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1 Tidally driven porewater exchange and diel cycles control CO₂ fluxes in mangroves

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11

12 **Abstract**

13

14 Mangrove soils are highly enriched in organic carbon. Tidal pumping drives seawater and
15 oxygen into mangrove sediments during flood tide and releases carbon-rich porewater during
16 ebb tides. Here, we resolve semi-diurnal (flood/ebb tides), diel (day/night) and weekly
17 (neap/spring tides) drivers of porewater-derived CO₂ fluxes in two mangroves and update
18 global estimates of CO₂ emissions. Tidal pumping controlled *p*CO₂ variability within the
19 mangrove creeks. The highest values of *p*CO₂ (2,585-6,856 μatm) and ²²²Rn (2,315-6,159
20 dpm m⁻³) and lowest values of pH (6.8-7.1) and dissolved oxygen (1.7-3.7 mg L⁻¹) at low
21 tides were due to enhanced porewater export. ²²²Rn and *p*CO₂ in mangrove porewater were
22 respectively 4-15 and 38-41 times greater than surface waters. *p*CO₂ increased by 50±30%
23 from high to low tide, 9±22% from day to night and 57±5% from neap to spring tide with
24 clear changes on hourly, diel, and weekly time scales. Both porewater-derived CO₂ and
25 water-air outgassing increased with tidal amplitudes ($r^2 = 0.34$, $p < 0.05$). Combining our new
26 estimates with literature data, global porewater-derived (16 sites) and water-atmosphere (52
27 sites) CO₂ fluxes in mangroves would be upscale to 45±12 and 41±10 Tg C y⁻¹, respectively.
28 These fluxes account for 25% of net primary production and 238% of sediment carbon burial
29 rates in global mangroves. Overall, our local observations and global compilation suggest that
30 porewater-derived CO₂ exchange is a major but often unaccounted source of CO₂ in
31 mangroves – which can be emitted to the atmosphere or laterally exported to the ocean – and
32 should be included in carbon budgets to solve global imbalances.

33

34 **Key words:** ²²²Rn; radon mass-balance; greenhouse gases; blue carbon.

35

36 **Introduction**

37

38 Mangroves are highly productive ecosystems occurring in the (sub)tropical regions
39 supporting several ecosystem services such as climate change mitigation via carbon
40 sequestration and storage (Macreadie et al. 2021; Alongi 2022a). Mangrove forests have one
41 of the highest organic carbon accumulation rates among all ecosystems on Earth given the
42 high rates of primary productivity and ability to trap carbon in the anoxic sediment layers
43 (McLeod et al. 2011; Alongi 2014). In addition, soil carbon outwelling followed by ocean
44 storage increases the potential carbon sequestration capacity of mangroves (Sippo et al. 2016;
45 Cabral et al. 2021; Santos et al. 2021).

46 Mangrove carbon returns to the atmosphere due to microbial decomposition within organic-
47 rich sediment layers followed by water-air exchange (Kristensen et al. 2008a; Alongi 2014).
48 Mangrove sediments are partly permeable due to irrigation by abundant crab burrows and
49 pneumatophores which allows seawater to infiltrate into deep layers and supply electron
50 acceptors for organic matter respiration (Xiao et al. 2021; Kristensen et al. 2022). Tidal
51 variations in mangroves drive seawater inflow into sediments during flood tide and the
52 discharge of porewater at ebb tides (Chen et al. 2021). This process, called tidal pumping,
53 releases CO₂ from sediments.

54 CO₂ fluxes in mangroves experience substantial fluctuations due to both tidal exchange and
55 diel effects influenced by photosynthetic organisms and respiration across day/night cycles
56 (Maher et al. 2015; Saifullah et al. 2016). However, little is known about the relative
57 contribution and interactions of diel (day and night), tidal (ebb and flood tides) and biweekly
58 (neap to spring) cycles in mangrove CO₂ fluxes. Previous investigations have quantified
59 porewater-derived (Santos et al. 2019; Chen et al. 2021) or water-atmosphere CO₂ fluxes in
60 mangrove creeks (Taillardat et al. 2018b; Call et al. 2019a; Reithmaier et al. 2020). A
61 combined assessment considering different time scales and global datasets is still needed to
62 advance our understanding of CO₂ drivers in mangroves.

63 The naturally occurring ²²²Rn (radon, half-life 3.8 d) is an effective tracer of porewater
64 exchange or recirculated seawater in mangroves (Gleeson et al. 2013; Tait et al. 2016). Radon
65 has a nonreactive behavior and can be measured continuously. When coupled with trace gas
66 analyzers, radon enables the quantification of porewater-derived CO₂ exchange rates (Santos
67 et al. 2012). High concentrations of parent isotope ²²⁶Ra is released from mangrove sediments
68 during flood tide, also providing high ²²²Rn activities to surface creek waters through

69 radioactive decay and allowing the quantification of porewater exchange using
70 comprehensive mass balance approaches (Taniguchi et al. 2019; Rodellas et al. 2021).
71 Here, we analyzed high-resolution ^{222}Rn and CO_2 observations from two mangroves in meso-
72 and micro-tidal regions over complete neap-spring tidal cycles to assess tidal, diel, and
73 weekly effects on CO_2 fluxes. To put our results in perspective, we also compiled porewater-
74 derived and water-atmosphere CO_2 fluxes across micro-, meso- and macrotidal mangroves
75 from the literature. We then updated global estimates and uncertainties of CO_2 fluxes in
76 mangroves.

77

78 **Methods**

79

80 **Study sites**

81

82 Field observations were performed in two mangrove tidal creeks in Brazil (Fig. 1). One
83 mangrove creek is situated near Paraty city (Rio de Janeiro) in a tropical region,
84 ($23^\circ 18' 06.2''\text{S}$ $44^\circ 38' 53.6''\text{W}$). Average monthly temperature and precipitation oscillate
85 around 23 ± 3 °C (18 - 28 °C) and 130 ± 108 mm (0 - 501 mm), respectively. The creek
86 catchment area ($9,572$ m²) is in a pristine reserve with negligible anthropogenic impact
87 (Chynel et al. 2022). The tidal creek catchment is part of a broader mangrove forest area of
88 $260,112$ m². The mangrove exchanges water with the oligotrophic Mamanguá bay and
89 southeast Brazil shelf (Brandini et al. 2019).

90 The second mangrove creek is situated in the South Bay of Florianópolis city in the State of
91 Santa Catarina ($27^\circ 38' 55.6''\text{S}$ $48^\circ 33' 11.2''\text{W}$, Fig. 1). The climate is subtropical with average
92 monthly temperatures and precipitation oscillating around 21 ± 3 °C (14 - 27 °C) and $150 \pm$
93 94 mm (10 - 632 mm), respectively. The tidal creek catchment ($4,046$ m²) and mangrove
94 forest ($146,065$ m²) are surrounded by moderate urbanization (Fig. 1). The mangrove
95 exchanges with a mesotrophic bay under the influence of sewage and agricultural runoff
96 (Brauko et al. 2020; Fonseca et al. 2021). Despite anthropogenic impacts nearby, the
97 mangrove forest is in an environmental protected area with well-preserved mangrove
98 vegetation.

99 The vegetation at both sites is dominated by *Rhizophora mangle*, *Avicennia schaueriana* and
100 *Laguncularia racemosa*. Crab burrows are abundant and interconnected in the sediments.
101 Both mangroves also have a mixed semidiurnal tidal pattern and no significant freshwater
102 upstream inputs. The mangrove in Florianópolis has a clearly microtidal regime with

103 astronomical amplitudes of around 1 m, whereas the mangrove in Paraty is situated in a lower
104 mesotidal region with evident differences between neap/spring tidal amplitudes (Pagliosa et
105 al. 2005; Whitfield and Elliott 2011).

106

107 **Experimental approach**

108

109 To capture diel, tidal, and weekly dynamics, time series stations were deployed in a small
110 vessel moored in the mouth of both creeks from 28 October to 04 November 2021 in the
111 mesotidal mangrove and 27 November to 04 December 2021 in the microtidal mangrove
112 (Fig. 1). The observations captured 15 tidal cycles including extreme neap and spring tides.
113 Sea level and current velocities were measured every 2 minutes using a ADCP (Nortek ECO)
114 deployed in the mouth of each tidal creek. Salinity and temperature (Solinst Levelogger 5),
115 dissolved oxygen (PME miniDOT) and pH (Onset HOBO pH logger) probes were attached to
116 the vessel at 0.5 m depth and set to record every minute. Chlorophyll was also recorded every
117 minute using a YSI EXO2. In the microtidal mangrove, the EXO2 stopped working towards
118 the third day of sampling.

119 A submersible water pump was installed from the vessel at 0.5 m depth to continuously
120 transport (3 L min^{-1}) surface mangrove creek water into a RAD AQUA DURRIDGE
121 showerhead gas equilibrator. The headspace air was pumped to a Drierite[®] desiccant and then
122 to an automated radon (^{222}Rn) detector (RAD7, DURRIDGE) coupled with a CO_2 trace gas
123 analyzer (LI-COR 7810). The gas equilibrator and detectors were connected in series in a
124 closed air loop (Santos et al. 2012). The ^{222}Rn activities (measured each 30 min) and $p\text{CO}_2$ (1
125 min frequency) in air were converted to dissolved in seawater using their partitioning and
126 solubility coefficients (Weigel 1978; Pierrot et al. 2009). The time series data were integrated
127 using moving averages every hour to allow comparison across the different variables and
128 time scales.

129 Porewater samples ($N = 24$) were collected during ebb tide in both mangroves towards the
130 end of neap ($N = 12$) and spring ($N = 12$) tidal cycles. In the mesotidal mangrove, porewater
131 was sampled from seeping water from crab burrows, which integrates the creek sediment
132 signature (Xiao et al. 2021). In the microtidal mangrove, bores were dug in the mud up to 50
133 cm depth and purged two times before sampling immediately after porewater recharging. A
134 Solinst peristaltic pump (model 410) and 2L gas-tight polyethylene bottles were used to
135 collect porewater samples which were analyzed using a RAD7 (Lee and Kim 2006). Salinity,
136 temperature, oxygen, and pH in porewater were measured *in situ* with the equipment

137 described above. Atmospheric data (temperature, wind speed and precipitation) were
 138 provided by local meteorological stations (A619 - 23°13'25.8"S 44°43'31.8"W
 139 and A806 - 27°36'09.6"S 48°37'12.3"W) from the Brazilian Institute of Meteorology
 140 (INMET, <https://bdmep.inmet.gov.br/>), installed in 10-m high towers and located ~10km
 141 from the study sites. Atmospheric CO₂ was retrieved from the NOAA global mean
 142 (<https://gml.noaa.gov/ccgg/trends/global.html>).

