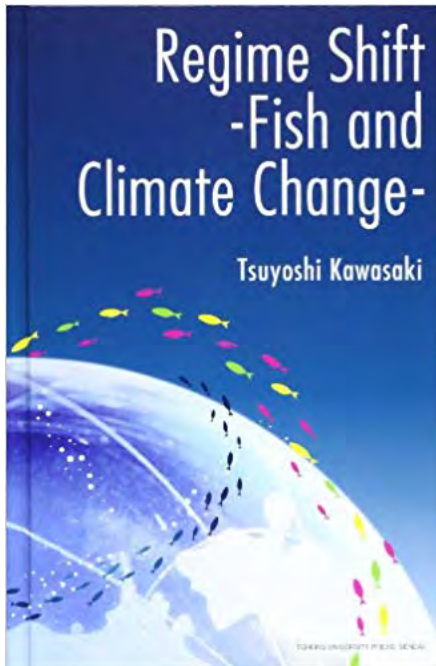


**Present situation and Future prospects of  
study on sardine and climate change**

**Haruka Nishikawa (JAMSTEC)**

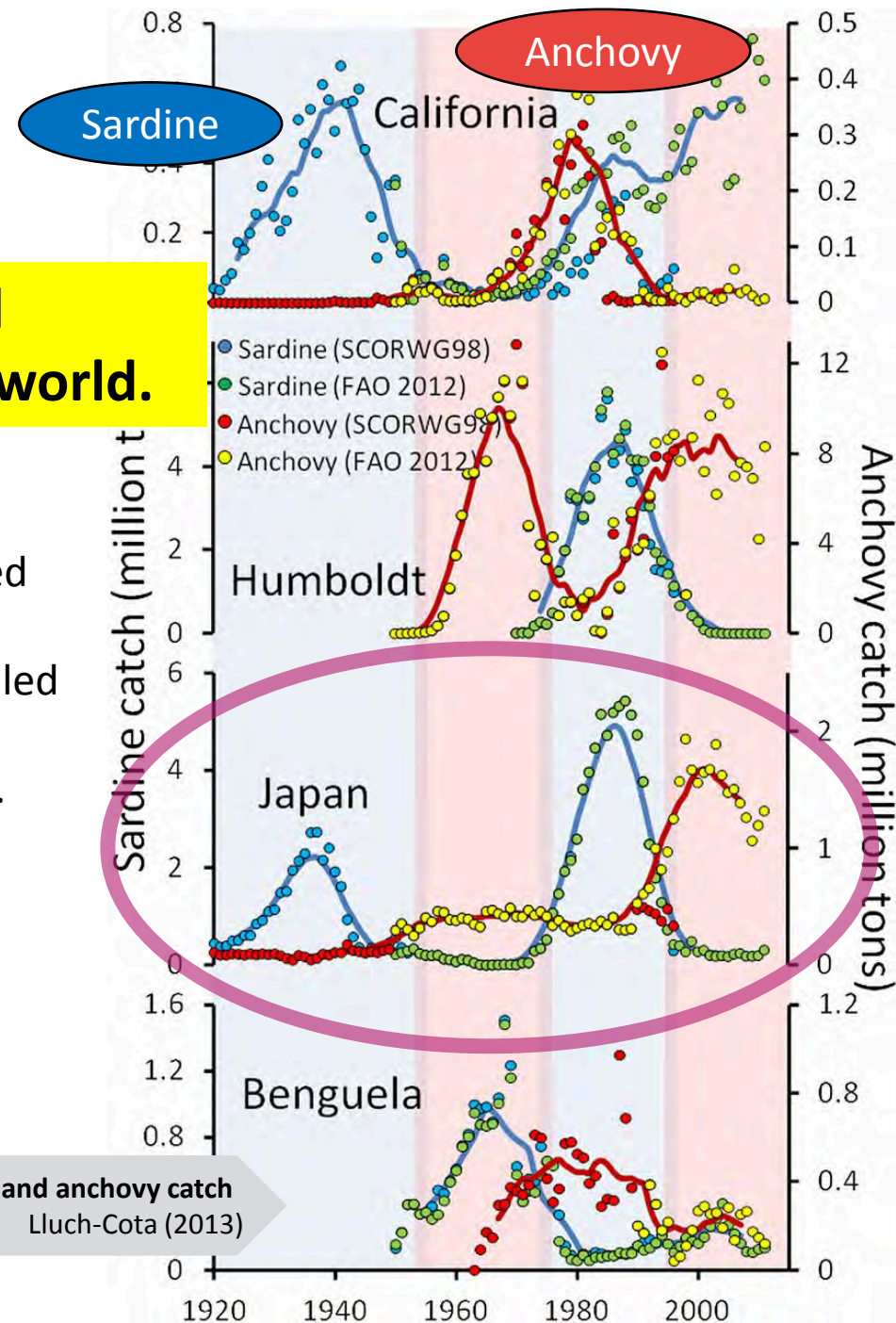
## Sardine characteristics

# Sardine stocks show multi-decadal fluctuations in four regions of the world.



Kawasaki (2013)

Kawasaki (1983) inferred that the sardine stock fluctuations are controlled by climate and environmental change.



# Japanese sardine (*Sardinops malanostictus*)

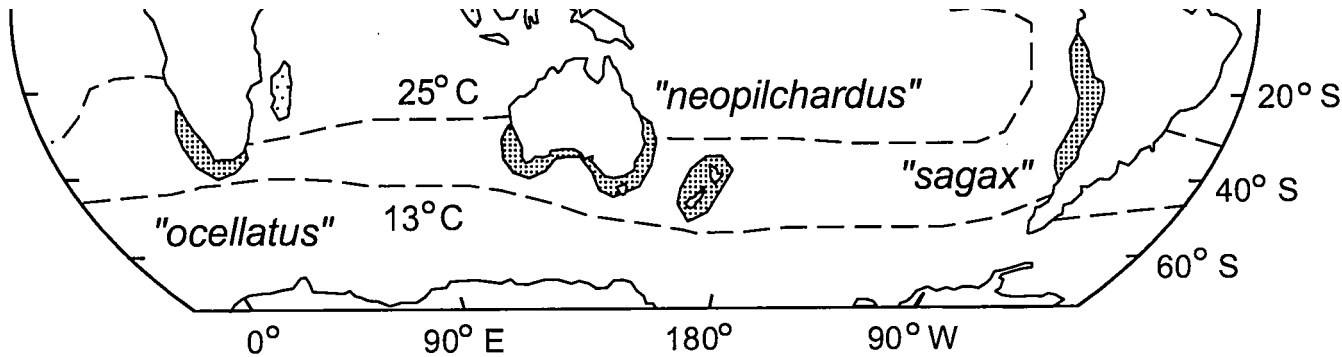


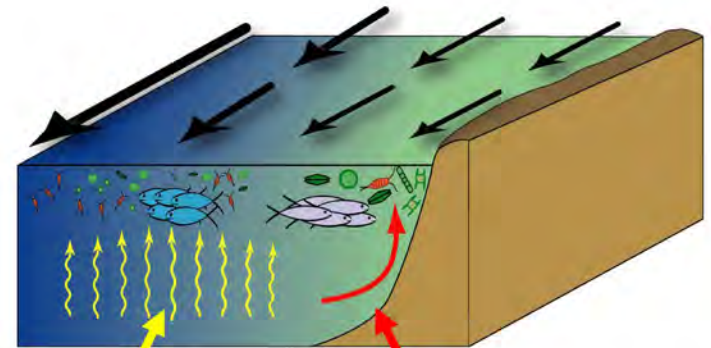
FIG. 1. Distribution of *Sardinops*. The boundaries of temperate sardine habitat (13° and 25°C isotherms) are indicated by dashed lines.

such that the most recent contact between regional forms would be mediated by coastal movement across the equator, presumably facilitated by cooler conditions in the past (see Greenland Ice-Core Project Members 1993; Guilderson et al. 1994; Kotilainen and Shackleton 1995). In this interpretation, the closest phylogenetic affinities would be between California and Chile in the East Pacific and possibly between Japan and Australia in the West Pacific.

Understanding of evolutionary history would emerge from the consideration of both nuclear and mitochondrial lineages (Karl et al. 1992; Palumbi and Baker 1994; Bernatchez and Osinov 1995). Nuclear gene genealogies are not currently available, but a recently completed survey of alleles at 34 protein electrophoretic loci ( $n = 224$ ; Grant and Leslie 1996) can provide additional perspectives on evolutionary processes in *Sardinops*.

Bowen and Grant (1997)

Most of *Sardinops* species are distributed in the **upwelling region**.

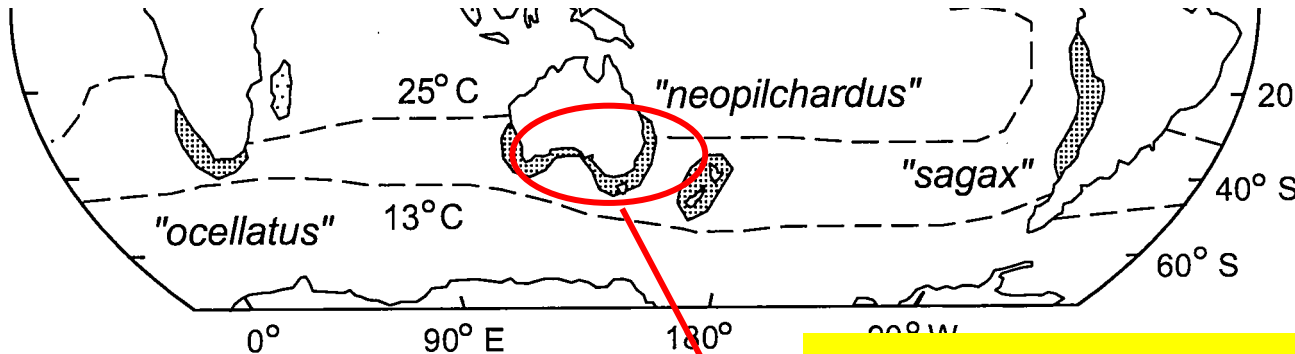


Wind stress curl upwelling:  
sardine

Coastal boundary upwelling:  
anchovy

Rykaczewski and Checkley (2008)

# Japanese sardine (*Sardinops melanostictus*)



*Sardinops melanostictus*

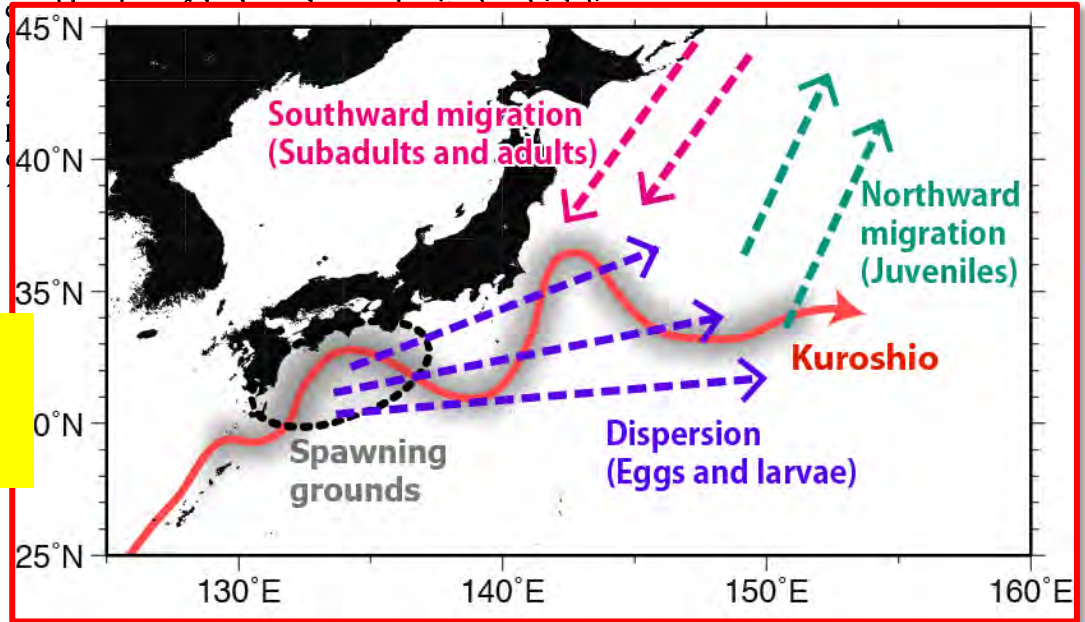
FIG. 1. Distribution of *Sardinops*. The boundaries of temperate sardine habitat

Japanese sardine habitat is strongly influenced by a western boundary current, the Kuroshio.

such that the most recent contact between regional forms would be mediated by coastal movement across the equator, presumably facilitated by cooler conditions in the past (see Greenland Ice-Core Project Members 1993; Guilderson et al. 1994; Kotilainen and Shackleton 1995). In this interpretation, the closest phylogenetic affinities would be between California and Chile in the East Pacific and possibly between Japan and Australia in the West Pacific.

Understanding of evolutionary history would emerge from the

For the stock fluctuation, the Kuroshio is important.

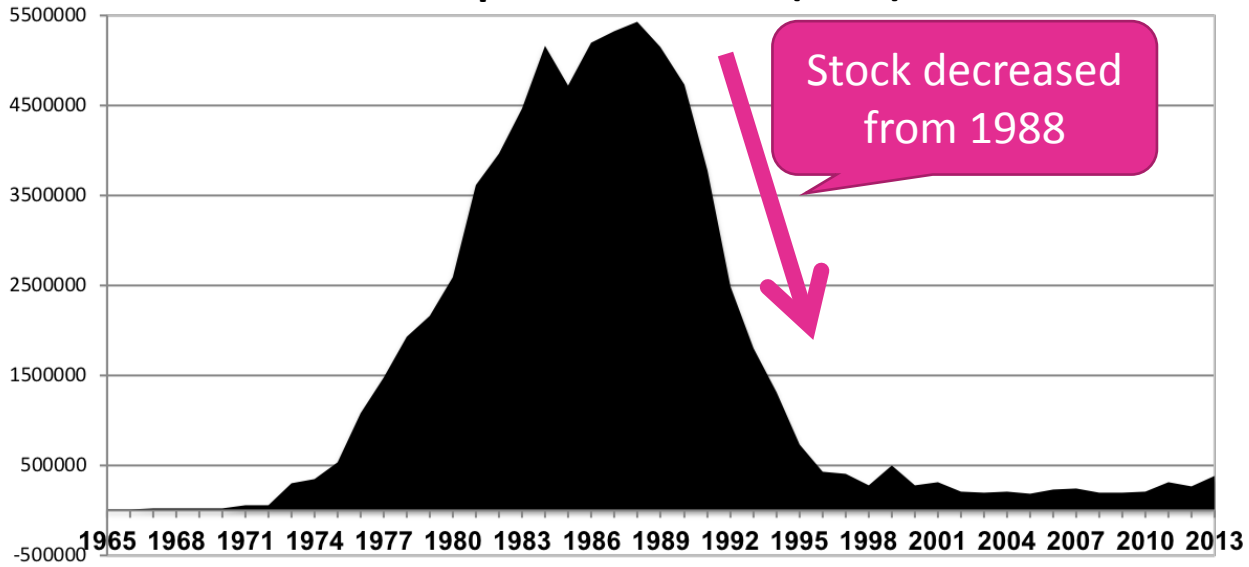


Life history of Japanese sardine

- **What we know about the environmental change influence on the Japanese sardine stock fluctuation**
  - The same environmental change can explain a whole cycle (increase and decrease) of stock fluctuation?
  - The environmental change can explain the stock fluctuation sufficiently?
- **Future topics**

