#### Ifremer



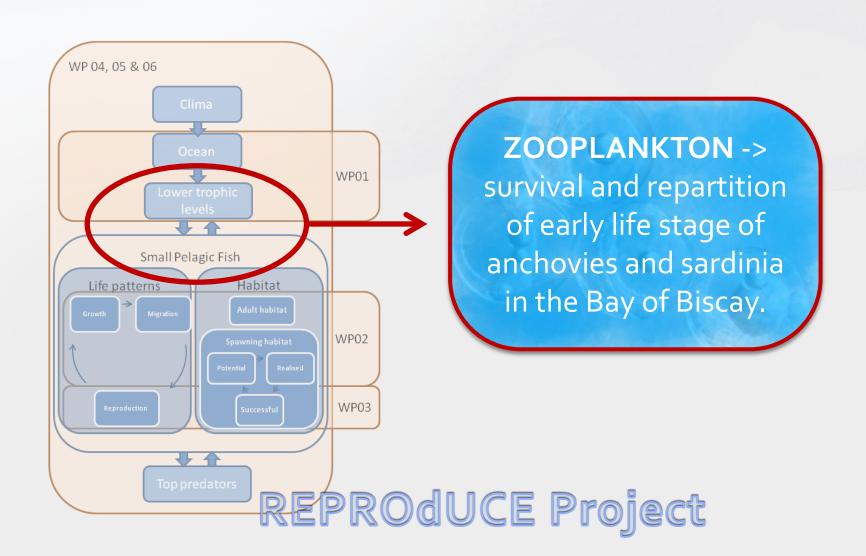
Pieter Vandromme<sup>1</sup>, Enrique Nogueira<sup>3</sup>, Martin Huret<sup>1</sup>, Gonzalo Gonzales-Nueves<sup>4</sup>, Angel Lopez-Urrutia<sup>3</sup>, Pierre
Petitgas<sup>2</sup> and Marc Sourisseau<sup>1</sup>

# Spatial and vertical distribution of springtime zooplankton size-spectra

Results from survey (Pelacus – Pelgas) in the Bay of Biscay using L-OPC and nets/ZooScan datasets

- IFREMER, Brittany center, Brest, France
- 2. IFREMER, Atlantic center, Nantes, France
- 3. IEO Gijon, Spair
- 4. IEO Vigo, Spain

#### Context



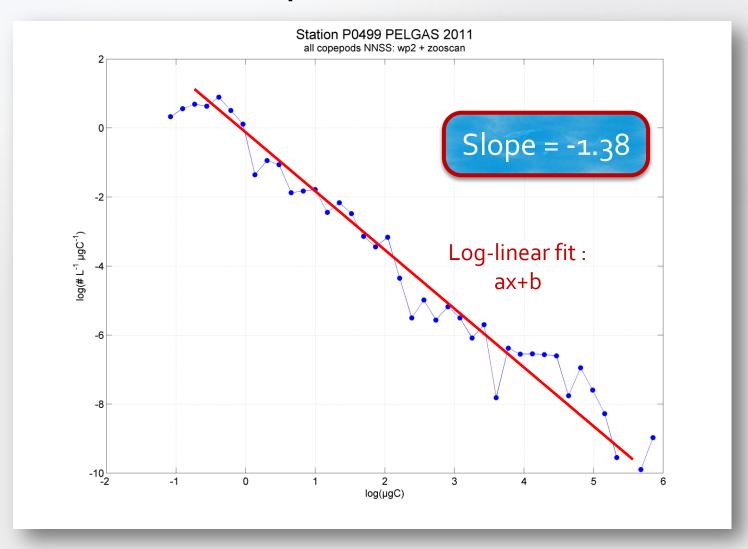
# Feeding of larvae



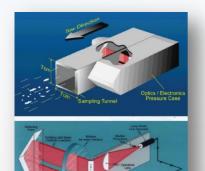
### Purpose and Content of the talk

- Strong need of data on zooplankton size distribution in the Bay of Biscay:
- 1. How to measure it?
- 2. What is the quality of the measure?
- 3. Global distribution of zooplankton size-spectra
- 4. Classification of zooplankton size-spectra
- 5. Is there a link with environmental features?
- 6. Conclusion & Perspectives

