



**Marine plastic pollution :
chemical threat to marine ecosystem**



Shige Takada

(Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology)

Topics

Anthropocene : Plastic age

Plastic pollution in organisms, Water,
Sediment core

Hazardous chemicals in marine plastics

International Pellet Watch

**Transfer and accumulation of hazardous chemicals
from ingested plastics to biological tissue**

Hazardous chemicals in microplastics

Topics

Anthropocene : Plastic age

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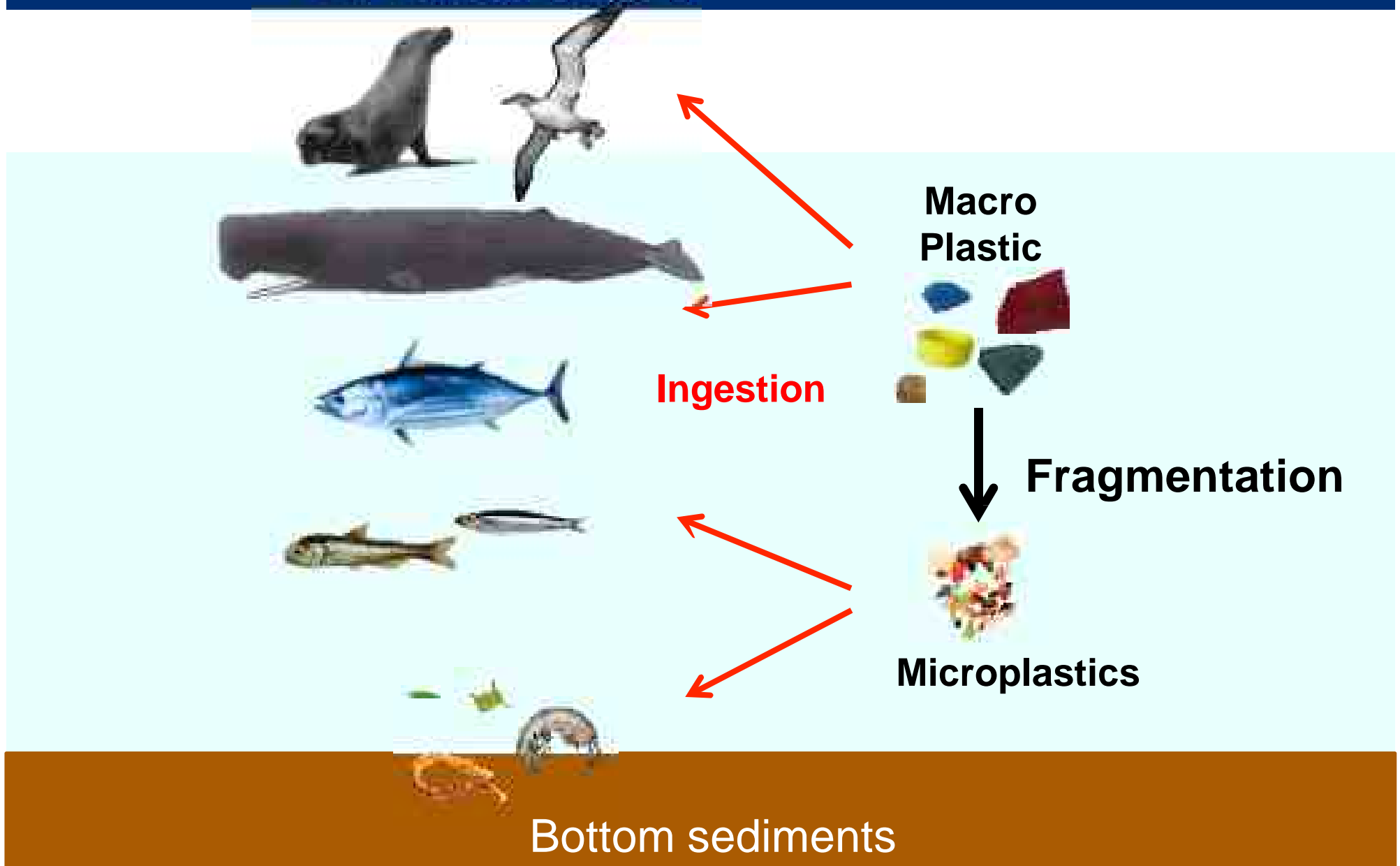
Hazardous chemicals in marine plastics

International Pellet Watch

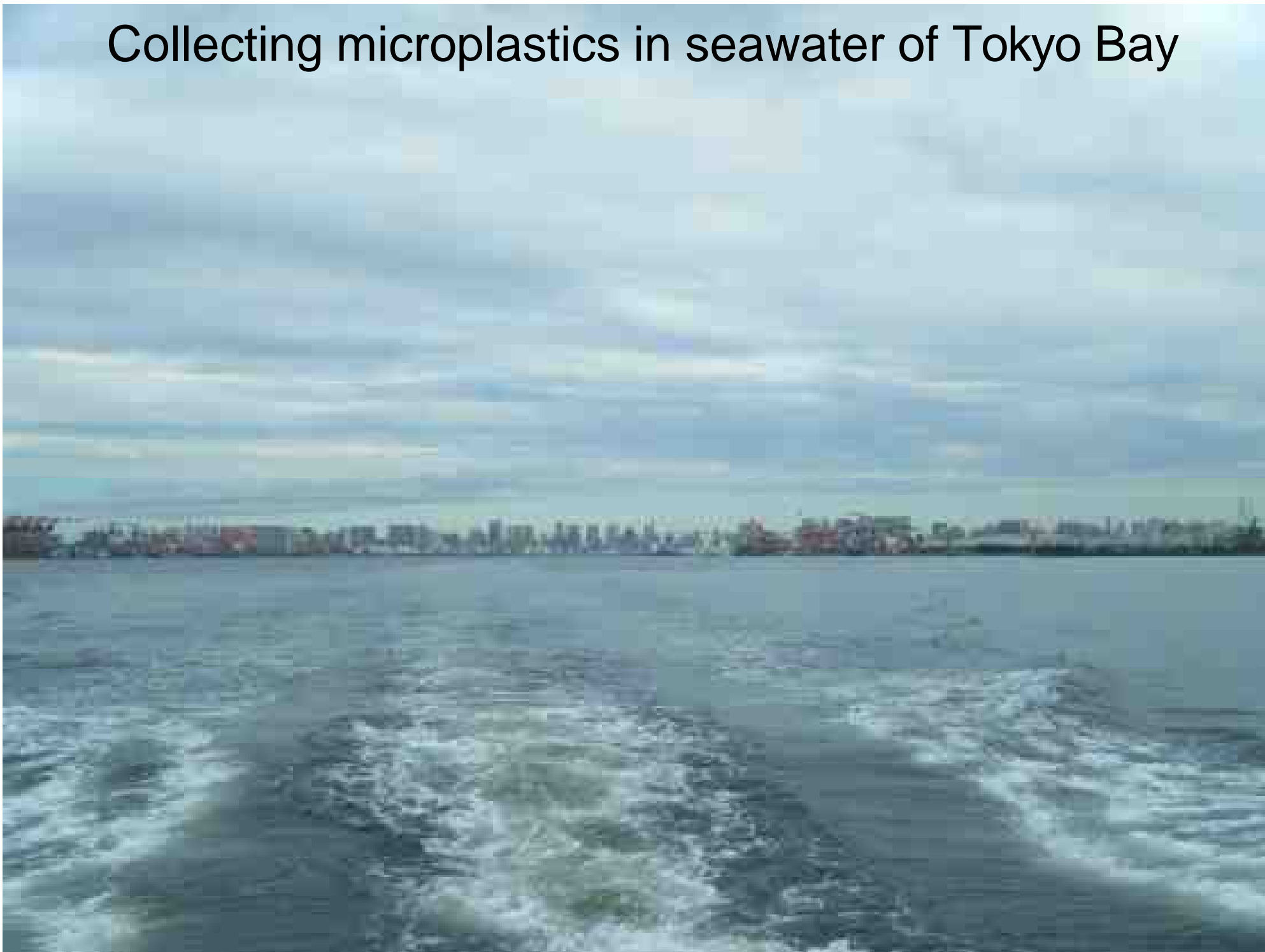
Transfer and accumulation of hazardous chemicals
from ingested plastics to biological tissue

Hazardous chemicals in microplastics

Plastics are fragmented into smaller particles (i.e. microplastics) and various sizes of marine plastics are ingested by various sizes of marine organisms



Collecting microplastics in seawater of Tokyo Bay



Collecting microplastics in seawater of Tokyo Bay

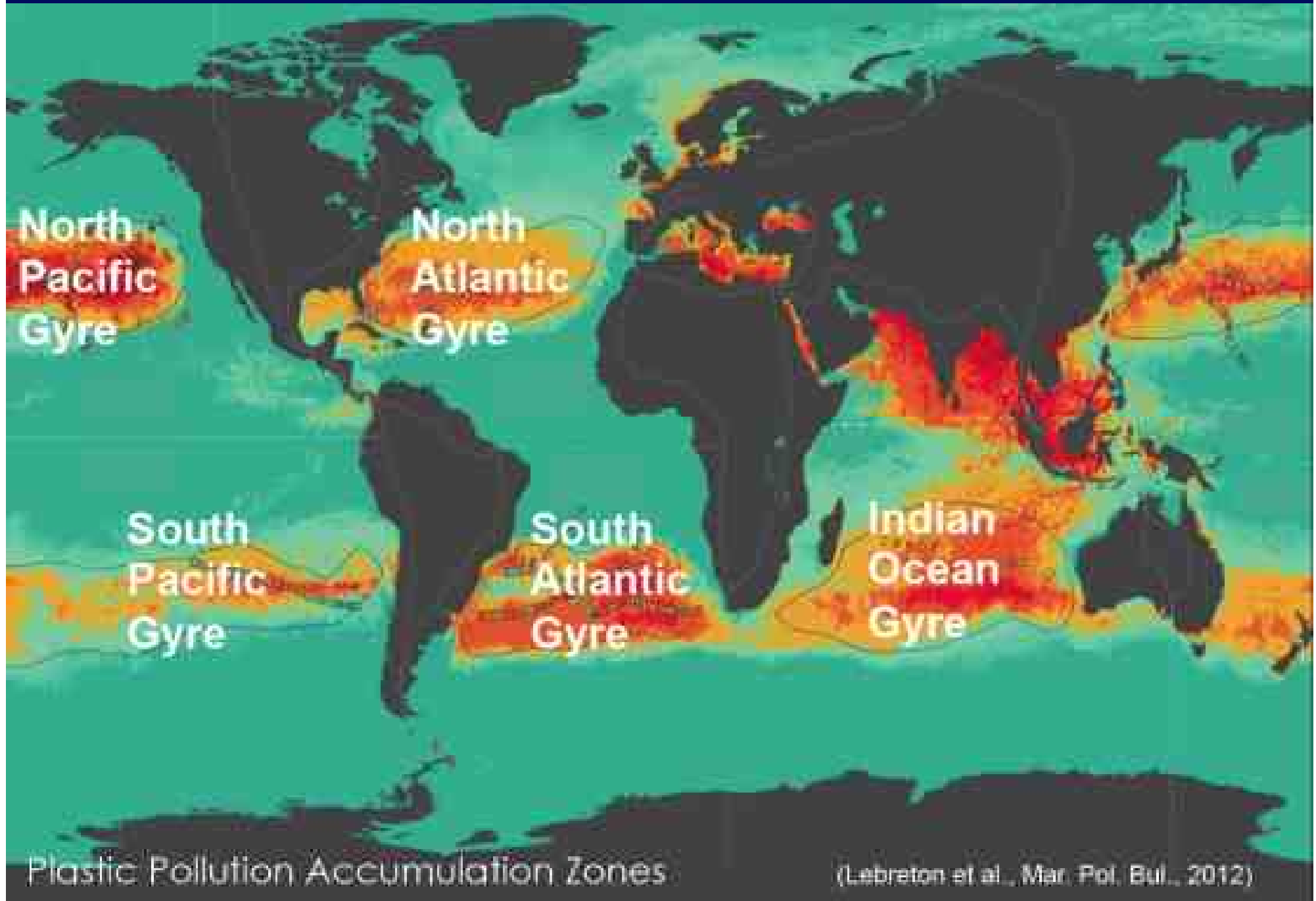




Microplastics in seawater of Tokyo Bay

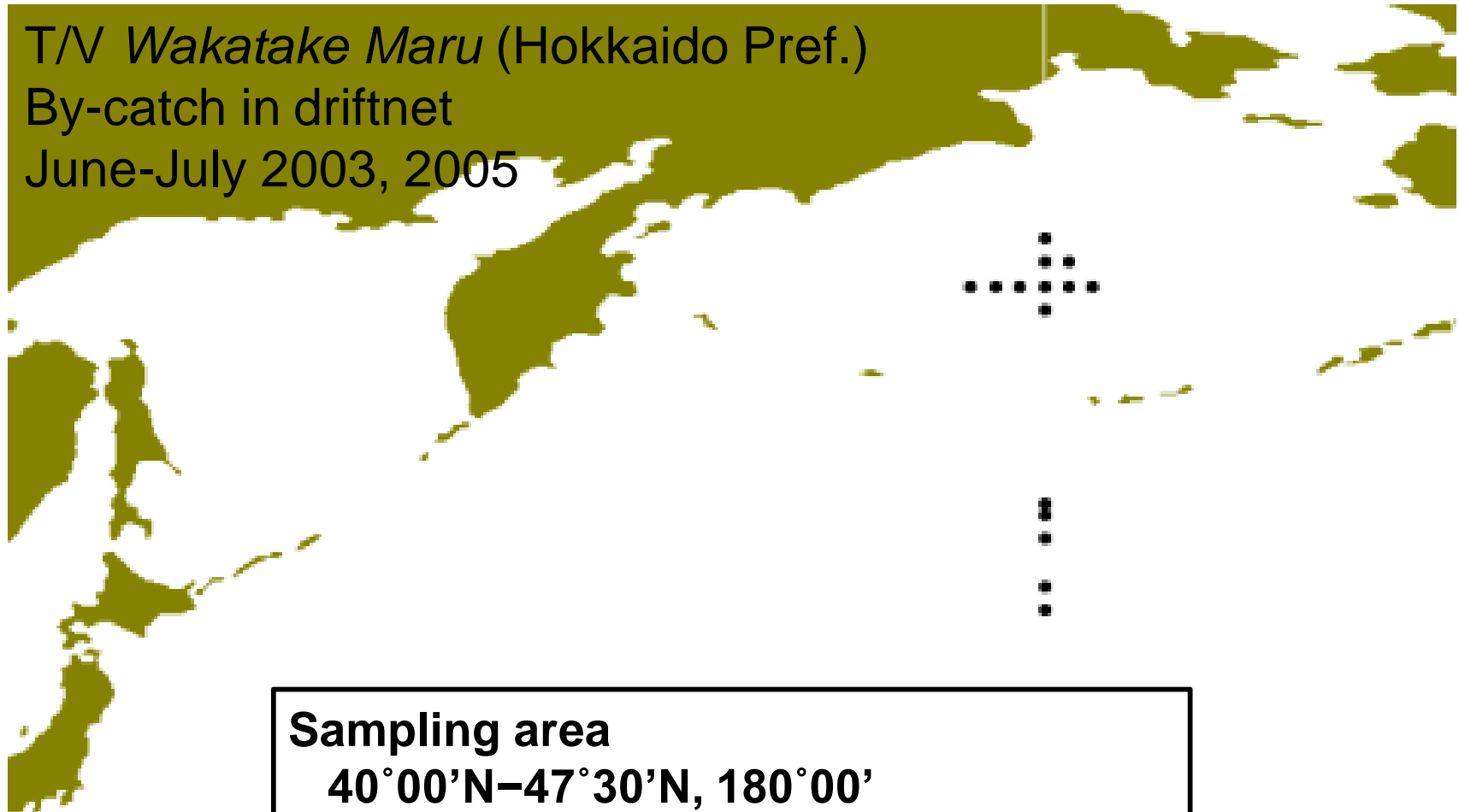


0.27 millions ton of plastics floating on world ocean



Short-tailed shearwater from Northern pacific

T/V *Wakatake Maru* (Hokkaido Pref.)
By-catch in driftnet
June-July 2003, 2005

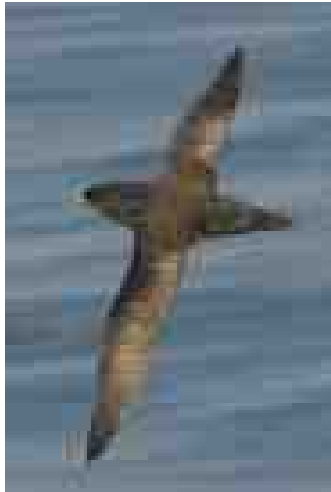


Sampling area

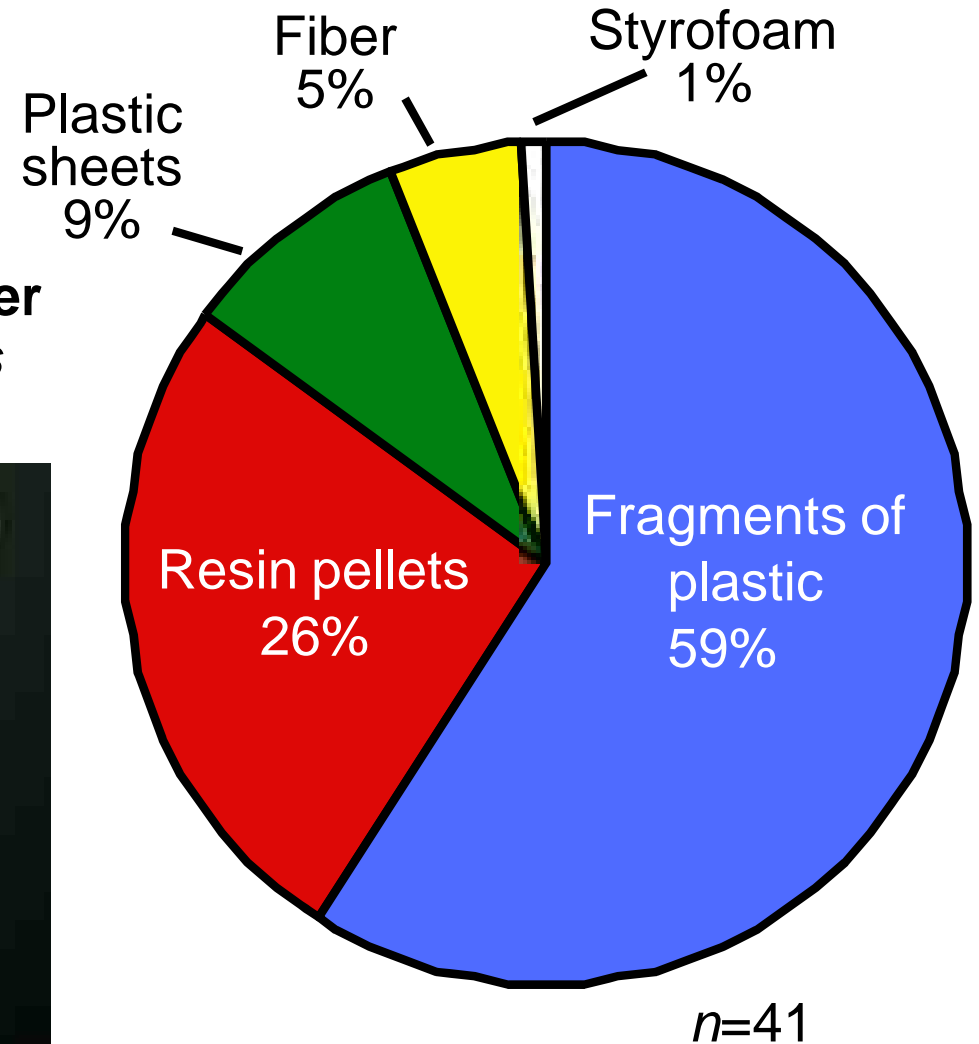
40°00'N–47°30'N, 180°00'

55°30'N–58°30'N, 178°00' E–178°00'W

Plastics found in digestive tracts of the seabirds



Short-tailed shearwater
Puffinus tenuirostris



Type and composition of plastics found in the stomachs of short-tailed shearwater.

