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Phytoplankton defence mechanisms: traits and trade-offs

Marina Pančić* and Thomas Kiørboe

Centre for Ocean Life, Technical University of Denmark, DTU Aqua, Kemitorvet B201, Kongens Lyngby, DK-2800, Denmark

ABSTRACT

In aquatic ecosystems, unicellular algae form the basis of the food webs. Theoretical and experimental studies have demonstrated that one of the mechanisms that maintain high diversity of phytoplankton is through predation and the consequent evolution of defence mechanisms. Proposed defence mechanisms in phytoplankton are diverse and include physiological (e.g. toxicity, bioluminescence), morphological (e.g. silica shell, colony formation), and behavioural (e.g. escape response) traits. However, the function of many of the proposed defence mechanisms remains elusive, and the costs and benefits (trade-offs) are often unquantified or undocumented. Here, we provide an overview of suggested phytoplankton defensive traits and review their experimental support. Wherever possible we quantify the trade-offs from experimental evidence and theoretical considerations. In many instances, experimental evidence suggests that defences are costless. However, we argue that (i) some costs materialize only under natural conditions, for example, sinking losses, or dependency on the availability of specific nutrients, and (i) other costs become evident only under resource-deficient conditions where a rivalry for limiting resources between growth and defence occurs. Based on these findings, we suggest two strategies for quantifying the costs of defence mechanisms in phytoplankton: (i) for the evaluation of defence costs that are realized under natural conditions, a mechanistic understanding of the hypothesized component processes is required; and (i) the magnitude of the costs (i.e. growth reduction) must be assessed under conditions of resource limitation.

Key words: grazing protection, morphological defences, physiological defences, behavioural defences, benefits, costs, phytoplankton community, resource availability.

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^{*} Address for correspondence (Tel: +45 35883411; E-mail: marpan@aqua.dtu.dk)

I. INTRODUCTION

The oceans cover more than two-thirds of the Earth's surface. In these ecosystems, the unicellular phytoplankton form the foundation of the food webs. All autotrophic phytoplankton utilize the same resources, namely, light and a few species of inorganic nutrients. Simple competition experiments and models have shown that at steady state, the number of coexisting species cannot exceed the number of limiting resources unless further mechanisms are involved (Hardin, 1960; Tilman, 1981; Sommer, 1985). In reality, phytoplankton communities are much more diverse than expected based on the competitive exclusion principle, a problem known as 'the paradox of the plankton' (Hutchinson, 1961). However, phytoplankton communities are seldom if ever at steady state due to spatiotemporal variation at all scales, thus often preventing competitive exclusion. An additional and commonly suggested explanation of higher than expected diversity of phytoplankton is the combination of predation and defence mechanisms (Darwin, 1859; Paine, 1966; Levin, 1970; Smetacek, 2001; Leibold et al., 2017). Indeed, experimental manipulations of natural phytoplankton communities have demonstrated that the removal of grazers leads to a significant reduction in phytoplankton biodiversity (Leibold et al., 2017).

This concept is, for example, expressed in the 'killing the winner' principle (Winter et al., 2010). According to this principle, two species, a competition specialist and a defence specialist, may coexist on one limiting resource if the selective loss of the competition specialist due to predation prevents this population from seizing the limiting resource, and thus the resource becomes available to the defence strategist as well (Thingstad et al., 2005; Winter et al., 2010). The promotion of diversity in phytoplankton through grazing pressure and the consequent employment of defence mechanisms requires trade-offs, that is, the advantage of a defence mechanism must come at some cost (Thingstad et al., 2014; Våge et al., 2014). If there was no cost to grazer resistance, all species would evolve towards a state of equal defence, and community diversity would not be promoted by grazing.

Defence mechanisms (or at least proposed defence mechanisms) in phytoplankton against grazers are diverse and include morphological, physiological, and behavioural defences. A defence device may be constitutive (always present), or induced (only expressed or intensified in response to the presence of grazers or pathogens). In phytoplankton, there are examples of both types of defence mechanisms. For example, a diatom shell that may reduce grazing mortality (Hamm *et al.*, 2003) is always present (constitutive defence), but a thicker shell may be induced in the presence of zooplankton grazers (induced defence) (Pondaven *et al.*, 2007).

A considerable amount of research has been devoted to describing defence mechanisms in phytoplankton. Yet the associated trade-offs have largely been left unquantified. Thus, it remains unclear how much a particular defence mechanism reduces grazing mortality or increases pathogen

resistance, or what the costs of particular defence mechanisms are. The situation is further complicated by the fact that some defences may be effective against some grazers, but not against others. Models of phytoplankton communities therefore have to assume defence trade-offs to maintain species diversity or use other ways to circumvent this issue (e.g. assume constant immigration at a low rate in order to prevent the community from being reduced to one species over time) (Norberg et al., 2001; Terseleer et al., 2014; Acevedo-Trejos et al., 2015), and only a few models are built on known and quantified defence trade-offs (Yoshida et al., 2003; Merico, Bruggeman & Wirtz, 2009). Given the likely importance of defences and associated defence trade-offs in promoting and sustaining the diversity of phytoplankton in the ocean, the limited qualitative and quantitative understanding of defences in phytoplankton is either unexpected, or reflects difficulties in finding ways to fill this gap in knowledge.

Previous reviews of defence mechanisms in phytoplankton (Tillmann, 2004; Van Donk, Ianora & Vos, 2011) have focused on either morphological or physiological defences, on a few defensive traits from either of these groups, or on proposed defence mechanisms within a specific group of phytoplankton, or even within a single species. Examples of the latter are reviews of the inducibility of colony formation in the green alga Scenedesmus spp. as a defence mechanism (Van Donk, Lürling & Lampert, 1999), or the defensive role of calcification in coccolithophores (Monteiro et al., 2016). Further, de Bernardi & Giussani (1990) evaluated how colony formation and toxicity affect the suitability of green algae as food for herbivores, Nejstgaard et al. (2007) discussed the role of coloniality and life stage for grazing mortality in *Phaeocystis* sp., and Turner (2014) explored to what extent the chemical compounds produced by harmful algal blooms (HABs) serve as grazing deterrents or toxins to mesozooplankton. Additional aspects of chemical defences in non-HAB phytoplankton were discussed by Wolfe (2000), Pohnert (2005), Pohnert, Steinke & Tollrian (2007), and Ianora, Miralto & Romano (2012).

While previous reviews have thus considered either specific taxa or specific anti-predator devices with an emphasis on the defence aspect, we here examine trade-offs of defence mechanisms across phytoplankton groups. In other words: what are the demonstrated and suspected benefits and costs of various defence mechanisms, and to what extent can benefits and costs be quantified? The currencies of benefits and costs are reductions in mortality rates and growth rates (as defence costs detract from growth), respectively, and the resulting fitness of an individual is the difference between the two. Wherever possible, we aim at assessing or quantifying these. While viruses may be an important source of mortality in phytoplankton, accounting for up to one-quarter of the primary production (see Pasulka, Samo & Landry, 2015 and references therein; Fuhrman, 1999), there is hardly anything known about phytoplankton resistance towards these threats [some examples are provided in Jacobsen, Bratbak & Heldal (1996), Huheihel et al. (2002), Brussaard

et al. (2005), Evans et al. (2006) and Frada et al. (2008)]. Therefore, we predominantly focus on the resistance of phytoplankton to zooplankton grazing, as grazing mortality is also the main mortality agent in phytoplankton (approximately two-thirds of primary production) (Calbet & Landry, 2004). We distinguish between morphological, physiological, and behavioural defence mechanisms. Our main focus is on defences induced by biotic factors (presence of grazers or their cues), as these allow for an assessment or even quantification of the trade-offs. We demonstrate that among the many suggested anti-predator devices in phytoplankton, hard evidence for trade-offs – or even benefits – is scarce. We argue that this is a serious gap in our understanding of phytoplankton communities, and suggest possible ways to fill this gap.

II. PHYTOPLANKTON DEFENCE MECHANISMS

(1) Morphological defences

Numerous studies investigating phytoplankton—zooplankton interactions have shown or suggested that the feeding success of herbivorous zooplankton depends greatly on the properties of the phytoplankton prey species. Morphological traits such as cell size (Yoshida, Hairston & Ellner, 2004; Long et al., 2007; Friedrichs et al., 2013), shape (Hessen & Van Donk, 1993), life-history stage (Dutz & Koski, 2006; Kolb & Strom, 2013), structure of cell wall (Hamm et al., 2003; Pondaven et al., 2007; Harvey, Bidle & Johnson, 2015; Liu et al., 2016), and hardness of cell (DeMott, 1995) have all been suggested to affect grazing rates of herbivorous zooplankton. Evidence of trade-offs, where the intensity of a morphological defence mechanism has been induced by the presence of grazers or otherwise manipulated experimentally, is listed in Appendix A1.

(a) Cell size, colony formation, and chain formation

Cell size per se offers partial protection against grazing; large phytoplankton cells generally experience lower grazing mortality than smaller ones (Smetacek, Assmy & Henjes, 2004). The reasoning behind this is that small cells are grazed upon by small grazers, whereas large cells are consumed by larger grazers, and the total biomass of grazers declines with increasing grazer size (Kiørboe, 2011). Consequently, the mortality rate of organisms in pelagic ecosystems declines with size (McGurk, 1987), and this applies within phytoplankton communities (Latasa et al., 1997; Landry et al., 2000; Strom, Macri & Olson, 2007). The inherent trade-off is that the diffusion-limited specific nutrient uptake (Kiørboe, 1993) as well as the average chlorophyll-specific light absorption coefficient (i.e. the package effect) (Raven & Kubler, 2002) decline with size, and so does the growth rate in approximately the same manner, although there are large size-independent variations among phytoplankton taxa (Marañón, 2015). This fundamental trade-off may partly explain the size diversity of phytoplankton in the ocean.

Some species of phytoplankton have an inflated cell volume due to the presence of a vacuole, most notably diatoms (Menden-Deuer & Lessard, 2000) or the dinoflagellate *Noctiluca lucens* (Kiørboe, 2013), and the consequent larger cell size implies lower grazing mortality as discussed above. The trade-off in these special cases is less clear, since the inflated cell size also allows the phytoplankton cell to increase its resource acquisition rate, and hence growth, a strategy known as the 'Winnie-the-Pooh' strategy (Thingstad *et al.*, 2005). We consider the case of diatoms in further detail below (see Section II.1*b*). We are unaware of examples of grazer-induced changes in prey cell size.

Variations in size can be achieved through formation of colonies, which may be induced by the presence of grazers (Appendix A1). Colonies consist of morphologically identical clonal cells, and possess a range of different anatomies comprising one-dimensional chains (e.g. Alexandrium spp., many diatoms; Fig. 1A, C, G, M), two-dimensional plates (e.g. Pediastrum spp., Scenedesmus spp.; Fig. 1I, J), and three-dimensional structures (e.g. *Phaeocystis* spp.; Fig. 1F). A morphological change from solitary cells to colonies can thus cause difficulties for herbivores with a narrow range of prey-size preferences. The freshwater green algae of the genus Scenedesmus respond to infochemicals of various herbivores by forming large four- to eight-celled colonies (Fig. 1I, J). This phenotypic plasticity benefits the algae because a high proportion of colonies in the algal population leads to reduced clearance rates and/or reduced population growth rates of the grazers (Hessen & Van Donk, 1993; Lürling & Van Donk, 1996; Lürling, De Lange & Van Donk, 1997). Likewise, the marine prymnesiophyte *Phaeocystis* sp. responds to grazer-mediated infochemicals by changing its colony size by several orders of magnitude (Jakobsen & Tang, 2002). While microzooplankton-associated infochemicals enhance colony formation in *Phaeocystis* sp. (Jakobsen & Tang, 2002; Long et al., 2007), mesozooplankton-associated infochemicals suppress colony enlargement (Long et al., 2007; Lundgren & Granéli, 2010). These two responses are adaptive since copepod grazing pressure on *Phaeocystis* sp. single cells is lower than on colonies, and the growth rate and/or clearance rate of microzooplankton is lower on Phaeocystis sp. colonies than on solitary cells (Fig. 1E, F) (Long et al., 2007). A similar response is found in the chain-forming diatom Skeletonema sp., and in the dinoflagellate Alexandrium sp. in the presence of mesozooplankton, resulting in impaired chain formation in both species, and consequently reduced mortality due to grazing (Fig. 1A, B) (Selander et al., 2011; Bergkvist et al., 2012; Bjærke et al., 2015). Suppression of chain length in diatoms, however, is not a suitable mechanism to avoid grazing by microzooplankton, since they prefer to graze on solitary cells and short chains (Bergkvist et al., 2012; Bjærke *et al.*, 2015).