# What is a Size-Spectrum?

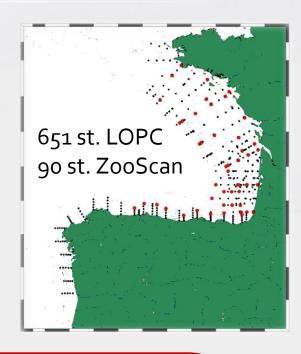


#### We used two methods to measure it:



#### LOPC:

- In situ
- Vertical profiles
  - Size only

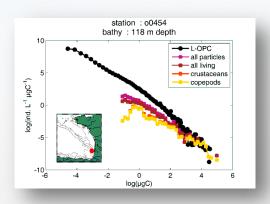


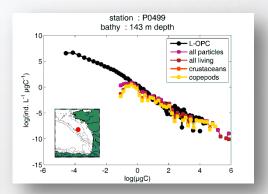


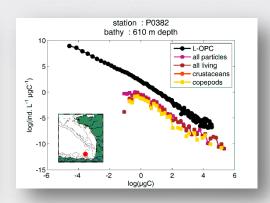
#### WP2 + ZooScan:

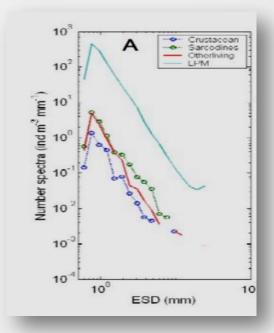
- Groups + size
  - In lab
- o-100m (no vertical distr.)
  - Time consuming
- Net broke up fragile objects

### Overestimation of LOPC due to detritus





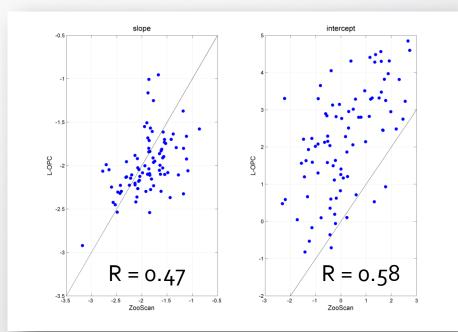


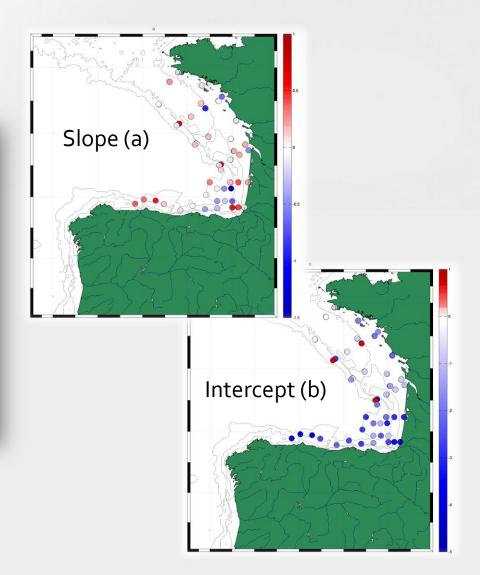


Detritus (aggregates) are fragiles particles -> desaggregation in nets (like larvaceans, gelatinous...)

### Overestimation of LOPC due to detritus

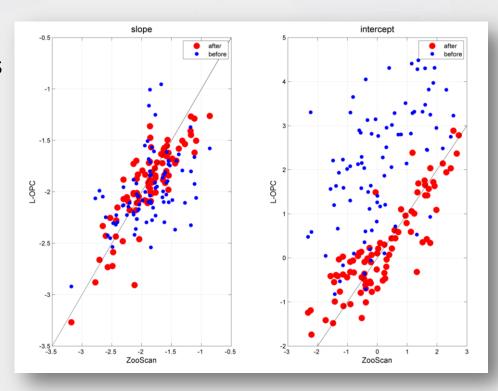
#### LOPCSS + $a.x + b \rightarrow ZooSS$





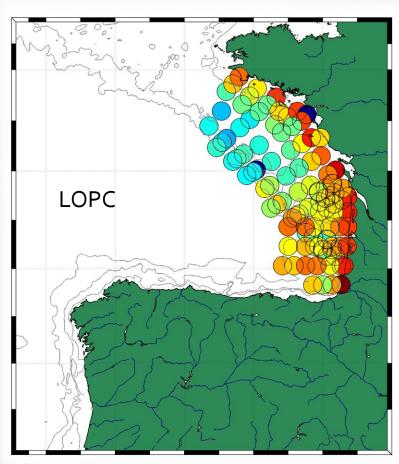
### Can we correct LOPC size-spectra?

