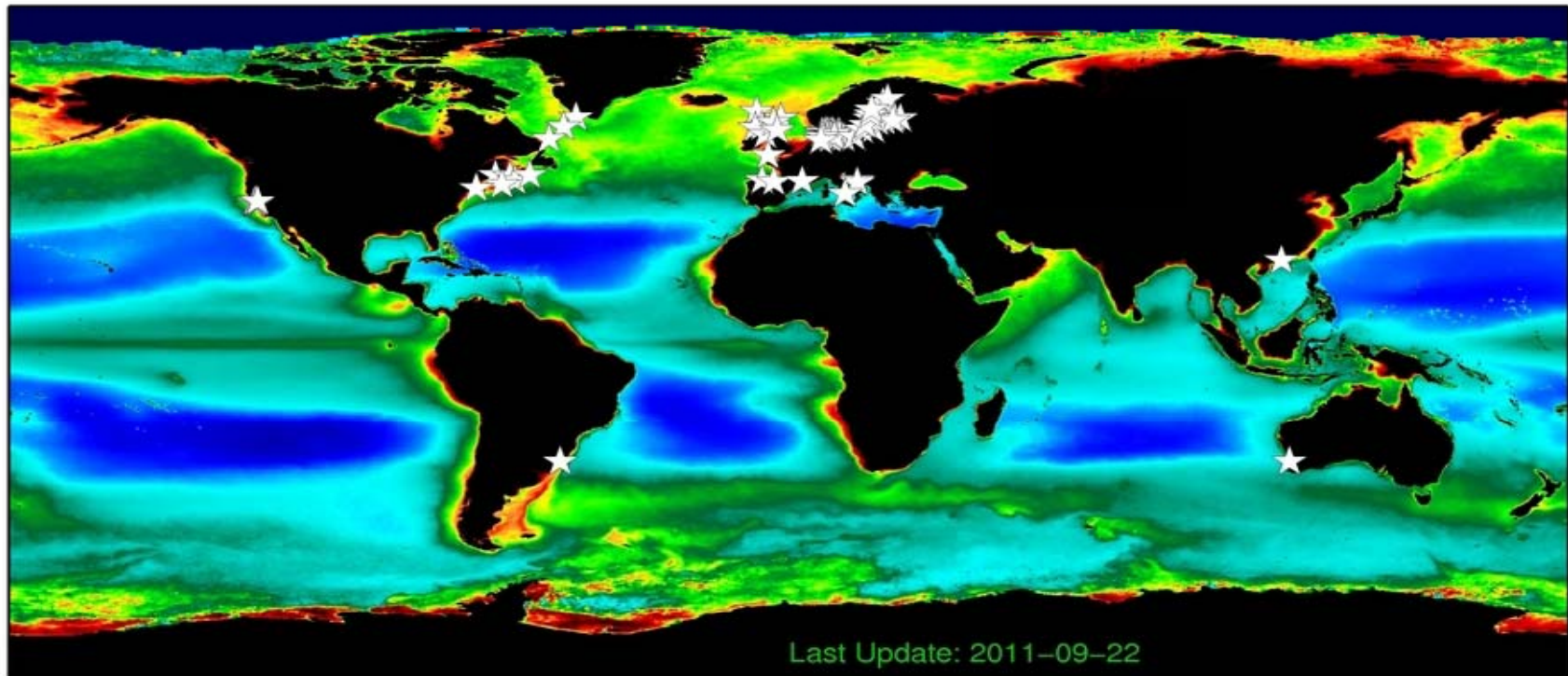




## SCOR WG 137

**“Global Patterns of Phytoplankton Dynamics in Coastal Ecosystems:  
Comparative Analysis of Time Series Observations”**



**Map of over 110 sites: Website: <http://wg137.net>**

# WG 137 Participants

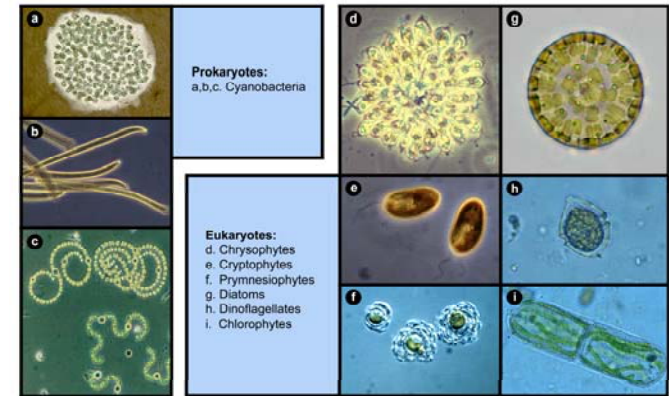
**Co-Chairs: Kedong Yin<sup>1</sup> & Hans Paerl<sup>2</sup>**

1. Sun Yat-Sen (Zhongshan) University, Guangzhou, China
2. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Instit. of Marine Sciences, Morehead City, NC, USA

## Members

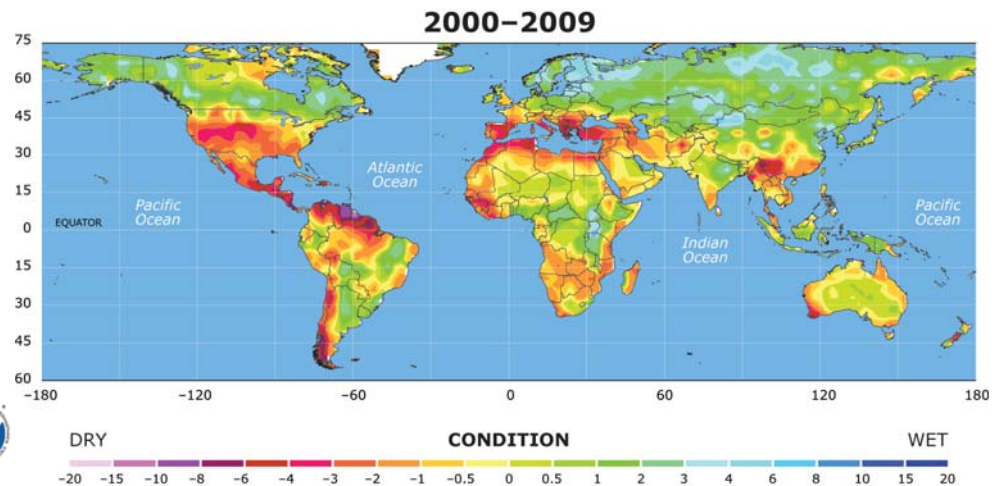
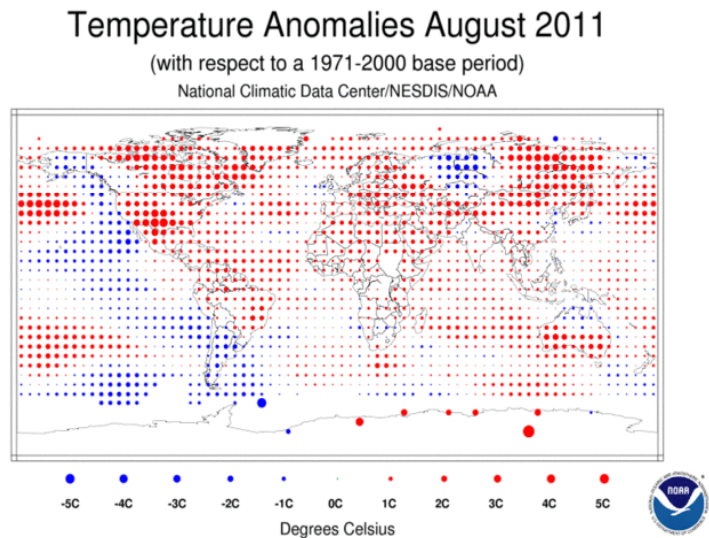
- **Jacob Carstensen** - *National Environmental Research Institute* - Denmark
- **James Cloern** - *U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park* - California, USA
- **Yves Collos** - *Ecologie des Systèmes Marins Côtiers, CNRS-Université* - Montpellier, France
- **Richard Gowen** - *Fisheries and Aquatic Ecosystems Branch, Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute* - Belfast, UK
- **Paul Harrison** - *Div. of Environment, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology* - Hong Kong
- **Peter Henricksen** - *National Environmental Research Institute, Aarhus University* - Denmark
- **Hans Henrik Jacobsen** - *National Environmental Research Institute, Aarhus University* - Denmark
- **Alexandra Kraberg** - *Biologische Anstalt Helgoland AWI* - Helgoland, Germany
- **Sirpa Lehtinen** - *Marine Research Centre, Finnish Environment Institute* - Helsinki, Finland
- **Li Ruixiang** - *First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration* - China
- **Abigail McQuatters-Gollop** - *Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Ocean Science* - Plymouth, UK
- **Todd O'Brien** - *National Marine Fisheries Service—NOAA* – Maryland, USA
- **Clarisse Odebrecht** - *Instit. de Oceanografia, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande-FURG* - Brazil
- **Katja Philippart** - *Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research* - Texel, The Netherlands
- **N.N. Ramaiah** - *National Institute of Oceanography* - Dona Paula, Goa, India
- **Peter Thompson** - *CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research* - Hobart, Australia
- **Karen Wiltshire** - *Biologische Anstalt Helgoland AWI* - Helgoland, Germany
- **Monika Winder** - *FM-GEOMAR Kiel, Germany & Univ. of Stockholm* - Sweden
- **Sinjaee Yoo** - *Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute* - Ansan, South Korea
- **Mingyuan Zhu** - *First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration* - Qingdao, China
- **Adriana Zingone** - *Stazione Zoologica A. Dohrn* - Villa Comunale, Napoli, Italy

# WG-137 Overarching Objective



Identify and characterize effects of changes in anthropogenic nutrient inputs from climate (change) impacts on estuarine/coastal phytoplankton communities.

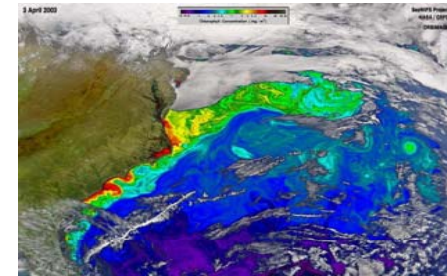
Examine these effects along geographic and climatic (temperature, hydrology) gradients by comparing and synthesizing among different regional datasets.



