1 Polar dimethylsulfide (DMS) production insensitive to ocean

2 acidification during shipboard microcosm experiments: a

3 meta-analysis of 18 experiments from temperate to polar

4 waters.

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12 Abstract. Emissions of dimethylsulfide (DMS) from the polar oceans play a key role in

13 atmospheric processes and climate. Therefore, it is important to increase our understanding of

14 how DMS production in these regions may respond to climate change. The polar oceans are

15 particularly vulnerable to ocean acidification (OA). However, our understanding of the polar

16 DMS response is limited to two studies conducted in Arctic waters, where in both cases DMS

17 concentrations decreased with increasing acidity. Here, we report on our findings from seven

summertime shipboard microcosm experiments undertaken in a variety of locations in the

19 Arctic Ocean and Southern Ocean. These experiments reveal no significant effects of short

- 20 term OA on the net production of DMS by planktonic communities. This is in contrast to
- similar experiments from temperate NW European shelf waters where surface ocean

22 communities responded to OA with significant increases in dissolved DMS concentrations. A

23 meta-analysis of the findings from both temperate and polar waters (n = 18 experiments)

- 24 reveals clear regional differences in the DMS response to OA. Based on our findings, we
- 25 hypothesise that the differences in DMS response between temperate and polar waters reflect
- the natural variability in carbonate chemistry to which the respective communities of each
- 27 region may already be adapted. If so, future temperate oceans could be more sensitive to OA

resulting in a change in DMS emissions to the atmosphere, whilst perhaps surprisingly DMS
emissions from the polar oceans may remain relatively unchanged. By demonstrating that
DMS emissions from geographically distinct regions may vary in their response to OA, our
results may facilitate a better understanding of Earth's future climate. Our study suggests that
the way in which processes that generate DMS respond to OA may be regionally distinct and
this should be taken into account in predicting future DMS emissions and their influence on
Earth's climate.

35 **1 Introduction**

The trace gas dimethylsulfide (DMS) is a key ingredient in a cocktail of gases that exchange 36 between the ocean and atmosphere. Dissolved DMS is produced via the enzymatic 37 38 breakdown of dimethylsulfoniopropionate (DMSP), a secondary algal metabolite implicated in a number of cellular roles, including the regulation of carbon and sulfur metabolism via an 39 overflow mechanism (Stefels, 2000) and protection against oxidative stress (Sunda et al., 40 2002). Oceanic DMS emissions amount to 17 - 34 Tg S y⁻¹, representing 80 - 90% of all 41 marine biogenic S emissions, and up to 50% of global biogenic emissions (Lana et al., 2011). 42 DMS and its oxidation products play vital roles in atmospheric chemistry and climate 43 processes. These processes include aerosol formation pathways that influence the 44 concentration of cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) with implications for Earth's albedo and 45 climate (Charlson et al., 1987; Korhonen et al., 2008a), and the atmospheric oxidation 46 pathways of other key climate gases, including isoprene, ammonia and organohalogens (Chen 47 and Jang, 2012; von Glasow and Crutzen, 2004; Johnson and Bell, 2008). Thus, our ability to 48 predict the climate into the future requires an understanding of how marine DMS production 49 may respond to global change (Carpenter et al., 2012; Woodhouse et al., 2013; Menzo et al., 50 2018). 51

52 The biologically-rich seas surrounding the Arctic pack ice are a strong source of DMS to the Arctic atmosphere (Levasseur, 2013). A seasonal cycle in CCN numbers can be related to 53 seasonality in the Arctic DMS flux (Chang et al., 2011). Indeed, observations confirm that 54 DMS oxidation products promote the growth of particles to produce aerosols that may 55 influence cloud processes and atmospheric albedo (Bigg and Leck, 2001; Rempillo et al., 56 2011; Korhonen et al., 2008b; Chang et al., 2011). Arctic new particle formation events and 57 58 peaks in aerosol optical depth (AOD) occur during summertime clean air periods (when levels of anthropogenic black carbon diminish), and have been linked to chlorophyll a 59 60 maxima in surface waters and the presence of aerosols formed from DMS oxidation products such as methanesulfonate (MSA). The atmospheric oxidation products of DMS - SO₂ and 61 H₂SO₄ - contribute to both the growth of existing particles and new particle formation (NPF) 62 63 in the Arctic atmosphere (Leaitch et al., 2013; Gabric et al., 2014; Sharma et al., 2012). Thus, 64 the ongoing and projected rapid loss of seasonal Arctic sea ice may influence the Arctic radiation budget via changes to both the DMS flux and the associated formation and growth 65 66 of cloud-influencing particles (Sharma et al., 2012).

During its short but highly productive summer season, the Southern Ocean is a hotspot of 67 DMS flux to the atmosphere, influenced by the prevalence of intense blooms of DMSP-rich 68 Phaeocystis antarctica (Schoemann et al., 2005) and the presence of persistent high winds 69 particularly in regions north of the sub-Antarctic front (Jarníková and Tortell, 2016). Around 70 3.4 Tg of sulfur is released from the Southern Ocean to the atmosphere between December 71 and February, a flux that represents ~15 % of global annual emissions of DMS (Jarníková 72 and Tortell, 2016). Elevated CCN numbers are seen in the most biologically active regions of 73 the Southern Ocean, with a significant contribution from DMS-driven secondary aerosol 74 75 formation processes (McCoy et al., 2015; Korhonen et al., 2008a). DMS-derived aerosols from this region are estimated to contribute 6 to 10 W m^{-2} to reflected short wavelength 76

radiation, similar to the influence of anthropogenic aerosols in the polluted Northern
Hemisphere (McCoy et al., 2015). Given this important influence of polar DMS emissions on
atmospheric processes and climate, it is vital we increase our understanding of the influence
of future ocean acidification on DMS production.

The polar oceans are characterised by high dissolved inorganic carbon (C_T) concentrations 81 and a low carbonate system buffering capacity, mainly due to the increased solubility of CO₂ 82 in cold waters (Sabine et al., 2004; Orr et al., 2005). This makes these regions particularly 83 susceptible to the impacts of ocean acidification (OA). For example, extensive carbonate 84 mineral undersaturation is expected to occur in Arctic waters within the next 20 - 80 years 85 (McNeil and Matear, 2008; Steinacher et al., 2009). OA has already led to a 0.1 unit decrease 86 in global surface ocean pH, with a further fall of ~ 0.4 units expected by the end of the century 87 (Orr et al., 2005). The greatest declines in pH are likely in the Arctic Ocean with a predicted 88 89 fall of 0.45 units by 2100 (Steinacher et al., 2009), with a fall of ~0.3 units predicted for the Southern Ocean (McNeil and Matear, 2008; Hauri et al., 2016). OA is occurring at a rate not 90 91 seen on Earth for 300 Ma, and so the potential effects on marine organisms, communities and 92 ecosystems could be wide-ranging and severe (Raven et al., 2005; Hönisch et al., 2012). Despite the imminent threat to polar ecosystems and the importance of DMS emissions to 93 atmospheric processes, our knowledge of the response of polar DMS production to OA is 94 limited to a single mesocosm experiment performed in a coastal ford in Svalbard (Riebesell 95 et al., 2013; Archer et al., 2013) and one shipboard microcosm experiment with seawater 96 collected from Baffin Bay (Hussherr et al., 2017). Both studies reported significant 97 reductions in DMS concentrations with increasing levels of pCO_2 during seasonal 98 phytoplankton blooms. Hussherr et al. (2017) also saw reductions in total DMSP whilst 99 Archer et al. (2013) observed a significant increase in this compound, driven by CO₂-induced 100

101 increases in growth and abundance of dinoflagellates. However, these two single studies provide limited information on the wider response of the open Arctic or Southern Oceans. 102 Mesocosm experiments have been a critical tool for assessing OA effects on surface ocean 103 104 communities (Engel et al., 2005; Engel et al., 2008; Schulz et al., 2008; Hopkins et al., 2010; Schulz et al., 2013; Webb et al., 2015; Kim et al., 2006; Kim et al., 2010; Crawfurd et al., 105 2016; Webb et al., 2016). The response of DMS to OA has been examined several times, 106 predominantly at the same site in Norwegian coastal waters (Vogt et al., 2008; Hopkins et al., 107 2010; Webb et al., 2015; Avgoustidi et al., 2012), twice in Korean coastal waters (Kim et al., 108 2010; Park et al., 2014), and a single study in the coastal Arctic waters of Svalbard (Archer et 109 110 al., 2013). Mesocosm enclosures, ranging in volume from $\sim 11,000 - 50,000$ L, allow the response of surface ocean communities to a range of CO₂ treatments to be monitored under 111 near-natural light and temperature conditions over time scales (weeks - months) that allow a 112 113 'winners vs loser' dynamic to develop. The response of DMS cycling to elevated CO₂ is generally driven by changes to the microbial community structure (Brussaard et al., 2013; 114 115 Archer et al., 2013; Hopkins et al., 2010; Engel et al., 2008). The size, construction and associated costs of mesocosms has limited their deployment to coastal/sheltered waters, 116 resulting in minimal geographical coverage, and leaving large gaps in our understanding of 117 the response of open ocean phytoplankton communities to OA. 118

Here, we adopt an alternative but complementary approach to explore the effects of OA on the cycling of DMS with the use of short-term shipboard microcosm experiments. We build on the previous temperate NW European shelf studies of Hopkins & Archer (2014) by presenting data from four previously unpublished experiments from the NW European shelf cruise, and by extending our experimental approach to the Arctic and Southern Oceans. Vessel-based research enables multiple short term (days) near-identical incubations to be performed over extensive spatial scales, that encompass natural gradients in carbonate

126 chemistry, temperature and nutrients (Richier et al., 2014; Richier et al., 2018). This allows an assessment to be made of how a range of surface ocean communities, adapted to a variety 127 of environmental conditions, respond to the same driver. The focus is then on the effect of 128 129 short-term CO₂ exposure on physiological processes, as well as the extent of the variability in acclimation between communities. The capacity of organisms to acclimate to changing 130 environmental conditions contributes to the resilience of key ecosystem functions, such as 131 DMS production. Therefore, do spatially-diverse communities respond differently to short 132 term OA, and can this be explained by the range of environmental conditions to which each is 133 134 presumably already adapted? The rapid CO₂ changes implemented in this study, and during mesocosm studies, are far from representative of the predicted rate of change to seawater 135 chemistry over the coming decades. Nevertheless, our approach can provide insight into the 136 137 physiological response and level of sensitivity to future OA of a variety of polar surface ocean communities adapted to different in situ carbonate chemistry environments (Stillman 138 and Paganini, 2015), alongside the implications this may have for DMS production. 139 140 Communities of the NW European shelf consistently responded to acute OA with significant 141 increases in net DMS production, likely a result of an increase in stress-induced algal processes (Hopkins and Archer, 2014). Do polar phytoplankton communities, which are 142 potentially adapted to contrasting biogeochemical environments, respond in the same way? 143 By expanding our approach to encompass both polar oceans, we can assess regional contrasts 144

in response. To this end, we combine our findings for temperate waters with those for thepolar oceans into a meta-analysis to advance our understanding of the regional variability and

- 147 drivers in the DMS response to OA.
- 148 2 Material and Methods

149 **2.1 Sampling stations**

150 This study presents new data from two sets of field experiments carried out as a part of the UK Ocean Acidification Research Programme (UKOA) aboard the RRS James Clark Ross in 151 the sub-Arctic and Arctic in June-July 2012 (JR271) and in the Southern Ocean in January-152 February 2013 (JR274). Data are combined with the results from an earlier study on board the 153 RRS Discovery (D366) described in Hopkins & Archer (2014) performed in the temperate 154 waters of the NW European shelf. Additionally, four previously unpublished experiments 155 from D366 are also included (E02b, E04b, E05b, E06) as well as two temperate experiments 156 from JR271 (NS and IB) (see Table 1). In total, 18 incubations were performed; 11 in 157 158 temperate and sub-Arctic waters of the NW European shelf and North Atlantic, 3 in Arctic waters and 4 in the Southern Ocean. Figure 1 shows the cruise tracks, surface concentrations 159 of DMS and total DMSP (DMSPt) at CTD sampling stations as well as the locations of 160 161 sampling for shipboard microcosms (See Table 1 for further details).

