

ALKOR–Berichte

**Baltic Cod**

Cruise No. AL556

14 May – 28 May 2021

Kiel (Germany) – Kiel (Germany)

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## 1 Cruise Summary

### 1.1 Summary in English

The cruise AL556 "Baltic Cod" focused on the status of the Eastern Baltic cod stock, along with its prey field (zooplankton and pelagic fish prey) and hydrographic boundary conditions. The cruise extended a 35yr long-term data series on (eco-)system composition and functioning of the Baltic Sea, with a focus on the deeper basins. The resulting data- and sample sets supported ongoing projects in the Research Unit Marine Evolutionary Ecology at GEOMAR, in particular research within the DFG funded research training group (RTG) Translational Evolutionary Research /subproject "fisheries induced evolution", and several international collaborations. The spatial focus lay on the Bornholm Basin as most important spawning area of Baltic cod, but also covered parts of the pronounced salinity gradient of the Baltic Sea and included the Western Baltic Sea, Arkona Basin, Gdansk Deep, and Stolpe Trench.

Specific investigations included a detailed hydrological survey (oxygen, salinity, temperature) of the cruise area, plankton surveys (zoo- and ichthyoplankton including jellyfish) to determine the composition and the abundance and vertical and horizontal distribution of species, and pelagic fishery hauls. The latter served to determine stock structure, gonadal maturation, stomach contents, and egg production of sprat and cod, and to sample tissue and otolith samples for individual-level genomic and ecological analyses of cod (*Gadus morhua*). The abundance and distribution of fishes in the cruise area was also assessed with hydroacoustic methods. Additional cruise components were: (i) cod gonad and liver sampling for fecundity and parasite studies (in collaboration with DTU Aqua, Kopenhagen, Denmark), (ii) sampling of blue green algae (genus *Ostreococcus*) and their viruses (collaboration with Dr. Luisa Listmann /University Hamburg).

Due to the Covid 19-situation, AL556 could only run with 7 scientists berth which required us to substantially scale down the scientific program that was originally planned in the cruise application. All deployments of the Underwater Fish Observatory were cancelled. The cruise track was also shortened and the Gotland Basin was omitted.

Preliminary results were that (i) cod nutritional condition is not significantly improving, while (ii) the size structure of the stock is still very critical, with most individuals (>98%) smaller than 50 cm in length and (iii) there is still no genetic mixing occurring among Eastern and Western Baltic cod gene pools which make the former an ideal test case to study genomic changes imposed by overharvesting.

## 1.2 Deutsche Zusammenfassung

Die Fahrt AL556 "Baltic Cod" konzentrierte sich auf den Zustand des Dorschbestands in der östlichen Ostsee, zusammen mit seinem Beutefeld (Zooplankton und pelagische Fischbeute) und den hydrographischen Randbedingungen. Die Fahrt verlängerte eine 35 Jahre lange Datenreihe über die Zusammensetzung und Funktionsweise des (Öko-)Systems der Ostsee, wobei der Schwerpunkt auf den tieferen Becken lag. Die resultierenden Daten- und Probensätze unterstützten laufende Projekte in der Forschergruppe Marine Evolutionsökologie am GEOMAR, insbesondere die Forschung im Rahmen des DFG-geförderten Graduiertenkollegs (GRK) Translationale Evolutionsforschung / Teilprojekt "Fischereiinduzierte Evolution", sowie mehrere internationale Kooperationen. Der räumliche Schwerpunkt lag auf dem Bornholmer Becken als wichtigstem Laichgebiet des Ostseedorsches, umfasste aber auch Teile des ausgeprägten Salzgehaltsgradienten der Ostsee und schloss die westliche Ostsee, das Arkonabecken, das Danziger Tief und den Stolper Graben ein.

Zu den spezifischen Untersuchungen gehörten eine detaillierte hydrologische Untersuchung (Sauerstoff, Salzgehalt, Temperatur) des Fahrtgebiets, Planktonuntersuchungen (Zoo- und Ichthyoplankton einschließlich gelatinösem Plankton (Quallen), mit dem Ziel, die Zusammensetzung und die Abundanz sowie die vertikale und horizontale Verteilung der Arten zu bestimmen und Proben für spätere Messungen des Ernährungszustands zu nehmen). Pelagische Fischereihols dienten insbesondere der Bestimmung der Bestandsstruktur, der Gonadenreifung, des Mageninhalts und der Eiproduktion von Sprotte und Kabeljau sowie der Entnahme von Gewebe- und Otolithenproben für genomische und ökologische Analysen auf individueller Ebene beim Dorsch (*Gadus morhua*). Die Abundanz und Verteilung von Fischen im Fahrtgebiet wurde auch mit hydroakustischen Methoden untersucht. Weitere Bestandteile der Fahrt waren: (i) Probenahme von Dorsch-Gonaden und -Lebern für Fekunditäts- und Parasitenstudien (in Zusammenarbeit mit DTU Aqua, Kopenhagen, Dänemark), (ii) Probenahme von Blaualgen (Gattung *Ostreococcus*) und deren Viren (Zusammenarbeit mit Dr. Luisa Listmann /Universität Hamburg).

Aufgrund der Covid 19-Situation konnte AL556 nur mit 7 Wissenschaftlern an Bord durchgeführt werden, was uns dazu zwang, das ursprünglich im Fahrtantrag vorgesehene wissenschaftliche Programm erheblich zu reduzieren. Alle Einsätze des Unterwasser-Fischobservatoriums wurden gestrichen. Auch die Fahrtroute wurde verkürzt und das Gotland-Becken ausgelassen.

Vorläufige Ergebnisse waren, dass (i) sich der Ernährungszustand des Dorsches nicht wesentlich verbessert, während die Größenstruktur des Bestandes immer noch sehr kritisch ist, (ii) die meisten Individuen (>98 %) kleiner als 50 cm sind und (iii) es immer noch keine genetische Vermischung zwischen den Genpools der östlichen und westlichen Ostsee gibt, was den ersteren zu einem idealen Testfall für die Untersuchung genomischer Veränderungen durch Überfischung macht.

## 2 Participants

### 2.1 Scientific Party

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Discipline</b>                     | <b>Institution<sup>1</sup></b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Prof. Thorsten Reusch | Chief Scientist                       | GEOMAR                         |
| Dr. Elvita Eglite     | zooplankton /fisheries (Postdoc)      | GEOMAR                         |
| Kwi Young Han         | fisheries/genomics (doctoral student) | GEOMAR                         |
| Peter Hornetz         | zooplankton /fisheries (Msc student)  | IMF-UHAM                       |
| Stefanie Kurbjuweit   | zooplankton /fisheries (Msc student)  | IMF-UHAM                       |
| Merlin Weichler       | zooplankton /fisheries (Msc student)  | GEOMAR                         |
| Nis Hansen            | zooplankton /fisheries (Msc student)  | GEOMAR                         |

<sup>1</sup>Abbreviations explained under Section 2.2.

### 2.2 Participating Institutions

| <b>Abbreviation</b> | <b>Full name</b>   |
|---------------------|--|
| GEOMAR              | Helmholtz-Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Germany                              |
| IMF-UHAM            | The Institute of Marine Ecosystem and Fishery Science<br>University of Hamburg |

### 3 Research Program

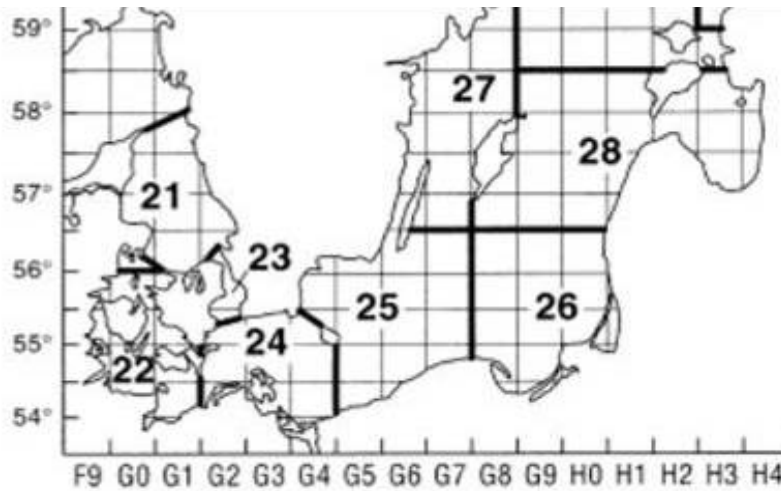
Although the Baltic Sea, and in particular its central parts, is species poor, it nevertheless provides ecosystems services to the Baltic nations in terms of primary productivity and harvestable fish stocks. Understanding the interactions among major ecosystem components such as fish and their major prey, zooplankton on the one hand, and climatic forcing impinging on these populations, such as salinity, oxygen supply and climate forcing on the other, is the central research question of the ALKOR May (and April) cruise. At the same time, the central Baltic Sea is one of the systems most affected by the combination of global (including climate) and local anthropogenic changes, and has undergone strong hydrographic and biological shifts in the past decades.

