Fine-scale plankton distribution across the Ligurian Front from glider and UVP6

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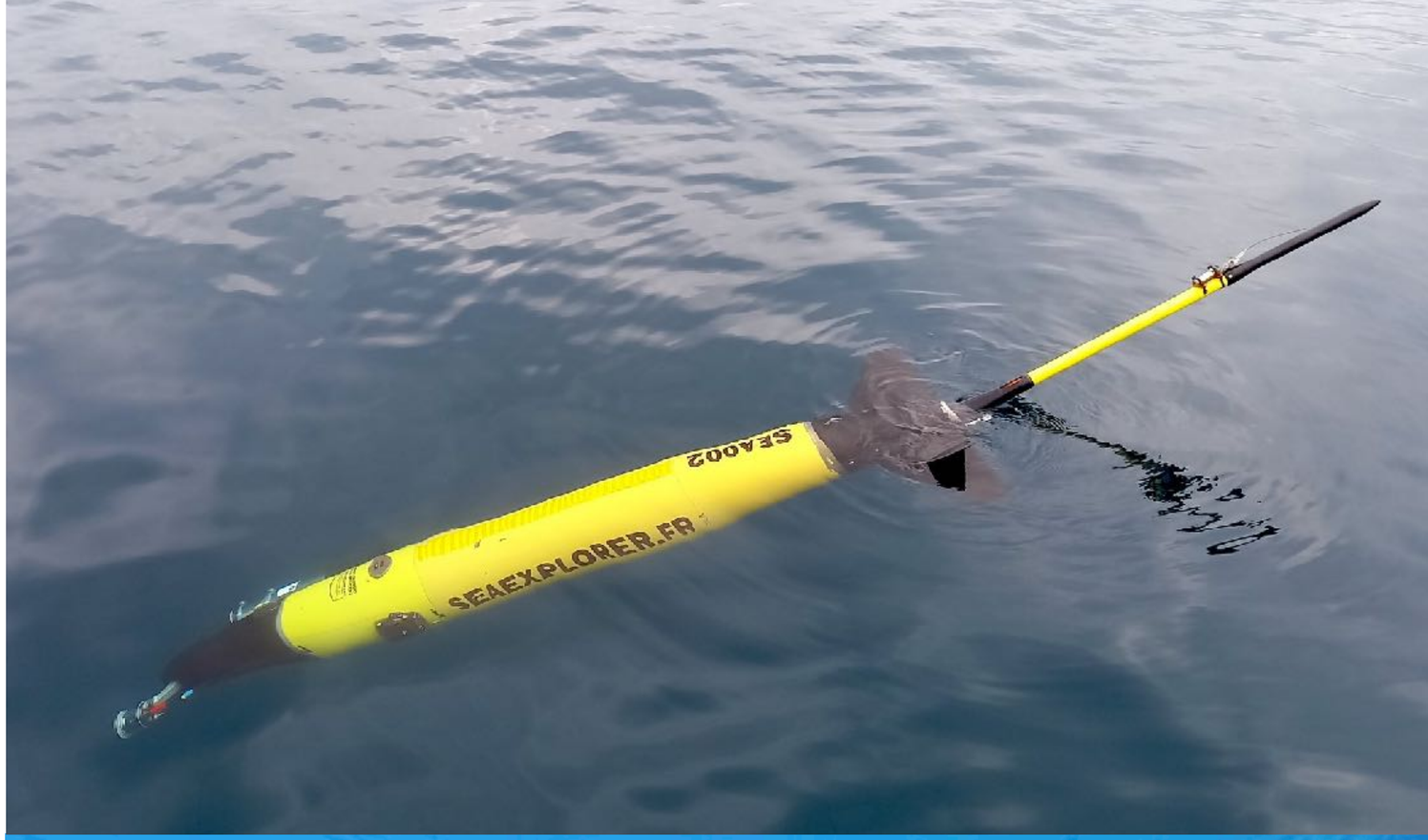
Computational Plankton Ecology (COMPLEx team)
Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche

UVP user meeting
15/09/2022
Thelma Panaïotis

UVP6 and glider

UVP6 LP

- particles 60 µm - 2 cm
- organisms 1 mm - 2 cm
- imaging rate 0.5 - 1.3 Hz



UVP6 and glider

UVP6 LP

- particles 60 µm - 2 cm
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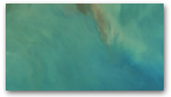
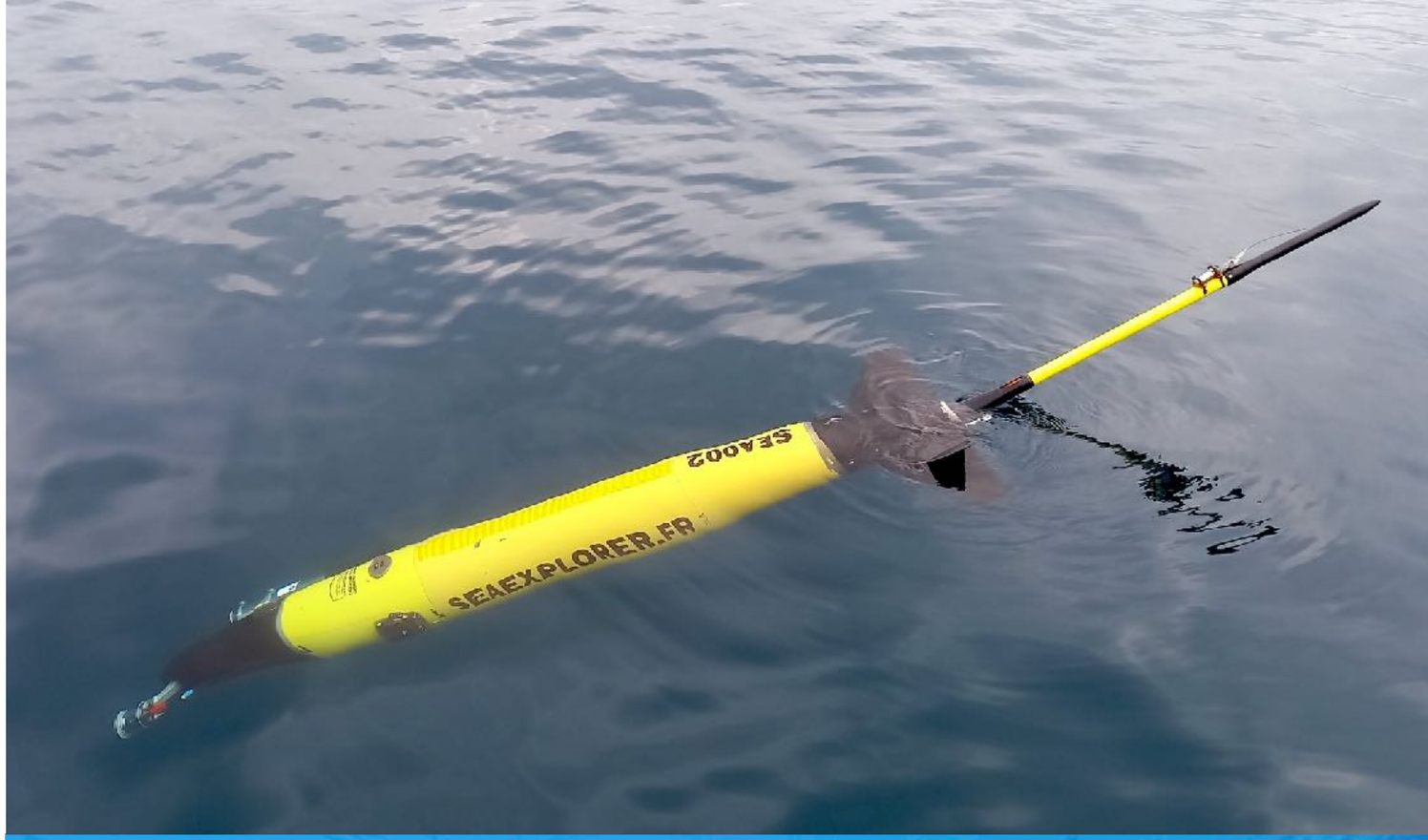
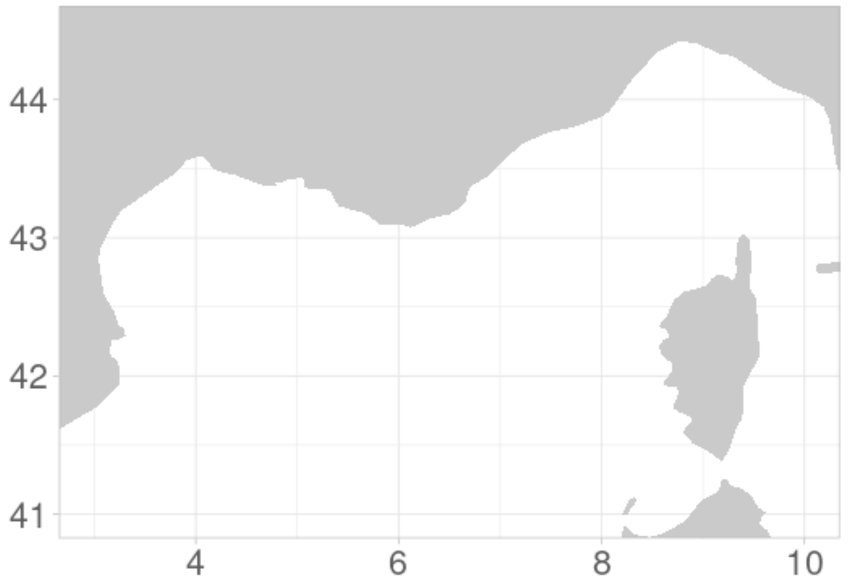
Seaexplorer glider

- temperature
- salinity
- chla [Chl a]
- oxygen O_2
- cdom 
- bb700



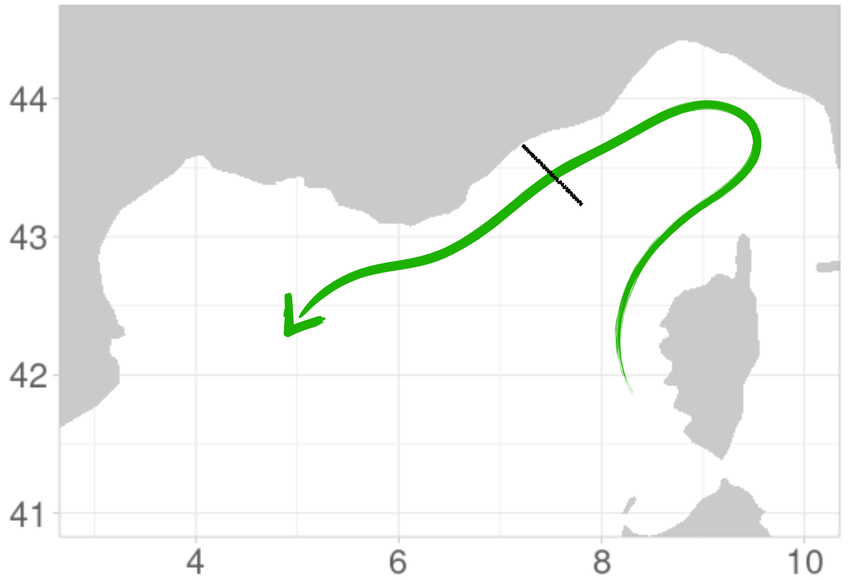
Study area

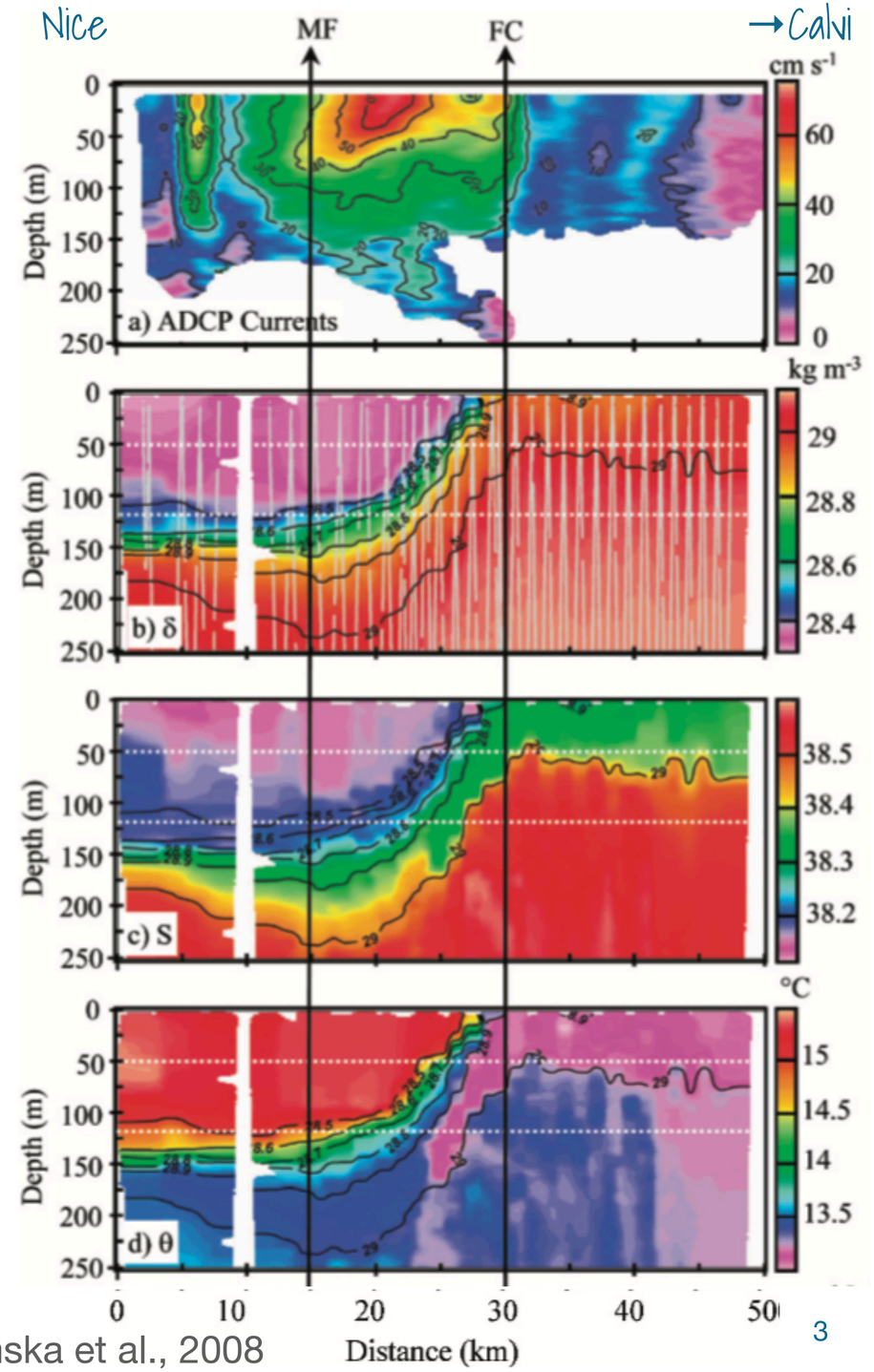
- NW Mediterranean Sea



Study area

- NW Mediterranean Sea
- Ligurian Current & Front
  - increased productivity and biomass
  - organisms aggregation



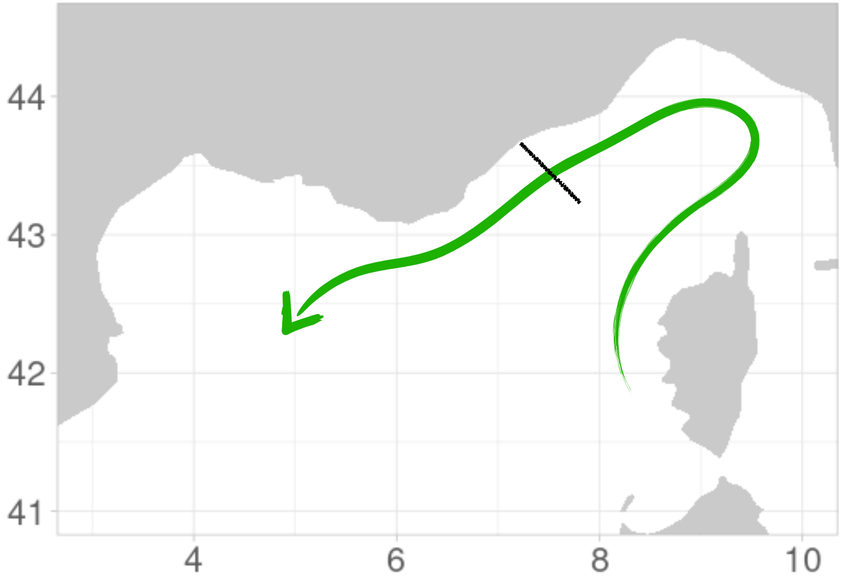


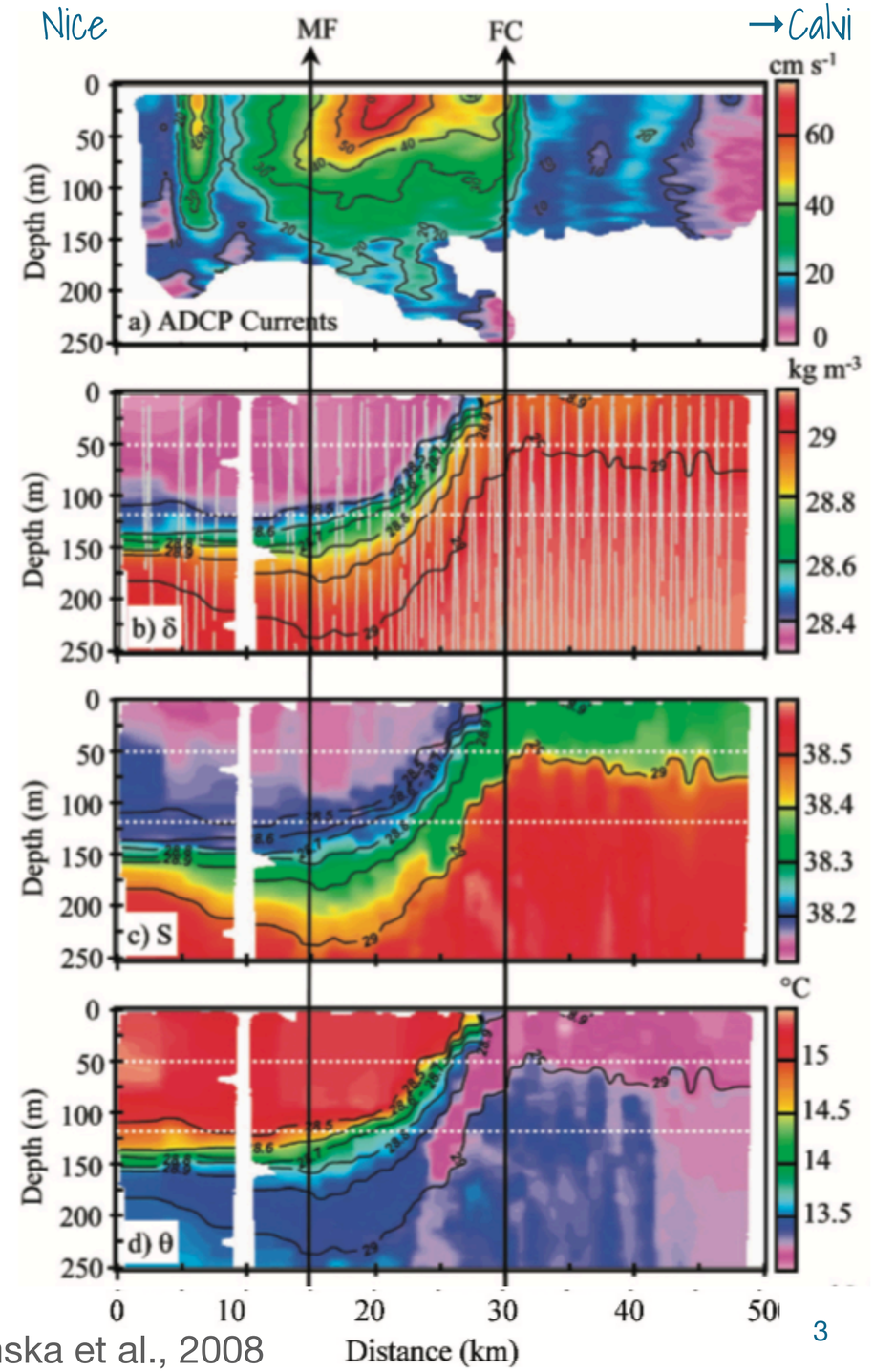
Niewiadomska et al., 2008

Study area

- NW Mediterranean Sea
- Ligurian Current & Front
  - increased productivity and biomass
  - organisms aggregation
- Plankton bloom dynamic

