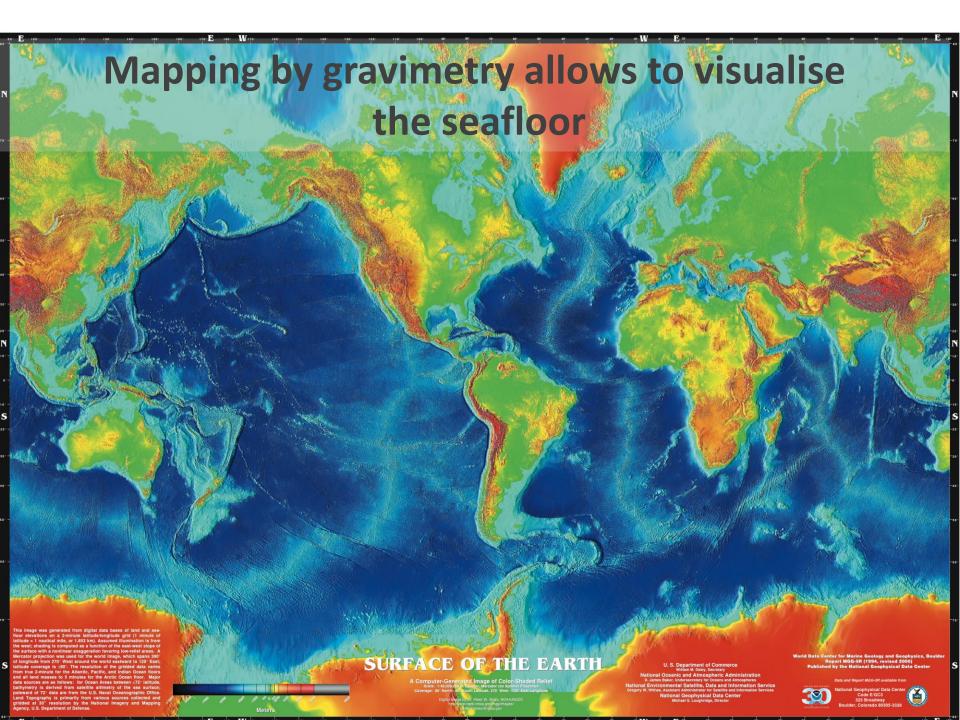
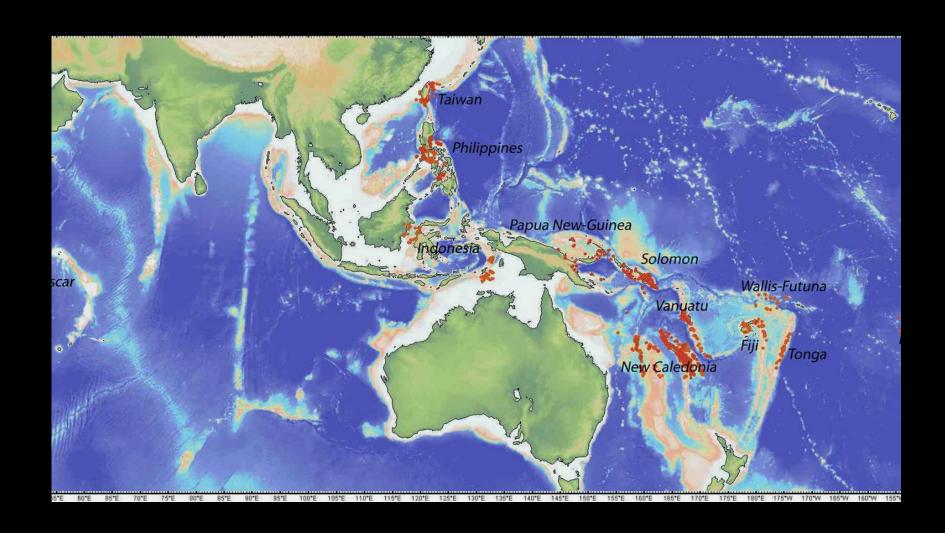


