

Interdisciplinary Network on  
**Atmospheric Aerosols**

# BIOAEROSOLS AND BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE ARCTIC

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Stellar Astrophysics Centre  
Arctic Research Center  
**Aarhus University**



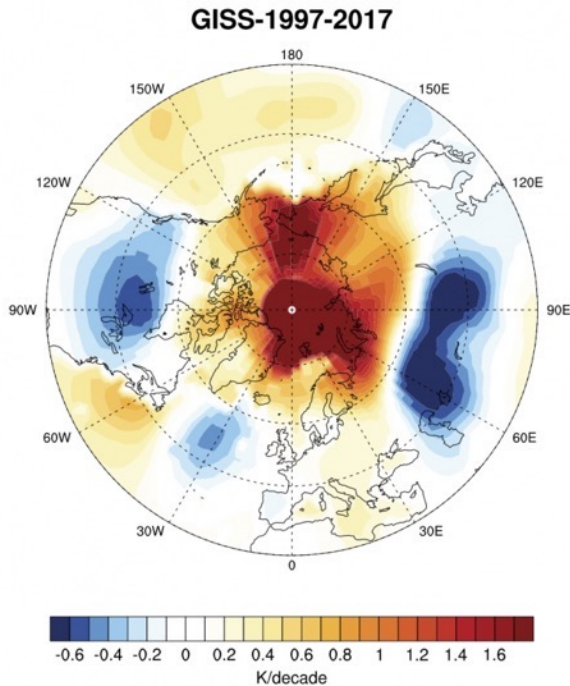
STELLAR ASTROPHYSICS CENTRE



ARCTIC RESEARCH CENTRE

# THE ARCTIC – AN AREA OF PARTICULAR INTEREST FOR BIOAEROSOL RESEARCH

Accelerated warming

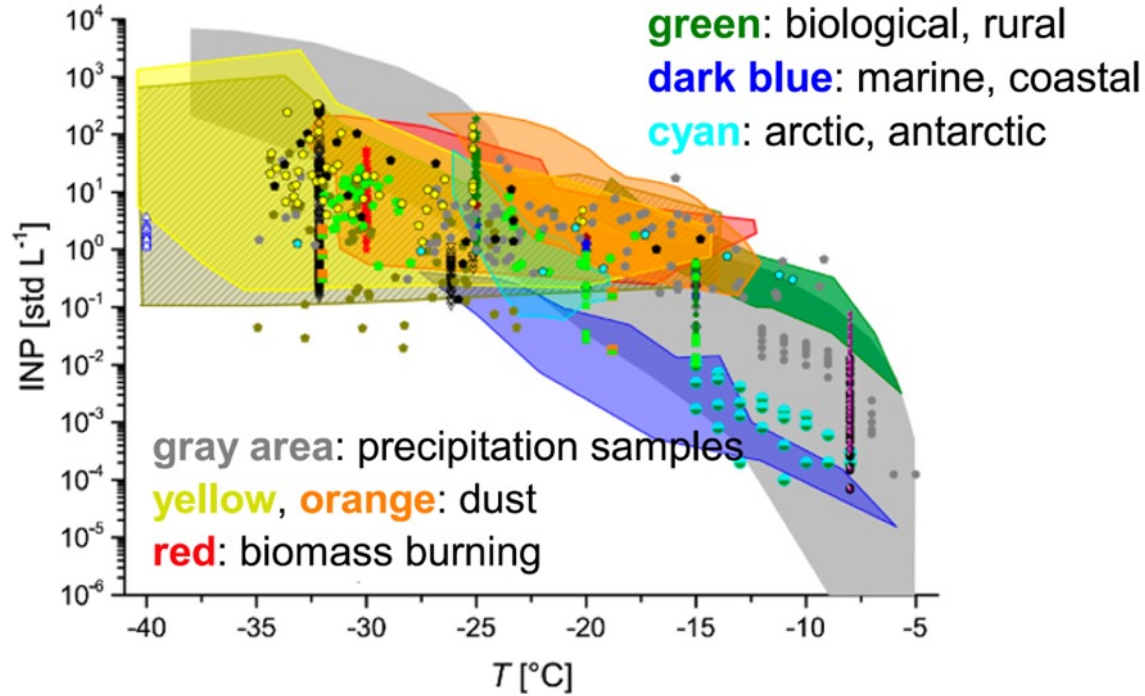


Melting processes and climate feedbacks

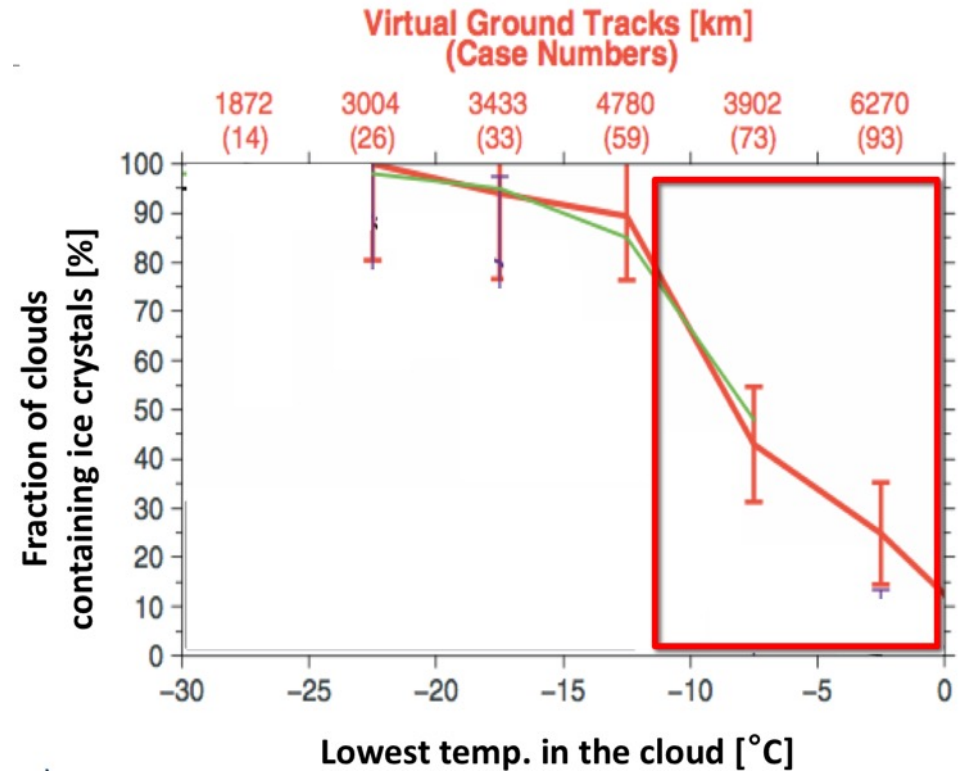


Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2020) AST.

# PROTEINACEOUS INP AND CLOUDS



Adapted from Kanji et al. (2017),  
Meteorological Monographs

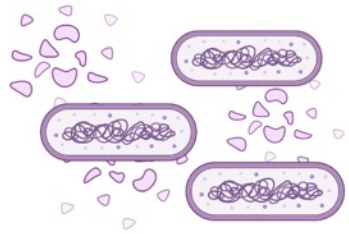


Adapted from Bühl et al (2013), GRL

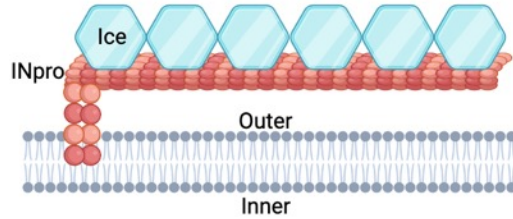


# ICE NUCLEATING BIOAEROSOLS

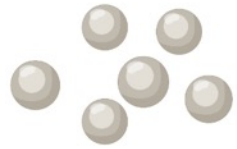
a) Bacterial cells and cell fragments



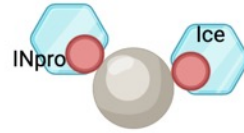
Bacterial INpro are long monomers that assemble as oligomers on the outer membrane



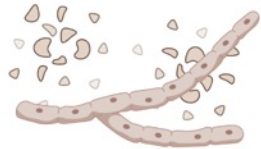
b) Fungal spores



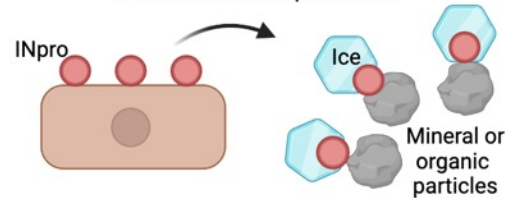
Fungal spores support surface INpro



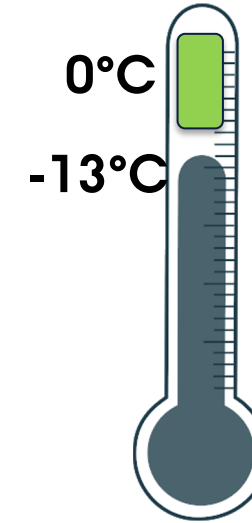
c) Fungal hyphae and hyphal fragments



Hyphal INpro dissociate from cell walls and bind to soil particles



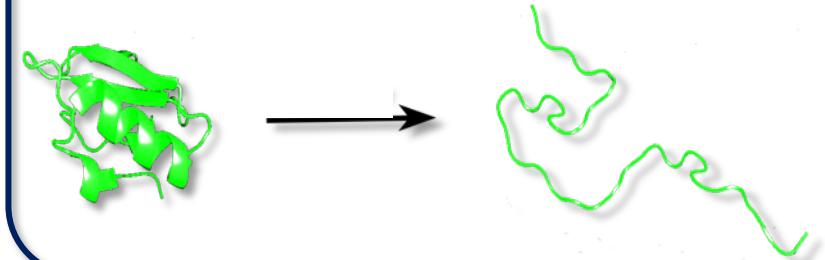
High-temperature activity



Ice-nucleating proteins (INpro)

Mineral particles

Heat denaturation (95°C)

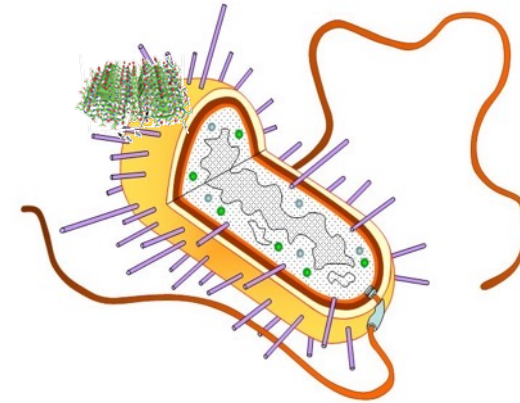
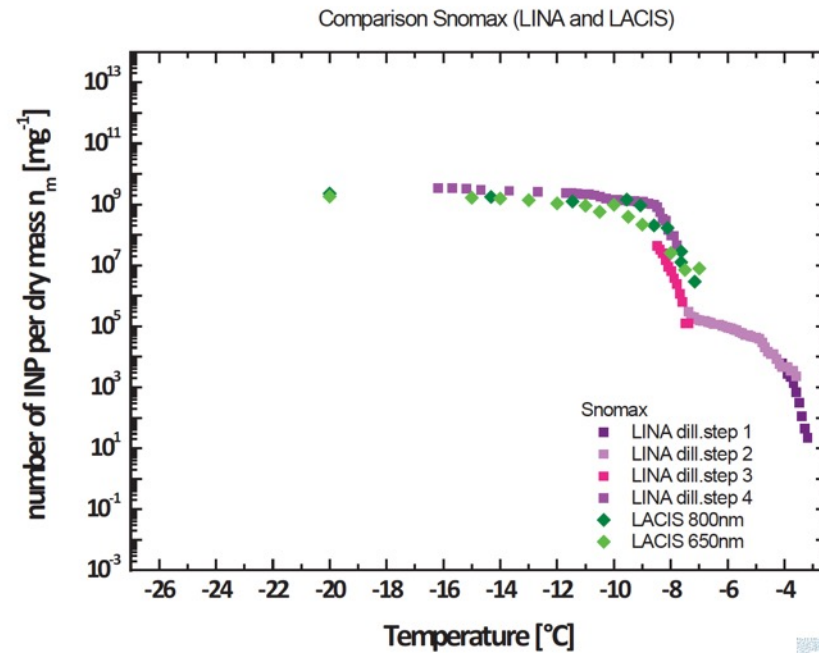
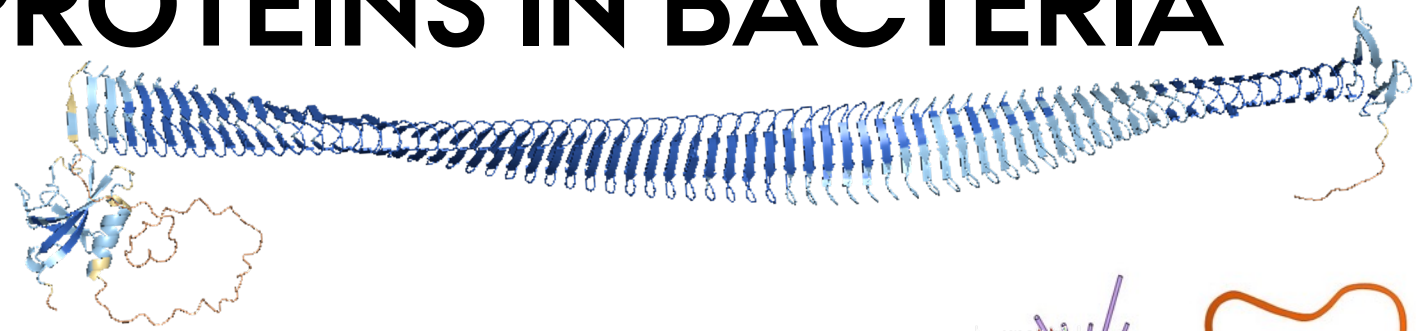


Šantl-Temkiv T, Amato P, Casamayor E, Lee P and Pointing S (in review), FEMS Reviews



