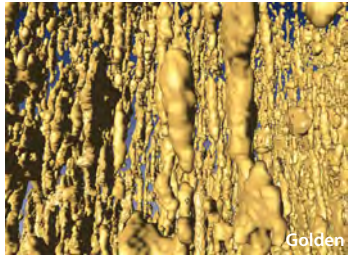
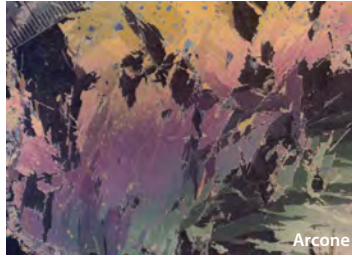


millimeters



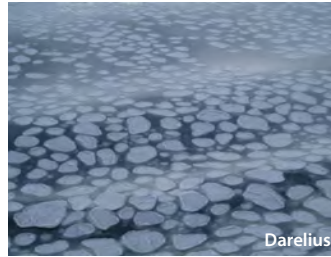
Golden

centimeters



Arcone

meters



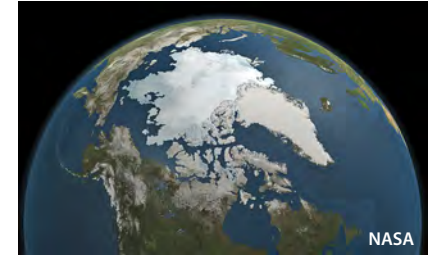
Darelius

kilometers



NASA

10^3 kilometers



NASA

From Micro to Macro in Modeling Sea Ice

Ken Golden, University of Utah



Arctic Mathpedition I
May 5, 2024

Analysis, Control, and Inverse Problems
in Climate Sciences
2nd AMS-UMI International Joint Meeting
Palermo, 26 July 2024

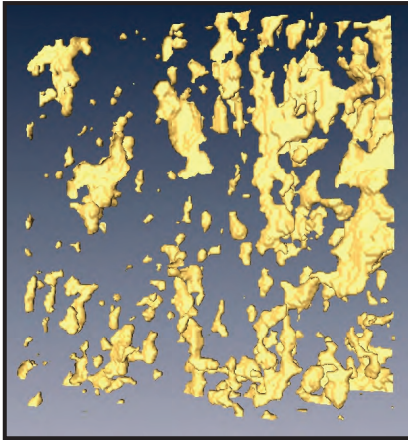
Sea Ice is a Multiscale Composite Material

microscale

brine inclusions

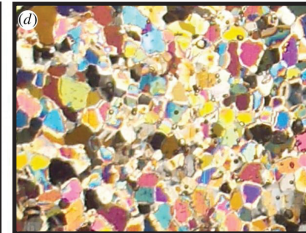
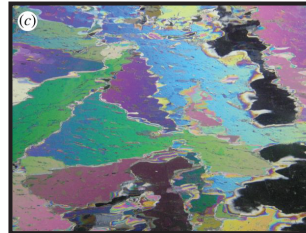
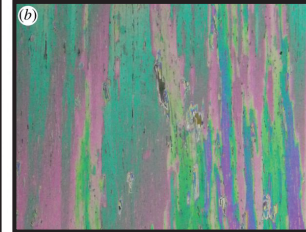


Weeks & Assur 1969



H. Eicken
Golden et al. GRL 2007

polycrystals

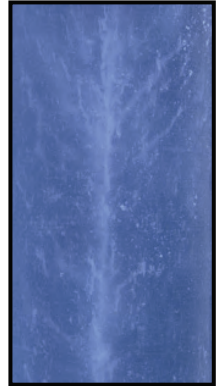


Gully et al. Proc. Roy. Soc. A 2015

brine channels



D. Cole



K. Golden

millimeters

centimeters

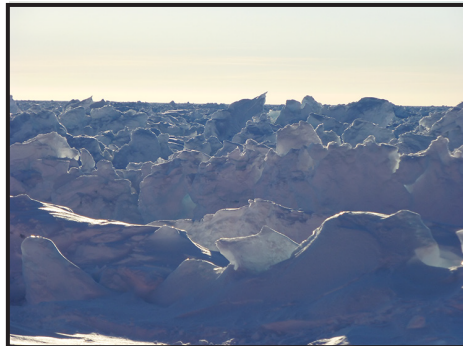
mesoscale

Arctic melt ponds



K. Frey

Antarctic pressure ridges



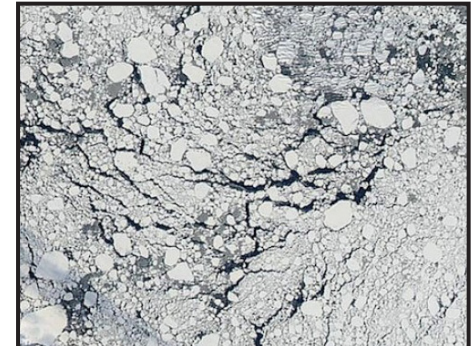
K. Golden

sea ice floes



J. Weller

sea ice pack



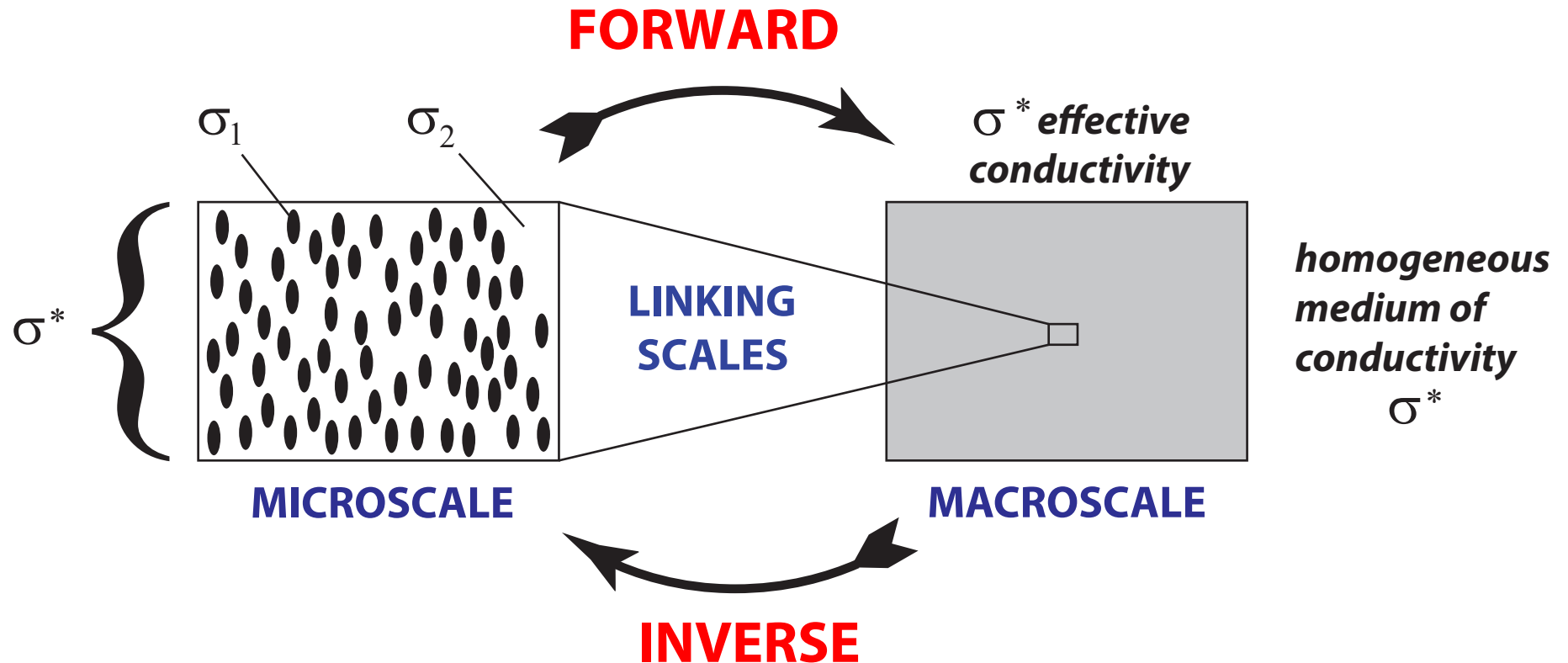
NASA

meters

kilometers

macroscale

HOMOGENIZATION for Composite Materials



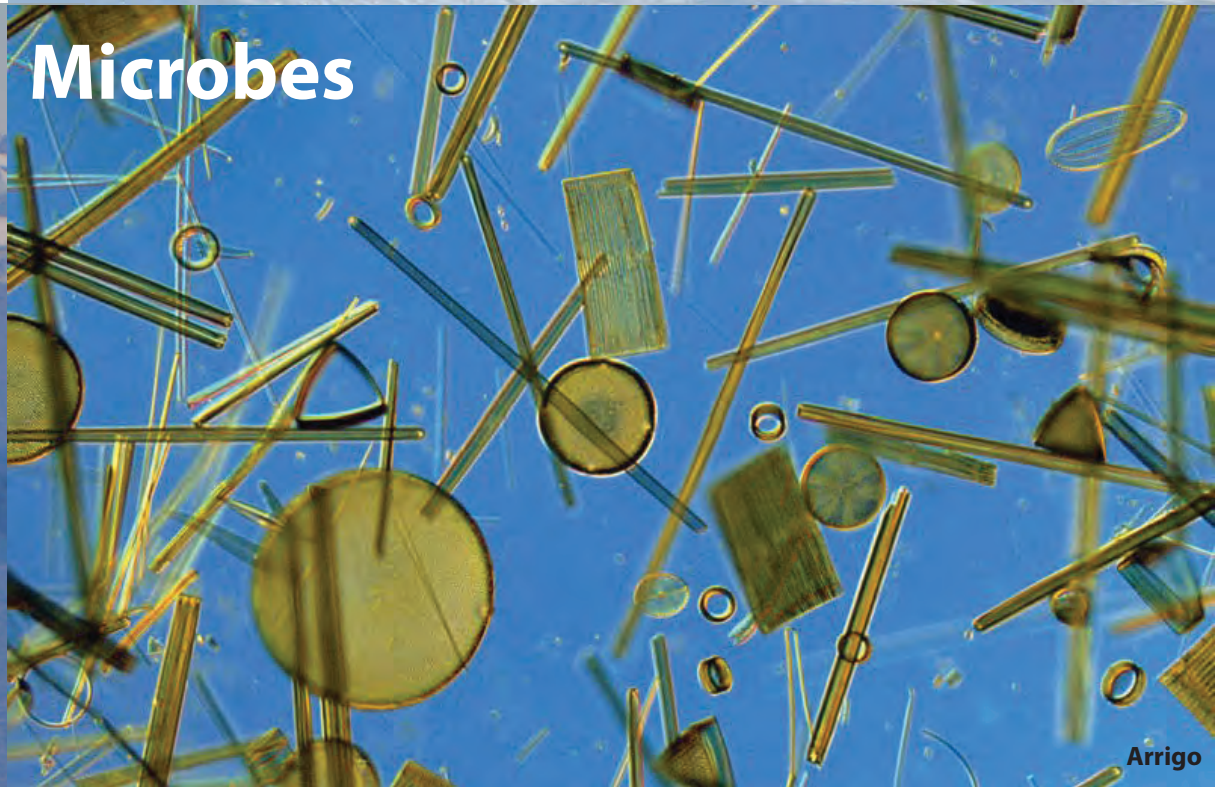
Maxwell 1873, Einstein 1906

Wiener 1912, Hashin and Shtrikman 1962

Polar Ecology and the Physics of Sea Ice

How do sea ice properties affect the life it hosts?

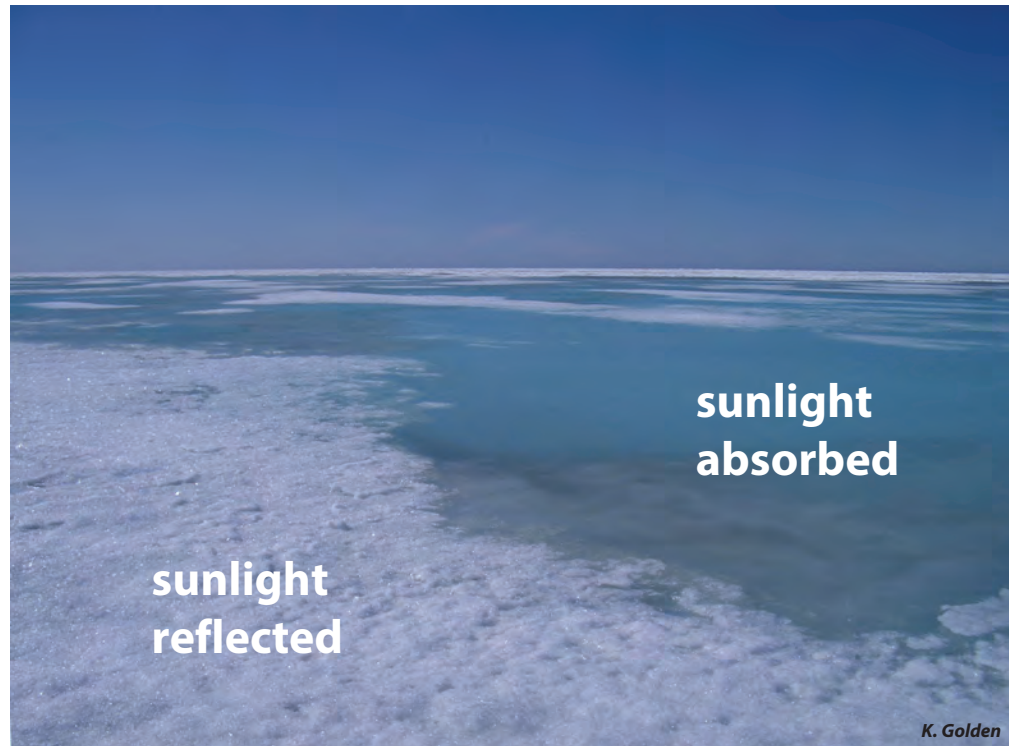
How does life in and on sea ice affect its physical properties?



microscale

fluid flow through the porous microstructure of sea ice governs key processes in polar climate and ecosystems

*evolution of Arctic melt ponds and sea ice **albedo***



nutrient flux for algal communities

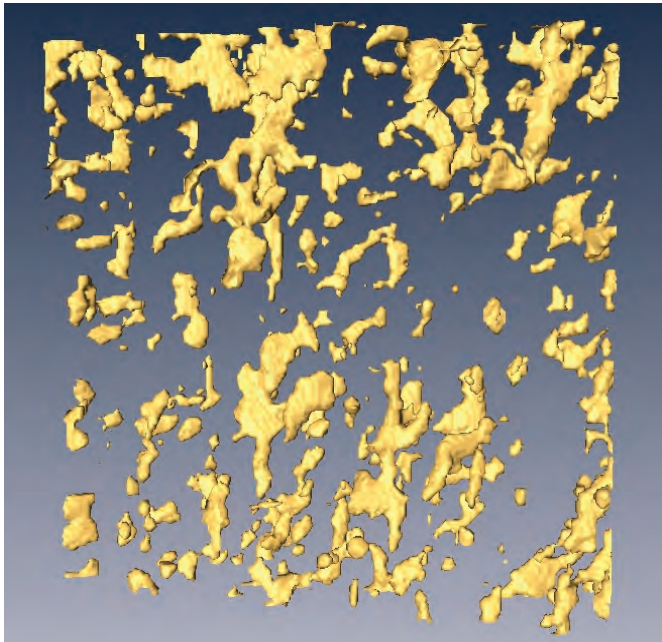


***Antarctic surface flooding
and snow-ice formation***

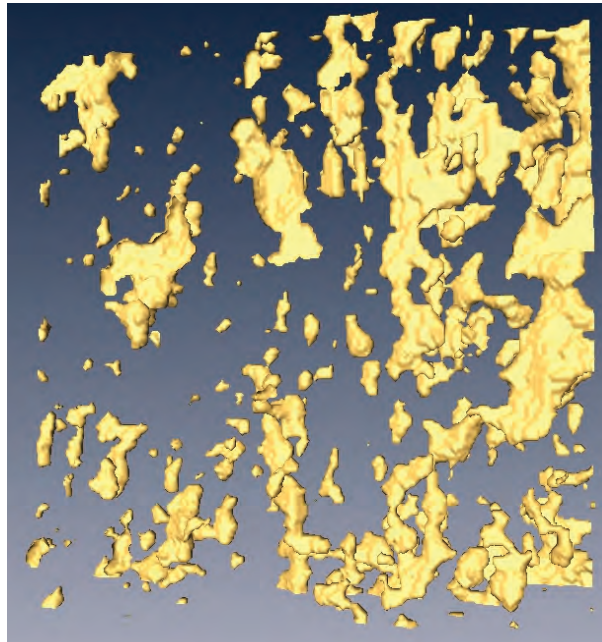
September
snow-ice
estimates

- *evolution of salinity profiles*
- *ocean-ice-air exchanges of heat, CO₂*

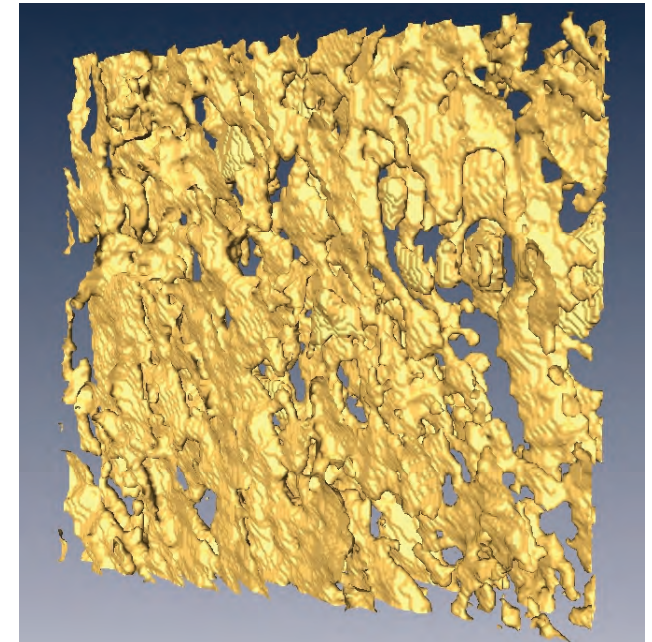
brine volume fraction and **connectivity** increase with temperature



