



Atlantidae mollusks as indicators of environmental change in the Southern California Current Region

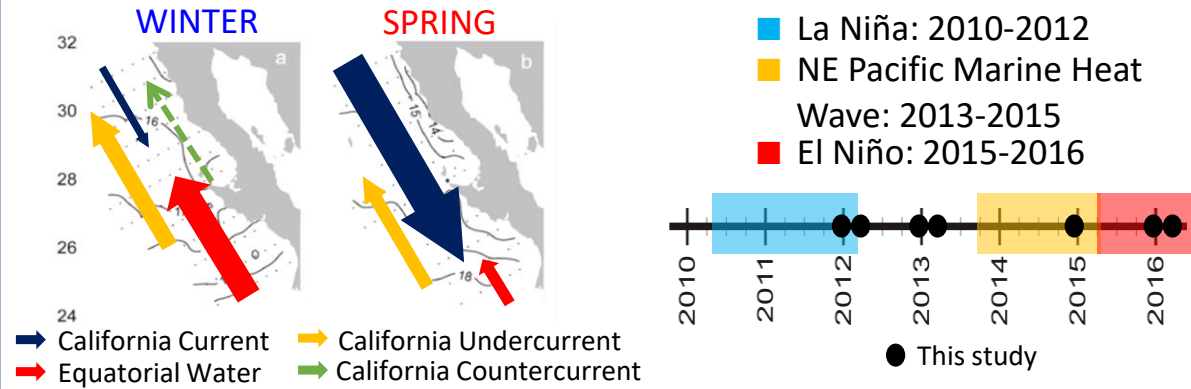
María Moreno-Alcántara, Gerardo Aceves-Medina & Bertha E. Lavaniegos-Espejo

mmorenoa@alumno.ipn.mx; maria0328@yahoo.com



Introduction

The Atlantidae gastropods have a short holoplanktonic life cycle and respond rapidly to environmental changes. In order to prove their potential as indicators of climate change, we analyzed the effect of the inter and intra-annual environmental variability on their distribution and abundance in the Southern California Current Region.



Methods

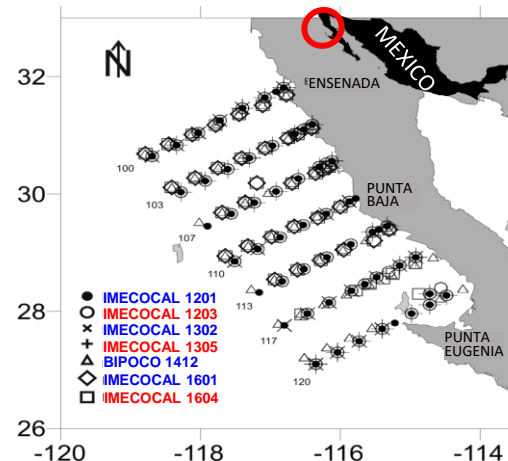
7 SURVEYS: 4 Winter & 3 Spring

284 zooplankton samples

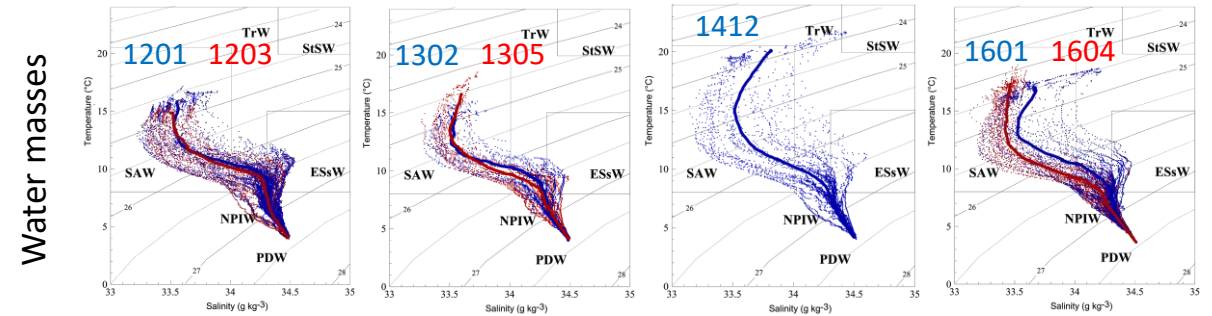
Bongo net 505 μm with flow meter

210 m maximum depth

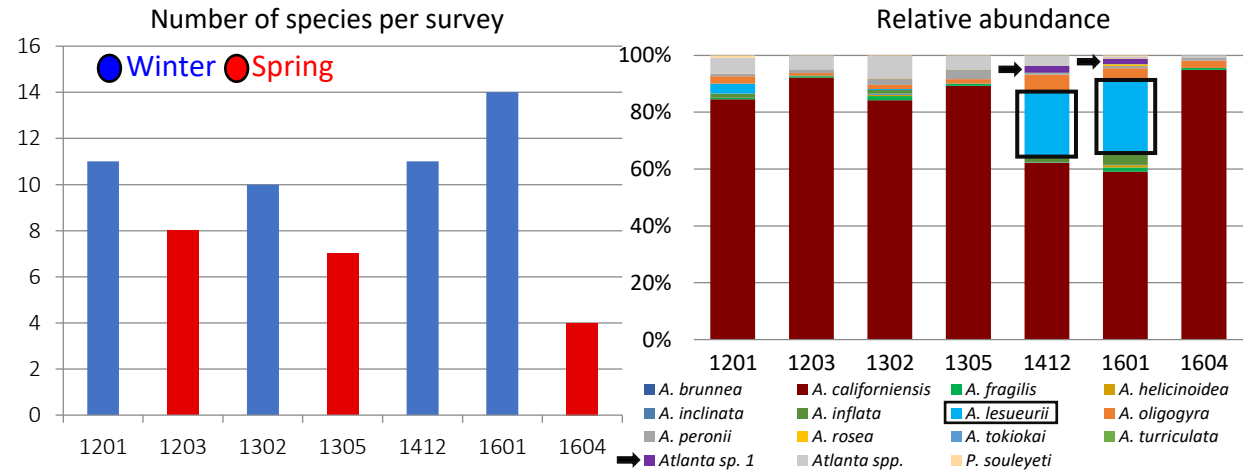
CTD to 1000 m



Results



14 species: 2 new records for the American Pacific, 5 northward range extensions



Conclusions

Seasonal shifts in the diversity of Atlantidae and decreased relative abundance of *A. californiensis* during interannual anomalous warming conditions, make atlantids good indicators of intra and inter-annual environmental changes.