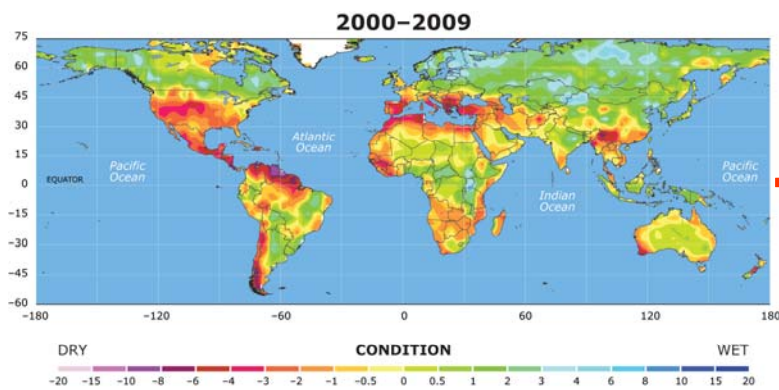
## **WG 137 Objectives and Products focused on and linked to**

- **Human development in coastal watersheds**
- **Regional and global climate change**
- **Nutrient enrichment, eutrophication, water quality**
- **Changes in nutrient and carbon cycling**
- **Changes in biodiversity, phytoplankton community structure and function**
- **Food web structure, trophodynamics and fisheries**
- **Environmental and habitat management**

# Key Anthropogenic and Climatic Drivers of Concern

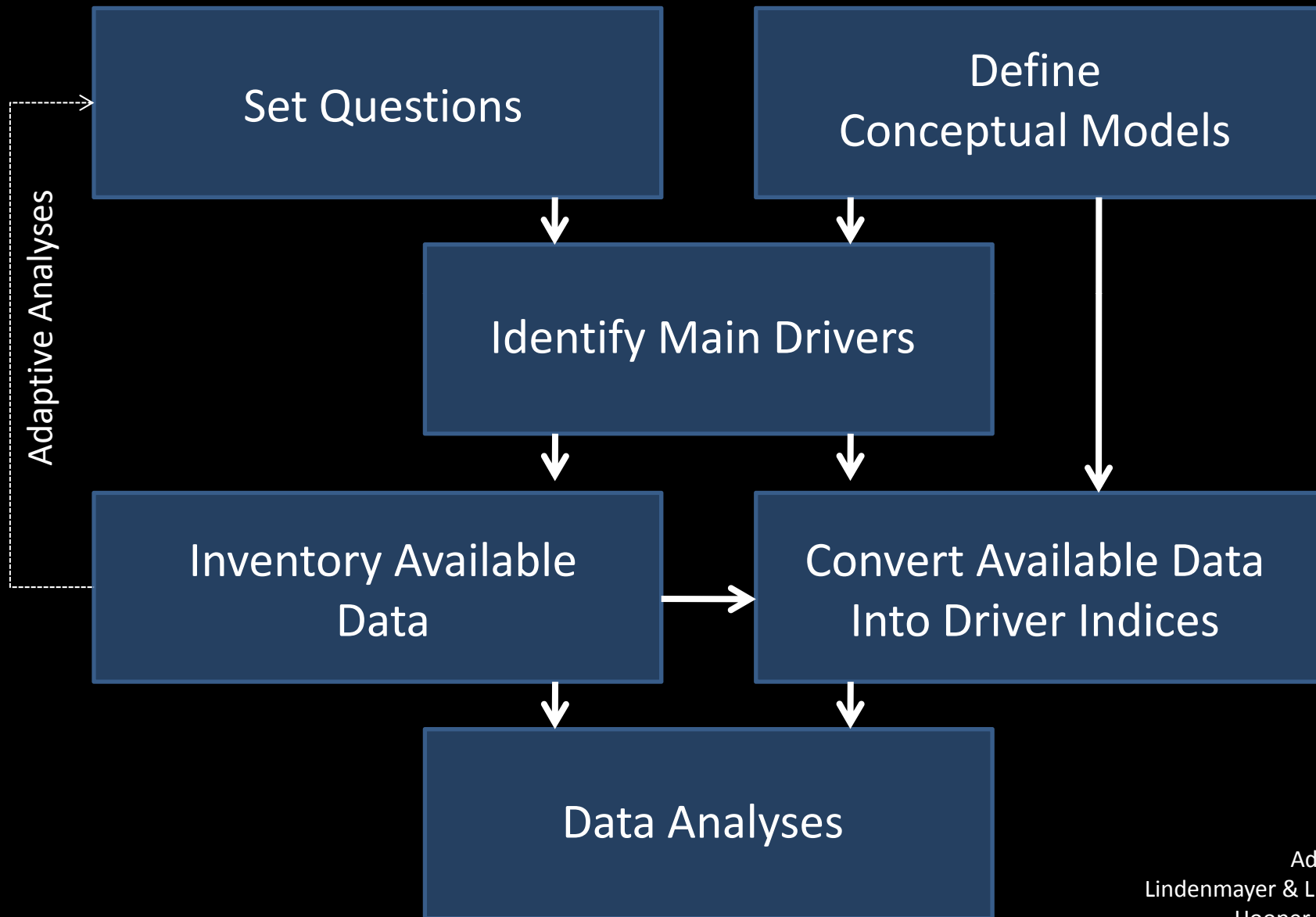


## Changes in precipitation, storm events and nutrient/freshwater discharge to the coastal zone



## Increased temperatures & more severe droughts

# SCOR137 – Approach for Comparative Analyses

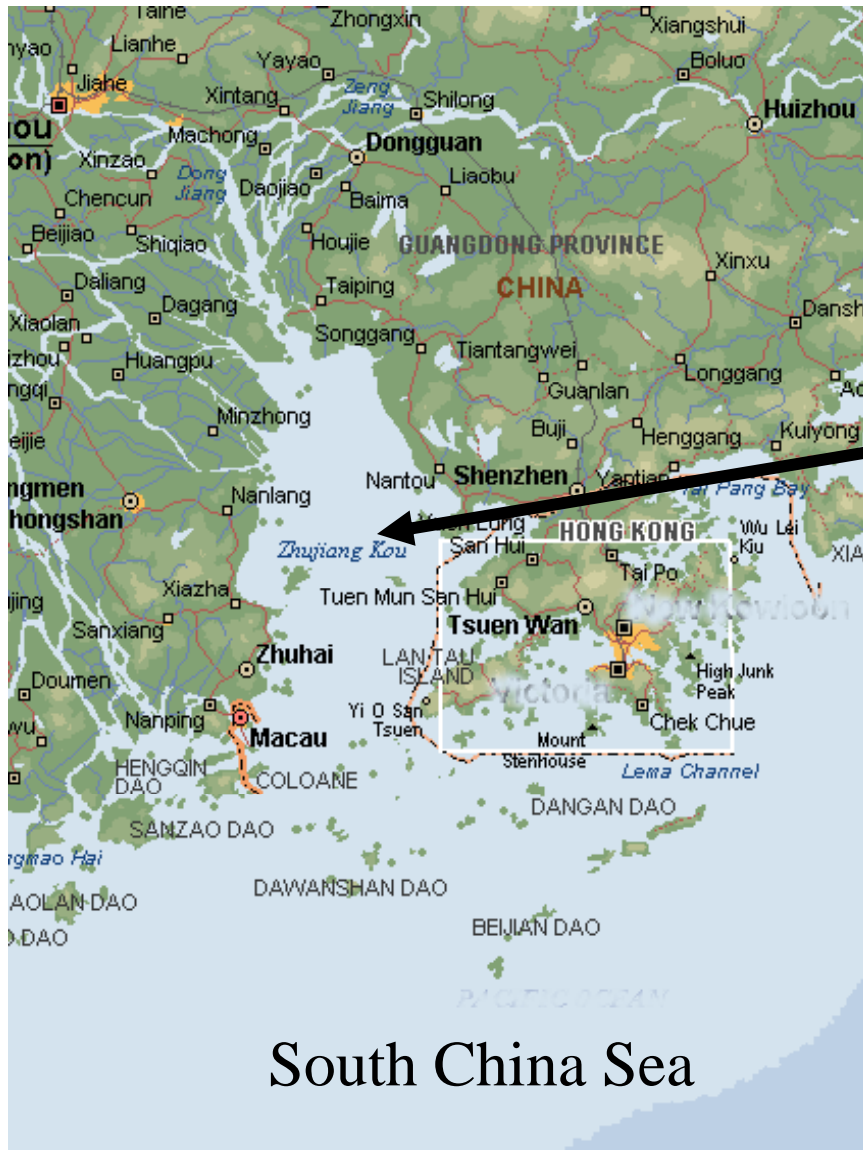


Adapted from:  
Lindenmayer & Likens (2009)  
Hooper et al. (2005)

# Examples of anthropogenic and climatic impacts on Phytoplankton community structure and function based on WG 137 data sets

- Pearl R. Estuary: Hong Kong Harbor, China
- Neuse River-Pamlico Sound, North Carolina, USA
- Patos Lagoon, Brazil
- Thau Lagoon, France
- San Francisco Bay, California, USA

