

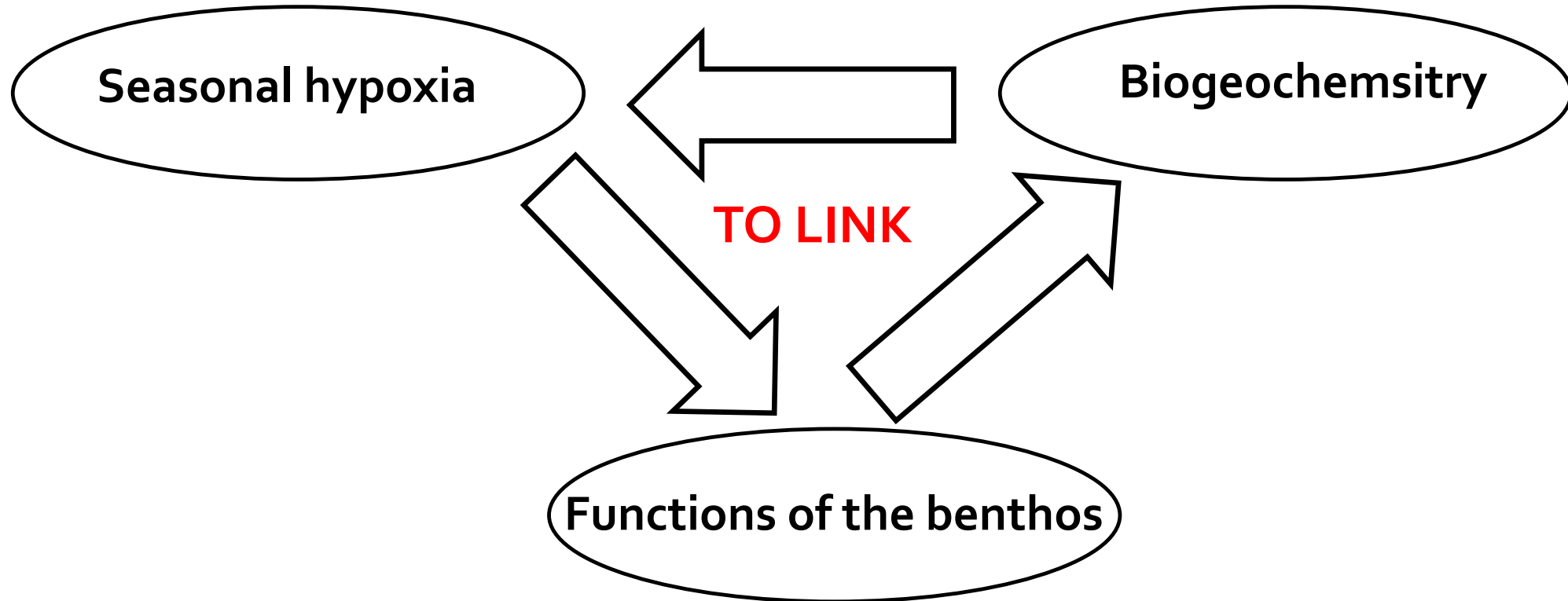
# Upscaling the impact of coastal hypoxia from species to ecosystem functions. The case of bioturbation in the Black Sea

Marilaure Grégoire <sup>1</sup>, Fatima Anrade Pena <sup>1</sup>, Arthur Capet <sup>1</sup>,  
Lei Chou <sup>2</sup>, Audrey Plante <sup>2</sup>, Nathalie Fagel <sup>3</sup>, Adrian Teaca <sup>4</sup>

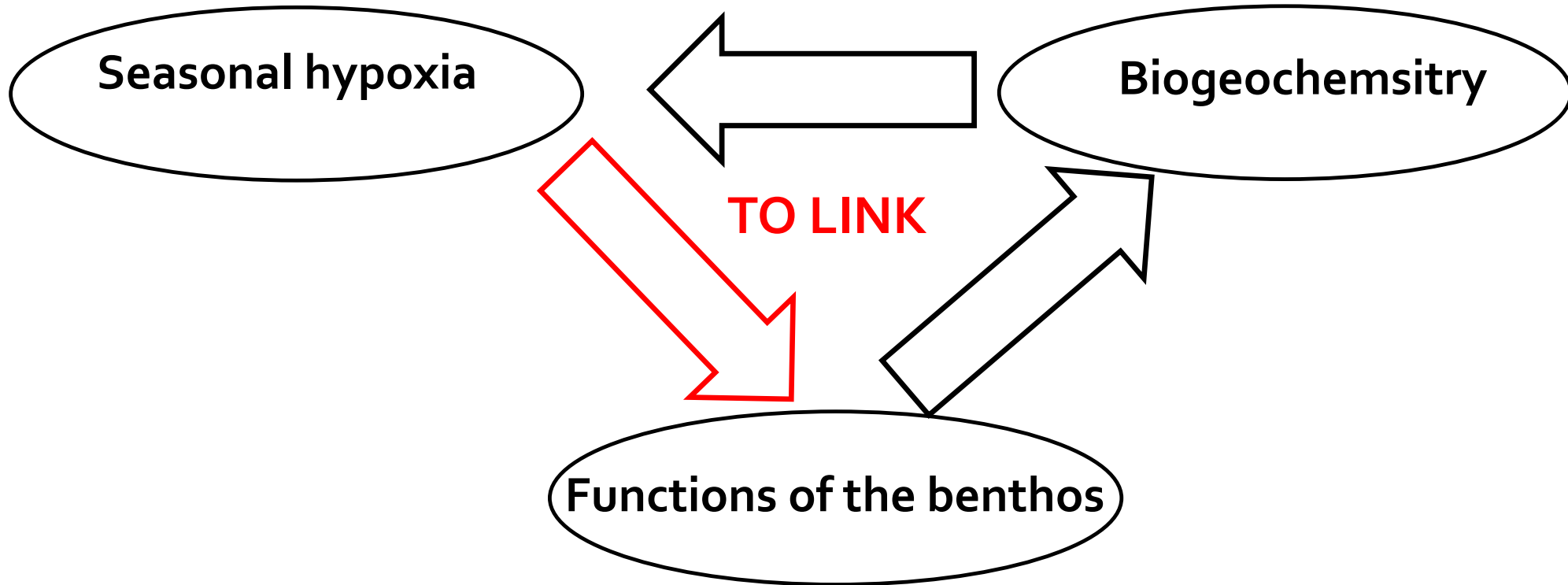
1. *MAST, Liege University, Belgium*
2. *Chemical Oceanography and Water Geochemistry, University of Brussels, Belgium*
3. *Laboratoire de géochimie des argiles*
4. *GeoEcoMar, Romania*



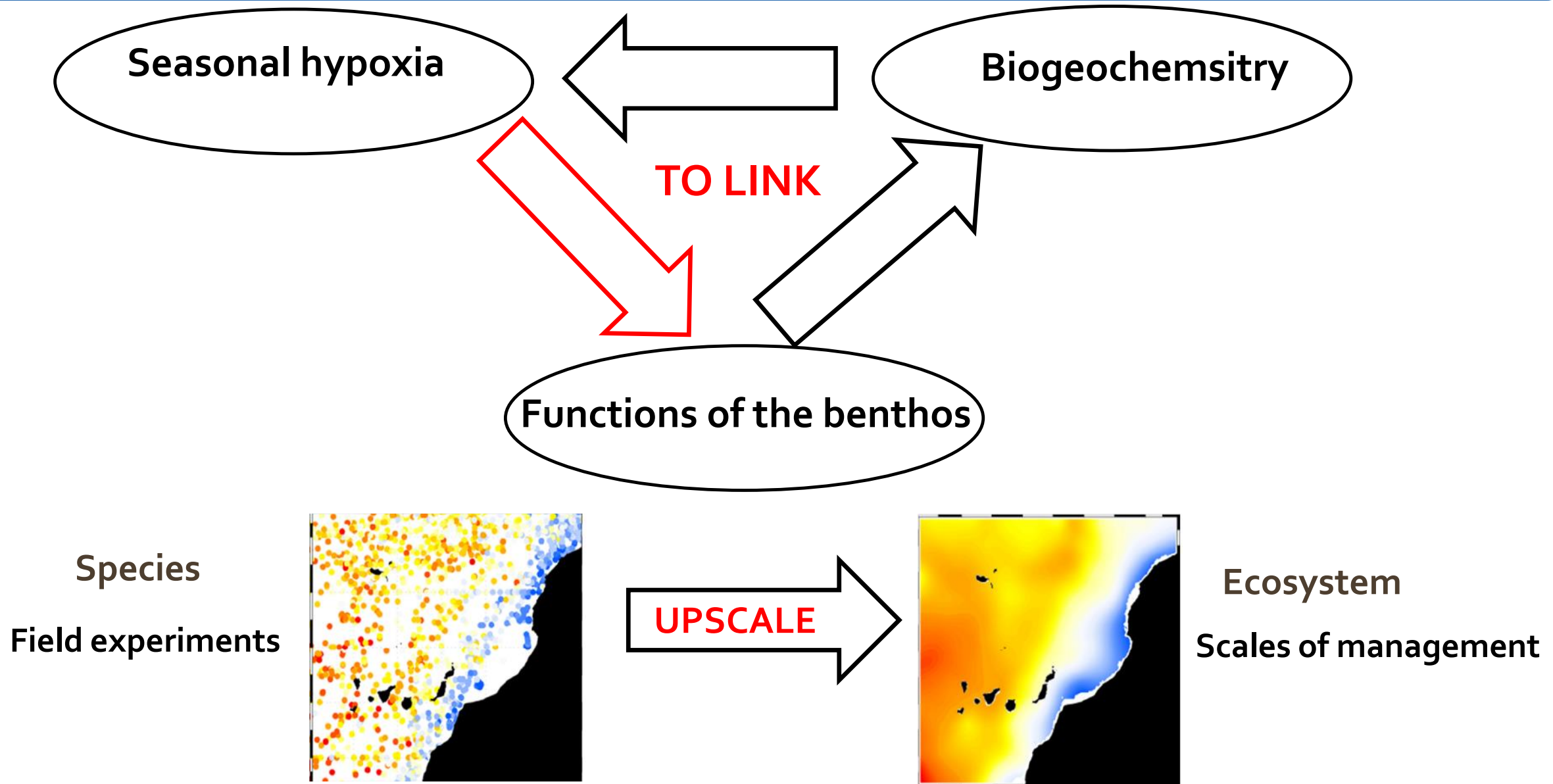
# Objectives



# Objectives

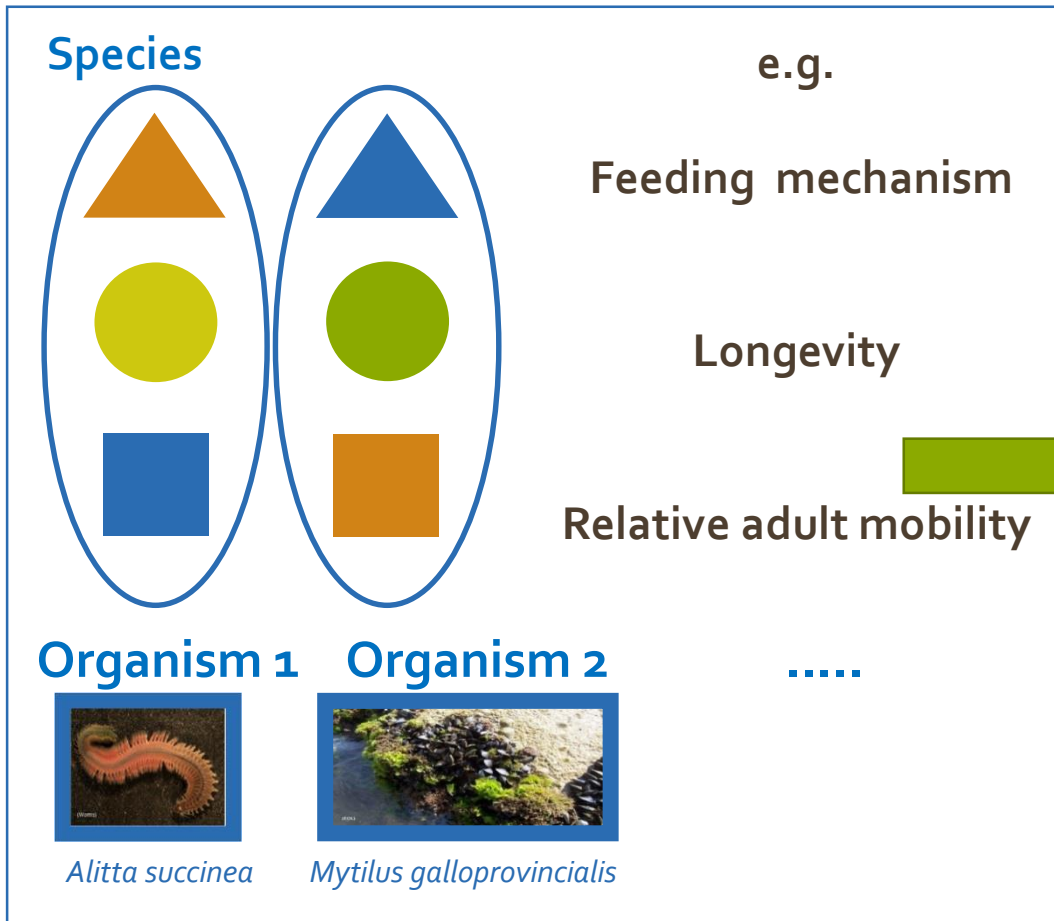


# Objectives



# A Functional approach of biodiversity

**TRAITS :** “Morphological, physiological or phenological characteristics defined at the level of the species ” (Violle et al., 2007 Oikos)



**SPECIES**

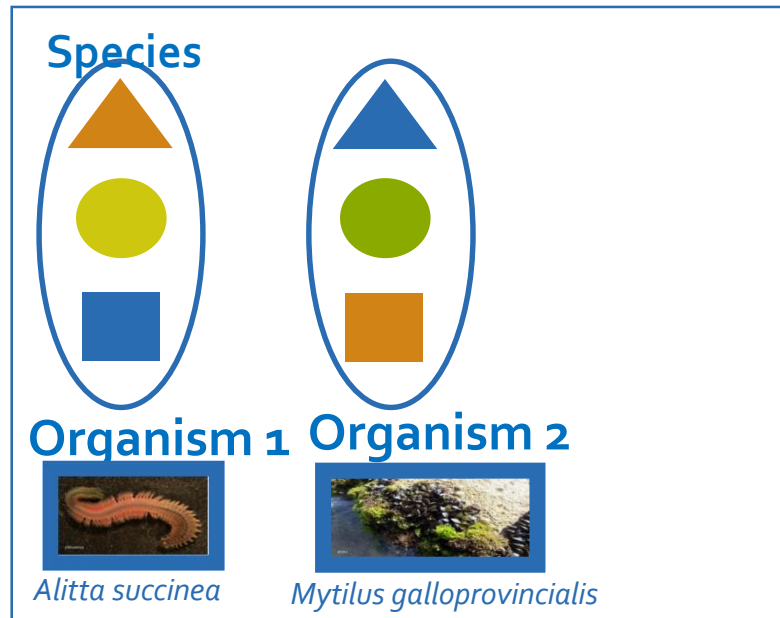
**TRAITS**

Biological Traits Species	Feeding mechanisms			Adult Longevity			Relative Adult Mobility			
	SF	DF	GB	<2	2-5	>5	None	Low	Medium	High
<i>Mya arenaria</i>	2	1	0	0	1	3	0	3	0	0
<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	3	0	0	0	1	3	3	1	0	0
<i>Nereis rava</i>	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	2
<i>Terebellides stroemii</i>	0	3	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	0
<i>Lagis koreni</i>	0	3	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	0
...										