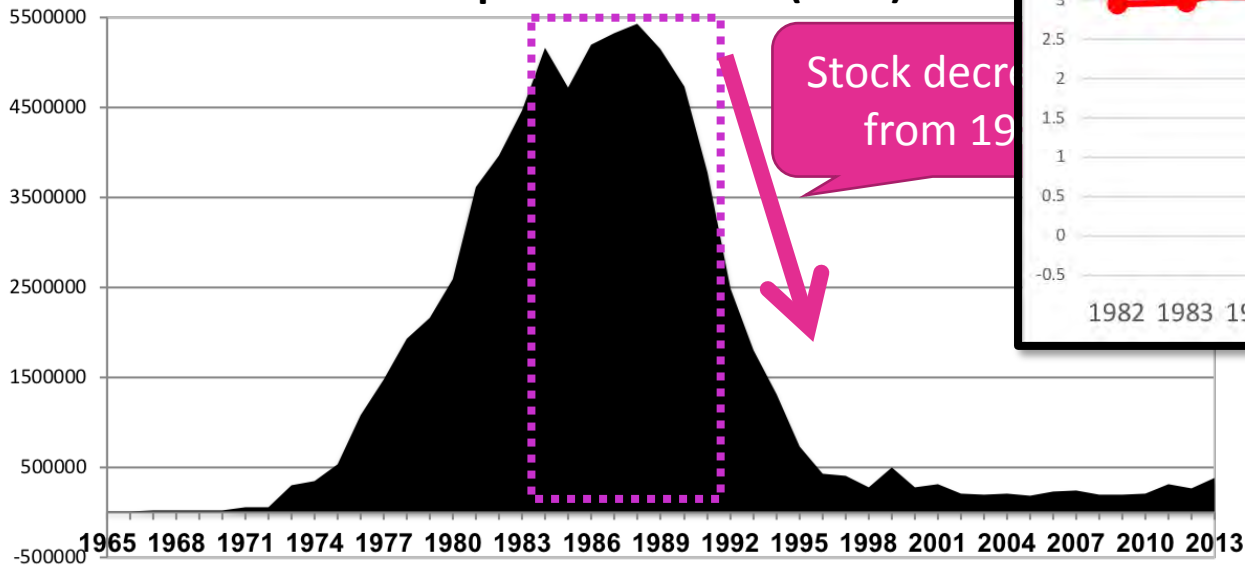
## Stock collapse in 1988

### Catch of Japanese sardine (tons)

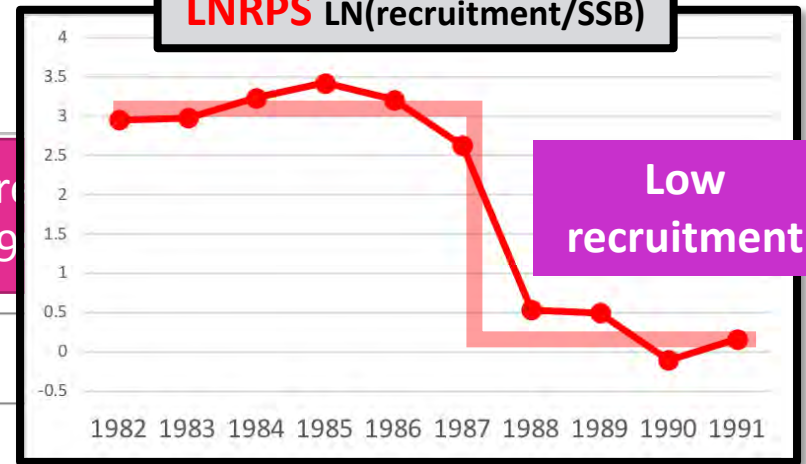


# Stock collapse in 1988

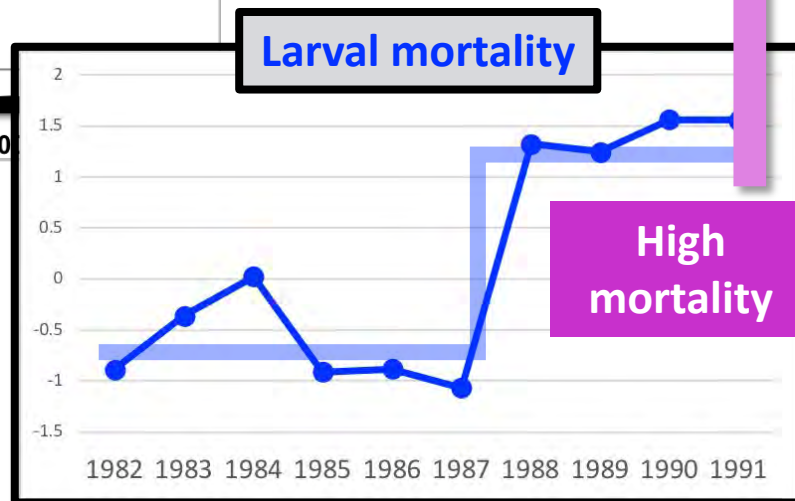
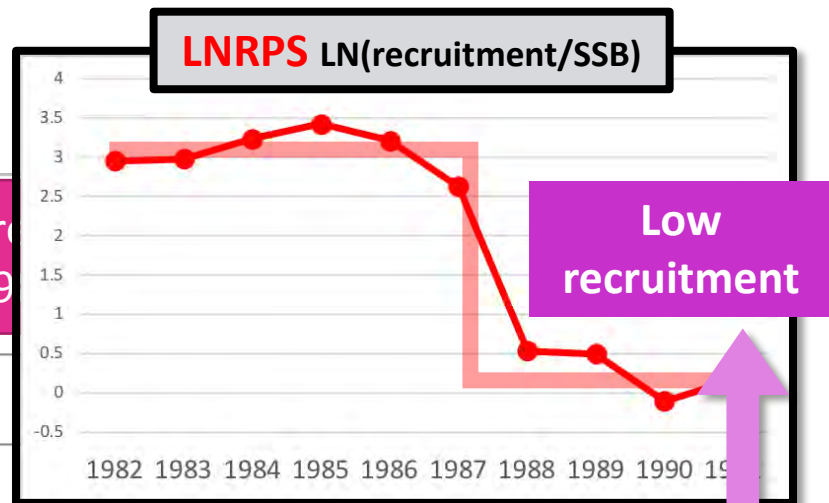
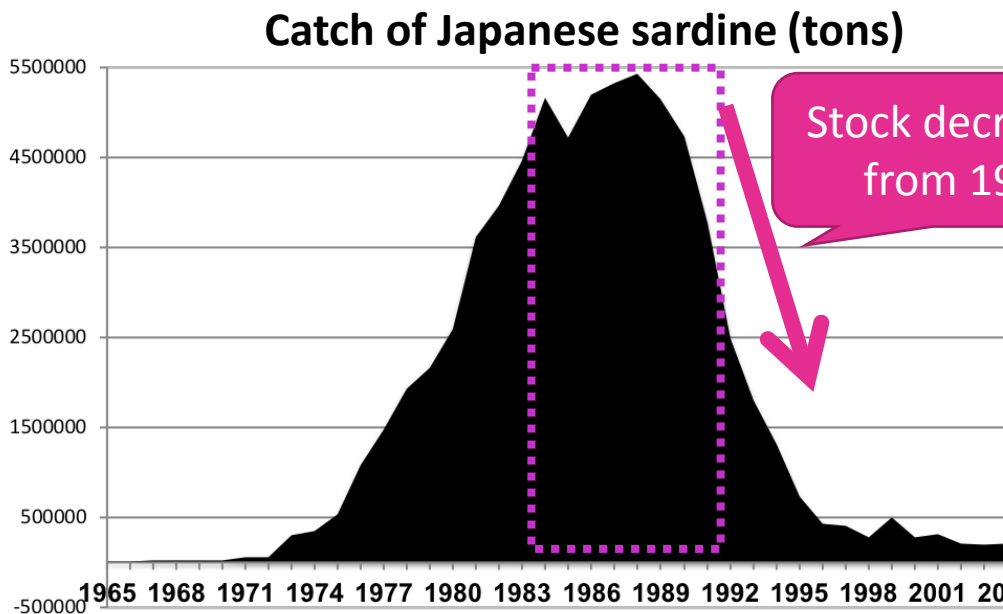
## Catch of Japanese sardine (tons)



## LNRPS LN(recruitment/SSB)



## Stock collapse in 1988

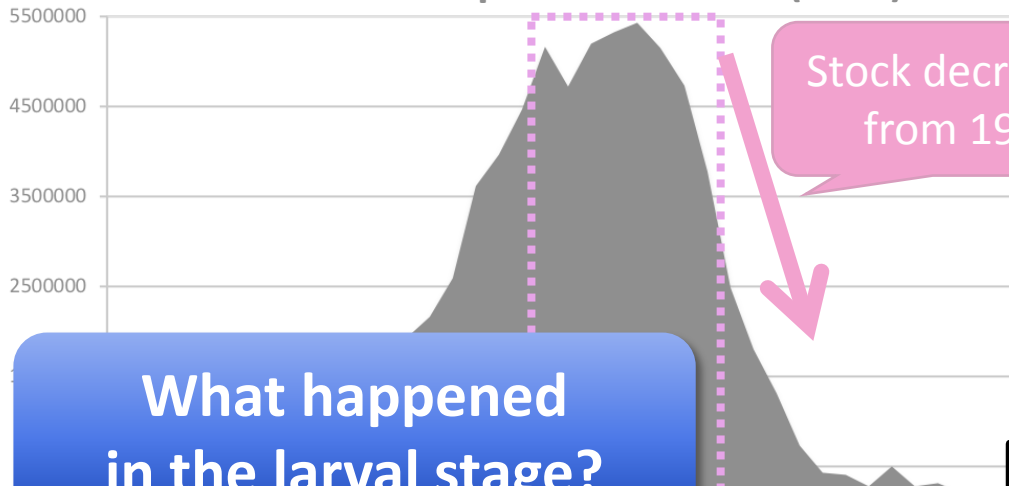


High larval mortality caused the stock decrease.

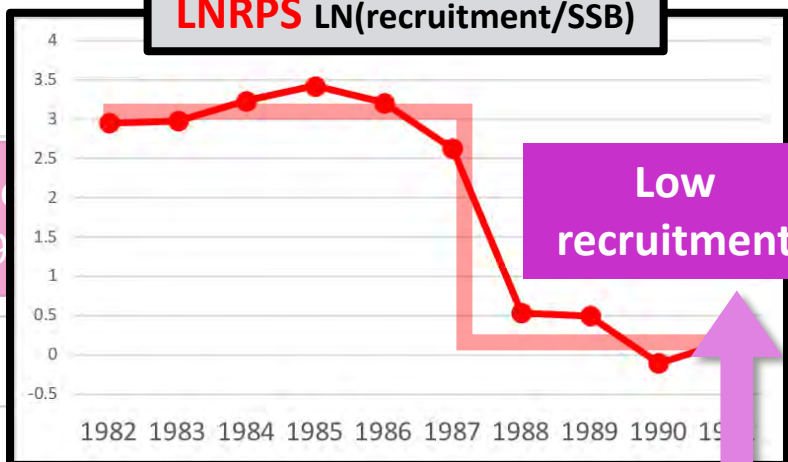


# Stock collapse in 1988

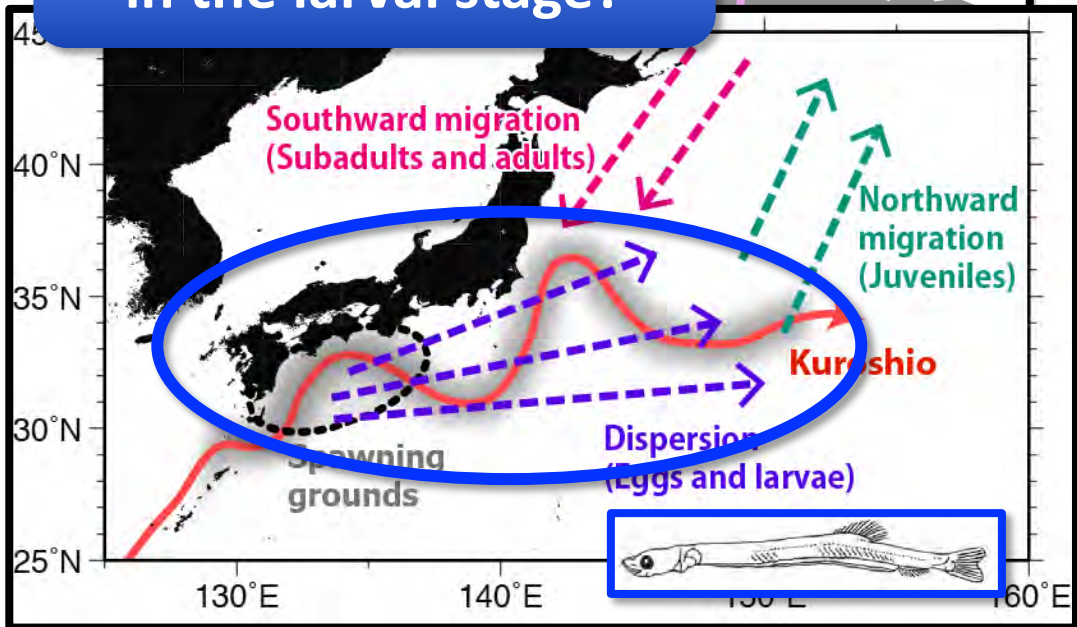
## Catch of Japanese sardine (tons)



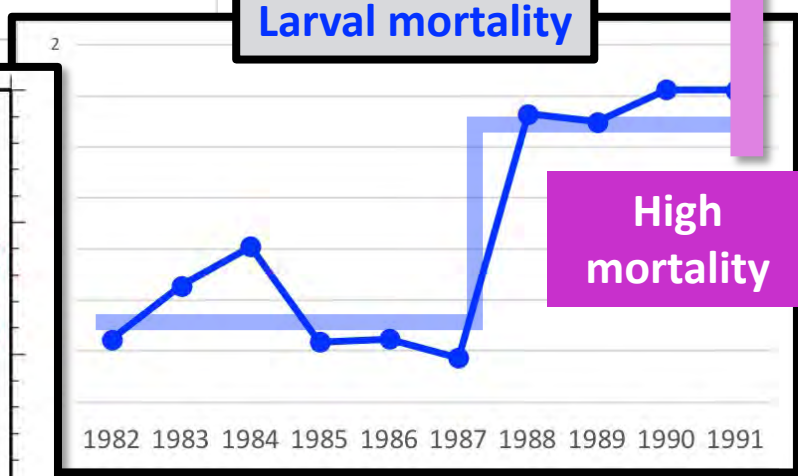
## LNRPS LN(recruitment/SSB)



What happened in the larval stage?

