



Chapter 3

The Chemistry of Water

Lecture Presentations by
Nicole Tunbridge and
Kathleen Fitzpatrick

The Molecule That Supports All of Life

- Water makes life possible on Earth
- Water is the only common substance to exist in the natural environment in all three physical states of matter
- Water's unique emergent properties help make Earth suitable for life
- The structure of the water molecule allows it to interact with other molecules

4 properties (to be studied)



**Black guillemots, threatened
by climate change**

Concept 3.1: Polar covalent bonds in water molecules result in hydrogen bonding

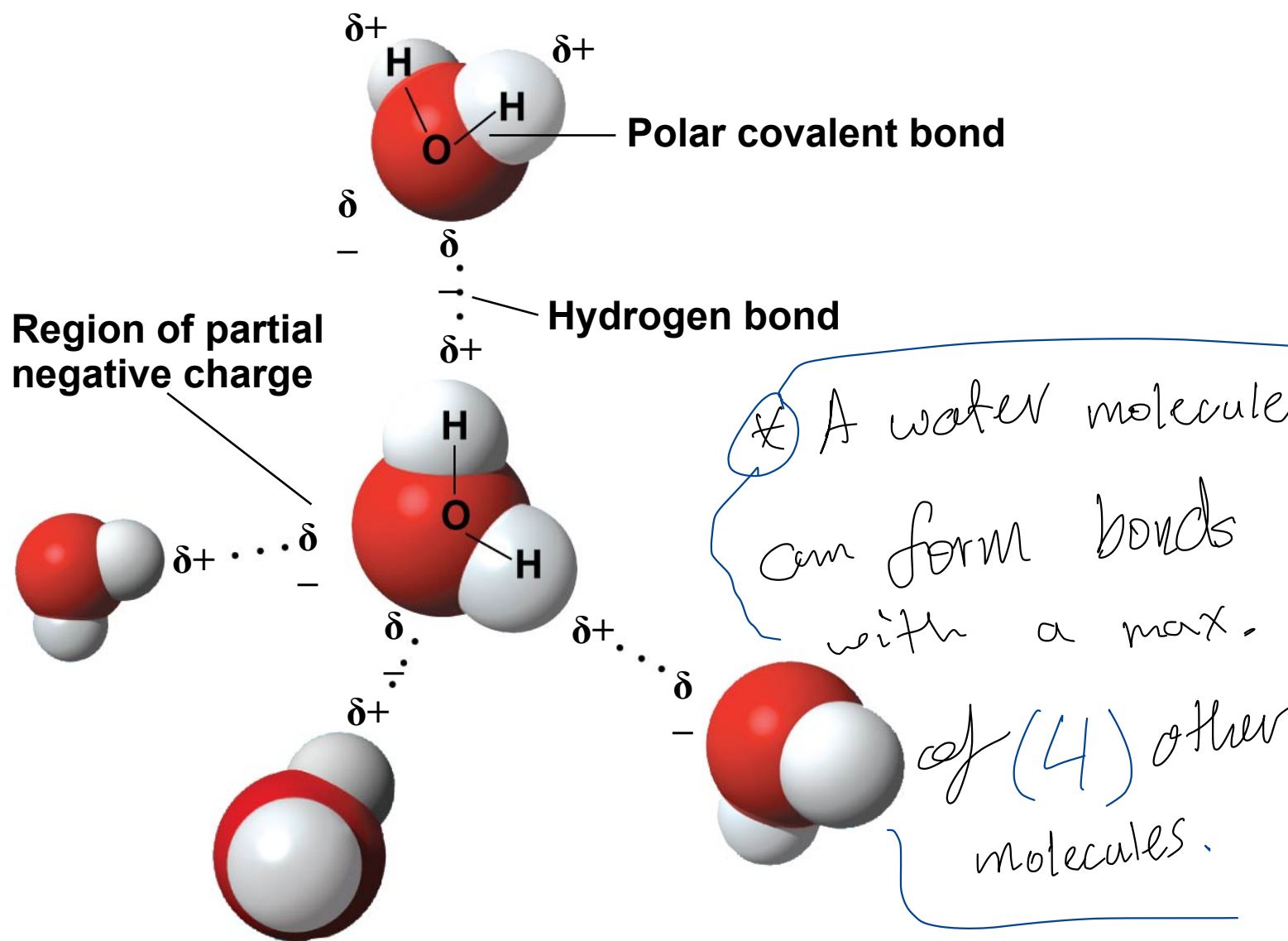
- In the water molecule, the electrons of the **polar covalent bonds** spend more time near the oxygen than the hydrogen *due to its electronegativity*
- The water molecule is thus a **polar molecule**: The overall charge is unevenly distributed
- **Polarity** allows water molecules to form hydrogen bonds with each other

H-Bonds are $\frac{1}{20}$ as strong as covalent bonds.

~~(*)~~ when water is liquid

and they last a few trillionths of a second.

Figure 3.2



Concept 3.2: Four emergent properties of water contribute to Earth's suitability for life

- Four of water's properties that facilitate an environment for life are

⊕ What is special about water?

