

**REAL TIME PLANKTON MONITORING IN  
CHESAPEAKE BAY: ADVANCED IMAGING AND DEEP  
LEARNING ILLUMINATE MESOPELAGIC IN SHALLOW WATER**

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Center for Environmental Science

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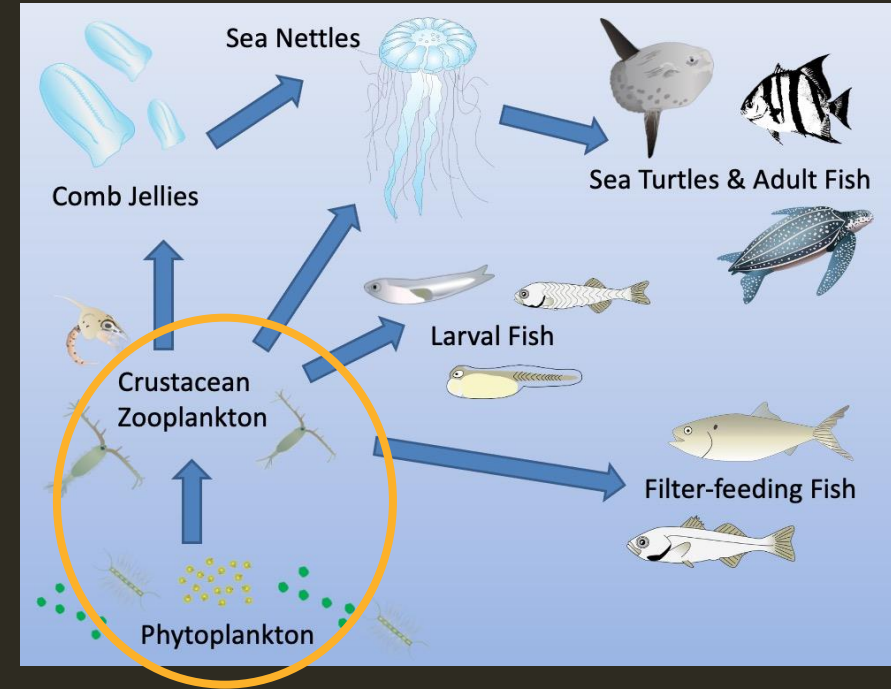
4

**Conclusion**

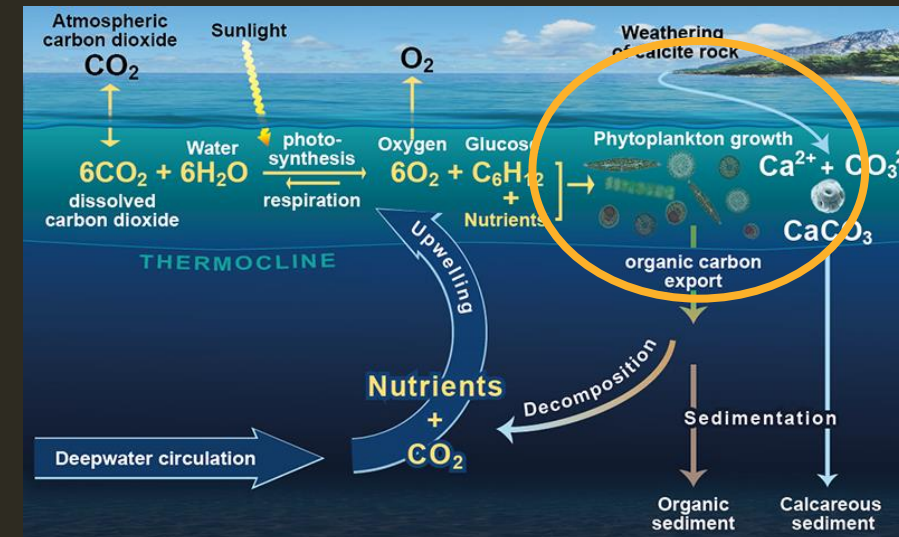


# IMPORTANCE OF PLANKTON

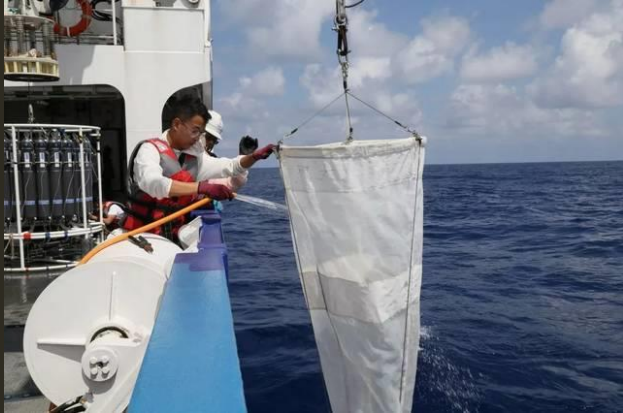
- Base for the marine food web
  - Ichthyoplankton & forage fish, e.g., critical period hypothesis
  - Affecting global fisheries
  - Ecosystem structure and functions, e.g., junk-food hypothesis
- Critical for ocean carbon pump and climate change
- Excellent indicators for integrated ecosystem and climate assessment



Source: IAN



# Plankton Sampling



## Net sampling

Discrete in time

Integrative in space



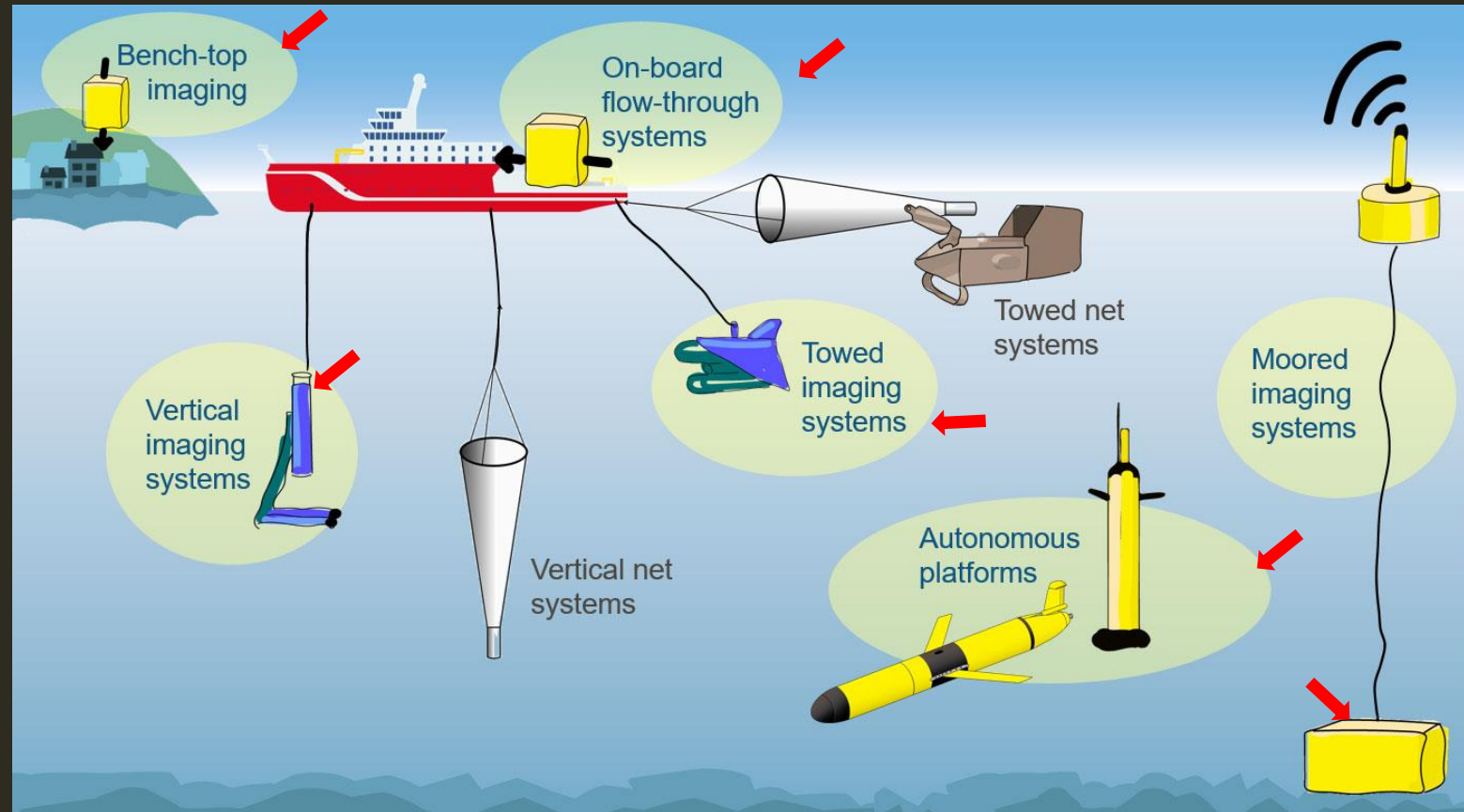
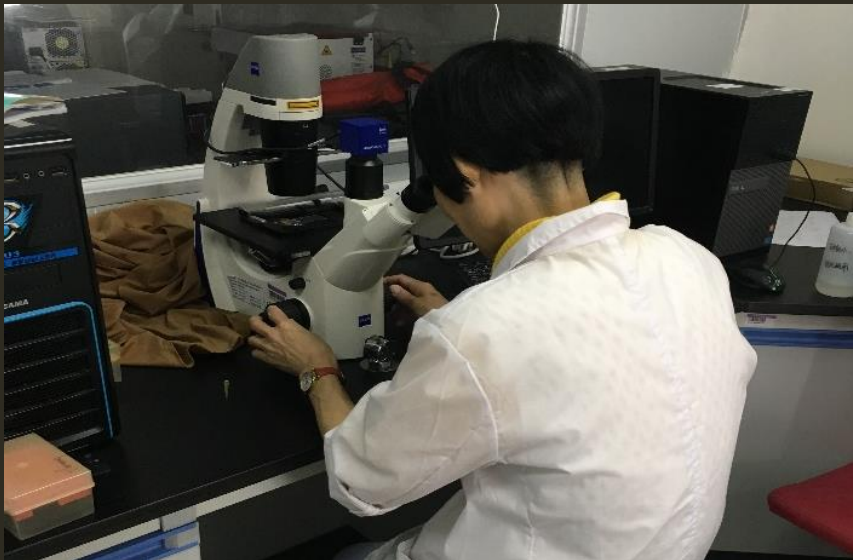
## In situ imaging system

- No clogging or reduced filtering efficiency
- Nonintrusive, no damage to fragile organisms
- High spatial and temporal resolution
- Simultaneous measurements on a suite of plankton groups
- Size, behavior, bloom status etc.