Modis, 1st march 2021



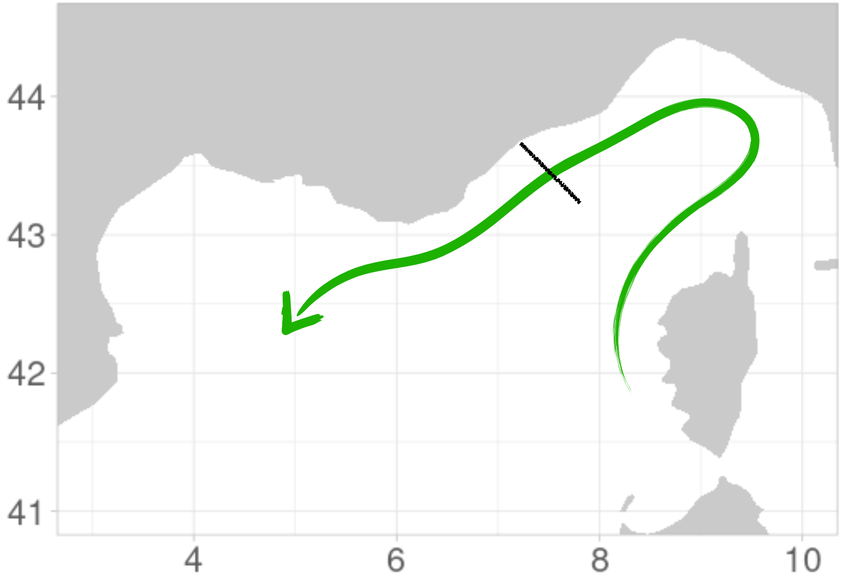


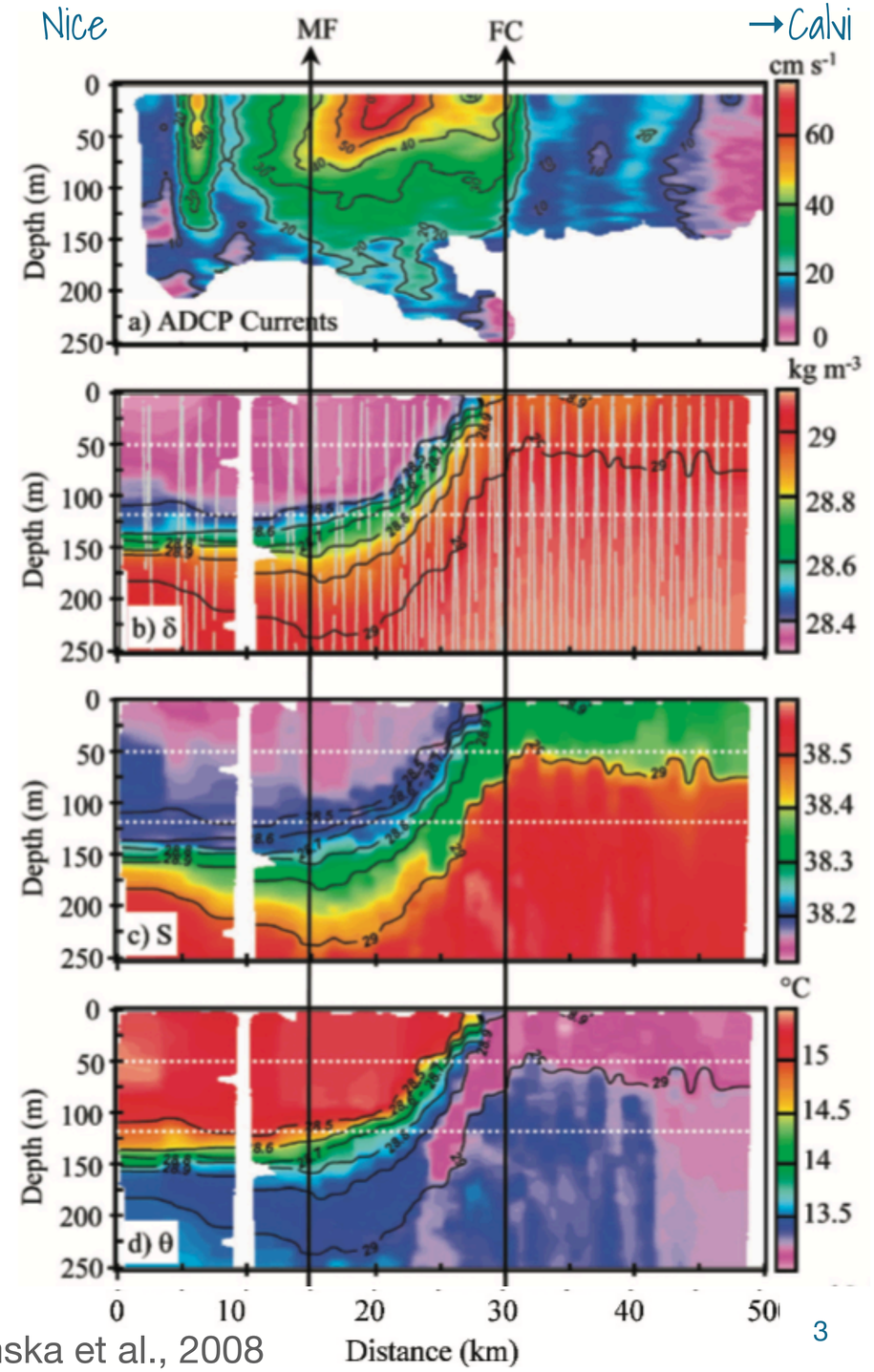
Niewiadomska et al., 2008

Study area

- NW Mediterranean Sea
- Ligurian Current & Front
  - increased productivity and biomass
  - organisms aggregation
- Plankton bloom dynamic
- Spring 2021

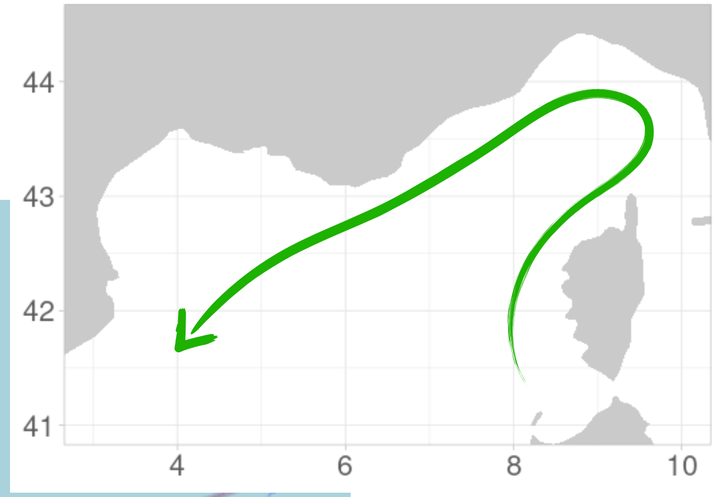
Modis, 1st march 2021



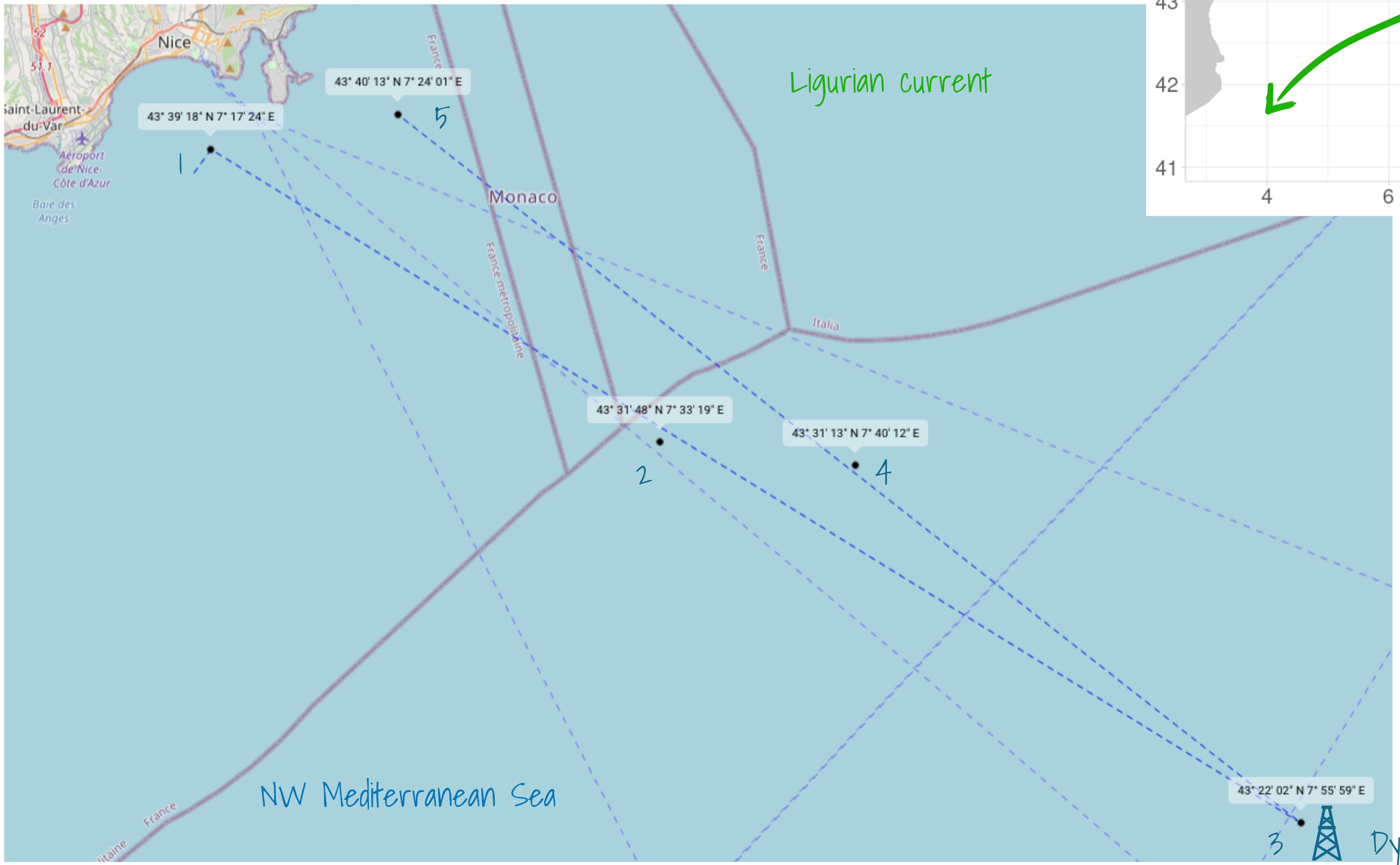


Niewiadomska et al., 2008

Mission planning



Nice



Deployment at 1

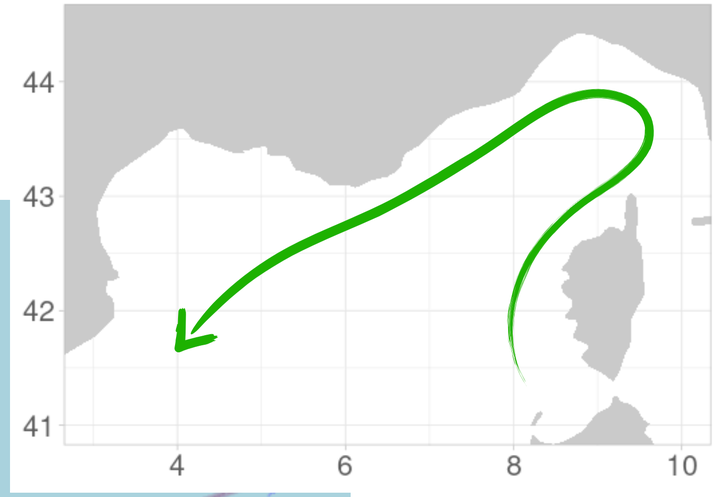
Go to Dyfamed by 2 and 3

Come back to shore by 4 and 5

…

Retrieve at 1

Mission planning



Nice

Nice
Saint-Laurent-du-Var
Aéroport de Nice-Côte d'Azur
Baie des Anges
France
Monaco
France métropolitaine
France
Italia
Ligurian current
43° 39' 18" N 7° 17' 24" E
1
43° 40' 13" N 7° 24' 01" E
5
43° 31' 48" N 7° 33' 19" E
2
43° 31' 13" N 7° 40' 12" E
4
43° 22' 02" N 7° 55' 59" E
3
Dyfamed
NW Mediterranean Sea
France

Deployment at 1

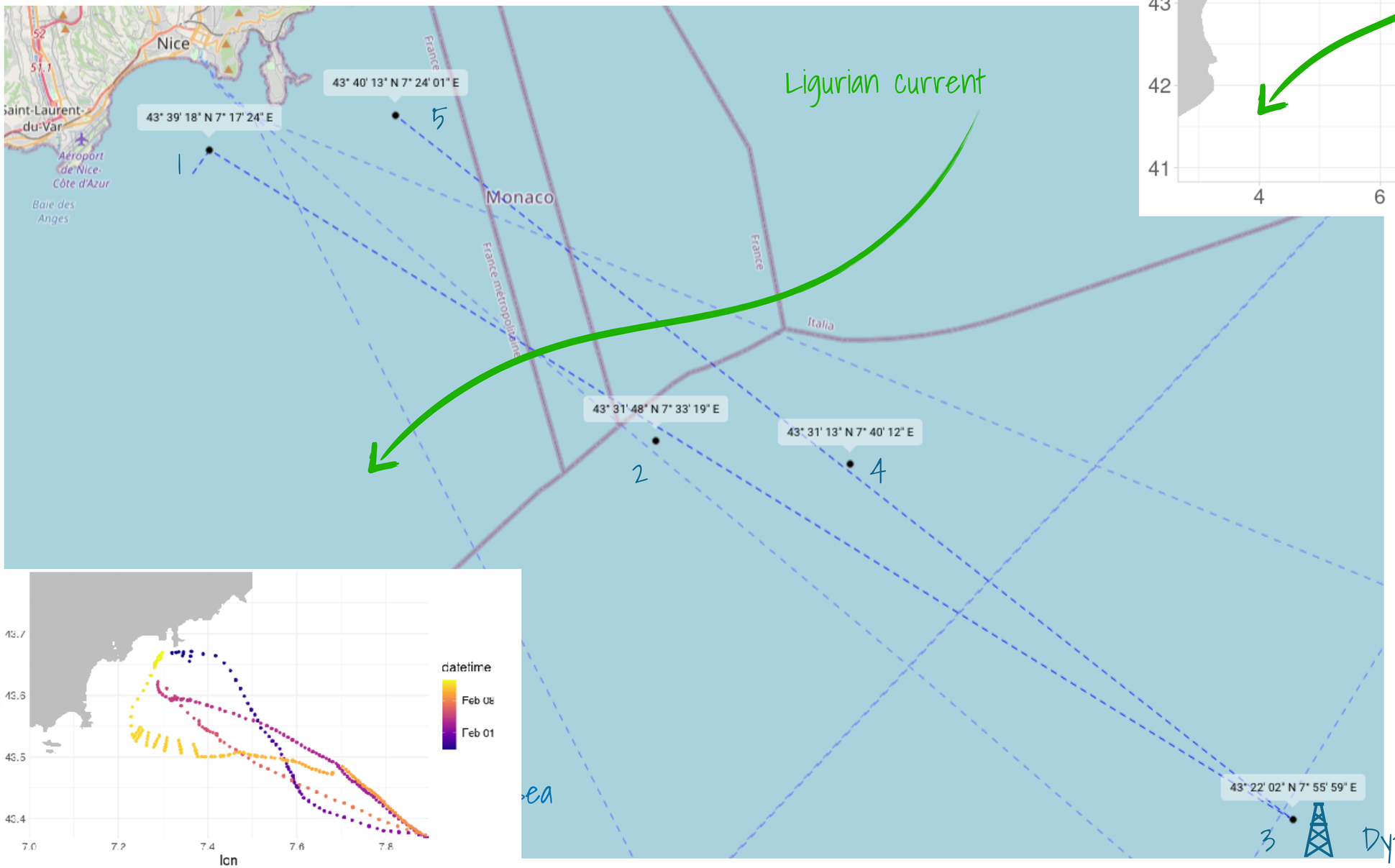
Go to Dyfamed by 2 and 3

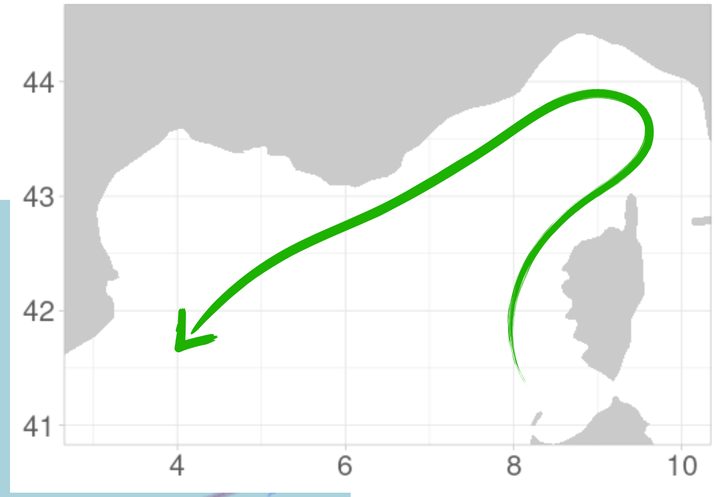
Come back to shore by 4 and 5

…

Retrieve at 1

Mission planning





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Retrieve at 1

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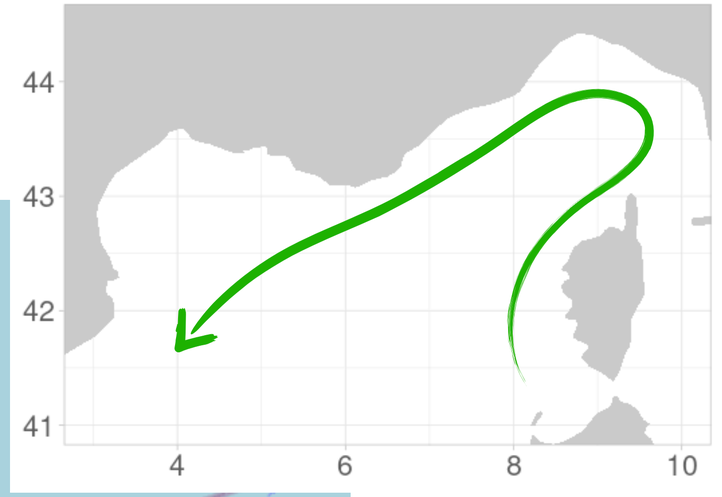

