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Title: The stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid in seawater brines from 298 to 267 K

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Abstract: The stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid ($K1C^*$ and $K2C^*$) were determined by measurement of all four measurable parameters of the carbonate system (total alkalinity, total dissolved inorganic carbon, pH, and CO_2 fugacity) in natural seawater and seawater-derived brines, with a major ion composition equivalent to that of Standard Reference Seawater, to practical salinity (SP) 100 and from 25 °C to the freezing point of these solutions and -6 °C temperature minimum. These values, reported in the total proton scale, provide the first such determinations at below-zero temperatures and for $SP > 50$. The temperature (T, in Kelvin) and SP dependence of the current $pK1C^*$ and $pK2C^*$ (as negative common logarithms) within the salinity and temperature ranges of this study ($33 \leq SP \leq 100$, $-6 \text{ °C} \leq t \leq 25 \text{ °C}$) is described by the following best-fit equations: $pK1C^* = -176.48 + 6.14528 \times SP^{0.5} - 0.127714 \times SP + 7.396 \times 10^{-5} \times SP^2 + (9914.37 - 622.886 \times SP^{0.5} + 29.714 \times SP) \times T^{-1} + (26.05129 - 0.666812 \times SP^{0.5}) \times \ln T$ ($\sigma = 0.011$, $n = 62$), and $pK2C^* = -323.52692 + 27.557655 \times SP^{0.5} + 0.154922 \times SP - 2.48396 \times 10^{-4} \times SP^2 + (14763.287 - 1014.819 \times SP^{0.5} - 14.35223 \times SP) \times T^{-1} + (50.385807 - 4.4630415 \times SP^{0.5}) \times \ln T$ ($\sigma = 0.020$, $n = 62$). These functions are suitable for application to investigations of the carbonate system of internal sea ice brines with a conservative major ion composition relative to that of Standard Reference Seawater and within the temperature and salinity ranges of this study.

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21 April 2017

FAO: Editor-in-Chief, *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*

Dear Dr Norman,

I would like to submit to *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* the attached manuscript titled “The stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid in seawater brines from 298 to 267 K” by S. Papadimitriou, S. Loucaides, V. M. C. Rérolle, P. Kennedy, E. P. Achterberg, A. G. Dickson, M. Mowlem, and H. Kennedy for consideration as a regular article. The manuscript describes work which is not published or under consideration for publication elsewhere. It presents the experimental determination of the dissociation constants of carbonic acid in natural seawater and seawater-derived brines to practical salinity 100 and from 25 °C to the freezing point of these solutions. To the best of our knowledge, the data set is new for salinities greater than 50 and, especially, at below-zero temperatures and has particular relevance to inorganic carbon investigations in polar oceanic environments. All authors have seen the manuscript and agree to its submission to the journal. We would like to suggest the following Associate Editors, who would be appropriate to handle the manuscript:

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Thank you.

Sincerely

Stathys Papadimitriou, Ph. D.

21 **Abstract**

22 The stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid (K_{1C}^* and K_{2C}^*) were determined
 23 by measurement of all four measurable parameters of the carbonate system (total alkalinity, total
 24 dissolved inorganic carbon, pH, and CO_2 fugacity) in natural seawater and seawater-derived
 25 brines, with a major ion composition equivalent to that of Standard Reference Seawater, to
 26 practical salinity (S_p) 100 and from 25 °C to the freezing point of these solutions and -6 °C
 27 temperature minimum. These values, reported in the total proton scale, provide the first such
 28 determinations at below-zero temperatures and for $S_p > 50$. The temperature (T , in Kelvin) and S_p
 29 dependence of the current pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* (as negative common logarithms) within the salinity
 30 and temperature ranges of this study ($33 \leq S_p \leq 100$, $-6 \text{ °C} \leq t \leq 25 \text{ °C}$) is described by the
 31 following best-fit equations: $pK_{1C}^* = -176.48 + 6.14528S_p^{0.5} - 0.127714 S_p + 7.396 \times 10^{-5} S_p^2 +$
 32 $(9914.37 - 622.886S_p^{0.5} + 29.714 S_p) T^{-1} + (26.05129 - 0.666812S_p^{0.5}) \ln T$ ($\sigma = 0.011$, $n = 62$),
 33 and $pK_{2C}^* = -323.52692 + 27.557655S_p^{0.5} + 0.154922 S_p - 2.48396 \times 10^{-4} S_p^2 + (14763.287 -$
 34 $1014.819S_p^{0.5} - 14.35223 S_p) T^{-1} + (50.385807 - 4.4630415S_p^{0.5}) \ln T$ ($\sigma = 0.020$, $n = 62$). These
 35 functions are suitable for application to investigations of the carbonate system of internal sea ice
 36 brines with a conservative major ion composition relative to that of Standard Reference Seawater
 37 and within the temperature and salinity ranges of this study.

38

39

40 **1. Introduction**

41 The investigation of the carbonate system in aquatic environments is essential in the
42 understanding and monitoring of the carbon cycle in the hydrosphere. Such investigations have
43 intensified in the marine environment because of the crucial role the ocean plays in the absorption
44 and storage of the anthropogenic CO₂ emitted to the atmosphere during the Industrial era
45 (Takahashi et al., 1997; Sabine et al., 2004). Through this process, the ocean has become the
46 main repository of anthropogenic CO₂ (Takahashi, 2004), with consequent chemical and
47 ecosystem functioning effects from the acidification of surface oceanic waters (increased oceanic
48 pH relative to pre-industrial era values) (Caldeira and Wickett, 2003; Feely et al., 2004;
49 Takahashi et al., 2014; Gattuso et al., 2015). The acidification effect on the oceanic carbonate
50 system by warming (Crowley, 2000) and atmospheric CO₂ absorption (Takahashi, 2004; Sabine
51 et al., 2004) has been observed in surface coastal and pelagic waters (Takahashi et al., 2014),
52 including large areas of the Arctic Ocean (Feely et al., 2008; Yamamoto-Kawai et al., 2009; Cai
53 et al., 2010; Semiletov et al., 2016).

54 One of the challenges that remain in the high latitude (polar) oceans of the Earth's cryosphere
55 is reliable determination of the carbonate system in the brine-ice system in the extensive seasonal
56 sea ice cover of these environments (Brown et al., 2014; Miller et al., 2015; Papadimitriou et al.,
57 2016). Early investigations in the composition and activity of the ice-associated (sympagic)
58 microbial community in sea ice have uncovered the role of this multi-phase system on the surface
59 of high latitude oceans as a habitat akin to other large-scale biomes, such as the deserts and
60 tundra (Fritsen et al., 1994; Gleitz et al., 1995; Arrigo et al., 1997; Thomas and Dieckmann,
61 2002; Kennedy et al., 2002). Subsequent investigations have revealed a complex internal carbon
62 cycle driven not only by the sympagic autotrophic and heterotrophic microbial communities, but
63 also by two other major chemical reactions in the surface ocean, CO₂ gas exchange and hydrated
64 CaCO₃ authigenesis (Papadimitriou et al., 2004; Delille et al., 2007; Dieckmann et al., 2008;
65 Munro et al., 2010; Papadimitriou et al., 2012; Fischer et al., 2013). The internal carbon cycling
66 in sea ice is complemented by measurable CO₂ fluxes to and from the atmosphere as a function of
67 ice temperature (Delille et al., 2014) and to the underlying ocean by gravity drainage of the
68 internal brines (Rysgaard et al., 2007; Rysgaard et al., 2011). These past investigations have
69 culminated in a keen interest in the carbonate system of sea ice brines (Brown et al., 2014; Miller
70 et al., 2015), the residual internal solution where all biogeochemical reactions occur either in

71 isolation from, or in direct exchange with, the adjacent seawater column and the atmosphere
72 depending on the temperature- and salinity-dependent permeability of the medium (Golden et al.,
73 1998). Sea ice brines are derived from the frozen surface seawater by physical concentration of
74 the dissolved sea solutes following their expulsion from the ice crystal matrix. Along with
75 degassed components, the brines can become trapped in pockets and channels in the sea ice
76 structure. As a result of internal thermal equilibrium in sea ice along temperature gradients
77 extending seasonally slightly above or far below the freezing point of seawater ($-1.92\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at 0
78 dbar pressure and salinity 35; Unesco, 1983), the salinity of internal brines can vary from the
79 hyposaline to values in excess of 100 below $-6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and the concentration of brine solutes can
80 likewise vary (Gleitz et al., 1995; Miller et al., 2011a, 2011b; Papadimitriou et al., 2012; Geilfus
81 et al., 2012a).

82 The carbonate system in the marine environment is defined by pressure, temperature, salinity,
83 the total concentration of boron and the dissociation constant of boric acid, the dissociation
84 constants of carbonic acid, the value of two of its four measurable parameters [total alkalinity
85 (A_T), total dissolved inorganic carbon (C_T), pH, and the fugacity of CO_2 ($f\text{CO}_2$)] and, lastly, the
86 weak acid-base systems in the dissolved macro-nutrient and metabolite pools (phosphate, silicate,
87 ammonium, sulphide) and their respective dissociation constants (Millero, 1995; Dickson et al.,
88 2007). To date, all relevant dissociation constants have been adequately constrained empirically
89 as a function of temperature and salinity for above-zero temperatures and practical salinity (S_P)
90 up to 50 (Millero, 1995, and references there-in). Great investigative effort has been invested in
91 the experimental determination of the first and second stoichiometric (concentration-based)
92 dissociation constants of carbonic acid in seawater and solutions derived from seawater by
93 dilution or evaporation, both in natural and artificial media with the mean stoichiometric
94 composition of seawater (Hansson, 1973; Mehrbach et al., 1973; Goyet and Poisson, 1989; Roy
95 et al., 1993; Mojica-Prieto and Millero, 2002; Millero et al., 2006). The determination of the
96 carbonate system in the complex and sparsely accessible sea ice system is currently limited to
97 direct measurements of A_T and C_T (Miller et al., 2015) and is further compounded by the large
98 uncertainty in the values of the relevant acid-base dissociation constants as they are currently
99 estimated via extrapolation of the existing different salinity-temperature functions to the physical
100 sea ice conditions (temperature $< 0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $S_P > 50$) (Brown et al., 2014). Direct in-situ
101 measurements of $f\text{CO}_2$ in the sea ice system are still rare either in bulk sea ice (Miller et al.,

2011a, b; Geilfus et al., 2012b) or in brines, which are, moreover, subject to the sparse spatial resolution afforded by brine collection in boreholes through the ice surface (Delille et al., 2007; Geilfus et al., 2012a; Delille et al., 2014). In addition, direct brine pH measurement has not been possible so far at below-zero temperatures and high salinities as a result of sampling and analytical difficulties in this complex system. As a first step towards the implementation of direct pH measurement in sea ice brines, the pH of Tris buffers (Papadimitriou et al., 2016) and the $p(K_2e_2)$ of the pH-indicator dye *meta*-Cresol Purple (Loucaides et al., 2017) have recently been characterized electrometrically with the Harned cell and spectrophotometrically, respectively, to $S_P = 100$ and -6 °C. Sea ice geochemists, therefore, have so far relied on indirect determination of brine fCO_2 and pH from the solution of the system of equations that describe the acid-base equilibria of the oceanic carbonate system using temperature, salinity, nutrient concentrations (if available), and the direct measurements of A_T and C_T as input parameters, with the caveats of extrapolation mentioned above (Brown et al., 2014).

