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# Coastal iodine emissions: Part 1. Release of I<sub>2</sub> by

## *Laminaria digitata* in chamber experiments

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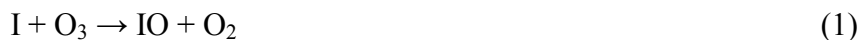
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## Abstract

Tidally exposed macroalgae emit large amounts of I<sub>2</sub> and iodocarbons that produce hotspots of iodine chemistry and intense particle nucleation events in the coastal marine boundary layer. Current emission rates are poorly characterized, however, with reported emission rates varying by three orders of magnitude. In this study, I<sub>2</sub> emissions from 25 *Laminaria digitata* samples were investigated in a simulation chamber using incoherent broadband cavity-enhanced absorption spectroscopy (IBBCEAS). The chamber design allowed gradual extraction of seawater to simulate tidal emersion of algae. Samples were exposed to air with or without O<sub>3</sub> and to varying irradiances. Emission of I<sub>2</sub> occurred in four distinct stages: 1) moderate emissions from partially submerged samples; 2) a strong release by fully emerged samples; 3) slowing or stopping of I<sub>2</sub> release; 4) later pulses of I<sub>2</sub> were evident in some samples. Emission rates were highly variable and ranged from 7 to 616 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> in ozone-free air, with a median value of 55 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> for 20 samples.

## Introduction

The observation of iodine monoxide, IO, in the marine boundary layer (MBL) over a decade ago has stimulated a resurgence of interest in the sources and chemistry of atmospheric iodine (1, 2, 3). In the atmosphere, atomic iodine produced via photolysis or chemical reaction reacts rapidly with ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) to form IO:



Iodine species subsequently influence the atmosphere's oxidation capacity in several ways, including catalytic destruction of O<sub>3</sub>, and altering the OH/HO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>/NO ratios (4, 5). Studies have further shown the importance of IO in aerosol formation of iodine oxide particles in the marine atmosphere (6–11).

The photolytic sources of atomic iodine in the coastal MBL were initially proposed to be photolabile iodocarbons, especially CH<sub>2</sub>I<sub>2</sub> and CHIBr (12). These compounds are emitted by brown macroalgae following exposure to air at low tide and concentrations of iodocarbons and IO show a clear tidal signature (13). McFiggans et al. later suggested that I<sub>2</sub> released by the brown macroalgae *Saccharina latissima* and *Laminaria digitata* is the major source of iodine in temperate coastal environments (14). Several field and laboratory studies have subsequently confirmed large emissions of I<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere from a variety of brown macroalgae (15–17), which are known to accumulate iodine in high concentrations (18). For instance, *L. digitata* contains iodine at up to 4.7% of their dry weight (19, 20), providing algae with an abundant and accessible source of labile iodine species for potential chemical defence mechanisms and anti-oxidative activities (21, 22). Although macroalgal coastal emissions of I<sub>2</sub> are probably relatively minor contributors to the global budget of atmospheric iodine, they give rise to hotspots of iodine chemistry that can alter the chemistry of the coastal MBL.

Most studies of macroalgal emissions have focused on *L. digitata* because this species is probably the strongest iodine accumulator among living organisms (22, 23) and emits high levels of I<sub>2</sub> when exposed to ambient air (15, 17, 24), or to oxidative agents such as ozone, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or oligogulonates (22, 25). *L.*

*digitata* is common on exposed shores and inhabits the lower littoral regions. Dixneuf et al. observed that *L. digitata* emitted I<sub>2</sub> in an intense burst over about 20 min, followed by successive smaller pulses of I<sub>2</sub> (24). Recent studies reported a wide range of I<sub>2</sub> emission rates from *L. digitata* – mean values ranged from 3 to 2500 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> (15, 16, 25, 26) (where FW denotes the fresh weight of the sample) and were dependent on thallus parts (17). The source strength of I<sub>2</sub> from macroalgae is therefore a key uncertainty in the role of iodine in the coastal MBL (3), and an improved estimate of emissions is required to understand the contribution of macroalgal iodine emissions to local atmospheric processes. Two points should be noted in this regard. The first is that a large dataset of emission rates is necessary to account for the likely variation between individual algae. The second point is that, as tidal emersion of macroalgae is a gradual process in which different thallus parts are exposed to the atmosphere at different times, a more nuanced understanding of the I<sub>2</sub> emission profile during emersion is desirable.

The aim of this study was to investigate the time profile of I<sub>2</sub> emissions from entire specimens of *L. digitata* during emersion. This is the first iodine emission study in which algal specimens were not abruptly exposed to air from the outset, but were exposed to a simulated outgoing tide under controlled conditions in an atmosphere simulation chamber. The overall work is divided into two parts. Part 1 (the present study) deals with iodine emission profiles of *L. digitata* following emersion. Simultaneous, in-situ measurements of I<sub>2</sub>, IO, and OIO were used to quantify the amount and rate of release of I<sub>2</sub> from the air-exposed algae and to put an improved estimate on the emission rate of this important biogeochemical pump of iodine. The effects of irradiance and O<sub>3</sub> on I<sub>2</sub> emissions as well on the physiological response of *L. digitata* using the chlorophyll *a* fluorescence technique (17) were also studied. Part 2, in the accompanying paper, describes the nucleation of iodine oxide particles above air-exposed macroalgae.

