



# Interannual variability in the zooplankton community and its relationship with environmental variables in the Bohai Bay, China

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S6 Interannual variability in marine ecosystems and its  
coupling with climate projections

# INTRODUCTION

## Zooplankton Community

Important linkage between primary producers and upper trophic levels

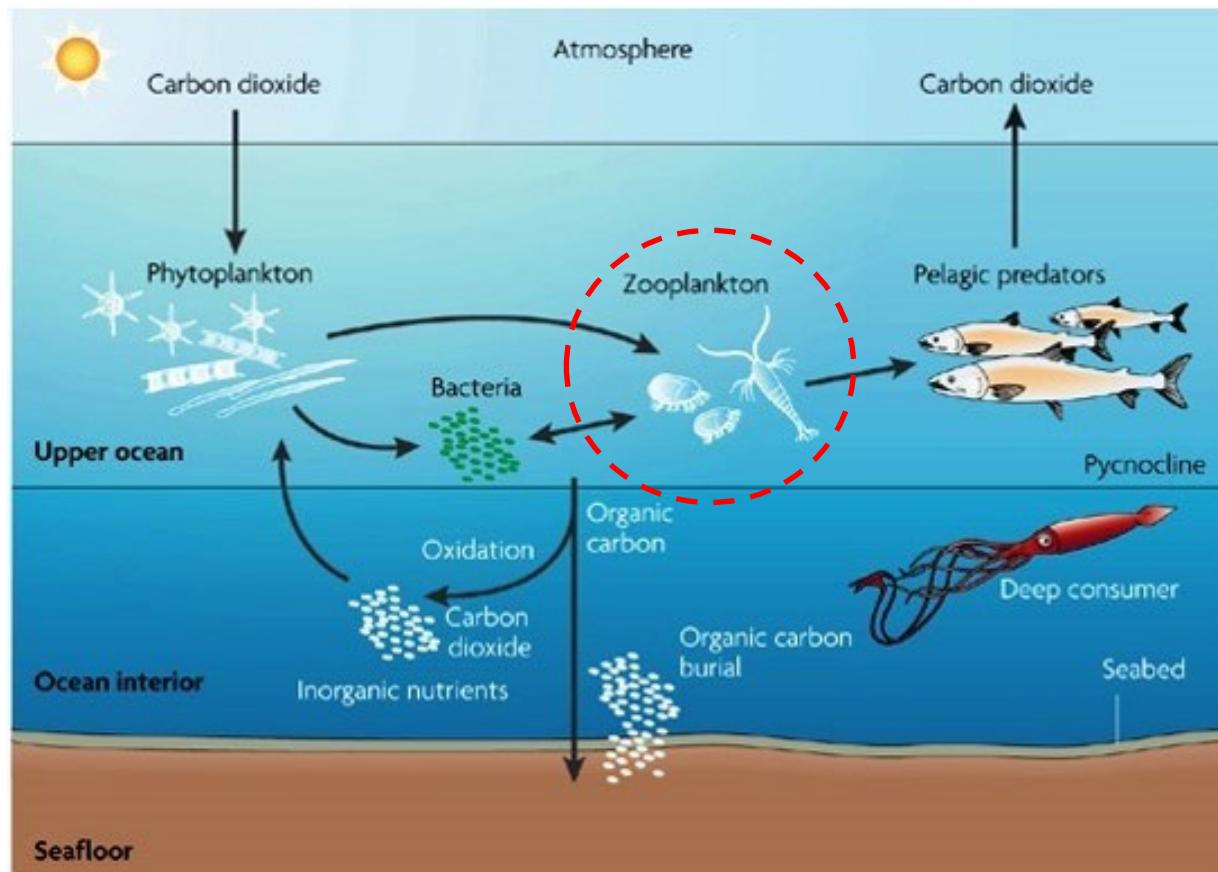


Fig.1 Representation of the marine food web.

# INTRODUCTION

## Zooplankton Community

**Important linkage** between primary producers and upper trophic levels

**Important role** in biogeochemical cycles

**Fast response** to stressors through climate change or anthropogenic disturbances

**Excellent sentinels** for the study of relationships between biotic and abiotic environment

# INTRODUCTION

## Zooplankton Community vs Climate Change

### Changes in organism distribution

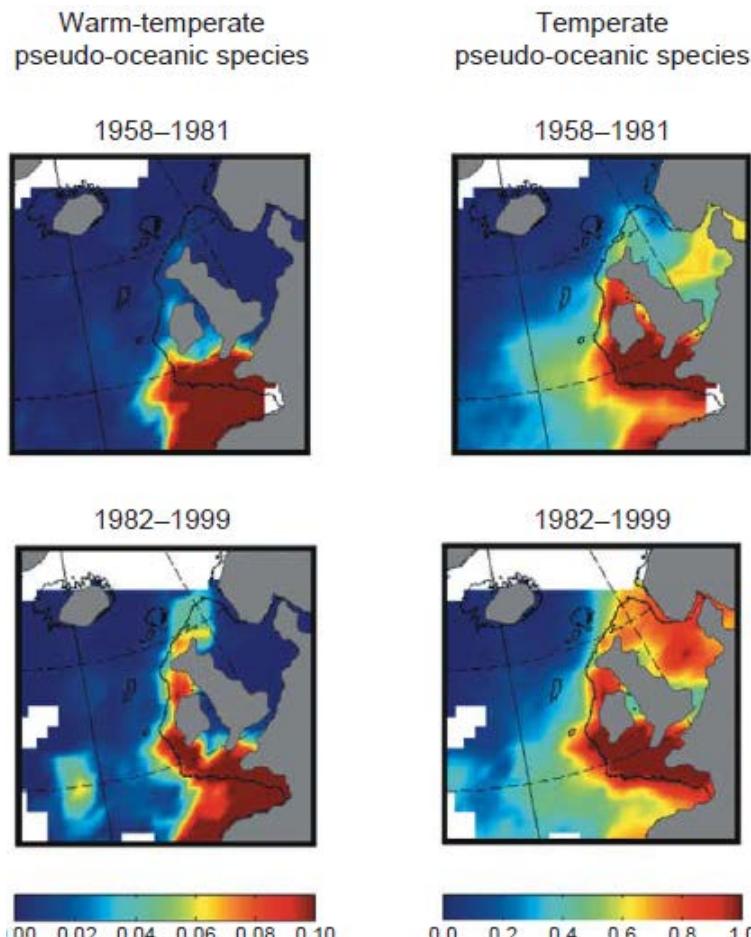


Fig.2 The northerly shift of mesozooplankton assemblages in the Northeast Atlantic.

- Analysis of assemblages based on a cluster analyses of calanoid copepod taxa from the CPR survey over broad spatial scales.
- Scale is the mean number of species per assemblage, which provides an index of abundance.

