

# **DETERMINATION OF NANO-MOLAR CONCENTRATION PHOSPHATE IN SEAWATER USING A LONG-PATH LENGTH WAVEGUIDE CAPILLARY CELL (LWCC)**

---

<sup>1,2</sup>Eun-Ju Park, <sup>1,2</sup>Dong-Jin Kang, <sup>1</sup>Sung-Rok Cho, <sup>1</sup>Tae-Keun Rho and <sup>1</sup>Eun-Soo Kim

<sup>1</sup>Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)

<sup>2</sup>University of Science & Technology(UST)

# Contents

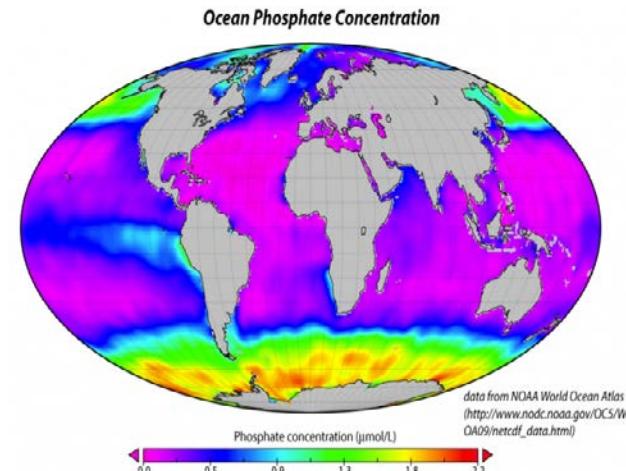
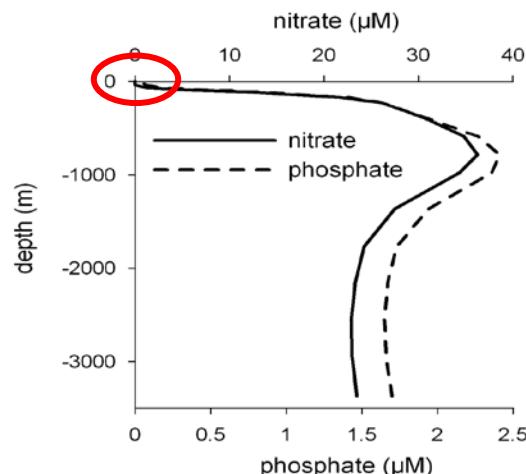
- Introduction
- Instrument Setup
  - a long-path length waveguide capillary cell (LWCC)
  - optimization and validation of analytical methods
- Applications to field study
- Summary

# INTRODUCTION

---

# Phosphate

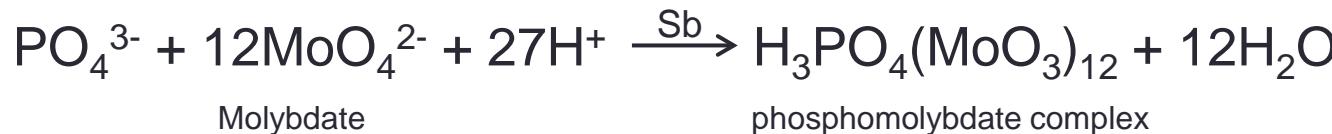
- Importance of phosphate
  - **Essential Nutrient** for phytoplankton
  - Limiting Factor in primary productivity
- Deplete phosphate in surface water



40% of world oceans - oligotrophic

# Principle of phosphate analysis

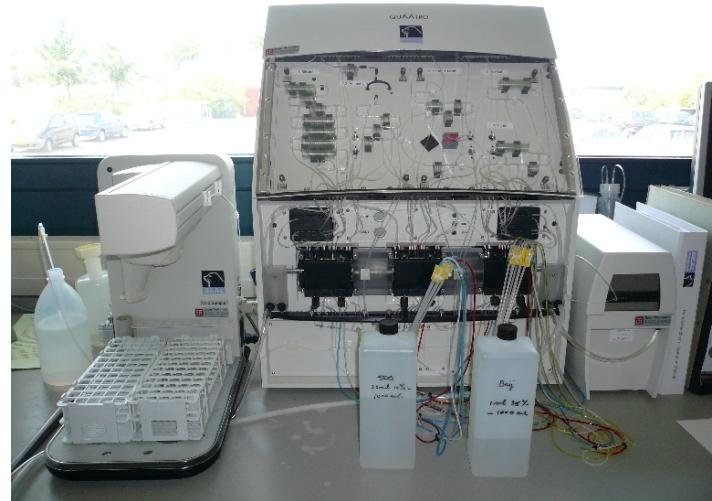
- Murphy and Riley's molybdenum blue(MB)



- Antimony Potassium Tartrate (Sb) = catalyst
  - Sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) = surfactant
  - 660 – 880 nm
  - Interference : Arsenate, **Silicate**

# Conventional instrument

- Auto analyzer(SCFA,FIA)
  - 1 - 5 cm cell , 880 nm
  - Detection limit : **0.3  $\mu$ M (300 nM)**
  - Difficult to apply underway system
- **Need an analysis system for nano-molar level phosphate and for continuous measuring system.**



# Nano-molar phosphate analysis

- By application of LWCC
  - Optical path length of the measurement cell

$$\uparrow E = -\log \%_o = \epsilon * C * L \uparrow$$

E : Absorbance  $\epsilon$ : Molar extinction C : Concentration **L : Path Length**

$$\downarrow C = \frac{E}{\epsilon L}$$

Generally 0 – 2  
constant

- Previous Studies
  - Lei et al., 1983 – 1m cell
  - Zhang et al., 2002 – 2m cell
  - Li et al., 2008 – 2m cell
- **These studies applied for discrete sample, not continuous analysis.**

# The aim of this study

- To set up **a nano-molar phosphate analysis system with a 1m-long-pathlength waveguide capillary cell(LWCC)**
- To apply to field study (in-situ continuous measurement)

# INSTRUMENT SETUP

---

# Selection of Wavelength for LWCC

- Spectrum of phosphomolybdenum blue

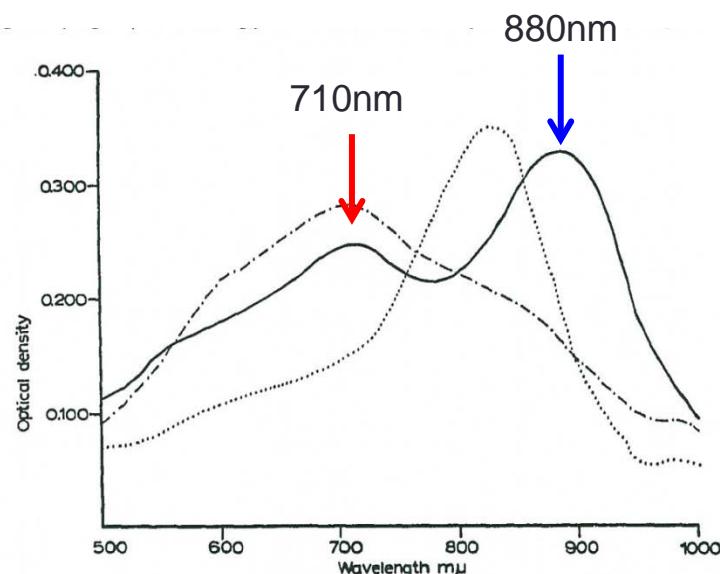
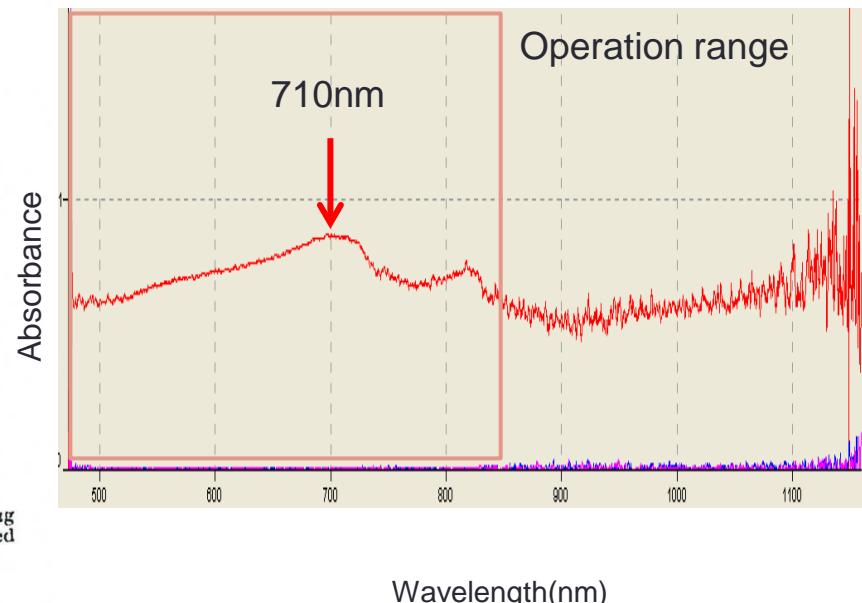


Fig. 1. Absorption curves for molybdenum blue formed with various reducing agents (3.0  $\mu$ g P as  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  in 50-ml flasks; 7.62-cm cells) —— reduced with stannous chloride; ..... reduced with ascorbic acid; —— reduced with ascorbic acid + antimony.

