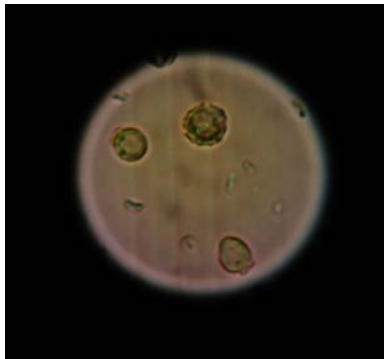


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PhD project: Interactive effects of temperature and nutrient supply on metabolism and phytoplankton community structure

Supervisor: Dr. Emilio Marañón Saínz (University of Vigo)

Summary: Marine phytoplankton is responsible for half of the annual global primary production and plays a central role in the ecology and biogeochemistry of the oceans. The main problem in biological oceanography, especially in the current context of global change, is to understand the role of the different environmental and ecological factors which affect the dynamics of phytoplankton community. The present thesis project aims to study how the interaction between two key environmental factors (temperature and resource supply) controls the competitive dynamics, diversity and metabolic activity of phytoplankton communities. The approach will consist of a combination of global database analysis and field and laboratory experiments. The final objective is to advance the mechanistic knowledge and functioning of natural assemblages of marine phytoplankton.