Long-term Changes of Disinfection Byproducts in Treatment of Simulated Ballast Water

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Abstract – This study investigated the changes in concentrations of haloacetic acids (HAAs) and haloacetonitriles (HANs) as disinfection byproducts (DBPs) for different storage times (as long as 20 days) and temperatures (5 to 20°C). A ship’s voyage after treatment of its ballast water with active substances was considered. The HAA showed a clear trend of increasing concentration only with storage time, especially for dibromoacetic acid (DBAA). Dissolved organic nitrogen concentration was increased by the decomposition of dead organisms at 10 days, and then reacted with the remaining total residual oxidants, resulting in increased concentration of DBPs. An environmental risk assessment indicated that DBAN and monochloroacetic acid (MCAA) could have a negative impact on the marine environment. This study suggests that, because all international vessels must have a ballast water management system installed by September, 2024, the concentrations of DBPs, especially DBAN, MCAA, and DBAA, should be monitored in the waters at major international ports.

Keywords – disinfection byproducts, ballast water management system, active substances, ballast water, dissolved organic nitrogen

1. Introduction

“Ballast water” refers to water entering a ship to provide stability during navigation. Global ballast water discharged from ongoing vessels engaged in international trade has been estimated to exceed 3 billion tons per year (Endresen et al. 2004; David 2018). When water is loaded as ballast water from a ship’s surrounding environment, suspended matter and living organisms are also taken onboard. When they are discharged in the next port, some transferred species can settle and flourish, potentially adversely affecting the environment, human health, and the economy associated with the recipient environments (Hallegraeff and Bloch 1991; Pimentel et al. 2005; Gollasch 2006). To regulate discharged ballast water, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) established the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship’s Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) in 2004, which aimed to minimize the movement of harmful organisms and pathogens via ballast water (IMO 2004). The BWM Convention requires that qualified vessels be installed with a flag-state-certified ballast water management system (BWMS). The Convention established the ballast water discharge requirement as regulation D-2 and requires the installation of a BWMS before September 8, 2024, in accordance with regulation B-3 of the Convention.

Technologies used for BWMSs include electrolysis, ultraviolet irradiation, ozonation, filtration, and thermal treatment. Among these technologies, a electrolysis is the most widely used method because of its efficiency and cost effectiveness (Duan et al. 2016). As of January, 2019, electrolysis systems accounted for 45% of BWMSs approved by flag states (IMO 2019). Free chlorine is generated during electrolysis of salts in water. Chlorine can rapidly oxidize bromide ion (Br<sup>-</sup>) and iodide ion (I<sup>-</sup>) to form aqueous bromine (HOBr/OBr<sup>-</sup>) and aqueous iodine (HOI/OI<sup>-</sup>), respectively (Westerhoff et al. 2004). The bromide ion, in concentrations of 60–70 mg/L in seawater, gives a high formation potential of bromine (HOBr/OBr<sup>-</sup>) which is the main active substance in chlorinated seawater. In seawater with a typical pH of 8, hypobromous acid (HOBr) will predominate and be the most important disinfectant with a half-life of hours to days dependent on light conditions and water quality characteristics (Liltved et al. 2006). The sum of persistent oxidants is collectively referred to as total residual oxidant (TRO). The TRO disintegrates...
over time, but it is sufficiently stable to react with and kill or inactivate organisms. However, the TRO produced by electrolysis can generate residues and reacts with organic matter in water to produce disinfection by-products (DBPs) which can adversely affect marine ecosystems (Delacroix et al. 2013; Werschkun et al. 2014; Cha et al. 2015; Gonsior et al. 2015; Lee et al. 2017; David et al. 2018). Therefore, BWMSs that use active substances, including chlorine, must be approved by the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) according to regulation G9 of the Convention.

