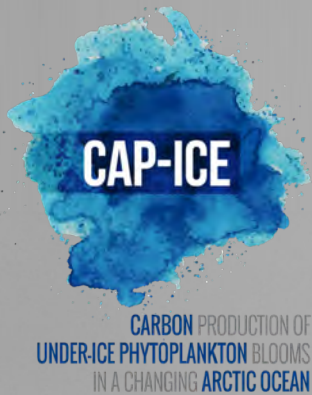


Ocean Carbon & Biogeochemistry meeting, June 27



# Recent changes in phytoplankton productivity and phenology in the Arctic Ocean

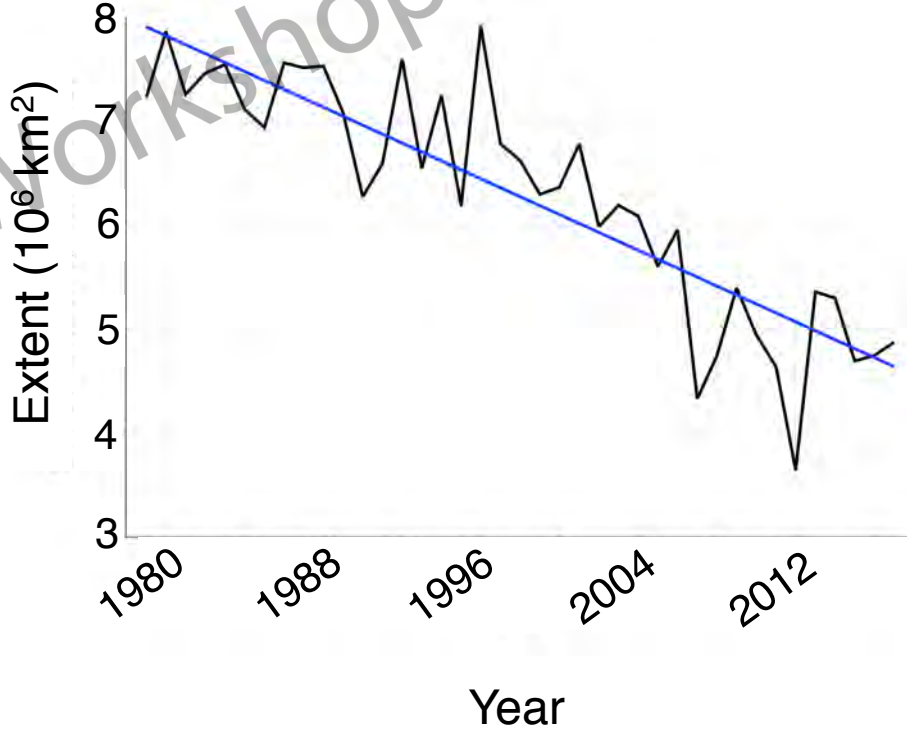


**Mathieu Ardyna**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow  
Stanford University/Sorbonne Université



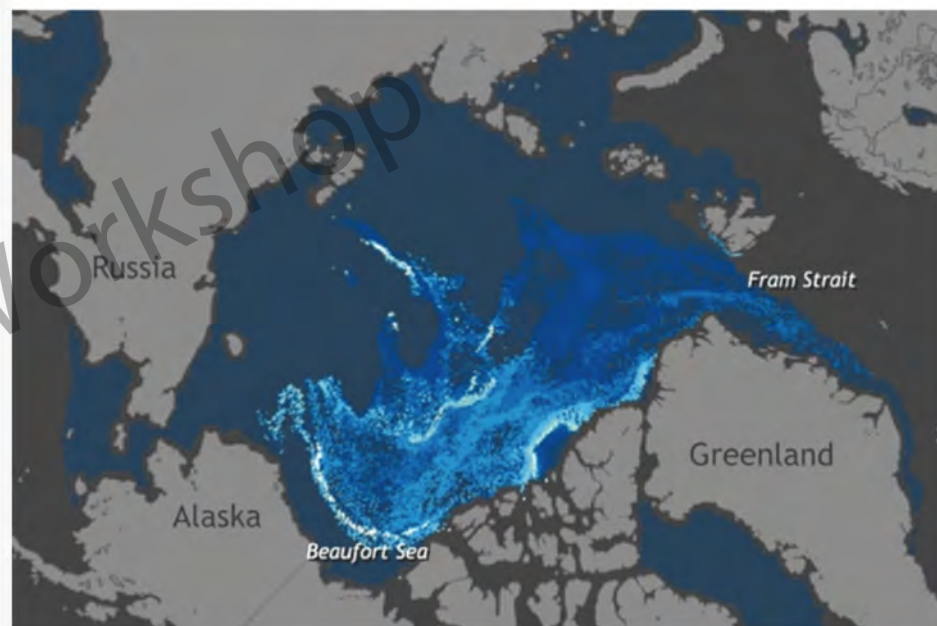
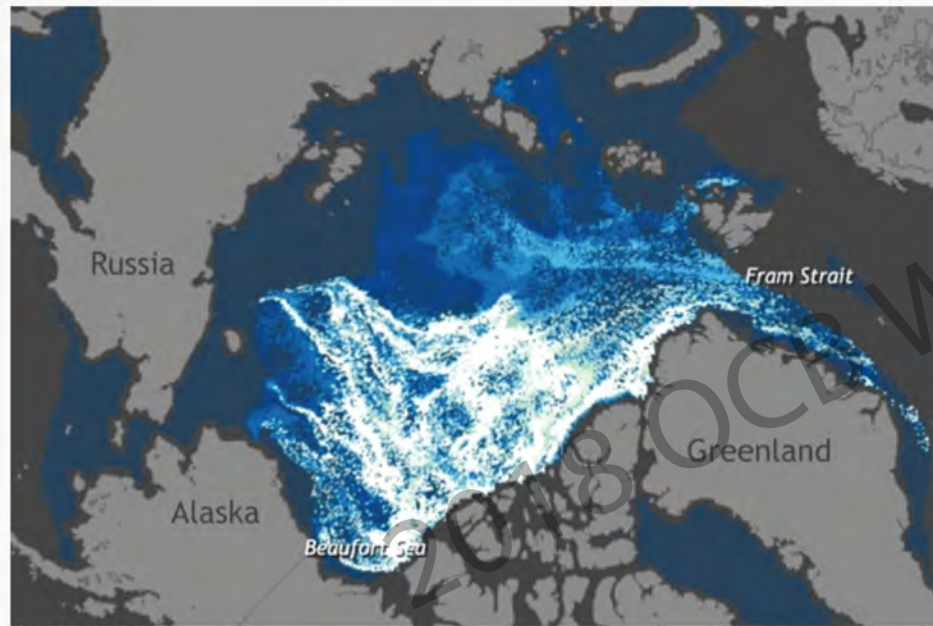
# LOSS IN SEA-ICE COVER IN SEPTEMBER



# LOSS IN MULTIYEAR SEA-ICE

March 1990

March 2016



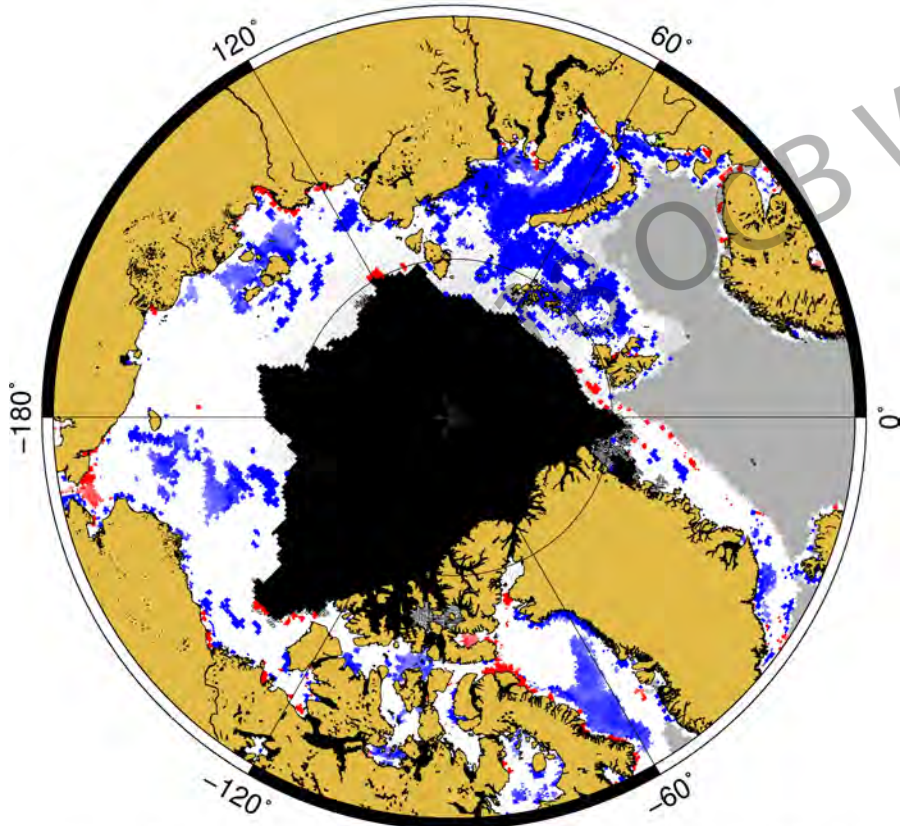
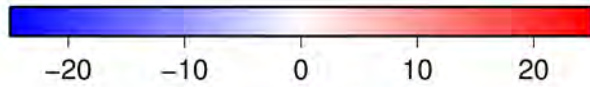
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 >9

Sea-ice age (years)

# EARLIER BREAKUP & DELAYED FREEZE-UP

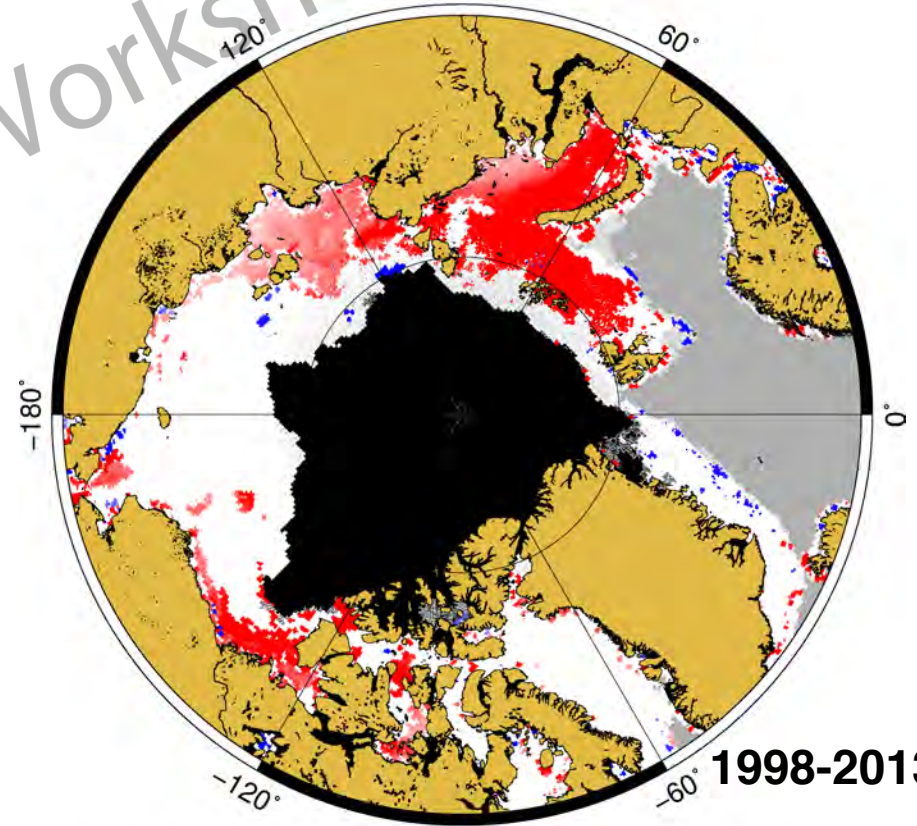
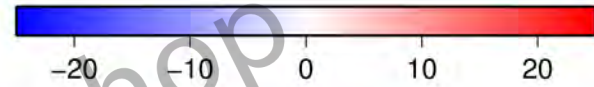
## Breakup

Trend (in day per decade)



## Freeze-up

Trend (in day per decade)



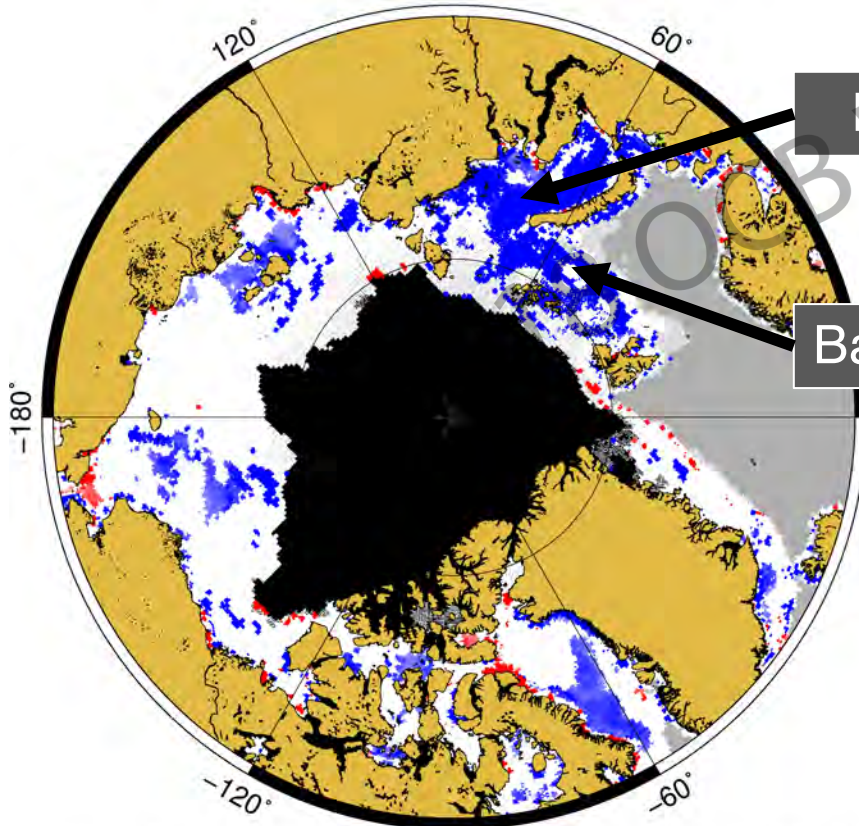
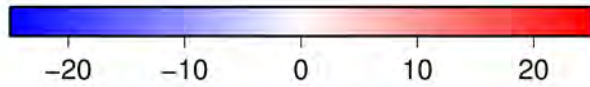
1998-2013

Unpublished data

# EARLIER BREAKUP & DELAYED FREEZE-UP

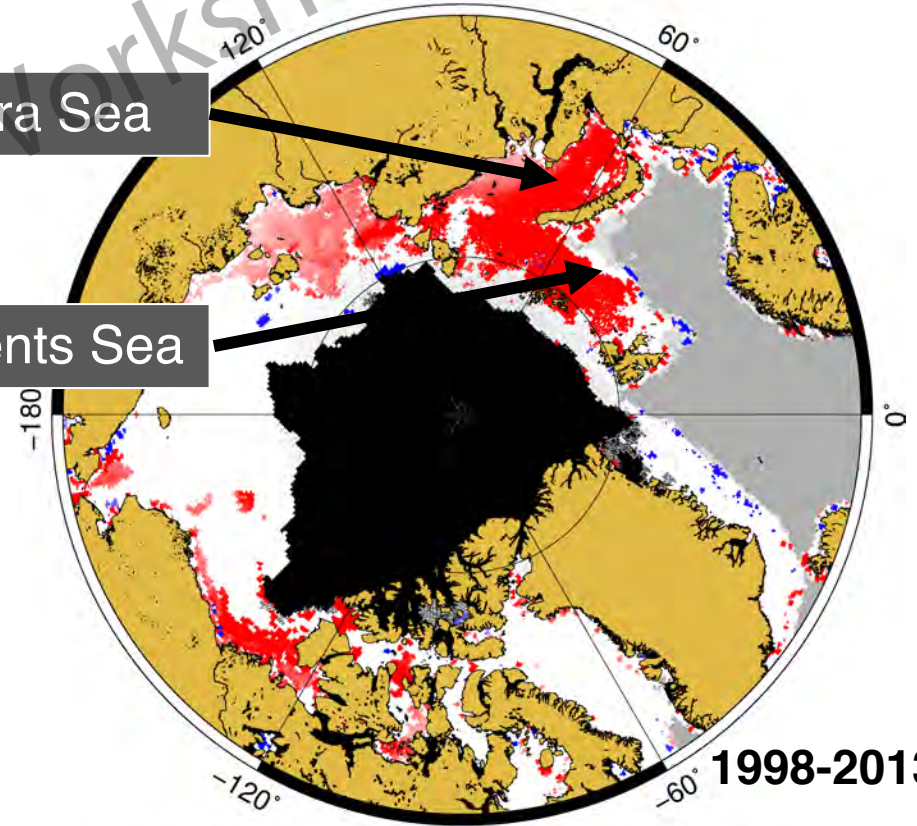
## Breakup

Trend (in day per decade)