Yamashita et al. 2011

Short-tailed shearwater from Northern pacific



Plastics detected in digestive tract of short-tailed shearwater



Plastics detected in digestive tract of short-tailed shearwater



0.1 g – 0.6 g per an individual

Marine organisms ingest plastics

More than 180 species of animals are known to have ingested plastic debris, including **birds**, **fish**, **turtles** and **marine mammals**.

Physical impacts of the ingested plastics have been reported for many species of organisms (Wright et al., 2013).



Plastics in Seabird



Plastics in Sea Turtle

Microplastics in lower-trophic-level organisms

Microplastics in bivalves cultured for human consumption

Lisbeth Van Cauwenberghe¹, Colin R. Janssen

Ghent University, Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology and Aquatic Ecology, Coupure links 653, 9000 Ghent, Belgium

Ingestion of Microplastics by Zooplankton in the Northeast Pacific Ocean

Jean-Pierre W. Desforges¹, Moira Galbraith², Peter S. Ross¹

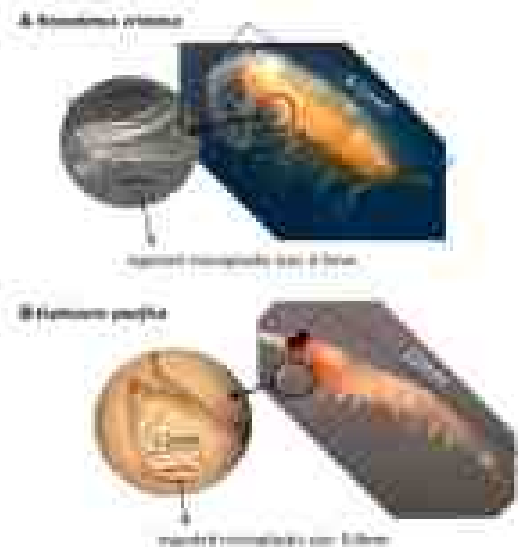


Fig. 2 The feeding apparatus anatomy of *M. edulis* and *C. gigas* are shown to suggest that the size of filtered microplastic particles must be within the physical limits of siphon size and filtering capacity of water. The average microplastic particle size detected in this study is discussed relative to the size of water for both bivalve species.

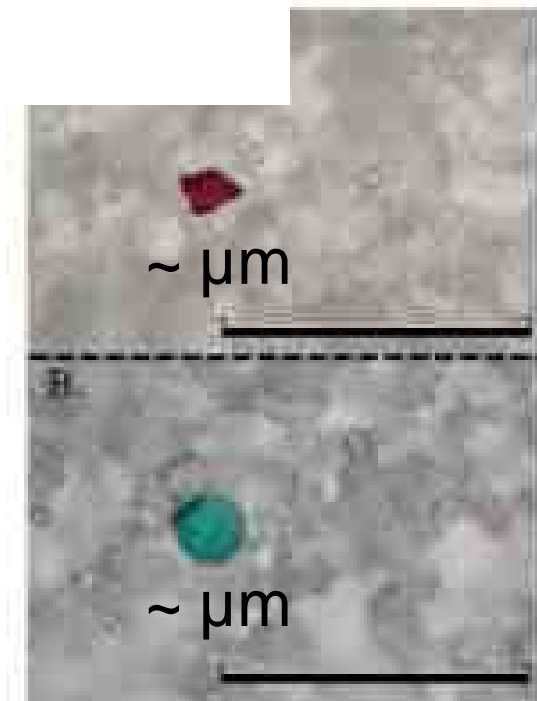


Fig. 3. Microplastics detected in the acid-digested *Mytilus edulis* and *Crassostrea gigas*. A. Red particle recovered from *Mytilus edulis*. B. Green sphere detected in the soft tissue of *Crassostrea gigas*. (Scale bar: 10 μm). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

OPEN

Anthropogenic debris in seafood: Plastic debris and fibers from textiles in fish and bivalves sold for human consumption

received: 20 April 2022
 revised: 29 August 2022
 accepted: 14 September 2022

Chebes M. Rochman^{1*}, Akbar Tahir², Susan L. Willis³, Jeffrey T. Miller⁴, Foo-Ching Tzai⁵, Shinta Weronian⁶

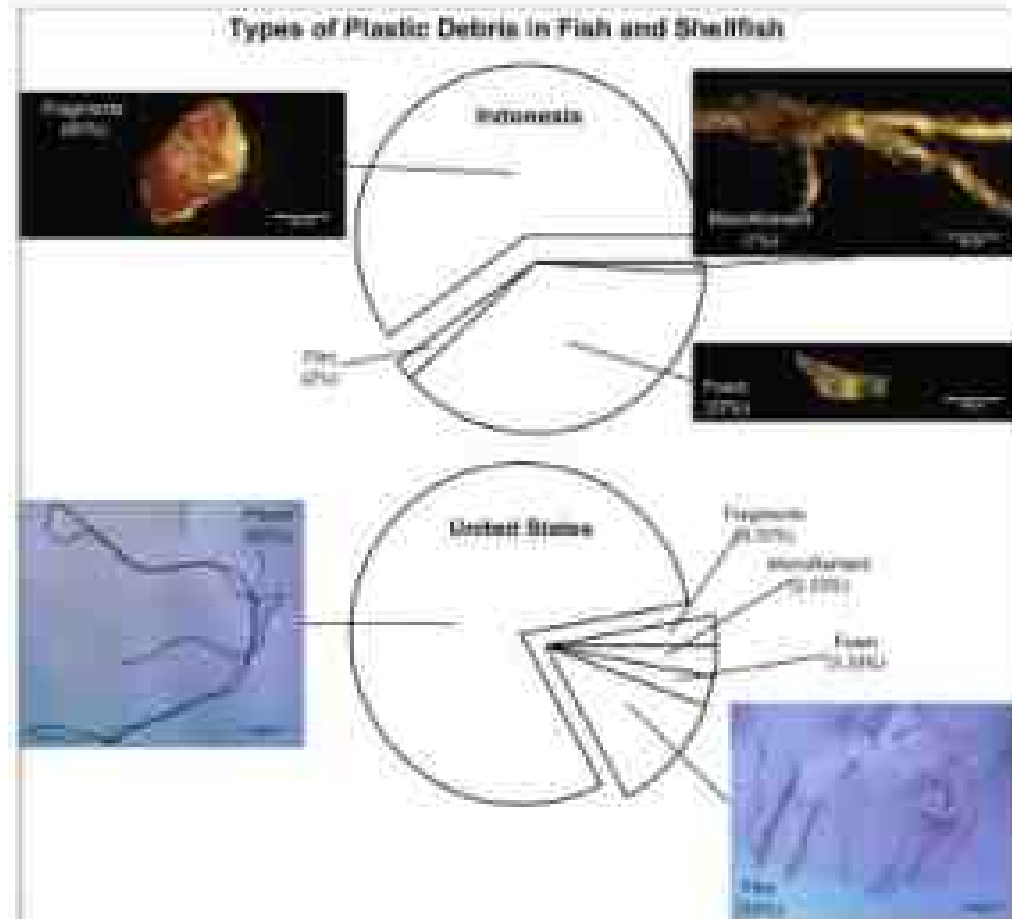


Figure 3. Types of anthropogenic debris in market fish products sampled from Indonesia and the United States. The pie charts above show the percentage of each type (i.e. plastic fragments, fibers, plastic film, plastic foam and plastic microplastics) of anthropogenic debris found across all fish sampled from Indonesia (top) and the United States (bottom). Images show examples of each type of debris found. Scale bars are all identical (see text for details).

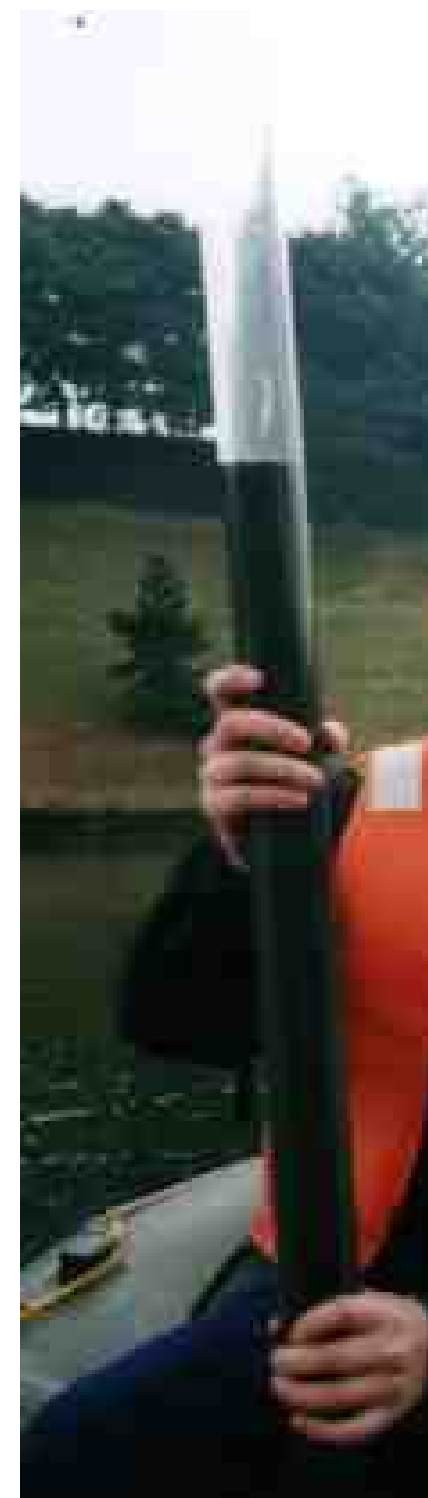
Microplastics were detected in 49 of 64 anchovies



10 cm



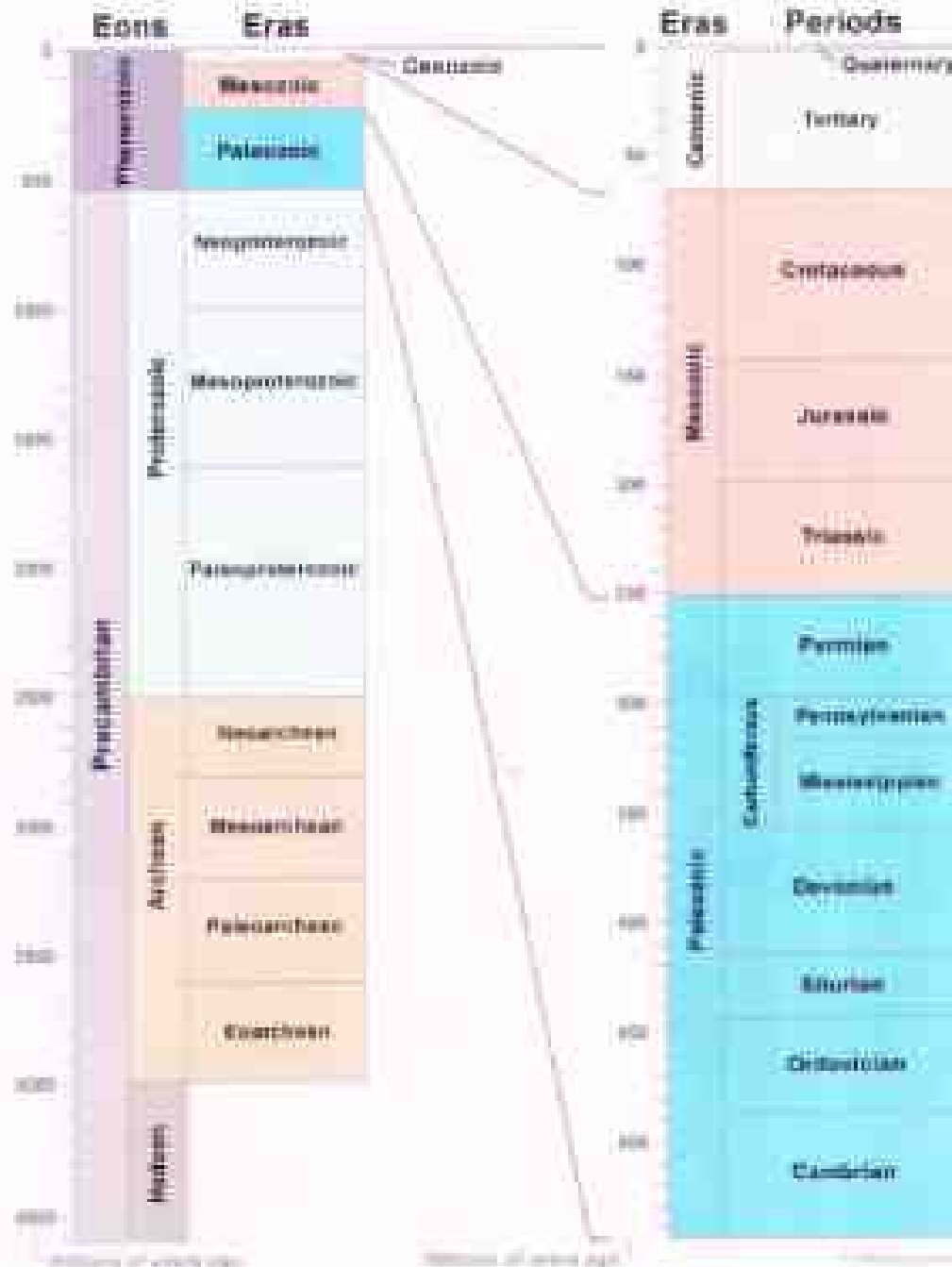
Microplastics in sediment core from Sakurada moat showed increasing trend from 1950s to 2000s, though no plastics were detected in 1600s.



Sedimentary microplastics showed increasing trend in Asia and African coasts.



