13 and sub-arctic fjords (Rysgaard et al., 2012; Ruiz-Halpern et al. 2010). In contrast, inner
14 and low salinity regions of most river-dominated, drowned valley, “funnel-type”
15 estuaries, which are generally well-mixed and relatively turbid environments, have been
16 documented as heterotrophic and CO₂ emitters under tropical (Araujo et al., 2014),
17 temperate (Frankignoulle et al. 1998) and boreal (Silveneroieen et al., 2008) climates and
18 whatever the anthropogenic pressure (Abril et al., 2003; 2004; Zhai et al., 2007; Borges
19 and Abril, 2011; Cai, 2011; Sarma et al., 2012).

20

21 Our findings of a net annual CO₂ sink in Guanabara Bay indicate that more field data are
22 needed in particular in the highly productive tropical coastal ocean, in order to adequately
23 integrate estuarine CO₂ fluxes at the global scale. In Brazil, most previous studies
24 concerned river dominated estuaries, especially along the northern and northeastern coast,
25 which all behave as CO₂ sources (Souza et al., 2009; Araujo et al., 2014; Noriega and
26 Araujo, 2014). In contrast to Guanabara Bay, highest CO₂ fluxes correspond to denser
27 population in the watersheds of these net heterotrophic systems (Noriega et al. 2014). In
28 fact, the Brazilian coast presents several estuarine types (river estuarine deltas, estuaries,
29 lagoons and large embayments) which have very different metabolisms (Bernardes et al.,
30 2012), but where CO₂ fluxes have as yet to established. Large pCO₂ temporal variations
31 can be expected for instance in a phytoplankton-dominated coastal lagoon in Brazil that
32 exhibited an annually balanced metabolism, but with seasonal shifts between autotrophic
33 and heterotrophic conditions (Carmouze et al., 1991; Knoppers et al. 1999a,b). Lagoons

1 dominated by macroalgae or microphytobenthos exhibited different metabolic trends, but
2 still with a significant potential for a net uptake of atmospheric CO₂ (Knoppers, 1994).
3 Undersampling coastal embayments and lagoons with clear and stratified waters,
4 compared to turbid and well-mixed river-dominated estuaries, would potentially lead to
5 an overestimation of the regional estuarine CO₂ budget. In addition, diurnal variations
6 might impact the net CO₂ budget more significantly in autotrophic systems than in
7 heterotrophic systems, and need to be assessed in the field. Continuous pCO₂
8 measurements on autonomous buoys (*e.g.* Frankignoulle et al., 2003; Bozec et al., 2011)
9 are very promising tools to reach sufficient temporal resolution. We also showed that
10 pCO₂ dynamics were strongly correlated with meteorological conditions. Taking into
11 account that the last projections of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
12 include unequivocal predictions of the climate system warming for the next years
13 (Stocker et al., 2013), the increase of water temperature can reinforce the net sink of
14 Guanabara Bay.

15

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1 **Table 1.** Mean (\pm standard deviation), minimum, maximum and number of observations (N) of
 2 the principal physicochemical properties of the waters of Guanabara Bay for the sampling period
 3 separated by sectors.

