

# Ice matters

*Arctic and Antarctic under-ice communities linking  
sea ice with the pelagic food web*

Hauke Flores, J. A. van Franeker, C. David, B. Lange,  
V. Siegel, E. A. Pakhomov, U. Bathmann ...

[Hauke.flores@awi.de](mailto:Hauke.flores@awi.de)

# Hauke Flores

1996-2002	<b>Studies</b> UHH
2002-2003	<b>Fisheries observer</b> Federal Research Centre for Fisheries (HH)
2003-2009	<b>PhD</b> Univ. of Groningen IMARES (NL)
2007-2011	<b>Junior Scientist</b> IMARES
Since Jan 2012	<b>Group leader HGF Young Investigators Group</b> AWI & UHH

Current project:

***Iceflux***

*Ice-ecosystem carbon flux in  
polar oceans*



# Outline

1. Introduction
2. The sea ice – food web link
  - a) Lessons from the Antarctic ice underside
  - b) The *Iceflux* approach
  - c) First insights from a field study in the Arctic
3. Conclusions



[Atomkraft](#)[Chemie](#)[Energie](#)[Frieden](#)[Gentechnik](#)[Klima](#)[Landwirtschaft](#)[Meere](#)[Nachrichten](#)[Presseerklärungen](#)[Multimedia](#)[Publikationen](#)[Kampagnen](#)[Mitmach-Aktionen](#)[Multivision](#)[Meeresschutzgebiete](#)[Arktis und Antarktis](#)[Fischerei](#)[Wale](#)[Robben](#)[Öl](#)[Patente](#)[Umwelt & Wirtschaft](#)[Verkehr](#)[Wälder](#)[Sonstige Themen](#)

Sie befinden sich hier:

Start &gt; Themen &gt; Meere &gt; Nachrichten &gt; Deutsche Trawler wollen in der Antarktis fischen

## Deutsche Trawler wollen in der Antarktis fischen

[Text](#) [Bild](#) [add2any](#)23.10.2012, veröffentlicht von [Eva Schaper](#)

Zum Auftakt des Jahrestreffens der antarktischen Schutzzkommission **CCAMLR** (Commission for the Conservation of the antarctic marine living Resources) fordert Greenpeace die Bundesministerin Ilse Aigner auf, die von ihrem Ministerium beantragte Fangquote von 150.000 Tonnen Krill (kleine Krebse) in der Antarktis zurückzuziehen. Sie bilden die Nahrungsgrundlage der dort beheimateten Tiere - dazu gehören neben Pinguinen und Robben auch Blau- und Buckelwale.

Bildergalerie

1

2

&gt;&gt;



© Jiri Rezac / Greenpeace

# Antarctic krill



Fish feed



*Euphausia superba*

Functional  
food



Cosmetics

whoi.edu



# Antarctic krill

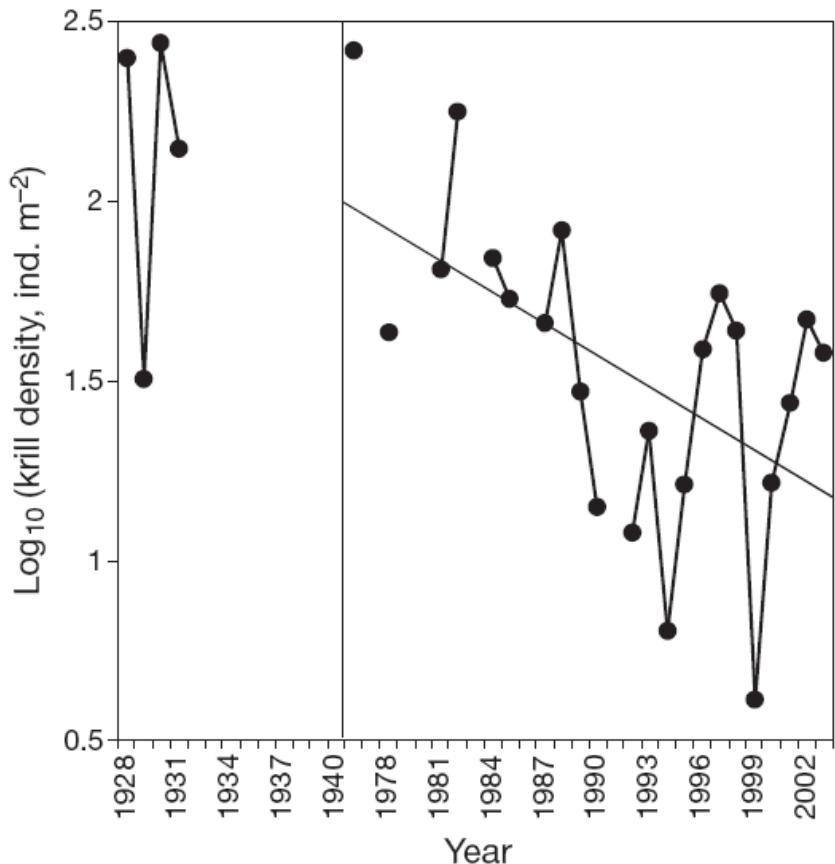
- Bioluminescent
- Size up to 6 cm
- Age up to 6 yrs
- Swimming speed up to  $0.65 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

*Euphausia superba*

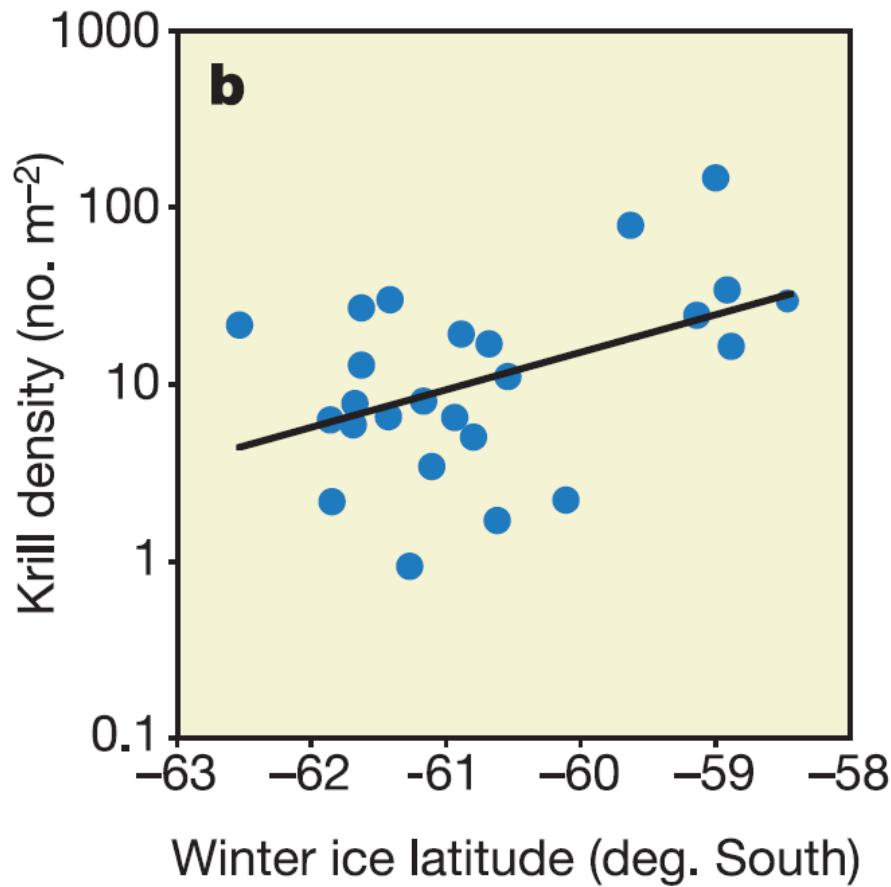
- Total biomass  $\sim 380 \text{ Mio t}$   
(NE Atlantic herring SSB:  $\sim 6 \text{ Mio t}$ )
- Huge swarms (up to 10s of km)
- Key prey item of Antarctic birds and mammals

[whoi.edu](http://whoi.edu)

# Krill decline in past decades



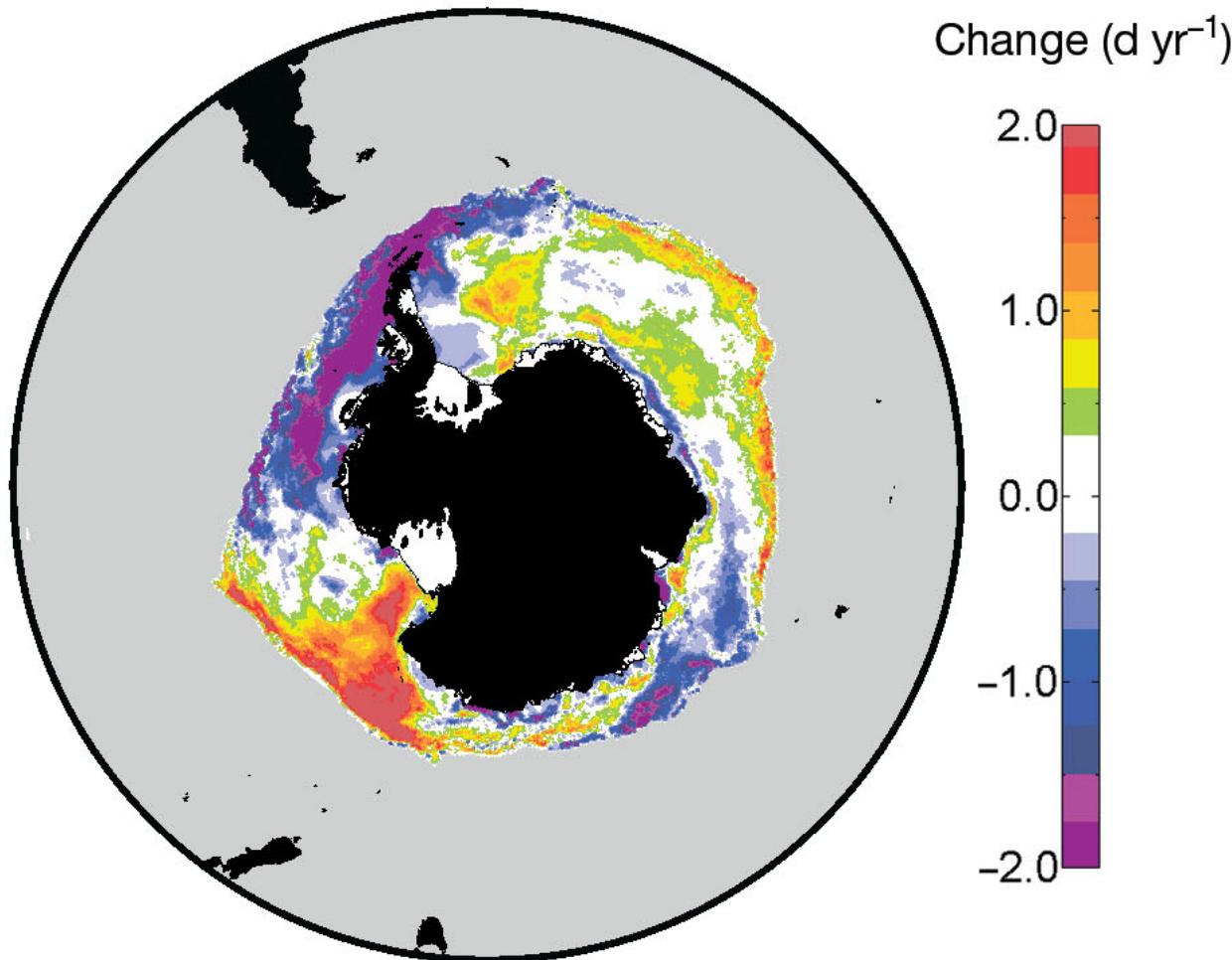
Atkinson et al (2008)  
*Mar Ecol Proj Ser* 362:  
1-23

