

Dear Editor,

5 The authors are very grateful with the second revision of the manuscript by two of the anonymous reviewers. We have addressed the reviewers' annotations and revised carefully the manuscript in order to improve our work again.

10 Below you will find the comments they made and our comments as authors (marked AC) on each point. In response to all the comments the manuscript has been modified, resulting in changes to line numbers. Therefore, we have included the new line numbers (whenever applicable) so that you can refer to either the current or (former) version if you wish.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

15 Dolores Jiménez-López, on behalf of all co-authors.

*** Reviewer 1:**

20 - **General comments**

25 *The authors use the approach by Olsen et. al. (2008) that allows to quantify different contributions to the total observed change in pCO₂, yet the authors fail to implement this in their discussion. First, complex local interactions are described without using the evidence found in the data (Line 316-373), before the quantification of different contributions appears - more as an after-thought (Line 374-391). Moreover, the authors now describe two different ways to estimate the pCO₂ decomposition in their method section, the original Takahashi approach and the more elaborate decomposition as in e.g. Olsen et. al. (2008). There is no fundamental difference between Equation (1) and (7), but the authors treat it as such in the method and discussion section. The authors should restructure and revise both*
30 *sections accordingly.*

AC: Thank you very much for this suggestion. We have modified this section of the manuscript (Section 4.2, now Line 330-411).

35 The section has been restructured, first the quantification of different processes was described (Line 331-352) and then it has been related with local interactions found in the Gulf of Cádiz (Line 353-411). Moreover, in the application of the Olsen et al. (2008) method, the pCO₂ change brought about by SSS has been included. This has caused modifications in different sections of the manuscript, in Material and Methods (Line 191-194), in Discussion (Line 349-352) and in the Figure 6.

40 We consider that differences between Equation (1) and (7) exist, although both are based in Takahashi et al. (2002) method. But they are used for aims different, since with the Equation (7), we obtain pCO₂ variations between cruises.

45 *The authors should explain, how the uncertainty of the measurements is determined - is it a standard deviation in space or time? Many reported values lack statistical significance to support the statements made by the authors (probably a consequence of averaging over the entire study area and all seasons), which is not acknowledged or discussed or explained throughout the manuscript.*

50 AC: Thank you, we agree with this suggestion. We have tried to explain the uncertainty of the measurements in different paragraphs in the entire manuscript since the work presents a high spatial and seasonal variability and also standard deviations values depend on the focus considered along our work. For example, with the following tables can be observed the variability of SST, SSS and pCO₂ in the Gulf of Cádiz for two focus different.

55 Table 1: Average values and standard deviation of underway SST, SSS and pCO₂ during the 8 cruises undertaken.

Cruise	SST (°C)	SSS	pCO ₂ (µatm)
ST1	15.4 ± 0.6	36.11 ± 0.18	396.5 ± 19.0
ST2	21.1 ± 0.9	36.21 ± 0.15	412.9 ± 12.6
ST3	21.5 ± 1.3	36.26 ± 0.22	413.5 ± 9.8
ST4	18.1 ± 0.7	36.36 ± 0.21	388.7 ± 12.9
ST5	15.6 ± 0.4	36.12 ± 0.14	368.6 ± 14.9
ST6	20.9 ± 0.8	36.40 ± 0.08	410.3 ± 13.8
ST7	20.6 ± 1.1	35.64 ± 0.08	407.6 ± 11.2
ST8	16.8 ± 0.4	36.44 ± 0.09	392.9 ± 17.9

Table 2: Average values and standard deviation of underway SST, SSS and pCO₂ during the 8 cruises undertaken in function of different bottom-depth ranges.

Bottom-depth ranges (m)	SST (°C)	SSS	pCO ₂ (µatm)
< 50 m	18.4 ± 2.8	36.09 ± 0.29	408.3 ± 26.7
50 - 100 m	18.3 ± 2.6	36.11 ± 0.24	396.1 ± 23.0
100 - 200 m	18.6 ± 2.5	36.16 ± 0.25	396.0 ± 19.0
200 - 400 m	19.1 ± 2.5	36.23 ± 0.25	397.4 ± 17.1
400 - 600 m	19.4 ± 2.4	36.22 ± 0.25	400.1 ± 18.3
> 600 m	20.1 ± 2.4	36.34 ± 0.28	404.3 ± 16.5

60 In the previous revision, the section 2.5 related with the Statistical analysis was modified to try to
simplify the statistical significant differences found in the entire manuscript (Line 214-215) unless
indicated otherwise.

65 *The manuscript has improved since the first submission, but there are still issues that need to be
addressed before the manuscript is ready for publication.*

- **Minor comments**

70 *Line 152-168: Again, paraphrase the method by Takahashi et al. 2002. At the moment, many sentences
are directly copied from the original paper without citation.*

AC: The description of the method described by Takahashi et al. (2002) has been modified in this
section of the manuscript (now Line 152-176).

75 *Line 162-165: You sample 4 times a year and according to Figure 3, you do not sample the maximum
SST in summer, therefore you do not capture the true seasonal amplitude of SST (or pCO₂). You should
explain that you estimate here the differences between summer and winter cruises.*

80 AC: It is true that we do not sample the full seasonal amplitude of the study area and we know that the
range in the pCO₂ variation could be greater than the determined in this work, as it has been included in
the text (Line 234-236). We use “seasonal amplitude” of SST or pCO₂ in Material and Methods section
to refer it to our sampling, although the maximum SST during August in the Gulf of Cádiz are not
registered.

85 *Line 177: superscript SW needs to be explained.*

AC: Corrected. The superscript has been explained in the line 181 (“...“sw” makes reference to the
surface pCO₂ in the seawater...”).

90

Line 186-188: *The residual may be dominated by mixing and biological activity, but it also includes salinity-driven and freshwater-induced changes in pCO₂ and other minor processes that impact surface pCO₂. In any case, I do not understand, why the salinity-driven and freshwater-driven changes of pCO₂ are not calculated as through the presence of large river system this may not be negligible. Moreover, two parameters of the CO₂ system in seawater are measured, that is sufficient to estimate DIC and alkalinity. Follow e.g. Sarmiento and Gruber (2006).*

AC: Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have included the salinity-driven and freshwater-induced changes about pCO₂, although its effect is very low compared with other processes described (Line 349-352 and new Figure 6).

In the Gulf of Cádiz, the pCO₂ changes brought about by SSS provide an increase of pCO₂ of 15 µatm approximately by 1 unit of variation of salinity. But in this work, we have estimated with the Olsen et al. (2008) method that the contribution of this effect is lowest than other processes, since the SSS changes are low between cruises in our study area (< 0.8 units).

The two parameters necessary to estimate this effect, DIC and TA, have been estimated with the program CO2SYS through pH and pCO₂ values (indicated in the manuscript, Line 192-194). Although the relationships between SSS with TA and DIC generate a certain degree of uncertainty (e.g. for the coastal zones, r²=0.36 and r²=0.33, respectively).

Line 236-238: *The reported values do not support this statement; the values are not statistically significant different from zero, except for the winter value.*

AC: We agree and a little reference has been included in the text (Line 245-246).

Line 242-247: *Again, why is Figure 4 helpful: there is no statistical difference in both SST and pCO₂ with bottom depth range; there is no general trend to be observed here. There is neither a decrease nor a progressive increase to be observed in the mean values, but there might be, if you look at seasonal values.*

AC: Yes, we agree with your suggestion, although the only objective of this figure is to show the variation of the mean values of pCO₂ and SST between coastal and deep areas.

We know that there are not statistical significant differences in both SST and pCO₂ with bottom-depth ranges (see Table 2 of the General comments) and this has been clarified in the text (Line 255-256).

Although with this Figure 4, we only want to show the general trend of these variables with the depth of the system. Maybe the representation of the variations of SST and pCO₂ for the different transects can better show this trend but this way appears us little useful and less representative for the entire work.

Line 281-283: *The reported values do not support this statement; only CO₂ fluxes during ST3 and ST5 are statistically significant different from zero; only autumn is statistically significant different from zero.*

AC: Suggestion added and clarified in the manuscript (Line 293-295).

Line 324: *Is C dissolved inorganic or organic carbon? abbreviation without explanation.*

AC: The abbreviation of C has been specified (now Line 388).

Line 351-352: *same sentence.*

AC: Corrected.

Line 355-357: *The present Figure 4 does not support this statement.*

145 AC: Although there are not statistical significant differences, we observe a little increase of the mean values of SST and pCO₂ with the depth of the system associated with the presence of a warmer branch of the Azores Current.

Line 374: *Figure 7? please recheck all Figure references in the manuscript!*

150 AC: Our apologies, this citation has been corrected. Also the Figure 7 has been modified and now is the Figure 6.

Line 375: *Again, the residual also represents salinity-driven and freshwater-induced changes in pCO₂.*

155 AC: Modified. This effect has been included in the application of the Olsen et al. (2008) method (Line 349-352).

Line 377: *"[...] presents practically the same temporal trend in deep and coastal areas, but with a global behaviour different [...]" - what do you mean by that?*

160 AC: This sentence has been clarified in the manuscript (Line 335-338). pCO₂ variation in the sea surface water presents a similar variation in coastal and deep areas, although the processes that affect to the pCO₂ changes are different in each area.

165 *Line 379: The reported values do not support this statement; neither is the distal zone a sink nor the coastal area a source of CO₂ as both values are not statistically significant different from zero.*

AC: This sentence has been clarified in the text (Line 338).

170 *Line 374-391: Consider discussing dpCO₂/dt instead. Between cruises not the same amount of time has passed and therefore Figure 7 includes a temporal bias that has no physical reason.*

AC: The time between cruises is similar in all the sampling, and this fact has been added in the manuscript.

175 Line 334-335: "The average time between cruises is 86 ± 8 days, with the exception of the last period (between September 2015 and February 2016) that was 140 days".

180 *Line 449: The reported values do not support this statement; both values are not statistically significant different from each other.*

AC: We agree with your suggestion but there is a high seasonal variability in our work. This sentence was clarified in the manuscript (Line 471-472).

185 *Line 459-460: The reported values do not support this statement; both values are not statistically significant different from zero.*

AC: Sentence added and clarified in the text (Line 483-484).

190

Line 465: The reported value does not support this statement; it is not statistically significant different from zero.

AC: We agree and we have added a sentence to clarify this statement in the manuscript.

195

Line 489-490: “The Gulf of Cádiz, during the period of this sampling, could act as a sink of CO₂, with a mean rate of $-0.18 \pm 1.32 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, even though it is necessary to consider the intrinsic variability of the database that generate a high standard deviation”.

200

Line 467: Please re-check your estimate of the uptake capacity and correct – if necessary - in the entire manuscript:

$$0.07 \text{ molCm}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1} * 5.28 * 10^9 \text{ m}^2 * 12.01 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 4.44 * 10^9 \text{ gCyr}^{-1}$$

205

AC: Our apologies, the correct value is 4.1 Gg C year⁻¹. This has been rectified in the manuscript (Line 492) and in the entire manuscript. Thank you for drawing this to our attention.

Line 473: The reported values does not support this statement; both values are not statistically significant different from each other.

210

AC: Yes, we know that the values do not support this statement and for this we have added a sentence to clarify it in the manuscript.

Line 498-499: “pCO₂ database presents a high variability in the Gulf of Cádiz associated with its location, it is a transition zone between coastal and shelf area, and the own seasonal variation”.

215

Line 493-493: The statement made in the last sentence has not been discussed throughout the paper and needs further explanation.

AC: This statement has been better explained in the manuscript.

220

Line 519-521: “Based on the information available in the zone, there seems to have been a decrease in the capacity for CO₂ capture in the zone in recent decades, since the pCO₂ has increased from $360.6 \pm 18.2 \text{ } \mu\text{atm}$ (Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011) to $398.9 \pm 15.5 \text{ } \mu\text{atm}$ in the actuality”.

225

Figure 10 and 11: Please indicate: air-sea or sea-air CO₂ flux

AC: The captions of these figures were modified.

230 * **Reviewer 3:**

I find the author response to my comments (and major comments from other referees) adequate. Hence, I recommend publication after the following minor improvements of the revised manuscript.

Line 69, remove "global".

235

AC: Corrected.

Section 4.1: the summary of earlier results on Table 4 is very useful for the readability of the text. Throughout the discussion the authors cite values from these earlier studies (e.g. mean pCO₂ values (line 304); CO₂ flux values (line 436-437); T/B ratio (line 393-397)). However, Table 4 shows only pCO₂ ranges and FCO₂ values. I suggest to enter pCO₂ mean values and T/B ratios in Table 4. Note also that the caption of Table 4 says "Mean and ranges..." although only the ranges are shown.

240

AC: pCO₂ mean values and T/B ratios were added in the Table 4 and the caption has been modified, thank you.

245

Line 325 (and elsewhere applicable), replace "C" with "carbon" – if you know the for please specify e.g. "inorganic carbon".

250

AC: Corrected in the line 325 (now Line 388), and it was also modified in the line 312 (now Line 327).

The paragraph in lines 404-419 can be improved by:

-extending the first sentence with e.g. "which is observed to decrease from coast to deeper zone regardless which method is used (Takahashi et al., XXXX normalization method or decomposition method of Olsen et al 2008)."

255

-removing the last sentence

-removing "thus" in line 412 and "however" in line 415.

AC: Corrected, thank you for your suggestion.

260

Line 475, replace "global" with an alternative phrase to avoid possible confusion.

AC: Global has been replaced and this sentence was modified.

265

Line 502-504: "The temporal variability of pCO₂ is principally explained by two factors in this work, considering the mean values of the 8 cruises, SST (pCO₂ (µatm) = 302.0 + 5.16 SST (°C), r² = 0.71) and biological activity (pCO₂ (µatm) = 425.0 - 59.15 [chlorophyll-a] (µg L⁻¹), r² = 0.76)".

pCO₂ variability in the surface waters of the eastern Gulf of Cádiz

(SW Iberian Peninsula)

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Abstract

Spatiotemporal variations of the partial pressure of CO₂ (pCO₂) were studied during 8 oceanographic cruises conducted between March 2014 and February 2016 in surface waters of the eastern shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz (SW Iberian Peninsula) between the Guadalquivir River and Cape Trafalgar. pCO₂ presents a range of variation between 320.6 and 513.6 µatm, with highest values during summer and autumn and lowest during spring and winter. For the whole study, pCO₂ shows a linear dependence with temperature, and spatially there is a general decrease from coastal to offshore stations associated with continental inputs and an increase in the zones deeper than 400 m related to the influence of the eastward branch of the Azores Current. The study area acts as source of CO₂ to the atmosphere during summer and autumn and as a sink in spring and winter, with a mean value for the study period of -0.18 ± 1.32 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹. In the Guadalquivir and Sancti Petri transects, the CO₂ fluxes decrease towards offshore, whereas in the Trafalgar transect fluxes increase due to the presence of an upwelling. These results highlight the Gulf of Cádiz as a CO₂ sink, with an uptake capacity of ~~4.1~~^{4.9} Gg C year⁻¹.

1. Introduction

Continental shelves play a key role in the global carbon cycle, as this is where the interactions between terrestrial, marine and atmospheric systems take place (Mackenzie et al., 1991; Walsh, 1991; Smith and Hollibaugh, 1993). These zones are considered to be among the most dynamic in biogeochemical terms (Wollast, 1991; Bauer et al., 2013), as they are affected by several factors, particularly high rates of primary production, remineralization and organic carbon burial (Walsh, 1988; Wollast, 1993; de Hass et al., 2002). Continental shelves account for about 10 – 15 % of the ocean primary production and they contribute approximately 40 % of the ocean's total carbon sequestration, by biological pump (Muller-Karger et al., 2005).

Generally, waters over the continental shelf account for ~15 % of the global ocean CO₂ uptake (-2.6 ± 0.5 Pg C yr⁻¹, Le Quéré et al., 2017). Using direct surface ocean CO₂ measurements from the global Surface Ocean CO₂ Atlas (SOCAT) database, Laruelle et al. (2014) estimated a sea-air exchange of CO₂ in these zones of -0.19 ± 0.05 Pg C yr⁻¹, lower than the estimated in other studies published in the last decade (e.g. Borges et al., 2005; Cai et al., 2006; Chen and Borges, 2009; Laruelle et al., 2010; Chen et al., 2013). The discrepancies with respect to this estimation derive from the different definitions of the continental shelf domain and the skewed distribution of local studies (Laruelle et al., 2010). In several works, it has been observed that the continental shelves present different behaviour according to their latitude: they tend to

act as a sink of carbon ($-0.33 \text{ Pg C yr}^{-1}$) at high and middle latitudes ($30 - 90^\circ$) and as a weak source ($0.11 \text{ Pg C yr}^{-1}$) at low latitudes ($0 - 30^\circ$) (Cai et al., 2006; Hofmann et al., 2011; Bauer et al., 2013; Chen et al., 2013; Laruelle et al., 2014, 2017). Laruelle et al. (2010) found differences between the two hemispheres: the continental shelf seas of the Northern Hemisphere are a net sink of CO_2 ($-0.24 \text{ Pg C yr}^{-1}$) and those of the Southern Hemisphere are a weak source of CO_2 ($0.03 \text{ Pg C yr}^{-1}$).

