

SD4

Improved understanding of the potential population, community and ecosystem impacts for all life stages for commercially important species and their capacity to resist and adapt

Kevin J Flynn et al.



The Team

- **Swansea:** finfish & decapods; mechanistic physiological models
- **Exeter:** bivalves
- **Strathclyde:** fisheries modelling
- **PML:** socio-economic modelling



The individuals ...

- **Swansea:** Kevin J Flynn, Robin Shields, Purazen Chingombe, Ingrid Lupatsch, Alex Keay, Jake Scolding, Maria Scolamacchia; **Ed Pope**, Gemma Webb
- **Exeter:** Rod Wilson, Ceri Lewis, **Rob Ellis**, Rebecca Hunter
- **Strathclyde:** Dougie Speirs
- **PML:** Caroline Hattam, **Nicola Beaumont**, Gorka Merino, Mel Austen

(short-form) aims of SD4 are

- Aim 4.1 Examine physiological and behavioral responses of commercial fish and shellfish to ocean acidification
- Aim 4.2 Scale up laboratory studies to a population level and assess the impact of OA upon higher trophic levels

The essence of the subject area for SD4 is the impact of OA upon higher trophic levels

esp. commercial species

- Aim 4.3 Investigate the impact of ocean acidification on planktonic and benthic organisms and the resulting effect upon the production and sustainability of commercial fish and shellfish stocks.
- Aim 4.4 Investigate possible socio-economic consequences of OA at an ecosystem level.

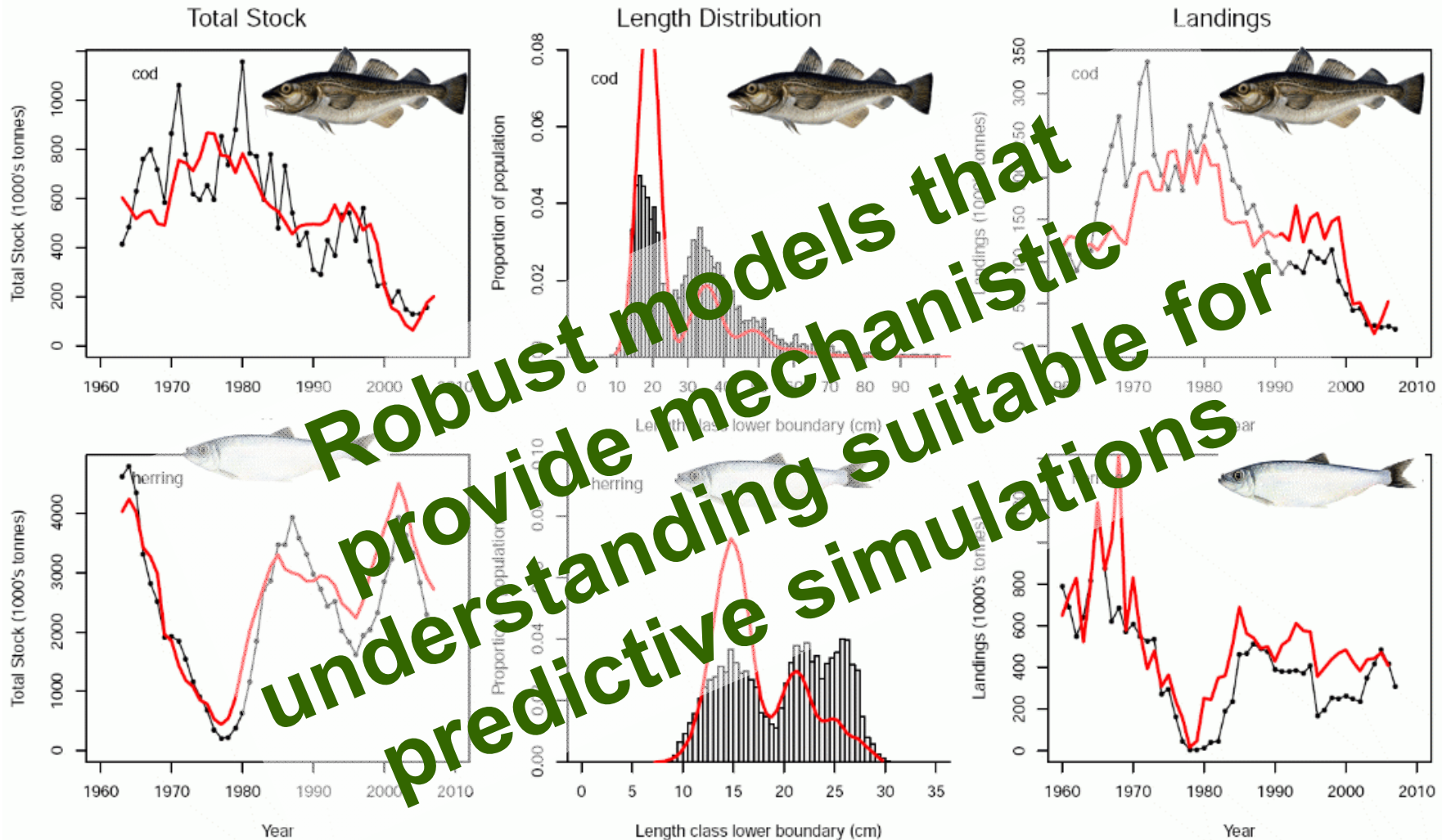
Experimental - organisms

- *Pecten maximus* (scallop)
- *Crassostrea gigas* (Pacific oyster)
- *Nephrops norvegicus* (langoustine, scampi)
- *Clupea harengus* (herring)
- *Melanogrammus aeglefinus* (haddock)
- *Dicentrarchus labrax* (European sea bass)
- diatom, prymnesiophyte, cryptophyte
- copepods

Experimental - conditions

- Matrix of 2 OA + 2 temperatures
- OA – equivalent to extant & 750ppm CO₂
- Temperature – upper range of extant (90-95% limit for species under study) & that value + 4°C (or +2°C)
i.e. not a single fixed temp, but varies with season

What we are aiming for



Robust models that provide mechanistic understanding suitable for predictive simulations

Timetable

- Start date delay affected project run-out
- Series of experimental challenges
 - (esp. lack of good quality field-sourced organisms)
- Loss of original Swansea PDRA to a commercial company
- Rescheduling of all bivalve work to Exeter, allowing Swansea to concentrate on others
- Integration with FP7 Nephrops project
 - (will provide further scope for OA experiments at Swansea)
- Socio-economics on track
- Fisheries model on track to start soon