## Freeze-up

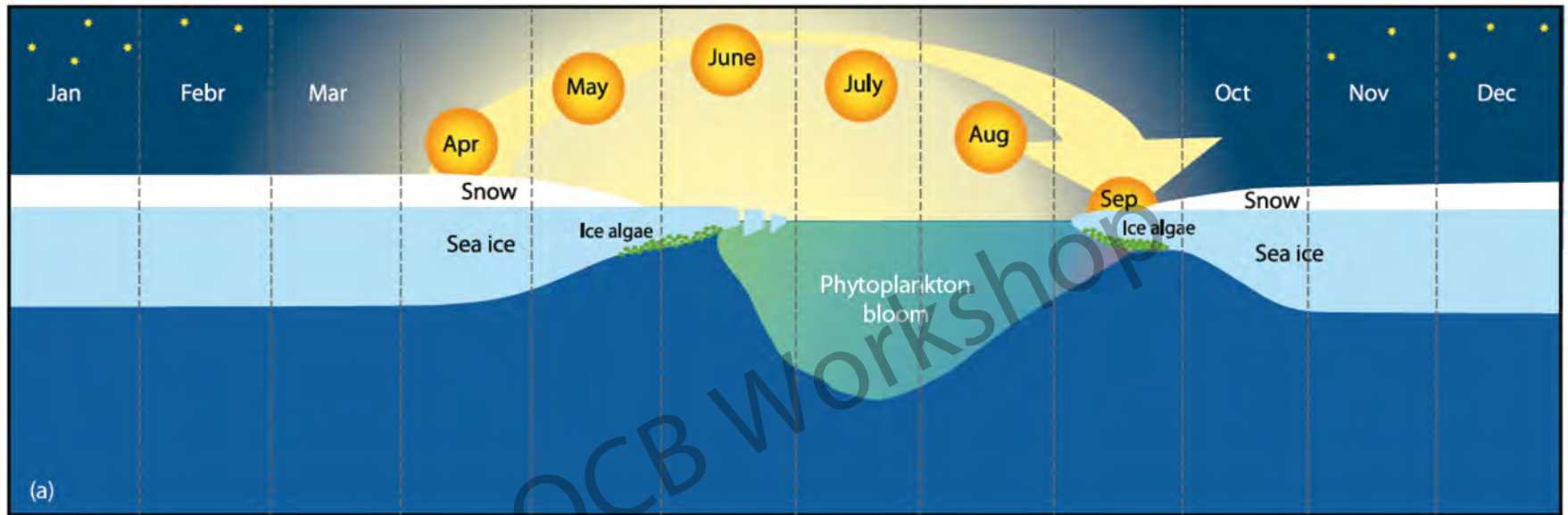
Trend (in day per decade)



1998-2013

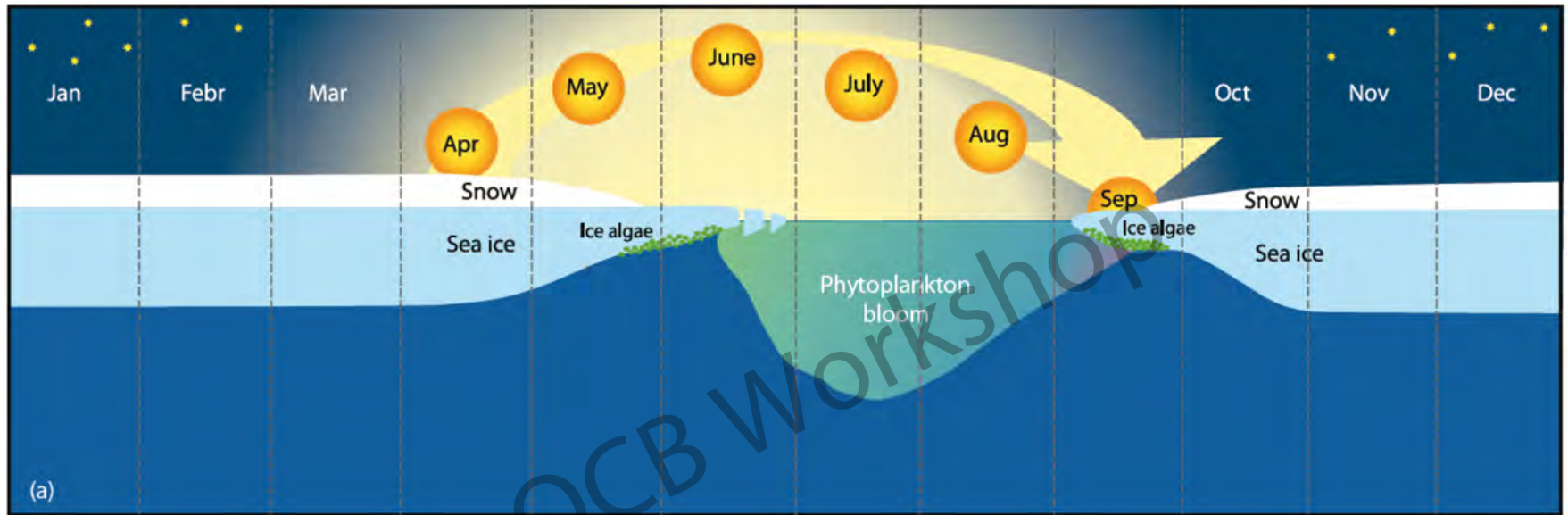
Unpublished data

# THE KEY FEATURES IN PHYTOPLANKTON PHENOLOGY



Phenology, the study of annually recurring life cycle events, can provide particularly sensitive indicators of climate change.

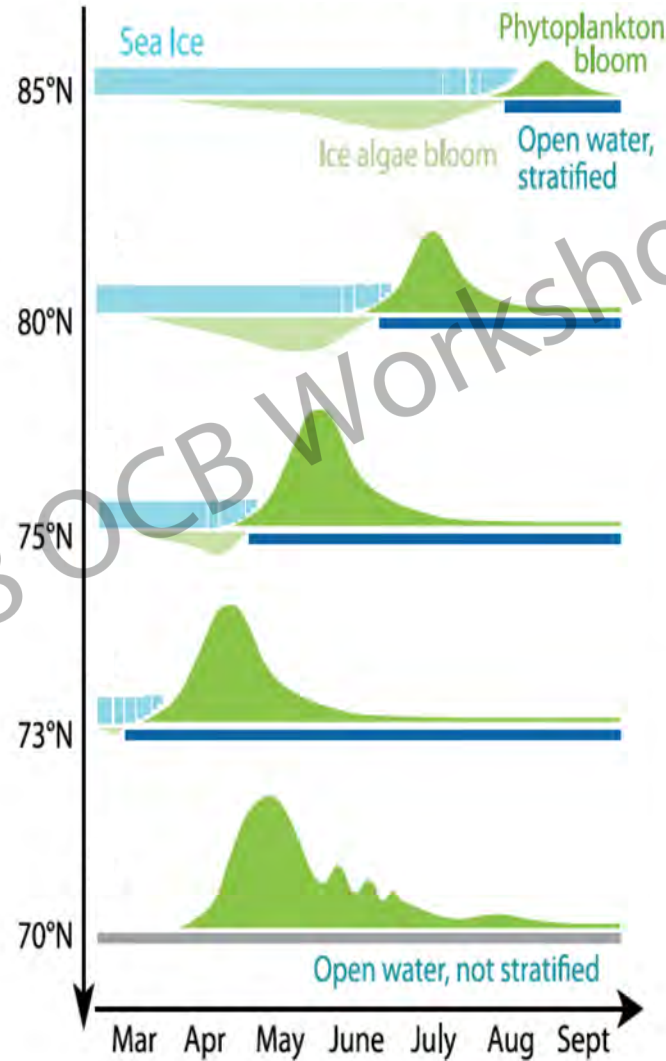
# THE KEY FEATURES IN PHYTOPLANKTON PHENOLOGY



- Break-up and freeze-up time that determine the duration of the open-water period
- Seasonal light cycle
- Properties of the snow-ice system
- Nutrient dynamics
- Top-down control

# ONGOING CHANGES IN PHYTOPLANKTON PHENOLOGY

## Present

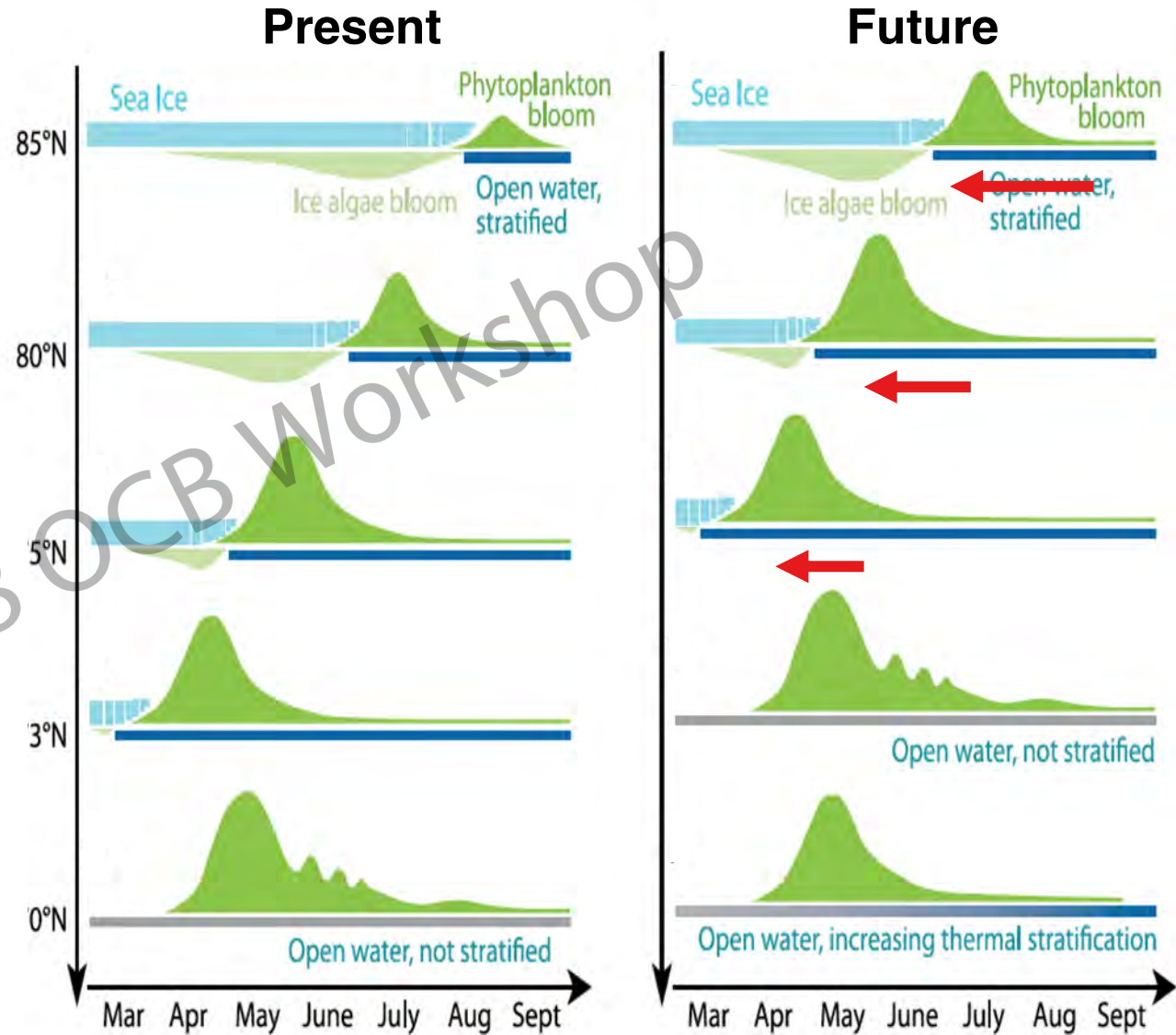




# ONGOING CHANGES IN PHYTOPLANKTON PHENOLOGY

## Key satellite-derived findings (2011- now):

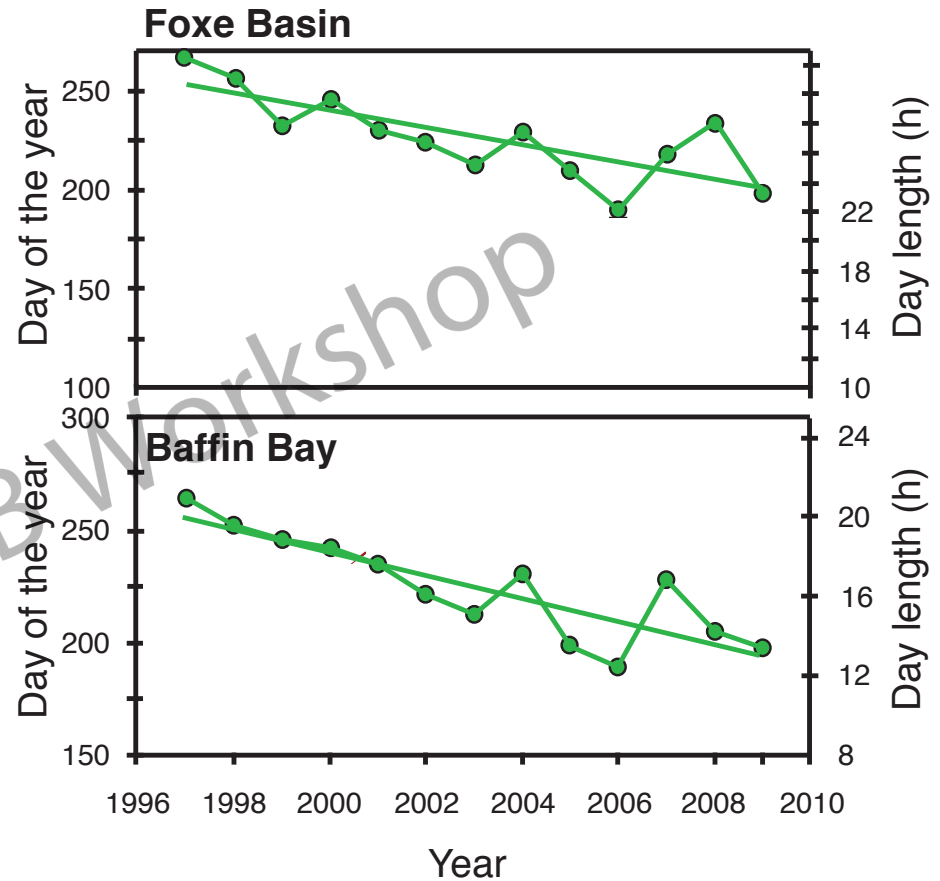
Earlier spring bloom in the seasonal ice zone



# EARLIER SPRING BLOOM IN THE SEASONAL ICE ZONE

Key satellite-derived findings (2011- now):

