



atlas

UNDERSTANDING DEEP ATLANTIC ECOSYSTEMS



Reproductive traits and larval ecology. Some potential relevant aspects to feed predictive dispersal models

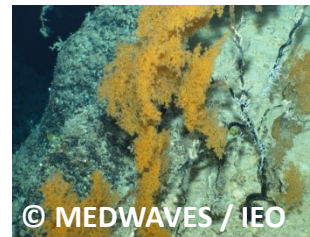
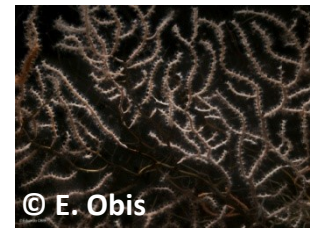
ATLAS 3rd General Assembly

Covadonga Orejas, & Ann I Larsson



Bibliographic compilation on information on reproduction of CWCs

- Data from 16 scleractinian corals
- Data from 21 octocorals
- Data from 33 antipatharians



Species	Oocyte size (µm)	Nr Oocyte/Polyp	Incubation mode (reproductive strategy)
<i>Lophelia pertusa</i>	60-140	3000	♀♂, anual broadcaster spawner
<i>Lophelia pertusa</i> (Brazil)	145.03 ± 733.52	--	♀♂, broadcaster spawner, some hermaphrodits
<i>Enallopsammia rostrata</i>	400	144	♀♂, broadcast spawner
<i>Enallopsammia rostrata</i> (Brazil)	457.60 ± 7150.96	--	♀♂, broadcast spawner
<i>Madrepora oculata</i>	350	40-60	♀♂, broadcaster spawner
<i>Madrepora oculata</i> , (Brazil)	271.40 ± 783.54	--	♀♂, broadcaster spawner, some hermaphrodits
<i>Oculina varicosa</i>	100	--	♀♂, broadcast spawner, 22 d. planula
<i>Solenosmilia variabilis</i>	157.92 ± 730.17	--	♀♂, broadcaster spawner
<i>Solenosmilia variabilis</i>	165	290	♀♂, broadcast spawner
<i>Goniocorella dumosa</i>	135	480	♀♂ sup., broadcast spawner
<i>Caryophyllia ambrosia</i>	700	200-2750	♀ broadcast spawner
<i>Caryophyllia sequenzae</i>	430	52-940	♀ broadcast spawner
<i>Caryophyllia cornuformis</i>	350	-	♀ broadcast spawner
<i>Fungiacyathus marenzelleri</i>	1400	2837 ± 121	♀♂, broadcast spawner
<i>Flabellum alabastrum</i>	1010	550	♀♂, broadcast spawner
<i>Flabellum angulare</i>	814	2800	♀♂, broadcast spawner
<i>Flabellum thouarsii</i>	4800	2412	♀♂, brooder
<i>Flabellum curvatum</i>	5120	1618	♀♂, brooder
<i>Flabellum impensum</i>	5167	1270	♀♂, brooder
<i>Seriatopora hystrix</i>		--	Larvae observed

