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# Spatio-temporal variation of the plankton trophic interaction in the North Sea

Marcos Llope



Instituto Español  
de Oceanografía

**2011**  
- Pucón -

“

# Spatio-temporal variation of the plankton trophic interaction in the North Sea

Marcos Llope

Priscilla Licandro

Kung-Sik Chan

Nils Chr. Stenseth



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# database

CPR routes



Sir Alister Hardy Foundation For Ocean Science

“

# database

CPR routes



Sir Alister Hardy Foundation For Ocean Science

# “database

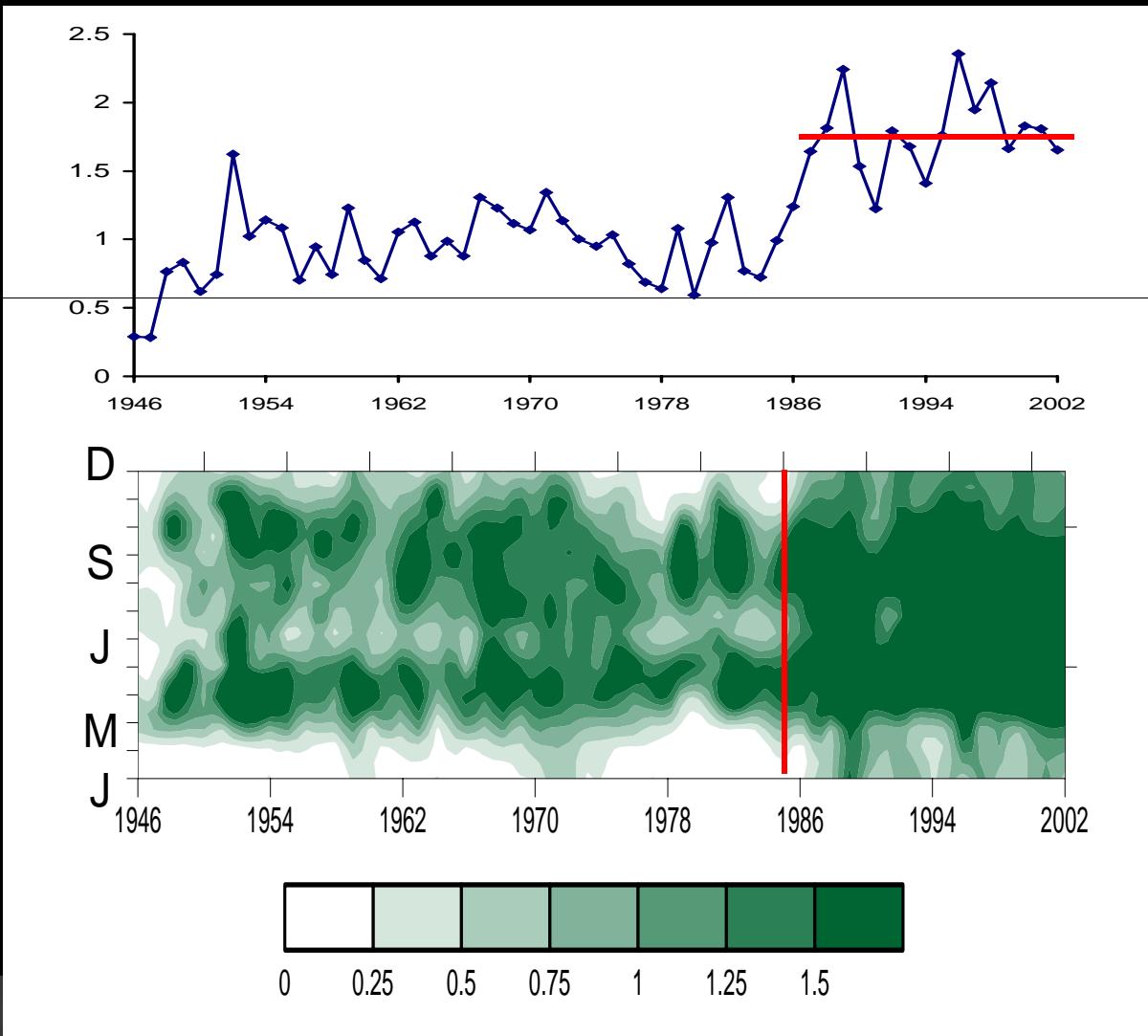
CPR staff



Sir Alister Hardy Foundation For Ocean Science

# North Sea

“regime shifts”