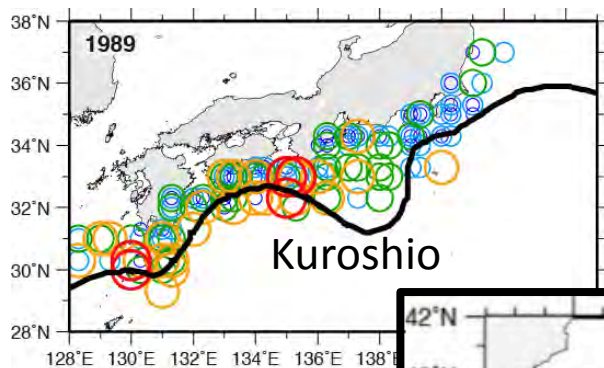


## Larval mortality



Watanabe et al. (1995)

## Distribution of the sardine larvae

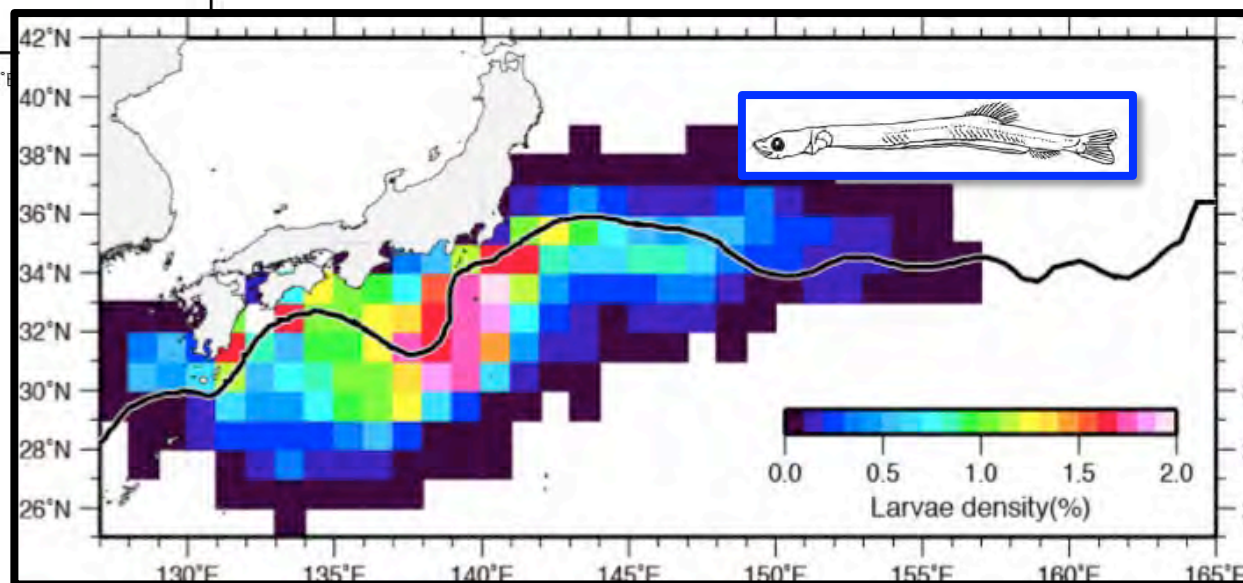


## Larval distribution area

Results of the particle tracking experiments from the spawning grounds.

## Observed egg distribution

(Oozeki et al., 2007; Takasuka et al., 2008)



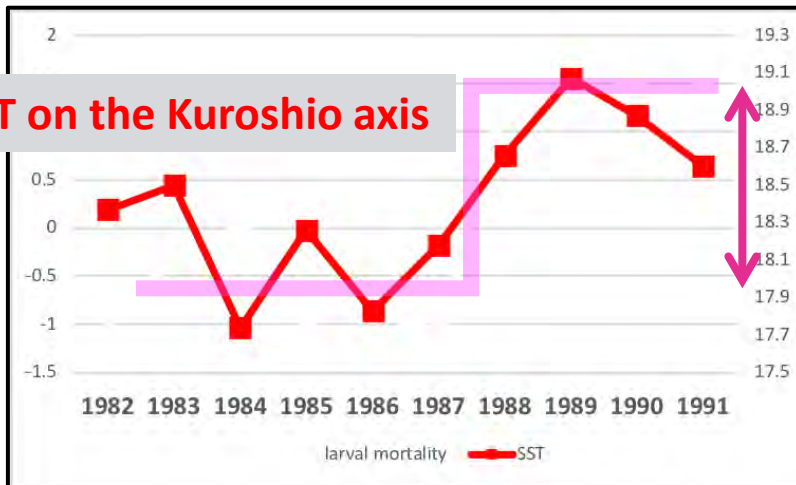
Nishikawa et al. (2013)

Main larval distribution area is

**the vicinity of the Kuroshio axis** from winter to spring.

# Environment of the Kuroshio axis and larval survival

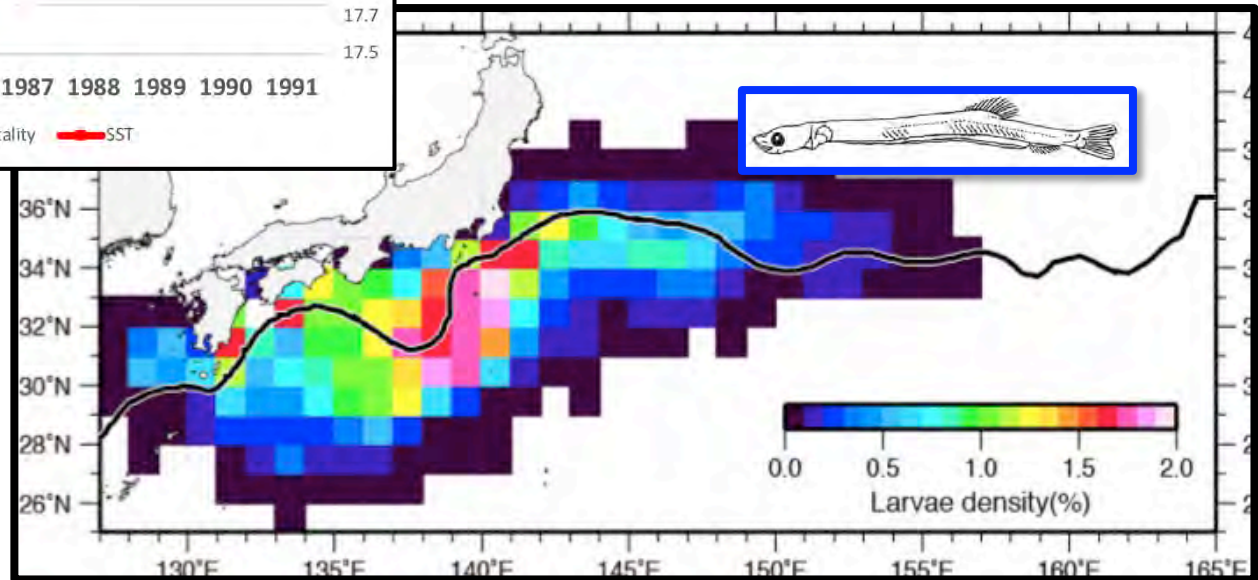
## SST on the Kuroshio axis



From 1988, the SST suddenly rose.

1°C

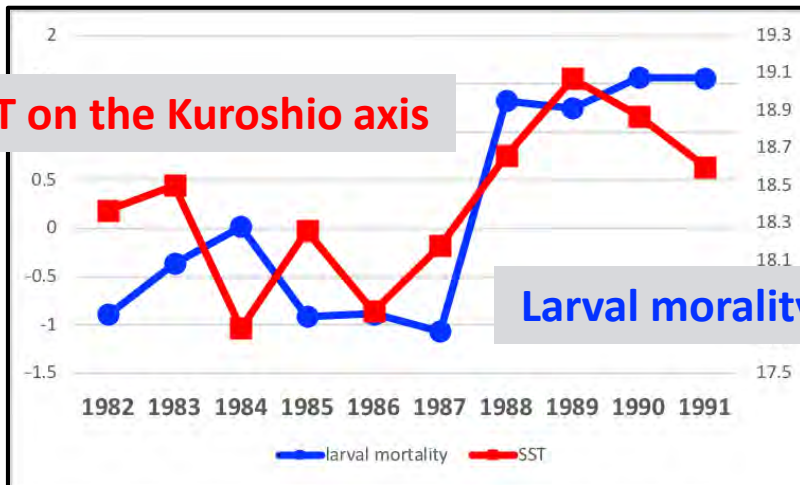
Nishikawa et al. (2011)



Nishikawa et al. (2013)

## Environment of the Kuroshio axis and larval survival

SST on the Kuroshio axis

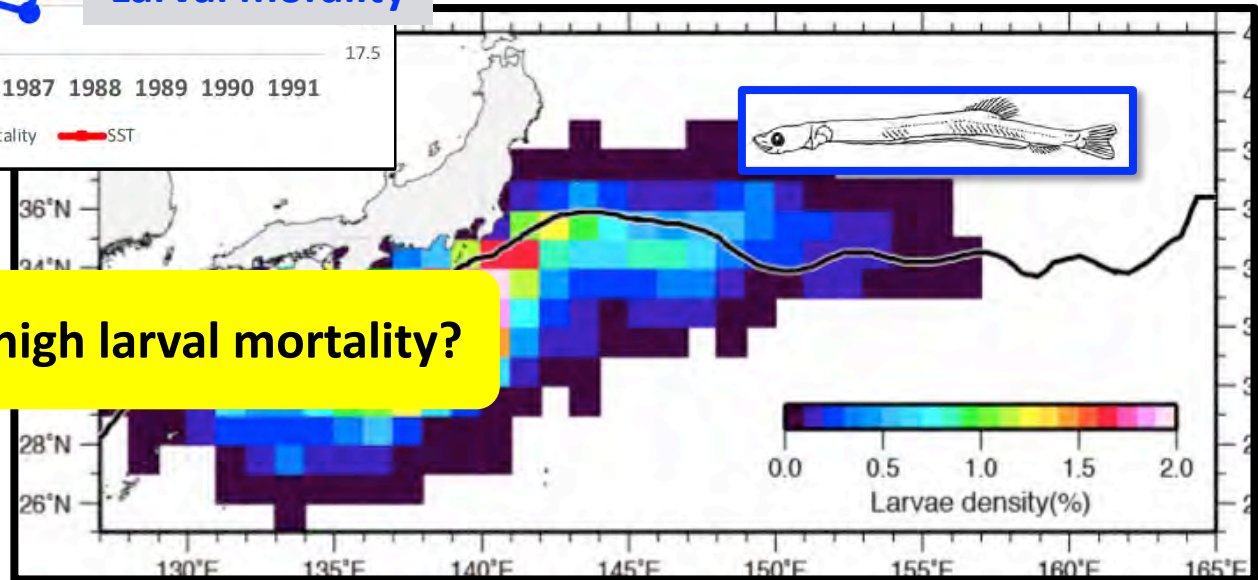


Larval mortality

From 1988, the SST suddenly rose.  
Then, the larval mortality increased.

Nishikawa et al. (2011)

High SST caused high larval mortality?



Nishikawa et al. (2013)

# Environment of the Kuroshio axis and larval survival

High SST



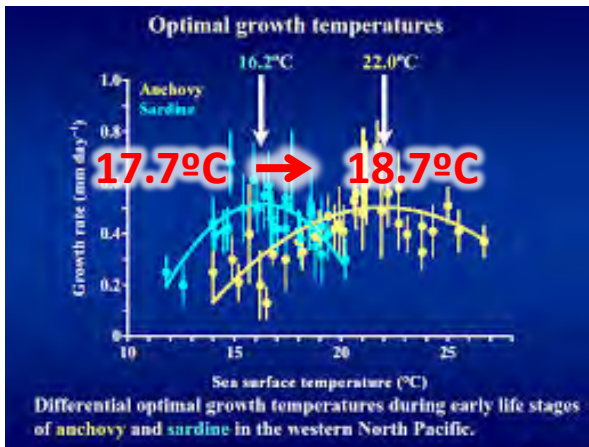
Weak mixing



Food shortage



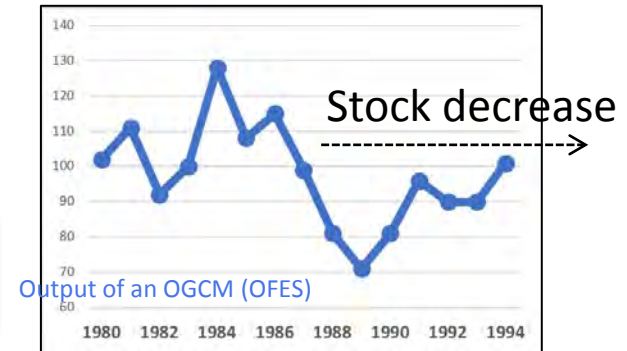
High mortality



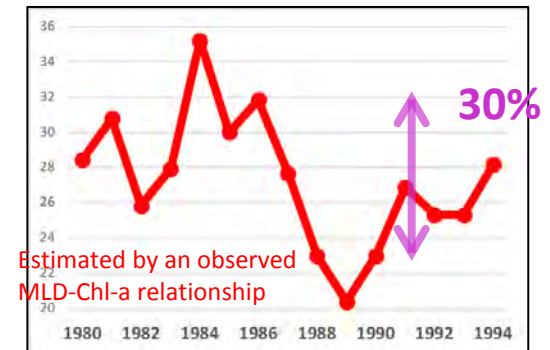
Takasuka et al. (2007)

High SST slows the larval growth

Winter MLD (m)

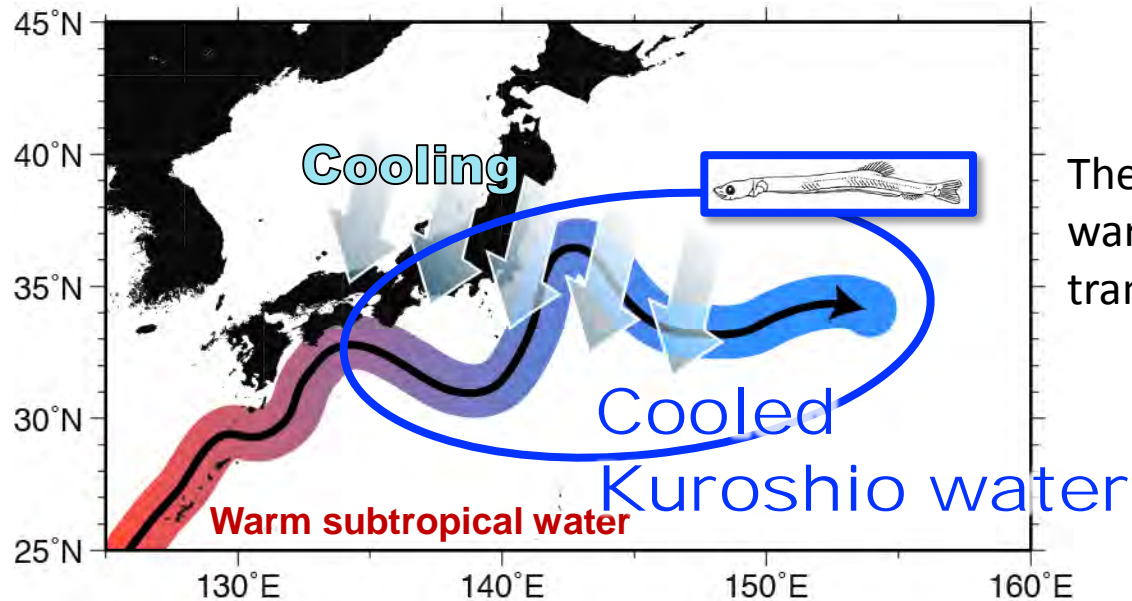


Spring Phytoplankton (mgC/m<sup>3</sup>)



High SST related to the low food availability via the vertical mixing

## Backgrounds of the SST rise

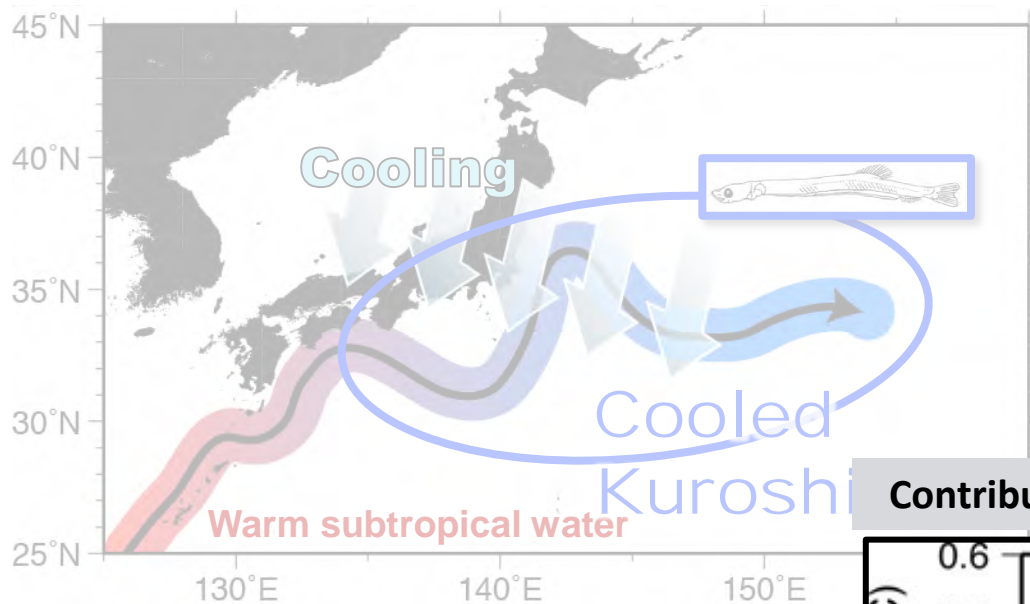


The original Kuroshio water is warm, and it cooled during transportation near Japan.

