

# Metrological Test Technology of Marine Instruments in Ecology Monitoring

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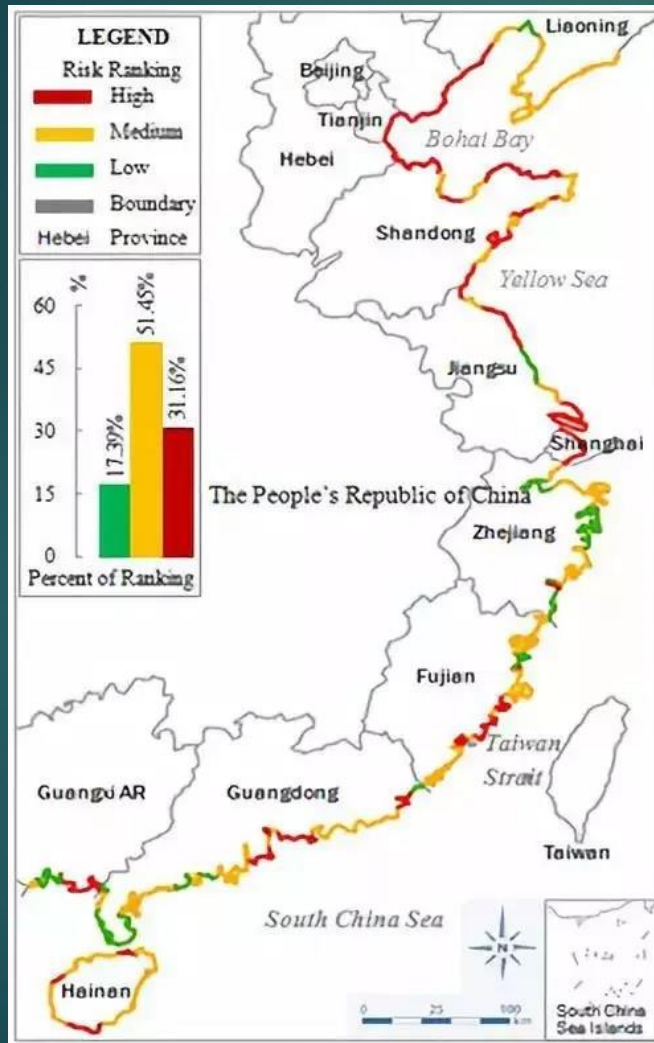
NATIONAL CENTER OF OCEAN STANDARDS AND  
METROLOGY