Geologic Time Scale

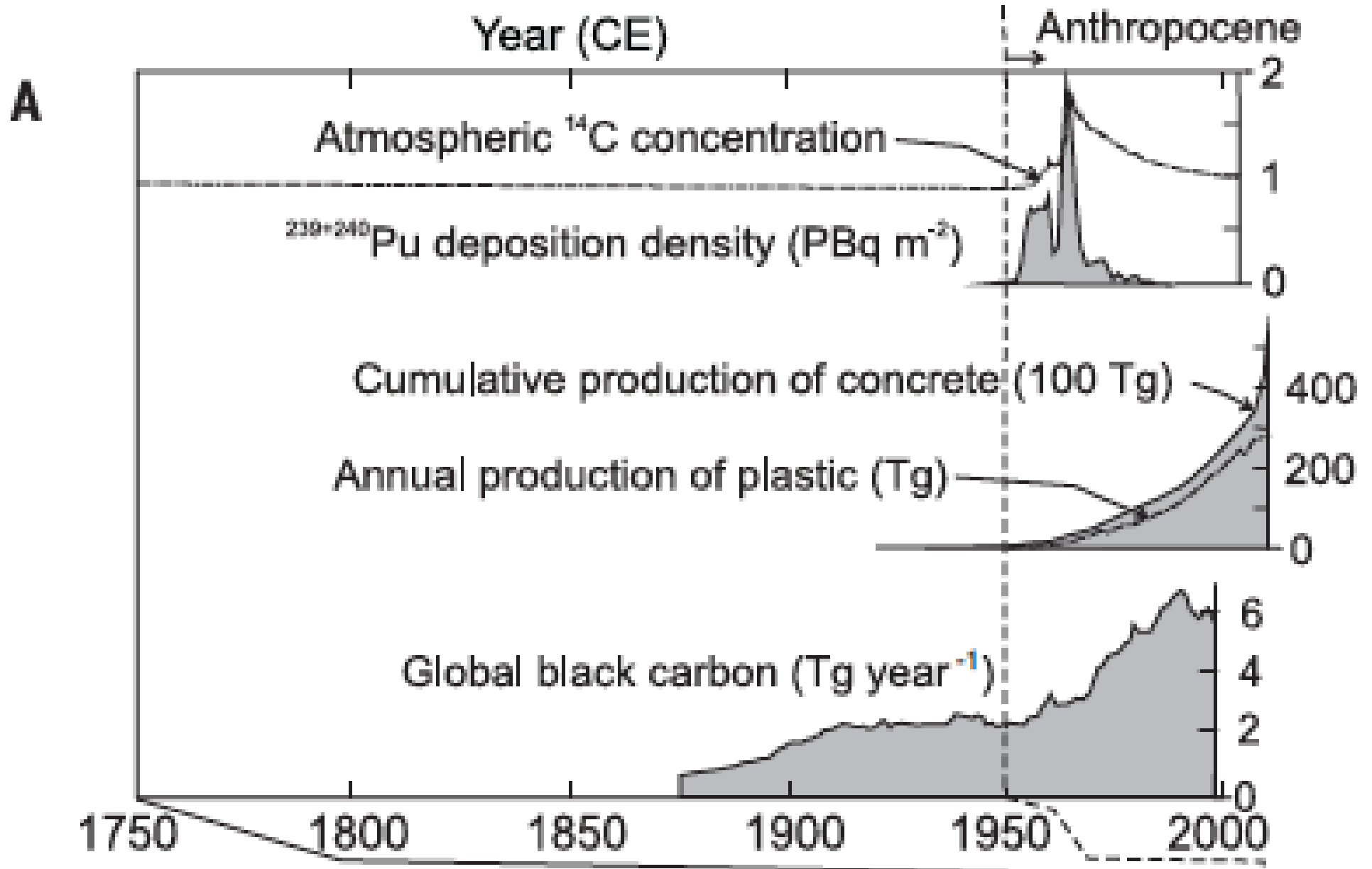


Anthropocene

Quaternary	Holocene	present
		0.0117
	Upper	0.126
	Middle	0.781
	Calabrian	1.80
	Gelasian	2.58

The Anthropocene is functionally and stratigraphically distinct from the Holocene

Colin N. Waters,^{1*} Jan Zalasiewicz,² Colin Summerhayes,³ Anthony D. Barnosky,⁴ Clément Poirier,⁵ Agnieszka Galuszka,⁶ Alejandro Cearreta,⁷ Matt Edgeworth,⁸ Eric C. Ellis,⁹ Michael Ellis,¹ Catherine Jeandel,¹⁰ Reinhold Leinfelder,¹¹ J. R. McNeill,¹² Daniel deB. Richter,¹¹ Will Steffen,¹⁴ James Syvitski,¹³ Davor Vidas,¹⁶ Michael Wagemann,¹⁷ Mark Williams,² An Zhisheng,¹⁸ Jacques Grinevald,¹⁹ Eric Odada,²⁰ Naomi Oreskes,²¹ Alexander P. Wolfe²²



Topics

Anthropocene : Plastic age

Plastic pollution in organisms, Water,
Sediment core

Hazardous chemicals in marine plastics

International Pellet Watch

Transfer and accumulation of hazardous chemicals
from ingested plastics to biological tissue

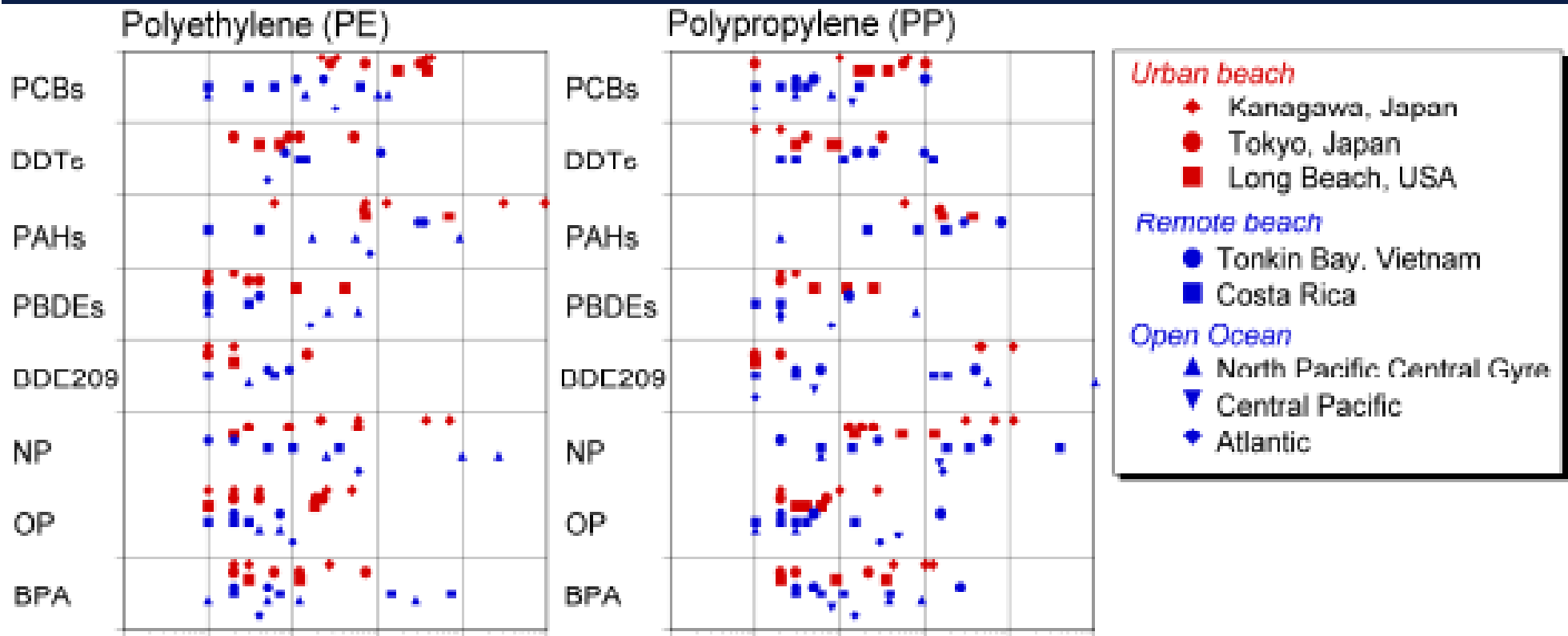
Hazardous chemicals in microplastics

Sampling locations of plastic fragments



- Urban beach
- Rural beach
- ◆ Open ocean

Detection of various hazardous chemicals in marine plastic fragments

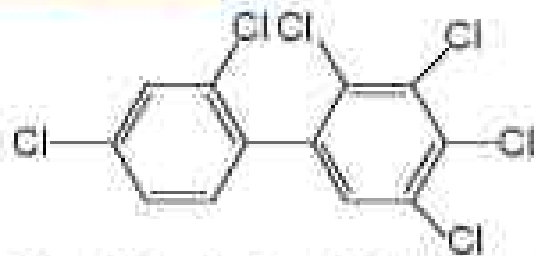


➡ chemicals ranging from 1 to 10,000 ng/g

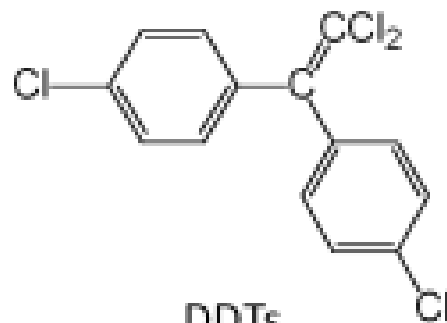
➡ Large variability among the fragments

Plastics carry two types of chemicals in marine environment

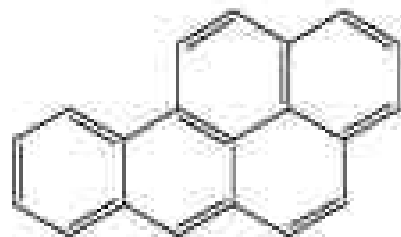
Sorption from ambient seawater



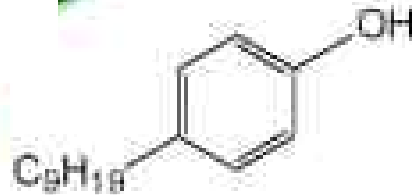
Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs)



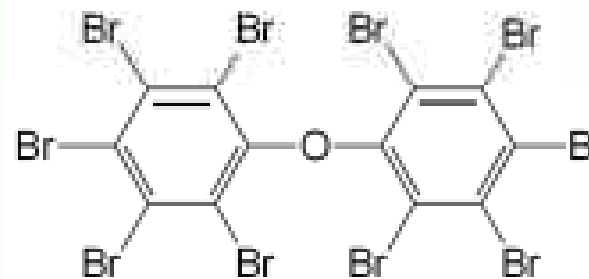
DDTs



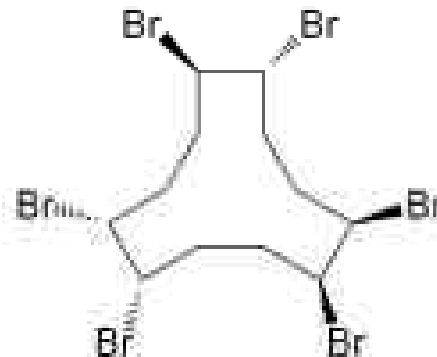
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)



Nonylphenol

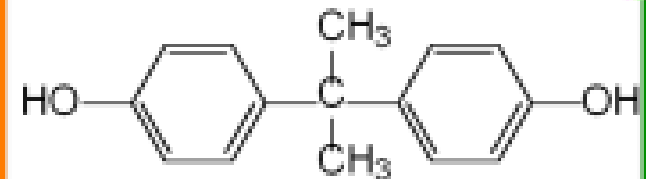


Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)



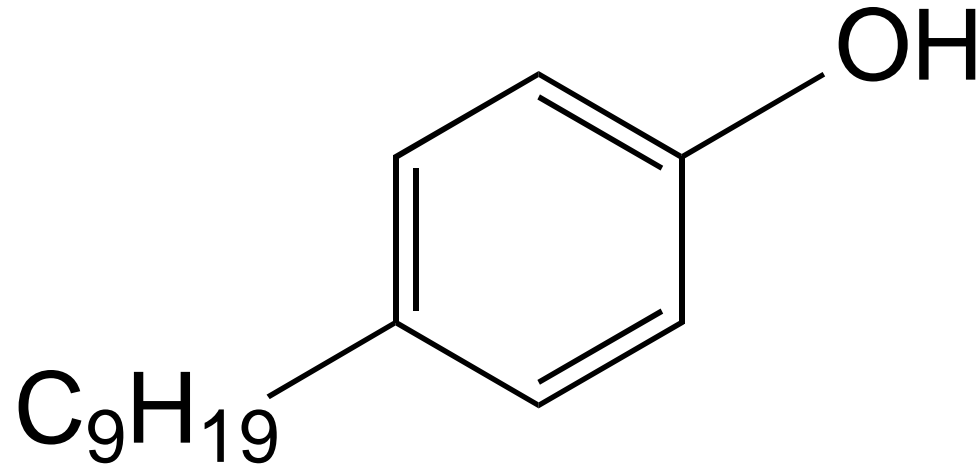
Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDs)

Additive-derived chemicals



Bisphenol A

Nonylphenol : Endocrine disrupting chemicals

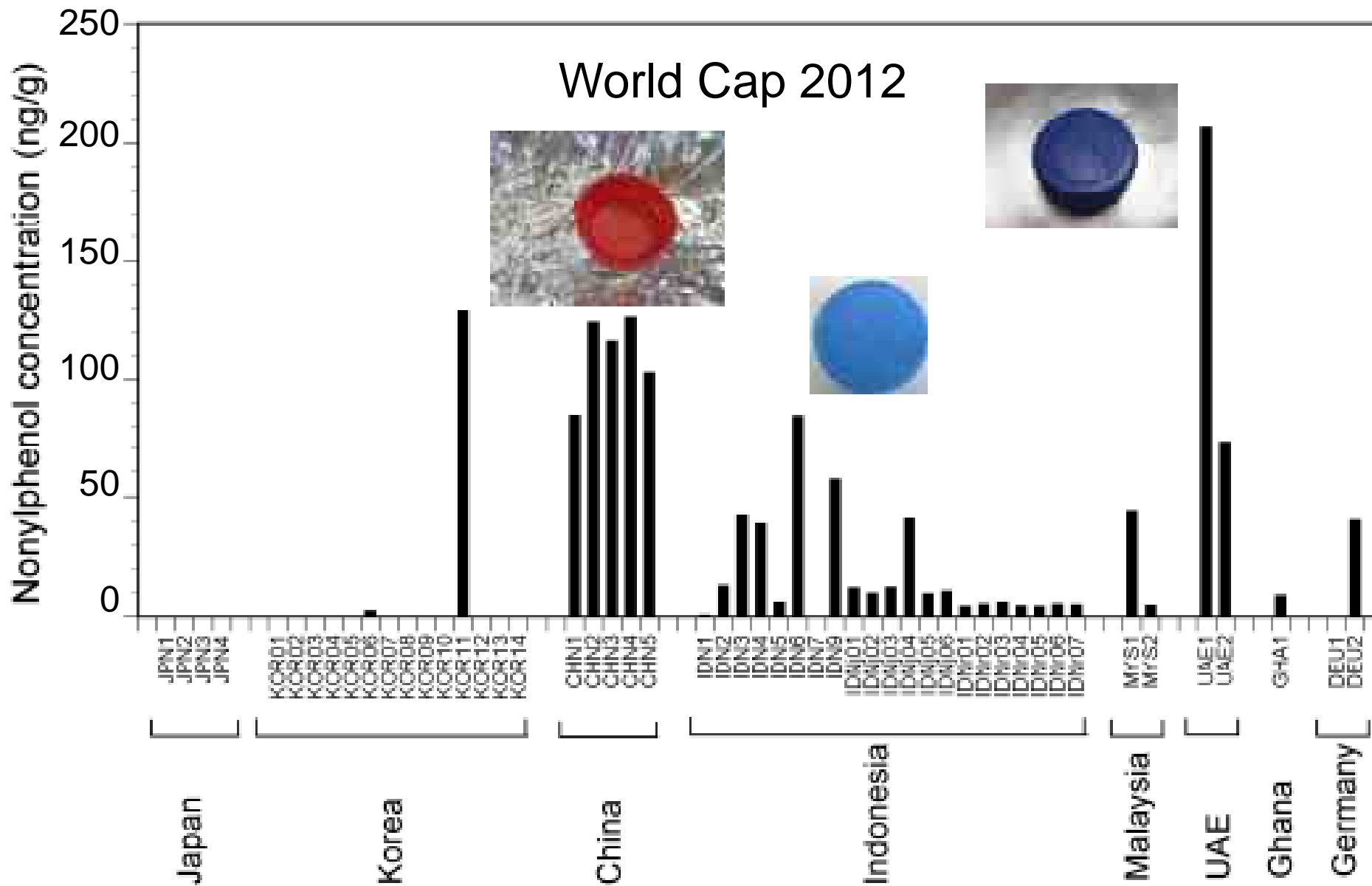


Additives to plastic

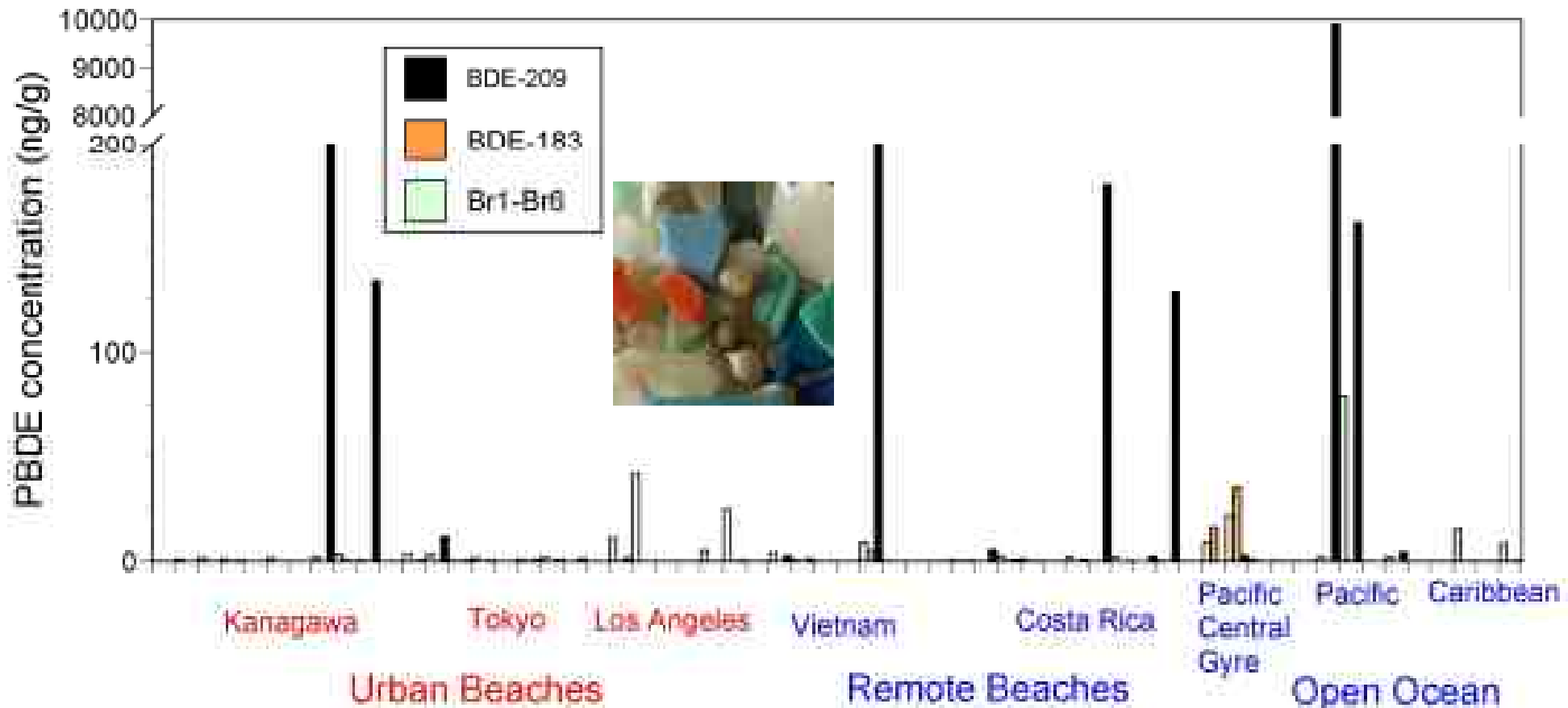
Antioxidants
Antistatic agents

- disorders in the reproductive system
- vaginal clear cell adenocarcinoma
- decreased ability to reproduce