# INTRODUCTION

## Zooplankton Community vs Climate Change

### □ Changes in mean body size

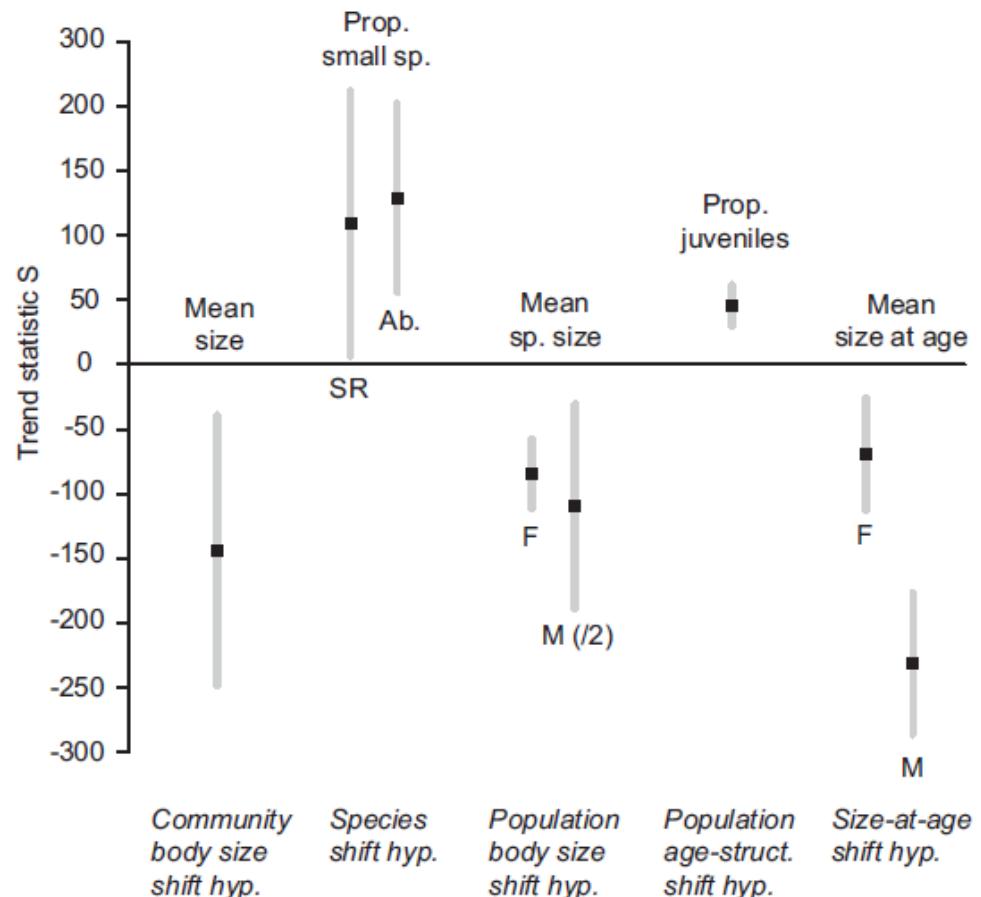


Fig.3 Mean effect sizes (i.e., mean weighted temporal trend statistic  $S$ ;  $\pm 95\%$  confidence intervals).

- Negative or positive trend values indicate temporal decrease or increase, respectively.
- Mean temporal trends are significant if their 95% confidence intervals did not contain 0.

# OBJECTIVES

Reveal variability in abiotic environment



Reveal variability in zooplankton community



Analyze changes in major species of  
zooplankton



Discuss correlations between community and  
environmental variables

## MATERIALS & METHODS

### Study Area



Fig.4 Location of study area.

# MATERIALS & METHODS

## Sampling Site

- Bohai Bay, Tianjin, China
- $117^{\circ}39' - 118^{\circ}4'E$ ,  $38^{\circ}37' - 39^{\circ}6'N$
- Every August from 2004-2015,  
12 years in total
- 30 stations from 2004 to 2007,  
21 stations in 2008,  
24 stations in 2009,  
20 stations from 2010 to 2015

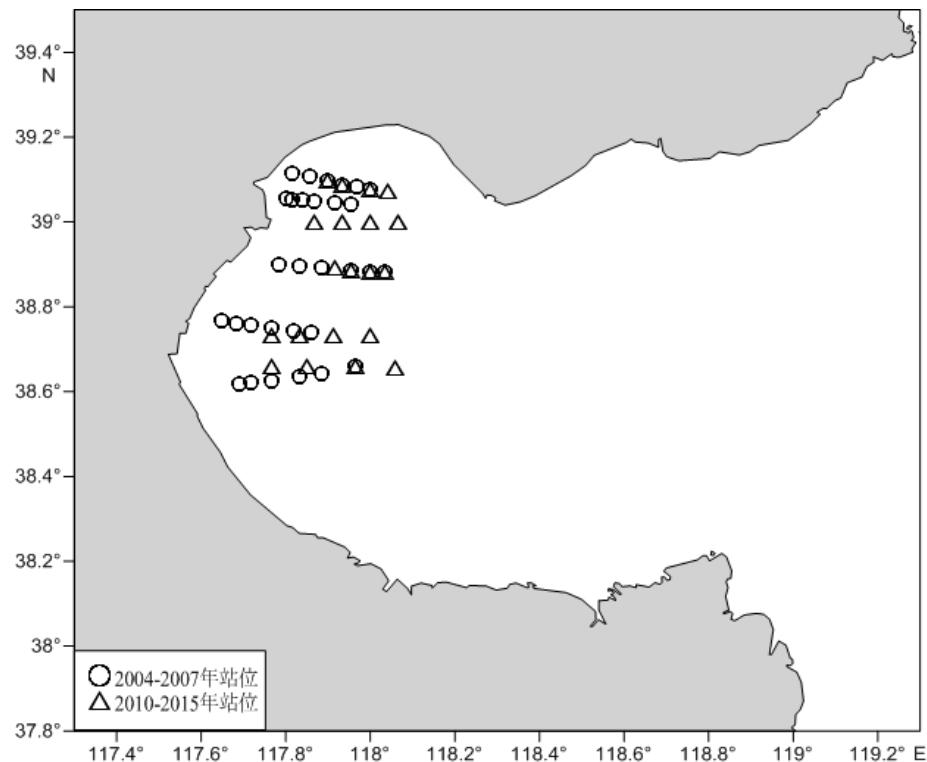
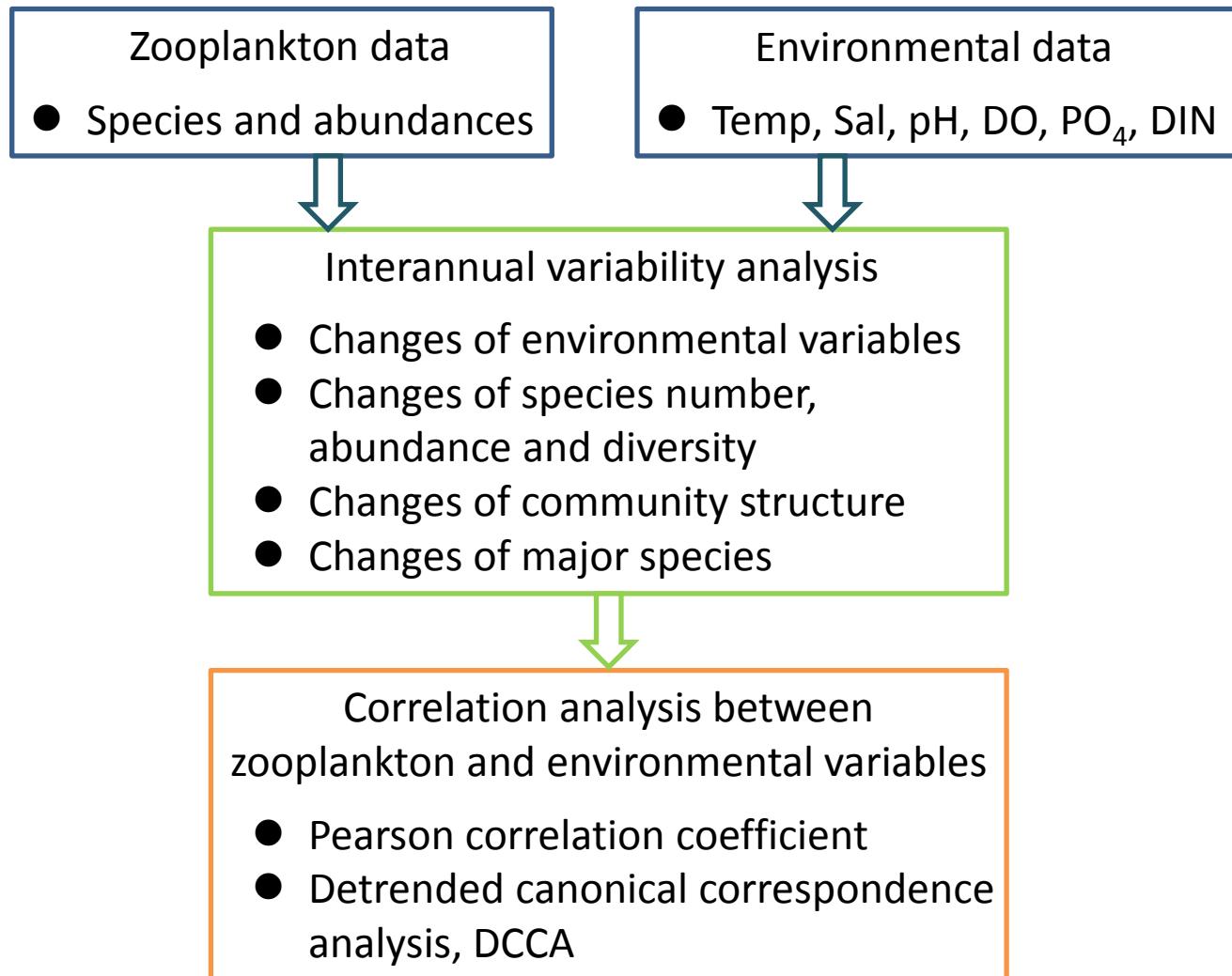


Fig.5 Sampling sites from 2004 to 2015.

