

Is octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D4) a Persistent Organic Pollutant? *Weighing the Evidence and Risk to Arctic Environments*

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PBT criteria for identifying POPs

Stockholm Convention

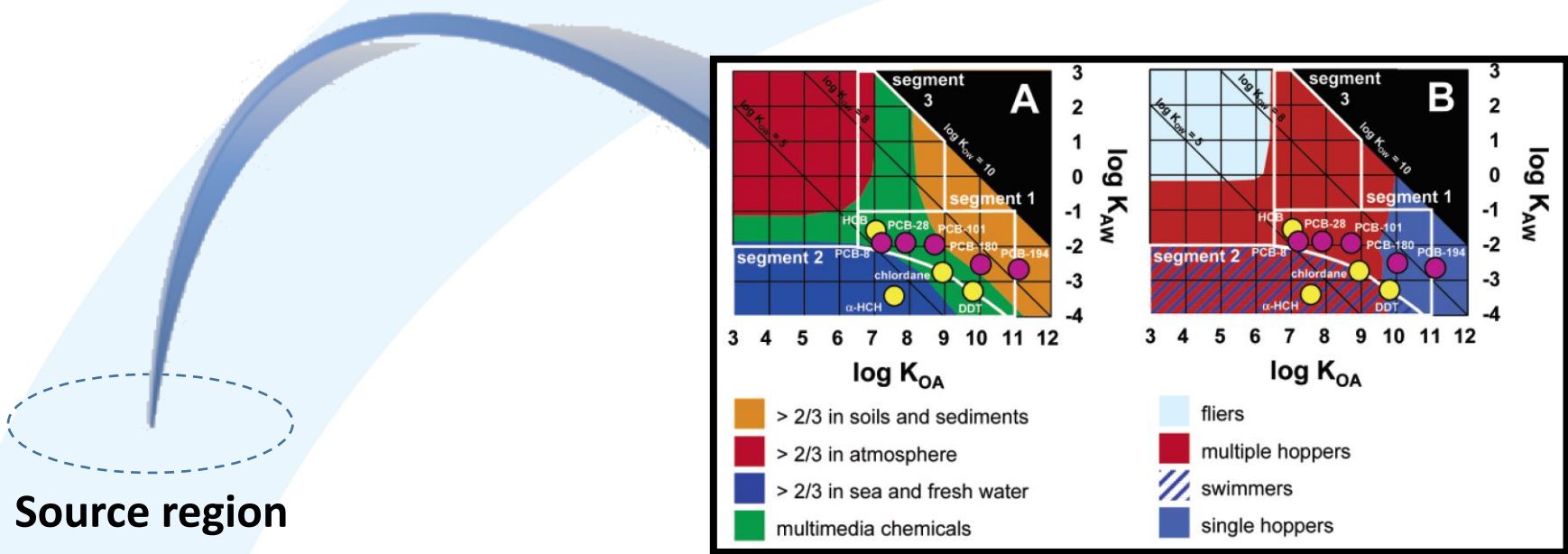
- Persistence (P) – media based half-life ($T_{1/2}$)
 - Water: $T_{1/2} > 2$ Mo
 - Soil/Sed: $T_{1/2} > 6$ Mo
- Bioaccumulation (B)
 - BCF/BAF > 5000
 - $\log K_{ow} > 5$
- Toxicity (T)
- Long range transport potential (LRTP)
 - $T_{1/2}$ (air) > 2 days

What should
we be
looking for?



Transfer efficiency (TE)

$$\% \text{ TE} = \frac{\text{Rate of mass flux to receptor region}}{\text{Rate of emission in Source region}} \times 100$$



