

Sedimentary ancient DNA (sedaDNA) reveal shifts in marine protist communities after World War II and agricultural pollution

Raffaele Siano

raffaele.siano@ifremer.fr

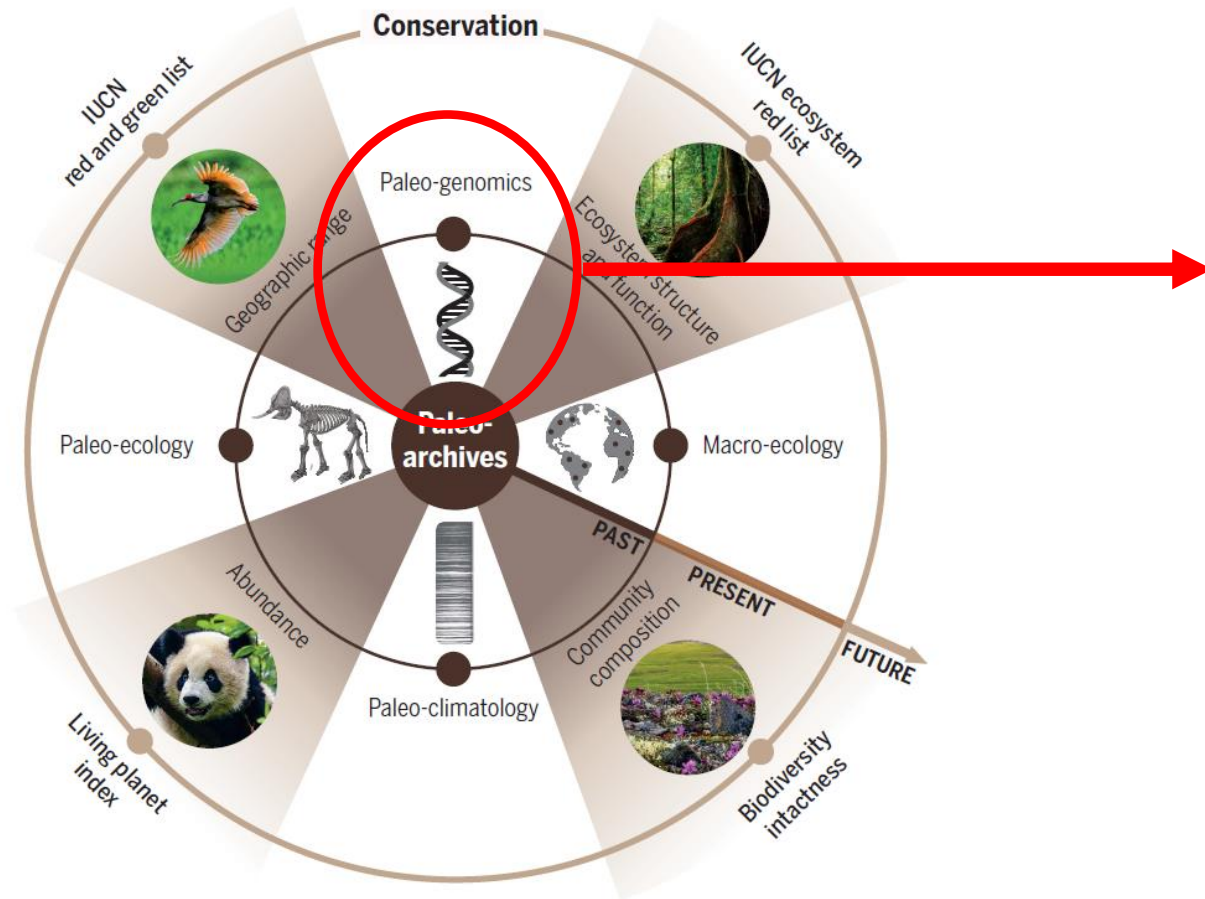
DYNECO/ Pelagos

Centre de Brest (Brittany, France)



ESTIVAL ROOCH 14-15 Octobre 2021

Paleo-archives: a source of information for understanding ecosystems variations



Sedimentary ancient DNA



A tool for reconstructing the biodiversity of past biological communities and their shifts in relation to environmental changes.

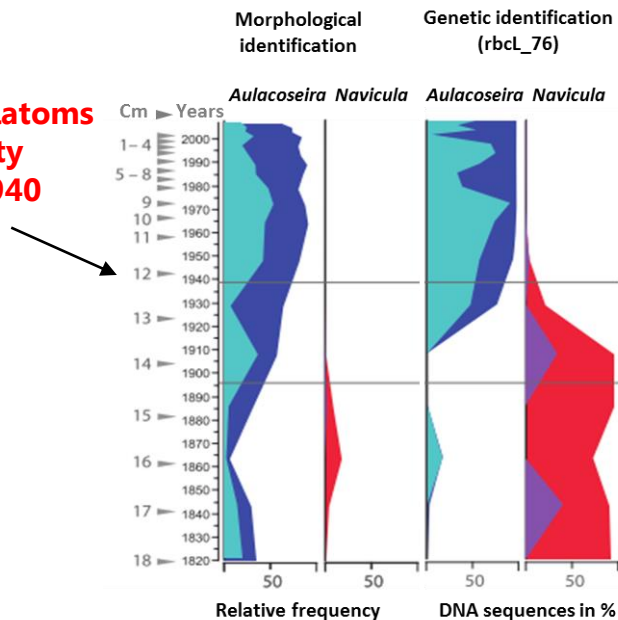
Using paleo-archives to safeguard biodiversity under climate
Fordham et al. 2020 Science

Plankton Paleogenetics

Ancient Plankton DNA can be preserved in sediments of up to the Pleistocene (~ 125 000 years)

Plankton communities dynamics have been reconstructed and linked to environmental changes

Shift in diatoms community around 1940



Geobiology

Geobiology (2011), 9, 377–393

DOI: 10.1111/j.1472-4669.2011.00290.x

Preservation potential of ancient plankton DNA in Pleistocene marine sediments

A. C. BOERE,¹ W. I. C. RIJPSSTRA,¹ G. J. DE LANGE,² J. S. SINNINGHE DAMSTÉ^{1,2} AND M. J. L. COOLEN^{1,3}

PNAS Evolution of the plankton paleome in the Black Sea from the Deglacial to Anthropocene