In studies of the chlorination of freshwater for drinking water, numerous problems have been reported. One issue is the formation of DBPs, which have been known since the 1970s to potentially adversely affect human health (Gonsior et al. 2015). Classes of DBPs observed in chlorinated water include trihalomethanes (THMs), haloacetic acids (HAAs), haloacetonitriles (HANs), halonitromethanes (HNMs), haloketones (HKs), and chloral hydrate. Although DBPs associated with the freshwater chlorination of drinking water have long been a topic of research, studies of the effects of the formation of DBPs by brackish or seawater chlorination have recently become more common because of increased interest in ballast water treatment and seawater desalination (Delacroix et al. 2013; Cha et al. 2015; Gonsior et al. 2015; Shah et al. 2015; Lee et al. 2017; Park et al. 2017; David et al. 2018). The formation of DBPs is considered problematic in oxidizing-water disinfection (von Gunten 2018). The amount of organic DBPs in chlorinated ballast water is mainly dependent on the oxidant type and dosage and on the type and concentration of natural organic matter in the local ballast water (Gonsior et al. 2015; Shah et al. 2015; Liu et al. 2018). In addition, the type and concentration of DBPs during seawater disinfection have been found to depend on the temperature, salinity, bromide, iodide and the pH (Hua et al. 2006; Zhang et al. 2013b; Kim et al. 2015; Shah et al. 2015; Cha et al. 2015; Yu et al. 2015). Thus, the environmental changes in the tank where ballast water treated with BWMS are stored can affect DBP concentrations.

As previously mentioned, various factors play important roles in determining the type and concentration of DBPs; however, the type and concentration of DBPs can be changed by the active substances remaining during storage in the tank of the vessel after treatment. The temperature and storage time of water stored in a ballast tank also affect the concentration and type of DBPs (Drillet et al. 2013; Zhang et al. 2013a; Shah et al. 2015). The temperature variation of ballast water shows a seasonal pattern. For example, Choi et al. (2005) found greater variation in the mid-ocean upon exchange (2–28°C) than in samples collected upon arrival (11–25°C) in the San Francisco Estuary. The water temperature in the ballast water of ships entering ports in Korea was found to sometimes be higher than the water temperature of the port by approximately 1–2°C, although this difference reflects the seasonal changes in water temperature of the marine environment (Jang et al. 2016; Hyun et al. 2017). In freshwater, an increase in temperature results in faster consumption of total residual oxidants (TROs) or chlorine, leading to a positive correlation with several DBPs, especially THMs and HAAs (Roccaro et al. 2008; Zhang et al. 2013b). With faster decay of the active substances for disinfection in warm water, a neutralizing agent may not be required in a warmer area, whereas it may be a necessity in colder waters (Drillet et al. 2013). The remaining TROs in the ballast water tank would continue to kill the organisms and produce new DBPs, depending on the remaining TRO concentrations. Shah et al. (2015) reported that approximately 50% of the DBPs formed within a 24-h period of the typical 5-day inspection period, which is a typical storage time for the BWMS-type approval test described in the IMO G9 guidelines. According to the IMO G9 guidelines, for a BWMS that uses active substances to be approved, it should be subjected to ecotoxicological testing and DBPs of the treated ballast water from test cycles with a storage time shorter or longer than five days should be chemically assessed for at least one test cycle per salinity in land-based testing (IMO 2008). Thus, the test period in studies of DBPs and residual active substances related to BWMSs has typically been 5 days (Zhang et al. 2013a, 2013b; Cha et al. 2015; Shah et al. 2015; Lee et al. 2017).

International vessels arriving in ports of Korea take approximately 18 to 24 days to arrive in Busan from the eastern and northern Europe and approximately 11 to 22 days from the western and eastern United States. In the case of neighboring countries such as Japan, China, and Russia, arrival within 1 day is possible. As a result, changes in the DBP concentration and the environmental risk should be evaluated based on consideration of the water storage temperature and storage time in a ship’s ballast water tank. Therefore, the aim of this paper was to investigate the changes in DBPs concentrations and to assess the environmental risks of their concentration changes according to possible variation of storage temperature and time.
2. Materials and Methods