Source region

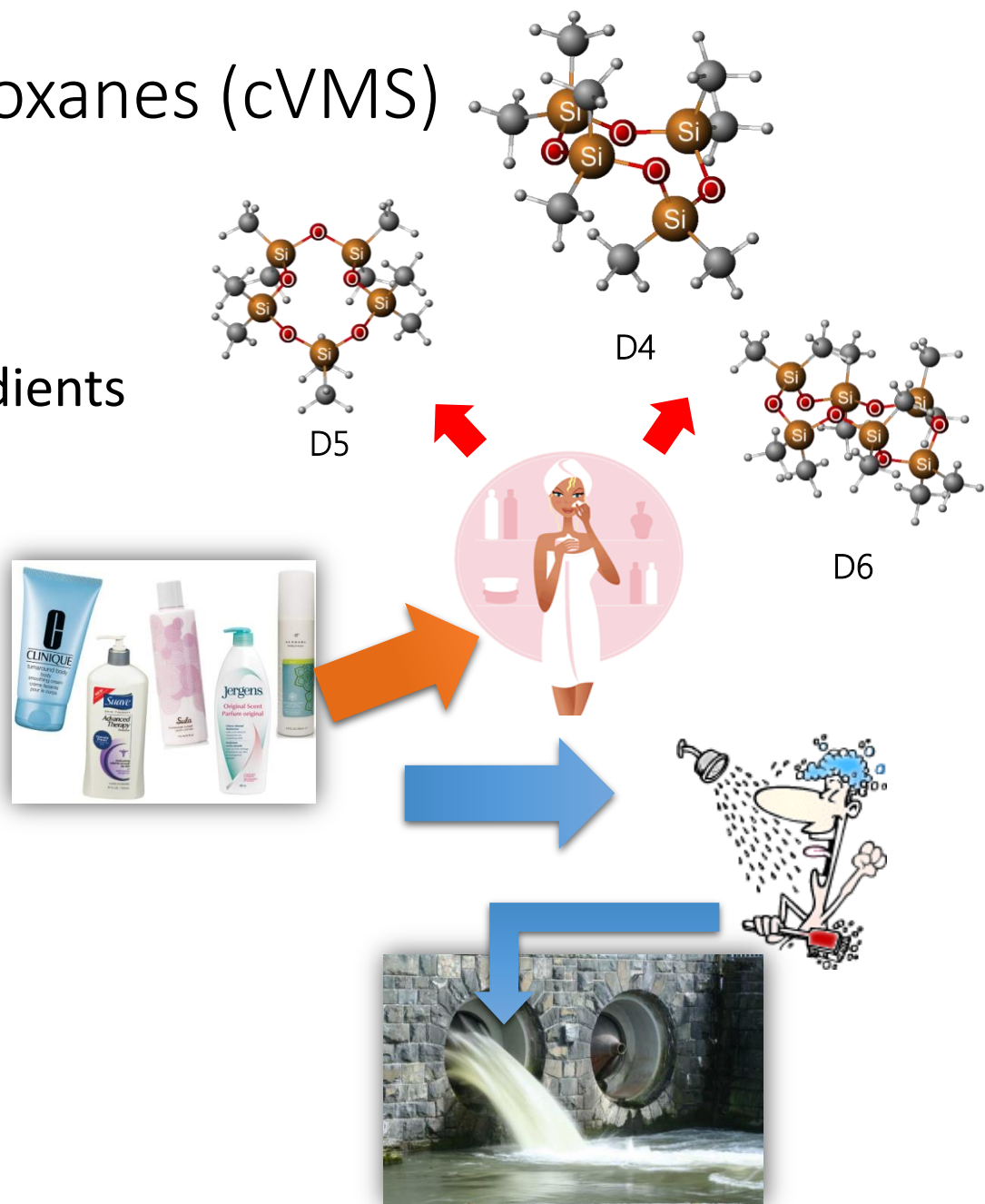
Receptor region

- Chemical partitioning properties (K_{aw} , K_{oa})
- Environmental properties of receptor region



Cyclic volatile methylsiloxanes (cVMS)

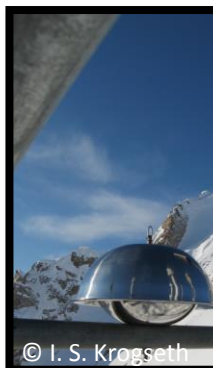
- Synthetic intermediates in polymer production
- Personal care product ingredients
- Volatile & hydrophobic
- 90% of emissions occur to atmosphere
 - $\log K_{aw}$: 2.7 - 3.1
 - D4 $T_{1/2} \approx 15$ days
- Present in aquatic environments
 - $\log K_{oc}$: 4.2 - 6.0
 - $\log K_{ow}$: 7.0 - 9.1
- D4 classified as PBT (ECHA 2015)
- **Evidence of LRT**
- **No evidence of deposition**