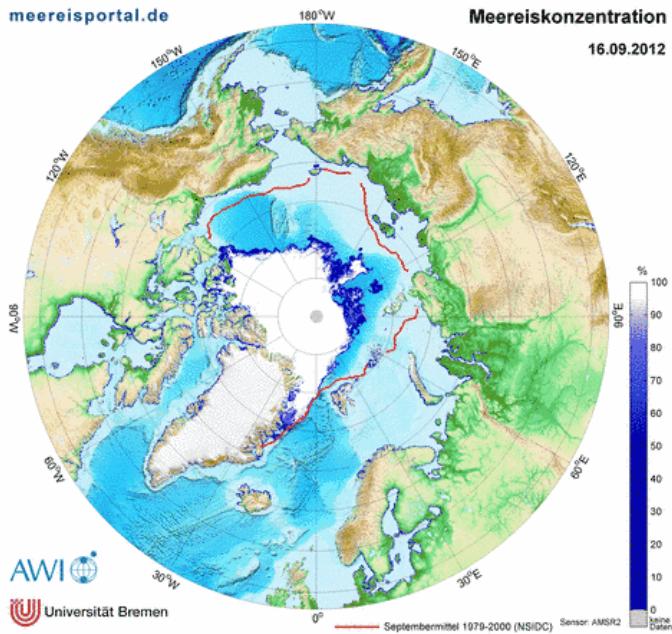
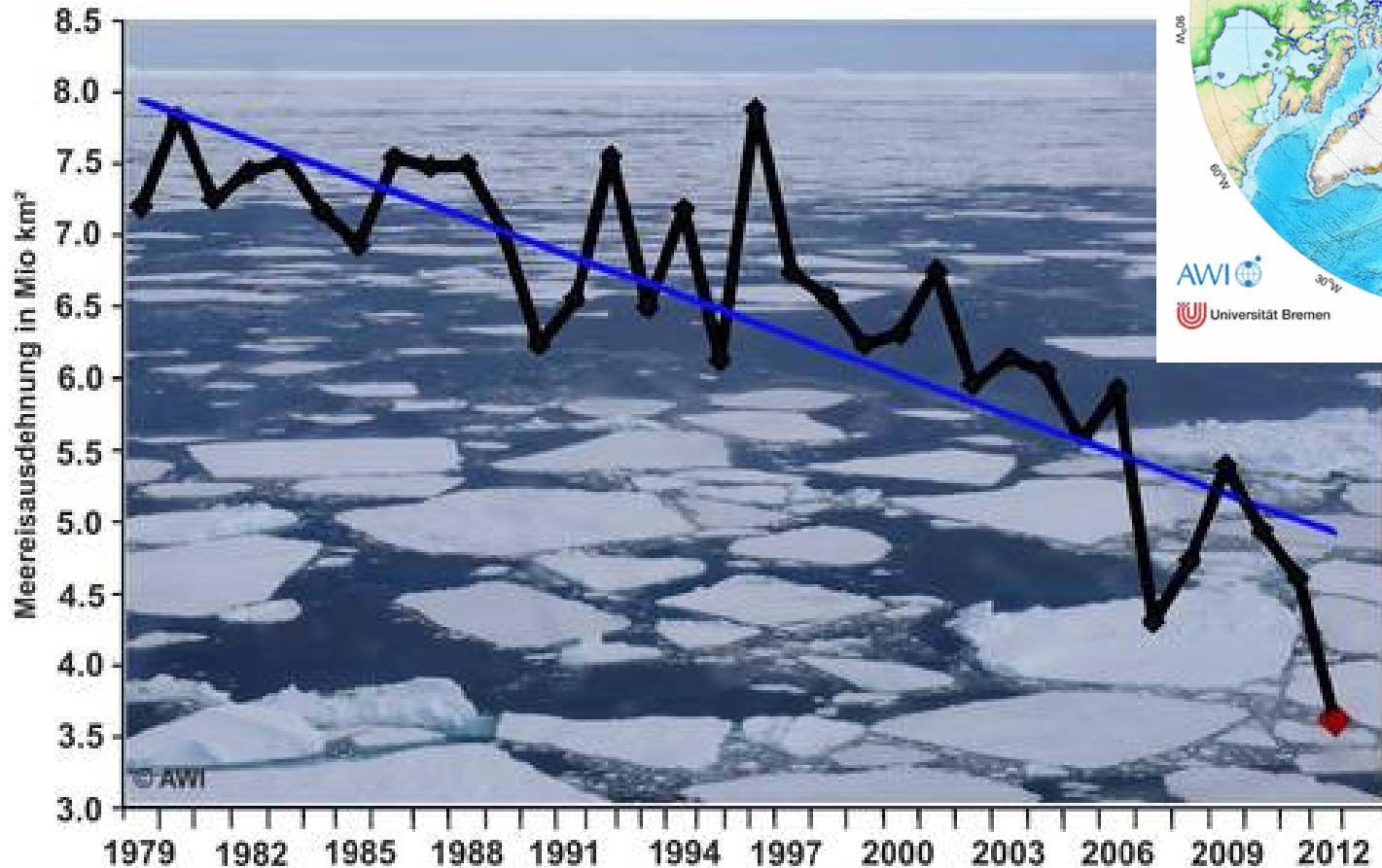


Atkinson et al (2004)  
*Nature* 432: 100-103

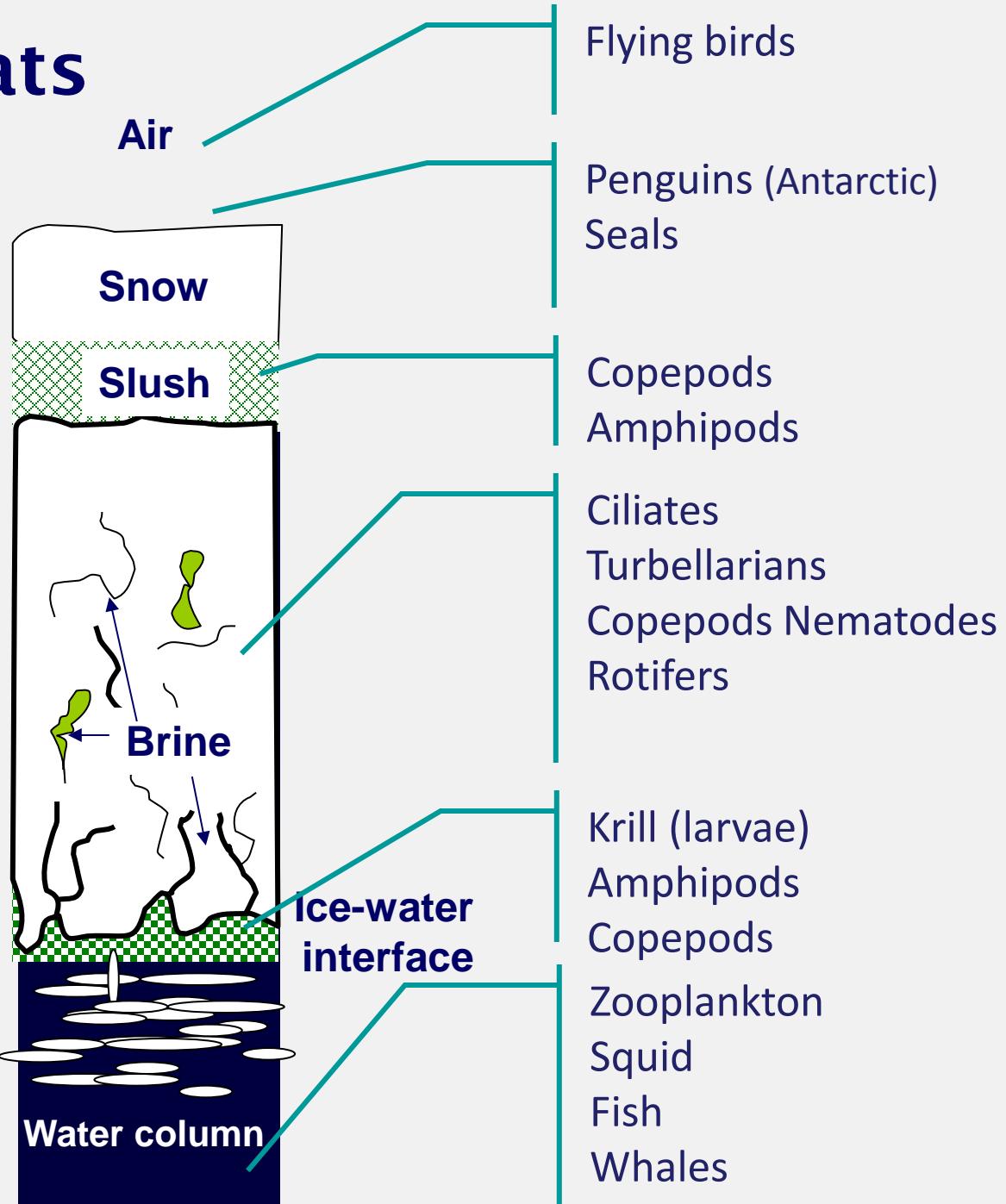
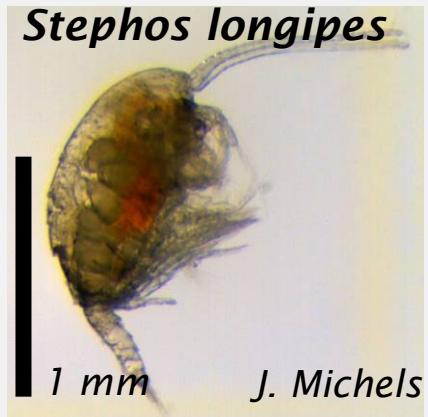
C