# Traditional Sampling — time lag

Giering et al. 2022, FMS



**Net sampling**

**Discrete in time**

**Integrative in space**

**Traditional sample processing**

**Laborious**

**Time consuming**

02

**PART TWO**

PlanktonScope

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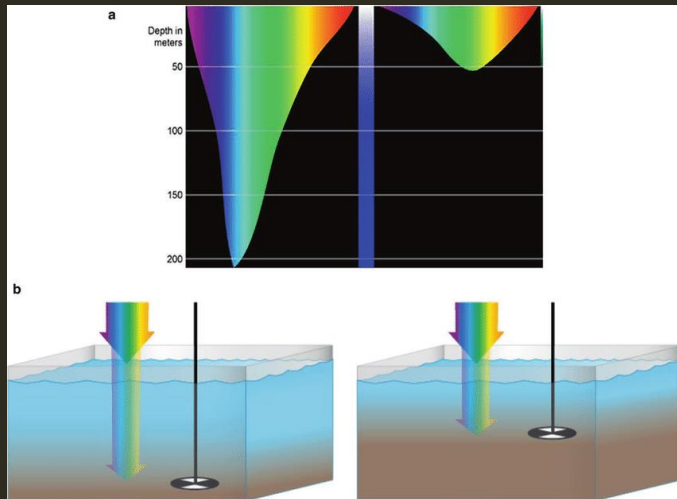
Image Analysis

# PLANKTONSCOPE

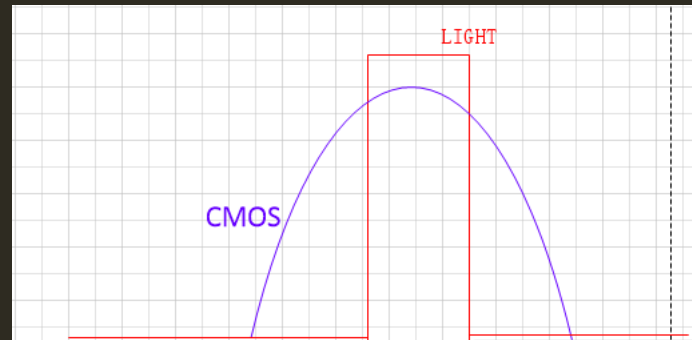
- A shadowgraph imaging system  
Self contained & battery powered
- Red LED pulse mode
  - High turbidity
  - Motion blurry



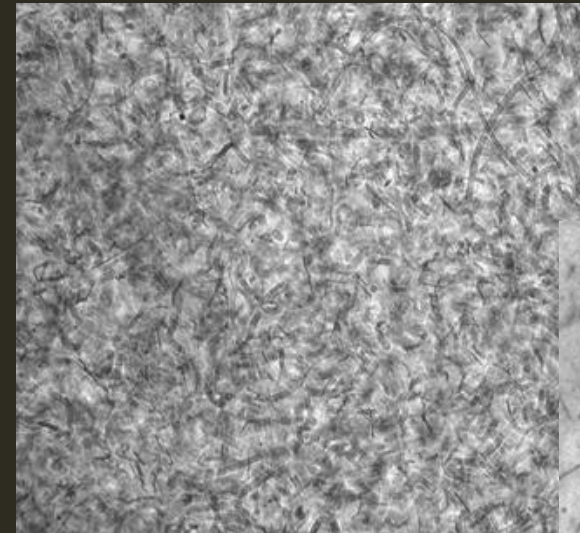
Bi et al. 2013 JPR  
Song et. 2020 Ecol Ind  
Liu et al. 2021 Limnol and Oceanol. sinica  
Bi et al. 2022 JSR  
Bi et al. 2024 LOM



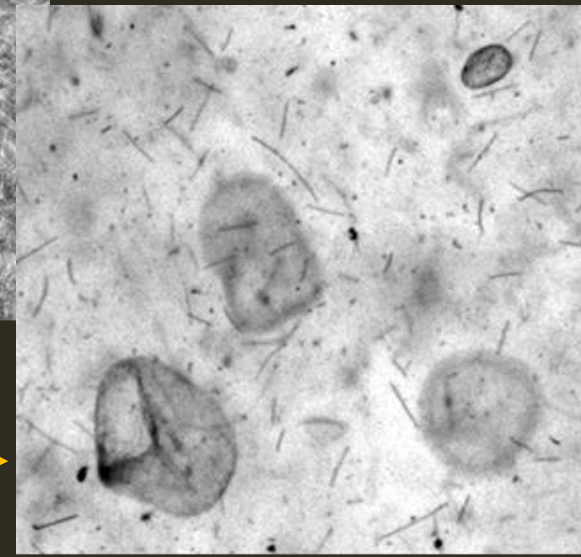
Mascarenhas & Keck 2018



1. Pulse mode, high intensity
2. Fast exposure to overcome motion blurry

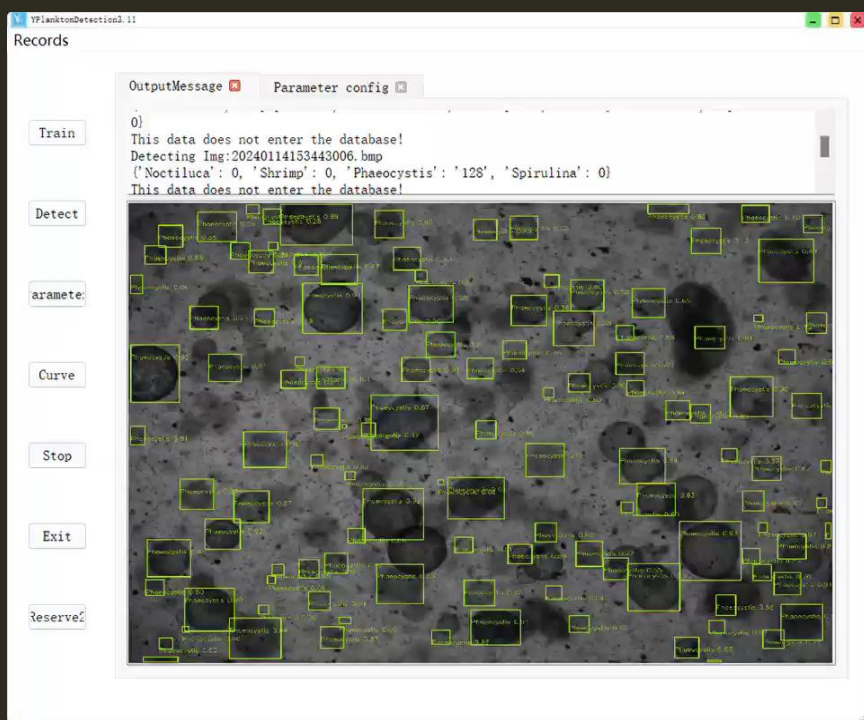


← 10μs

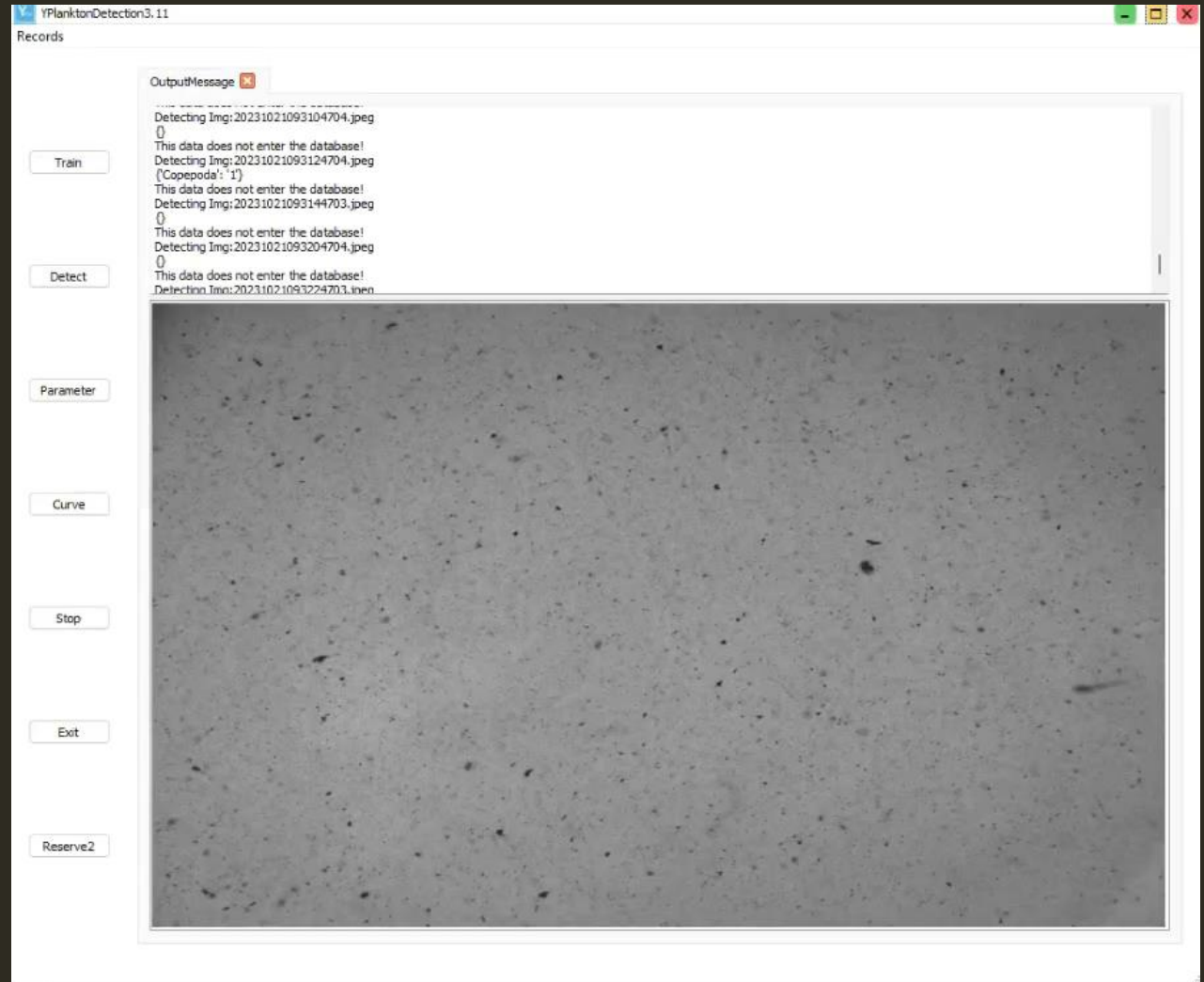
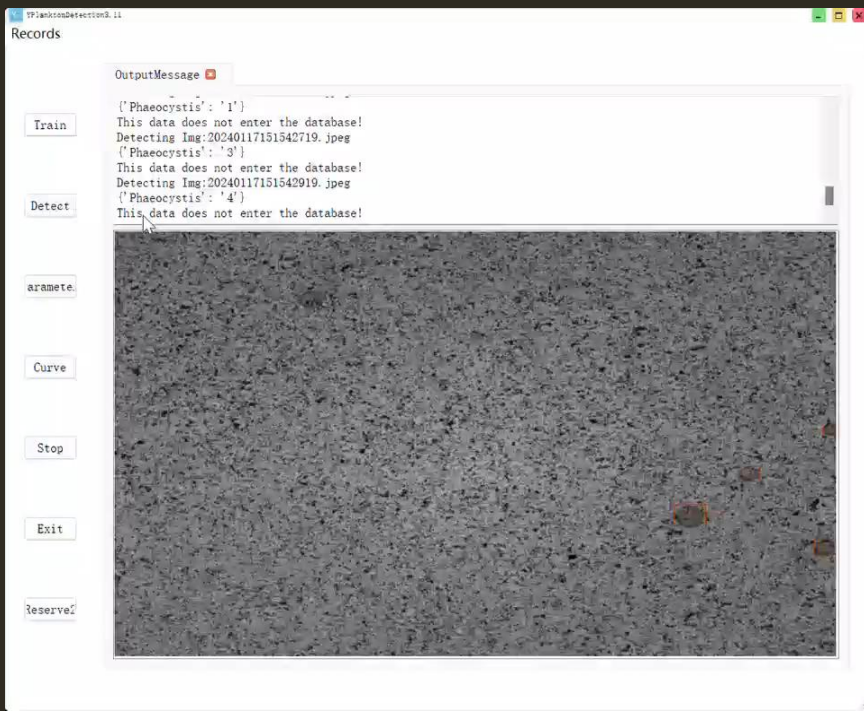


