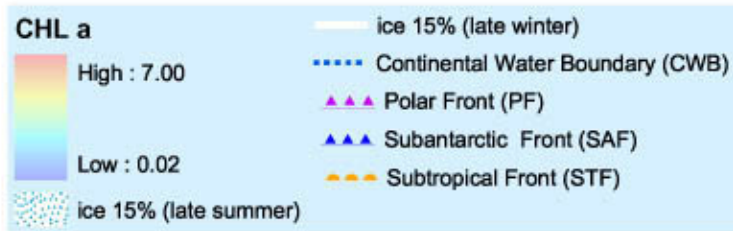
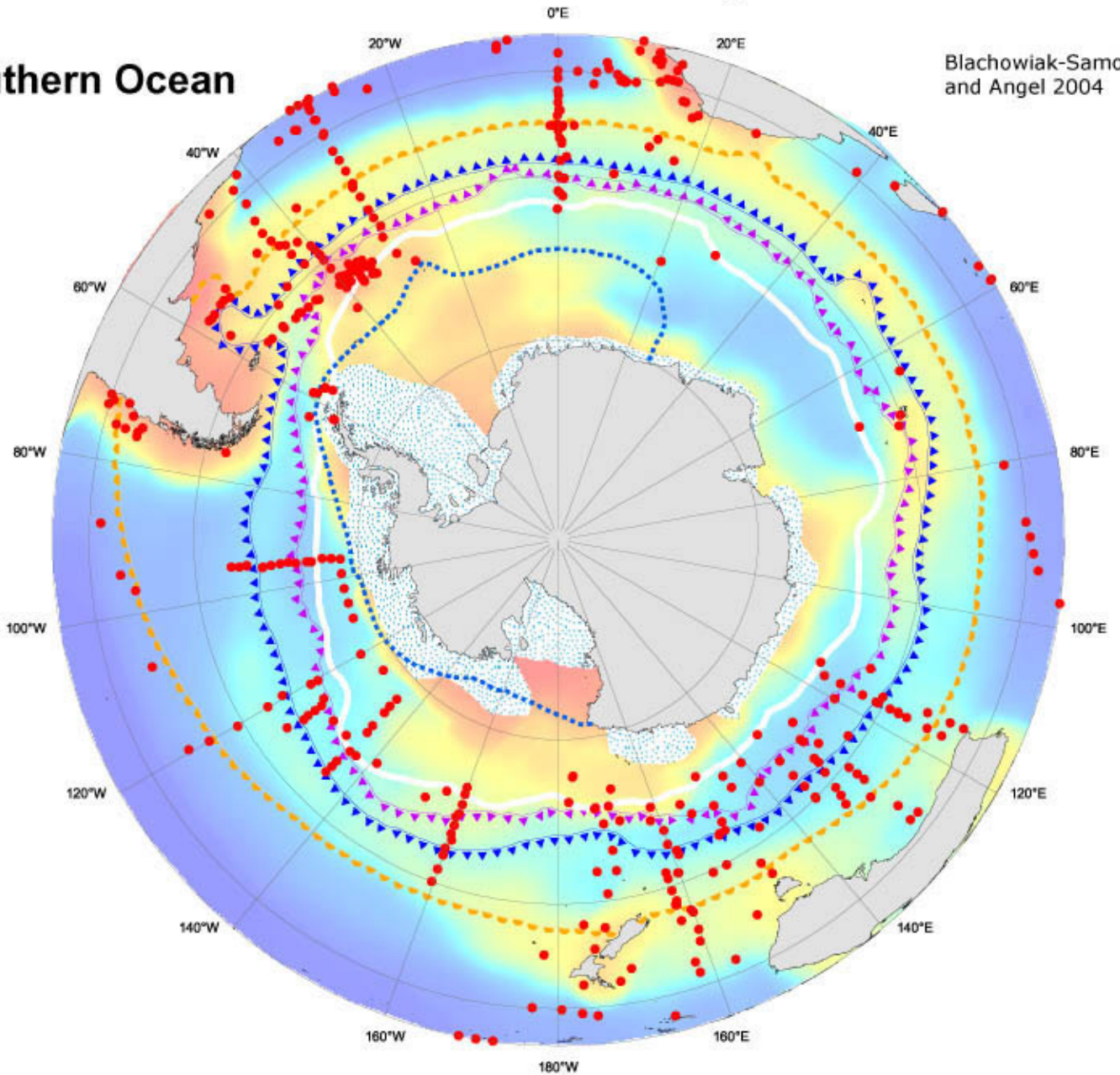