310 The behaviour of the continental shelf presents a high spatiotemporal variability of the air-sea CO_2 fluxes due to various processes, particularly thermodynamic effects, biological processes, gas exchange, upwelling zones and continental inputs (e.g. Chen and Borges, 2009; Ito et al., 2016). Thermodynamic effects are controlled by the inverse relationship between temperature and solubility ($0.0423 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$, Takahashi et al., 1993). Biological processes can induce CO_2 uptake or release, deriving respectively from phytoplankton photosynthesis that decreases the concentration of inorganic carbon, and
315 respiration by plankton and all other organisms, which increases the concentration of inorganic carbon (Fennel and Wilkin, 2009). Both factors, thermodynamic effects and biological processes, are associated with the sea-air CO_2 exchange by physical and biological pumps (Volk and Hoffert, 1985). The effects of upwelling systems are not clearly defined (Michaels et al., 2001). Although this process produces a vertical transport that brings up CO_2 and remineralized inorganic nutrients from deep seawater (Liu et al., 2010), upwellings are also responsible for high rates of primary production and a reduction of
320 pCO_2 under the equilibrium with the atmosphere (e.g. van Geen et al., 2000; Borges and Frankignoulle, 2002; Friederich et al., 2002). Several studies indicate that these systems act as either a source or sink of CO_2 depending on their location (Cai et al., 2006; Chen et al., 2013). Upwelling systems at low latitudes act mainly as a source of CO_2 but as a sink of CO_2 at mid-latitudes (Frankignoulle and Borges, 2001; Feely et al., 2002; Astor et al., 2005; Borges et al., 2005; Friederich et al., 2008; González-Dávila et al., 2009; Santana-Casiano et al., 2009). Upwelling systems in the Pacific and Indian Oceans act as
325 sources of CO_2 to the atmosphere, whereas in the Atlantic Ocean they are sinks of atmospheric CO_2 (Borges et al., 2006; Laruelle et al., 2010). Additionally, the inner shelf is more affected by riverine inputs of nutrients and terrestrial carbon (e.g. Gypens et al., 2011; Vandemark et al., 2011) and by human impact (Cohen et al., 1997). The influence of both factors, riverine inputs and human impact, decrease towards offshore (Walsh, 1991). Several studies have determined that the inner shelf tends to act as a source of CO_2 and the outer shelf as a sink (e.g. Rabouille et al., 2001; Cai, 2003; Jiang et al., 2008, 2013; Arruda et al., 2015). The inner platform (depth less than 40 m) also presents greater seasonal variability of temperature
330 than the outer platform, and consequently the effect of temperature on pCO_2 will be greater in this zone (Chen et al., 2013).

The Gulf of Cádiz is a geographical domain of considerable interest due to its location. In addition to receiving the outflow of Mediterranean waters through the Strait of Gibraltar, it receives continental inputs from several major rivers, i.e. the Guadalquivir, Tinto, Odiel and Guadiana. Various studies have been conducted in this area to evaluate the variability of the
335 sea surface partial pressure of CO_2 (pCO_2), although they cover smaller areas and a shorter duration of time than this work (González-Dávila et al., 2003; Ait-Ameur and Goyet, 2006; Huertas et al., 2006; Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011) or only a specific area like the Strait of Gibraltar (Dafner et al., 2001; Santana-Casiano et al., 2002; de la Paz et al., 2009). All of these studies, however, have determined that this zone behaves as a ~~global~~ sink of CO_2 , with seasonal variations induced mainly by the combination of the fluctuations of biomass concentration and temperature.

340 In this paper we evaluate the spatial and seasonal variation of the sea-surface pCO_2 on the eastern shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz. In addition, we aim to assess the relative contribution of the thermal and non-thermal effects to pCO_2 distribution, and to determine if the area as a whole acts as a sink or a source of CO_2 to the atmosphere over time. It has also been possible to estimate the influence that various sea surface currents have on pCO_2 variability, since this study considers deeper areas than previous works. Therefore, we can analyse the change that has occurred in relation to the CO_2 uptake capacity in the Gulf of
345 Cádiz in the last 10 years, in comparison with other studies that analyse the seasonal variation underway of pCO_2 in this area

(Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011). In this work we have analysed a surface measurement database of >26000 values of pCO₂ obtained during cruises made between 2014 and 2016 and covering an area of 0.8° x 1.3° of the Gulf of Cádiz.

2. Material and methods

2.1. Study area

350 This study was carried out over the eastern shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz (Fig. 1), which forms a large basin between the southwest of the Iberian Peninsula and the northwest of Africa, where the Atlantic Ocean connects with the Mediterranean Sea through the Strait of Gibraltar. In the Strait of Gibraltar a bilayer flow takes place, with an upper Atlantic layer flowing towards the Mediterranean basin and a deeper outflow of higher-density Mediterranean waters to the Atlantic Ocean (e.g. Armi and Farmer, 1988; Baringer and Price, 1999; Sánchez-Leal et al., 2017). A similar circulation pattern of opposing
355 flows is found in the Gulf of Cádiz where three main water masses are distributed at well-defined depth intervals and areas: the Surface Atlantic Water (SAW), with coastal and atmospheric influence, inflowing at the shallowest depths; the Eastern North Atlantic Water (ENACW), at an intermediate depth, characterised by low salinity; and the Mediterranean Outflow Water (MOW), entering at the deepest level (Criado-Aldeanueva et al., 2006; Bellanco and Sánchez-Leal, 2016).

The Gulf of Cádiz is part of one of the four major Eastern Boundary Upwelling System of the world, the North Atlantic upwelling (e.g. Alvarez et al., 2009), that extends from south of Cape Verde (Senegal) to Cape Finisterre (northwest of Spain). For this reason, the Gulf of Cádiz presents characteristics typical of this system: seasonal variability of a winds system favourable to the coastal upwelling (Fiúza et al., 1982), high biological productivity (Navarro and Ruiz, 2006), a system of fronts and zonal currents (García Lafuente and Ruiz, 2007) and a zone of water exchange between the coastal zone and open ocean (Sánchez et al., 2008). However, the fact that the coastline of the study area runs more in a W-E direction
365 than the overall N-S direction common to all the Eastern Boundary Upwelling System phenomena, and the bilayer flow through the Strait of Gibraltar, are two factors that complicate the simple Eastern Boundary Upwelling System conceptual model (Aristegui et al., 2009; Peliz et al., 2009).

In addition, the surface circulation in the Gulf of Cádiz is characterised by several different processes. These are: the presence of an anticyclonic water flow towards the east over the shelf edge as far south as the Strait of Gibraltar, known as the Gulf of Cádiz Current (Sánchez and Relvas, 2003; Peliz et al., 2007); an upwelling process occurs in the Trafalgar area, produced by tidal interaction with the topography of the zone; and the mixing of surface layers induced by the wind (Vargas-Yáñez et al., 2002; Peliz et al., 2009; Sala et al., 2018). The centre of the Gulf is also under the influence of the eastern-end branch of the Azores Current, producing a front subjected to a mesoscale variability (Johnson and Stevens, 2000; García-Lafuente and Ruiz, 2007; Peliz et al., 2007; Sala et al., 2013) (Fig. 1).

375 2.2. Field sampling and analysis

The database for this study has been obtained following two different sampling strategies. The first consisted of taking sea surface measurements while underway. The second strategy was to obtain measurements at several discrete surface stations along three transects at right angles to the coastline: the Guadalquivir transect (GD), the Sancti Petri transect (SP) and the Trafalgar transect (TF) (Fig. 1). Data was collected during 8 cruises carried out with a seasonal frequency (spring: ST1 and ST5; summer: ST2 and ST6; autumn: ST3 and ST7; winter: ST4 and ST8) during 2014, 2015 and 2016 (Table 1). All the
380 cruises were made on the R/V Ángeles Alvariño, except the summer 2015 cruise (ST6) that was undertaken on the R/V Ramón Margalef. The study area is located between 35.4 and 36.7° N and 6.0 and 7.2° W (52.8·10² km²).

2.2.1. Underway measurements

385 Sea surface temperature (SST), sea surface salinity (SSS) and the pCO₂ were recorded continuously and were averaged with a frequency of 1 min intervals, from the surface seawater supply of the ship (pump inlet at a depth of 5m). SST and SSS were measured using a SeaBird thermosalinograph (SeaBird 21) with an accuracy of ±0.01 °C and ±0.003 respectively. The equilibrator design for determining the pCO₂ is a combination of a laminar flow system with a bubble type system, similar to that developed by Körtzinger et al. (1996) and described by Padin et al. (2009, 2010).

390 The surface water CO₂ molar fraction (xCO₂) and H₂O were determined using a non-dispersive infrared gas analyser (Licor®, LI 6262) that has a minimum accuracy of ±0.3 ppm. It was calibrated daily using two standards: a CO₂ free-air for the blank and a CO₂ sub-standard gas of known concentration (413.2 ppm). CO₂ concentration of the sub-standard gas was determined from the comparison with standard gases of NOAA with an uncertainty of 0.22 ppm and measured with a Licor 6262 (±1 ppm). The temperature inside the equilibrator was measured continuously by means of a platinum resistance thermometer (PT100 probe, ±0.1 °C). A pressure transducer (Setra Systems, accurate to 0.05 %) was used to measure the pressure inside the equilibrator. The xCO₂ was converted into pCO₂ according to the protocol described in DOE (2007). Corrections between the equilibrator and SST were made following Takahashi et al. (1993). The temperature difference between the ship's sea inlet and the equilibrator was less than 1.5 °C.

2.2.2. Fixed stations

400 Discrete surface samples were collected at 5 m depth, using Niskin bottles (10 L) mounted on a rosette-sampler coupled to a SeaBird CTD 911+, to measure pH and dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll-a and nutrients concentration.

The pH was measured by potentiometer in duplicate using 100 mL of seawater with a glass-combined electrode (Metrohm, 905) calibrated on the total pH scale using a TRIS buffer solution (Zeebe and Wolf-Gladrow, 2001). Dissolved oxygen values were obtained with the sensor of the rosette (SeaBird 63) pre-calibrated using Winkler titration (±0.1 µmol L⁻¹) of samples collected from several water depths at selected stations (Parsons et al., 1984). Apparent Oxygen Utilization (AOU) was determined as the difference between the solubility calculated applying the expression proposed by Weiss (1974) and the experimental values of dissolved oxygen. For chlorophyll-a determination, 1 L of seawater was filtered (Whatman, GF/F 0.7 µm) and frozen (-20 °C) until analysis in the laboratory. Total chlorophyll-a was extracted with 90 % pure Acetone, and quantified after 24 hours by fluorometry analysis (Hitachi F-2500) (Yentsch and Menzel, 1963). Nutrient samples for analysis of nitrate and phosphate content were filtered through pre-combusted glass-fibre filters (Whatman, GF/F 0.7 µm) and frozen at -20 °C. Analyses were performed in a segmented flow autoanalyzer (Skalar, San Plus) based on classic spectrophotometric methods (Grasshoff et al., 1983). The accuracies of the determinations obtained are the following: ±0.003 for pH, ±0.1 µmol L⁻¹ for dissolved oxygen, ±0.1 µg L⁻¹ for chlorophyll-a, ±0.10 µmol L⁻¹ for nitrate, and ±0.02 µmol L⁻¹ for phosphate.

415 The corresponding data of SST, SSS and pCO₂ for the fixed stations were obtained by the underway measurements averaging data corresponding to 0.5 mile around the location of the fixed stations. SST and SSS data were compared with the values collected with the CTD coupled to the rosette-sampler and they do not show differences greater than 0.04 °C and 0.01 units, respectively.

2.3. Thermal and non-thermal effects on pCO₂ calculations

420 To determine the relative importance of the thermal and non-thermal effects on the changes of pCO₂ in seawater (e.g., Landschützer et al., 2015; Reimer et al., 2017), we follow the method ~~proposed-described~~ by Takahashi et al. (2002). To

remove the thermal effect from the observed pCO₂, the data were normalized to a constant temperature, the mean in situ SST depending on the focus considered, according to Eq. (1).

$$pCO_2 \text{ at } SST_{\text{mean}} = (pCO_2)_{\text{obs}} \cdot \exp[0.0423 \cdot (SST_{\text{mean}} - SST_{\text{obs}})] \quad (1)$$

where the subscripts “mean” and “obs” indicate the average and observed SST values, respectively.

~~To analyse the effect of the thermal changes on pCO₂ has been computed by perturbing the mean pCO₂ with the difference between the mean and observed temperature. The pCO₂ value at the given observed temperatures (SST_{obs}) the following expression has been used was calculated based on Eq. (2):~~

$$pCO_2 \text{ at } SST_{\text{obs}} = (pCO_2)_{\text{mean}} \cdot \exp[0.0423 \cdot (SST_{\text{obs}} - SST_{\text{mean}})] \quad (2)$$

When the thermal effect is removed, the remaining variations in pCO₂ are due to the non-thermal influences, such as the biological utilization of CO₂, the vertical and lateral transport, the sea-air exchange of CO₂ and terrestrial inputs (e.g. Qu et al., 2014; Arruda et al., 2015; Ito et al., 2016; Xue et al., 2016). ~~The non-thermal effects on the surface water pCO₂, (ΔpCO₂)_{n-T}, can be calculated from the is represented by the seasonal amplitude seasonal amplitude of pCO₂ values normalized to the mean SST, (pCO₂ at SST_{mean}), using Eq. (1):~~

$$(\Delta pCO_2)_{n-T} = (pCO_2 \text{ at } SST_{\text{mean}})_{\text{max}} - (pCO_2 \text{ at } SST_{\text{mean}})_{\text{min}} \quad (3)$$

~~And the seasonal amplitude of pCO₂ values normalized to the observed SST, (pCO₂ at SST_{obs}), represents the thermal effect of changes on the mean annual pCO₂ value, (ΔpCO₂)_T and it is calculated with the following expression: is represented by the seasonal amplitude of pCO₂ values normalized to the observed SST, (pCO₂ at SST_{obs}), using Eq. (2):~~

$$(\Delta pCO_2)_T = (pCO_2 \text{ at } SST_{\text{obs}})_{\text{max}} - (pCO_2 \text{ at } SST_{\text{obs}})_{\text{min}} \quad (4)$$

~~The ratio between the thermal effects (T) and non-thermal effects (B) quantifies the relative importance of each effect can be expressed in terms of the ratio between the thermal effects (T) and non-thermal effects (B), (Takahashi et al., 2002):~~

$$T/B = (\Delta pCO_2)_T / (\Delta pCO_2)_{n-T} \quad (5)$$

A T/B ratio greater than 1 implies the dominance of thermal effects over non-thermal on the pCO₂ dynamics. However, a T/B lower than 1 reveals a greater influence of non-thermal processes. This method was originally designed for open oceanic systems, but it has been widely used by other authors in coastal areas (e.g. Schiettecatte et al., 2007; Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011; Qu et al., 2014; Burgos et al., 2018).