# *Phytoplankton species composition and climate change (warming) in the Pearl River Estuary, China*



Pearl River Estuary

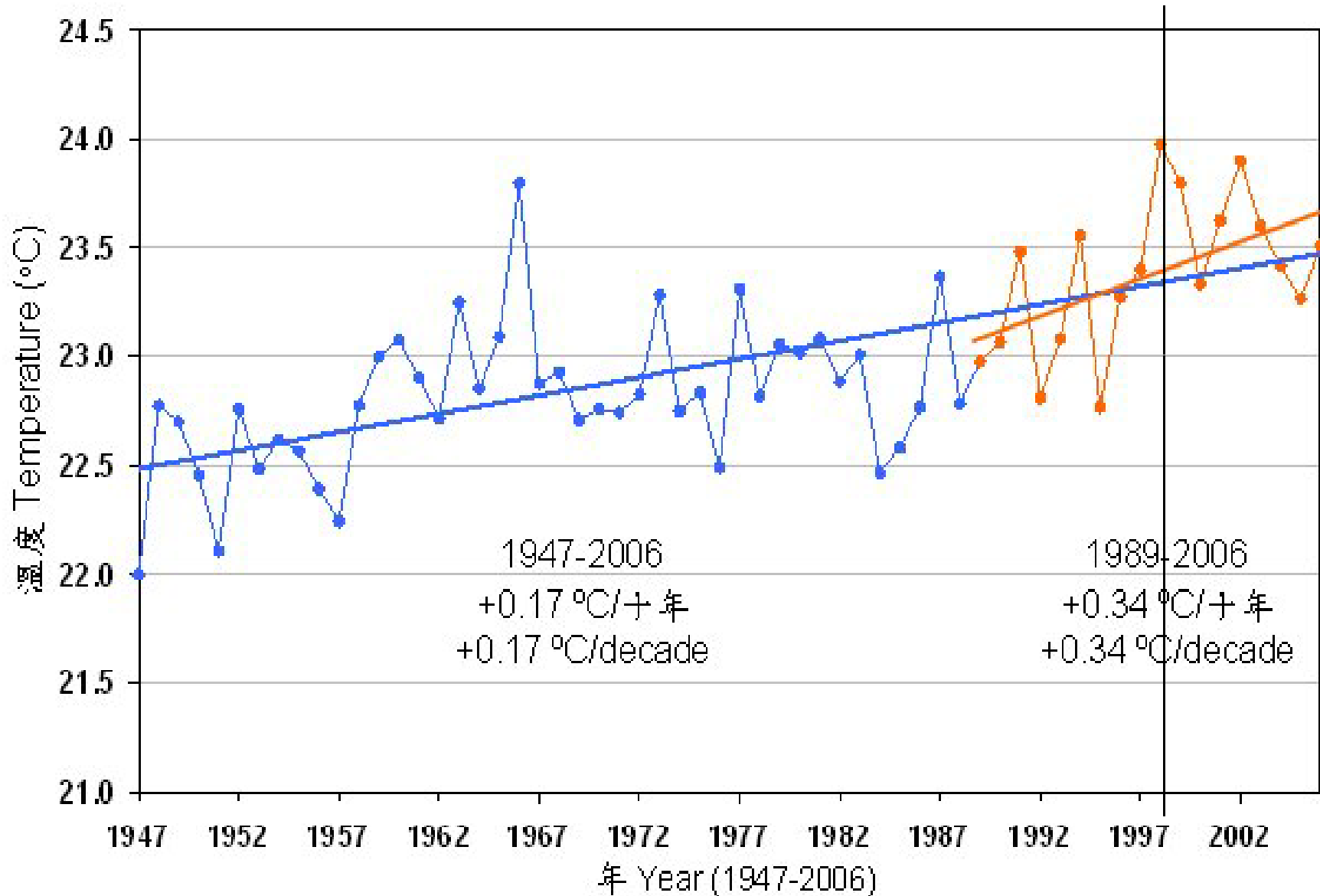
Pearl River

- The second largest river in China
- The 13<sup>th</sup> largest river in the world



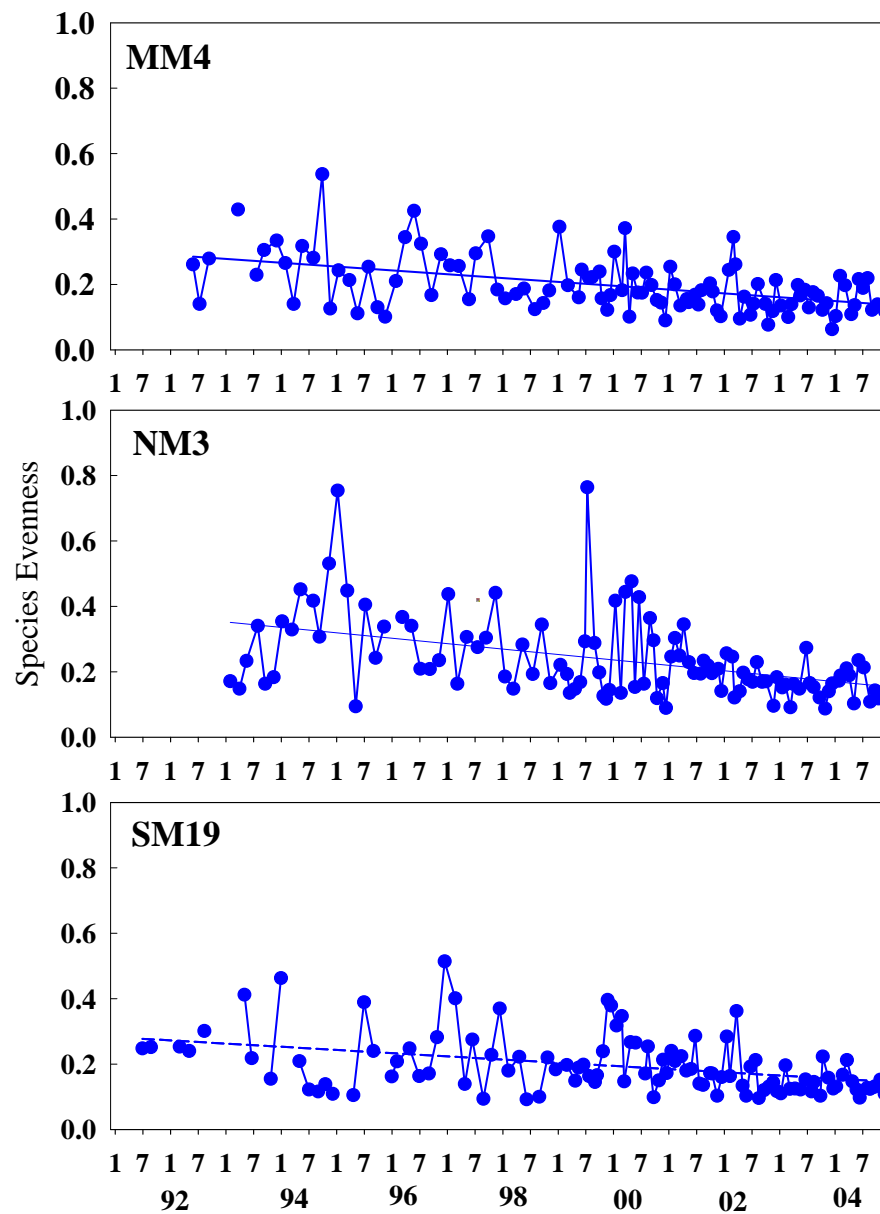
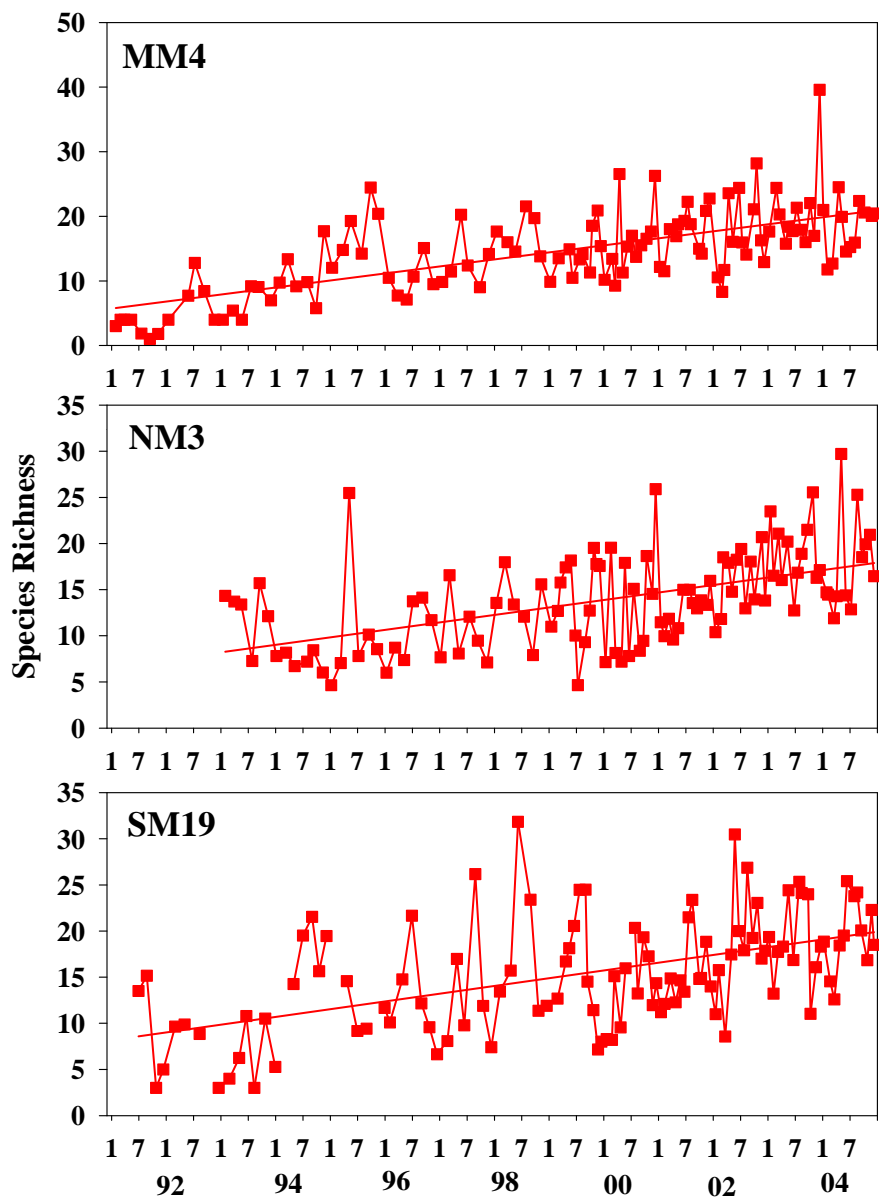
# Air Temperature in Hong Kong is increasing

