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8

9 **Calibration of the pH- $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and temperature-Mg/Li proxies in the long-lived high-**  
10 **latitude crustose coralline red alga *Clathromorphum compactum* via controlled**  
11 **laboratory experiments**

12

13 **Abstract**

14 A solid understanding of global oceanic change throughout Holocene time is needed to  
15 contextualize and interpret recent observations of rapid warming (Moore, 2016), ocean  
16 acidification (Popova et al., 2014; Qi et al., 2017), increasing meltwater input (Halfar et al.,  
17 2013; Notz and Stroeve, 2016) and circulation changes (Liu et al., 2017; Rahmstorf et al.,  
18 2015; Yang et al., 2016) in the Arctic and subarctic Oceans. Precisely reconstructing  
19 acidification and temperature variations throughout the Holocene will provide a vital context  
20 for interpreting current environmental changes and future climate projections in the region.  
21 However, existing paleoenvironmental reconstructions are sparse and uncertain, largely  
22 owing to limited availability of high fidelity paleoceanographic archives, such as marine  
23 carbonates, in high latitude waters. Coralline algae of the genus *Clathromorphum* have  
24 emerged as key candidates for reconstructing high-latitude environmental variability at  
25 annual to sub-annual resolution. Here, we present the first empirical calibrations of boron  
26 isotope-pH and Mg/Li-temperature relationships within the long-lived, crustose coralline red  
27 alga *Clathromorphum compactum*. Calibration experiments were performed in triplicate,  
28 growing wild-collected specimens for four months at three controlled temperatures (6.4 –  
29 12.4 °C) and four  $p\text{CO}_2$  conditions (352 - 3230 ppm), to test the effects of these  
30 environmental parameters on the isotopic and elemental composition of the algal skeleton.  
31 We find that boron isotopes within the skeleton of *C. compactum* ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ ) are well correlated  
32 with  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of seawater borate ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ ), defining the following equation:  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}} (2\sigma) = 1.46$   
33  $(0.06) \delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}} + 6.91 (0.72)$ . This equation can be used to reconstruct  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  of the  
34 coralline alga's ambient seawater, from which past seawater pH can be calculated. We also  
35 identified a strong correlation between skeletal Mg/Li ratio and seawater temperature,

36 defined by the equation:  $Mg/Li (2\sigma) = 0.17 (0.02) \text{ temperature } (^{\circ}C) + 1.02 (0.16)$ . Therefore,  
37 despite the strong biological control that this species appears to exert on calcification site pH  
38 (elevated 1.0-1.6 pH units above seawater pH, inferred from  $\delta^{11}B_{cc} > \delta^{11}B_{borate}$ ), and the  
39 apparent relationship between skeletal extension rate and skeletal Li/Ca and Mg/Ca, the  
40  $\delta^{11}B_{cc}$  and Mg/Li ratios of the coralline alga's skeleton strongly and significantly respond to  
41 ambient seawater pH and temperature, respectively. These results support the use of  $\delta^{11}B$  and  
42 Mg/Li within *C. compactum* for pH and temperature reconstructions of northern high-latitude  
43 oceans.

44

## 45 1.0 Introduction

### 46 1.1 Coralline algae as paleoenvironmental archives

47 Recent observations of dramatic warming (Moore, 2016), acidification (Popova et al., 2014;  
48 Qi et al., 2017), increasing meltwater input (Halfar et al., 2013; Notz and Stroeve, 2016), and  
49 circulation changes (Liu et al., 2017; Rahmstorf et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2016) in the Arctic  
50 and subarctic oceans suggest that these regions are particularly sensitive to impacts of  
51 anthropogenic global change. However, a better understanding of pre-anthropogenic  
52 environmental variations throughout Holocene time is needed to contextualize and interpret  
53 these changes, and to inform predictions of future change. Existing paleoceanographic  
54 reconstructions for these regions are relatively sparse and highly uncertain, largely because of  
55 the limited availability of reliable paleoceanographic archives in high-latitude waters, such as  
56 annually layered marine carbonates.

57

58 Crustose coralline red algae have been used for paleoecological reconstructions of geological  
59 intervals dating back to the early Tertiary (Adey, 1979). However, they have only recently  
60 been used to reconstruct environmental change of the Common Era (Burdett et al., 2011;  
61 Chan et al., 2011; Fietzke et al., 2015; Halfar et al., 2011; Hetzinger et al., 2018; Hetzinger et  
62 al., 2009; Kamenos, 2012; Kamenos and Law, 2010; Williams et al., 2011). This was largely  
63 because of incomplete understanding of the coralline algae's complex anatomy and the lack  
64 of suitable methodologies for analysing geochemical signals within their skeletons with the  
65 required spatial resolution and analytical accuracy. Coralline algae of the genus  
66 *Clathromorphum* have emerged as a promising climate archive of high-latitude marine  
67 environments, because of their resolvable annual growth bands and multi-century lifespan  
68 (Frantz et al., 2005; Halfar et al., 2013; Halfar et al., 2007), and their wide distribution in  
69 mid- and high-latitude environments throughout the northwest Atlantic, North Pacific, and

70 Arctic Oceans (Adey et al., 2008) (Figure 1). This has led to increased assessment of the  
71 genus's climate archiving potential.

72

### 73 *1.2 Ecology of coralline algae*

74 Coralline algae are the most diverse and abundant calcareous organisms within intertidal and  
75 shallow subtidal zones around the world (Steneck, 1986). They are keystone species within  
76 such ecosystems because they provide substrate for larval settlement of invertebrates onto  
77 rocky and sediment-dominated substrates. They also provide food for grazers, function as  
78 nursery grounds for a number of species (Chenelot et al., 2011; Steneck and Martone, 2007),  
79 and increase the structural integrity of reefs and sediments within the photic zone (Heyward  
80 and Negri, 1999; Roberts, 2001). Depending on their degree of control over calcification,  
81 dissolution, and grazing of their relatively soluble high-Mg calcite skeleton, ocean  
82 acidification and warming may have highly deleterious effects on their growth and survival  
83 (Borowitzka and Larkum, 1987; Fabricius et al., 2015; Hoegh-Guldberg et al., 2007; Ries et  
84 al., 2009). Specifically, coralline algae in colder, higher-latitude waters, which are  
85 characterized by lower calcium carbonate saturation states owing to increased solubility of  
86 atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and increasing meltwater input, could reach their limits of resilience even  
87 sooner than species of coralline algae in warmer, low latitude locations.

88

### 89 *1.3 Calcification within Clathromorphum coralline algae*

90 Coralline algae of the genus *Clathromorphum* grow at a rate of 300-400  $\mu\text{m yr}^{-1}$  in the  
91 warmer fringes of the subarctic ocean and Aleutian Islands, and 100  $\mu\text{m yr}^{-1}$  or less in the  
92 colder reaches of the subarctic and Arctic oceans (Adey et al., 2013). *Clathromorphum*  
93 produce annually resolved layers of high Mg-calcite crystals over their lifetime, delineated by  
94 seasonal changes in skeletal density (Chan et al., 2017). Living tissue and photosynthetic  
95 epithelial cells cover the meristem, protecting the calcified layers beneath the meristem, the  
96 perithallium, from diagenetic alteration (Alexandersson, 1974) and from herbivory (Steneck,  
97 1986). A continuous record of skeletal accretion is thereby maintained in the perithallium  
98 (Adey et al., 2013; Steneck, 1982), which is well-suited for archiving high-resolution  
99 paleoenvironmental variability (Figure 2). This mode of calcification contrasts that of other  
100 species of coralline algae that lack the meristem, and instead calcify across several cell layers  
101 below the coralline alga's surface, creating a diffusive, time-integrated band of calcification  
102 (Adey et al., 2013), limiting the temporal resolution of the archive.

103

104 Calcification within coralline algae is likely regulated by a number of metabolic processes  
 105 that influence the carbonate system, including photosynthesis and respiration (Beer and  
 106 Larkum, 2001; Gao et al., 1993; Hurd et al., 2011; Martin et al., 2013; Smith and Roth,  
 107 1979). For example, the calcification rate of coralline algae has been directly linked to  
 108 photosynthetic rate (Pentecost, 1978) and the availability of dissolved inorganic carbon  
 109 (Digby, 1977; Gao et al., 1993). Seawater dissolved inorganic carbon is converted to CO<sub>2</sub> for  
 110 photosynthesis within the algae through the action of the enzyme carbonic anhydrase, ion  
 111 transporters, and proton pumps (Comeau et al., 2013; Hofmann et al., 2016; McConnaughey  
 112 and Falk, 1991; McConnaughey and Whelan, 1997). Photosynthesis, in turn, removes CO<sub>2</sub>,  
 113 thereby increasing local calcite saturation state and promoting calcification (Gao et al., 1993).  
 114 Calcein staining and boron isotope studies indicate that, for some species of coralline algae,  
 115 the site of calcification is partially open to seawater exchange (Donald et al., 2017; Pauly et  
 116 al., 2015), even though calcification also occurs extracellularly in *Clathromorphum*, in a  
 117 region bound by the walls of adjacent cells (Adey et al., 2013). The role of photosynthesis in  
 118 coralline algal calcification is unclear in the genus *Clathromorphum*, as they calcify even  
 119 under extended periods of darkness (Adey, 1998; Adey et al., 2013). This may arise from the  
 120 algae's ability to store energy during periods of ample light and photosynthesis (Adey et al.,  
 121 2013), and supports prior assertions that organic templates and ion pumps are also important  
 122 in coralline algal calcification (Adey, 1998; Borowitzka and Larkum, 1987; Rahman and  
 123 Halfar, 2014).

