Sea ice processes in Antarctic polynyas

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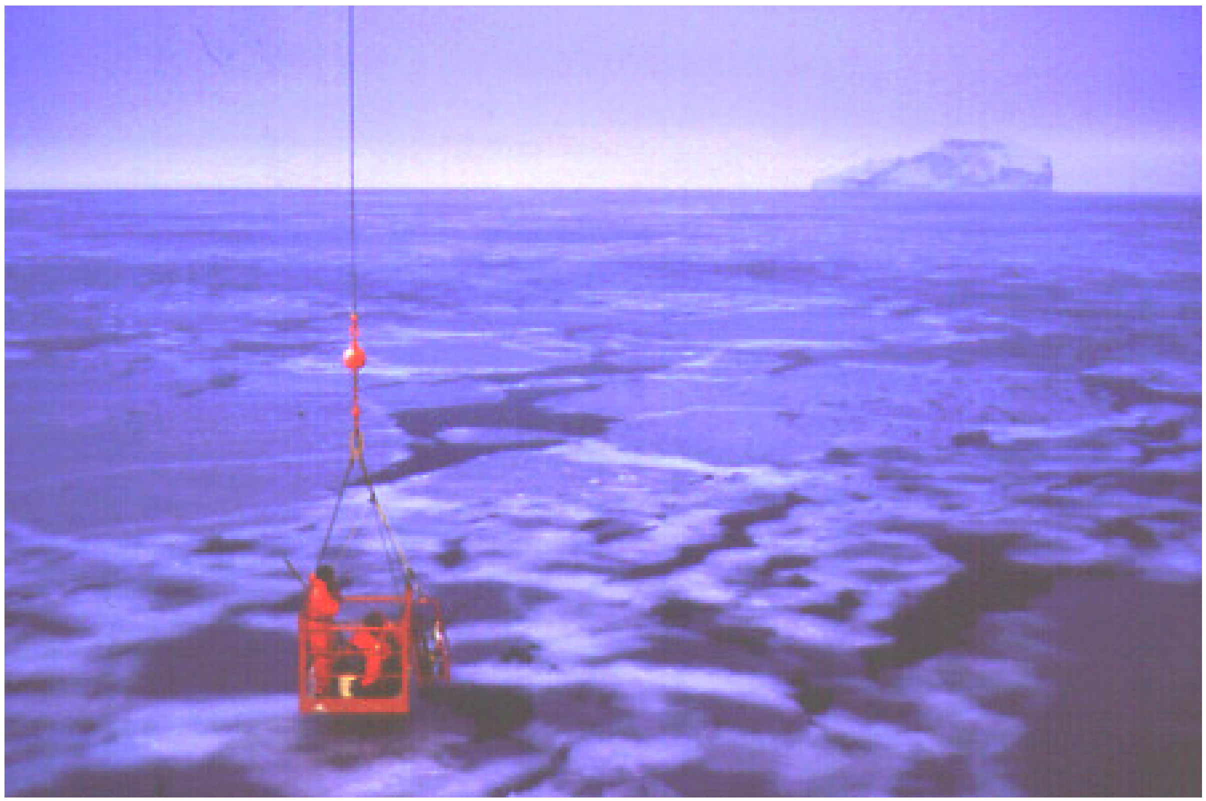
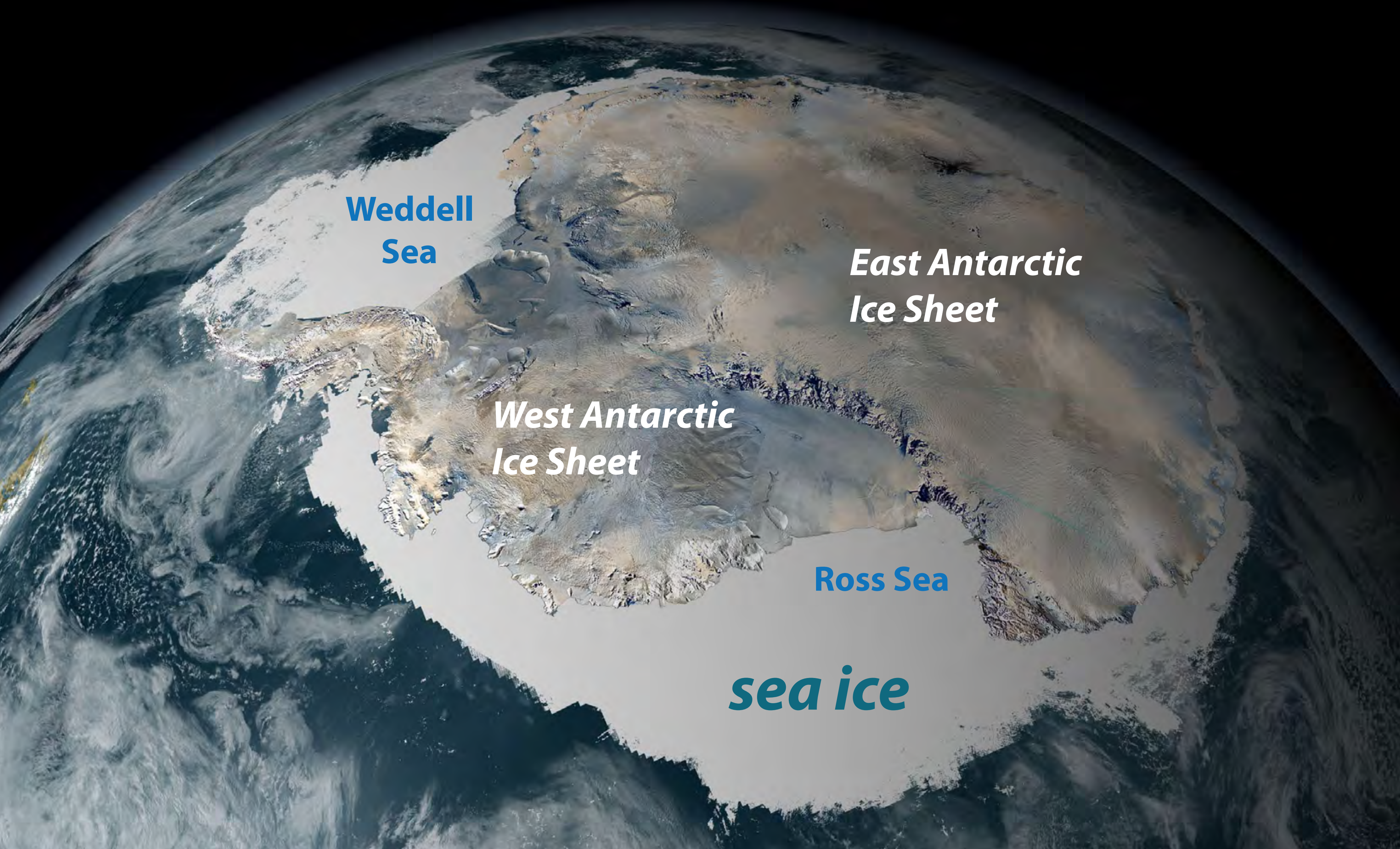


Mertz Glacier Polynya, July 1999

AIMS Orlando 1 July 2012

ANTARCTICA

southern cryosphere



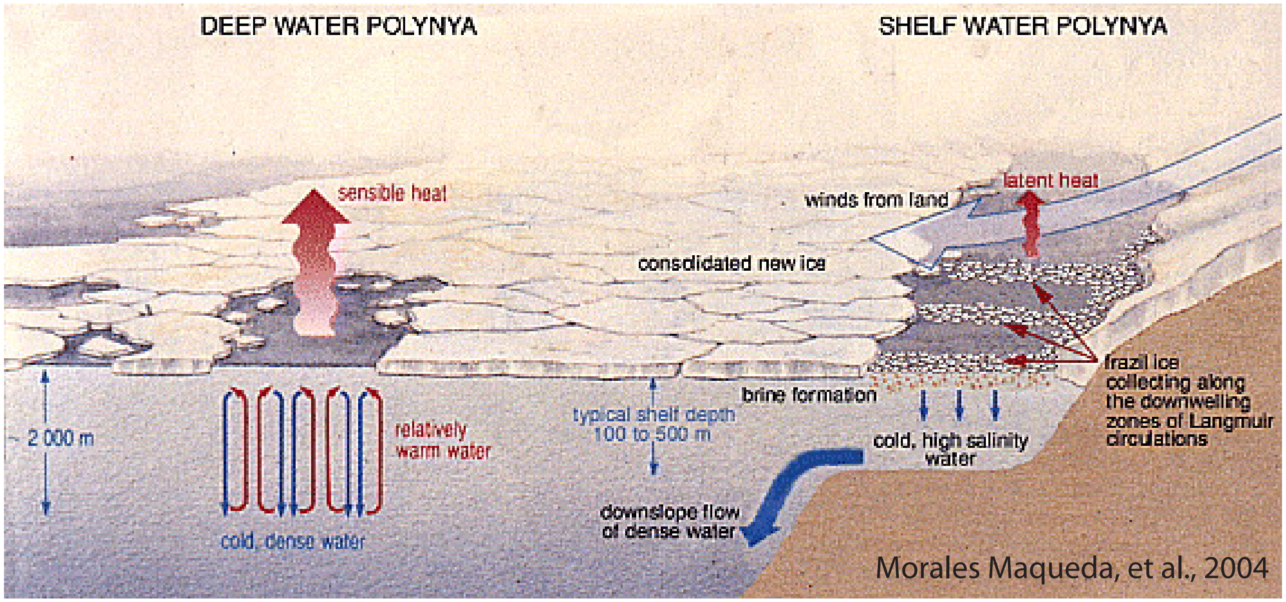
Polynyas

Size: 100 m - 1000 km

Two mechanisms can contribute to keeping polynyas open:

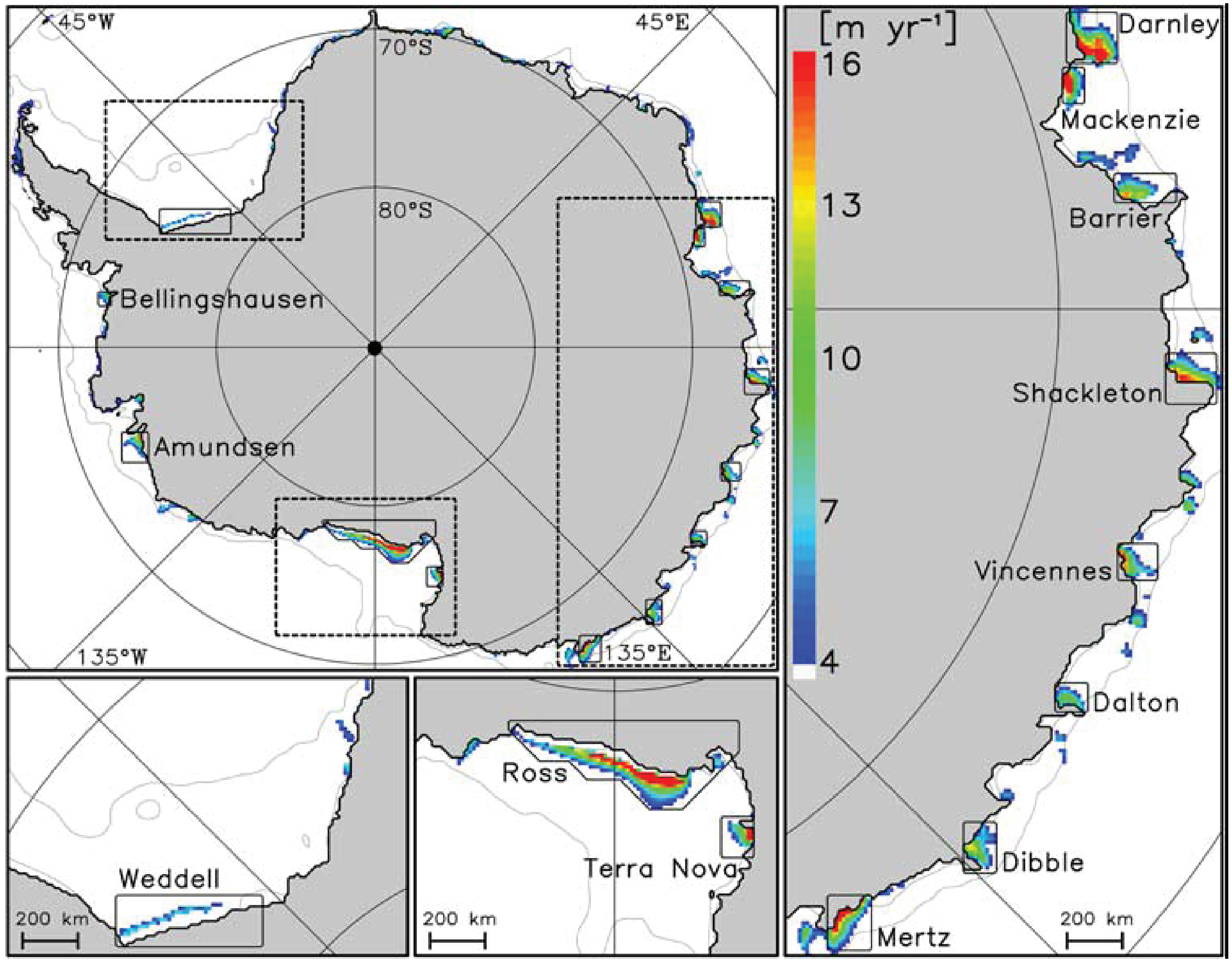
1. **Latent heat (or coastal) polynyas:** Mertz Glacier Polynya
   Sea ice grows in open-water and is continually removed by winds and currents (e.g. katabatic winds)
   - latent heat released to the ocean during ice formation perpetuates the process

2. **Sensible heat (or open-ocean) polynyas:** Weddell Polynya
   Upwelling warm waters, vertical heat diffusion, or convection may provide enough oceanic heat flux to maintain ice-free region



Morales Maqueda, et al., 2004

Antarctic coastal polynyas = ice factories



around 10% of Southern Ocean sea ice is produced in the major Antarctic coastal polynyas

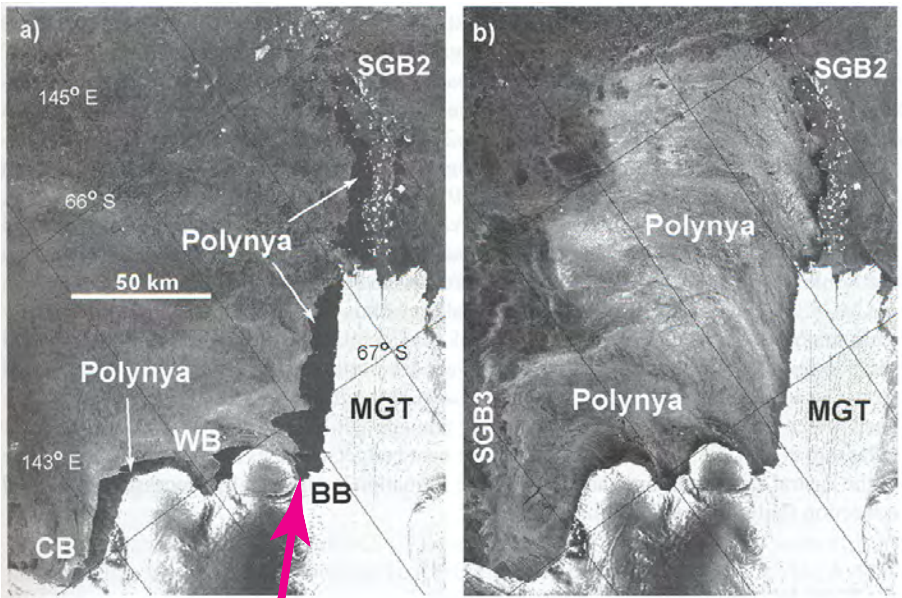
ice production in Ross Ice Shelf Polynya decreased by about 30% from the 1990's to the 2000's
(caused by atmospheric warming or decreased polynya size from calving icebergs)