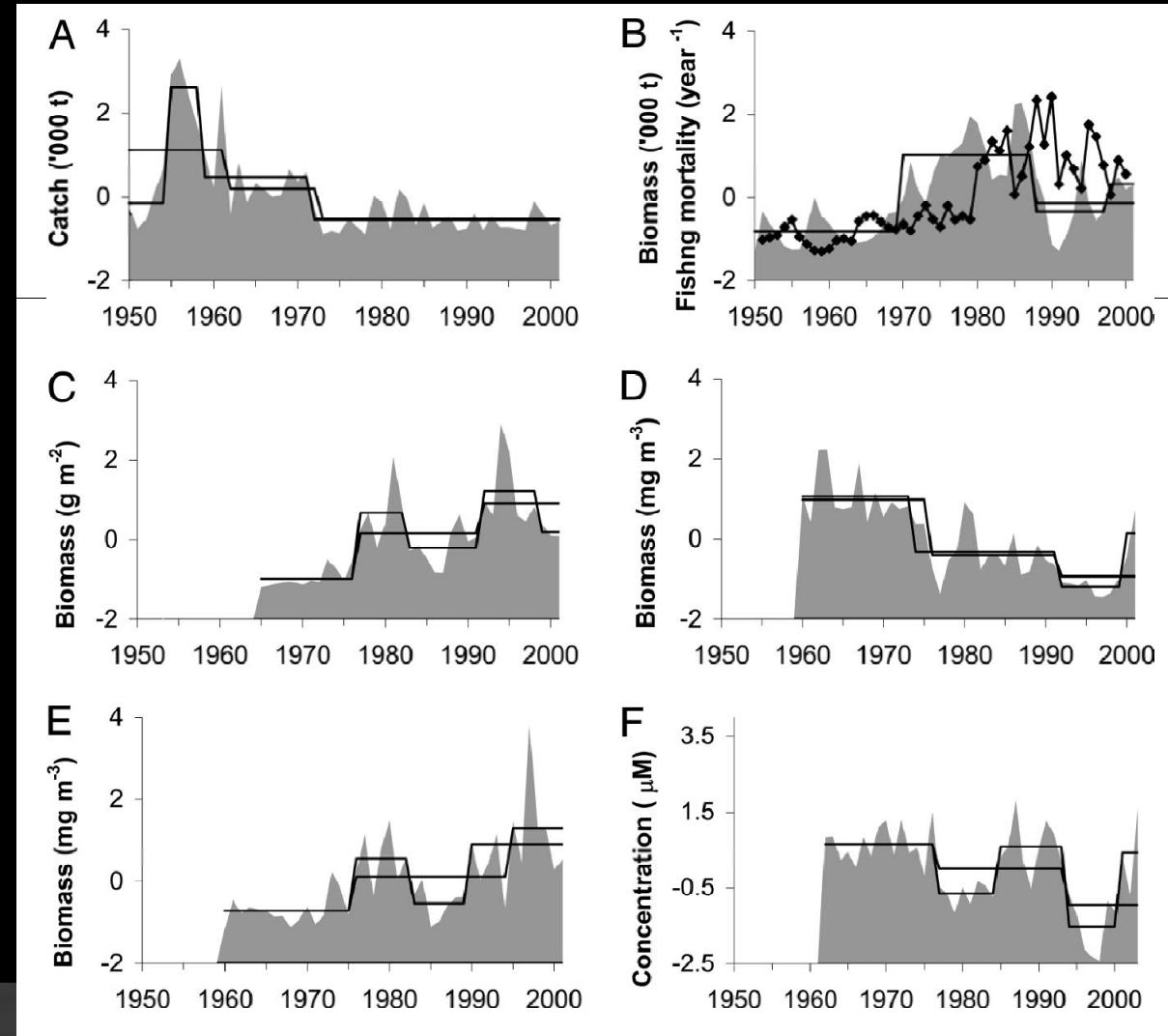
Reid et al. (1998) updated

“

# regime shifts



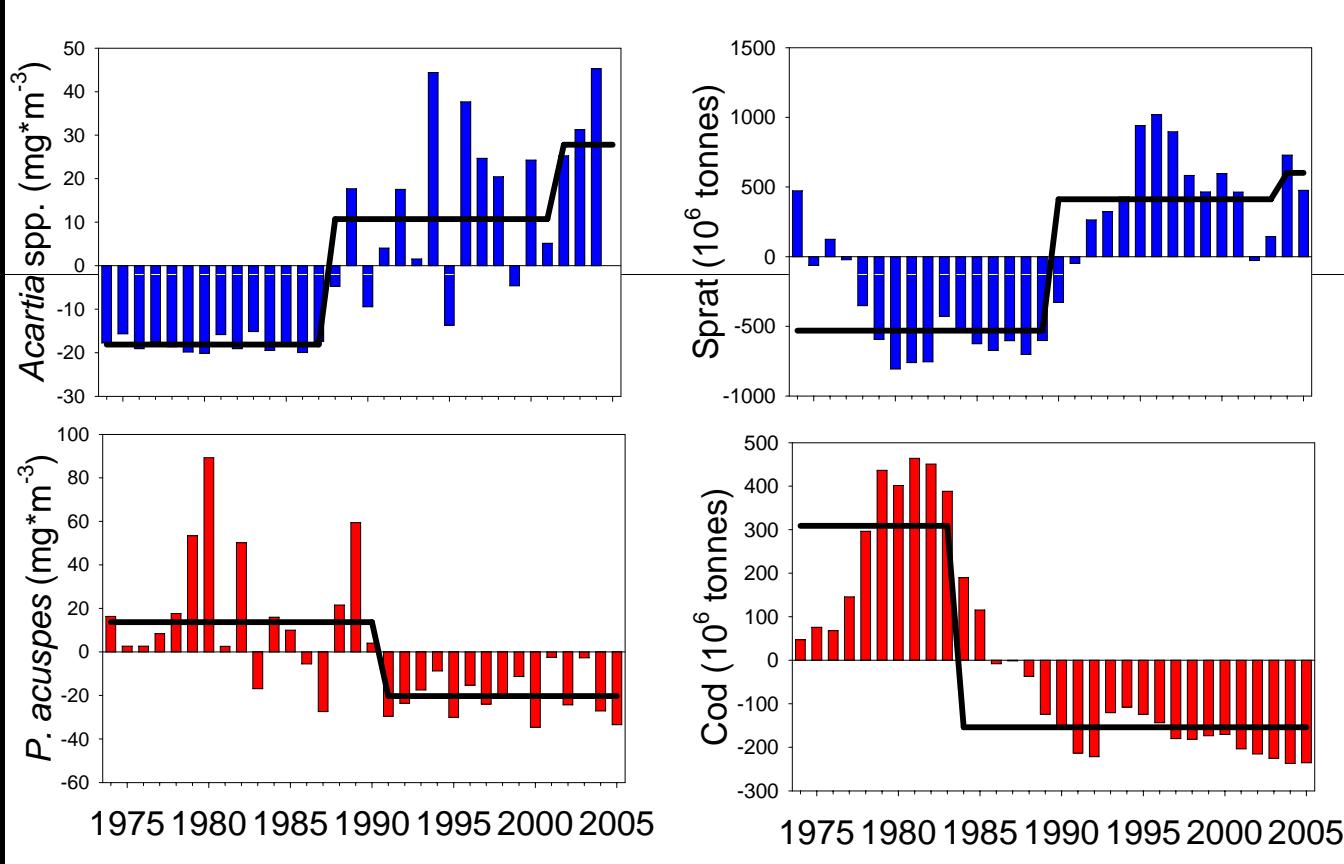
## Black Sea



Daskalov *et al.* (2007)

# Baltic Sea

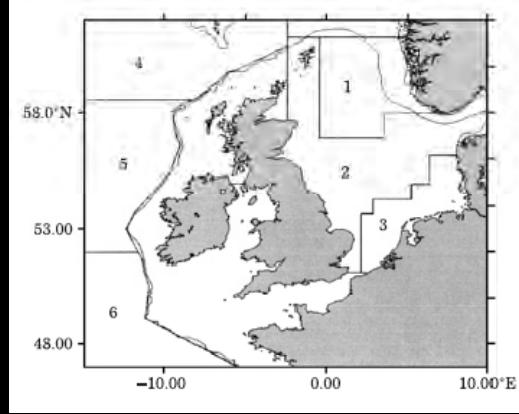
“regime shifts”



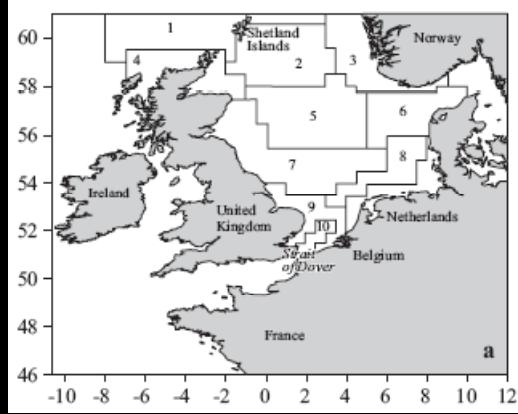
# “ spatial info



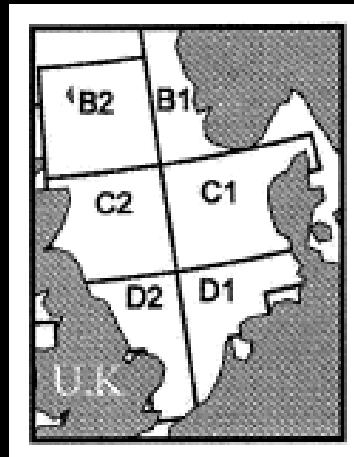
## regionalization



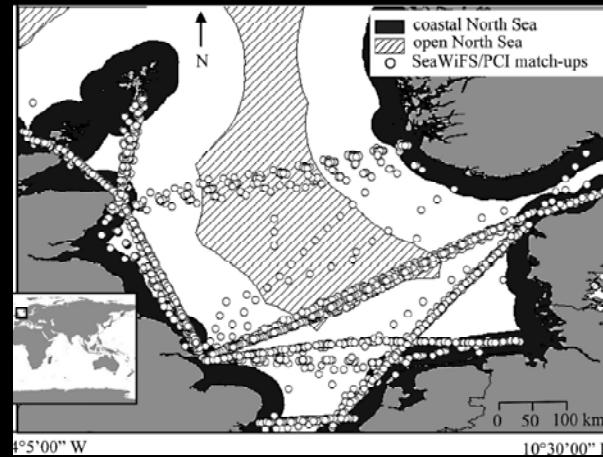
Edwards *et al.* (2001)



Leterme *et al.* (2008)



Several studies



McQuatters-G. *et al.* (2007)

“

# spatial info



regionalization



decadal  
averaging



Edwards et al. (2006)

“

# spatial info



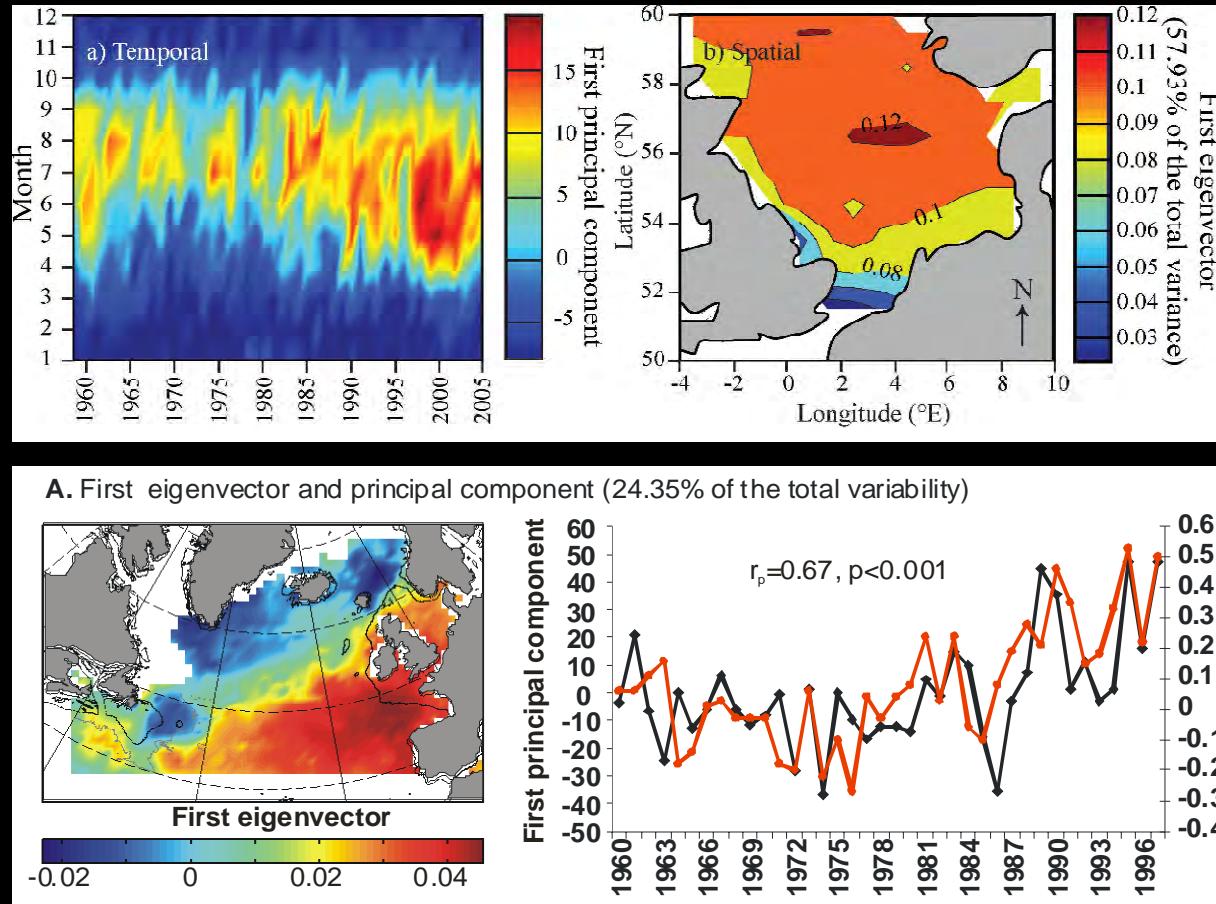
regionalization



decadal averaging



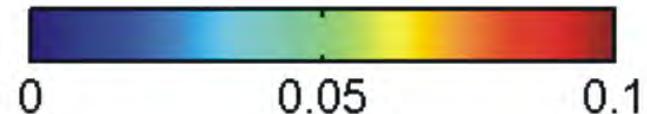
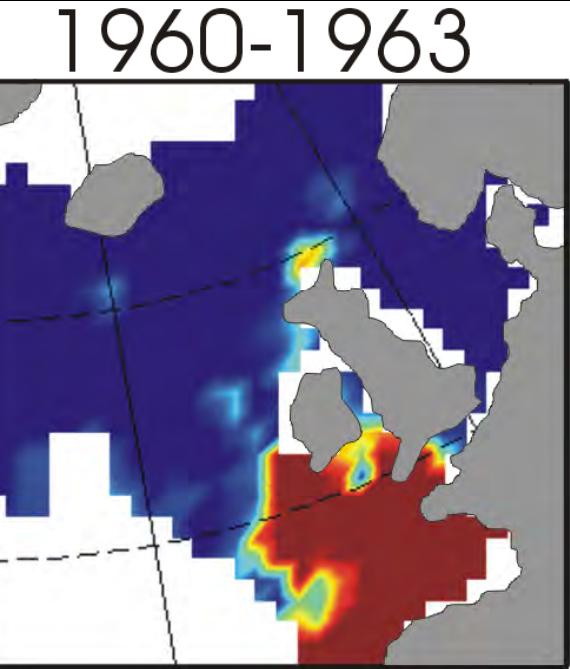
spatialized PCA