Octocorals

© E. Obis

Species	Oocyte size (µm) (max)	Nr Oocyte/Polyp	Incubation mode (reproductive strategy)
<i>Acanella arbuscula</i>	600-700	--	♀♂, broadcaster brooder?
<i>Primnoella chilensis</i>	752.96	36	♀♂, broadcast spawner? No larvae observed
<i>Swiftia simplex</i>	695.77	42.53 ± 9.82 SE	♀♂, no brooded larvae observed
<i>Swiftia pacifica</i>	664.81	4.6 ± 2.06 SE	♀♂, no brooded larvae observed
<i>Primnoa notialis</i>	687.99	18	♀♂, no brooded larvae observed
<i>Primnoa pacifica</i>	802	86 ± 612	♀♂, broadcaster spawner, lecithotrophic larvae?
<i>Swiftia beringi</i>	726.63	13.6	♀♂, no brooded larvae observed
<i>Swiftia kofoidi</i>	561.81	3 ± 1.53 SE	♀♂, no brooded larvae observed
<i>Swiftia torreyi</i>	244	8 ± 1.15 SE	
<i>Funiculina quadrangularis</i>	> 800	500–2000 per 1 cm rachial midsection	♀♂, probably broadcast spawner
<i>Drifa glomerata</i>	--	40–3,000 larvae/colony	♀♂, internal brooder
<i>Primnoa resedaeformis</i>	~ 1000	84.3 ± 3.1 (colonies < 500 m depth); 45.5 ± 1.7	♀♂, broadcaster spawner ? No larvae observed no male colonies observed
<i>Keratoisis ornata</i>	~ 700	0-10 (effective relative fecundity)	♀♂, broadcaster spawner ? No larvae observed no male colonies observed
<i>Anthomastus grandiflorus</i>	1,000–1,100 (largest vitellogenic oocytes and planula)	15.0 ± 1.0 larvae per 4 cm ²	♀♂, broadcaster spawner ? larvae observed
<i>Anthomastus riterii</i>	376 ± 178.8	3.3 ± 1.0 (mm) larva	♀♂, brooder
<i>Pennatula phosphorea</i>	> 500	50 (40000 per colony!)	♀♂, broadcast spawner
<i>Fannyella rossi</i>	264.7 ± 32.2	1.5 ± 0.06	♀♂, brooder
<i>Fannyella spinosa</i>	183.1 ± 9.82	1.4 ± 0.08	♀♂, brooder
<i>Dasystenella acanthina</i>	394.2 ± 26.6	1.2 ± 0.08	♀♂, no larvae observed
<i>Thouarella sp.</i>	261.3 ± 15.6	1.1 ± 0.1	♀♂, brooder
<i>Ainigmaption antarcticum</i>	900	12	♀♂, broadcaster, no larvae observed

(Lawson 1991, Cordes et al. 2001, Orejas et al. 2002, 2007, Edwards & Moore 2008, 2009, Sun et al. 2010, Kahng et al. 2011, Mercier & Hamel 2011, Waller et al. 2014, Feehan & Waller 2015, Rossin et al. 2017)

Table 1. Summary of previously published information on the sexual reproduction of antipatharians

