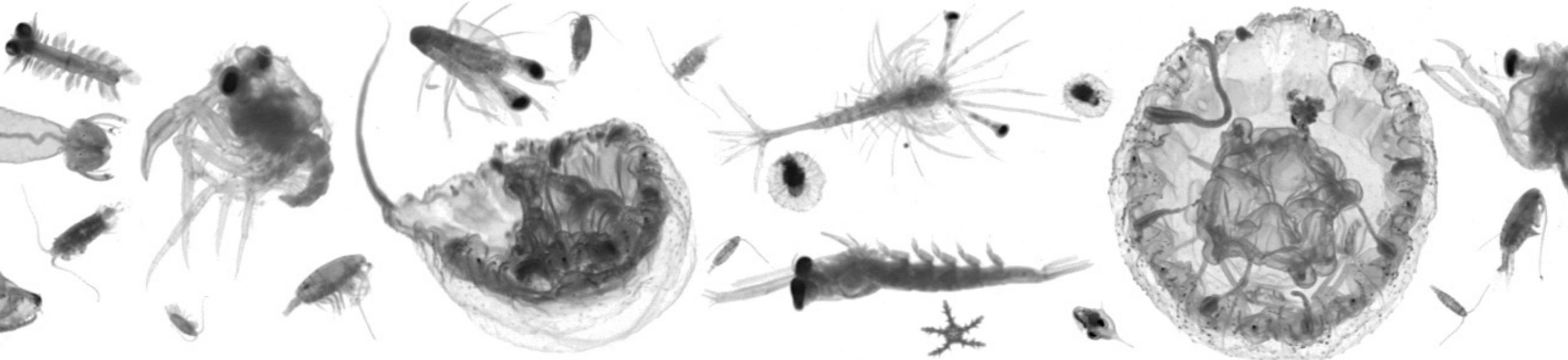
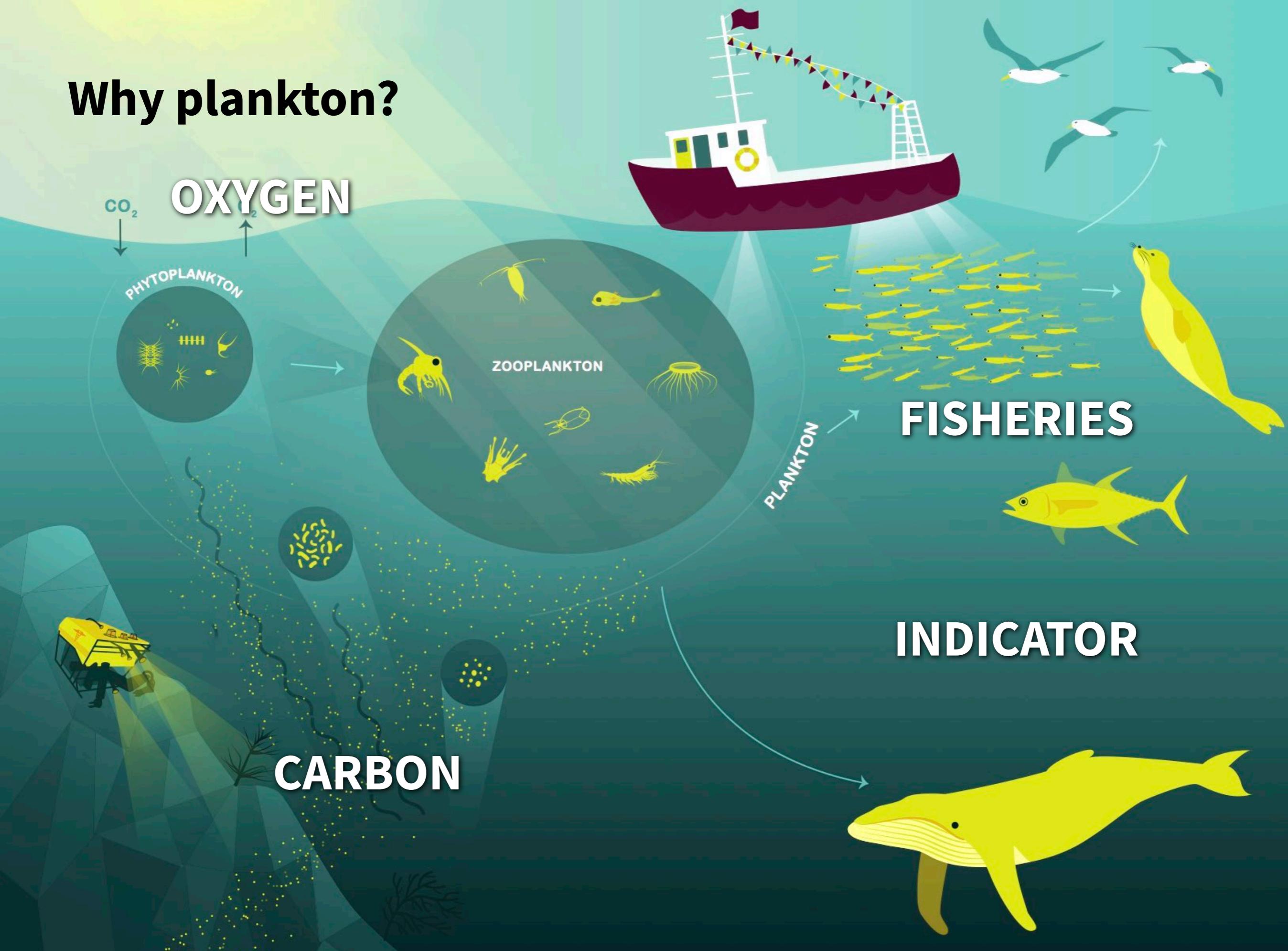


# Morphological diversity increases with oligotrophy along a zooplankton time series

Villefranche-sur-Mer, NW Mediterranean Sea



# Why plankton?



# Why morphological diversity of plankton?

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Diversity can be **taxonomic**,  
**phylogenetic**, **functional**

Plankton is particularly **diverse**  
taxonomically (Hutchinson 1961)

Its **morphology** often has **functional**  
consequences

It can be measured quantitatively at  
**high throughput**



# Plankton sampling in Villefranche-sur-mer

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**Historical** site for plankton  
observation (dating back to Haeckel)