# MATERIALS & METHODS



# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Environmental Variations

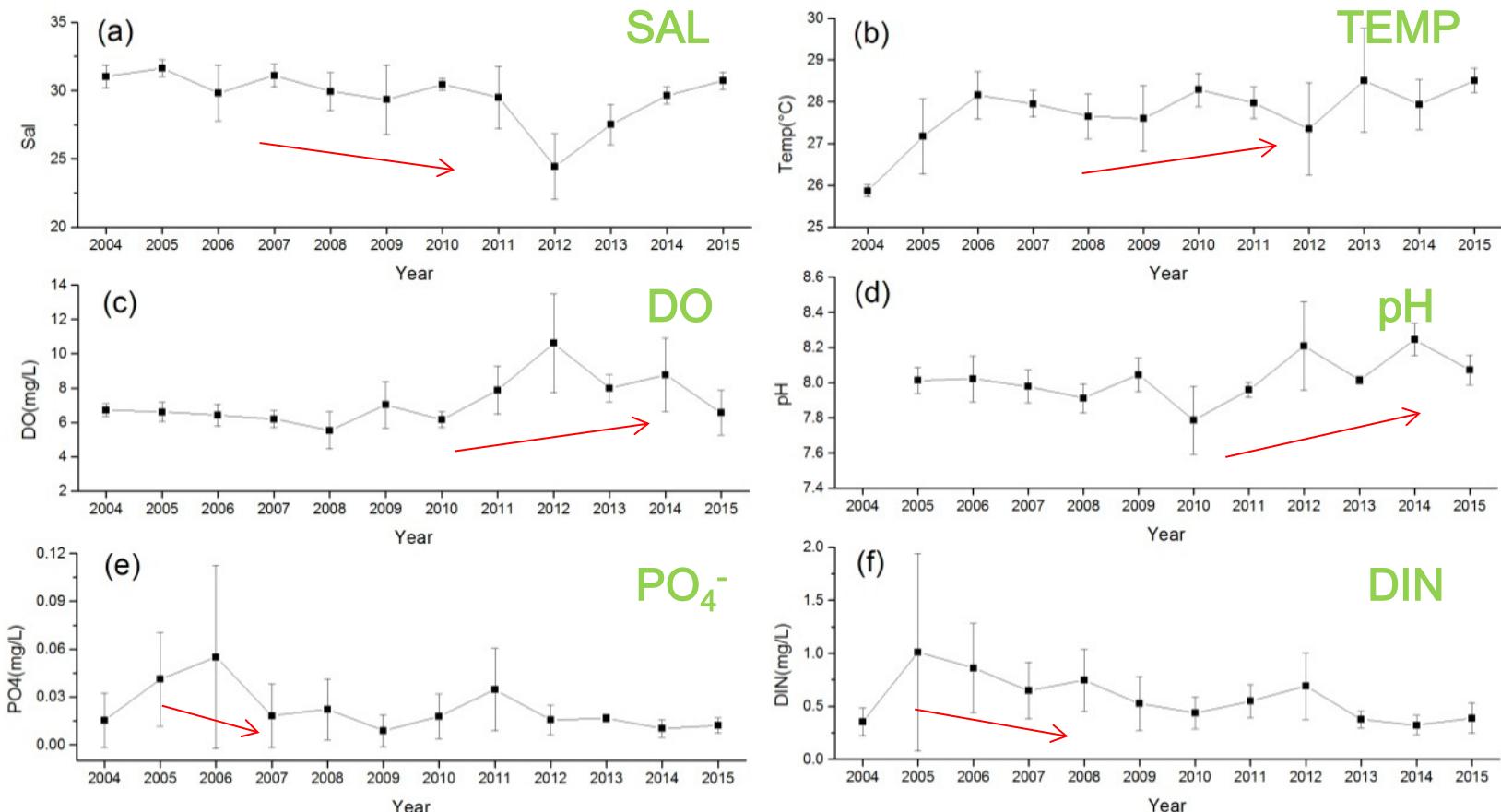


Fig.6 Environmental variations at the surface in Bohai Bay during the summer of 2004-2015

# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Zooplankton community variations

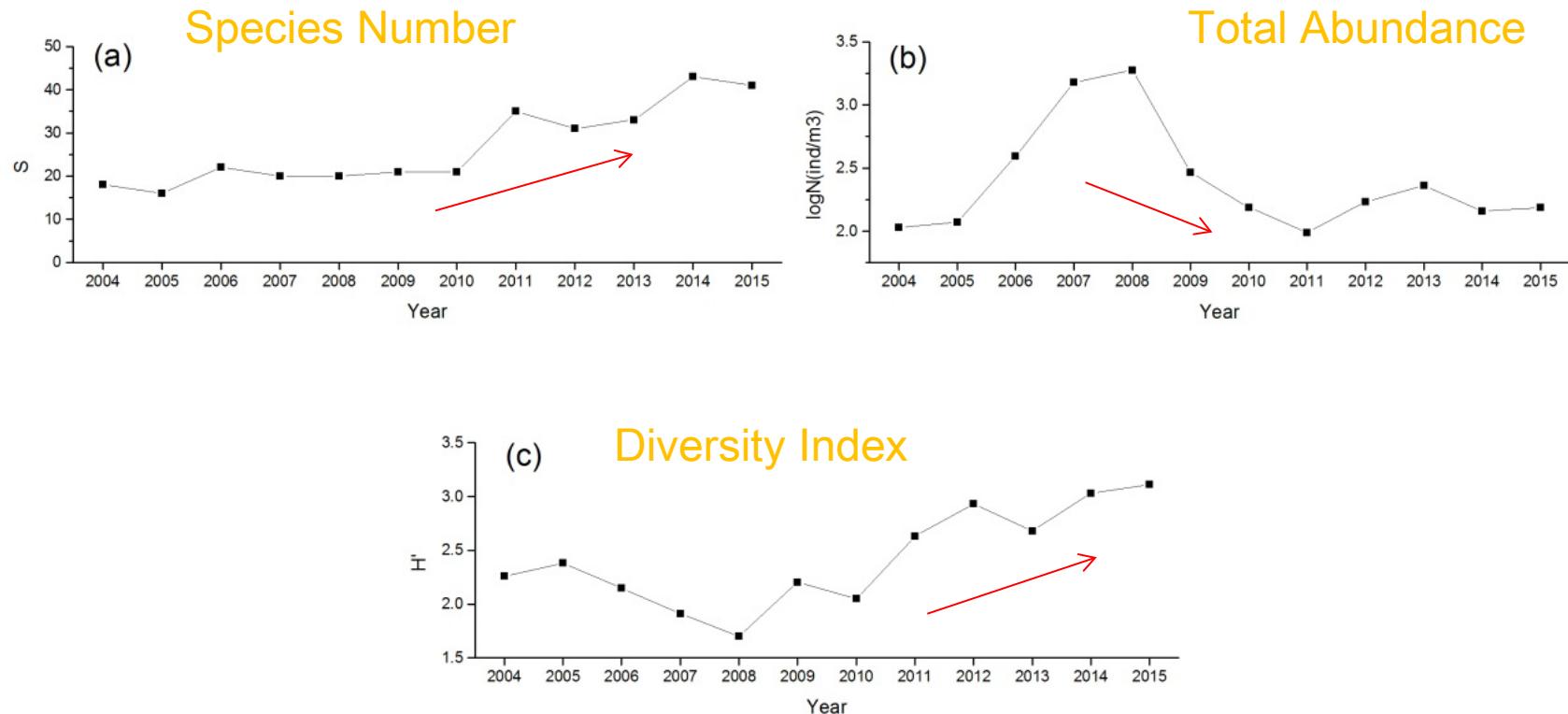


Fig.7 Changes of zooplankton community in Bohai Bay during the summer of 2004-2015.  
(a)Total number of zooplankton species, (b)Total abundance of zooplankton community (ind/m<sup>3</sup>) by log-transformed (c)Shannon-Wiener diversity index ( $H$ )

# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Community Structure

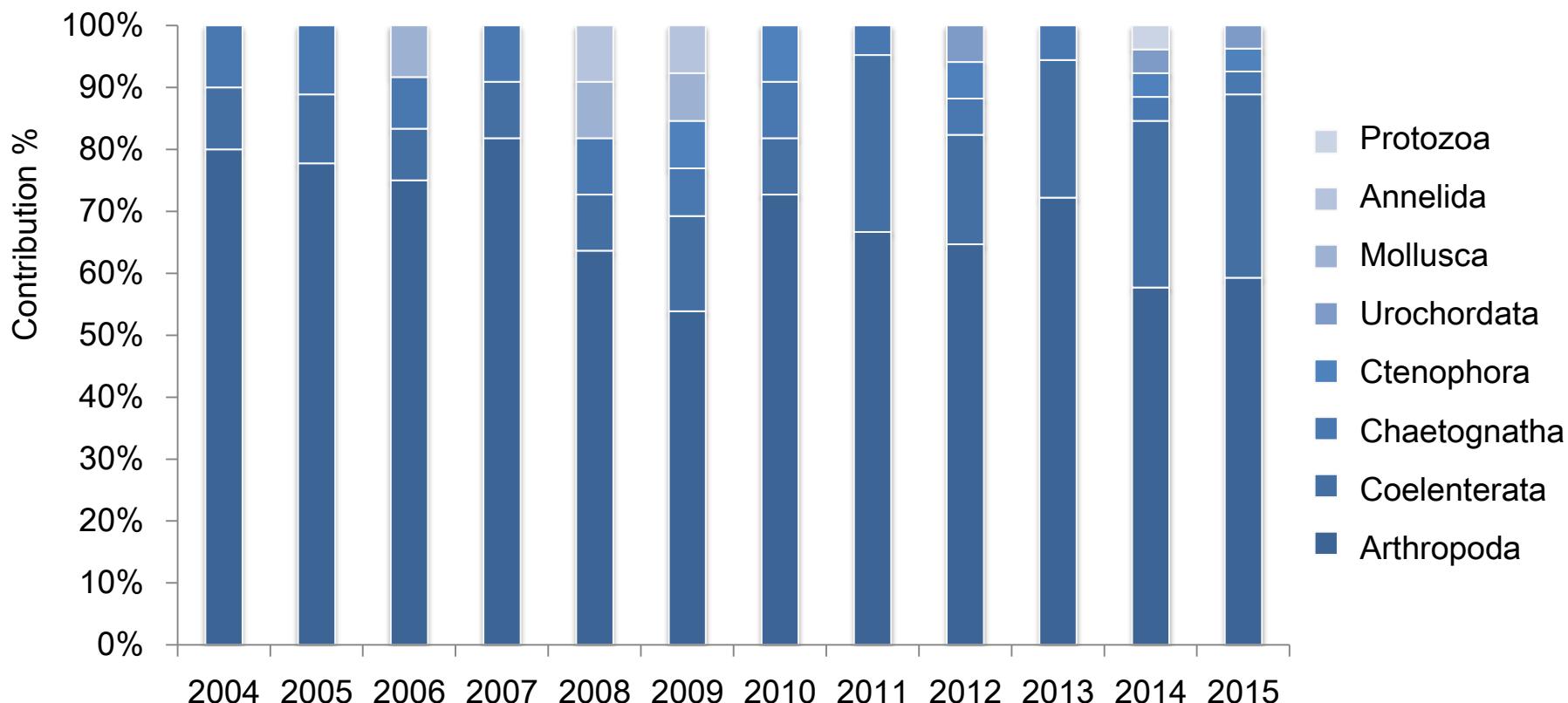


Fig.8 Contributions of different zooplankton taxa to total species number during the summer of 2004-2015 in Bohai Bay (without pelagic larvae)

## RESULTS & DISCUSSION

### Dominated groups to increased species number

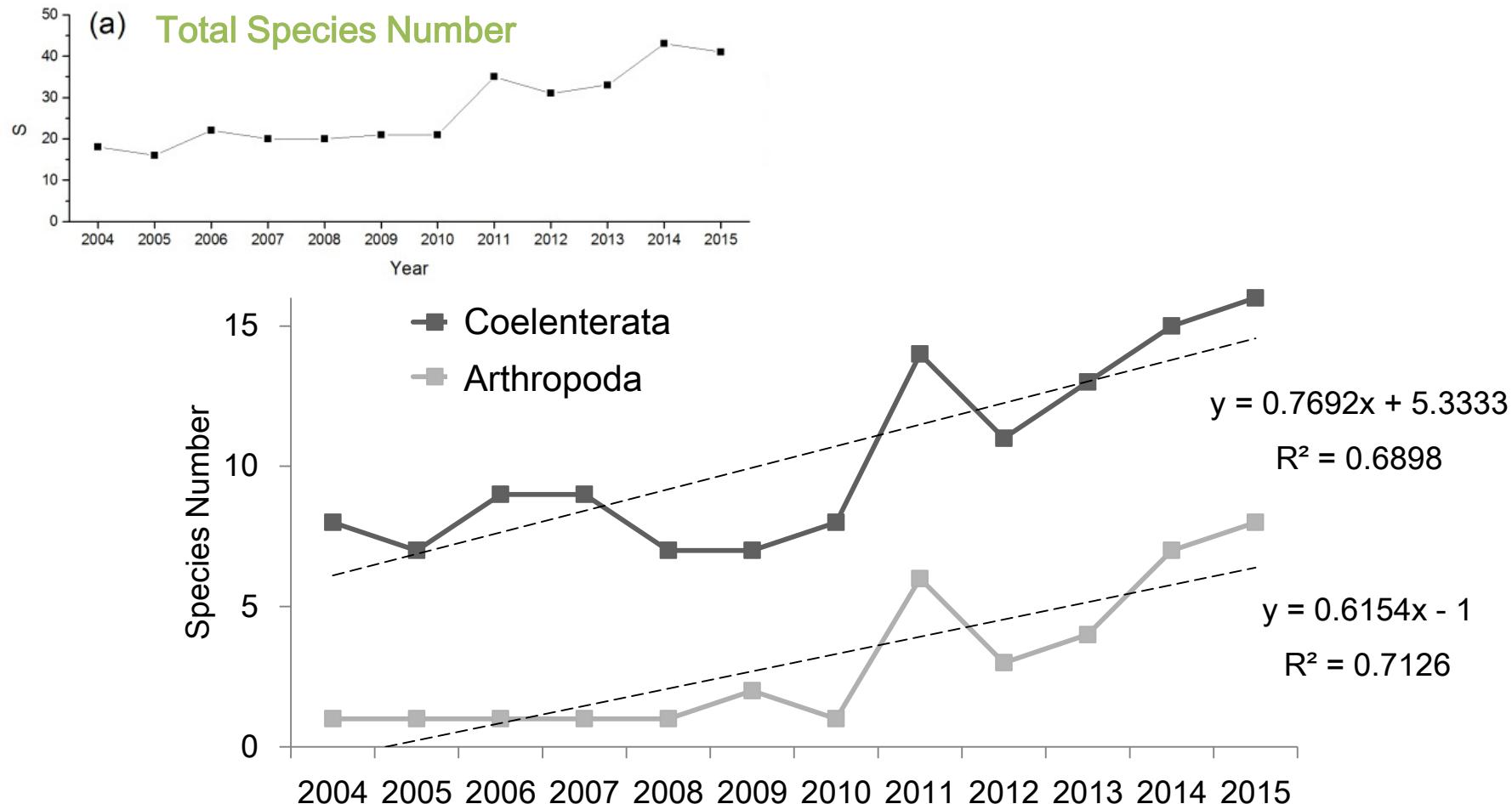


Fig.9 Changes of species number of Arthropoda and Coelenterata during the summer of 2004-2015 in Bohai Bay