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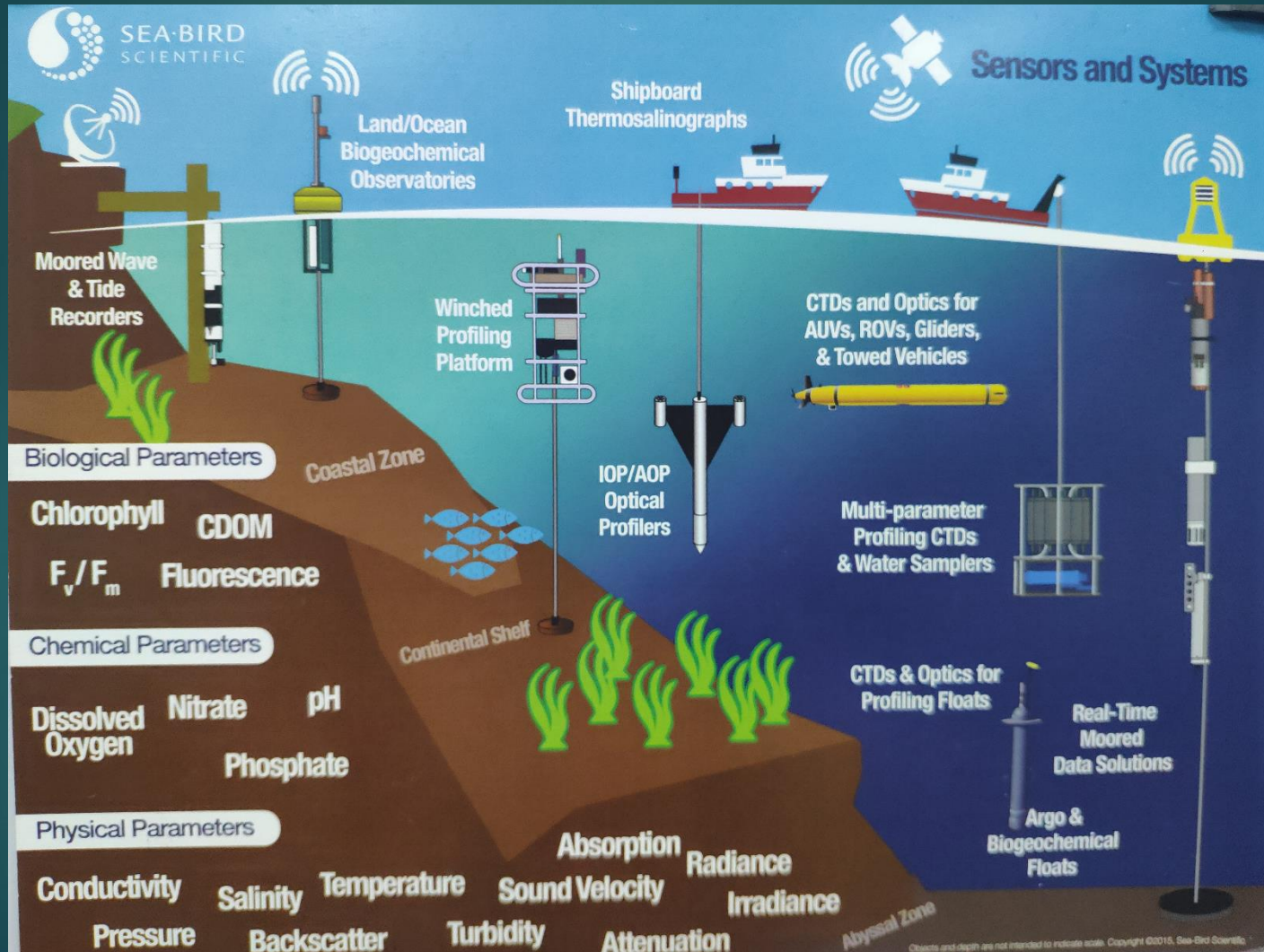
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# 1. Introduction



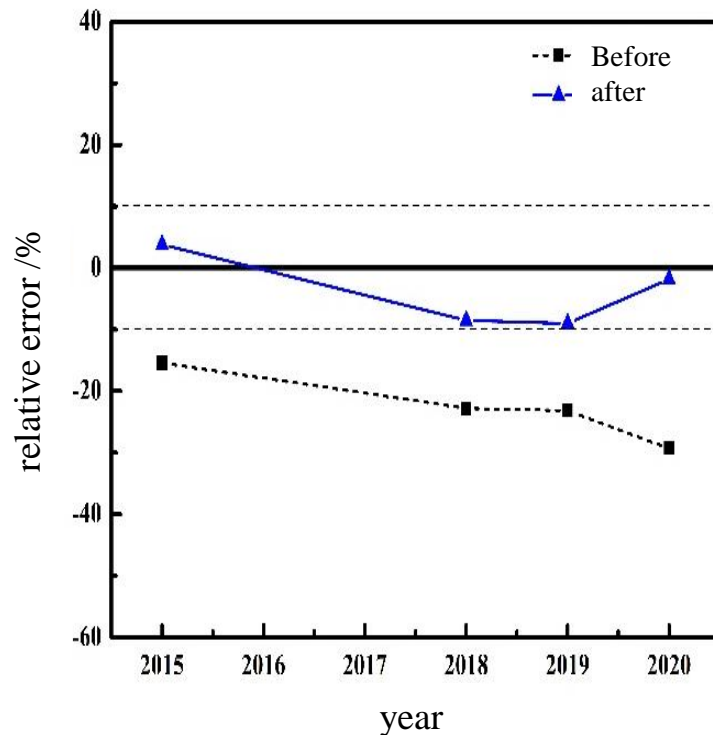
- ◆ Long coastline
- ◆ Rich in marine resources
- ◆ Wide range of ecological monitoring

