



Figure 4. Seasonal variation in mesozooplankton morphology. The first two significant components of the morphological space and corresponding morphotypes. As a reminder, PC1 represents organisms' circularity and size (the more positive, the less circular and large organisms are) while PC2 represents organisms' transparency (the more positive, the more transparent organisms are). Each organism is associated to a molecular-based cluster, via its sampling date (Figure 3). This cluster membership was added in the morphological space as a supplementary qualitative variable and centroids of the distribution of each cluster (i.e. Summer community, Bloom community, Winter mixing period) are represented. Carbon export is also represented as a supplementary variable (black arrow). Side plots illustrate the distribution of mesozooplankton individuals' density (ind m⁻³) in the morphospace, discriminated per molecular-based cluster. For example, individuals belonging to the bloom community are more abundant than individuals belonging to other molecular-based clusters, and they tend to appear less transparent since distribution's mode corresponds to a lower PC2 value.