- I ● Cohesive behavior
- II ● Ability to moderate temperature
- III ● Expansion upon freezing
- IV ● Versatility as a solvent

Adhesion of Water Molecules



- Collectively, hydrogen bonds hold water molecules together, a phenomenon called **cohesion**
- Cohesion helps the transport of water against gravity in plants
- **Adhesion** is an attraction between different substances, for example, between water and plant cell walls

1

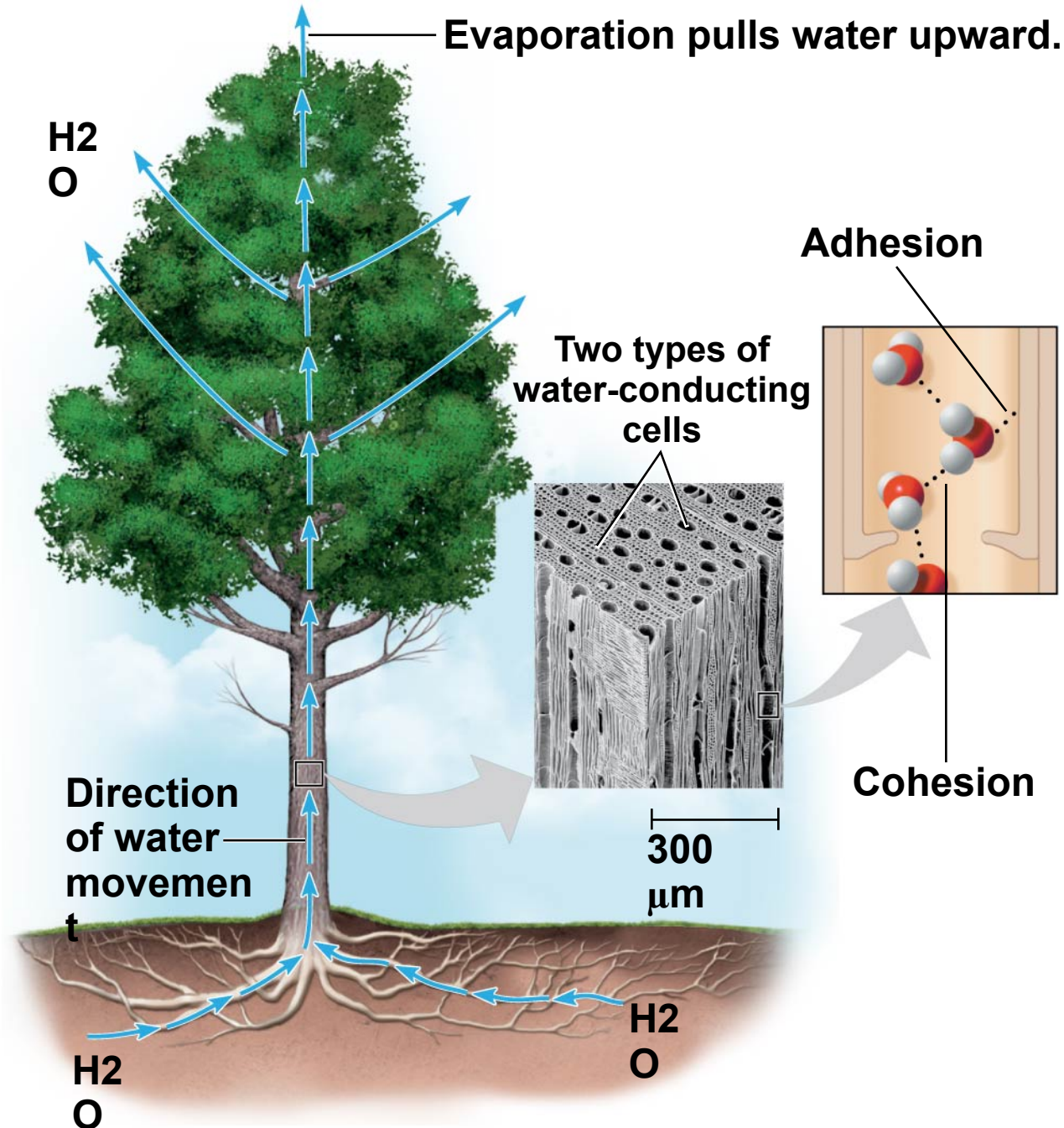
↓
cellulose

⊗ Adhesion helps "get around" the problem of gravity when transporting water upwards in plants.

⊗

Cohesion helps hold the column of water within the water conducting cells.

Figure 3.3



stretch or break

- **Surface tension** is a measure of how difficult it is to break the surface of a liquid
- Water has an unusually high surface tension due to [hydrogen bonding] between the molecules at the air-water interface and to the water below, but not to the air above.

Asymmetry \rightarrow unusually high surface tension.

⊗ H-bonds make water more-structured than many other liquids.

Figure 3.4



Moderation of Temperature by Water

- Water absorbs heat from warmer air and releases stored heat to cooler air
- Water can absorb or release a [large amount] of heat with only a slight change in its own temperature

⊗ That is why it is said to be a good moderator.

Temperature and Heat

Thermal Energy →

reflects total KE
Volume dependent

Temperature →

reflects avg. KE
Volume independent.

- **Kinetic energy** is the energy of motion
- The kinetic energy associated with random motion of atoms or molecules is called **thermal energy**
- **Temperature** represents the average kinetic energy of the molecules in a body of matter
- Thermal energy in transfer from one body of matter to another is defined as **heat**

Thermal Energy is the overall sum of the Kinetic Energy in a system.

