

# ZooSCAN biovolume to biomass from imaged zooplankton collected during MOCNESS tows during various R/V Atlantic Explorer cruises and small boat deployments in the Sargasso Sea between 2016 to 2019

**Website:** <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/854077>

**Data Type:** Cruise Results

**Version:** 1

**Version Date:** 2021-06-17

## Project

- » [Collaborative Research: Diel physiological rhythms in a tropical oceanic copepod](#) (Zooplankton Diel Rhythm)
- » [Quantifying the drivers of midwater zooplankton community structure](#) (Zooplankton Gradients)
- » [Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences Simons Collaboration on Ocean Processes and Ecology](#) (BIOSSCOPE)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
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<a href="#">Maas, Amy</a>	Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS)	Co-Principal Investigator
<a href="#">Gossner, Hannah</a>	Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS)	Technician
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## Abstract

ZooSCAN biovolume to biomass from the Sargasso Sea including locations in the vicinity of the Bermuda Atlantic Time-series Study (BATS). Samples were collected during MOCNESS tows during R/V Atlantic Explorer cruises between 2016 to 2019 (AE1614, AE1712, AE1830, AE1917, AE1918, AE1931) and a few small boat deployments. These data were published in Maas et al. (2021) as Supplementary Table 1.

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## Coverage

**Spatial Extent:** N:32.3065 E:-64.05553 S:31.37146333 W:-64.7935

**Temporal Extent:** 2016-07-11 - 2019-11-28

## Methods & Sampling

**Methodology:** Individual zooplankton of a variety of taxa were individually selected from multiple MOCNESS and Reeve net tows. Organisms were picked from both surface and deep nets and across a range of sizes to represent the full range of potential morphologies. They were imaged on a ZooSCAN ver. 3 at 4,800 dpi (following the methods in: Gorsky et al., 2010, Vandromme et al., 2012). Raw images were then processed in ZooProcess (Gorsky et al., 2010, Vandromme et al., 2012), resulting in a measurement and metadata file. After

imaging each individual organism was weighed wet on a Mettler-Toledo XPR microbalance, dried for 3 days in a drying oven at 60 C, and reweighed.

**Sampling and analytical procedures:** Most samples (all from the MOCNESS) had been preserved in formalin for between 1 and 4 years. Individuals from the Reeve net had been preserved in ethanol or stored at -80C for 1-2 years. All individuals were imaged in DI water at room temperature.

### Object\_id and imagenames:

Related Datasets may contain the image name which is constructed the same way as the object\_id in this dataset except it does not have the additional \_# at the end, and the imagename ends in the .tif extension. This additional number in the object\_id is added by the Zooprocess software (Hydroptic, 2016).

e.g.

object\_id: ae1614\_m3\_n1\_d2\_a\_1\_100

image\_name: ae1614\_m3\_n1\_d2\_a\_1.tif

### Data Processing Description

Zooscan pixel measurements come directly from the ZooProcess pipeline. These were converted to mm based on the dpi conversion factor of mm= 0.005291667(dpi). Biovolume was calculated assuming an ellipsoidal shape where  $mm^3 = 4/3\pi(\text{minor}0.5)^2(\text{major}0.5)$

BCO-DMO data manager processing notes:

\* File BATS\_biomass\_biovolume.xlsx sheet "Data" imported into the BCO-DMO data system.

\* Fields renamed to comply with BCO-DMO naming conventions. See <https://www.bco-dmo.org/page/bco-dmo-data-processing-conventions>

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### Data Files

File
<b>zooscan_bats_biovolume.csv</b> (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 107.01 KB) MD5:ee93027778334027043c6c565e2953a8
Primary data file for dataset ID 854077

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### Related Publications

Gorsky, G., Ohman, M. D., Picheral, M., Gasparini, S., Stemmann, L., Romagnan, J.-B., ... Prejger, F. (2010). Digital zooplankton image analysis using the ZooScan integrated system. *Journal of Plankton Research*, 32(3), 285-303. doi:[10.1093/plankt/fbp124](https://doi.org/10.1093/plankt/fbp124)

*Methods*

Hydroptic (2016). ZooSCAN. Available at

[http://www.hydroptic.com/index.php/public/Page/product\\_item/ZOOSCAN](http://www.hydroptic.com/index.php/public/Page/product_item/ZOOSCAN). Accessed June 17th, 2021.

