

1 EFFECTS OF ELEVATED CO<sub>2</sub> ON GROWTH, CALCIFICATION AND SPECTRAL  
2 DEPENDENCE OF PHOTOINHIBITION IN THE COCCOLITHOPHORE  
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28   Running Title: Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> Effects on a Coccolithophore

29 **Abstract**

30 We studied the effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations on cell growth, calcification and  
31 spectral variation in the sensitivity of photosynthesis to inhibition by solar radiation in  
32 the globally important coccolithophore *Emiliania huxleyi*. Growth rates and chlorophyll  
33 *a* content per cell showed no significant differences between elevated (800 ppmv) and  
34 ambient (400 ppmv) CO<sub>2</sub> conditions. However, the production of organic carbon and  
35 the cell quotas for both, carbon and nitrogen, increased under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions  
36 whilst particulate inorganic carbon production rates decreased under the same  
37 conditions. Biometric analyses of cells showed that coccoliths only presented significant  
38 differences due to treatments in the central area width. Most importantly, the size of the  
39 coccospHERE decreased under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions. The susceptibility of  
40 photosynthesis to inhibition by ultraviolet radiation (UVR) was estimated using  
41 biological weighting functions (BWFs) and a model that predicts photosynthesis under  
42 photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) and UVR exposures. BWF results  
43 demonstrate that the sensitivity of photosynthesis to UVR was not significantly  
44 different between *E. huxleyi* cells grown under elevated and present CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations.  
45 We propose that the acclimation to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions involves a physiological  
46 mechanism of regulation and allocation of energy and metabolites in the cell, which is  
47 also responsible for altering the sensitivity to UVR. In coccolithophores this mechanism  
48 might be affected by the decrease in the calcification rates.

49 **Keywords:** Phytoplankton, Ocean Acidification, Calcification, Photoinhibition,  
50 *Emiliania huxleyi*

51 **Abbreviations:** AIC, Akaike Information Criterion; BWF, Biological Weighting  
52 Function; CAL, Central Area Length; CAW, Central Area Width; DIC, Dissolved  
53 Inorganic Carbon; DSA, Distal Shield Area; DSL, Distal Shield Length; DSW, Distal  
54 Shield Width; PIC, Particulate Inorganic Carbon; POC, Particulate Organic Carbon;

55 PON, Particulate Organic Nitrogen; RCP, Representative Concentration Pathway;  
56 RMSE, Root Mean Square Error; TPC, Total Particulate Carbon; UVA, UV radiation  
57 320-400 nm; UVB, UV radiation 280-320 nm; UVC, UV radiation <280 nm; UVR, UV  
58 radiation 280-400 nm  
59

60 **Introduction**

61 The atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) has increased by 40% since  
62 pre-industrial times due to anthropogenic activities. The 5<sup>th</sup> IPCC report (IPCC 2014)  
63 predicts an increase in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration above 1000 ppmv by the end of  
64 this century for the worst-case scenario (Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP)  
65 8.5). Unfortunately, the values predicted by the RCP 8.5 match the measured  
66 concentrations in the atmosphere to date. The ocean is absorbing most of anthropogenic  
67 emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, which not only affects the quantity and speciation of the dissolved  
68 inorganic carbon (DIC) in the ocean, but also decreases the pH of the seawater (Doney  
69 et al. 2009). These changes in pH affect biogeochemical processes in marine  
70 ecosystems (Hoffmann et al. 2012) and have direct impacts on the physiological  
71 responses of primary producers such as phytoplankton (Kroeker et al. 2013, Mackey et  
72 al. 2015, Riebesell & Tortell 2011).

73 Phytoplankton play a key role in determining the effects of environmental change on the  
74 ocean surface since they are responsible for around 50% of the net amount of carbon  
75 assimilated annually by photoautotrophs (Field et al. 1998). Apart from acidification,  
76 global warming enhances stratification, which reduces nutrient availability in the  
77 surface mixed layer (Boyd & Doney 2002, Polovina et al. 2008). The surface mixed  
78 layer depth, which determines average exposure of phytoplankton to both ultraviolet  
79 (UV) and photosynthetically available radiation (PAR), reflects a balance between  
80 stratification and various physical forces propelling vertical mixing, all of which are  
81 affected by global change (Neale & Smyth 2018). Future shifts in this balance are  
82 expected to be regionally dependent (Boyd & Doney 2002, Somavilla et al. 2017).  
83 Phytoplankton will then be exposed to increasing CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, low nutrient  
84 concentrations and regionally variable changes in average surface layer irradiance.

85 Among phytoplankton functional groups, coccolithophores have been widely studied  
86 due to their capability for producing calcium carbonate coccoliths (Paasche 2002). They  
87 are responsible for contributing to the sequestering of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> into chalk,  
88 changing both the atmosphere and geology of the Earth, over geological time-scales  
89 (Brown et al. 2004, Young et al. 2005). *Emiliania huxleyi* is a global model organism,  
90 keystone of the coccolithophores. It is widely distributed and forms extensive blooms in  
91 nutrient-depleted waters after the formation of the summer thermocline (Holligan et al.  
92 1993). This model species is the most numerically important coccolithophore and a  
93 major primary producer in the world's oceans (Paasche 2001). *Emiliania huxleyi* is of  
94 paramount significance in the global carbon cycle by contributing ca. 1–10% to total  
95 organic carbon fixation and to approximately half of the pelagic deep ocean CaCO<sub>3</sub>  
96 sediments (Paasche 2001). Thus, it participates in the regulation of the exchange of CO<sub>2</sub>  
97 across the ocean–atmosphere interface through the rain ratio (the ratio of particulate  
98 inorganic to organic carbon in exported biogenic matter (calcite: POC or PIC: POC)  
99 (Rost & Riebesell 2004). A recent meta-analysis study demonstrates that the effect of  
100 ocean acidification on coccolithophores is species specific (Meyer & Riebesell 2015).  
101 In particular, elevated CO<sub>2</sub> has a negative effect on *E. huxleyi* calcification process, thus  
102 affecting the cellular PIC/POC ratio (Kroeker et al. 2013, Meyer & Riebesell 2015).  
103 The study of fundamental species such as *E. huxleyi* subjected to global change drivers,  
104 will help us to unravel the physiological processes that will govern the C-cycle and the  
105 biological pump in future scenarios of global change.  
106  
107 Global change also affects exposure of phytoplankton in surface waters to solar  
108 ultraviolet B (UVB, 280–320 nm), ultraviolet A (UVA, 320–400 nm) and  
109 photosynthetically available radiation (PAR, 400–700 nm) through changes in the  
110 stratospheric ozone concentration, cloud cover and levels of dissolved organic matter

111 (Bais et al. 2018). Stratospheric ozone loss due to anthropogenic emission of  
112 chlorofluorocarbons, now limited by the Montreal Protocol, was an important cause for  
113 increased UVB in the latter decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (around 6% in the Northern  
114 Hemisphere). This level of depletion is persisting into the 21<sup>st</sup> century due to the long  
115 time required for ozone recovery (Bais et al. 2015, Shanklin 2010). The future course  
116 of ozone depletion depends on the interactive effects with other global change drivers  
117 that are also affecting stratospheric dynamics and temperature (Weatherhead &  
118 Andersen 2006).

119

120 Both UVB and UVA (together – UVR) cause deleterious effects on the physiological  
121 performance and growth of marine phytoplankton and other organisms (Häder 2011).  
122 The estimation of the sensitivity to UVR exposure in relation to wavelength can be  
123 quantified by biological weighting functions (BWFs) (reviewed by Neale (2000)). They  
124 allow comparison between responses to different wavelengths of UVR as well as PAR  
125 and can predict the effects of irradiance variations due to global change using the  
126 appropriate exposure response model.

127 Changes in several variables may not result in simple additive responses relative to that  
128 occurring by a given variable alone (Boyd & Hutchins 2012). Combined change can  
129 produce either synergistic, antagonistic or neutral effects (Folt et al. 1999).

130 Accordingly, it has been observed that the effects of UVR on marine primary producers  
131 are modulated by other environmental factors such as light availability, nutrient  
132 limitation and levels of dissolved CO<sub>2</sub> (Beardall et al. 2009, Beardall et al. 2014).  
133 Specifically, increased CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations affect the sensitivity of phytoplankton  
134 photosynthesis to inhibition by solar, and in particular UV irradiance (Gao et al. 2009,  
135 Gao et al. 2012, Sobrino et al. 2005, Sobrino et al. 2009, Sobrino et al. 2008). Previous

136 studies have not shown a unique pattern of the interactive effects of UVR and increased  
137 CO<sub>2</sub>, instead that such effects depend on the species. This suggests that the interactions  
138 between elevated CO<sub>2</sub> and UVR may produce changes in the taxonomic composition of  
139 phytoplankton assemblages (Beardall et al. 2009). The essential question is to  
140 understand the response of phytoplankton physiology to the environmental conditions in  
141 order to assess whether the effects of the variables are synergistic, antagonistic or  
142 neutral.

143 The aim of this work was to analyze the effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions on *E.*  
144 *huxleyi* growth, photosynthesis and calcification under non-photoinhibitory and  
145 photoinhibitory exposures in order to understand its physiological response to future  
146 scenarios of ocean acidification. The strain selected for this study is a heavily calcified  
147 Type A strain isolated from the Norwegian Sea. Specifically, we analysed the  
148 physiological behaviour of this species through the assessment of exposure response  
149 curves and spectral dependence weighting functions (BWFs) for UV and PAR  
150 inhibition of photosynthesis.