Preparation of test water for electrochlorination

To evaluate the performance of a BWMS with an electrolytic device, tests were carried out at test facilities for type approval of a BWMS; these facilities were located at the South Sea Research Institute of the Korea Institute of Ocean Science & Technology in Korea. The main sterilization device of the BWMS was an electrolytic device with a filter system on the front end. These devices were installed directly in the ballast-water pipeline. Seawater was transferred by the ballast water pump to the 500 ton tank of the facility in Jangmok Bay. The water flow was adjusted to 300 m³ h⁻¹. The electrolysis system (15.0 ± 1.5 mg L⁻¹ as Cl⁻) killed remaining organisms in the water. The treated water was stored in the treated sampling tank (250 tons) for 5 days in the absence of light. The challenge water was produced in accordance with the code for approval of BWMS (IMO 2018a). The addition of chemical and biological constituents was minimal (ideally < 25% of the total concentration of any constituents in the raw water) before the ballast testing. Natural organisms were added directly into the 500 ton tank of the facility to satisfy the condition of natural sea water. Glucose, starch, and silica were supplied to satisfy the condition of dissolved organic carbon (DOC), particle organic carbon (POC), and total suspended solids (TSS), in accordance with the G8 guidelines. The conditions of the challenge water are shown in Table 1. One ton of the treated water was continuously sampled in the sampling tank as the 300 tons of challenge water treated by the BWMS was transferred to the treated tank over a period of approximately 1 h. In a well-mixed 1 ton continuous sampling tank, subsamples were transferred to 3 L sterile bags stored in each incubator setup. The temperature of the incubator was set at 5, 10, 15, and 20°C, and the sample from each sterile bag was analyzed on Day 1, Day 5, Day 10, and Day 20, taking into account the storage time. To examine the effect of additives on the dissolved organic nitrogen (DON) concentration and TRO decay, test waters were prepared at 20°C from filtered seawater, filtered seawater with added glucose, filtered seawater with added phytoplankton, and filtered seawater with both added glucose and added phytoplankton.

Water-quality parameters and DBPs production

Water temperature, salinity, and dissolved oxygen were measured in situ with a YSI6600 water-quality measurements apparatus (YSI, Yellow Springs, Inc.). The concentrations of dissolved nitrogen (DN), nitrate, nitrite, and ammonia were measured using a flow injection autoanalyzer (QuAAtro; Seal Analytical, Inc., UK). The DN, nitrate, nitrite, and ammonia were repeatedly analyzed with an accuracy of 97% or better. Dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) was calculated as the sum of the nitrate, nitrite, and ammonia concentrations. The DON value was obtained by subtracting the DIN value from the DN value. A pocket ColorimeterII analysis system (Hach Co., Loveland, CO, USA) was used to measure the TRO concentration in conjunction with the N,N-diethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DPD) method, which formed a red solution. Samples for analysis of the DOC were gravity filtered directly from a glass syringe. Water was filtered before acidification to 1 ≤ pH ≤ 2 with H₃PO₄ or H₂SO₄. Immediately after acidification, the sample was frozen to a temperature of less than -20°C and was analyzed within 14 d of sampling.

Analysis of the DOC was carried out using a TOC analyzer (TOC-VCPH, Shimadzu Co.). Adequate volumes of samples for particulate organic carbon (POC) and particulate organic nitrogen (PON) were filtered onto precombusted 25 mm Whatman GF/F filters. The filters were removed, placed in capsular tissue, wrapped in aluminum foil, and stored frozen in a deep freezer (-20°C) until analyzed. Analyses of the POC and PON were carried out using a FlashEA™1112 elemental analyzer (ThermoQuest, Inc.).

The DBPs were analyzed for nine HAAs and six HANs of the 41 chemical substances related to the BWMS, as defined in the MEPC 67/INF.17 document by the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the IMO (MEPC 2014). The nine species of HAAs were bromochloroacetic acid (BCAA), dibromoacetic acid (DBAA), dichloroacetic acid (DCAA), dibromochloroacetic acid (DBCAA), dichlorobromoacetic acid (DCBAA), monobromoacetic acid (MBAA), monochloroacetic acid (MCAA), tribromoacetic acid (TBAA), trichloroacetic acid (TCAA); the six species of HANs were trichloroacetonitrile (TCAN), monochloroacetonitrile (MCAN), dichloroacetonitrile

Table 1. Physical, chemical and biological parameters of the test water

| Physical parameters | Chemical parameters (mg L⁻¹) | Biological parameters |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Temp. (°C)           | 11.10 ± 0.13                   | TRO 14.30 ± 0.9      | > 50 µm organism |
| Sal.                | 33.10 ± 0.17                   | POC 10.40 ± 1.04     | (cells ton⁻¹) 111,667 ± 15,275 |
| pH                  | 8.06 ± 0.02                    | DOC 8.04 ± 0.30      | 10–50 µm organism |
| Turbidity (NTU)     | 5.70 ± 2.33                    | TSS 53.60 ± 2.97     | (cells mL⁻¹) 3017 ± 136 |
Environmental risk assessment and statistical analysis