1μs →





1. High turbidity imaging
  2. Rapid image processing
- ~900,000 images in 24 hrs

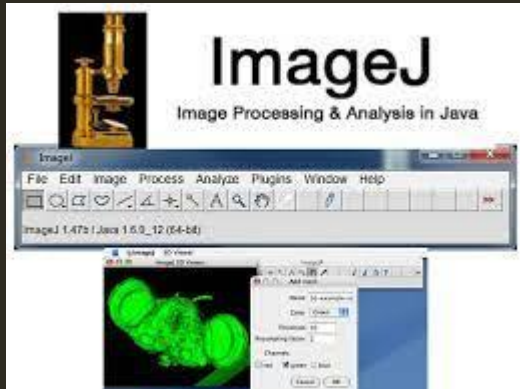
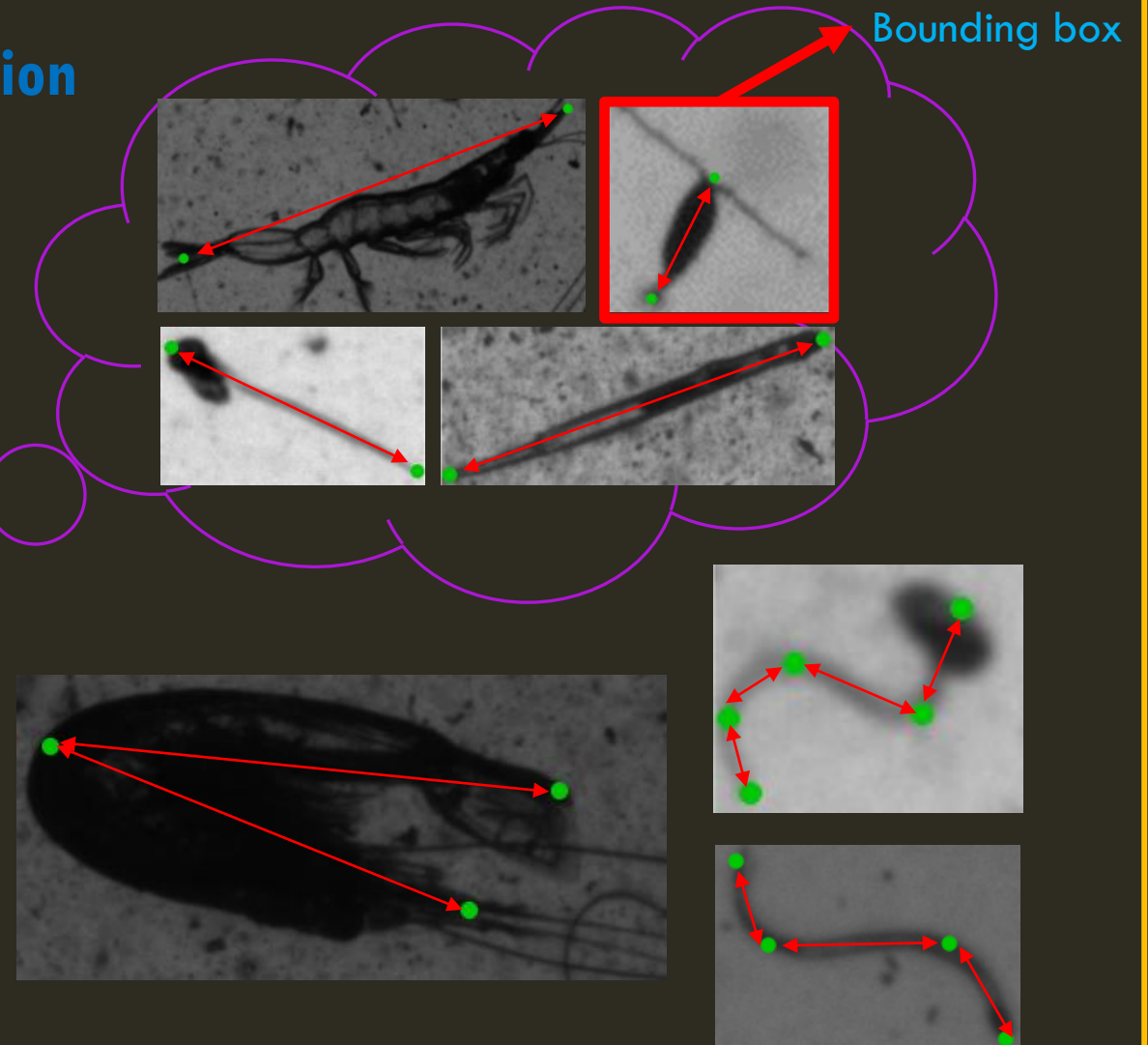




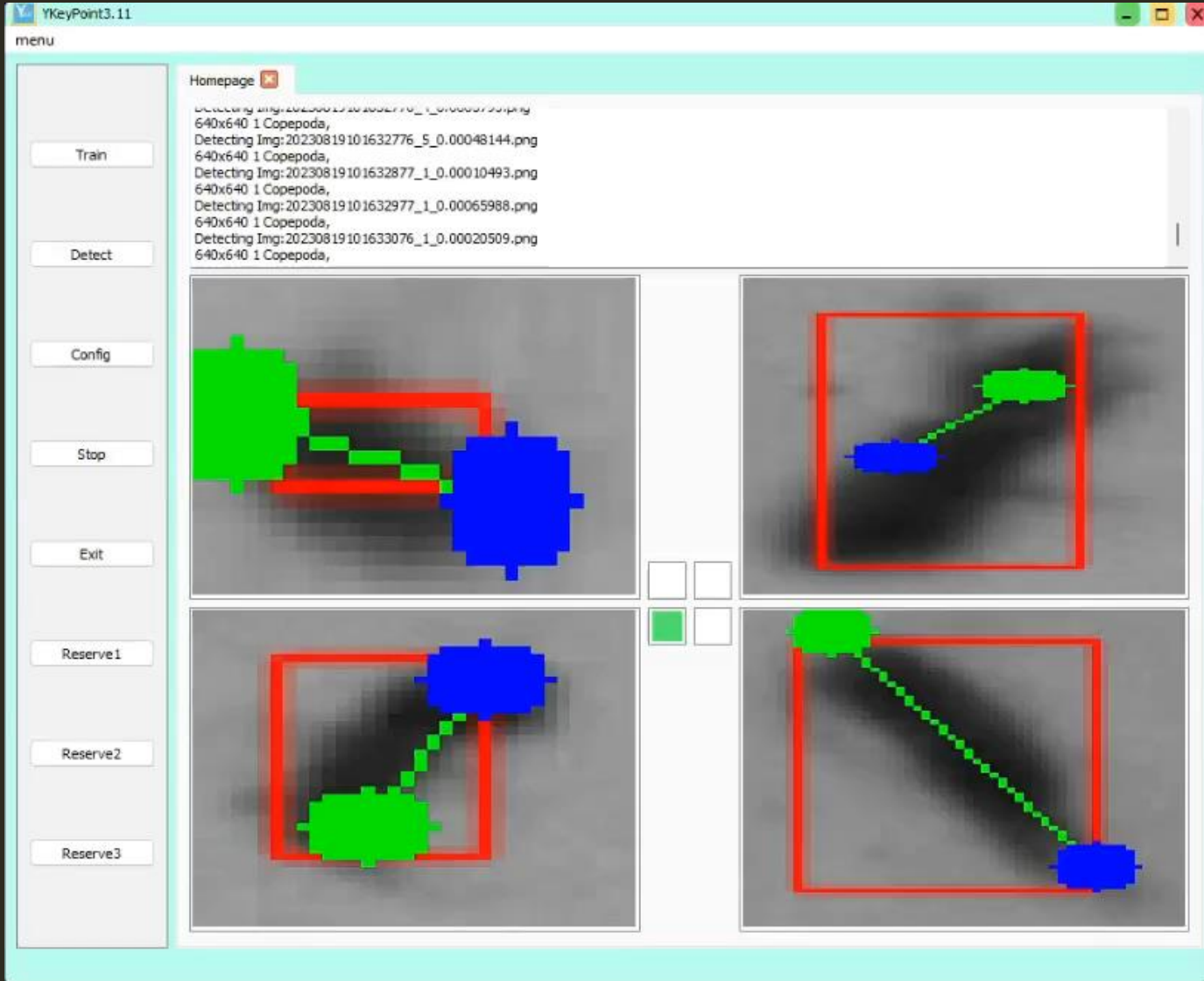
# Size measurement

Zhang et al. 2024 Front Mar Sci

## Human Key points Detection



Animated biology with arpan



	True value (ImageJ)	Measured value (Key point)	Difference
	A	B	G
91	15.70211	16.17	0.029798
92	28.12548	28.71	0.020782
93	33.75	34	0.007407
94	22.94754	23.3	0.015359
95	28.18499	28.85	0.023594
96	32.60383	31.77	0.025575
97	22.1109	22.89	0.035236
98	33.38345	33.75	0.01098
99	23.4375	23.27	0.007147
100	23.44265	23.54	0.004153
101			0.023422