151

## 152 **Material and methods**

### 153 *Culture growth conditions*

154 Cultures of the coccolithophore *Emiliania huxleyi* (Lohmann Hay & Mohler,  
155 Haptophyta, were provided by the Roscoff Culture Collection (RCC #1226) and grown  
156 in semi-continuous culture at 16°C with constant aeration in two different treatments:  
157 (1) ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (400 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>) and (2) elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (800 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>). Cultures were  
158 maintained in exponential growth conditions for at least 14 days before experiments  
159 were conducted. The gas mixture for the elevated CO<sub>2</sub> was provided by Air Products,

160 Inc (Allentown, PA, USA). Aeration with 800 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> changed the pH of the media  
161 from 8.14 to 7.84. The partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> (p CO<sub>2</sub>) in the two conditions was  
162 verified by measuring the pH, temperature and salinity in the seawater and determining  
163 dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) in a Shimadzu TOC-V analyser. These results were  
164 used with the CO<sub>2</sub>SYS program to calculate the equilibrium concentrations of dissolved  
165 CO<sub>2</sub>, bicarbonate and carbonate (Zeebe & Wolf-Gladrow 2001). Growth irradiance was  
166 provided by cool white fluorescent lamps on a 14 h light:10 h dark photoperiod at an  
167 irradiance of 170-180 µmol photons m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Growth PAR was measured with a 4-π  
168 probe (QSL-2100, Biospherical Instruments) immersed in distilled water inside the  
169 culture flasks. The growth medium consisted of filtered seawater from the Sargasso Sea  
170 enriched with f/2 nutrients with Fe concentration reduced by half (Guillard & Ryther  
171 1962). The experiments were carried out in the middle of exponential growth phase and  
172 repeated at least three times with independently grown cultures for each treatment. Cell  
173 numbers were counted every day with a Neubauer hematocytometer. The growth rate  
174 ( $\mu$ , d<sup>-1</sup>) was calculated as  $\ln(N_2/N_1)/t$ , where N<sub>1</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> are the cell concentrations, and t  
175 is the time between samples (d).

176 *Maximum photosynthetic efficiency of PSII*

177 A pulse amplitude-modulated fluorometer Diving PAM/B (Walz) with a blue light-  
178 emitting-diode (LED; 470 nm) excitation was used to assess the maximum  
179 photosynthetic efficiency of the cultures at different times during the experiment. A  
180 custom fabricated acrylic “light-pipe” enabled fluorescence measurements directly on  
181 the culture flask with sufficient signal/noise ratio. The data are expressed as the  
182 photosystem II (PSII) quantum yield, F<sub>v</sub>:F<sub>m</sub> = (F<sub>m</sub> - F<sub>0</sub>):F<sub>m</sub>, which has been correlated  
183 with the maximum quantum yield of photosynthesis (Genty et al. 1989). F<sub>0</sub> is the  
184 steady-state yield of *in vivo* chlorophyll a fluorescence in dark-adapted phytoplankton,

185 and  $F_m$  is the maximum yield of fluorescence obtained from an illuminated sample after  
186 a saturating light pulse (400-ms pulse duration) has been applied. The light for the  
187 saturating pulse, emitted by a halogen lamp, passed through a dichroic short-pass filter  
188 with 580 nm cutoff (Balzers DT Cyan).

189 *Chlorophyll concentration and cellular absorbance*

190 Chlorophyll concentration was measured on aliquots concentrated on glass-fiber filters  
191 (GF/F, Whatman Inc.) and extracted with 90% acetone overnight at -20°C. After  
192 extraction, fluorescence was measured before and after acidification on a Turner 10-AU  
193 fluorometer. The fluorometer was calibrated with chlorophyll *a* (Sigma Chemicals).  
194 Pigment absorbance ( $a^*(\lambda)$ ,  $m^2 \text{ mg chl}^{-1}$ ) was measured using the quantitative filter  
195 technique (QFT) as described in Cleveland and Weidemann (1993) with modifications  
196 as described by Tzortziou (2004). Cells concentrated on the filters were scanned from  
197 280 to 750 nm in a Cary 4 dual-beam spectrophotometer, using a blank filter wetted  
198 with filtrate as a reference. The filter was extracted with 100% methanol, washed with  
199 filtrate, and rescanned using a similar procedure as for the non-extracted filter.

200 *Photosynthesis measurements*

201 The photosynthetic response to solar radiation was performed using a polychromatic  
202 incubator illuminated with a 2.5 kW xenon lamp (“photoinhibitron”), based on the  
203 design of Cullen et al. (1992) with modified block construction similar to that described  
204 by Smyth et al. (2012). Details of the photoinhibitron are given in Neale et al. (2014).  
205 The incubator provides treatment irradiance with PAR, UVA and UVB in similar  
206 proportions as solar irradiance, allowing the assessment of realistic responses. Long-  
207 pass filters combinations were used to define a total of 12 spectral treatments per  
208 incubation, which were combined with neutral density screens to produce ten  
209 irradiances per filter combination for a total of 120 treatments of varying spectral  
210 composition and irradiance. The filter combinations are listed in the supplemental

211 information Table S1. Spectral irradiance ( $\text{mW m}^{-2} \text{ nm}^{-1}$ ) for each position in the  
 212 photoinhibitron was measured with a custom-built fiber-optic spectroradiometer as  
 213 described by Neale and Fritz (2001).  
 214 Photosynthesis was measured as total  $^{14}\text{C}$  assimilation of added inorganic  $\text{H}^{14}\text{CO}_3^-$  (~25  
 215 kBq  $\text{mL}^{-1}$ ) into organic compounds (acid-stable) in 1 mL aliquots during 1 h incubation.  
 216 Temperature was controlled using a circulating water bath. Data were fit to BWF/P-E  
 217 functions:

$$218 \quad P^B = P_s^B \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{E_{PAR}}{E_s}} \right) ERC(E_{inh}^*) \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

$$219 \quad E_{inh}^* = \sum_{\lambda=265}^{400} \varepsilon(\lambda) E(\lambda) \Delta\lambda + \varepsilon_{PAR} E_{PAR}$$

220  
 221 where  $P^B$  is the photosynthetic rate per unit chlorophyll ( $\mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ ),  $P_s^B$  is the  
 222 light-saturated rate of photosynthesis, ERC is, in a general sense, the exposure response  
 223 curve for inhibition of photosynthesis which is formulated accordingly depending on  
 224 the model chosen for fitting the observed responses.  $E_{inh}^*$  is a dimensionless index for  
 225 biologically effective or weighted irradiance,  $\varepsilon(\lambda)$  is the biological weight of inhibitory  
 226 effect of UV ( $\text{m}^2 \text{ mW}^{-1}$ ) at wavelength  $\lambda$  (nm) and  $\varepsilon_{PAR}$  is the biological weight of  
 227 inhibitory effect of PAR ( $\text{m}^2 \text{ mW}^{-1}$ ).  $E(\lambda)$  is spectral irradiance ( $\text{mW m}^{-2} \text{ nm}^{-1}$ ) at  $\lambda$   
 228 (265-400 nm) and  $E_{PAR}$  is PAR irradiance ( $\text{W m}^{-2}$ ). Since responses to UVC ( $\lambda < 280$  nm  
 229 nm) are not relevant to present day conditions, we only report results for  $\lambda > 280$  nm  
 230 (cf. Neale et al., 2014). BWFs were estimated from the measured rates of  
 231 photosynthesis using non-linear regression and principal component analysis (PCA).  
 232 Details of the principal-component-based estimation procedure and error assessment are  
 233 given in Cullen and Neale (Cullen & Neale 1997). Standard errors for the parameter  
 234 means were calculated as the root mean square (rms, quadrature) of the estimation

235 standard errors (propagated from regression standard errors) and the standard error due  
 236 to between-replicate variability. The BWF fits were performed using three different  
 237 response models (ERCs) to determine the proper exposure – response model at high  
 238 exposure. The *E* model (Eq. 2) was the model first developed to describe responses to  
 239 UV as measured in the photoinhibitron (Cullen et al. 1992) and assumes that the  
 240 specific rate of processes that restore photosynthesis (“repair”) is proportional to the  
 241 cumulative inactivation of photosynthetic components (“damage”):

$$242 \quad \frac{P^B}{P_{pot}^B} = \frac{1}{1 + E_{inh}^*} \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

243 where  $P_{pot}^B$  is the potential rate of photosynthesis in the absence of inhibition (i.e. the  
 244 product of the first two terms of the Eq. 1 for  $P^B$ ). The *T* model determines the presence  
 245 of a threshold ( $E_{inh}^* = 1$ ) above which, by definition, photosynthesis is inhibited (Eq. 3).  
 246 It was developed to represent the ERC in which repair is considered to operate at a  
 247 constant rate (Sobrino et al. 2005):

$$248 \quad \frac{P^B}{P_{pot}^B} = \begin{cases} 1 & E_{inh}^* \leq 1 \\ \frac{1}{E_{inh}^*} & E_{inh}^* > 1 \end{cases} \quad \text{Equation 3}$$

249 And finally, the *E<sub>max</sub>* model uses a combination of the *E* model at low exposures and *T*  
 250 model at high exposures ((Neale et al. 2014), Eq. 4). The new  $E_{max}^*$  parameter defines  
 251 the transition between the exposure range over which repair rate increases with damage  
 252 and higher exposures for which repair rate is constant (i.e., operating at some maximum  
 253 rate).

$$254 \quad \frac{P^B}{P_{pot}^B} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1 + E_{inh}^*} & E_{inh}^* \leq E_{max}^* \\ \frac{1}{cE_{inh}^*} & E_{inh}^* > E_{max}^* \end{cases}$$

$$255 \quad c = \frac{1 + E_{max}^*}{E_{max}^*} \quad \text{Equation 4}$$

256

257 A scaling coefficient,  $c$ , makes the function continuous at the  $E_{max}^*$  transition. A  
258 schematic representation of the relation between repair and damage of each of the  
259 models is shown the Supplemental Information (see Figure S1). The  $E_{max}$  model has an  
260 additional parameter compared to the  $E$  and  $T$  model. Whether sufficient increase in  
261 explained variance is gained to justify the incorporation of an additional parameter was  
262 assessed by evaluation of the Akaike information criterion (AIC) for each of the fits  
263 using the Matlab NonLinearModel function (Statistics toolbox).

