

---

# Oxygen Optode Sensors: Principle, Characterization, Calibration and Application in the Ocean.

Henry C. Bittig<sup>1,\*</sup>, Arne Körtzinger<sup>2,3</sup>, Craig Neill<sup>4</sup>, Eikbert van Ooijen<sup>4</sup>,  
Joshua N. Plant<sup>5</sup>, Johannes Hahn<sup>2</sup>, Kenneth S. Johnson<sup>5</sup>, Bo Yang<sup>6</sup>, and  
Steven R. Emerson<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sorbonne Universités, UPMC Université Paris 06, CNRS, UMR 7093, Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche (LOV), Villefranche-sur-Mer, France

<sup>2</sup> GEOMAR Helmholtz-Zentrum für Ozeanforschung Kiel, Kiel, Germany

<sup>3</sup> Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Kiel, Germany

<sup>4</sup> CSIRO Oceans & Atmosphere, Hobart, Australia

<sup>5</sup> Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, Moss Landing, CA, USA

<sup>6</sup> University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

# Outline

Sensor Principle

Sensor Characterization

- $O_2$  and temperature
- Salinity
- Hydrostatic pressure
- Time #1: Sensor time response
- In-air calibration approaches (avg. gain, carry-over, what's water/air)
- Time #2: Optode drift behaviour ("storage" and in-situ;  $pO_2$  correction)

Accuracy estimates

- Foil batch / multi-point calibration accuracy; two-point adjustments

Argo updates

- Update of scientific part of cookbook
- In-air data storage in traj files: What's in water, what's in air?

# Outline

## Sensor Principle

## Sensor Characterization

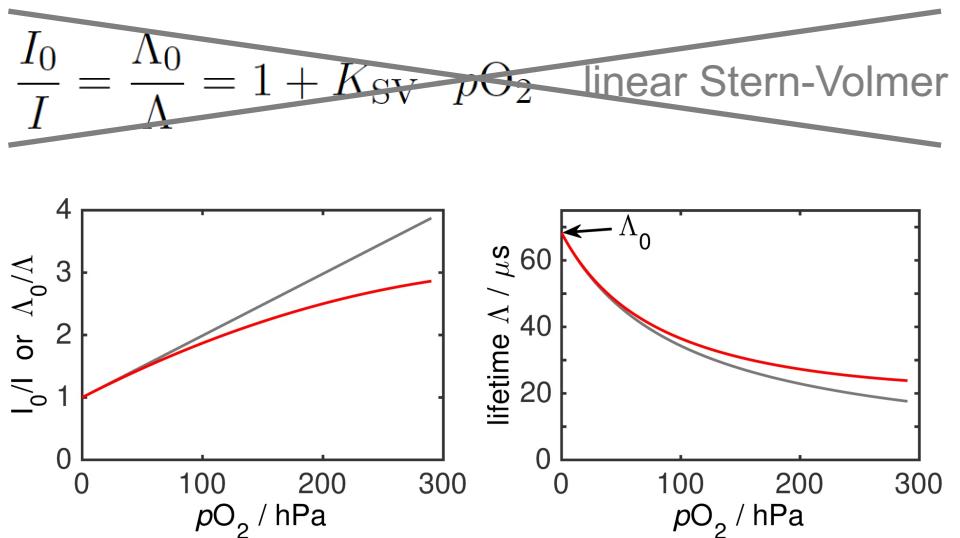
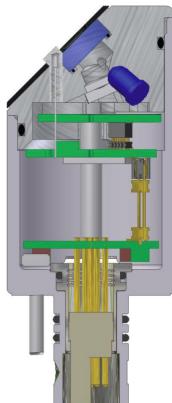
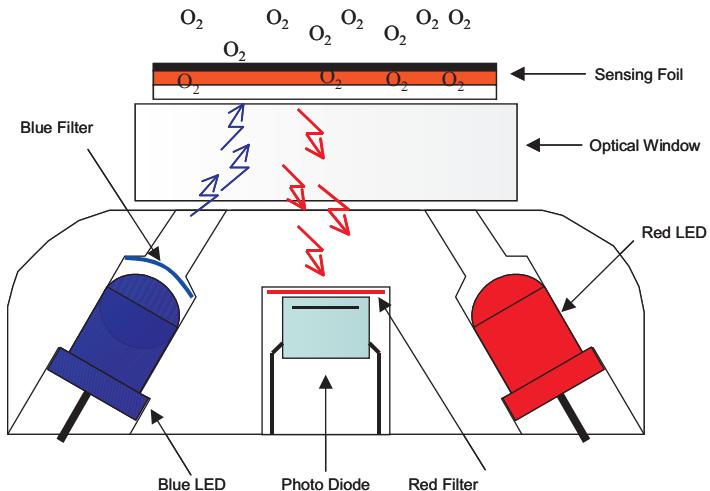
- O<sub>2</sub> and temperature
- Salinity
- Hydrostatic pressure
- Time #1: Sensor time response
- In-air calibration approaches (avg. gain, carry-over, what's water/air)
- Time #2: Optode drift behaviour (“storage” and in-situ; pO<sub>2</sub> correction)

## Accuracy estimates

- Foil batch / multi-point calibration accuracy; two-point adjustments

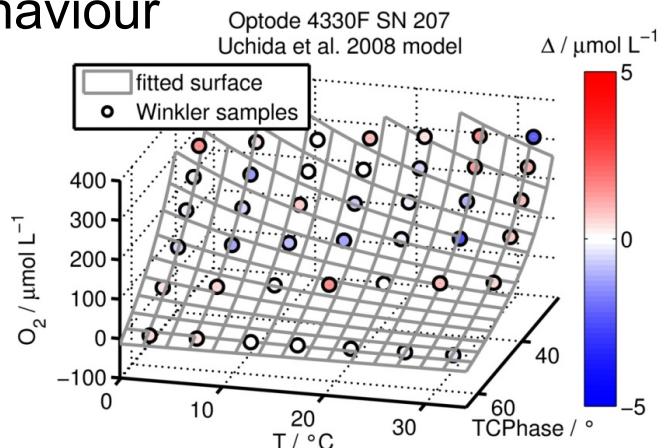
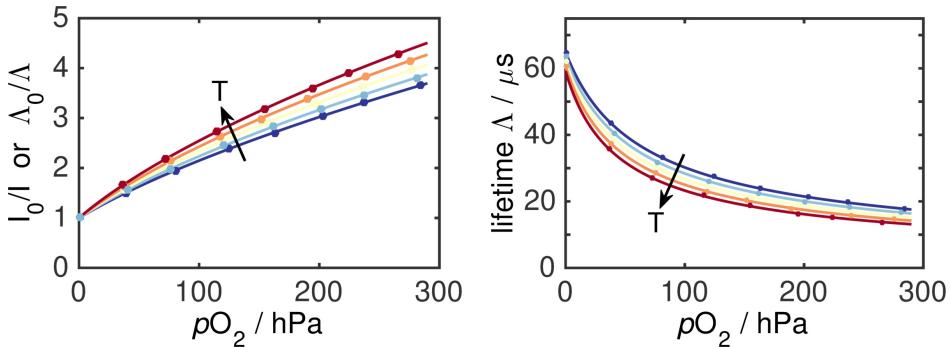
# Sensor Principle

- Dynamic luminescence quenching →  $c(O_2)^M$  inside sensing foil
- Immersed inside sensing foil → Equilibrium between sensing foil & seawater: equal  $pO_2$ !
- Non-linear Stern-Volmer behaviour **O<sub>2</sub> optodes are pO<sub>2</sub> sensitive**



# $\text{O}_2$ and Temperature

Non-linear Stern-Volmer (& non-linear  $\text{O}_2$ ) behaviour



Number of (parametric) functional models  $\text{O}_2 = F(T, \Phi)$

e.g., AADI polynomial, Uchida et al. 2008, Uchida et al. 2010, Sea-Bird ~2013, McNeil and D'Asaro 2014, Bittig et al. subm., ...

## Salinity

No salinity influence: Salinity-impermeable sensing foil.

“Salinity correction” comes only from  $p\text{O}_2 \rightleftharpoons c(\text{O}_2)$  conversions:

$c(\text{O}_2)$             $p\text{O}_2$            “freshwater  $c(\text{O}_2)$ ”

$$c_{\text{O}_2, \text{adj}}|_S = \frac{1013.25 \text{ hPa} - p\text{H}_2\text{O}(\vartheta, S=0)}{1013.25 \text{ hPa} - p\text{H}_2\text{O}(\vartheta, S)} \cdot S_{\text{Corr}} \cdot c_{\text{O}_2, \text{adj}}|_{S=0}$$