*Software*

Maas, A. E., Gossner, H., Smith, M. J., & Blanco-Bercial, L. (2021). Use of optical imaging datasets to assess biogeochemical contributions of the mesozooplankton. *Journal of Plankton Research*, 43(3), 475-491.

doi:[10.1093/plankt/fbab037](https://doi.org/10.1093/plankt/fbab037)

*Results*

Vandromme, P., Stemmann, L., Garcia-Comas, C., Berline, L., Sun, X., & Gorsky, G. (2012). Assessing biases in computing size spectra of automatically classified zooplankton from imaging systems: A case study with the ZooScan integrated system. *Methods in Oceanography*, 1-2, 3-21. doi:[10.1016/j.mio.2012.06.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mio.2012.06.001)

*Methods*

## Related Datasets

### IsReferencedBy

Blanco-Bercial, L., Maas, A., Gossner, H. (2021) **ZooSCAN images of zooplankton collected during BATS MOCNESS tows during R/V Atlantic Explorer cruises AE1614, AE1712, AE1830, and AE1819 in the vicinity of the Bermuda Atlantic Time-series Study from 2016 to 2018.** Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2021-10-07  
doi:10.26008/1912/bco-dmo.853440.1 [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

*Relationship Description: Analysis of ZooScan images is validated by Biovolume:biomass conversion.*

Blanco-Bercial, L., Maas, A., Gossner, H. (2021) **ZooSCAN output from of imaged zooplankton collected during BATS MOCNESS tows during R/V Atlantic Explorer cruises AE1614, AE1712, AE1830, and AE1819 in the vicinity of the Bermuda Atlantic Time-series Study from 2016 to 2018.** Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2021-10-05  
doi:10.26008/1912/bco-dmo.857891.1 [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

*Relationship Description: Analysis of ZooScan output is validated by Biovolume:biomass conversion.*

## Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
object_id	Organismal identification number. Typically cruiseID_mocnessID_net#_taxonomy_image# unless from a Reeve tow	unitless
taxa	broad taxonomic classification	unitless
object_major	Zooscan pixel measurement of major axis	dpi
object_minor	Zooscan pixel measurement of minor axis	dpi
object_feret	Zooscan pixel measurement of feret diameter. Object maximum feret diameter, i.e., the longest distance between any two points along the object boundary in pixels.	dpi
object_esd	Zooscan pixel measurement of estimated spherical diameter (Object Equivalent Spherical Diameter).	dpi
object_area_exc	Zooscan pixel measurement of area (Zooscan "Area_exc"). Surface of the object excluding holes in square pixel (=Area*(1-(%area/100))).	dpi <sup>2</sup>
object_major_mm	particle major axis	mm
object_minor_mm	particle major axis	mm
object_feret_mm	particle feret length	mm
object_esd_mm	particle estimated spherical diameter	mm
object_area_mm2	particle area	mm <sup>2</sup>
BioVolume	particle biovolume assuming an ellipsoidal shape	mm <sup>3</sup>
wet_wt	measured wet weight	mg
dry_wt	measured dry weight	mg

## Instruments

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	1m MOCNESS
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	MOCNESS
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	The Multiple Opening/Closing Net and Environmental Sensing System or MOCNESS is a family of net systems based on the Tucker Trawl principle. There are currently 8 different sizes of MOCNESS in existence which are designed for capture of different size ranges of zooplankton and micro-nekton Each system is designated according to the size of the net mouth opening and in two cases, the number of nets it carries. The original MOCNESS (Wiebe et al, 1976) was a redesigned and improved version of a system described by Frost and McCrone (1974).(from MOCNESS manual) This designation is used when the specific type of MOCNESS (number and size of nets) was not specified by the contributing investigator.