- A **calorie (cal)** is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 g of water by 1°C
- It is also the amount of heat released when 1 g of water cools by 1°C
- The “Calories” on food packages are actually **kilocalories (kcal)**; **1 kcal = 1,000 cal**
- The **joule (J)** is another unit of energy; **1 J = 0.239 cal**, or **1 cal = 4.184 J**

$$1 \text{ cal} > 1 \text{ J}$$

Water's High Specific Heat

- The **specific heat** of a substance is the amount of heat that must be absorbed or lost for 1 g of that substance to change its temperature by 1°C
- The **specific heat of water** is 1 cal/(g • °C)
- **Water** resists changing its temperature because of its **high specific heat**

→ considerably High

$$\text{Specific Heat}_{(H_2O)} = \frac{1 \text{ cal}}{g \cdot ^\circ C} = \frac{4184 \text{ J}}{kg \cdot ^\circ C}$$

$$\text{Specific Heat}_{(\text{ethyl-Alcohol})} = 0.6 \text{ cal} / (g \cdot ^\circ C).$$

- is due to*
- Water's high specific heat can be traced to hydrogen bonding
 - Heat is absorbed when hydrogen bonds break
 - Heat is released when hydrogen bonds form
 - The high specific heat of water minimizes temperature fluctuations to within limits that

permit life

support

⊗ When a considerable amount of heat is absorbed, Temperature of water is slightly raised.

⊗ When the Temperature of water is slightly decreased, a considerable amount of heat is released.

vaporative Cooling

evaporating "departing" molecules are those with enough K.E.

● Evaporation (or vaporization) is transformation of a substance from liquid to gas

for H_2O , @ $25^\circ C$
 $\Rightarrow 580 \text{ cal/g}$

● Heat of vaporization is the heat a liquid must absorb for 1 g to be converted to gas

nearly 2x that of alcohol or ammonia.

● As a liquid evaporates, its remaining surface cools, a process called evaporative cooling

● Evaporative cooling of water helps stabilize temperatures in organisms and bodies of water

⊗ Evaporation can occur at any temperature.
the speediest molecules

floating of Ice on Liquid Water



- Ice floats in liquid water because hydrogen bonds in ice are more “ordered,” making ice less dense than water
- Water reaches its greatest density at 4°C
- If ice sank, all bodies of water would eventually freeze solid, making life impossible on Earth

⊗ ordered bonds cause rigid structure and firm distances

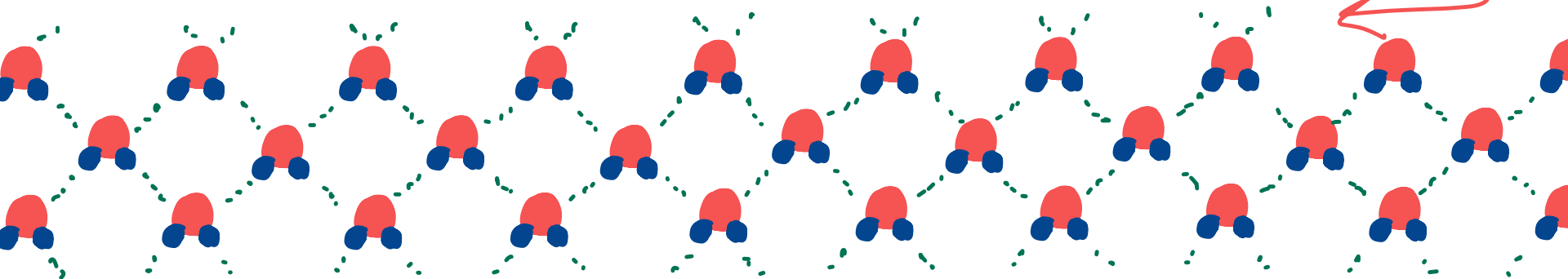
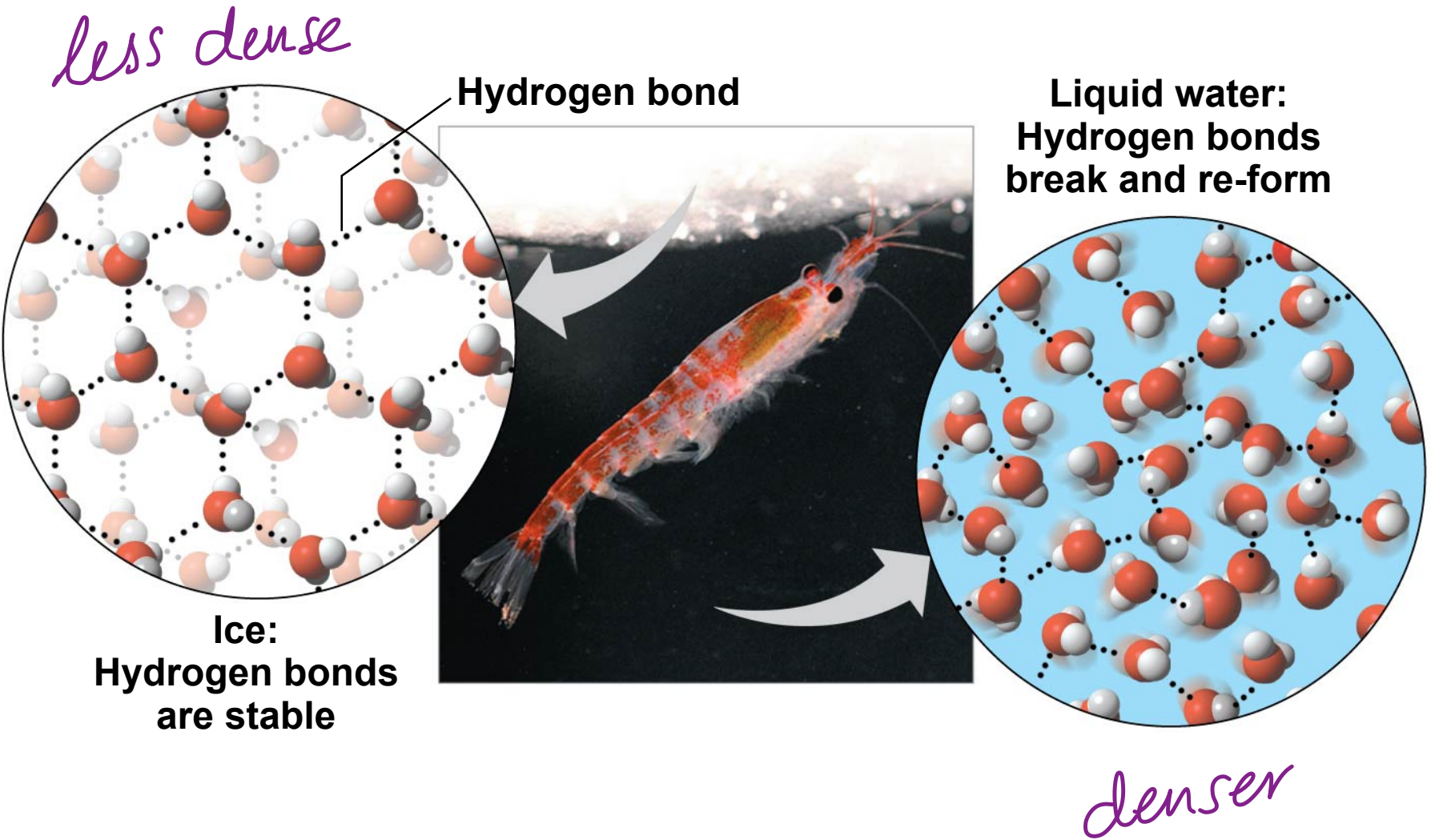


