

# Contribution of filter-feeding gelatinous macrozooplankton to global marine biogeochemistry: a model study

<sup>1</sup>Corentin Clerc, <sup>1</sup>Laurent Bopp and <sup>2</sup>Olivier Aumont  
In collaboration with <sup>3</sup>Fabio Benedetti and <sup>3</sup>Meike Vogt

<sup>1</sup> LMD / IPSL, Ecole normale supérieure / Université PSL, CNRS, Ecole Polytechnique, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France

<sup>2</sup> LOCEAN / IPSL, IRD, CNRS, Sorbonne Université, MNHN, Paris, France

<sup>3</sup> ETH Zurich



PSL



DÉPARTEMENT  
DE GÉOSCIENCES



Contact :  
[corentin.clerc@lmd.ens.fr](mailto:corentin.clerc@lmd.ens.fr)



# JELLIES IN NEMO-PISCES



PSL



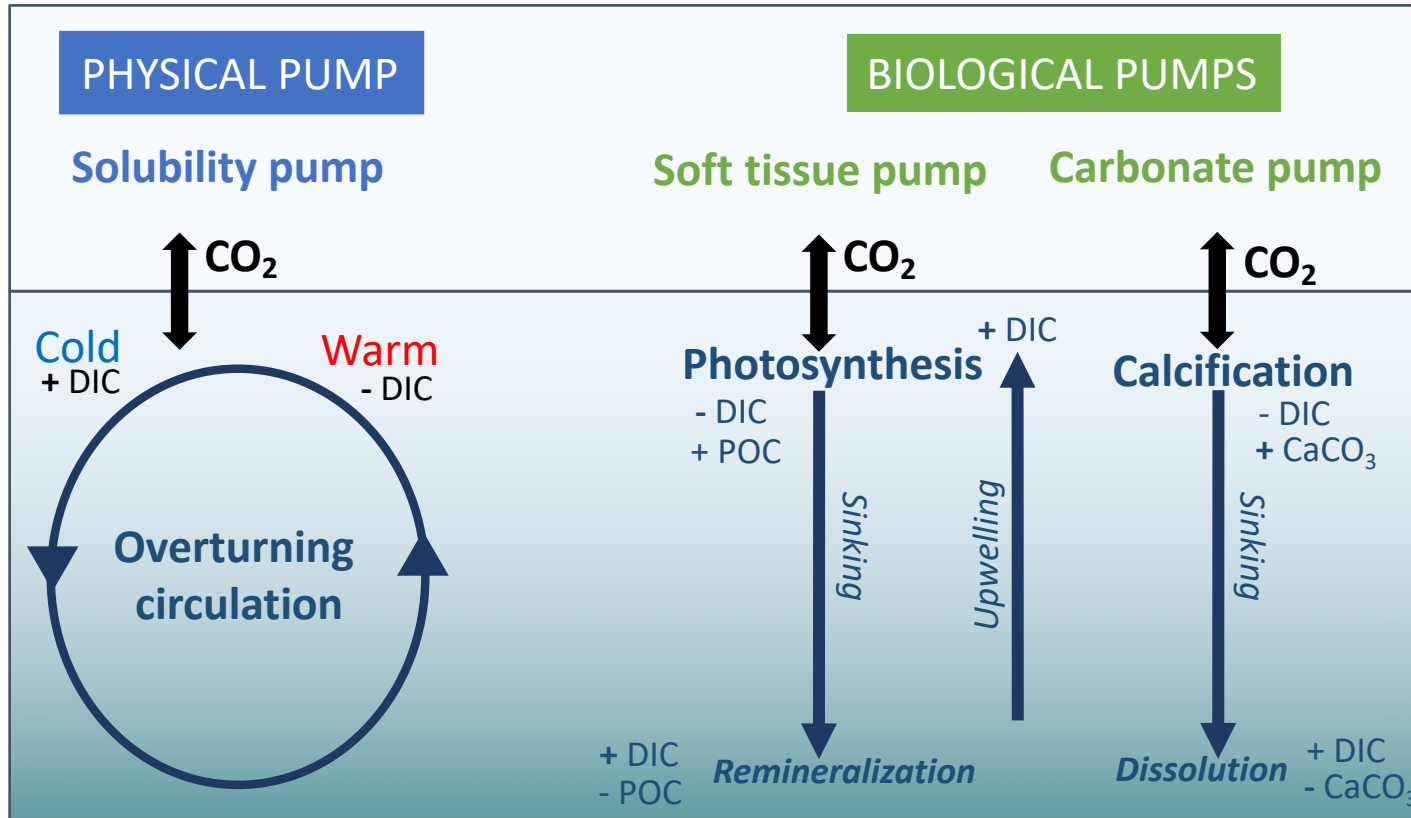
DÉPARTEMENT  
DE GÉOSCIENCES



Contact :  
[corentin.clerc@lmd.ens.fr](mailto:corentin.clerc@lmd.ens.fr)