## Experimental Section

## Simulation chamber

Experiments were carried out in a 2.2 m<sup>3</sup> (~10 m<sup>2</sup> surface area) atmosphere simulation chamber (Figure 1a) comprising a cylindrical fluorinated ethylene propylene (FEP) bag housed inside a 2 m long enclosure. The photolysis light source was an unfiltered 2 kW xenon lamp (Rige Lighting) that produced a collimated beam above the chamber. Partial cross-sections of the beam were reflected upwards to the chamber ceiling by broadband scattering surfaces at intervals along the length of the chamber. This configuration resulted in a radiation field inside the chamber with a spatial variation of less than 20%. The lamp spectrum (400 to 850 nm,  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 550$  nm) provided a good simulation of the visible solar spectrum. The photolysis rate of I<sub>2</sub> in the chamber (based on the initial loss rate of I<sub>2</sub> in excess O<sub>3</sub>) was 0.0075±0.0010 s<sup>-1</sup>, corresponding to 6% of that at the earth's surface for a cloud-free sky and an overhead sun (1100 W m<sup>-2</sup>) (27). The lamp was mounted externally to the chamber to reduce heating of the interior and temperature rises were modest (typically within 3°C) from the start to end of experiments. A wire mesh filter was inserted between the lamp and the chamber to attenuate the radiation field inside the chamber. All experiments were carried out with the chamber illuminated. The chamber was purged for several hours before the start of each experiment and was sufficient to reduce particle concentrations to below 1 cm<sup>-3</sup> and mixing ratios of chamber gases (O<sub>3</sub>, I<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, IO) to below the detection limit of chamber instrumentation. The chamber was operated with a constant volume of chamber air in the experiments reported here. Ozone was added in several experiments using an ozone generator (Ozone Lab model OL80W/FM). A small fan in the chamber ensured complete mixing of chamber gases within 3 min, as determined by the time taken for the absorption of a short pulse of NO<sub>2</sub> to stabilize.

## Instrumentation

An incoherent broadband cavity-enhanced absorption spectroscopy (IBBCEAS) system was the principle tool for analyzing the gas phase composition of the chamber (28, 29). The instrument in this

work (Figure 1b) comprised two optical cavities: a blue channel (420 to 460 nm) for IO and a green channel (520 to 560 nm) for I<sub>2</sub> and iodine dioxide, OIO. Both channels used plano-concave dielectric mirrors separated by 199 cm. Light from a 75 W xenon arc lamp was separated into two channels using a dichroic beamsplitter, bandpass filtered, and focused into the respective optical cavities. Transmitted light was recombined in a two-way fiber and coupled into a Shamrock SR163 spectrograph with a CCD detector (Andor DU420A-BU2) cooled to -40 °C. With a 1200-l/mm grating, the resolution of the spectrograph was 0.96 nm. Spectra were acquired over 30 s.

The mirror reflectivity spectra,  $R(\lambda)$ , of both channels were calibrated based on the absorption of known amounts of NO<sub>2</sub> (from a container of known volume and NO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure). Maximum mirror reflectivities were 99.93% (440 nm) and 99.97% (540 nm). The extinction coefficient,  $\varepsilon(\lambda)$ , was calculated from the intensity transmitted when a sample was present,  $I(\lambda)$  (30):

$$\varepsilon(\lambda) = \left( \frac{I_0}{I} - 1 \right) \frac{1 - R(\lambda)}{L} \quad (2)$$

The intensity transmitted through the clean chamber,  $I_0(\lambda)$ , was recorded before introducing the sample;  $L$  is the mirror separation of 199 cm. A multivariate fit based on the differential optical absorption was used to quantify the number densities of molecular absorbers, and was similar to that described by Ball and Jones (31). A polynomial function accounted for the smoothly-varying extinction associated with iodine oxide particles, which were formed in high numbers in some experiments. Reference spectra for IO and OIO were obtained from Spietz et al. and Bloss et al. respectively, and convoluted to our instrument function (32, 33). The absorption spectrum of I<sub>2</sub> was measured in the chamber and scaled to the literature absorption cross section of Saiz-Lopez et al. (27). The weak and constant O<sub>2</sub> dimer and water absorption bands were also included in the fit. The blue channel was fitted from 425 to 448 nm (Figure 2a), while the green channel was fitted over the range 530 to 550 nm (Figure 2b). Fitted spectra showed good agreement to the measured absorption spectra and accounted for all significant spectral features.

Ozone was monitored using a UV absorption monitor (2B Technologies model 202) with a sampling rate of 1 L min<sup>-1</sup>. A nanoSMPS comprising a TSI Aerosol Neutralizer 3077A (Kr-85 source), a nano DMA (TSI Differential Mobility Analyzer 3085) and a condensation particle counter (TSI CPC 3025A), was used for continuous particle measurements during experiments.