Endocrine disrupting chemicals released from plastic caps of mineral water bottles

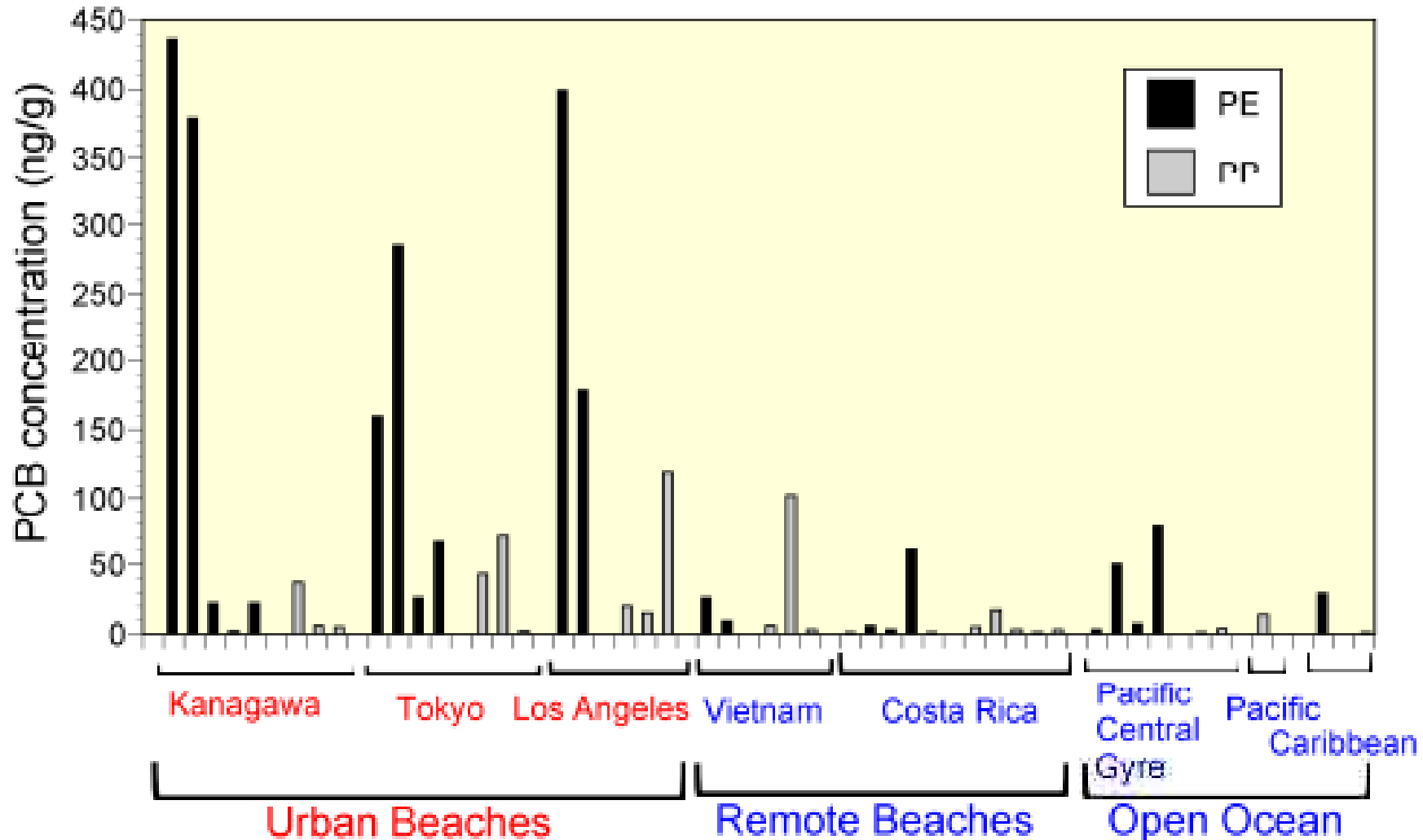


Distributions of PBDE congeners in marine plastic fragments



➔ BDE209 and BDE183 were sporadically detected in marine plastics even from open ocean

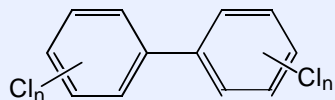
Distribution of PCBs in plastic fragments



Sporadic high concentrations of PCBs were detected even in remote beaches and open ocean

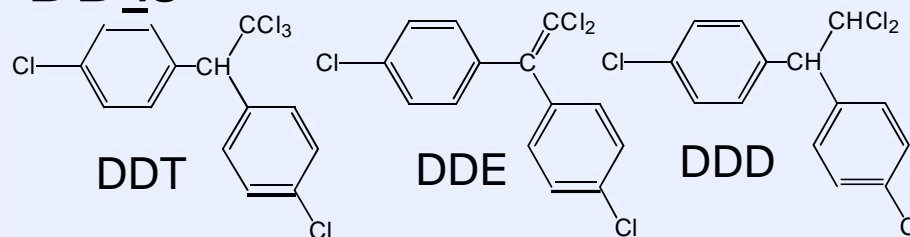
Pellets accumulate POPs from seawater

PCBs



- Industrial products for a variety of uses including dielectric fluid, heat medium, and lubricants.
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals

DDTs

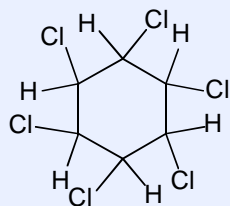


- DDT and its metabolites such as DDE and DDD.
- DDT was used as insecticides
- Endocrine disrupting chemicals

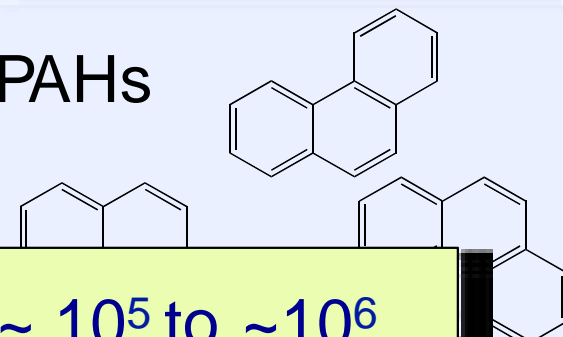
adsorption from ambient seawater

Plastics

HCH



PAHs



Concentration factor is estimated to be $\sim 10^5$ to $\sim 10^6$.

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International Pellet Watch

Global Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
Using Beached Plastic Resin Pellets



Since 2005

More than 50 pieces (~
100 pieces)
per one location

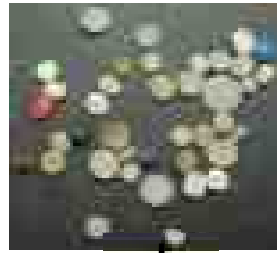
Air Mail

Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry, Dr. Hideshige Takada,
Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology,
Fuchu, Tokyo 183-8509, Japan

Plastic resin pellet from various areas in the world



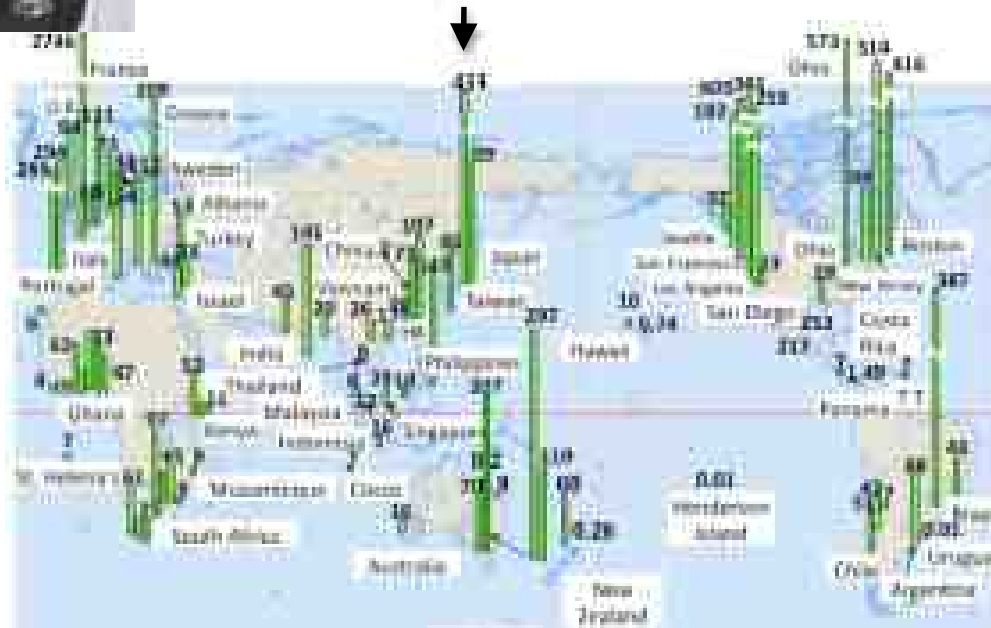
Analysis for persistent organic pollutants (POPs)



Chemical Analysis



Status of
Global
pollution



Chemical
hazardousness of
marine plastics

- Feed the data back to the collaborators via e-mail
- Releasing the results on web <http://www.pelletwatch.org/>

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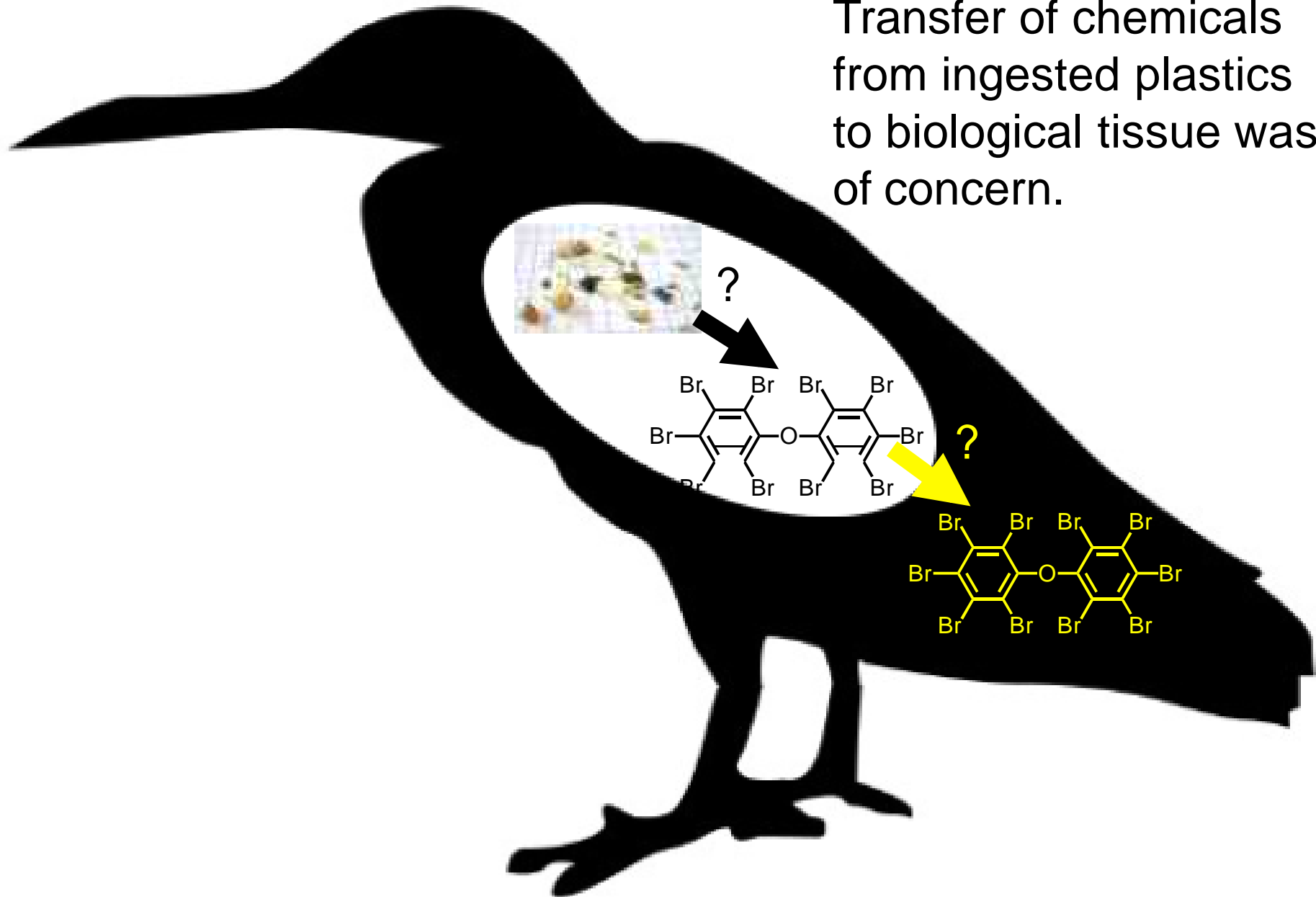
International Pellet Watch

Transfer and accumulation of hazardous chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue

Hazardous chemicals in microplastics

Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue

Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue was of concern.





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Marine Pollution Bulletin

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/marpolbul



Baseline

Edited by Bruce J. Richardson

The objective of BASELINE is to publish short communications on different aspects of pollution of the marine environment. Only those papers which clearly identify the quality of the data will be considered for publication. Contributors to Baseline should refer to 'Baseline—The New Format and Content' (*Mar. Pollut. Bull.* **60**, 1–2).

Physical and chemical effects of ingested plastic debris on short-tailed shearwaters, *Puffinus tenuirostris*, in the North Pacific Ocean

Rei Yamashita^{a,c,*}, Hideshige Takada^a, Masa-aki Fukuwaka^b, Yutaka Watanuki^c

^a Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry (LOG), Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Fuchu, Tokyo 183-8508, Japan

^b Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute, Fisheries Research Agency (FRA), 116 Katsuruki, Kushiro, Hokkaido 085-0802, Japan

^c Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University, 5-2-1 Minato, Hokkaido 047-8611, Japan



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Baseline

Accumulation of plastic-derived chemicals in tissues of seabirds ingesting marine plastics

Kosuke Tanaka^a, Hideshige Takada^{a*}, Rei Yamashita^a, Kaoruko Mizukawa^a, Masa-aki Fukuwaka^b, Yutaka Watanuki^c

^aLaboratory of Organic Geochemistry (LOG), Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Fuchu, Tokyo 183-8509, Japan

^bHokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute, Fisheries Research Agency, Kushiro, Hokkaido 085-0802, Japan

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ARTICLE INFO

Keywords

Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)

Plastic debris

Additives

North Pacific Ocean

Short-tailed shearwater

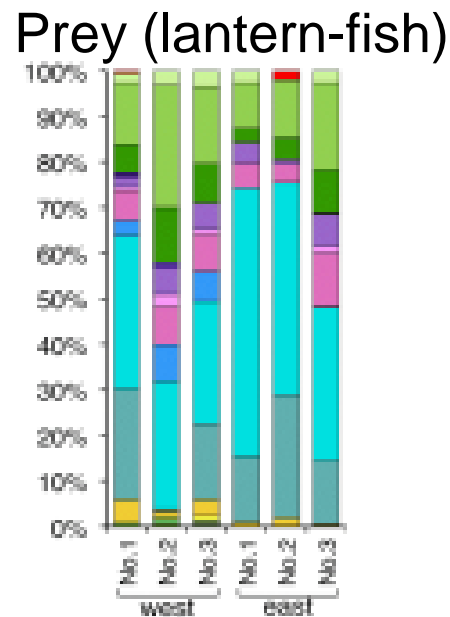
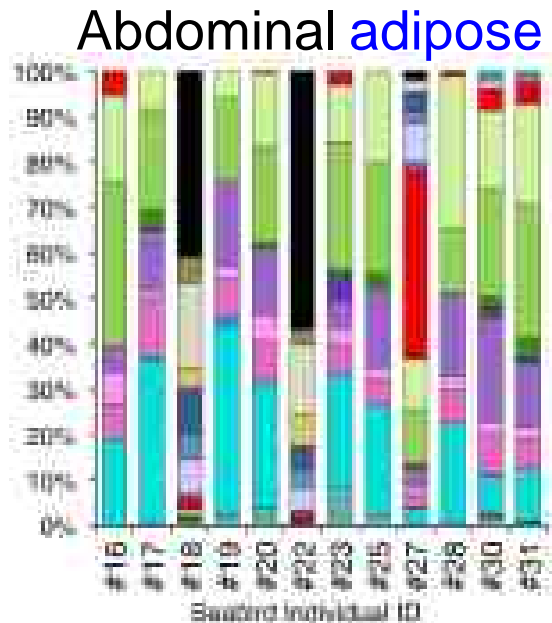
Bioaccumulation

ABSTRACT

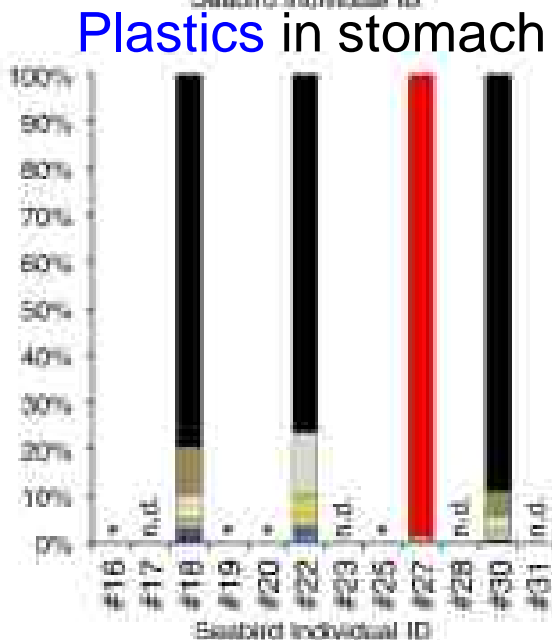
We analyzed polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) in abdominal adipose of oceanic seabirds (short-tailed shearwaters, *Puffinus tenuirostris*) collected in northern North Pacific Ocean. In 3 of 12 birds, we detected higher-brominated congeners (viz., BDE209 and BDE183), which are not present in the natural prey (pelagic fish) of the birds. The same compounds were present in plastic found in the stomachs of the 3 birds. These data suggested the transfer of plastic-derived chemicals from ingested plastic to the tissues of marine-based organisms.