162 **2.2 Shipboard microcosm experiments**

The general design and implementation of the experimental microcosms for JR271 and 163 JR274 was essentially the same as for D366 and described in Richier et al. (2014), (2018) and 164 Hopkins & Archer (2014), but with the additional adoption of trace metal clean sampling and 165 incubation techniques in the low trace metal open ocean waters (see Richier et al. (2018)). At 166 each station, pre-dawn vertical profiles of temperature, salinity, oxygen, fluorescence, 167 168 turbidity and irradiance were used to choose and characterise the depth of experimental water collection. Subsequently, water was collected within the mixed layer from three successive 169 separate casts of a trace-metal clean titanium CTD rosette comprising twenty-four 10 L 170 Niskin bottles. Depth profiles of auxiliary measurements are shown in Figure 2. Each cast 171 172 was used to fill one of a triplicated set of experimental bottles (locations and sample depths, Table 1). Bottles were sampled within a class-100 filtered air environment within a trace 173 metal clean container to avoid contamination during the set up. The water was directly 174

transferred into acid-cleaned 4.5 L polycarbonate bottles using acid-cleaned silicon tubing,with no screening or filtration.

The carbonate chemistry within the experimental bottles was manipulated by addition of 177 equimolar HCl and NaHCO₃⁻ (1 mol L⁻¹) to achieve a range of CO₂ treatments: Mid CO₂ 178 (Target: 550 µatm), High CO₂ (Target: 750 µatm), High+ CO₂ (Target: 1000 µatm) and 179 High++ CO₂ (Target: 2000 µatm) (Gattuso et al., 2010). Three treatment levels were used 180 during the sub-Arctic/Arctic microcosms (Mid, High, High+). For Southern Ocean 181 experiments, two experiments (Drake Passage and Weddell Sea) underwent combined CO2 182 and Fe additions (ambient, Fe (2 nM), High CO₂, Fe (2 nM) & High CO₂ (only high CO₂ 183 184 treatments will be examined here; no response to Fe was detected in DMS or DMSP concentrations). Three CO₂ treatments (High, High+, High++) were tested in the last two 185 experiments (South Georgia and South Sandwich). Full details of the carbonate chemistry 186 187 manipulations can be found in Richier et al. (2014) and Richier et al. (2018). Broadly, achieved pCO_2 levels were well-matched to target values at the start of the experiments (0 h), 188 189 although differences in pCO_2 between target and initial values were greater in the higher pCO_2 treatments, due to lowered carbonate system buffer capacity at higher pCO_2 . For all 18 190 experiments, actual pCO₂ values at 0 h were on average around $89\% \pm 12\% (\pm 1 \text{ SD})$ of 191 target values. The attained pCO_2 values, and pCO_2 at each experimental time point, are 192 presented in Figures 3 and 4. After first ensuring the absence of bubbles or headspace, the 193 bottles were sealed with high density polyethylene (HDPE) lids with silicone/ 194 polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) septa and placed in the incubation container. Bottles were 195 incubated inside a custom-designed temperature- and light-controlled shipping container, set 196 to match $(\pm < 1^{\circ}C)$ the *in situ* water temperature at the time of water collection (shown in 197 Table 1) (see Richier et al. 2018). A constant light level (100 μ E m⁻² s⁻¹) was provided by 198 daylight simulating LED panels (Powerpax, UK). The light period within the microcosms 199

200 was representative of *in situ* conditions. For the sub-Arctic/Arctic Ocean stations,

experimental bottles were subjected to continuous light representative of the 24 h daylight of 201 the Arctic summer. For Southern Ocean and all temperate water stations, an 18:6 light: dark 202 203 cycle was used. Each bottle belonged to a set of triplicates, and sacrificial sampling of bottles was performed at two time points (see Table 1 for exact times). Use of three sets of triplicates 204 for each time point allowed for the sample requirements of the entire scientific party (3 x 3 205 bottles, x 2 time points (see Table 1 for specific times for each experiment), x 4 CO₂ 206 treatments = 72 bottles in total). Experiments were run for between 4 and 7 days (96 h - 168 207 208 h) (15 out of 18 experiments), with initial sampling proceeded by two further time points. For three temperate experiments (E02b, E04b, E05b, see Table 1) a shorter 2 day incubation was 209 performed, with a single sampling point at the end. For E06 (see Table 1) high time 210 211 frequency sampling was performed (0, 1, 4, 14, 24, 48, 72, 96 h) although only the data at 48 h and 96 h is considered in this analysis. Incubation times were extended for Southern Ocean 212 stations Weddell Sea, South Georgia and South Sandwich (see Table 1) as minimal CO₂ 213 response, attributed to slower microbial metabolism at low water temperatures, was observed 214 for Arctic stations and the first Southern Ocean station Drake Passage. The magnitude of 215 response was not related to incubation times, and expected differences in net growth rates (2-216 to 3-fold higher in temperate compared to polar waters (Eppley, 1972)) did not account for 217 the differences in response magnitude despite the increased incubation time in polar waters 218 219 (see Richier et al. (2018) for detailed discussion). Samples for carbonate chemistry measurements were taken first, followed by sampling for DMS, DMSP and related 220 parameters. 221

222 2.3 Standing stocks of DMS and DMSP

223 Methods for the determination of seawater concentrations of DMS and DMSP are identical to those described in Hopkins & Archer (2014) and will therefore be described in brief here. 224 Seawater DMS concentrations were determined by cryogenic purge and trap, with gas 225 226 chromatography and pulsed flame photometric detection (GC-PFPD) (Archer et al., 2013). DMSP concentrations were measured as DMS following alkaline hydrolysis. Samples for 227 total DMSP concentrations from temperate waters were fixed by addition of 35 µl of 50 % 228 H₂SO₄ to 7 mL of seawater (Kiene and Slezak, 2006), and analysed following hydrolysis 229 within 2 months of collection (Archer et al., 2013). Samples of DMSP that were collected in 230 231 polar waters were hydrolysed within 1 h of sample collection and analysed 6 - 12 h later. The H₂SO₄ fixation method was not used for samples from polar waters given the likely 232 occurrence of *Phaeocystis sp.* which can result in the overestimation of DMSP concentrations 233 234 (del Valle et al., 2009). Similarly, concentrations of DMSPp were determined at each time point by gravity filtering 7 ml of sample onto a 25 mm GF/F filter and preserving the filter in 235 7 ml of 35 mM H₂SO₄ in MQ-water (temperate samples) or immediately hydrolysing (polar 236 237 samples) and analysing by GC-PFPD. DMS calibrations were performed using alkaline coldhydrolysis (1 M NaOH) of DMSP sequentially diluted three times in MilliQ water to give 238 working standards in the range $0.03 - 3.3 \text{ ng S mL}^{-1}$. Five point calibrations were performed 239 every 2 - 4 days throughout the cruise. 240

241 2.4 De novo DMSP synthesis

De novo DMSP synthesis and gross production rates were determined for all microcosm
experiments, except *Barents Sea* and *South Sandwich*, at each experimental time point, using
methods based on the approach of Stefels et al. (2009) and described in detail in Archer et al.
(2013) and Hopkins and Archer (2014). Triplicate rate measurements were determined for
each CO₂ level. For each rate measurement three x 500 mL polycarbonate bottles were filled

247 by gently siphoning water from each replicate microcosm bottle. Trace amounts of NaH¹³CO₃ equivalent to ~6 % of *in situ* dissolved inorganic carbon (C_T), were added to each 248 500 mL bottle. The bottles were incubated in the microcosm incubation container with 249 250 temperature and light levels as described earlier. Samples were taken at 0 h, then at two further time points over a 6 - 9 h period. At each time point, 250 mL was gravity filtered in 251 the dark through a 47 mm GF/F filter, the filter gently folded and placed in a 20 mL serum 252 vial with 10 mL of Milli-Q and one NaOH pellet, and the vial was crimp-sealed. Samples 253 were stored at -20°C until analysis by proton transfer reaction-mass spectrometer (PTR-MS) 254 255 (Stefels et al. 2009).

The specific growth rate of DMSP (µDMSP) was calculated assuming exponential growthfrom:

$$\mu_{t}(\Delta t^{-1}) = \alpha_{k} \times AVG\left[ln\left(\frac{{}^{64}MP_{eq} - {}^{64}MP_{t-1}}{{}^{64}MP_{eq} - {}^{64}MP_{t}}\right), ln\left(\frac{{}^{64}MP_{eq} - {}^{64}MP_{t}}{{}^{64}MP_{eq} - {}^{64}MP_{t}}\right)\right]$$
258 128

(Stefels et al. 2009) where ${}^{64}MP_{t}$, ${}^{64}MP_{t-1}$, ${}^{64}MP_{t+1}$ are the proportion of 1 x ${}^{13}C$ labelled 259 DMSP relative to total DMSP at time t, at the preceding time point (t-1) and at the subsequent 260 time point (t+1), respectively. Values of 64 MP were calculated from the protonated masses of 261 DMS as: mass 64/(mass63 + mass64 + mass65), determined by PTR-MS. ⁶⁴MP_{eq} is the 262 theoretical equilibrium proportion of 1 x ¹³C based on a binomial distribution and the 263 proportion of tracer addition. An isotope fractionation factor α_k of 1.06 is included, based on 264 265 laboratory culture experiments using Emiliania huxleyi (Stefels et al. 2009). In vivo DMSP gross production rates during the incubations (nmol $L^{-1} h^{-1}$) were calculated from μ DMSP 266 and the initial particulate DMSP (DMSPp) concentration of the incubations (Hopkins & 267

Archer 2014, Stefels et al. 2009). These rates provide important information on how the
physiological status of DMSP-producing cells may be affected by OA within the bioassays.