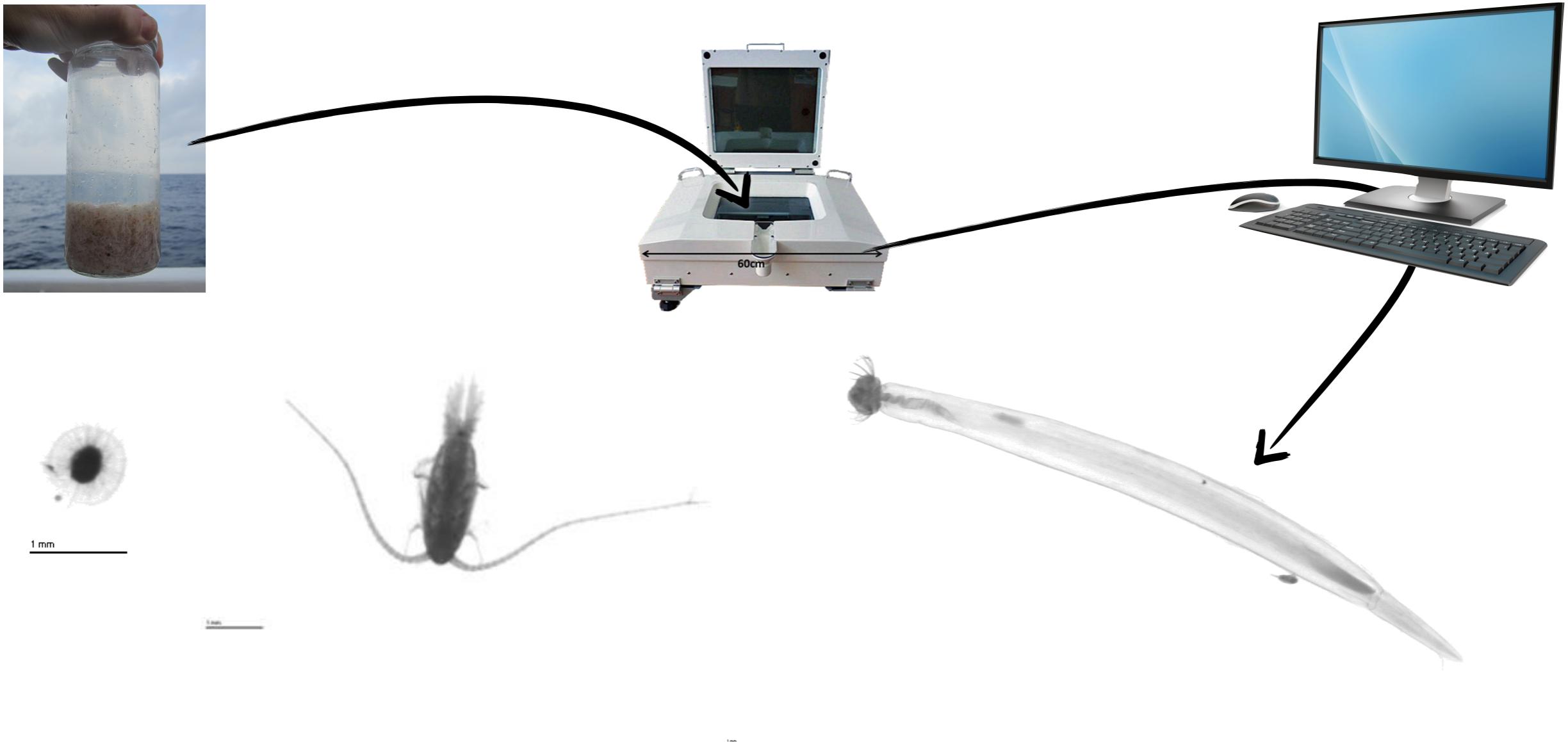
Two samples per day

Pooled per **week** for analysis

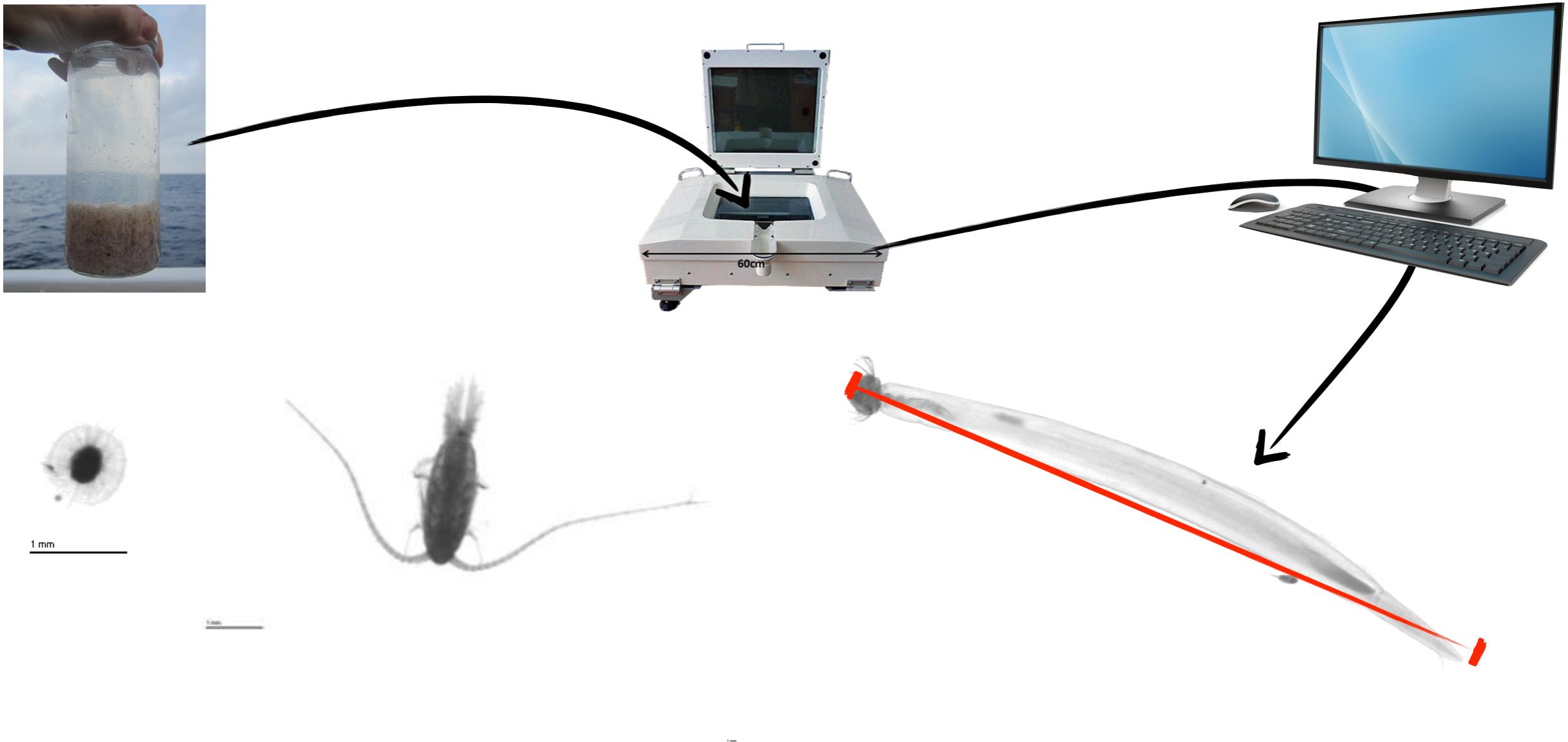
**2009-2017** analysed here (but regular  
sampling started in 1966)



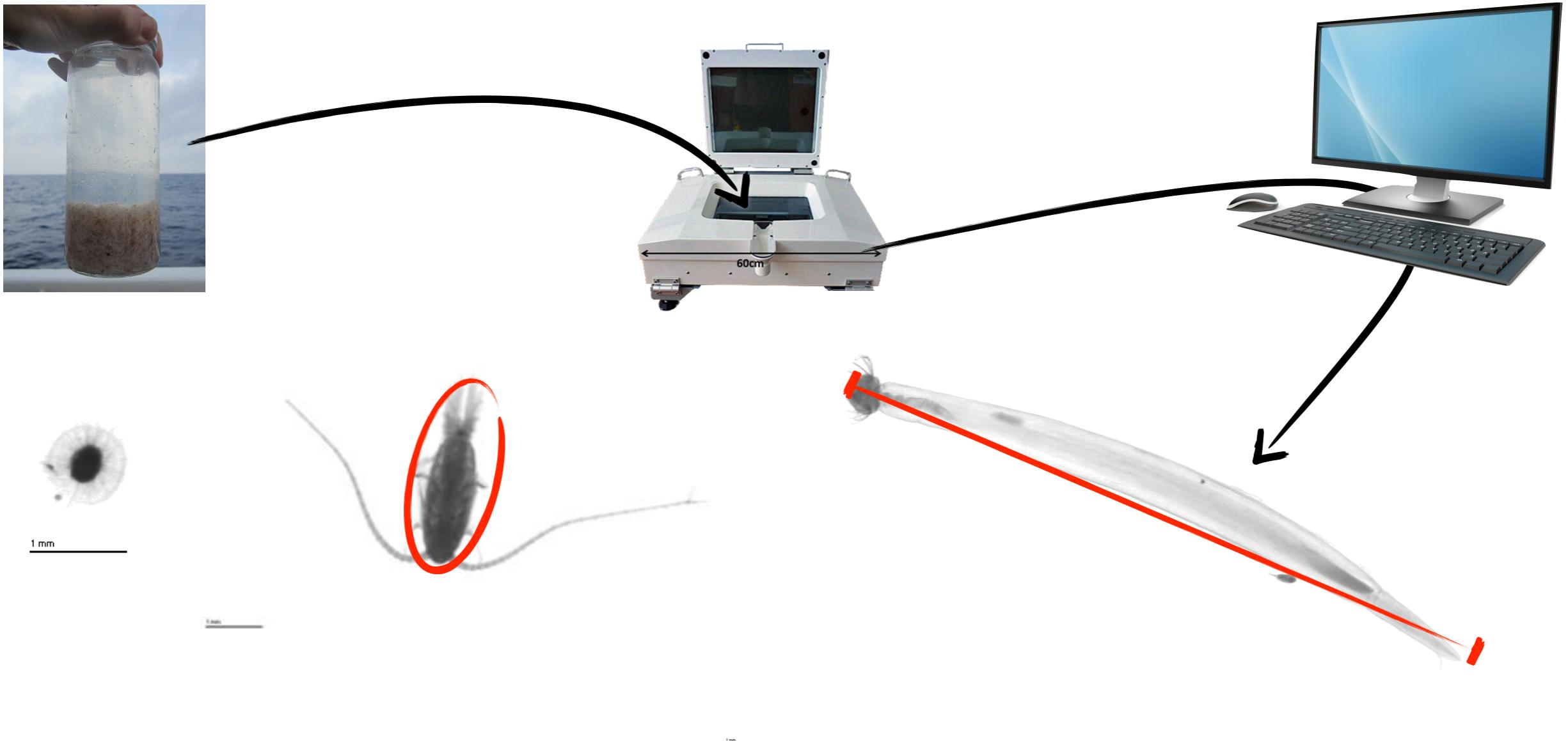
# Automatic extraction of morphological features



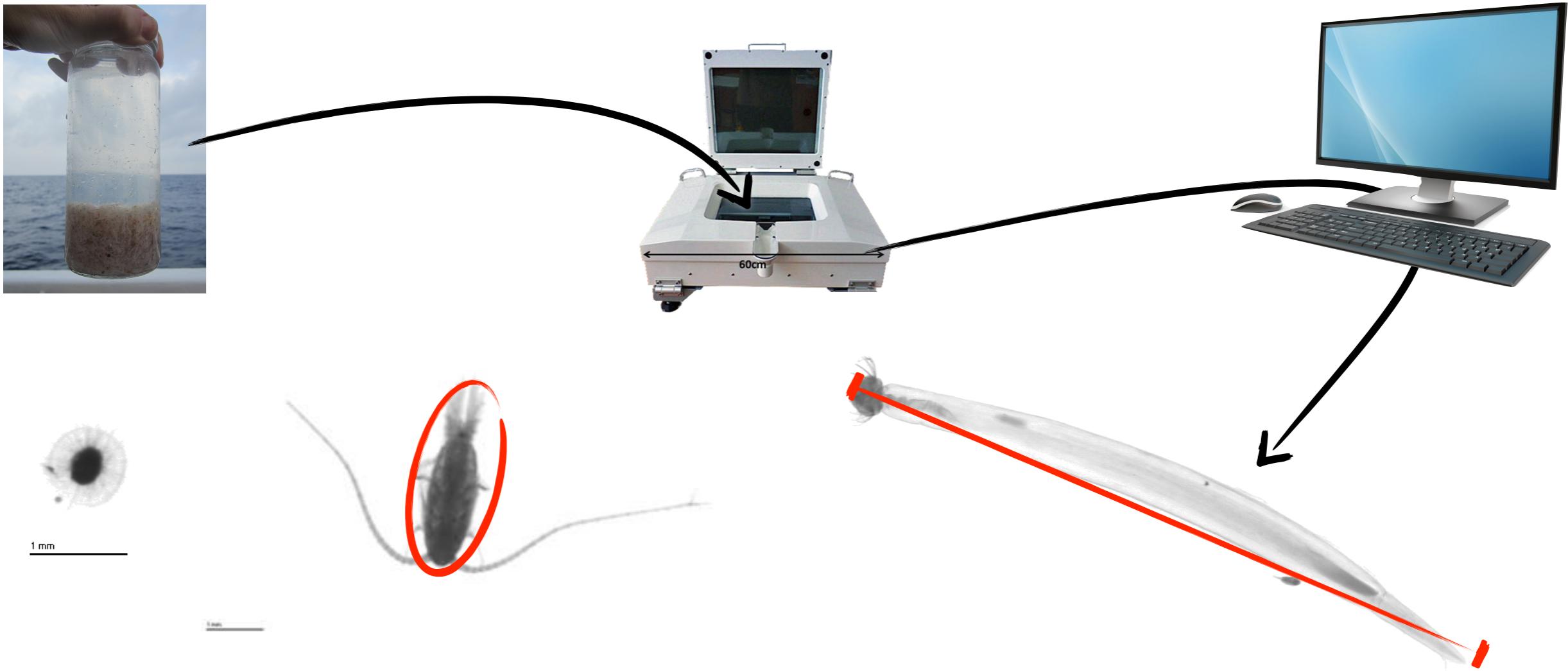
# Automatic extraction of morphological features



