



**From the OPC  
to the CCD**

**Mark C. Benfield**

Louisiana State University

Dept. of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences

**Peter H. Wiebe**

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Department of Biology

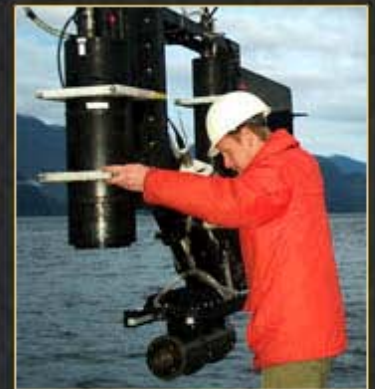
# Introduction



*Victor Hensen  
(1835 – 1924)*

## Fundamental Questions

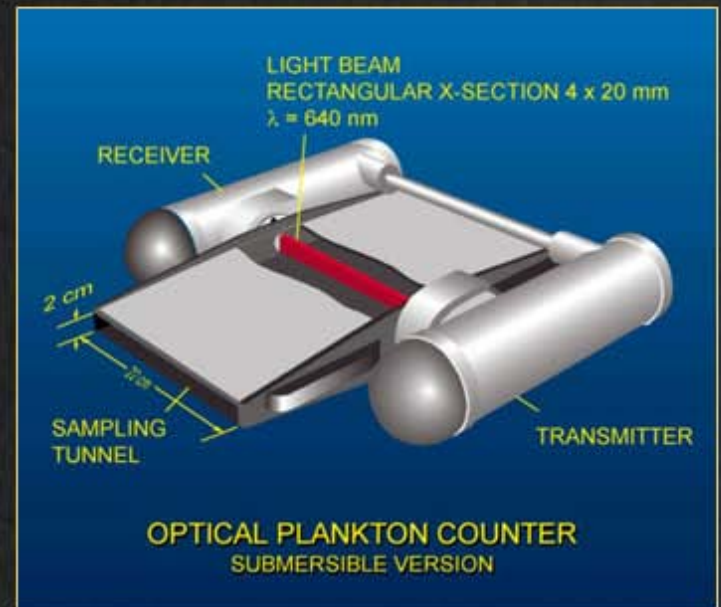
- What are the numbers and kinds of things in the sea at any given time and place?
- How does this material vary from season to season and year to year?
- We are still attempting to answer these same questions





# Optical Plankton Counter

- *In-situ* electronic particle counting system developed in 1980s
- Commercially-available in 1990 and in widespread use (~120 units)
- Allowed investigation of plankton and particles on fine horizontal and vertical scales
- Taxonomically ambiguous but when combined with nets, provided a means of inferring composition of patches



▲ Image: Alex Herman (BIO)



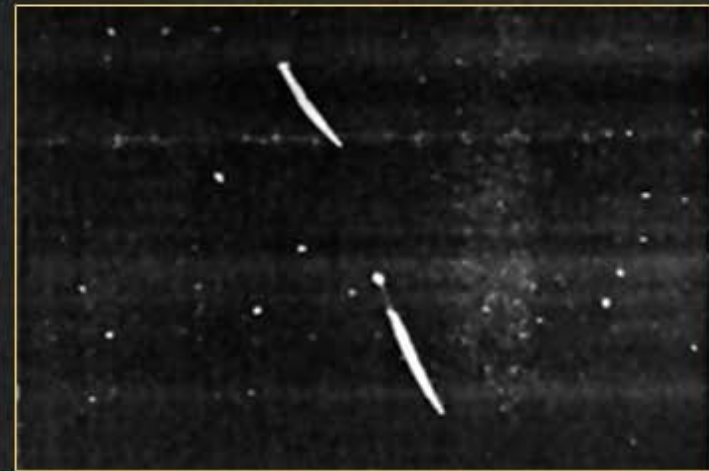
# Outline

- Imaging systems predate the emergence of the OPC
- At the same time that the OPC was becoming widely employed, analog video and digital still camera technologies saw rapid development
- Recognition that the information content of an instrument like the OPC could be increased if there was more taxonomic information associated with the particle counts
- Examine the historical development of plankton imaging systems
- Summarize the systems that are currently operational or in advanced development
- Speculate on what the future may hold for plankton imaging systems



## 1950 – 1959: *In Situ* Still Photography

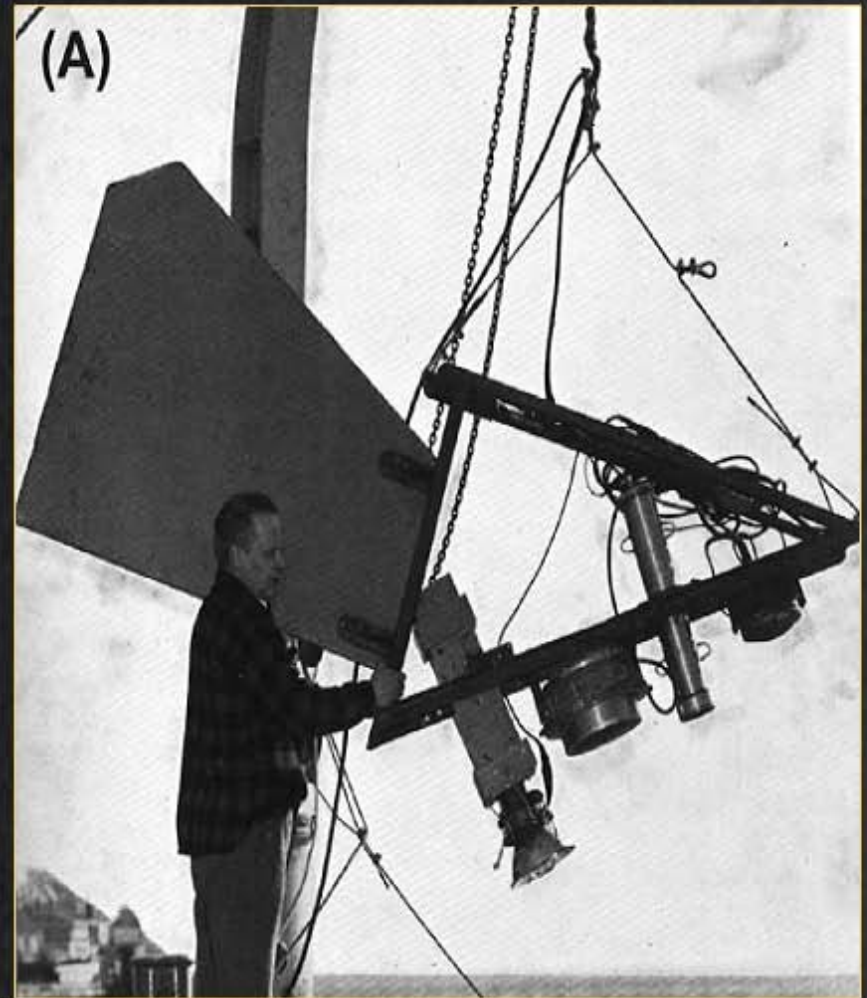
- Some of the earliest work on direct imaging of plankton conducted in 1950s in Japan, Europe and North America
  - Nishizawa et al. (1954): still photographs of live zooplankton from within a diving chamber using a collection box outside an undersea observation chamber



Images: Nishizawa et al. (1954)

# 1950 – 1959: 35mm camera system

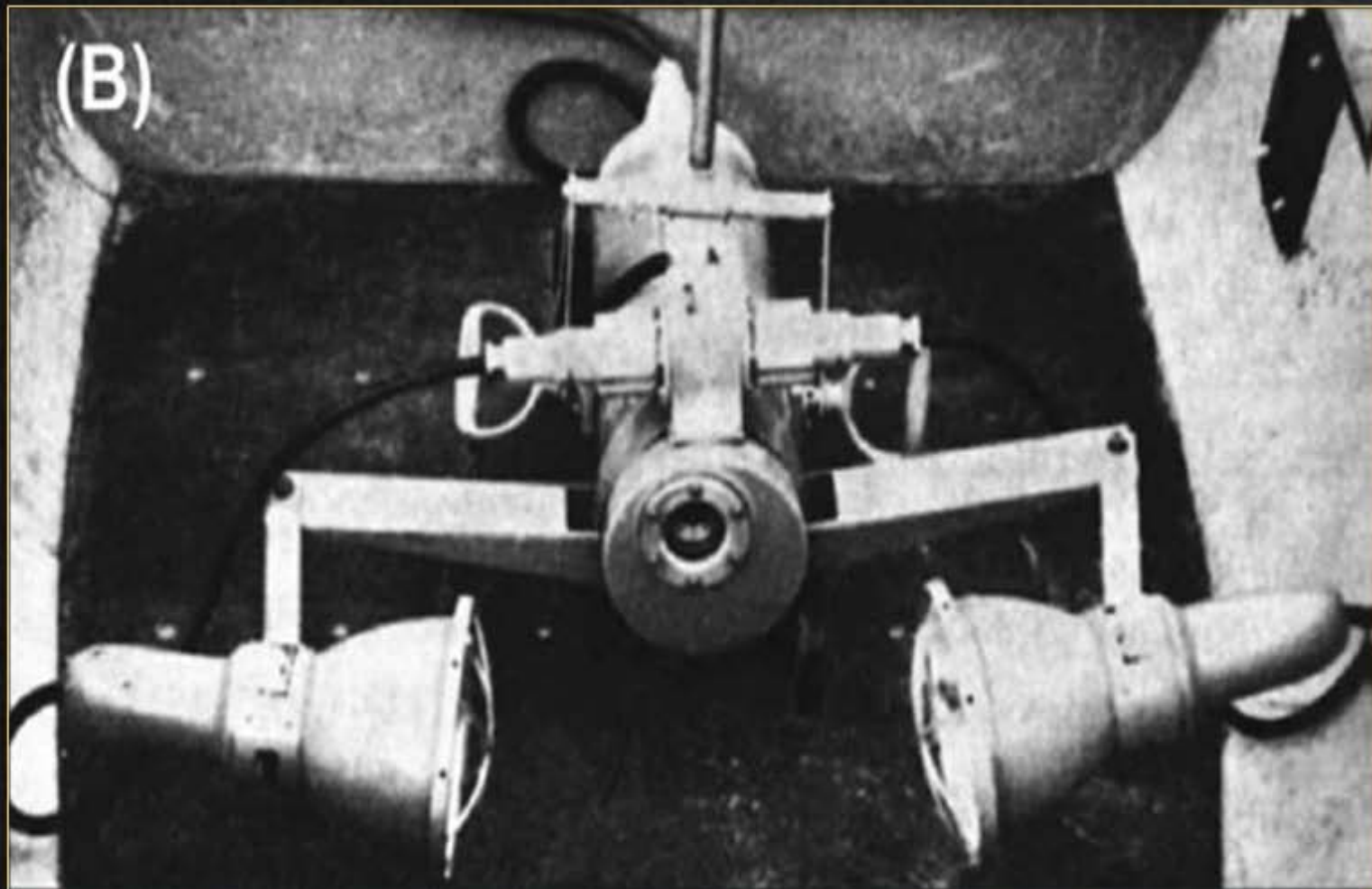
- Edgerton and Hoadley (1955) developed a 35 mm repeating-flash, shutterless deep-sea camera
- Formed the basis of a photographic profiling system to investigate the composition of the deep-scattering layer
- They were successful in collecting images of larger zooplankton such as salps and micronekton that appeared to be associated with strong acoustic returns





## 1960 – 1969: Underwater TV

- Schröder (1961) deployed an underwater TV system in the Bodensee (Lake Constance) of Germany to ground-truth the zooplankton composition of sound scattering layers



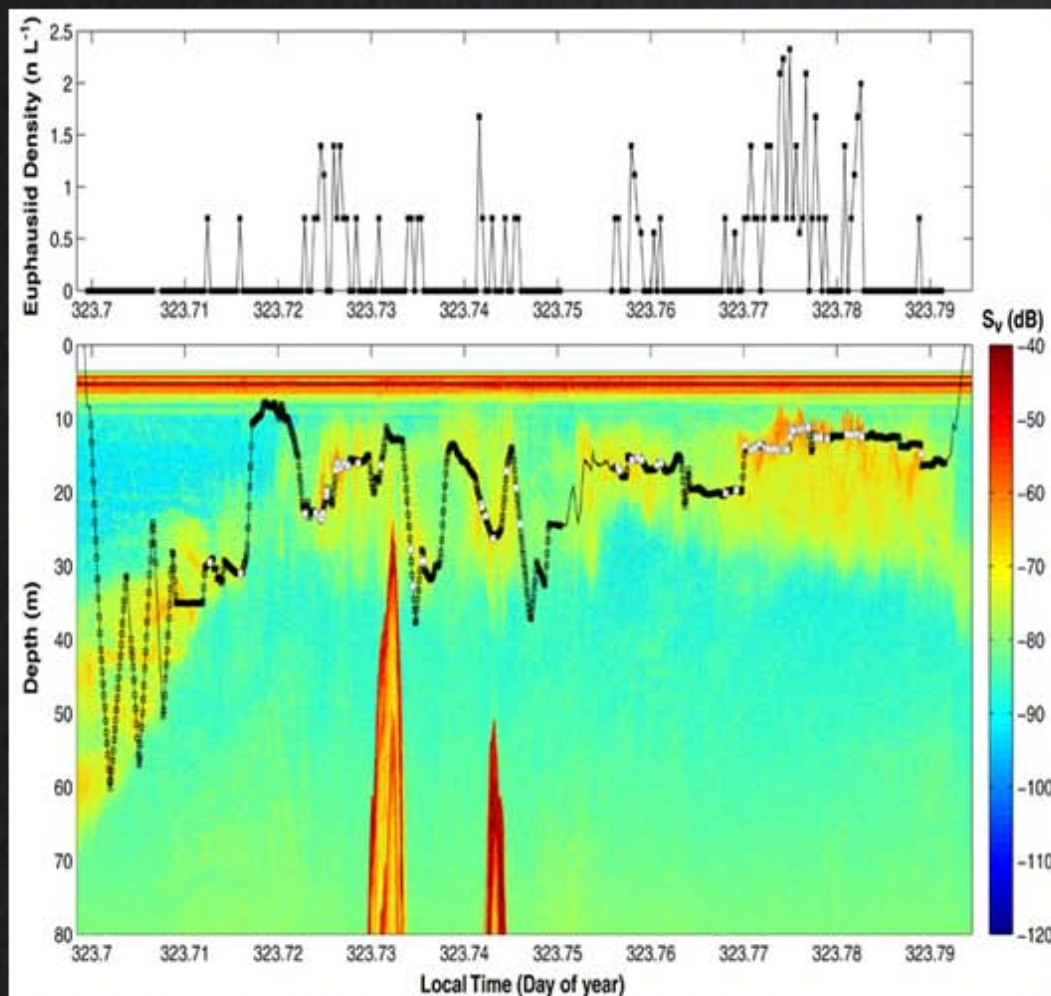
# 32 Years Later



Euphausiid abundance  
from ZOOVIS



Echogram with  
trajectory of ZOOVIS





## 1970 – 1979: Silhouette Photography

- Ortner et al. (1979) described silhouette photographic technique for processing zooplankton samples