270 2.5 Seawater carbonate chemistry analysis

271 The techniques and methods used to determine both the *in situ* and experimental carbonate

chemistry parameters, and to manipulate seawater carbonate chemistry within the

273 microcosms, are described in Richier et al. (2014) and will be only given in brief here.

274 Experimental T₀ measurements were taken directly from CTD bottles, and immediately

275 measured for total alkalinity (A_T) (Apollo SciTech AS-Alk2 Alkalinity Titrator) and

dissolved inorganic carbon (C_T) (Apollo SciTech C_T analyser (AS-C3) with LICOR 7000).

277 The CO2SYS programme (version 1.05) (Lewis and Wallace, 1998) was used to calculate the

278 remaining carbonate chemistry parameters including pCO_2 .

279 Measurements of T_A and C_T were made from each bottle at each experimental time point and 280 again used to calculate the corresponding values for pCO_2 and pH_T . The carbonate chemistry 281 data for each sampling time point for each experiment are summarised in Supplementary

Table S1, S2 and S3 (Experimental starting conditions are given in Table 1).

283 **2.6** Chlorophyll a (Chl *a*) determinations

284 Concentrations of Chl *a* were determined as described in Richier et al. (2014). Briefly, 100

285 mL aliquots of seawater from the incubation bottles were filtered through either 25 mm GF/F

286 (Whatman, 0.7 µm pore size) or polycarbonate filters (Whatman, 10 µm pore size) to yield

- total and >10 μ m size fractions, with the <10 μ m fraction calculated by difference. Filters
- were extracted in 6 mL HPLC-grade acetone (90%) overnight in a dark refrigerator.
- 289 Fluorescence was measured using a Turner Designs Trilogy fluorometer, which was regularly
- calibrated with dilutions of pure Chl *a* (Sigma, UK) in acetone (90%).

291 **2.8** Community composition

Small phytoplankton community composition was assessed by flow cytometry. For details ofmethodology, see Richier et al. (2014).

294 **2.9 Data handling and statistical analyses**

Permutational analysis of variance (PERMANOVA) was used to analyse the difference in 295 response of DMS and DMSP concentrations to OA, both between and within the two polar 296 cruises in this study. Both dependant variables were analysed separately using a nested 297 factorial design with three factors; (i) Cruise Location: Arctic and Southern Ocean, (ii) 298 Experiment location nested within Cruise location (see Table 1 for station IDs) and (iii) CO₂ 299 level: 385, 550, 750, 1000 and 2000 µatm. Main effects and pairwise comparisons of the 300 different factors were analysed through unrestricted permutations of raw data. If a low 301 302 number of permutations were generated then the *p*-value was obtained through random sampling of the asymptotic permutation distribution, using Monte Carlo tests. 303

One-way analysis of variance was used to identify differences in ratio of $>10 \mu m$ Chl a to 304 total Chl a (chl_{>10um} : chl_{tot}, see Discussion). Initially, tests of normality were applied (p < 0.05305 = not normal), and if data failed to fit the assumptions of the test, linearity transformations of 306 307 the data were performed (logarithmic or square root), and the ANOVA proceeded from this point. The results of ANOVA are given as follows: F = ratio of mean squares, df = degrees of 308 freedom, p = level of confidence. For those data still failing to display normality following 309 transformation, a rank-based Kruskal-Wallis test was applied (H = test statistic, df = degrees 310 of freedom, p = level of confidence). 311

312 **3 Results**

313 **3.1 Sampling stations**

314 At temperate sampling stations, sea surface temperatures ranged from 10.7°C for Iceland Basin, to 15.3° C for Bay of Biscay, with surface salinity in the range 34.1 - 35.2, with the 315 exception of station E05b which had a relatively low salinity of 30.5 (Figure 2 and Table 1). 316 317 Seawater temperatures at the polar microcosm sampling stations ranged from -1.5°C at seaice influenced stations (Greenland Ice-edge and Weddell Sea) up to 6.5°C for Barents Sea 318 (Fig. 2 A). Salinity values at all the Southern Ocean stations were <34, whilst they were ~35 319 at all the Arctic stations with the exception of Greenland Ice-edge which had the lowest 320 salinity of 32.5 (Fig. 2 B). Phototrophic nanoflagellate abundances were variable, with >3 x321 10^4 cells mL⁻¹ at *Greenland Gyre*, 1.5 x 10^4 cells mL⁻¹ at *Barents Sea* and $<3 \times 10^3$ cells mL⁻¹ 322 for all other stations (Fig. 2 D). Total bacterial abundances ranged from 3×10^5 cells mL⁻¹ at 323 Greenland Ice-edge up to 3×10^6 cells mL⁻¹ at Barents Sea (Fig. 2 E). 324

325 Chl *a* concentrations in temperate waters ranged from 0.3 μ g L⁻¹ for two North Sea stations

326 (*E05* and *North Sea*) up to 3.5 μ g L⁻¹ for *Irish Sea* (Figure 2 and Table 1). Chl a was also

327 variable in polar waters, exceeding 4 μ g L⁻¹ at *South Sandwich* and 2 μ g L⁻¹ at *Greenland Ice*-

328 *edge*, whilst the remaining stations ranged from 0.2 μ g L⁻¹ (*Weddell Sea*) to 1.5 μ g L⁻¹

329 (Barents Sea) (Figure 2). The high Chl a concentrations at South Sandwich correspond to low

in-water irradiance levels at this station (Fig. 2 C).

331 In temperate waters, maximum DMS concentrations were generally seen in near surface

measurements, ranging from 1.0 nmol L^{-1} for *E04* to 21.1 nmol L^{-1} for *E06*, with rapidly

decreasing concentrations with depth (Figure 2 G). DMSP also generally peaked in the near

surface waters, ranging from 12.0 nmol L^{-1} for E04 to 72.5 nmol L^{-1} for *E06*, but the

maximum overall DMSP concentration of 89.8 nmol L^{-1} was observed at ~20 m for *E05b*

(Figure 2 H). Surface DMS concentrations in polar waters were generally lower than

temperate waters, ranging from $1 - 3 \text{ nmol } L^{-1}$, with the exception of *South Sandwich* where

concentrations of ~12 nmol L^{-1} were observed (Figure 2 G). DMSP generally ranged from 12

- 20 nmol L⁻¹, except *Barents Sea* where surface concentrations exceeded 60 nmol L⁻¹
(Figure 2 H).

341 3.2 Response of DMS and DMSP to OA

The temporal trend in DMS concentrations showed a similar pattern for the three Arctic 342 Ocean experiments. Initial concentrations of $1 - 2 \text{ nmol } L^{-1}$ remained relatively constant over 343 the first 48 h and then showed small increases of 1 - 4 nmol L^{-1} over the incubation period 344 (Figure 3). Increased variability between triplicate incubations became apparent in all three 345 Arctic experiments by 96 h, but no significant effects of elevated CO₂ on DMS 346 concentrations were observed. Initial DMSP concentrations were more variable, from 6 nmol 347 L⁻¹ at *Greenland Ice-edge* to 12 nmol L⁻¹ at *Barents Sea*, and either decreased slightly (net 348 loss $1 - 2 \text{ nmol } L^{-1} \text{ GG}$), or increased slightly (net increase ~4 nmol L^{-1} Greenland Ice-edge, 349 \sim 3 nmol L⁻¹ Barents Sea) (Figure 5 A – C). DMSP concentrations were found to decrease 350 significantly in response to elevated CO₂ after 48 h for *Barents Sea* (Fig. 4 C, t = 2.05, p =351 352 0.025), whist no significant differences were seen after 96 h. No other significant responses in DMSP were identified. 353 The range of initial DMS concentrations was greater at Southern Ocean sampling stations 354 compared to the Arctic, from 1 nmol L^{-1} at *Drake Passage* up to 13 nmol L^{-1} at *South* 355 Sandwich (Figure 4). DMS concentrations showed little change over the course of 96 – 168 h 356

incubations and no effect of elevated CO₂, with the exception of *South Sandwich* (Fig. 4 D).

Here, concentrations decreased sharply after 96 h by between 3 and 11 nmol L^{-1} .

359 Concentrations at 96 h were CO₂-treatment dependent, with significant decreases in DMS

- 360 concentration occurring with increasing levels of CO₂ (PERMANOVA, t = 2.61, p = 0.028).
- 361 Significant differences ceased to be detectable by the end of the incubations (168 h). Initial
- 362 DMSP concentrations were higher at the Southern Ocean stations than for Arctic stations,

ranging from 13 nmol L⁻¹ for *Weddell Sea* to 40 nmol L⁻¹ for *South Sandwich* (Figure 5 D – G). Net increases in DMSP occurred throughout, except at South Georgia, and were on the order of between <10 nmol L⁻¹ - >30 nmol L⁻¹ over the course of the incubations. Concentrations were not generally pCO_2 -treatment dependent with the exception of the final time point at *South Georgia* (144 h) when a significantly lower DMSP with increasing CO₂ was observed (PERMANOVA, t = -5.685, p < 0.001).

369 Results from the previously unpublished experiments from temperate waters are in strong

agreement with the five experiments presented in Hopkins and Archer (2014), with

371 consistently decreased DMS concentrations and enhanced DMSP under elevated CO₂. The

data is presented in the Supplementary Information, Table S4 and Figure S2, and included in

the meta-analysis in section 4.1 of this paper.

