

3rd International Workshop on Offshore Geologic CO<sub>2</sub> Storage  
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# Update on Leakage detection

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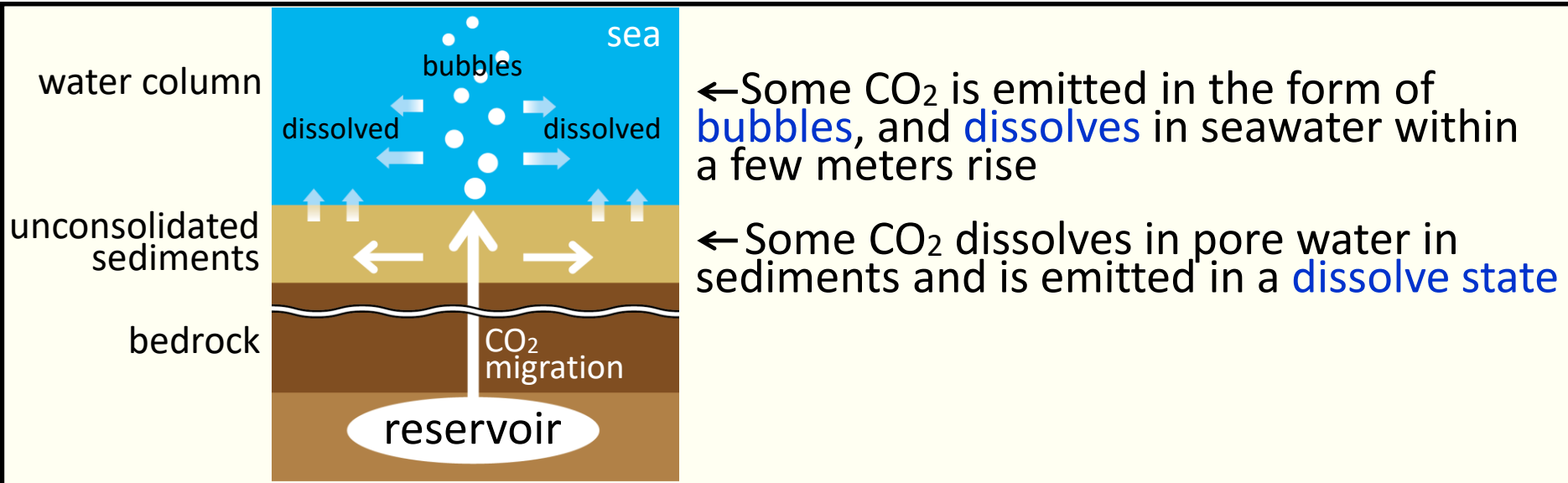
Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE)



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# Detecting anomalies



## Signals of potential CO<sub>2</sub> leakage

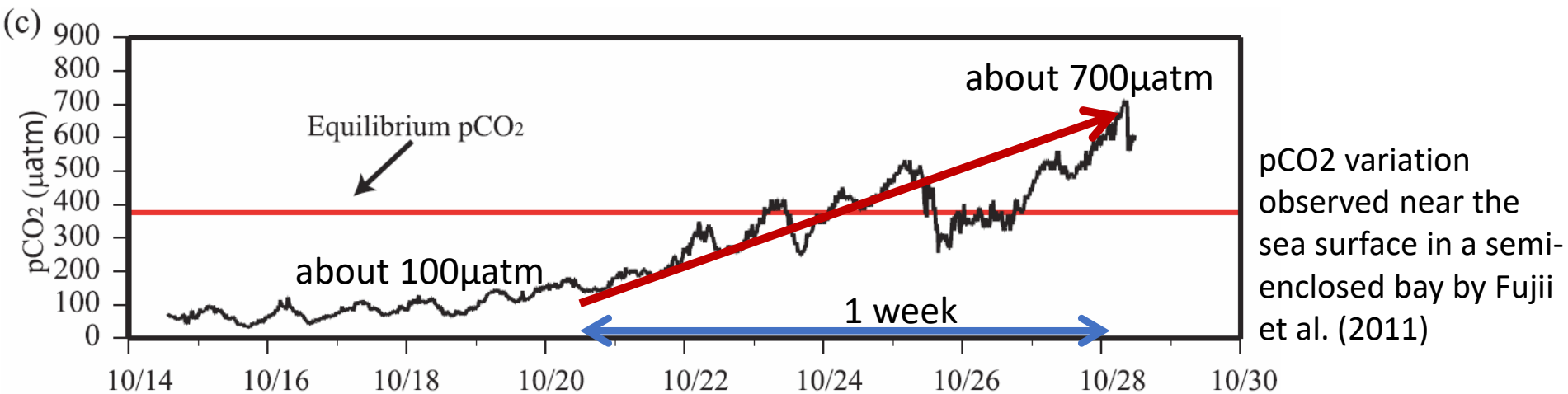
- Increase in CO<sub>2</sub> concentration or partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> (pCO<sub>2</sub>) in seawater near the sea bottom
- CO<sub>2</sub> bubbles in the water column