In addition, Olsen et al. (2008) propose a method in which the seasonal signal of pCO₂ data is decomposed into individual components due to variations in SST, in air-sea CO₂ exchange, in SSS, and in combined mixing and biological processes, according to Eq. (6):-

$$d pCO_2^{\text{sw},i} = d_{\text{SST}} pCO_2^{\text{sw},i} + d_{\text{AS}} pCO_2^{\text{sw},i} + d_{\text{SSS}} pCO_2^{\text{sw},i} + d_{\text{MB}} pCO_2^{\text{sw},i} \quad (6)$$

where the superscripts “sw” makes reference to the surface pCO₂ in the seawater and “i” refers to the mean value between consecutive cruises for all variables; $d\text{ pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i}$ is the observed change in pCO₂; $d_{\text{SST}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i}$ is the change due to SST changes; $d_{\text{AS}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i}$ is the change due to air-sea exchange; $d_{\text{SSS}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i}$ is the change due to salinity variations; and $d_{\text{MB}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i}$ is the change due to mixing plus biology. At the same time, each process is calculated with the following equations (Olsen et al., 2008):

$$d_{\text{SST}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i} = \text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i} \cdot e^{0.0423(\Delta\text{SST})} - \text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i} \quad (7)$$

where ΔSST is the SST difference between two cruises

$$d_{\text{AS}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i} = \frac{d \cdot F^i}{\text{MLD}^i} \quad (8)$$

where d is the number of days passed between two cruises (90 days approximately); F^i is the mean flux of CO₂; and MLD^i is the mean mixed layer depth.

$$d_{\text{SSS}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i} = \text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},n+1} (\text{DIC}^{n+1}, \text{TA}^{n+1}, \text{SSS}^{n+1}, \text{SST}^i) - \text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},n} (\text{DIC}^n, \text{TA}^n, \text{SSS}^n, \text{SST}^i) \quad (9)$$

~~_____ is not determined in this study, since data on the variations of total alkalinity and dissolved inorganic carbon are not available, and the spatial SSS changes are where the superscript “n” refers to the mean value of each cruise and the variables DIC (dissolved inorganic carbon) and TA (total alkalinity) have been estimated from pH and pCO₂, using the K1 and K2 acidity constants proposed by Lueker et al. (2000) in the total pH scale through the program CO2SYS (Lewis et al., 1998). e only significant near the Guadalquivir River mouth.~~ $d_{\text{MB}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw},i}$ is calculated as a residual, that is, as the change in pCO₂ that is not explained by other processes. Additionally, as this study includes both coastal areas and deeper areas, the analysis is divided in function of the system depth, between coastal (< 50 m) and distal (> 50 m) areas. Thus, MLD^i in distal areas (Table 3) was calculated derived from the thermocline position that separates the SAW and the ENACW (71.3 - 96.8 m), while the coastal areas correspond to the depth of these areas (15 - 50 m).

2.4. Estimation of CO₂ fluxes

Fluxes of CO₂ across the sea-air interface were estimated using the relationship:

$$F_{\text{CO}_2} = \alpha \cdot k \cdot (\Delta\text{pCO}_2)_{\text{sea-air}} \quad (109)$$

where k (cm h⁻¹) is the gas transfer velocity; α is the solubility coefficient of CO₂ (Weiss, 1974); and ΔpCO_2 is the difference between the sea and air values of pCO₂. The atmospheric pCO₂ (pCO₂^{atm}) values were obtained from the monthly atmospheric data of xCO₂ (xCO₂^{atm}) at the Izaña Atmospheric Station in Spain (Earth System Research Laboratory; <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/data/index.php>, last access: 9 January 2019). The xCO₂^{atm} was converted to pCO₂^{atm} as described in DOE (2007).

The gas transfer velocity, k , was calculated using the parameterization formulated by Wanninkhof (2014):

$$k = 0.251 \cdot u^2 \cdot (\text{Sc}/660)^{-0.5} \quad (101)$$

where u (m s^{-1}) is the mean wind speed at 10 m height on each cruise, obtained from the Shipboard Weather Station; Sc is the Schmidt number of CO_2 in seawater; and 660 is the Sc in seawater at 20 °C.

2.5. Statistical analysis

495 Statistical analyses were performed with IBM SPSS Statistics software (Version 20.0. Armonk, NY). The dataset was analysed using one-way analysis of variance test (ANOVA) for analysing significant differences between cruises for discrete and continuous surface data on hydrological and biogeochemical characteristics. The threshold value for statistical significance was taken as $p < 0.05$. Moreover, all reported linear correlations are type I and they are statistically significant with p-values smaller than 0.05 in the entire manuscript unless indicated otherwise.

500 3. Results

3.1. Underway variables

Table 1 gives the ranges of variation and the mean and standard deviation of SST, SSS and pCO_2 during the 8 sampling cruises and figure 2 shows the underway distribution of SST and pCO_2 in the Gulf of Cádiz. Among all the cruises the SST values vary between 14.3 and 23.4 °C. The samplings made during 2014 presented SST values higher than those in 2015 and 2016 (Table 1). For the whole period, the averaged values for both seasons were highest during summer (21.0 ± 0.8 °C) and autumn (21.1 ± 1.2 °C), with the lowest values during spring (15.5 ± 0.5 °C) and an intermediate value during winter (17.5 ± 0.6 °C). In general, spatially SST tended to increase from coastal to offshore areas during spring and winter, while in summer and autumn this SST gradient was inverse (Fig. 2A). No substantial differences were found between the three transects studied (GD, SP and TF), although near the Guadalquivir River mouth and Cape Trafalgar (36.19° N, 6.03° W) the lowest values of SST due to freshwater inputs and the frequent upwelled waters, respectively, were detected.

Since the cruises were carried out at the beginning of each meteorological season, it is appropriate to analyse how representative is the range of temperatures that has been obtained. Figure 3 shows the mean value over the last 10 years of the maximum and minimum temperatures in the Gulf of Cádiz acquired by a oceanographic buoy (bottom-mounted at 36.48° N - 6.96° W; Puertos del Estado; <http://www.puertos.es/es-es/oceanografia/Paginas/portus.aspx>, last access: 12 July 2018); the mean values and standard deviations of the 8 cruises are superimposed. It can be observed that the mean values for each cruise are within the range of variation of the typical temperature in the Gulf of Cádiz, and the mean temperature found, 18.8 °C, is very close to the mean value obtained at the oceanographic buoy (19.2 °C, Fig. 3). Although the samplings carried out do not register the highest temperatures found during August in the Gulf of Cádiz, which it could cause that the range in the pCO_2 variation would be greater than the determined in this work.

520 Average values of SSS varied significantly among the cruises, ranging between 35.03 and 37.06. The highest values were recorded during February 2016 (36.44 ± 0.09) and lowest during September 2015 (35.64 ± 0.08) (Table 1). The lowest salinity value (35.03) and the most notable spatial variation (35.03 - 36.36) was observed during December 2014 in the area of the Guadalquivir River, associated with a period of storms with consequent major freshwater discharges. The area that presented the highest mean salinity value for the whole study was TF (36.19 ± 0.25).

525 During our study period, pCO_2 values ranged from 320.6 to 513.6 μatm . The highest values were recorded during summer and autumn of 2014 and 2015 (Table 1), with a similar mean value, 411.6 ± 13.2 μatm and 410.6 ± 10.5 μatm respectively, found for both seasons. And the lowest mean value was logged during spring (382.5 ± 16.9 μatm), while winter presented an intermediate value (390.8 ± 15.4 μatm). Although these values do not present significant differences and the standard deviations are high since they are associated at the spatial and inter-annual variability. In general, the pCO_2 tended to

530 decrease with the distance to the coast (Fig. 2B). Comparing these values with pCO₂ values in the atmosphere, an undersaturation of CO₂ was observed during spring and winter (15.3 ± 15.7 and 18.0 ± 11.4 μatm , respectively) and an oversaturation in summer and autumn (-20.4 ± 24.6 and -8.0 ± 15.3 μatm , respectively). In Fig. 2 a sharp variation of SST and pCO₂ can be observed in some zones that coincides with the stations where discrete water samples were taken. This may be due to the different sampling time at these stations, which varied between 2 and 8 hours in function of the depth of the system.

535 The database of this study includes the transition from coastal zones with depths of the order of 20 m to distal shelf waters with depths greater than 800 m. Figure 4 shows the general trend of the mean values of pCO₂ and SST for different intervals of depth of the water column based on the information obtained in the 8 cruises. ~~Although there is no statistical difference in pCO₂ or SST with bottom depth,~~ it can be observed that the highest values of pCO₂ (408.3 ± 26.7 μatm) correspond to the coastal zone (< 50 m), and that values decrease down to a depth of 100 - 200 m (396.1 ± 23 μatm). In addition, towards open waters (> 600 m) there is a progressive increase of pCO₂ and SST (404.3 ± 16.5 μatm and 20.1 ± 2.4 °C, respectively).

3.2. Discrete surface variables

545 Table 2 shows the average values and standard deviation for the underway averaged measurements of SST and SSS, and for the discrete samples of pH, AOU, chlorophyll-a, nitrate and phosphate at fixed stations along the three transects during the 8 cruises. The pH presented significant differences among the cruises with a range of variation from 7.84 to 8.34. Lowest mean values were found during summer (8.00 ± 0.04) and autumn (7.96 ± 0.05) of 2014 and 2015 (Table 2), coinciding with the highest average values of pCO₂ recorded (Table 1). The pH values for spring and winter were equal practically for both years (8.08 ± 0.08 and 8.07 ± 0.05 , respectively). AOU was significantly different between all the cruises, but a clear seasonal variability was not observed. Values measured ranged from -31.9 to 12.3 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$, with the highest values in December 2014 (7.7 ± 2.1 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) and the lowest in March 2015 (-19.1 ± 9.4 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) (Table 2). For both years, the lowest mean value was recorded in spring (-11.3 ± 8.9 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$), and the highest in winter (1.3 ± 2.6 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$). All mean values were negative except for those of December 2014; that exception may have been due to the exceptional mixing of the water column caused by the storms. No general trend in the spatial variations of pH and AOU was found.

550 Chlorophyll-a values presented significant differences among the cruises and between the same seasons of each year. This parameter varied from 0.02 to 2.37 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$, with the highest mean value measured in March 2015 (0.76 ± 0.55 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), which coincides with the lowest (negative) mean value of AOU (Table 2). The lowest mean value was in June 2014 (0.18 ± 0.14 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$). With reference to the seasons of both years, the highest value was in spring (0.71 ± 0.46 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), followed by winter (0.58 ± 0.33 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), autumn (0.26 ± 0.30 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) and the lowest value in summer (0.23 ± 0.25 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$). The SP transect presented the lowest mean value of the whole study (0.33 ± 0.31 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), and the TF zone the highest (0.49 ± 0.37 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$).

555 Nitrate concentration did not show significant differences among the cruises, ranging between 0.00 and 1.93 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$. The highest mean value was recorded in spring (0.82 ± 1.09 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) and the lowest in summer (0.25 ± 0.35 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) of both years. The TF transect presented the highest mean concentration for the whole study (0.77 ± 0.76 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$). Phosphate concentration showed significant differences among all the cruises. By season, the highest mean value was obtained during autumn (0.31 ± 0.30 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$), although the average data in October 2014 (0.09 ± 0.03 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) was lower than that of 2015 (0.50 ± 0.55 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) (Table 2). The lowest mean value was observed during summer (0.10 ± 0.05 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$). The GD

transect presented the highest mean value of the whole study ($0.28 \pm 0.39 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$), and the lowest values were found in the TF and SP transects, with a similar value in each, $0.15 \pm 0.07 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ and $0.14 \pm 0.09 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$, respectively. The mean N/P ratio in surface waters for the whole study was 3.5 ± 2.0 , similar to that estimated by Anfuso et al. (2010) in the northeast continental shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz, which indicates a relative phosphate deficit with respect to the Redfield ratio (Redfield et al., 1963).

3.3. Air-sea CO₂ exchange

Table 3 summarizes the mean values and standard deviation for atmospheric pCO₂, wind speed, gas transfer velocity and the air-sea CO₂ fluxes measured in this study. The mean wind speeds were relatively similar for the whole study period, ranging between $5.5 \pm 2.8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ (March 2015) and $7.7 \pm 4.2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ (December 2014). The gas transfer velocity varied between $6.9 \pm 0.1 \text{ cm h}^{-1}$ in March 2015 and $14.4 \pm 0.3 \text{ cm h}^{-1}$ in June 2015, since it is very sensitive to changes in wind speed. There was a slight seasonal variation in the dataset of CO₂ fluxes as in the values of pCO₂, because they are associated to the spatiotemporal variability and they present a high standard deviations. There was a clear seasonal variability in the dataset of CO₂ fluxes. The study area acted as source of CO₂ to the atmosphere during summer and autumn ($0.7 \pm 1.5 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ and $1.2 \pm 0.9 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, respectively) and as a sink in spring and winter ($-1.3 \pm 1.6 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ and $-1.3 \pm 1.6 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, respectively).

4. Discussion

4.1. Thermal influence in pCO₂

Numerous research studies have determined that temperature is one of the most important factors that control the variability of pCO₂ in the ocean (e.g. Millero, 1995; Bates et al., 2000; Takahashi et al., 2002; Carvalho et al., 2017), as a consequence of the dependence of the solubility of CO₂ with the temperature (Weiss, 1974; Woolf et al., 2016). When pCO₂ is affected only by the temperature, Takahashi et al. (1993) determined a relative variation of pCO₂ of $0.0423 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$, equivalent to $16.9 \mu\text{atm }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ for experimental pCO₂ of $400 \mu\text{atm}$. In our study a seasonal variation was observed with a linear increase of the values of pCO₂ with SST for the entire database ($r^2 = 0.37$, Fig. 5A). This relationship becomes more significant when it is obtained from the mean values of pCO₂ and SST of each cruise ($r^2 = 0.71$, Fig. 5B). The slope, $4.80 \mu\text{atm }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$, is lower than the thermal effect on pCO₂ described by Takahashi et al. (1993), and indicates the influence of other non-thermal processes on the distribution of pCO₂ in this zone of the Gulf of Cádiz.

There are previous studies in which the seasonal variations of pCO₂ in more coastal zones of the Gulf of Cádiz (depth < 100 m) are described (Table 4). Ribas-Ribas et al. (2011) found in the north eastern shelf during June 2006 and May 2007 a dependence of pCO₂ with temperature similar to that found in this study ($5.03 \mu\text{atm }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$, $r^2 = 0.42$), and a pCO₂ that ranged between 338 and ~~397~~⁵⁰² μatm . In 2003, Huertas et al. (2006) found variations of pCO₂ ranging between 196 μatm in March and 400 - 650 μatm in August in a zone situated more to the west, between the rivers Guadalquivir and Guadiana. In addition, de la Paz et al. (2009) established a variation of pCO₂ between 387 μatm in September 2005 and 329 μatm in March 2006 in the Strait of Gibraltar, a deeper zone situated at the south eastern limit of the Gulf of Cádiz. This dependence of pCO₂ with temperature has also been determined in other studies of continental shelves, such as in the east China Sea (Wang et al., 2000), in the northern east China Sea (Shim et al., 2007) and in the northern Yellow Sea (Xue et al., 2012).

Comparing the data given in previous studies of the Gulf of Cádiz with the mean value found in this study ($398.9 \pm 15.5 \mu\text{atm}$), it is evident that there has been an increase of pCO₂ during the last decade, even taking into account the uncertainty

associated with the different measurement techniques employed. When we compare this mean value with the value found in the shallower and deeper zones of the Gulf of Cádiz studied by Ribas-Ribas et al. (2011) ($360.6 \pm 18.2 \mu\text{atm}$), who used the same methodology, there has been an increase of pCO_2 of $38.3 \pm 16.9 \mu\text{atm}$ in the last decade. For the period of time between 2006 and 2016, the rate of growth of pCO_2 in the surface waters of the Gulf of Cádiz ($3.8 \pm 1.7 \mu\text{atm year}^{-1}$) exceeds the rate of increase of pCO_2 in the atmosphere ($2.3 \mu\text{atm year}^{-1}$ for the last 10 years in Izaña (Earth System Research Laboratory; <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/data/index.php>, last access: 9 January 2019)). This suggests a possible increase of the anthropogenic nutrient and C -inorganic carbon inputs from land (Mackenzie et al., 2004) since the direction and magnitude of estuarine and continental shelf CO_2 exchange with the atmosphere is highly dependent on the terrestrial organic budget and nutrient supplies to the coastal ocean (Borges and Abril, 2011; Cai, 2011).

4.2. Non-thermal factors controlling pCO_2

In accordance with Olsen et al. (2008), Fig. 6 shows the decomposition of the variations of pCO_2 between cruises due to changes in SST, in air-sea CO_2 exchange, in SSS and in combined mixing and biology, in distal and coastal areas. In general, the variations are greater than those found in other works (Olsen et al., 2008; Omar et al., 2010) because this study considers seasonal changes against the monthly change analysed in previous applications. The average time between cruises is 86 ± 8 days between 83 and 98 days about 90 days, with the exception of the last period (between September 2015 and February 2016) that was 140 days. $\text{dpCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$ presents a similar variation between deep and coastal areas, but with the differences that the distal zones act a sink of CO_2 of the system (mean $\text{dpCO}_2^{\text{sw}} = -3.4 \pm 28.9 \mu\text{atm}$) and the shallower areas as a source of CO_2 (mean $\text{dpCO}_2^{\text{sw}} = 0.2 \pm 22.7 \mu\text{atm}$). The high standard deviations associated to this variable are due to the own spatiotemporal variability of the database. In distal areas (Fig. 6), pCO_2 changes are mainly brought about by SST ($-58.4 - 106.2 \mu\text{atm}$) together with mixing and biology processes ($-90.8 - 36.2 \mu\text{atm}$). An inverse coupling is observed between $d_{\text{SST}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$ and $d_{\text{MB}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$, since with the increase of the system SST (increase $d_{\text{SST}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$) there is greater biological uptake of CO_2 (decrease $d_{\text{MB}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$). As reported in the studies of Olsen et al. (2008) and Omar et al. (2010), the change produced by the air-sea CO_2 exchange is lower. Instead, in coastal areas (Fig. 6), the dominant effects on pCO_2 changes are produced by air-sea CO_2 exchange ($-196.2 - 103.4 \mu\text{atm}$) and mixing plus biology ($-101.1 - 198.5 \mu\text{atm}$). A larger effect of the air-sea CO_2 exchange on pCO_2 variation is observed in the shallower mixed layers (Olsen et al., 2008). A relative inverse coupling between the two factors was also observed; outgassing is produced (decrease $d_{\text{AS}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$) when the system receives greater inputs/production of CO_2 (increase $d_{\text{MB}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$). There is a different behaviour between the transition from spring to summer of 2014 (ST1 and ST2) and 2015 (ST5 and ST6) for $d_{\text{MB}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$, which may be due to a greater quantity of continental inputs, as reflected in the Guadalquivir river flow rate in these periods ($85.1 \pm 75.4 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $25.3 \pm 10.2 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively). Changes in SSS do not have a substantial effect on pCO_2 during the whole period in both areas, with a range of variation of $d_{\text{SSS}}\text{pCO}_2^{\text{sw}}$ between -11.3 and $11.0 \mu\text{atm}$. This behaviour was also described by Olsen et al. (2008) in the subpolar North Atlantic, to except for an area influenced by runoff phenomenon where pCO_2 decreases.

