



**Figure 1**

The five aspects of pelagic marine life examined in this review: body temperature, resource encounter strategy, mobility regime, sensing mode, and life history strategy. Each aspect is illustrated in a horizontal bar, with the characteristic transitions indicated by changes in color. The art at the top represents the seven realms of life as defined in this review: molecular life (viruses), osmo-heterotrophic bacteria, unicellular phototrophs, unicellular mixotrophs and heterotrophs, planktonic multicellular heterotrophs (e.g., copepods), visually foraging poikilotherms (mainly teleosts, cephalopods, and cartilaginous fish), and homeotherms (cetaceans).