Mean error : 2.34%

# 03

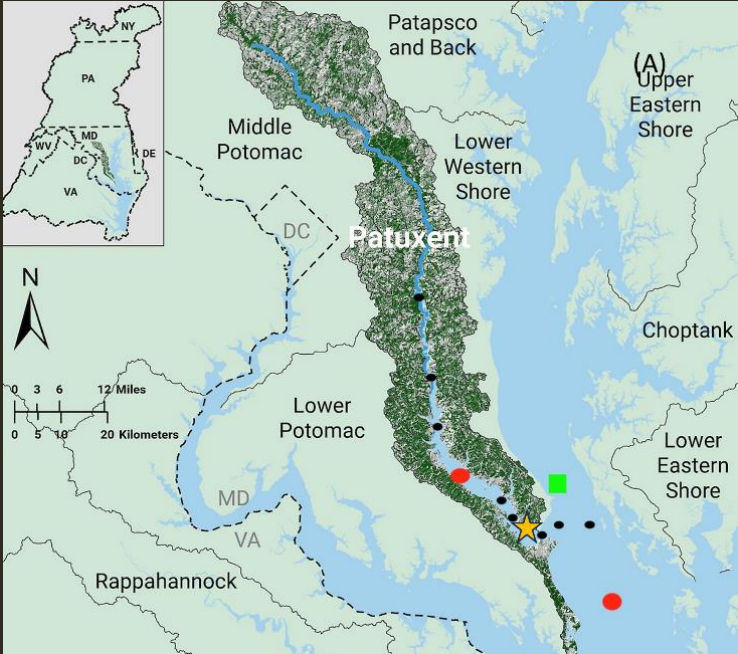
**PART THREE**

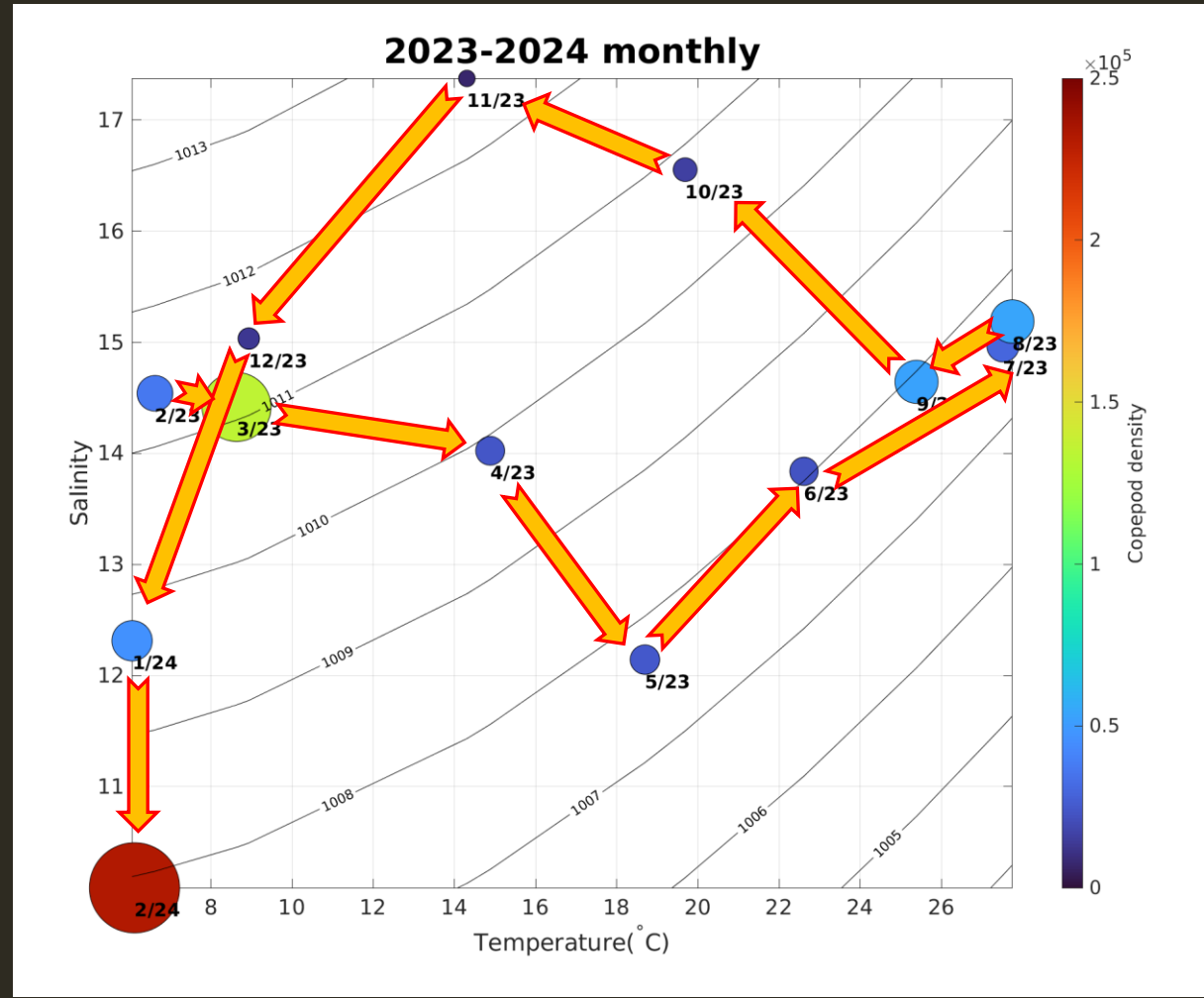
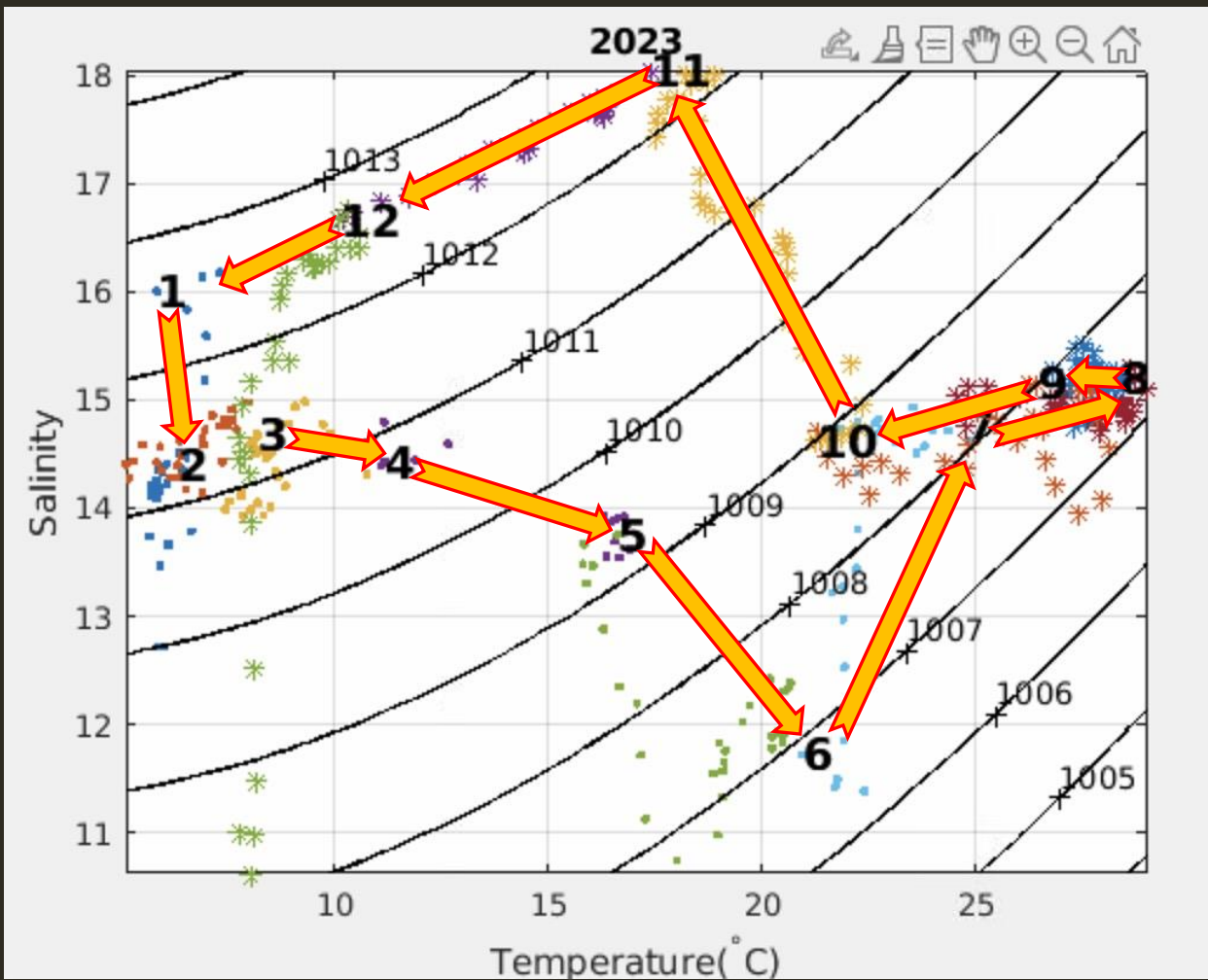
**Deployment**

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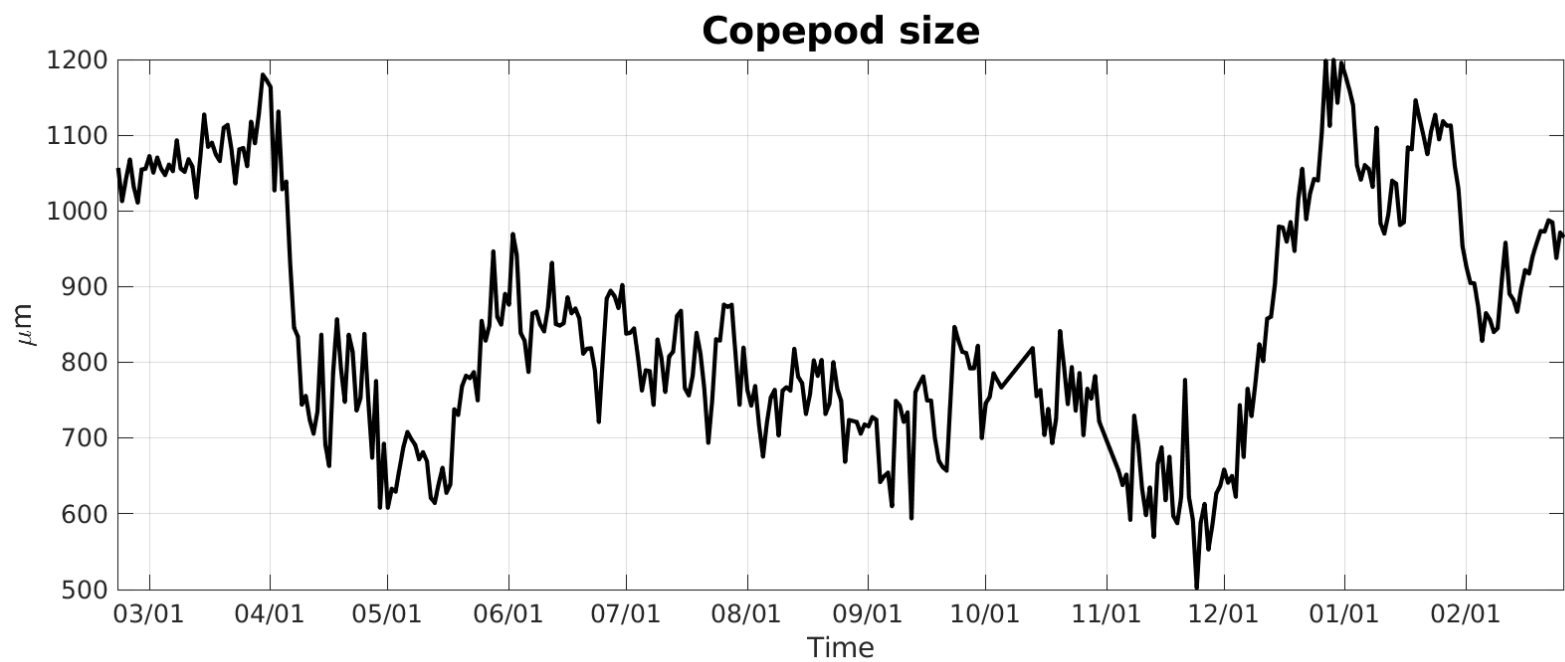
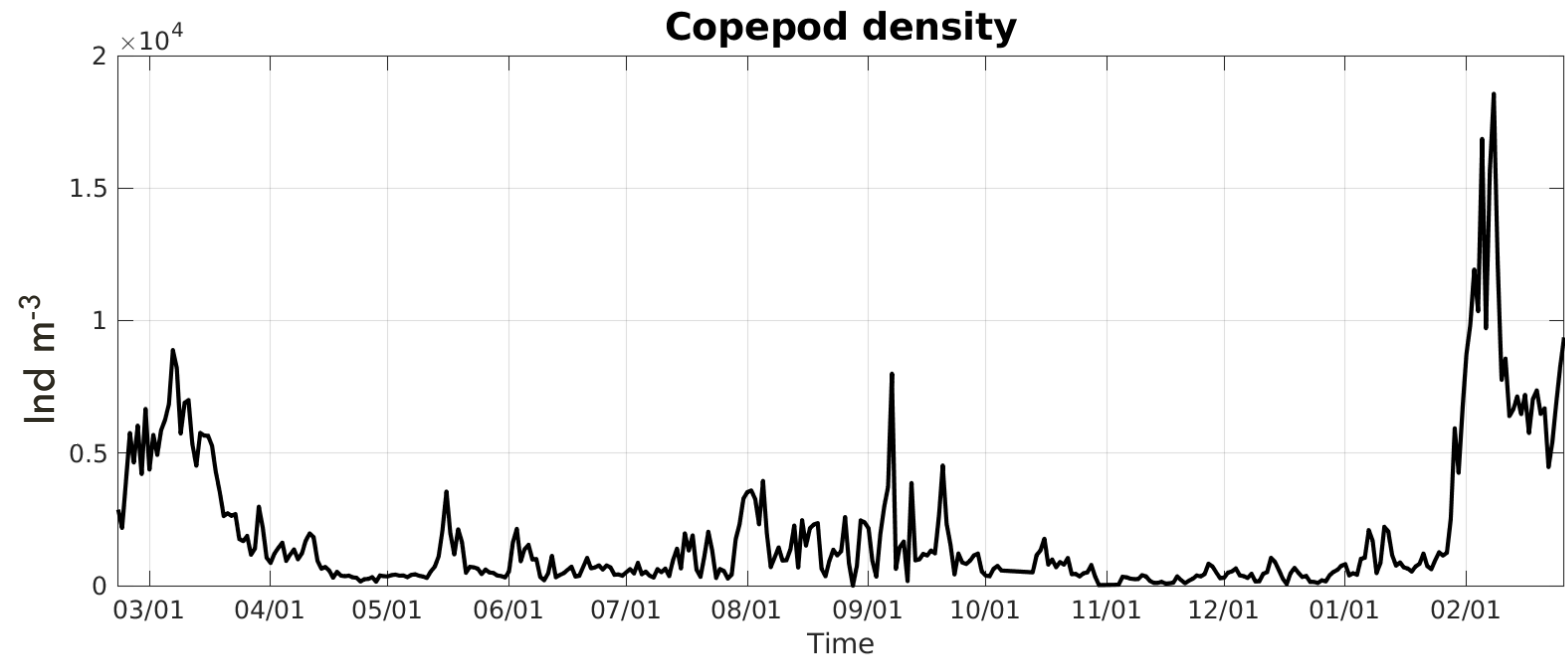
**Plankton dynamics**