Marco J. L. Coolen^{a,1}, William D. Orsi^b, Cherele Balkema^a, Christopher Quince^c, Keith Harris^c, Sean P. Sylva^a, Mariana Filipova-Marinova^d, and Liviu Giosan^b

^aMarine Chemistry and Geochemistry Department and ^bGeology and Geophysics Department, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA 02543; ^cSchool of Engineering, Glasgow University, Glasgow G12 8LT, United Kingdom; and ^dMuseum of Natural History, 9000 Varna, Bulgaria

Edited by Katherine H. Freeman, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, and accepted by the Editorial Board April 10, 2013 (received for review November 7, 2012)

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

SUBJECT AREAS:
PALAEOCLIMATE
PALAEOECOLOGY

Received
28 March 2014
Accepted

Identification of Photosynthetic Plankton Communities Using Sedimentary Ancient DNA and Their Response to late-Holocene Climate Change on the Tibetan Plateau

MOLECULAR ECOLOGY

Molecular Ecology (2012) 21, 1918–1930

doi: 10.1111/j.1365-294X.2011.05412.x

Hidden diversity in diatoms of Kenyan Lake Naivasha: a genetic approach detects temporal variation

KATHLEEN R. STOOFF-LEICHSENRING,* LAURA S. EPP,+ MARTIN H. TRAUTH‡ and RALPH TIEDEMANN*

Target ecosystems in paleogenetics

Typical deep ocean, permafrost, ice, fjörds, lakes

What about coastal ecosystems?

Objectif :
**Use the potential of
paleoecological
approach
to reconstruct
environmental changes
of the coastal ecosystem**

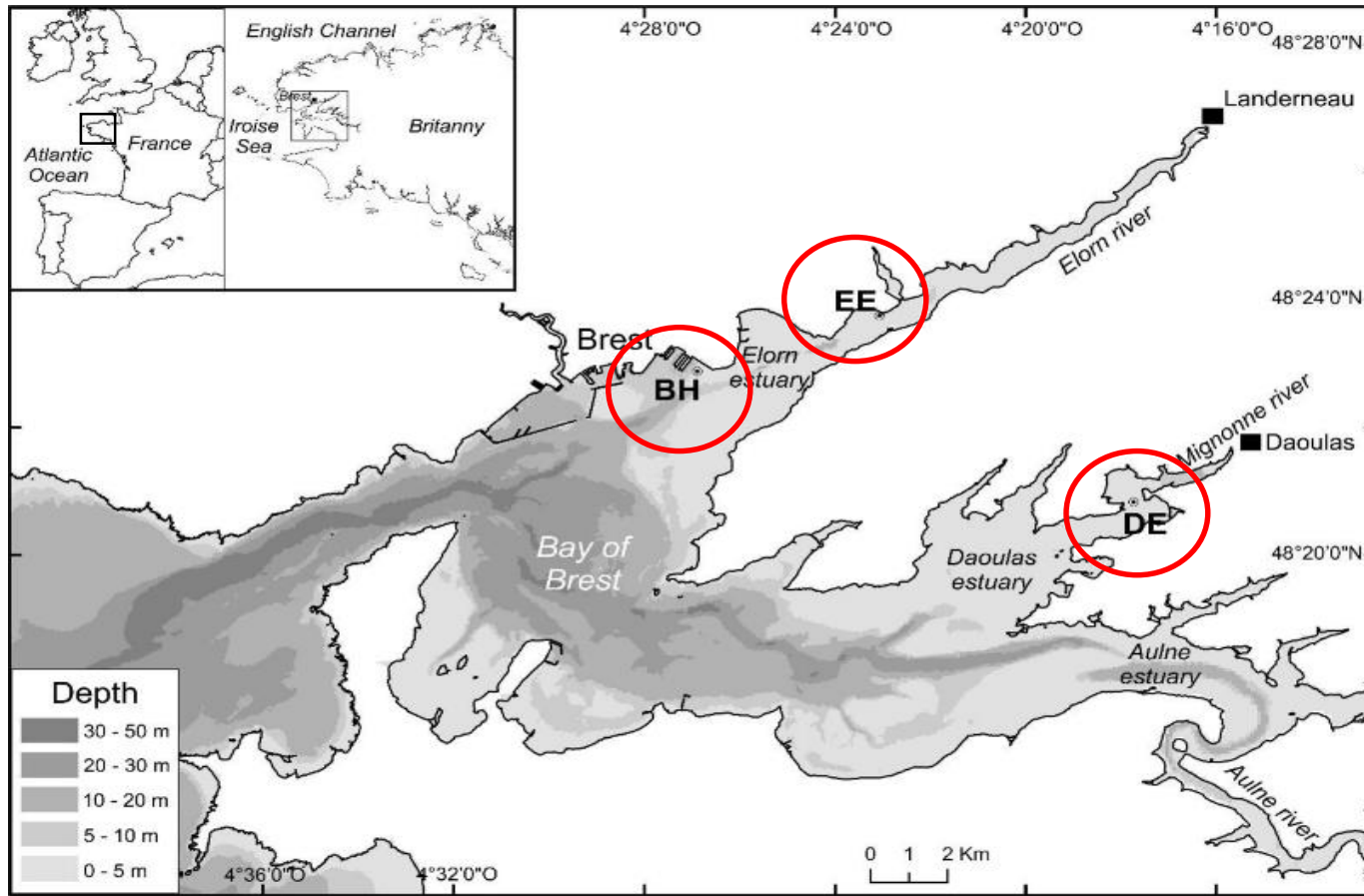


The Bay of Brest (France)

- **17th -18th centuries: naval town during the industrial développement**
- **1940- 1944 : World War II (pollution of army activity, navy traffic, bombing)**
- **Since 1950 : intense agricultural development (eutrophication)**
- **Since 1990: control of eutrophication**



Sediment core sampling strategy



Core validation:

- Sedimentation and bioturbation rates (short half-life radionuclides)
- Sediment dating (^{210}Pb , ^{137}Cs , ^{14}C analyses)
- Sediment permeability [H_2O]
- granulometry

EE (0.4 m)

DE (0.7 m)

BH (3.4 m)

72 yrs

Ca. 150 yrs

Ca. 5000 yrs



Sediment core collection by scuba divers or core sampler



Slice into 1 cm-layers and collection of the inner part of layer



DNA extraction in dedicated clean lab

Protist *sedaDNA* nature and its potential use as proxy for ecosystem variation

→ *sedaDNA* degradation (= fragmentation)

Muddy sediments allow a better preservation of the *sedaDNA* that can be analyzed with a good taxonomic resolution (ca. 400 bp marker gene, V4 18 rDNA)

(Capo et al. *Mol. Ecol.*, 2016)

→ sedimentary ancient DNA (*sedaDNA*) characterization :

sedaDNA mostly correspond to intracellular DNA, protected in cell resting stages

(Siano et al. *Current Biology*, 2021)

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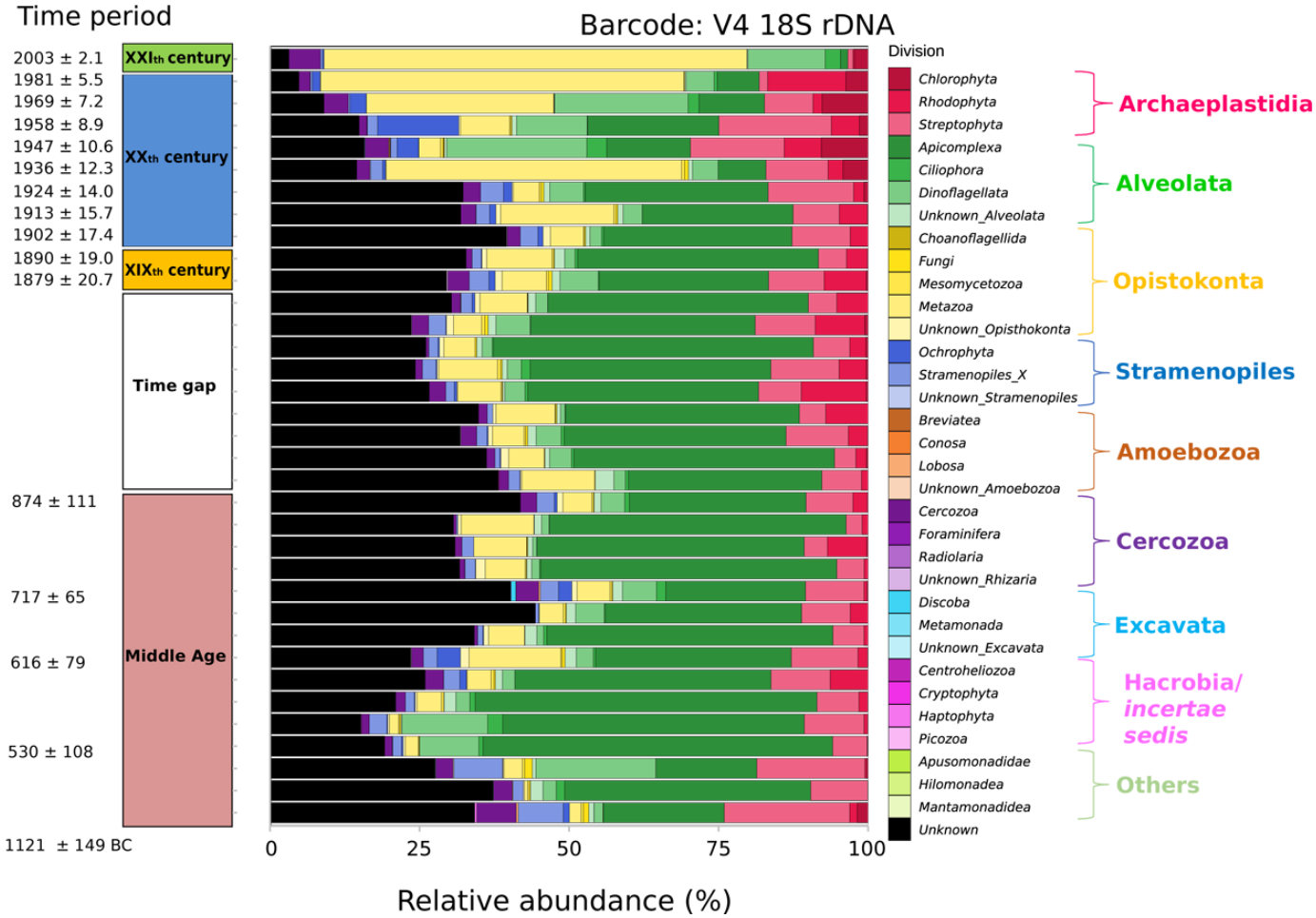
→ *sedaDNA* as a proxy of protist community shifts in relation to anthropogenic pressures

Can *sedaDNA* contribute to the evaluation of coastal ecosystems resilience?

Metacommunity vs. pollutant (heavy metals, PCBs) analyses

(Siano et al. *Current Biology*, 2021)

