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Question: Corresponding wet weight should be shown in the text, to compare with those of zooplankton (approximately, 200–600 ? mg w.w.m-3). In that case, please cite the reference for the Organic matter/Chl ratio used for the wet weight calculation

Answer: the ecosystem model outputs are expressed in *mmol N* m^{-3}, the conversion to the *mg wet weight* unit is carried out using the ratios: C:N of 133/17, C:chl of 50 and the relationship between the nitrogen and the wet weight defined by Yamaguchi et al. (2005) for North western Pacific plankton as follow:

$$log_{10}(X[mgNm^{-3}]) = -2.57 + 1.26log_{10}(M[mgwwm^{-3}])$$

Where ***M*** is the mass that we want to convert and ***X*** is the result of this conversion. By simplifying this equation we obtain:

$$X[mgwwm^{-3}] = 10^{\left(\frac{log_{10}(M[mgNm^{-3}])+2.57}{1.26}\right)}$$

So : 1 mg N m^{-3} → 110 mg ww m^{-3}

$\frac{12*133}{14*17}$ mg C m^{-3} → 110 mg ww m^{-3}

1 mg C m^{-3} → 16 mg ww m^{-3}
1/50 mg C m^{-3} → 16 mg ww m^{-3}

1 mg chl-a m^{-3} → 800 mg ww m^{-3}

So, to compare the chl-a concentrations reported in Fig.3 with the zooplankton biomasses expressed in *mg wet weight* m^{-3}, one has to multiply these values by a factor of 800.

Reference: Yamaguchi, A., Watanabe, Y., Ishida, H., Harimoto, T., Maeda, M., Ishizaka, J., ... & Mac Takahashi, M. (2005). Biomass and chemical composition of net-plankton down to greater depths (0–5800m) in the western North Pacific ocean. *Deep Sea Research Part I: Oceanographic Research Papers*, *52*(2), 341-353.