Antipatharians



Species	Authority	Family	Collection location	Collection depth (m)	Sex	Gonad location	Oocyte size (µm)	Spermato-cyst size (µm)	
<i>Antipathes assimilis</i>	(BROOK 1889)	Antipathidae	Strait of Magellan	320	G*	PTM		224	Brook 1889
<i>Antipathes contorta</i>	(BROOK 1889)	Antipathidae	Strait of Magellan	320	G*	–	340	–	Brook 1889
<i>Antipathes dichotoma</i>	PALLAS 1766	Antipathidae	Mediterranean	201–256	G*	PTM	250	100	Brook 1889, Van Pesch 1914
<i>Antipathes dubia</i>	(BROOK 1889)	Antipathidae	Japan	–	G*	PTM	80–120	–	Pax 1932
<i>Antipathes ericoides</i>	(MILNE-EDWARDS 1857)	Antipathidae	Indonesia, East Timor	5–34	G*	PTM	65	–	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Antipathes griggi</i>	OPRESKO 2009	Antipathidae	Hawai'i	45–58	G*	PTM	≤100	–	Grigg 1976
<i>Antipathes minor</i>	(BROOK 1889)	Antipathidae	Strait of Magellan	320	G*	PTM	–	–	Brook 1889
<i>Antipathes plana</i>	COOPER 1909	Antipathidae	Indonesia	113	G*	–	–	40–60	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Antipathes</i> spp.	N/A	Antipathidae	Indo-Pacific		G	PTM, T	–	–	Schmidt & Zissler 1979
<i>Cirrhopathes anguina</i>	(DANA 1846)	Antipathidae	Indonesia	36	G*	PTM	–	–	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Cirrhopathes</i> cf. <i>anguina</i>	(DANA 1846)	Antipathidae	Indonesia	25–35	G*	PTM	35–120	≤120	Gaino et al. 2008, Gaino & Scoccia 2008, Scoccia & Gaino 2010
<i>Cirrhopathes contorta</i>	(VAN PESCH 1914)	Antipathidae	Indonesia	9–45	G*	PTM, APSM	–	–	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Cirrhopathes propinqua</i>	BROOK 1889	Antipathidae	New Guinea	7	G*	PTM	–	–	Brook 1889
<i>Cirrhopathes rumphii</i>	(VAN PESCH 1914)	Antipathidae	Indonesia, East Timor	30–113	G*	PTM	–	55	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Cirrhopathes</i> sp.	N/A	Antipathidae	Indonesia	40	Seq. H	PTM	40–200	–	Bo 2008
<i>Cirrhopathes</i> sp.	N/A	Antipathidae	Indo-Pacific	–	G	PTM, T	–	–	Schmidt & Zissler 1979
<i>Cirrhopathes spiralis</i>	(BLAINVILLE 1834)	Antipathidae	Arafura Sea, Indonesia	32–469	G*	PTM	–	–	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Pseudocirrhopathes mapia</i>	BO ET AL. 2009	Antipathidae	Indonesia	17–32	G*	–	80–140	–	Bo et al. 2009b
<i>Pteropathes fragilis</i>	BROOK 1889	Antipathidae	St. Paul's Rocks	18–146	G*	PTM	–	–	Brook 1889
<i>Stichopathes ceylonensis</i>	THOMPSON & SIMPSON 1905	Antipathidae	Arafura Sea	984	G*	PTM	–	–	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Stichopathes gracilis</i>	(GRAY 1857)	Antipathidae	Indonesia, Morocco	73	G*	PTM	–	–	Van Pesch 1914, Schultze 1902
<i>Stichopathes</i> spp. (<i>N</i> = 2)	N/A	Antipathidae	Puerto Rico	15	G	PTM	≤150	–	Goenaga, 1977
<i>Stichopathes paucispina</i>	(BROOK 1889)	Antipathidae	Eastern North Pacific	>1000	G*	–	–	–	Opresko & Genin 1990
<i>Stichopathes pourtalesi</i>	BROOK 1889	Antipathidae	Caribbean	82–1606	G*	–	–	–	Brook 1889
<i>Stichopathes richardi</i>	ROULE 1905	Antipathidae	NE Atlantic	540–1557	G*	PTM	–	–	Roule 1905
<i>Stichopathes saccula</i>	VAN PESCH 1914	Antipathidae	Indonesia	560	G*, Sim. H	PTM	–	120	Van Pesch 1914, Pax et al. 1987
<i>Stichopathes semiglabra</i>	VAN PESCH 1914	Antipathidae	Indonesia	55–94	G*	PTM	–	–	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Stichopathes solorensis</i>	VAN PESCH 1914	Antipathidae	Indonesia	113	G*	PTM	250	–	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Stichopathes</i> sp.	N/A	Antipathidae	Indo-Pacific	–	G	PTM, T	–	–	Schmidt & Zissler 1979
<i>Stichopathes spiessi</i>	OPRESKO & GENIN 1990	Antipathidae	Eastern North Pacific	450–990	G*	–	–	–	Opresko & Genin 1990
<i>Stichopathes variabilis</i>	(VAN PESCH 1914)	Antipathidae	Indonesia, Borneo	15–567	G*	PTM, T	–	70	Van Pesch 1914
<i>Heliopahthes americana</i>	OPRESKO 2003	Cladopathidae	Jamaica	2200	G*	–	–	–	Opresko 2003
<i>Heliopahthes pacifica</i>	OPRESKO 2005	Cladopathidae	North Pacific	3563–4511	G*	–	–	–	Wagner et al. 2011

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Species	Oocyte size (µm) (max)	Nr Oocyte/Polyp	Incubation mode (reproductive strategy)
<i>Anthipatella wollastonii</i>	122.197 ± 96.8	1 to 309	♀♂, broadcast spawner, no larvae observed