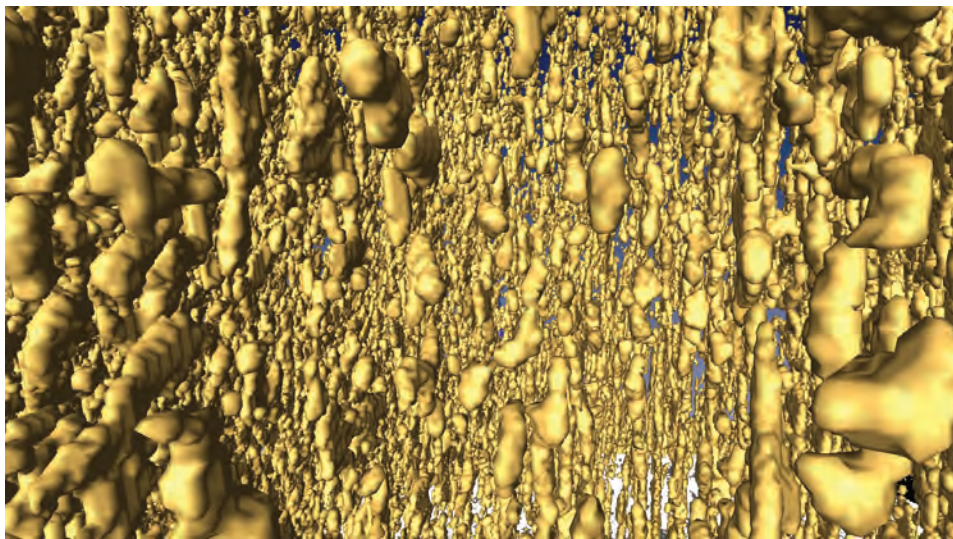
$T = -15\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\phi = 0.033$



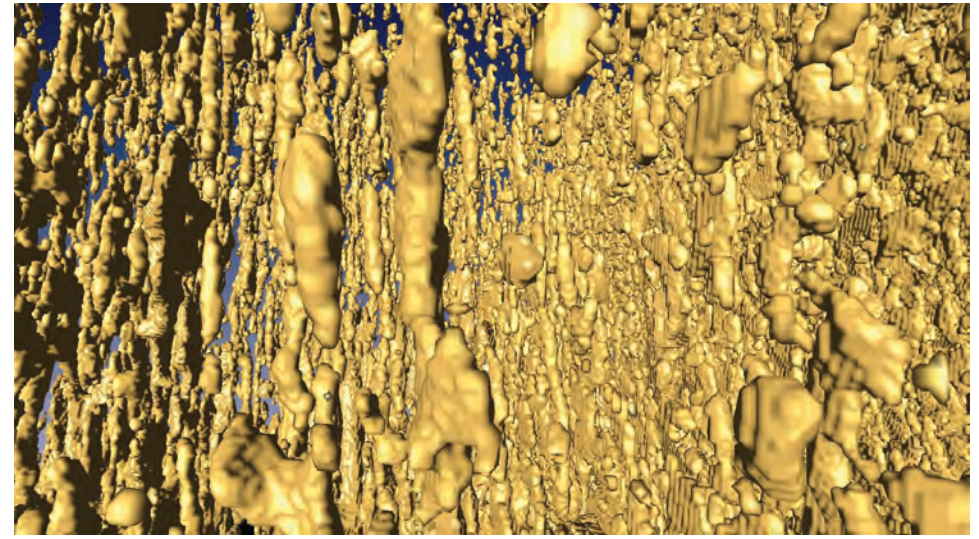
$T = -6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\phi = 0.075$



$T = -3\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\phi = 0.143$



$T = -8\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\phi = 0.057$



$T = -4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\phi = 0.113$

X-ray tomography for brine in sea ice

Golden et al., *Geophysical Research Letters*, 2007

Critical behavior of fluid transport in sea ice

impermeable

permeable

“on - off” switch
for bulk fluid flow

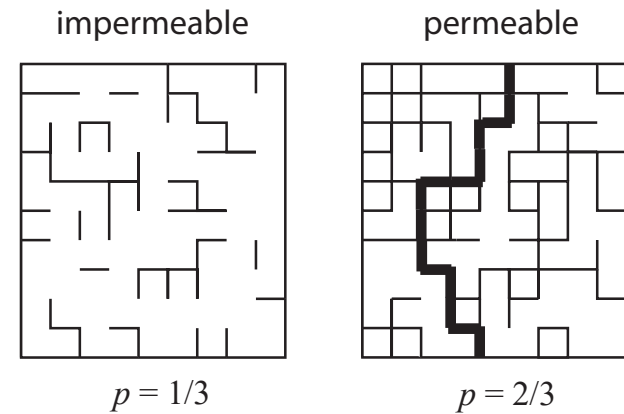
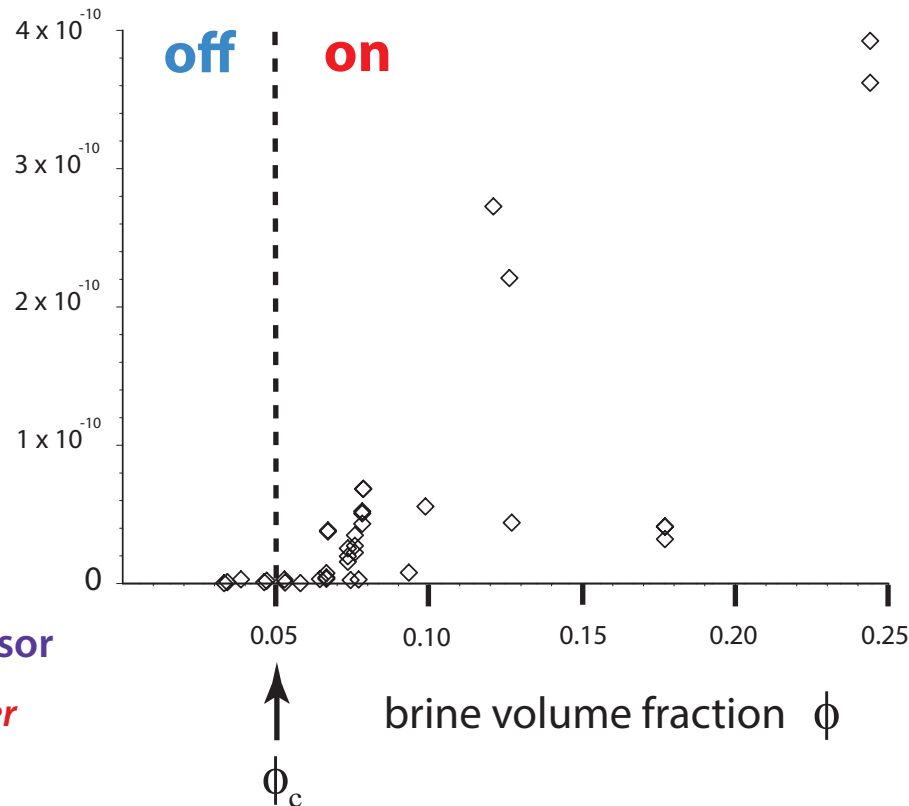
Arctic field data

vertical fluid
permeability k (m^2)

Darcy's Law

$$\mathbf{v} = -\frac{\mathbf{k}}{\eta} \nabla p$$

\mathbf{k} = fluid permeability tensor
homogenized parameter



lattice percolation

FRACTAL
percolation clusters

PERCOLATION THRESHOLD $\phi_c \approx 5\% \longleftrightarrow T_c \approx -5^\circ \text{C}, S \approx 5 \text{ ppt}$

RULE OF FIVES

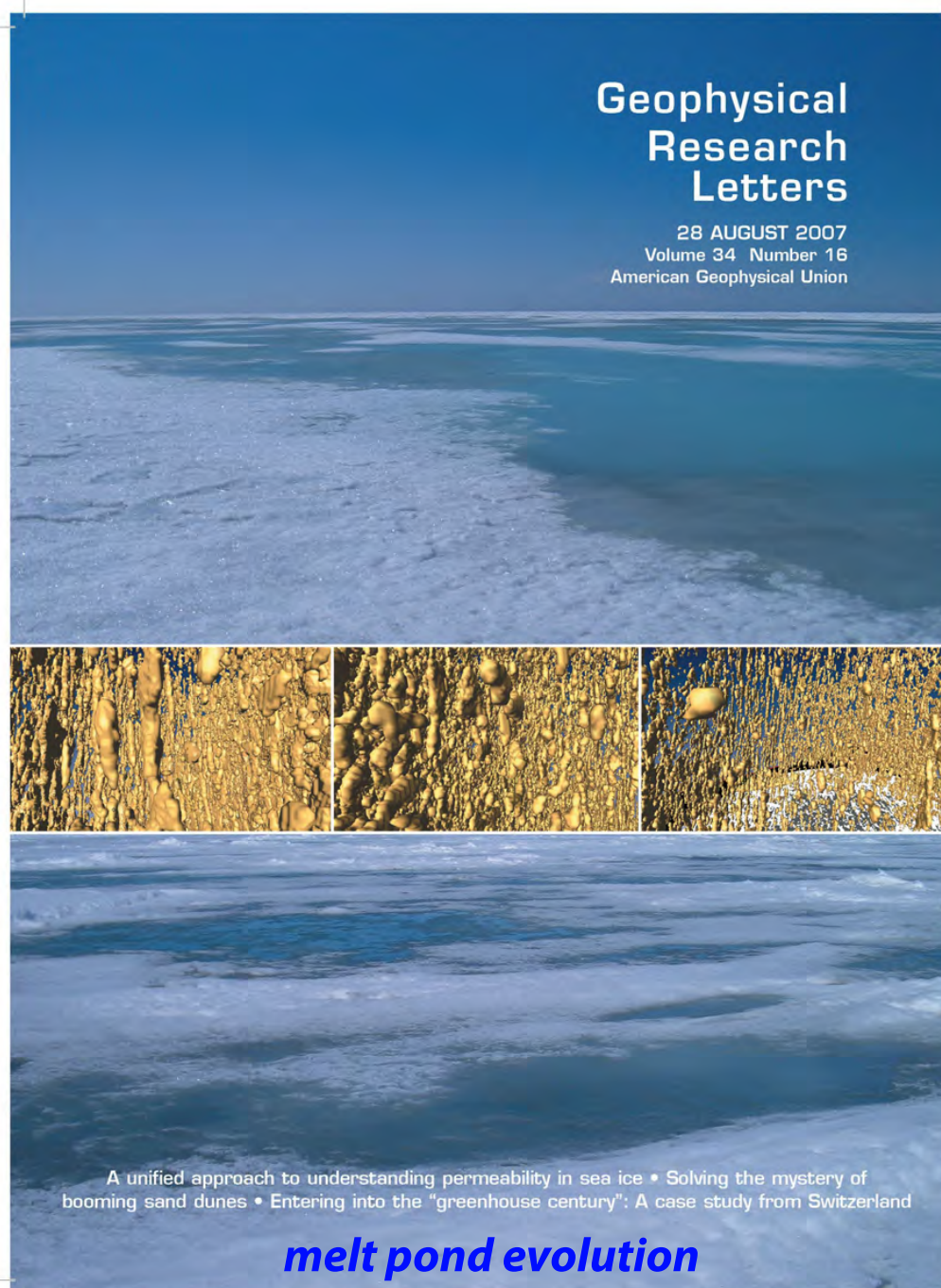
Golden, Ackley, Lytle Science 1998

Golden, Eicken, Heaton, Miner, Pringle, Zhu GRL 2007

Pringle, Miner, Eicken, Golden J. Geophys. Res. 2009

Thermal evolution of permeability and microstructure in sea ice

Golden, Eicken, Heaton, Miner, Pringle, Zhu, Geophysical Research Letters 2007



**percolation theory for
fluid permeability**

**X-ray tomography for
brine inclusions**

confirms rule of fives

***Pringle, Miner, Eicken, Golden
J. Geophys. Res. 2009***

theory agrees closely with field data

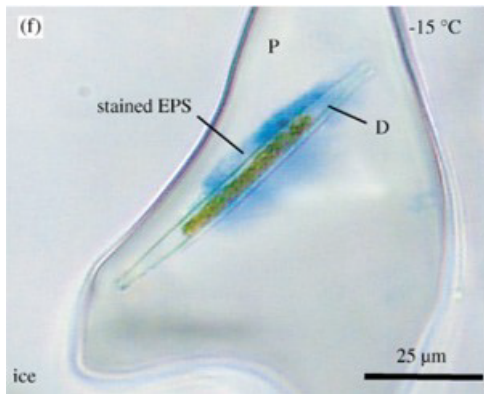
**microscale
governs
mesoscale
processes**

melt pond evolution

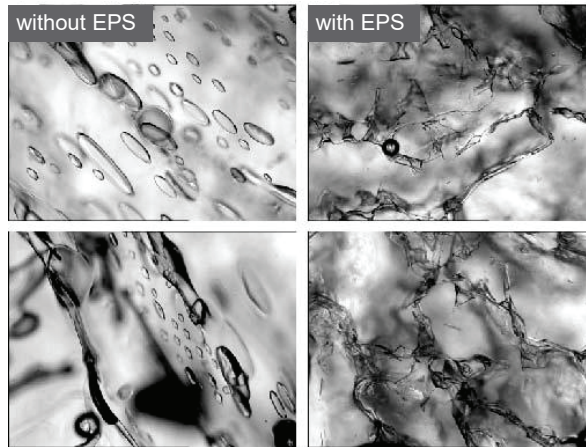
Sea ice algae secrete exopolymeric substances (EPS) affecting evolution of brine microstructure.

How does EPS affect fluid transport? How does the biology affect the physics?

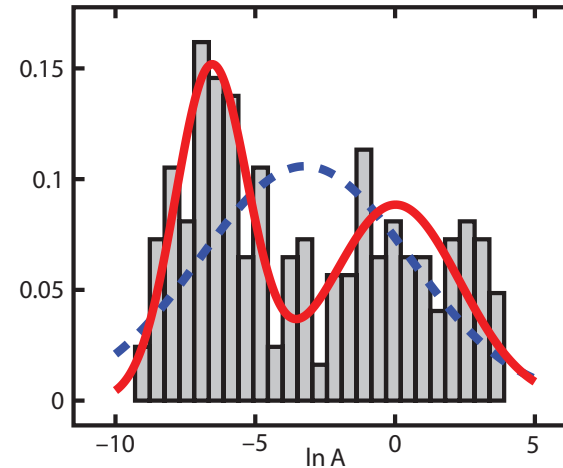
FRACTAL



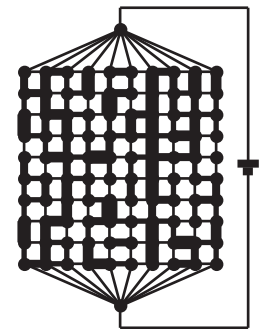
Krembs



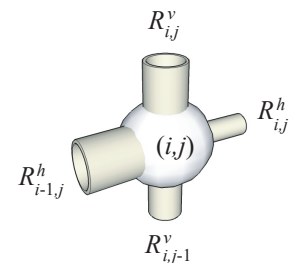
Krembs, Eicken, Deming, PNAS 2011



RANDOM PIPE MODEL



- 2D random pipe model with bimodal distribution of pipe radii
- Rigorous bound on permeability k ; results predict observed drop in k



Steffen, Epshteyn, Zhu, Bowler, Deming, Golden
Multiscale Modeling and Simulation, 2018

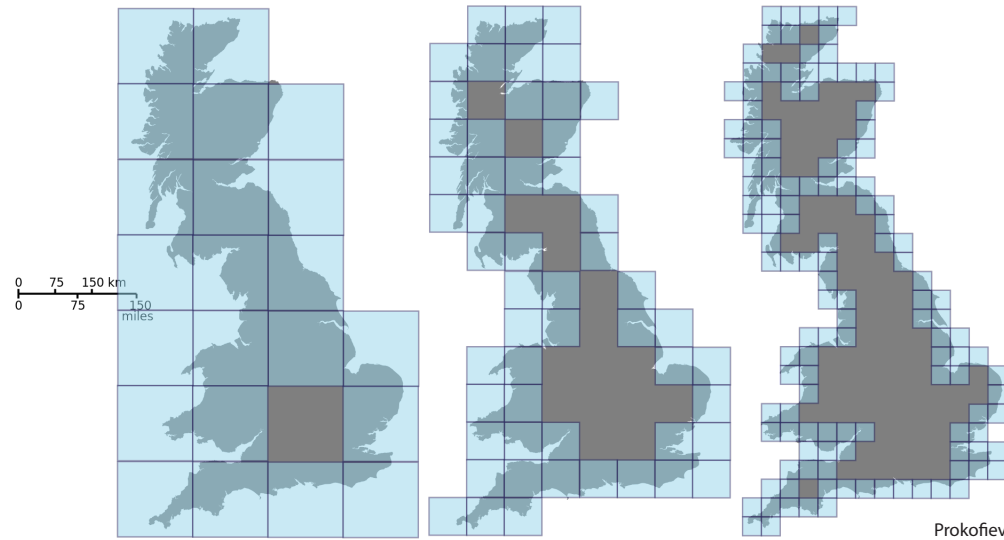
Zhu, Jabini, Golden,
Eicken, Morris
Ann. Glac. 2006

EPS - Algae Model Jajeh, Reimer, Golden, 2024

SIAM News
June 2024

Thermal Evolution of Brine Fractal Geometry in Sea Ice

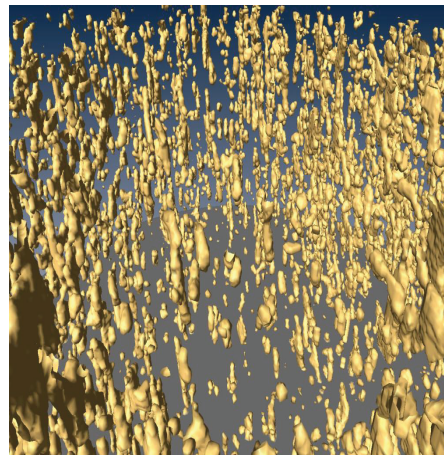
Nash Ward, Daniel Hallman, Benjamin Murphy, Jody Reimer,
Marc Oggier, Megan O'Sadnick, Elena Cherkaev and Kenneth Golden, 2024