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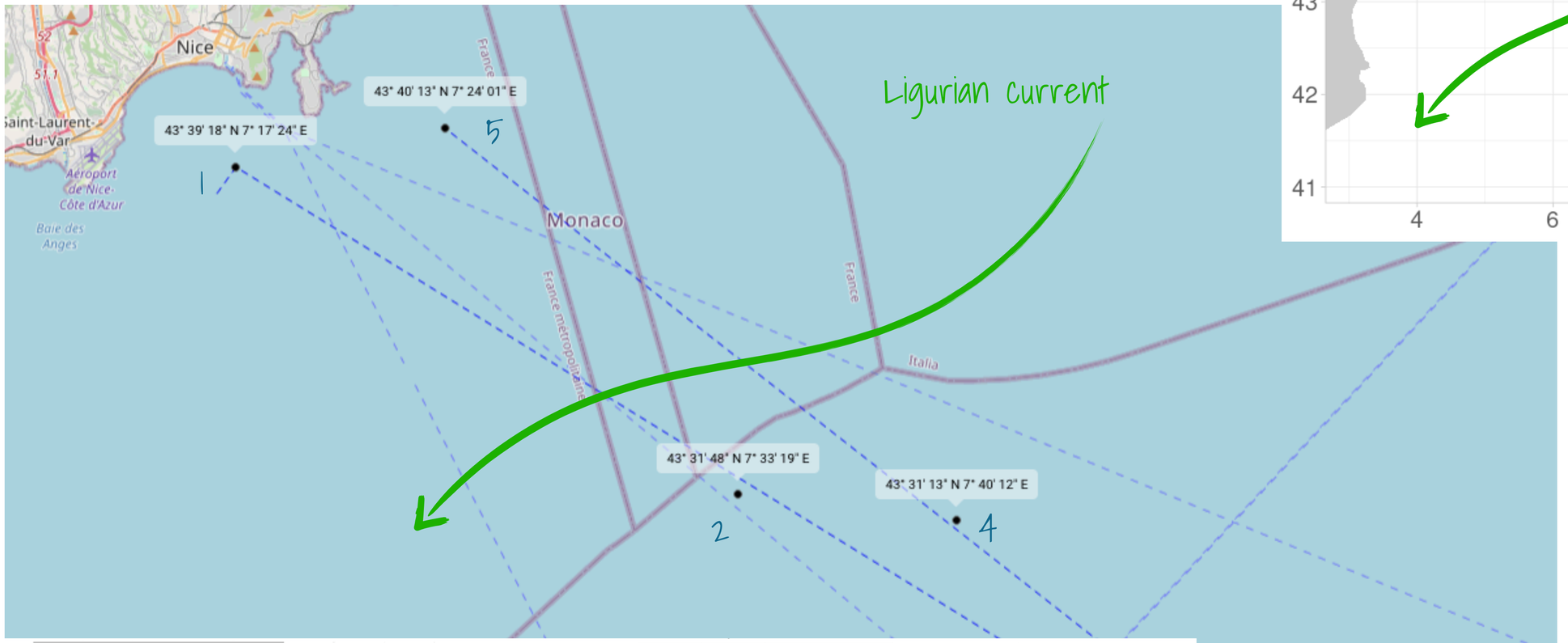
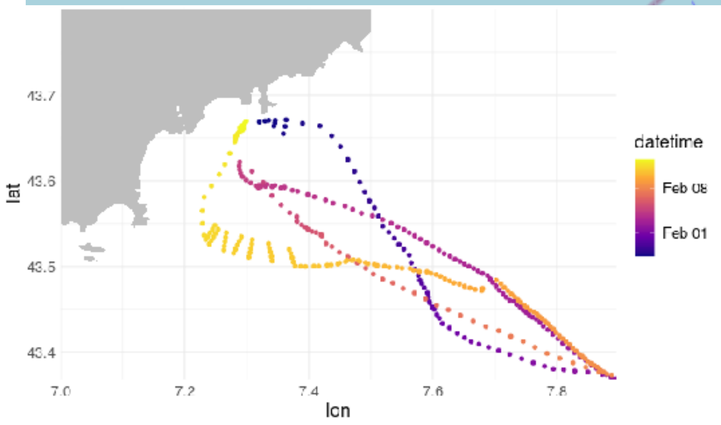
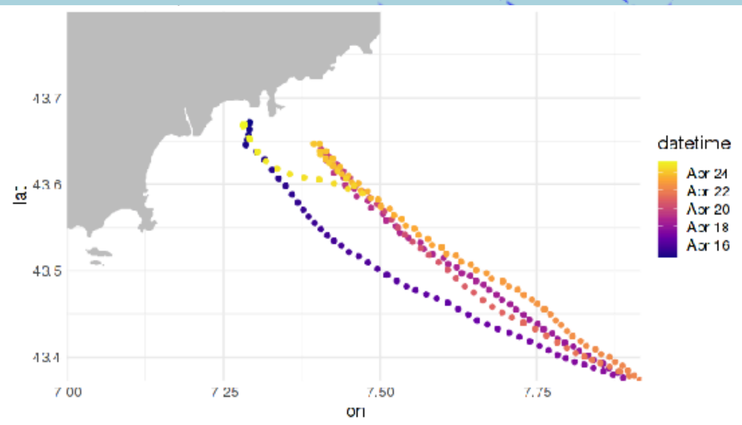






Deployment at 1

Go to Dyfamed by 2 and 3

Come back to shore by 4 and 5

…

Retrieve at 1

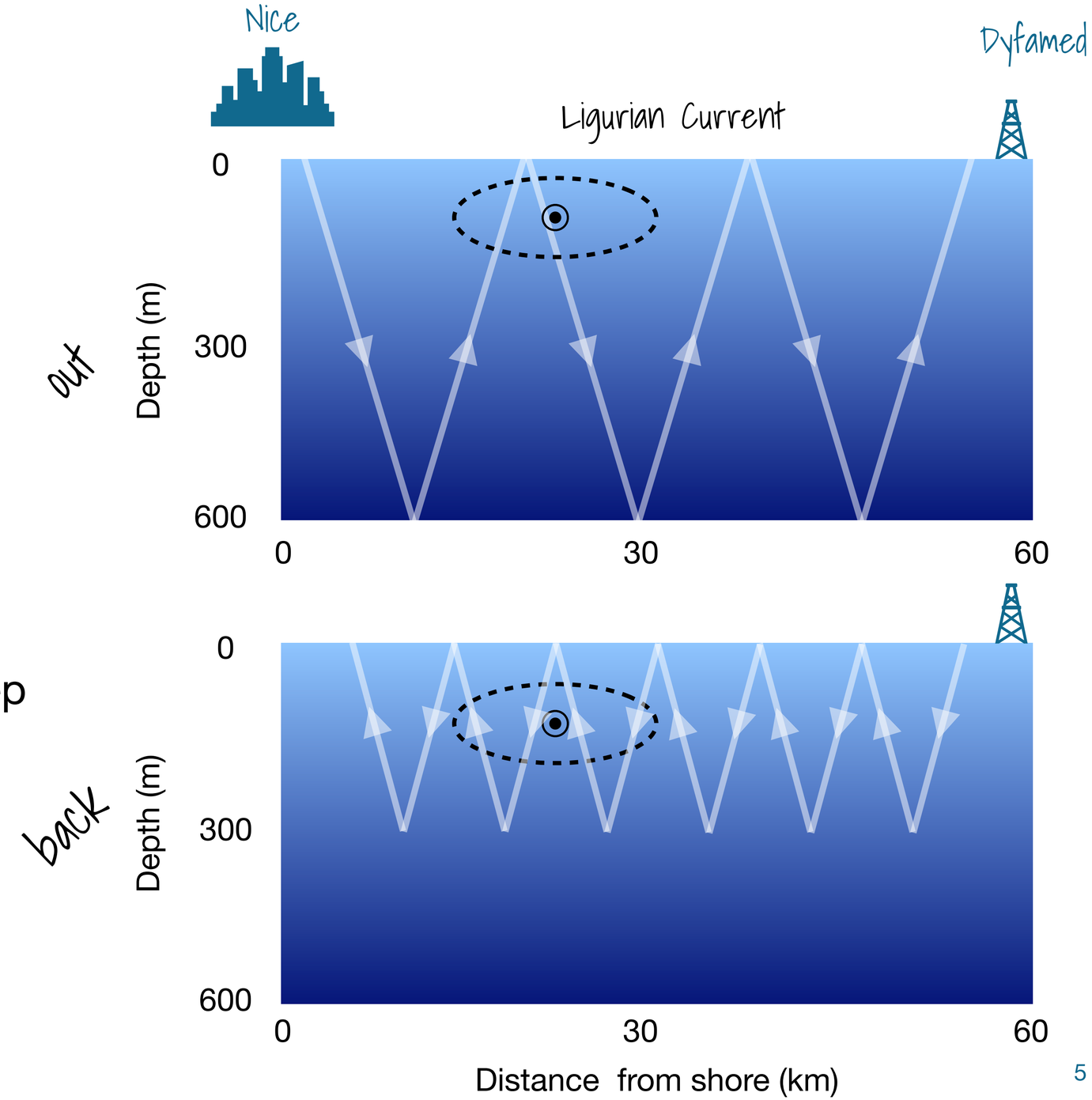
Mission planning

Round trip between Nice and Dyfamed

- out in 0-600 m: go bellow the current
- back in 0-300 m: better horizontal resolution