**Traits are the variables of our approach**

# A Functional approach of biodiversity

**TRAITS :** "Morphological, physiological or phenological characteristics defined at the level of the species " (Violle et al., 2007 Oikos)



SPECIES

Biological Traits Species	Feeding mechanisms			Adult Longevity			Relative Adult Mobility			
	SF	DF	GB	<2	2-5	>5	None	Low	Medium	High
Mya arenaria	2	1	0	0	1	3	0	3	0	0
Mytilus galloprovincialis	3	0	0	0	1	3	3	1	0	0
Nereis rava	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	2
Terebellides stroemii	0	3	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	0
Lagis koreni	0	3	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	0
...										

TRAITS



Traits are the variables of our approach

**Southwood hypothesis (1977) :** "The habitat provides the templet on which evolution forges characteristic life history strategy. This means that **biological traits can be related to the physical and biogeochemical properties of the environment**".

# Selected Traits

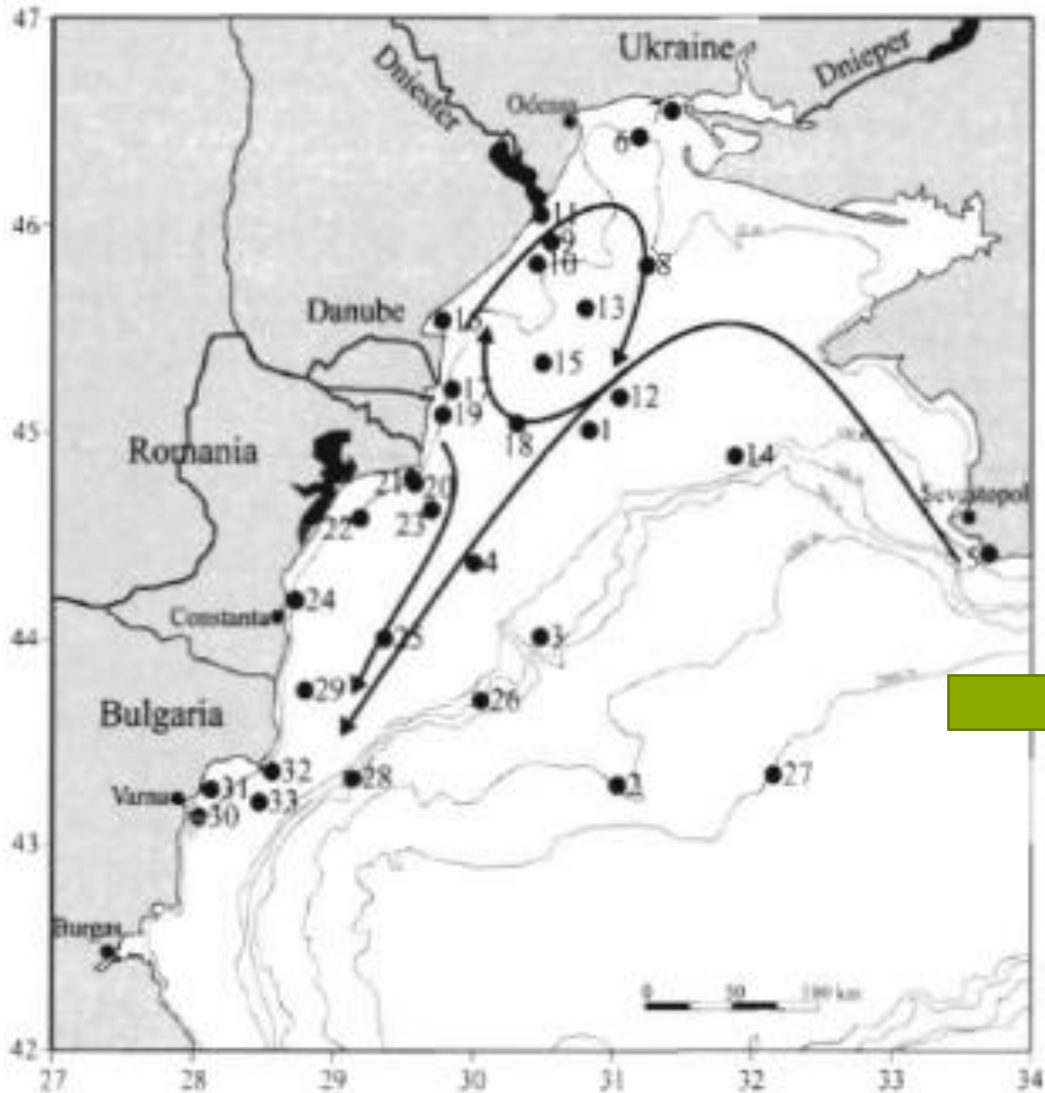
- Method of sediments reworking
- Propensity to move through the sediment
- Max sediment dwelling depth
- Feeding mechanisms
- Diet
- Larval development mechanisms
- Propagule dispersal
- Larval type
- Degree of attachment
- Relative adult mobility
- Adult life habit Longevity
- Maximum adult size
- Tolerance to disturbance

# Methodology

- Local data sets
- Mechanistic models
- Biogeographic functional models (Viollet et al., 2014)