143

144 **Water-atmosphere CO₂ fluxes calculations**

145

146 The surface CO₂ fluxes (F , mmol m² d⁻¹) in the water-air interface were determined according
 147 to:

148

$$149 \quad F = k \alpha \left(pCO_{2(water)} - pCO_{2(air)} \right) \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

150

151 where k is the gas transfer velocity (m d⁻¹), α is the CO₂ solubility coefficient (mol / (kg
 152 atm)), $pCO_{2(water)}$ and $pCO_{2(air)}$ are the CO₂ partial pressures (μatm) in the water (hourly
 153 averages) and atmosphere, respectively. Solubility coefficient for CO₂ were determined
 154 according to Weiss (1974). The k values were determined using four different models
 155 (Borges et al. 2004, Eq. 2; Ho et al. 2016, Eq. 3; Rosentreter et al. 2017, Eq. 4; Jeffrey et al.
 156 2018, Eq. 5) derived from parametrizations based on wind speed (v , m s⁻¹), current velocity
 157 (u , cm s⁻¹), and depth (h , meters) for mangroves:

158

$$159 \quad k_{600} = 1.0 + 1.719v^{0.5}h^{-0.5} + 2.58u \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

$$160 \quad k_{600} = (0.77v^{0.5}h^{-0.5}) + (0.266u^2) \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

$$161 \quad k_{600} = -0.08 + 0.26v + 0.59h + 0.83u \quad \text{Eq. 4}$$

$$162 \quad k_{600} = -0.175 + 0.467v + 1.28h + 0.7u \quad \text{Eq. 5}$$

163

164 The k was normalized to a Schmidt number (Sc) of 600 as a function of salinity and
 165 temperature, using the equation of Wanninkhof (2014):

166

$$167 \quad k_{600} = k (600/Sc)^{-0.5} \quad \text{Eq. 6}$$

168

169

170 **Radon (²²²Rn) mass-balance model and porewater exchange**

171

172 A radon mass balance model was used to calculate porewater exchange rates in both
173 mangroves as previously applied in similar tidal creeks (Tait et al. 2016; Call et al. 2019a;
174 Santos et al. 2019; Chen et al. 2021). The model accounts for different sources (inflow during
175 flood tides, diffusion from sediments and ²²²Rn inputs from ²²⁶Ra decay) and sinks (outflow
176 during ebb tides, ²²²Rn radioactive decay and atmospheric evasion) of radon in the tidal
177 creek. The porewater exchange rates (PW) were calculated as follows:

178

179
$$PW (m^3 h^{-1}) = \frac{(Rn_w Q + J_{atm} A + Rn_w \lambda V) - (Rn_{dif} A + Ra_{dec} \lambda V)}{PW_{end}}$$
 Eq. 7

180

181 where Rn_w (dpm m^{-3}) is the ²²²Rn concentration in surface water, Q is the water discharge
182 ($m^3 h^{-1}$), A is the mangrove inundated area (m^2), V is the water volume of the tidal creek
183 (m^3), λ is the decay constant of ²²²Rn ($0.215 h^{-1}$) and PW_{end} is the average ²²²Rn
184 concentration in porewater minus the concentration in surface water at each hour during the
185 time series. Ra_{dec} is the ²²²Rn concentration produced through ²²⁶Ra decay (dpm m^{-3}), radium
186 was analyzed by filtering surface water through MnO₂ impregnated fibers which were
187 analyzed for ²²⁶Ra via delayed coincidence counter (RaDeCC) (Diego-Feliu et al. 2020). J_{atm}
188 (dpm $m^{-2} h^{-1}$) is the atmospheric evasion of ²²²Rn due to wind, currents, and depth. ²²²Rn
189 water-air transfer velocities (k) were calculated using the parametrization on equations 2-5
190 and normalized to the Schmidt number (Eq. 6) at *in situ* temperature and salinity
191 (Wanninkhof 2014). The average flux between the 4 models were used to estimate J_{atm} :

192

193
$$J_{atm} = k(Rn_w - \alpha Rn_{atm})$$
 Eq. 8

194

195 where k is the ²²²Rn transfer velocity ($cm h^{-1}$), Rn_{atm} is the average ²²²Rn concentration (dpm
196 m^{-3}) in the atmosphere and α is the Oswald solubility coefficient. Since ²²²Rn atmospheric
197 evasion can represent a major sink of radon in mangroves and modify porewater exchange
198 rates (Chen et al. 2021), we calculated two J_{atm} and sum them: one J_{atm} for the mangrove
199 creek main channel during the whole time series and another for when the mangrove forest is
200 flooded. This prevents overestimation of ²²²Rn evasion when upscaling by the hourly
201 mangrove catchment area due to the overlaying water at high tide where we assumed the
202 influence of wind and currents is zero because of friction with soil and tree density cover.

203 The approach provides more conservative estimates of k , down to 11 ± 4 times lower in the
204 inundated forest when compared to the gas transfer velocities in the main creek channel. Rn_{dif}
205 ($dpm\ m^{-2}\ h^{-1}$) is the radon diffusion from sediments, calculated using a depth-independent
206 approach (Corbett et al. 1998):

207

$$208\ Rn_{dif} = (\lambda D_s)^{0.5} (PW_{end}) \quad \text{Eq. 9}$$

209

210 where D_s is effective wet bulk sediment diffusion ($m^2\ h^{-1}$) coefficient calculated as a function
211 of water temperature and sediment porosity (0.85 and 0.50 for sediments in the mesotidal and
212 microtidal mangrove, respectively). The hourly porewater exchange fluxes were integrated
213 over full daily tidal cycles ($m^3\ d^{-1}$) and normalized by the total catchment area of each
214 mangrove to estimated porewater exchange rates ($cm\ d^{-1}$). The porewater-derived CO_2 fluxes
215 ($mmol\ h^{-1}$) were assessed by multiplying the porewater exchange rates ($m^3\ h^{-1}$) by the average
216 CO_2 concentration ($mmol\ m^{-3}$) in porewater samples minus the CO_2 in surface waters at each
217 hour, which were then integrated over full daily tidal cycles and normalized by the mangrove
218 catchment areas ($mmol\ m^2\ d^{-1}$).

219

220 **Results**

221

222 **Surface water time-series**

223

224 Water depths were similar in both mangrove tidal creeks, $1.9 \pm 0.3\ m$ for the microtidal and
225 $1.6 \pm 0.4\ m$ for the mesotidal (Tab. 1). However, as expected, neap and spring tidal
226 amplitudes were greater in the mesotidal (0.9 - 1.8 m) than the microtidal (0.4 - 0.9 m).
227 Current velocities and wind speeds were also similar in both creeks, 28.6 ± 18.2 and $31.8 \pm$
228 $12.8\ cm\ s^{-1}$ and 1.9 ± 1.2 and $1.2 \pm 0.9\ m\ s^{-1}$ for the micro- and mesotidal creeks,
229 respectively. Water temperature was higher in the microtidal ($25.3 \pm 1.2\ ^\circ C$) than mesotidal
230 ($22.7 \pm 0.5\ ^\circ C$) mangrove, also showing higher variation in the microtidal (Tab. 1). Water
231 temperature was controlled by diel variations in both sites, whereas salinity had more
232 influence of tidal variation, especially in the mesotidal mangrove towards the spring tide (Fig.
233 2 & 3).

234 Lowest values of salinity were found in the mesotidal site under effect of precipitation.

235 Accumulated rainfall during the time series was around ten times higher in the mesotidal

236 mangrove (57.8 mm) than the microtidal (5.6 mm), decreasing salinity to 23.1 (Tab. 1). We
237 found similar salinity in surface (31.6 ± 1.2) and porewater (31.4 ± 0.7) in the microtidal
238 system. Much lower salinity (24.4 ± 2.6) was found in the mesotidal mangrove porewater,
239 closer to the lowest salinity values found in this mangrove surface water time series (Fig. 3).
240 Dissolved oxygen (DO) values were similar at the two sites (Tab. 1). The DO variability
241 followed diel cycles in the microtidal site and tidal cycles in the mesotidal mangrove (Fig. 2
242 & 3). Stronger positive correlations between oxygen and depth in the mesotidal ($r^2 = 0.30$, p
243 < 0.001) than the microtidal ($r^2 = 0.11$, $p < 0.001$) imply a shift in the time scales of oxygen
244 cycles (Fig. 4). Chlorophyll observations showed contrasting patterns between mangroves.
245 Whereas high chlorophyll was observed in the low tides in the microtidal mangrove, the
246 mesotidal showed the highest concentration during high tides (Fig. 2 & 3). Overall, more
247 chlorophyll was found in the mesotidal ($6.1 \pm 2.5 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$) than microtidal ($3.9 \pm 2.4 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)
248 mangrove.
249 pH patterns mimicked DO with positive correlations with depth and higher values of pH
250 during high tide (Fig. 4). A diel cycle was also observed for pH in both sites with higher pH
251 during the day than night (Fig. 2 & 3). The $p\text{CO}_2$ was 3 times higher in the microtidal (2403.9
252 $\pm 1545.0 \mu\text{atm}$) than the mesotidal ($893.2 \pm 357.0 \mu\text{atm}$) mangrove. In both systems, high
253 $p\text{CO}_2$ was associated with low pH and oxygen values (Fig. 5). However, $p\text{CO}_2$ showed
254 contrasting trends with salinity at the two sites. High $p\text{CO}_2$ occurred at high salinity in the
255 microtidal mangrove and low salinity in the mesotidal (Fig. 5). ^{222}Rn generally showed a tidal
256 pattern with higher activities during low than high tides (Fig. 2, 3 & 4).

257

258 **Mangrove porewater observations**

259

260 Porewater $p\text{CO}_2$ and ^{222}Rn showed considerable variability, ranging from 2468 to 278766
261 μatm and 2780 to 40322 dpm m^{-3} . $p\text{CO}_2$ in porewater was 41 and 38 times higher than
262 average surface water values in the microtidal and mesotidal mangrove, respectively (Tab. 1
263 & 2). ^{222}Rn also showed elevated concentrations in porewater, up to 4-15 times higher than
264 surface waters (Fig. 6).