Ligurian current: 25 km offshore, 0-200 m deep

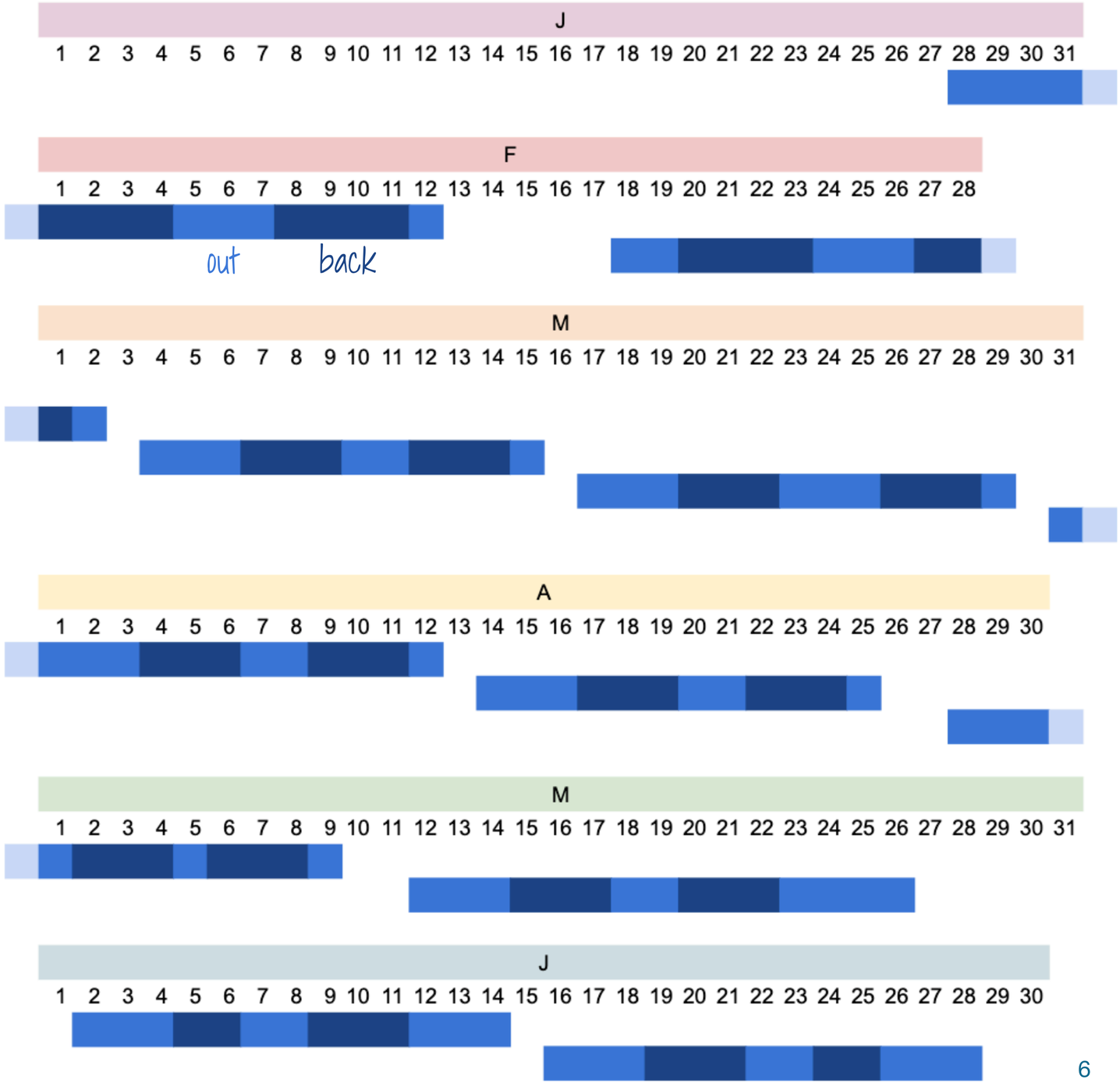
1 mission = 2 round trips



Mission overview

- started on 28/01/2021
- ended on 28/06/2021
- 5 months duration

10 missions of 12-14 days each



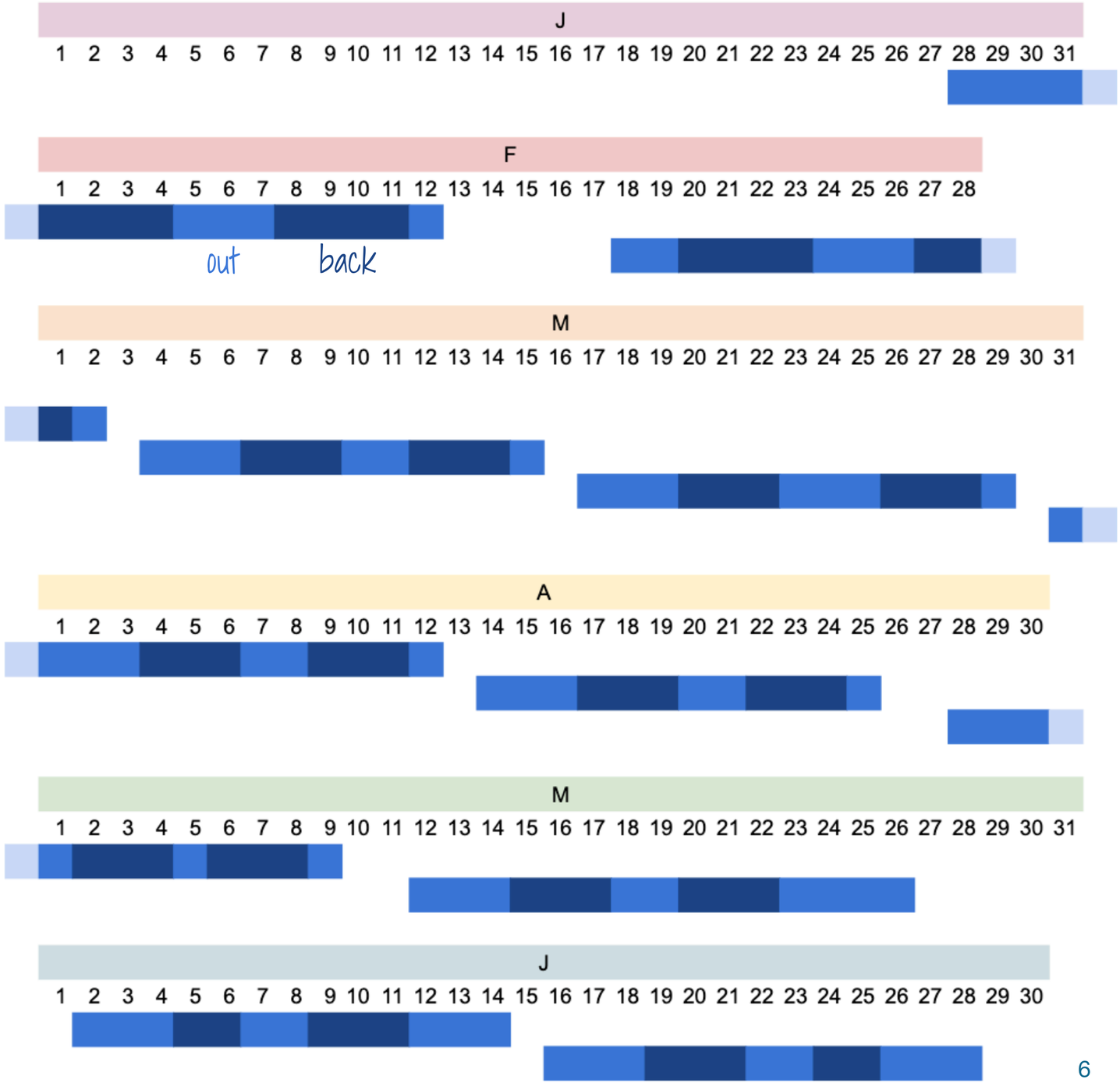
Mission overview

- started on 28/01/2021
- ended on 28/06/2021
- 5 months duration

10 missions of 12-14 days each

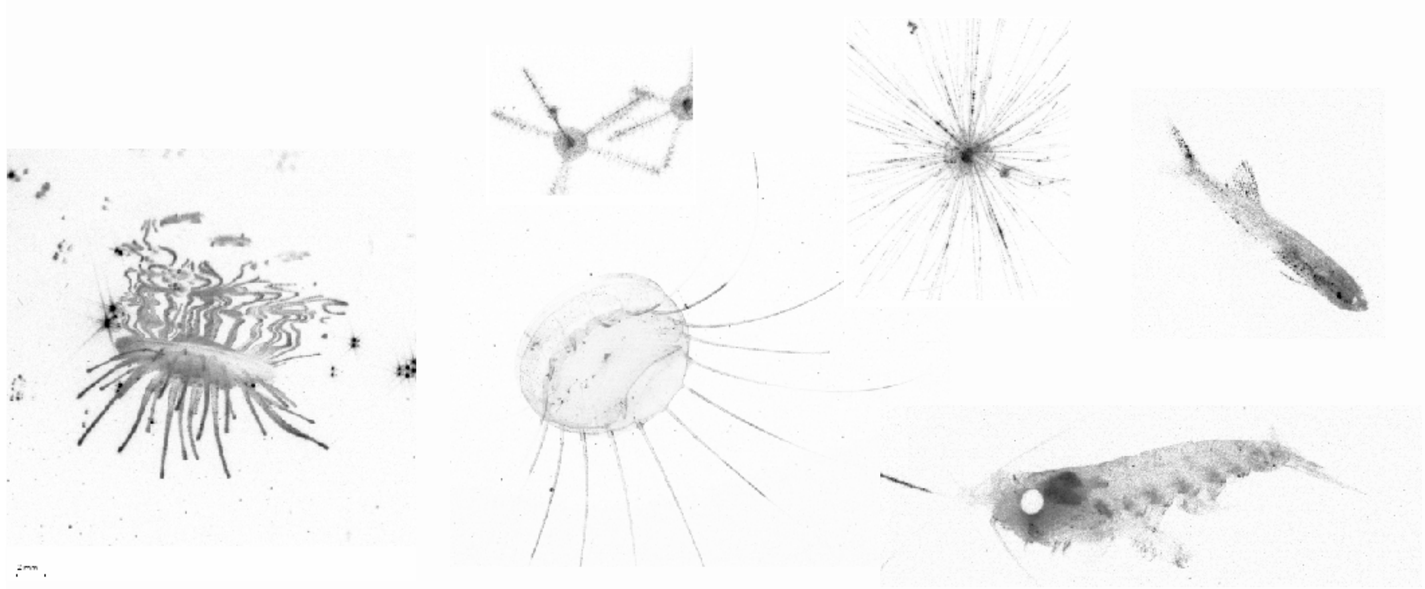
2 days needed between each mission

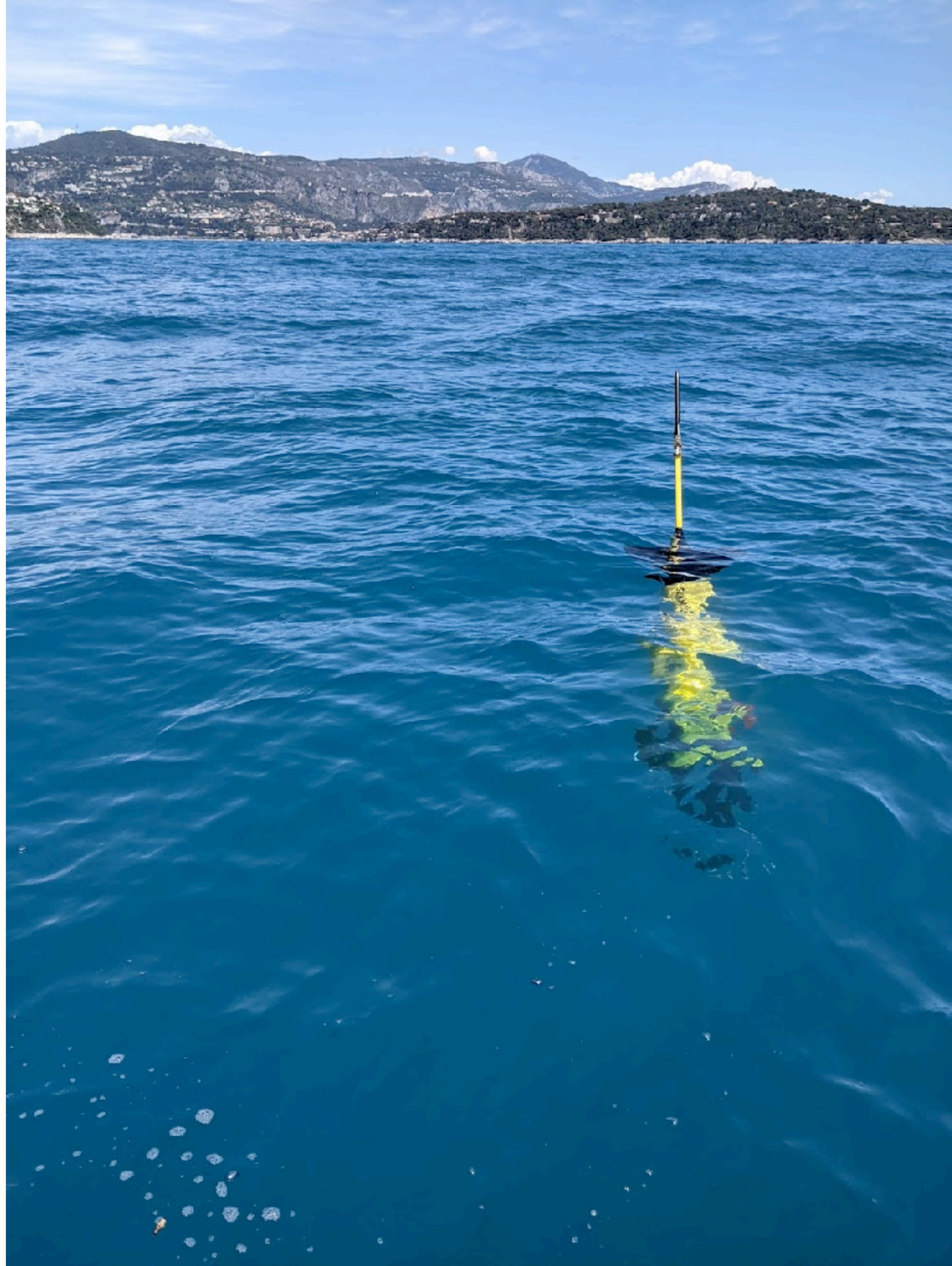
Also depends on weather conditions



A few numbers

- 10 missions
- 5000 profiles (1900 bellow 500 m)
- 1.1 million images
  - 785,000 during cruising
    - 435,000 in *back* transects (better horizontal resolution)





Sea explorer transect cutter

Output file name

uvp6_sn000003lp_2021_sea002_m490.csv

Cut transects

Transect 1

Type

Out

Included yos

4 54 256

1 27 53 80 106 132 158 184 211 237 256

Transect 2

Type

Back

Included yos

1 55 118 256

1 27 53 80 106 132 158 184 211 237 256

Transect 3

Type

Out

Included yos

1 119 155 256

1 27 53 80 106 132 158 184 211 237 256

Transect 4

Type

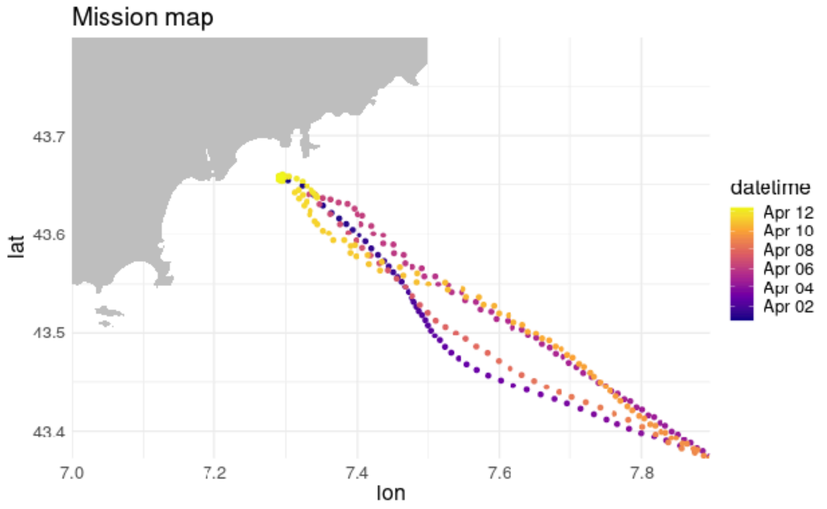
Back

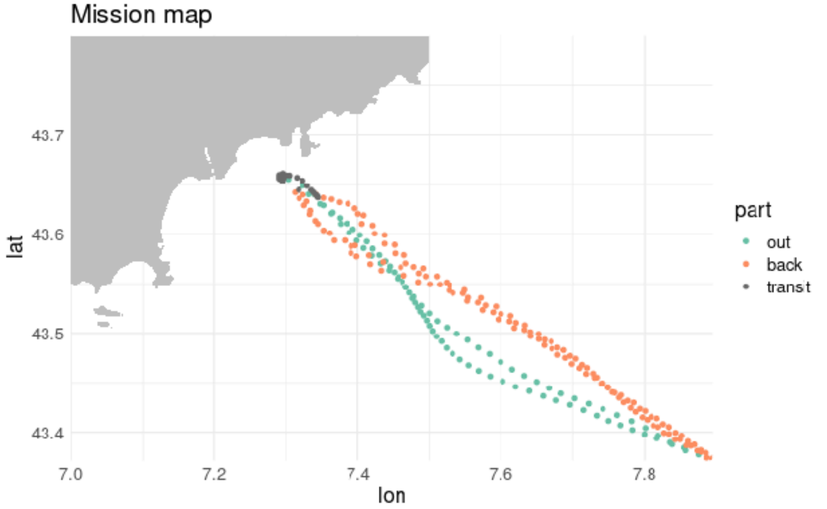
Included yos

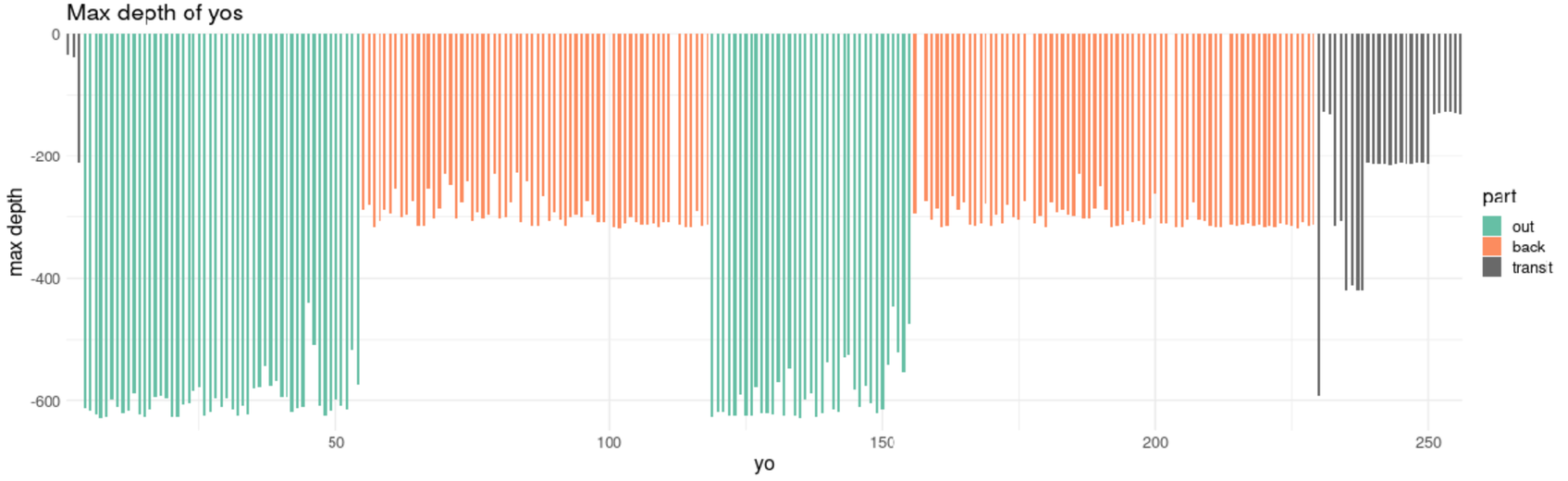
1 156 229 256

Cut transects | See saved transects | Erase saved transects

You have selected project uvp6_sn000003lp_2021_sea002_m490







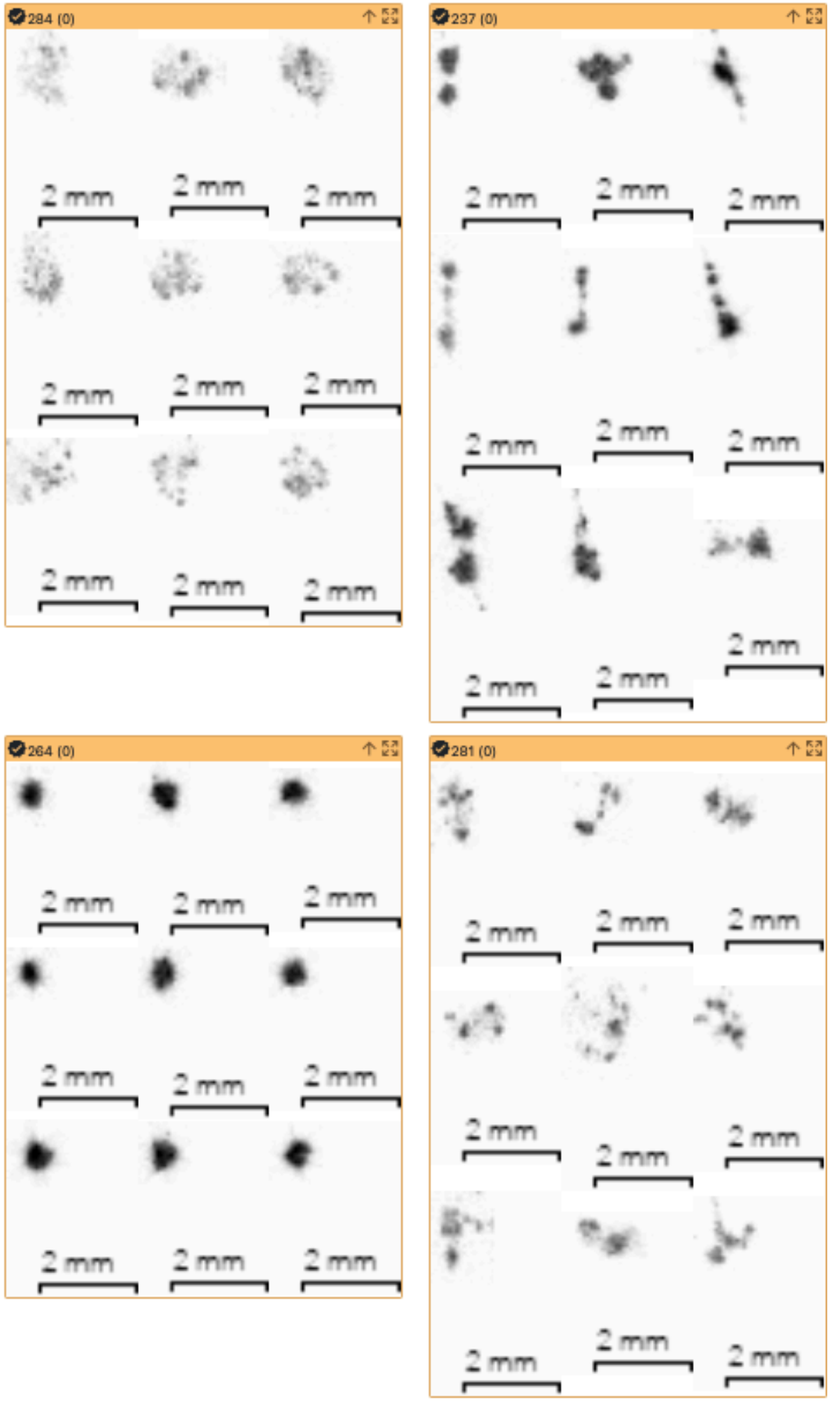
Subsampling rate

- (•) 1/1
- ( ) 1/2
- ( ) 1/4

Pre-sorting with Morphocluster

Data processing

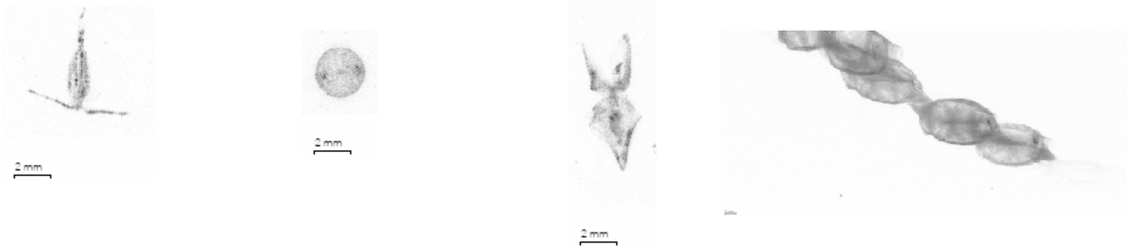
- 785 000 objects to sort
  - 430 000 detritus sorted with Morphocluster

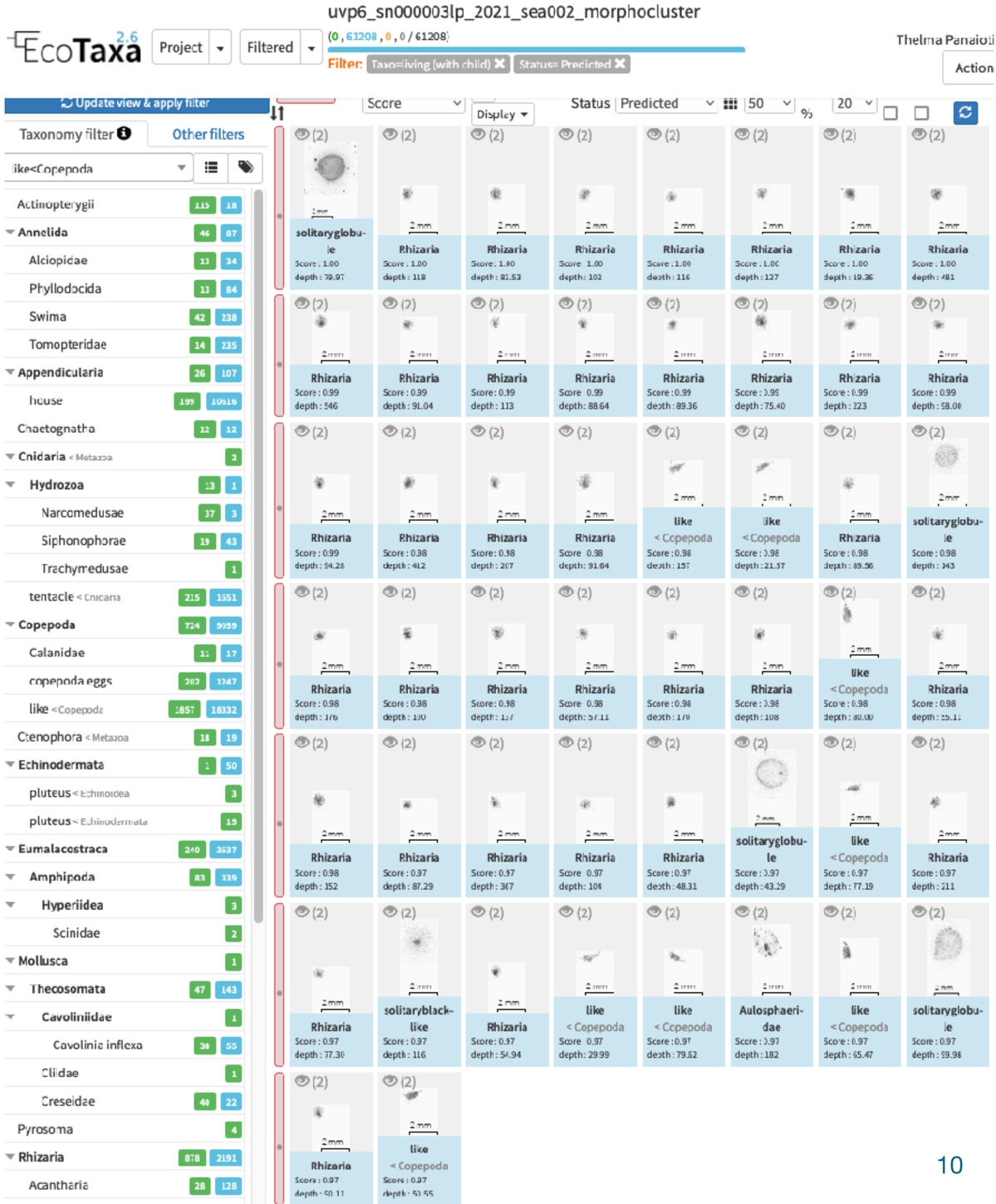


Fine-sorting with EcoTaxa

Data processing

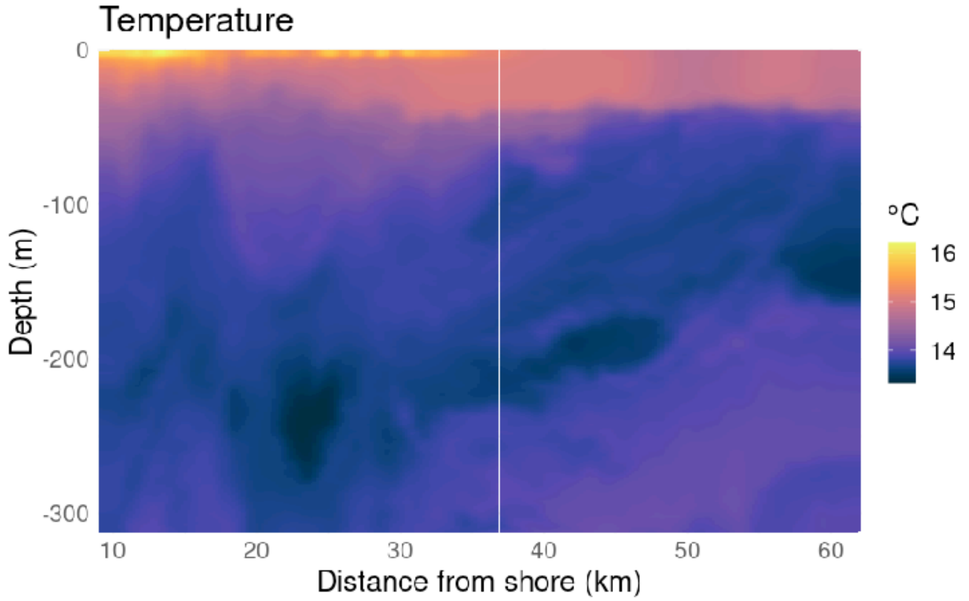
- 785 000 objects to sort
  - 430 000 detritus sorted with Morphocluster
  - Other organisms to be sorted in EcoTaxa
    - 63.5% of objects validated
    - Copepoda, Collodaria, mollusca, salps…