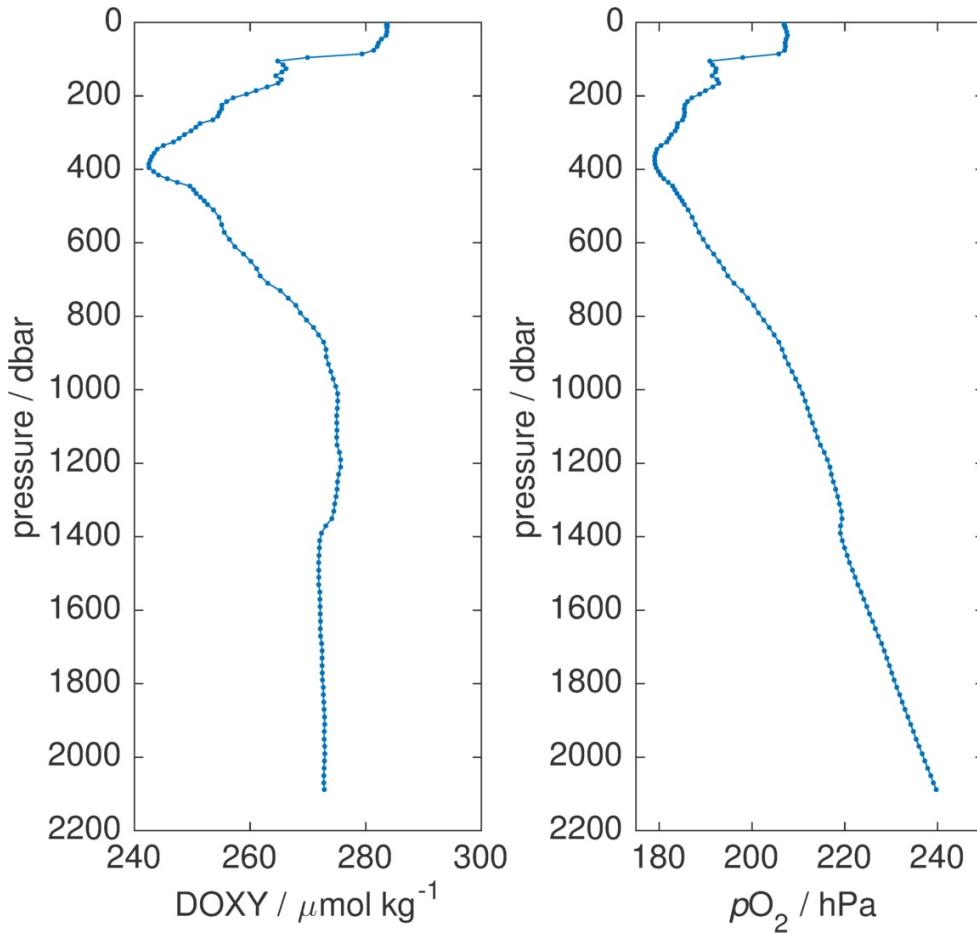
# O<sub>2</sub> conversions?

SCOR WG 142: Recommendations on O<sub>2</sub> quantity conversions  
(incl. Matlab functions)  google or DOI:10.13155/45915

```
1 function p02=o2cto02p(O2conc,T,S,P)
2 %function p02=o2cto02p(O2conc,temp,sal,pres)
3 %
4 % convert molar oxygen concentration to oxygen partial pressure
5 %
6 % inputs:
7 %   O2conc - oxygen concentration in umol L-1
8 %   T      - temperature in °C
9 %   S      - salinity (PSS-78)
10 %    P     - hydrostatic pressure in dbar (default: 0 dbar)
11 %
12 % output:
13 %    p02   - oxygen partial pressure in mbar
14 %
15 % according to recommendations by SCOR WG 142 "Quality Control Procedures
16 % for Oxygen and Other Biogeochemical Sensors on Floats and Gliders"
17 %
18 % Henry Bittig
19 % Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche-sur-Mer, France
20 % bittig@obs-vlfr.fr
21 % 28.10.2015
22 %
23 % set input default
24 if nargin<4, P = 0; end
25
26 x02 = 0.20946; % mole fraction of O2 in dry air (Glueckauf 1951)
27 pH20sat = 1013.25.*exp(24.4543-(67.4509*(100./(T+273.15)))-(4.8489*log(((273.15+T)./100))-0.000544.*S)); % saturated water vapor in mbar
28 sca_T = log((298.15-T)./(273.15+T)); % scaled temperature for use in TCorr and SCorr
29 TCorr = 44.6596.*exp(2.00907+3.22014.*sca_T+4.05010.*sca_T.^2+4.94457.*sca_T.^3-2.56847e-1.*sca_T.^4+3.88767.*sca_T.^5); % temperature
... correction part from Garcia and Gordon (1992), Benson and Krause (1984) refit mL(STP) L-1; and conversion from mL(STP) L-1 to umol L-1
30 Scorr = exp(S.*(-6.24523e-3-7.37614e-3.*sca_T-1.03410e-3.*sca_T.^2-8.17083e-3.*sca_T.^3)-4.88682e-7.*S.^2); % salinity correction part
... from Garcia and Gordon (1992), Benson and Krause (1984) refit ml(STP) L-1
31 Vm = 0.317; % molar volume of O2 in m3 mol-1 Pa dbar-1 (Enns et al. 1965)
32 R = 8.314; % universal gas constant in J mol-1 K-1
33
34 p02=O2conc.*((x02.*1013.25-pH20sat))./(TCorr.*Scorr).*exp(Vm.*P./(R.*(T+273.15)));
```

# O<sub>2</sub> conversions?

SCOR WG 142: Recommendations on O<sub>2</sub> quantity conversions  
(incl. Matlab functions)  google or DOI:10.13155/45915

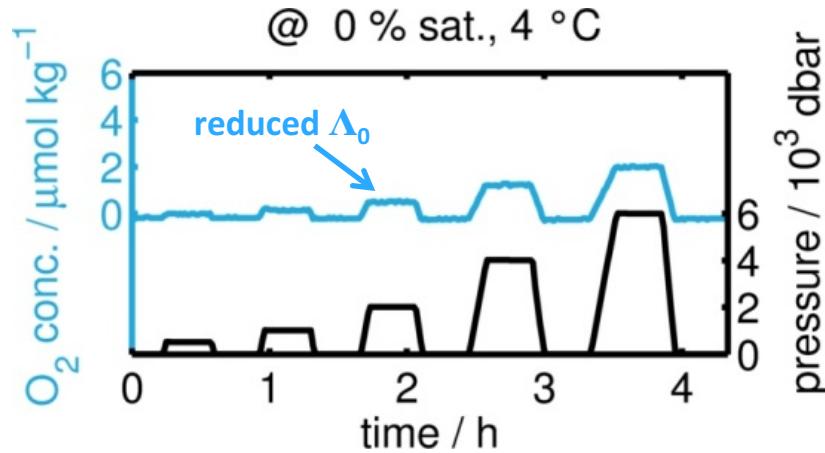


O<sub>2</sub> solubility changes  
with hydrostatic pressure:  
 $pO_2 \sim +14\% \text{ per 1000 dbar}$

# Hydrostatic pressure

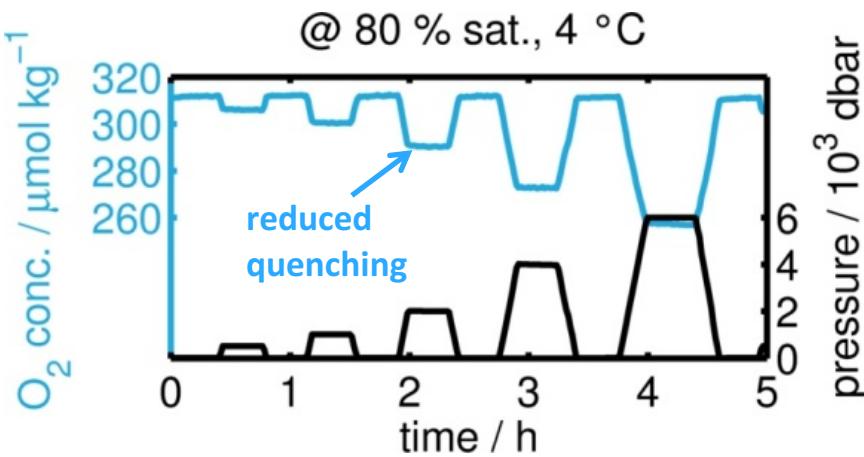
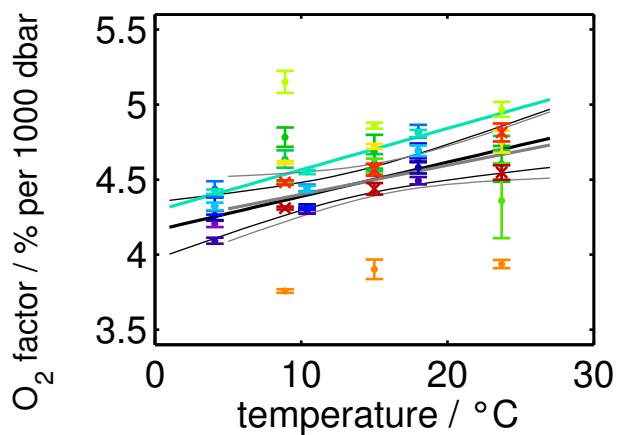
## (1) Effect on luminophore:

- always there, even at 0 % O<sub>2</sub>
- O<sub>2</sub>- and T-independent
- Offset on phase shift
- Different for SBE63 & AADI