(Wagner et al. 2011 and references therein, Rakka et al. 2016)



Sexual reproduction of deep corals: summary on the “basics”



Scleractinians

- From 16 deep water Scleractinian species description of reproduction
 - 13 gonochoric (♂♀)
 - 3 observed hermaphroditic species: *Caryophyllia* **BUT** hermaphroditims also observed in *Madrepora* and *Lophelia* (Pires et al. 2014)
- Most species are broadcaster
- Three records of brooders (3 *Flabellum* sps.) from the Antarctic continental shelf
- Gametogenesis: continuous, periodic, seasonal → More related to phytodetrital fall or episodic events (cascading??)



Sexual reproduction of deep corals: summary on the “basics”



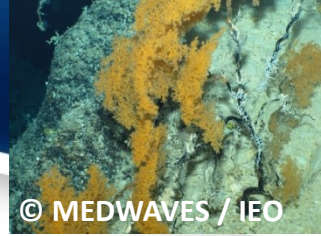
Octocorals

Some observed traits.....

- More brooders in cold and deep habitats than in tropical and temperates
- Lower polyp fecundity in cold and deep habitats than in tropical and temperates
- Short seasonal breeding periods in cold and deep habitats
- Continuous year round breeding in cold and deep habitats



Sexual reproduction of deep corals: summary on the “basics”



Antipatharians

- Gonochoric or a sequentially hermaphroditic mode of reproduction
- No evidence of internal fertilization
- No developing embryos or larvae were observed. Fertilization and larval development likely occur externally in the water column and not internally within polyps

Potential relevant aspects in reproductive traits to feed predictive dispersal models



Scleractinians

Broadcasting

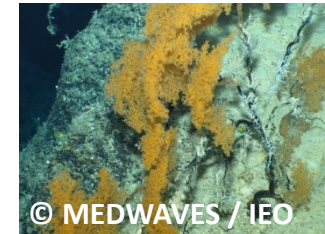
Continuous, periodic,
seasonal



Octocorals

Brooding-Broadcasting

Short seasonal breeding
periods



Antipatharians

Broadcasting

Unknown for most deep-
sea species

Lophelia pertusa

Waller and Tyler (2005) → NE Atlantic (785–980 m)

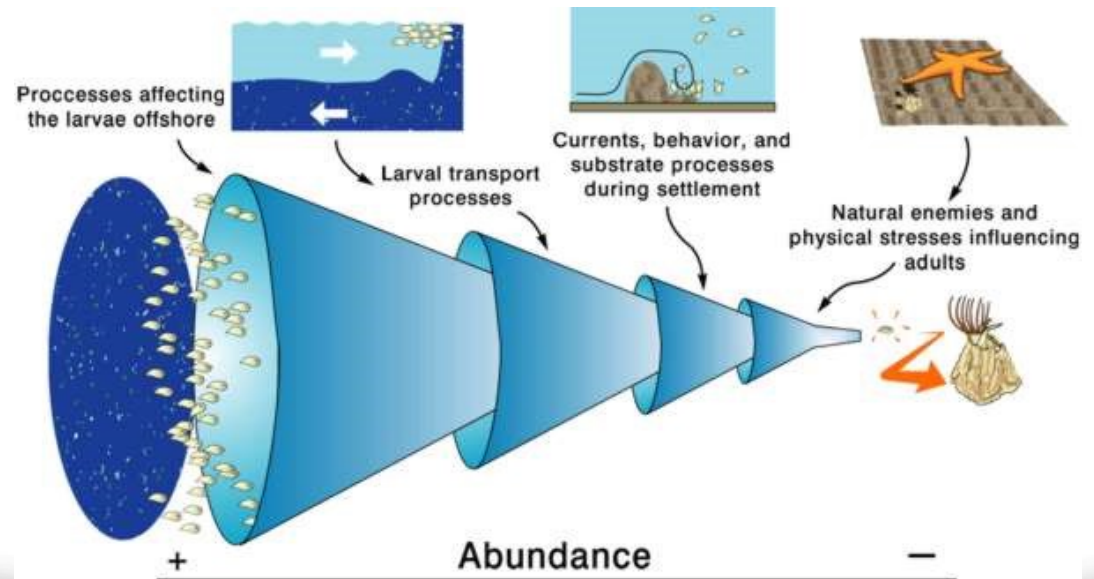
Brooke and Schroeder 2007 → Gulf of Mexico (300-500 m)