# ICE-NUCLEATING PROTEINS IN BACTERIA

- Very large proteins encoded by a single *ina* gene
- Protein sequence is known, but little understanding of the structure
- Central repeat domain: “16-amino acid repeats” 50-80
- Associated with membrane
- INprot forms oligomers → nucleation temperature

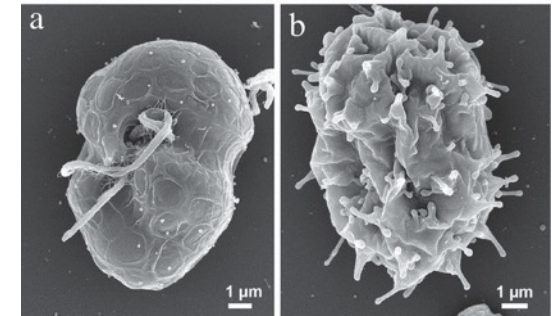
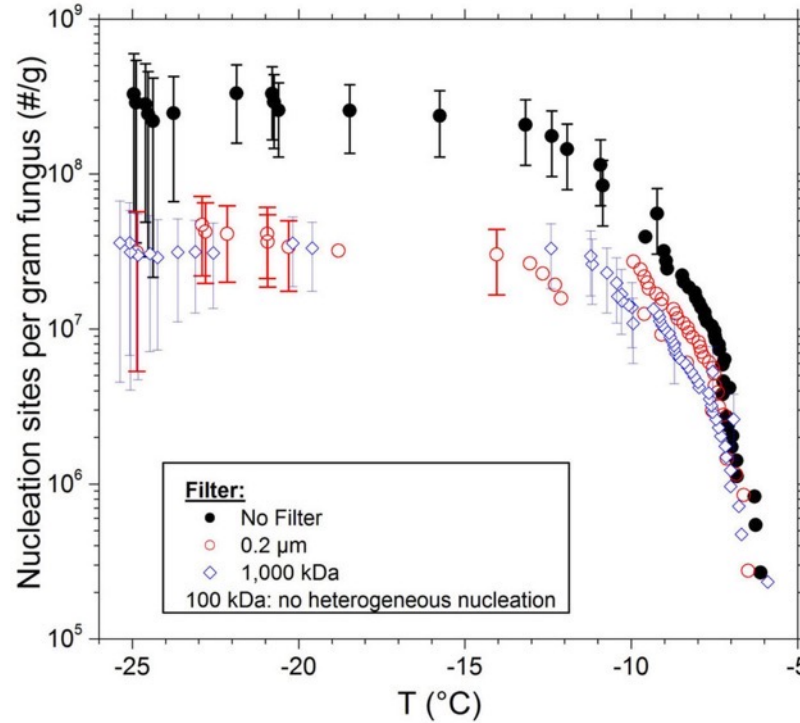


Wex et al. (2015), ACP.

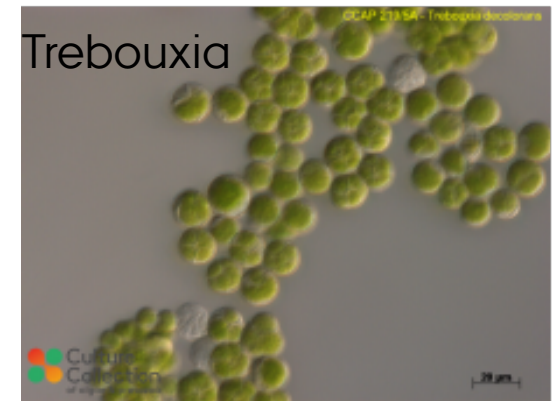
Hartmann S, Ling M, **Dreyer LSE**, Zipori A, (...), Wex H, Rudich Y, **Boesen T**, and Šantl-Temkiv T (in preparation).

# ICE-NUCLEATING PROTEINS IN FUNGI AND MICROALGAE

- Different types of terrestrial and aquatic microorganisms
- Genes are not known
- Proteinaceous INP, that often gets secreted into the environment



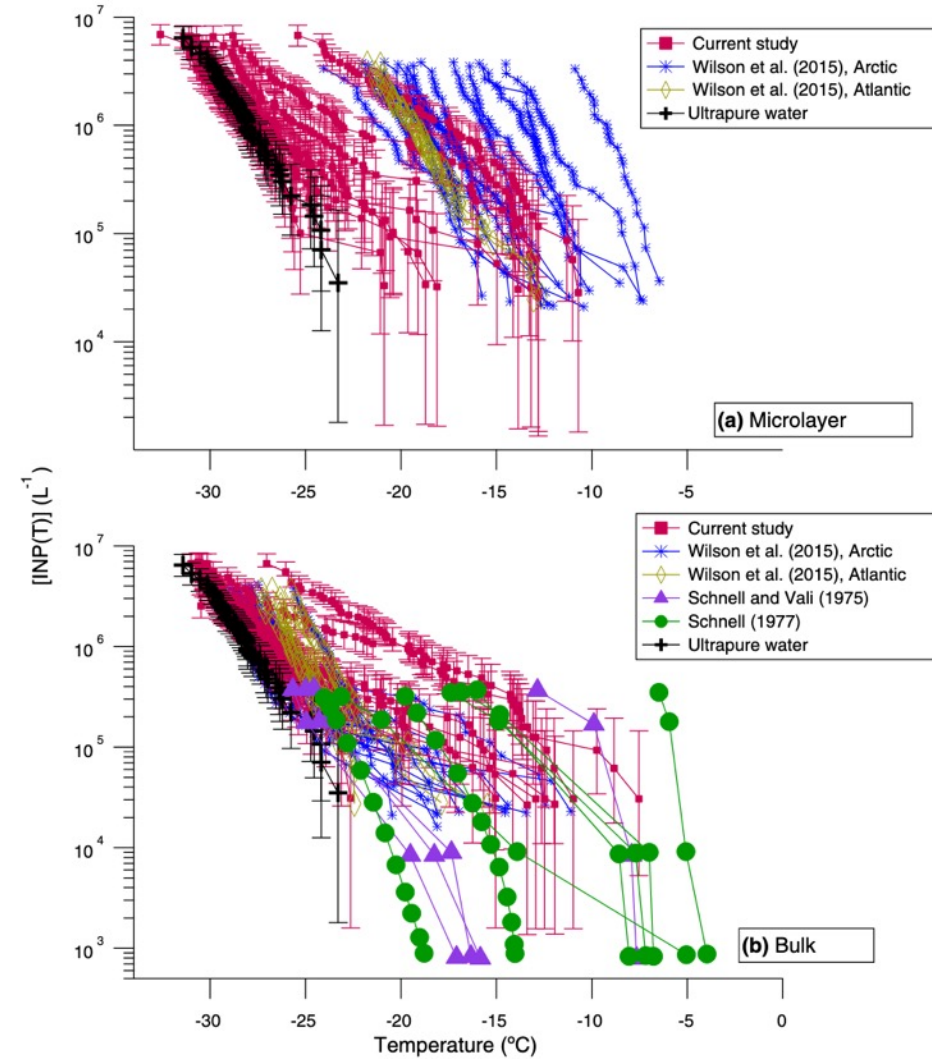
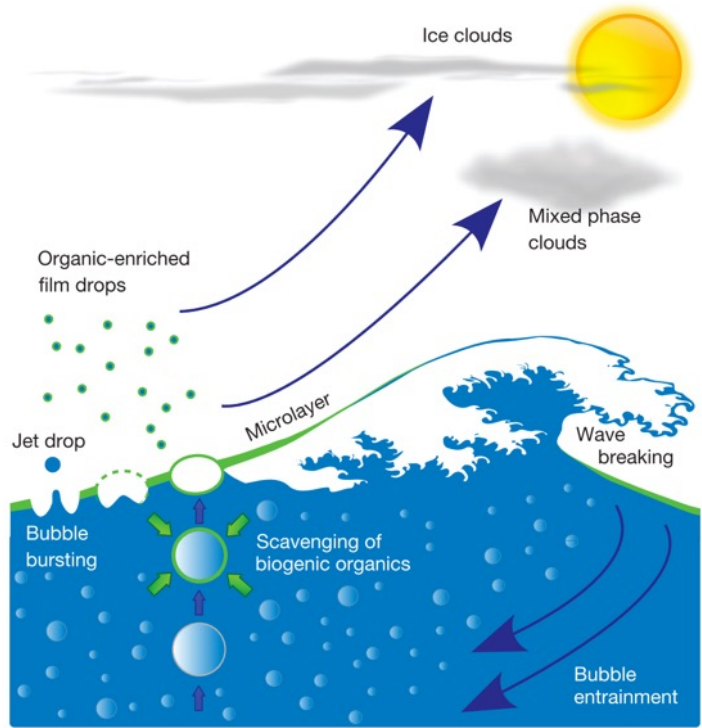
Polarella glacialis



Pouleur S et al. (1992) Appl Envir Microbiol  
 Fröhlich-Nowoisky J et al (2015) Biogeosciences.  
 O'Sullivan et al (2015)  
 Tesson S and Šantl-Temkiv T (2018) Frontiers in Microbiology

# PROTEINACEOUS INP IN THE ARCTIC

## Marine environments

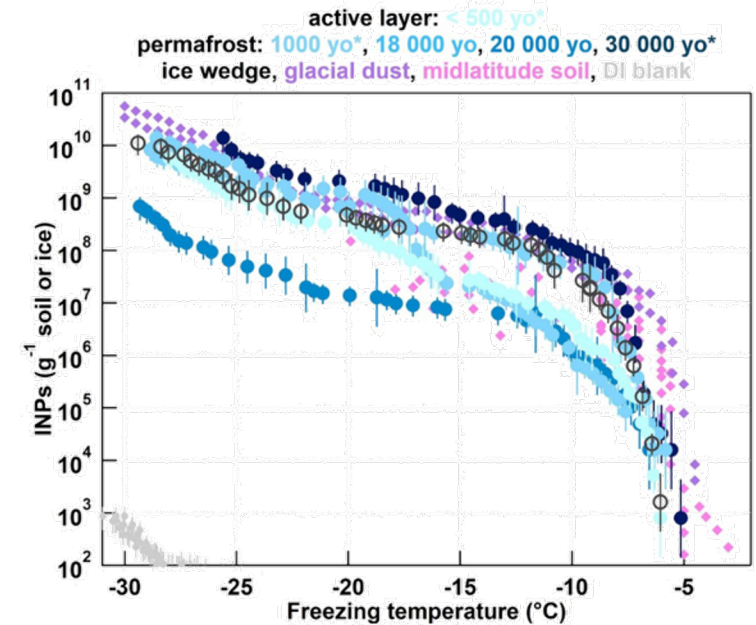
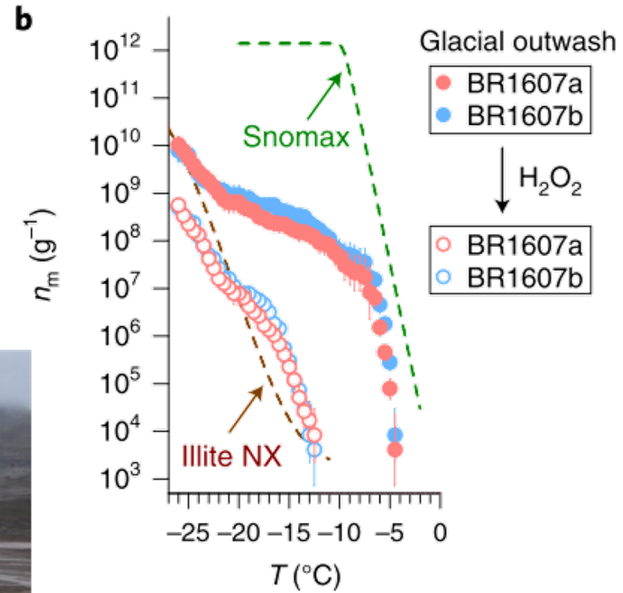


Wilson TW et al (2015). Nature.  
Irish et al (2017 and 2018). ACP



# PROTEINACEOUS INP IN THE ARCTIC

## Terrestrial environments

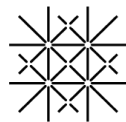
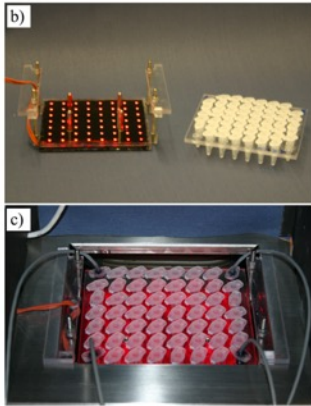
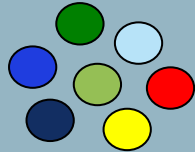


Conen et al (2016) Atmospheric Environment.  
 Tobo Y et al (2019). Nat Geosci.  
 Creamean et al (2020) Environ Res Lett.

# SAMPLE ANALYSIS

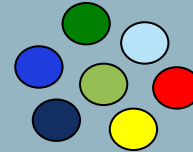
## Sample analysis

INP  
Quantification:  
Droplet-freezing  
assays



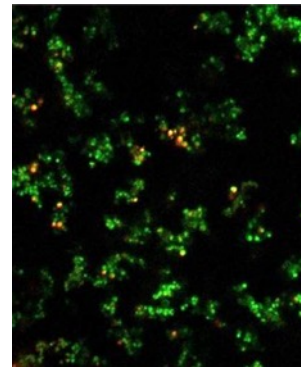
University  
of Basel

Cell  
quantification

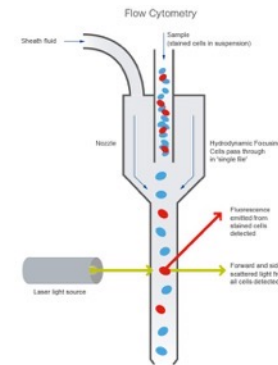


DNA staining

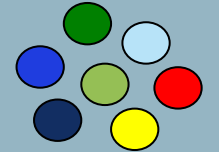
Fluorescent  
microscopy



Flow  
cytometry



DNA/RNA  
co-extraction



Quantification  
of specific  
microbial  
groups

Library  
Preparation

Barcoding  
and mixing  
with other  
samples

Sequencing



Illumina MiSeq  
 $\sim 4 \cdot 10^7$  reads of 300bp/run  
Accurate (99.9%) reads

# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC

Villum Research Station, Station Nord:

Super-site: infrastructure for studying atmospheric processes in the high Arctic.