# Automatic extraction of morphological features

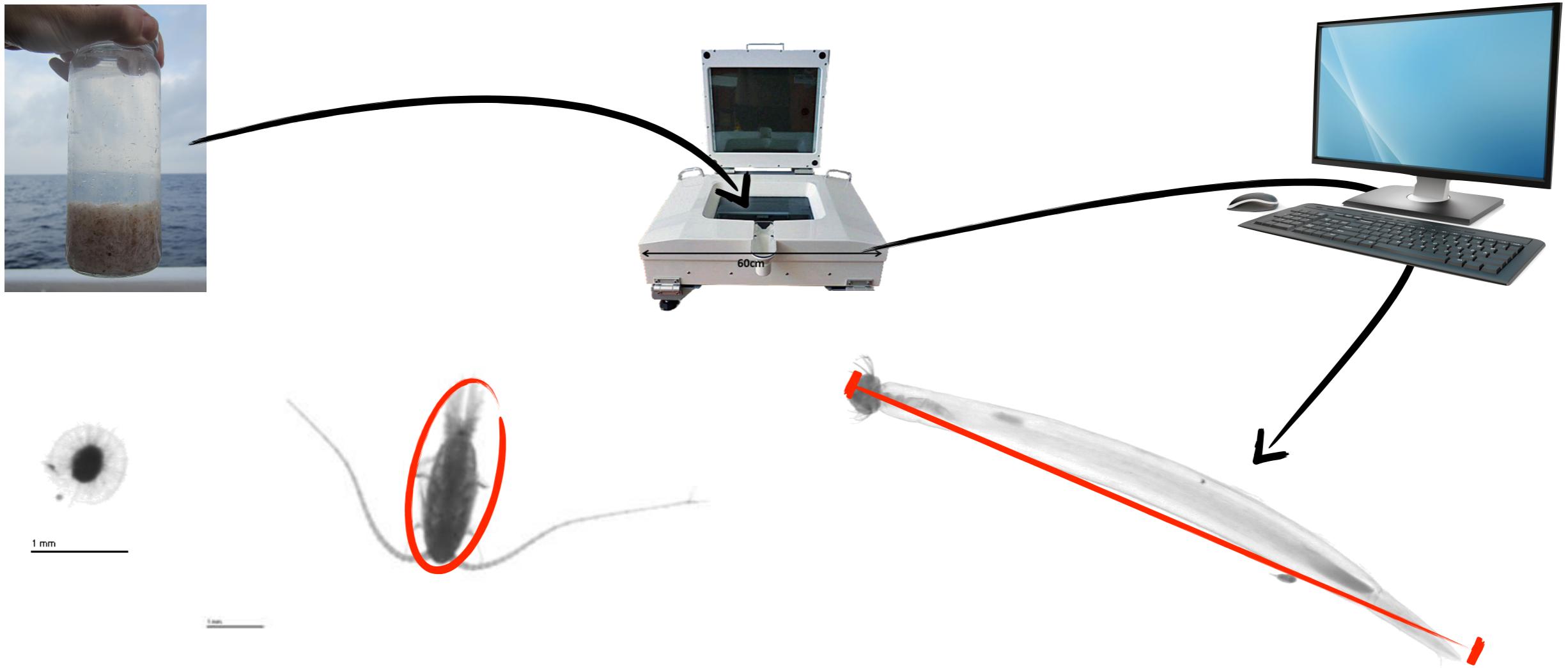


# Automatic extraction of morphological features



	feature 1	...	feature m
ind 1			
ind 2			
ind 3			
ind 4			

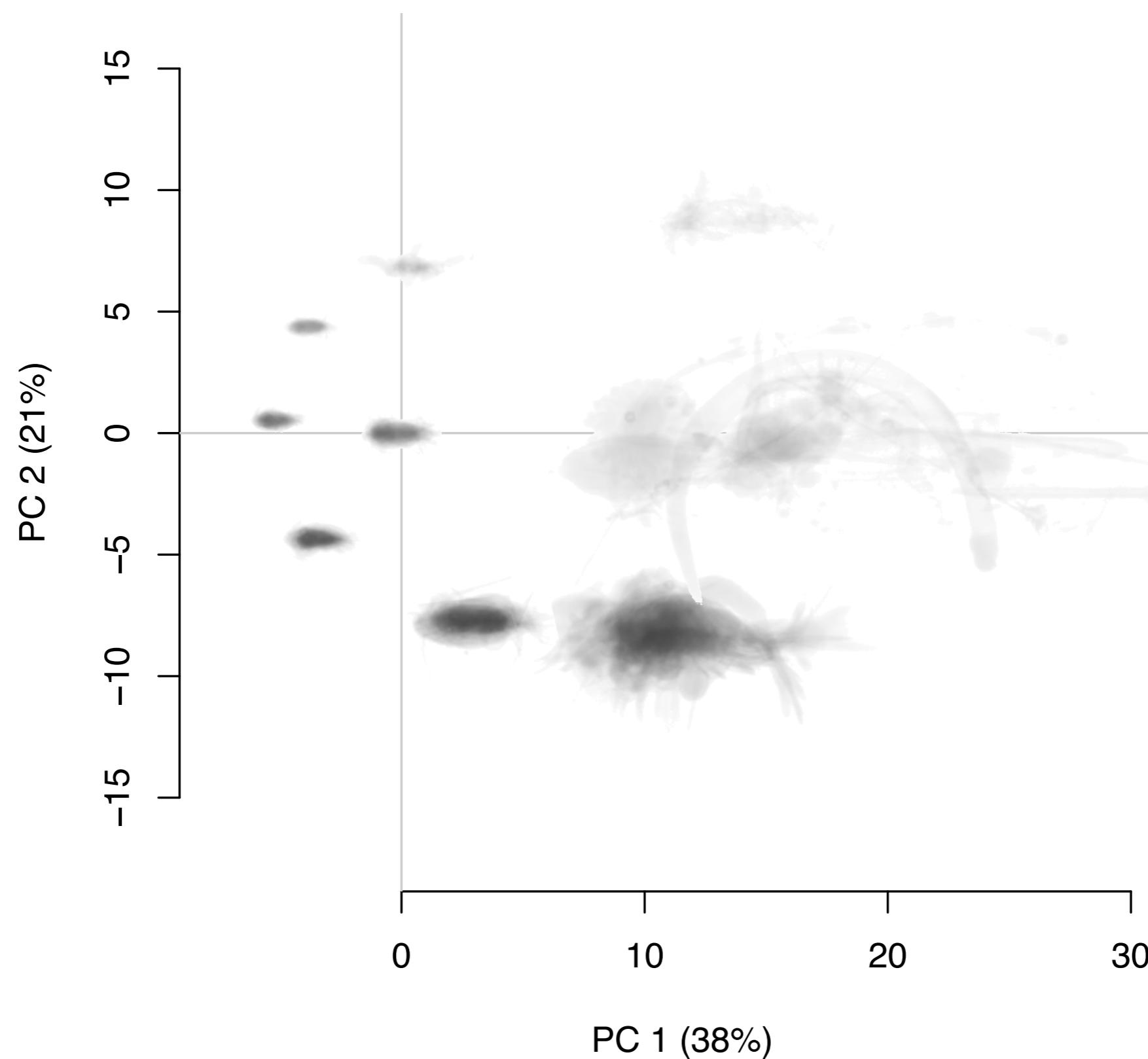
# Automatic extraction of morphological features



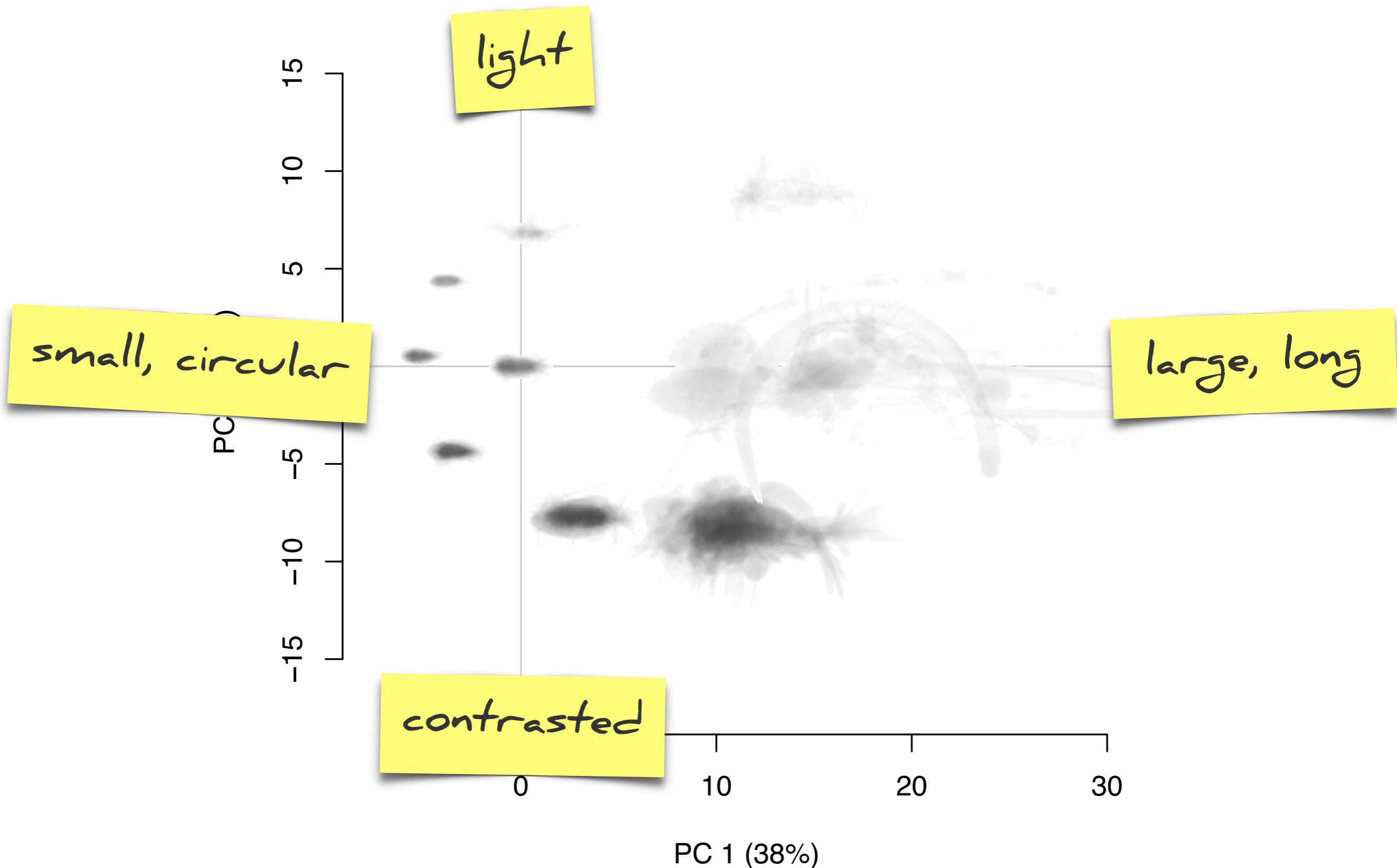
	feature 1	...	feature m
ind 1			
ind 2		587,059 × 45	
ind 3			
ind 4			

# Plankton in morphological space

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# Plankton in morphological space