Here, we present measurements that allowed the determination of the dissociation constants of carbonic acid in seawater and seawater-derived brines at below-zero temperatures to the freezing point of these solutions up to $S_P = 100$ and a temperature minimum of -6 °C. The S_P and temperature ranges of this study were set because the ionic composition and inter-ionic ratios in surface oceanic water are conserved in the natural sea ice brines over these temperature and salinity ranges. More concentrated, cooler sea ice brines ($S_P > 100$ and $t < -6$ °C) become supersaturated with respect to a suite of hydrated solid phases, including mirabilite, hydrohalite, and gypsum (Butler et al., 2016; Butler and Kennedy, 2015), thus altering the chemical composition and ionic ratios of the brines from those in surface oceanic water (Marion, 2001). Determination of equilibrium constants beyond the current salinity-temperature range must account for these compositional modifications (Hain et al., 2015) by solid-solution reactions, and so, it requires custom experimental protocols in a separate investigation.

127

128 2. Materials and Methods

129 The stoichiometric first (K_{1C}^*) and second (K_{2C}^*) dissociation constants of carbonic acid describe the equilibrium of the reactions, $CO_2^* + H_2O \leftrightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^-$ and $HCO_3^- \leftrightarrow H^+ + CO_3^{2-}$, respectively, with $[CO_2^*] = [CO_2(aq)] + [H_2CO_3]$ (Dickson et al., 2007). In this study, they were determined in natural high ionic strength solutions (seawater, seawater-derived brines) from

133 measurements of A_T , C_T , $f\text{CO}_2$, and $\text{pH}_T = -\log[\text{H}^+]_T$ (total proton scale) as follows (Millero et
 134 al., 2002):

135

$$136 \quad K_{1C}^* = [\text{H}^+]_T \frac{2C_T - A_C - 2[\text{CO}_2^*]}{[\text{CO}_2^*]}, \quad (1)$$

$$137 \quad K_{2C}^* = [\text{H}^+]_T \frac{A_C - C_T + [\text{CO}_2^*]}{2C_T - A_C - 2[\text{CO}_2^*]}, \quad (2)$$

138

139 In the above equations, $A_C = \text{carbonate alkalinity} = [\text{HCO}_3^-] + 2[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$, $C_T = [\text{CO}_2^*] +$
 140 $[\text{HCO}_3^-] + [\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$, and $[\text{CO}_2^*] = K_o f\text{CO}_2$, with $K_o = \text{CO}_2$ solubility constant as a function of
 141 salinity and temperature (Weiss, 1974), and brackets denoting total concentrations (single ion
 142 plus ion pairs in the case of pair-forming ionic species). Carbonate alkalinity was determined
 143 from the measured A_T and pH_T as described in Millero et al. (2002). To this end, the
 144 contributions of dissolved phosphate and silicic acid to A_T were computed from their measured
 145 total concentrations, the measured pH_T , and the relevant stoichiometric equilibrium dissociation
 146 constants computed from the available salinity-temperature functions (Millero, 1995; Dickson et
 147 al., 2007). For the contribution of total boron (B_T) to A_T , the mean B_T concentration in $S_P = 35$
 148 seawater as computed from the data in Lee et al. (2010), $[B_T] = 0.000432578 \text{ mol kg}_{\text{solution}}^{-1}$
 149 (hereafter, mol kg^{-1}), was used as a linear function of salinity (Millero, 1995), along with the
 150 measured pH_T and the stoichiometric equilibrium dissociation constant of boric acid in Dickson
 151 (1990). The contributions of OH^- and protons (concentration on the seawater scale: $[\text{H}^+]_{\text{SWS}} =$
 152 $[\text{H}^+] + [\text{HSO}_4^-] + [\text{HF}]$) to A_T were determined using the measured pH_T and the relevant
 153 equilibrium constants from the available oceanographic functions (Millero, 1995; Dickson et al.,
 154 2007) along with the concentrations of SO_4^{2-} and F^- in Standard Reference Seawater as a linear
 155 function of salinity (Millero et al., 2008). The oceanographic functions for the equilibrium
 156 constants used for these computations were extrapolated outside their empirical salinity-
 157 temperature ranges when the experimental conditions extended beyond them. Locally sourced
 158 seawater (Menai Strait; 53.1806N 4.2333W), UV-sterilized and filtered through a $0.2 \mu\text{m}$ filter,
 159 was used as the experimental medium ($S_P = 33 - 34$) and for the preparation of the experimental
 160 brines ($S_P = 40 - 100$) by variable freezing and gravimetric dilution, when needed, with Milli-Q

161 water. The brines were filtered through pre-combusted (500 °C, 3 hrs) GF/F filters (0.7 µm,
162 WHATMAN); they were then sampled for the determination of major ion concentrations (Na^+ ,
163 K^+ , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Cl^- , SO_4^{2-}) and were kept stored at room temperature in the dark in acid-washed
164 glass media bottles (DURAN) capped (gas-tight) with Teflon-lined screw-caps.

165 The experiments were conducted at zero and below-zero temperatures to very near the
166 freezing point of seawater and seawater-derived brines, as well as at above-zero temperatures to
167 25 °C, in order for our experimental results to span the existing data sets for the stoichiometric
168 dissociation constants of carbonic acid in natural seawater and brines for validation. The freezing
169 point of the experimental brines was calculated from the empirical absolute salinity-temperature
170 relationship of thermally equilibrated sea ice brines, $S_A = 1000 [1 - (54.11/t)]^{-1}$ (Assur, 1958),
171 with S_A (in g kg^{-1}) and conductivity-based salinity (S_P) related by $S_A = 1.004715S_P$ (Millero and
172 Huang, 2009).

173 Each salinity-temperature experiment was conducted with ~1.1 L seawater or brine in a
174 Teflon-lined-capped media bottle (DURAN), which was thermally equilibrated by immersion in
175 a thermostated ethylene-glycol/water bath (GRANT TX150) and was kept at constant
176 temperature during measurement and sampling for the analysis of the required parameters. The
177 experimental temperature was monitored with a Fluke 5609 Platinum Resistance Probe on a Hart
178 Scientific 1502A Thermometer and is reported as the mean of the values recorded for the
179 duration of each experiment. Throughout the experiment, the sample was gently stirred (50 rpm)
180 with an overhead stainless steel stirrer through the cap. Each experiment required about 70
181 minutes to complete the necessary measurements ($f\text{CO}_2$ and pH_T) at the experimental temperature
182 and the sample collection for the remainder of analyses. First, the $f\text{CO}_2$ and pH_T measurements
183 were conducted simultaneously in separate aliquots of the sample, drawn through Tygon®
184 tubings with a Watson Marlow 520U peristaltic pump towards the CO_2 Analyzer unit and the pH
185 unit. Upon completion of these measurements, samples for C_T determination were pump-drawn
186 and flame-sealed into pre-weighed 10 mL glass ampoules poisoned with saturated mercuric
187 chloride. Subsequently, samples for soluble reactive phosphorus (SRP, hereafter, phosphate) and
188 molybdenum reactive silicon [hereafter, silicic acid, $\text{Si}(\text{OH})_4$] were removed and the remaining
189 sample was used for replicate A_T determinations.

190

191 **2.1 $f\text{CO}_2$ measurement**

192 The $f\text{CO}_2$ was determined from the CO_2 mole fraction (x_{CO_2}) measured on a LICOR 840A
193 $\text{CO}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ analyzer of the dry gas generated in a closed loop by exchange with the sample via a
194 0.5×1 MicroModule™ Membrane Contactor (Liqui-Cell; www.liquicell.com), used here as the
195 gas exchange unit (Hales et al., 2004a). The gas was circulated in the closed loop at 48 mL min^{-1}
196 through a custom-made DRIERITE desiccant column (www.drierite.com) with a custom-made
197 gas micro-pump. The contactor was immersed in a custom-made housing in the same water bath
198 as the sample, which was pumped through the contactor at 9 mL min^{-1} in Tygon® tubing via the
199 Watson Marlow 520U peristaltic pump. The temperature of the sample in the bottle and at the
200 exit of the contactor was monitored with type K thermocouple probes by continuous logging on a
201 Pico Technology USB TC-08 thermocouple data logger. In this set-up, a plateau in x_{CO_2} was
202 achieved in 50 min, and the x_{CO_2} used for $f\text{CO}_2$ determination in each thermostated sample was a
203 5 min average of recorded values within the plateau phase. These values were within 1 ppm for
204 $x_{\text{CO}_2} < 1000$ ppm and within 3 ppm for $x_{\text{CO}_2} > 1000$ ppm. The measurements were calibrated
205 against CO_2/N_2 mixtures with a certified x_{CO_2} (0, 20, 100, 400, 1000, and 2000 ppm; uncertainty
206 $\leq 5\%$, BOC, boc.com). The calibrations were conducted between two consecutive experiments.
207 The sample $f\text{CO}_2$ was computed from the measured x_{CO_2} as in SOP 5 in Dickson et al. (2007),
208 using the pressure readings from the built-in barometer in the LICOR gas cell.

