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Unravelling the distribution of three *Ammonia* species (Foraminifera, Rhizaria) in French Atlantic Coast estuaries using morphological and metabarcoding approaches

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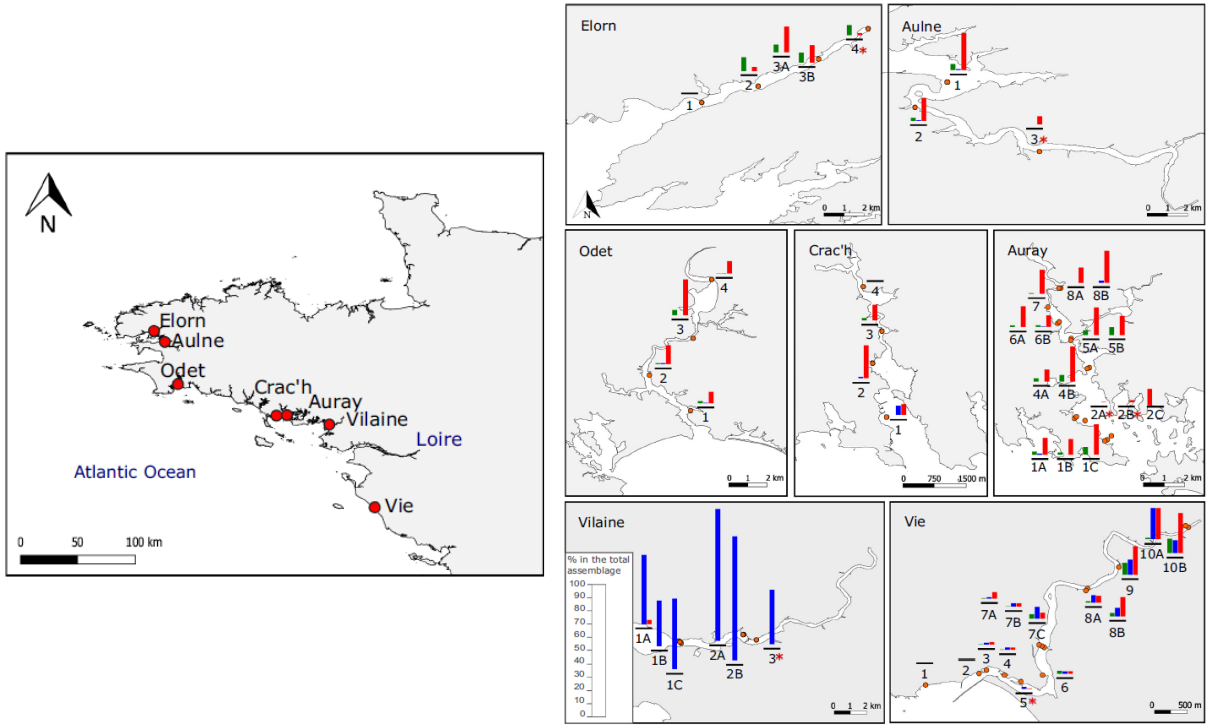

Fig. 2. Distribution of the three Ammonia species (*A. aberdoveyensis* in green, *A. confertitesta* in blue, *A. veneta* in red) at all stations in the seven estuaries. Stations with less than twenty individuals are marked with a red asterisk. The length of the barplot varies in function of the relative abundance of the taxon in the total foraminiferal assemblage, as shown on the scale on the bottom-left. The localisation of the different estuaries is presented in Fig. 1.

Two approaches combined: manual picking of stained forams (morphological approach) & environmental DNA (molecular approach)

Ammonia veneta (T1):
Good correspondance between morphological and molecular data
➔ no problem

Ammonia aberdoveyensis (T2):
Often present morphologically but not always detected with eDNA
➔ widely present in stations but in low numbers
➔ below eDNA detection thresholds?
➔ solution: increase sediment volume (5g here)

Ammonia confertitesta (T6):
More frequently detected with molecular than morphological approach
➔ presence of propagules but no adult specimen
➔ environmental conditions not appropriate yet