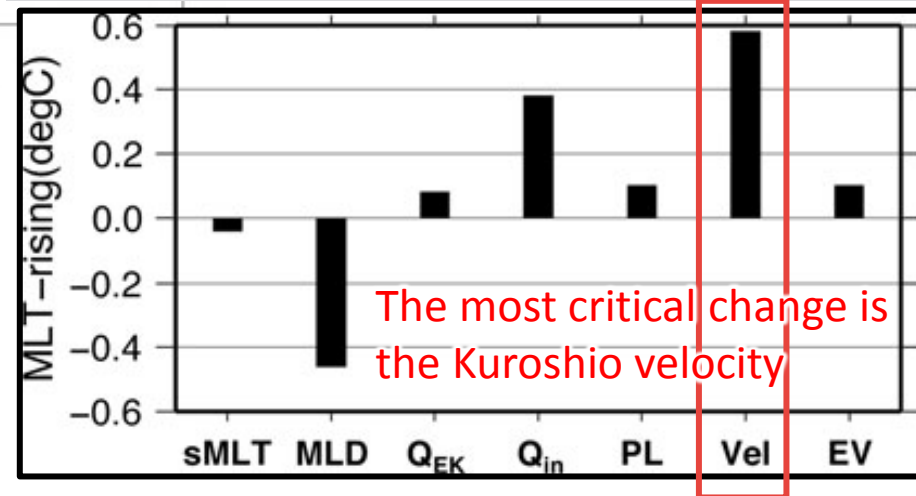
Major cooling process

- **Length of cooling period**
  - Kuroshio path length
  - Kuroshio velocity
- **Cooling intensity (net heat flux)**
- **Cold water entrainment**
  - Ekman pumping
  - Mixed layer development

## Backgrounds of the SST rise



Contributions of each component to the SST rise

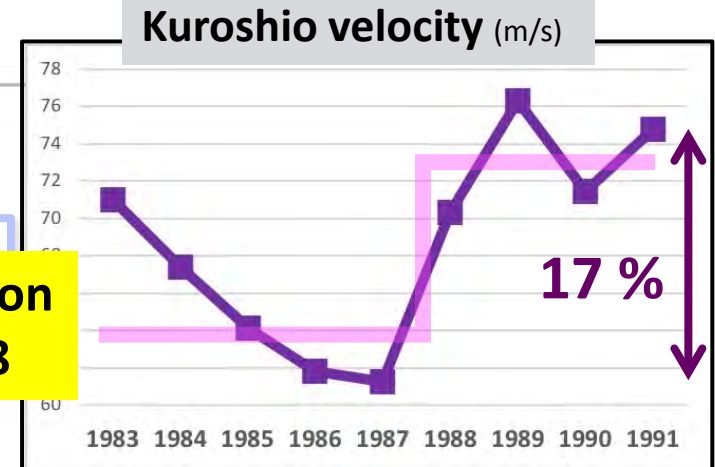
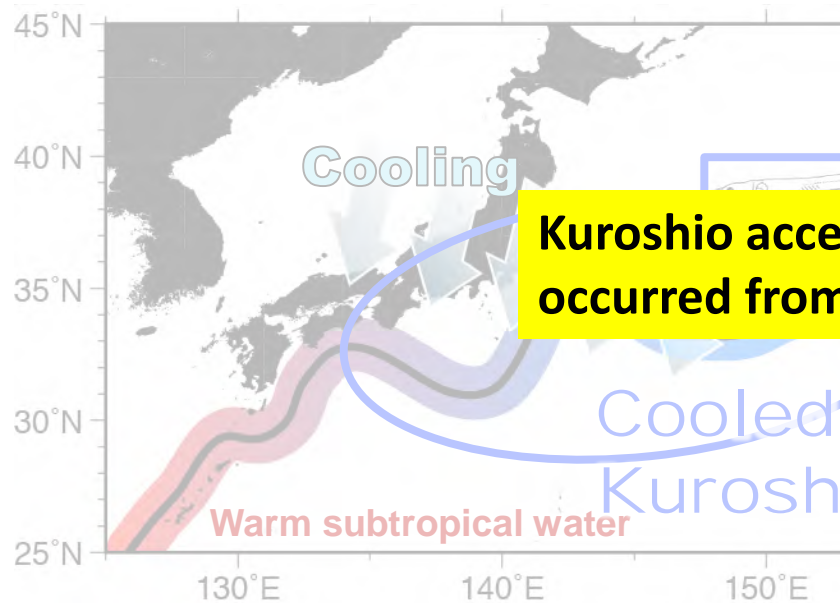


Major cooling process

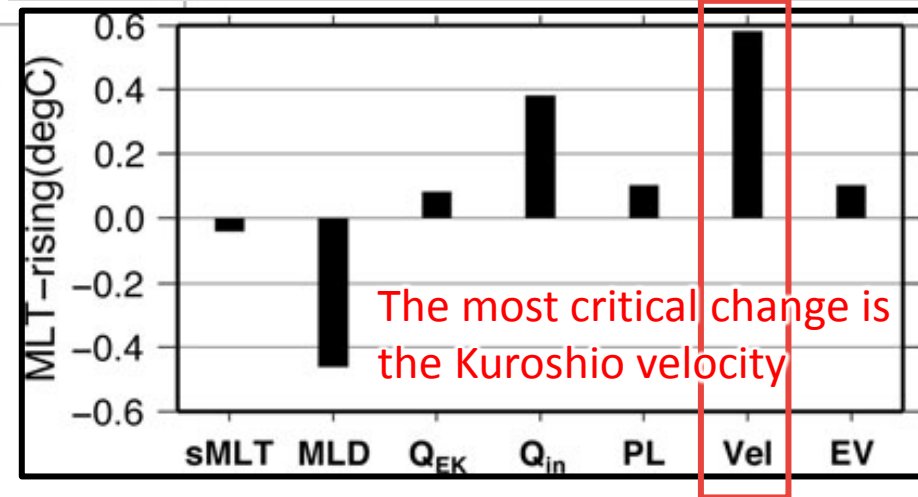
- Length of cooling period
  - Kuroshio path length
  - **Kuroshio velocity**
- Cooling intensity (net heat flux)
- Cold water entrainment
  - Ekman pumping
  - Mixed layer development development

Nishikawa and Yasuda (2011)

## Backgrounds of the SST rise



## Contributions of each component to the SST rise

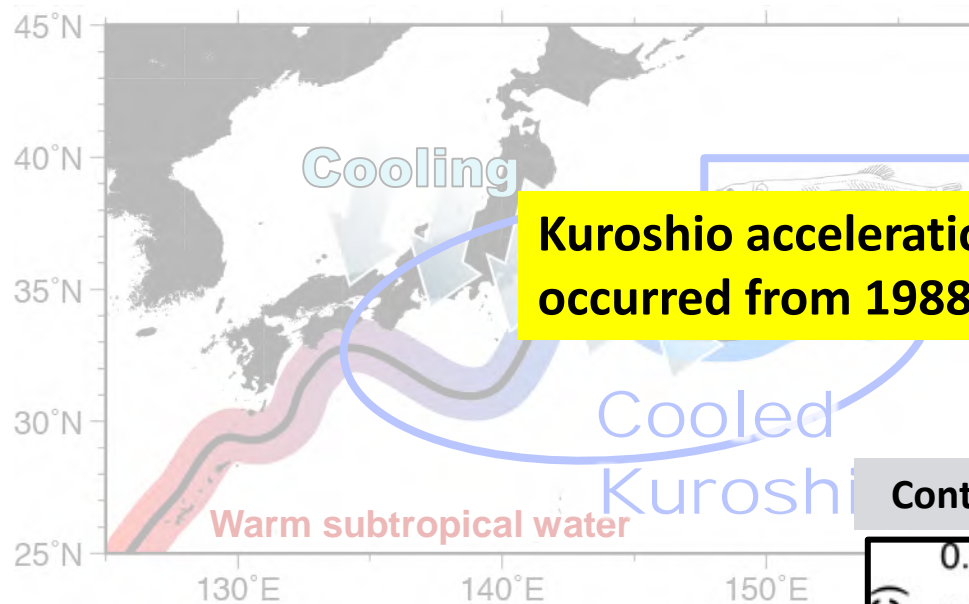


### Major cooling process

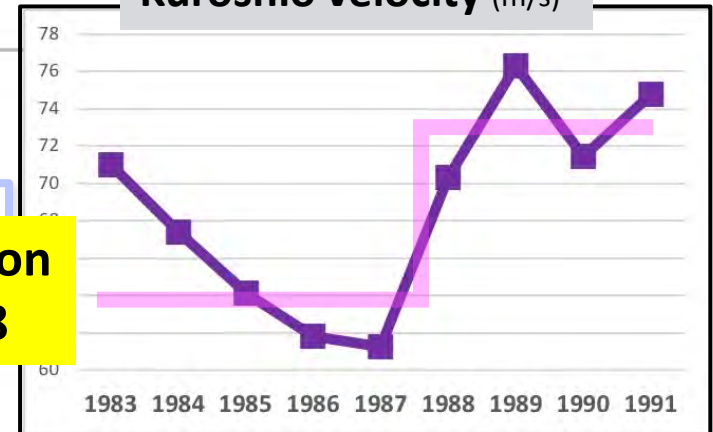
- Length of cooling period
  - Kuroshio path length
  - **Kuroshio velocity**
- Cooling intensity (net heat flux)
- Cold water entrainment
  - Ekman pumping
  - Mixed layer development development



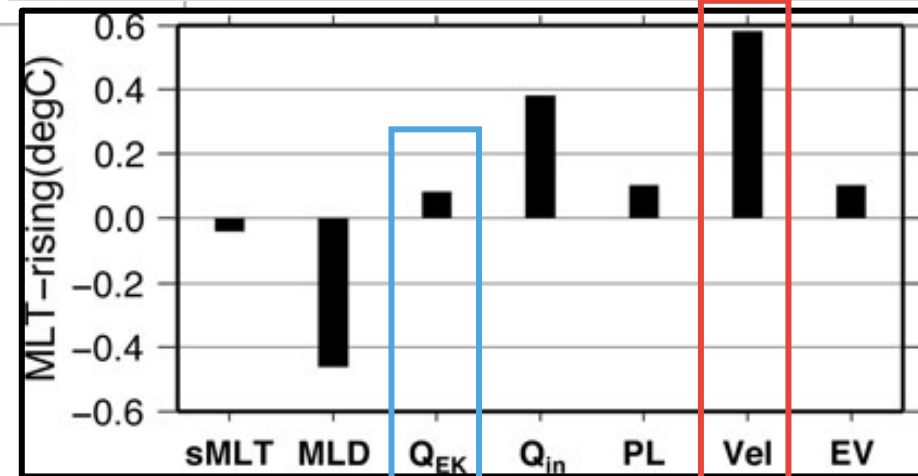
## Backgrounds of the SST rise



Kuroshio velocity (m/s)



Contributions of each component to the SST rise

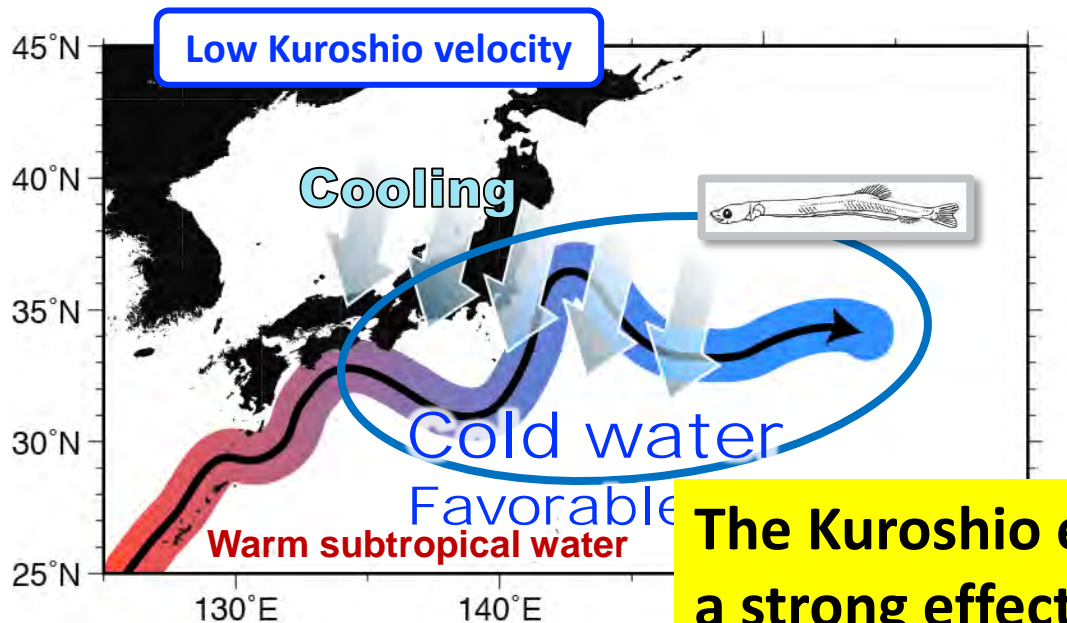


Ekman pumping did not change during sardine decrease period.