1998

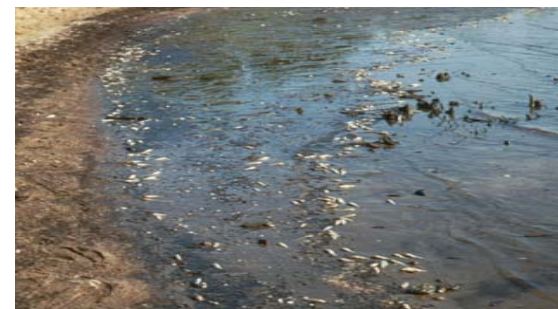


# Species Richness

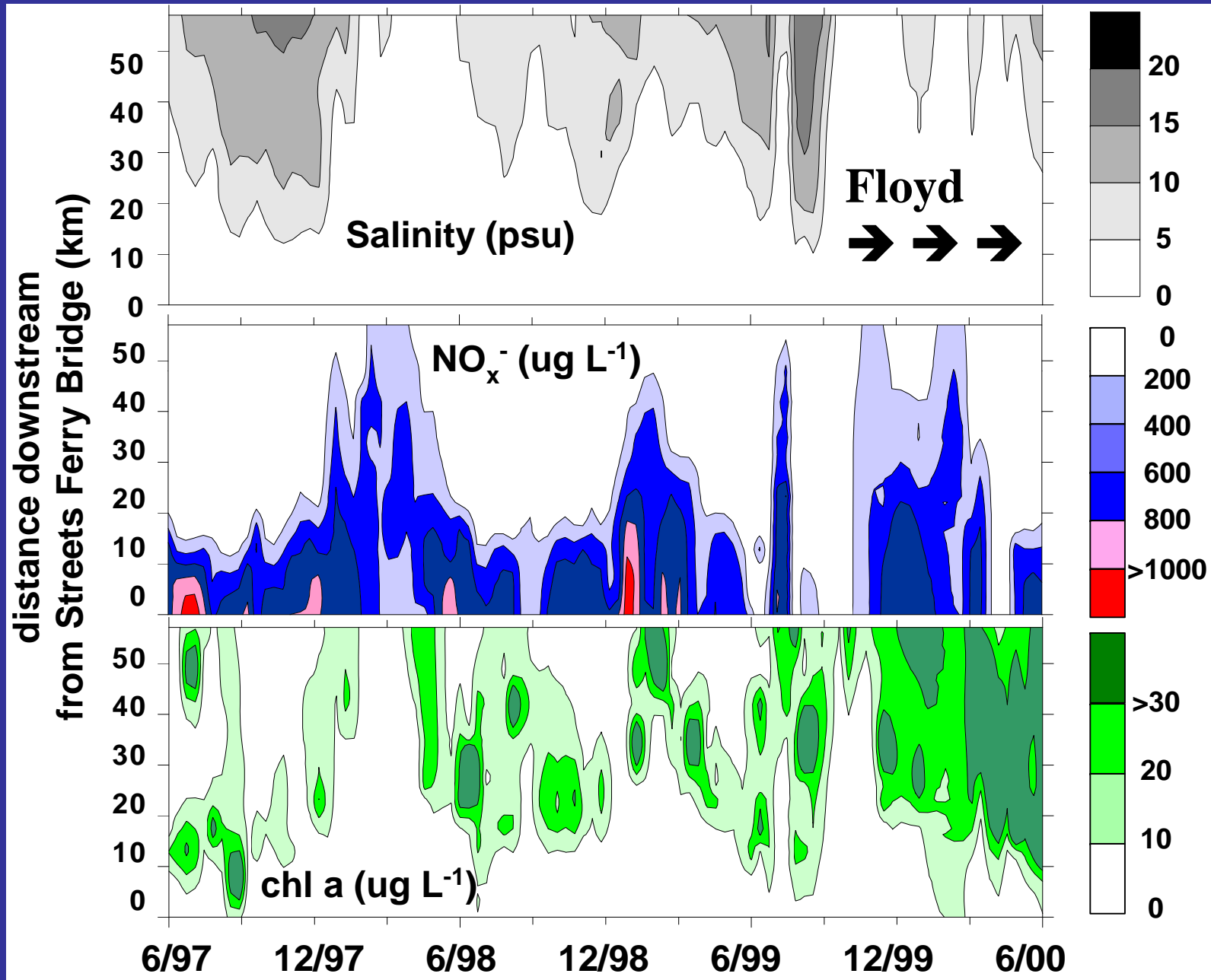
# Simpson species evenness



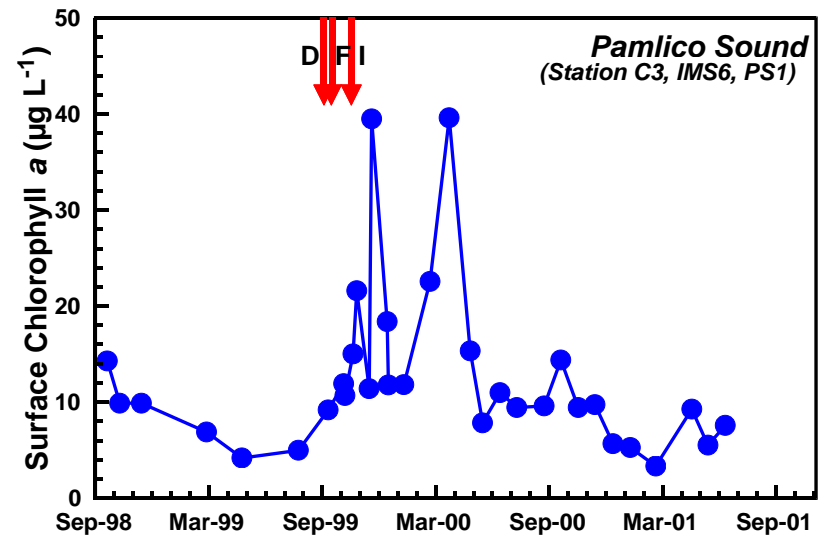
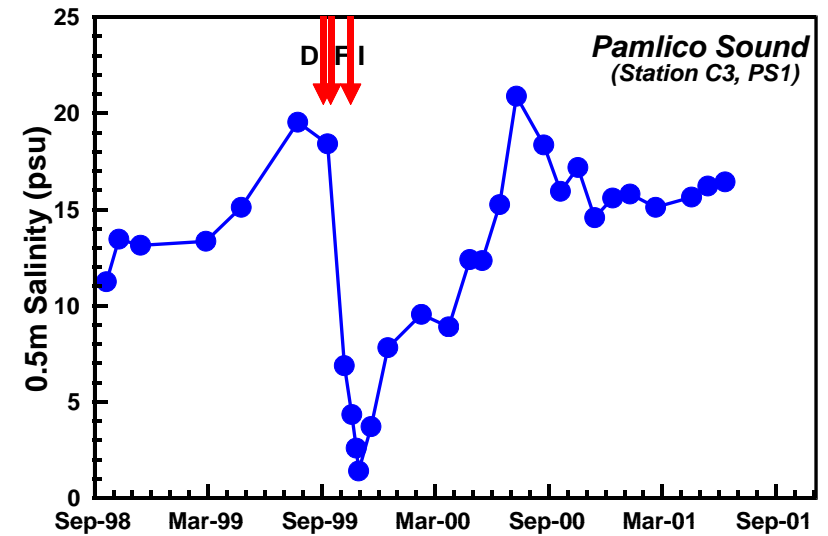
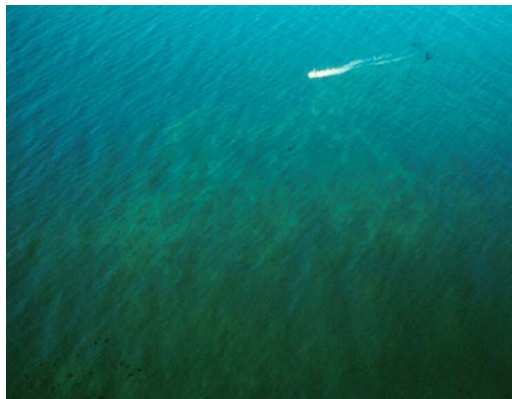
# Influence of climate (change) and hydrologic perturbations (hurricane Floyd, 1999) on phytoplankton and water quality: Neuse-Pamlico Sound, NC



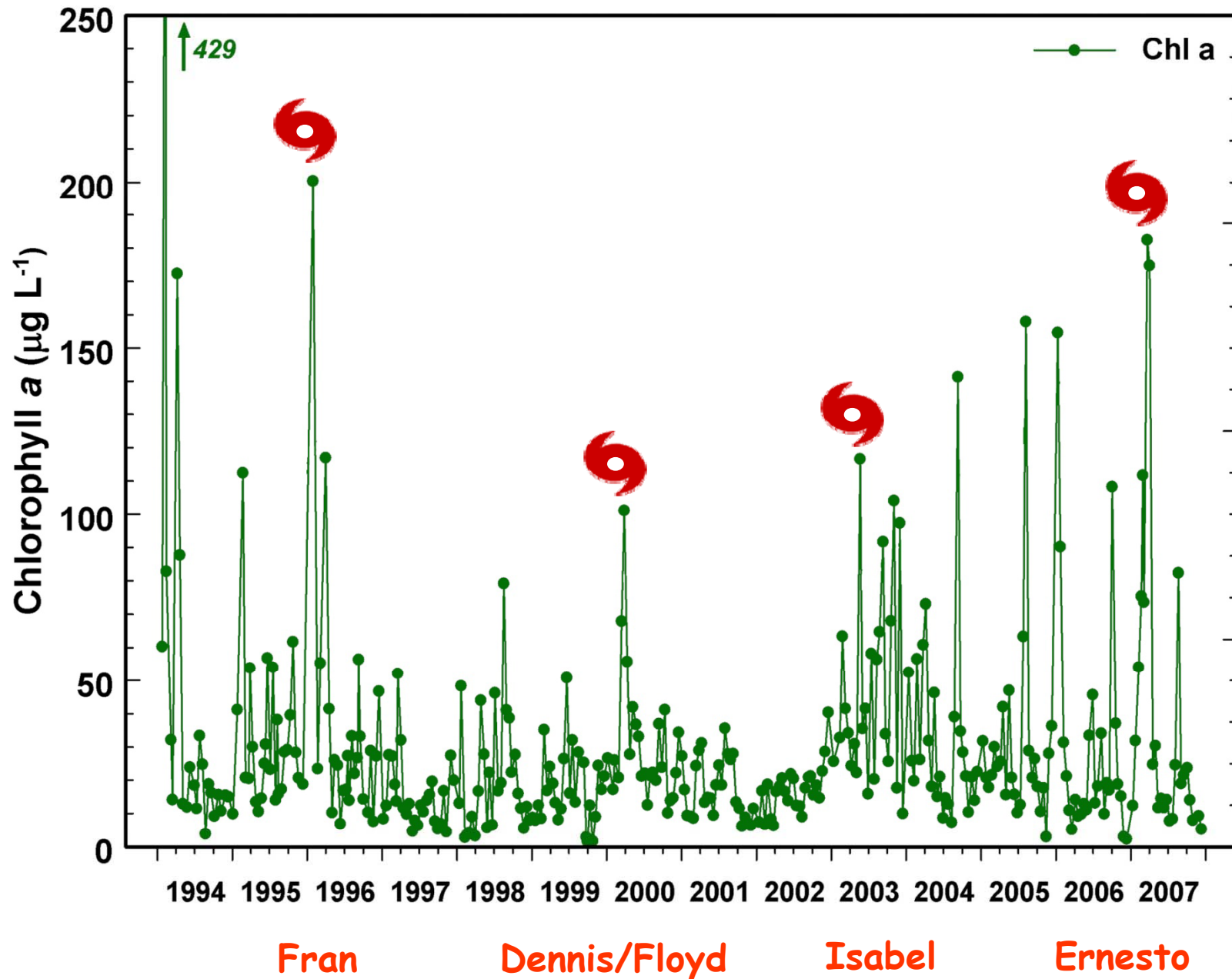
# Hydrology, N loading and phytoplankton production in the Neuse R. Estuary, before and after Hurricane Floyd (Sept. 1999)