# The blue planet

What lies in the depths of the oceans



### Oceanographic cruises sites



#### Pacific cruises: Norfolk 2, Musorstom 4, Ebisco, Bordau 2



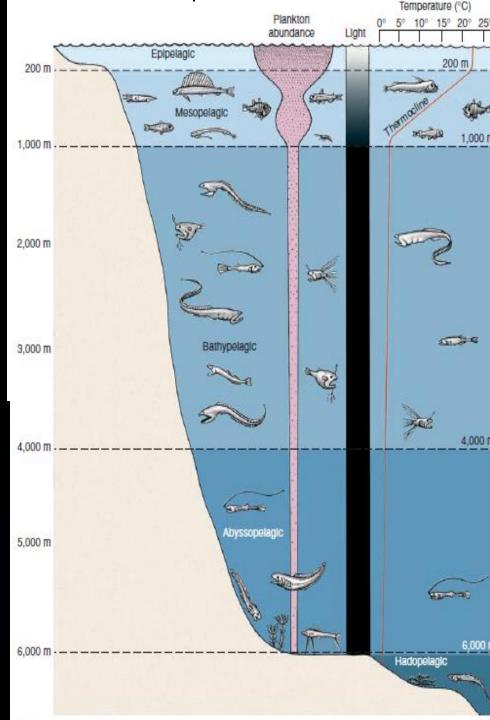
## The deep-sea sampling started in New Caledonia in 1978 with Philippe Bouchet & Anders Warén In 1988 the « Vauban » was remplaced by « Alis »



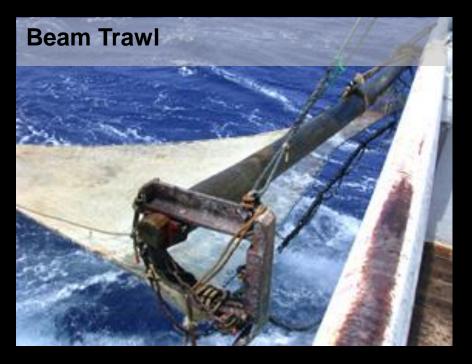
### With Depth

- Temperature decreases
- Light decreases
- Food availibility decreases





### Sampling the deep-sea











Collecting organisms
on
the deck



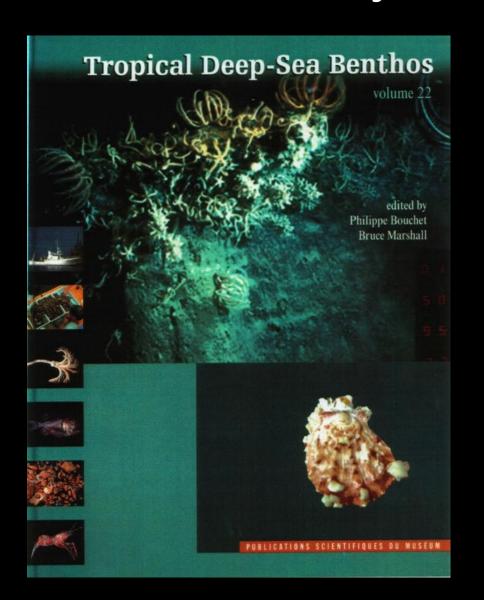
Sorting by zoological groups fauna >3 mm

#### Storing deep-sea animals

Collections from the oceanographic cruises sorted by zoological groups are preserved in ethanol and stored in Museums for future studies