The person correlation coefficient was calculated using the statistical program SPSS 18.0 to analyze the effect of time and temperature variation on the HAA and HAN concentrations. The GESAMP-Ballast Water Working Group (BWWG) approval process for BWMSs considers the environmental acceptability of the BWMS, including modeling-predicted DBP concentrations in a standardized port environment with a set discharge volume. The GESAMP is a group of independent scientific experts that provide the UN with information on the scientific aspects of marine environmental protection. The marine antifoulant model to predict environmental concentrations (MAMPEC) was used by GESAMP-BWWG to assess the potential for environmental impacts from BWMSs during the type approval test. The environmental risk index was calculated and evaluated for the possibility that the DBP could be hazardous to the environment assuming both general and near-ship conditions. The predicted environmental concentration (PEC) was calculated by applying the commercial trade port (GESAMP-BWWG model harbor) installed in the MAMPEC 3.1 model. The highest value of each HAA and HAN was used in all of the tests to calculate the PEC value. For the predicted no-effect concentration (PNEC), we used the value provided by IMO GISIS (ballast water chemicals) to collect ecotoxicity information about each chemical. If the PEC/PNEC ratio in general and near ship was 1 or greater, as determined by calculating the PEC and the PNEC for each DBP detected above the detection limit, then the DBP was considered potentially harmful in the environment.

3. Results

Changes in environmental factors in test water

Temporal variations in the TRO, DON, and DIN concentrations were measured for each storage time and temperature, and the temporal variations of the DOC, POC, and PON were measured at 20°C (Fig. 1). The TRO concentration was 15.2 mg L$^{-1}$ at Day 0 and ranged from 1.78 to 6.3 mg L$^{-1}$ at 5°C, from 0.48 to 6.4 mg L$^{-1}$ at 10°C, from 0.13 to 6.30 mg L$^{-1}$ at 15°C, and from 0.08 to 5.1 mg L$^{-1}$ at 20°C during Day 1 to Day 20, respectively. The TRO concentration remained high at lower water temperatures. The total DON ranged from 2.94 to 17.96 µg L$^{-1}$ (mean ± standard deviation: 8.21 ± 4.50 µg L$^{-1}$), which was the highest at all water temperatures on Day 10. At relatively low water temperatures (5 and 10°C), the initial DON concentration was high, and this tendency was observed until Day 10. The DIN ranged from 0.99 to 2.14 µg L$^{-1}$ (1.41 ± 0.31 µg L$^{-1}$) and reached a maximum value at 10 days, similar to the DON. The DOC, POC, and PON ranged from 7.26 to 8.20 mg L$^{-1}$ (7.27 ± 0.38 mg L$^{-1}$), from 2.17 to 2.79 mg L$^{-1}$ (2.51 ± 0.28 mg L$^{-1}$), and from 0.01 to 0.07 mg L$^{-1}$ (0.05 ± 0.03 mg L$^{-1}$), respectively. The DIN concentrations tended to increase and decrease at low temperatures (5°C and 10°C), to not change at 15°C, and to show a parabolic trend at 20°C. The DOC and PON tended to decrease with increasing storage time, whereas the POC did not show any significant change with increasing storage time.

To determine the source of the DON concentration, four experiments were carried out at 20°C to monitor the change in the DON concentration over time (Fig. 2a). The increase in DON concentration was more pronounced in the experiments with the filtered seawater with added phytoplankton (Group 3) and the filtered seawater with added phytoplankton and glucose (Group 4) than in the filtered seawater blank (Group 1) and the filtered seawater with added glucose (Group 2). In Groups 3 and 4, the DON increased; Group 4 exhibited the highest DON value at 7 days, whereas Group 3 exhibited the highest DON value at 10 days. Group 2 showed a slightly higher DON concentration than Group 1, but no significant difference was observed. In addition, the group with the fastest TRO decay among these test groups was Group 4, followed by Groups 2, 3, and 1 (Fig. 2b). In particular, the TRO concentration was high (7.60 mg L$^{-1}$) even after 17
Changes in DBPs in test water

In the variation of the storage time, the total concentrations of HAAs and HANs were not significantly different between Day 1 and Day 5; however, after 5 days, the concentrations of HAAs were relatively higher than those of HANs (Fig. 3a). The total HAA concentration was 4.5 times higher than the total HAN concentration on Day 20 (Fig. 3a). The mean values of the HAA and HAN concentrations at various water temperatures were the highest at 10°C (Fig. 3b). However,
the variation of the total HAA concentration for each water temperature was large; it therefore did not show a clear trend with respect to water temperature. Although the variation of total HAN concentration was large at high temperatures, the total concentration of the HANs at low temperatures (5 and 10°C) was more than two times greater than that of the HANs at high temperatures (15 and 20°C). A total of fifteen HAA and HAN species were analyzed in