124

#### 125 *1.4 Boron isotope systematics*

126 Boron isotopes in several marine carbonates have been used as a proxy of paleo-seawater pH  
 127 (Foster and Rae, 2016; Hemming and Hanson, 1992; Zeebe and Wolf-Gladrow, 2001). The  
 128 basis for the boron isotope proxy of seawater pH stems from the observation that both the  
 129 borate abundance and the boron isotopic composition of borate in seawater ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ )  
 130 increases systematically with increasing seawater pH (Zeebe and Wolf-Gladrow, 2001). The  
 131 relationship between  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  and seawater pH ( $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ ) is described as follows:

$$132 \text{pH}_{\text{sw}} = \text{pK}_B^* - \log \left[ - \frac{\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{sw}} - \delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}}{\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{sw}} - (\alpha_B \delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}} - 1000(\alpha_B - 1))} \right] \quad (1)$$

133 where  $\text{pK}_B^*$  is the constant describing the dissociation equilibrium between boric acid and  
 134 borate ion in seawater (Dickson, 1990a),  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{sw}}$  is the seawater boron isotopic composition  
 135 (in delta notation relative to NIST SRM 951 boric acid), and  $\alpha_B$  is the equilibrium constant

136 for boron isotope fractionation between boric acid and borate ion in seawater (1.0272;  
137 (Klochko et al., 2006) within uncertainty of other estimates (Nir et al., 2015)).

138  
139 Many species of calcium carbonate precipitating organisms elevate their calcifying fluid pH  
140 ( $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$ ) to promote calcification, as revealed by pH-microelectrode, pH-sensitive dyes, and/or  
141 boron isotope studies (Al-Horani et al., 2003; Anagnostou et al., 2012; Holcomb et al., 2014;  
142 Krief et al., 2010; McCulloch et al., 2012; Ries, 2011; Sutton et al., 2018; Venn et al., 2011;  
143 Venn et al., 2013). Therefore, to estimate  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  from skeletal  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ ) of coralline algal  
144 calcite, which prior studies suggest occurs primarily as borate ion, (Cornwall et al., 2017;  
145 Donald et al., 2017), species-specific relationships must be empirically defined between  
146 seawater  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ . These relationships are used to convert  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  into  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ ,  
147 which can then be substituted into equation (1) to solve for  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ .

148

#### 149 *1.5 pH and temperature proxies in coralline algae*

150 There is no established calibration of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  vs.  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  proxy in any species of coralline red  
151 alga. However, coralline algal  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  has been used to estimate pH at the alga's site of  
152 calcification. For example,  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  was found to be substantially elevated relative to  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$   
153 of the ambient seawater in two species of low-latitude branching, non-articulate coralline  
154 algae (*Neogoniolithon* sp. and *Sporolithon durum*) and within one species of low-latitude  
155 articulate coralline red alga (*Amphiroa anceps*) cultured over a range of controlled  $\text{pCO}_2$   
156 conditions. The increase in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  relative to  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  translates to a 0.5-1.5 unit increase in  
157  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  relative to ambient  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  (Cornwall et al., 2017; Donald et al., 2017). Similarly, a wild  
158 specimen of *C. nereostratum* exhibited substantially elevated  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  relative to  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  of  
159 ambient seawater, which was also attributed to the alga's  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  being at least 0.6 units greater  
160 than its ambient  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  (Fietzke et al., 2015).

161

162 The Mg/Ca ratio of calcite has been proposed as a temperature proxy in both inorganically  
163 (Berner, 1975) and organically precipitated calcite (Chave, 1954). In coralline algae, the  
164 majority of skeletal  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  is incorporated into their high-Mg calcite lattice, rather than being  
165 associated with organic matter or other Mg-bearing mineral phases (Kamenos et al., 2009;  
166 Ries, 2006). The Mg/Ca ratio of coralline algal calcite varies as a function of seawater  
167 temperature (e.g. Chave, 1954; Hetzinger et al., 2018; Kamenos et al., 2008; Williams et al.,  
168 2014), seawater Mg/Ca (Ries, 2006; Stanley et al., 2002), seawater pH (Ries, 2011), and  
169 growth rate (Kolesar, 1978; Moberly, 1968; Sletten et al., 2017) in a manner similar to that of

170 inorganically precipitated calcite (Gabitov et al., 2014b). The Mg/Ca of coralline algal calcite  
171 has also been shown to vary amongst species (through so-called ‘vital effects’), and with  
172 seasonal cycles in insolation and sea ice cover affecting light levels (Moberly, 1968; Sletten  
173 et al., 2017; Adey et al. 2013; Williams et al. 2018). However, these effects are difficult to  
174 isolate in wild specimens due to their seasonal covariation. Furthermore, most Mg/Ca-  
175 temperature relationships in coralline algae are calibrated using wild specimens grown in  
176 poorly constrained seawater temperatures, such as those derived from satellites (Williams et  
177 al., 2014), often by averaging temperatures over  $2^{\circ} \times 2^{\circ}$  latitudinal-longitudinal areas  
178 (Hetzinger et al., 2018), and/or by aligning maxima and minima to temporally coordinate the  
179 elemental and temperature timeseries (Kamenos et al., 2008). All of these approaches could  
180 lead to inaccuracies in the Mg/Ca vs. temperature calibrations and in the final reconstructed  
181 seawater temperatures.

182

183 Lithium/calcium ratios (Li/Ca) in inorganically precipitated calcite has been shown to vary  
184 inversely with temperature (Marriott et al., 2004a; Marriott et al., 2004b). However, the Li/Ca  
185 compositions of foraminifera, corals, coralline algae and other marine calcifiers are also  
186 influenced by variations in seawater Li/Ca ratio, carbonate ion concentration, calcium  
187 carbonate polymorph mineralogy, and calcification rate (Caragnano et al., 2014; Case et al.,  
188 2010; Delaney et al., 1985; Dellinger et al., 2018; Fowell et al., 2016; Hall and Chan, 2004;  
189 Montagna et al., 2014).

190

191 The Mg/Li composition of aragonitic corals (Case et al., 2010; Fowell et al., 2016; Montagna  
192 et al., 2014) and calcitic and aragonitic foraminifera (Marchitto et al. 2007; Bryan and  
193 Marchitto 2008; Marchitto et al. 2018) exhibits a strong positive dependence on temperature.  
194 According to a Rayleigh model of calcification (e.g. Elderfield et al. 1996), growth rate could  
195 have similar effects on the partitioning of  $\text{Li}^+$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  between the carbonate skeleton and  
196 the organism’s calcifying fluid. Therefore, dividing Li/Ca by Mg/Ca reduces the secondary  
197 impacts of calcification rate on the elemental relationship with temperature, thereby  
198 rendering Li/Mg a more reliable recorder of seawater temperature than Li/Ca or Mg/Ca alone  
199 (Marchitto et al. 2018; Bryan and Marchitto 2008). However, a prior field-based Mg/Li  
200 calibration of the coralline alga *L. kotschy anum* did not show any improvement over the  
201 Mg/Ca or Li/Ca temperature proxies (Caragnano et al., 2014).

202

203 Here we present the first rigorous calibration of the pH- $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and temperature-Mg/Li  
204 relationships for specimens of the arctic/subarctic coralline alga *C. compactum*, which were  
205 cultured for 120 days in a controlled laboratory experiment comprising three seawater  
206 temperature conditions crossed with four  $\text{CO}_2$ -manipulated seawater pH conditions.

207

## 208 2.0 Methodology

### 209 2.1 *Coralline algal cultures*

210 Specimens of *C. compactum* were collected from offshore Acadia National Park, Maine, at a  
211 depth of 9-10 m (44° 22' 21.76" N, 68° 4' 38.67" W). The coralline algae (Figure 2) were  
212 subsequently reared in flow-through seawater aquaria at controlled  $p\text{CO}_2$  and temperature  
213 conditions. The  $p\text{CO}_2$  of the experimental gases were formulated by mixing compressed air  
214 and  $\text{CO}_2$  with solenoid-valve mass flow controllers, while seawater temperature was  
215 controlled with water chillers coupled with 50 W electric heaters. The aquaria were  
216 illuminated with  $258 \mu\text{E m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  on a 10:14 hr light:dark cycle. Each experiment was  
217 conducted in triplicate 42 L acrylic aquaria, formulated at four  $p\text{CO}_2$  levels ( $1\sigma$ ): 352 (9), 490  
218 (16), 886 (38), and 3229 (343)  $\mu\text{atm}$  and three temperatures ( $1\sigma$ ): 6.4 (0.1), 8.8 (0.2), and  
219 12.4 (0.1) °C, for a total of 12 treatments (Table 1). Seawater from the Gulf of Maine  
220 offshore Nahant, Massachusetts, was filtered at 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  and then pumped through each  
221 aquarium at the rate of  $75 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$ . This flow rate was slow enough to allow the mixed  
222 gases to reach near-equilibrium with the experimental seawater, yet fast enough to prevent  
223 depletion of dissolved ions within the experimental seawater treatments. The  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$   
224 composition of each experimental treatment was monitored throughout the duration of the  
225 experiment and averaged ( $1\sigma$ ) 39.40‰ (0.31), thus within analytical uncertainty of open  
226 seawater  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  ( $39.61 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , Foster et al., 2010). The  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  (average  $\pm$  uncertainty) of  
227 the experimental treatments is derived from equation (1) using measured  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{sw}}$  and average  
228 (+maximum/-minimum)  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  of each treatment (Table EA1), the latter of which was  
229 calculated with the program CO2SYS (Excel, v2.3; Lewis & Wallace 1998) from  
230 measurements of total alkalinity and dissolved inorganic carbon, using  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  constants  
231 from Roy et al. (1993), the  $K_{\text{HSO}_4}$  constant from Dickson (1990b), and total [B] from  
232 Uppstrom (1974).

