

THE 8<sup>TH</sup> -

CHINA - JAPAN - KOREA IMBeR SYMPOSIUM

MARINE BIOGEOCHEMICAL  
SCIENCES FOR THE  
SUSTAINABILITY  
OF THE WEST  
PACIFIC BIOSPHERE



## Vertical distribution of planktonic ciliates

in the oceanic and slope areas of the western Pacific Ocean

西太平洋海区至陆坡浮游纤毛虫的垂直分布

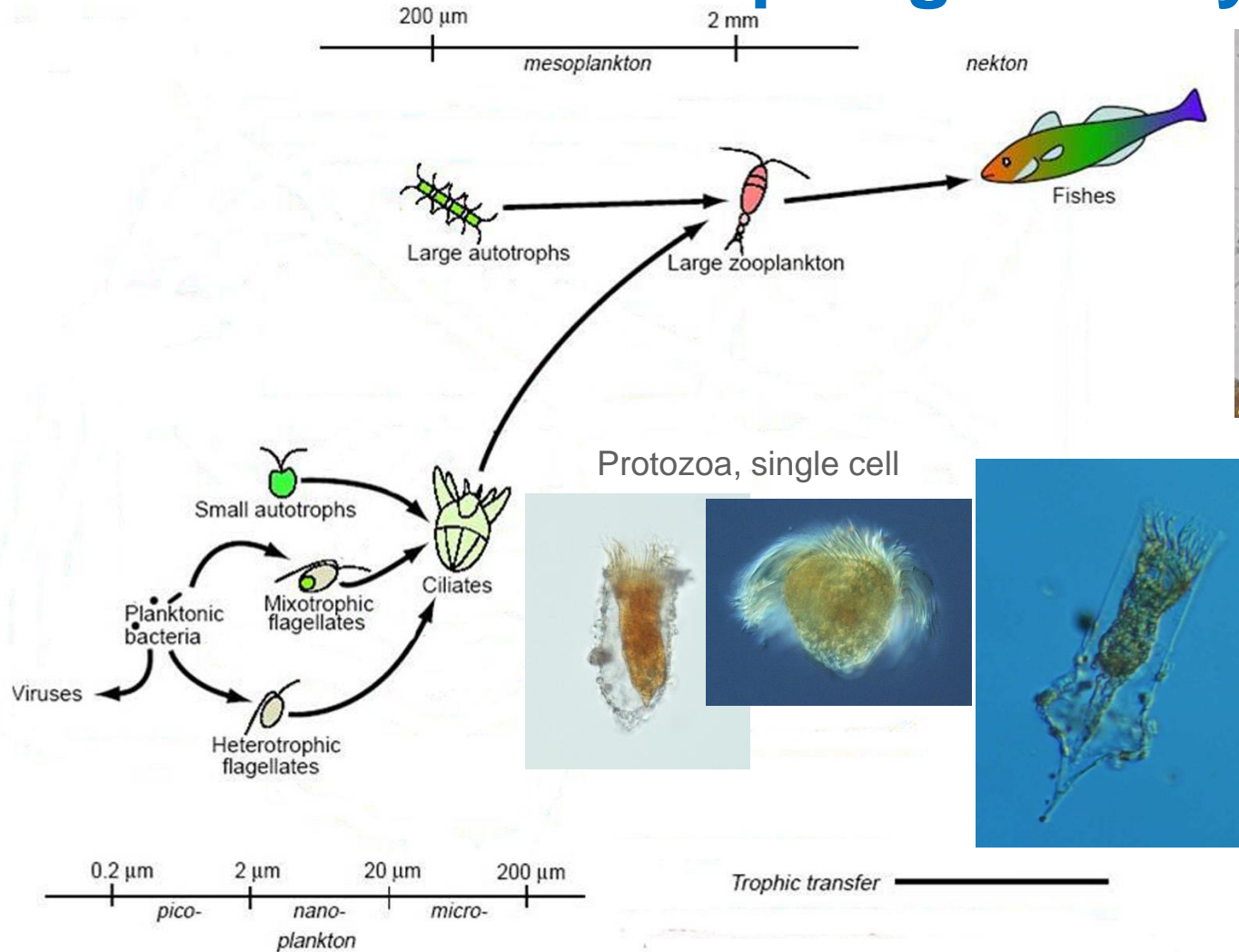
Wuchang Zhang (张武昌)

Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (Qingdao, China)

2018-9-18



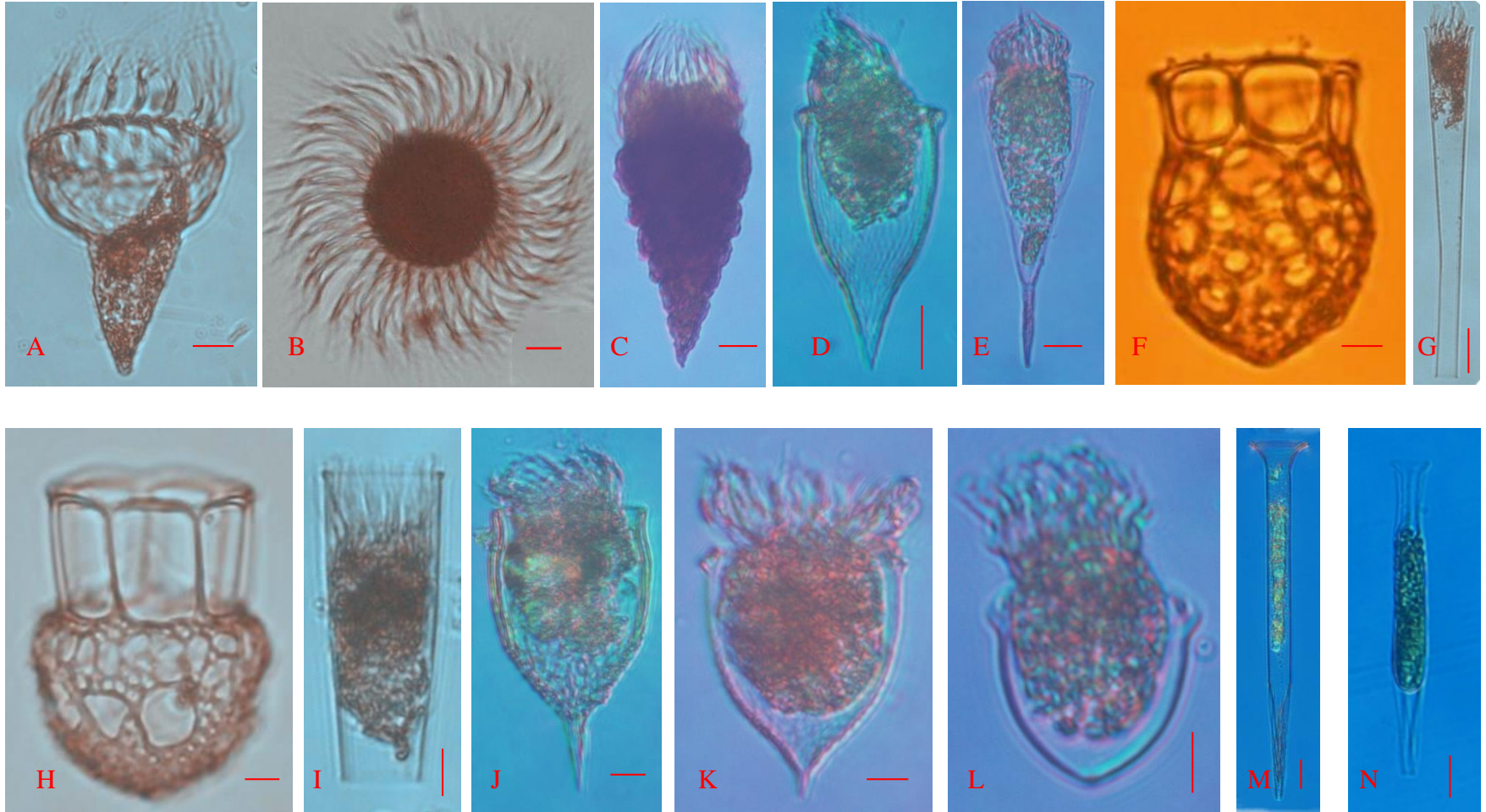
# Ciliates in the marine pelagic ecosystem



Stenseth, Nils. 2004. Marine Ecosystems and Climate Variation: The North Atlantic. A Comparative Perspective. OUP Oxford.

# Photos of some planktonic ciliate

## 无壳纤毛虫和砂壳纤毛虫图片



Bar=10  $\mu\text{m}$

# Taxonomy

## Protozoa- heterotrophic, single cell Ecologically-Microzooplankton

Phylum CILIOPHORA Doflein, 1901

Class SPIROTRICHEA Bütschli, 1889

Subclass Choreotrichia Small & Lynn, 1985

Order Tintinnida Kofoid & Campbell, 1929

Order Choreotrichida Small & Lynn, 1985

Suborder Leegaardiellina Laval-Peuto, Grain, & Deroux,  
1994

Suborder Lohmanniellina Laval-Peuto, Grain, & Deroux,  
1994

Suborder Strobilidiina Small & Lynn, 1985

Suborder Strombidinopsina Small & Lynn, 1985

Subclass Stichotrichia Small & Lynn, 1985

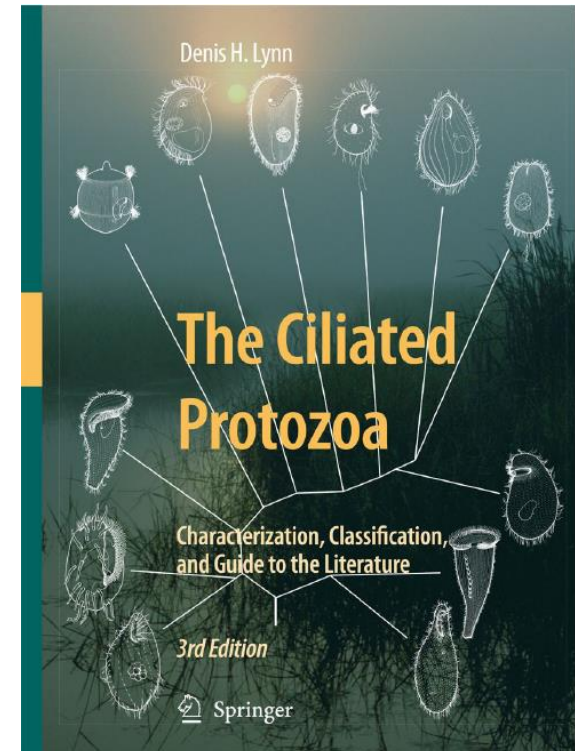
Order Stichotrichida Fauré-Fremiet, 1961

Order Sporadotrichida Fauré-Fremiet, 1961

Order Urostylida Jankowski, 1979

Subclass Oligotrichia Bütschli, 1887/1889

Order Strombidiida Petz & Foissner, 1992



3rd ed. 2008, XXXIII, 605 p.