Earlier spring bloom in the seasonal ice zone

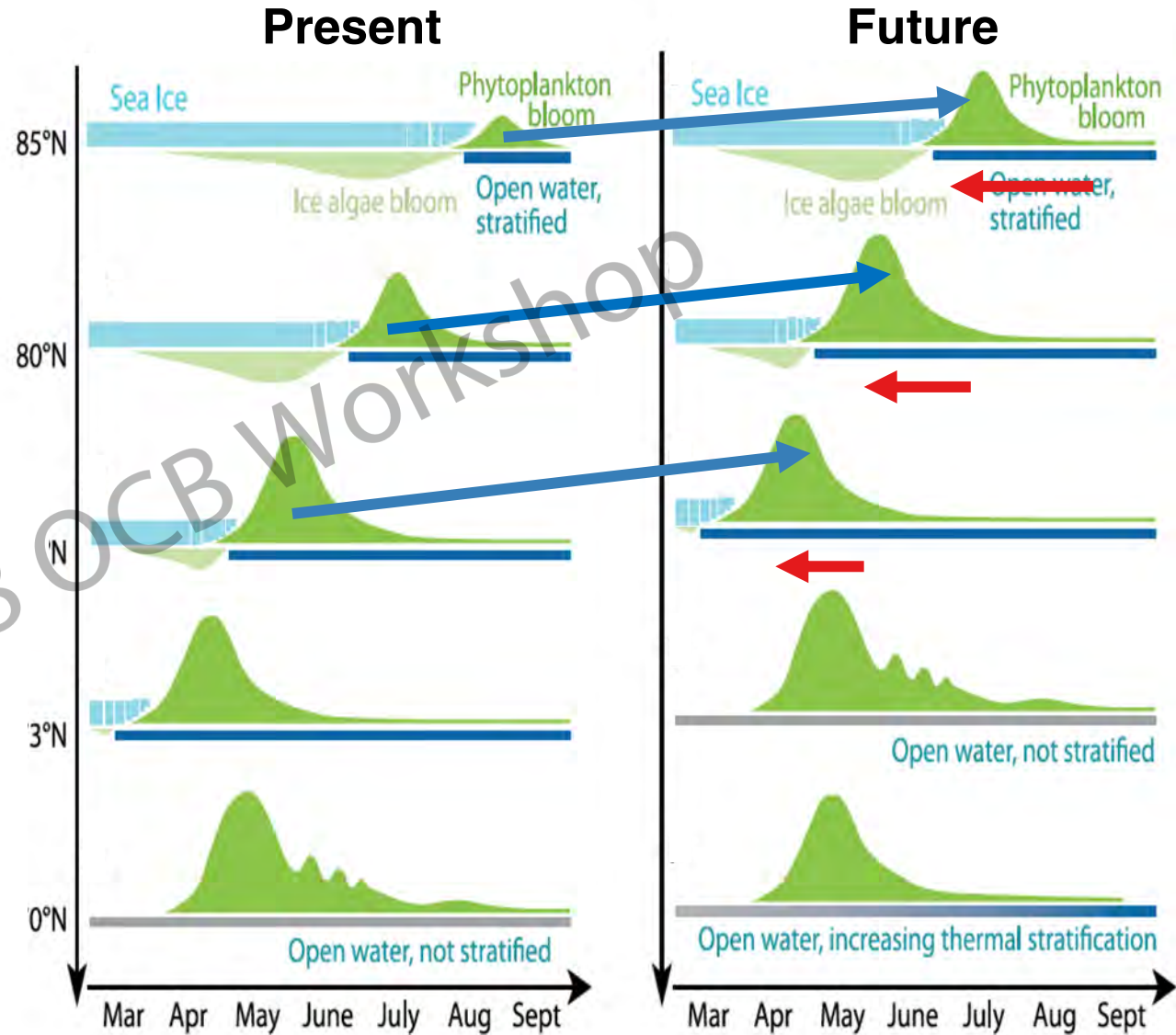


=> Due to early sea-ice break-up

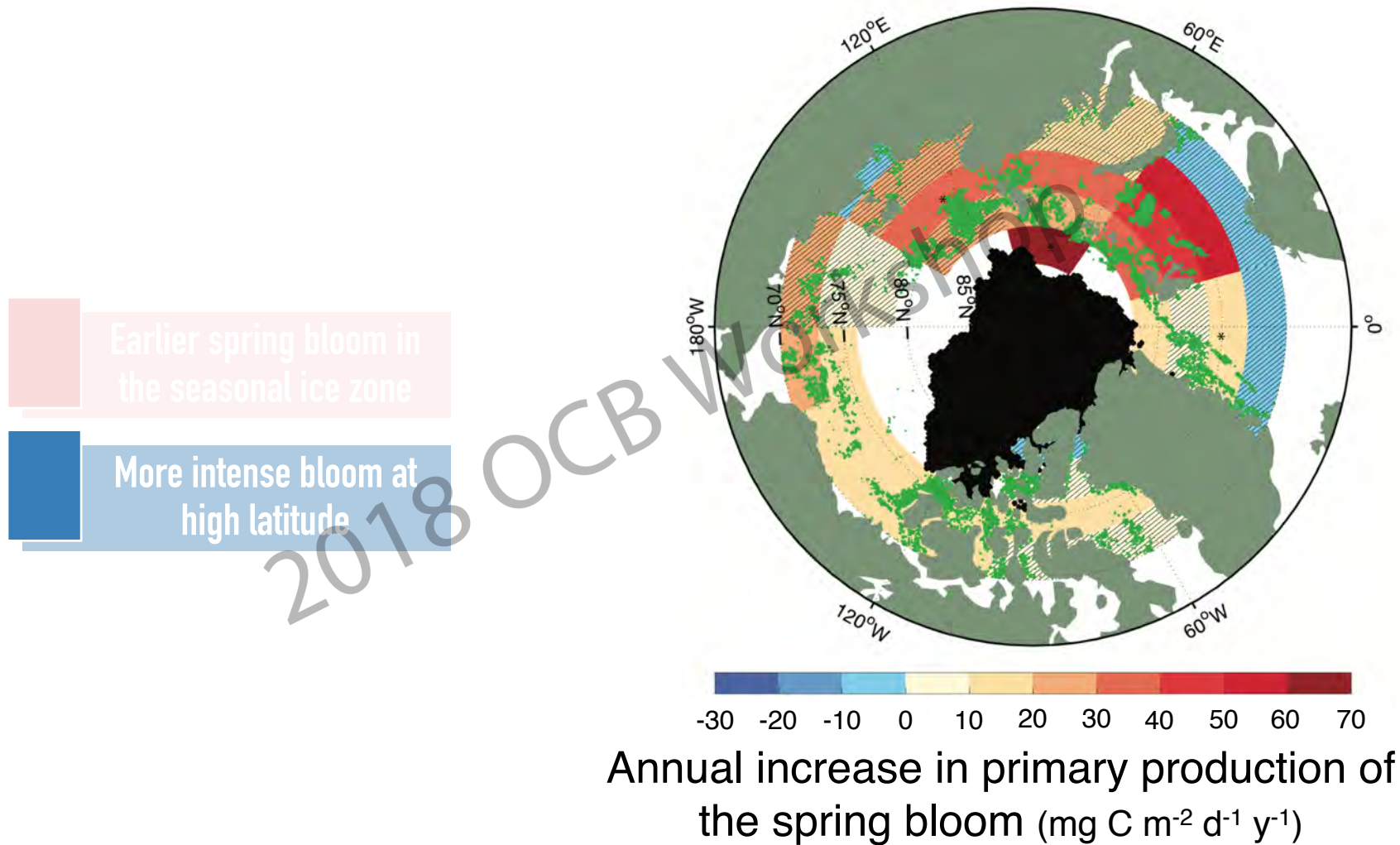
# ONGOING CHANGES IN PHYTOPLANKTON PHENOLOGY

## Key satellite-derived findings (2011- now):

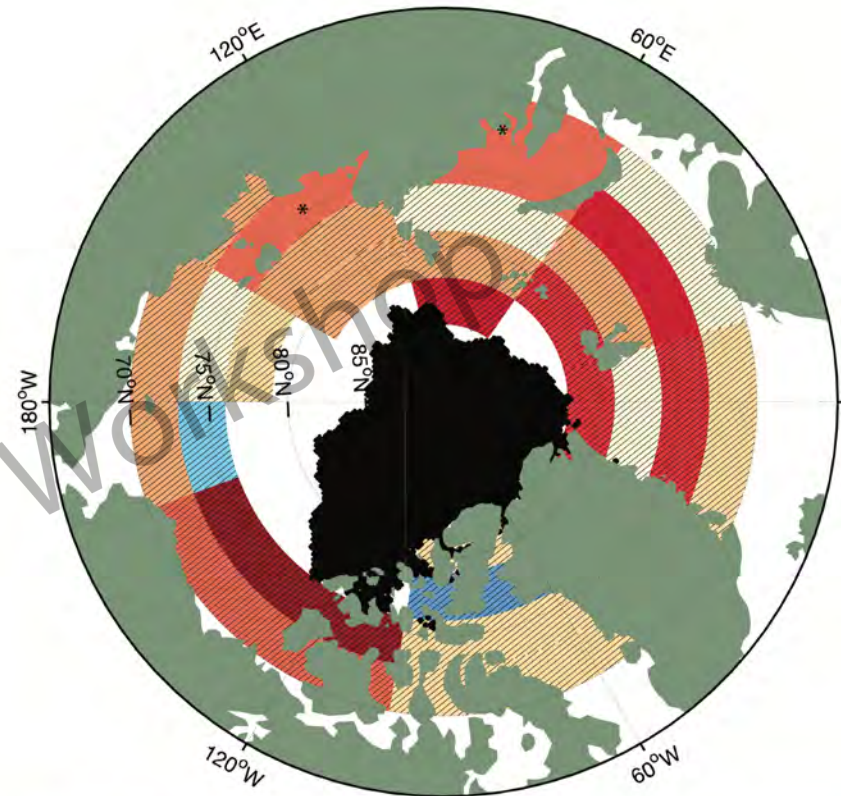
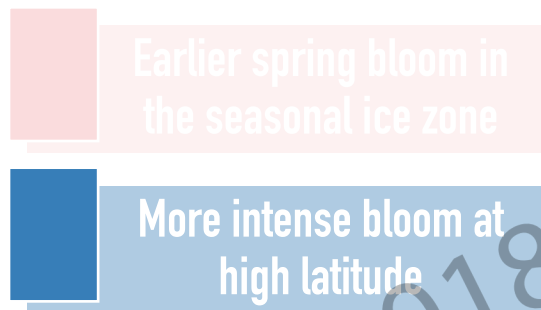
Earlier spring bloom in the seasonal ice zone



# MORE INTENSE BLOOM AT HIGH LATITUDE



# MORE INTENSE BLOOM AT HIGH LATITUDE



Annual increase in PAR during the spring bloom ( $\text{mol photon m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1} \text{y}^{-1}$ )

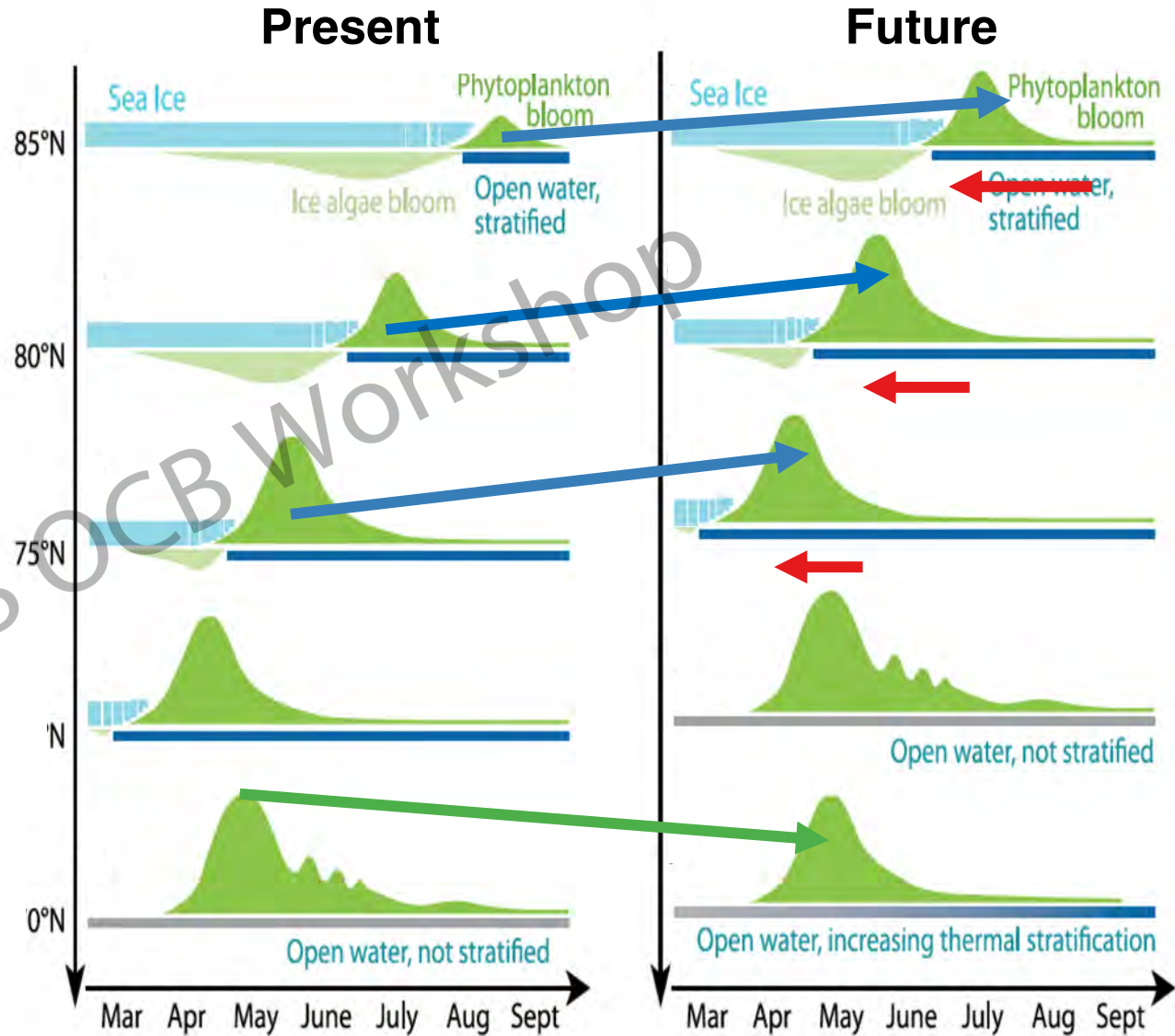
=> Due to increasing light intensity during the bloom period