### **Algal material and experimental design**

Sporophytes of *Laminaria digitata* (Hudson) Lamouroux were harvested from Garrettstown (51° 38.57'N, 008° 35.10'W) and Roches Point (51° 47.68'N, 008° 15.17'W), Co. Cork, Ireland, during daytime low tides at the end of October 2010. Samples were similar in age, on average 1.2 m long, and free from visible epiphytes. Following sampling, algae were weighed (Table 1 and 2), labelled and stored at 12-15°C under an irradiance,  $E_{\text{PAR}}$ , of 20-30  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  (400 - 700 nm) in natural seawater from the sampling site. The light-dark cycle was 12 h:12 h. The seawater was continuously aerated by diffusers and replaced daily by fresh seawater. All specimens were used within seven days of collection.

For iodine emission experiments, algae were placed in a 33 L tray filled with natural seawater and moved to the center of the atmosphere simulation chamber via an inlet door located towards the bottom of the chamber. The tray was located 5 cm below the two optical cavities of the spectrometer. This transfer took less than 30 s. Samples were acclimated to experimental conditions for 10 min, i.e. to an air temperature of  $22 \pm 2$  °C, and to 15, 100, or 235  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  (light experiments), or to 15  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  without or with added O<sub>3</sub> (O<sub>3</sub> experiment). Seawater in the tray was then gradually removed over a period of 5 – 10 min using a diaphragm pump and algae were exposed to air and a defined  $E_{\text{PAR}}$  for a further 70 min after emersion.(15–17, 24)

*In vivo* chlorophyll (chl) *a* fluorescence parameters of algal samples were determined after 70 min emersion to estimate the extent of stress experienced during measurements (34).

### **Measurement of variable chlorophyll *a* fluorescence**



*In vivo* chl *a* fluorescence parameters were measured in ambient air using a PAM fluorometer (PAM-2000, Heinz Walz) (17). Algae were additionally exposed to ten increasing irradiance levels (between 0 and 1160  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) provided by the internal halogen lamp of the PAM-2000. Each light level was applied for 2 min before non-photochemical quenching of chl *a* fluorescence (NPQ) was determined.

The maximum photosystem II efficiency  $F_v/F_m$  (measured after 30 min dark acclimation) was calculated as follows:

$$\frac{F_v}{F_m} = \frac{F_m - F_0}{F_m} \quad (3)$$

where  $F_v$  is the variable chl *a* fluorescence,  $F_m$  is the maximal chl *a* fluorescence after dark acclimation, and  $F_0$  is the minimal chl *a* fluorescence.(17). Since differences in NPQ regulation after iodine measurements were only detected in  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$ , i.e. the NPQ value determined at 1160  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ , only  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$  is presented in this study.  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$  was calculated from:

$$\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}} = \frac{F_m - F'_m}{F'_m} \quad (4)$$

where  $F'_m$  is the maximal chl *a* fluorescence after acclimation to 1160  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ .

Iodine emission studies under defined irradiances and different  $\text{O}_3$  levels were carried out in five independent replicates ( $n = 5$ ). Results of photosynthetic performance, i.e.  $F_v/F_m$  and  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$ , are shown as mean with standard deviation of  $n = 5$  measurements on independent samples. Effects of irradiance on  $\text{I}_2$  emission characteristics were analysed using non-parametric Kruskal Wallis H test due to high variability in obtained data. Effects of  $\text{O}_3$  exposure on  $F_v/F_m$  and  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$  were analysed using Student's t-test. Effects of irradiance on  $F_v/F_m$  and  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$  were analysed by using 1-way ANOVA. The Tukey test identified *a posteriori* homogeneous sub-groups that differed significantly on the level of  $P < 0.05$ . All photosynthesis data were normally distributed (Kolmogorov–Smirnov test) and variances were homogenous (Levene test).

## Results and Discussion

### *In vivo* chlorophyll *a* fluorescence response

Physiological responses of *L. digitata* during experiments were investigated by means of chl *a* fluorescence measurements. Chl *a* fluorescence parameters such as  $F_v/F_m$  and NPQ are widely used as “health” indicators of photosynthetic active organisms and are shown in Figure 3 (34).  $F_v/F_m$  values of ~0.75 are typical for unstressed brown macroalgae (35). With increasing irradiances, mean  $F_v/F_m$  decreased significantly from 0.753 (15  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) to 0.705 (100  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and 0.554 (235  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $P < 0.001$ , Figure 3c) showing that experimental light conditions resulted in photoinhibition, i.e. a slightly increased extent of stress experienced by the alga during emersion. This was accompanied by a reduction in  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$  from 2.735 (15  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) to 1.453 (235  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , Figure 3d) which indicates that photoprotection capacities of *L. digitata* were reduced during experiments. However, NPQ was regulated in this alga even when exposed to higher irradiances.

After exposure to air with elevated  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $F_v/F_m$  values varied between 0.722 and 0.764 (Figure 3a) and were similar to values determined after exposure to  $\text{O}_3$ -free air (0.730-0.769). NPQ reflects mechanisms of non-radiative energy dissipation of excessively absorbed light energy and such mechanisms have a protective role against photoinhibition, which can be measured e.g. as a reduction in  $F_v/F_m$  (36). Brown macroalgae are known to exhibit high photoprotection capacities which are expressed in high NPQ values (37, 38). Mean  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$  values (measured at 1160  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) were 3.726 and 3.545 after exposure to air without and with increased  $\text{O}_3$  (Figure 3b), respectively. The fact that neither  $F_v/F_m$  nor  $\text{NPQ}_{\text{max}}$  were affected by  $\text{O}_3$  indicates that ambient experimental conditions were not stressful enough to substantially inhibit photosynthesis.

