



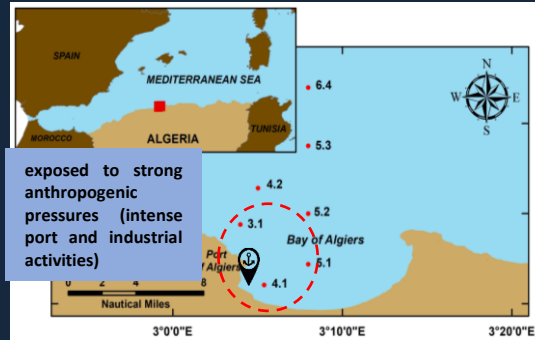
## INTRODUCTION

Planktonic cnidarian (Medusae and Siphonophorae) are considered the most abundant non-crustacean invertebrate predators. Along the Algerian coast, there has been a significant surge in research focused on gelatinous zooplankton populations: Khames and Hafferssas 2018, 2019, Kherchouche and Hafferssas, 2020, Khames *et al.* 2023 and Kherchouche *et al.*, 2024. The objective of this study is to characterize the specific composition and distribution of the medusan populations in Algiers Bay, taking into account the impact of anthropogenic pressures and the deterioration in environmental quality.

## METHODOLOGY

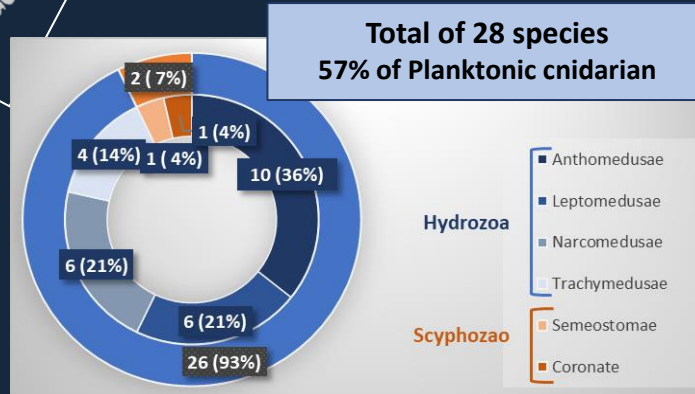
Sampling period 2015 and 2017 in the Algiers Bay, situated in the central part of the Algerian coast.

Vertical hauls from the surface to a maximum depth of 100 meters, using a standard Working Party 2 plankton net (200  $\mu$ m mesh size).



exposed to strong anthropogenic pressures (intense port and industrial activities)

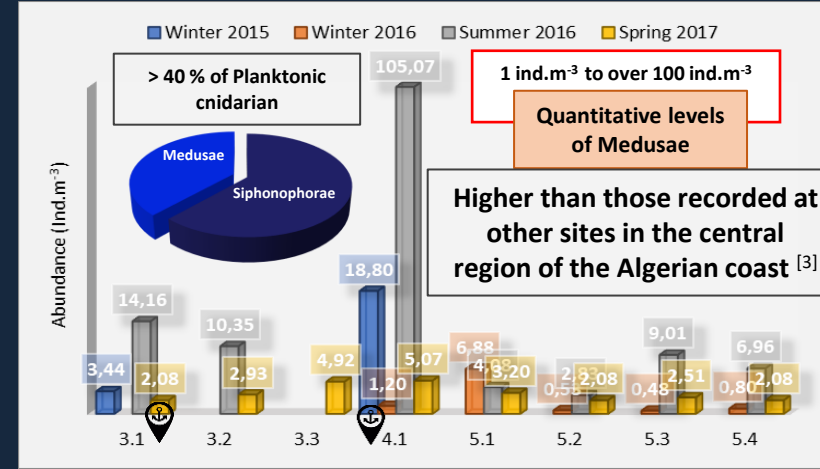
## RESULTS & DISCUSSION



Total of 28 species  
57% of Planktonic cnidarian

Non-indigenous species  
*Kantiella enigmatica* and  
*Cirrholovenia tetranema* [1]  
have been collected at near-  
port stations

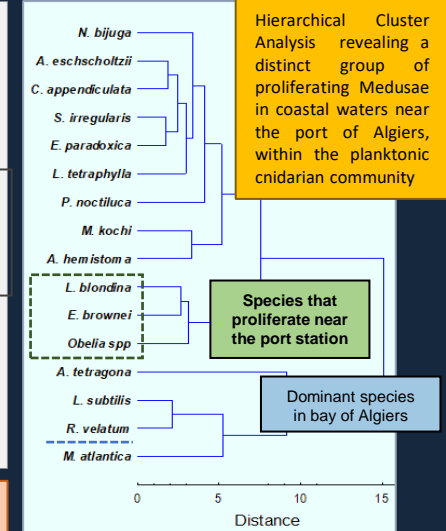
Their introduction is  
thought to be due to ballast  
water [2].



Great quantitative variation linked to the near port stations

Meroplankton species *Eucodonium brownei*,  
*Obelia spp.* and *Lizzia blondina* (> 10 ind.m<sup>-3</sup>).

Anthropogenic constructions in the coastal zone, such as port facilities,  
provide an advantageous substrate for the adhesion of polyp colonies [5]



Biological responses to environmental  
changes [4].

Indicators of  
environmental quality

## CONCLUSION

## REFERENCES

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- [3] Kherchouche A. 2021. Peuplements de Medusozoa des côtes algériennes: biodiversité, distribution quantitative et interactions au sein du réseau trophique pélagique. PhD thesis, ENSSMAL, Algeria.
- [4] Boero, F., Bouillon, J. et al., 2008. Gelatinous plankton: irregularities rule the world (sometimes). Marine Ecology Progress Series, 356, 299-310. <https://doi.org/10.3354/meps07368>
- [5] Duarte, C.M., Pitt, K.A. et al. 2013. Is global ocean sprawl a cause of jellyfish blooms? Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 11(2), 91-97. <https://doi.org/10.1890/110246>