# Detecting anomalously high pCO<sub>2</sub>

Suspected signs of CO<sub>2</sub> leakage

- ✓ Anomalously high pCO<sub>2</sub>
- ✓ Rapid increase in pCO<sub>2</sub>

But these are also seen in the **natural variability**



# Two threshold methods

- Seasonal threshold
  - a seasonally fixed value of  $p\text{CO}_2$
- Covariance threshold
  - the upper limit of a prediction interval of a linear regression of  $p\text{CO}_2$  on DO (DO: Dissolved Oxygen)

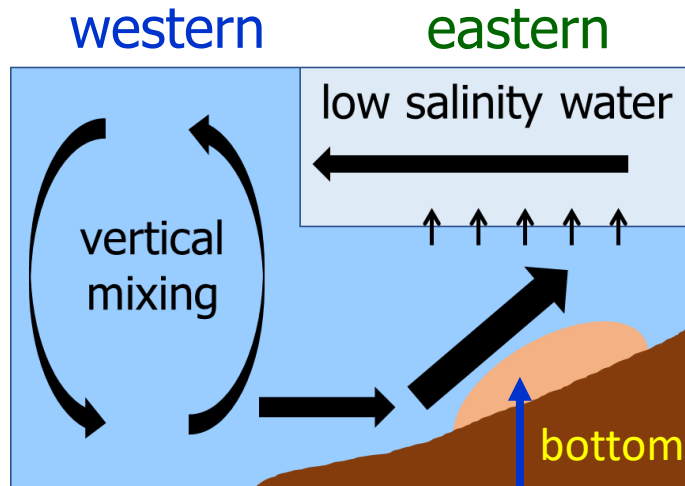
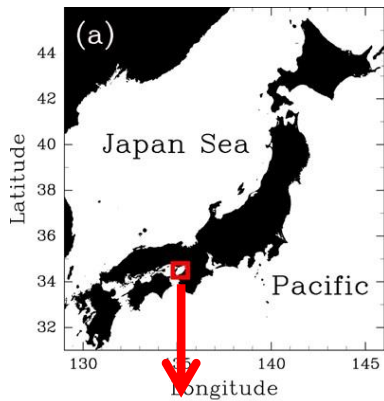
Which is the better of the two?

# Case study: Osaka Bay

semi-enclosed bay in Japan

**Eastern** bay: prone to be stratified throughout the year

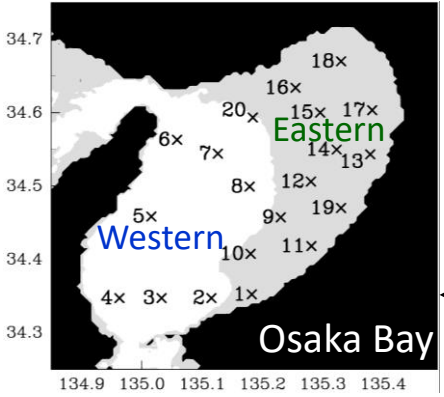
**Western** bay: prone to be vertically mixed



pCO<sub>2</sub> and DO near the bottom  
**Eastern:** often low DO and high pCO<sub>2</sub> during summer  
**Western:** relatively high DO and low pCO<sub>2</sub> throughout the year