265

266 **Mangrove water-atmosphere CO_2 fluxes**

267

268 Both mangroves were a net source of CO_2 to the atmosphere. The CO_2 fluxes and gas transfer
269 velocities were different when using different models' parametrizations in neap and spring

270 tides (Tab. 3). Overall, water-air CO₂ fluxes in the microtidal mangrove (142.9 ± 140.7 mmol
271 m⁻² d⁻¹) were ~4 times higher than the mesotidal (38.4 ± 30.7 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹). These
272 differences between mangroves were higher in the spring (x 4.2) than neap (x 3.4) tides (Tab.
273 3). Within each mangrove forest, water-air CO₂ fluxes were 2 and 3 times higher in the spring
274 than neap tides for the meso- and microtidal observations, respectively.
275 Although CO₂ fluxes were variable across mangroves and tidal cycles, average gas transfers
276 velocities (k , m d⁻¹) were similar in both systems using all data (2.4 - 2.6) and during neap
277 (2.0 - 2.4) and spring (3.0 - 3.1) tides. Weak correlations ($r^2 < 0.20$) were found between
278 transfer velocities and CO₂ fluxes, both for the 4 individual models separated and average
279 results. However, strong correlations ($p < 0.01$) between $p\text{CO}_2$ and CO₂ fluxes in both the
280 microtidal ($r^2 = 0.88$, $N = 170$) and mesotidal ($r^2 = 0.68$, $N = 184$) mangroves were observed.
281 Across models, average CO₂ fluxes oscillated from 14.9 ± 14.0 to 59.5 ± 43.1 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ in
282 the mesotidal mangrove and 53 ± 50.6 to 225.9 ± 237.3 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ in the microtidal.
283 We used four empirical models based on depth, currents velocity and wind speed to derive
284 gas transfer velocities and estimate water-air CO₂ fluxes in the creek. The equations from
285 Borges et al. (2003) and Rosentreter et al. (2017) showed median values whereas the lowest
286 and highest gas transfer velocities (k) were obtained using the parametrizations by Ho et al.
287 (2016) and Jeffrey et al. (2018), respectively. We used an average of all models and
288 associated uncertainties to allow direct comparisons with previous studies in mangroves and
289 provide a range of potential CO₂ outgassing.

290

291 **Radon mass balance and porewater-derived CO₂ exchange**

292

293 Porewater exchange and atmospheric evasion were the main sources and sinks in the radon
294 mass balance model, corresponding to 47% and 44% of the fluxes in the microtidal creek and
295 50% and 40% in the mesotidal, respectively (Tab. 4). The other fluxes included in the model
296 were minor components accounting for ~10% of the total ²²²Rn budget. Porewater exchange
297 rates were estimated to be 2.7 ± 2.3 and 27.8 ± 10.2 10³ m³ d⁻¹ for the micro- and mesotidal
298 mangroves, respectively (Tab. 4). Considering the mangrove intertidal areas, porewater
299 exchange would convert to 1.8 ± 1.6 and 10.7 ± 3.9 cm d⁻¹, respectively. Uncertainties
300 represent the natural variability over the 15 tidal cycles investigated at each site.
301 CO₂ concentrations in porewater oscillated between 77.3 – 8351.0 μM (equivalent to 2.5 –
302 278.8 10³ μatm) in the mesotidal mangrove and 882.8 – 2538.3 μM (equivalent to 27.6 – 84.8
303 10³ μatm) in the microtidal. Using CO₂ porewater average concentration minus the mangrove

304 surface water concentrations as endmembers, porewater-derived CO₂ discharge would
305 convert to 35.5 ± 22.5 and 110.4 ± 40.2 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹ for the micro- and mesotidal
306 mangroves, respectively (Tab. 4). Given that porewater exchange is driven by the tides, we
307 found that both porewater exchange ($r^2 = 0.39, p < 0.05$) and porewater-derived CO₂ fluxes
308 ($r^2 = 0.29, p < 0.05$) increased as tidal amplitude increased during the neap-spring tidal cycles
309 (Fig. 8).

310

311 **Discussion**

312

313 **Tidal pumping as a driver of porewater exchange**

314

315 Our observations in a tropical mesotidal and subtropical microtidal mangrove demonstrated
316 substantial temporal and spatial variability across tidal, diel, and neap-spring scales.

317 Changing hydrostatic pressure gradients during flood and ebb tides are the main drivers of
318 porewater exchange between the mangrove sediments and surface waters (Chen et al. 2021).

319 The tides oscillate according astronomical and meteorological patterns, proximity with the
320 open ocean and bathymetry, influencing the magnitude of tidal amplitudes and carbon fluxes
321 in intertidal systems (Lyard et al. 2006). The ²²²Rn mass balance models demonstrated that
322 the exchange of mangrove porewater with the tidal creek varied substantially during the time
323 series and that it increases with tidal amplitude over neap-spring tidal cycles (Fig. 8).

324 Porewater exchange rates increased significantly with tidal range from 3.3 ± 2.1 cm d⁻¹ in the
325 microtidal mangrove to 27.8 ± 10.2 cm d⁻¹ in the mesotidal creek. This was also observed in
326 mangroves in Australia (Chen et al. 2021) and Vietnam (Taillardat et al. 2018b) when using
327 ²²²Rn to trace porewater exchange over tidal cycles. Most studies tracing porewater in
328 mangroves have less than 2 days of continuous ²²²Rn observations (Tab. A1), which limit
329 comparison among sites and the detection of variations across cycles giving the high dynamic
330 nature of mangroves. Latitudinal cross-comparison of porewater exchange rates in
331 Australian mangroves showed significant relationships with tidal amplitude only for a few
332 systems (Tait et al. 2016).

333 Our compilation of studies across different mangroves showed that there is no clear
334 relationship between tidal amplitudes and porewater exchange over large scale (Tab. A1)
335 perhaps due to the short-term nature of most datasets. Although the largest tidal amplitudes
336 occur in the equatorial macrotidal mangroves, the highest porewater exchange was observed
337 in mesotidal systems (12.3 ± 11.3 cm d⁻¹). High uncertainties are related to the limited

338 porewater exchange data in mangroves, especially in macrotidal systems and within tidal
339 creeks surrounded by developed mangrove forests without the influence of freshwater
340 sources. Efforts to expand research in global mangrove hotspots of Asia, Latin America and
341 Africa will refine estimates and reduce uncertainties.

342 Upscaling the average porewater exchange rates for micro-, meso- and macrotidal mangroves
343 (Tab. A1) by their global areas (Giri et al. 2011) resulted in a tidally derived global mangrove
344 porewater discharge of $4,639 \pm 3,777 \text{ Km}^3 \text{ year}^{-1}$. This represents 14 ± 11 to 20 ± 17 times
345 the global volume of fresh groundwater discharge (Luijendijk et al. 2020) or $12 \pm 10 \%$ of the
346 global river discharge (Fekete et al. 2002) to the ocean. Our results suggest that although
347 mangroves only cover 12-15% of Earth's coastlines they effectively recirculate seawater
348 within their permeable sediments on diel and biweekly time scales, releasing carbon from
349 soils during tidal pumping.

350

351 **Porewater-derived versus water-atmosphere CO₂ fluxes**

352

353 Mangroves can release greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and contribute to both local and
354 global carbon budgets (Call et al. 2019b; Alongi 2022b; Lu et al. 2023). However, most of
355 literature in mangroves has focused on quantifying water-air and soil-air CO₂ fluxes (Borges
356 et al. 2003; Kristensen et al. 2008b; Rosentreter et al. 2018) while overlooking CO₂
357 porewater exchange. The few studies continuously capturing high resolution radon and CO₂
358 measurements demonstrated that porewater exchange is the major CO₂ source in surface
359 water of mangrove creeks (Taillardat et al. 2018a; Call et al. 2019a; Santos et al. 2019; Chen
360 et al. 2021). Our high frequency datasets support this suggestion. Positive correlations
361 between tidal amplitudes over neap-spring cycles and porewater-derived CO₂ fluxes imply
362 that tidal pumping was the major source of CO₂ outgassing in mangrove tidal creeks.

363 Other drivers such as rainfall and anthropogenic impacts might influence $p\text{CO}_2$ dynamics and
364 fluxes. Rainfall in the mesotidal, pristine mangrove decreased ($p < 0.05$) both $p\text{CO}_2$ ($r^2 =$
365 0.57) and water-air CO₂ fluxes ($r^2 = 0.64$) in the tidal creek. Pulses of precipitation dilute CO₂
366 concentrations in pore- and surface waters, as observed in mangroves in Australia (Call et al.
367 2015; Chen et al. 2021), since $p\text{CO}_2$ in rain is likely to be in equilibrium with atmosphere (~
368 424 ppm, NOAA). Observations in Vietnam mangroves found higher CO₂ fluxes in the
369 monsoon rather than dry season (Vinh et al. 2019) due to upstream riverine inputs. This $p\text{CO}_2$
370 increase during wet conditions is not observed in the mesotidal mangrove due to absence of
371 upstream river CO₂ inputs.

372 Higher urbanization and eutrophic settings surrounding the microtidal mangrove (Cabral et
373 al. 2020) compared to the pristine, mesotidal creek (Chynel et al. 2022) also contribute to
374 organic enrichment and increase $p\text{CO}_2$ in the microtidal creek. Previous studies found that
375 sediment-atmosphere CO_2 fluxes were 3 times lower in the mesotidal creek ($\sim 120 \text{ mmol m}^{-2}$
376 d^{-1}) when compared to a nearby eutrophic mangrove (Barroso et al. 2022), confirming that
377 pristine mangroves emit less CO_2 into the atmosphere than impacted/eutrophic systems. The
378 dry soil-air flux found by Barroso et al. (2022) is much higher than the average water-air CO_2
379 emission ($38 \pm 31 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) found by our study but comparable to the CO_2 porewater-
380 exchange rates in that system ($110 \pm 40 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) or to the global average for mesotidal
381 mangroves ($92 \pm 84 \text{ mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$, Table 5).

382 Diel cycles played a secondary role driving most of variables analyzed in both mangrove
383 creeks (Fig. 7). Stronger diel effects were observed in the microtidal mangrove for $p\text{CO}_2$, DO
384 and chlorophyll where $22 \pm 19\%$, $45 \pm 18\%$ and $24 \pm 4\%$ of the variation was explained by
385 day/night differences, respectively. Phytoplankton primary production can lower $p\text{CO}_2$
386 during the day in mangrove creeks, decreasing CO_2 outgassing to the atmosphere (Zablocki et
387 al. 2011; Maher et al. 2015; Cotovicz et al. 2020). Contrasting patterns during chlorophyll
388 time series showed biomass peaks during high and low tides for the mesotidal and microtidal
389 mangrove, respectively, indicating autochthonous phytoplankton production for the
390 microtidal and supporting the stronger diurnal control on that creek.

