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How physical and biotic factors affect brachiopods from the Patagonian Continental Shelf

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ABSTRACT

The Patagonian Continental Shelf (PCS) is a dynamic region characterized by the confluence of two western boundary currents (the Brazil and Malvinas currents) and the presence of several oceanographic fronts, giving rise to a large and rich biological area. In this study we analyze the distribution pattern of brachiopod assemblages along a latitudinal range between 39° and 55°S, including the relationship with different physical factors of the benthic zone, either measured *in situ* (depth, sediment, water temperature, and salinity) or provided by the Bio-ORACLE database (water temperature, salinity, phosphate concentration, nitrate concentration, dissolved oxygen concentration, primary productivity, phytoplankton, and current velocity). Data show that articulate

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