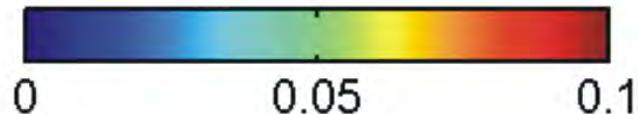
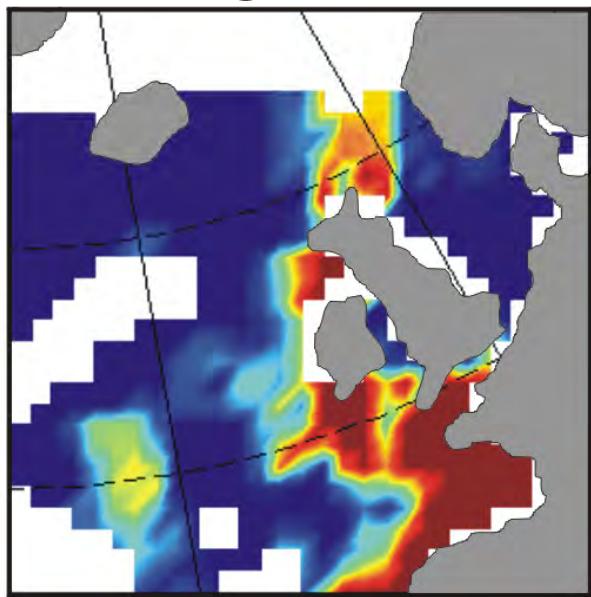
Kirby et al. (2008)

Beaugrand et al. (2002)

# “ spatial info



1996-1999



Beaugrand *et al.* (2002)

Only a few studies focused on distributional changes

# “ objective

› Look into the distributional patterns by using the spatial information explicitly

Simultaneously include temporal and spatial variation in a single statistical model

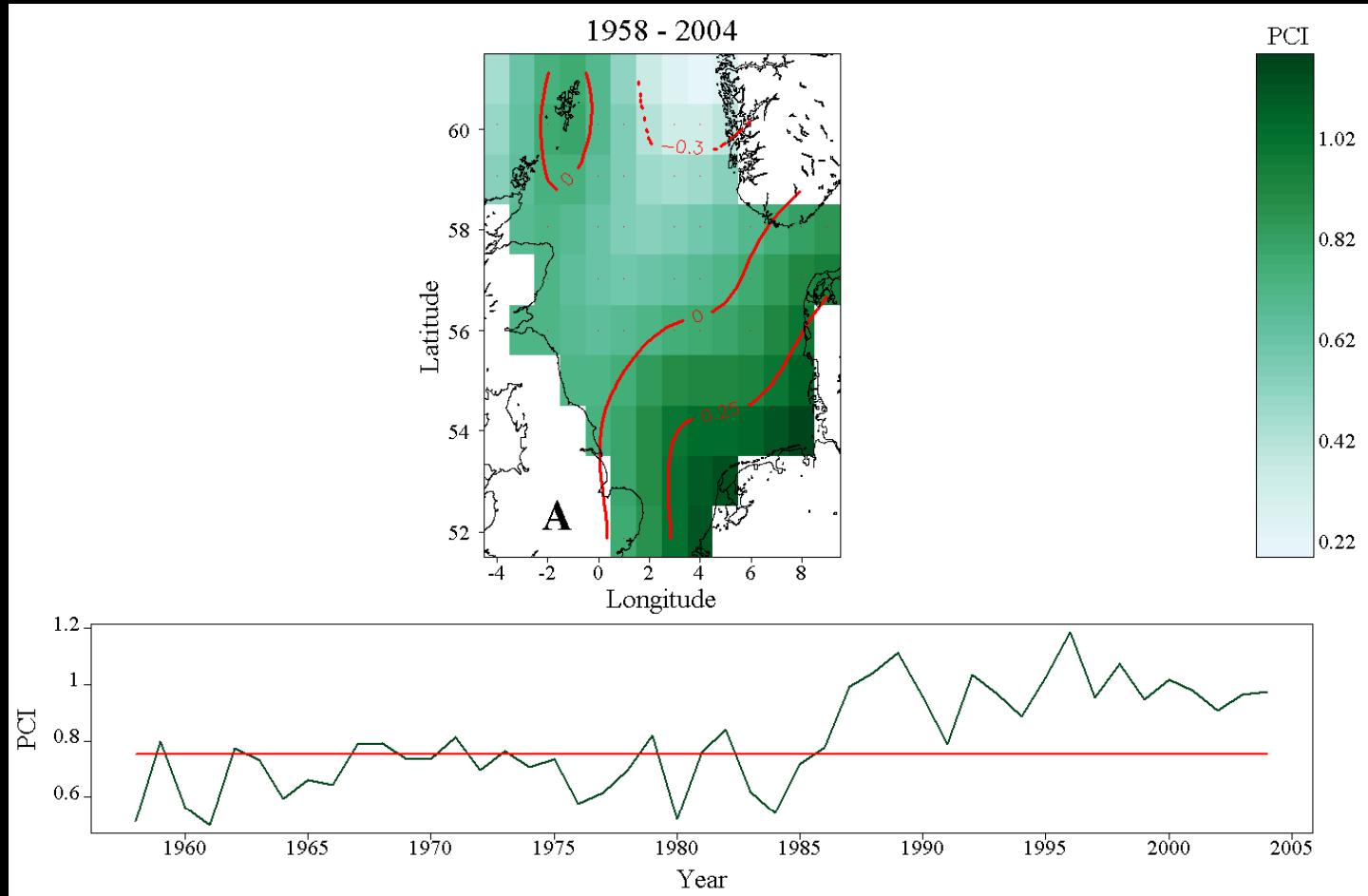
› Have this reorganization affected the spatial distribution of plankton?