391 We found opposite patterns of CO_2 water-air and porewater fluxes between the micro- and
392 mesotidal mangroves due to the differences in $p\text{CO}_2$ and tidal ranges, respectively (Tab. 4).
393 When combining CO_2 water-air and porewater fluxes, total CO_2 flux would be similar in both
394 mangroves due to the elevated $p\text{CO}_2$ in the microtidal mangrove and higher tidal pumping in
395 the mesotidal site. Water-air CO_2 strongly correlated ($r^2 = 0.74$) with $p\text{CO}_2$ but no significant
396 correlations were found with the gas transfer velocities (k). This indicates that water-air CO_2
397 fluxes were mostly a function of $p\text{CO}_2$ enrichments driven by tidal pumping rather than
398 removal driven by turbulence.

399 We found different trends related to tidal pumping when combining both mangroves tidal
400 cycles and CO_2 outgassing fluxes. The higher water-atmosphere CO_2 fluxes found in the
401 microtidal creek compared to the mesotidal were related to the higher $p\text{CO}_2$ in both pore- and
402 surface water. When analyzing the tidal cycles in both creeks separately, we found positive
403 correlation between tidal ranges and CO_2 outgassing as also observed in Amazon mangroves
404 (Call et al. 2019b). Water-air CO_2 fluxes from neap to spring tides increased 38% and 40% in
405 the mesotidal and microtidal creeks, respectively. Longer inundation time of mangrove

406 sediment during spring tides lead to peaks of CO₂ emissions when compared to neap tides
407 when porewater exchange is mostly constrained by the creek sediment banks. Our results
408 indicate that overlooked temporal variability over neap-spring tidal cycles might biased
409 estimates built on spatial surveys or only few days of measurements. Hence, our new
410 observations build on previous work in mangroves (Call et al. 2015; Sadat-Noori et al. 2016)
411 and saltmarshes (Chen et al. 2022; Correa et al. 2022) highlighting the dominating role
412 played by semi-diurnal and biweekly tidal cycles.

413

414 **Implications to mangrove global CO₂ fluxes**

415

416 The global mangrove carbon budget has been conceptualized to illustrate the multiple carbon
417 pathways and sequestration capacity by mangrove soil and outwelling as blue carbon
418 (Alongi 2020, 2022b). The key terms of the carbon budget in mangroves are CO₂ exchange
419 by primary producers (mangrove trees and algae), water-air and sediment-air emissions,
420 carbon burial in sediments and outwelling to the ocean. Our results and recent studies (Tait et
421 al. 2016; Taillardat et al. 2018a; Call et al. 2019a; Chen et al. 2021) show evidence that
422 porewater exchange by tidal pumping is a major CO₂ pathway in mangroves. We use our new
423 datasets and earlier observations to estimate the contribution of porewater as a source of CO₂
424 as well as update global estimates of CO₂ water-air exchange.

425 Global porewater-derived CO₂ exchange in mangroves was estimated to be 45.4 ± 11.7 Tg C
426 y⁻¹ (Tab. 5). Our global compilation excluded sites with large freshwater or upstream riverine
427 CO₂ sources in the mangrove tidal creek that would create biases in the interpretation. Large
428 uncertainties (85.9 ± 73.2 mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) on CO₂ porewater fluxes are associated with high
429 spatial variability and lack of data in many regions, especially in macrotidal tropical
430 mangroves (Tab. A1). Our upscaled porewater-derived CO₂ flux represents ~25% of the
431 global mangrove net primary production (Alongi 2020) or about 238% of mangrove soil
432 carbon burial rates (Breithaupt and Steinmuller 2022) (Fig. 9).

433 The global dataset of CO₂ outgassing spans a larger latitudinal and tidal range when
434 compared to porewater-deliver CO₂ exchange (Tab. A1 and A2). Most research assessing
435 water-air CO₂ fluxes are concentrated in micro- (38%, N = 19 sites) or mesotidal (40%, N =
436 20) mangrove systems. Just a few studies made observations in different seasons or over
437 neap-spring cycles using high-frequency datasets. Our updated global water-air CO₂ fluxes
438 resulted in average mangrove CO₂ emissions of 40.9 ± 10.3 Tg C y⁻¹. This is ~15% higher
439 than reported by Rosentreter et al. (2018) (34.1 ± 5.4 Tg C y⁻¹) but ~10% lower than the latest

440 published global compilation by Call et al. (2019b) of 45.5 Tg C y^{-1} . All studies used the
441 same mangrove area of 137759 Km^2 (Giri et al. 2011) to allow direct comparison. The
442 similar porewater-derived and water-air global CO_2 emissions found by our study highlights
443 that most CO_2 is released to the atmosphere as soon as porewater discharges to surface waters
444 due to the short residence times and high $p\text{CO}_2$ gradients at the water-air interface.
445 Major differences when contrasting with the latest review (Call et al. 2019b) are related to
446 lower CO_2 emissions (-5 Tg C y^{-1}) in mesotidal mangroves where more than half of all
447 mangrove forests are located. Macrotidal mangroves are still underrepresented with only 23%
448 of water-air CO_2 fluxes studies covering this tidal range and mostly concentrated in India and
449 Australia. Despite these limitations, this study is the first attempt to synthesize both water-air
450 and porewater-exchange CO_2 fluxes in mangroves at a global scale. Even with growing
451 datasets, no significant trends emerged between tidal ranges and CO_2 fluxes using all data
452 available. This lack of correlation is probable related to CO_2 observations in different seasons
453 (dry vs. wet), geomorphic (e.g. lagoonal or open coast) and sedimentary (terrigenous or
454 carbonate) settings, sampling design (spatial survey vs. time series observations) and
455 resolution (hourly/daily discrete or continuous over neap-spring cycles), anthropogenic
456 impacts, and/or the use of different methods to estimate CO_2 outgassing (chambers/gas
457 exchangers and several gas transfer velocity parametrization models) or porewater fluxes
458 (usually estimated using radon or radium isotopes).

459

460 **Conclusions**

461

462 Porewater-derived CO_2 is a major but often unaccounted source of carbon to the water and
463 eventually the atmosphere in mangroves. Neglecting this pathway can likely underestimate
464 CO_2 emissions or overestimate blue carbon sequestration capacity in mangroves. Tidal
465 pumping on a semi-diurnal (high/low tides) time scale explained half ($50 \pm 30\%$) of $p\text{CO}_2$
466 variation in the creeks, diel (day/night cycles) explained $9 \pm 22\%$ of the deviation and spring-
467 neap cycles accounted for $57 \pm 5\%$ of the variability. Studies focusing on water-atmosphere
468 CO_2 outgassing in mangrove tidal creeks have advanced faster than the quantification of
469 porewater exchange. Our observations covering semi-diurnal, daily, and neap-spring cycles
470 suggest that tidal pumping is a key mechanism enhancing CO_2 fluxes. Combining our new
471 observations with earlier datasets results in an updated global estimate of $40.9 \pm 10.3 \text{ Tg C y}^{-1}$
472 for water-air CO_2 fluxes from mangroves and $45.4 \pm 11.7 \text{ Tg C y}^{-1}$ for porewater-derived CO_2
473 fluxes. More site-specific studies combining CO_2 and porewater tracers (e.g., ^{222}Rn) and

474 using high-resolution time series covering multiple tidal cycles are required to refine global
475 budgets unbalances and better understand the drives of carbon cycling in mangrove systems.

476

477 **CRedit authorship contribution statement**

478

479 AC wrote the manuscript, performed data analyses, and made all the figures. AC and IRS
480 designed the project. AC, GMSR, YYYY, LC, JB, BV, ALF, and IRS performed field
481 investigations. GB contributed with ADCP data. IRS supervised the project and obtained
482 funding. All authors revised and approved the final version of the manuscript.

483

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490

491 **Appendix A. Supplementary Material**

492

493 Table A1 shows a global data compilation of porewater exchange rates, $p\text{CO}_2$ in porewater
494 and porewater-derived CO_2 exchange in mangroves. Table A2 provide tidal amplitude, water
495 $p\text{CO}_2$ (range) and average water-atmosphere CO_2 flux from this study and previously
496 published data in 50 mangrove systems worldwide.

497

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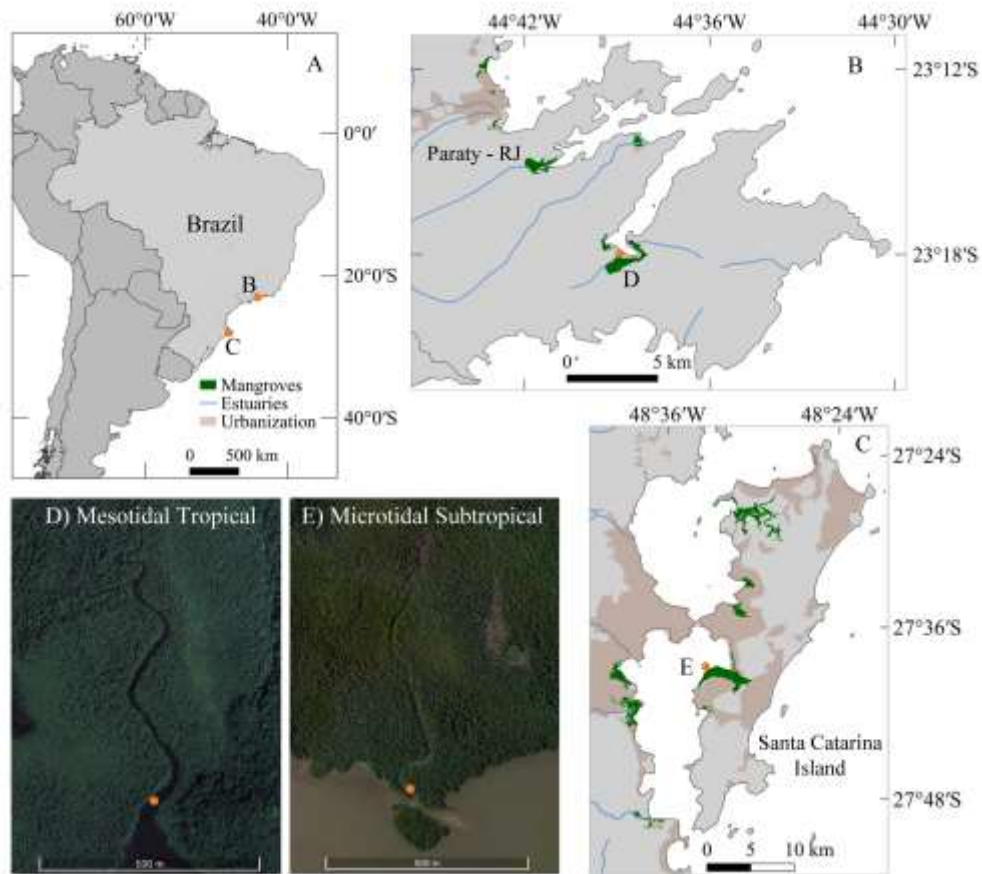


Figure 1. Location of the study sites in South America (A) and within regional settings (B & C). The locations of the orange dots (D & E) show the position where time-series observations were deployed. Porewaters were sampled in both sides of the tidal creeks around the orange dots.

