

WP1.1. Analyses of the fjords physical environment variability based on the archival hydrographic data



Agnieszka Promińska Institute of Oceanology PAS, Centre for Polar Studies

Publications

- Promińska et al. Interannual variability in hydrography and water mass distribution in Hornsund, an Arctic fjord on Svalbard. Polar Research, in review.
- Kongsfjorden and Hornsund hydrography a multiyear survey on fjords under different drivers, in prep.

Distribution of temperature along Hornsund between summers 2001-2014



201

150

200

250

15.5°E

2014

16°E



Distribution of temperature along Hornsund between summers 2001-2014



15.2°E 15.4°E 15.6°E 15.8°E 16°E 16.2°E 16.4°E

Distribution of water masses along Hornsund in summer 2001-2014



Changes in water temperature and salinity in summers 2001-2015



Cold events in summers 2010 and 2011













Impact of sea ice conditions (July 2011)



Typical ice conditions

- Fast ice starts to form in late Autumn (November) – mainly in Brepollen and other bays of Hornsund
- Main basin usually covered with pack ice carried by the Sørkapp Current from the Barents Sea
- The ice season in the fjord lasts until May or beginning of June when the drifting ice is blowing out from the fjord

inflow of sea ice from the Barents Sea
 observed twice in Hornsund in July 2011
 (Kruszewski 2012)

Extremely warm event in summer 2014





Topographic steering of Atlantic Water into the fjord due to massive flooding of West Spitsbergen Shelf



Temperature and salinity distribution along section N

Lack of Winter Cooled Water in summer 2012 and extreme minimum in summer 2014





Lack/minimum of WCW in summers 2012 and 2014 connected with weak winter ice conditions due to extremely warm winters 2011/2012 and 2013/2014

Data of DFI are taken from Muckenhuber et al. 2016

Temperature distribution along Kongsfjorden in summers 2001-2014

















11°E 11.2°E 11.6°E 11.8°E 12°E 12.2°E 12.4°E 11 4°F



Pressure [db] 200

100

200

300

11°E

300



11.2°E 11.4°E 11.6°E 11.8°E 12°E 12.2°E 12.4°E

Potential Temperature [degC]

Potential Temperature [degC]

2003



400 11°E 11.2°E 11.4°E 11.6°E 11.8°E 12°E 12.2°E 12.4°E



11°E 11.2°E 11.4°E 11.6°E 11.8°E 12°E 12.2°E 12.4°E





Temperature distribution along Kongsfjorden in summers 2001-2014



Distribution of water masses along Kongsfjorden in summers 2001-2014



11.8°E

12°E

11.2°E 11.4°E 11.6°E 11.8°E 12°E 12.2°E

11.2°E 11.4°E 11.6°E 11.8°E 12°E 12.2°E 12.4°E

11°E

Hornsund vs Kongsfjorden



- Long-term mean T: 1.79°C
 2.75°C
- Long-term mean S:
 34.00 34.53

All data Mean ΔT: 1.07°C Mean ΔS: 0.57

Main Basin Mean ΔT: 0.81°C Mean ΔS: 0.49

Fjords geometry



Bathymetry of cross section (a) and along fjord section (b) in Hornsund (blue) and Kongsfjorden (red).

	Hornsund	Kongsfjorden
Length (km)	35	29
Width (km)	2-12	8-10
Area (km ²)	320	237
Volume (km ³)	29	~38

Arctic Front position



Węsławski et al., in review, Journal of Marine Systems

Changing Arctic



Source: http://www.sat.dundee.ac.uk/



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