※ Murphy and riley (1962)

- LWCC



# Optimization of analytical procedures

1. Interferences
2. pH
3. Proton and molybdenum ratio
4. Temperature

# Interferences

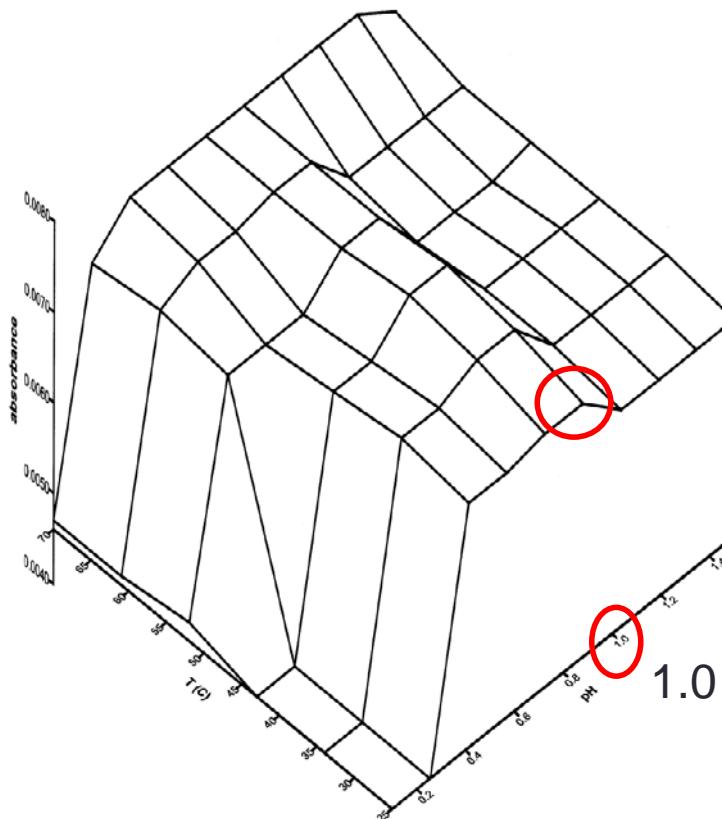
- Arsenate
  - Low concentration in seawater (~20 nM)
  - Long reaction time with molybdate (90 mins)
- Silicate
  - Phosphate Concentration interfered from 2  $\mu\text{M}$  of silicate

	70 °C	95 °C	Room Temp.
P (nM) interfered from 2 $\mu\text{M}$ SI	0.8	60.6	< 8 x 10 <sup>-5</sup>

- Long reaction time (10 mins)
- Solutions
  - Short reaction time (3 mins)
  - Room temperature (27 °C)
  - Short interval of time between the reagent injections

# Chemical conditions

- pH = 1.0



Absorbances of 1uM phosphate as a function of temperature and final solution pH

※ Zhang, Talanta (1999)

- $[H^+]/[Mo] \approx 70$

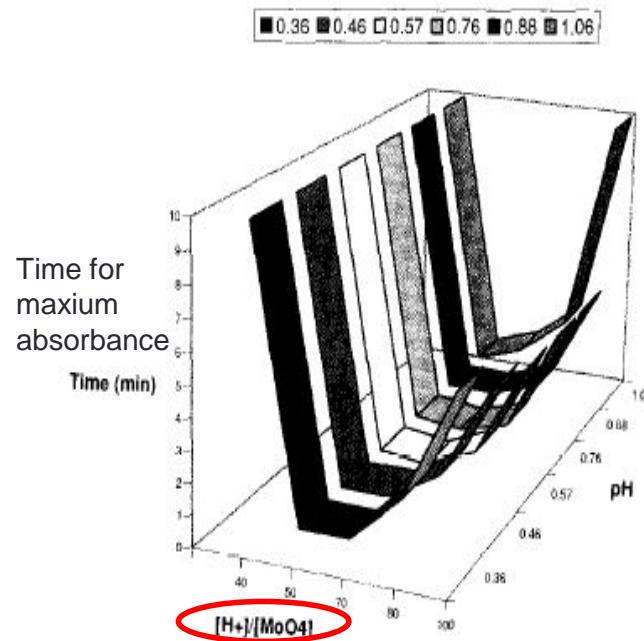


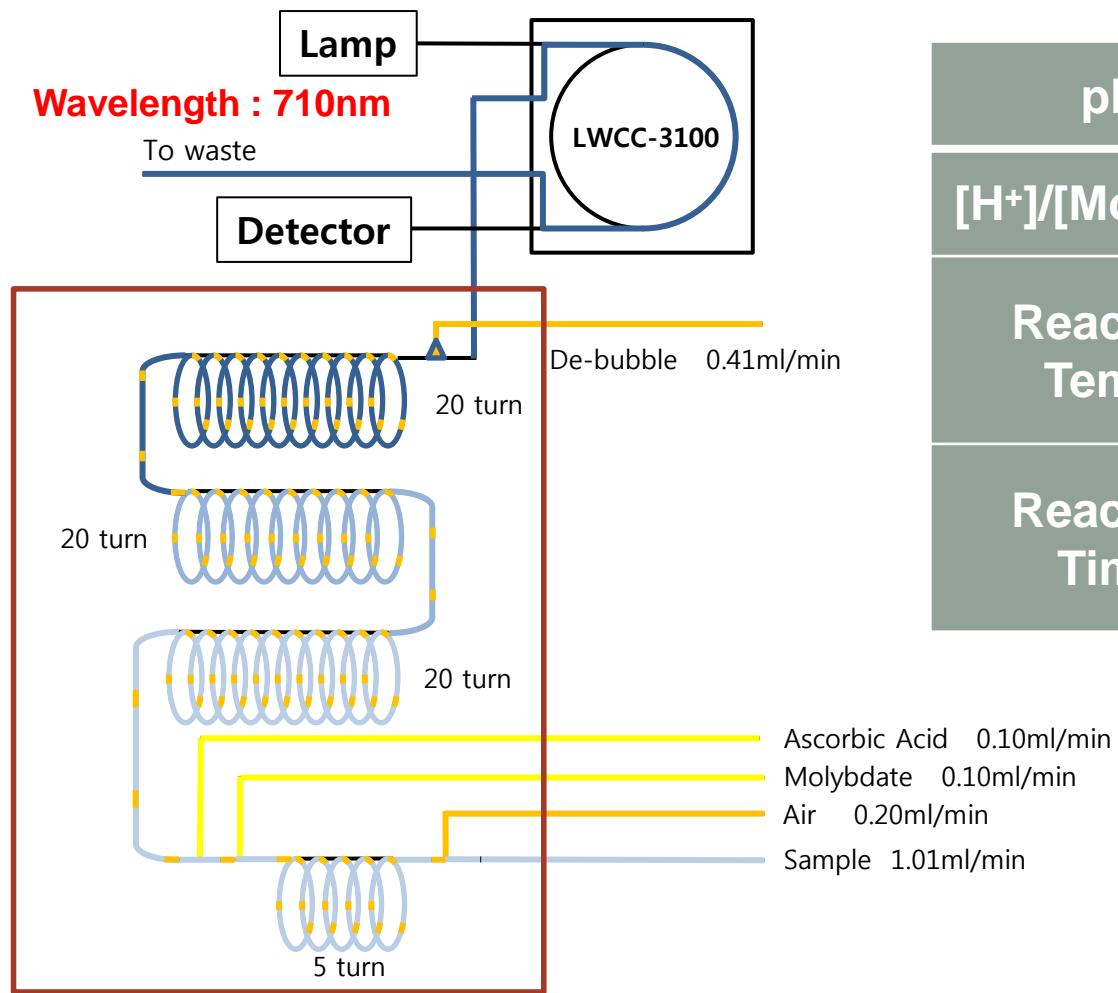
Fig. 5. Time required for development of maximum absorbance. 100  $\mu\text{g P/l}$ . Bar represents key to pH values.