## Publication of the cruises results in scientific journals





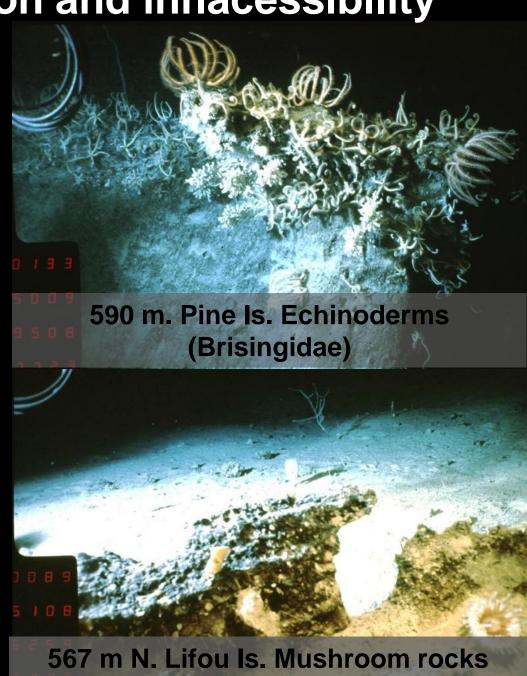


#### Patchy distribution and innacessibility

### Submersible Cyana dive: CALSUB 1989

Fauna distribution is often patchy.

 Diversity is often located on the edges of the rocks making it inaccessible





In the deep-sea, species association are often encountered and result in higher biodiversity.

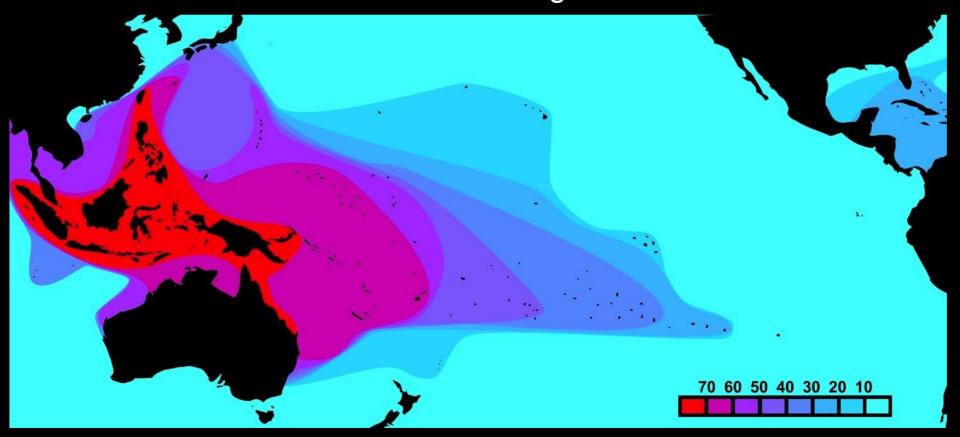
## Sponges & Stylasterids are major components of the fauna located on deep-sea slopes.





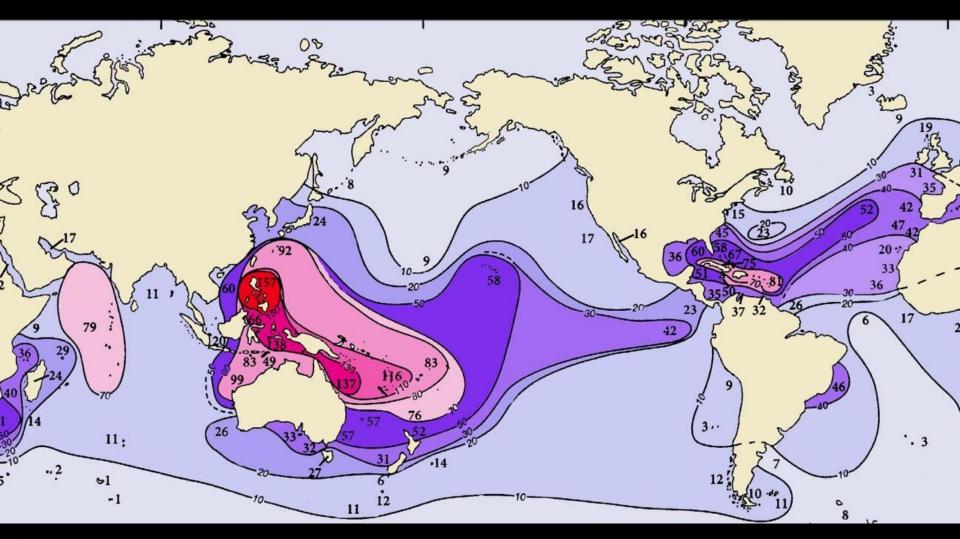
#### Shallow water species richness distribution

Mapping the number of hard corals genera in the Pacific shows the maximum of richness: the Coral Triangle



In the Coral Triangle 430 species of corals, 320 in New Caledonia 130 in Tahiti and only 6 in Easter Island.