# Taxonomy: two groups

- tintinnids with shell
- aloricate ciliate without shell



**An Illustrated Guide to  
Contemporary Tintinnids in the World**

**2012, 930 species**



**An Illustrated Guide to Marine Planktonic  
Aloricate Oligotrich Ciliates**

**2015, 144 species**

# Planktonic Ciliate Project Website

<http://www.zooplankton.cn/Default.aspx?tabid=604>

[Login](#) | [Register](#)



## Planktonic Ciliate Project

[Introduction](#)

[Aloricate ciliate](#)

[Tintinnid](#)

[Wuchang Zhang Group](#)

[Search](#)

[Original Planktonic Ciliate Project](#)

无壳纤毛虫

砂壳纤毛虫

### Navigation

Video

Photo

Useful links

Financial support

### You are here : Introduction

#### Introduction

Marine planktonic ciliate are lovely. They are unicellular protozoa living in the water column of the sea. Ciliates are divided into two groups, aloricate ciliate and tintinnid, according to the absence and presence of lorica. They eat nano- and picoplankton, and they are eaten by copepods and other higher level predators.

I began to study marine planktonic ciliate ecology in the year 1997. At the beginning, I only counted the ciliate abundance in the Lugol's fixed samples. Tintinnid species were identified according to the size and shape of their lorica. However, ciliate taxonomy is an unavoidable question. To a beginner, the best situation is to get all the existing data of ciliate taxonomy from predecessors. Unfortunately, no such kind of compilation existed. Making up my mind to devote my research in marine planktonic ciliates, I began to accumulate material of tintinnid taxonomy in an effort to compile the taxonomic materials, for self-use at least. Several old references and books were scanned from libraries around China, especially from the lab of Prof. Weibo Song. Some were downloaded from the website of Prof. John Dolan. In May 2011, I copied a lot of old references in Prof. John Dolan's office when I visited Villferanche-sur-Mer. In June 2012, the monograph <An illustrated guide to contemporary tintinnids in the world (in Chinese)> was published as the result of 15 years' insistence. (Before the publication of this book, <An illustrated guide to marine planktonic copepods in China Seas

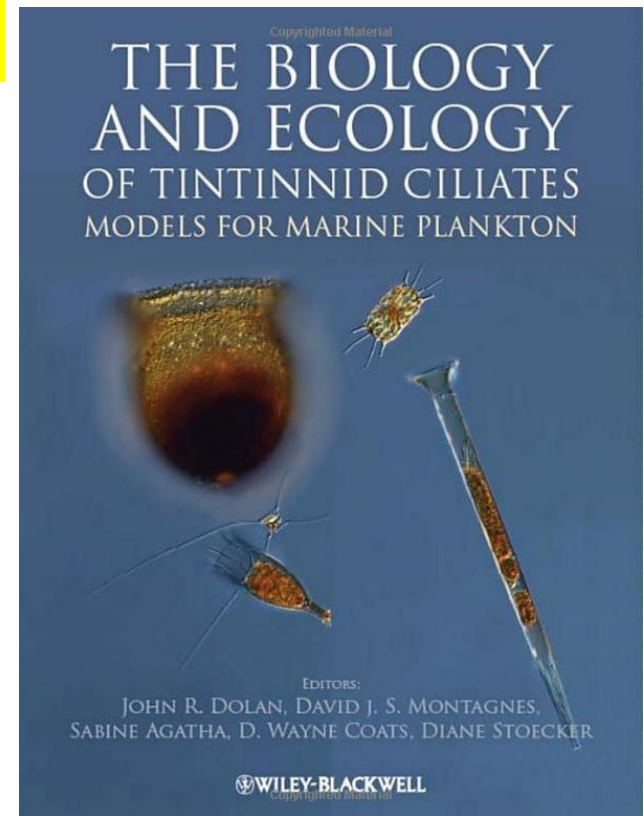
# Biogeography---usually horizontal direction

- no study in aloricate ciliate
- genera level in tintinnids

## 216 The biology and ecology of tintinnid ciliates

**Table 10.1** Biogeographic distribution patterns of common tintinnid genera; genera considered were those that included species reported in at least four publications by two different authors.

Cosmopolitan	Neritic	Warm water	Boreal	Austral
<i>Acanthostomella</i>	<i>Favella</i>	<i>Amplectella</i>	<i>Parafavella</i>	<i>Cymatocylis</i>
<i>Amphorellopsis</i>	<i>Helicostomella</i>	<i>Ascampbelliella</i>	<i>Ptychocylis</i>	<i>Laackmanniella</i>
<i>Amphorides</i>	<i>Leprotintinnus</i>	<i>Brandtiella</i>		
<i>Codonella</i>	<i>Metacylis</i>	<i>Canthariella</i>		
<i>Codonellopsis</i>	<i>Stenosemella</i>	<i>Climacocylis</i>		
<i>Dadayiella</i>	<i>Stylicauda</i>	<i>Codonaria</i>		
<i>Dictyocysta</i>	<i>Tintinnidium</i>	<i>Cyttarocylis</i>		
<i>Eutintinnus</i>	<i>Tintinnopsis</i>	<i>Daturella</i>		
<i>Parundella</i>		<i>Epicanella</i>		
<i>Protorhabdonella</i>		<i>Epilocylis</i>		
<i>Salpingacantha</i>		<i>Epilocyloides</i>		
<i>Salpingella</i>		<i>Petalotricha</i>		
<i>Steenstrupiella</i>		<i>Poroecus</i>		
		<i>Proplectella</i>		
		<i>Rhabdonella</i>		
		<i>Rhabdonellopsis</i>		
		<i>Undella</i>		
		<i>Undellopsis</i>		
		<i>Xystonella</i>		
		<i>Xystonellopsis</i>		

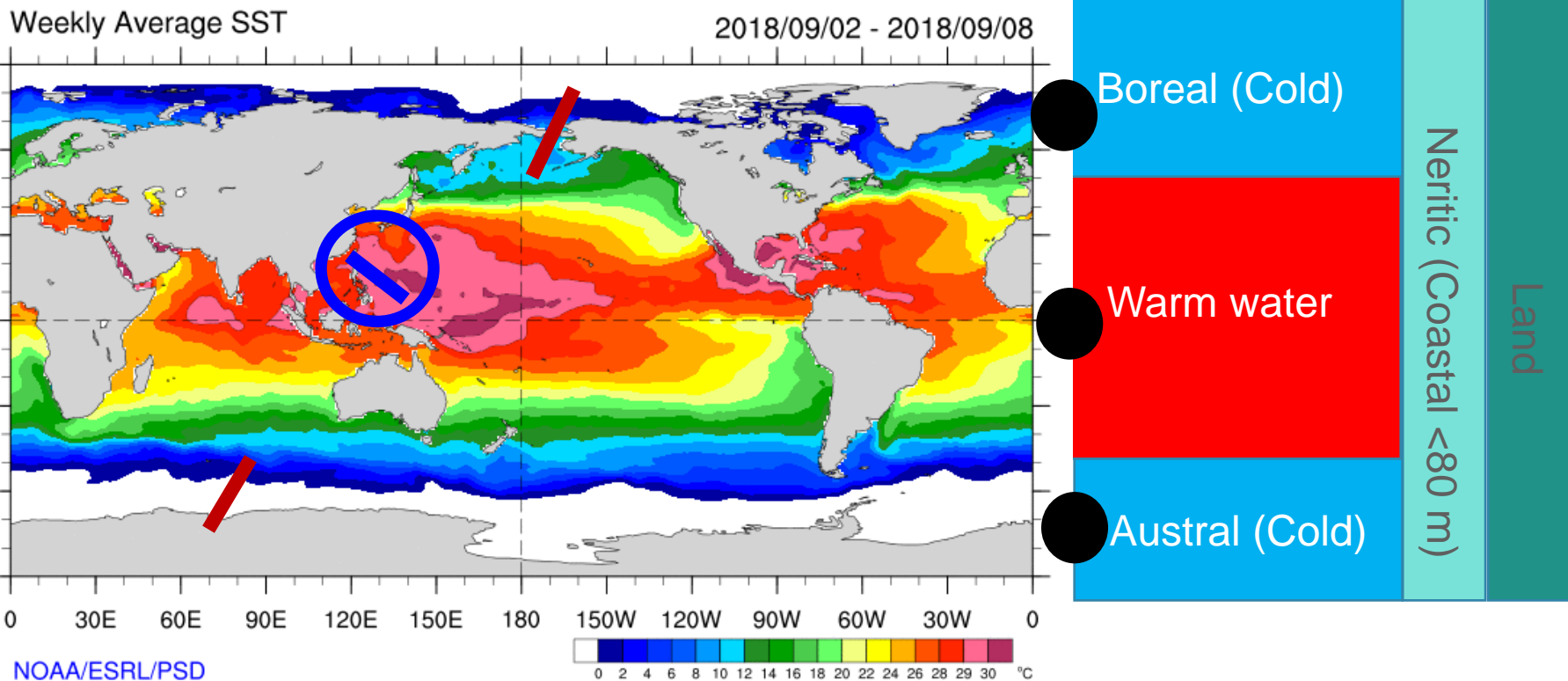


This edition first published 2013 © 2013 by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

# Horizontal temperature gradient vs. Tintinnid genera biogeography

## How about their **vertical distribution**???

### Boreal, warm water, Austral





<https://www.ametsoc.org/amsedu/DS-Ocean/home.html>



# Working status

 **Boreal (Arctic): manuscript is submitted** to Polar Biology

 **Warm water: published** Wang CF, Li H, Zhao L, Zhao Y, Dong Y, Zhang WC, Xiao T. 2018. Vertical distribution of planktonic ciliates in oceanic and slope area in the tropical west Pacific. Deep Sea Res II. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dsr2.2018.08.002>

 **Austral (Antarctic): published** Liang C, Li H, Dong Y, Zhao Y, Tao Z, Li C, Zhang W, Gregori G. Planktonic ciliates in different water masses in open waters near Prydz Bay (East Antarctic) during austral summer, with an emphasis on tintinnid assemblages. Polar Biology online