Presentations

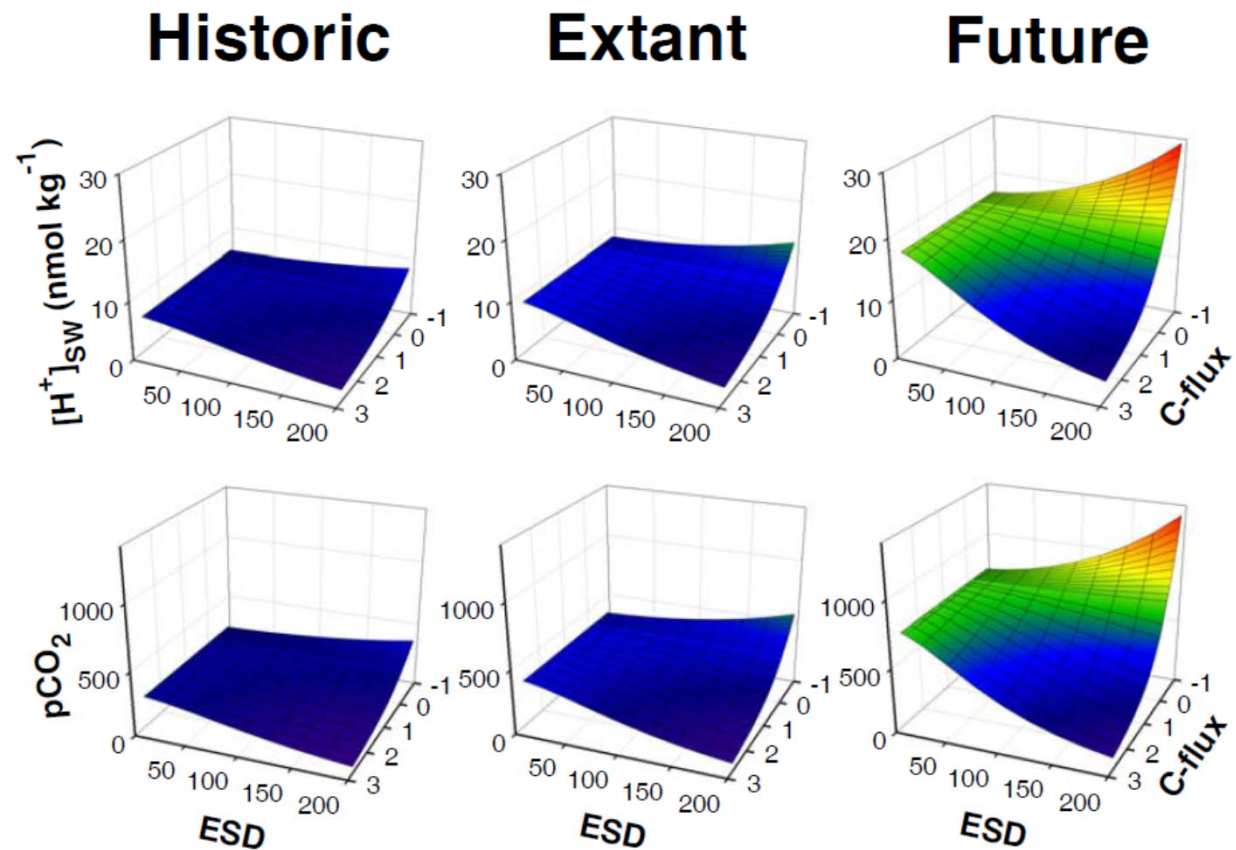
- Status at **Swansea**: finfish and decapods
- Status at **Exeter**: bivalves
- Status at **PML**: socio-economics

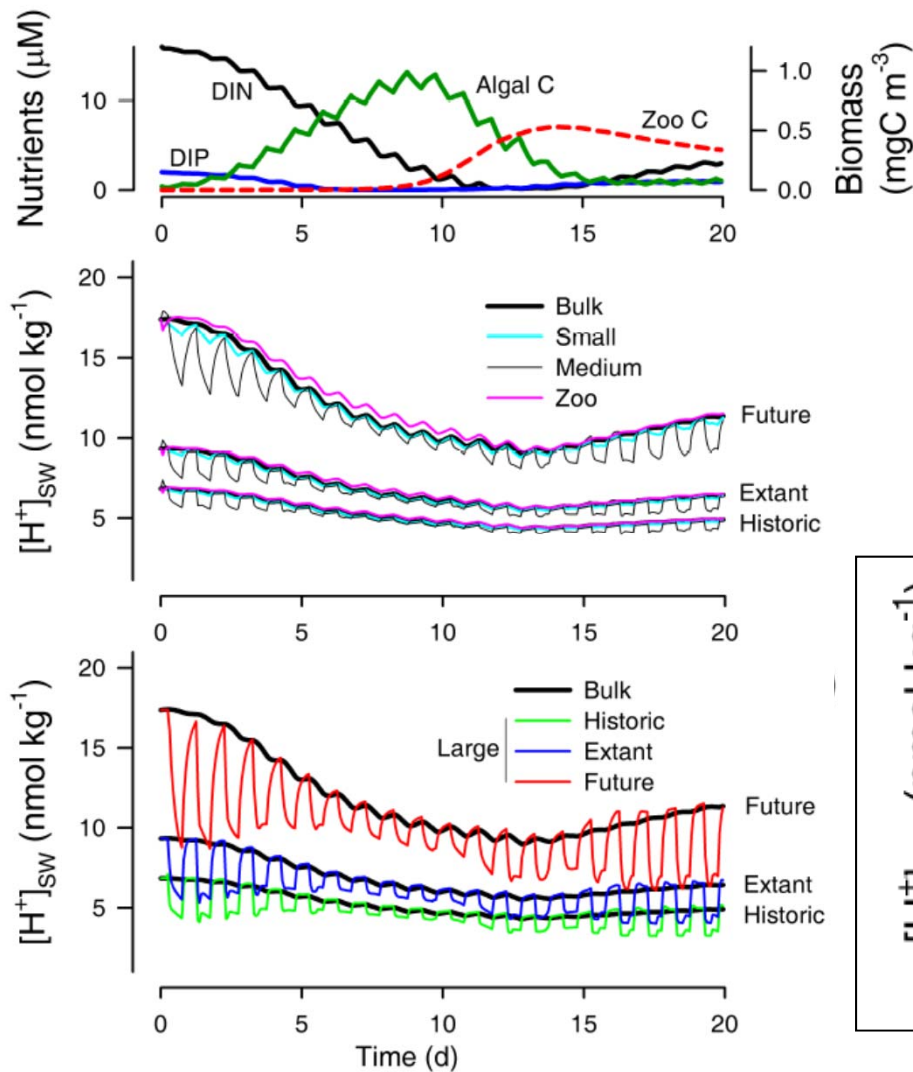
- Status at **Strathclyde**: not started, PDRA to commence soon

“Historic”**pCO₂ 280 ppm****bulk water pH 8.165****“Extant”****pCO₂ 390****bulk water pH 8.03****“Future”****pCO₂ 750****bulk water pH 7.76****ESD: diameter μm of the
particle or aggregate****Cflux: +ve is C-fix****C-fix “compensates” OA****Respiration****“exaggerates” OA**

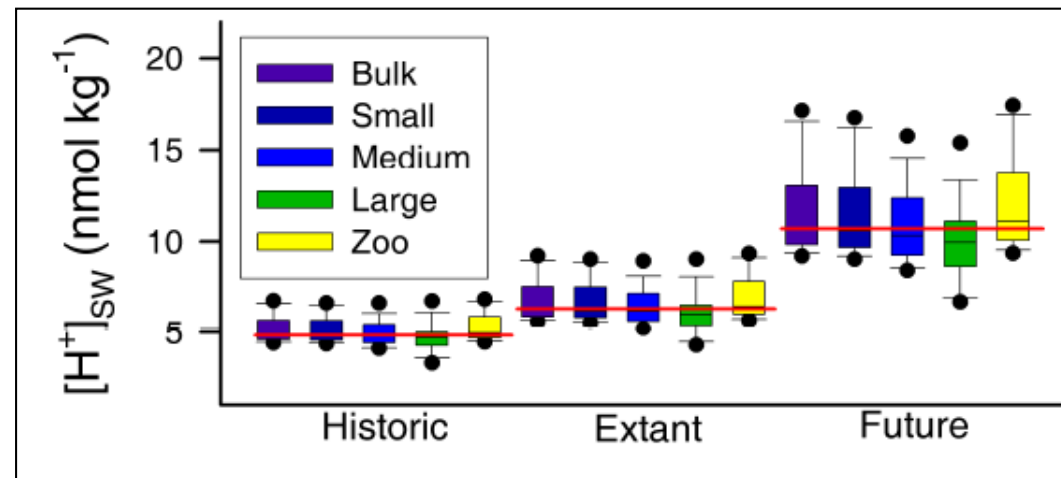
Changes in pH at the exterior surface of plankton with ocean acidification