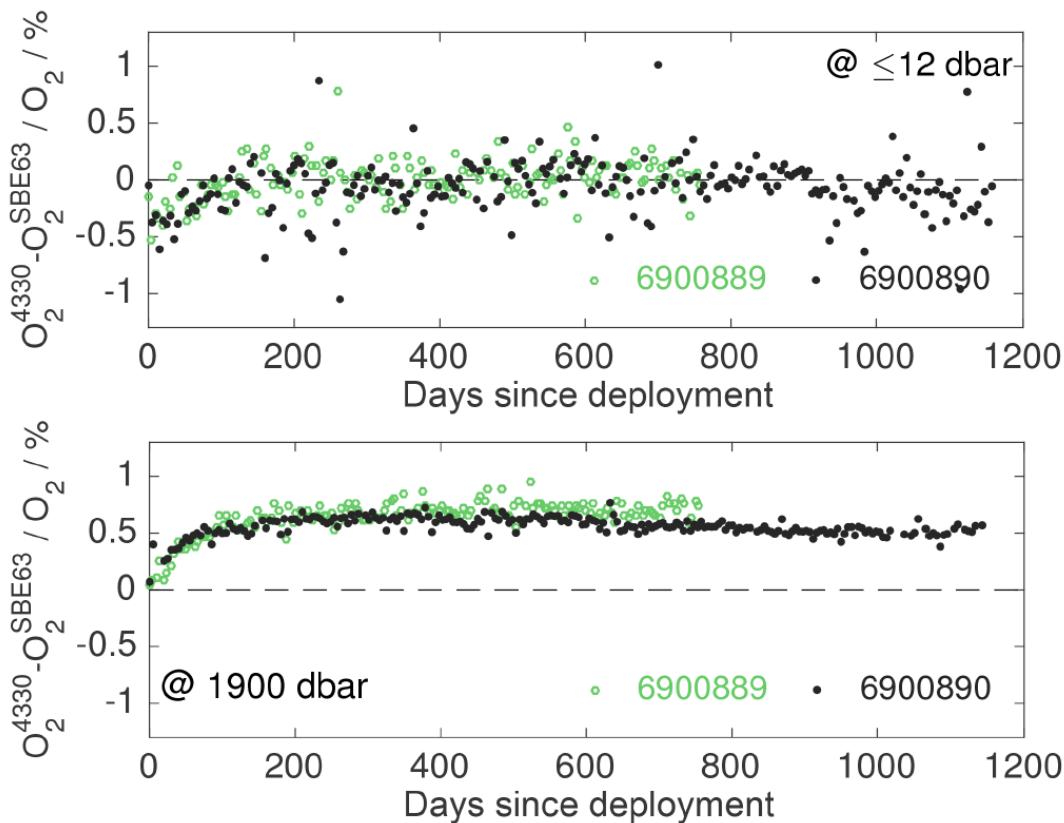
## (2) Effect on O<sub>2</sub> luminescence quenching:

- O<sub>2</sub>- and T-dependent
- Same for SBE63 & AADI
- ~4.3 % ( $\pm 0.3 \%$ ) per 1000 dbar



# Hydrostatic pressure: Last minute addition

2 Floats with 2 O<sub>2</sub> optodes: Difference between both optodes



Pressure conditioning effect  
during first ~40 cycles?

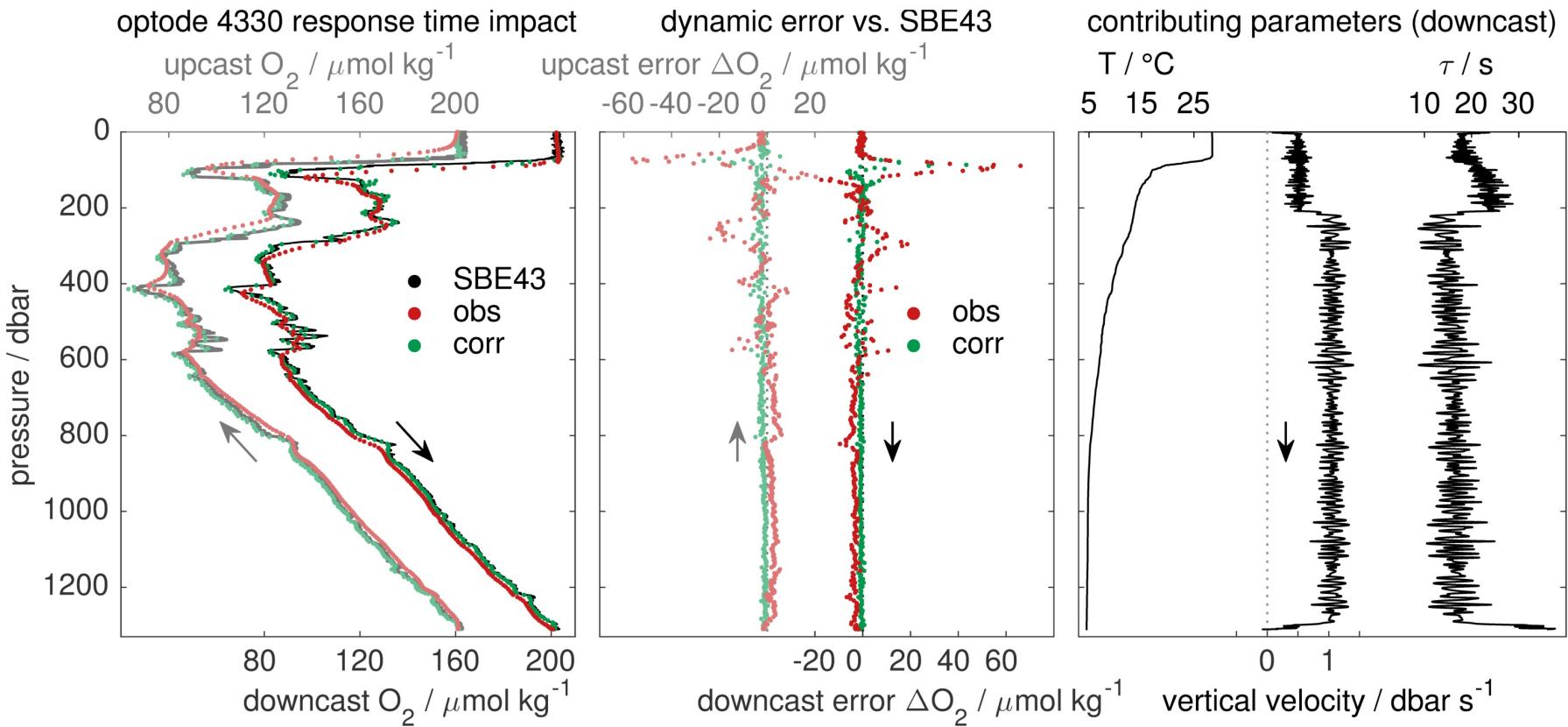
**Figure 6.** Percent difference between O<sub>2</sub> from the Aanderaa 4330 optode and the SBE63 optode using time response corrected data (top) near the surface and (bottom) at depth for floats 6900889 (green) and 6900890 (black). There seems to be a conditioning effect on either one or both optodes during the first half-year /  $\approx 40$  profiles, after which differences between optodes are stable.

# Time #1: Sensor time response

O<sub>2</sub> molecules need time to diffuse in/out of sensing foil. Causes “lag” and “smearing”. Reasonably-well understood 🧐 Corrections possible.

Time response is faster:

- at higher T (diffusivity & solubility T-dependence)
- with faster flow in front of foil (liquid boundary layer)

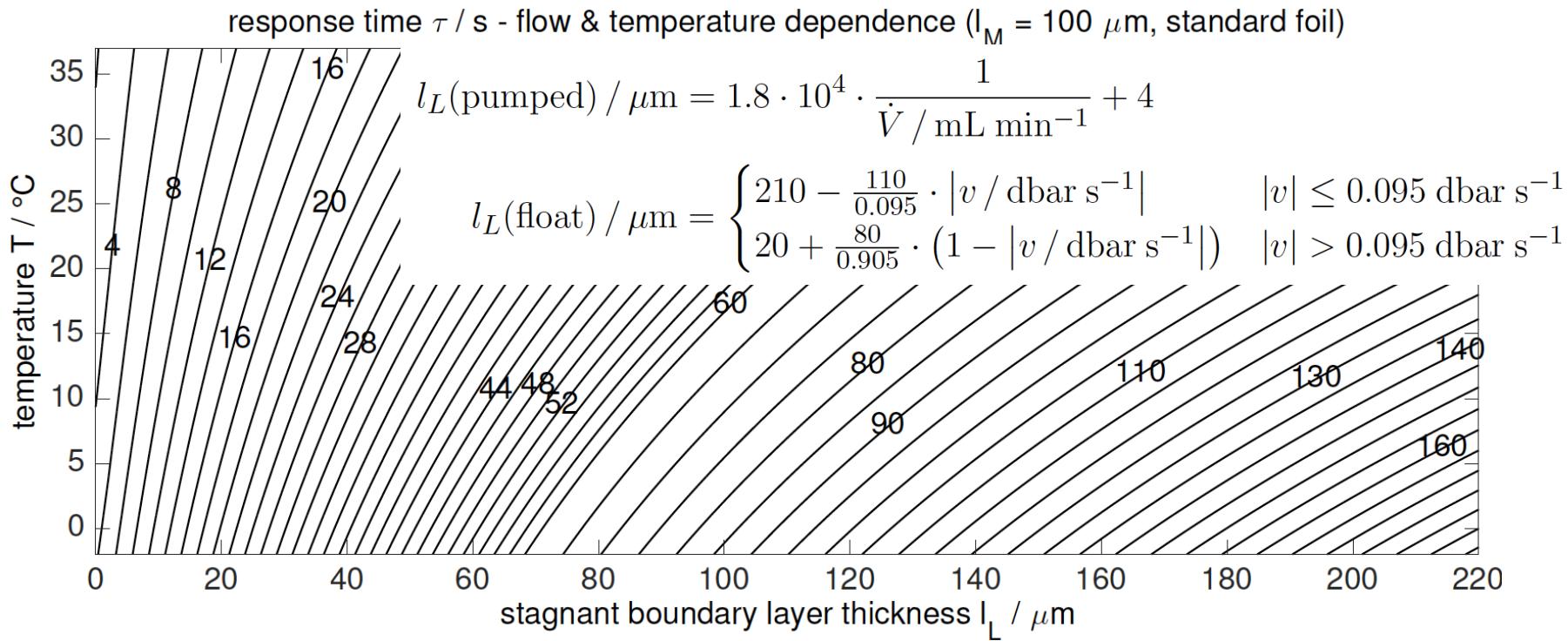


# Time #1: Sensor time response

O<sub>2</sub> molecules need time to diffuse in/out of sensing foil. Causes “lag” and “smearing”. Reasonably-well understood 🧐 Corrections possible.