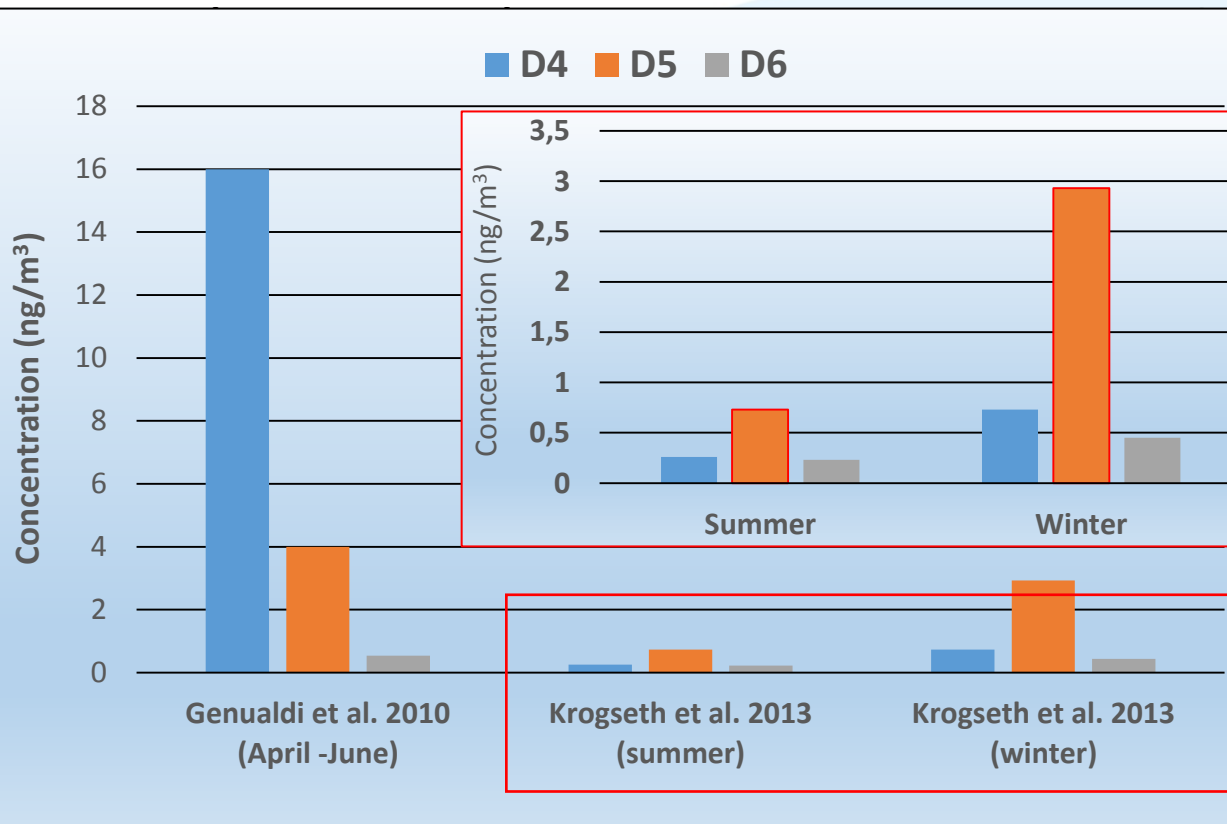
Rem

D4

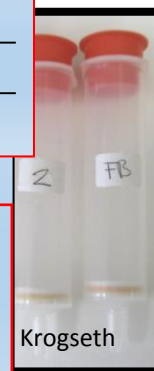
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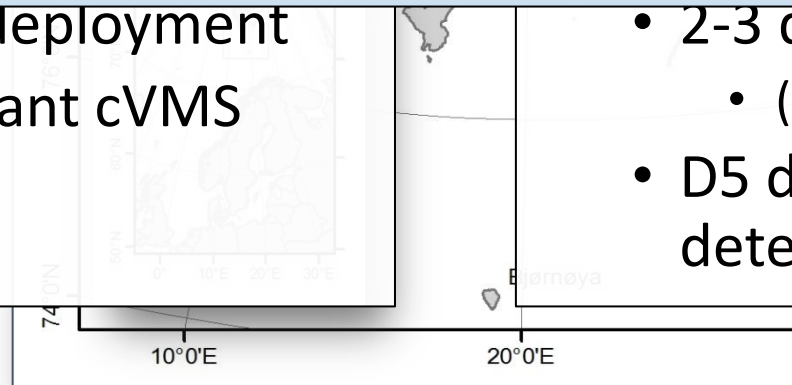