	Sector 1	Sector 2	Sector 3	Sector 4	Sector 5
Temp. (°C)	23.8 \pm 1.7 (21.0 - 29.3) N = 1918	25.5 \pm 2.2 (22.1 - 32.4) N = 1047	25.4 \pm 2.1 (22.1 - 31.5) N = 2035	26.8 \pm 2.6 (22.0 - 32.3) N = 1594	26.7 \pm 2.2 (22.6 - 33.9) N = 2397
Salinity	32.2 \pm 2.1 (25.4 - 34.9) N = 1918	30.3 \pm 2.4 (17.7 - 33.7) N = 1047	29.8 \pm 3.0 (15.1 - 33.8) N = 2035	27.0 \pm 4.3 (14.6 - 33.2) N = 1594	27.2 \pm 3.5 (16.6 - 32.9) N = 2397
DO (%)	103 \pm 29 (48 - 221) N = 1918	97 \pm 59 (2 - 263) N = 1047	138 \pm 51 (56 - 357) N = 2035	142 \pm 62 (30 - 361) N = 1594	160 \pm 69 (46 - 370) N = 2397
pCO ₂ (ppmv)	411 \pm 145 (104 - 747) N = 1918	711 \pm 561 (50 - 3715) N = 1046	286 \pm 157 (41 - 660) N = 2035	307 \pm 256 (29 - 2222) N = 1594	272 \pm 293 (22 - 2203) N = 2397
pH (NBS)	8.20 \pm 0.16 (7.90 - 8.71) N = 1581	8.15 \pm 0.32 (7.33 - 8.96) N = 910	8.35 \pm 0.23 (7.88 - 8.96) N = 1790	8.34 \pm 0.29 (7.39 - 9.01) N = 1490	8.44 \pm 0.31 (7.51 - 9.23) N = 2225
TA (μ mol.kg ⁻¹)	2240 \pm 92 (1942 - 2320) N = 44	2291 \pm 99 (1890 - 2488) N = 32	2168 \pm 177 (1507 - 2500) N = 40	2045 \pm 369 (2111 - 3920) N = 39	2137 \pm 166 (1479 - 2314) N = 53
DIC (μ mol.kg ⁻¹)	1985 \pm 120 (1720 - 2127) N = 44	2044 \pm 268 (1526 - 2523) N = 32	1847 \pm 257 (1332 - 2290) N = 32	1658 \pm 259 (1095 - 2118) N = 35	1758 \pm 264 (1198 - 2190) N = 52
Chl- <i>a</i> (μ g.L ⁻¹)	19.1 \pm 22.0 (2.0 - 128.0) N= 34	46.2 \pm 51.4 (3.3 - 212.9) N= 33	57.6 \pm 90.0 (1.6 - 537.2) N= 33	69.2 \pm 60.2 (13.1 - 288.8) N= 32	107.7 \pm 101.8 (1.5 - 822.1) N= 47
NO ₃ -N (μ M)	3.50 \pm 3.30 (0.13 - 12.50) N= 34	3.72 \pm 4.93 (< LD - 18.63) N= 33	4.12 \pm 5.27 (0.16 - 19.12) N= 32	2.14 \pm 3.29 (< LD - 14.74) N= 33	1.92 \pm 2.08 (0.04 - 9.20) N= 47
NO ₂ -N (μ M)	1.60 \pm 1.92 (0.05 - 7.30) N= 36	2.59 \pm 2.89 (0.10 - 10.67) N= 33	1.81 \pm 2.58 (< LD - 10.79) N= 33	1.46 \pm 2.74 (0.03 - 9.37) N= 33	1.71 \pm 1.98 (0.03 - 7.08) N= 47
NH ₄ -N (μ M)	8.15 \pm 6.26 (0.09 - 22.50) N=37	44.9 \pm 25.2 (0.15 - 94.73) N= 33	9.10 \pm 9.48 (0.04 - 37.95) N= 33	4.96 \pm 6.92 (0.04 - 29.29) N= 33	26.82 \pm 27.67 (0.13 - 130.12) N= 47
PO ₄ -P (μ M)	1.11 \pm 0.60 (0.11- 2.44) N= 37	5.28 \pm 3.88 (0.17 - 20.79) N= 33	1.51 \pm 1.07 (0.17 - 1.10) N= 33	1.10 \pm 0.79 (0.03 - 2.96) N= 33	2.23 \pm 2.17 (0.02 - 8.72) N= 47

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1 **Table 2** Summary of calculated mean values for wind speed (U_{10}), gas exchange
2 coefficient (k_{600}) and CO_2 fluxes at the air-sea interface in each sectors and entire
3 Guanabara Bay. Diurnal variations (nighttime < 9:30 AM; daytime > 9:30 PM) seasonal
4 means (winter and summer) and time-integrated values are reported. W92 are the data
5 calculated according to k_{600} of Wanninkhof (1992), RC01 are the data calculated
6 according to k_{600} of Raymond and Cole (2001), and A09 are data calculated according to
7 k_{600} of Abril et al. (2009).

			U_{10} ($m\ s^{-1}$)	k_{600} ($cm\ h^{-1}$)			CO_2 Flux ($mmol\ m^{-2}\ h^{-1}$)		
				W92	RC01	A09	W92	RC01	A09
Sector 1 (47Km ²)	Winter	Nighttime	1.8	1.2	3.5	7.2	0.55	1.59	3.37
		Daytime	2.5	2.6	4.7	9.0	0.50	1.19	2.33
	Summer	Nighttime	2.5	2.7	4.8	9.2	-0.84	-1.27	-2.35
		Daytime	3.8	6.6	8.5	12.3	-1.23	-3.88	-5.42
	Time-integrated		2.6	3.2	5.3	9.4	-0.25	-0.57	-0.51
Sector 2 (32Km ²)	Winter	Nighttime	1.9	1.9	3.7	7.5	5.19	7.74	14.61
		Daytime	2.4	2.3	4.4	8.8	3.29	4.99	10.29
	Summer	Nighttime	2.5	3.1	4.8	9.2	1.75	1.97	2.87
		Daytime	3.3	4.4	6.2	10.9	1.12	1.28	2.02
	Time-integrated		2.5	2.9	4.7	9.1	2.27	4.00	7.44
Sector 3 (96Km ²)	Winter	Nighttime	1.4	0.8	3.0	6.1	-0.13	0.06	0.34
		Daytime	2.6	2.8	4.9	9.2	-0.19	-0.79	-1.53
	Summer	Nighttime	2.8	3.0	5.0	9.7	-1.97	-3.28	-6.37
		Daytime	3.9	6.7	8.4	12.2	-4.82	-6.22	-9.65
	Time-integrated		2.6	3.3	5.3	9.3	-1.77	-2.56	-4.29
Sector 4 (55Km ²)	Winter	Nighttime	1.5	0.9	3.2	6.2	-0.10	-0.33	-0.59
		Daytime	2.3	2.3	4.4	7.8	-1.04	-1.26	-2.00
	Summer	Nighttime	2.1	1.7	4.0	7.4	-0.24	-0.43	-0.76
		Daytime	3.2	4.6	6.4	9.9	-4.28	-5.90	-9.13
	Time-integrated		2.2	2.3	4.5	7.8	-1.41	-1.97	-3.12
Sector 5 (80Km ²)	Winter	Nighttime	1.5	0.9	3.2	6.1	0.83	3.32	5.88
		Daytime	2.4	2.4	4.5	8.0	-1.61	-2.67	-4.87
	Summer	Nighttime	2.1	1.8	4.0	7.4	-2.67	-3.25	-4.99
		Daytime	3.1	4.2	6.0	9.6	-4.27	-6.21	-9.73
	Time-integrated		2.2	2.3	4.4	7.7	-1.93	-2.20	-3.42
All Bay (310Km ²)	Winter	Nighttime					0.78	1.86	3.53
		Daytime					-0.24	-0.46	-0.67
	Summer	Nighttime					-1.29	-1.92	-3.45
		Daytime					-3.42	-5.02	-7.73
	Time-integrated					-1.10	-1.38	-2.07	