# ONGOING CHANGES IN PHYTOPLANKTON PHENOLOGY

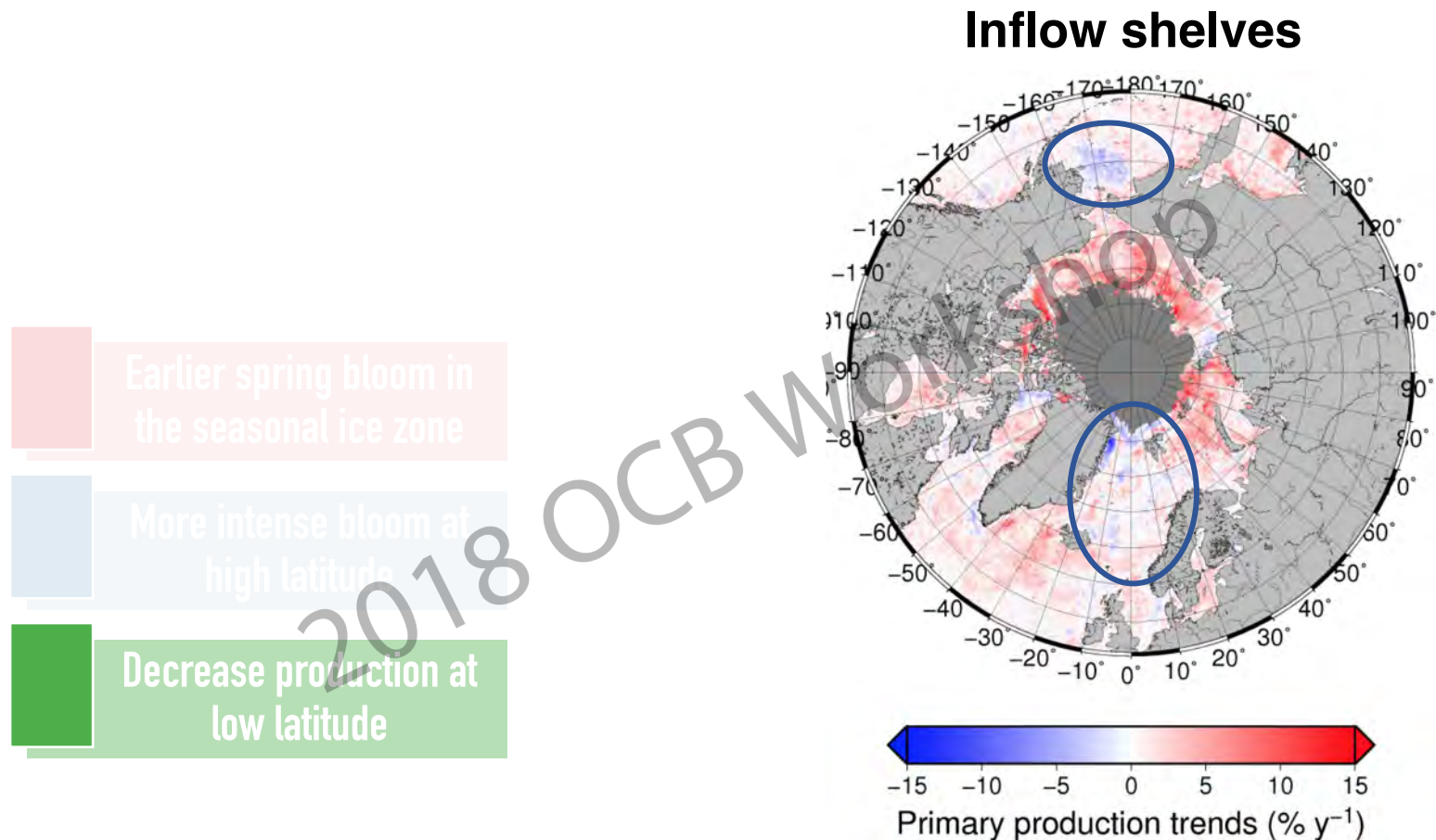
## Key satellite-derived findings (2011- now):

Earlier spring bloom in the seasonal ice zone

More intense bloom at high latitude



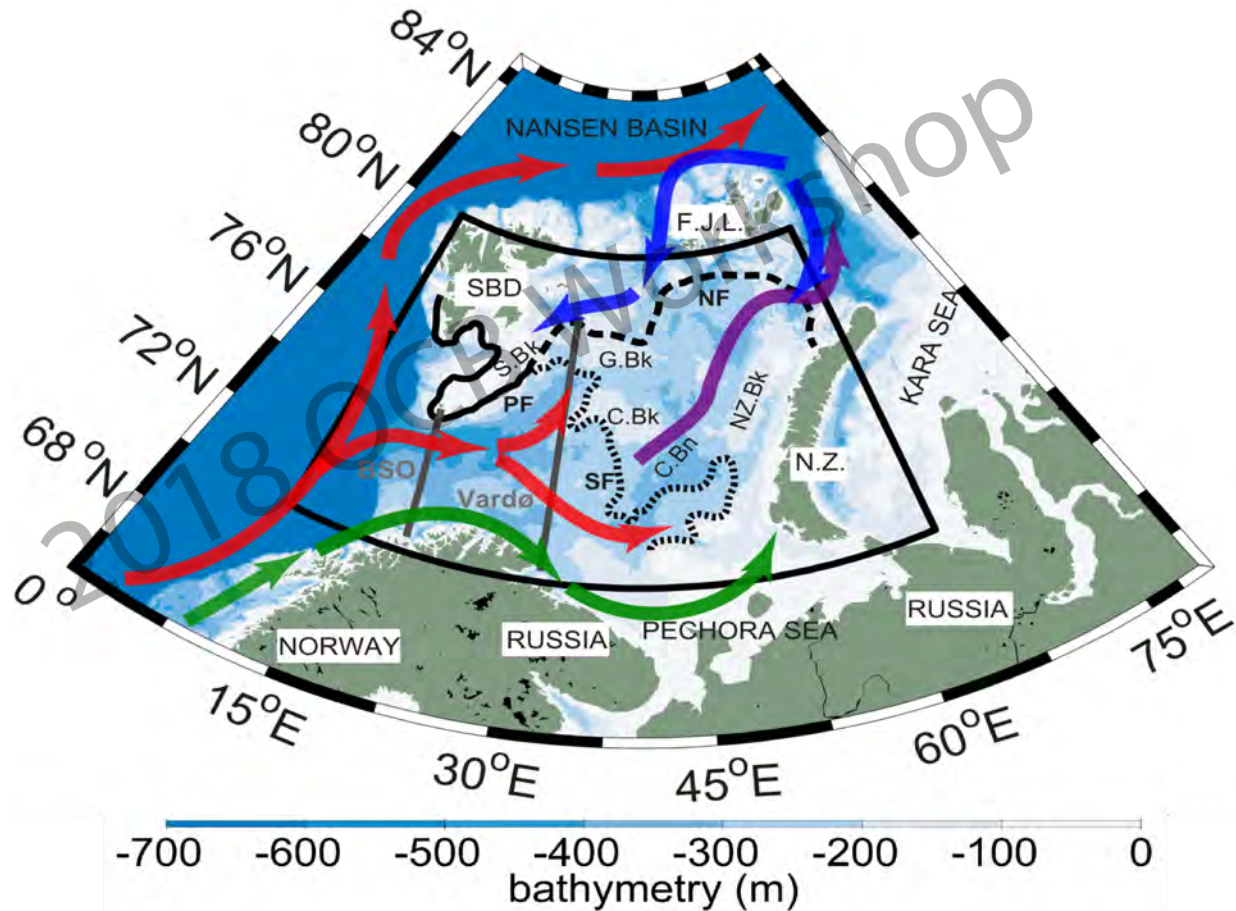
# DECREASE PRODUCTION AT LOW LATITUDE



=> Due to increasing thermal stratification (and stronger nutrient limitation?) in inflow shelves

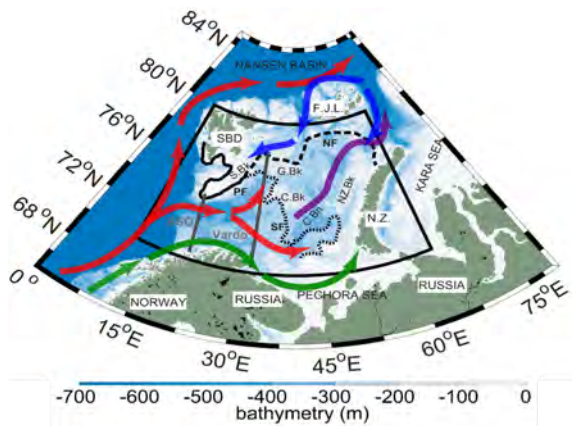
# FAVORING POLEWARD SHIFT OF COCCOLITOPHORE BLOOMS

## Inflow shelf: Barents Sea





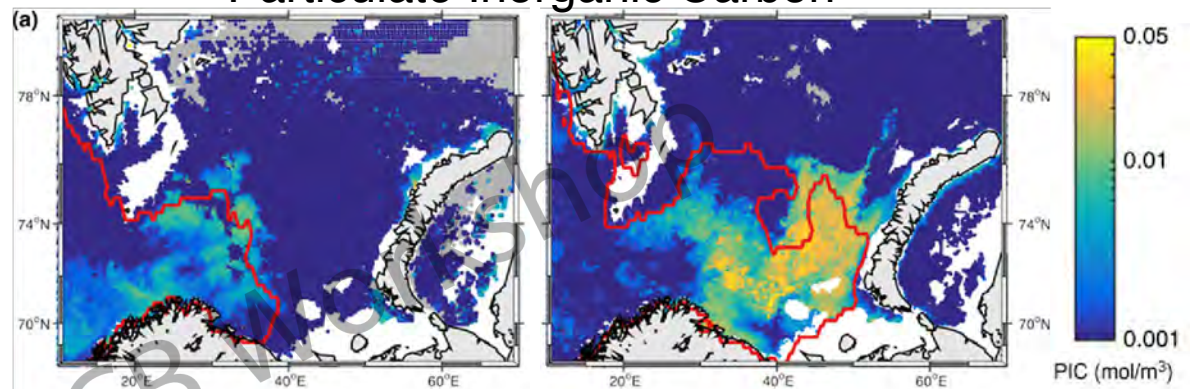
# FAVORING POLEWARD SHIFT OF COCCOLITOPHORE BLOOMS



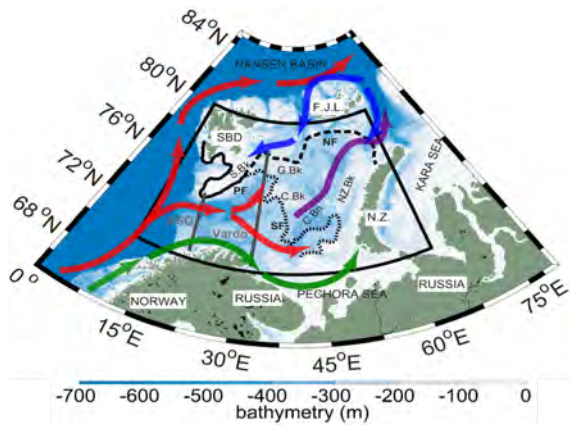
1998

2012

Particulate Inorganic Carbon



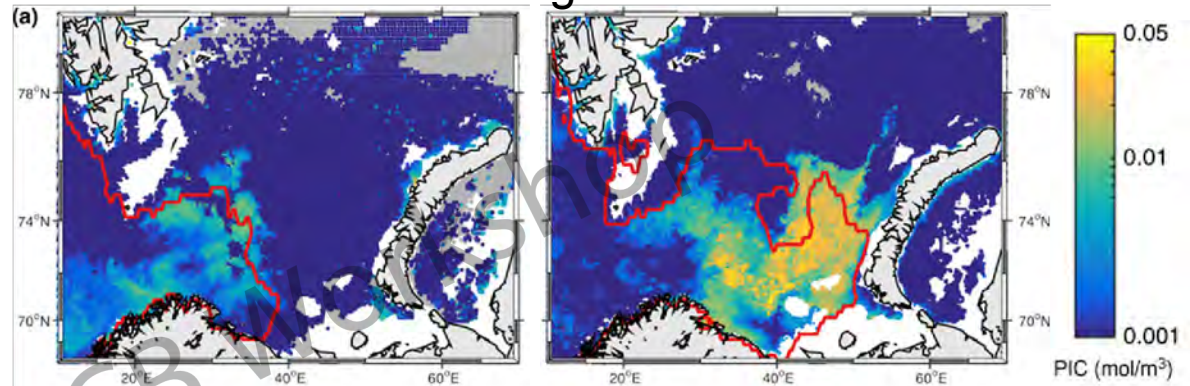
# FAVORING POLEWARD SHIFT OF COCCOLITHOPHORE BLOOMS



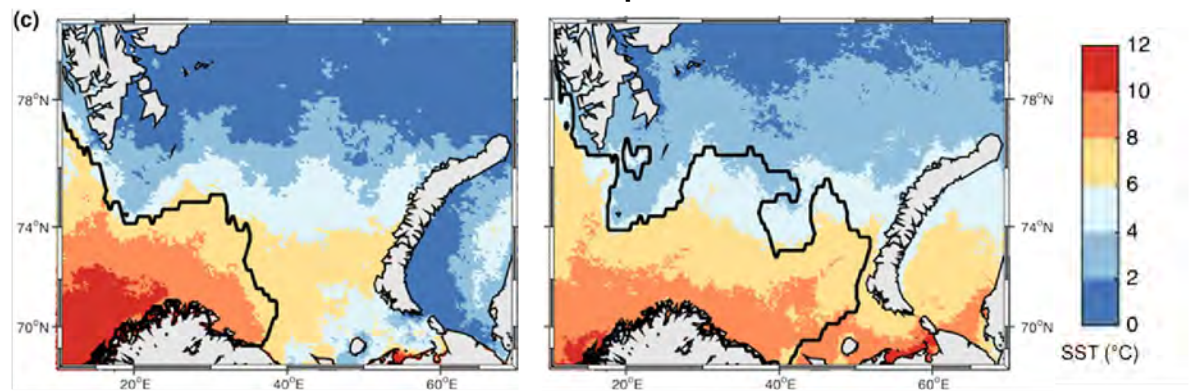
1998

2012

Particulate Inorganic Carbon



Sea Surface Temperature

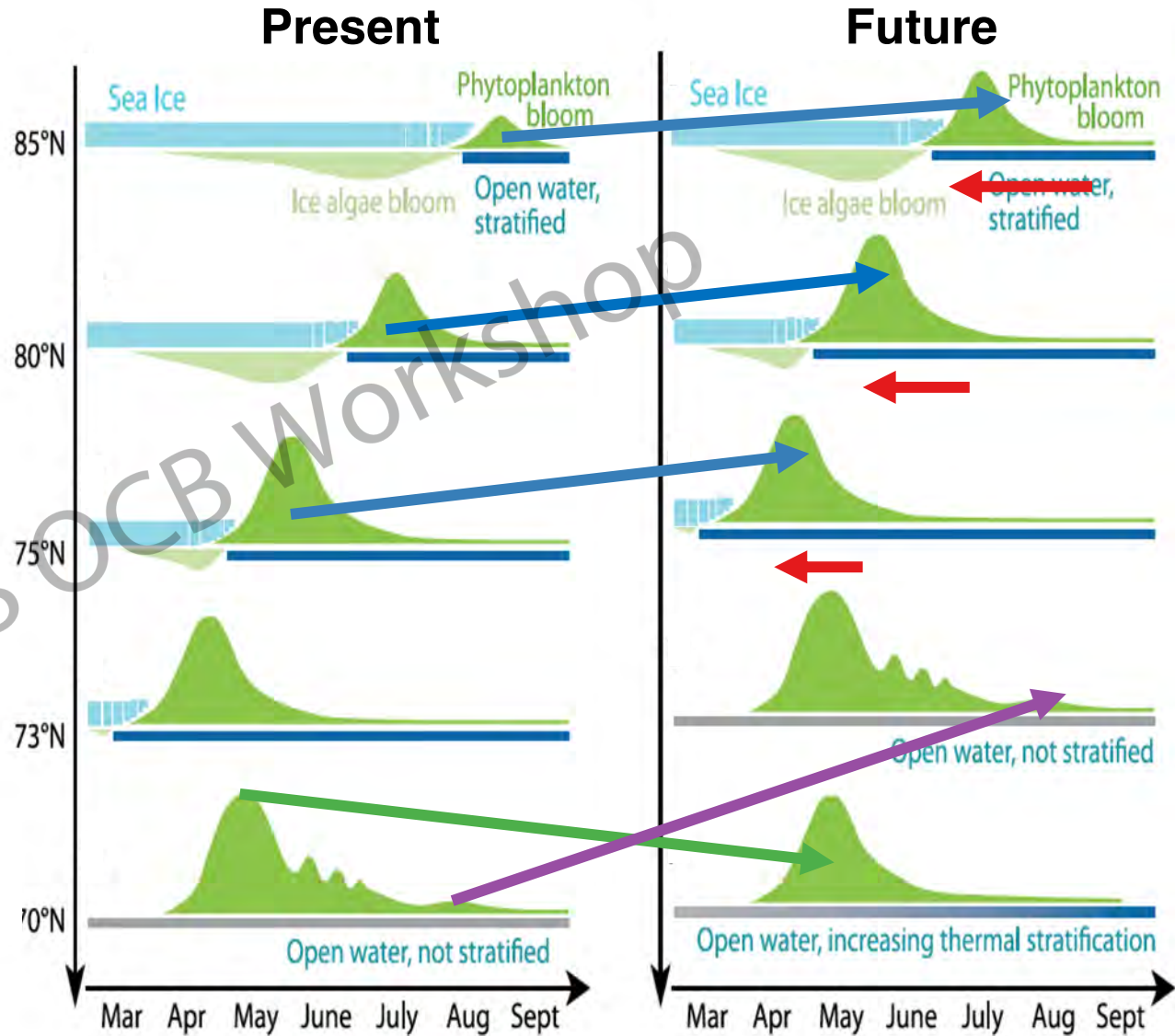


Increased intrusion of warm Atlantic water leads to the expansion of coccolithophore blooms in the Arctic