50 < ratio < 80 : Short reaction time

※ L. Drummond, W. Maher, Analytical Chemica Acta (1995)

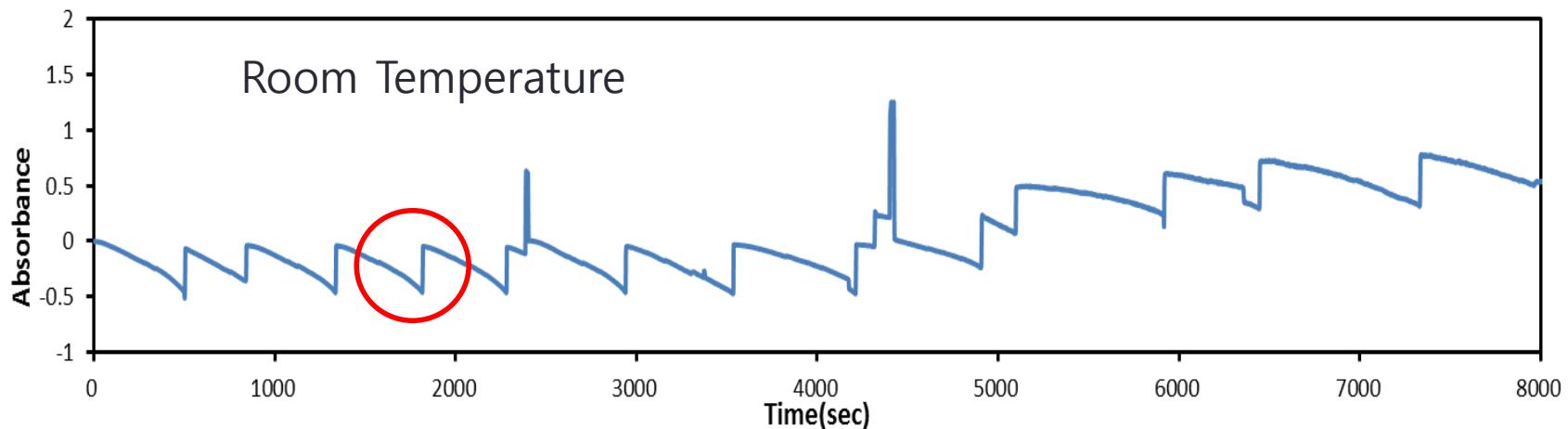
# Configuration of system

- Flow system Combined with LWCC



<b>pH</b>	0.86 ~ 0.89
<b>[H<sup>+</sup>]/[Mo] ratio</b>	≈ 70
<b>Reaction Temp.</b>	27°C
<b>Reaction Time</b>	3 min

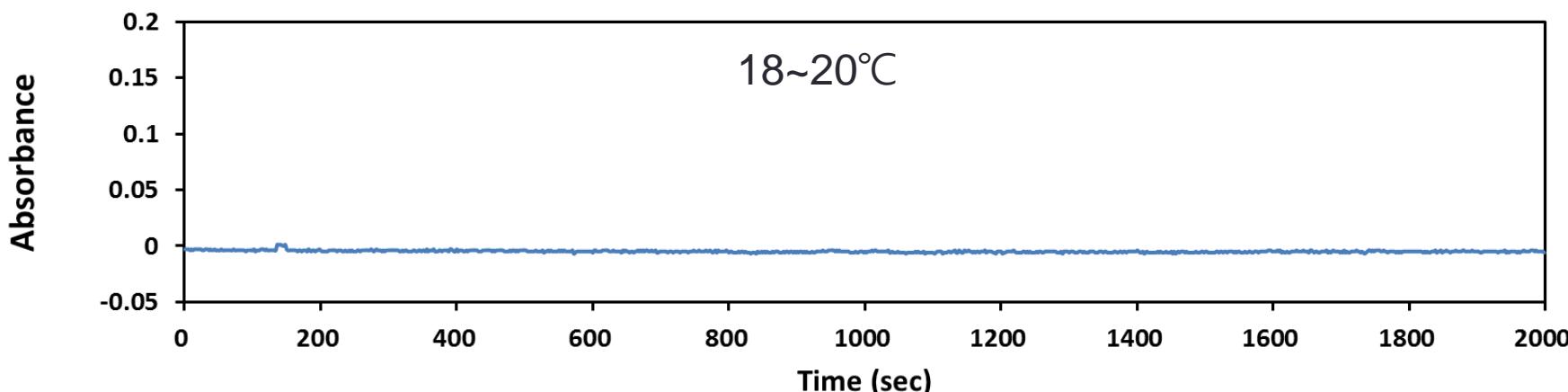
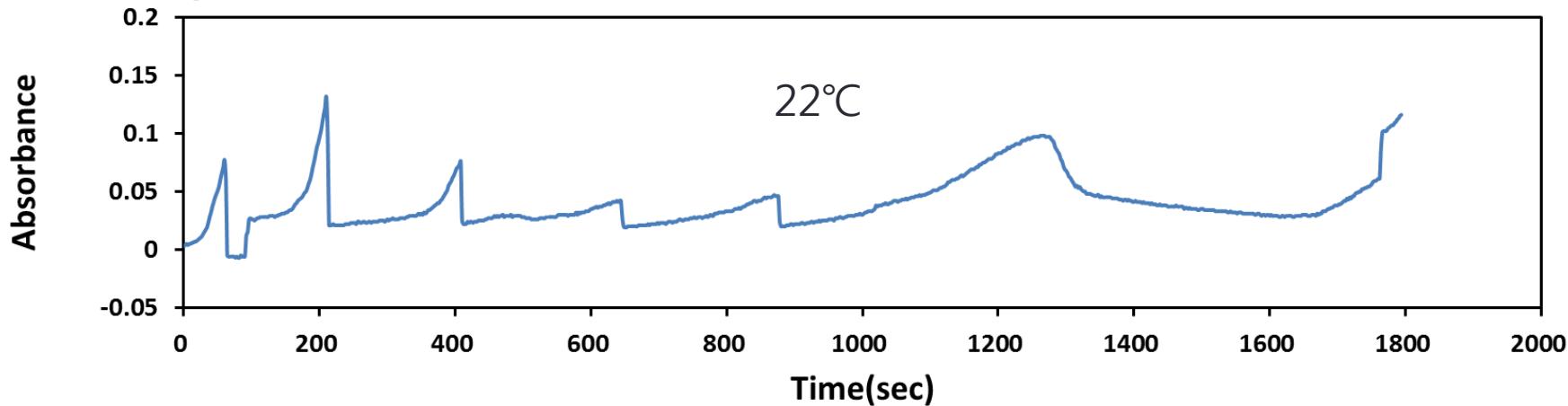
# Bubbles in the Cell



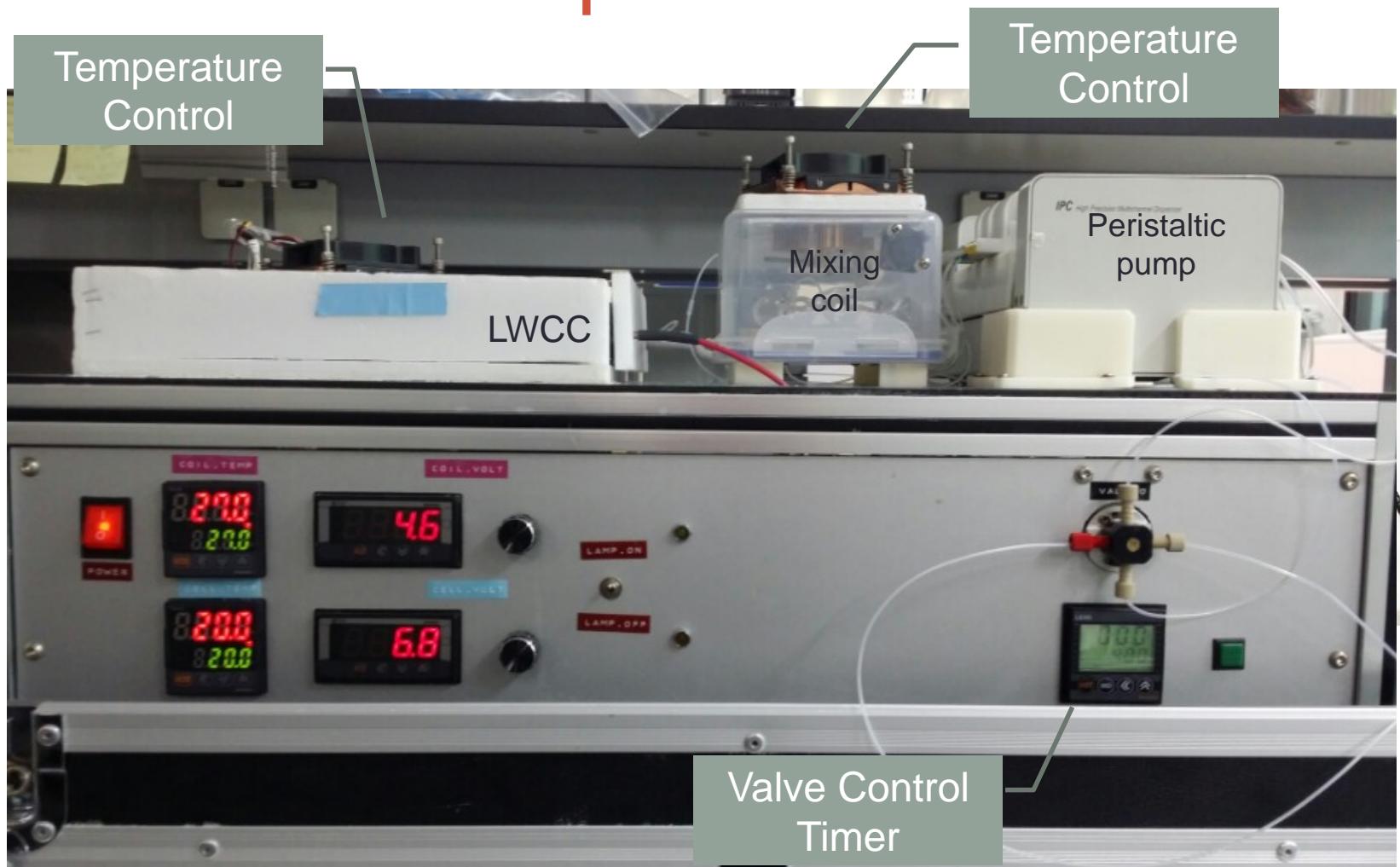
- Problem – Micro-bubbles
  - 1. degassing of sample → Difficult to apply continuous system
  - 2. Inline degasser → Make the system Bulky
  - 3. Increase Gas Solubility : Low Temperature