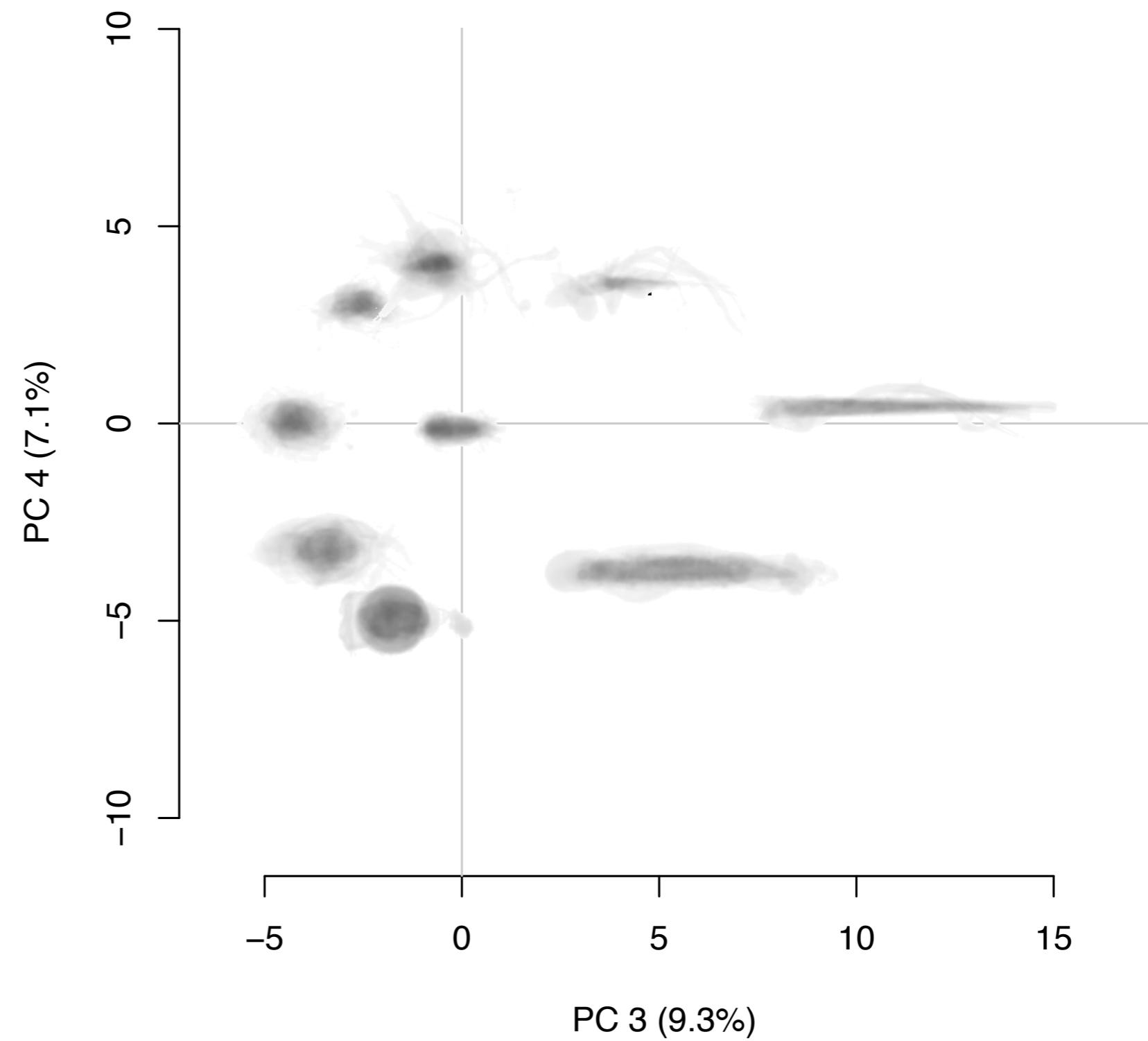
# Plankton in morphological space

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10      20      30

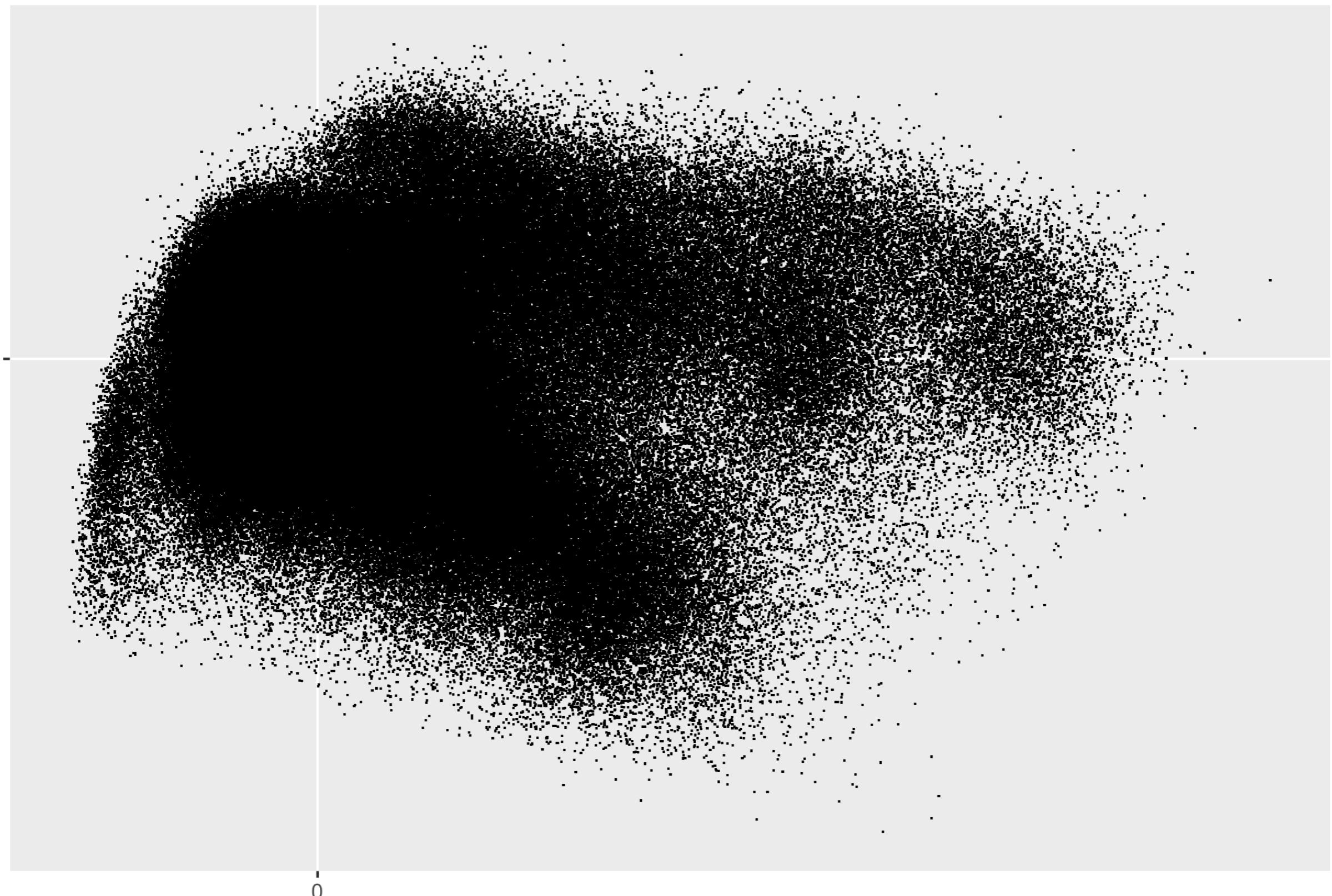
PC 1 (38%)



PC 3 (9.3%)

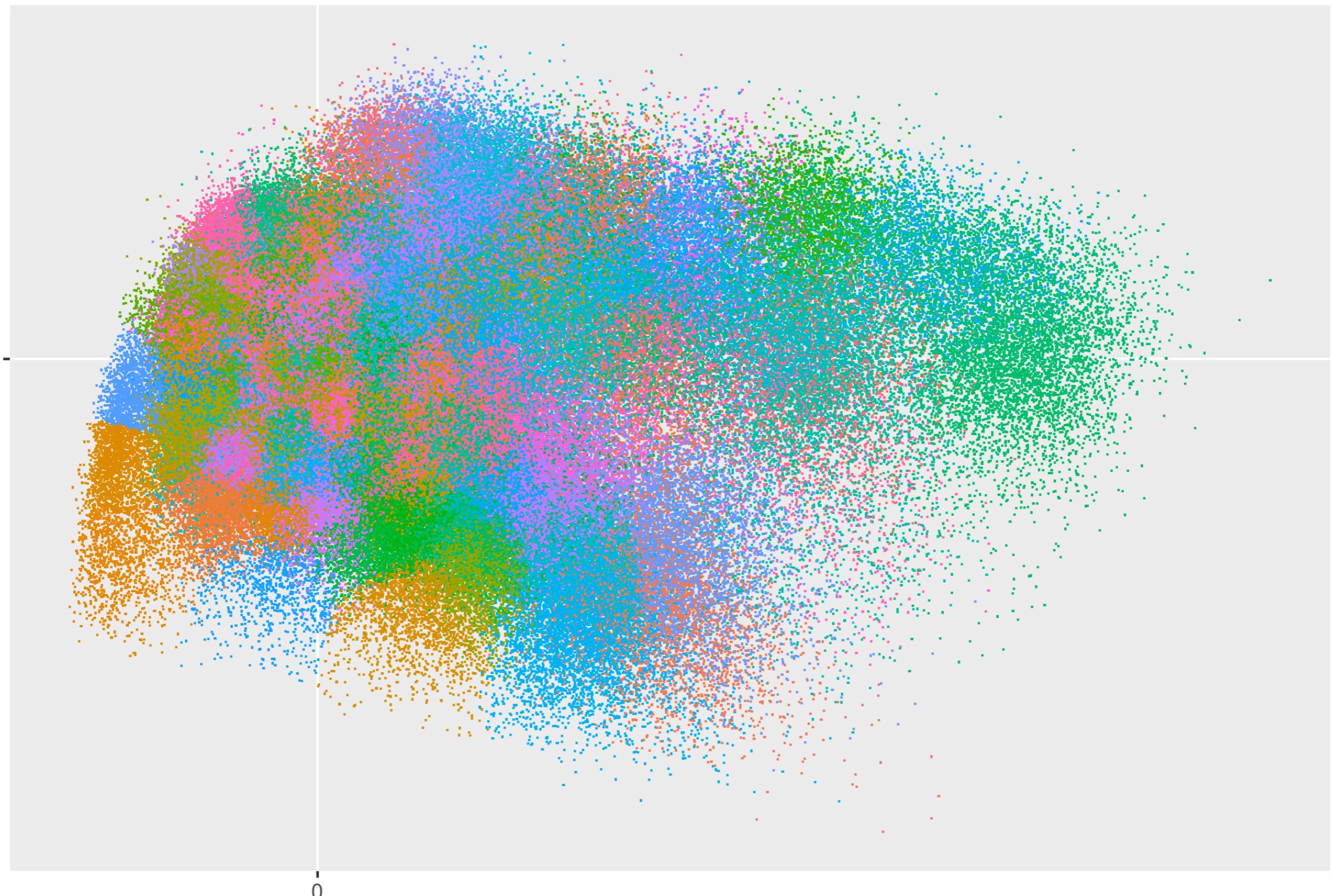
# Define “morphs” (through objective clustering)