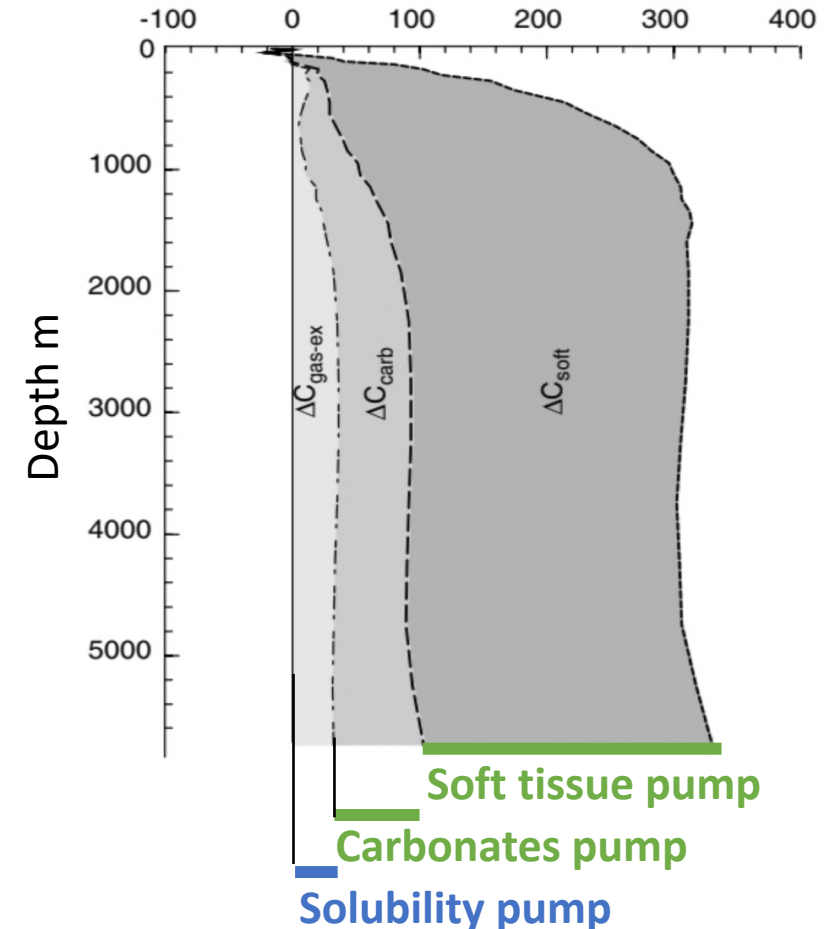


# THE OCEAN CARBON PUMP(S)



Inspired from Heinze et al. 1991

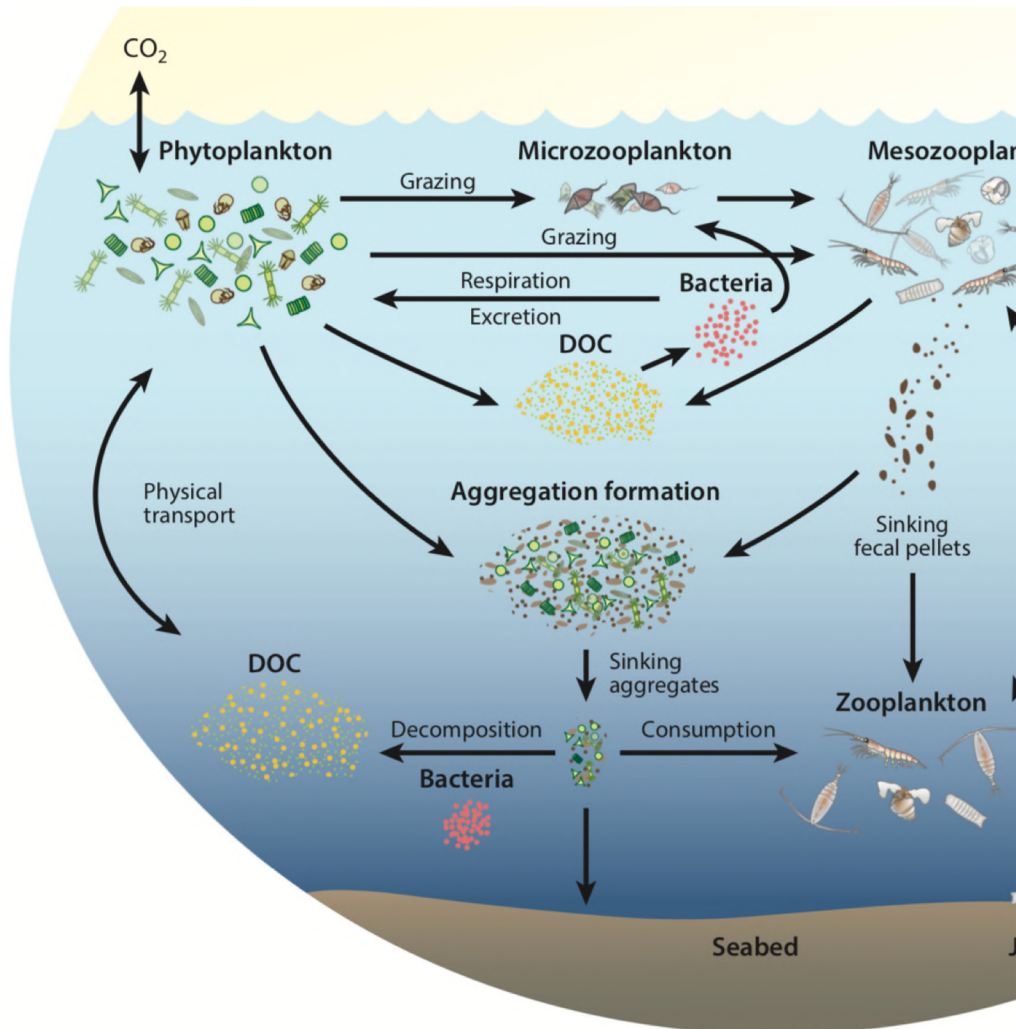
$\Delta\text{DIC } \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$  (Compared to a uniform ocean)