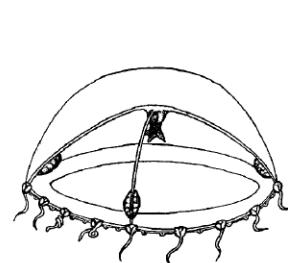
# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## New identified species

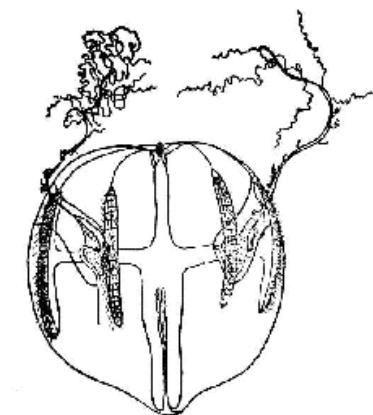
- *Centropages tenuiremis*
- *Centropages dorsispinus*
- *Clytia hemisphaerica*
- *Pleurobrachia globosa*
- .....



- *Centropages tenuiremis*



- *Clytia hemisphaerica*



- *Pleurobrachia globosa*

## RESULTS & DISCUSSION

### Dominant pattern of zooplankton community

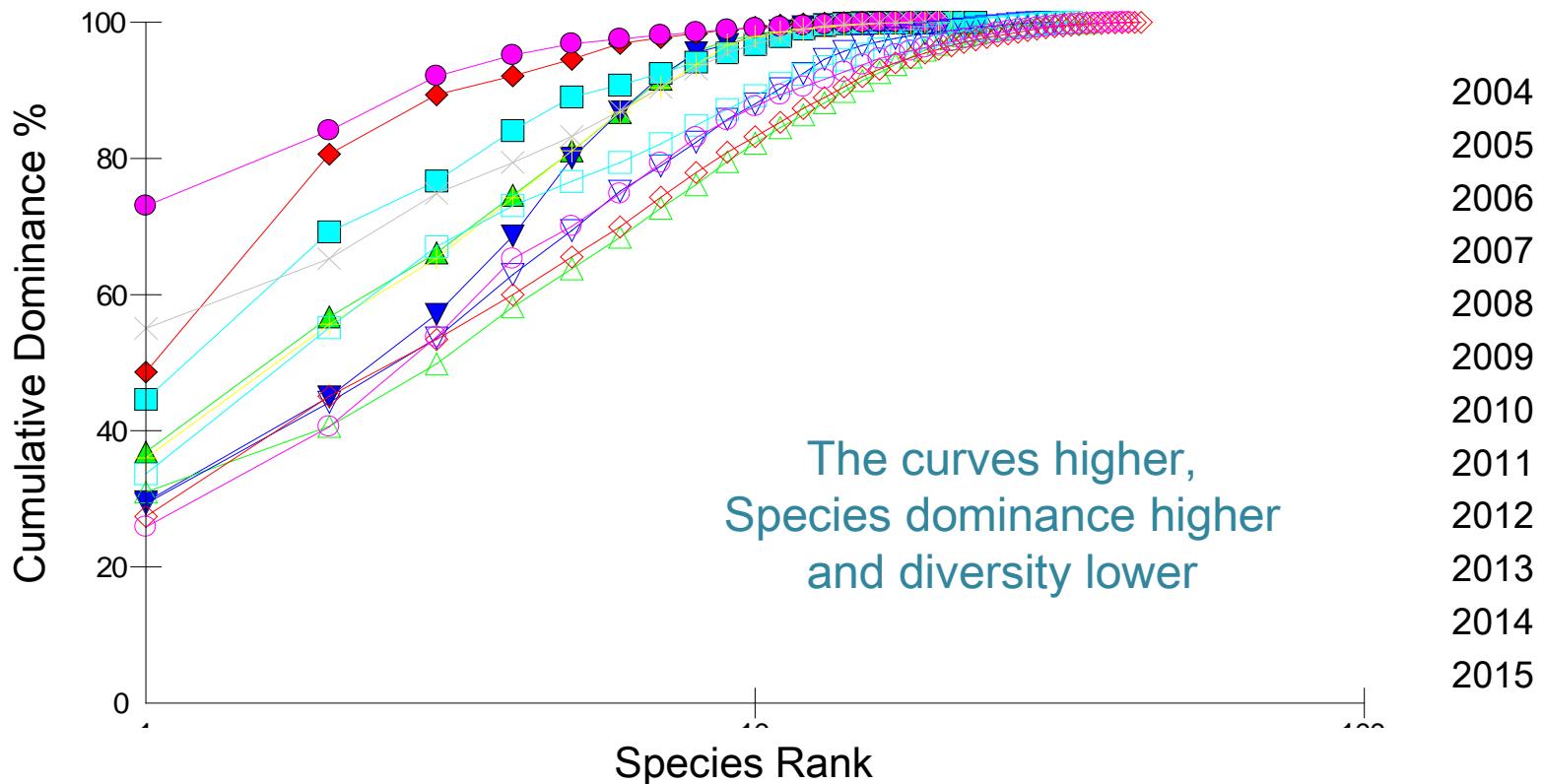


Fig.10 K-dominance curves for zooplankton community during the summer of 2004-2015 in Bohai Bay

# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Dominant pattern of zooplankton community

Year	Species Number with Cumulative Abundance >90%	Of total species number %	Species of the most abundance	
			Species	Abundance Percentage %
2004	7	38.9	<i>Calanus sinicus</i>	36.9
2005	7	43.8	<i>Sagitta crassa</i>	29.6
2006	6	27.3	<i>Acartia bifilosa</i>	44.6
2007	4	20.0	<i>Paracalanus parvus</i>	48.6
2008	3	15.0	<i>Acartia bifilosa</i>	73.0
2009	7	33.3	<i>Pleurobrachia globosa</i>	36.0
2010	7	33.3	<i>Sagitta crassa</i>	55.0
2011	15	42.9	<i>Sagitta crassa</i>	31.0
2012	11	35.5	<i>Sagitta crassa</i>	29.3
2013	11	33.3	<i>Sagitta crassa</i>	33.7
2014	14	32.6	<i>Oikopleura dioica</i>	27.4
2015	12	29.3	<i>Sagitta crassa</i>	25.9

# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Major Species Variability

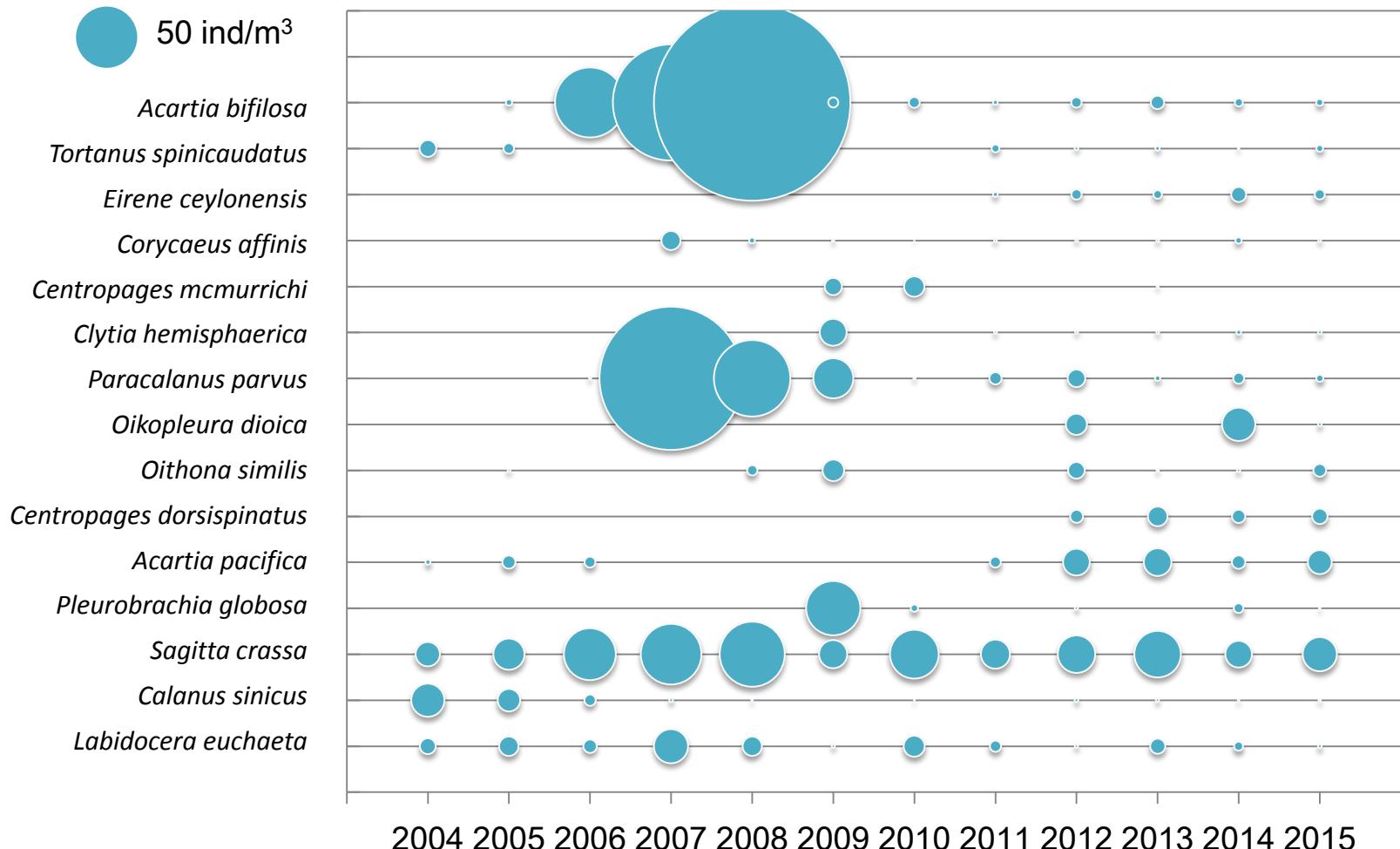


Fig.11 Mean abundances of 15 major zooplankton species during the summer of 2004-2015 in Bohai Bay

# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Major Species Variability

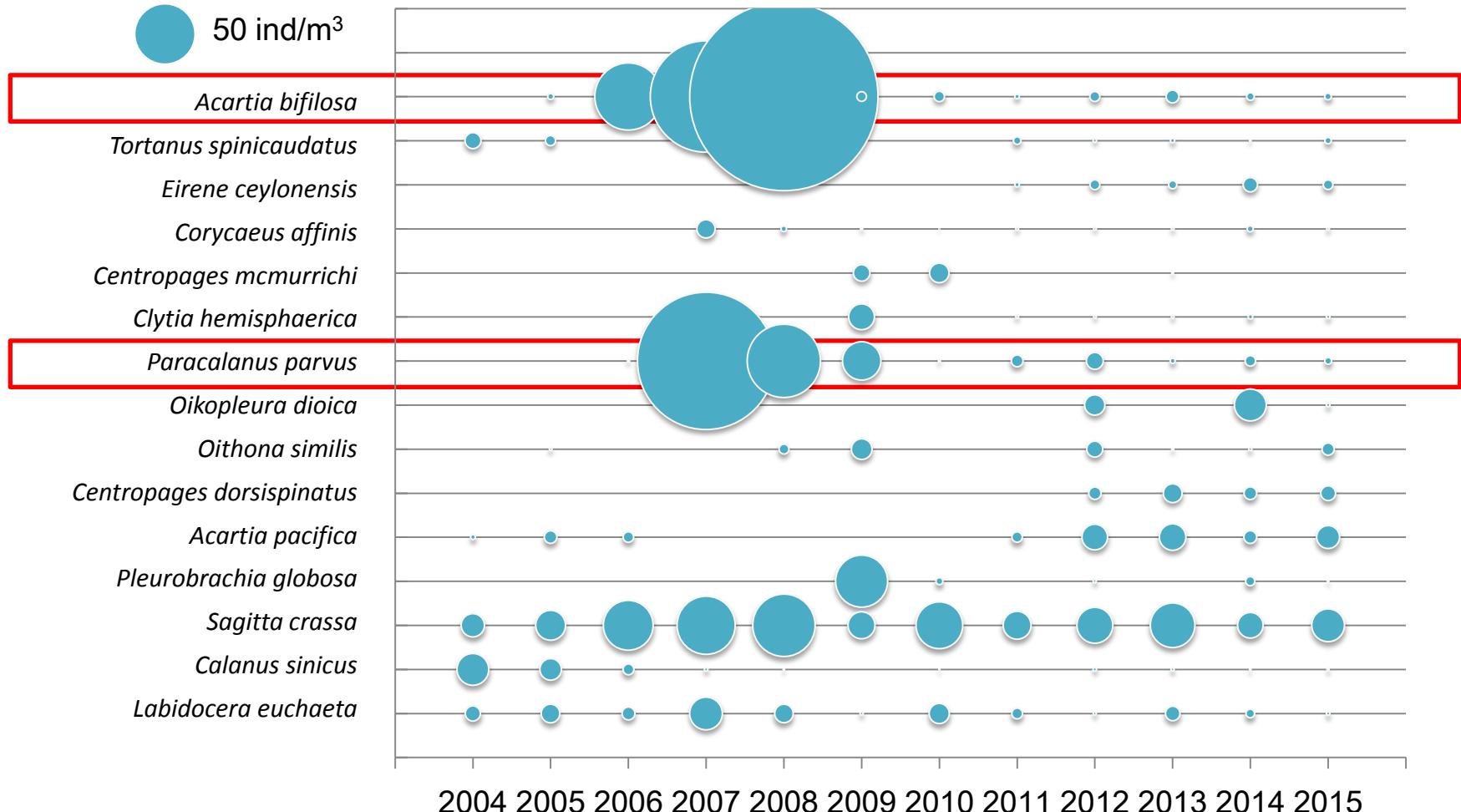


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# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Major Species Variability