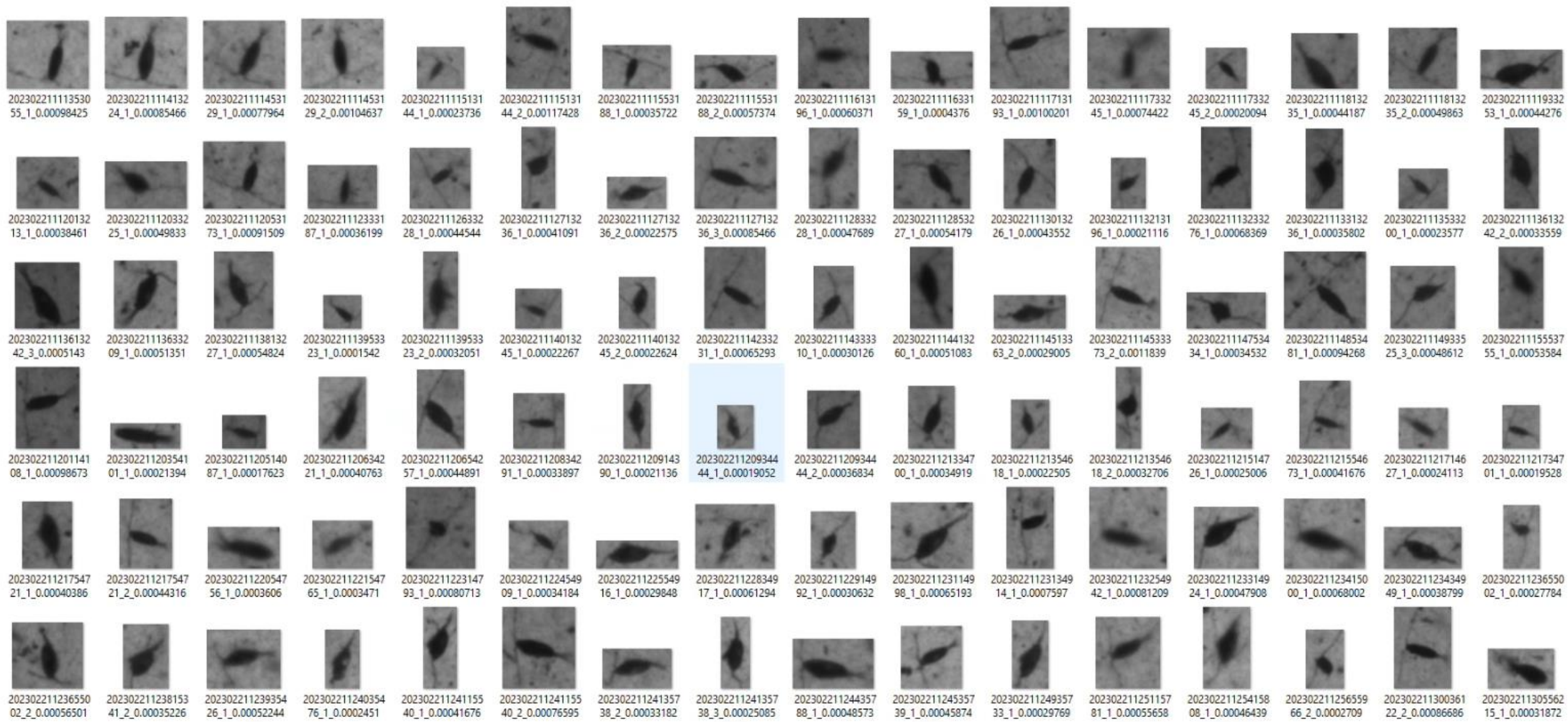


























































































































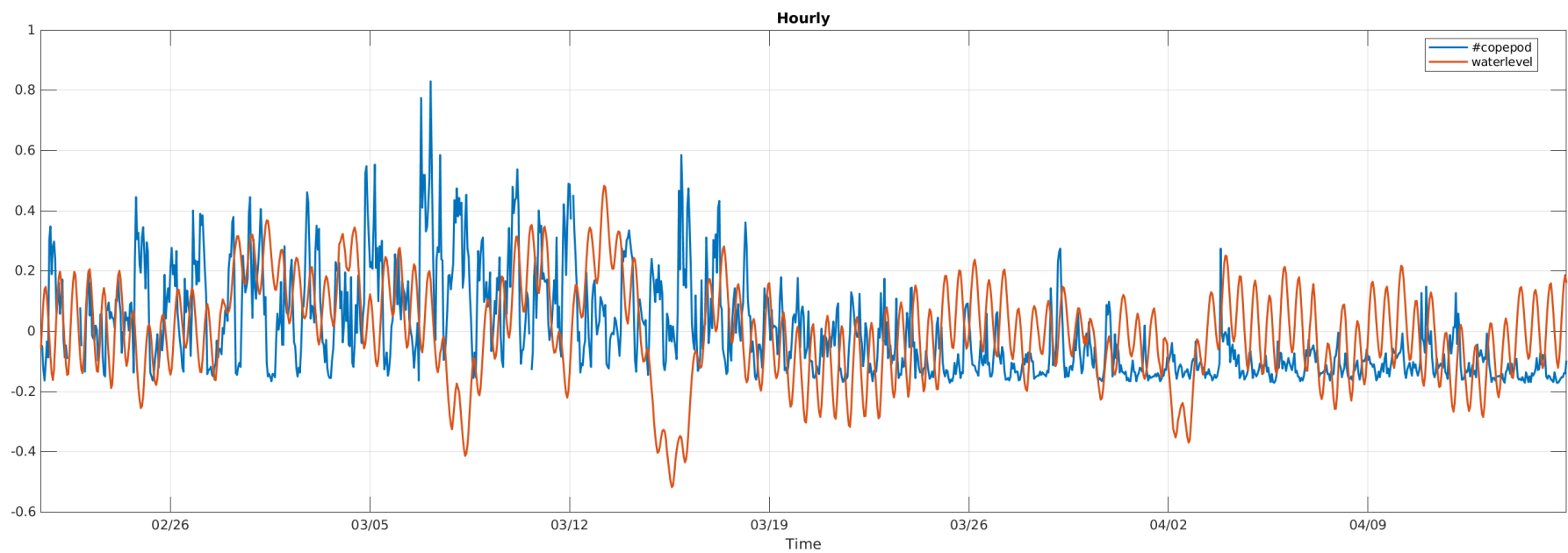
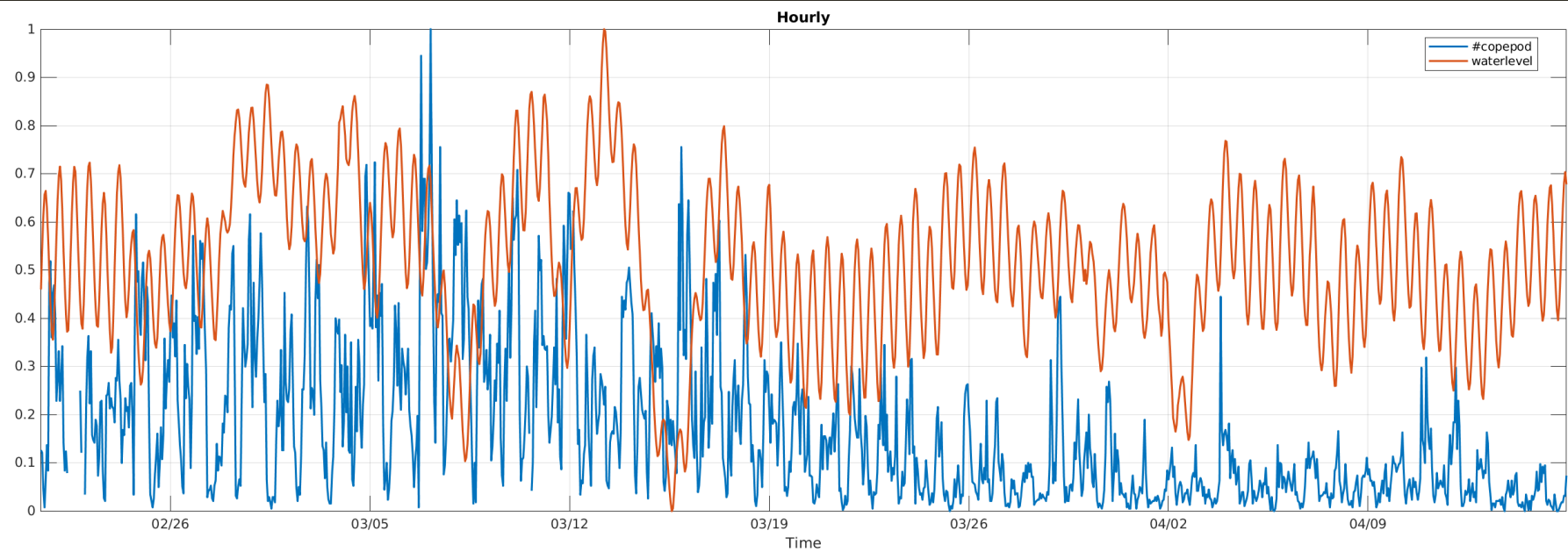