374 3.3 Response of de novo DMSP synthesis and production to OA

Rates of *de novo* DMSP synthesis (µDMSP) at initial time points ranged from 0.13 d⁻¹ 375 (Weddell Sea, Fig. 6 G) to 0.23 d⁻¹ (Greenland Ice-edge, Fig. 6 C), whilst DMSP production 376 ranged from 0.4 nmol $L^{-1} d^{-1}$ (*Greenland Gyre*, Fig. 6 B) to 2.27 nmol $L^{-1} d^{-1}$ (*Drake Passage*, 377 Fig. 6 F). Maximum rates of µDMSP of 0.37 -0.38 d⁻¹ were observed at Greenland Ice-edge 378 after 48 h of incubation in all CO₂ treatments (Fig. 6 C). The highest rates of DMSP 379 production were observed at South Georgia after 96 h of incubation, and ranged from 4.1 – 380 6.9 nmol L⁻¹ d⁻¹ across CO₂ treatments (Fig. 6 J). Rates of DMSP synthesis and production 381 were generally lower than those measured in temperate waters (Hopkins and Archer, 2014) 382 (Initial rates: $\mu DMSP 0.33 - 0.96 d^{-1}$, 7.1 – 37.3 nmol L⁻¹ d⁻¹), but were comparable to 383 measurements made during an Arctic mesocosm experiment (Archer et al., 2013) (0.1 - 0.25)384 d^{-1} , 3 – 5 nmol $L^{-1} d^{-1}$ in non-bloom conditions). The lower rates in cold polar waters likely 385 reflect slower metabolic processes and are reflected by standing stock DMSP concentrations 386

which were also lower than in temperate waters $(5 - 40 \text{ nmol } \text{L}^{-1} \text{ polar}, 8 - 60 \text{ nmol } \text{L}^{-1}$ 387 temperate (Hopkins and Archer, 2014)). No consistent of high CO₂ were observed for either 388 DMSP synthesis or production in polar waters, similar to findings for DMSP standing stocks. 389 However, some notable but contrasting differences between CO₂ treatments were observed. 390 There was a 36% and 37% increase in µDMSP and DMSP production respectively at 750 391 µatm for the Drake Passage after 96 h (Figure 6 E, F), and a 38% and 44% decrease in both 392 at 750 µatm after 144 h for Weddell Sea (Figure 5 G, H). For Drake Passage, the difference 393 between treatments at 96 h coincided with significantly higher nitrate concentrations in the 394 High CO₂ treatment (Nitrate/nitrite at 96 h: Ambient = $18.9 \pm 0.2 \mu mol L^{-1}$, $+CO_2 = 20.2 \pm 1000 L^{-1}$) 395 0.1 μ mol L⁻¹, ANOVA F = 62.619, df = 1, p = 0.001). However, it is uncertain whether the 396 difference in nutrient availability between treatments (approximately 5 %) would be 397 398 significant enough to strongly influence the rate of DMSP production.

399 The differences in DMSP production rates did not correspond to any other measured

400 parameter. It is possible that changes in phytoplankton community composition may have led

401 to differences in DMSP production rates for *Drake Passage* and *Weddell Sea*, but no

402 quantification of large cells (diatoms, dinoflagellates) was undertaken for these experiments.

403 4 Discussion

404 4.1 Regional differences in the response of DMS(P) to OA

We combine our findings from the polar oceans with those from temperate waters into a
meta-analysis in order to assess the regional variability and drivers in the DMS(P) response to
OA. Figures 7 and 8 provide an overview of the results discussed so far in this current study,
together with the results from Hopkins & Archer (2014) as well as the results from 4
previously unpublished microcosm experiments from the NW European shelf cruise and a
further 2 temperate water microcosm experiments from the Arctic cruise (*North Sea* and

Iceland Basin, Table 1). This gives a total of 18 microcosm experiments, each with between 1
and 3 high CO₂ treatments.

Hopkins & Archer (2014) reported consistent and significant increases in DMS concentration 413 in response to elevated CO₂ that were accompanied by significant decreases in DMSPt 414 concentrations. Bacterially-mediated DMS processes appeared to be insensitive to OA, with 415 no detectable effects on dark rates of DMS consumption and gross production, and no 416 consistent response seen in bacterial abundance (Hopkins and Archer, 2014). In general, 417 there were large short-term decreases in Chl a concentrations and phototrophic nanoflagellate 418 abundance in response to elevated CO_2 in these experiments (Richier et al., 2014). 419 The relative treatment effects ($[x]_{highCO2}/[x]_{ambientCO2}$) for DMS and DMSP (Figure 7), DMSP 420 421 synthesis and production (Figure 8), and Chl a and phototrophic nanoflagellate abundance (Figure 9) are plotted against the Revelle Factor of the sampled waters. The Revelle Factor 422 (R), calculated here with CO2Sys using measurements of carbonate chemistry parameters (R)423 424 = $(\Delta p CO_2 / \Delta T CO_2) / (p CO_2 / T CO_2)$, Lewis and Wallace, 1998), describes how the partial pressure of CO₂ in seawater (PCO₂) changes for a given change in DIC (Sabine et al., 2004; 425 Revelle and Suess, 1957). Its magnitude varies latitudinally, with lower values (9 - 12) from 426 427 the tropics to temperate waters, and the highest values in cold high latitude waters (13 - 15). Thus polar waters can be considered poorly buffered with respect to changes in DIC. 428 Therefore, biologically-driven seasonal changes in seawater pCO_2 would result in larger 429 changes in pH than would be experienced in temperate waters. (Egleston et al., 2010). 430 Furthermore, the seasonal sea ice cycle strongly influences carbonate chemistry, such that sea 431 432 ice regions exhibit wide fluctuations in carbonate chemistry (Revelle and Suess, 1957; Sabine et al., 2004). Sampling stations with a R above ~ 12 represent the seven polar stations (right of 433 red dashed line Fig. 7, 8, 9). The surface waters of the polar oceans have naturally higher 434 levels of DIC and a reduced buffering capacity, driven by higher CO₂ solubility in colder 435

436 waters (Sabine et al., 2004). Thus, the relationship between experimental response and R is a simple way of demonstrating the differences in response to OA between temperate and polar 437 waters and provides some insight into how the CO₂ sensitivity of different surface ocean 438 439 communities may relate to the *in situ* carbonate chemistry. The effect of elevated CO₂ on DMS concentrations at polar stations, relative to ambient controls, was minimal at both 440 sampling points, and is in strong contrast to the results from experiments performed in waters 441 with lower values of R on the NW European shelf. In contrast, at temperate stations, DMSP 442 concentrations displayed a clear negative treatment effect, whilst at polar stations a positive 443 effect was evident under high CO₂, and particularly at the first time point (48 - 96 h) (Fig. 7 444 C and D). *De novo* DMSP synthesis and DMSP production rates show a less consistent 445 response in either environment (Fig. 8 A and B), although a significant suppression of 446 447 DMSP production rates in temperate waters compared to polar waters was seen (Fig. 8 B, Kruskal-Wallis One Way ANOVA H = 8.711, df = 1, p = 0.003). A similar but not significant 448 response was seen for *de novo* DMSP synthesis (Fig. 8A). 449

450 This data suggests that DMSP concentrations in polar waters may be upregulated in response 451 to OA compared to temperate waters. Given the potential photoprotective and antioxidant role that DMSP plays, and which may be particularly relevant in the highly variable polar 452 sea-ice environment (e.g. irradiance, carbonate chemistry), these changes may reflect a 453 physiological protective response to the experimental OA (Sunda et al., 2002;Galindo et al., 454 2016). An increase in DMSP concentrations could have either resulted from a physiological 455 up-regulation of DMSP synthesis or a reduction in bacterial DMSP consumption processes. 456 However, DMSP synthesis rates did not provide any conclusive evidence of upregulation in 457 polar waters. Instead, we observed a suppression of rates in temperate waters which may 458 reflect the adverse effects of rapid OA on DMSP producers (Richier et al. 2014, Hopkins and 459 Archer 2014). In contrast, the lesser response seen in polar waters may reflect a higher 460

acclimative tolerance to rapid changes in carbonate chemistry amongst polar communities.
Further experiments with polar communities would help to further unravel the potential
importance of such mechanisms, and whether they facilitated the ability of polar
phytoplankton communities to resist the high CO₂ treatments.

The responses to OA observed for DMS and DMSP production are likely to be reflected in 465 the dynamics of the DMSP-producing phytoplankton. In an assessment across all 466 experiments, Richier et al. (2018) showed that the maximal response to OA of total Chl a and 467 net growth rates of small phytoplankton (<10 µm) observed during each experiment, 468 declined the most in relation to increased buffering capacity and temperature of the initial 469 water. Generally, less significant relationships were found between the phytoplankton 470 response and the other wide range of physical, chemical or biological variables that were 471 examined (Richier et al. 2018). 472

In correspondence with the analyses carried out by Richier et al (2018), at 48 - 96 h (see 473 474 Table 1), a statistically significant difference in response was seen between temperate and polar waters for Chl *a* (Kruskal-Wallis One Way ANOVA H = 20.577, df = 1, p < 0.001). In 475 general, at polar stations phytoplankton showed minimal response to elevated CO₂ in 476 477 contrast to a strong negative response in temperate waters (Fig. 9A). By the second time point (96 – 144 h, see Table 1), no significant difference in response of Chl a between temperate 478 479 and polar waters was apparent (Fig. 9B). As shown in Richier et al. (2014), phototrophic nanoflagellates responded to high CO₂ with large decreases in abundance in temperate waters 480 and increases in abundance in polar waters (Fig. 9 C and D), with some exceptions: North 481 Sea and South Sandwich gave the opposite response. The responses had lessened by the 482 second time point (96 - 168 h, see Table 1). 483

484 In contrast, bacterial abundance did not show the same regional differences in response to high CO₂ (see Hopkins and Archer (2014) for temperate waters, and Figure S1, 485 supplementary information, for polar waters). Bacterial abundance in temperate waters gave 486 487 variable and inconsistent responses to high CO₂. For all Arctic stations, Drake Passage and Weddell Sea, no response to high CO₂ was observed. For South Georgia and South Sandwich, 488 bacterial abundance increased at 1000 and 2000 µatm, with significant increases for South 489 Georgia after 144 h of incubation (ANOVA F = 137.936, p < 0.001). Additionally, at Arctic 490 stations Greenland Gyre and Greenland Ice-edge, no overall effect of increased CO₂ on rates 491 492 of DOC release, total carbon fixation or POC : DOC was observed (Poulton et al. 2016).

Overall, the observed differences in the regional response of DMSP and DMS to carbonate
chemistry manipulation could not be attributed to any other measured factor that varied
systematically between temperate and polar waters. These include ambient nutrient
concentrations, which varied considerably but where direct manipulation had no influence on
the response, and initial community structure, which was not a significant predictor of the
phytoplankton response (Richier et al. 2018).