#### Deep-sea species richness distribution



Gradient of specific richness of ahermatypics scleractinians (= not building reefs and without zooxanthellae symbionts, mainly from bathyal & abyssal depths). After Cairns (2007).

#### Gigantism is common in the deep-sea



Giant isopod from NE Australia: *Bathynomus kensleyi* Lowry & Dempsey, 2006 350 mm long (photo Roger Steene)



New giant ostracod (2 cm) trawled at a depth of 400 m in the Coral Sea Azygocypridina brynmawria Diamond, Richer de Forges & Kornicker, 2008



Ipnopidae: Bathypterois marionae



Aphyonidae: Barathronus sp



Ipnopidae: *Ipnos agassizii* 

#### Monsters or Aliens?









## Deep-sea fauna, a cornucopia of chemical compound to be discovered

A new molecule Gymnochrome extracted from *Neogymnocrinus richeri* is active against the dengue virus





Neogymnocrinus richeri

#### They have a high longevity!



Sponge Sphinctozoa *Vaceletia* sp

**Growth rate 11mm/century** 



<u>Gorgonians</u>, Isididae (Bamboo coral) > 200 years

#### Even a very high longevity!

Silicate spicule of *Monoraphis* chuni = 440 years or 11,000 years !!! (Jochum et al., 2012)



Homo sapiens 54 years

Crinoid:

Neogymnocrinus richeri:
340 + - 80 years



#### Lord Howe Ridge seamounts

A glimpse of biodiversity of the undiscovered world



### Sampling strange things...









#### Discovering the second species of Glypheid





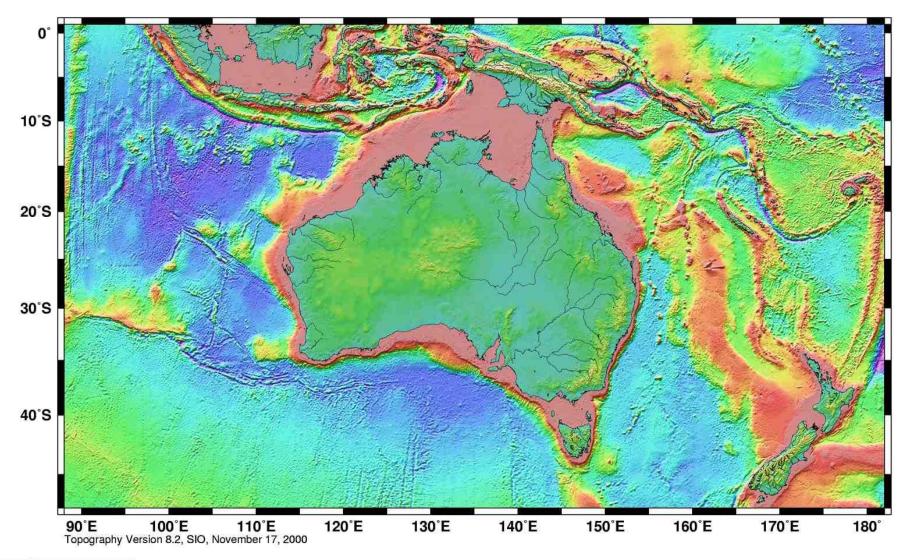


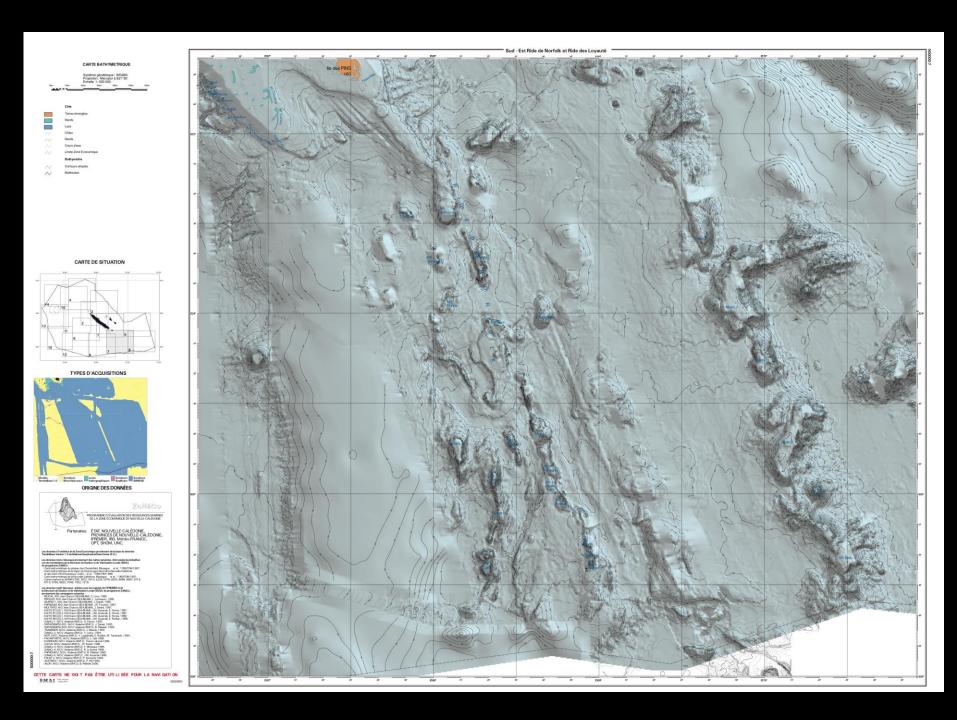


#### Seamounts are oasis under the sea surface

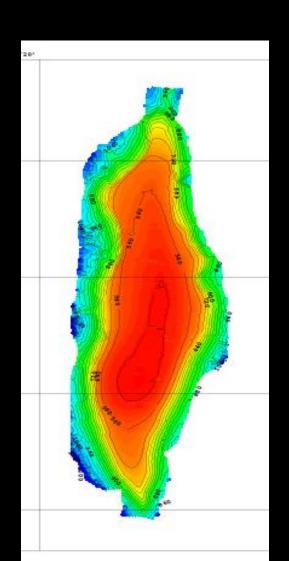


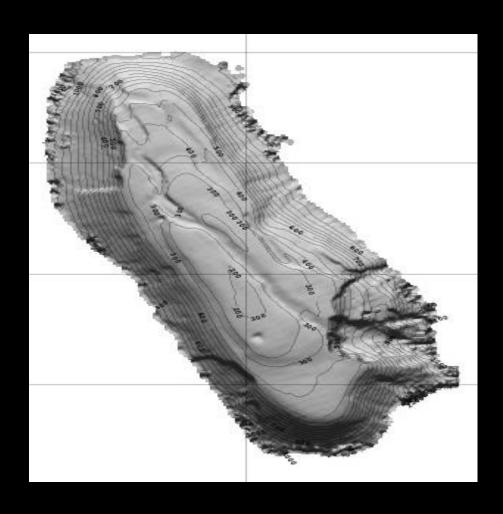
Study of seamounts biodiversity and ecosystems is still at its infancy.