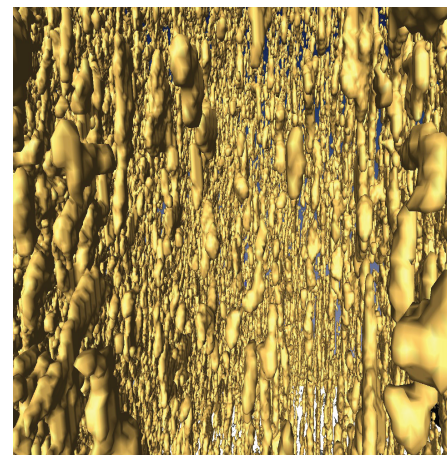
fractal dimension of the
coastline of Great Britain
by box counting

$$N(\epsilon) \sim \epsilon^{-D}$$

$T = -12^{\circ} \text{C}$, $\phi = 0.033$



$T = -8^{\circ} \text{C}$, $\phi = 0.057$



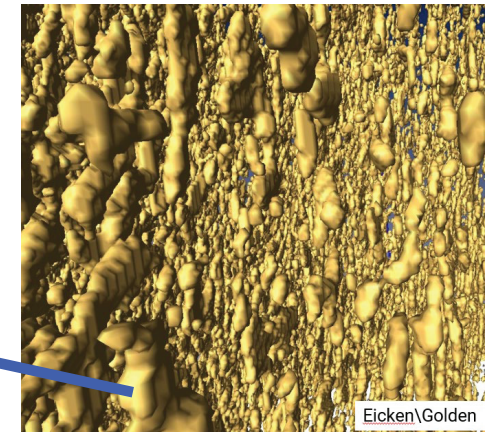
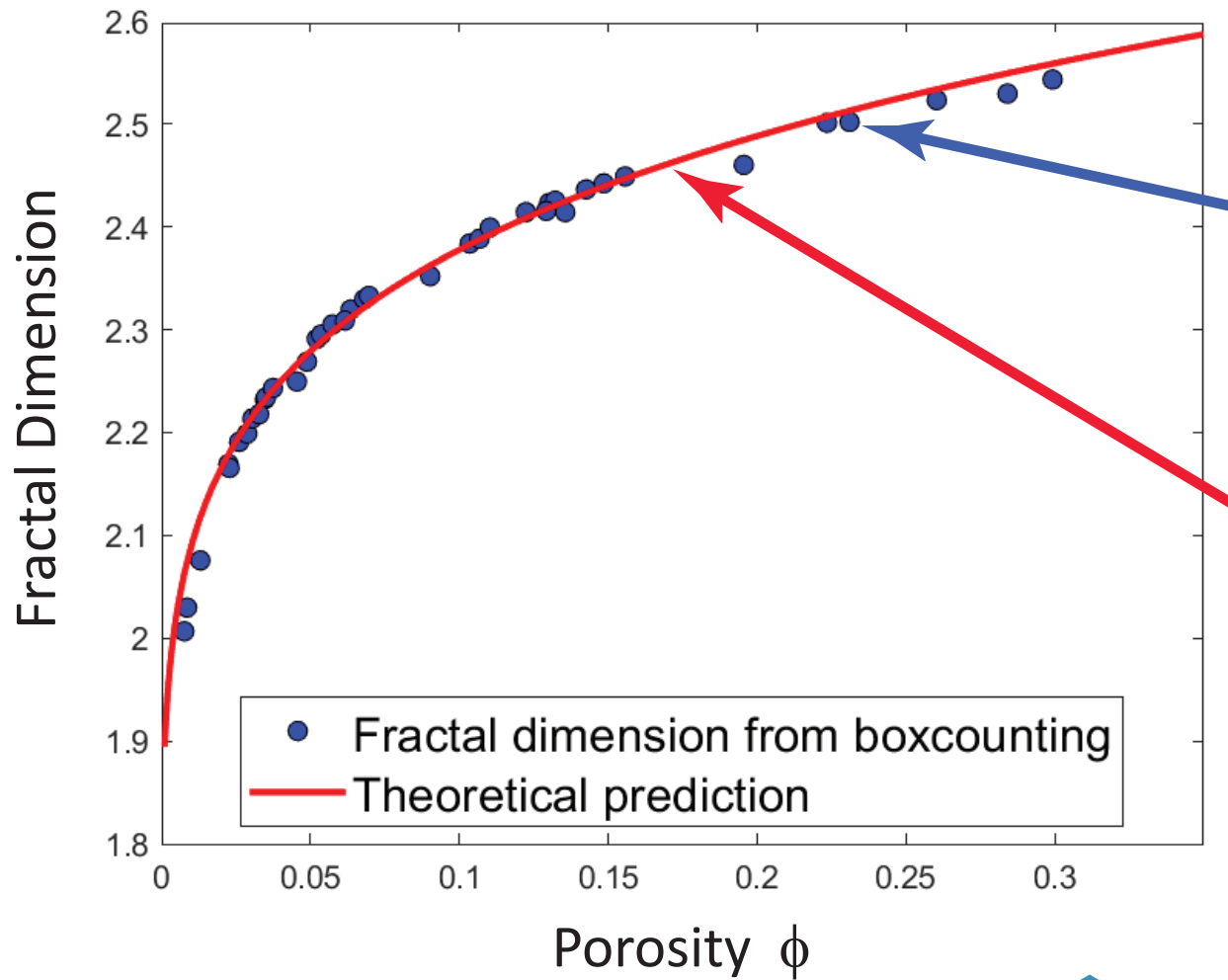
brine channels and
inclusions “look”
like fractals
(from 30 yrs ago)

X-ray computed
tomography of
brine in sea ice

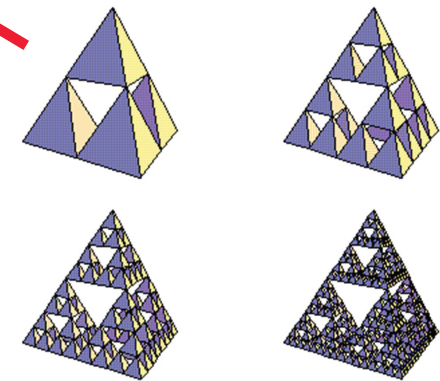
columnar and granular

Golden, Eicken, et al. *GRL*, 2007

The first quantitative study of the fractal dimension of brine in sea ice and its strong dependence on temperature and porosity.



Follows same curve as exactly self-similar Sierpinski tetrahedron



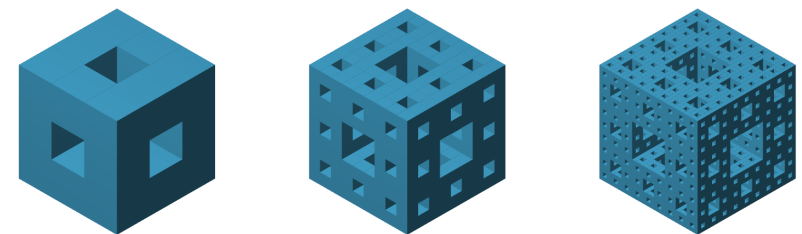
D. Eppstein

red curve

$$F_d = d_E - \frac{\ln \phi}{\ln(\lambda_{min}/\lambda_{max})}$$

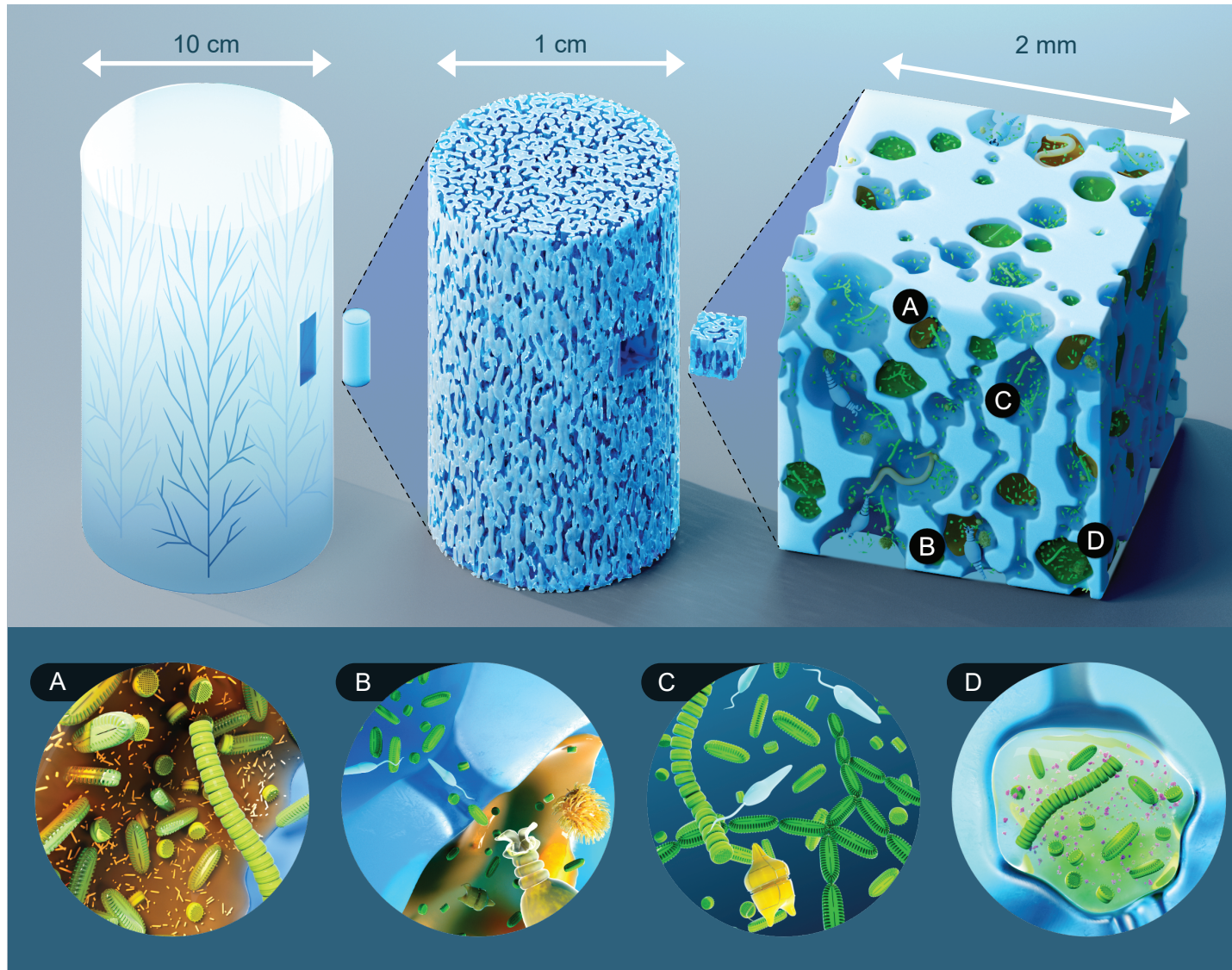
Katz and Thompson, 1985; Yu and Li, 2001

discovered for sandstones
statistically self-similar porous media



Fractal geometry of brine in sea ice, Ward, *et al.* 2024

Implications of brine fractal geometry on sea ice ecology and biogeochemistry



Brine inclusions are home to ice endemic organisms, e.g., bacteria, diatoms, flagellates, rotifers, nematodes.

The habitability of sea ice for these organisms is inextricably linked to its complex brine geometry.

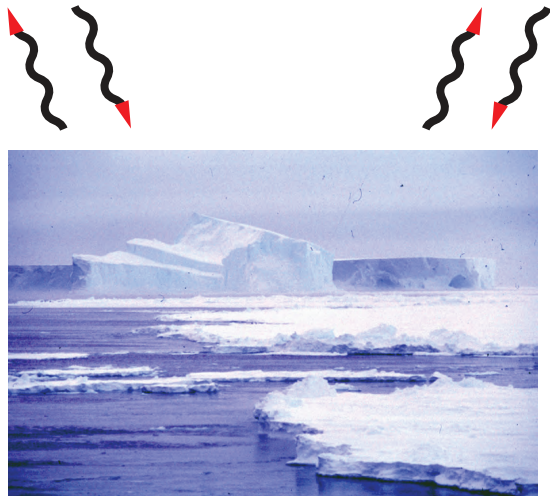
- (A) Many sea ice organisms attach themselves to inclusion walls; inclusions with a higher fractal dimension have greater surface area for colonization.
- (B) Narrow channels prevent the passage of larger organisms, leading to refuges where smaller organisms can multiply without being grazed, as in (C).
- (D) Ice algae secrete extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) which alter inclusion geometry and may further increase the fractal dimension.

Remote Sensing of Sea Ice

with radar, microwaves, ...



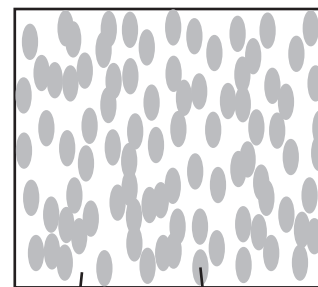
interaction of
EM waves with
brine and
polycrystalline
microstructures,
rough surfaces



INVERSE PROBLEM

Recover sea ice properties from
electromagnetic (EM) data ϵ^*

Effective complex permittivity of a composite
in the quasistatic (long wavelength) limit



ϵ_1 ϵ_2

ϵ^*

p_1, p_2 = volume fractions of
the components

$$D = \epsilon E$$

$$\nabla \cdot D = 0$$

$$\nabla \times E = 0$$

$$\langle D \rangle = \epsilon^* \langle E \rangle$$

electrical conductivity
thermal conductivity
magnetic permeability
diffusivity

$$\epsilon^* = \epsilon^* \left(\frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2}, \text{ composite geometry} \right)$$

**What are the effective propagation characteristics
of an EM wave (radar, microwaves) in the medium?**

Analytic Continuation Method for Homogenization

Bergman 1978, Milton 1979, Golden & Papanicolaou 1983, Milton 2002

Stieltjes integrals for homogenized parameters separate component parameters from geometry

$$F(s) = 1 - \frac{\epsilon^*}{\epsilon_2} = \int_0^1 \frac{d\mu(z)}{s - z} \quad s = \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon_1/\epsilon_2}$$

← geometry
← material parameters

- spectral measure of self adjoint operator $\Gamma\chi$ (matrix)

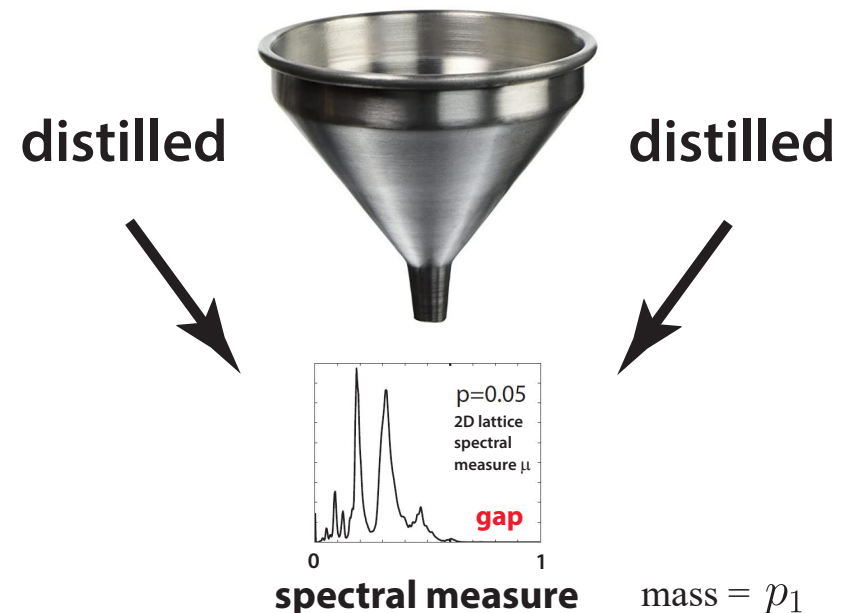
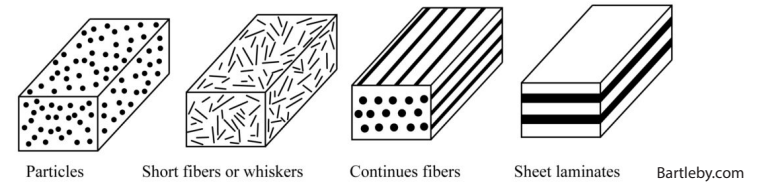
$$\Gamma = \nabla(-\Delta)^{-1}\nabla.$$

χ = characteristic function of the brine phase

- $E = s (s + \Gamma\chi)^{-1} e_k$ **resolvent**

- bounds in the complex plane; approximations
inverse bounds to recover porosity, connectivity

complexities of mixture geometry



spectral properties of operator (matrix)
~ quantum states, energy levels for atoms

