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Summary

The physiological processes of marine macrophytes (algae and seagrasses) play key roles in coastal ecosystem dynamics. Since humans are altering the world's climate at an unprecedented rate, it is important to know how these coastal organisms will respond, and by which mechanisms, so that we can take appropriate conservation and legislative measures. During my PhD, I aim to study the effects of climate change on calcifying algae utilizing marine mesocosm experimental structures. I am especially interested in looking at crustose coralline algae (CCA), which are important reef builders, with different evolutionary histories and pinpointing physiological traits in order to see if they possess adaptations to acidification and warming. This information will be crucial in attempting to curtail local and global effects on coral reefs.

Research Expertise

- Calcifying algae
- Climate change
- Ocean acidification