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Composition of BDE congeners in seabird adipose, plastics in the stomachs, and their prey.



10Br	209	206
9Br	207	208
8Br	196	203
	197	202
7Br	179	188
	190	181
	183	166
6Br	138	153
	154	155
5Br	126	85
	118	116
	99	119
	100	77
4Br	66	47
	71	49
	75	37
3Br	35	33/28
	17/25	32
	30	15
2Br	12/13	8
	11	7
	10	3
1Br	2	1



Higher brominated congeners were derived from ingested plastics, whereas lower brominated congeners were derived from natural prey

Facilitated Leaching of Additive-Derived PBDEs from Plastic by Seabirds' Stomach Oil and Accumulation in Tissues

Kosuke Tanaka,¹ Hideshige Takada,^{2,3} Rei Yamashita,³ Kaoruko Mizukawa,¹ Masa-aki Fukuwaka,² and Yutaka Watanuki¹

¹Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Fuchu, Tokyo 183-8509, Japan

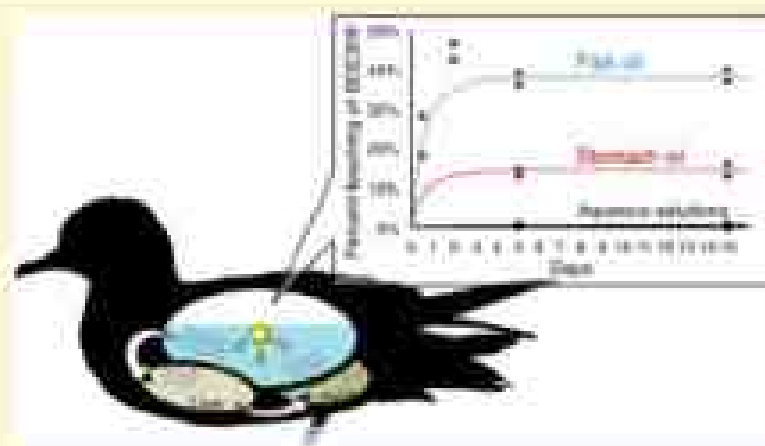
²Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute, Fisheries Research Agency, Kushiro, Hokkaido 083-0802, Japan

³Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University, Hakodate, Hokkaido 041-8611, Japan

 Supporting Information

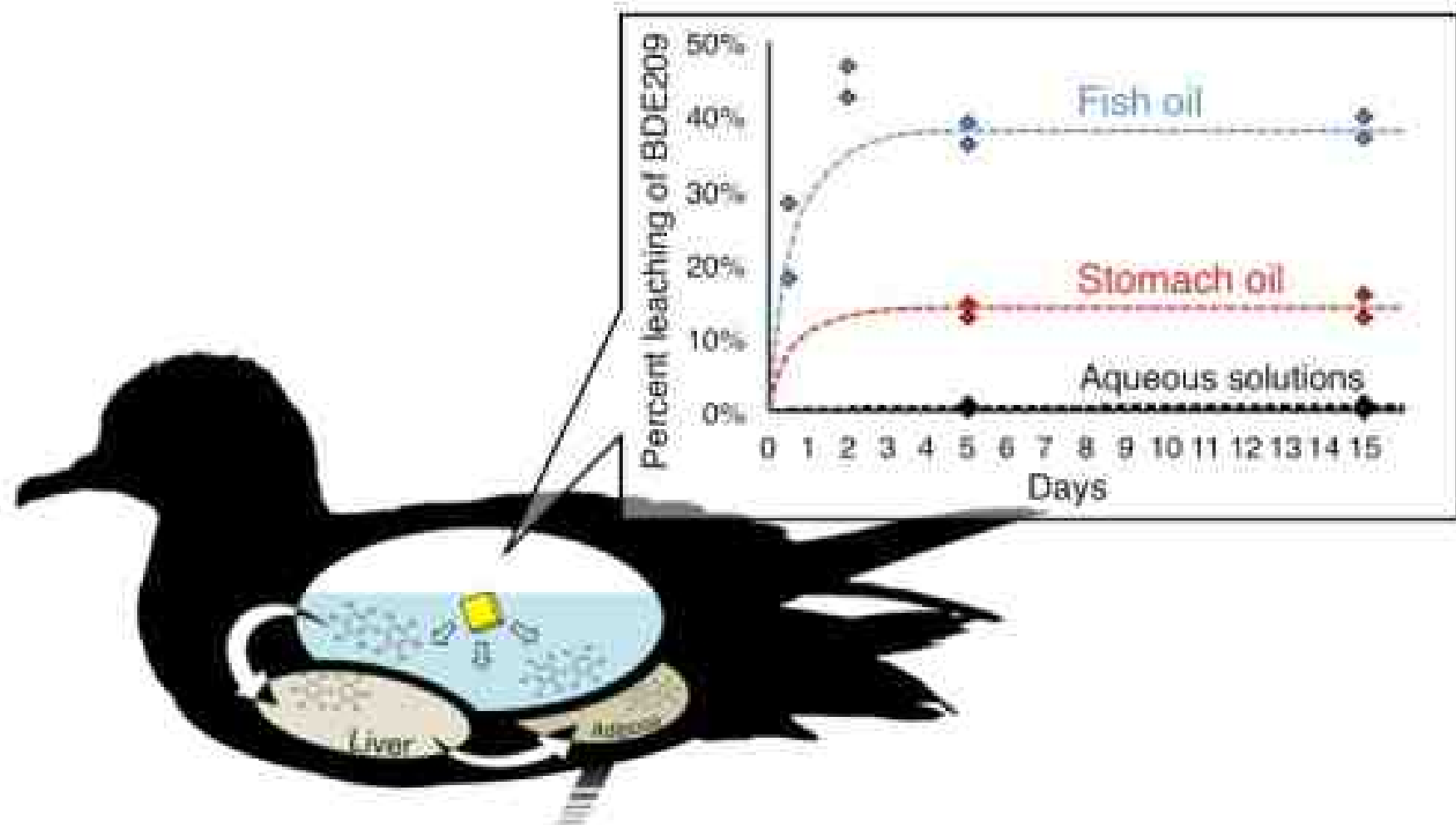
ABSTRACT: Our previous study suggested the transfer of polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) flame retardants from ingested plastics to seabirds' tissues. To understand how the PBDEs are transferred, we studied leaching from plastics into digestive fluids. We hypothesized that stomach oil, which is present in the digestive tract of birds in the order Procellariiformes, acts as an organic solvent, facilitating the leaching of hydrophobic chemicals. Pieces of plastic compounded with deca-BDE were soaked in several leaching solutions. Trace amounts were leached into distilled water, seawater, and acidic pepsin solution. In contrast, over 20 times as much material was leached into stomach oil, and over 50 times as much into fish oil (a major component of stomach oil).

Analysis of abdominal adipose, liver tissue, and ingested plastics from 18 wild seabirds collected from the North Pacific Ocean showed the occurrence of deca-BDE or hepta-BDEs in both the tissues and the ingested plastics in three of the birds, suggesting transfer from the plastic to the tissues. In birds with BDE209 in their tissues, the dominance of BDE207 over other nona-BDE isomers suggested biological debromination at the meta position. Model calculation of PBDE exposure to birds based on the results of the leaching experiments combined with field observations suggested the dominance of plastic-mediated internal exposure to BDE209 over exposure via prey.



Stomach oil facilitates release of additive-chemicals to digestive fluid

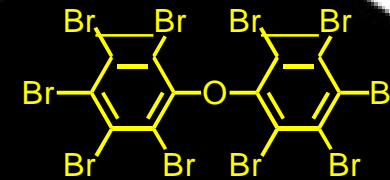
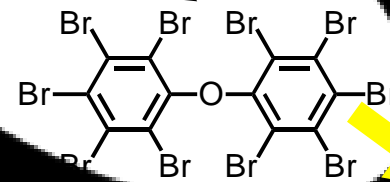
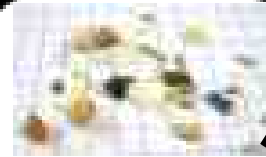
Trojan Horse



Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue

Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue has been confirmed.

Trojan Horse



Biological effects concerned

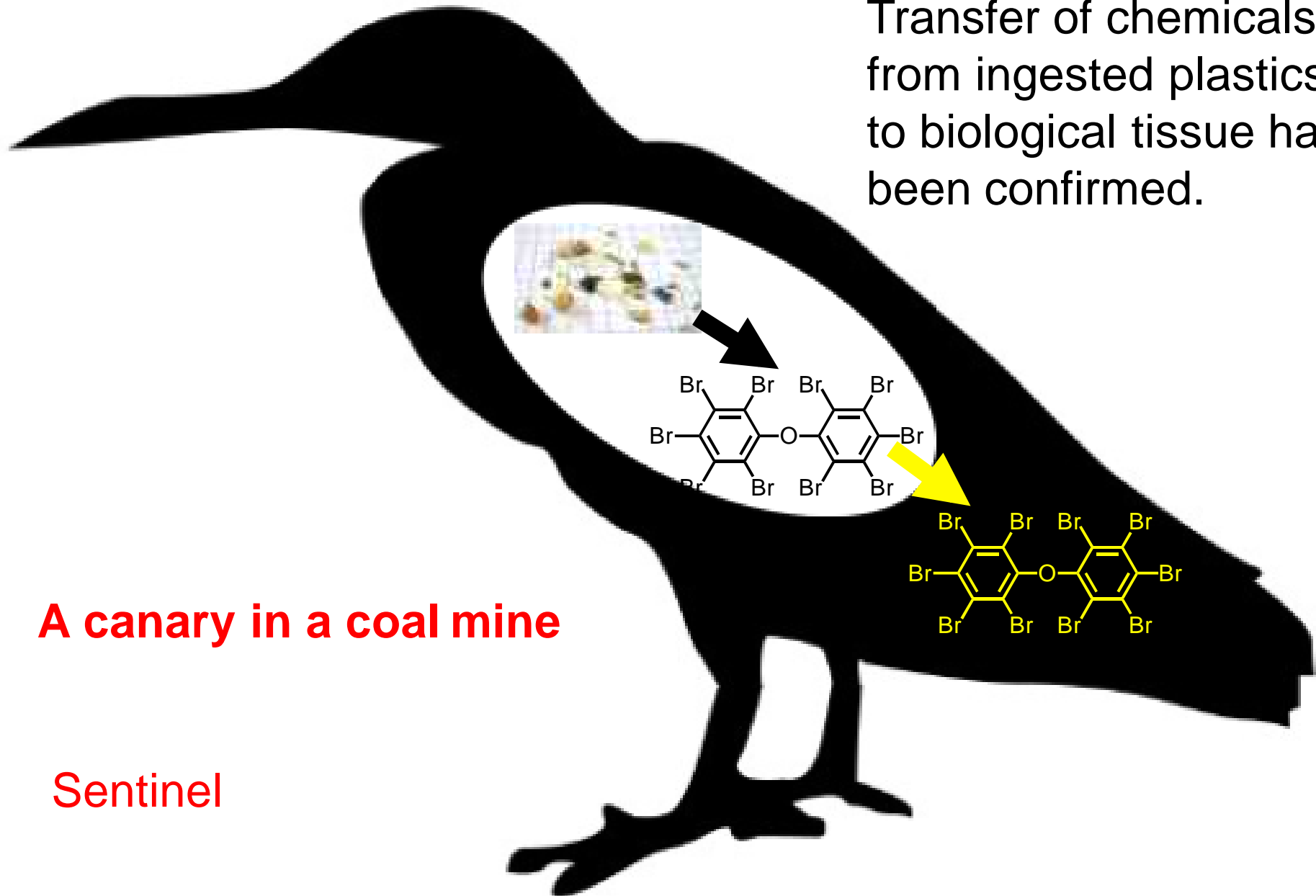
e.g., endocrine disruption

reproductive failure

decline of species

Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue

Transfer of chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue has been confirmed.



A canary in a coal mine

Sentinel

Topics

Anthropocene : Plastic age

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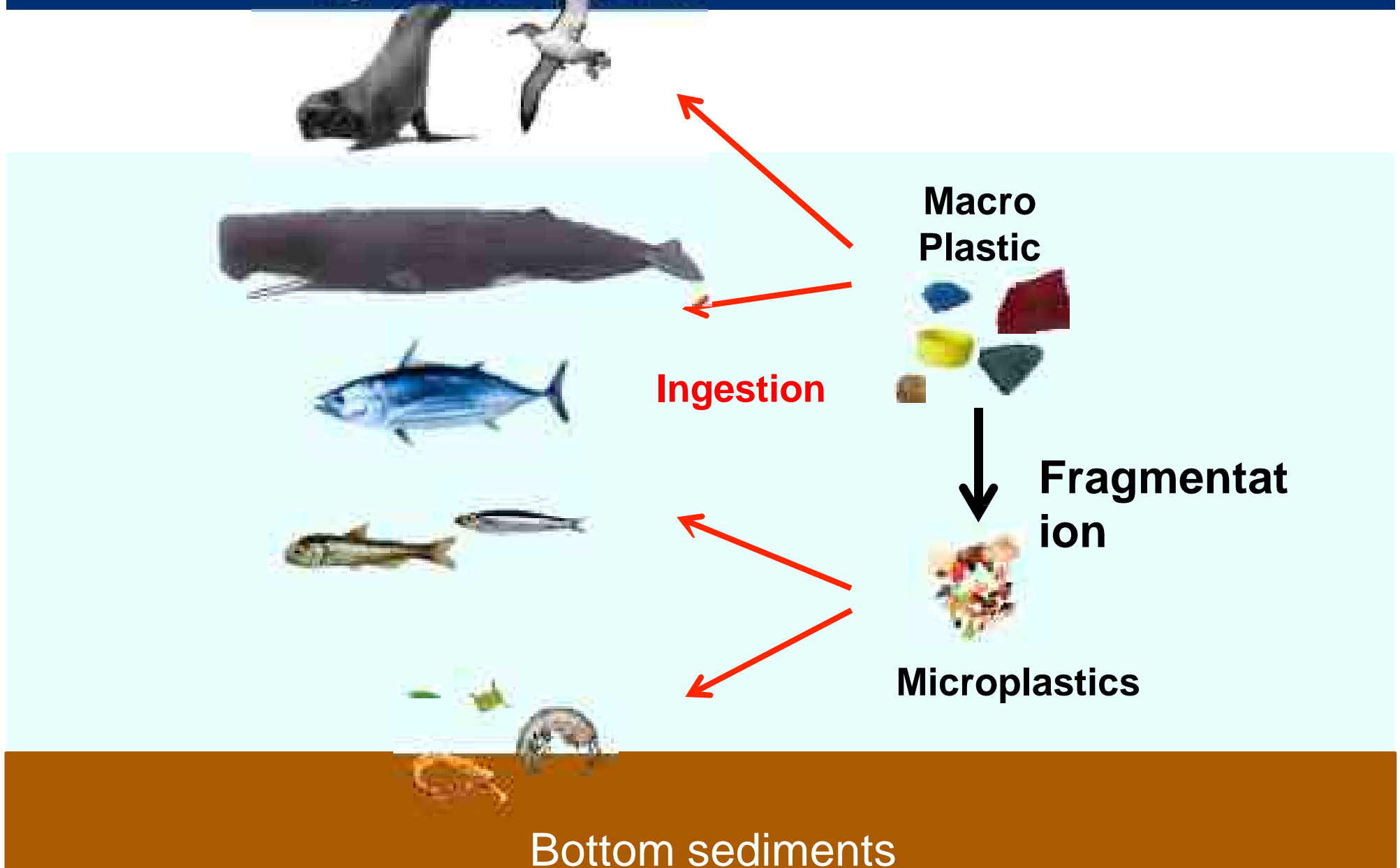
Hazardous chemicals in marine plastics

