



COPERNICUS
MARINE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING SERVICE

QUALITY INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Ocean Monitoring Indicator (OMI) of the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service

Global yearly pH time series

GLOBAL_OMI_HEALTH_carbon_ph_area_averaged

Issue: 3.0

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Approval date by the CMEMS product quality coordination team:

QUID for CMEMS OMI: GLOBAL_OMI_HEALTH_carbon_ph_area_averaged	Ref:	CMEMS-OMI-QUID-GLO-HEALTH-carbon-ph-area-averaged
	Date:	December 2020
	Issue:	2.0

CHANGE RECORD

Issue	Date	§	Description of Change	Author	Validated By
1.0	January 2019	all	Creation of document	Marion Gehlen, Thi Tuyet Trang Chau	
1.1	October 2019	/	Update of Figure 1	Thi Tuyet Trang Chau	
2.0	December 2019	/	Update of Figure 1 (temporal extension)	Thi Tuyet Trang Chau, Marion Gehlen, Frédéric Chevallier	
3.0	September 2020	/	Update of Figure 1 (temporal extension and uncertainty quantification)	Thi Tuyet Trang Chau, Marion Gehlen, Frédéric Chevallier	

Product name: GLOBAL_OMI_HEALTH_CARBOON_PH_AREA_AVERAGED

Dataset name: GLOBAL_OMI_HEALTH_carbon_ph_area_averaged

Indicator evaluation method:

The OMI yearly mean surface sea water pH reported on total hydrogen ion scale is computed from monthly pH values which are distributed as part of the CMEMS product MULTI_OBS_GLO_BIO_CARBOON_SURFACE_REP_015_008. The associated quality information document provides details on the evaluation of pH fields.

Scientific evaluation:

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The average surface water pH decreased by 0.0016 pH units between 1985 and 2019 (Figure 1 Time series of annual global mean surface sea water pH over the period 1985-2019 using a reconstruction methodology (see method). Trend \pm its variation are computed as the mean and standard deviation of the differences amongst two consecutive estimates.). Although the time interval covered by the OMI differs from that of published trend estimates from Eulerian time series data, it falls within the 1σ range of these data-based estimates: (1) station ALOHA (1988-2009, 22.75°N, 158°W) = 0.0019 ± 0.0002 pH units/yr (Dore et al., 2009); (2) station BATS (1983-2005, 31.72°, 64°17'W) = 0.0017 ± 0.0003 pH units/yr (Bates, 2007); (3) station ESTOC (1995-2004, 24.04°N, 15.50°W) = 0.0018 ± 0.0003 pH units/yr (Santana-Casiano et al., 2007; González-Dávila et al., 2010).