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Table 3 Summary of the documented carbon fluxes in the Guanabara Bay.

<i>Inputs</i>	<i>mmol C m⁻² d⁻¹</i>	<i>Comment</i>
CO ₂ air-water flux	26 – 49*	All bay average; This study
CO ₂ air-water flux	33 – 102*	Sectors 3, 4 and 5; This study
Organic carbon load from sewage	43	All bay average; FEEMA (1998), majority of organic carbon seems to be mineralized in sewage network
River DIC, DOC and TOC inputs	Undocumented	
<i>Internal Processes</i>	<i>mmol C m⁻² d⁻¹</i>	<i>Comment</i>
NCP	51 – 225 (143)**	Sectors 4 and 5; This study
NPP	60 – 300 (170)**	Sectors 2, 3 and 5; Rebello et al., (1988)
Total Respiration	Undocumented	
<i>Outputs</i>	<i>mmol C m⁻² d⁻¹</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Organic carbon burial	27 – 114	Sectors 3, 4 and 5; Carreira et al., (2002); Monteiro et al., (2011)
DIC and TOC export to the coastal area	Undocumented	

*Annual average according to the k600 model parameterizations of Wanninkhof (1992) and Abril et al., (2009). The lower value refers to the model of Wanninkhof (1992), whereas the higher value refers to the model of Abril et al. (2009).

** Range and annual average in parenthesis.

1 Figure Captions

2 Figure 1. Map of Guanabara Bay. Dark grey color indicates the urbanized areas. Green color
3 shows the mangrove localization. Black points represent the locations of the discrete sampling,
4 black lines are isobaths, red squares represent the locations of the airports with the meteorological
5 stations, and blue lines delimit the different sectors in the bay (sectors S1 to S5).

6 Figure 2. Meteorological conditions during the sampling period (in green) compared with
7 historical values (1951-2014, in blue). 2a presents the monthly accumulated precipitation; 2b
8 presents the monthly average of atmospheric temperature.

9 Figure 3. Typical vertical profiles of salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO) and
10 chlorophyll *a* (Chl *a*) in the water column. Profiles are showed for S1, S3 and S5, in summer and
11 winter conditions. Note the different depth scale for the S5. Dotted line in 3k and 3l shows
12 nighttime profile (7:00 AM), whereas full line shows a daytime profile (12:30 PM) the same day
13 at the same station.

14 Figure 4. Concentration maps of continuous pCO₂ measurements in surface waters of Guanabara
15 Bay for all the sampling campaigns.

16 Figure 5. Diurnal variations of pCO₂ concentrations. The ship back and forth tracks are indicated
17 as red lines in small maps. Arrows show the boat direction and sampling time are indicated along
18 each track. Blue parts of the tracks are considered as nighttime (< 9:30 AM) and green parts as
19 daytime (> 9:30 AM). Inserted small graphs also show the water pCO₂ evolution *versus* time, and
20 shadow area represents the sampling before 9:30 AM (nighttime). The grey lines indicate the
21 atmospheric pCO₂ (400 ppmv). Note the different pCO₂ scales for each survey.

22 Figure 6. Box plots (maximum, percentile 75%, median, percentile 25% and minimum) of pCO₂
23 data for all the campaigns (a), and for each individual sectors (b, c, d, e and f). Black box plots
24 represents the nighttime data (< 9:30 AM), when available, and white box plots represent daytime
25 data (> 9:30 AM).