Time response is faster:

- at higher T (diffusivity & solubility T-dependence)
- with faster flow in front of foil (liquid boundary layer)

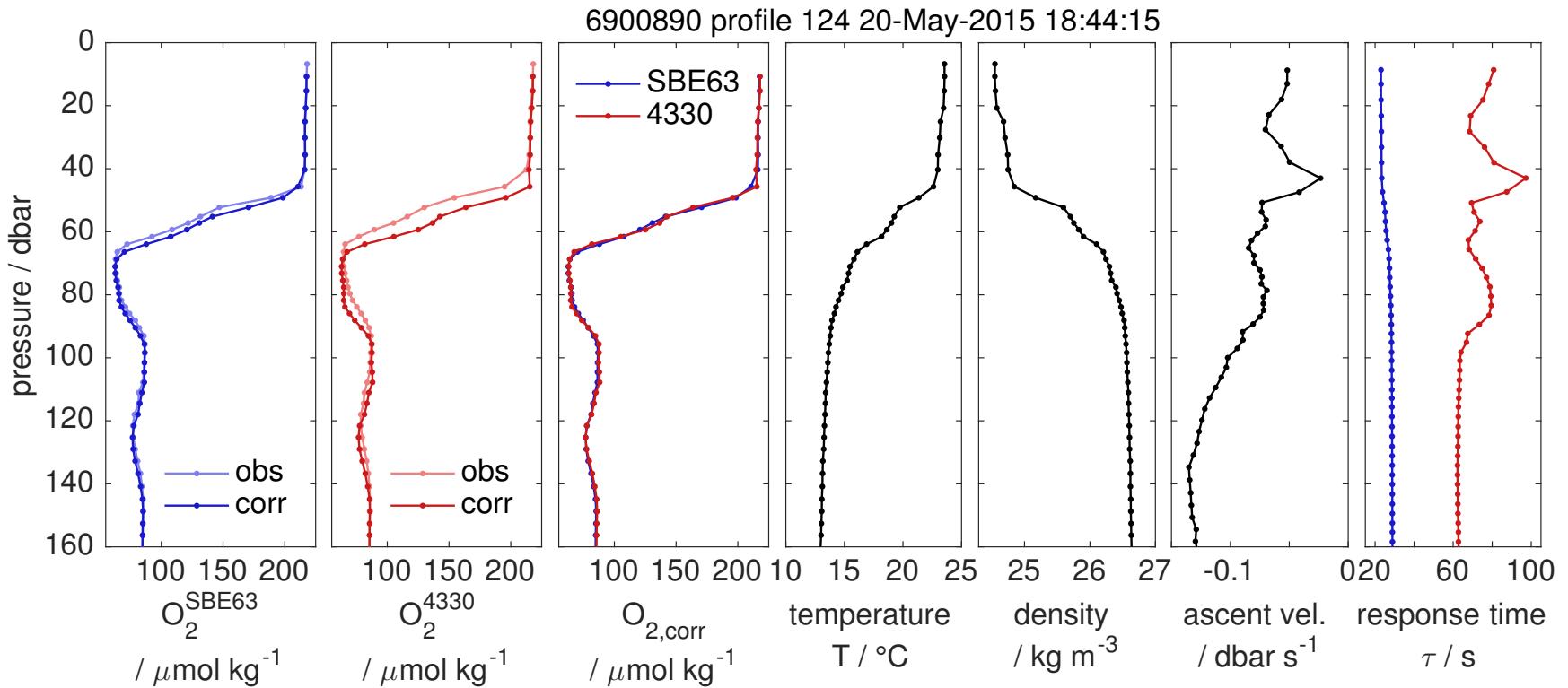


# Time #1: Sensor time response

O<sub>2</sub> molecules need time to diffuse in/out of sensing foil. Causes “lag” and “smearing”. Reasonably-well understood 🧐 Corrections possible.

Time response is faster:

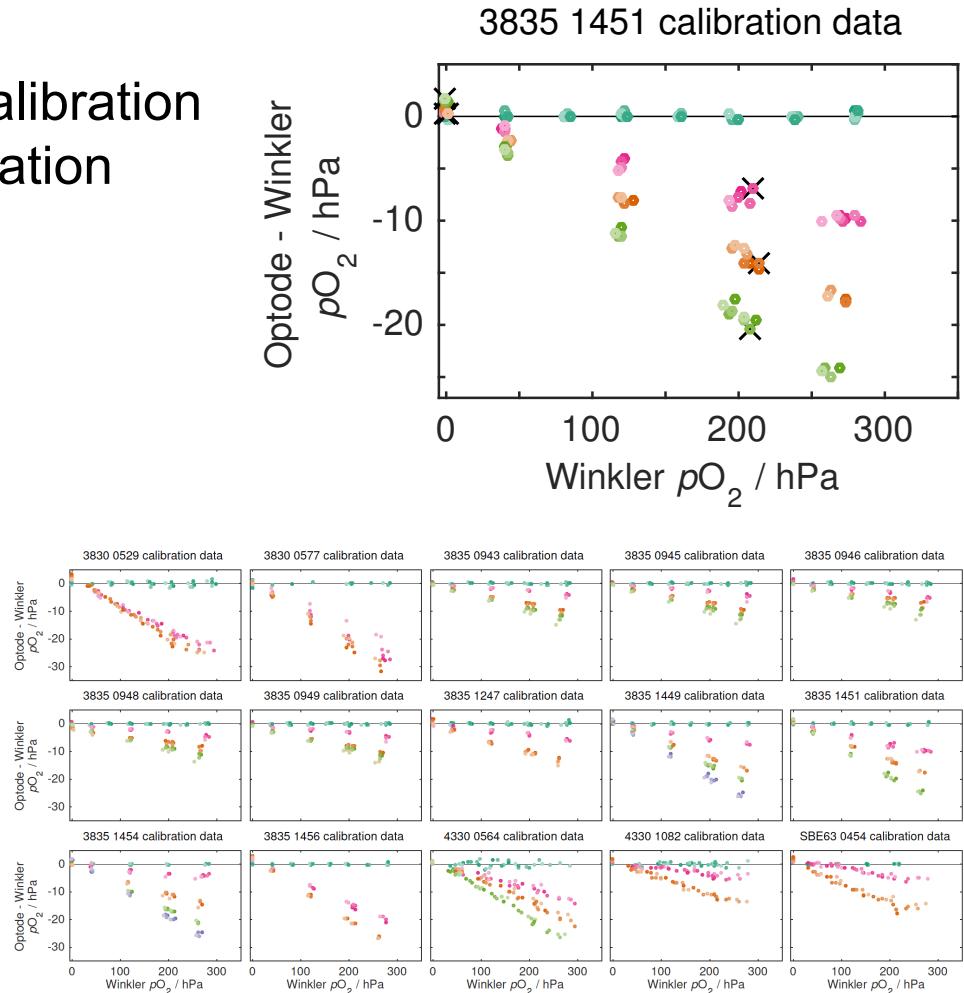
- at higher T (diffusivity & solubility T-dependence)
- with faster flow in front of foil (liquid boundary layer)



# Time #2: Optode drift behaviour

## (1) “Storage” drift: Character

- Considerable drift between calibration and later deployment/recalibration
- Order ~5 % per year
- O<sub>2</sub> sensitivity loss
- Linear with O<sub>2</sub>
- (Small zero-O<sub>2</sub> intercept)
- > Correct with factor on O<sub>2</sub> (!)
- > preferably on  $pO_2$   
(because of sensing principle)