It should be noted that the experimental light intensities and O<sub>3</sub> levels were within the normal range of conditions occurring in the natural habitat of *L. digitata* (39) but were not close to maximum natural light levels (of up to 2000 μmol photons m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> for emerged macroalgae).

### ***Laminaria digitata* emission profiles**

Typical emission profiles following emersion of *L. digitata* are presented in Figure 4 along with the smoothed instantaneous emission rates for I<sub>2</sub>, calculated from the I<sub>2</sub> time profile. Mixing ratios of I<sub>2</sub> indicate the cumulative amount of I<sub>2</sub> emitted into the volume of the chamber. Overall, I<sub>2</sub> emissions from *L. digitata* were highly variable, ranging from 0.4 to 9.9 nmol gFW<sup>-1</sup> for different specimens. Losses to chamber walls and other surfaces were small; in light of the exceptionally high variability between algae, emitted amounts of I<sub>2</sub> were not corrected for this minor loss and are therefore lower limits. Emissions of I<sub>2</sub> took place in four characteristic stages. In the first stage, modest amounts of I<sub>2</sub> were released from the submerged and gradually emerging alga as water was removed from the sample container. This was followed by a strong release of I<sub>2</sub> in the second stage, which was characterized by a sharp onset when the sample was fully exposed. This emission pulse lasted 15 to 20 min and accounted for over 80% of the emitted I<sub>2</sub>. Emissions of I<sub>2</sub> then slowed or stopped completely (third stage), except in some samples, when smaller pulses of I<sub>2</sub> were observed after about 60 min (fourth stage).

The irradiance level had no noticeable systematic effect on the emission profiles. The irradiance was varied over an order of magnitude (15, 100 and 235 μmol photons m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>), but was much lower than maximum daytime levels. In light of the absence of a light-induced response of I<sub>2</sub> emissions, these emissions are grouped together with other experiments ( $E_{\text{PAR}} = 15 \mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) in the absence of ozone.

No statistically significant effect was apparent between the mass of the alga and either the total amount of I<sub>2</sub> emitted, or the amount emitted per unit mass (Table 1).

## Effect of Ozone

In separate experiments, 80 to 100 ppbv ozone was added to the chamber before introducing macroalgae. IO was formed as the water level was lowered and was easily observed, even at very low I<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios, owing to its much greater absorption cross-section than that of I<sub>2</sub> (Figure 5). The distinction between the stages of initial slow emission of I<sub>2</sub>, and the much stronger subsequent release, is especially apparent from the IO mixing ratio in this figure. Strong secondary pulses of I<sub>2</sub> (stage 4) were observed in some samples after the main release of I<sub>2</sub>.

The mixing ratio of IO in the chamber was limited by the fast, second-order self-reaction of IO(40):



Destruction of O<sub>3</sub> in the chamber was rapid and prompt nucleation occurred of large numbers of iodine oxide particles (41). OIO was not detected, however. This is a surprising finding, as OIO is a major reaction product of the IO self-reaction (5a) and is expected to be a central building block in iodine oxide particle formation (8, 10, 32, 42, 43). As the OIO detection limit of the spectrometer was estimated to be ca. 30 pptv (based on the fit uncertainty), rapid removal mechanisms must be operative, probably via the fast reactions of OIO with I atoms ( $k = 1.1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )(44) and IO ( $k = 1.2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (45). Both species were present in the chamber at much higher mixing ratios than expected in the MBL: at 100 pptv IO (Figure 5), the OIO lifetime would be only 3 s.

In the presence of O<sub>3</sub>, loss of iodine to particles via reaction (5) must be accounted for to quantify total iodine emissions. As shown in Figure 5, I<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in the chamber actually decreased for a time when IO mixing ratios were high, but partly recovered once ozone was removed and IO production via reaction (1) terminated. It was not possible to estimate the amount of iodine in the aerosol phase using

measured size distributions because particles rapidly grew larger than the maximum size bin (20 nm) of the nanoSMPS. To estimate losses of I<sub>2</sub> to particles, the rate of reaction (5) was calculated from the measured IO concentrations. Only reactions (5a) and (5d) were assumed to result in particle formation. There is good agreement in the literature concerning the overall rate coefficient of reaction (5) (40), but significant differences exist in the reported branching ratios. We used the IUPAC recommended reaction rate ( $k_5 = 9.9 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at 298 K) and branching ratio of 0.38 for reaction (5a) at 1 bar; as the latter value was from the Bloss et al. study, we also used their value of 0.46 for the branching ratio of reaction (5d) to estimate an I<sub>2</sub> equivalent loss (i.e., loss of two iodine atoms to the particle phase) of  $(0.5k_{5a} + k_{5d})/k_5 = 0.65$  (33). This value is also comparable to 0.78 obtained by Harwood et al., also at atmospheric pressure (46). The efficiency of iodine incorporation into particles is slightly reduced by photolysis of OIO and by thermal decomposition of I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, but this negative influence on the effective branching ratios is likely to be smaller than the uncertainty of the branching ratios, especially given the short lifetime of OIO and (presumably) of I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (42–44, 47).