264 *Elemental composition: Particulate organic carbon and nitrogen quotas*

265 For elemental composition analyses, cells were filtered onto pre-combusted GF/F filters  
266 (Whatman). To determine cellular particulate organic carbon (POC) quotas, respective  
267 filters were fumed with concentrated HCl overnight to remove calcite. Cellular  
268 particulate inorganic carbon (PIC) quotas were assessed as the difference in carbon  
269 content between HCl-treated (POC) and untreated filters (total particulate C, TPC).  
270 Particulate organic nitrogen (PON) was also measured in all filters.

271 *Primary production and calcification rates*

272 The relative rates of POC and PIC production, primary production and calcification  
273 respectively, were additionally determined by following the microdiffusion technique  
274 (MDT), (Paasche & Brubak 1994, Poulton et al. 2010), which allows the comparison of  
275 the responses from the same experimental sample. Samples (20 mL) of each  
276 independent culture (n=3) were inoculated with  $H^{14}CO_3^-$  (approximately 37 kBq mL<sup>-1</sup>  
277 final concentration) and incubated in triplicate at growth irradiance and temperature  
278 conditions. Incubations were ended after 2 hours by filtration under low-vacuum  
279 pressure through polycarbonate filters (25-mm diameter, 0.2-μm pore size), which were  
280 then rinsed with 0.2-μm filtered seawater to remove the non-incorporated <sup>14</sup>C-labelled  
281 DIC. Filters were then placed in the bottom of 20- mL scintillation vials that were

282 hermetically closed keeping inside a glass-fiber Whatman filters (GF/F) soaked with 0.2  
283 mL  $\beta$ -phenylethylamine (Sigma) located in the screw cap. Phosphoric acid (1 mL, 1%)  
284 was added into the bottom of the vial to convert  $^{14}\text{C}$ -labeled calcite into  $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ , which  
285 was then sequestered by the  $\beta$ -phenylethylamine-soaked GFF filter. When all the PIC  
286 was converted into  $^{14}\text{CO}_2$  and trapped in the soaked filter (i.e. after 24 h), the CO<sub>2</sub> trap  
287 filters were removed and placed in fresh scintillation vials. Both, primary production  
288 and calcification rates were determined after the addition of scintillation cocktail (Insta-  
289 gel, Perkin Elmer), by using a scintillation counter LS-6599 (Beckman), and referred to  
290 the total inorganic carbon content of the incubation media used. Activity was checked  
291 by removal of 20  $\mu\text{L}$  from each replicate after the spike addition, mixing with 0.2 mL of  
292  $\beta$ -phenylethylamine and liquid scintillation cocktail, and counting on the scintillation  
293 counter.  $^{14}\text{CO}_2$  capture efficiency was ~ 93% and it was assessed by adding a spike of a  
294 known  $^{14}\text{C}$  activity to seawater samples and determining the activity collected on the  
295 Whatman GFF filter relative to the spike activity. The average relative standard  
296 deviation (SD divided by mean x 100) of triplicate measurements was 7.6% for POC  
297 production and 7.9 % for PIC production.

298 *Biometric analysis*

299 For scanning electron microscopy (SEM) analyses, 1 mL of sample was concentrated  
300 onto a polycarbonate filter (0.8  $\mu\text{m}$  pore-size). Filters were mounted on aluminium SEM  
301 stubs and sputter-coated with gold/palladium. (Quorum Q150T ES, Quorum  
302 Technologies Ltd., East Grinstead, UK). Filters were examined using a Carl Zeiss Evo  
303 ® MA10 SEM at the Institute of Medical Sciences (University of Aberdeen)  
304 Coccospores and coccoliths morphometrics were measured from SEM digital images  
305 using Fiji-ImageJ 1.47v (National Institutes of Health, USA) analysis program.  
306 Measurements of *E. huxleyi* coccoliths focused on the distal shield, including the distal  
307 shield length (DSL), distal shield width (DSW), central area length (CAL), central area

308 width (CAW) and the number of slits (Supplementary Material Figure S2). The surface  
309 area of the distal shield (DSA) was estimated from DSL and DSW according to Bach et  
310 al. (2012)):

$$311 \quad DSA = \pi \times \frac{DSL \times DSW}{4}$$

312 This equation assumes that the shield in an ellipse with semi-axes of  $DSL/2$  and  
313  $DSW/2$ . The outer shield length (OSL) was calculated assuming an elliptical shape of  
314 the coccolith as:

$$315 \quad OSL = \frac{DSL - CAL + DSW - CAW}{4}$$

316 In addition, coccospHERE diameter was also measured. Mean values of measured  
317 parameters were constant when counting more than 20 coccospHERes / coccoliths per  
318 sample, so this number can be considered as statistically significant (Triantaphyllou et  
319 al. 2010).

320 *Statistical analyses*

321 Significant differences between treatments were analyzed using a t-test considering  
322  $p < 0.05$  as significant. BWFs were estimated for each experiment, and the mean BWF  
323 was calculated for each treatment ( $n = 3-4$ ), with standard errors for the mean derived  
324 from individual error estimates by propagation of errors.

325

326 **Results**

327

328 *Particulate organic carbon and nitrogen quotas increased under elevated CO<sub>2</sub>*  
329 The cellular characteristics of *E. huxleyi* cultures maintained in ambient and elevated  
330 CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are shown in Table 1. Although elevated CO<sub>2</sub> did not affect growth  
331 rates or cellular chl content, POC and PON quotas were statistically different from  
332 ambient cultures. When grown with elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, *E. huxleyi* increased its bulk POC

333 content relative to chl *a* by 15% ( $p<0.001$ ) (Table 1). For the same samples, PIC content  
334 did not show significant differences between treatments. The PIC:POC ratio was lower  
335 under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> but the difference was not significant. The PON content was also  
336 significantly higher in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions, but the increase was less than the  
337 increase in POC, so the POC:PON ratio was significantly higher (9%) in the elevated  
338 CO<sub>2</sub> conditions ( $p = 0.035$ ). The average of F<sub>v</sub>/F<sub>m</sub> was the same ( $0.60 \pm 0.01$ ) for both  
339 conditions, showing that elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations did not diminish the physiological  
340 performance of *E. huxleyi*. Cellular spectral absorbance normalized to chl *a* (*a*<sup>\*</sup>, Figure  
341 1), also had a similar shape between treatments and was low in the UV, suggesting the  
342 absence of UV-absorbing compounds. Average *a*<sup>\*</sup> was lower for cultures in the  
343 elevated treatment but the difference with the ambient treatment was not significant (*t*  
344 test at 440 nm).

345

346 *Organic and inorganic carbon production rates showed opposed trends with elevated*  
347 CO<sub>2</sub>

348 The assessment of carbon production rates in *E. huxleyi* using the microdiffusion  
349 technique showed that PIC production rates (mean  $\pm$  SD) significantly decreased (13%,  
350 Figure 2A) from  $2.12 \pm 0.18 \mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl } a^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$  in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> cultures to  $1.85 \pm 0.13$   
351  $\mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl } a^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$  in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> cultures ( $p = 0.002$ ). On the contrary, POC fixation  
352 rates in the same samples increased by 15% ( $p<0.001$ ), changing from  $2.17 \pm 0.16$  to  
353  $2.54 \pm 0.19 \mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl } a^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$  in the elevated CO<sub>2</sub> cultures (Figure 2B). The PIC:POC  
354 production ratio showed a significant 25% decrease in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> cultures ( $p<0.001$ ),  
355 Figure 2C) and changed from a 49%:51% contribution in the cultures grown under  
356 ambient conditions to a 42%:58% in the cultures acclimated to elevated CO<sub>2</sub>.  
357 These rates are somewhat different from the expected average production rates given  
358 the measured quotas (Table 1), which can be predicted as the product of growth rate and

359 quota averaged over the 14 hour light period. This assumes balanced growth which  
360 should be approximated for exponential growing semi-continuous cultures (Balch et al.  
361 1996). The predicted PIC rates ( $\mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl } a^{-1} h^{-1}$ ) are about half of the MDT rates,  
362  $0.91 \pm 0.11$  (ambient) and  $0.93 \pm 0.09$  (elevated). On the other hand the predicted POC  
363 rates are slightly greater than the MDT rates,  $2.47 \pm 0.25$  and  $2.82 \pm 0.15 \mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl } a^{-1}$   
364  $h^{-1}$  for ambient and elevated respectively. The possible causes for this discrepancy are  
365 considered in the discussion section.

