

Interactive  
Comment

***Interactive comment on “Effects of increased  
 $p\text{CO}_2$  and geographic origin on purple sea urchin  
(*Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*) calcite elemental  
composition” by M. LaVigne et al.***

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This is not a review; I just thought that the following comments would be helpful. The authors may want to follow the recommendations of the Guide to best practices for ocean acidification research and data reporting (Riebesell et al., 2010) :

- the correct unit for  $p\text{CO}_2$  in seawater is  $\mu\text{atm}$  rather than ppm
- the pH scale should always be mentioned (cf. abstract) as a subscript, for example  $\text{pH}_T$  for the total scale.
- Note also that salinity is the ratio of two conductivities and therefore has no unit.

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Finally, *Biogeosciences* strongly promotes the full availability of the data sets reported in the papers that it publishes in order to facilitate future data comparison and compilation as well as meta-analysis. This can be achieved by uploading the data sets in an existing database and providing the link(s) in the paper. Alternatively, the data sets can be published, for free, alongside the paper as supplementary information. The ascii (or text) format is preferred for data and any format can be handled for movies, animations etc... Therefore, I would like to suggest to the authors to consider providing a link to the data or submitting the data sets together with the revised manuscript, if they are invited to do so by the handling editor.

### Reference cited

Riebesell U., Fabry V. J., Hansson L. & Gattuso J.-P. (Eds.), 2010. Guide to best practices for ocean acidification research and data reporting, 260 p. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union.

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