In relation to the factors that affect to the pCO_2 changes brought about by mixing and biology processes, it has been observed ~~With the object of investigating the influence of the biological utilization of CO_2 on the variations of pCO_2 , Fig. 6 shows the~~ dependence between the mean values of pCO_2 and pH, AOU and the concentration of chlorophyll-a at the fixed stations ($n = 126$, Fig. 7). AOU presents a positive relationship ($\text{pCO}_2 (\mu\text{atm}) = 410 + 1.1 \text{ AOU } (\mu\text{mol L}^{-1})$, $r^2 = 0.21$), with a slope close to what would be obtained taking into account the processes of formation/oxidation of the organic matter phytoplankton considering a Redfield-type relationship. Inverse relationships between pCO_2 and dissolved oxygen were also found in other studies of continental shelf (Zhai et al., 2009; de la Paz et al., 2010; Xue et al., 2012, 2016). However, pCO_2

645 and pH presents an inverse relationship ($p\text{CO}_2$ (μatm) = 1710 - 162.8 pH, $r^2 = 0.34$), due to the effect of the uptake or
production of CO_2 on the pH (Tsunogai et al., 1997; Shaw et al., 2014). The variation of $p\text{CO}_2$ with chlorophyll-a ($p\text{CO}_2$
650 (μatm) = 413 - 20.8 [chlorophyll-a] ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), $r^2 = 0.14$) also show the influence of the processes of photosynthesis and
respiration (e.g. Cai et al., 2011; Clargo et al., 2015), with a slope value similar to that obtained in the study of Huertas et al.
(2005), ($p\text{CO}_2$ (μatm) = 274 - 19.6 [chlorophyll-a] ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), $r^2 = 0.32$; $n = 28$). Other authors have also described the
interrelationships existing between $p\text{CO}_2$ and chlorophyll-a in other coastal areas (Borges and Frankignoulle, 1999; Tseng et
al., 2011; Zhang et al., 2012; Qin et al., 2014; Litt et al., 2018).

Another factor presents in the Gulf of Cádiz and that could affect the distribution of $p\text{CO}_2$ and be considered as a process of
mixing and biology (Olsen et al., 2008), it is the vertical and lateral transport. For example, there are two upwelling systems
in our study zone, one more permanent situated in the coastal zone (depth between 50 and 100 m) of the Trafalgar section
655 (Prieto et al., 1999; Vargas-Yáñez et al., 2002) and the other located between the Cape of Santa María and the Guadalquivir
River and more sensitive to meteorological forcing (Criado-Aldeanueva et al., 2006). In our database, experimental evidence
of the upwelling was found only in the TF transect. A local decrease of the mean values of SST (17.4 °C) and $p\text{CO}_2$ (399.1
 μatm) was observed in this coastal area of TF, with respect to the deeper areas (18.8 °C and 405.1 μatm , respectively) for the
whole period. This input of colder waters could cause higher or lower concentrations of CO_2 (e.g. Liu et al., 2010; Xue et al.,
660 2015; González-Dávila et al., 2017). There is a progressive increase of SST and $p\text{CO}_2$ with increasing depth of the system
measured below 100 - 200 m (Fig. 4); this is associated with the presence of a branch of the Azores Current that introduces
warmer waters in the central part of the Gulf of Cádiz (Gould, 1985; Käse et al., 1985; Johnson and Stevens, 2000). The
influence of warmer surface currents on the variability of $p\text{CO}_2$ has been observed in other studies, such as the Gulf Stream
in the south-eastern continental shelf of the United States (Wang et al., 2005; Jiang et al., 2008), and the Kuroshio Current in
665 the northern East China Sea (Shim et al., 2007).

Additionally, several authors have described the influence of the continental inputs on the distribution of $p\text{CO}_2$ in surface
waters. In general, the continental shelf as a whole acts as a sink of atmospheric CO_2 (e.g. Rabouille et al., 2001; Chen and
Borges, 2009), whereas the coastal zone is usually oversaturated with CO_2 (Fig. 4), ~~whereas the continental shelf as a whole
acts as a sink of atmospheric CO_2 (e.g. Rabouille et al., 2001; Chen and Borges, 2009)~~. This behaviour has been described in
670 other systems, including the southern part of the Yellow Sea (Qu et al., 2014), the southwestern part of the Atlantic Ocean
(Arruda et al., 2015), the North Sea (Clargo et al., 2015), and on the continental shelf of Maranhense (Lefèvre et al., 2017).

The principal continental inputs in the northeast zone of the Gulf of Cádiz take place from the estuary of the Guadalquivir
and from the systems associated with the Bay of Cádiz. De la Paz et al. (2007) found values of $p\text{CO}_2$ higher than 3000 μatm
in the internal part of the estuary of the Guadalquivir, and Ribas-Ribas et al. (2013) established that this estuary acts as an
675 exporter system of Einorganic carbon, nutrients and water oversaturated with CO_2 to the adjoining coastal zone. The
importance of the contributions from the Guadalquivir on the distribution of $p\text{CO}_2$ depends on the river's flow rate, as can be
appreciated in Fig. 2B. The highest values of $p\text{CO}_2$ (up to 500 μatm) were observed during March 2014 in the zone close to
the Guadalquivir River mouth, as a consequence of the river's high flow rate (between 192.7 and 299.2 $\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$, Confederación
Hidrográfica del Guadalquivir; <http://www.chguadalquivir.es/saih/DatosHistoricos.aspx>, last access: 19 July 2018). In
680 contrast, the lowest values of $p\text{CO}_2$ were recorded in spring of 2015 in this zone (as low as 320 μatm) in a period of drought
(flow rate 20 $\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$) and subject to intense biological activity associated with the highest value found of the concentration of
chlorophyll-a (2.4 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$). The Bay of Cádiz occupies an area of 38 km^2 , and receives urban effluents from a population of
640,000 inhabitants. This shallow zone is oversaturated with CO_2 (Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011) due largely to the inputs of

685 inorganic carbon, organic matter and nutrients that are received from the Guadalete River and Sancti Petri Channel and the
Río San Pedro tidal creeks (de la Paz et al., 2008a, b; Burgos et al., 2018).

690 ~~Moreover, Another source of CO₂ in the coastal zone another source of CO₂ results from the net production of inorganic
carbon derived from the processes of remineralization of the organic matter in the surface sediments originating from the
continuous deposition of organic matter through the water column (de Haas et al., 2002; Jahnke et al., 2005). The intensity of
this process-effect decreases in line with the increasing depth of the system, and the influence of the primary production and
the continental supplies on the deposition of the particulate organic matter is less (Friedl et al., 1998; Burdige, 2007; Al
Azhar et al., 2017), which could be related with the greater effect determined by the mixing and biology processes in the
coastal areas using the Olsen et al. (2008) method (Friedl et al., 1998; Burdige, 2007; Al Azhar et al., 2017). Ferrón et al.
(2009) quantified the release from the sediment of DIC-DIC related to the processes of oxidation of organic matter in the
coastal zone (depth < 50 m) of the Gulf of Cádiz, between the Guadalquivir and the Bay of Cádiz. These authors found a
695 mean benthic flux of $27 \pm 8 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ for stations with a mean depth of 23 m. This flux of DIC-DIC is equivalent to a
CO₂ flux of $198 \pm 80 \text{ } \mu\text{mol C m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, considering a well-mixed water column, a pH = 8, in the conditions of mean
temperature and salinity in the Gulf of Cádiz (18.8 °C and 36.19, respectively) and using the K1 and K2 acidity constants
proposed by Lueker et al. (2000) in the total pH scale. Moreover, this estimated CO₂ benthic flux would produce an increase
of pCO₂ of $0.25 \pm 0.10 \text{ } \mu\text{atm d}^{-1}$ in the water column.~~

700 ~~Additionally, another factor present in the Gulf of Cádiz and that could affect the distribution of pCO₂ is the vertical and
lateral transport. For example, there are two upwelling systems in our study zone, one more permanent situated in the coastal
zone (depth between 50 and 100 m) of the Trafalgar section (Prieto et al., 1999; Vargas Yáñez et al., 2002) and the other
located between the Cape of Santa María and the Guadalquivir River and more sensitive to meteorological forcing (Criado-
Aldeanueva et al., 2006). In our database, experimental evidence of the upwelling was found only in the TF transect. In our
705 database experimental evidence of the upwelling was found only in the TF transect. A local decrease of the mean values of
SST (17.4 °C) and pCO₂ (399.1 μatm) was observed in this coastal area of TF, with respect to the deeper areas (18.8 °C and
405.1 μatm , respectively) for the whole period. This input of colder waters could cause higher or lower concentrations of
CO₂ (e.g. Liu et al., 2010; Xue et al., 2015; González Dávila et al., 2017). There is a progressive increase of SST and pCO₂
with increasing depth of the system measured below 100–200 m (Fig. 4); this is associated with the presence of a branch of
710 the Azores Current that introduces warmer waters in the central part of the Gulf of Cádiz (Gould, 1985; Käse et al., 1985;
Johnson and Stevens, 2000). The influence of warmer surface currents on the variability of pCO₂ has been observed in other
studies, such as the Gulf Stream in the south-eastern continental shelf of the United States (Wang et al., 2005; Jiang et al.,
2008), and the Kuroshio Current in the northern East China Sea (Shim et al., 2007).~~

715 ~~With the object of investigating the influence of the biological utilization of CO₂ on the variations of pCO₂, Fig. 6 shows the
dependence between the mean values of pCO₂ and pH, AOU and the concentration of chlorophyll a at the fixed stations (n =
126). AOU presents a positive relationship ($\text{pCO}_2 (\mu\text{atm}) = 410 + 1.1 \text{ AOU } (\mu\text{mol L}^{-1})$, $r^2 = 0.21$), with a slope close to what
would be obtained taking into account the processes of formation/oxidation of the organic matter phytoplankton considering
a Redfield-type relationship. Inverse relationships between pCO₂ and dissolved oxygen were also found in other studies of
continental shelf (Zhai et al., 2009; de la Paz et al., 2010; Xue et al., 2012, 2016). However, pCO₂ and pH presents an
720 inverse relationship ($\text{pCO}_2 (\mu\text{atm}) = 1710 - 162.8 \text{ pH}$, $r^2 = 0.34$), due to the effect of the uptake or production of CO₂ on the
pH (Tsunogai et al., 1997; Shaw et al., 2014). The variation of pCO₂ with chlorophyll a ($\text{pCO}_2 (\mu\text{atm}) = 413 - 20.8$
[chlorophyll a] ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), $r^2 = 0.14$) also show the influence of the processes of photosynthesis and respiration (e.g. Cai et al.,
2011; Clargo et al., 2015), with a slope value similar to that obtained in the study of Huertas et al. (2005), ($\text{pCO}_2 (\mu\text{atm}) =$~~

274 — 19.6 [chlorophyll-a] ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), $r^2 = 0.32$; $n = 28$). Other authors have also described the interrelationships existing between pCO_2 and chlorophyll-a in other coastal areas (Borges and Frankignoulle, 1999; Tseng et al., 2011; Zhang et al., 2012; Qin et al., 2014; Litt et al., 2018).

In accordance with Olsen et al. (2008), Fig. 10 shows the decomposition of the variations of pCO_2 between cruises due to changes in SST, in air-sea CO_2 exchange and in combined mixing and biology, in distal and coastal areas. In general, the variations are greater than those found in other works (Olsen et al., 2008; Omar et al., 2010) because this study considers seasonal changes against the monthly change analysed in previous applications. presents practically the same temporal trend in deep and coastal areas, but with a global behaviour different since the distal zones act a sink of CO_2 of the system (mean = $-3.4 \pm 28.9 \mu\text{atm}$) and the shallower areas as a source of CO_2 (mean = $0.2 \pm 22.7 \mu\text{atm}$). In distal areas (Fig. 10), pCO_2 changes are mainly brought about by SST ($-58.4 - 106.2 \mu\text{atm}$) together with mixing and biology processes ($90.8 - 36.2 \mu\text{atm}$). An inverse coupling is observed between and , since with the increase of the system SST (increase) there is greater biological uptake of CO_2 (decrease). As reported in the studies of Olsen et al. (2008) and Omar et al. (2010), the change produced by the air-sea CO_2 exchange is lower. Instead, in coastal areas (Fig. 10), the dominant effects on pCO_2 changes are produced by air-sea CO_2 exchange ($-196.2 - 103.4 \mu\text{atm}$) and mixing plus biology ($-101.1 - 198.5 \mu\text{atm}$). A relative inverse coupling between the two factors was also observed; outgassing is produced (decrease) when the system receives greater inputs/production of CO_2 (increase). There is a different behaviour between the transition from spring to summer of 2014 (ST1 and ST2) and 2015 (ST5 and ST6) for , which may be due to a greater quantity of continental inputs, as reflected in the Guadalquivir river flow rate in these periods ($85.1 \pm 75.4 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $25.3 \pm 10.2 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively). A larger effect of the air-sea CO_2 exchange on pCO_2 variation is observed in the shallower mixed layers, as also described by Olsen et al. (2008) in the subpolar North Atlantic.

4.3. T/B ratio

In this study, the total T/B ratio is 1.15, which indicates that the thermal effect is an important factor controlling intra-annual variation of pCO_2 . This value is similar to that determined by Ribas-Ribas et al. (2011) (see date and study zone in Table 4), in the northeast zone of the shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz, with a ratio of 1.3. De la Paz et al. (2009) (see date and study zone in Table 4) propose a T/B ratio of 2.4 in the Strait of Gibraltar, indicating very significant thermal control in this relatively deep zone situated to the east of the Gulf of Cádiz.

Figure 8 presents the values of the T/B ratio grouped in different bottom-depth intervals of the water column in the system. The variations of ΔpCO_2 non-thermal and ΔpCO_2 thermal found have been superimposed. In the coastal zone (depth < 50 m), the T/B ratio is below 1 (0.9), and increases to values of 1.3 in the central zone of the Gulf of Cádiz, at depths ranging from 100 to 400 m. However, in the deepest zone (depth > 600 m), a progressive decrease to values of 1.1 is found. Qu et al. (2014) also reported the variation in the values of the T/B ratio with the distance from the coast in the southern Yellow Sea, between 0.4 - 0.6 in the nearshore area (depth < 50 m) to more than 1 (up to 2.4) in the offshore area (depth > 50 m).