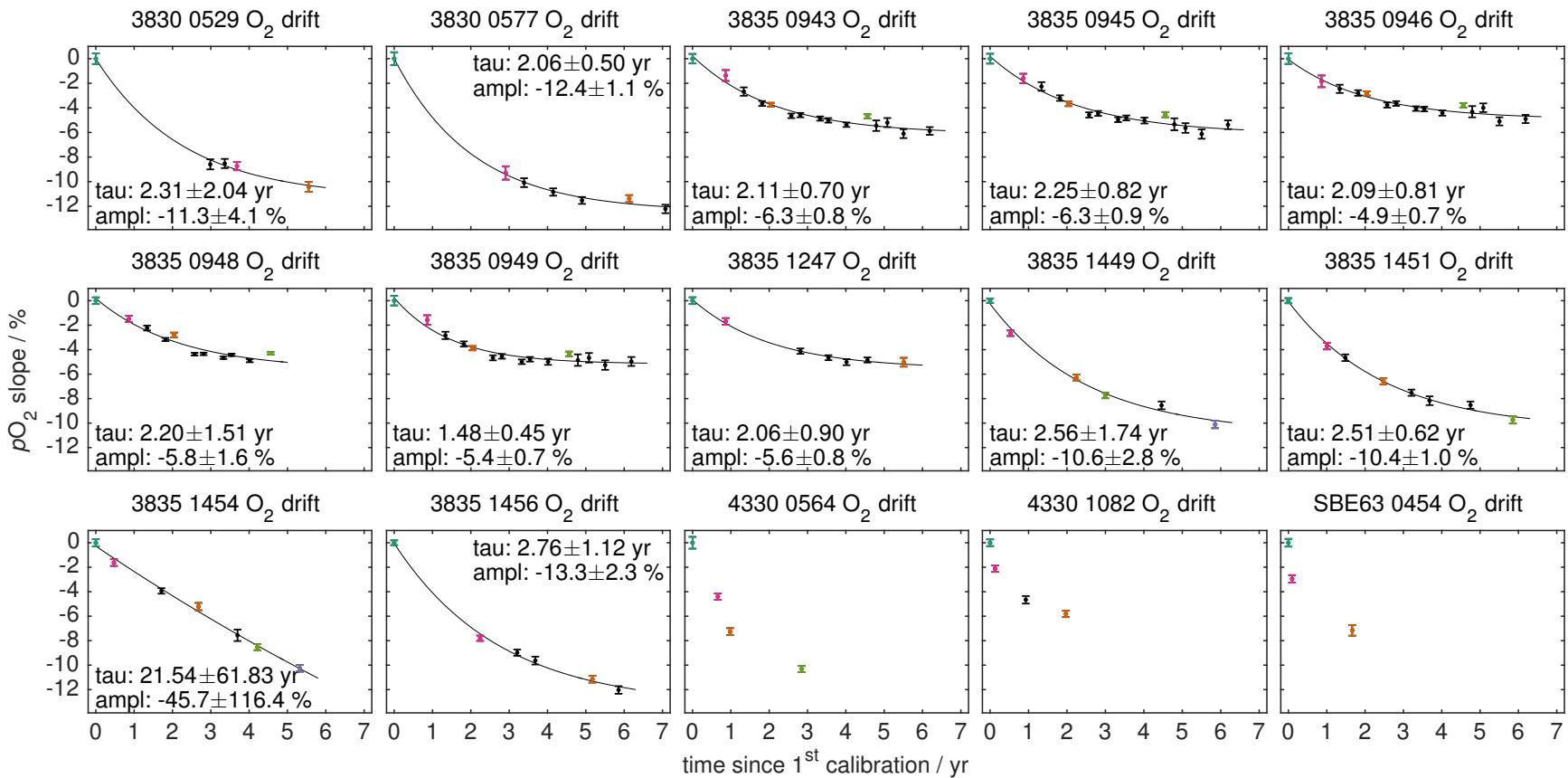
# Time #2: Optode drift behaviour

## (1) “Storage” drift: Time evolution

Old foils drift less than new foils. 🎭 Unless damaged, don't change foils.

d'Asaro and McNeil (2013): ~2 years exponential time constant

Bittig et al. (subm.):  $2.2 \pm 0.6$  years



# In-air calibration

Thanks to simple “storage” drift character!

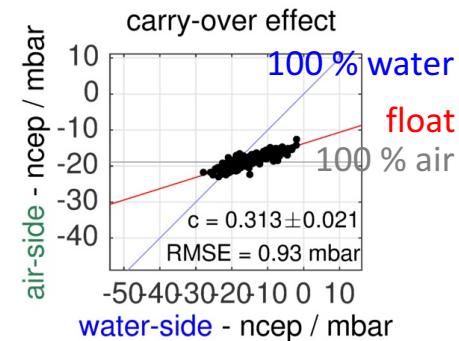
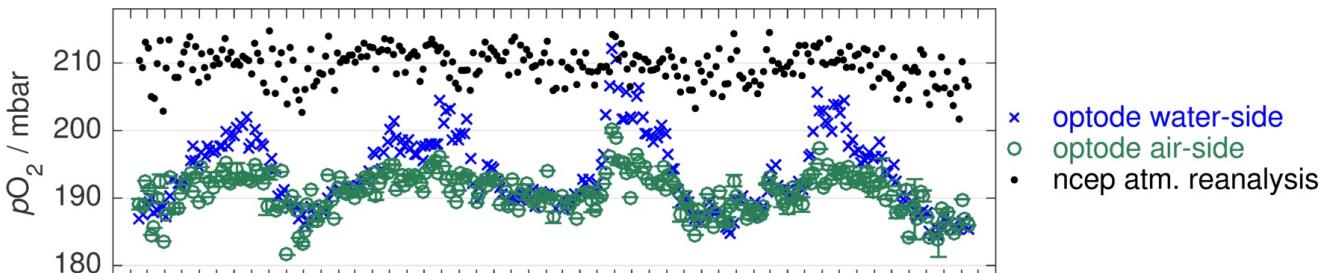
> 1-point correction of O<sub>2</sub> sensitivity loss @ ~205 mbar pO<sub>2</sub>

(1) Johnson et al. (2015): mean ratio  $pO_{2,\text{optode in-air}} / pO_{2,\text{reference in-air}}$  > simple

(2) Bittig and Körtzinger (2015): linear regression (*i.e.*, >20 surfacings?) > robust

$\Delta pO_{2,\text{surface in-air}}$  vs.  $\Delta pO_{2,\text{surface in-water}}$  to remove ‘carry-over’ bias

‘Carry-over’ bias can be negligible or present.



5903714 / Johnson

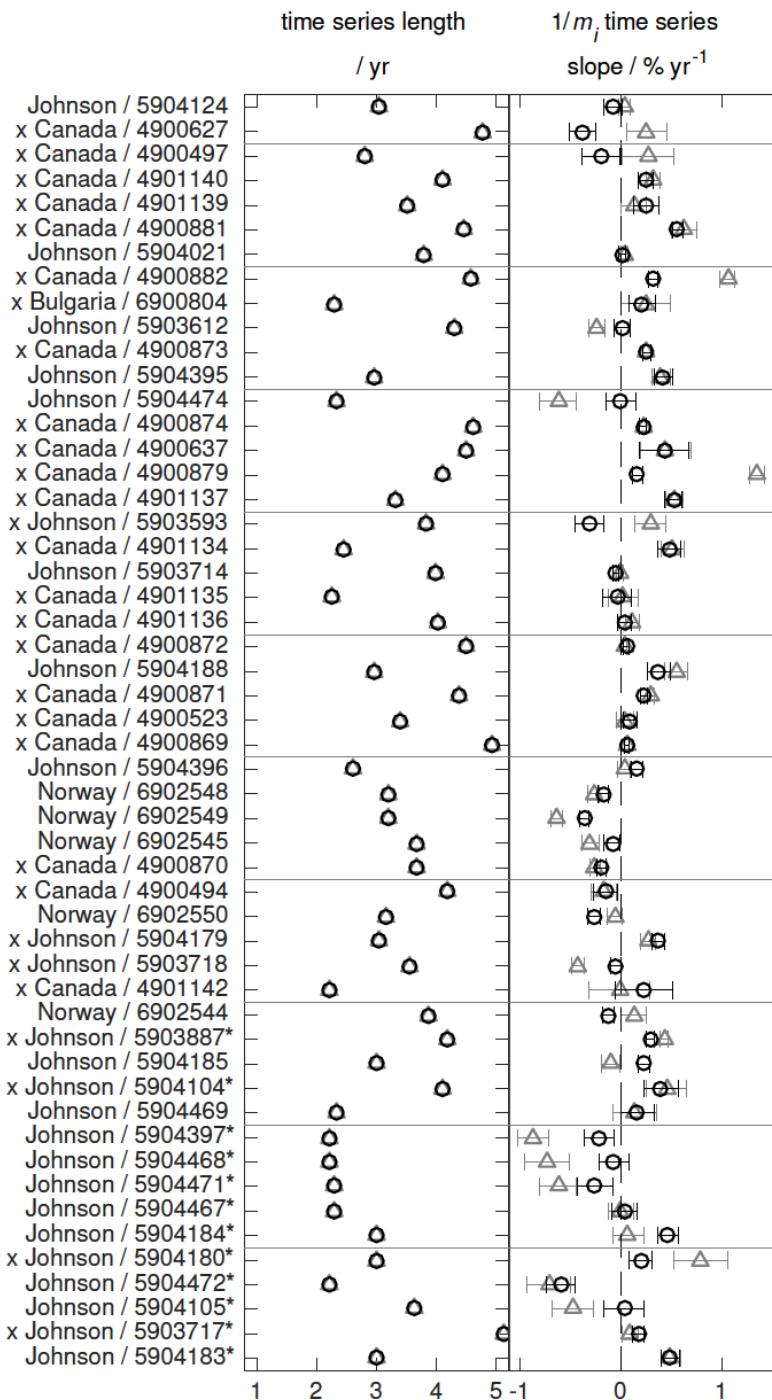
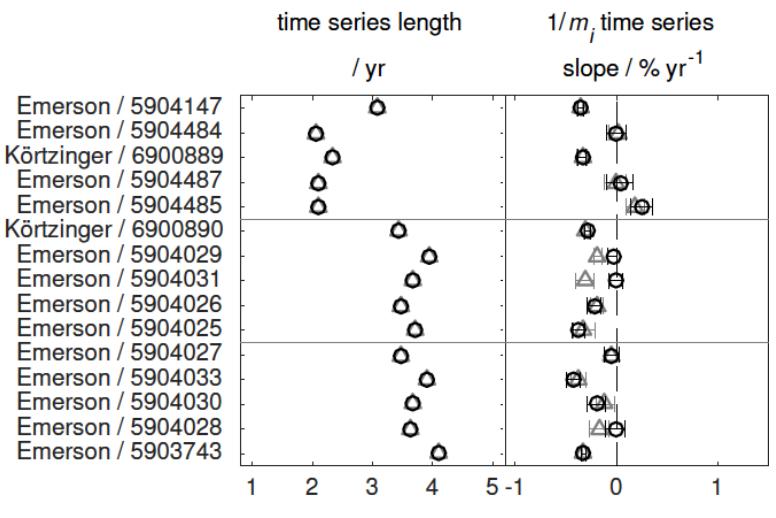


J M S J M S J M S J  
| 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |

# Time #2: Optode drift belt

## (2) In-situ drift: Float in-air references

- Order magnitude smaller than “storage” drift
- 15 floats with multi-point > 2 yr & 52 floats with foil batch cal. > 2 yr
- Mixed results: individual optodes can drift significantly (i.e., needing corrections), but average  $\pm 0$



# Accuracy estimates for O<sub>2</sub> adjustments

>150 multi-point (re-)calibrations

- How good are foil batch calibrations?
- How good are multi-point calibrations?
- What is a good way to adjust calibrations?
- What accuracy is realistic for which option?