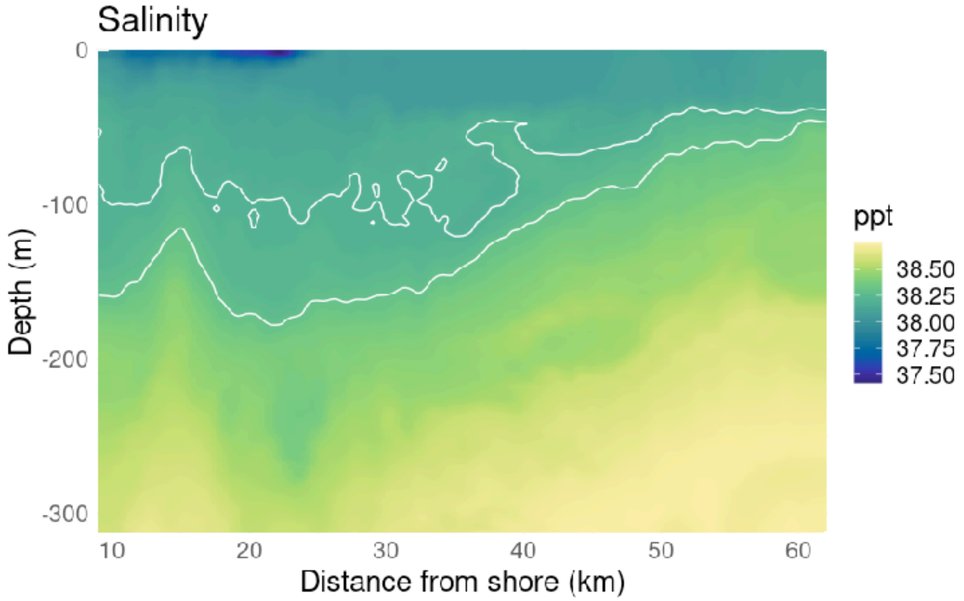


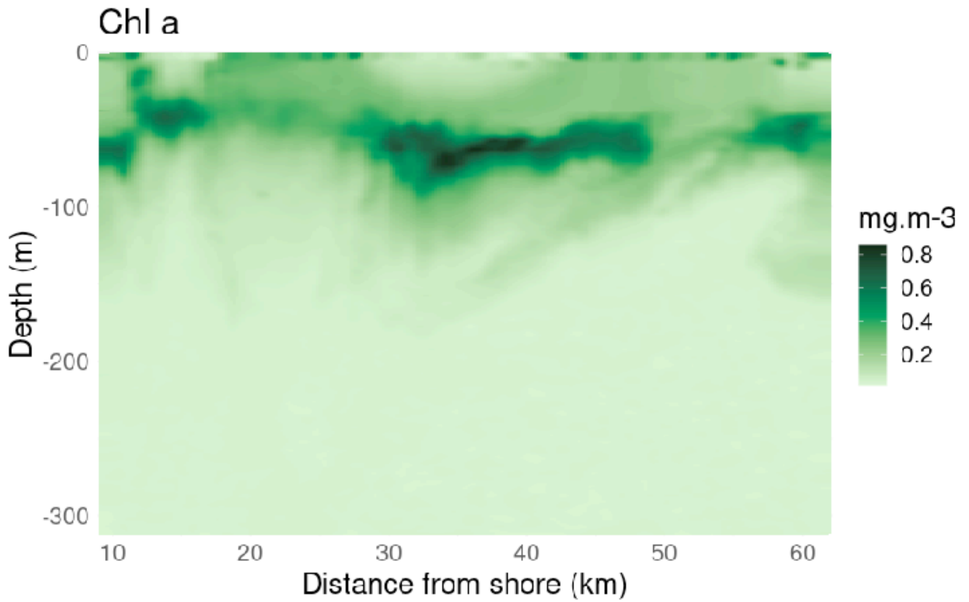


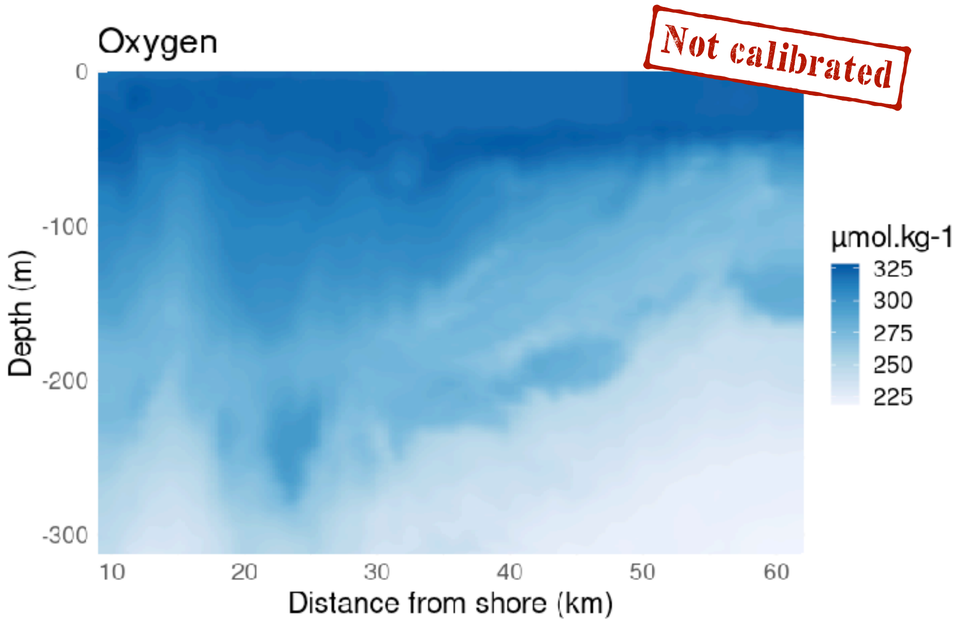
Environmental data along a transect

May 2nd, 2021





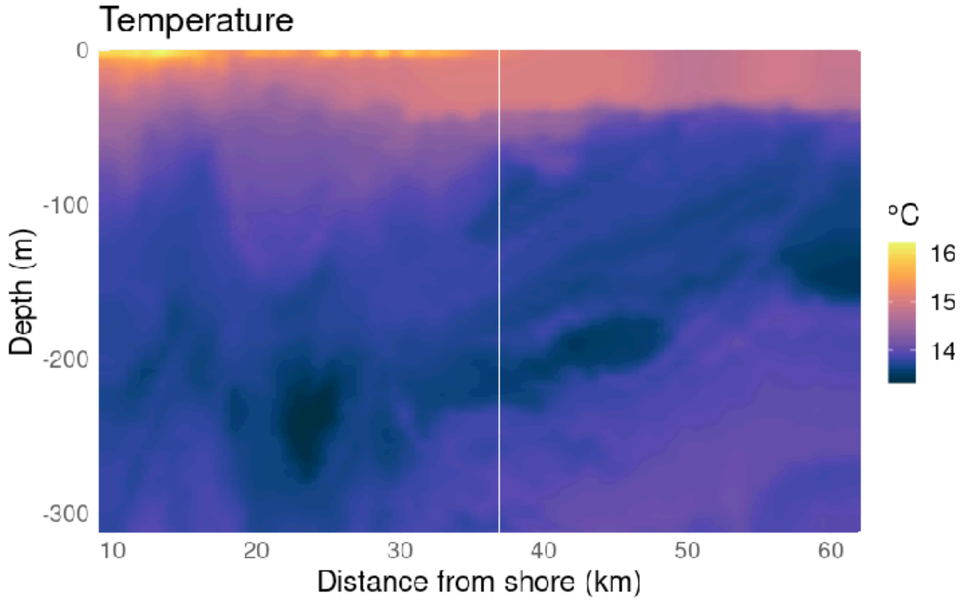




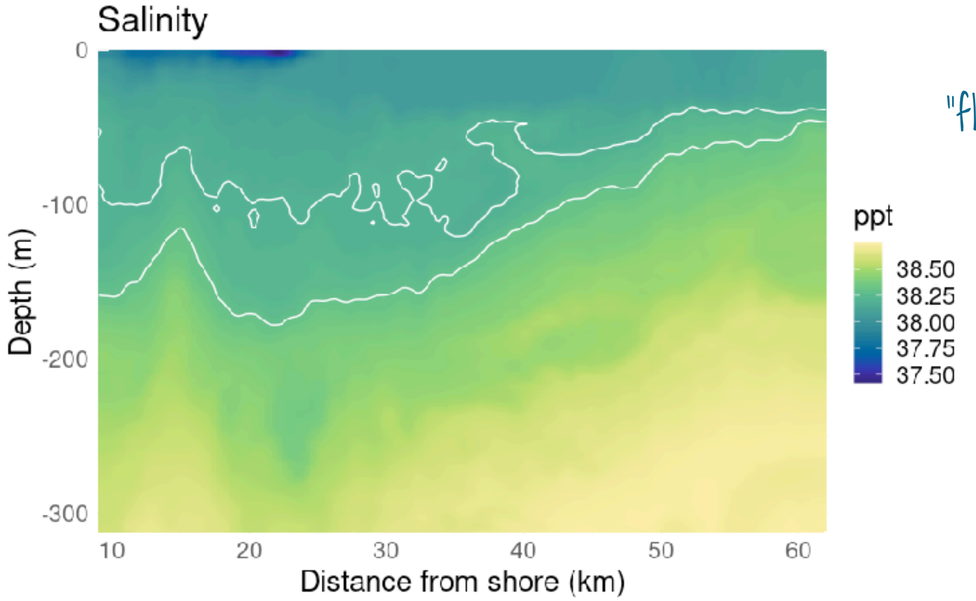
Environmental data along a transect

May 2nd, 2021

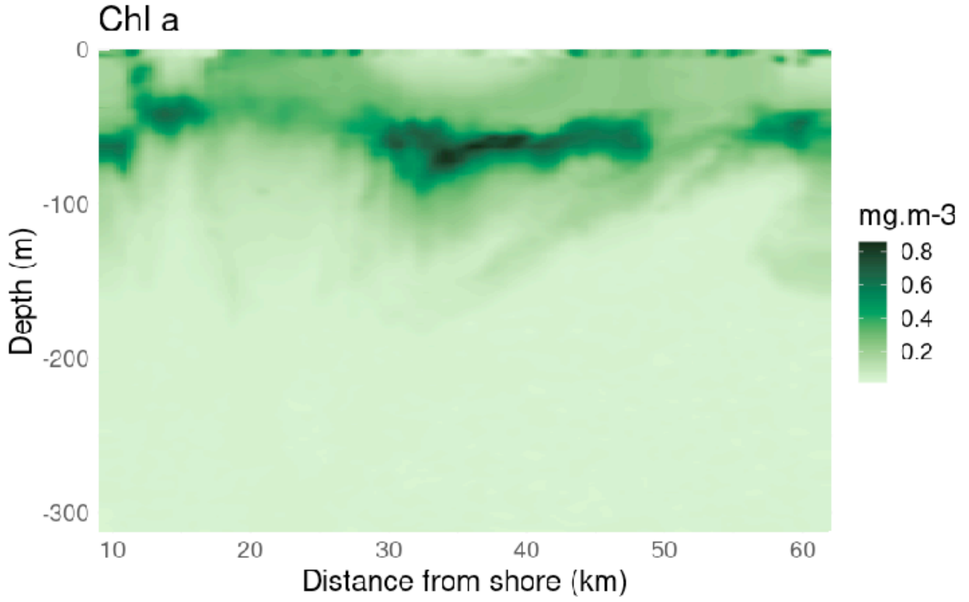
beginning of stratification

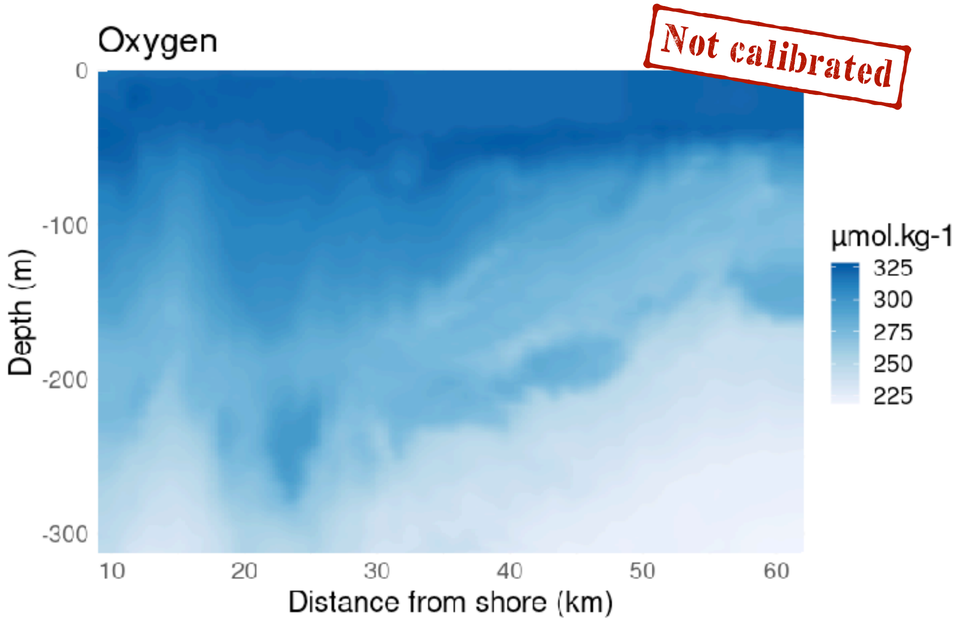


"flat" front

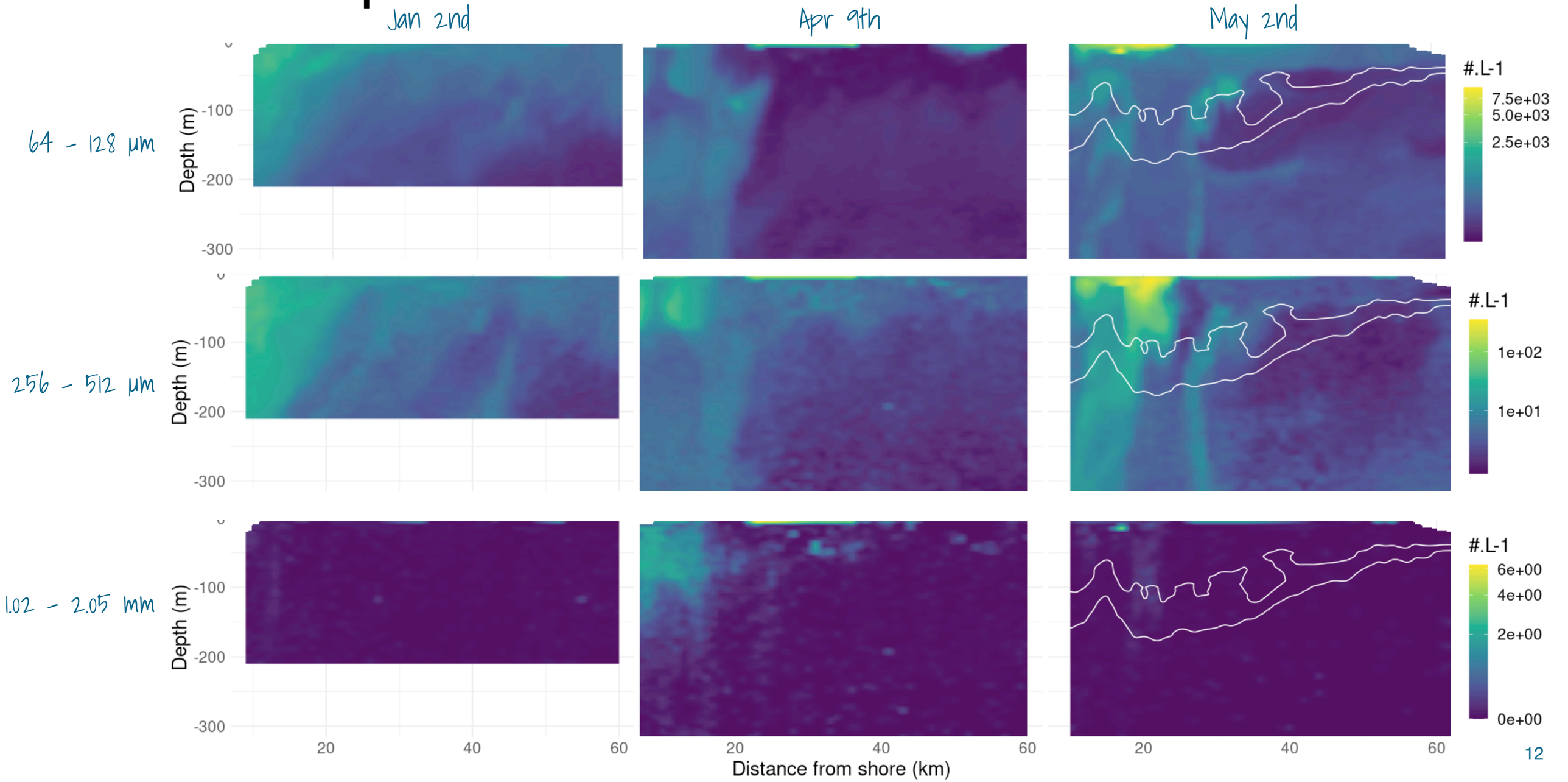


deep chlorophyll maximum

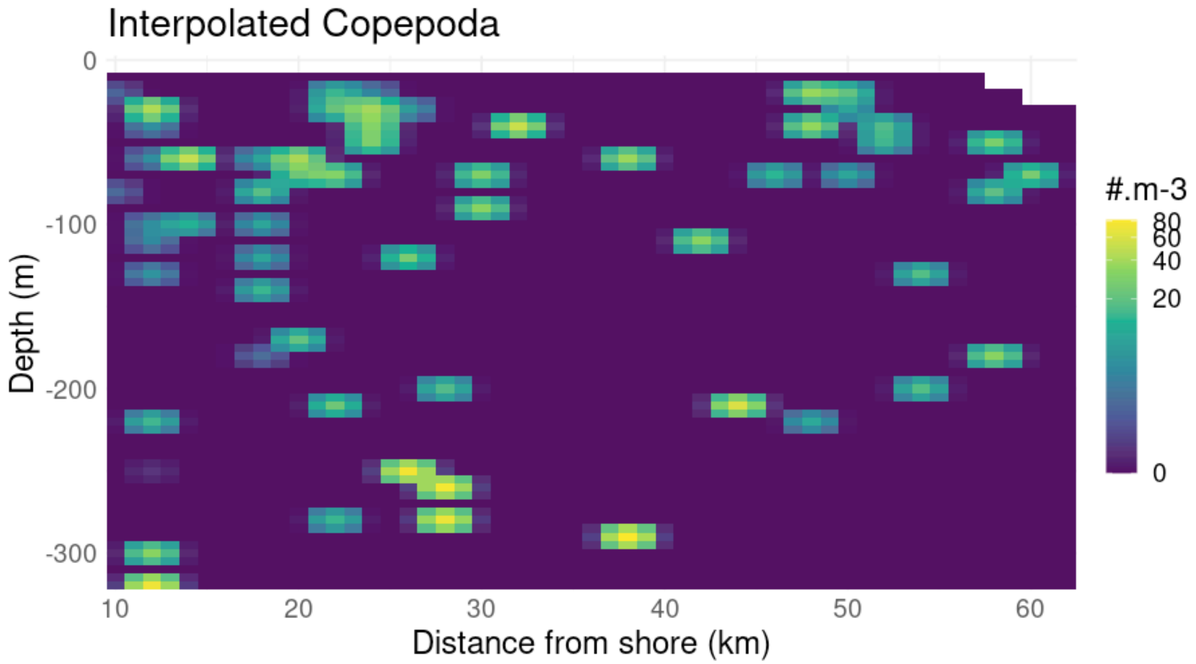