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	Mettler-Toledo XPR microbalance
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	scale
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	An instrument used to measure weight or mass.

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	ZooSCAN ver. 3
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	ZooSCAN
<b>Dataset-specific Description</b>	<a href="http://www.hydroptic.com/index.php/public/Page/product_item/ZOOSCAN">http://www.hydroptic.com/index.php/public/Page/product_item/ZOOSCAN</a>
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	Description excerpt from Hydroptic website <a href="http://www.hydroptic.com/index.php/public/Page/product_item/ZOOSCAN">http://www.hydroptic.com/index.php/public/Page/product_item/ZOOSCAN</a> The ZooSCAN (CNRS patent) system makes use of scanner technology with custom lighting and a watertight scanning chamber into which liquid zooplankton samples can be placed. The scanner recovers a high-resolution, digital image and the sample can be recovered without damage. These digital images can then be investigated by computer processing. While the resolution of the digitized zooplankton images is lower than the image obtained using a binocular microscope this technique has proved to be more than adequate for large sample sets. Identification of species is done by automatic comparison of the image (vignette) of each individual animal in the scanned image with a library data set which may be built by the investigator for each individual survey or imported from a previous survey. The latest machine learning algorithm allows high recognition levels even if we recommend complementary manual sorting to achieve a high number of taxonomic groups.

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## Deployments

AE1614

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/853444">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/853444</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Atlantic Explorer
<b>Report</b>	<a href="https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/305/BIOSCOPE/data_docs/AE1614_CS_narrative_FINAL.pdf">https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/305/BIOSCOPE/data_docs/AE1614_CS_narrative_FINAL.pdf</a>
<b>Start Date</b>	2016-07-09
<b>End Date</b>	2016-07-12

#### AE1712

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/857372">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/857372</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Atlantic Explorer
<b>Report</b>	<a href="https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/305/BIOSCOPE/data_docs/AE1712_CS_narrative.pdf">https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/305/BIOSCOPE/data_docs/AE1712_CS_narrative.pdf</a>
<b>Start Date</b>	2017-07-08
<b>End Date</b>	2017-07-11
<b>Description</b>	Project BIOS-SCOPE

#### AE1830

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/857780">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/857780</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Atlantic Explorer
<b>Start Date</b>	2018-10-27
<b>End Date</b>	2018-10-31
<b>Description</b>	Cruise DOI: 10.7284/908188

#### AE1917

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/857789">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/857789</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Atlantic Explorer
<b>Start Date</b>	2019-07-14
<b>End Date</b>	2019-07-19

#### AE1918

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/781440">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/781440</a>
<b>Platform</b>	R/V Atlantic Explorer
<b>Report</b>	<a href="http://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/Zooplankton_Diel_Rhythm/data_docs/AE1918_Cruise_Report.pdf">http://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/Zooplankton_Diel_Rhythm/data_docs/AE1918_Cruise_Report.pdf</a>
<b>Start Date</b>	2019-07-25
<b>End Date</b>	2019-07-25
<b>Description</b>	Additional cruise data may be available from the Rolling Deck to Repository (R2R): <a href="https://www.rvdata.us/search/cruise/AE1918">https://www.rvdata.us/search/cruise/AE1918</a>

