Arctic Ocean ecosystems - Applied technology, Biological interactions and Consequences in an era of abrupt climate change (Arctic ABC)

Project leader: J Berge (UiT and UNIS), project period 2015-2019

National institutions: APN, UNIS, UIT, NTNU, FNI and IMR

International institutions: UK (SAMS), Canada (Univ. Manitoba and ArcticNet), USA

(Univ. of Delaware, Univ. of Alaska, WHOI, Univ. of Washington), Japan (WMU),

Russia (AARI), Germany (IASS), Korea (KOPRI).



- Ice tethered observatory with AZFPs and UHIs
- Two successfull deployemts in the Arctic Ocean
- Data transmission through either sat link or drones
- Provide acoustic and optical data from the Arctic Ocean during the winter and polar night
- Recruitment positions: 3x PhD and 4x postdocs

Arctic ABC

Technology module:

Develop autonomous under-ice tethered observatories (ITO) that will provide optical and acoustic data from the Arctic Ocean drift ice ecosystem, including during the polar night. The observatories will be able to operate in ice and open water, and will have real-time satellite-communication ability.

Biology module:

- A) To assess direct and indirect impacts of continued reduction of the Arctic sea ice cover on the Arctic ecosystem. The focus is on exploring biological coupling processes between sea ice and the ocean, faunal migration patterns, degree of dependence on multiyear sea ice, and adaptations to the Arctic sea ice habitat.
- B) Provide essential input to the *Consequence* module.

Consequence module:

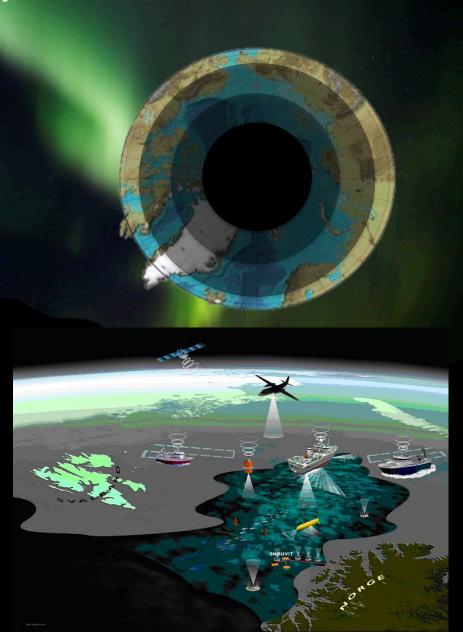
- A) To develop a model framework integrated into existing models (ROMS and SINMOD) aimed specifically to simulate ice-associated communities and primary productivity in ice covered regions.
- B) Analyse and assess the political implications of a warmer Arctic Ocean, with a focus on changes in resources distribution, developments in management regimes and mechanisms concerning political influence over such processes.

End-user forum:

Integration of three very different, yet highly interlinked modules

Arctic ABC – expected results





Arctic ABC – Communication and outreach

POLARNIGHT Life and light in the dead of night





Further plans and proposals of relevance for ABC:

Arctic ABCD (D=development) under evaluation in the *Infrastruktur program*

Development and operation of 10 units

Project period 2015-2024

Decision expected June 25th

UiT strategic priority call

Development of communications using drones

Partnership with Cirfa and Nokut in Tromsø

Decision expected early autumn 2015



Surface unit connected with SIMBA bouys the UHI – underwater hyperspectral provide real-time transmission of data imager HD camera Undulating unit (0-100m) Research questions with a CTD I: Composition, abundance and movement of pelagic community under sea ice AZFPs (up and down) **Docking station** II: Characterization of light Battery pack fields under sea ice (linked with sea ice mass balance measurements) SAMS: SIMBA, data transmissions III: Characterization of blooms NTNU: Sensors and technical in the central Arctic Ocean implementation / integration UiT: Deployment and operation 2015 2016 2017 2018 North Pole deployment? Cottier adjunct professor Uil NTNU postdoc / technical Wegge adjunct professor Uil Geoffroy postdoc UiT on acoustics NN postdoc UiT on optics

NN postdoc APN on modelling