Kevin J. Flynn^{1*}, Jerry C. Blackford², Mark E. Baird³, John A. Raven⁴, Darren R. Clark², John Beardall⁵, Colin Brownlee⁶, Heiner Fabian¹ and Glen L. Wheeler^{2,6}





- Larger and more active organisms “see” greater deviation from bulk water conditions
- For a given level of activity, deviations become greater at higher acidity (lower pH) as buffering capacity falls



Displaying data on pH scales, and especially as ΔpH , is misleading because of log scaling

Swansea: finfish & decapods

SD4 – Finfish and Decapods

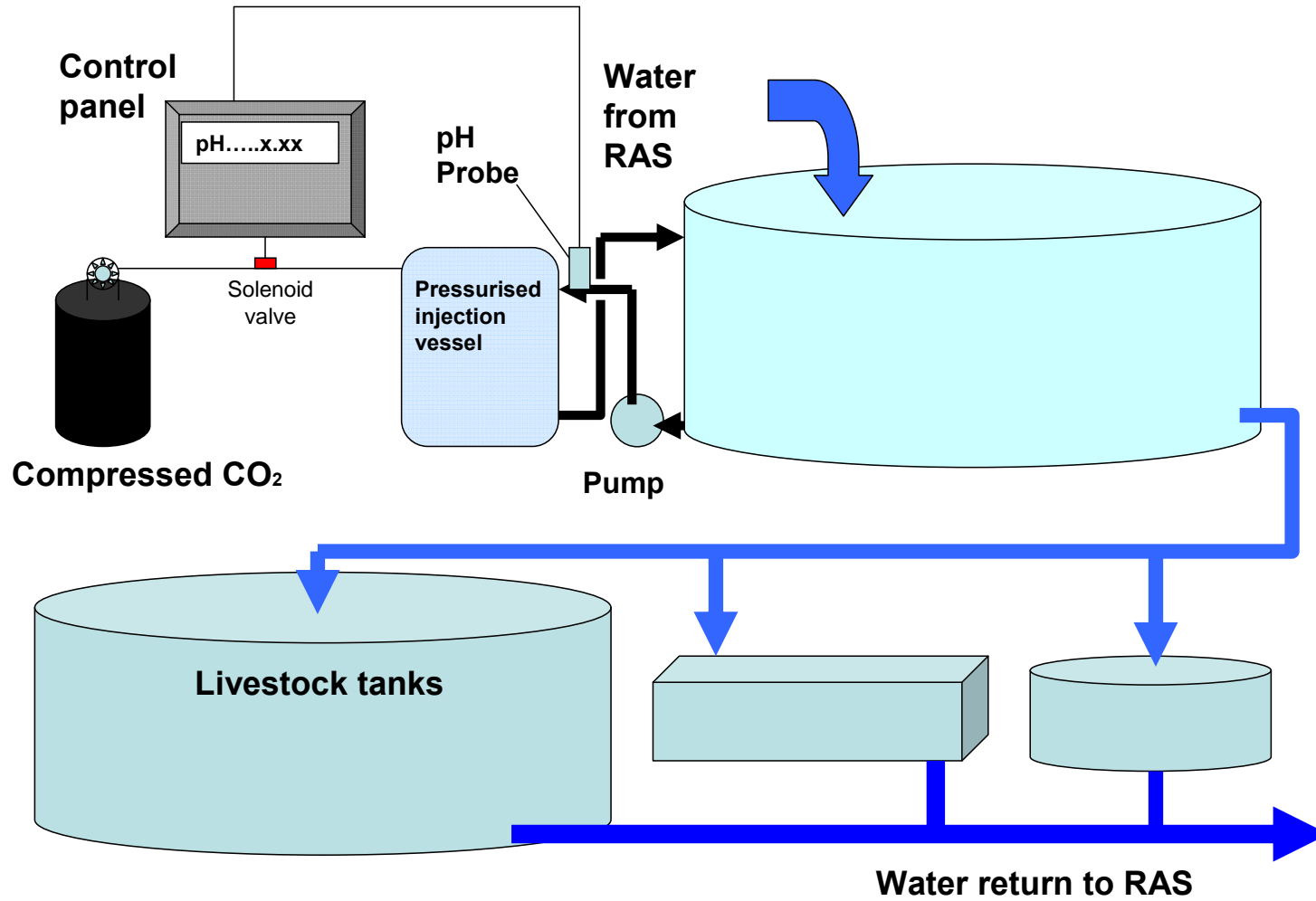
Ed Pope (e.c.pope@swansea.ac.uk)



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

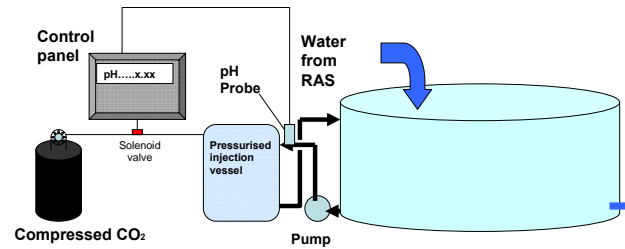


pH / CO₂ control system with temperature control



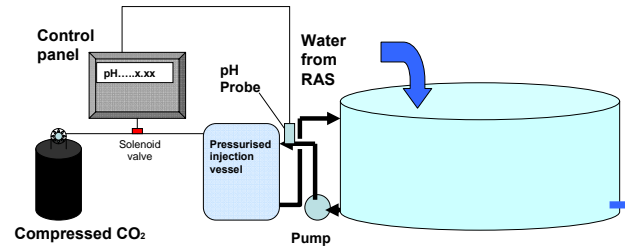
4 separate systems

System 1



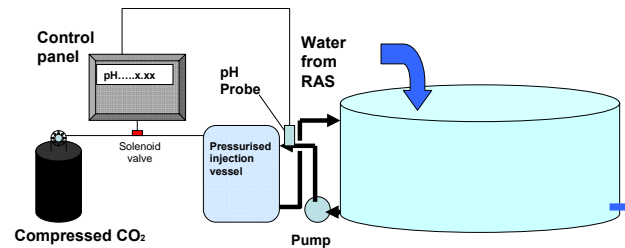
**Future pH / CO₂ (750ppm)
Elevated temperature (ambient +2°C)**

System 2



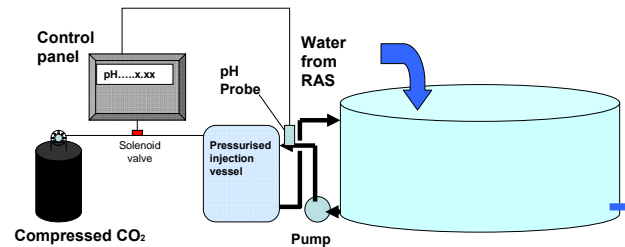
**Future pH / CO₂ (750 ppm)
Extant temperature (ambient)**