# Vertical distribution of planktonic ciliates

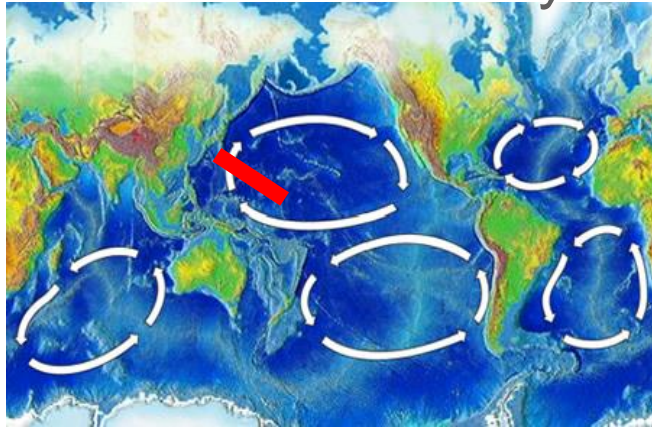
in the oceanic and slope areas of the western Pacific Ocean



in warm water

# Western Pacific Background

## 1 North Pacific Gyre



Five gyres in warm water

*Scales of Variability in a Stable Environment / 151*

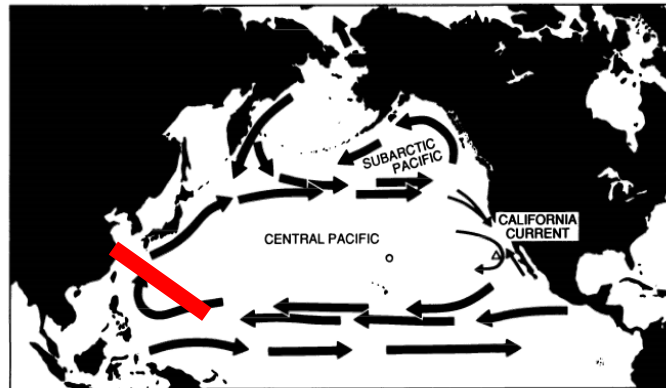
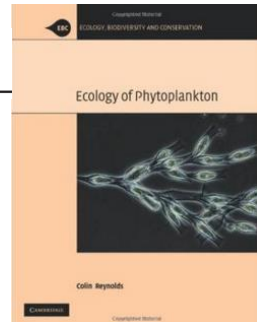


Figure 10-1. Major circulation patterns of the North Pacific. The circle marks the location of the Climax station, near the axis of the central North Pacific gyre. The triangle marks the location of the Edge station, near the eastern edge of the gyre.

## 2 Phytoplankton Climax

beyond. As with the other major oceanic gyres, the severe nutrient deficiencies and low supportive capacities of the surface waters of the North Pacific have long been appreciated (TN < 3  $\mu\text{M}$ , TP < 0.3  $\mu\text{M}$ , SRSi < 20  $\mu\text{M}$ : Sverdrup *et al.*, 1942). On the other hand, the water has a high clarity ( $\epsilon_{\text{min}} \sim 0.1 \text{ m}^{-1}$ : Tyler and Smith, 1970, quoted by Kirk, 1994). Its low planktic biomass and weak areal production have also been accepted (Doty, 1961; Beers *et al.*, 1982; Hayward *et al.*, 1983). The supposed constancy of these conditions nurtured an idea that the system had achieved the steady state of a successional **climax** (Venrick, 1995). There

SPECIES COMPOSITION AND TEMPORAL CHANGE | 305



Venrick EL. 1995. *Scales of variability in a stable environment: phytoplankton in the central North Pacific*. In *Ecological Time Series*. Powell TM and Steele JH. Eds. New York: Chapman and Hall

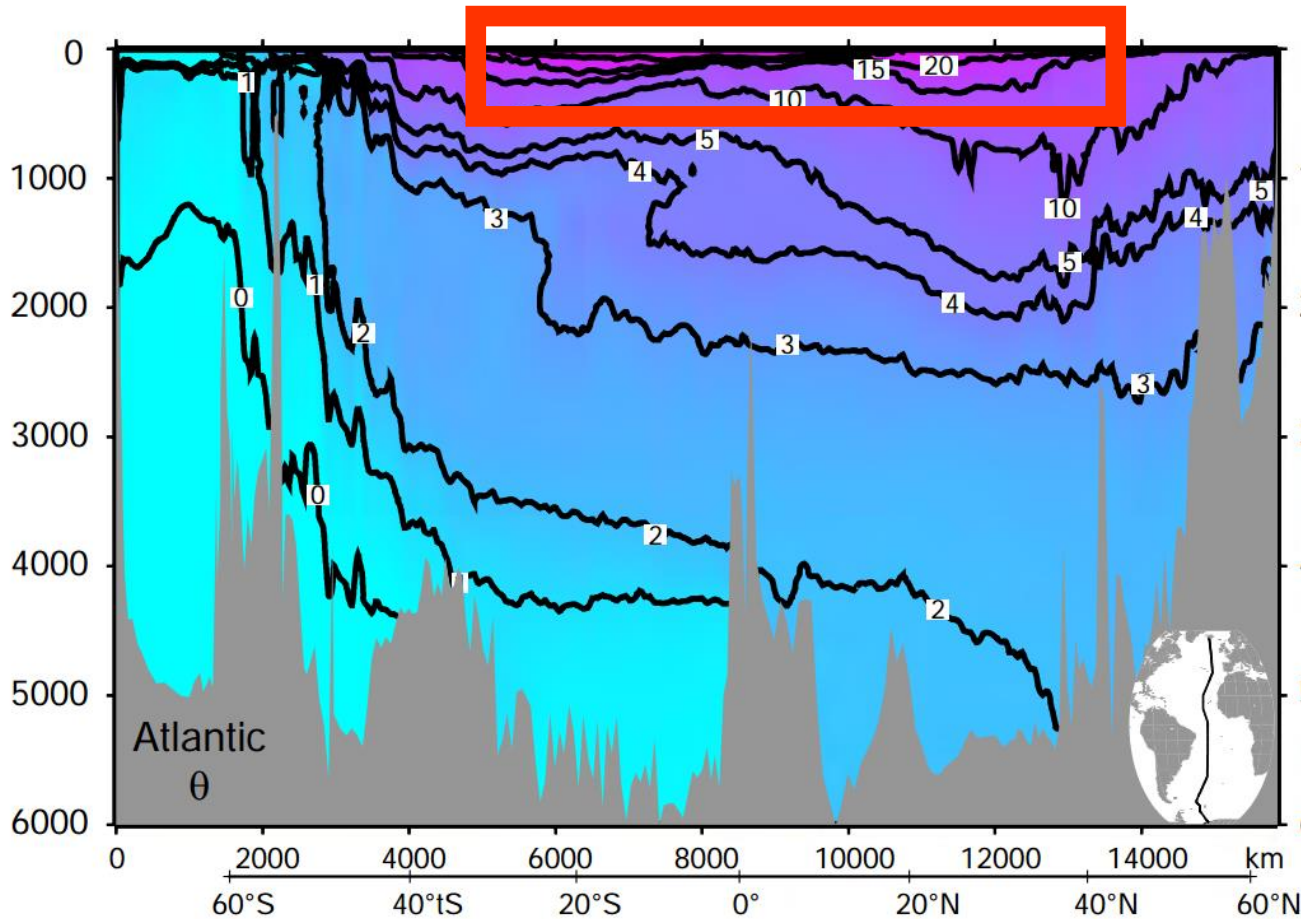
Reynolds CS. 2006. *The ecology of Phytoplankton*. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, San Paulo.

# The warm water was vertically stratified

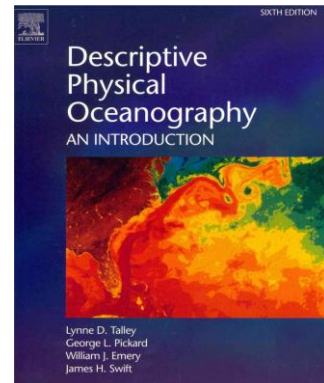
Vertical stratification  
**vs.**  
Ciliate vertical biogeography



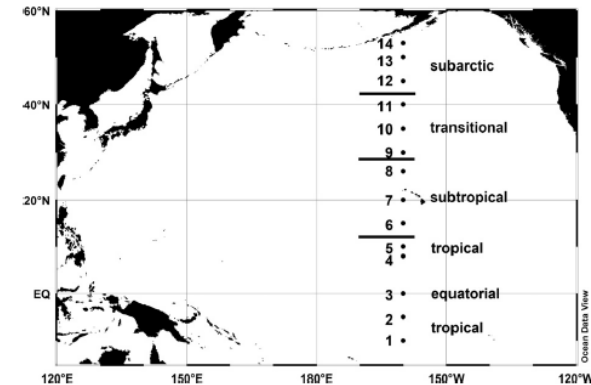
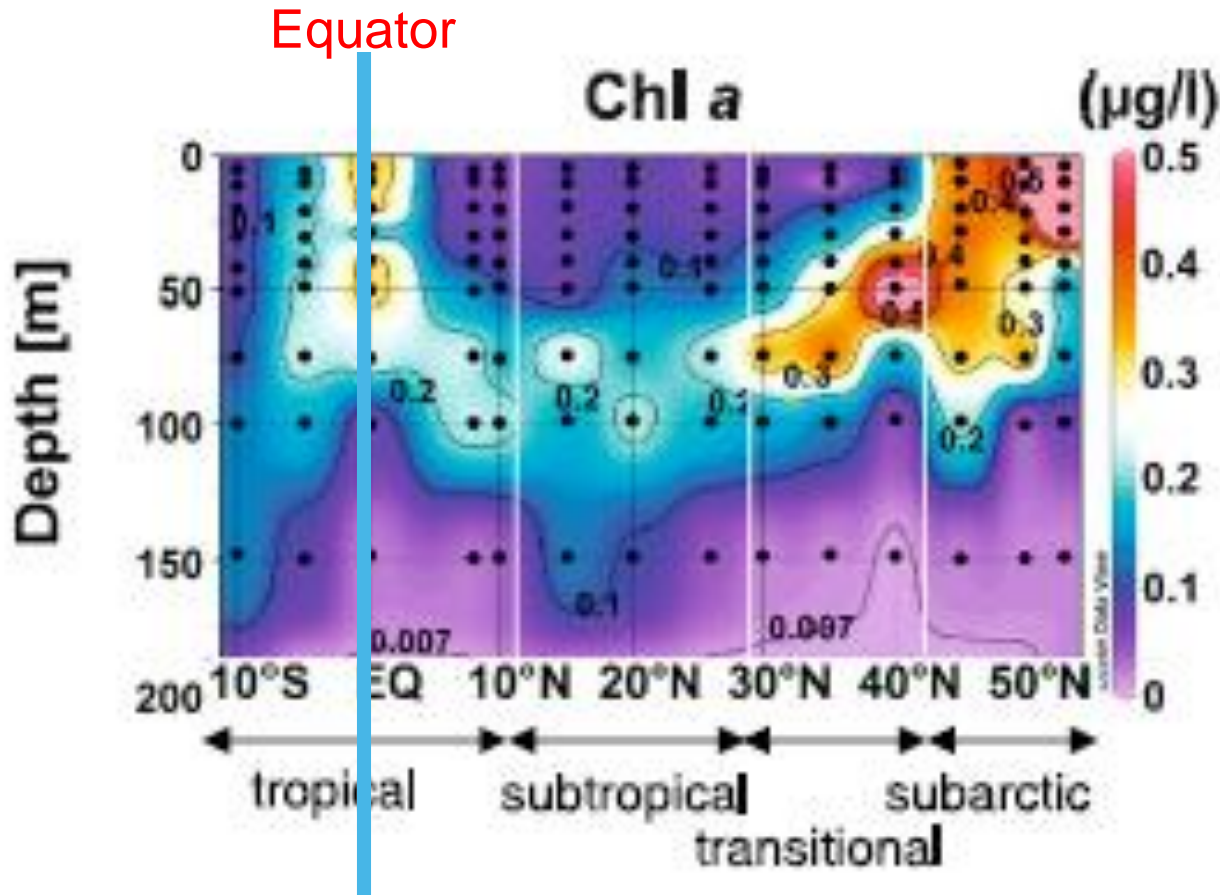
Horizontal temperature gradient  
**vs.**  
Tintinnid genera biogeography



## Atlantic Temperature



# Deep Chlorophyll a Maximum (DCM) Layer



Deep-Sea Research II 57 (2010) 1537–1550



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Deep-Sea Research II

Journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/dsr2](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/dsr2)

# Two groups of phytoplankton species according to position of abundance peak

1 Surface



Figure 10-5. Cruise track and vertical distribution of chlorophyll across the central North Pacific. (Adapted from Figs. 1 and 3, in E. L. Venrick, 1991, Mid-ocean ridges and their influence on the large-scale patterns of chlorophyll and production in the North Pacific, *Deep-Sea Research* 38, Supp. 1:S83-S109, with kind permission from Pergamon Press Ltd., Headington Hill Hall, Oxford OX3 0BW, U.K.).