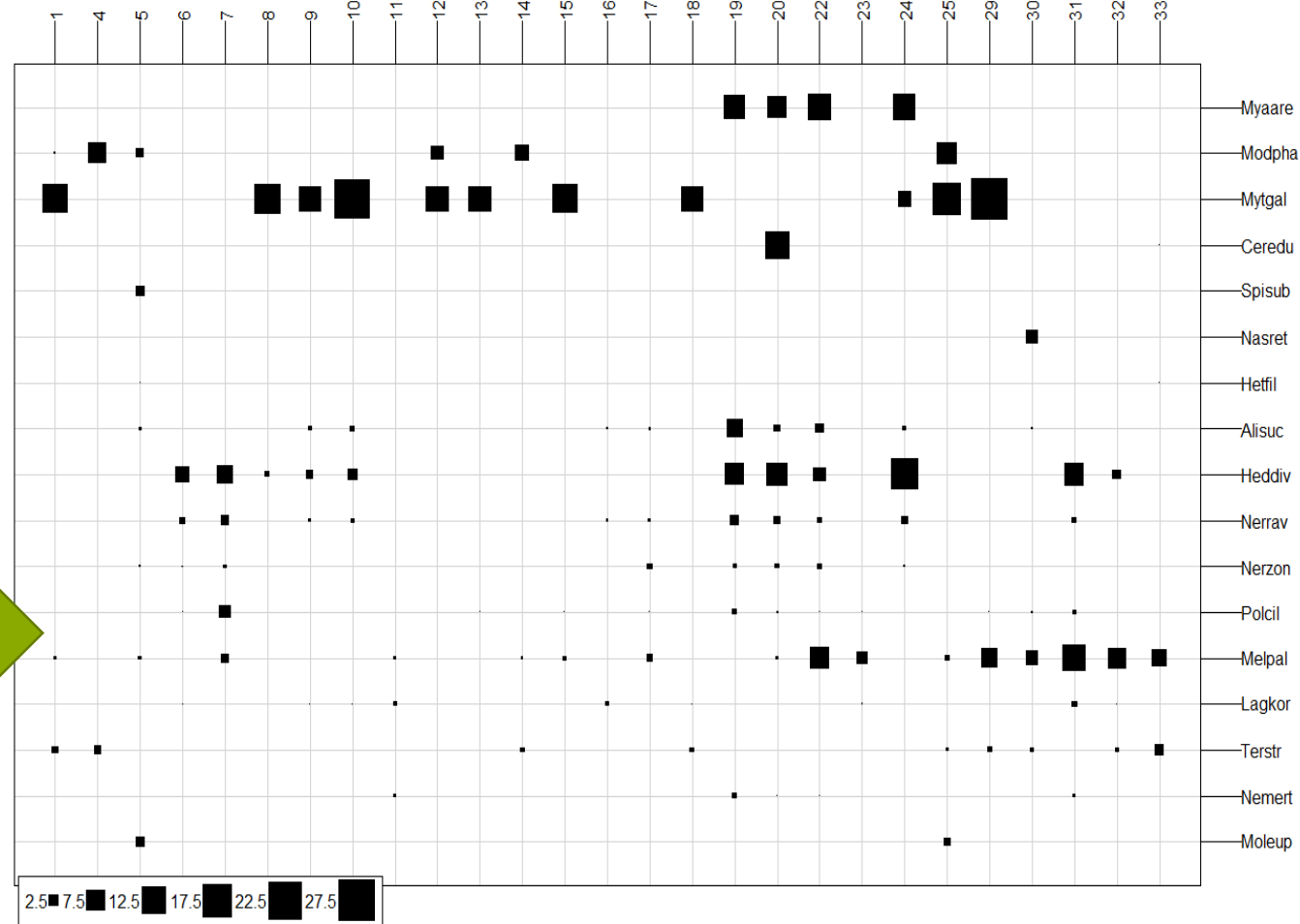


# Macrobenthos data set



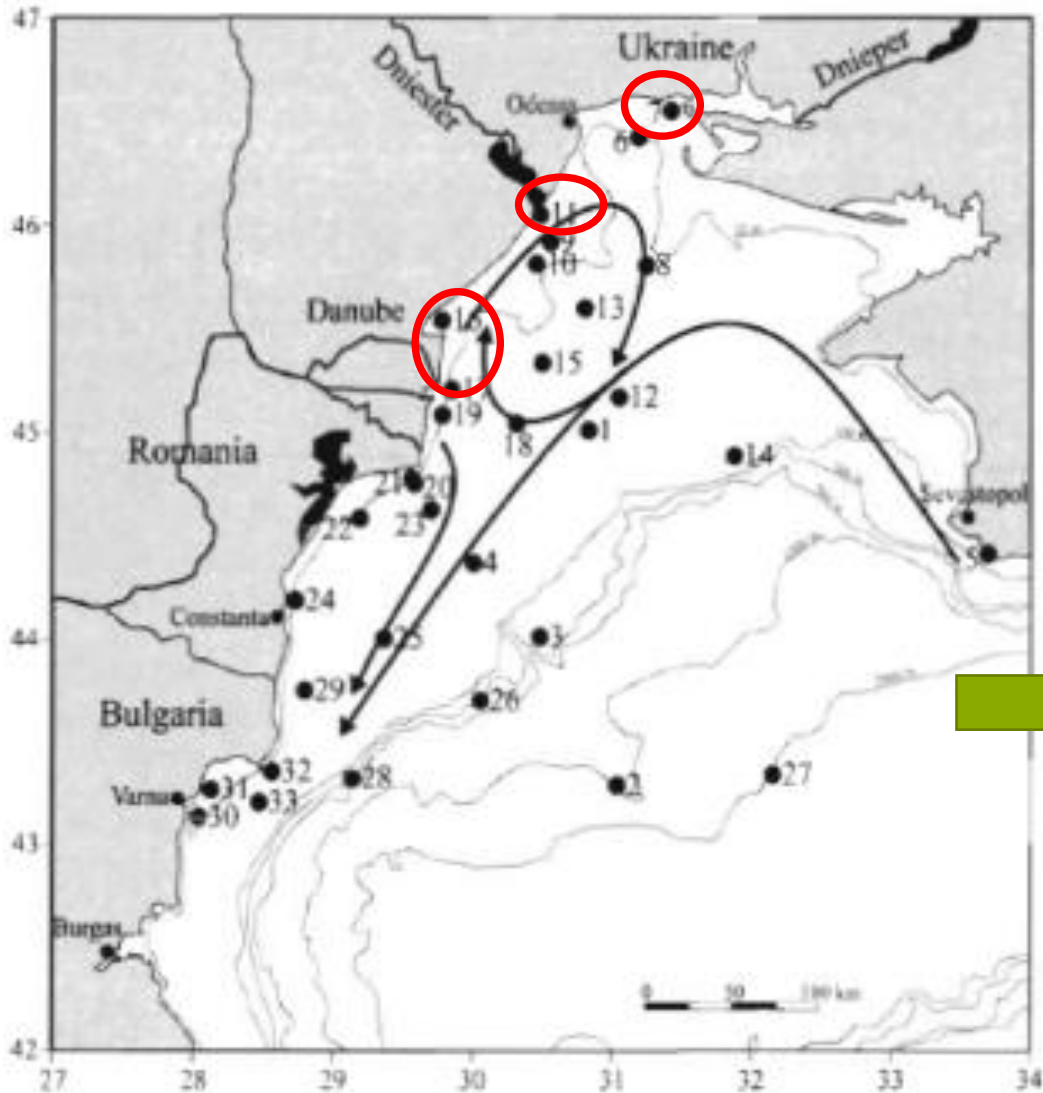
SPECIES

SITES

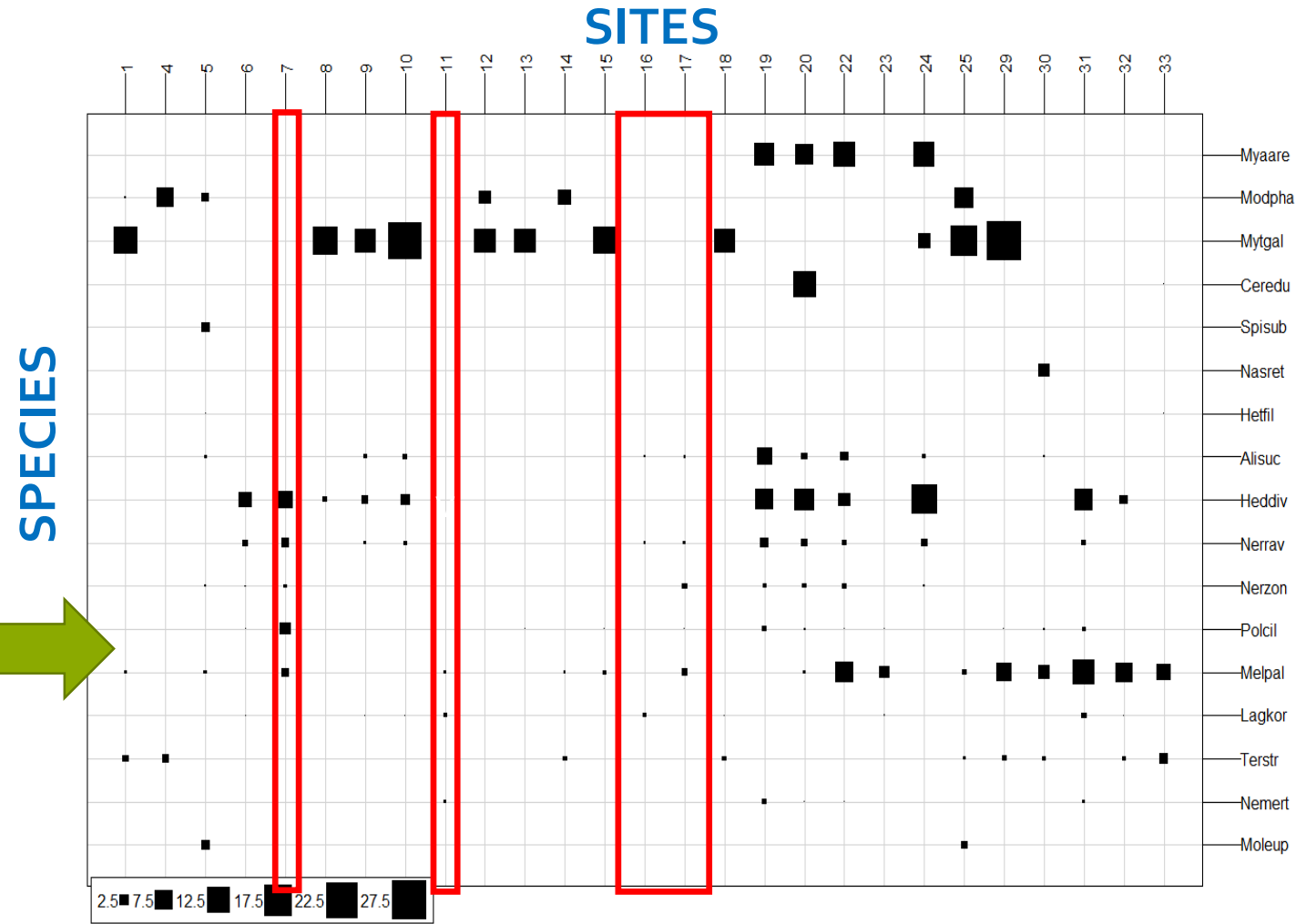


EROS data set, August 1995. Wijsman et al., 1999.

# Macrobenthos data set



EROS data set, August 1995. Wijsman et al., 1999.

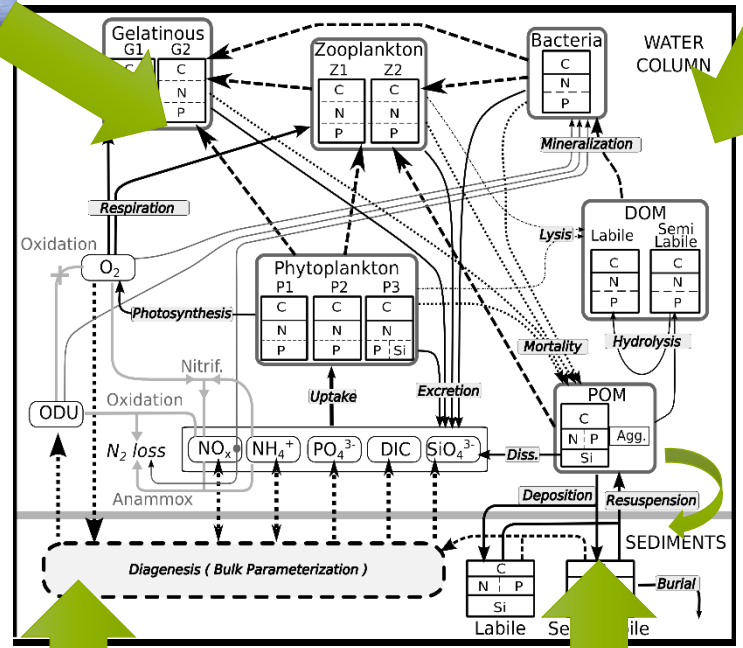
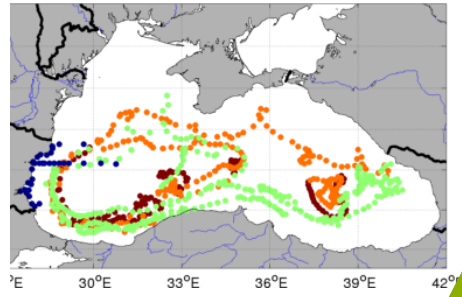


Hypoxia is especially critical at stations 16 and 11

# The CMEMS Black Sea forecasting Center

## Black Sea Forecasting center

ARGO oxygen



PU-BIO  
ULiege

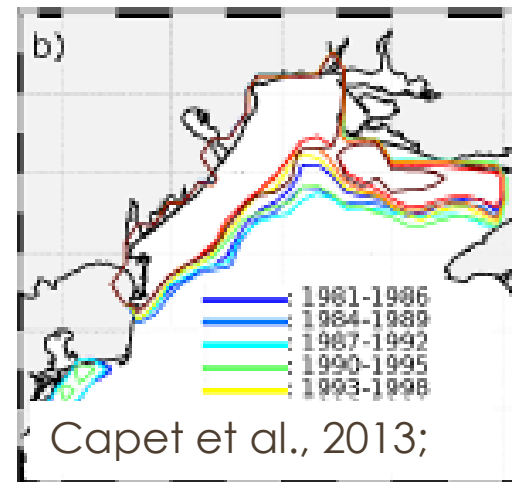
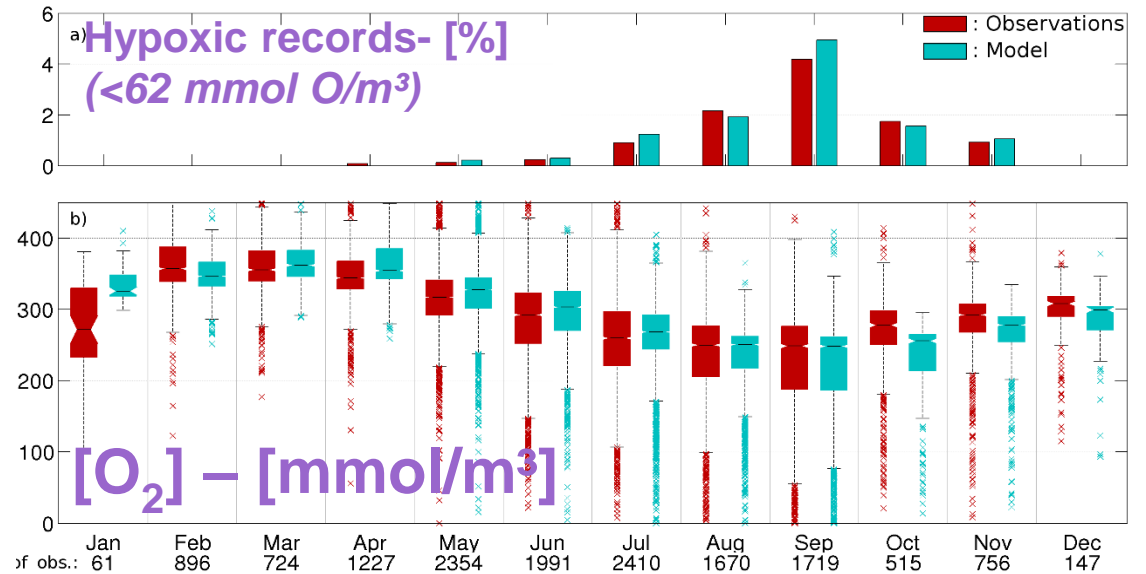
Grégoire et al., 2008; 2011

Capet et al., 2016

PU-PHYSICS  
(CMCC, USOFIA)

HZG  
PU-WAVES

Quality control procedure (QUID)



Capet et al., 2013;

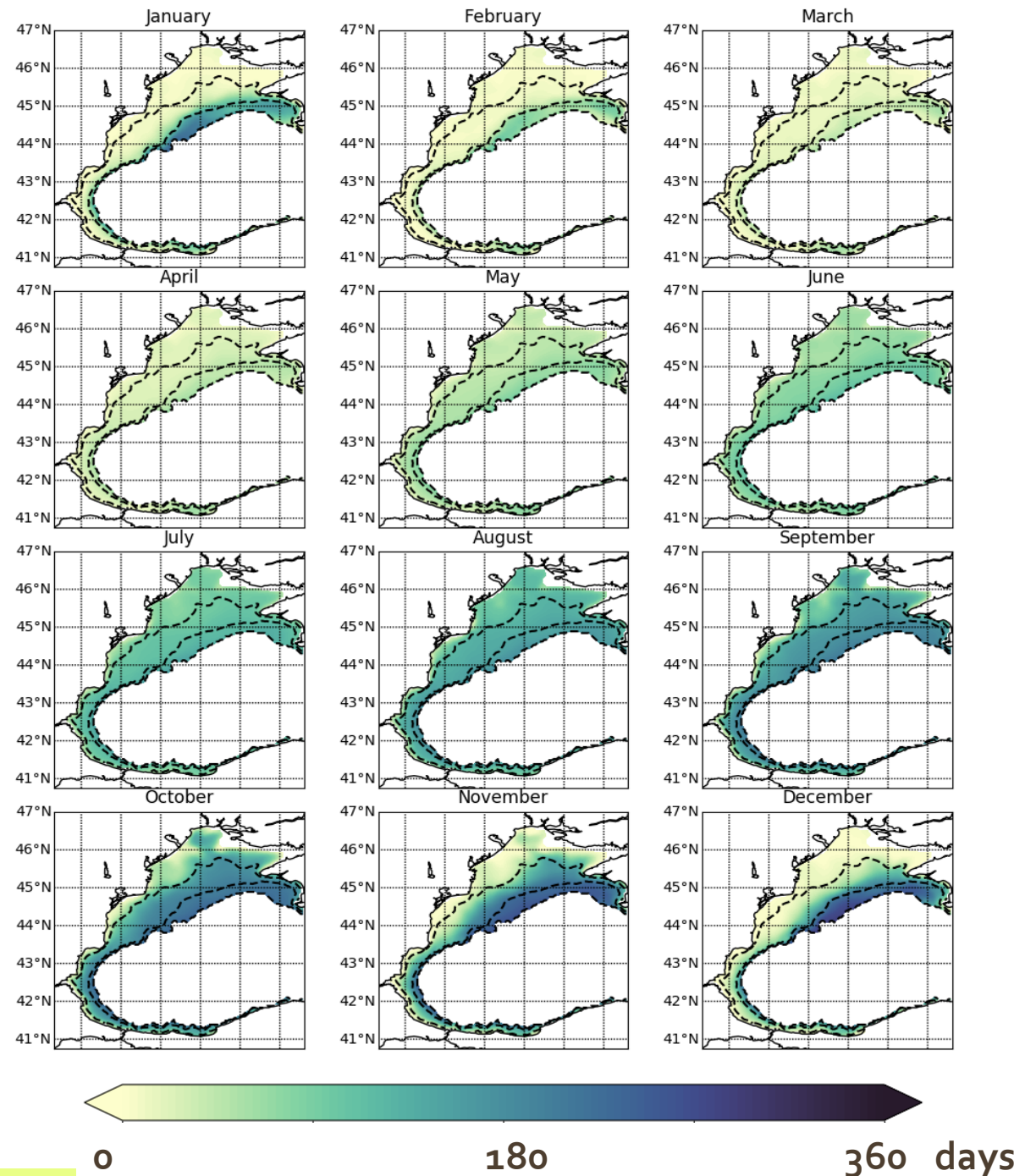


Contract BS - MFC  
Until April 30 2018

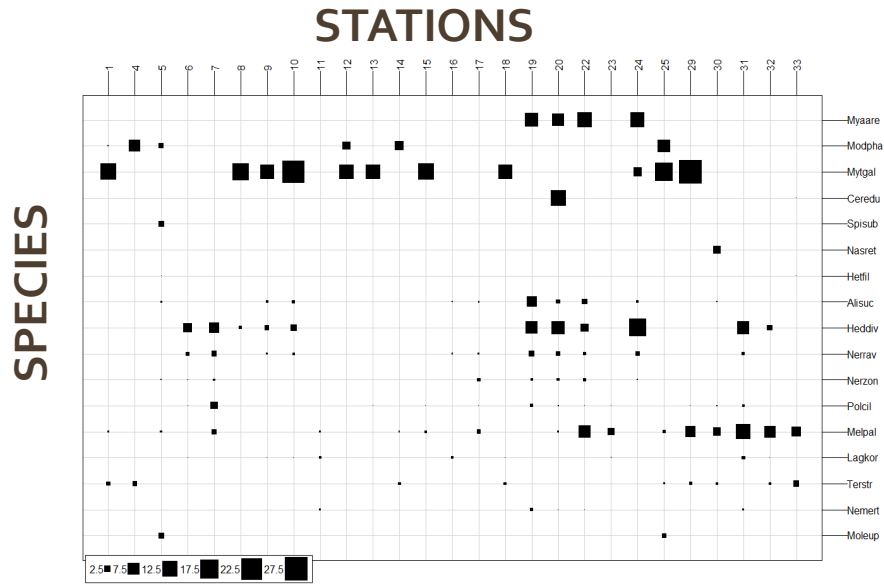
# Seasonal hypoxia events occur on the northern part of the shelf

- Age of bottom waters (number of days since the water leaves the surface) increases to 70-90 days in summer in the NW shelf.
- 40 % of the NW-shelf oxygen consumption in summer is related to benthic degradation.