Brooke and Jarnegreen (2013) → Trondheim Fjord (40-250 m)

	NE Atlantic	Trondheim Fjord	Gulf of Mexico
Oogenesis	Starts June-August No overlapping	Starts January Cycles overlapping (1-2 months)	Starts October-November (?)
Oocyte size	August: 41.3 µm October: 88.7 µm	August: 57.8 µm October: 79.8 µm	

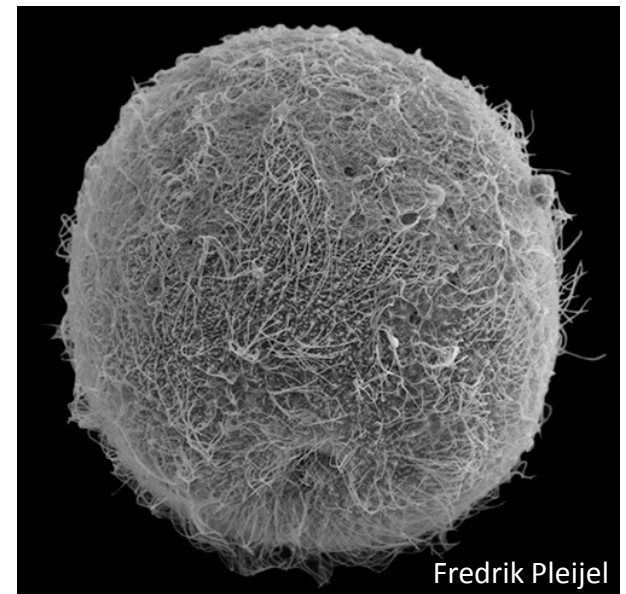
Potential relevant aspects in reproductive traits to feed predictive dispersal models

- Differences in reproductive mode: broadcaster / brooder
- Differences in reproductive timing among different regions → currents seasonality
- Reproductive output
- Propagules size and buoyancy



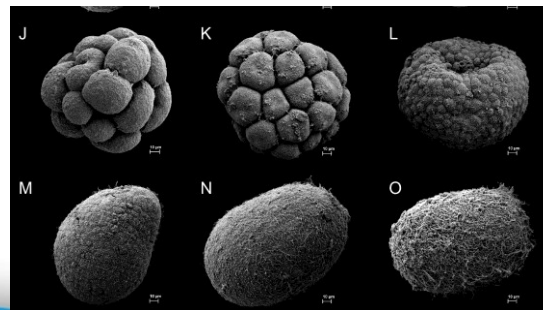
Larval traits to feed predictive dispersal models

- Larval type
 - Crawling or swimming
- Larval precompetency period
- Pelagic larval duration (PLD)
 - Min, median, max
- Embryo and Larval behaviour
 - Buoyancy, vertical migration, feeding
- Mortality
 - Affects connectivity outcomes (but not max dispersal distance)



Larval precompetency period

- Time before competent to settle
- Determines the minimum period of time spent in the pelagic
- Usually shorter for brooded larvae
- A short pre-competency period will increase the proportion of larvae recruiting locally
- Brooding octocoral *Drifa sp* (4°C): Settling 1 day
- *Lophelia pertusa* (8°C): min 3 weeks (behaviour, cnidosysts)
- Facultative zooxanthellate *Oculina varicosa* (25°C): min 1 week (behaviour), settling 3 weeks
- Temperate cup coral *Caryophyllia smithii* (15°C): Settling 8 weeks



