

BENTHIC ORGANISMS IN ARCTIC ECOSYSTEMS

PRESENCE AND EFFECTS OF
NANOPARTICLES IN THE CONTEXT OF
SINGLE AND MULTIPLE STRESSORS

CHARLOTTE CARRIER-BELLEAU^{1,2} AND JULIEN GIGAULT¹

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PLASTIC IN
THE ARCTIC AND SUB-ARCTIC REGION

22-23 NOVEMBER 2023

PLASTIC IN THE ARCTIC

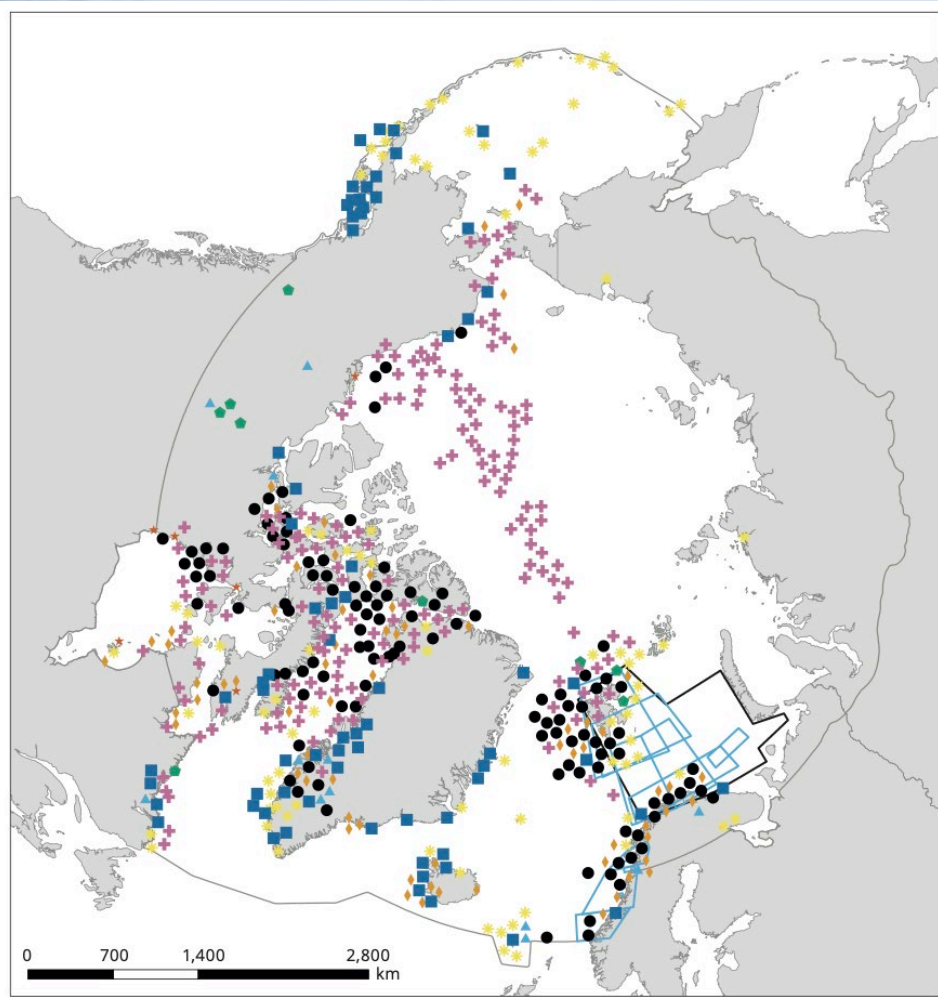


Figure 1. Sub-set of the distribution of the types and locations of existing data on litter and microplastics in the AMAP region (AMAP, 2021; Provencher et al. 2022)

PLASTIC IN THE ARCTIC

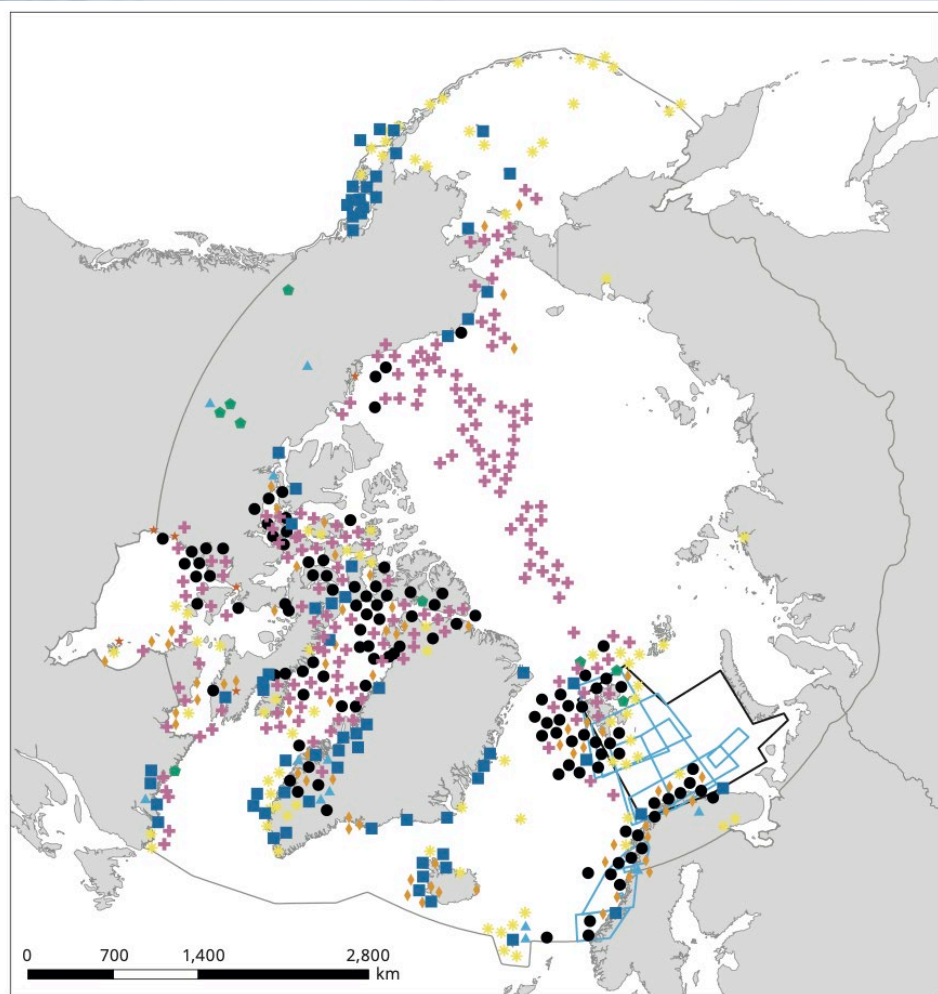
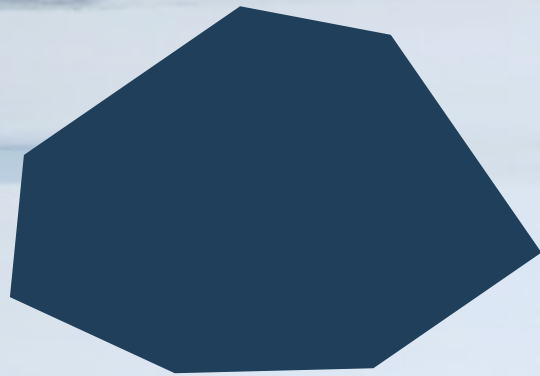