### Change in duration of sea ice season





# Sea ice habitats

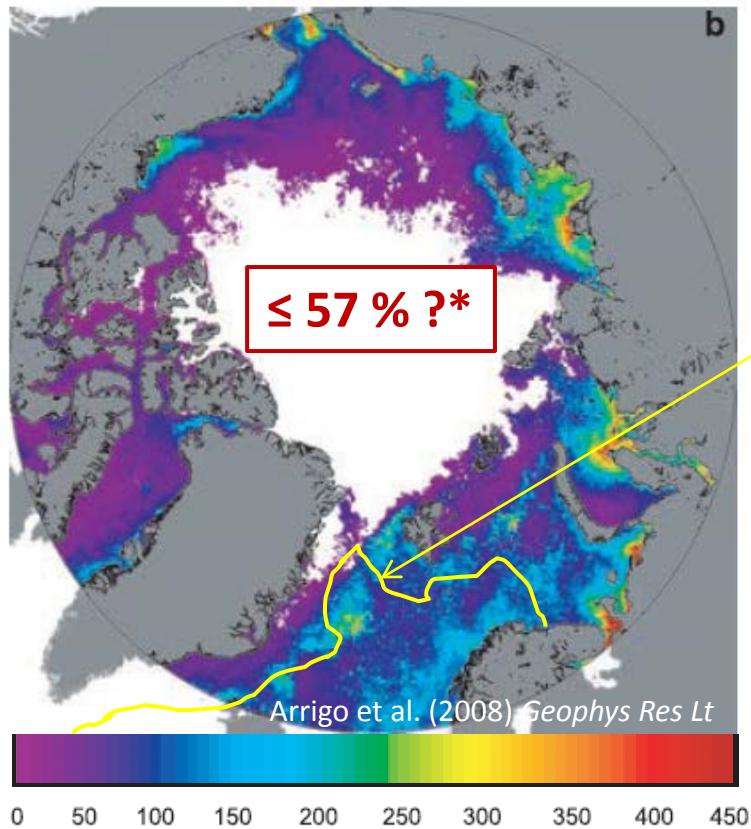




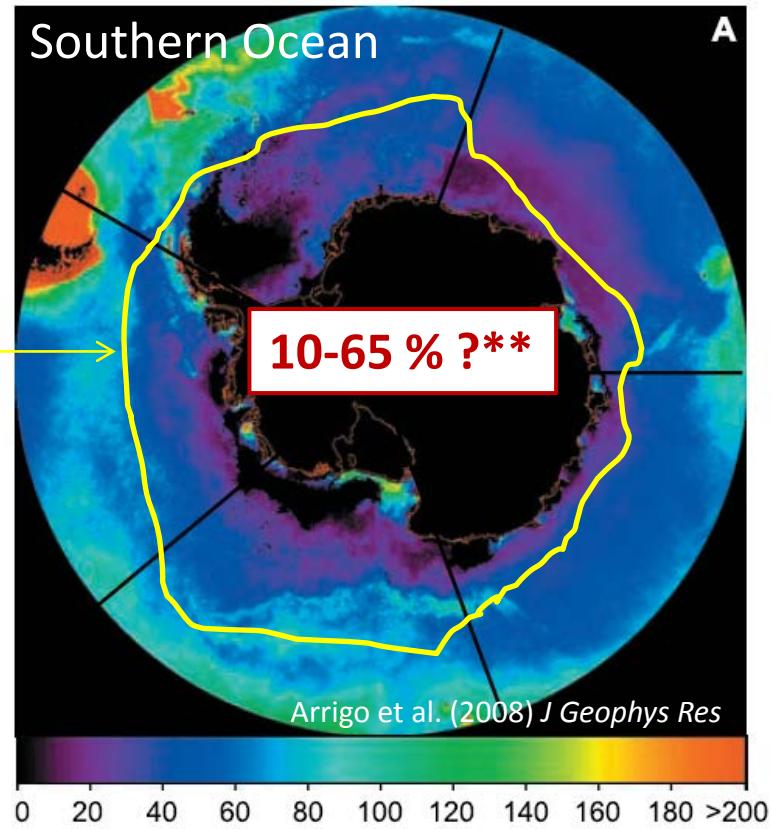
Ice algae

*High life stock in a low productive ocean?*

## Annual water column primary production ( $\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ y}^{-1}$ )



\*Gosselin (1997)  
Deep-Sea Res II



\*\* Arrigo & Thomas  
(2004) Ant Sci,  
McMinn et al.  
(2010) Mar Biol

Proportional contribution of ice algal primary production

*Euphausia superba*



Antarctic

J.A. van  
Franeker



*Eusirus laticarpus*

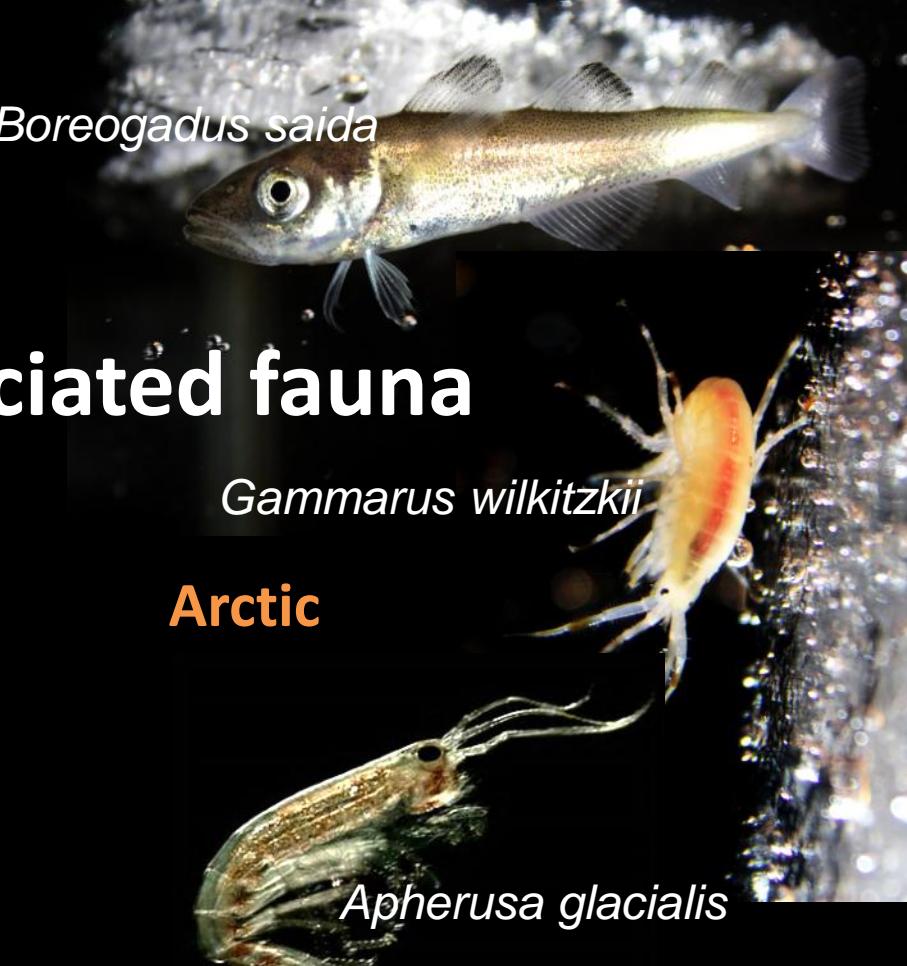
*Eusirus microps*

*Boreogadus saida*



*Gammarus wilkitzkii*

Arctic



*Apherusa glacialis*

Arcodiv.org

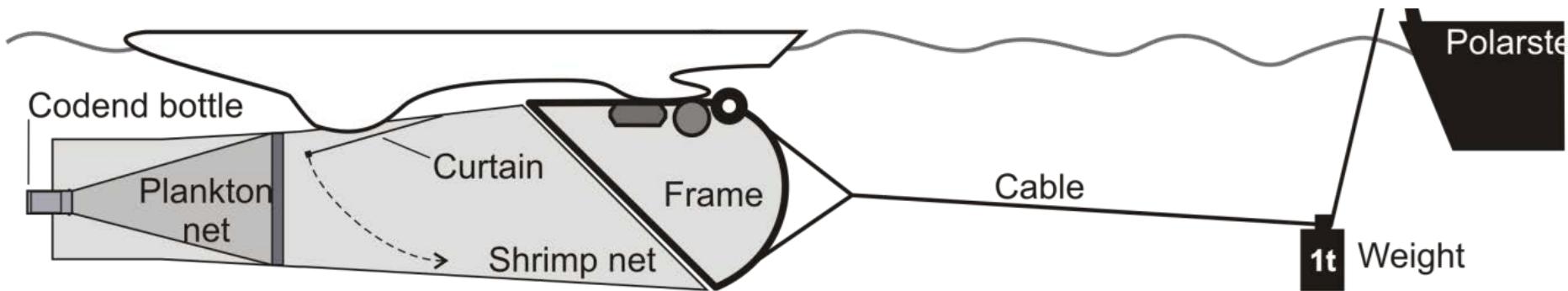
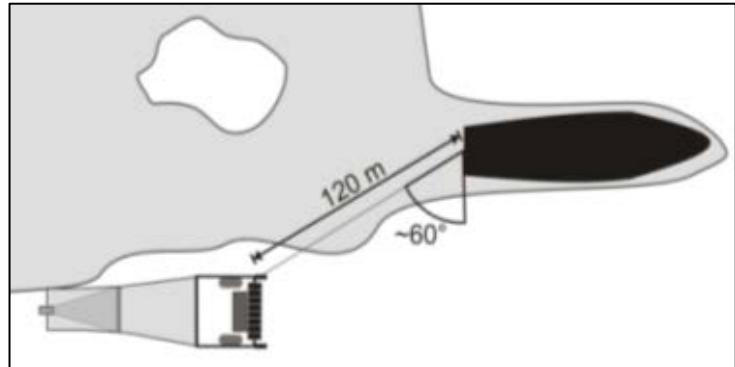
Bluhm&Gradinger UAF/CoML