Biomass of functional groups – trophic interactions

“

# methods

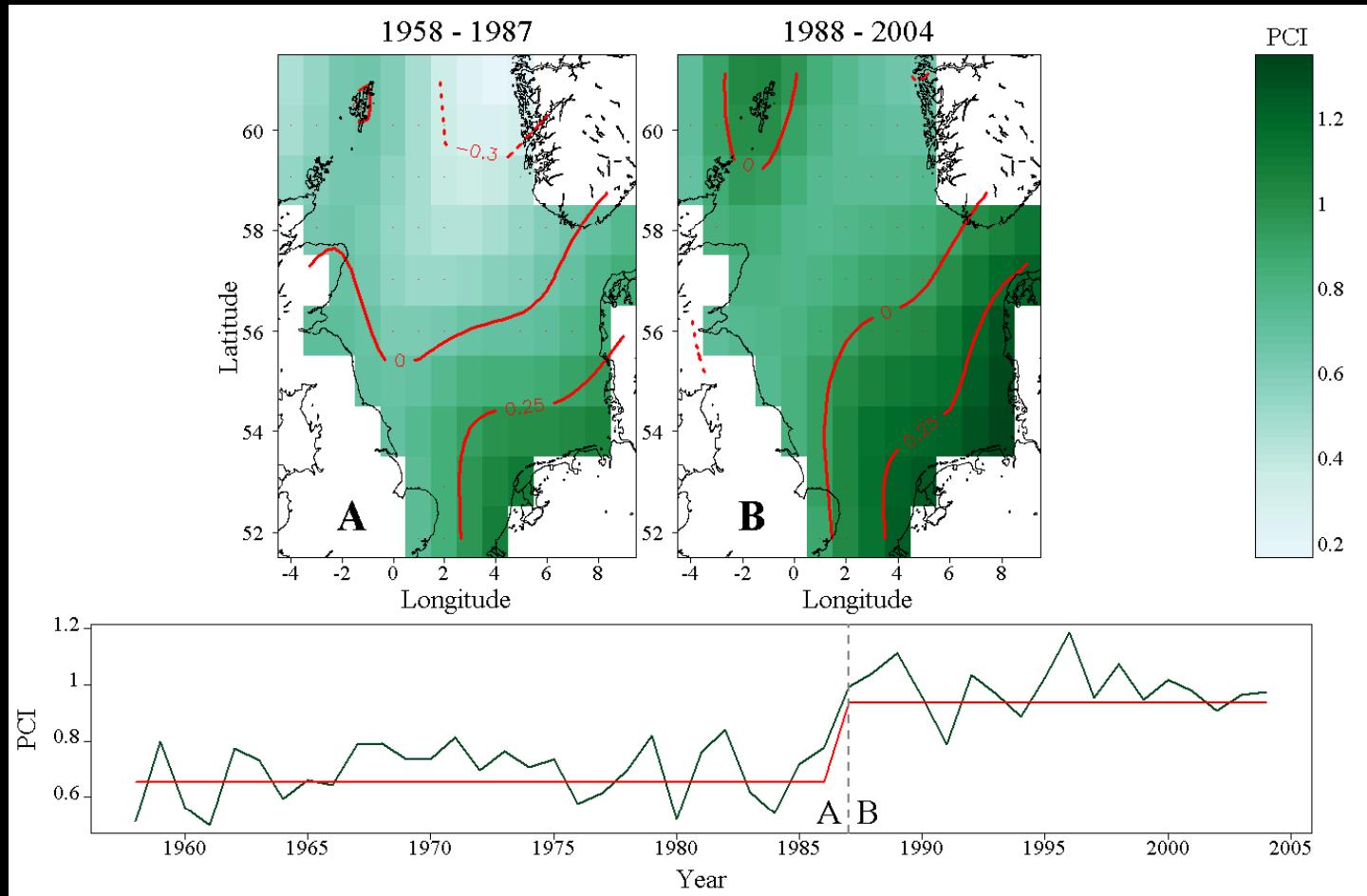
## I distributions



“

# methods

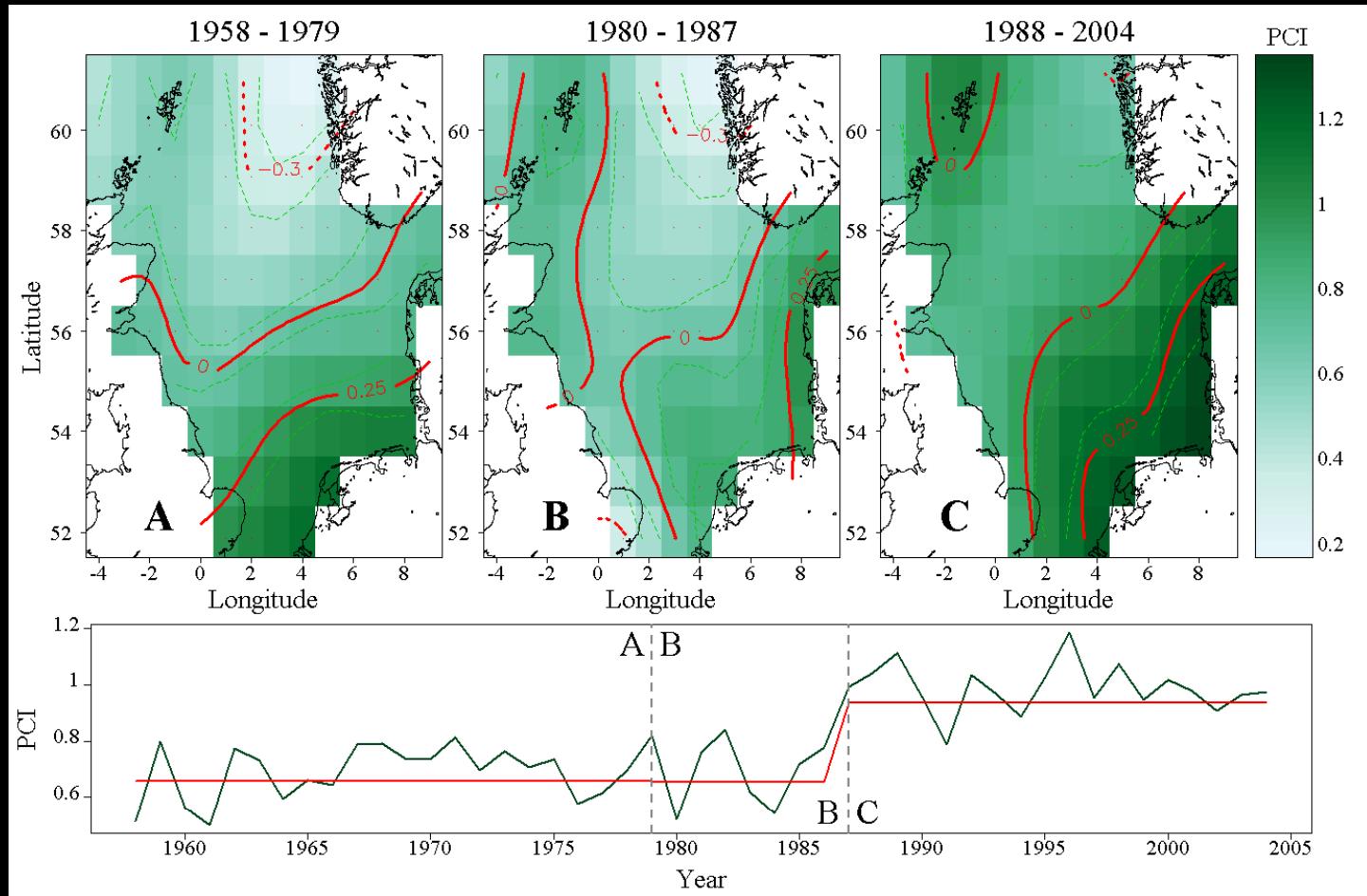
## 2 distributions



“

# methods

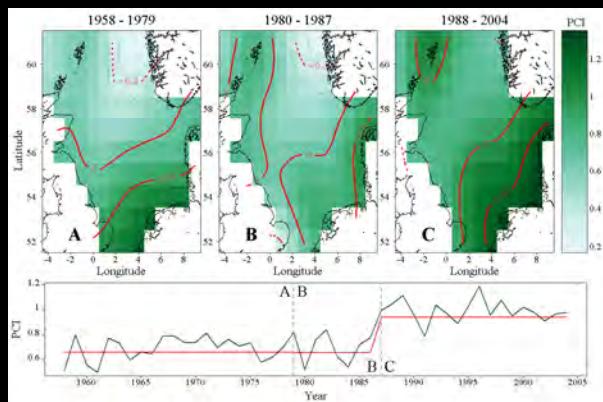
## 3 distributions



“

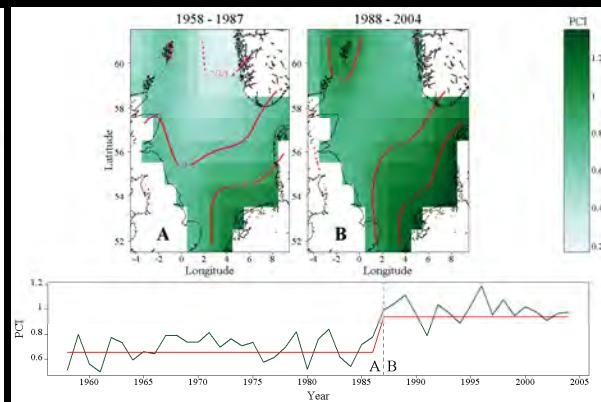
# methods

**3 spatial regimes**



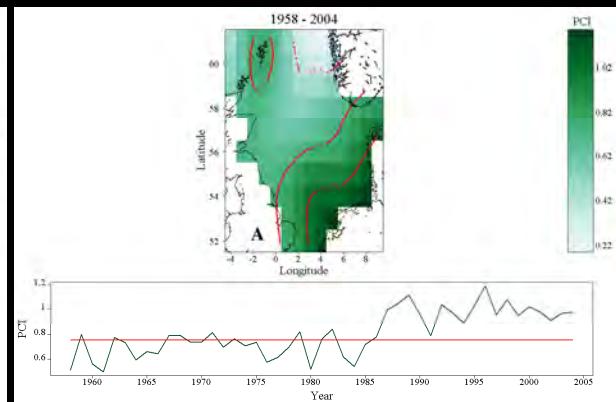