366

367 *Coccoliths were affected by elevated CO<sub>2</sub>*

368 Selected morphometric parameters measured in the coccoliths and the coccospores are  
369 presented in Table 2. Representative micrographs are shown in SI figure S3. The  
370 coccoliths only showed significant differences between treatments in the central area  
371 width (CAW, SI Figure S2 illustrates where dimensions were taken on the coccolith).  
372 For cells acclimated to elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, the CAW of the coccoliths showed a small, but  
373 significant, increase, in addition to a slight increase in the central area length (CAL,  
374 Table 2). Despite these differences, the coccoliths of cells grown in the two treatments  
375 appear very similar in SEM micrographs (Figure S3 C, D). The increase in CAL was  
376 not significant, neither were differences in the distal shield length (DSL) or distal shield  
377 width (DSW). The size of coccolith's central area is inversely related to the area of  
378 calcification (i.e. the region between the slits and the central area; Triantaphyllou et al.  
379 2010). Thus, an increase in the central area reflects a decrease in the region of  
380 calcification. Further analysis of the whole coccospore showed that the coccospore  
381 diameter was also significantly different between treatments ( $p < 0.05$ ), with the size of  
382 the coccospore smaller under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions.

383

384 *Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> did not increase UVR sensitivity*

385 The average rates of photosynthesis of *E. huxleyi* vs. irradiance measured using the  
386 photoinhibitron were similar ( $p>0.05$ ) between ambient and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> for all  
387 spectral treatments (Fig. 3). These results allowed the estimation of biological weighting  
388 functions (BWFs) for the inhibition of photosynthesis in cells grown under ambient and  
389 elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions. We tested the fit of three possible exposure response curve  
390 (ERC) models ( $E$ ,  $T$  and  $E_{max}$ ) to the response of *E. huxleyi* to UV and PAR exposure.  
391 Figure 4 shows a representative set of observed photosynthetic rates and predicted  
392 values using the estimated rates for the best fit obtained for each of the three BWF/P-E  
393 models, where photosynthesis normalized to chl *a* ( $P^B$ ) is plotted versus weighted  
394 irradiance ( $E^{*inh}$ , dimensionless). All three models provided good estimates of the  
395 overall response with  $R^2 > 0.89$  ( $n = 120$ ), but there were systematic biases specific to  
396 each model. The  $E$  model tended to underestimate observed rates at moderate exposures  
397 ( $1 < E^{*inh} < 2$ ), while overestimating rates at high exposures ( $E^{*inh} > 4$ , Figure 4 a) and  
398 showed the lowest value of  $R^2$ . In comparison,  $T$  and  $E_{max}$  models showed better  
399 agreement with observed rates for exposures above the inhibition ( $T$ ) or  $E_{max}$  threshold  
400 but tended to underestimate rates below the threshold (Figure 4 b,c). There were no  
401 differences between  $R^2$  and RMSE between the  $T$  model and  $E_{max}$  model fits. This  
402 suggested that use of the  $E_{max}$  model, which requires an additional parameter ( $E_{max}$ ), was  
403 not justified. To test this, we calculated the AIC for each fit (Table 3). The AIC takes  
404 into account both the prediction performance and number of model parameters and the  
405 best model is the one providing the lowest AIC (Burnham & Anderson 2003). There  
406 were no differences between  $T$  and  $E_{max}$  model AICs for fits to any of the data sets from  
407 the BWF experiments. So statistically, there was no justification to use the  $E_{max}$  model  
408 since the addition of an extra parameter did not improve the model fit. Consequently, all  
409 results presented in this report are for fits made with the  $T$  model.  
410 The BWFs demonstrated that sensitivity of photosynthesis to inhibition by UVR was

411 not significantly different between cells grown under elevated and ambient CO<sub>2</sub>. For  $E$ .  
412 *huxleyi* cultures grown in either condition, the average specific weights for inhibition of  
413 photosynthesis ( $\varepsilon [\lambda]$ , [mW m<sup>-2</sup>]<sup>-1</sup>) were not significantly different over the full  
414 wavelength range (i.e. differences were less than the standard error of the average  
415 weight) (Figure 5). The overall shape of the BWF is a decrease in weights from 290 to  
416 345 nm with an exponential slope of about 7% nm<sup>-1</sup> and a relatively constant weight at  
417 longer wavelengths. The sensitivity to inhibition by PAR ( $\varepsilon_{\text{PAR}}$ , (W m<sup>-2</sup>)<sup>-1</sup>) was low and  
418 also not significantly different between growth conditions (Table 4). At the average  
419  $\varepsilon_{\text{PAR}}$ , PAR inhibition would only become significant ( $E^*_{\text{inh}} > 1$ ) at exposures > 300 W m<sup>-</sup>  
420<sup>2</sup> (ca 1290 μmol photons m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>). The fitted parameters for both treatments using the  $T$   
421 model for a 1 h incubation in the Photoinhibitron, i.e. the maximum rates of  
422 photosynthesis in the absence of inhibition,  $P_s^B$ , the saturation irradiance parameter,  $E_s$   
423 and the biological weight of inhibitory effect of PAR , showed higher values under  
424 elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions but the results were not significantly different than those  
425 observed under ambient CO<sub>2</sub> levels (Table 4).

426

## 427 **Discussion**

428

429 The results from this study show that *E. huxleyi* RCC 1226 is a highly calcifying strain  
430 with similar capability for assimilating organic and inorganic carbon as particulate  
431 material in the cell. The acclimation to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> levels in this strain over two weeks  
432 did not produce significant changes in the growth rates but increased organic carbon and  
433 nitrogen quotas. The fact that growth rates of *E. huxleyi* did not change under the CO<sub>2</sub>  
434 concentrations used in this experiment (Table 2) is contrary to that observed in another  
435 strain of this coccolithophore during mesocosm incubations, where elevated CO<sub>2</sub> clearly  
436 inhibited the growth rate compared to ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (Table 2, (Segovia et al. 2017)).

437 The strain in this mesocosm experiment has similar characteristics to the overcalcified  
438 Type A strain isolated from the Norwegian Sea used for this study (Segovia et al. 2017).  
439 However, the effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> levels on coccolithophores are sometimes  
440 contradictory and not always significant as shown in recent meta-analyses (Kroeker et  
441 al. 2013, Meyer & Riebesell 2015). Additionally, POC production and cell quota  
442 significantly increased by 15% in cells acclimated to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in  
443 concordance with previous studies (Riebesell & Tortell 2011, Lorenzo et al. 2018).  
444 Given the increased production and quotas of organic carbon and nitrogen for similar  
445 growth rates, bigger cells might be expected under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions, at least  
446 regarding the size of the organic part of the cell (Aloisi 2015). Unfortunately, estimation  
447 of cell size cannot be easily performed in this strain without taking into consideration  
448 the carbonate coccospHERE size, which can vary as a function of the number of layers of  
449 coccoliths. Independent analysis of the coccolith metrics and coccospHERE diameter in  
450 our study showed that elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions resulted in smaller cells than under  
451 ambient CO<sub>2</sub> conditions due to decreases in calcification. With this information it  
452 remained unknown if the size of the organic part of the cell also changed with the  
453 increase in CO<sub>2</sub>.  
454 The results based on the biometrics were in agreement with the decrease in PIC rates  
455 under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> observed in our study using the microdiffusion technique (MDT.  
456 (Paasche & Brubak 1994, Poulton et al. 2010). They are also in agreement with  
457 previous studies that indicate a significant effect of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> in coccolithophores  
458 calcification over production rates (Riebesell & Tortell 2011, Lorenzo et al. 2018).  
459 Calcification rates observed in this strain are within the higher limit observed in cultures  
460 (Balch et al. 2007) and similar to other *Emiliania* strains, such as the clone E88 isolated  
461 from the Gulf of Maine (Balch et al. 1996, Balch et al. 1992). Despite good recovery  
462 percentage and low variability, the MDT estimated rates of PIC production were

463 different from, and considerably higher than, mean daily rates predicted multiplying the  
464 growth rate and inorganic carbon: chl quota. Balch et al. (1996) made a similar  
465 calculation for a large set of continuous culture experiments with *E. huxleyi* and  
466 observed that the predicted daily rate of calcification typically underestimated MDT  
467 measurements by ~ 40%, which they attributed to temporal uncoupling between  
468 photosynthesis and calcification. In other words, the partitioning of total photosynthetic  
469 activity between inorganic and organic products can vary through the light period.

470 Similar to Balch et al. (1996), we found that predicted daily rate of total C incorporation  
471 (POC +PIC) was closer to (~80%) the total MDT rate. The remaining discrepancy is  
472 probably due to these experiments being conducted at different times in two different  
473 labs.