499 4.2 Influence of community cell-size composition on DMS response

It has been proposed that variability in the concentrations of carbonate species (e.g. pCO_2 , 500 HCO_3^{-} , CO_3^{-}) experienced by phytoplankton is related to cell size, such that smaller-celled 501 502 taxa (<10 μm) with a reduced diffusive boundary layer are naturally exposed to relatively less variability compared to larger cells (Flynn et al., 2012). Thus, short-term and rapid changes in 503 carbonate chemistry, such as the kind imposed during our microcosm experiments, may have 504 a disproportionate effect on the physiology and growth of smaller celled species. Larger cells 505 may be better able to cope with variability as normal cellular metabolism results in significant 506 cell surface changes in carbonate chemistry parameters (Richier et al., 2014). Indeed, the 507

508 marked response in DMS concentrations to short term OA in temperate waters has been attributed to this enhanced sensitivity of small phytoplankton (Hopkins and Archer, 2014). 509 Was the lack of DMS response to OA in polar waters therefore a result of the target 510 communities being dominated by larger-celled, less carbonate-sensitive species? 511 Size-fractionated Chl a measurements give an indication of the relative contribution of large 512 and small phytoplankton cells to the community. For experiments in temperate waters, the 513 mean ratio of >10 μ m Chl *a* to total Chl *a* (hereafter >10 μ m : total) of 0.32 \pm 0.08 was lower 514 than the ratio for polar stations of 0.54 ± 0.13 (Table 2). Although the difference was not 515 516 statistically significant, this might imply a tendency towards communities dominated by larger cells in the polar oceans, which may partially explain the apparent lack of DMS 517 response to elevated CO₂. However, this is not a consistent explanation for the observed 518 responses. For example, the Arctic *Barents Sea* station had the lowest observed $>10 \ \mu m$: 519 *total* of 0.04 ± 0.01 , suggesting a community comprised almost entirely of <10 µm cells; yet 520 the response to short term OA differed to the response seen in temperate waters. No 521 significant CO₂ effects on DMS or DMSP concentrations or production rates were observed 522 at this station, whilst total Chl a significantly increased under the highest CO₂ treatments 523 after 96 h (PERMANOVA F = 33.239, p < 0.001). Thus, our cell size theory does not hold for 524 all polar waters, suggesting that regardless of the dominant cell size, polar communities are 525 more resilient to OA. In the following section, we explore the causes of this apparent 526 insensitivity to OA in terms of the environmental conditions to which the communities have 527 presumably adapted. 528

529 4.3 Adaptation to a variable carbonate chemistry environment

Given that DMS production by polar phytoplankton communities appeared to be insensitiveto experimental OA compared to significant sensitivity in temperate communities, we

hypothesise that polar communities are adapted to greater natural variability in carbonate 532 chemistry over spatial and seasonal scales. The polar waters sampled during our study were 533 characterised by pronounced gradients in carbonate chemistry over small spatial scales, such 534 535 that surface ocean communities are more likely to have experienced fluctuations between high pH and low pH over short time scales (Tynan et al., 2016). For example, in underway 536 samples taken along each cruise track, pH varied by 0.45 units (8.00 - 8.45) in the Arctic, and 537 0.40 units (8.30 - 7.90) in the Southern Ocean (Tynan et al. 2016). By comparison, pH varied 538 by 0.2 units (8.22 - 8.02) in underway samples from the NW European shelf sea cruise 539 540 (Rerolle et al. 2014).

The observed horizontal gradients in polar waters were driven by different physical and 541 biogeochemical processes in each ocean. In the Arctic Ocean, this variability in carbonate 542 543 chemistry was partly driven by physical processes that controlled water mass composition, temperate and salinity, particularly in areas such as the Fram Strait and Greenland Sea. Along 544 545 the ice-edge and into the Barents Sea, biological processes exerted a strong control, as abundant iron resulted in high chlorophyll concentrations, low DIC and elevated pH. By 546 contrast, variations in temperature and salinity had only a small influence on carbonate 547 548 chemistry in the Southern Ocean in areas with iron limitation, and larger changes were driven by a combination of calcification, advection and upwelling. Where iron was replete, e.g. near 549 South Georgia, biological DIC drawdown had a large impact on carbonate chemistry (Tynan 550 et al. 2016). A further set of processes was in play in sea ice influenced regions. At the Arctic 551 ice edge, abundant iron drove strong bloom development along the ice edge, whilst sea ice 552 retreat in the Southern Ocean was not always accompanied by iron release (Tynan et al. 553 2016). 554

For comparison with Arctic stations, Hagens and Middelburg (2016) report a seasonal pH
variability of up to 0.25 units from a single site in the open ocean surface waters in the

557 Iceland Sea, whilst Kapsenberg et al. (2015) report an annual variability of 0.3 - 0.4 units in the McMurdo Sound, Antarctica. This implies that both open ocean and sea ice-influenced 558 polar waters experience large variations in carbonate chemistry over seasonal cycles. By 559 560 contrast, monthly averaged surface pCO_2 data collected from station L4 in the Western English Channel over the period 2007 – 2011 provides an example of typical carbonate 561 chemistry dynamics in NW European shelf sea waters. Over this period, pH had an annual 562 range of 0.15 units (8.05 - 8.20), accompanied by a range in pCO₂ of 302 - 412 µatm (Kitidis 563 et al., 2012). 564

The sea ice environment in particular is characterised by strong spatial and seasonal 565 variability in carbonate chemistry. Sea ice is inhabited by a specialised microbial community 566 with a complex set of metabolic and physiological adaptations allowing these organisms to 567 withstand wide fluctuations in pH up to as high as 9.9 in brine channels to as low as 7.5 in the 568 under-ice water (Thomas and Dieckmann, 2002; Rysgaard et al., 2012; Thoisen et al., 2015). 569 570 The open waters associated with the ice edge also experience strong gradients in pH and other carbonate chemistry parameters. This can be attributed to two processes: 1. The strong 571 seasonal drawdown of DIC due to rapid biological uptake by phytoplankton blooms at the 572 573 productive ice edge which drives up pH. On the Arctic cruise, increases of up to 0.33 pH units were attributed to such processes in this region (Tynan et al., 2016). The effect was less 574 dramatic in the Fe-limited and less productive Weddell Sea with gradients in pH ranging 575 from 8.20 - 8.10 (Tynan et al., 2016). 2. The drawdown of DIC is countered by the release 576 and accumulation of respired DIC under sea ice due to the degradation of organic matter. 577 However, this accumulation occurs in subsurface/bottom waters, which are isolated from the 578 productive surface mixed layer by strong physical stratification and hence, of less relevance 579 to the current study. 580

581 The influence of sea ice on carbonate chemistry combined with the strong biological drawdown of DIC in polar waters may have influenced the ability of some of the 582 communities we sampled during our study to withstand the short term changes to carbonate 583 584 chemistry they experienced within the bioassays. Two of our sampling stations were 'sea-ice influenced': Greenland Ice Edge and Weddell Sea. Both were in a state of sea ice retreat as 585 our sampling occurred in the summer months. Sampling for the Greenland Ice Edge station 586 was performed in open, deep water, near to an area of thick sea ice, with low fluorescence but 587 reasonable numbers of diatoms (Leakey, 2012). Similarly, the Weddell Sea station was 588 589 located near the edge of thick pack ice but in an area of open water that allowed sampling to occur without hindrance by brash ice (Tarling, 2013). At both stations we saw little or no 590 591 response in DMS or DMSP to experimental acidification, which may imply that the in situ 592 communities were more or less adapted to fluctuations in pH. Our experimental OA resulted in pH decreases of between 0.4 and 0.7 units. However, it is unclear whether the communities 593 we sampled were able to withstand the artificial pH perturbation because they were adapted 594 to living in sea ice, or whether they had adapted to cope with other fluctuations in carbonate 595 chemistry that occur in polar waters. 596

597 In summary, this demonstrates the high variability in carbonate chemistry, including pH, which polar communities may experience relative to their temperate counterparts. This may 598 have resulted in adapted communities resilient to experimentally-induced OA. Of course, it is 599 600 important to recognise that this data represent only a snapshot (4 - 6 weeks) of a year, and thus does not contain information on the range in variability over daily and seasonal cycles, 601 timescales which might be considered most important in terms of the carbonate system 602 603 variability experienced by the cells and how this drives CO₂ sensitivity (Flynn et al. 2012; Richier et al. 2018). Nevertheless, this inherent carbonate chemistry variability experienced 604

by organisms living in polar waters may equip them with the resilience to cope with bothexperimental and future OA.

Adaptation to such natural variability may induce the ability to resist abrupt changes within 607 608 the polar biological community (Kapsenberg et al., 2015). This is manifested here as negligible impacts on rates of de novo DMSP synthesis and net DMS production. A number 609 of previous studies in polar waters have reported similar findings. Phytoplankton 610 611 communities were able to tolerate a pCO_2 range of 84 - 643 µatm in ~12 d minicosm 612 experiments (650 L) in Antarctic coastal waters, with no effects on nanophytoplankton abundance, and enhanced abundance of picophytoplankton and prokaryotes (Davidson et al., 613 614 2016; Thomson et al., 2016). In experiments under the Arctic ice, microbial communities 615 demonstrated the capacity to respond either by selection or physiological plasticity to elevated CO₂ during short term experiments (Monier et al., 2014). Subarctic phytoplankton 616 populations demonstrated a high level of resilience to OA in short term experiments, 617 suggesting a high level of physiological plasticity that was attributed to the prevailing strong 618 gradients in pCO₂ levels experienced in the sample region (Hoppe et al., 2017). Furthermore, 619 620 a more recent study describing ten CO₂ manipulation experiments in Arctic waters found that primary production was largely insensitive to OA over a large range of light and temperature 621 levels (Hoppe et al., 2018). This supports our hypothesis that, relative to temperate 622 623 communities, polar microbial communities may have a high capacity to compensate for environmental variability (Hoppe et al., 2018), and are thus already adapted to, and are able 624 to tolerate, large variations in carbonate chemistry. Thus by performing multiple, replicated 625 experiments over a broad geographic range, the findings of this study imply that the DMS 626 response may be both a reflection of: (i) the level of sensitivity of the community to changes 627 in the mean state of carbonate chemistry, and (ii) the regional variability in carbonate 628 629 chemistry experienced by different communities. This highlights the limitations associated

630 with simple extrapolation of results from a small number of geographically-limited

experiments e.g. Six et al. (2013). Such an approach lacks a mechanistic understanding that

632 would allow a model to capture the regional variability in response that is apparent from the

633 microcosms experiments presented here.

634 4.4 Comparison to an Arctic mesocosm experiment

635 Experimental data clearly provide useful information on the potential future DMS response to OA, but these data become most powerful when incorporated in Earth System Models (ESM) 636 to facilitate predictions of future climate. To date, two modelling studies have used ESM to 637 assess the potential climate feedback resulting from the DMS sensitivity to OA (Six et al., 638 2013;Schwinger et al., 2017), and both have used results from mesocosm experiments. 639 However, the DMS responses to OA within our short term microcosm experiments contrast 640 with the results of most previous mesocosm experiments, and of particular relevance to this 641 study, an earlier Arctic mesocosm experiment (Archer et al., 2013). Whilst no response in 642 DMS concentrations to OA was generally seen in the polar microcosm experiments discussed 643 here, a significant decrease in DMS with increasing levels of CO₂ in the earlier mesocosm 644 study was seen. Therefore, it is useful to consider how the differences in experimental design, 645 and other factors, between microcosms and mesocosms may result in contrasting DMS 646 responses to OA. 647

The short duration of the microcosm experiments (4 – 7 d) allows the physiological (phenotypic) capacity of the community to changes in carbonate chemistry to be assessed. In other words, how well is the community adapted to variable carbonate chemistry and how does this influence its ability to acclimate to change? Although the mesocosm experiment considered a longer time period (4 weeks), the first few days can be compared to the microcosms. No differences in DMS or DMSP concentrations were detected for the first week of the mesocosm experiment, implying a certain level of insensitivity of DMS

655 production to the rapid changes in carbonate chemistry. In fact, when taking all previous mesocosm experiments into consideration, differences in DMS concentrations have 656 consistently been undetectable during the first 5 - 10 days, implying there is a limited short-657 term physiological response by the in situ communities (Hopkins et al., 2010; Avgoustidi et 658 al., 2012; Vogt et al., 2008; Kim et al., 2010; Park et al., 2014). This is in contrast to the 659 strong response in the temperate microcosms from the NW European shelf (Hopkins and 660 661 Archer, 2014). However, all earlier mesocosm experiments have been performed in coastal waters, which like polar waters, can experience a large natural range in carbonate chemistry. 662 663 In the case of coastal waters this is driven to a large extent by the influence of riverine discharge and biological activity (Fassbender et al., 2016). Thus coastal communities may 664 also possess a higher level of adaptation to variable carbonate chemistry compared to the 665 666 open ocean communities of the temperate microcosms (Fassbender et al., 2016).