233

### 234 2.2 *Sample preparation and analytical approach*

235 Algal skeleton produced exclusively under experimental conditions was identified relative to  
236 a calcein marker emplaced in the skeletons before the start of the experiment. Approximately

237 3 mg of newly grown skeleton below the tissue layer and meristem, but above the calcein  
238 marker, was manually removed with a dental drill. Each sample was then cleaned twice in a  
239 clean laboratory fitted with boron-free HEPA filters at the University of Southampton. The  
240 cleaning process involved immersing the sample for 15 min in a 500  $\mu\text{L}$  oxidative mixture of  
241 10% hydrogen peroxide buffered with 0.1 M ammonium hydroxide maintained at 80  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and  
242 then ultra-sonicating the sample for 5 sec every 5 min, followed by three rinses with Milli-Q  
243 water (18.2  $\text{M}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$ ). The samples were leached for 30 seconds with 250  $\mu\text{L}$  0.0005M nitric  
244 acid and then dissolved in a minimal volume of 0.5 M double-distilled nitric acid in 200  $\mu\text{L}$   
245 Milli-Q water in acid-leached *Teflon* vials. Approximately 7% of the sample was then  
246 removed for trace element analysis following established techniques (e.g. Donald et al.,  
247 2017) on a *Thermo Scientific Element XR* sector-field inductively-coupled-plasma mass  
248 spectrometer (ICPMS) at the University of Southampton, with long-term precision ( $2\sigma$ ) of in-  
249 house consistency standards of 2% (for Mg/Ca) and 4% (for Li/Ca and B/Ca). The remainder  
250 of each dissolved sample was processed for  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  analysis on a *Thermo Scientific Neptune*  
251 multicollector ICPMS at the University of Southampton following established protocols  
252 (Foster, 2008; Foster et al., 2013). This technique utilized the  $10^{12}$  Omega resistors for the  
253 Faraday detectors, resulting in analytical uncertainty of each  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  measurement (95%  
254 confidence, after applying total procedural blank correction) of:

$$255 \quad 2\sigma = 12960e^{-212[^{11}\text{B}]} + 0.3385e^{-1.544[^{11}\text{B}]}$$

256 where  $^{11}\text{B}$  is voltage on the Faraday detector.

257

### 258 *2.3 Statistical analyses*

259 Calibrations were modelled as bivariate least squares linear regressions using the weighted  
260 York et al. (2004) approach in Matlab, which accounts for errors in both the X and Y  
261 variables (Thirumalai et al., 2011). To account for uncertainties in temperature and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ ,  
262 the 95% confidence intervals of the calibration regressions are calculated using a Monte  
263 Carlo approach in which 1000 weighted linear regressions are generated by sampling at  
264 random within a Gaussian distribution of uncertainty around each variable. Multivariate  
265 linear regressions (of the R statistical software; <http://www.r-project.org>) were used to model  
266 covariation between environmental and coralline algal growth parameters,  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ , Mg/Ca,  
267 Li/Ca, Mg/Li, and B/Ca composition, Pearson's correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ), p-value, t-value,  
268 slope, and intercept (where applicable).

269



## 270 3.0 Results

### 271 3.1 Boron isotopes of *C. compactum*

272 The  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  of *C. compactum* across all  $p\text{CO}_2$  and temperature treatments range from 24.36 ‰  
273 to 30.97 ‰ (Table 1). Specimens grown in different replicate tanks maintained at equivalent  
274  $p\text{CO}_2$  and temperature conditions exhibited average variability ( $1\sigma$ ) of 0.5 ‰  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ . The  
275 least variability (0.2-0.4 ‰) was observed for the highest temperature treatments and the  
276 greatest (up to 1.0 ‰) for the lowest temperature treatments (Table 1). Analyses of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  for  
277 two specimens within the same replicate tanks of the 9 °C-470  $\mu\text{atm}$  and 9 °C-360  $\mu\text{atm}$   
278 treatments revealed within-tank variability in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  (grey-shaded cells in Table 1) of 0.07 ‰  
279 and 0.27 ‰, respectively.

280

#### 281 3.1.1 The $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ – pH proxy

282 The  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ -pH proxy is calibrated through the established approach of correlating  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  with  
283  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  (instead of correlating  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  with  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ ) to account for the effects of temperature,  
284 salinity, and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{sw}}$  composition on  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ . The  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  of *C. compactum* is consistently  
285 greater than seawater  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  by 12-14 ‰ (Figure 3, Figure EA1), and varies linearly with  
286  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  pursuant to the regression:

287

$$288 \delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}} (2\sigma) = 1.46 (0.06) \delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}} + 6.91 (0.72) (R^2 = 0.9, p \ll 0.01) \quad (2)$$

289

290 Multiple linear regression analysis did not reveal any significant relationships between  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$   
291 and net calcification rate (derived from changes in buoyant weight), seawater temperature, or  
292 salinity ( $p > 0.05$ , Table 2). However,  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  significantly varied with both linear extension  
293 and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  ( $p \ll 0.001$ , Table 2). Including both linear extension and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  in the  
294 multivariable regression did not improve the fit of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  vs.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  model compared  
295 with the weighted bivariate linear regression (Thirumalai et al., 2011) ( $R^2 = 0.90$ ), and  
296 instead increased the uncertainty ( $\pm 2\sigma$ ) of the model's slope ( $\pm 0.10$ ) and intercept ( $\pm 12.31$ ).  
297 The  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  vs.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  relationship can be used to reconstruct  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  by substituting Equation  
298 2 into Equation 1, which yields the following equation:

$$299 \text{pH}_{\text{sw}} = \text{p}K_B^* - \log \left[ - \frac{\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{sw}} - (\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}} - 6.91)/1.46}{\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{sw}} - (\alpha_B (\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}} - 6.91)/1.46 - 1000 (\alpha_B - 1))} \right]$$

300 (3)

301

302 The uncertainty of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  vs.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  regression is illustrated with the 95% confidence  
303 interval (dashed envelope in Figure 3) and contributes an average error of 0.03 to  
304 reconstructed pH, which increases towards lower seawater pH. The total uncertainty of  
305 reconstructed pH includes also the uncertainty of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  analyses, and is therefore sample-  
306 specific. For the algal specimens used to develop the calibration, reconstructed pH exhibits an  
307 average uncertainty of +0.05/-0.10 pH units, with 31 of the 36 reconstructed pH values  
308 (including associated uncertainty) overlapping the corresponding measured seawater pH  
309 range, indicating that reconstructed pH faithfully represents seawater pH (Figure EA2).

310

### 311 3.1.2 Calcifying fluid pH from $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$

312 Assuming that boron in the skeleton of *C. compactum* is derived solely from borate ion in the  
313 alga's calcifying fluid,  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  can also be used to calculate  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  (Table 1) and its relative  
314 offset from  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  ( $\Delta\text{pH}$ ), expressed here also as the difference in the concentration of protons  
315 between seawater and calcifying fluid ( $\Delta[\text{H}^+]$ ). As expected from the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  vs.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$   
316 relationship,  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  is strongly positively correlated with  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  ( $R^2 = 0.8$ ,  $p \ll 0.01$ , Figure 4a).  
317 Notably,  $\Delta\text{pH}$  increases from ~1 to 1.6 and  $\Delta[\text{H}^+]$  decreases from  $-0.6 \cdot 10^{-8}$  to  $-6.5 \cdot 10^{-8}$  M  
318 with a decrease in  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  from 8.1 to 7.2 (Figure 4b), suggesting that the algae are removing  
319 more protons from their calcifying fluid under more acidic seawater conditions.

320

### 321 3.2 B/Ca in *C. compactum*

322 Boron/calcium ratios (B/Ca) in the investigated *C. compactum* specimens range from 320 to  
323 430  $\mu\text{mol/mol}$  amongst treatments (Table 1), a smaller range of B/Ca compared to that within  
324 the skeleton of the branching coralline alga *Neogoniolithon* sp. (350 to 750  $\mu\text{mol/mol}$ ) when  
325 cultured over a similar range of  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  (Donald et al., 2017). The lower sensitivity of B/Ca to  
326  $\text{pCO}_2$  and temperature of the experimental treatments within *C. compactum* compared to  
327 *Neogoniolithon* sp., and the large average standard deviation in B/Ca (27  $\mu\text{mol/mol}$ ) amongst  
328 treatment replicates, hinder development of robust regressions between B/Ca and  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  or  
329 temperature. Here because of the consistently higher B/Ca at higher  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  within the  
330 coralline algae, (Figure EA3) is used solely as evidence towards the assertion that dissolved  
331 borate ion is the primary form of B incorporated into the coralline algal calcite. For  
332 consistency with the analyses of skeletal Mg/Ca and Li/Ca, multivariate regression analysis is  
333 used to evaluate the relationship between B/Ca and temperature,  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ , growth rate, and linear  
334 extension (Table 2).