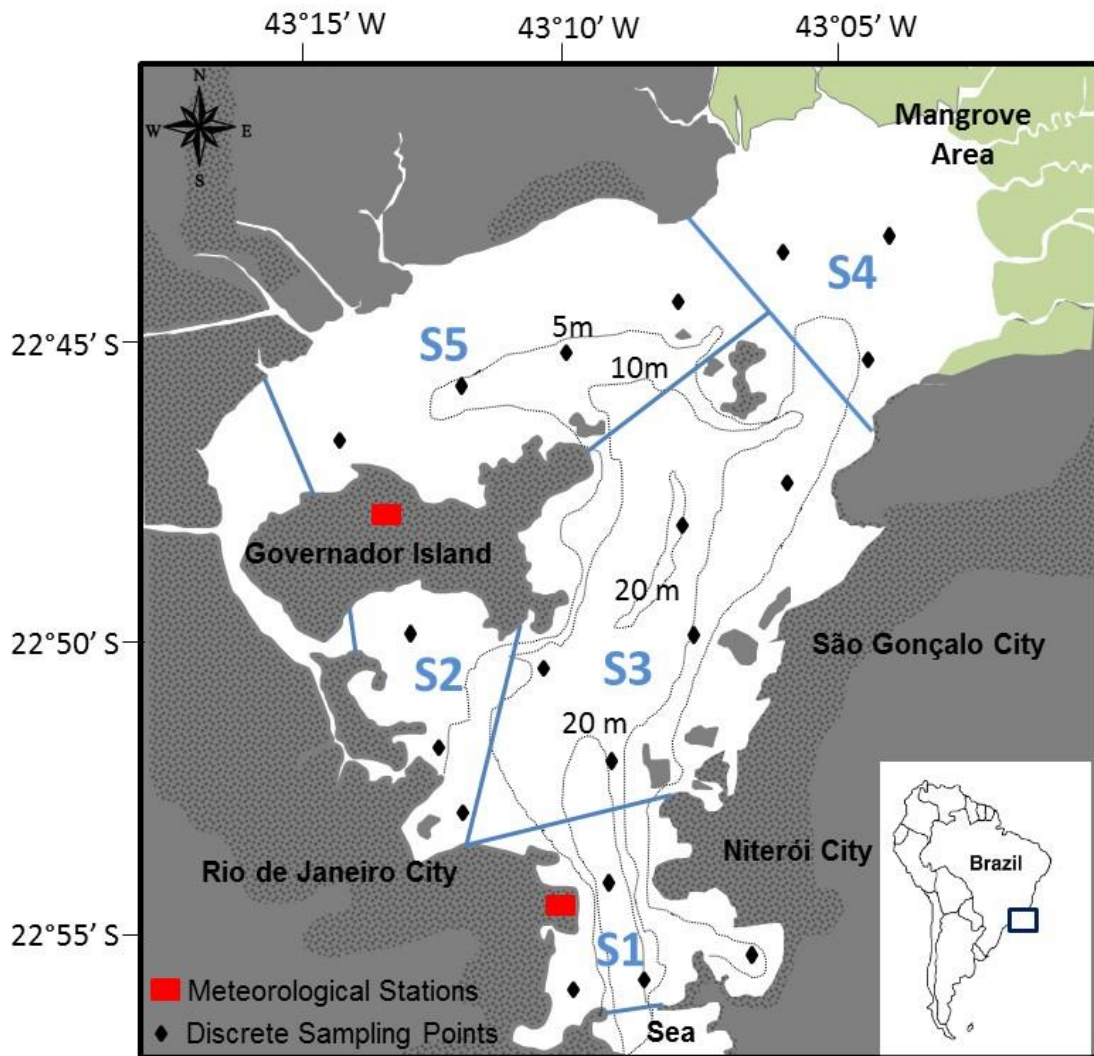
26 Figure 7. Relationship between the excess dissolved inorganic carbon (E-DIC) and apparent
27 utilization of oxygen (AOU) in Guanabara Bay (green dots) compared to those reported in 24
28 estuarine environments (red dots, Borges and Abril, 2011). The 1:1 line represents the quotient
29 between CO₂ and O₂ during the processes of photosynthesis and respiration.

30 Figure 8. Principal Components Analysis (PCA) based on mean values for each sampling
31 campaign of the physical and biogeochemical properties of the water (temperature, salinity, pCO₂,
32 DO and Chl *a*) and meteorological conditions (wind velocity and accumulated precipitation of 7
33 days before each survey). The data-set was normalized by z-scores.