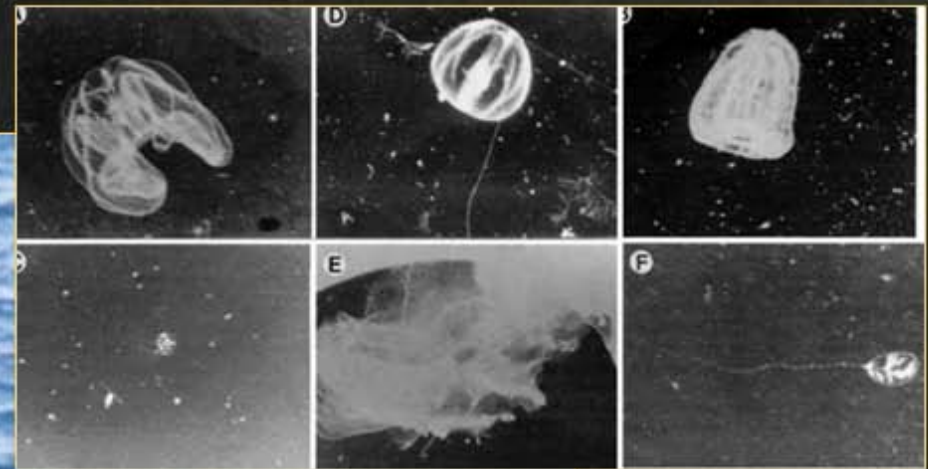
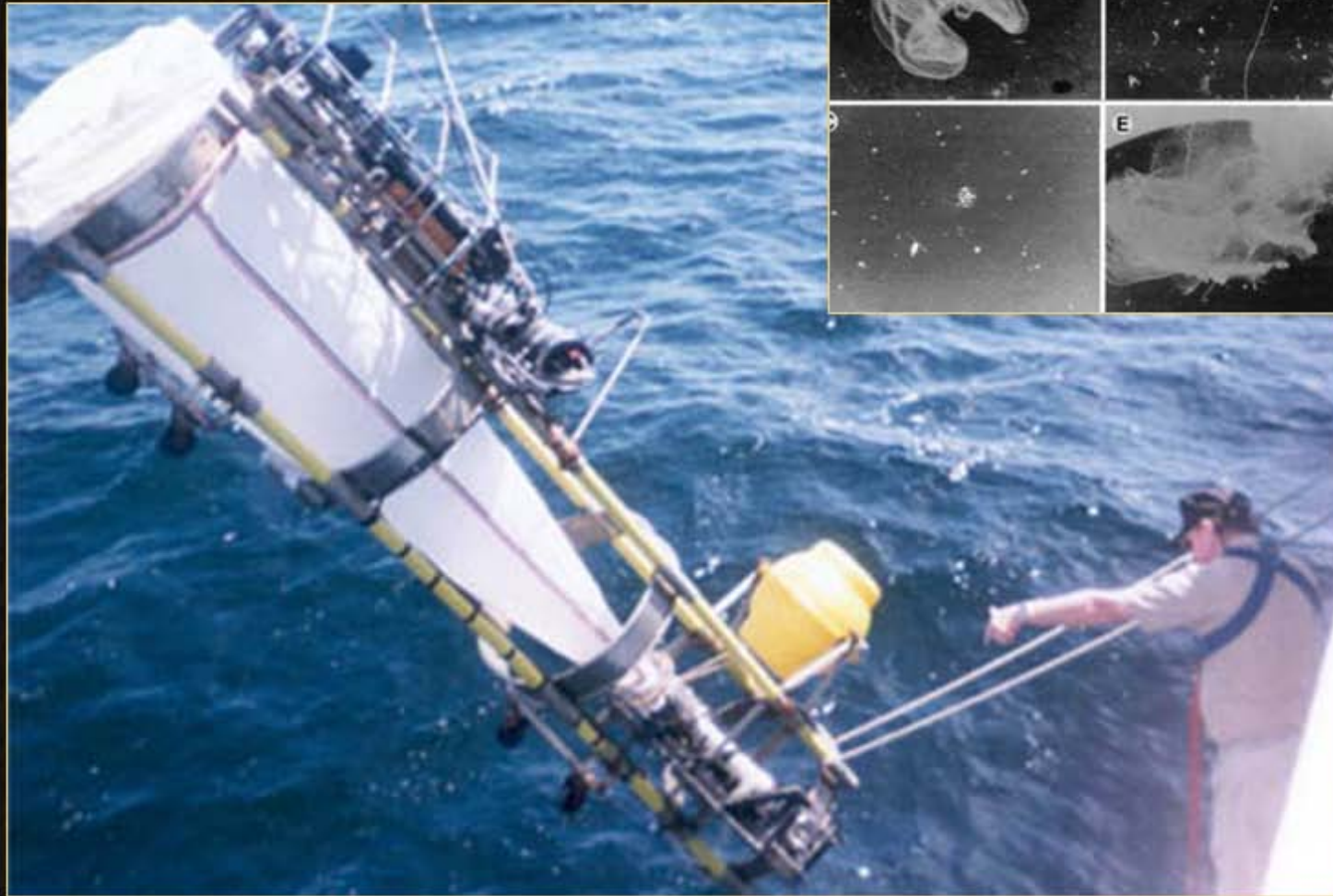


# Today: ZOO SCAN





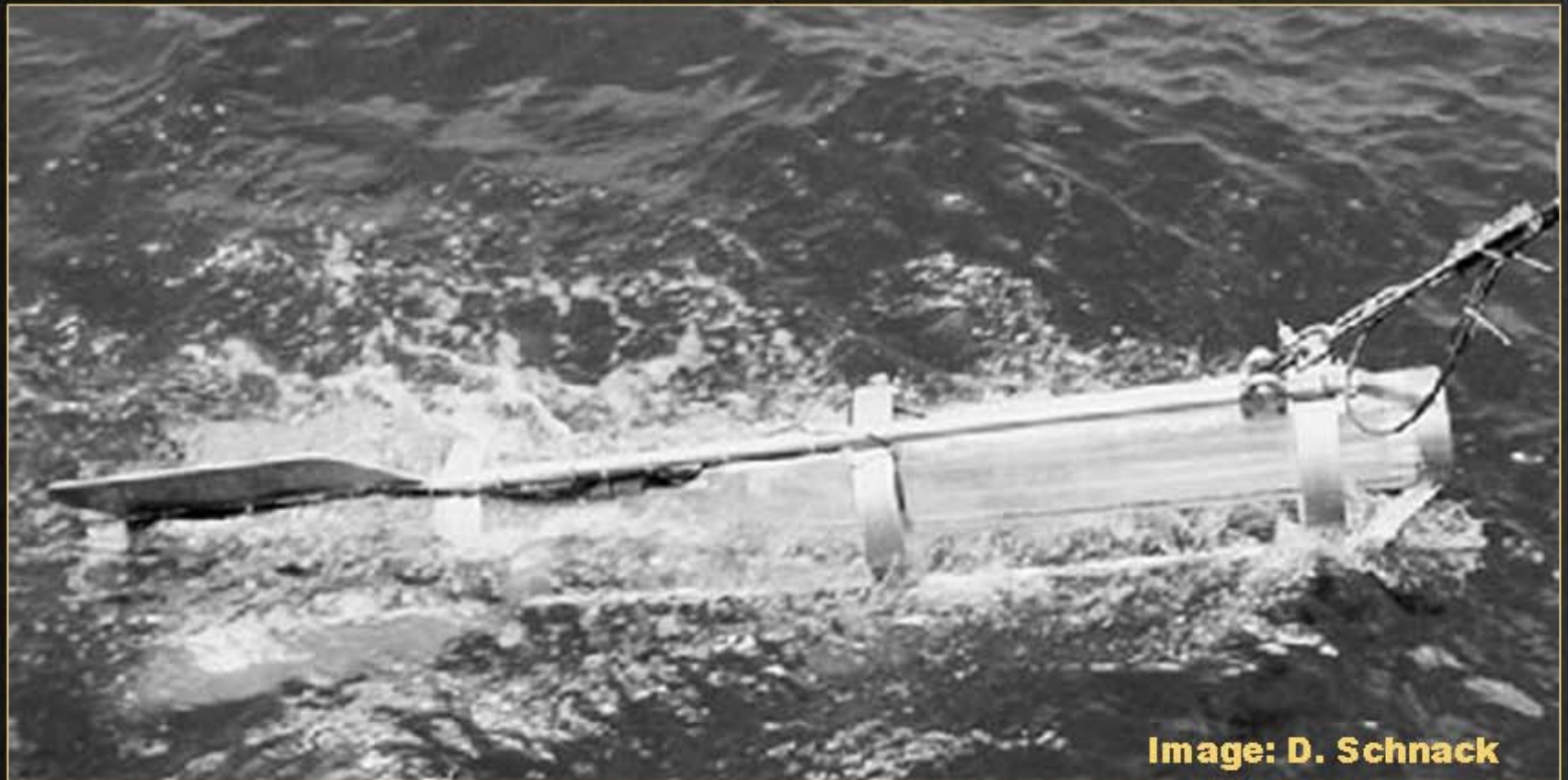
# 1970 – 1979: Camera – Net System



**Olney & Houde  
(1993)**

**Image: S. Cummings, NOAA**

# 1980 – 1989: Ichthyoplankton Recorder

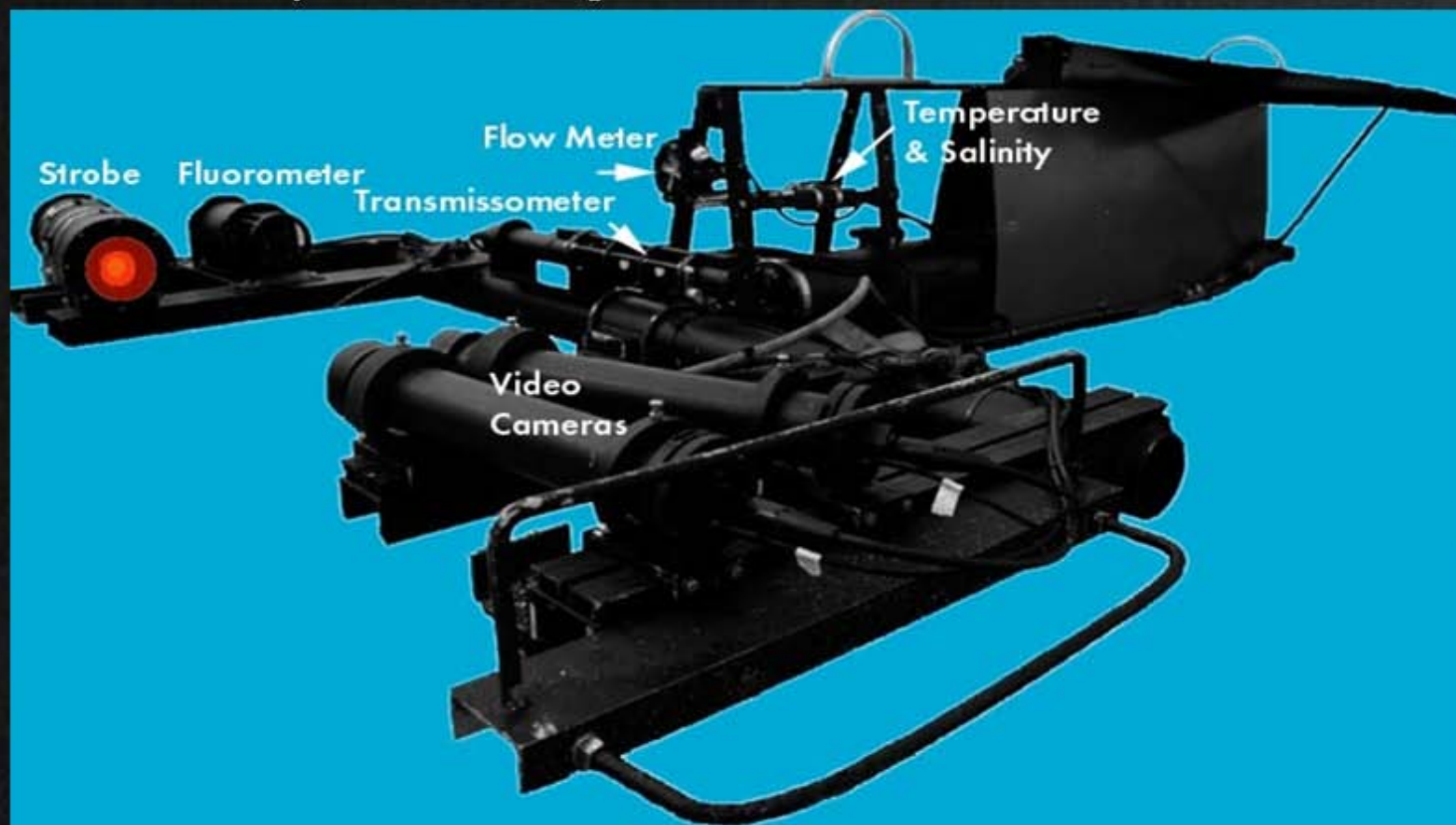


◀ Images: Froese et al. (1990)



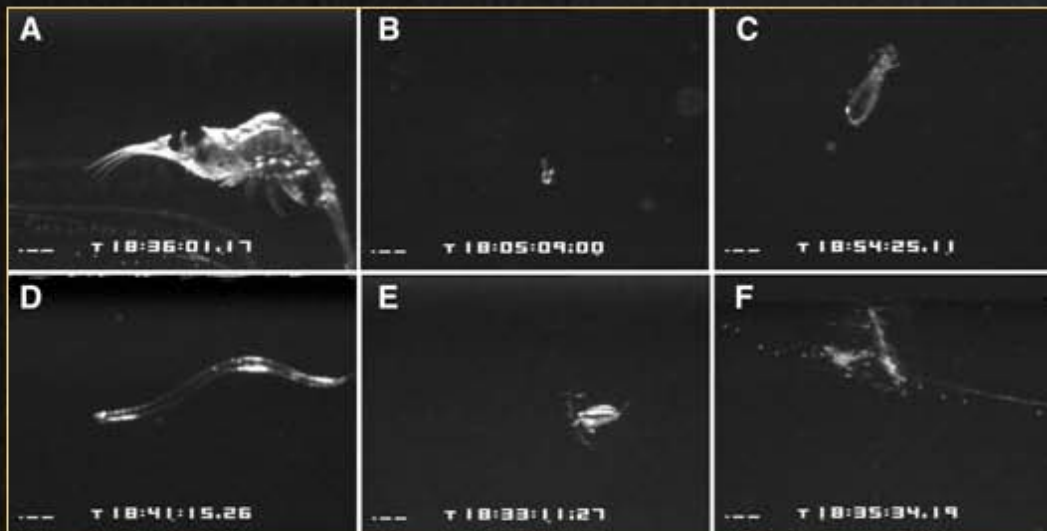
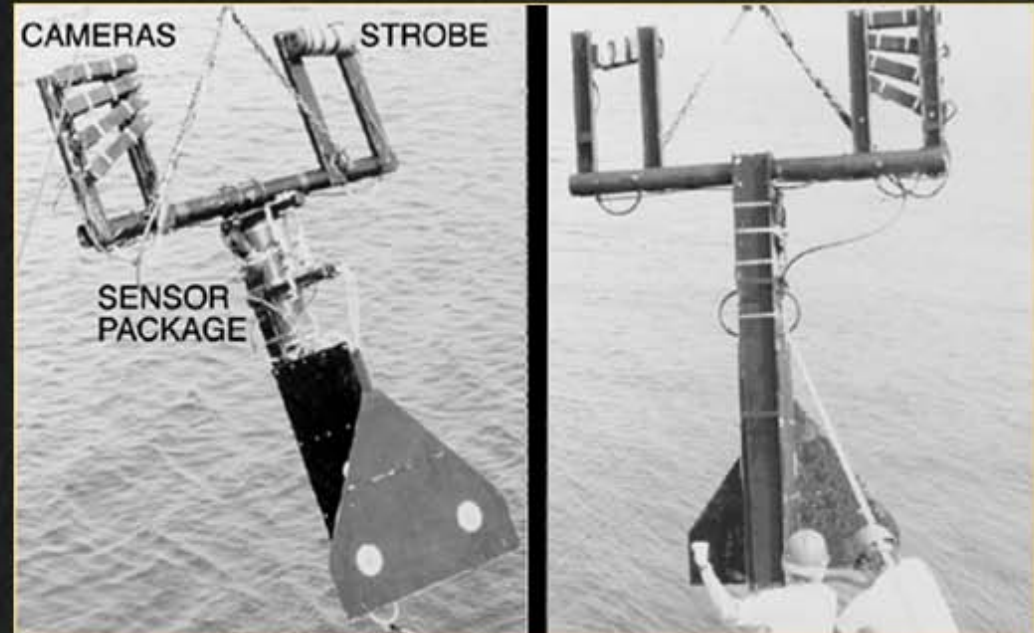
## 1990 – 1999: Video Plankton Recorder