# Marine Instruments and Parameters in Ecology Monitoring



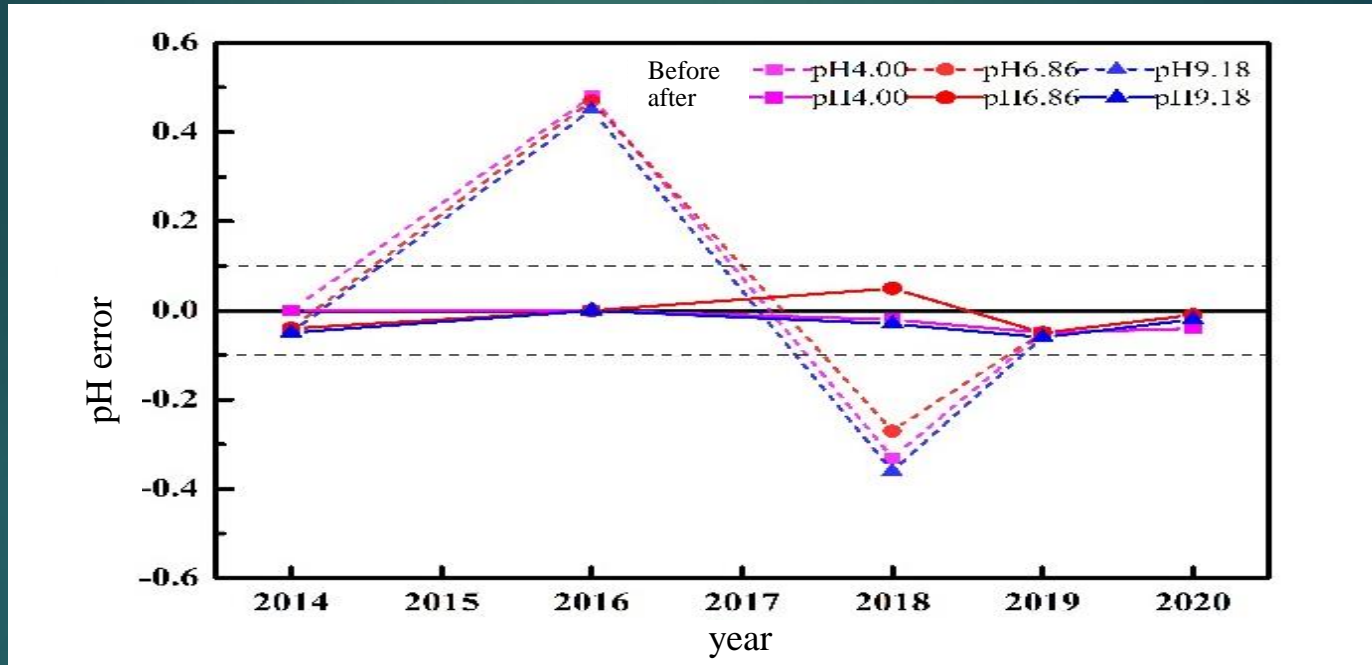
(From Seabird scientific)

# Errors variations of turbidity sensors after calibration



- Calibration can effectively control the error of the sensors
- When the turbidity sensor is used at sea for a long time, its voltage value will drift with time which will cause large deviation

# Errors variations of pH sensors after calibration



- After 2 years' long-term use on the sea, the pH error was far exceeded the maximum permissible error(MPE). Especially in 2016, the maximum error of initial indication reached 0.48.
- Properly planning the calibration frequency will help to improve the accuracy of the sensor.