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2 Figure 1



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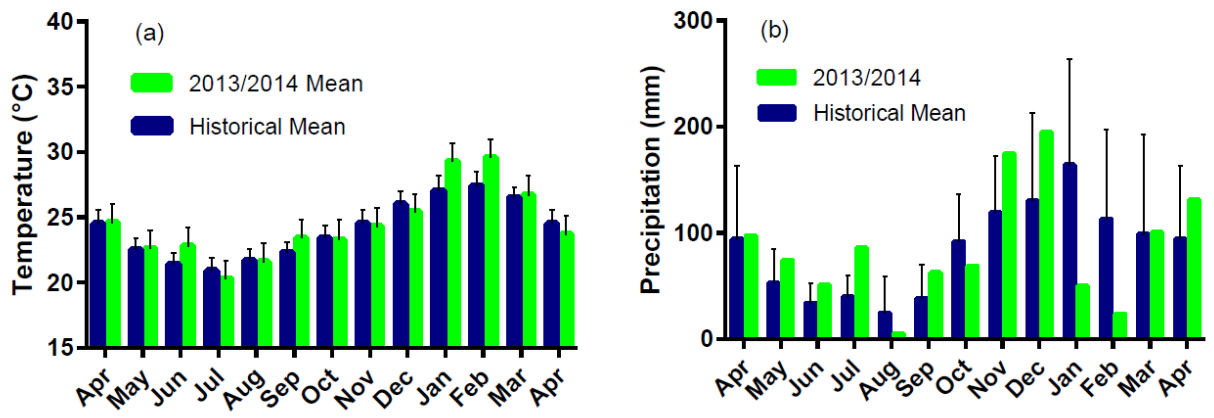
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1 Figure 2

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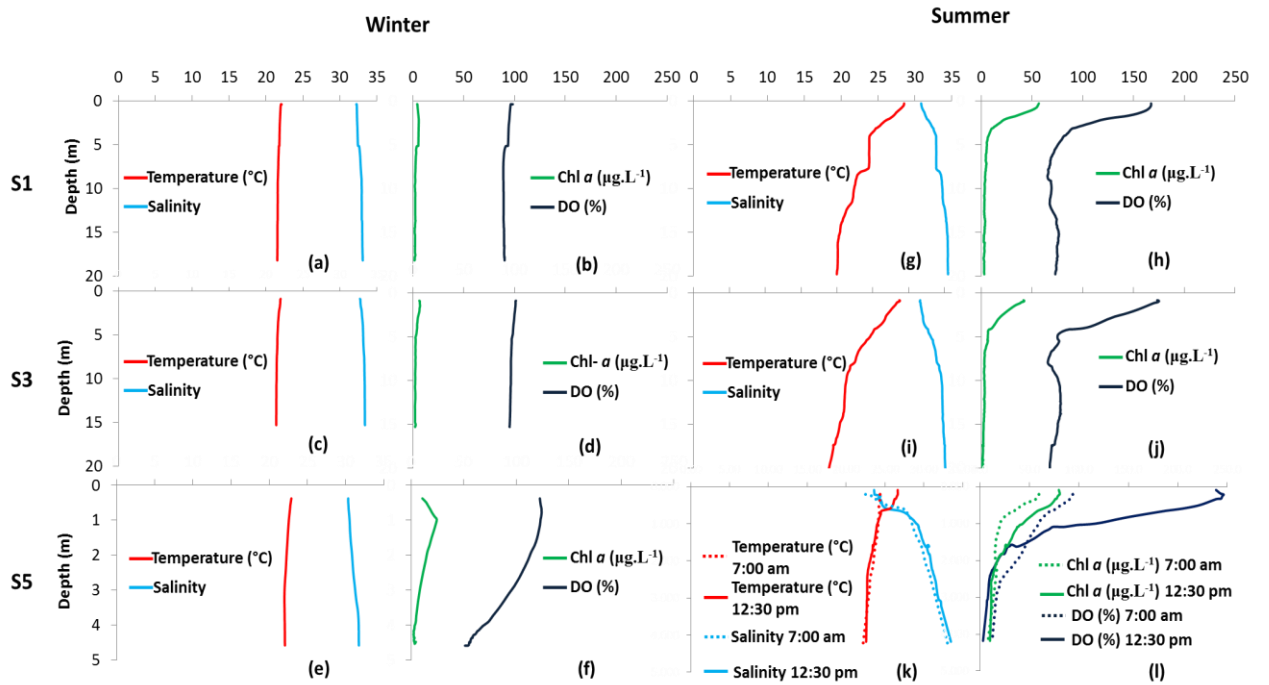
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3 Figure 3