System 3



**Extant pH / CO₂ (380ppm)
Extant temperature**

System 4



**Extant pH / CO₂ (380ppm)
Elevated temperature (ambient +2°C)**

	Q1 2012			Q2 2012			Q3 2012			Q4 2012			Q1 2013			Q2 2013		
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
Swansea PDRA (50%)																		
Swansea technician team (2 technicians)																		
Fish #1 Herring																		
Fish #2 Haddock																		
Fish #3 Sea bass																		
Decapod #1 Nephrops																		
Exeter component																		
Strathclyde component																		
PML component																		
NEPHROPS FP7																		
WP4 - development of <i>Nephrops</i> hatchery techniques																		

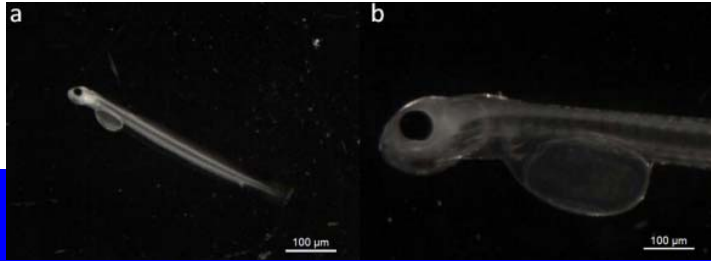
Jan 2015
Dec 2013
Feb 2015

Key parameters

- Embryonic development
- Survival (to hatch; larvae to post-larvae)
- Growth
- Hatching rate
- First feeding success
- Feed intake

- Metabolic rate
- Calcification

Herring (*Clupea harengus*); preliminary experiment 2011



No significant differences were observed in the relationship between body length or yolk sac area with regard to pH treatments after 11 d PF (8 d post-hatch).

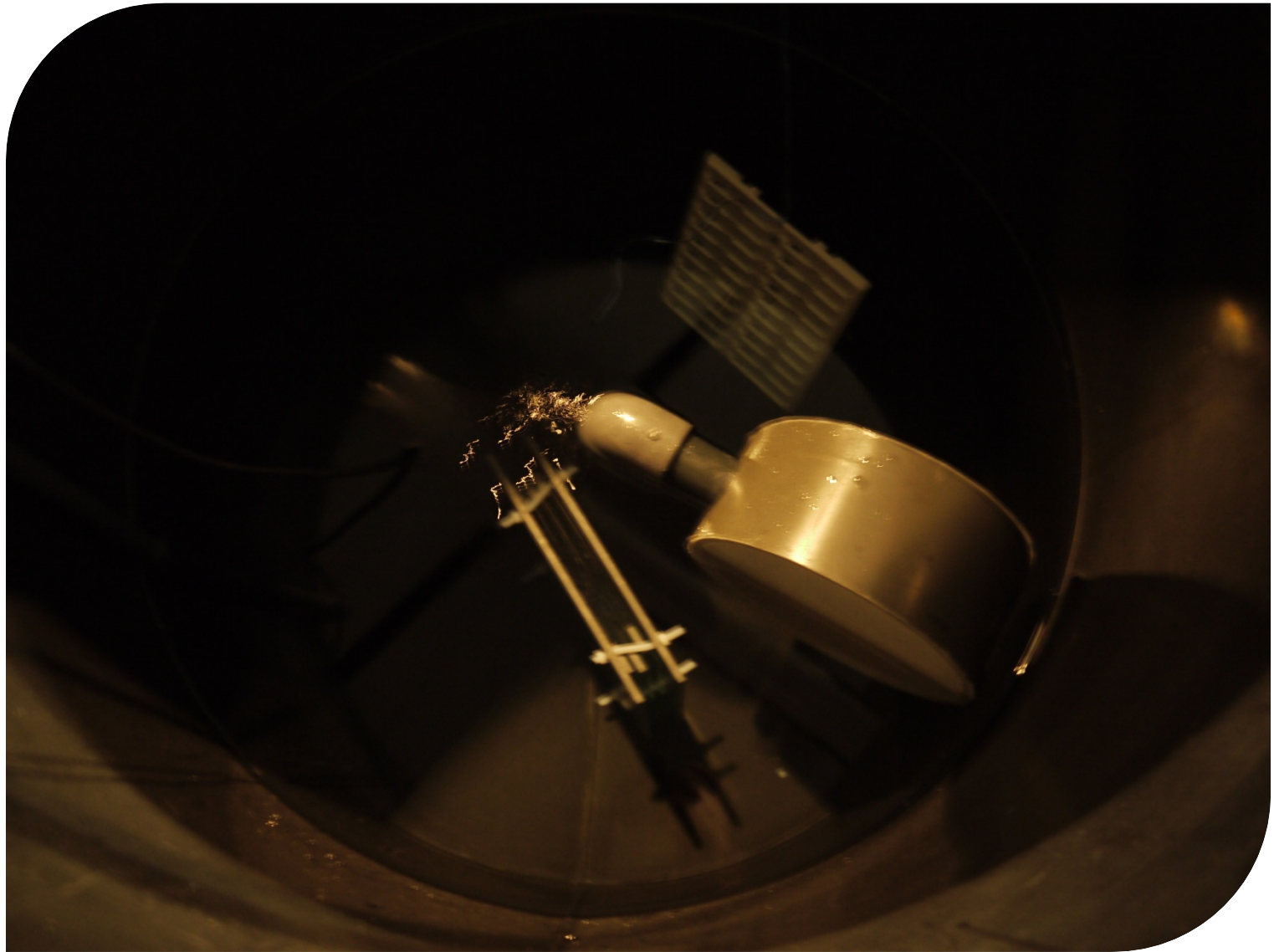
Fish 1: Herring (*Clupea harengus*)