667 The later stages of mesocosm experiments address a different set of hypotheses, and are less comparable to the microcosms reported here. With time, an increase in number of generations 668 669 leads to community structure changes and taxonomic shifts, driven by selection on the 670 standing genetic variation in response to the altered conditions. Moreover, the coastal Arctic mesocosms were enriched with nutrients after 10 days, affording relief from nutrient 671 limitation and allowing differences between pCO_2 treatments to be exposed, including a 672 strong DMS(P) response.(Archer et al., 2013; Schulz et al., 2013). During this period of 673 increased growth and productivity, CO₂ increases drove changes which reflected both the 674 physiological and genetic potential within the community, and resulted in taxonomic shifts. 675 The resultant population structure was changed, with an increase in abundance of 676 dinoflagellates, particularly Heterocapsa rotundata. Increases in DMSP concentrations and 677 DMSP synthesis rates were attributed to the population shift towards dinoflagellates. The 678 drivers of the reduced DMS concentrations were less clear, but may have been linked to 679

680 reduced DMSP-lyase capacity within the dominant phytoplankton, a reduction in bacterial DMSP lysis, or an increase in bacterial DMS consumption rates (Archer et al., 2013). Again, 681 this is comparable to all other mesocosm experiments, wherein changes to DMS 682 concentrations can be associated with CO₂-driven shifts in community structure (Hopkins et 683 al., 2010; Avgoustidi et al., 2012; Vogt et al., 2008; Kim et al., 2010; Park et al., 2014; Webb 684 et al., 2015). However, given the lack of further experiments of a similar location, design and 685 686 duration to the Arctic mesocosm, it is unclear how representative the mesocosm result is of the general community-driven response to OA in high latitude waters. 687

We did not generally see any broad-scale CO₂-effects on community structure in polar 688 waters. This can be demonstrated by a lack of significant differences in the mean ratio of >10 689 μ m Chl *a* to total Chl *a* (>10 μ m : total) between CO₂ treatments, implying there were no 690 691 broad changes in community composition (Table 2). South Sandwich was an exception to this, where large and significant increases in the mean ratio of $>10 \ \mu m$: total were observed 692 693 at 750 µatm and 2000 µatm CO₂ relative to ambient CO₂ (ANOVA, F = 207.144, p<0.001, df = 3), demonstrated at even the short timescale of the microcosm experiments, it is possible 694 695 for some changes to community composition to occur. Interestingly, this was also the only polar station that exhibited any significant effects on DMS after 96 h of incubation (Figure 4 696 D). However, given the lack of similar response at 1000 µatm, it remains equivocal whether 697 this was driven by a CO₂-effect or some other factor. The results of our microcosm 698 699 experiments suggest insensitivity of de novo DMSP production and net DMS production in the microbial communities of the polar open oceans to short term changes in carbonate 700 701 chemistry. This may be driven by a high level of adaptation within the targeted phytoplankton communities to naturally varying carbonate chemistry. 702

703 In contrast to our findings, a recent single 9 day microcosm experiment (Hussherr et al., 2017) performed in Baffin Bay (Canadian Arctic) saw a linear 80% decrease in DMS 704 concentrations during spring bloom-like conditions. It should be noted that this response was 705 706 seen over a range of pCO_2 from 500 - 3000 µatm, far beyond the levels used in the present study. Nevertheless, this implies that polar DMS production may be sensitive to OA at certain 707 times of the year, such as during the highly productive spring bloom, but less sensitive during 708 709 periods of low and stable productivity, such as the summer months sampled during this study. Furthermore, a number of other studies from both the Arctic e.g. (Coello-Camba et al., 2014; 710 711 Holding et al., 2015; Thoisen et al., 2015) and the Southern Ocean e.g. (Trimborn et al., 2017; Tortell et al., 2008; Hoppe et al., 2013) suggest that polar phytoplankton communities 712 can demonstrate sensitivity to OA, in contrast to our findings. This emphasises the need to 713 714 gain a more detailed understanding of both the spatial and seasonal variability in the polar phytoplankton community and associated DMS response to changing ocean acidity. 715

716 **5** Conclusions

717 We have shown that net DMS production by summertime polar open ocean microbial communities is insensitive to OA during multiple, highly replicated short term microcosm 718 719 experiments. We provide evidence that, in contrast to temperate communities (Hopkins and Archer, 2014), the polar communities we sampled were relatively insensitive to variations in 720 carbonate chemistry (Richier et al., 2018), manifested here as a minimal effect on net DMS 721 production. Our findings contrast with two previous studies performed in Arctic waters 722 (Archer et al. 2013; Hussherr et al. 2017) which showed significant decreases in DMS in 723 724 response to OA. These discrepancies may be driven by differences in experimental design, variable sensitivity of microbial communities to changing carbonate chemistry between 725 different areas, or by variability in the response to OA depending on the time of year, nutrient 726 availability, and ambient levels of growth and productivity. This serves to highlight the 727

complex spatial and temporal variability in DMS response to OA which warrants furtherinvestigation to improve model predictions.

Our results imply that the phytoplankton communities of the temperate microcosms initially 730 responded to the rapid increase in pCO₂ via a stress-induced response, resulting in large and 731 significant increases in DMS concentrations occurring over the shortest timescales (2 days), 732 with a lessening of the treatment effect with an increase in incubation time (Hopkins and 733 Archer 2014). The dominance of short response timescales in well-buffered temperate waters 734 may also indicate rapid acclimation of the phytoplankton populations following the initial 735 stress response, which forced the small-sized phytoplankton beyond their range of 736 acclimative tolerance and lead to increased DMS (Richier et al. 2018, Hopkins and Archer 737 2014). This supports the hypothesis that populations from higher latitude, less well-buffered 738 waters, already possess a certain degree of acclimative tolerance to variations in carbonate 739 740 chemistry environment. Although initial community size structure was not a significant predictor of the response to high CO_2 , it is possible that a combination of both community 741 742 composition and the natural range in variability in carbonate chemistry – as a function of buffer capacity – may influence the DMS/P response to OA over a range of timescales 743 (Richier et al. 2018). 744

Our findings should be considered in the context of timescales of change (experimental vs 745 746 real world OA) and the potential of microbial communities to adapt to a gradually changing environment. Microcosm experiments focus on the physiological response of microbial 747 communities to short term OA. Mesocosm experiments consider a timescale that allows the 748 749 response to be driven by community composition shifts, but are not long enough in duration to incorporate an adaptive response. Neither approach is likely to accurately simulate the 750 response to the gradual changes in surface ocean pH that will occur over the next 50 - 100751 years, nor the resulting changes in microbial community structure and distribution. However, 752

we hypothesise that the DMS response to OA should be considered not only in relation to experimental perturbations to carbonate chemistry, but also in relation to the magnitude of background variability in carbonate chemistry experienced by the DMS-producing organisms and communities. Our findings suggest a strong link between the DMS response to OA and background regional variability in the carbonate chemistry.

Models suggest the climate may be sensitive to changes in the spatial distribution of DMS 758 emissions over global scales (Woodhouse et al., 2013; Menzo et al., 2018). Such changes 759 could be driven by both physiological and adaptive responses to environmental change. 760 Accepting the limitations of experimental approaches, our findings suggest that net DMS 761 production from polar oceans may be resilient to OA in the context of its short term effects 762 on microbial communities. The oceans face a multitude of CO₂-driven changes in the coming 763 decades, including OA, warming, deoxygenation and loss of sea ice (Gattuso et al., 2015). 764 765 Our study addresses only one aspect of these future ocean stressors, but contributes to our understanding of how DMS emissions from the polar oceans may alter, facilitating a better 766 767 understanding of Earth's future climate.

768 Data availability

All data has been deposited in and is accessible from the British Oceanographic Data Centre.

770 Author contributions

- 771 CMM, SR, FH, PDN and SDA designed the experiments. FH and JAS conducted the
- measurements, FH and GLC analysed the data. FH prepared the paper with assistance and
- 773 contributions from all co-authors.

774 Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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784 **Review statement**