013)



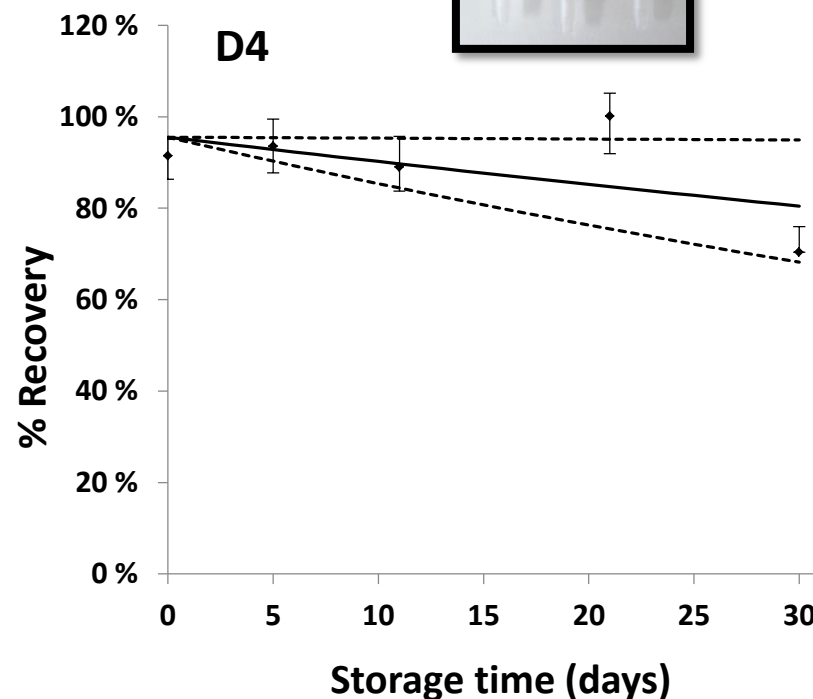
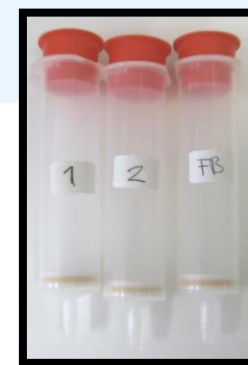
- 3 month deployment
- D4 dominant cVMS detected

- 2-3 day collection
 - (2weeks/summer/winter)
- D5 dominate cVMS detected



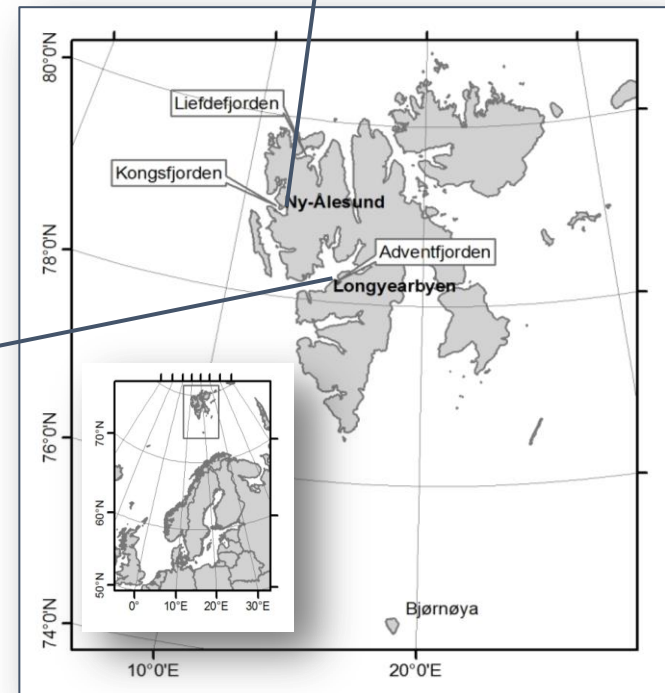
Uncertainty surrounding D4

- Active sampling methodology
 - Degradation/formation on ENV+ sampling sorbent
 - Degradation of D5 to D4 during storage (-18°C)
 - All cVMS results storage corrected
- Passive sampling
 - sorbent impregnated polyurethane foam
 - Potential source of D4?



