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Ocean biogeochemical tipping points in ESMs: a regime shift in Arctic ocean chemistry ?

I will present an overview of potential ocean biogeochemical tipping points and regime shifts identified within the EU Horizon 2020 project COMFORT. I will specifically focus on ocean biogeochemical tipping points and/or regime shifts identified from the outputs of CMIP5/6 Earth system model simulations. Within this context, the projected reorganization of the seasonal cycle of Arctic Ocean pCO2 is of particular interest. The Arctic Ocean seasonal cycle of pCO2 currently exhibits a summer low and winter high driven by the dominance of biological consumption/production of dissolved inorganic carbon. However, under high 21st emissions the seasonal cycle can exhibit a complete reorganization with the summer seasonal minimum becoming a seasonal maximum. This reorganization is due to the loss of Arctic summer sea ice, which leads to a previously biologically driven seasonal cycle of pCO2 becoming progressively thermally driven this century.