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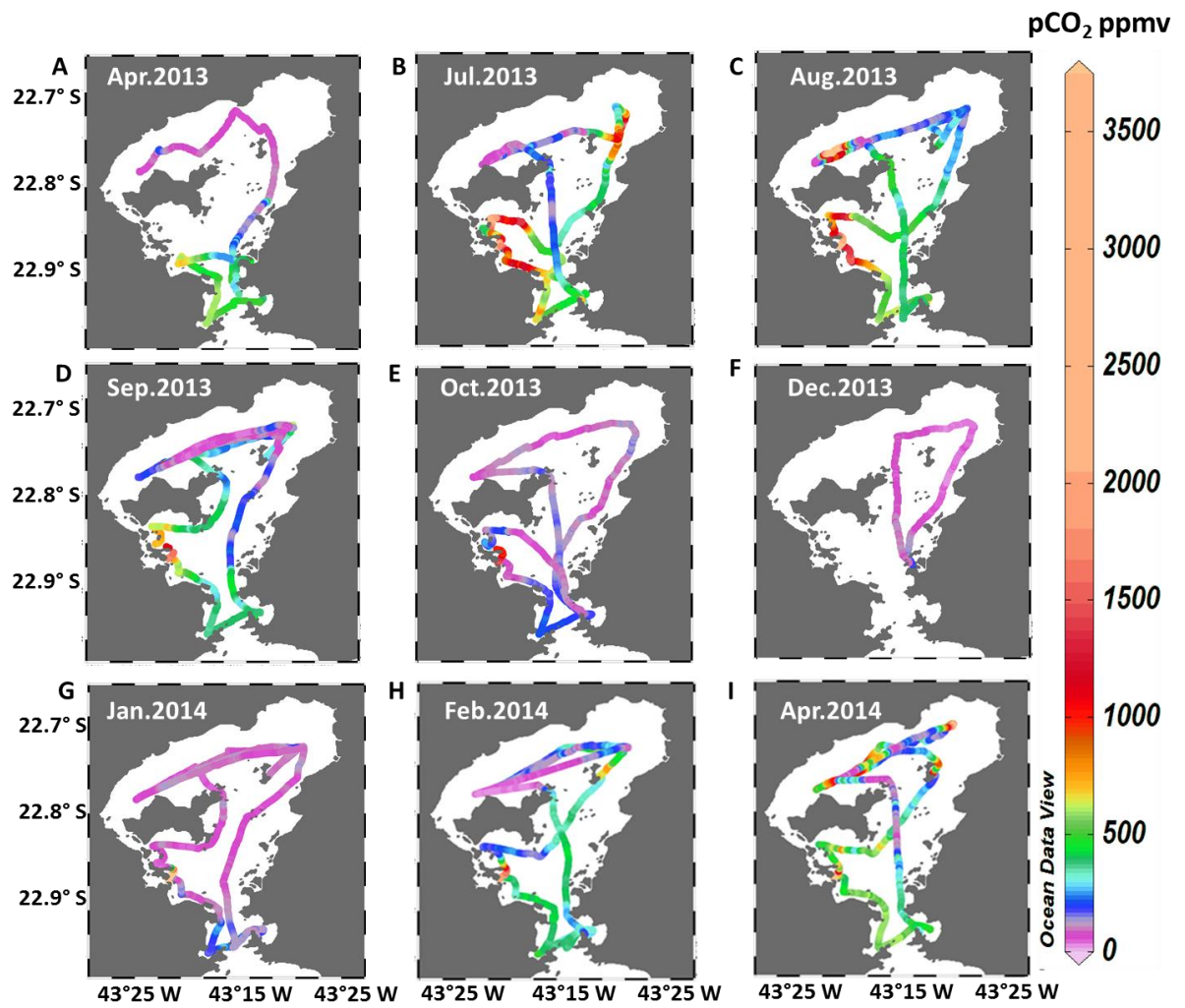
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3 Figure 4