Age of bottom waters



# Species-Traits-Environment



SPECIES

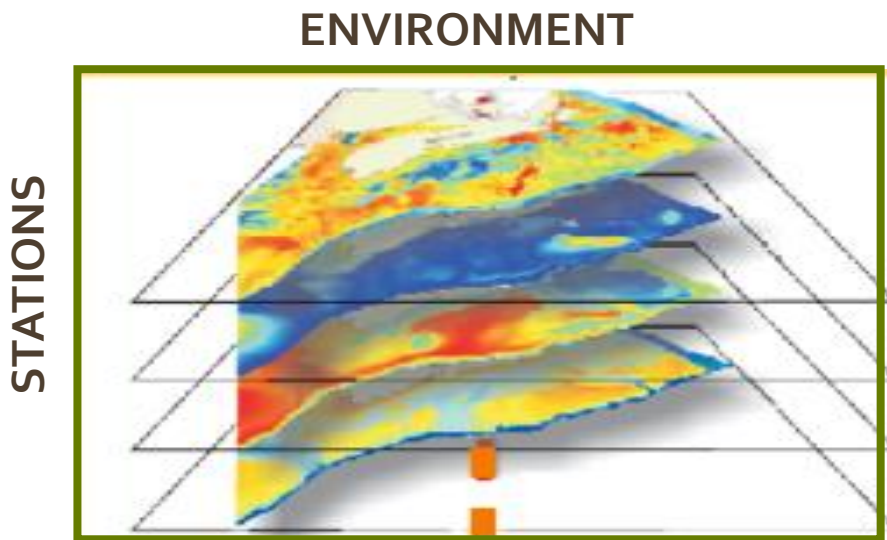
STATIONS

R

SPECIES

Biological Traits Species	Feeding mechanisms			Adult Longevity		
	SF	DF	GB	<2	2-5	>5
Mya arenaria	2	1	0	0	1	3
Mytilius galloprovincialis	3	0	0	0	1	3
Nereis rava	0	0	3	3	0	0
Terebellides stroemii	0	3	0	0	0	3
Lagis koreni	0	3	0	3	1	0
...						

L



STATIONS

ENVIRONMENT

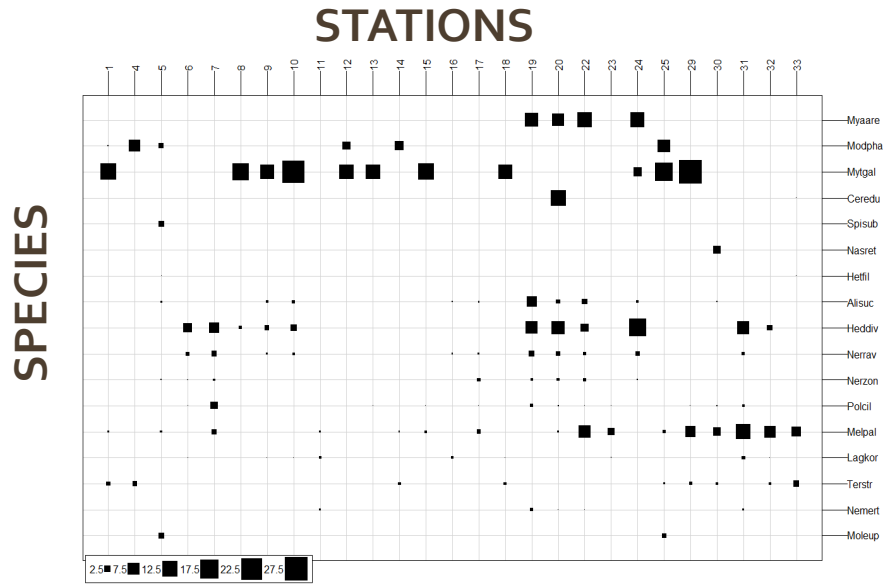
Q

ENVIRONMENT

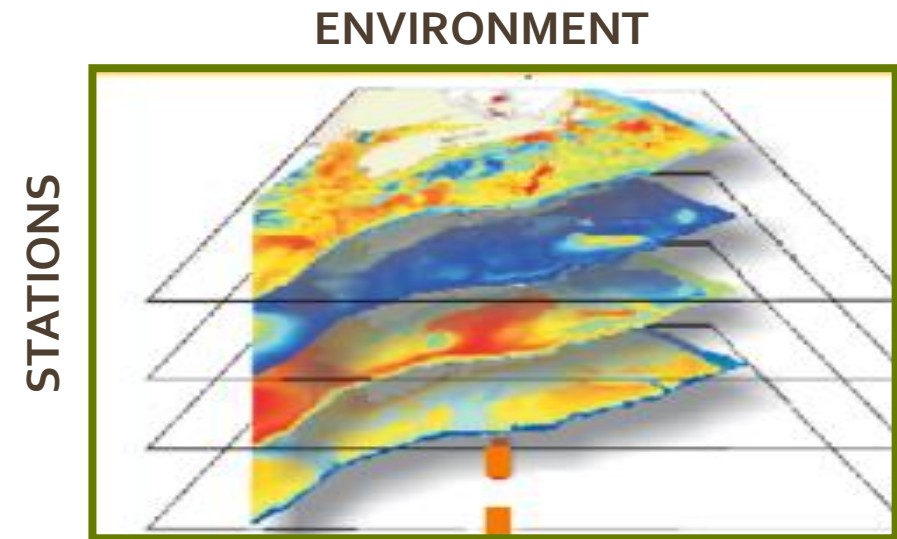
?

TRAITS

# Species-Traits-Environment



R



Q

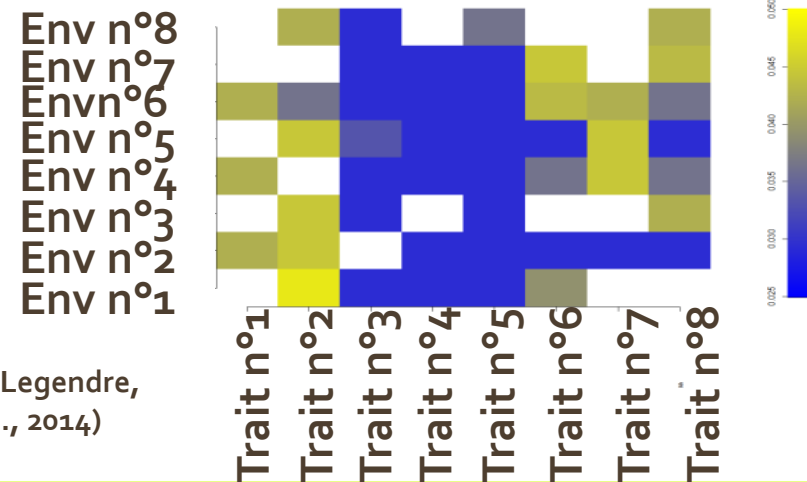
SPECIES

**TRAITS**

Biological Traits Species	Feeding mechanisms			Adult Longevity		
	SF	DF	GB	<2	2-5	>5
Mya arenaria	2	1	0	0	1	3
Mytilius galloprovincialis	3	0	0	0	1	3
Nereis rava	0	0	3	3	0	0
Terebellides stroemii	0	3	0	0	0	3
Lagis koreni	0	3	0	3	1	0
...						

L

## Fourthcorner matrix



(Legendre and Legendre, 2012; Dray et al., 2014)

RLO

# Environmental variables

**In-situ data:** grain size, silt content, OrgC, TotN, Tot P  
(Wijsman et al., 1995).

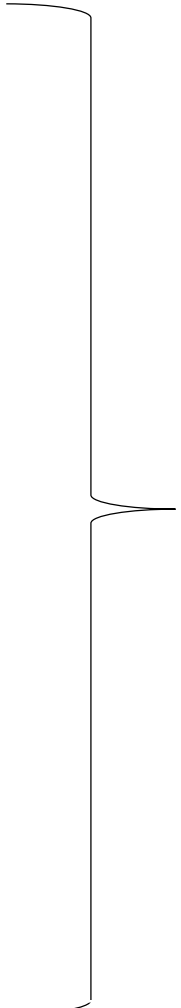
## **Model variables:**

### **Physical variables:**

- Température,
- Salinity,
- Total shear stress (current+wave)
- Water age (time since the water leaves the sea surface)
- Turbulent Kinetic Energy

### **Biogeochemical variables**

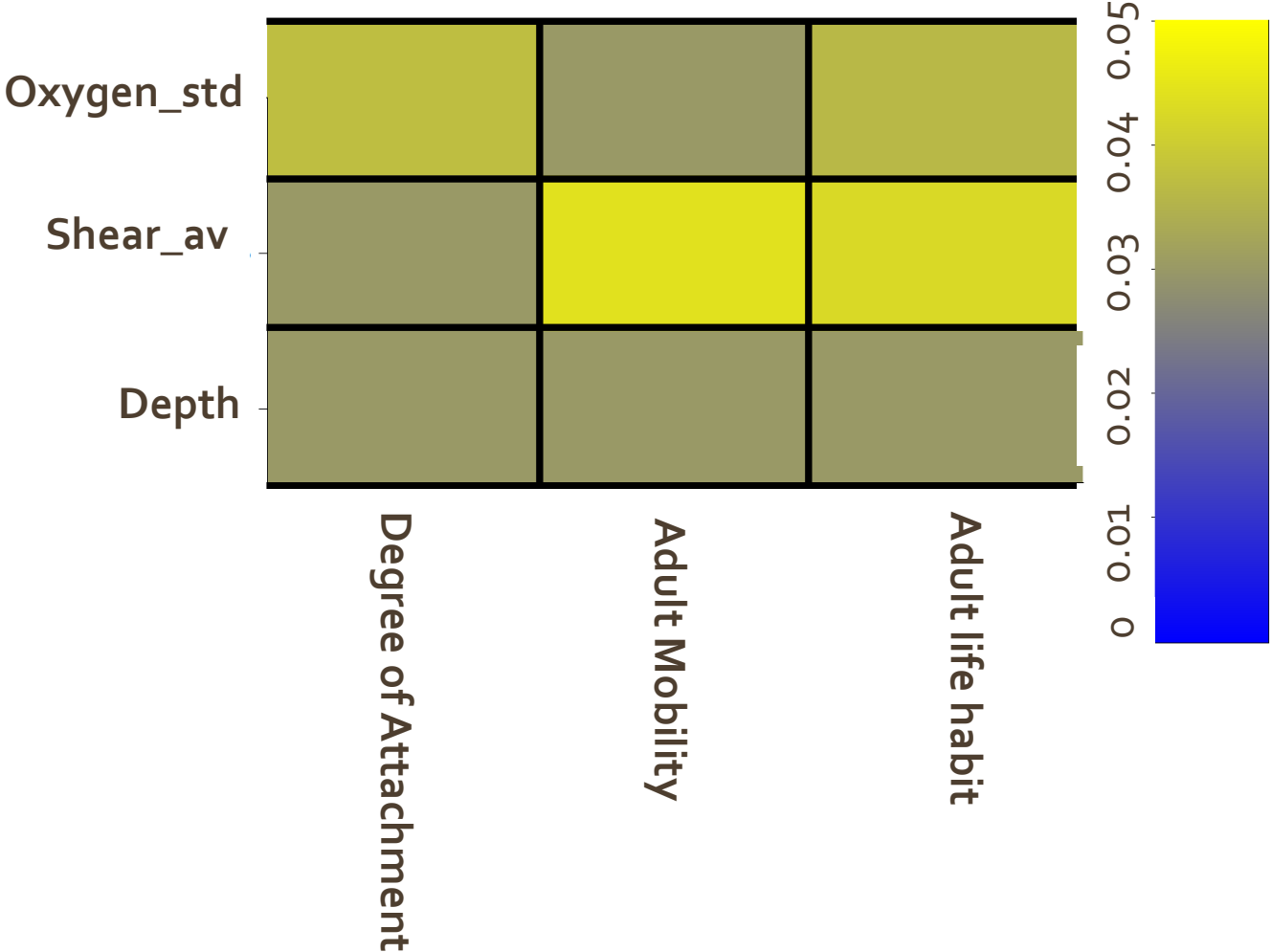
- Oxygen
- Hypoxia index
- Flux of POC to the bottom
- Carbon in the sediment (two pools)
- PAR



Average, std, min, max  
bottom values computed at  
seasonal and annual scale.