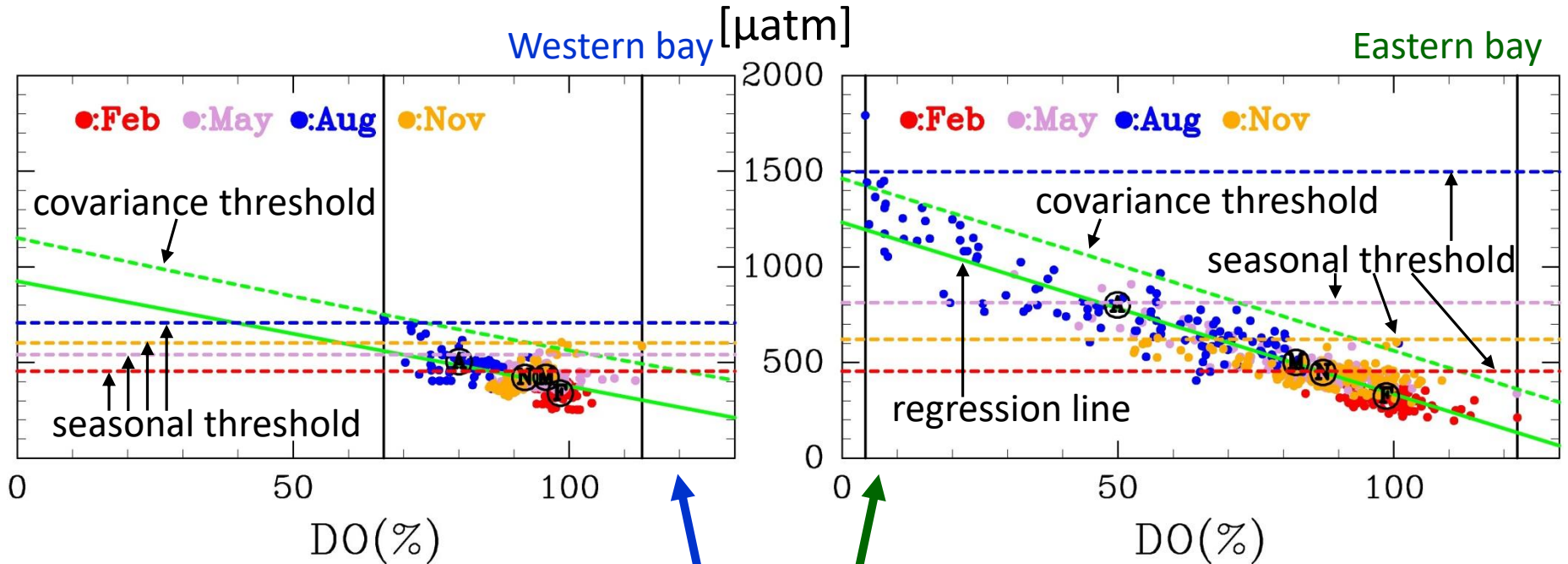
low DO and High pCO<sub>2</sub>

Observation stations  
✓ temperature, salinity, DO, pH etc.  
✓ 4 times a year

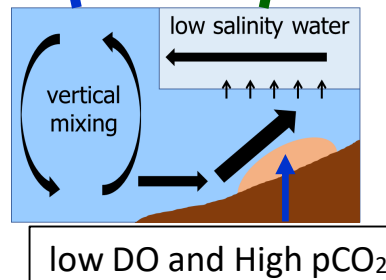


# Thresholds in Osaka Bay

pCO<sub>2</sub> based on bottom data from 2002 to 2010



**covariance threshold**  
the upper limit of 99% prediction interval of the straight line regression



**seasonal threshold**  
average + 2.57  $\sigma$   
( $\sigma$ : standard deviation)

# What is a good threshold?

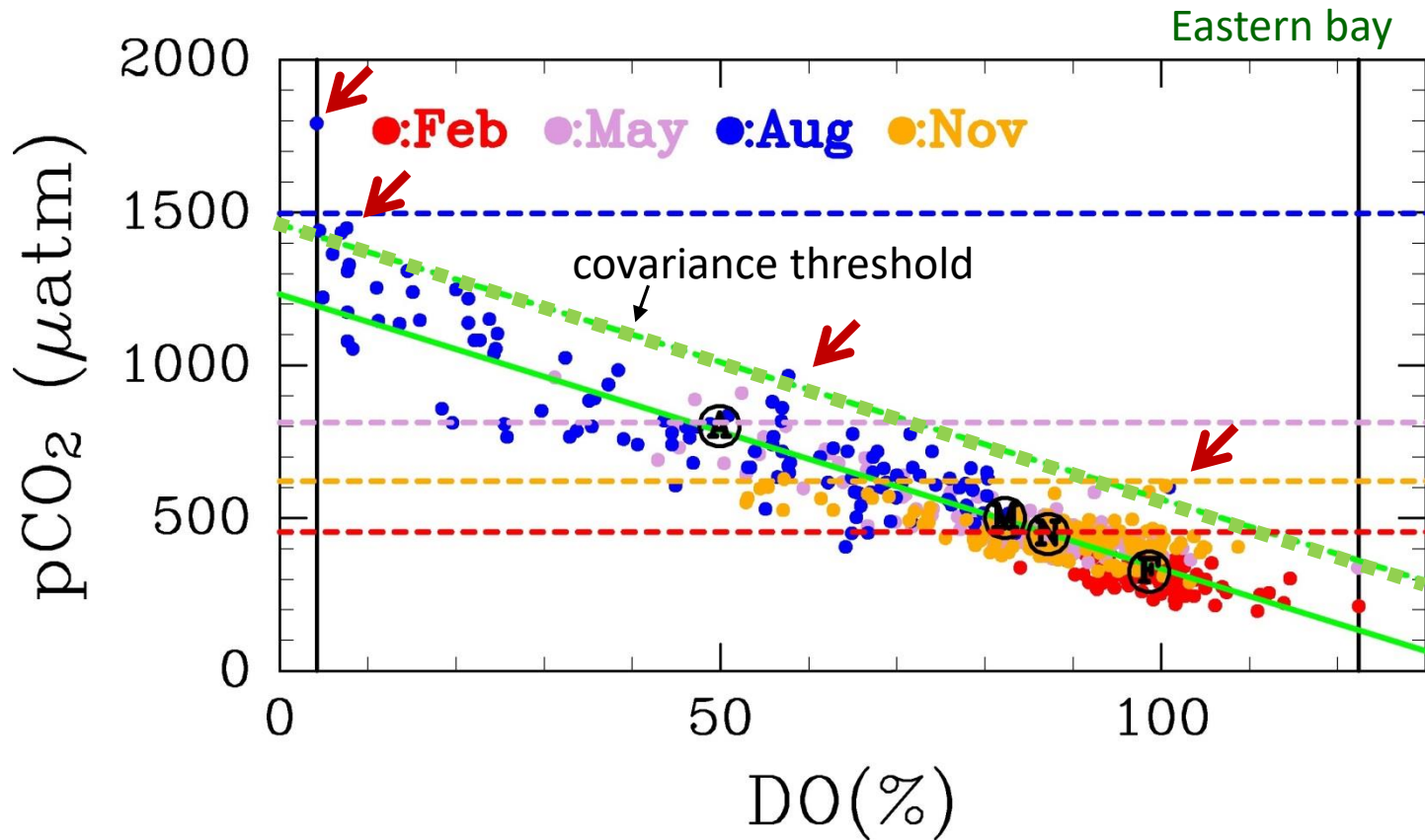
- A threshold that rarely overlooks CO<sub>2</sub> leakage is **good**.  
↓  
**false-negatives**
- A threshold that often misjudges natural phenomena as leakage is **bad**.  
↓  