gCV: **0.2453**

**2 spatial regimes**



gCV: **0.2499**

**1 spatial regime**



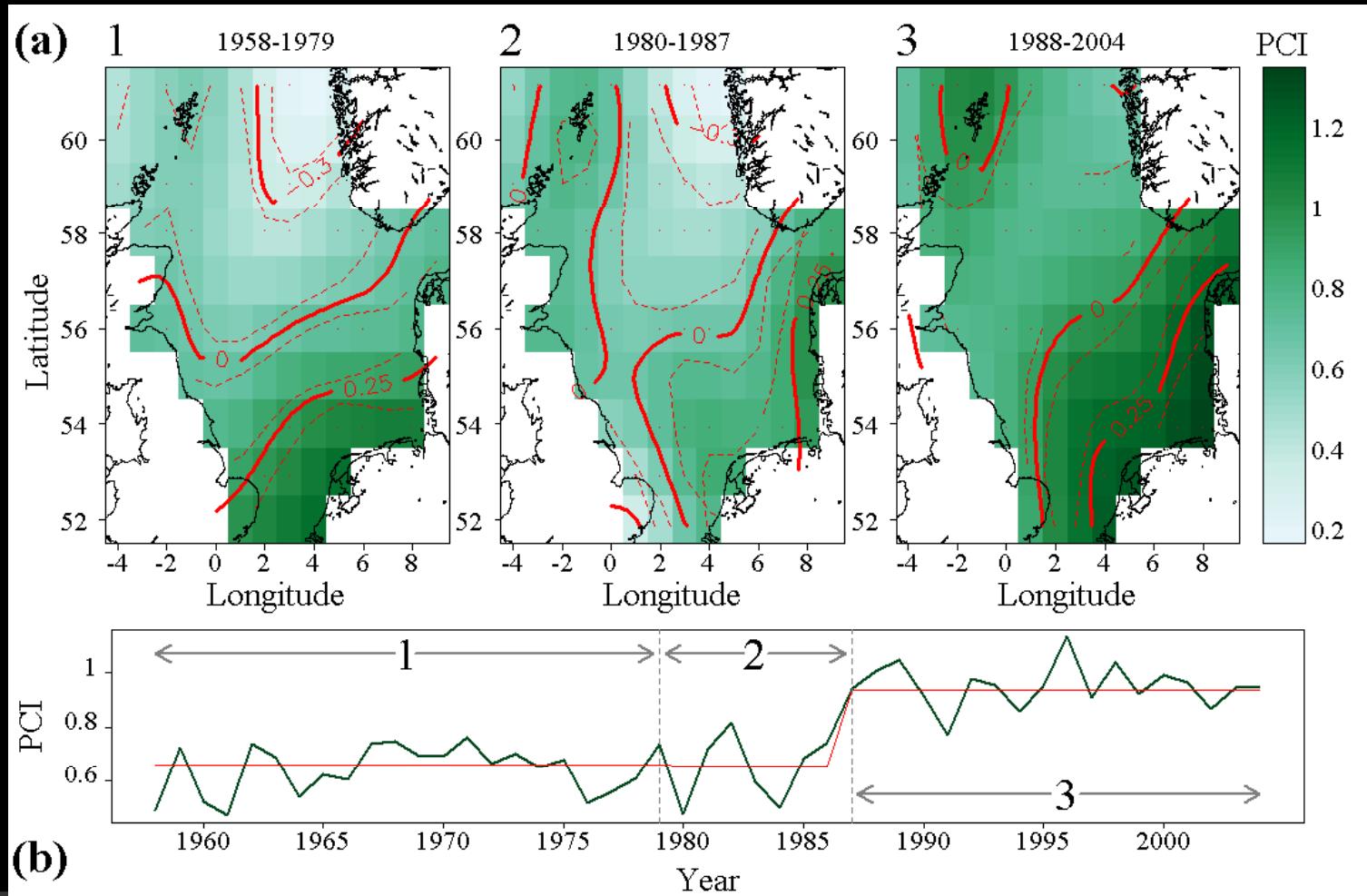
gCV: **0.2771**

**Cross Validation**  
model's out-of-sample  
predictive performance

“

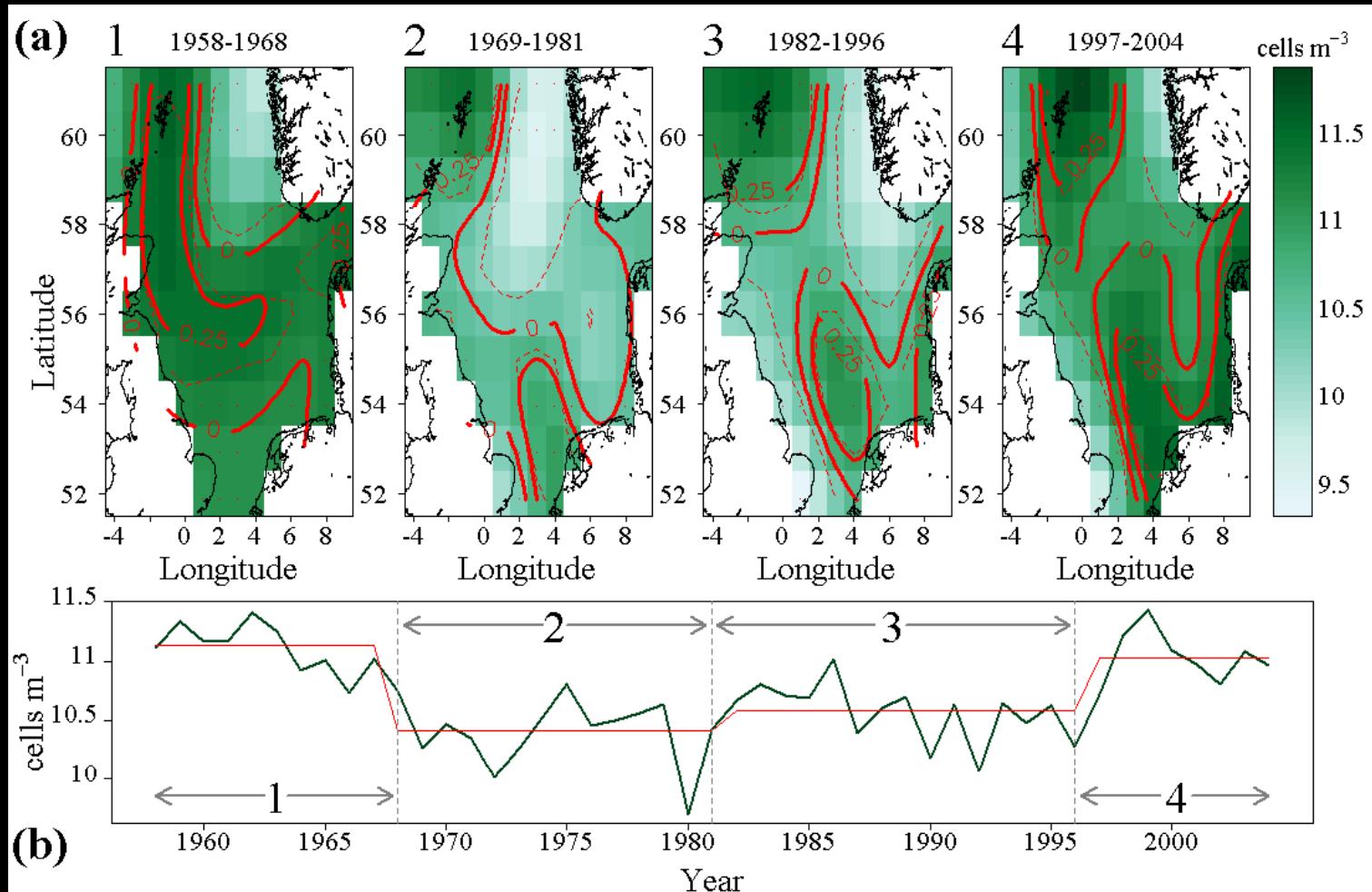
# results

## Phytoplankton Colour



# results

## Diatoms

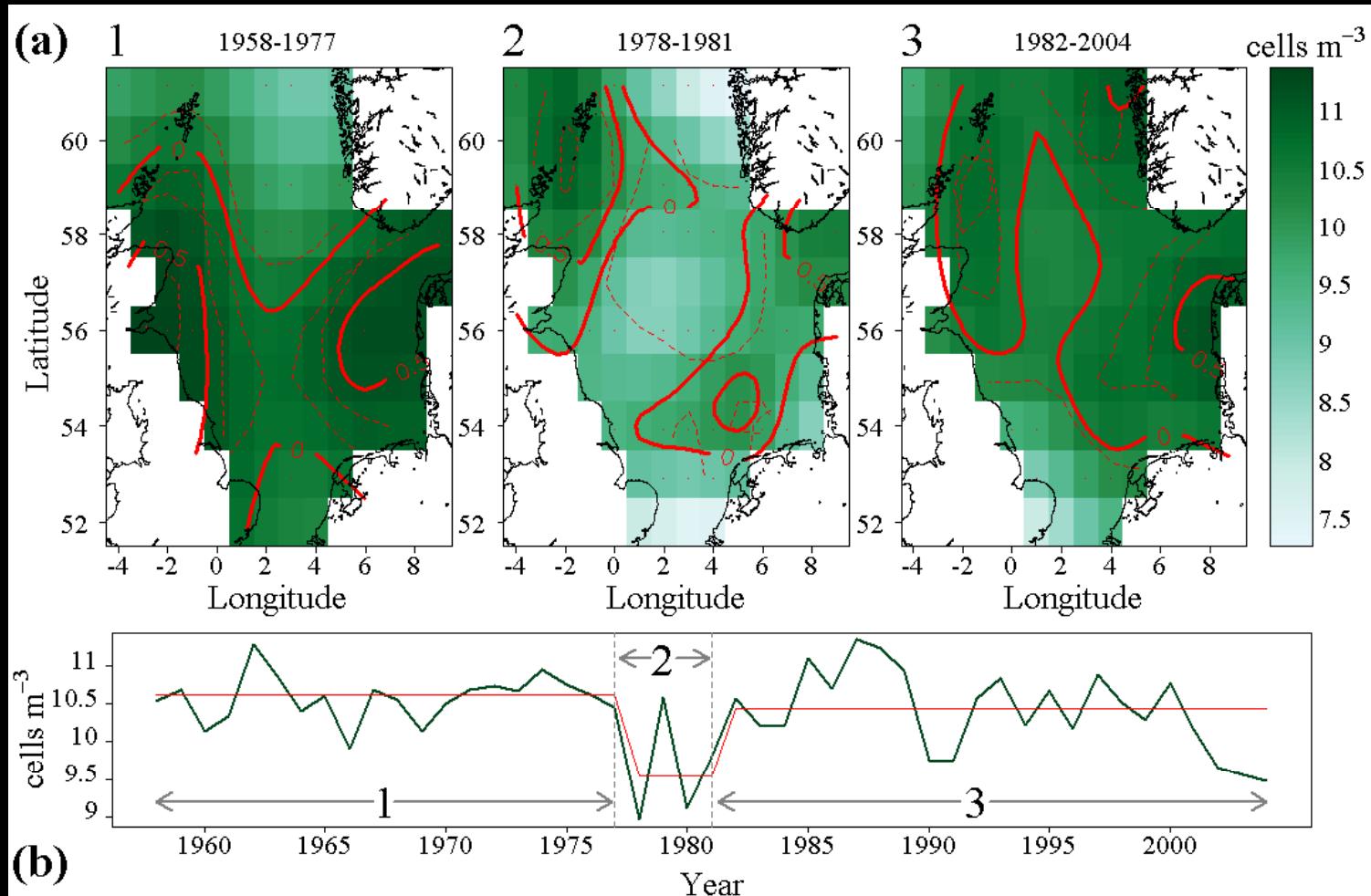


Llorente et al. (under review)