As opposed to the obvious benefits of such morphological changes, the costs to organism fitness are still mainly speculative (Appendix A1). Impaired chain formation in the dinoflagellate *Alexandrium* sp. due to waterborne cues from mesozooplankton results in the occurrence of solitary cells

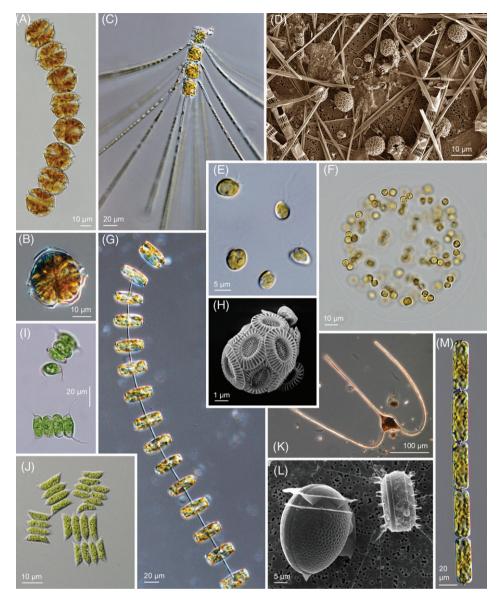


Fig. 1. Mosaic of morphological traits in phytoplankton. (A) One-dimensional chain of the dinoflagellate Alexandrium catenella. (B) Solitary cell of the dinoflagellate Alexandrium catenella. (C) One-dimensional chain of the diatom Chaetoceros convolutes with hollow spines containing chloroplasts. (D) Scanning electron-microscopy (SEM) image of phytoplankton natural assemblage from the North Sea (Bergen, Norway), including Skeletonema sp., Pseudo-nitzschia sp., and various coccolithophorids. (E) Motile solitary cells of the prymnesiophyte Phaeocystis globosa. (F) Three-dimensional non-motile colonial structure of the prymnesiophyte Phaeocystis globosa. (G) One-dimensional chain of the diatom Thalassiosira rotula. (H) SEM image of the cosmopolitan coccolithophore Emiliania huxleyi, whose cell wall plates (liths) are made of calcium carbonate. (I) Spiny solitary cells (top) and a one-dimensional chain (bottom) of the green alga Scenedesmus quadricauda. (J) One-dimensional chains (four cells) and a two-dimensional plate (eight cells) of the green alga Scenedesmus obliquus. (K) A large cell of the dinoflagellate Ceratium trichoceros. (L) SEM image of the dinoflagellate Phalacroma sp. with a cellulosic cell wall (left), and the diatom Thalassiosira sp., whose cell wall (frustule) is made of silica (right). (M) One-dimensional chain of the diatom Dactyliosolen fragilissimus with short and straight marginal spines. Figure credits: A, B, E, F, I, J, Gert Hansen, University of Copenhagen; C, G, M, Tara Ivanochko, University of British Columbia; D, H, K, L, Helge Abildhauge Thomsen, Technical University of Denmark.

and/or short chains (Fig. 1B) with lower swimming velocities than their long-chain counterparts (Fig. 1A) (Selander *et al.*, 2011). Long chains allow higher swimming velocities that enable the cells to perform diel vertical migrations to harvest nutrients at depth during the night, and light at the surface during the day. The ability of solitary cells or short chains to

perform such migrations is reduced, which may consequently lead to a cost in terms of decreased growth rates (Selander *et al.*, 2011).

Another cost related to large body size is sinking, with large particles sinking faster than small ones of the same density. Thus, large colonial *Scenedesmus* spp. experience up

to four times higher sinking rates relative to their unicellular counterparts, which can subsequently increase the risk of sinking out of the euphotic zone (Lürling & Van Donk, 2000). The enhancement in sinking velocities due to colony formation is partly countered by lower cell densities of colonial cells relative to single cells, facilitated by a higher content of fatty acids in colonial Scenedesmus spp. cells than in unicells (12-21% lipids in colonial cells versus 6-7% in unicells; Lürling, De Lange & Van Donk, 1997). With unchanged cell densities, Stokes' law would predict an eightfold increase in settling rates due to coloniality. The energetic costs of the synthesis of lipids from carbohydrates can be roughly estimated (Table 1). Note that the energetic costs of the synthesis are relatively low compared to the energetic value of the deposited lipids themselves. The combined energetic costs of lipid synthesis and the energetic value of the deposited lipids are approximately 15% higher in colonial relative to single cells (Table 1). Under light-limiting conditions, the growth of colonies would therefore be approximately 15% slower than that of single cells, which can be considered a cost of defensive colony formation.

Next to the higher investments in lipids, colony formation in *Scenedesmus* spp. leads to a reduction of chlorophyll-specific light absorption coefficients by 17-67% compared to unicells (Lürling, 1999), which may additionally decrease the growth rate. Yet, none of these presumed costs of colony formation in *Scenedesmus* spp. have led to measurable decreases in growth rates or efficiencies of photosystem II in experiments. Such differences would, however, become evident only under light-limiting conditions (such as often experienced by field populations), and the light intensities used in these studies may have been sufficient to overcome the energetic costs of colony formation ($100-125~\mu$ mol photons m⁻² s⁻¹) (Lürling, 1999, 2003; Lürling & Van Donk, 2000).

Finally, colony formation may lead to a lower nutrient uptake rate per cell when nutrients are limiting, due to competition among colonial cells. Uptake rates are limited by the rate at which diffusion and advection can transport nutrients to the cell or colony surface. In the absence of ambient fluid motion, diffusive transport of nutrients to a spherical colony increases with the radius of the colony (Kiørboe, 2008), while the number of cells increases with the colonial radius squared (or a little less; Ploug, Stolte & Jørgensen, 1999), so the flux of nutrients per cell scales approximately inversely with colony size. However, this effect is partly countered by the effect of ambient fluid motion that increases with colony size, leading to an overall reduction in growth rates of colonial *Phaeocystis* sp. cells by a factor of 2-3relative to single cells at limiting nutrient concentrations and typical levels of colony size and ambient turbulence (Ploug, Stolte & Jørgensen, 1999). The authors suggested that this would be the price for reduced grazing mortality of colonial cells. At nutrient-replete conditions, however, there would be no difference in nutrient uptake rates between solitary and colonial cells.

As noted, the costs of colony formation would mainly be evident if nutrients and/or light are limited. Therefore, a probable reason why most of the studies summarized in Appendix A1 failed to detect costs of induced defences, in the form of reduced growth or otherwise, may be resource availability. Resource-replete environments can support energy-demanding growth and reproduction, and at the same time maintain defence, as there is no conflict between resource allocation to growth or defence. By contrast, when the organisms are exposed to resource-deficient conditions, metabolic rivalry for limiting resources between growth and defence may occur (Yoshida, Hairston & Ellner, 2004; Wang et al., 2015; Zhu et al., 2016). Thus, the costs of defence should be assessed at resource-limiting conditions in future work.

(b) Shape, extrusomes, and cell wall structure

Morphological variations such as long spines, ejectisomes, or reinforced cell walls can be beneficial to organisms as defence mechanisms. Spines may act as a grazing deterrent, which has been suggested for diatoms (e.g. Corethron sp., Chaetoceros sp.; Fig. 1C) (Crawford, Hinz & Honeywill, 1998) and green algae (e.g. Scenedesmus sp.; Fig. 11) (Hessen & Van Donk, 1993). Discharging of ejectisomes in cryptophytes (e.g. Cryptomonas sp., Chroomonas sp.) may have a similar function (Rhiel, Ammermann & Hillebrand, 2016), although there is no direct evidence of reduced grazing pressure due to these structures. Similarly, the ecological role of the calcite armour in coccolithophores and silica shells in diatoms has long been proposed to act as a defence against predation [see Hamm et al. (2003), Monteiro et al. (2016) and references therein; for other proposed roles of calcite armour and silica frustules see Monteiro et al., 2016 and references therein; Flynn, Clark & Wheeler, 2016; De Tommasi, Gielis & Rogato, 2017] (Fig. 1D, H, L). Only recently has experimental evidence supporting the defensive role of the calcite armour been provided: the clearance rate or growth rate of some heterotrophic protists is reduced by 29-99% and 35-73%, respectively, when fed calcified strains of *Emiliania* sp. relative to non-calcified strains (Appendix A1) (Harvey et al., 2015).

The costs associated with calcification can be grouped into energetic, nutrient, and sinking costs (Monteiro et al., 2016). Energetic costs include transport [calcification substrates (Ca²⁺ and HCO₃⁻) into, and end product (H⁺) from the cell, metabolic (production of organic materials), mechanical (secretion of liths), and structural (construction and maintenance of structural components) costs, which are together estimated to be between one-fifth and one-third of the total photosynthetic budget, and are similar for small (e.g. Emiliania huxleyi; $4-9 \mu m$) and large coccolithophore species (e.g. Calcidiscus pelagicus; $12-20 \mu m$) (Raven & Crawfurd, 2012; Monteiro et al., 2016). Genetically identical naked and coccolith-bearing individuals can be obtained by altering environmental conditions, and their growth rates subsequently quantified under identical conditions. As a result, naked cells of an oceanic E. huxleyi isolate are found to grow up to 15% faster than their larger coccolith-bearing counterparts (Lecourt, Muggli & Harrison, 1996), but conversely, naked cells of a coastal E. huxleyi isolate grow up to 15% slower than the coccolith-forming

Table 1. Cost of lipid formation in colonial and single cells of *Scenedesmus acutus* estimated from composition of the cells, the metabolic cost of lipid biosynthesis, and the energetic value of cell constituents

	Scenedesmus acutus unicells	Scenedesmus acutus colonial cells
Carbon content $(pg C cell^{-1})^a$	10	10
Lipid content (5%) ^b	6.5	21
Carbohydrates and protein content (5%)	93.5	79
Fatty acid content (mol FA cell ⁻¹) ^c	2.5×10^{-15}	8.1×10^{-15}
Energetic value of cells (kJ cell ⁻¹) ^d	3.61×10^{-10}	4.22×10^{-10}
Biochemical cost of lipid synthesis (kJ cell ⁻¹) ^e	4.35×10^{-12}	1.41×10^{-11}
Total cost of lipid synthesis (kJ cell ⁻¹)	3.65×10^{-10}	4.36×10^{-10}

^aDerived from a cell volume of 74 μ m³ (Lürling, De Lange & Van Donk, 1997) and a carbon to volume relationship for chlorophytes (Menden-Deuer & Lessard, 2000).

cells (Paasche & Klaveness, 1970). Therefore, the estimated energetic costs of calcification are not unequivocally evident in observed growth rates of coccolithophores. Regarding nutrient costs, formation of the calcite armour seems to be a rather inexpensive process, since the demands for nitrogen and phosphorus are very low, and calcification generally requires only inorganic carbon and calcium (Lavoie, Raven & Levasseur, 2016; Monteiro et al., 2016). Finally, despite the fact that calcification largely enhances sinking velocities of calcifying cells (Lavoie, Raven & Levasseur, 2016), the impact of calcification on loss rates via sinking out of the mixed layer may be negligible for small coccolithophore species (e.g. Emiliania huxleyi), because the vertical eddy diffusivities observed in the mixed layer are always sufficient to compensate for sinking rates and, hence, to keep the cells suspended (Monteiro et al., 2016). Sinking costs become significant only for larger calcifying species (e.g. Calcidiscus sp.) in regions with low turbulent mixing (Monteiro et al., 2016). Thus, overall, the trade-offs of calcification are not immediately evident.