It is important to calibrate the instrument in Ecology  
Monitoring  
And  
Regularly

## 2. Metrological Test Technology

### Calibration and Testing services

- Test for DO sensors
- calibration for pH sensors
- calibration for turbidity sensors
- calibration for nutrient analyzers

- Nitrate
- Nitrite
- Ammonium salt
- Silicate
- Phosphate





We have ever calibrated such instruments as follows



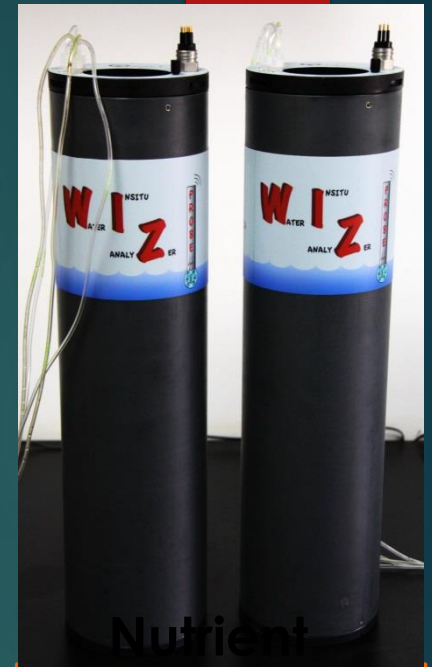
SBE27 pH sensor



Turbidity Sensor



DO Sensor



Nutrient Analyzer



# 2.1 Test of DO sensors

- ▶ **Thermostatic bath:** provide constant temperature environment
- ▶ **Seawater:** simulate marine environment
- ▶ **High purity gases:** change dissolved Oxygen in seawater
- ▶ **Winkler Titrations:** provide standard value of DO in seawater



# Winkler Titrations

Quality titrator with automated  
endpoint detection.  
Accurate dispenser



Quality, calibrated  
Reagent dispensers



Keep samples dark at constant  
temperature, not cooler than  
the draw temperature.

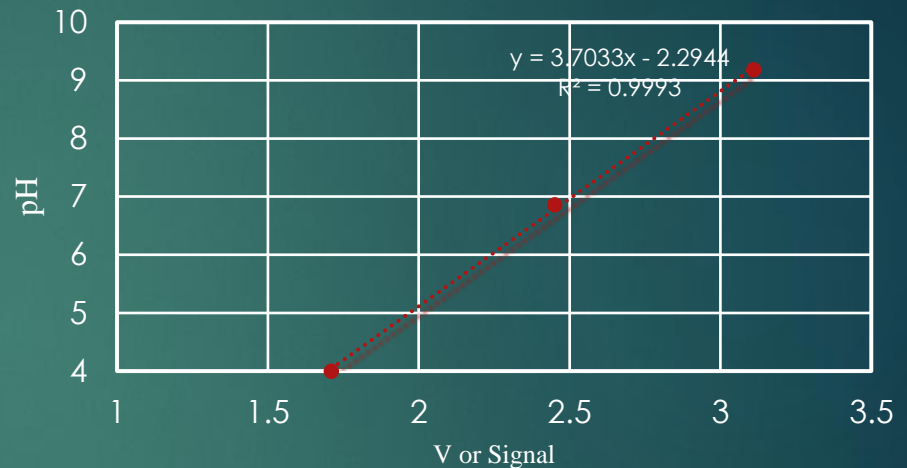


## 2.2 Calibration of pH Sensors

- ▶ **Thermostatic bath:** provide constant temperature environment
- ▶ **pH standard buffer:** provide standard value
- ▶ **thermometer:** Detect temperature