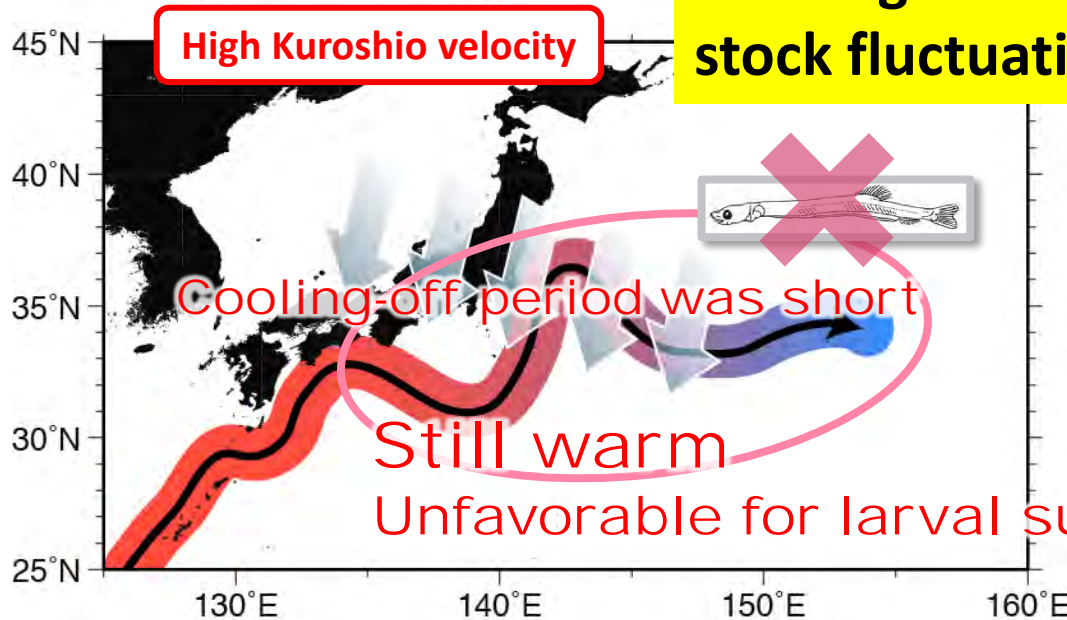
Major cooling process

- Length of cooling period
  - Kuroshio path length
  - **Kuroshio velocity**
- Cooling intensity (net heat flux)
- Cold water entrainment
  - **Ekman pumping**
  - **Mixed layer development development**

# Sardine stock fluctuation and environmental change

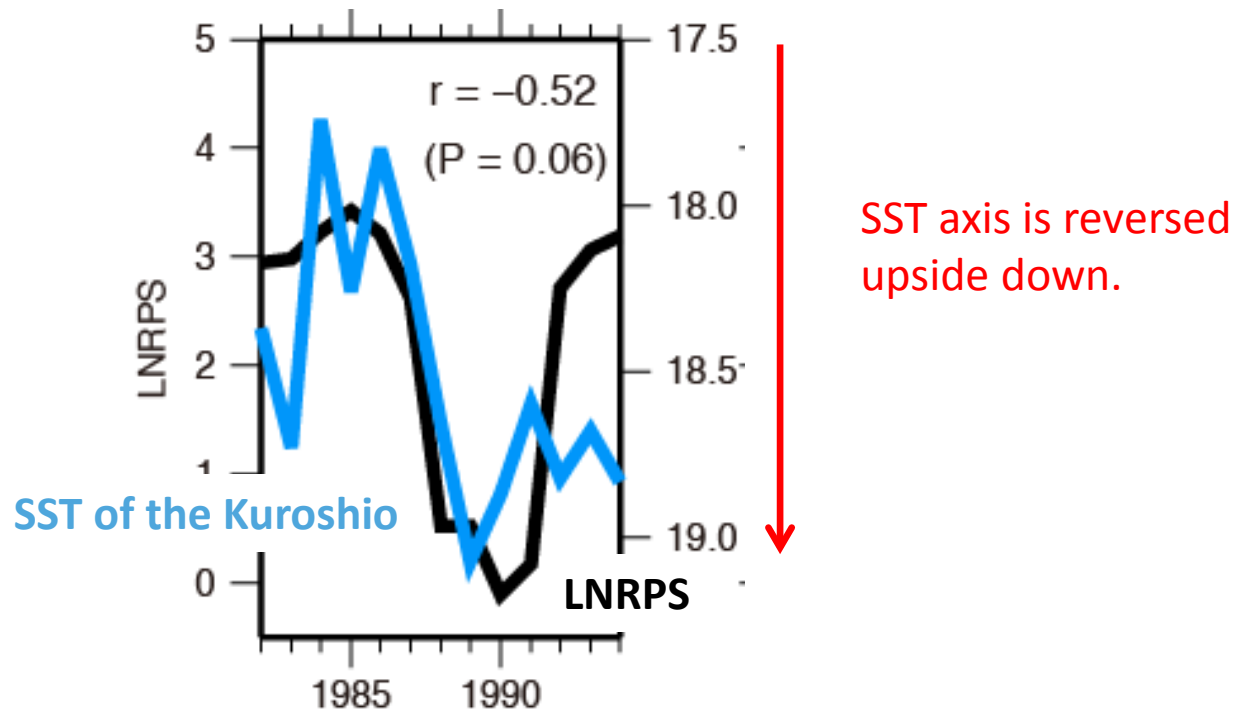


**The Kuroshio environmental change has a strong effect on the Japanese sardine stock fluctuation.**



## How about the increasing period?

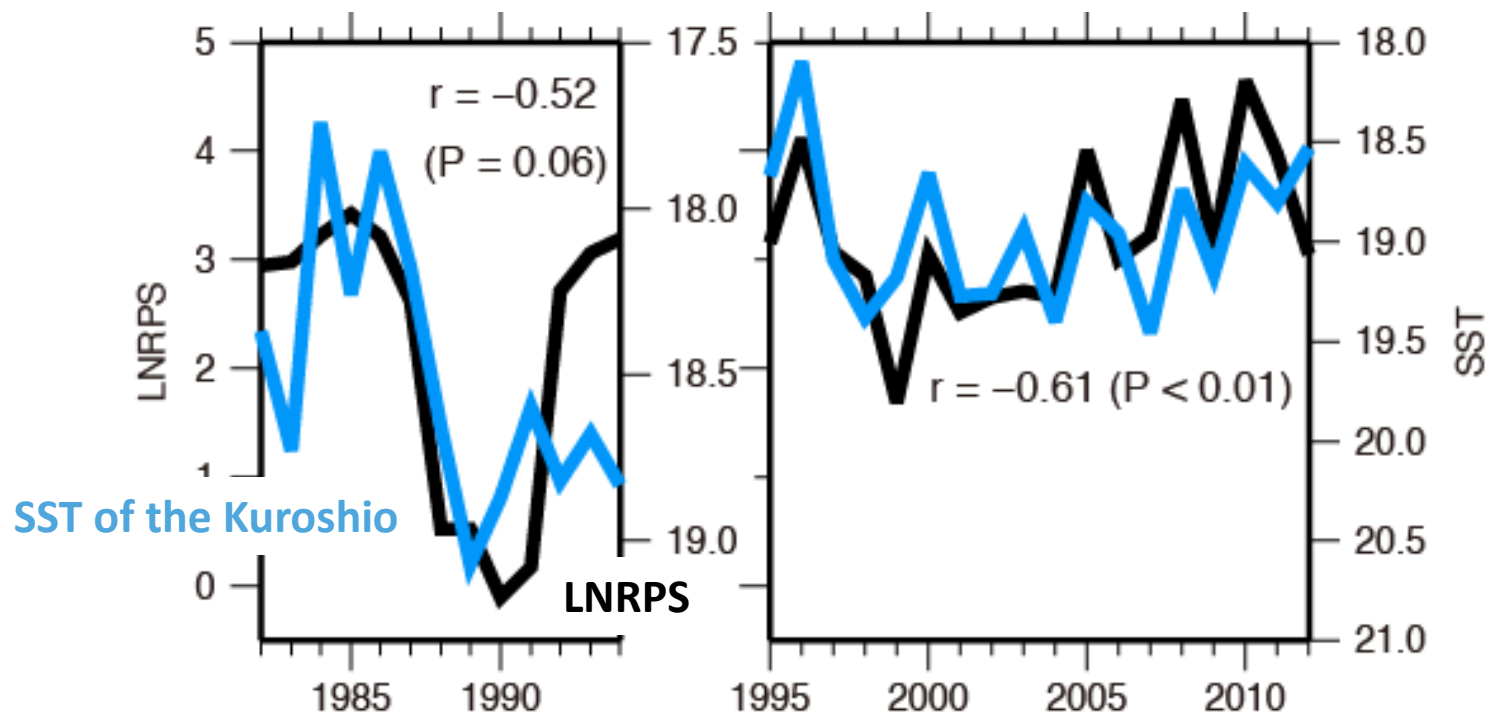
SST variation in the stock decreasing period (1982–1994) was corresponding to the LNRPS variation.



LNRPS:  $\text{LN}(\text{recruitment}/\text{SSB})$ , an index of the recruitment success.

## How about the increasing period?

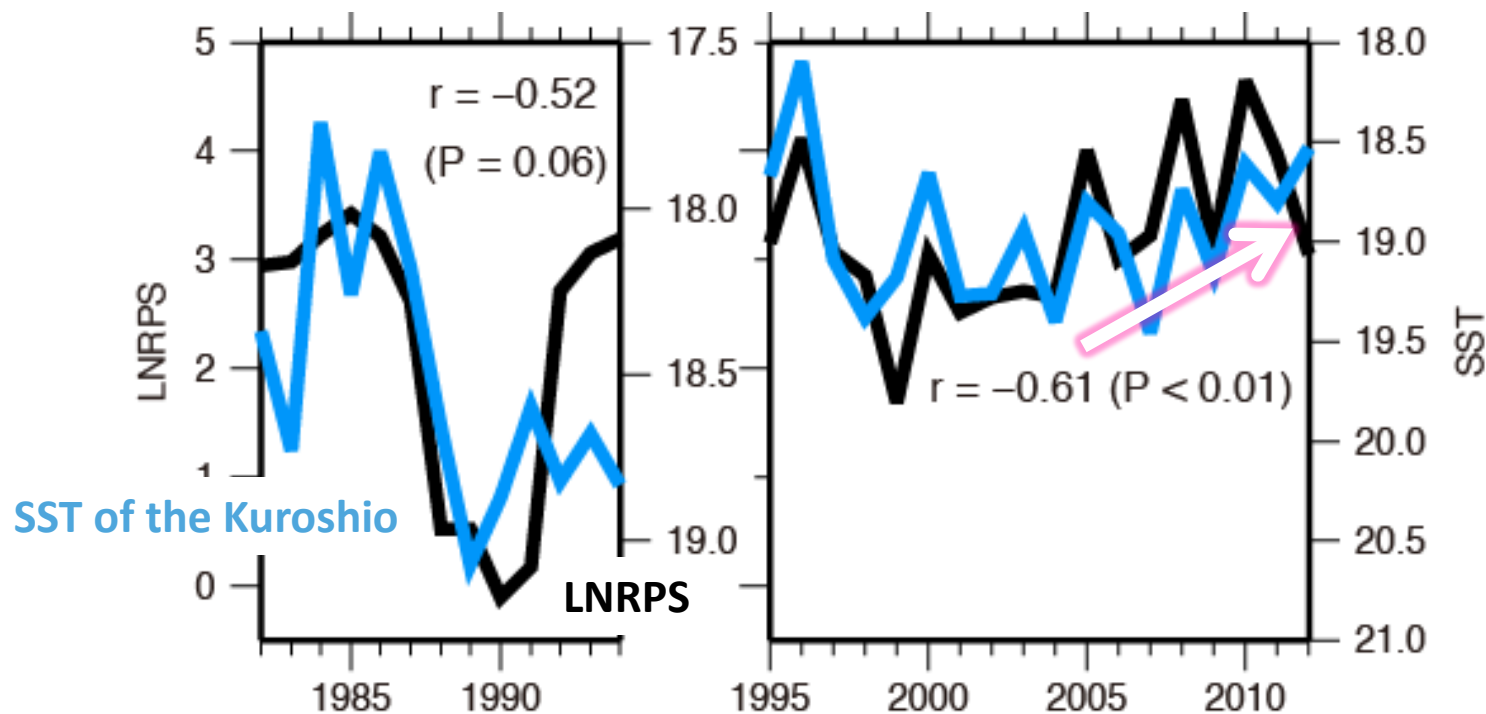
SST variation in the stock decreasing period (1982–1994) was corresponding to the LNRPS variation.



**SST–LNRPS relationship seems to exist in the stock increasing period from 1995.**

## How about the increasing period?

SST variation in the stock decreasing period (1982–1994) was corresponding to the LNRPS variation.



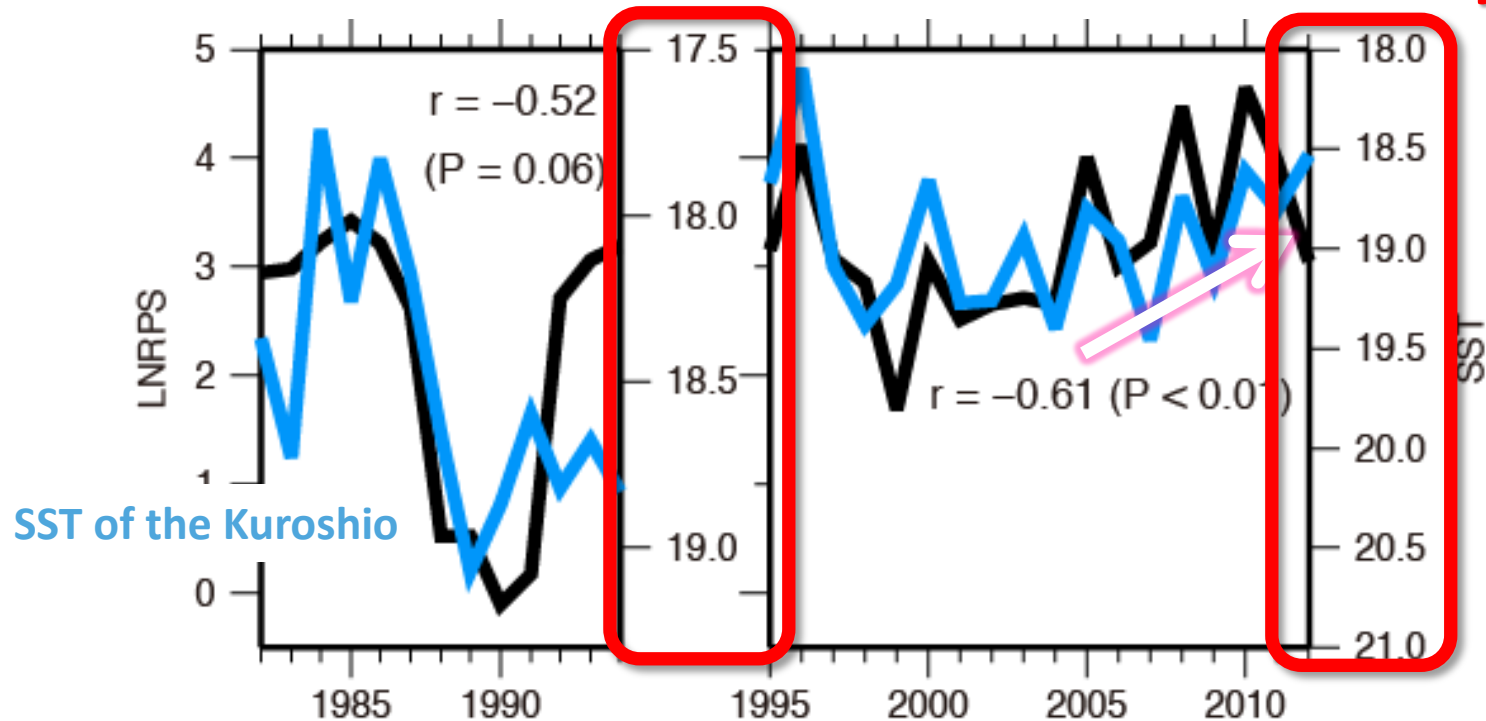
**SST–LNRPS relationship seems to exist in the stock increasing period from 1995.**

**The recent stock recovery was a result of low SST?**

## How about the increasing period?

SST variation in the stock decreasing period (1982–1994) was corresponding to the LNRPS variation.