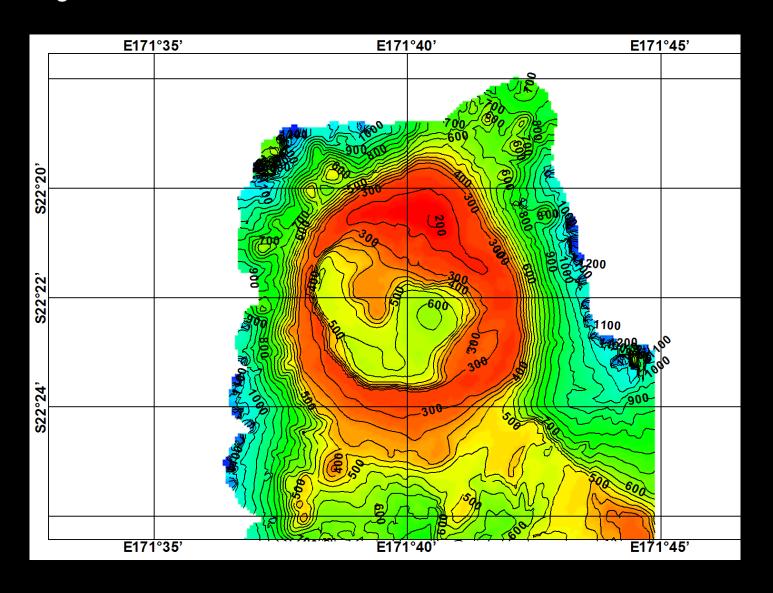


## Seamounts of Norfolk Ridge are guyot types with a flat summit between 200 and 900 m





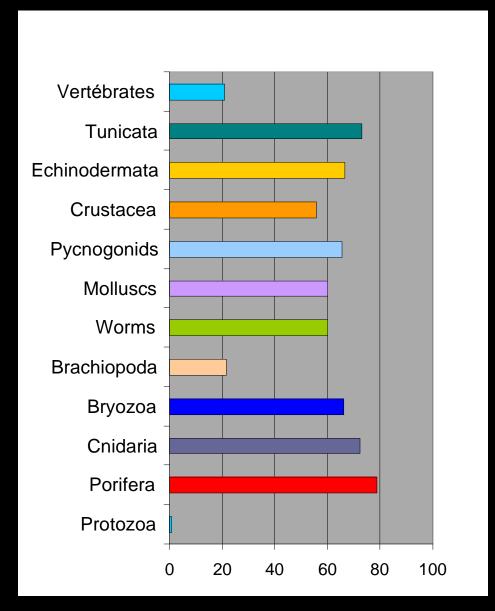
## Deep-sea volcano with a crater of 10 km in diameter discovered during EXBODI cruise between Matthews and Hunter Islands



#### Zoological results from the New-Caledonian EEZ

GROUPS	<b>FAMILIES</b>	GENERA	SPECIES	<b>NEW SPECIES</b>	% NEW OF SPECIES
Protozoa	29	83	124	1	0.8
Porifera	54	111	170	134	78.8
Cnidaria	8	18	72	52	72.2
Bryozoa	60	123	201	133	66.1
Brachiopoda	13	18	23	5	21.7
Worms	6	13	20	12	60
Molluscs	73	200	619	371	59.9
Pycnogonids	8	22	61	40	65.5
Crustacea	94	295	633	354	55.9
Echinodermata	14	27	33	22	66.7
Tunicata	13	37	63	46	73
Vertebrates	68	143	240	50	20.8
TOTAL	440	1090	2259	1220	54

August 2002



 New-Caledonia deep-sea fauna is very rich (> 2000 species records so far...and growing...)

 More than half of the species collected to date were new to science

% of new species





Stalk crinoid *Neogymnocrinus richeri* supposed extinct in Jurassic





#### **Unsustainable fisheries**



Hoplostethus sp (Sawbelly/ orange roughy)







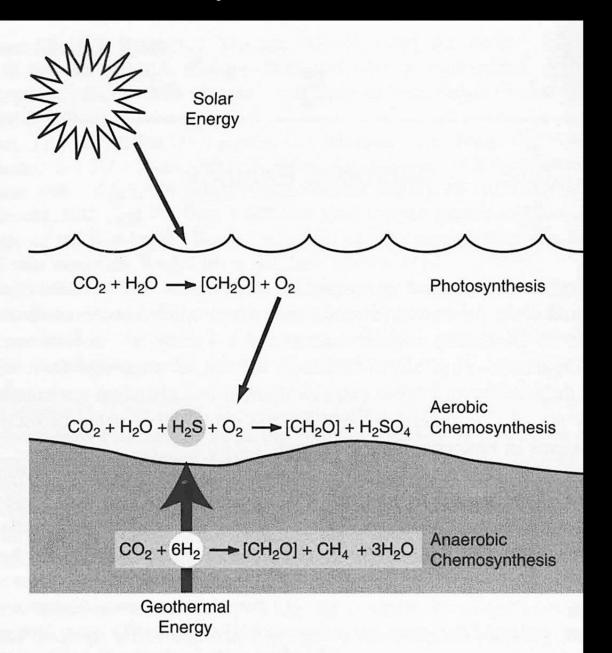
Seamounts are rich and small areas on which fish are aggregate...