Fig. 3. Effects of (a) the storage time and (b) the storage temperature on the formation of HAAs and HANs

Fig. 4. Changes in concentration of 10 DBPs (HAAs and HANs) with increasing storage time and at various water temperatures
Long-term Changes of Disinfection Byproducts

this study. Seven species (MCAA, MBAA, BCAA, DBCAA, DBAA, DCBAA, and TBAA) of the analyzed HAAs and three species (BCAN, DBAN, and MBAN) of the analyzed HANs were present at concentrations above their detection limits. The concentrations of the other HAAs and HANs were below their detection limits. Among these DBPs analyzed, DBAA, DBCAA, TBAA, and DBAN were formed at considerable concentrations of 10 µg L\(^{-1}\) or higher. Specifically, the DBAA, DBCAA, TBAA, and DBAN concentrations were in the ranges 10.6–60.1 µg L\(^{-1}\), 0.99–22.8 µg L\(^{-1}\), 10.4–

Fig. 5. Pearson relationships for storage time and storage water temperature of major DBPs (*\(p < 0.05\), **\(p < 0.01\)). (DBAA: dibromoacetic acid, TBAA: tribromoacetic acid, DBCAA: dibromochloroacetic acid, MCAA: monochloroacetic acid, BCAA: bromochloroacetic acid, DBAN: dibromoacetonitrile)
32.6 µg L\(^{-1}\), and 2.78–42.4 µg L\(^{-1}\), respectively (Fig. 4). The MCAA, BCAA, and MBAN concentrations ranged from 0.5 to 2.8 µg L\(^{-1}\), from 0.54 to 4.61 µg L\(^{-1}\), and from 0.54 to 6.7 µg L\(^{-1}\), respectively. Among the HAAs, DBAA was present in the highest concentration in the test group except at 5 and 10°C on Day 1. The DBCAA concentration was found to have decreased rapidly at 15 and 20°C on Day 5 and Day 20. The DBAA, TBAA, and DBCAA concentrations increased at all temperatures on Day 10. On Day 20, the DBAA exhibited the highest concentration among the investigated DBPs at all of the investigated temperatures. The DBN concentration was the highest at all temperatures on Day 1 and Day 10, especially at lower temperatures. The mean DBN concentration at the lowest water temperature was twice as high as that at the highest water temperature. The DBN concentration was unstable with respect to storage time at 15 and 20°C, which is similar to the behavior of DBCAA. Although MBAN was detected at low concentrations, it was detected at high water temperatures.

The DBAA concentrations at all water temperatures were strongly correlated with the storage time (Fig. 5a). The TBAA concentration also tended to increase with increasing storage time, and this tendency was especially apparent at low temperatures (Fig. 5b). The DBCAA concentration tended to increase with increasing storage time at low temperatures, especially at 10°C; however, the DBCAA concentration was unstable with respect to storage time at high temperatures (Fig. 5c). The concentration of MCAA and BCAA tended to increase with increasing storage time (Fig. 5d, e). In particular, the concentration of MCAA was statistically significant at 10 and 20°C, and the BCAA concentration was statistically significant at the other water temperatures except for 15°C. The DBN concentrations tended to decrease over time at low temperatures, but the change in concentration was not statistically significant (Fig. 5f). By contrast, the concentration of DBN remained high until 20 days at low water temperatures (Fig. 4d). The concentrations of the HAAs and HANs did not show statistically significant changes with water temperature during the test period.

The average composition ratios of brominated HAAs at all storage times was 44.3% for DBAA, followed by 29.8% for TBAA and 19.9% for DBCAA; the composition ratios of the chlorinated HAA, MCAA, and BCAA were low (Fig. 6a). This trend is similar to that of the composition ratio at various temperatures (not shown). The composition of DBAA increased with increasing storage time; however, the compositions of DBCAA and TBAA decreased. Also, the number of different HAA species tended to increase at 20 days. DBN accounted for more than 70% of the HANs, including 92% at low water temperatures (Fig. 6b). In the case of high water temperatures, the DBN composition ratio decreased to 64% and the MBAN composition ratio increased to 32%.

