

## Data Description for **zooplankton.csv**

This dataset provides a more streamlined record of zooplankton sampling, focusing primarily on **geospatial, volume, and biomass measurements** rather than detailed biological classifications.

### Columns:

1. **cruise** – Numeric cruise identifier.
2. **ship** – Name of the research vessel.
3. **ship\_code** – Ship code associated with the vessel.
4. **order\_occupied** – Order of sampling event within the cruise.
5. **tow\_type** – Type of tow used (e.g., C1, which may indicate a specific net deployment method).
6. **tow\_number** – Sequential tow number within the station.
7. **net\_location** – Classification of net placement (e.g., surface or subsurface tow).
8. **time** – Date-time of the sampling event in ISO 8601 format.
9. **latitude** – Latitude coordinate of the sampling station.
10. **longitude** – Longitude coordinate of the sampling station.
11. **line** – Station line number, representing transects.
12. **station** – Specific station number along a line.
13. **volume\_sampled** – Volume of water filtered during sampling (m<sup>3</sup>).
14. **small\_plankton** – Count of small plankton observed in the sample.
15. **total\_plankton** – Total plankton count observed in the sample.

### Dataset Summary:

- Contains **45,310 rows** and **15 columns**.
- Focuses on **geospatial sampling metadata and total plankton counts**.
- Lacks **detailed biological species counts** (e.g., no egg or larvae data).
- Uses **ISO 8601 timestamp format** for `time` column.
- More **compact and standardized** compared to `zooplankton.csv`.