

Operational Directorate Natural Environment (RBINS)

// Website research group

<http://odnature.naturalsciences.be/home>



Research Vessel



Sampling, observation & survey infrastructure



Satellites & (airborne) remote sensing capacity



Experimental facilities & analysis capacity



Data & information management and computing infrastructure



Logistics

Infrastructure Categories	Infrastructure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RV Belgica (regional vessel) (http://odnature.naturalsciences.be/belgica/n) ¹ • RHIB Tuimelaar ¹
	<p>Ship-based instrumentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries laboratory ¹ • A wet laboratory for the distribution and prior treatment of the samples ¹ • Chemistry laboratory ¹ • Biochemistry laboratory ¹ • Microbiology laboratory ¹ <p>CTD equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea-Bird SBE19 CTD (2x) ¹ • Sea-Bird SBE9plus CTD (2x) ¹ • Sea-Bird SBE21 thermosalinograph (2x) ¹ <p>Water sampling equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea-Bird model 32 carousel for 12 10 liter Niskin bottles (2x) ¹ • Various Niskin and Go-Flo water sampling bottles ¹ <p>Sediment sampling equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boxcorer NIOZ model ¹ • Van Veen grab, Reineck corer ¹ • Bowers & Connelly multicorer ¹ <p>Biological sampling equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benthic sledge ¹ • High speed encased Gulfstream Plankton sampler ¹ • 3 m trawl with shrimp net ¹ <p>Depth measuring equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kongsberg EM3002D shallow water multibeam echosounder system ¹ • Kongsberg EA400 with 33, 38 and 210 kHz transducer ¹ • Auxiliary sensors: Seatex MRU5 motion sensor, Valeport miniSVS sound velocity sensor, Applied Microsystems SVplus sound velocity profiler ¹ <p>Seawater current measurements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hull mounted Teledyne RDI ADCP model Workhorse Mariner 300 kHz Teledyne RDI ADCP model ¹ • Workhorse sentinel 1,200 kHz for deployment on tripod or TRBM (trawl resistant Bottom Mount) ¹ • Valeport model 106 velocimeter ¹ <p>Autonomous Underway Measurement System (AUMS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parameters measured by the AUMS: turbidity, oxygen, pH, chlorophyll, blue algae, CDOM, salinity, pCO₂, fluorescence, Par, hyperspectral irradiance, NO₃, NH₃, PO₄, SiO₂ and NO₂ ¹
	<p>Fixed platforms, moorings and landers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to three tripods equipped with measuring instruments can be deployed from the RV Belgica. The available instruments are: SonTek Acoustic Doppler Velocimeter ADVOcean 5 MHz, SonTek ADP 3 MHz acoustic Doppler profiler, Sea-Bird SBE37 CT system, Campbell Scientific OBS-3+ turbidity sensor, Nortek Aquadopp current profiler, Sequoia Scientific LISST-100X (Laser In-Situ Scattering and Transmissometer), Aquascat 1000 ABS (Acoustic Backscatter System) ^{2,3} • Artificial Hard Substrate Garden deployed in Belgian waters
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airplane: Britten Norman Islander for airborne surveillance of the North Sea • Processing of satellite imagery of various sensors: e.g. NOAA AVHRR, SeaWiFS, MERIS, MODIS, CHRIS.

	Overview	   
	Type of laboratory / analyses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine biology • Marine chemistry: Nutrient, POP, organic and inorganic carbon parameters, physical parameters. • Molecular laboratory analyses
	Class or accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine biology - none • Marine chemistry - NEN/ISO 17025
	Analysis equipment, services and techniques	<p>Equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FWB: Thermoshakers, microcentrifuges, flow, incubators, PCR machines, Sanger capillary sequencer, Nanodrop, qbit, agarose gel electrophoresis equipment, digital foto documentation, tissue analyser, DNA fragment selector (pipin) • GC-MS • GC-QqQ • UPLC-Fluorescence • Skalar autoanalyser • Salinometer • ASE extractor • GPC chromatography • Automated water extractor • Bullet blender homogenisers • Ball mill • Lyophiliser <p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Taxonomic Reference Centre: taxonomic expertise • DNA and RNA extraction from various sources (animals, plants, sediments, open water) and from recent & ancient samples • DNA barcoding • Phylogenetic reconstructions • Biodiversity estimates
	Aquaculture experimental facilities	Temperature- and light-controlled rooms and culture chambers

	Num. models, spec. software and comp. IR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COHERENS Aquatic Modelling System (http://odnature.naturalsciences.be/<i>coherens/</i>)¹ • OMNECS Hypas refra, scheld • optos_cms, optos_nos, optos_bcz based on COHERENS V1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • optos_cms, optos_nos, optos_bcz based on COHERENS V2 • WAM • optos_adi • OSERIT • float • HNS-MS
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	VW van and Isuzu jeep & 2 trailers ⁴
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