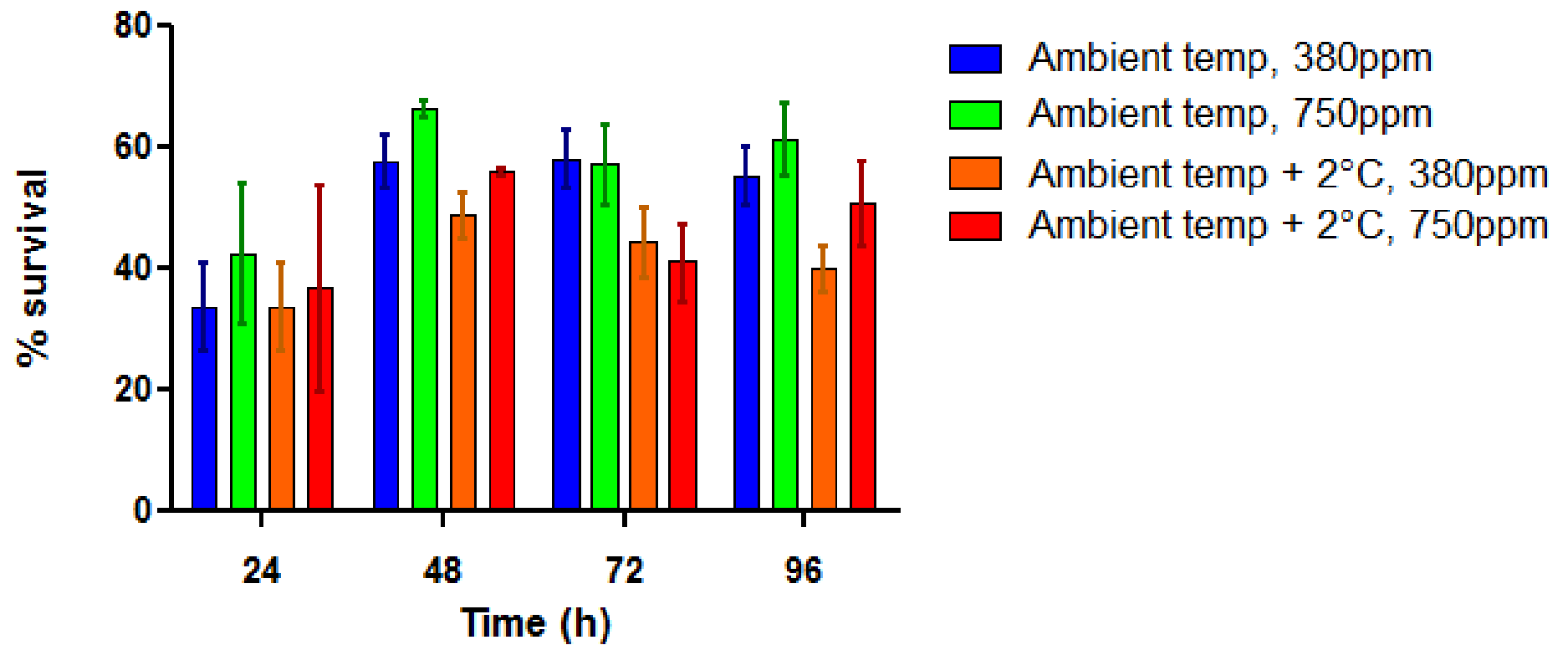
- Locally caught mature adults available February – April
- First fish were caught on Friday
- Two priorities:
 - **Survival of eggs, hatch rate, growth**
 - **Production of sufficient larvae for feeding, energetics**
- Gonads brought to CSAR and fertilised within hours
- Eggs adhered to glass plates and suspended in OA tanks for incubation (3 x 150L tanks per treatment)
 - **Microscope slides for egg survival (ca. 100 eggs per slide)**
 - **Glass plates (thousands per plate)**
- Future fish will be used for fertilisation experiments
(**fertilisation rates under OA conditions**)









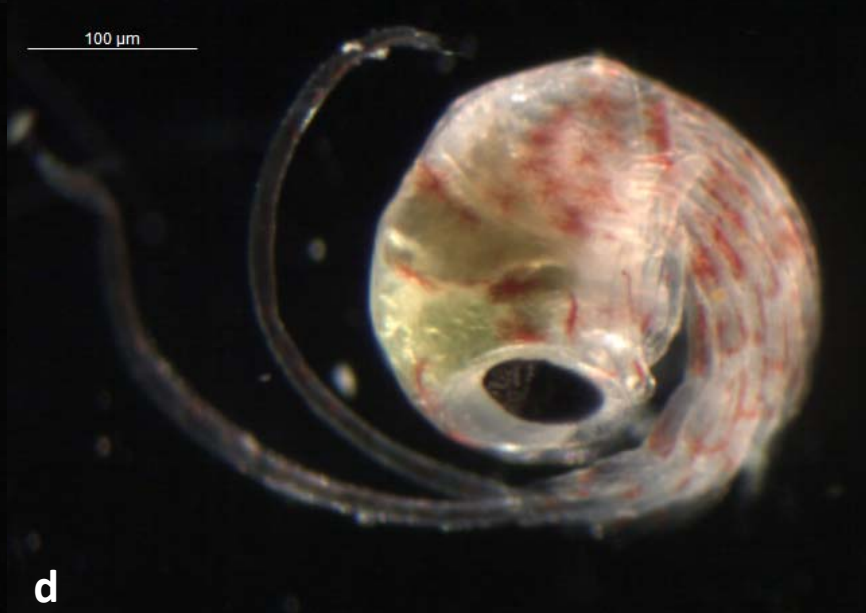
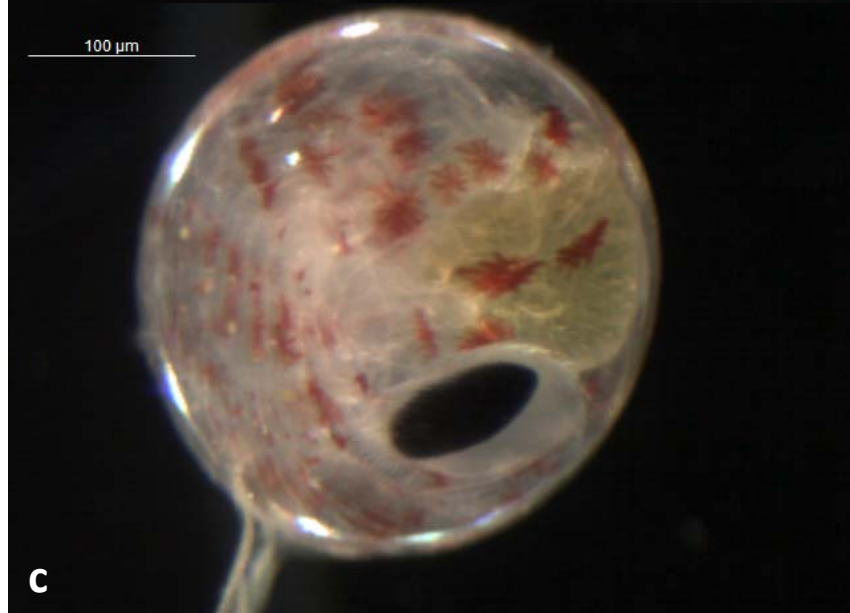
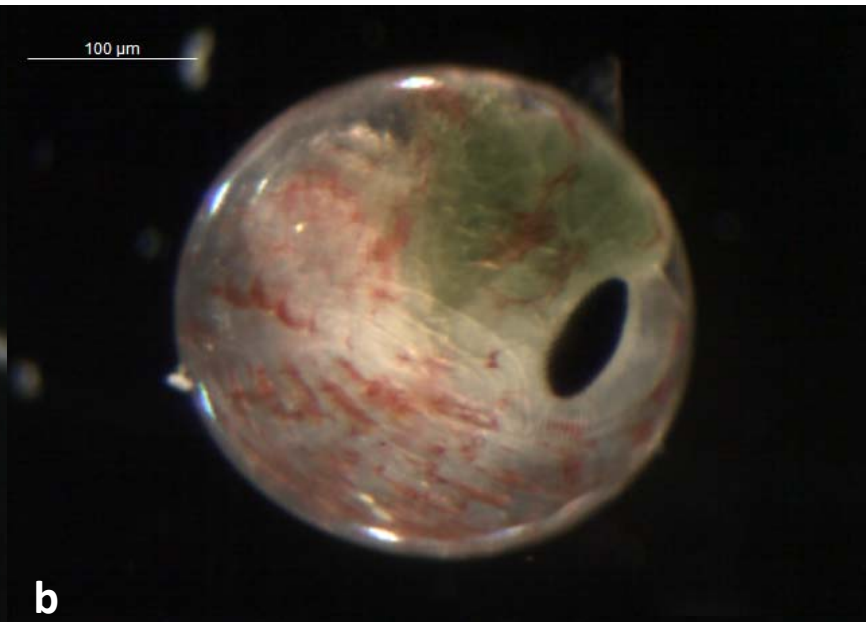
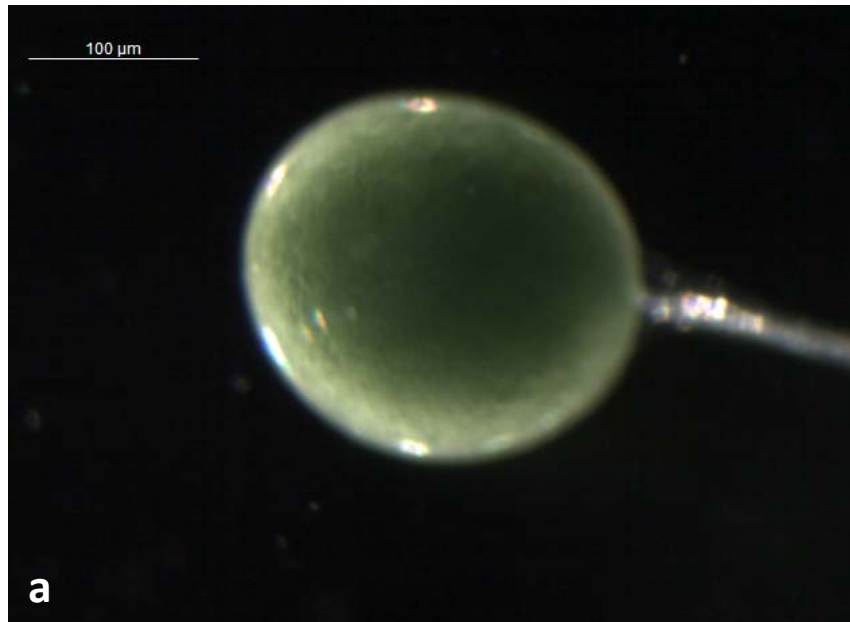