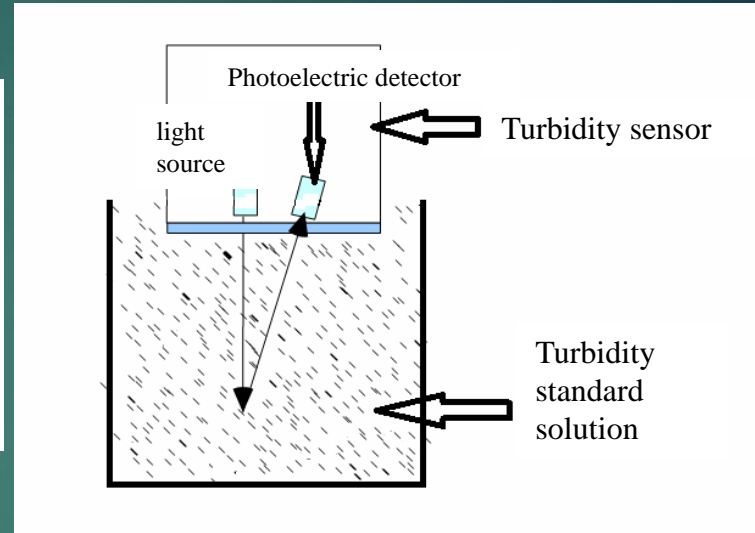
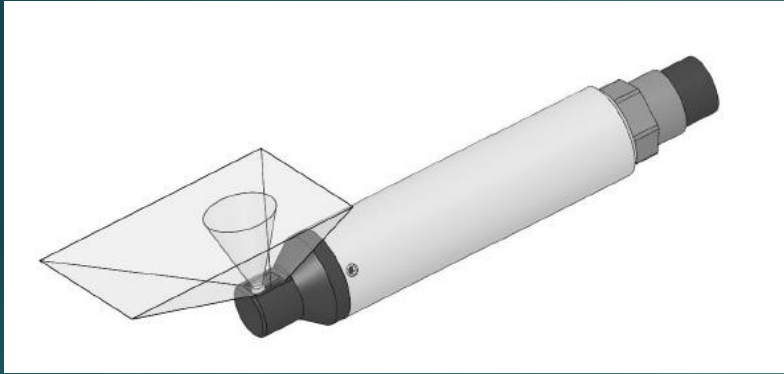
**Provide Calibration factors**



$$\text{pH} = 7 + (\text{Volt-Offset}) / (1.98416 \times 10^{-4} \times T \times \text{slope})$$

# 2.3 Calibration of Turbidity Sensors

## Boundary effect



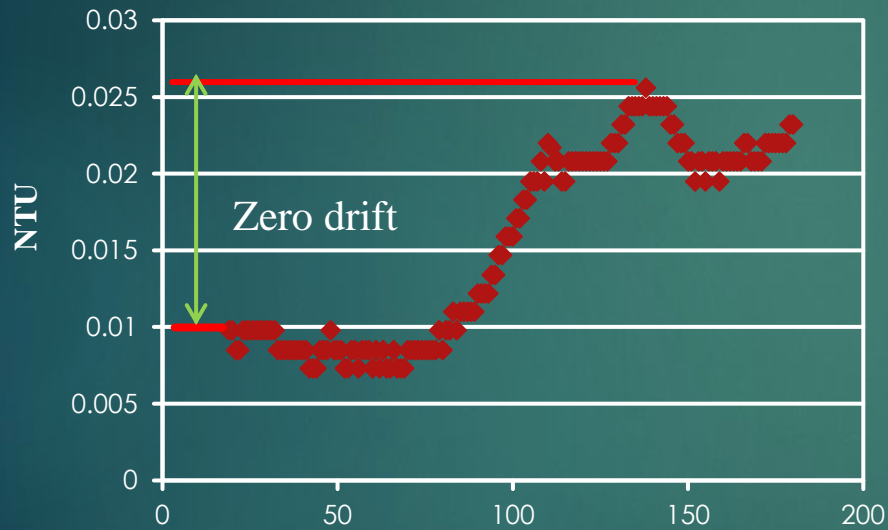
Lateral luminescence

Vertical luminescence

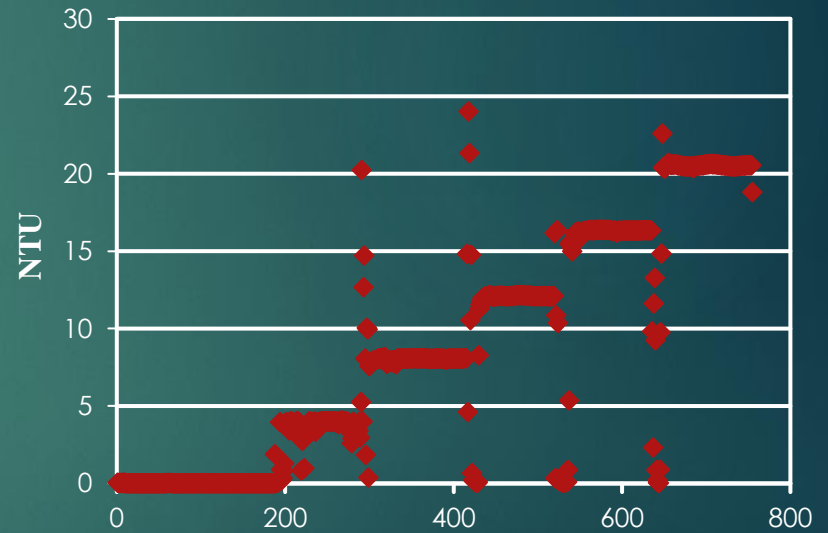
- The containers in the laboratory will have a boundary effect on optical sensors such as turbidity.
- It is necessary to control the size of the container, which can overcome the boundary effect without wasting the standard solution.