Similarly, diatoms possess silicified armour (Fig. 1D, L) that may have evolved as a mechanical protection against predation. The level of silicification varies greatly among

diatom species, which led Assmy et al. (2013) to propose two different strategies in diatoms: defence specialists with thick shells and slow growth versus competition specialists with thin shells and rapid growth. A representative of the defence strategy, Fragilariopsis kerguelensis, possesses an exceptionally strong silica wall (Hamm et al., 2003) that has been suggested to reduce losses to mesozooplankton grazing by reducing the proportion of cracked and crushed cells, which could potentially enable viable gut passage (Jansen & Bathmann, 2007; Kruse et al., 2009; Assmy et al., 2013). Competition-specialized diatoms, on the other hand, have thinner shells but also have the ability to proliferate rapidly during favourable conditions. On account of the fact that thinner frustules are crushed at much lower forces than the thick ones (e.g. for *Thalassiosira punctigera* and *F. kerguelensis*: \sim 200 and \sim 750 μ N, respectively), thin-shelled diatoms may therefore experience higher grazing mortality than those with thick-shells (Hamm et al., 2003). In line with this, it has been speculated that mesozooplankton (Hamm et al., 2003) and benthic foraminifera (see Austin, Austin & Paterson, 2005 and references therein) are likely to have evolved specialized tools to break open the frustules. Finally, this high variation in silica content among diatoms (Brzezinski, 1985; Conley, Kilham & Theriot, 1989) (Fig. 2) could be related to their life strategy, and may represent a trade-off between growth and grazing losses.

While it appears intuitive that a diatom shell may provide mechanical protection against grazing (as cells stay enclosed in tightly sealed silica boxes at all times and open them only during sexual reproduction), and that thick-shelled diatoms should be better protected than thin-shelled ones, direct evidence remains very limited. Recently, a single experiment demonstrated that fast-growing, thin-shelled Thalassiosira weissflogii experience 2-3 times higher grazing pressure from copepods than slow-growing thick-shelled cells of the same species (Liu et al., 2016). Likewise, there is only weak experimental evidence that diatoms can survive gut passage better than non-silicified phytoplankton (Fowler & Fisher, 1983). Finally, there is some indication that diatoms exposed to chemical cues released by herbivores accumulate more silicon per cell (Pondaven et al., 2007), thus providing indirect evidence that silicification provides grazer resistance. However, the lack or scarcity of hard evidence is striking in light of the common assumption that diatom shells provide protection against predation. Indeed the shell may have evolved for entirely different purposes, for example, to allow diatoms to have a large vacuole and, as a consequence, inflated size that on its own may reduce grazing mortality (see Section II.1a). There is a strong need for experiments that test this hypothesis.

The anticipated benefits of a thick shell must be traded off against the costs. Silicon deposition in diatoms depends on their growth rate, thus suggesting a cost to silicification; since many diatoms do not store sufficient quantities of silicon for new valve formation, they must harvest most of the required amounts immediately before (G₂ interphase) and during cell division (Brzezinski, 1985). Thus, slow growth

^bLürling, De Lange & Van Donk (1997).

^cDerived from a total fatty acid (FA) content of 6.5 and 21% of dry mass for unicells and colonies, respectively (Lürling, De Lange & Van Donk, 1997), and assuming an average FA molecular weight of 266 g mol⁻¹. The average number of cells in a colony is 5 (Lürling, De Lange & Van Donk, 1997).

^dAssuming that the caloric value of lipids is $37.7 \, kJ \, g^{-1}$, and of carbohydrates and proteins is $16.7 \, kJ \, g^{-1}$; cell mass is $20 \, pg$, assuming that the carbon content of cells is 50% of dry mass.

^eAssuming that 57 mol of ATP is needed for the synthesis of 1 mol FA palmitate (C16) (Berg, Tymoczko & Stryer, 2002), and that 1 mol of ATP provides 30.5 kJ mol⁻¹ of energy.

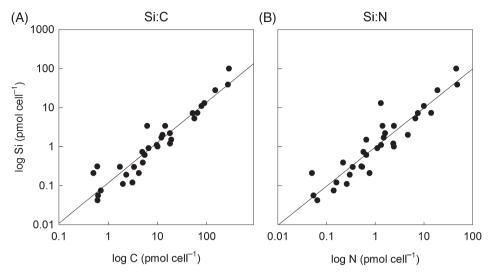


Fig. 2. Silica-to-carbon (A) and silica-to-nitrogen (B) content in marine diatoms. Regression lines: $\log Si = \log 0.1175 + 1.0356 \log C$ ($r^2 = 0.899$; P < 0.05; mean Si:C = 0.24); $\log Si = \log 0.9758 + 1.0019 \log N$ ($r^2 = 0.862$; P < 0.05; mean Si:N = 1.42). Note that the axes are plotted on a logarithmic scale. Data derived from Parsons, Stephens & Strickland (1961), Eppley, Holmes & Paasche (1967), Harrison *et al.* (1977), and Brzezinski (1985).

under non-limiting silicon conditions leads to an extended period available for silicon uptake, resulting in heavier silicification of cell walls in defence specialists; the opposite will be true for high growth rates in competition specialists (Martin-Jézéquel, Hildebrand & Brzezinski, 2000). This also implies that external abiotic forces involved in regulating growth rates, such as availability of nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus) (Claquin et al., 2002; De La Rocha et al., 2010), light (Taylor, 1985; Liu et al., 2016), temperature (Furnas, 1978; Redalje & Laws, 1983), or trace metals (iron, zinc) (Hutchins & Bruland, 1998; Takeda, 1998; De La Rocha et al., 2000), will indirectly control the process of silicification.

Other costs include biochemical costs directly related to the uptake and deposition of silicon, the costs associated with the dependency of diatoms on dissolved silica in the environment, and the costs related to the potential losses due to elevated sinking rates of heavy, silicified cells. Silicification seems to be a rather cheap process since it requires only 1 mol ATP per 1 mol Si (Raven, 1983), meaning that a diatom cell with a Si:C molar ratio of 0.24 (Fig. 2) would invest less than 2% of its total energy into silicification (a more-extended analysis with a similar conclusion is provided by Lavoie, Raven & Levasseur, 2016) (Table 2). In fact, silicification is much cheaper than the deposition of polysaccharides (e.g. cellulose), a common cell wall component in phytoplankton: the combustion of 0.1 g of glucose would enable the precipitation of more than 1 g of Si in the cell walls, but only 0.09 g of polysaccharides (Raven, 1983). The use of dissolved silica instead of polysaccharides thus represents an energetic advantage rather than a cost for diatoms.

The growth of diatoms is dependent on the availability of dissolved silica in the environment (Brzezinski, Olson & Chisholm, 1990; Raven & Waite, 2004), which represents another potential cost that cannot be directly estimated from

Table 2. Estimating the energetic cost of silica formation in diatoms from cell composition and cost of biosynthesis

Carbon content (pg C cell ⁻¹) ^a	450
Silica content (pg Si cell ⁻¹) ^a	200
Energetic value of cells (kJ cell ⁻¹) ^b	1.52×10^{-8}
Biochemical cost of silicification (kJ cell ⁻¹) ^c	2.23×10^{-10}

^aDerived from a carbon to volume relationship for diatoms from Menden-Deuer & Lessard (2000), assuming a spherical shape with a diameter of 25 μ m, and a Si:C molar ratio of 0.24 (Fig. 2).

^bAssuming that the carbon content of cells is 50% of dry mass, and is distributed between carbohydrates and proteins only (no lipids) with a caloric value of 16.7 kJ $\rm g^{-1}$.

^cAssuming 1 mol ATP per 1 mol Si (Raven, 1983), and that 1 mol of ATP provides 30.5 kJ mol⁻¹ of energy.

laboratory experiments. Diatoms exhibit strong seasonal cycles with large-scale blooms in spring and summer that typically occur at high latitudes and in eutrophic regions (Fig. 3) (Alvain et al., 2005). Those areas are usually characterized by low Si:N ratios (Fig. 3). If we assume that the average ratio of Si:N in diatoms is 1.4 (Fig. 2), we can expect that in regions with lower ambient Si:N ratios, silica will be exhausted before other macronutrients (Taylor et al., 1993; Nelson et al., 2001). Depletion of dissolved silica thus ends the diatom bloom, putting them at a competitive disadvantage compared to the succeeding phytoplankton groups whose populations may increase as long as other macronutrients are available (Taylor et al., 1993).

Finally, as defined by Stokes' law, sinking rates of organisms increase with size and density. Silicon frustules increase the overall density of diatoms, which consequently elevates their sinking rates. The sinking velocities of actively growing single-celled diatoms measured in the laboratory

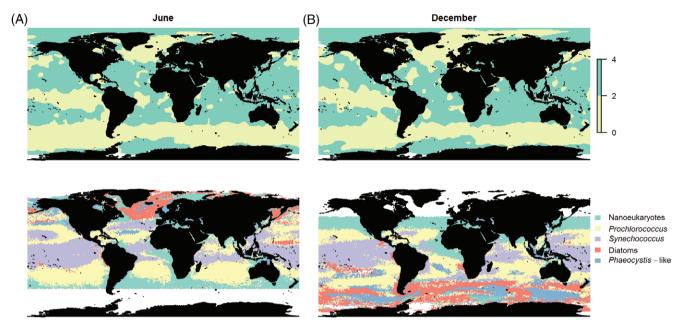


Fig. 3. Global distributions of ambient Si:N ratios (mol mol⁻¹, A), and global distributions of the main phytoplankton groups (B). Top panels show monthly mean maps of Si:N ratios for June and December. Values <2 mol mol⁻¹ (yellow) represent areas where dissolved silica becomes depleted before inorganic nitrogen; and values >2 mol mol⁻¹ (green) represent areas where inorganic nitrogen is a growth-limiting nutrient. Data derived from the World Ocean Atlas 2013 (Boyer *et al.*, 2013). Bottom panels show monthly mean distributions of the prevailing phytoplankton groups in June and December: nanoeukaryotes (green), *Prochlorococcus* spp. (yellow), *Synechococcus* spp. (purple), diatoms (red), and *Phaeocystis*-like organisms (blue). White regions indicate areas with no data. Based on the PHYSAT method of Alvain *et al.* (2005).

range from 0.02 m day⁻¹ for small diatoms to 2 m day⁻¹ for large ones (Fig. 4). If we assume that the depth of the euphotic zone is 50 m, then the specific sinking-loss rates of small and large diatoms are about 4×10^{-4} and 4×10^{-2} day⁻¹, respectively; loss rates through sinking out of the euphotic zone therefore are small relative to typical reproductive rates of diatoms (\sim 1 day⁻¹). Massive sinking losses of diatoms, as reported at the end of blooms, are facilitated by the cells coagulating into large, rapidly sinking aggregates, and may be considered part of diatom life history rather than a cost of silicification (Smetacek, 1985).