Fish species #2 and #3

- **Haddock** – problems with obtaining sufficient numbers of eggs. We will keep trying
- **Sea Bass** – farmed, egg availability is non-seasonal
 - **BUT temperature of the system will need to be higher, incompatible with the other species (herring, *Nephrops*)**
- Further work with autumn spawning stocks of **herring** - these fish will require a warmer system temperature, compatible with simultaneous sea bass work
- **Alternative species?**

Nephrops norvegicus

- We have berried females producing larvae
(currently not under OA conditions)
- Regular production of low (<100 d⁻¹) numbers of larvae, which go into 4 treatments
- Currently running larval survival trials
(up to stage IV, ca. 1 month)
- Later work in Orkney cells
(feeding, moulting, growth, calcification)
- NEPHROPS FP7 project – near-continuous supply of *Nephrops* larvae for future work



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Jan 2015
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Exeter: bivalves



**Improved understanding of population,
community and ecosystem impacts of OA
for commercially important species**

Experimental studies at Exeter

Robert Ellis

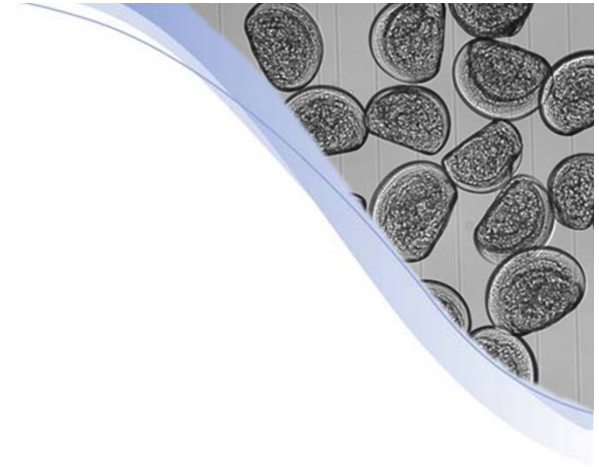
University of Exeter

**UKOARP Annual Science meeting, Exeter,
18th April 2012**

Study species at Exeter

Crassostrea gigas – Pacific oyster

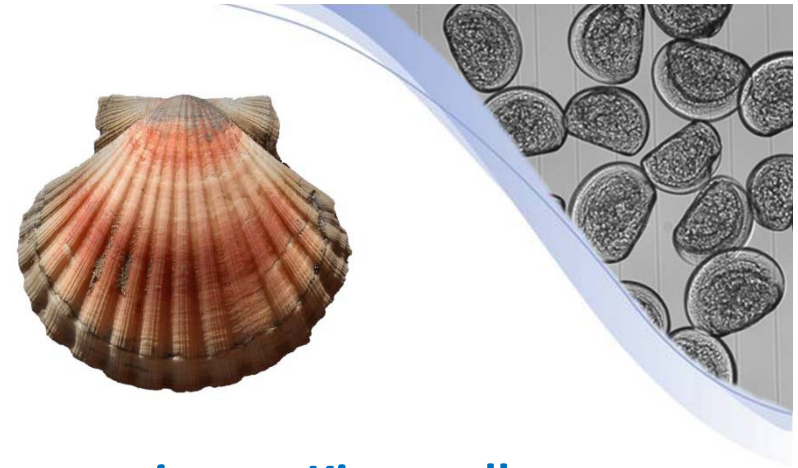
- 2008 oysters contributed >31% of global mollusc production, worth 4.17 billion US\$ (FAO 2010)
- Introduced for aquaculture from Japan to Europe in 1970's
- Invasive populations established around UK coastline
- Available year round



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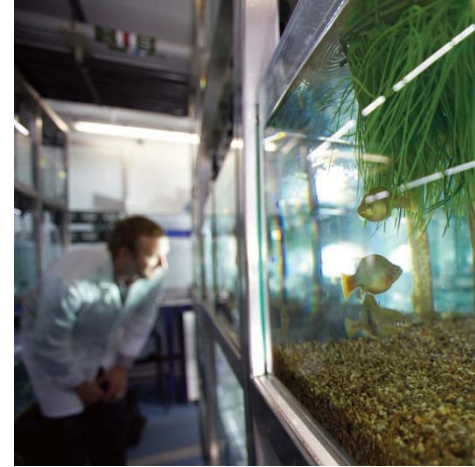


Pecten maximus – King scallop

- 2010, value of 1st sale landings of scallops £54.5million in UK (DEFRA 2011)
- Native to UK, wide distribution around UK coast
- Available May-September, hand collected