209 An estimate of the uncertainty of these measurements was possible at above-zero
210 temperatures by analyzing, with this protocol, samples of CO_2 in Seawater Certified Reference
211 Materials (CRM, Batches #112, #124, and #125; Scripps Institution of Oceanography) and
212 comparing the measured $f\text{CO}_2$ with that computed from the certified C_T and A_T , as well as the
213 salinity and the phosphate and silicic acid concentrations reported in the certificate. The CRM
214 $f\text{CO}_2$ analyses were thus conducted every $1 - 4$ °C in the temperature range from 3.16 °C to 24.99
215 °C (batch #112: $n = 11$; batch #124, $n = 1$; batch #125, $n = 1$). For the calculations, the first and
216 second dissociation constants of carbonic acid were computed from the salinity-temperature
217 functions based on the measurements of Mehrbach et al. (1973) as refitted on the total proton
218 scale by Lueker et al. (2000). The dissociation constants of the remainder of the weak acids and
219 bases of the oceanic carbonate system, the solubility of CO_2 in seawater, and the B_T and the total
220 dissolved sulphate and fluoride concentrations were computed as described earlier. All
221 computations were conducted on the total proton scale by solving for pH the system of equations

222 that describe the equilibria of the marine carbonate system using the Solver routine on Microsoft
223 Excel. At the computed CRM $f\text{CO}_2$ from 225 μatm at 3.16 °C to 567 μatm at 24.99 °C for batch
224 #112 and 537 μatm at 22.03°C for batch #124, the measured $f\text{CO}_2$ differed by $-9 \pm 10 \mu\text{atm}$ ($n =$
225 12), while the measured $f\text{CO}_2$ differed by $-85 \mu\text{atm}$ at CRM $f\text{CO}_2 = 1062 \mu\text{atm}$ at 18.06 °C for
226 batch #125, suggesting the potential for a negative bias at high $f\text{CO}_2$.

227

228 **2.2 pH measurement**

229 The pH_T (total proton scale) was determined spectrophotometrically using purified *meta-*
230 Cresol Purple (mCP) indicator dye (Liu et al., 2011) and the custom-made micro-opto-fluidic
231 Lab-On-Chip (LOC) pH system described in Rérolle et al. (2013). The LOC unit with its sample
232 and dye inlets, as well as the optics (photodiode detector and light source) were all custom-
233 housed and immersed as a separate micro-unit in the same thermostated water bath as the sample
234 and the $f\text{CO}_2$ contactor described in the previous section. The electronics, pumps, and reagent
235 stores were outside the water bath. The mCP used in this study was purified and was
236 characterized for the variation of its optical parameters and second dissociation constant (on the
237 total proton scale) in the salinity and temperature conditions of this investigation as reported in
238 Loucaides et al. (2017). The pH_T is reported as the mean of several injections (5 – 10) per sample
239 through the LOC pH system. In the case of the pH_T measurements used in the determination of
240 K_{1C}^* and K_{2C}^* (eqs. 1 and 2), these multiple injections occurred over the course of the
241 simultaneous $f\text{CO}_2$ determination, with a reproducibility better than 0.004 pH unit (as 1σ). The
242 accuracy of the pH_T measurement protocol was assessed against the pH_T computed for CRMs as
243 described in the previous section. The CRM pH analyses were thus conducted every 1 – 2 °C in
244 the temperature range from 1.52 °C to 25.15 °C using CRM batches #112 ($n = 5$), #124 ($n = 1$),
245 and #125 ($n = 1$), which were also used for the $f\text{CO}_2$ protocol validation described in the previous
246 section, as well as batch #138 ($n = 15$), used here only for the validation of the pH measurement
247 protocol. At the computed CRM pH_T for batches #112 (7.908 at 24.99 °C to 8.264 at 1.97 °C),
248 #124 (7.927 at 22.03 °C), and #138 (7.852 at 25.15 °C to 8.215 at 1.52 °C), the measured pH_T
249 differed by -0.013 ± 0.011 ($n = 21$) pH unit. For the high- $f\text{CO}_2$ CRM batch #125 (CRM $\text{pH}_T =$
250 7.659 at 18.06 °C), the measured pH_T differed by +0.015 pH unit.

251

252 **2.3 A_T and C_T measurements**

253 Total alkalinity was determined by potentiometric titration with 0.1 N HCl at 20 °C using the
254 Gran function for $\text{pH} < 3.5$ (Gleitz et al., 1995; Papadimitriou et al., 2013) with a Metrohm
255 Titrando 888 unit of automatic burette, pH meter, Pt temperature probe, Ag/AgCl/KCl reference
256 electrode, and glass indicator electrode calibrated with buffers traceable to SRM from NIST and
257 PTB (Merck, pH 2.00, 4.01, 7.00, 9.00, and 10.00 at 25 °C). The titration was conducted in
258 replicate ~ 100 mL aliquots of known weight at constant pCO_2 (400 ppm CO_2) provided at a
259 controlled rate (200 mL min^{-1}) via a CHELL CMD100 microprocessor controller and Hastings
260 Mass Flow Control Valve. The rigour of the technique was assessed from several titrations of
261 CRM batch #112 ($A_T = 2223.26 \text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$) with a coulometry-characterized HCl solution
262 ($0.100171 \text{ mol HCl kg}^{-1}$, $\sim 0.7 \text{ M NaCl}$; Scripps Institution of Oceanography), yielding a
263 difference of measured from certified A_T of $-1.9 \pm 1.7 \text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ($n = 23$), equivalent to 0.08%
264 reproducibility and accuracy. Batches of 0.1 N HCl were also prepared gravimetrically in the
265 course of this study to a total ionic strength of 0.72 molal using NaCl, and the HCl concentration
266 was calibrated against the A_T of CRM batches #112 and #138. The difference between the A_T
267 measured with these acid batches and the certified concentrations was $-1.1 \pm 2.8 \text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ($n =$
268 99) in good agreement with that determined with the Scripps CRM and acid. Because the acid
269 batches were calibrated against seawater CRMs and the response of commercial glass electrodes
270 may be unreliable in hypersaline solutions, the A_T in brines was determined in samples diluted to
271 a salinity of 34 with Milli-Q water. The A_T of the brine batches (Table 2), normalized to salinity
272 35, was $A_{T,35} = 2424 \pm 39 \text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ($n = 10$), while the local seawater had a two-year (2014-
273 2015) average $A_{T,35} = 2398 \pm 22 \text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ($n = 37$).

274 The C_T concentration was determined manometrically in 3 – 10 replicate sample aliquots
275 (~ 10 mL) from the CO_2 generated and extracted in vacuo in a glass manifold following reaction
276 of a weighed sample aliquot with H_3PO_4 and cryogenic CO_2 gas distillation in successive cold ($-$
277 $95 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$) methanol and liquid nitrogen traps, using an in-line manometer (CHELL) and a virial
278 equation of state (Bockmon and Dickson, 2015). The reproducibility of these measurements was
279 better than 0.4% in the 2000 to $5600 \text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ concentration range. Determination of C_T on
280 CRM batches #112, #124, #125, and #138 (Scripps Institution of Oceanography) yielded a
281 difference between the measured and certified C_T as an accuracy (\pm reproducibility as 1σ) of $+0.7$
282 $\pm 8.8 \text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ($n = 111$).

283

284 2.4 Other measurements

285 The salinity of the experimental solutions was measured at laboratory temperature (~20 °C)
 286 using a portable conductivity meter (WTW Cond 3110) with a WTW Tetracon 325 probe. When
 287 salinities exceeded 70, they were determined following gravimetric dilution with distilled water.
 288 The initial major ion composition of the brines was determined as follows: (i) potentiometric
 289 titration with EDTA as titrant and Tris-buffered acetylacetone (0.1 M) as the complexing agent at
 290 pH ~8.5 for Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ as described in Papadimitriou et al. (2012), (ii) ion chromatography
 291 on a Dionex Ion Exchange Chromatograph ICS 2100 for Na⁺ and K⁺, (iii) gravimetric Mohr
 292 titration for Cl⁻ with 0.3 mol kg⁻¹ AgNO₃ standardized against NaCl purified by re-crystallization
 293 (Dickson, 1990; Millero et al., 1993), and (iv) for SO₄²⁻, precipitation as BaSO₄ in EDTA
 294 followed by titration with MgCl₂ (Howarth, 1978). The phosphate and silicic acid concentrations
 295 were determined within 4 to 8 weeks from collection on refrigerated aliquots stored in acid-
 296 washed (2 N HCl) 20 mL PE vials. These analyses were conducted on a SEAL AA3 MR
 297 continuous segmented flow autoanalyzer using standard colorimetric methodology (Hales et al.,
 298 2004b).

299

300 2.5 Error analysis

301 The error in the experimental K_{1C}^* and K_{2C}^* values was computed as $\sigma_{K_{ic}^*}^2 = \sum[(dK_{ic}^*/dX) \sigma_X]^2$
 302 (Barford 1985), with $X = H^+$, C_T , A_C , $CO_2(aq)$ (all in mol kg⁻¹). The maximum measurement
 303 uncertainty (σ_X) was 0.020 pH unit for the pH measurements, 0.4% for the C_T determinations, 20
 304 μatm for $fCO_2 < 1000 \mu\text{atm}$, 90 μatm for $fCO_2 > 1000 \mu\text{atm}$, and 0.1% for the A_C estimates based
 305 on the uncertainty of the A_T measurement. The magnitude of the extrapolation error for the
 306 estimates of the individual A_T components is unknown at this stage. The available measurement
 307 uncertainties in pH_T , C_T , fCO_2 , and A_C determinations indicated that K_{1C}^* is most sensitive to
 308 uncertainties in the pH and fCO_2 measurements, while K_{2C}^* is most sensitive to the uncertainties
 309 in the A_C estimates and the C_T and pH measurements. The K_{1C}^* uncertainty was thus calculated to
 310 range from 0.020 – 0.040 pK unit at $fCO_2 > 250 \mu\text{atm}$ to 0.050 pK unit at $fCO_2 < 250 \mu\text{atm}$. The
 311 K_{2C}^* uncertainty was calculated to be 0.040 pK unit for our experiments. The uncertainties of
 312 both constants in this study are therefore estimated to be about twice those reported for standard

313 oceanographic conditions (0.020 pK unit for K_{1C}^* and 0.030 pK unit for K_{2C}^* ; Dickson and
 314 Millero, 1987).

