



Analysis of pivotal metabolic precursor-pterins in marine phytoplankton and bacteria



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Outline

- 01 Introduction of Pterins**
Significance of Pterins
- 02 Method development**
Establishment and determination
- 03 Case study**
Field application
- 04 Summary**
Conclusion and proposal

CONTENTS

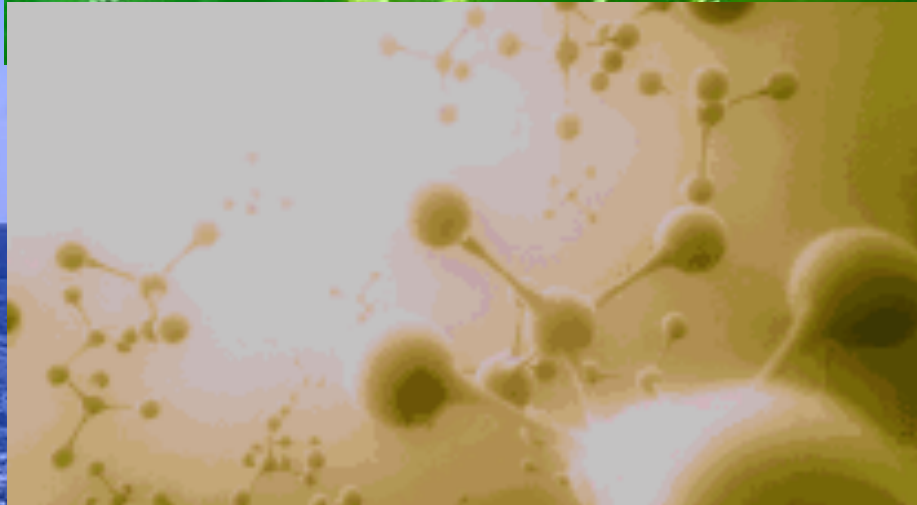
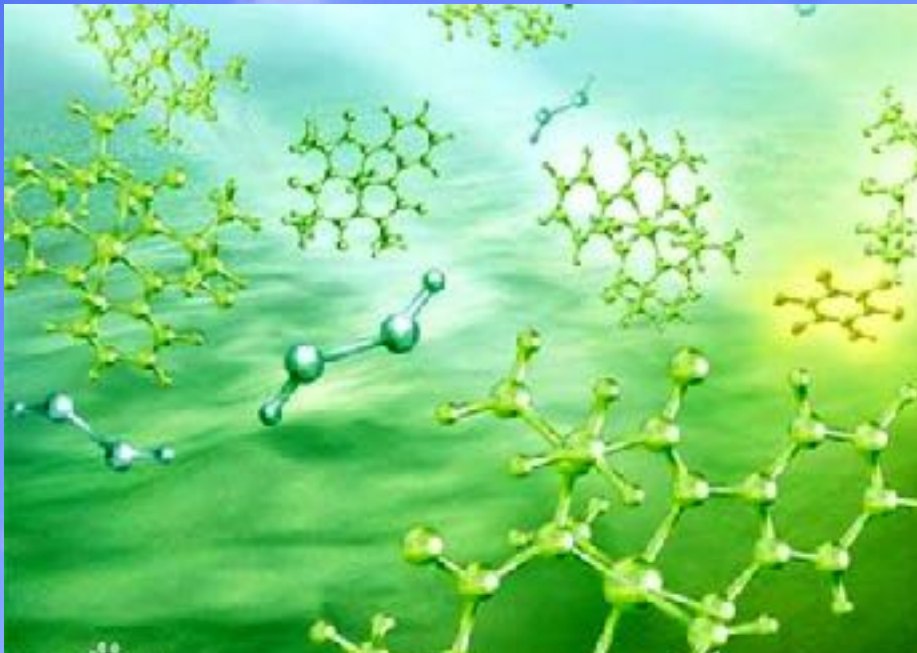




Part I



The beginning of life

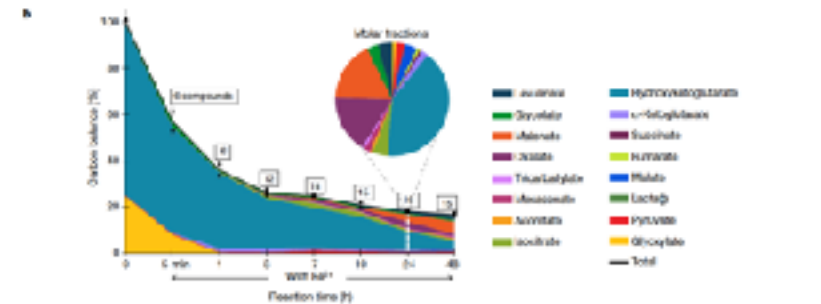
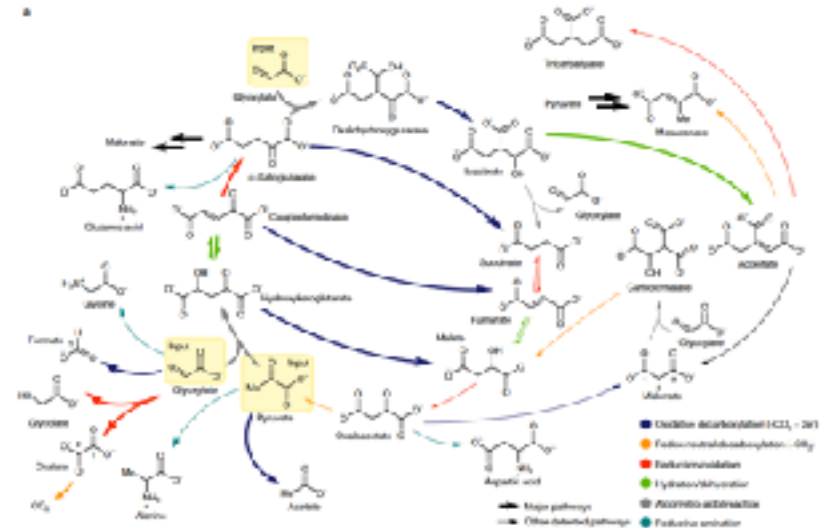


LETTER

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41584-019-0355-3>

Synthesis and breakdown of universal metabolic precursors promoted by iron

Kamilia S. Muchowati¹, Srećimir J. Varma¹ & Joseph Moran^{1*}






2020 Nobel Prize

THE NOBEL PRIZE
IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE 2020


Illustrations: Niklas Ehrenfeld



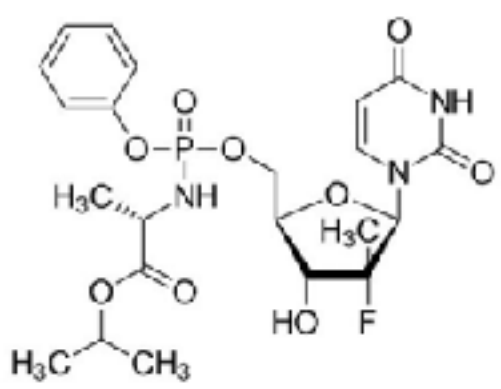
Harvey J. Alter Michael Houghton Charles M. Rice

"for the discovery of Hepatitis C virus"

THE NOBEL ASSEMBLY AT KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET



索非亚



索非布韦



Pterins in medicine

PROTOCOL

Analysis of human cerebrospinal fluid monoamines and their cofactors by HPLC

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The presence of **monoamines** and their cofactors (the pterins and vitamin B₆ (pyridoxal phosphate (PLP))) in human cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) can be used as indicators of the biosynthesis and turnover of dopamine and serotonin in the brain. In addition, abnormalities in the CSF levels of these molecules are associated with various neurological diseases, including genetic diseases leading to dopamine and serotonin deficiency. Here, we provide a set of quantitative high-performance liquid-chromatography (HPLC) approaches to determine CSF levels of monoamines and their cofactors. This protocol describes step-by-step procedures for CSF sample preparation for the analysis of different molecules, HPLC calibration and analysis, and data quantification and interpretation. Unlike plasma/tissue/blood samples, CSF requires minimal sample preparation: in this protocol, only the analysis of PLP requires mixing with trichloroacetic acid to release the protein-bound vitamin, centrifugation, and mixing of the supernatant with phosphate buffer and sodium cyanide for derivatization in alkaline conditions. Monoamines are analyzed by HPLC with coulometric electrochemical detection (ECD), pterins are analyzed by HPLC with coupled coulometric electrochemical and fluorescence detection, and PLP is analyzed by HPLC with fluorescence detection. The quantification of all compounds is achieved by external calibration procedures, and internal quality control and standards are analyzed in each run. We anticipate that investigation of dopamine and serotonin disturbances will be facilitated by measurements of these compounds in human CSF and other biological samples. The estimated time for the different procedures primarily depends on the electrochemical detector stabilization. Overnight stabilization of this detector is advised, and, after that step, preanalytical equilibration rarely exceeds 3 h.