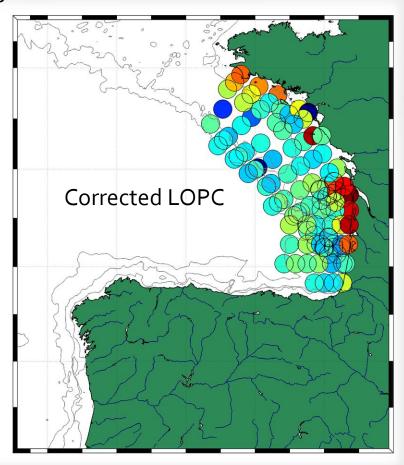
- Prediction of differences (detritus) with:
  - environmental parameters
    - Surface and deep (100m) temperature, salinity, density, max fluo, depth of max fluo, satellite chla and mes, bathy...
  - LOPC size-spectra
- Multivariate regressions:
  - random removal of n stations
  - Estimation of parameters
  - x iterations
  - Slope (n=5, x=1000)
    - R: 0.47 -> 0.85
  - Intercept (n=5, x=1000)
    - R: 0.58 -> 0.87



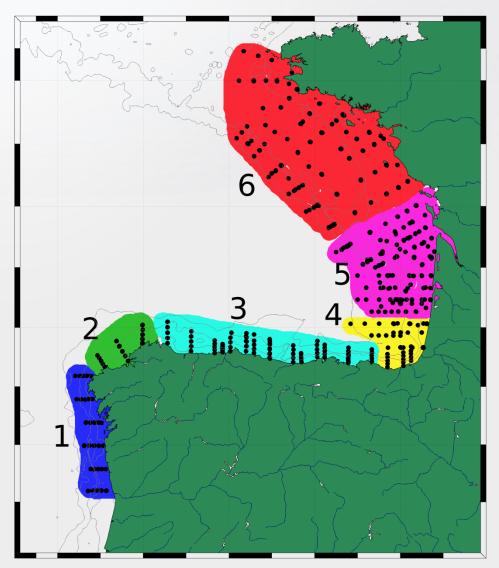