Figure 1. Sub-set of the distribution of the types and locations of existing data on litter and microplastics in the AMAP region (AMAP, 2021)

Environmental compartment	Particles > 1 mm	Particles < 1 mm
Beaches/shorelines	X	
Water	X	X
Sediments	X	X
Seabirds	X	
Atmospheric deposition		X
Seabed	X	
Invertebrates		X
Fish		X
Snow/ice		X
Terrestrial soil		X
Mammals	X	X

Table 1. Size classes of plastic particles reported in Arctic environmental compartments (AMAP, 2021)

PLASTIC IN THE ARCTIC



Microparticles
< 5 mm



Nanoparticles
1- 1000 nm



NPs are produced by the **degradation** and **fragmentation** of plastic objects and show colloidal behavior (Gigault et al. 2018).

Environmental compartment	Particles > 1 mm	Particles < 1 mm
Beaches/shorelines	X	
Water	X	X
Sediments	X	X
Seabirds	X	
Atmospheric deposition		X
Seabed	X	
Invertebrates		X
Fish		X
Snow/ice		X
Terrestrial soil		X
Mammals	X	X

Table 1. Size classes of plastic particles reported in Arctic environmental compartments (AMAP, 2021)

NANOPARTICLES AND... MULTIPLE STRESSORS

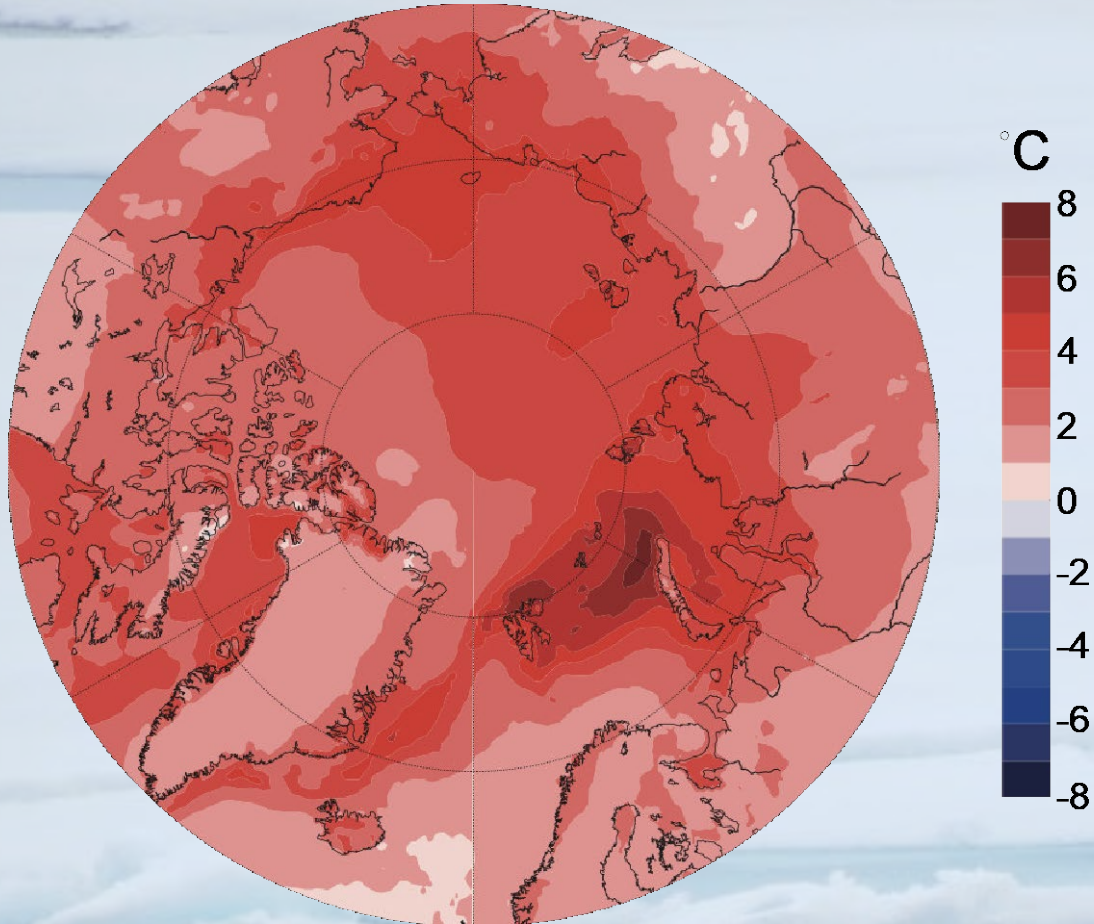
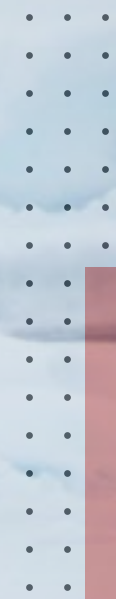
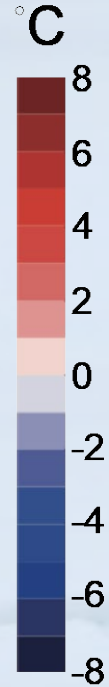
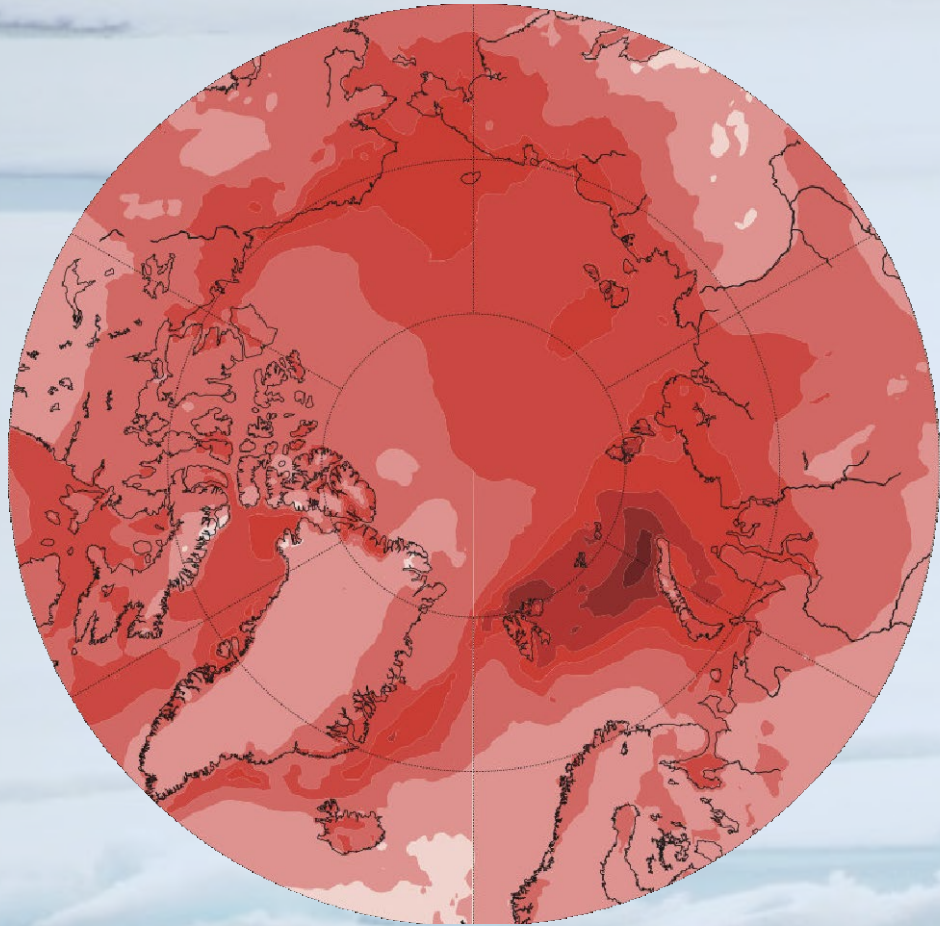