# Temperature

- Temperature control – 18~20°C



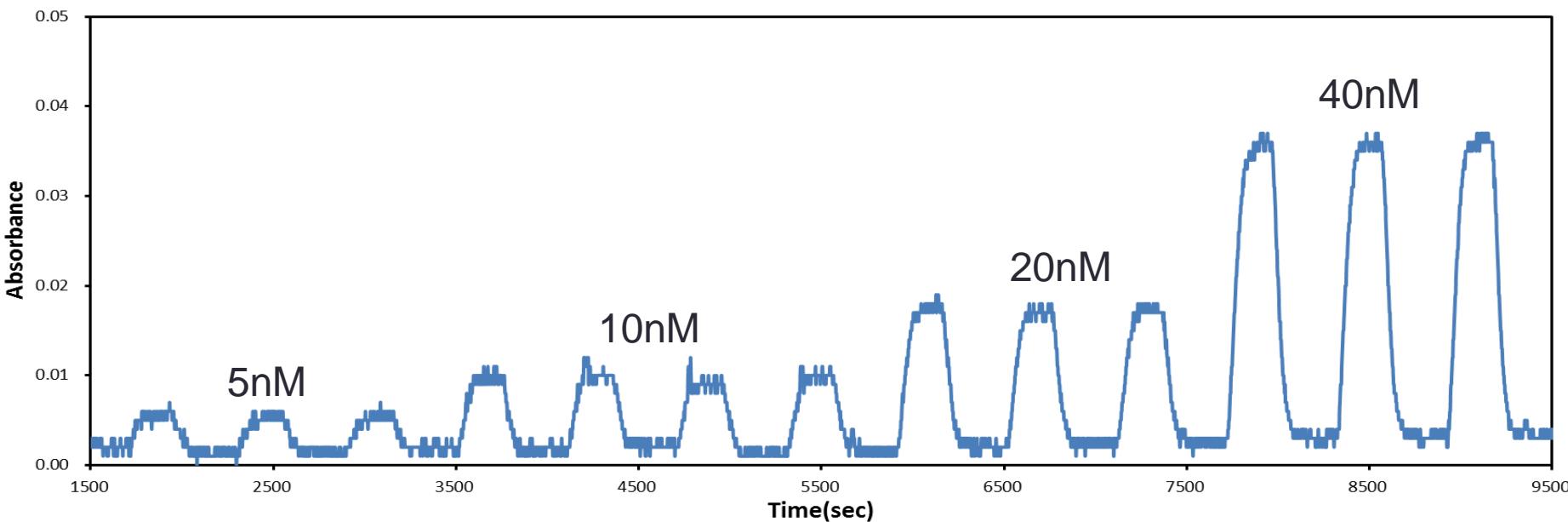
# Instrument setup



# Validations

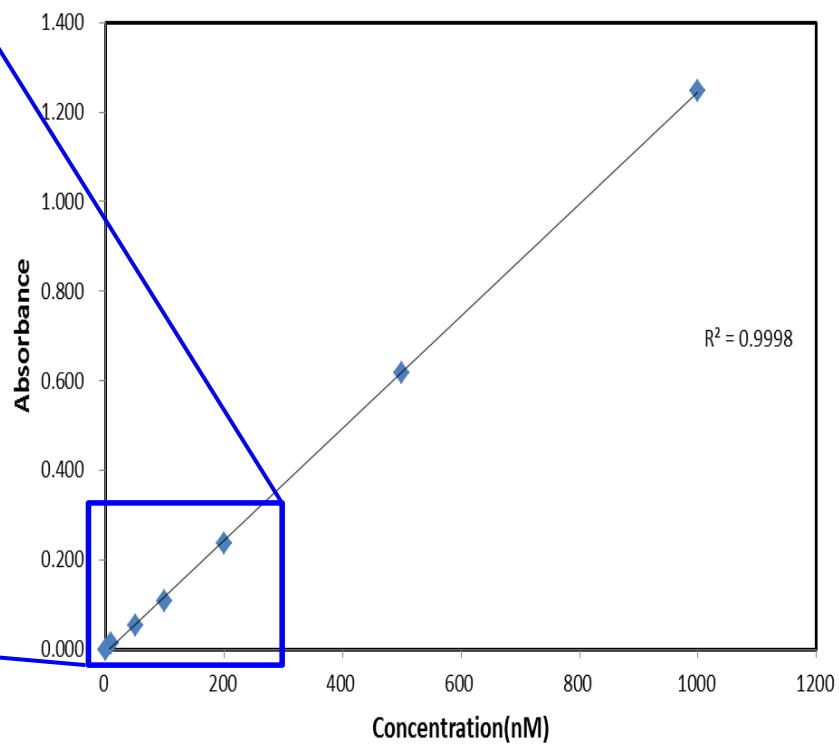
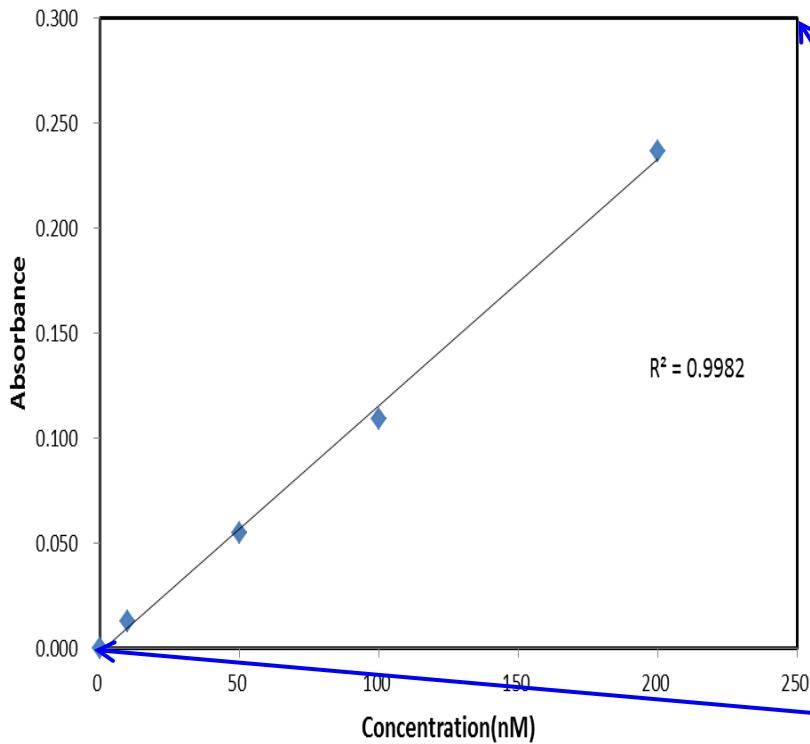
1. Linearity
2. Reproducibility
3. Repeatability