Figure 3.6

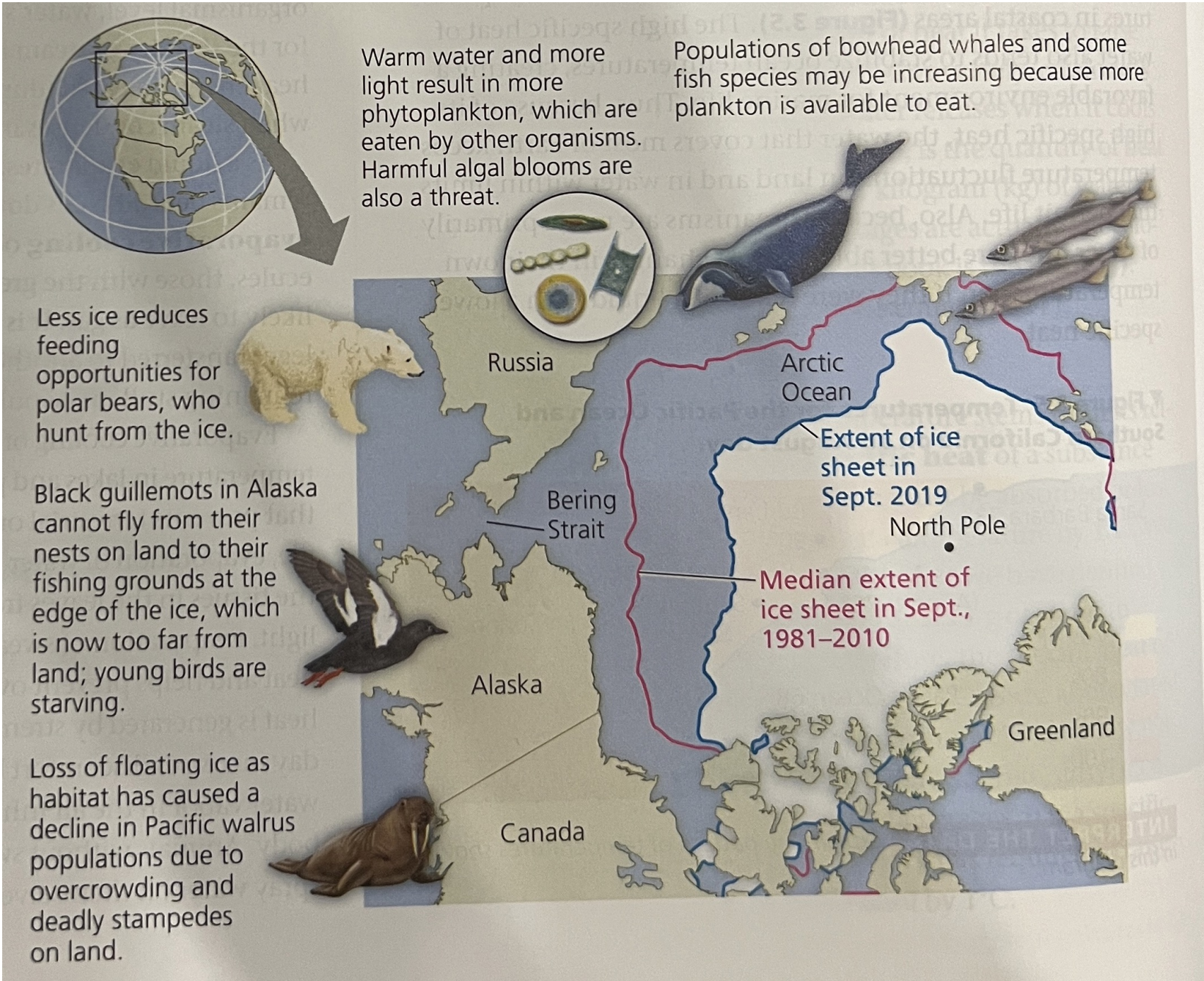


Read and Understand

- Many scientists are worried that global warming is having a profound effect on icy environments around the globe
- The rate at which glaciers and Arctic sea ice are disappearing poses an extreme challenge to animals that depend on ice for their survival

+2.2°C since 1961.

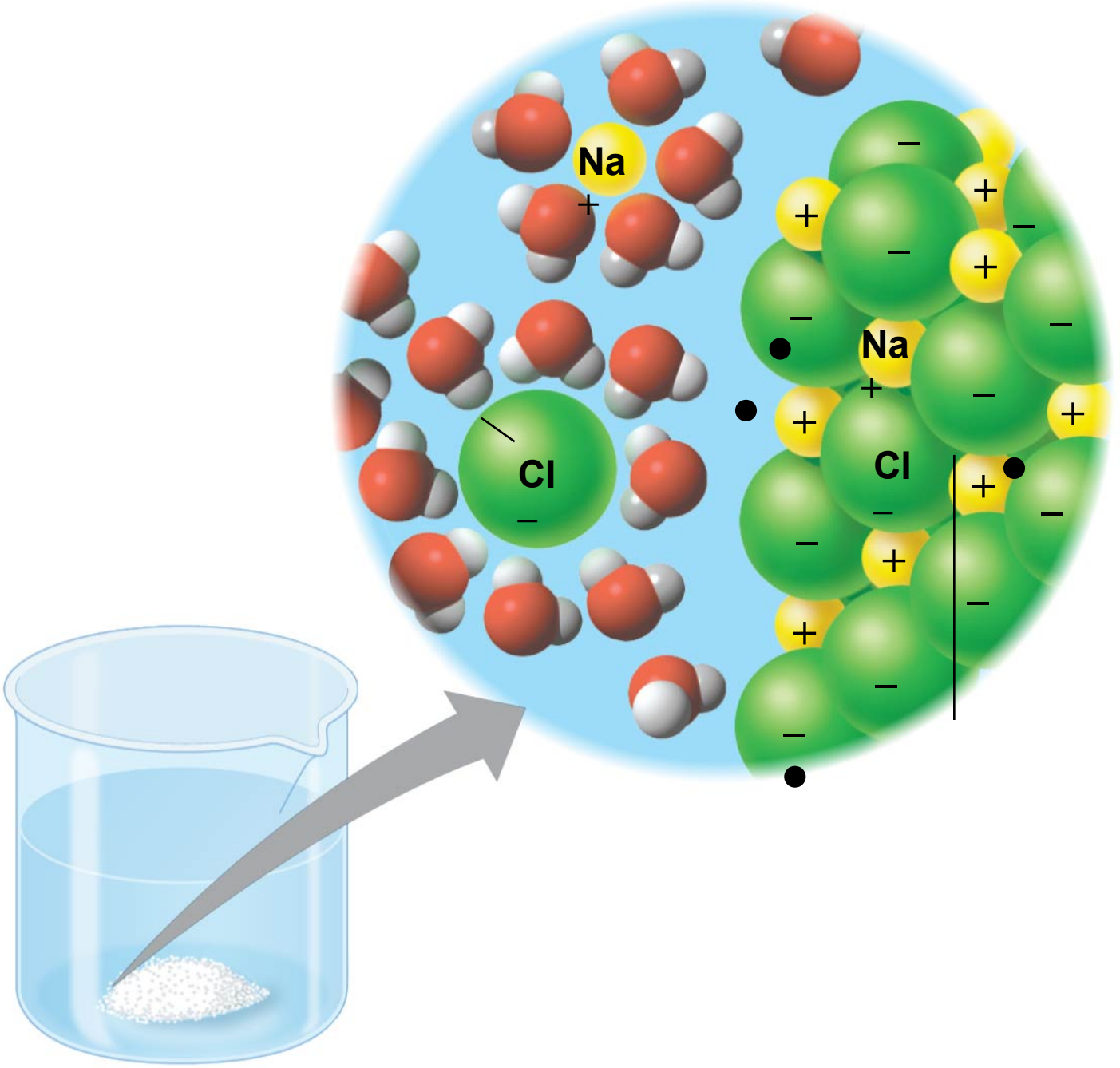
Figure 3.7



Water: The Solvent of Life

- A **solution** is a liquid that is a completely homogeneous mixture of substances
- The **solvent** is the dissolving agent of a solution
- The **solute** is the substance that is dissolved
- An **aqueous solution** is one in which water is the solvent

Figure 3.8



- Water is a versatile solvent due to its polarity
- When an ionic compound is dissolved in water, each ion is surrounded by a sphere of water molecules called a hydration shell

⊗ NaCl solution ^{in water} is an aqueous solution

composed of two solutes

(1) sodium cations (Na^+)

(2) chloride anions (Cl^-).