474 De Bodt et al. (2010) proposed that the decrease in cellular PIC production rates at  
475 elevated pCO<sub>2</sub> could produce a lower calcite content per coccolith, a decrease in  
476 coccoliths number per cell or, a decrease in the coccolith production rate, these effects  
477 not being mutually exclusive. Decreased calcification at lowered pH may be due to a  
478 lower saturating state of calcite in the coccolith vesicles and subsequently disturbed  
479 nucleation and formation of the crystallization (Zondervan et al. 2002). Recently,  
480 Beaufort et al. (2011) demonstrated that the mass of the coccoliths decreased because of  
481 a lower calcite content due to acidification. In the work presented here, the  
482 morphometric analyses of coccoliths and coccospores of *E. huxleyi* in both CO<sub>2</sub>  
483 conditions revealed that the coccospore-sized particles showed a reduction trend with  
484 increasing pCO<sub>2</sub> as already shown (De Bodt et al. 2010). The central area and the  
485 number of slits were bigger under elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, indicating less calcification under more  
486 acidic conditions. Thus, the cells showed that the coccoliths and the coccospores were  
487 affected by elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations although these alterations did not contribute to

488 increase the susceptibility of *E. huxleyi* to UVR, as opposed to studies describing an  
489 increase in inhibition of photosynthesis under the same scenario (Gao et al. 2009).  
490 The susceptibility of photosynthesis to UVR was estimated using biological weighting  
491 functions (BWFs) for the inhibition of photosynthesis, and a model that predicts  
492 primary productivity behaviour under PAR and UVR exposures. Among the different  
493 models tested, the *T* model provided the best prediction for inhibition of photosynthesis.  
494 Along with previous studies using the same model (Sobrino et al. 2005, Sobrino et al.  
495 2009, Sobrino et al. 2008), these results suggest that there is an exposure threshold  
496 above which inhibition of photosynthesis is more severe because repair rate is limited.  
497 While inhibition is absent below this exposure threshold in the *T* model, more recent  
498 studies indicate that inhibition is still present but much less severe since repair rate  
499 increases with exposure (Neale et al. 2014). This below-threshold response is quantified  
500 in the  $E_{\max}$  model through introduction of an additional parameter (Neale et al. 2014).  
501 Unfortunately, in the case of *E. huxleyi*, rates were too variable to resolve the below-  
502 threshold response. Therefore, the  $E_{\max}$  and *T* models gave equivalent AIC values and  
503 the additional parameter was not justified. However, the *T* model tends to underestimate  
504 the maximum rate of uninhibited photosynthesis ( $P_s^B$ ) since it ignores any inhibition  
505 below the threshold. For this reason, the  $E_{\max}$  model is more appropriate for modelling  
506 primary productivity in the ocean (Neale et al. 2014). It could be also the reason why  
507 the *T* model  $P_s^B$  estimates were lower than the POC incorporation rates measured under  
508 culture conditions (no UV at saturating PAR). Further experiments should be performed  
509 with *E. huxleyi* to better define inhibition at lower exposures to enable fitting of the  $E_{\max}$   
510 model. Nevertheless, the results demonstrated that the *T* model provides a good basis  
511 for comparing responses to UV of *E. huxleyi* growing at different CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations.  
512 The results from this study demonstrate that photosynthesis in *E. huxleyi* under  
513 saturating light and nutrient conditions showed the same sensitivity to UVR exposure

under present atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels (400 ppm) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> levels predicted for the end of the century (800 ppm) (IPCC 2014). The sensitivity of each phytoplankton species to UVR is determined by the capability for protection and repair to counteract UVR damage and the influence of the environmental factors on this capability in different ways, increasing damage, decreasing efficiency of repair and indirectly promoting repair and protection mechanisms (Litchman et al. 2002, Neale 2001). In addition to the individual processes that take part in the development of these mechanisms, the basal cell metabolism controls the degree of activity in the cell. The fact that *E. huxleyi* showed the same sensitivity of photosynthesis to UVR in cells grown both under ambient and under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in our study is not surprising, since the responses to UVR at increased CO<sub>2</sub> are diverse between different taxa (Gao et al. 2009, Gao et al. 2012, García-Gómez et al. 2014, Sobrino et al. 2005, Sobrino et al. 2009, Sobrino et al. 2008, Wu et al. 2012) and even between different strains. One of the main questions is why there is such a variety of responses. Raven (1991) proposed theoretically that a downregulation of the photosynthetic machinery in phytoplankton under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions could increase the resource use efficiency and several experimental studies have supported this contention (García-Gómez et al. 2016, Sobrino et al. 2014). In *Thalassiosira pseudonana* and natural phytoplankton assemblages the higher chlorophyll-specific photosynthesis observed under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> levels was related to decreases in cellular chlorophyll content (Sobrino et al. 2009, Sobrino et al. 2008). In addition, decreases in CCM activity, general enzymatic activity and Rubisco content have been also observed under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions (Wu et al. 2010, Sobrino et al. 2014). This suggests that elevated CO<sub>2</sub> might increase passive diffusion rates and decrease the amount of energy and metabolites necessary to drive the active transport of carbon to Rubisco, finally decreasing the whole cell metabolism. This “downregulated” metabolism under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> acclimated conditions also has a

lower activation state of the general defence mechanism (Sobrino et al. 2014) which might affect the repair process of UVR-caused damage. A reduced amount or activity of the enzymes involved in the repair of the photosynthesis apparatus would increase the susceptibility to UVR. This results in more photoinhibition when UVR stress is imposed than the stress that would occur in cells with normal metabolic activity (Gao et al. 2009, Gao et al. 2012, Sobrino et al. 2009, Sobrino et al. 2014, Sobrino et al. 2008). In any case, it is expected that downregulation would decrease the catalytic costs of photosynthesis if growth is not energy limited by any metabolic demand (i.e. light, nutrients, etc), as it was in studies showing increases in sensitivity to UVR under enhanced CO<sub>2</sub> (Gao et al. 2009, Gao et al. 2012, Sobrino et al. 2009, Sobrino et al. 2014, Sobrino et al. 2008). Specific studies including calculations about the catalytic machinery costs under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions are scarce (Raven et al. 2014). However, in this study *E. huxleyi* chl a content did not decrease at elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, and growth rate, as a good indicator of the increased resource use efficiency under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions neither showed significant increases. Hence, it appears that a full downregulation was not attained in this species, possibly because the energy savings due to less CCM activity were counterbalanced by the increased energy demand for other processes. In this case, a higher metabolic activity to compensate for the lower calcification rates due to increased CO<sub>2</sub> could be a major cause. Another possibility is that CCM downregulation under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> was not sufficient to induce the full downregulation of the cell metabolism. Supporting this last contention, Lorenzo et al (2018) determined the relative fraction of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and CO<sub>2</sub> uptake in a similar *E. huxleyi* strain during a natural bloom, by using the isotope disequilibrium assay (Martin & Tortell 2006), and found that HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> was the main C<sub>i</sub> source for photosynthesis and was not affected by CO<sub>2</sub>. As a consequence, if downregulation of cell metabolism did not occur, increases in sensitivity to UVR would not be expected.

566 Coccinolithophores have been described as resistant to photoinhibition (Paasche 2001)  
567 and it is suggested that the coccinoliths could play photoprotective role in mitigating  
568 excess PAR and UVR in *E. huxleyi* (Xu et al. 2016). These findings suggest that  
569 coccinolithophores may have an advantage compared to other phytoplankton groups  
570 regarding stressful irradiance management (Raven & Crawford 2012). However, several  
571 studies have demonstrated the sensitivity of *E. huxleyi* to solar UV exposure (Buma et  
572 al. 2000, Gao et al. 2009, Guan & Gao 2010). In our study, cellular absorbance of UVR  
573 and PAR was similar between ambient and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and the  
574 comparison with other published results showed that *E. huxleyi* has similar UV spectral  
575 sensitivity as other phytoplankton species at ambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentration (Figure 6a).  
576 This is further borne out by comparing the predicted response of different species to  
577 average, midday summer irradiance at a temperate latitude (Table 5). In particular, the  
578 sensitivity of *E. huxleyi* strain used for this study seems to be similar to the Chlorophyte  
579 *Nannochloris atomus* and the diatom *T. pseudonana* at ambient CO<sub>2</sub>. For cells  
580 acclimated to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, *E. huxleyi* and *N. atomus* also showed  
581 similar susceptibility to UV (Figure 6b, Table 5). However, *Nannochloropsis gaditana*  
582 at ambient CO<sub>2</sub> and *T. pseudonana* at elevated CO<sub>2</sub> are more sensitive than *E. huxleyi*,  
583 reflecting the physiological differences discussed previously.  
584  
585 During the past years there is a growing body of studies focusing on the effects of ocean  
586 acidification on coccinolithophores (Riebesell & Tortell 2011). Our results analyzing the  
587 role of UVR in combination with the increase in CO<sub>2</sub> contribute to this increasing  
588 knowledge. They indicate that the sensitivity to UVR will be the same at elevated as  
589 ambient CO<sub>2</sub> conditions in this strain of *E. huxleyi*. Sensitivity to UV may not have  
590 varied in this strain because energy savings due to less CCM activity was used to satisfy  
591 the increased energy demands for other processes such as PIC production, or because

592 CCM activity was not significantly affected by CO<sub>2</sub>. Our results also show that future  
593 scenarios of global change, characterized by elevated CO<sub>2</sub> atmospheric concentrations,  
594 might promote carbon fixation as organic matter by this calcifying *E. huxleyi* strain.  
595 However, a similar proportion of inorganic carbon fixation will be inhibited by the  
596 ocean acidification, counterbalancing the positive effect observed on primary  
597 production. The net response results in a neutral effect of ocean acidification on this  
598 strain of *E. huxleyi* regarding growth rate, carbon fixation and photosynthesis inhibition  
599 by UVR under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> conditions.

600

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608

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822  
823

824     **Table 1.** Cellular characteristics of *Emiliania huxleyi* grown under ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (400  
825     ppm) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (800 ppm). Mean  $\pm$  standard deviation (n=3-4 independent  
826     cultures). Statistically significant differences (p <0.05) are indicated with an asterisk  
827     (\*)).