This variation of the T/B ratio is largely caused by the variations of ΔpCO_2 non-thermal, which is observed to decrease from coast to deeper zone regardless which method is used (Takahashi et al., 2002; Olsen et al., 2008). High values close to the coast were observed ($120.2 \mu\text{atm}$), affected by continental inputs, processes of remineralization in the sediment and biological utilization of CO_2 . The increase of the T/B ratio and the decrease of ΔpCO_2 non-thermal ($75 \mu\text{atm}$) from the coastal zone to the central part of the Gulf of Cádiz are associated with the variations of the chlorophyll-a and nutrient

concentrations that diminish exponentially with the depth of the system. Thus, the mean concentrations of chlorophyll-a, nitrate and phosphate in the distal zone are 66.3, 81.9 and 44.8 % less, respectively, than the concentrations found close to the coast. However, the concentrations of chlorophyll-a and nutrients are relatively constant in waters with bottom-depth greater than 200 m, and do not explain the decrease of the T/B ratio and the increase of $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ non-thermal (90.7 μatm) in waters with bottom-depth greater than 400 m. These variations have been associated with the change in the origin of the surface water masses. ~~Thus, in the central zone of the Gulf of Cádiz, the origin of the surface waters is a branch of the larger-scale Portuguese-Canaries eastern boundary current that circulates around a cyclonic eddy off Cape St. Vincent and veers eastward into the Gulf of Cádiz (García-Lafuente et al., 2006). However the deepest zone is under the influence of a~~ branch of the Azores current, which is a warmer stream that could lead to an increase in primary production; in addition it is the northern border of the subtropical gyre (Klein and Siedler, 1989); these two factors favour the accumulation of CO_2 in this area as a convergence zone (Ríos et al., 2005). ~~The observed variations of $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ non-thermal between areas close to the coast and deeper areas agrees with the application of the Olsen et al. (2008) method.~~

The T/B ratios have also been calculated for the different transects at right angles to the coast that have been cruised for sampling in the study zone, as shown in Fig. 9. It can be appreciated that the T/B ratio increases with the distance from the coast on the three transects, and that the temperature generally has a greater influence on the distribution of $p\text{CO}_2$ than the non-thermal effects. The T/B ratio varies to the east, with values between 1.0 in the zone of the GD and 1.4 in SP, and an intermediate value of 1.2 in the TF zone. These variations are related to changes in the biological activity and the presence of coastal upwellings. The Guadalquivir zone receives substantial continental supplies that lead to high relative concentrations of chlorophyll-a and nutrients; these give rise to high values of $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ non-thermal. In particular, coastal waters near the mouth of the Guadalquivir River present the highest primary production of all waters within the Gulf of Cádiz (Navarro and Ruiz, 2006). The coastal zone close to Cape Trafalgar has been characterized as a region with high autotrophic productivity and biomass associated mainly with the nutrients input due to upwelling waters (e.g. Echevarría et al., 2002; García et al., 2002). The presence of these emerging water masses could be related to the relatively low values of $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ thermal found in this zone; in fact, the mean temperature in this area is 18.4 ± 2.3 °C, about 0.5 °C lower than in the other two zones. The Sancti Petri zone is the one that receives a smaller supply of nutrients, and presents the lowest concentrations of chlorophyll-a in this study. The high values of $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ thermal in this part of the Gulf of Cádiz are associated with a higher mean temperature (19.0 °C) and a wider range of variation (6.8 °C).

4.4. Ocean-atmosphere CO_2 exchange

In the Gulf of Cádiz, the flux of CO_2 presents a range of variation from -5.6 to 14.2 $\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$. These values are within the ranges observed by other authors in different areas of the Gulf of Cádiz (Table 4). As can be appreciated in Fig. 10, the fluxes of CO_2 presented seasonal and spatial variations during the period studied. The Gulf of Cádiz acts as a source of CO_2 to the atmosphere during the months of summer (ST2, ST6) and autumn (ST3, ST7), and as a sink in spring (ST1, ST5) and winter (ST4, ST8). Previous studies conducted in the Gulf of Cádiz are consistent with the behaviour found in this study (González-Dávila et al., 2003; Ait-Ameur and Goyet, 2006; Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011).

As has been observed with $p\text{CO}_2$, temperature is one of the principal factors that control the fluxes of CO_2 . In fact, for each cruise, a linear and positive relationship has been found between the mean values of the CO_2 fluxes and SST ($r^2 = 0.72$, Fig. 11). In parallel, there is a linear and negative relationship between the mean values of the CO_2 fluxes and the concentration of chlorophyll-a at the discrete stations sampled ($r^2 = 0.74$, Fig. 11), as a consequence of the biological utilization of the CO_2

(Qin et al., 2014). These relationships have also been found in various studies carried out in zones similar to the area studied (Zhang et al., 2010; Arnone et al., 2017; Carvalho et al., 2017).

The fluxes of CO₂ in the Gulf of Cádiz tend to decrease with the distance from the coast (Fig. 10). The coastal zone (< 50 m) presents a mean CO₂ flux of $0.8 \pm 1.8 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, that reduces progressively to reach a value of $-0.3 \pm 1.6 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ in open waters with bottom-depth greater than 600 m. Although these differences are not statistically significant by the high standard deviations associated to the seasonal variations. This dependence of CO₂ fluxes with distance from the coast has also been reported in other systems, such as in the South Atlantic Bight of the United States (Jiang et al., 2008), in the south-western part of the Atlantic Ocean (Arruda et al., 2015), in the Patagonian Sea (Kahl et al., 2017) and on the continental shelf of Maranhense (Lefèvre et al., 2017). This dependence is the consequence of the decrease of influence of the continental supplies on the CO₂ fluxes as one moves towards the open sea. Ribas-Ribas et al. (2011) also found that in the Gulf of Cádiz the CO₂ fluxes vary with the distance from the coast; the zone close to the estuary of the Guadalquivir and the Bay of Cádiz acts as a source ($1.39 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) and the zone comprising the rest of the shelf acts as a sink ($-0.44 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$).

In addition, on both the GD and SP transects a decrease of the CO₂ flux is found towards the open ocean, due to the continental inputs associated with the estuary of the Guadalquivir and with the Bay of Cádiz, respectively. On the TF transect, in contrast, it was observed that the zone close to the coast acts as a sink of CO₂ ($-0.4 \pm 1.2 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$), and the deeper zone is a weak source of CO₂ to the atmosphere ($0.3 \pm 1.3 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$), although these variations are not statistically significant due to the seasonal variability associated to the values. This finding can be explained by the presence of an upwelling close to the coast that is likely to be causing an increase of the production (e.g. Hales et al., 2005; Borges et al., 2005). With reference to this, on the TF transect there are significant differences between the mean surface concentrations of chlorophyll-a and nitrate in the coastal zone ($0.63 \pm 0.43 \text{ } \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ and $1.09 \pm 0.77 \text{ } \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$, respectively) and in deeper zones ($0.17 \pm 0.12 \text{ } \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ and $0.32 \pm 0.33 \text{ } \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$, respectively).

The Gulf of Cádiz, during the period of this sampling, could act as a sink of CO₂, with a mean rate of $-0.18 \pm 1.32 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, even though it is necessary to consider the intrinsic variability of the database that generate a high standard deviation, that would give rise to an annual flux of $-0.07 \text{ mol C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$. With the total surface of the study area ($52.8 \cdot 10^2 \text{ km}^2$) and the mean annual flux during the 8 cruises, the uptake capacity estimated for the Gulf of Cádiz will be 4.14-9 Gg C year⁻¹. The findings of previous studies carried out in the Gulf of Cádiz coincide with the behaviour observed in this study (Santana-Casiano et al., 2002; González-Dávila et al., 2003; Huertas et al., 2006; de la Paz et al., 2009; Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011), with the exception of the study by Ait-Ameur and Goyet (2006) in which it was estimated that the Gulf of Cádiz acts as a source of CO₂ to the atmosphere, although that study only corresponds to the summer season.

5. Conclusions

pCO₂ database presents a high variability in the Gulf of Cádiz associated with its location, it is a transition zone between coastal and shelf area, and the own seasonal variation. The mean value of pCO₂ in the eastern part of the Gulf of Cádiz found in this study in this study ($398.9 \pm 15.5 \text{ } \mu\text{atm}$) indicates that the eastern part of the Gulf of Cádiz could be slightly ~~it is~~ undersaturated in CO₂ with respect to the atmosphere ($402.1 \pm 3.9 \text{ } \mu\text{atm}$). The spatiotemporal variation of pCO₂ found responds to the influence of different factors that usually affect its distribution in the littoral oceans. The temporal variability of pCO₂ is principally explained by two factors in this work, considering the mean values of the 8 cruises, SST (pCO₂ (μatm) = $302.0 + 5.16 \text{ SST (}^\circ\text{C)}$, $r^2 = 0.71$) and biological activity (pCO₂ (μatm) = $425.0 - 59.15 [\text{chlorophyll-a}] (\text{ } \mu\text{g L}^{-1})$, $r^2 = 0.76$).

840 ~~In global terms, when the mean values of the 8 cruises are considered, SST ($p\text{CO}_2$ (μatm) = $302.0 + 5.16 \text{ SST } (^\circ\text{C})$, $r^2 = 0.71$)~~
~~and biological activity ($p\text{CO}_2$ (μatm) = $425.0 - 59.15 [\text{chlorophyll-a}]$ ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$), $r^2 = 0.76$) are the two principal factors that~~
~~explain the temporal variability of $p\text{CO}_2$.~~ Over and above these general tendencies, there are spatial variations associated
fundamentally with other processes. Firstly, the dominant effects in the shallower areas are also due to the continental inputs,
the biological activity and the air-sea CO_2 exchange. Then $p\text{CO}_2$ values diminish progressively in line with increasing
845 distance from the coast, out as far as an approximate depth of some 400 m. There is a relative increase of SST and $p\text{CO}_2$ as
consequence of a change in the origin of the surface water, with the arrival of waters in a warm branch of the Azores current
and the change produced by the biological activity.

The total T/B ratio (1.15) suggests that the distribution is principally controlled by the temperature. However, there is a
different behaviour in this ratio if it is determined by bottom-depth intervals, related to the existence of non-thermal
850 processes. In the proximity of the Guadalquivir estuary the ratio takes a value of 0.93 due to the continental inputs of C and
nutrients, and in the zone around the coastal upwelling off Cape Trafalgar the ratio is 1.09. Furthermore, the actual
characteristics of the surface water mass that originates under the influence of a branch of the Azores current also produce a
decrease of the T/B ratio in the deeper zone studied (1.05 for depths > 600 m). In contrast, the highest T/B ratio values have
been found in the SP transect, where values of up to 1.54 are obtained for depths greater than 100 m.

855 The annual uptake capacity of CO_2 by the surface waters in our study area is ~~4.144.9~~ Gg C year^{-1} . The CO_2 fluxes present
seasonal variation: these waters act as a source of CO_2 to the atmosphere in summer and autumn and as a sink in winter and
spring. Based on the information available in the zone, there seems to have been a decrease in the capacity for CO_2 capture
in the zone in recent decades, since the $p\text{CO}_2$ has increased from $360.6 \pm 18.2 \mu\text{atm}$ (Ribas-Ribas et al., 2011) to $398.9 \pm$
 $15.5 \mu\text{atm}$ in the actuality.

860 **Author contributions**

D.J.-L. wrote the manuscript with contributions from A.S., T.O. and J.F. D.J.-L. and J.F. processed the experimental data.
D.J.-L., T.O. and J.F. conceived the original idea. All authors contributed to collecting the data.

Competing interests

865 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Tables

Table 1: Date, number of measurements (n), range, average values and standard deviation of underway sea surface temperature (SST), sea surface salinity (SSS) and pCO₂ during the 8 cruises undertaken: March 2014 (ST1), June 2014 (ST2), October 2014 (ST3), December 2014 (ST4), March 2015 (ST5), June 2015 (ST6), September 2015 (ST7) and February 2016 (ST8).

Cruise	Date	n	SST (°C)		SSS		pCO ₂ (µatm)	
			Range	Mean ± SD	Range	Mean ± SD	Range	Mean ± SD
ST1	28/03 - 01/04, 2014	3874	14.3 - 16.4	15.4 ± 0.6	35.57 - 37.06	36.11 ± 0.18	365.4 - 513.6	396.5 ± 19.0
ST2	25/06 - 01/07, 2014	4118	17.0 - 22.9	21.1 ± 0.9	35.90 - 36.45	36.21 ± 0.15	368.7 - 459.5	412.9 ± 12.6
ST3	01/10 - 07/10, 2014	4233	16.1 - 23.4	21.5 ± 1.3	35.80 - 36.79	36.26 ± 0.22	391.6 - 444.5	413.5 ± 9.8
ST4	10/12 - 16/12, 2014	2938	15.6 - 19.1	18.1 ± 0.7	34.68 - 36.72	36.36 ± 0.21	369.6 - 444.5	388.7 ± 12.9
ST5	28/03 - 01/04, 2015	3180	14.6 - 16.9	15.6 ± 0.4	35.54 - 36.52	36.12 ± 0.14	320.6 - 416.5	368.6 ± 14.9
ST6	19/06 - 25/06, 2015	3677	17.4 - 22.1	20.9 ± 0.8	35.63 - 36.92	36.40 ± 0.08	372.1 - 464.1	410.3 ± 13.8
ST7	15/09 - 18/09, 2015	2575	17.0 - 21.9	20.6 ± 1.1	35.03 - 36.79	35.64 ± 0.08	387.6 - 457.1	407.6 ± 11.2
ST8	02/02 - 03/02, 2016	1812	15.1 - 17.5	16.8 ± 0.4	35.83 - 36.55	36.44 ± 0.09	346.2 - 442.6	392.9 ± 17.9

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Table 2: Number of samples (n) and mean values and standard deviation for the averaged underway measurements of sea surface temperature (SST) and sea surface salinity (SSS), and pH, apparent oxygen utilization (AOU), chlorophyll-a, nitrate and phosphate in surface water samples (at depth of 5m) at fixed stations during the 8 cruises: March 2014 (ST1), June 2014 (ST2), October 2014 (ST3), December 2014 (ST4), March 2015 (ST5), June 2015 (ST6), September 2015 (ST7) and February 2016 (ST8).

Cruise	n	SST (°C)	SSS	pH	AOU ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	Chlorophyll-a ($\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)*	Nitrate ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	Phosphate ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)
ST1	18	15.2 \pm 0.5	36.05 \pm 0.13	8.06 \pm 0.03	-3.6 \pm 8.4	0.65 \pm 0.37	0.96 \pm 1.01	0.14 \pm 0.06
ST2	16	21.0 \pm 1.3	36.11 \pm 0.11	7.97 \pm 0.03	-10.3 \pm 5.7	0.18 \pm 0.14	0.42 \pm 0.60	0.12 \pm 0.04
ST3	17	21.6 \pm 0.7	36.09 \pm 0.28	7.97 \pm 0.06	-4.6 \pm 3.2	0.24 \pm 0.29	0.34 \pm 0.27	0.09 \pm 0.03
ST4	17	17.7 \pm 0.7	36.03 \pm 0.13	8.05 \pm 0.05	7.7 \pm 2.1	0.46 \pm 0.33	1.05 \pm 1.96	0.23 \pm 0.09
ST5	16	15.4 \pm 0.3	36.03 \pm 0.13	8.09 \pm 0.12	-19.1 \pm 9.4	0.76 \pm 0.55	0.68 \pm 1.17	0.17 \pm 0.09
ST6	16	21.1 \pm 1.0	36.37 \pm 0.05	8.01 \pm 0.03	-2.4 \pm 3.2	0.26 \pm 0.34	0.12 \pm 0.14	0.10 \pm 0.05
ST7	17	20.6 \pm 1.2	35.63 \pm 0.03	7.94 \pm 0.03	-2.6 \pm 5.0	0.29 \pm 0.31	0.37 \pm 0.50	0.50 \pm 0.55
ST8	6	16.8 \pm 0.3	36.44 \pm 0.04	8.09 \pm 0.05	-5.1 \pm 3.1	0.69 \pm 0.32	0.41 \pm 0.31	0.14 \pm 0.11

*González-García et al. (2018).

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Table 3: Mean values and standard deviation of mixed layer depth (MLD) in distal areas (depth > 50 m), atmospheric pCO₂ (pCO₂ μatm), wind speed, gas transfer velocity (k) and CO₂ fluxes for the underway measurements during the 8 cruises: March 2014 (ST1), June 2014 (ST2), October 2014 (ST3), December 2014 (ST4), March 2015 (ST5), June 2015 (ST6), September 2015 (ST7) and February 2016 (ST8).

Cruise	MLD in distal areas (m)	pCO ₂ atm (μatm)	Wind speed (m s ⁻¹)	k (cm h ⁻¹)	CO ₂ fluxes (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)
ST1	71.3 ± 26.4	398.7 ± 1.8	7.7 ± 3.4	13.4 ± 0.2	-0.3 ± 2.3
ST2	88.6 ± 34.4	404.5 ± 0.5	7.4 ± 3.4	14.0 ± 0.3	0.9 ± 1.4
ST3	90.3 ± 34.0	397.7 ± 0.6	6.7 ± 4.0	11.8 ± 0.4	1.4 ± 0.8
ST4	96.8 ± 34.1	399.4 ± 2.2	7.7 ± 4.2	14.3 ± 0.2	-1.3 ± 1.7
ST5	91.5 ± 31.6	405.5 ± 0.6	5.5 ± 2.8	6.9 ± 0.1	-2.3 ± 0.9
ST6	89.0 ± 33.0	406.1 ± 0.8	7.5 ± 4.1	14.4 ± 0.3	0.5 ± 1.5
ST7	90.2 ± 32.0	398.4 ± 0.7	7.0 ± 3.2	12.3 ± 0.3	0.9 ± 1.1
ST8	87.0 ± 40.3	406.4 ± 0.3	6.8 ± 3.1	10.6 ± 0.1	-1.3 ± 1.6

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Table 4: Mean and ~~r~~Range and of pCO₂ and mean and standard deviation of pCO₂, CO₂ fluxes (FCO₂) and T/B ratio found in different areas of the Gulf of Cádiz.

