Data Paper

Kunio T. Takahashi, Ryosuke Makabe, Shintaro Takao, and Tsuneo Odate (Deceased). Marine ecosystem monitoring in the sea-ice region of Lützow-Holm Bay, off Syowa Station, during the the icebreaker *Shirase* cruise of the 60th Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition. Polar Data Journal. 2025, 9, p. 1–13. http://doi.org/10.20575/00000059.

(Received 11/6/2024; Accepted 1/13/2025)

1st submission

Editor Start Date: 11/6/2024

Editor Stop Date: 12/27/2024

Reviewer #1: (11/6/2024–11/6/2024)

Reviewer #2: (11/28/2024–12/12/2024)

Reviewer #1: Toru Hirawake

The authors well described the data from JARE 60 marine ecocsystem monitoring program in the Southern Ocean. I recommend to accept this manuscript for publication in PDJ after several corrections:

Line 21 monitoring, Line22 investigate

Other words are better because this is "a part of monitoring program" and objective is not investigation.

For example,

As part of the monitoring program of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (JARE), marine ecosystem survey in the sea-ice region of Lützow-Holm Bay, off Syowa Station, has been routinely carried out since JARE-52 (2010/11 season) to understand biological production and mechanisms in relation to sea-ice.

Line 22

Remove JARE-52 and change to "since 2010/11 season"

If you would like to remain JARE-52, please spell "JARE" out (it appear in line 27–28).

Line 32–33

Could you add any citation?

Reviewer #2: Anonymous

This manuscript is the third report for the marine ecosystem monitoring in the sea-ice region in this journal. The dataset is appropriately provided, and the report does not need major revisions. I have only minor comments.

Line 167–169: If there is a paper you used as a reference for the morphological information that distinguishes the nauplius of R. gigas from that of other Calanoida, please indicate it. If not, please indicate the morphological feature of the nauplius of R. gigas.

Line 185: Please add the reference for the splitter, Motoda (1959).

Motoda S, 1959, Devices of simple plankton apparatus, Mem Fac Fish Hokkaido Univ, Vol.7, pp.73–94.

Authors Response:

Thank you very much for your e-mail concerning our manuscript together with the comments from the two reviewers.

We found several important points to be improved before acceptance on this Journal.

We have made some minor changes (in red), according to referee's comments.

Response to reviewer #1:

The authors well described the data from JARE 60 marine ecosystem monitoring program in the Southern Ocean. I recommend to accept this manuscript for publication in PDJ after several corrections:

Line 21 monitoring, Line22 investigate

Other words are better because this is "a part of monitoring program" and objective is not investigation.

For example,

As part of the monitoring program of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (JARE), marine ecosystem survey in the sea-ice region of Lützow-Holm Bay, off Syowa Station, has been routinely carried out since JARE-52 (2010/11 season) to understand biological production and mechanisms in relation to sea-ice.

A: We agree and have changed "monitoring" to "survey" (Line 21), and "investigate" to "understand" (Line 22).

Line 22

Remove JARE-52 and chagen to "since 2010/11 season"

If you would like to remain JARE-52, please spell "JARE" out (it appear in line 27–28).

A: The word "JARE" is spelled out in the first sentence (Line 20). We hope to keep this unchanged.

Line 32–33

Could you add any citation?

A: We agree and have added the following reference; Constable et al. (2014) (Line 33).

Response to reviewer #2:

This manuscript is the third report for the marine ecosystem monitoring in the sea-ice region in this journal. The

dataset is appropriately provided, and the report does not need major revisions. I have only minor comments.

Line 167–169: If there is a paper you used as a reference for the morphological information that distinguishes the nauplius of R. gigas from that of other Calanoida, please indicate it. If not, please indicate the morphological feature of the nauplius of R. gigas.

A: Rhincalanus gigas nauplii are elongate and larger-sized than co-occurring calanoid nauplii. We have changed "morphology" to "elongate body". (Line 169)

Line 185: Please add the reference for the splitter, Motoda (1959).

Motoda S, 1959, Devices of simple plankton apparatus, Mem Fac Fish Hokkaido Univ, Vol.7, pp.73–94.

A: We agree and have added the following reference; Motoda (1959). (Line 185)

We hope that our revisions will improve the manuscript to your agreement.

2nd submission

Editor Start Date: 1/6/2025

Editor Stop Date: 1/13/2025

Editorial Office's note

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