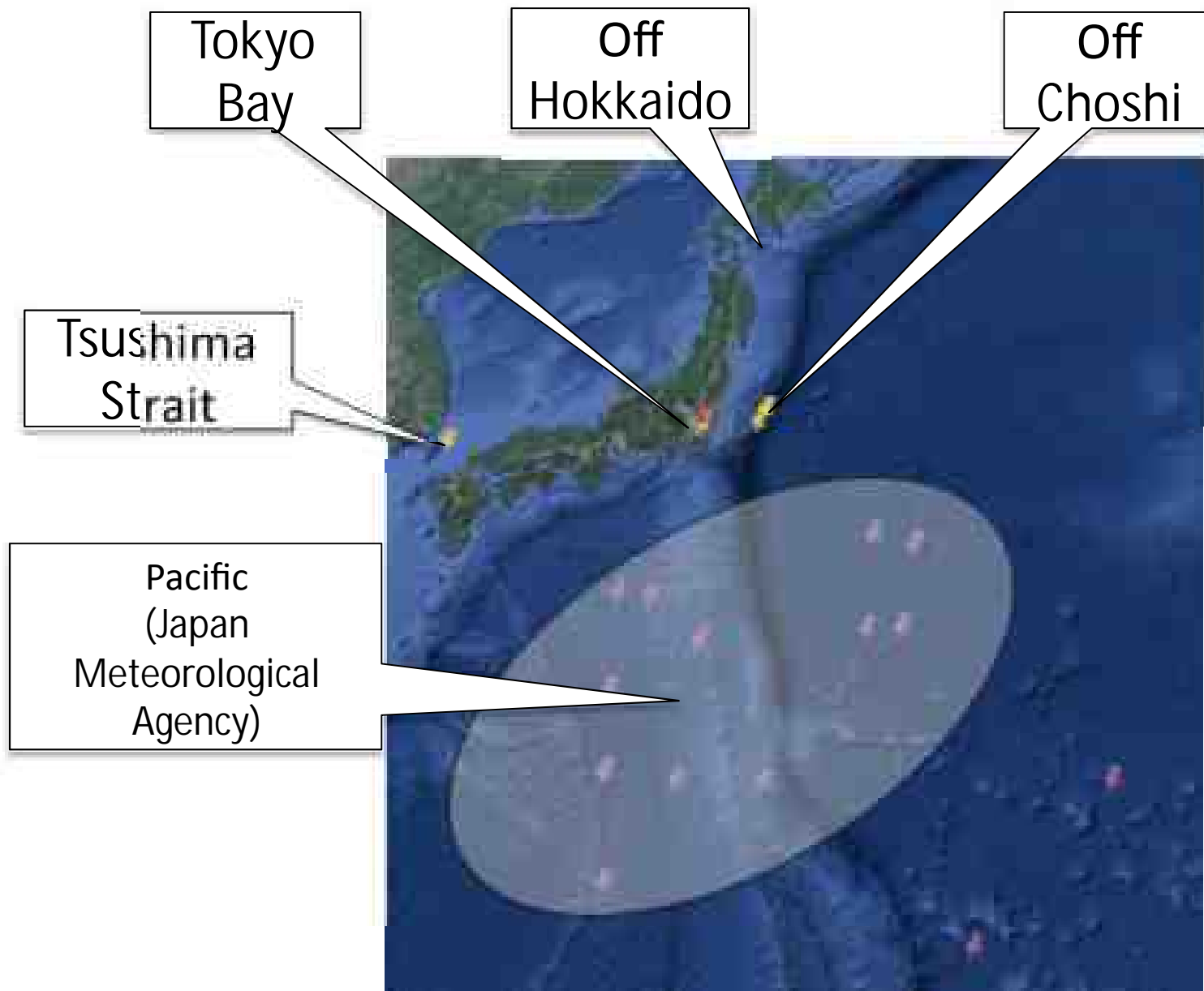
International Pellet Watch

Transfer and accumulation of hazardous chemicals
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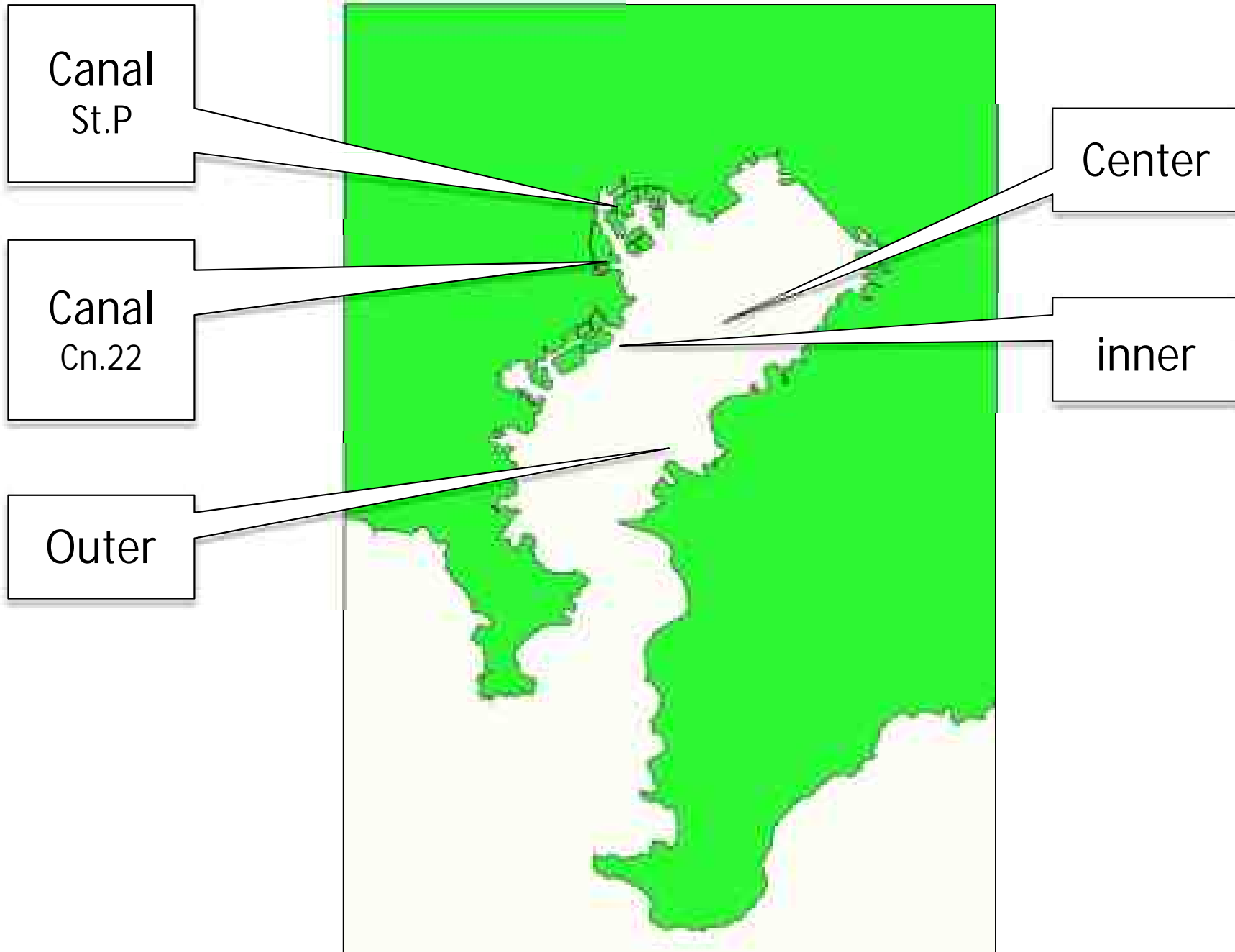
Hazardous chemicals in microplastics

Plastics are fragmented into smaller particles (i.e. microplastics) and various sizes of marine plastics are ingested by various sizes of marine organisms





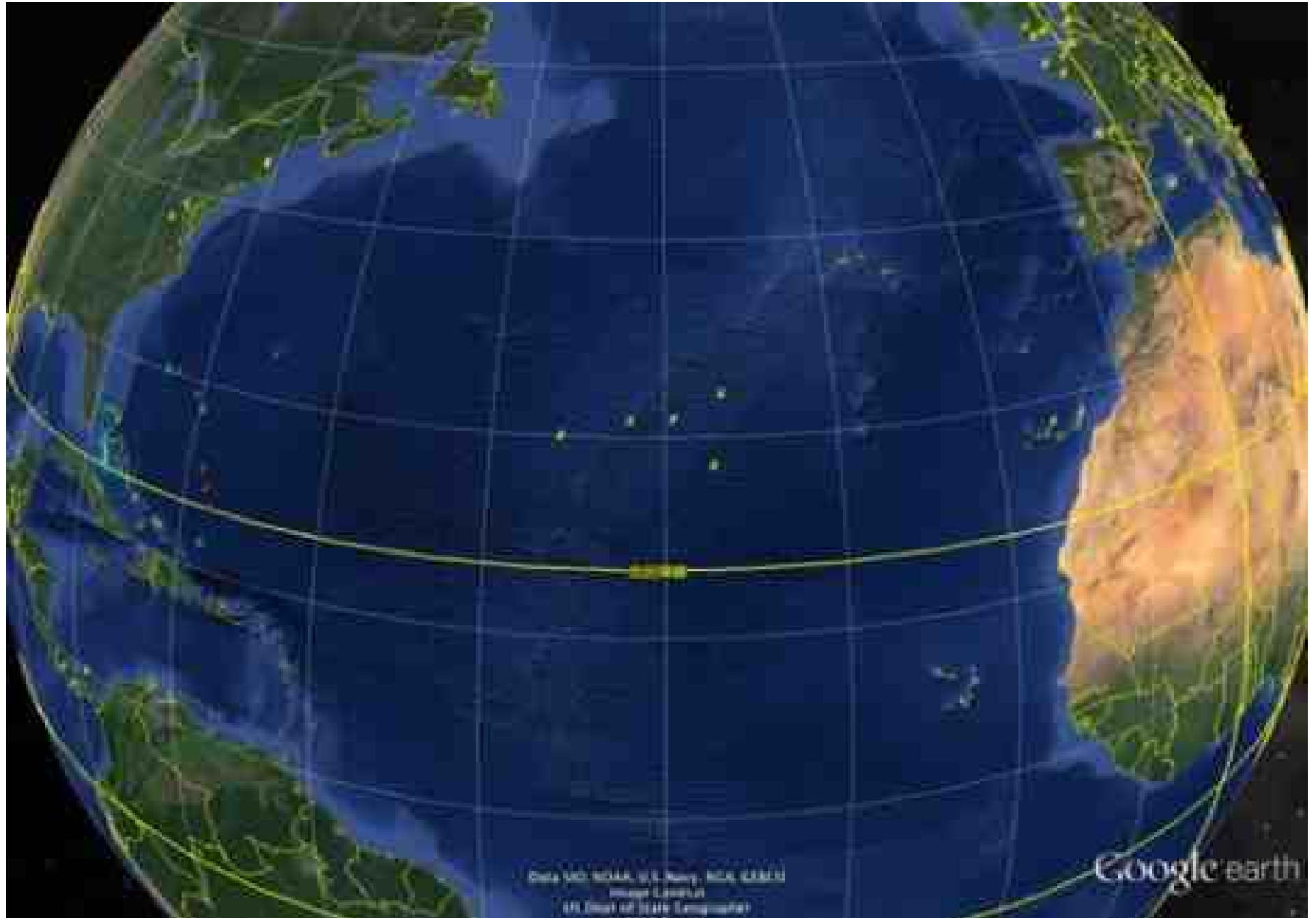
Tokyo Bay

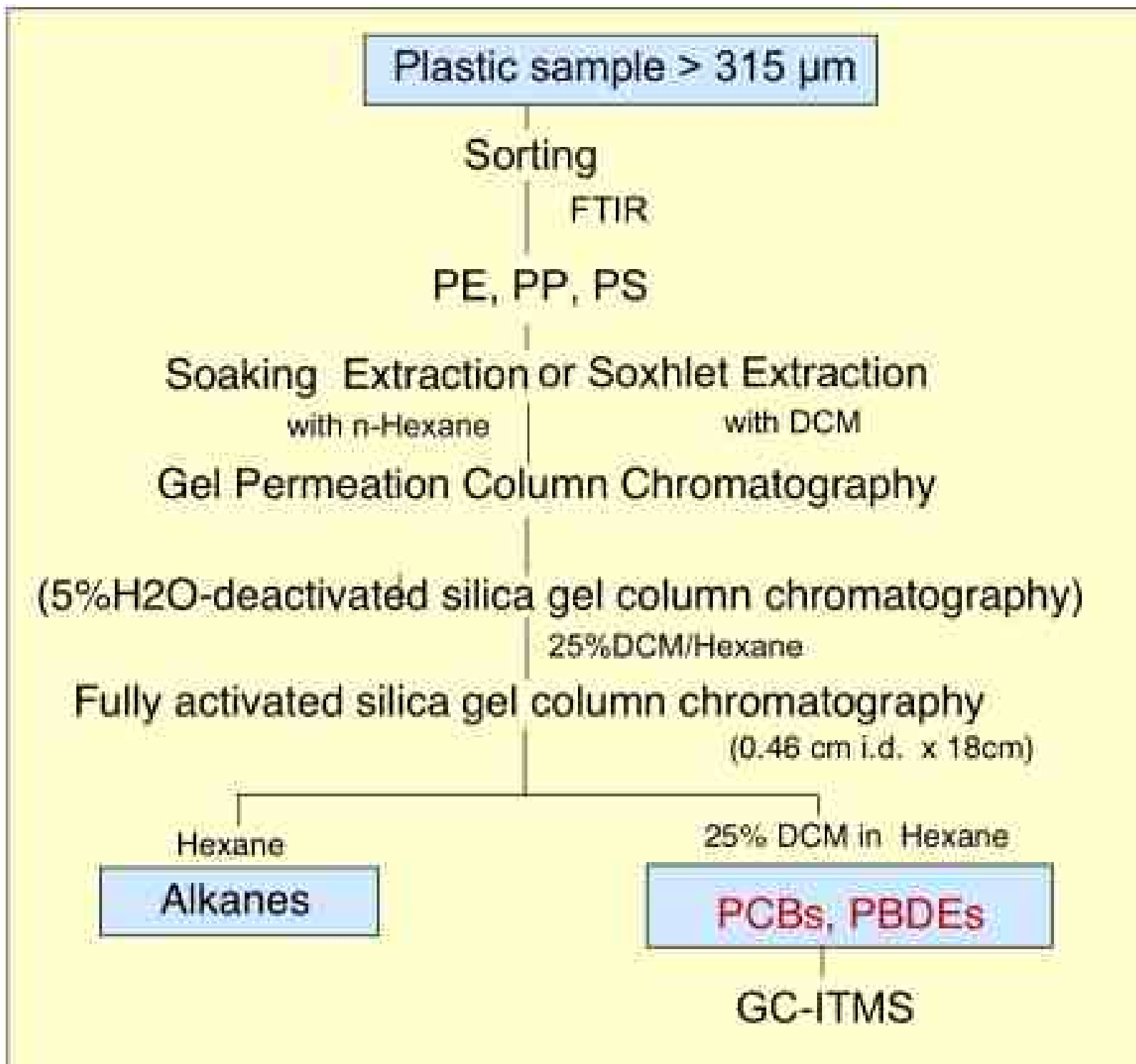


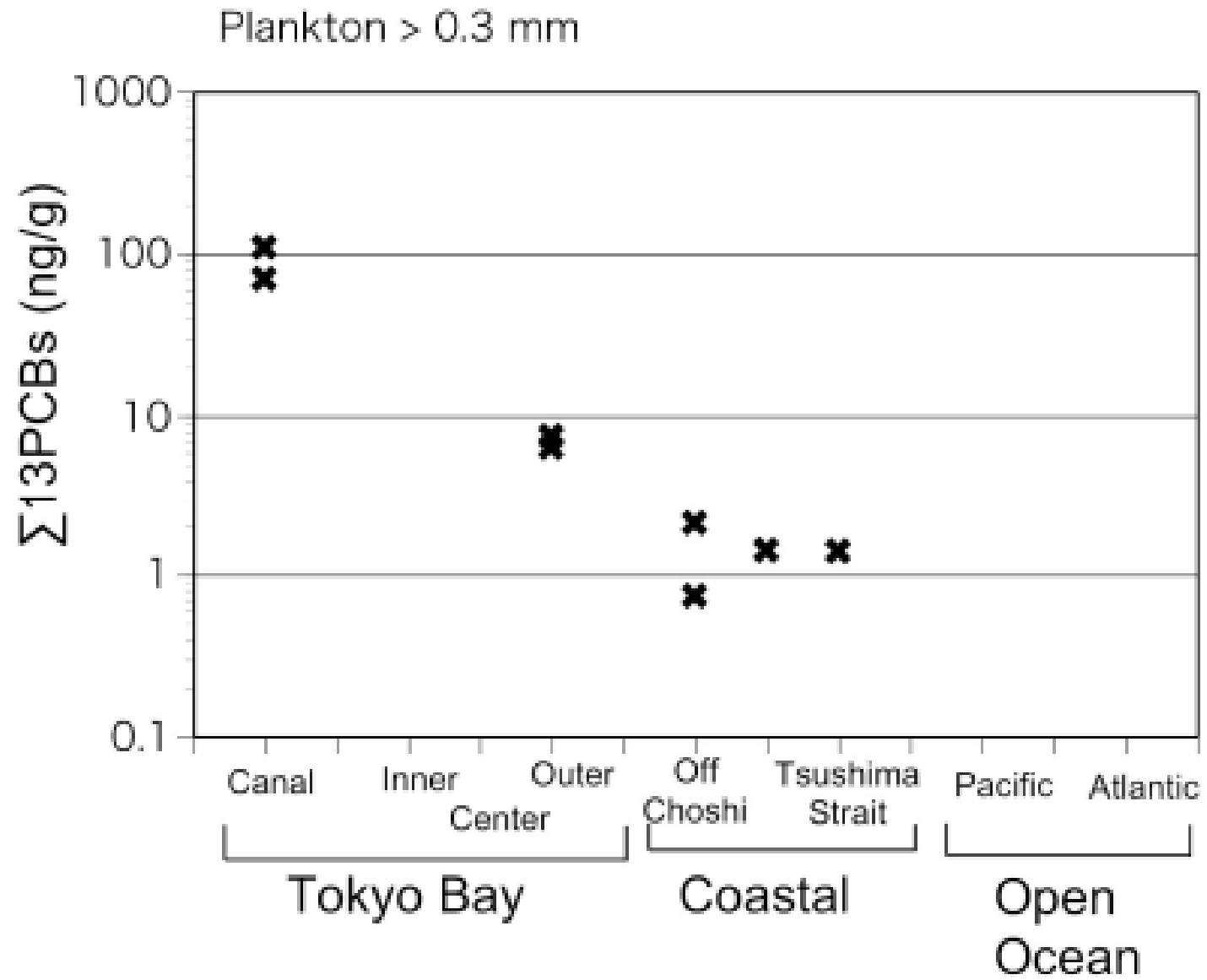
Microplastic samples from Pacific (Japan Meteorological Agency)