candidate for causing recent freshening of AABW

Tamura, Ohshima, Nihashi, GRL 2008

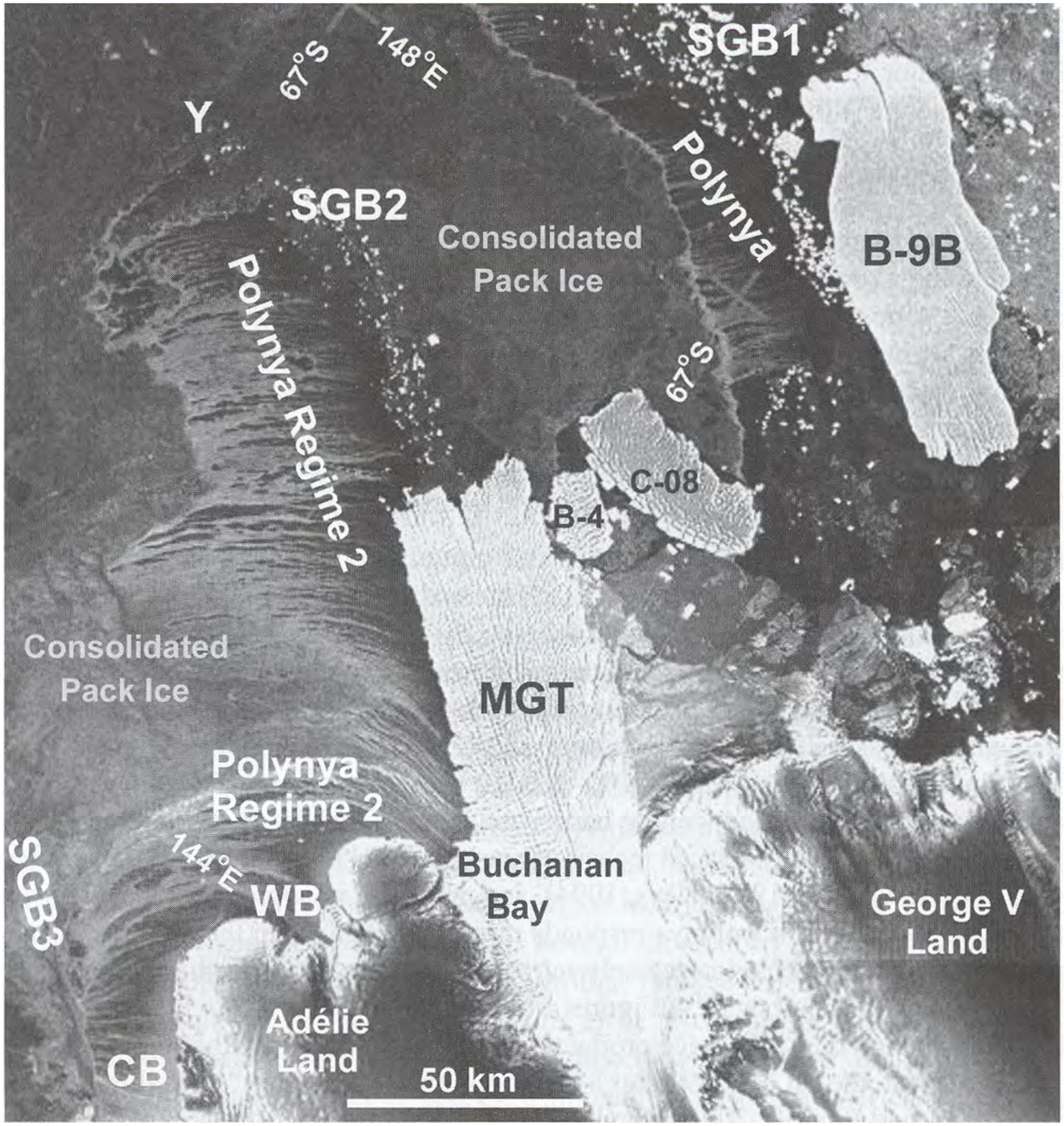
polynyas ice factories

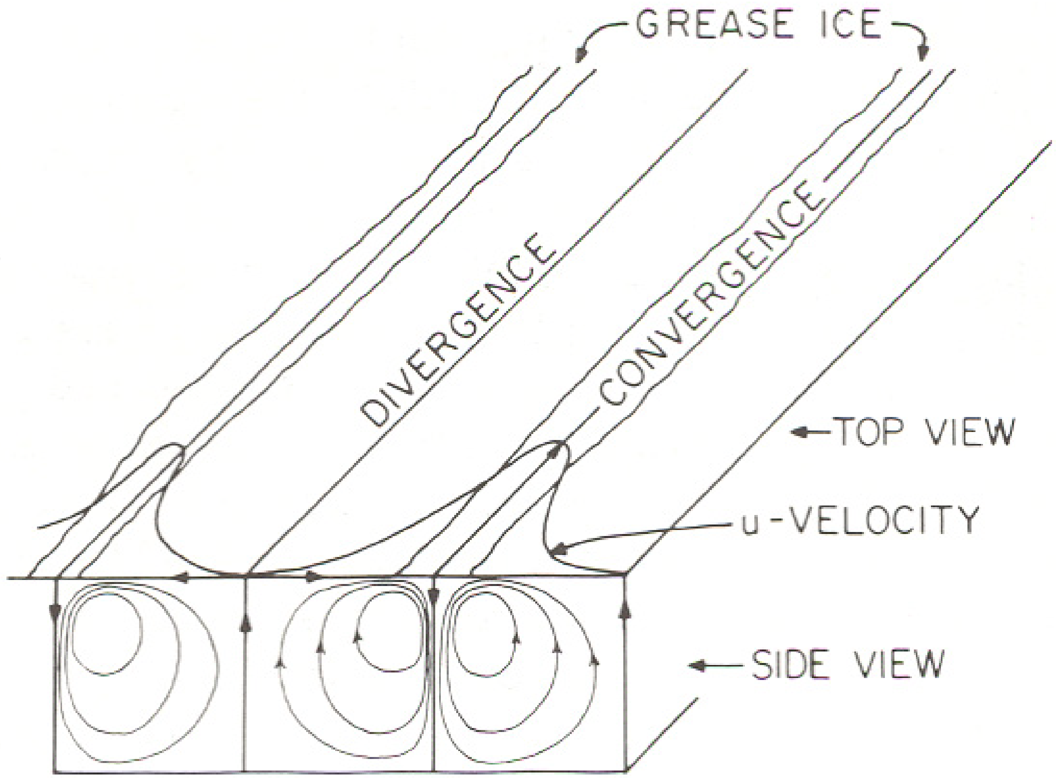
Mertz Glacier Polynya, located in East Antarctica, covers only 0.001% of the overall Antarctic sea ice zone at its maximum winter extent, but is responsible for 1% of the total sea ice production in the Southern Ocean.



Buchanan Bay

Mertz Glacier Polynya -- third largest Antarctic sea ice producer

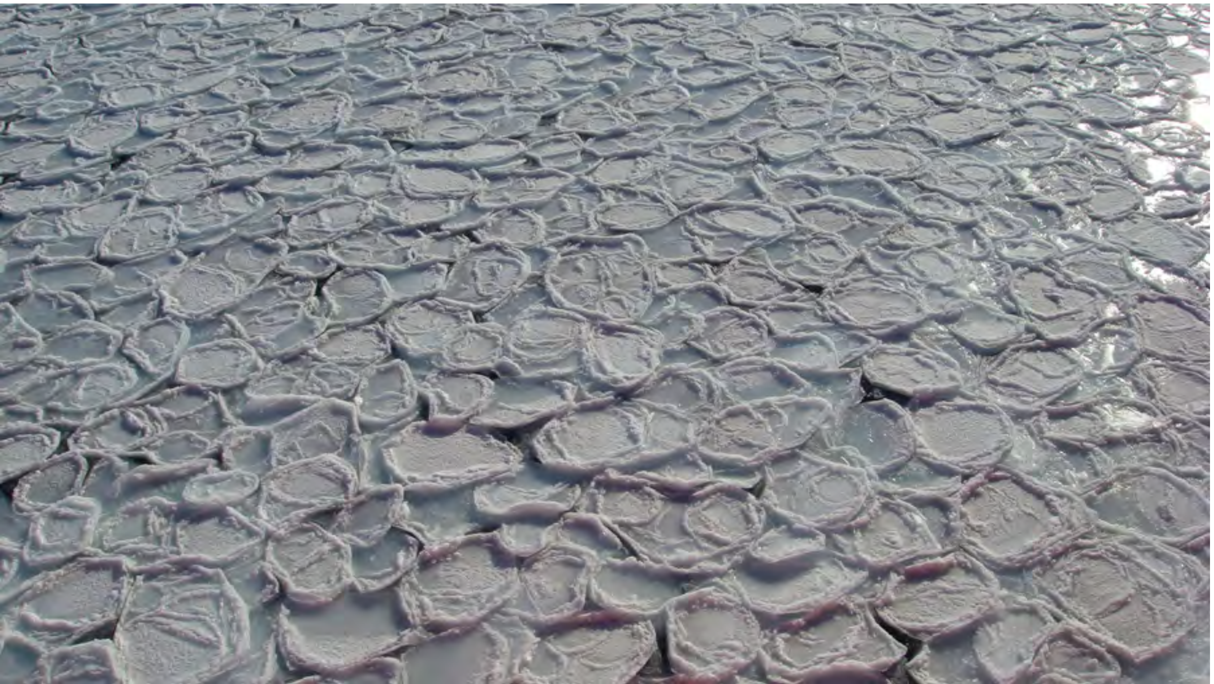


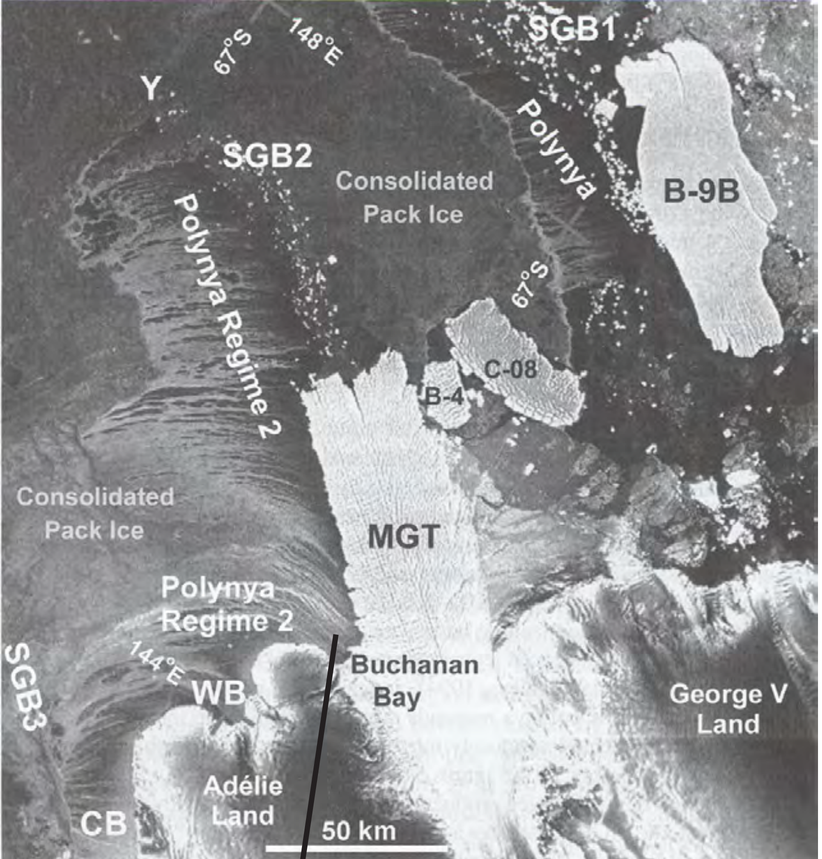


effect of Langmuir circulation
on grease and pancake ice

Martin and Kauffman, 1981

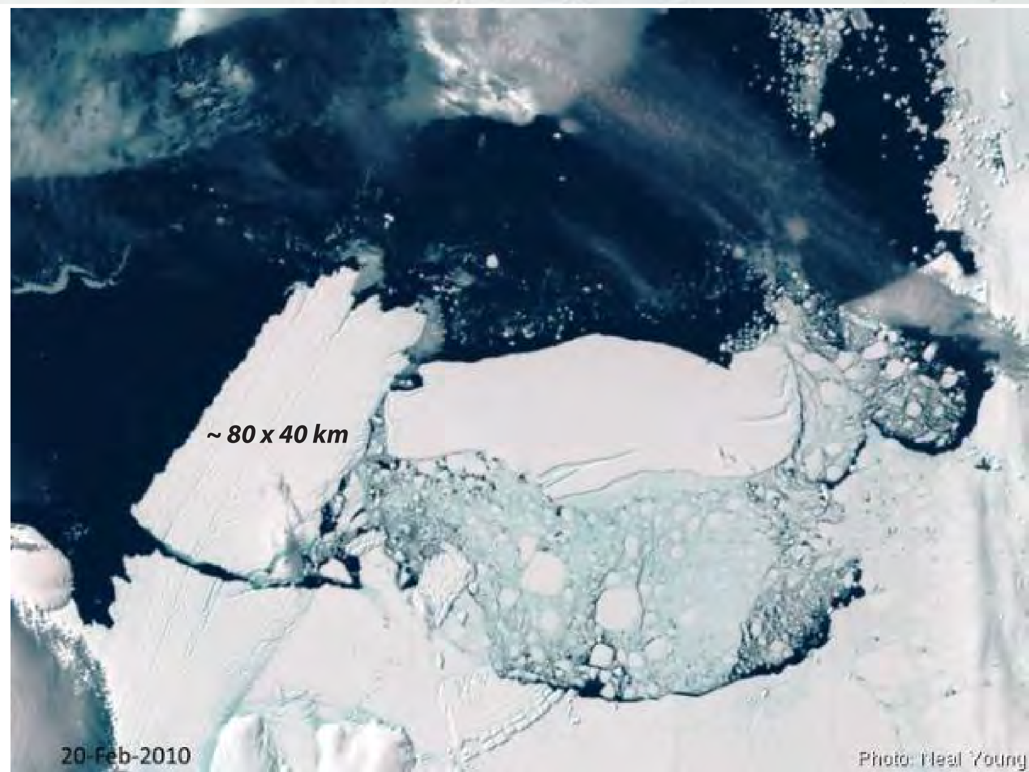
pancake ice



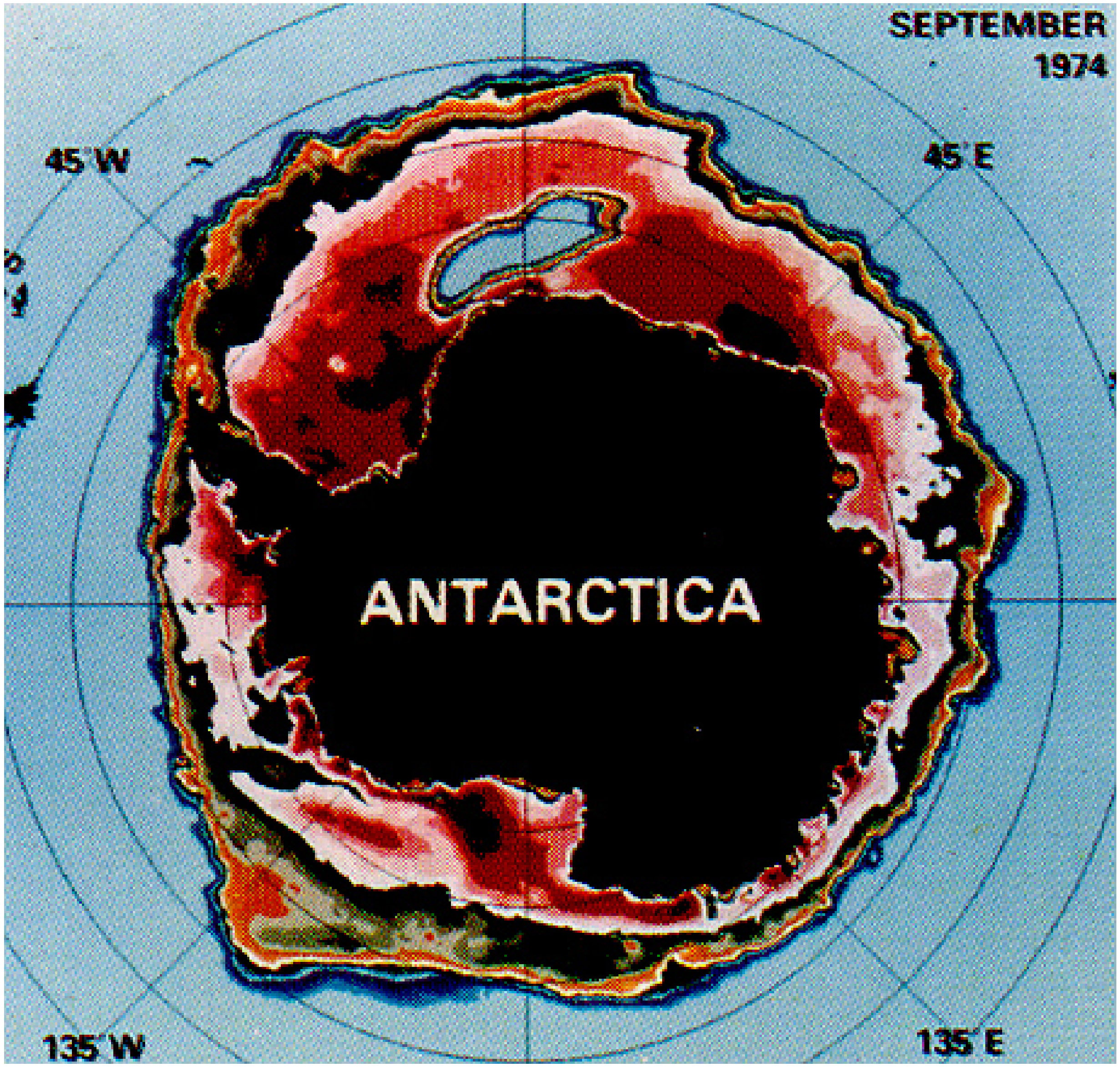

SGB1
Y
67°S
148°E
SGB2
Consolidated Pack Ice
Polynya
B-9B
Polynya Regime 2
67°S
C-08
B-4
MGT
Consolidated Pack Ice
Polynya Regime 2
SGB3
144°E
WB
Buchanan Bay
George V Land
Adélie Land
CB
50 km


