

## Review of: "Co-occurrence networks reveal the central role of temperature in structuring the plankton community of the Thau Lagoon"

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Potential competing interests: The author(s) declared that no potential competing interests exist.

This is a very interesting study case about the role of environmental factors on structuring the plankton community in the lagoon. The authors have good data covering hydrological, meteorological, nutrient, chlorophyll a measurements as well as various plankton abundance. The manuscript is well written. However, I have a few questions.

- 1. Why the paper studied the effects of environmental factors on the plankton community in only winter and spring? I think the study in summer and autumn may be more important than other seasons since phytoplankton blooms normally occurred in these seasons.
- 2. The sentence before the Results. The author claimed 'the present study will, for the first time, quantitatively link multiple environmental...'. I suggested deleted the sentence here. The methods used in this paper only described or indicated the correlations between various factors, these cannot quantitatively predict the dynamics of plankton.
- 3. Fig.2. I preferred to use stacked charts here since the unites are different in y axis. Meanwhile, the color gradation is hard to distinguish. it is better to change the color gradation.
- 4. Fig.3 and Fig.4. It is suggested to indicate the correlation value in the figure. A legend can be helpful here.
- 5. In Method the author indicated the study lasted from January 8 to May 12, 2015, and from January 12 to June 14, 2016. There were less one month in 2015 than in 2016. Were there any bias in your study? Please justify this.

Qeios ID: W6MQ1Y · https://doi.org/10.32388/W6MQ1Y