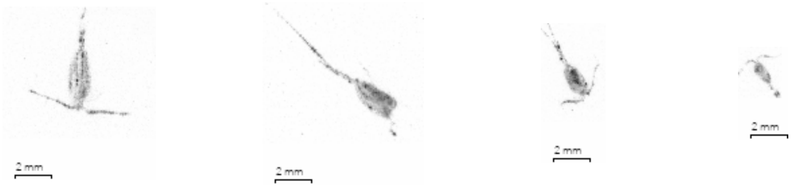


Fine-scale particles distribution



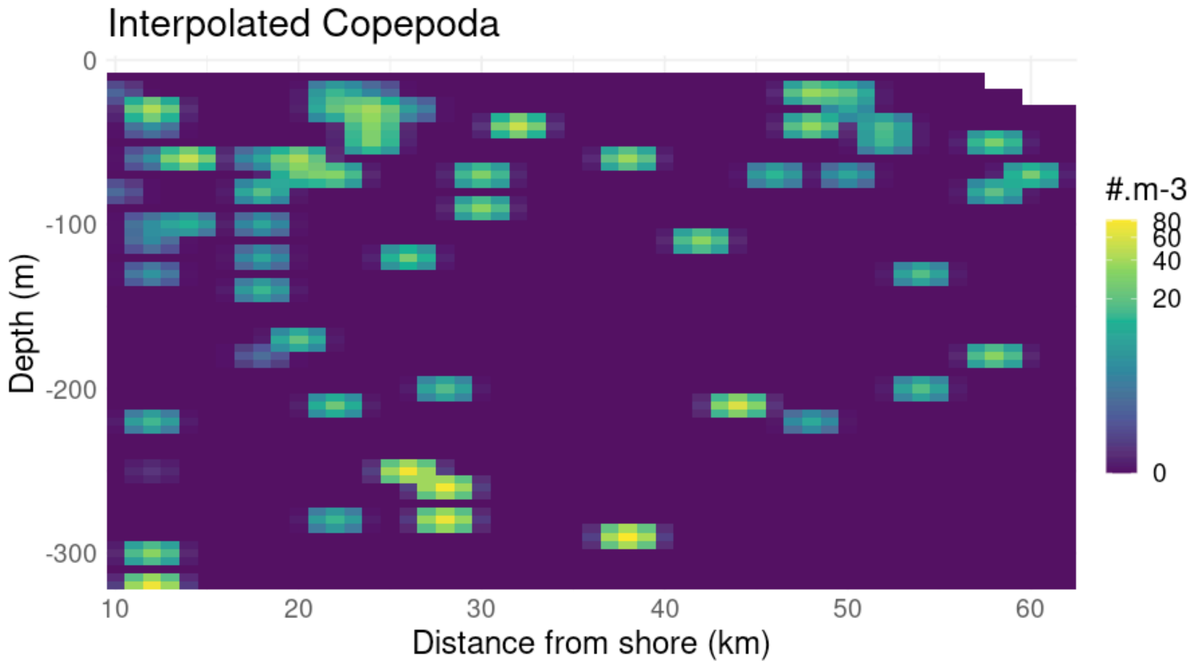
Fine-scale plankton distribution

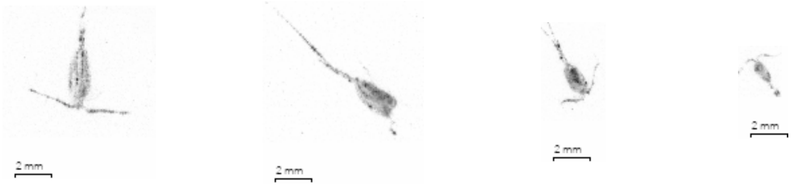




Fine-scale plankton distribution

😫

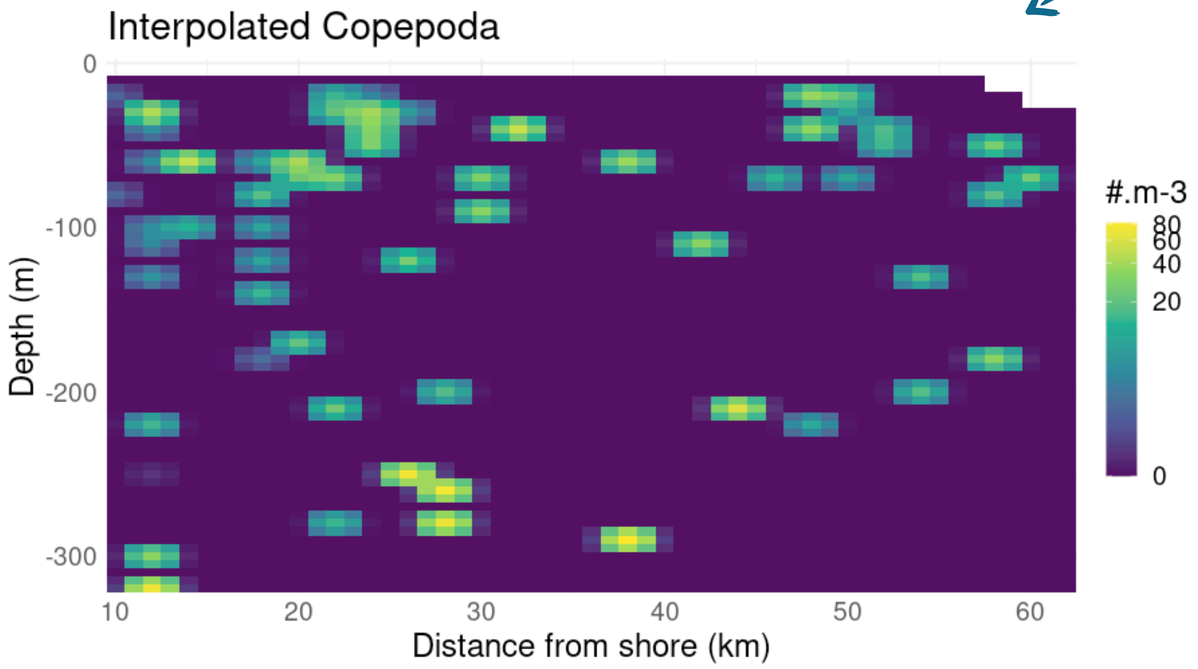


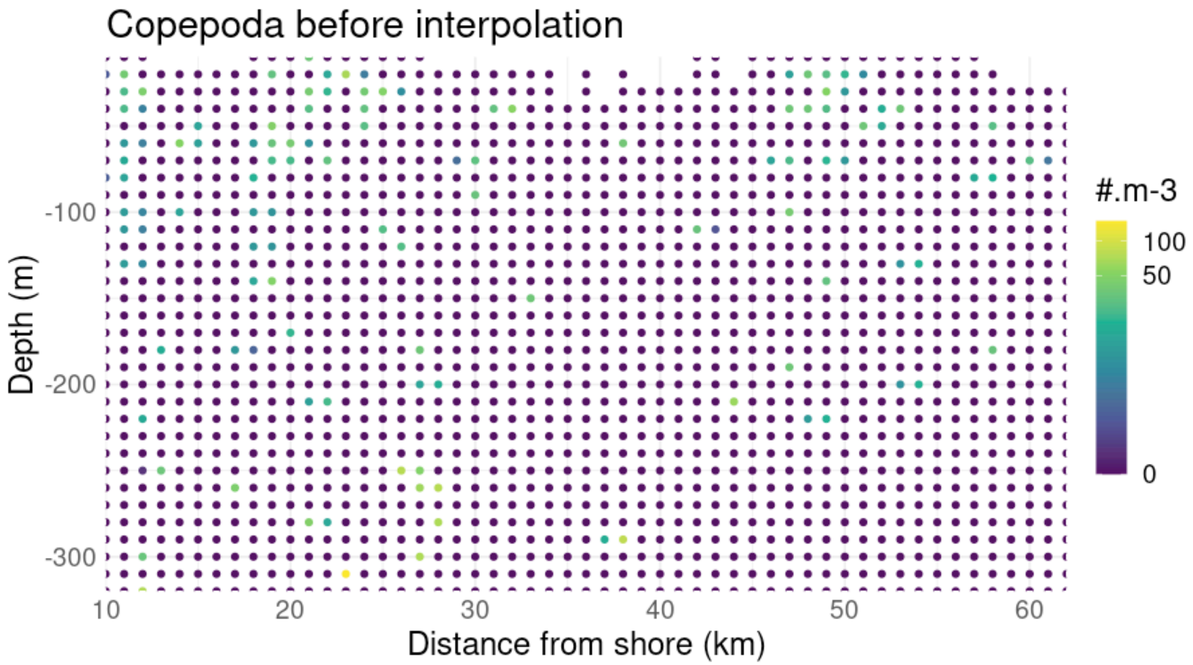


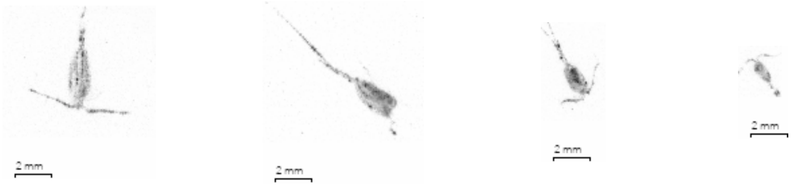
Fine-scale plankton distribution

😫

interpolated from

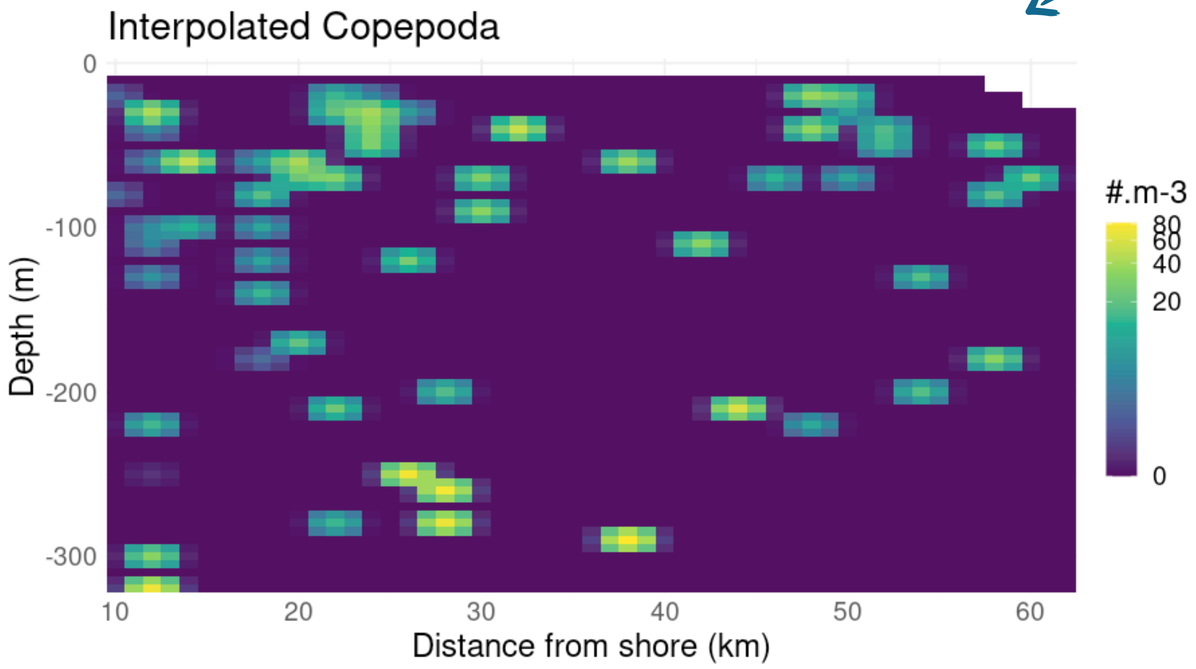


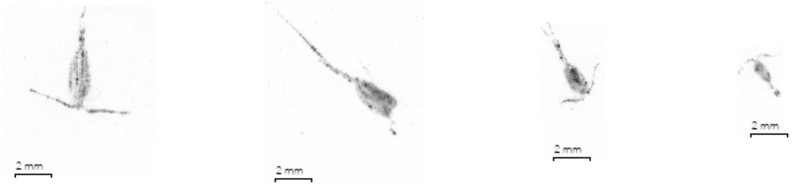


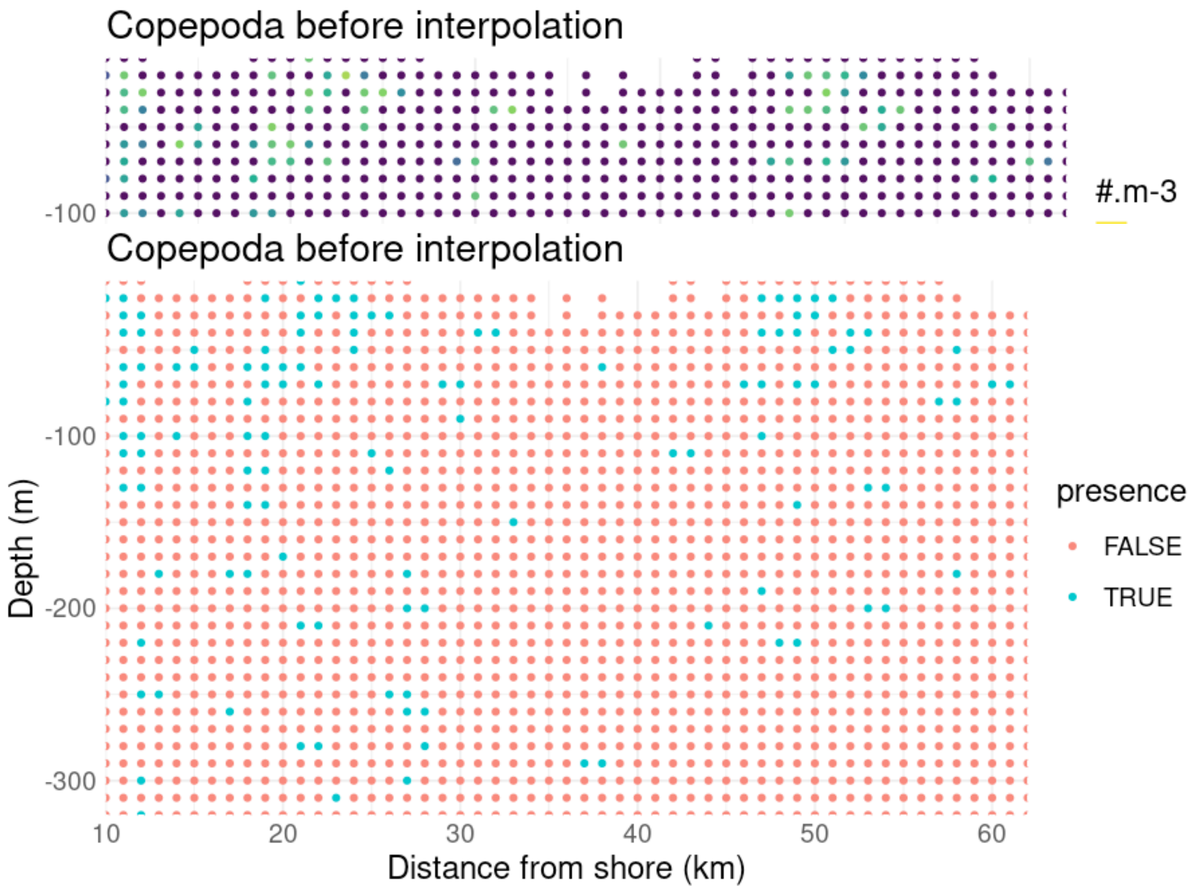