(c) Life history stage

Solitary cells of haptophytes, including *Emiliania huxleyi* and *Phaeocystis globosa*, have a haploid—diploid life cycle with at least two morphologically different phases (see Appendix A1) (Dutz & Koski, 2006; Kolb & Strom, 2013). In *E. huxleyi*, the diploid cells are non-motile and produce calcite liths, whereas haploid cells have two flagella and organic liths. A defence mechanism of some sort is induced in the latter motile type in the presence of microzooplankton under nutrient-sufficient conditions, which leads to a rapid and persistent reduction in grazer ingestion rates (Appendix A1) (Kolb & Strom, 2013). Since the defence mechanism is unknown, any costs to the organism's fitness remain unquantified. The heteromorphic life cycle of *Phaeocystis* spp. involves a transition between free-living solitary cells (Fig. 1E), which are highly vulnerable to microzooplankton grazing but are not grazed upon

efficiently by mesozooplankton, and mucilaginous colonies (see Section II.1*a*; Fig. 1F) (Dutz & Koski, 2006). Solitary cells of *P. globosa* occur in nature in at least three different types differing in size, ploidy, and morphology; yet, their position and function in the life cycle are poorly known (Dutz & Koski, 2006). Similarly to the above-reported decrease in microzooplankton ingestion on the motile haploid *E. huxleyi*, the motile haploid cells of *P. globosa* reduce vulnerability to mesozooplankton grazing (Appendix A1); however, the mechanisms as well as the cost of defence still need to be addressed (Dutz & Koski, 2006).

(2) Physiological defences

Several physiological traits in phytoplankton, such as toxin production and the production of other chemical substances, bioluminescence, and altered nutritional value of algae, are proposed to represent physiological defence mechanisms. The production of defensive chemical compounds can be activated by a variety of cues, by grazing, or by motion. Defensive chemical compounds have been found to reduce grazer feeding activity, or cause grazer reproductive failure, and even death (Fulton & Paerl, 1987; Dutz, 1998; Colin & Dam, 2003; Selander *et al.*, 2006; Bergkvist, Selander & Pavia, 2008; Wohlrab, Iversen & John, 2010). Many of these defensive traits are constitutive, but their production may increase in the presence of grazers (Selander *et al.*, 2006; Harðardóttir *et al.*, 2015). Interestingly, nutrient-stressed environmental conditions, as found in the aftermath of algal

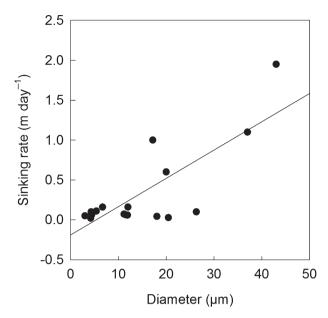


Fig. 4. Sinking rate (SR) of diatoms (m d⁻¹) *versus* cell diameter (D; μ m). Data were obtained from Smayda (1970) and Waite *et al.* (1997), and are based on laboratory measurements of sinking rates of ten actively growing diatom species (including several strains) ranging in size from 3 to 40 μ m [SR = 0.0355D - 0.1901 (r^2 = 0.63; P < 0.05)].

blooms, lead to nutrient-deficient phytoplankton that can either pass through the grazer's gut intact, or result in reduced grazer ingestion rates (Van Donk & Hessen, 1993). In line with this, the low-food-value of slow growing algae can be an efficient defence strategy in nutrient-depleted environments (Van Donk & Hessen, 1993; Yoshida et al., 2003; Yoshida, Hairston & Ellner, 2004). Certain physiological changes (e.g. production of chemical compounds) can also appear under adverse abiotic or biotic environmental conditions, thus suggesting other metabolic roles [e.g. offensive (see Driscoll, Hackett & Ferrière, 2016, and references therein) or allelopathic (Bar-Yosef et al., 2010)] besides defensive. Evidence for physiological defensive traits is summarized in Appendix A2. A detailed description of chemical compounds produced by phytoplankton is beyond the scope of this review.

(a) Cue-activated increased production of constitutive chemicals

The evolutionary coexistence of prey and predator may impact the levels of toxins produced by phytoplankton, meaning that the induced responses of prey coinciding in evolutionary time and space with predators might be different from responses to predators with greater temporal and spatial distance (Bergkvist, Selander & Pavia, 2008). Moreover, the shared history may also determine the effects that defensive chemicals have on the herbivores (Fulton & Paerl, 1987; DeMott, Zhang & Carmichael, 1991; Colin & Dam, 2003; Bergkvist, Selander & Pavia, 2008).

Three major types of grazer responses have been observed: (i) no response to the chemicals; (i) low feeding rates on toxic

algae when offered as a sole diet, or selection against toxic algae when offered a mixed diet; and (iii) high feeding rates at first (sole or mixed diets), followed by reduced ingestion, and/or reduced metabolic rate, and/or increased mortality of the grazers. The first type of response, where a herbivore can graze on toxic algae without obvious adverse effects is often interpreted to be a result of evolutionary history between the prey and predator populations (Fulton & Paerl, 1987; Teegarden & Cembella, 1996; Colin & Dam, 2003; Wohlrab, Iversen & John, 2010). However, it may simply be due to the fact that the definition of 'toxic algae' refers to their toxicity to human consumers and not zooplankton.

The second type of response is commonly referred to as deterred feeding. This type of response enables the herbivore to avoid a potentially dangerous diet prior to ingesting harmful amounts, meaning that the grazer has developed the ability to recognize and avoid toxic prey (Fulton & Paerl, 1987; DeMott, Zhang & Carmichael, 1991; Teegarden & Cembella, 1996; Colin & Dam, 2002; Selander et al., 2006) either via sensing the prey (Schultz & Kiørboe, 2009) or via capturing, tasting, and then rejecting the prey (Gill & Harris, 1987; Sykes & Huntley, 1987; Xu et al., 2017). Finally, for the third type of response, the ingestion of toxic algae is required to affect the grazer, often followed by physical incapacitation and hence reduced ability to feed afterwards, or reduced growth with subsequent, long-term reduced grazing (Ives, 1987; DeMott, Zhang & Carmichael, 1991; Colin & Dam, 2003; Sopanen et al., 2011). Even though the last two types of response both result in overall reduced grazing pressure on phytoplankton, and subsequently reduced growth or increased mortality of the grazers, they may have very different implications to the prey. The prey organisms that are avoided in the first place, or captured and instantly rejected by the grazers, will survive and consequently gain a competitive advantage. It is straightforward to comprehend how this strategy may have evolved. On the contrary, it is difficult to understand the benefits of the last type of response, as this requires elimination of some cells to elicit a response, and hence, could only evolve if the prey population mainly consists of closely related cells ('kin selection'). Moreover, reduced grazing due to toxic effects on the grazer is equally beneficial to competing algal species, and thus does not provide the producer of the toxin any competitive advantage. This still remains an unresolved issue, and is very different from physiological defences in terrestrial plants: a tree can afford to lose a few toxic leaves to kill or repel its consumers, but a single-celled phytoplankton

The levels of paralytic shellfish toxins (PSTs) produced by a number of dinoflagellate genera, and microcystins produced by a few genera of cyanobacteria, increase with direct or indirect exposure to grazers (Selander *et al.*, 2006; Jang, Jung & Takamura, 2007). From the studies summarized in Appendix A2, it is clear that in some – but far from all – cases, increased toxin production is advantageous to the phytoplankton, and that the observed responses of the

grazers to toxic dinoflagellates or cyanobacteria are not only diverse but also depend on the particular combination of prey and predator as well as on the strains involved (also see Turner, 2014 and references therein).

The costs of PST production are much more difficult to assess than the benefits. A few attempts to quantify these costs through changes in growth have yielded similar results: induced cells (elevated PST production) grow as fast as uninduced cells (Selander et al., 2006; Bergkvist, Selander & Pavia, 2008), and toxic and non-toxic strains of the same species grow at the same rate (John et al., 2015). This apparent lack of cost may, however, depend on nutrient conditions. Dinoflagellates generally produce PSTs in N:P balanced (N:P = 16), and/or high-N (N:P > 16) environments, but not under low-N (N:P < 16) conditions (Béchemin et al., 1999; Maestrini et al., 2000; Guisande et al., 2002; John & Flynn, 2002; Selander, Cervin & Pavia, 2008; Lim et al., 2010). Similarly, waterborne cues from the mesozooplankton Acartia sp. have been found to increase the production of PSTs in the dinoflagellate Alexandrium minutum in N-high, but not in N-low environments, suggesting that toxin production is dependent on nitrogen availability (Selander, Cervin & Pavia, 2008). Moreover, PSTs are synthesized in the G₁ phase of the cell cycle, whose duration can be prolonged by external factors such as temperature or phosphate limitation (Taroncher-Oldenburg, Kulis & Anderson, 1999). Thus, increased duration of the cell cycle due to phosphate limitation may result in cellular accumulation of PSTs, but as soon as P-replete conditions are restored high growth rates are regained and subsequently the PST quota per cell decreases (Lippemeier et al., 2003). Since PST is an alkaloid rich in nitrogen (C:N = 1.4; average C:N ratio in dinoflagellates is 4.9) (Menden-Deuer & Lessard, 2000), it is likely that nitrogen rather than carbon or phosphorus will limit PST production (e.g. Flynn et al., 1994; Lippemeier et al., 2003; Selander, Cervin & Pavia, 2008). Overall, this means that the costs of defence may be unmeasurably low when resources are plentiful, but could be more significant in N-depleted environments, although this still remains to be demonstrated. To date, no attempts have been made to measure the cost of elevated production of cyanobacterial toxins.

Some diatoms of the genus *Pseudo-nitzschia* can produce domoic acid (DA), and cellular DA content increases with exposure to copepod grazers (Harōardóttir *et al.*, 2015). The proposed role of DA as a chemical defence mechanism in this genus is still under debate, since there is little evidence of a correlation between grazing rates and DA content (Olson *et al.*, 2008; Harōardóttir *et al.*, 2015). Despite its inducibility and potential effects on grazers, no association exists between elevated production of DA and a cost to its production in terms of growth rates (Harōardóttir *et al.*, 2015). However, as DA is an amino acid and the synthesis of amino acids requires nitrogen, it may be that dependence on nitrogen availability represents a potential cost of DA production that would become evident only under N-limiting conditions.

(b) Grazing-activated production of chemicals

chemical substances in phytoplankton grazing-activated (wound-activated or post-ingestionactivated). Here, phytoplankton cells must be injured, which often means eliminated, before the chemicals actually affect the herbivores. Therefore, such grazing-activated chemical compounds will be beneficial to the algae only if at least part of the population is comprised of clonal or closely related cells ('kin selection'). However, this strategy will also be beneficial to their competitors (e.g. Flynn & Irigoien, 2009). The production of compounds, such as apo-fucoxanthinoids in diatoms and dimethylsulphoniopropionate (DMSP) in haptophytes increases when the cells become stressed due to environmental limitations (Shaw, Andersen & Harrison, 1997; Fredrickson & Strom, 2009), suggesting that these chemical substances may have other metabolic functions besides defence.

Even though there is evidence that apo-fucoxanthinoids produced by a few diatom species reduce grazer feeding activity (Appendix A2) (Shaw, Andersen & Harrison, 1997), it remains unclear whether this observed reduction is due to low feeding rates on harmful prey (the component acts as a deterrent) or physical incapacitation of the grazers. The costs of apo-fucoxanthinoid production to the diatoms are unknown.