# Impact of correction example

#### Biomass estimates during PELGAS 2011

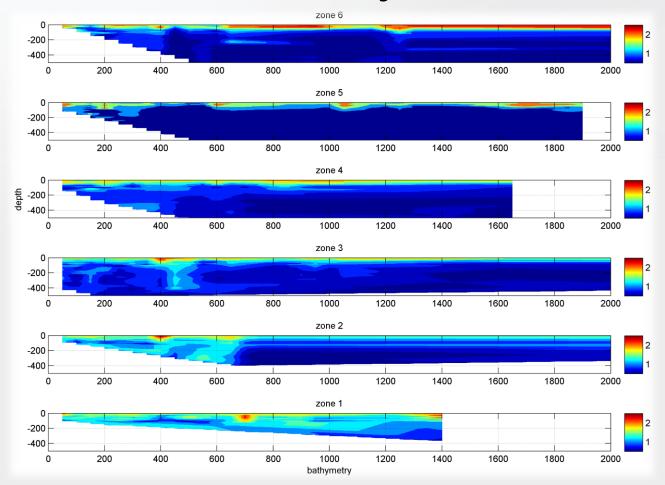




# Separation by zones



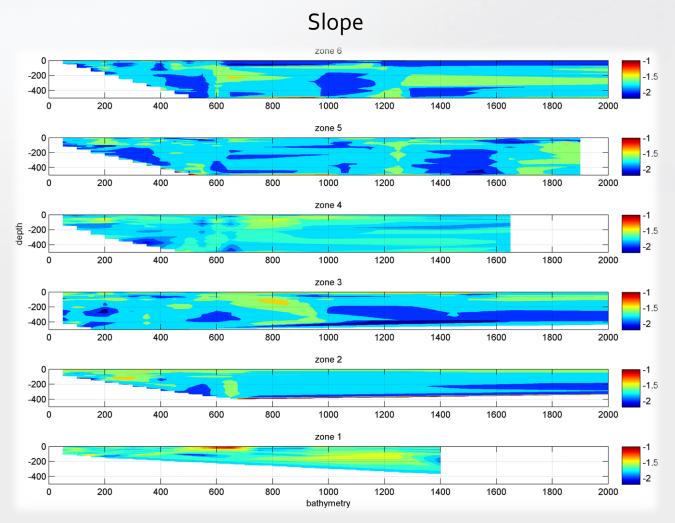
#### Biomass (in log10)



Depth

Bottom depth

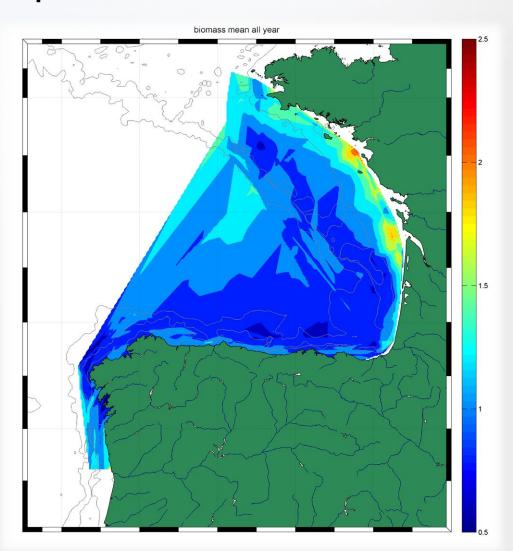
### Vertical distribution (LOPC not corrected)



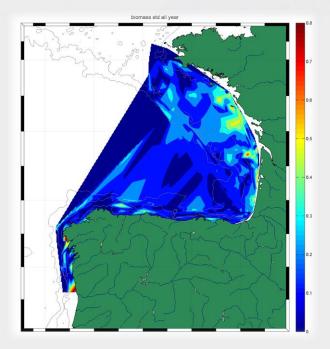
Depth

Bottom depth

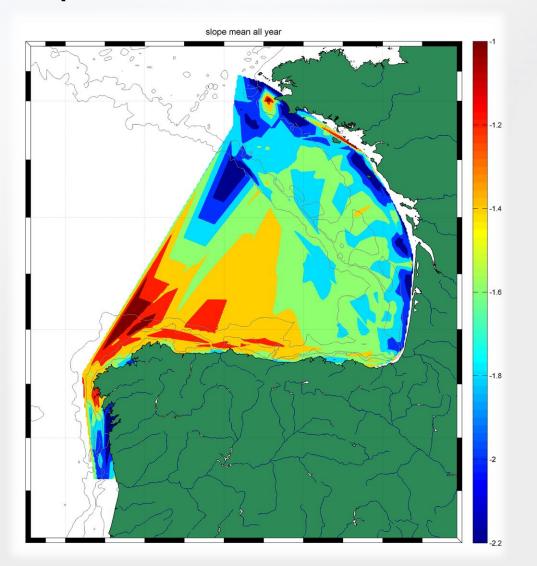
# Spatial distribution (LOPC corrected)