# ONGOING CHANGES IN PHYTOPLANKTON PHENOLOGY

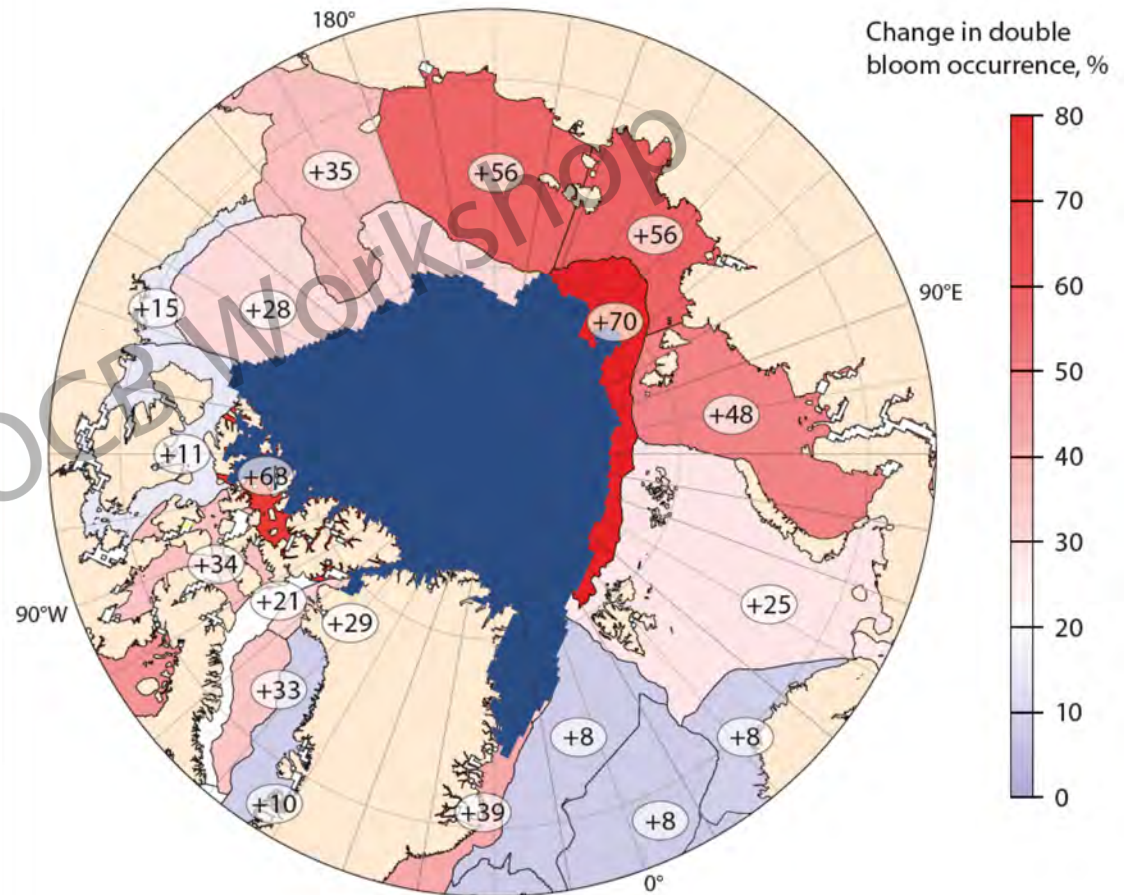
## Key satellite-derived findings (2011- now):

- Earlier spring bloom in the seasonal ice zone
- More intense bloom at high latitude
- Decrease production at low latitude



# INCREASING OCCURRENCE OF FALL BLOOMS

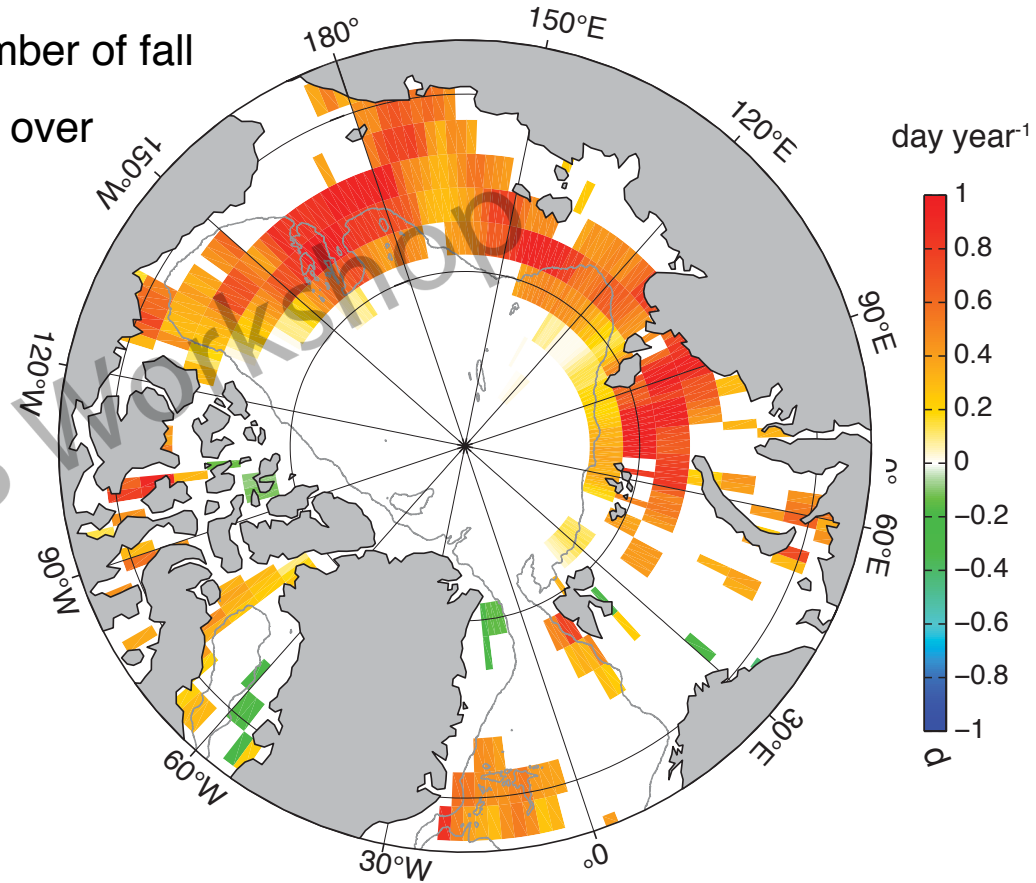
- Earlier spring bloom in the seasonal ice zone
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- Decrease production at low latitude
- Increasing occurrence of fall bloom



# INCREASING OCCURRENCE OF FALL BLOOMS

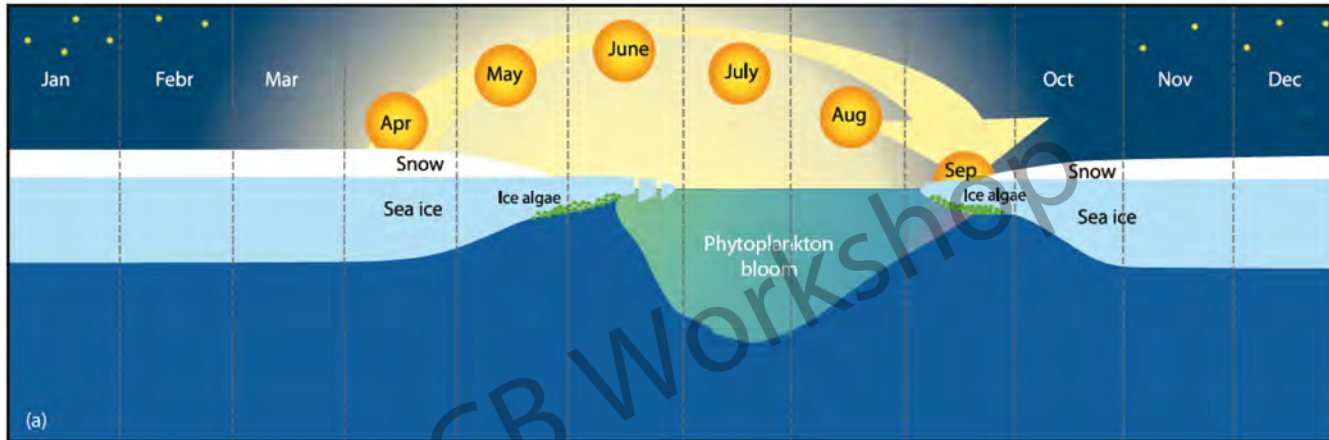
Trend in number of fall  
stormy days over  
open water

- Earlier spring bloom in the seasonal ice zone
- More intense bloom at high latitude
- Decrease production at low latitude
- Increasing occurrence of fall bloom

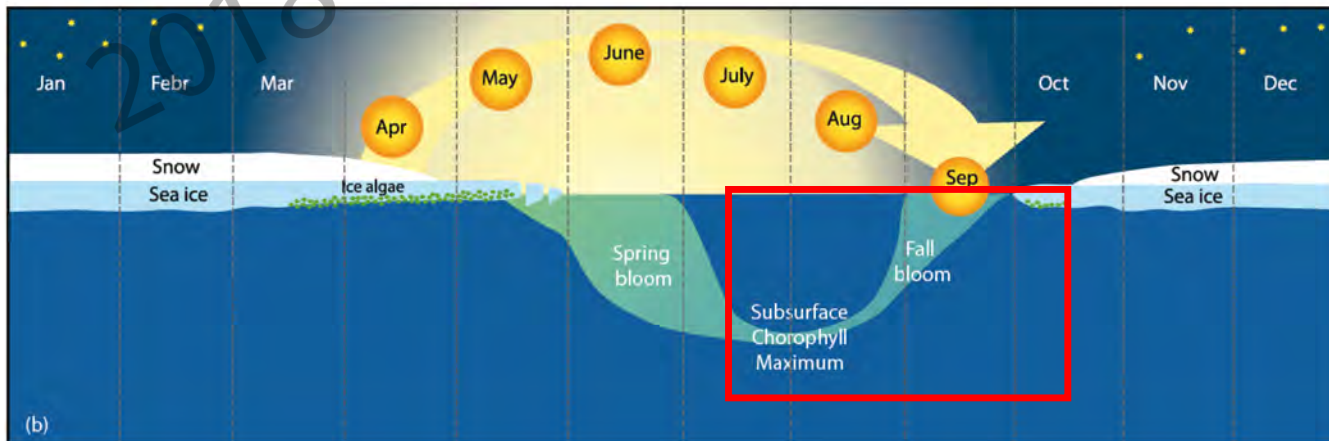


=> Due to both more storms and more sea-ice free areas

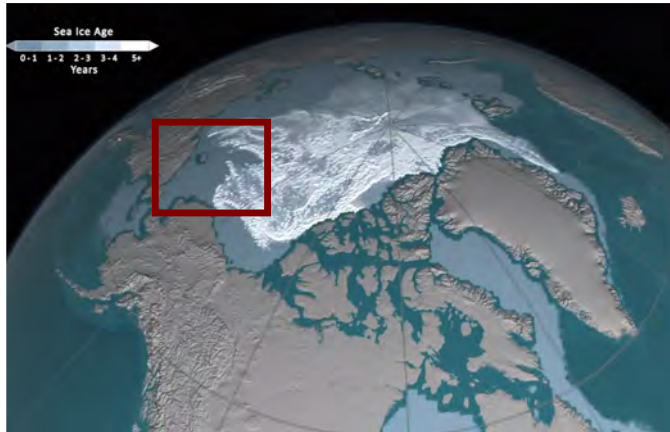
# CHANGING ARCTIC PARADIGMS



To the “borealization” of the Arctic Ocean:



# MASSIVE UNDER SEA-ICE BLOOMS: UNDETECTABLE BY SATELLITE



## Melt-ponded sea ice



## Under-ice bloom



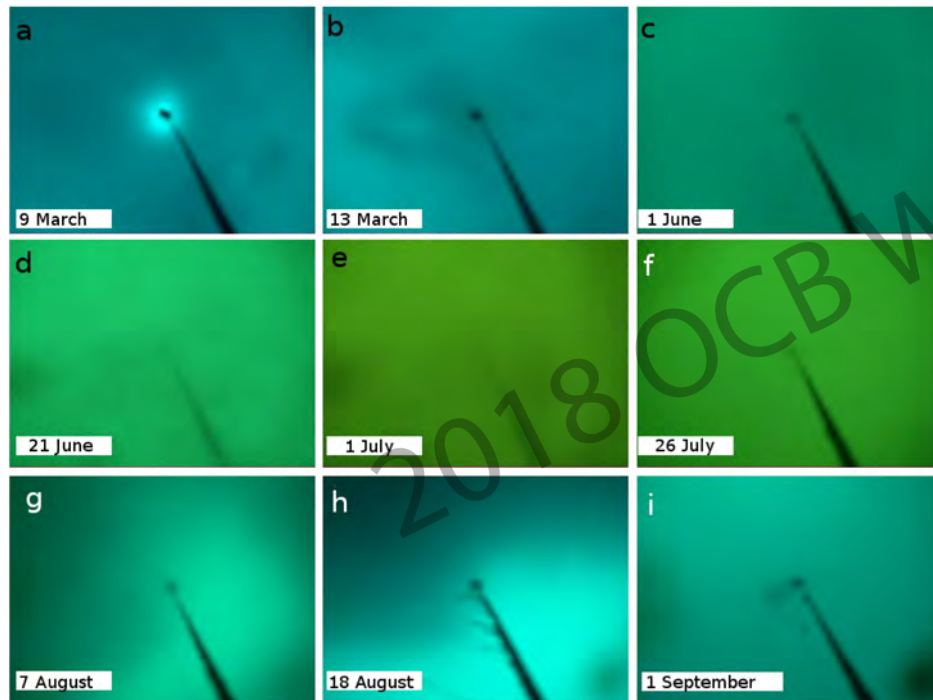
**Phytoplankton bloom beneath ponded-ice** due to increased light transmittance.

The highest values reach up 30 mg Chl m<sup>-3</sup> and dominated by centric diatoms.

# MASSIVE UNDER SEA-ICE BLOOMS: PAN-ARCTIC DISTRIBUTION ?

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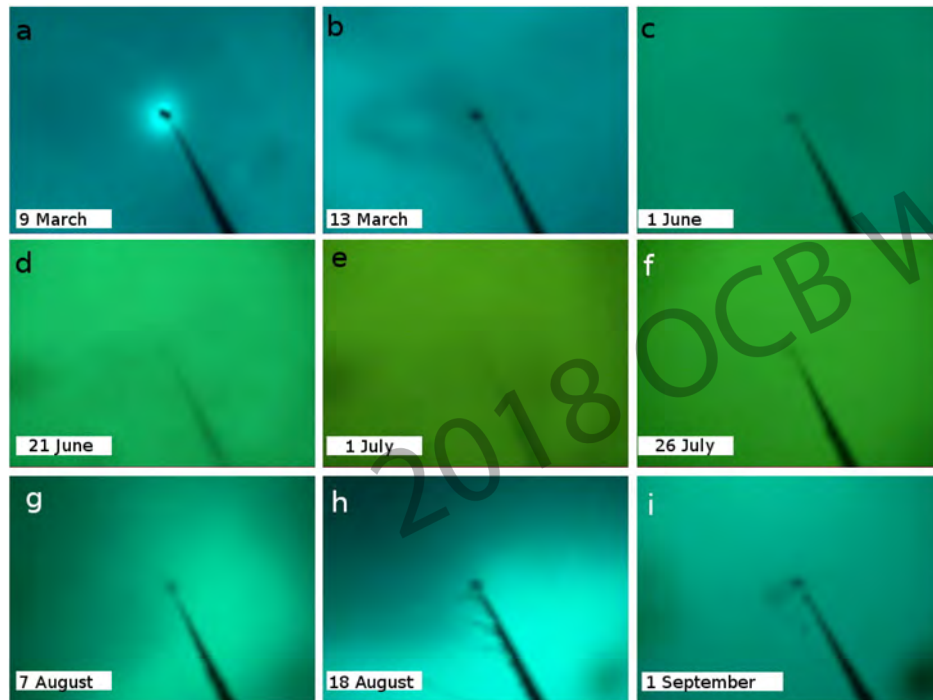
In the Chukchi Sea  
captured by Ice-Tethered Profilers.