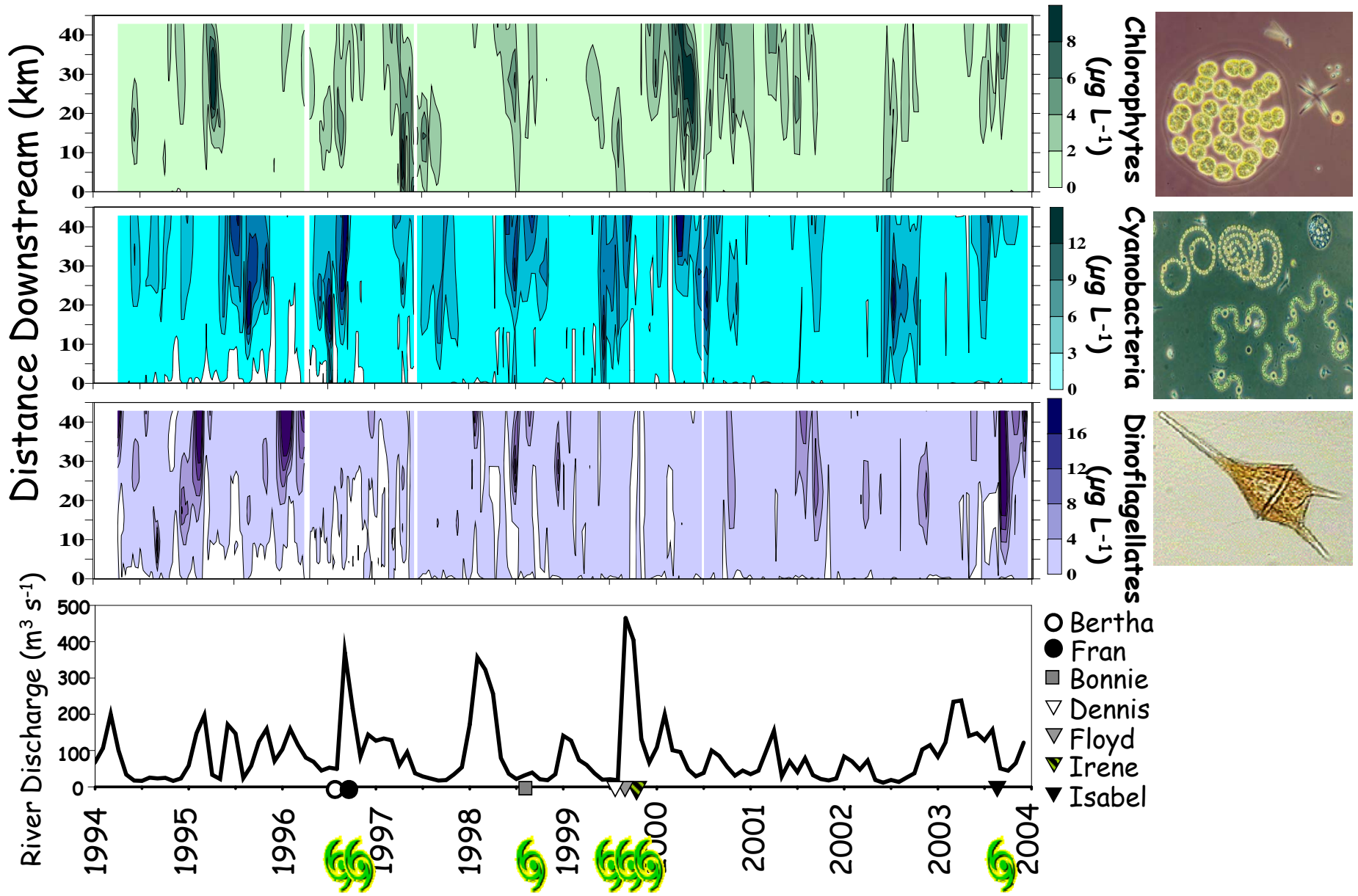
# Salinity and Chlorophyll *a* responses to the floodwaters in Pamlico Sound



# Major hurricanes/tropical storms & phytoplankton biomass (Chl *a*) responses

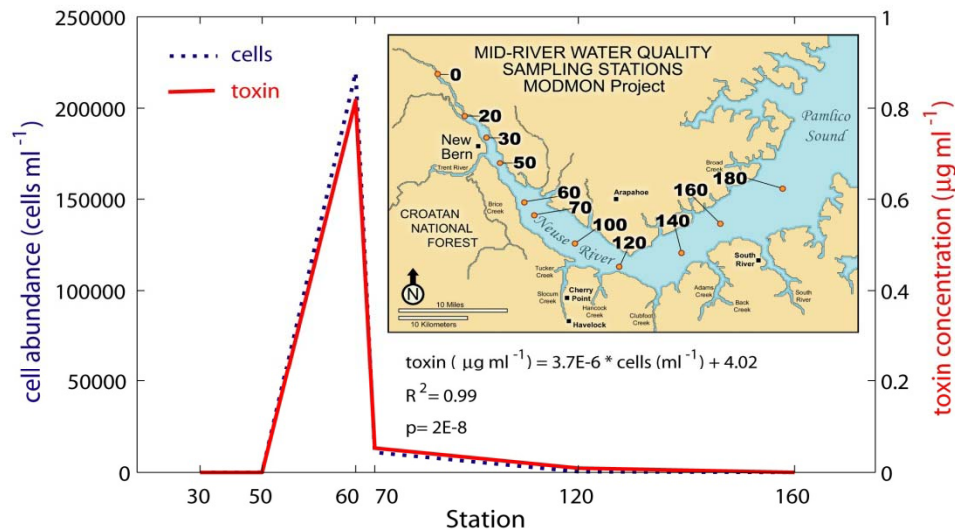
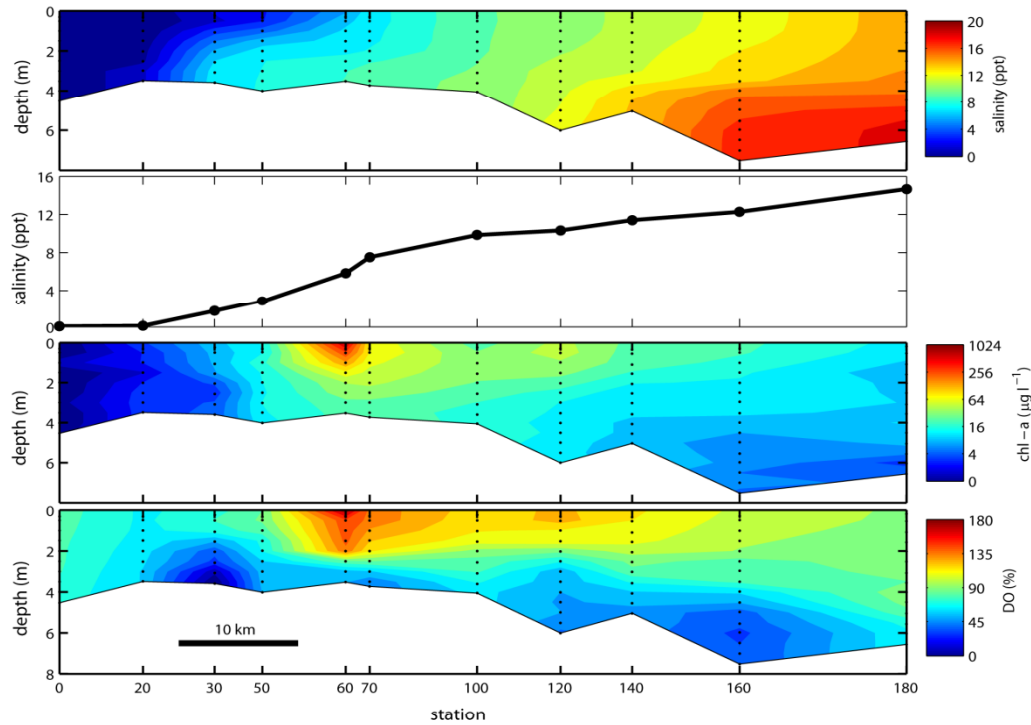


# Phytoplankton group responses to flow (HPLC-PDAS)



Valdes-Weaver et al. 2006

# A toxic dinoflagellate (*Karlodinium*) bloom following runoff from Tropical Storm Ernesto, Oct. 2006



- **Runoff associated with Ernesto contained nutrient load and set up strong salinity stratification**

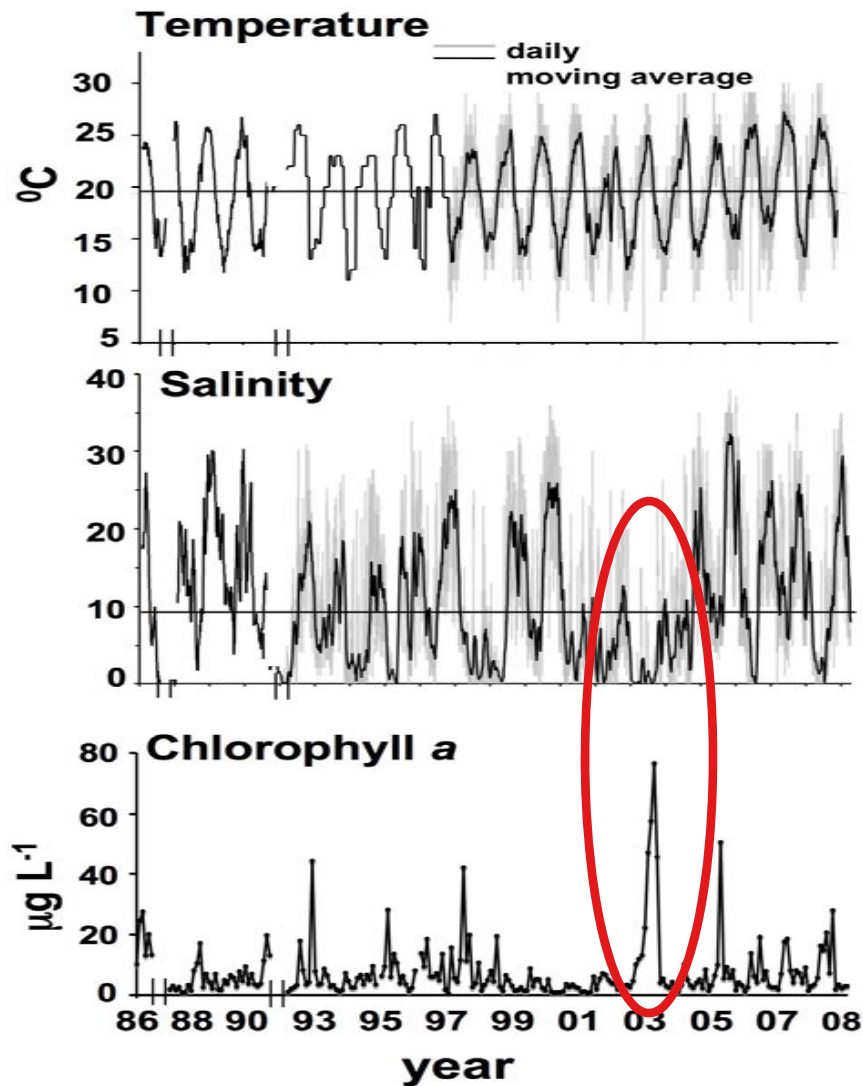
- **Favorable light and temperature conditions created ideal conditions for an algal bloom.**