sedaDNA : protist diversity

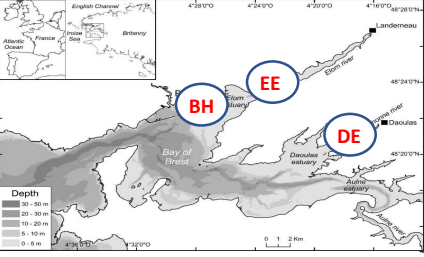


Gregarines (metazoans parasites) very abundant

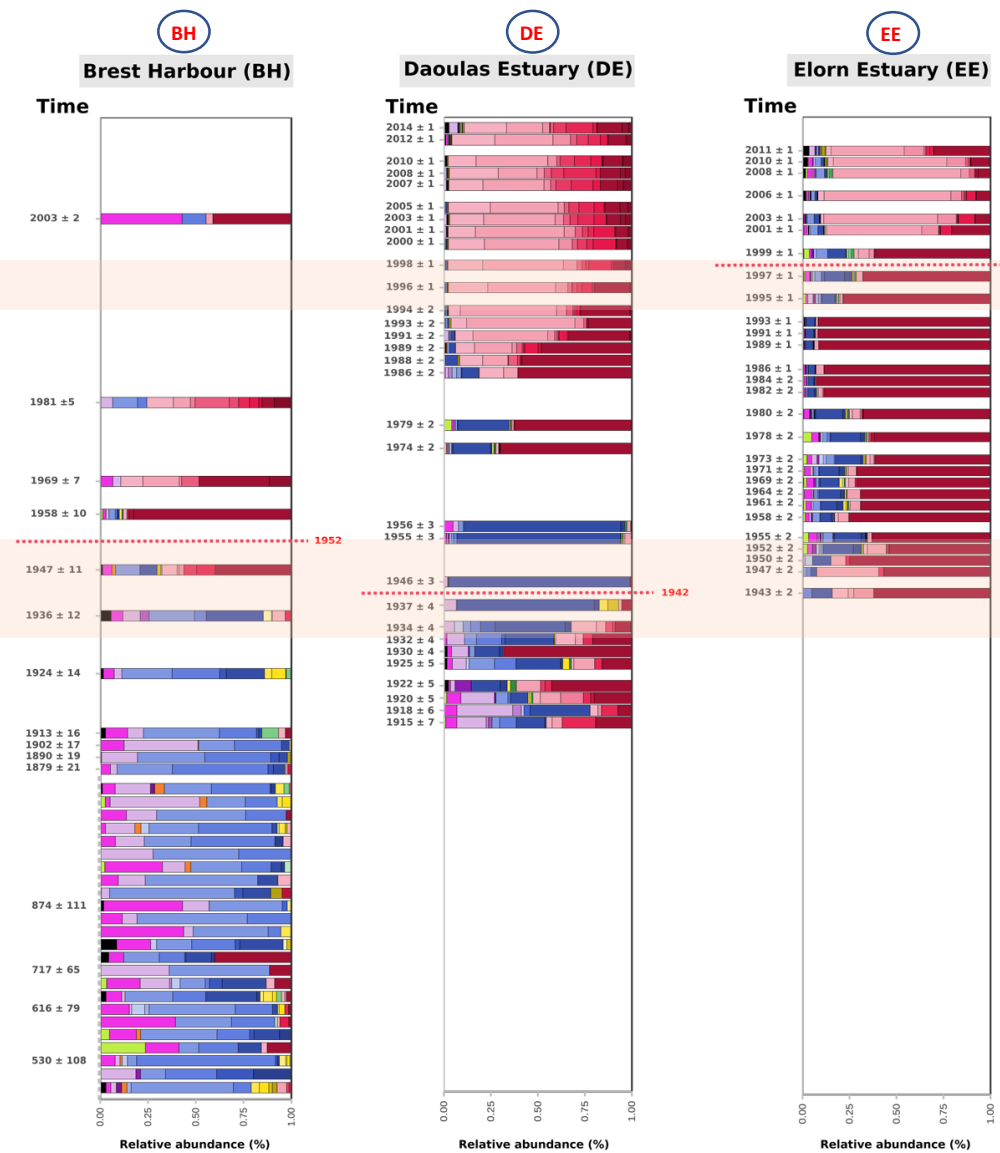
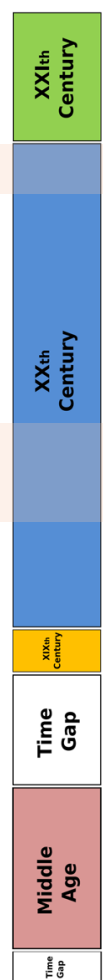
➔ Common pattern with terrestrial protist sediment communities

Siano et al. *Current Biology* 2021

Protist community changes: **Stramenopiles**



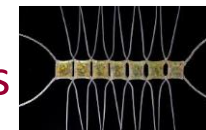
- Bacillariophyta**
 - Amphora*
 - Berkeleya*
 - Chaetoceros*
 - Dactyliosolen*
 - Delphineis*
 - Ditylum*
 - Haslea*
 - Minidiscus*
 - Navicula*
 - Nitzschia*
 - Paralia*
 - Psammodictyon*
 - Raphid-pennate
 - Rhizosolenia*
 - Skeletonema*
 - Thalassiosira*
 - Unknown_Bacillariophyta
- Pedinellaceae**
 - Apedinella*
 - Pedinellales
 - Pseudopedinella*
- Labyrinthulea**
 - Aplanochytrium*
 - Labyrinthulaceae
 - Labyrinthuloides*
 - Oblongichytrium*
 - Thraustochytriaceae
 - Unknown_Labyrinthulea
- MAST**
 - MAST-12
 - MAST-12A
 - MAST-12B
 - MAST-12D
 - MAST-12E
 - MAST-1C
 - MAST-6
 - Unknown_MAST
- Ochrophyta**
 - MOCH-3
 - Eurychasma*
 - Haliphthorales
 - Haliphthoros*
 - Oomycota
 - Unknown_Oomycota
- Oomycota**
 - Pirsonia* Clade
 - Stramenopiles_group 7
 - Unknown_Stramenopiles