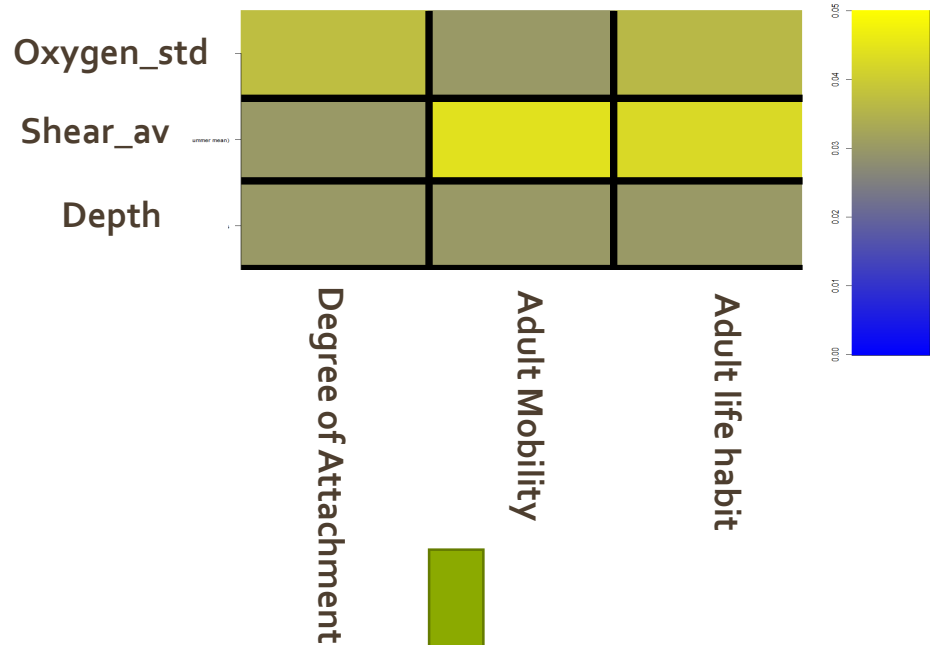
# Mobility-Environment

Significance (pvalue) of the bivariate associations between traits and environmental variables (results from the fourth-corner tests). Significant associations correspond to p values <0.05

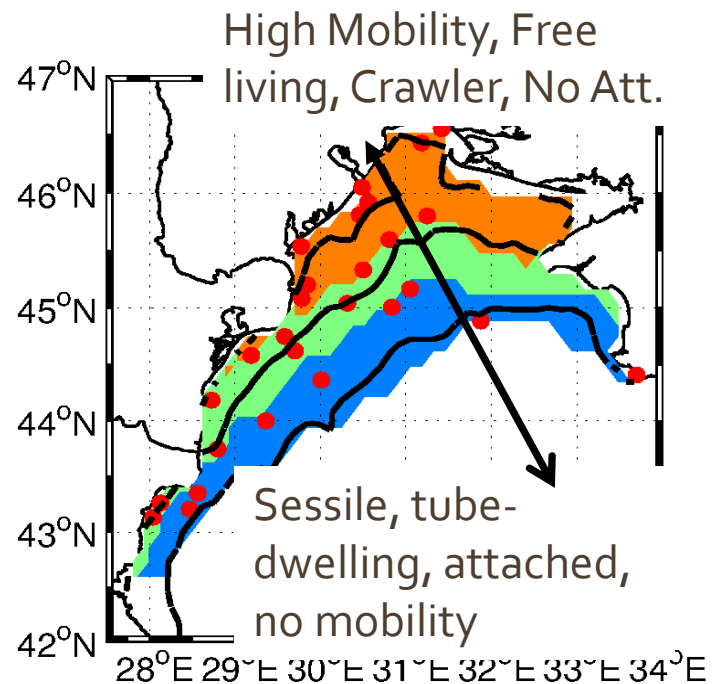
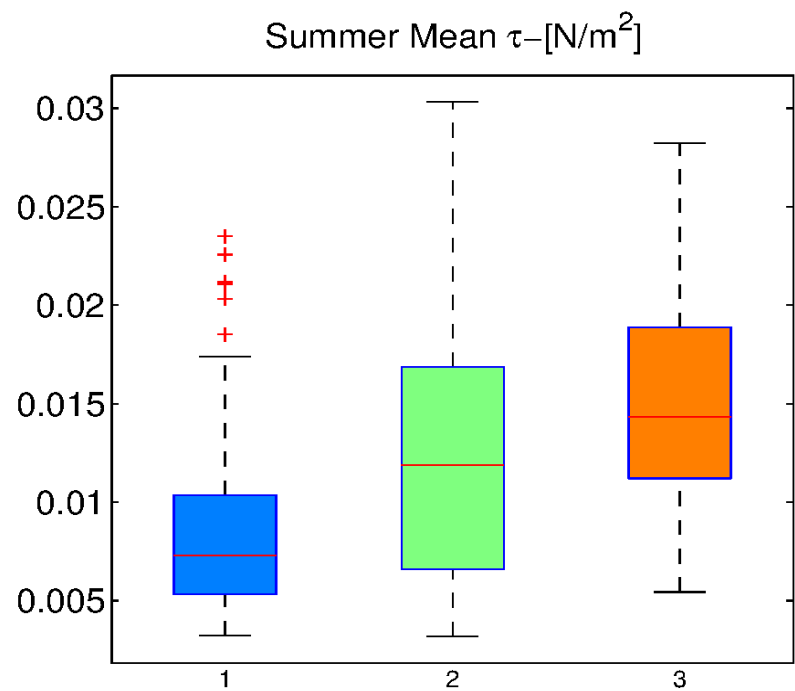
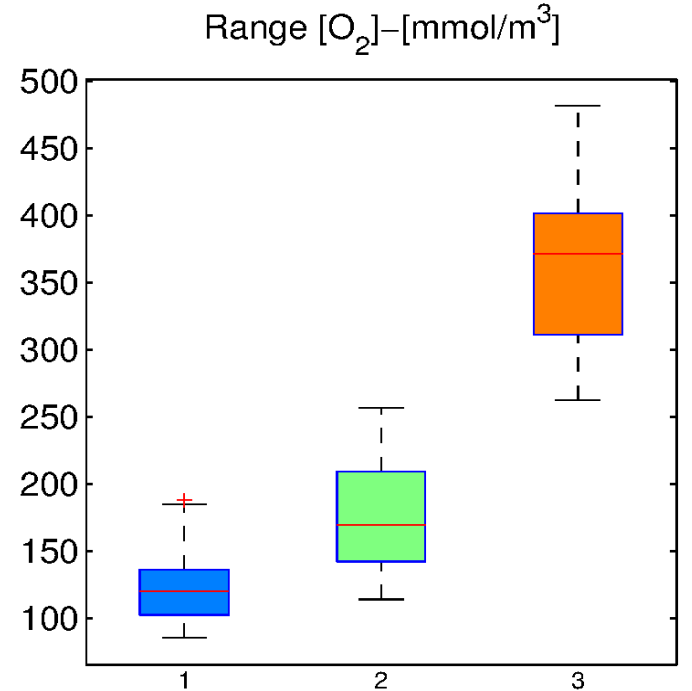
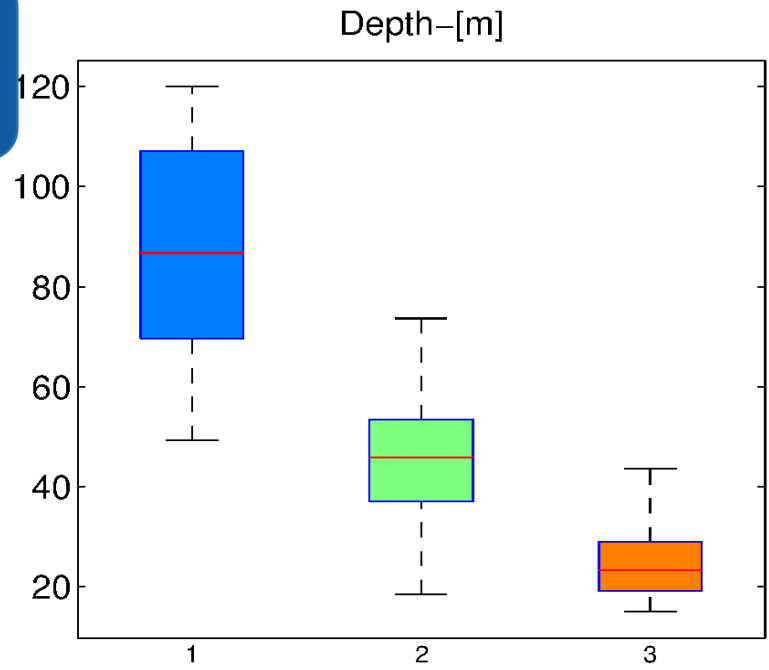




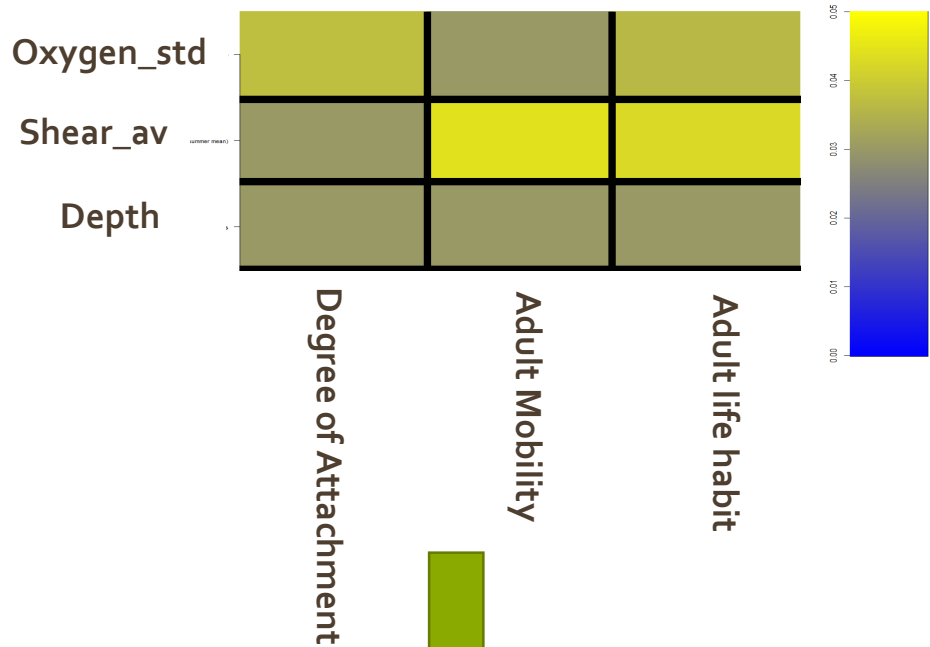
# Mobility-Environment



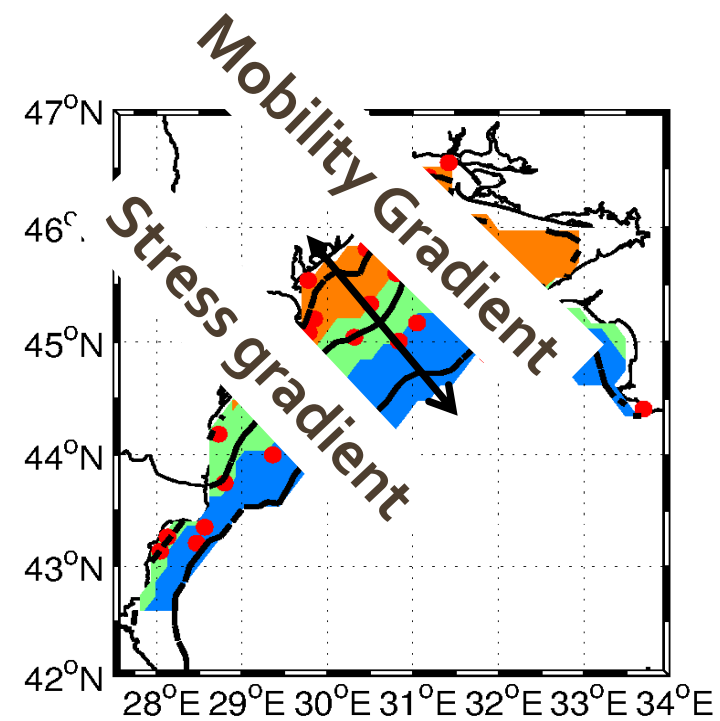
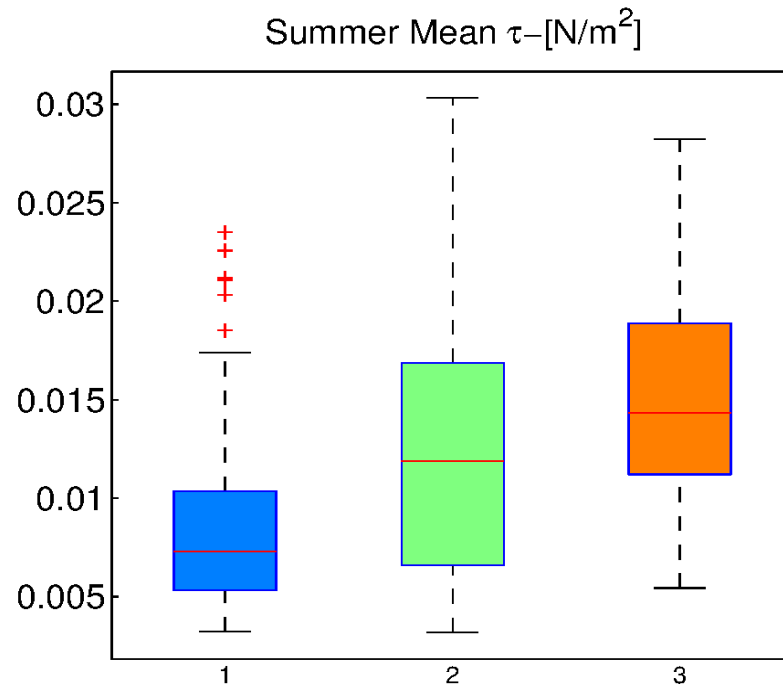
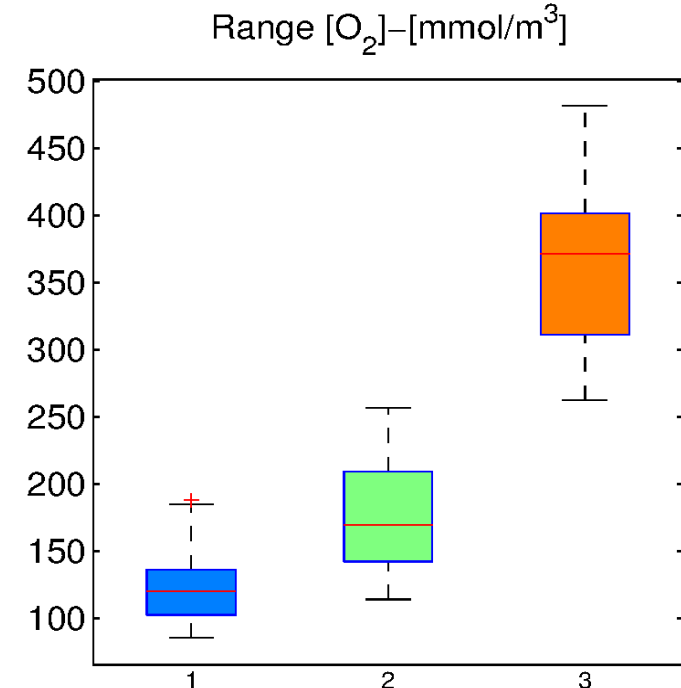
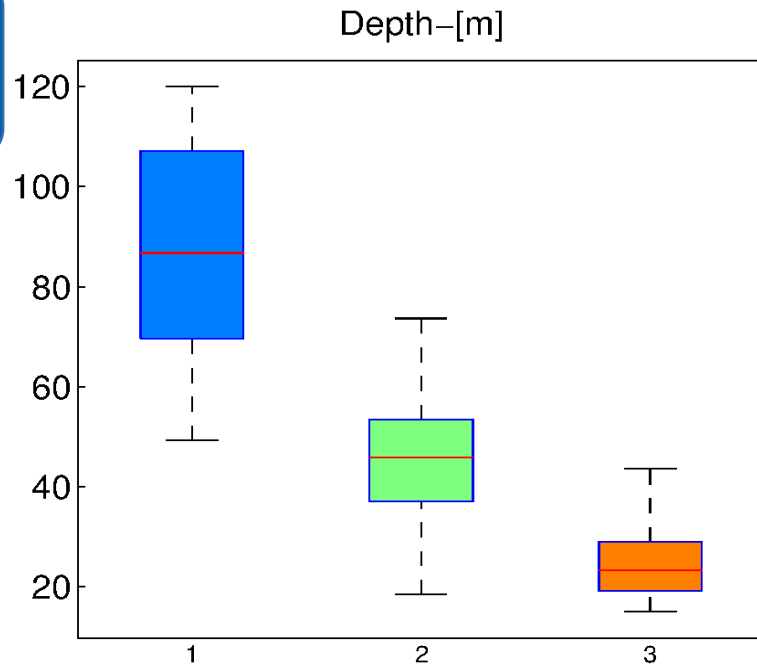
3D Ocean model → SOM Analysis of significantly correlated variables