Genetic Metabolism
<https://doi.org/10.1038/nprot.2013.138>



Evaluation of Pterin, a Promising Drug Candidate from Cyanide Degrading Bacteria

Kamranjy Maitheedian¹, Manjivranjy Thandavanaran¹, Gopikrishnan Kilar¹, Murali Anilkumar¹, K. A. Ayub Nawaz¹, Jayaramanoharan Jabotia², Balraj Janani¹, Thomas Anto Thomas³, Jayaraman Arayarkann²

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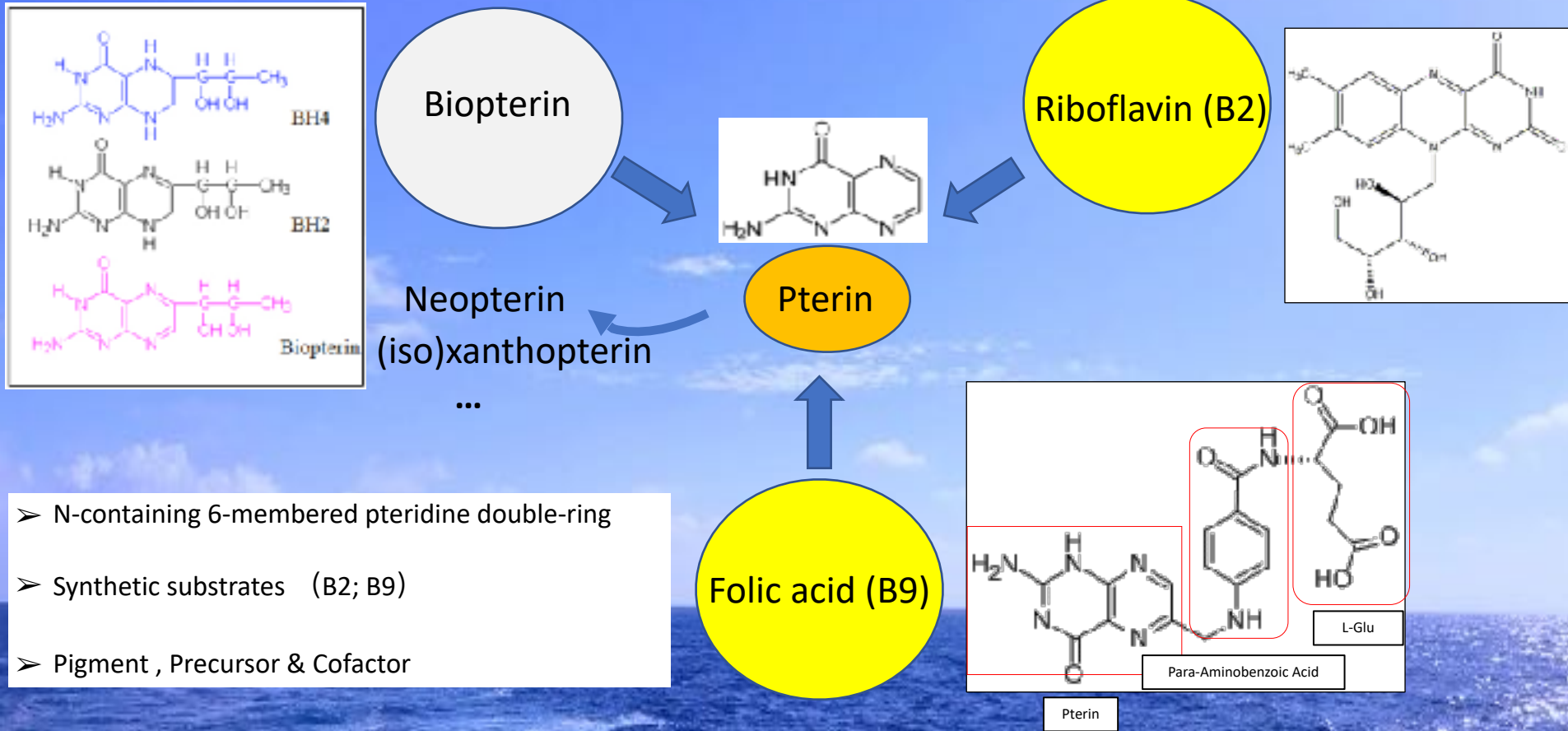
Abstract

Pterin is a member of the compounds known as pteridines. They have the same nucleus of 2-amino-4-hydroxypyridine (pterin). However, the side-chain is different at the position 6, and the state of oxidation of the ring may exist in different form viz. tetrahydro, dihydro, or a fully oxidized form. In the present study, the microorganisms able to utilize cyanide, and heavy metals have been used for the efficient production of pterin compound. The soil samples contaminated with cyanide and heavy metals were collected from Sakin steel industries, Tamil Nadu, India. Out of 77 isolated strains, 40 isolates were found to utilize sodium cyanate as nitrogen source at different concentrations. However, only 13 isolates were able to tolerate maximum concentration (50 mM) of sodium cyanate and were screened for pterin production. Among the 13 isolates, only 1 organism showed maximum production of pterin, and the same was identified as *Rhodospirillum rubrum* (ATCC 29416). The compound was extracted and purified by preparative high-performance liquid chromatography and analyzed by UV/Visible, FTIR, and fluorescent spectrum. The antioxidant property of the purified pterin compound was determined by cyclic voltammetry. In addition, antimicrobial activity of pterin was also studied which was substantiated by synergistic activity against *Escherichia coli*, and *Parasitococcus aeruginosus*. Besides that the pterin compound was proved to inhibit the formation of fibrin. The extracted pterin compounds could be proposed further not only for antioxidant and antimicrobial but also for its potency to act as anticancer and psychotic drugs in future.

- As a biomarker in genetic diseases or cancer
- As drug: Antifolate antitumor drugs
- biopterin deficiency : phenylketonuria (苯丙酮尿症)

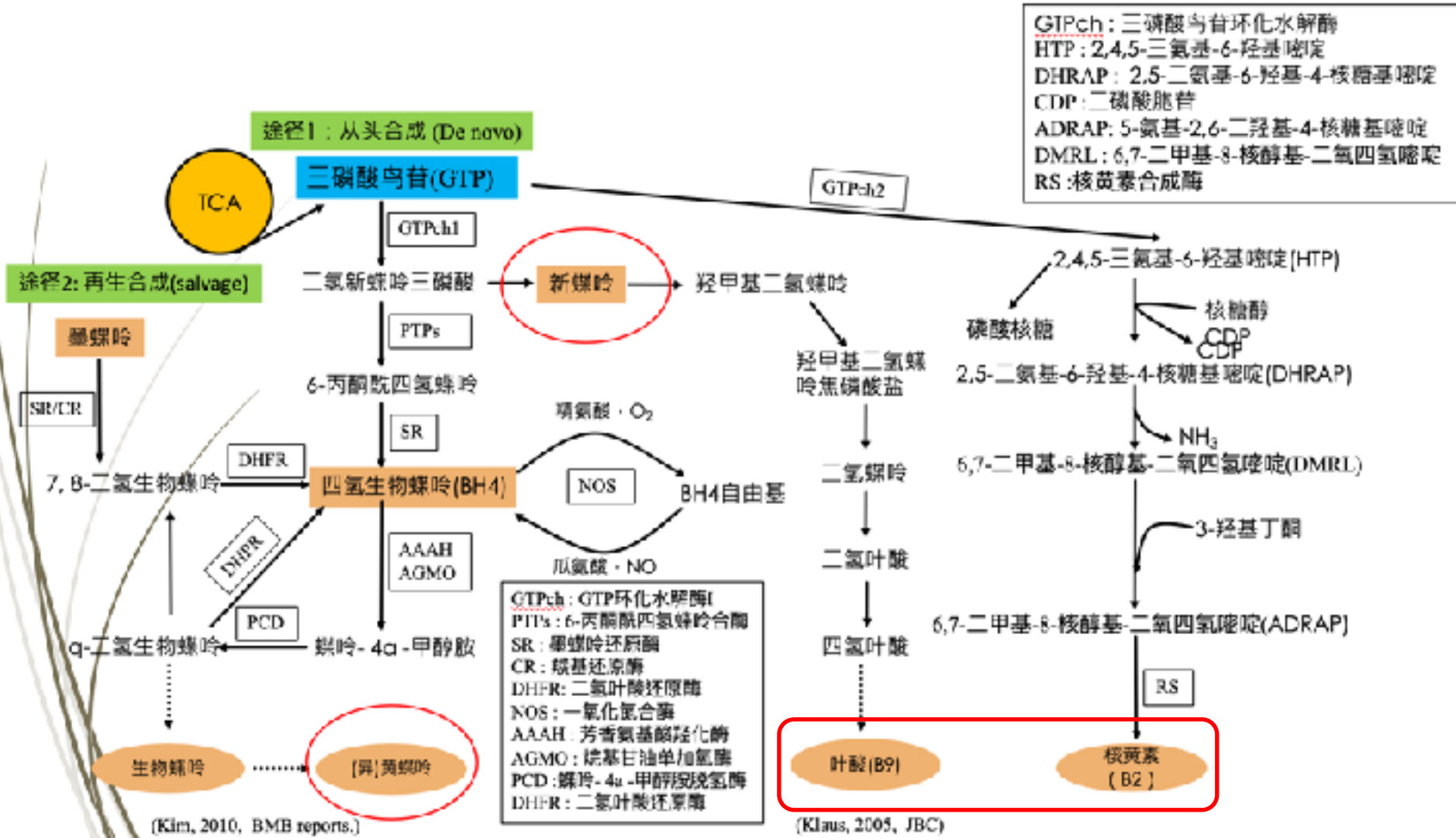


Pterins and derivatives





Pterin metabolism





Biopterins (生物蝶呤)

性质

1. 蝶呤类化合物属于蝶啶的衍生物，**生物蝶呤**分子式为： $C_9H_{11}N_5O_3$ ，化学分子量为237.22，水溶解度为1:7左右，弱碱性。

2. Biopterin是**三磷酸鸟苷 (GTP)** 一种代谢产物，控制GTP转化成生物蝶呤的酶 (GTP环水解酶I) 在**原核生物和真核生物**中均有发现。

分布

1. 除昆虫以外广泛分布于**细菌到高等动植物**

2. 种类繁多，含量**极低**

合成

1. 一是**从头合成** (de novo) : GTP为底物

2. 二是**补救途径** (salvage) : 墨蝶呤为底物

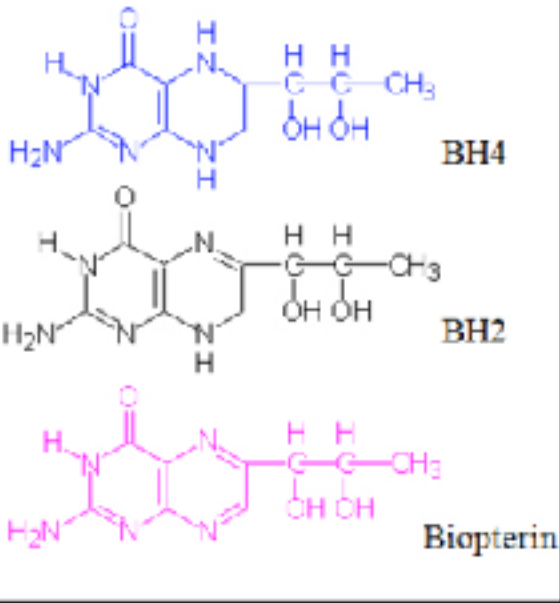
3. 都是在细胞的胞浆内合成的(Kim et al., 2010)