**Sample collection during 3 campaigns spanning over 71 days:**

- 15 fresh surface snow samples and
- 51 air samples

Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.



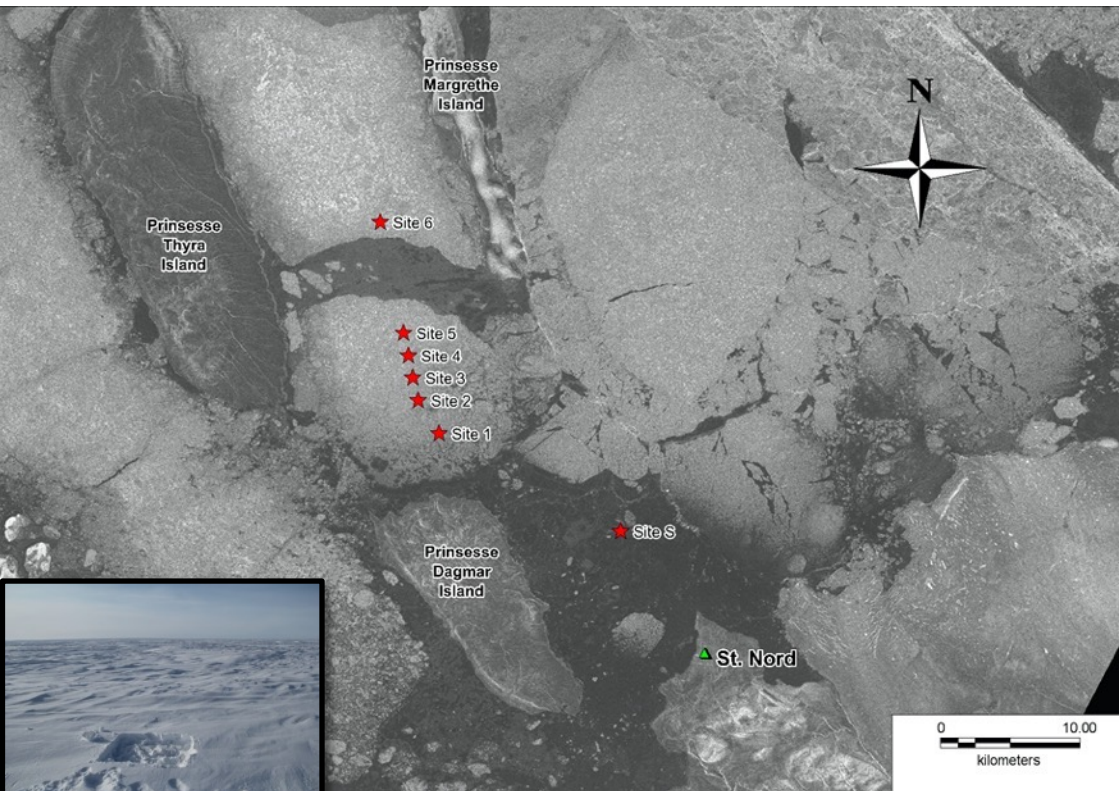
Apr – May 2015, Apr,  
Aug 2016



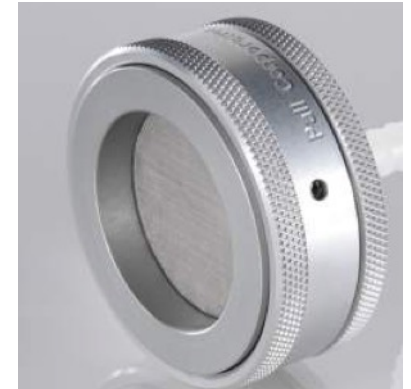
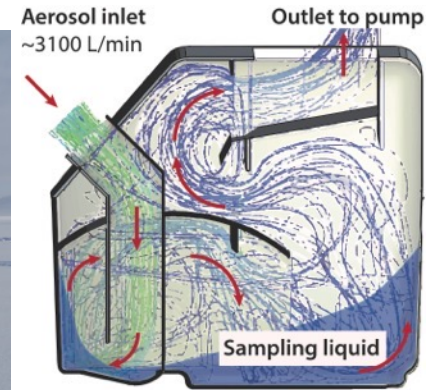


# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC

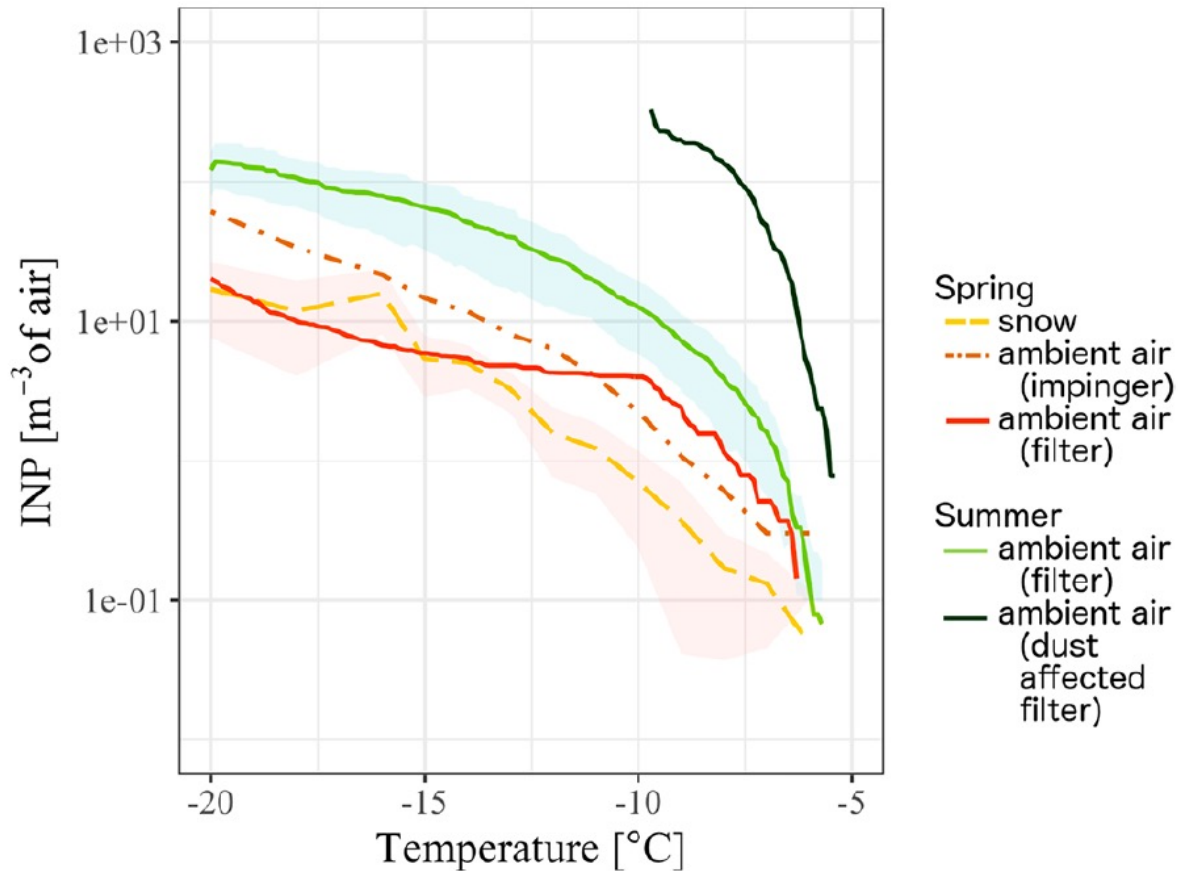
## Sample collection



Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.



# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC



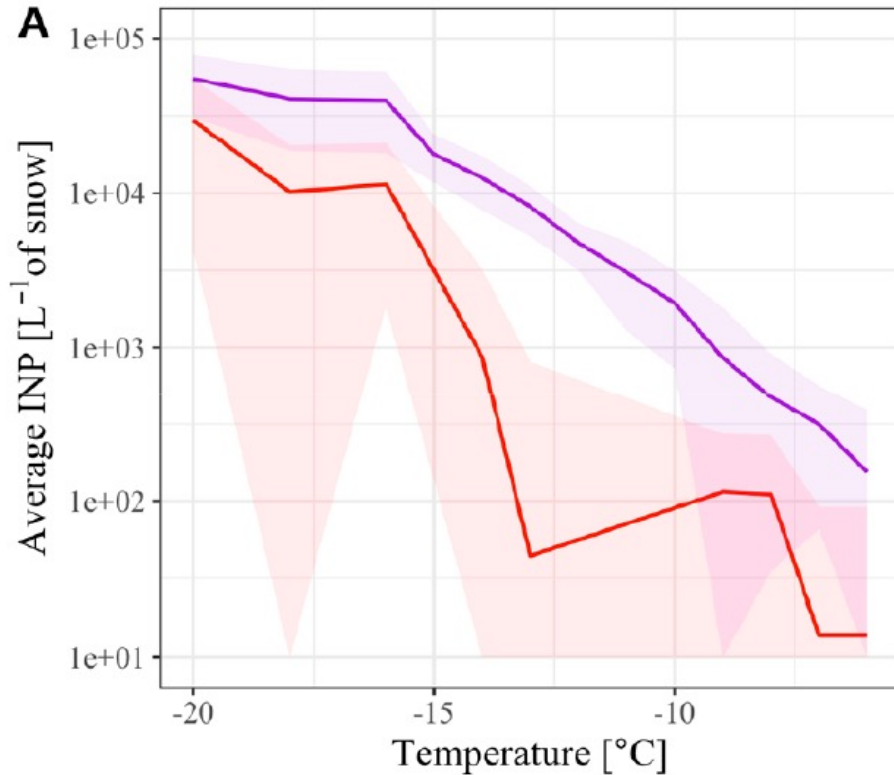
- Summer air concentrations were estimated from filter samples
- Spring air concentrations on filter samples were below the detection limit  $\rightarrow$  max value was determined
- Spring air concentration calculated from snow concentrations (liquid water content of  $0.4 \text{ g m}^{-3}$ , Petters and Wright, 2015)



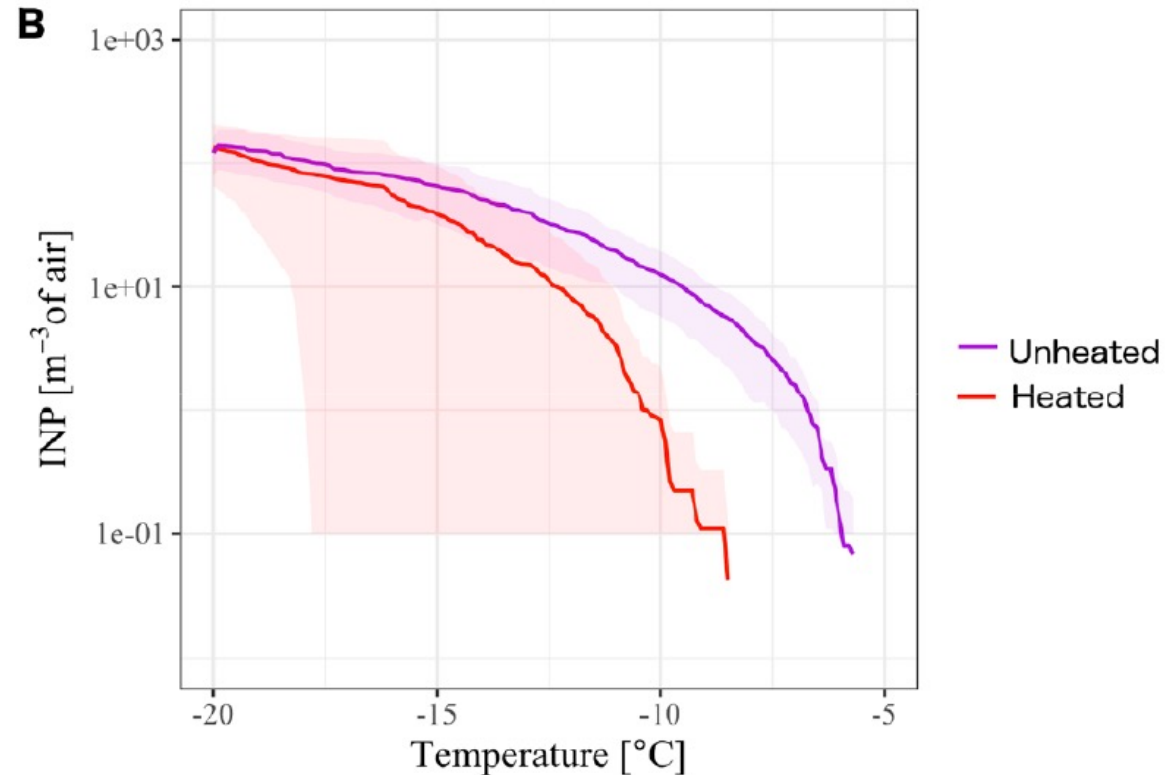
Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.

# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC

Spring: snow samples



Summer: filter samples

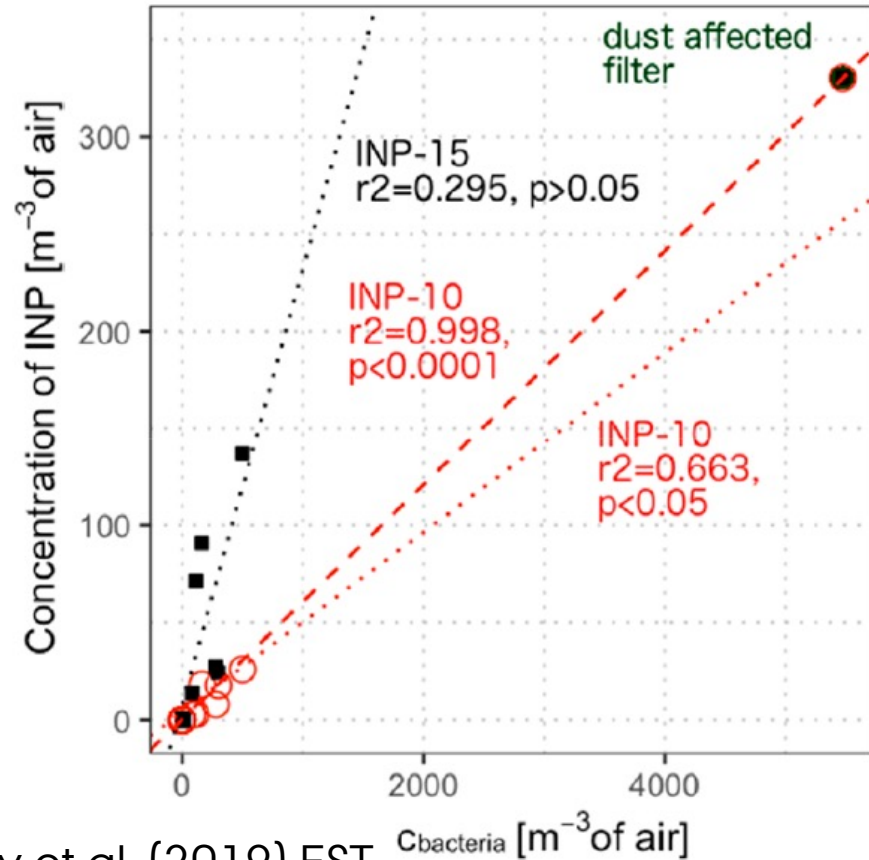


Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.



# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC

Summer: filter samples

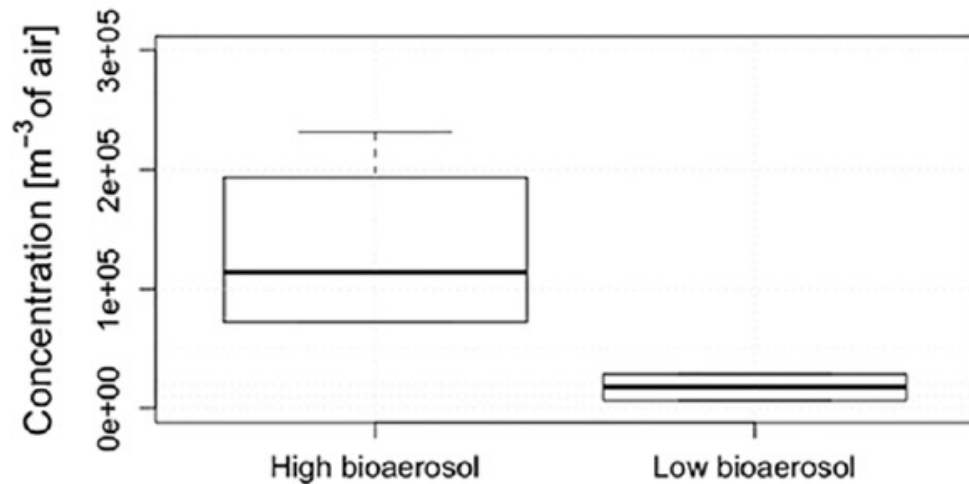
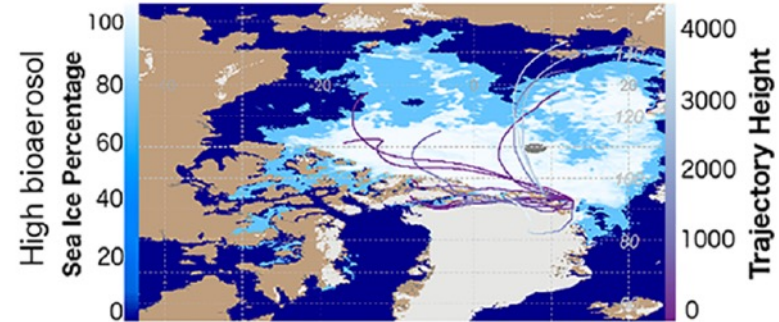
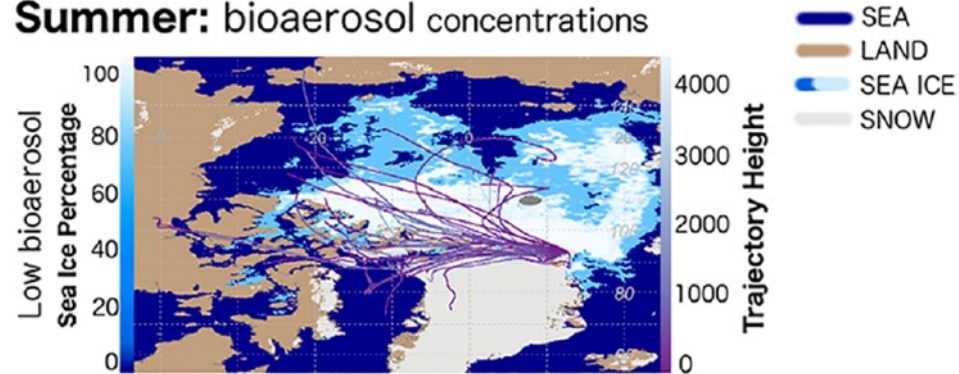


- A significant correlation between **INP-10**, and bacterial concentrations in summer
- No correlation for spring snow samples.

Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.

# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC

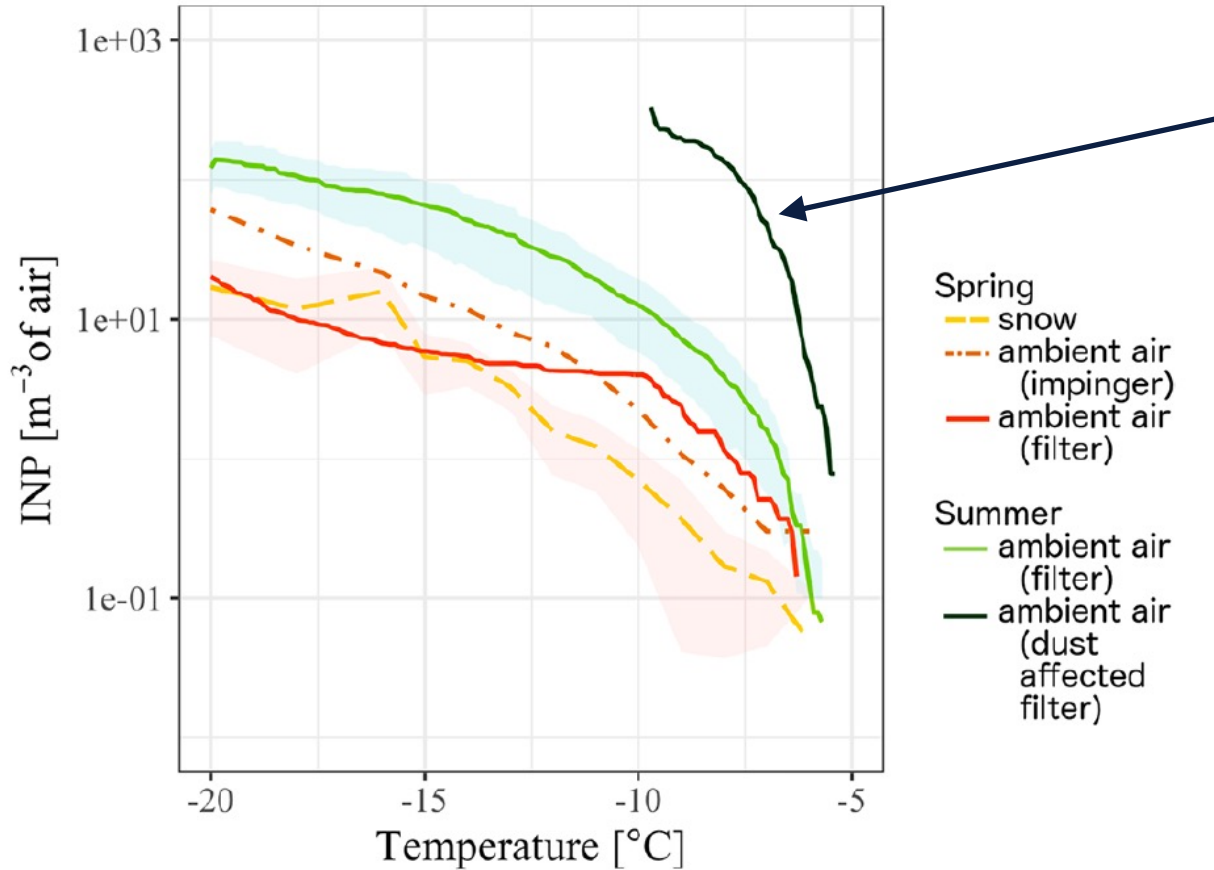
Summer: bioaerosol concentrations



- Air masses traveling over terrestrial and marine environments in W Greenland
- Trajectories during high-bioaerosol periods spent more time over open sea surfaces and open land.

Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.

# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC



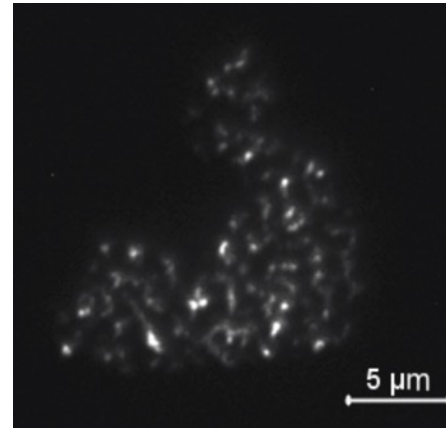
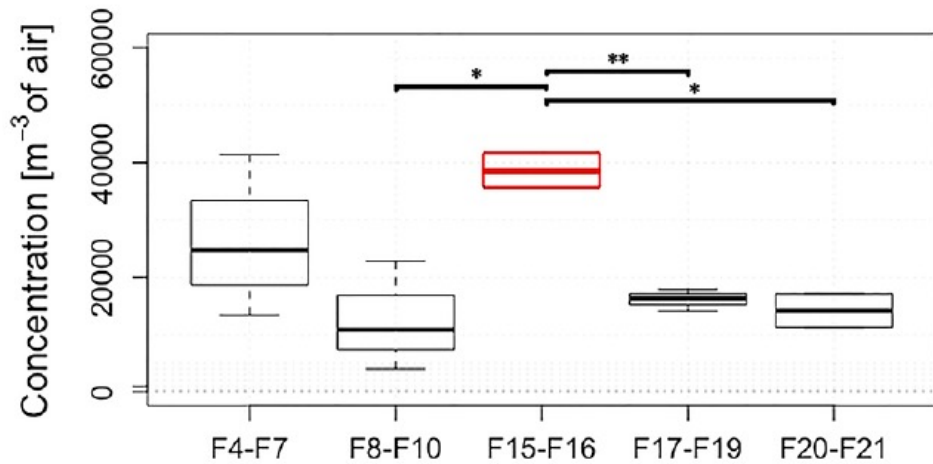
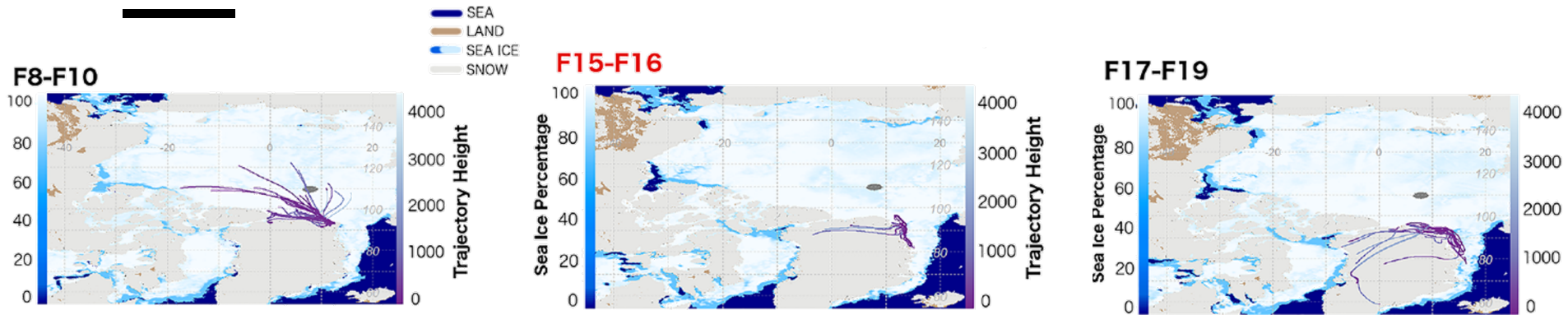
Local terrestrial sources: "soil" dust



Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.