Susanna Strömberg

Sun et al. 2010
 Larsson et al. 2014
 Strömberg & Larsson 2017
 Brooke & Young 2003
 Tranter et al. 1982

Pelagic larval duration

- Min PLD = precompetency period
- Max PLD = Time after which larvae still have energy reserves to settle and metamorphose



- Brooding octocoral *Drifa* sp (4°C): up to 70 days (settling)
- Brooding octocoral *Corallium rubrum* (20°C): up to 42 days (settling)
- *Lophelia pertusa* (8°C): up to 1 year (longevity)
- Facultative zooxanthellate *Oculina varicosa* (20°C): min 42 days (longevity)
- Temperate cup coral *Caryophyllia smithii* (15°C): up to 20 weeks (settling, less food)

Sun et al. 2010, Martinez-Quintana et al. (2015), Strömberg & Larsson 2017, Brooke & Young 2005, Tranter et al. 1982



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Embryo and larval behaviour

- Egg and embryo density
- Vertical migration
 - Ontogenetic, diurnal, tidal
- Feeding or not
- Onset of bottom probing

Will decide where in the water column larvae are transported during their different life phases

Lophelia pertusa

- Neutrally buoyant eggs
- Positively buoyant embryos

At 7-8°C:

- 5 days swimming blastulae, slowly ascending
- 6-8 days, Gastrulation
- 9 days, swimming planulae
- 3 weeks, protractable mouth
- 3 weeks, cnidosysts for attachment
- 3-5 weeks: onset of bottom probing

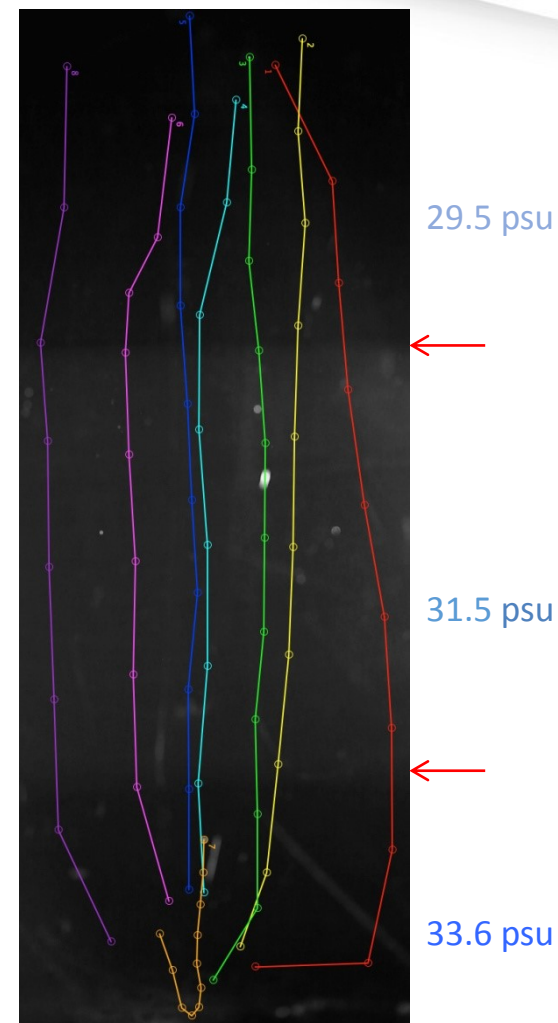
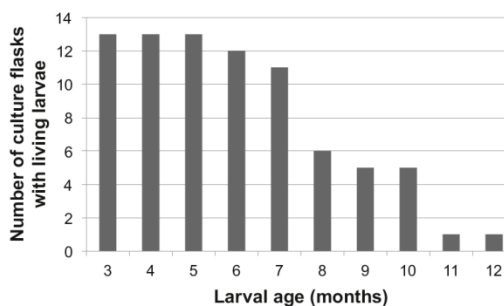
Development time is temperature dependent!