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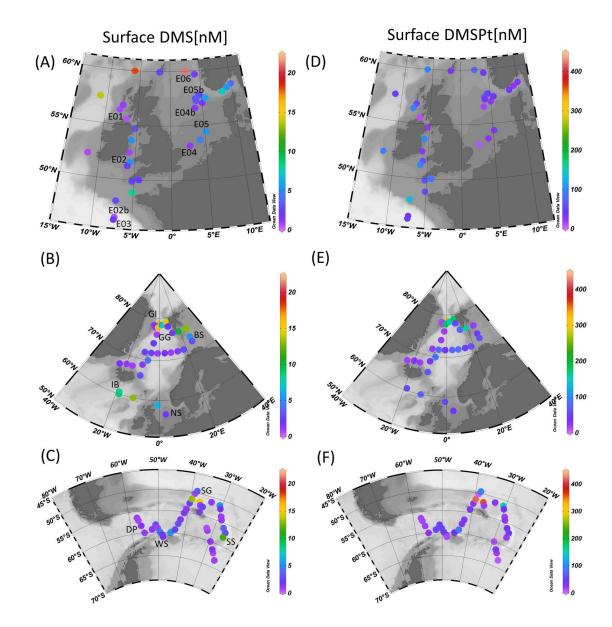
Cruise	Station ID	Location	Sampling location	Sampling date	Samplin g depth (m)	SST (°C)	Salinity	Nitrate (uM)	Total Chl a (μ g L ⁻¹)	$chl_{>10 \ \mu m}$: chl_{total}	pCO ₂ (µatm) T ₀	pH (total) T ₀	Experimental timepoints T ₁ , T ₂ (hours)	Reference
D366	E01	Mingulay Reef	56°47.688N 7°24.300W	8 June 2011	6	11.3	34.8	1.1	3.3	no data	334.9	8.1	48, 96	Hopkins & Archer
	E02	Irish Sea	52°28.237N 5°54.052W	14 June 2011	5	11.8	34.4	0.3	3.5	0.80 ± 0.03	329.3	8.1	48,96	Hopkins & Archer
	E02b	Bay of Biscay	46°29.794N 7°12.355W	19 June 2011	5	14.5	35.6	0.9	1.8	no data	340.3	8.1	48	This study
	E03	Bay of Biscay	46°12.137N 7°13.253W	21 June 2011	10	15.3	35.8	0.6	0.8	0.43 ± 0.03	323.9	8.1	48,96	Hopkins & Archer
	E04	Southern North Sea	52°59.661N 2°29.841E	26 June 2011	5	14.6	34.1	0.9	1.3	0.19 ± 0.02	399.8	8.0	48,96	Hopkins & Archer
	E04b	Mid North Sea	57°45.729N 4°35.434E	29 June 2011	5	13.2	34.8	No data	0.5	0.14 ± 0.003	327.3	8.1	48	This study
	E05	Mid North Sea	56°30.293N 3°39.506E	2 July 2011	12	14.0	35.0	0.2	0.3	0.23 ± 0.01	360.2	8.1	48,96	Hopkins & Archer
	E05b	Atlantic Ocean	59°40.721N 4°07.633E	3 July 2011	4	13.4	30.7	0.3	0.7	0.12 ± 0.01	310.7	8.1	48	This study
	E06	Atlantic Ocean	59°59.011N 2°30.896E	3 July 2011	4	12.5	34.9	0.4	1.1	0.14 ± 0.01	287.1	8.2	48	This study
JR271	NS	Mid North Sea	56°15.59N 2°37.59E	3 June 2012	15	10.8	35.1	0.04	0.3	0.52 ± 0.05	300.5	8.2	48,96	This study
	IB	Iceland Basin	60°35.39N 18°51.23W	8 June 2012	7	10.7	35.2	5.0	1.8	0.27 ± 0.02	309.7	8.1	48,96	This study
	GG-AO	Greenland Gyre	76°10.52 N 2°32.96 W	13 June 2012	5	1.7	34.9	9.3	1.0	0.34 ± 0.001	289.3	8.2	48,96	This study
	GI-AO	Greenland ice edge	78°21.15 N 3°39.85 W	18 June 2012	5	-1.6	32.6	4.2	2.7	0.78 ± 0.03	304.7	8.1	48, 96	This study
	BS-AO	Barents Sea	72°53.49 N 26°00.09 W	24 June 2012	5	6.6	35.0	5.4	1.3	0.04 ± 0.01	304.3	8.1	48,96	This study
JR274	DP-SO	Drake Passage	58°22.00 S 56°15.12 W	13 Jan 2013	8	1.9	33.2	22.0	2.4	1.00 ± 0.06	279.3	8.2	48,96	This study
	WS-SO	Weddell Sea	60°58.55 S 48°05.19 W	18 Jan 2013	6	-1.4	33.6	24.9	0.6	0.67 ± 0.06	510.5	7.9	72, 144	This study
	SG-SO	South Georgia	52°41.36 S 36°37.28 W	25 Jan 2013	5	2.2	33.9	24.1	0.7	$0.35\ \pm 0.04$	342.6	8.1	72, 144	This study
	SS-SO	South Sandwich	58°05.13 S 25°55.55 W	1 Feb 2013	7	0.5	33.7	18.5	4.6	0.57 ± 0.02	272.6	8.2	96, 168	This study

Table 1. Summary of the station locations and characteristic of the water sampled for the 18 microcosm experiments performed in temperate,
sub-polar and polar waters. All polar stations were sampled for JR271 and JR274, with the exception of NS and IB.

1152	Table 2. Mean (\pm SD) ratio of >10µm Chl <i>a</i> to total Chl <i>a</i> (chl _{>10µm} :chl _{total}) for polar
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1153	microcosm sampling stations.	* indicates significant	t difference from the response to ambient
1154	CO ₂ .		

Station		ambient	550 µatm	750 µatm	1000 µatm	2000 µatm
	Time		•	·	•	•
GG						
	48 h	0.3 ± 0.1	0.3 ± 0.03	0.4 ± 0.2	0.3 ± 0.1	N/A
	96 h	1.0 ± 0.02	0.9 ± 0.2	0.8 ± 0.1	0.7 ± 0.2	
GI						
	48 h	1.0 ± 0.1	1.0 ± 0.1	0.8 ± 0.1	1.0 ± 0.0	N/A
	96 h	1.0 ± 0.1	1.1 ± 0.1	0.8 ± 0.1	0.8 ± 0.1	
BS						
	48 h	0.02 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.01	0.03 ± 0.01	0.02 ± 0.01	N/A
	96 h	0.04 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.04	0.05 ± 0.04	0.04 ± 0.04	
DP						
	48 h	1.0 ± 0.3	N/A	1.0 ± 0.1	N/A	N/A
	96 h	0.9 ± 0.1		1.0 ± 0.1		
WS						
	72 h	0.6 ± 0.1	N/A	0.7 ± 0.1	N/A	N/A
	144 h	0.7 ± 0.1		0.7 ± 0.1		
SG						
	72 h	0.3 ± 0.02	N/A	0.4 ± 0.1	0.3 ± 0.1	0.4 ± 0.03
	144 h	0.5 ± 0.1		0.6 ± 0.04	0.5 ± 0.1	0.4 ± 0.03
SS						
	96 h	0.7 ± 0.04	N/A	$1.5 \pm 0.1*$	0.7 ± 0.02	$1.6 \pm 0.1*$
	168 h	0.9 ± 0.2		$1.4 \pm 0.02*$	0.8 ± 0.004	$1.4 \pm 0.2*$



1155

1156 Figure 1. Surface (<5 m) concentrations (nM) of DMS (A-C) and total DMSP (D-F) for

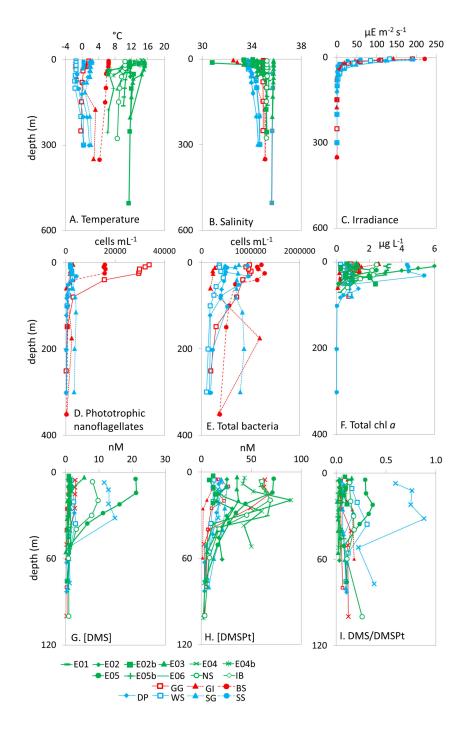
cruises in the NW European shelf (D366) (A,D), the sub-Arctic and Arctic Ocean (JR271)
(B,E) and the Southern Ocean (JR274) (C,F). Locations of sampling stations for microcosm

experiments shown in letters/numbers. E01 - E05: see Hopkins & Archer 2014. NS = North

1160 Sea, IB = Iceland Basin, GI = Greenland Ice-edge, GG = Greenland Gyre, BS = Barents Sea,

1100 Sea, ID – Icelana Dasin, OI – Oreeniana Ice-eage, OO – Oreeniana Oyre, BS – Darenis Sea,

1161 DP = Drake Passage, WS = Weddell Sea, SG = South Georgia, SS = South Sandwich.



1163 Figure 2. Depth profiles for all 18 sampling stations showing A. Temperature (°C), B.

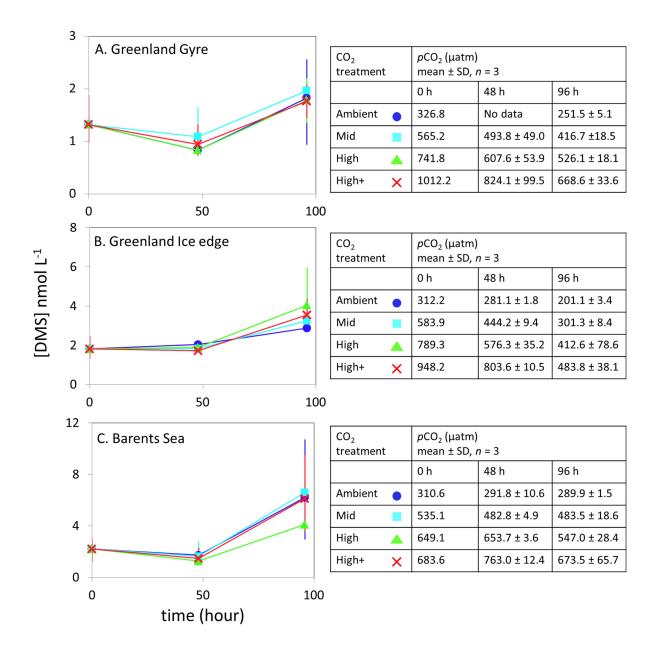
1164 Salinity, C. Irradiance ($\mu E m^{-2} s^{-1}$), D. phototrophic nanoflagellate abundance (cells mL⁻¹), E.

total bacteria abundance (cells mL⁻¹), F. total Chl a (μ g L⁻¹), G. [DMS] (nM), H. total

1166 [DMSP] (nM) and I. DMS/DMSPt from CTD casts at sampling stations for microcosm

experiments in temperate (green), Arctic (red) and Southern Ocean (blue) waters. See Table 1for station details. Data for irrandiance, phototrophic nanoflagellates and total bacteria were

1169 not collected for temperate stations.



1172 Figure 3. DMS concentrations (nmol L^{-1}) during experimental microcosms performed in

1173 Arctic waters. Data shown is mean of triplicate incubations, and error bars show standard

error on the mean. Tables show measurements of pCO_2 (µatm) for each treatment at each

sampling time point. Initial measurements (0 h) were from a single sample, whilst

1176 measurements at 48 h and 96 h show mean \pm SD of triplicate experimental bottles. Locations

1177 of water collection for microcosms shown in Figure 1 C - F.