Cruise AL556 is part of a 35-year effort to collect long-term data series on hydrography, zooplankton and fish species composition along the salinity gradient of the Baltic Sea, with an emphasis on the central Baltic Sea. The cruise series is dating back to 1987 by the GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research (and its predecessors IFM-GEOMAR Kiel and IFM Kiel). The rationale for the specific spatial focus “Bornholm Basin” results from the importance of this area as the only major remaining spawning ground of Eastern Baltic cod. However, the cruise also included the western Baltic Sea, Arkona Basin and Gdansk Deep (Figure 3.1), thus covering ICES subdivisions (SD) 22, 24, 25, and 26 (Figure 3.2).

The cruise integrated oceanographic and biological sampling, permitting a later time series analysis as to how Baltic pelagic food webs and (fish) species across the environmental gradients of the Baltic Sea change in response to both, environmental forcing and human exploitation. Data sets and samples obtained during cruise AL556 are essential for a number of projects, including the large-scale international project EU Horizon 2020 GoJelly and collaborations with the Technical University of Denmark, National Institute of Aquatic Resources (DTU Aqua), Stockholm University, and the University of Hamburg. Moreover, the cruise delivered first data on Western Baltic cod recruitment for the upcoming DAM funded SpaCeParti project (with member institutes CAU, GEOMAR and IMF-UHAM).



**Figure 3.1** Cruise track of AL556



**Figure 3.2** ICES subdivisions in the cruise area (Source: ICES). ICES SD22 corresponds to Kiel Bight = KB, SD24 to Arkona Basin = AB, SD25 to Bornholm Basin = BB and Stolpe Trench = SR, SD26 to Gdansk Deep = GD and Southern Gotland Basin (GB).

Specific investigations during AL556 included (1) a detailed hydrographic survey (oxygen, salinity, temperature) (2) zoo- and ichthyoplankton surveys to determine the composition, abundance, vertical and horizontal distribution and nutritional status of species as well as patterns of plankton phenology (3) sampling of important food web components including nutrients, seston, phyto-, zoo- (including jellyfish) and ichthyoplankton, (4) benthic and pelagic fishery hauls.

Fisheries hauls served to determine size distributions, maturity status, and length – weight relationships of the three dominant fish species in the pelagic system of the Baltic, cod (*Gadus morhua*), herring (*Clupea harengus*) and sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) as well as flatfishes including flounder (*Plathichthys flesus*). Secondly, various samples for more detailed analyses back on land were obtained, including cod gonads, livers and otoliths, herring and sprat stomachs and whole samples for dietary analyses, and tissue samples of cod, flounder, whiting, plaice and other species for genetic and stable isotope analysis. In addition, hydroacoustic data were collected continuously along the cruise track for later analysis of fish abundance and distribution.

Additional work lines carried out in the context of collaborations with external groups included sampling and on-board experiments on photosynthesis and respiration rates of different phytoplankton fractions.

#### 4 Narrative of the Cruise

RV ALKOR was loaded on the days prior to the onset of the cruise. ALKOR then departed from the GEOMAR Westshore pier on 14 May 2021 at 10:00 am (all times board time) and headed to the first research area in Kiel Bight (SD22). Owing to the Covid-19 restrictions, the cruise could only be run with 7 instead of 12 scientists. Hence, the work laid out in the original cruise program had to be shortened. This was accomplished by completely removing the pilot trials with the UFO fish observatory (the development of which was also delayed by Covid restrictions), and by shortening the cruise track to focus on key areas of Eastern Baltic cod only (i.e. Bornholm Basin, Gdansk Deep).

After covering a station in the Kiel Fjord, the first sampling of ichthyo- and zooplankton (plus hydrography) took place in Kiel and Mecklenburg Bight on 15 and 16 May 2021. In the latter, the first 4 fishery hauls were also carried out in cooperation with the IMF of the University of HH to sample populations of the western cod stock.

After a day of fishing in the southern part of the Bornholm Basin with the juvenile fish trawl on 17 May, the first stop on this trip was made at the permanent station BB23 (18 May). Extensive

sampling of various plankton fractions took place there in cooperation with IFO (Dr. Jörg Dutz, Dr. Caroline Paul). Afterwards we carried out the "Bongogrid" (bongonet and CTD hauls on a grid of 45 stations), a quasi-synoptic survey of the zooplankton and fish larvae situation in the entire Bornholm Basin on a 45 point grid of 10 nm edge length. This was successfully completed on 21 May. At the same time, sampling for marine viruses in the mixed surface layer was carried out at 6 of these stations (cooperation with Dr. Luisa Listmann, IMF, Uni HH). On 22 May, a research fishery with the pelagic juvenile fish trawl took place in the northern sections of the Bornholm Basin. Fortunately, the target of 300 animals including sampling for otoliths, genomics (finclips) and stable isotopes could be met as far as the sampling of cod in the core spawning area at spawning time 2021 is concerned, so that the Corona-related data gap from 2020 could be closed. Gonad samples were also obtained from a subset of fish in cooperation with Dr Jonna Tomkiewicz (DTU Aqua, Copenhagen) to conduct fertility studies.

We then conducted zooplankton station work within several stations in the Gdansk deep as well as several pelagic fisheries hauls (23/24 May) and used the transit time to do Bongo hauls in Stolpe Trench. On 25 May we arrived back in Bornholm Basin to conduct another round of vertically resolved zooplankton samples using the Multinet Maxi at BB23 on 25-26 May. We then started to steam back and sampled zooplankton in Arkona Basin on 27 May. The cruise ended on the morning of 28 May in Kiel.

As in previous years, the central deep station BB23 in Bornholm Basin was intensively sampled on two occasions, early in the cruise on 18 May (including CTD casts, zooplankton sampling with Bongo, Apstein and WP-2 nets, oxygen measurements of water samples obtained with the rosette water sampler with the Winkler method for the calibration of oxygen probe measurements, and phytoplankton sampling) and late in the cruise on 24/25 May (same sampling as on 18 May, followed by the detailed vertically and temporally resolved sampling of plankton communities by four towed Multinet MAXI and four vertical Multinet MIDI hauls over a 24 hour period, covering the water column in 5 m and 10 m depth layers, respectively). Additional sampling was carried out throughout the cruise area for the special projects on phytoplankton communities (surface water samples at 5 stations, collaboration with UHAM - IMF).

**Table 4.1** Overview of all gear deployments during AL556. Mesh sizes of all nets are given in brackets. For location designations are KB=Kiel Bay and Mecklenburg Bay (SD 22), AB=Arkona Basin (SD 24), BB=Bornholm Basin (SD 25), GD=Gdansk Deep (SD 26). Numbers designate the Baltic Sea subdivisions SD.

| Count of gear      | Column Labels |           |            |           |             |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Row Labels         | 22 - KB       | 24 - AB   | 25 - BB    | 26 - GD   | Grand Total |
| AMD-CTD            | 1             |           |            |           | 1           |
| Apstein            |               |           | 6          |           | 6           |
| Bongo              | 24            | 12        | 57         |           | 93          |
| CTD                | 24            | 12        | 58         | 10        | 104         |
| CTD                |               |           | 1          |           | 1           |
| CTD-WS             | 1             |           | 2          |           | 3           |
| IKS-80             |               |           |            | 10        | 10          |
| JFT                | 4             | 2         | 7          | 2         | 15          |
| MN-Maxi            |               |           | 6          |           | 6           |
| WP2                |               |           | 6          |           | 6           |
| WS klein           | 1             |           | 5          |           | 6           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>55</b>     | <b>26</b> | <b>148</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>251</b>  |



## 5 Preliminary Results

### 5.1 Ichthyo- and zooplankton sampling

Zooplankton samples were taken along the entire salinity gradient from Kiel Bight to Gotland Basin. The sampling effort west of the Arkona basin was enhanced as a preparation for collecting spatially resolved data within the SpaCePari project (DAM funded, "Küstenfischerei, Biodiversität, räumliche Nutzung und Klimawandel: Ein partizipativer Ansatz zur Navigation der Westlichen Ostsee in eine nachhaltige Zukunft") that addresses as one of the major objectives the regionally resolved status of the Western Baltic cod stock.