## Project Information

### Collaborative Research: Diel physiological rhythms in a tropical oceanic copepod (Zooplankton Diel Rhythm)

**Coverage:** Bermuda

#### *NSF Award Abstract:*

The daily vertical migration (DMV) of zooplankton and fish across hundreds of meters between shallow and deep waters is a predominant pattern in pelagic ecosystems. This migration has consequences for biogeochemical cycling as it moves a substantial portion of fixed carbon and nitrogen (an estimated 15 to 40 % of the total global organic export) from the surface directly to depth where it feeds the midwater food chain and sequesters nutrients away from atmospheric mixing. Estimates and predictions of these fluxes are, however, poorly understood at present. New observations have shown that one source of uncertainty is due to the assumption that metabolic rates and processes do not vary over the course of the day, except based on changes in temperature and oxygen availability. Rates are, however, also driven by differences in feeding, swimming behavior, and underlying circadian cycles. The objective of this project is to improve the ability of scientists to understand and predict zooplankton contributions to the movement of carbon and nitrogen in the ocean by detailing daily changes in physiological processes of these organisms. By producing a set of respiration and excretion measurements over a daily time series, paired with simultaneously collected gene and protein expression patterns for an abundant vertically migratory species, the investigators will provide unprecedented and predictive insight into how changes in the environment affect the contribution of zooplankton to biogeochemical fluxes. The sampling design of the project will advance discovery and understanding by providing hands-on training opportunities to at least two undergraduate researchers. The project will broaden dissemination of the research via development of an educational module, focusing on rhythms in the ocean. The module will initially be piloted with the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS) summer camp students and then disseminated through the BIOS Explorer program, the Teacher Resources Page on the BIOS website, and published in a peer-reviewed educational journal.

This project will characterize the metabolic consequences of daily physiological rhythms and DVM for a model zooplankton species, the abundant subtropical copepod *Pleuromamma xiphias*. Flux processes (oxygen consumption, carbon dioxide production, production of ammonium and fecal pellet production) will be interrogated using directed experiments testing the effects of temperature, feeding and circadian cycle. Circadian cycling will further be examined using transcriptomic and proteomic profiling. These experiments will be related to field samples taken at 6-h intervals over the course of the diel migration using an integrated suite of molecular and organismal metrics. Combined organismal, transcriptomic and proteomic profiles will provide an understanding of which metabolic pathways and associated flux products vary in relation to particular environmental variables (food, light cycle, temperature). Diel variation in metabolic rates will also be assessed across seasons and species using other important migratory groups (pteropod, euphausiid, and another copepod). The metabolic data will then be contextualized with abundance estimates from archived depth-stratified tows to allow scaling to community-level patterns and will be used to improve calculations of zooplankton contribution to particulate organic carbon, nitrogen and respiratory active flux. The results of this study will both improve our flux estimates and provide predictive insight into how various environmental variables influence the underlying physiological pathways generating carbon and nitrogen flux.

**Cruise reports are available from the completed cruises:**

[SD031019](#)

[AE1910](#)

[AE1918](#)

### Quantifying the drivers of midwater zooplankton community structure (Zooplankton Gradients)

**Website:** [https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=1948162](https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1948162)

**Coverage:** North Atlantic and North Pacific

NSF Award Abstract:

Processes in the midwater region below 200 m depth, also known as the twilight zone, represent a major unknown for the biology and chemistry of the ocean. Studies of animals drifting in the oceans, known as zooplankton, are scarce due to the difficulty and associated time and costs of sampling deep waters. The advent of automated image analysis and genetic tools is leading to a rapid increase in our knowledge of the diversity, abundances and size distribution of communities in shallow waters. However, our understanding of the deeper layers of the ocean is still in its infancy, and there are few studies that combine these three facets of the ecology of the zooplankton. The objective of this project is to leverage existing samples, obtained from previously NSF-funded research in the North Pacific and North Atlantic, to study how the abundances, diversity, and size distribution of zooplankton in the midwater vary with latitude and environmental factors. Automated image analyses provide information on abundance and size, and genetic analyses give unprecedented data on the diversity of the midwater community for the North Atlantic and the North Pacific, from subtropical to subarctic environments. This project provides high quality hands-on training opportunities for at least two undergraduate researchers and generates material for undergraduate and graduate courses. Two workshops train educators on the classroom use of the NSF-funded Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO) open access oceanographic data.

