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Distribution of Albian dinoflagellate cyst associations along a proximal–distal transect across the Iberian margin

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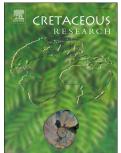
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1	ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT Distribution of Albian dinoflagellate cyst associations along a proximal – distal transect across the
2	Iberian margin
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13	Abstract
14	The analysis of Albian dinoflagellate cysts, or dinocysts, along an inshore – offshore transect across the Iberian
15	Margin reveals the environmental influence on the assemblages composition. Two biodiversity metrics are used to
16	analyze changes in the assemblage structure. The stress associated to environmental instability is identified as the main
17	factor influencing the dinocyst biodiversity. The relative frequency distribution of dinocysts is analyzed to identify
18	associations of taxa sharing similar environmental preferences. Seven dinocyst associations are identified. The
19	environmental affinities of the seven dinocyst associations are inferred from lithological data and assemblage structure.
20	Association 1 dominated the most proximal and unstable environments. Associations 2 and 3 characterized inner-
21	middle neritic environments. Taxa in the Association 2 preferred stable mesotrophic conditions, whereas, taxa in the
22	Association 3 were tolerant to variations in salinity and nutrient input. Associations 4 and 5 are indicative of open marine
23	distal environments. Taxa in the Association 4 were tolerant to limited environmental fluctuations. Taxa in the
24	Association 5 were restricted to stable open marine conditions. The widespread distribution of taxa in the Association 6
25	is interpreted as revealing their ubiquitous character. The taxon in the Association 7 is considered as cosmopolitan
26	because its widespread distribution was conditioned to nutrients availability.
27	Keywords: dinocyst; Cretaceous; Lusitanian Basin; DSDP Hole 398D; paleoenvironment; statistical significance
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