315

316 2.6 Data evaluation

317 The K_{1C}^* and K_{2C}^* determinations in seawater at above-zero temperatures were evaluated
 318 against the existing major data sets in natural seawater, i.e., the Mehrbach et al. (1973) data set
 319 (experimental ranges: $S_P = 19 - 43$, $t = 2 - 35$ °C) as refitted on the total proton scale by Lueker
 320 et al. (2000) and the Millero et al. (2006) data set (experimental ranges: $S_P = 1 - 51$, $t = 1.0 - 50.5$
 321 °C). Because the latter data set has been reported on the seawater proton scale, it was converted
 322 to the total proton scale as described in Millero (1995) and was re-fitted here using the same
 323 equation format as in the original study:

324

$$325 \quad pK_{iC}^* = pK_{iC}^o + A_i + B_i/T + C_i \ln T \quad (i = 1, 2), \quad (3)$$

326

327 In the above equation, T = temperature (in Kelvin), $A_i = a_0 S_P^{0.5} + a_1 S_P + a_2 S_P^2$, $B_i = a_3 S_P^{0.5} + a_4 S$,
 328 $C_i = a_5 S_P^{0.5}$, and $pK_{iC}^o = b_0 + b_1/T + b_2 \ln T$ = thermodynamic dissociation constant, with a_0 , a_1 , a_2 ,
 329 a_3 , a_4 , a_5 = best-fit parameters (Table 3) determined by non-linear regression using the Excel
 330 regression routine, while b_0 , b_1 , and b_3 are from Millero et al. (2006). The standard error of the fit
 331 was the same as in the original study ($\sigma_{pK_{1C}^*} = 0.006$ and $\sigma_{pK_{2C}^*} = 0.011$).

332 The current pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* determinations in natural seawater ($S_P = 33 - 34$; mean $S_P =$
 333 33.66 ± 0.36 , $n = 5$) over the temperature range from 0 to 25 °C (Table 2) are in very good
 334 agreement with the previously published data sets (Fig. 1). Specifically, in the 0 – 25 °C
 335 temperature range, the current observations ($n = 23$) differed by $\Delta pK_{1C}^* = -0.009 \pm 0.016$ and
 336 $\Delta pK_{2C}^* = +0.002 \pm 0.018$ relative to the Mehrbach et al. (1973) data set, and $\Delta pK_{1C}^* = -0.014 \pm$
 337 0.017 and $\Delta pK_{2C}^* = -0.003 \pm 0.022$ relative to the Millero et al. (2006) data set, all within
 338 experimental error. The determinations beyond the salinity-temperature bounds of the available
 339 oceanographic data sets ($t < 0$ °C, $S_P > 50$) were compared with the extrapolated values of the
 340 oceanographic equations as will be discussed in the *sections 3* and *4*. In addition, the K_{1C}^* and

341 K_{2C}^* determinations near the freezing point of seawater and seawater-derived brines from this
 342 study were compared with the values calculated from appropriate thermodynamic data as follows.
 343 Stoichiometric equilibrium constants are related to the thermodynamic constants at infinite
 344 dilution (pure water) via the activity coefficients of the reacting ions. In the case of K_{1C}^* and
 345 K_{2C}^* , this relationship is given by the following equations (Millero et al., 2006):

346

$$347 \quad K_{1C}^* = K_{1C}^o \frac{\gamma_{CO_2} \alpha_{H_2O}}{\gamma_{H^+} \gamma_{HCO_3^-}} \Theta, \quad (4)$$

$$348 \quad K_{2C}^* = K_{2C}^o \frac{\gamma_{HCO_3^-}}{\gamma_{H^+} \gamma_{CO_3^{2-}}} \Theta, \quad (5)$$

349

350 where K_{1C}^o , K_{2C}^o = thermodynamic dissociation constants of carbonic acid, α_{H_2O} = activity of
 351 water, γ_i = total ion activity coefficient ($i = CO_2(aq), H^+, HCO_3^-, CO_3^{2-}$) (in $mol \text{ kg}_{H_2O}^{-1}$), and $\Theta =$
 352 $1 - 0.001005 S_p$ = conversion factor from $mol \text{ kg}_{H_2O}^{-1}$ to $mol \text{ kg}_{solution}^{-1}$ (Millero, 1995). For the
 353 calculation of the required thermodynamic dissociation constants, α_{H_2O} , and γ_i at below-zero
 354 temperatures, the database of the FREZCHEM code (version 15.1) was used here, which is the
 355 most frequently used to examine geochemical processes in the cryosphere and is based on the
 356 Pitzer formalism of ionic interactions in strong electrolyte solutions (Marion, 2001; Marion et al.,
 357 2010). The FREZCHEM v15.1 includes some of the equilibria of the aqueous carbonate system
 358 (boron and fluoride chemistry, $CaCO_3$ -solution equilibrium) and is rooted in the extant above-
 359 zero temperature data of the relevant thermodynamic equilibrium constants and Pitzer
 360 coefficients, with additional validation at below-zero temperatures from the metal-carbonate
 361 solubility data of the early 20th century Russian literature mostly at the eutectic point of these salt
 362 solutions (Marion, 2001). The model was run in the freezing mode (ice-water equilibrium) at 0.1
 363 °C steps from 0 to -6 °C at 1 atm and a fixed pCO_2 at 400 μatm (non-conservative C_T) for a
 364 starting ionic composition equivalent to the reference composition for seawater of salinity 35
 365 (Millero et al., 2008), with all other solid phases disabled (conservative major ionic composition
 366 and A_T). Total ion activity coefficients are directly proportional to the free ion activity
 367 coefficients, with the concentration ratio of the free ion to the sum of the free ion and ion pairs as

368 the proportionality factor (Pytkowicz and Kester, 1969). In the case of the total proton scale used
 369 in this study, $\gamma_{\text{H}^+} = \gamma_{\text{H}^+, \text{free}} m_{\text{H}^+, \text{free}} / (m_{\text{H}^+, \text{free}} + m_{\text{HSO}_4^-})$ (Millero, 1995), with m = molality (in mol
 370 $\text{kg}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{-1}$) and all quantities in the right side of this equation obtained from the output of the code.
 371 The FREZCHEM code computes $\alpha_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$, γ_{CO_2} , and the single ion activity coefficients of HCO_3^-
 372 and CO_3^{2-} from the Pitzer equations (Pitzer, 1973) and relevant Pitzer parameters. All ion pairs
 373 for HCO_3^- are considered adequately represented in the Pitzer computation (He and Morse, 1993)
 374 and so, the single ion activity coefficient of HCO_3^- in the code output is equivalent to $\gamma_{\text{HCO}_3^-}$ in
 375 eqs. (3) and (4). The code takes into account explicitly ion pair formation for CO_3^{2-} in the form of
 376 CaCO_3^0 and MgCO_3^0 (He and Morse, 1993; Marion, 2001). The molalities of these ion pairs were
 377 taken into account along with the molality and activity coefficient of CO_3^{2-} as a single ion in the
 378 code output to compute the total activity coefficient of CO_3^{2-} ($\gamma_{\text{CO}_3^{2-}}$) for use in eqs. (3) and (4) by
 379 applying the same principle as outlined above for γ_{H^+} .

380

381 2.7 Application to sea ice brines

382 A simple numerical model was used to illustrate the changes in the parameters of the
 383 carbonate system in seawater-derived brines with (i) conservative major ionic composition, A_T ,
 384 and C_T , and (ii) brines of otherwise conservative chemical composition but at constant $f\text{CO}_2$ and,
 385 hence, non-conservative C_T , such as that which will occur as a result of dissolved-gaseous CO_2
 386 exchange to atmospheric equilibrium. These scenarios are chosen for their simplicity for
 387 illustration purposes and cannot reflect the complexity of the carbonate system in sea ice brines
 388 as it is driven by several internal brine reactions at different and varying rates (Papadimitriou et
 389 al., 2004; Papadimitriou et al., 2007; Delille et al., 2007; Dieckmann et al., 2008; Munro et al.,
 390 2010; Geilfus et al., 2012a; Papadimitriou et al., 2012; Delille et al., 2014). The model was
 391 described in detail in Papadimitriou et al. (2014); briefly, it uses as a system of equations the
 392 weak acid-base equilibria in seawater, the salinity-normalized measured concentrations of
 393 phosphate, $\text{Si}(\text{OH})_4$, C_T , and A_T in surface waters of the seasonal sea ice zone (SIZ) in the
 394 western Weddell Sea, Antarctica, reported in Papadimitriou et al. (2012), along with the
 395 concentrations of SO_4^{2-} and F^- in reference seawater (Millero et al., 2008) and the mean total

396 boron concentration in oceanic waters from Lee et al. (2010). In scenario (i) above, all these
397 concentrations are conserved as a linear function of salinity, and the set of equations is solved for
398 pH_T from A_T and C_T at each salinity-temperature pair at the freezing point of brines, allowing
399 computation of the C_T speciation. In scenario (ii) above, all concentrations are conserved except
400 C_T , and the system is solved for pH_T from $f\text{CO}_2$ and A_T , yielding C_T and its speciation. In this
401 case, the $f\text{CO}_2$ was set at a constant value computed for 1 atm total pressure as described in
402 Pierrot et al. (2009) from the average 2015 atmospheric CO_2 molar ratio
403 (www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/trends/). These calculations were done using the K_{1C}^* and K_{2C}^*
404 determined in this study, as well as the values computed by extrapolation beyond their salinity
405 maximum and temperature minimum of the salinity-temperature oceanographic functions
406 described in the previous section.

407

408 3. Results

409 The initial composition of the brines for all major ions (Table 1), normalized to salinity 35,
410 was in very good agreement with that of reference seawater (Millero et al. (2008) except for K^+ ,
411 which was less by 1 mmol kg^{-1} on average, likely as a result of shading of the K^+ peak by the
412 much greater Na^+ peak during ion chromatographic analysis. The conservative composition of the
413 brines relative to that of reference seawater indicates no measurable alteration due to production
414 of authigenic CaCO_3 , CaSO_4 , or Na_2SO_4 polymorphs over the short time scales of variable
415 freezing of the seawater (6 – 15 hours) used here for brine preparation. It also justifies the use of
416 the ionic composition of reference seawater in the thermodynamic evaluation of the current
417 determinations of the stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid.