Adjustment: What's due to (good/bad) calibration, what's drift?

(a) Multi-point calibrations

- O<sub>2</sub> response drift of sensing foil between multi-point and re-calibration

(b) Foil batch calibrations

- Variability within the sensing foil batch
- O<sub>2</sub> response drift of sensing foil between multi-point and re-calibration
- Differences between the reference and sensor phase measurements

# Accuracy estimates: Method

- 3 approaches (= data density):
  - i: 2-points at 0 % O<sub>2</sub> sat. (20 °C) & 100 % O<sub>2</sub> sat. (10 °C) (=AADI)
  - ii: 2x4 points at 0 % & 100 % O<sub>2</sub> sat. (4 – 36 °C)
  - iii: full re-calibration data
- Refit equations (= How?):  
2 degrees of freedom equations; all combinations of slope and/or offset on T, phase and/or O<sub>2</sub>
- Assessed by 90-th percentiles of |ΔpO<sub>2</sub>|

# Accuracy estimates: Multi-point adjustments

Model	$N_{Opt}$	$N_{Cal}$	90-th percentile of refit $ \Delta pO_2 $ -90-th percentiles / hPa				
			2 degrees of freedom refits				
			a	b	c	d	e
3830	14	121	4.7/2.5/1.9	2.0/1.7/1.1	1.6/1.3/1.0	1.4/1.3/1.0	2.6/1.9/1.5
4330	11	26	4.8/2.1/1.7	1.8/1.9/1.7	1.9/1.9/1.8	2.1/2.0/1.8	2.7/1.8/1.7
4330F	2	5	1.3/1.2/0.6	1.1/0.9/0.7	1.2/0.9/0.7	1.1/0.9/0.6	1.2/1.0/0.6
SBE63	4	12	2.9/2.2/1.5	3.5/2.3/1.4	1.2/1.3/0.9	1.1/1.2/0.9	1.9/2.0/1.5
all	31	164	4.6/2.4/1.8	2.1/1.9/1.5	1.7/1.5/1.3	1.7/1.5/1.3	2.6/1.9/1.7

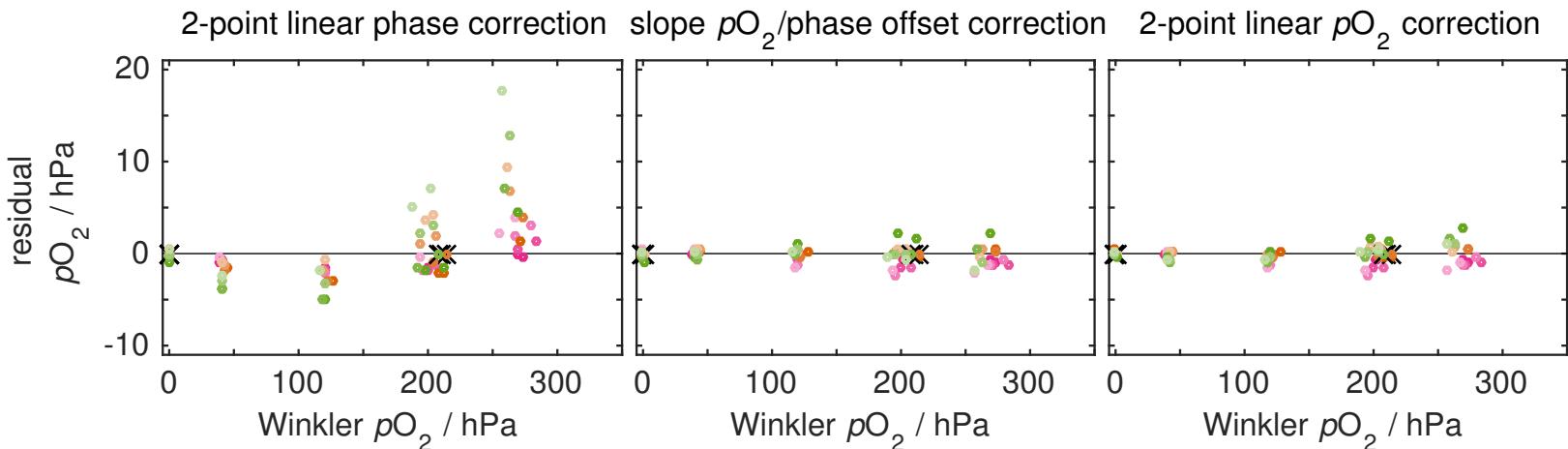
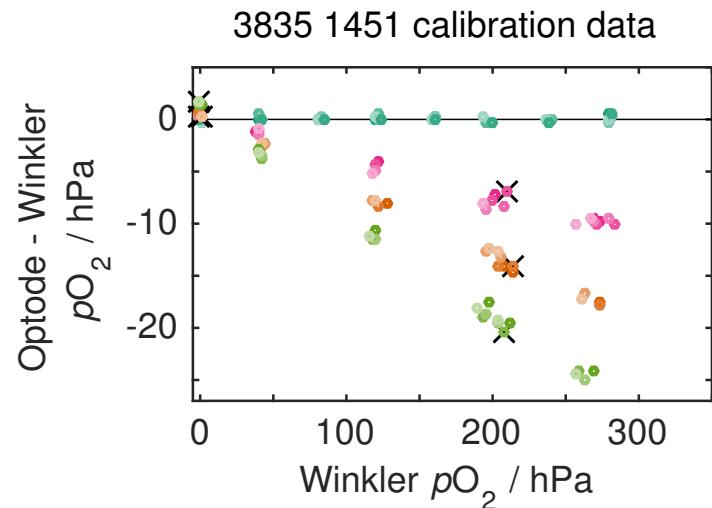
refit equations: (a)  $\mathcal{F}_{batch}(\vartheta, c_1 \cdot \varphi + c_2)$  (b)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{batch}(\vartheta, \varphi + c_2)$  (c)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{batch}(\vartheta, c_2 \cdot \varphi)$   
(d)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{batch}(\vartheta, \varphi) + c_2$  (e)  $\mathcal{F}_{batch}(\vartheta, \varphi + c_1) + c_2$

- Adjustment approaches: i / ii / iii
  - i: 2-points at 0 % O<sub>2</sub> sat. (20 °C) & 100 % O<sub>2</sub> sat. (10 °C) (=AADI)
  - ii: 2x4 points at 0 % & 100 % O<sub>2</sub> sat. (4 – 36 °C)
  - iii: full re-calibration data
- Most-suitable refit equations: (b) – (d)  slope on O<sub>2</sub>

# Time #2: Optode drift behaviour

## (1) “Storage” drift: Character

- Considerable drift between calibration and later deployment/recalibration
- Order  $\sim 5\%$  per year
- $O_2$  sensitivity loss
- Linear with  $O_2$
- (Small zero- $O_2$  intercept)
- Correct with factor on  $O_2$  (!)
- preferably on  $pO_2$   
(because of sensing principle)



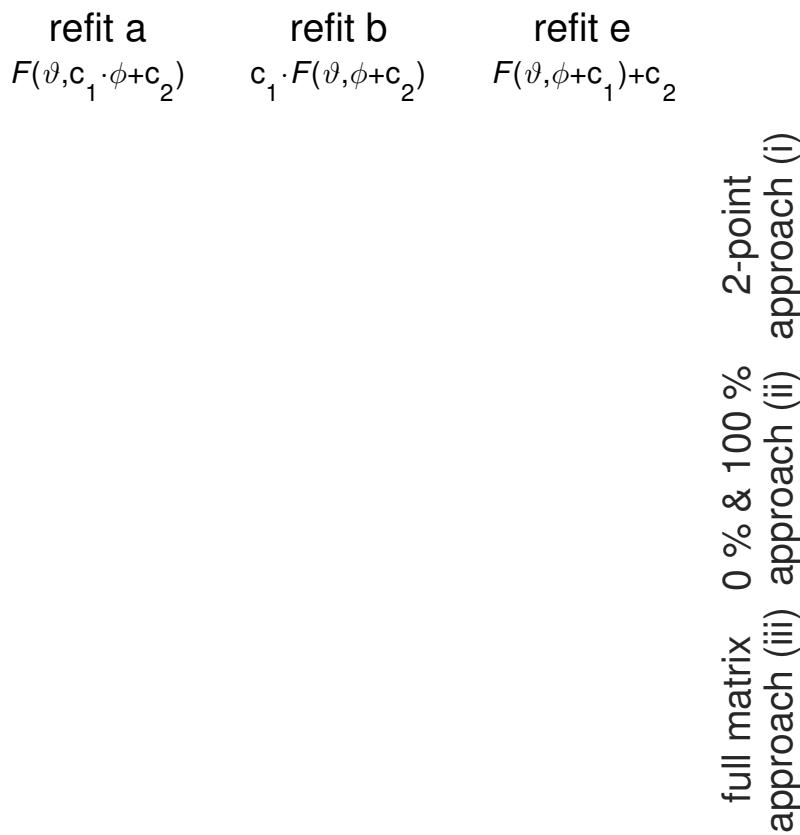
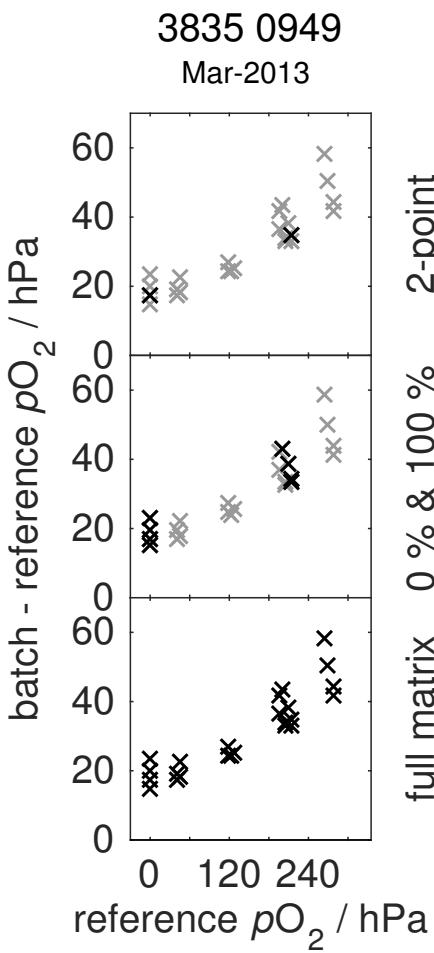
# Accuracy estimates: Foil batch adjustments