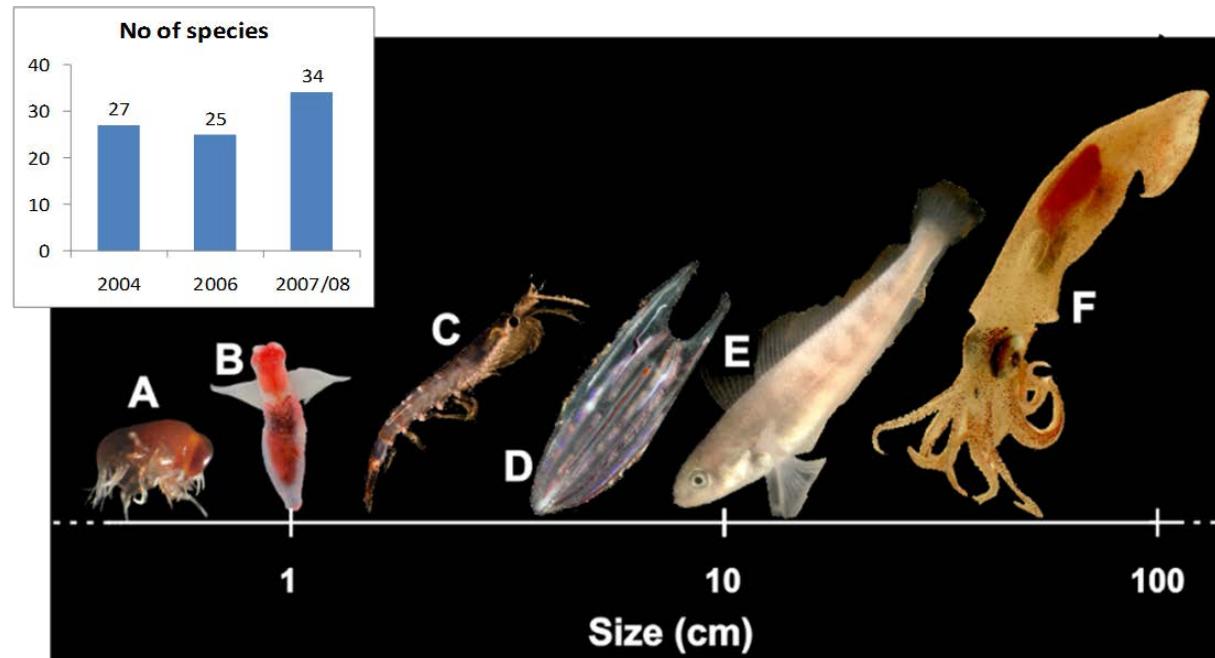
*Onissimus glacialis*

Arcodiv.org

Bluhm UAF/CoML

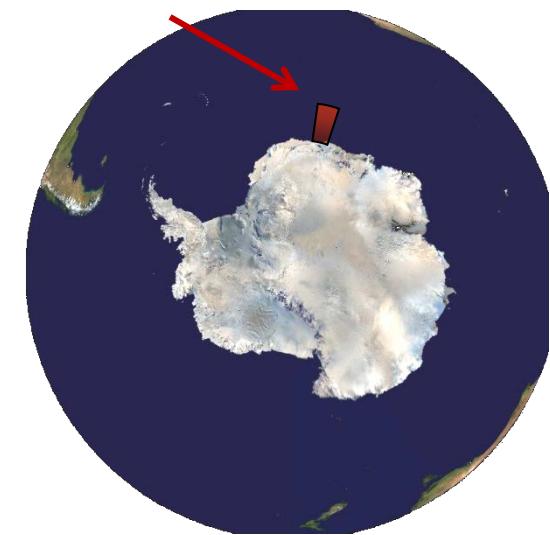


# Macrozooplankton sampled under Antarctic sea ice

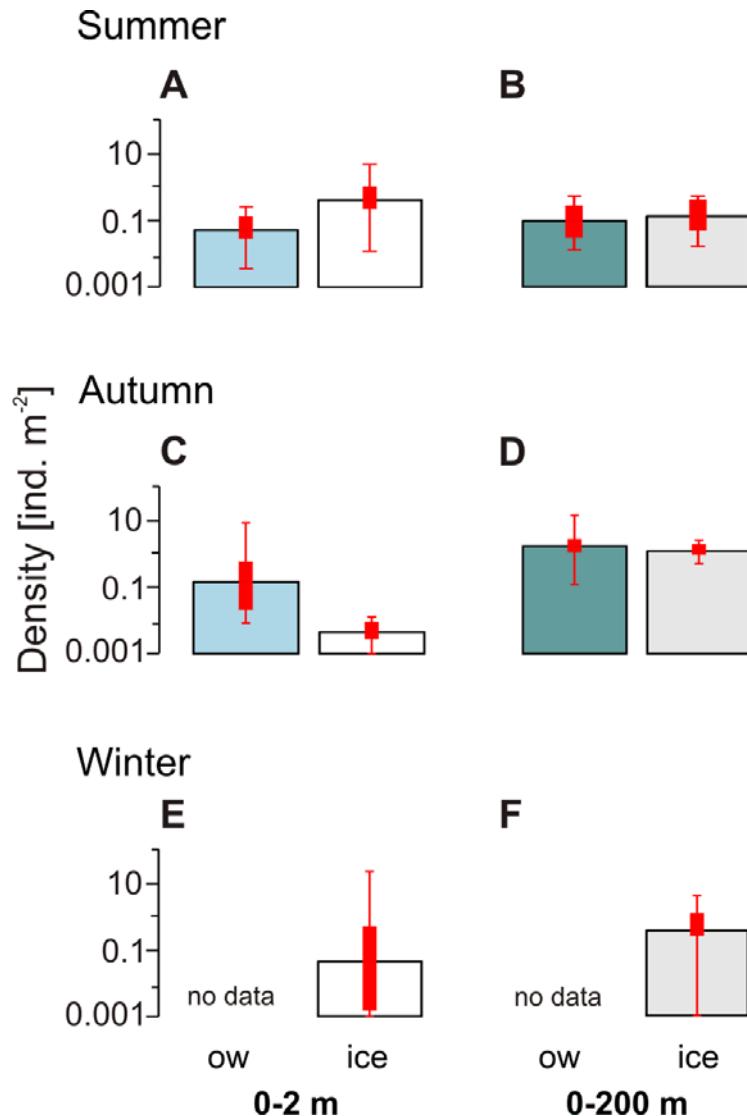


A: *Hyperiella dilatata*; B: *Clione antarctica*; C: Antarctic krill  
D: *Callianira antarctica*; E: *Aethotaxis mitopteryx*;  
F: *Slosarczykoria circumantarctica*

Lazarev Sea



# Antarctic krill under sea ice

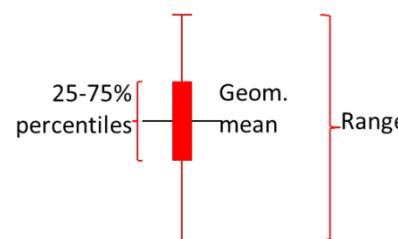


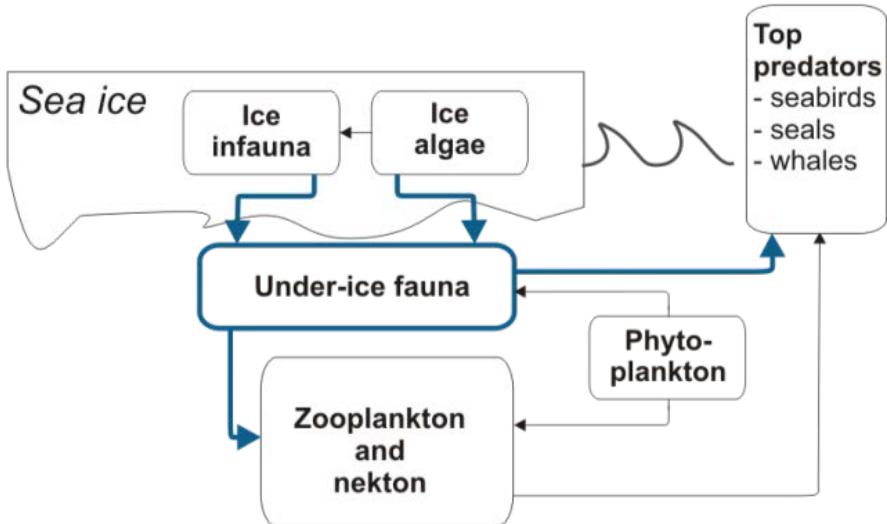
## Summer:

- Krill significant **more abundant** under ice than in ow
- Under ice per-area abundances consistently **higher** than 0-200 m abundances from pelagic nets

## Winter

- **Maximum seasonal abundances under winter sea ice**
- Local per-area **abundances far exceeded** 0-200 m abundances





## Carbon flux through sea ice food web



Ice algae  
[www.arcodiv.org](http://www.arcodiv.org)