Feb 21, 2023

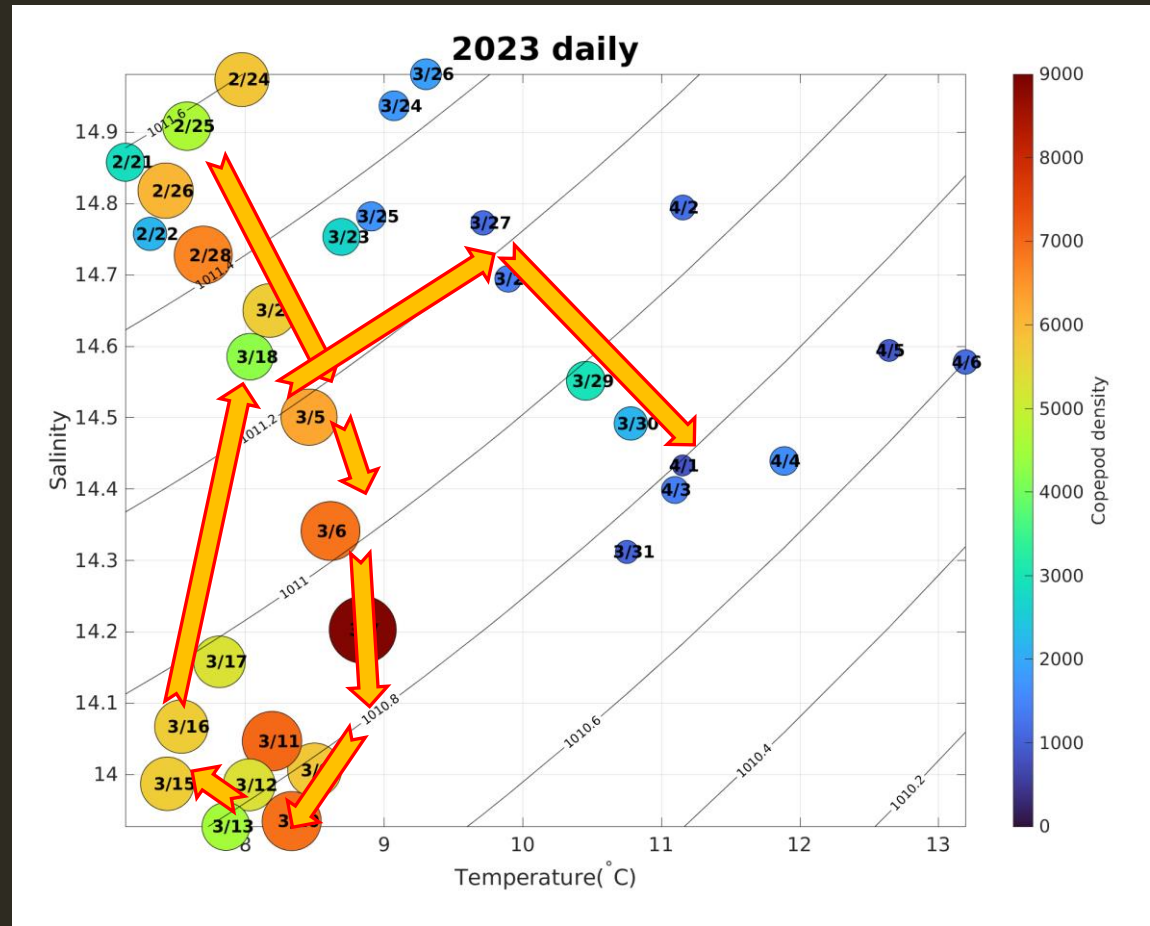
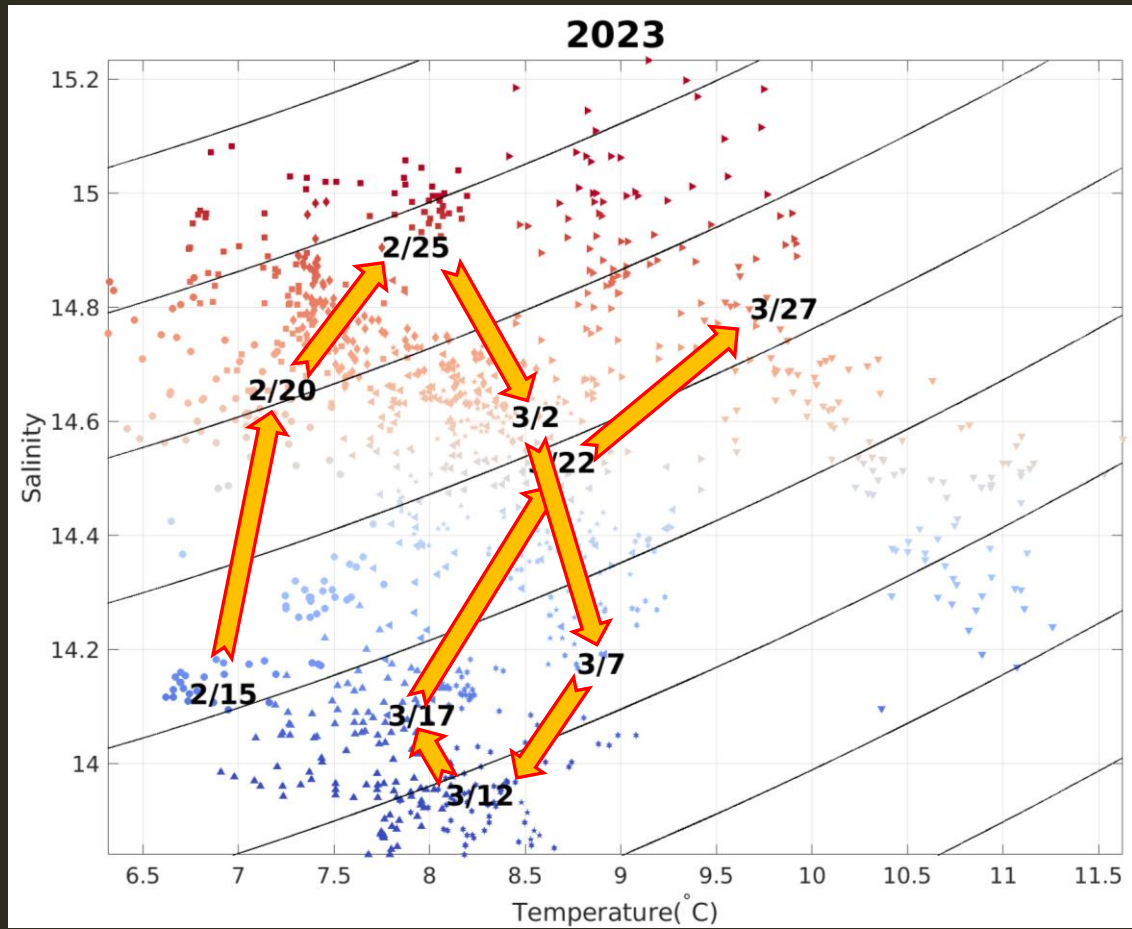
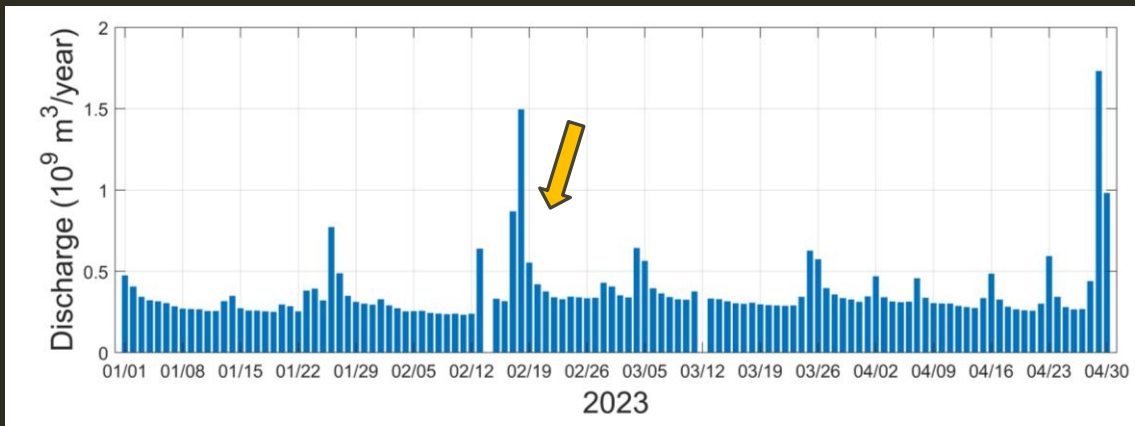
Sept 12, 2023

															
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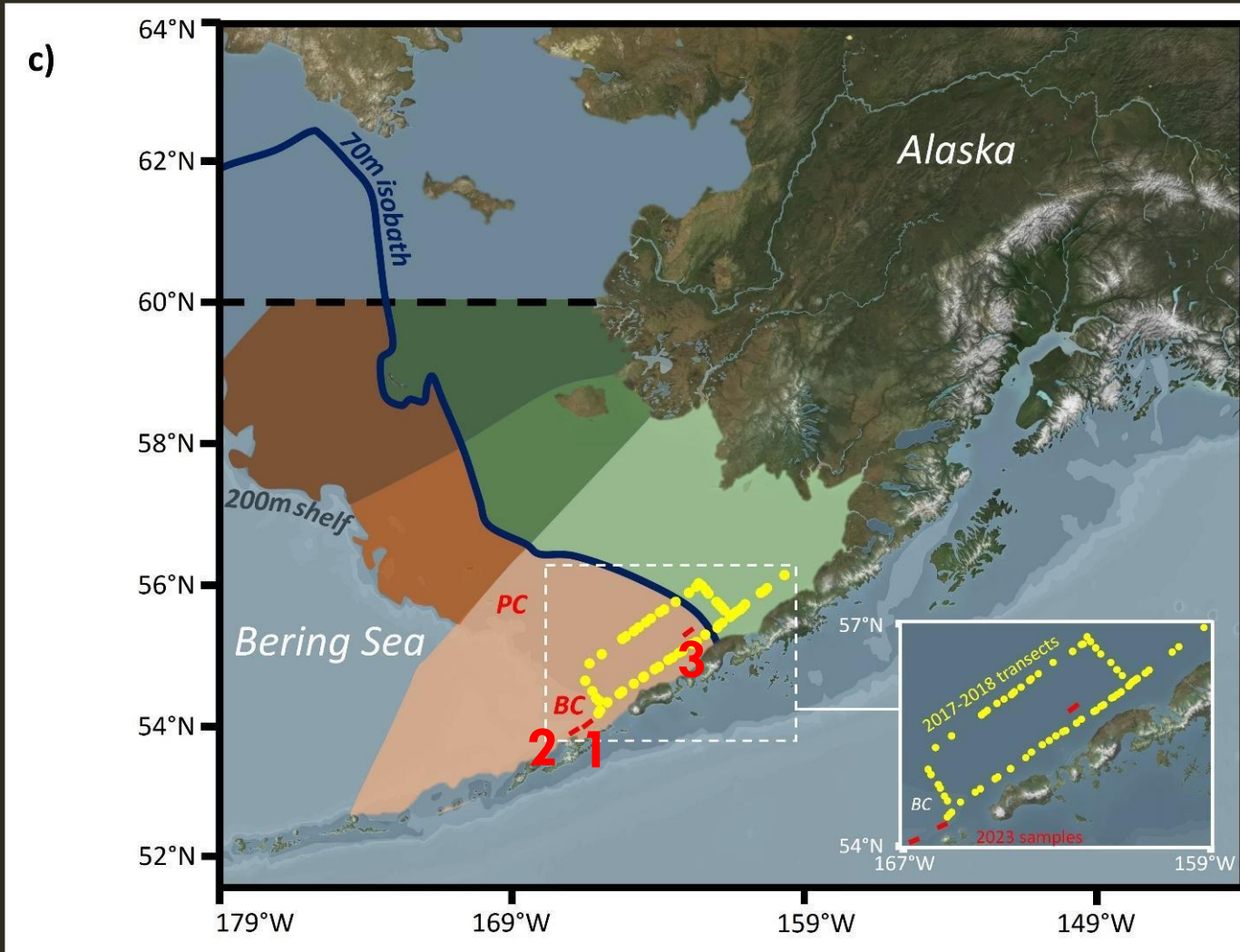