**SST axis is adjusted**

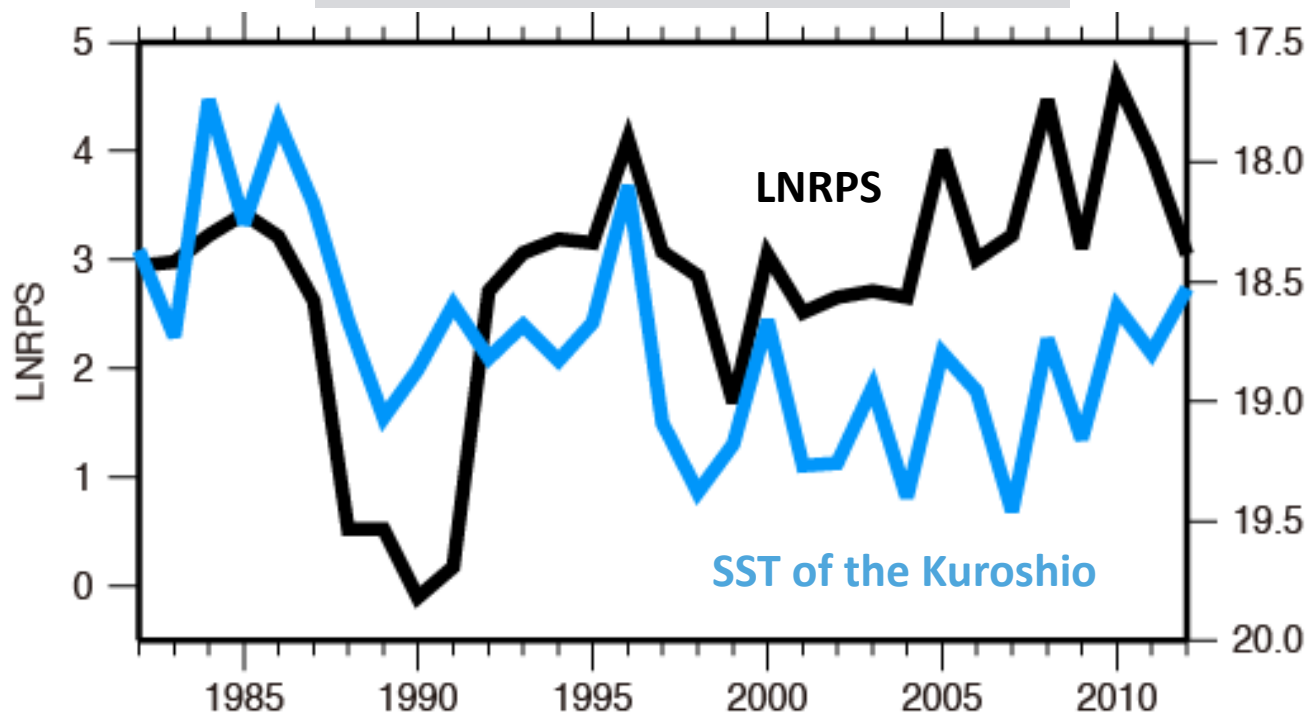


**SST–LNRPS relationship seems to exist in the stock increasing period from 1995.**

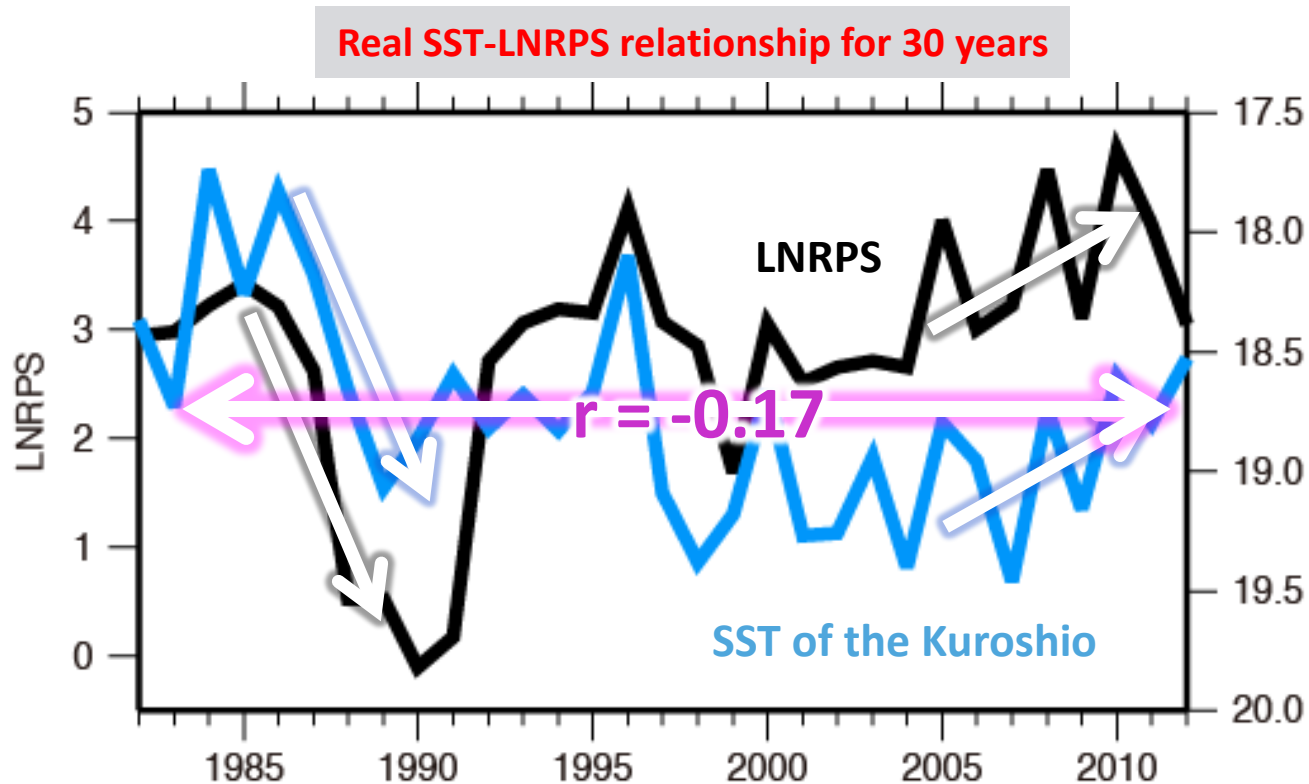
**The recent stock recovery was a result of low SST?**

## How about the increasing period?

Real SST-LNRPS relationship for 30 years



## How about the increasing period?



Decreasing and increasing tendencies occurred at the same time.

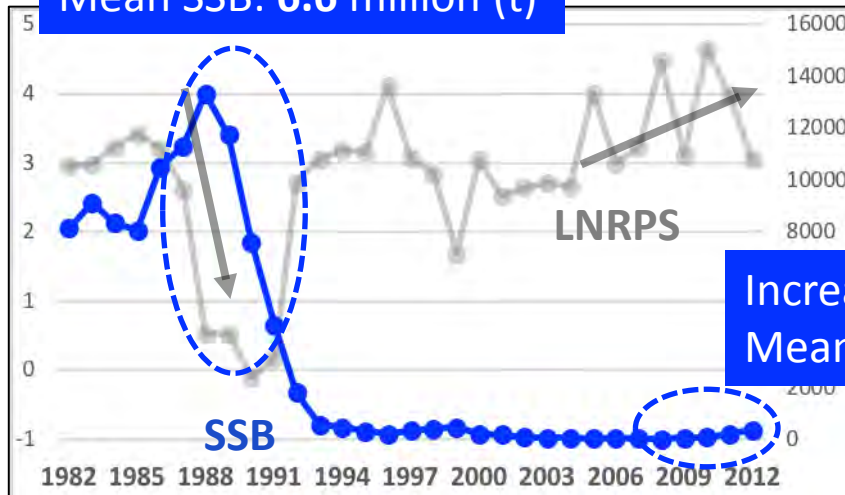
**But the correlation coefficient for 30 years, including decrease and increase period is not significant.**

**Kuroshio environment was not an only explanatory variable for the stock variation.**



## The other explanatory variable

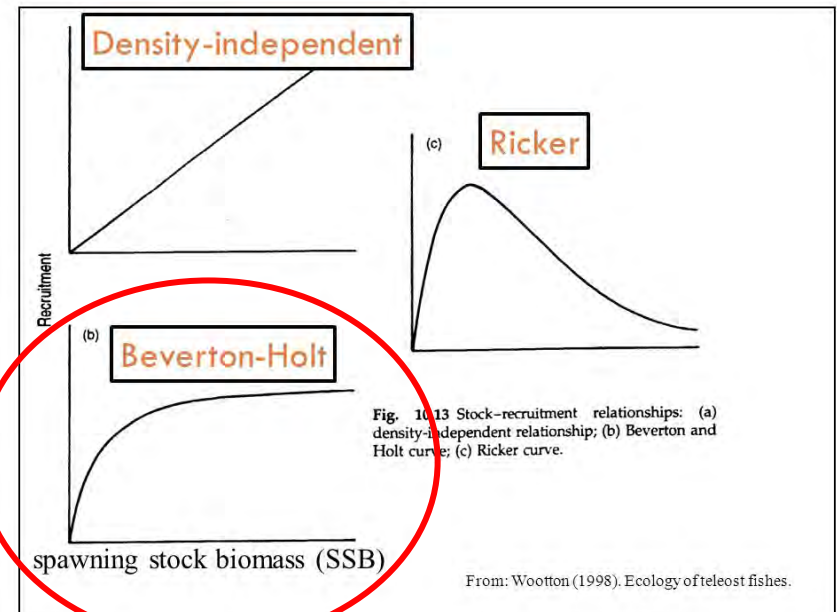
Decreasing period  
Mean SSB: 6.6 million (t)



Increasing period  
Mean SSB: 121 (t)

A big difference between the stock decreasing period and increasing period is SSB (Spawning Stock Biomass).

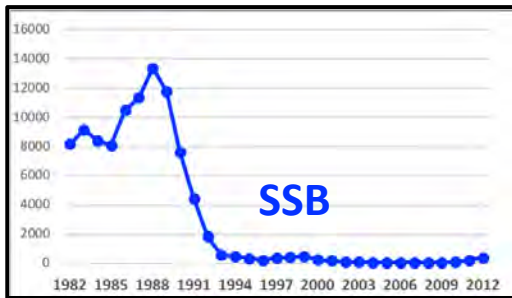
SSB-recruitment relationship should be considered to explain the LNRPS variation.



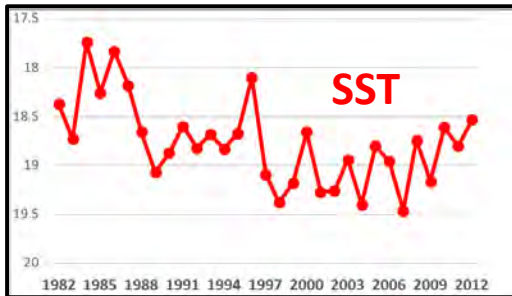
## LNRPS estimation model

$$\text{LNRPS} = -\ln(1 + aSSB) + bSST + c$$

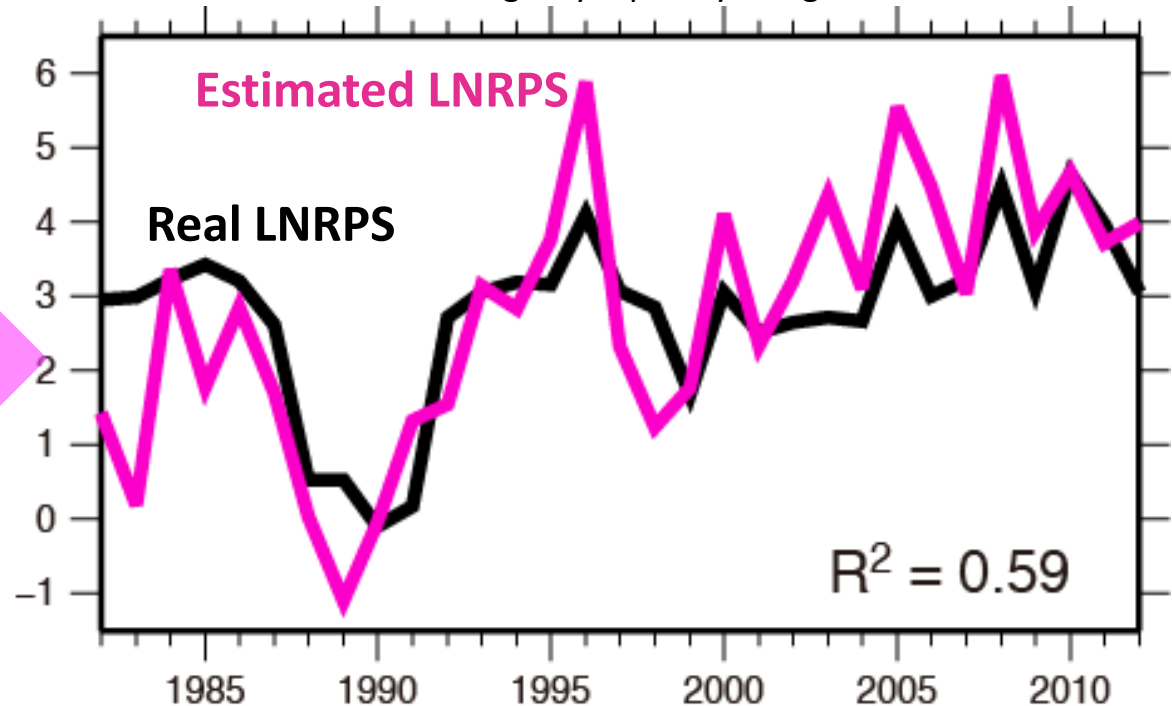
$a = -0.0002$ ,  $b = -1.50886$ ,  $c = 31.9789$



+



LNRPS

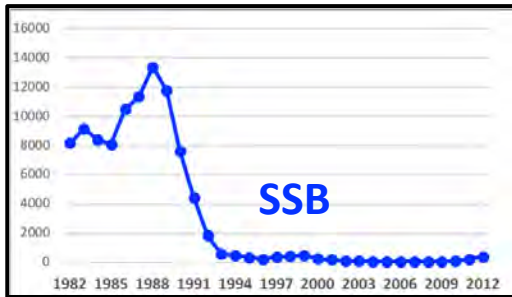


The decreasing and increasing tendencies of LNRPS are controlled by the environmental change. SSB determines the baseline of LNRPS.