When algal cells are subjected to either physical or chemical stresses that cause cell lysis, the algal DMSP becomes exposed to the enzyme DMSP lyase that triggers the production of dimethyl sulphide (DMS) and acrylate (Wolfe, Steinke & Kirst, 1997). However, activity of DMSP lyase is strain-specific; strains with high-activity DMSP lyase exhibit 33% slower growth than low-activity DMSP lyase strains (Wolfe & Steinke, 1996), possibly indicating very high costs of producing and storing DMSP-cleaving enzymes. High-activity DMSP lyase, however, appears beneficial to the algae, as reduced grazing rates of herbivore microzooplankton have been observed in a sole diet (Wolfe & Steinke, 1996; Wolfe, Steinke & Kirst, 1997; Strom et al., 2003). Moreover, grazers avoid or reject the toxic prey in a mixed diet, although the presence of high-activity DMSP lyase strains does not impair feeding on preferred prey (Wolfe, Steinke & Kirst, 1997; Strom et al., 2003), thus indicating that DMSP and its products are potential grazing deterrents (Appendix A2). By contrast, the chemical signature of DMSP and related compounds can act as a cue that attracts foragers, as observed in the dinoflagellate Oxyrrhis marina (Seymour et al., 2010). Also, these compounds may induce what has been interpreted as search behaviour in the copepod *Temora* longicornis [but not in Calanus helgolandicus (Breckels et al., 2013)], which may then lead to increased foraging of this copepod on herbivorous microzooplankton (Steinke, Stefels & Stamhuis, 2006). Steinke, Stefels & Stamhuis (2006) speculate that these chemical compounds may mediate tritrophic interactions among DMSP-producing phytoplankton, microzooplankton, and mesozooplankton. Local elevations in DMSP/DMS concentrations can also alert higher-order predators, such as planktivorous reef fish (DeBose, Lema &

Nevitt, 2008) or seabirds (Nevitt, Veit & Kareiva, 1995) to large aggregations of zooplankton, therefore indirectly reducing mortality of DMSP-producing phytoplankton. Overall, the potential benefit of DMSP as a defence mechanism appears to be complex, since it may reduce grazing mortality (directly or indirectly), but at the same time attract other grazers.

Another group of wound-activated chemical compounds comprises volatile oxidation products of the membrane lipids, as found in some bloom-forming diatom species (Wichard et al., 2005; Ianora, Miralto & Romano, 2012). Chemical compounds from this group have low acute toxicity effects on adult planktonic grazers, but depress the viability of grazer gametes (D'Ippolito et al., 2002; Pohnert et al., 2002) and offspring (Miralto et al., 1999; D'Ippolito et al., 2002; Pohnert et al., 2002; Ianora et al., 2004; Fontana et al., 2007) (Appendix A2). However, it has been argued that this so-called 'insidious' effect (i.e. killing the offspring of the grazer) cannot be evolutionarily sustained as a defence mechanism, as it is not beneficial to the producers over the time scales from ingestion to a potential reduction in grazing, and because competing species are equally benefited (Flynn & Irigoien, 2009). Nonetheless, since metabolically valuable fatty acids are direct precursors for the production of volatile products, the diatoms avoid the expense of producing alternative secondary metabolites (Pohnert et al., 2002). However, producing and storing the enzymes responsible for the lipid enzymatic cascade may represent a potential cost, which must still be quantified.

(c) Exopolymer substances

Another type of chemical substances produced by phytoplankton is extracellular exopolymer material. These exopolymers can reduce feeding rates of grazers either by indirectly serving as an alternative food source, hence reducing ingestion of the cells (Passow & Alldredge, 1999), or directly by depressing grazer feeding (Dutz, Breteler & Kramer, 2005). Increased production of transparent exopolymer particles (TEPs) in *Phaeocystis globosa* is directly linked with bloom progression. Thus, elevated TEP concentrations in the surroundings could result from predation and disruption of colonies (Dutz, Breteler & Kramer, 2005) (Appendix A2), or simply from changed nutrient status of the cells as the bloom develops (i.e. an overflow mechanism). Similarly, the presence of a mucus layer of exopolymer secretions (EPS) outside the cell wall of the 'Texas brown tide'-forming pelagophyte Aureoumbra lagunensis reduces herbivore grazing rates, and consequently their growth rates (Liu & Buskey, 2000) (Appendix A2). EPS production increases with age of the Aureoumbra sp. population as well as under hypersaline conditions (see Liu & Buskey, 2000). Production costs of TEP and EPS are unquantified, but may be minimal if the synthesis of exopolymer substances is part of an overflow mechanism.

(d) Bioluminescence

A minority of marine dinoflagellates are bioluminescent in nature (Buskey & Swift, 1983). Luminescence can be induced by grazer-associated infochemicals (Lindström et al., 2017), and the emission capacity of dinoflagellates is determined by environmental conditions such as nutrient levels, light, temperature, and salinity (see White, 1979 and references therein). Under favourable conditions, bioluminescence leads to decreased feeding efficiency on dinoflagellates either directly (Esaias & Curl, 1972; White, 1979; Buskey, Mills & Swift, 1983; Buskey & Swift, 1983) or indirectly (Mensinger & Case, 1992; Fleisher & Case, 1995) (Appendix A2). A direct reduction in feeding efficiency is mediated by disrupted grazer swimming behaviour in response to flashing dinoflagellates (Buskey, Mills & Swift, 1983; Buskey & Swift, 1983). Indirect reductions may come about through the hypothesized 'burglar alarm' effect: flashes of light attract secondary predators that reduce grazer numbers, which could then lead to reduced mortality of the light-emitting dinoflagellate (Mensinger & Case, 1992; Fleisher & Case, 1995). The potential cost is in the synthesis of scintillons, organelles responsible for the emission of light in dinoflagellates. Scintillons comprise three components needed for light emission: the substrate luciferin, a luciferin-binding protein, and the enzyme luciferase, with each of the two proteins being active at a different pH (Schultz et al., 2005). The reaction that leads to the emission of light is thus pH dependent (Hastings, 1983; Schultz et al., 2005), and may only require energy (in terms of ATP) for opening voltage-gated channels in the scintillon membrane (Schultz et al., 2005).

(e) Low-food-value algae

Nutrient-limiting environmental conditions, as found following phytoplankton blooms, lead to nutrient-deficient (low-food-value) algae that can either pass through the grazer's gut intact to a greater extent than nutrient-sufficient cells (Van Donk & Hessen, 1993), result in reduced ingestion rates of grazers (Cowles, Olson & Chisholm, 1988; Van Donk & Hessen, 1993), and/or cause low growth rates of grazers (Yoshida et al., 2003; Yoshida, Hairston & Ellner, 2004) (Appendix A2). However, it remains unknown whether such nutrient-deficient cells can be detected (and rejected) by herbivores before ingestion. Low-food-value algae are thus less-edible prey, which either represents an efficient strategy for grazing resistance in nutrient-depleted environments, or simply is an unavoidable effect of the low nutritional value of nutrient-starved cells. However, for Chlorella sp., the growth rate of a population under nutrient-deficient conditions and in the presence of grazers ('defended algae') was 28% below that of a population grown under the same nutrient deficiency but in the absence of grazers ('undefended algae') (Yoshida, Hairston & Ellner, 2004), indicating that this strategy has an associated cost.

(3) Behavioural defences

Resting stages and motility state may function as grazer-avoidance adaptations. It has been suggested that reduced excystment of resting cysts in the presence of high grazer abundance (Hansson, 1996, 2000; Rengefors, Karlsson & Hansson, 1998) and induced production of temporary cysts in the presence of parasites (Toth *et al.*, 2004) represent such adaptations. Motility itself can be viewed as a grazer-avoidance adaptation in phytoplankton since motile organisms can avoid grazers, for instance by increased swimming velocities away from grazers, or by escape jumps when entrained in a grazer feeding current (Jakobsen, 2001; Harvey & Menden-Deuer, 2012). Evidence of behavioural defences is summarized in Appendix A3.

(a) Resting stages

A common trait among phytoplankton is the production of dormant resting stages, such as cysts in dinoflagellates or spores in diatoms, which have been regarded as a strategy for survival during periods of adverse environmental conditions (see Rengefors, Karlsson & Hansson, 1998 and references therein). Moreover, some phytoplankton can respond to unfavourable abiotic as well as biotic environmental conditions by forming temporary cysts that, unlike dormant cysts, can hatch within a few hours (see Lundgren & Granéli, 2011, and references therein; Toth et al., 2004). Regardless of what factors induce the formation of cysts or spores, empirical evidence indicates that they can function as a defence mechanism against parasite infection (Toth et al., 2004) as well as predation (Montresor, Nuzzo & Mazzocchi, 2003; Kuwata & Tsuda, 2005; Lundgren & Granéli, 2011). The presence of parasites in the environment induces life-history shifts in the dinoflagellate Alexandrium ostenfeldii, which rapidly forms temporary cysts that are more resistant to infection than vegetative cells (Toth et al., 2004). The function of cysts as a defence mechanism against grazing can be seen as: (i) a predator-avoidance strategy, where germination rates decrease or are completely suppressed when grazing zooplankton are present (Hansson, 1996, 2000; Rengefors, Karlsson & Hansson, 1998); and (ii) a morphological defence strategy, since cysts are relatively inedible to mesozooplankton (reduced ingestion rates by >75%) owing to their morphological properties (Montresor, Nuzzo & Mazzocchi, 2003; Lundgren & Granéli, 2011). The trade-offs are fairly straightforward: encysted cells experience much lower grazing mortality and parasitic attacks, but pay a cost in the form of lost opportunities for resource acquisition and proliferation.

(b) Motility

Several species from various phytoplankton groups are motile. Motile organisms can regulate their movement behaviour based on chemical or hydromechanical cues from grazers, for example, by directed swimming away from regions of high herbivore concentrations (Harvey &

Menden-Deuer, 2012), or by escape jumps when entrained in zooplankton feeding currents (Jakobsen, 2001). In addition, motile prey when captured by microzooplankton may escape by jumping or swimming away (Jakobsen, Everett & Strom, 2006; Nielsen & Kiørboe, 2015). However, changes in swimming behaviour are only effective against certain grazing strategies, for example, when the grazer generates a fluid signal strong enough for the prey to detect it. Grazer-induced changes in phytoplankton movement behaviour generally lead to reduced grazer ingestion rates due to decreased encounter rates, and thus increased survivorship of the prev (Buskey, 1997; Jakobsen, 2001; Tillmann & Reckermann, 2002; Jakobsen, Everett & Strom, 2006; Selander et al., 2011; Harvey & Menden-Deuer, 2012). Such changes in behaviour may provide a clear benefit in terms of predator avoidance, but again involve certain costs. Firstly, swimming itself requires energy, although it is usually considered relatively inexpensive for microbes (Berg, 1993). Powerful escape jumps, however, are energetically costly, but such events are typically rare and brief, and so represent only a minute fraction of the organism's energy budget (Jiang, 2011). Secondly and probably more importantly, are the costs associated with the production and maintenance of a propulsion apparatus (one or a few flagella, or many cilia); these are difficult to quantify, but may also be low (Johnson et al., 2009). Finally, the most significant cost to motility is an elevated predation risk for motile phytoplankton compared to non-motile, because motility itself can lead to increased encounters with predators. In addition, rheotactic predators (e.g. copepods) may detect fluid disturbances generated by swimming cells that can consequently lead to elevated encounter rates with the predator (Kiørboe et al., 2014). While motility will have other functions, such as foraging in mixotrophs, or locating nutrient patches in autotrophs, there will be an obvious trade-off between escaping and hiding strategies.

III. CONCLUSIONS

- (1) At steady state, the number of coexisting species in phytoplankton communities cannot exceed the number of limiting resources unless additional mechanisms are involved. One such mechanism is predation, which may increase the diversity of phytoplankton communities by facilitating the evolution of defence mechanisms, provided that the employment of defences has an associated cost. While empirical and theoretical studies have documented the importance of predation in maintaining and enhancing biodiversity, the function of many proposed defence mechanisms still remains elusive, and any trade-offs often remain unquantified or unknown.
- (2) Many suggested defensive traits are inducible, that is, their intensity increases in the presence of grazers or grazer cues. This suggests that these proposed traits indeed have a defensive function, whether or not the mechanism is understood. It also suggests the presence of a cost to such

defences: if there was no cost, why would phytoplankton only use these defences when needed?