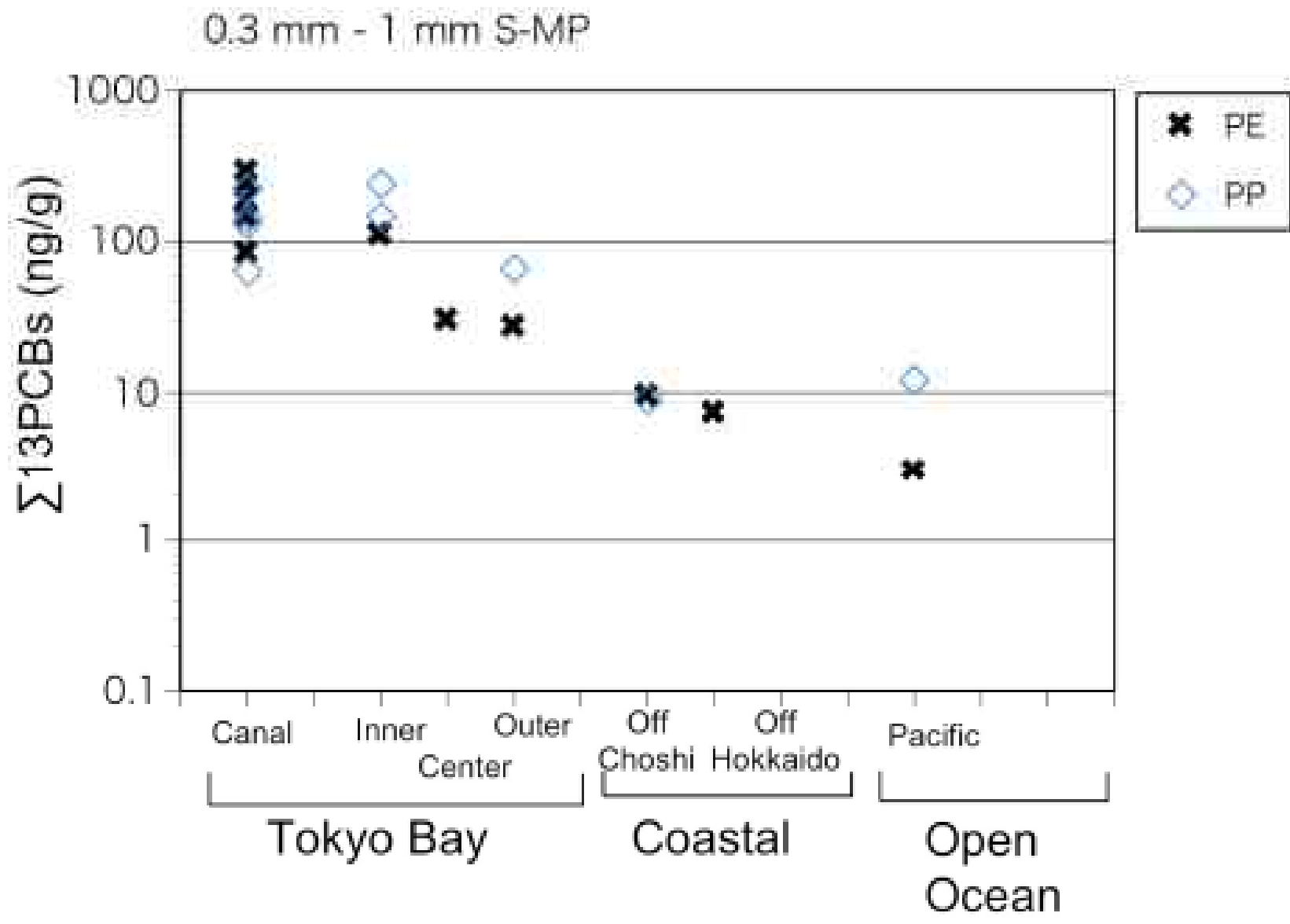


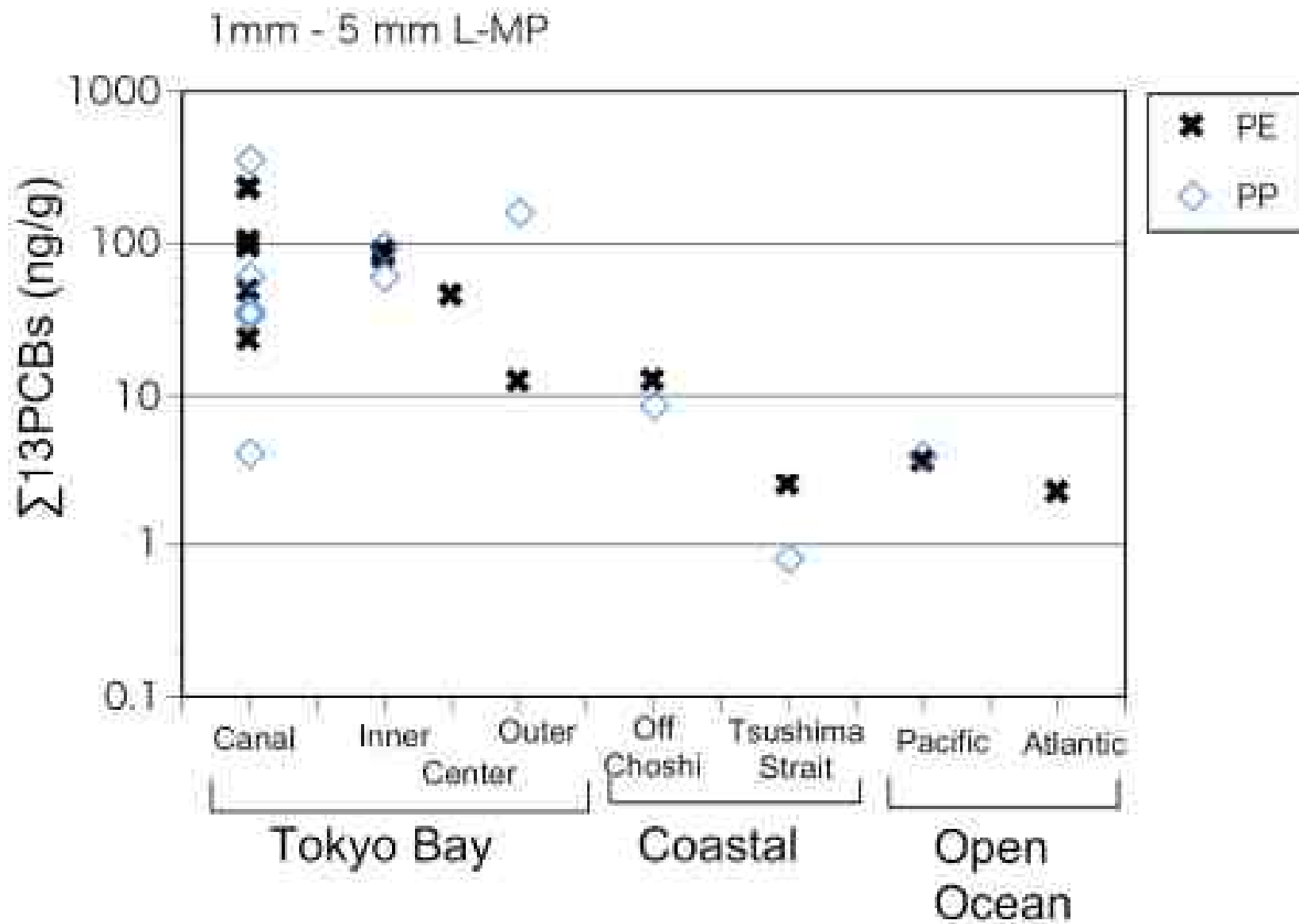
Microplastic samples from Ms. Nicole Trenholm: Ocean Research Project





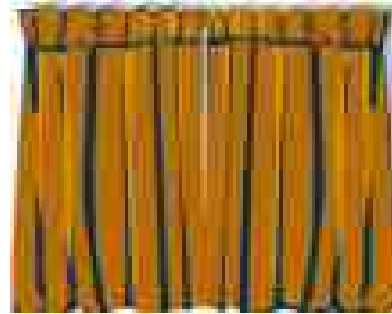
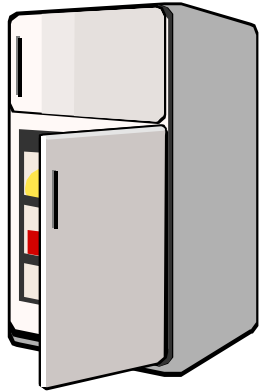






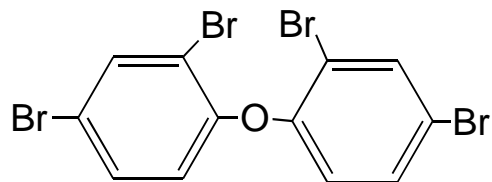
PBDEs : Flame retardants

applied in various electric products and fabrics.



Lower brominated

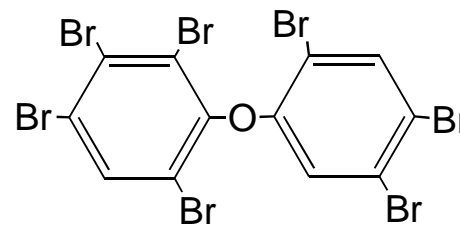
(Br4, Br5)



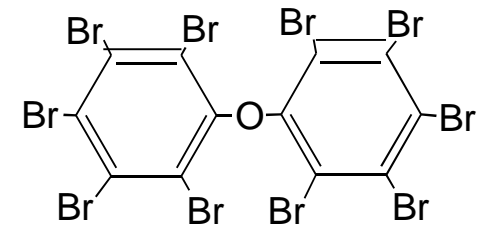
BDE47

Higher brominated

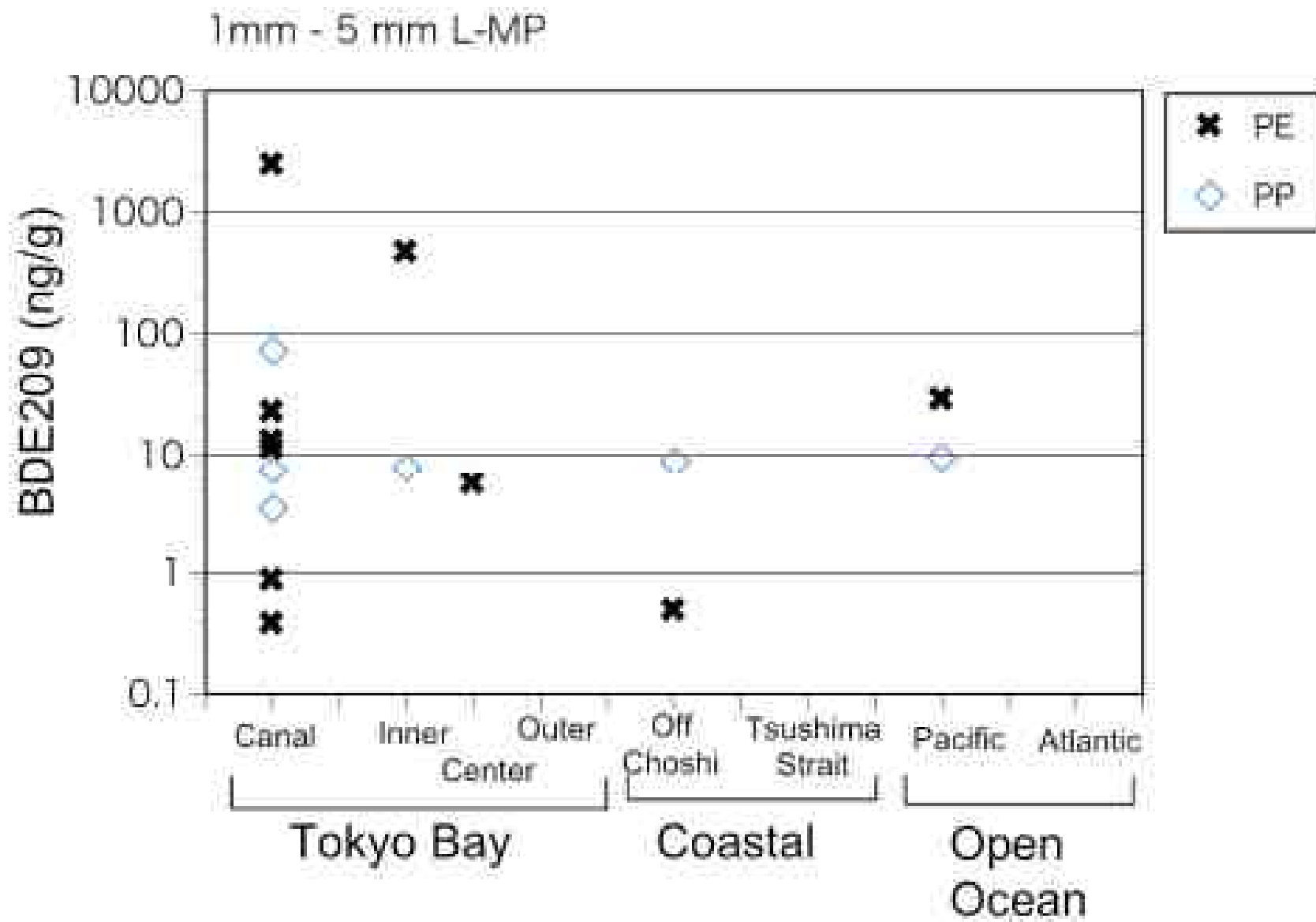
(Br7 - 10)