J.A. van Franeker

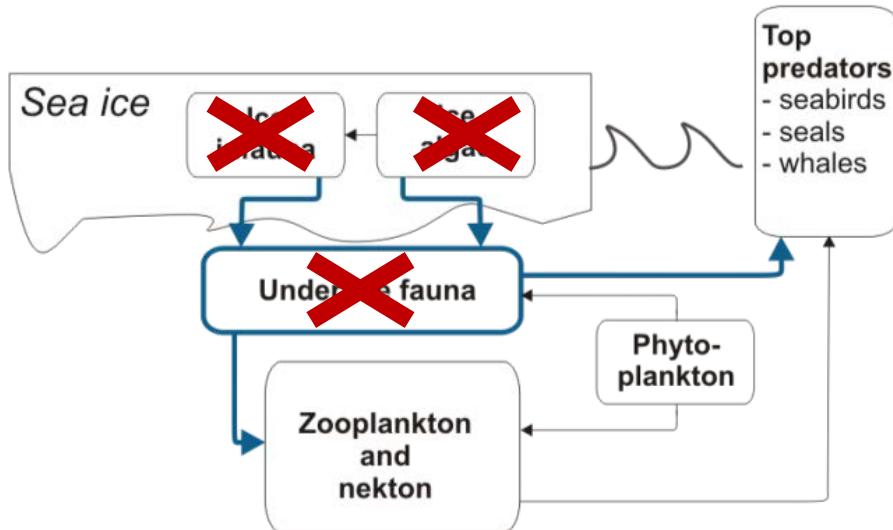
Antarctic krill



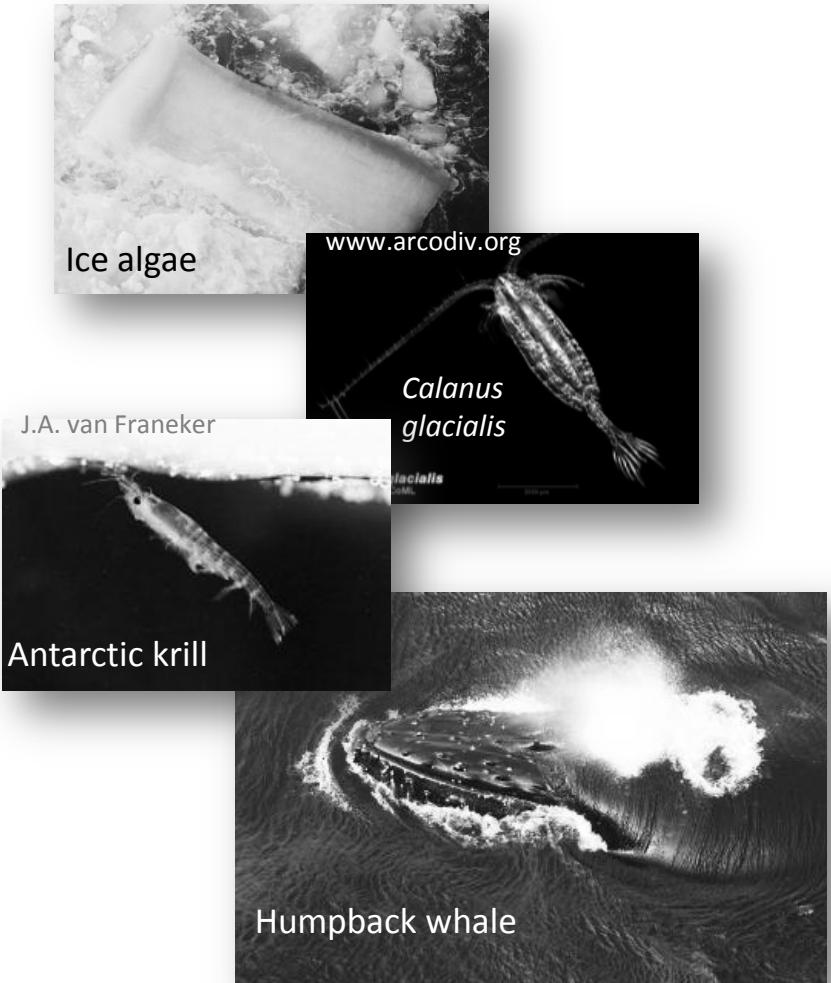
*Calanus  
glacialis*



Humpback whale



## Carbon flux through sea ice food web

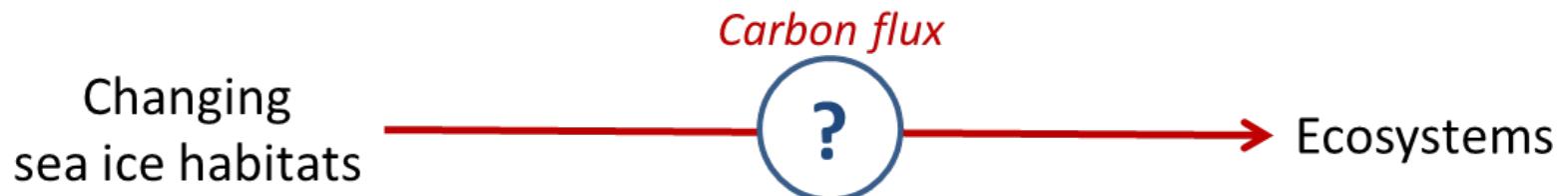




## The importance of sea ice-derived carbon in polar marine ecosystems

Hauke Flores

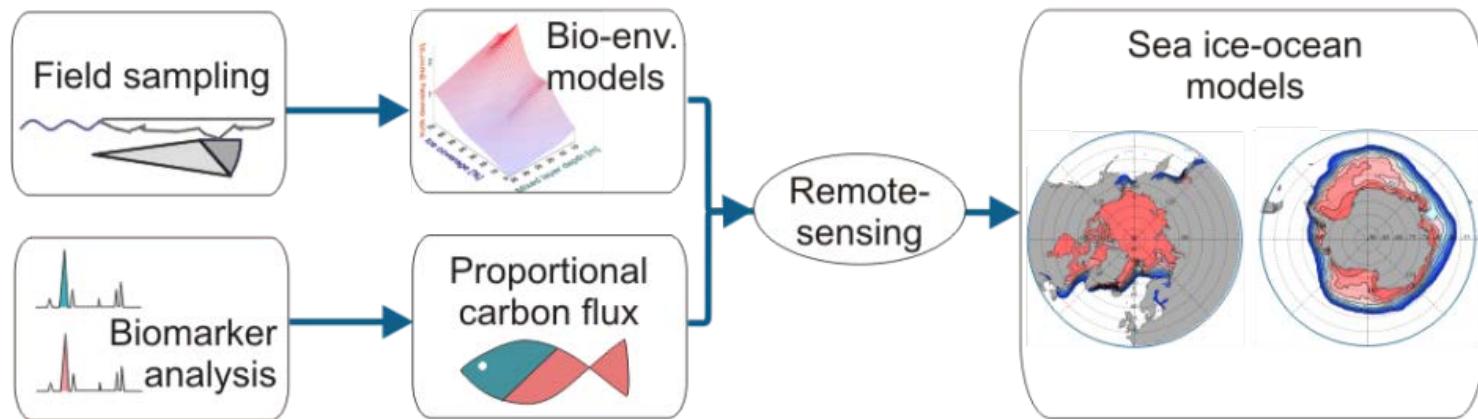
# *Iceflux approach*

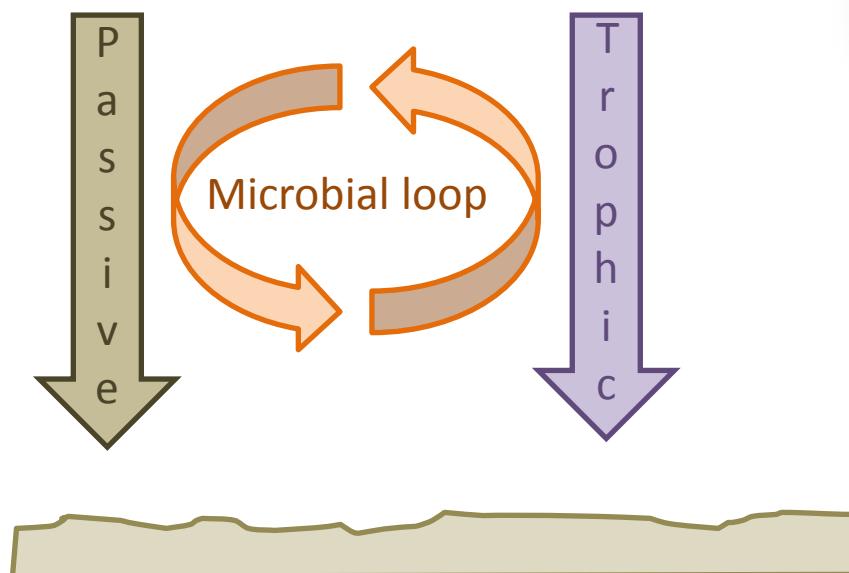
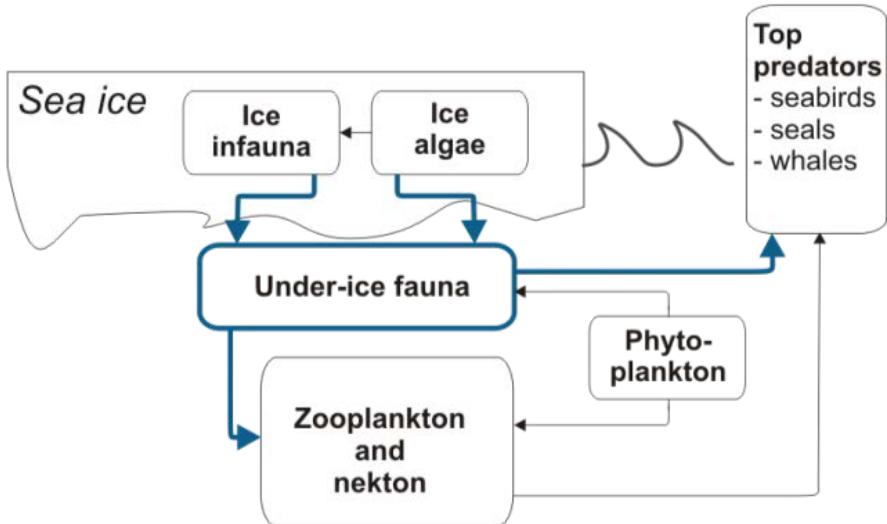


## **Objective:**

*Quantifying the flux of sea ice-derived carbon into the under-ice communities in Arctic and Antarctic ecosystems*

# *Iceflux* approach

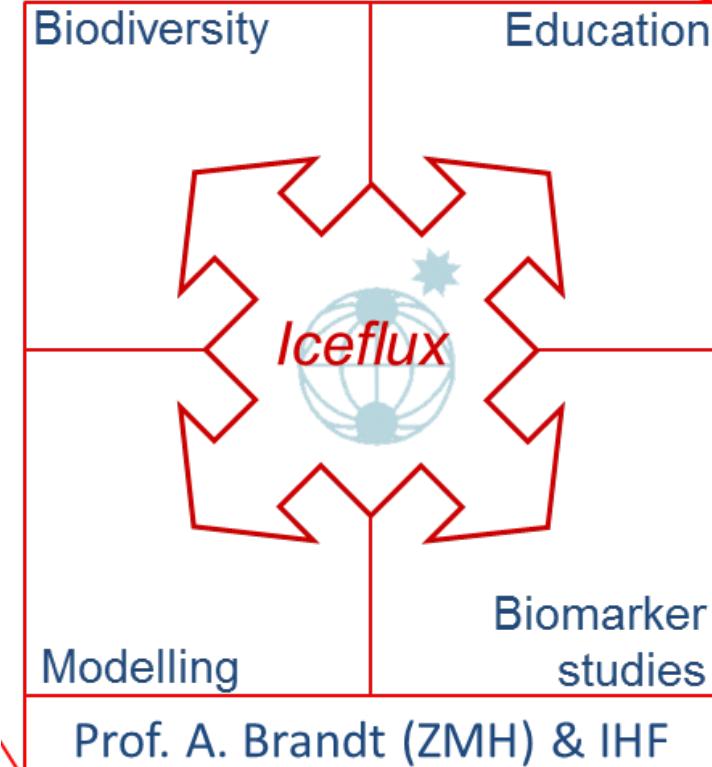






Universität Hamburg  
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

**Research projects**  
ANDEEP-SYSTCO II  
(DFG)  
KuramBio (BMBF)



**Lectures & Seminars**  
*Introduction to Biological Oceanography* (Msc, IHF)

**MSc, BSc projects**



### Maud Rise – a snapshot through the water column

A. Brandt <sup>a,\*</sup>, U. Bathmann <sup>b</sup>, S. Brix <sup>c</sup>, B. Cisewski <sup>b</sup>, H. Flores <sup>d</sup>, C. Göde <sup>e</sup>, S. Kruse <sup>b</sup>, H. Leach <sup>f</sup>, K. Linse <sup>g</sup>, E. Pakhomov <sup>h</sup>, I. Peeken <sup>b,i</sup>, T. Riehl <sup>a</sup>, I. Schrödl <sup>k</sup>, E. Schwabe <sup>k</sup>, V. Strass <sup>b</sup>, J.A. van Franeker <sup>d</sup>, E. Wilmser <sup>i</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Biocentrum Grindel and Zoological Museum, Martin-Luther-King-Platz 3, 20146 Hamburg, Germany

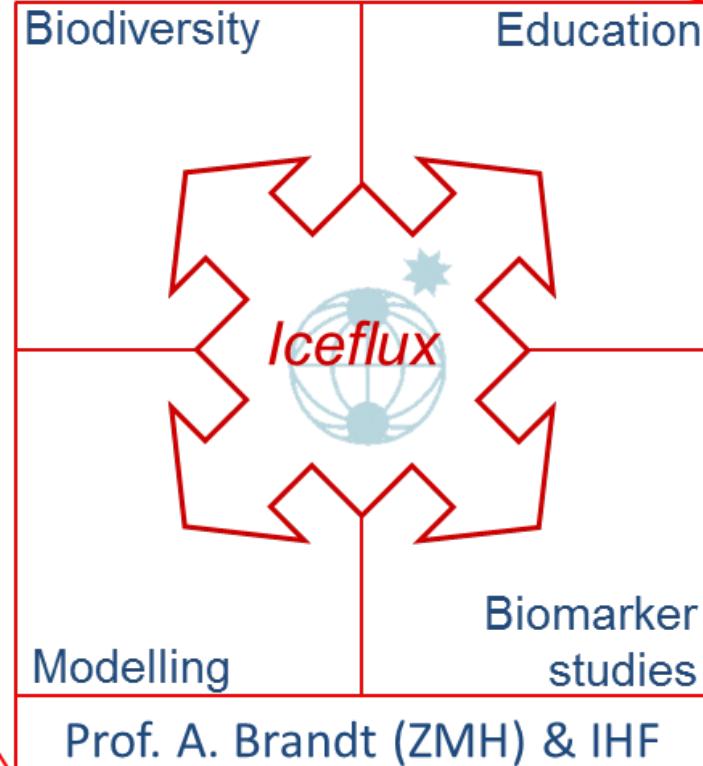
<sup>b</sup> AWI: Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, Germany

<sup>c</sup> Deutsches Zentrum für Marine Biodiversitätsforschung, Senckenberg, Hamburg, Germany

<sup>d</sup> Institute for Marine Resources and Ecosystem Studies (IMARES), P.O. Box 167, 1790 AD Den Burg, The Netherlands