	Ambient CO <sub>2</sub>	Elevated CO <sub>2</sub>
Specific growth rate (d <sup>-1</sup> )	0.60 $\pm$ 0.06	0.58 $\pm$ 0.03
POC quota ( $\mu\text{g } \mu\text{g Chl } a^{-1}$ )	57.7 $\pm$ 0.38*	68.0 $\pm$ 0.89*
PIC quota ( $\mu\text{g } \mu\text{g Chl } a^{-1}$ )	21.27 $\pm$ 1.35	22.55 $\pm$ 1.83
PON quota ( $\mu\text{g } \mu\text{g Chl } a^{-1}$ )	9.93 $\pm$ 0.24*	10.56 $\pm$ 0.30*
PIC:POC (mol mol <sup>-1</sup> )	0.37 $\pm$ 0.02	0.33 $\pm$ 0.03
POC:PON (mol mol <sup>-1</sup> )	7.48 $\pm$ 0.22*	8.17 $\pm$ 0.31*
Chl- <i>a</i> quota (pg cell <sup>-1</sup> )	0.23 $\pm$ 0.04	0.25 $\pm$ 0.05

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830 **Table 2.** Morphometric analysis of detached coccoliths and coccospores of *Emiliania*  
 831 *huxleyi* grown under ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (400 ppm) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (800 ppm). Mean ±  
 832 standard deviation ( $\mu\text{m}$ ). Statistically significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) are indicated with  
 833 an asterisk. Measured parameters on coccoliths DSL: distal shield length; DSW: distal  
 834 shield width; DSA: distal shield area; CAL: central area length; CAW: central area  
 835 width and OSL: outer shield length.

	Ambient CO <sub>2</sub>	Elevated CO <sub>2</sub>
<i>Coccoliths</i>		
DSL	3.17 ± 0.27	3.17 ± 0.28
DSW	2.54 ± 0.27	2.55 ± 0.33
DSA	6.39 ± 1.21	6.40 ± 1.28
CAL	1.42 ± 0.20	1.48 ± 0.19
CAW	0.83 ± 0.14*	0.94 ± 0.17*
OSL	0.87 ± 0.11	0.83 ± 0.09
Number of slits	30.72 ± 3.40*	34.16 ± 3.37*
n	30	30
<i>Coccospores</i>		
Length	6.88 ± 0.52*	6.44 ± 0.61*
Width	6.47 ± 0.47	6.22 ± 0.59

n	25	30
836		
837		

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837

838 **Table 3.** Difference in the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) calculated for fits using  
839  $E$  vs  $T$  and  $T$  vs  $E_{max}$  exposure response models to experimental data on the response of  
840 *Emiliania huxleyi* photosynthesis to UV + PAR exposure. Positive values indicate  
841 improvement (lowering) of the AIC (Burnham & Anderson 2003). Listed is the  
842 average $\pm$ standard deviation (SD) difference for n=6 sets of experimental data.

843

$\Delta\text{AIC}$		
	$(E \text{ vs. } T)$	$(T \text{ vs. } E_{max})$
Average	101.7	-0.01
SD	15.5	0.71

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846 **Table 4.** Fitted parameters for the BWF-PI model of photosynthesis by *Emiliania*  
 847 *huxleyi* using the  $T$  exposure response model. Listed are the light saturated rates of  
 848 photosynthesis in the absence of inhibition ( $P_s^B$ ,  $\mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g Chl } a^{-1}$ ), characteristic  
 849 irradiances for light saturation ( $E_s$ ,  $\text{W m}^{-2}$ , PAR) and coefficients for inhibition by PAR  
 850 ( $\epsilon_{\text{PAR}}$ ,  $(\text{W m}^{-2})^{-1}$ ), mean  $\pm$  standard errors for  $n \geq 3$  experiments under each condition  
 851 ambient (400 ppm) and elevated (800 ppm)  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration.

	Ambient $\text{CO}_2$	Elevated $\text{CO}_2$
$P_s^B$	$2.17 \pm 0.22$	$2.20 \pm 0.21$
$E_s$	$13.7 \pm 0.84$	$14.5 \pm 1.03$
$\epsilon_{\text{PAR}} \times 10^{-3}$	$3.26 \pm 0.33$	$3.41 \pm 0.27$

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854   **Table 5.** Weighted irradiance values ( $E^*_{inh}$ ) and % inhibition of photosynthesis  
 855   estimated using the T-model BWF/P-E for different phytoplankton species grown  
 856   under ambient (400 ppm) or elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (800 ppm) (cf. Figure 8). Response is based  
 857   on average, midday summer spectral irradiance at a temperate location (39°N) as  
 858   recorded at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (Neale 2001).

Species	$E^*_{inh}$		% Inhibition	
	Ambient CO <sub>2</sub>	Elevated CO <sub>2</sub>	Ambient CO <sub>2</sub>	Elevated CO <sub>2</sub>
<i>Emiliania huxleyi</i>	3.74	3.81	0.73	0.74
<i>Nannochloris atomus</i> <sup>1</sup>	4.15	4.05	0.76	0.75
<i>Nannochloropsis gaditana</i> <sup>1</sup>	5.02	4.18	0.80	0.76
<i>Thalassiosira pseudonana</i> <sup>2</sup>	3.17	5.20	0.68	0.81

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860   <sup>1</sup>Using BWF/P-E results from Sobrino et al. (2005)

861   <sup>2</sup>Using BWF/P-E results for cultures grown under PAR irradiance as reported by

862   Sobrino et al. (2008)

863

864 **Figure Legends**

865 **Figure 1.** Cellular absorbance of UVR and PAR measured as Chl  $\alpha$  specific absorption  
866 ( $a^*[\lambda] \text{ m}^2 \text{ mg Chl}\alpha^{-1}$ ) of *Emiliania huxleyi* under ambient (400 ppm) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub>  
867 (800 ppm) concentrations (n=3). The solid line corresponds to cultures grown under  
868 ambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and the dashed line corresponds to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> cultures.

869 **Figure 2.** Production rates of *Emiliania huxleyi* under ambient (400 ppm, solid) and  
870 elevated (800 ppm, open) CO<sub>2</sub> during growth as measured using the microdiffusion  
871 technique. (a) particulate inorganic carbon (PIC), (b) particulate organic carbon (POC)  
872 and, (c) PIC: POC productivity ratio. Bars represent the mean of triplicate cultures and  
873 the error bars denote the standard deviation. Differences are statistically significant at  
874  $p=0.002$  (a) or  $p<0.001$  (b,c).

875 **Figure 3.** Average rates of photosynthesis vs. PAR irradiance (W m<sup>-2</sup>) for *Emiliania*  
876 *huxleyi* cultures (n=3) grown under ambient (400 ppm, solid symbols) or high (800  
877 ppm, open symbols) CO<sub>2</sub> for the 12 different spectral treatments (specified in  
878 Supplemental Table S1) in the photoinhibitron with 10 irradiance levels within each  
879 treatment. Panel titles identify the lower (cut-off) wavelength of each irradiance  
880 treatment specifying the wavelengths of 1% and 50% transmission (respectively).  
881 Panels are ordered from shortest to longest cut-off wavelengths. Further details on  
882 spectral treatments are listed by panel letter in Supplemental Table S1. Due to variation  
883 within the Xe-lamp beam, spectral composition within treatment varies resulting in  
884 some scatter in the P-E relationship (i.e. values around 75 W m<sup>-2</sup> in plot F). This  
885 spectral variation is accounted for in the model fit.

886 **Figure 4.** The panels illustrate the observed (points) vs. fitted (lines) results for three  
887 BWF/P-E models, the  $E$  (a),  $T$  (b) and  $E_{max}$  (c) models (see materials and methods for  
888 definition of models). Biomass-specific photosynthesis ( $\mu\text{g C} \mu\text{g chl}\alpha^{-1}\text{h}^{-1}$ ) plotted as a  
889 function of UV+PAR exposure weighted by a spectral biological weighting function for

890 inhibition,  $E_{inh}^*$ (dimensionless).  $E_{inh}^*$  reflects the varying inhibition effectiveness of the  
891 exposure conditions (i.e. one of the 10 irradiance levels of the 12 different spectral  
892 treatments as described in Table S1) corresponding to each of the measured  
893 photosynthetic rates (Figure 3). Root mean square error (RMSE) of the fitted model is  
894 in  $\mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl } a^{-1}\text{h}^{-1}$ .

895 **Figure 5.** BWFs for the inhibition of photosynthesis by UVR ( $\varepsilon [\lambda]$ , [ $\text{mW m}^{-2}$ ] $^{-1}$ ) of  
896 *Emiliania huxleyi* cultures under present atmospheric (400 ppm, solid line) and elevated  
897 (800 ppm, dashed line) CO<sub>2</sub>. Curves are the average BWF (n=3-4) for each treatment.  
898 The thin and thick line error bars show representative standard errors of the mean  
899 (SEM) for the average BWF of ambient and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> cultures, respectively,  
900 calculated from the standard error estimates of the individual BWFs.

901 **Figure 6.** Biological weighting functions for the inhibition of photosynthesis by UV ( $(\varepsilon$   
902  $[\lambda]$ , [ $\text{mW m}^{-2}$ ] $^{-1}$ ) estimated by statistical analysis of data from different phytoplankton  
903 species. The solid line is the average biological weight for *Thalassiosira pseudonana*  
904 (Sobrino et al 2008), the short dashed line is for *Nannochloris atomus* (Sobrino et al  
905 2005), the dotted line is for *Nannochloropsis gaditana* (Sobrino et al 2005), and the  
906 long dashed line is *Emiliania huxleyi*, at ambient (400 ppm) (a) and elevated (800 ppm)  
907 (b) CO<sub>2</sub> conditions. The error bars show representative standard errors.

