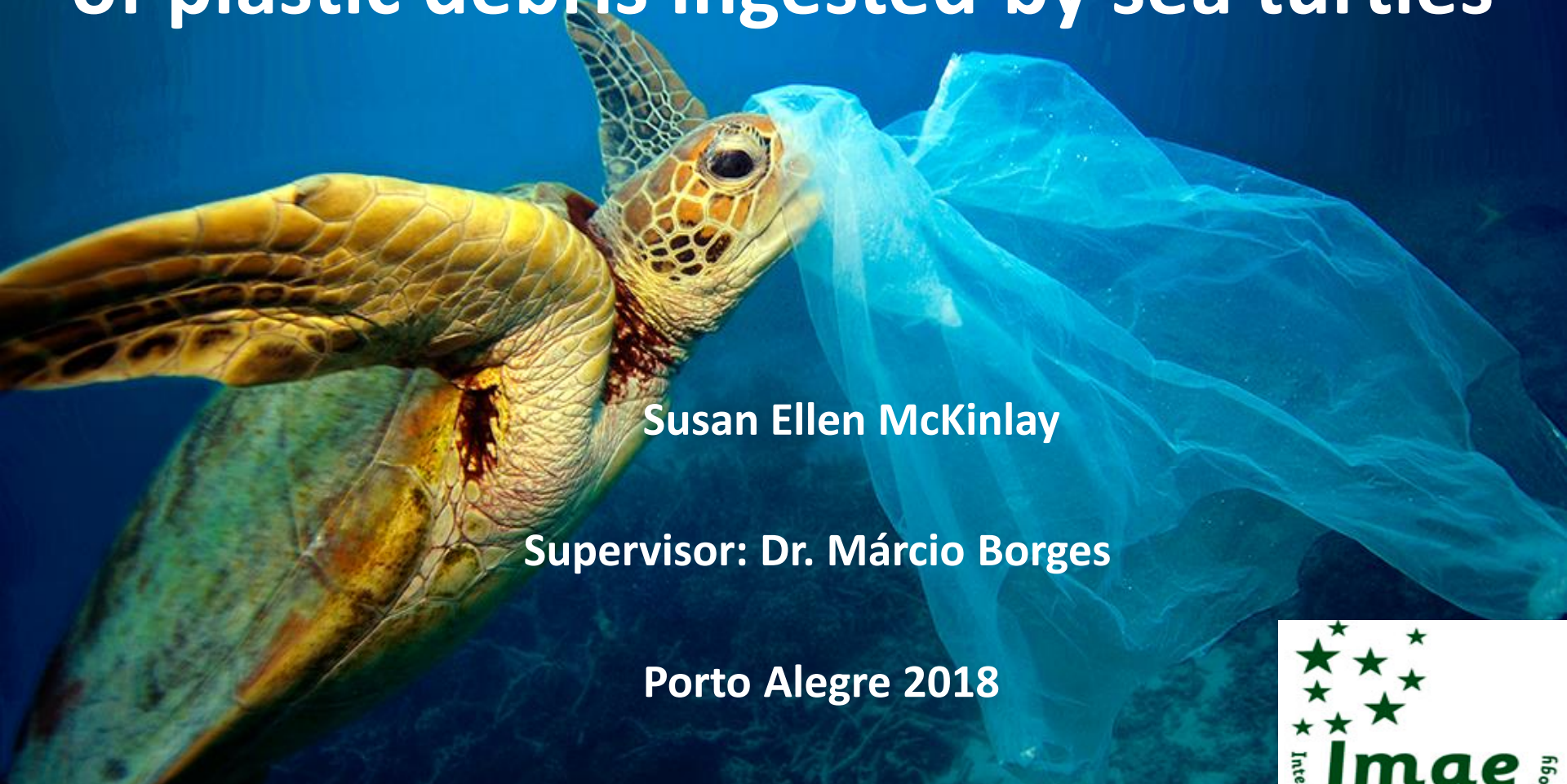


# Bridging the gap: reviewing classification of plastic debris ingested by sea turtles



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[Retrieved from <https://www.cawrecycles.org/recycling-news/turtlebags>]