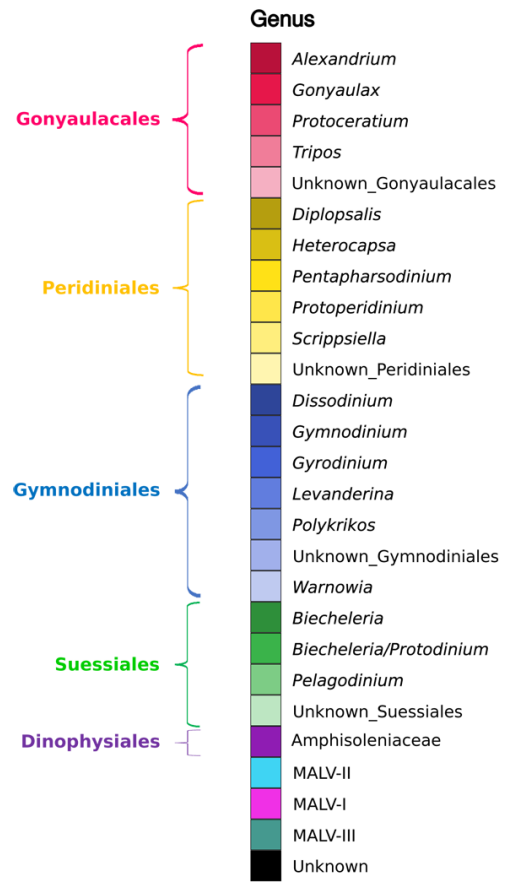
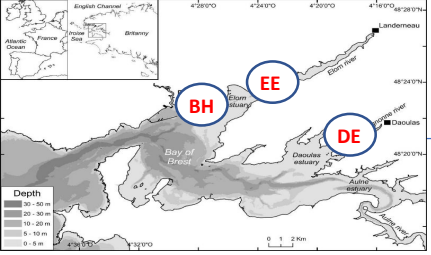
..... BREAK POINTS DETECTED IN THE COMMUNITY STRUCTURE (MRT ANALYSIS)



Marine Stramenopiles (MASTs) → Diatoms



Protist community changes: **Dinoflagellates**



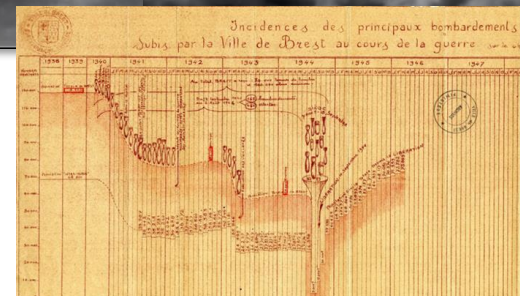
..... BREAK POINTS DETECTED IN THE COMMUNITY STRUCTURE (MRT ANALYSIS)



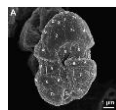
years '90



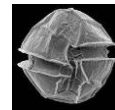
years '40-'50



Historical documents of Brest archive municipality



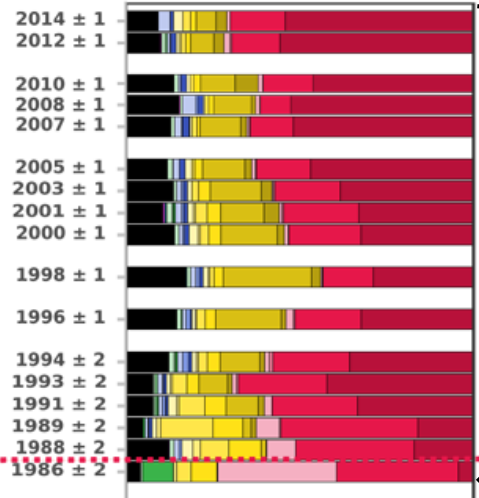
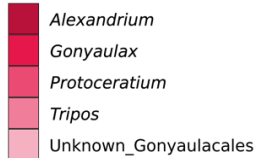
Order **Suessiales** → Order **Gonyaulales**



Dinoflagellate genera shifts

Daoulas Estuary (DE)

Time

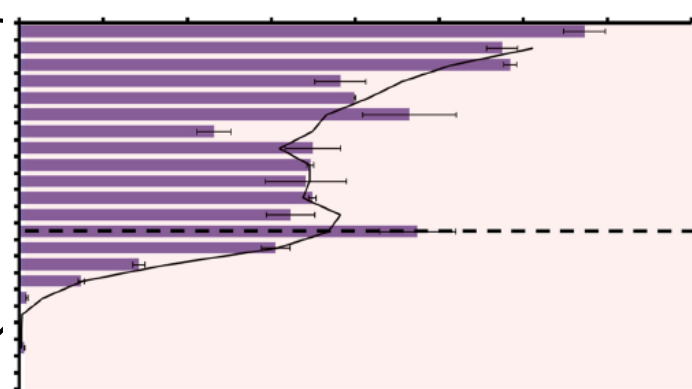


Siano et al 2021
Metabarcoding analyses

Alexandrium minutum

Copies (g sediment)⁻¹ x 10⁷

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

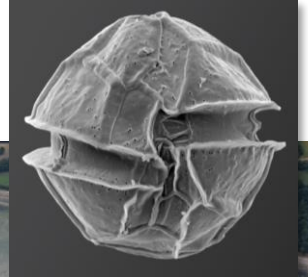


Klouch et al 2016
qPCR analyses

1873 ± 6



Recrudescence of blooms of the toxic dinoflagellate *Alexandrium minutum*

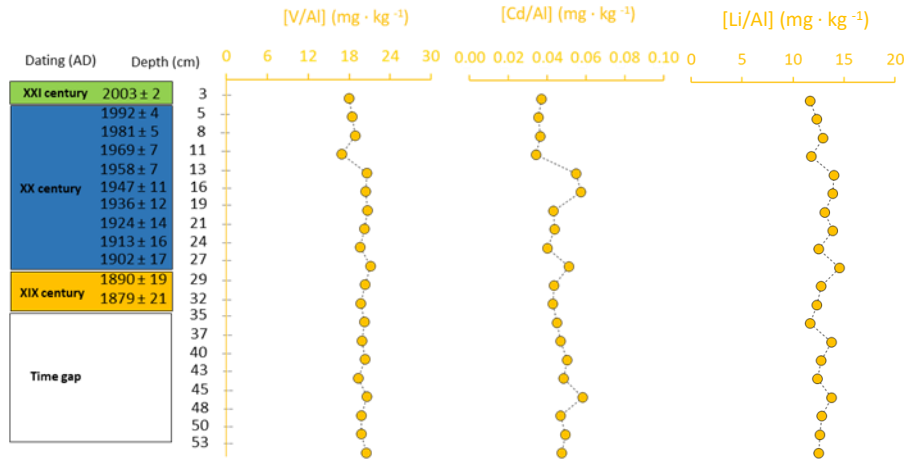


Bloom of *A. minutum* in the Morlaix Bay (North Brittany) (Summer 2015)