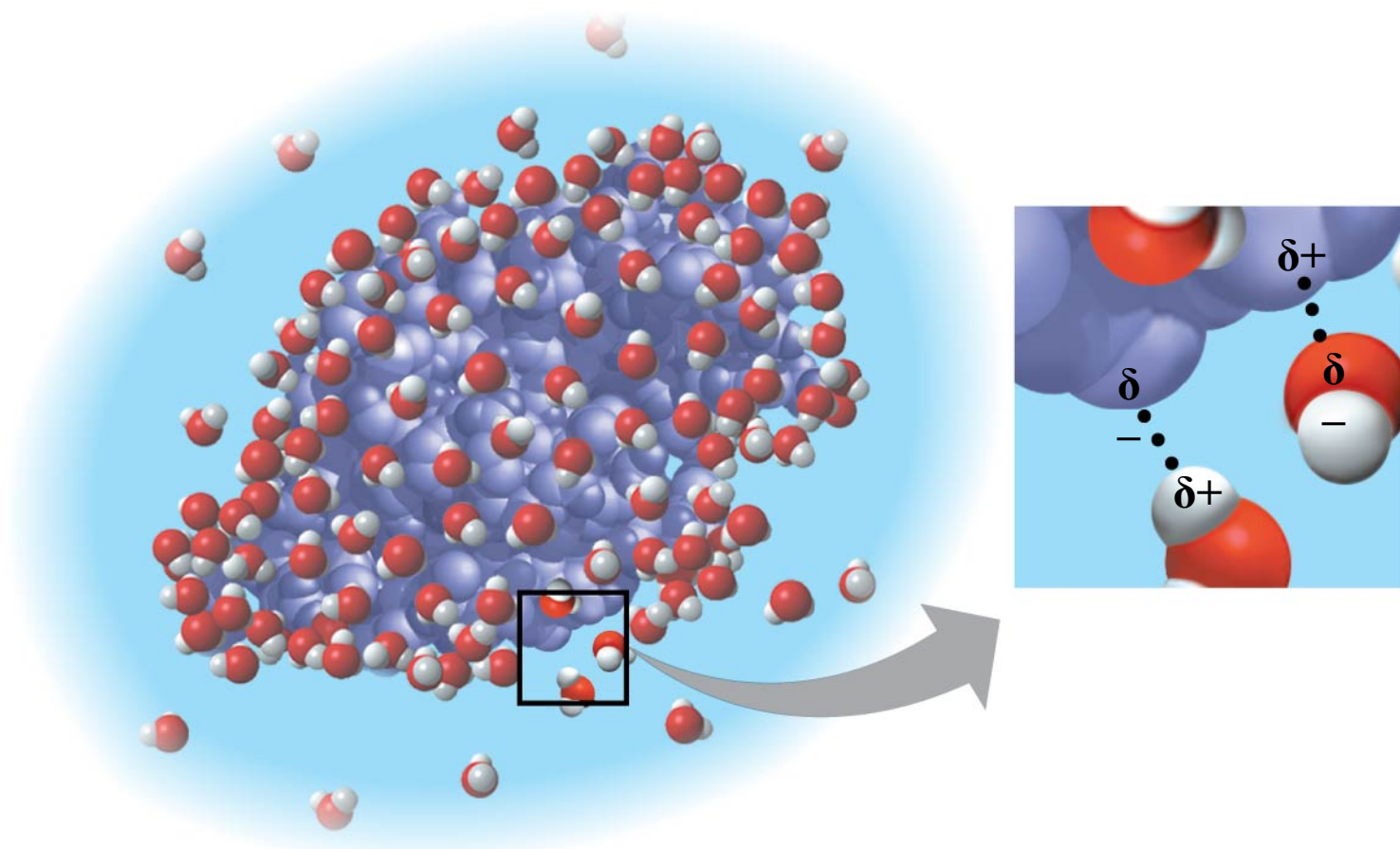
homogeneous mixture

- Water can also dissolve compounds made of nonionic polar molecules
- Even large polar molecules such as proteins can dissolve in water if they have ionic and polar regions

Famous biological fluids (solutions):

Blood, Sap of Plants, cells' liquid (cytosol).

Figure 3.9



Hydrophilic and Hydrophobic Substances

→ cotton (although hydrophilic) is not soluble in water.
due to its large size.