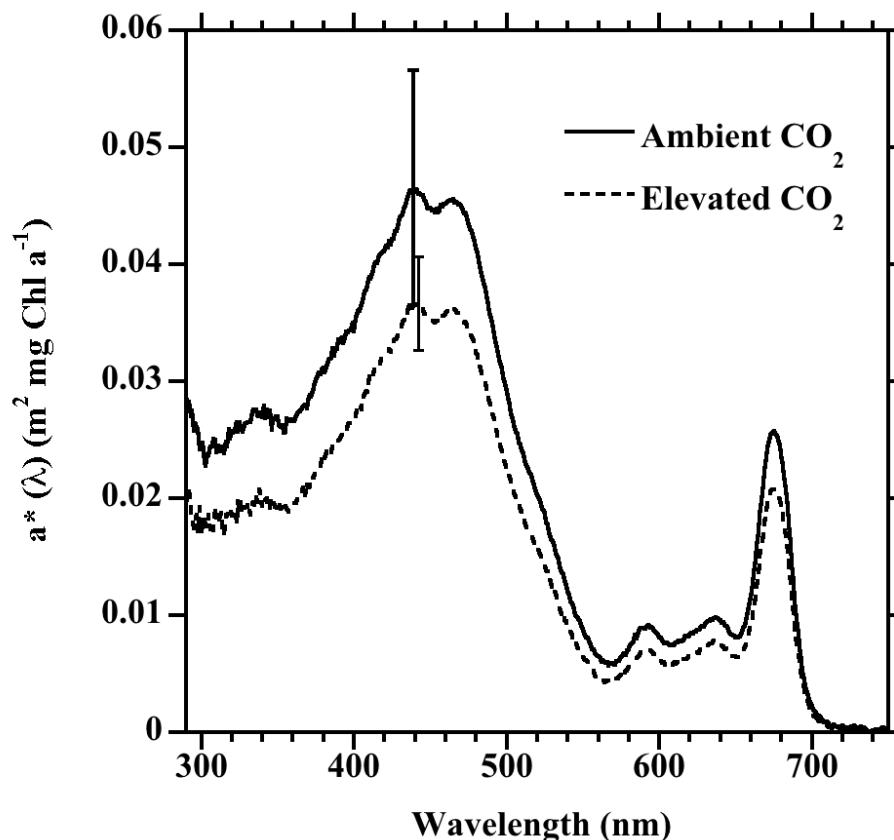
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912 **Figure 1.** Cellular absorbance of UVR and PAR measured as Chl *a* specific absorption  
913 ( $a^*[\lambda] \text{ m}^2 \text{ mg Chl } a^{-1}$ ) of *Emiliania huxleyi* under ambient (400 ppm) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub>  
914 (800 ppm) concentrations (mean±std. dev., n=3). The solid line corresponds to cultures  
915 grown under ambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and the dashed line corresponds to elevated  
916 CO<sub>2</sub> cultures.

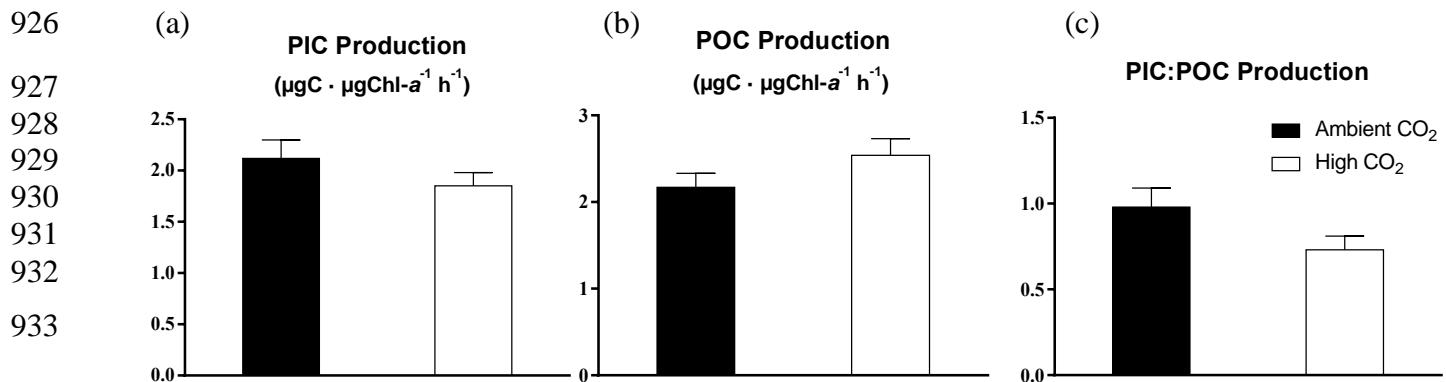


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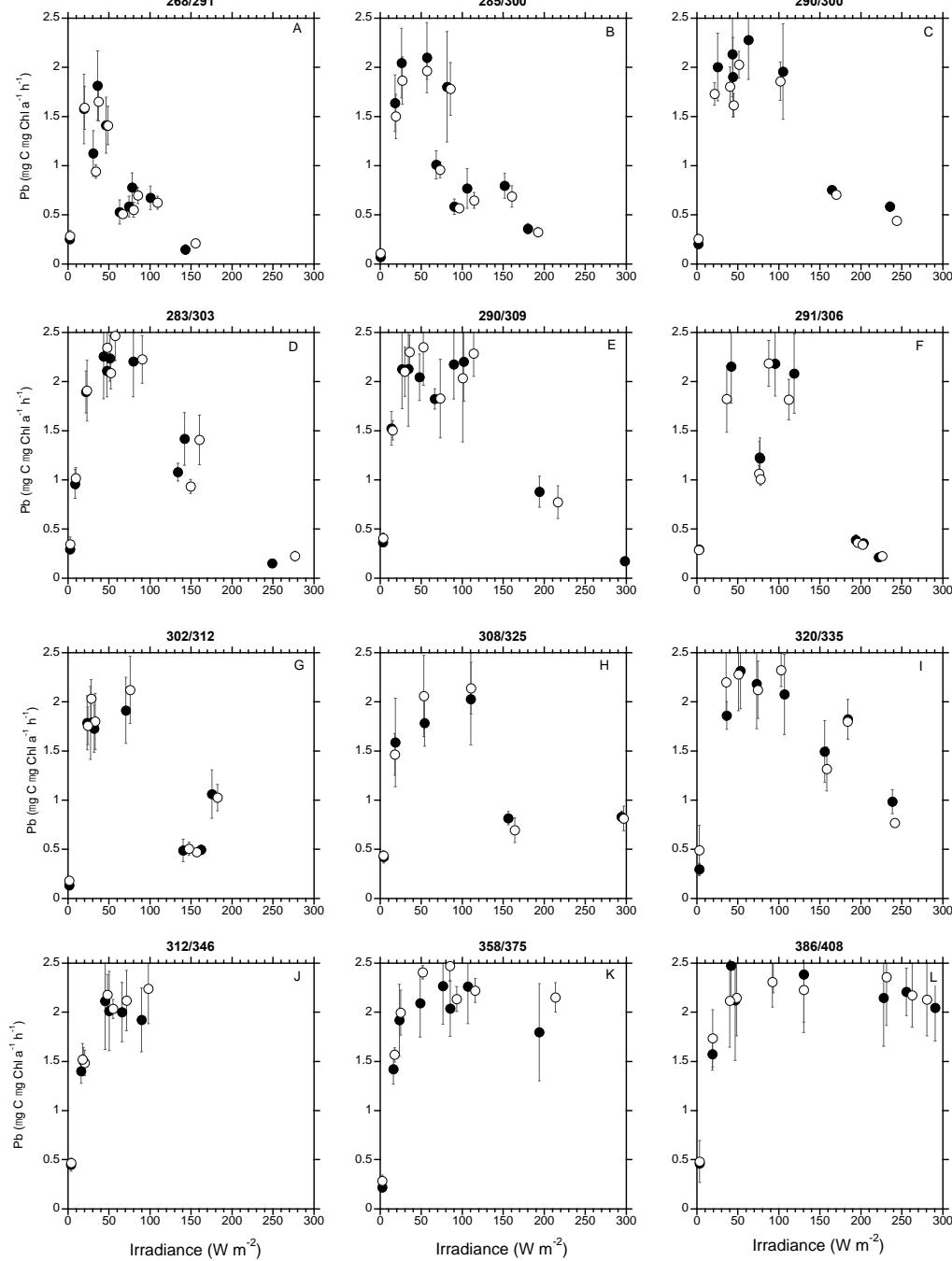
919 **Figure 2.** Production rates of *Emiliania huxleyi* under ambient (400 ppm, solid) and  
920 elevated (800 ppm, open) CO<sub>2</sub> during growth as measured using the microdiffusion  
921 technique. (a) particulate inorganic carbon (PIC), (b) particulate organic carbon (POC)  
922 and, (c) PIC: POC productivity ratio. Bars represent the mean of triplicate cultures and  
923 the error bars denote the standard deviation. Differences are statistically significant at  
924  $p=0.002$  (a) or  $p<0.001$  (b,c).