Figure 2. Arctic annual surface temperature trend patterns, 1971-2019, based on combined observed and modeled data (AMAP 2021)



NANOPARTICLES AND... MULTIPLE STRESSORS



ACIDIFICATION

SALINITY
VARIATION

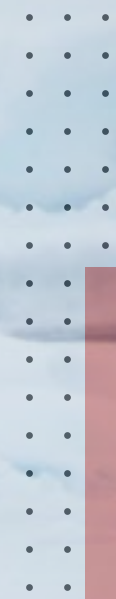
INVASIVE SPECIES

CONTAMINANTS

INVASIVE SPECIES

SEA ICE LOSS

Figure 2. Arctic annual surface temperature trend patterns, 1971-2019, based on combined observed and modeled data (AMAP 2021)



NANOPARTICLES AND... MULTIPLE STRESSORS



STRESSOR INTERACTIONS AND ECOLOGICAL SURPRISES



ACIDIFICATION

SALINITY VARIATION

INVASIVE SPECIES

CONTAMINANTS

INVASIVE SPECIES

Figure 2. Arctic annual surface temperature trend patterns, 1971-2019, based on combined observed and modeled data (AMAP 2021)

2023-11-23

SEA ICE LOSS

HOW TO ASSES THE EFFECT OF NPS IN THE ARCTIC



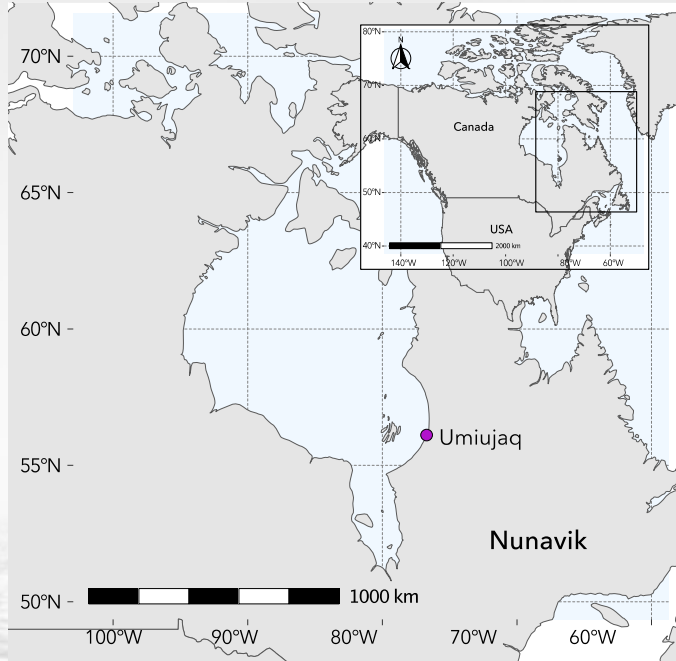
1. Characterization

- Global and local
- Multiple abiotic and biotic compartments

2023-11-23



HOW TO ASSES THE EFFECT OF NPS IN THE ARCTIC



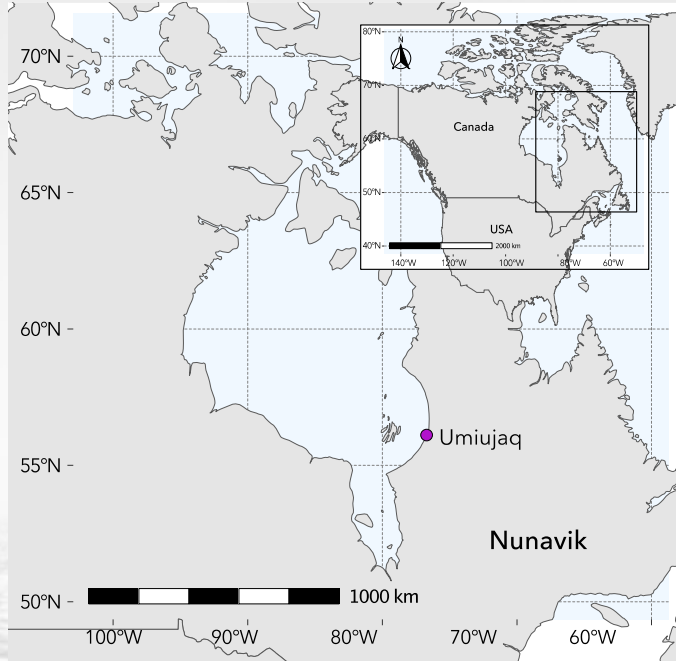
1. Characterization

- Global and local
- Multiple abiotic and biotic compartments

2023-11-23



HOW TO ASSES THE EFFECT OF NPS IN THE ARCTIC



Blue mussel
(*Mytilus sp.*)