- A **hydrophilic** substance is one that has an affinity for water
- A **hydrophobic** substance is one that does not have an affinity for water
- Oil molecules are hydrophobic because they have relatively nonpolar bonds
- Hydrophobic molecules related to oils are the major ingredients of cell membranes

A C-H bond is almost nonpolar.
Similar electronegativity.

olute Concentration in Aqueous Solutions

- Most chemical reactions in organisms involve solutes dissolved in water
- When carrying out experiments, we use mass to calculate the number of solute molecules in an aqueous solution

Extensive calculations are not the core of the topic.

$$1 \text{ dalton} \equiv 1 \text{ amu}$$

$$1 \text{ g} \equiv N_A \text{ daltons}$$

Molarity (M) \Rightarrow the most used unit of concentration in aqueous solutions.

Ocean Acidification: A Threat to Our Oceans

- Human activities such as burning fossil fuels threaten water quality
- CO₂ is the main product of fossil fuel combustion
- About 25% of human-generated CO₂ is absorbed by the oceans
- CO₂ dissolved in seawater forms carbonic acid; this process is called ocean acidification

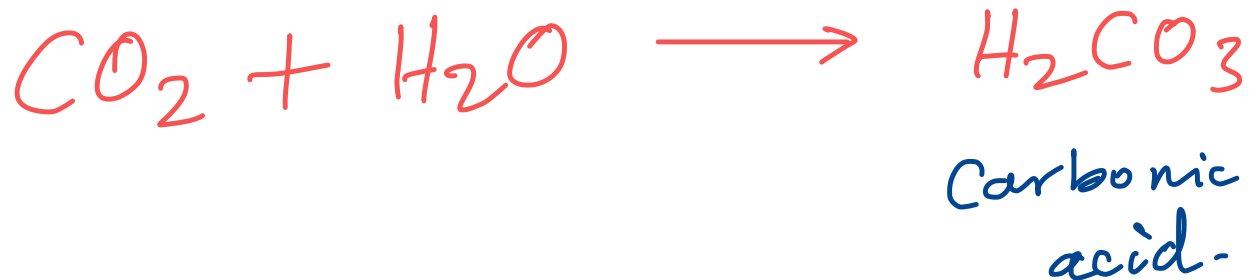
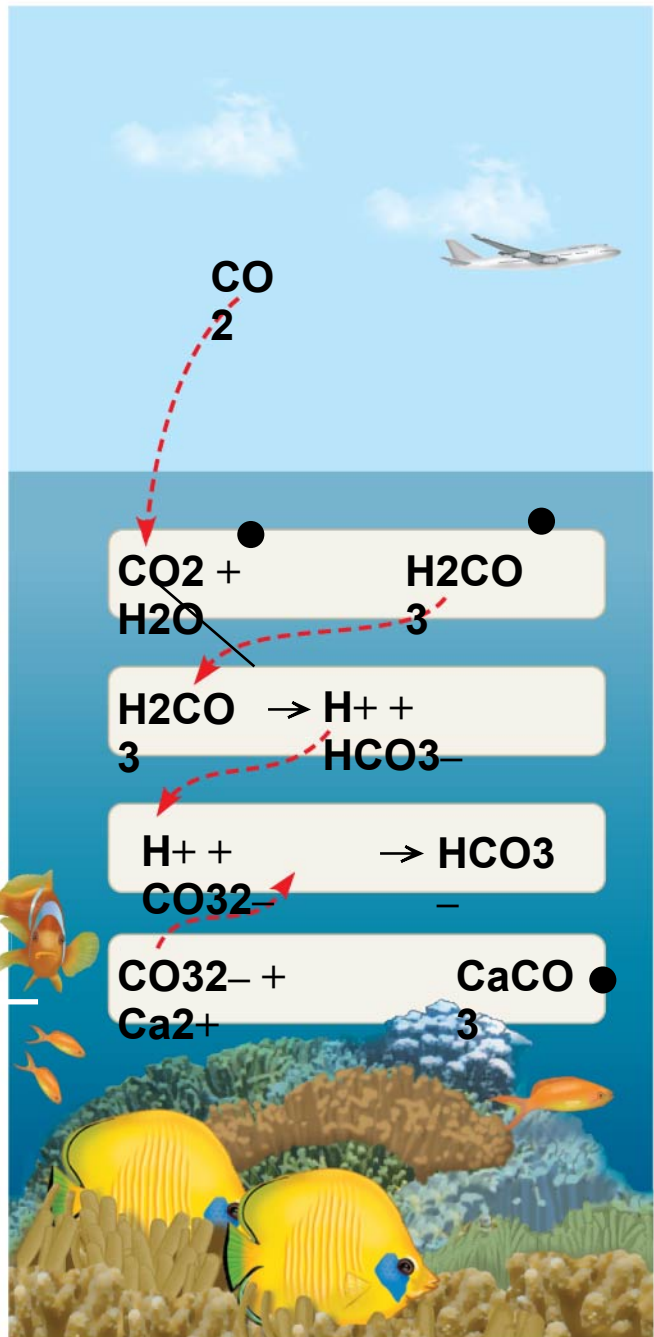
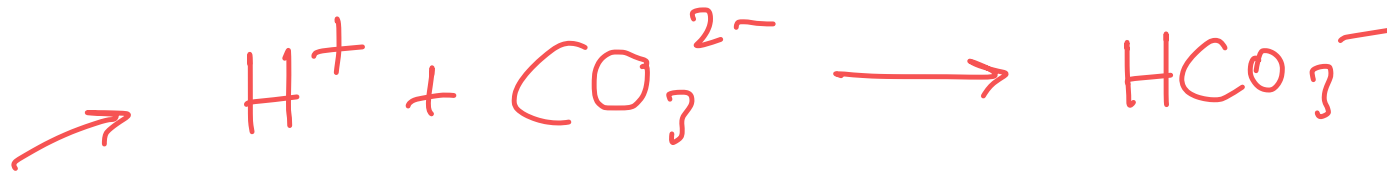


Figure 3.12

⊗ pH (ocean)
 is 0.1 less
 than any time
 420,000 years ago.
 and expected to
 lower by 0.3-0.5
 by the end of the
 century.