Another target area was the Bornholm Basin where the "Bongo-Grid" was taken, a quasi-synoptic survey of the entire basin on a grid spanning stations at 10 nm intervals. Bongo- and Baby-Bongo hauls covered Kiel Bight (10 hauls), Mecklenburg Bight (14 hauls), Arkona Basin (12 hauls), and Bornholm Basin including the western part of Stolpe Trench (57 hauls).

In total, identifiable larvae of 9 different species were caught. As the most abundant larvae, individuals of sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*; n = 681), flounder (*Plathichthys flesus*; n = 345) and common seasnail (*Liparis liparis*; n = 3) were picked from the 500 µm bongo-samples and 300 µm Multinet samples and immediately conserved at -80 °C for subsequent RNA/DNA, stable isotope and genetic analyses.

As in the April AL553 cruise, a low number (n = 1) of cod (*Gadus morhua*) larvae was found in the Eastern part of the covered area (Bornholm basin), which is consistent with the continual shift of the spawning period of Eastern Baltic cod stock towards later in the year (i.e, summer). In contrast, we found a total of 62 juvenile cod in the Kiel Bight /Mecklenburg Bight area.

All zooplankton net catches were checked for the presence of gelatinous zooplankton. Ephyrae (larvae) and small adults of scyphozoan jellyfish (identified on board as *Cyanea capillata*, potentially low numbers of *Aurelia aurita*) were present in much higher abundances than in previous years. 635 individuals of the lions mane jellyfish, *Cyanea capillata*, were caught. In contrast, the invasive comb jelly (Ctenophora) *Mnemiopsis leidyi* remained rare. Here, only 5 individuals in total were caught in deep layers (>50 m depth) of Bornholm basin BB23 during the vertically resolved multinet-hauls.

After removing fish larvae and jellyfish, all zooplankton catches samples were conserved in 4% buffered formalin solution in sweater for later analysis, and are available for the determination of species composition and abundance of zoo- and ichthyoplankton throughout the 30-yr time series.

Stations in the eastern part of Stolpe trench and in the Gdansk Deep were sampled with IKS-80 nets instead of Bongo nets to ensure the compatibility of data with a long-term IKS-80 sampling series maintained by the Latvian Fish Resources Agency (LATFRA; Andrei Makarcuks).

At our key central Bornholm Basin station BB23 Multinet MAXI (300 µm, towed, sampling of the water column in 5 m layers) casts were performed over a one-day period on 25/26 May to assess diurnally resolved vertical distributions of ichthyo- and zooplankton. We obtained results of the depth distribution of different species of jellyfish and of the diel vertical migration of fish larvae.

### 5.2 Pelagic fisheries and the status of Eastern Baltic Cod

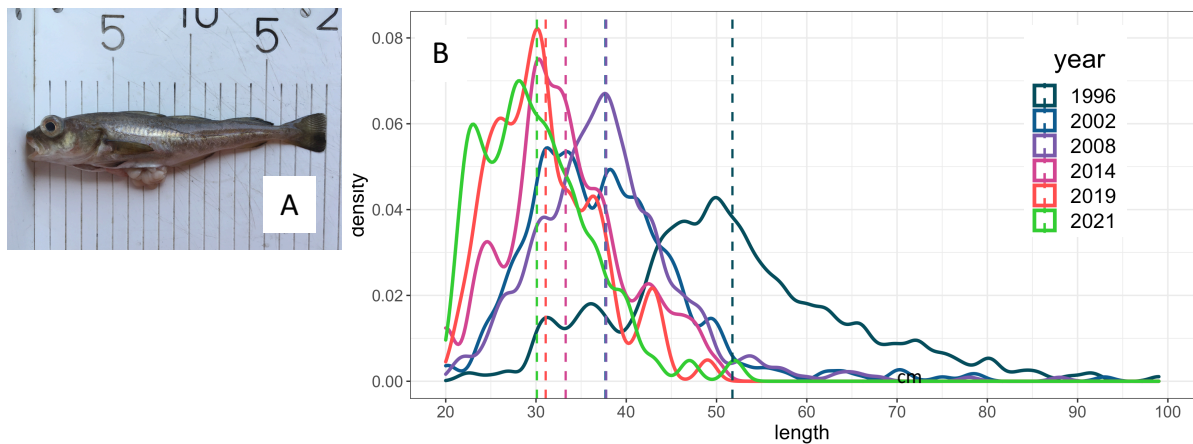
As oxygen conditions near the bottom were generally low to sustain higher life including fish at water depth >70m, most hauls (except those in Kiel and Mecklenburg Bay) were done within or slightly above the halocline, i.e. in the pelagic zone. Fishery hauls were conducted in Kiel Bight (1 haul), Mecklenburg Bight (3 hauls) Arkona Basin (3 hauls), Bornholm Basin (6 hauls), and Gdansk Deep (3 hauls). The overall catch composition is shown in Table 5.2.1.

In the Arkona-Basin, but also in western parts of the Bornholm basin, the whiting population seems to further increase in abundance compared to earlier years. Approximately twice the biomass /number of individuals were caught in 2021 compared to 2 yrs before, despite slightly less catch effort. Individualized samples of whiting (otoliths, fin clips for genetic analysis, gonads and livers) were taken from a total of 200 individuals, and of a further 755 were length /weight were recorded. For cod, single fish data (length, weight, sex and maturity stage) and samples (otoliths, fin clips for genetic analysis, gonads and livers) were obtained for 927 individuals in total. Length and weight were measured for additional individuals. The condition of animals, assessed as Fulton's K, has not significantly improved compared to previous years, but is also not further declining.

**Table 5.2.1** Fish catch composition for AL556. Single fish measurement and samples were taken for 965 cod and 755 whiting individuals. For herring and sprat, sub-samples were taken at each station. For flatfishes and all other species, measurements and fin clips of all individuals were taken.

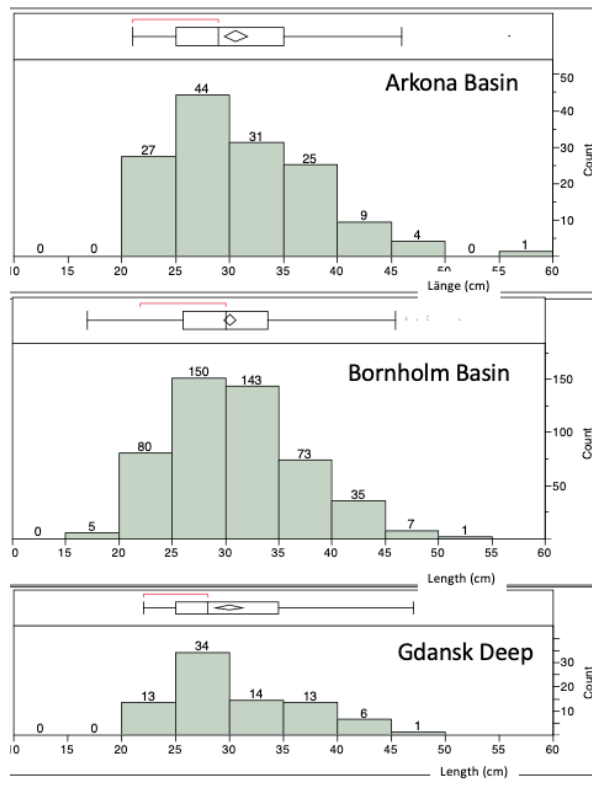
| Row Labels               | Catch weight(kg) | individ. Count |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| cod                      | 279.9            | 965            |
| cod (juvenile)           | 0.1              | 3              |
| three-spined stickleback | 0.0              | 1              |
| flounder                 | 2.7              | 17             |
| greater sandeel          | 0.4              | 26             |
| lesser sandlace          | 0.8              | 51             |
| brill                    | 0.3              | 1              |
| herring                  | 206.5            | 5621           |
| dab                      | 22.7             | 186            |
| plaice                   | 0.8              | 6              |
| common sole              | 0.0              | 1              |
| sprat                    | 641.4            | 60550          |
| turbot                   | 0.9              | 2              |
| whiting                  | 145.7            | 755            |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       | <b>1302.2</b>    | <b>68185</b>   |

In Bornholm Basin, the main remaining spawning area of the Eastern Baltic cod stock, the mean standard length of individuals was very small (Figure 5.2.1ab. and 5.2.2), and larger individuals >50 cm, which were frequently observed in past decades, were mostly absent from the population. Both of these observations are consistent with temporal trends over past years Fig. 5.2.1.b). In 2021, we even found more individuals in the smallest size class 20-25 cm as in previous years (Fig. 5.2.1b) Further analyses, including full genome sequencing of a random samples spanning time points from 1996 until 2021 will address the causes for the dramatic decline in fish size, in particular the hypothesis that ongoing strong size selective fishing "bred" small individuals owing to fisheries induced selection. For the same individuals, we are also conducting stable isotope analyses of muscle tissue to identify the likely food items (benthic invertebrates vs. pelagic fish) in the weeks prior to catch to assess possible correlations among nutritional state and size at maturity of targeted individuals. Even more important are novel approaches to ageing Eastern Baltic cod developed by DTU Aqua (Dr. Karin Hussey) which will allow, for the first time, to assess whether individuals are small and mature since they grew slowly, or whether they display maturity at an earlier age.