iceberg collision!
breaking the Mertz Glacier Tongue, February 2010


Buchanan Bay, July 1999
Mertz Glacier Polynya Experiment

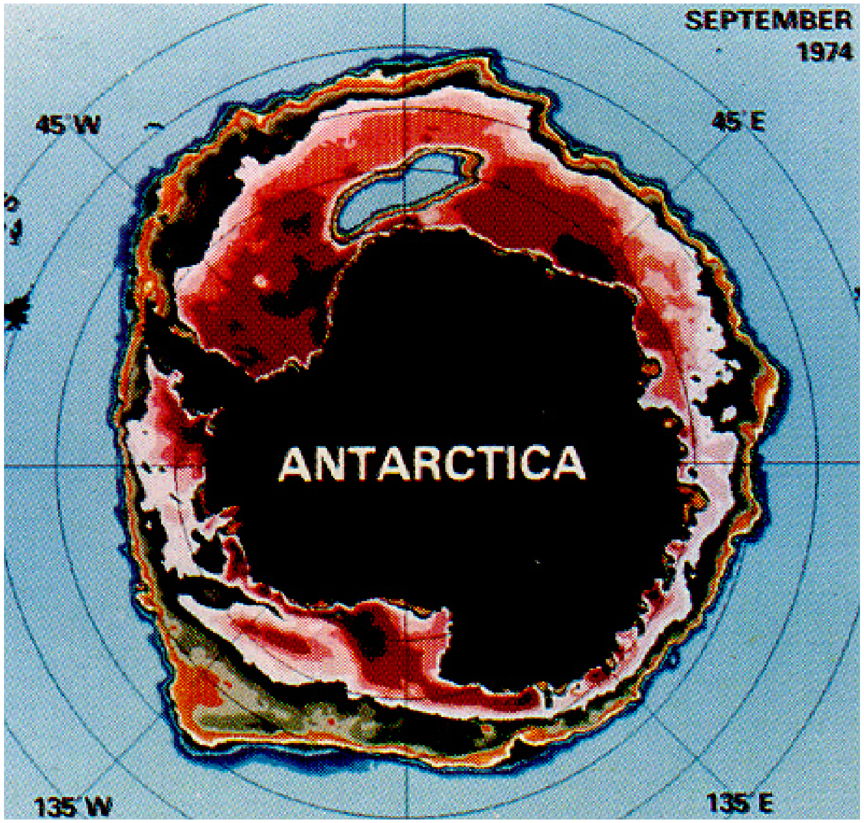

~ 80 x 40 km
20-Feb-2010
Photo: Neal Young

Weddell Polynya



Antarctic Zone Flux Experiment (ANZFLUX) 1994

Antarctic Zone Flux Experiment
(ANZFLUX) 1994



dynamic equilibrium of sea ice thickness

snow loading during storms

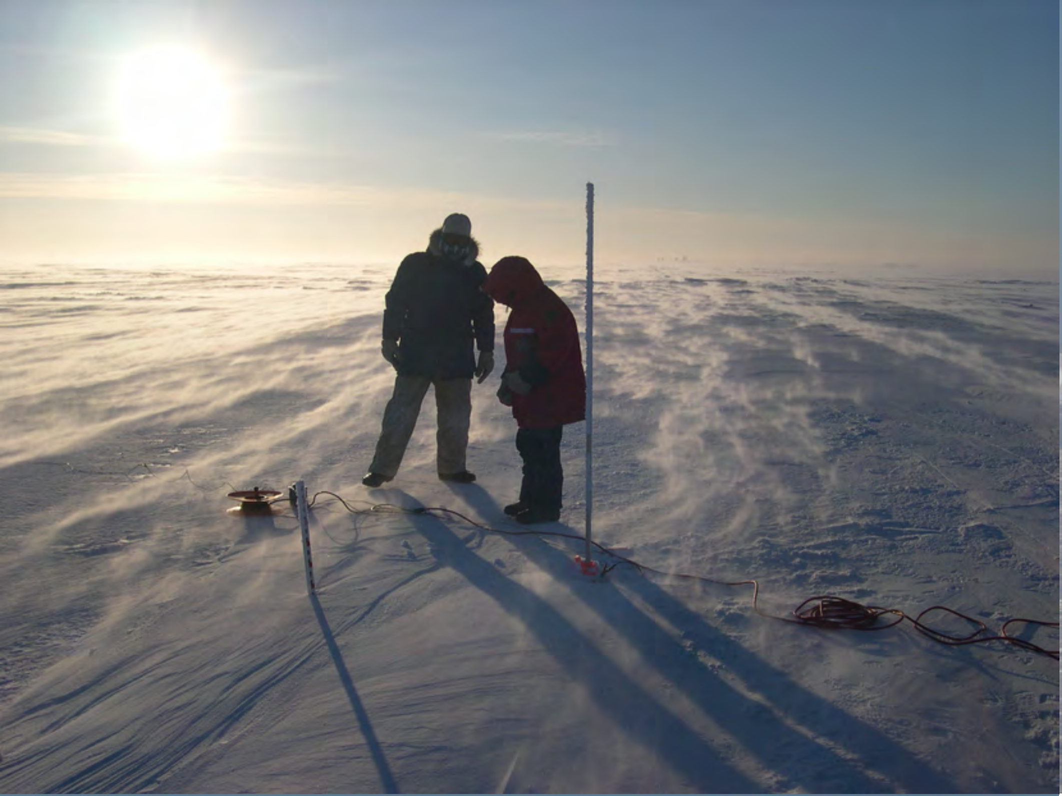
surface flooding ->
snow-ice formation

controlled by ice permeability

snow-ice growth a key process in Antarctic

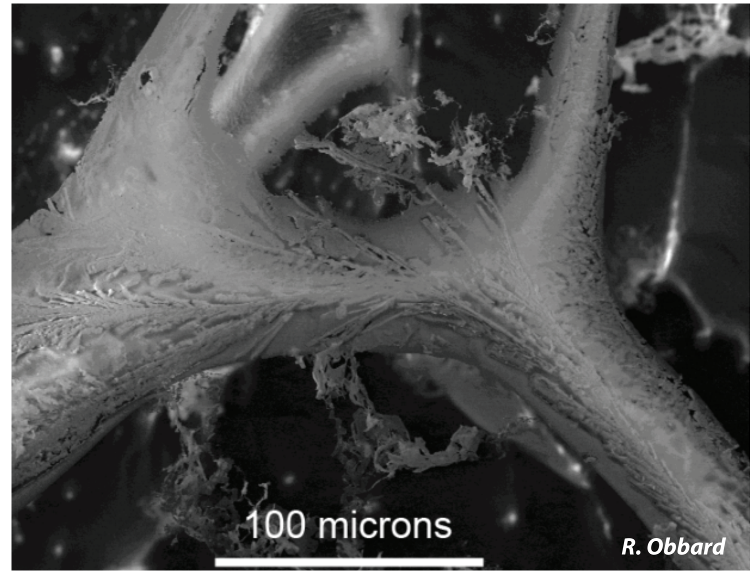
may become more important in Arctic with
thinning ice and increased precipitation

Ackley, Lytle, Golden, Darling, Kuehn, 1995
Maksym and Jeffries, 2001
Maksym and Markus, 2008
Maksym and Golden, 2012



sea ice may appear to be a barren, impermeable cap ...

brine inclusions in sea ice (mm)



micro - brine channel (SEM)

brine channels (cm)

sea ice is a porous composite

pure ice with brine, air, and salt inclusions

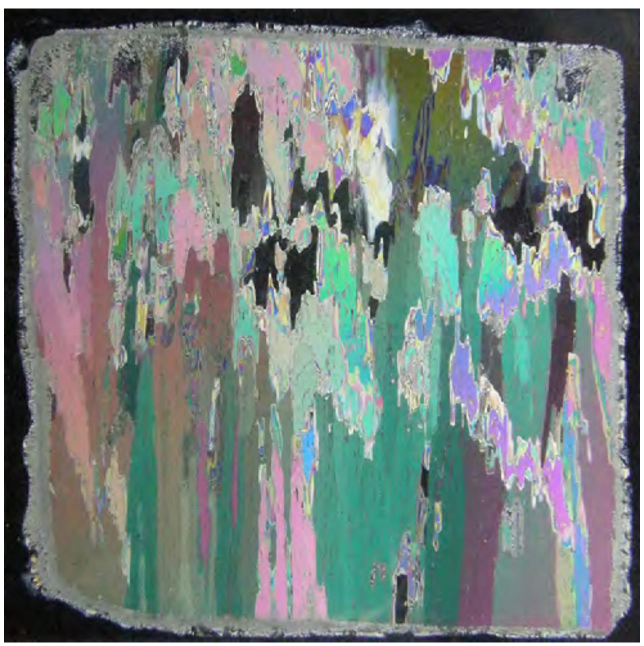
horizontal section

vertical section

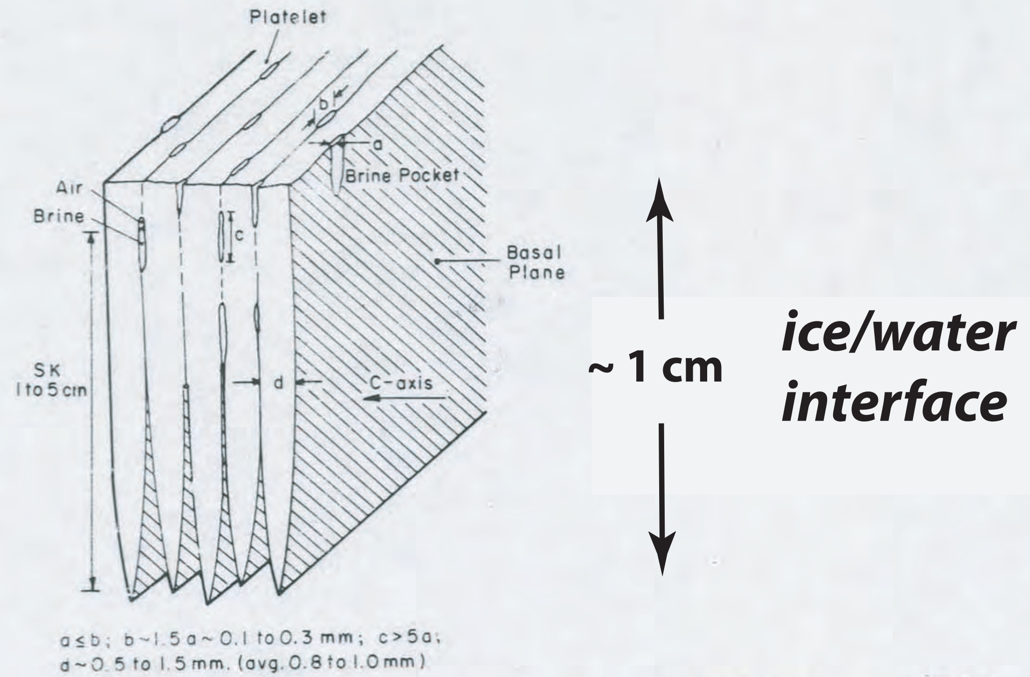
cross-sections of sea ice structure

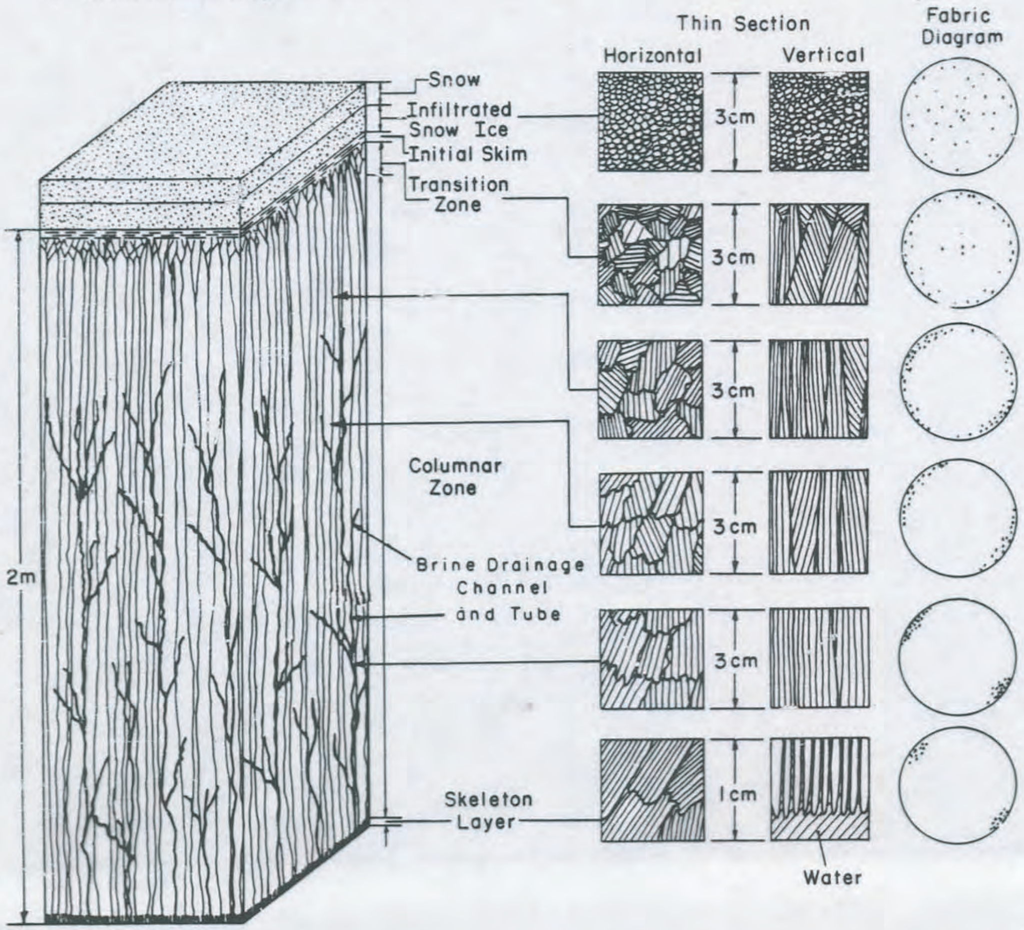
$$T_{freeze} = -1.8^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$$

crystallographic texture



vertical thin section

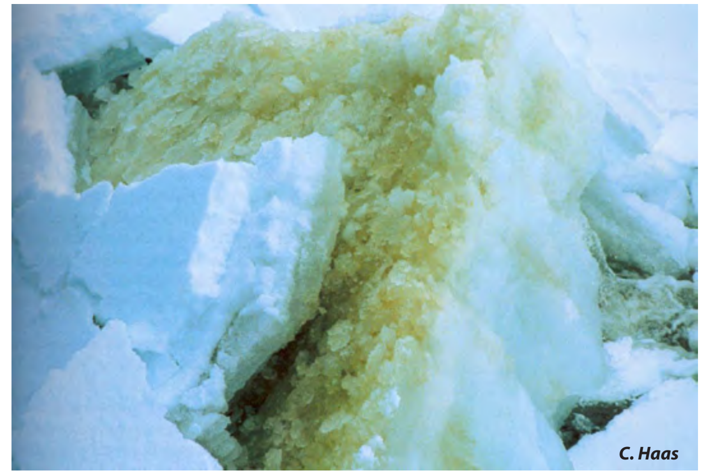


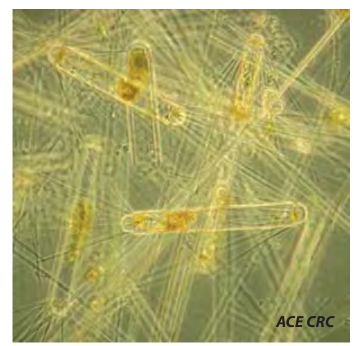


fluid flow through porous sea ice mediates key processes in polar climate and ecosystems:

evolution of Arctic melt ponds and sea ice albedo

nutrient flux for algal communities





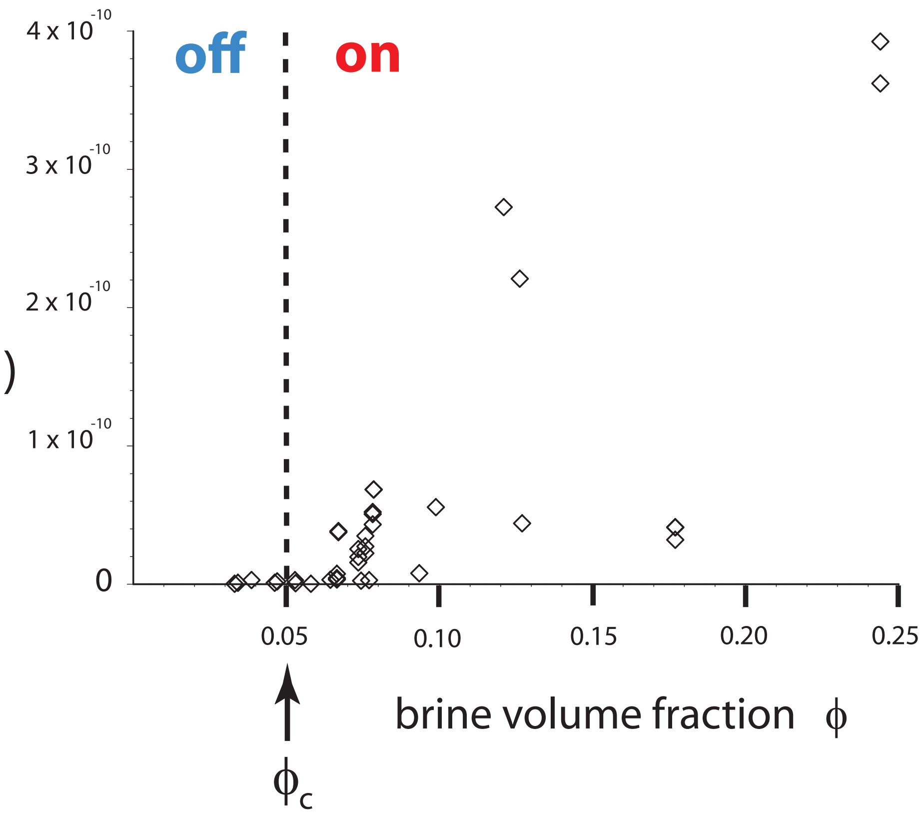
- formation and melting of sea ice
- drainage of brine and melt water
- ocean-ice-atmosphere exchanges of heat, brine, CO2
- growth and decline of microbial communities

Critical behavior of fluid transport in sea ice

impermeable permeable

Arctic field data

vertical fluid permeability k (m^2)



"on - off" switch for fluid flow

critical brine volume fraction $\phi_c \approx 5\%$ ⟷ $T_c \approx -5^\circ\mathrm{C},\ S \approx 5$ ppt

RULE OF FIVES

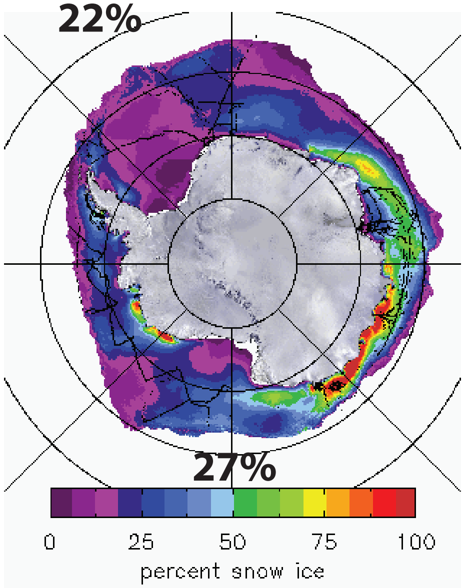
Golden, Ackley, Lytle Science 1998

Golden, Eicken, Heaton, Miner, Pringle, Zhu Geophys. Res. Lett. 2007

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

rule of fives constrains:

Antarctic surface flooding and snow-ice formation

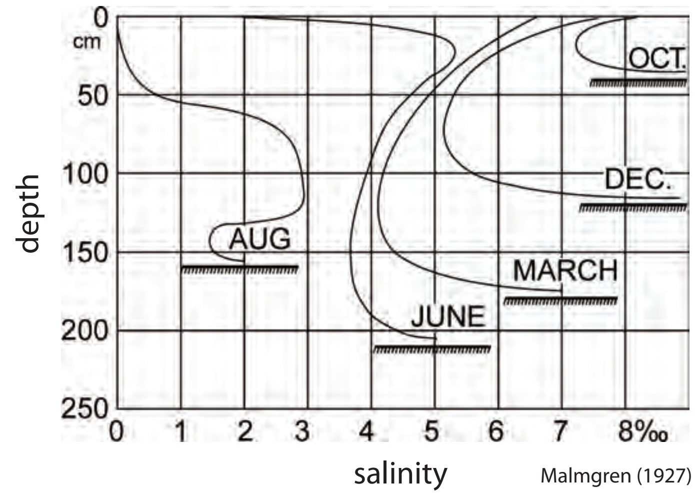


September snow-ice estimates

Antarctic snow-to-ice conversion from passive microwave imagery

T. Maksym and T. Markus, 2008

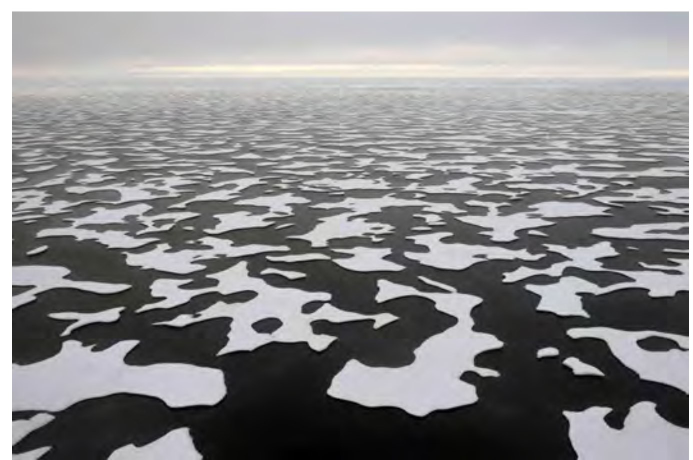
evolution of salinity profiles



currently assumed constant in climate models

convection - enhanced thermal conductivity

Lytle and Ackley, 1996
Trodahl, et. al., 2000, 2001
Wang, Zhu, Golden, 2012



sea ice algal communities

D. Thomas 2004

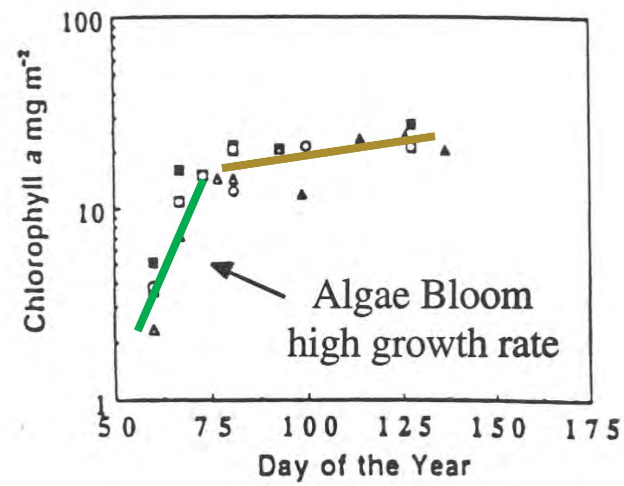
nutrient replenishment controlled by ice permeability

biological activity turns on or off according to ***rule of fives***

Golden, Ackley, Lytle ***Science 1998***

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

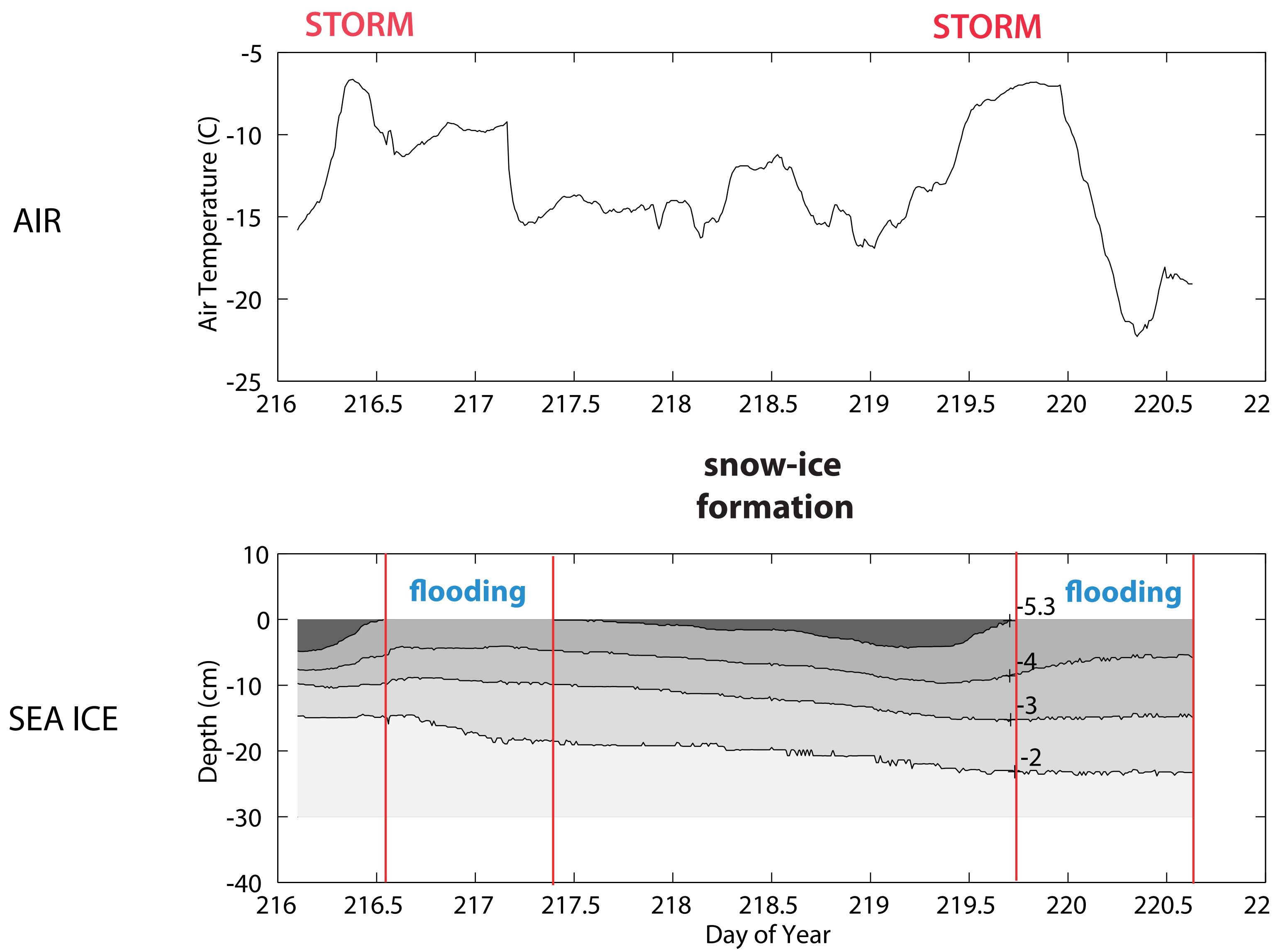
critical behavior of microbial activity



Convection-fueled algae bloom
Ice Station Weddell

ANZFLUX drift camp

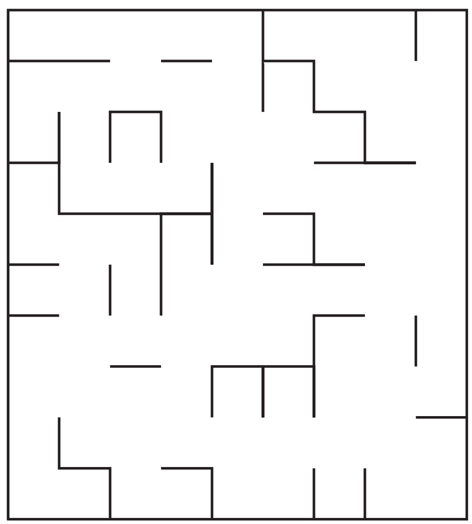
snow loading, surface flooding and subsequent snow - ice formation



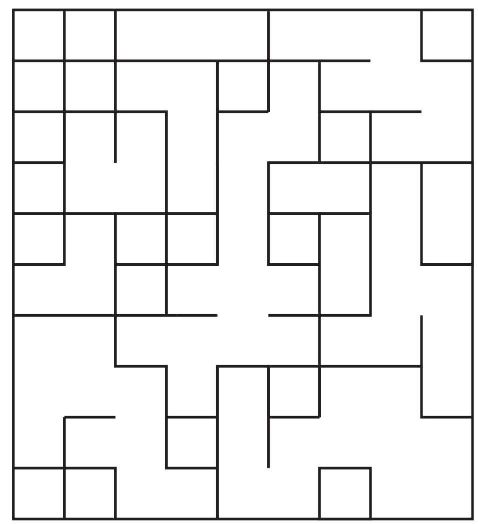
theoretical models explaining the *rule of fives* and fluid flow properties

percolation theory

mathematical theory of connectedness



$p = 1/3$



$p = 2/3$

a bond is open with probability p
closed with probability 1-p

percolation threshold

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

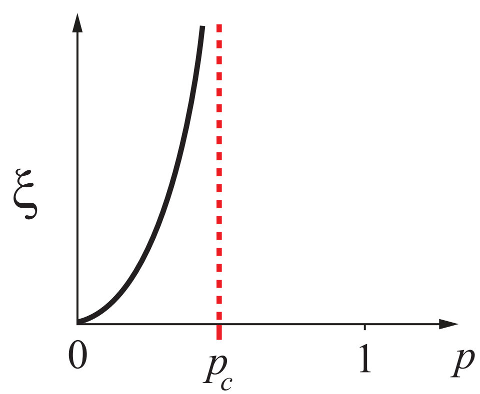
first appearance of infinite cluster

order parameters in percolation theory

geometry

correlation length

characteristic scale
of connectedness

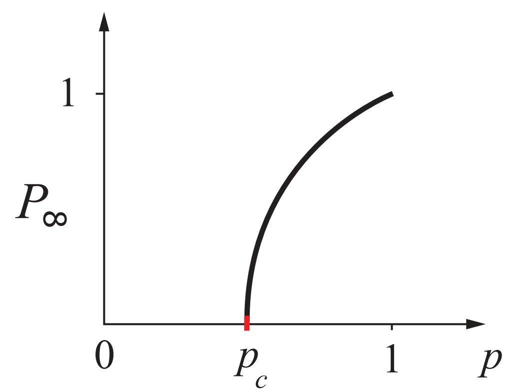


$$\xi(p) \sim |p - p_c|^{-\nu}$$

$$p \to p_c$$

infinite cluster density

probability the origin
belongs to infinte cluster

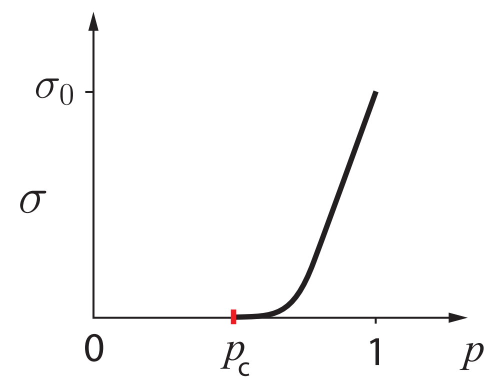


$$P_\infty(p) \sim (p - p_c)^{\beta}$$

$$p \to p_c^+$$

transport

effective conductivity or fluid permeability



$$\sigma(p) \sim \sigma_0 \, (p - p_c)^t$$

$$p \to p_c^+$$

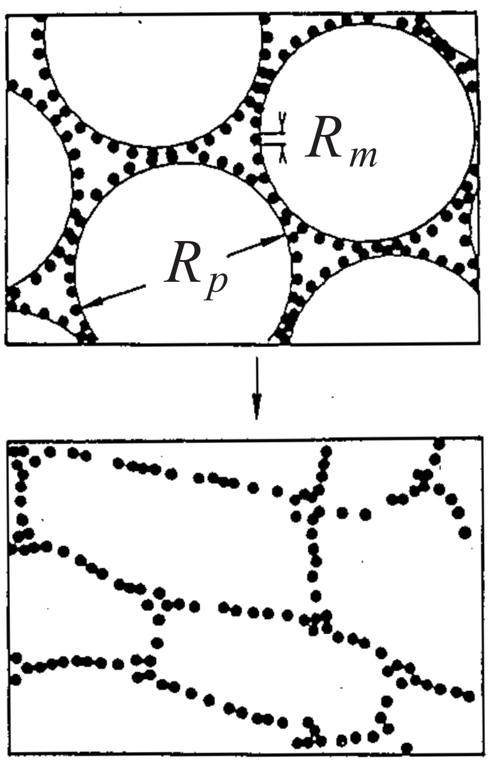
UNIVERSAL critical exponents for lattices -- depend only on dimension

(**1 ≤ *t* ≤ 2,** Golden, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 1990 ; *Comm. Math. Phys.* 1992)

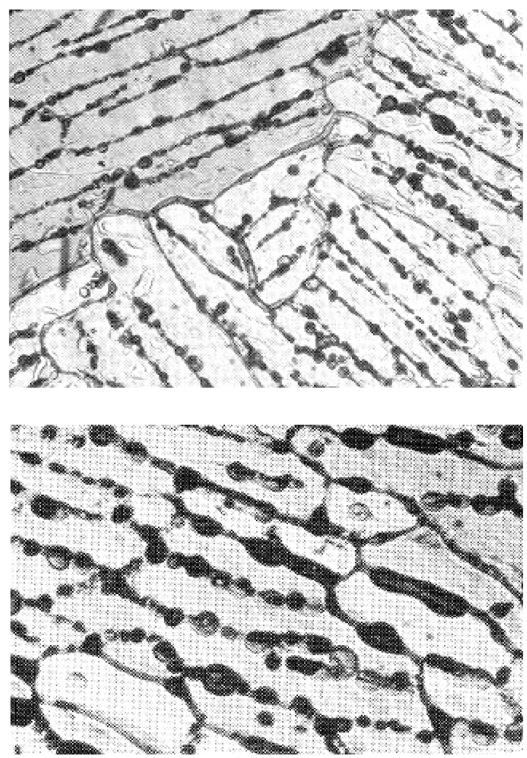
non-universal behavior in continuum

Continuum percolation model for stealthy materials applied to sea ice microstructure explains **Rule of Fives** and Antarctic data on ice production and algal growth

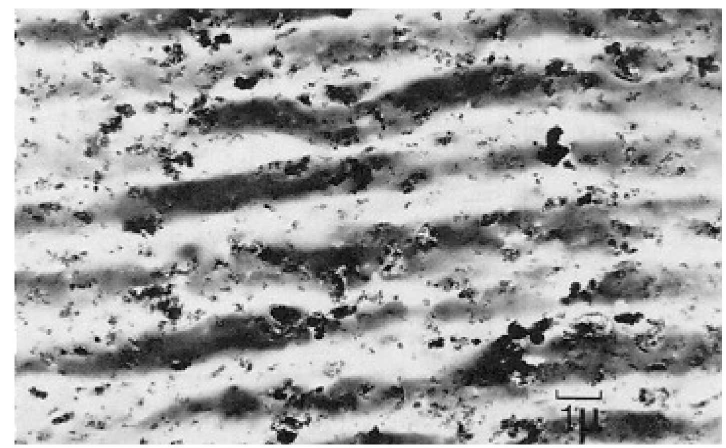
$\phi_c \approx 5\ \%$ Golden, Ackley, Lytle, *Science,* 1998



compressed powder



sea ice



microstructure of radar absorbing composite

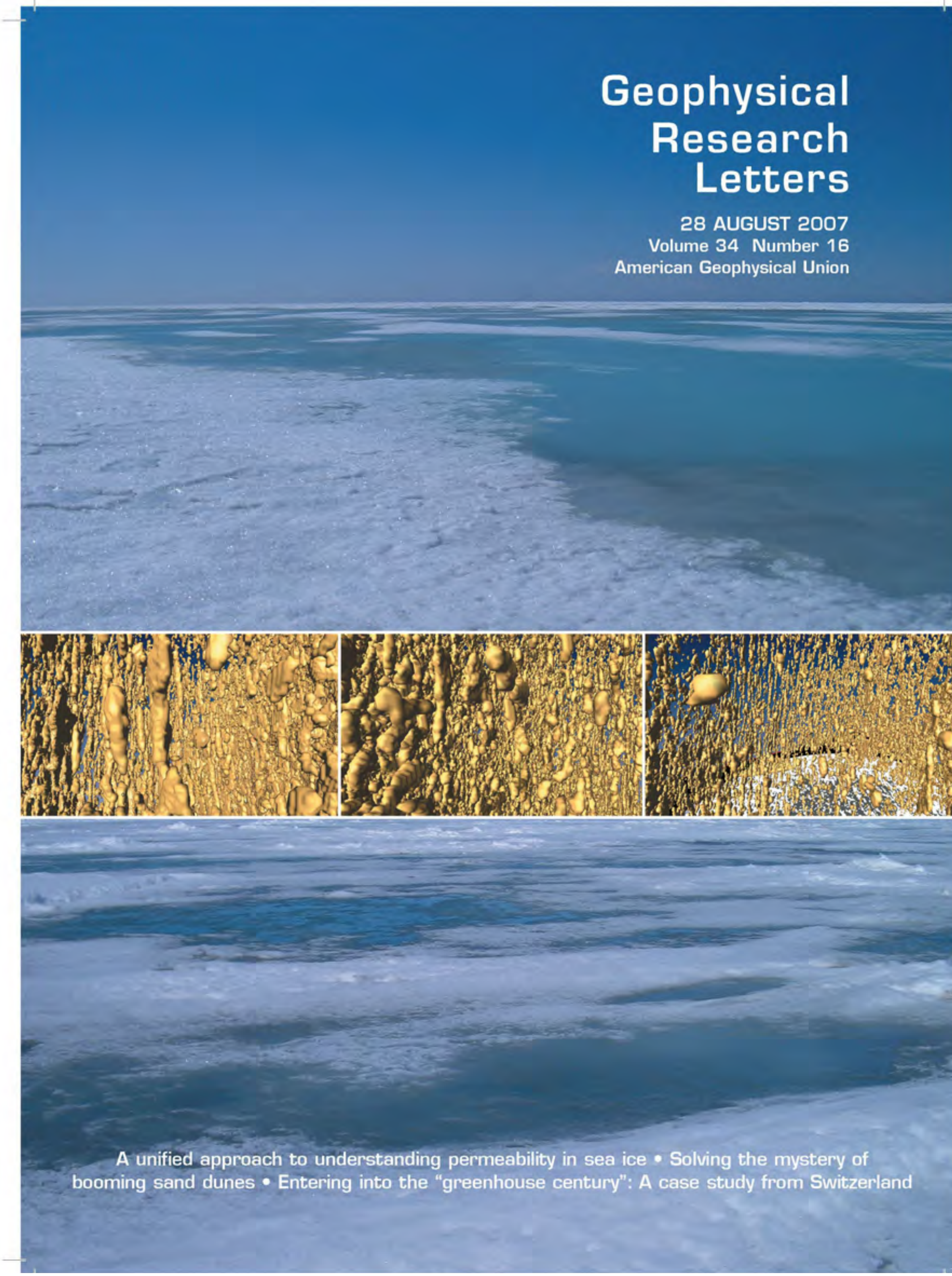
Thermal evolution of permeability and microstructure in sea ice