418 The measured parameters and the determined stoichiometric dissociation constants of
419 carbonic acid (as negative common logarithms, pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^*) are given in Table 2, with pK_{1C}^*
420 and pK_{2C}^* reported in the total proton scale of the pH measurements. In the narrow below-zero
421 temperature range to the freezing point of seawater (Table 2; $t_{\text{FP}} = -1.82^\circ\text{C}$ for batch $S_P = 33.14$;
422 Unesco, 1983), the current observations ($n = 6$) were systematically higher than, but within
423 experimental error from, the values determined by below-zero temperature extrapolation of the
424 best-fit curves on the existing data sets, with an overall $\Delta\text{pK}_{1C}^* = +0.015 \pm 0.005$ and $\Delta\text{pK}_{2C}^* =$
425 $+0.019 \pm 0.015$ relative to both the Mehrbach et al. (1973) and Millero et al. (2006) data sets

(Fig. 1). The measurements from natural brines (Table 2) from $S_P = 40$ to $S_P = 100$ and from 25 °C to near their freezing point (from -2.1 °C at $S_P = 40$ to -6.0 °C at $S_P = 100$) demonstrate that the determined pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* at $S_P > 60$ differ substantially at all temperatures from the values derived from the extrapolation of the existing oceanographic salinity-temperature functions (Fig. 2). Specifically, the current values are between the extrapolated values derived from the two oceanographic data sets used here for comparison. The greatest differences between measured and extrapolated values were seen at the highest salinities in the pK_{2C}^* relative to the best-fit equation derived from the Millero et al. (2006) data set, with $\Delta pK_{2C}^* = +0.72 \pm 0.09$ ($n = 5$) and $+1.26 \pm 0.12$ ($n = 6$) at $S_P = 85$ and $S_P = 100$, respectively. For comparison, the equivalent ΔpK_{1C}^* was $+0.13 \pm 0.04$ and $+0.24 \pm 0.07$ at $S_P = 85$ and $S_P = 100$, respectively. The difference between the current and extrapolated values derived from the best fits to the Mehrbach et al. (1973) data set were similar for both pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* at the highest salinities (Fig. 2) and were more modest than those from the extrapolation of the Millero et al. (2006) data set, with $\Delta pK_{1C}^* = -0.19 \pm 0.02$ and $\Delta pK_{2C}^* = -0.12 \pm 0.02$ ($n = 5$) at $S_P = 85$ and $\Delta pK_{1C}^* = -0.32 \pm 0.05$, $\Delta pK_{2C}^* = -0.21 \pm 0.04$ ($n = 6$) at $S_P = 100$.

441

4. Discussion

4.1. The stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid

It is of note that pK_{2C}^* changed more dramatically (over 0.40 pK unit) than pK_{1C}^* (over 0.05 pK unit) as a function of salinity at all temperatures in the current experiments (Fig. 2). This suggests an equally strong difference in the change in the total activity coefficients of the bicarbonate and carbonate ions in increasingly more concentrated multi-electrolyte solutions. This is corroborated by the output of the FREZCHEM thermodynamic code at the freezing point of conservative seawater and seawater-derived brines, which yielded a monotonic decrease by a factor of 1.2 in $\gamma_{\text{HCO}_3^-}$ from 0.5780 at -1.9 °C to 0.4733 at -6.0 °C and by a factor of 2.9 in $\gamma_{\text{CO}_3^{2-}}$ from 0.0550 at -1.9 °C to 0.0192 at -6.0 °C.

The pK_{1C}^* computed from the output of the FREZCHEM thermodynamic code for the composition of multi-electrolyte solutions at ice-water equilibrium was in excellent agreement with the current freezing point observations (Fig. 3). According to eq. (4), this indicates that all

455 relevant thermodynamic parameters (K_{1C}° , γ_{CO_2} , $\gamma_{HCO_3^-}$, γ_{H^+} and α_{H_2O}) are predicted reliably by
 456 the FREZCHEM code in the temperature range from the freezing point of seawater to that of $S_P =$
 457 100 seawater-derived brine: K_{1C}° , γ_{CO_2} , and $\gamma_{HCO_3^-}$ via extrapolation of the relevant above-zero
 458 temperature data sets of He and Morse (1993) and Plummer and Busenberg (1982), γ_{H^+} from the
 459 Pitzer parameters for the specific interaction of the proton with all other ions in the model
 460 solutions, and α_{H_2O} from the Pitzer parameterization of the osmotic coefficient. This was not the
 461 case, however, for pK_{2C}^* , with differences up to 0.2 pK unit between current determinations and
 462 FREZCHEM-derived values (Fig. 3), which is higher than experimental uncertainty. A similar
 463 discrepancy trend was observed in the study of the stoichiometric equilibrium solubility product
 464 of ikaite in Papadimitriou et al. (2013). Based on eqs. (4) and (5), the disagreement in pK_{2C}^* with
 465 the thermodynamic code suggests uncertainty in K_{2C}° or the total activity coefficient of CO_3^{2-} , or
 466 both, at below-zero temperatures. The total activity coefficient of CO_3^{2-} depends strongly on the
 467 extent of ion pair formation in solution. Its ion pairs with Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} have high equilibrium
 468 association constants which have to be taken into account explicitly in Pitzer parameterization
 469 routines, such as FREZCHEM, to complement the formal Pitzer parameterization of the CO_3^{2-}
 470 interactions in multi-electrolyte solutions (He and Morse, 1993; Marion, 2001). Knowledge about
 471 the behaviour of these strong ion pairs is based on the above-zero temperature study of Plummer
 472 and Busenberg (1982), while the Pitzer parameters for the single ion activity coefficient of CO_3^{2-}
 473 are based on the above-zero temperature experiments of He and Morse (1993). It is conceivable
 474 that targeted relevant experiments that will expand the empirical thermodynamic data base for the
 475 C_T species to below-zero temperatures may reconcile such differences as that seen here with
 476 respect to CO_3^{2-} (Fig. 3). This is in line with the objectives of the recent SCOR Working Group
 477 145 for the update of chemical speciation modelling in seawater (Turner et al., 2016).

478 The pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* values determined in this study were fitted to the same equation format
 479 (eq. 3) as described in *Section 2.6*, and the best-fit coefficients are given in Table 3. The standard
 480 error of the fit was $\sigma_{pK_{1C}^*} = 0.011$ and $\sigma_{pK_{2C}^*} = 0.020$, and the fitted residuals demonstrated no
 481 significant trends as a function of salinity and temperature (Fig. 4). These equations are suitable
 482 for interpolation within the salinity and temperature ranges of this investigation ($33 \leq S_P \leq 100$, –

483 $6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \leq t \leq 25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) in conservative seawater-derived brines. They are not recommended for
 484 extrapolation in the hyposaline and more hypersaline regions of the salinity spectrum, not least
 485 because, at the coldest part of sea ice temperature ($t < -6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) where $S_p > 100$, the brine inclusions
 486 will have non-conservative ionic composition and altered major ionic ratios as a result of
 487 reactions with authigenic ikaite, mirabilite, gypsum, and hydrohalite (Papadimitriou et al., 2013;
 488 Butler and Kennedy, 2015; Butler et al., 2016). This will affect the value of stoichiometric
 489 equilibrium constants (Hain et al., 2015), which must be determined in the context of authigenic
 490 mineral-brine equilibria.

491

492 **4.2. The carbonate system in sea ice**

493 The simple numerical model described in *Section 2.7* was used to compute the change in pH_T ,
 494 $f\text{CO}_2$, and CO_3^{2-} with decreasing temperature from the freezing point of $S = 35$ seawater to $-6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
 495 in sea ice brines (Fig. 5). In brines which are conservative with respect to major ionic
 496 composition, A_T , and C_T , the pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* equations derived in this study predict a monotonic
 497 decrease in the pH_T from 8.028 to 7.862 coupled with increase in both the internal brine $f\text{CO}_2$
 498 from 429 to 2225 μatm and the CO_3^{2-} concentration from 84 to 326 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. These changes are
 499 anticipated solely from the physical concentration of the weak acids and bases during the
 500 expulsion of seawater solutes from the ice crystal matrix in the process of sea ice formation and
 501 further cooling to $-6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. If gas exchange occurs during seawater freezing and cooling of the sea
 502 ice system with all major ions and A_T conserved in the internal brines, the composition of the
 503 brines is non-conservative with respect to C_T and, as a result, the brine $f\text{CO}_2$ is controlled by its
 504 equilibrium solubility. In this case, if atmospheric equilibrium is achieved in the brines, the brine
 505 pH_T is predicted to increase from 8.059 to 8.479 and the CO_3^{2-} concentration will also increase
 506 but to a much larger extent from 89 to 998 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$.

507 The advantage gained by the current K_{1C}^* and K_{2C}^* data set relative to the extrapolation of the
 508 oceanographic equations parameterized for above-zero temperatures and $S_p < 50$ is evident in the
 509 difference in absolute values for all parameters concerned here. Of the two major oceanographic
 510 data sets used here for comparison, the extrapolation of the equations based on the Mehrbach et
 511 al. (1973) data set yielded the smallest such differences (Fig. 5), especially with respect to CO_3^{2-}
 512 in the conservative brine scenario (mean difference: $-0.1 \pm 4.3\text{ } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$) (Fig. 5c), for which the

513 mean brine $\text{pH}_T = 7.92 \pm 0.06$ over the temperature range of the simulation. At the temperature
514 minimum of this study and depending on the set of extrapolated oceanographic $\text{pK}_{1\text{C}}^*$ and $\text{pK}_{2\text{C}}^*$
515 equations, these differences were calculated to be up to +0.9 pH unit and $-6000 \mu\text{atm } f\text{CO}_2$ in the
516 conservative brine C_T scenario (Figs. 5a-c), as well as up to $-1300 \mu\text{mol CO}_3^{2-} \text{ kg}^{-1}$ in the non-
517 conservative brine C_T scenario (Fig. 5f). Similar differences have been reported as perplexing
518 uncertainties of extrapolation in the sensitivity analysis for the sea ice brine carbonate system
519 within $S_p = 50 - 70$ in Brown et al. (2014). It highlights the importance of re-evaluating the
520 coefficients of the existing salinity-temperature functions on empirical data when applied to
521 extended conditions.