Adapted from Sarmiento and Gruber 2006

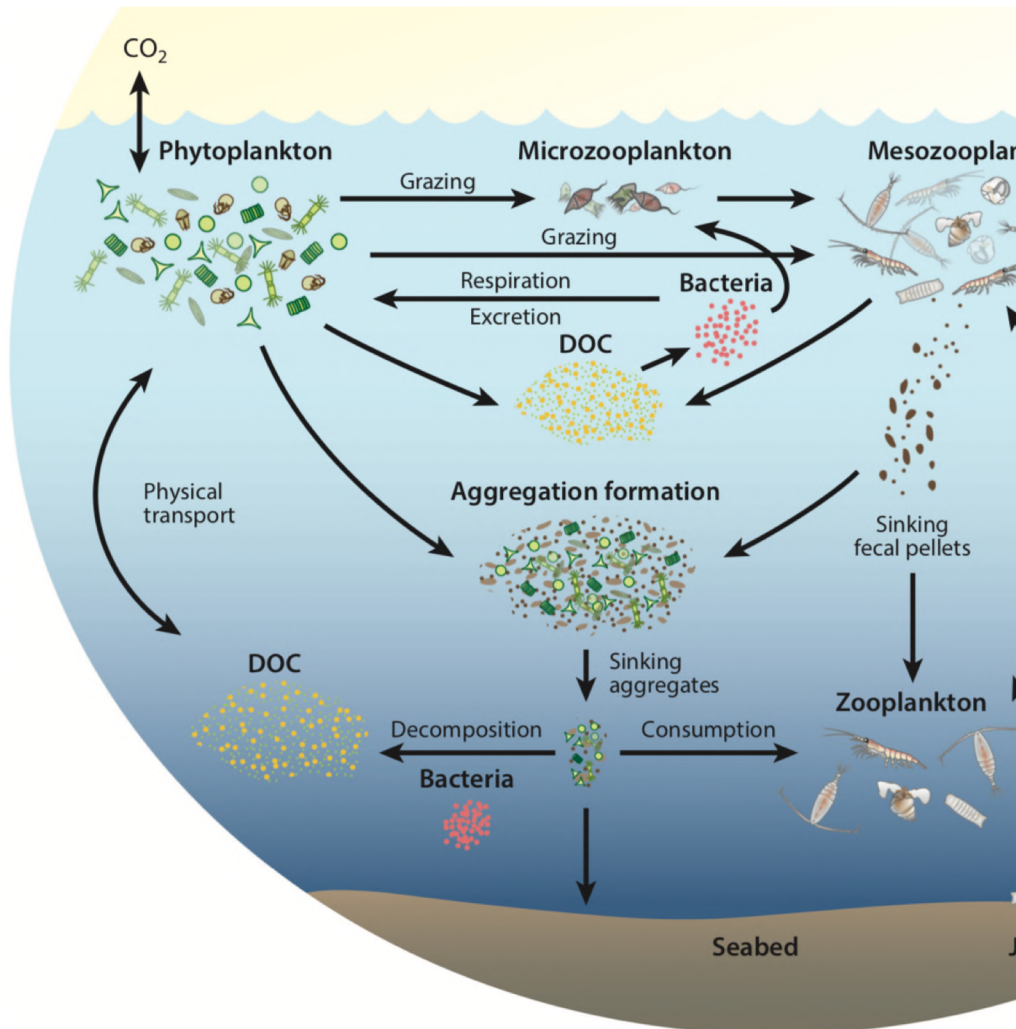
Note : DIC = Dissolved Organic Carbon, POC = Particulate Organic Carbon