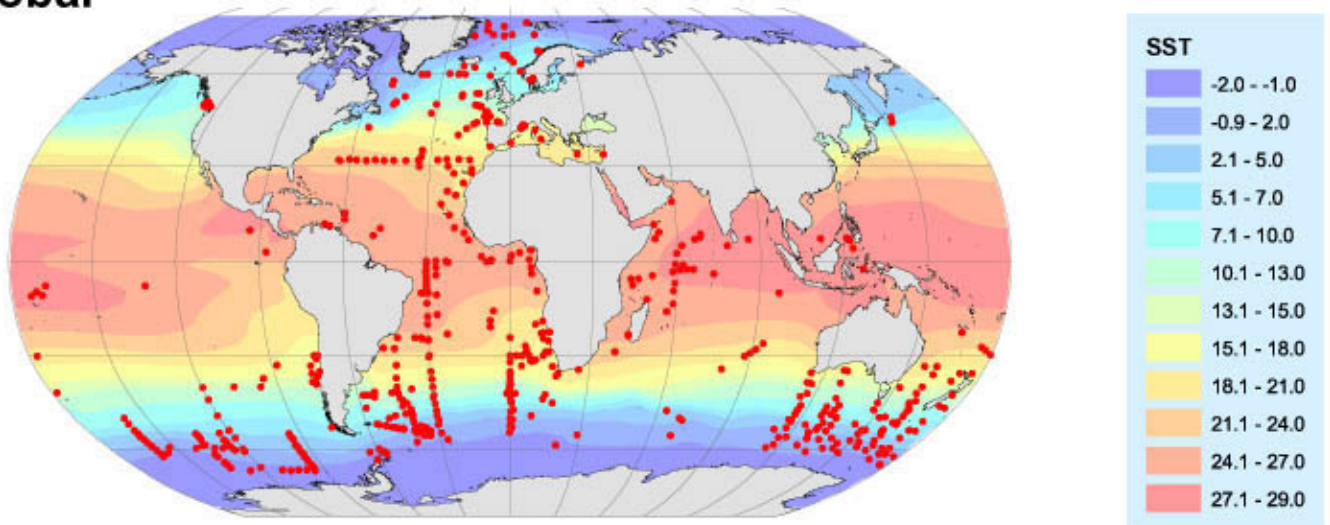
● *Discoconchoecia elegans*

Southern Ocean

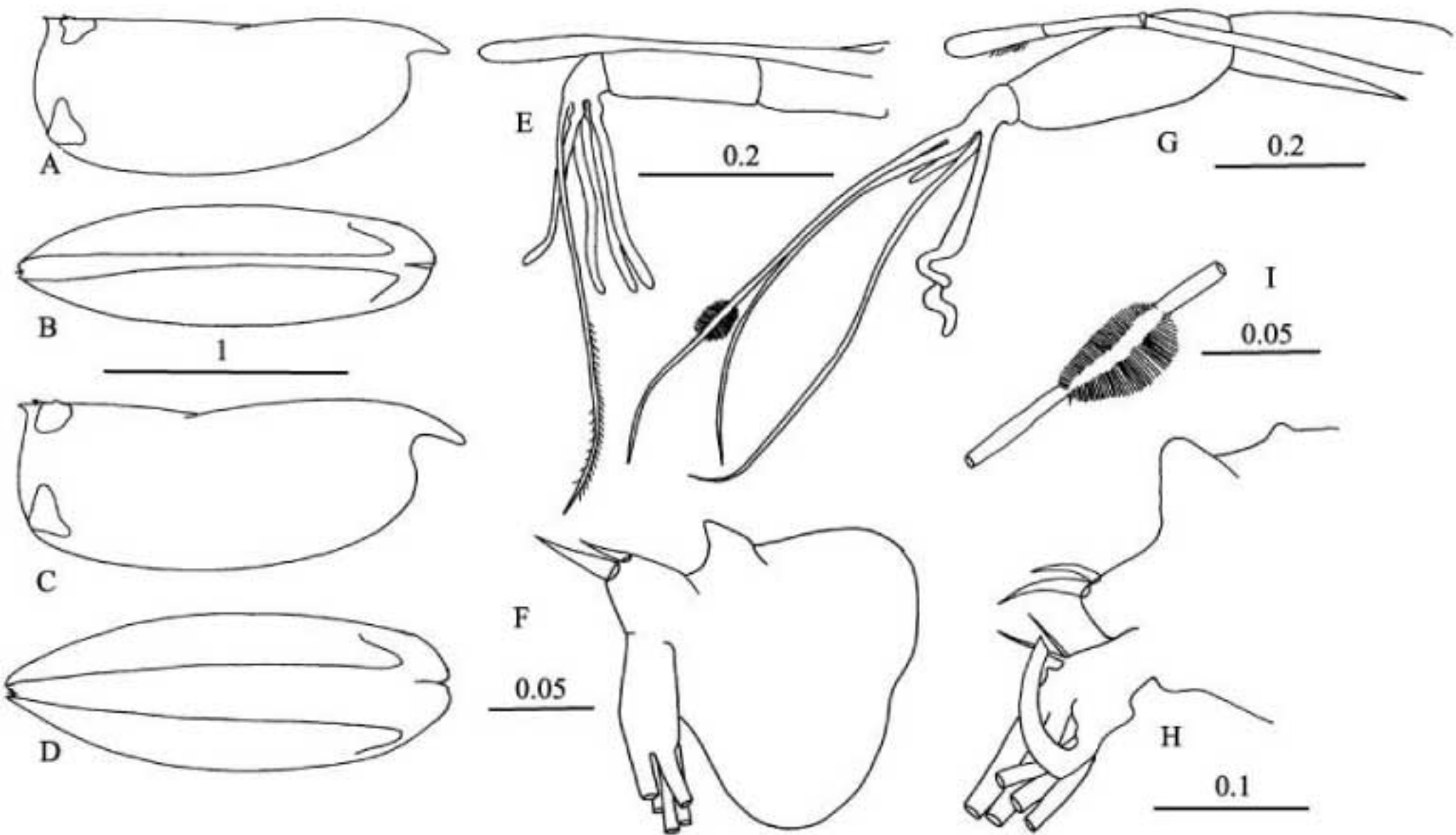
Blachowiak-Samolyk and Angel 2004



Global



Discoconchoecia elegans



Key to drawings

Adult carapaces (A,B females, C,D males)

Details of the first antennae and frontal organs and the endopodite of the left second antennae of females (E and F) and males (G and H)

Details of the armature of the male first antenna setae (I)

Discoconchoecia elegans (Sars, 1866)

Records: 594

A common and abundant mesopelagic species that shows marked latitudinal variations in carapace length, which is probably indicative of the occurrence of cryptic species.

Originally described from North Atlantic off the Lofoten Islands (Northwest coast of Norway), there are common Southern Ocean forms that superficially look very similar. Other than size, the morphological characteristics of the first and second antennae, which are classically used to separate halocyprid species, provide no evidence to support the separation of these size forms into separate species. The characteristics of the other limbs require investigation. If these different size forms do not prove to be different taxa, then this species will be confirmed as a rare example of a species that occurs ubiquitously throughout most of the World's oceans.

Southern Ocean	n	Mean mm	s.d.	Range mm
Female	187	1.638	0.060	1.52-1.84
Male	92	1.756	0.023	1.60-1.66
A-1	174	1.452	0.035	1.36-1.56
A-2	113	1.197	0.045	1.10-1.32
A-3	71	0.936	0.064	0.74-1.02

Benguela Current	n	Mean mm	s.d.	Range mm
Female	150	1.356	0.055	1.20-1.46
Male	86	1.265	0.034	1.20-1.34
A-1	185	1.044	0.057	0.86-1.14
A-2	59	0.741	0.038	0.64-0.82
A-3				

Equatorial Atlantic	n	Mean mm	s.d.	Range mm
Female	2080	1.229	0.052	1.10-1.38
Male	545	1.240	0.057	1.02-1.38
A-1	310	1.026	0.029	0.98-1.08
A-2	440	0.900	0.049	0.70-0.96
A-3				