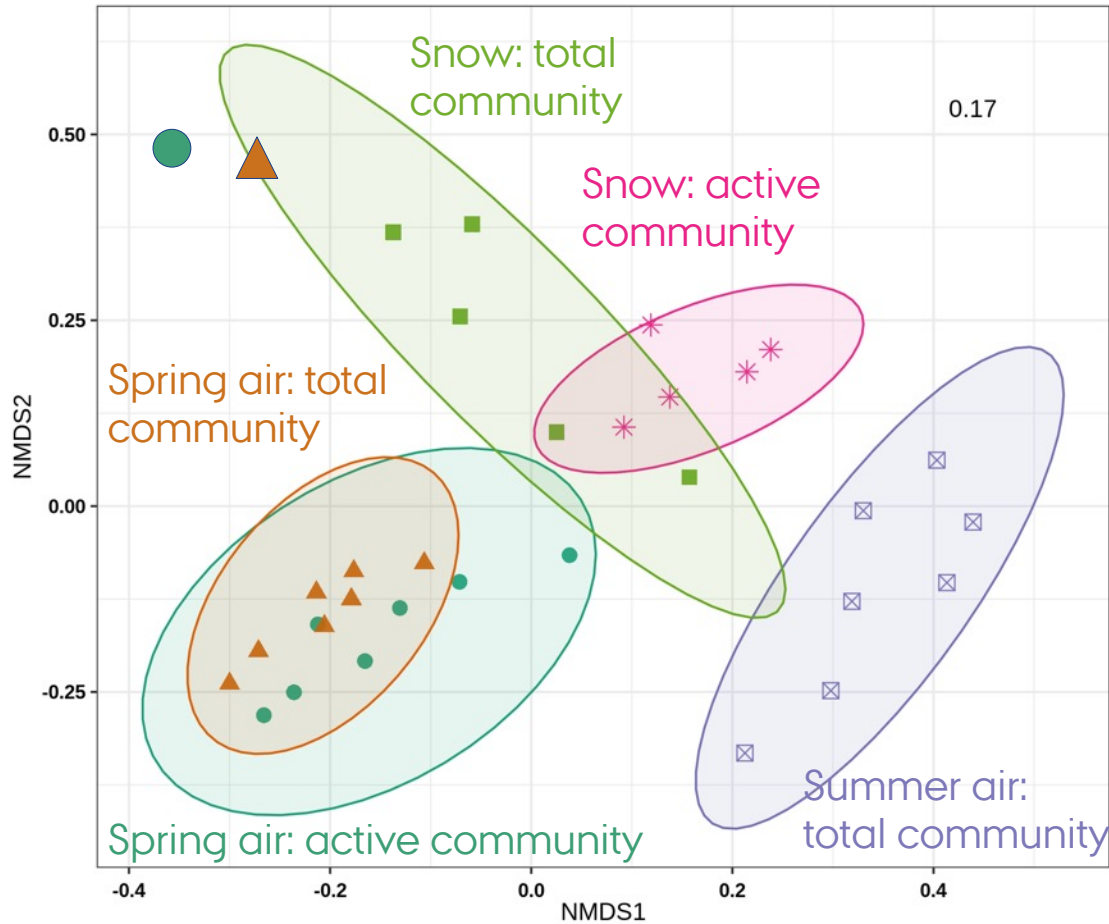
# BIOLOGICAL INP IN THE HIGH ARCTIC



- Trajectories did not pass any snow-free land but spent 1-10% of the time over open sea and pack ice.
- Extra sources: sea ice, frost flowers, and snow known to contribute to sea salt aerosols.

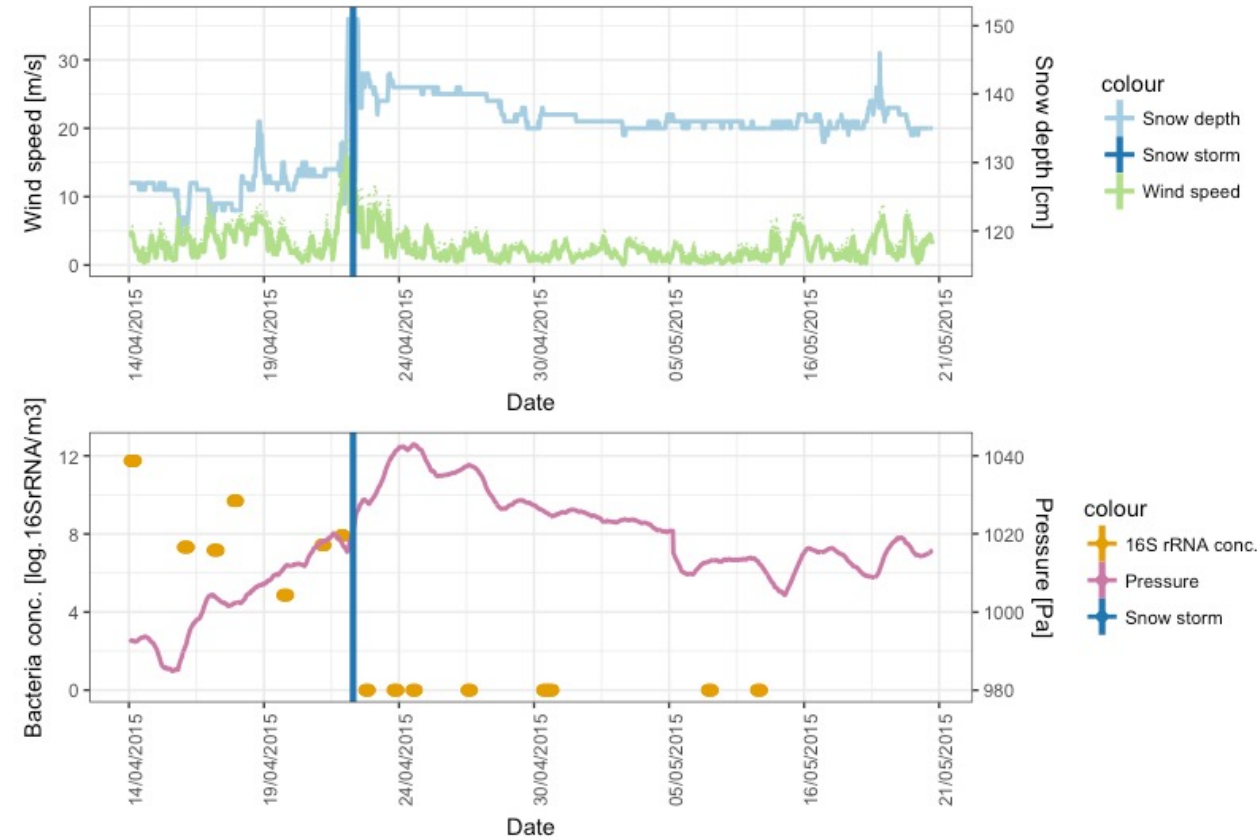
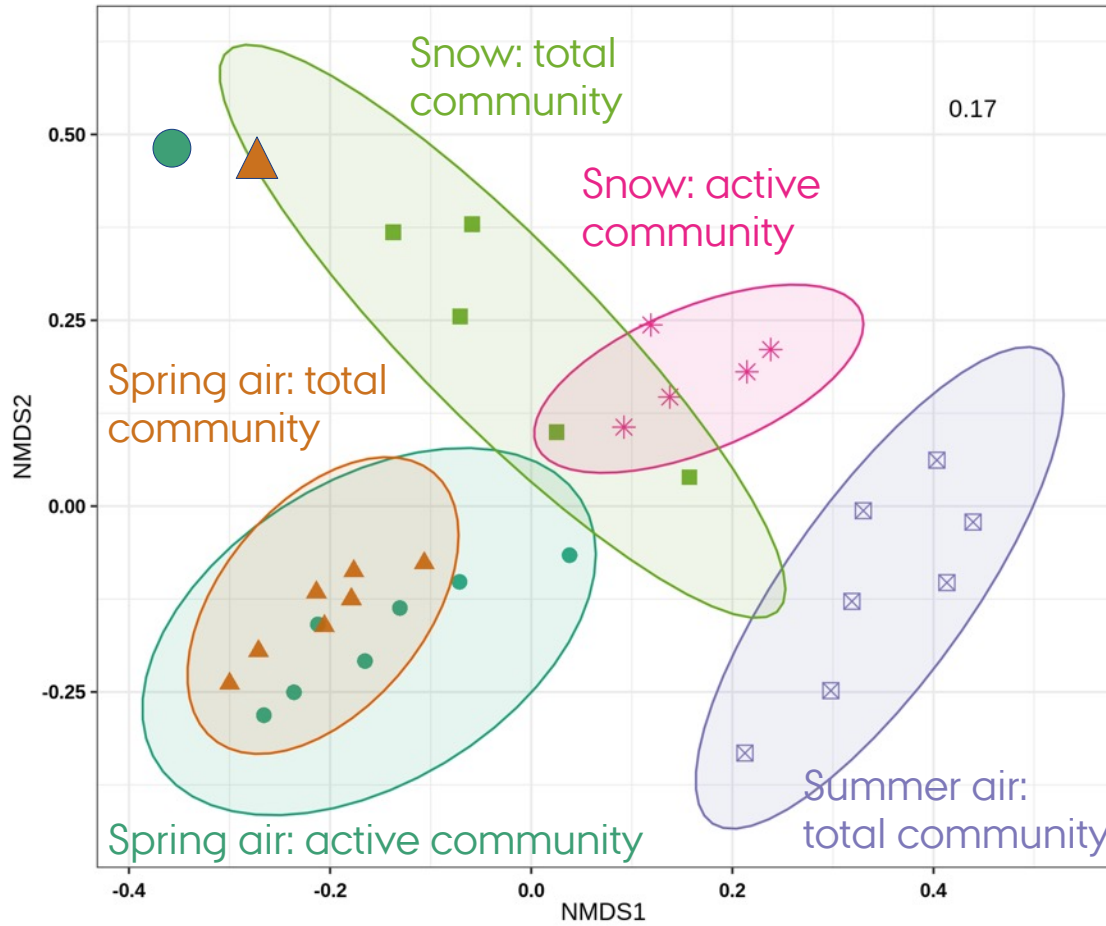
Šantl-Temkiv et al. (2019) EST.