“

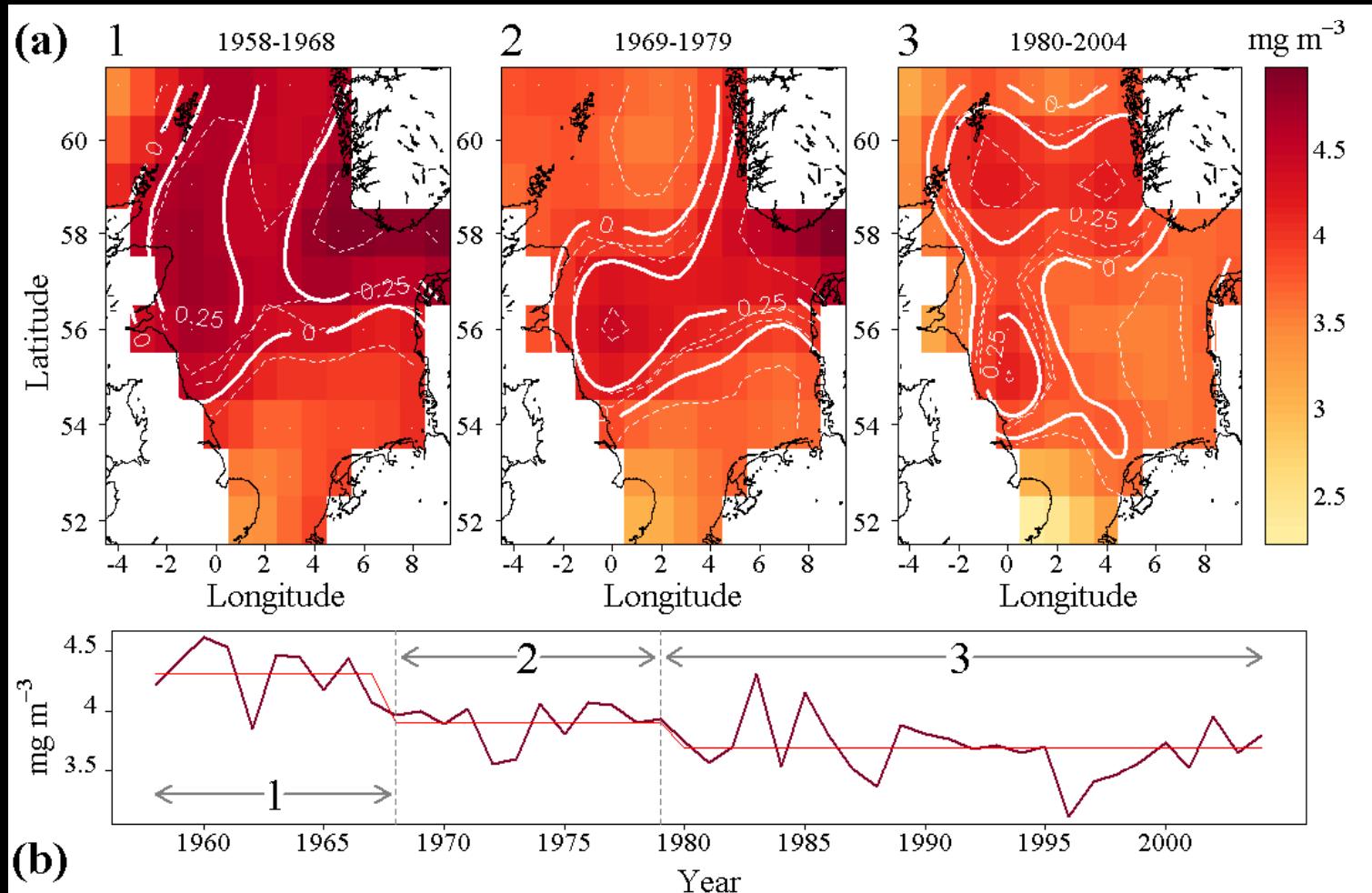
# results

## Dinoflagellates



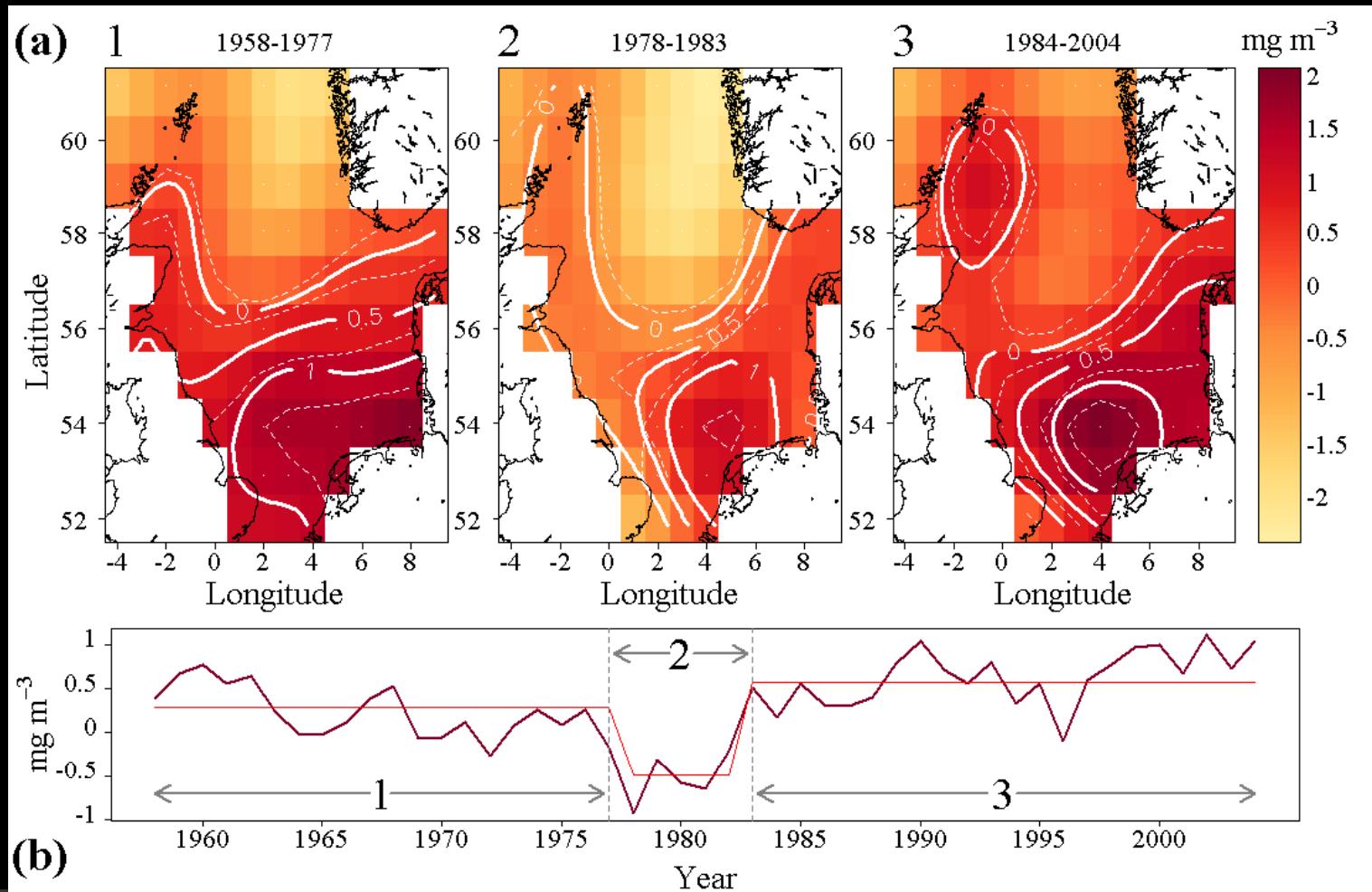
# results

## Zooplankton Biomass



results

# Meroplankton Biomass



Llope *et al.* (under review)

“

# conclusions

1

Large spatio-temporal variability with ~3 different distribution over the last 50 years

“

# conclusions

1

Large spatio-temporal variability with ~3 different distribution over the last 50 years

2

The late-80s don't concentrate the most Important changes across functional groups!

Functional diversity ≠ Response diversity

## “ 2nd question



Do trophic interactions play a role?

Look into interactions between herbivores and phytoplankton  
[both total and main groups]

