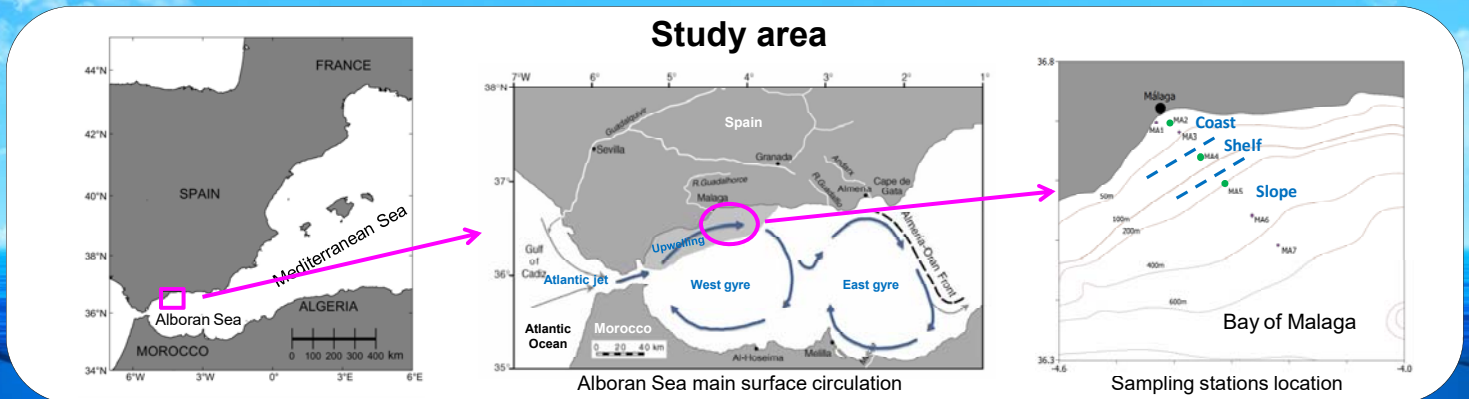


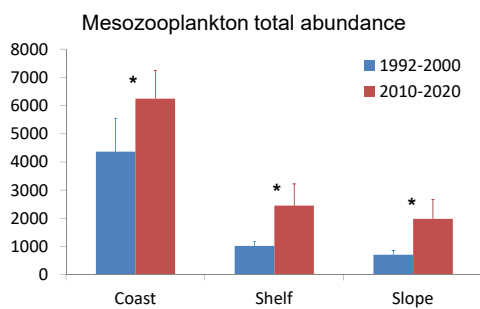
Spatio-temporal variability of the zooplankton community in the SW Mediterranean 1992-2020: linkages with environmental drivers



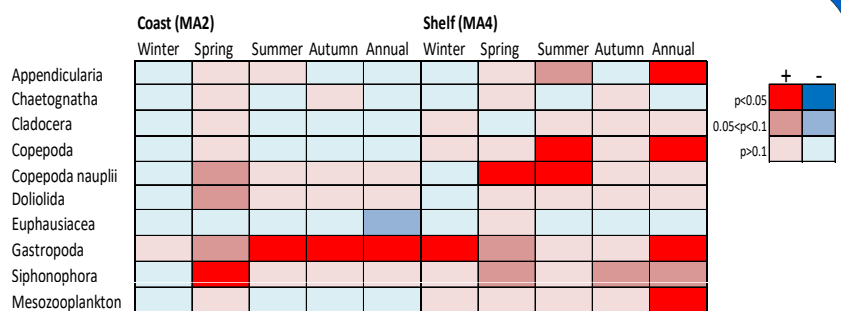
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Mesozooplankton abundance variability

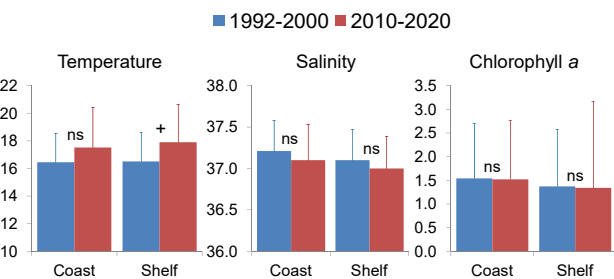


Mean mesozooplankton abundances (N·m⁻³ ± SE) in the different zones during the 1992-2000 and 2010-2020 periods. * = significant differences between decades, p < 0.05

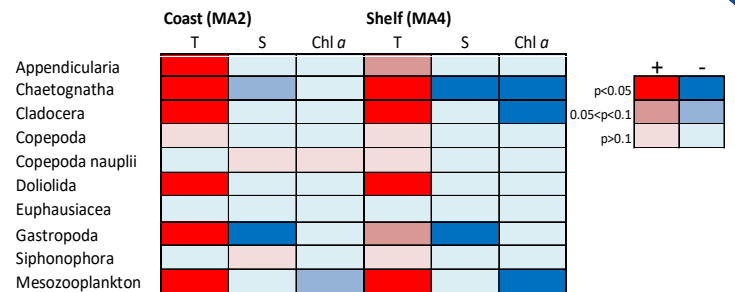


Heat map of seasonal and interannual abundance trends of the main mesozooplankton taxa in the coast and shelf for the 1992-2020 period

Linkages with environmental drivers



Mean (±SD) temperature (°C), salinity, and chlorophyll a (µg L⁻¹) (0-20 m depth) in the coast and the shelf during the 1992-2000 and 2010-2020 periods. Differences between decades, ns: p > 0.1, +: p = 0.058



Heat map of Pearson correlations between environmental variables (0-20 m depth) and main taxa abundances (N·m⁻³) in the coast and the shelf for the 1992-2020 period

Summary

- Mesozooplankton abundance was significantly higher in 2010-2020 than in 1992-2000
- Mesozooplankton community structure differed significantly between decades
- Increased temperature and predators decline seem to drive mesozooplankton variability
- Plankton time series are key to understand and predict shifts in the marine ecosystem

Open access publication

Yebra L, et al. 2022. Spatio-temporal variability of the zooplankton community in the SW Mediterranean 1992-2020: Linkages with environmental drivers. Progress in Oceanography, 203: 102782. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pocean.2022.102782>.

Funding: This work was funded by the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment (projects 3 ESMAREU, 2-3 ESMAREU and 10-ESMARES-C4A2) and the Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO, CSIC), and partially supported by the Andalusian Government and EU (project MICROZOO-ID).

Acknowledgments: We are indebted to all colleagues and crews that made possible the ESMAREU (2010-2015) and ESMARES (2019-2020) cruises, and the ECOMÁLAGA time series (1992-2000) of the Spanish Institute of Oceanography.