# 2.3 Calibration of Turbidity Sensors

**Zero drift:** the maximum amplitude to the range

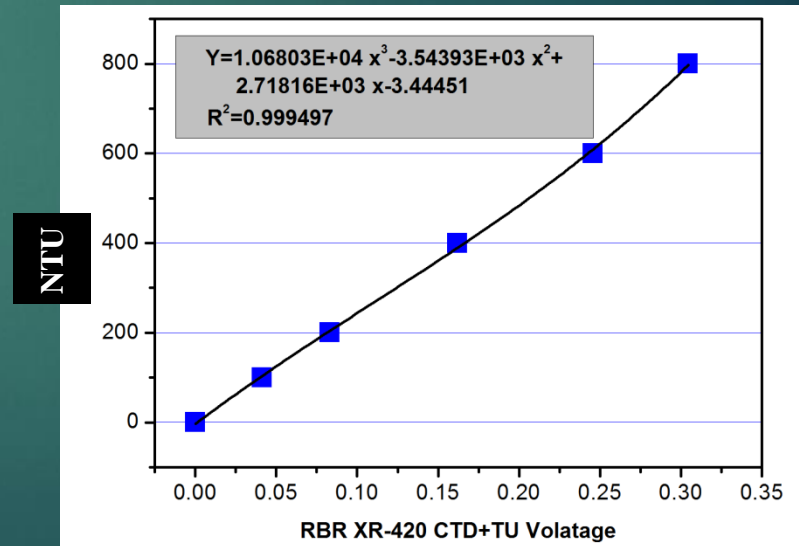
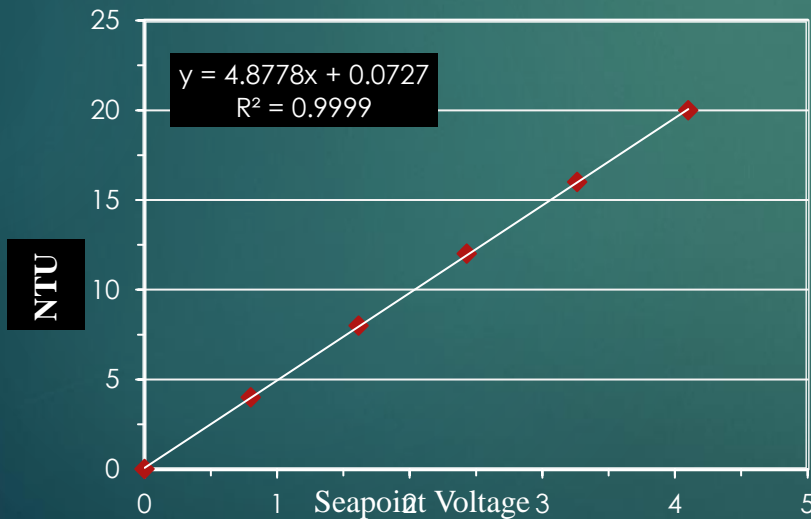
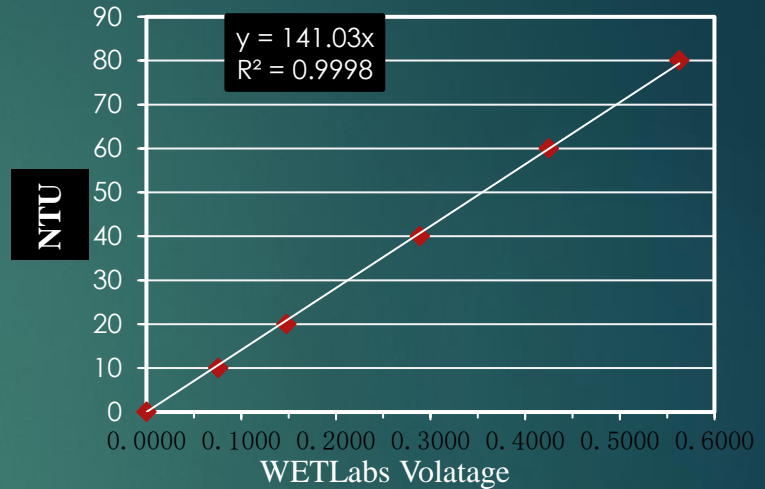