# THE SOFT TISSUE CARBON PUMP



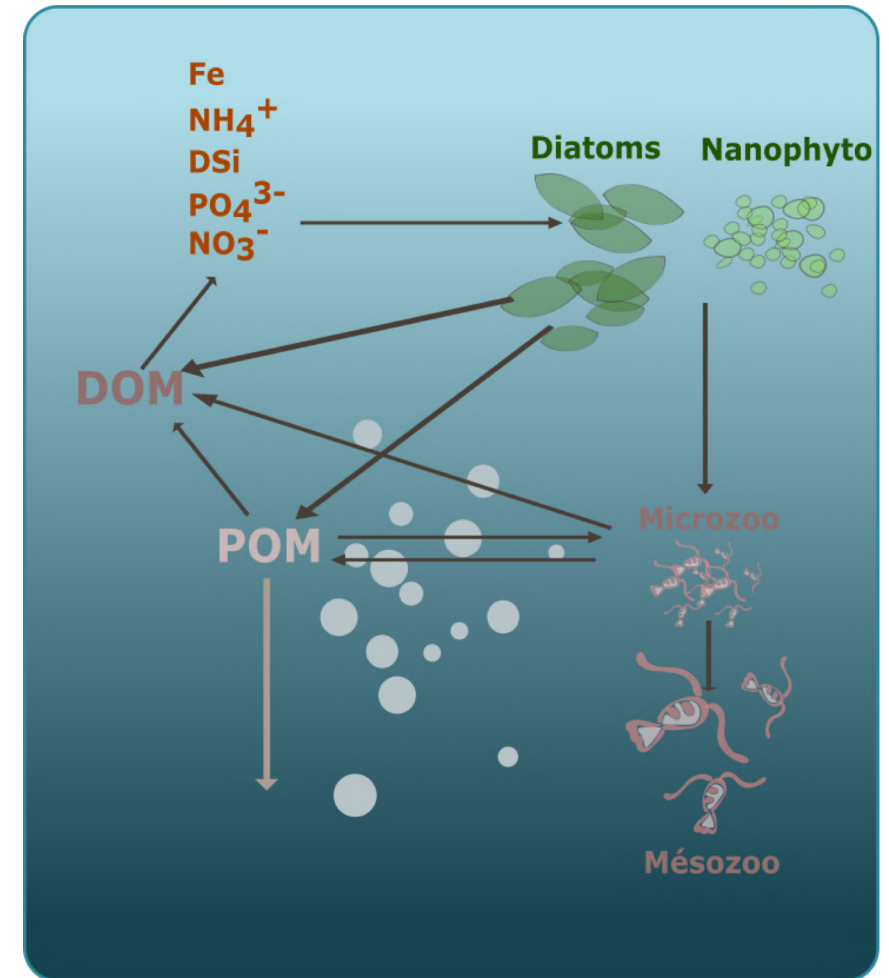
Steinberg and Landry 2016

# THE SOFT TISSUE