功能

1. 在生物体内充当**内源性辅酶因子**

2. 作为基础前体物质，是**叶酸、维生素B2**的重要前体

3. 积极参与**C元素、N元素、S元素**的合成代谢过程

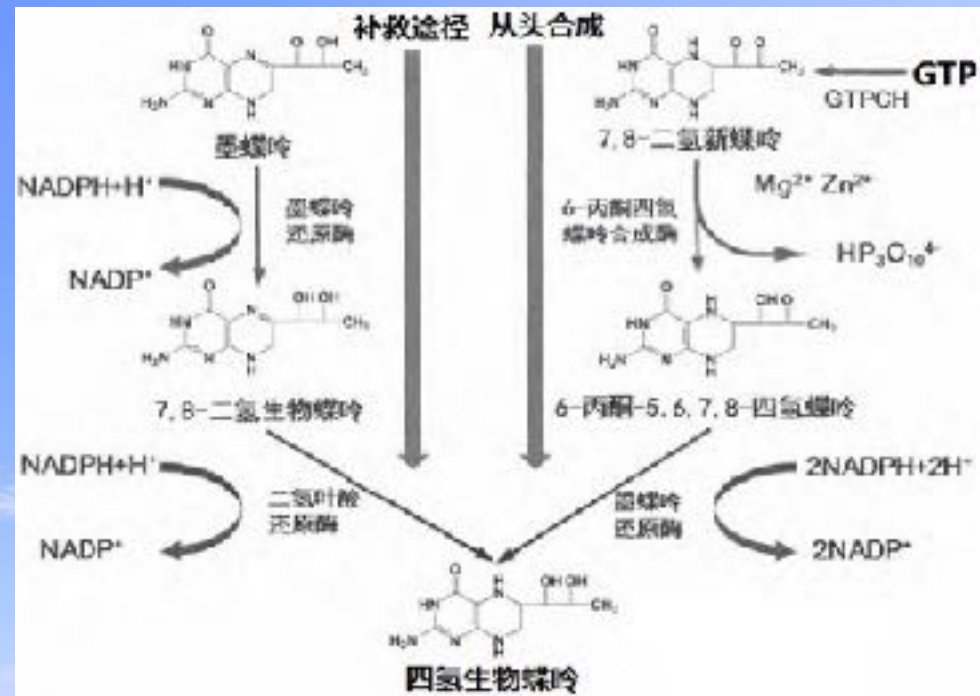
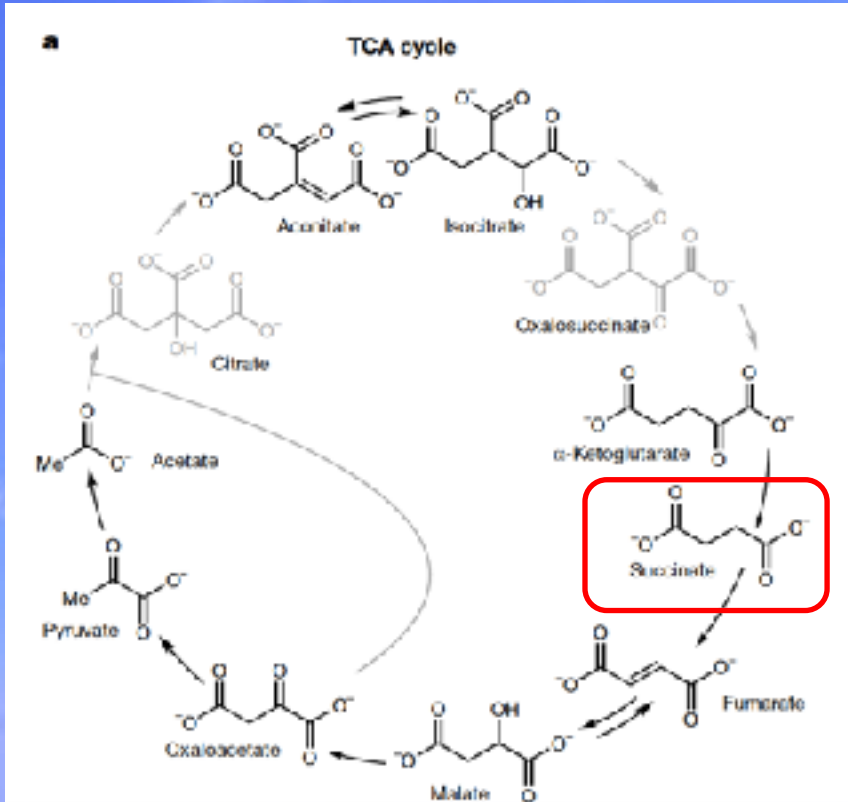


生物蝶呤

生物蝶呤是三磷酸鸟苷的代谢产物，细胞主要存在形式四氢生物蝶呤 (tetrahydrobiopterin, BH4) 非共轭蝶呤，广泛存在于蓝细菌中，主要作为辅因子参与**芳族化合物的羟基化**和**一氧化氮**的合成，充当色素以及与细胞生长密切相关。在医学上作为**癌症和肿瘤**的标志物。

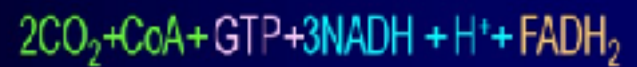
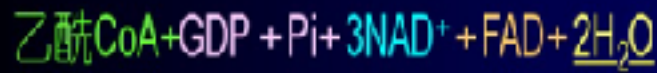