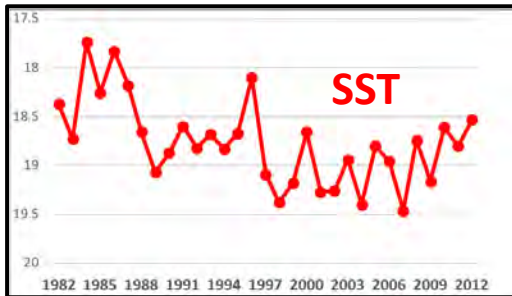
## LNRPS estimation model

$$\text{LNRPS} = -\ln(1 + aSSB) + bSST + c$$

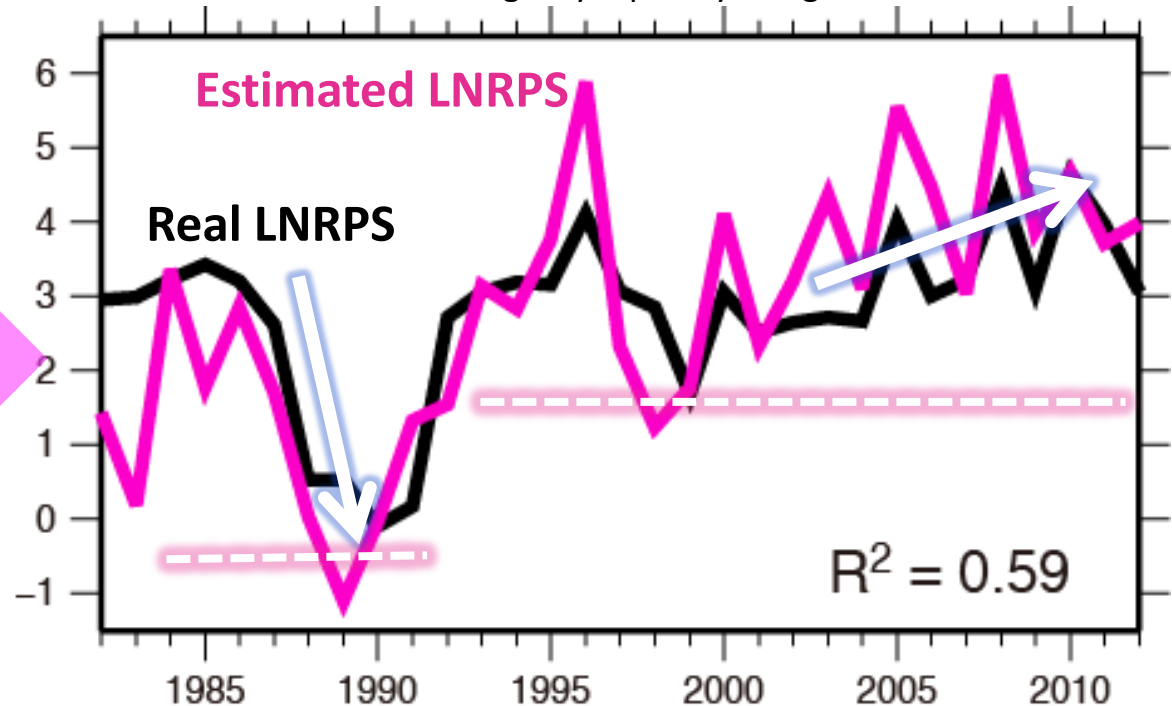
$a = -0.0002$ ,  $b = -1.50886$ ,  $c = 31.9789$



+



LNRPS



Real LNRPS is estimated by the Fisheries Agency Japan by using observation data

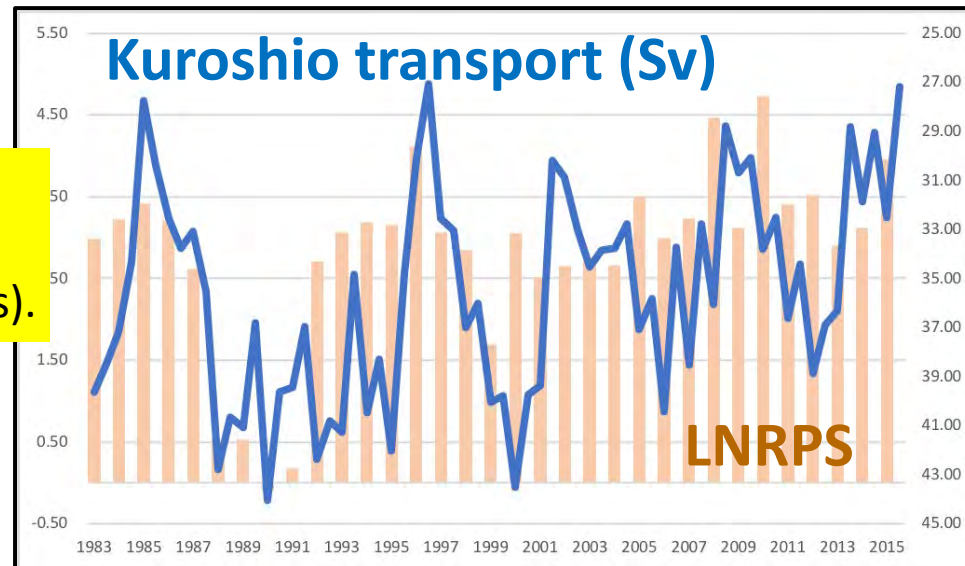
The decreasing and increasing tendencies of LNRPS are controlled by the environmental change. SSB determines the baseline of LNRPS.

# What we know about the environmental change influence on the Japanese sardine stock fluctuation

The **Kuroshio condition** (warm or cold), which is under the influence of the Kuroshio velocity is the principal factor of the stock interannual variation.

But, the **density effect** also affected the recruitment absolute value.

Observed Kuroshio transport and LNRPS



**Kuroshio intensification (weakening) linked to the recruitment failure (success).**

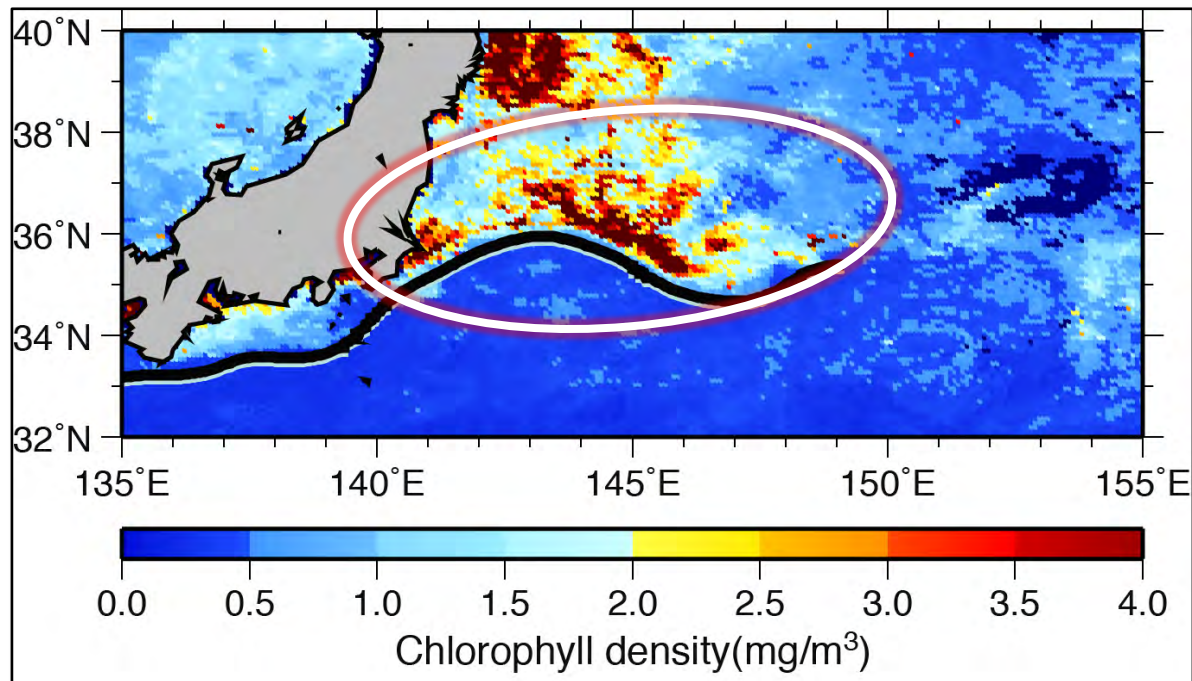
Kuroshio transport axis is reversed upside down

## Kuroshio productivity

The Kuroshio is nutrient-poor water? Actually, not.

**The Kuroshio front is productive** (Nakata et al., 1995).

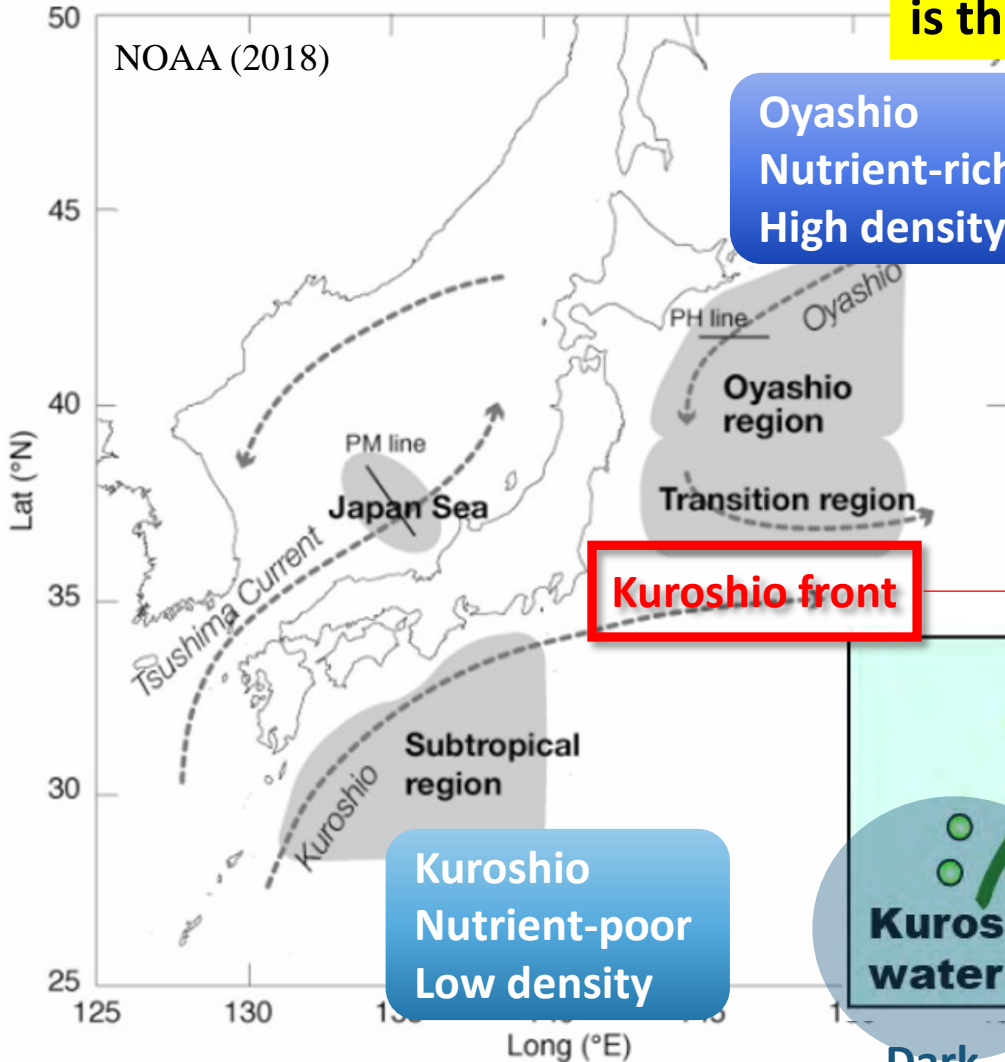
The productivity is comparable to other upwelling regions.



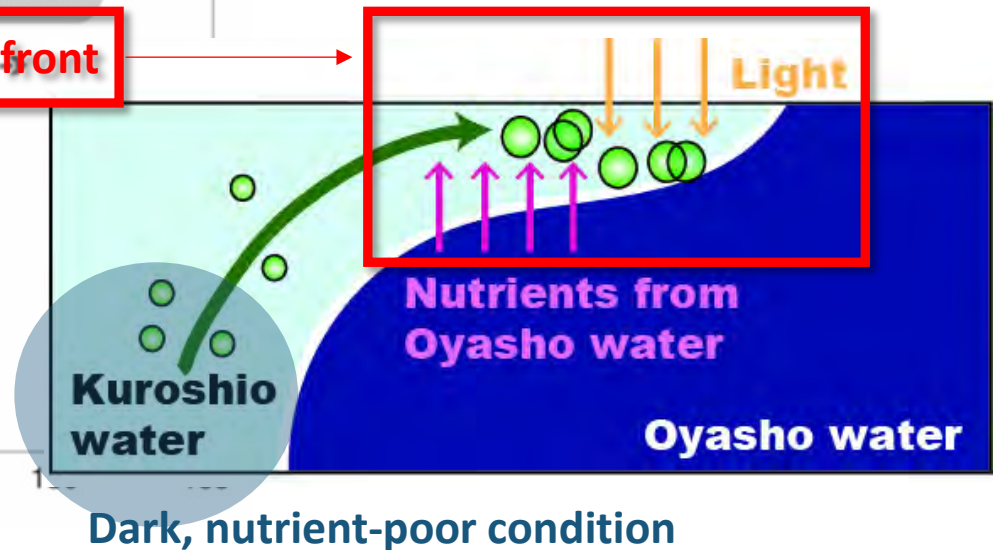
Chlorophyll a density off the coast of Japan in April 2004 (SeaWiFS data).

# Kuroshio productivity

One of the possible nutrient source is the Oyashio.



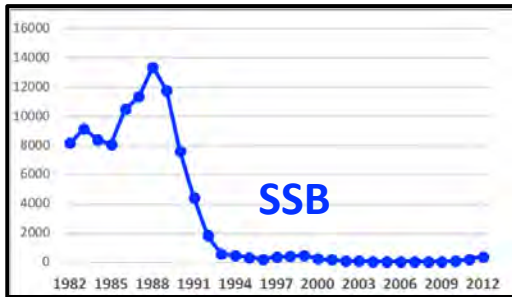
**Kuroshio-Oyashio layered structure**  
Light Kuroshio water runs on the dense Oyashio water. The surface Kuroshio plankton can use nutrient from Oyashio water for photosynthesis.



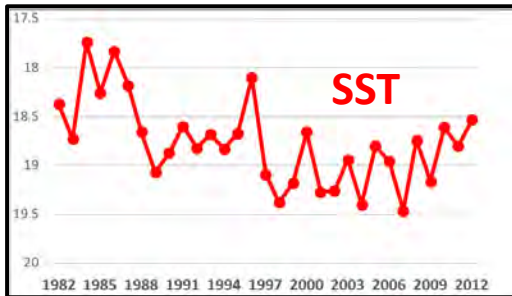
## LNRPS estimation model

$$\text{LNRPS} = -\ln(1 + a\text{SSB}) + b\text{SST} + c$$

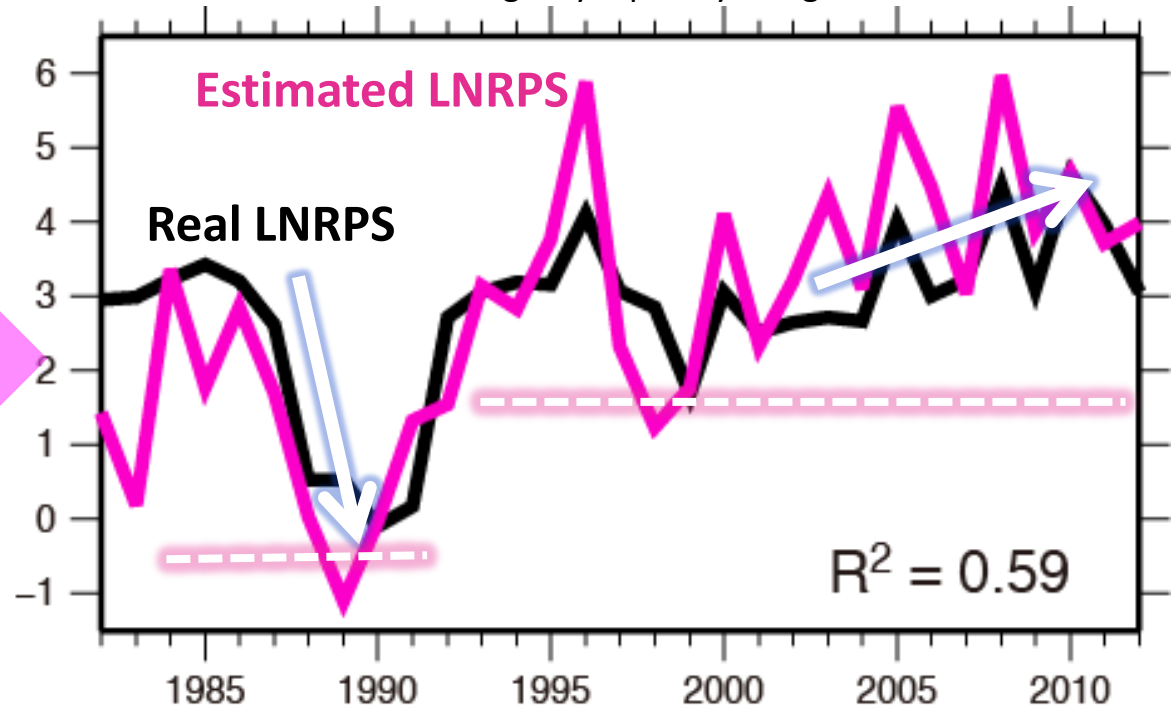
$a = -0.0002$ ,  $b = -1.50886$ ,  $c = 31.9789$



+



LNRPS



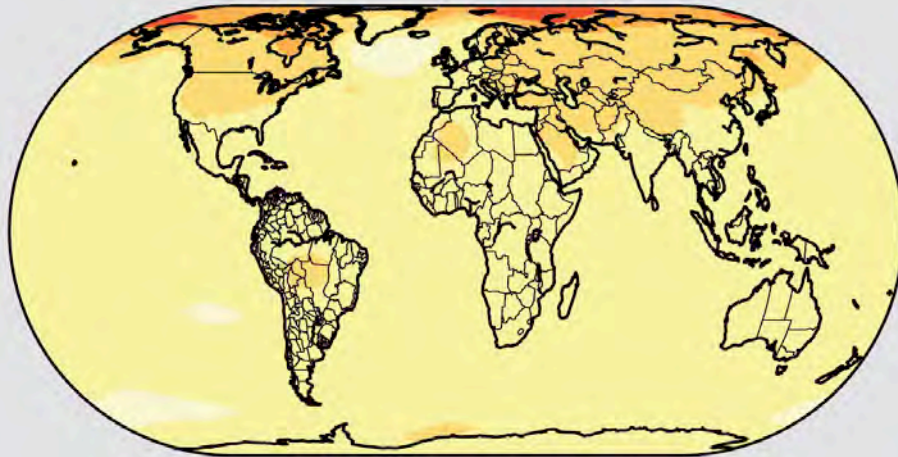
Real LNRPS is estimated by the Fisheries Agency Japan by using observation data

The decreasing and increasing tendencies of LNRPS are controlled by the environmental change. SSB determines the baseline of LNRPS.