**false-positives**



We should compare **false-negatives** of the two thresholds under the **same level** of the occurrence of **false-positives**

# False-positives

To misjudge natural phenomena as leakage





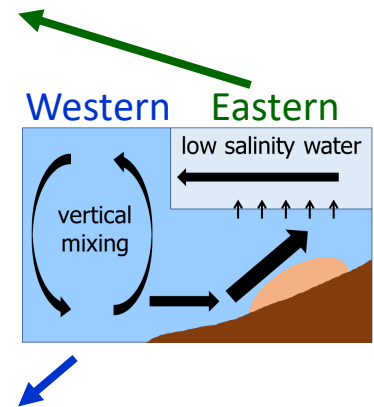
# False-positives

Eastern bay: stratified area

Threshold	Feb	May	Aug	Nov	Total
seasonal	0 (0%)	3 (2.59%)	1 (0.86%)	1 (0.85%)	<b>5 (1.08%)</b>
covariance	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	6 (5.17%)	2 (1.71%)	<b>8 (1.72%)</b>

Western bay: vertically mixed area

Threshold	Feb	May	Aug	Nov	Total
seasonal	0 (0%)	1 (1.59%)	2 (3.17%)	1 (1.59%)	<b>4 (1.59%)</b>
covariance	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (4.76%)	<b>3 (1.19%)</b>