Stations

2 DCM

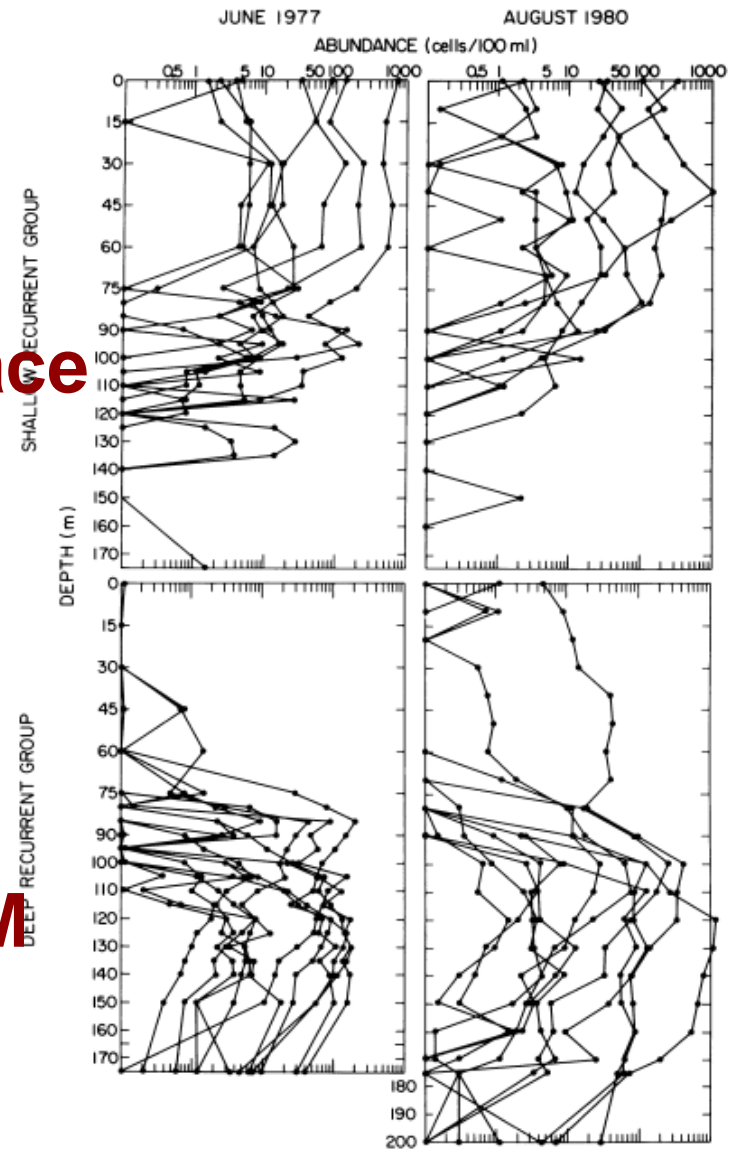


Figure 10-6. Vertical distribution of species classified into the first two recurrent groups in June 1977 and August 1980 (adapted from Fig. 2 in Venrick 1986, by permission).

Venrick EL, 1988. The vertical distributions of chlorophyll and phytoplankton species in the North Pacific central environment. *J. Plankton. Res.* 10(5), 987-998  
 Venrick EL., 1995. Scales of variability in a stable environment: phytoplankton in the central North Pacific. In *Ecological Time Series*. Powell TM and Steele JH. Eds. Pp. 150-180. New York: Chapman and Hall

# Questions & Hypothesis

🐚 Q1: is there depth distribution for ciliates?

Status: no data. Only studied in Mediterranean Sea

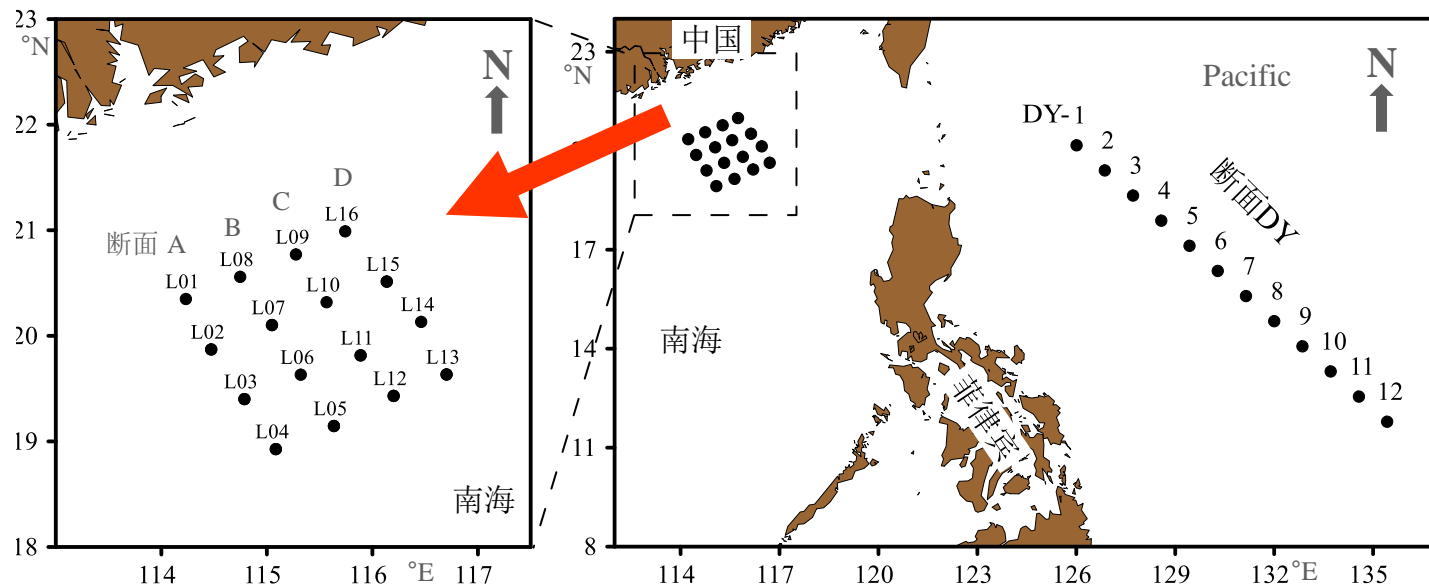
Hypothesis: surface peak and DCM peak

🐚 Q2: how about it in the slope (edge of the gyre)?

Status: no data.

Hypothesis: influence from the shelf waters

# Sampling area



10 Jun - 1 Jul 2015

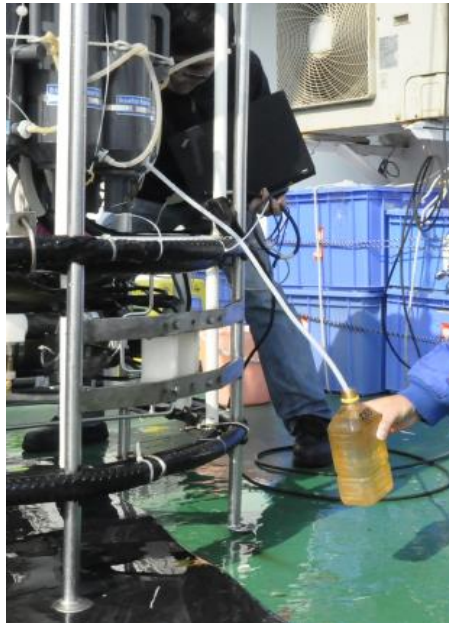
28 Nov- 31 Dec 2015





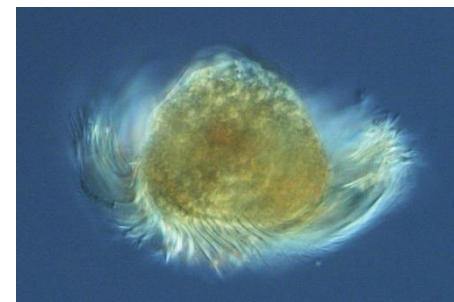
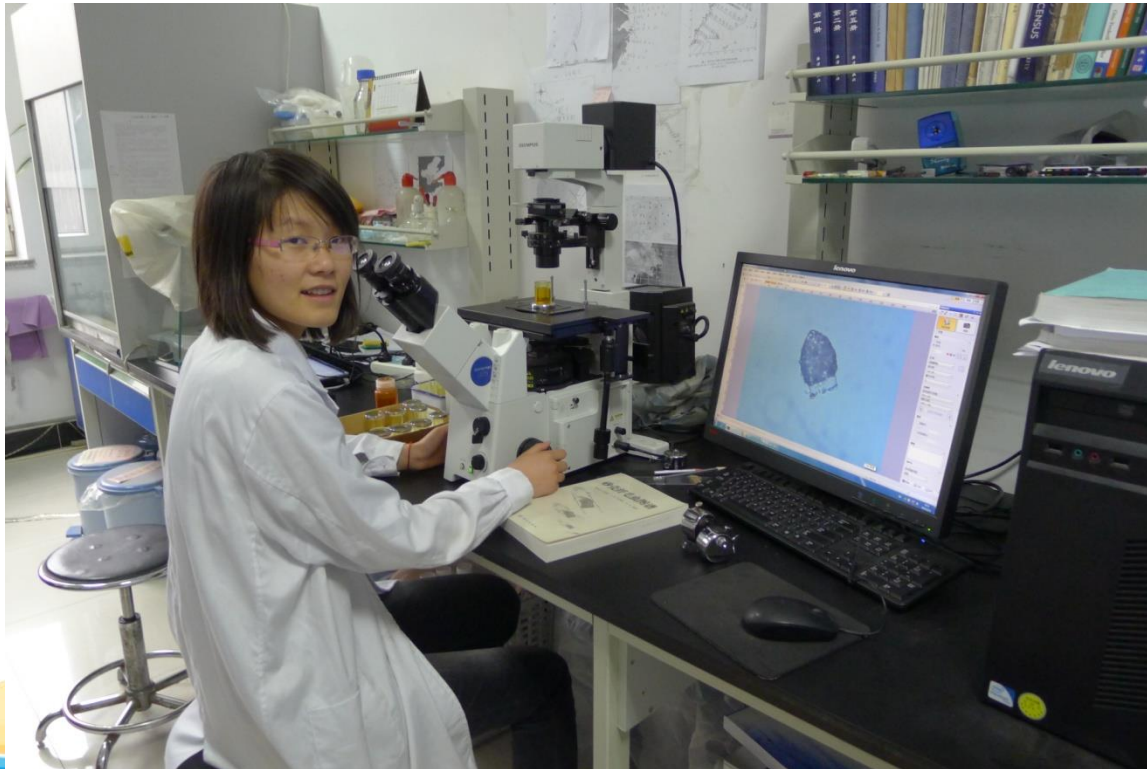
# Sampling method:

Water sample 1 L from rosette bottles  
Fixed with Lugol's solution

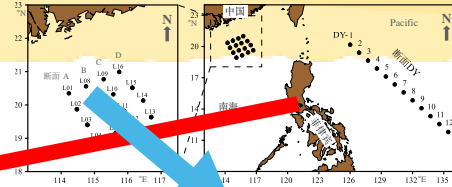


# Counting in the lab

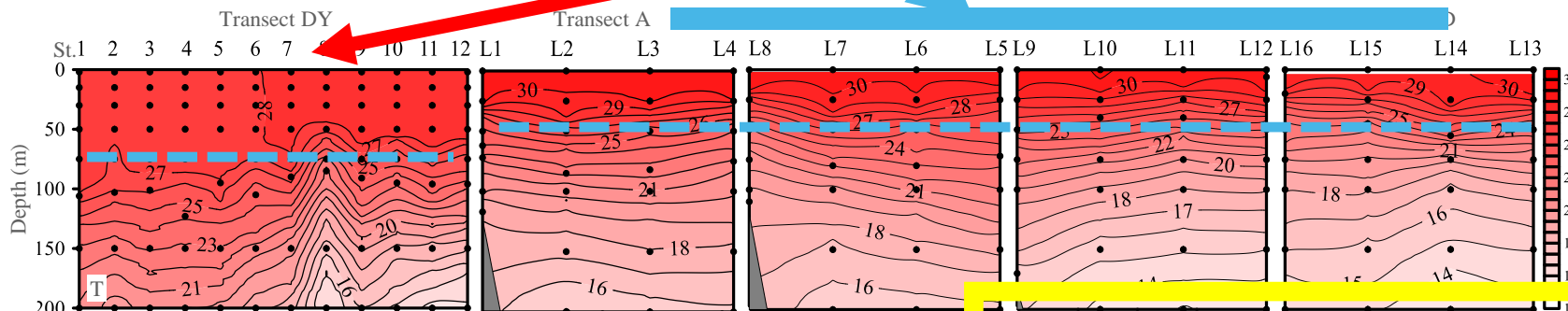
🍷 Inverted microscope



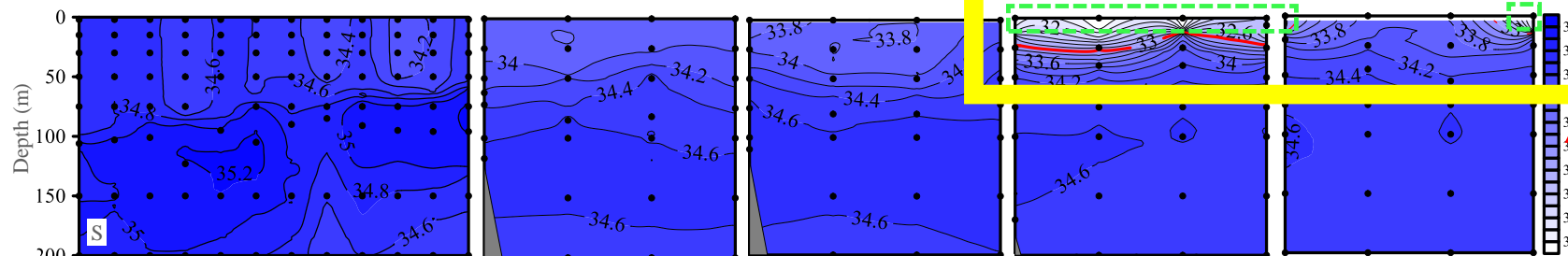
# Hydrology



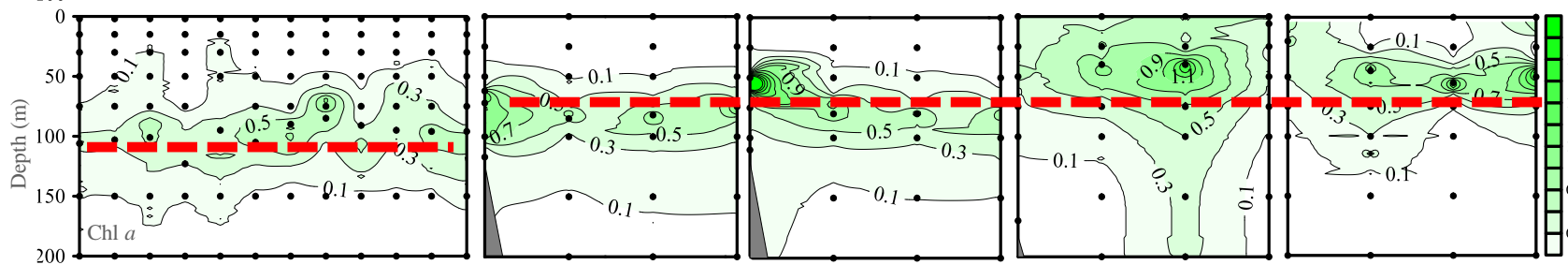
Temperature



Salinity

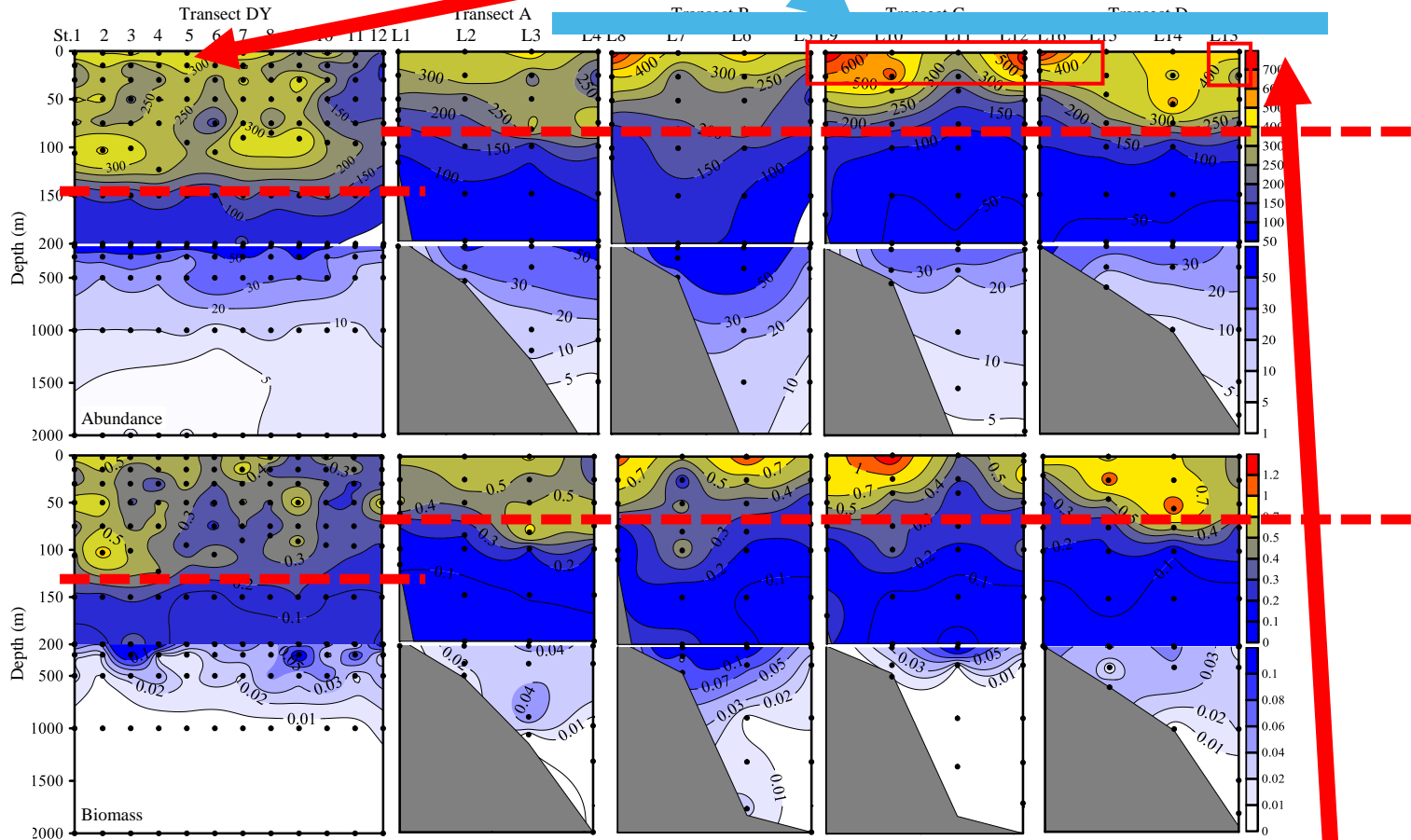


Chlorophyll a



Thermocline and DCM shoaling in the slope waters  
Low salinity water from shelf

# Ciliate



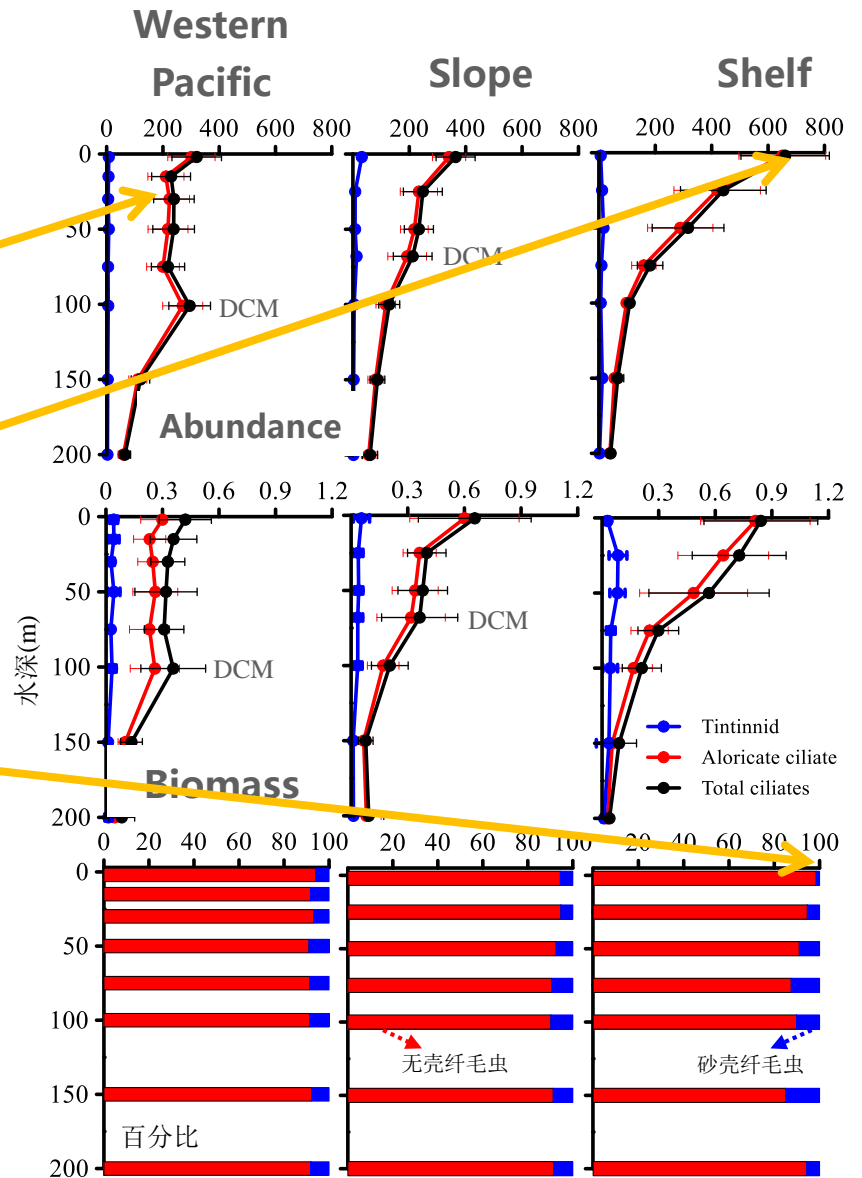
High abundance in the mixed layer  
High abundance in the shelf water

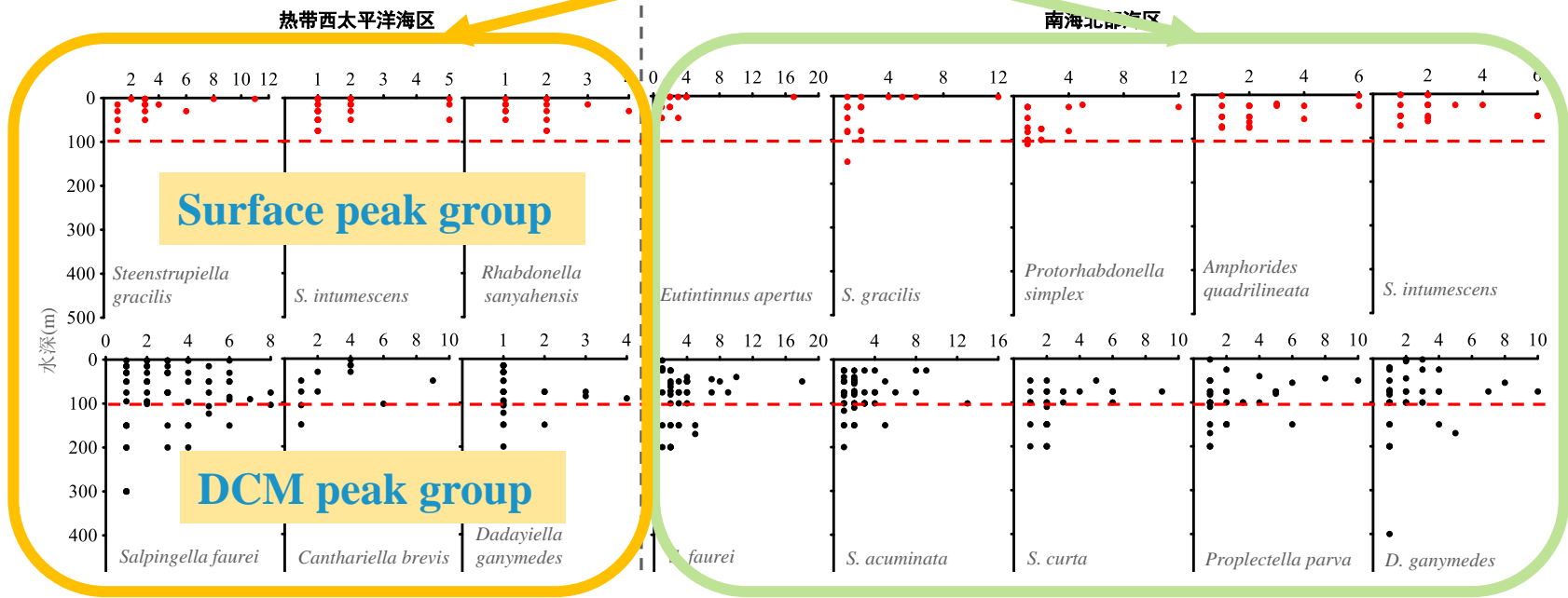