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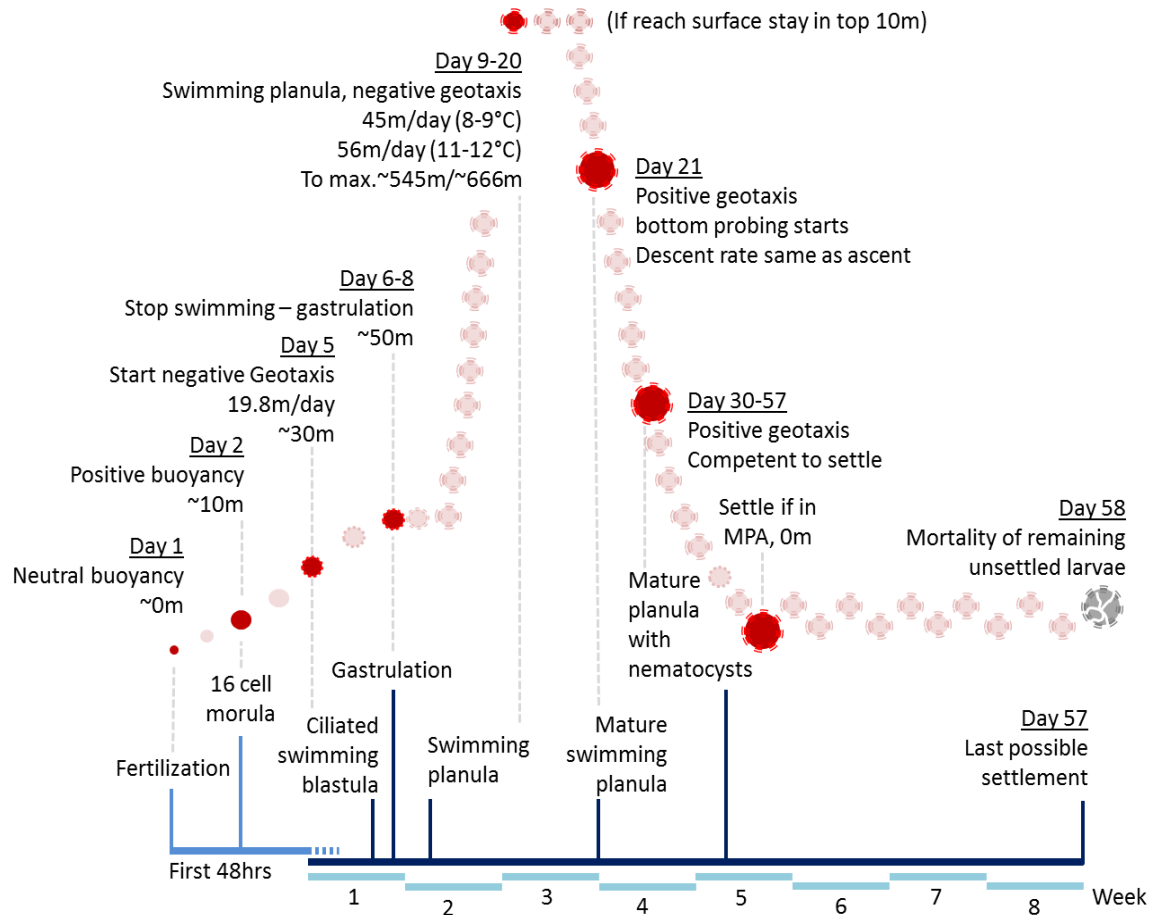
Lophelia pertusa larval traits

- Ontogenetic vertical migration
- Ascend 40-60 m/day for 3-5 weeks (possibly longer)
- Cross salinity gradients (max tested difference 5 psu)
- Survives for many months in 25 psu
- Feed
- 60 % of postembryonic larvae survived for 3 months
- Longevity in lab 1 year



Larsson et al. 2014, Strömberg & Larsson 2017, Strömberg et al. in prep

Vertical position “scheme”



Ross et al. 2017

Thanks for your attention!



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