522 Direct measurements at below-zero temperatures are rare for $f\text{CO}_2$ in sea ice brines (Delille et
523 al., 2007; Geilfus et al., 2012a; Delille et al., 2014) or bulk sea ice (Miller et al., 2011a, b; Geilfus
524 et al., 2012b) and have not been possible until recently for pH (Loucaides et al., 2017) due to
525 sampling and analytical difficulties in this complex medium. Sea ice geochemists thus far have
526 often relied on indirect determination of brine $f\text{CO}_2$ and pH in sea ice from direct measurements
527 of A_T and C_T to determine the brine carbonate system, with the caveats of extrapolation (Brown
528 et al., 2014), in order to assess the inorganic carbon budget in sea ice (Papadimitriou et al., 2007;
529 Delille et al., 2007; Munro et al., 2010; Fransson et al., 2011; Geilfus et al., 2012a; Papadimitriou
530 et al., 2012). The results of this study will provide confidence in the output of indirect parameter
531 determination for the carbonate system in the below-zero temperature range in high salinity
532 brines in parts of sea ice that are still warm enough to allow exchange with the air and the ocean.
533 Additional studies are still required to extend the current empirical data base of the dissociation
534 constants of carbonic acid to the coldest temperature spectrum of sea ice to the eutectic and, also,
535 to determine the behavior of the remainder weak acids and bases of the carbonate system in the
536 full salinity and temperature spectrum of sea ice brines.

537

538 **4. Conclusions**

539 The stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid determined in this study extended
540 the existing oceanographic data set to below-zero temperatures and salinities greater than 50 to
541 the freezing point of salinity 100 brines with major ionic composition and major ionic ratios
542 equivalent to those of reference seawater. They are reported here in the total proton scale and
543 each is fitted to a salinity and temperature function for interpolation in sea ice brine investigations

544 of the internal carbonate system of the medium. This work confirmed the uncertainties of the
545 salinity and temperature extrapolation of the existing oceanographic functions for application
546 outside their empirical ranges. There were also indications for uncertainty in the current state of
547 knowledge of the thermodynamic parameters (e.g., total activity coefficient of the carbonate ion)
548 for the second dissociation constant of carbonic acid at below-zero temperatures. Further relevant
549 work is thus needed for accurate parameterization of the carbonate ion interactions with the
550 remainder of sea solutes in brines at below-zero temperatures and for the dissociation constants
551 of carbonic acid in the coldest temperature and salinity range of non-conservative oceanic brines
552 at equilibrium with authigenic cryogenic minerals to the eutectic of seawater.

553

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558

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767 **List of Figures**

768 **Figure 1.** The stoichiometric first and second dissociation constants of carbonic acid as negative
 769 common logarithm versus temperature (open circles) in natural seawater ($S_P = 33 - 34$). The
 770 curves were derived from the salinity-temperature functions in Lueker et al. (2000) based on the
 771 measurements of Mehrbach et al. (1973) (dashed line) and from the measurements on the
 772 seawater proton scale of Millero et al. (2006), converted to the total proton scale as in Millero
 773 (1995) and re-fitted here (solid line). Note the difference in the scale of the y-axis in the pK_{1C}^*
 774 and pK_{2C}^* panels.

775 **Figure 2.** The stoichiometric first and second dissociation constants of carbonic acid as negative
 776 common logarithm versus salinity from this study (open circles) and from Millero et al. (2006)
 777 (crosses) when available at 20 °C [panels (a) and (b)], 5 °C [panels (c) and (d)], 0 °C [panels (e)
 778 and (f)], and the freezing point [panels (g) and (h)]. The dashed curve represents the salinity-
 779 temperature functions in Lueker et al. (2000) based on the measurements of Mehrbach et al.
 780 (1973), extrapolated outside their empirical range of $S_P = 19 - 43$ and for $t < 2.0$ °C. The solid
 781 curve represents the salinity-temperature functions based on the measurements on the seawater
 782 proton scale of Millero et al. (2006), converted to the total proton scale and re-fitted here, and
 783 extrapolated outside their empirical range for $S_P > 51$ and for $t < 1.0$ °C. Note the difference in
 784 the scale of the y-axis in the pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* panels.

785 **Figure 3.** The stoichiometric first and second dissociation constants of carbonic acid as negative
 786 common logarithm versus temperature at the freezing point of seawater-derived brine from this
 787 study (open circles) and from the output of the thermodynamic code FREZCHEM v15.1 (dashed
 788 line). Note the equivalent scale of the y-axis in the pK_{1C}^* and pK_{2C}^* panels.

789 **Figure 4.** Difference between observed and fitted values of the first and second dissociation
 790 constants of carbonic acid in seawater and brines as a function of salinity [panels (a) and (b)] and
 791 temperature [panels (c) and (d)].

792 **Figure 5.** Change in pH in the total proton scale [panels (a), (d)], CO_2 fugacity [panels (b), (e)],
 793 and the total concentration of the carbonate ion [panels (c), (f)] in sea ice brine inclusions at ice-
 794 brine equilibrium (freezing point) as a function temperature in conservative seawater-derived
 795 brines with respect to major ionic composition, A_T , and C_T (upper panels), and in conservative
 796 brines at equilibrium with current atmospheric CO_2 (non-conservative C_T) (lower panels). The

797 values of the illustrated parameters were determined for equilibrium freezing of surface seawater
798 from the western Weddell Sea, Antarctica, in Papadimitriou et al. (2012) by solving the system of
799 equations that describe the chemical equilibria of the marine CO₂ system using the dissociation
800 constants of carbonic acid from this study (solid line), and as computed from the salinity-
801 temperature functions fitted to the measurements of Mehrbach et al. (1973) by Lueker et al.
802 (2000) (dashed line) and to the measurements of Millero et al. (2006) following conversion to the
803 total proton scale and re-fitting in this study (dotted line). Further details are given in *Section 2.7*.

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807 **Table 1.** Major ion composition of brines (in mmol kg⁻¹).

Salinity	[Na ⁺]	[Mg ²⁺]	[Ca ²⁺]	[K ⁺]	[Cl ⁻]	[SO ₄ ²⁻]
100.52	1347	150.64	29.96	25.85	1566	77.21
98.69	1323	148.89	28.99	26.26	1554	77.47
84.62	1134	128.02	25.00	22.26	1327	66.97
61.54	825	92.66	18.18	16.23	968	50.48
60.30	808	91.34	17.87	15.40	946	47.25
60.28	808	91.25	17.84	16.11	944	47.93
50.24	681	74.20	14.54	13.57	795	39.79
50.15		75.15	14.55			40.37
48.90		72.65	14.30			38.80
40.20	539	60.84	11.83	11.09	632	32.77
^a 35	470±2	52.60±0.45	10.29±0.10	9.27±0.23	550±2	27.82±0.54
^b 35	469	52.82	10.28	10.21	546	28.24

808 ^amean concentration of brines normalized to salinity 35809 ^breference composition for seawater of salinity 35 (Millero et al., 2008)

810

811 **Table 2.** Practical salinity (S_P), temperature (t , in $^{\circ}\text{C}$), phosphate (SRP) and silicic acid $[\text{Si}(\text{OH})_4]$
 812 (in $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$), the measured parameters of the carbonate system in seawater and seawater-
 813 derived brines [C_T (in $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$), A_T and derived carbonate alkalinity (A_C) (in $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$), $f\text{CO}_2$
 814 (in μatm), and pH_T (total proton scale; in mol kg^{-1})], and the stoichiometric first and second
 815 dissociation constants of carbonic acid (in mol kg^{-1} , total proton scale) as negative common
 816 logarithms (pK_{IC}^* and pK_{2C}^*).

S_P	SRP	$\text{Si}(\text{OH})_4$	t	C_T	A_T	A_C	$f\text{CO}_2$	pH_T	pK_{IC}^*	pK_{2C}^*
33.14	0.1	2.9	-1.79	2047	2259	2177	184	8.345	6.167	9.468
33.54	0.0	8.1	17.98	2042	2282	2200	369	8.052	5.889	9.089
33.64	0.3	3.8	-1.53	2153	2287	2231	329	8.125	6.163	9.432
			-1.53	2157	2287	2231	329	8.122	6.158	9.448
			-1.53	2154	2287	2232	331	8.118	6.158	9.425
			22.01	2139	2287	2233	788	7.780	5.866	9.007
33.64	0.3	3.8	15.07	2114	2281	2221	520	7.934	5.932	9.126
			15.07	–	2281	2221	519	7.929	–	–
			15.11	2119	2281	2220	518	7.935	5.928	9.151
			25.01	2144	2281	2229	887	7.731	5.832	8.991
			25.02	2138	2281	2228	872	7.737	5.833	8.977
			25.06	2141	2281	2228	880	7.732	5.830	8.984
33.94	0.0	7.1	-1.17	2063	2278	2194	186	8.333	6.143	9.457
			-1.06	2073	2278	2199	206	8.298	6.148	9.436
			-1.06	–	2278	2199	203	8.298	–	–
			-0.03	2045	2278	2192	186	8.329	6.127	9.401
			0.04	2064	2278	2194	201	8.309	6.132	9.435
			0.04	2061	2278	2195	202	8.308	6.135	9.420
			0.04	2061	2278	2195	201	8.305	6.130	9.418
			5.03	2050	2278	2195	237	8.232	6.052	9.309
			9.94	2048	2278	2198	280	8.148	5.968	9.210
			20.04	2044	2278	2202	433	7.986	5.866	9.019
			24.96	2100	2278	2213	676	7.835	5.831	9.003
			24.99	2100	2278	2214	682	7.832	5.832	8.996
			25.04	2091	2278	2213	680	7.833	5.835	8.968
34.04	0.2	4.8	0.00	2053	2286	2199	191	8.327	6.134	9.403
			0.00	2054	2286	2199	190	8.324	6.128	9.403
			0.00	–	2286	2199	191	8.323	–	–
			0.06	2049	2286	2195	181	8.350	6.133	9.427
			20.03	2050	2286	2206	430	8.005	5.880	9.045
			20.03	2048	2286	2206	420	8.004	5.870	9.039
			20.03	2048	2286	2206	427	8.004	5.877	9.039