Environmental risk assessment using MAMPEC

The MAMPEC results for a simple environmental risk assessment were evaluated for the DBPs; the highest concentration of each DBP in each test was used in the
model (Table 2). Among the HAAs, MCAA showed a PEC/PNEC ratio (near ship) of 1, which is the criterion for judging the effect on the port ecosystem (Table 2). The maximum concentration of MCAA was low (2.8 µg L\(^{-1}\)); however, the PNEC (near ship) was also low (0.58) because of its high toxicity. The PEC/PNEC ratios of the other HAAs did not exceed 1. DBAA showed the highest concentration (60.1 µg L\(^{-1}\)) among the HAAs; however, the PEC/PNEC ratio in general and near ship did not exceed 1 because of its low toxicity. The PEC/PNEC ratios of DBAN in general and near ship were 13.0 and 16.0 at the highest concentration and 0.855 and 1.047 at the lowest concentration in this study.

### Table 2

| DBP  | Time (days) | Temp. (°C) | PEC general (µg L\(^{-1}\)) | PEC near ship (µg L\(^{-1}\)) | PNEC general (µg L\(^{-1}\)) | PNEC near ship (µg L\(^{-1}\)) | PEC/PNEC general | PEC/PNEC near ship |
|------|-------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| BCAA | 20          | 15         | 0.078                        | 0.955                        | 16                          | 16                           | 0.005             | 0.060             |
| DBAA | 20          | 10         | 1.02                         | 12.4                         | 6900                        | 6900                         | 0.000             | 0.002             |
| DBCAA| 20          | 10         | 0.385                        | 4.71                         | 300                         | 300                          | 0.001             | 0.016             |
| DCBAA| 20          | 10         | 0.056                        | 0.686                        | 60                          | 100                          | 0.001             | 0.007             |
| MBAA | 20          | 10         | 0.126                        | 1.55                         | 16                          | 16                           | 0.008             | 0.097             |
| MCAA | 20          | 20         | 0.047                        | 0.58                         | 0.58                        | 0.58                         | 0.082             | 1.000             |
| TBAA | 20          | 10         | 0.552                        | 6.76                         | 14000                       | 22000                        | 0.000             | 0.000             |
| BCAN | 1           | 20         | 0.009                        | 0.261                        | 0.69                        | 6.9                          | 0.014             | 0.038             |
| DBAN | 10          | 20         | 0.717                        | 8.79                         | 0.06                        | 0.55                         | 13.0              | 16.0              |
| MBAN | 1           | 15         | 0.058                        | 1.44                         | 0.16                        | 230                          | 0.005             | 0.006             |

*The value of PNEC in general and near ship is quoted from GISIS (http://gisis.imo.org/public/BWC/Chemical/ChemicalList.aspx)

### 4. Discussion

The TRO concentration decreased approximately 60% at all water temperatures on Day 1 and rapidly decreased at 20°C over time (Fig. 1). However, the residual TRO concentration was measured until 20 days in all test groups, and it was 1.78 mg L\(^{-1}\) even after 20 days at 5°C. TRO consumption was accelerated as the temperature was increased from 5°C to 20°C, similar to the results of Roccaro et al. (2008). The residual TRO concentration indicates that the treated ballast water would continue to sterilize organisms in the storage tank of a ship, which means that DBPs would also continue to be generated. In tests where additional additives were introduced, TRO consumption by added phytoplankton appeared minimal (Fig. 2b); however, the TRO concentration in the glucose-added seawater decayed substantially faster than in the control sample (Fig. 2b), similar to the results of Duan et al. (2016).

However, unlike the results of the present study, Lee et al. (2017) reported that TRO was not significantly consumed by glucose in ballasting water.