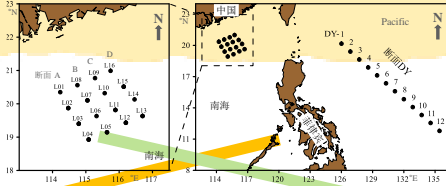
# Depth distribution profiles

Bimodal in the western Pacific

Surface peak in the Shelf waters

Low tintinnid percentage in surface of Shelf waters





# Tintinnids

## Surface peak group and DCM peak group had different species

# Questions and Answers

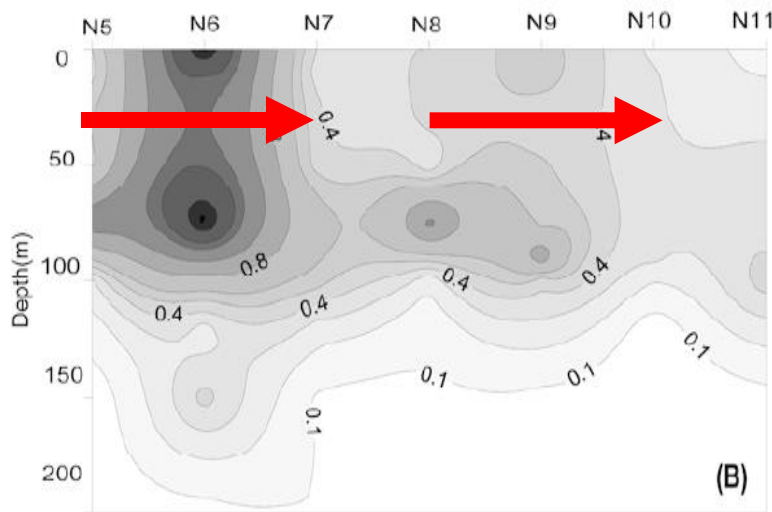
🍷 **Q 1: is there depth distribution for ciliates?**

- 1) Tintinnid have two groups: surface peak-DCM peak
- 2) Aloricate ciliate may have similar groups.

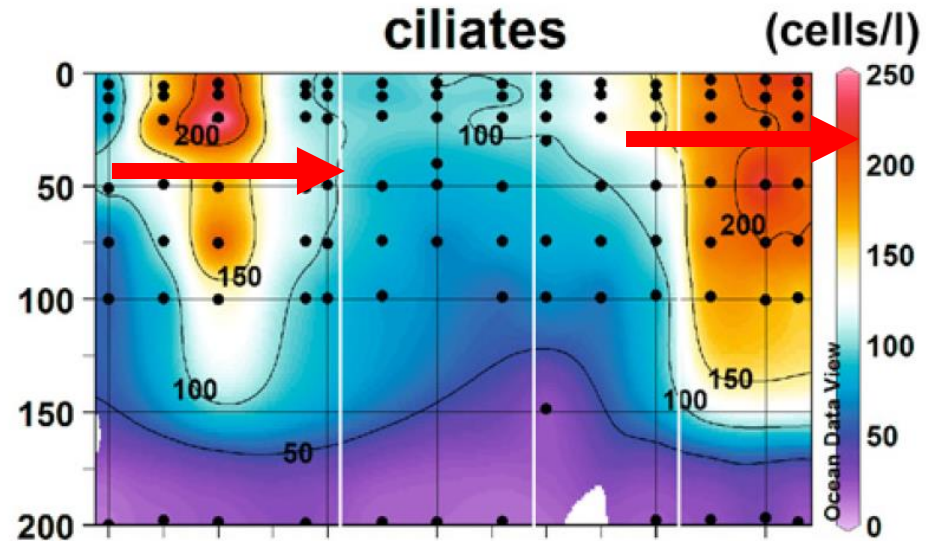
🍷 **Q 2: how about it in the slope (edge of the gyre)?**

- 1) also have two groups,
- 2) showed influence of shelf waters.