Universität Hamburg  
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG



## Collaboration AG Brandt

*Taxonomy*

*Biodiversity studies*

*Cryo-benthic coupling*

*Museum samples*

*Education*

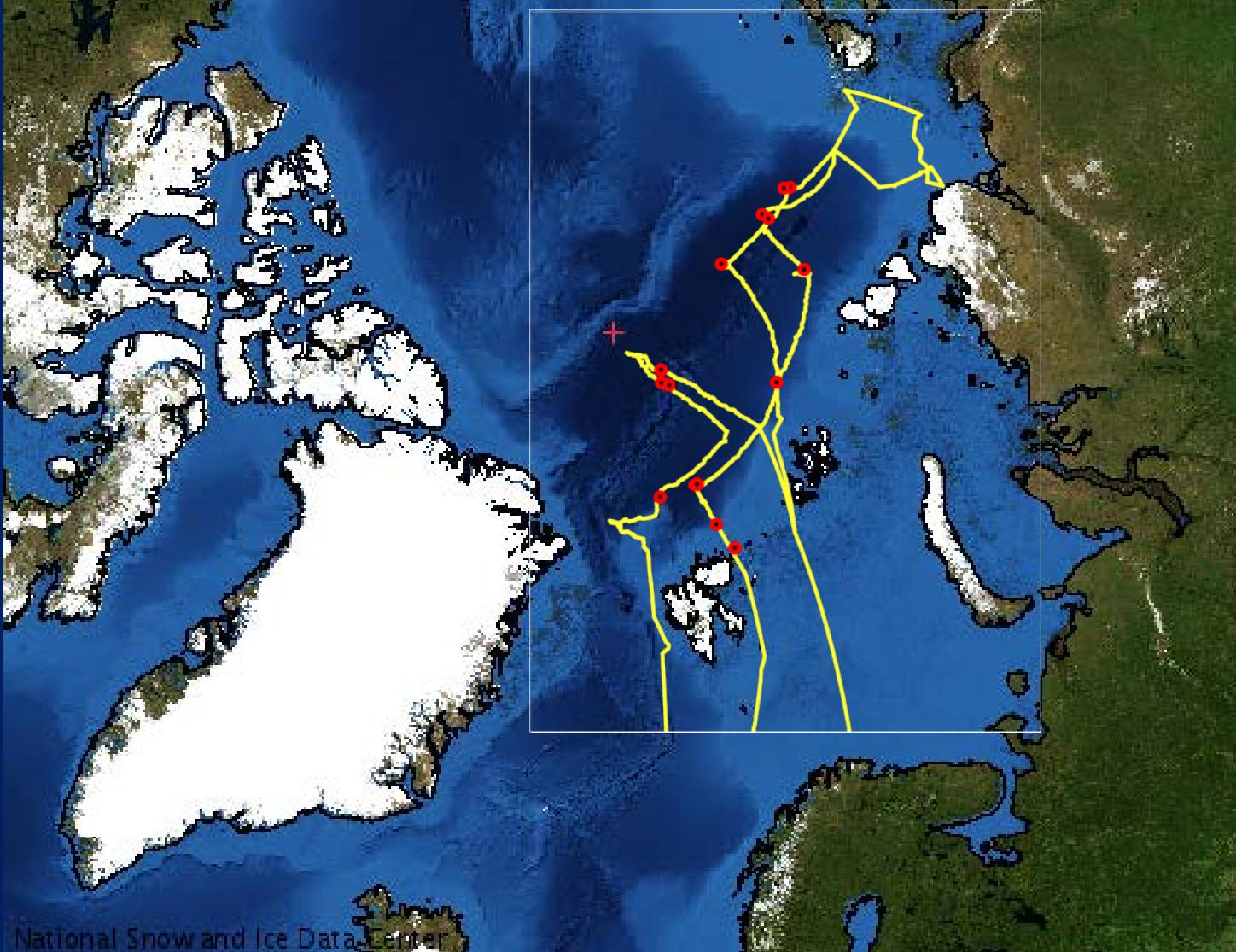
## Other possible collaborations

*Trophic studies (FA, SI)*

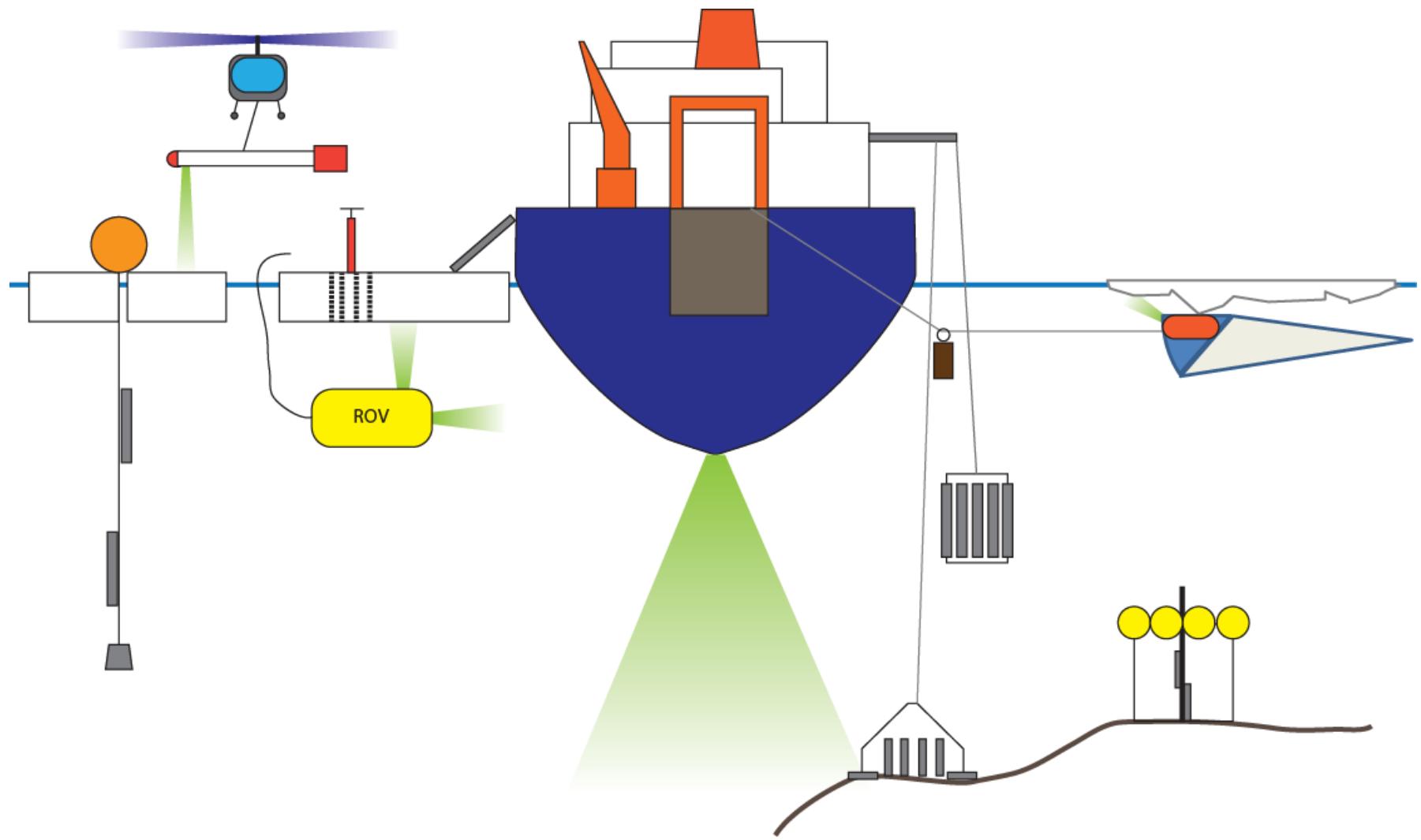
*Habitat modeling*

*Zooplankton ecology*