Biopterin biosynthesis



Kamila, Nature, 2019

Chemical book





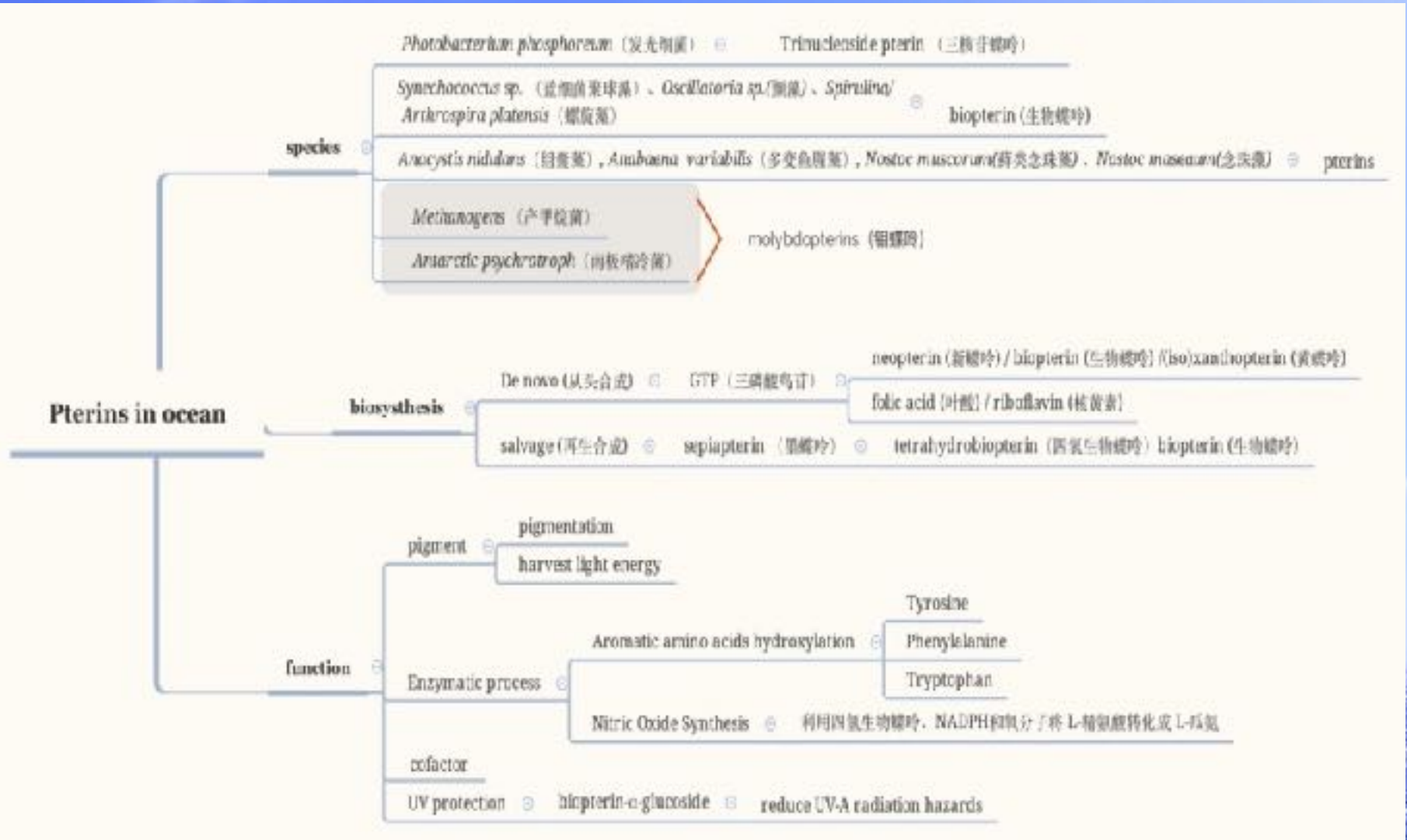
Major enzymes and organic molecules

Substance	Category	Metal	Functioning
Folic acid(叶酸)	辅因子	-	参与氨基酸代谢，并与维生素B12共同促进细胞的生成和成熟，是制造红血球不可缺少的物质；
Riboflavin (维生素B2/核黄素)	辅因子	-	在生物氧化还原中发挥递氢作用，既可作氢供体，又可作氢递体，是机体中一些重要的氧化还原酶的辅基；
Tyrosine hydroxylase (酪氨酸羟化酶)	C	Cu	负责催化L-酪氨酸转变为二羟基苯丙氨酸（多巴）的酶；
Phenylalanine hydroxylase (苯丙氨酸羟化酶)	C	Fe	一种由苯丙氨酸形成的酪氨酸加氧酶，如苯丙酮尿症是由于缺乏此酶引起的；
Xanthine oxidase (黄嘌呤氧化酶类)	C/N	Mo/Fe	能催化次黄嘌呤生成黄嘌呤，进而生成尿酸，又能直接催化黄嘌呤生成尿酸；
Nitrate reductase (硝酸盐还原酶)	N	Mo/Fe	膜结合硝酸盐还原酶介导的硝酸盐还原为细菌提供氮源和能量；
Nitric oxide synthase (一氧化氮合酶)	N	Fe/Zn	促进细胞组织内产生NO，并且协助细胞通讯及与原生膜联合
Sulfite oxidase (亚硫酸盐氧化酶类)	S	Mo	催化亚硫酸盐气化成硫酸盐的酶（钼酶），参与哺乳动物硫化物的脱毒、嘌呤代谢等过程

There are more than **70** enzymes involved in bio-metabolic synthesis of biopterin.



Pterins' study in the ocean





▶▶ Pterins' study in the ocean

Mar. Biotechnol. 1: 207-210, 1999

MARINE BIOTECHNOLOGY

Short Communications

Isolation of Biopterin- α -glucoside from *Spirulina* (*Arthrospira*) *platensis* and Its Physiologic Function

Yukinori Noguchi,¹ Aoiho Ichi,¹ Ayako Matsushima,¹ Daisuke Hishiki,¹ Ken-ichi Yasumura,¹ Tetsuhisa Moriyama,² Takashi Wada,² Yui Kusura,¹ Mitsuo Hirota,³ Hironaki Nishimura,¹ Mitsuo Sekino,² and Yoji Inada^{1*}

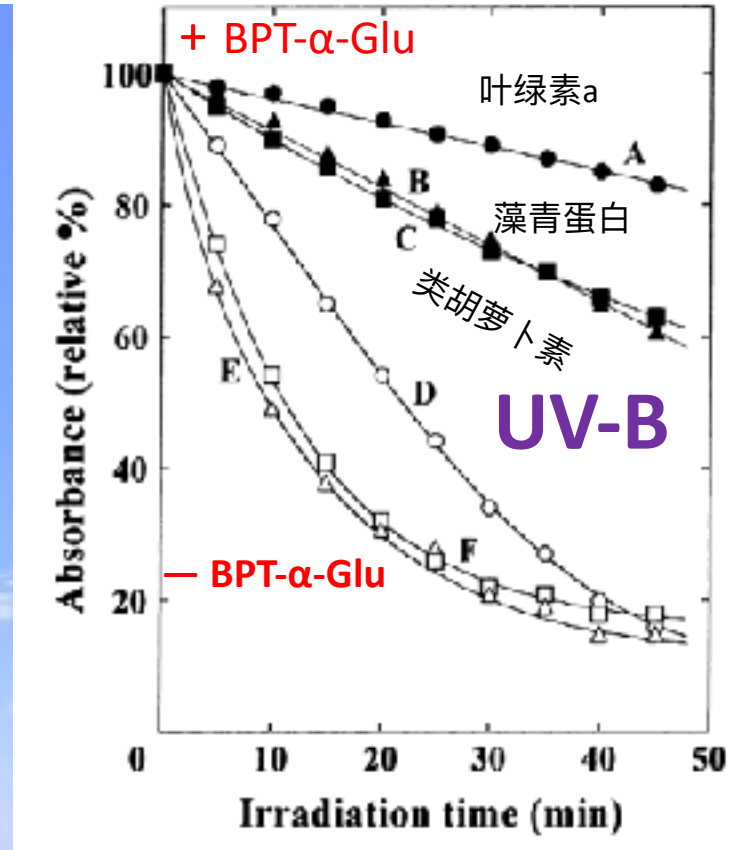
¹Yamaguchi Science and Technology Center, Department of Materials Science and Technology, Yamaguchi University, 1674 Koriyama-cho, Yoko-cho, Yamaguchi 755-8502, Japan

²Faculty of Science and Biotechnology, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 4259 Nagatsuta-cho, Midori-ku, Yokohama 226-8503, Japan

Abstract: A fluorescent substance was isolated from the cyanobacterium with a yield of 4.5 mg per 10 g of dried *Spirulina* (*Arthrospira*) *platensis* cells by gentle extraction and ethanol fractionation followed by column chromatography. The fluorescent substance, which has absorption maxima at 256 nm and 362 nm (pH 8.4), was identified as biopterin- α -glucoside by spectrophotometry and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. Biopterin- α -glucoside prevented decolorization of the photosynthetic pigments, chlorophyll *a*, phycoerythrin, and c-phycocyanin or photosynthetic residues of *Spirulina platensis* cells, by ultraviolet irradiation.

Key words: biopterin- α -glucoside, *Spirulina platensis*, cyanobacteria, chlorophyll *a*, phycoerythrin, c-phycocyanin

“sunscreen”



Yukinori, 1999

- Some biopterin-glycosides are a case in point: detected in marine cyanobacteria, a sunscreen role was assigned to them on the basis of their absorption spectrum and because their cellular levels increased under UV-A (320~400nm) radiation (Gao et al., Nature, 2011).
- BPT- α -Glu can alleviate the hazards of UV-B(280-320nm) radiation and improve productivity.
- 10g *spirulina lyophilized* extracted 4.5mg of blue fluorescent substance biopterin glucoside



Land and ocean ecosystem

Data : SeaWiFS for Global Biosphere



Terrestrial Ecosystem

Biomass : 1837×10^9 t

Total Primary production
: 115×10^9 t /yr

Tree & Grass

Biomass: 1/500

Marine Ecosystem

Biomass : 3.9×10^9 t

Total Primary production
: 55×10^9 t /yr

Photoautotroph

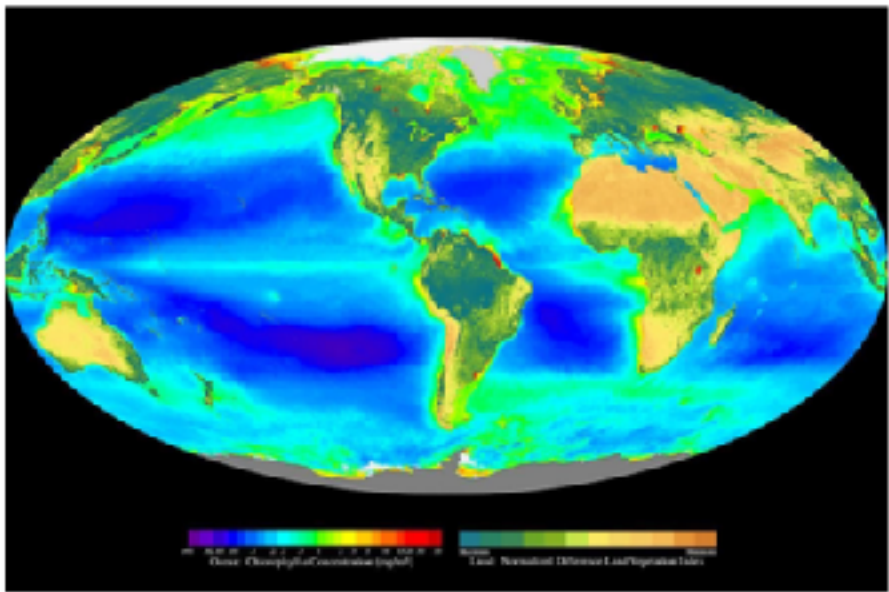
PP : 1/2



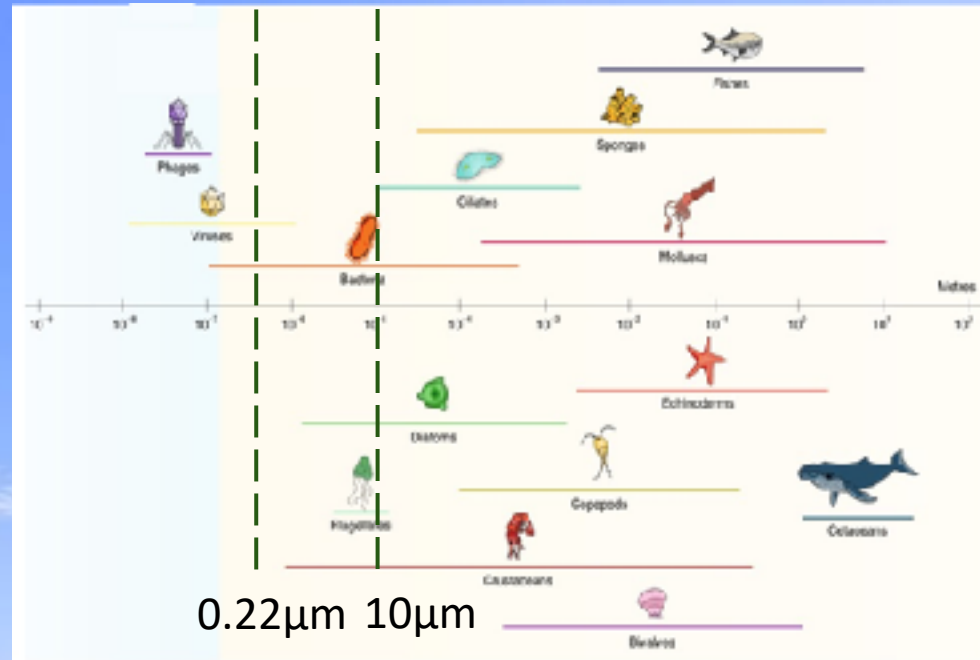
Phytoplankton and bacteria



Marine microbes



全球海洋与陆地光和自养生物分布 (来自: NASA)



Yawei Luo et al.