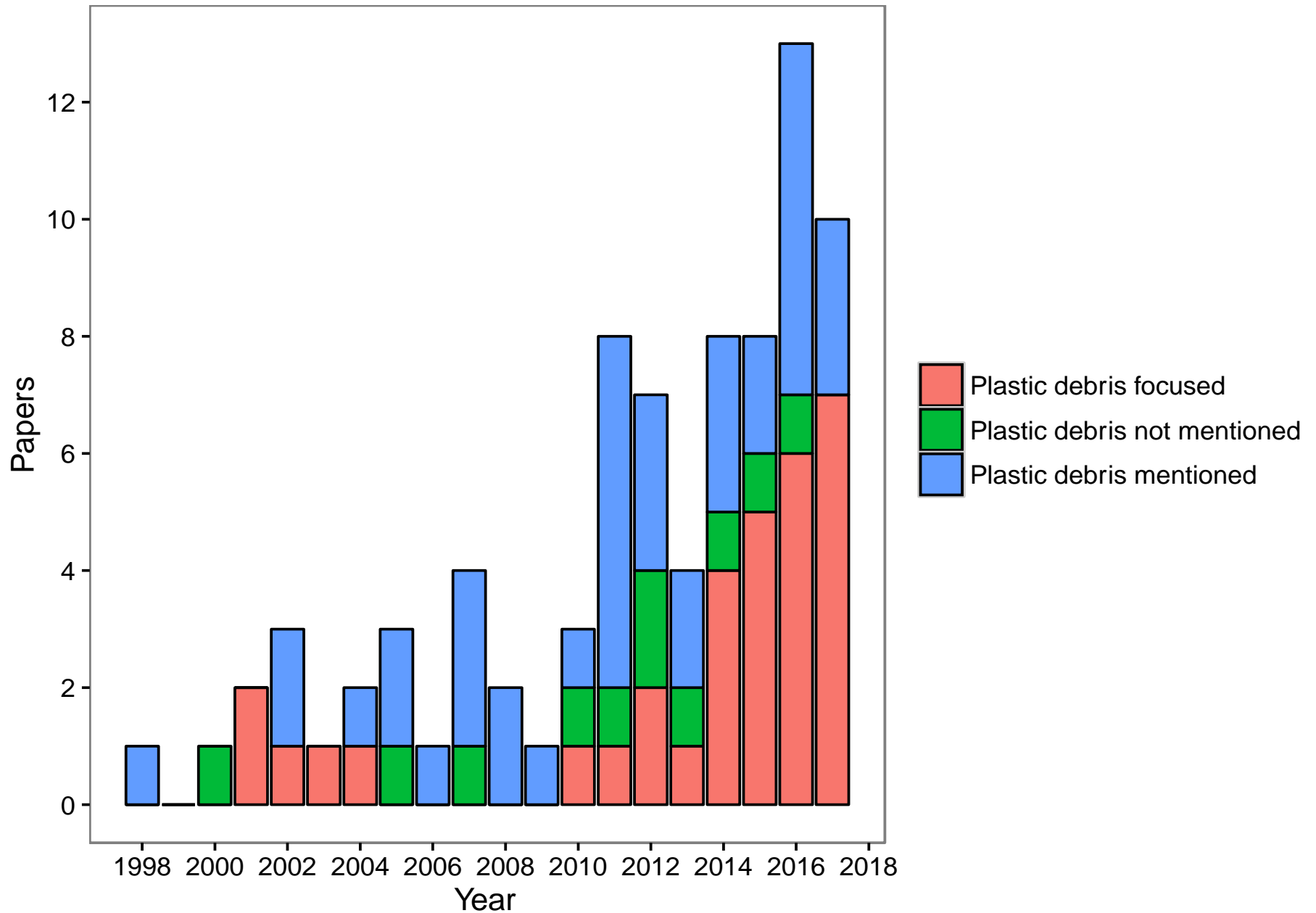


# LITERATURE REVIEW

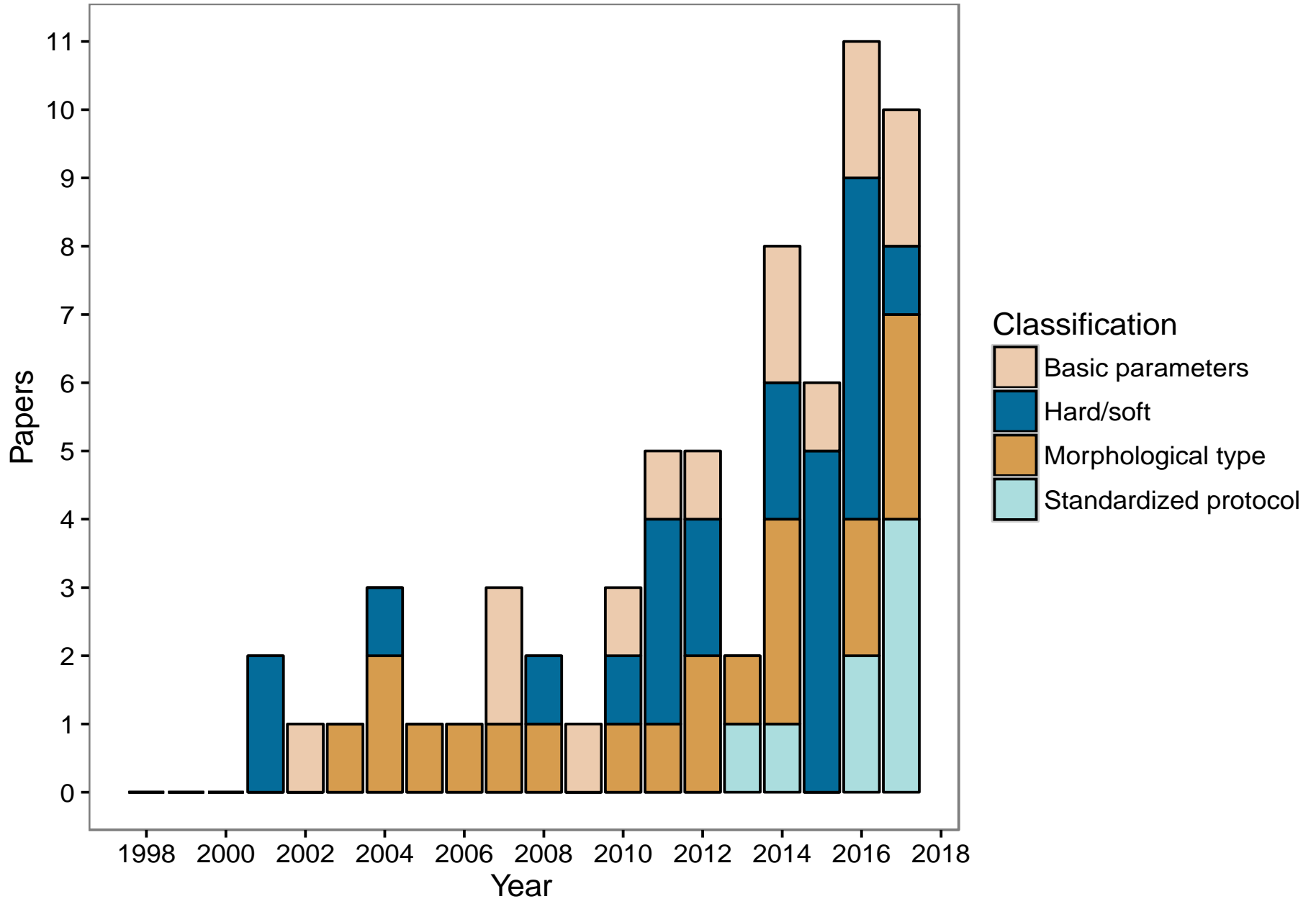
- Literature review with Google Scholar from **1998** to **2017** of all papers studying marine turtle diet
- **Keywords:** *sea/marine turtle AND marine debris OR plastic OR diet AND foraging ecology*
- Review of methods used to classify ingested plastic debris