# Mobility-Environment



3D Ocean model → SOM Analysis of significantly correlated variables



# Bioturbation Traits

TRAIT	Modalities
<b>Method of sediments reworking</b>  (Reworking mode: Ri)  <b>Ri</b>	(1) Epifauna that bioturbate at the sediment-water interface,  (2) surficial modifiers (<1-2cm)  (3) upward/downward conveyors that actively transport sediment to/from the sediment surface  (4) Biodiffusors
<b>Propensity to move through the sedimentary matrix</b>  (Mobility :Mi)  <b>Mi</b>	(1) in a fixed tube  (2) limited movement, sessile, but not in a tube  (3) slow movement  (4) free movement via burrow system



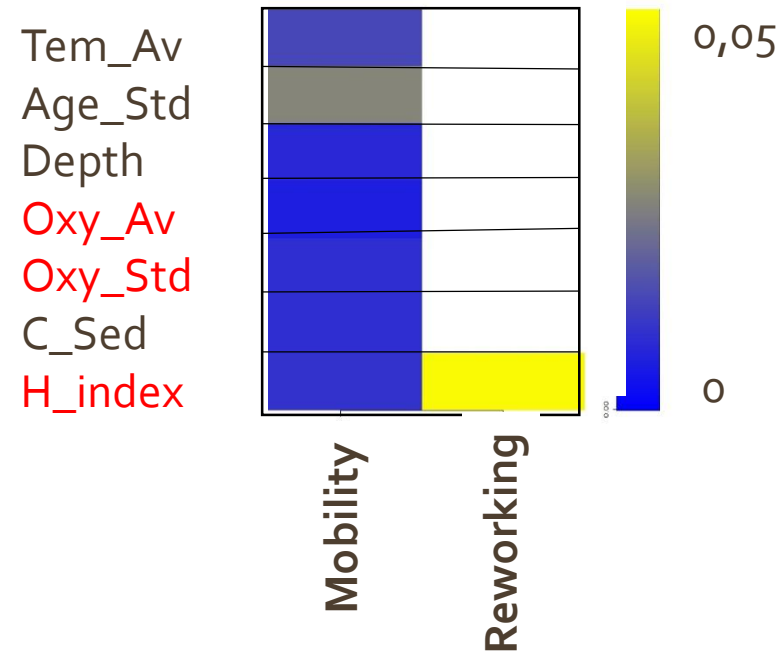
**Increasing activity**



**Increasing impact on the sediment turnover**

Traits estimated for the 72 species from Queiros et al., 2013

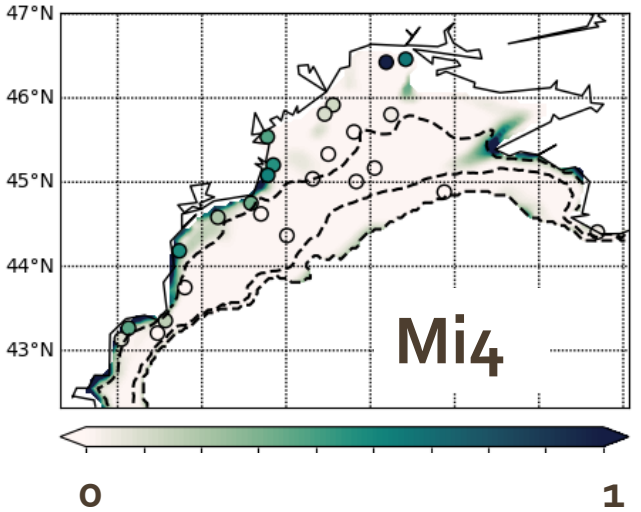
# Bioturbation-Environment



- Mi and Ri 's presence-absence is significantly clustered by the environment.
- The degree of significance of clustering is higher for Mi.

# Mapping the trait (ponderated by the biomass)

## Multiple Linear Regression

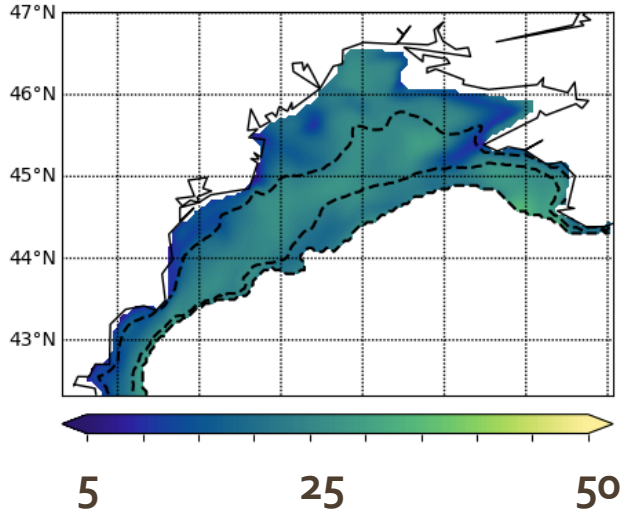


$f(\text{Age\_std}, \text{oxy\_av}, \text{depth}, \text{oxy\_std}, \text{H\_index})$   
 $R^2 = 0.7938, \text{ Adjusted } R^2 = 0.7446$

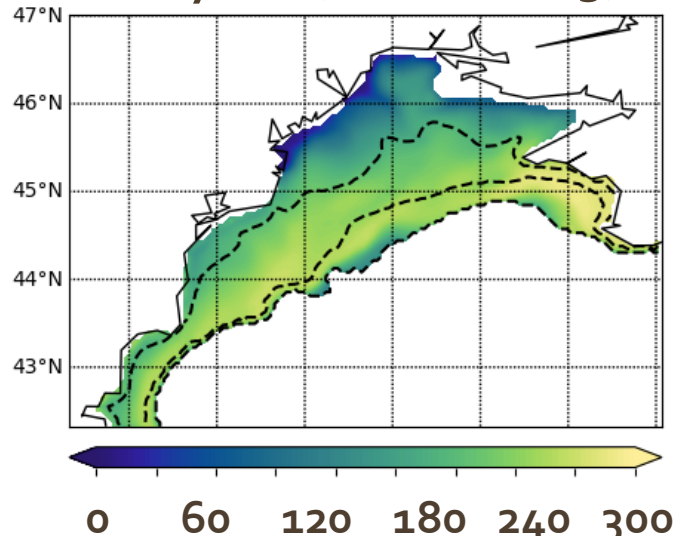
Mi<sub>4</sub>: free movement, burrower

+DEPTH

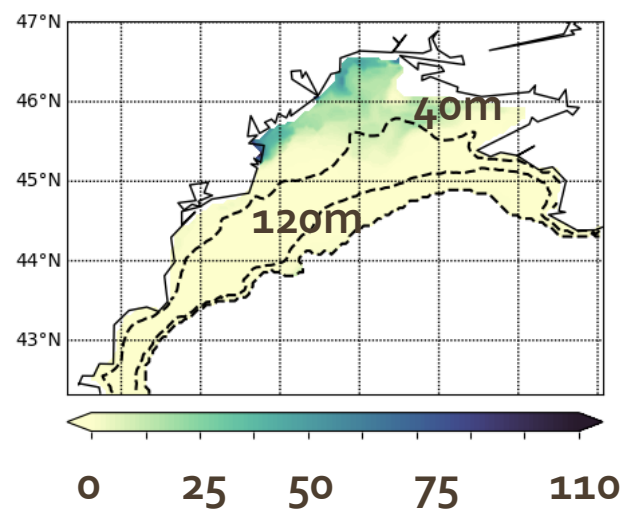
Age\_std (in days)



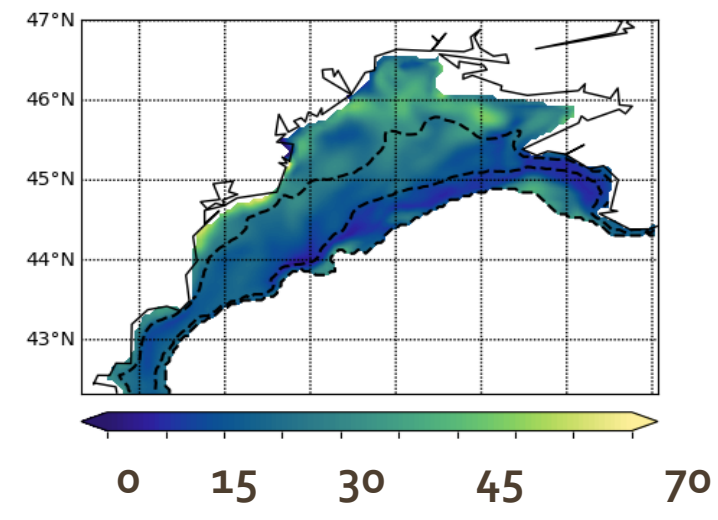
Oxy\_Av (in mmol/m<sup>3</sup>)



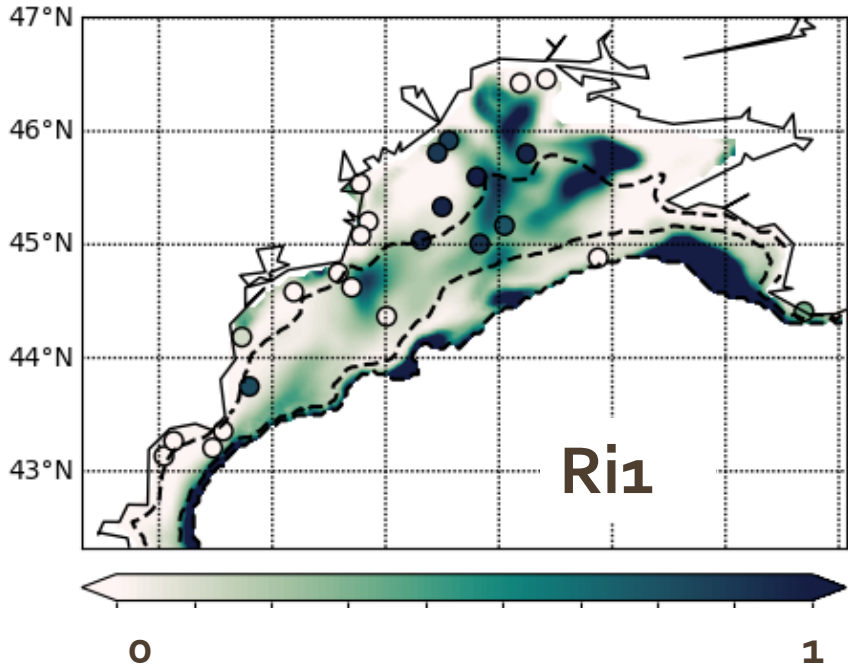
H\_index



Oxy\_std (in mmol/m<sup>3</sup>)



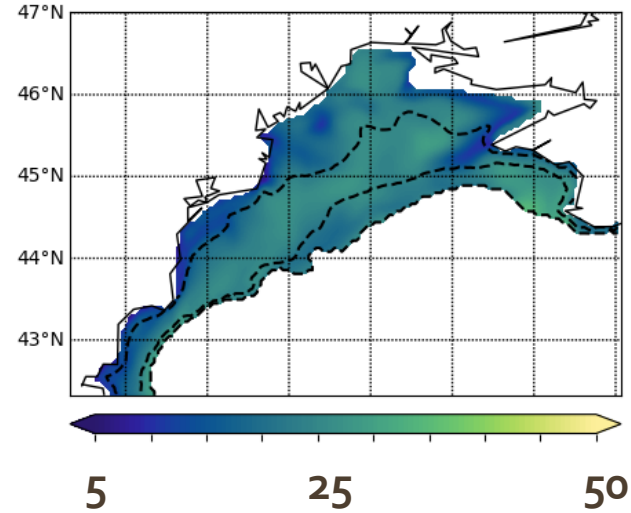
# Mapping the trait



$f(\text{Age\_std}, \text{oxy\_std}, \text{depth})$   
 $R^2 = 0.41$ , Adjusted  $R^2 = 0.3428$