---

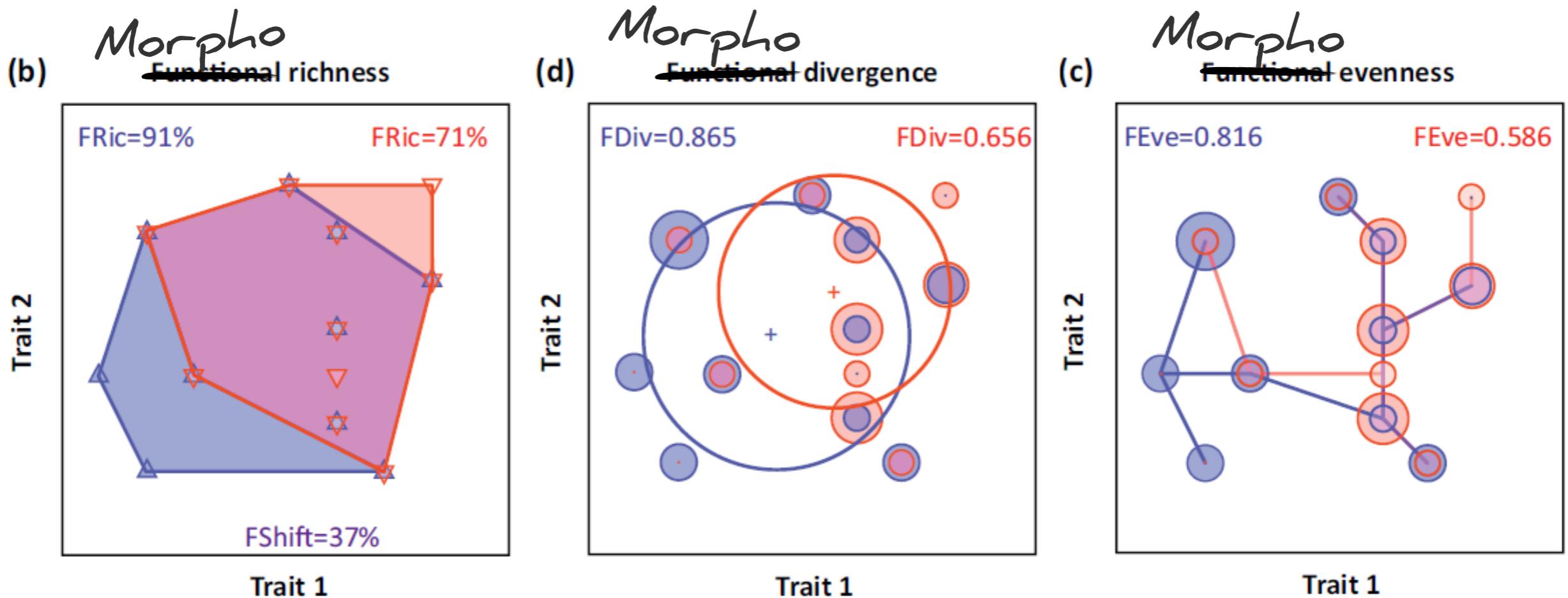


# Define “morphs” (through objective clustering)

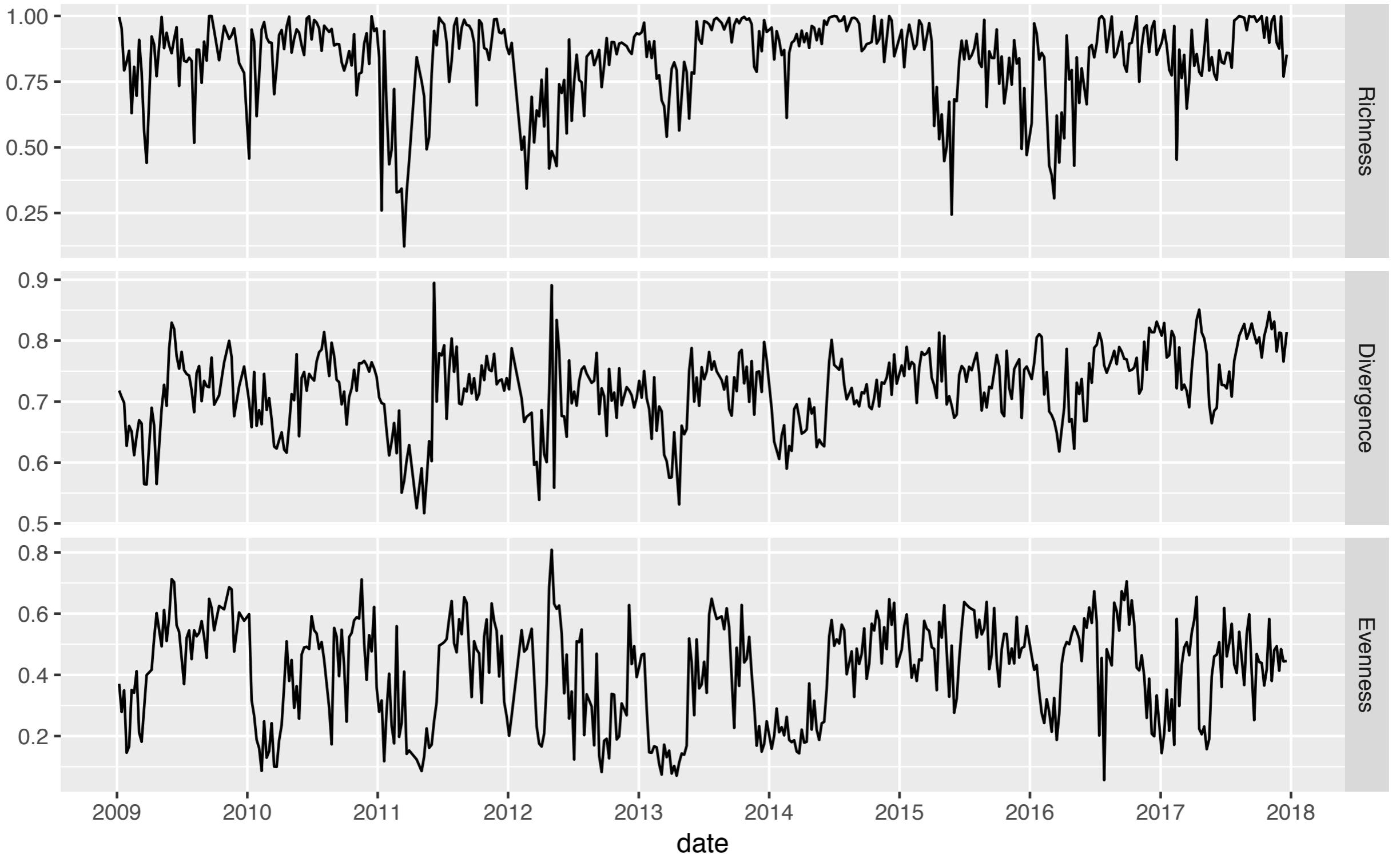
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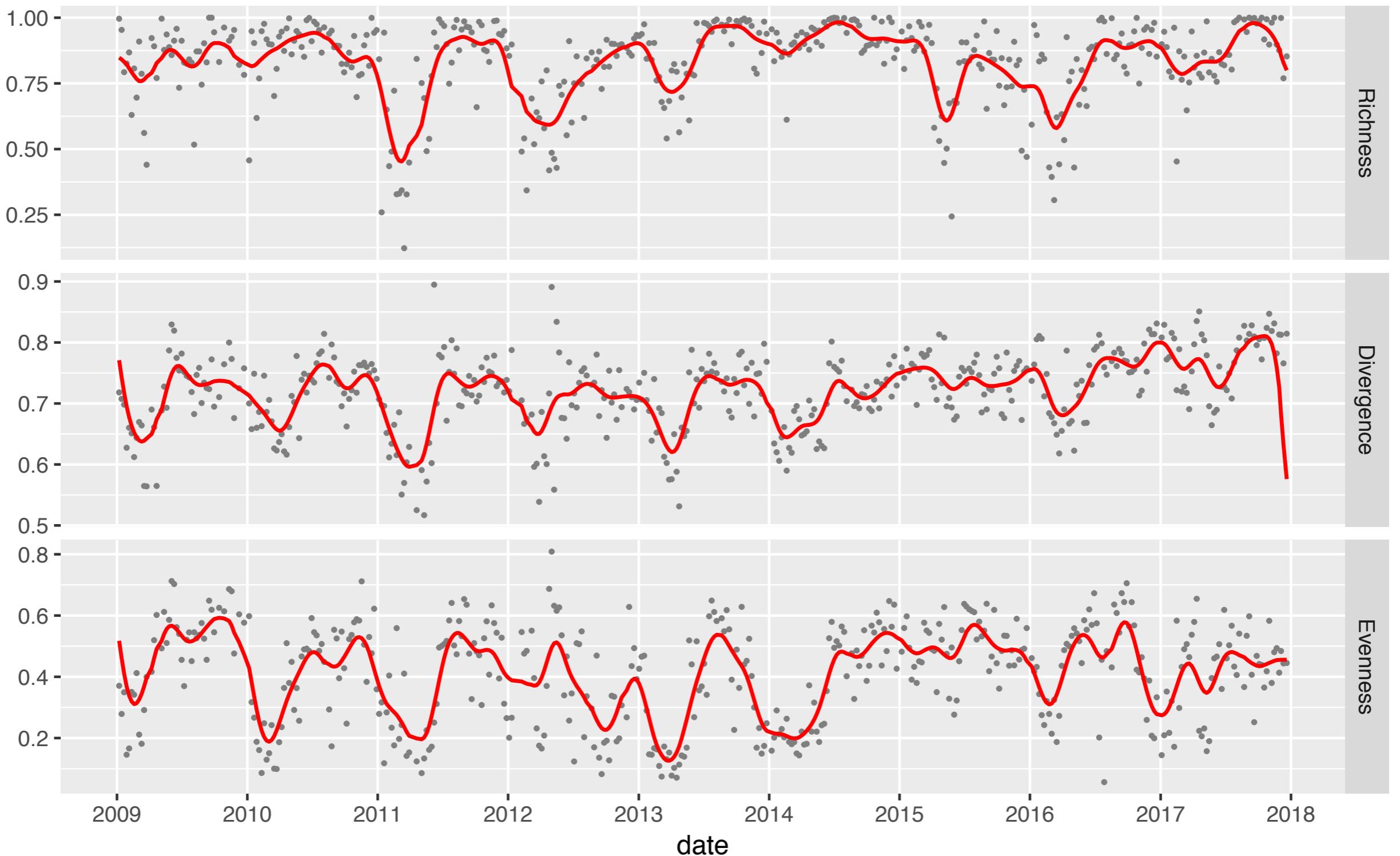
# Compute morphological diversity indices (based on functional ones)