Golden, Eicken, Heaton, Miner, Pringle, Zhu

micro-scale

controls

macro-scale
processes



rigorous bounds
percolation theory
hierarchical model
network model

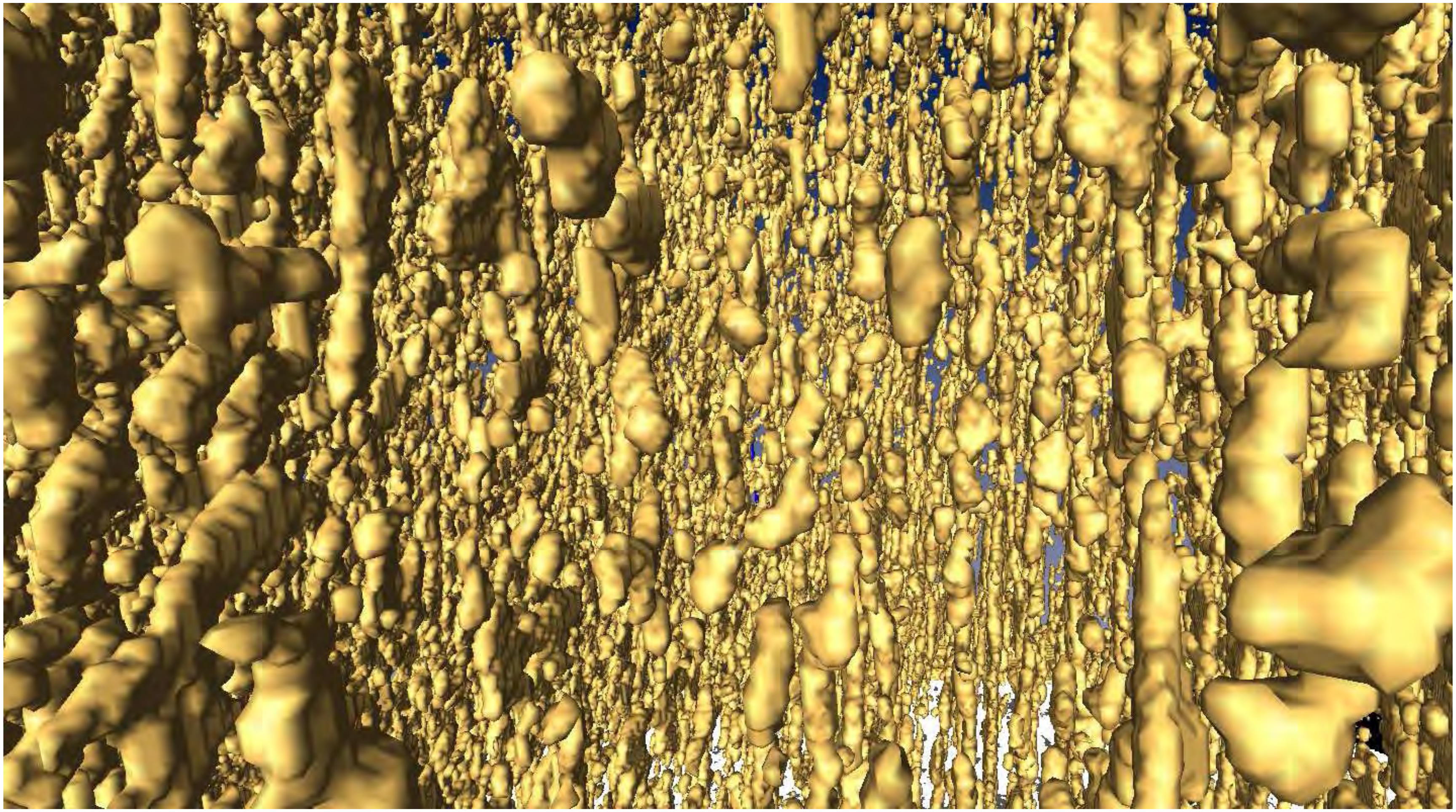
field data

X-ray tomography for
brine inclusions

unprecedented look
at thermal evolution
of brine phase and
its connectivity

X-ray computed tomography of brine inclusions in sea ice

~ 1 cm across

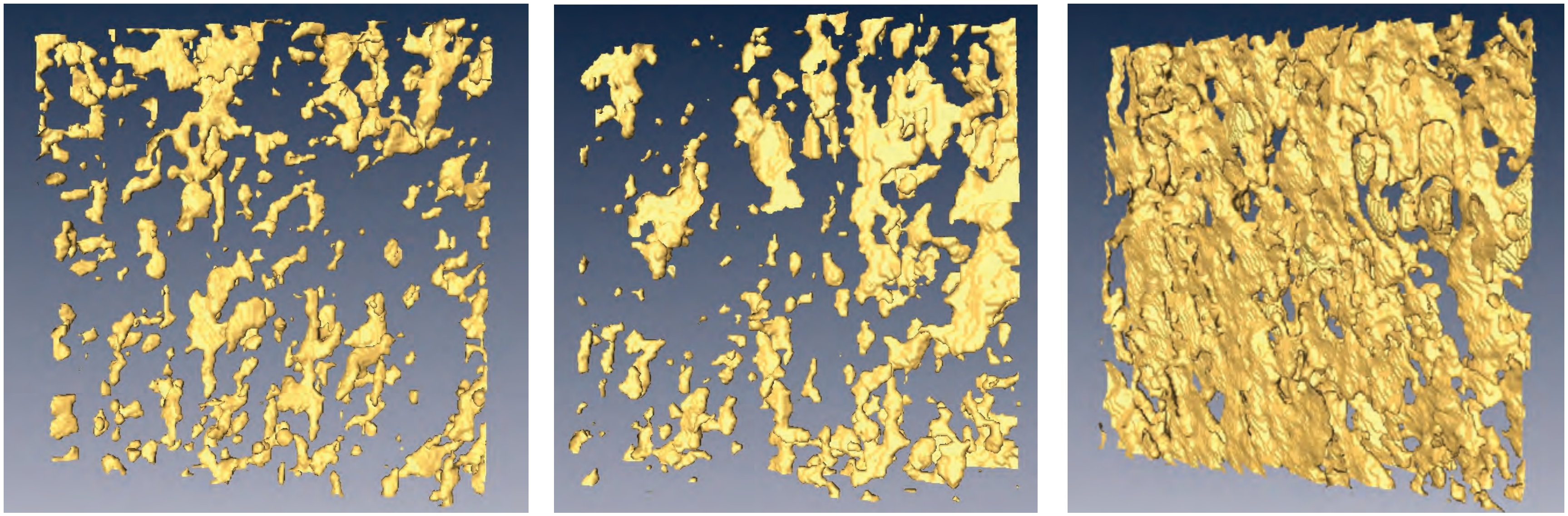


brine volume fraction $\phi = 5.7\ \%$ $T = -\ 8^{\circ}C$

Golden, Eicken, Heaton, Miner, Pringle, Zhu, *Geophys. Res. Lett.* 2007

brine connectivity (over cm scale)

8 x 8 x 2 mm



-15 °C, $\phi = 0.033$ -6 °C, $\phi = 0.075$ -3 °C, $\phi = 0.143$

X-ray tomography confirms percolation threshold

3-D images
pores and throats

→

3-D graph
nodes and edges

analyze graph connectivity as function of temperature and sample size

- ***use finite size scaling techniques to confirm rule of fives***
- ***order parameter data from a natural material***

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

lattice and continuum percolation theories yield:

$$k(\phi) = k_0 (\phi - \phi_c)^2$$

critical exponent t

$$k_0 = 3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2$$

- exponent is UNIVERSAL lattice value $t \approx 2.0$ from general structure of brine inclusion distribution function (-- other saline ice?)

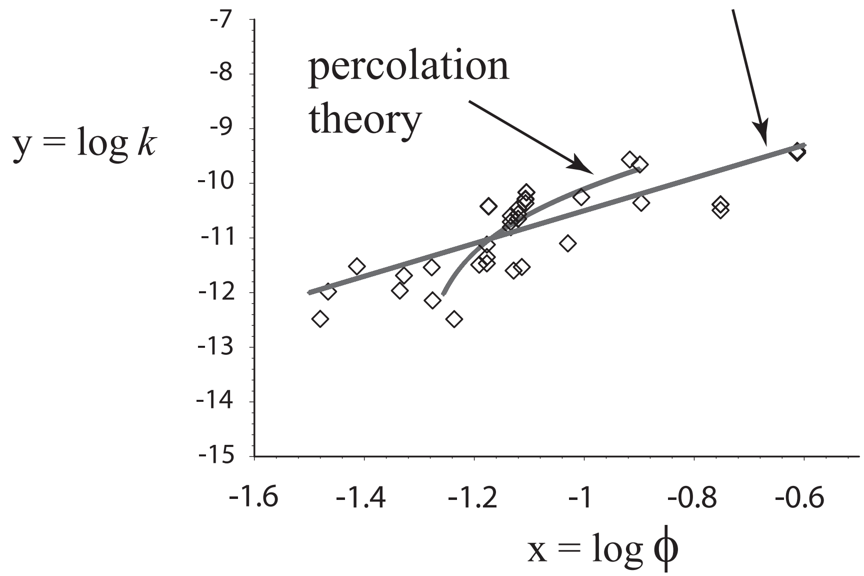
- sedimentary rocks like sandstones also exhibit universality

- critical path analysis -- developed for electronic hopping conduction -- yields scaling factor k_0

- no free parameters - microstructural input only

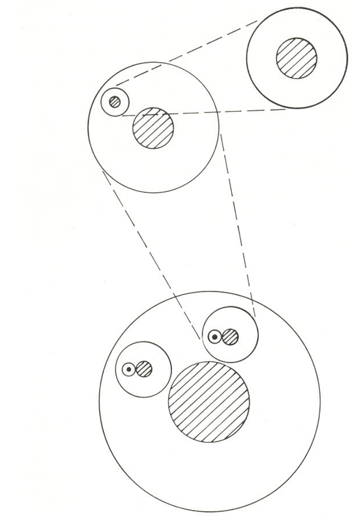
hierarchical and network models

hierarchical model : $y = 3\,x - 7.5$



statistical best fit of data: $y = 3.05\,x - 7.50$

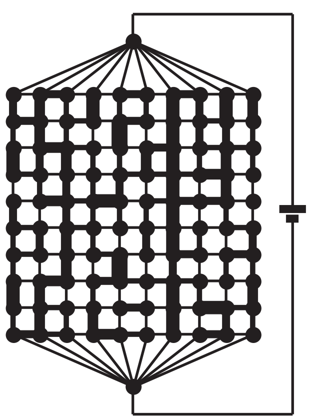
brine-coated spherical ice grains

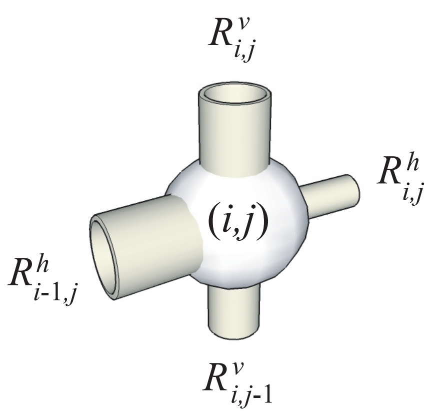


$$k\,(\phi) = k_0\,\phi^3$$

self-similar model used for porous rocks

Sen, Scala, Cohen 1981
Sheng 1990
Wong, Koplick, Tomanic 1984





random pipe network with radii chosen from measured inclusion distributions, solved with fast multigrid method

Zhu, Jabini, Golden, Eicken, Morris, Annals of Glaciology, 2006
Golden et al., Geophysical Research Letters, 2007
Zhu, Golden, Gully and Sampson, Physica B, 2010

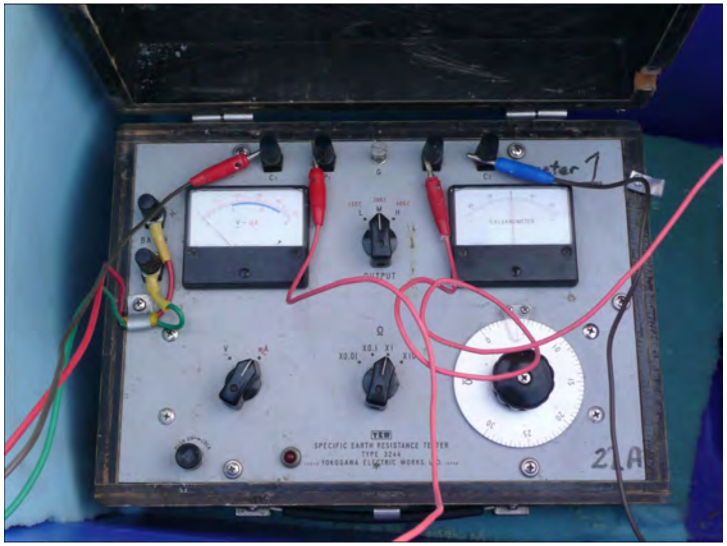
develop electromagnetic methods of monitoring fluid transport and microstructure

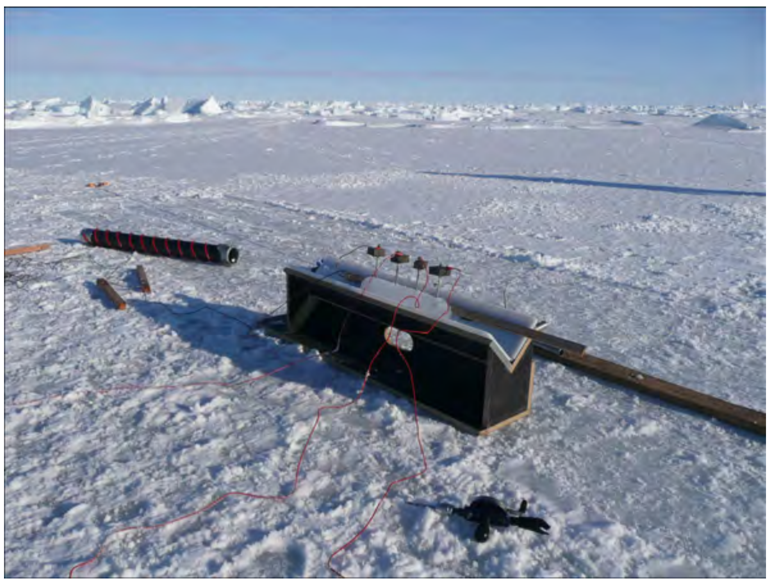
extensive measurements of fluid and electrical transport properties of sea ice:

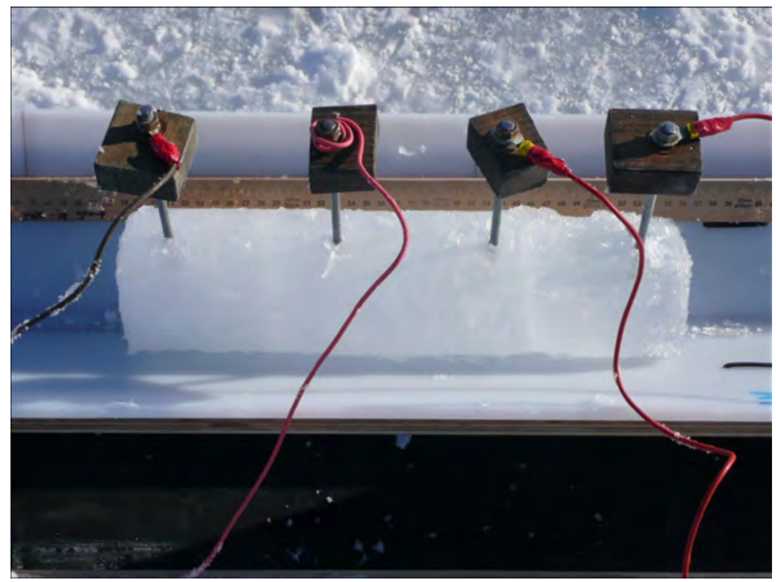
2007 Antarctic SIPEX
2010 Arctic Barrow AK
2010 Antarctic McMurdo Sound
2011 Arctic Barrow AK
2012 Arctic Barrow AK
2012 Antarctic SIPEX II

electrical measurements

Wenner array







vertical conductivity

Zhu, Golden, Gully, Sampson ***Physica B*** 2010

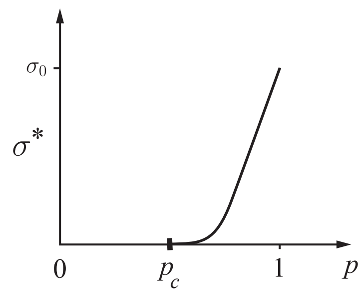
Sampson, Golden, Gully, Worby ***Deep Sea Research*** 2011

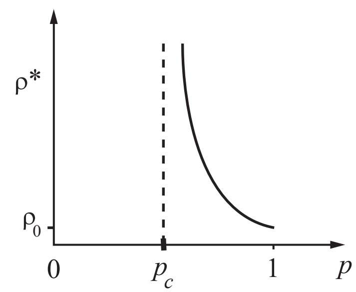
critical behavior of electrical transport in sea ice