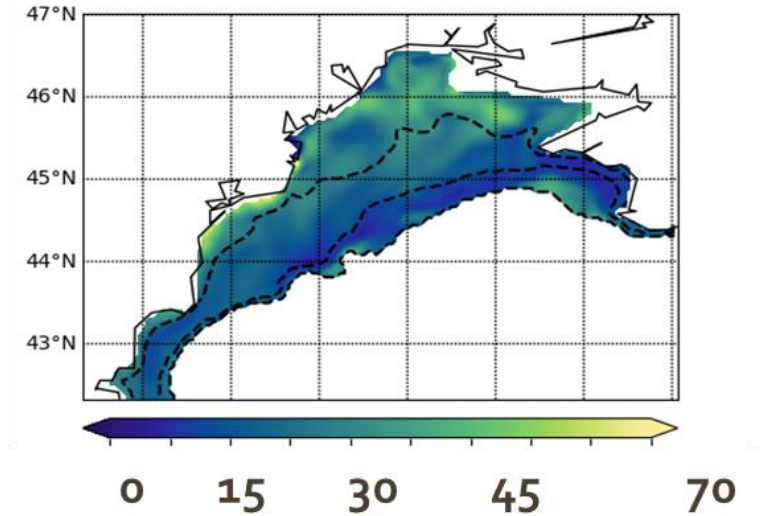
Ri1: Epifauna

## Age\_Std (in days)



+DEPTH

## Oxy\_std (in mmol/m3)



# Bioturbation Potential of the community (BPc)

TRAIT	Modalities
Method of sediments reworking  (Reworking mode: Ri)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Epifauna that bioturbate at the sediment-water interface,</li><li>(2) surficial modifiers (&lt;1-2cm)</li><li>(3) upward/downward conveyors that actively transport sediment to/from the sediment surface</li><li>(4) biodiffusors</li></ol>
Propensity to move through the sedimentary matrix  (Mobility :Mi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) in a fixed tube</li><li>(2) limited movement, sessile, but not in a tube</li><li>(3) slow movement</li><li>(4) free movement via burrow system</li></ol>

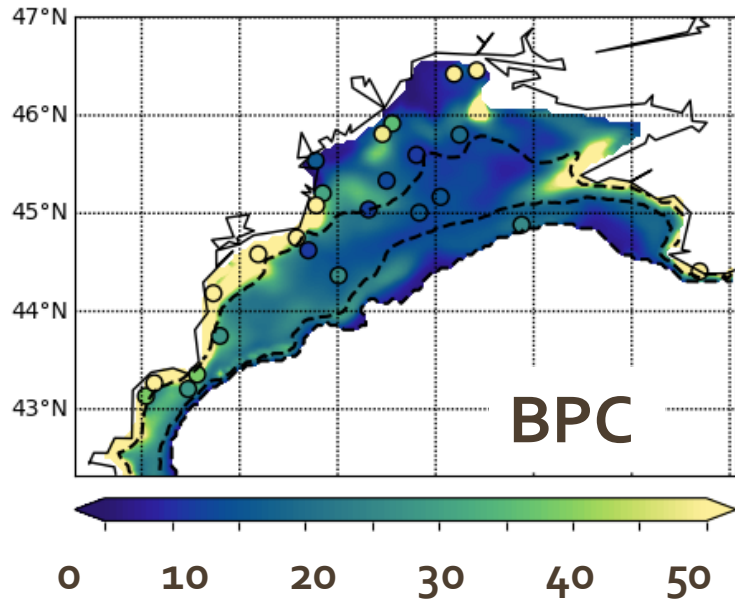


Per capita effect of **each species** on sediment mixing

*(Solan et al., 2004 Science).*

$$BP_i = B_i^{0,5} * M_i * R_i$$

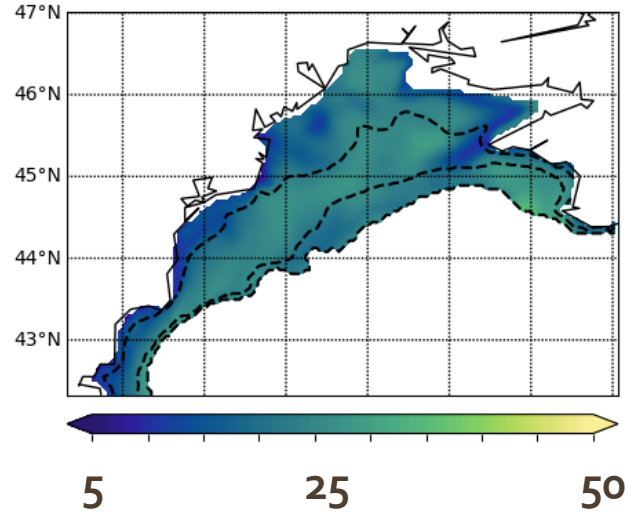
## Multiple Linear Regression



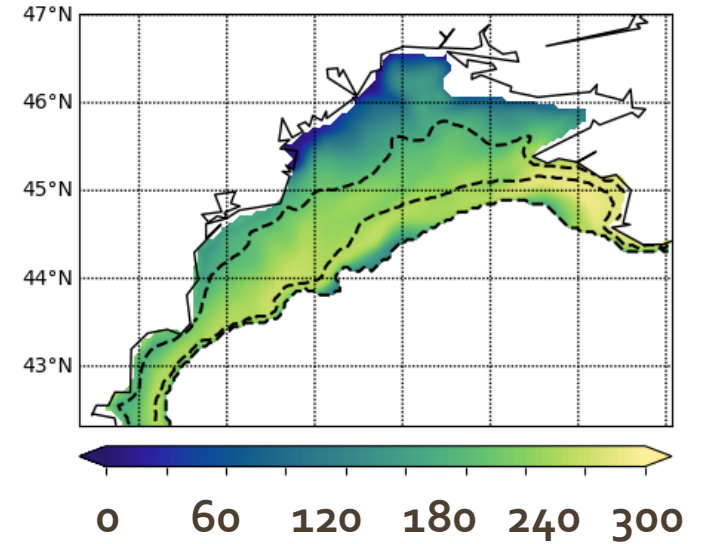
$f(\text{Age\_Std}, \text{Oxy\_Av}, \text{Depth}, \text{C\_sed}, \text{H\_index})$   
( $R^2=0,72$ , adjusted  $R^2=0,65$ )

+DEPTH

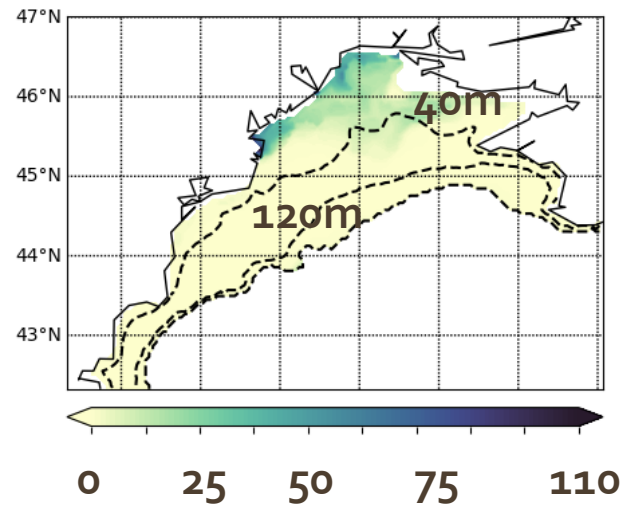
### Age\_Std (in days)



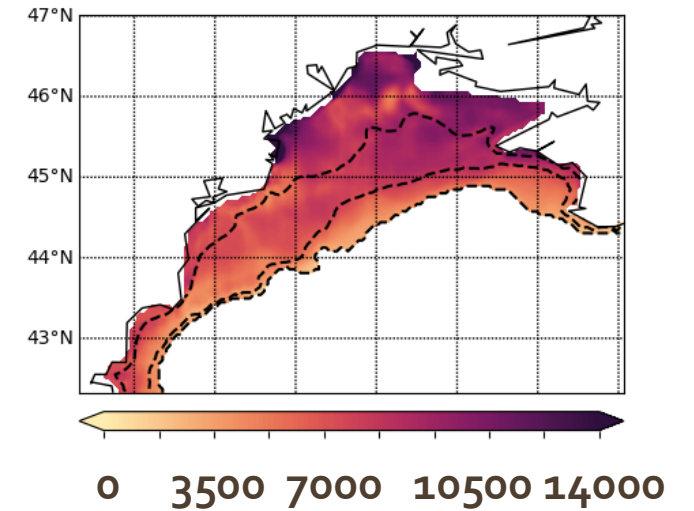
### Oxy\_Av (in mmol/m3)



### H\_index

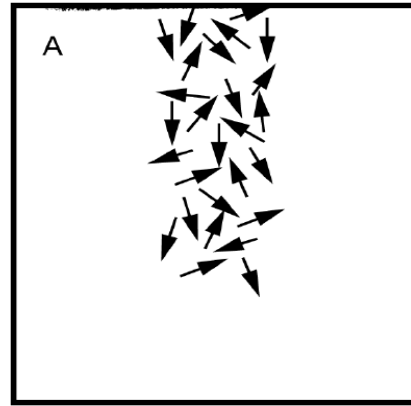
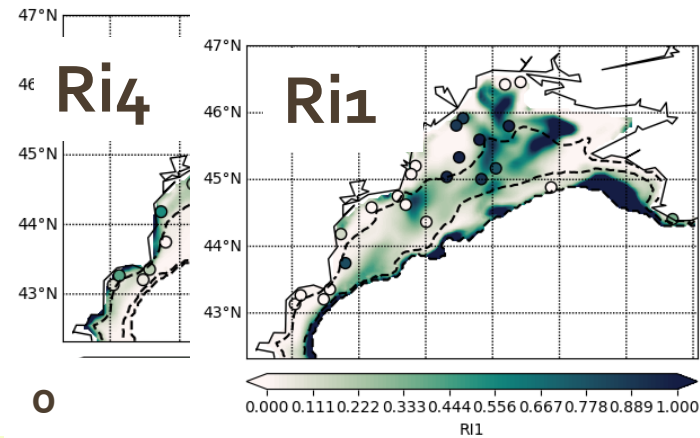
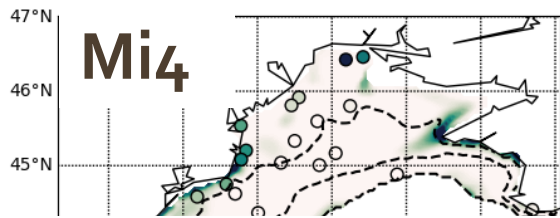
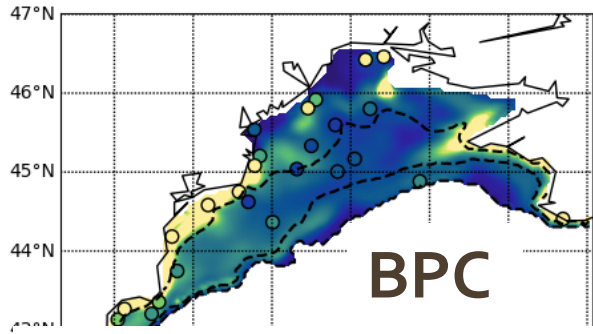


### C\_sed (mmol/m2)

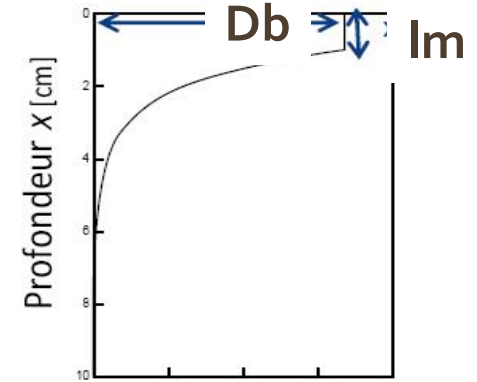




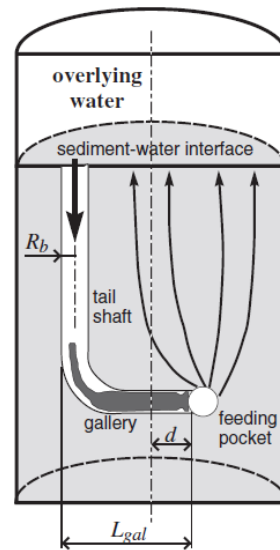
# Mapping of bioturbation to feed biogeochemical models



Local random transport of particles

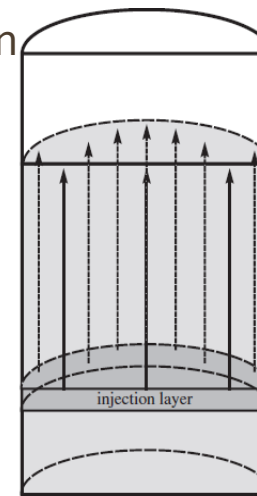


Sediment mixing parameters ( $D_b$ ,  $I_m$ )