**Indication Error and Repeatability**



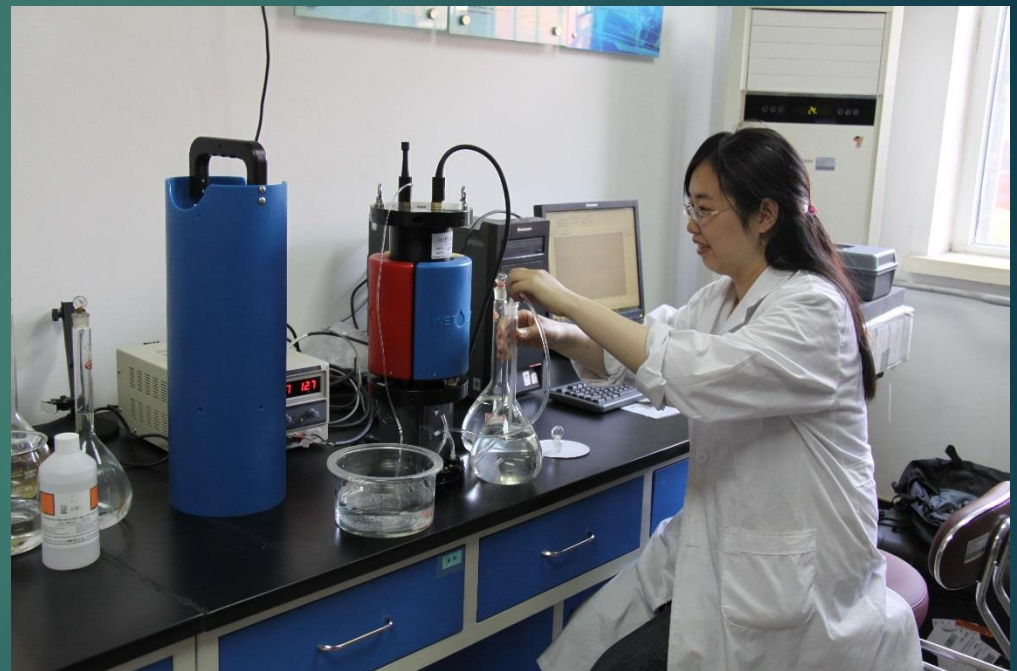
# 2.3 Calibration of Turbidity Sensors

- Measuring range of turbidity sensors are respectively (0~25)NTU, (0~125)NTU, (0~500)NTU, (0~1000)NTU ,etc.
- When measuring range is greater than 750, it is a curve.
- When measuring range is less than 750, it is a straight line.



## 2.3 Calibration of Seawater Nutrients Analyzers

- ▶ **Temperature effect:** ignore
- ▶ **Nutrient standard solution:** provide standard value





# 3. Standard Materials

For chemical parameter testing, standard material is also a special and effective equipment.