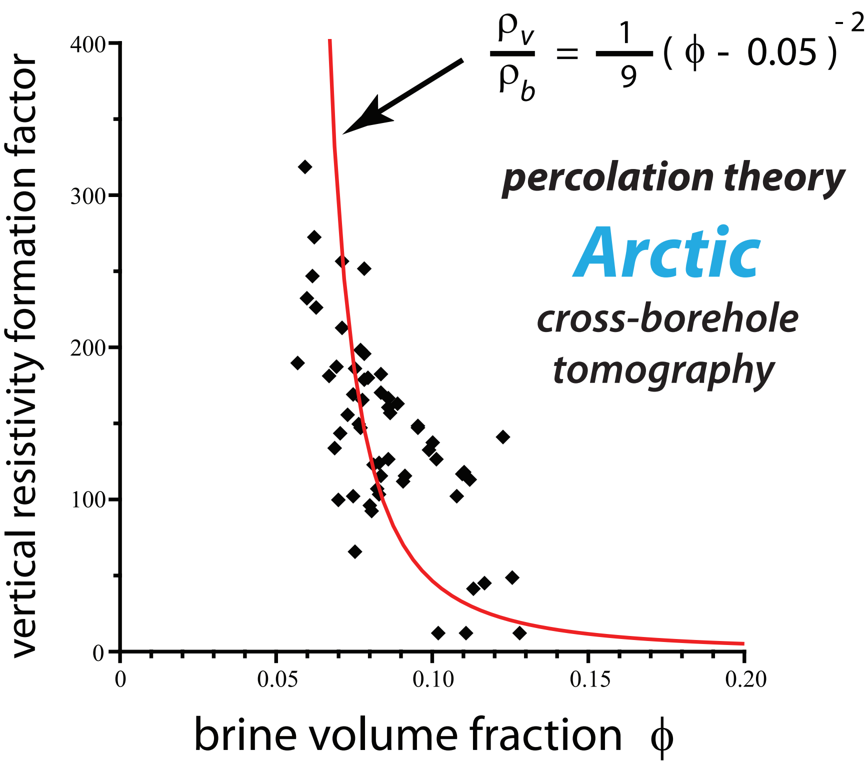
electrical signature of the on-off switch for fluid flow

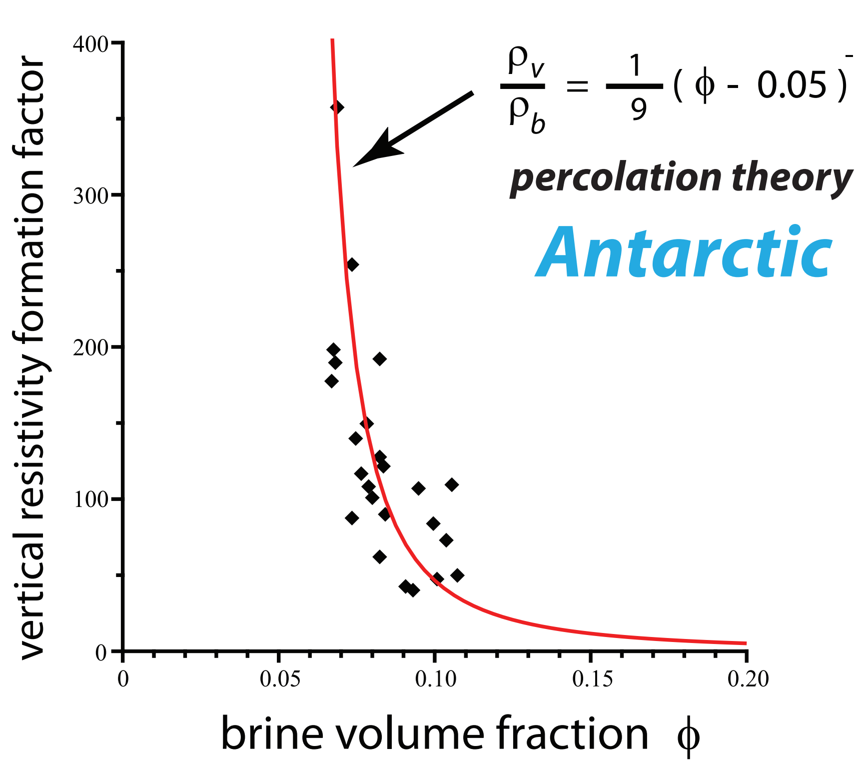
same universal critical exponent as for fluid permeability

studied for over 50 years but no previous observations or theory of critical behavior



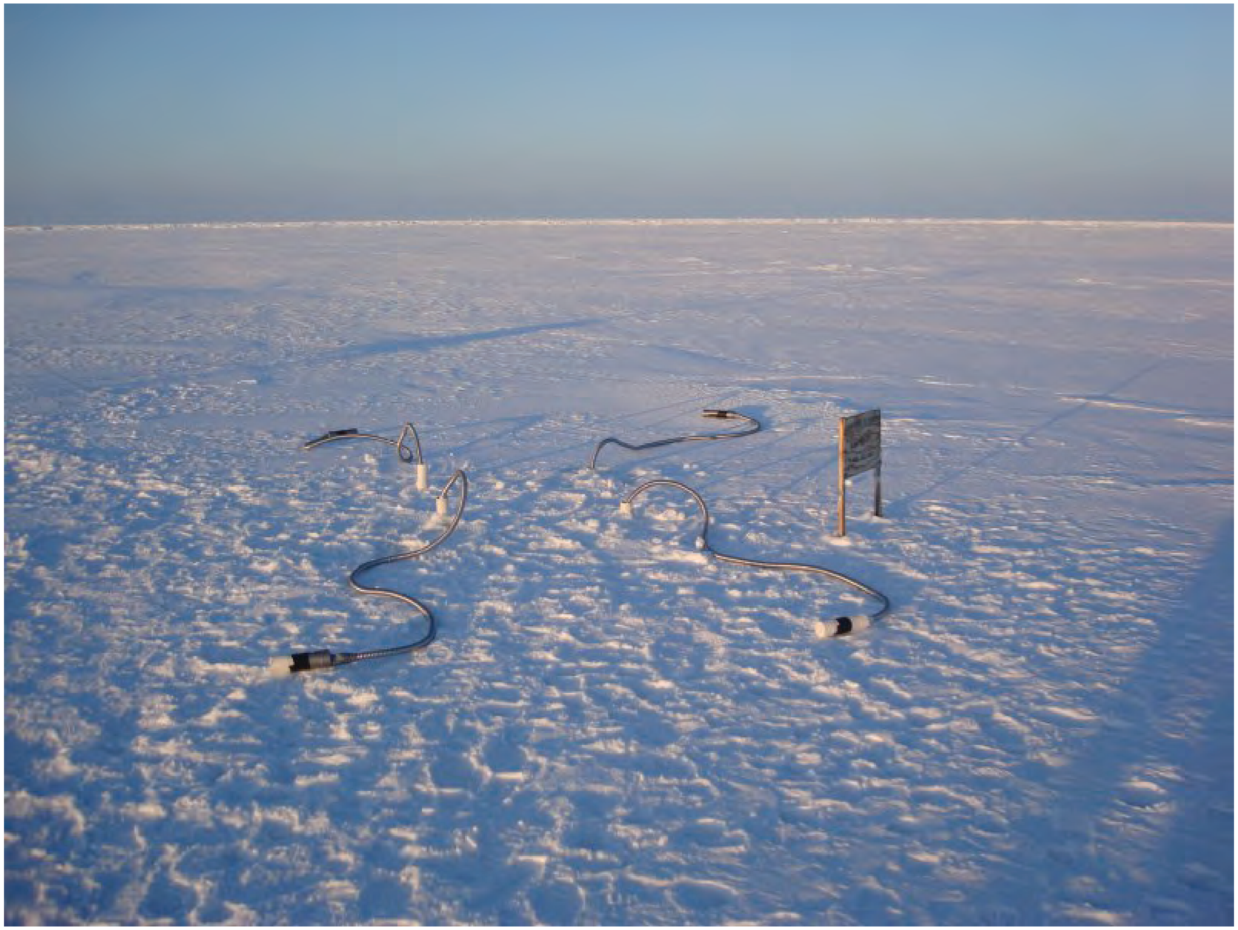






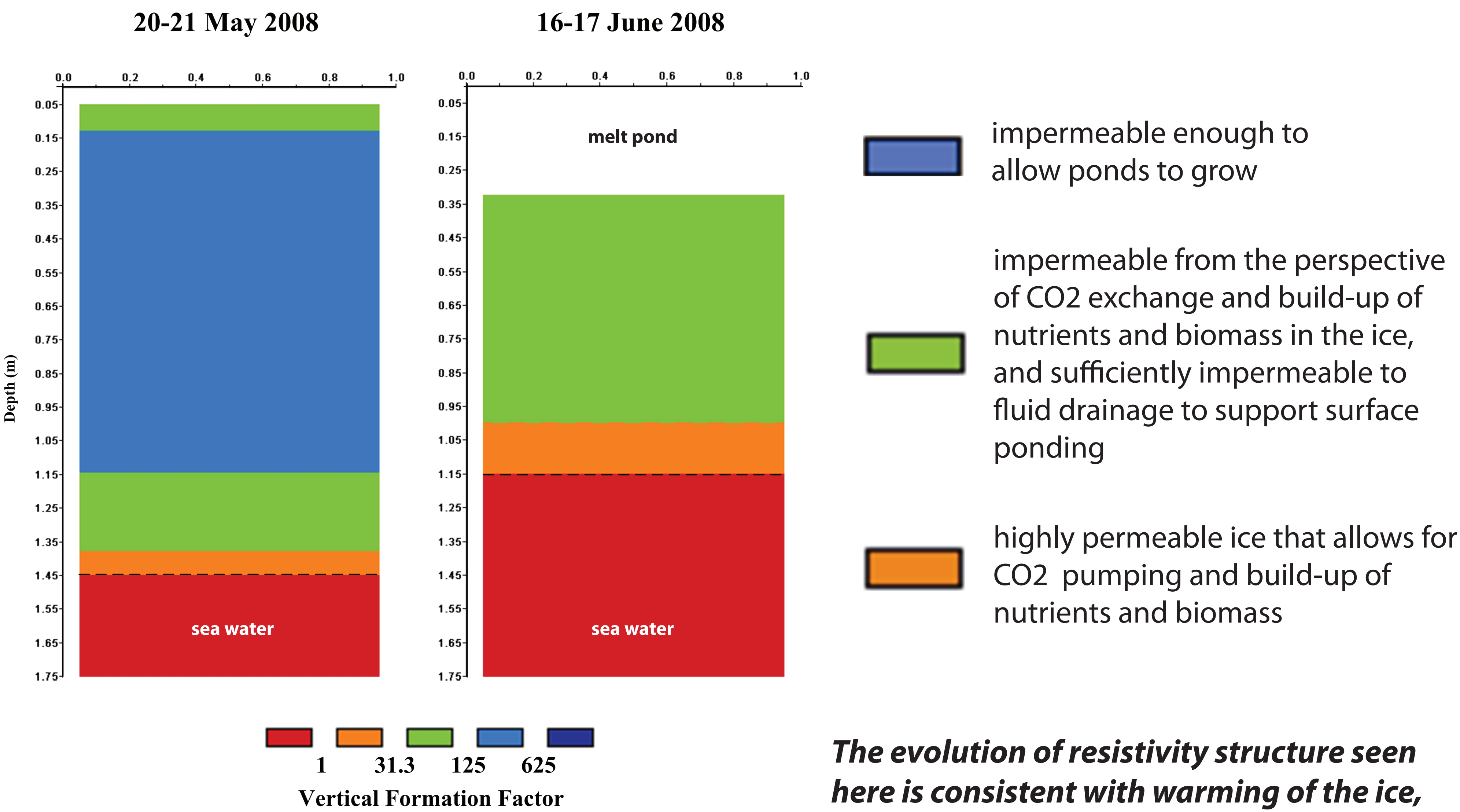
Golden, Eicken, Gully, Ingham, Jones, Lin, Reid, Sampson, Worby 2012

cross borehole tomography



Ingham, Jones, Buchanan
Victoria University, Wellington, NZ

Cross-borehole tomographic reconstructions of the vertical resistivity formation factor for Arctic sea ice before and after melt pond formation



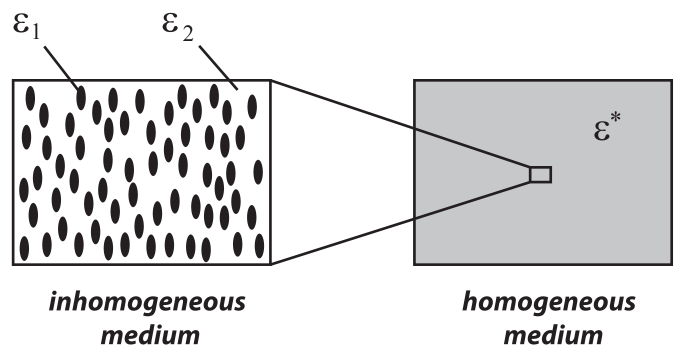
The evolution of resistivity structure seen here is consistent with warming of the ice, thus increasing the fluid permeability.

Golden, Eicken, Gully, Ingham, Jones, Lin, Reid, Sampson, and Worby 2012

multiscale homogenization

Theory of Effective Electromagnetic Behavior of Composites

analytic continuation method



Forward Homogenization Bergman (1978), Milton (1979), Golden and Papanicolaou (1983)

composite geometry **(spectral measure μ)** $\longrightarrow$ ε^*

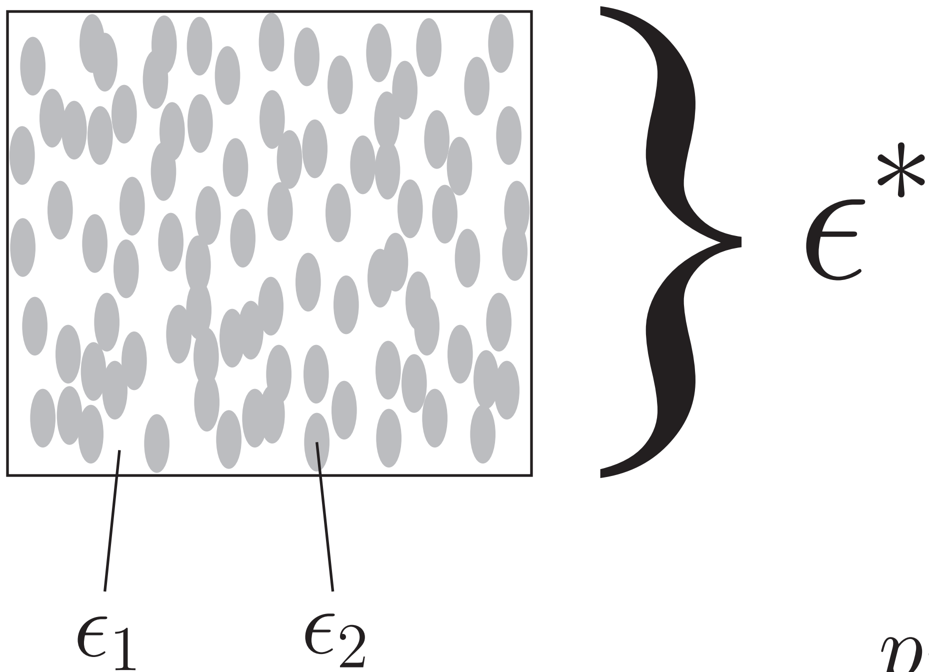
integral representations, rigorous bounds, approximations, etc.

Inverse Homogenization Cherkaev and Golden (1998), Day and Thorpe (1999), Cherkaev (2001)
(McPhedran, McKenzie, and Milton, 1982)

ε^* $\longrightarrow$ ***composite geometry*** **(spectral measure μ)**

recover brine volume fraction, connectivity, etc.

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



$$D = \epsilon E$$

$$\nabla \cdot D = 0$$

$$\nabla \times E = 0$$

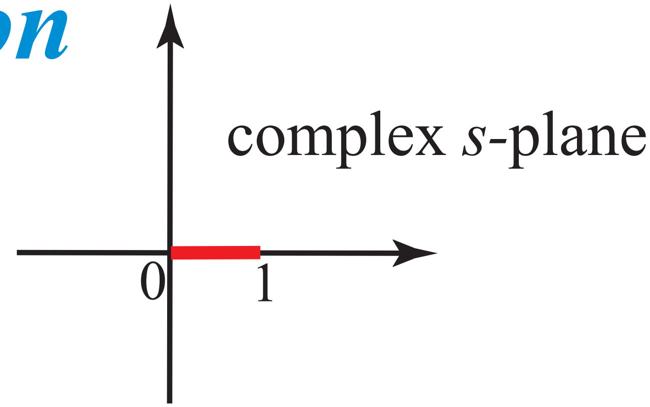
$$\langle D \rangle = \epsilon^* \langle E \rangle$$

p_1 , p_2 = volume fractions of the components

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

Stieltjes integral representation

$$F(s) = 1 - \frac{\epsilon^*}{\epsilon_2}, \qquad s = \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon_1/\epsilon_2}$$