Calculated total I<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios are shown in Figure 5 for branching ratios  $(0.5k_{5a} + k_{5d})/k_5$  of 0.5, 0.65 and 0.75. Branching ratios of greater than about 0.3 removed the dip in I<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios and there were no abrupt changes in the slope of the I<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio when losses via IO terminated. Losses of iodine to particles were very large and accounted for about three quarters of the total I<sub>2</sub> released. Median emission rates in the presence of ozone (Table 2) were 400 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> and were greater than without O<sub>3</sub> (65 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup>). However, due to the high variability this difference was not statistically significant ( $P = 0.548$ ).

### **Comparison to previous emission rate measurements**

This work presents the I<sub>2</sub> emission profiles of a comparatively large number of whole *L. digitata* displaying normal photosynthetic characteristics. An important finding of this study is that *L. digitata* emission rates of I<sub>2</sub> were highly variable (7 to 616 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup>). The range of emission rates found in this work encompasses most prior observations, and helps to reconcile the differences reported

in previous studies. These include the lower emission rates reported by Ball et al. and Palmer et al., as well as the much higher values found by Bale et al. and Nitschke et al. (15–17, 25). For a single, whole alga, Ball et al. found a mean I<sub>2</sub> release rate of 3.2 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup>, while air-exposed samples of sections from the same alga emitted at 3.0 and 2.2 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> (16). Palmer and co-workers reported similar hourly mean emission rates, ranging from below their detection limit to 9 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> (25). As the bulk of I<sub>2</sub> emissions from *L. digitata* occur on a shorter timescale than 1 h (15–17), the Palmer et al. estimates should be revised upwards by a factor of 2 to 4 for direct comparability with other studies (25). With the exception of the one whole alga in Ball et al., both studies most likely investigated samples of the thalli from the distal blade, which has been shown by Nitschke et al. to emit up to 17 times less iodine compared to the stipe (16, 17). Dramatically higher emission rates of ca. 2500 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> were observed by Bale et al. for a single, unstressed alga (15). Nitschke et al. also observed high emission rates, including median values between 20 and 629 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> within the first 30 min of emersion (recalculated from Nitschke et al. where *L. digitata* samples were shown to contain 83% water) (17). These two studies used undivided specimens, which could partly explain the large variability in emission rates.

The time dependence of the main I<sub>2</sub> release from fully exposed algae reported here is consistent with prior studies, with most emission occurring over a period of about 20-40 min. Smaller amounts of I<sub>2</sub> were released during the gradual emersion of the alga. Based on the extremely large differences between emission rates from stipes and those for distal blades, the small initial emission (stage one) is probably from the distal blades and meristematic area, which are expected to be exposed first. The strong emission in the second stage probably arises from the subsequent emergence of the stipe. Further pulses of I<sub>2</sub> were also observed to follow the main release event in several instances, displaying the same sporadic behavior seen by Dixneuf and co-workers over several hours, and also by Ball et al. in some samples (16, 24). Our results are also consistent with the observations of Nitschke et al. that relatively low light intensities had no significant effect on the emissions (Table 1) (17).

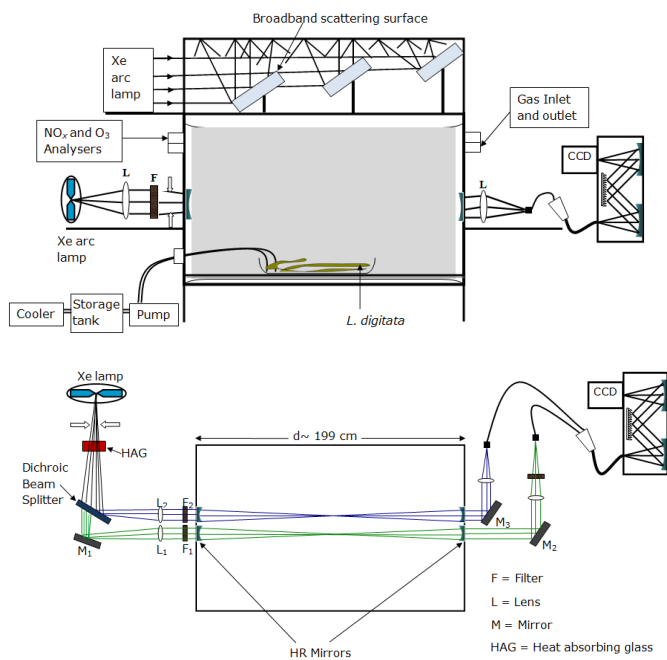
The rate and duration of emission of I<sub>2</sub> appeared to increase markedly when algae were exposed to approximately 100 ppbv O<sub>3</sub> (median emission rate of 400 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup>). However, the sample size for O<sub>3</sub> experiments was insufficient to determine whether or not this result was significant. Similar observations have been reported in other studies which showed increased emissions of I<sub>2</sub> in the presence of O<sub>3</sub> or other stress factors (16, 20, 25). For instance, Ball et al. found emission rates of up to 386 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup>, and Palmer et al. measured rates of 130 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> averaged over 1 h (16, 25). The effect was more modest here, possibly owing to the larger data set and relatively low levels of oxidant, consistent with the correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and I<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios near Mace Head found by Huang and co-workers (48). If this correlation is robust, emission rates in the MBL would be somewhat lower than our observations.