**Figure 5.2.1a** During AL556 Many male and female cod *Gadus morhua* individuals were already found to be fully mature / ready to spawn at around 20 cm of standard length. **b** temporal trend of cod *G. morhua* standard length (cm) distribution in Bornholm basin in 2021 (as density) compared to population samples obtained during past ALKOR cruises (analysis Kwi Young Han).

For sprat and herring, detailed stock size structures were recorded for maximally 200 randomly picked individuals. For these zooplanktivorous species, stomach samples (sprat: 10 per 1 cm length class; herring: 20 per 2 cm length class) as well as 2 kg frost samples were taken at each fisheries station.



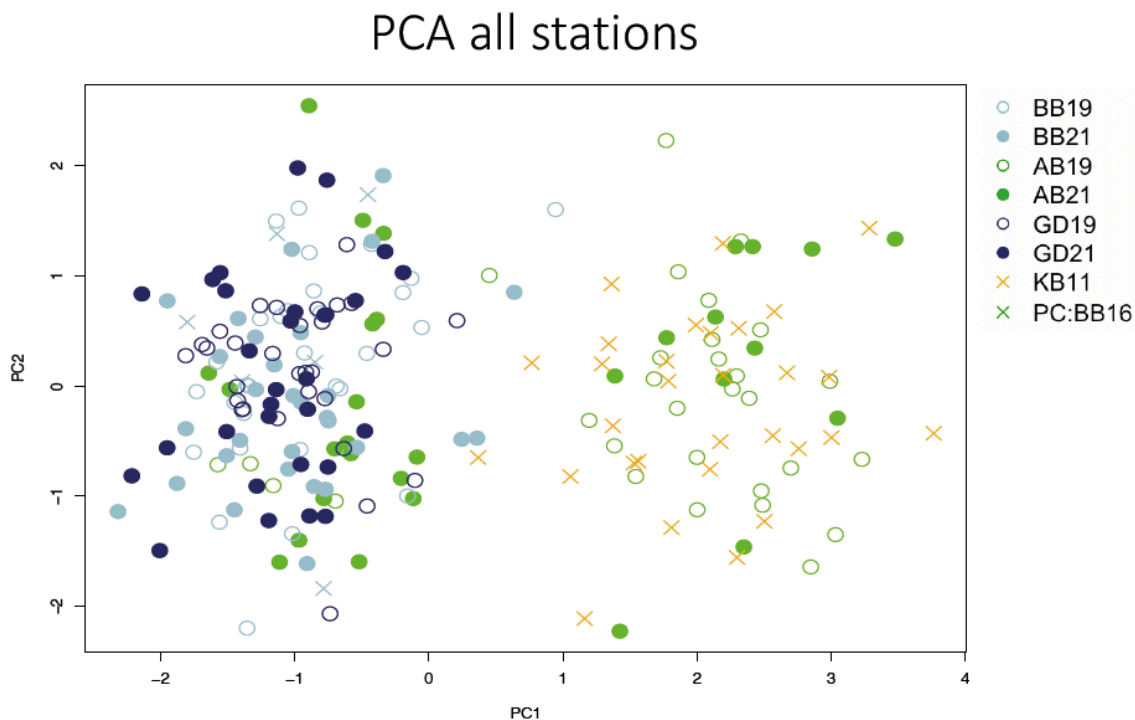
**Figure 5.2.2** Cod individual size distribution (in cm standard length) in May 2021 in the three main catch areas. Note that <1% of individuals had a standard length of >50 cm. This even applies to catches from the Arkona Basin that are a mixed area between Eastern and Western Baltic cod stock.

### 5.2.1. Genetic population Structure of Eastern /Western Baltic cod in the study area

In order to assess potential selection processes within the Eastern Baltic cod stock, it is paramount to test for admixture of the genetically distinct Western Baltic cod stock towards the eastern

spawning areas. To this end, finclips obtained from AL556 were immediately subjected to a SNP (single nucleotide polymorphism panel) genotyping analysis in the GEOMAR molecular genetic lab in June 2021. The SNP panel comprised 80 genetic markers custom designed to distinguish Western from Eastern Baltic cod. This was done during the Msc-course "Marine Molecular Ecology" as advanced student project.

The resulting principal component analysis (PCA) also comprised samples taken at nearly the same stations 2 yrs ago during AL 522 (Fig. 5.2.3). Clearly, two genetic clusters are visible with hardly any overlap, the left hand one being the cluster of the Eastern Baltic cod where individuals contribute from different locations (mainly Gdansk Deep /Bornholm Basin) including some caught in Arkona Basin. This implies that Eastern Baltic cod migrates to areas West of Bornholm. However, all fish belonging to the Western Baltic cod cluster (right hand side Fig. 5.2.3) were never caught in Bornholm Basin nor Gdansk Deep but only in Arkona Basin or even further west in Kiel Bight. Further data (not shown) reveal, in accordance with earlier analyses, that there is no genetic mixing, only physical co-occurrence of both gene pools of Baltic cod.



**Figure 5.2.3** Principal component analysis based on 80 custom designed SNPs showing the two main genetic clusters of cod (*Gadus morhua*) in the Baltic Sea. Catch locations: BB = Bornholm Basin, GD = Gdansk Deep, AB = Arkona Basin, KB = Kieler Bucht. The left-hand cluster is the Eastern Baltic Cod gene pool with a mixed catch origin, not to be confused with genomic affiliation. The right hand, Western Baltic cod gene pool is only occurring at catch locations west of Bornholm. The pattern is stable over at least 3 years.

### 5.3 Hydrography

During AL 556, CTD profiles were obtained with the ADM-CTD at 102 stations and the rosette water sampler with attached CTD (14 stations). Two additional vertical oxygen profiles were obtained for calibration purposes at the deep central Bornholm Basin station BB23 by determining oxygen concentrations in depth resolved water samples taken with the water sampler using the Winkler method on 19 and 24 May.

Regarding the oxygen conditions, we encountered the typical concentrations in the deeper layers of Bornholm Basin but also Gdansk Deep of 0 ml/l for most of the parts below the halocline in 70-75m depth. Consequently, the fisheries had to be modified and the trawling happened 15-35m above bottom (=pelagic trawls). Owing to these peculiar oxygen conditions, flatfish had to adopt a pelagic life style and were often caught in the free water column, in particular flounder, plaice and dab (Table 5.2.1). A detailed analysis is underway as to how quickly the oxygen content of oxygenated inflow is respired away, as a function of the rising water temperatures below the halocline that was observed in the past decades.

#### **5.4. Marine microbes and viruses of the Baltic Sea under climate change** (Luisa Listmann, Hamburg University IMF)

As part of this project on the ecological and evolutionary effects of different temperatures and salinities in the Baltic Sea on the green algae *Ostreococcus* and its viruses, we aim to answer the following questions: a) From which regions of the Baltic Sea can we isolate *Ostreococcus* sp. and its associated viruses? b) How do the infection dynamics change in space and time (comparing samples of different cruises of the last two years)? The latter question will be answered upon isolation success in the laboratory of IMF in Hamburg.

To answer these questions, we took surface water samples in the Bornholm Basin at seven stations along the cruise track of AL556. On board, water samples of all stations were filtered to below 0.45 $\mu$ m and 2 $\mu$ m to isolate viruses and picoplankton back in the laboratory at the institute in Hamburg. Water samples are in the process of isolating viruses with the 0.45 $\mu$ m size fraction.