Difference of false-positives between the two thresholds is small

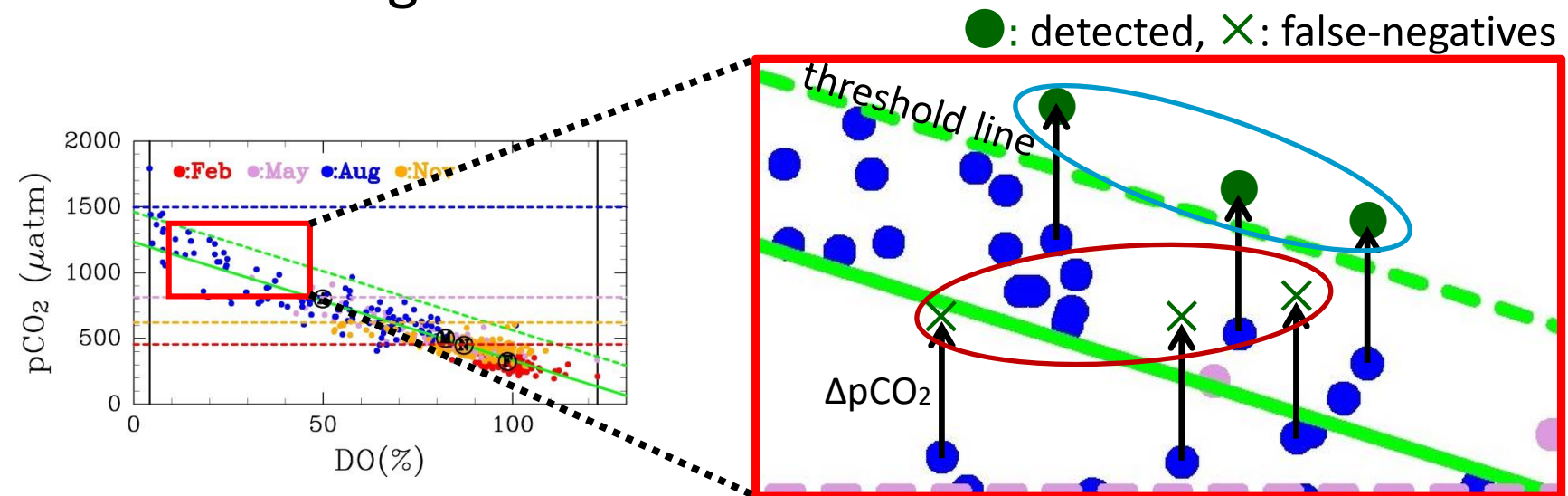


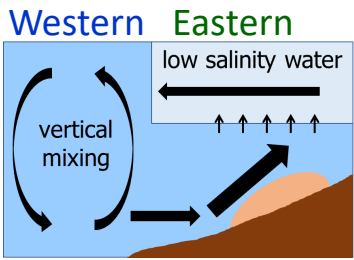
Regarding the level of false-positives as the same, we compared the false-negatives.

# False-negatives

Assumption: CO<sub>2</sub> leakage makes pCO<sub>2</sub> increase by  $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$  but DO remains unchanged