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

- spectral measure of self adjoint operator $\Gamma\chi$
- mass $= p_1$
- higher moments depend on n-point correlations

representation ***separates***

GEOMETRY μ from

medium parameters in s

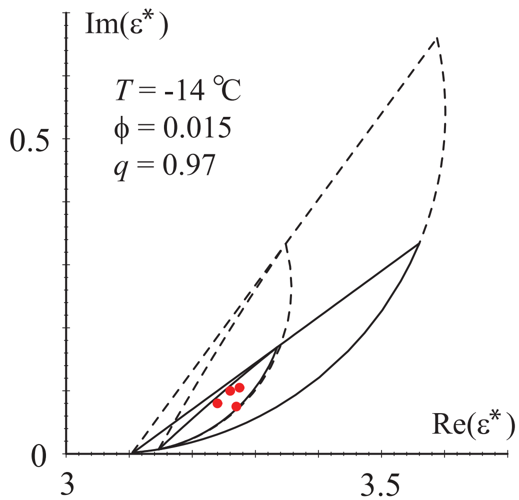
$$E = (s + \Gamma\chi)^{-1} e_k$$

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

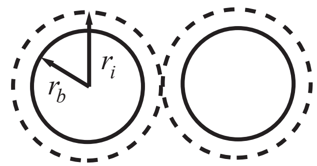
χ = indicator function of medium 1

forward and inverse bounds for sea ice

matrix particle bounds



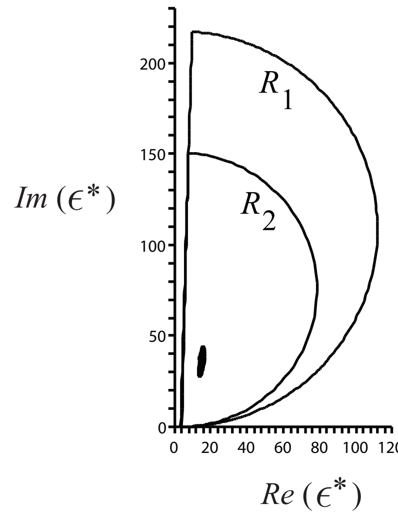
4.75 GHz data



$q = r_b / r_i$

$0 < q < 1$

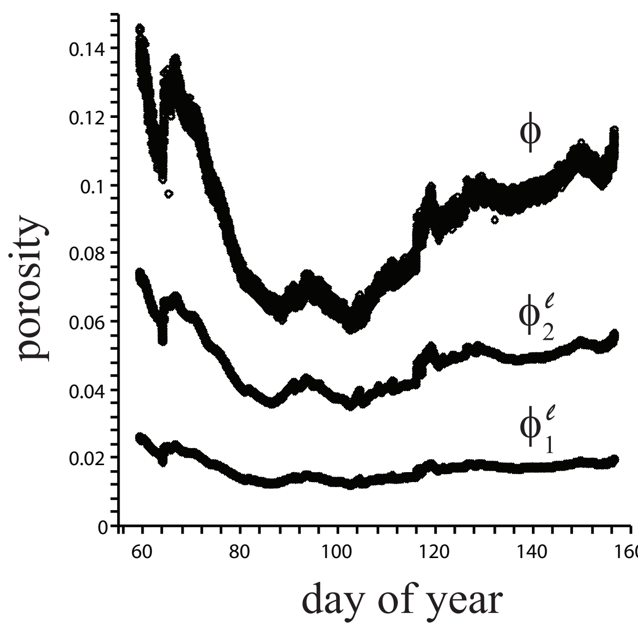
Golden 1997



50 MHz capacitance probe data taken near Barrow, AK

inverse bounds and microstructural recovery

Gully, Backstrom, Eicken, Golden, Physica B, 2007



polycrystalline bounds

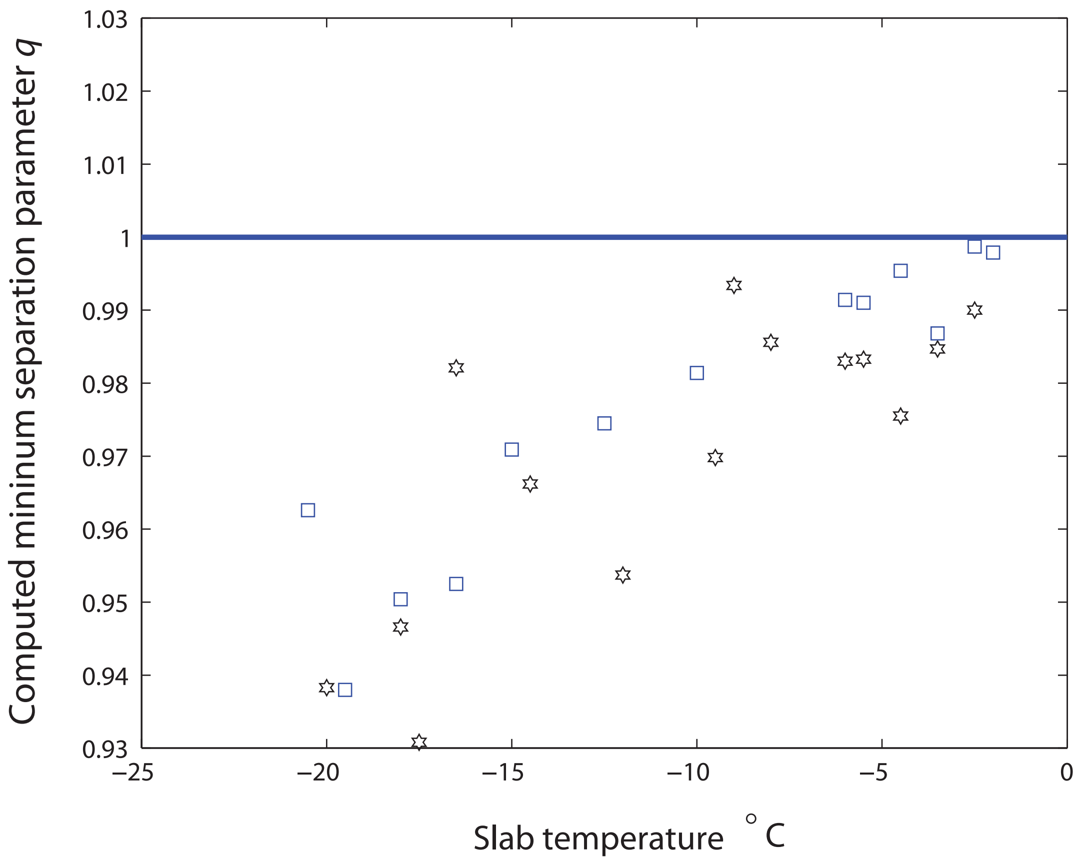
Gully, Lin, Cherkaev, Golden, 2012

Recovery of inclusion separations in strongly heterogeneous composites from effective property measurements

Chris Orum, Elena Cherkaev, Ken Golden, Proc. Roy. Soc. A, 2012

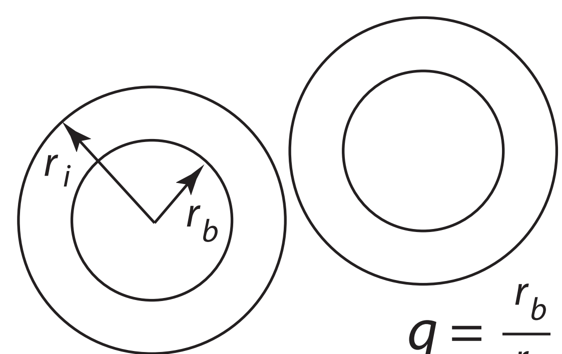
matrix particle composites (O. Bruno, 1991)

reduced spectral inversion -- construct algebraic curves which bound admissible region in (p,q)-space, q = separation parameter < 1



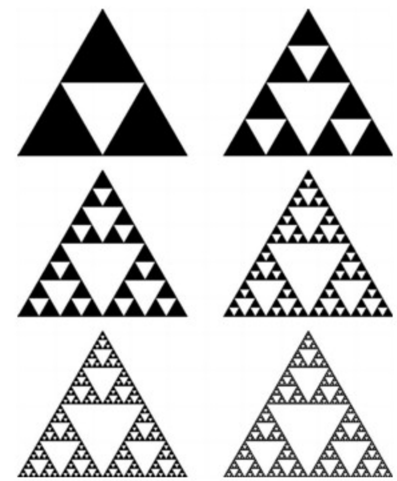
rigorous inverse bound on spectral gap

inversion for brine inclusion separations in sea ice from measurements of effective complex permittivity

