

## Presentation of MAR-ECO Students

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**Working title of project:** Distribution and ecology of dolphin species on the mid-Atlantic Ridge.

**Summary of Project:** Knowledge on dolphin behaviour, feeding- and temperature preferences and ecology is generally very low. During the MAR-ECO cruise in summer 2004, detailed dolphin observations were made along the mid-Atlantic Ridge (MAR) from Iceland to the Azores.

The observations shall be analysed statistically in relation to hydrographical data, such as temperature, depth, bottom slope and time of day in order to obtain information on habitat choice, temperature-preferences and general ecology of different dolphin species.

Feeding preferences shall be analysed by combining acoustic and biological data from the depths where the dolphins most likely find their prey, including the Deep Scattering Layer. Mesopelagic fish is probably an important food source for dolphins in the open ocean.