# Bering Canyon and jellyfish, krill distribution





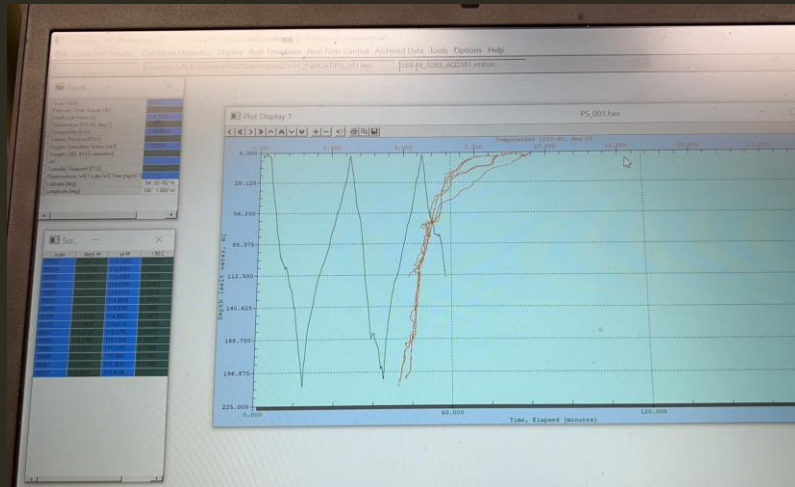
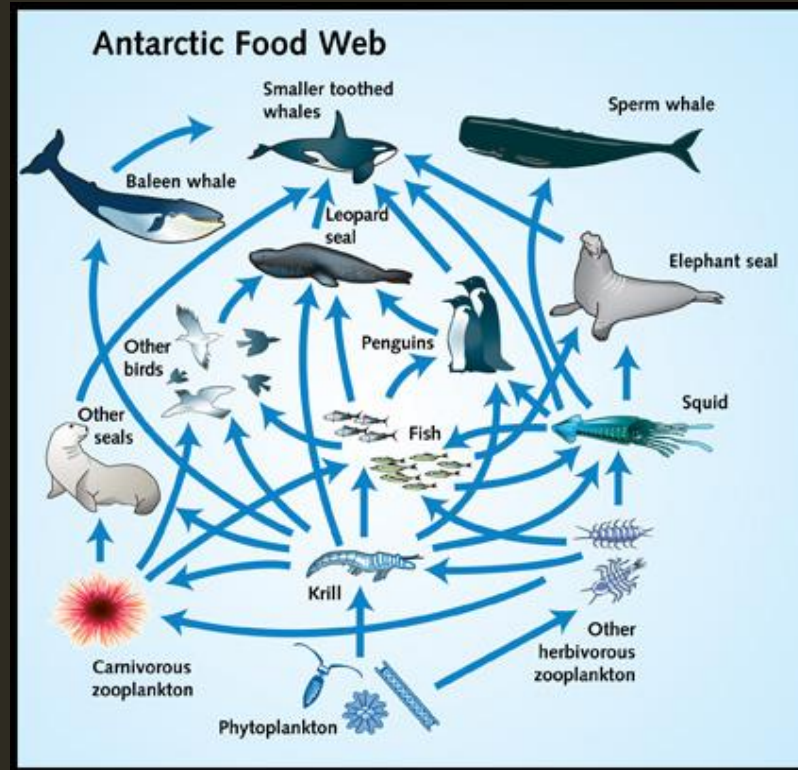
# KRILL AND BERING CANYON

Three 5 hour tow  
( $180,000 \times 3 = 540,000$ )

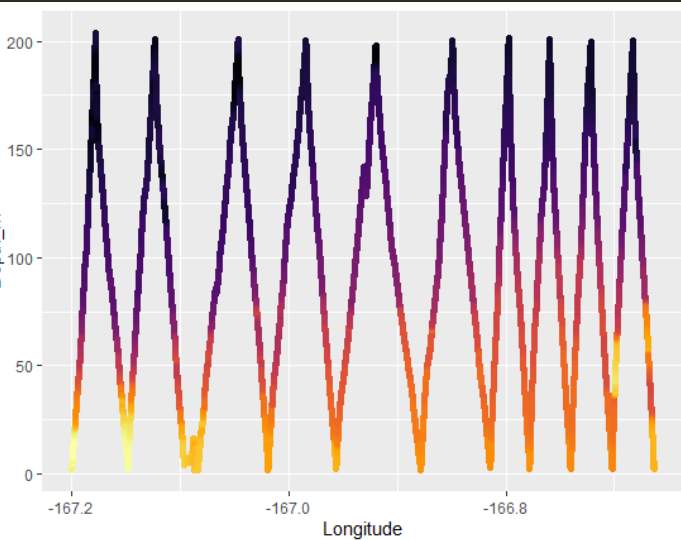
Canyon heads (High)

Inside canyon  
(Intermediate)

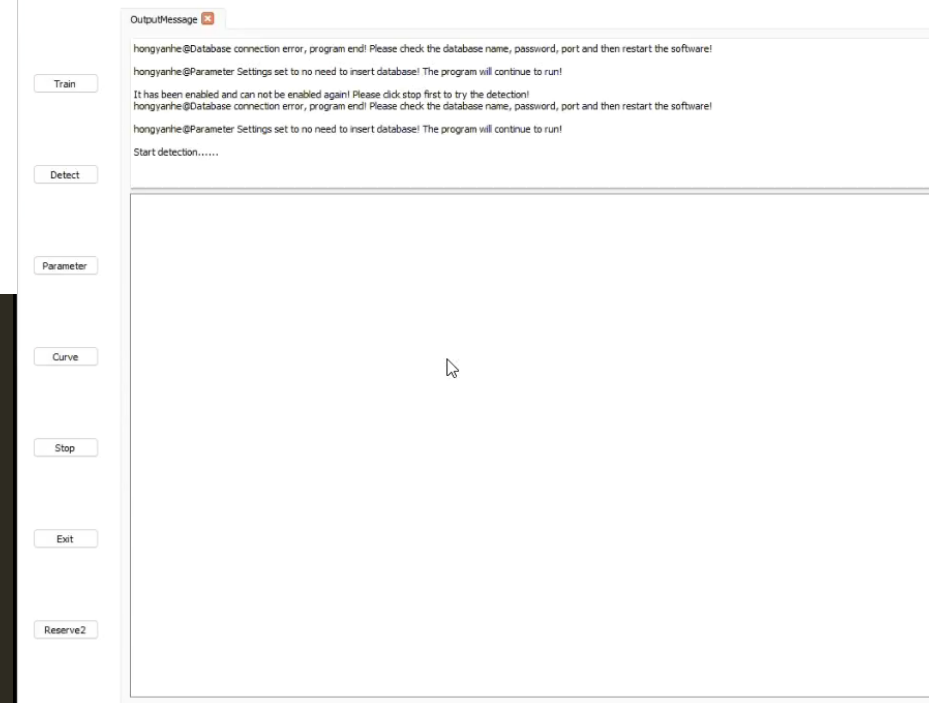
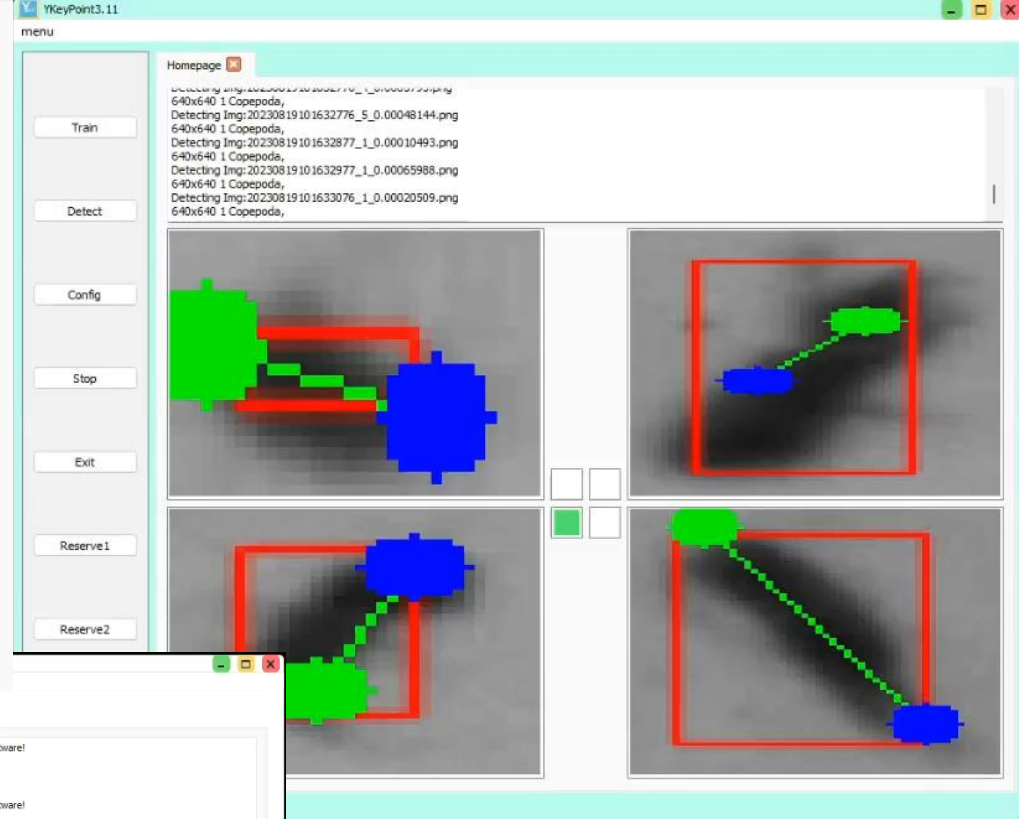
Shelf (70m isobath, low)