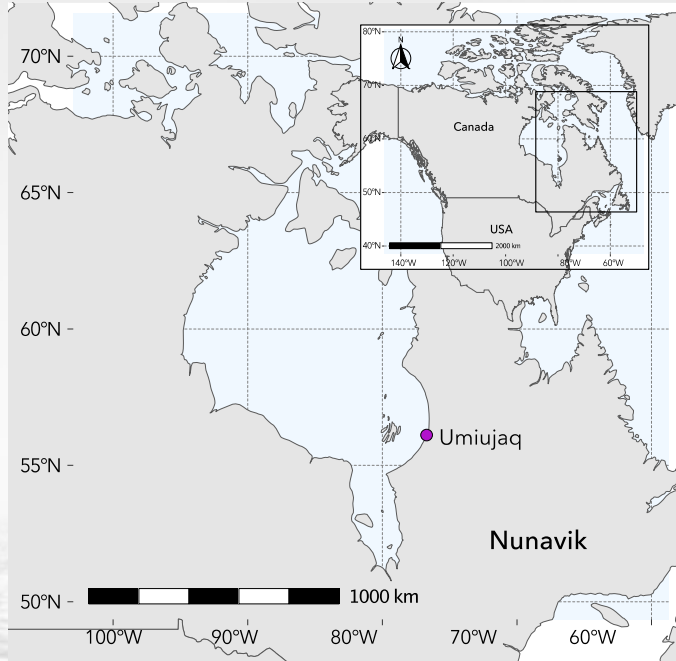
1. Characterization

- Global and local
- Multiple abiotic and biotic compartments

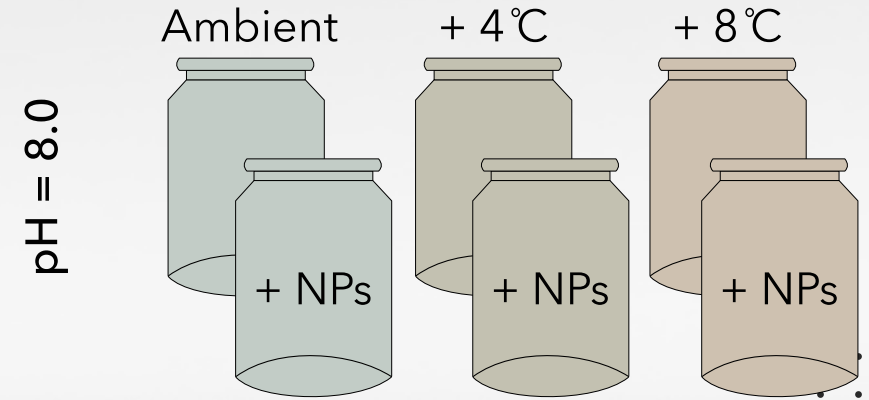
2. Single stressor experiments

- Effect of NPs on sentinel species or bioindicators

HOW TO ASSES THE EFFECT OF NPS IN THE ARCTIC



Blue mussel
(*Mytilus sp.*)



1. Characterization

- Global and local
- Multiple abiotic and biotic compartments

2. Single stressor experiments

- Effect of NPs on sentinel species or bioindicators

3. Multiple stressor experiments

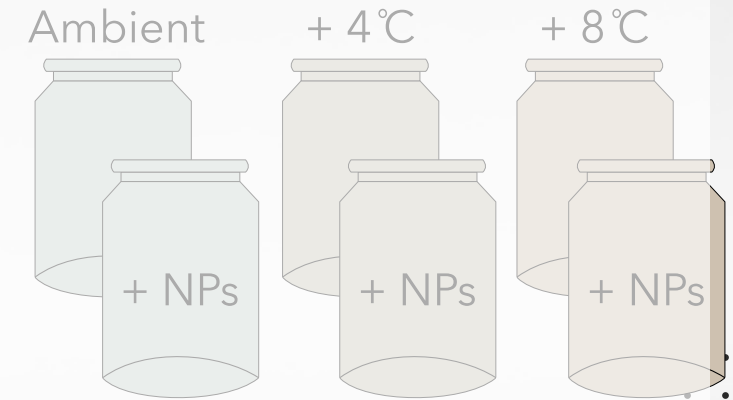
- Effect of of NPs combined to other environmental stressors

HOW TO ASSES THE EFFECT OF NPS IN THE ARCTIC



Blue mussel
(Mytilus sp.)