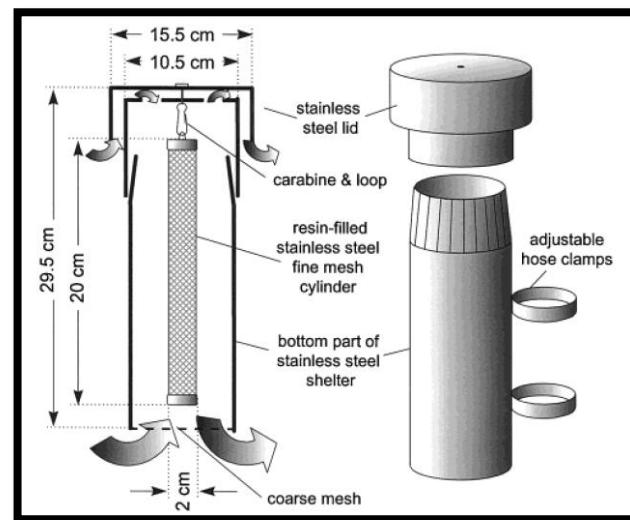
Influence of local sources

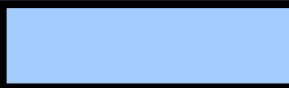
- Must differentiate between LRTP and local emission signatures
- Sampling location must be chosen carefully
 - Longyearbyen vs. Zeppelin Station
 - Minimize impact from local sources for LRT assessment



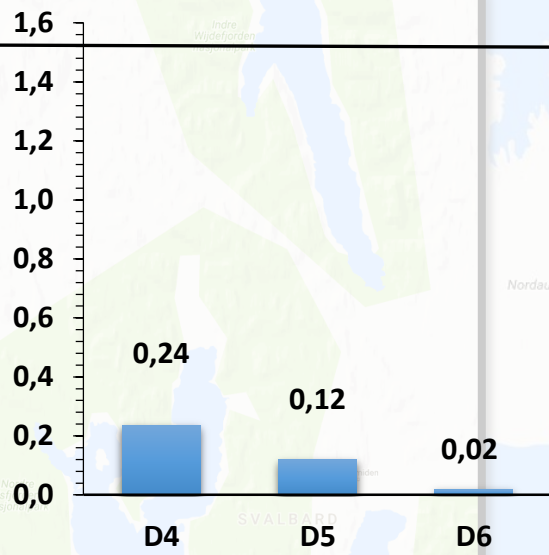
Remote atmospheric monitoring of cVMS using passive sampling

- XAD-2 sorbent based passive samplers
 - No use of polyurethane foam
 - No degradation of cVMS observed over 1 month storage time.
- Deployed on Svalbard for 2-3 months to assess/confirm cVMS LRT

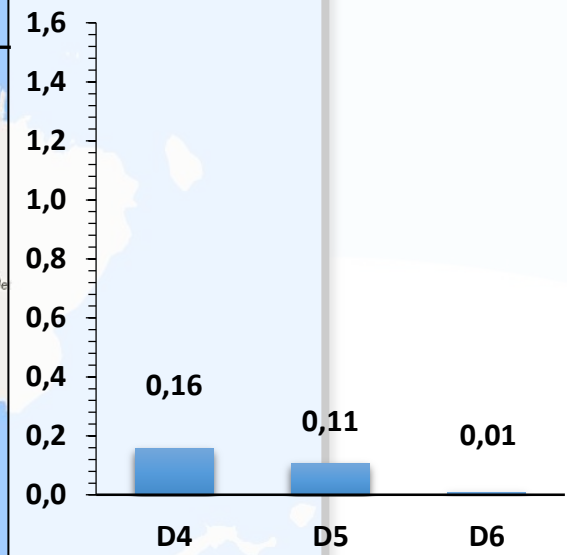




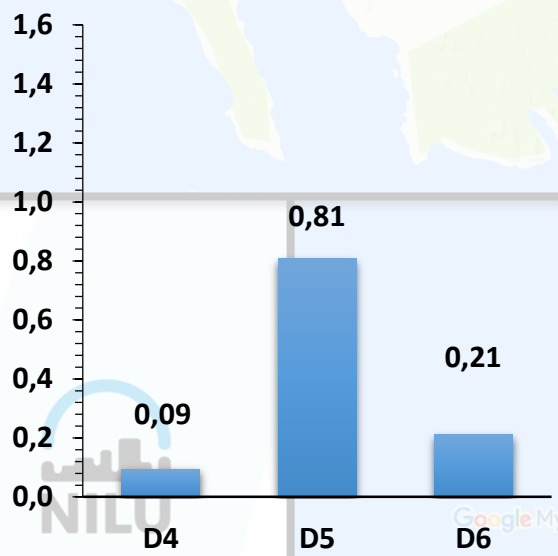
Zeppelin station (ng/m³)