- **Near-surface stratification was favorable for motile dinoflagellates; *Karlodinium* prefers these conditions in fall.**

Hall et al. 2008



**Example of climatic forcing  
(*El NINO* effect)  
on phytoplankton  
in Patos Lagoon, Brazil**



Low x high  
salinity years

**HIGH**

Interannual variation

related largely

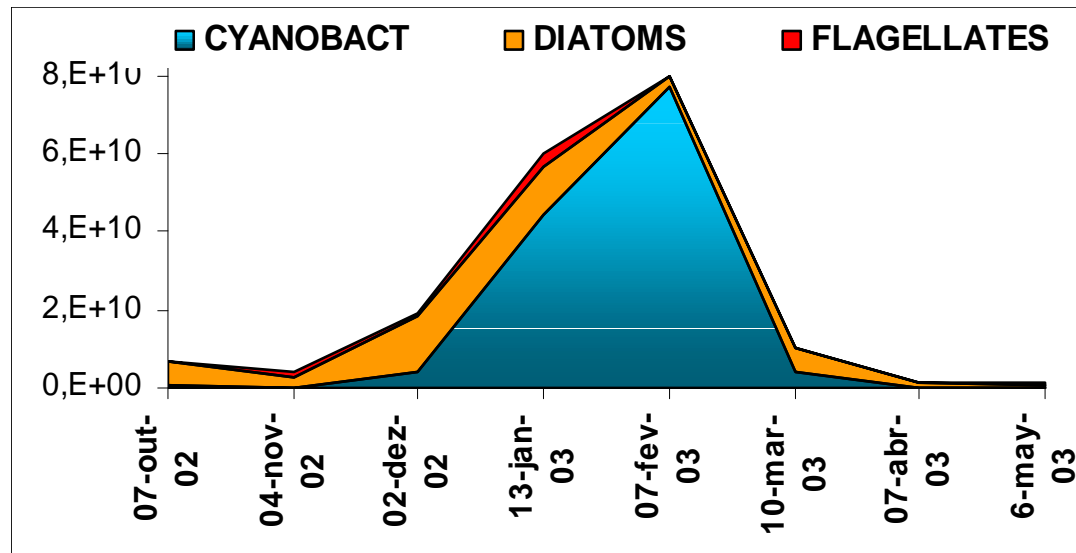
*El Nino Southern Oscillation*

process

2002-2003 example

extreme conditions

# Cyanobacteria "tracking" El Nino-related elevated freshwater discharge

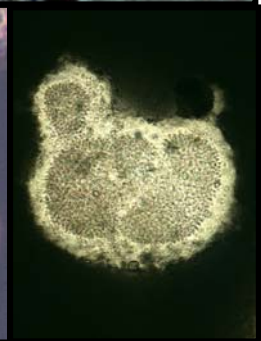
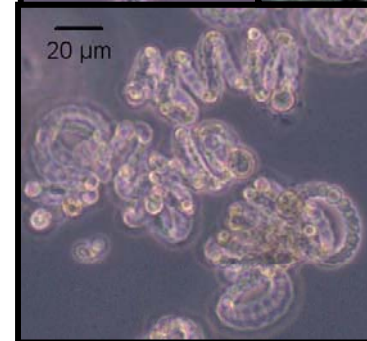
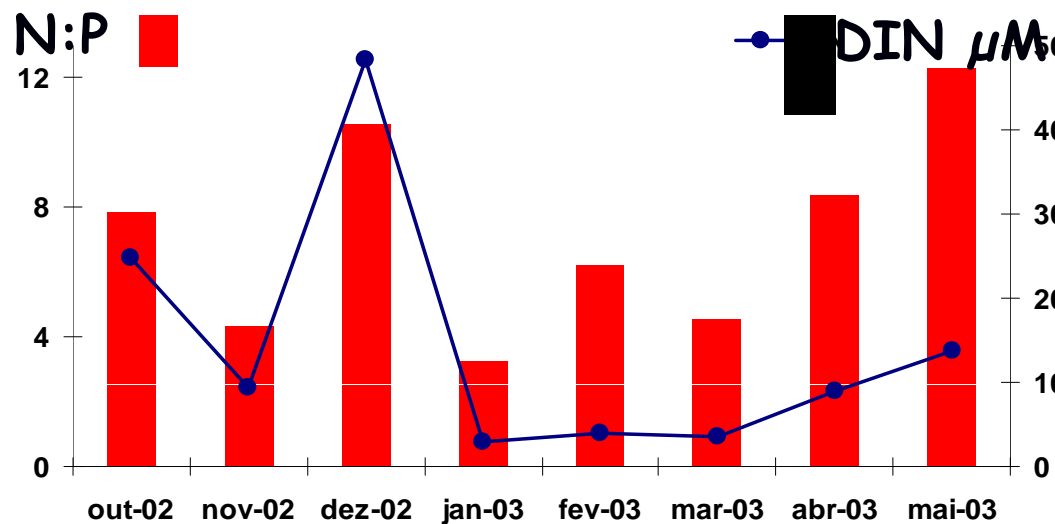
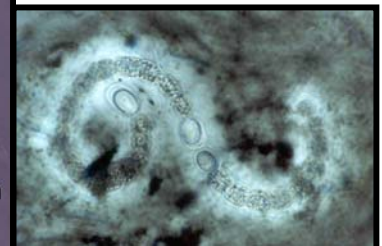


## Heterocystic species

*Aphanizomenon aphanizomenoides*



*Anabaenopsis* sp.



*Anabaena* spp. *Microcystis novacekii*

**Conclusions: Climatic forcing led to....**

**Low NP ratios, favoring  
unusual Cyanobacteria growth in summer  
in low salinity water due to  
extreme rainfall  
(El Nino phase of ENSO).**