Both the DON and DIN concentrations were highest at 10 days in all of the treatments (Fig. 1b and c). We speculated that this trend was related to the organic decomposition process of the killed organisms. In tests where additional additives were introduced, the increase in DON concentration in the experiments with filtered seawater with phytoplankton added (Groups 3 and 4) was more pronounced than in the other experiments (Fig. 2a), suggesting that the DON source was most likely decomposition of dead phytoplankton rather than the effect of glucose. If dead organisms are a source of DON, then the DON concentration should be high at higher temperatures because decomposition of phytoplankton is rapid at high water temperatures (Conley et al. 2007; Jang et al. 2011). However, a high DON concentration was observed at lower temperatures (Fig. 1b), which indicates that the maximum value of DON differed slightly at different water temperatures. This observation is consistent with the tests involving additives, where the highest concentration of DON appeared at 7 days in Group 4 (Fig. 2a). Because the ballast water treated in the field did not contain added glucose, the residual TRO concentration of the ballast tank in the field should be higher than that in the BWMS approval test. Therefore, if water with a high bioconcentration in a port is treated with a BWMS with active substances and the treated water is stored in the ballast tank for more than 5 days, the DON and the residual TRO will affect the concentration of DBPs in the ballast tank.
The concentration of major DBPs increased at Day 10 (Fig. 4c), where the DON concentration also increased. As previously mentioned, the DON concentration increased because of decomposition of dead organisms. As a result, we propose that the DON concentration was increased by the new source and then reacted with the remaining residual TRO to increase the concentration of DBPs. In particular, the DBAN concentration also increased on Day 10, which is attributable to DON affecting the formation of DBAN. Lee et al. (2007) suggested that DON can function as a precursor material for nitrogen-DBPs. Keith et al. (1982) also reported that HANs are produced by the reaction of chlorine with a nitrogen-containing compound. The DBAN concentration in the discharge of ballast water may adversely affect the marine environment if the ballast water is treated with a BWMS using active substances in areas with high biomass in winter (e.g., marine environments, brackish water, and freshwater), as such areas are prone to phytoplankton blooms (Litaker et al. 2002; Lee and Han 2007; Baek et al. 2011). Total HAA concentration showed a rapid increase at Day 20 (Fig. 3a). The National Toxicology Program (NTP 2010) has suggested that further chlorination of HANs results in the formation of HAAs. Thus, the HANs can be converted to HAAs by residual chlorine during extended storage. For this reason, the DBAA concentration tended to increase and the DBAN concentration suddenly decreased at 15°C and 20°C on Day 20 (Fig. 4d). Thus, the positive relationships for storage time and water temperature of major HAAs (Fig. 5a–e) suggest that their increases in concentration may be related to DON concentration, and the possibility that HANs can be converted to HAAs over time. However, the decrease in DBAN did not affect the increase in HAA concentration at 15 and 20°C on Day 5. In the future, studies of the factors that affect DBPs conversion over time will be needed.

The change in DBAA concentration with respect to water temperature shows a significant difference between 5 and 20°C (Fig. 5a), which is similar to the results reported by Shah et al. (2015). They reported that DBAA is the dominant brominated HAA in seawater and that its concentration increased more than twofold when the water temperature increased from 4°C to 22°C. However, there were no significant differences between DBAA concentrations at 10 and 20°C (Fig. 5a), indicating no statistically significant correlation between water temperatures, in contrast to the findings of Zhang et al. (2013b). They reported that DBAA increased with increasing temperature from 10 to 30°C at 48 h of storage after treatment, although the retention time mentioned in their paper was different from that used in the present work. DBAN did not show a statistically significant change with storage time and temperature; however, the concentration of DBAN remained relatively high at low temperatures over time. This result is consistent with the temporal variation of DBAN with respect to water temperature characteristics (Zhang et al. 2013a), which suggested that DBAN concentration increases with decreasing temperature in seawater from 30 to 10°C.

The composition ratio of HAAs (Fig. 6a) was similar to ratios reported in the review paper by Kim et al. (2015) (DBAA 38.3%, TBAA 22.4%, and DBCAA 19.6%). Kim et al. (2015) also suggested that this pattern is typical for HAA speciation in chlorinated seawater. Yu et al. (2015) reported the formation and speciation of HAA5 (MCAA, MBAA, DCAA, DBAA, and TCAA) for 0.5, 12, and 24 h in seawater desalination using ClO$_2$ as a disinfectant; the composition ratio and concentration of DBAA increased with increasing storage time and increasing ClO$_2$ concentration. Yu et al. (2015) also reported that MCAA is the major DBP at a low dose of ClO$_2$ or short ClO$_2$ contact time. Yu et al. (2015) and Shah et al. (2015) reported that the concentrations of most of the HAAs exhibited their greatest increase before 24 h and that either no increase or a gradual increase in concentration was subsequently observed at 3 days and 5 days, respectively. The results also showed similar results until 5 days; however, the HAA concentrations measured in this study increased rapidly after 5 days (Fig. 3a), which may be related to the newly supplied DOM from the decomposition of organic matter (e.g., phytoplankton) after 5 days (Figs. 1b, 2a). Also, the increase in the composition of DBAA may be associated with the decrease in the composition of DBAN on Day 20 (Fig. 6) due to the conversion of HAN to HAA over time (NTP 2010).