Finally, the findings of this study can be related to the release of I<sub>2</sub> during the gradual emergence of *L. digitata* during low tide. During tidal retreat, the distal blades would emerge first, with increasingly longer sections floating at the surface. Small amounts of I<sub>2</sub> would be likely owing to the relatively lower emissions associated with the blades and because the blades would still be significantly covered by seawater, corresponding to the first emission stage observed in this work. As the stipe gradually emerged with the receding tide (in some cases held proud of the sea surface), much stronger release of I<sub>2</sub> would be expected. This release is likely to extend over the duration of the progressive exposure of the stipe. Agitation from wave action could also stimulate greater release of I<sub>2</sub>, as Bale et al. found (15). Clearly, I<sub>2</sub> emissions from *L. digitata* depend strongly on the particular population density and distribution of these macroalgae at a given location. For example, younger plantlets were shown to retain iodine in higher concentrations than older specimens which may result in a higher emission rate. It should be noted that our study did not address the influence of the season, temperature, age, or health on I<sub>2</sub> emissions by *L. digitata*. As the irradiance levels had no noticeable impact on the emitted amount or rate of I<sub>2</sub>, we calculate a combined (n=20) median emission rate of 55 pmol min<sup>-1</sup> gFW<sup>-1</sup> and a median amount emitted of 3.0 nmol gFW<sup>-1</sup>.

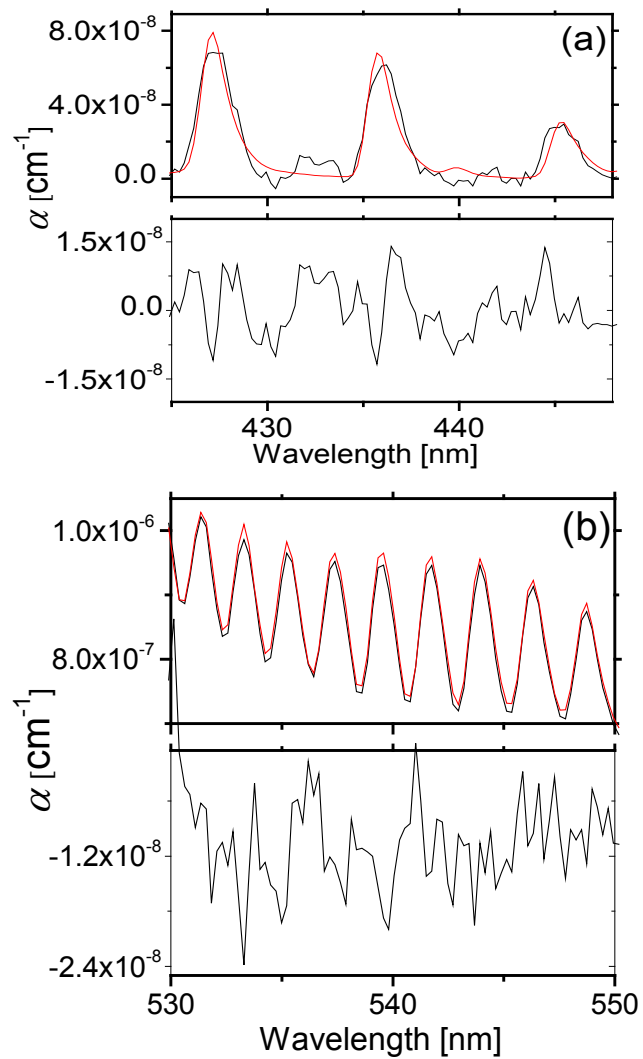
## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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**Figure 1.** Schematic diagram of the simulation chamber. TOP: side view of the chamber showing the location of the sample; BOTTOM: view from above showing the two-channel IBBCEAS system.



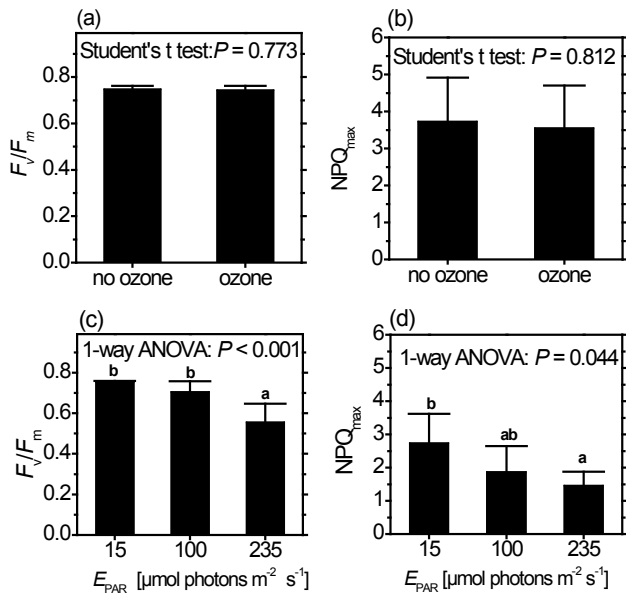
**Figure 2.** The measured absorption in the chamber (black) and fit of the reference spectra (red) for (a) IO and (b) I<sub>2</sub>. The fit residual is shown below each spectrum.