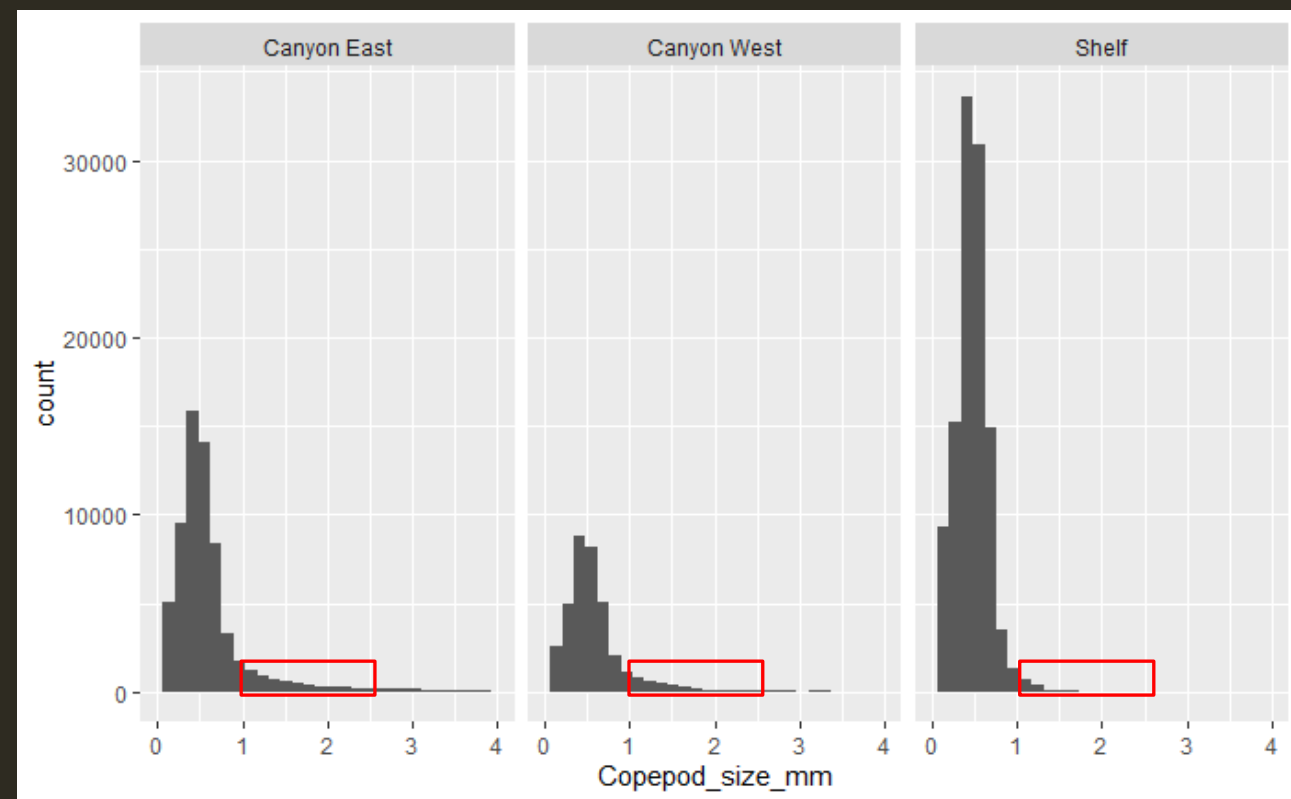
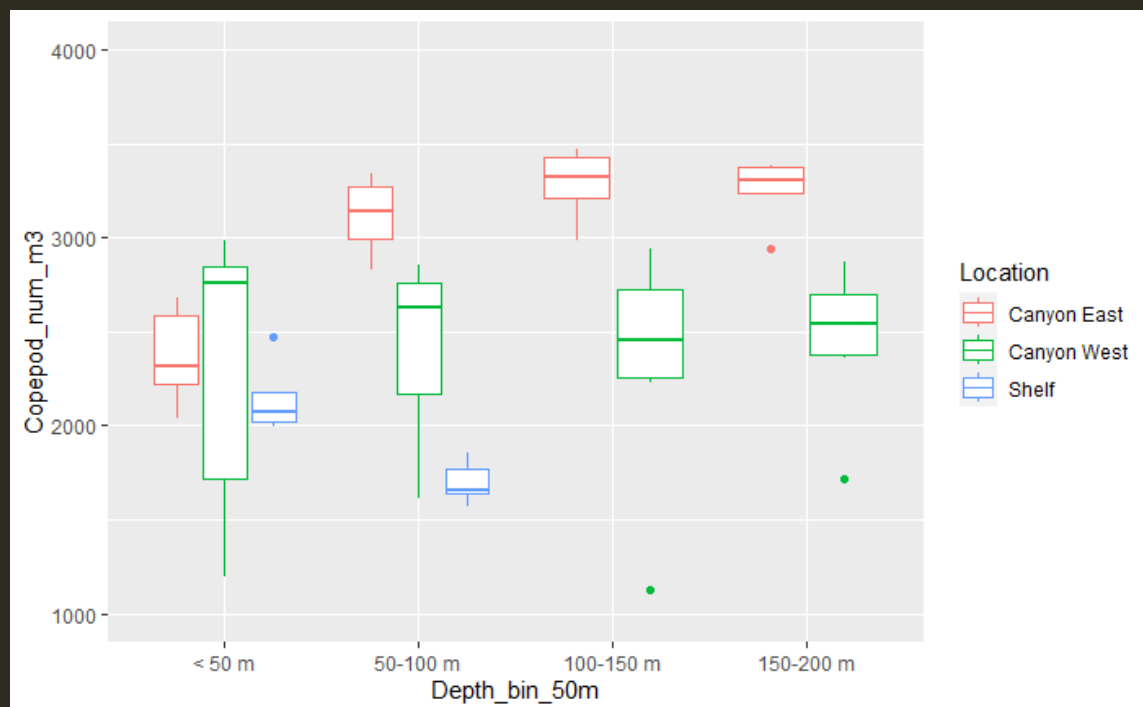
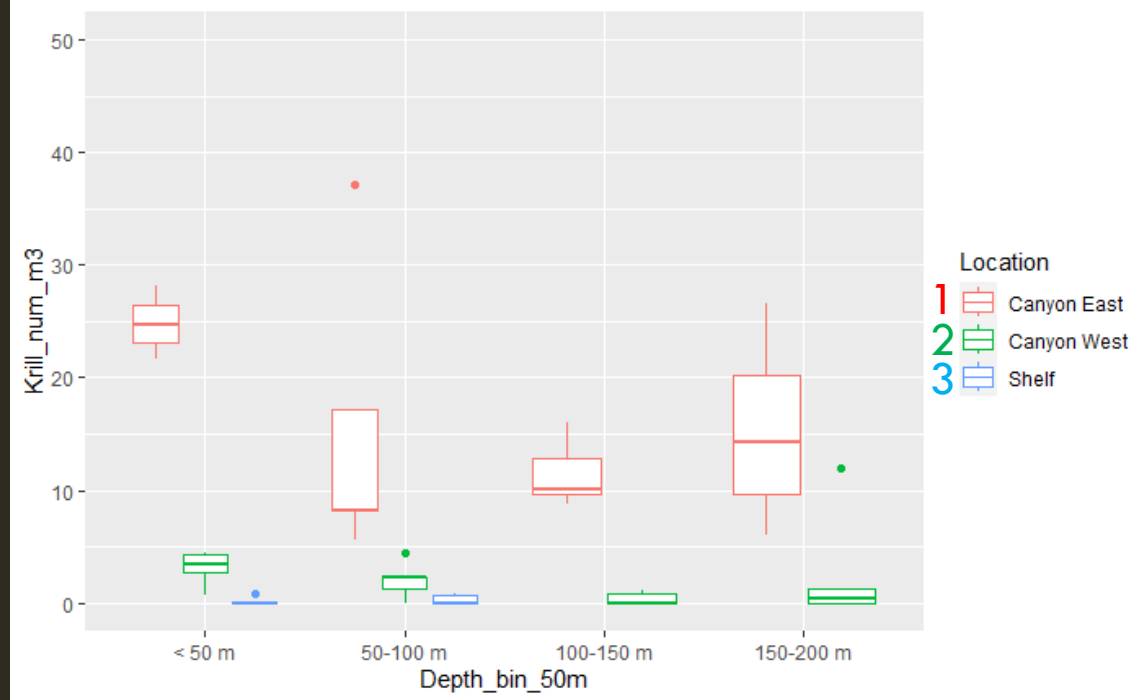




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**2 (~139 Krill)**

**3 (16 krill)**

**1 (869 krill)**

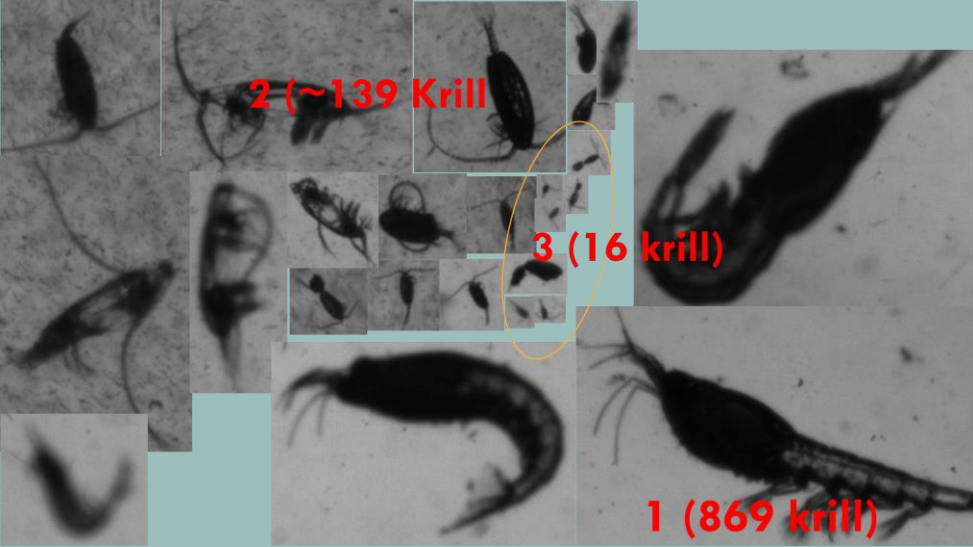


# 04

## PART FOUR

Conclusion

Future work



Real time plankton monitoring fills in the gap for biology in observing system: wintertime

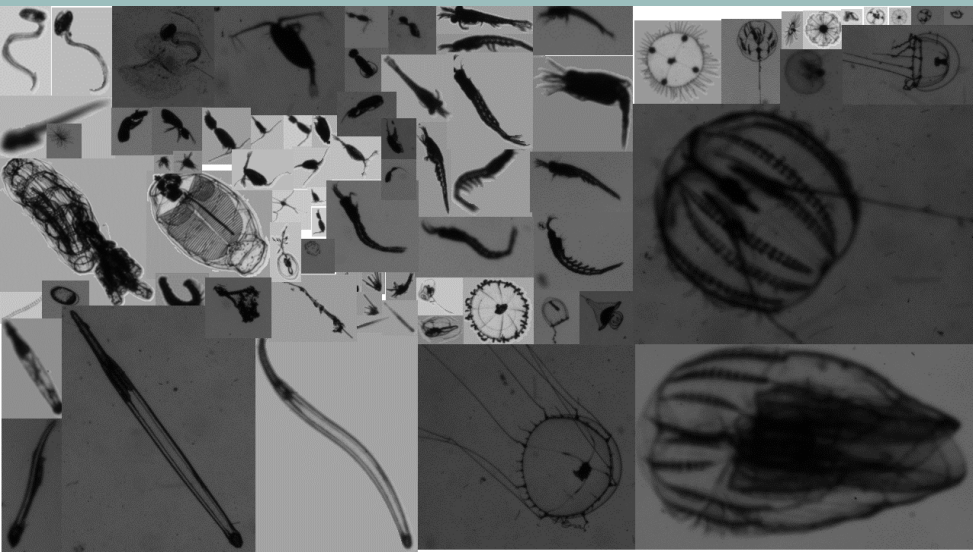


Provide evidence for top-down control of phytoplankton, higher density and larger size



High resolution data provided **unprecedented information on plankton and underlying processes**

## CONCLUSIONS





Microscopic version will be  
deployed in this summer!

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