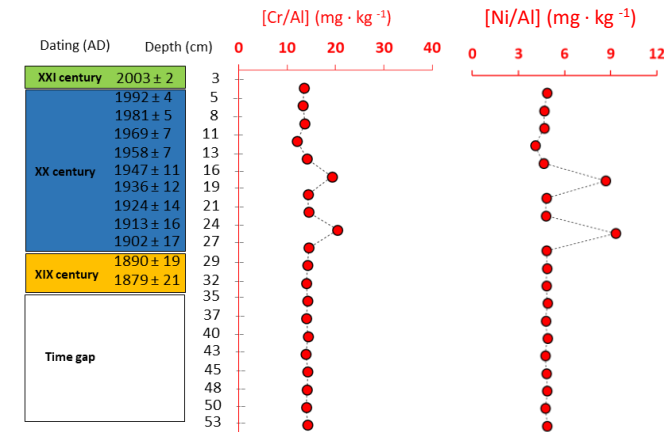
Heavy metal contaminations

Three heavy metal profile groups and Enrichment Factor Calculation (EF)

Groupe 1

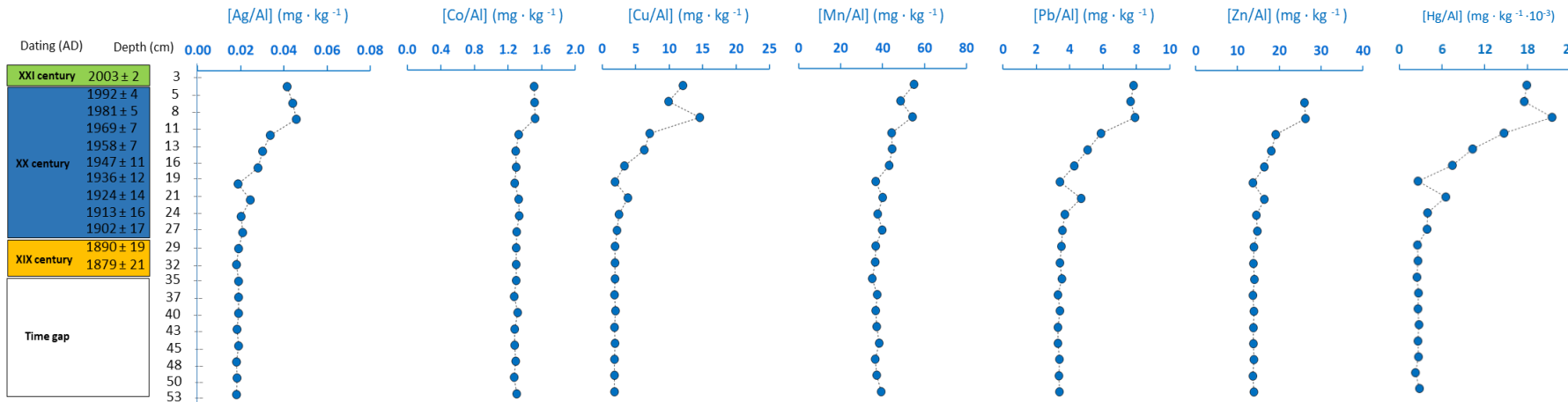