# Weekly time series of indices

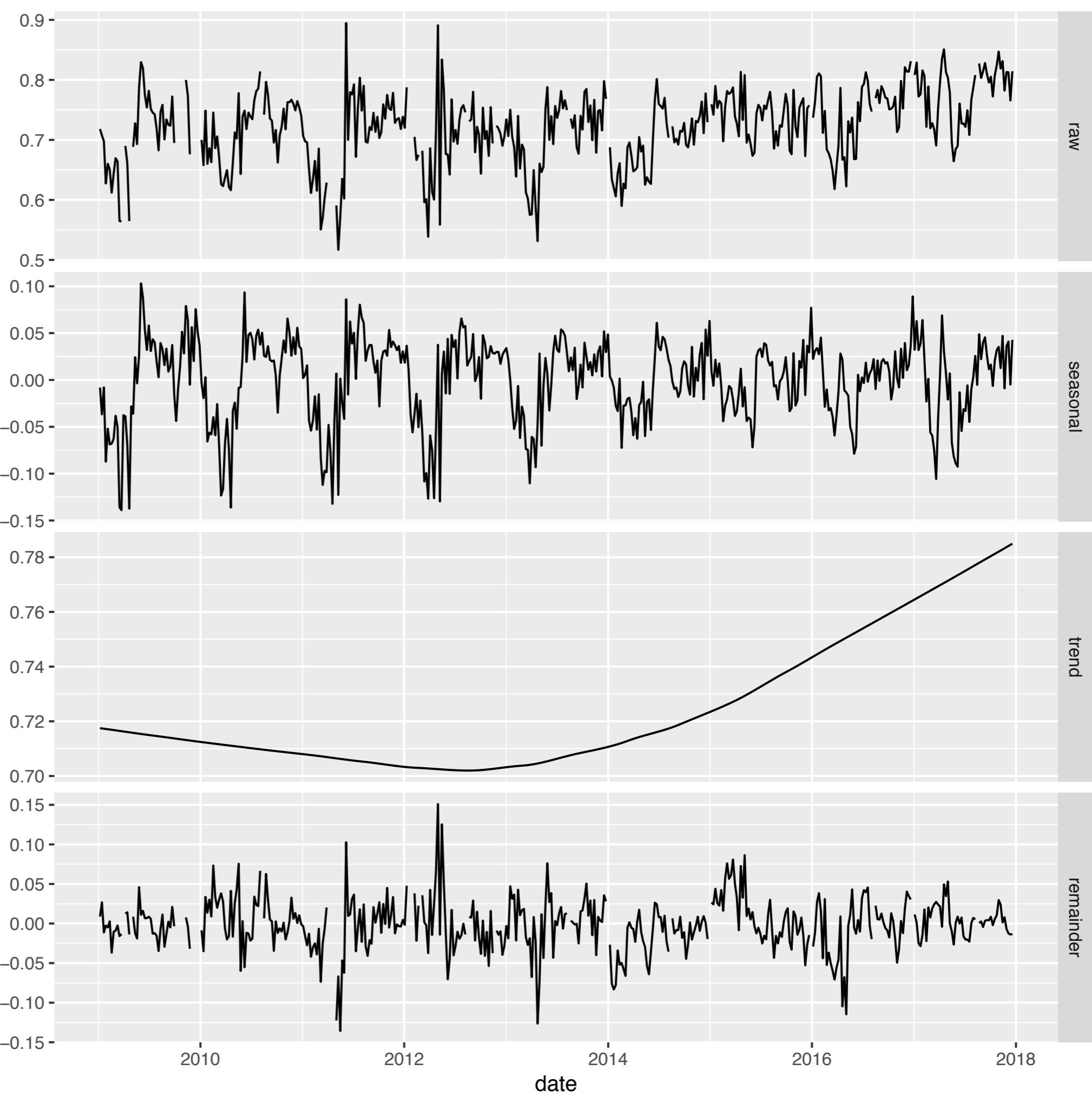


# Weekly time series of indices



# Season + Trend

Loess-based  
decomposition

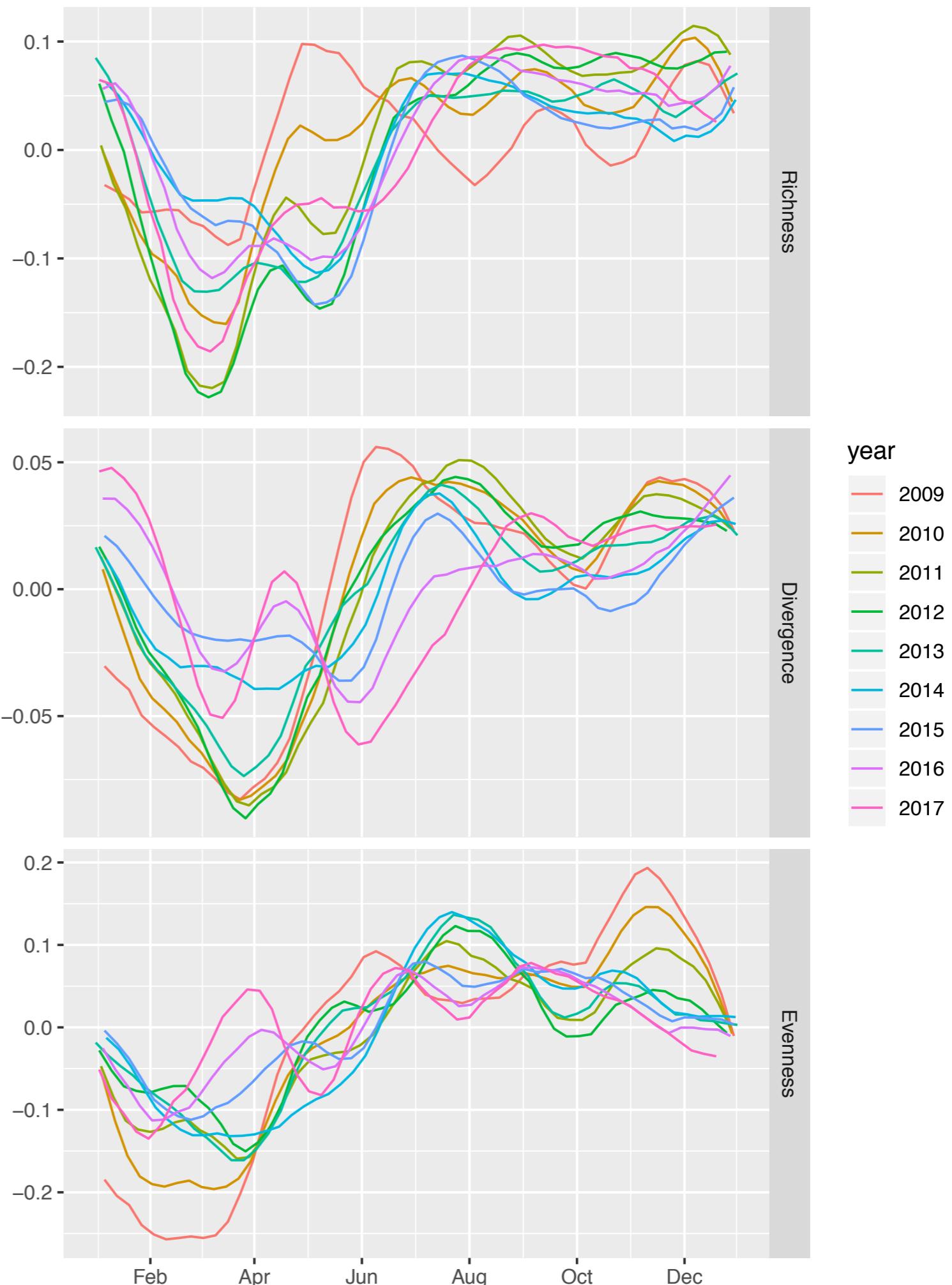


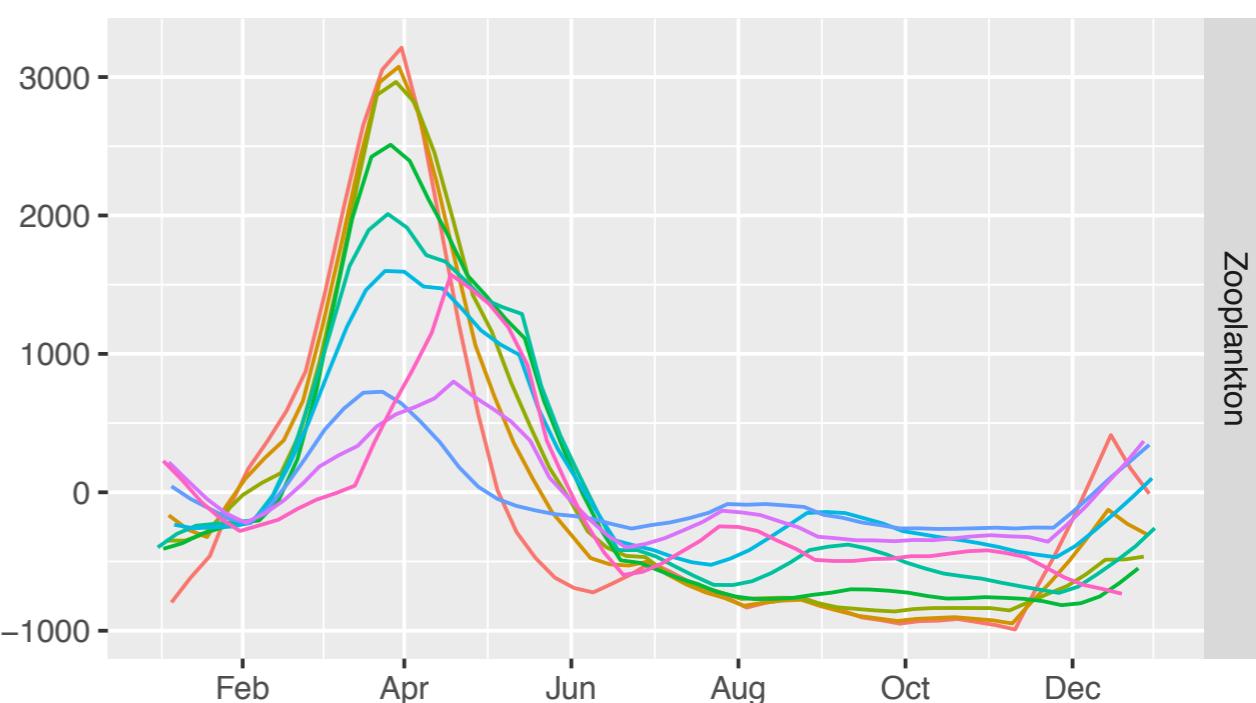
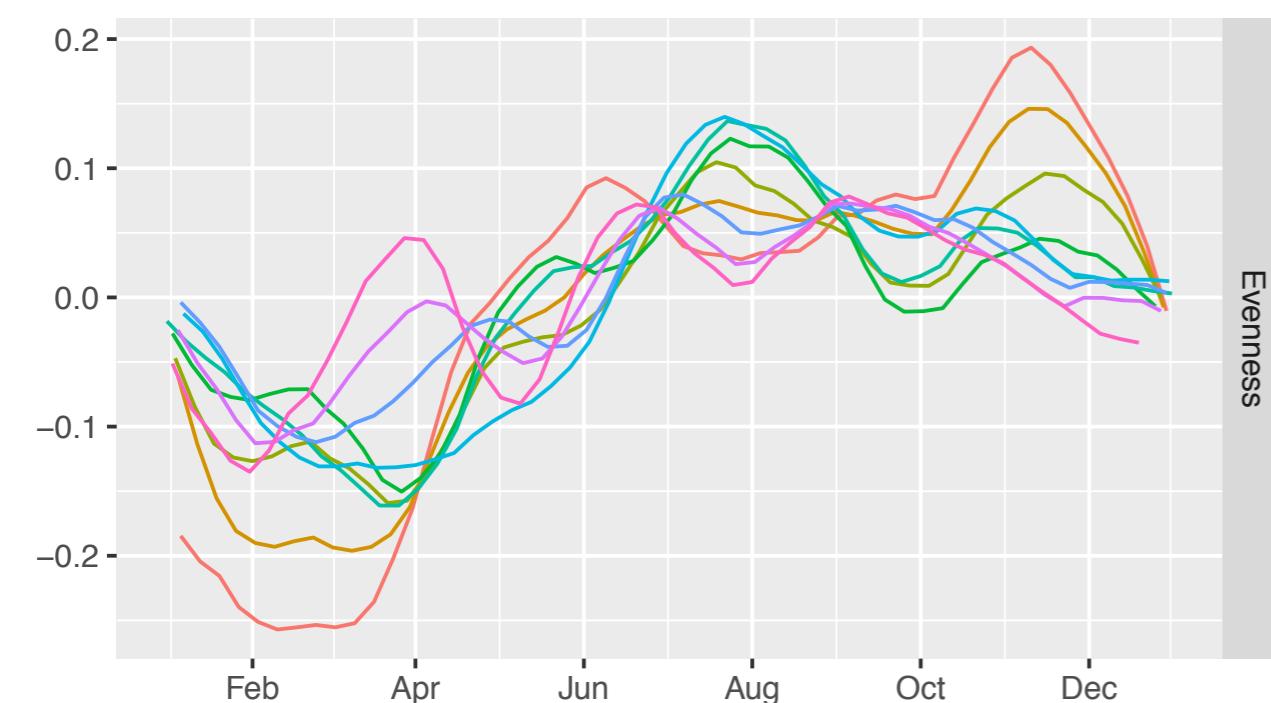
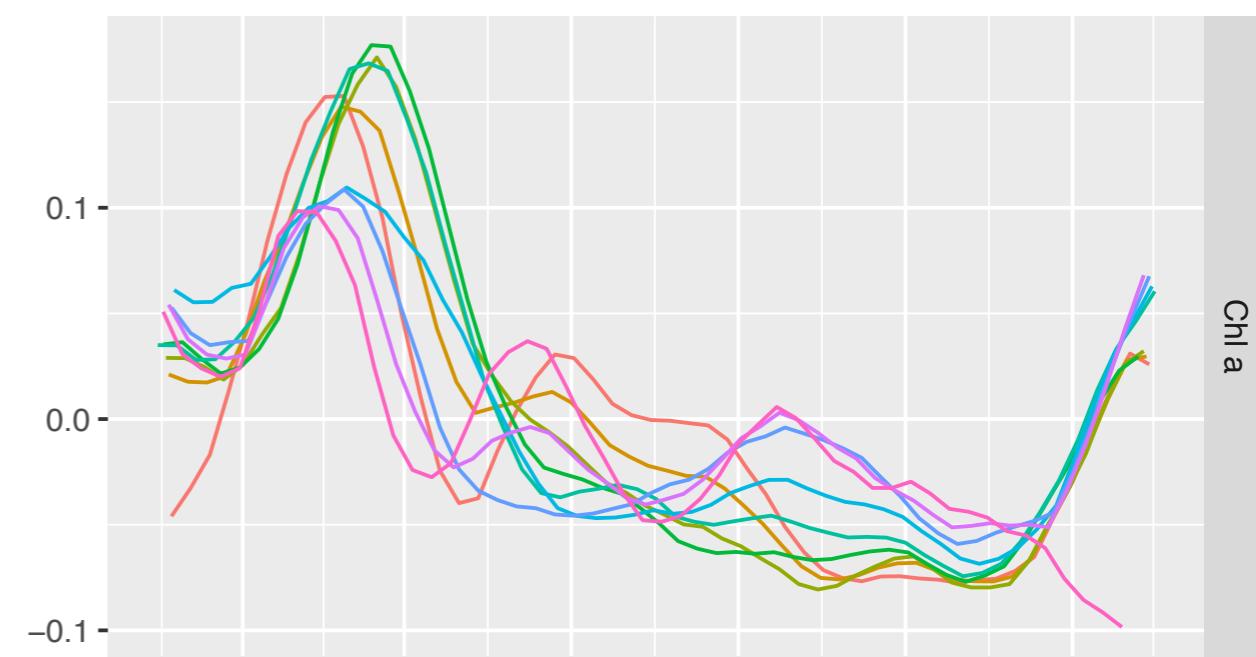
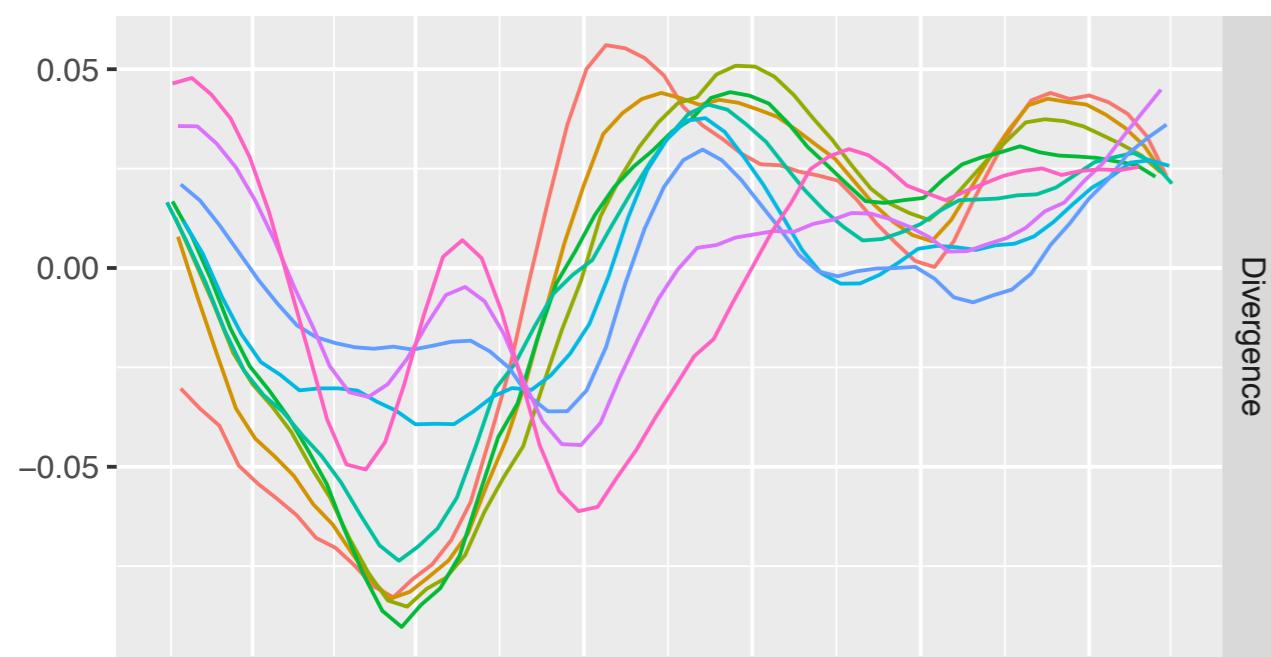
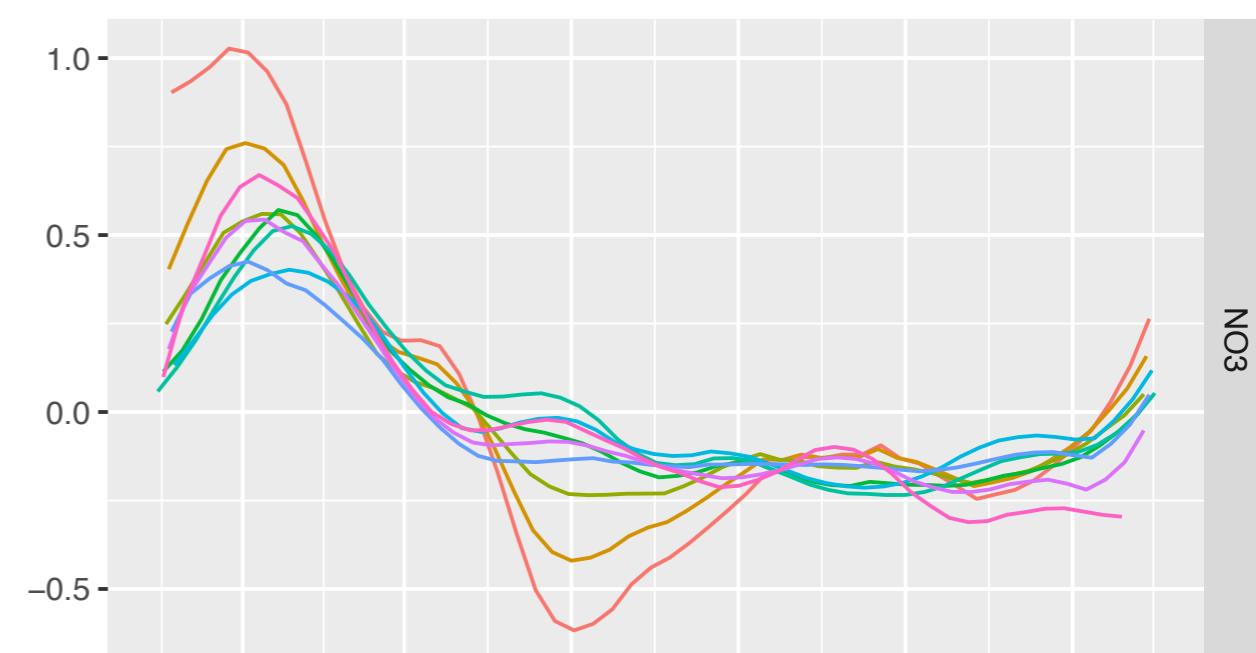
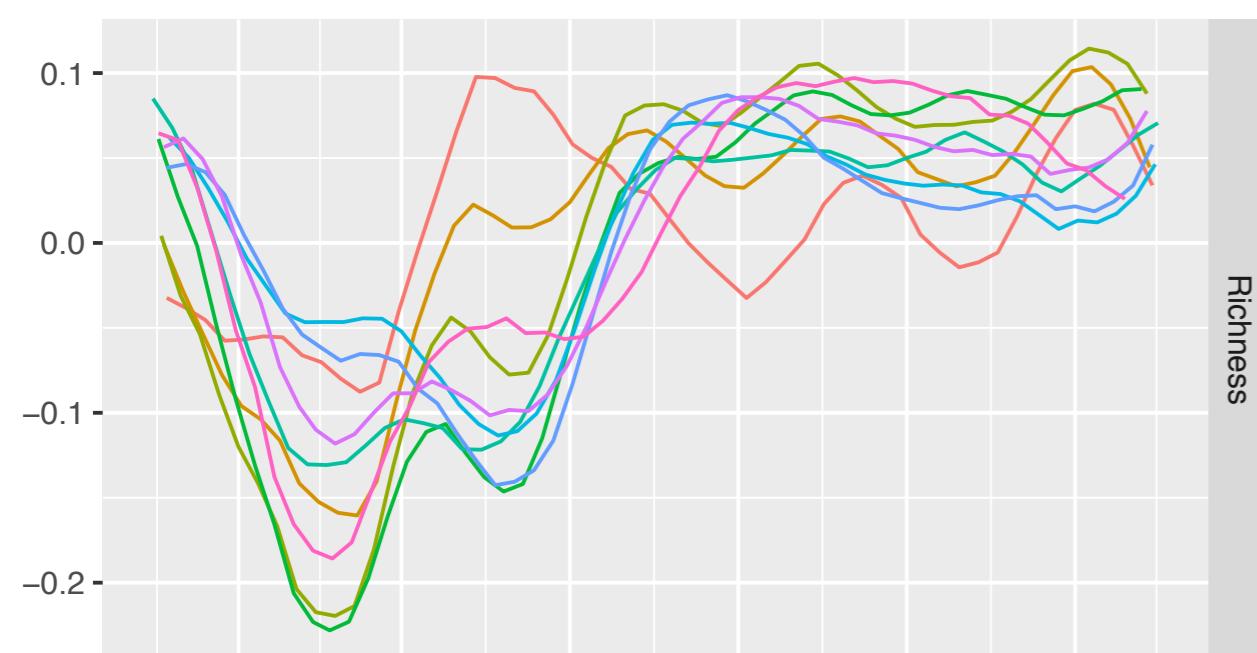
# Season