## 6 Station List

The list and additional cruise data are also permanently available via the GEOMAR OSIS data portal under the link:

<https://portal.geomar.de/metadata/cruise/show/348649>

| ship<br>cruise<br>ID | station<br>ID | ship_station<br>nr | gear      | gear<br>deploym<br>nr | Latitude | Longitude | time<br>start | time<br>end | date_start | yearx | bottom_depth_min | bottom_depth_max |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|-----------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------|------------------|------------------|
| AL556                | GKW           | 1                  | AMD-CTD   | 1                     | 542044   | 101027    | 09:47         |             | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 13               | 13               |
| AL556                | GKW           | 1                  | CTD-WS    | 1                     | 542043   | 101024    | 09:55         | 10:21       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 11               | 11               |
| AL556                | GS7           | 2                  | Bongo     | 1                     | 542900   | 102039    | 11:49         | 11:51       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 19               | 19               |
| AL556                | GS7           | 2                  | CTD       | 2                     | 542889   | 102007    | 11:33         | 11:55       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 19               | 19               |
| AL556                | GS1           | 3                  | CTD       | 3                     | 543078   | 100129    | 13:00         | 13:10       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 27               | 27               |
| AL556                | GS1           | 3                  | Bongo     | 2                     | 543076   | 100127    | 13:14         | 13:18       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 27               | 27               |
| AL556                | GS2           | 4                  | Bongo     | 3                     | 543296   | 100698    | 13:46         | 13:49       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 22               | 22               |
| AL556                | GS2           | 4                  | CTD       | 4                     | 543297   | 100735    | 13:54         | 13:56       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 22               | 22               |
| AL556                | GS3           | 5                  | CTD       | 5                     | 543779   | 100935    | 14:28         | 14:29       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 22               | 22               |
| AL556                | GS3           | 5                  | Bongo     | 4                     | 543787   | 100930    | 14:32         | 14:35       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 22               | 22               |
| AL556                | GS6           | 6                  | Bongo     | 5                     | 543569   | 102043    | 15:14         | 15:16       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 16               | 16               |
| AL556                | GS6           | 6                  | CTD       | 6                     | 543565   | 102007    | 15:20         | 15:21       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 16               | 16               |
| AL556                | GS9           | 7                  | CTD       | 7                     | 543418   | 103000    | 15:58         | 15:59       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 18               | 18               |
| AL556                | GS9           | 7                  | Bongo     | 6                     | 543426   | 103006    | 16:04         | 16:05       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 18               | 18               |
| AL556                | GS12          | 8                  | Bongo     | 7                     | 543290   | 104025    | 16:41         | 16:43       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 20               | 20               |
| AL556                | GS12          | 8                  | Kl. WaSch | 1                     | 543289   | 103996    | 16:46         | 16:48       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 20               | 20               |
| AL556                | GS15          | 8                  | CTD       | 8                     | 543288   | 103969    | 16:56         | 16:57       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 20               | 20               |
| AL556                | GS15          | 9                  | CTD       | 9                     | 543267   | 105004    | 17:55         | 17:57       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 21               | 21               |
| AL556                | GS17          | 9                  | Bongo     | 8                     | 543265   | 104994    | 18:00         | 18:03       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 21               | 21               |
| AL556                | GS17          | 10                 | Bongo     | 9                     | 543631   | 110021    | 18:51         | 18:54       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 27               | 27               |
| AL556                | GS18          | 10                 | CTD       | 10                    | 543616   | 105990    | 18:58         | 19:01       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 37               | 37               |
| AL556                | GS18          | 11                 | CTD       | 11                    | 543459   | 110833    | 19:34         | 19:36       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 27               | 27               |
| AL556                | GS18          | 11                 | Bongo     | 10                    | 543458   | 110824    | 19:40         | 19:43       | 14.05.21   | 2021  | 27               | 27               |
| AL556                | GS19          | 12                 | Bongo     | 11                    | 543198   | 111963    | 07:56         | 08:00       | 15.05.21   | 2021  | 30               | 30               |
| AL556                | GS19          | 12                 | CTD       | 12                    | 543187   | 111918    | 08:05         | 08:06       | 15.05.21   | 2021  | 30               | 30               |
| AL556                | GS20          | 13                 | CTD       | 13                    | 542526   | 112269    | 08:44         | 08:50       | 15.05.21   | 2021  | 20               | 20               |
| AL556                | GS20          | 13                 | Bongo     | 12                    | 542516   | 112269    | 08:54         | 08:56       | 15.05.21   | 2021  | 20               | 20               |

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| AL556 | GS21  | 14 | Bongo   | 13 | 542007 | 112261 | 09:27 | 09:29 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 21 | 21 |
| AL556 | GS21  | 14 | CTD     | 14 | 541978 | 112261 | 09:34 | 09:36 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 21 | 21 |
| AL556 | GS22  | 15 | CTD     | 15 | 541466 | 112083 | 10:10 | 10:11 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 20 | 20 |
| AL556 | GS22  | 15 | Bongo   | 14 | 541461 | 112088 | 10:14 | 10:17 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 20 | 20 |
| AL556 | GS23  | 16 | Bongo   | 15 | 540854 | 111753 | 10:54 | 10:58 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 25 | 25 |
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| AL556 | GS24  | 17 | Bongo   | 16 | 541022 | 112450 | 11:38 | 11:43 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 23 | 23 |
| AL556 | GS25  | 18 | Bongo   | 17 | 541196 | 113223 | 12:14 | 12:17 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | GS25  | 18 | CTD     | 18 | 541195 | 113264 | 12:20 | 12:22 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | GS32  | 19 | CTD     | 19 | 541250 | 114052 | 12:54 | 12:56 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | GS32  | 19 | Bongo   | 18 | 541252 | 114052 | 12:59 | 13:03 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
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| AL556 | GS34  | 21 | Bongo   | 20 | 541792 | 114943 | 14:22 | 14:25 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 23 | 23 |
| AL556 | GS31  | 22 | Bongo   | 21 | 541744 | 114065 | 14:55 | 14:57 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 25 | 25 |
| AL556 | GS31  | 22 | CTD     | 22 | 541742 | 114035 | 15:01 | 15:03 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 25 | 25 |
| AL556 | GS30  | 23 | CTD     | 23 | 542170 | 114058 | 15:30 | 15:32 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 25 | 25 |
| AL556 | GS30  | 23 | Bongo   | 22 | 542166 | 114048 | 15:35 | 15:37 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 25 | 25 |
| AL556 | GS27  | 24 | Bongo   | 23 | 542213 | 113288 | 16:05 | 16:08 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | GS27  | 24 | CTD     | 24 | 542214 | 113249 | 16:12 | 16:14 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | GS26  | 25 | CTD     | 25 | 541741 | 113238 | 16:44 | 16:46 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | GS26  | 25 | Bongo   | 24 | 541739 | 113254 | 16:50 | 16:53 | 15.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | TW7   | 26 | JFT     | 1  | 541099 | 112773 | 08:16 | 08:46 | 16.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | xx/27 | 27 | JFT     | 2  | 541751 | 115429 | 11:27 | 11:37 | 16.05.21 | 2021 | 20 | 20 |
| AL556 | xx/28 | 28 | JFT     | 3  | 541479 | 114963 | 12:41 | 13:11 | 16.05.21 | 2021 | 23 | 23 |
| AL556 | xx/29 | 29 | JFT     | 4  | 541595 | 115130 | 13:40 | 14:25 | 16.05.21 | 2021 | 20 | 20 |
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| AL556 | BB41  | 30 | JFT     | 5  | 544423 | 151185 | 07:46 | 08:16 | 17.05.21 | 2021 | 65 | 65 |
| AL556 | BB40  | 31 | CTD     | 27 | 544705 | 152695 | 11:38 | 11:43 | 17.05.21 | 2021 | 72 | 72 |
| AL556 | BB40  | 32 | JFT     | 6  | 544720 | 152806 | 11:56 | 12:27 | 17.05.21 | 2021 | 72 | 72 |
| AL556 | BB23  | 33 | CTD     | 28 | 551750 | 154499 | 07:32 |       | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23  | 33 | Apstein | 1  | 551749 | 154499 | 07:54 | 08:10 | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |

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| AL556 | BB23 | 33 | WP2     | 1  | 551750 | 154499 | 08:46 | 08:53 | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
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| AL556 | BB23 | 33 | CTD-WS  | 3  | 551748 | 154493 | 10:13 | 10:27 | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 33 | Bongo   | 25 | 551747 | 154507 | 10:32 | 10:45 | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
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| AL556 | BB23 | 33 | JFT     | 7  | 551672 | 154429 | 11:53 | 12:23 | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 75 | 75 |
| AL556 | BB30 | 34 | JFT     | 8  | 550826 | 154512 | 13:38 | 14:08 | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 75 | 75 |
| AL556 | BB30 | 35 | JFT     | 9  | 550623 | 154702 | 15:10 | 15:50 | 18.05.21 | 2021 | 88 | 88 |
| AL556 | BB13 | 36 | CTD     | 29 | 552750 | 162698 | 06:12 | 06:14 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 58 | 58 |
| AL556 | BB13 | 36 | Bongo   | 27 | 552751 | 162987 | 06:19 | 06:25 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 59 | 59 |
| AL556 | BB12 | 37 | Bongo   | 28 | 553753 | 163087 | 07:23 | 07:30 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 62 | 62 |
| AL556 | BB12 | 37 | CTD     | 30 | 553750 | 163007 | 07:35 | 07:40 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 62 | 62 |
| AL556 | BB11 | 38 | CTD     | 31 | 554747 | 163006 | 08:39 | 08:42 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 57 | 57 |
| AL556 | BB11 | 38 | Bongo   | 29 | 554750 | 162978 | 08:48 | 08:53 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 57 | 57 |
| AL556 | BB09 | 39 | Bongo   | 30 | 554749 | 161598 | 09:38 | 09:45 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 60 | 60 |
| AL556 | BB09 | 39 | CTD     | 32 | 554748 | 161509 | 09:50 | 09:54 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 60 | 60 |
| AL556 | BB08 | 40 | CTD     | 33 | 554749 | 160002 | 10:44 | 10:48 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 62 | 62 |
| AL556 | BB08 | 40 | Bongo   | 31 | 554747 | 155987 | 10:51 | 10:58 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 62 | 62 |
| AL556 | BB07 | 41 | Bongo   | 32 | 553757 | 160075 | 11:55 | 12:07 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 74 | 74 |
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| AL556 | BB10 | 42 | CTD     | 35 | 553746 | 161507 |       |       | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 74 | 74 |
| AL556 | BB10 | 42 | Bongo   | 33 | 553748 | 161503 | 13:23 | 13:34 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 74 | 74 |
| AL556 | BB14 | 43 | Bongo   | 34 | 552750 | 161614 | 14:32 | 14:43 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 74 | 74 |
| AL556 | BB14 | 43 | CTD     | 36 | 552747 | 161513 | 14:45 | 14:49 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 74 | 74 |
| AL556 | BB15 | 44 | CTD     | 37 | 552750 | 155999 | 15:43 | 15:49 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 83 | 83 |
| AL556 | BB15 | 44 | Bongo   | 35 | 552743 | 155983 | 15:53 | 16:04 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 83 | 83 |
| AL556 | BB16 | 45 | Bongo   | 36 | 552763 | 154625 | 16:49 | 17:00 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 85 | 85 |
| AL556 | BB16 | 45 | CTD     | 38 | 552748 | 154507 | 17:03 |       | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 85 | 85 |
| AL556 | BB06 | 46 | CTD     | 39 | 553746 | 154502 | 18:09 | 18:13 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 69 | 69 |



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| AL556 | BB05 | 47 | Bongo  | 38 | 553769 | 153093 | 19:13 | 19:21 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 67 | 67 |
| AL556 | BB05 | 47 | CTD    | 40 | 553751 | 152996 | 19:25 | 19:30 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 67 | 67 |
| AL556 | BB04 | 48 | CTD    | 41 | 553742 | 151516 | 20:21 | 20:27 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 72 | 72 |
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| AL556 | BB04 | 48 | Bongo  | 39 | 553736 | 151495 | 20:33 | 20:42 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 72 | 72 |
| AL556 | BB03 | 49 | Bongo  | 40 | 553786 | 150079 | 21:29 | 21:37 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 75 | 75 |
| AL556 | BB03 | 49 | CTD    | 42 | 553752 | 150003 | 21:41 | 21:46 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 75 | 75 |
| AL556 | BB02 | 50 | CTD    | 43 | 553748 | 144506 | 22:38 | 22:42 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 68 | 68 |
| AL556 | BB02 | 50 | Bongo  | 41 | 553738 | 144499 | 22:45 | 22:54 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 69 | 69 |
| AL556 | BB01 | 51 | Bongo  | 42 | 552799 | 144504 | 23:57 | 00:07 | 19.05.21 | 2021 | 69 | 69 |
| AL556 | BB01 | 51 | CTD    | 44 | 552738 | 144497 | 00:09 | 00:15 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 69 | 69 |
| AL556 | BB19 | 52 | CTD    | 45 | 552747 | 150017 | 01:09 | 01:15 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 78 | 78 |
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| AL556 | BB18 | 53 | Bongo  | 44 | 552764 | 151367 | 02:18 | 02:34 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 91 | 91 |
| AL556 | BB18 | 53 | CTD    | 46 | 552748 | 151514 | 02:37 | 02:40 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 90 | 90 |
| AL556 | BB17 | 54 | CTD    | 47 | 552748 | 153003 | 03:37 | 03:43 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 85 | 85 |
| AL556 | BB17 | 54 | Bongo  | 45 | 552739 | 153006 | 03:47 | 04:00 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 85 | 85 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 55 | Bongo  | 46 | 551819 | 154454 | 05:12 | 05:26 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 55 | CTD    | 48 | 551744 | 154498 | 05:29 | 05:36 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB30 | 56 | CTD    | 49 | 550748 | 154516 | 06:35 |       | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 89 | 89 |
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| AL556 | BB35 | 57 | Bongo  | 48 | 545778 | 154584 | 07:47 | 07:57 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 79 | 79 |
| AL556 | BB35 | 57 | CTD    | 50 | 545748 | 154495 | 08:02 | 08:08 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 81 | 81 |
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| AL556 | BB34 | 58 | Bongo  | 49 | 545747 | 152989 | 09:08 | 09:17 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 77 | 77 |
| AL556 | BB31 | 59 | Bongo  | 50 | 570744 | 153106 | 10:17 |       | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 69 | 69 |
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| AL556 | BB22 | 60 | CTD    | 53 | 551751 | 153009 | 11:33 | 11:39 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 93 | 93 |
| AL556 | BB22 | 60 | Bongo  | 51 | 551747 | 152997 | 11:42 | 11:56 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 93 | 93 |
| AL556 | BB21 | 61 | Bongo  | 52 | 551780 | 151847 | 12:36 | 12:49 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 91 | 91 |
| AL556 | BB21 | 61 | CTD    | 54 | 551751 | 151689 | 12:54 | 13:00 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 88 | 88 |
| AL556 | BB20 | 62 | CTD    | 55 | 551747 | 150009 | 14:03 | 14:08 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 72 | 72 |
| AL556 | BB20 | 62 | Bongo  | 53 | 551743 | 150001 | 14:12 | 14:22 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 71 | 71 |