# Standard peaks

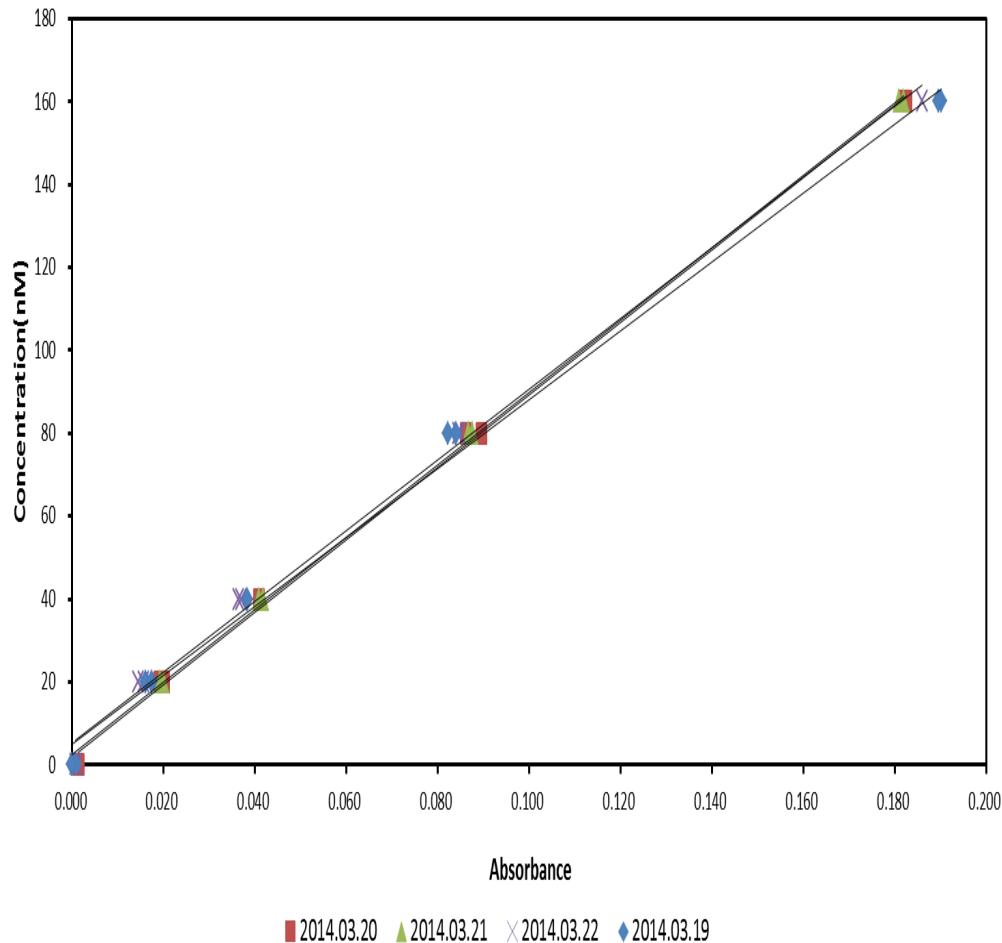


- Standard :  $K_2PO_4$
- Working standard is diluted by artificial seawater
- Base : Artificial Seawater
- Sample/wash times : 4min : 4min

# Linearity



# Reproducibility



$$y = 831.45x + 5.0848$$
$$R^2 = 0.9951$$

$$y = 853.11x + 5.2491$$
$$R^2 = 0.9937$$

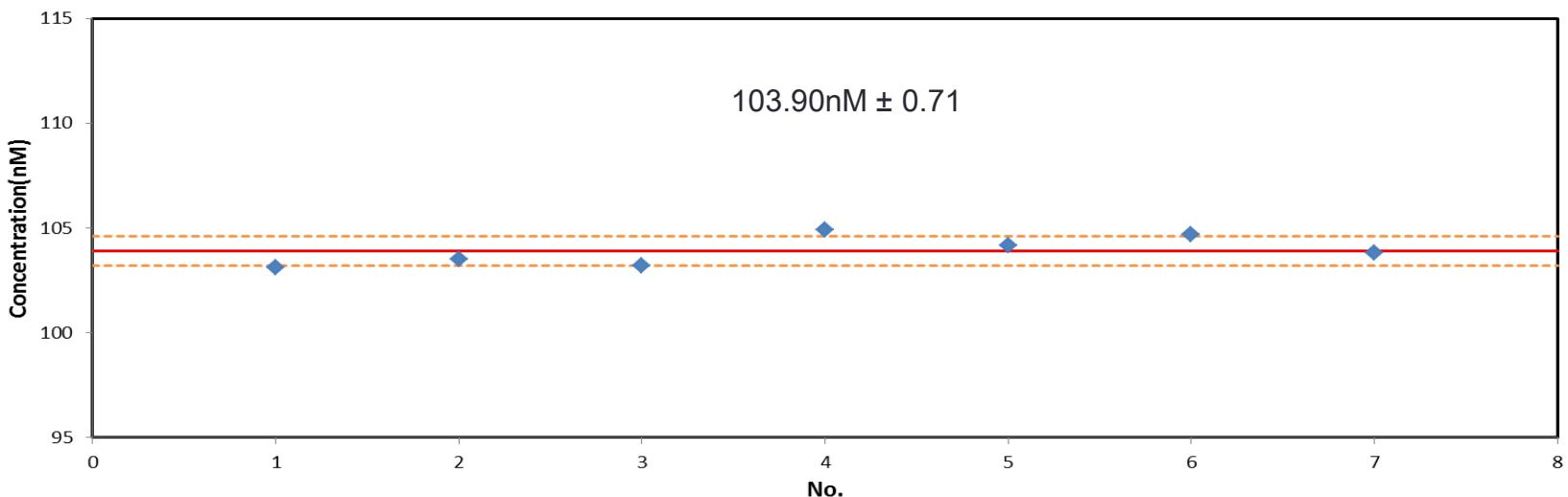
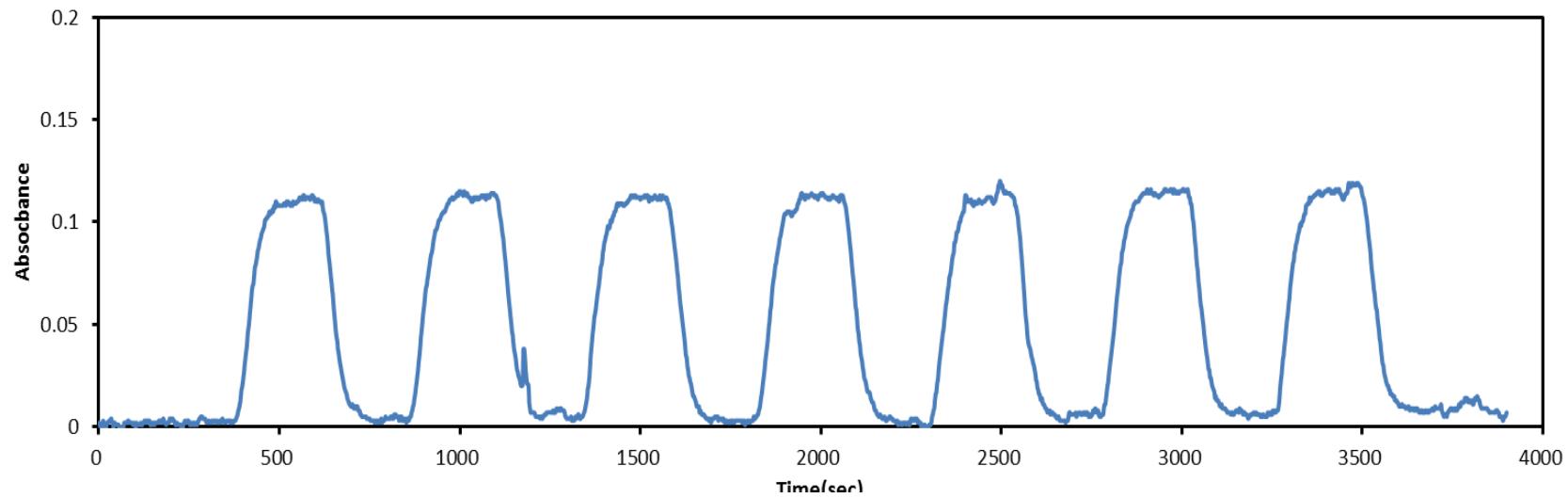
$$y = 873.17x + 2.5482$$
$$R^2 = 0.9994$$

$$y = 873.24x + 2.023$$
$$R^2 = 0.9986$$

Average :

