



Reading Sample Fluorescence (PDMPO) via Fluorometer 👄

Brittany Zepernick¹, Matthew Saxton², Steven Wilhelm³

¹University of Tennessee, Knoxville, ²Miami University of Ohio, ³The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

1 Works for me

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The Aquatic Microbial Ecology Research Group - AMERG (The Buchan, Zinser and Wilhelm labs) Great Lakes Center for Fresh Waters and Human Health









EXTERNAL LINK

http://wilhelmlab.utk.edu/

THIS PROTOCOL ACCOMPANIES THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATION

Brittany N. Zepernick1, Matthew A. Saxton2, Steven W. Wilhelm1 University of Tennessee Knoxville1, Miami University2 Adapted from: (Saxton et al, 2012), (LeBlanc and Hutchins 2005) Original Methods Leblanc, K., & Hutchins, D. A. (2005). New applications of a biogenic silica deposition fluorophore in the study of oceanic diatoms. Limnology and Oceanography: Methods, 3(10), 462-476. Saxton, M. A., D'souza, N. A., Bourbonniere, R. A., McKay, R. M. L., & Wilhelm, S. W. (2012). Seasonal Si: C ratios in Lake Erie diatomsevidence of an active winter diatom community. Journal of Great Lakes Research, 38(2), 206-211.

GUIDELINES

Fluorometer Specifications: In this procedure, we utilize a Turner Designs-700 Laboratory fluorometer equipped with Andover Corporation 530 nm filter and 370 nm filter for detecting PDMPO fluorescence (excitation wavelengths 360-380nm, emission wavelengths 522-542nm).

Establishing a Standard Curve: Prior to *centrifuging samples for reading, establish a standard curve of 5 different concentrations (standard curve replicates are to be: 4mL NaOH that has been incubated at 80°C in the hot water bath along with the other samples, chilled on ice and neutralized with + 1mL 1M HCl, with selected volume of PDMPO then added prior to reading). Also ensure there is a blank, consisting of only the NaOH-HCl matrix with no PDMPO addition.

Considerations:

- -The highest standard should be approximately 80% of your max range entered.
- -The difference between standards should not be less than 10% of the entered maximum range.
- -When forming standard curve, it is helpful to take into account the initial volume of PDMPO added when designating the highest standard (Standard 5). For example, if inoculating samples with 15mL PDMPO, then there will only be at most 15mL of PDMPO in your digestion matrix, making the over-estimation that the diatoms somehow took all the PDMPO dye up and incorporated it after your time series. Selecting a linear number of concentrations scaling down from 15mL will allow you to establish a standard curve likely to have a high R² value

MATERIALS TEXT

Utilize a TD-700 Laboratory Fluorometer linked to a computer monitor with the downloaded Turner software to obtain fluorescence readings of the samples

SAFETY WARNINGS

See SDS (Safety Data Sheet) for hazards and safety warnings.

Establishing a Standard Curve: Prior to centrifuging samples for reading, establish a standard curve of 5 different concentrations. Standard curve replicates are to be:

- 4 ml NaOH that has been incubated at 80 °C in the hot water bath along with the other samples.
- Chilled on ice and neutralized with + 11 ml [M]1 Molarity (M) HCI with selected volume of PDMPO then added prior to reading.
- Ensure there is a blank, consisting only of the NaOH-HCl matrix with no PDMPO addition.

Calibration

- 1 From the home screen of the device, perform the following:
- 1.1 Select the 1. Button for "set-up"
- 1.2 Select the 1. Button again for "mode"
- 2 Confirm machine reads "simple multi-operational" (which is the mode)

press ENTER.

- 3 Select the 2. Button for "calibration procedure"
- 3.1 Use <> arrow buttons to select "Direct concentration" (as the type of measurement to be taken/read)

press ENTER.

4 Select the 3. Button for "units"

Then select mg/L, mg/mL, ng/mL etc.



Depending on your own concentrations selected for your standards. We utilized mg/mL or ng/mL for our standards, depending on whether they are cultures or environmental samples.

5 **Press ESCAPE** and return to the main home screen.

6 Select "max range"



Which is the maximum approximate concentration range you expect, you will have to perform a little trial and error depending on your samples and their concentration.

*This will vary on your cell concentration, incubation conditions, and the volume filtered.

7 You will then be prompted to enter the number of standards you are using (5) and press ENTER.



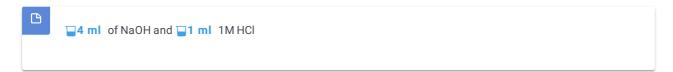
The machine will ask you to insert your highest standard first:

Pipet 4 ml of the standard into a disposable glass 10 mL tube and wiping the outside prior to insertion.

g Enter the concentration (in your prior selected units) from your standard. (This is your highest standard).

Select 1. "OK". Then **press "*"** to read the standard.

- 10 Machine will prompt you to repeat the same steps for your other standards (Order does not matter).
- 11 Follow prompt to insert a blank, press **ENTER**.



- 12 Once blank stabilizes, press "0".
- 13 Screen will revert to home screen when reading is complete.
- 14 Once calibration is complete and displayed on the computer screen that is hooked up to your fluorometer,

You will use this equation to convert your sample readings (FSU) to actual concentrations of PDMPO and then silica.



It is recommended to record your fluorescence readings (FSU) of your standards as you go through the calibration process and plot them manually to validate and compare the program's results (actual concentration, x-axis) vs. (fluorescence, y-axis).

- 19 Normalize to either cells/mL or chlorophyll-A data, for each sample, to obtain Si (mol)/cell.
- 20 Information can be graphed to show silica deposition rates over time.

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