“

# methods



Spatially-explicit



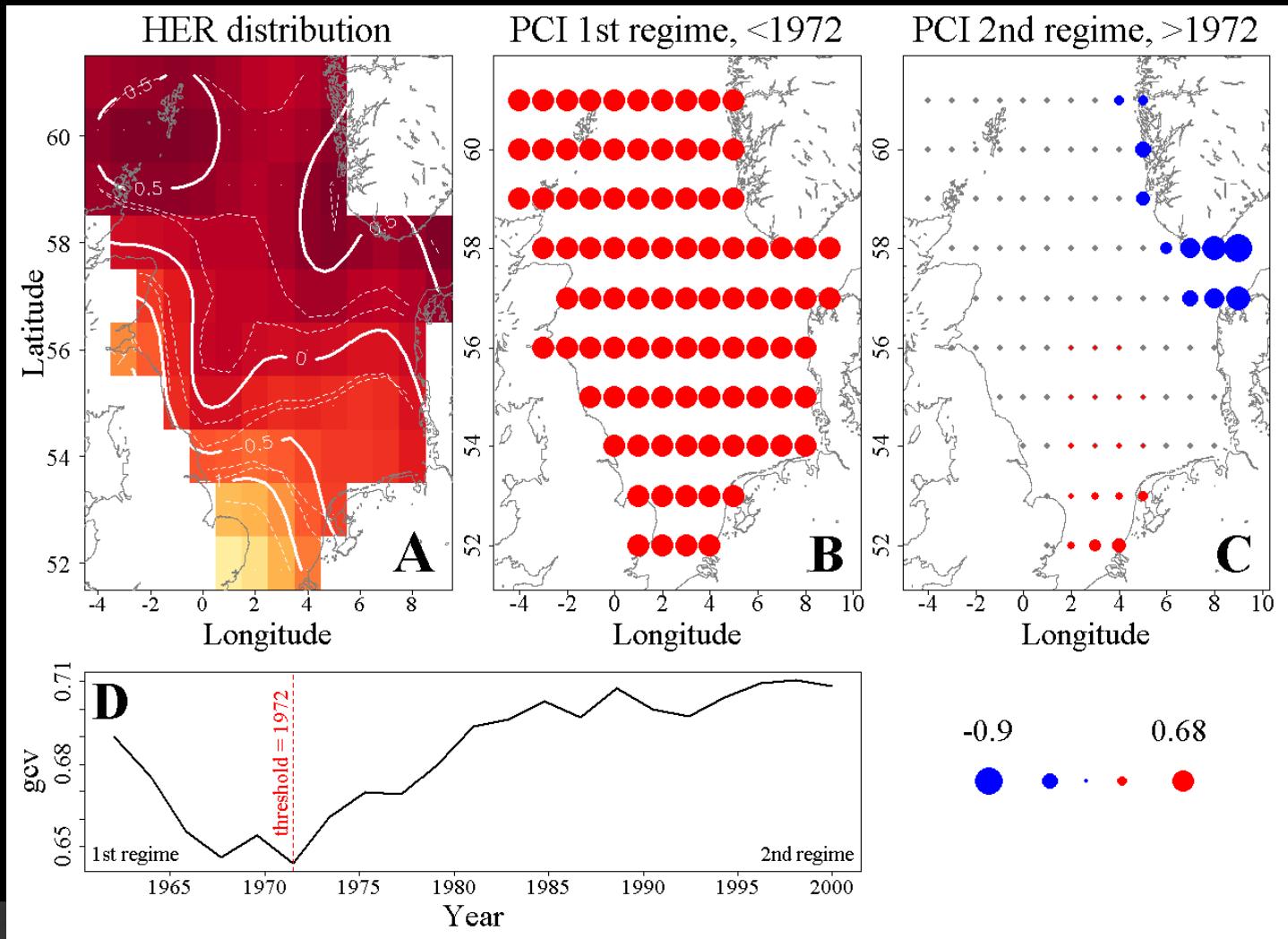
Accounts for non-additivity



Includes varying-coefficient

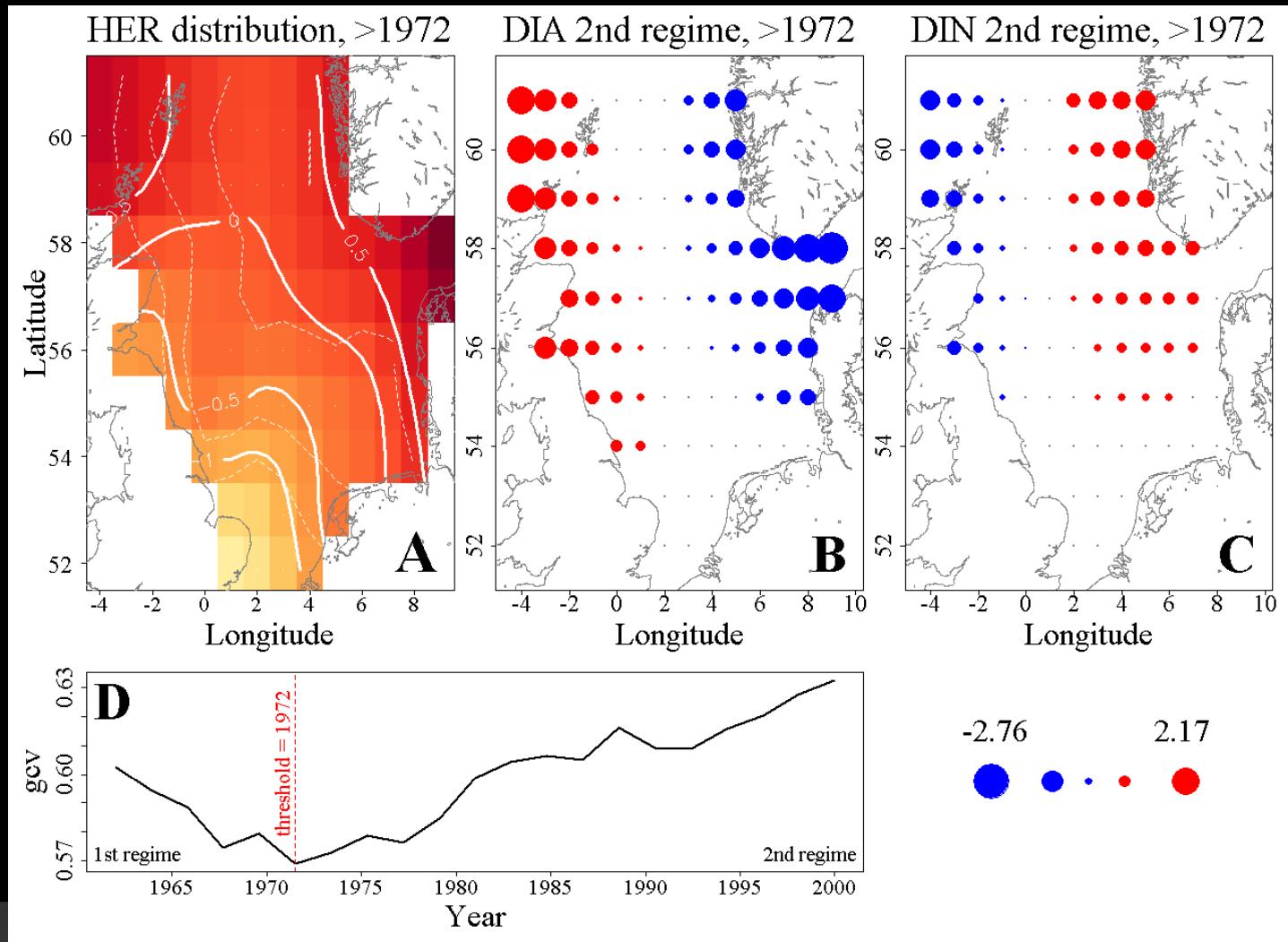
# results

## Herbivores - Total phytoplankton



# results

## Herbivores - Diatoms/Dinoflagellates

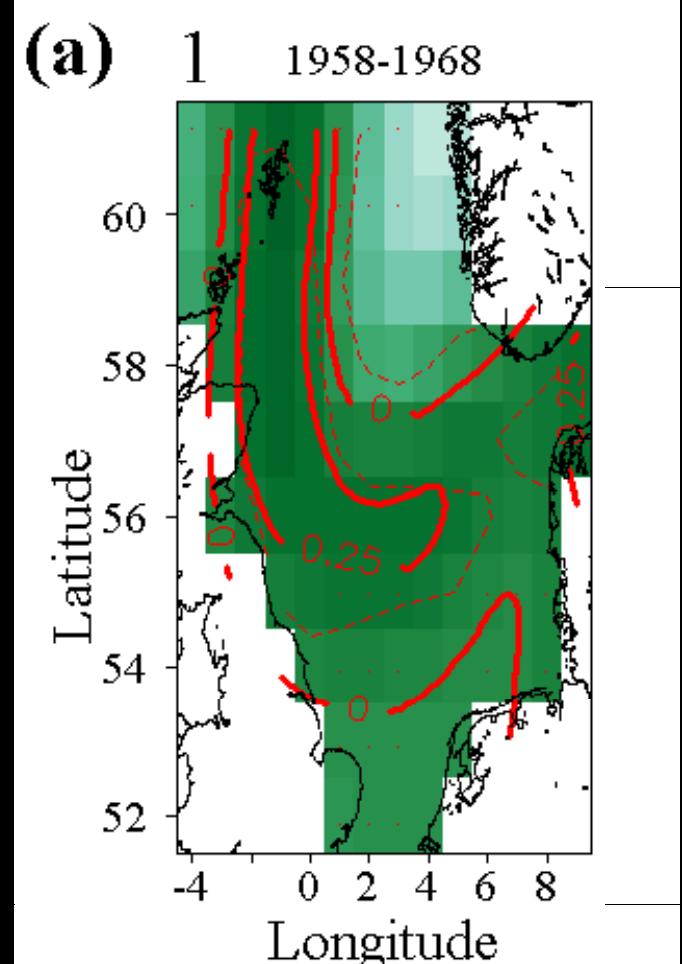


Llope et al. (in preparation)

# conclusions

## Trophic regulation as a dynamic property

the North Sea system has become a more regionalized system since the drastic decrease in diatoms of the late 1960s

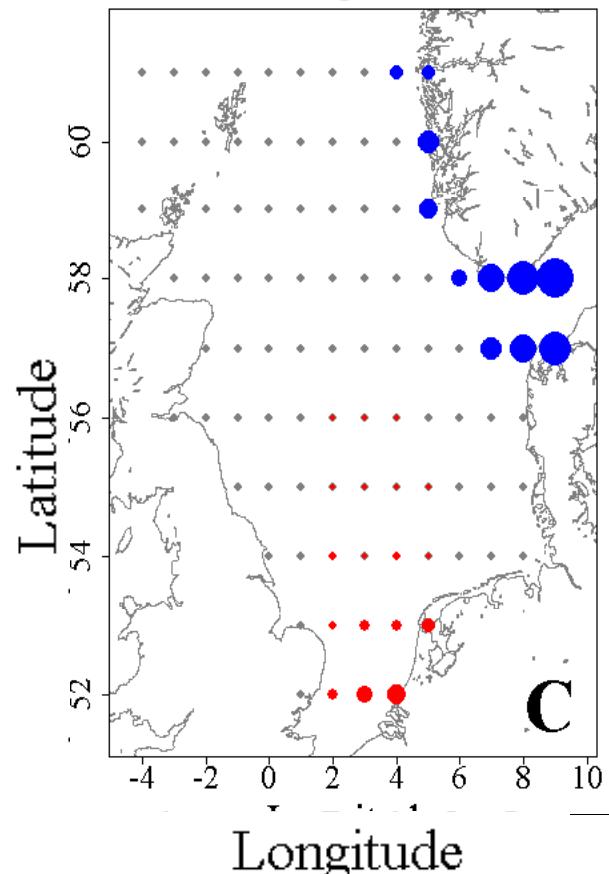


# conclusions

## Trophic regulation as a dynamic property

the North Sea system has become a more regionalized system since the drastic decrease in diatoms of the late 1960s

(a) PCI 2nd regime, >1972



“

# conclusions

Trophic regulation as a dynamic property

the North Sea system has become a more regionalized system since the drastic decrease in diatoms of the late 1960s

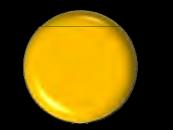
from bottom-up to top-down?