Model parameterization

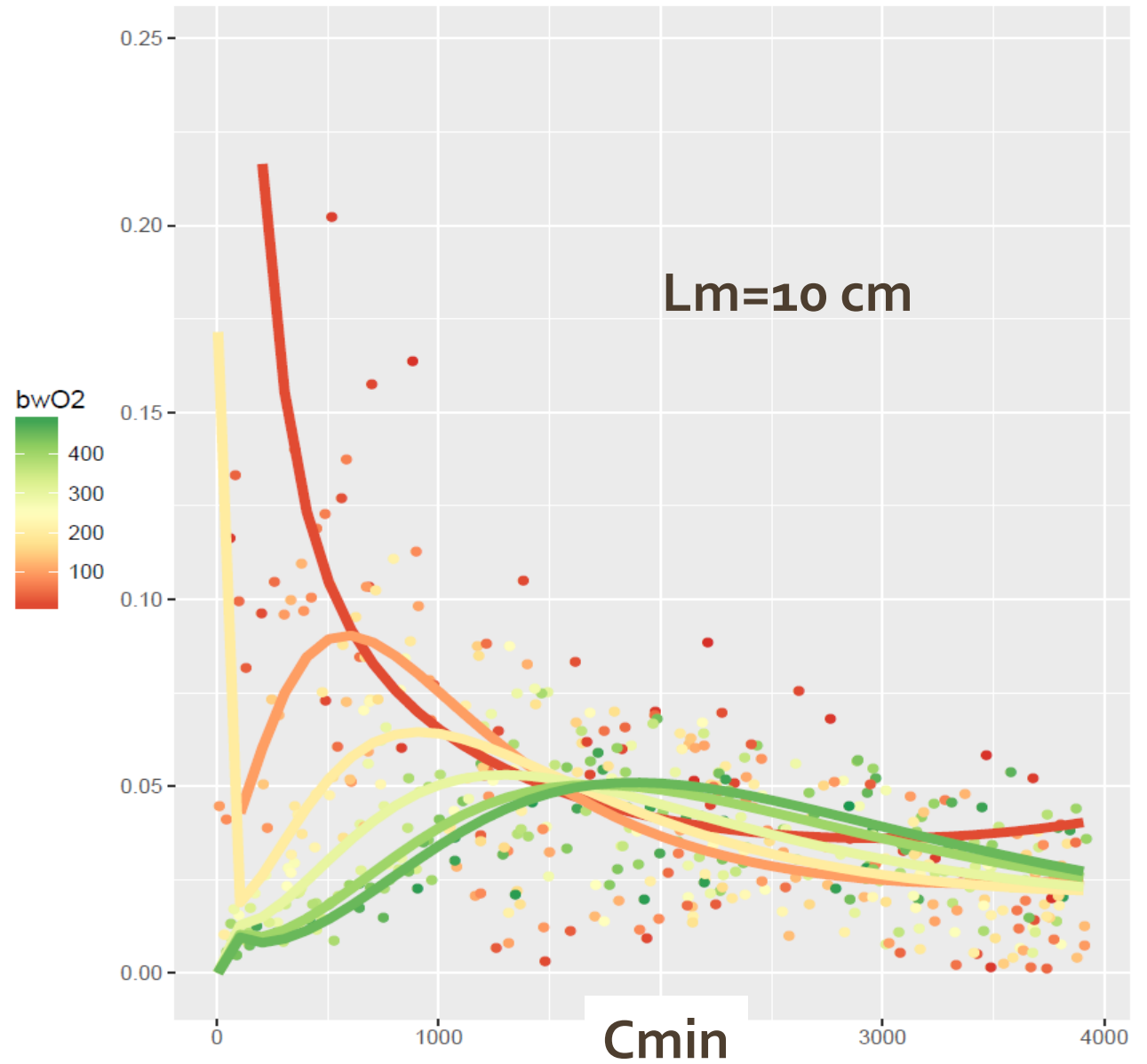
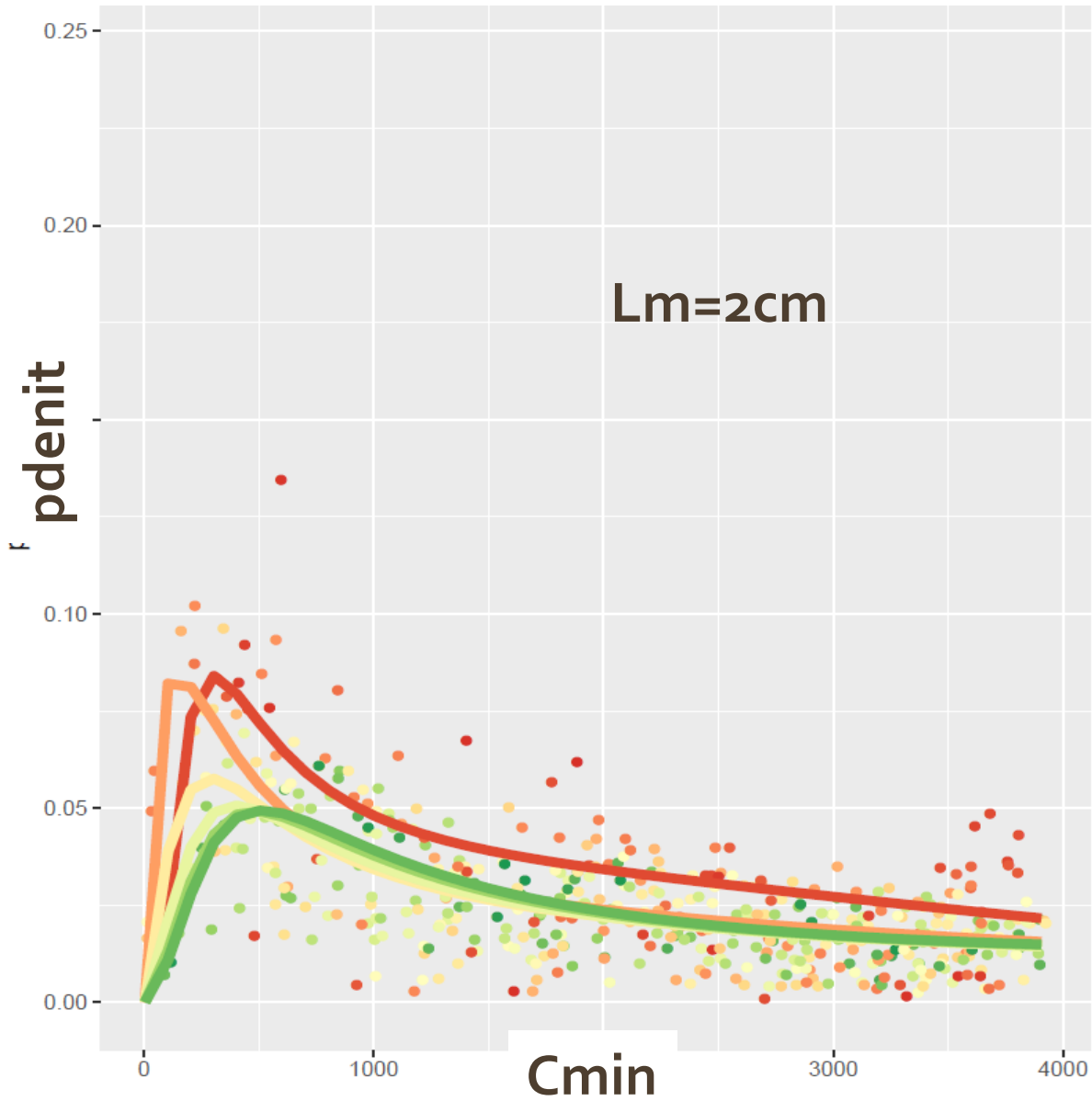
Non-local and local transport of particles and solutes (ventilation)  
 $L_i$ =injection pocket depth



$L_i$ =injection pocket, pumping rate, diffusion enhancement factor,

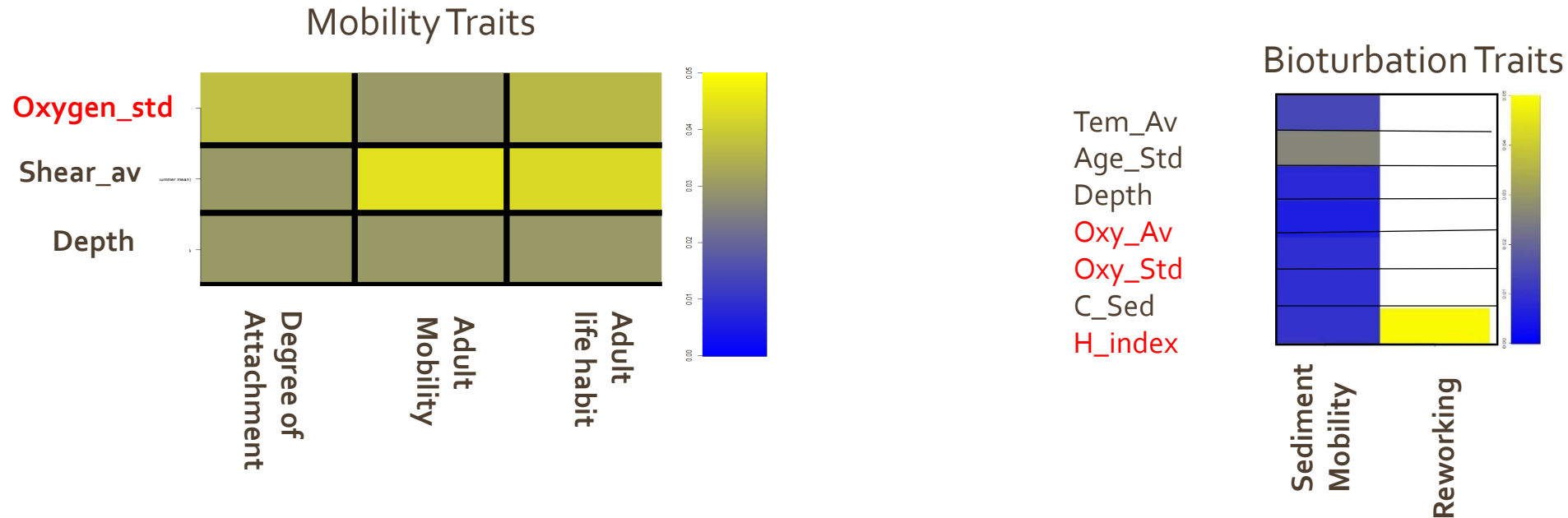
Meysman et al., 2016

# Sensitivity of the benthic model parameters to changing $l_m$



# Main outcomes

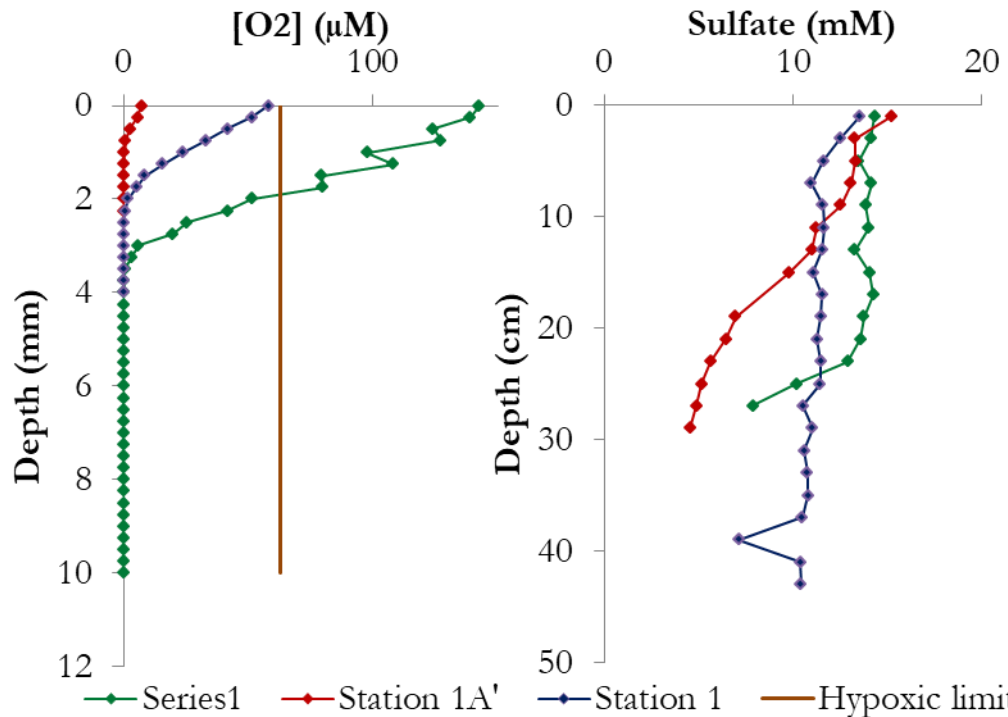
- Macrobenthos traits are significantly clustered by the environment.



- Regions of low oxygen conditions, high shear stress are regions with highly mobile species and active bioturbators. But this does not reflect in the mapping of the BPC because the biomass is lower.
- The age of the bottom waters is a dominant variables for explaining the variability of the intensity of traits.
- The coupling of functional biogeographic models and mechanistic biogeochemical models offers the way to couple environment, biodiversity and biogeochemistry at the ecosystem scale.



Station	Date	Location	Bottom water condition	Oxygen penetration depth (mm)
7	May 2016	Danube Delta	Oxic	3.2
1A'	August 2017	Danube Delta	Hypoxic	1.5
1	August 2017	Shelf	Hypoxic	2.5

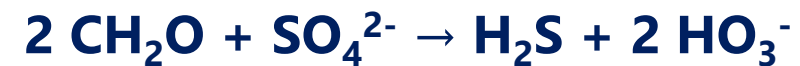


Diagenetic processes impacted by hypoxia:

Oxic respiration



Sulfate reduction



**GO<sub>2</sub>NE**

Global Ocean Oxygen Network



## GO<sub>2</sub>NE SS2019: GO<sub>2</sub>NE Summer School 2-7 September 2019





# THANK YOU!



**EMBLAS**  
Environmental monitoring  
in the Black sea



The MARE Nigrum the Romanian research vessel (GeoEcoMar)



Lei and Audrey are on board



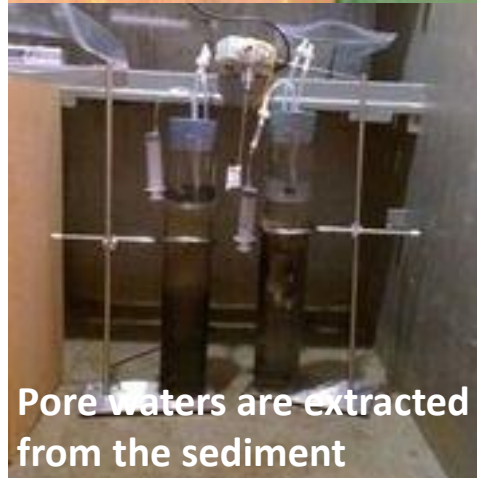
Deployment of the multicorer



The long core is sliced by the EMBLAS team



The short sediment cores



Pore waters are extracted from the sediment