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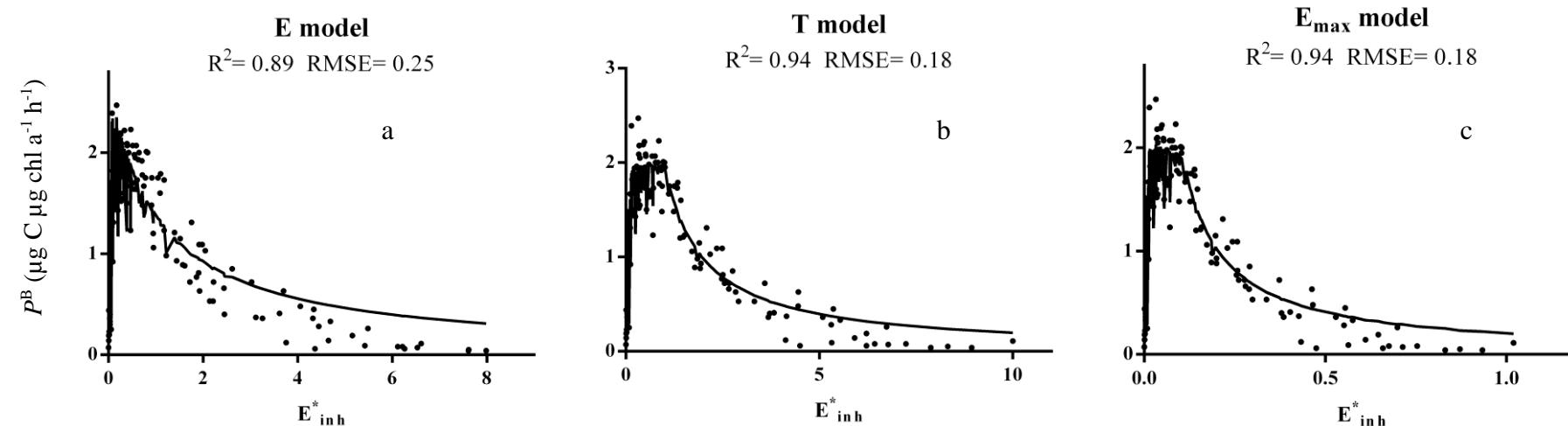


934 **Figure 3.** Average rates of photosynthesis vs. PAR irradiance ( $\text{W m}^{-2}$ ) for *Emiliania huxleyi*  
 935 cultures ( $n=3$ ) grown under ambient (400 ppm, solid symbols) or high (800  
 936 ppm, open symbols)  $\text{CO}_2$  for the 12 different spectral treatments (specified in  
 937 Supplemental Table S1) in the photoinhibitron with 10 irradiance levels within each  
 938 treatment specifying the wavelengths of 1% and 50% transmission (respectively).  
 939 Panels are ordered from shortest to longest cut-off wavelengths. Further details on  
 940 spectral treatments are listed by panel letter in Supplemental Table S1. Due to variation  
 941 within the Xe-lamp beam, spectral composition within treatment varies resulting in  
 942 some scatter in the P-E relationship (i.e. values around 75  $\text{W m}^{-2}$  in plot F). This  
 943 spectral variation is accounted for in the model fit.  
 944

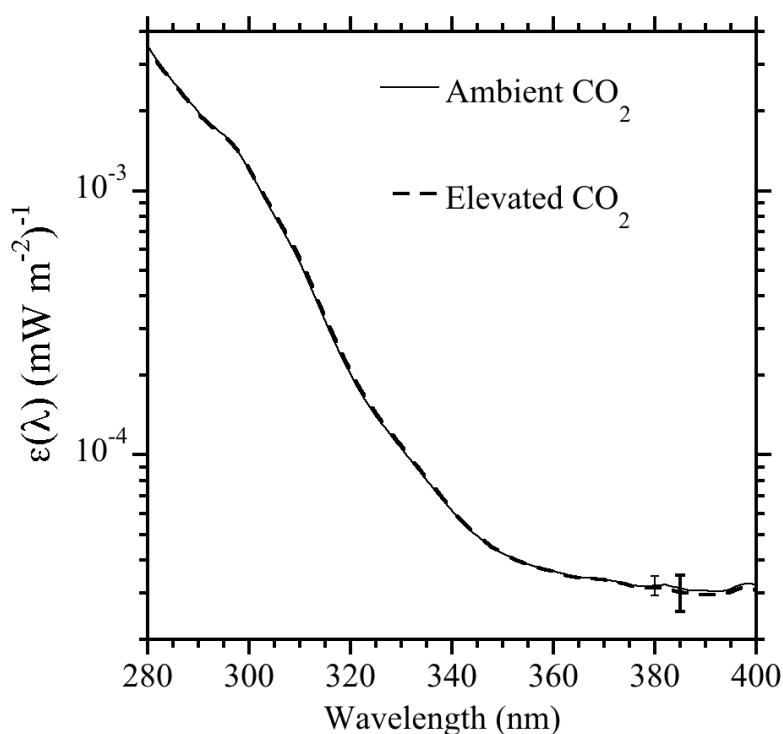
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946 **Figure 4.** The panels illustrate the observed (points) vs. fitted (lines) results for three BWF/P-E models, the  $E$  (a),  $T$  (b) and  $E_{max}$  (c) models (see  
 947 materials and methods for definition of models). Biomass-specific photosynthesis ( $\mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g chl } a^{-1} h^{-1}$ ) plotted as a function of UV+PAR exposure  
 948 weighted by a spectral biological weighting function for inhibition,  $E_{inh}^*$ (dimensionless).  $E_{inh}^*$  reflects the varying inhibition effectiveness of the  
 949 exposure conditions (i.e. one of the 10 irradiance levels of the 12 different spectral treatments as described in Table S1) corresponding to each of  
 950 the measured photosynthetic rates (Figure 3). Root mean square error (RMSE) of the fitted model is in  $\mu\text{g C } \mu\text{g Chl } a^{-1} h^{-1}$ .  
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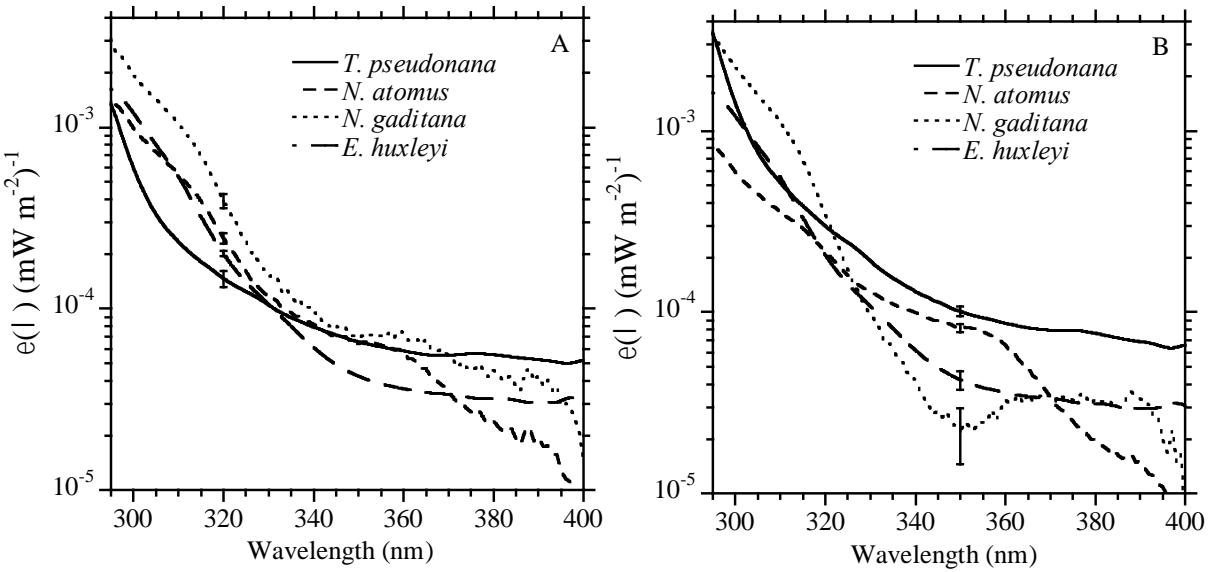


954 **Figure 5.** BWFs for the inhibition of photosynthesis by UVR ( $\varepsilon [\lambda]$ , [ $\text{mW m}^{-2}$ ] $^{-1}$ ) of  
955 *Emiliania huxleyi* cultures under present atmospheric (400 ppm, solid line) and elevated  
956 (800 ppm, dashed line) CO<sub>2</sub>. Curves are the average BWF (n=3-4) for each treatment.  
957 The thin and thick line error bars show representative standard errors of the mean  
958 (SEM) for the average BWF of ambient and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> cultures, respectively,  
959 calculated from the standard error estimate of the individual BWFs.  
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962 **Figure 6.** Biological weighting functions for the inhibition of photosynthesis by UV ( $(\varepsilon$   
 963  $[\lambda]$ , [ $\text{mW m}^{-2}$ ] $^{-1}$ ) estimated by statistical analysis of data from different phytoplankton  
 964 species. The solid line is the average biological weight for *Thalassiosira pseudonana*  
 965 (Sobrino et al 2008), the short dashed line is for *Nannochloris atomus* (Sobrino et al  
 966 2005), the dotted line is for *Nannochloropsis gaditana* (Sobrino et al 2005), and the  
 967 long dashed line is *Emiliania huxleyi*, at ambient (400 ppm) (a) and elevated (800 ppm)  
 968 (b)  $\text{CO}_2$  conditions. The error bars show representative standard errors.



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