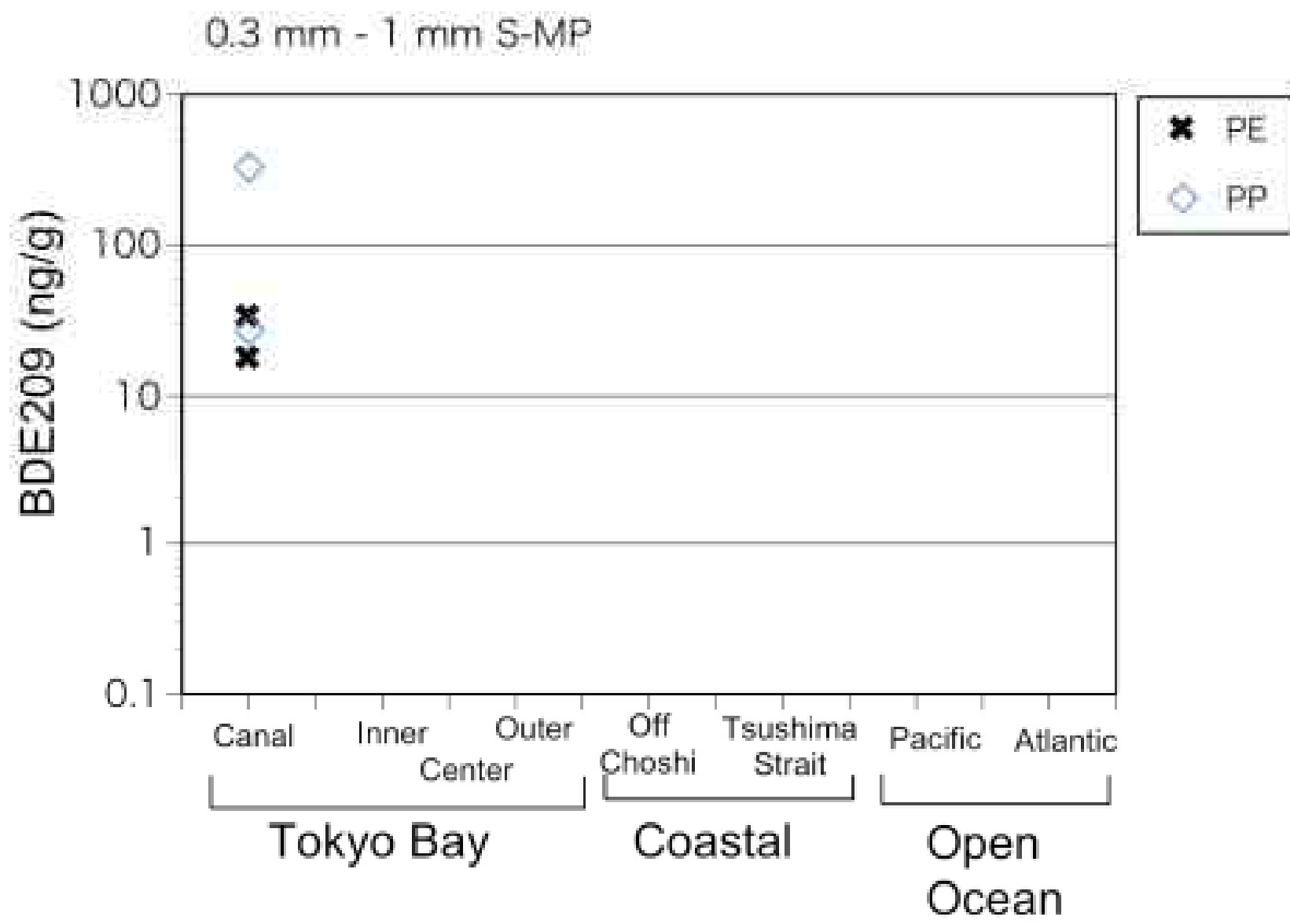


BDE183



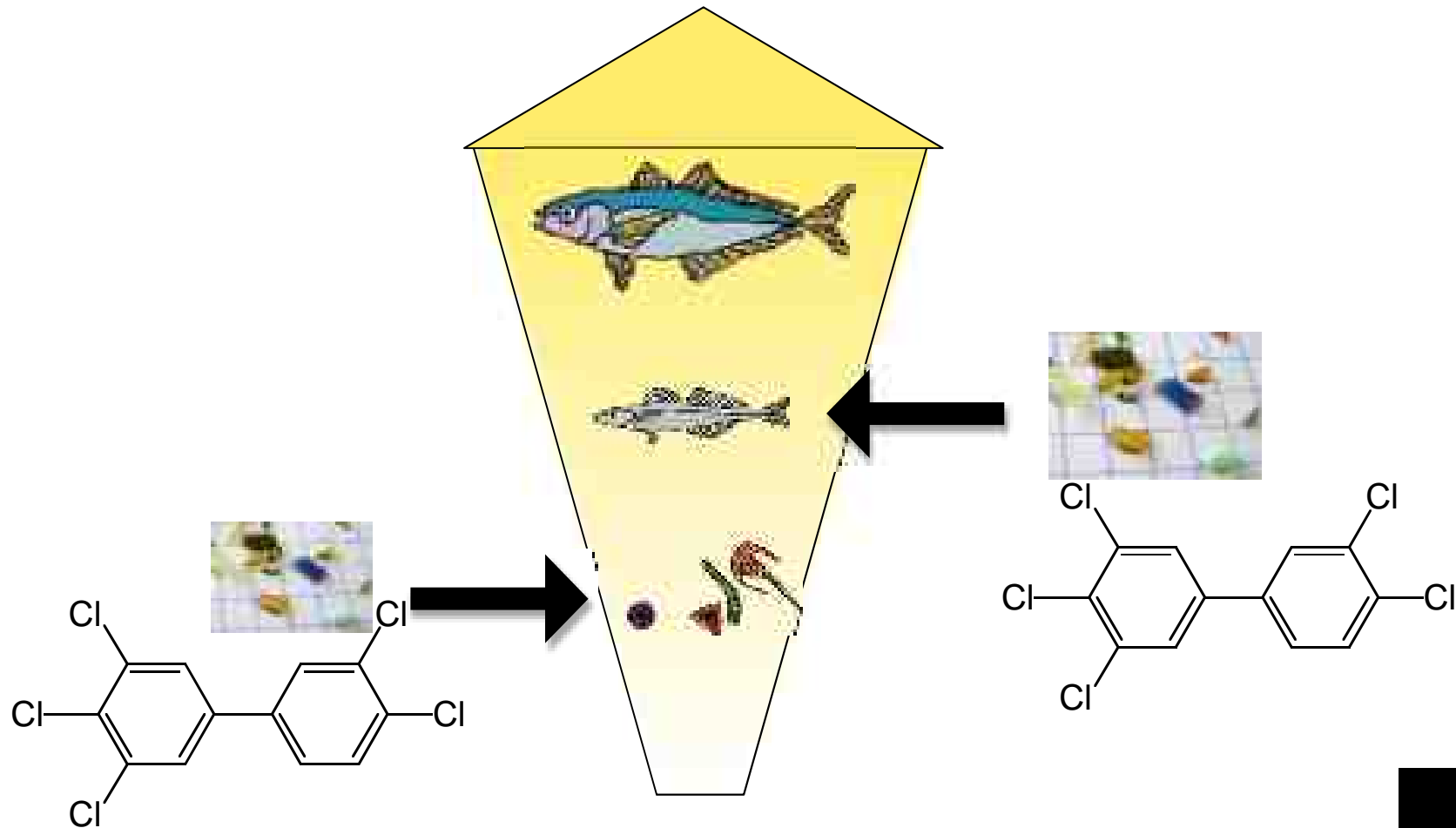
BDE209





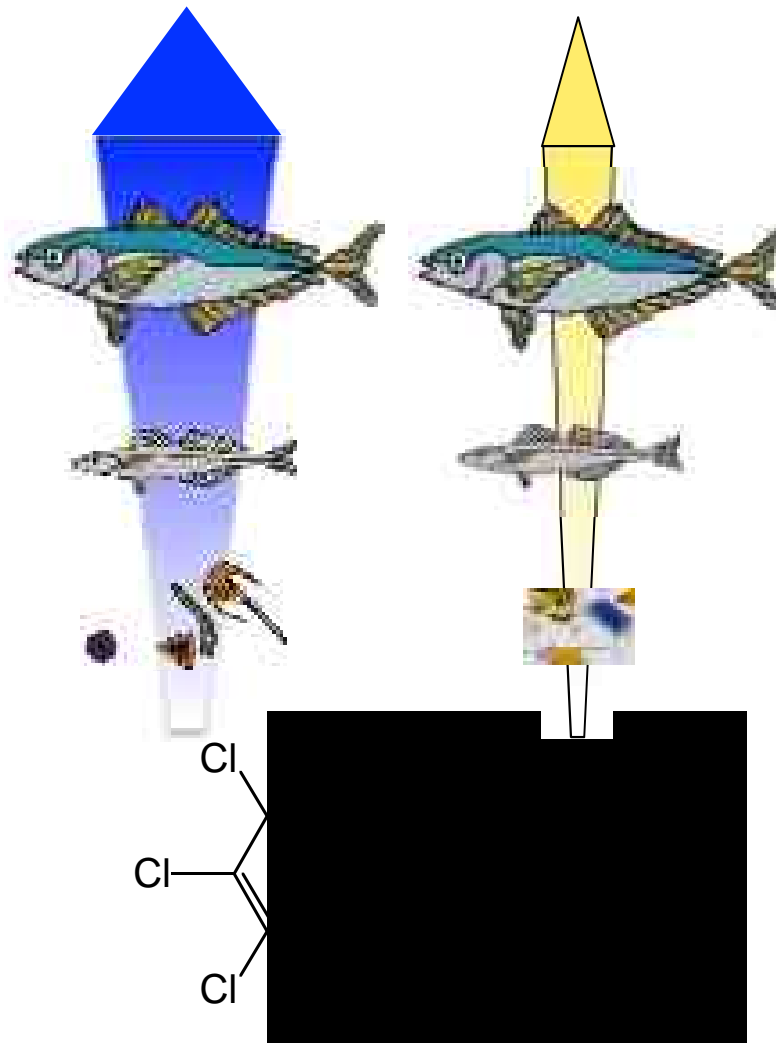
Invasion of plastics and associated chemicals to ecosystem

Human



Marine organisms are exposed to hazardous chemicals through their natural prey and microplastics

Human



Plastic waste inputs to the sea will increase by a factor of **10 in coming 20 years**, if no action will be taken.

Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean

Jenna R. Jamebeck,¹ Richard Meyer,² Clark Wilson,³ Theodore E. Stein,⁴ Michael Freyman,⁵ Anthony Androsy,⁶ Ramani Narayan,⁷ Kara Lavender Law⁸

Plastic debris in the marine environment is widely documented, but the quantity of plastic entering the ocean from waste generated on land is unknown. By linking worldwide data on solid waste, population density, and economic status, we estimated the mass of land-based plastic waste entering the ocean. We calculate that 25 million metric tons (MT) of plastic waste was generated in 192 coastal countries in 2010, with 4.8 to 12.7 million MT entering the ocean. Population size and the quality of waste management systems largely determine which countries contribute the greatest mass of uncaptured waste available to become plastic marine debris. Without waste management infrastructure improvements, the cumulative quantity of plastic waste available to enter the ocean from land is predicted to increase by an order of magnitude by 2025.

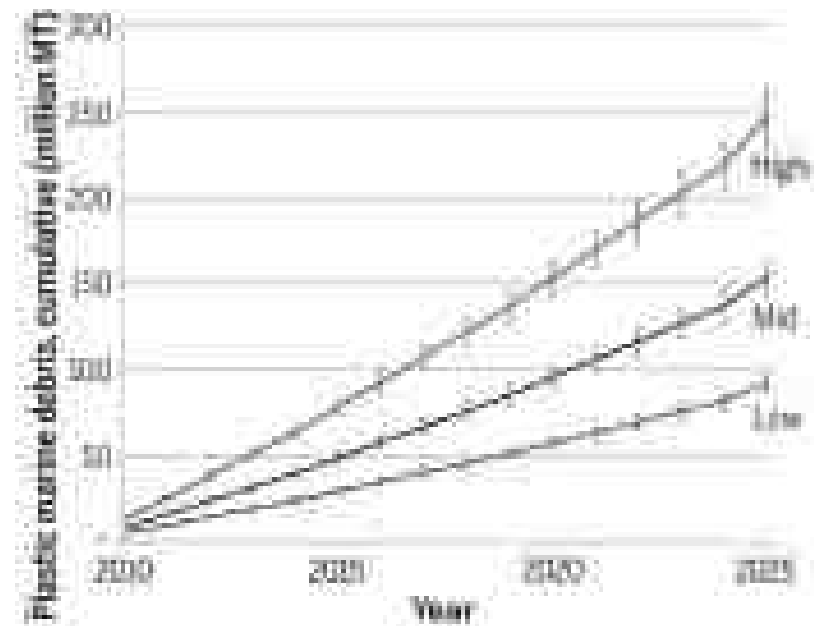
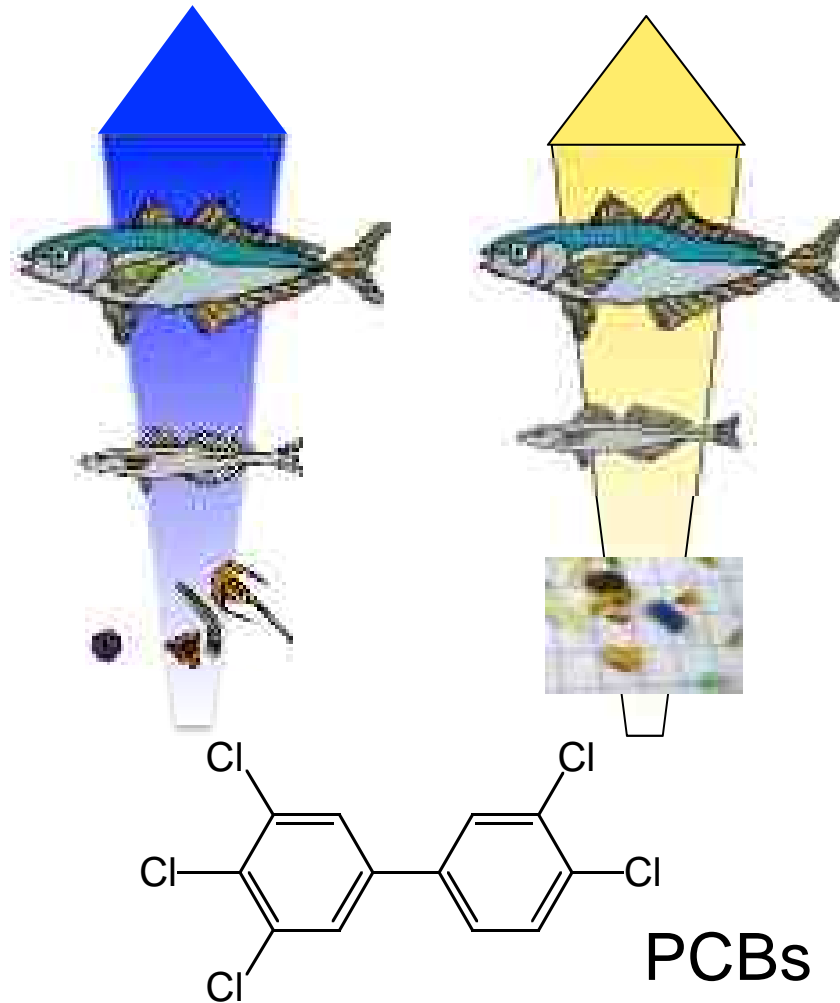


Fig. 2. Estimated mass of mismanaged plastic waste (millions of metric tons) input to the ocean by populations living within 50 km of a coast in 192 countries, plotted as a cumulative sum from 2010 to 2025. Estimates reflect assumed conversion rates of mismanaged plastic waste to marine debris (high, 40%; mid, 25%; low, 15%). Error bars were generated using mean and standard error from the predictive models for mismanaged waste fraction and percent plastic in the waste stream (22).

Jamebeck et al. (2015), Science

Marine organisms are exposed to hazardous chemicals through their natural prey and microplastics

Human



COMMENT

OPINION Of course
collaborative engineering
leads to better outcomes



OPINION Materials
science is not done by
staring at test tubes

OPINION New York state
proposals to tax tobacco
products are a good idea

OPINION Science education for
the public is important
and should be a priority



Plastic waste in the water around a boat in the Pacific Ocean.

Policy : Classify plastic waste as hazardous

Rochman, Chelsea M.; Browne, Mark Anthony; Halpern, Benjamin S.; Hentschel, Brian T.; Hoh, Eunha; Karapanagioti, Hrisi K.; Rios-Mendoza, Lorena M.; Takada, Hideshige; Teh, Swee; Thompson, Richard C.

No single-use plastics

Majority of plastics in marine environment is land-based.
Disposable packaging is dominant item.

Reduction of input of single-use plastic from land is necessary.

3R

Reduce

Reuse : non-reusable plastics

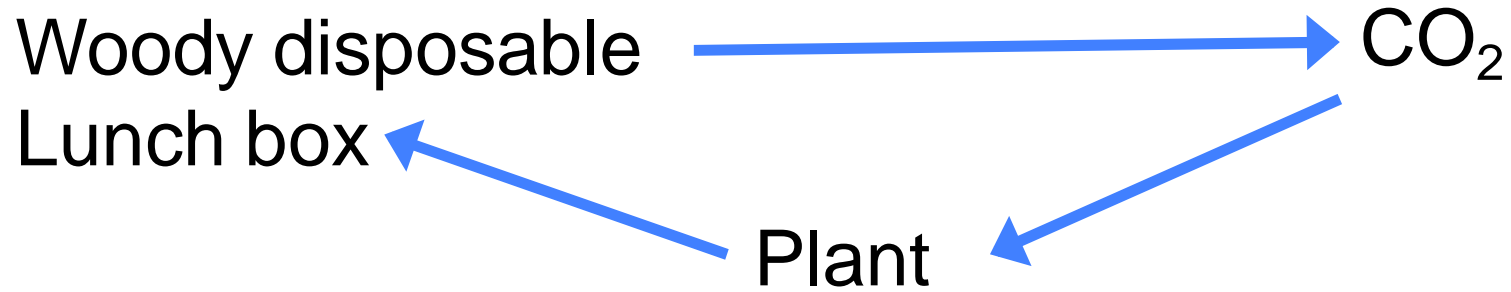
Recycle : consumes energy and emits CO₂

unanticipated detection of toxic additives
due to recycling of hazardous additives.

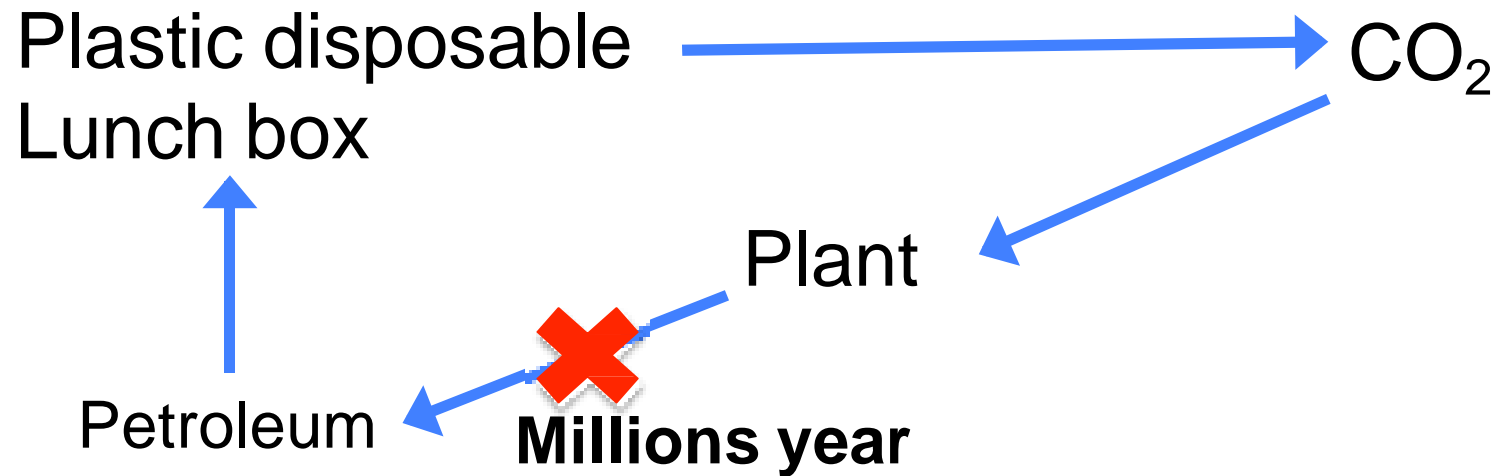
No single-use plastic!

Governmental regulation to reduce excessive plastic packaging is required .

Sustainable



One way, non-sustainable



Stone Age

Bronze Age

Iron Age

Plastic Age

Smart Age