# BIOAEROSOLS AND PRECIPITATION IN THE HIGH ARCTIC



Jensen ZL, Finster K and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

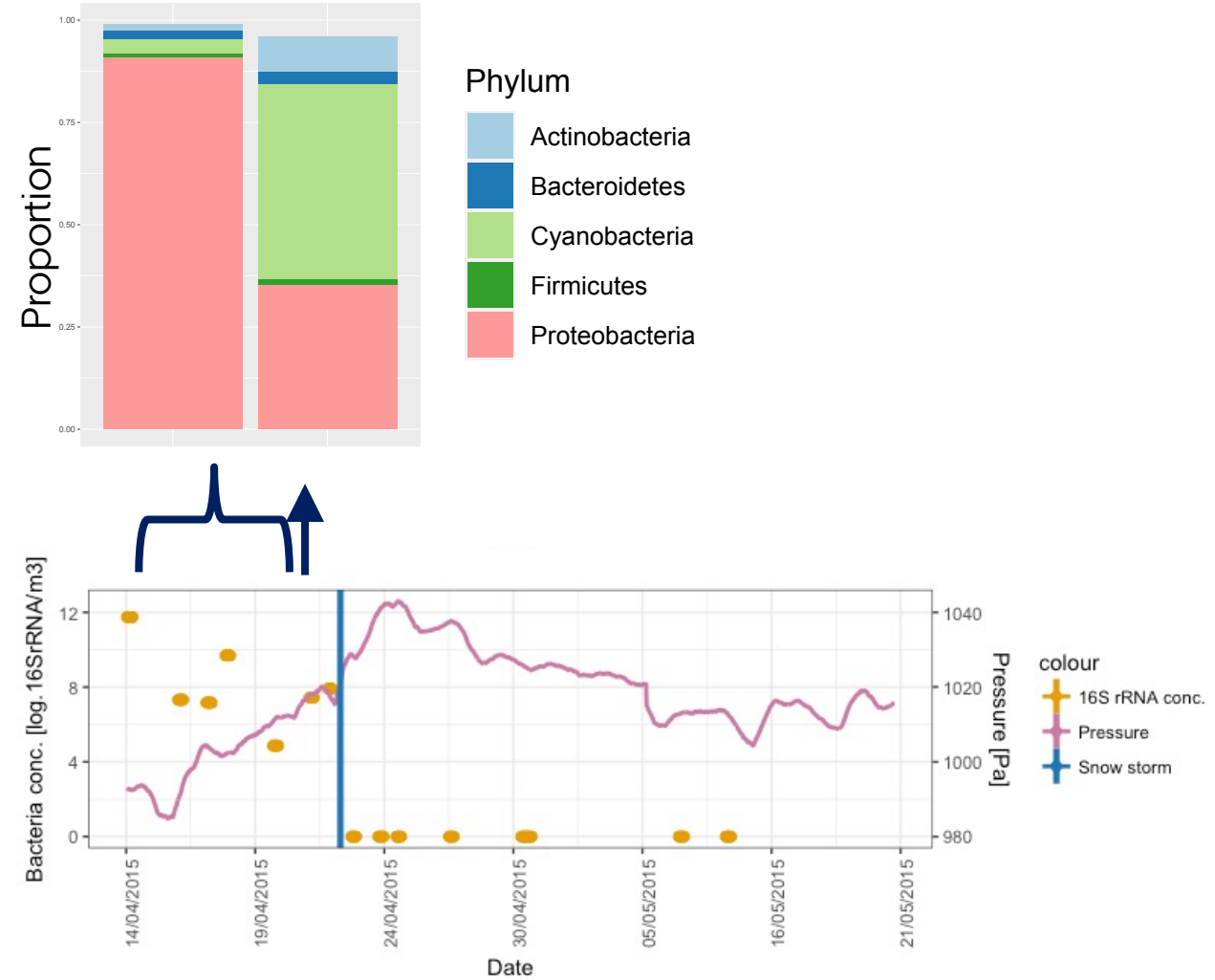
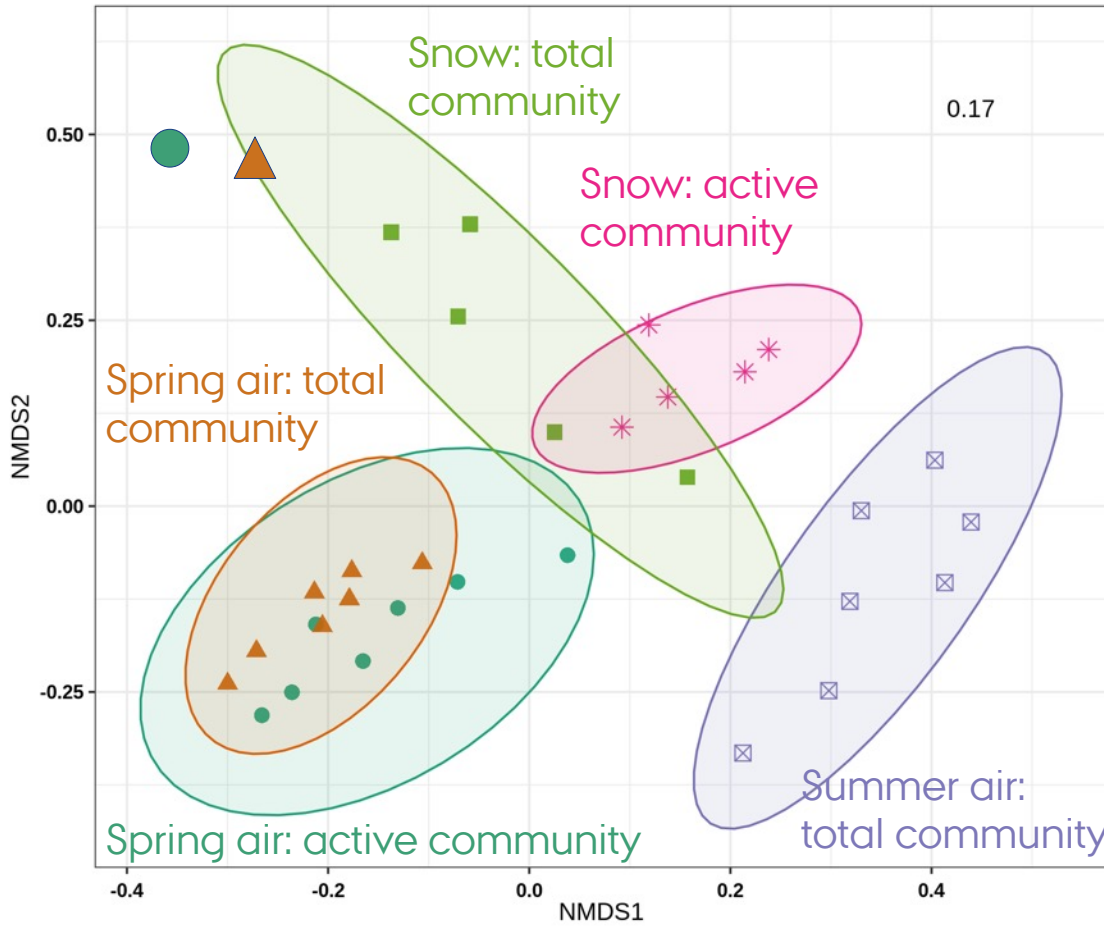
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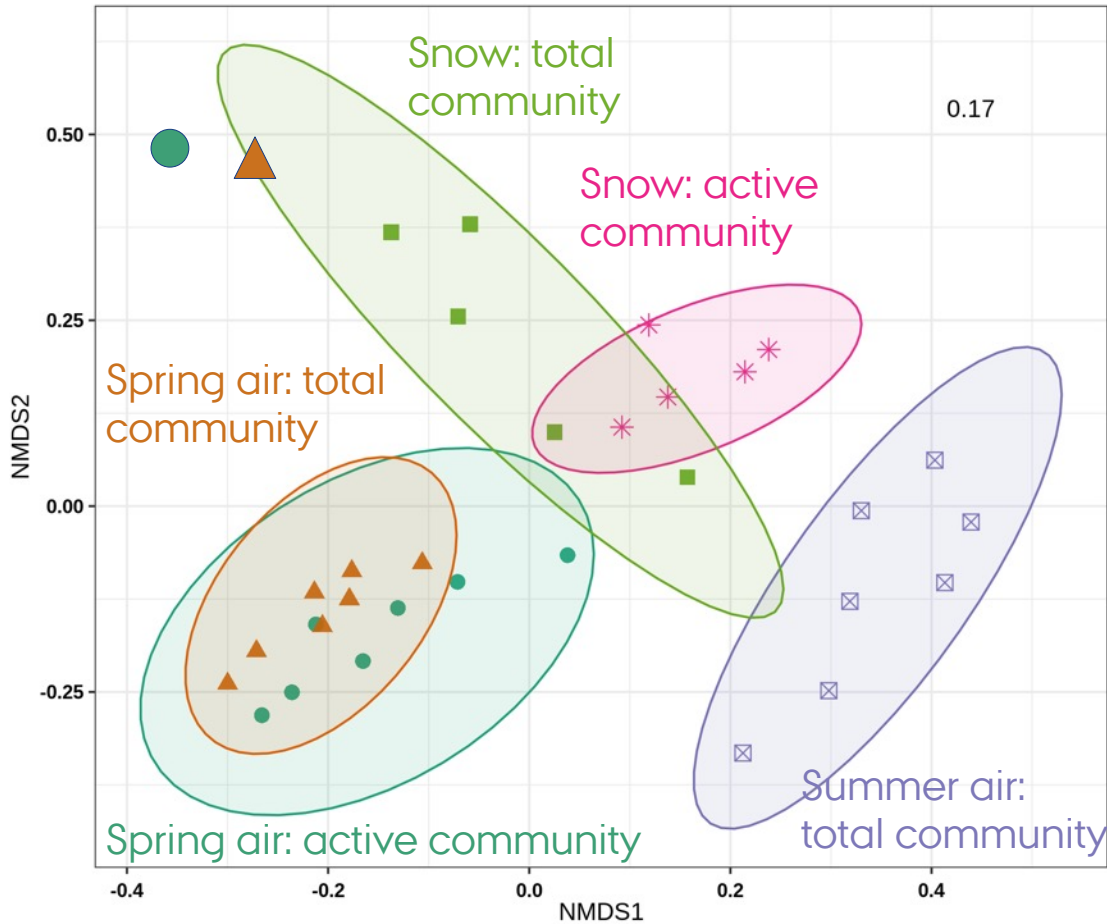


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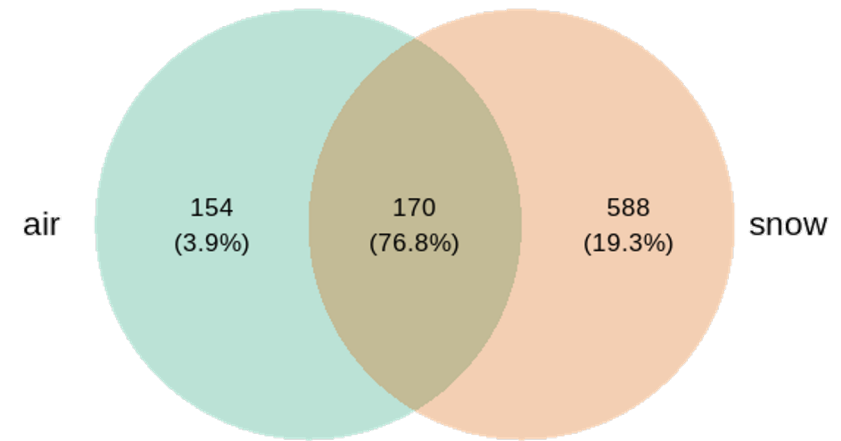


Jensen ZL, Finster K and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

# BIOAEROSOLS AND PRECIPITATION IN THE HIGH ARCTIC



Shared "species" Between the last air sample and the snow samples



Jensen ZL, Finster K and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

# CONCLUSIONS AND OPEN QUESTIONS

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INP and bioaerosol concentration:

- High-temperature INP are likely proteinaceous and correlate with bacterial concentrations in the summer;
- Summer concentrations of INP are about an order of magnitude higher than spring concentrations;
- Open sea surfaces may contribute to bioaerosol population both in summer and in spring;
- Open land and local dust sources may contribute to bioaerosol population in summer.



# CONCLUSIONS AND OPEN QUESTIONS

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- Open sea surfaces may contribute to bioaerosol population both in summer and in spring;
- Open land and local dust sources may contribute to bioaerosol population in summer.

## Microbial community:

- Generally, there are distinct bacterial communities present in snow, and in spring and summer air;
- A snow storm caused a washout event of airborne bacterial cells;
- A shift in bacterial community correlated with the onset of the snow storm.

## Open questions:

1. Where do the active Cyanobacteria come from?
2. Are they involved in cloud formation?

# MARINE SOURCES OF ARCTIC BIOAEROSOLS AND INP

Sample collection during  
10 days:

—42 samples of sea bulk  
water and surface  
microlayer

—36 air samples

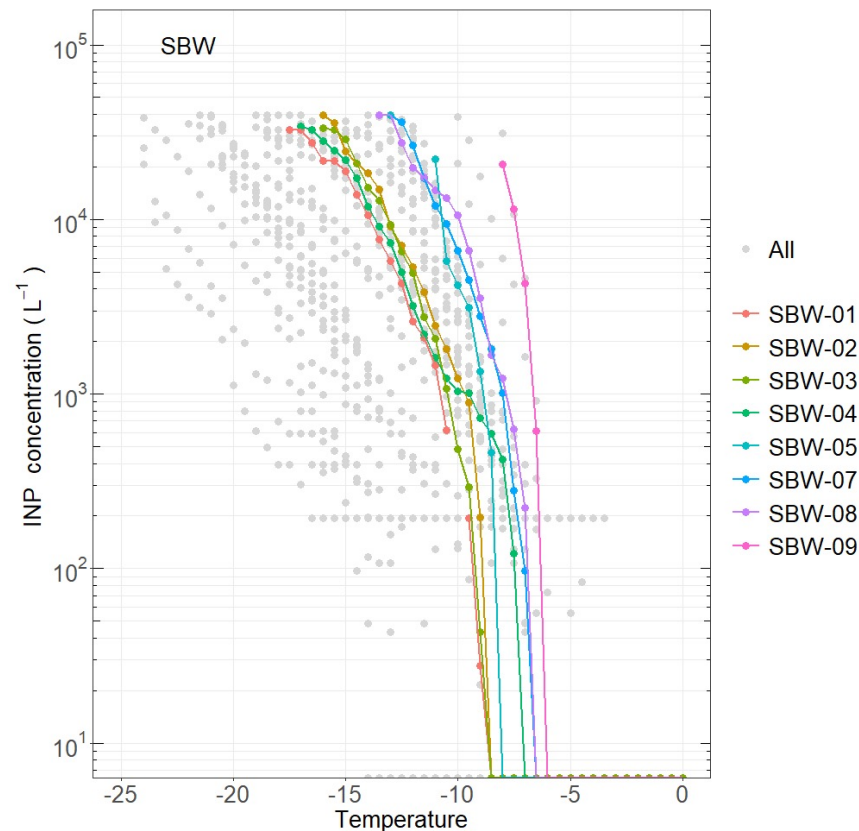


Royal Danish Navy patrol  
vessel Ejnar Mikkelsen

Baffin Bay,  
August 2016



# MARINE SOURCES OF ARCTIC BIOAEROSOLS AND INP

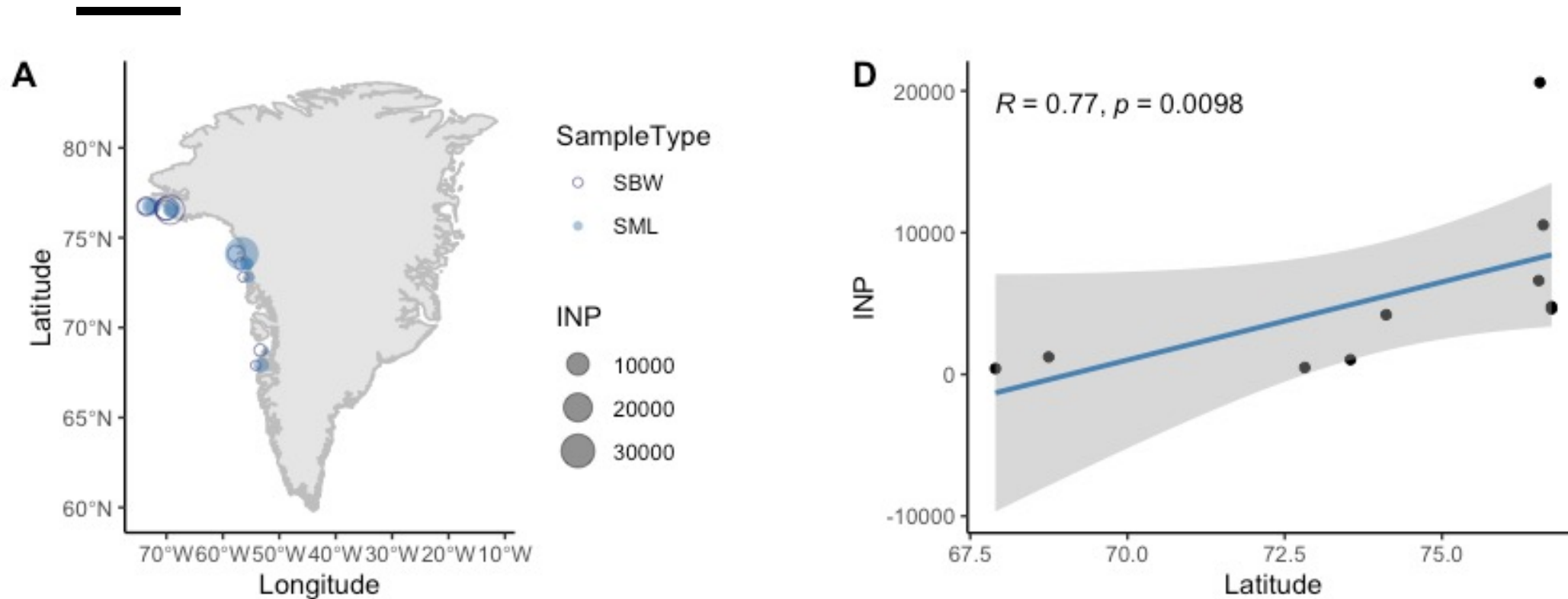


- High-temperature INP detected in all sea bulk water and surface microlayer samples;
- We observed no clear upconcentration in the sea surface microlayer.