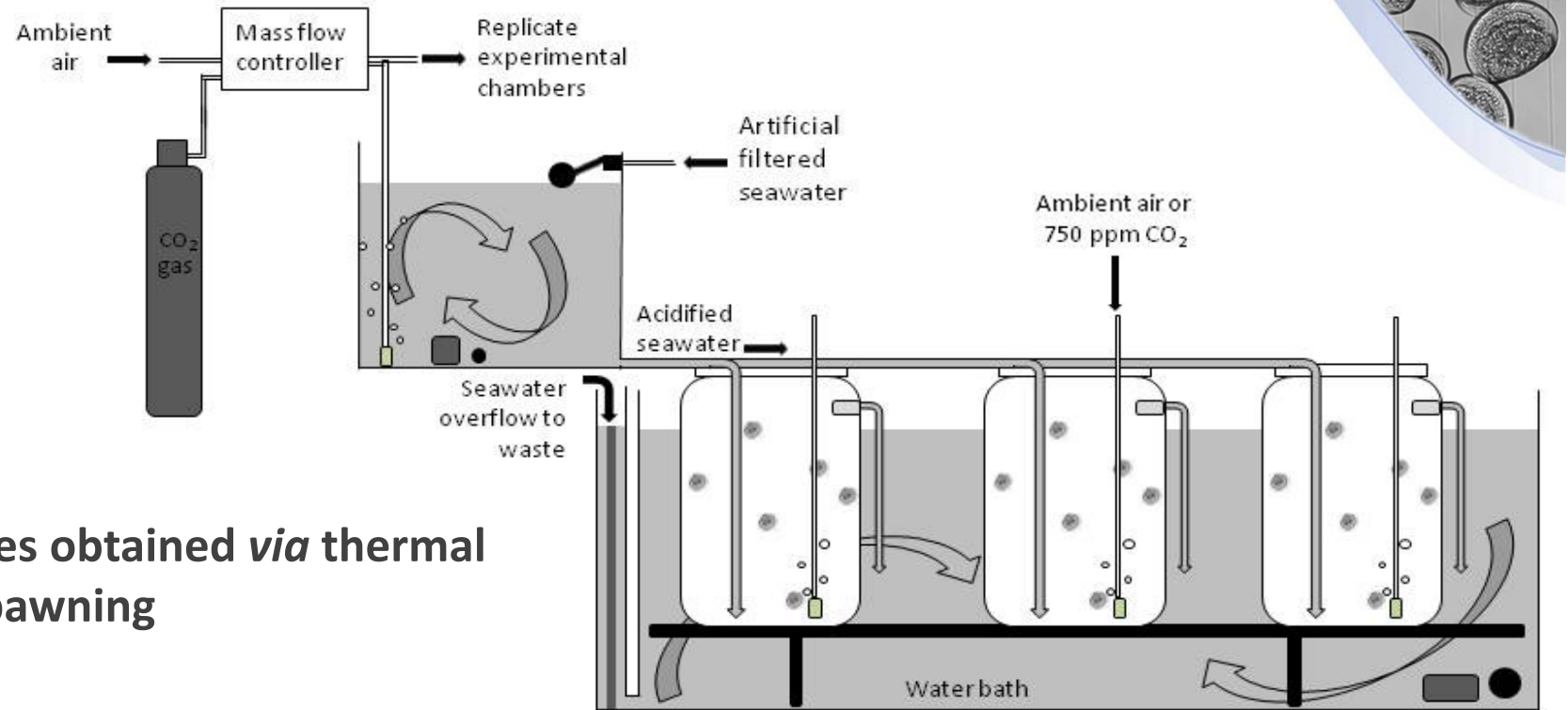
Aquatic research centre

- £9million research facility, costing opened late 2011, designed to investigate impact of various stressors on aquatic ecosystems
- Computer controlled water treatment, removes all potential contaminants and produce high quality water
- Runs at any salinity from ion poor fresh water to fully marine, and at any temperature between 10 °C and 28 °C (± 1 °C)



Experimental approach

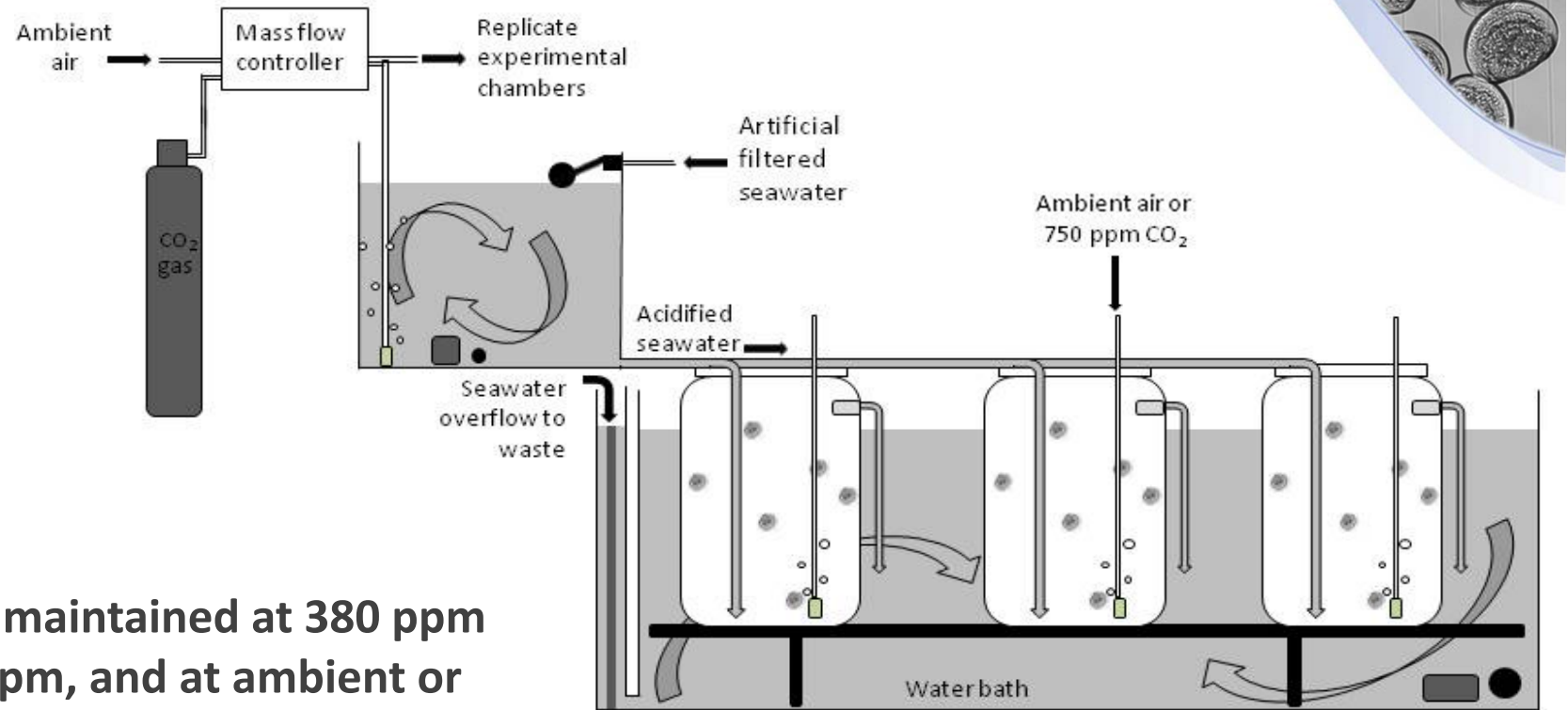
Experimental setup



- Gametes obtained *via* thermal shock spawning
- Fertilized embryos distributed in experimental chambers (N=16)

Experimental approach

Experimental setup



- Larvae maintained at 380 ppm or 750 ppm, and at ambient or +4 °C, from fertilisation until settlement