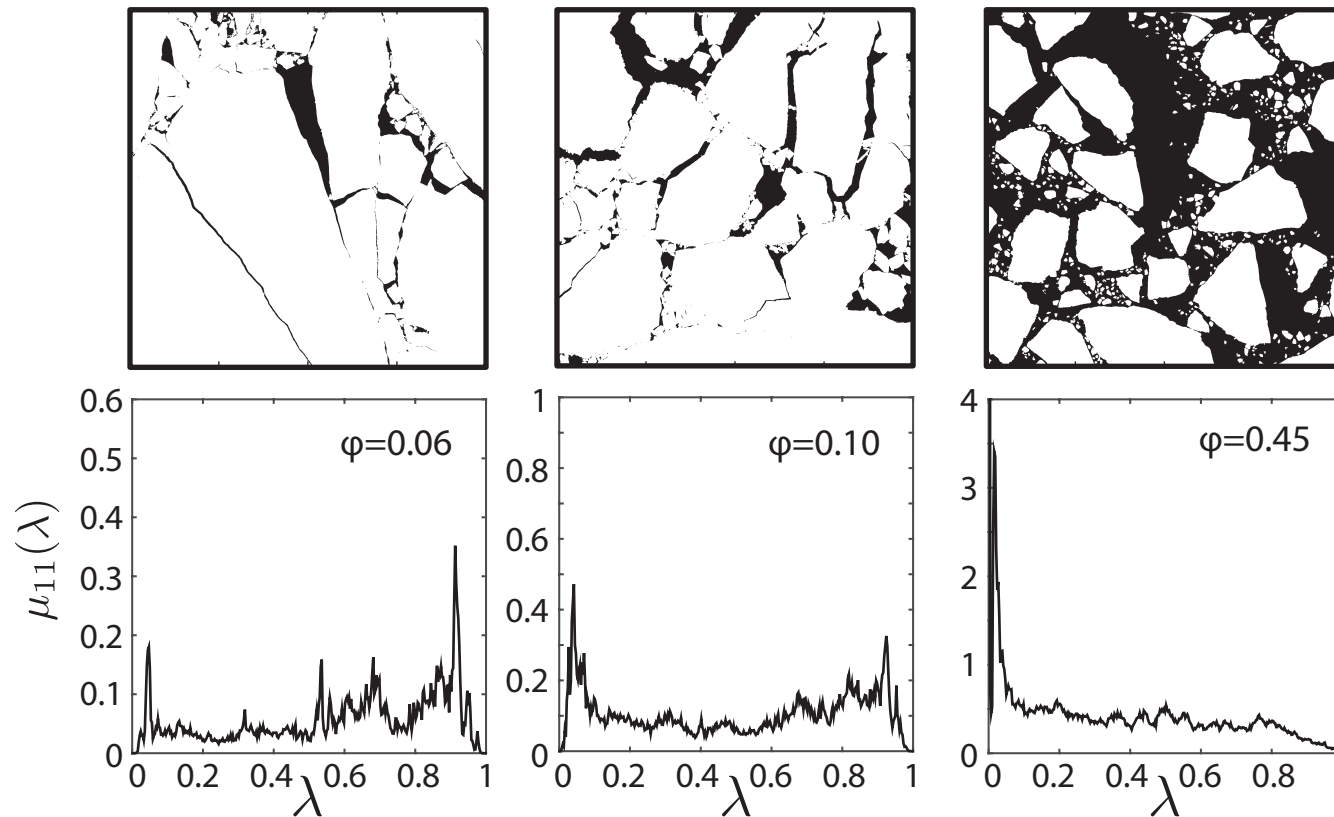
eigenvectors

eigenvalues

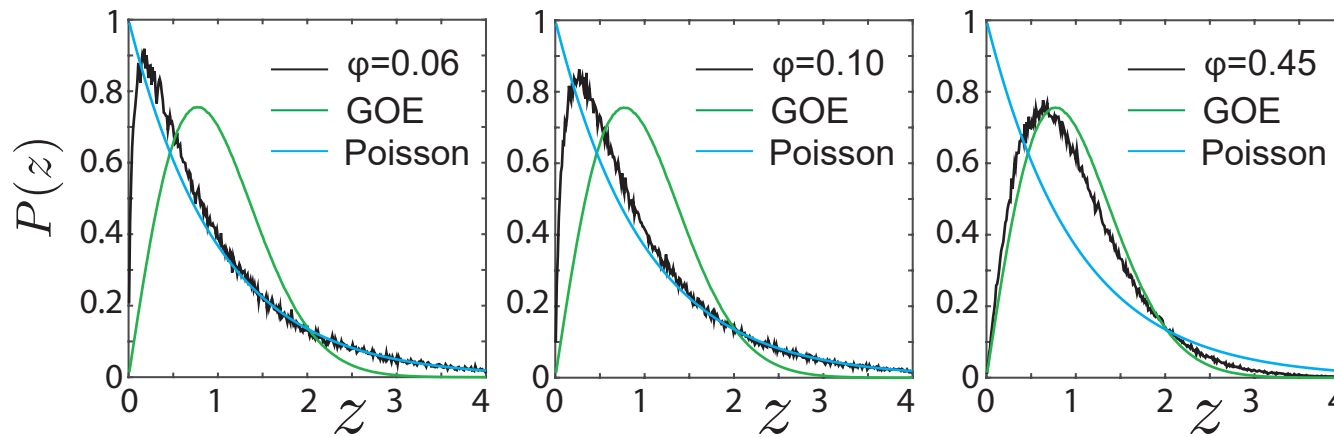
$\Gamma\chi$: microscale → macroscale

Spectral computations for sea ice floe configurations

spectral
measures



eigenvalue
spacing
distributions



**RANDOM
MATRIX
THEORY**

uncorrelated

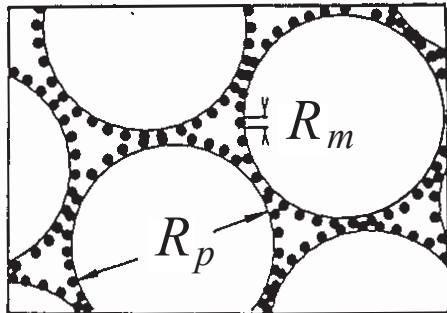
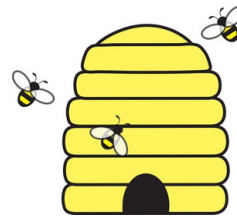


level repulsion

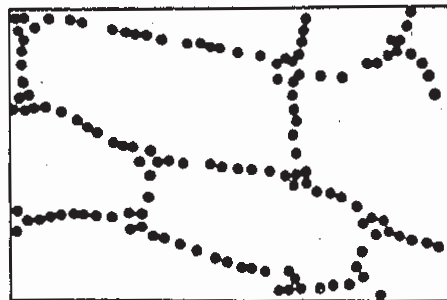
**UNIVERSAL
Wigner-Dyson
distribution**

**Anderson
localization
transition**

cross pollination



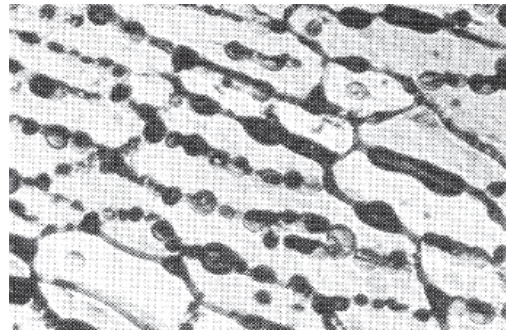
compressed powder



radar absorbing coating



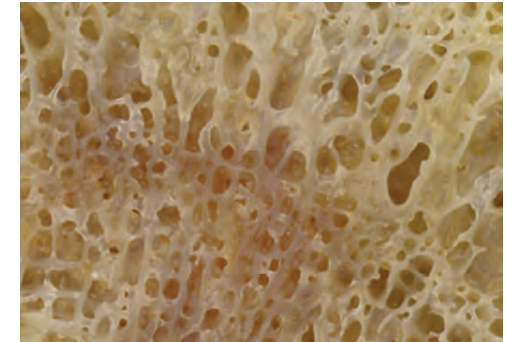
Kusy & Turner
Nature 1971



sea ice

Golden, Ackley, Lytle
Science 1998

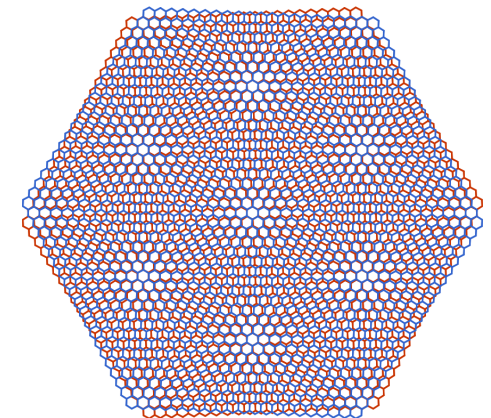
Rule of Fives
fluid flow



human bone

Golden, Murphy, Cherkaev
J. Biomechanics 2011

spectral analysis & RMT



twisted bilayer composites

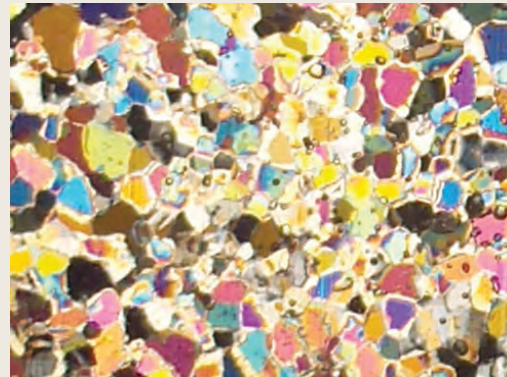
Morison, Murphy, Cherkaev, Golden
Communications Physics 2022

stealth technology, climate science, medical imaging, twistrionics

Bounds on the complex permittivity of polycrystalline materials by analytic continuation

Adam Gully, Joyce Lin,
Elena Cherkaev, Ken Golden

- **Stieltjes integral representation for effective complex permittivity**
Milton (1981, 2002), Barabash and Stroud (1999), ...
- **Forward and inverse bounds**
orientation statistics
- **Applied to sea ice using two-scale homogenization**
- **Inverse bounds give method for distinguishing ice types using remote sensing techniques**



PROCEEDINGS A

350 YEARS
OF SCIENTIFIC
PUBLISHING

An invited review
commemorating 350 years
of scientific publishing at the
Royal Society

A method to distinguish
between different types
of sea ice using remote
sensing techniques

A computer model to
determine how a human
should walk so as to expend
the least energy



THE
ROYAL
SOCIETY
PUBLISHING

higher threshold for fluid flow in granular sea ice

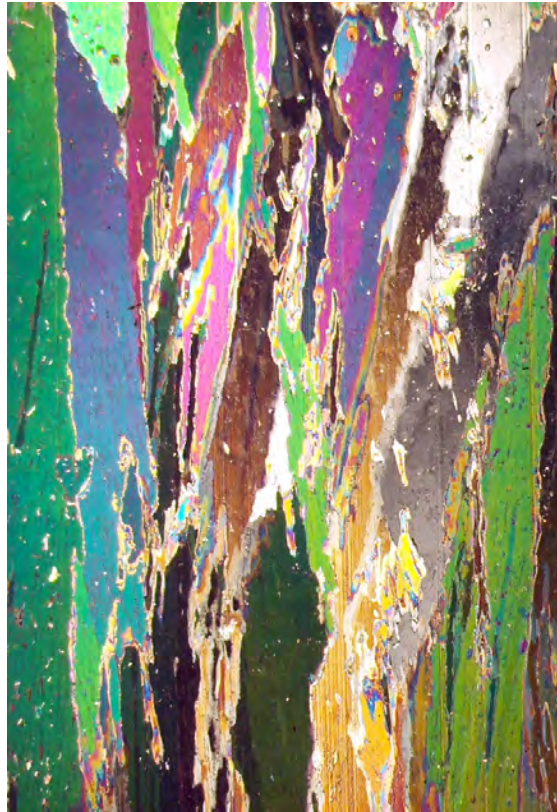
microscale details impact “mesoscale” processes

nutrient fluxes for microbes
melt pond drainage
snow-ice formation

columnar

granular

5%



10%



Golden, Sampson, Gully, Lubbers, Mosier, Tison 2024

electromagnetically distinguish ice types
inverse homogenization for polycrystals

mesoscale

advection enhanced diffusion

effective diffusivity

nutrient and salt transport in sea ice
heat transport in sea ice with convection
sea ice floes in winds and ocean currents
tracers, buoys diffusing in ocean eddies
diffusion of pollutants in atmosphere

advection diffusion equation with a velocity field \vec{u}

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla} T = \kappa_0 \Delta T$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{u} = 0$$



homogenize

$$\frac{\partial \bar{T}}{\partial t} = \kappa^* \Delta \bar{T}$$

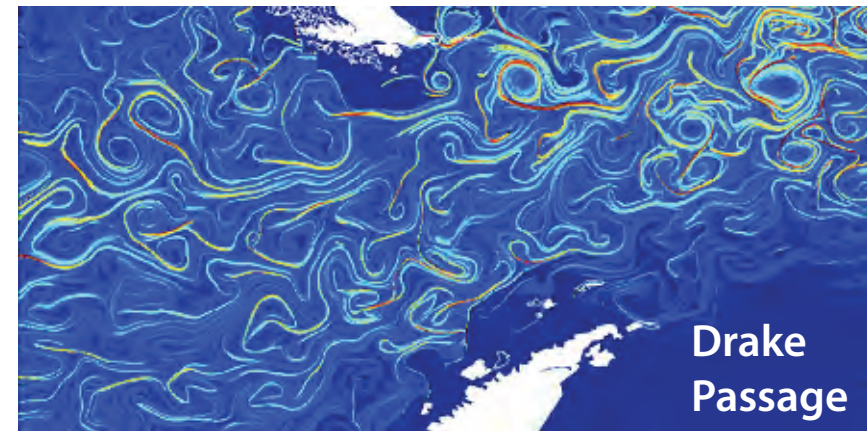
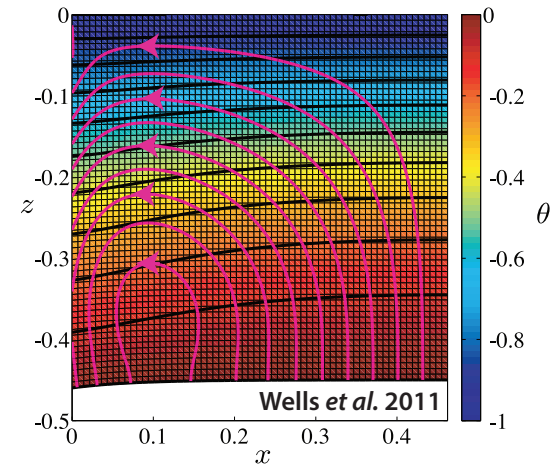
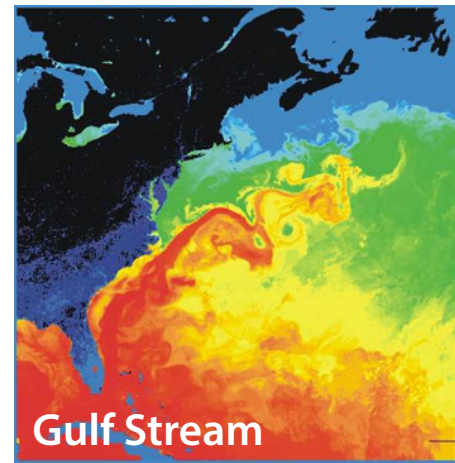
κ^* effective diffusivity

Stieltjes integral for κ^* with spectral measure

Avellaneda and Majda, PRL 89, CMP 91

Murphy, Cherkaev, Xin, Zhu, Golden, *Ann. Math. Sci. Appl.* 2017

Murphy, Cherkaev, Zhu, Xin, Golden, *J. Math. Phys.* 2020



tracers flowing through inverted sea ice blocks



Stieltjes Integral Representation for Advection Diffusion

Murphy, Cherkaev, Zhu, Xin, Golden, *J. Math. Phys.* 2020

$$\kappa^* = \kappa \left(1 + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu(\tau)}{\kappa^2 + \tau^2} \right), \quad F(\kappa) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu(\tau)}{\kappa^2 + \tau^2}$$

- μ is a positive definite measure corresponding to the spectral resolution of the self-adjoint operator $i\Gamma H\Gamma$
- H = stream matrix , κ = local diffusivity
- $\Gamma := -\nabla(-\Delta)^{-1}\nabla$, Δ is the Laplace operator
- $i\Gamma H\Gamma$ is bounded for time independent flows
- $F(\kappa)$ is analytic off the spectral interval in the κ -plane

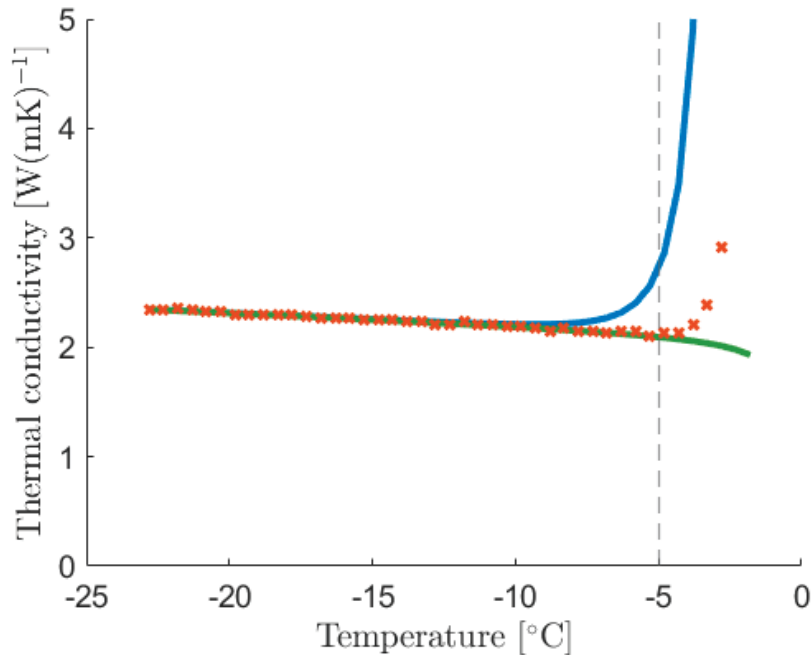
rigorous framework for numerical computations of spectral measures and effective diffusivity for model flows

new integral representations, theory of moment calculations

separation of material properties and flow field

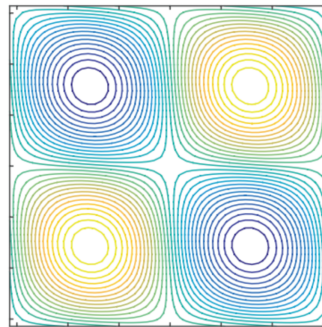
Bounds on Convection Enhanced Thermal Transport

simulations



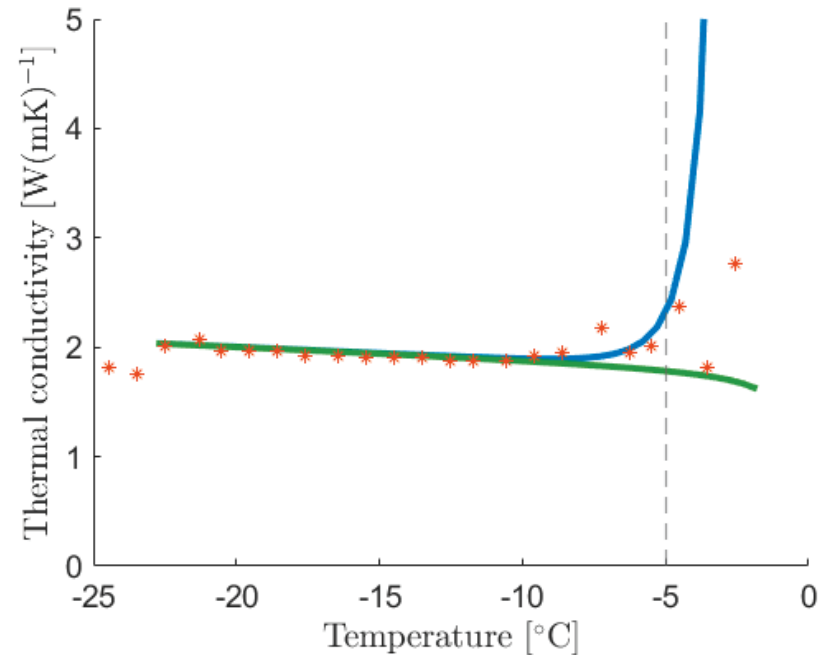
Monte-Carlo simulations of SDE with temperature dependent Péclet number P

strength of advection $B = \kappa P / 2\pi$
Euler-Maruyama and subsampling
methods for SDE