**Table 1.** Molecular iodine ( $I_2$ ) emission characteristics of *L. digitata* exposed to ambient air at  $22 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  and defined irradiances  $E_{\text{PAR}}$  of 15, 100, and 235  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ . Each experiment was carried out in five replicates ( $n=5$ ). Significant effects of  $E_{\text{PAR}}$  on  $I_2$  emission characteristics were analysed using the non-parametric Kruskal-Wallis test;  $P$  values are given. FW: fresh weight. DW: dry weight

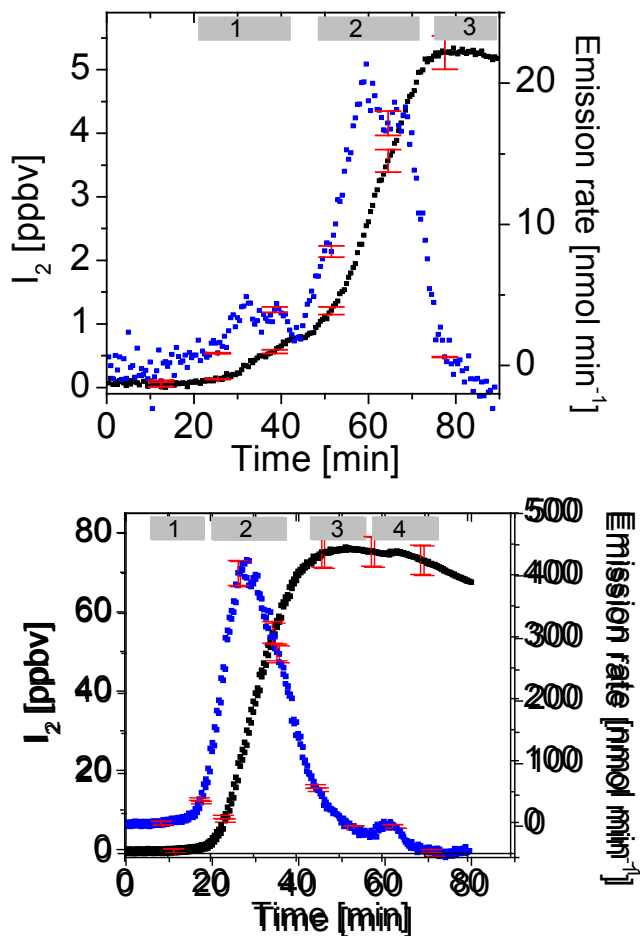
Replicate	FW (DW) [g]	Total $I_2$ emitted [nmol]	Amount $I_2$ emitted [nmol gFW <sup>-1</sup> ]	Duration of emission [min]	Average emission rate [pmol min <sup>-1</sup> gFW <sup>-1</sup> ]	Maximum emission rate [nmol min <sup>-1</sup> ]
<b>Low <math>E_{\text{PAR}}</math> (15 <math>\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}</math>)</b>						
#1	400 (66.6)	1129	2.82	55	51.3	62.0
#2	436 (79.8)	511	1.17	55	21.3	27.0
#3	272 (44.2)	1158	4.26	63	67.6	107.8
#4	374 (66.4)	1323	3.54	60	59.0	86.3
#5	248 (40.4)	243	0.98	58	16.9	15.3
<b>Median</b>		<b>1129</b>	<b>2.82</b>		<b>51.3</b>	<b>62.0</b>
<b>Medium <math>E_{\text{PAR}}</math> (100 <math>\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}</math>)</b>						
#6	311 (48.2)	1366	4.39	60	73.2	138.4
#7	380 (65.9)	1804	4.75	55	86.3	230.1
#8	272 (42.6)	1743	6.41	55	116.5	231.0
#9	253 (42.2)	97	0.38	55	7.0	7.2
#10	303 (49.9)	233	0.77	55	14.0	30.6
<b>Median</b>		<b>1366</b>	<b>4.39</b>		<b>73.2</b>	<b>138.4</b>
<b>High <math>E_{\text{PAR}}</math> (235 <math>\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}</math>)</b>						
#11	360 (57.9)	1114	3.10	60	51.6	73.7
#12	425 (62.2)	602	1.42	60	23.6	51.2
#13	306 (43.6)	360	1.18	55	21.4	25.2
#14	330 (54.7)	1681	5.09	60	84.9	185.1
#15	335 (51.25)	3296	9.84	60	164	278.6
<b>Median</b>		<b>1114</b>	<b>3.10</b>		<b>51.6</b>	<b>73.7</b>
<b><math>P</math> value</b>		0.811	0.613		0.651	0.619

**Table 2.** Molecular iodine (I<sub>2</sub>) emission characteristics of *L. digitata* exposed to ambient air without and with added O<sub>3</sub> at 22 ± 2°C. Each experiment was carried out in five replicates (n=5). Significant effects of O<sub>3</sub> on I<sub>2</sub> emission characteristics were analysed using the non-parametric Kruskal-Wallis test; *P* values are given. FW: fresh weight. DW: dry weight.