335

### 336 3.3 Mg/Li-temperature relationships in *C. compactum*

337 Coralline algal Mg/Ca ratios range from 115 to 170 mmol/mol, consistent with other studies  
338 on *Clathromorphum* sp. (Williams et al., 2014), with replicate samples yielding average  
339 standard deviation of 8 mmol/mol (Table 1). Multivariate regression analysis (Table 2)  
340 reveals that neither temperature nor pH<sub>sw</sub> have a statistically significant relationship with  
341 skeletal Mg/Ca (p>0.5), although Mg/Ca was found to significantly vary with linear  
342 extension rate (p<0.01) (Table 2, Figure EA4). The Li/Ca composition of *C. compactum*  
343 ranges from 40 to 77 μmol/mol, more than four times the Li/Ca composition of the coralline  
344 alga *Lithophyllum kotschyianum* (Caragnano et al., 2014), with replicate samples yielding  
345 average standard deviation of 5 μmol/mol. A similar multivariate regression analysis of Li/Ca  
346 within *C. compactum* specimens reveals a strong, statistically significant inverse relationship  
347 with temperature (p<0.01) and a weaker but still statistically significant relationship with  
348 linear extension (p<0.05) (Table 2, Figure EA4). Similar to Mg/Ca, Li/Ca does not  
349 significantly vary with pH<sub>sw</sub> (p=0.1). Mg/Ca is highly variable across the skeleton in  
350 *Clathromorphum*, a phenomenon previously attributed to different modes and/or rates of  
351 calcification across the skeleton (Fietzke et al. 2015), potentially owing to differences in light  
352 intensity (Williams et al., 2018). We suspect that Li/Ca ratios in *C. compactum* are linked to  
353 similar processes based upon the significant correlation between skeletal extension rate and  
354 skeletal Li/Ca.

355

356 Notably, skeletal Mg/Li was found to exhibit a stronger relationship with temperature ( $R^2 =$   
357 0.7,  $p < 0.01$ , Figure 5) than either Mg/Ca or Li/Ca alone, yielding the following equation:

358

$$359 \text{Mg/Li (2}\sigma\text{)} = 0.17 (0.02) * \text{temperature (}^\circ\text{C)} + 1.02 (0.16)$$

360

361 Based on the 95% confidence interval of the regression (considering error on both  
362 temperature and Mg/Li), coralline algal Mg/Li ratios yield seawater temperatures with an  
363 uncertainty of 0.5 °C within the temperature range of 7.5 - 11.5°C, up to an uncertainty of 1.5  
364 °C at the extreme ends of the regression. Although there is relatively high variability in  
365 Mg/Li amongst replicate specimens, averaging 2-3 replicate specimens brings Mg/Li values  
366 (solid grey circles, Figure 5) within the 95% confidence interval of the calibration regression.

367

## 368 4.0 Discussion

### 369 4.1 Boron isotope – pH proxy in *C. compactum*

370 Boron isotopes have been employed in a variety of calcium carbonate precipitating marine  
371 organisms to reconstruct  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  (Foster, 2008; Hönisch et al., 2009; Pelejero et al., 2005; Wei  
372 et al., 2009). Even in coralline algae, where calcification can occur extracellularly but within  
373 fluids bounded by adjacent algal cell walls, skeletal boron isotopes reflect  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  with varying  
374 degrees of species-specific biological control (Cornwall et al., 2017; Donald et al., 2017).  
375 Assuming that borate is the primary form of boron incorporated into the skeleton of *C.*  
376 *compactum*, the elevated  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of the coralline algal skeleton relative to that expected from the  
377  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}\text{-pH}_{\text{sw}}$  relationship suggests that pH within the alga's zone of calcification is higher  
378 than pH of the surrounding seawater (shown as  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  vs.  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  in Figure 4a and  $\Delta\text{pH}$  and  
379  $\Delta[\text{H}^+]$  in Figure 4b). This could promote calcification in a manner similar to foraminifera (De  
380 Nooijer et al., 2014), corals (Al-Horani et al., 2003; Holcomb et al., 2014; Krief et al., 2010;  
381 McCulloch et al., 2012; Venn et al., 2011), and other species of marine calcifiers (Sutton et  
382 al., 2018).

383

384 As with *Neogoniolithon* sp. (Donald et al., 2017) and some cold water corals (Stewart et al.,  
385 2016), *C. compactum*  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  is positively correlated with  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  and skeletal B/Ca (Figures  
386 3, 5). However, the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}\text{-pH}_{\text{sw}}$  relationship of *C. compactum* is more linear than that  
387 observed for the tropical, branching coralline algae *Neogoniolithon* sp. (Donald et al., 2017).  
388 This underscores the importance of developing species-specific calibrations for the algal  
389  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}\text{-pH}_{\text{sw}}$  proxy. Importantly, B/Ca and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  are both highly positively correlated with  
390  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  (Table 2), which is qualitatively consistent with the assumption that dissolved borate  
391 ion is the primary form of B incorporated into coralline algal calcite (Cornwall et al., 2017;  
392 Donald et al., 2017; Zeebe and Wolf-Gladrow, 2001). As with previous studies (Donald et  
393 al., 2017), there is a parabolic relationship between  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  and calcification rate (derived from  
394 change in buoyant weight) and linear extension (Table 1, Figure EA5). If lower calcification  
395 rates are accompanied by increased incorporation of boric acid in the coralline alga skeleton,  
396 as observed in experiments on inorganically precipitated calcite (Noireaux et al., 2015;  
397 Farmer et al. 2019), this would weaken the linear relationship between  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  by  
398 increasing the offset between  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  (and inflate the calculated  $\Delta\text{pH}$ ) for both  
399 low and high seawater pH treatments. That this phenomenon was not observed in the present  
400 study (Figure 4b) suggests that if present, any boric acid incorporation into the algal skeleton  
401 does not systematically vary with algal calcification rate and pH.

402

403 The slopes and intercepts of the relationship between  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  and seawater  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  are greater  
404 in *C. compactum* than in most other marine carbonates (slope of 1.5 vs.  $\leq 1$ , y-intercept of 6.9  
405 vs.  $\leq 3$ , (Foster and Rae, 2016; Stewart et al., 2016 and references therein)), and the  
406 sensitivity (slope) and offset (intercept) of *C. compactum*  $\text{pH}_{\text{cc}}$  to seawater  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  is larger than  
407 in other species of coralline algae studied to date (Figure 4a). The apparent increase in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$   
408 ( $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$ ) relative to  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  ( $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ ), and the increase in absolute magnitude of both  $\Delta\text{pH}$  and  
409  $\Delta[\text{H}^+]$  with decreasing  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  collectively suggest that *C. compactum* allocates substantial  
410 energy to maintaining conditions favourable for calcification (i.e., expelling  $\text{H}^+$ , increasing  
411 pH at the site of calcification). This may contribute to this species' ability to occupy a wide  
412 geographic and, thus, environmental range, despite its highly soluble high-Mg calcite  
413 skeleton, including in Arctic and subarctic waters where they experience lower pH and  
414 calcium carbonate saturation states than in warmer waters.

415

416 The  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  of *C. compactum* exhibited a weak but statistically significant relationship with  
417 linear extension rate even after accounting for the confounding effects of carbonate chemistry  
418 on algal growth and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  (Table 2). This is important from a physiological perspective  
419 because it suggests that growth of *C. compactum* is enhanced by elevating pH at the site of  
420 calcification. The relationship between growth and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  was not evident for the tropical  
421 coralline alga *Neogoniolithon* sp. (Donald et al., 2017), indicating that it is not consistent  
422 across all species of coralline algae. However, net calcification rate (i.e., gross calcification  
423 minus gross dissolution) within *C. compactum*, estimated from changes in buoyant weight of  
424 the coralline algae, did not vary significantly with  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  (Table 2). On the contrary,  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$   
425 and net calcification rate within *Neogoniolithon* sp. covaried in the pH range of 7.64 - 8.08  
426 (Cornwall et al., 2017), providing additional evidence of interspecific differences in algal  
427 growth- $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  relationships. The discrepancy between trends in linear extension vs.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$   
428 and net calcification vs.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  may arise from the dissolution of exposed skeleton in the  
429 undersaturated treatments having a more negative impact on net calcification than on linear  
430 extension. Furthermore, this species of coralline algae are able to calcify even during  
431 prolonged periods of darkness, both in aquaria and in the wild during the dark months of the  
432 Arctic/subarctic winter (Adey et al., 2013). This suggests that the observed elevation of  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$   
433 relative to  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  (estimated from elevation of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  relative to  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ ) is not solely driven  
434 by light-induced photosynthetic drawdown of inorganic carbon, but could be instead driven  
435 by active removal of protons from the alga's calcifying fluid. This, in concert with the

436 deployment of chitin, collagen, and proteinaceous polysaccharides (Rahman and Halfar,  
437 2014), may promote the formation and stabilization of coralline algal skeleton independent of  
438 light availability, which would confer a high degree of plasticity to this alga's mechanism of  
439 calcification.