# Bimodal in Pacific (in other studies) Exist but not recognized



Yang et al. 2004

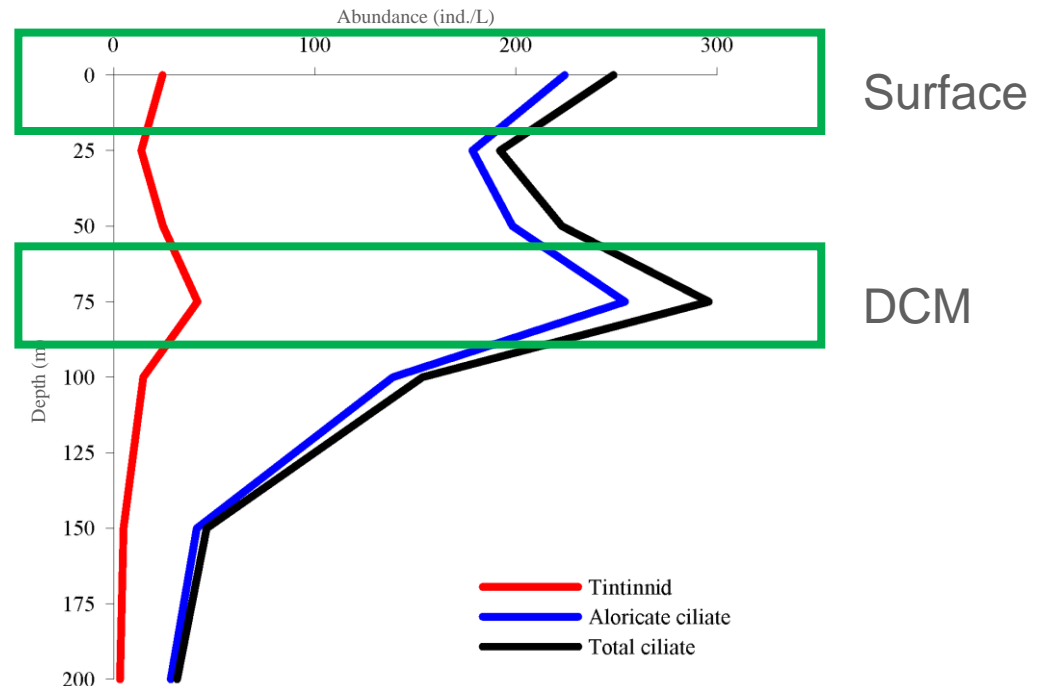
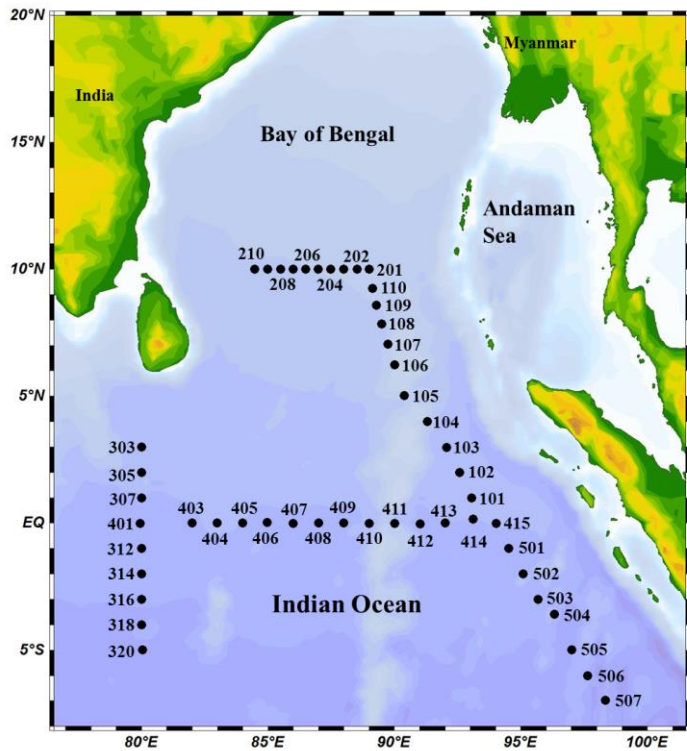


Sohrin et al. 2010

Yang, E.J., 2004. Mar. Biol. 146, 1-15.  
Sohrin, R., 2010. Deep-Sea Res. II 57, 1537-1550.

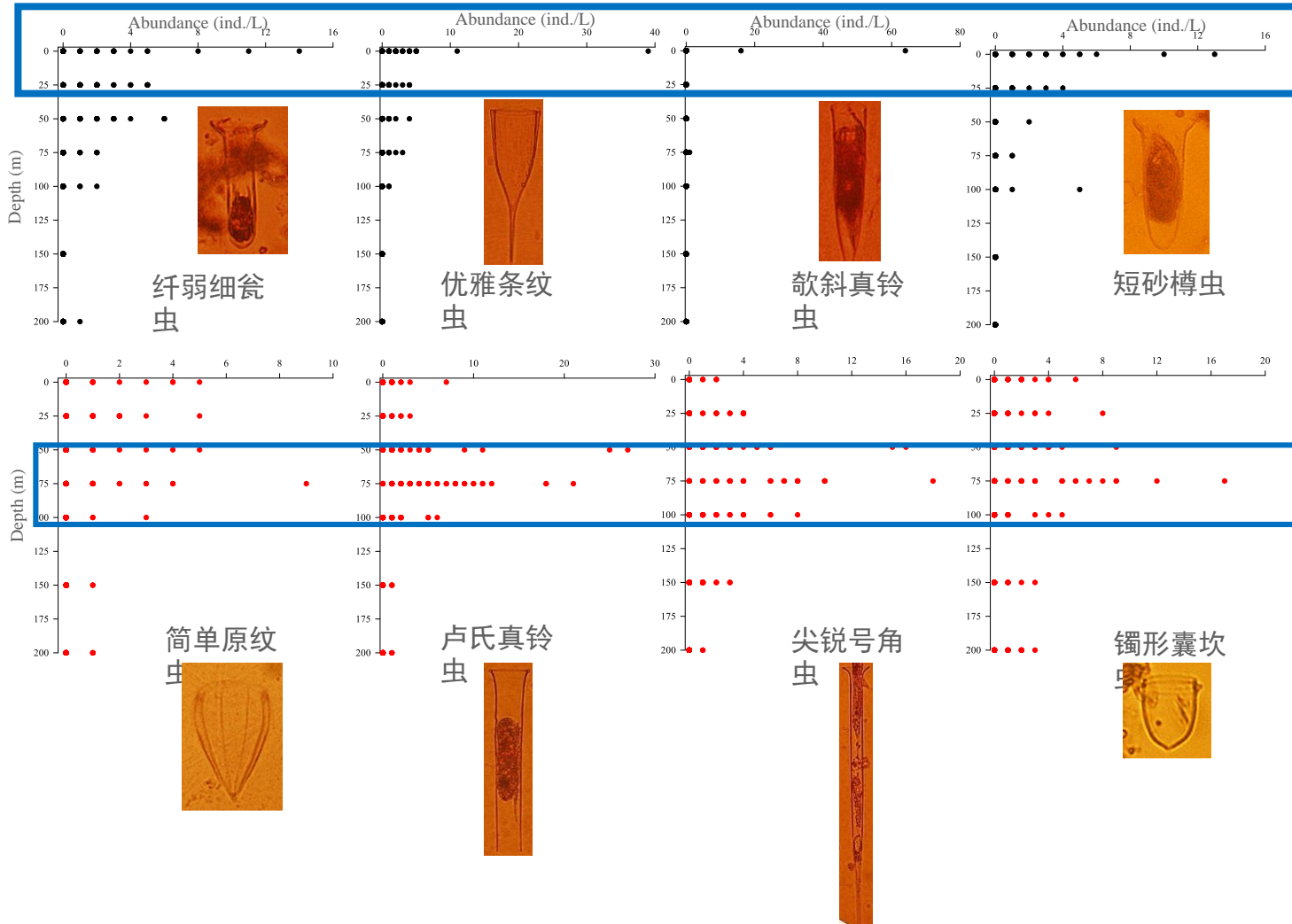


# Bimodal in Indian Ocean (our study)



Eastern Indian Ocean in 2017 cruise

# Some tintinnid species



表层高

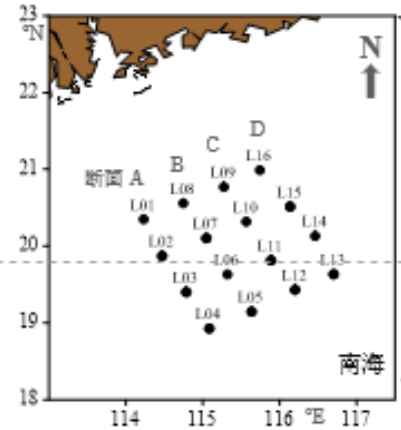
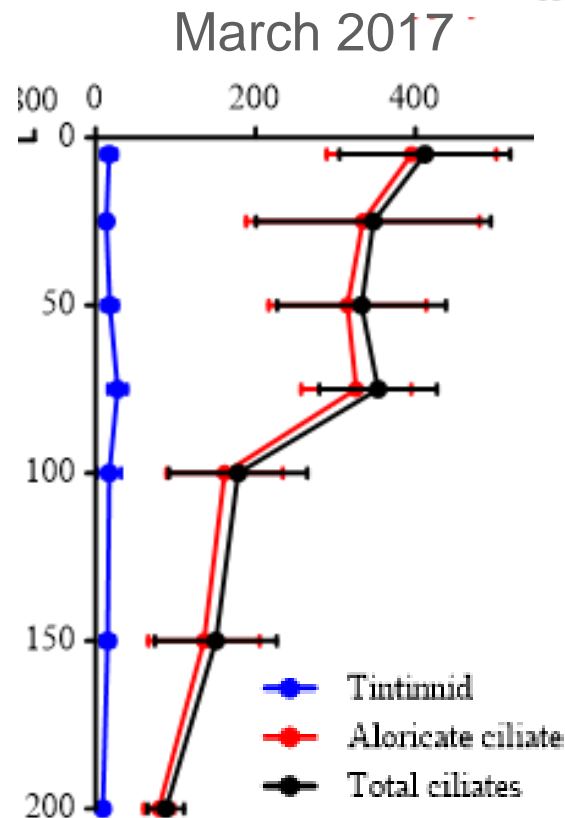
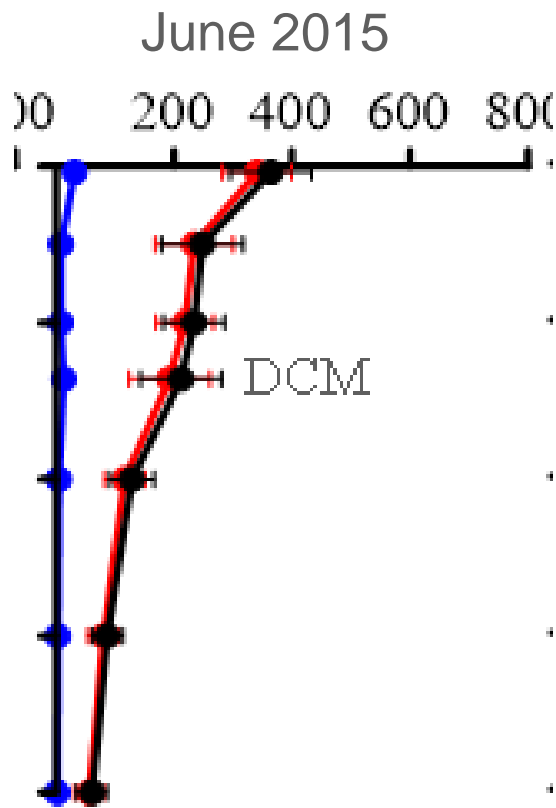
DCM层高