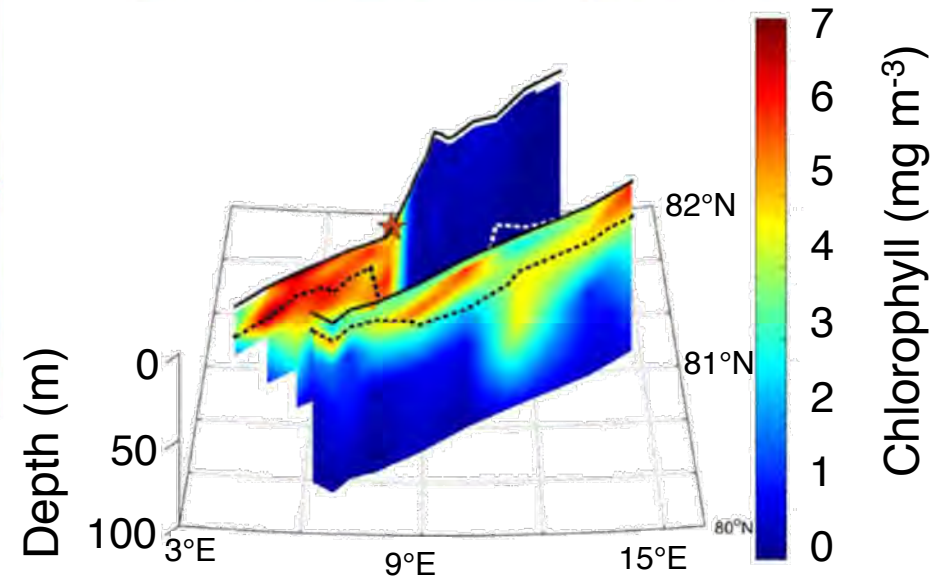
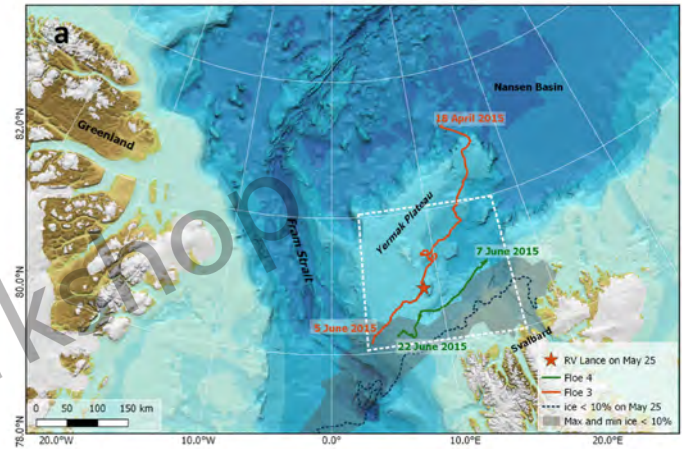
# MASSIVE UNDER SEA-ICE BLOOMS: PAN-ARCTIC DISTRIBUTION ?

In the Chukchi Sea captured by Ice-Tethered Profilers.



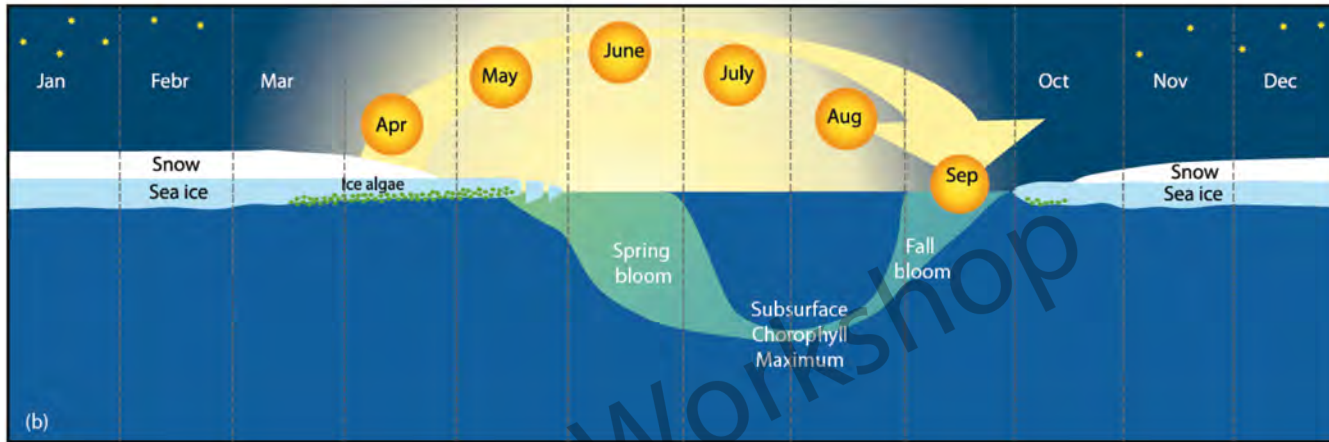
Hill et al. (2017)

North of Svalbard: N-ICE program

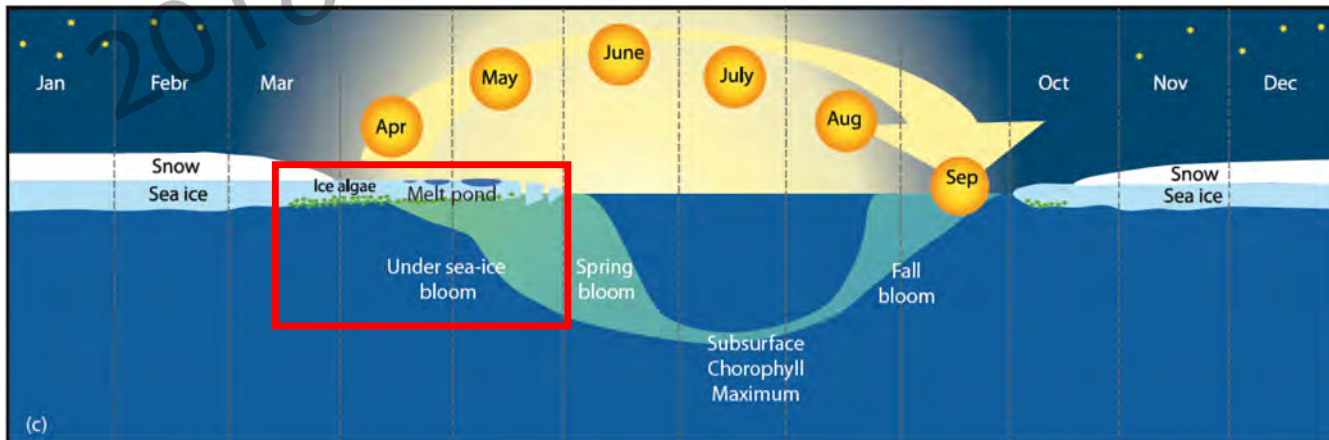


Assmy et al. (2017)

# CHANGING ARCTIC PARADIGMS



To an **uncertain future** for the sea-ice algae and under-ice phytoplankton blooms



# CAP-ICE: MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE FELLOWSHIP

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The primary objectives are to:

- (i) Determine the spatial importance of under-ice blooms in the Arctic Ocean.



# CAP-ICE: MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE FELLOWSHIP

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The primary objectives are to:

- (i) Determine the spatial importance of under-ice blooms in the Arctic Ocean.
- (ii) Reveal the environmental drivers of the initiation, magnitude and structure

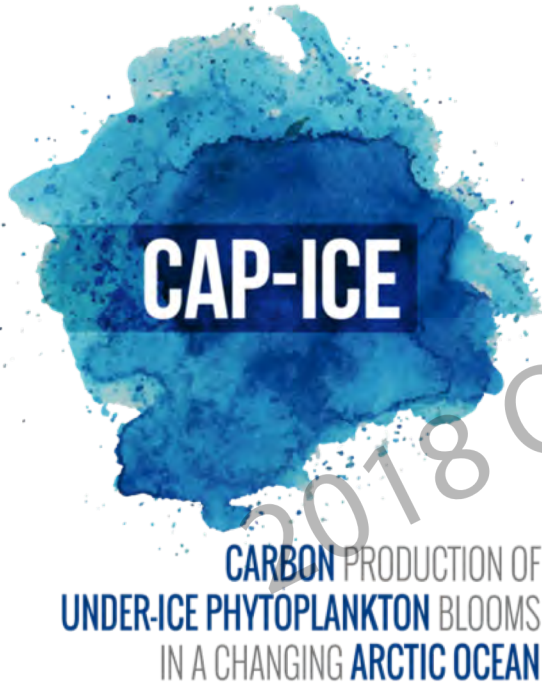


# CAP-ICE: MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE FELLOWSHIP

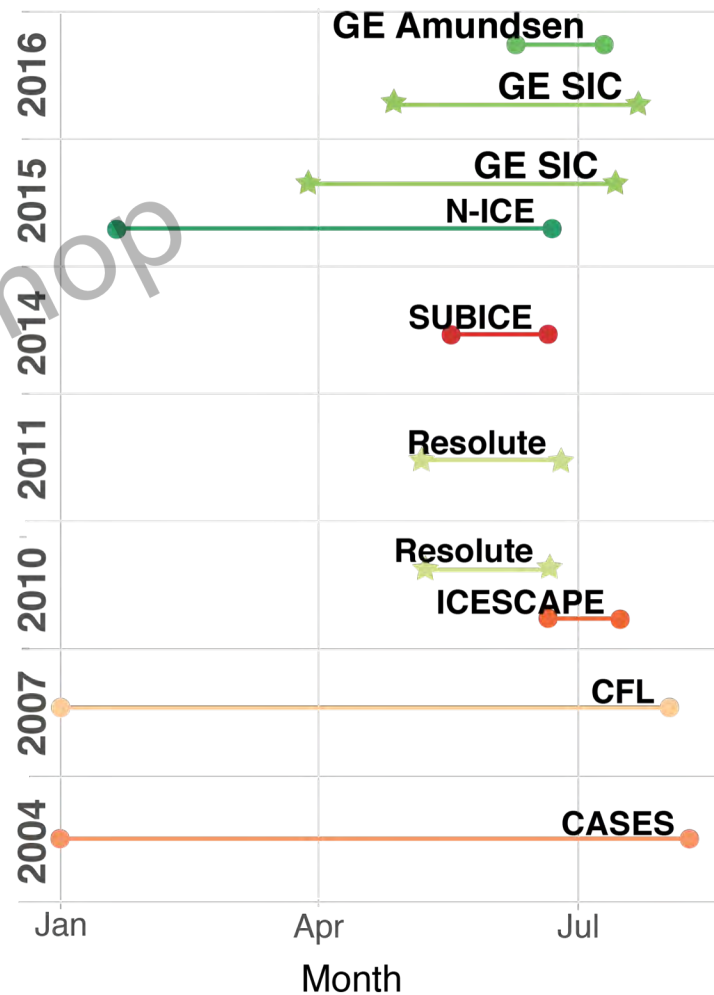
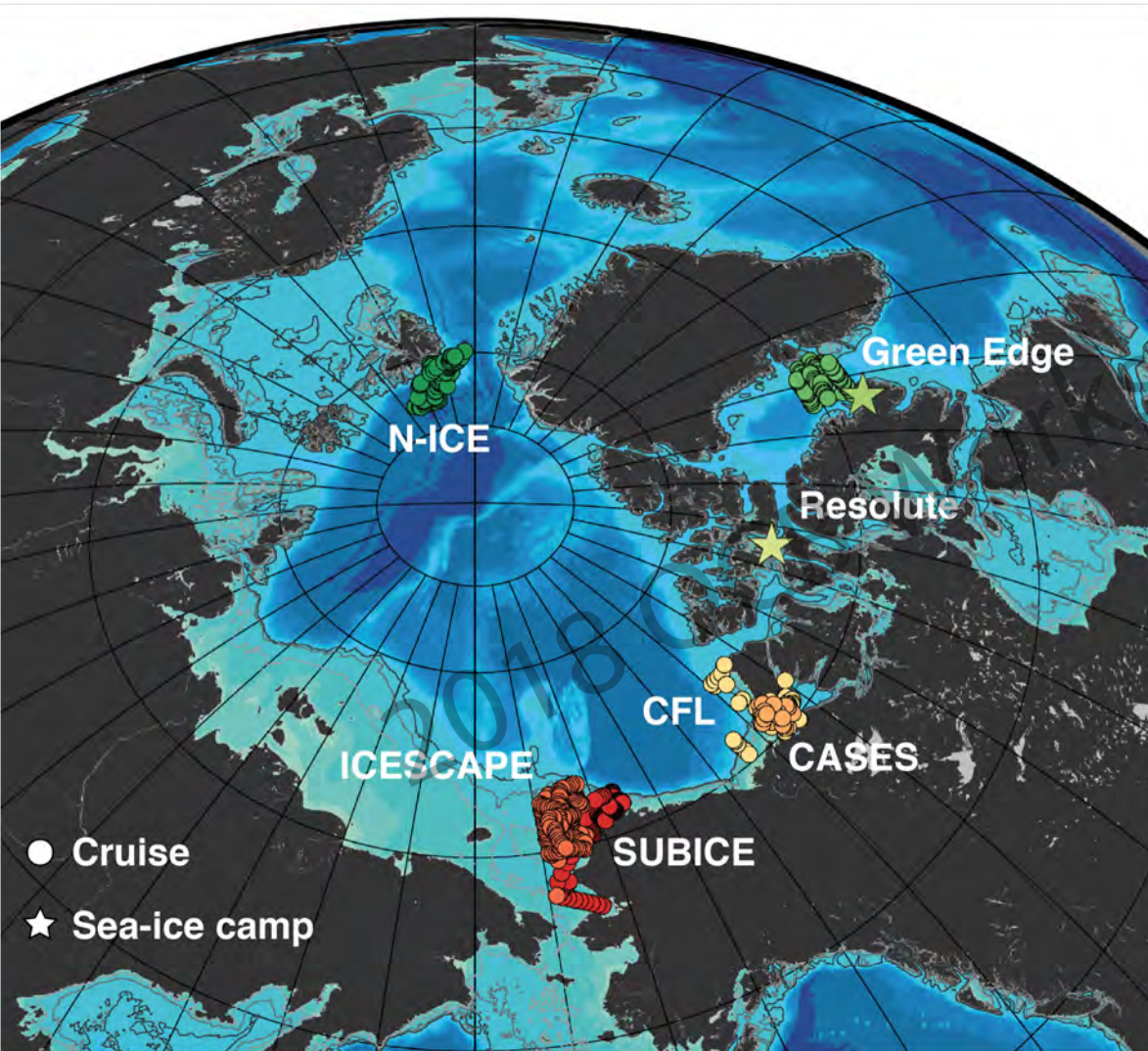
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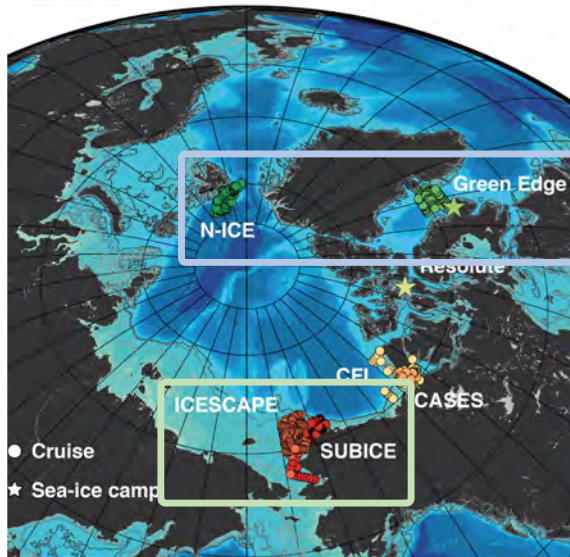
- (i) Determine the spatial importance of under-ice blooms in the Arctic Ocean.
- (ii) Reveal the environmental drivers of the initiation, magnitude and structure
- (iii) Upscale their survey and predict their occurrence by combining autonomous platforms and satellite