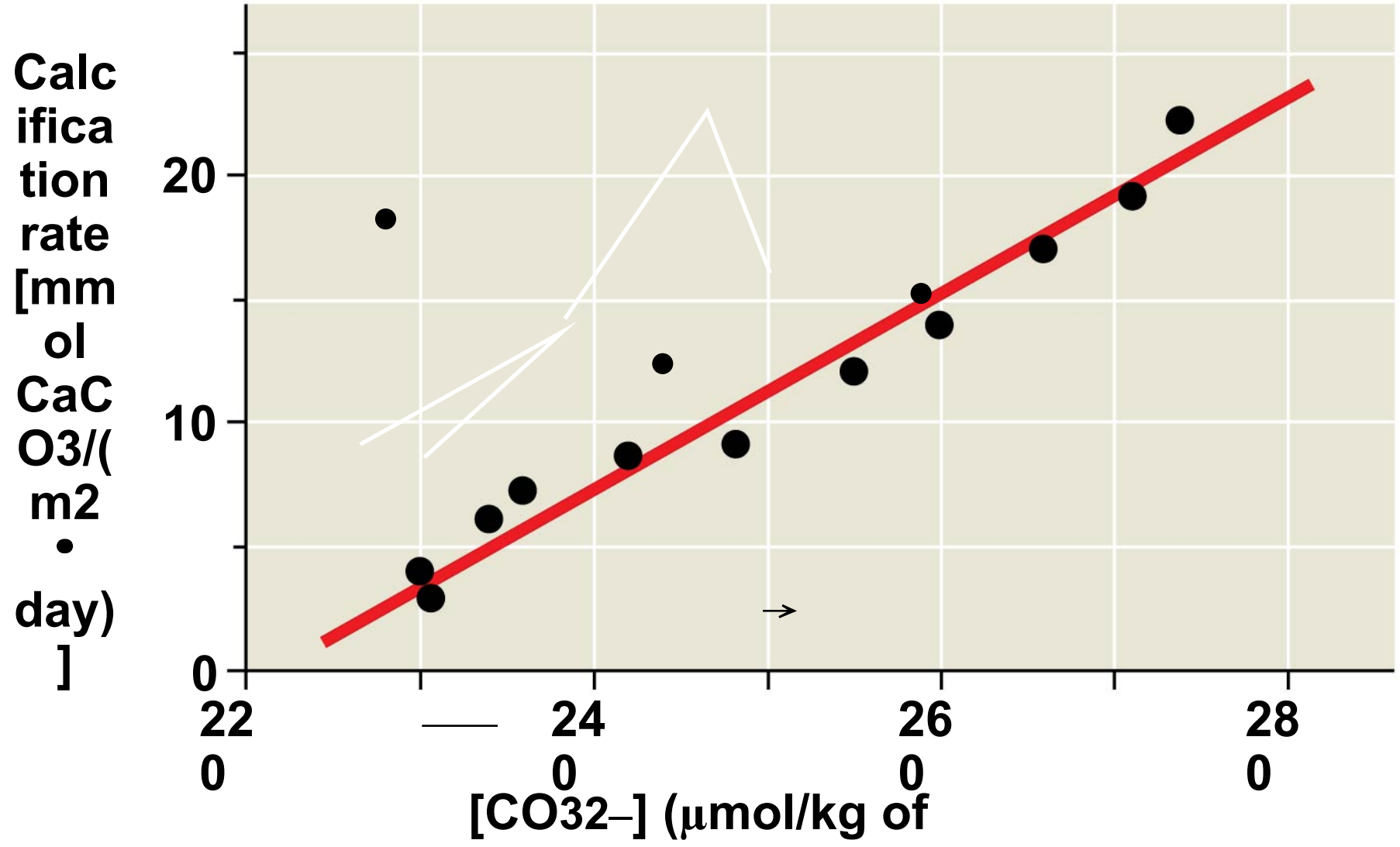
$[\text{CO}_3^{2-}]$ is
 expected to
 decrease by 40%
 by 2100



- As seawater acidifies, H^+ ions combine with carbonate ions to produce bicarbonate
- Carbonate is required for calcification (production of calcium carbonate) by many marine organisms, including reef-building corals $CO_3^{2-} + Ca \rightarrow CaCO_3$
calcium carbonate
- We have made progress in learning about the delicate chemical balances in oceans, lakes, and rivers

Figure 3.UN02a

Calcification \propto amount of CO_3^{2-}



Data from C. Langdon et al., Effect of calcium carbonate saturation state on the calcification rate of an experimental coral reef, *Global Biogeochemical Cycles* 14:639–654 (2000).