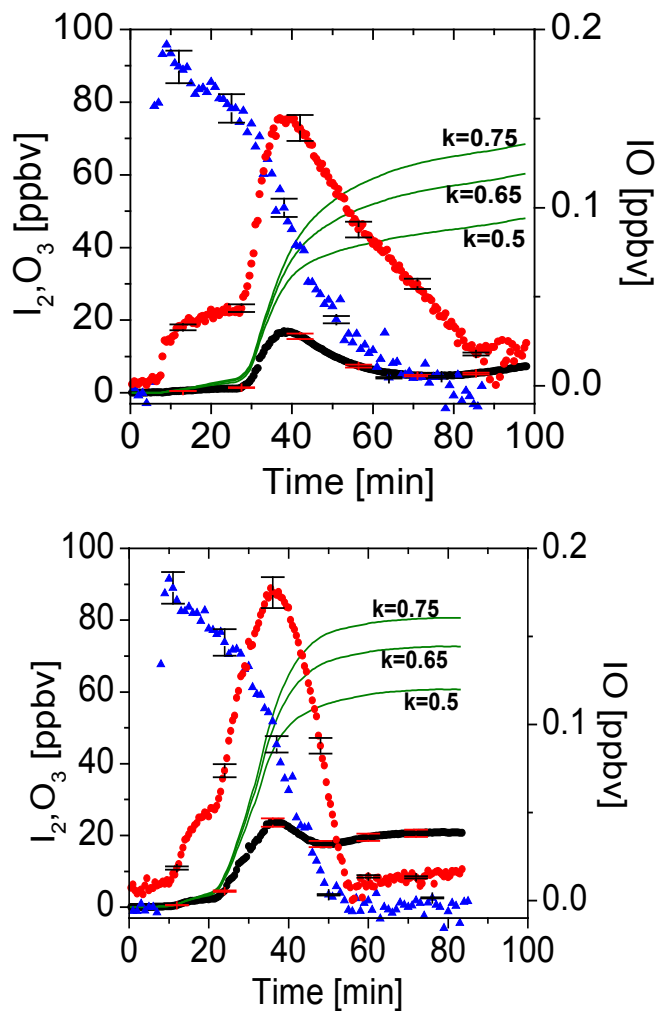
Replicate	FW (DW) [g]	Total I <sub>2</sub> emitted [nmol]	Amount I <sub>2</sub> emitted [nmol gFW <sup>-1</sup> ]	Duration of emission [min]	Average emission rate [pmol min <sup>-1</sup> gFW <sup>-1</sup> ]	Maximum emission rate [nmol min <sup>-1</sup> ]
<b>No O<sub>3</sub> added</b>						
#16	355 (78.7)	476	1.34	65	20.6	21.6
#17	238 (45.7)	351	1.47	63	23.4	22.5
#18	676 (153.9)	3065	4.53	70	64.8	273.2
#19	229 (53.6)	1385	6.05	60	100.8	107.8
#20	185 (49.8)	6832	36.93	60	616.0	422.4
<b>Median</b>		<b>1385</b>	<b>4.53</b>		<b>64.8</b>	<b>107.8</b>
<b>O<sub>3</sub> added</b>						
#21	274 (53.7)	157	0.57	58	9.9	2.7
#22	175 (34.6)	1681	9.60	65	147.7	57.5
#23	213 (47.7)	7891	37.05	62	597.5	116.8
#24	197 (43.6)	6210	31.52	70	450.3	192.3
#25	171 (35.1)	5473	32.01	80	400.0	263.3
<b>Median</b>		<b>5473</b>	<b>31.52</b>		<b>400.0</b>	<b>116.8</b>
<b><i>P</i> value</b>		0.548	0.421		0.548	0.841



**Figure 3.** Effect of varying ozone levels on (a) the maximum photosystem II efficiency  $F_v/F_m$  and (b) the maximum non-photochemical quenching of chl *a* fluorescence  $NPQ_{max}$  (measured at 1160  $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) of *Laminaria digitata* during 70 min exposure to air. The influence of defined irradiances  $E_{PAR}$  on  $F_v/F_m$  and  $NPQ_{max}$  are similarly presented in (c) and (d), respectively. Data are presented as mean and standard deviation ( $n=5$ ). Significant effects of  $O_3$  on photosynthetic parameters were analysed by using Student's t test; effects of  $E_{PAR}$  were analysed by using 1-way ANOVA.  $P$  values are given. Letters above the bars indicate significant differences within groups (i.e. between each level of  $E_{PAR}$ ) as revealed by Tukey's post hoc test.



**Figure 4.** Iodine emission profiles (black) and calculated rate of emission (blue) of two *L. digitata*. The four stages of the iodine emission profile are shown in the grey shaded area above the plot. The error bars are shown in red.



**Figure 5.** Time profiles of the mixing ratios of I<sub>2</sub> (black dots), O<sub>3</sub> (blue triangles) and IO (red dots, right axis) in the chamber following exposure of two specimens of *L. digitata*. The calculated total I<sub>2</sub> emission is shown for three different branching ratios of the IO self-reaction (green lines) leading to formation of iodine oxide particles.

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TOC graphic