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819 **Table 2** (continued)

S_P	SRP	Si(OH) ₄	t	C_T	A_T	A_C	fCO_2	pH _T	pK _{1C} *	pK _{2C} *
40.20	0.1	46.9	-2.15	2512	2806	2703	216	8.327	6.123	9.375
			4.97	2584	2806	2729	426	8.071	6.025	9.229
48.90	0.0	259.4	-2.72	3177	3528	3411	347	8.247	6.134	9.300
			-0.09	3155	3528	3413	385	8.198	6.092	9.206
			20.05	3142	3528	3420	851	7.883	5.841	8.850
50.15	0.0	55.2	-2.74	3026	3481	3329	224	8.397	6.123	9.326
			-2.74	3038	3481	3337	248	8.366	6.134	9.300
50.24	0.0	38.3	-1.56	2947	3446	3296	232	8.373	6.114	9.223
			-0.06	2976	3446	3306	268	8.312	6.082	9.191
			4.88	2976	3446	3308	329	8.233	6.013	9.109
			10.00	2944	3446	3306	383	8.168	5.949	8.998
			15.00	2984	3446	3318	532	8.051	5.896	8.921
60.28	0.4	15.3	25.05	2977	3446	3323	807	7.895	5.807	8.743
			-3.36	3645	4116	3965	379	8.284	6.137	9.264
			-0.27	3643	4116	3968	419	8.229	6.073	9.202
			25.02	3627	4116	3987	1183	7.802	5.765	8.718
60.30	1.2	26.9	-3.37	3641	4180	4012	302	8.340	6.101	9.259
			-2.40	3652	4180	4016	308	8.310	6.060	9.240
			-2.37	3661	4180	4016	318	8.308	6.069	9.250
			20.29	3649	4180	4035	864	7.925	5.802	8.819
61.54	0.4	0.5	-3.46	3707	4228	4060	328	8.331	6.115	9.279
			-0.11	3705	4228	4062	370	8.276	6.056	9.219
84.62	1.0	18.0	-4.97	4863	5811	5562	371	8.409	6.118	9.167
			-4.93	4842	5811	5560	366	8.413	6.120	9.155
			0.04	4840	5811	5567	455	8.318	6.035	9.054
			5.02	4855	5811	5579	583	8.216	5.960	8.954
			20.33	4847	5811	5599	1088	7.953	5.773	8.668
98.69	1.4	22.6	-6.00	5457	6795	6486	392	8.509	6.196	9.130
			-5.93	5454	6795	6483	356	8.512	6.156	9.134
			0.03	5459	6795	6498	459	8.390	6.042	9.007
			4.87	5441	6795	6504	546	8.304	5.960	8.907
100.52	2.0	20.7	-5.98	5628	6901	6611	417	8.469	6.157	9.129
			20.30	5656	6901	6673	1308	7.946	5.755	8.587

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822 **Table 3.** Best fit values for the coefficients of the salinity-temperature functions of the first and
 823 second stoichiometric dissociation constants of carbonic acid in seawater and seawater-derived
 824 brines on the total proton scale.

Parameter	Coefficient	data set			
		Millero et al. (2006)		this study	
		pK_{1C}^*	pK_{2C}^*	pK_{1C}^*	pK_{2C}^*
$S_p^{0.5}$	a_0	13.76048	21.070728	6.14528	27.557655
S_p	a_1	0.0326145	0.1232366	-0.127714	0.154922
S_p^2	a_2	-5.5709×10^{-5}	-3.68×10^{-4}	7.396×10^{-5}	-2.48396×10^{-4}
$S_p^{0.5}/T$	a_3	-547.407	-774.949	-622.886	-1014.819
S_p/T	a_4	-5.912	-19.5887	29.714	-14.35223
$S_p^{0.5} \ln T$	a_5	-2.118981	-3.328493	-0.666812	-4.4630415
constant	b_0	^a -126.34048	^a -90.18333	-176.48	-323.52692
$1/T$	b_1	^a 6320.813	^a 5143.692	9914.37	14763.287
$\ln T$	b_2	^a 19.568224	^a 14.613358	26.05129	50.385807
user confirmation value $S_p = 35, T = 273.15 \text{ K}$		6.1182	9.3827	6.1267	9.3940

825 ^a from Millero et al. (2006)

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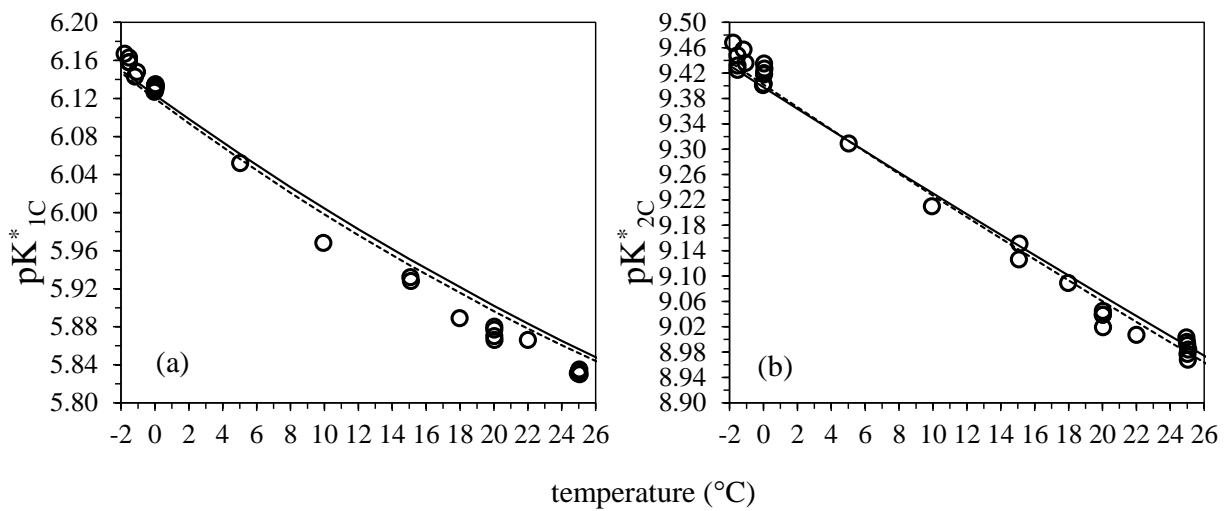


Figure 1
Papadimitriou et al.

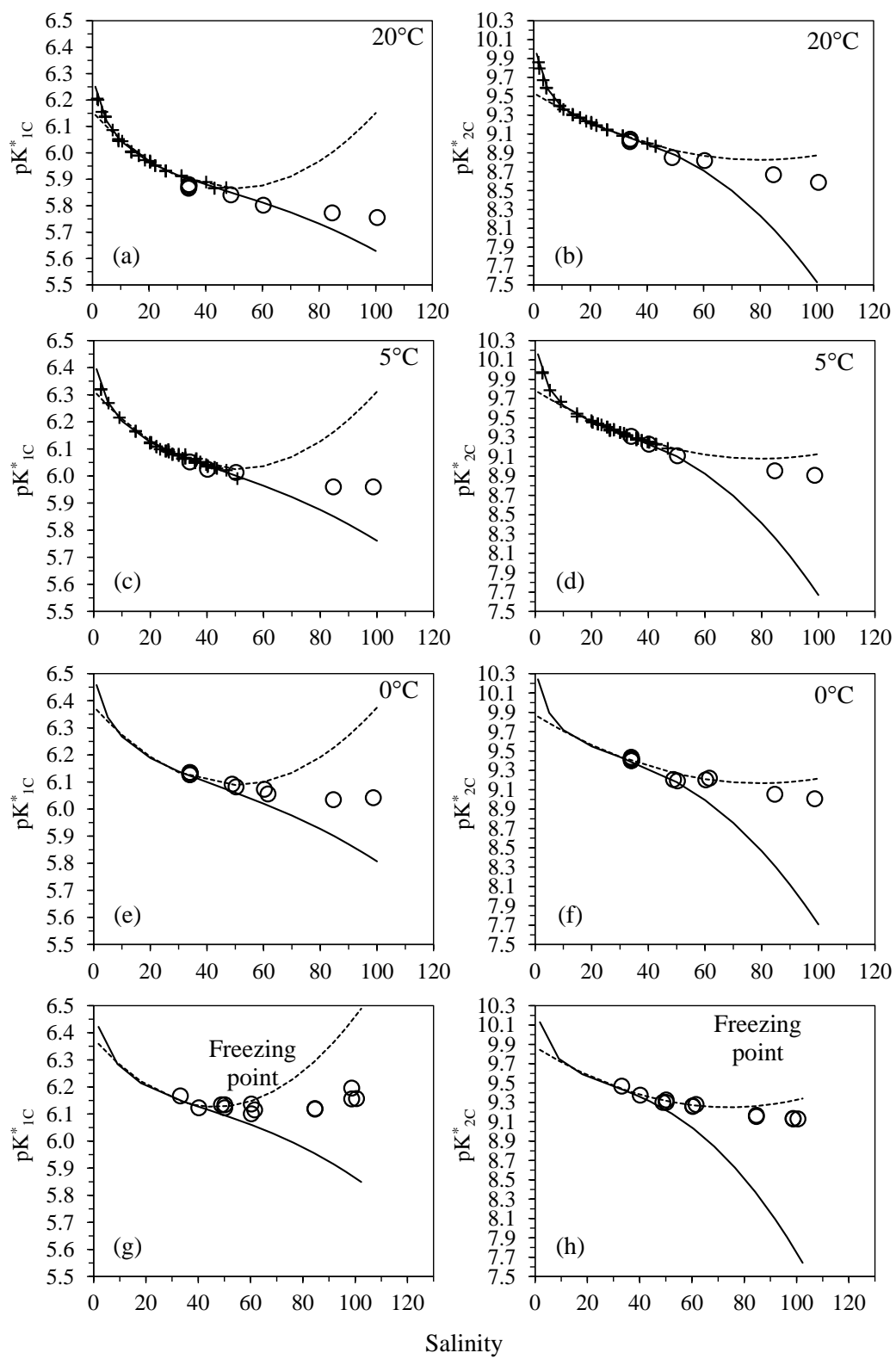


Figure 2
Papadimitriou et al.