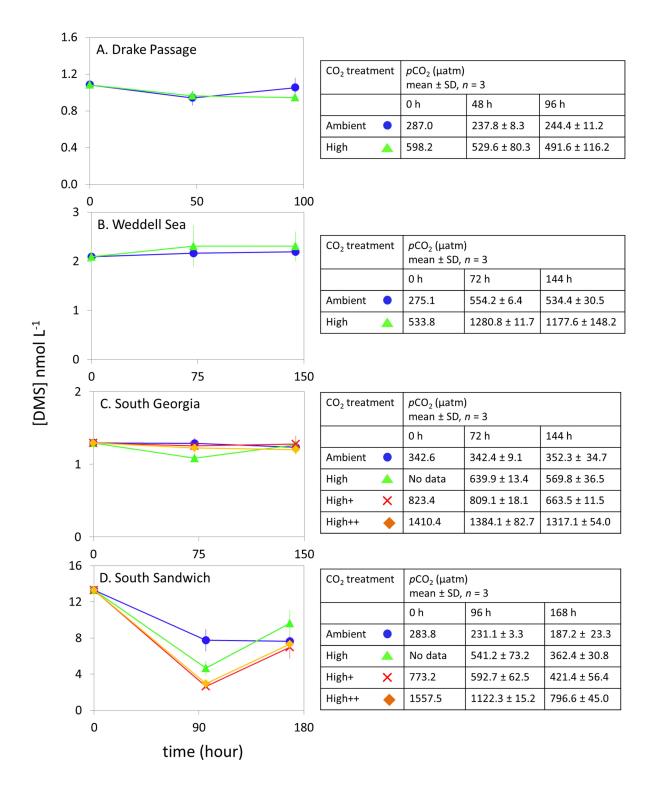
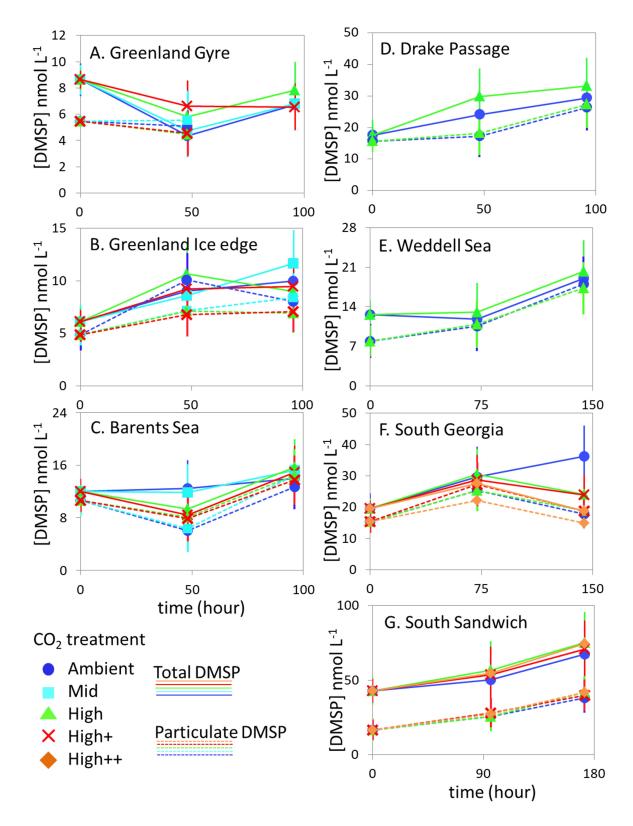




Figure 4. DMS concentrations (nmol L⁻¹) during experimental microcosms performed in Southern Ocean waters. Data shown is mean of triplicate incubations, and error bars show standard error on the mean. Tables show measurements of pCO_2 (µatm) for each treatment at each sampling time point. Initial measurements (0 h) were from a single sample, whilst measurements at 48 h and 96 h show mean ± SD of triplicate experimental bottles. Locations

1184 of water collection for microcosms shown in Figure 1 C - F.



1187Figure 5. Total DMSP (solid lines) and particulate DMSP (dashed lines) concentrations (1188nmol L^{-1}) during experimental microcosms performed in Arctic waters (A - C) and in1189Southern Ocean waters (D - G). Data shown is mean of triplicate incubations, and error bars

show standard error on the mean. Locations of water collection for microcosms shown in

1191 Figure 1 C – F. Particulate DMSP concentrations were used in calculations of DMSP

1192 production rates (Figure 6).

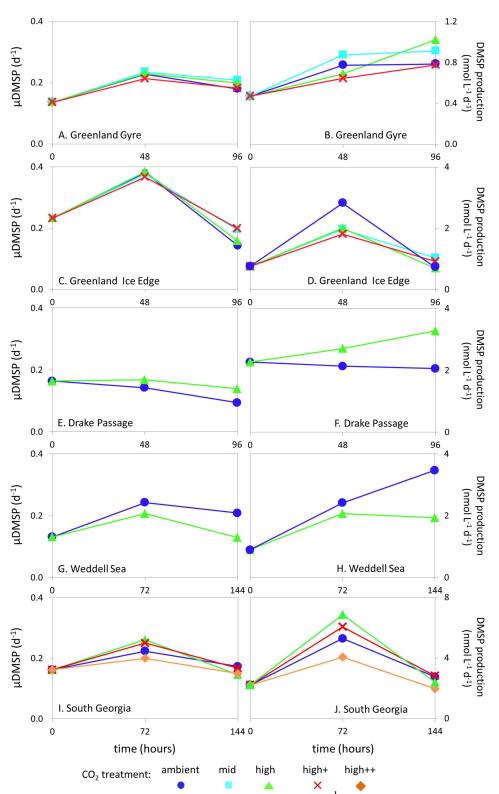


Figure 6. De novo synthesis of DMSP (μ DMSP, d⁻¹) (left column) and DMSP production rates (nmol L⁻¹ d⁻¹) (right column) for Arctic Ocean stations *Greenland Gyre* (A,B), *Greenland Ice-edge* (C, D) and Southern Ocean stations *Drake Passage* (E, F), *Weddell Sea* (G, H) and *South Georgia* (I, J). No data is available for *Barents Sea* (Arctic Ocean) or *South*

1199 *Sandwich* (Southern Ocean).



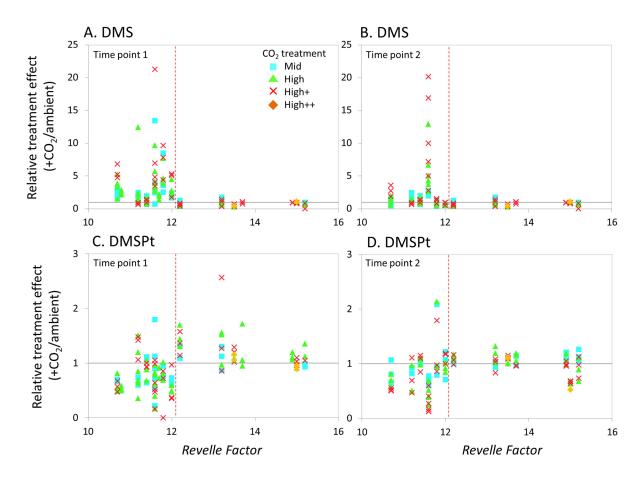
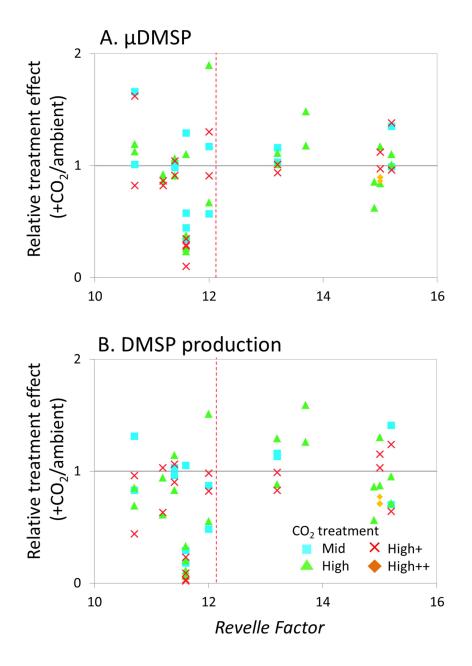


Figure 7. Relationship between Revelle Factor of the sampled water and the relative CO₂ treatment effect at ($[x]_{highCO2}/[x]_{ambientCO2}$) for concentrations of DMS at T₁ (A) and T₂ (B), and for total DMSP concentrations at T₁ (C) and T₂ (D) for all microcosm experiments performed in NW European waters, sub-Arctic and Arctic waters, and the Southern Ocean. Grey solid line (= 1) indicates no effect of elevated CO₂. Revelle Factor > 12 = polar waters (indicated by red dashed line). T₁ = 48 h, except for WS and SG (72 h) and SS (96 h). For detailed analyses of the NW European shelf data, see Hopkins & Archer (2014).

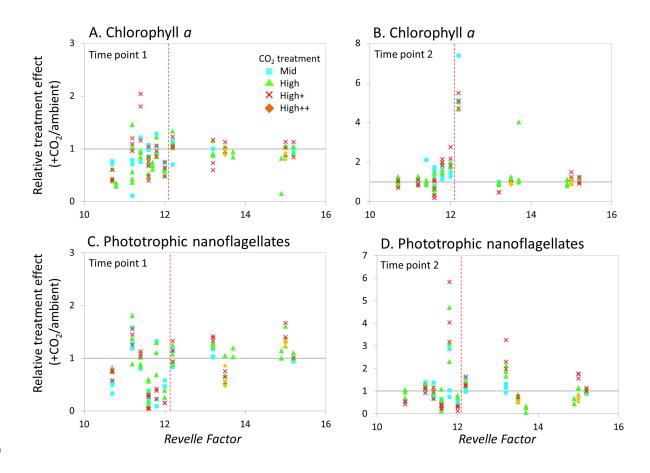


1211 Figure 8. Relationship between the Revelle Factor of the sampled water and the relative CO₂ 1212 treatment effect at $([x]_{highCO2}/[x]_{ambientCO2})$ for de novo DMSP synthesis (µDMSp, d⁻¹) at T₁

1213 (A) and T_2 (B), and DMSP production rate (nmol $L^{-1} d^{-1}$) at T_1 (C) and T_2 (D) for microcosm

1214 experiments performed in NW European waters, sub-Arctic and Arctic waters, and the

- 1215 Southern Ocean. Grey solid line (= 1) indicates no effect of elevated CO_2 . Revelle Factor >12
- 1216 = polar waters (indicated by red dashed line). $T_1 = 48$ h, $T_2 = 96$ h, except for *Weddell Sea*
- and *South Georgia* (72 h, 144 h). For discussion of the NW European shelf data, see Hopkins
 & Archer (2014).



1219

Figure 9. Relationship between the Revelle Factor of the sampled water and the relative CO₂ treatment effect ($[x]_{highCO2}/[x]_{ambientCO2}$) for chlorophyll *a* concentrations at T₁ (A) and T₂ (B) and phototrophic nanoflagellate abundance at T1 (C) and T2 (D) for all microcosm experiments performed in NW European waters, sub-Arctic and Arctic waters, and the Southern Ocean. Grey solid line (= 1) indicates no effect of elevated CO₂. Revelle Factor >12 = polar waters (indicated by red dashed line). T₁ = 48 h, T₂ = 96 h, except for *Weddell Sea* and *South Georgia* (72 h, 144 h) and *South Sandwich* (96 h, 168 h).