# Thau Lagoon, Mediterranean Coast, France

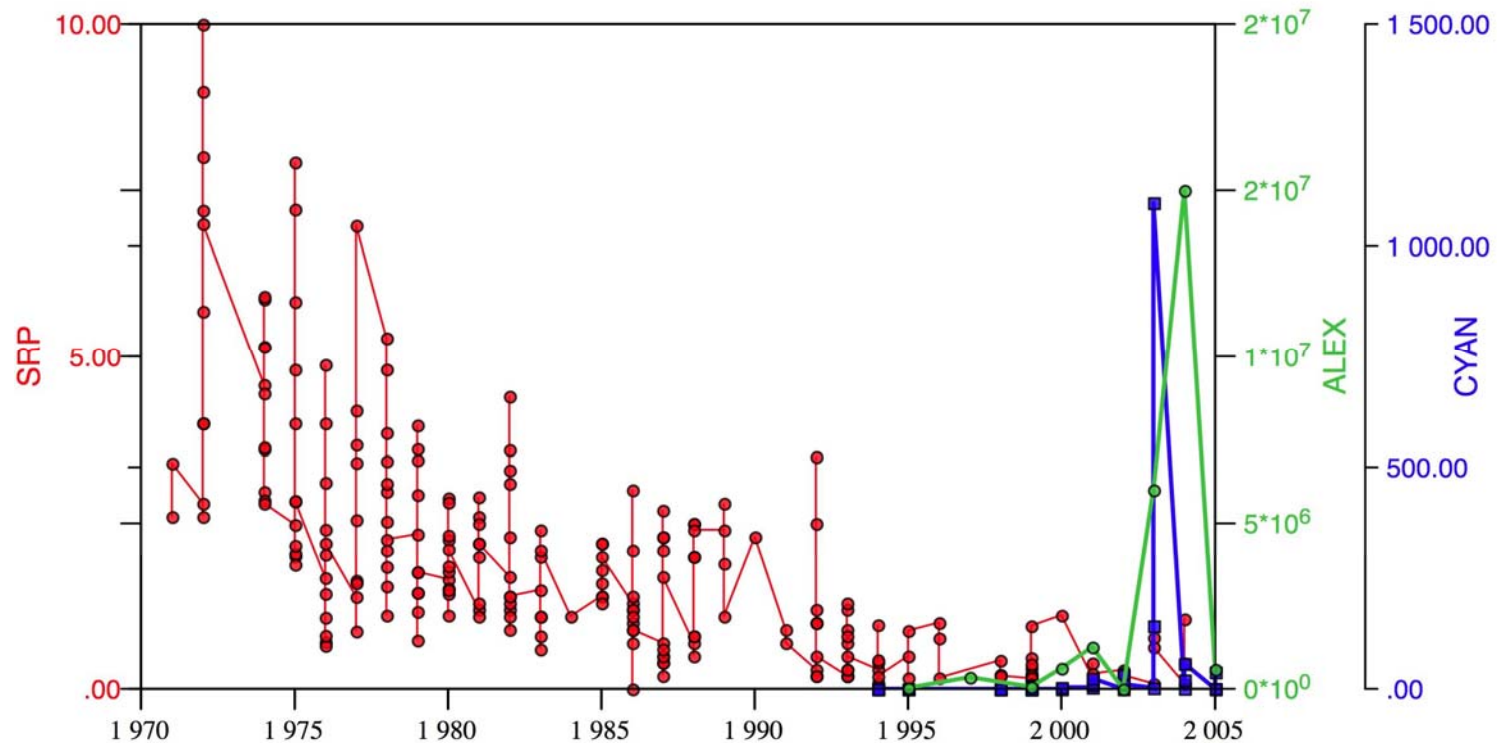


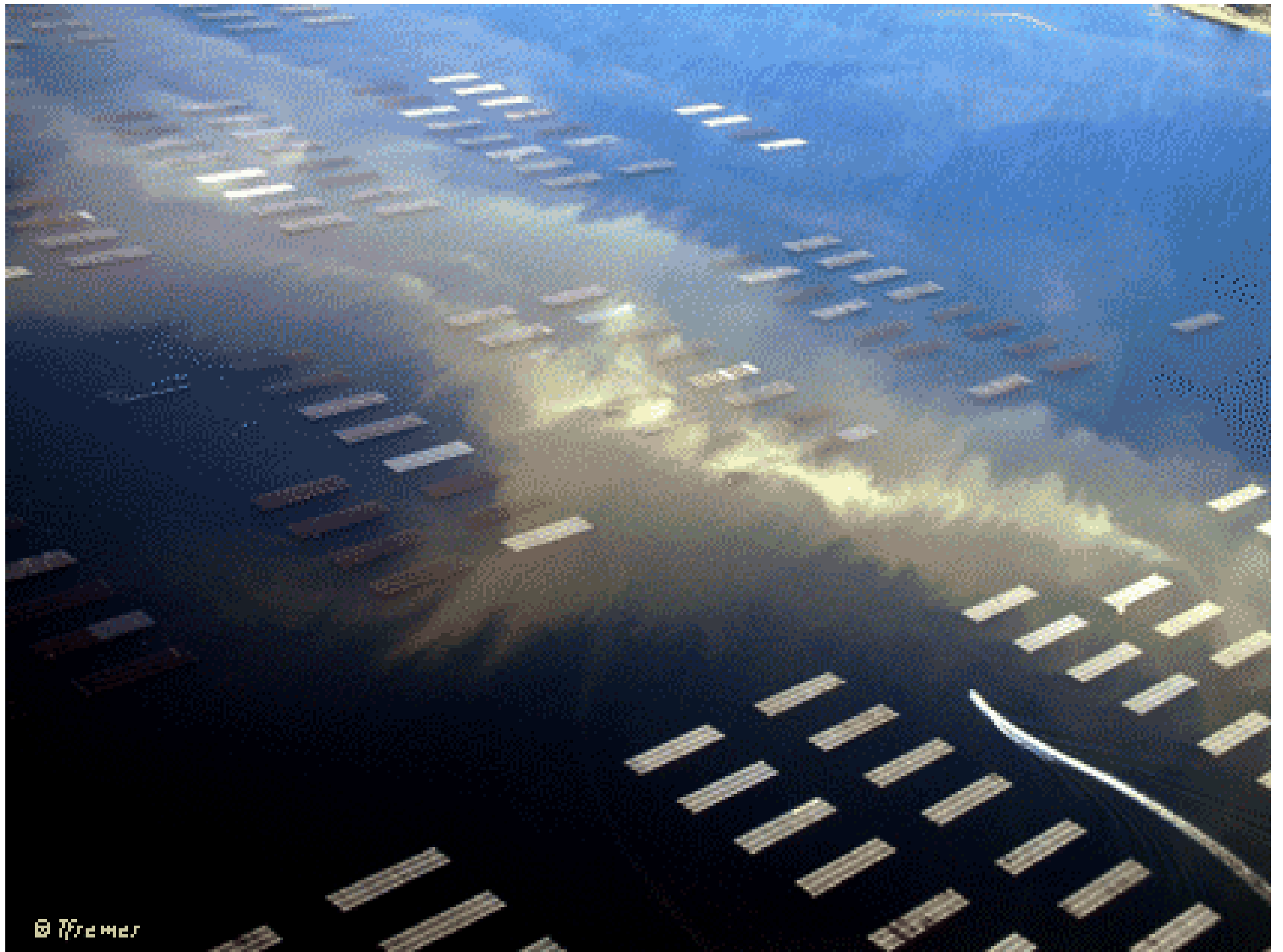
# Climate change and oligotrophication: Thau Lagoon, France