- ▶ Salinity Standard Seawater
- ▶ Seawater  $\text{pH}_T$  Standard material
- ▶ Active Phosphate Standard material in seawater

# 3.1 Salinity Standard Seawater



Name	Number	Salinity	Uncertainty
China Primary Standard Seawater	GBW 13150	35	$U=0.001$ ( $k=2$ )
China Series Standard Seawater	GBW (E) 130011	5, 20, 30, 35, 40	$U=0.003$ ( $k=2$ )

# 3.1 Salinity Standard Seawater

Comparison results between China Primary standard seawater and International Standard Seawater

Batch of China Primary Standard Seawater	Batch of International Standard Seawater	Absolute value of salinity difference	En
P7	P153	0	0
P8		2	0.14
P9	P155	4	0.28
P10		1	0.07
P11		2	0.14
P12		2	0.14
P13	P158	0	0
P14	P160	0	0
P15		6	0.42
P16		4	0.28
P17	P161	3	0.21
P18		2	0.14

## 3.2 Seawater $\text{pH}_T$ Standard material

- ▶  $\text{pH}_T$  in seawater is defined as the pH scale of total hydrogen ion concentration of seawater.

$$\begin{aligned}[\text{H}^+] &= [\text{H}^+]_F (1 + S_T/K_s) \\ &\approx [\text{H}^+]_F + [\text{HSO}_4^-] \\ \text{pH} &= -\log_{10} \left( \frac{[\text{H}^+]}{\text{mol kg}^{-1}_{\text{solution}}} \right)\end{aligned}$$

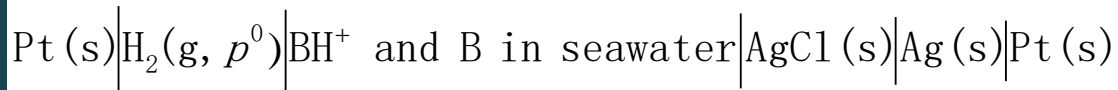
- ▶ Used: Seawater acidification

Study on marine carbon cycle

Calibration of seawater pH Analyzers based on Spectrophotometry

# 3.2 Seawater $\text{pH}_T$ Standard material

- Seawater pH standard material is based on **artificial seawater** and Tris as buffer reagent. It is determined by potentiometric methods with hydrogen electrode silver / silver chloride electrode in non-liquid junction cell.



Standard material (S=35)

cell potential:

$$E = E^\circ - \left( \frac{RT}{F} \right) \ln \left\{ \frac{m(\text{H}^+)m(\text{Cl}^-)}{(m^\circ)^2} \right\} - \left( \frac{2RT}{F} \right) \ln \gamma_{\pm}(\text{HCl})$$

After derivation

$$\text{pH}_m = -\log \left\{ \frac{m^*(\text{H}^+)}{m^\circ} \right\} = \frac{E - E_m^*}{RT \ln 10 / F} + \log \left\{ \frac{m(\text{Cl}^-)}{m^\circ} \right\}$$

$$\text{pH}_T = \text{pH}_m - \log(1 - 0.00106S)$$

(From Dickson A.G, 1998)

Component	Ionic Strength	Cl <sup>-</sup> Concentration
NaCl	0.77531	0.38766
Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.17562	—
KCl	0.02116	0.01058
MgCl <sub>2</sub>	0.32844	0.10948
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	0.06450	0.02150
tris (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> )	—	—
tris·HCl	0.08000	0.04000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.72252</b>	<b>0.56922</b>

# 3.2 Seawater pH<sub>T</sub> Standard material

Name	Number	Value		Uncertainty
		T(°C)	pH <sub>T</sub>	
Seawater pH <sub>T</sub> Standard material (Salinity 35)	GBW(E) 130705	10	8.581	<i>U</i> =0.005, <i>k</i> =2
		15	8.414	
		20	8.250	
		25	8.092	
		30	7.937	
		35	7.785	
Seawater pH <sub>T</sub> Standard material (Salinity 25)	GBW(E) 130704	10	8.566	<i>U</i> =0.005, <i>k</i> =2
		15	8.401	
		20	8.241	
		25	8.086	
		30	7.934	
		35	7.786	



Seawater pH<sub>T</sub>  
Standard material

# 3.3 Active Phosphate Standard material in seawater



# 3.3 Active Phosphate Standard material in seawater

Name	Concentration ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )	Uncertainty ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )
Active Phosphate Standard material in seawater	0.50	0.05
	1.00	0.05
	2.00	0.10
	4.00	0.14

Spectrophotometric determination





# 4. Research in future

Chlorophyll

Total  
Alkalinity

CDOM

**To be  
continued...**

Total  
Dissolved  
Inorganic  
Carbon

Fluorescence

Radiance

**Thanks for listening!**