CARBON PUMP



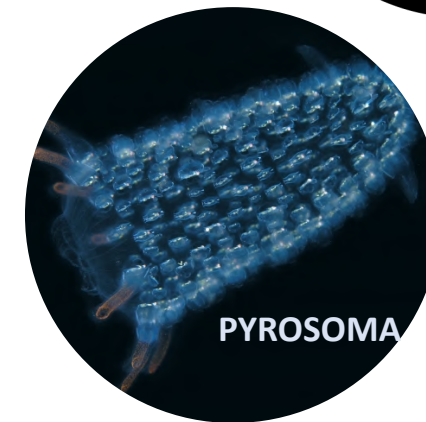
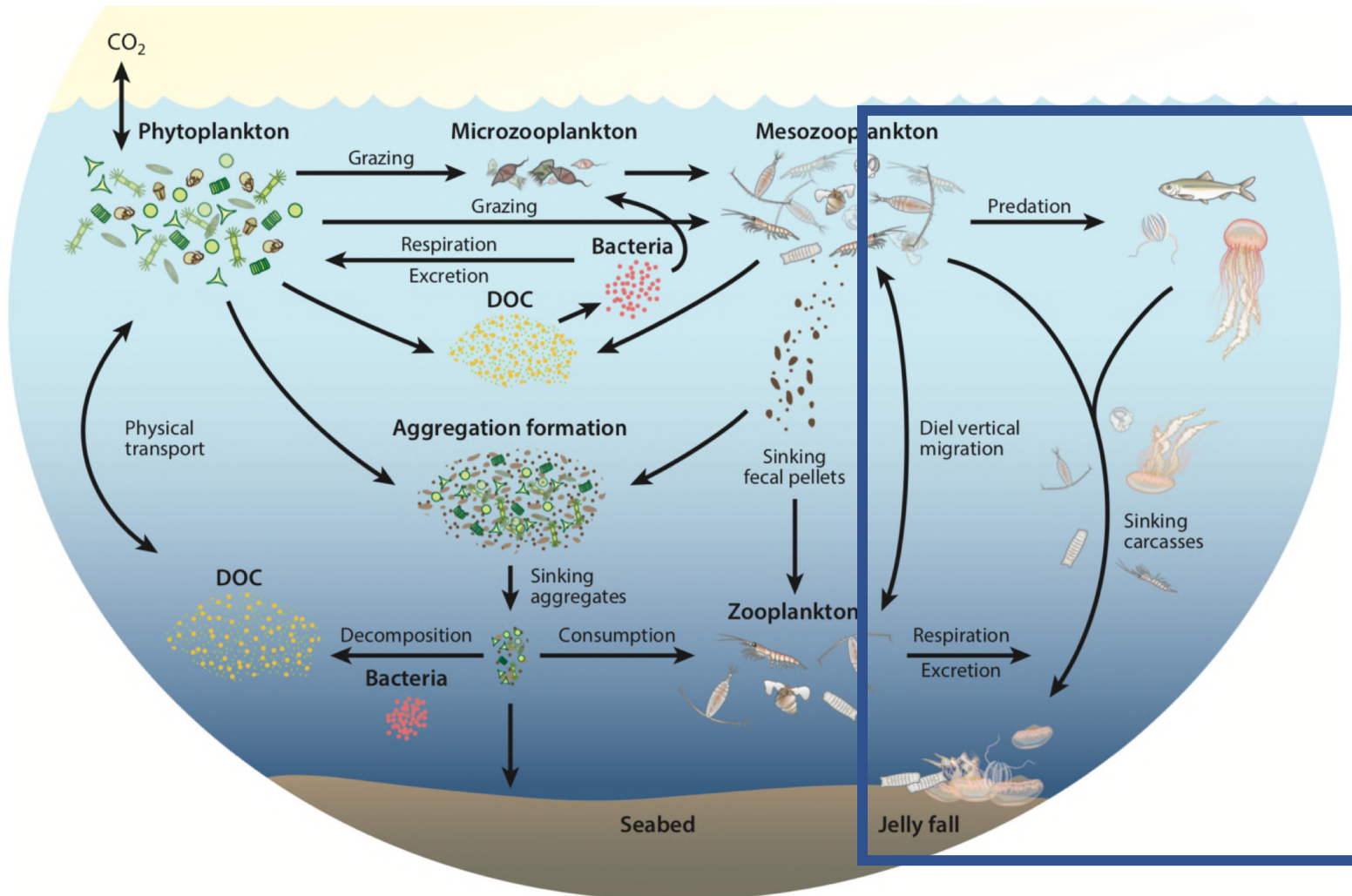
Steinberg and Landry 2016