- Video Plankton Recorder (VPR) developed by Davis, Gallager et al. in early 1990s
- Multiple video cameras with different magnifications aimed at concentrically located image volumes



# Analog VPR ...

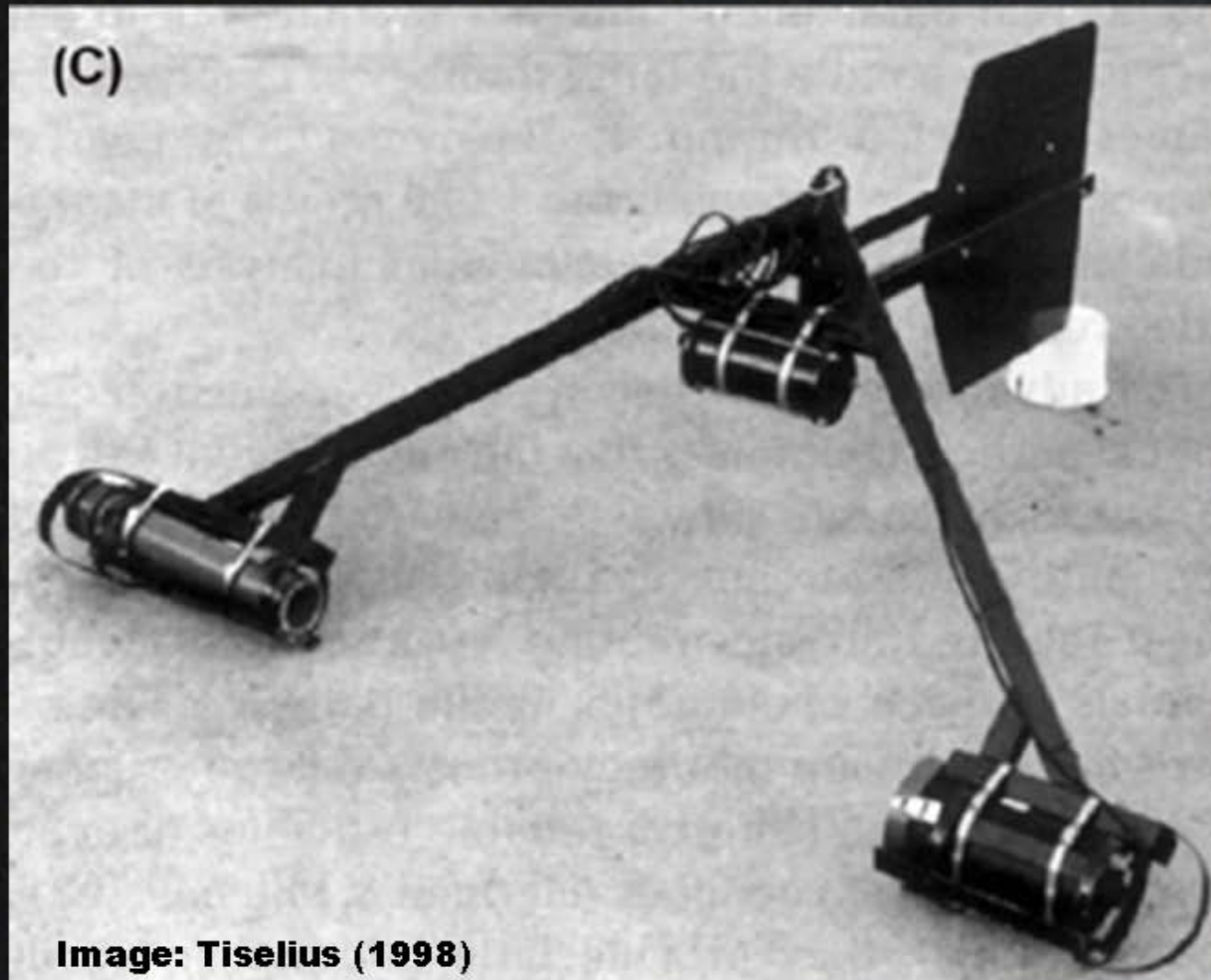
- Dark-field illumination
- Analog video cameras (NTSC)
- Cable to surface for recording on BetaCAM or S-VHS tape
- Manual extraction and ID





# 1990 – 1999: In Situ Video Profiler

- Several systems based on original VPR were developed



# 1990 – 1999: Underwater Video Profiler

- Profiling systems designed to enumerate marine snow led to plankton profiling systems
- Underwater Video Profiler (UVP) employs structures light and two hi-8 video cameras to enumerate plankton and particles (Gorsky et al.)



Image: M. Picheral



Images: G. Gorsky



# 1990 – 1999: SIPPER

- SIPPER: Shadowed Image Particle Profiling and Evaluation Recorder
- Digital linescan camera system: 4096 pixel array imaging 23K lines per second



Image: T. Sutton

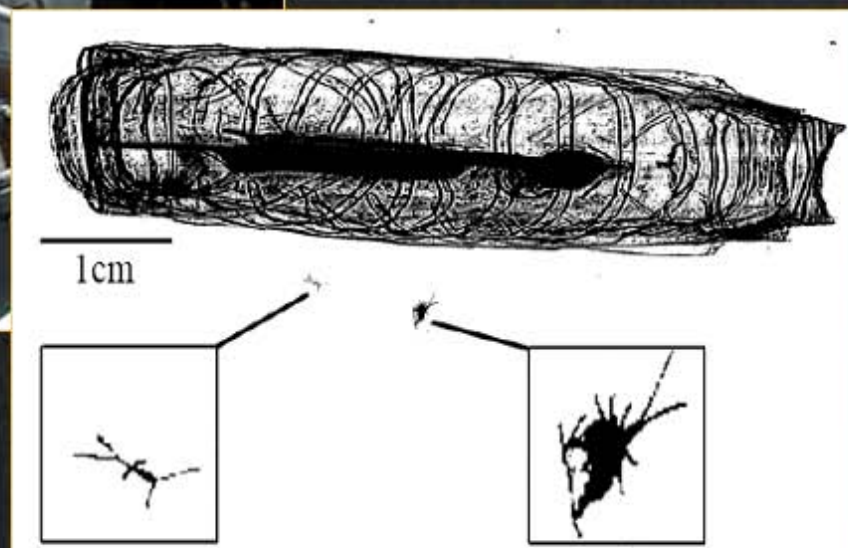
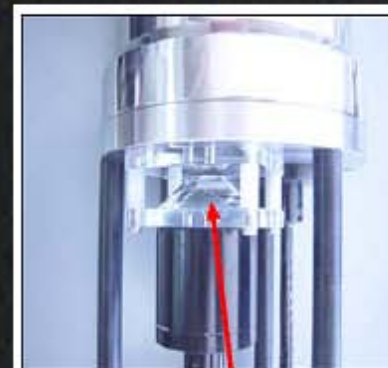
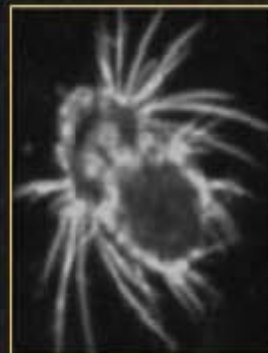
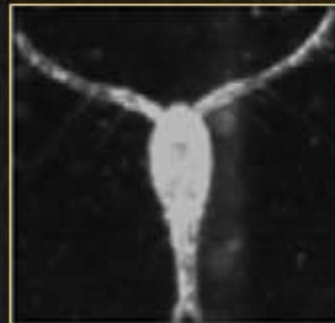
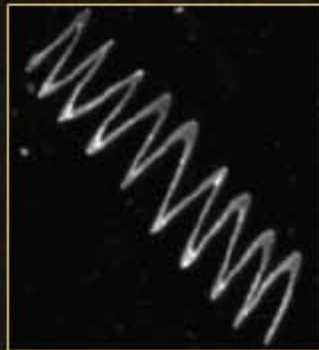
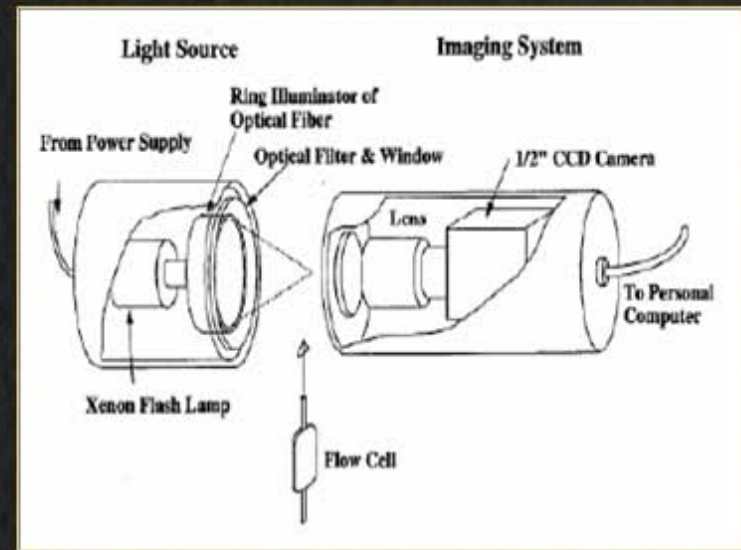


Image: A. Remsen

# 1990 – 1999: Underwater Video Microscope

- Akiba and Kakui (Japanese Electrotechnical Laboratory) developed an underwater microscope
- Sony 0.3 MP analog video camera with a flow cell



Open cell

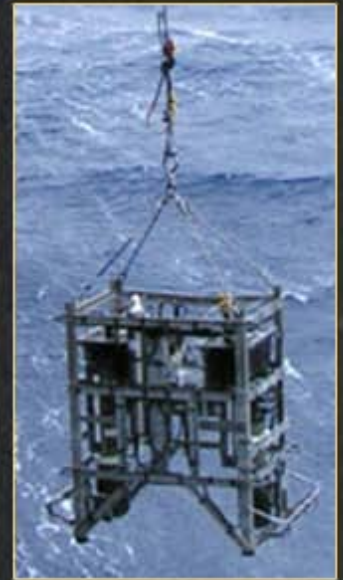
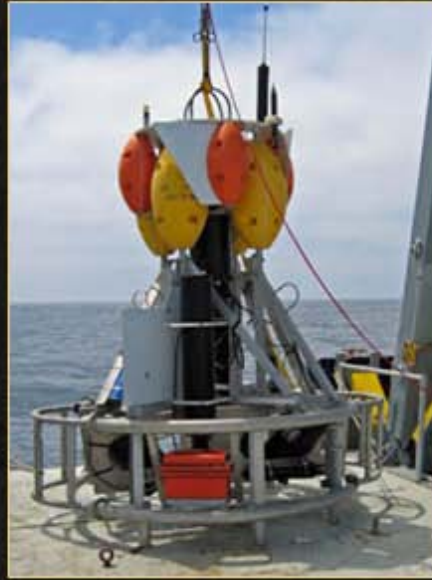


Flow cell

**Images: Alec Electronics**



# The Present (2000 – Today)





# Towed Systems: VPR

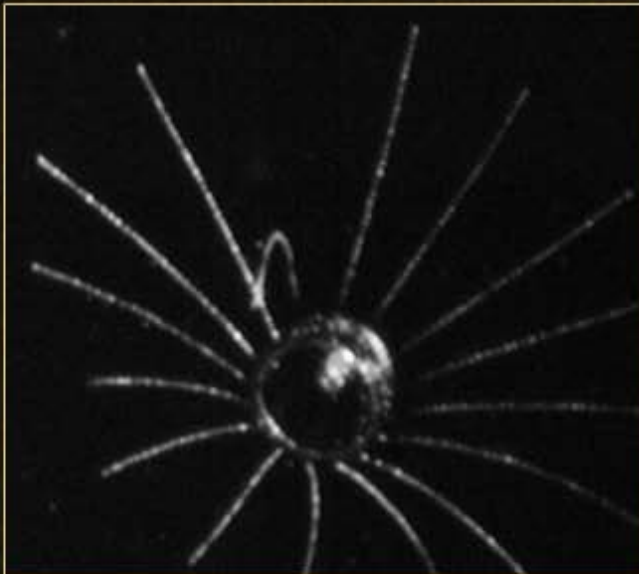
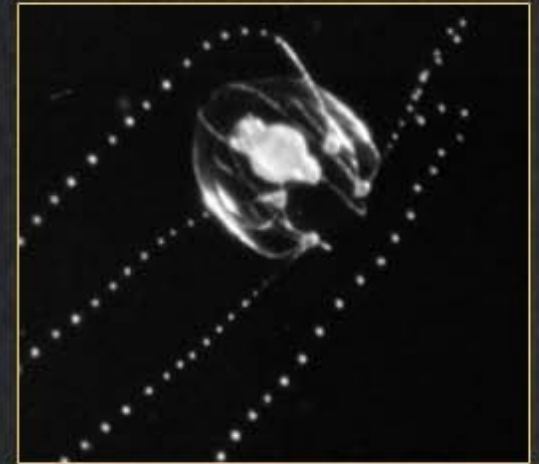
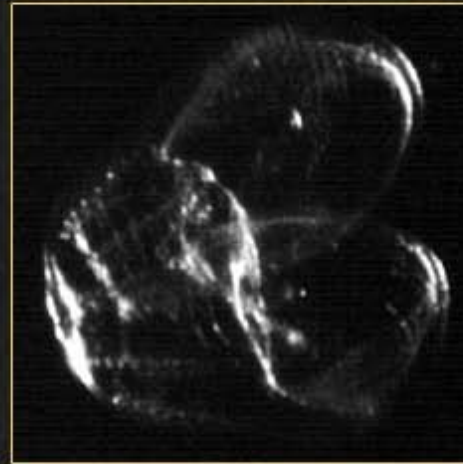