pH = 8.0



1. Characterization

- Global and local
- Multiple abiotic and biotic compartments

2023-11-23

2. Single stressor experiments

- Effect of NPs on sentinel species or bioindicators

3. Multiple stressor experiments

- Effect of of NPs combined to other environmental stressors

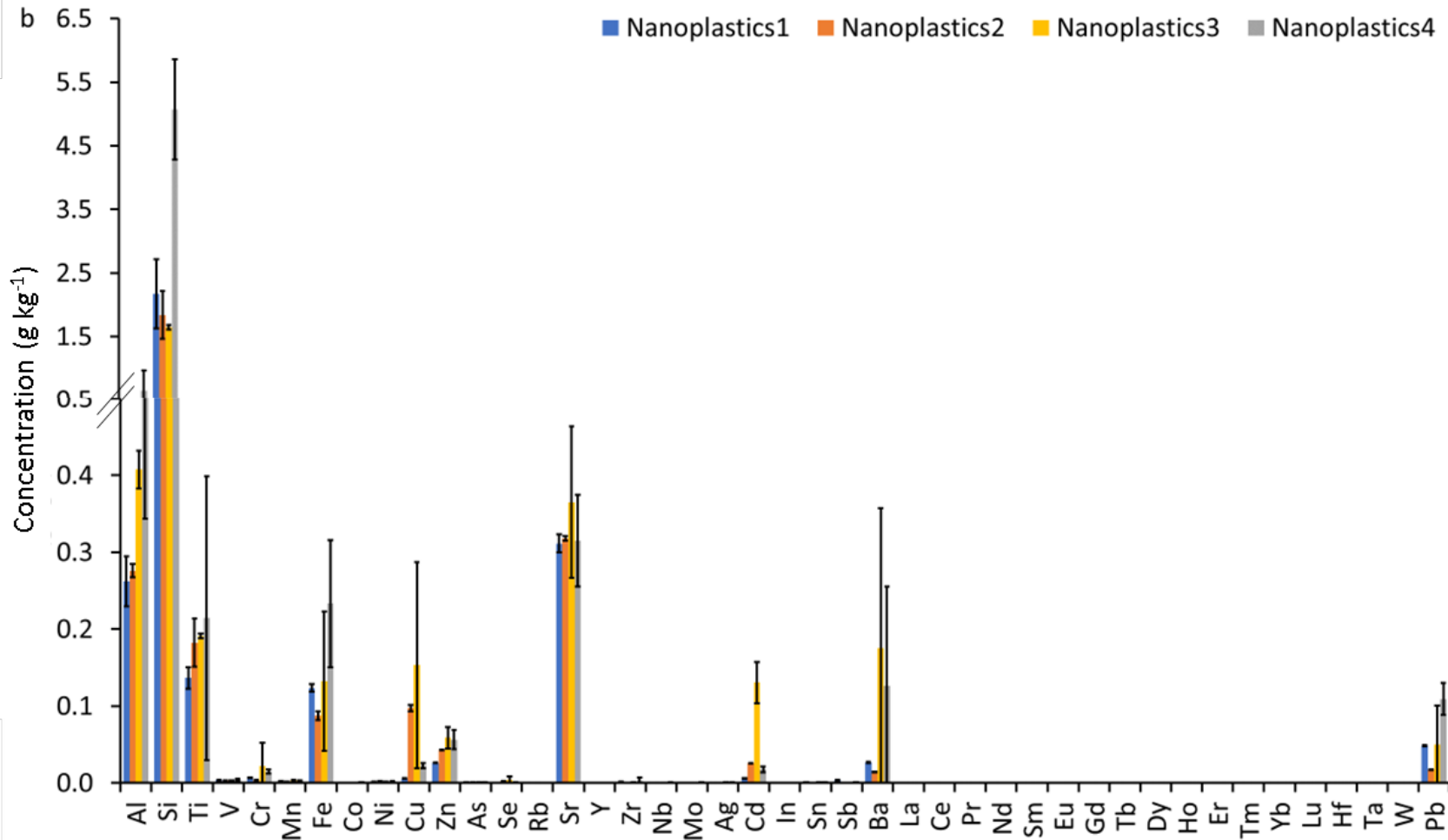


Why use benthic organisms as indicators ?

- Sessile species exposed to multiple environmental stressors
- Known ecology
- Important functional traits
- Important role in the food web
- Food resources used by local communities

BLUE MUSSEL AS SENTINEL ORGANISM

SINGLE STRESSOR EXPERIMENT

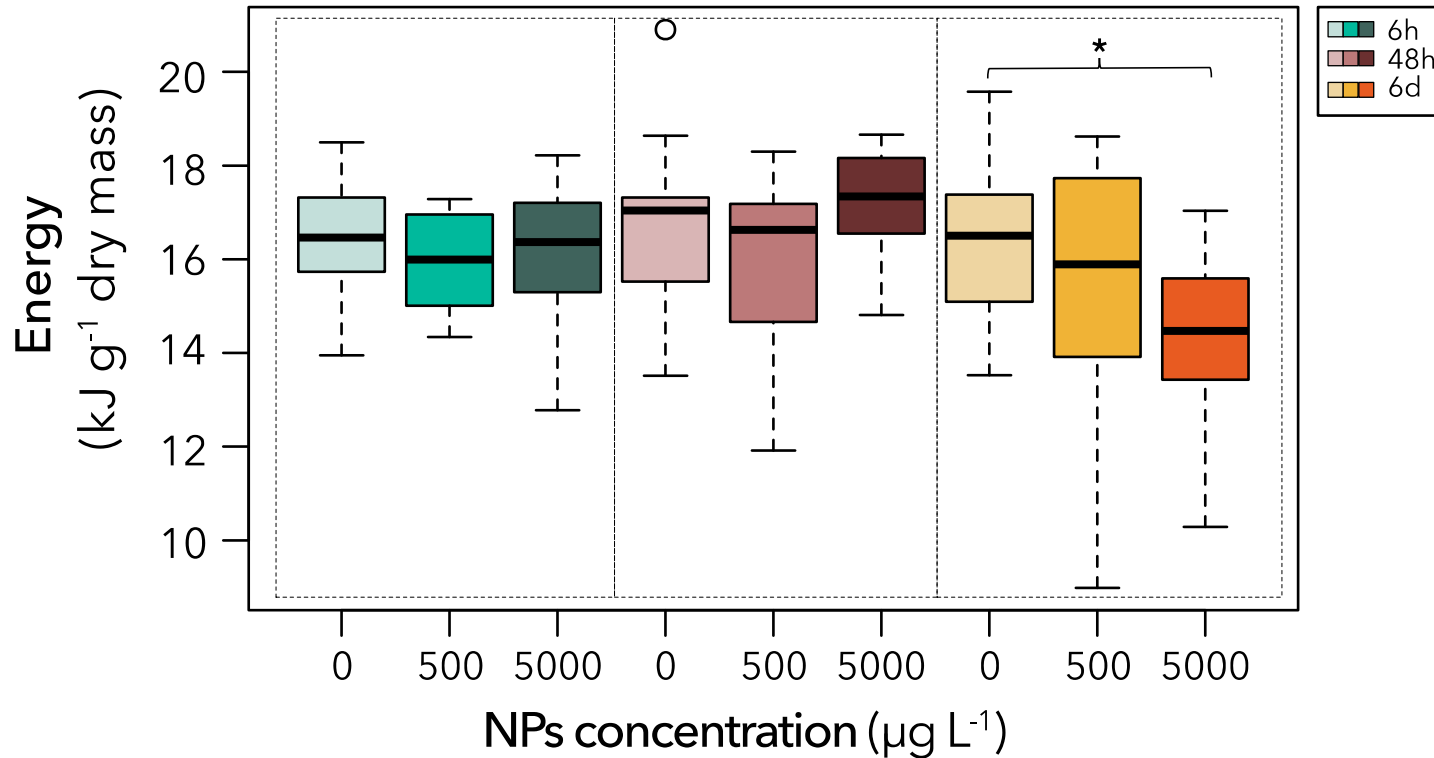


- Mix of 4 environmental nanoplastic solution
- Polyethylene
- Polypropylene
- Associated metallic nanoparticles
- 3 concentration (0, 500, 5000 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)
- 3 exposure time (6h, 48h and 6 days)