Model	FoilID	N <sub>Opt</sub>	N <sub>Cal</sub>	2 degrees of freedom refits		
				a	b	e
3830	1707	5	11	12.9/5.2/4.5	9.8/7.3/6.7	5.2/4.8/4.6
	2408	1	7	15.9/6.2/6.0	7.4/7.8/6.8	5.0/3.3/2.9
	4807	15	83	20.5/9.0/7.9	8.2/7.8/6.3	6.8/4.1/4.2
	5009	4	27	15.0/6.9/6.3	9.1/8.5/8.3	3.5/3.7/2.9
		all	25	128	20.5/8.9/7.8	9.1/8.3/7.7
4330	1023E	21	28	7.0/7.1/3.9	6.1/4.0/4.1	5.6/5.5/3.7
	1206E	11	12	5.5/6.6/4.1	6.6/4.0/4.2	6.0/5.1/4.2
	all		32	40	6.5/7.1/4.0	6.5/3.9/4.1
4330F	2808F	2	5	17.6/8.6/7.0	4.3/2.5/2.6	8.8/8.0/6.2
all		59	173	17.7/8.1/6.8	8.6/7.7/6.6	6.6/5.3/4.3

refit equations: (a)  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, c_1 \cdot \varphi + c_2)$  (b)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, \varphi + c_2)$  (c)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, c_2 \cdot \varphi)$   
(d)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, \varphi) + c_2$  (e)  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, \varphi + c_1) + c_2$

- Most-suitable refit equation: (e/b) offset on phase, offset/slope on O<sub>2</sub>
- Least-suitable refit equation: (a) offset on phase, slope on phase

# Accuracy estimates: Foil batch adjustments



# Accuracy estimates: Guidance

## $O_2-T$ -characterization

## calibration adjustment

foil batch adjustment & "storage" drift correction

## calibration proximity

immediate deployment ( $t_0$ ) vs. later use ( $t > 6$  months)

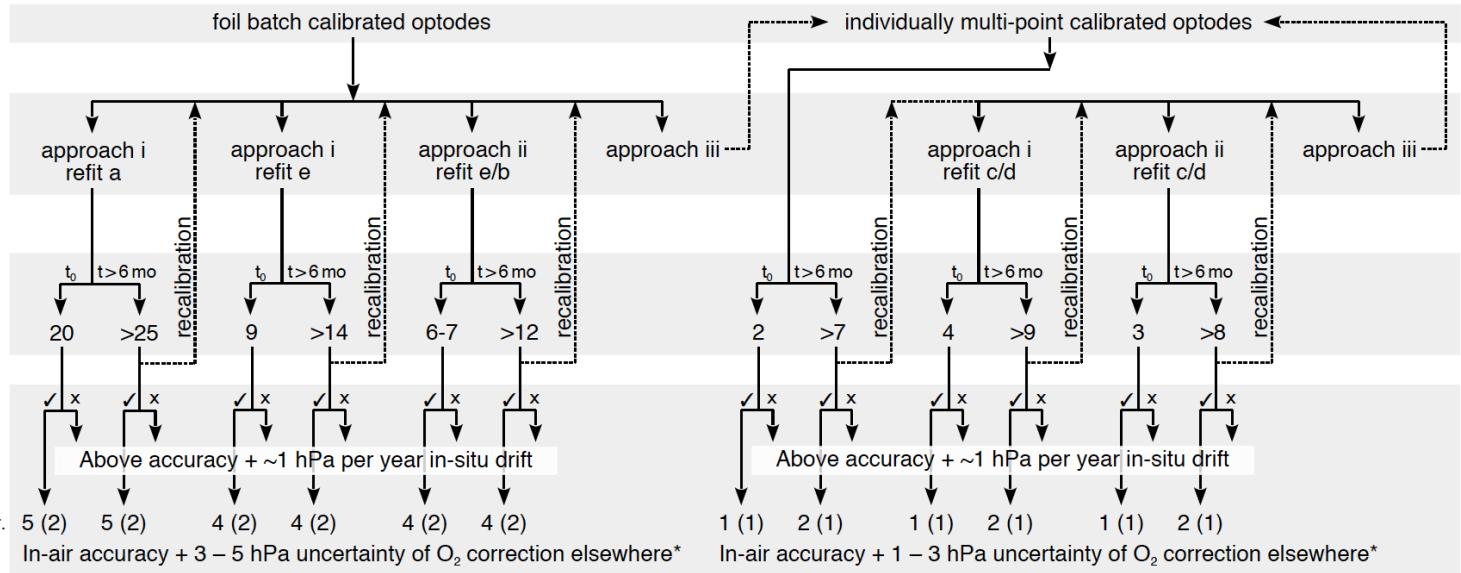
## deployment scenario\*

x without in-air obs.

✓ with in-air observations

... @100 %  $O_2$  with  $m$  ( $m \& a$ ) corr.

... elsewhere



\*  $O_2$  drift correction applies a slope  $m$  (or  $m \& a$ ) on  $pO_2$ , based on reference data only at 100 %  $O_2$ . Accuracy at other  $O_2$  levels depends on the validity of such a slope-only correction, which relies on an adequate  $O_2-T$ -characterization.

+ Accuracies valid at the hydrostatic pressure of the reference. The hydrostatic pressure corrections adds an uncertainty of ca. 0.3 % of the  $O_2$  value per 1000 dbar (from the pressure level of the reference).

adjustment approaches: (i) two-point adjustment (0 %  $O_2$ , 20 °C and 100 %  $O_2$  sat., 10 °C) (Aanderaa standard)  
(ii) 0 % and 100 %  $O_2$  sat. adjustment at 4 temperature each (between 4 – 36 °C)  
(iii) full multi-point calibration matrix in  $O_2$  and  $T$  (20 – 45 points)

refit equations: (a)  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, c_1 \cdot \varphi + c_2)$  (b)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, \varphi + c_2)$  (c)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, c_2 \cdot \varphi)$   
(d)  $c_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, \varphi) + c_2$  (e)  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{batch}}(\vartheta, \varphi + c_1) + c_2$

# Outline

## Sensor Principle

## Sensor Characterization

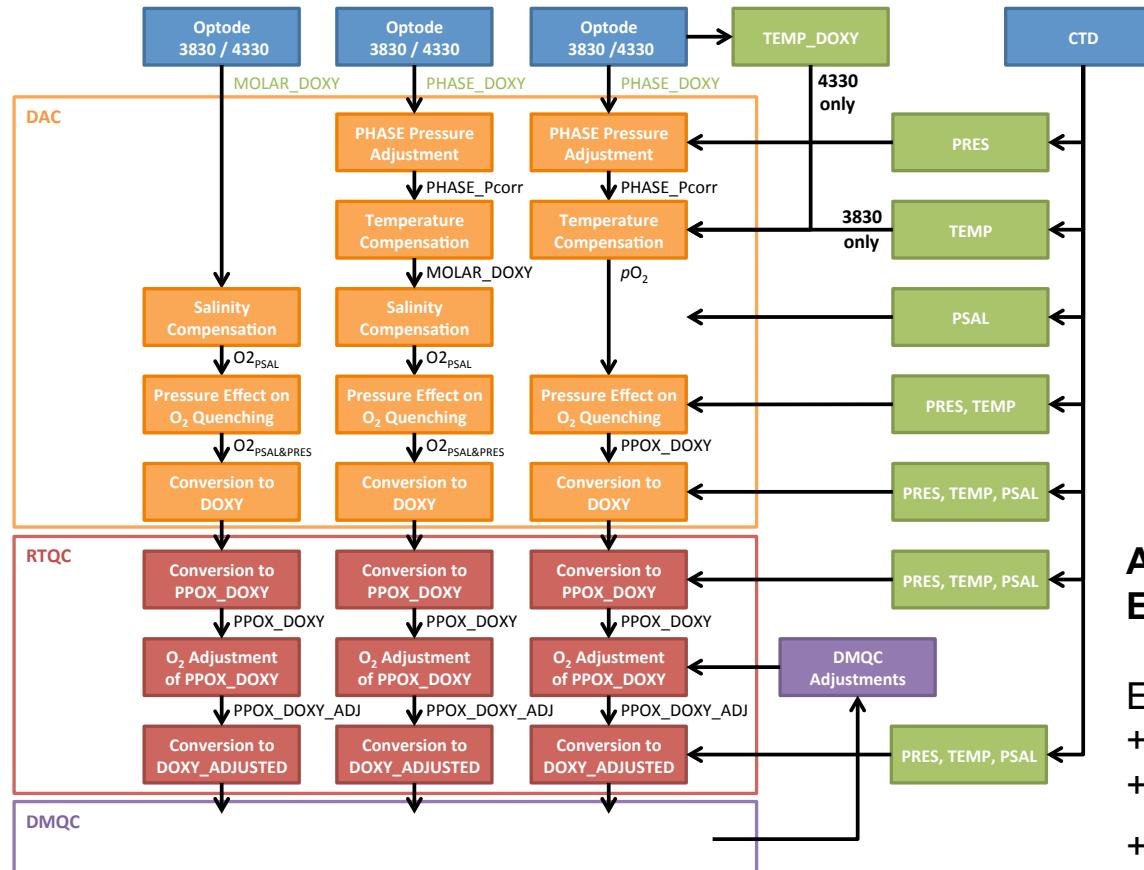
- O<sub>2</sub> and temperature
- Salinity
- Hydrostatic pressure
- Time #1: Sensor time response
- In-air calibration approaches (avg. gain, carry-over, what's water/air)
- Time #2: Optode drift behaviour (“storage” and in-situ; pO<sub>2</sub> correction)