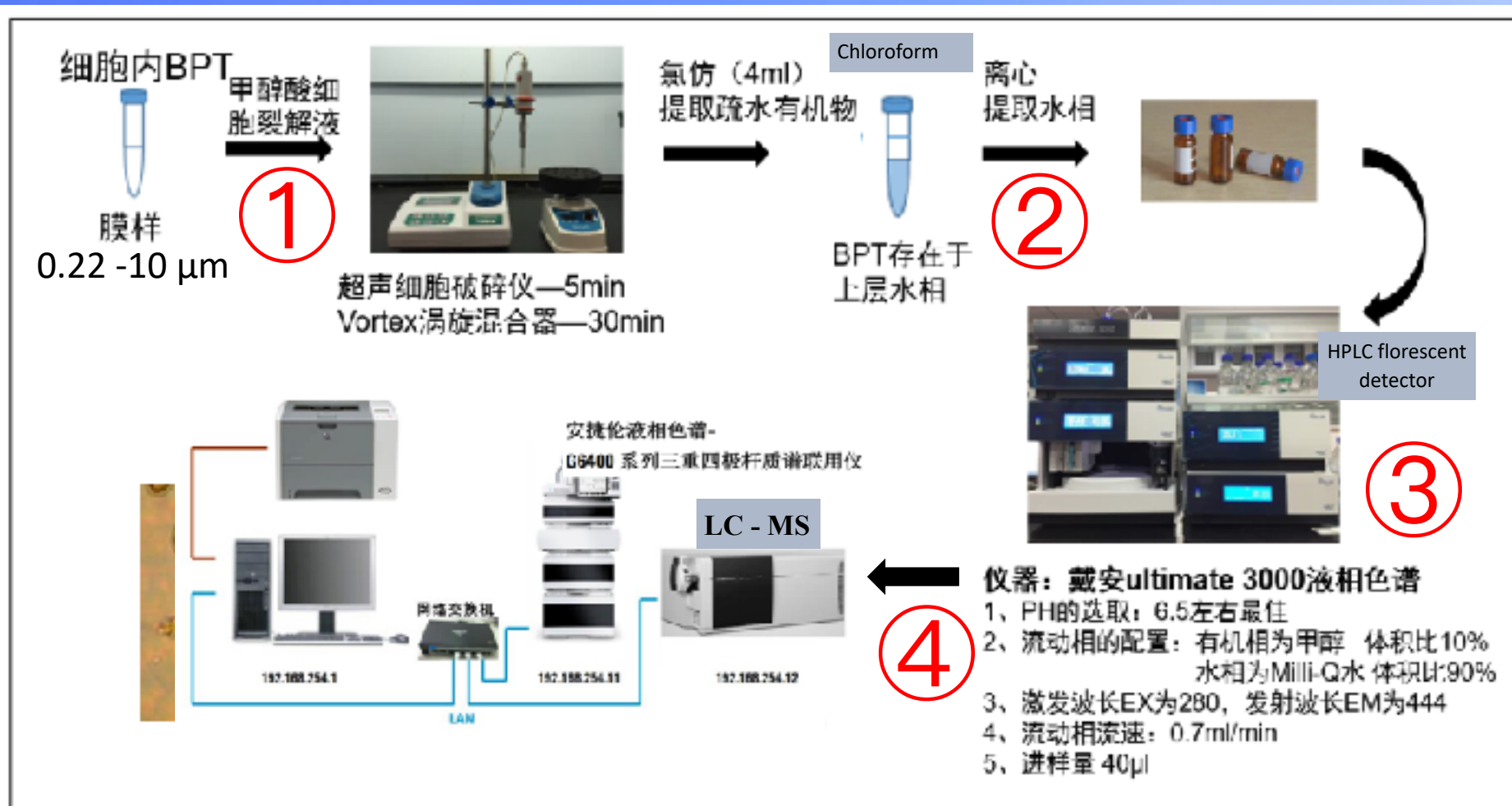
➤ 0.22-10 µm microorganisms are the main contributor to primary production

Question: The contribution and role of pterins in the carbon & nitrogen cycle of marine phytoplankton and bacteria?



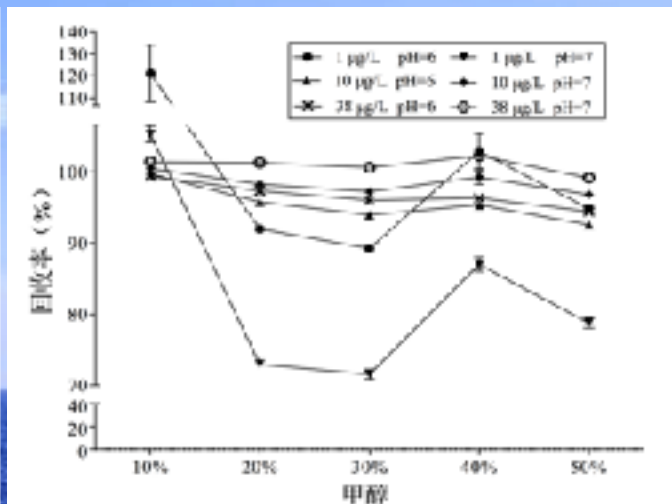
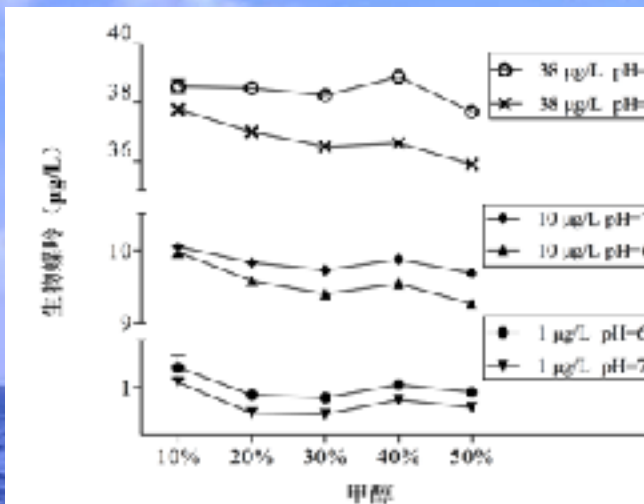
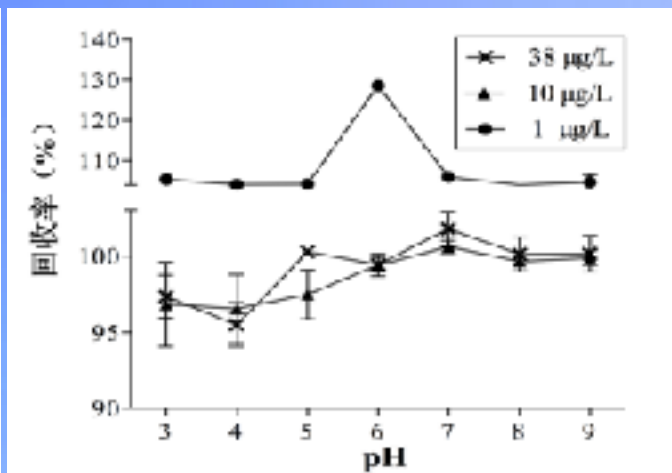
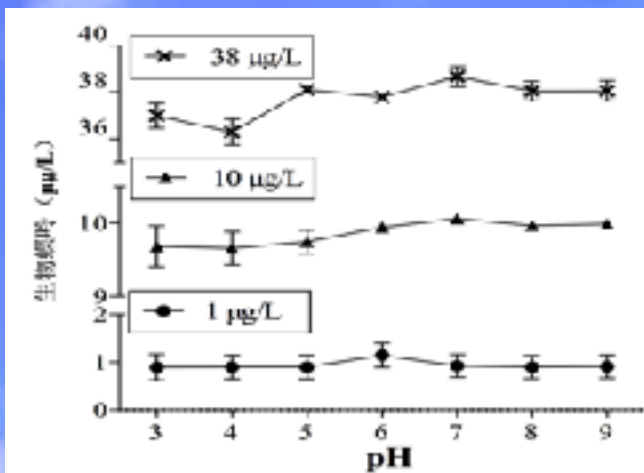
Part II Particulate pterins