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**Decrease** of morphological diversity in the spring

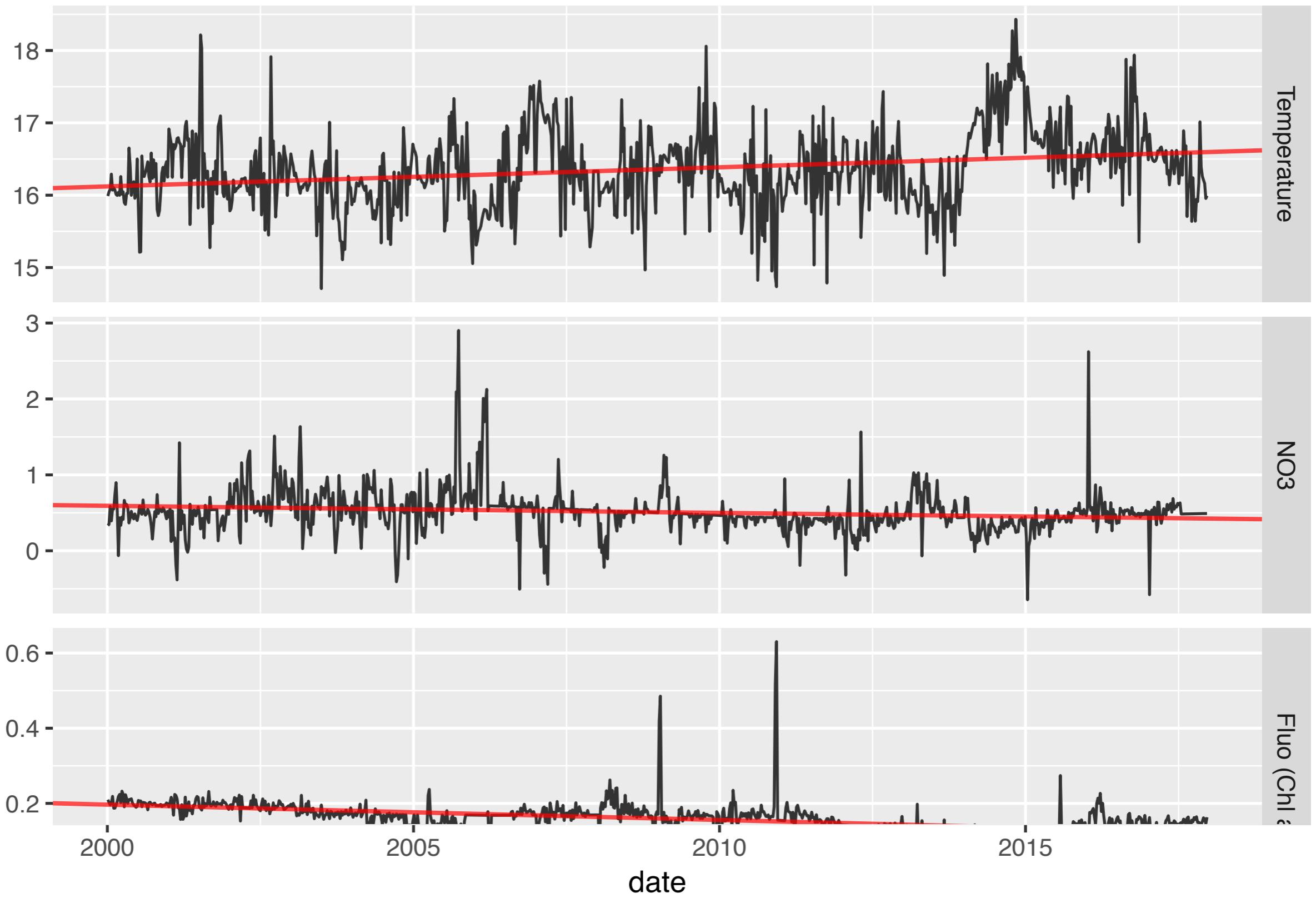
All indices and ~ all years are affected