EFFECT OF CONCENTRATION AND EXPOSURE TIME



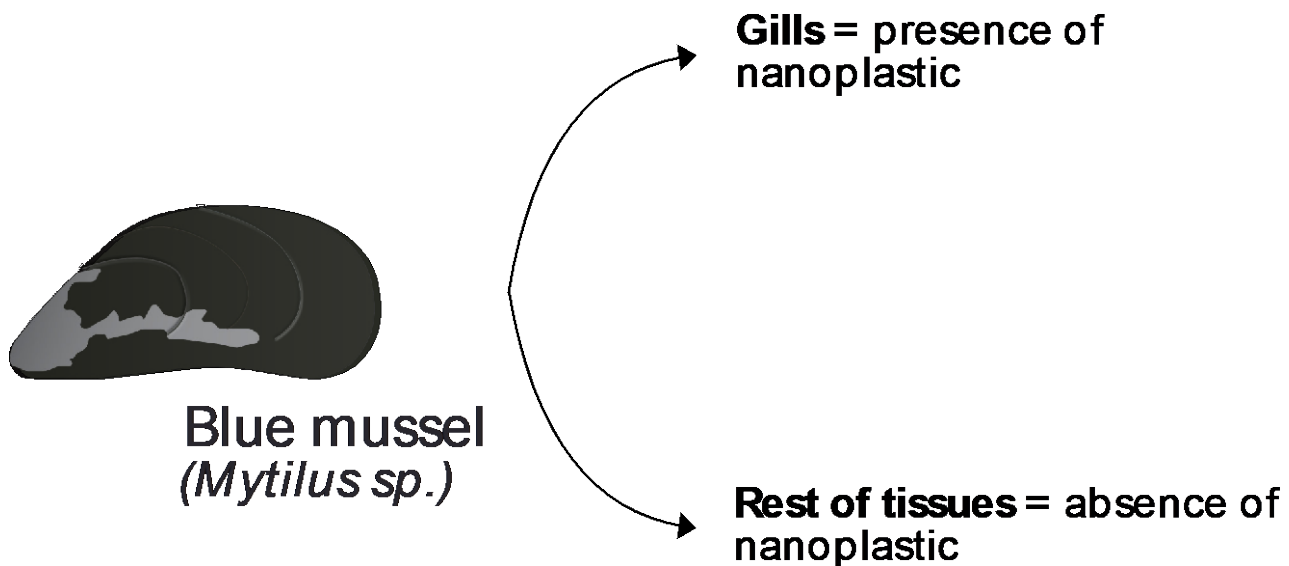
Blue mussel
(*Mytilus sp.*)



- After 6 days of exposure, higher NPs concentration (5000) decreases energy content in comparison to control conditions
- Increase variance
- Less energy → consequences for local communities and for energy flow through food web

Figure 3. Effect of different concentration and time of exposure on energy content in *Mytilus* spp.

NANOPARTICLES IN GILLS AND TISSUES



Quantification of NPs ongoing with Py-GC-MS-MS and sp-ICP-Q-ToF!

NANOPARTICLES IN GILLS AND TISSUES



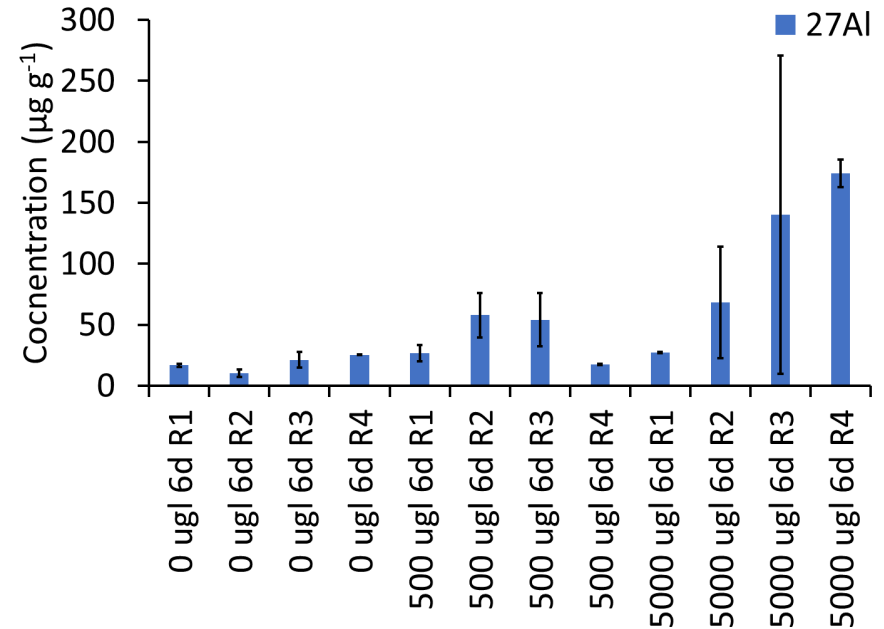
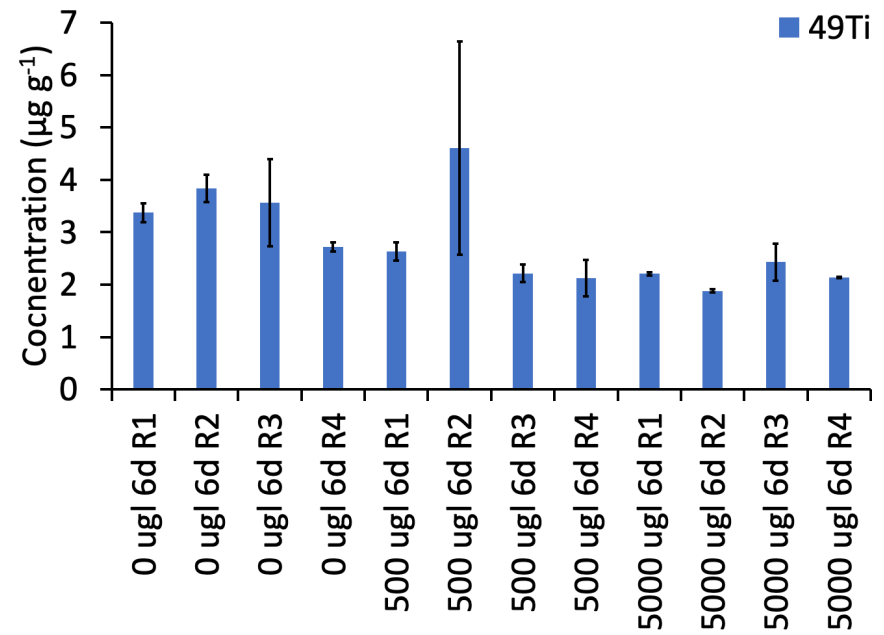
Blue mussel
(*Mytilus sp.*)