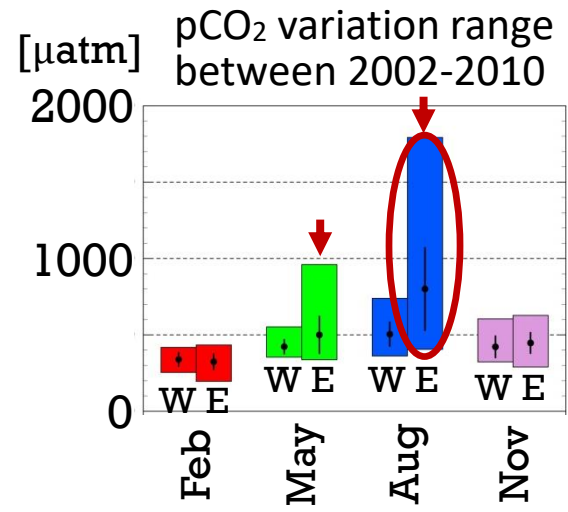
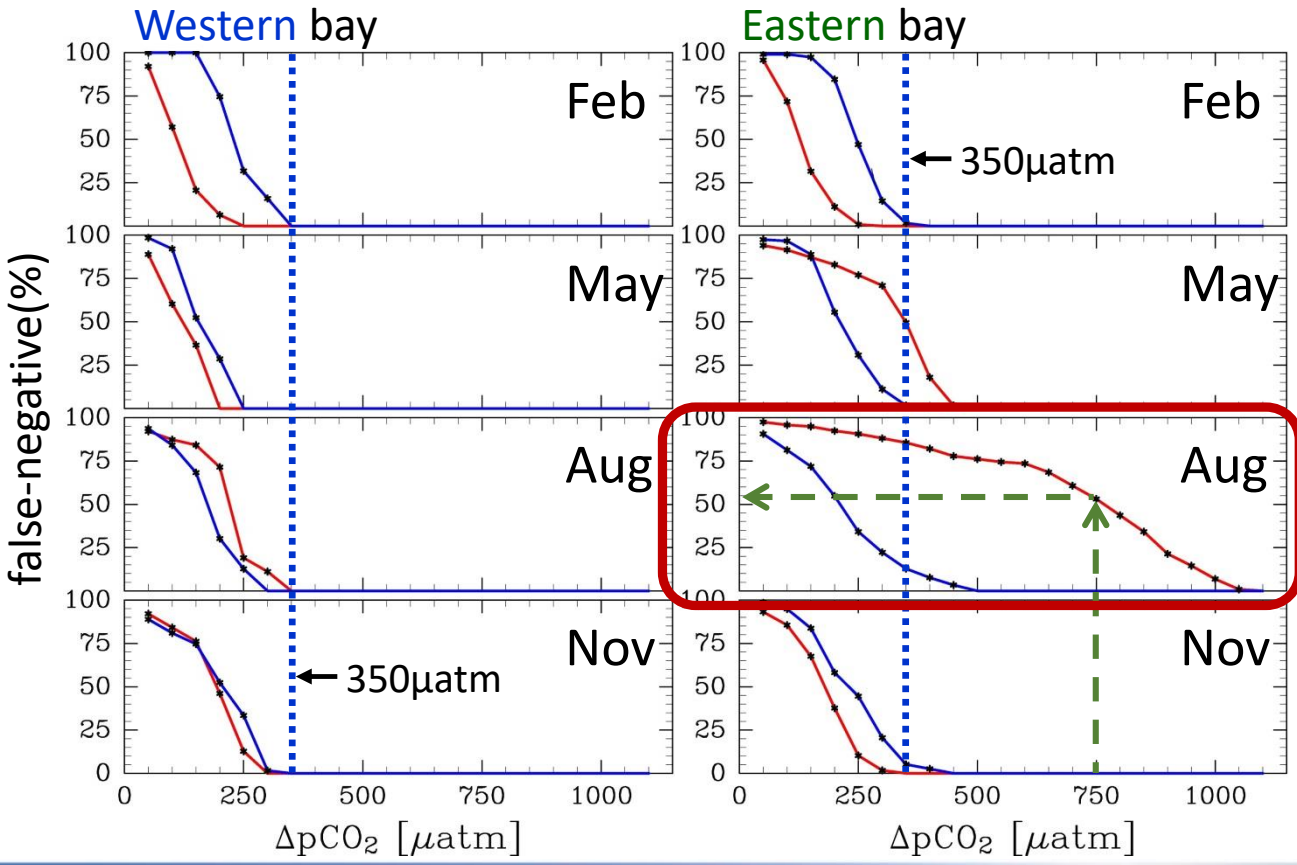
Data are translated upward parallel to the vertical axis due to leakage





# False-negatives

—●— : covariance threshold  
—●— : Seasonal threshold



# Summary

Observing  $p\text{CO}_2$  in the sea around the storage sites is an option in marine monitoring to detect  $\text{CO}_2$  leakage

- **Seasonal threshold:** good detectability in many cases but useless in some cases
- **Covariance threshold:** not necessarily the better but reasonable detectability in any case

Which threshold to use depends on the season and area;  
it is conjectured that

- in areas and seasons with a large variation in  $p\text{CO}_2$  the **covariance threshold** is better,
- in areas and seasons with a small variation in  $p\text{CO}_2$  the **seasonal threshold** is better.



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The presentation is based on our paper:

Uchimoto, K., Nishimura, M., Kita, J., Xue, Z. (2018). Detecting CO<sub>2</sub> leakage at offshore storage sites using the covariance between the partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> and the saturation of dissolved oxygen in seawater. *International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control*, 72, 130-137.