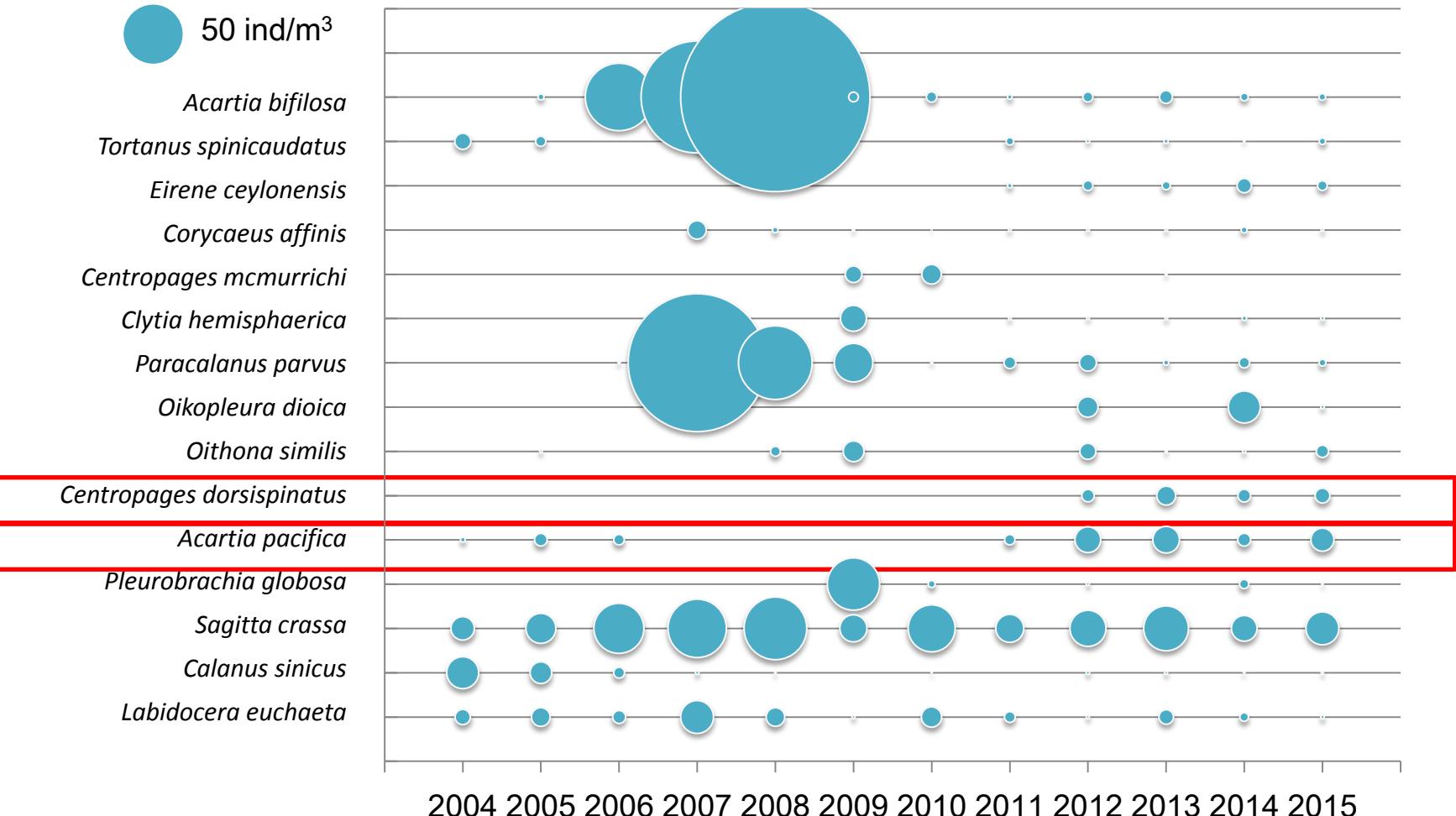


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# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Major Species Variability

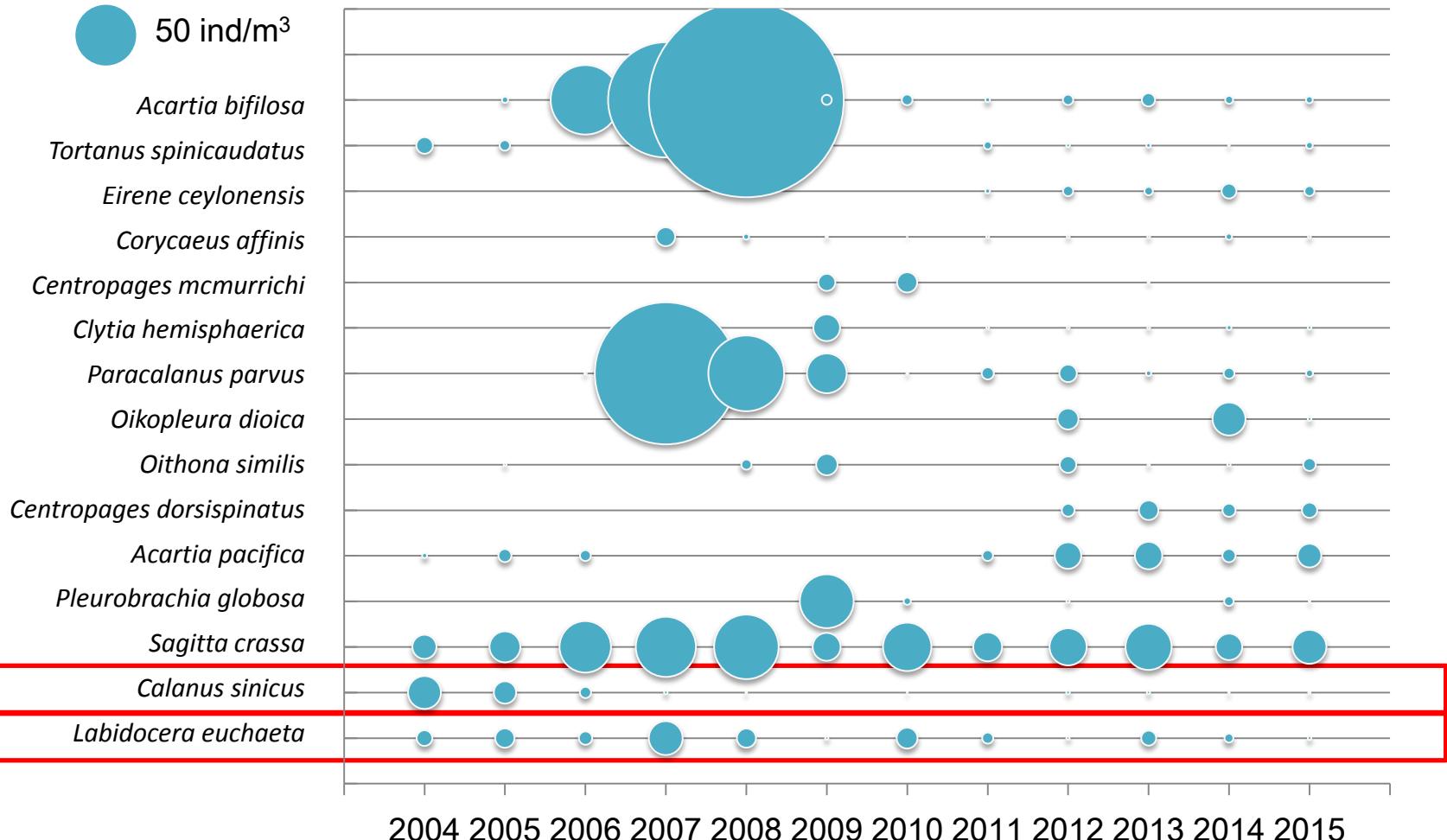


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# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Major Species Variability

