

INTAROS Joint Assessment of Scientific and Community-Based Observation Programs



Photo: E. Topp-Jørgensen

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INTAROS* Joint Assessment of Scientific and Community-Based Observation Programs

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*Integrated Arctic Observation System project

Why are observations needed?

Observations in the Arctic are needed

- to **understand** geophysical & socio-ecological changes
- to **plan** adaptation strategies, and
- to sustainably **manage** the environment

What did we do?

Different language and methodology by scientific and non-scientific communities often hamper exchange and usability of observations

We collected **metadata** on community-based and scientific observing programs using a **common questionnaire** in order to assess gaps and strengths in the observing systems

RESULTS 1

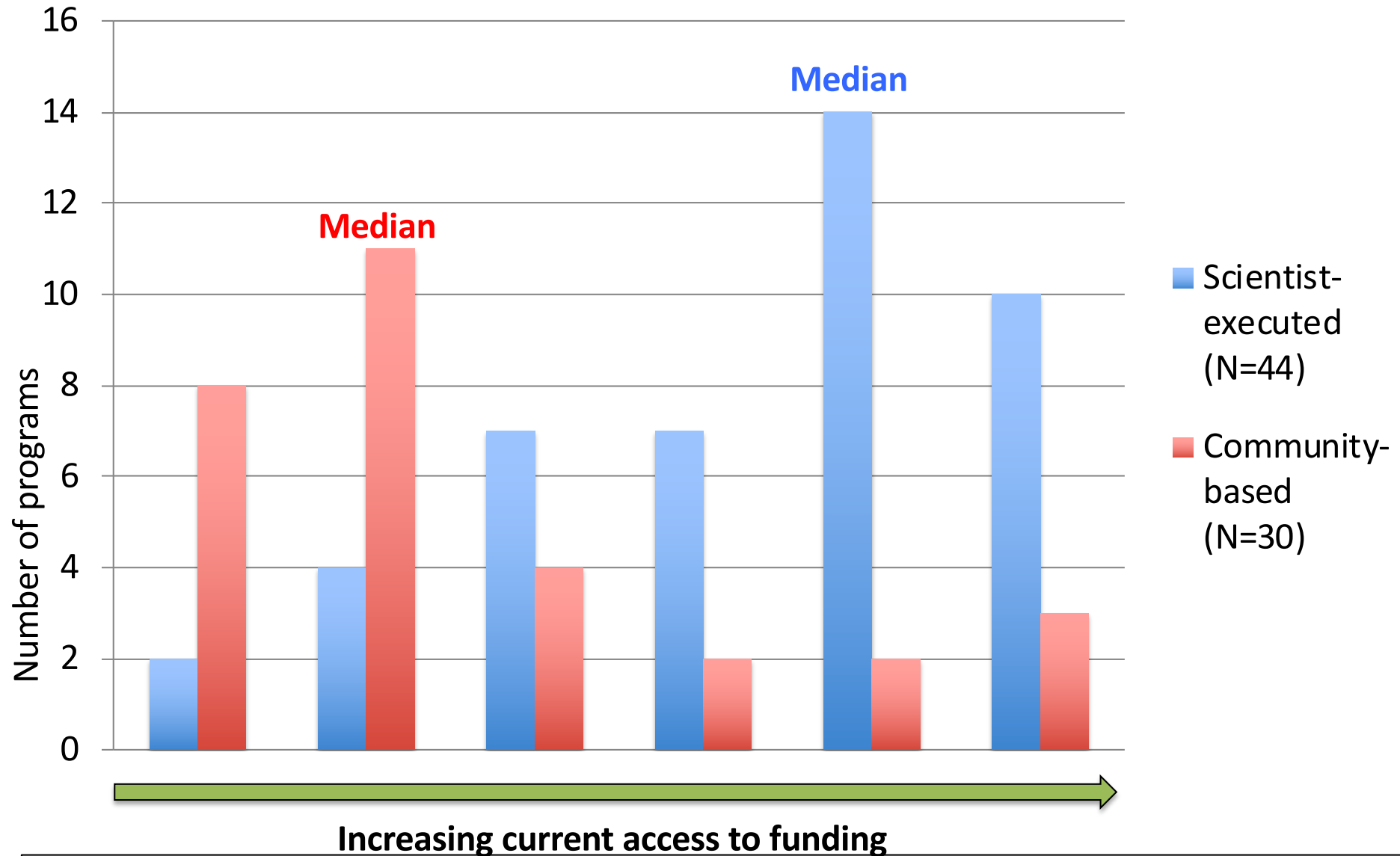
What did we find?