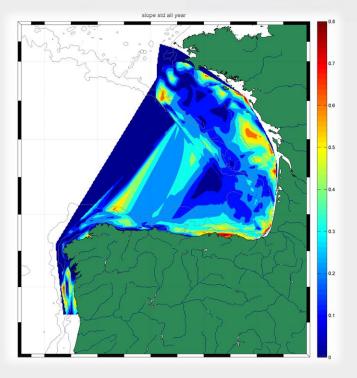
Biomass average year and std



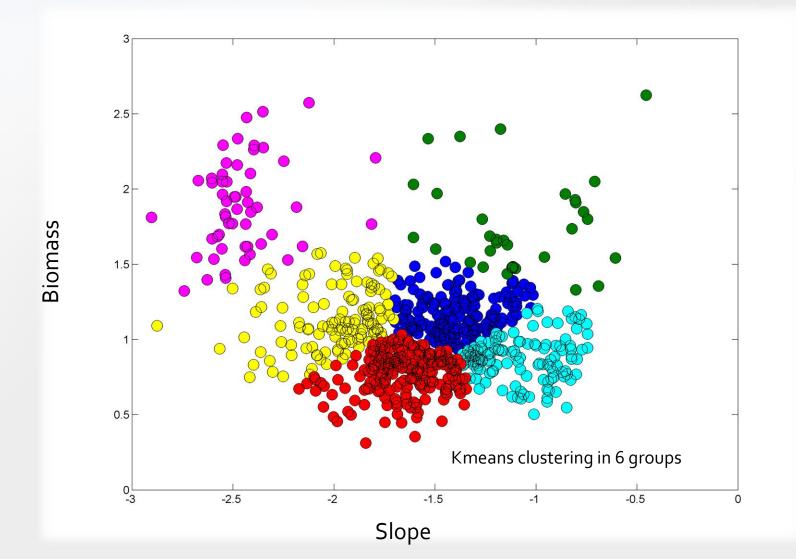
# Spatial distribution (LOPC corrected)