**MODEL**  
PISCES-NEMO



Inspired from Aumont et al. 2015

# THE BIOLOGICAL GRAVITATIONNAL PUMP



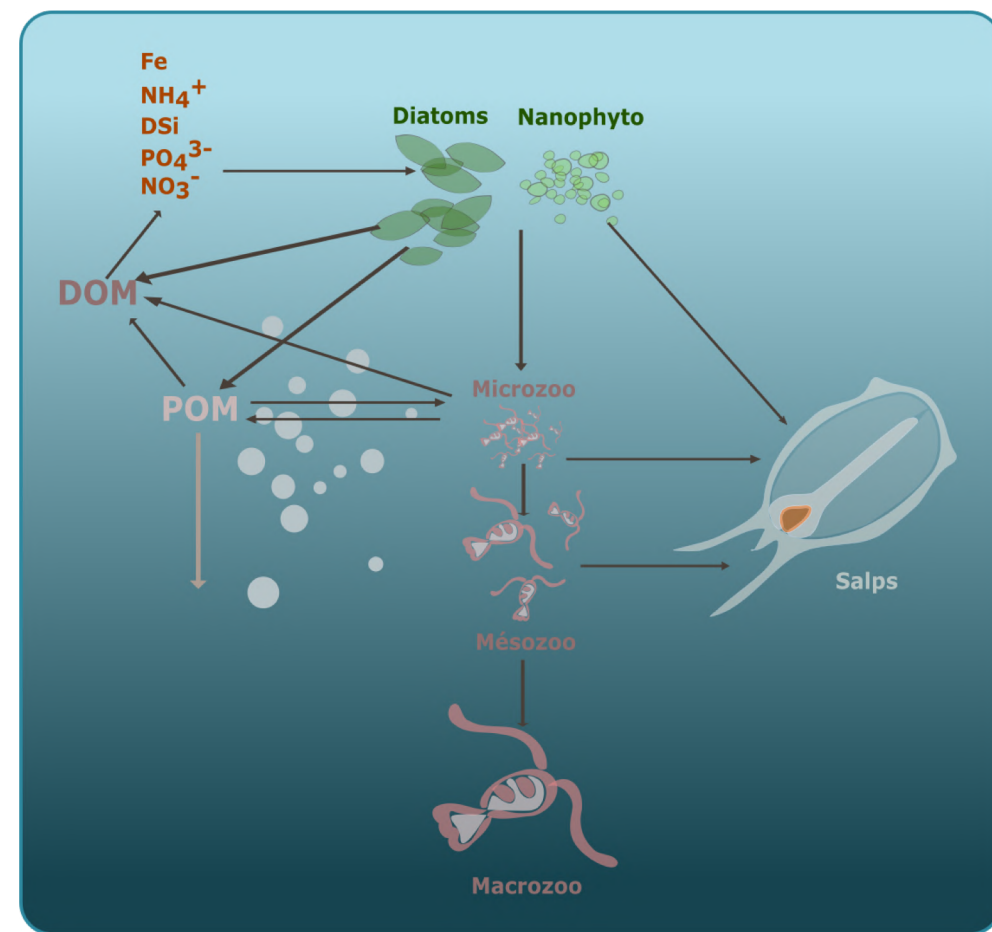
Credits : Alexander Semenov, Nick Hodgood, Adhella Pinsky, Dave Fleetham