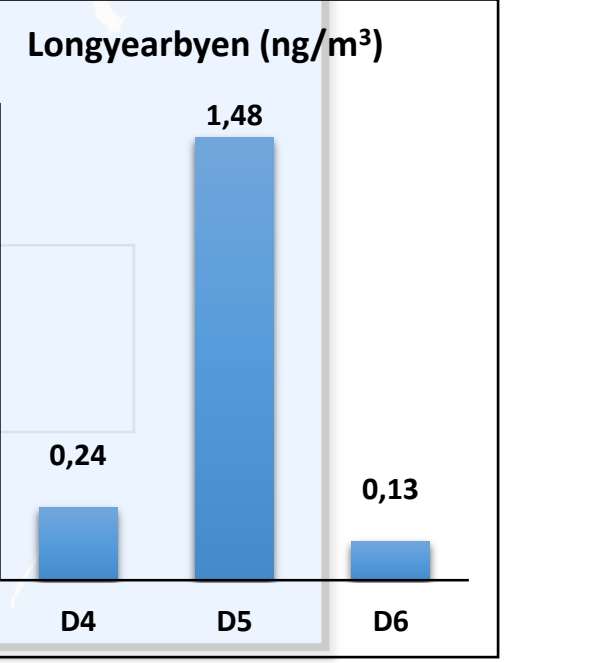
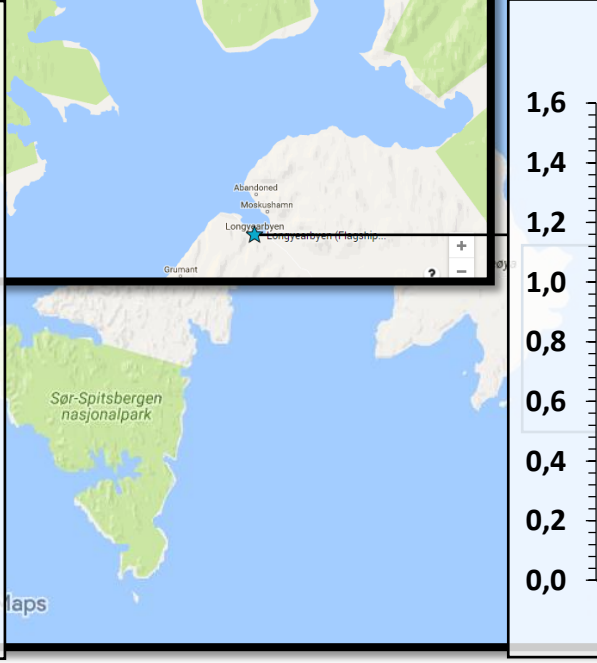
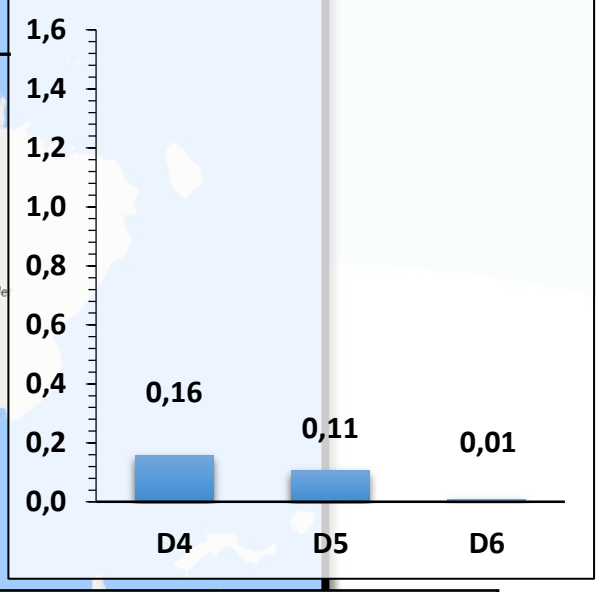
