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A new approach to investigate effects of CO₂ sequestration within the deep ocean using advanced pressure lab technology

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Injection of fossil fuel derived CO_2 into the ocean is being discussed as a possible means of moderating the effects of rising CO_2 concentrations in the atmosphere. Several sequestration scenarios are possible, each of which is closely connected to the thermodynamic properties of the CO_2 -H₂O system at release site conditions. To date, few in situ experiments on the behaviour of liquid CO_2 in the deep ocean exist. However, a well parameterised series of lab experiments is needed to understand phase transition effects at release sites for future modelling. For this purpose, a newly developed pressure lab rated to 55 MPa with an internal volume of 99 L was constructed. A first set of experiments was performed to parameterise the rise velocity of liquid CO_2 droplets as a function of P, T, and droplet diameter.