# RESULTS

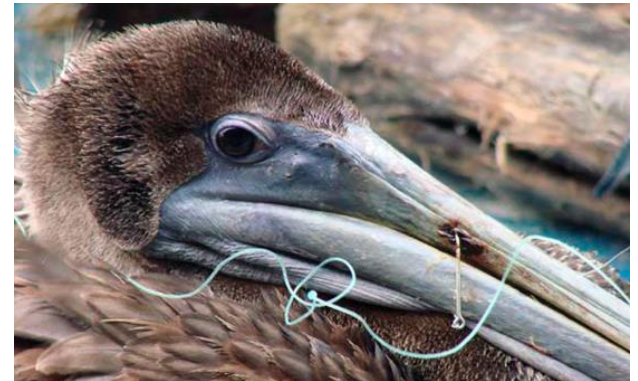


# RESULTS



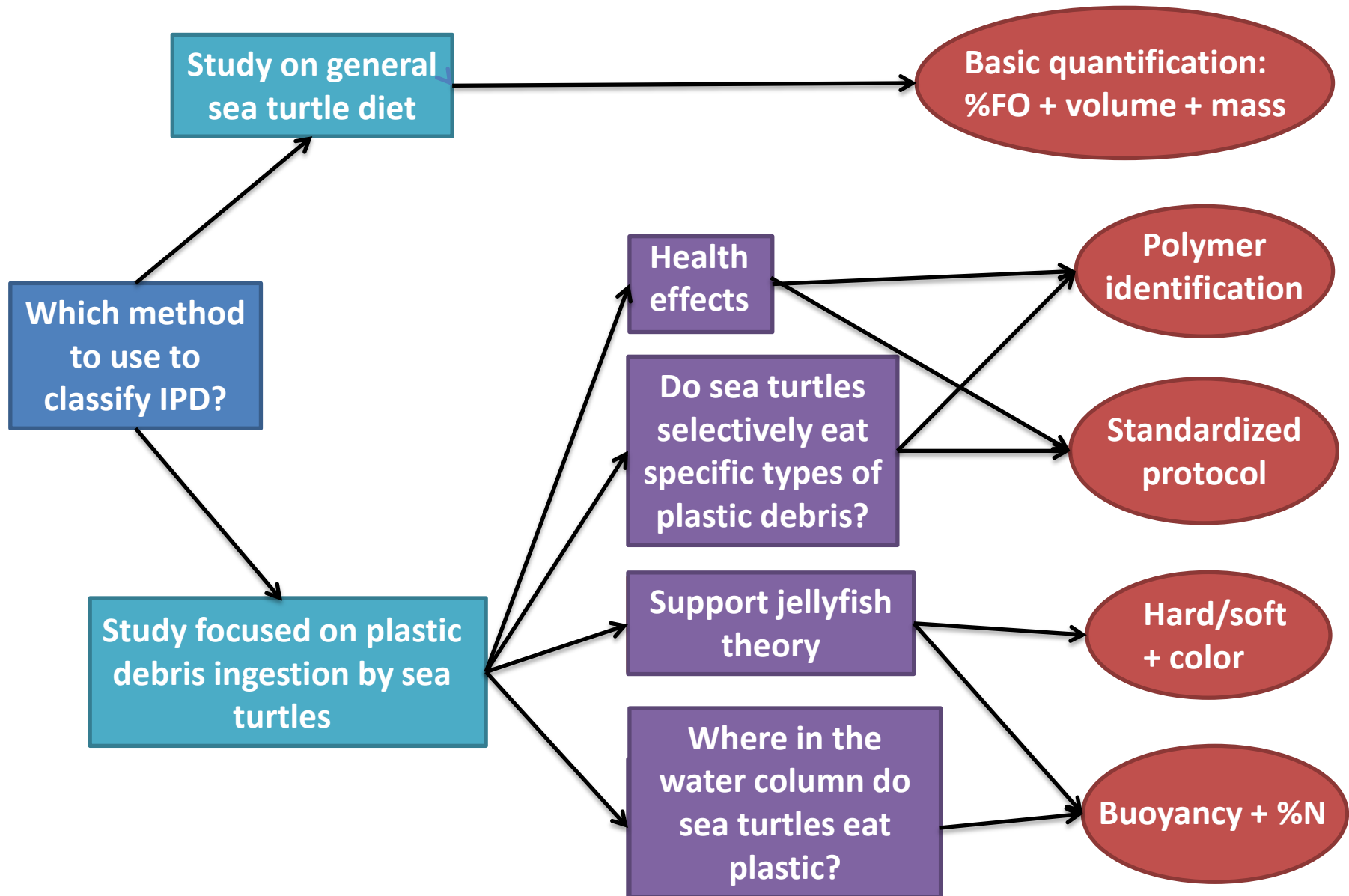
# TERMINOLOGY

- **Plastic foam** -> Styrofoam (brand), polystyrene
- **Rope** -> nylon, monofilament, polypropylene, fishing line
- **Plastic sheet** -> plastic bag, cellophane, flexible plastic, packaging plastic