- Towed VPR II in operation: USA, Germany, Japan, Norway





# Towed Systems: VPR II



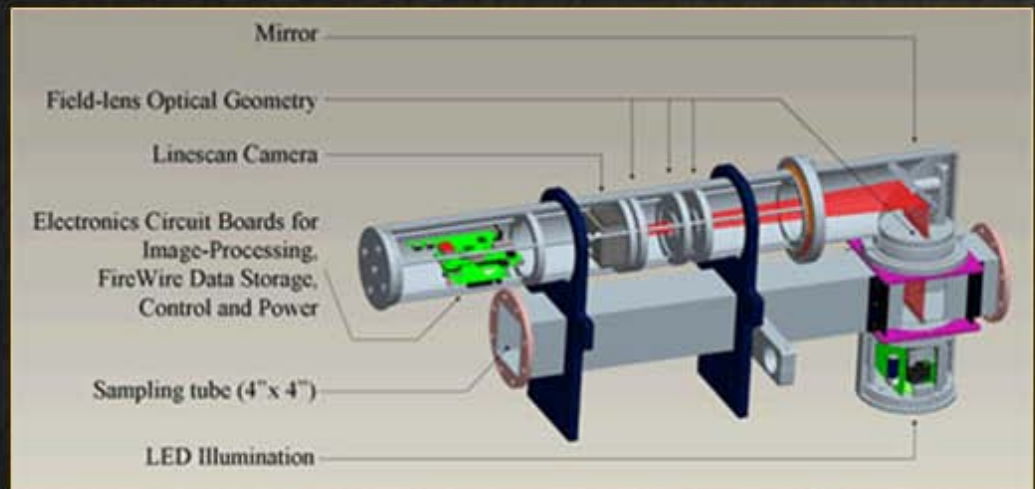
Organism Images: A. Sell

# Towed Systems: SIPPER III

- Linescan camera 4096 pixels @ 36K lines per sec



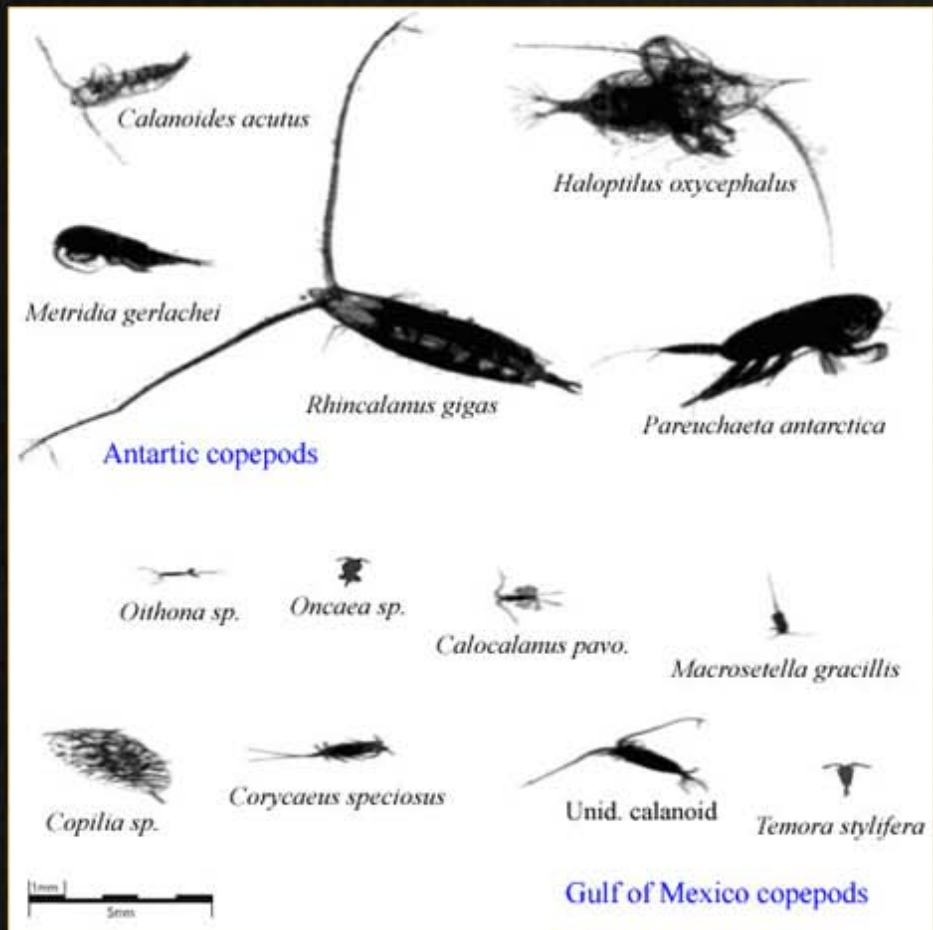
Image: A. Remsen



Images: USF-COT

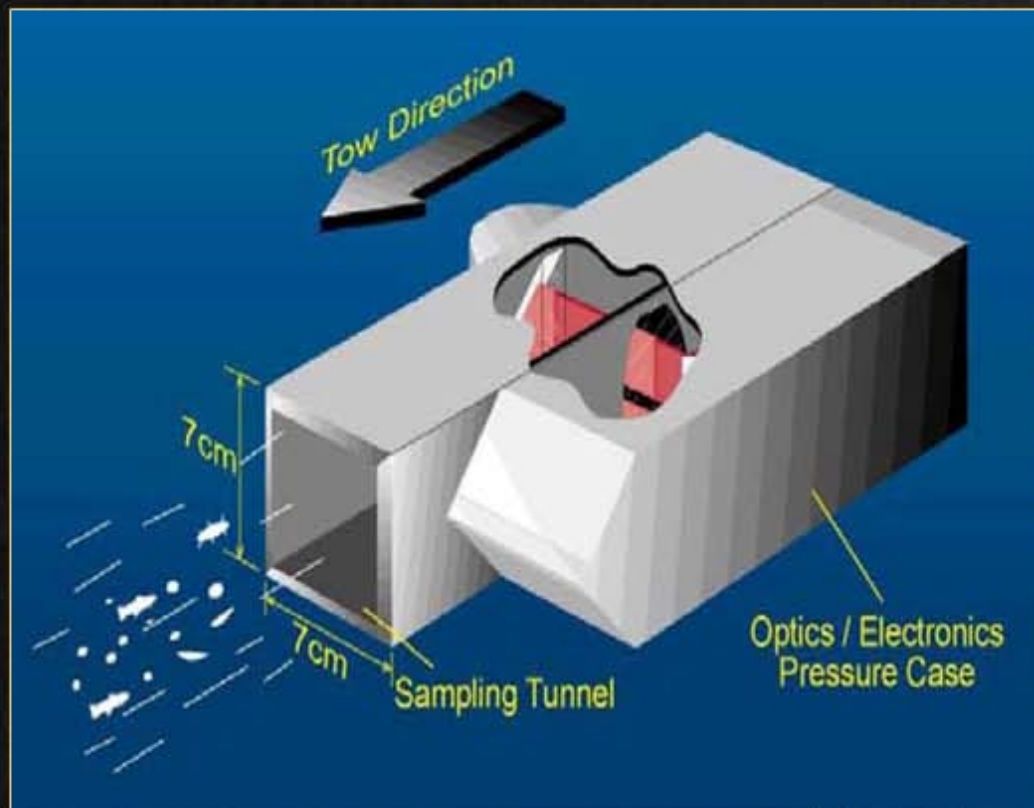


# SIPPER ...



Images: A. Remsen

# Towed Systems: LOPC

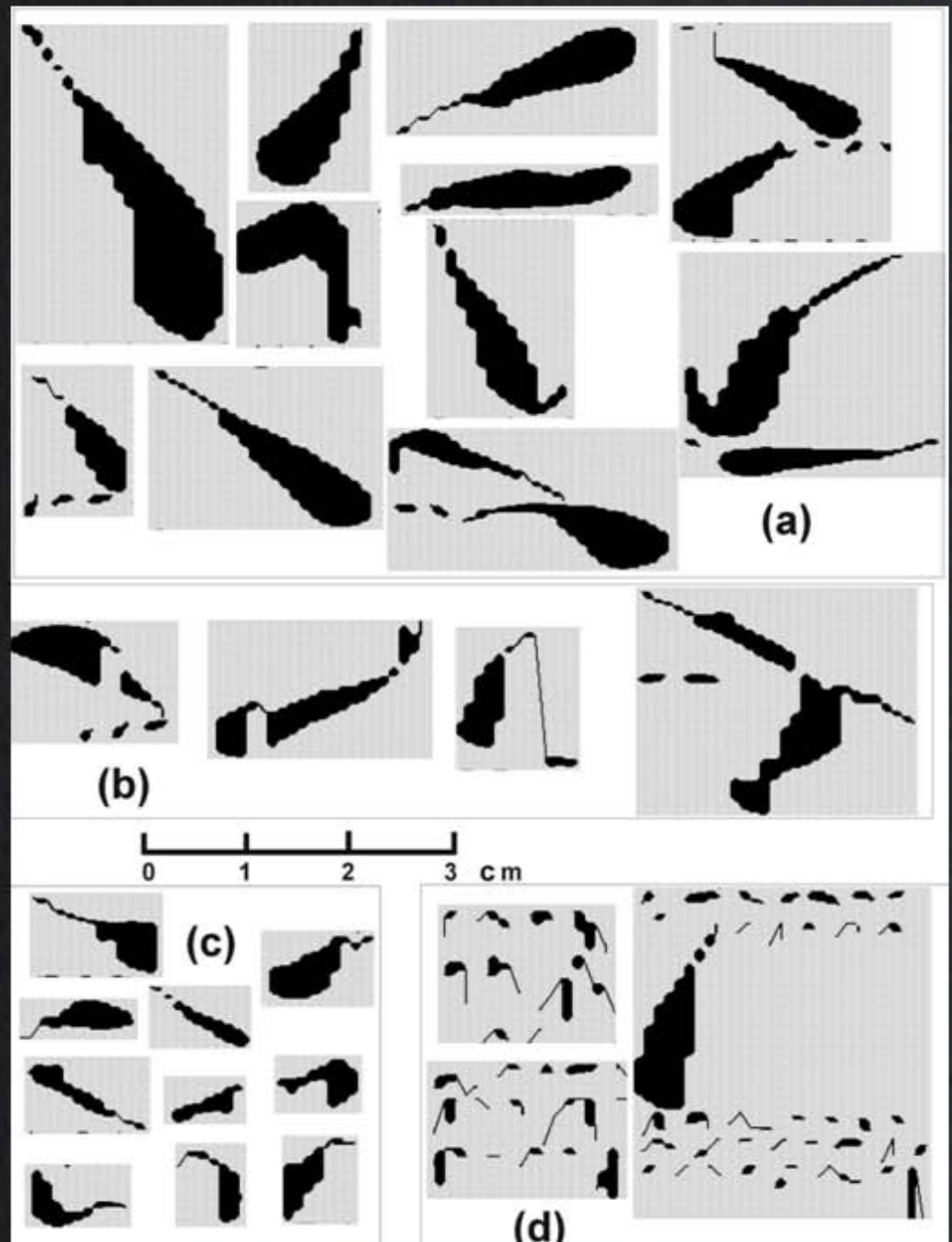


Images: A. Herman





# Laser OPC ...

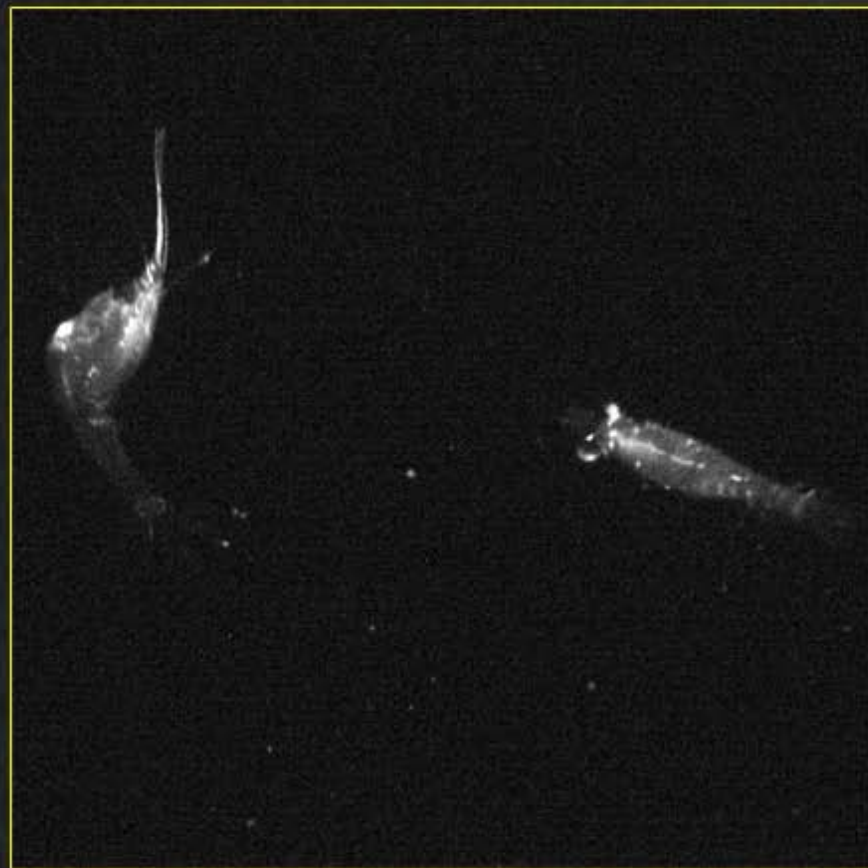
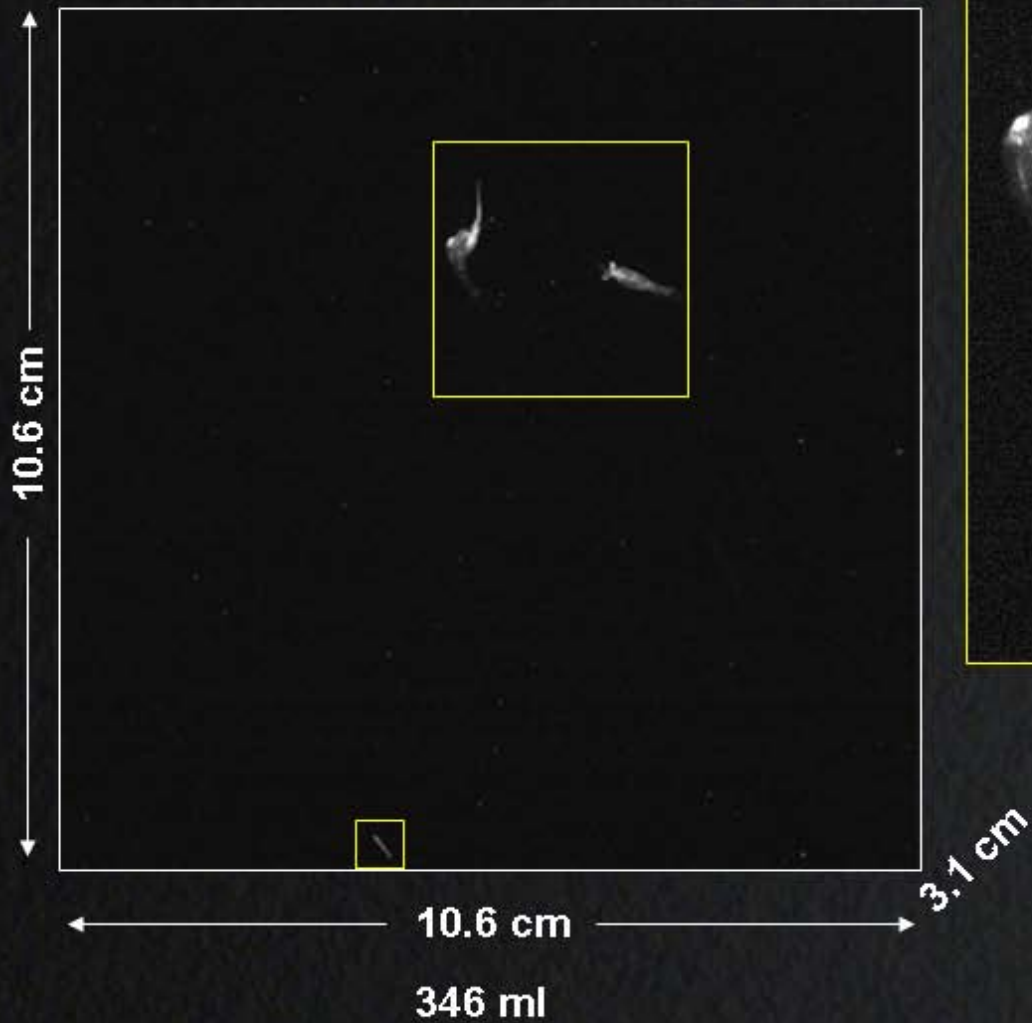