$$y = (851.485 \pm 25.306)x + (2.971 \pm 1.720)$$

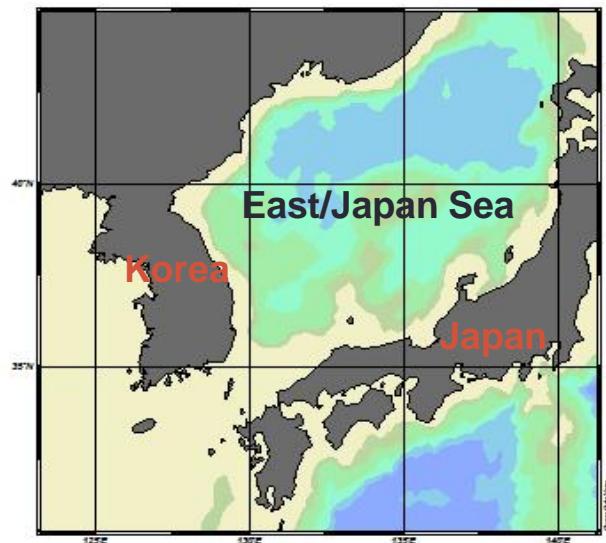
# Repeatability



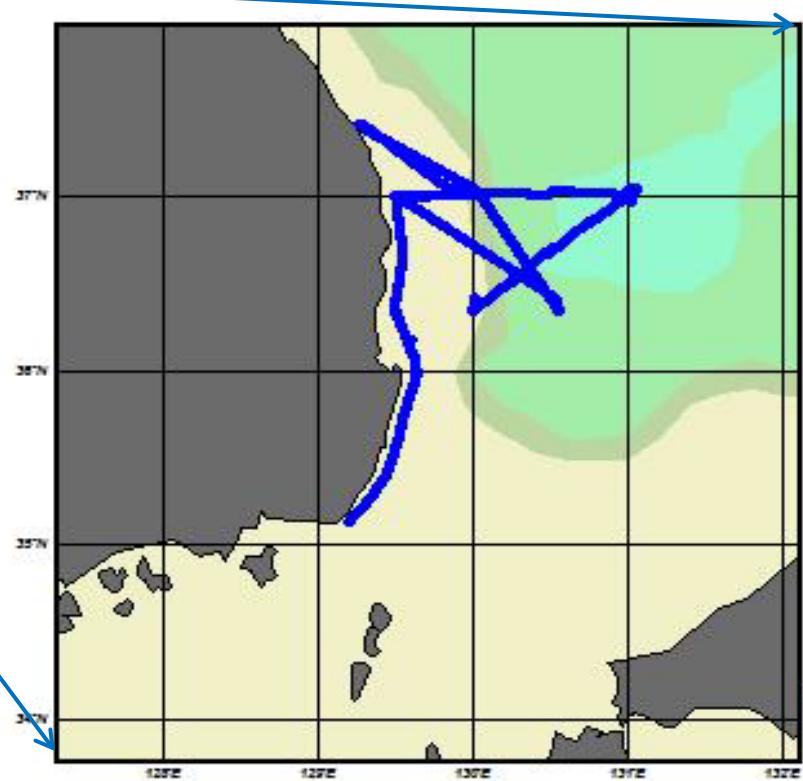
# APPLICATIONS TO FIELD STUDY

---

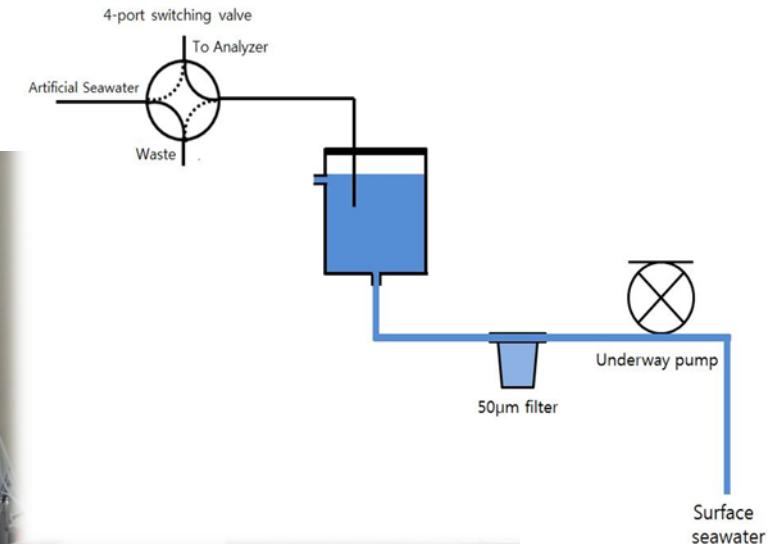
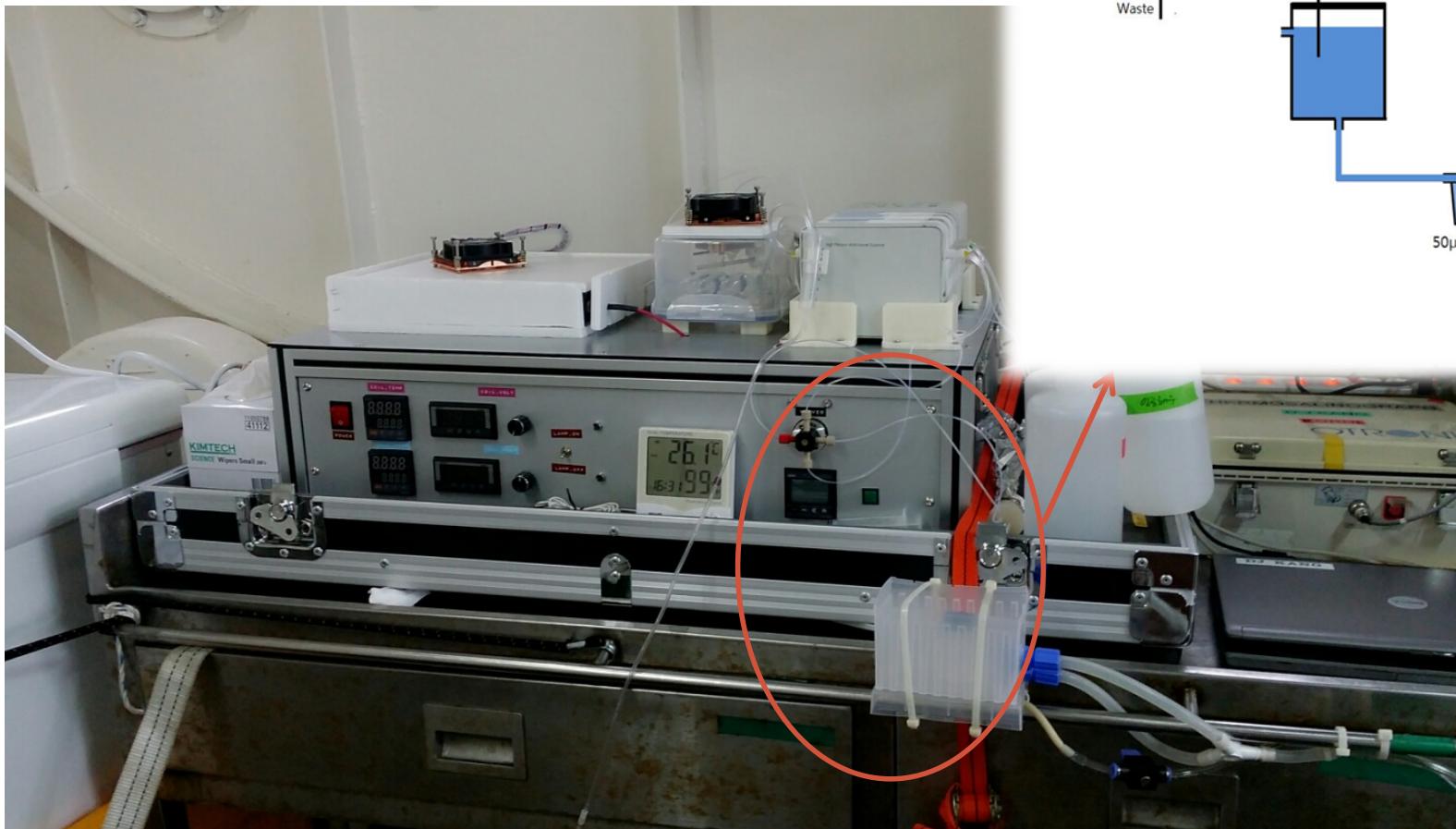
# Cruise