Site	°E	°N	Date	pCO ₂ (µatm)	FCO ₂ (mmol m ⁻² d ⁻¹)*	T/B	Reference
Strait of Gibraltar	-5.5 - -5.2	35.6 - 36.0	September 1997	352.8 ± 2.0 339 - 381 <u>339 - 381</u>	3 ± 8 ^a	-	Santana-Casiano et al. (2002)
Gulf of Cádiz	-7.0 - -6.5	36.3 - 36.7	February 1998	360.2 ± 27.9 334 - 416 <u>334 - 416</u>	-19.5 ± 3.5 ^a	-	González-Dávila et al. (2003)
Gulf of Cádiz	-8.3 - -6.0	33.5 - 37.0	July 2002	-300 - 450 <u>300 - 450</u>	18.6 ± 4 ^a	-	Aït-Ameur and Goyet (2006)
Northeastern shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz	-7.5 - -6.3	36.6 - 37.3	March 2003 to March 2004	-130 - 650 <u>130 - 650</u>	-2.5 - 1.0 ^a	-	Huertas et al. (2006)
Strait of Gibraltar	-6.0 - -5.2	35.8 - 36.1	September, December 2005; March, May 2006	-320 - 400 <u>320 - 387</u>	-1.9 - 1.9 ^a	<u>2.4</u>	de la Paz et al. (2009)
Northeastern shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz	-6.8 - -6.3	36.4 - 36.9	June, November 2006; February, May 2007	360.6 ± 18.2 338 - 502 <u>338 - 397</u>	-2.2 - 3.6 ^a	<u>1.3</u>	Ribas-Ribas et al. (2011)
Gulf of Cádiz	-6.0 - -7.2	35.4 - 36.7	March, June, October, December 2014; March, June, September 2015; March 2016	398.9 ± 15.5 321 - 514 <u>321 - 514</u>	-2.3 - 1.5 ^b	<u>1.15</u>	This work

*Gas transfer coefficient (k): ^a Wanninkhof (1992) and ^b Wanninkhof et al. (2014).

Figures

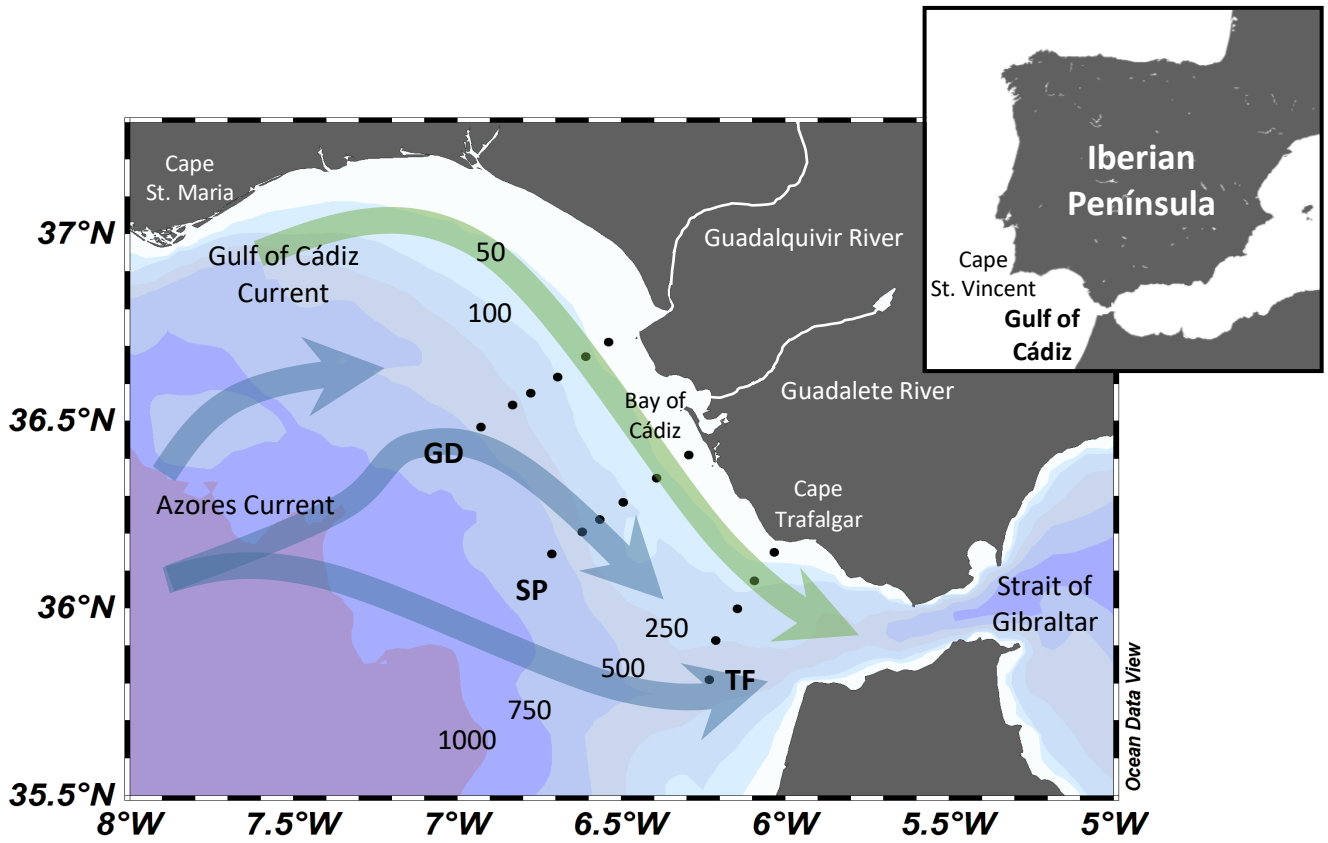
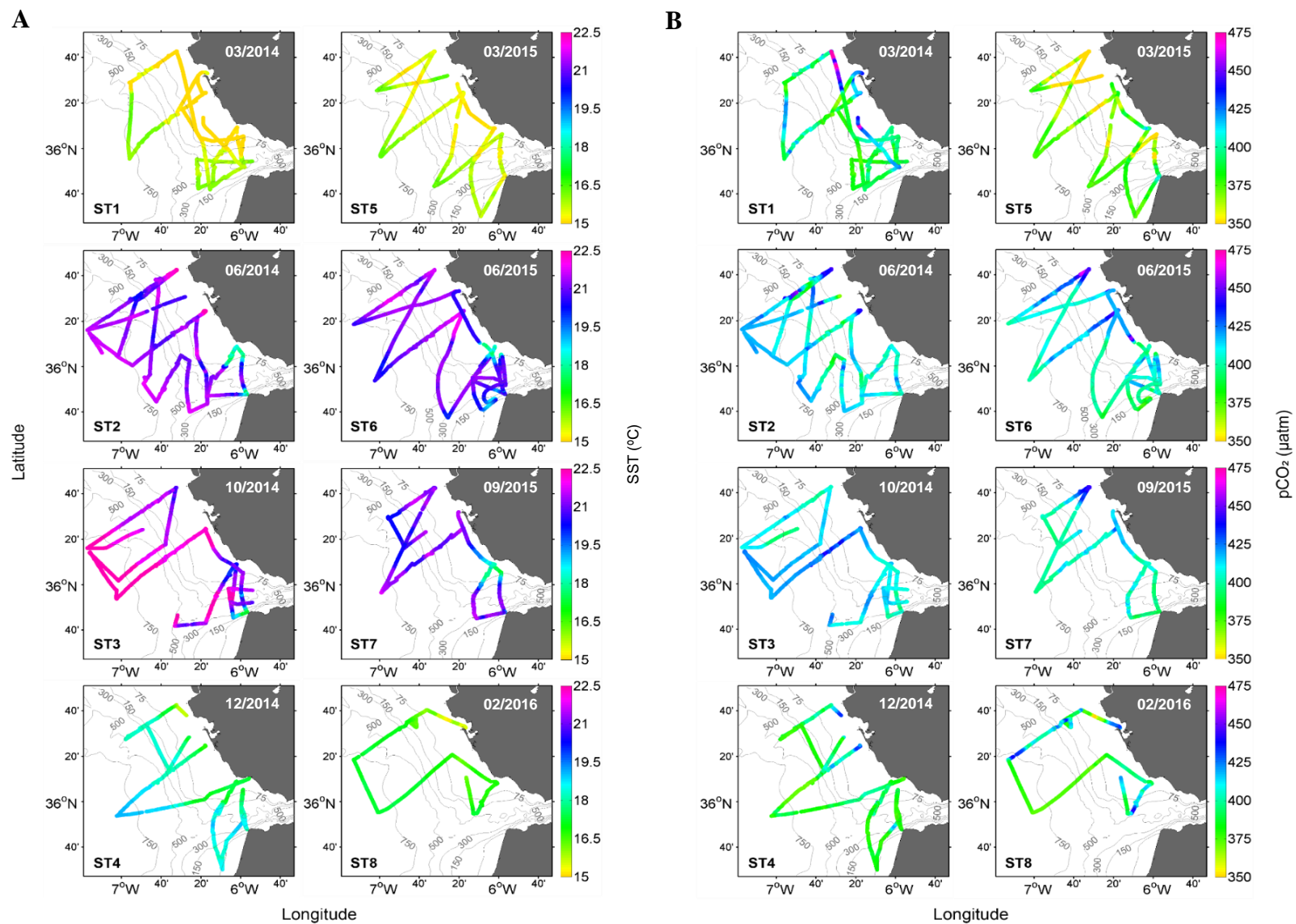


Figure 1: Map of the eastern shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz showing the location of the fixed stations located on 3 transects at right-angles to the coastline: Guadalquivir (GD), Sancti Petri (SP) and Trafalgar (TF). The location of the principal surface currents, rivers and capes of the study area are also noted.

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Figure 2: Underway distribution of sea surface temperature (SST, A) and pCO₂ (B) during the 8 cruises in the Gulf of Cádiz: March 2014 (ST1), June 2014 (ST2), October 2014 (ST3), December 2014 (ST4), March 2015 (ST5), June 2015 (ST6), September 2015 (ST7) and February 2016 (ST8).

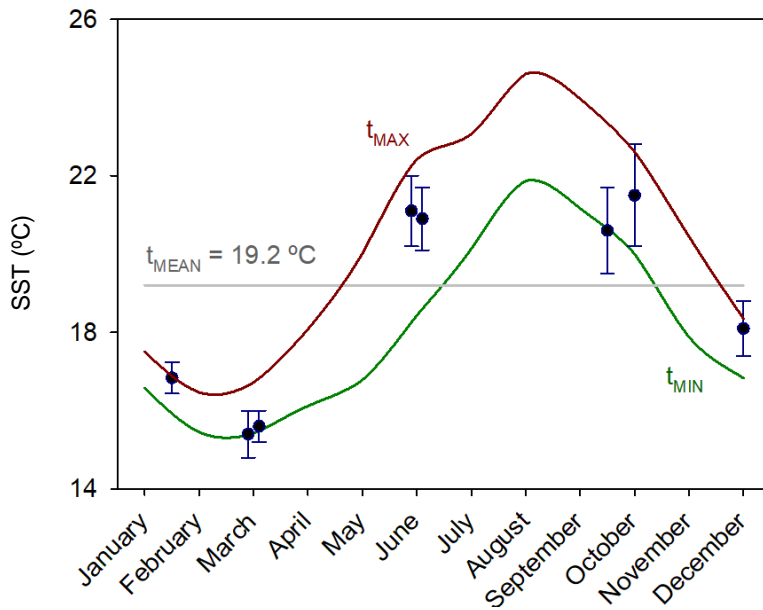
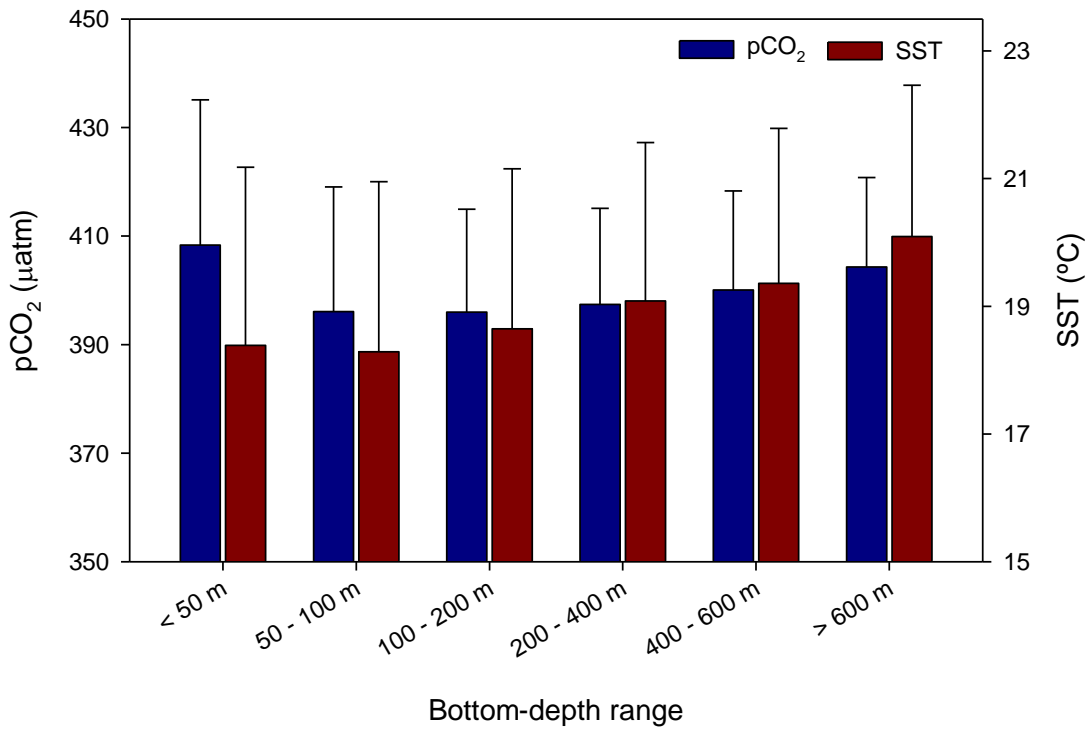


Figure 3: Maximum and minimum sea surface temperature (SST) variation during a 10-year period recorded by an oceanographic buoy located in the Gulf of Cádiz (36.48°N - 6.96°W). The red line shows maximum SST variation. The green line shows minimum SST variation. The grey line shows the average temperature for the 10-year period. Blue circles show mean values and standard deviations of underway SST measured during the eight cruises carried out during this study.



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Figure 4: Underway variation of pCO₂ and sea surface temperature (SST) at different bottom-depth ranges of the water column (m) during the 8 cruises. The mean values and standard deviations of pCO₂ (blue) and SST (red) for each range of depth are represented. High standard deviations are associated with the seasonal and inter-annual variability for the whole sampling period.

