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Ana Ventero, Magdalena Iglesias, Pilar Córdoba, 2019. [Krill spatial distribution in the Spanish Mediterranean Sea in summer time.](#)

Journal of Plankton Research, fbz030, <https://doi.org/10.1093/plankt/fbz030>.

Abstract: We documented krill distribution in the Spanish Mediterranean Sea for the first time using acoustic methods, highlighting the method's suitability to study marine communities restricted to specific areas with patchy aggregation behavior. The 2009–2017 acoustic time series analysis revealed that krill distribution, mainly located on the continental shelf edge, was driven by the presence of fronts and submarine canyons. On the other hand, areas of persistent krill distribution included from Cape La Nao to the eastern part of Almeria Bay, although an interannual northwards increase of krill presence had been detected in 2015–2017 likely related to the position of the Balearic front. We provide information on the aggregation characteristics and biological parameters of three krill species, *Nyctiphanes couchii*, *Nematoscelis megalops* and *Me-
ganyctiphanes norvegica*.

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N. couchii

and

N. megalops

formed patchy pelagic aggregations in the neritic and oceanic zone, respectively, and they were the most common species in the net tows. By contrast,

M. norvegica

formed a large demersal aggregation on the continental shelf edge and was only found in 2017; nevertheless, its 861-kg catch represented a unique milestone in the Mediterranean. Finally, krill species shared distribution area with

Maurolicus muelleri

; thus, coexistence between them are also described.

Keywords: krill, frequency response, biological parameters, Western Mediterranean Sea, spatial distribution