Groupe 2



EF: 2.0
 → antropogenic impact

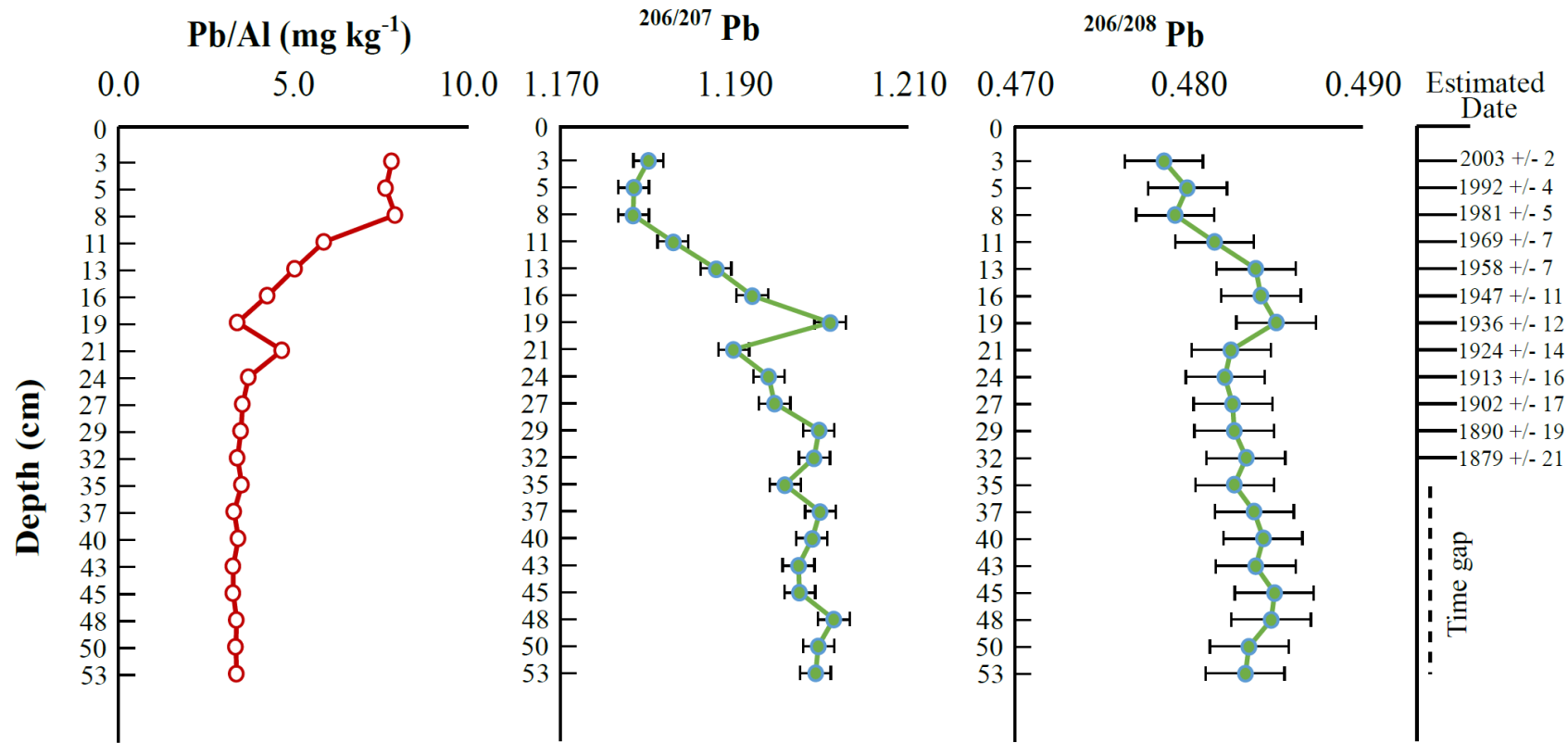
Groupe 3



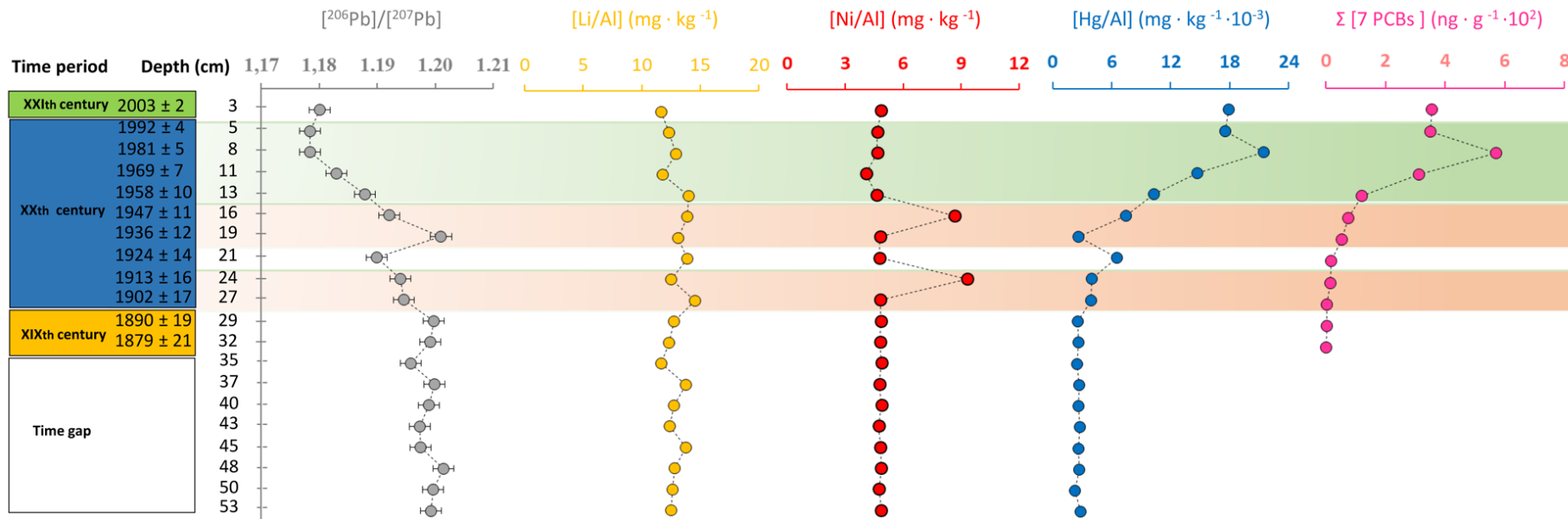
EF: 1.9-9.5
 → Moderate to strong anthropogenic impact