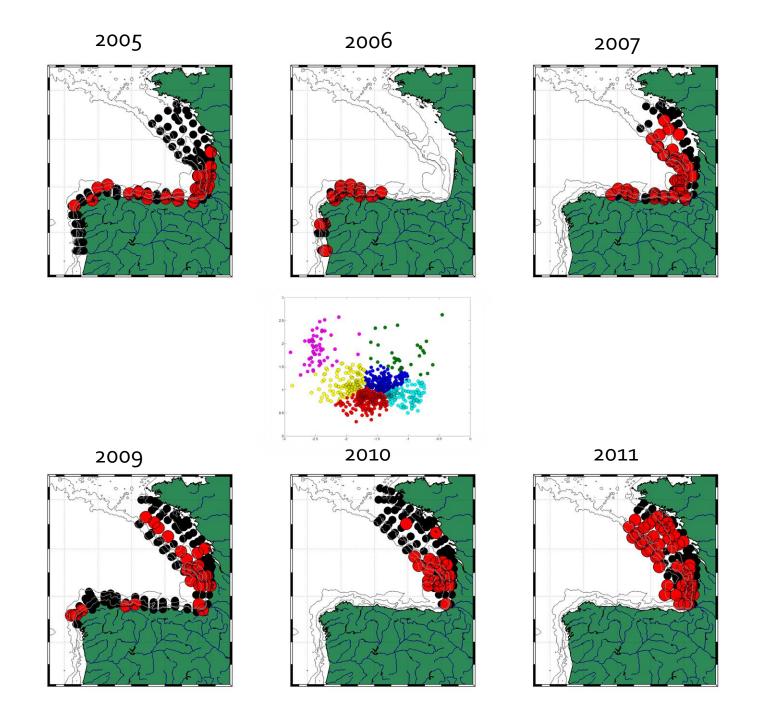
Slope average year and std

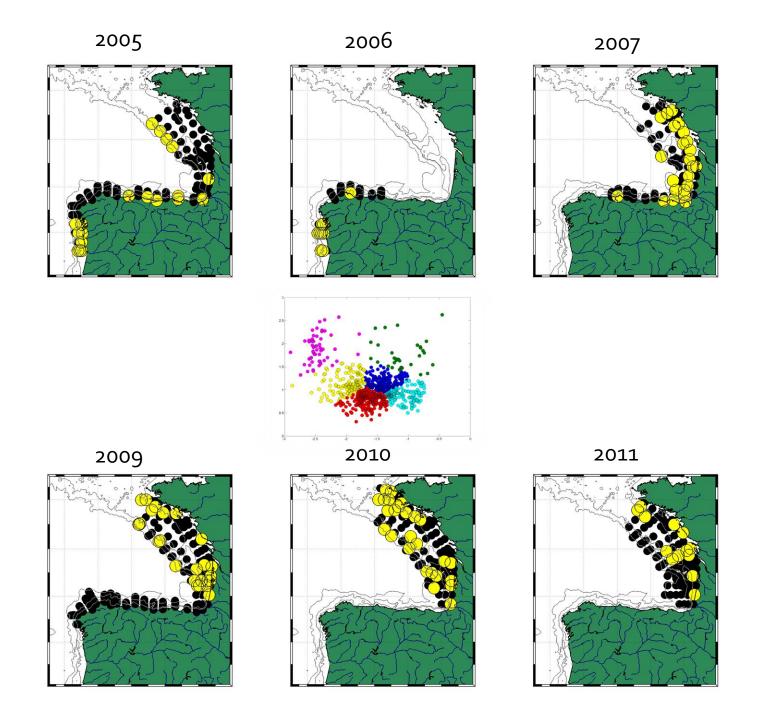


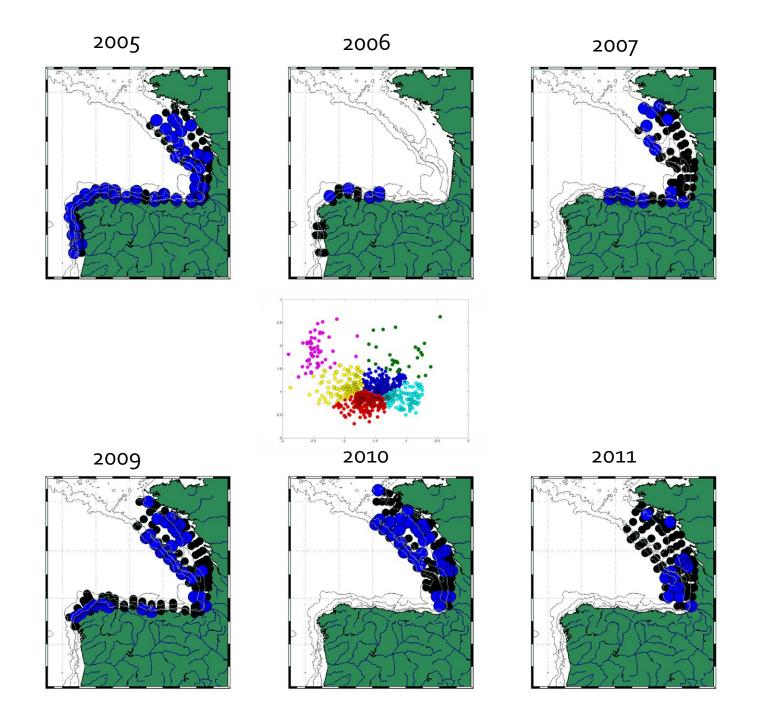
### Classification

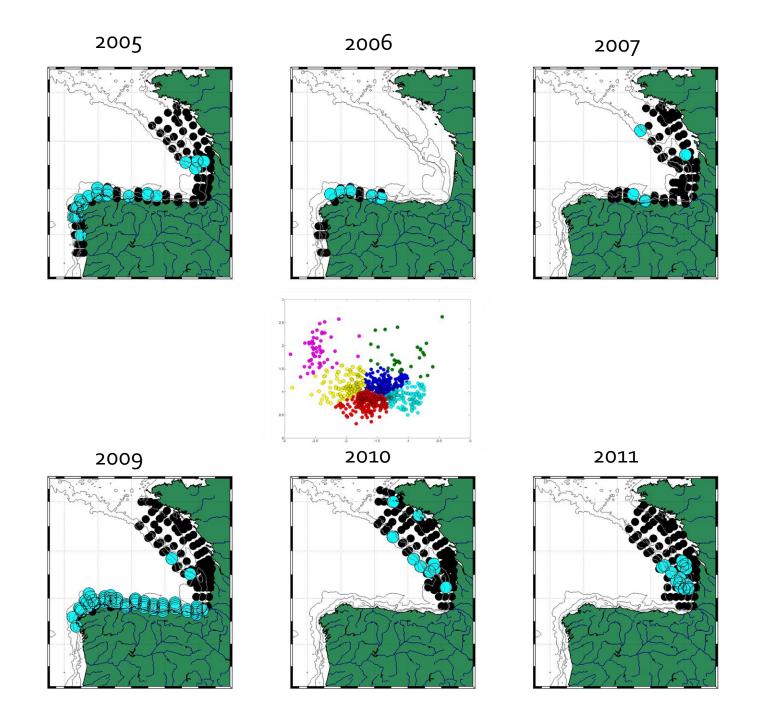


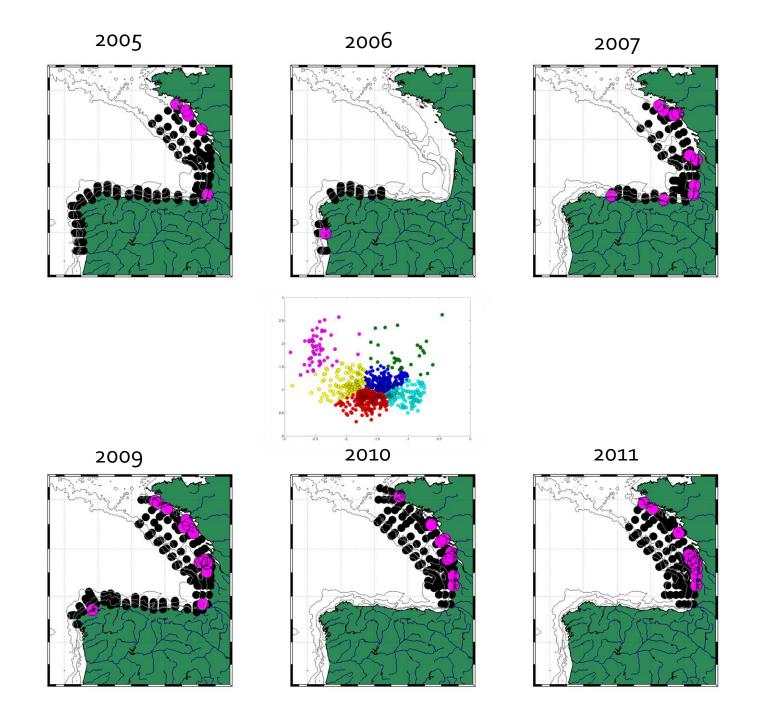
# Spatial distribution of groups

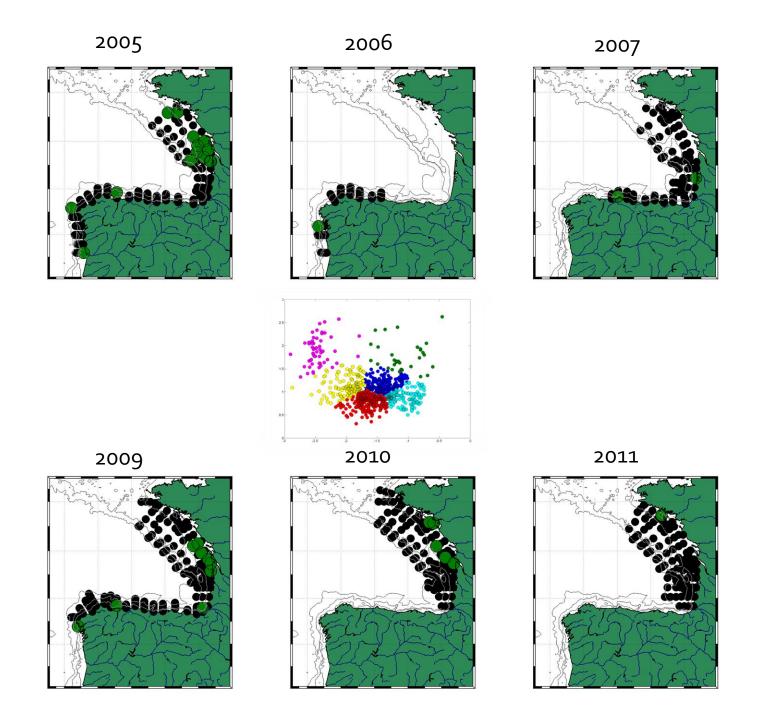


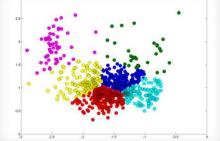




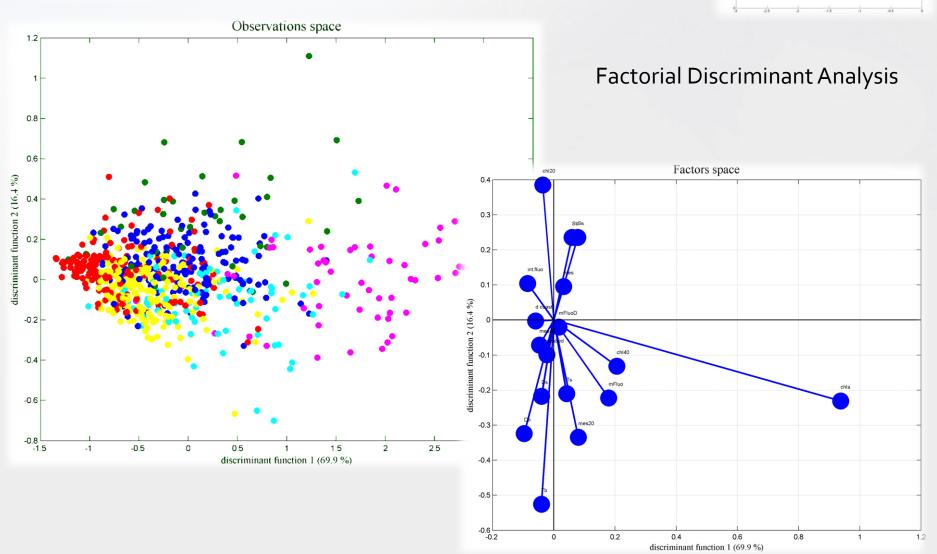