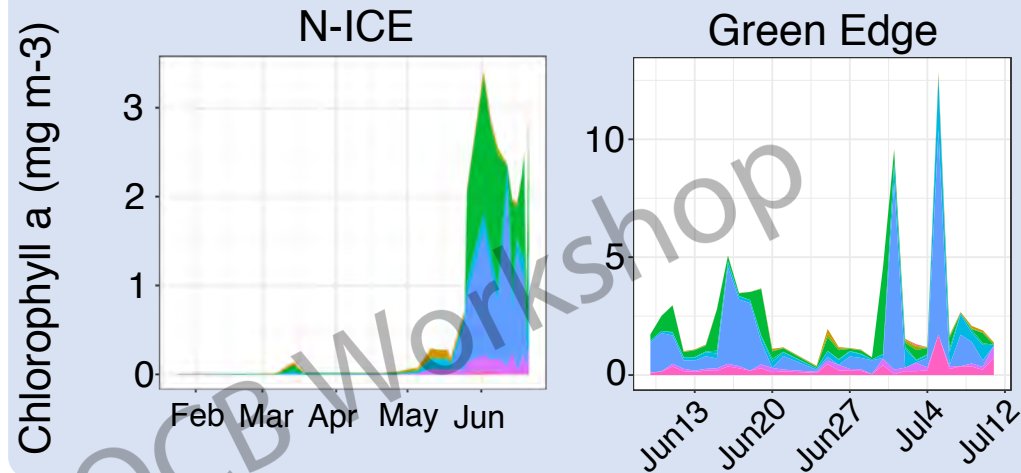
# PAN-ARCTIC CONSORTIUM: EXPEDITION & SEA-ICE CAMPS



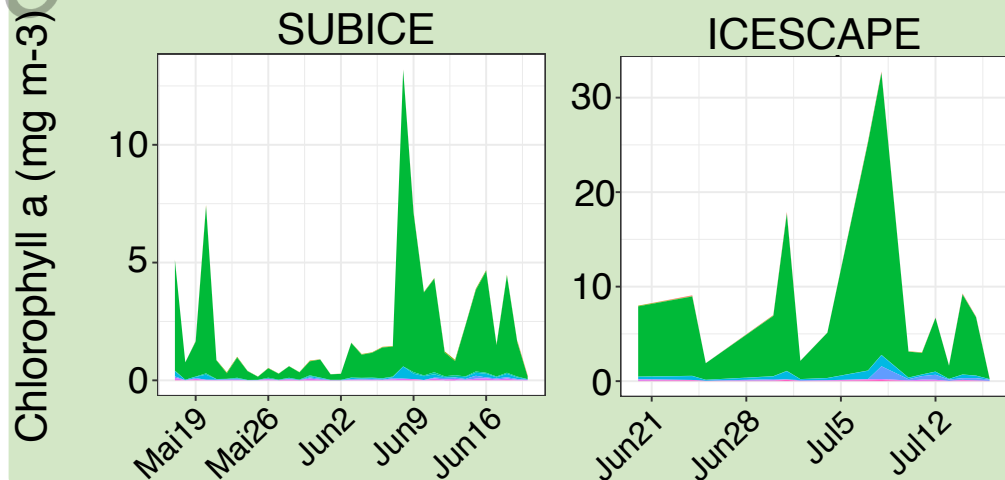
# DIATOM VERSUS *PHAEOCYSTIS* UNDER-ICE BLOOMS



## Phaeocystis under-ice blooms



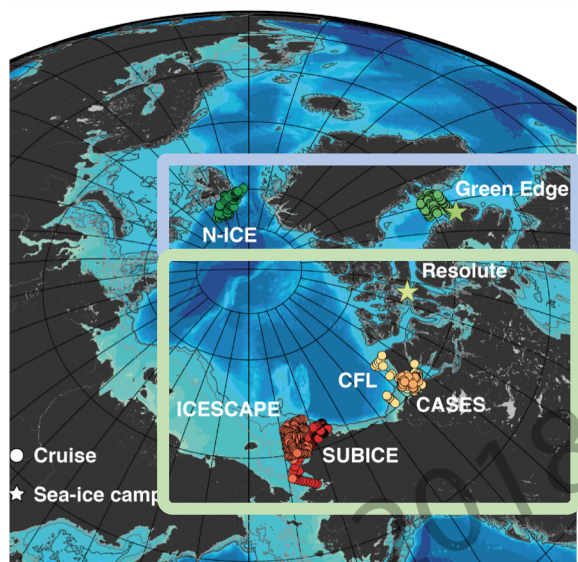
## Diatom under-ice blooms

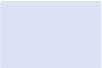
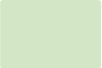


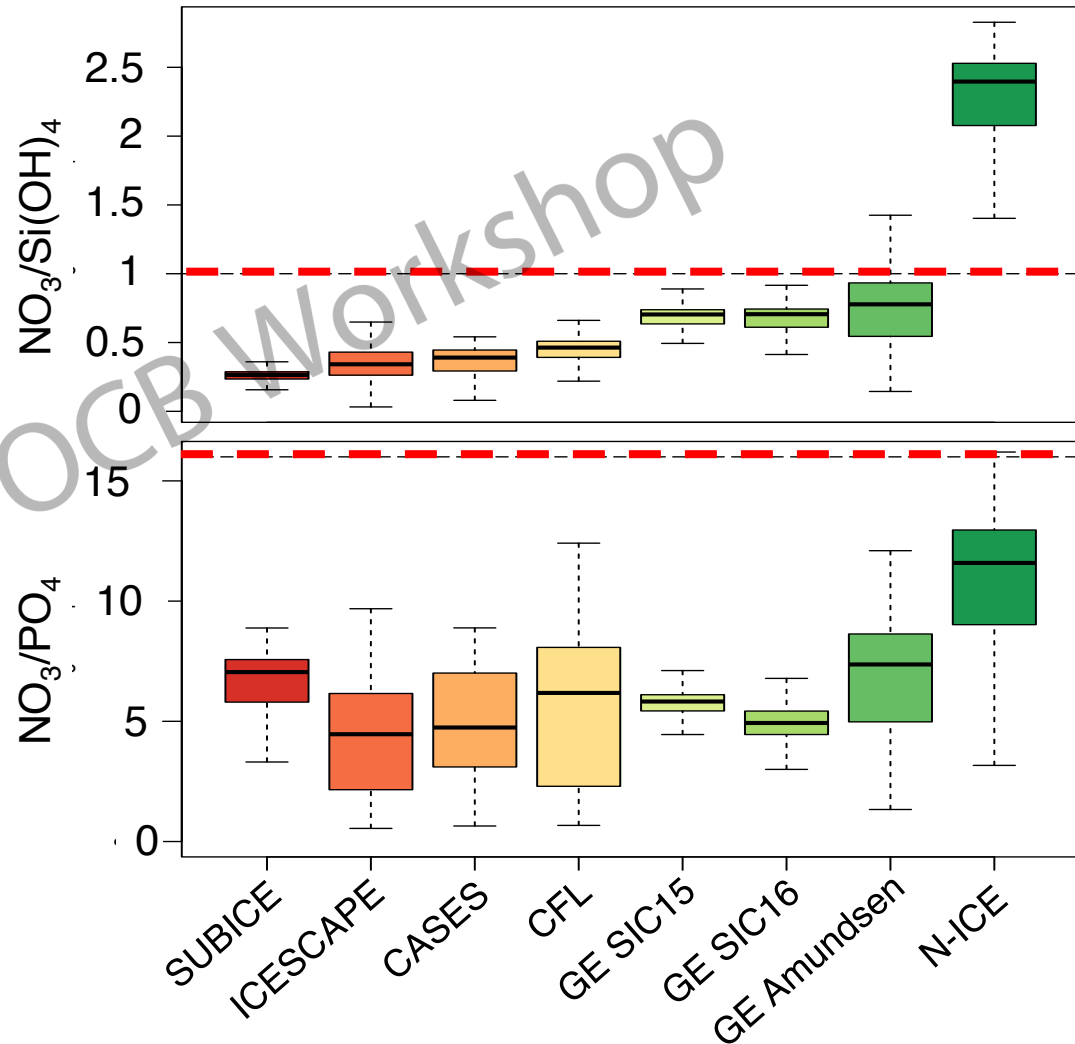
### Algal group

- Chlorophytes
- Chryso-Pelago
- Cryptophytes
- Diatoms
- Dinoflagellates
- Haptophyte-7
- Phaeocystis
- Prasinophyte-2
- Prasinophyte-3

# DIATOM VERSUS *Phaeocystis* UNDER-ICE BLOOMS

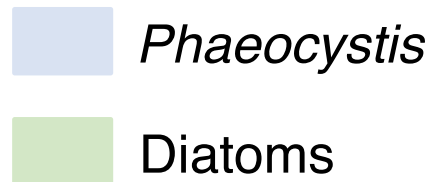
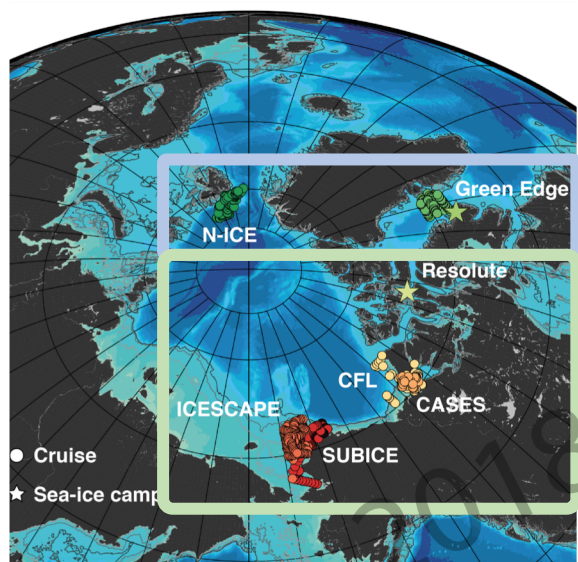


-  *Phaeocystis*
-  Diatoms

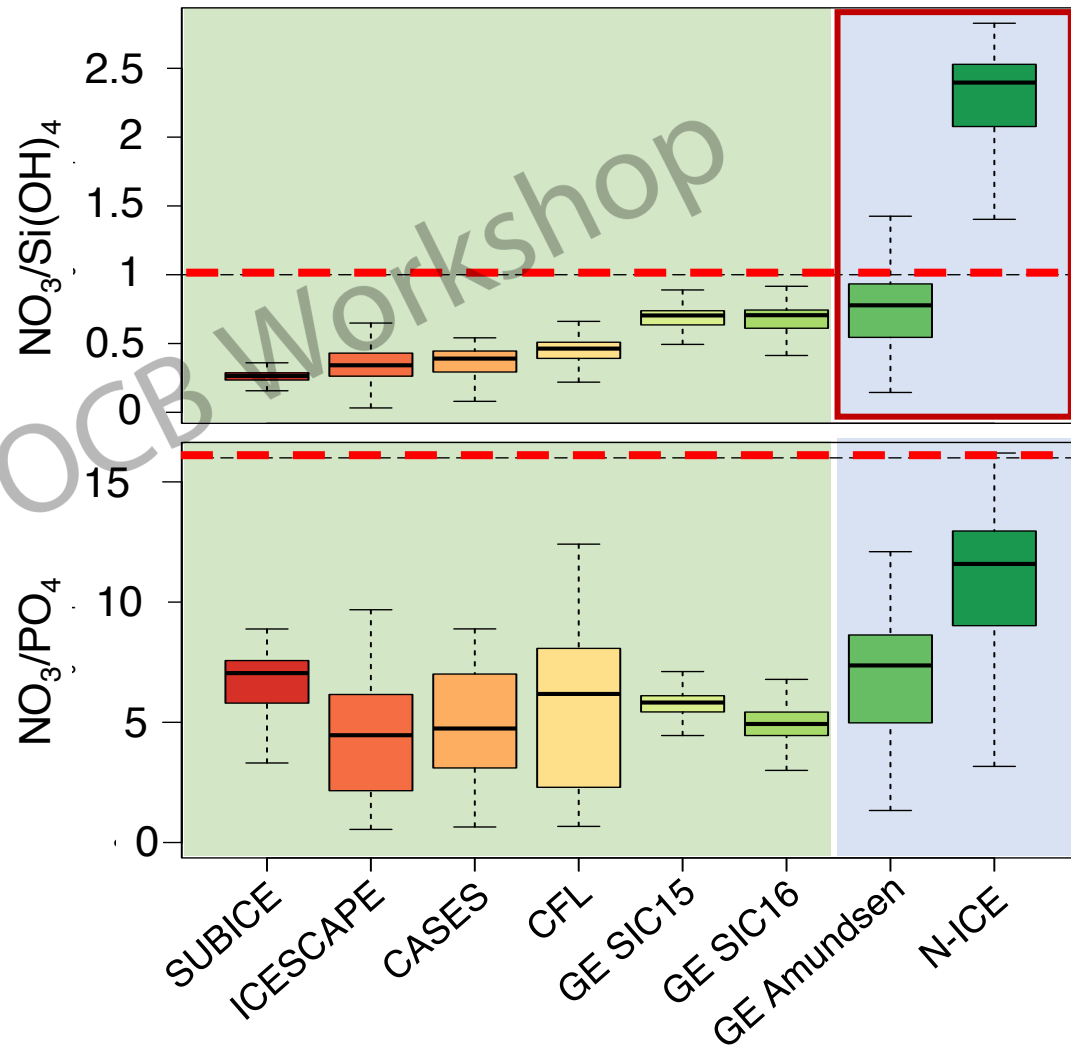




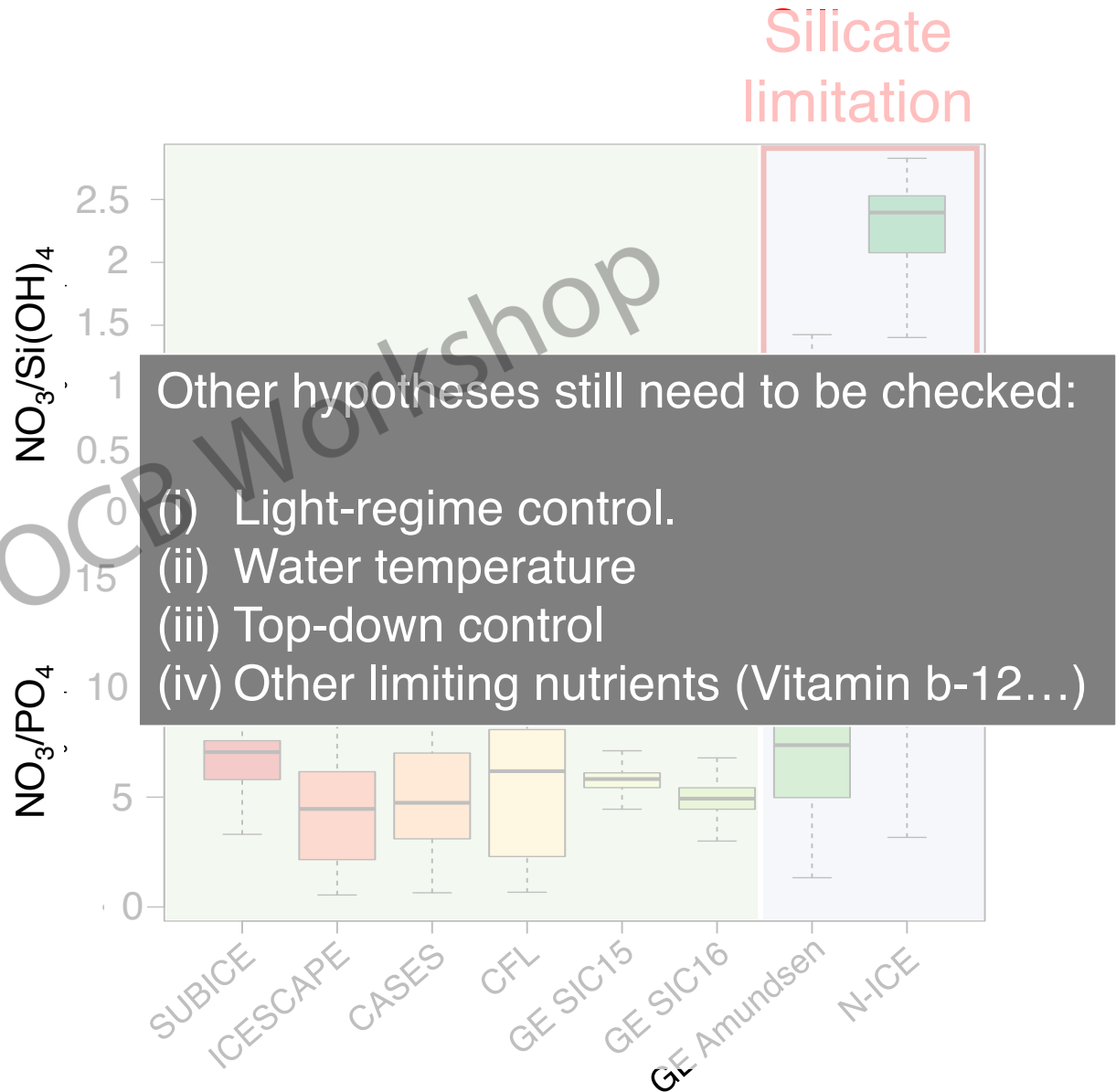
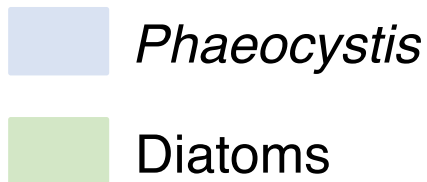
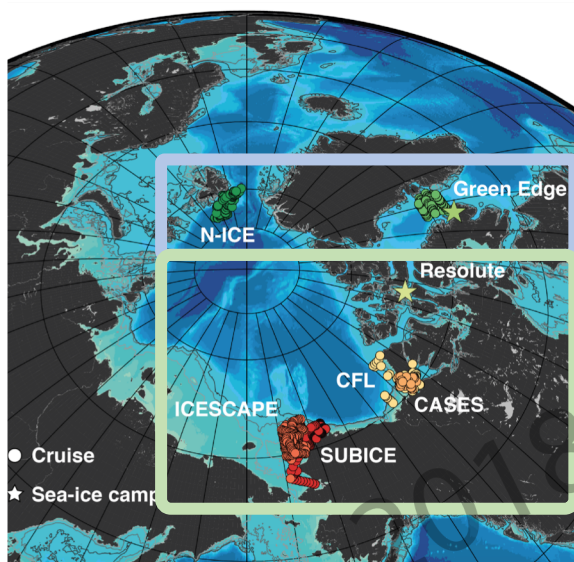
# DIATOM VERSUS *Phaeocystis* UNDER-ICE BLOOMS