Fine-scale plankton distribution

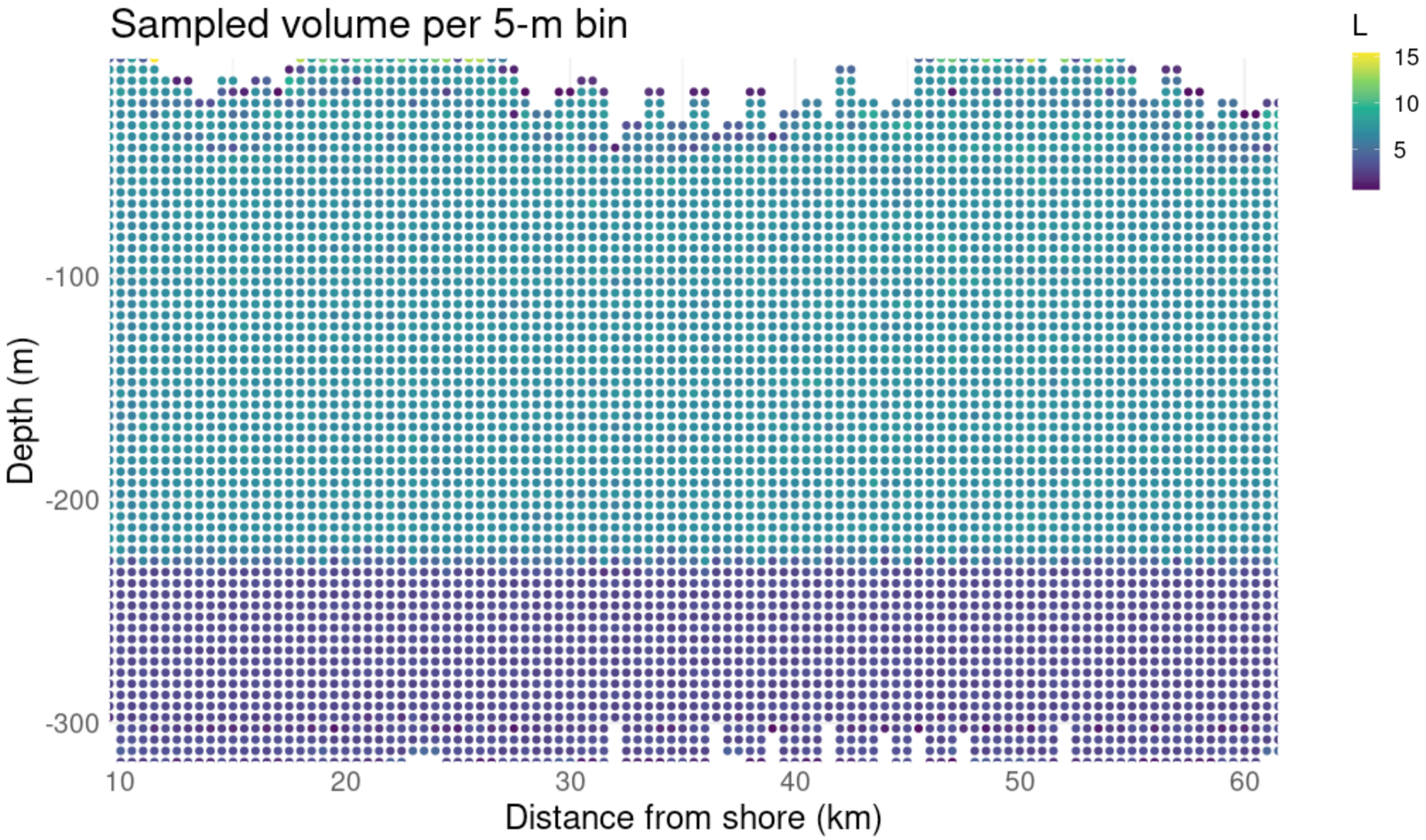
interpolated from



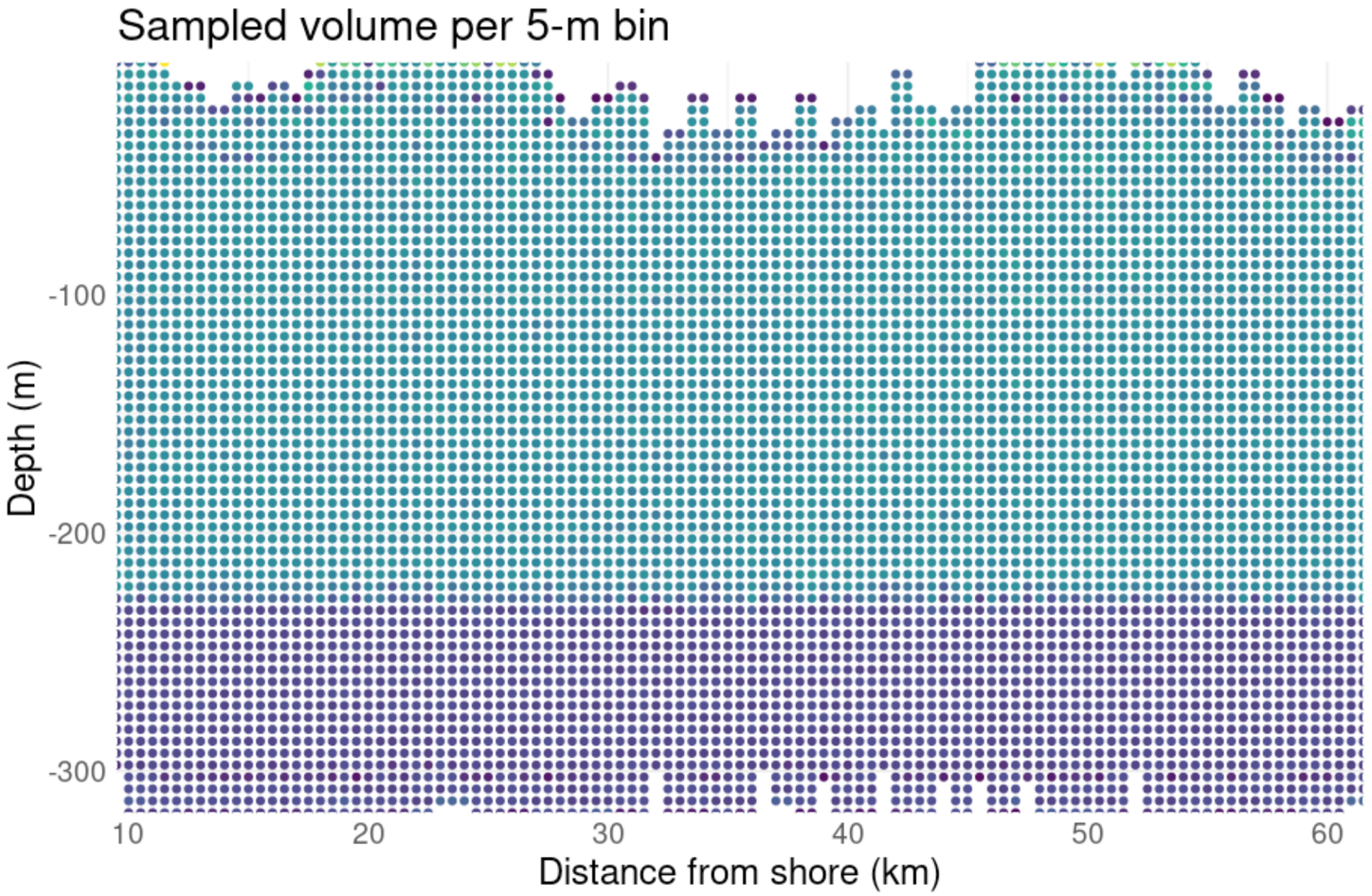




Sampled volumes



Sampled volumes



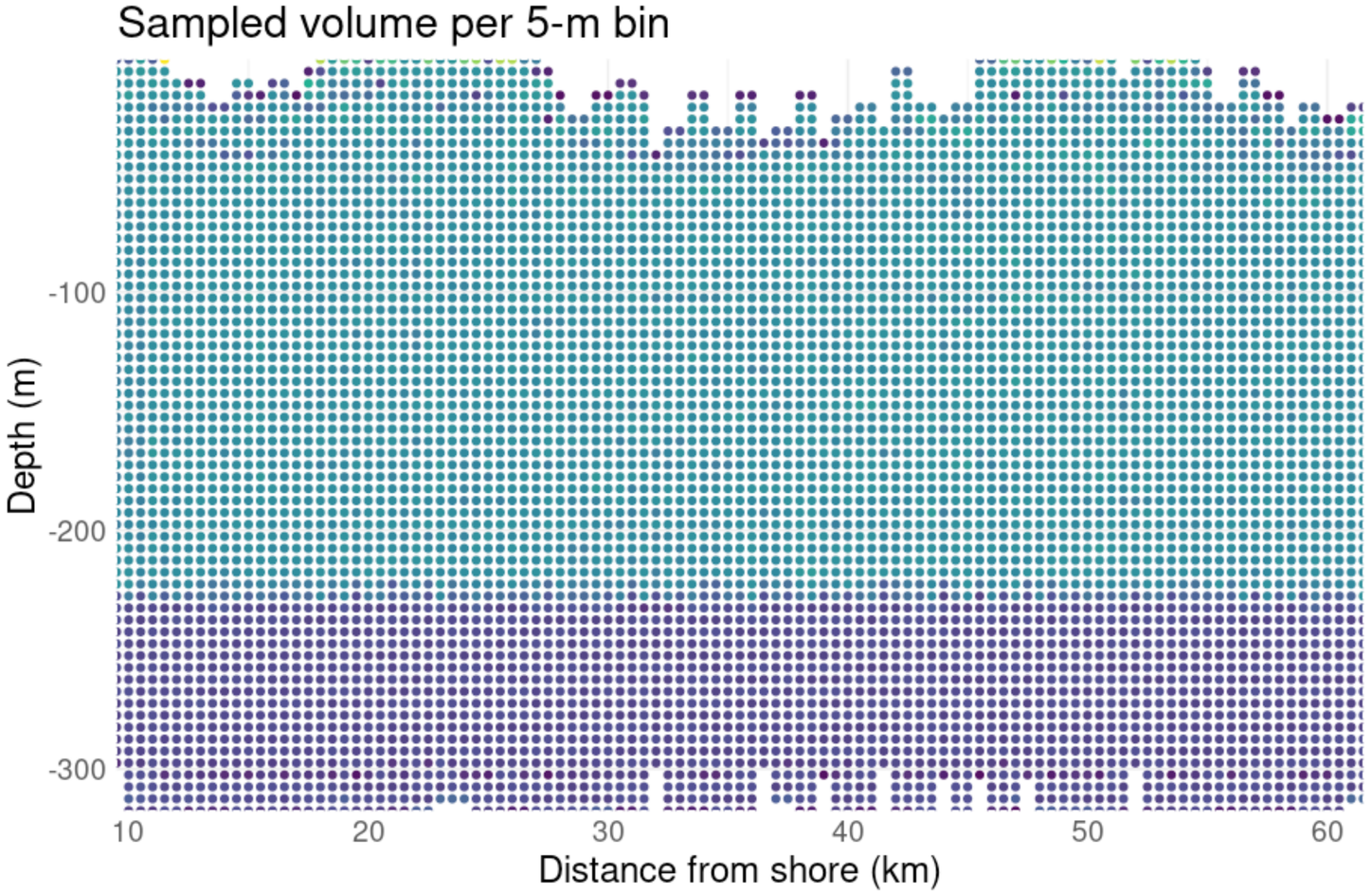
220 m

1.3 Hz ⟶ ~8.5 L per 5-m bin

0.5 Hz ⟶ ~3 L per 5-m bin

Sampled volumes

Sampled volume does not allow to resolve fine-scale plankton distribution...



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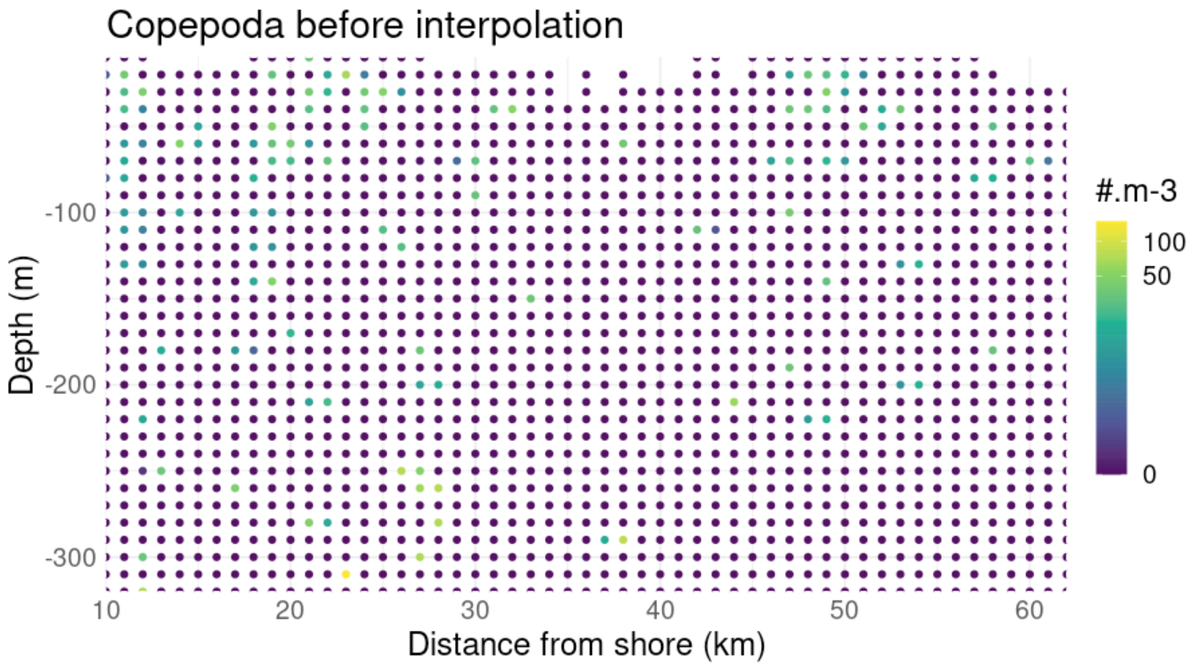
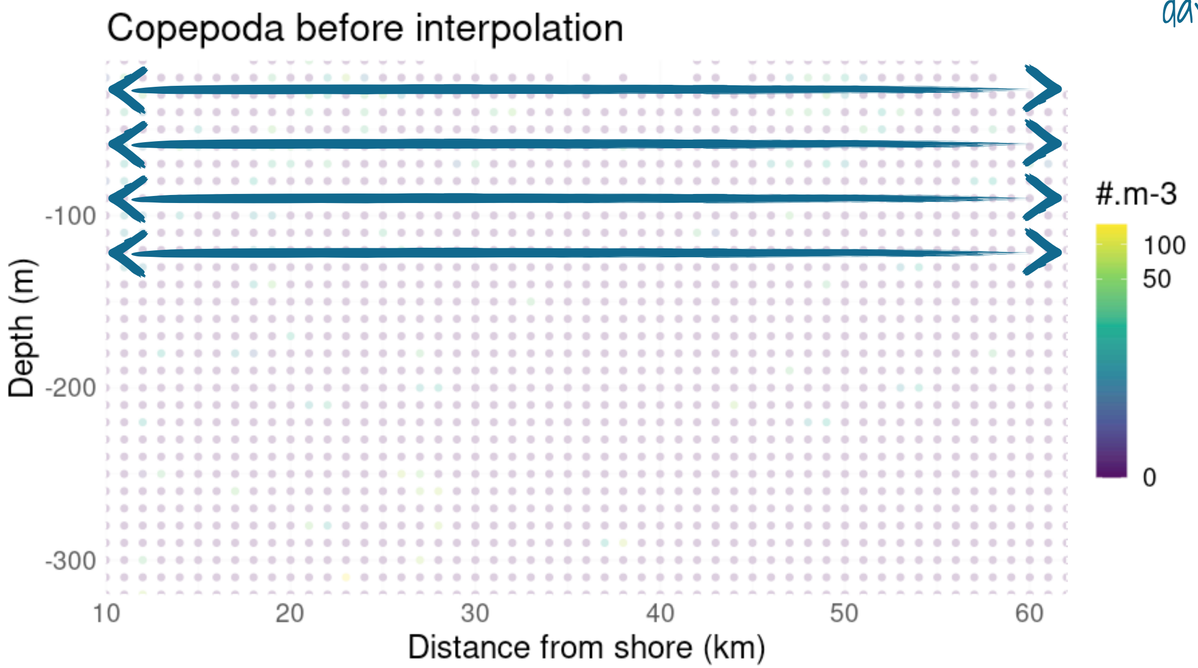
Plankton distribution