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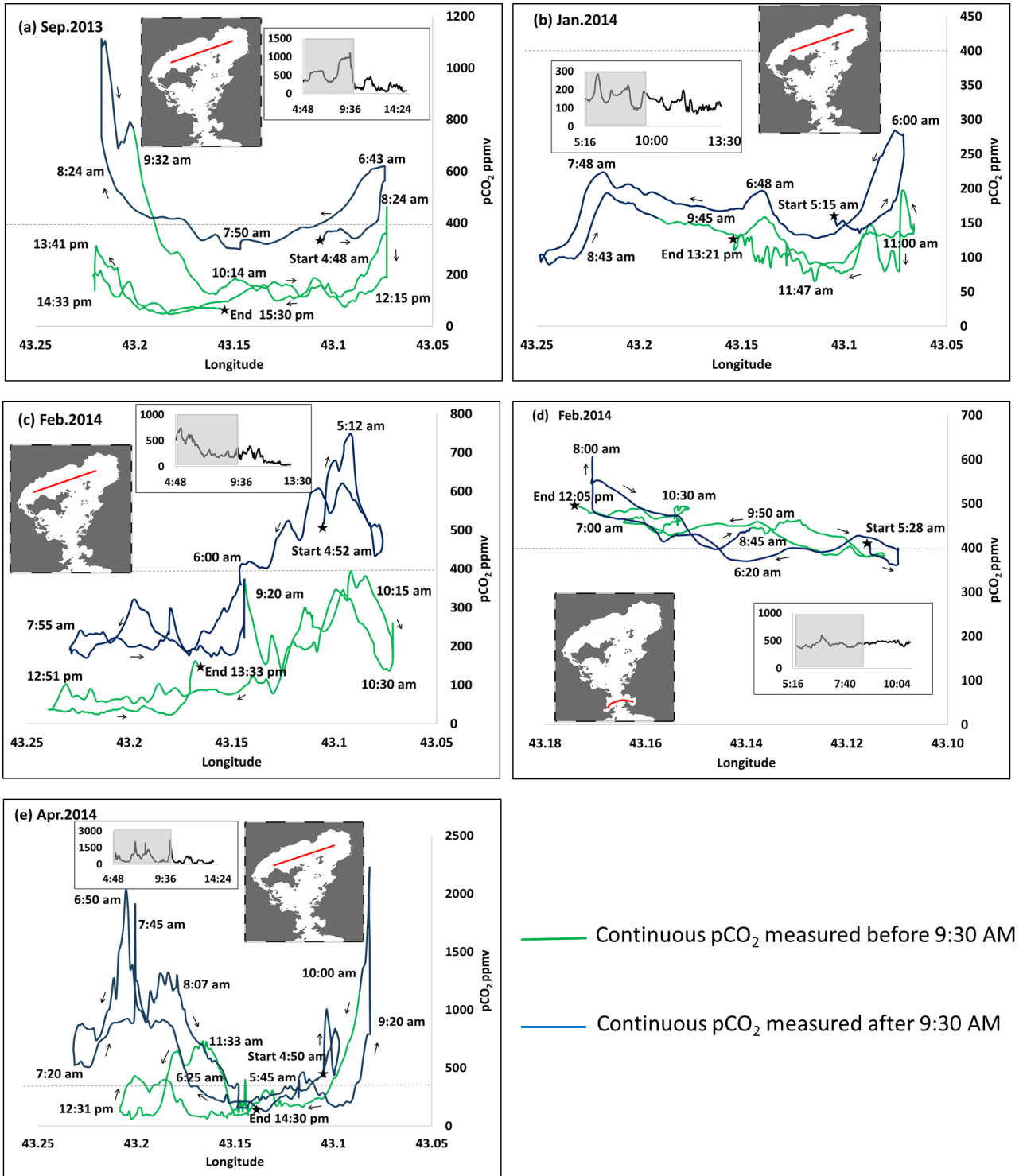
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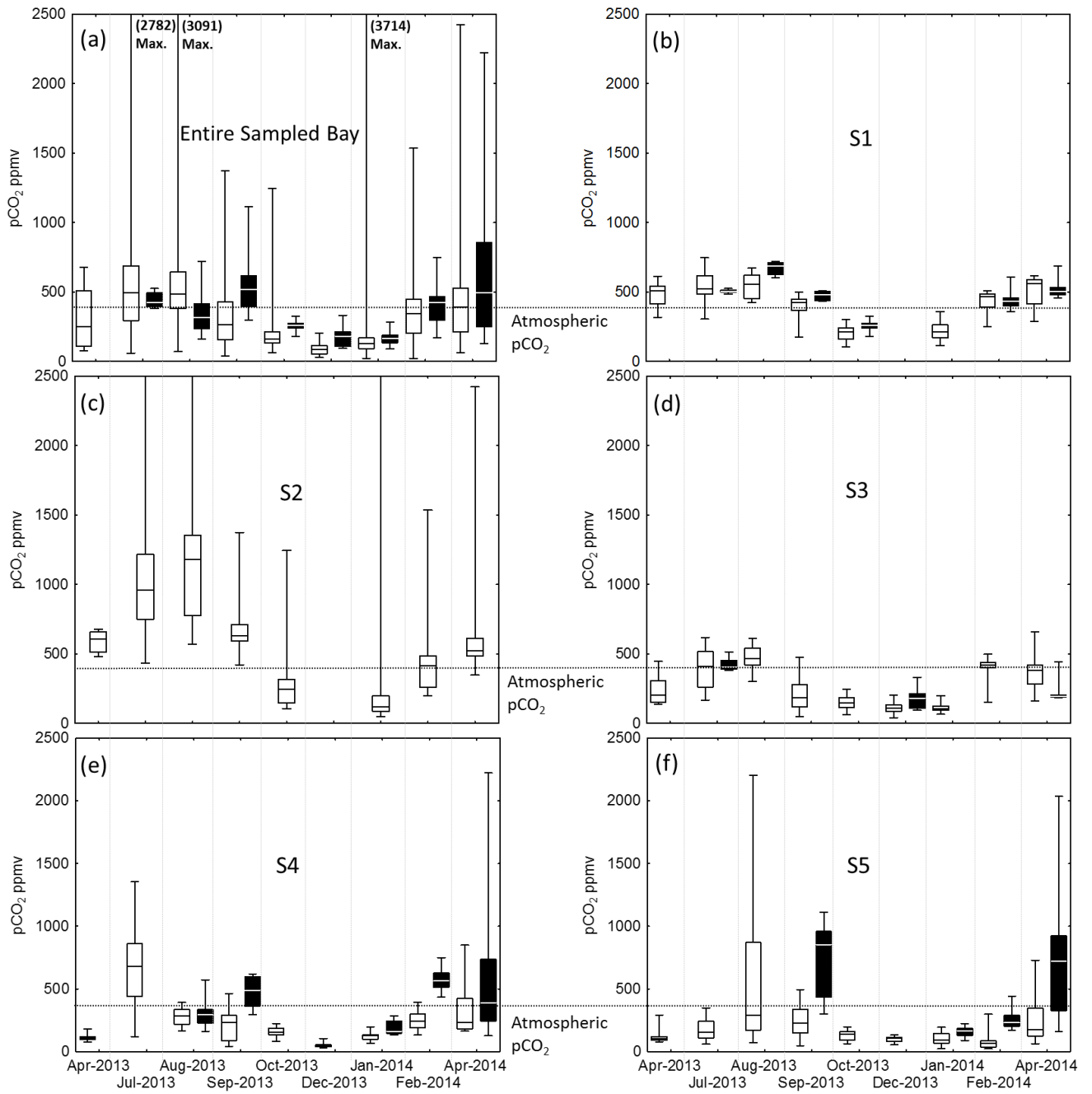
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2 Figure 6