**cat's eye flow model for
brine convective flow**

data [Trodahl et al., 2001]



Rigorous Padé approximant bounds in terms of P using Stieltjes integral + analytic continuation method for the measure

Darcy velocity $v = 0.5$ $[\text{m/s}]$

ocean wave propagation through the sea ice pack



Stieltjes integral representation and bounds for
the complex viscoelasticity of the ice - ocean layer

Sampson, Murphy, Hallman, Cherkaev, Golden 2024

- wave-ice interactions critical to growth and melting processes
- break-up; pancake promotion floe size distribution

effective layer parameter
previously fit to wave data

Keller 1998

Mosig, Montiel, Squire 2015

Wang, Shen 2012

Analytic Continuation Method

Bergman 1978, Milton 1979

Golden and Papanicolaou 1983

Milton, *Theory of Composites* 2002

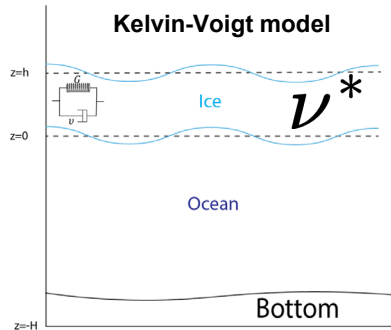


quasistatic, long wavelength regime

homogenized
parameter
depends on
sea ice
concentration
and ice floe
geometry

like EM waves





Single effective rheological parameter (Mosig et al. 2015)

$$\nu^* = G - i\omega\rho v$$

Effective complex shear modulus

Integral representation

$$\frac{\nu^*}{\nu_2} = \|\epsilon_s^0\|^2 (1 - F(s))$$

$$F(s) = \int_0^1 \frac{d\mu(\lambda)}{s-\lambda}$$

divergence-free deviatoric stress

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma_s = 0$$

microscale

$$\sigma_s = 2\nu\epsilon_s$$

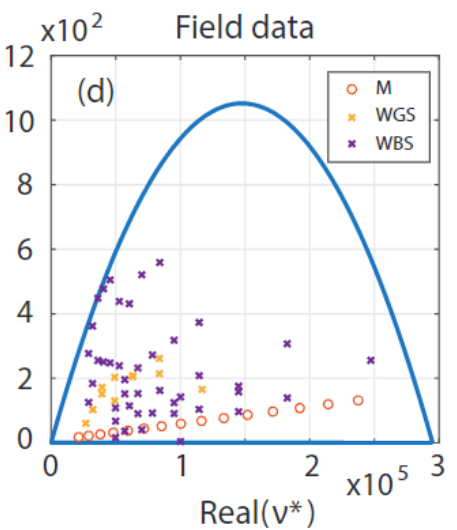
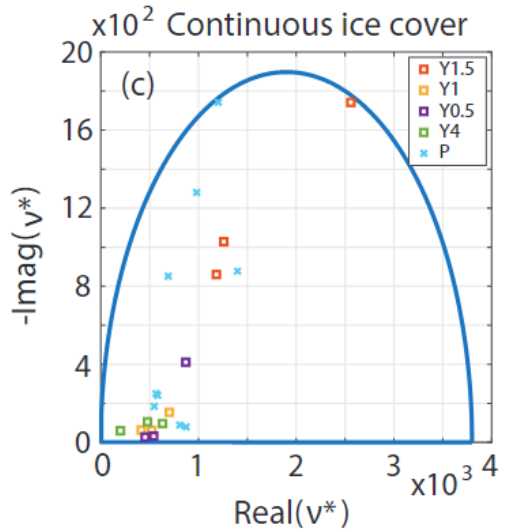
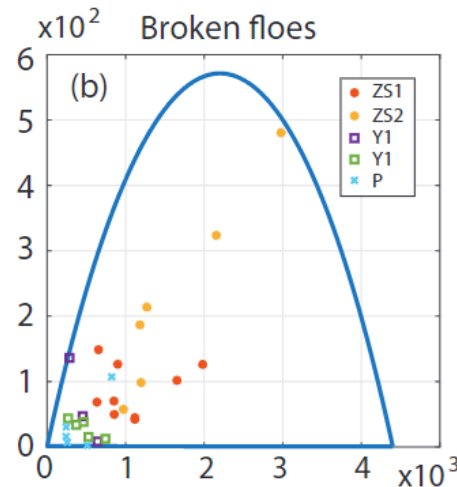
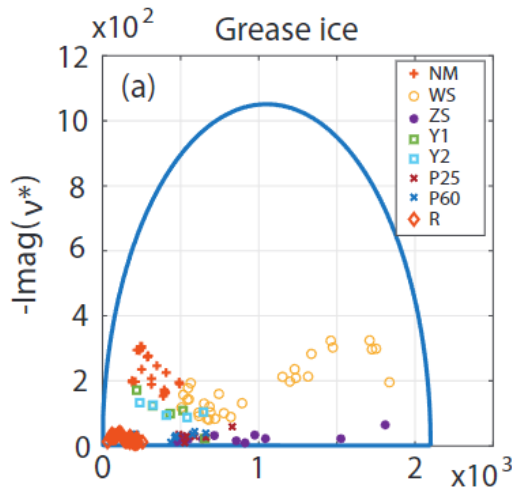
macroscale

$$\langle \sigma_s \rangle = 2\nu^*\epsilon_s^0$$

$$\nu(\vec{x}) = \chi_1\nu_1 + \chi_2\nu_2 \quad \langle \epsilon_s \rangle = \epsilon_s^0$$

Forward bounds for the effective viscoelasticity are fitted to well known wave-ice datasets, including [Wadhams et al. 1988](#), [Newyear & Martin 1997](#), [Wang & Shen 2010](#), [Meylan et al. 2014](#), and several others!

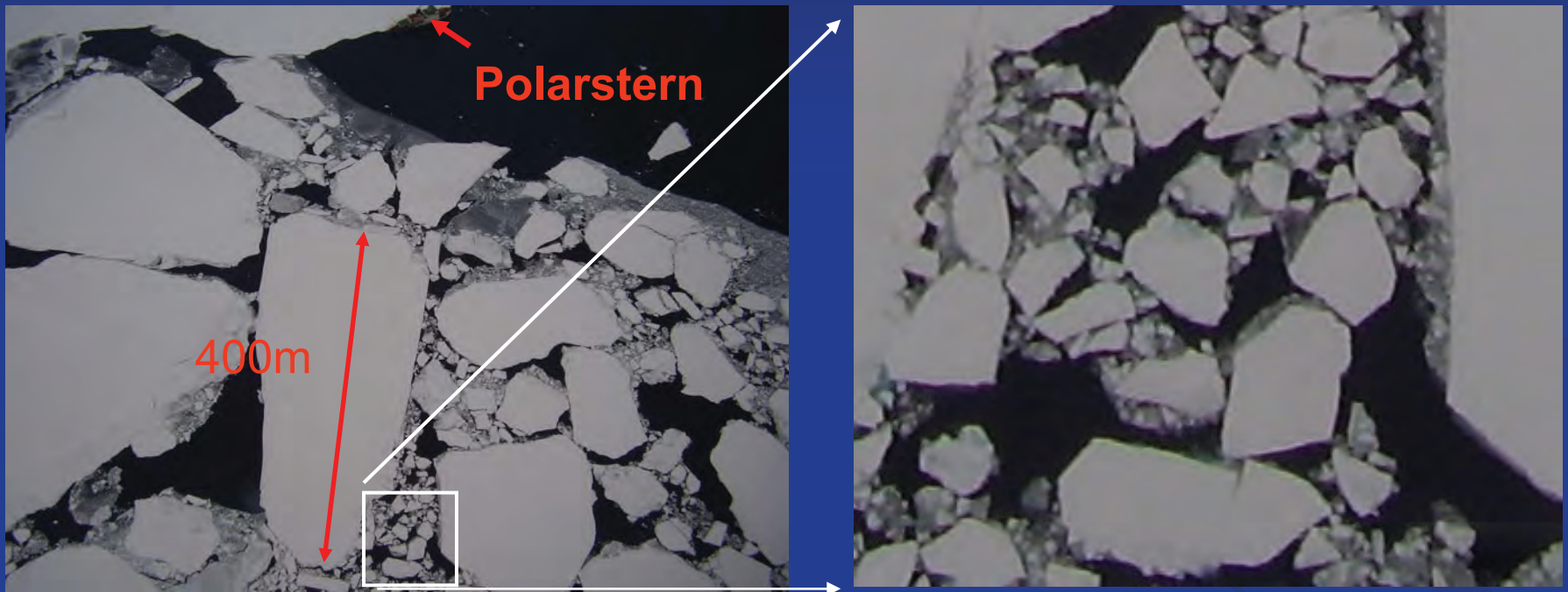
G	P	C	ρ	v	g	u
shear modulus	pressure	elasticity	density	kinematic viscosity	gravity	displacement



The sea ice pack has fractal structure.

Self-similarity of sea ice floes

Weddell Sea, Antarctica



***fractal dimensions of Okhotsk Sea ice pack
smaller scales $D \sim 1.2$, larger scales $D \sim 1.9$***

fractal dim. vs. floe size exponent

Adam Dorsky, Nash Ward, Ken Golden 2024

Toyota, et al. *Geophys. Res. Lett.* 2006

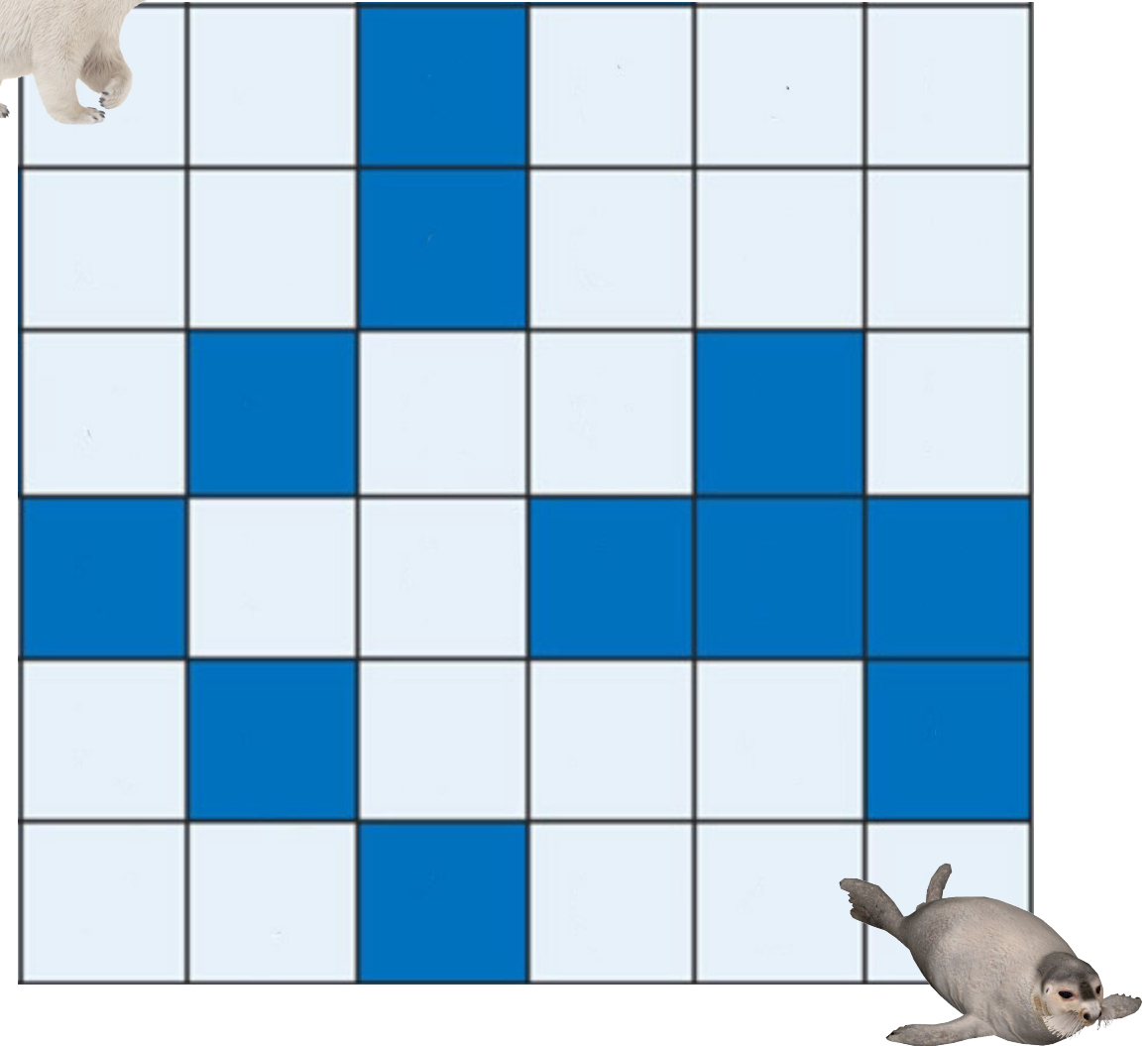
Rothrock and Thorndike, *J. Geophys. Res.* 1984

Optimal Movement of a Polar Bear in a Heterogenous Icescape

Nicole Forrester, Jody Reimer, Ken Golden 2024

Polar bears expend 5X more energy swimming than walking on sea ice.

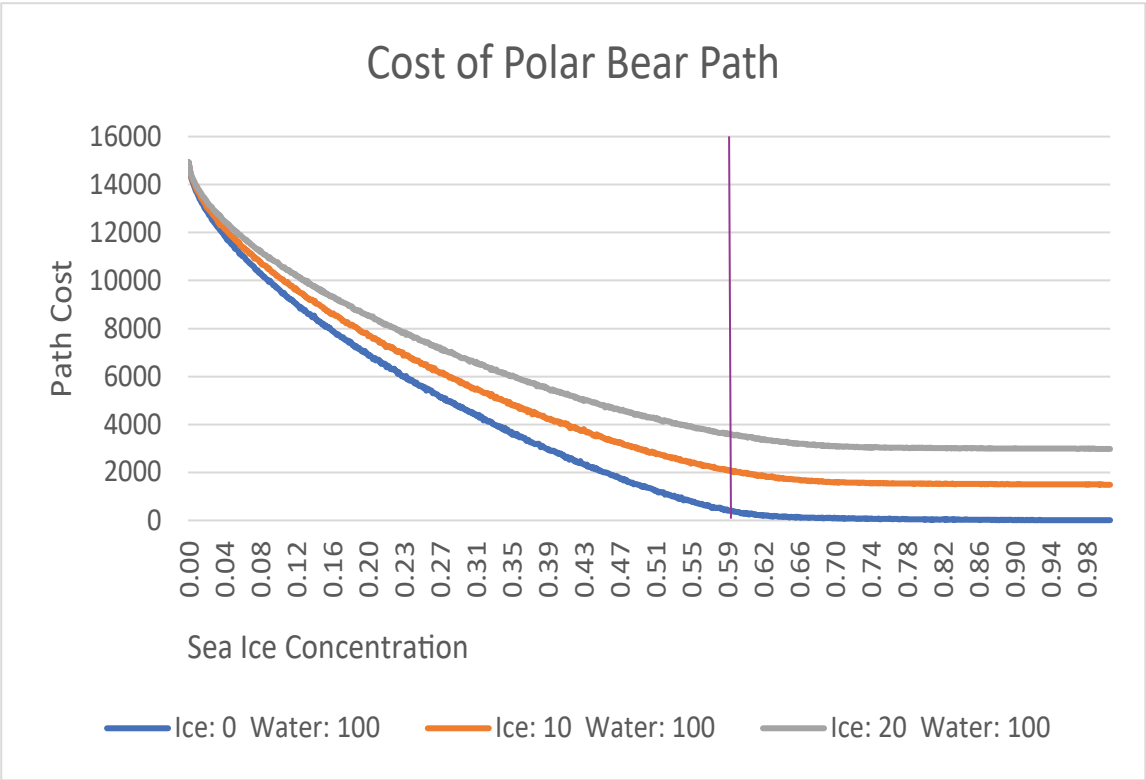
As sea ice is lost, how do polar bears optimize their movement to save energy and survive?



Polar Bear Percolation

To study the importance of ice connectedness, we exaggerate the data by setting the cost of walking on ice to 0 with the cost of swimming still at 5.