Sample processing, measurement and verification procedures





Method optimization



Phase A: MQ water
Phase B: MeOH

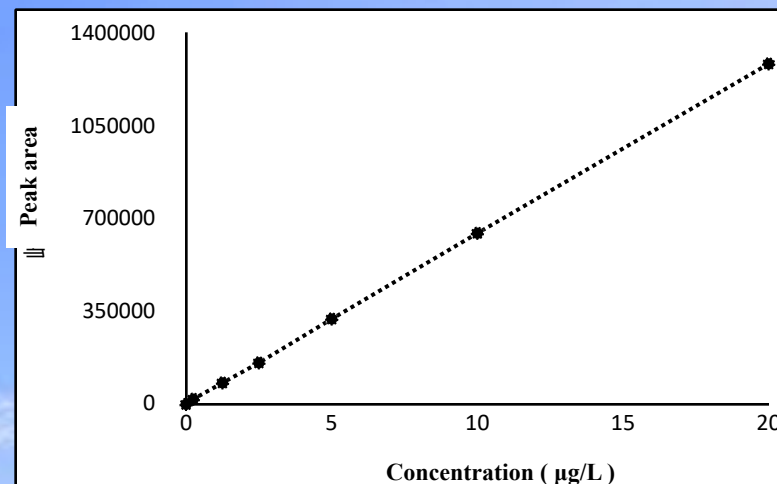
pH: 6 ~ 7
MeOH : 10%
Flowrate: 1 ml/min



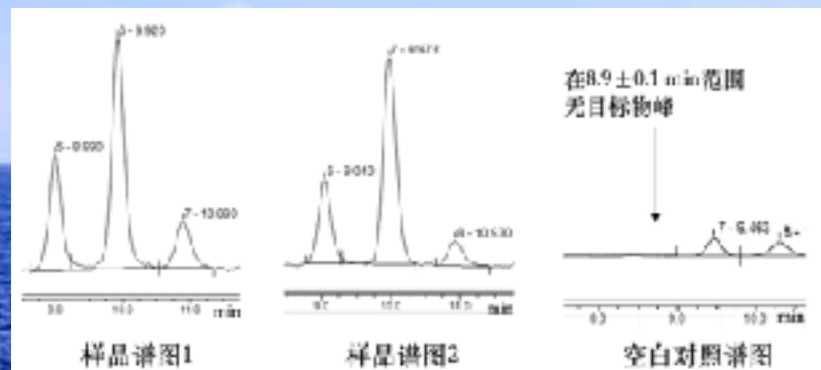
Standard curve of BPT

Chromatographic signal data for several BPT concentrations

Level	Conc. ($\mu\text{g/L}$)	The peak height	The peak area
1	20.00	6882258	1288003
2	10.00	3442005	647398
3	5.00	1705578	323117
4	2.50	829292	157214
5	1.25	421981	81374
6	0.25	93191	19884
7	0.00	413	---

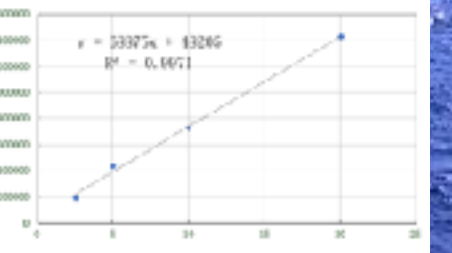
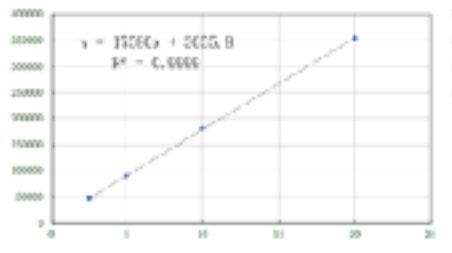
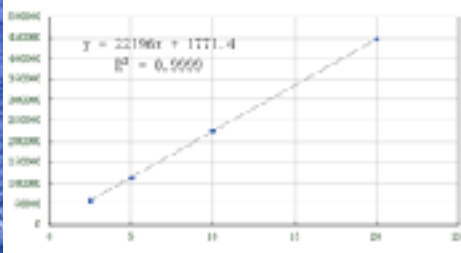
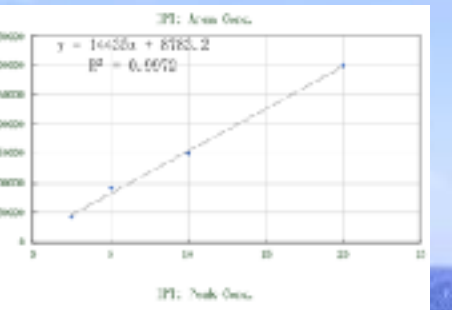
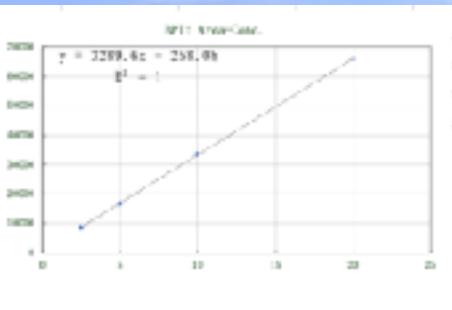
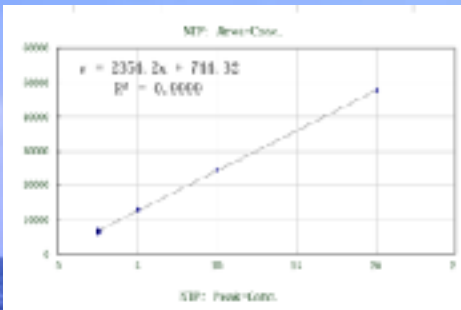
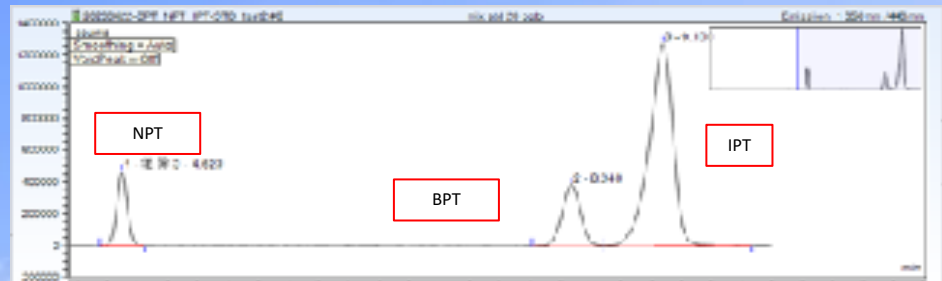
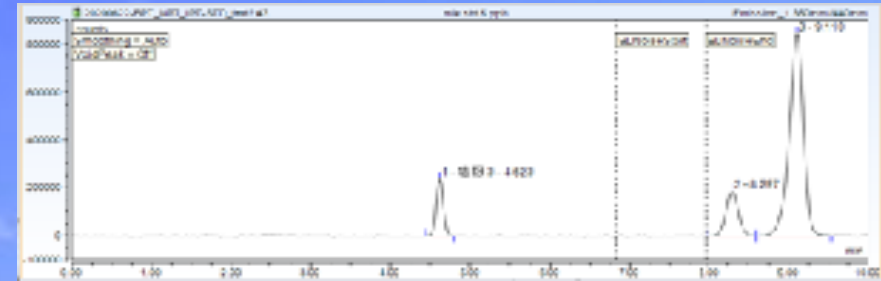
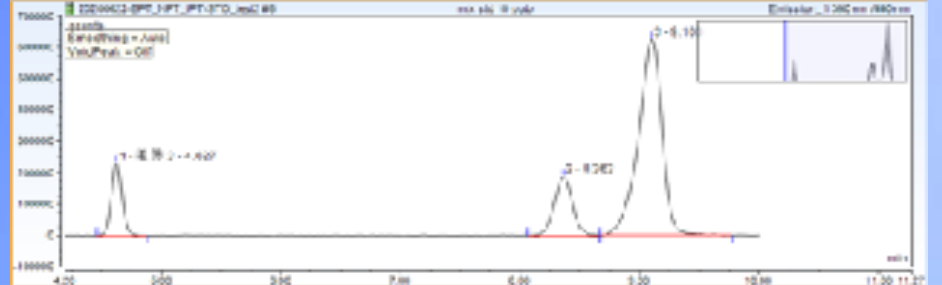
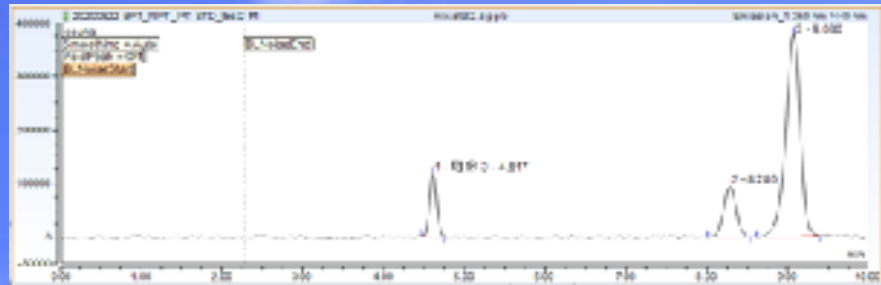