The MAMPEC results suggest that, on the basis of their PEC/PNEC ratios, DBAN and MCAA are more likely to be harmful to the marine ecosystem. The main reason for this result is that the PNEC values are low because of the high toxicity of the two substances. However, because of the lack of information about the toxicity of DBAN toward marine organisms, a low PNEC was used; thus, the PEC/PNEC ratio may be erroneously high. Thus, toxicity tests for DBAN on marine organisms are needed. As of January, 2019, the IMO has granted final approval to 40 BWMSs that use active substances (IMO 2019). The documents submitted to the IMO for final approvals of these BWMSs indicate that MCAA and
DBAN were detected in the discharge water of 11 of the BWMSs. The documents for seven of the BWMSs mention only MCAA, and the documents for eight of the BWMSs mention only DBAN. Among them, MCAA was detected in the discharge water of two BWMSs, and DBAN was detected in the discharge water of 12 BWMSs in cases where the PEC/PNEC general value exceeds 1. Among the nine documents mentioning the PEC/PNEC near ship, the ratios for MCAA and DBAN exceeded 1 in two and six documents, respectively.

Australia has implemented MAMPEC by using actual values for the conditions at three Australian ports instead of the default conditions as inputs for the MAMPEC (IMO 2018b). Using data provided by IMO GISIS, they predicted that most DBPs would likely be below their PNEC but that DBAN and MCAA could potentially exceed the predicted PNEC. In the present study, DBAN, MCAA, and DBAA have also been found to be potentially hazardous to the environment. Zhang et al. (2014), who performed a risk assessment of marine environments for BWMSs, also reported that the PEC/PNEC ratio of MCAA exceeded 1.

Woo et al. (2002) analyzed 209 DBPs considered in a structure–relationship analysis (SRA) evaluation in relation to concerns about cancer; 20 of the DBPs were of priority concern, with a moderate or high-moderate rating. Among these 20, the six N-DBPs are suitable priority candidates for future carcinogenicity testing and/or mechanistic studies. The concern levels for the BCAN, DBAN, and MBAN measured in our study are moderate (likely to be target carcinogens at low doses), low-moderate (likely to be weakly target carcinogens at relatively high doses), and low-moderate, respectively. Muellner (2007) analyzed seven HANs using microplate-based Chinese hamster ovary cell assays for chronic cytotoxicity and acute genotoxicity. Among these seven HANs, DBAN (2.8 µM) showed the greatest potential for chronic cytotoxicity and DBAN (47 µM) exhibited the second-highest acute genotoxicity. Most previous studies on the formation and control of N-DBPs have focused on wastewater treatment systems, power plants, and drinking-water treatment utilities that use surface-water sources; by contrast, limited research has focused on N-DBPs created in BWMSs that use an active substance to treat seawater and brackish water. Seawater includes a high bromide ion that ranges from 50,000 to 80,000 mg L\(^{-1}\), which enhances the formation of brominated DBPs, which are known to be much more cytotoxic and genotoxic than their chlorinated analogues (Richardson et al. 2007; Delacroix et al. 2013). In particular, brominated HANs are considered to be potentially more active than chlorinated HANs (NTP 2010; Mueller et al. 2007). The persistence and fate of brominated DBPs discharged into coastal or estuarine ecosystems are also not well-known (Gonsior et al. 2015). Another important factor in risk assessment considers the cocktail effect from the simultaneous release of such a large range of DBPs. Thus, an urgent need exists to study the effect on marine ecosystem of N-DBPs and Br-DBPs formed when BWMSs that use active substances are applied in seawater and brackish water.

### 5. Conclusions

BWMSs that use active substances are to be installed on international ships between 2019 and 2024. Thus, DBPs formed by BWMSs that use active substances will be increasingly discharged into the waters of international ports, and their toxicity can further affect the marine ecosystem via the cocktail effect. In this study, the following conclusions were obtained:

A longer ballast-water storage time leads to an increased concentration of total HAAs. In particular, when the ballast water is treated in a port with a high biological concentration, their concentration can be dramatically increased.

Further studies on DOM content (including DON) related to N-DBP formation should be conducted in the future. At the point of increasing DON in this study, the DBAN concentration was the highest for all water temperatures.

MCAA may negatively affect the marine environment when the storage time is long and the water temperature is high in ballast tanks.

DBAN may negatively affect the marine environment when the water temperature is low in ballast tanks.

A study of the toxicity of DBAN toward marine organisms is needed. With toxicity information for DBANs more available, the environmental risks can be better assessed by more realistic calculations of PEC / PNEC values.

MCAA and DBAN were assessed as having high environmental risks and DBAA could be present at the highest concentrations in the ballast water discharge treated with a BWMS.

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