440

441 The ability of *C. compactum* to modify its  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  might also be the reason for the small degree  
442 of variance in its  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  amongst within-treatment replicates (Table 1), compared with other  
443 species of coralline algae, such as *Neogoniolithon* sp. (Donald et al., 2017), that have been  
444 investigated in similarly designed experiments. Nevertheless, the standard deviation in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$   
445 amongst within-treatment replicates of *C. compactum* exhibits a statistically significant ( $p =$   
446 0.03) inverse relationship with water temperature (from 6 to 12 °C), but no significant  
447 relationship with  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  ( $p = 0.8$ ), suggesting that *C. compactum* has less control over  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  at  
448 lower temperatures. This is consistent with prior field-based observations (Adey et al., 2013)  
449 that the optimal temperature range for growth of this species is 11-12 °C. Therefore,  
450 assuming that coralline algae have more energy available for controlling  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  when  
451 inhabiting waters closer to their thermal optimum, these results support the assertion that  
452 controlling  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  is energetically expensive (McCulloch et al., 2012).

453

#### 454 *4.2 Mg/Li – temperature proxy*

455 Multivariate linear regression analysis revealed that the skeletal Mg/Ca ratio of *C.*  
456 *compactum* varied significantly with rates of linear extension, but not with seawater  
457 temperature (Table 1). These results suggest that field-based Mg/Ca-temperature calibrations  
458 of *Clathromorphum* (Gamboa et al., 2010; Hetzinger et al., 2010; Williams et al., 2014) could  
459 at least partly reflect temperature-induced changes in calcification rate on skeletal Mg/Ca  
460 ratios (Gabitov et al., 2014a; Kolesar, 1978; Moberly, 1968; Sletten et al., 2017).

461 Alternatively, the strong seasonal relationships between seawater temperature and algal  
462 skeletal Mg/Ca observed in the field may arise from seasonal variations in light intensity  
463 and/or ice cover (Halfar et al., 2013; Williams et al. 2018) that are correlated with  
464 temperature. Those relationships may also simply be more evident in the field than in the  
465 present laboratory experiment where the seasonal range of temperatures is larger than the 6 -  
466 12 °C range employed in the experiment.

467

468 The Li/Ca ratios in *C. compactum* exhibited a strong inverse relationship with seawater  
469 temperature, and a relatively small but statistically significant relationship with linear

470 extension rate (Table 2). This constitutes a novel proxy for seawater temperature within  
471 coralline algae. Since the effect of extension rate on Mg/Ca and Li/Ca is in the same  
472 direction, dividing skeletal Mg/Ca by Li/Ca to yield Mg/Li ratios effectively reduces the  
473 confounding effects of linear extension on the Mg/Li-temperature proxy (Figure 5; Table 2).

474

475 The sensitivity of the Mg/Li ratio to seawater temperature is approximately 10-fold greater  
476 for *C. compactum* than for aragonitic carbonates (Marchitto et al. 2018; Montagna et al.,  
477 2014; Fowell et al. 2016) and calcitic foraminifera (Marchitto et al. 2007; Bryan and  
478 Marchitto 2008) (Figure 5). This is potentially driven by differences in mineralogy, with *C.*  
479 *compactum* containing approximately 30-fold higher Mg/Ca and 3-fold higher Li/Ca ratio  
480 relative to coral and foraminiferal aragonite and foraminiferal calcite, and calcification  
481 mechanisms amongst these organisms.

482

483 Although mechanisms of calcification within coralline algae remain poorly understood and  
484 likely vary amongst species, there is evidence that calcification occurs within semi-isolated  
485 regions and could therefore exhibit evolution of elemental chemistry as a function of  
486 calcification rate, modified by rate of seawater exchange, ion transport, and other factors,  
487 such as elemental binding via organic templates and ion entrapment (Marchitto et al. 2018;  
488 Gabitov et al., 2014a; Gabitov et al., 2011; Gagnon et al., 2012). All of these processes have  
489 the potential to influence elemental partitioning within different structural components of  
490 coralline algal calcite under different growth rate and temperature regimes. Nevertheless, the  
491 strong correlation between *C. compactum* Mg/Li and seawater temperature, in a manner  
492 similar to that observed within aragonitic corals and foraminifera, and provides the first  
493 compelling empirical support for the viability of this temperature proxy within *C.*

494 *compactum*.

495

## 496 5.0 Conclusions

497 Strong and statistically significant relationships were identified between skeletal  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  and  
498 seawater  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  (which varies as a function of  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ ), and between skeletal Mg/Li and  
499 seawater temperature, for specimens of the encrusting coralline alga *C. compactum* cultured  
500 for approximately 120 days in a controlled  $p\text{CO}_2$ -temperature experiment. These  
501 relationships permitted development of a  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ -based proxy of seawater pH and a Mg/Li-  
502 based proxy of seawater temperature for *C. compactum*, with regression specific average  
503 uncertainties of 0.03 pH units and 0.7-1.5 °C, respectively. The observed elevation of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$

504 relative to  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  suggests that this species of coralline red alga calcifies from a semi-  
505 isolated fluid of substantially elevated pH (1.0-1.6 pH units) relative to that of its ambient  
506 seawater, with the degree of proton (and thus pH) modification increasing with decreasing  
507 seawater pH. The relatively low variance in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  amongst replicate specimens within  
508 treatments provides further empirical support for the viability of the *C. compactum*  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ -pH  
509 proxy. The combined Li/Ca-Mg/Ca (i.e., Mg/Li) proxy was more significantly related to  
510 temperature than Li/Ca alone, apparently due to reduction of the confounding effects of  
511 skeletal extension rate on Li/Ca and Mg/Ca elemental partitioning in the skeleton achieved by  
512 dividing the two ratios. This species of coralline red alga may be particularly useful in  
513 paleoceanographic reconstructions because of its annually layered skeletons and its  
514 widespread distribution in the Arctic and subarctic oceans. Their growth can span a  
515 millennium, potentially providing long-term, annually resolved records of ocean acidification  
516 and warming in ocean basins historically lacking in these proxy records.

517

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526

#### 527 **Figure captions**

528 Figure 1: Geographic distribution of *Clathromorphum* species in the Arctic and subarctic  
529 oceans (Adey et al., 2013). Distribution of *C. nereostratum* is shown in yellow and *C.*  
530 *compactum* in red on a map from Google Earth (Image: Landsat/Copernicus, IBCAO, USGS,  
531 Data: SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO). Star indicates the sampling location of the  
532 species used in this study.

533

534 Figure 2: Cross section through a *Clathromorphum* skeleton showing the meristem,  
535 perithallium, and epithallium structures (Williams et al., 2018).

536



537 Figure 3: Weighted linear regression between skeletal  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ ) of *C. compactum* and  
538  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of seawater borate ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ ). The uncertainties on both axes were accounted for in  
539 generating both the regression and its 95% confidence interval (see Methods for details).

540

541 Figure 4: Relationships between seawater pH ( $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ ), pH recorded by the coralline algae  
542 ( $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$ ), and proton differentials between the two. (a) Linear regression of  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  vs.  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  for *C.*  
543 *compactum* in the present study. Previously published relationships of  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  vs.  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  for three  
544 other species of coralline algae are shown for comparison. The solid line shows the 1:1  
545 relationship between  $\text{pH}_{\text{cf}}$  and  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ . (b) pH offset ( $\Delta\text{pH} = \text{pH}_{\text{cf}} - \text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ ) and proton  
546 concentration difference ( $\Delta[\text{H}^+] = [\text{H}^+]_{\text{cf}} - [\text{H}^+]_{\text{sw}}$ ) between the calcifying fluid and ambient  
547 seawater of *C. compactum*, as a function of  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$ . Red circles denote  $\Delta[\text{H}^+]$  and blue circles  
548 represent  $\Delta\text{pH}$ .

549

550 Figure 5: Relationship between skeletal Mg/Li and seawater temperature. Weighted linear  
551 regression of skeletal Mg/Li vs. seawater temperature is shown with solid blue line and 95%  
552 confidence interval of the regression is shown with dotted light blue curves (see Methods).  
553 The solid grey circles represent replicate means. For comparison, Mg/Li-temperature  
554 relationships are shown for aragonitic corals (dashed double dot line: Montagna et al., 2014;  
555 dotted line: Fowell et al., 2016), for the aragonitic foraminifera *H. elegans* (dash-dot line),  
556 and for calcitic foraminifera (black dashed line: *C. pachyderma*; blue dashed line: *P.*  
557 *ariminensis*; red dashed line: *P. foveolata*; purple dashed line: *U. peregrina*) (Bryan and  
558 Marchitto 2008; Marchitto et al. 2007). Error bars on temperature represent variability ( $1\sigma$ )  
559 throughout the duration of the experiment (Table EA1); error bars on Mg/Li represent long-  
560 term precision ( $2\sigma$ ) of in-house consistency standards as described in Methods.

561

#### 562 **Additional material:**

563 Table 1, Table 2, Electronic supplement (Figure EA1, Figure EA2, Figure EA3, Figure EA4,  
564 Figure EA5, Table EA1)

565

566

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Table 1. Culture seawater properties and *C. compactum* skeletal analyses. Note the two grey shadings highlight the samples that are replicates from the same replicate tanks.