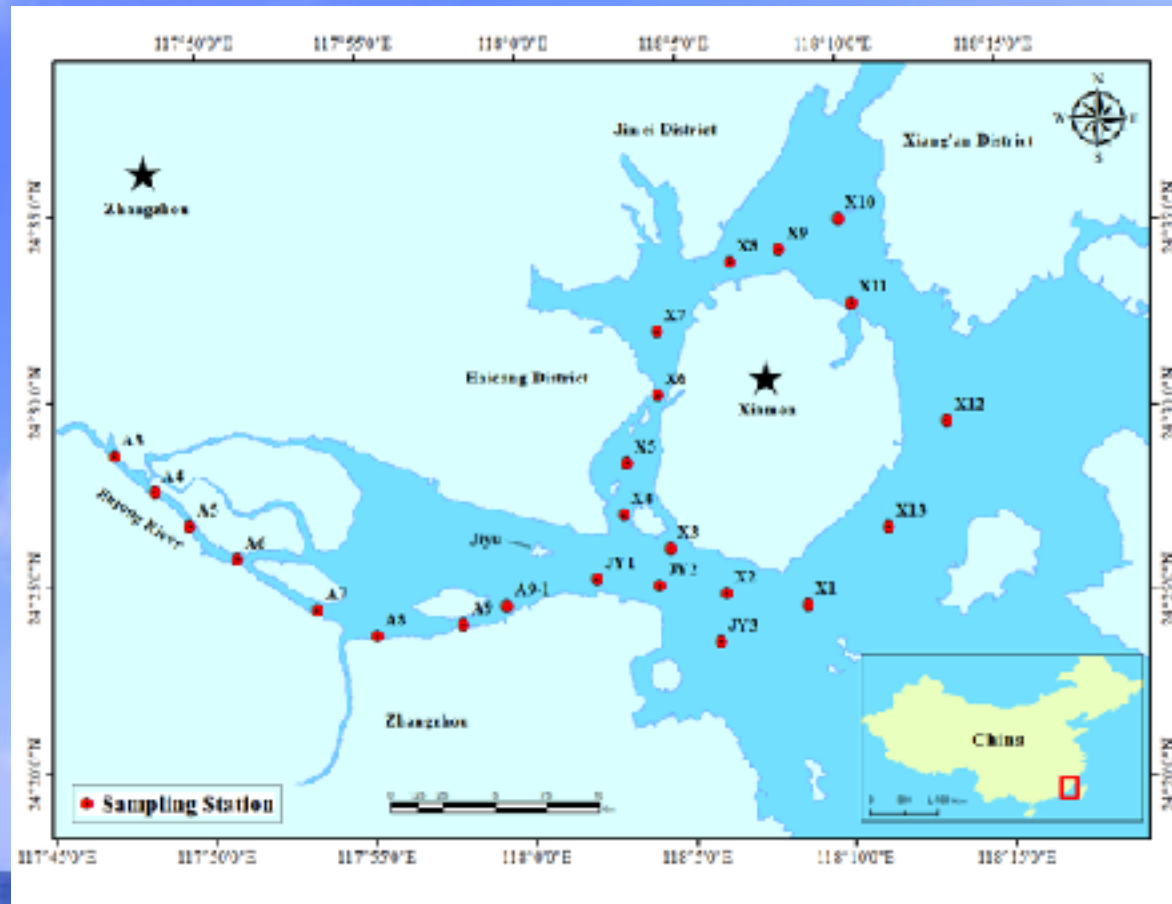
BTP retention time: $8.97 \pm 0.02 \text{ min}$





Multi-pterins



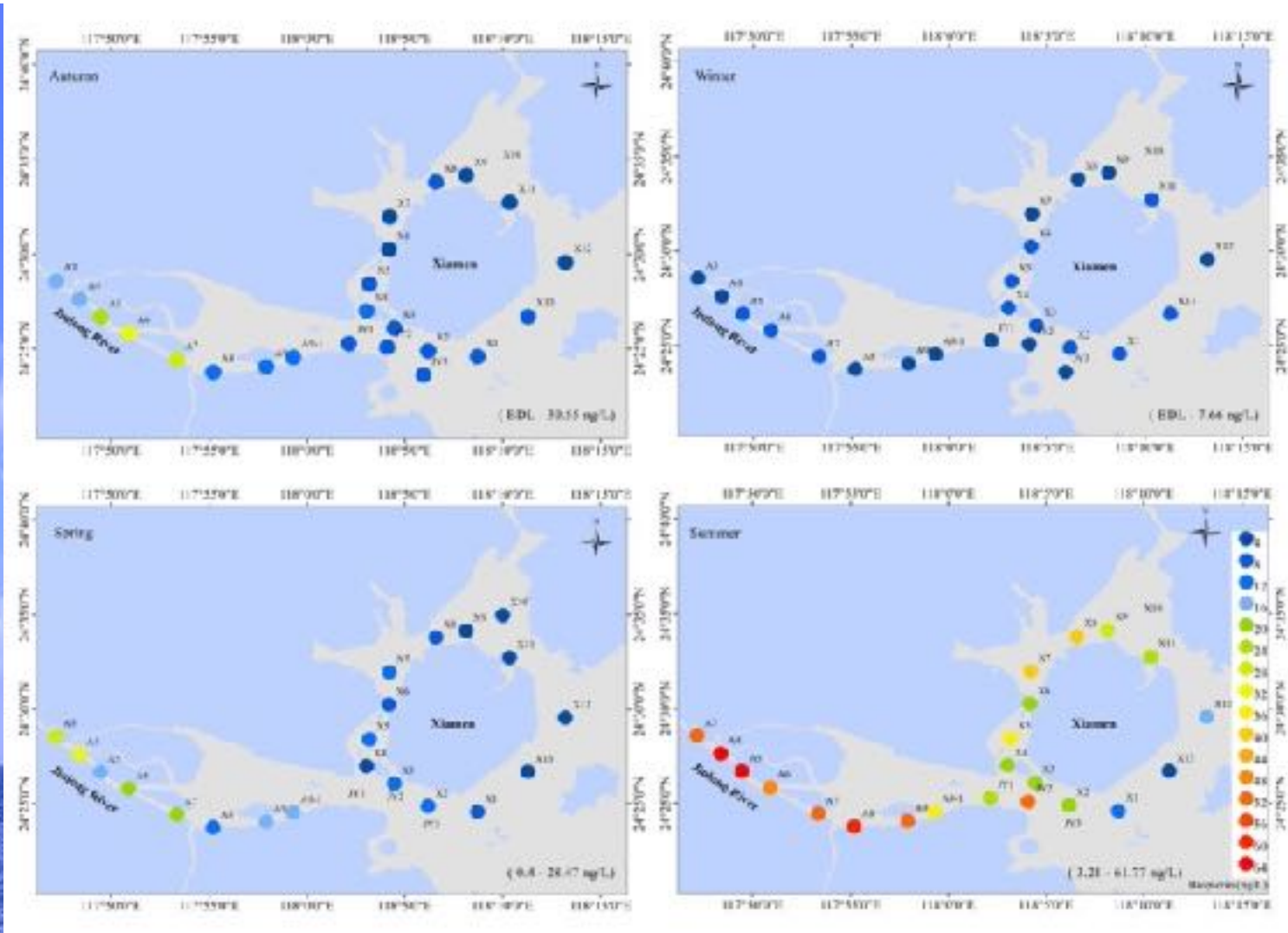


Sampling stations in Xiamen coastal sea

- 0.22-10 μm microorganisms, 150 mL for particulates
- 4 seasons: Jan.; Apr.; Jul.; Nov. (2018)