# Towed Systems: ZOOVIS

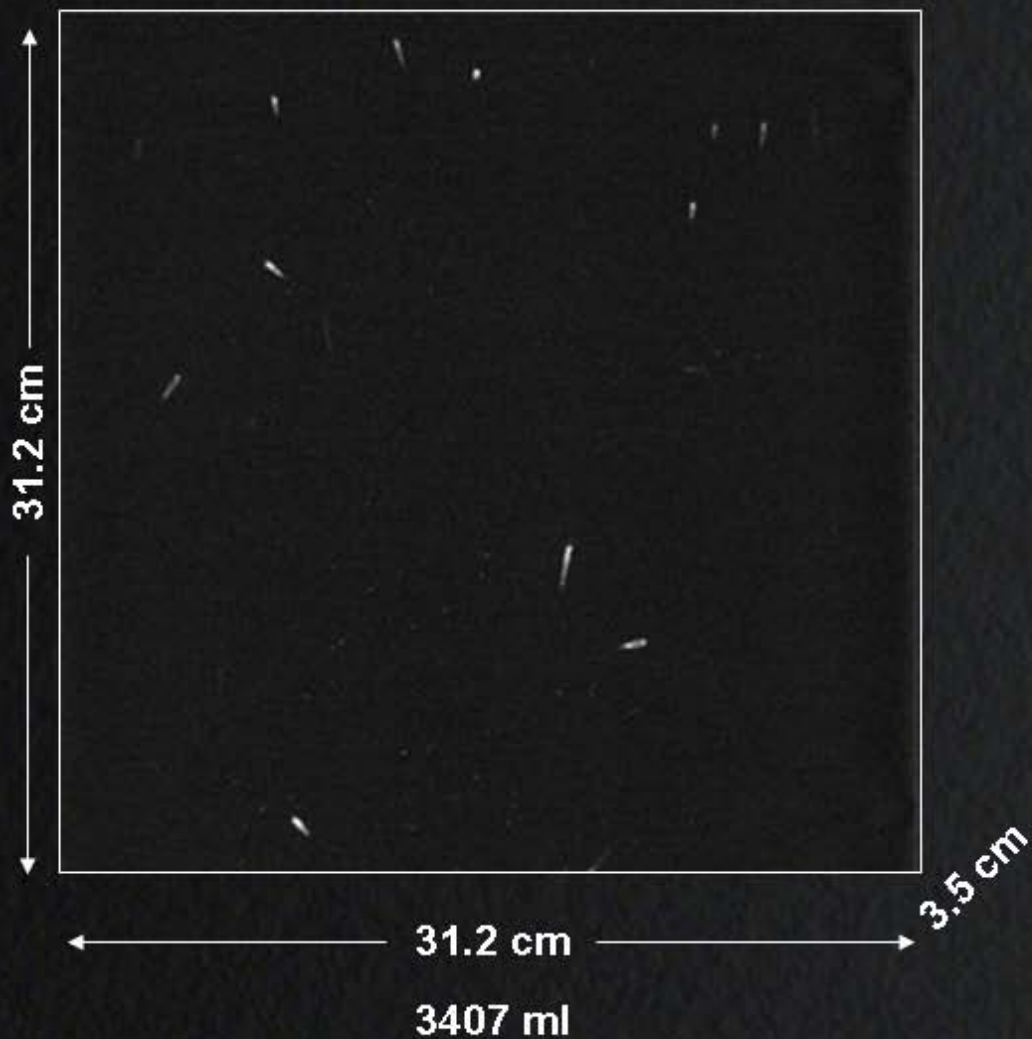




# ZOOVIS Images



# ZOOVIS Images





# Profiling Instruments: UVP4

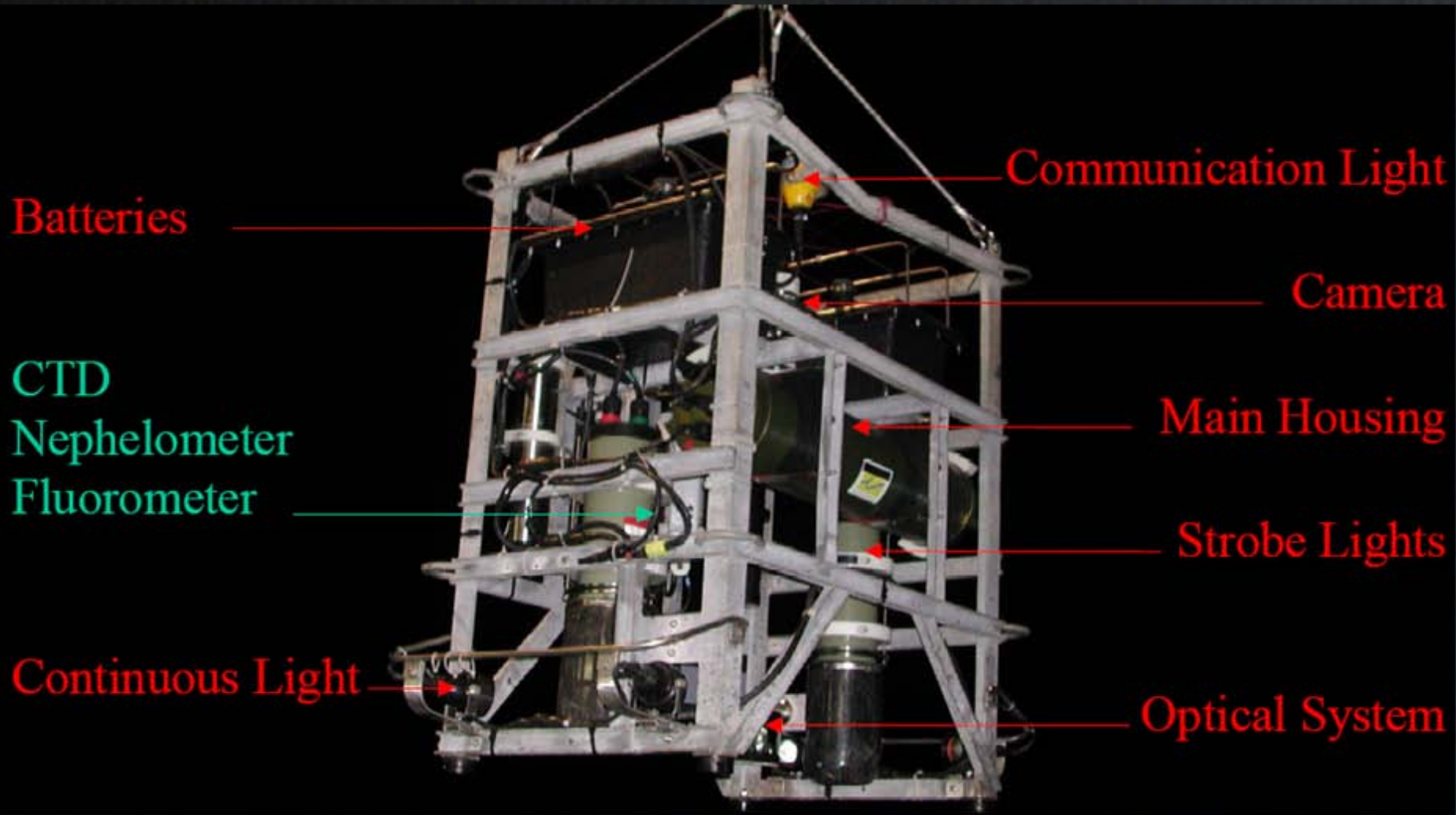
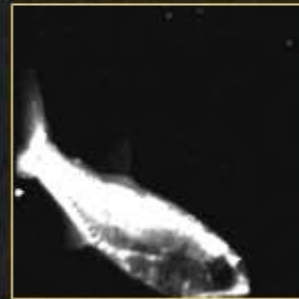
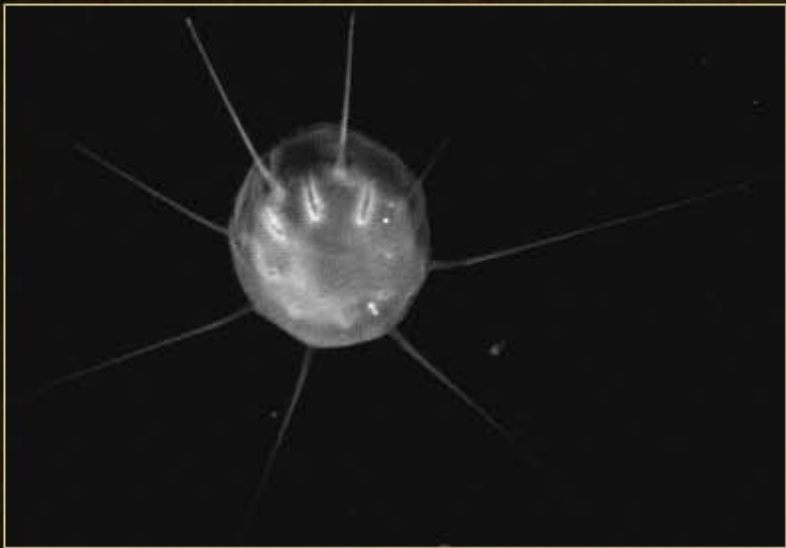
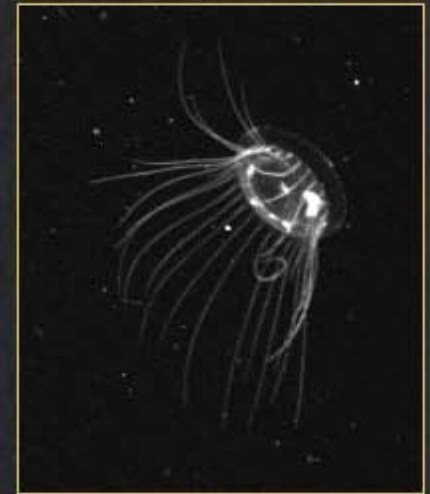
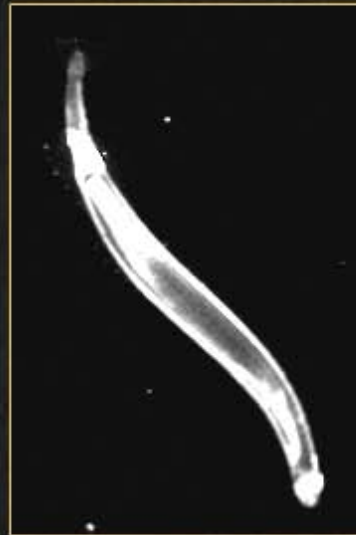


Image: G. Gorsky

# Profiling Instruments: UVP



Images: G. Gorsky



# Profiling Instruments: VPR I & VPR II



Image: C. Ashjian

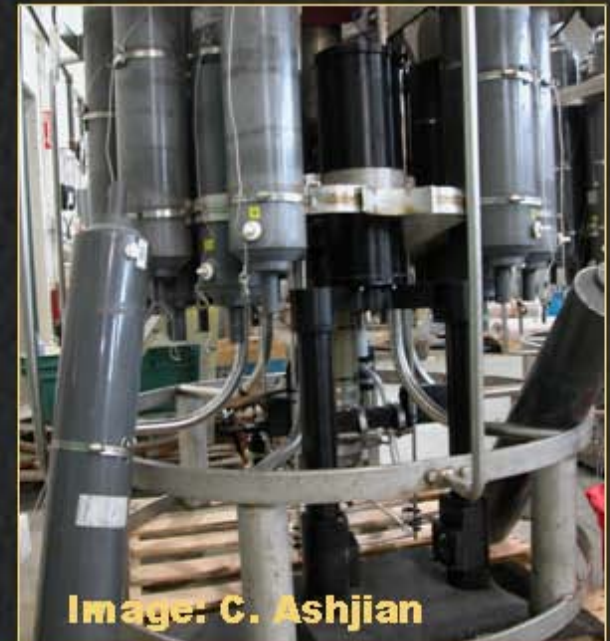


Image: C. Ashjian

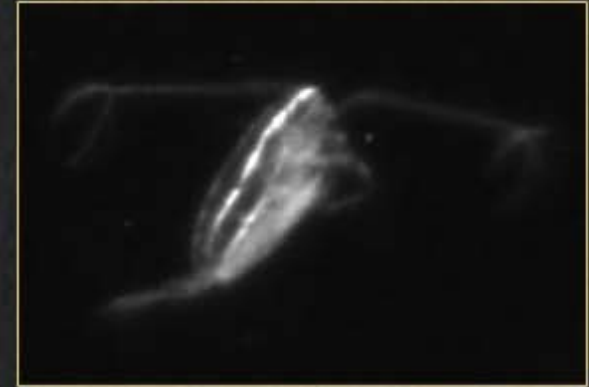
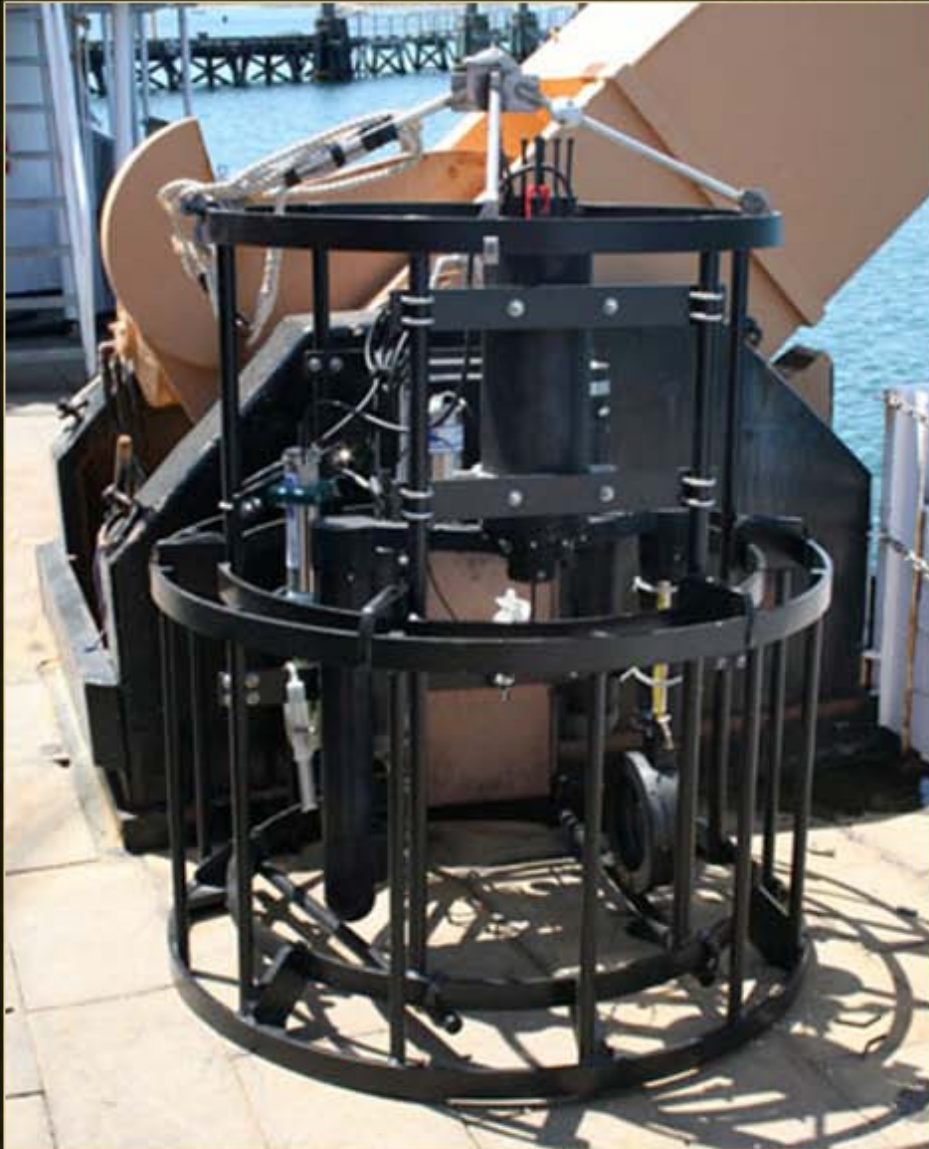