## Accuracy estimates

- Foil batch / multi-point calibration accuracy; two-point adjustments

# Argo O<sub>2</sub> Processing / QC updates

- Update of scientific part of cookbook
- Guidance on adjustment process and adjusted error estimation to reflect adjustment uncertainty in data



**Adjustment on PPOX\_DOXY  
Error estimate on PPOX\_DOXY**

Example uncertainty w. in-air calibr.:

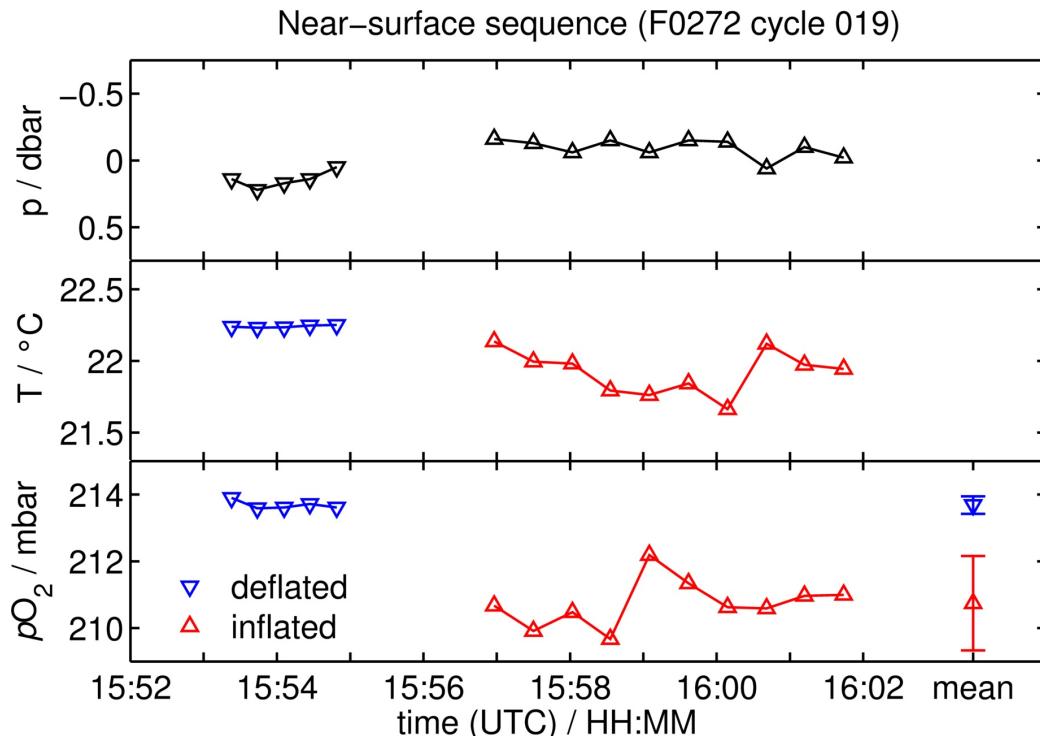
- + 95 % CI of in-air gain (@205 mbar)
- + ~2 or ~4 mbar for O<sub>2</sub>/T-calibration
- + 0.3 % per 1000 dbar for P correction

Optode 3830 Case 201\_201\_301 Cases 201\_202\_20x and 201\_203\_20x No case specified yet. Option for DMQC.

Optode 4330 Case 202\_201\_301 Cases 202\_204\_30x and 202\_205\_30x No case specified yet. Option for DMQC.

# Storage of surface data (in-water/in-air)

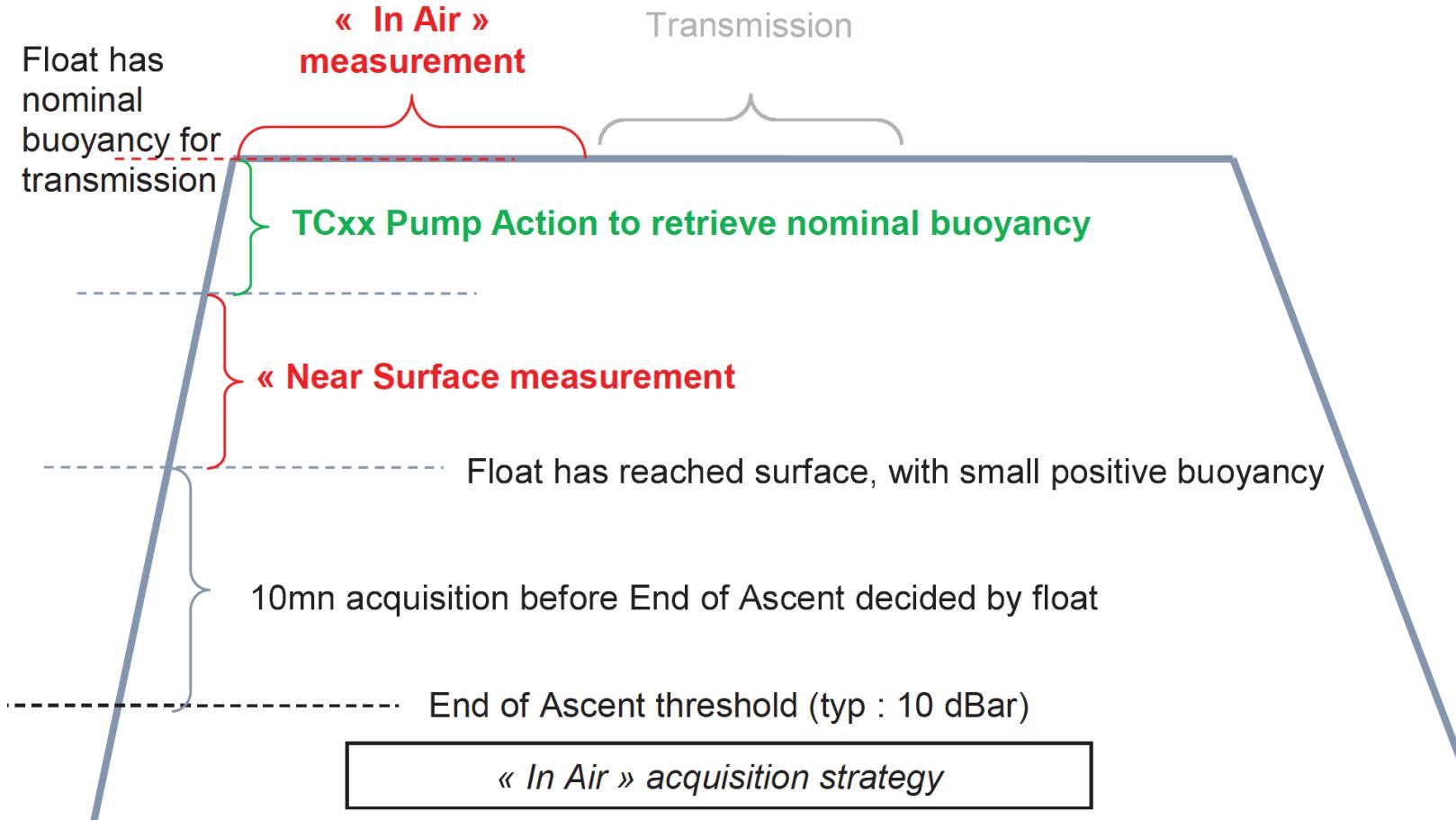
- How to know what's in-air, what's at the surface but in water and what's in water (near the surface)
- How to label it and how to store it (in the b-traj)



- 5 samples @ 20 s before air bladder inflation
- 10 samples @ 30 s after air bladder inflation
- at end of every profile

# Storage of surface data (in-water/in-air)

- How to know what's in-air, what's at the surface but in water and what's in water (near the surface)
- How to label it and how to store it (in the b-traj)



# Still open issue: ‘Hook’ at base of profile

- First profile (purple): Float outgassing?
  - Remaining profiles: Start of profile always lower than “expectation”
  - Pronounced with Provor floats
  - Cause: In-situ O<sub>2</sub> consumption at base of profile? Relation with bbp spikes when float starts to ascent? → Unknown...
- QC test necessary !