Plankton distribution

depth-wise integration

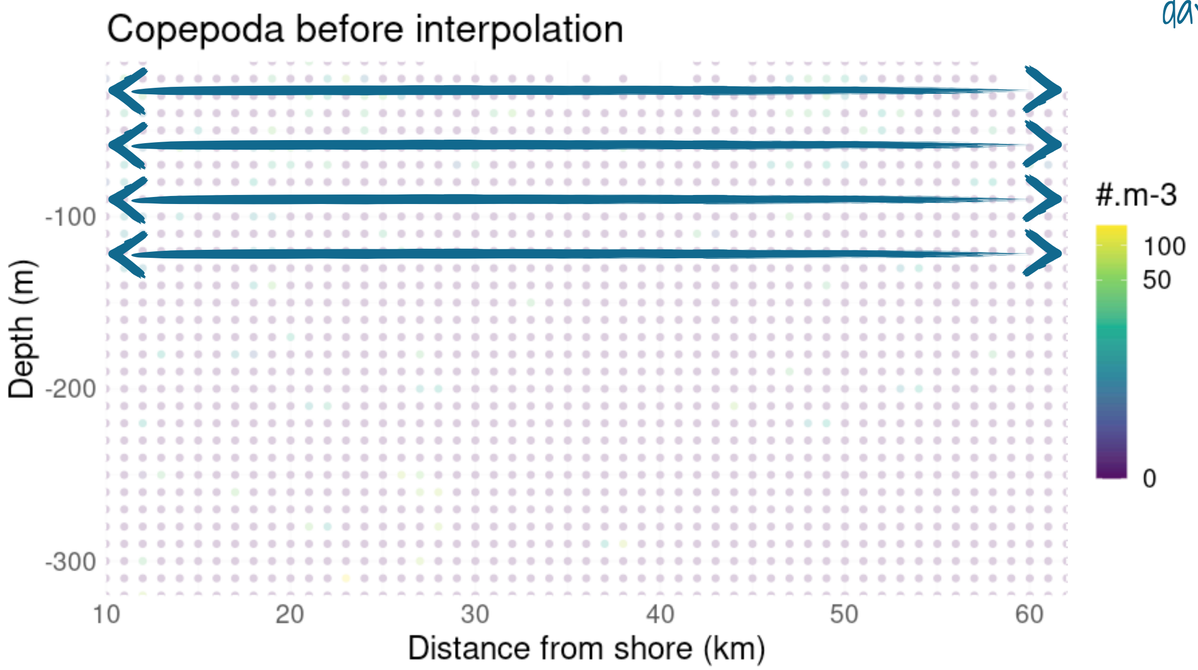
day and night separated

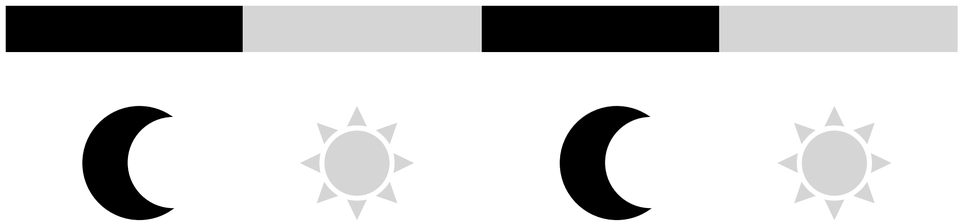


Plankton distribution

depth-wise integration

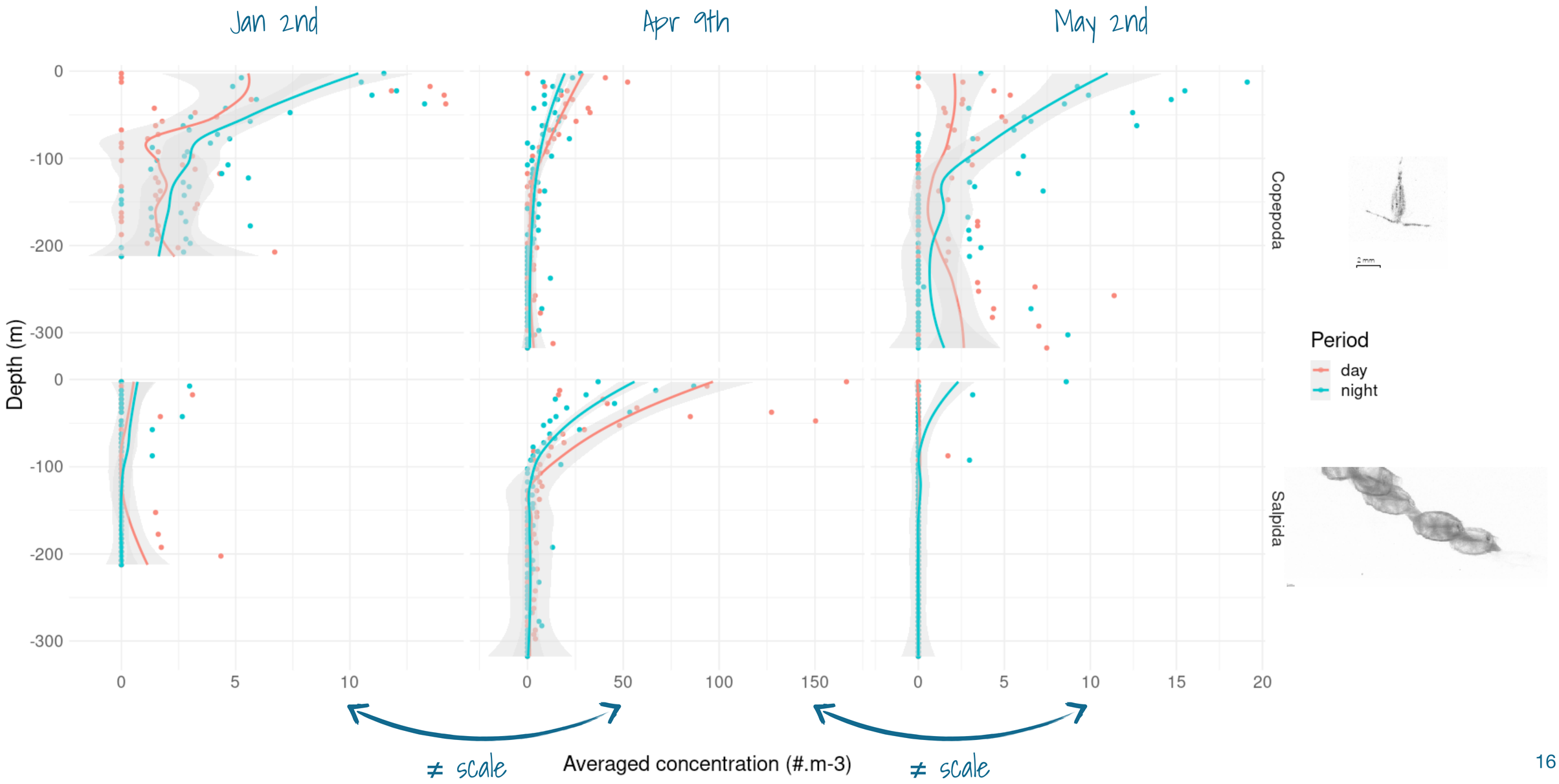
day and night separated



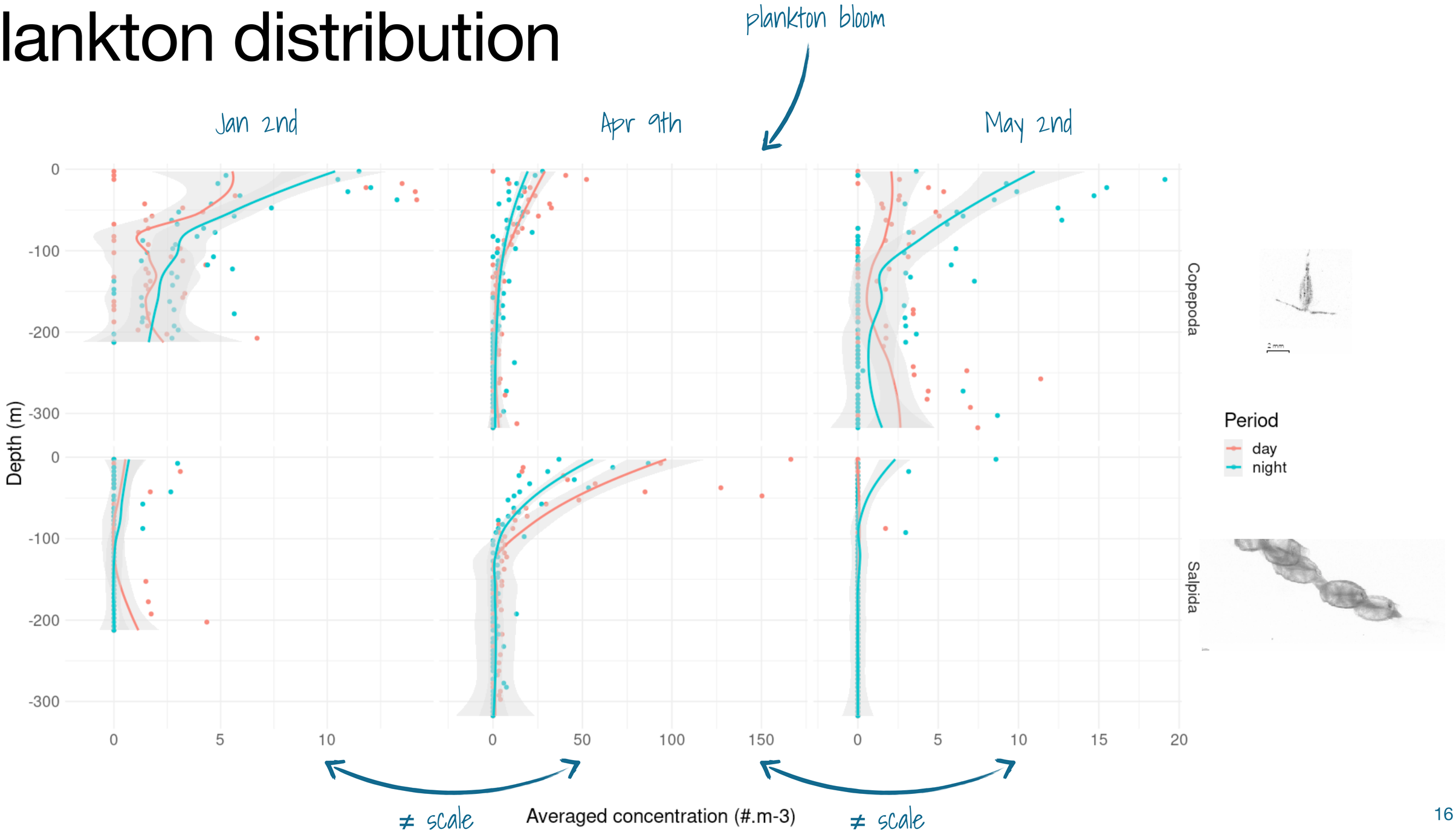


1 transect = 2 days

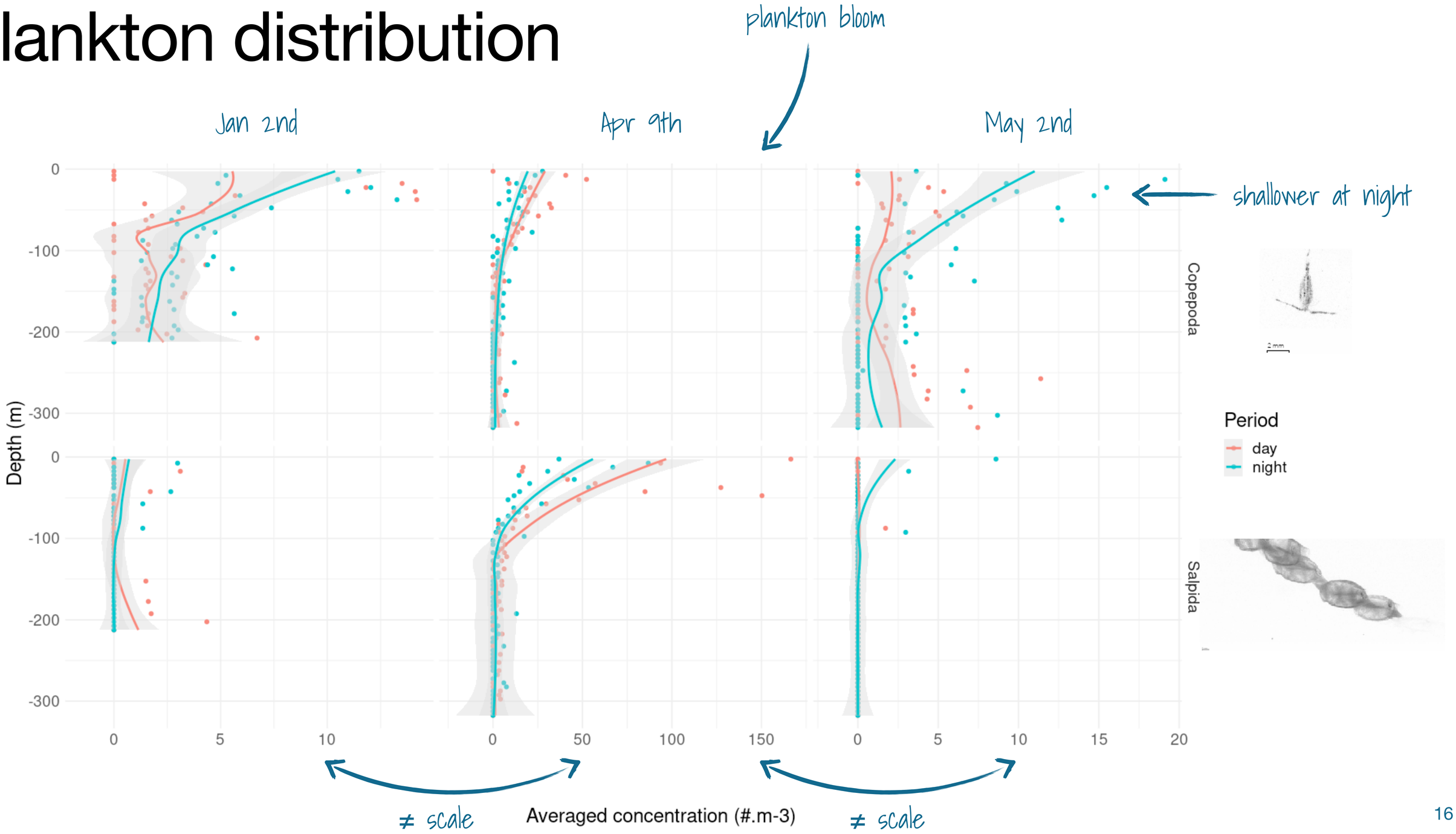
Plankton distribution



Plankton distribution



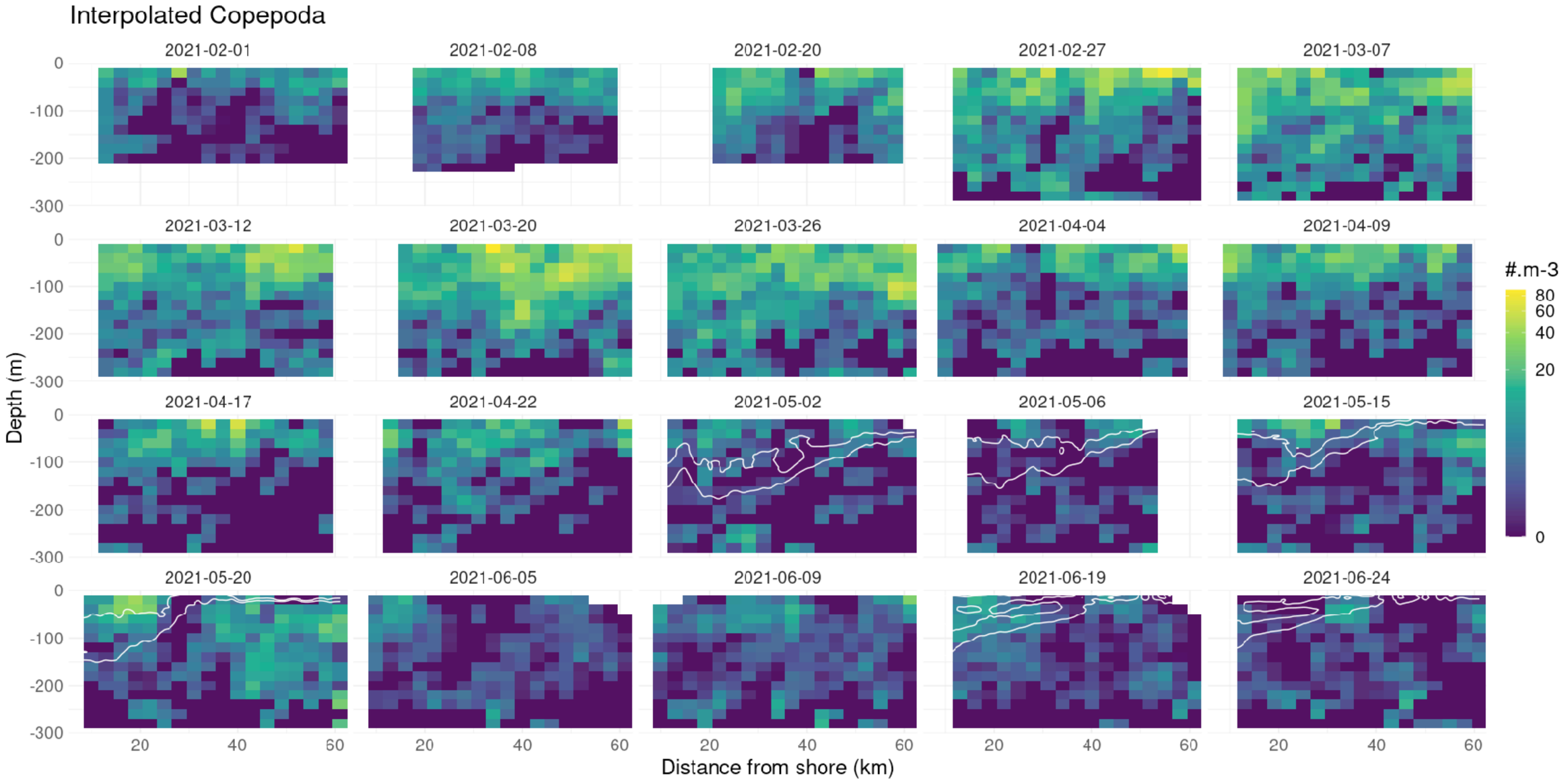
Plankton distribution



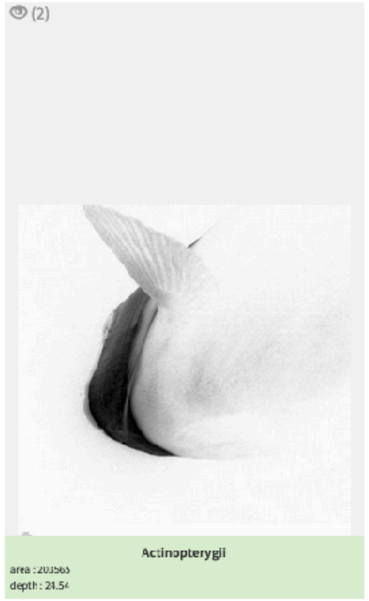
Plankton distribution

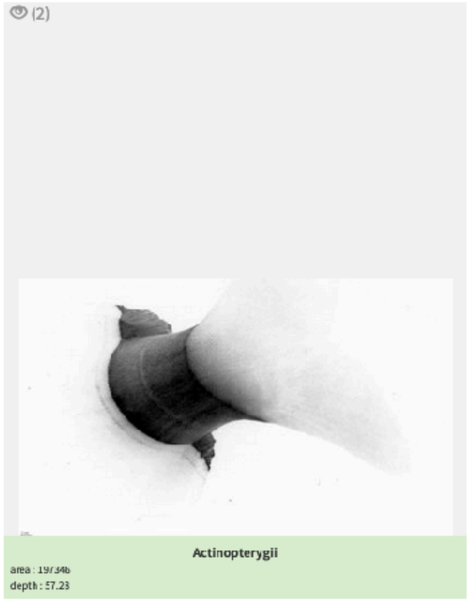
Larger bins, lower resolution

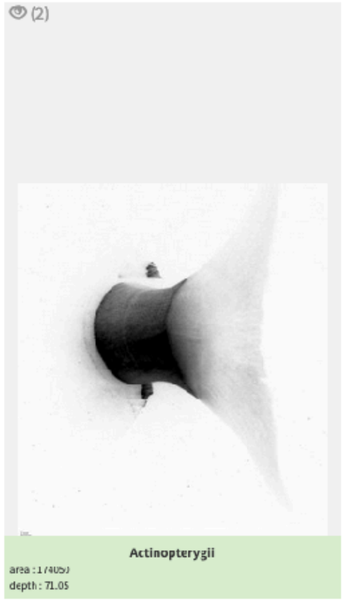
... but allows mesoscale studies

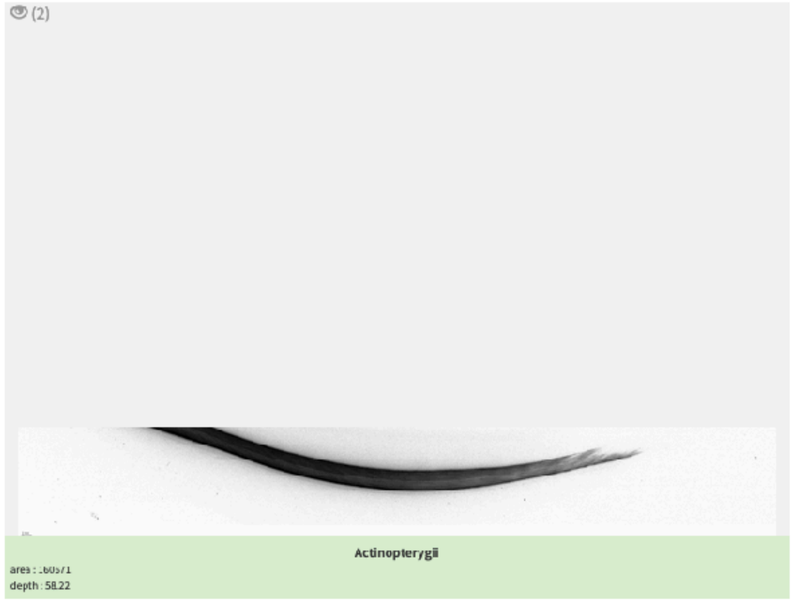


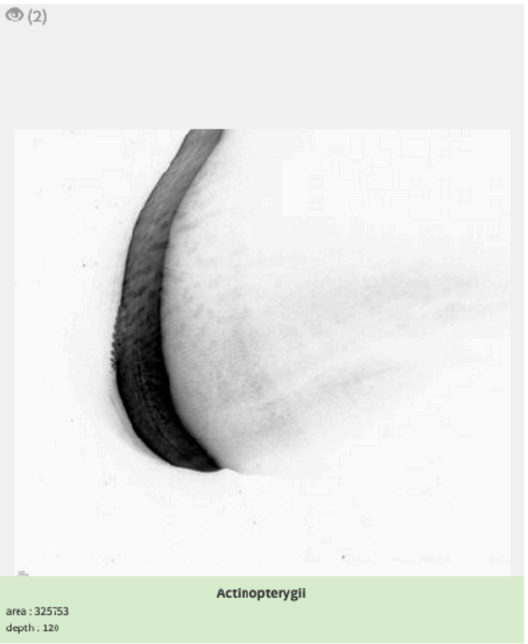
Sea002’s new friends

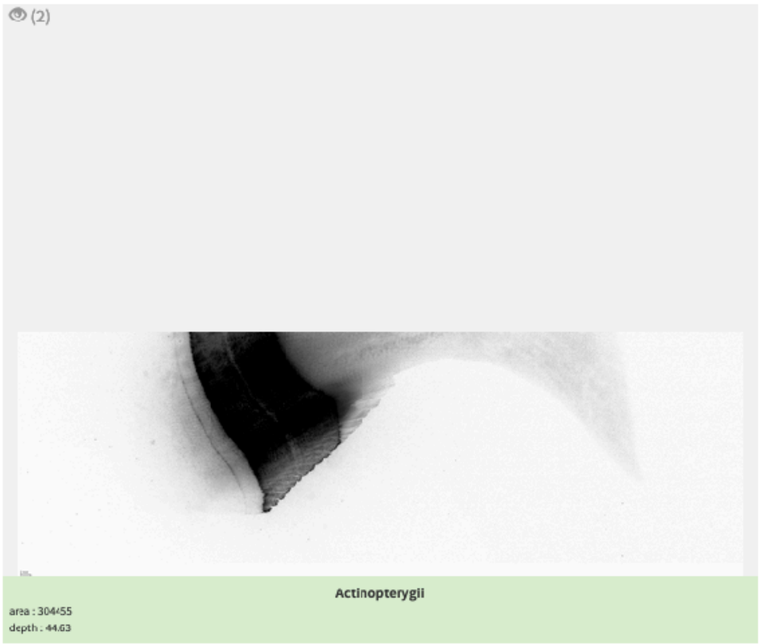


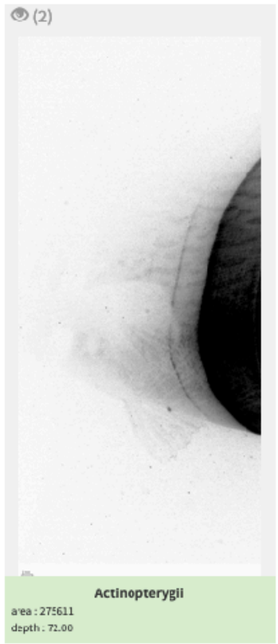


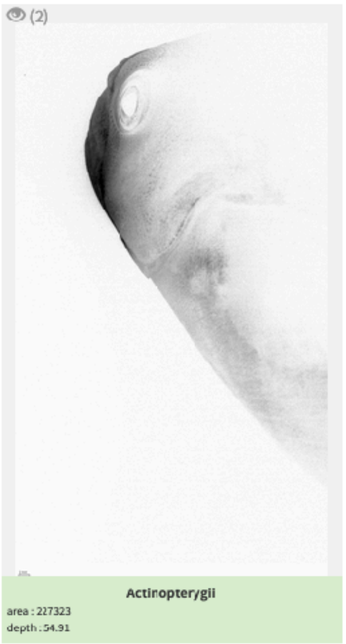












Thank you for your attention