Image: Benfield



Image: JAMSTEC

# Profiling Instruments: VPRII



Images: M. Baumgartner



# Profiling Instruments: ZOOVIS-SC



Image: M. Sutor

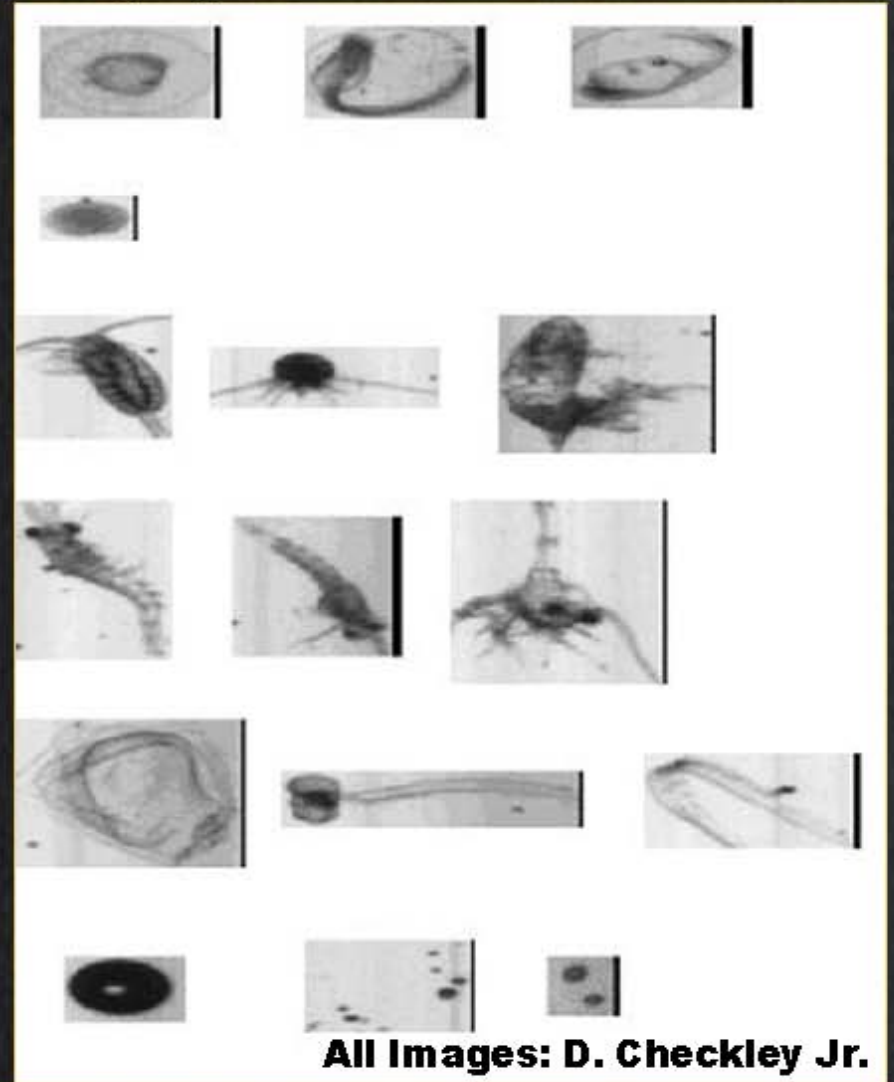
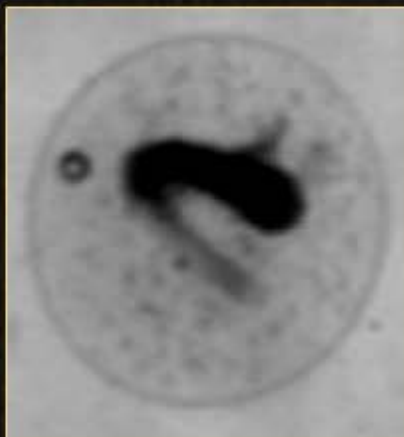
# Profiling Instruments: ZOOVIS-SC ...





# Shipboard/Lab-Based Systems

- REFLICS: Real-time Flow Imaging & Classification System



# Shipboard/Lab-Based Systems

- FlowCAM



Image: M. Sieracki



# Shipboard/Lab-Based Systems

- FlowCAM



# Moored Systems: HAB Buoy

Copepoda: *Calanus finmarchicus* V



Copepoda: *Oithona*



Euphausiid: *Calyptopsis*



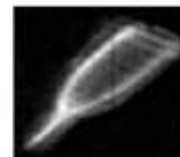
Dinoflagellate: *Ceratium trichoceros*



Copepoda: Nauplius

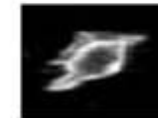
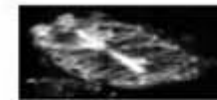


Copepoda: *Oithona* sp. V1

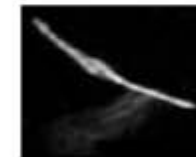


Tintinnid: *Cynatocylis*

Salp: Thaliacea



Dinoflagellate: *Dinophysis caudata*



Dinoflagellate: *Ceratium fusus*



Cladocera: *Penilia avirostris*





# Autonomous Systems

## SOLOPC



Image: A. Herman

# Autonomous Systems: VPR

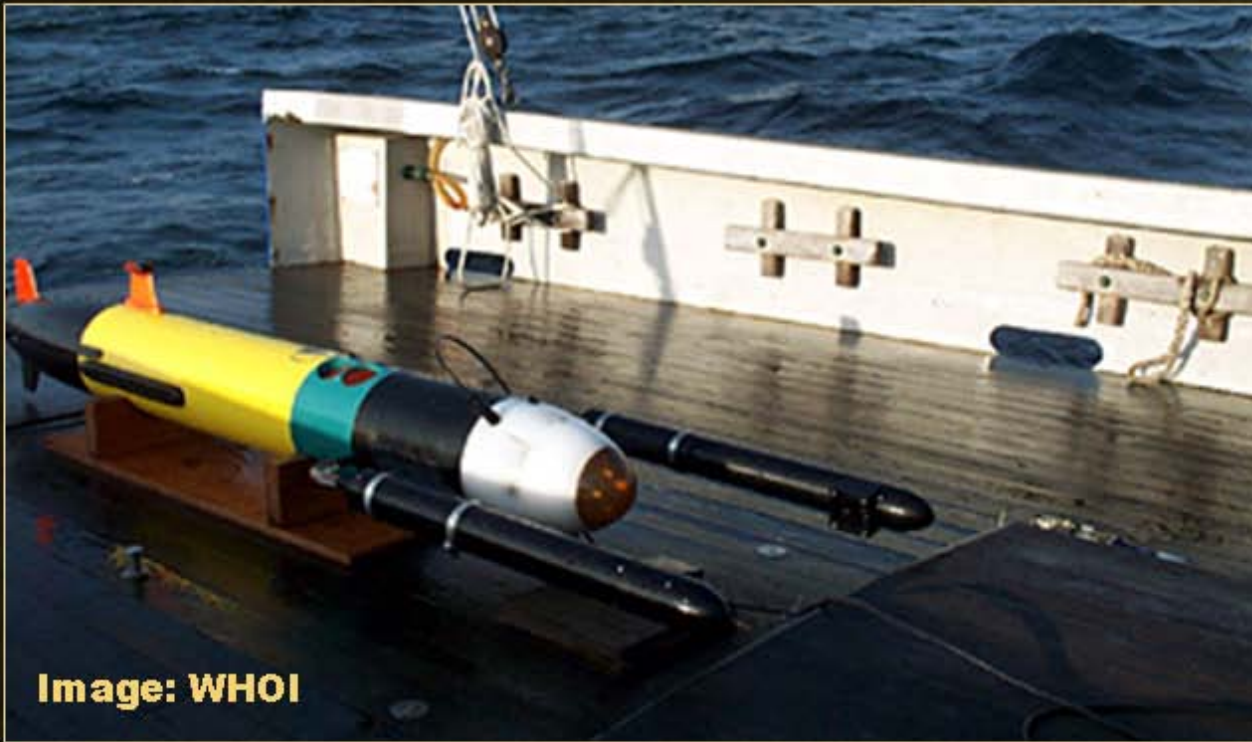
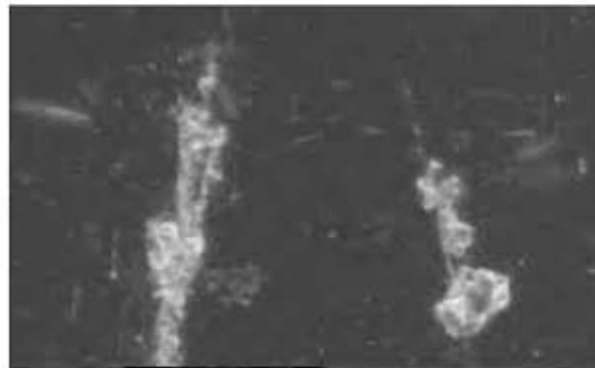


Image: WHOI

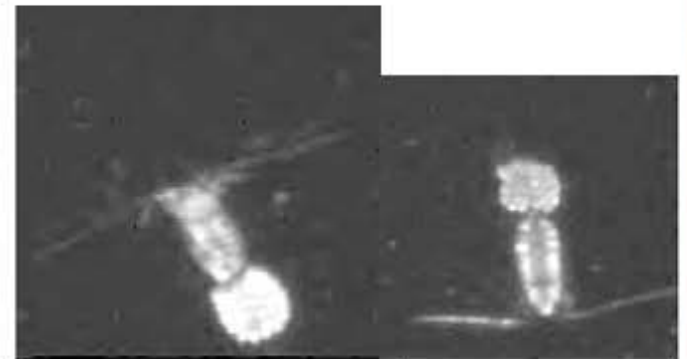
Image: C. Davis



Diatoms  
(*Chaetoceros debilis*)



Marine Snow



Copepods  
(*Pseudocalanus* w/ eggs)



# Autonomous Systems: VPR II

## PICASSO AUV

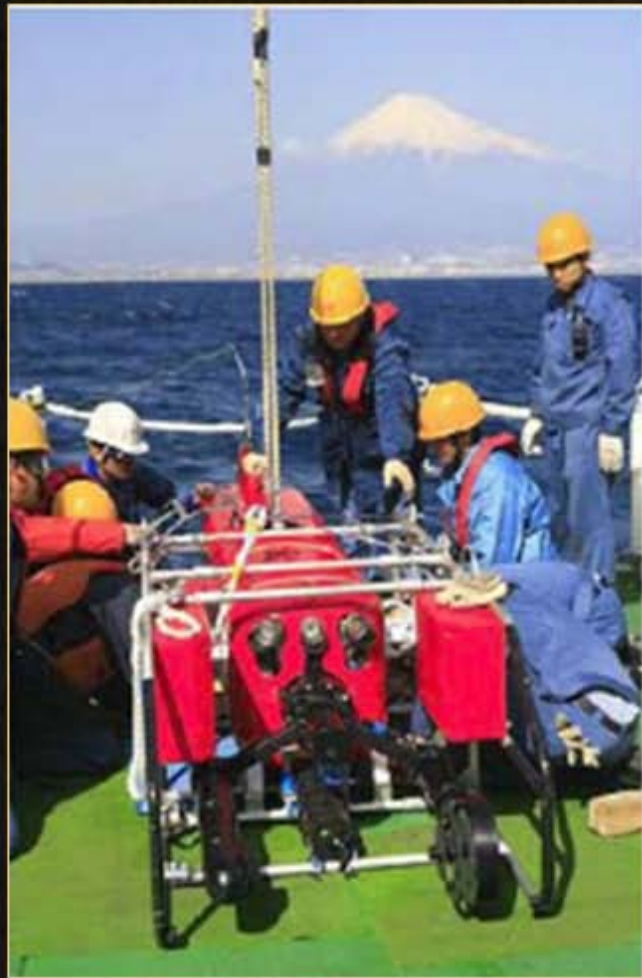
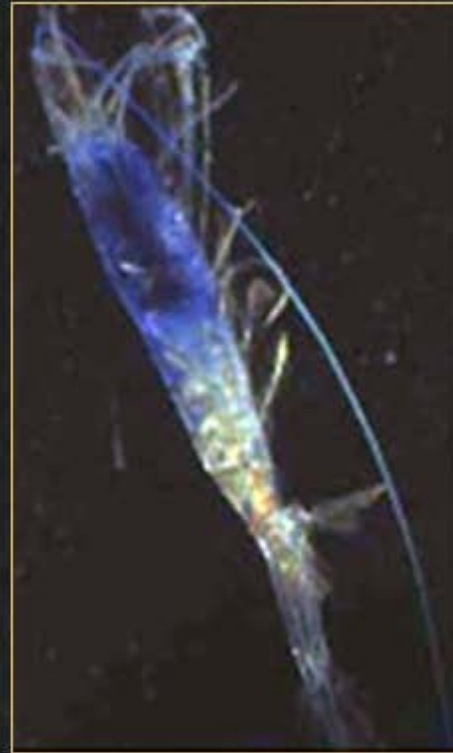
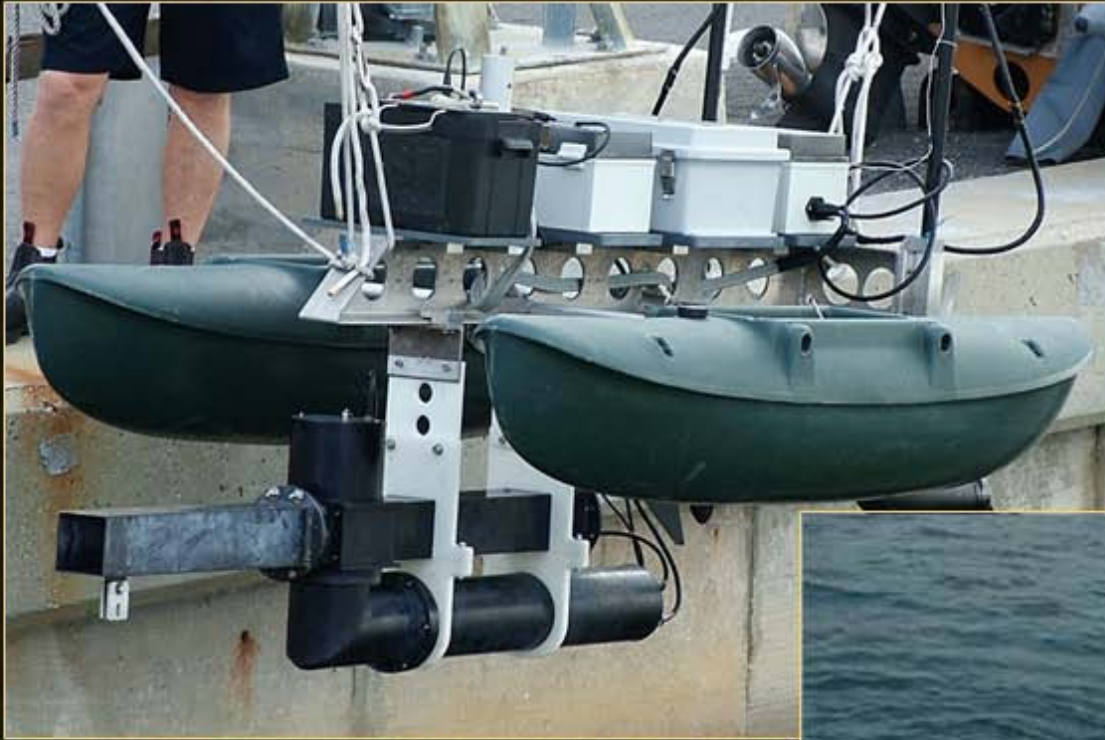