- (3) In response to grazing, phytoplankton have evolved various morphological defensive traits. Size per se offers partial protection against grazing, as larger cells are subject to lower mortality than smaller cells, and this is traded off against lower growth rates (which may partly account for the size diversity of phytoplankton communities). Variations in size can also be achieved through colony formation (or suppression of colony formation) in response to grazing pressure. However, such size modifications are only beneficial against certain grazers (e.g. mesozooplankton) and can simultaneously promote grazing by other zooplankton (e.g. microzooplankton). Associated costs include impaired chain formation in motile phytoplankton that perform diel vertical migrations (e.g. Alexandrium spp.) leading to reduced ability to complete such migrations due to insufficient swimming velocities, and increased size-associated sinking speeds in large non-motile organisms. To mitigate the latter problem, colonial cells often contain more lipids than unicells (e.g. Scenedesmus spp.), which may be interpreted as an additional buoyancy mechanism to reduce sinking. Synthesis of lipids, however, will have a cost. Additionally, increases in size can lead to a reduction of chlorophyll-specific light absorption coefficients as well as nutrient uptake under nutrient-limiting conditions due to competition among colonial cells. These costs will depend strongly on environmental conditions, but can be quantified.
- (4) The presence of calcite armour in coccolithophores and silicified cell walls in diatoms may reduce grazing mortality. Surprisingly, experimental evidence supporting mechanical protection against grazing by the shell remains limited. Even though calcification and silicification seem to be rather inexpensive processes in terms of energy expenditure, the dependency of coccolithophores and diatoms on ambient concentrations of inorganic calcium and silicon represents an obvious cost that can only be evaluated in the context of the prevailing environmental conditions. The impact of calcification and silicification on loss rates *via* sinking out of the euphotic zone is another cost that appears to be small relative to the typical growth rates of coccolithophores and diatoms.
- (5) Phytoplankton produce a variety of chemical substances that have proposed defensive functions. Their effects on grazers are very variable: no response, deterred feeding, and toxic. Toxic effects cannot be considered a defensive trait since they will also benefit competitors. Therefore, cheaters should thrive, and it is difficult to envisage how such defence mechanisms could evolve as they seem to be an evolutionarily unstable strategy. Interpretation of these compounds as defensive compounds is partly inspired by comparison with defensive chemicals in terrestrial plants; however, unlike a tree or a bush that can afford to sacrifice a few leaves to deter grazers, the phytoplankton cell would die. Clearly, there is a need for theoretical exploration of how such 'defences' could evolve and function. Nonetheless, there are a few cases where convincing deterrent effects have been described, for example, when a cell is not eaten due to production of a chemical substance. Also, chemicals

- with a suspected defensive function may attract secondary predators. The evolutionary coexistence of prey and predator may determine what effects those chemicals will have on the grazers.
- (6) Resting stages and motility can be viewed as behavioural defence mechanisms in phytoplankton, and for these defensive traits the assessment of benefits and costs is fairly straightforward. For instance, delayed excystment due to unfavourable biotic conditions leads to lost opportunities for resource acquisition and proliferation, but at the same time reduces grazing mortality. Motile cells that are captured by herbivores can sever contact with a predator by jumping or swimming away, again reducing grazing mortality. On the other hand, fluid disturbances generated by swimming cells can be detected by rheotactic grazers, leading to elevated encounter rates and consequently increased mortality.
- (7) Although many morphological, physiological, and behavioural defence mechanisms in phytoplankton are described, the associated trade-offs are often not considered. In many cases even the benefits of employing certain defences are undocumented, and often the costs remain unknown and unquantified (Appendices A1-A3). One reason for this lack of experimental evidence for the costs of defence mechanisms is that these costs are often only realized under natural conditions, for example, when vertical migration is prevented due to reduced swimming speeds; or when the employment of certain traits depends on the availability of specific nutrients. In such cases, a mechanistic understanding of the component processes (e.g. reduced swimming speed due to grazer-induced unicellularity in chain-forming phytoplankton), combined with simple fitness-optimization models may allow quantification of the costs under specific environmental conditions (e.g. depth of mixed layer). Another reason for the lack of cost estimates is that some costs may be manifest only when cells are resource limited. Resource-sufficient environments, to which experimental organisms are most often exposed, can support resourceand energy-demanding growth, reproduction, and defence, as there is no conflict in resource allocation between growth and defence. However, when an organism is exposed to nutrient-deficient conditions, a metabolic rivalry for limiting resources between growth and defence is more likely to occur. Examples of this include reduced light harvesting in colonial cells that only takes place under light-limiting conditions; or reduced growth of toxin-producing cells (N-rich toxins) that may be found only under nitrogen-limiting conditions.
- (8) Based on the above findings, two strategies for quantifying the costs of defences can be suggested: (i) for defence costs that are only realized under natural conditions, the evaluation of costs (and benefits) requires a mechanistic understanding of the hypothesized component processes. (ii) The magnitude of growth reduction should be assessed under conditions of resource limitation. In order to isolate the relevant resource(s) that should be limited in such experiments (e.g. nitrogen for PST-producing cells, or light for colony formation), an understanding of the processes involved in the defence is required. Simple

fitness-optimization models can then be used to predict the optimal strategy and assess trade-offs under a range of relevant environmental conditions; a similar approach has been employed in studies on foraging or vertical migration trade-offs in zooplankton (e.g. Visser, 2007; Sainmont, Thygesen & Visser, 2013).

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APPENDICES. MORPHOLOGICAL, PHYSIOLOGICAL AND BEHAVIOURAL DEFENSIVE TRAITS IN PHYTOPLANKTON

benefits and costs. *, defensive traits that were not induced by grazers, but were solely compared with prey that do not possess the defence mechanisms (e.g. naked E. huxleyi versus calcified E. huxleyi); –, no differences observed; ?, not reported, not examined, or unknown benefits of specific defensive traits, as phytoplankton were not exposed Appendix A1. Morphological defence mechanisms in phytoplankton, when exposed to specific grazers at given environmental conditions as well as assessments of associated directly to grazers but only to their cues/filtrate

-	-	Environmental		, c		٠
Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	characteristics	Detensive trait	Beneht	Cost	Keterence
Scenedesmus subspicatus	Daphnia magna	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation (spine-armoured cells)	Reduced clearance rate of grazers by 30–44%	ſ	Hessen & Van Donk (1993)
Scenedesmus acutus	Daphnia magna	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	I		Lampert, Rothhaupt & von Elert (1994)
Scenedesmus obliquus	Daphnia magna filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium and Microgrstis aeruginosa connetitor	I	c.	I	Zhu et al. (2015)
Scenedesmus acutus	Daphnia magna filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium	Cell-size increase and colony formation	ć.	Reduced carrying capacity (cells ml ⁻¹) by 32%	Lürling (1998)
Scenedesmus acutus	Daphnia magna filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	C	Increased settling velocities by 77%	Lürling & Van Donk (2000)
Scenedesmus obliquus	Ceriodaphnia reticulata filtrate Daphnia	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	c.		Lürling (2003)
	galeata × hyalina filtrate Daphnia magna filtrate Daphnia pulicaria filtrate					
Scenedesmus acutus	Daphnia cucullata	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	Reduced clearance rate by 35% and population growth rate of grazers by 28%	I	Lürling & Van Donk (1996)
Scenedesmus acutus	Daphnia pulex Daphnia magna filtrate	P-insufficient medium	Colony formation	· .	I	O'Donnell, Fey & Cottingham (2013)
Scenedesmus acutus	Daphnia magna filtrate Daphnia galeata filtrate	P-sufficient medium Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	o.	1	Lürling & Van Donk (1997)
	Brachionus calyciflorus filtrate Eudiaptomus gracilis filtrate Bosmina longirostris filtrate					

Appendix A1. Continued	pər					
Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Scenedesmus acutus	Daphnia cucullata Daphnia magna	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	Reduced clearance rate by 61–96% and population growth rate of grazers by 32% Reduced clearance rate by 0–93%, and population	Increased fatty acid concentration by 71% and changed composition	Lürling, De Lange & Van Donk (1997)
Scenedesmus obliquus	Daphmia cucullata			growth rate of grazers by 5% Reduced clearance rate by 61–96% and	Increased fatty acid concentration by	
	Daphnia magna			population grown rate of grazers by 32% Reduced clearance rate by 0–93% and population growth rate of grazers	composition	
Scenedesmus subspicatus	Daphnia cucullata			by 5% Reduced clearance rate by 61–96% and	Increased fatty acid concentration by	
	Daphnia magna			population grown rate of grazers by 32% Reduced clearance rate by 0–93% and population growth rate of grazers	oomposition	
Scenedesmus obliquus	Daphnia magna filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	by 5% ?	Reduced specific light absorption coefficient by 17–67%	Lürling (1999)
Phaeocystis globosa	Pseudodiaptomus poplesia filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium Nutrient-depleted	Colony formation	٥.	– Reduced growth rate hy 30%	Wang et al. (2015)
	Euplotes sp. filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium Nutrient-depleted medium				

Appendix A1. Continued

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Phaeocystis globosa	Oxymhis marina filtrate Gyrodinium dominans grazing on other algae – filtrate Glenodinium cf. danicum grazing on other algae – filtrate Temora longicomis grazing on other	Nutrient-replete medium Nutrient-depleted medium Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	ç.	Reduced growth rate by 18% -	Tang (2003)
Phaeocystis antarctica	Natural zooplankton assemblage filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation	c.	I	Tang et al. (2008)
Phaeocystis globosa	Acartia tonsa (live and filtrate) Euplotes sp. (live and filtrate)	Nutrient-replete medium	Colony formation suppressed Colony formation	Reduced feeding rate of grazers by 75% Reduced population growth rate of grazers by 68%	– Reduced growth rate by 9%	Long et al. (2007)
Phaeocystis globosa	Acartia sp.	Nutrient-replete medium P-insufficient medium N-insufficient medium	Colony formation suppressed	Increased mortality of grazers by 8–19% Increased mortality of magers by 8–46%	1	Lundgren & Granéli (2010)
Phaeocystis globosa	Noctiluca scintillans Gyodinium dominans	Nutrient–replete medium	Colony formation	Reduced population growth rate of grazers by > 89%	I	Jakobsen & Tang (2002)
Microcystis aeruginosa	Ochomonas sp. filtrate	Nutrient–replete medium	Colony formation	Reduced clearance rate by 83% and population growth rate of grazers by 23%	Increased settling velocities by 86%; effective quantum field of photosystem II decreased	Yang et al. (2009)
Desmodesmus subspicatus	Daphnia kairomone	Nutrient-replete medium and Monoraphidium griffithii competitor	Colony formation	c.	Increased competitive exclusion rate	Yokota & Sterner (2011)

Appendix A1. Continued

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Skeletonema marinoi	Acartia tonsa	Nutrient-replete	Chain formation	Reduced clearance rate of	ı	Bergkvist et al. (2012)
	Centropages hamatus	moanan	Chain formation	grazera by 30.70		
	Temora longicorniys		suppressed Chain formation	ċ.		
	Gyrodinium dominans		suppressed Chain formation	ć.		
Skeletonema marinoi	Acartia clausi	Nutrient–replete medium	Chain formation suppressed	Reduced clearance rate of grazers by	I	Bjærke et al. (2015)
	Strobilidium spiralis		Chain formation	Reduced clearance rate of orazers by 100%		
Cochlodinium polykrikoides	Acartia tonsa	Nutrient replete medium	Chain formation	Reduced clearance rate of grazers by 84%	I	Jiang, Lonsdale & Gobler (2010)
Alexandrium tamarense	Centropages typicus (live and filtrate)	Nutrient—replete medium	Chain formation suppressed	Potentially reduced encounter rates with grazers due to reduced velocity by >38%	I	Selander et al. (2011)
Alexandrium tamarense	Calanus sp. filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium	Chain formation suppressed	ė.	I	Selander et al. (2012)
	Centropages typicus filtrate		:			
Thalassiosira weissflogü	Activita tonsa mirate Calanus helgolandicus filtrate	Nutrient–replete medium	Cell wall silicification	٥.	I	Pondaven et al. (2007)
Thalassiosira weissflogii	Parvocalanus crassirostris	Nutrient—replete medium and low irradiance	Cell wall silicification*	Reduced clearance rate by 43–68%, fecundity of grazers by 88%, and egg hatching success by 71% relative to T. weisylogii at high	Reduced growth rate by 67%	Liu et al. (2016)
Emiliania huxleyi	Oxyrrhis marina	Nutrient-replete medium	Calcified cells*	Reduced population growth rate of grazers by 66% relative to	I	Harvey et al. (2015)
	Gyrodinium dominans			Reduced ingestion rate by 29% and population growth rate of grazers by 35% relative to naked cells		