# THE BIOGEOCHEMICAL MODEL : NEMO-PISCES-JELLIES

- ❖ Generic macrozooplankton
- ❖ Jellies (Pyrosomes, Doliolids and Salps)
  - Access to wide size range of preys
- ❖ Explicit carcasses and fecal pellets

Sinking speed (m/d)	FFGM	GM
CARCASSES	800 <sup>1</sup>	300 <sup>2</sup>
FECAL PELLETS	1000 <sup>1</sup>	100 <sup>3</sup>

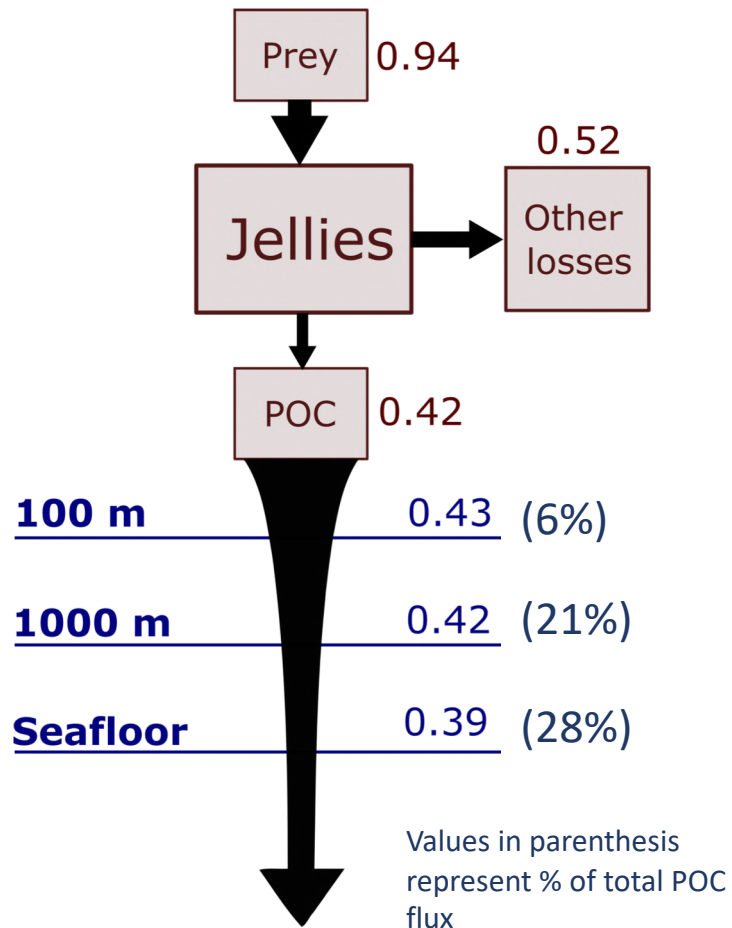


<sup>1</sup> Henschke et al. 2016    <sup>2</sup> Allometric conversion of GOC    <sup>3</sup> Small et al. 1979

Adapted from Clerc et al. (in prep.)

# JELLIES-DRIVEN PARTICULATE ORGANIC CARBON

Jellies-driven global carbon fluxes (in PgC yr<sup>-1</sup>)



Adapted from Clerc et al. (in prep.)

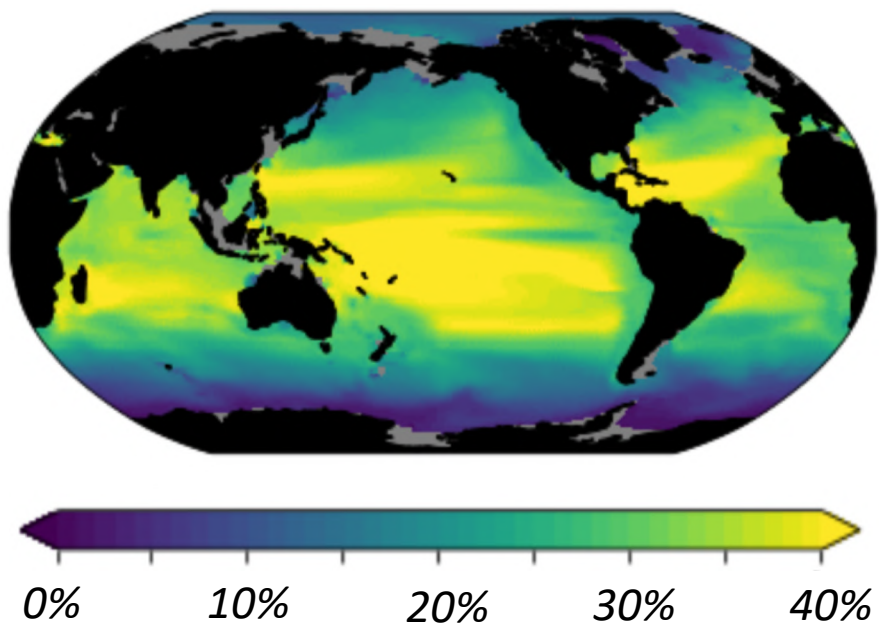
- ❖ High export ratio (45% of the grazed matter exported at 100m)
- ❖ High transfer efficiency (close to 1) due to fast sinking speed
- **High importance in carbon export, relative importance increasing with depth**