$C(p)$



$$h = \frac{C_i}{C_w}$$

ratio of local
“conductivities”

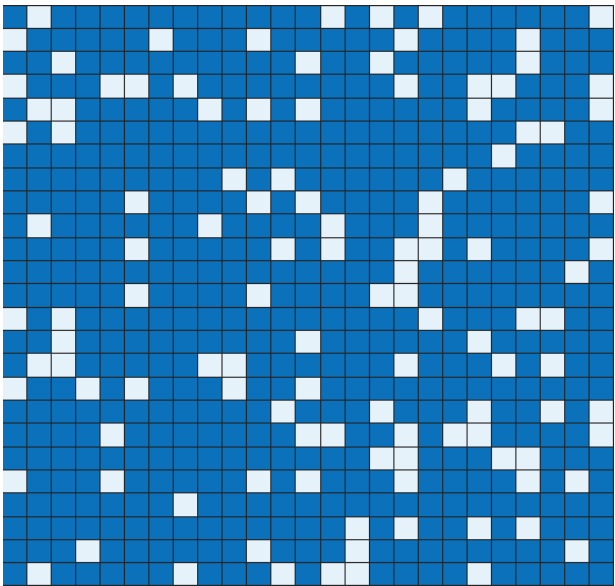
- ← $h = 0.2$
- ← $h = 0.1$
- ← $h = 0$

site percolation
threshold

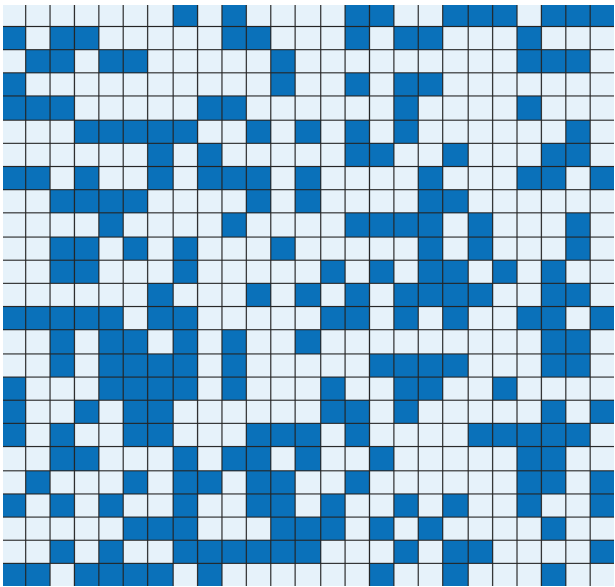
$p_c = 0.59$ for $d = 2$

Polar Bear
Critical
Exponent

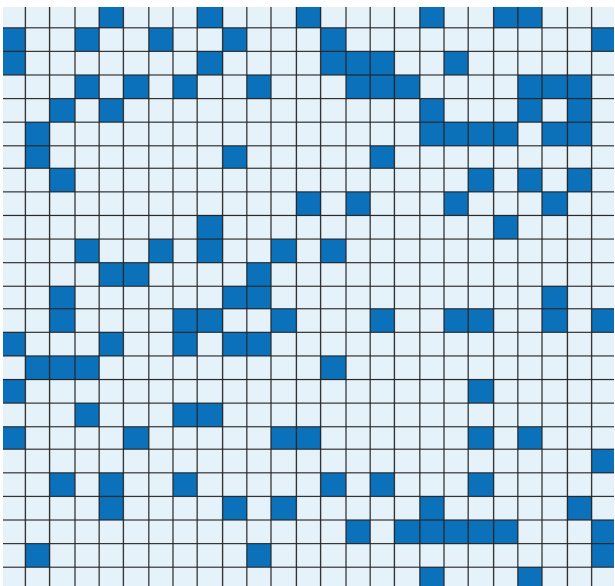
- ← $h = 0$



20% Ice

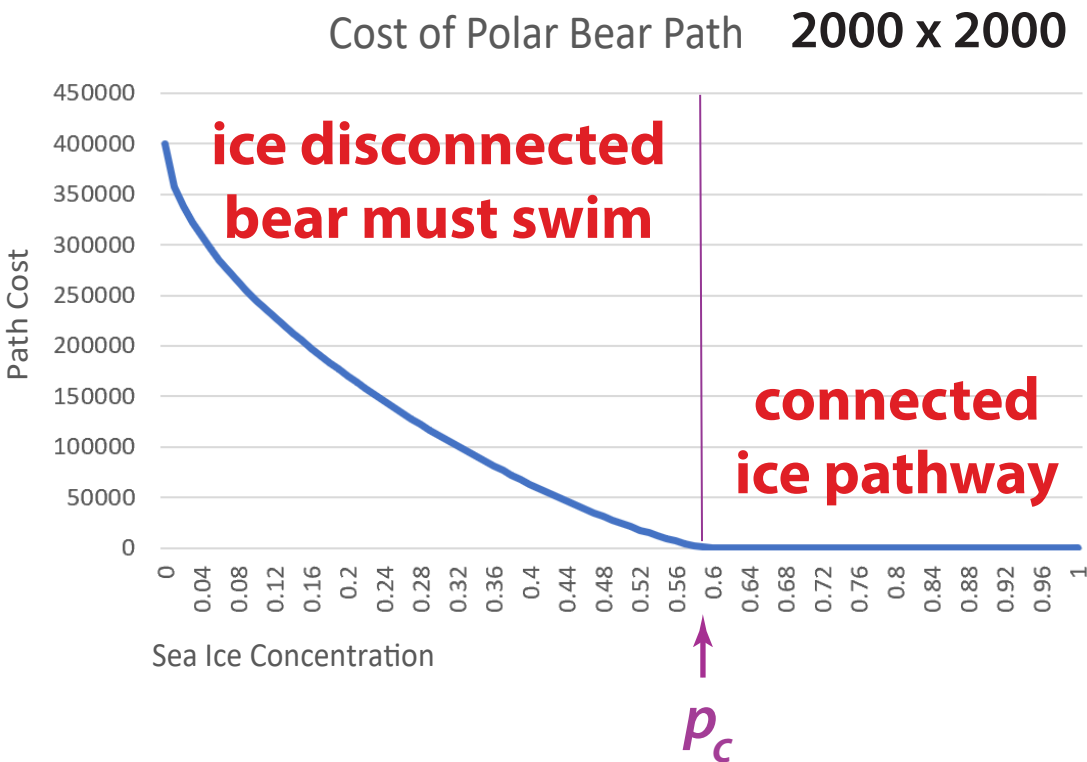


60% Ice

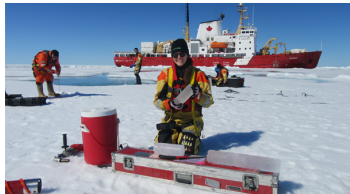
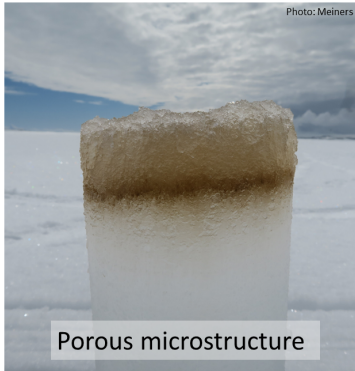


80% Ice

$C(p)$



SEA ICE ALGAE high level of local heterogeneity



Can we improve agreement between algae models and data?

80% of polar bear diet can be traced to ice algae*.

* Brown TA, et al. (2018). *PloS one*, 13(1), e0191631

METHOD

Uncertainty quantification for ecological models with random parameters

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³Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

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Email: reimer@math.utah.edu

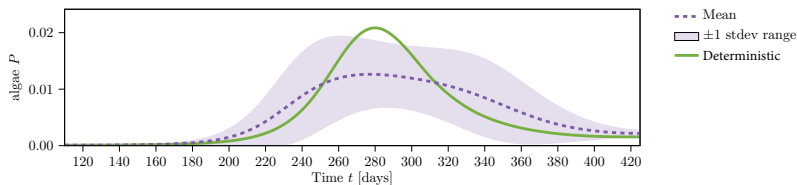
Abstract

There is often considerable uncertainty in parameters in ecological models. This uncertainty can be incorporated into models by treating parameters as random variables with distributions, rather than fixed quantities. Recent advances in uncertainty quantification methods, such as polynomial chaos approaches, allow for the analysis of models with random parameters. We introduce these methods with a motivating case study of sea ice algal blooms in heterogeneous environments. We compare Monte Carlo methods with polynomial chaos techniques to help understand the dynamics of an algal bloom model with random parameters.

N-P Model

Introduce polynomial chaos approach to widely used ecological ODE models, but with random parameters.

ECOLOGICAL INSIGHTS



- lower peak bloom intensity
- longer bloom duration
- able to compare variance to data

Inverse Problem: given algal and nutrient data, recover growth rate distribution
Anthony Lee, Jody Reimer, Akil Narayan, Ken Golden 2024

melt pond formation and albedo evolution:

- *major drivers in polar climate*
- *key challenge for global climate models*

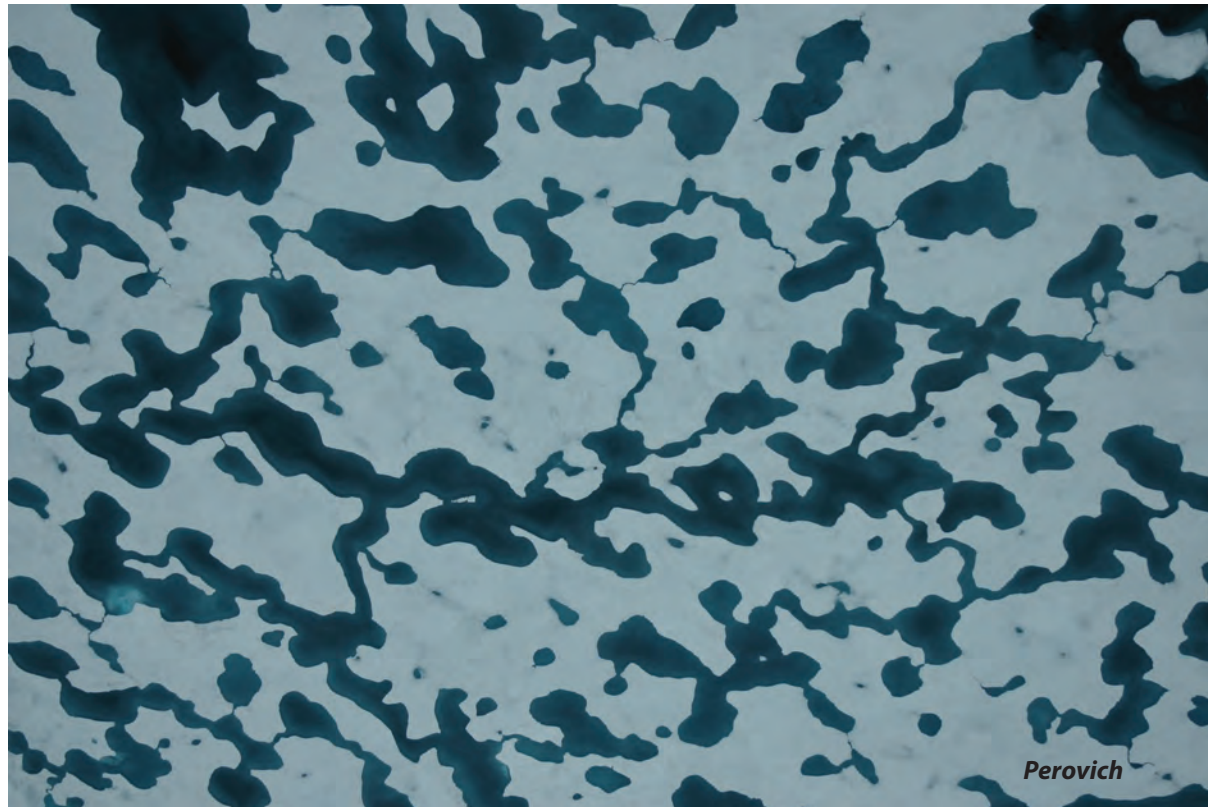
numerical models of melt pond evolution, including topography, drainage (permeability), etc.

Lüthje, Feltham,
Taylor, Worster 2006

Flocco, Feltham 2007

Skyllingstad, Paulson,
Perovich 2009

Flocco, Feltham,
Hunke 2012



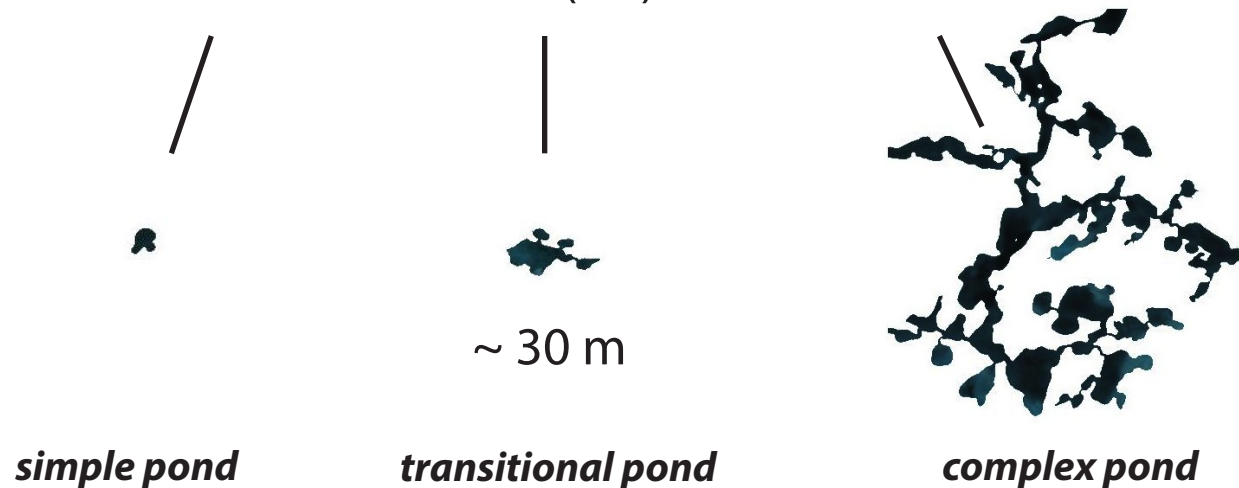
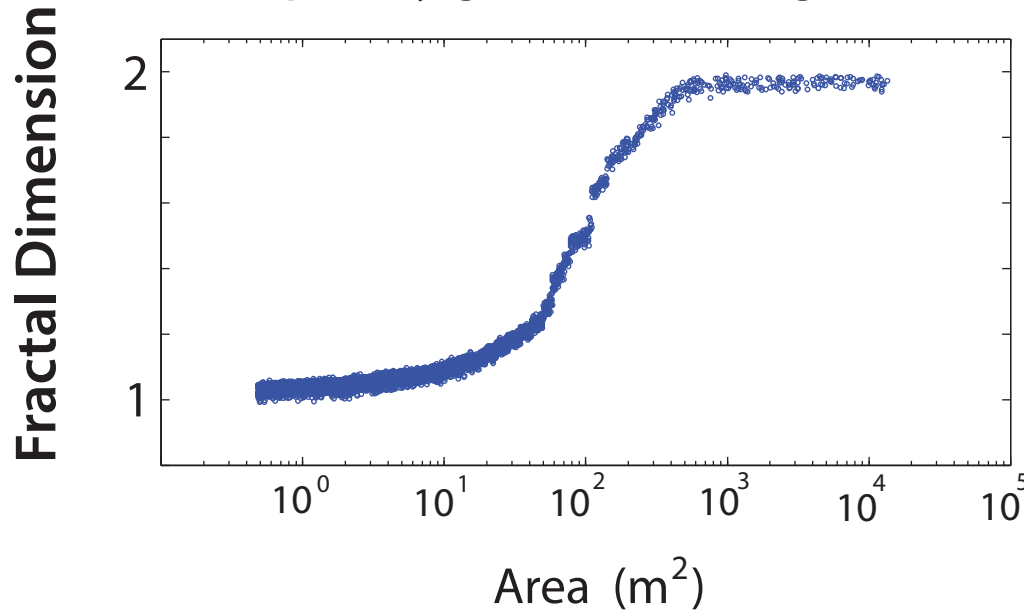
Are there universal features of the evolution similar to phase transitions in statistical physics?

Transition in the fractal geometry of Arctic melt ponds

Christel Hohenegger, Bacim Alali, Kyle Steffen, Don Perovich, Ken Golden

The Cryosphere, 2012

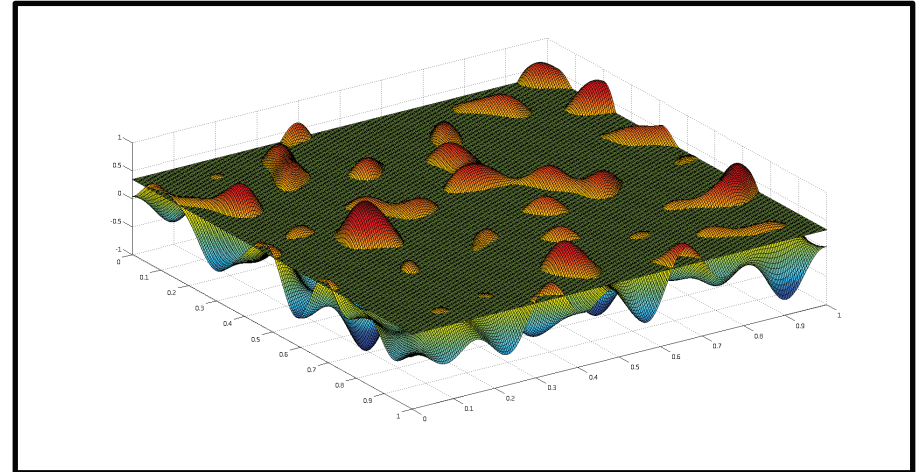
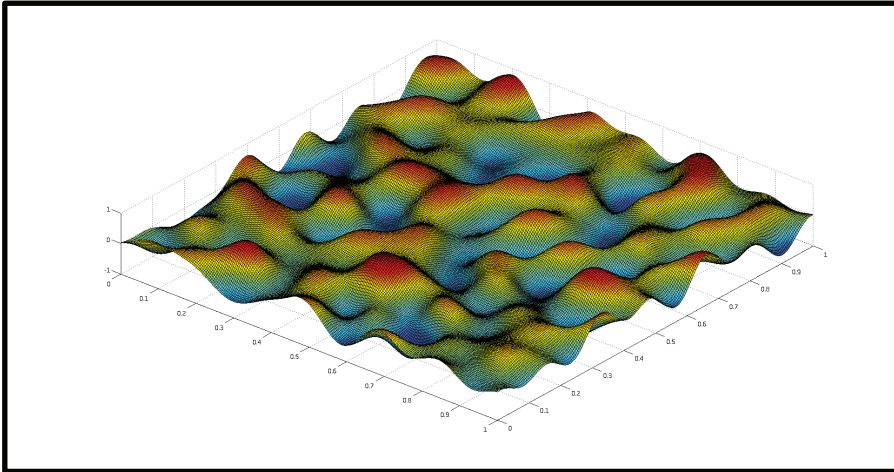
complexity grows with length scale