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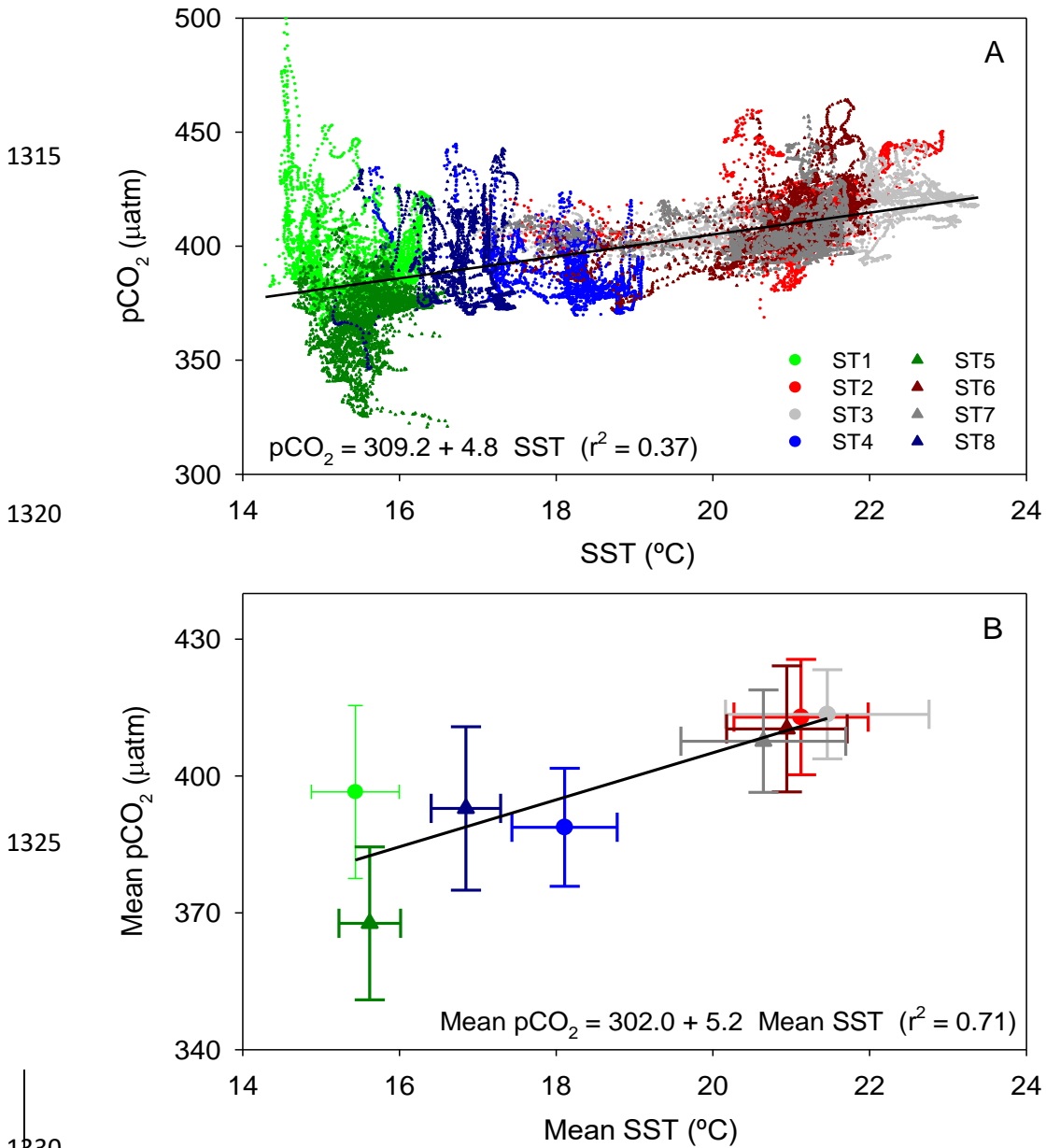


Figure 5: Dependence of $p\text{CO}_2$ with sea surface temperature (SST) for the complete underway database during all the cruises (A) and for the mean values of $p\text{CO}_2$ and SST for each cruise showing their standard deviations (B). The solid line shows the linear correlation.

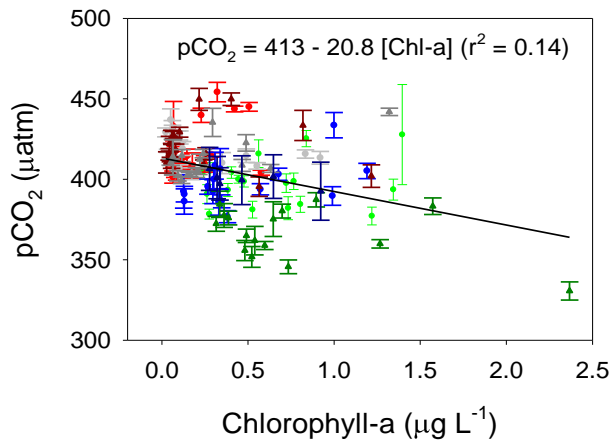
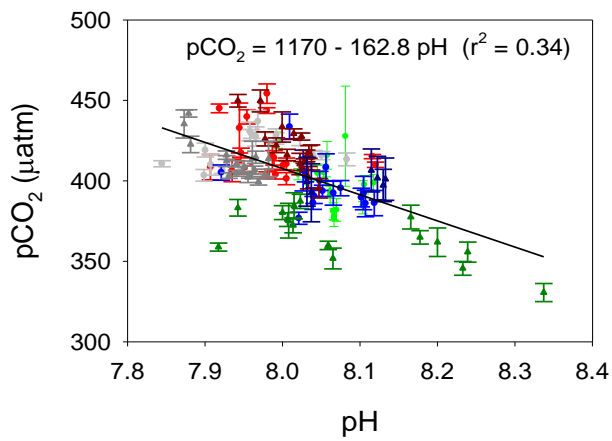
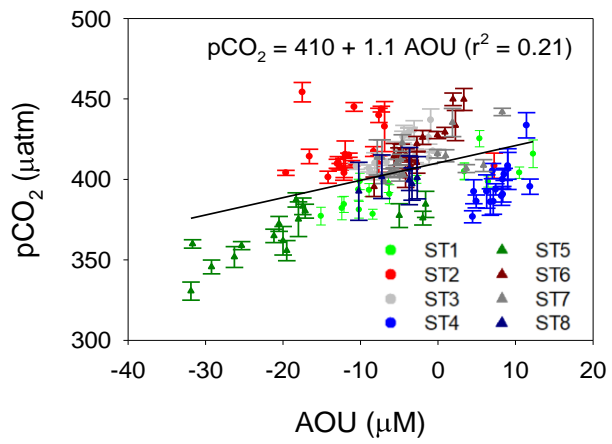
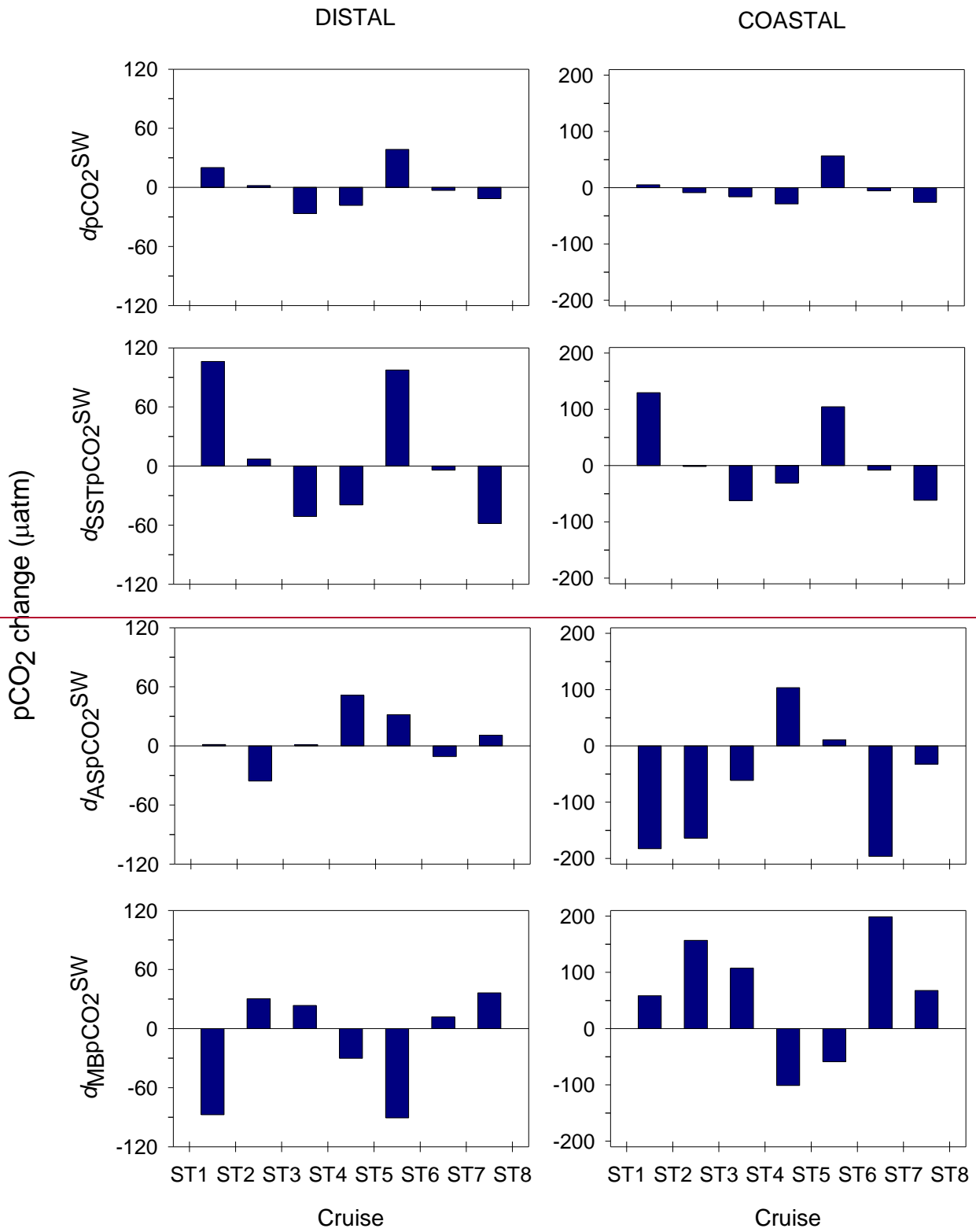


Figure 6: Dependence between the surface values of pCO₂ and Apparent Oxygen Utilization (AOU), pH, and chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) at the 16 discrete stations during the 8 cruises. pCO₂ presents the standard deviation associated with the mean value obtained from the underway measurements.

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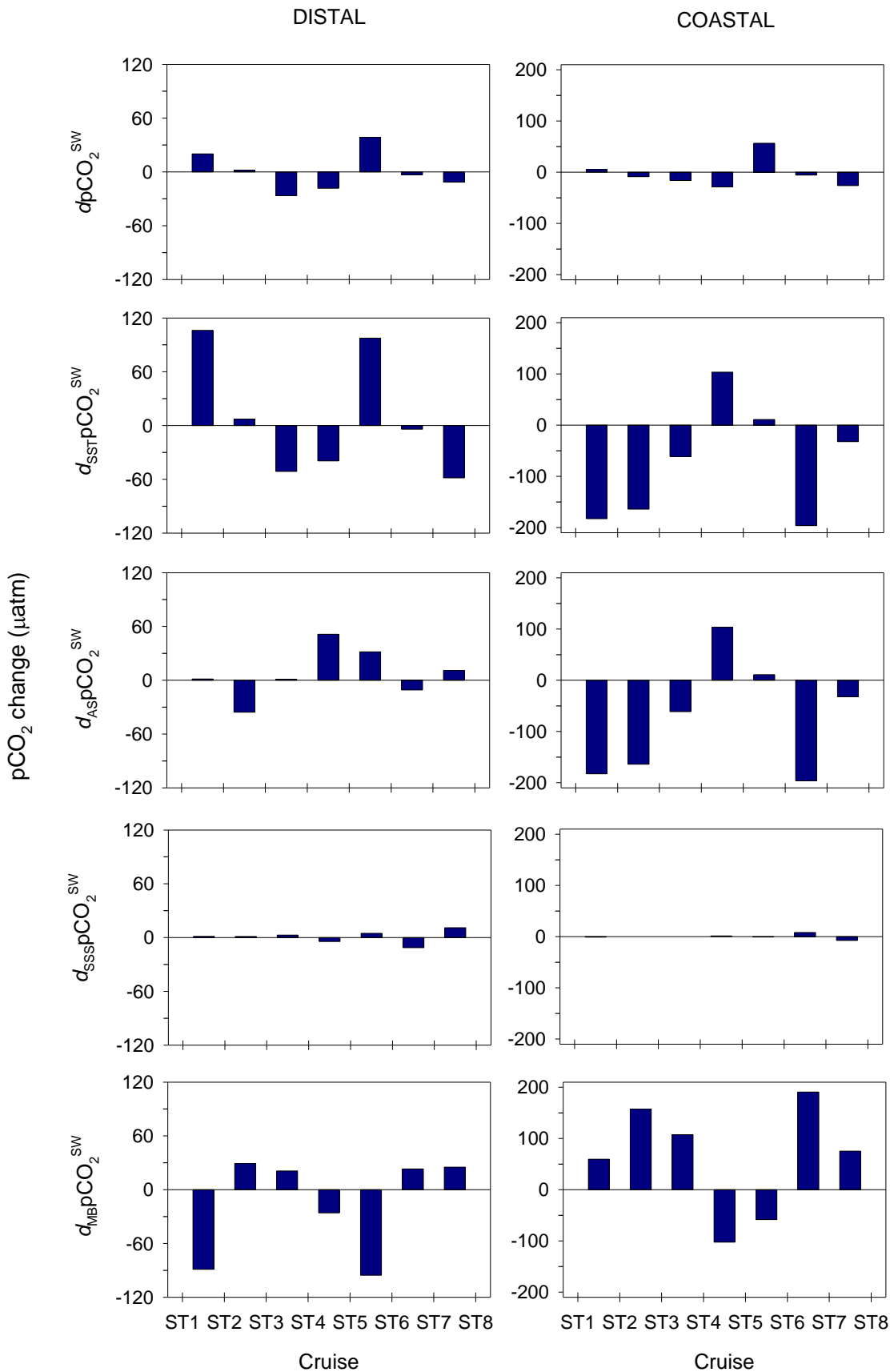


Figure 76: Observed changes in pCO₂ (first row) and expected due to: SST changes (second row), air-sea CO₂ exchange (third row) SSS changes (fourth row) and biology plus mixing (last row) in the distal (left column) and coastal areas (right column) between the periods of each cruise: ST1 (March 2014), ST2 (June 2014), ST3 (October 2014), ST4 (December 2014), ST5 (March 2015), ST6 (June 2015), ST7 (September 2015) and ST8 (February 2016).