The targets are:

Beryxspendens(Alfonsino)

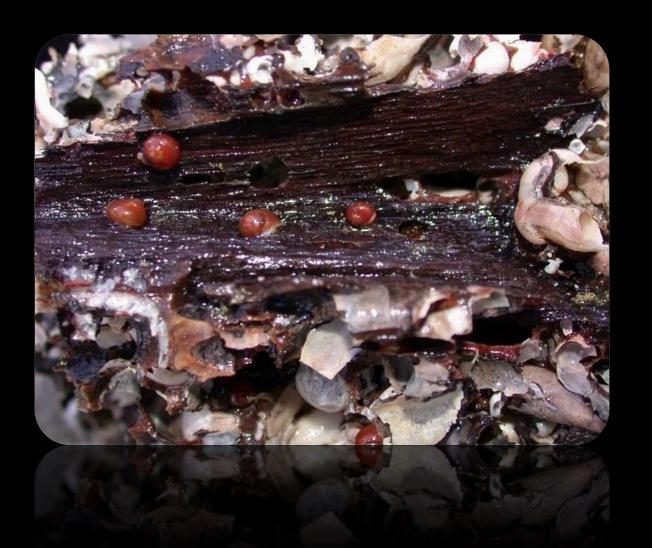
Hyperoglyphe antarctica (Blue nose)

### Photosynthesis and Chemosynthesis



The different ways used by life to produce glucids, with or without O2, capting solar or geothermal energy (from Van Dover, 2000)

# Sunken woods



#### Cruise BOA 0 onboard « Alis », Vanuatu 2004





In the deep-sea poor in food and without light any piece of organic matter is develops a small ecosystem based on chemosynthetic bacterias.

The major part of the organic substrat are sunken wood.

# Digging molluscs are common in sunken wood





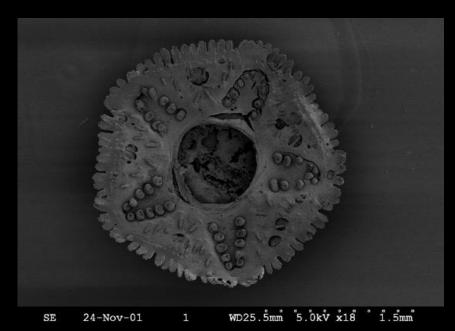


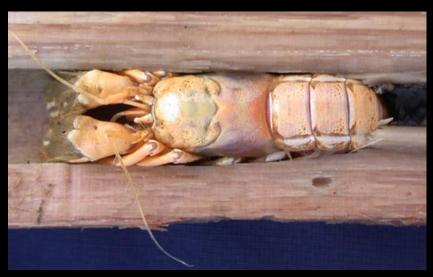




# Sunken wood fauna collected by trawling













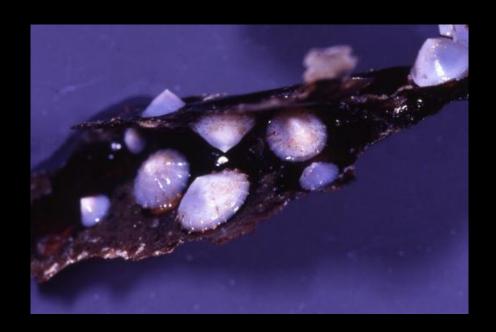




#### Sampling the sunken wood fauna by traps



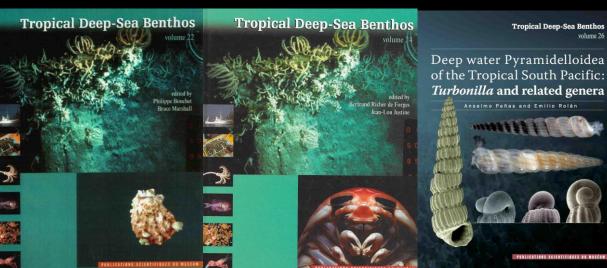
### Different types of organic substrates