Temperature (T) (°C)	Culture seawater							<i>C. compactum</i> growth		Chemical analyses and derivations						
	1 sd T	Salinity (psu)	CO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	pH <sub>sw</sub> (total scale)	1 sd pH <sub>sw</sub>	δ <sup>11</sup> B <sub>borate</sub> (‰)	1 sd δ <sup>11</sup> B <sub>borate</sub>	Change in boyant weight (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> /day)	Linear extension (mm)	δ <sup>11</sup> B <sub>cc</sub> (‰)	2se δ <sup>11</sup> B <sub>cc</sub>	pH <sub>cf</sub>	Li/Ca (μmol/mol)	B/Ca (μmol/mol)	Mg/Ca mmol/mol	Mg/Li mol/mmol
8.8	0.4	31.9	3103	7.24	0.05	12.57	0.08	3.57	0.27	25.73	0.15	8.83	58.2	338.7	146.7	2.5
8.9	0.4	31.9	2870	7.26	0.06	12.61	0.10	3.35	0.29	25.52	0.15	8.81	52.9	331.6	131.3	2.5
8.9	0.4	31.9	2897	7.25	0.08	12.60	0.12	3.63	0.23	25.62	0.14	8.82	51.5	371.9	141.7	2.8
8.7	0.5	31.9	846	7.73	0.06	13.90	0.25	3.26	0.24	27.78	0.14	8.96	62.6	391.7	142.3	2.3
8.7	0.5	31.9	839	7.73	0.06	13.92	0.24	5.16	0.18	27.81	0.12	8.96	56.8	376.1	142.4	2.4
8.7	0.5	31.9	801	7.75	0.05	14.00	0.23	2.98	0.14	28.62	0.15	9.02	51.6	423.2	123.1	2.5
8.5	0.4	31.9	480	7.95	0.06	15.07	0.37	3.01	0.26	27.69	0.14	8.96	67.3	325.9	163.3	2.4
8.6	0.4	31.9	469	7.95	0.05	15.13	0.31	3.42	0.21	28.38	0.17	9.00	59.3	419.3	144.4	2.4
8.6	0.4	31.9	469	7.95	0.05	15.13	0.31	3.74	0.22	28.95	0.15	9.04	60.2	382.6	145.4	2.4
8.9	0.4	31.9	335	8.09	0.08	16.20	0.62	3.09	0.25	29.81	0.14	9.09	54.0	356.1	132.7	2.5
8.9	0.4	31.9	353	8.07	0.09	16.03	0.65	3.14	0.33	30.54	0.15	9.15	56.7	404.2	138.0	2.4
8.9	0.4	31.9	360	8.07	0.08	15.97	0.61	2.76	0.20	30.42	0.13	9.14	61.3	427.4	140.5	2.3
8.9	0.4	31.9	360	8.07	0.08	15.97	0.61	3.09	0.20	30.56	0.14	9.15	59.6	414.6	136.6	2.3
6.3	0.7	31.9	3354	7.18	0.08	12.44	0.09	3.34	0.18	24.75	0.12	8.80	56.3	342.5	128.3	2.3
6.2	0.9	31.9	3233	7.21	0.11	12.48	0.13	2.14	0.21	24.36	0.12	8.78	61.6	328.5	136.9	2.2
6.2	0.9	31.9	3174	7.18	0.10	12.45	0.11	2.79	0.12	26.18	0.13	8.89	52.2	325.8	126.9	2.4
6.5	0.8	31.9	812	7.74	0.06	13.83	0.25	3.76	0.18	28.13	0.12	9.01	54.9	386.9	125.5	2.3
6.5	0.8	31.9	879	7.70	0.08	13.70	0.30	4.65	0.30	26.48	0.16	8.91	59.8	323.4	141.1	2.4
6.6	0.8	31.9	1110	7.69	0.12	13.64	0.40	4.62	0.20	26.74	0.14	8.92	66.6	366.3	149.2	2.2
6.5	0.8	32.0	469	7.95	0.06	14.91	0.33	3.93	0.48	27.03	0.11	8.94	60.8	343.8	149.1	2.5
6.4	0.8	32.0	514	7.95	0.05	14.91	0.32	2.64	0.27	26.88	0.14	8.93	76.4	344.8	152.4	2.0
6.4	0.9	32.0	490	7.93	0.08	14.81	0.45	3.07	0.35	26.62	0.16	8.92	76.5	366.7	168.7	2.2
6.4	0.9		490					3.79	0.24				61.7	380.5	131.6	2.1
6.4	0.8	31.9	338	8.09	0.09	15.89	0.65			28.67	0.14	9.05	46.6	321.7	130.8	2.8
6.4	0.8	31.9	323	8.09	0.06	15.93	0.47	2.61	0.21	29.66	0.17	9.12	58.1	400.5	120.5	2.1
6.3	0.8	31.9	342	8.07	0.09	15.74	0.62	3.31	0.14	30.45	0.14	9.17	53.4	421.4	114.9	2.1
12.3	0.6	31.9	3627	7.21	0.09	12.59	0.13			24.92	0.16	8.73	39.4	318.0	131.6	3.3
12.3	0.6	31.9	3168	7.27	0.10	12.70	0.16			25.22	0.26	8.75	39.9	345.0	120.0	3.0
12.3	0.6		3475					4.00	0.18				40.3	326.7	128.9	3.2
12.4	0.4	31.9	936	7.71	0.05	14.03	0.24	3.26	0.30	27.58	0.12	8.90	52.3	376.2	143.7	2.7
12.4	0.4	31.9	872	7.74	0.04	14.16	0.20	4.25	0.17	27.48	0.12	8.89	41.9	342.4	136.3	3.3
12.4	0.4	31.9	901	7.72	0.07	14.11	0.30	3.46	0.16	27.83	0.17	8.92	43.2	352.0	135.6	3.1
12.4	0.3	31.9	514	7.94	0.07	15.36	0.45	2.39	0.17	28.79	0.13	8.98	57.2	406.8	147.1	2.6
12.4	0.3	31.9	486	7.96	0.03	15.48	0.23	4.93	0.43	28.39	0.12	8.95	50.9	349.5	145.1	2.9
12.4	0.3	31.9	497	7.95	0.03	15.44	0.20	3.71	0.17	29.12	0.18	9.00	44.9	363.0	132.8	3.0
12.4	0.3		499					3.15	0.16				41.5	427.7	129.8	3.1
12.5	0.4	31.9	352	8.08	0.05	16.44	0.45	3.13		30.97	0.15	9.13	45.1	371.9	138.3	3.1
12.5	0.4	31.9	377	8.05	0.06	16.21	0.46	3.13		30.33	0.13	9.09	50.9	409.1	150.0	2.9
12.5	0.4	31.9	385	8.04	0.08	16.16	0.60	2.70		30.58	0.11	9.10	38.8	372.6	136.2	3.5

Table 2. Output of multiple linear regressions for identifying covariations. Note: the calibrations were defined using the weighted regression approach (see Methos). Bold font is used for  $p < 0.05$ .

	slope	intercept	t value	P value	Multiple R <sup>2</sup>
$\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ (‰)		263.1			0.9
$\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$ (‰)	1.32		13.7	<b>7.60E-13</b>	
Linear extensor (mm)	-5.79		-3.95	<b>6E-04</b>	
Buoyant weight (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> /day)	0.2		1.14	0.27	
Temperature (°C)	-1E-04		-2E-03	1.00	
-----					
stdev- $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ (‰)					0.4
pH			0.22	0.83	
Temperature (°C)			-2.5	0.03	
-----					
B/Ca		8847.79			0.5
Linear extensor (mm)	-137.88		-2.29	<b>0.03</b>	
Buoyant weight (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> /day)	-6.0		-0.9	0.38	
Temperature (°C)	-1.43		-0.62	0.53	
pH	69.08		4.38	<b>2E-04</b>	
-----					
Mg/Ca		113.22			0.3
Linear extensor (mm)	76.36		3.03	<b>6E-03</b>	
Buoyant weight (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> /day)	-0.51		-0.18	0.86	
Temperature (°C)	0.49		0.53	0.60	
pH	0.74		0.11	0.91	
-----					
Li/Ca		31.05			0.6
Linear extensor (mm)	30.84		2.26	<b>0.03</b>	
Buoyant weight (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> /day)	-2.36		-1.54	0.14	
Temperature (°C)	-2.14		-4.32	<b>2E-04</b>	
pH	5.88		1.63	0.12	
-----					
Mg/Li		3.02			0.6
Linear extensor (mm)	-0.03		-0.09	0.9	
Temperature (°C)	0.11		9.5	<b>9E-10</b>	