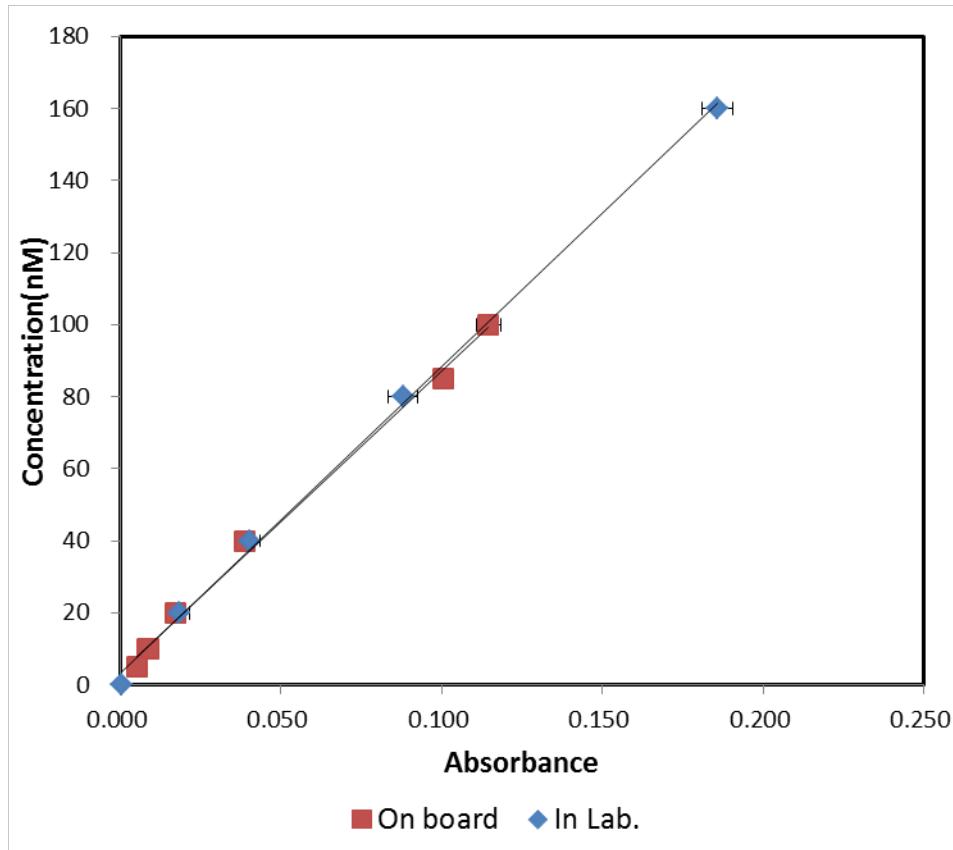
- Date : Aug.19 – 24, 2014
- R/V Eardo(KIOST)
- Region : East/Japan sea



# On Board Continuous Measurement



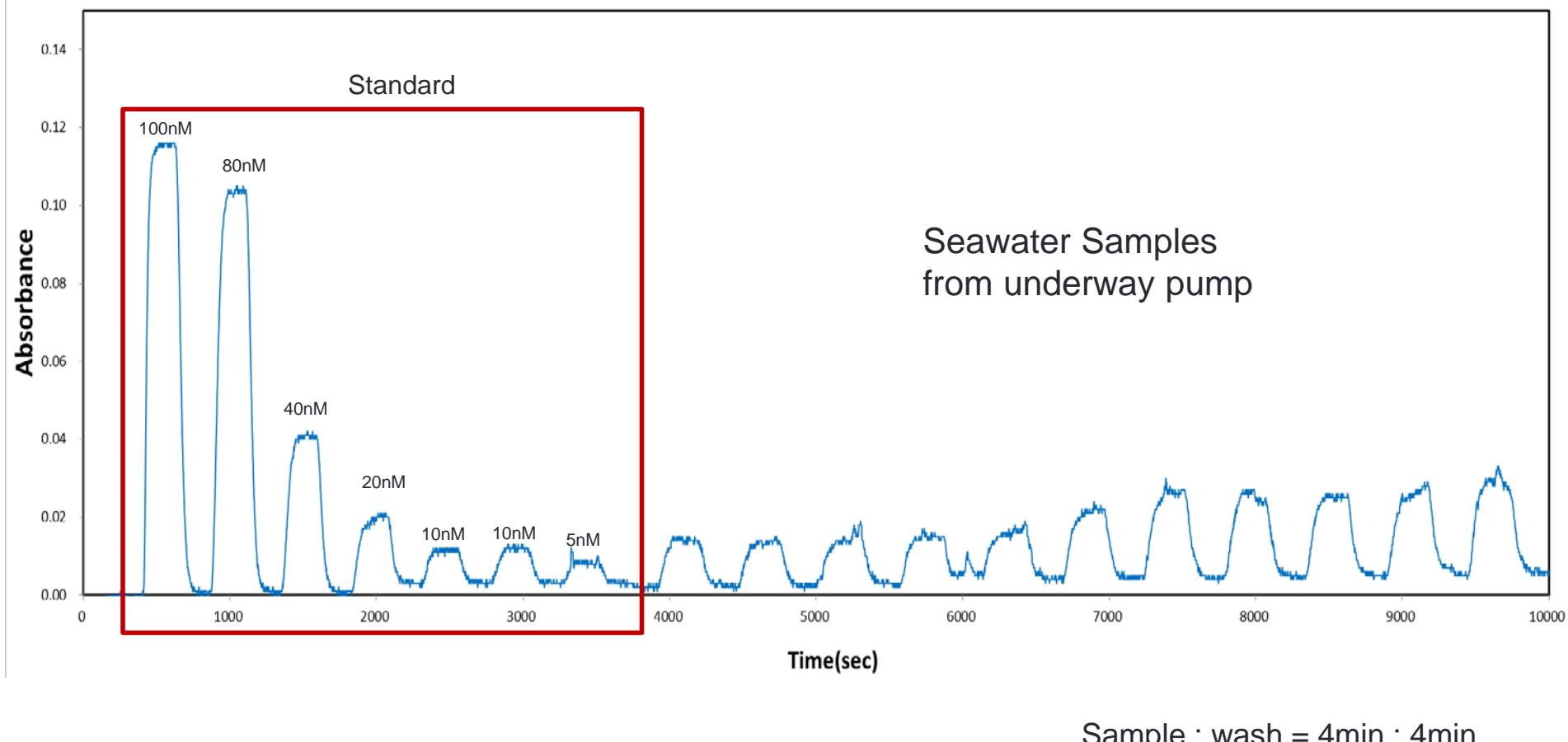
# Calibration Curves



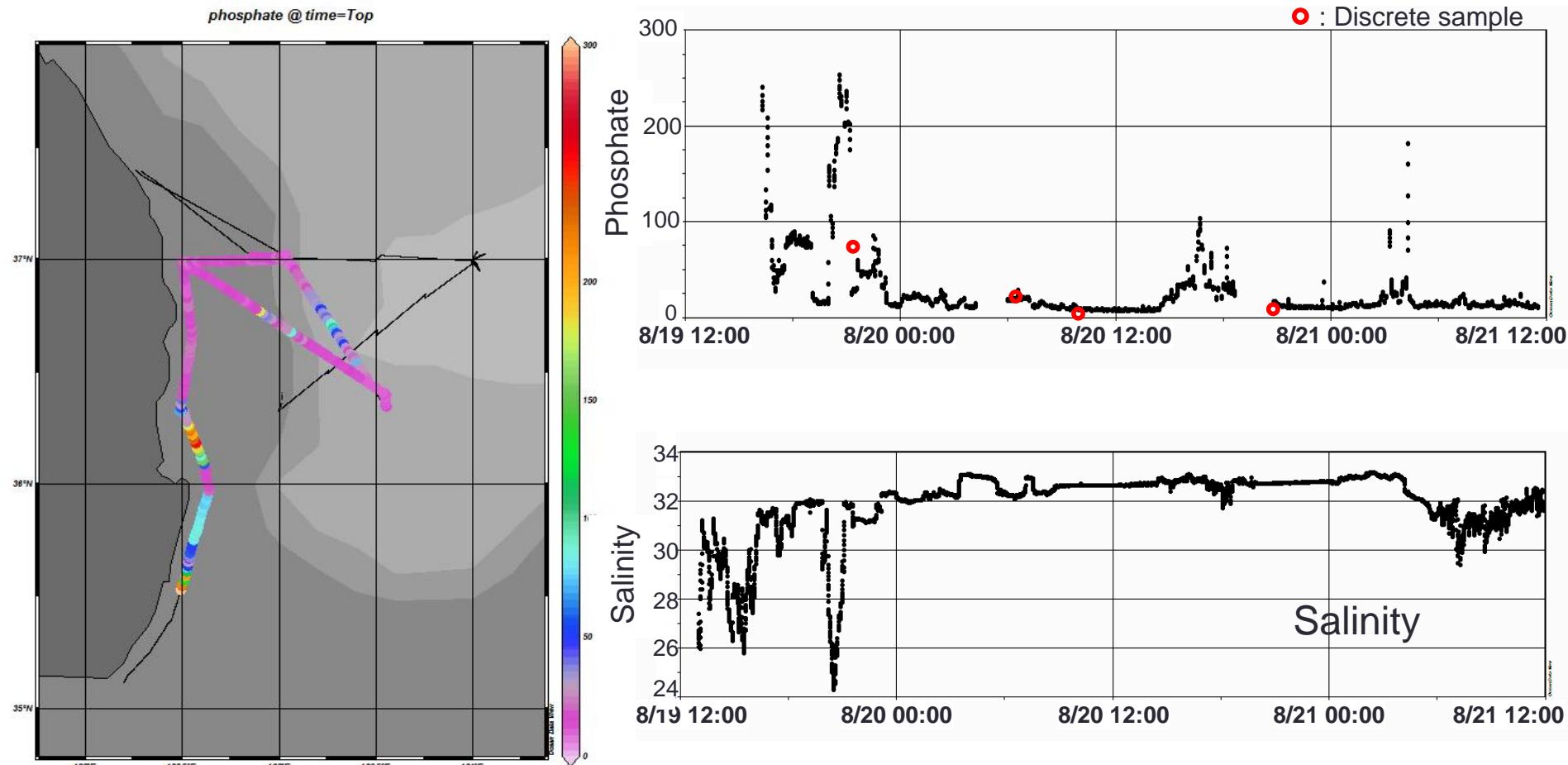
$$y = (851.485 \pm 25.306)x + (2.971 \pm 1.720)$$
$$R^2 = 0.9984$$