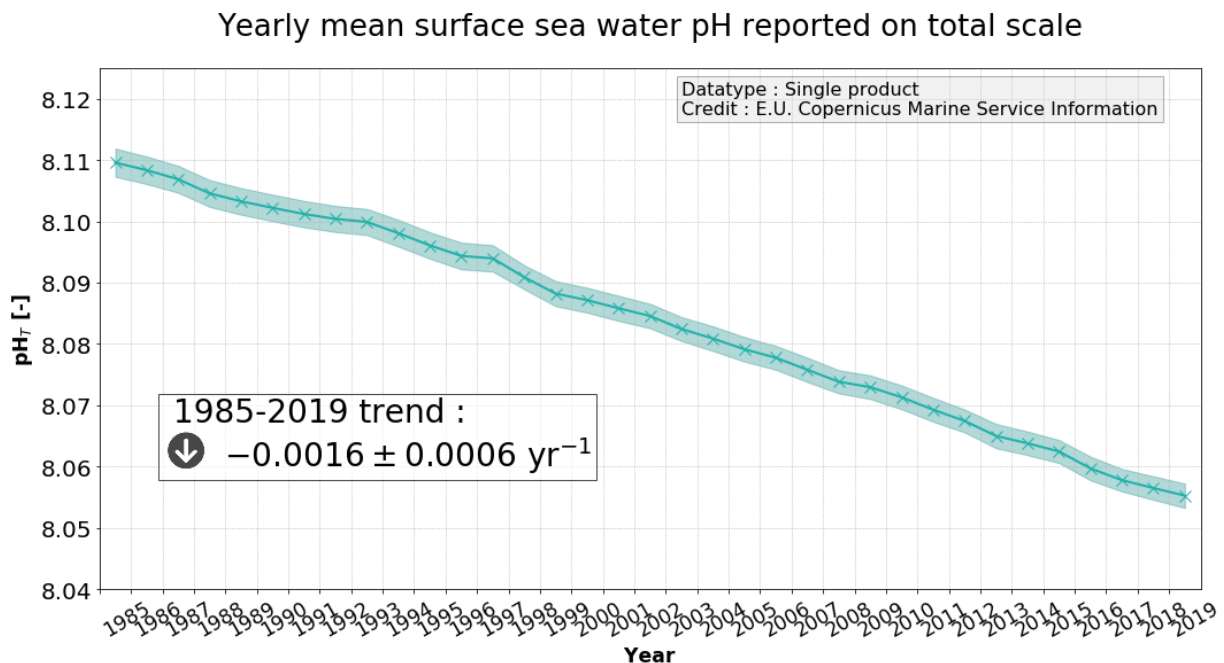


Figure 1 Time series of annual global mean surface sea water pH over the period 1985-2019 using a reconstruction methodology (see method). Trend \pm its variation are computed as the mean and standard deviation of the differences amongst two consecutive estimates.

Product used for indicator evaluation:

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The OMI yearly mean surface sea water pH reported on total hydrogen ion scale and its yearly uncertainty (σ) are computed from monthly pH values and uncertainties which are distributed as part of the CMEMS product MULTIOBS_GLO_BIO_CARBON_SURFACE_REP_015_008.

In Figure 1, the amplitude of the uncertainty envelop ($\pm 1\sigma$) of yearly mean surface sea water pH varies in the range of [0.0019, 0.0023] pH unit. In comparison with the previous release of the OMI pH, this number is larger and reflects the total uncertainties derived from the ensemble-based approach and model errors.

At each grid cell and monthly resolution, monthly uncertainty (σ_m) is evaluated from the contributions of (1) model randomness, (2) systematic errors. The uncertainty of (1) is defined as the standard deviation of the pH ensemble computed by feeding 100 ensemble members of the reconstructed spco2 in the speciation software CO2sys (Lewis and Wallace, 1998; Van Heuven et al., 2011). Systematic uncertainty (2) is evaluated through uncertainty propagation following Orr et al. (2018) within the speciation software CO2sys. Inputs to the uncertainty propagation routine are default values for dissociation constants, measurement uncertainty, uncertainty estimates for monthly alkalinity fields from LIAR (Carter et al., 2016; 2018), respectively estimates for mapping errors between spco2 monthly mean fields derived from an ensemble of 100 neural networks and the observations. Taking the squared root of the sum of (1) and (2) squared results in standard uncertainties (σ_m) of monthly pH fields.

The OMI corresponds to the global average of yearly mean pH values. The associated total uncertainty is first computed by

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum \sigma_m^2}{N^2}}$$

where N is total number of grid cells (N_{cell}) multiplied by 12. This biased uncertainty estimate of the global average of the yearly mean pH values is then corrected by a number of effective degrees of freedom N_{eff} involved in space and time:

$$N_{eff} = \frac{dx dy}{(c^{dr})^2} N_{cell} \times \frac{12}{c^{dt}}$$

where dx, dy are the mean zonal and meridional grid size in km, c^{dr} and c^{dt} are respectively the spatial and temporal decorrelation length scales. The spatial decorrelation length scale of pH is assessed based on the 12-month pH fields for each year. Semivariogram is used to estimate this quantity. For a temporal decorrelation length scale, the effect of seasonal cycles is considered, and that yields data dependency within 3-month window. The method provides yearly N_{eff} values varying in [112, 154]. The correction with N_{eff} deduces an ultimate estimate of yearly uncertainty,

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$$\sigma = \hat{\sigma} \sqrt{\frac{N}{N_{\text{eff}}}}$$

pH used to compute the OMI global yearly pH time series is derived from CMEMS MULTIOBS_GLO_BIO_CARBON_SURFACE_REP_015_008 product (<http://marine.copernicus.eu/documents/PUM/CMEMS-MOB-PUM-015-008.pdf>, <http://marine.copernicus.eu/documents/QUID/CMEMS-MOB-QUID-015-008.pdf>).

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