Continuum percolation model for melt pond evolution

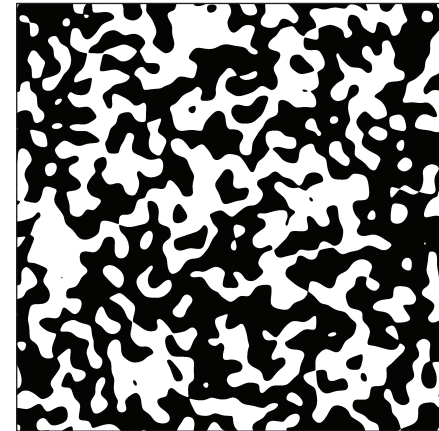
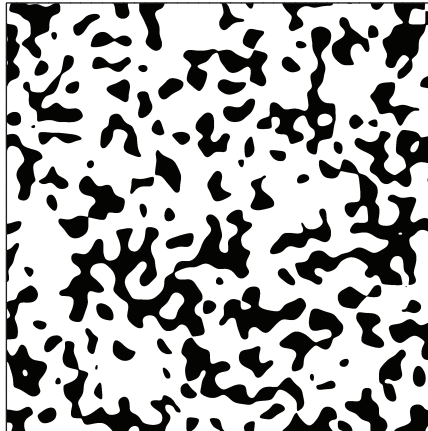
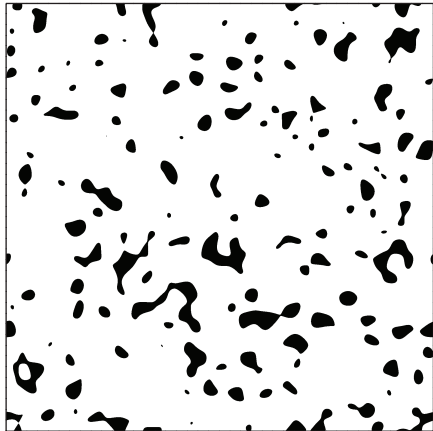
level sets of random surfaces

Brady Bowen, Court Strong, Ken Golden, J. Fractal Geometry 2018



random Fourier series representation of surface topography

intersections of a plane with the surface define melt ponds



electronic transport in disordered media

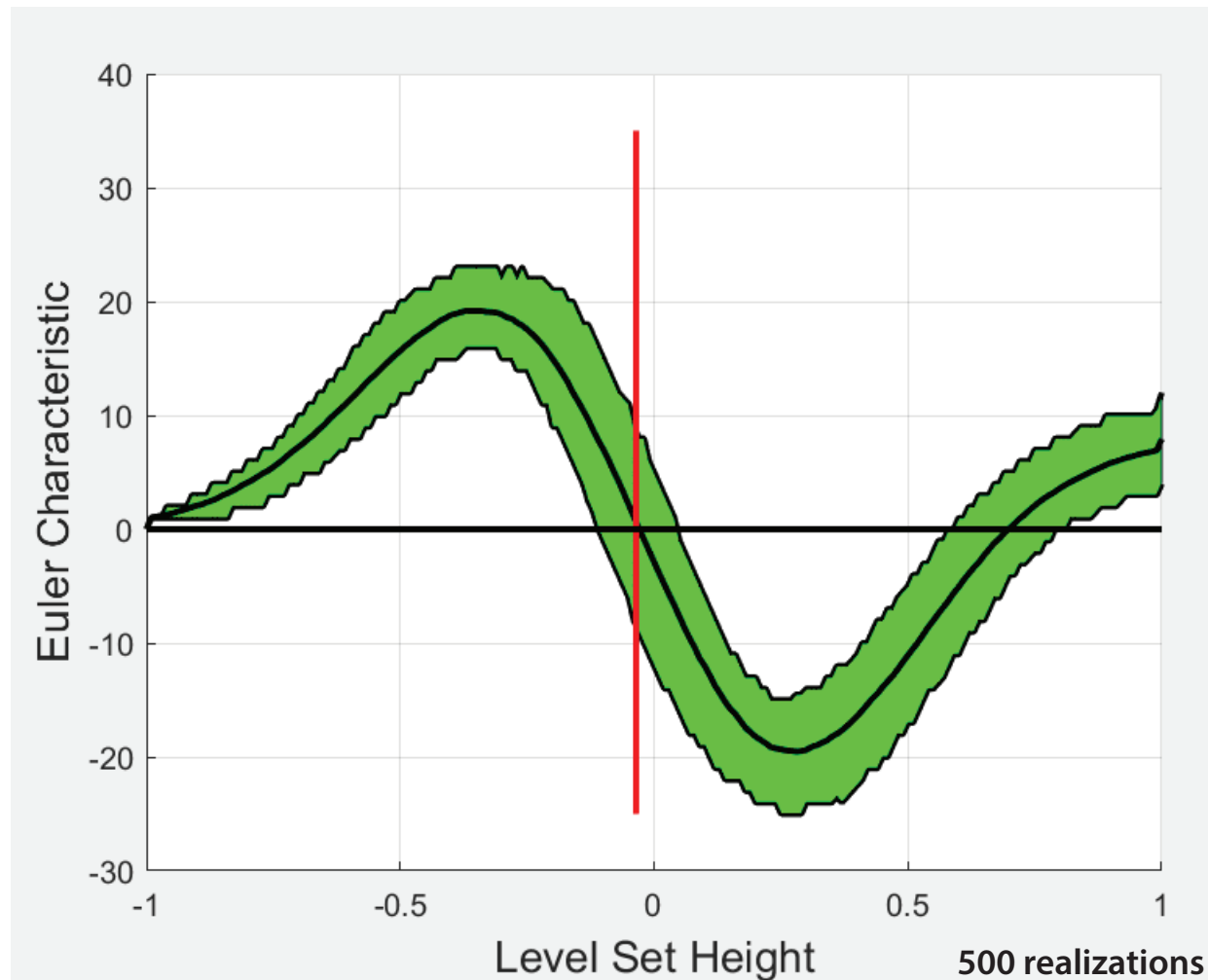
diffusion in turbulent plasmas

Isichenko, Rev. Mod. Phys., 1992

Topological Data Analysis

Euler characteristic = # maxima + # minima - # saddles
topological invariant

filtration - sequence of nested topological spaces, indexed by water level



Expected
Euler Characteristic Curve (ECC)

tracks the evolution of the EC of
the flooded surface as water rises

zero of ECC ~ percolation

percolation on a torus
creates a giant cycle

Bobrowski &
Skraba, 2020

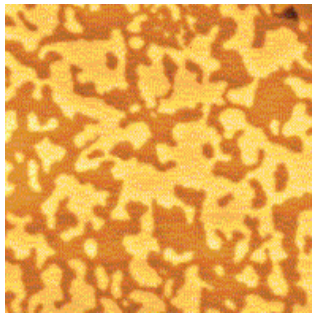
Carlsson, 2009

Vogel, 2002 GRF

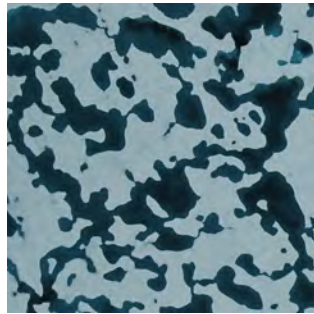
image analysis
porous media
cosmology
brain activity

From magnets to melt ponds

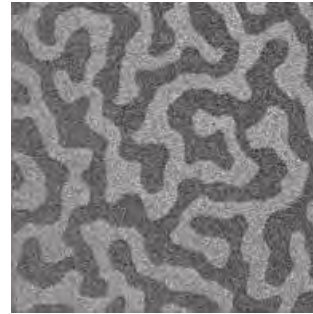
100 year old model for magnetic materials
used to explain melt pond geometry



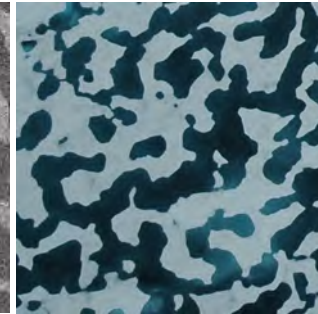
magnetic domains
in cobalt



Arctic melt ponds

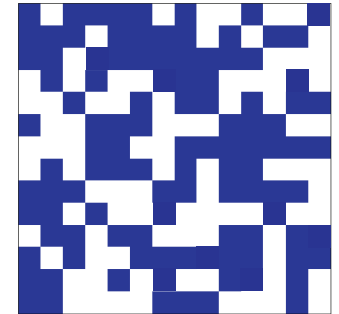
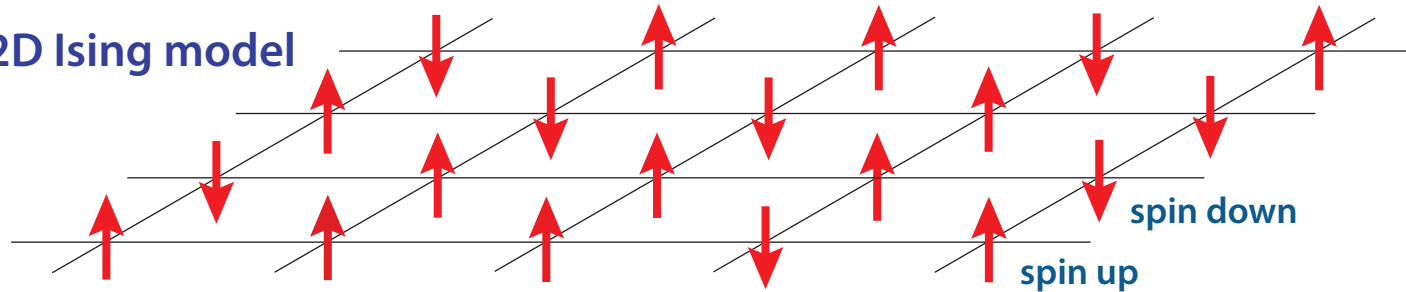


magnetic domains
in cobalt-iron-boron

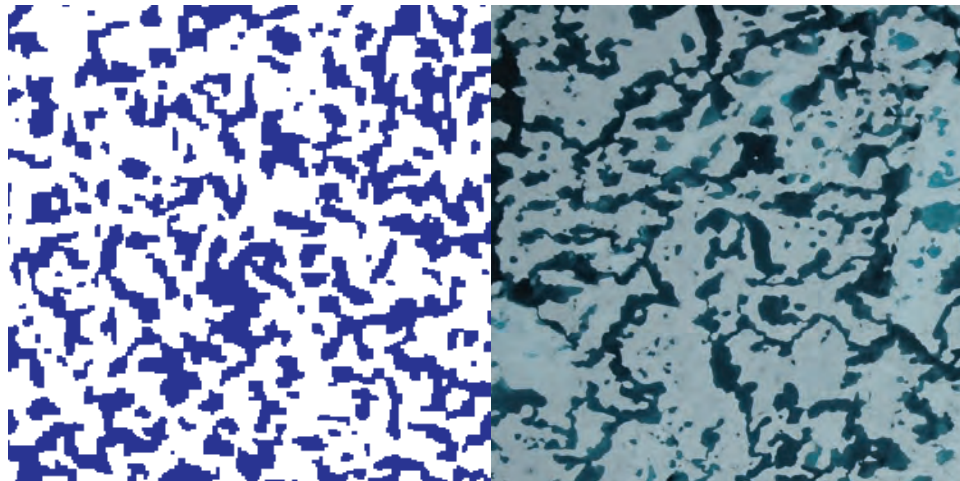


Arctic melt ponds

2D Ising model



model



real ponds
(Perovich)

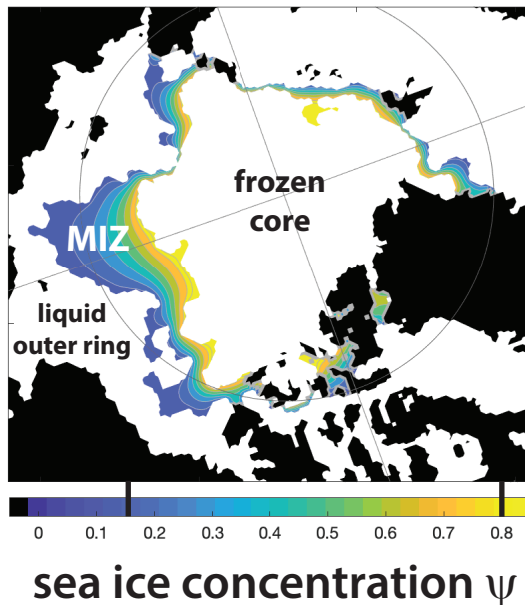
Ma, Sudakov, Strong,
Golden, *New J. Phys.* 2019

Scientific American,
EOS, PhysicsWorld, ...

macroscale

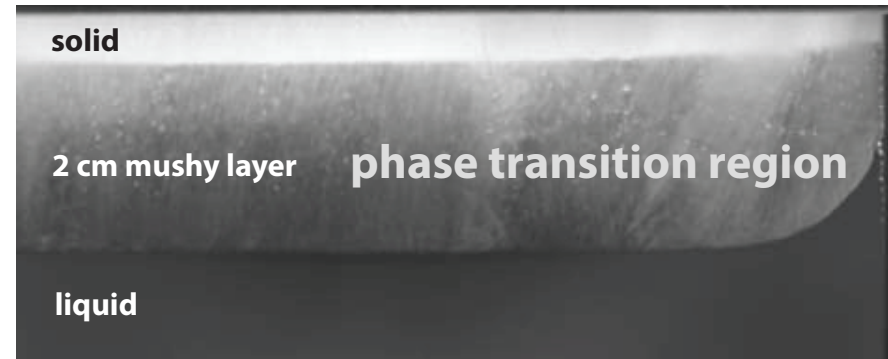
Model larger scale effective behavior
with partial differential equations that
homogenize complex local structure and dynamics.

Arctic MIZ



Predict MIZ width and location with
basin-scale phase change model.

seasonal and long term trends



NaCl-H2O in lab
(Peppin et al., 2007; J. Fluid Mech.)

Partial differential equation models
and deep learning for the sea ice
concentration field, 2024

Delaney Mosier, Debdeep Bhattacharya, Court
Strong, Jingyi Zhu, Bao Wang, Ken Golden

advection diffusion model

Multiscale mushy layer model of Arctic
marginal ice zone dynamics, 2024

C. Strong, E. Cherkaev, and K. M. Golden

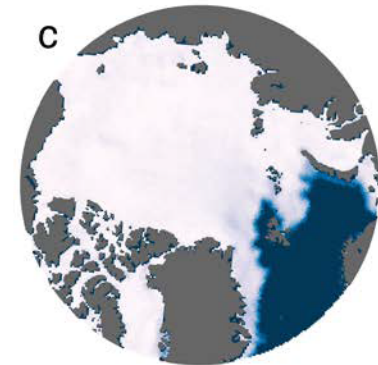
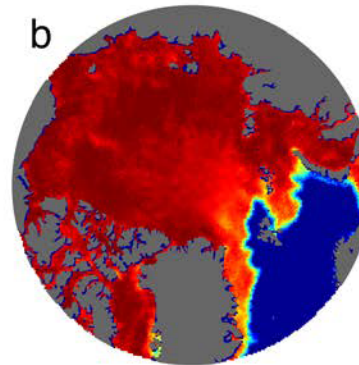
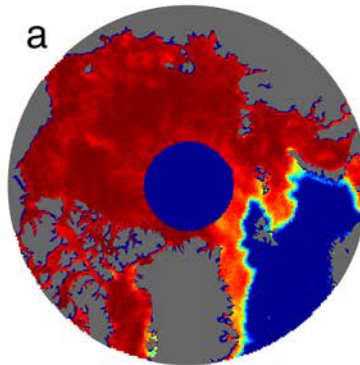
northward 1600 km & widens by factor of 4

Filling the polar data gap with partial differential equations

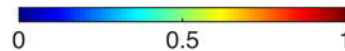
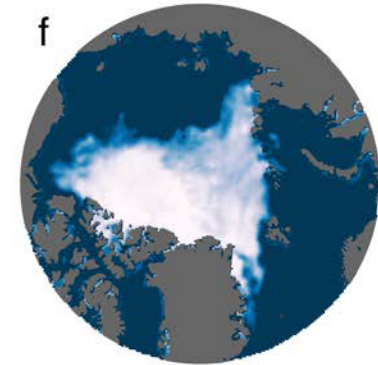
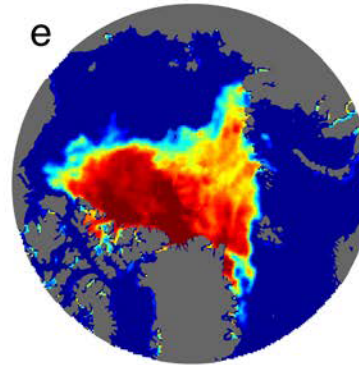
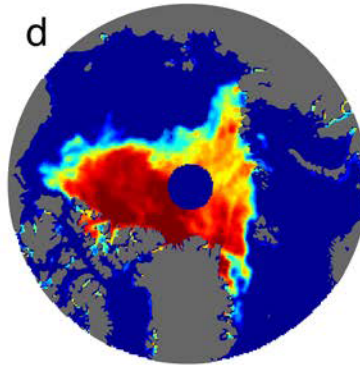
hole in satellite coverage
of sea ice concentration field

previously assumed
ice covered

Gap radius: 611 km
06 January 1985



Gap radius: 311 km
30 August 2007



$$\Delta\psi=0$$

fill = harmonic function satisfying
satellite BC's plus learned stochastic term

Strong and Golden, *Remote Sensing* 2016
Strong and Golden, *SIAM News* 2017

Global Sea Ice Concentration Climate Data Records, 2022
Lavergne, Sorensen, et al., Norwegian Met. Inst., ... OSI SAF

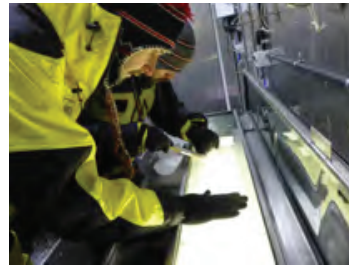
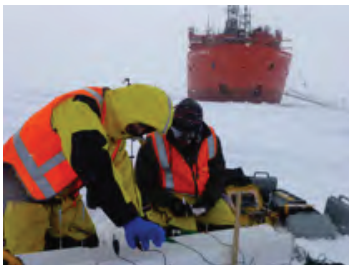
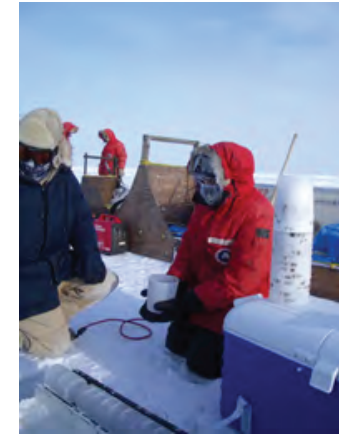
Conclusions

Our research is helping to improve projections of climate change, the fate of Earth's sea ice packs, and the ecosystems they support.

Mathematics for sea ice advances the theory of composites, inverse problems, and other areas of science and engineering.

**Modeling sea ice leads to unexpected
areas of math and physics.**

Thank you to so many postdocs, graduate students, undergraduates, high school students and colleagues who contributed to this work!



U. of Utah students in the Arctic and Antarctic (2003-2022): closing the gap between theory and observation - making math models come alive and experiencing climate change firsthand.