Tesson S, **Mignani C**, Christiansen S, Bilde M, Finster K (...) and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

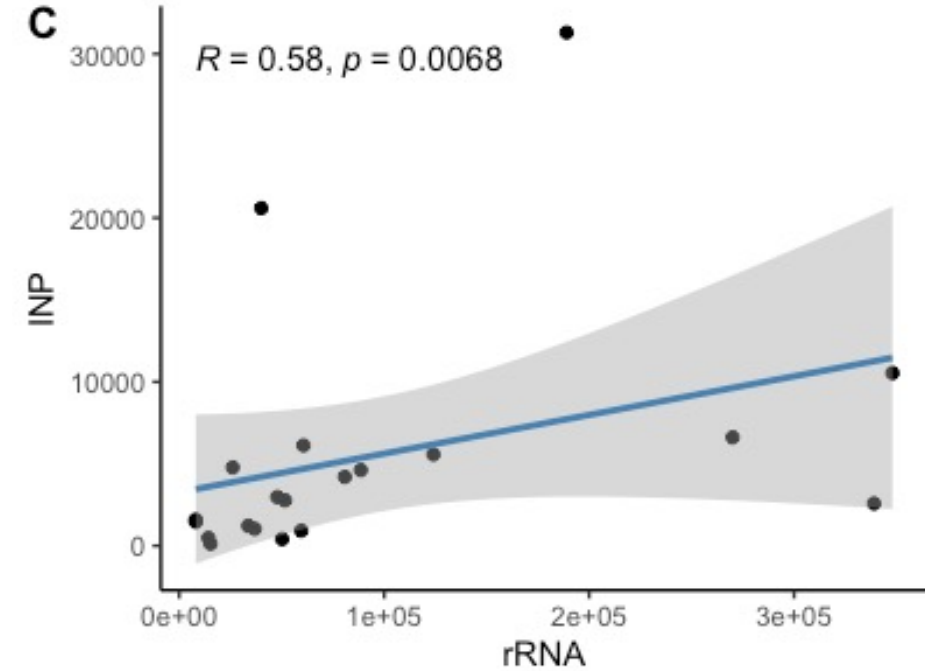
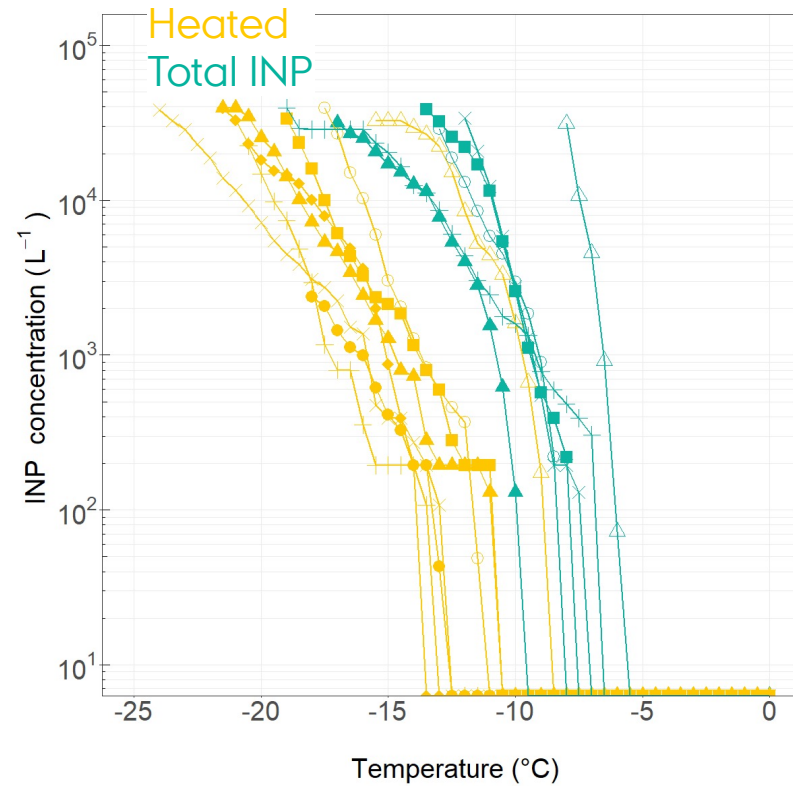
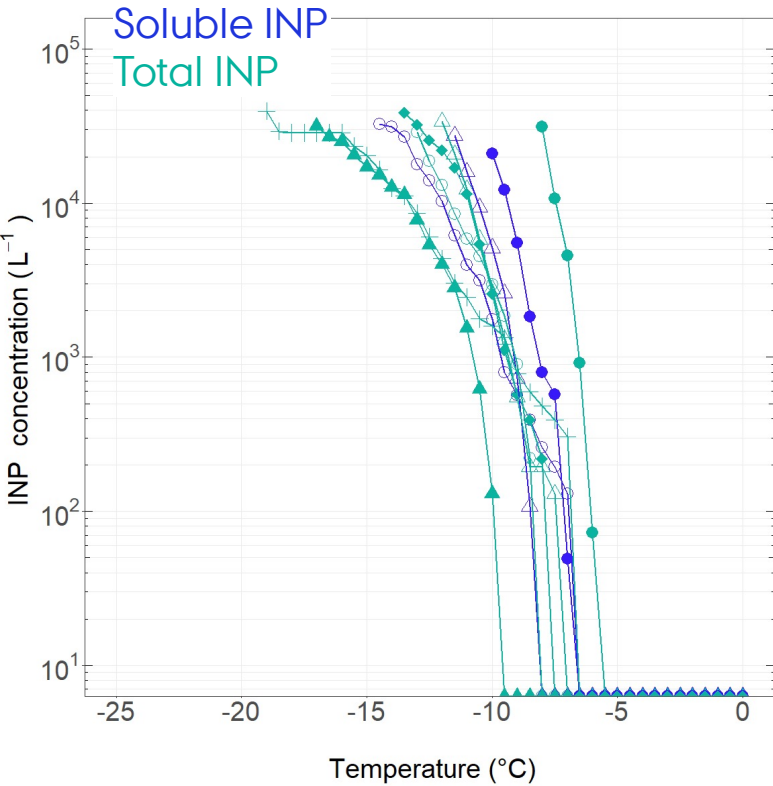


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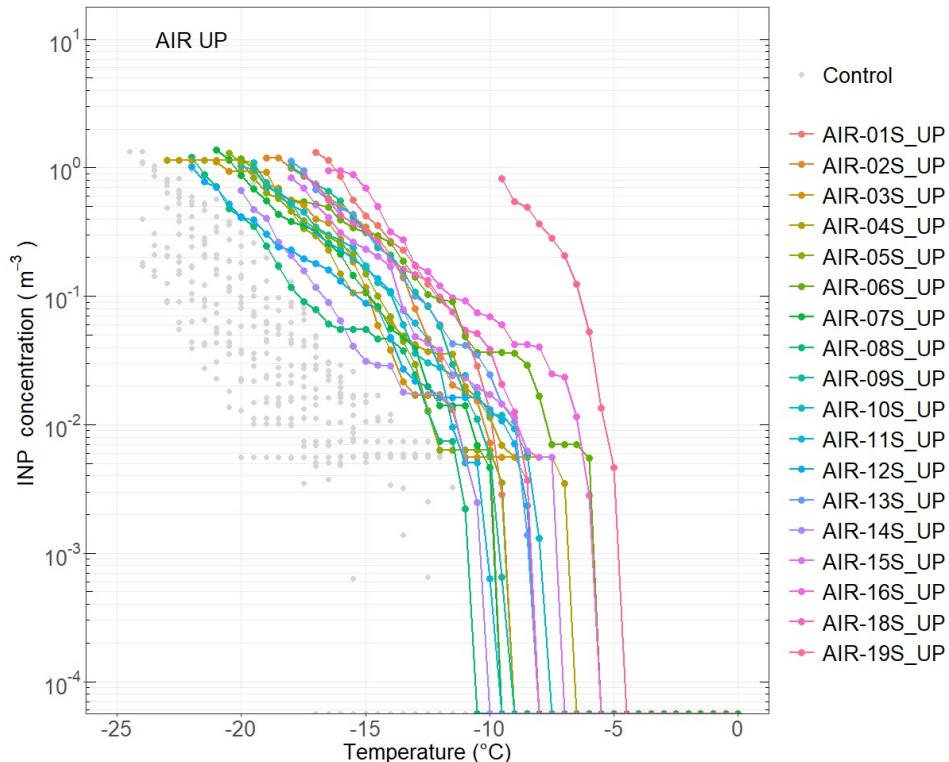
Tesson S, **Mignani C**, Christiansen S, Bilde M, Finster K (...) and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

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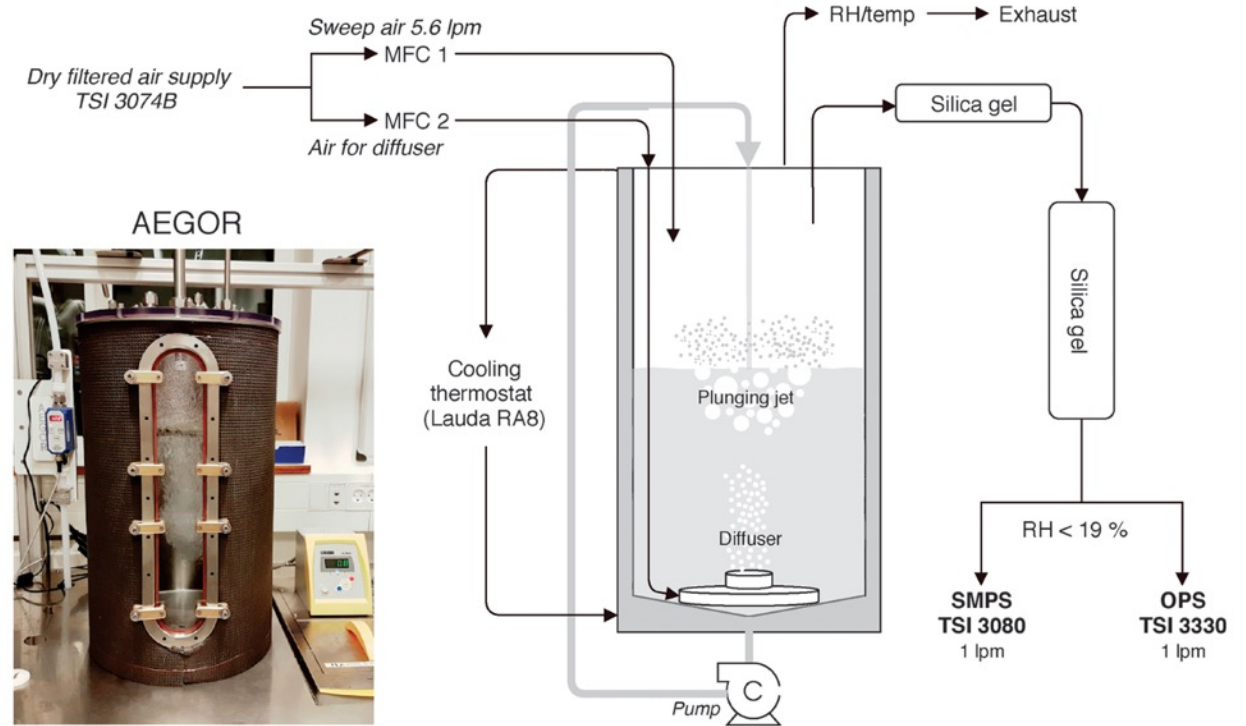
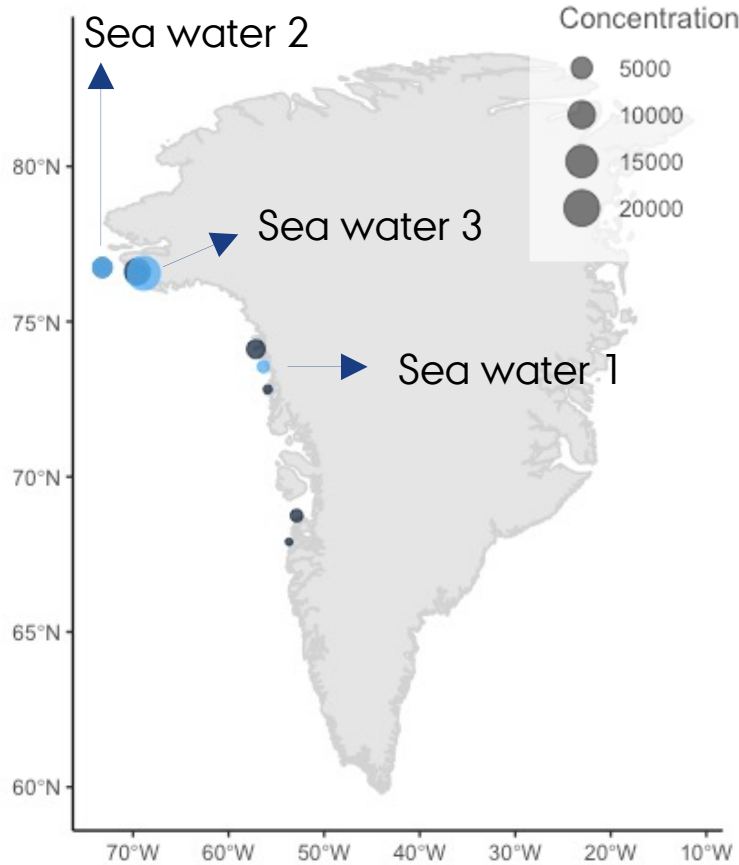


- We could quantify INP in all air samples and could observe roughly the same trend with latitude as in sea samples
- The INP were present at very low concentrations of on average  $0.018 \pm 0.018 \text{ INP}_{-10} \text{ m}^{-3}$  (min-max:  $0,0006-0,07 \text{ INP}_{-10} \text{ m}^{-3}$ )

Tesson S, Mignani C, Christiansen S, Bilde M, Finster K (...) and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