Image: R. Minemizu



Images: JAMSTEC

# Autonomous Vehicles: SIPPER



Images: Univ. South Florida



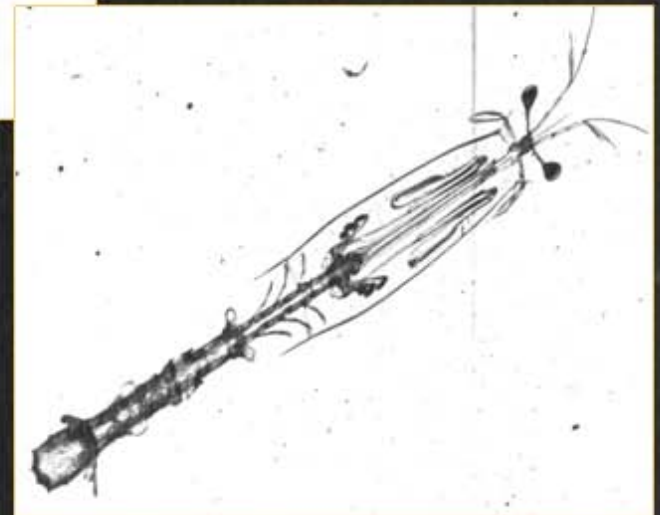
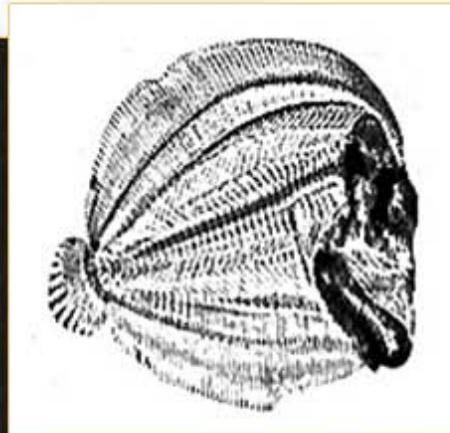


# ISIIS

## In Situ Ichthyoplankton Imaging System



Images: R. Cowen  
& C. Guigand



# LAPIS

## Large-Area Plankton Imaging System



Image: E. Horgan



Image: L. Madin



# DiVA

## Digital Video Acquisition System

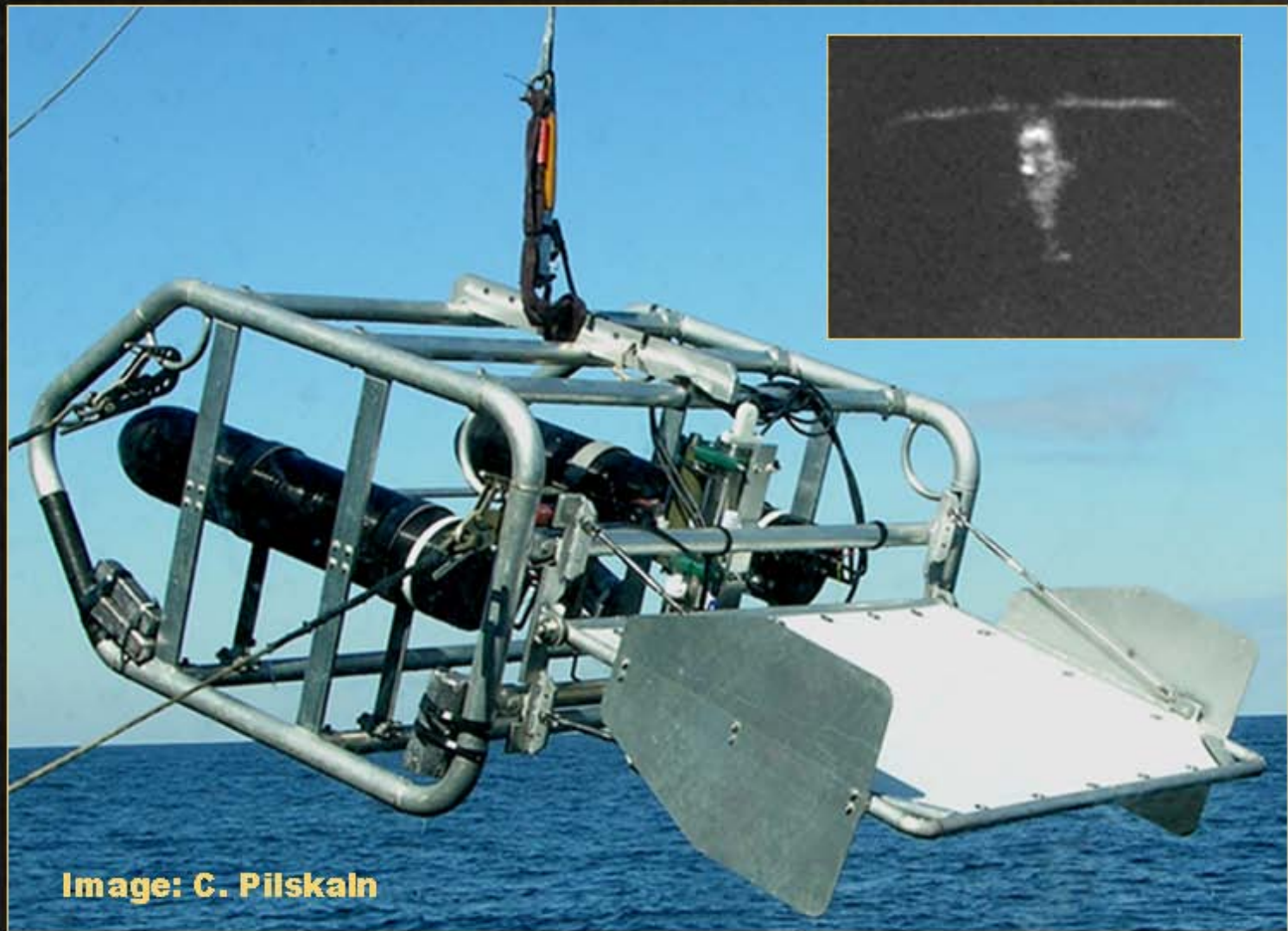
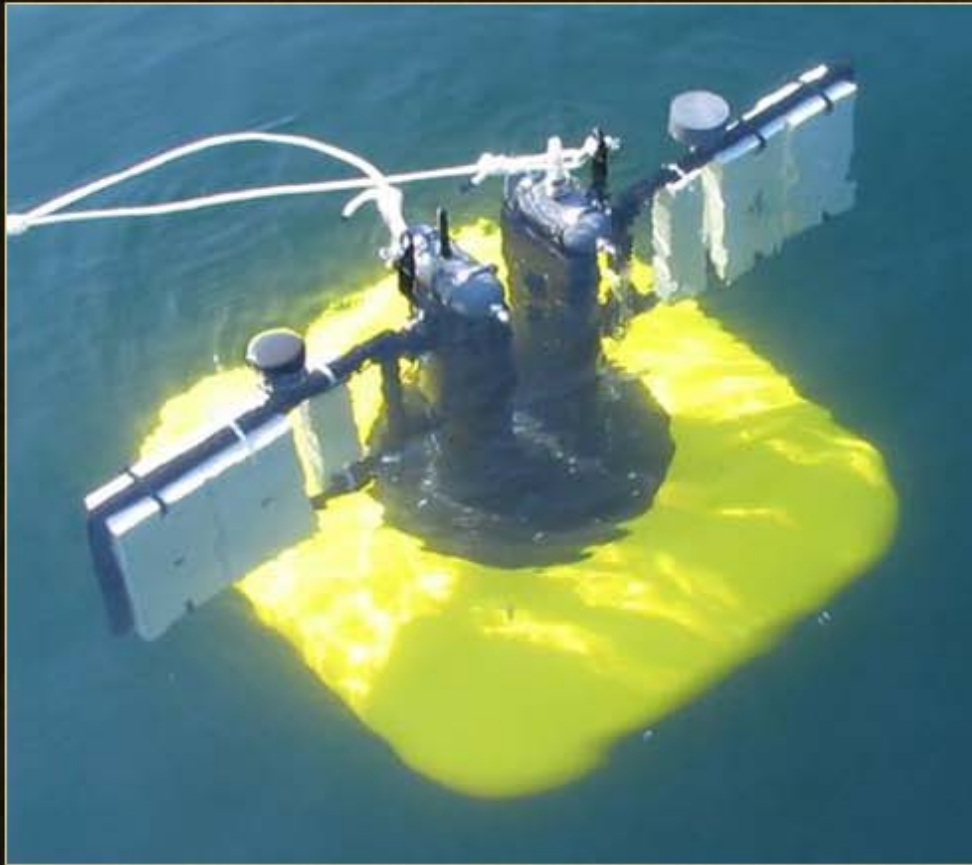


Image: C. Pilskaln

# Holographic Systems

- Submersible Holographic Drifter



Images: E. Malkiel



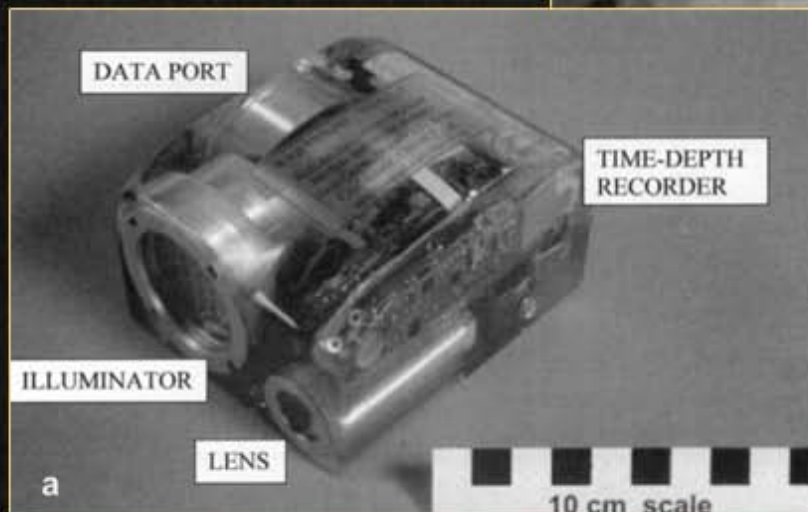
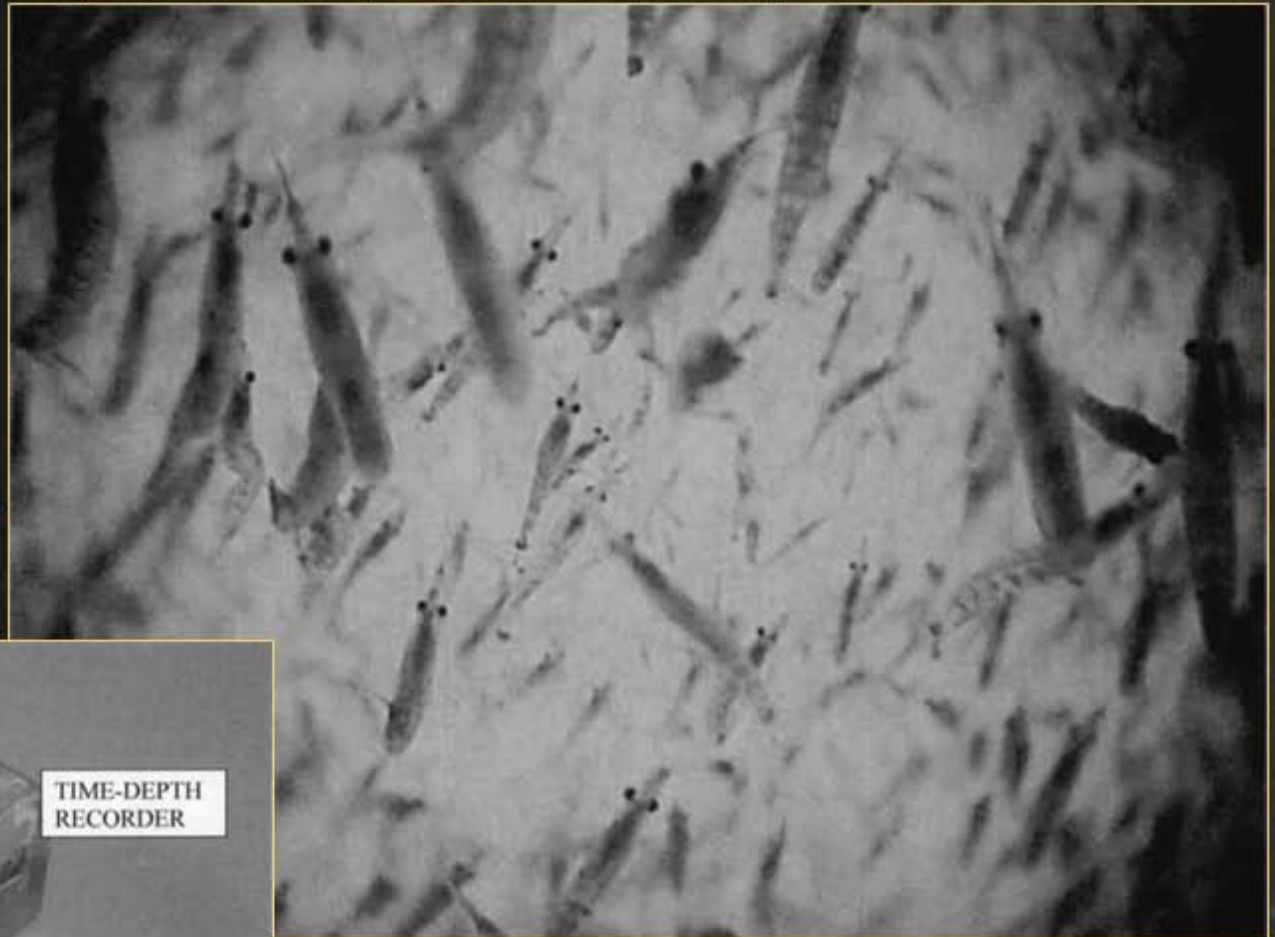
# Submersible Holographic Drifter