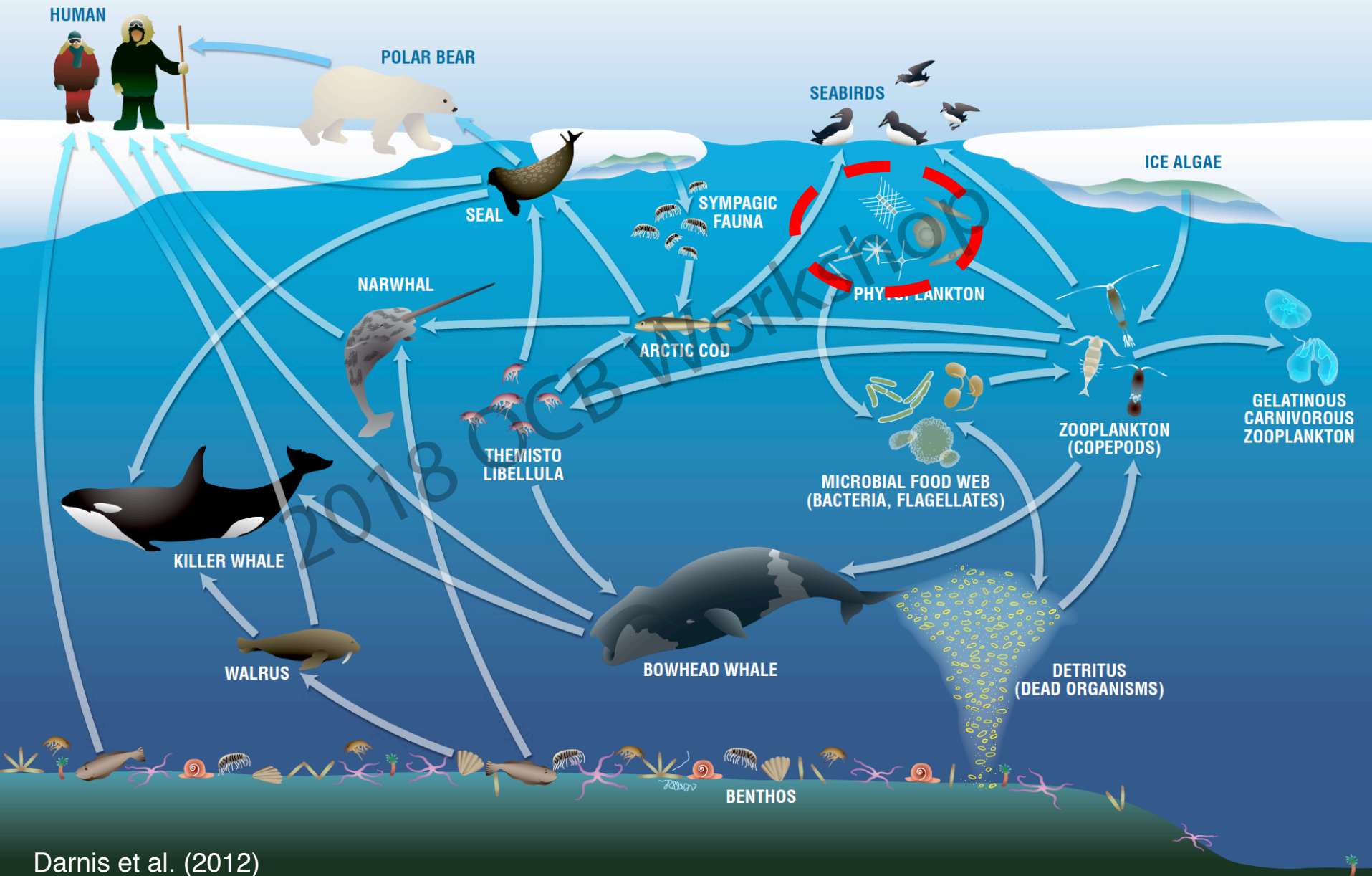
Silicate  
limitation



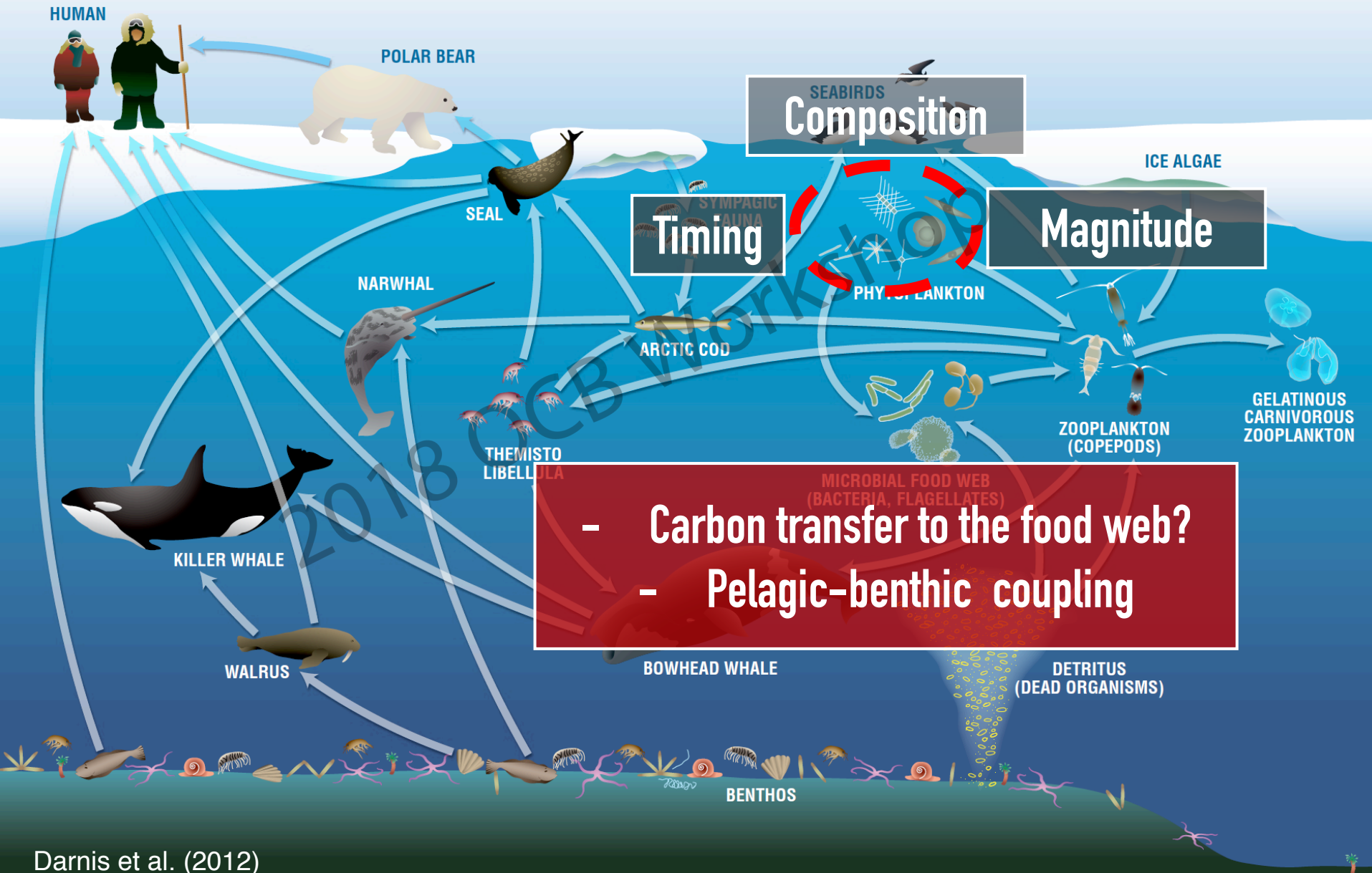
# DIATOM VERSUS *Phaeocystis* UNDER-ICE BLOOMS



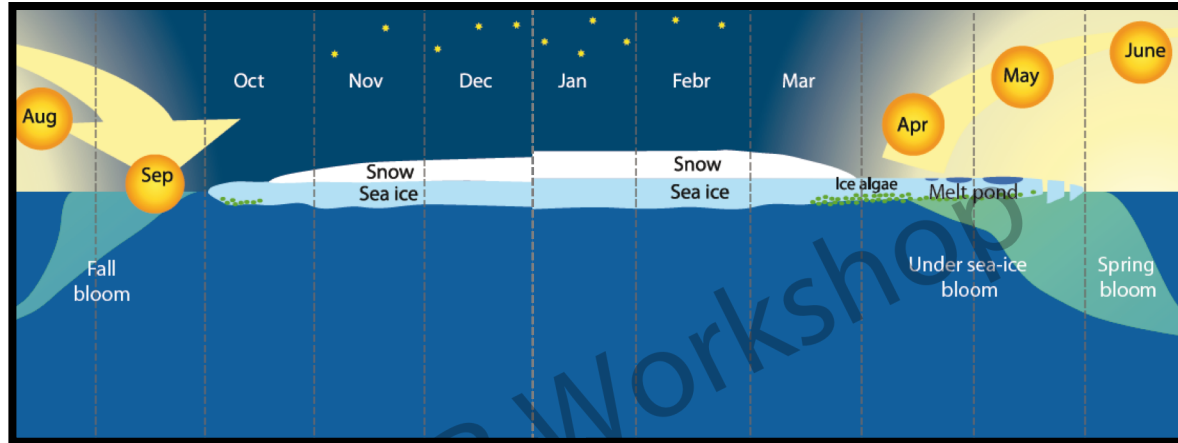
# IMPLICATIONS FOR ARCTIC MARINE ECOSYSTEMS ?



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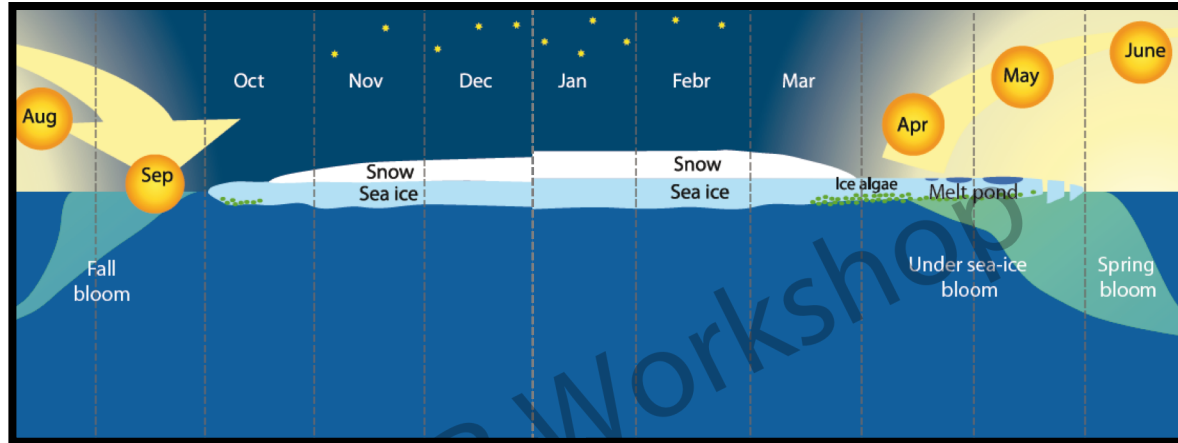


# FUTURE PERSPECTIVES



How are the changing sea-ice dynamics modifying under-ice biogeochemistry and carbon cycle?

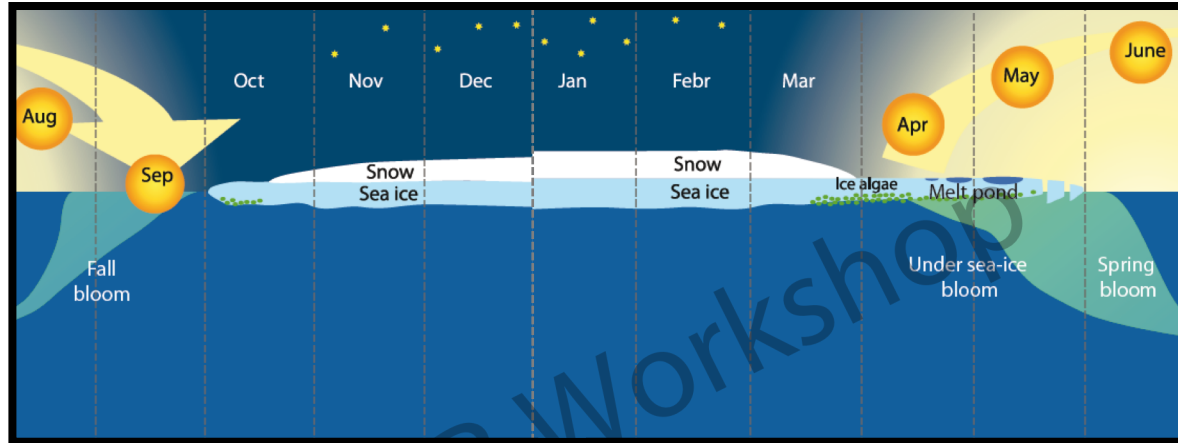
# FUTURE PERSPECTIVES



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How are pulses in biological activity in late and early season interconnected, and how might marine ecosystems react during in polar night?

# FUTURE PERSPECTIVES



How are the changing sea-ice dynamics modifying under-ice biogeochemistry and carbon cycle?

How are pulses in biological activity in late and early season interconnected, and how might marine ecosystems react during in polar night?

The polar night and under-ice environments need more attention!!!



**CAP-ICE**

CARBON PRODUCTION OF  
UNDER-ICE PHYTOPLANKTON BLOOMS  
IN A CHANGING ARCTIC OCEAN

# Questions???

Acknowledgments:

- The Arrigo lab
- Takuvik/Green Edge team (Marcel Babin)
- LOV team (Hervé Claustre)

*C.J. Mundy, Michel Gosselin,  
Marcel Nicolaus, Philipp Assmy*