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Notices

of the American Mathematical Society

November 2020

Volume 67, Number 10



NSF Research Training Grant (RTG) with 15 Applied Math faculty:

optimization and inverse problems

July 2022 - June 2027

Overall goal: Build an advanced, competitive U.S. STEM workforce.

- Strengthen our graduate and postdoctoral programs in applied math to attract top students in the nation, and place them in top jobs.
- Provide transformative experiences that draw students into math.

Arctic Mathpeditions - May 2024 & 2026

OPEN POSITIONS:

Postdoctoral, Ph.D., Undergraduate

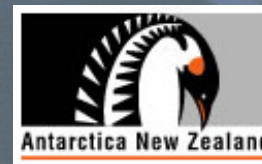
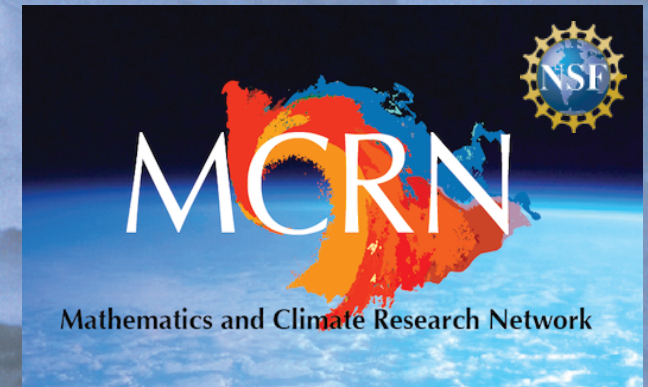
THANK YOU

Office of Naval Research

Applied and Computational Analysis Program
Arctic and Global Prediction Program

National Science Foundation

Division of Mathematical Sciences
Division of Polar Programs



Buchanan Bay, Antarctica Mertz Glacier Polynya Experiment July 1999

polar ice caps critical to global climate in reflecting incoming solar radiation



white snow and ice
reflect

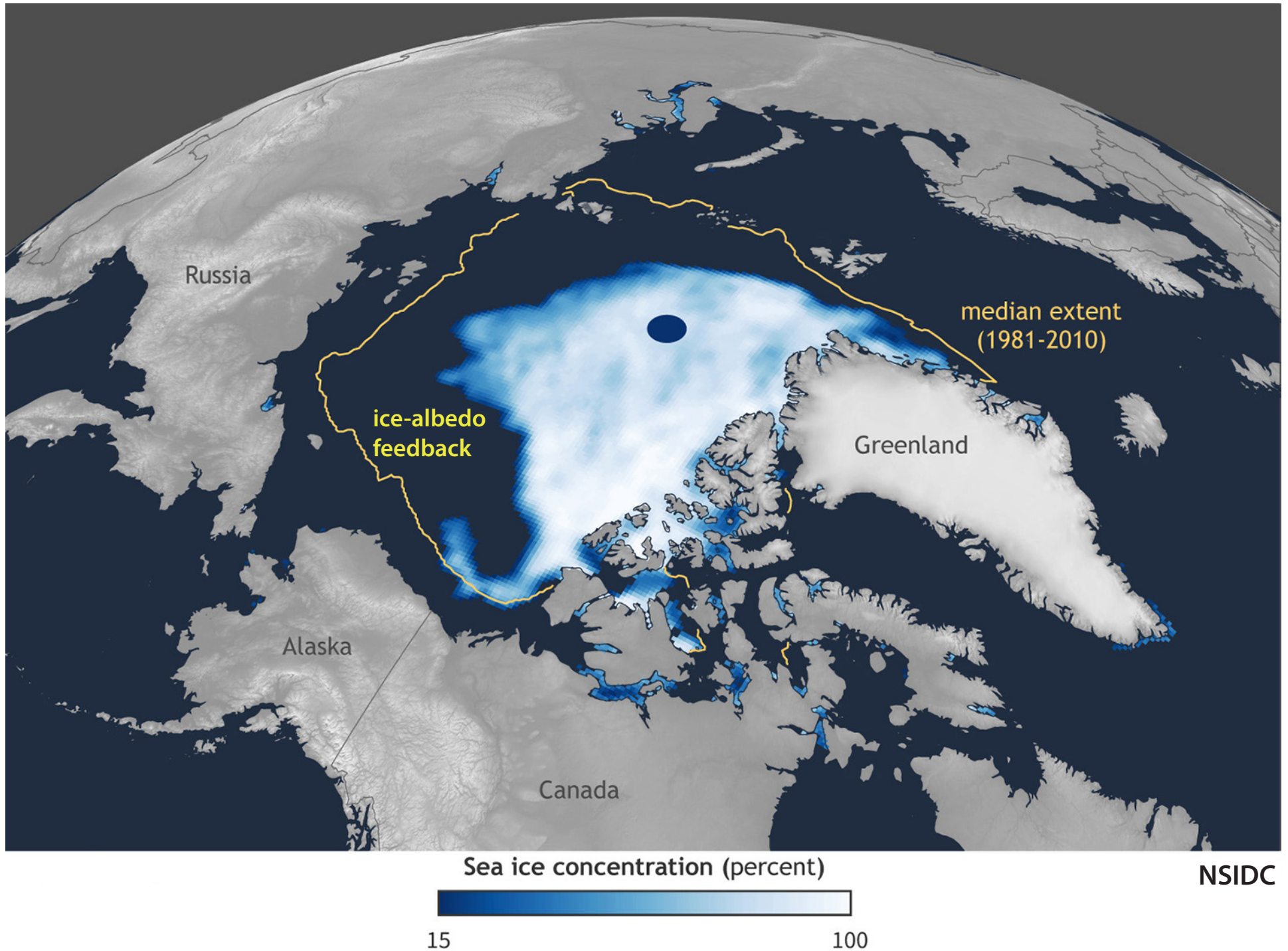


dark water and land
absorb

$$\text{albedo } \alpha = \frac{\text{reflected sunlight}}{\text{incident sunlight}}$$

Arctic sea ice extent

September 15, 2020





*recent losses
in comparison to
the United States*

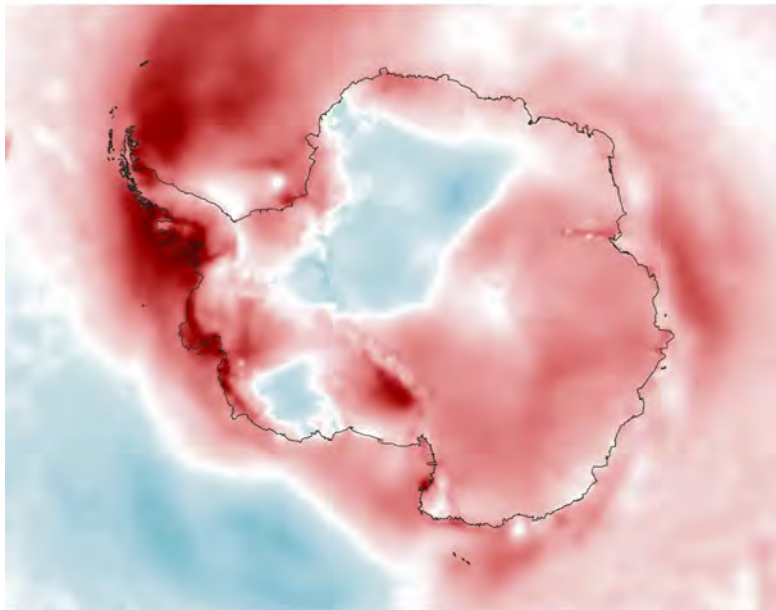


New Record Low for Antarctic Sea Ice

February 13, 2023

**Much of Antarctica
warmer than average**

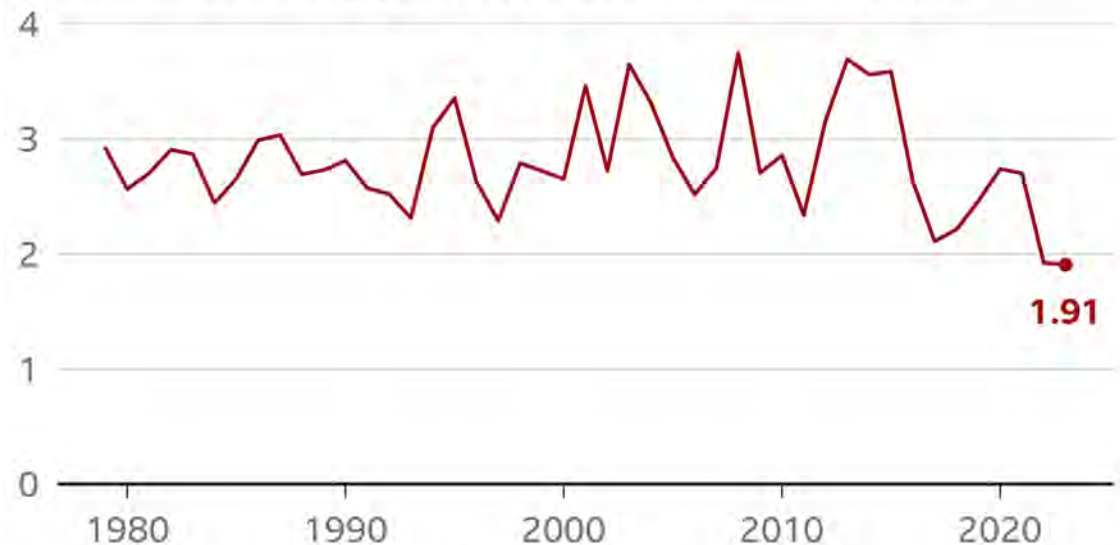
Mean 2022 surface air temp
compared with 1991-2022 ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)



Source: ECMWF ERA5

BBC

**Minimum extent 1979-2023
(million sq km)**

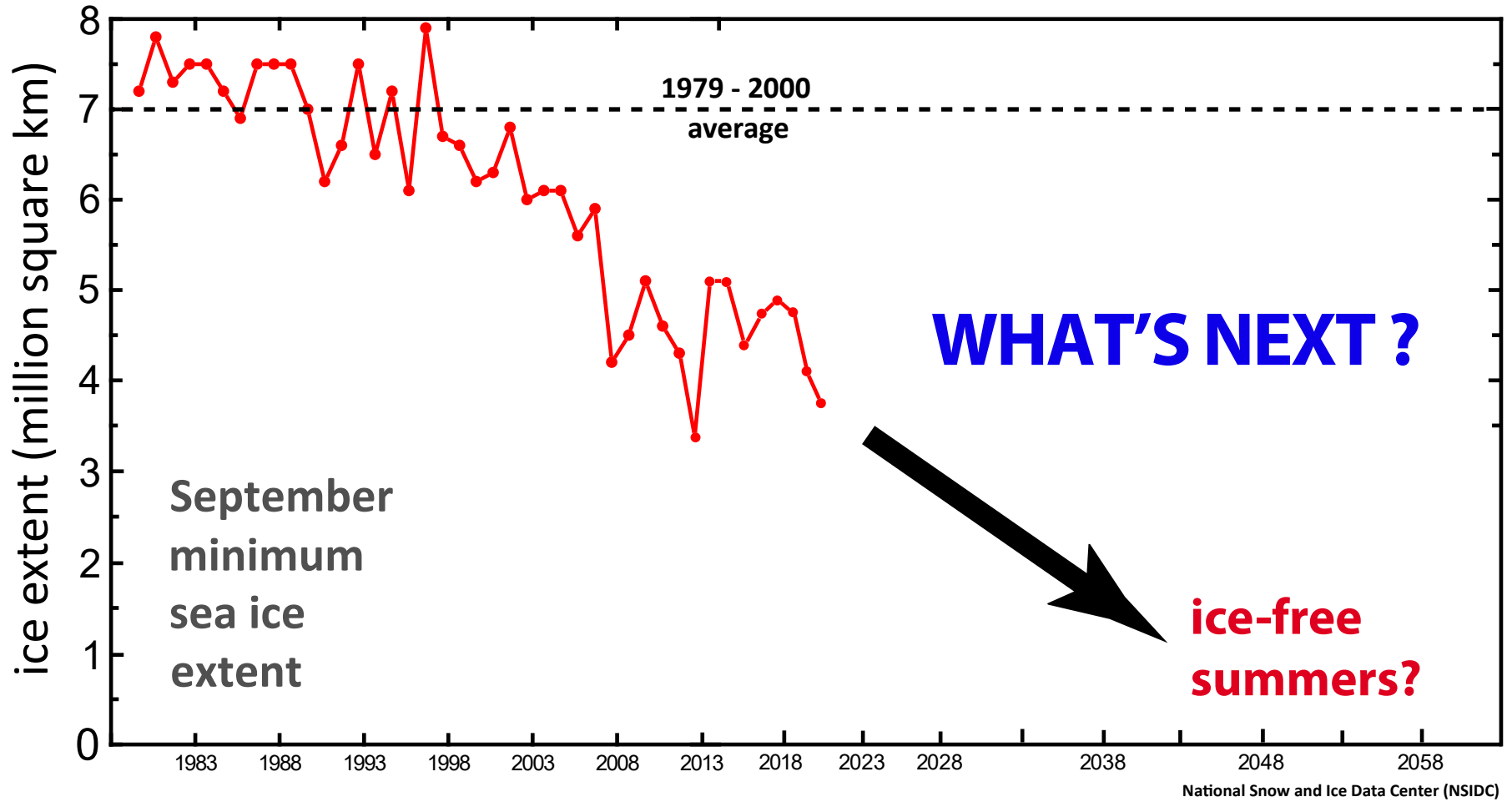


Five-day rolling average of sea-ice extent

Source: National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC)

BBC

ARCTIC summer sea ice loss



predictions require lots of math modeling



sea ice algal communities

D. Thomas 2004

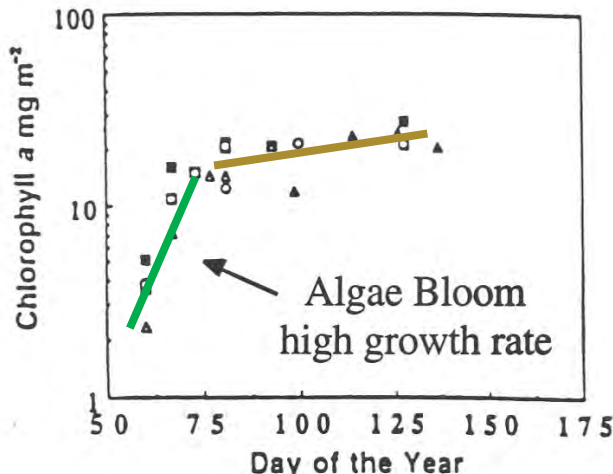
nutrient replenishment
controlled by ice permeability

biological activity turns on
or off according to
rule of fives

Golden, Ackley, Lytle **Science 1998**

Fritsen, Lytle, Ackley, Sullivan **Science 1994**

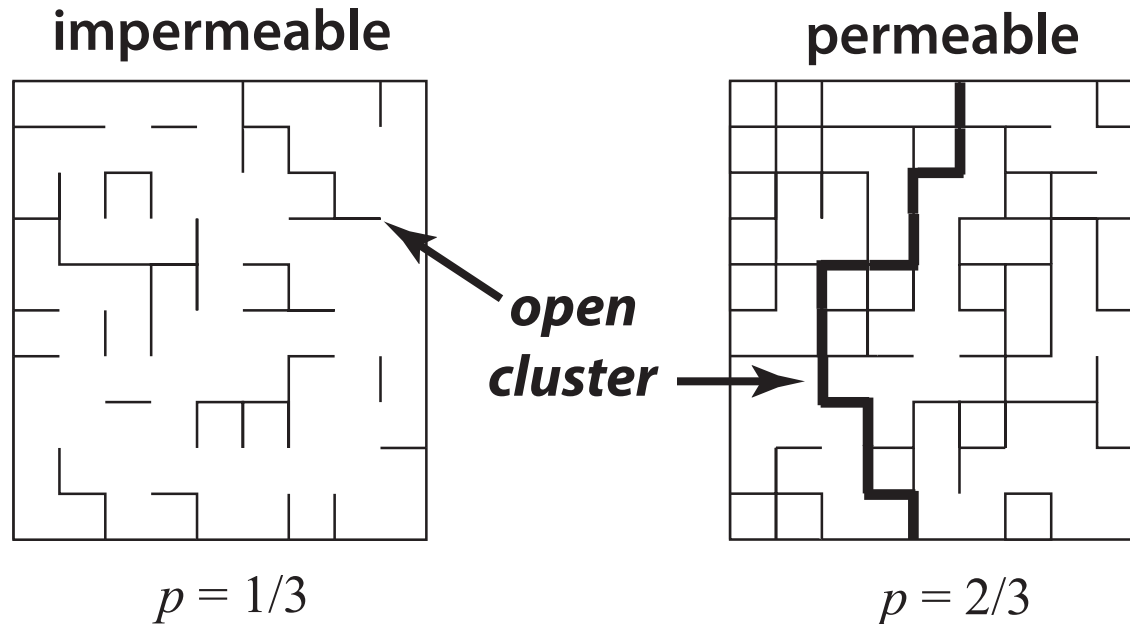
critical behavior of microbial activity



Convection-fueled algae bloom
Ice Station Weddell

percolation theory

probabilistic theory of connectedness



bond \longrightarrow open with probability p
closed with probability $1-p$

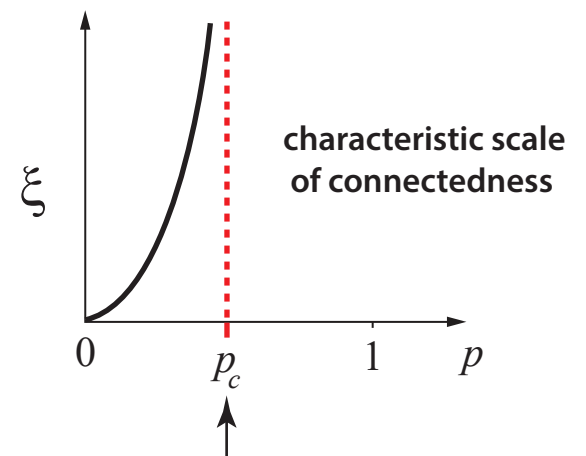
percolation threshold

$$p_c = 1/2 \quad \text{for } d = 2$$

smallest p for which there is an infinite open cluster

correlation length

development of long range order



$$\xi(p) \sim |p - p_c|^{-\nu} \quad p \rightarrow p_c$$

ν universal: depends only on d

p_c depends on type of lattice and d