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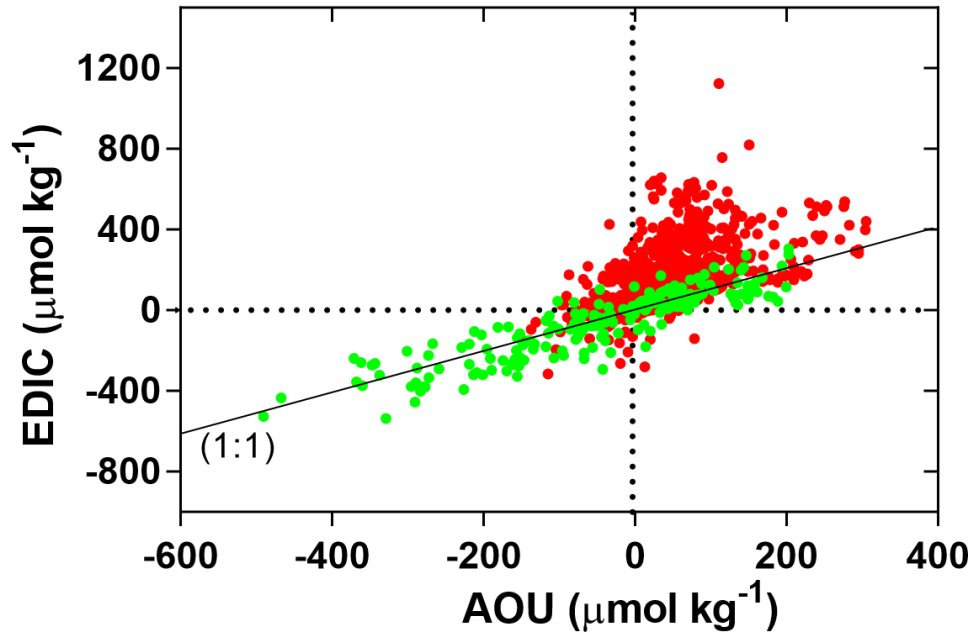
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2 Figure 7

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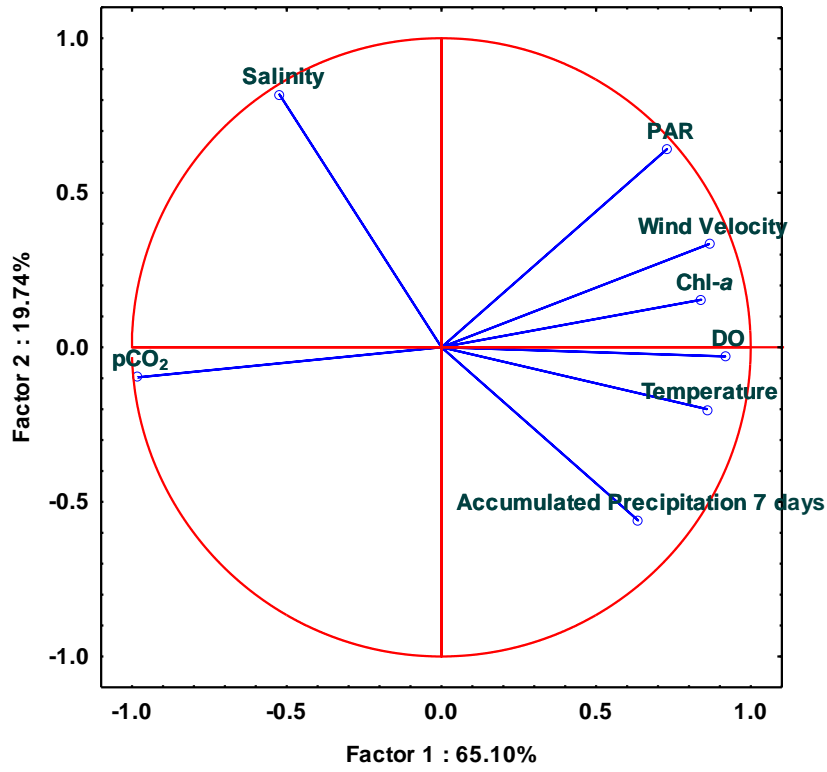
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2 Figure 8

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