Community-based observations rarely belong to long-term sustained programs



Photo: H. Eicken

Current access to funding



Level definition: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScIggYNg53zX3A9ikx8vKN6Qhj7oo7SHvj47dw9u1Me80tmrg/viewform>

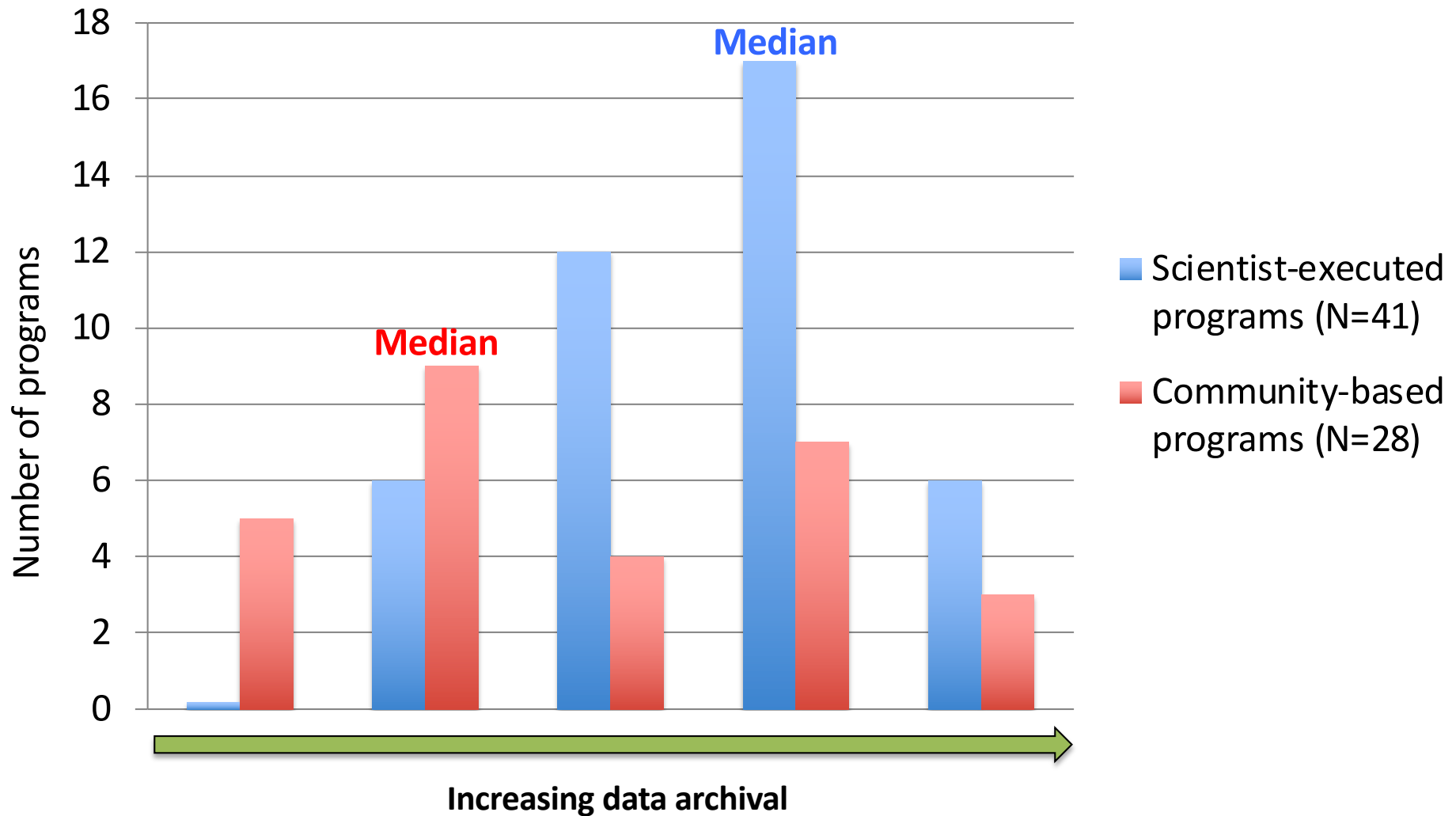
What did we find?

Community-based observations suffer from lack of long-term preservation strategies more severely than science-based observing systems



Photo: M. Fidel

Long-term data preservation



What did we find?

Many science-based marine observations are collected only during the summer season. Community-based observations are less prone to temporal gaps

Community-based monitoring efforts can help **increase observational coverage** in space and time with often low-cost approaches, while also adding value through the introduction of **holistic** perspectives – such as Indigenous knowledge-based – into the observing process

Conclusions

Despite the differences in method and language between community- and science-based programs, our assessment methodology:

- enabled the **comparison**, and
- the **integration** of the metadata

Comments and suggestions are welcome!

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