Experimental approach

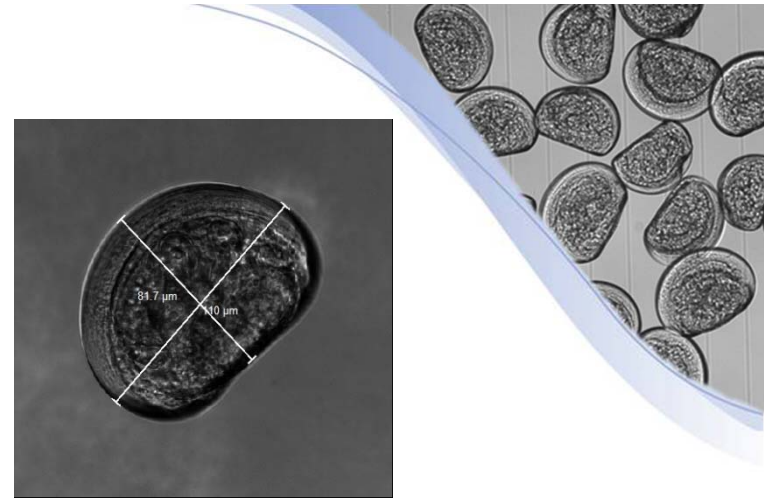
Parameters measured

- Survival, developmental staging and growth rate

Larvae sampled and fixed 1h, 2h, 4h, 6h, 8h, 10h, 12h, 18h, 24h, 36h and 48h into development

Subsequently sampled every 24h until settlement

Measure survival, abnormalities and morphology



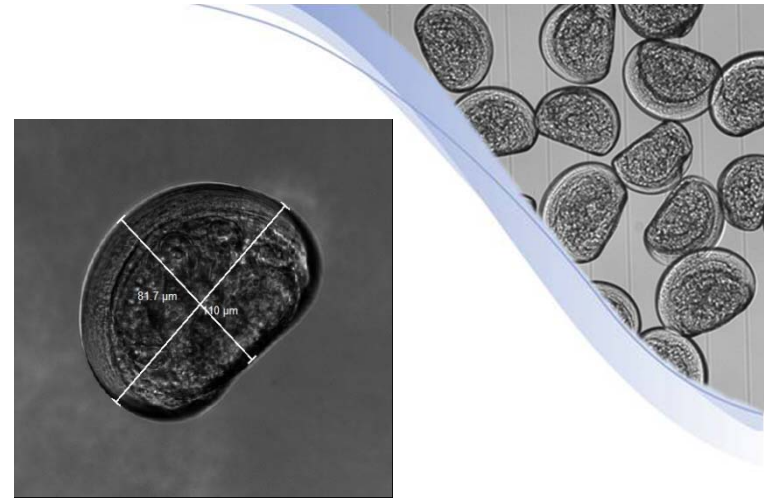
Experimental approach

Parameters measured

- Respiration, excretion and feeding rate

Oxygen consumption and ammonium excretion will be measured 4 d after fertilisation, and every 4 days until settlement

Feeding rate, measured as clearance efficiency over 24 h, measured every 4 days, from 4 d post fertilisation until settlement



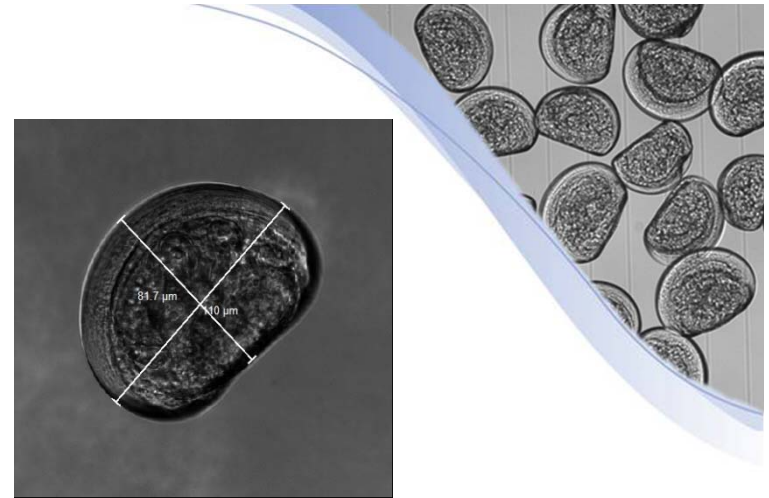
Experimental approach

Parameters measured

- Calcification

Calcium carbonate deposition,
through incorporation of calcein in
larval shell, using confocal
microscopy

Measured over 48h, every 4 days
from 4 d post fertilisation until
settlement



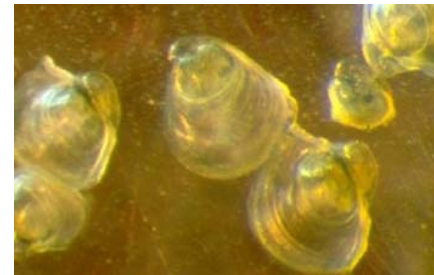
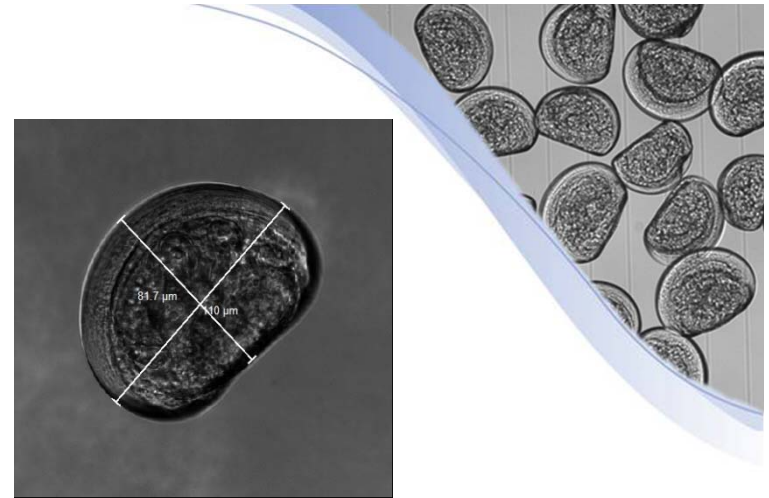
Experimental approach

Parameters measured

- Settlement

Settlement assessed from 19 days post fertilisation, settlement panel introduced into each experimental chamber

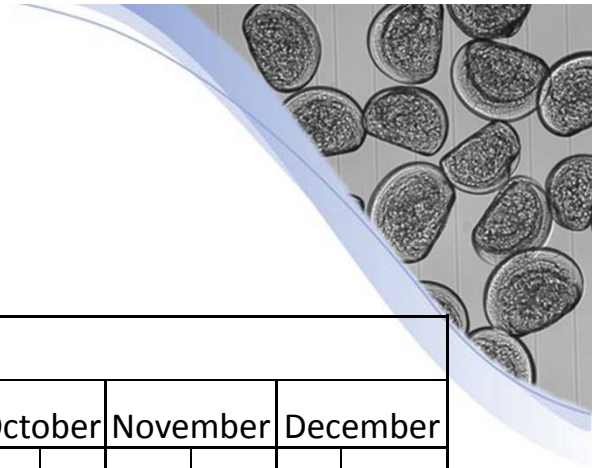
Panel assessed daily, measure number of individuals settled and collect spat for morphology/physiology



T. Renault (2011) Ifremer

Experimental approach

Proposed timetable



	2012													
	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December					
Finalise experimental Set up	█	█												
Oyster availability	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Scallop availability		█	█	█	█	█								
1st Oyster Trail		█	█											
1st Scallop Trail				█	█									
2nd Scallop Trail						█	█							
2nd Oyster Trail									█	█				
Work up outstanding morphological data										█	█			
Work up outstanding confocal microscopy											█	█		

PML: socio-economics