**ARK XXVII/3 „IceARC“**  
**02.08. – 08.10.2012**



# Multi-disciplinary surveys



# Ice station





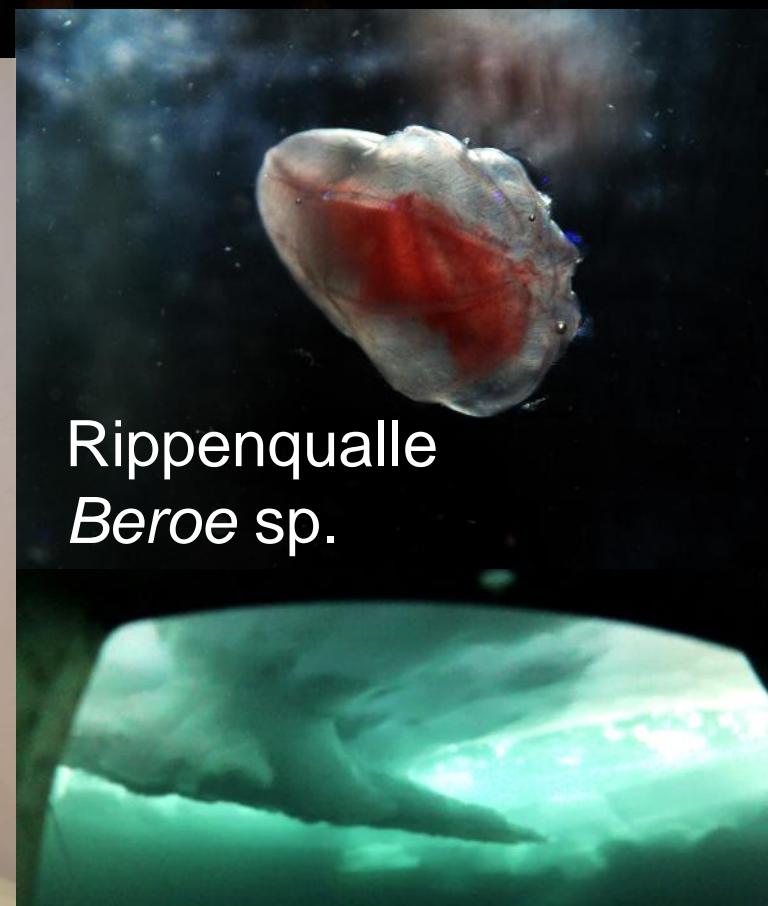
Flügelschnecke  
*Clione limacina*



Polarcods

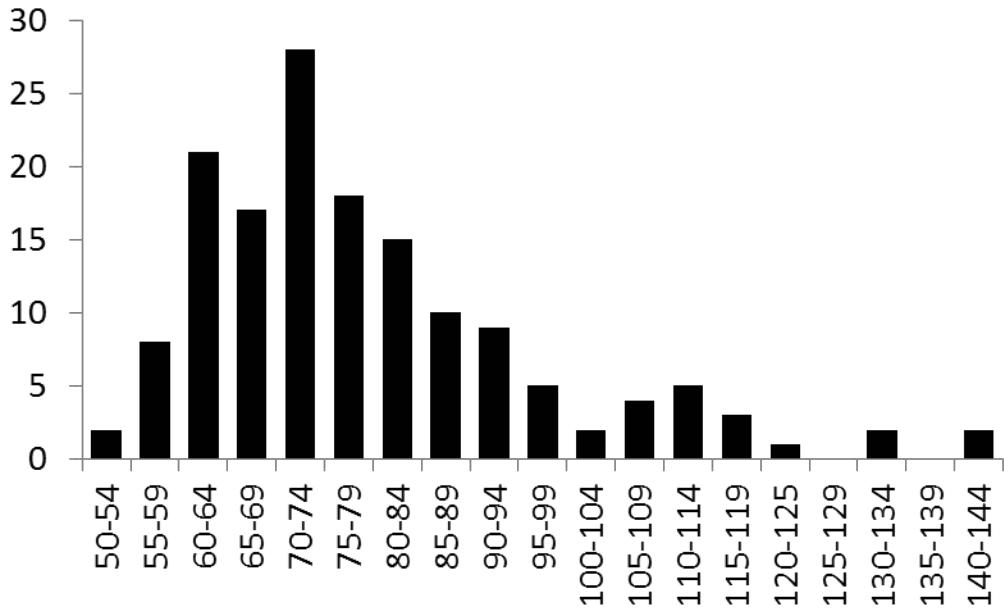


Flohkrebs  
*Gammarus wilkitzkii*

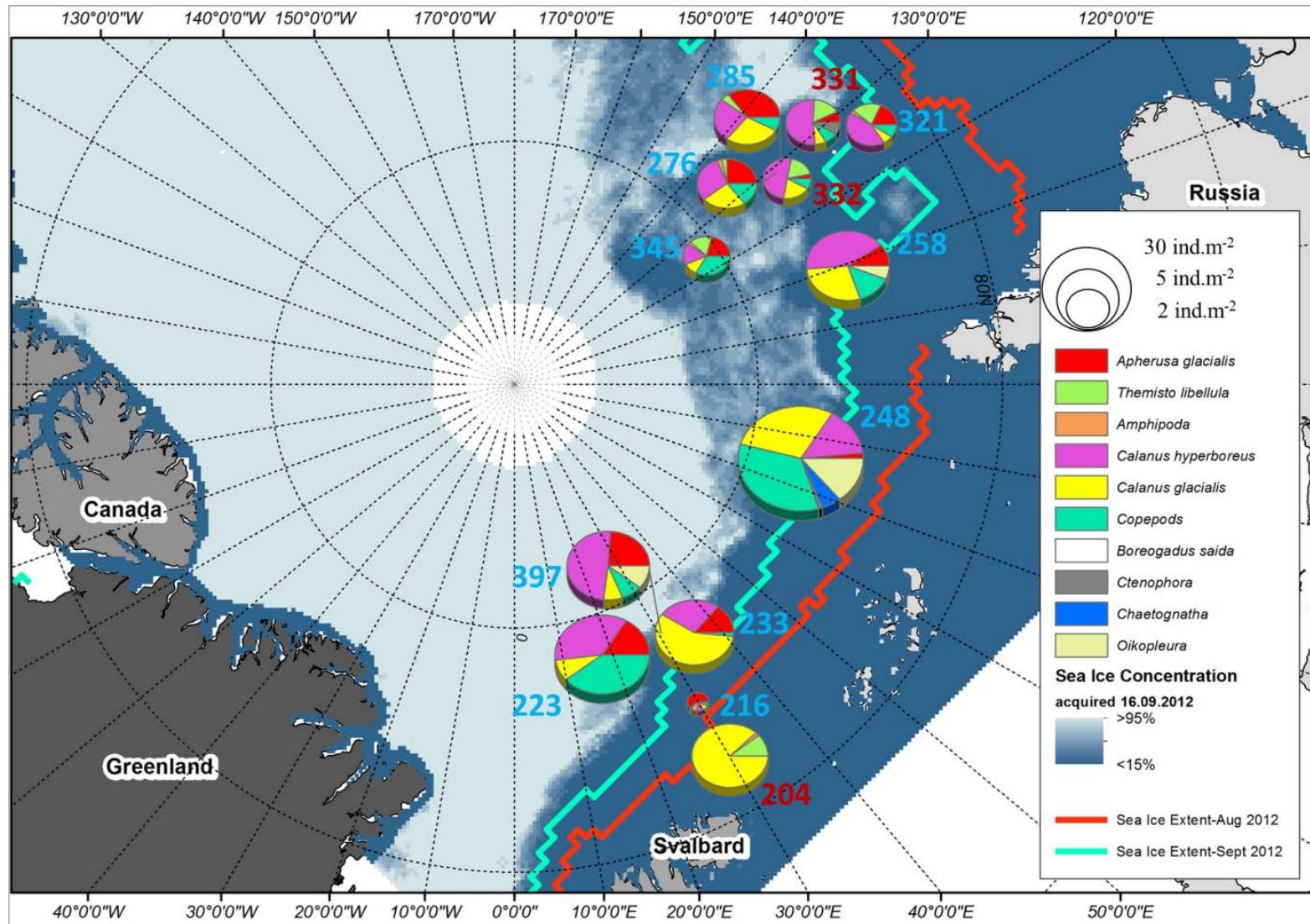


Rippenqualle  
*Beroe* sp.

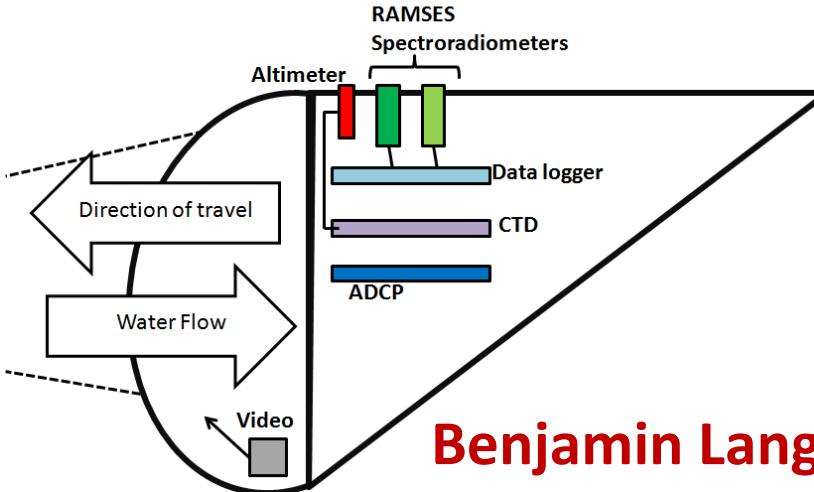
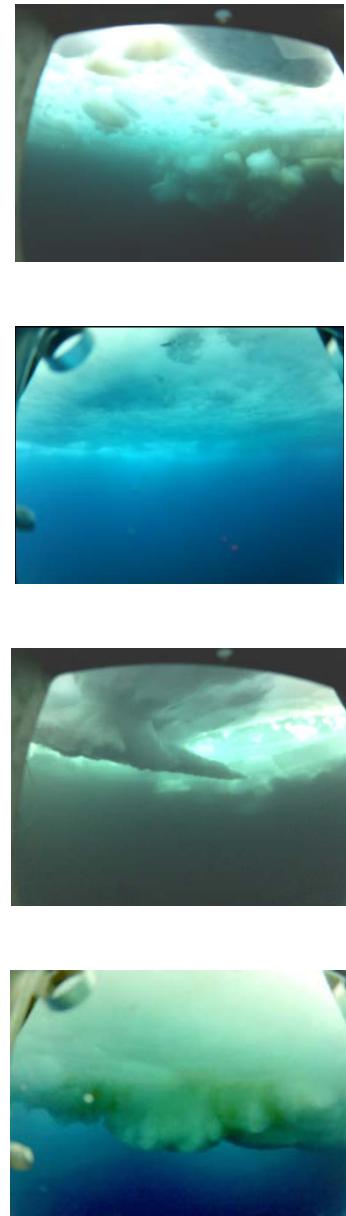
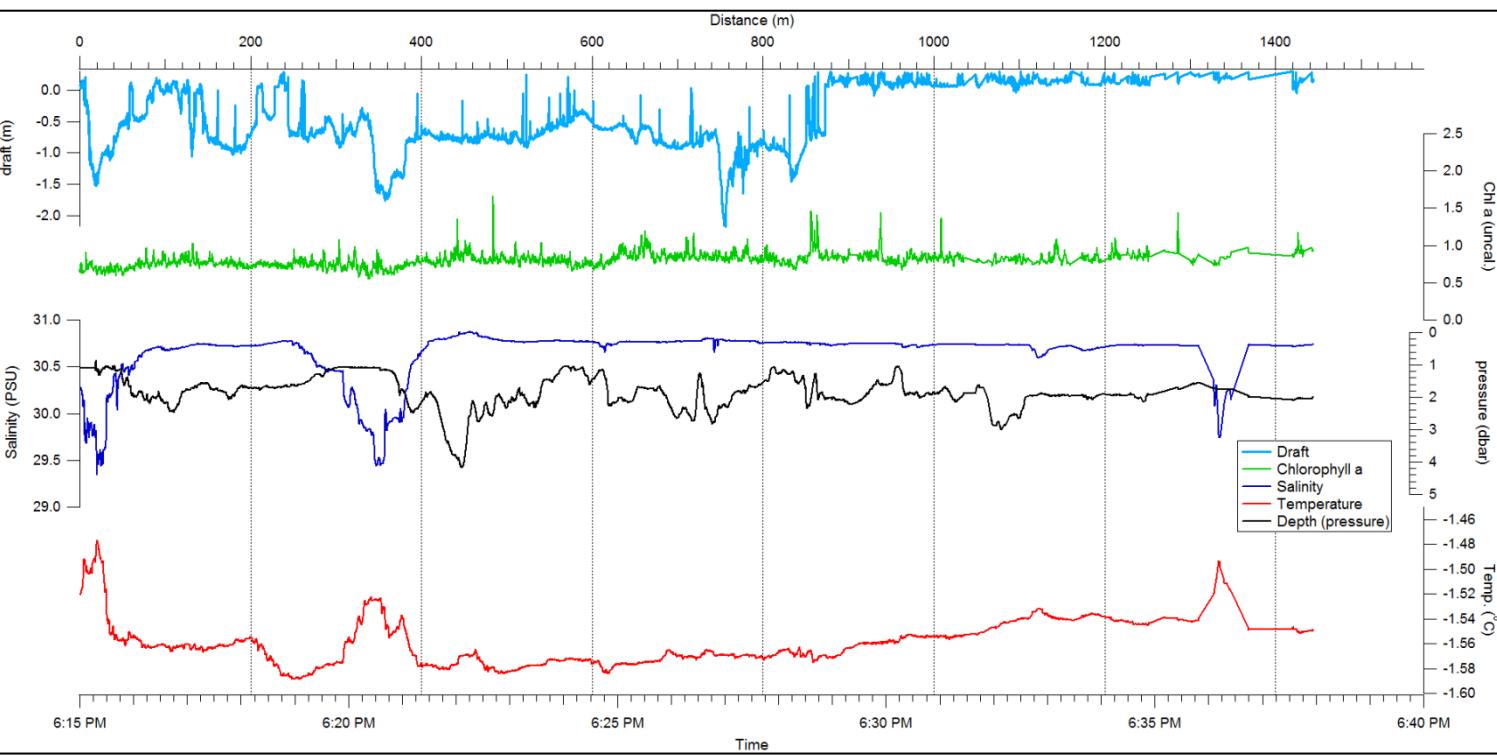
# Polar cod