Image: Pfitsch et al. 2006

# Other Platforms

*Euphausia superba* imaged by camera on fur seal



Images: Hooker et al. 2002



# Moore's Law

- The number of transistors in a chip doubles every 2 years
- Processing Power

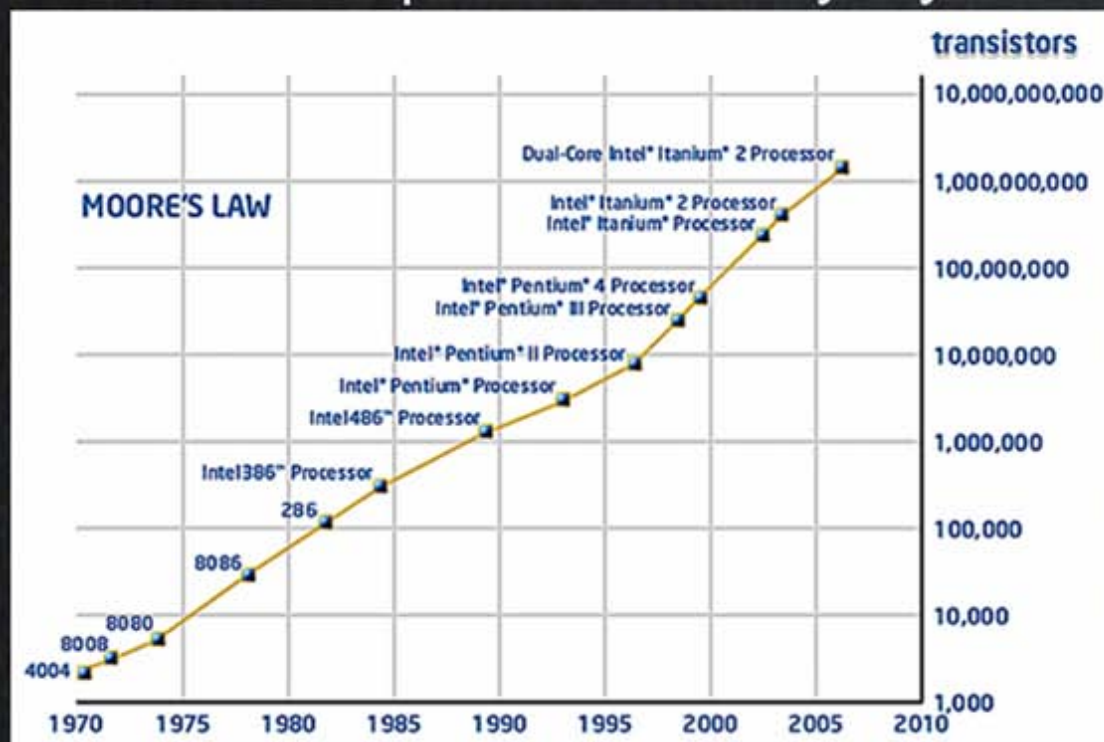
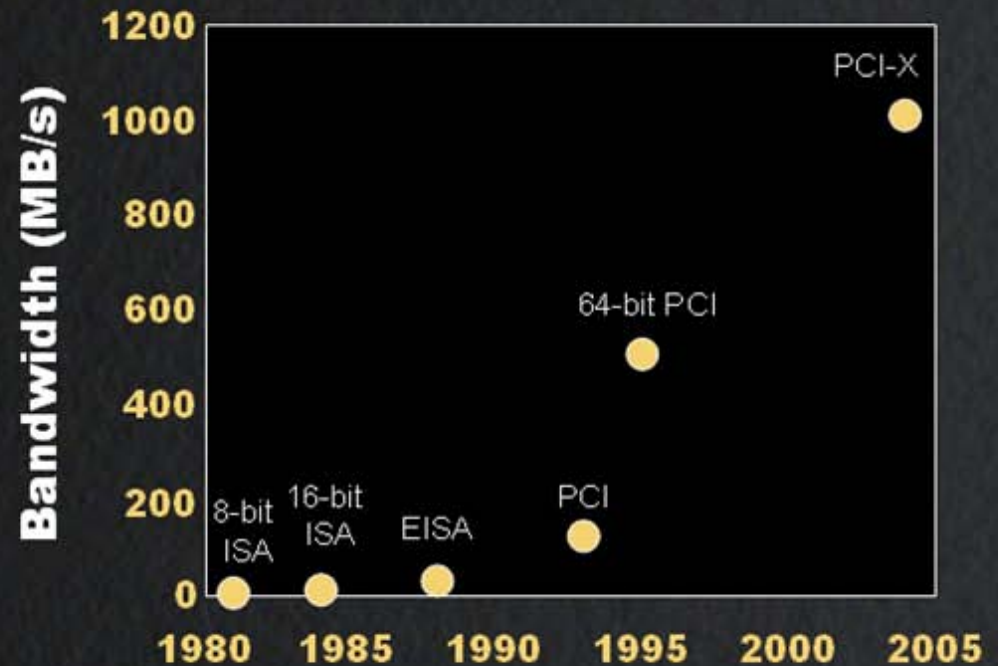


Image: Intel

# Moore's Law

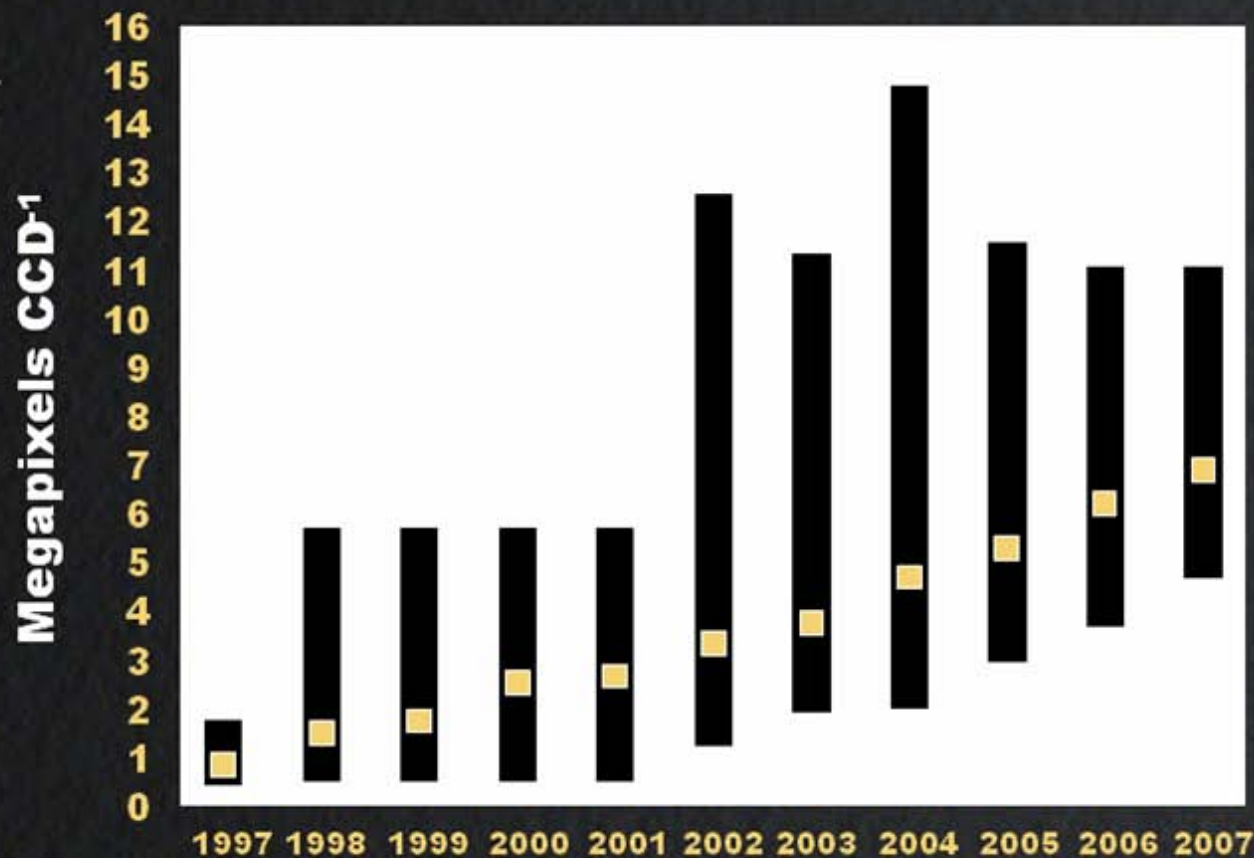
- The number of transistors in a chip doubles every 2 years
- Processing Power
- Bandwidth





# Moore's Law

- The number of transistors in a chip doubles every 2 years
- Processing Power
- Bandwidth
- Image Resolution



Data for Consumer Digital Cameras  
From Digital Photography Review

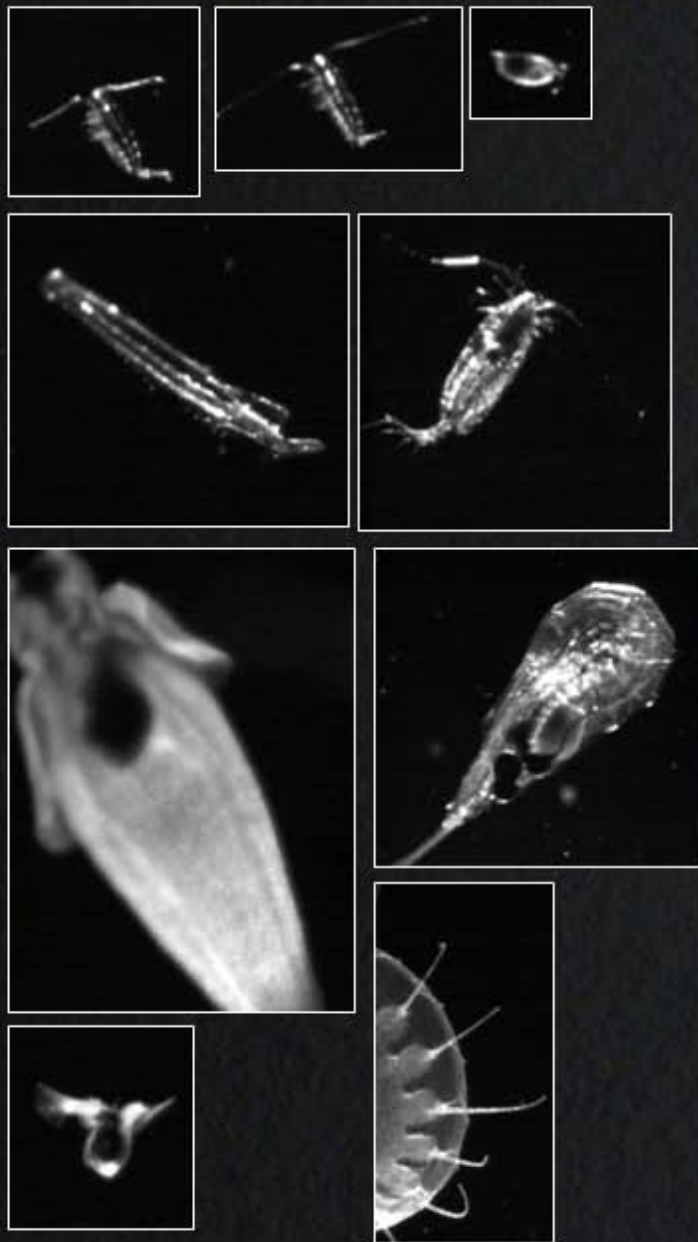
# Moore's Law

- The number of transistors in a chip doubles every 2 years
- Processing Power
- Bandwidth
- Image Resolution
- Camera Size
- Power Consumption
- Cost

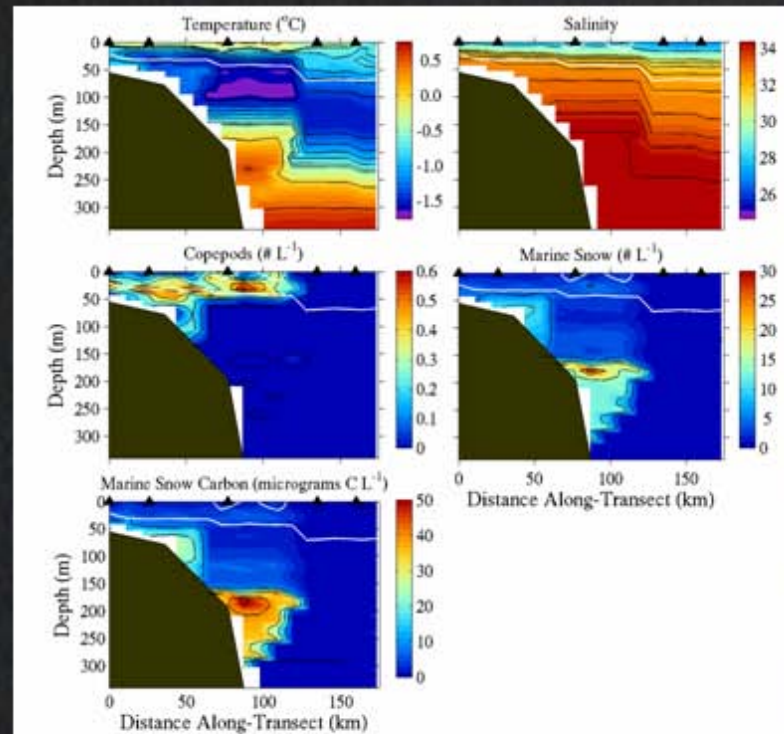




# Hardware will not be limiting



SOFTWARE



# Acknowledgements

- Developers of all the imaging systems presented
- PICES and the Symposium Organizing Committee
- SCOR
- Louisiana State University and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

VPR II



VPR on MOCNESS

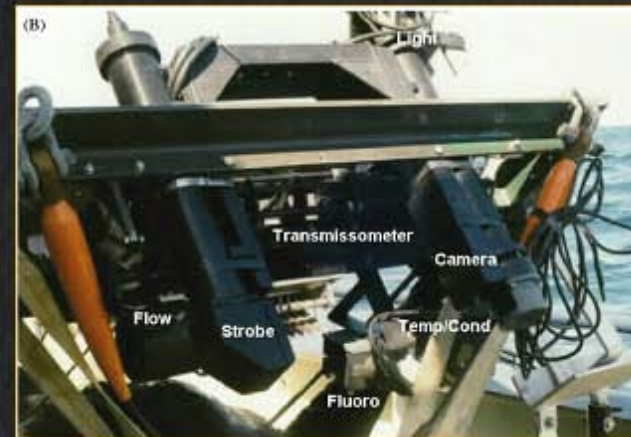


Image: R. Lough/E. Broughton

**There is insufficient time to describe all of the systems, past and present, that have been used to image plankton. To the developers of those systems not presented here, we apologise, and salute your ingenuity.**



A THIN LAYER IMAGED BY ZOOVIS-SC IN MONTEREY BAY, 2006