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| AL556 | BB32 | 63 | Bongo  | 54 | 550763 | 151606 | 15:39 | 15:49 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 62 | 62 |
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| AL556 | BB41 | 65 | Bongo  | 56 | 544791 | 151577 | 18:05 | 18:13 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 67 | 67 |
| AL556 | BB41 | 65 | WS kl. | 4  | 544757 | 151516 | 18:18 |       | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 68 | 68 |
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| AL556 | BB42 | 66 | CTD    | 59 | 544745 | 150016 | 19:20 | 19:24 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 60 | 60 |
| AL556 | BB42 | 66 | Bongo  | 57 | 544738 | 150018 | 19:27 | 19:34 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 60 | 60 |
| AL556 | BB43 | 67 | Bongo  | 58 | 543788 | 151440 | 20:43 | 20:49 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 59 | 59 |
| AL556 | BB43 | 67 | CTD    | 60 | 543756 | 151482 | 20:54 | 20:58 | 20.05.21 | 2021 | 59 | 59 |
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| AL556 | BB39 | 70 | Bongo  | 61 | 544743 | 154501 | 00:22 | 00:34 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 71 | 71 |
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| AL556 | BB38 | 72 | Bongo  | 63 | 544743 | 155994 | 03:13 | 03:20 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 51 | 51 |
| AL556 | BB36 | 73 | Bongo  | 64 | 545781 | 160093 | 04:22 | 04:32 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 73 | 73 |
| AL556 | BB36 | 73 | WS kl. | 5  | 545752 | 160005 | 04:35 | 04:36 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 73 | 73 |
| AL556 | BB36 | 73 | CTD    | 66 | 545749 | 160000 | 04:41 | 04:46 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 73 | 73 |
| AL556 | BB37 | 74 | CTD    | 67 | 545749 | 161497 | 05:39 | 05:43 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 49 | 49 |
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| AL556 | BB27 | 75 | Bongo  | 66 | 550786 | 163042 | 07:18 | 07:23 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 51 | 51 |
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| AL556 | BB28 | 76 | Bongo  | 67 | 550737 | 161510 | 08:31 | 08:41 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 79 | 79 |
| AL556 | BB29 | 77 | Bongo  | 68 | 550798 | 155990 | 09:31 | 09:43 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 87 | 87 |
| AL556 | BB29 | 77 | CTD    | 70 | 550742 | 160011 | 09:47 | 09:52 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 87 | 87 |
| AL556 | BB24 | 78 | CTD    | 71 | 551752 | 155992 | 10:50 | 10:56 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 89 | 89 |
| AL556 | BB24 | 78 | Bongo  | 69 | 551746 | 160007 | 10:59 | 11:10 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 89 | 89 |

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| AL556 | BB25  | 79 | Bongo  | 70 | 551766 | 161404 | 11:56 | 12:06 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 75  | 75  |
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| AL556 | BB26  | 80 | CTD    | 73 | 551747 | 163004 | 13:08 | 13:12 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 61  | 61  |
| AL556 | BB26  | 80 | Bongo  | 71 | 551746 | 163017 | 13:16 | 13:26 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 63  | 63  |
| AL556 | BB46  | 81 | Bongo  | 72 | 541407 | 164694 | 14:22 | 14:33 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 78  | 78  |
| AL556 | BB46  | 81 | WS kl. | 6  | 551404 | 164788 | 14:36 | 14:36 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 78  | 78  |
| AL556 | BB46  | 81 | CTD    | 74 | 551403 | 164789 | 14:40 | 14:46 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 78  | 78  |
| AL556 | BB55  | 82 | CTD    | 75 | 552101 | 164794 | 15:28 | 15:32 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 66  | 66  |
| AL556 | BB55  | 82 | Bongo  | 73 | 552099 | 164801 | 15:36 | 15:44 | 21.05.21 | 2021 | 66  | 66  |
| AL556 | BB14  | 83 | JFT    | 10 | 553287 | 162681 | 08:05 | 08:35 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 69  | 69  |
| AL556 | BB14  | 83 | JFT    | 11 | 553166 | 161979 | 09:10 | 10:00 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 72  | 72  |
| AL556 | SR54  | 84 | CTD    | 76 | 552100 | 170496 | 13:26 | 13:32 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 67  | 67  |
| AL556 | SR54  | 84 | Bongo  | 74 | 552101 | 170525 | 13:36 | 13:44 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 67  | 67  |
| AL556 | SR53  | 85 | Bongo  | 75 | 552094 | 172106 | 14:38 | 14:46 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 71  | 71  |
| AL556 | SR53  | 85 | CTD    | 77 | 552100 | 172198 | 14:50 | 14:55 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 71  | 71  |
| AL556 | SR52  | 86 | CTD    | 78 | 552502 | 173497 | 15:44 | 15:50 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 66  | 66  |
| AL556 | SR52  | 86 | Bongo  | 76 | 552498 | 173507 | 15:53 | 16:02 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 67  | 67  |
| AL556 | SR51  | 87 | Bongo  | 77 | 552917 | 175404 | 17:09 | 17:20 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 68  | 68  |
| AL556 | SR51  | 87 | CTD    | 79 | 592897 | 175497 | 17:23 | 17:28 | 22.05.21 | 2021 | 67  | 67  |
| AL556 | GD60a | 88 | CTD    | 80 | 544298 | 191704 | 07:53 | 08:00 | 23.05.21 | 2021 | 98  | 98  |
| AL556 | GD60a | 88 | IKS-80 | 1  | 544298 | 191705 | 08:04 | 08:09 | 23.05.21 | 2021 | 98  | 98  |
| AL556 | GD60a | 88 | JFT    | 12 |        |        |       |       | 23.05.21 | 2021 | 98  | 98  |
| AL556 | GD60  | 89 | IKS-80 | 2  | 544901 | 190800 | 10:37 | 10:45 | 23.05.21 | 2021 | 103 | 103 |
| AL556 | GD60  | 89 | CTD    | 81 | 544897 | 190796 | 10:50 | 10:56 | 23.05.21 | 2021 | 103 | 103 |
| AL556 | GD63  | 90 | CTD    | 82 | 545399 | 191197 | 11:40 | 11:47 | 23.05.21 | 2021 | 107 | 107 |
| AL556 | GD63  | 90 | IKS-80 | 3  | 545398 | 191198 | 11:50 | 11:57 | 23.05.21 | 2021 | 106 | 106 |
| AL556 | GD63  | 90 | JFT    | 13 |        |        |       |       | 23.05.21 | 2021 |     |     |
| AL556 | GD58  | 91 | IKS-80 | 4  | 545991 | 190485 |       |       | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 101 | 101 |
| AL556 | GD58  | 91 | CTD    | 83 | 545988 | 190485 | 08:09 | 08:15 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 101 | 101 |
| AL556 | GD59  | 92 | CTD    | 84 | 545408 | 185419 | 09:05 | 09:12 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 99  | 99  |
| AL556 | GD59  | 92 | IKS-80 | 5  | 545405 | 185418 | 09:15 | 09:22 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 98  | 98  |
| AL556 | GD59a | 93 | IKS-80 | 6  | 545996 | 184108 | 10:18 | 10:26 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 92  | 92  |
| AL556 | GD59a | 93 | CTD    | 85 | 545995 | 184117 | 10:32 | 10:38 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 92  | 92  |
| AL556 | GD57  | 94 | CTD    | 86 | 550998 | 184900 | 11:40 | 11:47 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 91  | 91  |

|       |      |     |         |    |        |        |       |       |          |      |    |    |
|-------|------|-----|---------|----|--------|--------|-------|-------|----------|------|----|----|
| AL556 | GD57 | 94  | IKS-80  | 7  | 550996 | 184905 | 11:51 | 11:58 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 91 | 91 |
| AL556 | GD83 | 95  | IKS-80  | 8  | 551502 | 183697 | 12:50 | 12:57 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 75 | 75 |
| AL556 | GD83 | 95  | CTD     | 87 | 551499 | 183702 | 12:59 | 13:04 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 75 | 75 |
| AL556 | GD56 | 96  | CTD     | 88 | 550901 | 182492 | 13:59 | 14:04 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 79 | 79 |
| AL556 | GD56 | 96  | IKS-80  | 9  | 550896 | 182490 | 14:06 | 14:11 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 79 | 79 |
| AL556 | GD71 | 97  | IKS-80  | 10 | 552300 | 181897 | 15:36 | 15:41 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 83 | 83 |
| AL556 | GD71 | 97  | CTD     | 89 | 552303 | 181903 | 15:44 | 15:48 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 83 | 83 |
| AL556 | SR50 | 98  | CTD     | 90 | 551403 | 175502 | 17:22 | 17:26 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 63 | 63 |
| AL556 | SR50 | 98  | Bongo   | 78 | 551405 | 175524 | 17:31 | 17:38 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 62 | 62 |
| AL556 | SR49 | 99  | Bongo   | 79 | 551499 | 173394 | 18:49 | 19:02 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 83 | 83 |
| AL556 | SR49 | 99  | CTD     | 91 | 551504 | 173507 | 19:04 | 19:11 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 82 | 82 |
| AL556 | SR48 | 100 | CTD     | 92 | 551402 | 172201 | 19:54 | 20:00 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 89 | 89 |
| AL556 | SR48 | 100 | Bongo   | 80 | 551400 | 172274 | 20:03 | 20:14 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 89 | 89 |
| AL556 | SR47 | 101 | Bongo   | 81 | 551512 | 170337 | 21:15 | 21:26 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 83 | 83 |
| AL556 | SR47 | 102 | CTD     | 93 | 551511 | 170504 | 21:28 | 21:34 | 24.05.21 | 2021 | 83 | 83 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | MN-Maxi | 1  | 551741 | 154526 | 08:00 | 08:40 | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | MN-Maxi | 2  | 551749 | 154495 | 09:03 | 09:41 | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | CTD     | 94 | 551748 | 154496 | 12:01 | 12:09 | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | Apstein | 4  | 551749 | 154496 | 12:13 |       | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | Apstein | 5  | 551748 | 154497 | 12:28 |       | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | Apstein | 6  | 551747 | 154497 | 12:46 |       | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | WP2     | 4  | 551749 | 154498 | 13:04 |       | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | WP2     | 5  | 551749 | 154497 | 13:13 |       | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | WP2     | 6  | 551449 | 154498 | 13:22 |       | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | MN-Maxi | 3  | 551745 | 154478 | 16:00 | 16:43 | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | MN-Maxi | 4  | 551745 | 154505 | 17:06 | 17:44 | 25.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | MN-Maxi | 5  | 551688 | 154472 | 00:00 | 00:40 | 26.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | BB23 | 102 | MN-Maxi | 6  | 551755 | 154503 | 01:37 | 02:11 | 26.05.21 | 2021 | 95 | 95 |
| AL556 | H22  | 103 | JFT     | 14 | 545884 | 131768 | 11:30 | 12:30 | 26.05.21 | 2021 | 47 | 47 |
| AL556 | H22  | 104 | JFT     | 15 | 545840 | 131601 | 14:50 | 15:21 | 26.05.21 | 2021 | 46 | 46 |
| AL556 | H10  | 105 | Bongo   | 82 | 552101 | 143821 | 06:03 | 06:09 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 54 | 54 |
| AL556 | H10  | 105 | CTD     | 95 | 552071 | 143807 | 06:13 | 06:18 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 53 | 53 |
| AL556 | H11  | 106 | CTD     | 96 | 551500 | 142992 | 07:00 | 07:03 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 44 | 44 |
| AL556 | H11  | 106 | Bongo   | 83 | 541492 | 142999 | 07:07 | 07:11 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 44 | 44 |