#### Links with environmental factors

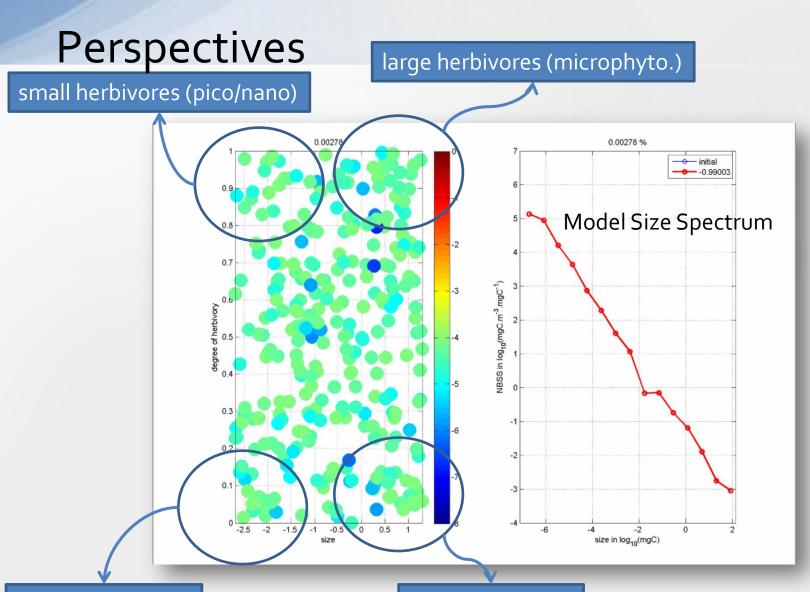


#### Conclusions

- Possibility to correct LOPC SS with use of wp2 nets and ZooScan...
- High variability but major gradients are observed
  - Coast Offshore (different in Cantabrian Sea and French Shelf) and influence of estuaries
  - Vertical (stratification more important in French Shelf)
  - Inter-annual (coastal area more variable)
- Link with remotely sensed chlorophyll-a
  - Zooplankton distribution more linked to phytoplankton communities than physical factors

### Perspectives

- Need to improve the quality of the measure:
  - Need to scan more samples
  - Use of new instrument (Underwater Video Profiler)
  - Third leg of Pelgas12
- Analysis of LOPC data made in Autumn (2003, 2005, 2007, 2009) -> no net samples analyzed
- Use of these data to calibrate (compared) with models outputs... ->



Small detritivores

Large carnivores