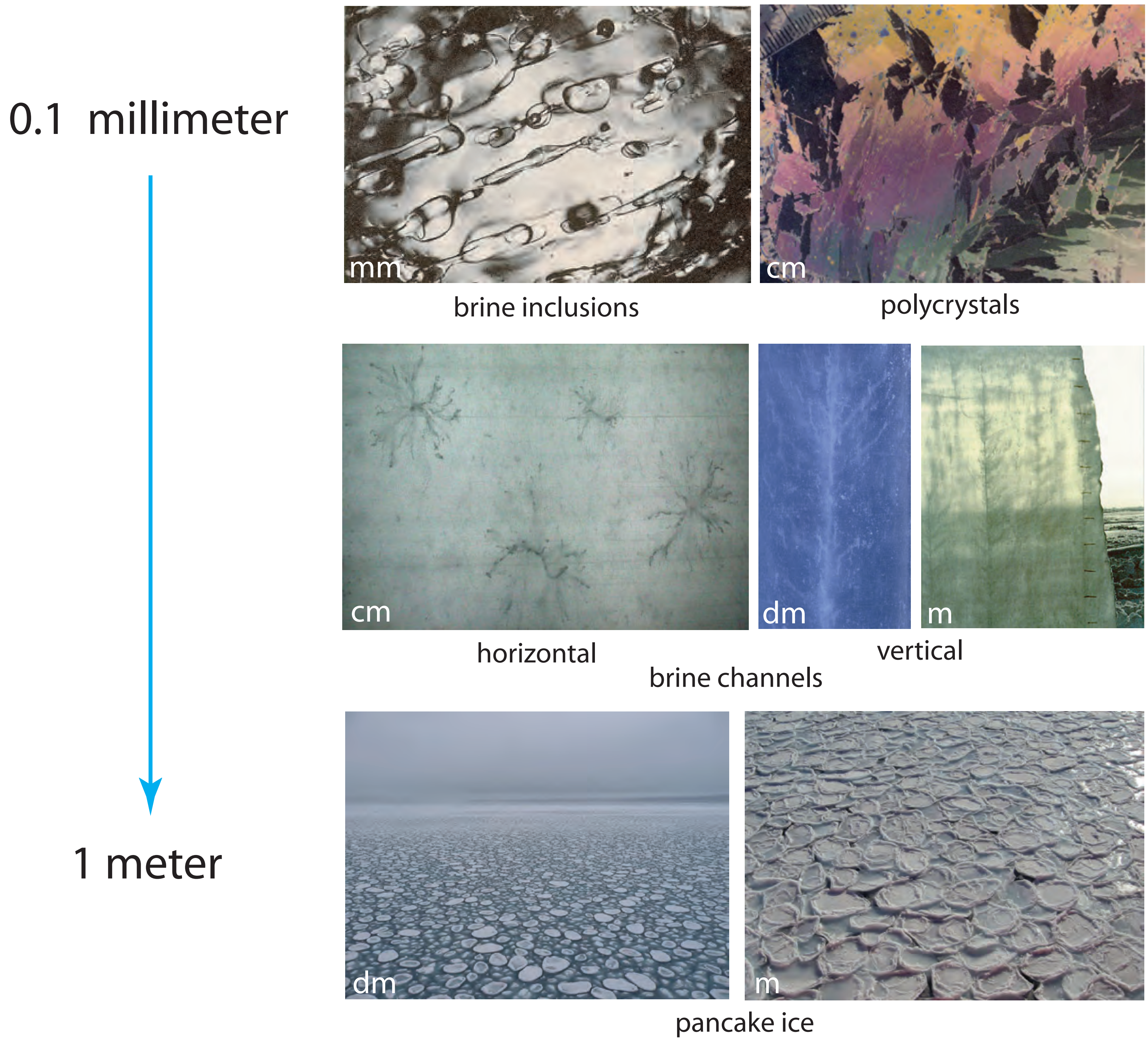


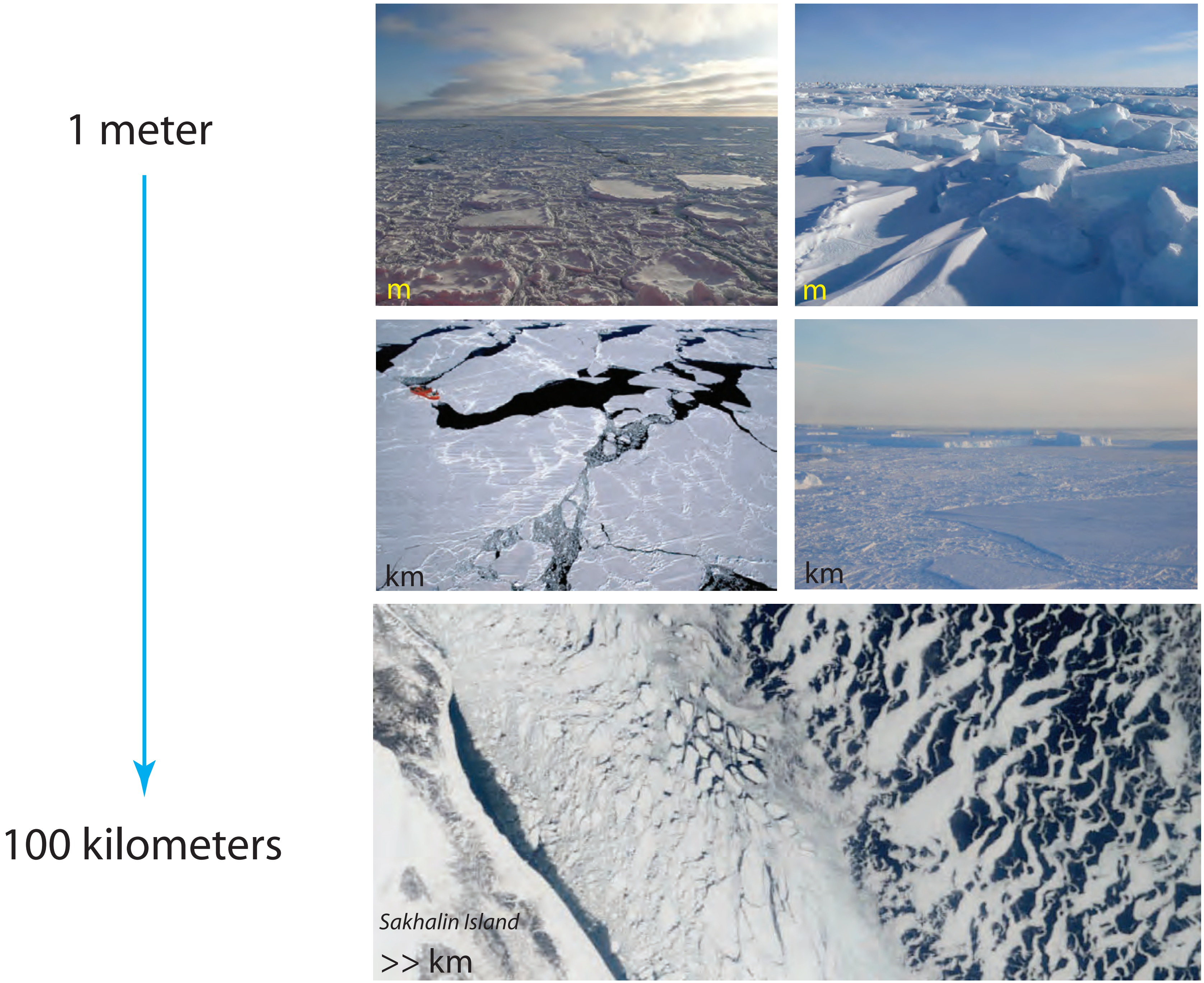
$$q = \frac{r_b}{r_i}$$

fractals and multiscale structure



sea ice displays ***multiscale*** structure over 10 orders of magnitude

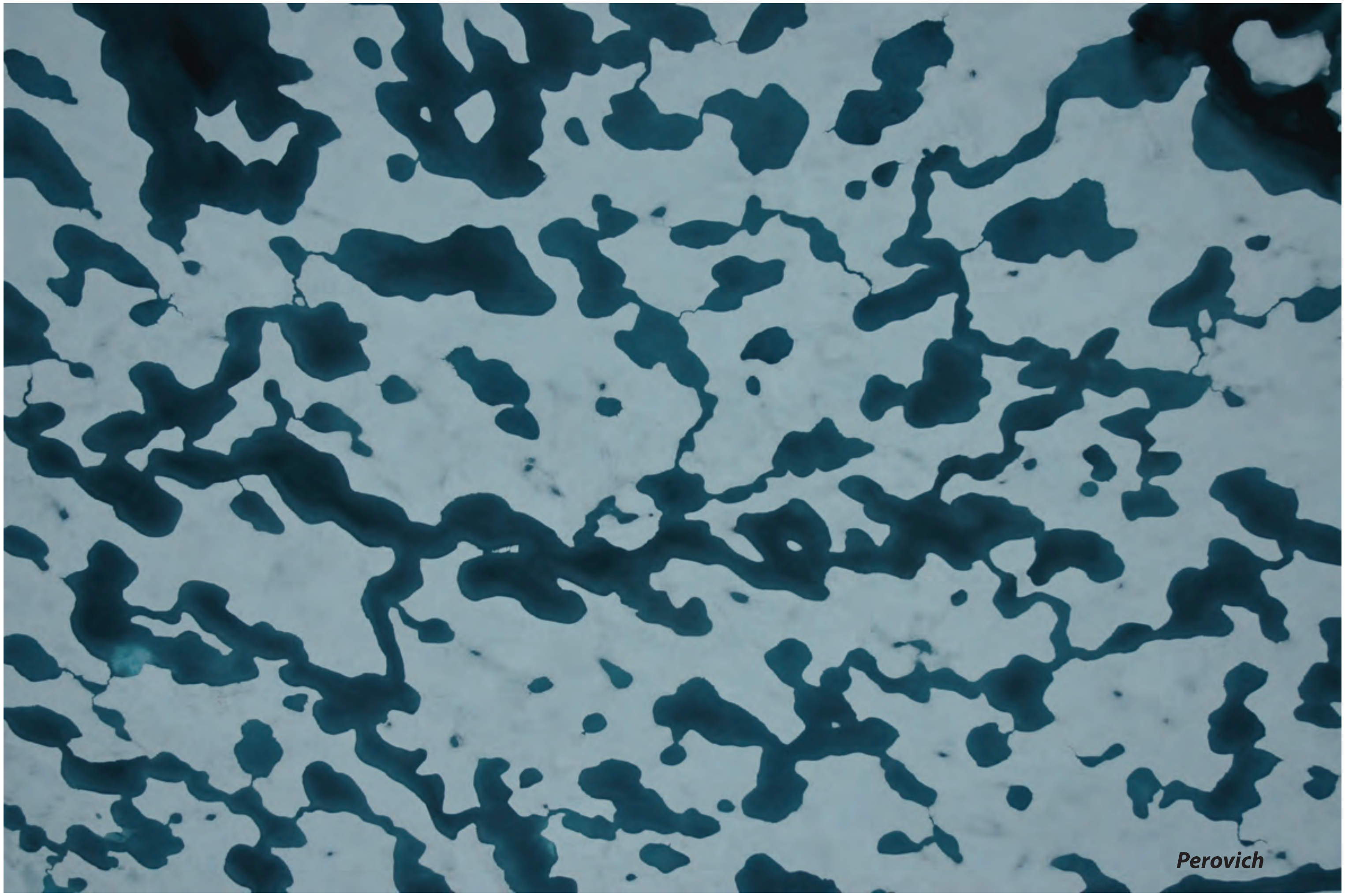




1 meter
100 kilometers
m
m
km
km
Sakhalin Island
>> km

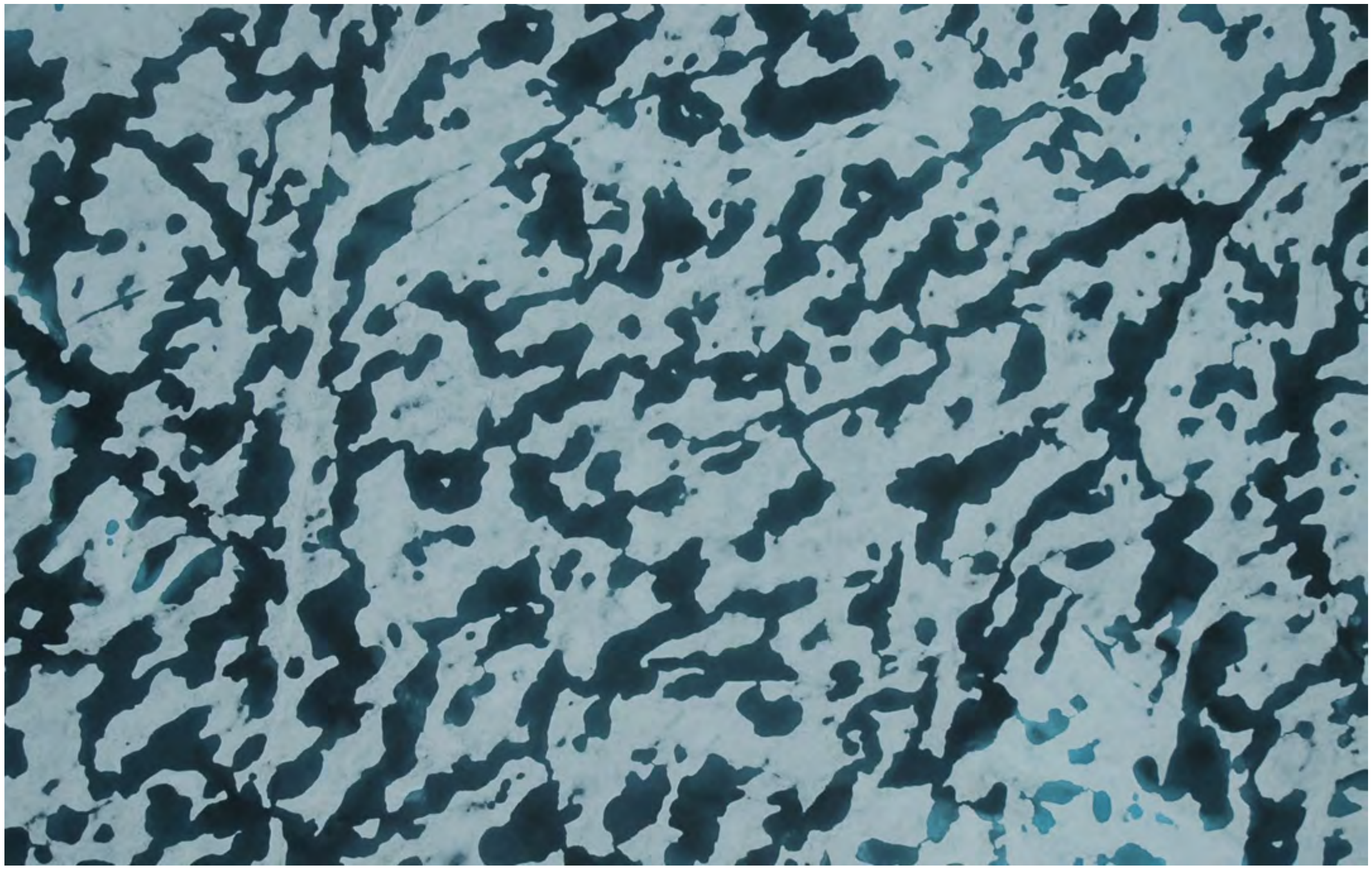
melt pond formation and albedo evolution:

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



Do melt ponds exhibit interesting multiscale structure?

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

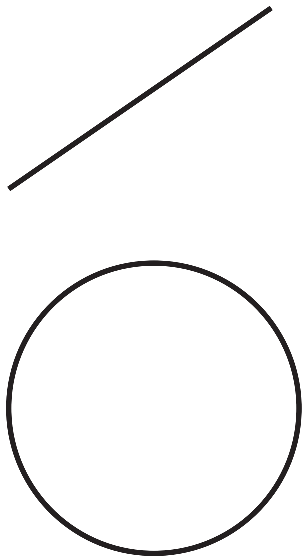


Transition in the fractal geometry of Arctic melt ponds

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

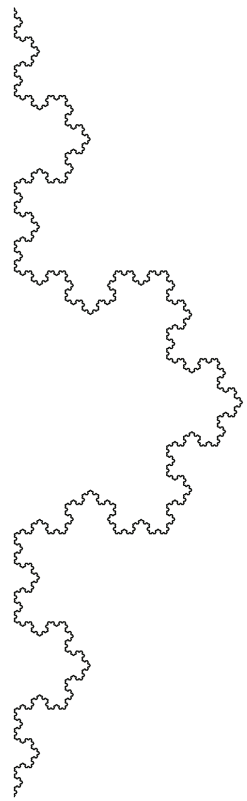
fractal curves in the plane

they wiggle so much that their dimension is >1



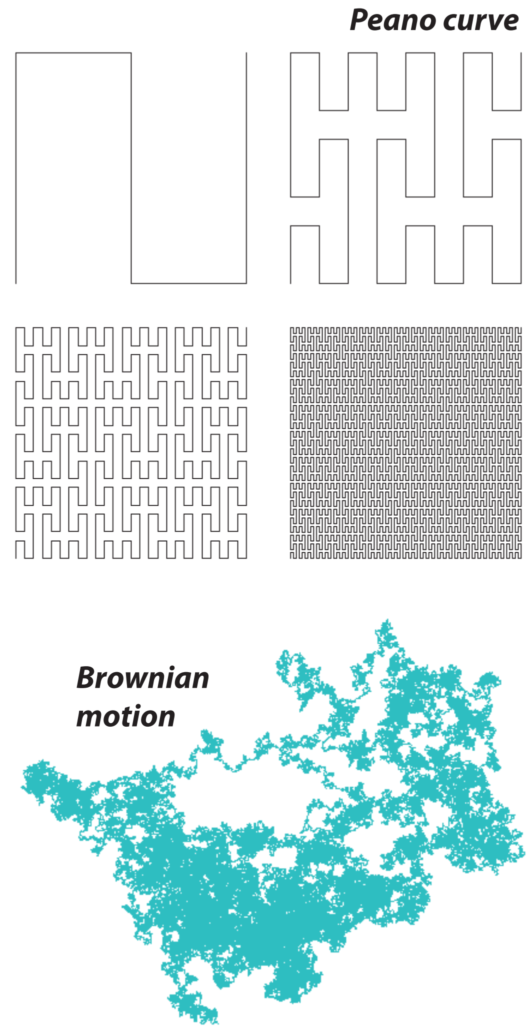
simple curves

D = 1



Koch snowflake

D = 1.26



space filling curves

D = 2

clouds exhibit fractal behavior from 1 to 1000 km

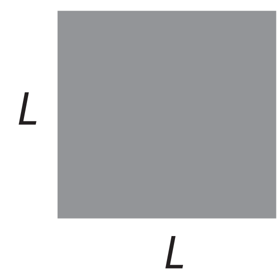
use ***perimeter-area*** data to find that cloud and rain boundaries are fractals

$$D \approx 1.35$$

S. Lovejoy, Science, 1982

$$P \sim \sqrt{A}$$

simple shapes

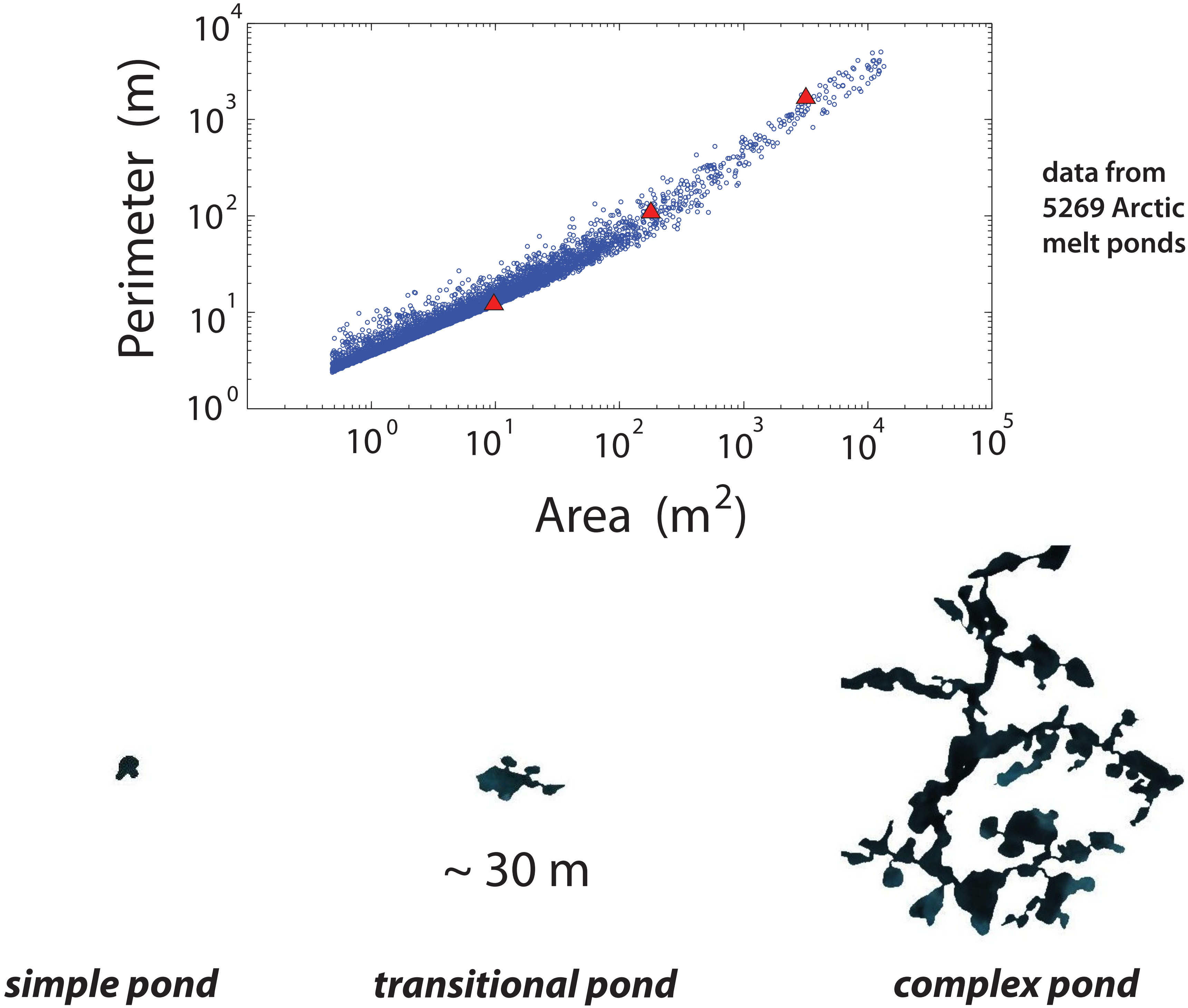


$A = L^2$

$P = 4L = 4\sqrt{A}$

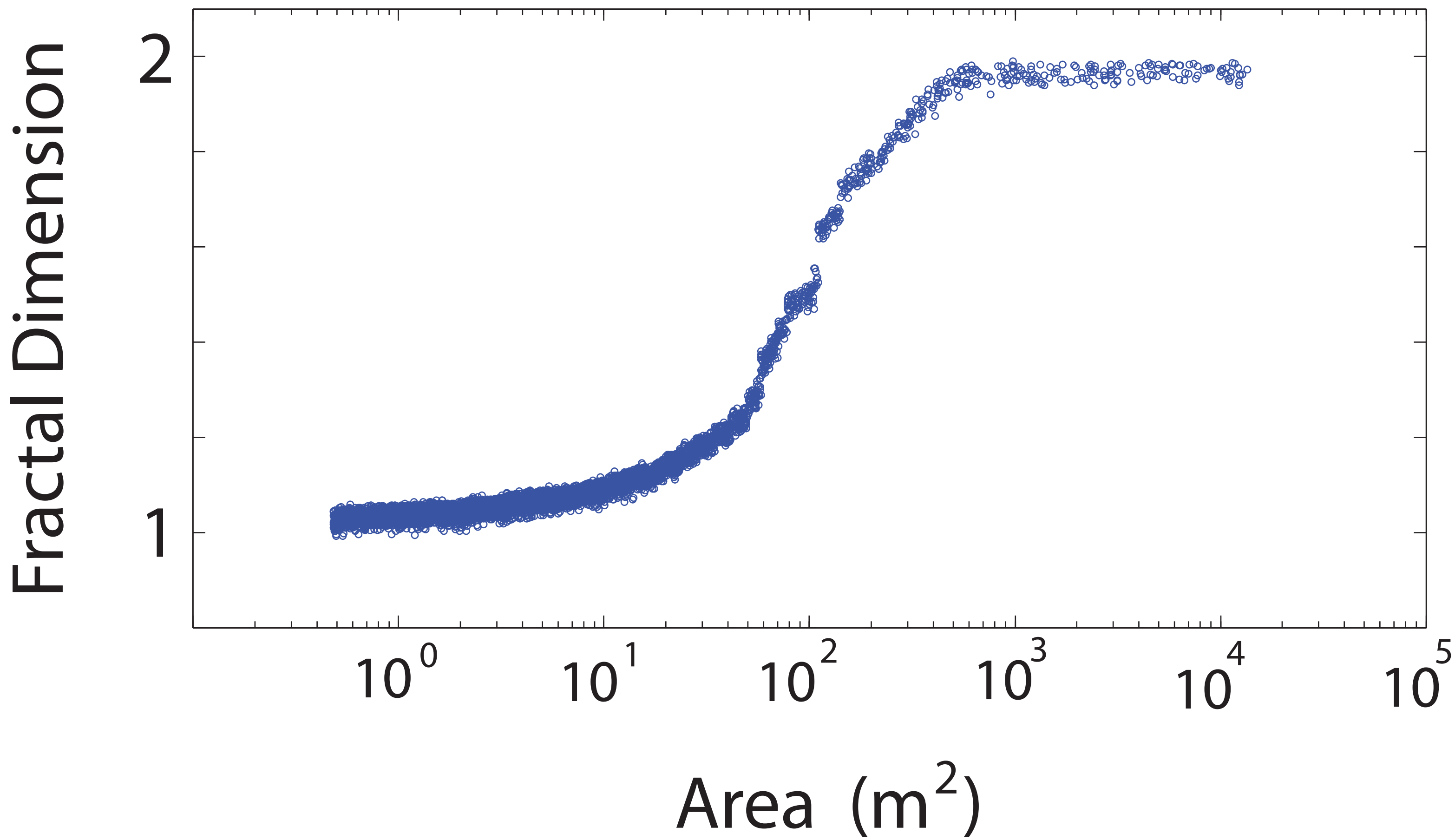
$$P \sim \sqrt{A}^{\,D}$$

for fractals with dimension D


Perimeter (m)
Area (m²)
data from 5269 Arctic melt ponds
~ 30 m
simple pond
transitional pond
complex pond

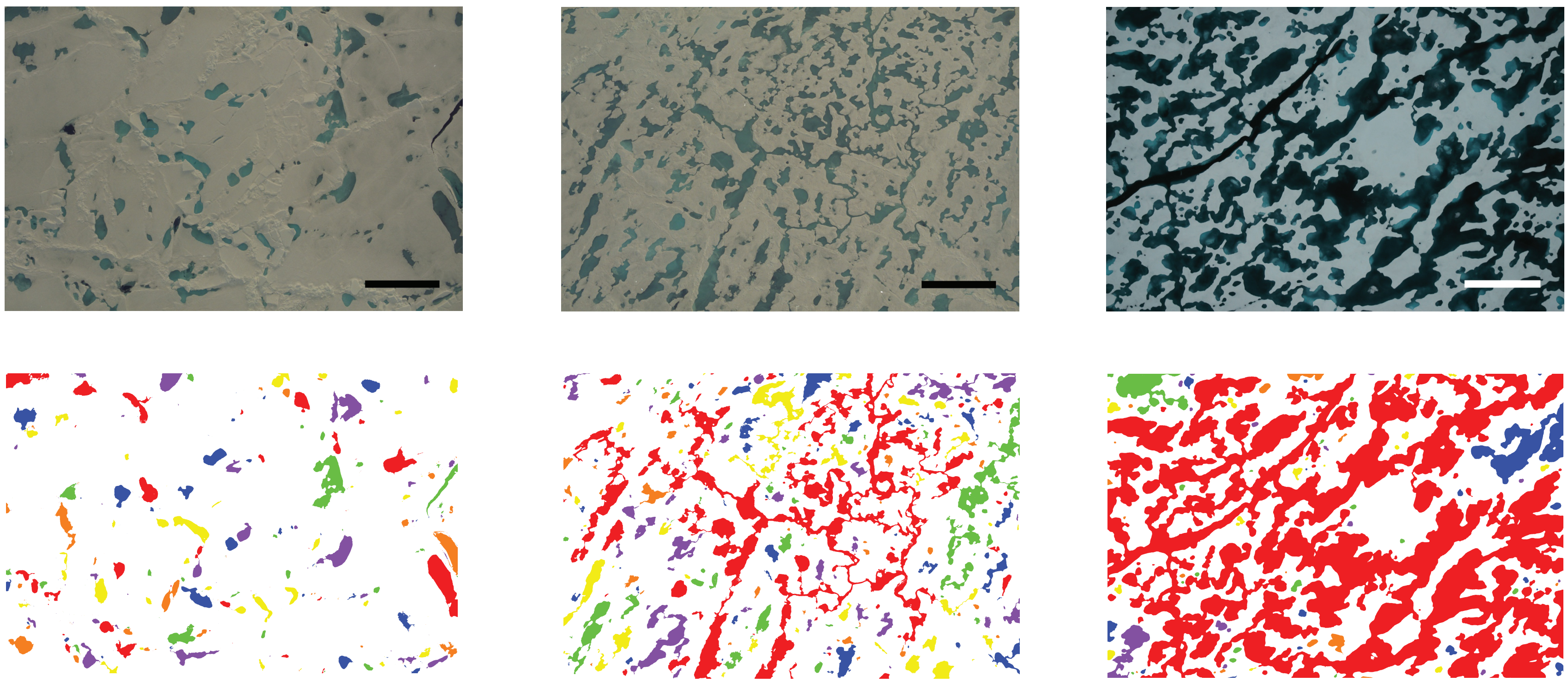
transition in the fractal dimension

complexity grows with length scale



compute "derivative" of area - perimeter data

small simple ponds coalesce to form large connected structures with complex boundaries



melt pond percolation

Buchanan Bay, Antarctica Mertz Glacier Polynya Experiment July 1999