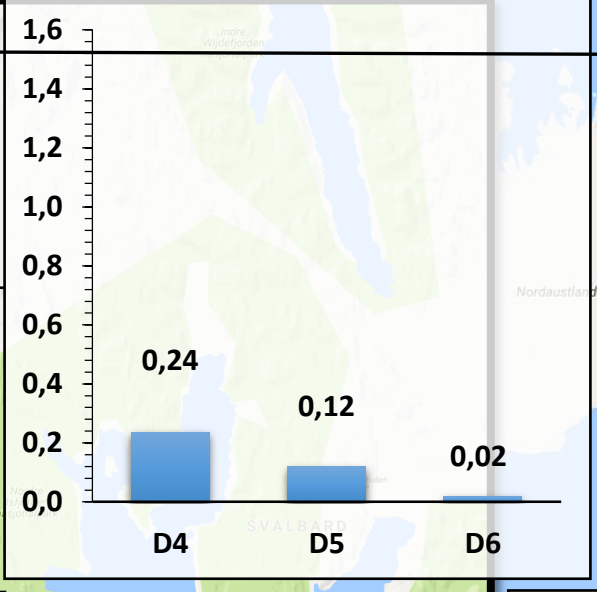
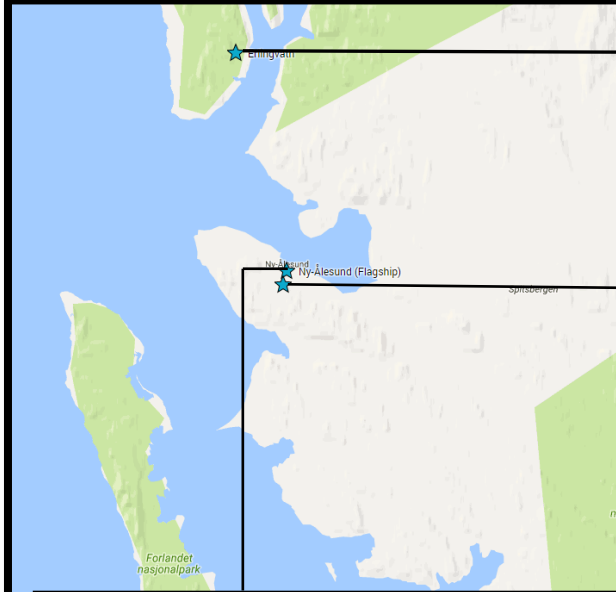
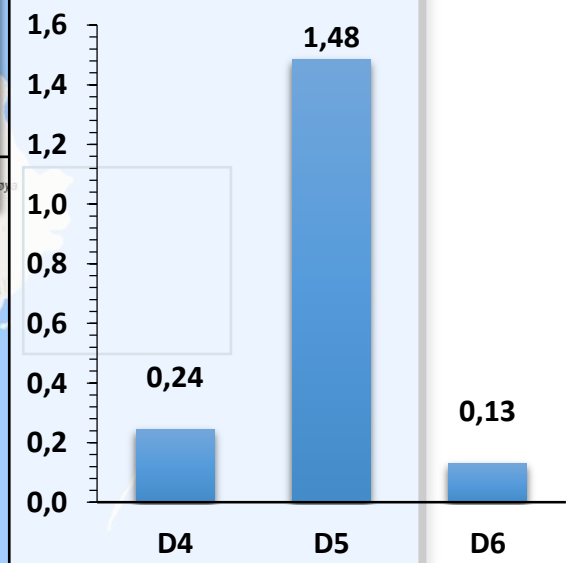
Erlingvatn (ng/m³)