Gills = presence of nanoplastic

Rest of tissues = absence of nanoplastic

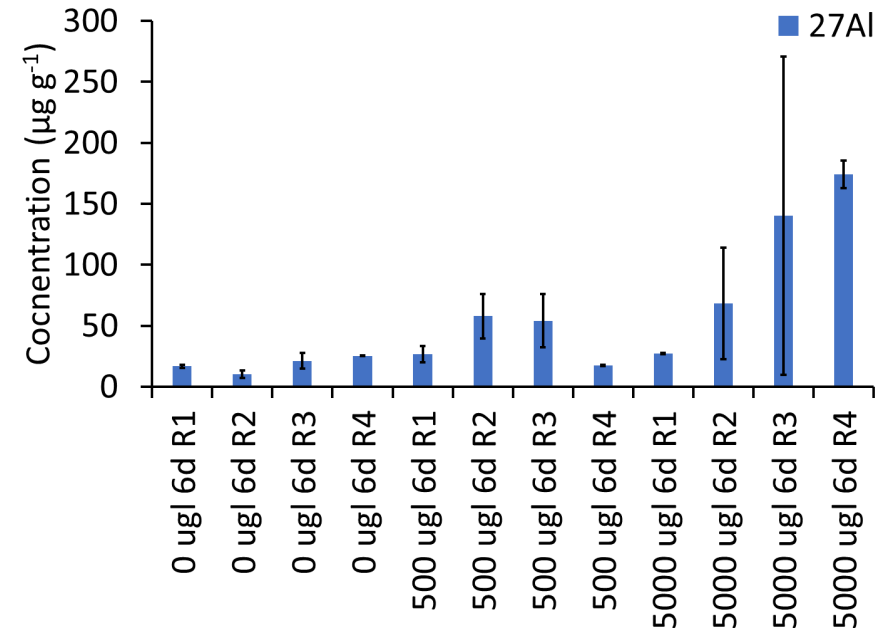
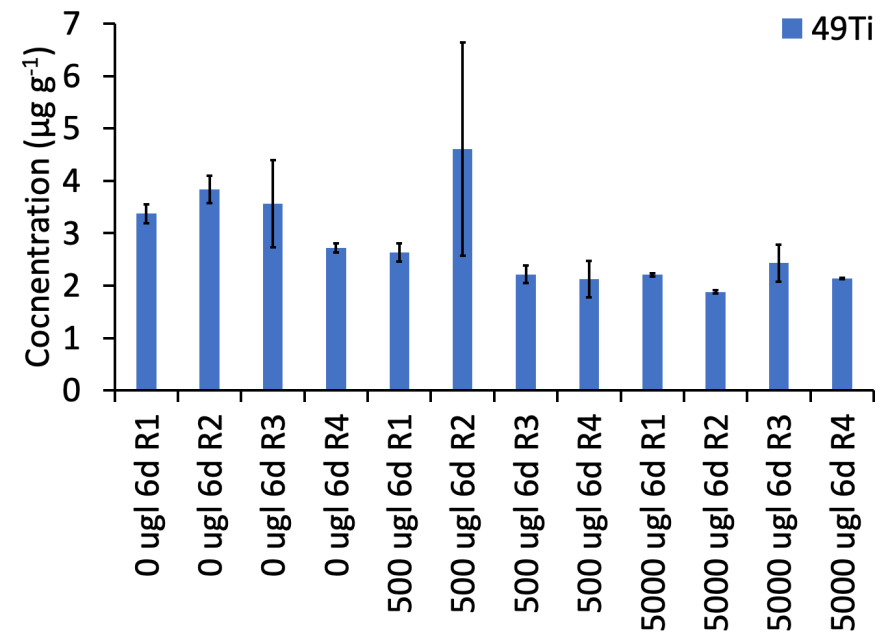
Quantification of NPs ongoing with Py-GC-MS-MS and sp-ICP-Q-ToF!

2023-11-23



NANOPARTICLES IN GILLS AND TISSUES

- No accumulation of TiO₂ in the tissue while we know the high concentration and the stability of the TiO₂ in the plastic
- Accumulation of Aluminium in the tissues, stability of Al?
- Trojan horse property of nanoplastics?
- Selective assimilation of metals ?



MULTI-STRESSOR EXPERIMENT

How do nanoparticles decrease the tolerance of benthic organisms to multiple environmental stressors ?

MULTI-STRESSOR EXPERIMENT

How do nanoparticles decrease the tolerance of benthic organisms to multiple environmental stressors ?



Pre-exposure to nanoparticles

Exposure to multiple stressors
Copper + Salinity variation + nutrient enrichment



MULTI-STRESSOR EXPERIMENT

How do nanoparticles decrease the tolerance of benthic organisms to multiple environmental stressors ?



Pre-exposure to nanoparticles

Exposure to multiple stressors
Copper + Salinity variation + nutrient enrichment



Blue mussel
(*Mytilus sp.*)

- Multi-omics
- Energy content
- ATP production
- Filtration rates
- Oxygen consumption
- Ammonia excretion
- Mortality

Cellular, molecular, physiological responses



Population and ecosystem functioning





Characterization

- What and where
- Best abiotic or biotic compartment
- Spatio-temporal variation

Nanoparticles experiment

- Mechanistic understanding
- Threshold effects
- Cellular, physiological, genetic effects



Multi-stressor experiments

- Layer of complexity
- Stressor interactions
- Realism

A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

RESEARCH VESSELS

- CCGS AMUNDSEN
- COMMANDANT CHARCOT

FUNDING

- FONDS DE RECHERCHE DU QUÉBEC – NATURE ET TECHNOLOGIES
- SENTINEL NORTH (ULAVAL)
- NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA
- ARCTICNET AND MEOPAR

COLLABORATORS

- UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
- INRAE
- OHMI NUNAVIK
- MOHAMMED BAALOUSHA