$$y = (820.483 \pm 18.200)x + (5.033 \pm 1.300)$$
$$R^2 = 0.9958$$

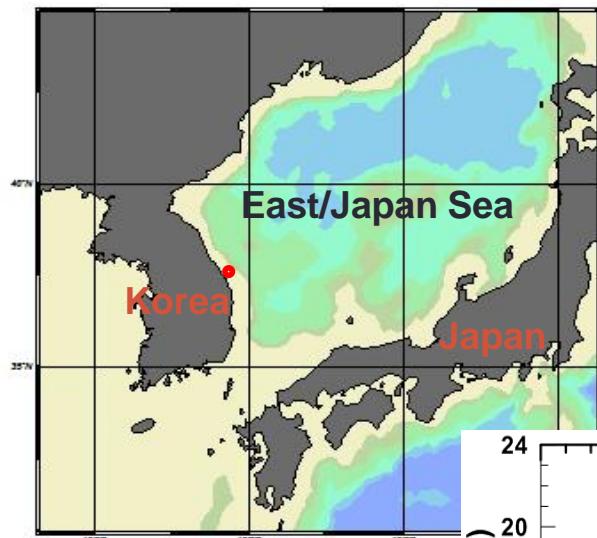
# Peaks



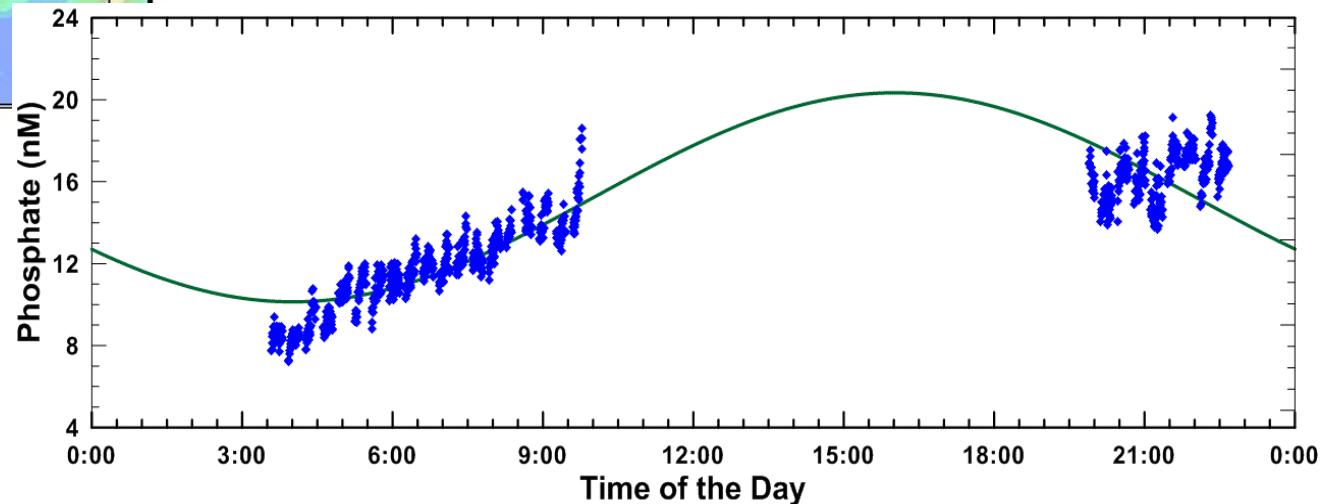
# Continuous Spatial Measurement



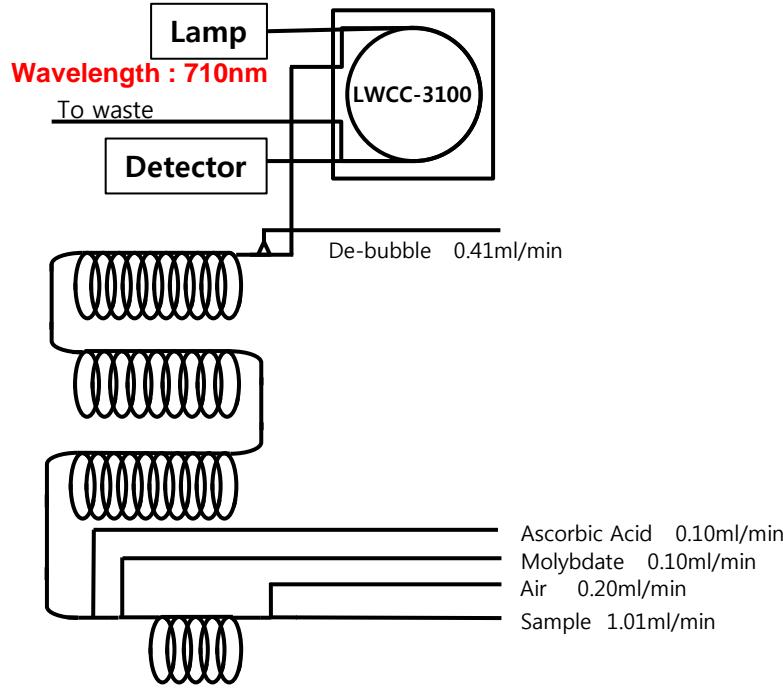
# Continuous Time-Series Measurement



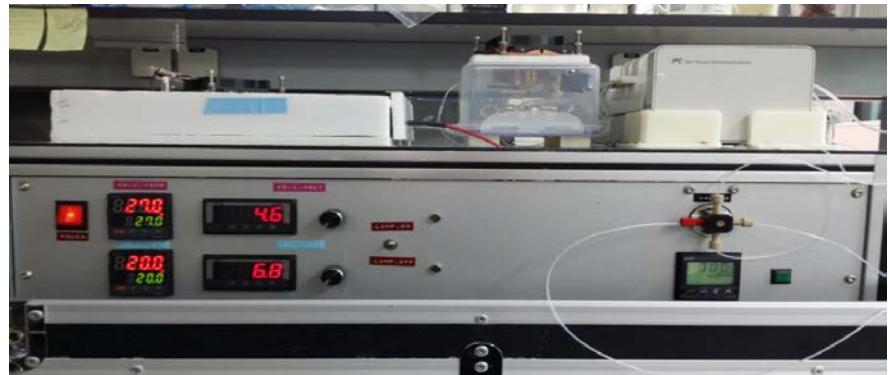
- Date : Oct. 6-10
- R/V Tamsa(SNU)
- Region : East/Japan sea



# Summary



pH	0.86 ~ 0.89
[H <sup>+</sup> ]/[Mo] ratio	≈ 70
Reaction Temp.	27°C
Cell Temp.	18 ~ 20 °C
Reaction Time	3 min



- Nice to apply continuous spatial and time-series measurement of phosphate

# THANK YOU

---