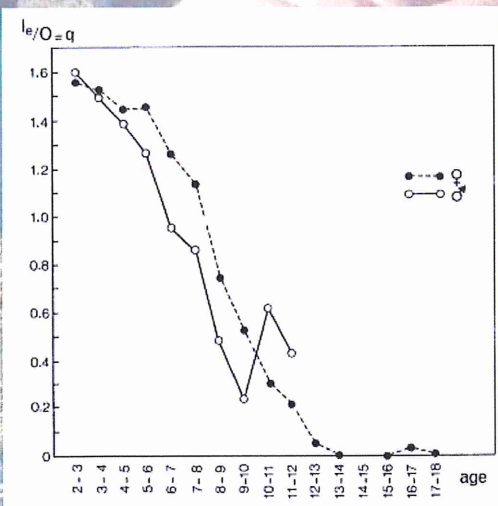




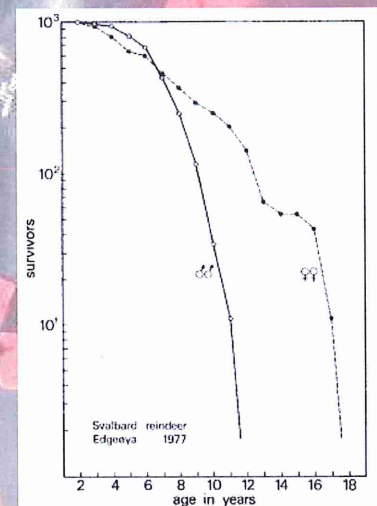
JAWS 4

What can we learn from the jaws of the Spitsbergen reindeer *Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus* ?

1. From the REES'77 expedition we learned that the survival rate of males is lower than that of females,
2. which can be explained by females dying from the natural wear of their teeth, while males die from either direct or indirect effects of sexual selection
3. The DNA of the jaws collected during the SEES expedition 2015 will give us insight in past population bottlenecks, effects of climate warming and of selection on climate-mediated traits by comparing DNA from recent and older jaws
4. Measuring mercury (Hg) content in old and recent jaws tells us more about how heavy metals move around the world and affect unspoiled wilderness (Nico van den Brink)



Females die when their teeth have been worn down (y-axis); when males die they still have grinding teeth



Female reindeer survive longer than males

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