Papadimitriou et al.: Carbonic acid dissociation constants in brines at below-zero temperatures

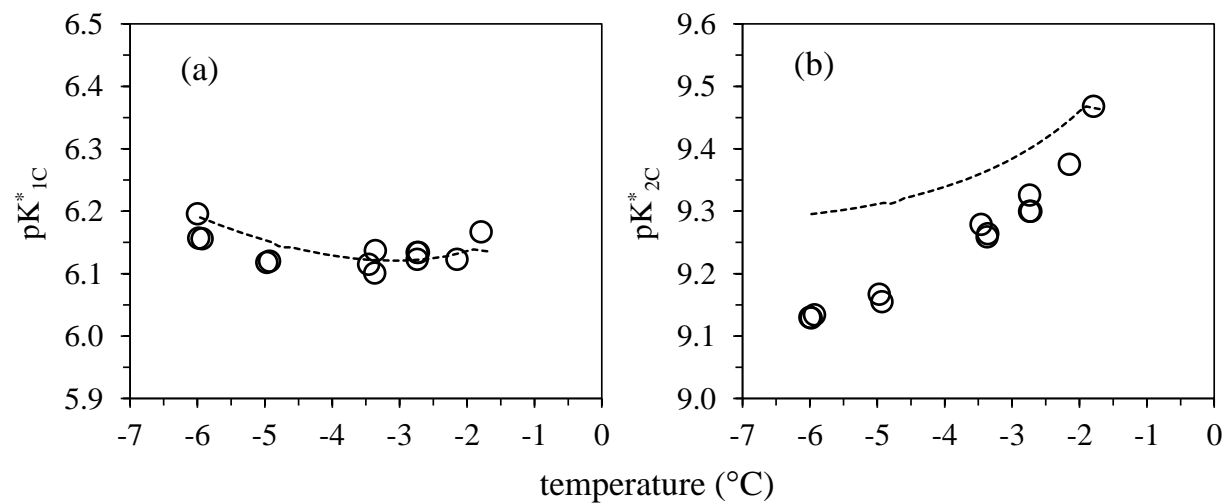


Figure 3
Papadimitriou et al.

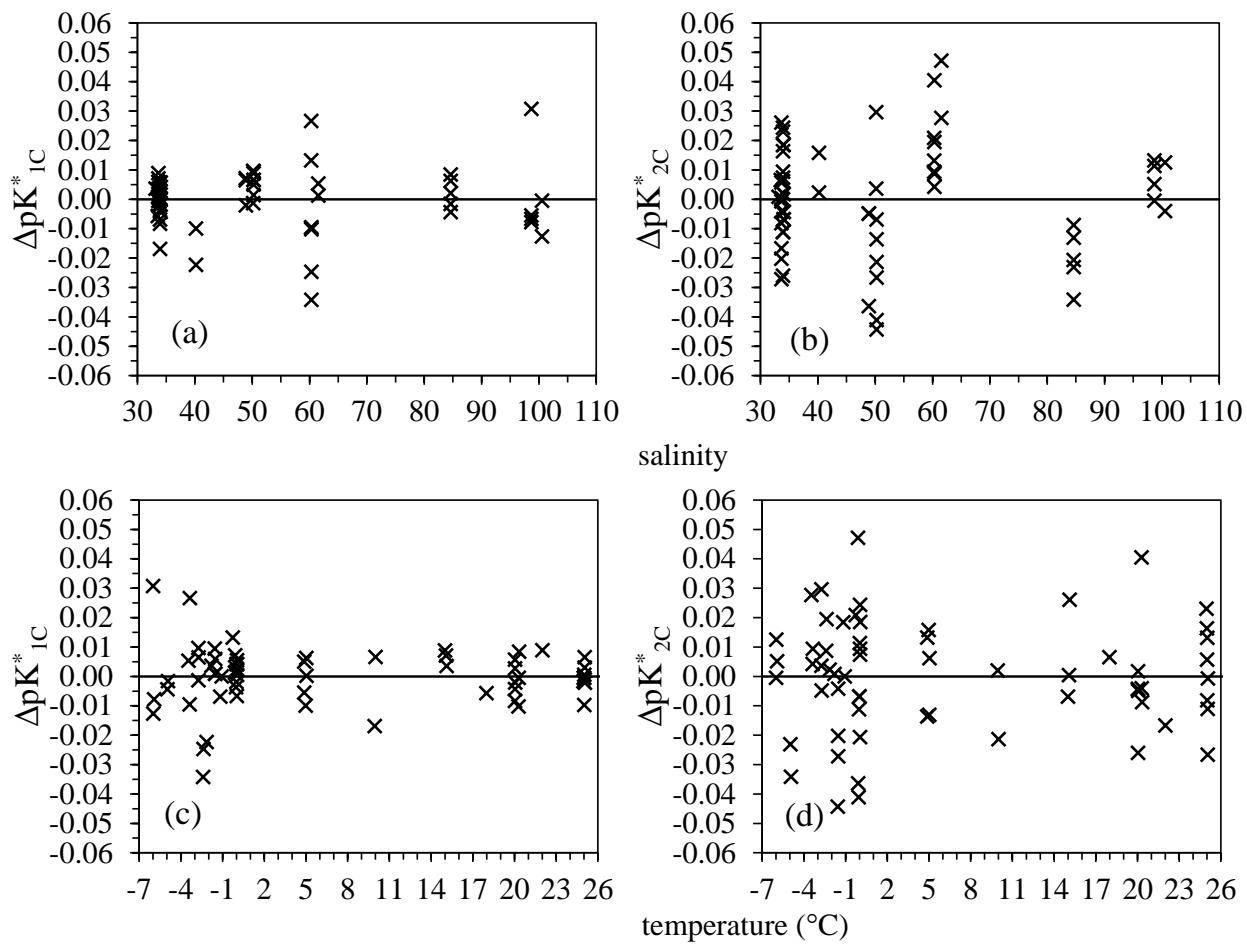


Figure 4
Papadimitriou et al.

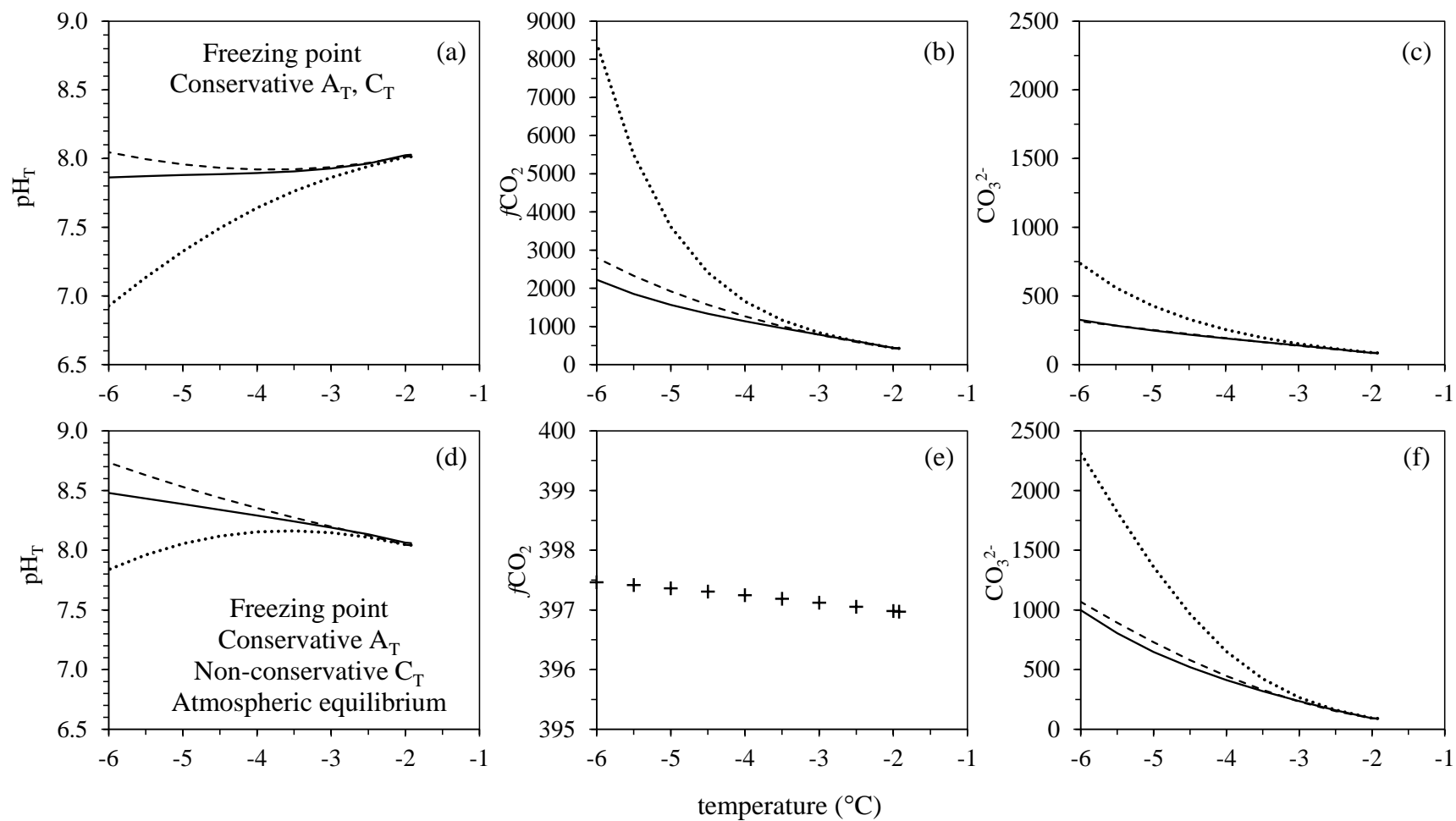


Figure 5
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