|       |     |     |       |     |        |        |       |       |          |      |    |    |
|-------|-----|-----|-------|-----|--------|--------|-------|-------|----------|------|----|----|
| AL556 | H12 | 107 | Bongo | 84  | 551085 | 142514 | 07:40 | 07:45 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 44 | 44 |
| AL556 | H12 | 107 | CTD   | 97  | 551050 | 142507 | 07:50 | 07:53 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 45 | 45 |
| AL556 | H07 | 108 | CTD   | 98  | 550705 | 141562 | 08:32 |       | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 48 | 48 |
| AL556 | H07 | 108 | Bongo | 85  | 550698 | 141554 | 08:39 | 08:44 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 48 | 48 |
| AL556 | H17 | 109 | Bongo | 86  | 550084 | 140514 | 09:48 | 09:53 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 48 | 48 |
| AL556 | H17 | 109 | CTD   | 99  | 550056 | 140503 | 09:58 | 10:03 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 48 | 48 |
| AL556 | H18 | 110 | CTD   | 100 | 555652 | 134699 | 11:06 | 11:11 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 46 | 46 |
| AL556 | H18 | 110 | Bongo | 87  | 545647 | 134701 | 11:13 | 11:19 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 47 | 47 |
| AL556 | H21 | 111 | Bongo | 88  | 545651 | 133000 | 12:13 | 12:19 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 47 | 47 |
| AL556 | H21 | 111 | CTD   | 101 | 545643 | 132936 | 12:22 | 12:25 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 46 | 46 |
| AL556 | H22 | 112 | CTD   | 102 | 545751 | 131488 | 13:17 | 13:21 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 46 | 46 |
| AL556 | H22 | 112 | Bongo | 89  | 545750 | 131477 | 13:24 | 13:30 | 27.05.21 | 2021 |    |    |
| AL556 | H23 | 113 | Bongo | 90  | 545358 | 130455 | 14:10 | 14:14 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 44 | 44 |
| AL556 | H23 | 113 | CTD   | 103 | 545352 | 130501 | 14:18 | 14:20 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 44 | 44 |
| AL556 | H25 | 114 | CTD   | 104 | 544403 | 130246 | 15:17 | 15:19 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | H25 | 114 | Bongo | 91  | 544394 | 130239 | 15:23 | 15:25 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 24 | 24 |
| AL556 | H26 | 115 | Bongo | 92  | 544416 | 124784 | 16:12 | 16:14 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 22 | 22 |
| AL556 | H26 | 115 | CTD   | 105 | 544402 | 124760 | 16:18 | 16:20 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 22 | 22 |
| AL556 | H29 | 116 | CTD   | 106 | 544301 | 122945 | 17:19 | 17:21 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 18 | 18 |
| AL556 | H29 | 116 | Bongo | 93  | 544797 | 122936 | 17:24 | 17:25 | 27.05.21 | 2021 | 18 | 18 |

## 7 Data and Sample Storage and Availability

All data obtained during the cruise have been backed up on a GEOMAR virtual drive that is backed up daily. In addition, data are stored on different hard drives in different locations. Paper protocols filled out during the cruise were entered electronically continuously throughout the cruise, and thus fall under the electronic back-up scheme, but have also been conserved as hard copies to resolve possible data entry errors later on if needed.

All cruise meta-data – including output of the on board DSHIP-System - have been entered in the GEOMAR Ocean Science Information System (OSIS), managed by the Kiel Data Management Team (KDMT), and intended for permanent archiving of such data. The data are freely available via the link <https://portal.geomar.de/metadata/cruise/show/348649> (keyword “AL556”).

We aim to ultimately make all data accumulated during the cruise publicly available.

All hydrographic (CTD) data will be submitted to the ICES database within one year from the cruise. Moreover, the KDMT team will assist with the publication of data in the public data repository PANGAEA to provide long-term archival and access. Some of the data are intended for specific publications, and will be published openly with the appearance of the underlying peer-review article. In these cases, please contact the person responsible for the data in case earlier access to the data is desired (Table 7.1).

Genetic /genomic data will be submitted to the relevant data archives (Genbank /NCBI) during the process of publication.

All samples obtained during the cruise were labelled on board with a barcoding scheme, and all samples intended for longer-term storage were professionally archived immediately after the cruise. This includes formalin conserved samples for long-term storage, and frozen samples (-20°C and -80°C) currently conserved in freezer rooms at GEOMAR. A data base is currently being set up under the umbrella Mare Data Hub to contain all sample metadata of all zooplankton, fin-clip and other preserved biological samples

**Table 7.1** Overview of data availability and persons responsible for specific data sets of AL522.

| Type   | Database                                     | Available  | Free Access | Contact   |
|--|--|--|-------------|---|
| Hydrography (CTD data)                               | ICES database                                | Publicly by April 2022, earlier on request (see contact e-mail).   | yes         | Dr. Jan Dierking<br>jdierking@geomar.de             |
| Fishery data and food web sampling data              | PANGAEA                                      | Publicly at time of acceptance of the underlying peer-reviewed publication; or via request (see contact e-mail). | yes         | Prof. T Reusch<br>treusch@geomar.de                 |
| fish individual data ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> , others) | NCBI /Genbank                                | Publicly at time of acceptance of the underlying peer-reviewed publication; or via request (see contact e-mail). | yes         | Kwi Yong Han<br>khan@geomar.de                      |
| Zooplankton metadata                                 | GEOMAR internal /biodiversity storage centre | Publicly at time of acceptance of the underlying peer-reviewed publication; or via request (see contact e-mail). | yes         | Dr. Felix Mittermayer<br>fmittermayer@geomar.de     |
| Ichthyoplankton data                                 | PANGAEA                                      | Publicly at time of acceptance of the underlying peer-reviewed publication; or via request (see contact e-mail). | yes         | Dr. Catriona Clemmesen<br>cclemmesen@geomar.de      |
| Phytoplankton community sampling                     | PANGAEA                                      | Inquire with collaboration partner (see contact e-mail).   | yes         | Dr. Luisa Listmann<br>luisa.listmann@uni-hamburg.de |

## 8 Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Captain Jan-Peter Lass and the entire crew of RV ALKOR for their outstanding support throughout the cruise and for the excellent and constructive working atmosphere on board. I also the scientific personal and student assistants on AL556 for their enthusiasm and motivation to fulfil most of our cruise goals despite the Covid-19 restrictions.

## **9 Appendices**

### **Electronic appendix E9.1** Station list of AL556.

Online, see at <https://portal.geomar.de/metadata/cruise/show/358410>