Recent advances in image analysis and metabarcoding of zooplankton communities via new data tools are an opportunity to generate quantitative and predictive relationships between environmental drivers and zooplankton diversity, abundances and size distribution. While this information is available for plankton in epipelagic regions, the focus of this study is on midwater communities, which remain poorly characterized. Obtaining these data is the first step towards a quantitative analysis that assesses the impact of the midwater community on biogeochemical cycles. The project uses archived samples from two cruises conducted in the N. Atlantic and N. Pacific to test hypotheses about how temperature, midwater hypoxia, primary productivity and biogeographic province shape the size class structure, biodiversity and behavior (diurnal vertical migration) of zooplankton communities. These newly-generated image and metabarcoding datasets of the mesozooplankton community from 0-1000 m are cross-comparable with other ocean regions. These data describe how migratory and midwater resident zooplankton communities are structured by environmental variables and demonstrate how this influences their biogeochemical contributions (specifically active flux and midwater attenuation of flux). Data tools generated for the image analysis in combination with metabarcoding has broad application in plankton ecology and allows metanalysis of other datasets. The project is complementary to ongoing national and international projects that seek to describe the function and structure of the midwater. In contrast to existing modeling and process projects, this project covers a moderately large geographic area and thus provides a strong comparative foundation for broader community-wide assessment of the function of zooplankton in the twilight zone.

This award reflects NSF's statutory mission and has been deemed worthy of support through evaluation using the Foundation's intellectual merit and broader impacts review criteria.

### **Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences Simons Collaboration on Ocean Processes and Ecology (BIOSCOPE)**

**Website:** <http://scope.bios.edu/>

**Coverage:** North Atlantic Subtropical Gyre, Bermuda Atlantic Time Series (BATS) site

The aim of BIOS-SCOPE is to expand knowledge about the BATS ecosystem and achieve a better understanding of ocean food web sources, sinks and transformations of DOM. Advances in knowledge and technology now pose us to investigate the specific mechanisms of DOM incorporation, oxidation and transformation by zooplankton and the distinct microbial plankton communities that have been discovered at BATS.

The overarching goal of the BIOS-SCOPE is to form and foster collaborations of cross disciplinary science that utilize a broad suite of genomic, chemical, ecological, and biogeochemical approaches to evaluate microbial process, structure and function on various scales. These scales will range from organism-compound and organism-organism interactions to large biogeochemical patterns on the ecosystem scale. For this purpose we have assembled a cross-disciplinary team including microbial oceanographers (Carlson and Giovannoni), a chemical oceanographer (Kujawinski), biological oceanographer / zooplankton ecologists (Maas and Blanco-Bercial) and microbial bioinformatician (Temperton) with the expertise and technical acuity that are needed to study complex interactions between food web processes, microbes and DOM quantity and quality in the

oligotrophic ocean. This scientific team has a vision of harnessing this potential to produce new discoveries that provide a mechanistic understanding of the carbon cycle and explain the many emergent phenomenon that have yet to be understood.

For additional details:

- **BIOS-SCOPE Narrative:**  
[https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/302/BIOSSCOPE/data\\_docs/BIOS-SCOPE\\_Narrative\\_FINAL.pdf](https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/302/BIOSSCOPE/data_docs/BIOS-SCOPE_Narrative_FINAL.pdf)
- **Physical Framework:**  
[https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/302/BIOSSCOPE/data\\_docs/Physical\\_Framework.pdf](https://datadocs.bco-dmo.org/docs/302/BIOSSCOPE/data_docs/Physical_Framework.pdf)

BIOSSCOPE I: November 1st, 2015 through October 31st, 2020  
Current: November 1st, 2020 to October 31st, 2025

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## Funding

Funding Source	Award
<a href="#">Simons Foundation (Simons)</a>	<a href="#">unknown SCOPE Simons</a>
<a href="#">NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)</a>	<a href="#">OCE-1829318</a>
<a href="#">NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)</a>	<a href="#">OCE-1948162</a>

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