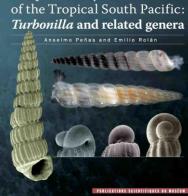




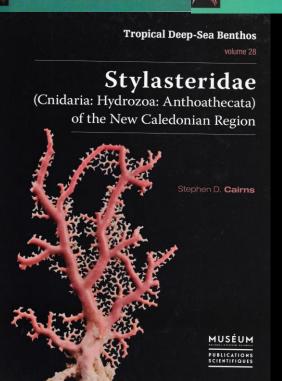
In-situ experimentation to catch the deep sea fauna associated with organic substrates.

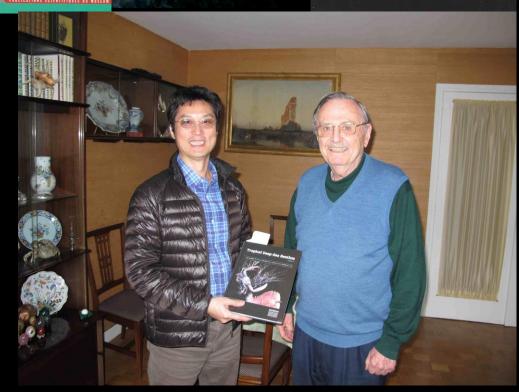


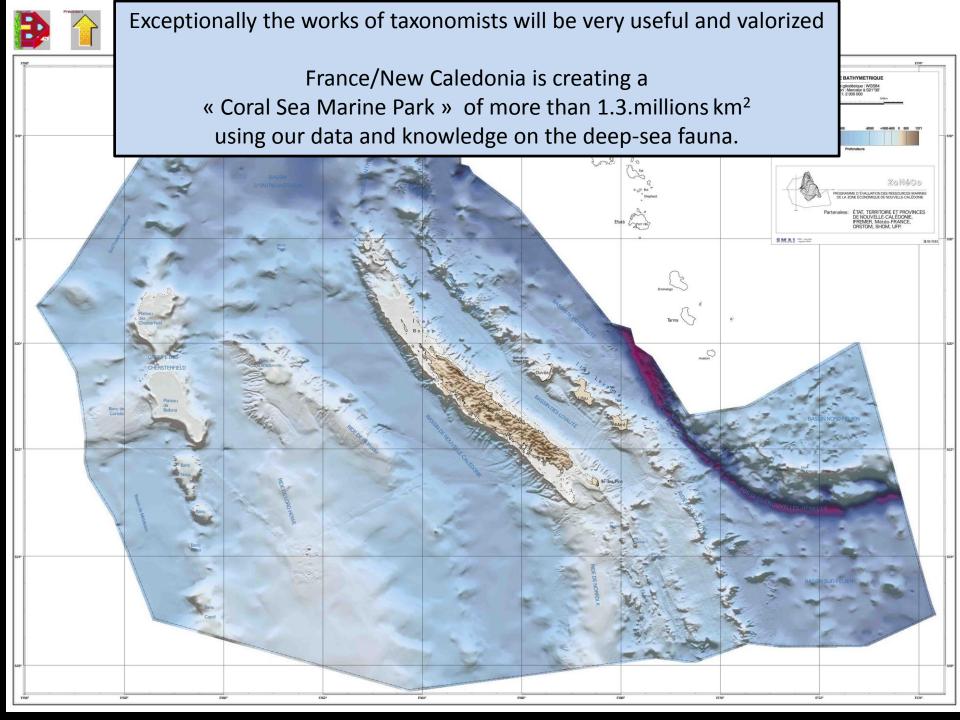












#### Thank you

to all the « MUSORSTOM » exploration contributors: sailors, taxonomists, publishers...

They provide me a very interesting life with plenty of nice friends

Several thousands of species were described in a really international effort

Hopefully the « saga » will continue for at least 40 more years and many more TDSB volumes!