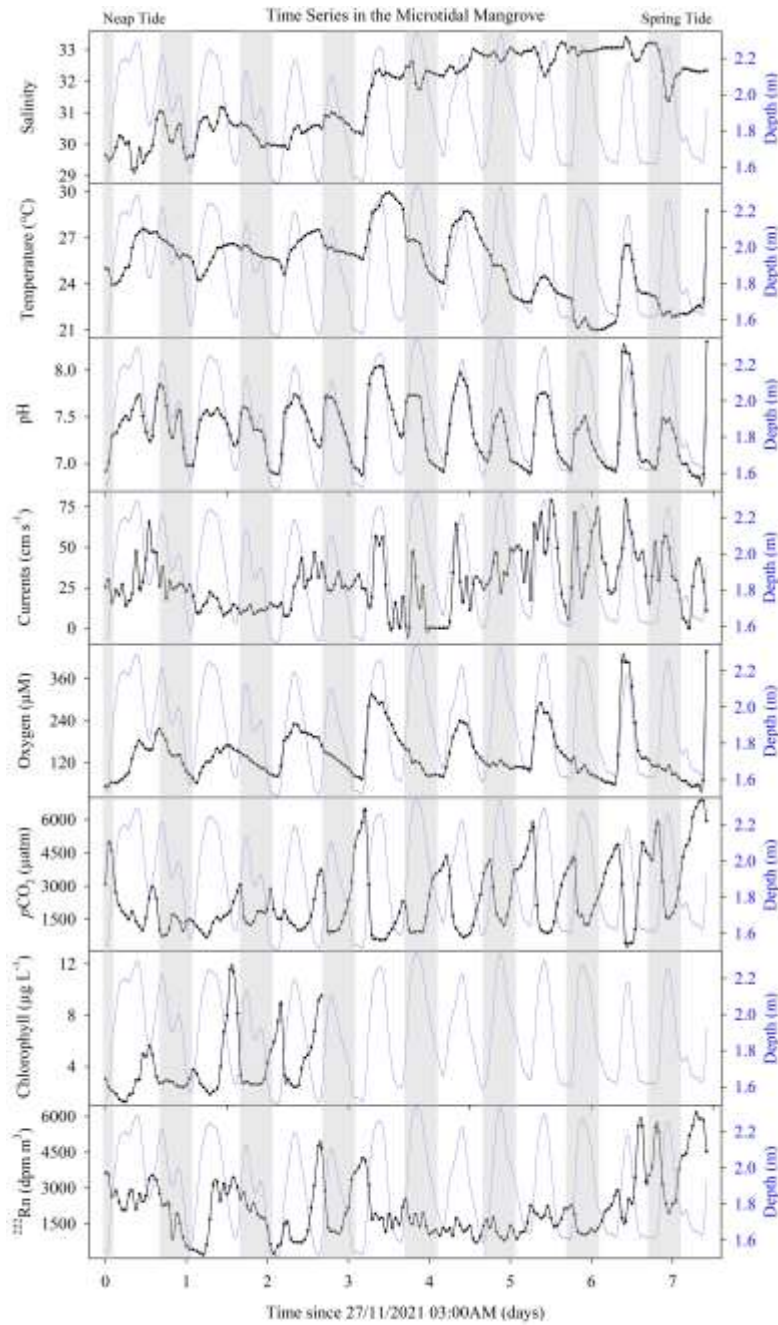


Figure 2. Time series observations of salinity, temperature, water currents, dissolved oxygen, $p\text{CO}_2$ and ^{222}Rn during a 7-days neap and spring tidal cycles in the microtidal mangrove. The white and shade bars represent day and night periods, respectively.

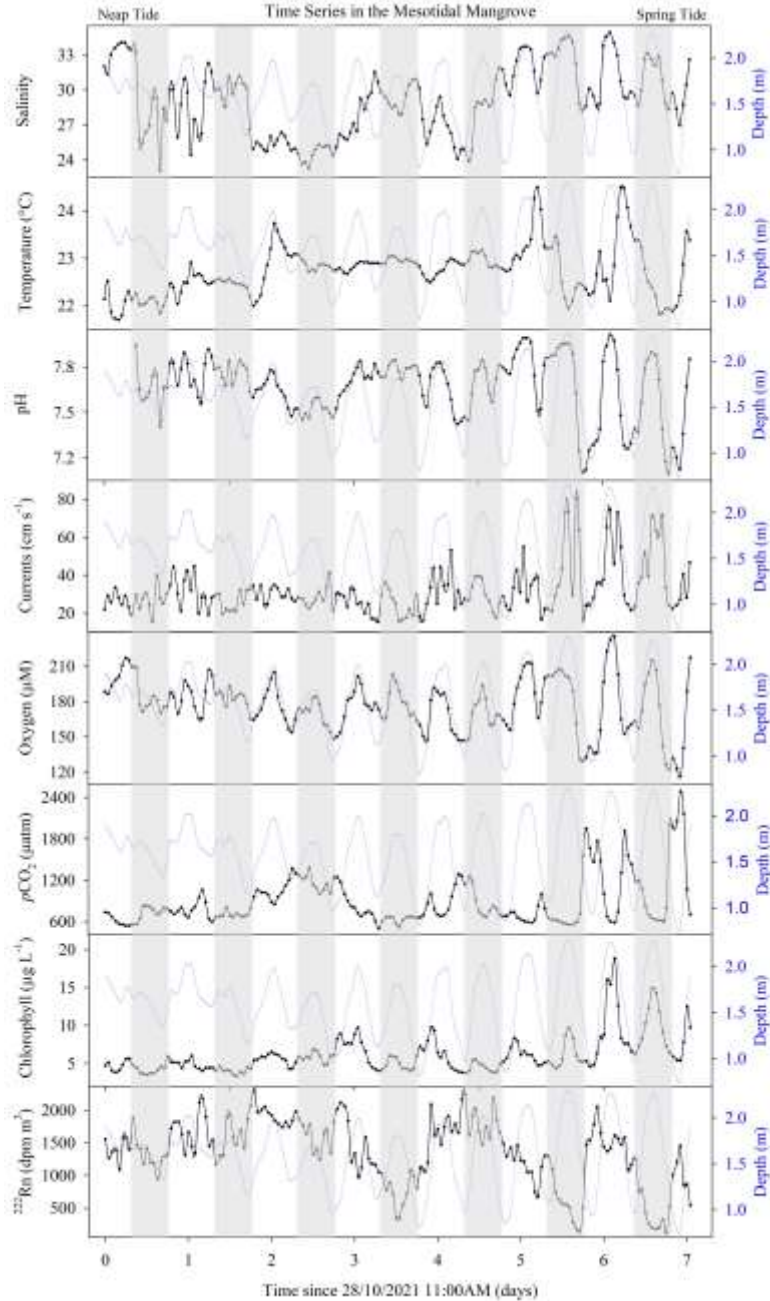


Figure 3. Time series observations of salinity, temperature, water currents, dissolved oxygen, $p\text{CO}_2$ and ^{222}Rn during a 7-days neap and spring tidal cycles in the mesotidal mangrove. The white and shade bars represent day and night periods, respectively.

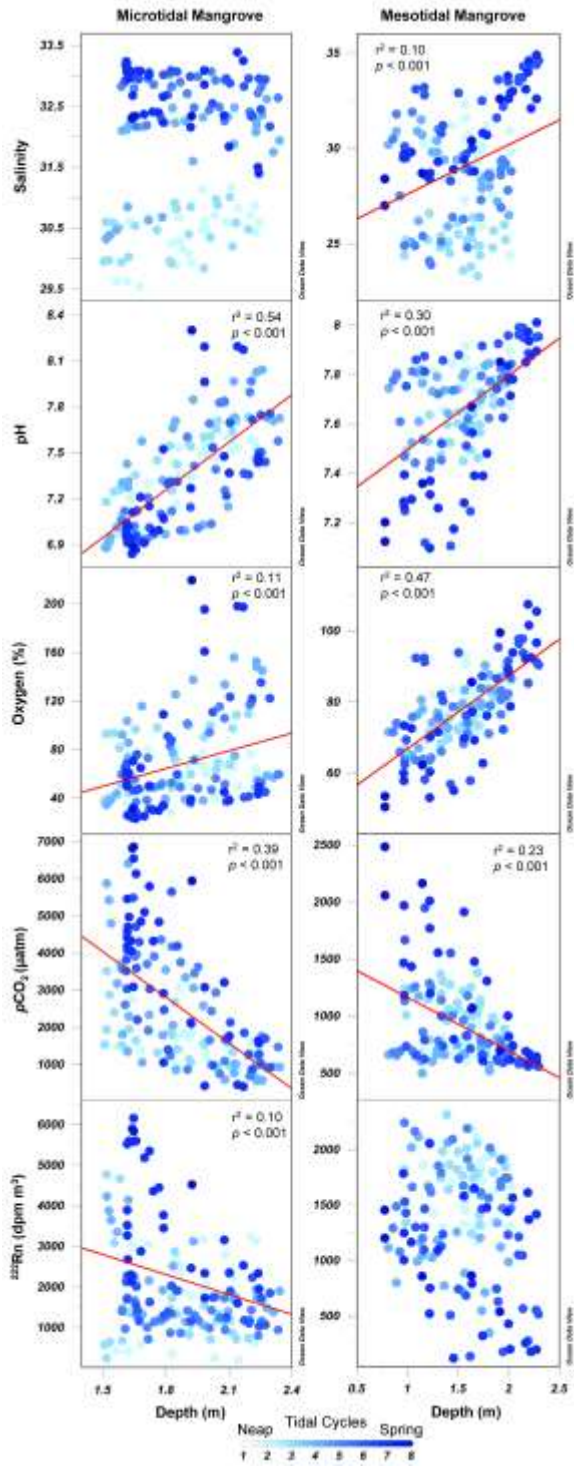


Figure 4. Linear regressions (r^2 and p -values) and scatterplots between depth and salinity, pH, oxygen saturation, pCO_2 and ^{222}Rn in both mangroves.