Data arranging

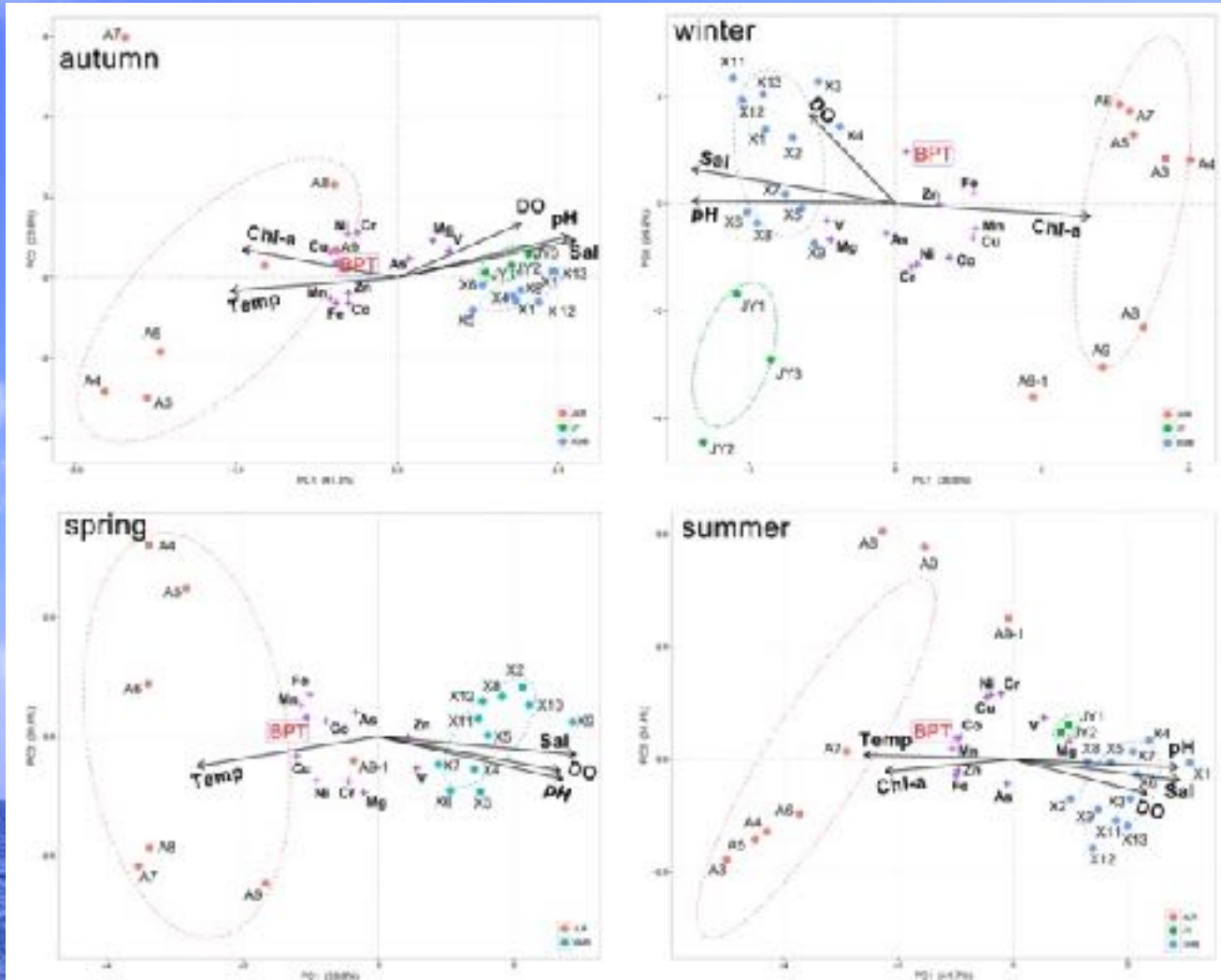


Seasonal distribution of particulate biopterin



Principle Component and Factor analysis

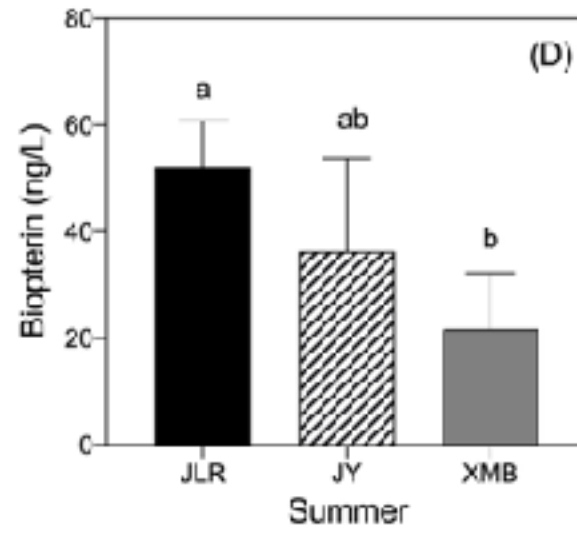
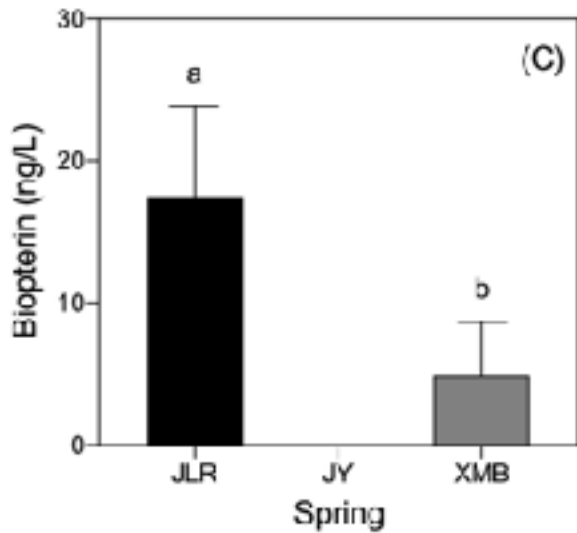
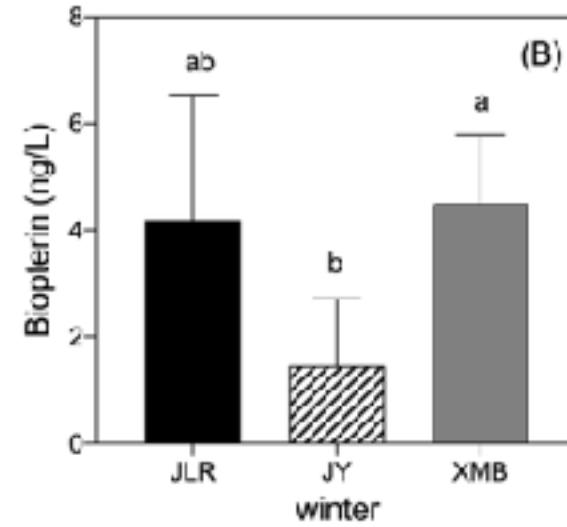
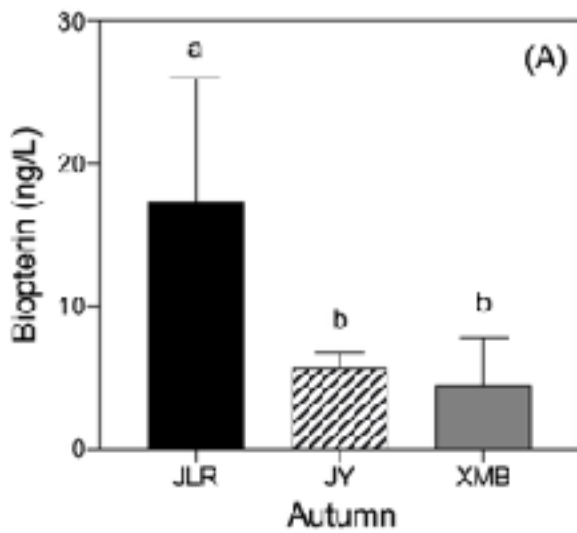
Data: Nengwan Chen and Bangqin Huang



➤ PCA divides the sampling stations into three groups



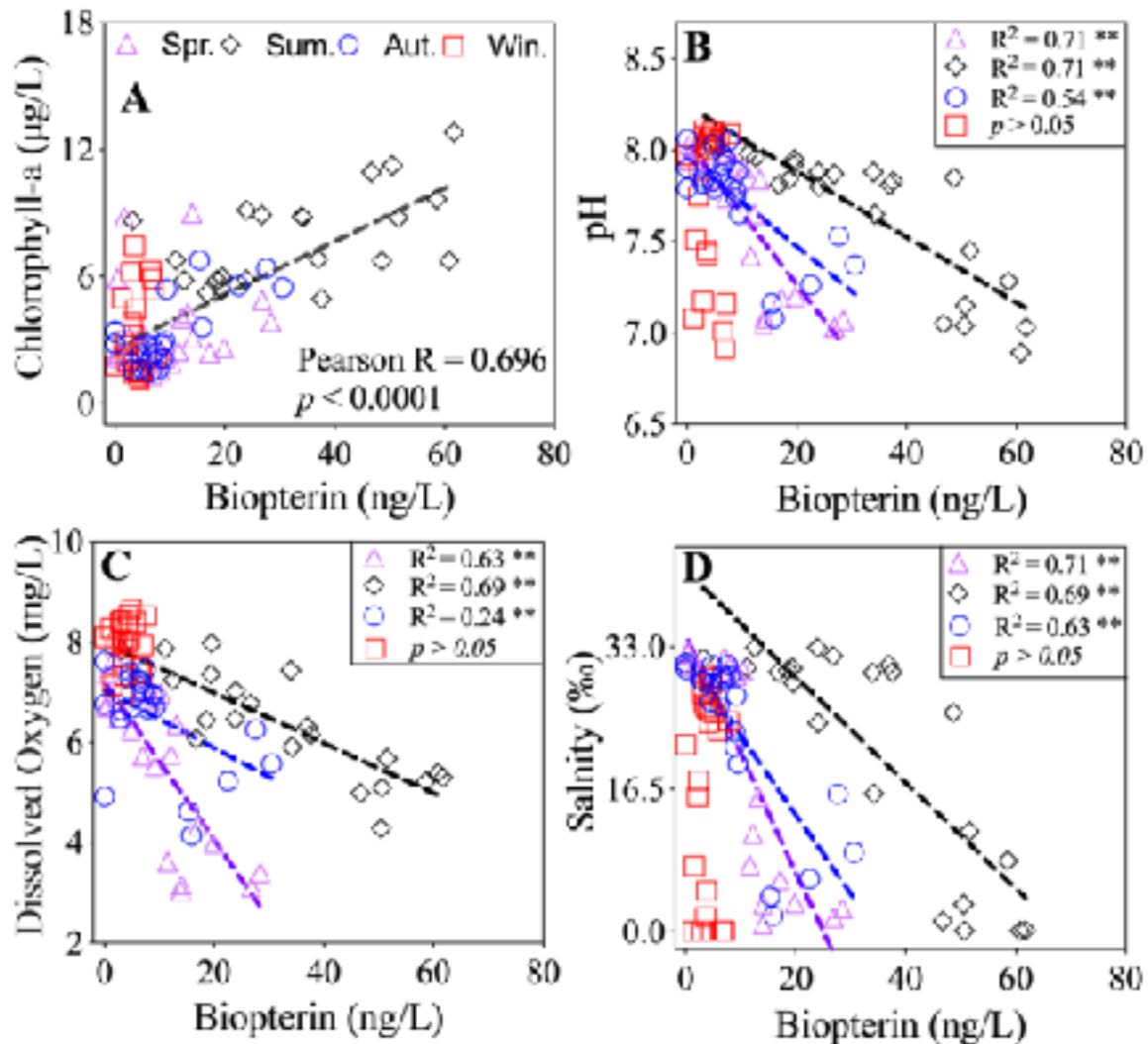
Distribution pattern



- River > Bay
- Sum. > Aut.; Spr. > Win.



Parameters correlation



➤ There was a significant positive correlation between bioplerin and chlorophyll, however, bioplerin significantly negative correlated with pH, dissolved oxygen and salinity.



Part IV Summary

- For the first time, we developed a new method measuring pterins in **phytoplankton** and **bacteria** [DL: NPT- 120 ng/L, BPT: 170 ng/L, IPT: 40 ng/L]
- We identified BPT in phytoplankton and bacteria ranging from **2.3 to tens** of ng/L in natural waters (Jiulong River and Xiamen Bay) [converted as in cells per volume];
- Spatial and seasonal distribution of particulate biopterin are as the following: Jiulong River > Jiyu > Xiamen Bay; Summer > Spring, Autumn > Winter.
- We aim to obtain patent based on our newly developed technique; and further study its metabolic processes and potential implication (marine biomedical development) in the ocean.



四氢生物蝶呤合成代谢图



Many thanks!



廈門大學

XIAMEN UNIVERSITY



厦门大学海洋与地球学院

College of Ocean and Earth Sciences



近海海洋环境科学国家重点实验室 (厦门大学)

State Key Laboratory of Marine Environmental Science (XMU)

廈門大學



嘉庚號
TAN KAH KEE

Tan Kah Kee R/V, Marine Operations

Xiamen University



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厦门大学海洋碳循环研究组