# Community composition

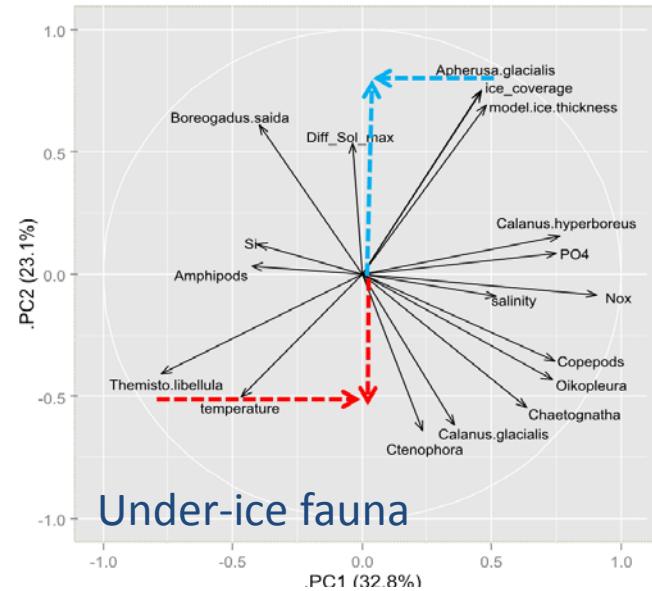
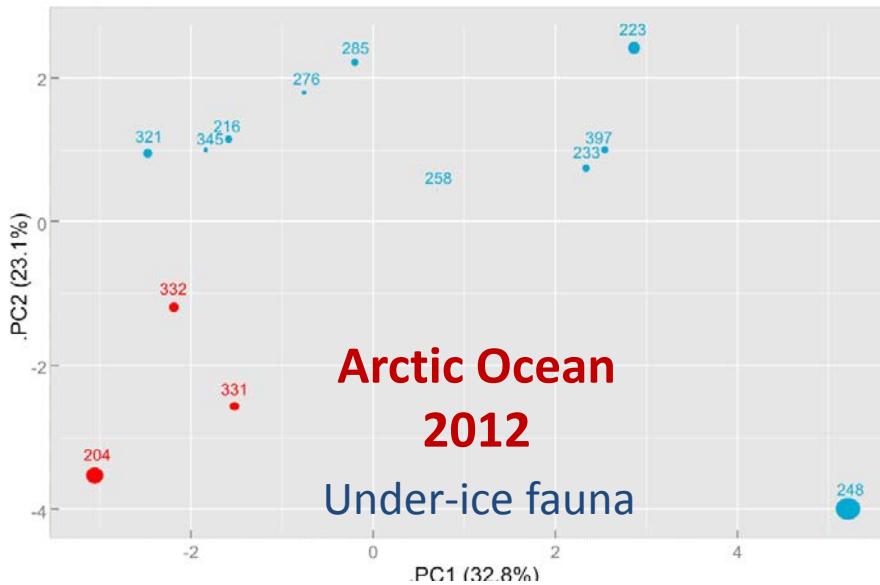


# Linking data



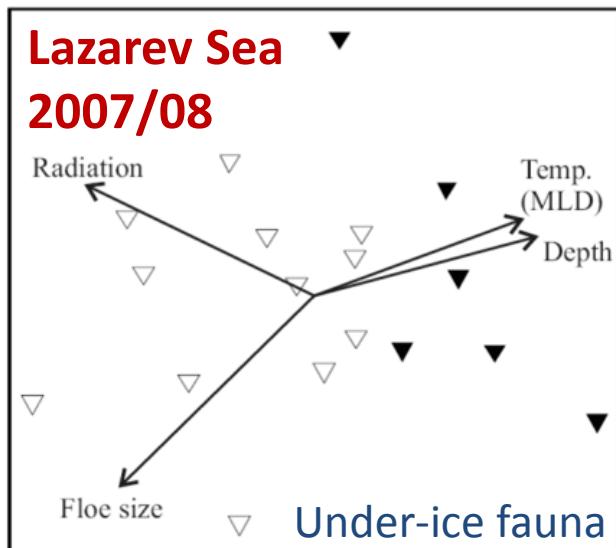
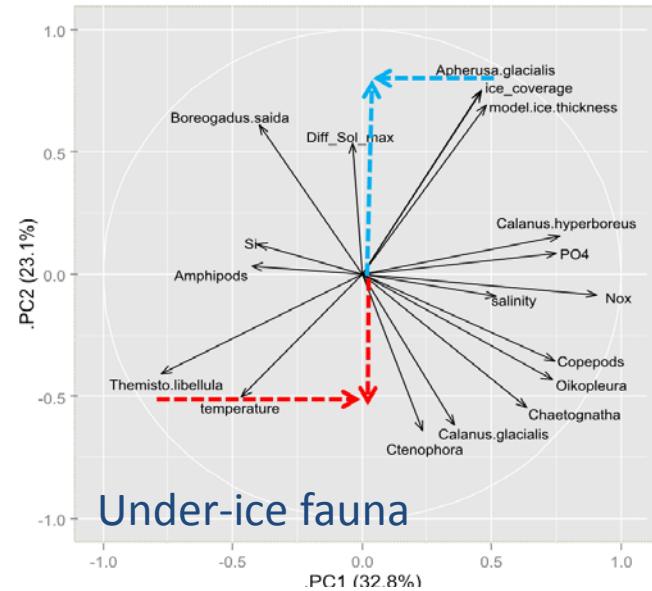
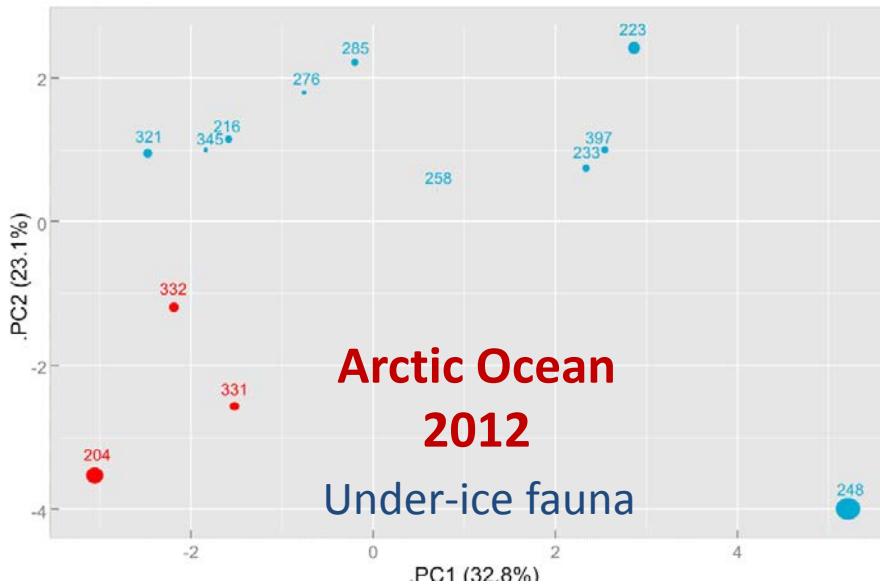
Benjamin Lange

# Linking data



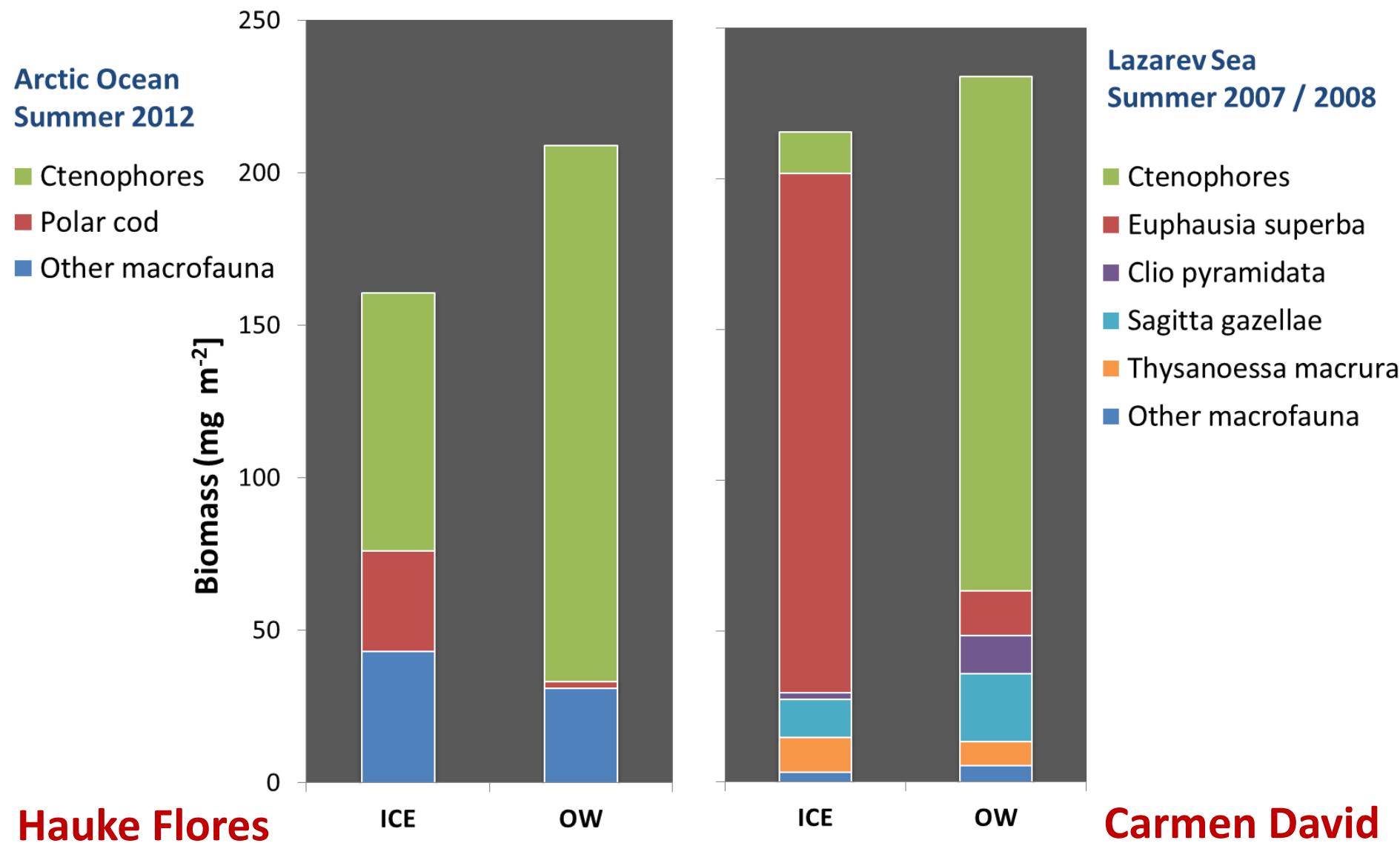
Carmen David

# Linking data



Carmen David

# Biomass comparison



# Conclusions

- The Antarctic under-ice habitat hosts an **abundant and diverse community**
- Antarctic krill is particularly associated with sea ice nearly year-round
- In the Arctic Ocean, a similarly diverse under-ice community exists throughout the “low productive” central basins
- Arctic cod and Antarctic krill may play **similar key roles** in transferring carbon from sea ice into the pelagic food web
- In both Polar Regions, sea ice-associated **key species** are threatened by rapidly changing habitats, with possible ramifications for ecosystem structure





Thank you.

Hauke.flores@awi.de

SUIT on-deck crew, *Polarstern* ARK XXVII/3