Ny Ålesund (ng/m³)



Longyearbyen (ng/m³)



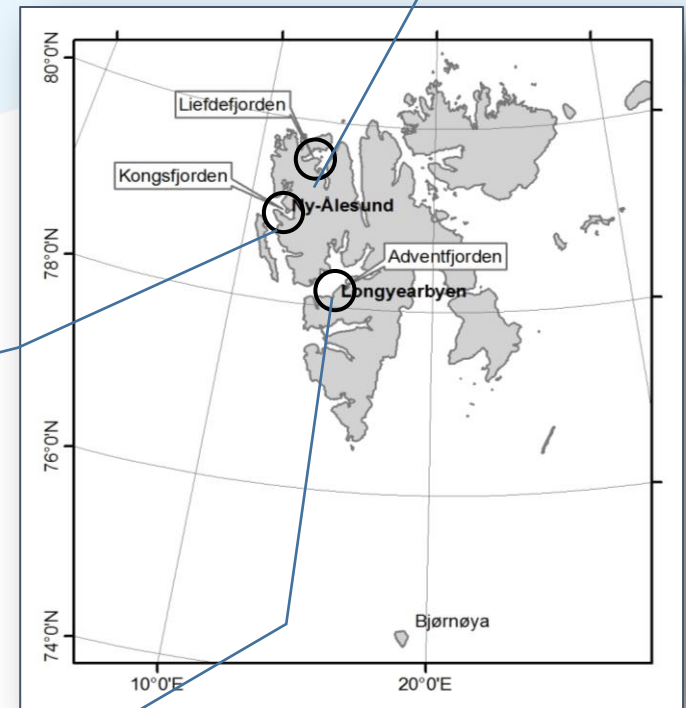
Deposition potential

- Models predict deposition of D4 will not occur in Arctic regions
- Confirmed by monitoring data
 - Sediment at remote locations

Ny Ålesund
No cVMS detected

Longyearbyen
D5: 1-2 ng/g dw
(Local source)

Liefdefjorden
No cVMS detected



the risk

Ny Ålesund

Fish liver:

D4: not detected

D5: 2 - 9 ng/g lw

D6: 1 - 16 ng/g lw

Kittiwake egg: no cVMS detected

Glauc.gull egg: **D4: 5.8 ng/g ww**

D5: 12 - 40 ng/g ww

D6: not detected

Erlingvatn (freshwater fish muscle)

No cVMS detected

Longyearbyen (fish liver)

D4: not detected

D5: 7 - 345 ng/g ww

D6: 2 - 5 ng/g ww

Bjørnøya (freshwater fish muscle)

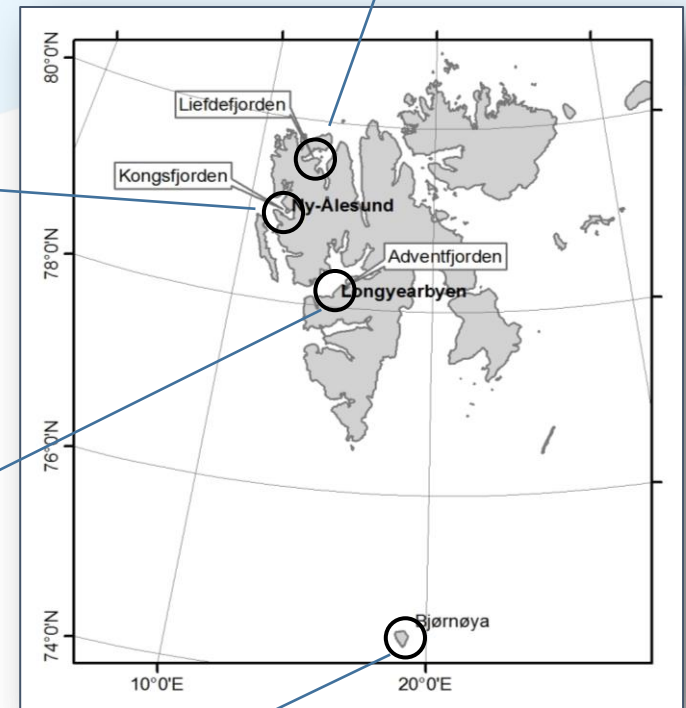
No cVMS detected

Liefdefjorden (fish liver)

D4: not detected

D5: 2 ng/g lw*

D6: 1-2 ng/g lw*



- Concentrations heavily influenced by point sources
- D4 not present in stationary biota



1. Warner *et al. Environ. Sci. Technol.* **2010**. pp 7705-7710
2. Lucia *et al. NPI report*, M-598. **2016**

Concluding remarks

- Physical/chemical properties help aid in identifying potential chemical risks to remote environments
- Current remote atmospheric data on D4 unreliable
- Improved passive sampler methodology confirms D4 LRTP potential
 - Distinguishing between local and LRTP signatures

Concluding remarks

- D4 not present in deposition media (sediment and stationary biota)
 - Confirms model predictions
 - No risk of exposure via LRT
- Does LRT potential alone dictate exposure risk in remote environments ?
 - Must see the whole picture

Acknowledgements

- The Research Council of Norway
- The Fram Centre Flagship for Hazardous Substances

Thank you for your attention