Zn < Pb < Ag < Cu < Hg

Heavy metal contaminations



Reconstruction of historical pollutions



Signatures of chronic contaminations of agricultural origin

→ Corroboration of palynological data cf. Lambert et al. 2017

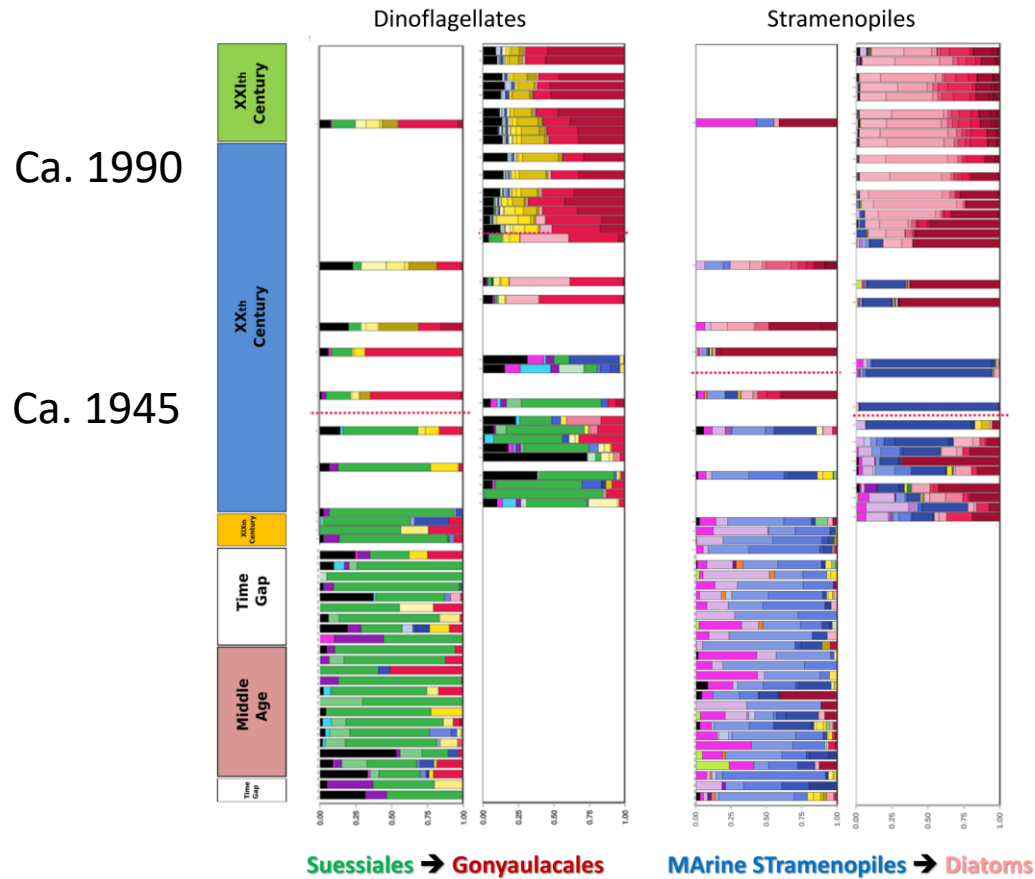
Ni and Cr contaminations

→ Similar to contaminations observed in sediments of 1945 at Pearl Harbour (Aswheed & Olsen 1988)

→ Cumulation of occasional (extreme event) and chronic chemical contamination

Conclusions

Microbiological shifts



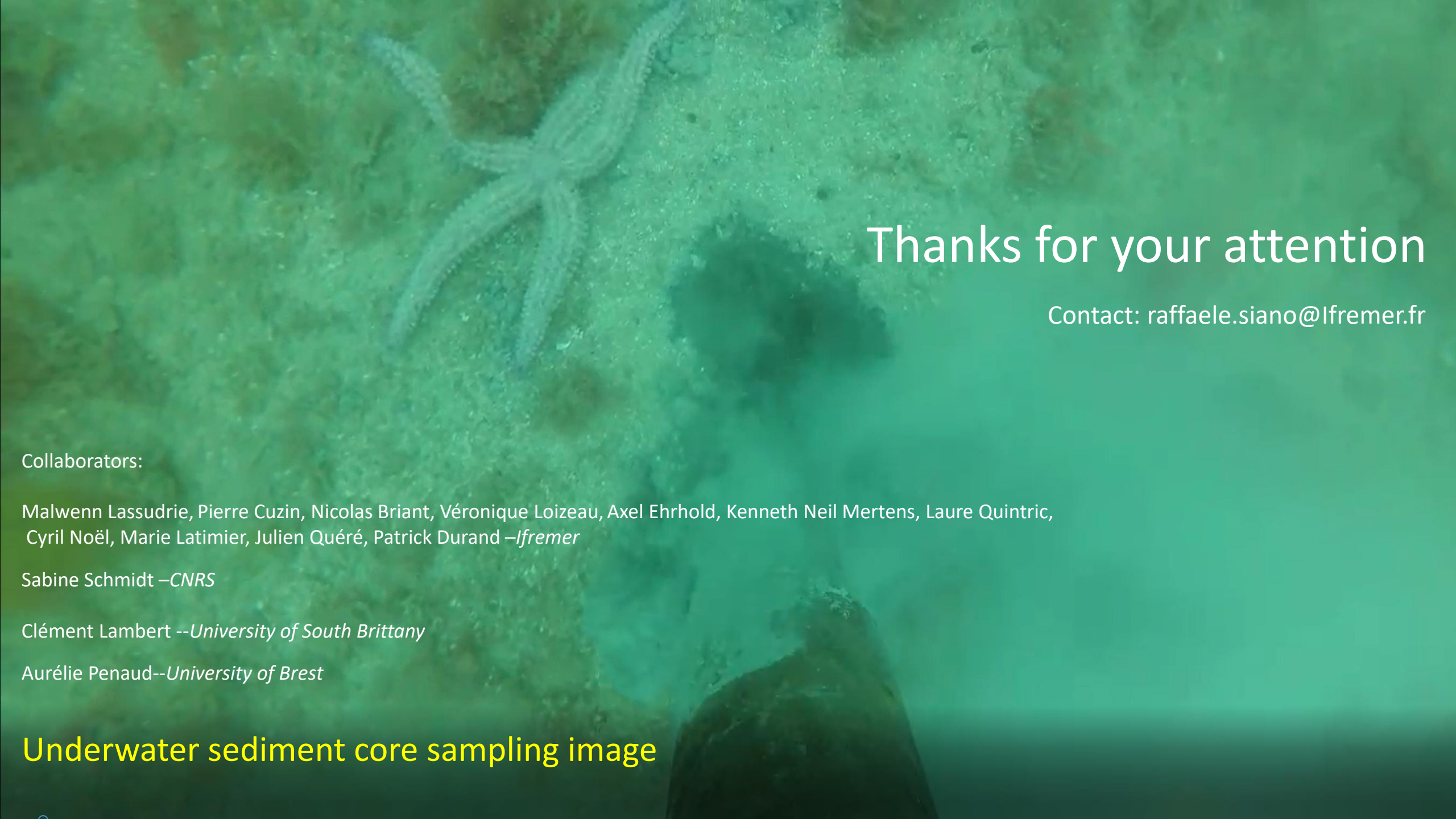
Contamination



Human impacts



Coastal plankton communities affected by anthropogenic perturbations were not able to recover their initial (pre industrial) state, questioning about the resilience and stability capacities of marine coastal areas impacted by humans

The background of the slide is an underwater photograph showing a sediment core sampling operation. A white, star-shaped sediment core is visible on the sandy seabed. The water is clear and blue, and the overall scene is dimly lit, typical of an underwater environment.

Thanks for your attention

Contact: raffaele.siano@ifremer.fr

Collaborators:

Malwenn Lassudrie, Pierre Cuzin, Nicolas Briant, Véronique Loizeau, Axel Ehrhold, Kenneth Neil Mertens, Laure Quintric, Cyril Noël, Marie Latimier, Julien Quéré, Patrick Durand –*Ifremer*

Sabine Schmidt –*CNRS*

Clément Lambert --*University of South Brittany*

Aurélie Penaud--*University of Brest*

Underwater sediment core sampling image