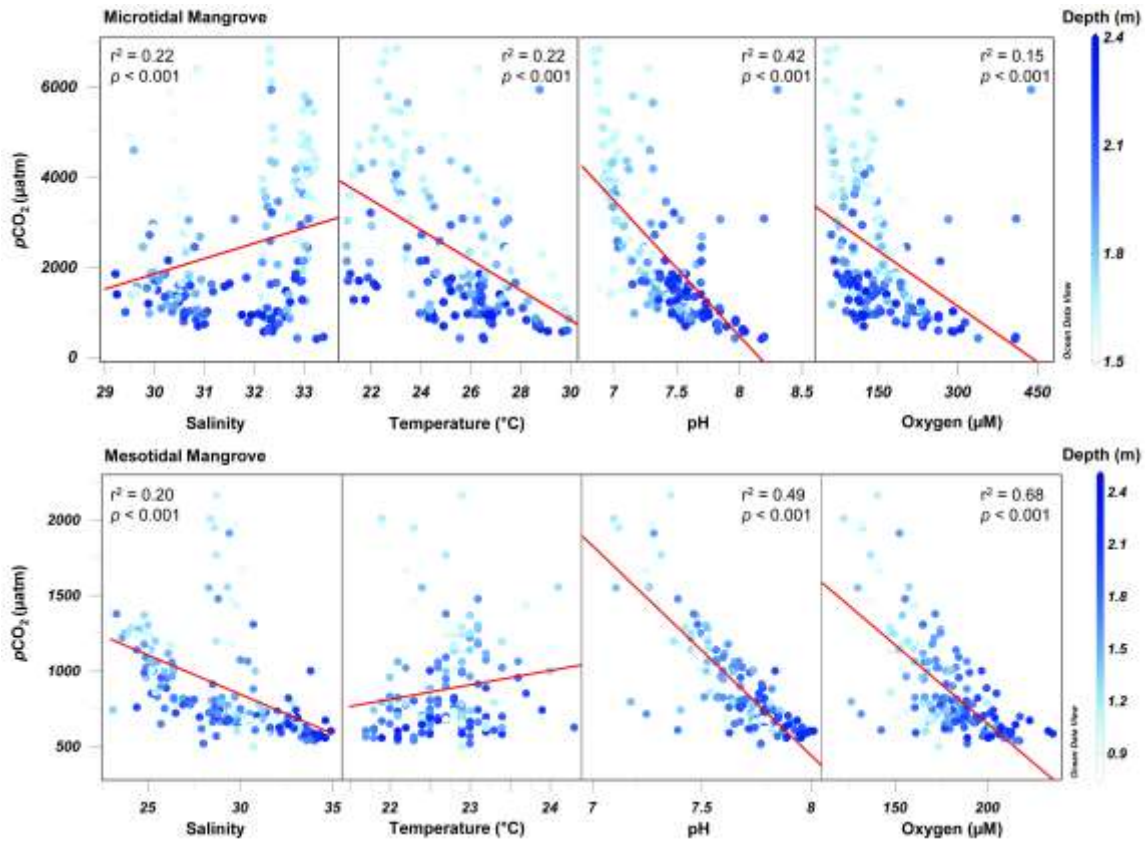


Figure 5. Linear regressions (r^2 and p -values) and scatterplots between pCO_2 and salinity, temperature, pH, and dissolved oxygen in both mangroves.

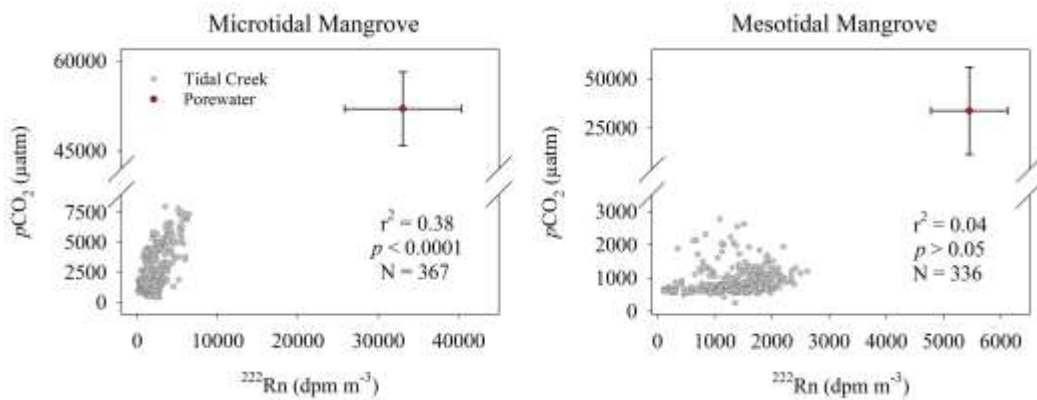


Figure 6. Correlation of pCO_2 with ^{222}Rn in both mangrove tidal creeks. Average of porewater samples concentrations is included for comparison (red circles with error bars).

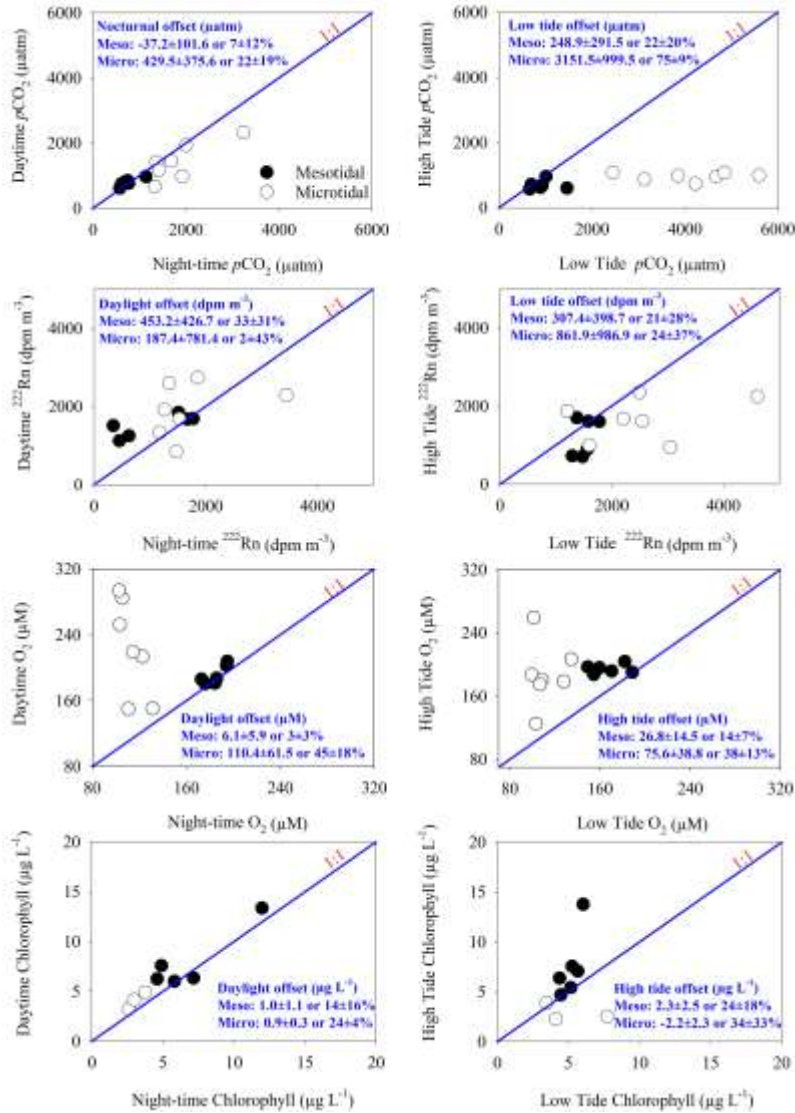


Figure 7. Distribution of $p\text{CO}_2$, dissolved oxygen, ^{222}Rn , and chlorophyll during diel (day/night) and tidal (low/high) cycles in both mangroves. Daytime and night-time were calculated from average concentrations using time intervals of 10am-3pm and 10pm-3am from each tidal cycle, respectively. High and low tide concentrations were calculated using the average of the two highest and lowest tides from each semidiurnal tidal cycle in the time-series. The blue 1:1 slope implies same values at low and high tides or during the day and night. Offsets were calculated as a percentage of deviation in relation to the conservative concentration (blue line) in each tidal or diel cycles.

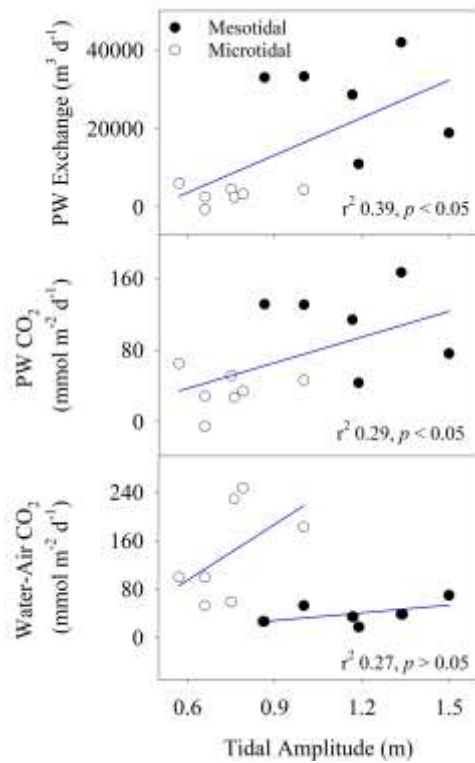


Figure 8. Linear regressions between tidal amplitudes and daily porewater (PW) exchange rates, porewater-delivered CO_2 , and water-atmosphere CO_2 fluxes in both mangroves. Tidal amplitude was calculated by the difference between the highest and lowest depths during full daily tidal cycles.