PRED



FISH



ZOO



PHY



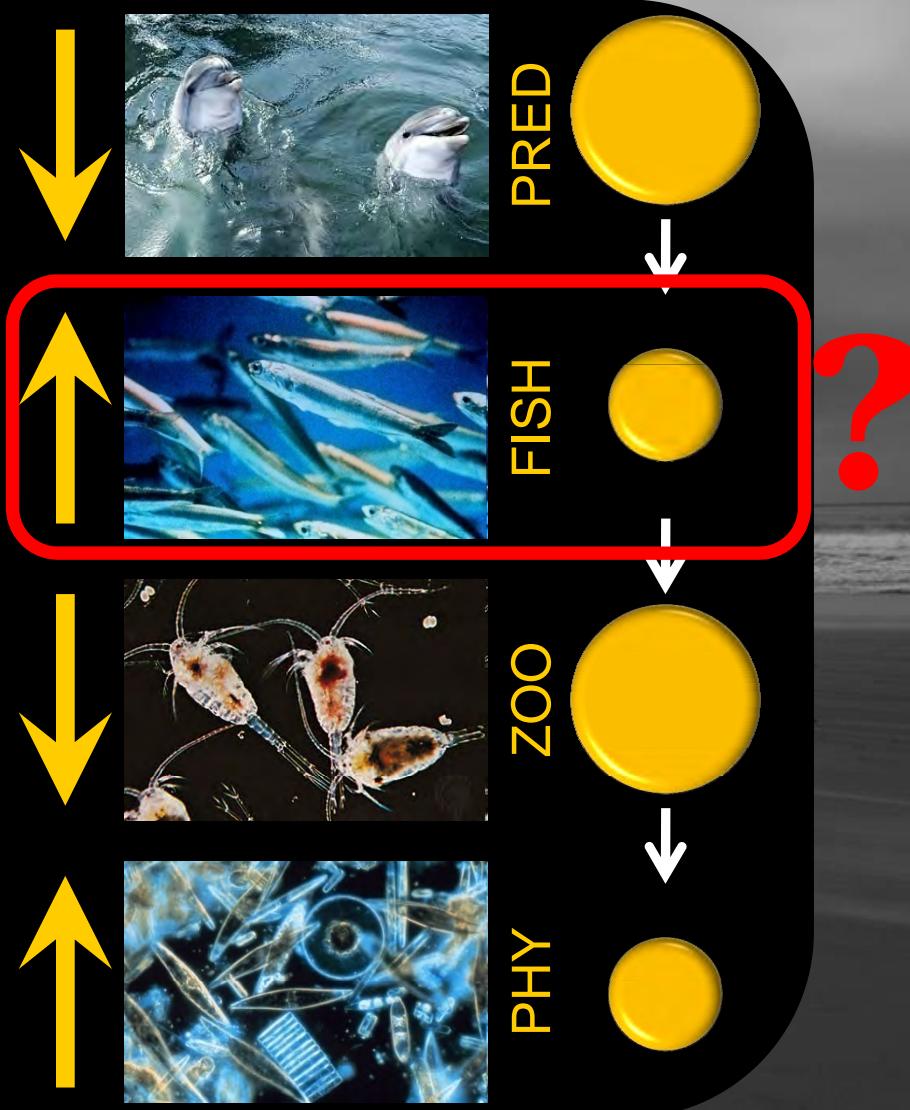
“

# conclusions

Trophic regulation as a dynamic property

the North Sea system has become a more regionalized system since the drastic decrease in diatoms of the late 1960s

from bottom-up to top-down?



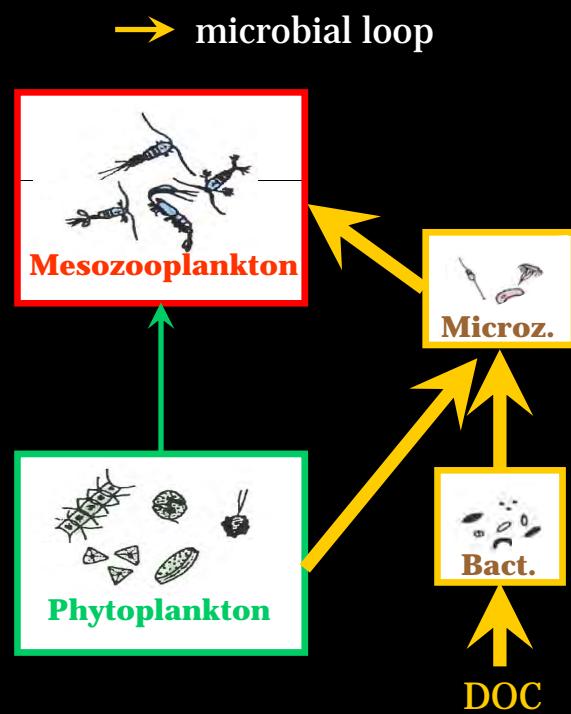
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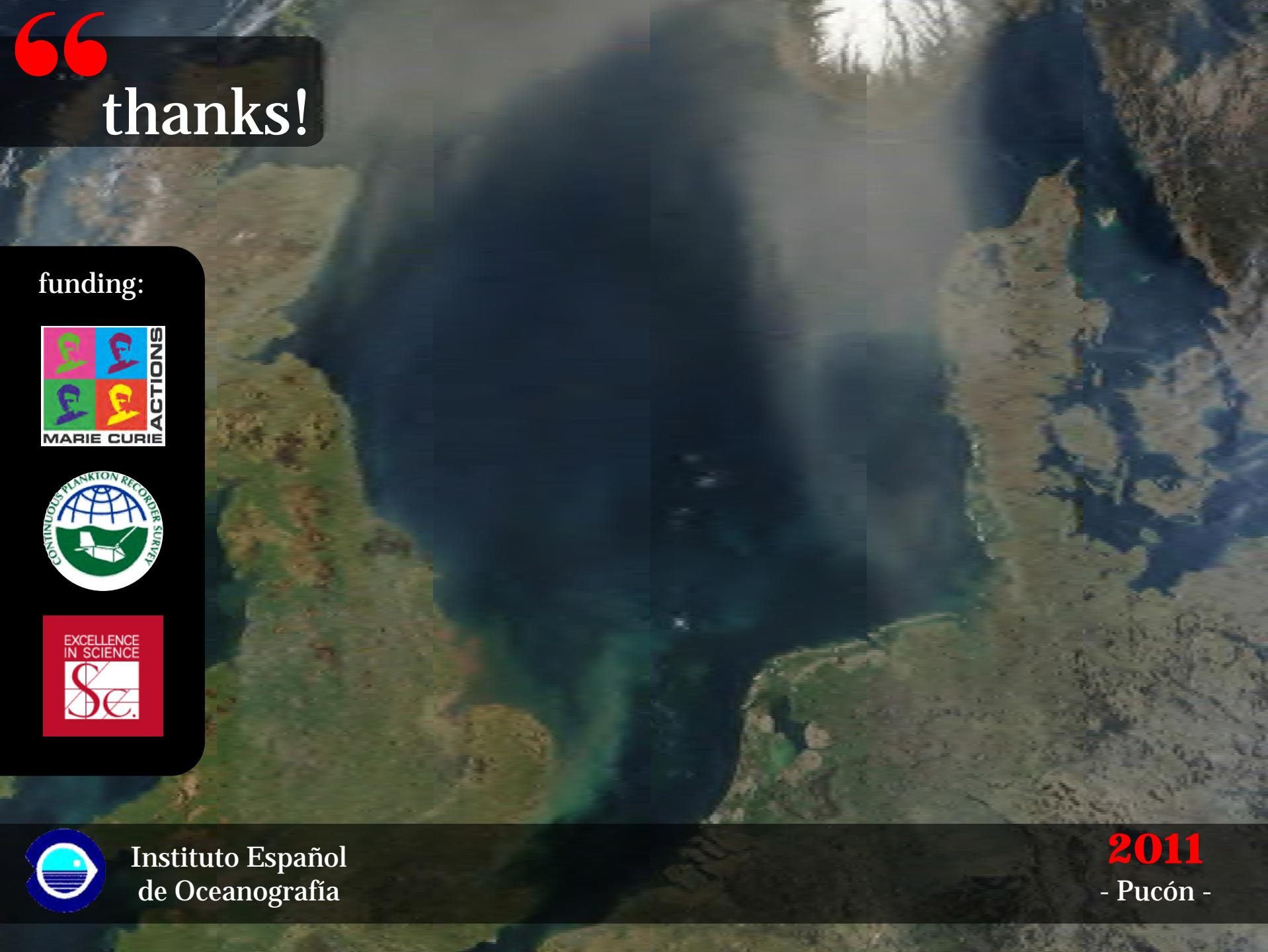
# conclusions

## Trophic regulation as a dynamic property

the North Sea system has become a more regionalized system since the drastic decrease in diatoms of the late 1960s

from classic diatom-dominated phytoplankton community to a more microbial loop type of community?





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thanks!

funding:



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