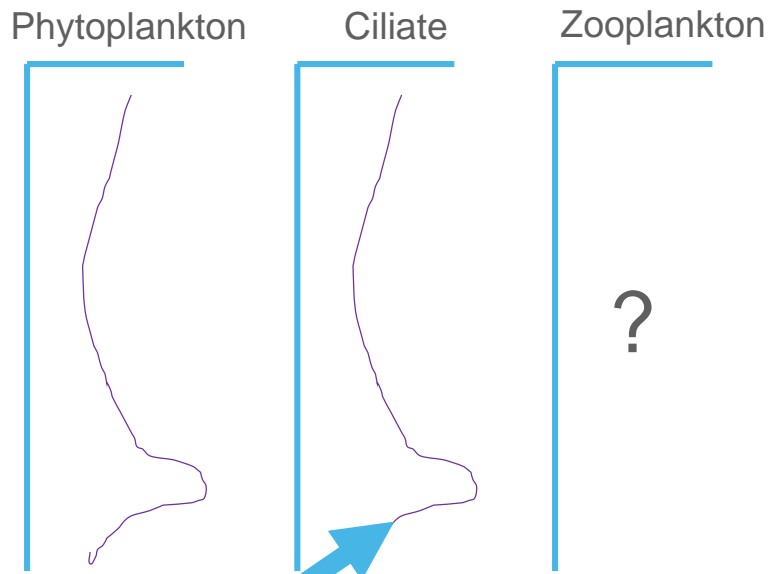
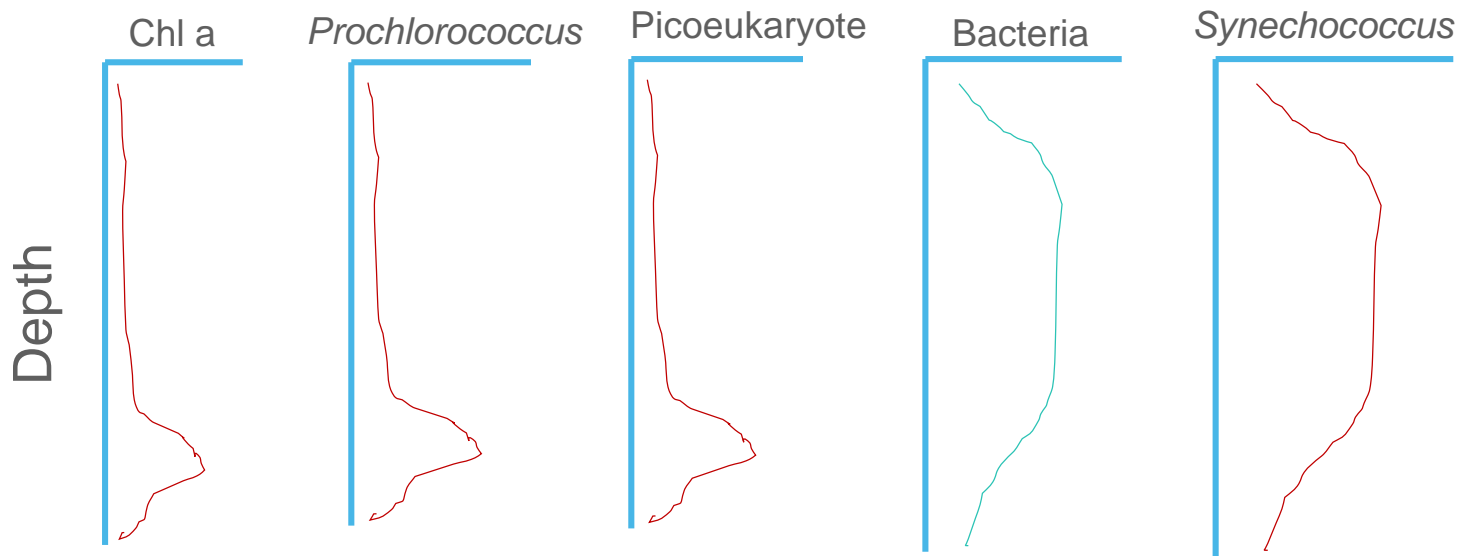
# More story –

## Seasonal variation in the slope

Bimodal distribution was found in slope water in March 2017  
Winter-spring in slope was influenced by oceanic water?

Hydrological support?



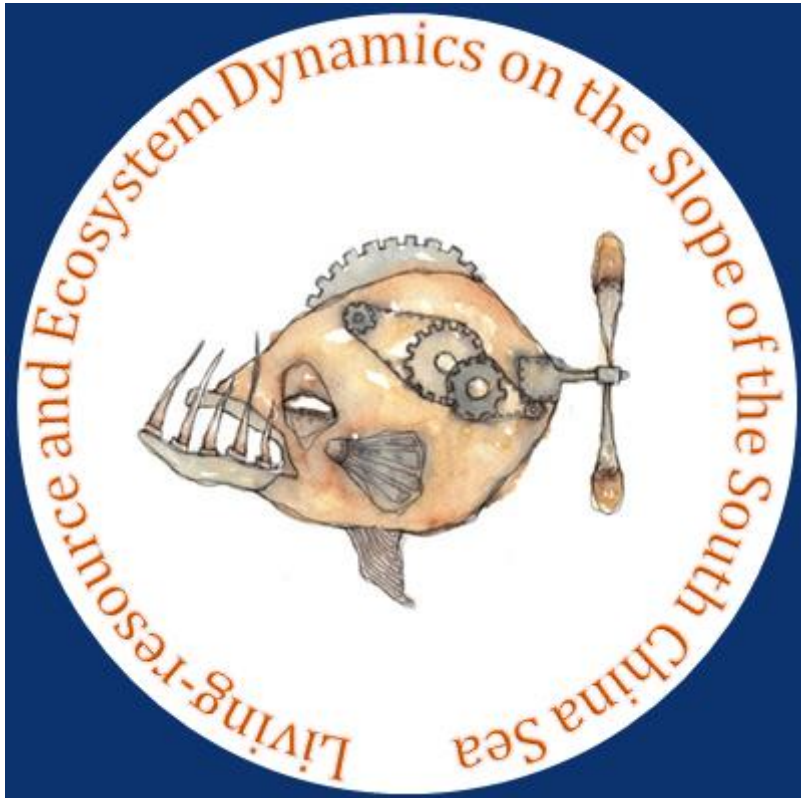


## Perspective

- 1, The euphotic zone is biologically stratified
- 2, Different layer has different structure and function

In each figure, different ecotype in different layer

# Supported by



国家自然科学基金委员会

National Natural Science Foundation of China



中国科学院

CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Planktonic  
Ciliate  
Studio



In memory of the exciting days





中国科学院海洋研究所  
INSTITUTE OF OCEANOLOGY, CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

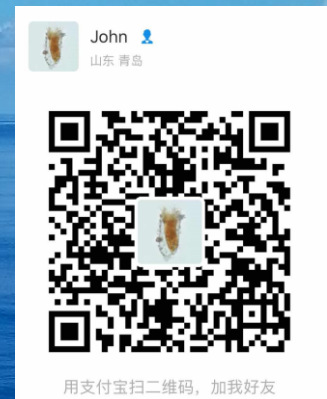


# Thank you for your attention!

[wuchangzhang@qdio.ac.cn](mailto:wuchangzhang@qdio.ac.cn)

Wechat: wx1016312329

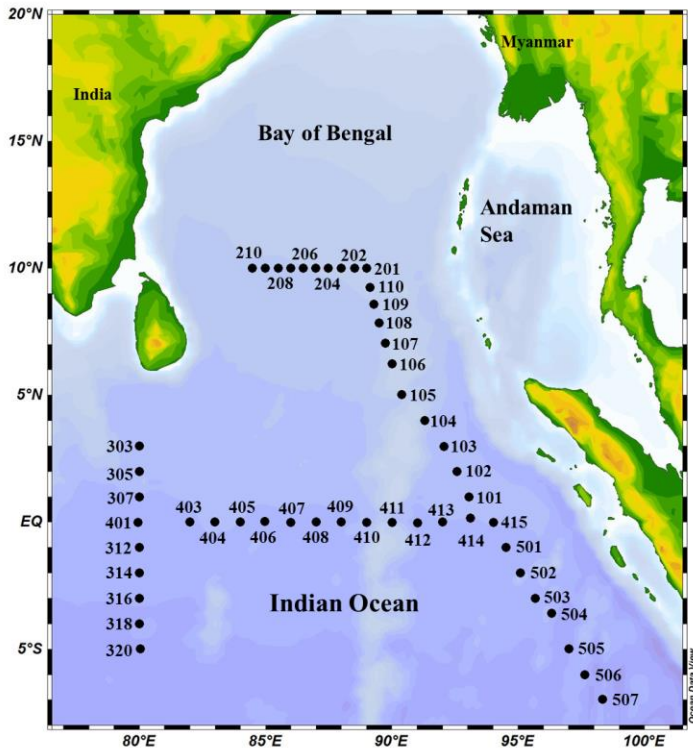
You can donate to ciliate studio by scanning the code with Alipay



This PPT could be distributed freely.

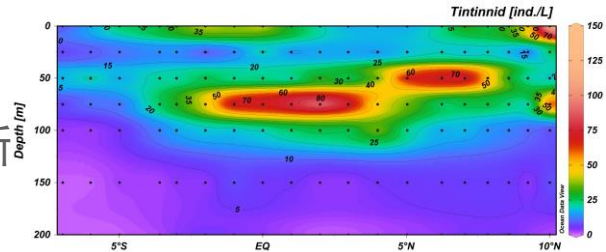
The author of this PPT do not guarantee the authenticity of any content inside.

# Transect distribution of tintinnids

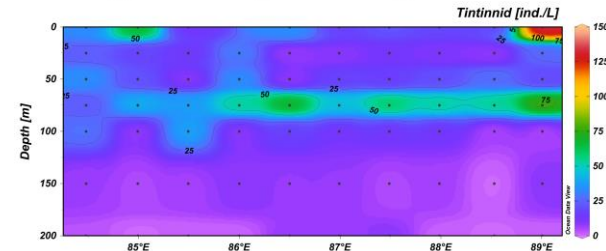


2017年3月-4月东印度洋站位

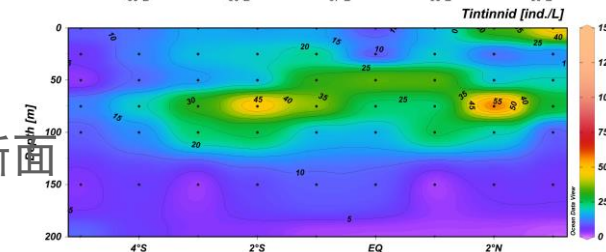
1&5断面



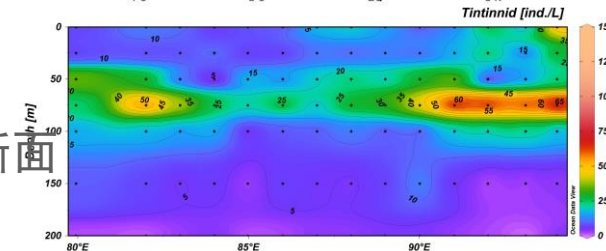
2断面



3断面



4断面



砂壳纤毛虫在表层和DCM层丰度较高，大体上呈双峰型分布。