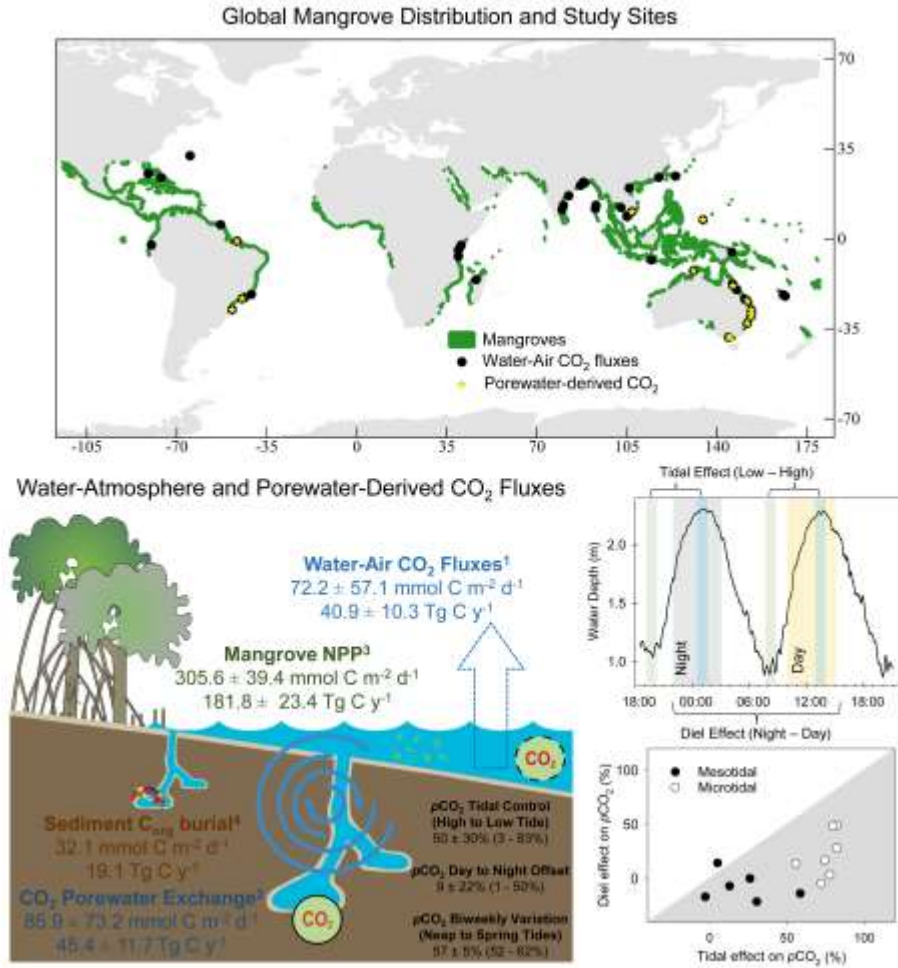


Figure 9. Conceptual model showing mangrove water-atmosphere¹ and porewater-derived² CO₂ global fluxes from table 5. Net primary production³ (NPP) and sediment carbon burial⁴ rates in mangroves are based on Alongi (2020) and Breithaupt and Steinmuller (2022), respectively. Results in m² of mangrove area were upscaled using total global mangrove area of 137759 Km² (Giri et al., 2011). Global datasets can be found in the supplementary material. Tidal, diel, and biweekly offsets represent the percentage deviation of pCO₂ between high/low tides, day/night and over neap/spring tidal cycles (Fig. 7). We used the lowest and highest daily water height to calculate the tidal offsets to enable comparisons with a diel 24hrs cycle in the same time interval.

Table 1. Summary of variables of atmospheric and surface water parameters in both mangroves' tidal creeks during the time series observations. Average \pm SD (minimum-maximum).

Parameter	Microtidal Subtropical	Mesotidal Tropical
Rainfall (mm)*	5.6	57.8
Air temperature (°C)	23.2 \pm 2.6 (18.3 - 30.6)	21.8 \pm 1.8 (18.2 - 26.5)
Wind speed (m s ⁻¹)	1.9 \pm 1.2 (0.0 - 5.6)	1.2 \pm 0.9 (0.0 - 3.9)
Current velocity (cm s ⁻¹)	28.6 \pm 18.2 (0.1 - 79.3)	31.8 \pm 12.8 (15.5 - 80.6)
Depth (m)	1.9 \pm 0.3 (1.3 - 2.6)	1.6 \pm 0.4 (0.6 - 2.3)
Tidal Range (m)	0.7 \pm 0.1 (0.4 - 0.9)	1.3 \pm 0.2 (0.9 - 1.8)
Salinity	31.6 \pm 1.2 (29.2 - 33.4)	29.1 \pm 3.0 (23.1 - 34.9)
Water temperature (°C)	25.3 \pm 1.2 (21.0 - 29.9)	22.7 \pm 0.5 (21.7 - 24.5)
pH	7.4 \pm 0.3 (6.8 - 8.3)	7.7 \pm 0.2 (7.1 - 8.0)
Oxygen (μ M)	145.6 \pm 72.8 (52.0 - 437.6)	177.3 \pm 22.4 (116.3 - 235.2)
Oxygen (%)	69.2 \pm 36.3 (23.3 - 219.5)	78.7 \pm 10.8 (50.5 - 107.5)
Oxygen (mg L ⁻¹)	4.7 \pm 2.3 (1.7 - 14.0)	5.7 \pm 0.7 (3.7 - 7.5)
CO ₂ (μ M)	71.7 \pm 47.9 (11.5 - 213.6)	28.3 \pm 11.5 (15.6 - 80.6)
CO ₂ (%)	582.1 \pm 374.1 (99.1 - 1660.1)	216.3 \pm 86.4 (121.0 - 601.6)
pCO ₂ (μ atm)	2403.9 \pm 1545.0 (409.2 - 6856.3)	893.2 \pm 357.0 (499.9 - 2484.6)
Chlorophyll (μ g L ⁻¹)	3.9 \pm 2.4 (1.2 - 11.6)	6.1 \pm 2.5 (3.3 - 18.8)
²²² Rn (dpm m ⁻³)	2146.5 \pm 1259.7 (203.0 - 6158.9)	1354.7 \pm 508.7 (120.5 - 2315.5)

*Accumulated rainfall during the time series in both mangroves.

Table 2. Summary (average \pm SD) of observations in porewater (endmember) for both mangroves.

Parameter	Microtidal	Mesotidal
Salinity	31.4 \pm 0.7	24.4 \pm 2.6
Temperature ($^{\circ}$ C)	22.4 \pm 1.0	23.1 \pm 0.6
pH	6.1 \pm 0.1	6.8 \pm 0.4
Oxygen (μ M)	45.5 \pm 44.0	N.D.
CO ₂ (μ M)	1631.1 \pm 600.6	1052.9 \pm 2266.8
<i>p</i> CO ₂ (μ atm)	52027.3 \pm 20404.4	33792.4 \pm 74083.2
²²² Rn (dpm m ⁻³)	33052.2 \pm 7269.8	5449.0 \pm 2218.4

Table 3. Water-atmosphere interface CO₂ fluxes (mmol m⁻² d⁻¹) and gas transfer velocities (m d⁻¹) normalized to the Schmidt number (*k*₆₀₀) in the microtidal and mesotidal mangrove creeks based on the parameterization's models by B04 (Borges et al., 2004), H16 (Ho et al., 2016), R17 (Rosentreter et al., 2017), and J18 (Jeffrey et al., 2018). *Averages and standard deviations of all models combined during the time series (all data) in each mangrove and for the neap (first 2 days) and spring (last 2 days) tides separately.

	Microtidal Subtropical Mangrove			Mesotidal Tropical Mangrove		
	All data	Neap tide	Spring tide	All data	Neap tide	Spring tide
*CO ₂	142.9 \pm 140.7	90.4 \pm 74.4	233.9 \pm 161.7	38.4 \pm 30.7	26.5 \pm 12.1	56.1 \pm 45.9
B04	160.0 \pm 145.6	104.0 \pm 74.6	247.4 \pm 166.8	44.9 \pm 41.4	30.9 \pm 14.5	66.7 \pm 65.7
H16	53.1 \pm 50.7	34.3 \pm 27.1	80.9 \pm 56.3	15.5 \pm 14.9	10.2 \pm 4.8	23.4 \pm 23.8
R17	132.6 \pm 137.2	82.2 \pm 71.2	223.0 \pm 159.9	34.3 \pm 25.5	23.9 \pm 11.0	49.7 \pm 36.7
J18	225.8 \pm 237.1	141.3 \pm 126.8	384.4 \pm 279.5	59.0 \pm 42.7	41.0 \pm 18.7	84.5 \pm 60.4
* <i>k</i> ₆₀₀	2.6 \pm 1.1	2.2 \pm 0.8	3.0 \pm 1.1	2.6 \pm 0.8	2.4 \pm 0.4	3.2 \pm 1.0
B04	2.9 \pm 1.0	2.6 \pm 0.7	3.0 \pm 0.7	2.9 \pm 0.7	2.8 \pm 0.5	3.4 \pm 0.8
H16	1.0 \pm 0.5	0.8 \pm 0.3	1.0 \pm 0.3	1.0 \pm 0.3	0.9 \pm 0.2	1.2 \pm 0.3
R17	2.4 \pm 1.2	2.0 \pm 0.8	3.0 \pm 1.3	2.4 \pm 0.9	2.2 \pm 0.5	3.1 \pm 1.2
J18	4.0 \pm 2.1	3.4 \pm 1.4	5.2 \pm 2.3	4.2 \pm 1.5	3.8 \pm 0.8	5.3 \pm 2.2

Table 4. Radon mass-balance, porewater exchange and CO₂ fluxes during the time series in both mangrove creeks. The missing radon source was assumed to be porewater exchange. dpm = decays per minute.

	Microtidal	Mesotidal
²²²Rn budgets (10⁷ dpm d⁻¹)		
²²² Rn flow (flood – ebb tides)	0.9 ± 5.7	1.4 ± 3.9
Atmospheric evasion	9.0 ± 2.8	9.1 ± 2.5
²²² Rn decay	0.9 ± 0.4	0.8 ± 0.2
Sediment diffusion	0.3 ± 0.1	0.1 ± 0.1
²²² Rn ingrowth from ²²⁶ Ra decay	0.3 ± 0.1	0.1 ± 0.1
Porewater flow (missing term)	10.2 ± 6.3	11.1 ± 3.9
Porewater exchange (10³ m³ d⁻¹)	3.3 ± 2.1	27.8 ± 10.2
Mangrove catchment area (m ²)	146065	260112
Porewater exchange rate (cm d⁻¹)	2.3 ± 1.4	10.7 ± 3.9
CO₂ porewater exchange (10⁶ mmol d⁻¹)	5.2 ± 3.3	28.7 ± 10.5
CO₂ porewater exchange rate (mmol m² d⁻¹)	35.5 ± 22.5	110.4 ± 40.2
CO₂ water-air fluxes (mmol m² d⁻¹)	142.9 ± 140.7	38.4 ± 30.7

Table 5. Global CO₂ exports by porewater exchange and water-atmosphere fluxes in mangroves. Mangrove areas on micro-, meso- and macrotidal systems were retrieved from Giri et al. (2011) and Call et al. (2019). Global datasets were compiled to upscale average porewater-derived (Tab. S1, N = 16) and water-atmosphere (Tab. S2, N = 52) CO₂ fluxes by tidal ranges and global mangroves.