# SEA SPRAY EXPERIMENTS

Temperature controlled sea-spray tank

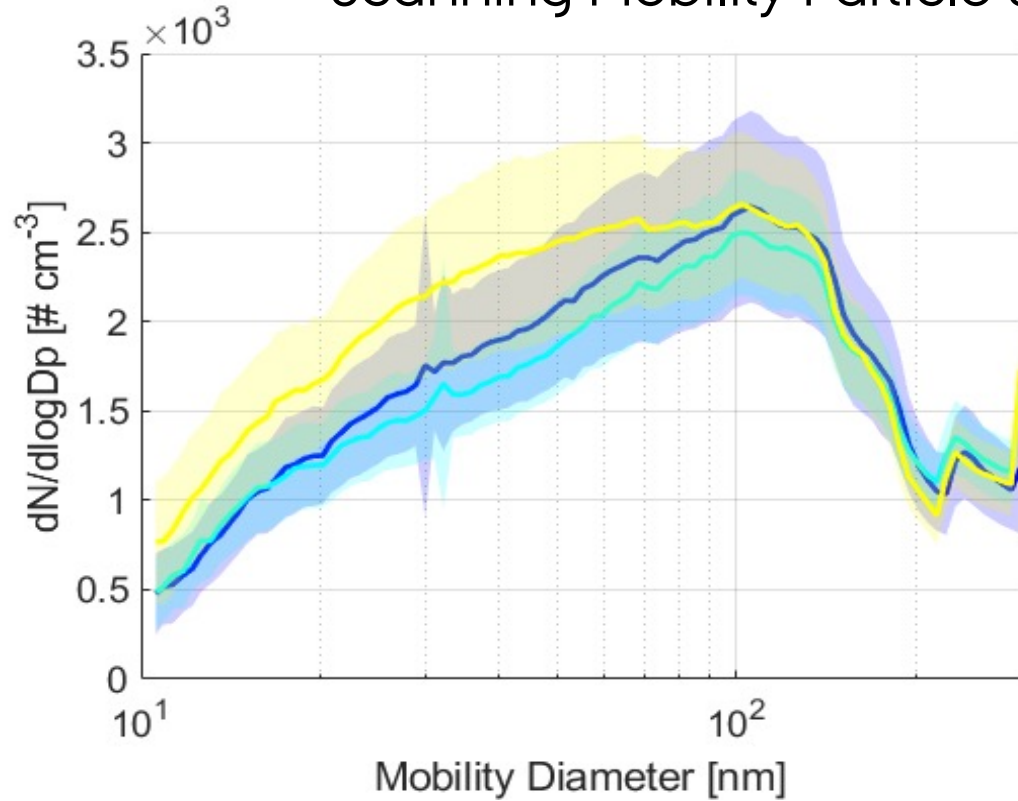


Christiansen S et al (2019) EST

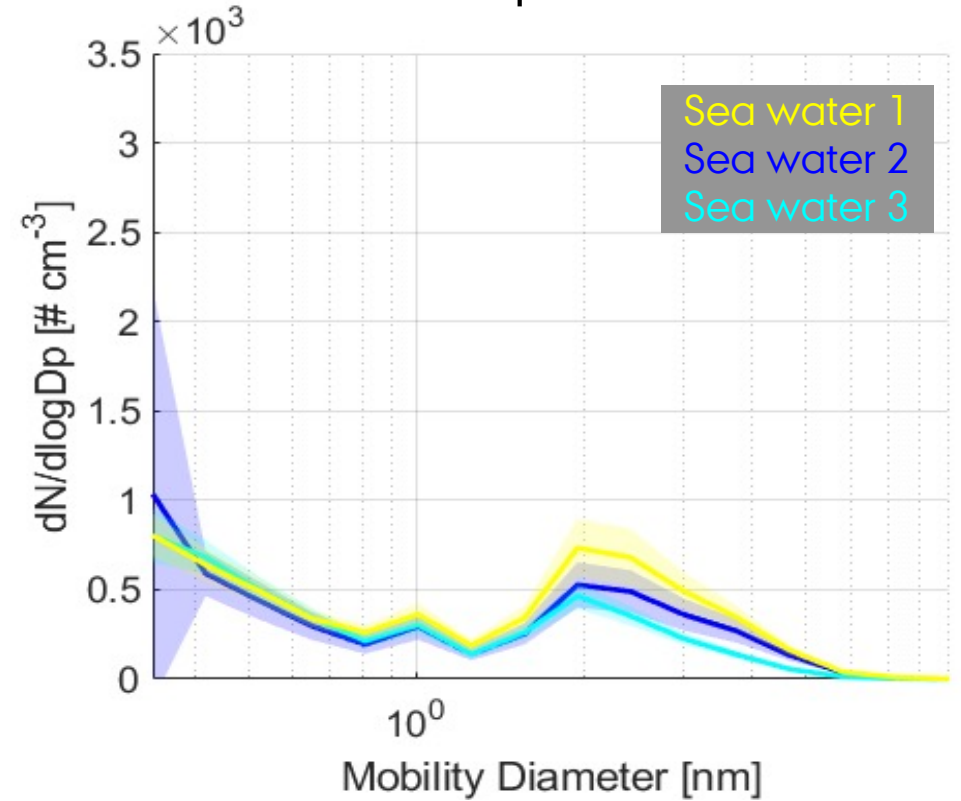


# SEA SPRAY EXPERIMENTS

Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer



Optical Particle Sizer

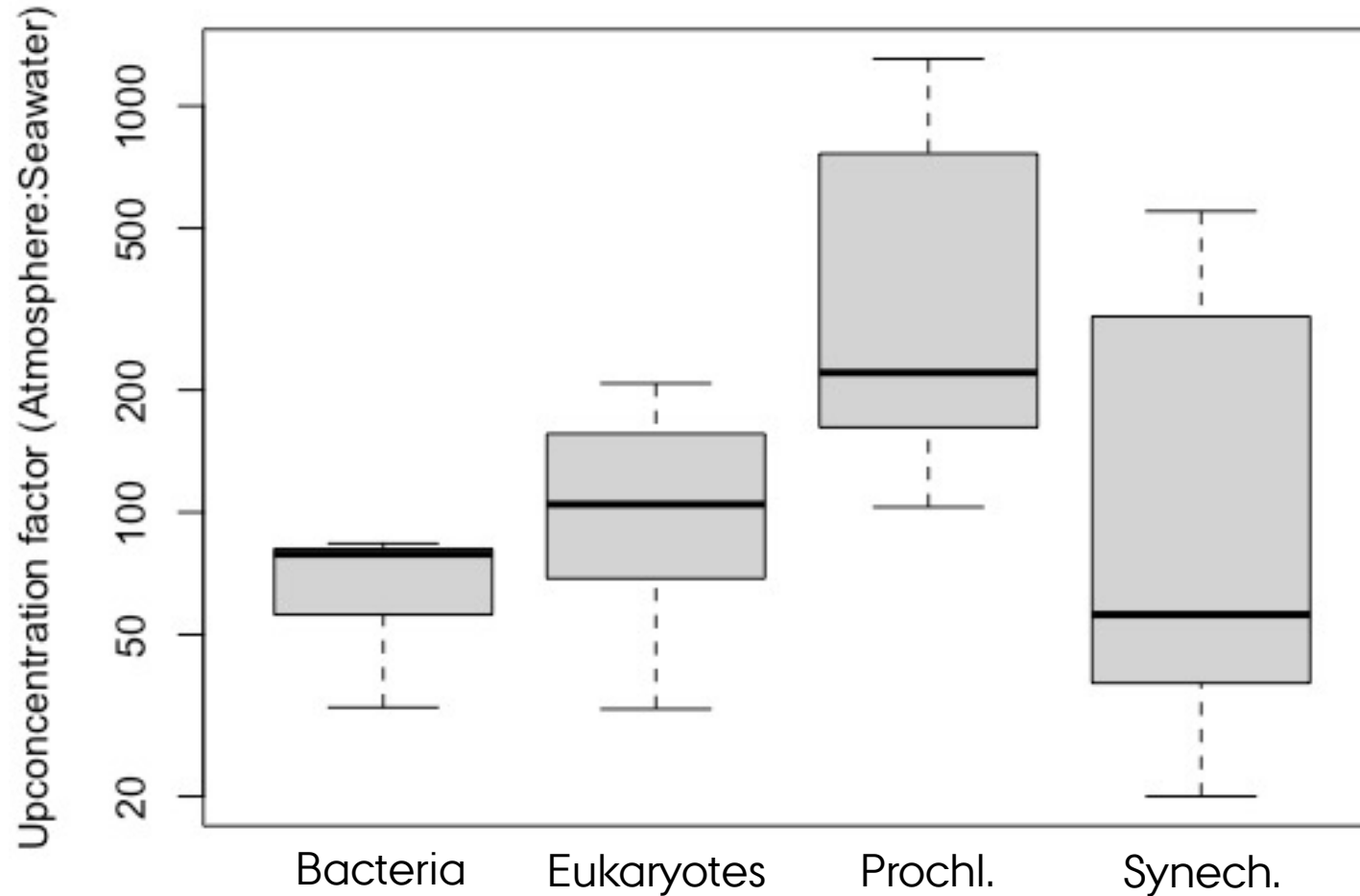


Tesson S, Mignani C, **Christiansen S, Bilde M**, Finster K (...) and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

# SEA SPRAY EXPERIMENTS



Biosampler



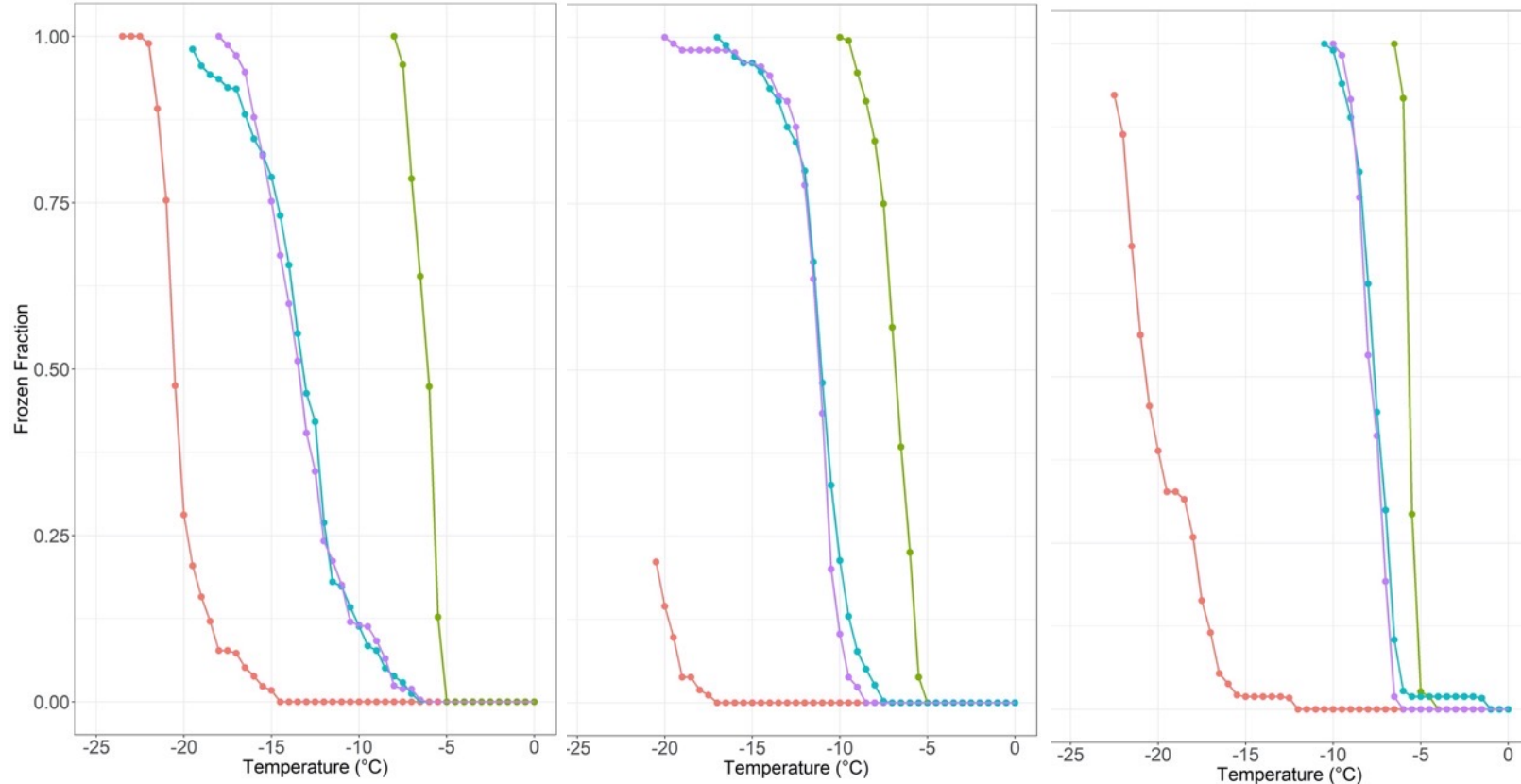
Tesson S, Mignani C, **Christiansen S, Bilde M**, Finster K (...) and **Šantl-Temkiv T.** (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

# SEA SPRAY EXPERIMENTS

Sea water 1

Sea water 2

Sea water 3



Air samples

Sea water

Neg control

- We observe an up-concentration of INP in the air
- The air-concentrations of  $INP_{-7}$  were 34-923  $INP\ m^{-3}$ , which is 3-5 orders of magnitude higher than measured during the field campaign.

Tesson S, Mignani C, Christiansen S, Bilde M, Finster K (...) and Šantl-Temkiv T. (in preparation) *Frontiers in Microbiology*

# CONCLUSIONS AND OPEN QUESTIONS

---

- Field study
  - We observe high-temperature INP in sea bulk water and surface microlayer samples;
  - Marine INP are soluble, heat sensitive and correlate with bacterial concentrations;
  - We could detect high-temperature INP in the atmosphere at very low concentrations;
  - The marine INP concentration increase with latitude in the sea and in the atmosphere.



# CONCLUSIONS AND OPEN QUESTIONS

---

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  - We observe high-temperature INP in sea bulk water and surface microlayer samples;
  - Marine INP are soluble, heat sensitive and correlate with bacterial concentrations;
  - We could detect high-temperature INP in the atmosphere at very low concentrations;
  - The marine INP concentration increase with latitude in the sea and in the atmosphere.

## Sea-spray study

- We observed a preferential aerosolization of certain microbial taxa;
- We observed an efficient aerosolization of high-temperature INP resulting in 3-5 orders of magnitude higher concentration of INP<sub>7</sub> than in situ.

## Open questions:

1. How does air entrainment / wind speed relate to bioaerosol and INP emission?
2. Why does latitude matter?
3. Which microorganisms are producing proteinaceous INP in these marine samples?

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