*Reminder : Jellies = Pyrosomes, Doliolids and Salps  
POC = Particulate Organic Carbon*



# JELLIES-DRIVEN PARTICULATE ORGANIC CARBON

## Jellies-mediated POC flux at 1000m



Values in parenthesis  
represent total POC flux

Adapted from Clerc et al. (in prep.)

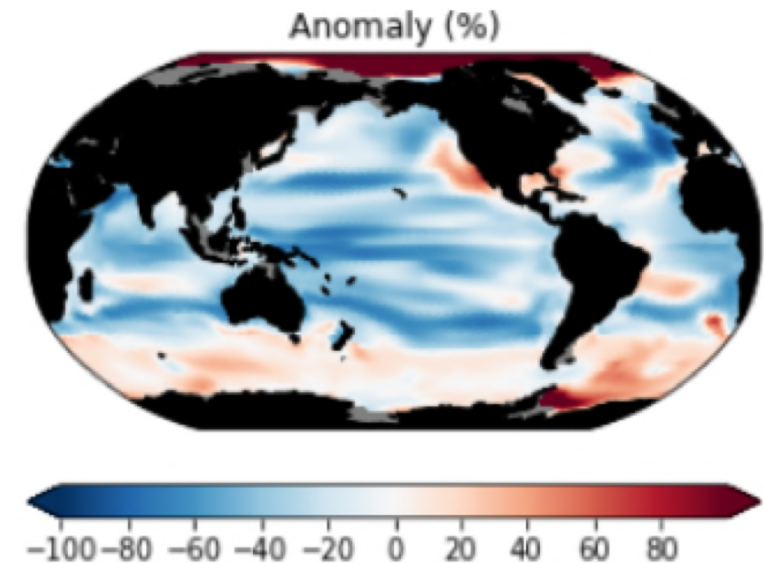
- ❖ High export ratio (45% of the grazed matter exported at 100m)
- ❖ High transfer efficiency (close to 1) due to fast sinking speed
- **High importance in carbon export, relative importance increasing with depth**
- **Higher importance in low productive areas**

*Reminder : Jellies = Pyrosomes, Doliolids and Salps  
POC = Particulate Organic Carbon*

## CONCLUSION & PERSPECTIVES

- Main conclusions:
  - ❖ Jellies plays a important role in the **Biological Gravitational Pump**, in particular at depth
  - ❖ **Efficient carbon export** and high transfer efficiency
  - ❖ **High uncertainty** of those estimates (rough parameterization): **scarcity and patchiness** of gelatinous zooplankton data.
- **How would climate change affect jellies role ?**

Jellies-driven POC export at 1000m anomaly (%) (2081-2100 vs 1851-1870)



*Reminder : Jellies = Pyrosomes, Doliolids and Salps*



# CONCLUSION & PERSPECTIVES

- Main conclusions:
  - ❖ Jellies plays a important role in the **Biological Gravitational Pump**, in particular at depth
  - ❖ **Efficient carbon export** and high **transfer efficiency**
  - ❖ **High uncertainty** of those estimates (rough parameterization): **scarcity and patchiness** of gelatinous zooplankton data.
- **How would climate change affect jellies role ?**

## THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION !



The abstract  
QR Code



*Reminder : Jellies = Pyrosomes, Doliolids and Salps*