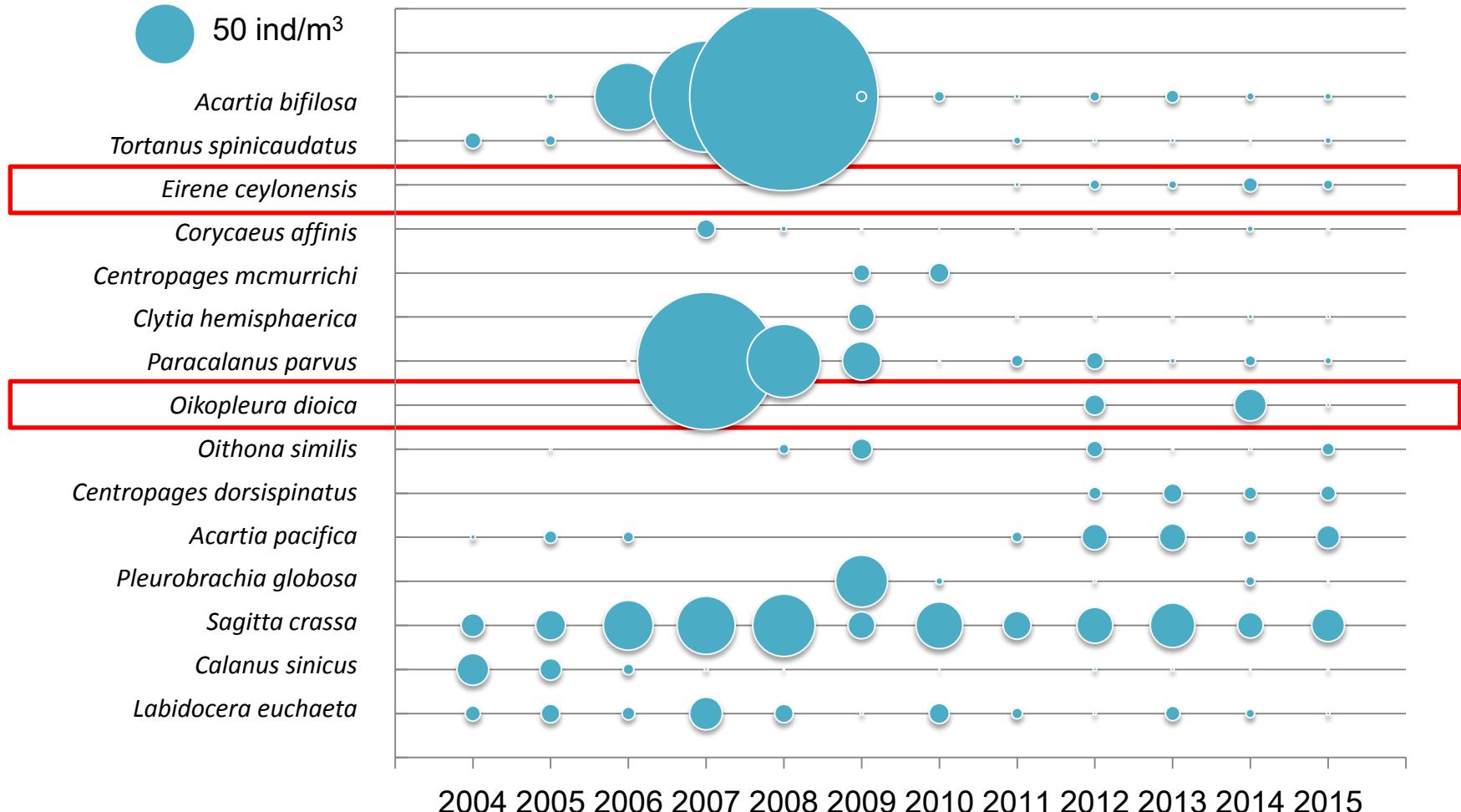


Fig.11 Mean abundances of 15 major zooplankton species during the summer of 2004-2015 in Bohai Bay

# RESULTS & DISCUSSION

## Correlation Analysis

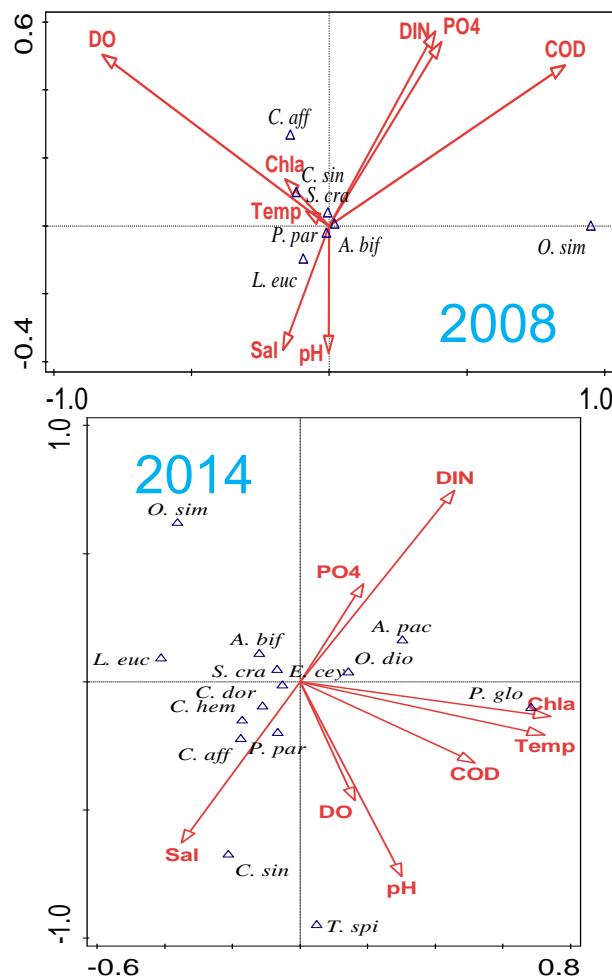
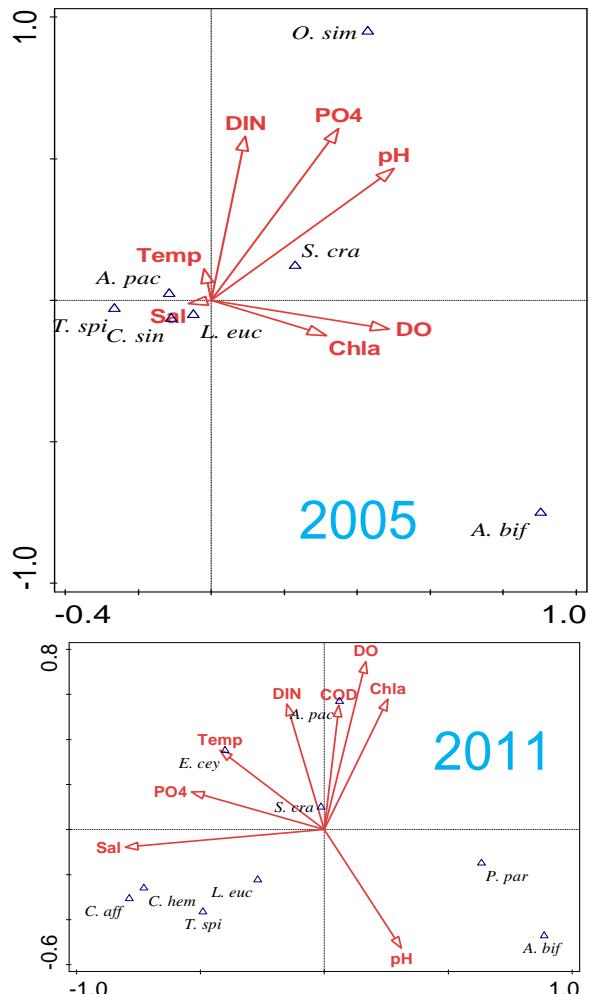
Tab. Pearson correlation analysis between zooplankton community and environmental variables in Bohai Bay

	Tem	Sal	pH	DO	PO <sub>4</sub>	DIN
<b>Species Number</b>	0.486**	0.321**	0.027	0.377**	-0.056	-0.167**
<b>Total Abundance</b>	0.188**	0.138*	-0.331**	-0.032	-0.032	-0.006

\*\*indicates significant correlation ( $p<0.01$ )

## RESULTS & DISCUSSION

# Correlation Analysis



**Fig.12 DCCA ordination graph of major zooplankton species and environmental variables in Bohai Bay**

## CONCLUSIONS

- In general, the species number and biodiversity of zooplankton community in Bohai Bay showed an increasing trend in summer from 2004 to 2015.
- In early years, fewer species dominated the zooplankton, and the biodiversity was relatively poor.
- In recent years, the zooplankton community has changed significantly. Large-sized copepods decreased while small-sized copepods and gelatinous species increased continuously. The biodiversity of zooplankton became higher.
- The zooplankton community in Bohai Bay was strongly correlated with environmental variables such as temperature and salinity, and their impacts are becoming more and more important in recent years.



THANK YOU!