THANK YOU TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



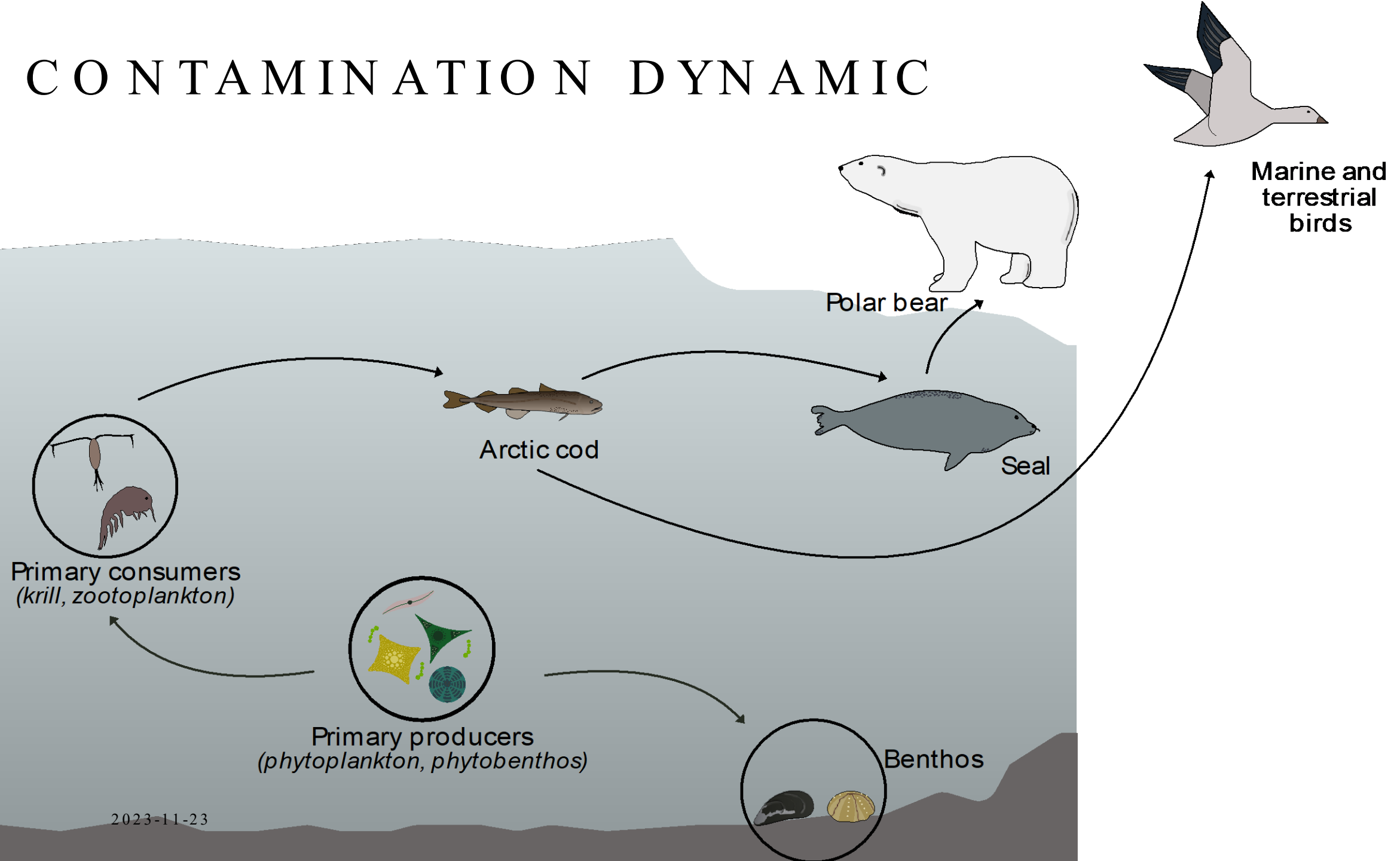
HOW TO CONTACT ME

charlotte.carrier-belleau.1@ulaval.ca

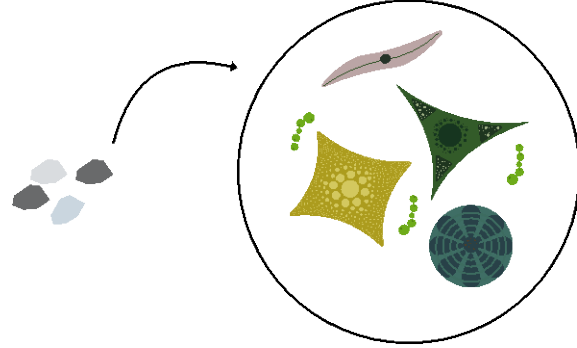


ResearchGate

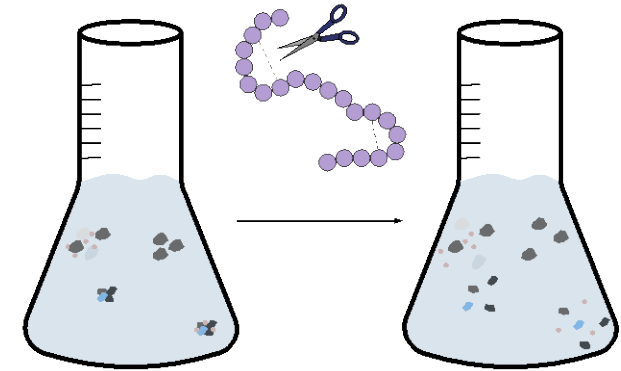
CONTAMINATION DYNAMIC



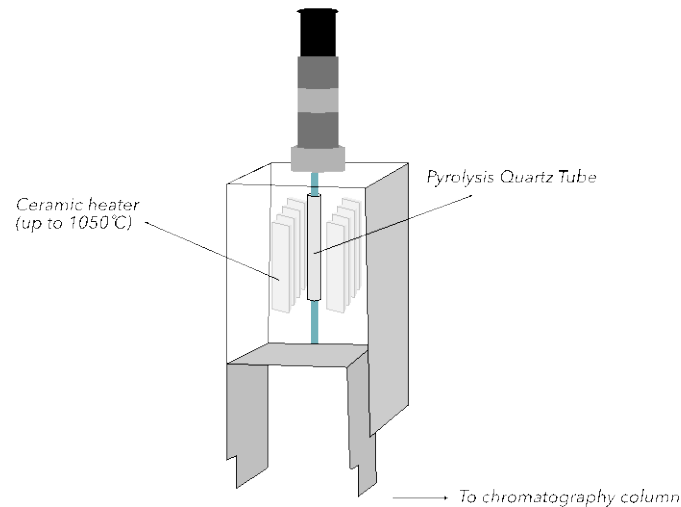
EXTRACTION METHOD



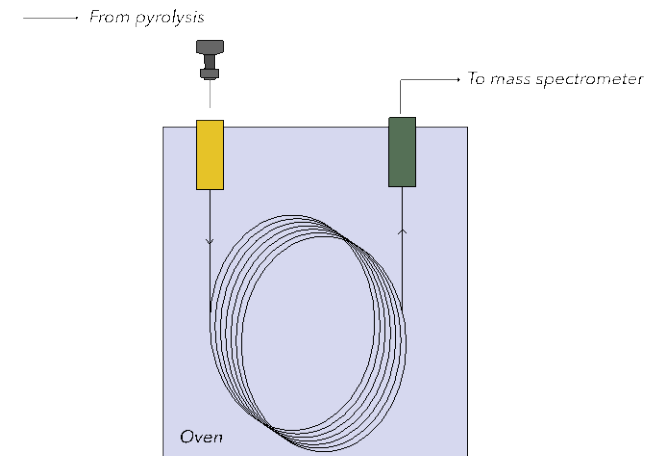
1. Remove organic matter
(peroxyde/UV)



2. Dissociate matter
(potassium hydroxyde)



3. Burst the matrix
(pyrolysis 600°C under helium flow)



4. Separate the different compounds
(chromatography column)