Kolb & Strom (2013)Dutz & Koski (2006) Reference Cost Reduced ingestion rate on relative to non-flagellate Reduced ingestion rate of grazer-exposed haploid Reduced ingestion rate by Reduced ingestion rate of grazers on haploid prey by 89% compared to >99% and population growth rate of grazers by 73% relative to increased mortality of cells by 18-91% and poor development of grazers by 19–88%; compared to naïve solitary flagellate prey by 25-43%haploid prey diploid prey naked cells grazers on grazers Benefit (unknown defence mechanism) Defensive trait Cell type?* Cell type?* Nutrient-replete Nutrient-replete Environmental characteristics medium *Temora longicomis* nauplii Protoperidinium sp. Strombidinopsis Zooplankton acuminatum (solitary flagellate) haploid stage (non-calcified) Phaeocystis globosa Emiliania huxleyi Phytoplankton

Appendix A2. Physiological defence mechanisms in phytoplankton, when exposed to specific grazers at given environmental conditions as well as assessments of associated benefits and costs. –, no differences observed; ?, not reported, not examined, or unknown benefits of specific defensive traits, as phytoplankton were not exposed directly to grazers but only to their cues/filtrate. A-FX, apo-fucoxanthinoid; DA, domoic acid; DMSP, dimethylsulphoniopropionate; EPS, exopolymer substance; HEPEs, hydroxyeicosapentaenoic acids; HepETEs, hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acids; PST, paralytic shellfish toxin; PUAs, polyunsaturated aldehydes; TEP, transparent exopolymer particle

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Alexandrium minutum (two strains)	Acartia clause	Nutrient-replete medium	PST	Mortality of g	grazers –	Bergkvist, Selander & Pavia (2008)
,	Centropages typicus			Mortality of g	grazers	, ,
Alexandrium minutum	Acartia tonsa	Nutrient-replete medium and Prorocentrum micans	PST	Reduced clearates on A. minutum by (sole diet) a 31% (mixe	18% and	Selander <i>et al.</i> (2006)
Alexandrium minutum (two strains)	Acartia tonsa	Nutrient-replete medium, or P-insufficient medium N-insufficient medium	PST	?	· _	Selander, Cervin & Pavia (2008)
Alexandrium tamarense	Calanus helgolandicus		PST	Affected escar behaviour 29% of individuals died	of ; 14%	Wohlrab, Iversen 8 John (2010)
	Acartia clausi			Affected escal behaviour 10% of individuals died	of ; 40%	
	Oithona similis			Affected escal behaviour 65% of individuals died	of	
Gymnodinium catenatum	Euterpina acutifrons	Nutrient replete medium	PST	Reduced ingerates within by 42–72% 50% mortarate after 5	n 24 h %; ality	da Costa, Carneiro Pereira & Ferrnández (2012)
	Acartia grani			Reduced inge rates within by 44–58% 50% morta rate after 5	estion n 24 h %; ality	
Alexandrium lusitanicum	Acartia clausi	Nutrient-replete medium	PST	Affected fecur as gross gro efficiency decreased l 57% with increased c	ndity, – bowth by	Dutz (1998)
Alexandrium ostenfeldii	Eurytemora affinis	Nutrient-replete medium	PST	Little to no grapid behavioura disturbance high cell concentrat 60–95% o individuals	al es at ion in f	Sopanen <i>et al.</i> (2011)

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
7.1	Acartia bifilosa			Little to no grazing rapid behavioural disturbances at high cell concentration in 35–70% of individuals		
Alexandrium fundyense	Acartia hudsonica (two geographically distinct species)	Nutrient-replete medium and <i>Tetraselmis</i> sp.	PST	Clearance rates of naïve copepods on toxic prey 70–100% lower relative to non-toxic; metabolic rate decreased by 33%; no impact on native copepods		Colin & Dam (2003)
Karenia mikimotoi	Pseudocalanus elongatus	Nutrient-replete medium and <i>Gyrodinium instriatum</i>	PST	Clearance rates on K. mikimotoi in mixed diet 67–85% lower relative to K. mikimotoi in sole diet	_	Schultz & Kiørboe (2009)
	Temora longicornis			Clearance rates on K. mikimotoi in mixed diet 75% lower relative to K. mikimotoi in sole diet		
Alexandrium ostenfeldii (two strains)	Favela ehrenbergii	Nutrient-replete medium	PST	Induced backward swimming, swelling, and lysis at high cell concentration	_	Hansen, Cembella & Moestrup (1992)
Alexandrium tamarense (several strains)	Favela ehrenbergii	Nutrient-replete medium	PST	Induced backward swimming, swelling, and lysis at high cell concentration	_	Hansen (1989)
Alexandrium tamarense	Eurytemora herdmani	Nutrient-replete medium and Lingulodinium polyedrum	PST	–	_	Teegarden & Cembella (1996)
Alexandrium	Acartia tonsa Eurytemora herdmani			No or little grazing on A. tamarense in mixed diet No or little grazing		
fundyense	Acartia tonsa			on A. fundyense in mixed diet		
Karenia brevis	Acarua tonsa Calanus pacificus	Nutrient-replete medium and Gyrodinium resplendens	PST (?)	Clearance rates on <i>K. brevis</i> 53% lower	_	Huntley et al. (1986

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Scrippsiella acumina	ta Calanus pacificus			Clearance rates on S. acuminata 71% lower	rates than 'non-rejected' (non-toxic or less toxic)	,
Protoceratium reticulatum	Calanus pacificus			Clearance rates on <i>P. reticulatum</i> 69% lower; mortality increased by 80%; no egg production	_	,
	Paracalanus parvus			Clearance rates on P. reticulatum 36% lower	1 (/	
Karenia brevis	Calanus pacificus	?	PST (?)	Erratic mouthpart movements; nervous twitching of mouthparts; accelerated heart beat		Sykes & Huntley (1987)
Scrippsiella acumina	ta			Occasional mouthpart twitching; animals failed to maintain full guts	S	
Protoceratium reticulatum				Animals regurgitated their gut content; failed to maintain full gut; ceased feeding	c	
Alexandrium fundyense	Acartia hudsonica (two geographi- cally distinct species)	Nutrient-replete medium and non-toxic Alexandrium tamarense	PST	Ingestion rates of native and naïve animals on toxic A. fundyense in mixed diet by 67% and 84% lower, respectively	_	Senft-Batoh et al. (2015)
Alexandrium fundyense	Temora longicornis	Nutrient-replete medium and <i>Rhodomonas lens</i>	PST	Increased swimming velocity by 21% (increased theoretical encounter rates with secondary predators by 56%)	_	Lasley-Rasher et al. (2016)
Non-toxic Pseudo-nitzschia pungens in dissolved DA	Euphausia pacifica	Nutrient-replete medium	DA	Ingestion rates reduced by 43–73% with increased DA concentration	_	Bargu, Lefebvre & Silver (2006)
Pseudo-nitzschia seriata Pseudo-nitzschia obtusa	Calanus spp.	Nutrient-replete medium	DA	_	_	Harðardóttir <i>et al.</i> (2015)

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Pseudo-nitzschia seriata	Calanus finmarchicus	Nutrient-replete medium (50% Si)	DA	Ingestion rates reduced by 7:		Tammilehto et al. (2012)
	Calanus hyperboreus			(6 versus 12 h) Ingestion rates reduced by 55	8%	
Microcystis aeruginosa	Diaptomus birgei	;	Microcystin	(6 versus 12 h) Rapid mortality high cell concentration	at –	DeMott, Zhang & Carmichael (1991)
	Daphnia pulicaria			Clearance rates reduced by 90 relative to	0%	(1551)
	Daphnia hyalina			non-toxic pre Clearance rates reduced by 78 relative to	8%	
	Daphnia pulex			non-toxic pre Clearance rates reduced by 50 relative to non-toxic pre rapid mortali	0% ey;	
Microcystis aeruginosa	Daphnia ambigua	Nutrient-replete medium and Chlamydomonas reinhardi	Microcystin	Low survivorshi grazers at hig cell concentration no reproduct low filtering r on <i>M. aeruginu</i> in mixed diet	ip of— ch n; ion; rates osa	Fulton & Paerl (1987)
	Diaphanosoma brachyurum			Low survivorshi grazers at hig cell	ip of h	
	Keratella mixta			concentratior Low survivorshi grazers at hig cell	ip of ch	
	Brachionus calycifloru	s		concentratior Low growth of grazers	1	
	Diaptomus reighardi			Filtering rates o reinhardi reducat high concentration M. aeruginosa; filtering rates M. aeruginosa	ced n of low	
	Eurytemora affinis Tropocyclops prasinus Platyias patulus Bosmina longirostris			? ? ! Low survivorshi	in	
	Dosnata Wiguvsuts			growth, reproduction and filtering r of grazers	,	

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
	Ceriodaphnia			Low filtering r		
	quadrangular Sida crystallina			on M. aerugi Filtering rates		
	Sida erysidiina			reinhardi red		
				by the prese		
				of M. aerugin		
				low filtering		
	C:			on M. aerugi		
	Simocephalus serratulus			Filtering rates reinhardi red		
	3017600003			at high	acca	
				concentratio	on of	
				M. aeruginosa		
				similar on b	oth	
M	D // ·	NI I .	M	species	ı. c	т т о
Microcystis aeruginosa	Dapnnia magna	Nutrient-replete medium	Microcystin	Low survivorsl	nip oi –	Jang, Jung & Takamura (2007
	Moina macrocopa	meatum		grazers		Takamura (2007
Planktotrix agardhii	Daphnia magna					
	Moina macrocopa					
Microcystis aeruginosa	Daphnia pulicaria	Nutrient-replete	Microcystin	Reduced filter		Lampert (1981)
		medium and		rates and gr		
		Scenedesmus acutus		rates by 17- and 32-100		
				with increas		
				cell		
				concentration	on;	
				low survivor		
				of grazers (0)% in	
Toxin from	Artemia salina		Cyano-bacterial	2 days) Increasing		Hawser <i>et al.</i> (1992)
Trichodesmium	Анении заини	_	toxin	mortality of		11awse1 et at. (1992)
thiebautii			tomi	grazers with		
				increasing to		
				concentration		
	14 . 11 . 11			(up to 100%	(b)	
	Macrosetella gracilis			5		
	Miracia efferata Clausocalanus furcatu	15		Increasing		
	anasocaianas jurcara			mortality of	•	
				grazers with		
				increasing to		
				concentration		
	Famanula macilis			(up to 98%) Increasing		
	Farranula gracilis			mortality of		
				grazers with		
				increasing to		
				concentration		
A.m. o	Ourombio or	Nutriant	EPS	(up to 98%)		I in & Dl
Aureoumbra lagunensis	Oxyttuis marina	Nutrient-replete medium	LEO	Reduced grow rates of graz		Liu & Buskey (2000)
		meanin		by 16% rela		(4000)
				to low-EPS		
	Euplotes sp.			Reduced grow	rth .	
				rates by 77-	-97%	
				relative to	OV.	
				low-EPS pro	СУ	