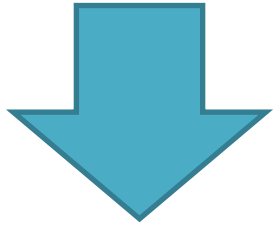
# DECISION-MAKING TREE



# PROTOCOLS

## STUDIES ON PLASTIC DEBRIS INGESTION BY SEA TURTLES

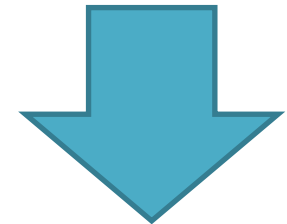
- Basic parameters
- Hard/soft plastic
- Morphological type



**MORPHOLOGICAL  
CHARACTERISTICS**

## STUDIES ON OCEAN PLASTIC POLLUTION

- Density-based
- CHN analysis
- Burn test
- Spectrometry



**PHYSICAL-CHEMICAL  
CHARACTERISTICS**

**Bridging the gap**

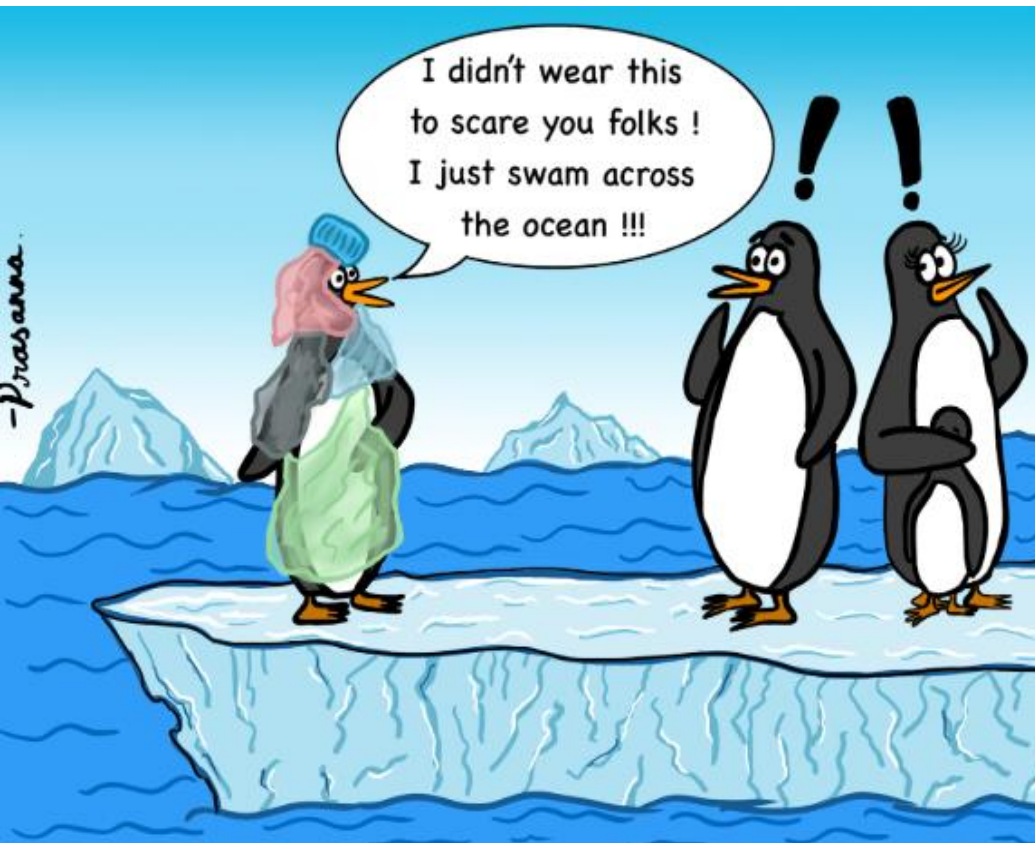


# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE STUDIES

- Use of **standardized** methods fit to the purpose of the study
- **Incorporate** diet analysis with ingested plastic debris studies to understand feeding preferences of the local population
- Study the foraging behavior of sea turtles through **direct observation**



# THANK YOU! ANY QUESTIONS?



Thank you UNEP's RAC/SPA. the Bern Convention, IUCN and the 6<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles for the travel grant