

Title: Flow sensing in predator-prey interactions

Abstract: Microscopic organisms have limited sight and hearing, yet many of them (e.g. planktonic copepods) are capable of escaping from stealthy predators and capturing prey from a sparse suspension. In this talk I will present how these complex biological processes can be explained and interpreted using basic physical principles. Fluid dynamics holds the key to unravel the organisms' counter-intuitive perception of their surroundings. This suggests that some animals may rely on flow sensing to make informed life-saving decisions.