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
	Aspidisca sp.			Reduced growth rates and clearance rates by 35% and 62–96% relative to low-EPS prey		
Thalassiosira weissflogii and Rhodomonas sp. in TEP from Phaeocystis globosa	Temora longicornis	Nutrient-replete medium, and N-insufficient medium	TEP	Reduced ingestion rates of nauplii and females by 44–84% and 21–45% relative to control (no TEP), as well as with increased TEP concentration by 64–80 and 43–56%		Dutz, Breteler & Kramer (2005)
Thalassiosira weissflogii in TEP	Euphausia pacifica	Nutrient-replete medium	ТЕР	Ingestion rates reduced by 53–89% relative to control (no TEP)	-	Passow & Alldredg (1999)
Thalassiosira pseudonana in semisynthetic compounds	Tigriopus californicus	Nutrient-replete medium	A-FX	Reduced feeding activity and increased mortality rates with increased A-FX concentration	_	Shaw, Andersen & Harrison (1997)
Chaetoceros socialis	Temora stylifera	Nutrient-replete medium	Oxylipins (HEPEs, HepETEs)		_	Fontana et al. (2007)
Chaetoceros affinis	Calanus helgolandicus Temora stylifera			Egg viability reduced by 20–100% withir 2 weeks relative to control; produced morphologically deformed naupli		
Skeletonema costatum	Calanus helgolandicus Temora stylifera	?	PUAs (linear aldehydes)	Fecundity decreased by 96% within 4 days; egg viability reduced by 100% within 7 days	_	D'Ippolito et al. (2002)
Thalassiosira rotula				Egg viability reduced by 90% within 2 weeks		

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
	Calanus helgolandicus		PUAs (decadienal)		_	Ianora et al. (2004)
Skeletonema costatum, Pseudo-nitzschia delicatissima	Acartia clausi Calanus helgolandicus	In situ study	PUAs (decatrienal, decadienal)	Egg viability reduced by 76–88% during bloom relative to post-bloom conditions Egg viability	_	Miralto et al. (1999)
Skeletonema marionoi,	Tisbe holothuriae	Nutrient-replete	PUAs	reduced by 88% during bloom relative to post-bloom conditions?	_	Taylor <i>et al.</i> (2007
Melosira nummuloides		medium				
Thalassiosira rotula Skeletonema	Calanus helgolandicus	Nutrient-replete medium	PUAs, hydrocarbons, (and long-chain saturated aldehydes) Long-chain	Egg viability reduced by 45% relative to control	_	Pohnert et al. (200
pseudocostatum			saturated aldehydes	relative to		
Emiliania huxleyi (strains with high-DMSP lyase activity)	Oxyrrhis marina	Non-DMSP- containing prey, and low-DMSP lyase activity <i>E. huxleyi</i> strains	DMSP	High-activity strains rejected or avoided in mixed diet; grazing rates reduced by 79% in sole diet relative to low-DMSP prey	_	Wolfe, Steinke & Kirst (1997)
	Dunaliella tertiolecta			High-activity strains rejected or avoided in mixed diet; grazing rates reduced by 40–98% in sole diet relative to low-DMSP prey		

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Various prey in dissolved DMSP		Nutrient-replete medium	DMSP	Feeding rates reduced by 50% relative to control	_	Fredrickson & Strom (2009)
	Favella sp.			Feeding rates reduced by 48–75% relative to control		
	Noctiluca scintillans			Feeding rates reduced by 28–40% relative		
Emiliania huxleyi (strains with high-DMSP lyase activity)	Coxliella sp.	Nutrient—replete medium and low-DMSP lyase activity <i>E. huxleyi</i> strains	DMSP	to control High-activity strains rejected or avoided in mixed diet; feeding rates reduced by 11–22% in sole diet (normal growth)	_	Strom et al. (2003)
	Strombidinopsis sp.			High-activity strains rejected or avoided in mixed diet; feeding rates reduced by 27% in sole diet (no growth)		
	Metacylis sp.			High-activity strains rejected or avoided in mixed diet; feeding rates reduced by 18–65% in sole		
	Amphidinium longum			diet High-activity strains rejected or avoided in mixed diet; feeding rates reduced by 96% in sole diet (no		
	Oxyrrhis marina Gymnodinium sp.			growth) High-activity strains rejected or avoided in mixed diet; feeding rates reduced by 63–94% in sole		
Emiliania huxleyi (high-DMSP lyase activity strain)	Oxyrrhis marina	Nutrient-replete medium	DMSP	diet (no growth) Feeding rates reduced by 58% relative to low-DMSP E. huxleyi	Growth rates 33% lower	Wolfe & Steinke (1996)

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Lingolidinium polyedra Alexandrium tamarense	Calanus finmarchicus cues	Nutrient-replete medium	Luminescence	?	-	Lindström <i>et al.</i> (2017)
Alexandrium tamarense	Acartia tonsa	Nutrient-replete medium	Luminescence	Ingestion rates reduced— by 50–75% relative to weakly		White (1979)
Lingolidinium polyedra	Calanus pacificus	Nutrient-replete medium	Luminescence	luminescent prey Ingestion rates reduced— by 30% relative to prey with reduced capacity for luminescence		Esaias & Curl (1972)
Gonyaulax acatenella	Acartia clausi			Ingestion rates redu by 36–74% relat to prey with redu capacity for luminescence	ive	
	Acartia longiremis			Ingestion rates redu by 64% relative t prey with reduced capacity for luminescence	О	
Alexandrium catanella	Calanus pacificus			Ingestion rates redu by 82% relative t prey with reduced capacity for luminescence	О	
Pyrocystis fusiformis	Holmesimysis costata (mysid) versus Porichthys notatus (fish)	Nutrient-replete medium	Luminescence – burglar alarm	Increased predation rate success of fisi on mysid by 29% presence of luminescent relat to non-luminesce dinoflagellates (consequently reduced grazing rates on luminesce	h in ive nt	Mensinger & Case (1992)
Pyrocystis fusiformis	Holmesimysis sculpta (mysid), Palaemonetes pugio (grass shrimp), Gambusia affinis (mosquito fish) versus Sepia officinalis (cuttlefish)	medium	Luminescence – burglar alarm	dinoflagellates?) Increased number of cuttlefish strikes; increased predating rate success of cuttlefish on prey 95% in presence luminescent dinoflagellates relative to contro (consequently reduced grazing rates on luminescent dinoflagellates?)	on by of	Fleisher & Case (1995)
	Palaemonetes pugio (grass shrimp) versus Euprymna scolopes (squid)			Increased number of squid strikes by 41–53% in prese of luminescent dinoflagellates relative to contro	ence	

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Scenedesmus subspicatus	Daphnia pulex	P-insufficient medium	Low-food-value algae	Ingestion rates on P-limited algae reduced by 69% relative to control	Growth rates 76% lower	Van Donk & Hessen (1993)
Selenastrum capricornatum	Daphnia pulex			Ingestion rates on P-limited algae reduced by 70–77% relative to control	Growth rates 68–72% lower	
	Daphnia magna			Ingestion rates on P-limited algae reduced by 32% relative to control	Growth rates 68% lower	
Chlorella vulgaris	Brachionus calyciflori	us N-insufficient medium	Low-food-value algae	Growth rates of grazers lower by 32% relative to control	Growth rates 28% lower	Yoshida et al. (2003)
Chlorella vulgaris	Brachionus calyciflori	us N-insufficient medium	Low-food-value algae	Growth rates of grazers lower by 32% relative to control	Growth rates 28% lower	Yoshida, Hairston & Ellner (2004)

Appendix A3. Behavioural defence mechanisms in phytoplankton, when exposed to specific grazers at given environmental conditions as well as assessments of associated benefits and costs. *, defensive traits that were not induced by grazers, but were compared with prey that do not possess that defence mechanism (e.g. motile *versus* non-motile prey); –, no differences observed.

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton/ parasite	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Ceratium hirundinella	Freshwater herbivores filtrate	Nutrient-replete medium and various temperatures	Reduced excystment	Excystment rate reduced by <61%	Missed opportunities for growth	Rengefors, Karlsson & Hansson (1998)
Peridinium aciculiferum		1		Excystment rate reduced by >48%		
Peridinium pusillum, P. wisconsinense	Freshwater herbivores	In situ study	Reduced excystment	Excystment rates reduced or suppressed entirely at high grazer abundances	Missed opportunities for growth	Hansson (1996)
Gonyostomum semen	Daphnia magna	Natural water		Excystment rate reduced by 86%		
Peridinium sp.	Daphnia magna	Natural water	Reduced excystment	Excystment rates suppressed entirely	Missed opportunities for growth	Hansson (2000)
Gonyostomum semen				Excystment rates reduced by >80% or suppressed entirely	5	

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton/ parasite	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Scrippsiella trochoidea	Acartia tonsa	Nutrient-replete medium	Temporary cysts	Ingestion rates and faecal pellet production reduced by 62% and 57% compared to vegetative cells; egg production reduced by 67%	Missed opportunities for growth	Lundgren & Granéli (2011)
Alexandrium ostenfeldii	Parasitic protozoan Parvilucifera infectans	Nutrient-replete medium	Temporary cysts	Decreased infection rate of parasites by 78%	Missed opportunities for growth	Toth et al. (2004)
Scrippsiella trochoidea Scrippsiella ramonii		Nutrient-replete medium	Resting cysts	Reduced ingestion rates by >78% compared to vegetative cells; survival rate of ingested cysts 76–81% Reduced ingestion	Missed opportunities for growth	Montresor, Nuzzo & Mazzocchi (2003)
serppotetta ramonti				rates by 75-83%		
Heterosigma akashiwo	Favella sp.	Nutrient-replete medium	Escape behaviour	Increased swimming velocity by 38%, and increased vertical speed towards refuge by 29% resulting in reduced encounter rates	- H	Harvey & Menden-Deuer (2012)
Balanion comatum	Temora longicornis (feeding-current feeder)	Nutrient-replete medium	Escape behaviour (jumping)*	Reduced ingestion rates by 93% relative to non-jumping Heterocapsa triquetra	_	Jakobsen (2001)
Lingulodinium polyedra, Prorocentrum micans	Protoperidinium pellucidum (pallium-feeder)	Nutrient-replete medium; dinoflagellate diet versus diaton diet (non-motile)		Reduced ingestion rates by 82% relative to non-motile diatom diet; 38% and 54% survivorship of dinoflagellates: of which 17% and 11% was due to escape success before, and 21% and 43% to escape success after being captured; reduced growth rates of grazers by 43% relative to non-motile diatom diet		Buskey (1997)
Heterocapsa triquetra	Noctiluca scintillans (interception- feeder)	Sole diet; mixed diet with diatom	Motility* s	Reduced ingestion rates by 84% in mixed diet, and 90% in sole diet relative to diatom diet; reduced growth rates of grazers by 70% relative to diatom diet	_ n	Kiørboe & Titelman (1998)

Appendix A3. Continued.

Phytoplankton	Zooplankton/ parasite	Environmental characteristics	Defensive trait	Benefit	Cost	Reference
Fibrocapsa japonica	Oblea rotunda (pallium-feeder)	Nutrient-replete medium	Motility	92% survivorship: of which 55% was due to escape success before, and 37% to escape success after being captured	_	Tillmann & Reckermann (2002)
Rhodomonas salina	Mesodinium pulex (ambush-feeder)	Nutrient-replete medium	Motility	100% survivorship: of which 38% was due to avoided encounter, and 62% to escape success after being captured	_	Jakobsen, Everett & Strom (2006)
Gymnodinium simplex				96% survivorship due to avoided encounter		
Heterocapsa rotundata				75% survivorship: of which 70% was due to avoided encounter, and 5% to escape success after being captured		

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