Tidal Range	Global Area (Km²)	Porewater-exchange (cm d⁻¹)	Porewater-derived CO₂ (mmol C m⁻² d⁻¹)	Porewater-derived CO₂ (Tg C y⁻¹)	Water-Air CO₂ (mmol C m⁻² d⁻¹)	Water-Air CO₂ (Tg C y⁻¹)
Microtidal (< 1.5 m)	27967	10.1±6.7	94.2±68.5	11.4±8.3	82.0±60.8	9.9±7.3
Mesotidal (1.6 - 4 m)	70935	12.3±11.3	91.6±84.0	28.1±25.7	53.7±40.9	16.4±12.5
Macrotidal (> 4 m)	38857	3.4±1.5	35.3±5.9	5.9±1.1	87.3±68.0	14.5±10.9
Global Mangroves	137760	10.1±8.9	85.9±73.2	45.4±11.7	72.2±57.1	40.9±10.3

Appendix A. Supplementary Material

Table A1. Global compilation of porewater exchange rates, $p\text{CO}_2$ in porewater and porewater-derived CO_2 exchange in mangroves. Table updated from Chen et al. (2021).

Mangrove area	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Tidal range (m)	Porewater exchange (cm d^{-1})	$p\text{CO}_2$ in porewater (μatm)	Porewater-derived CO_2 ($\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$)	References
Americas								
Florianopolis	-27.65	-48.55	Brazil	0.9	2.3±1.4	52027±20404	35.5±22.5	This Study
Amazon	-0.87	-46.65	Brazil	5.3	1.9±1.9	29459±24076	41.2±37.2	(Call et al. 2019b; Cabral et al. 2021)
Paraty	-23.30	-44.65	Brazil	1.7	10.7±3.9	33792±74083	110.4±40.2	This Study
Asia								
Can Gio	10.51	106.88	Vietnam	2.9	4.9±1.5	18796±13820	26	(Taillardat et al. 2018a; b)
Oceania								
Darwin	-12.44	130.87	Australia	5.4	4.9	82717±25214	29.4±13.1	(Tait et al. 2016; Sippo et al. 2016)
Badeldaob 1	7.37	134.58	Palau	1.1	3.3±3.3	29000±33000	31.0	(Call et al. 2019a)
Badeldaob 2	7.39	134.59	Palau	1.1	6.2±4.8	27600±46200	72	(Call et al. 2019a)
Barwon	-38.26	144.50	Australia	1.7	4.9	16179±7228	29.4±13.1	(Tait et al. 2016; Sippo et al. 2016)
Western Port	-38.23	145.26	Australia	1.4	6.7-27	237-5329	14	(Faber et al. 2014)
Hinch	-18.26	146.26	Australia	2.1	35.5	23634±10545	254.2±112.1	(Tait et al. 2016; Sippo et al. 2016)
Newcastle	-32.85	151.77	Australia	0.9	14.7	48183±14743	233.0±72.8	(Tait et al. 2016; Sippo et al. 2016)
1770	-24.19	151.87	Australia	2.9	2.1	16605±9408	10.3±6.3	(Tait et al. 2016; Sippo et al. 2016)
Coffs Creek estuary	-30.30	153.13	Australia	0.5	23.0±6.7	3170-70700	136.0	(Chen et al. 2021)
Jacobs	-27.78	153.38	Australia	2.2	15.9	24055±9801	119.5±49.0	(Tait et al. 2016; Sippo et al. 2016)
Moreton Bay	-27.78	153.40	Australia	1.2	15.9	9510-42500	119.0	(Call et al. 2015; Tait et al. 2016)
Evans Head	-29.12	153.43	Australia	1.1	9.0±5.1	69798±4513	120.0±78.0	(Santos et al. 2019)

Table A2. Tidal amplitude, water $p\text{CO}_2$ (range) and average water-atmosphere CO_2 flux from this study and previously published data in 50 mangrove systems worldwide. Table updated from earlier global compilations (Borges et al. 2003; Call et al. 2015; Rosentreter et al. 2018).

Mangrove area	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Tidal range (m)	$p\text{CO}_2$ (μatm)	CO_2 flux ($\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$)	Reference
Americas							
Shark River	25.3633	-81.0773	USA	1.98	975–6,016	102.0	(Ho et al. 2016)
Guayas river	-2.4313	-79.9087	Ecuador	4.00	1,200–5,100	248.9	(Belliard et al. 2022)
Norman’s Pond	23.7739	-76.1268	Bahamas	1.20	395–690	13.8	(Borges et al. 2003)
Mangrove bay	32.3038	-64.8651	Bermuda	0.60	268–4,823	65.0	(Zablocki et al. 2011)
Sinnamary estuary	5.4531	-53.0131	French Guiana	3.20	391–7,216	157.0	(Ray et al. 2020)
Florianópolis	-27.6500	-48.5500	Brazil	0.80	499.9–2485	142.9	This Study
Amazon	-0.8741	-46.6506	Brazil	4.75	592–15,361	174.0	(Call et al. 2019b)
Paraty	-23.3000	-44.6500	Brazil	1.70	409.2–6,856	38.1	This Study
Itacuracá Creek	-22.9341	-43.8934	Brazil	1.20	660–7,700	113.5	(Ovalle et al. 1990)
Paraíba do Sul	-21.6054	-41.0520	Brazil	0.70	456–22,000	134.8	(Cotovicz et al. 2020)
Africa							
Mtoni	-6.8733	39.4630	Tanzania	3.00	400–1,700	18.0	(Kristensen et al. 2008)
Ras Dege	-6.8733	39.4630	Tanzania	2.60	400–5,050	33.7	(Bouillon et al. 2007c)
Kidogoweni (Gazi bay)	-4.4087	39.5133	Kenya	3.00	1,480–6,435	71.0	(Bouillon et al. 2007b)
Kinondo creek (Gazi bay)	-4.0021	39.6466	Kenya	3.00	575–6,435	52.0	(Bouillon et al. 2007b)
Tana River Delta	-2.5356	40.5306	Kenya	4.00	230–5,300	58.0	(Bouillon et al. 2007a)
Betsiboka	-15.8850	46.3400	Madagascar	3.50	270–1,530	9.1	(Ralison et al. 2008)
Asia							
Cauvery Delta	11.3978	79.8080	India	1.00	654–4,102	51.9	(Ramesh et al. 2007)
Adyar Estuary	13.0131	80.2734	India	1.00	437–7,978	48.7	(Ramesh et al. 2007)
Gautami Godavari Estuary	16.7419	82.3355	India	2.00	430–4,770	43.4	(Bouillon et al. 2003; Borges et al. 2003; Ramesh et al. 2007)
Dhamra Estuary	20.7739	86.9470	India	4.50	422–3,869	65.0	(Akhand et al. 2022)
Hooghly Estuary	22.0049	88.0590	India	7.00	559–3,679	94.3	(Akhand et al. 2022)
Mooriganga Estuary	21.6961	88.3940	India	5.94	152–1,530	7.7	(Borges et al. 2003)
Saptamukhi Estuary	21.7355	88.4992	India	5.10	193–4,000	28.5	(Borges et al. 2003; Biswas et al. 2004)

Thakuran Estuary	21.7047	88.5239	India	5.50	160–737	0.3	(Biswas et al. 2004; Akhand et al. 2013)
Malta Estuary	21.7671	88.5623	India	7.00	429–1,760	31.0	(Akhand et al. 2022)
Wright Myo	11.7013	92.6964	Andaman Islands	1.90	1,246–7,703	61.1	(Ramesh et al. 2007; Linto et al. 2014)
Kalighat	13.0626	92.9378	Andaman Islands	1.90	1,574–7,888	70.8	(Ramesh et al. 2007; Linto et al. 2014)
Trat	12.2068	102.5653	Thailand	3.00	1650.00	18.9	(Ikeda 2007)
Kiên Vãng	8.6074	105.0111	Vietnam	0.80	704–8,136	93.5	(Koné and Borges 2008)
Ca Mau	8.7806	105.1883	Vietnam	0.80	700–1,400	54.2	(Koné and Borges 2008)
Tam Giang	8.8168	105.2166	Vietnam	0.80	767–11,481	135.0	(Koné and Borges 2008)
Nam Ma River, Thanh Hóa	19.7734	105.8741	Thailand	4.00	1092.00	33.0	(Ikeda 2007)
Can Gio	10.5057	106.8824	Vietnam	3.20	1,088–17,767	142.0	(Taillardat et al. 2018a)
Gilimanuk Bay	-8.1670	114.4687	Indonesia	1.30	700–2,101	18.1	(Macklin et al. 2019)
Yunxiao Creek	23.9274	117.4240	China	4.67	928–8,000	79.2	(Lu et al. 2023)
Iriomote Island	24.3841	123.8863	Japan	1.00	401–2,667	24.0	(Akhand et al. 2021)
Oceania							
Darwin	-12.4400	130.8700	Australia	5.40	622–1,263	40.0	(Sippo et al. 2016)
Badeldaob	7.3911	134.5856	Palau	1.10	484–4,752	57.5	(Call et al. 2019a)
Barwon Head	-38.2600	144.5000	Australia	1.70	415–827	9.0	(Sippo et al. 2016)
Nagada Creek	-5.1544	145.7924	Papua New Guinea	1.00	540–1,680	43.6	(Borges et al. 2003)
Johnstone Estuary	-17.5090	146.0660	Australia	1.60	387–9,744	110.6	(Rosentreter et al. 2018)
Hinchinbrook Island	-18.2600	146.2600	Australia	2.10	1,341–3,304	30.0	(Sippo et al. 2016)
Burdekin Estuary	-19.6870	147.6110	Australia	1.50	617–13,031	221.0	(Rosentreter et al. 2018)
Fitzroy Estuary	-23.5230	150.8700	Australia	3.70	699–7,947	139.2	(Rosentreter et al. 2018)
Newcastle	-32.8500	151.7700	Australia	0.90	404–3,224	46.0	(Sippo et al. 2016)
Seventeen Seventy	-24.1900	151.8700	Australia	2.90	314–1,399	10.0	(Sippo et al. 2016)
Coffs Creek estuary	-30.3019	153.1298	Australia	0.51	403–7,920	49.0	(Jeffrey et al. 2018)
Jacobs Well	-27.7800	153.4000	Australia	1.50	531–5,036	19.0	(Sippo et al. 2016)
Moreton Bay	-27.7691	153.4110	Australia	1.53	385–26,106	201.6	(Call et al. 2015)
Evans Head	-29.1200	153.4300	Australia	1.10	400–2,500	85.3	(Santos et al. 2019)
La Foa Estuary	-21.7320	165.7563	New Caledonia	2.00	537–4,023	78.6	(Leopold et al. 2017)

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