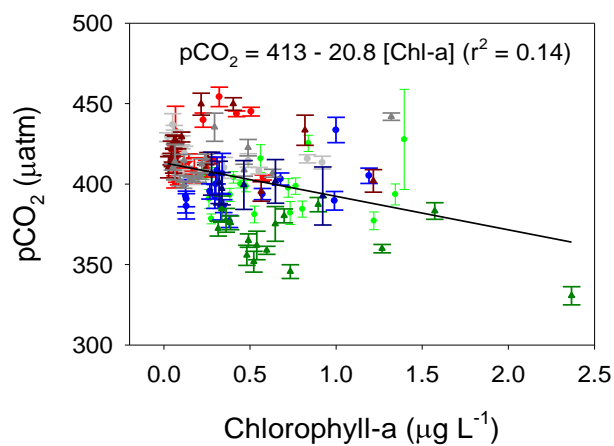
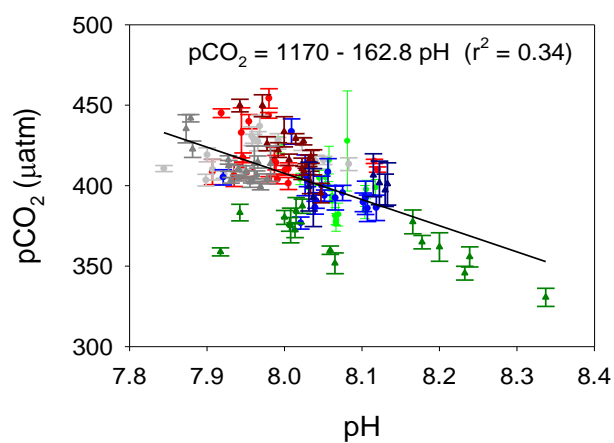
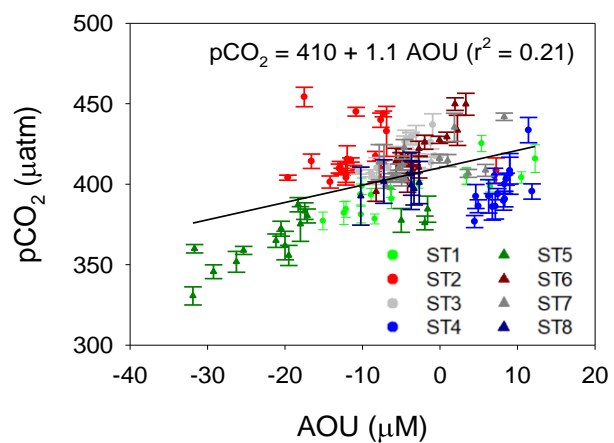
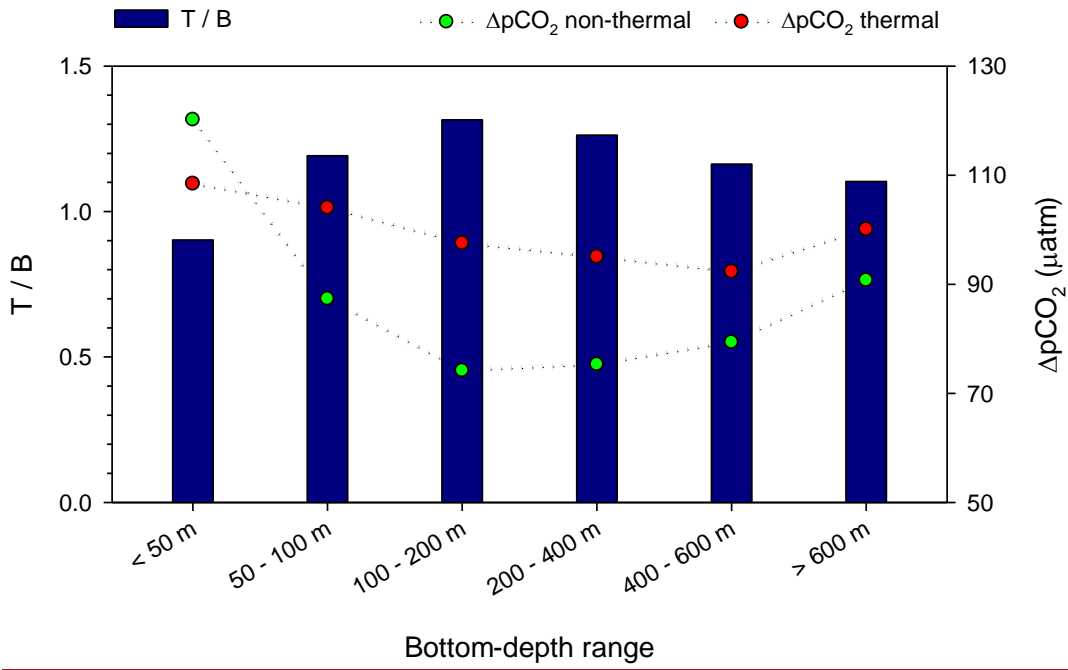
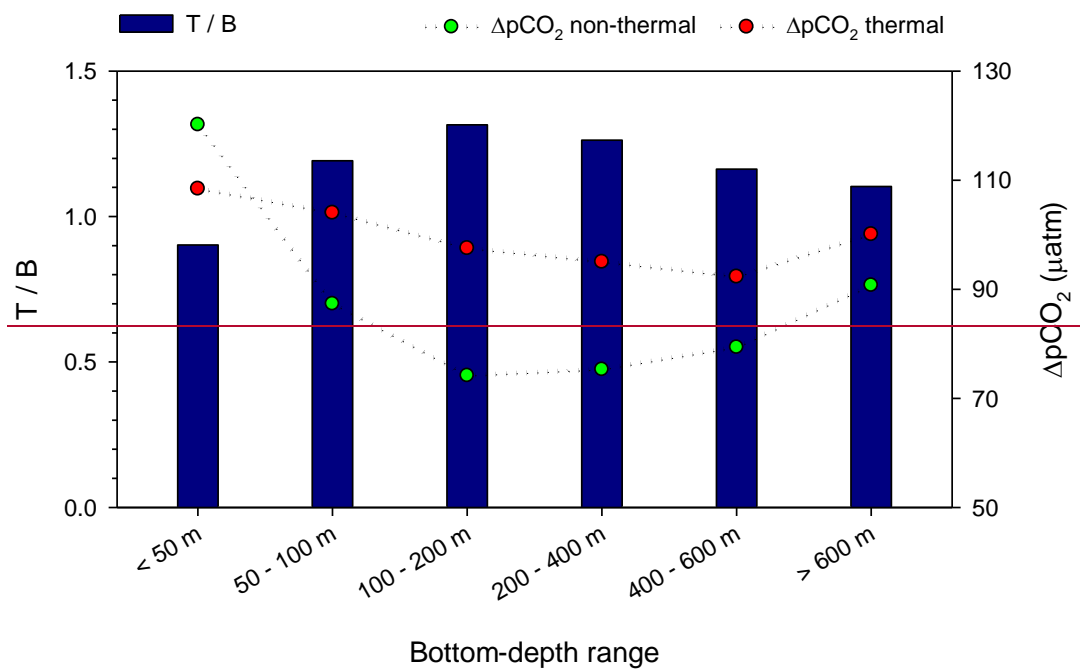


Figure 7: Dependence between the surface values of pCO₂ and Apparent Oxygen Utilization (AOU), pH, and chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) at the 16 discrete stations during the 8 cruises. pCO₂ presents the standard deviation associated with the mean value obtained from the underway measurements.

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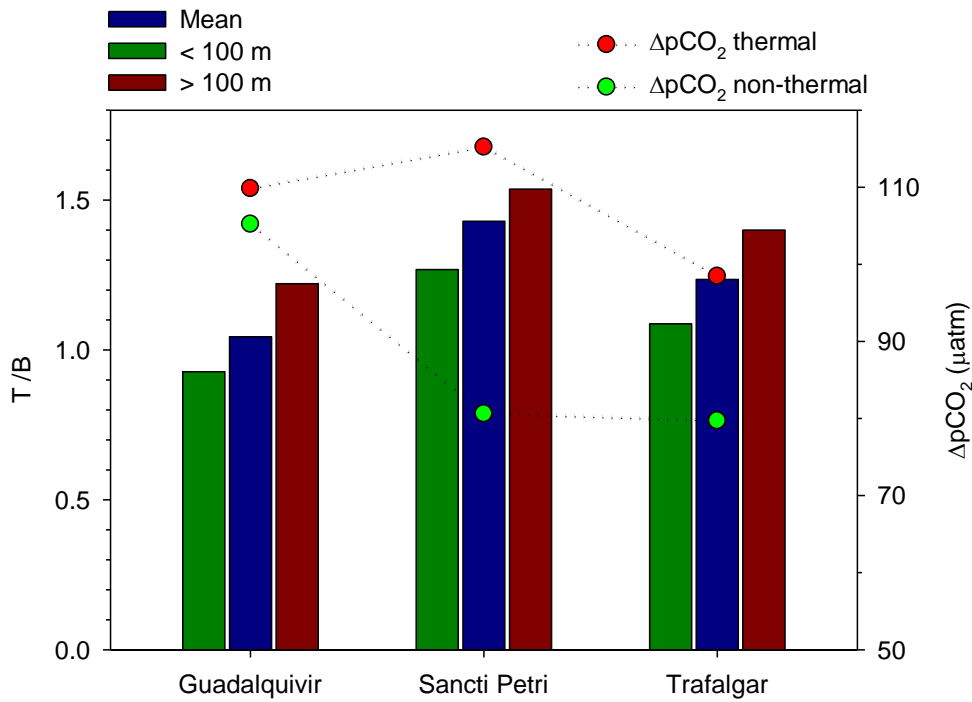
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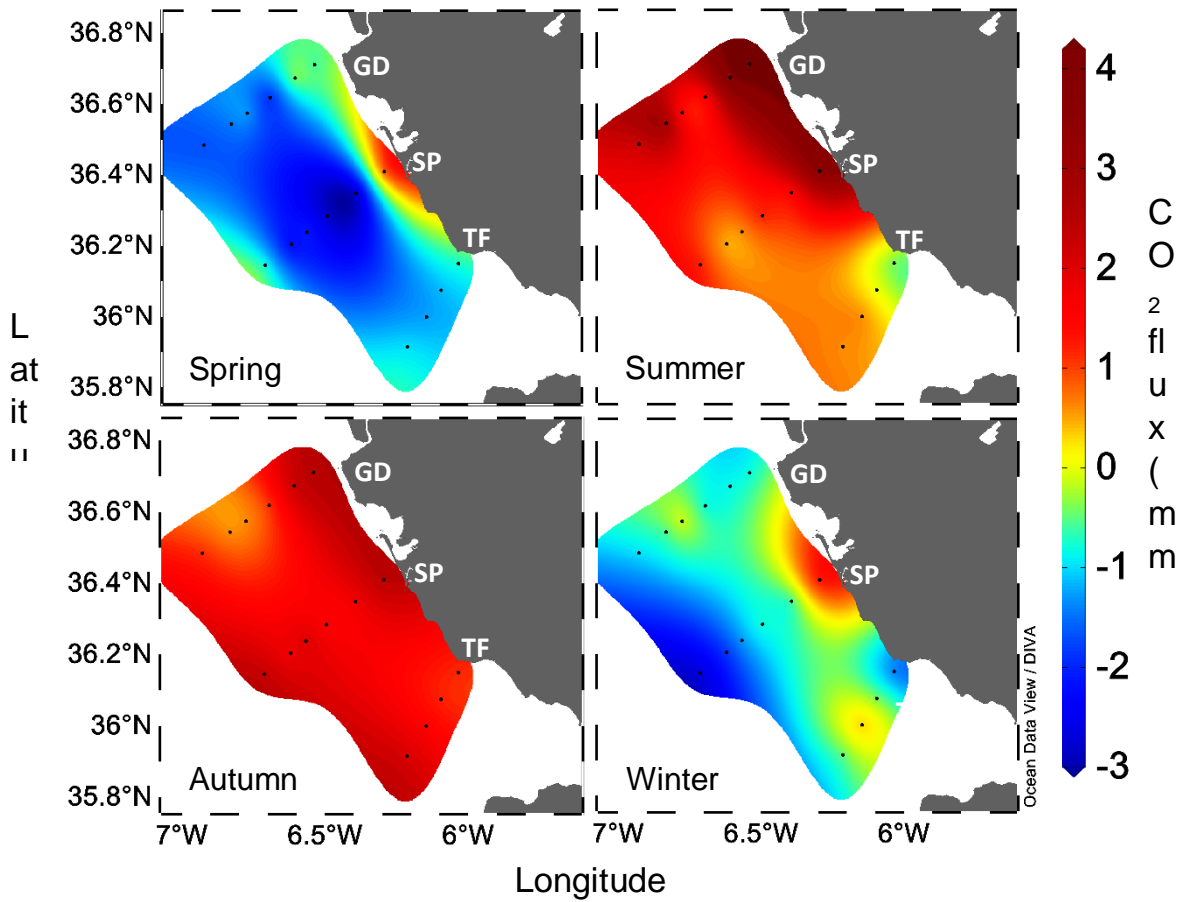
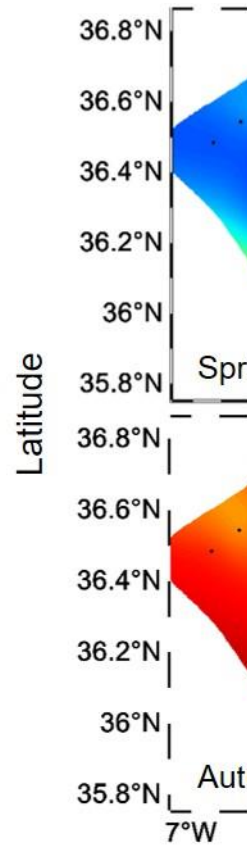
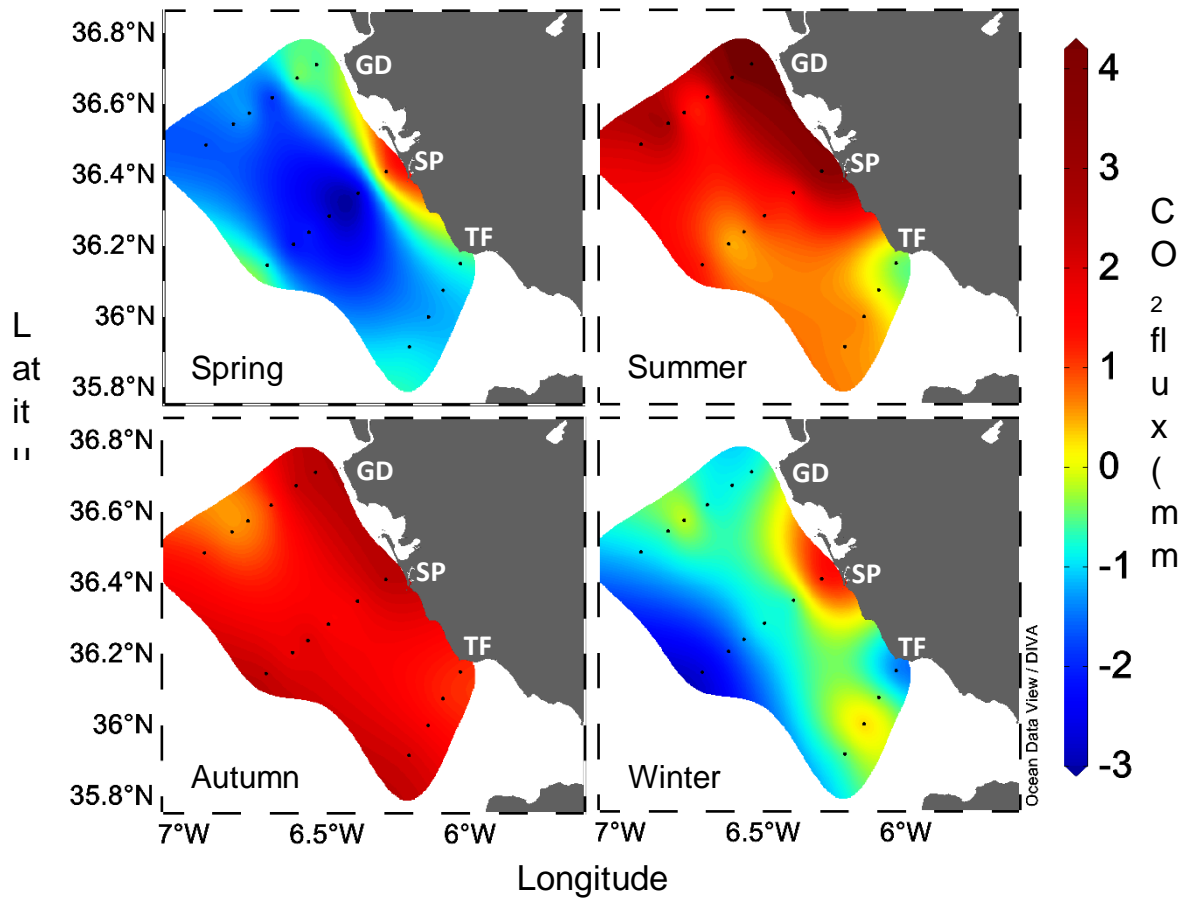
Figure 8: Variation of the T/B ratio (blue bar), ΔpCO₂ non-thermal (green point) and ΔpCO₂ thermal (red point) at different bottom-depth ranges of the water column (m) for the 8 cruises.



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Figure 9: Variation of the T/B ratio (blue bar), the T/B ratio at depths < 100 m (green bar), the T/B ratio at depths > 100 m (red bar), ΔpCO₂ non-thermal (green point) and ΔpCO₂ thermal (red point) on the 3 transects of the study (Guadalquivir, Sancti Petri and Trafalgar) during the 8 cruises.

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Latitude

Figure 10: Spatial distribution of mean values of sea-air CO₂ fluxes in the eastern shelf of the Gulf of Cádiz at the 16 discrete stations during spring (ST1, ST5), summer (ST2, ST6), autumn (ST3, ST7) and winter (ST4, ST8).

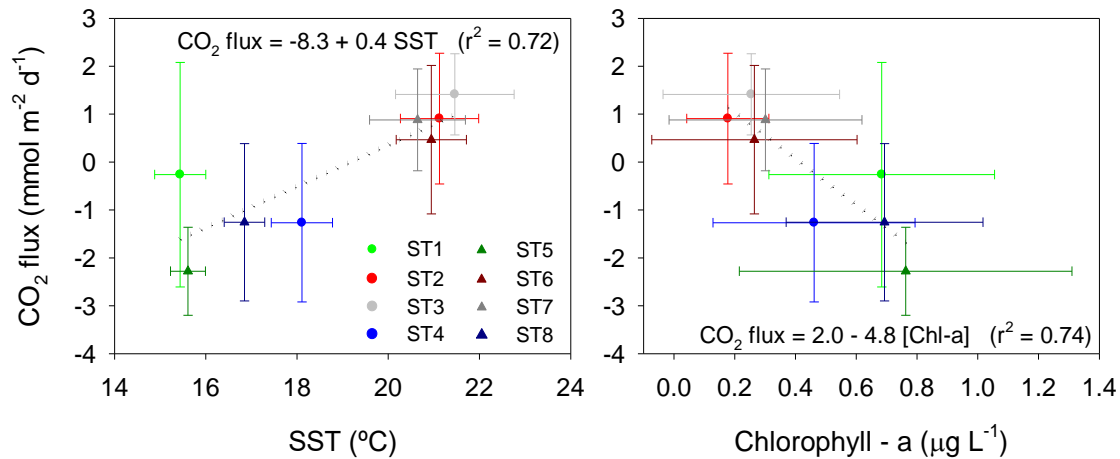


Figure 11: Correlations between the mean values of sea-air CO₂ fluxes and sea surface temperature (SST) for the underway database (left), and the CO₂ fluxes and chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) at the 16 discrete surface stations (right) for each cruise and showing the standard deviations.