Figure 1



Figure 2

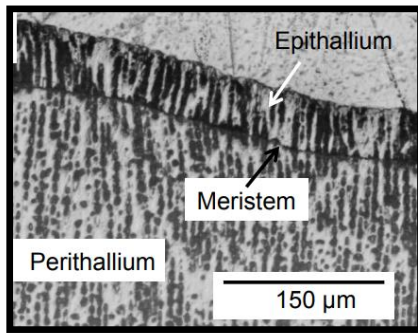


Figure 3

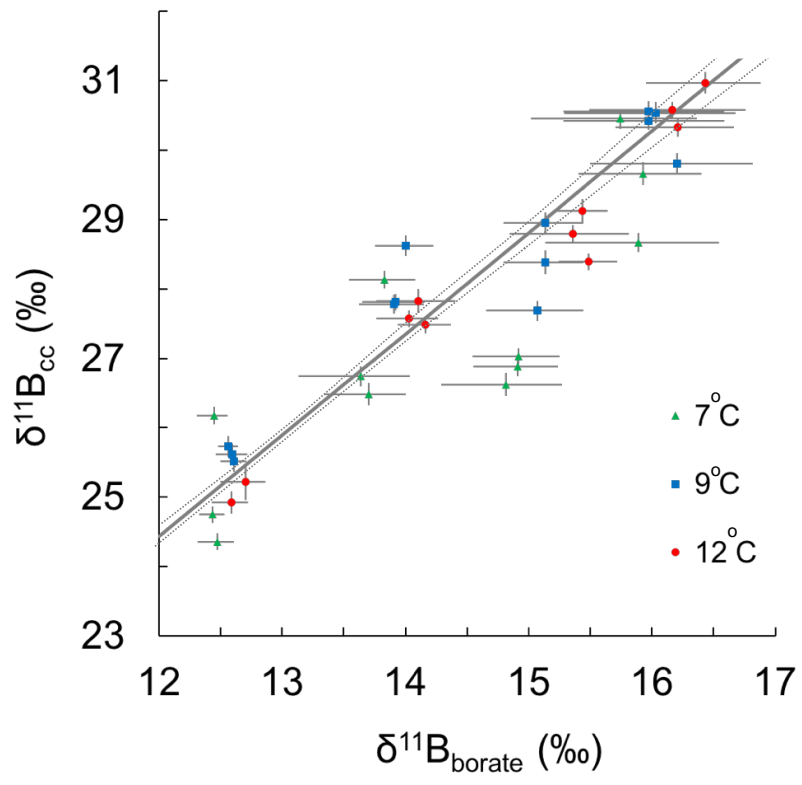


Figure 4

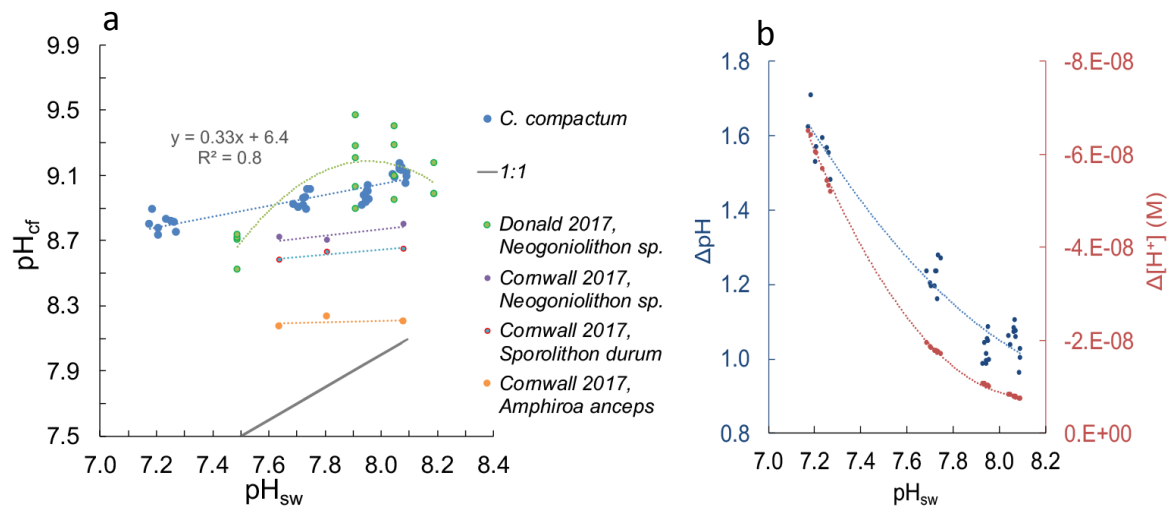
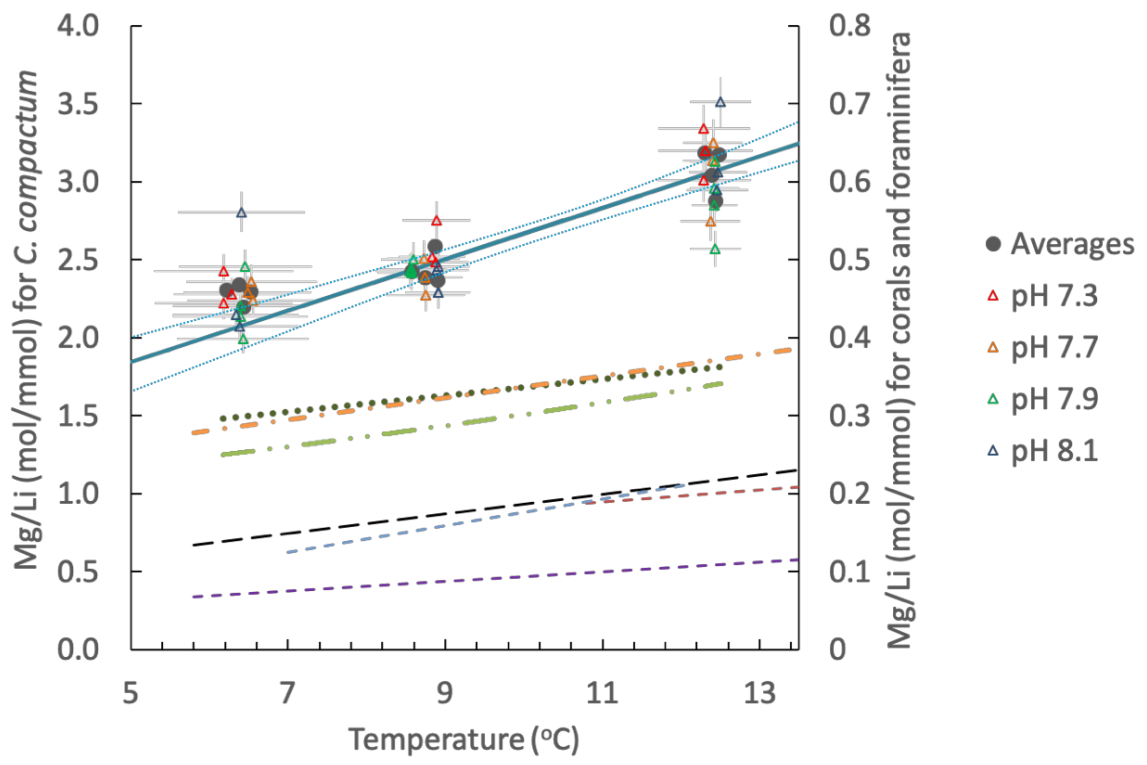


Figure 5



Electronic supplement

Figure EA1. Coralline algal  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  plotted against ambient  $\text{pH}_{\text{sw}}$  for the three temperature treatments of the experiment. Purple circles show calculated seawater  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  for each replicate tank of each experimental treatment.

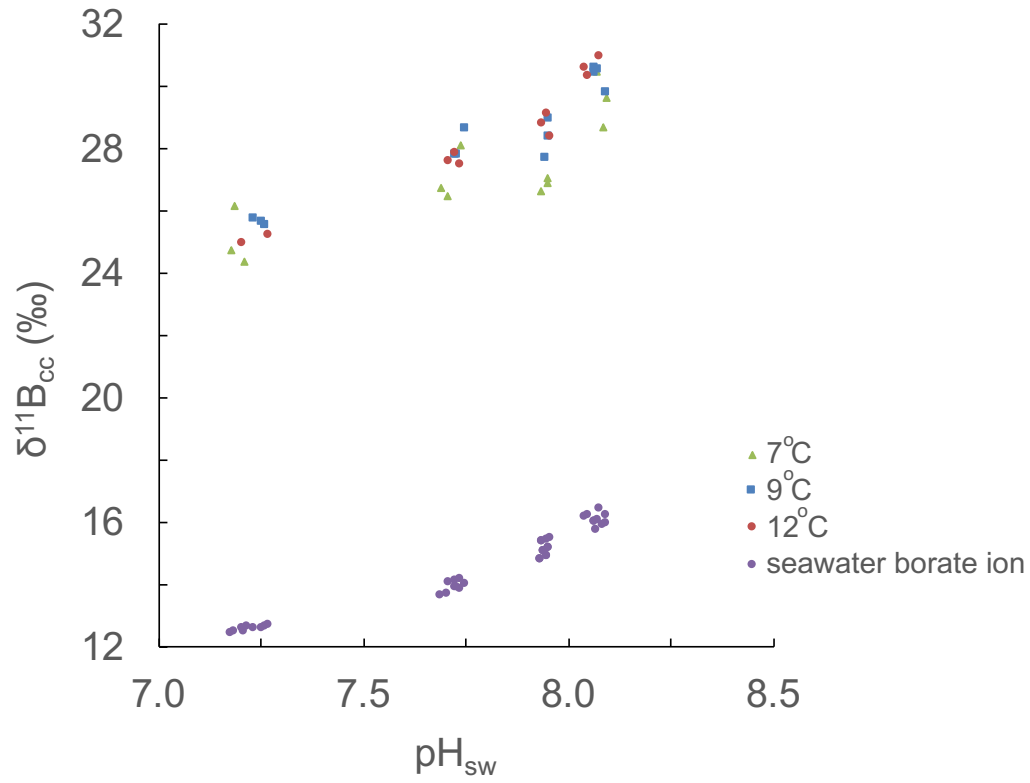




Figure EA2. Seawater pH of experimental treatments reconstructed from coralline algal  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  and equation 3 (blue circles) and measured seawater pH (orange circles) for all 36 experimental aquaria (12 treatments x 3 replicate tanks). Reconstructed pH has two error bars: blue bars correspond to error in pH arising from the uncertainty of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  measurements and grey bars correspond to error in pH arising from the combination of the uncertainty of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  analyses and the 95% confidence interval of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$ -  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{borate}}$  regression. Orange bars correspond to error of measured seawater pH arising from instrumental error and variation in seawater pH throughout the duration of the experiment.