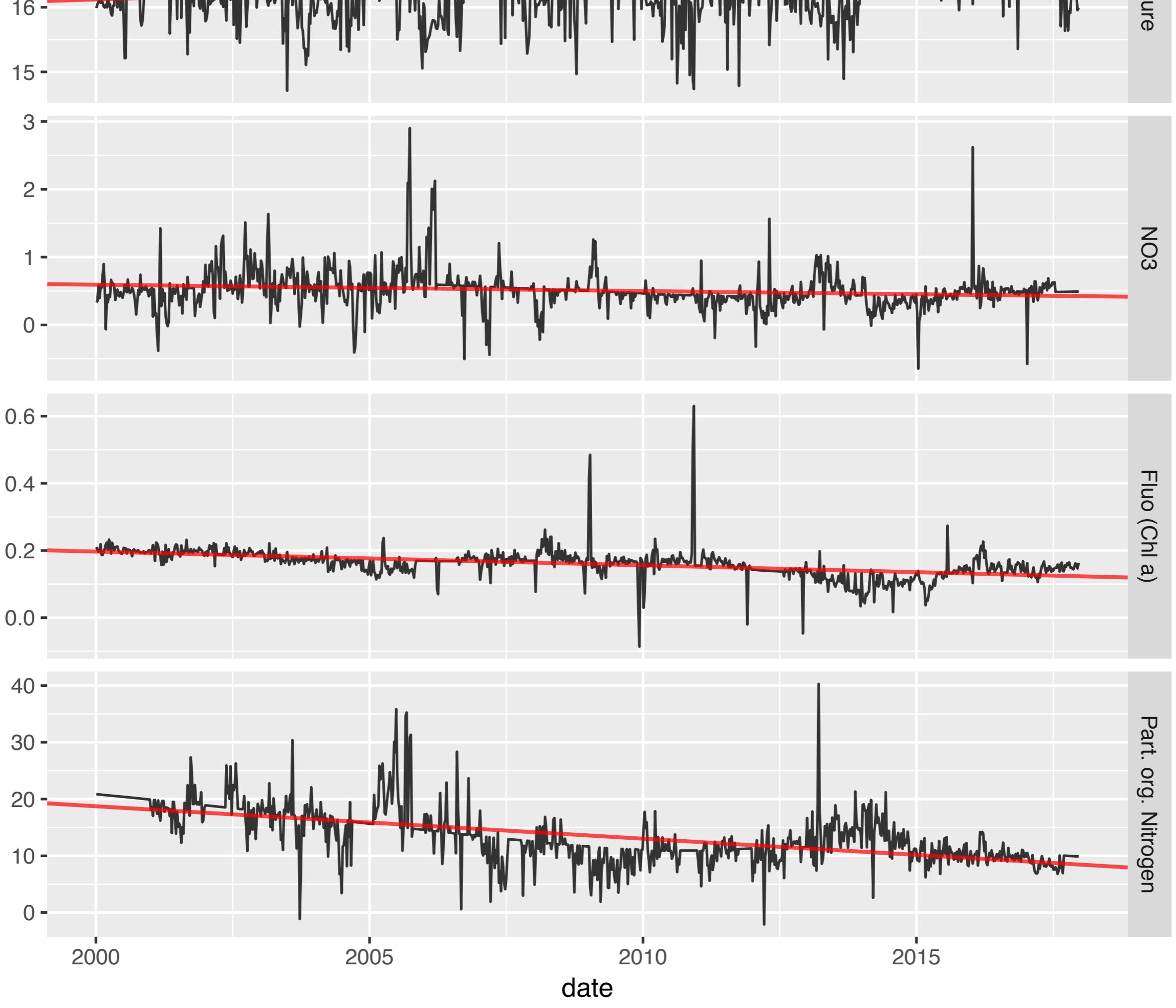


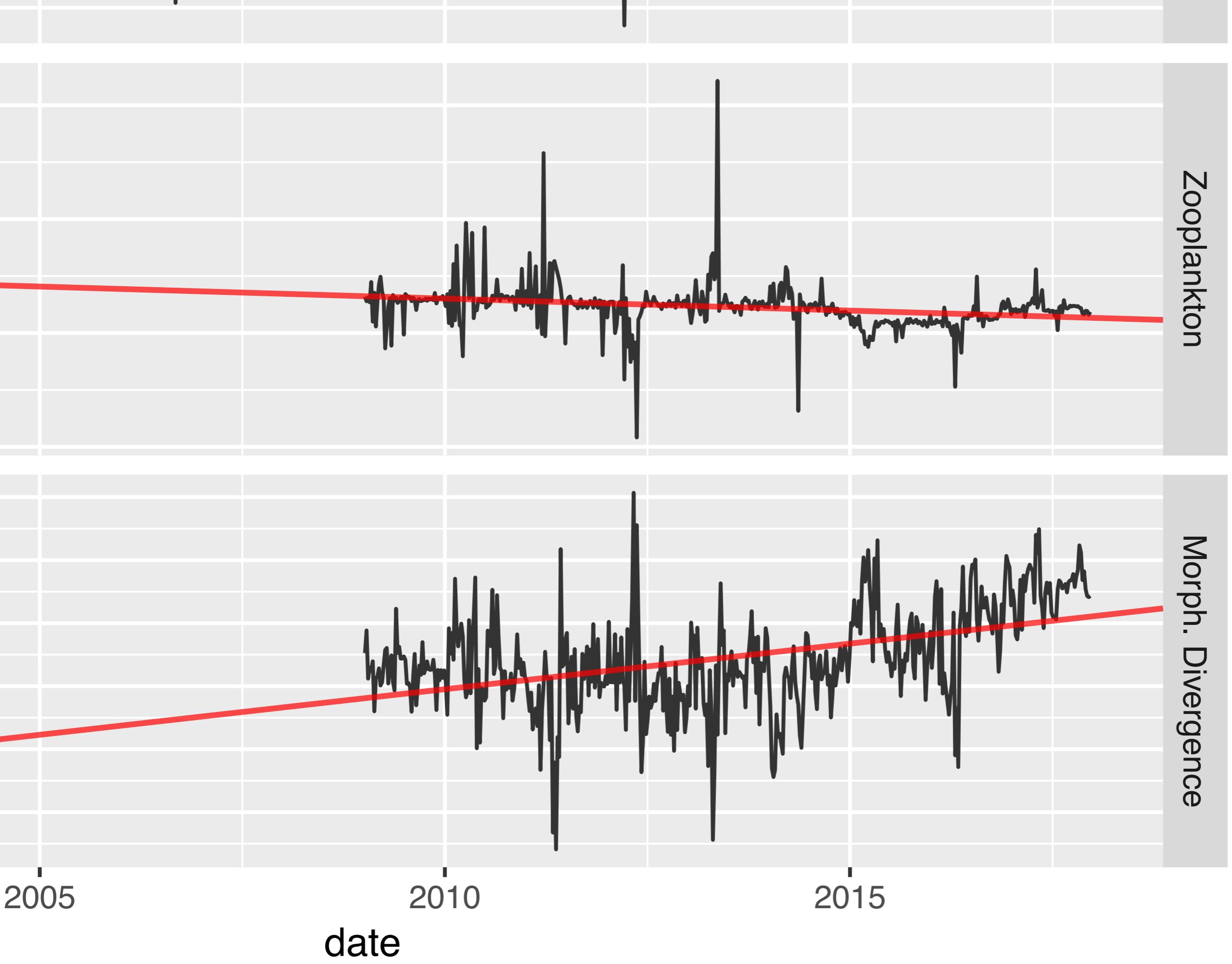


# Trends

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Zooplankton

Morph. Divergence

2005

2010

2015

date

# In summary

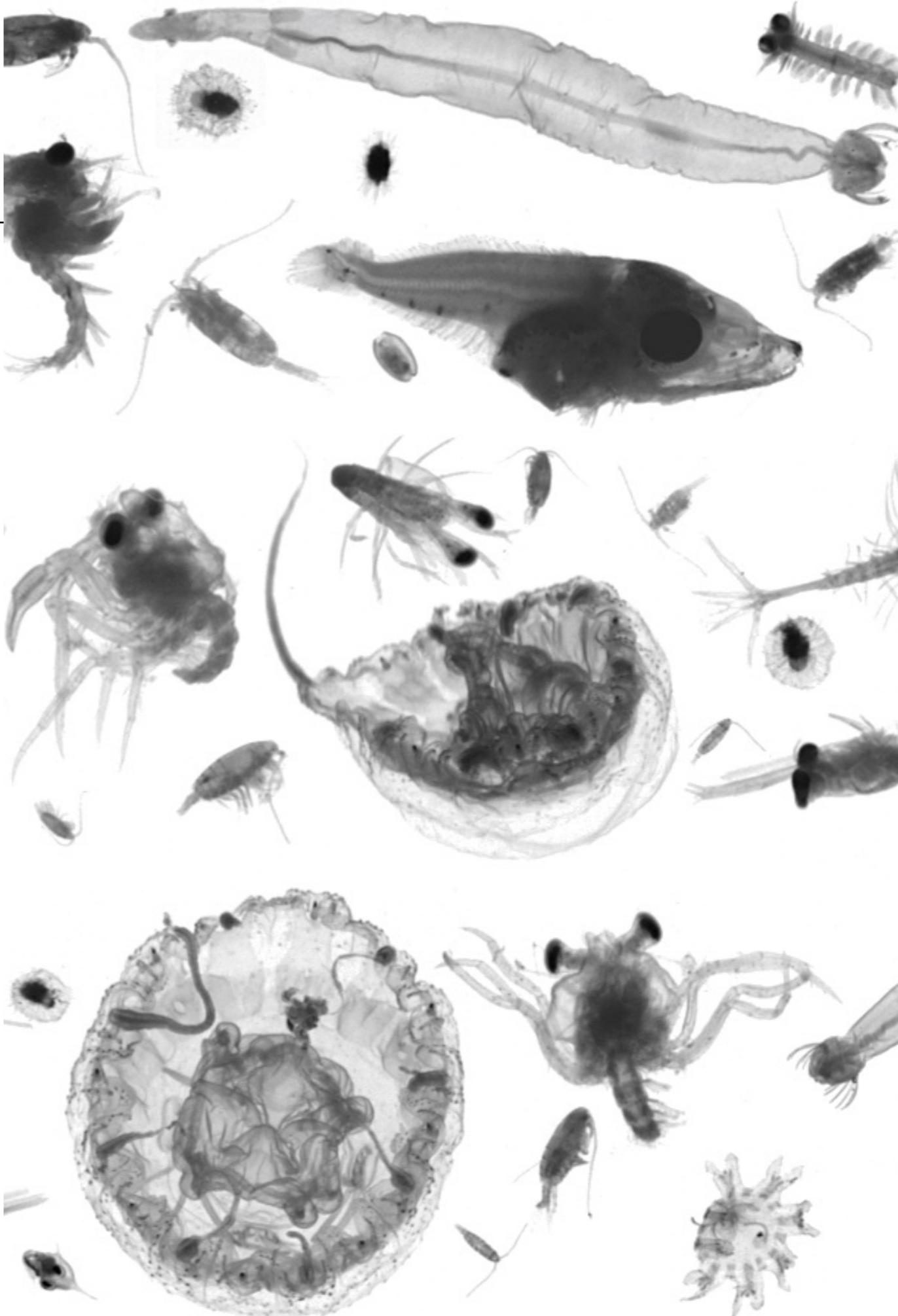
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**Consistent morphologies** of zooplankton can be defined from generic descriptors

Morphs are **not** just taxa

Morphological diversity **increases with oligotrophy**, seasonally and over the long term

Our interpretation: **dominance** of generic forms (copepods) in the spring + niche **specialisation** over the long term



# What's next?

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Write a **paper** for



Peer Community In  
Ecology

!!!



Use different morphological **features**

Work on a **larger *in situ*** images dataset

Opportunities for funded  
access to facilities :

*Merci*

