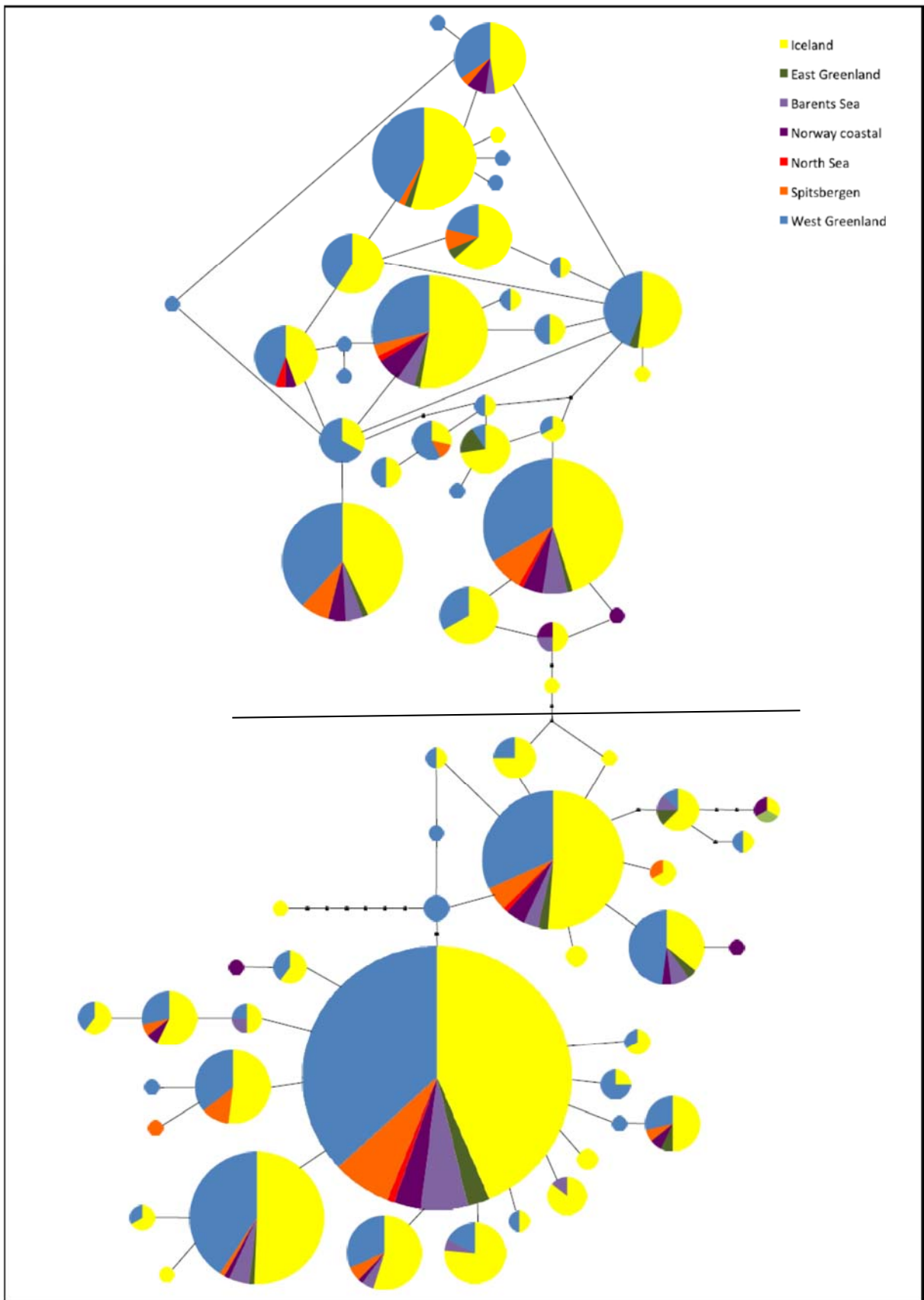


Addendum to SC-65b-RMP09: Mitochondrial haplotype network of NA Minke whales



Mitochondrial network for NA-minke whales (n=1215). Circles represent haplotypes, size is according to absolute frequency of the type, colour code represents origin. Small black dots indicate missing haplotypes.

The haplotype network of 1215 minke whales from the entire North Atlantic shows the existence of two mitochondrial lineages which could be tentatively defined as indicated by the black line. According to the colour code, there is no evident spatial pattern, neither in the occurrence of these two lineages nor in the prevalence of any of the more abundant haplotypes in any area. Note, however, that some less abundant haplotypes preferentially or entirely occurred in single areas or in defined combinations of areas (in particular, Western Greenland and Iceland, light blue and yellow in the figure). This may be partially explained by the larger sample size from these two areas (table 2). However, it is also compatible with some matrilineality in NA-minke whales. An analysis of whether there is any difference in the unlinked 16 microsatellites among these two mitochondrial lineages is underway. Any difference which might be found among the mtDNA lineages may point to some divergence at breeding sites, but would be cryptic with regard to geographic occurrence on the feeding grounds.