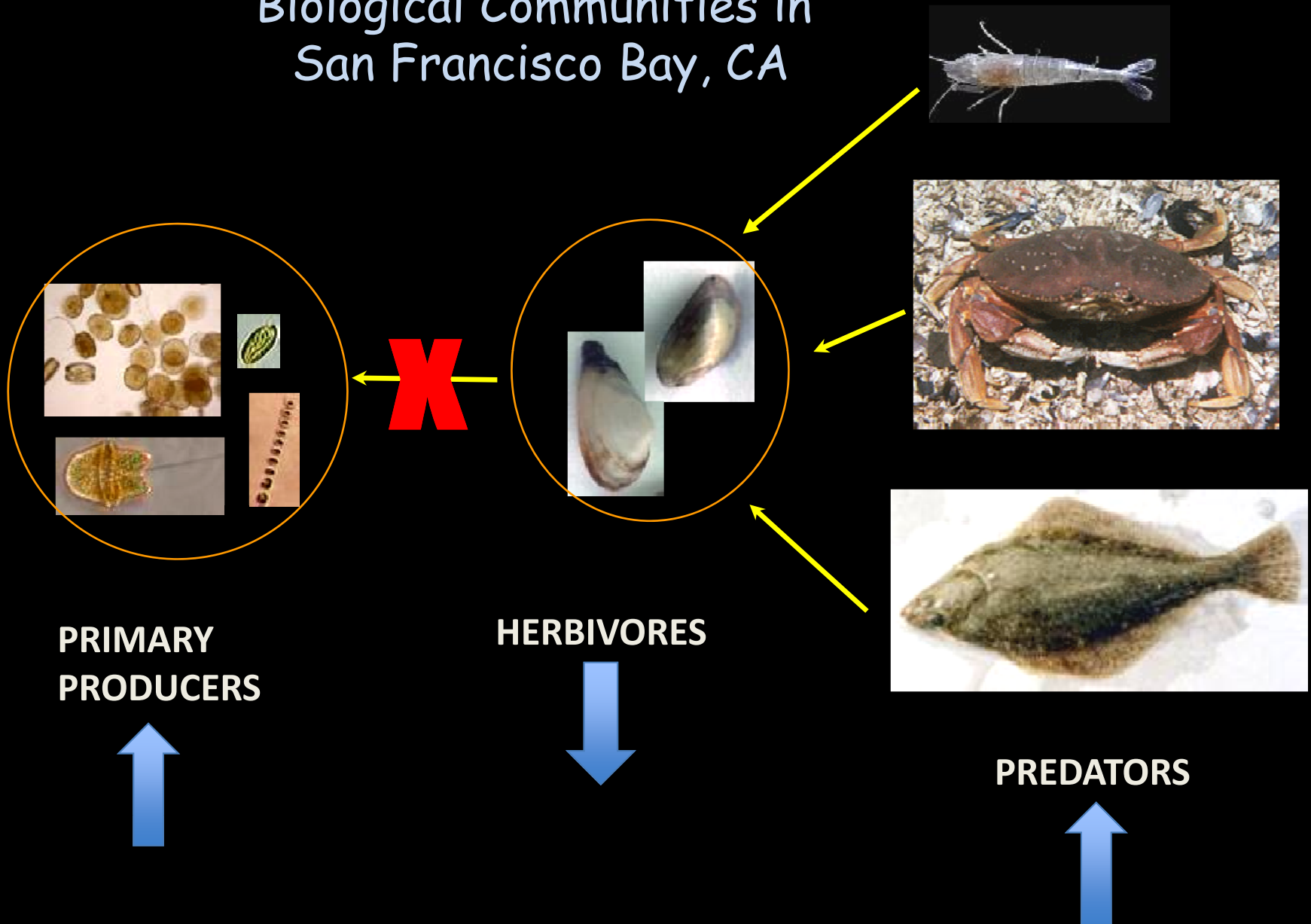
***Alexandrium catenella***

—●— SRP      —■— CYAN      —○— ALEX



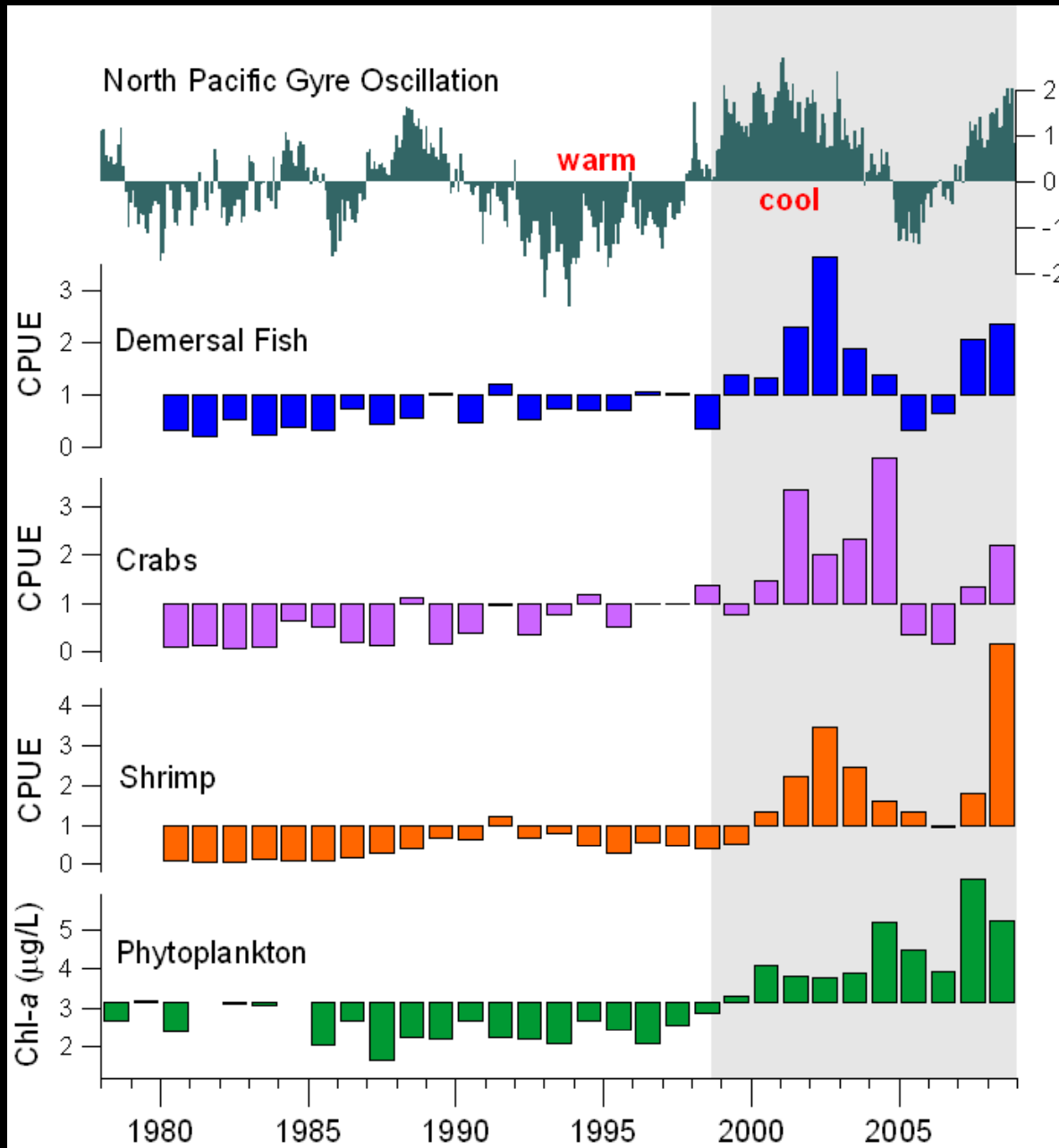


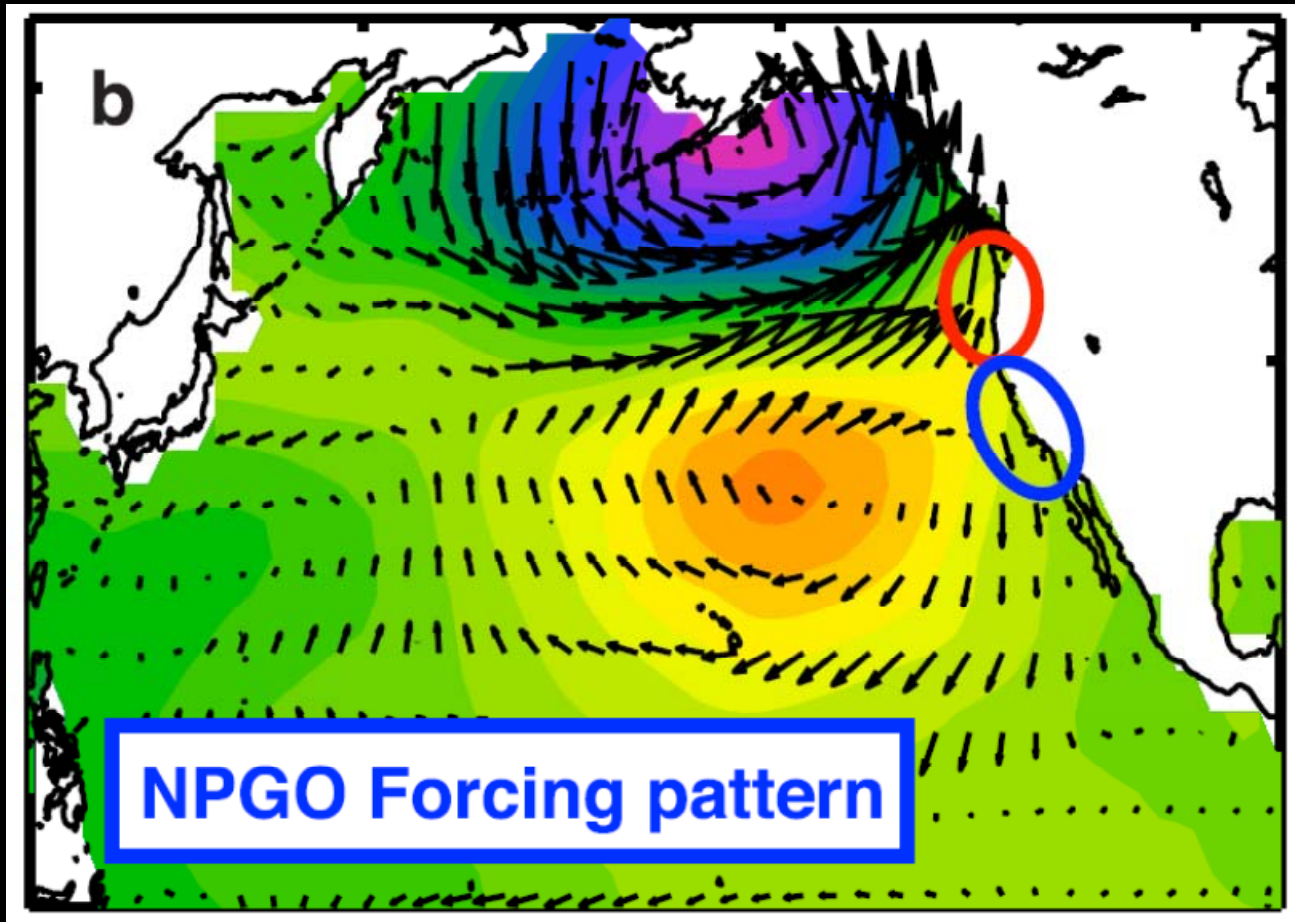
# Reorganization of Biological Communities in San Francisco Bay, CA



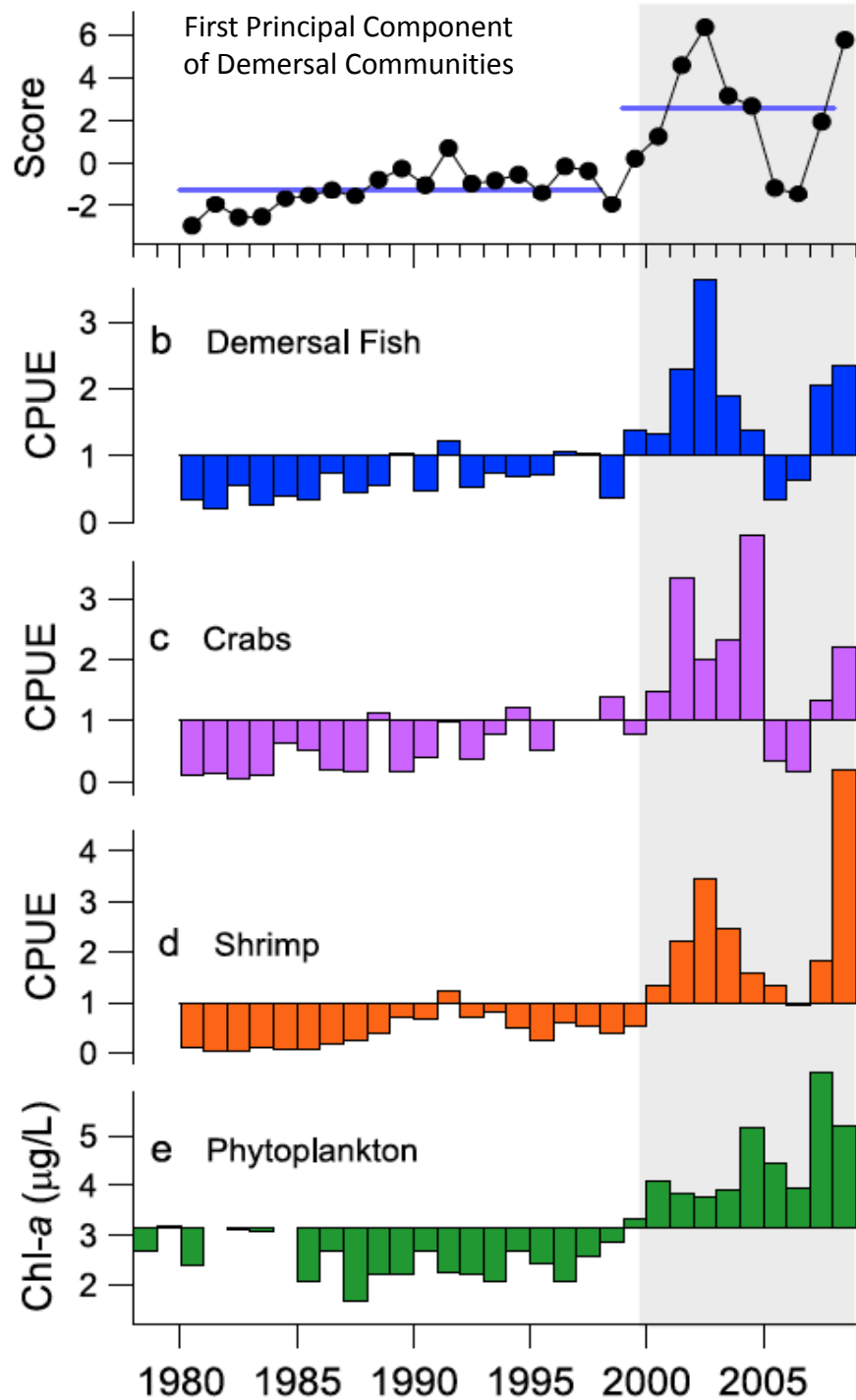


# 1999 Climate Shift

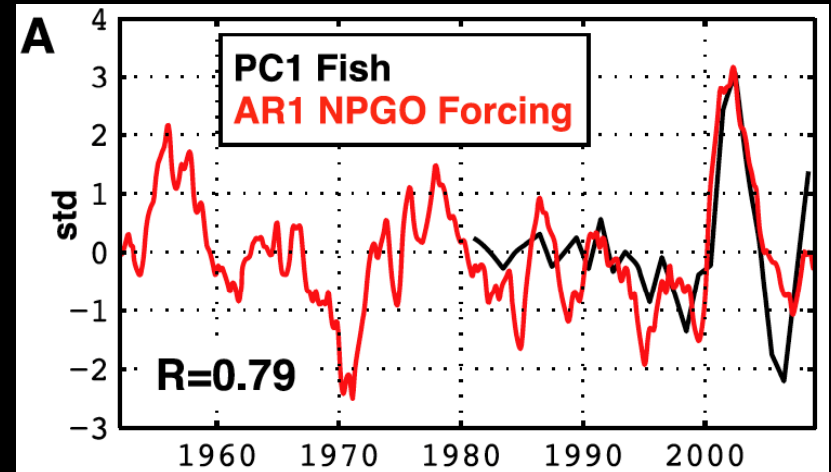




Vectors = wind stress    Colors = sea level pressure



## Ecological Regime Shift in San Francisco Bay



Communities track atmospheric forcing of the North Pacific Gyre Oscillation

$$\frac{dPC1_{rec}(t)}{dt} = \alpha SLP_{HI}(t - \Delta t) - \frac{PC1_{rec}(t)}{\tau_{PC1}}$$