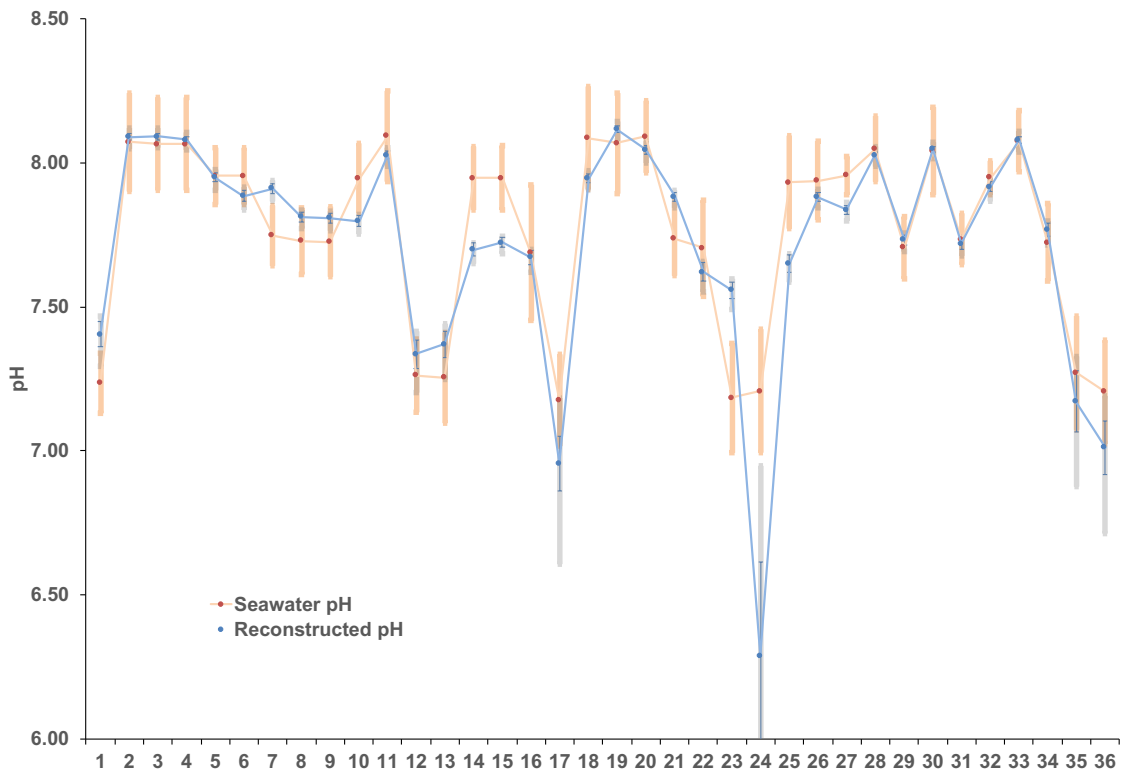


Figure EA3: Relationship between  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  and B/Ca within skeletons of *C. compactum* specimens investigated in the present study. Linear regression analysis (green line) yields a significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) correlation between  $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{cc}}$  and B/Ca. Because of the large variability in B/Ca amongst replicate specimens and relatively low sensitivity of skeletal B/Ca to temperature and pH, this relationship is only used qualitatively. Error bars represent the long-term precision ( $2\sigma$ ) of in-house consistency standards as described in Methods.

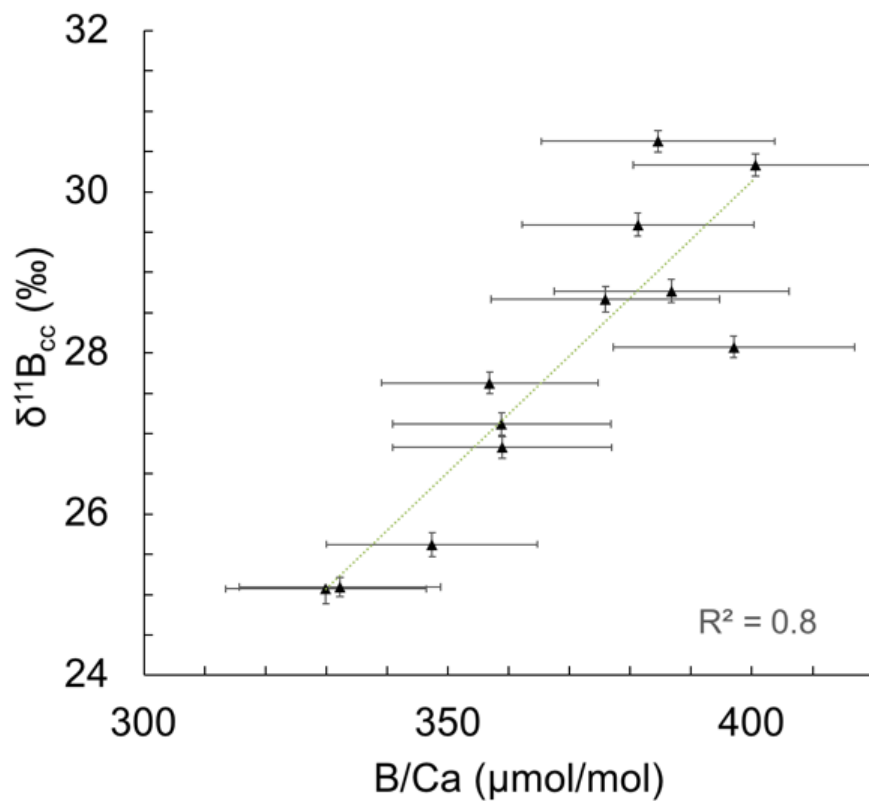


Figure EA4. The Mg/Ca (top panels) and Li/Ca (bottom panels) composition of *C. compactum* skeleton as a function of linear extension rate (left panels) and seawater temperature (right panels). Statistical descriptions of these relationships are provided in Table 2.

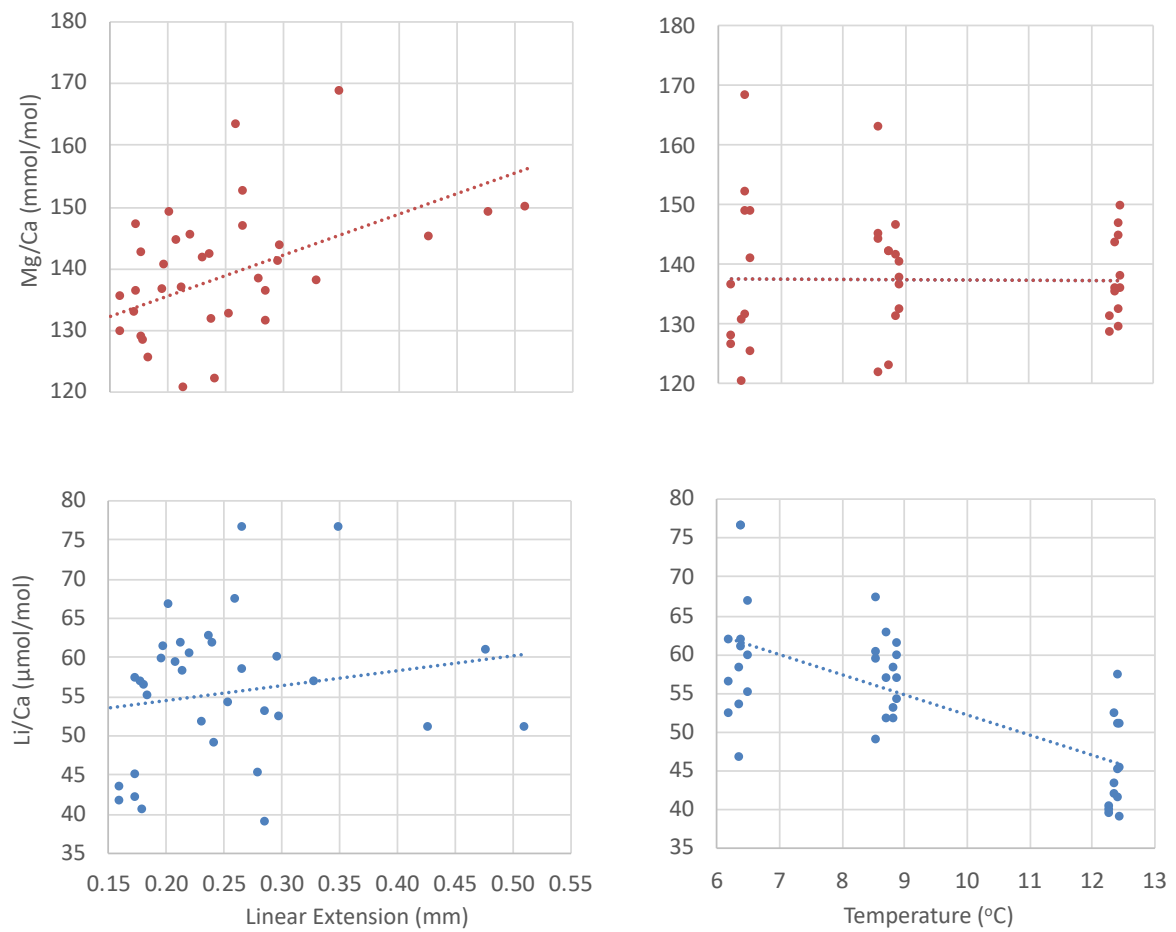


Figure EA5. The relationship between seawater pH (pHsw), linear extension, and calcification rate derived from change in buoyant weight. Data are shown in Table 1.