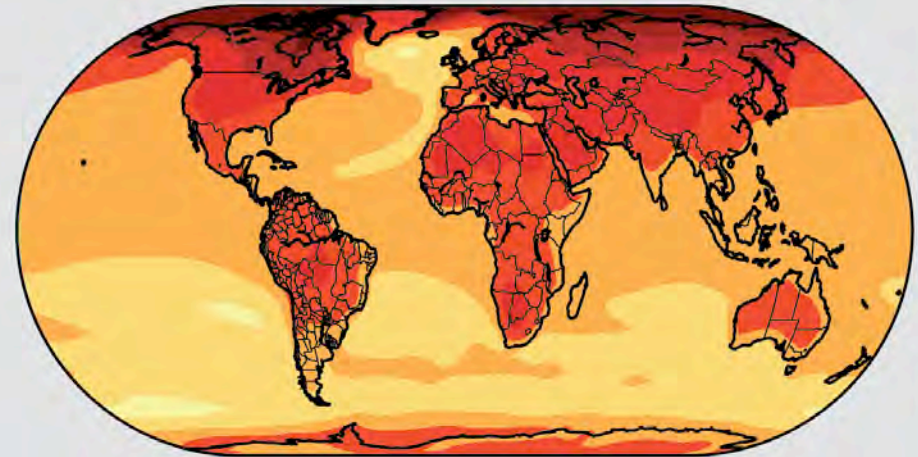
# Japanese sardine stock in future under the global warming condition

## Projected Change in Average Annual Temperature

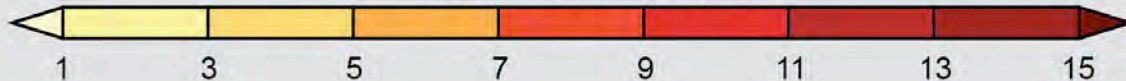
Rapid Emissions Reductions (RCP 2.6)



Continued Emissions Increases (RCP 8.5)



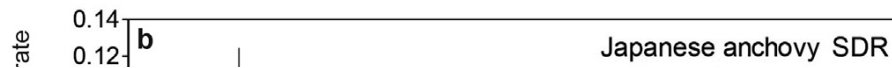
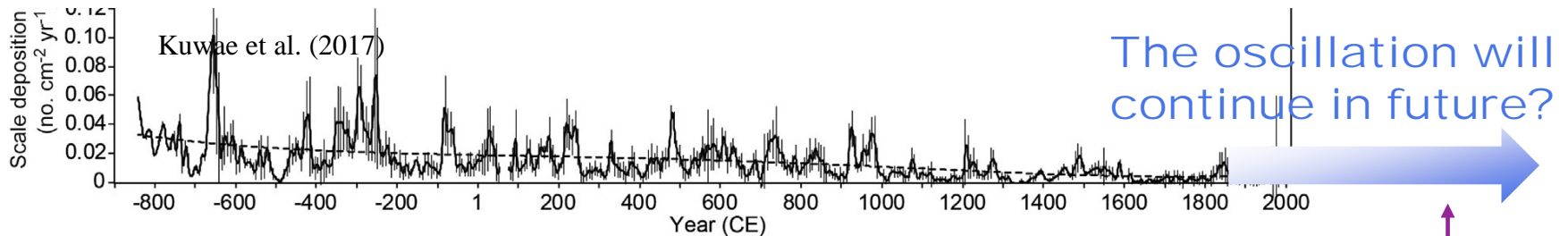
Temperature Change (°F)





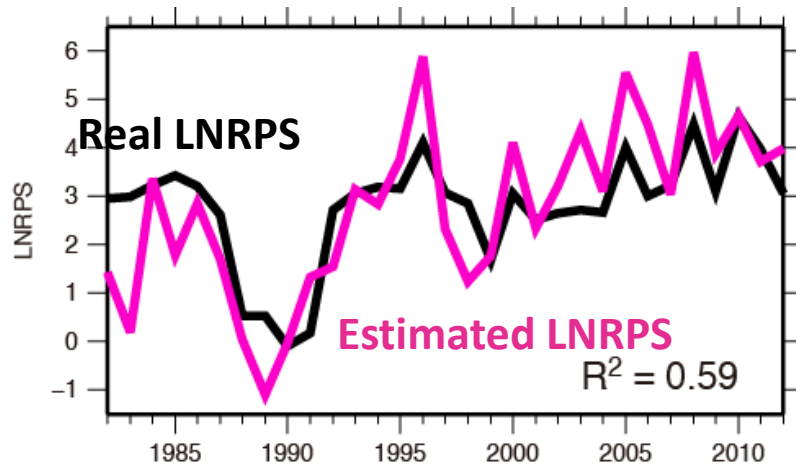
## Future estimation

The multi-decadal scale stock fluctuation has been occurred at least 2850 years ago.  
(confirmed by scale deposition rate analysis, Kuwae et al. 2017)



$$\text{LNRPS} = -\ln(1 + a\text{SSB}) + b\text{SST} + c$$

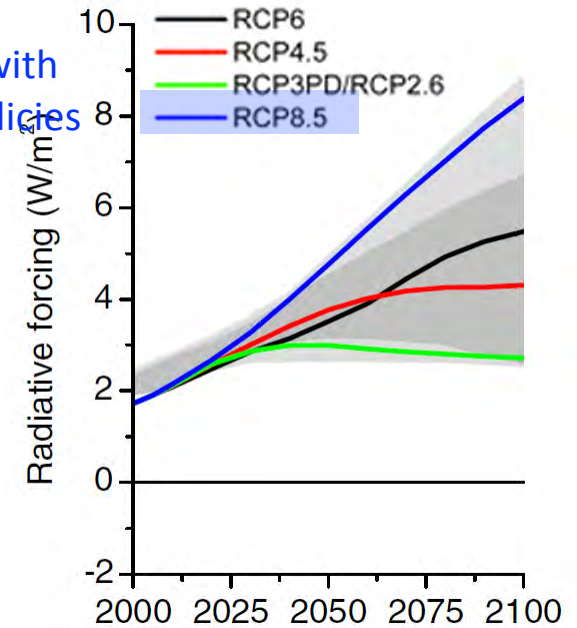
$$a = -0.0002, b = -1.50886, c = 31.9789$$



The LNRPS estimation model is applied to the future climate change.

## Future estimation

High emission scenario with  
no climate mitigation policies



## Environmental condition

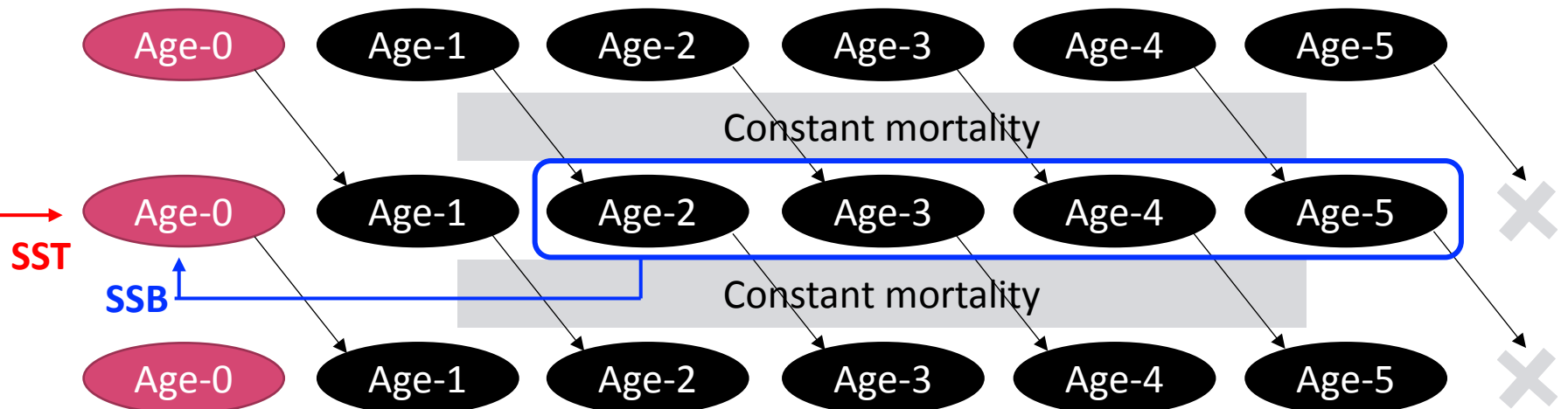
**Winter Kuroshio SST** (averaged from 130–160°E, Kuroshio axis from 0.5° south to 0.5° north)

1982–2005: Reanalysis data of FORA-WNP (Usui et al., 2017)

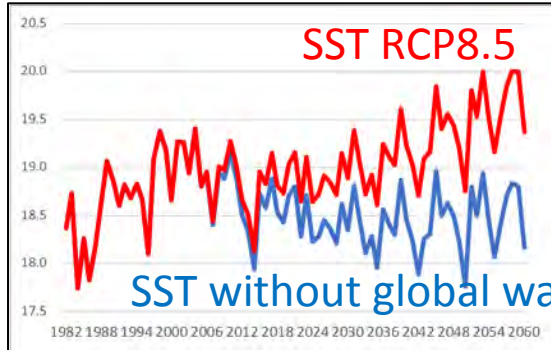
2006–2060: Output from down scaled MRICGCM3 with **RCP8.5 condition** and **without global warming**

## Stock estimation

Start with the stocks of each year class in 1982.



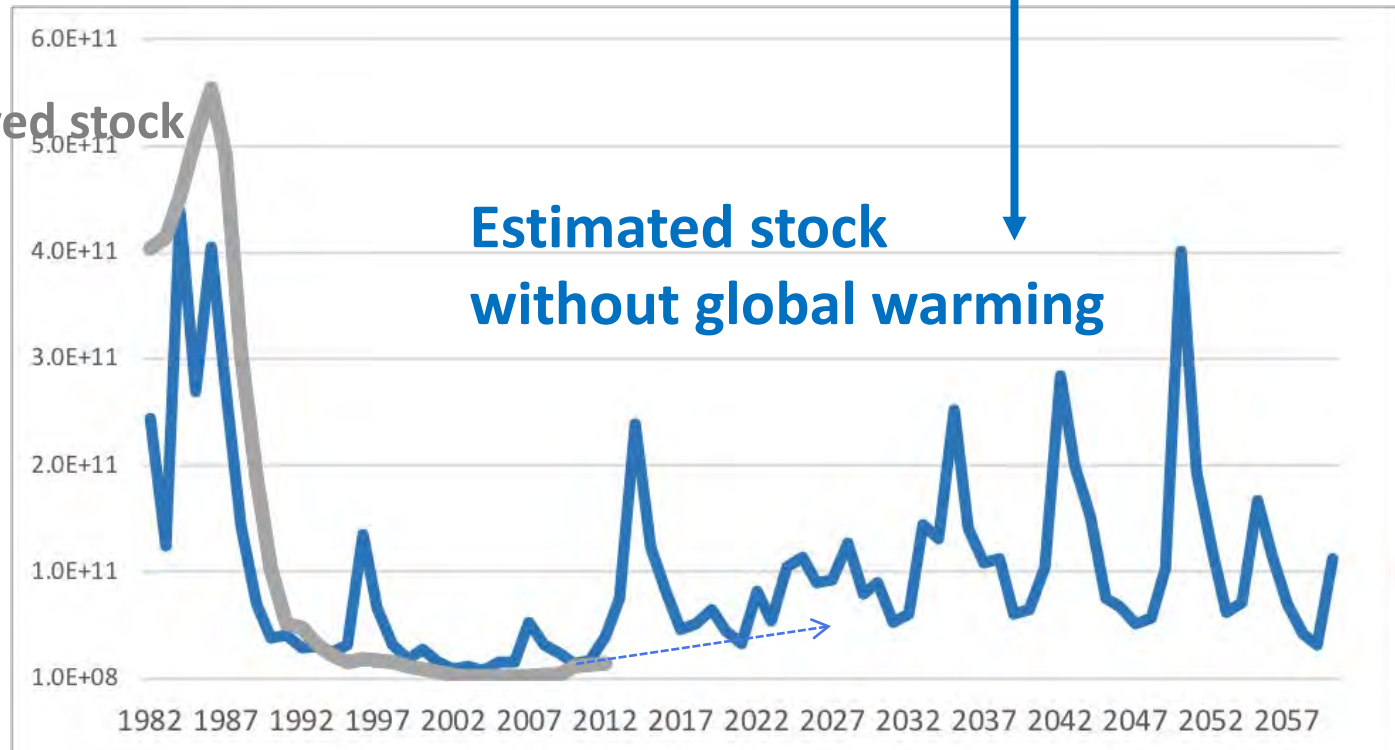
## Future estimation



**Sardine stock continues to recover.**

**Next high stock period will occur within several decades ?**

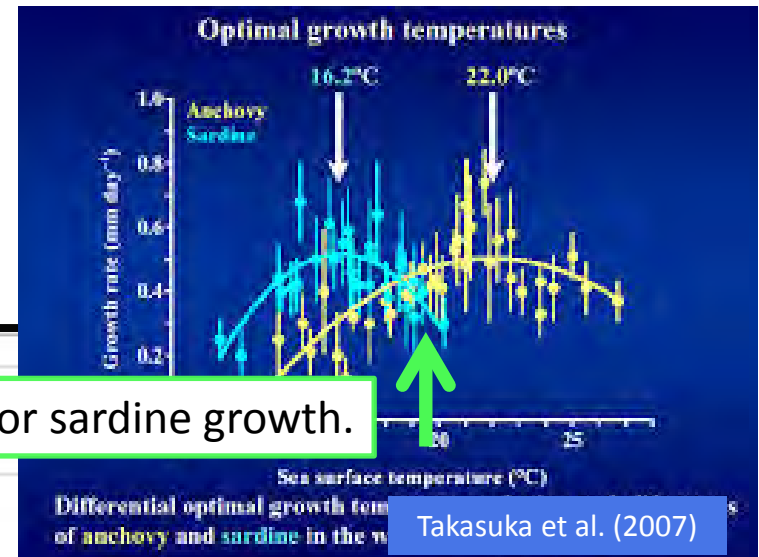
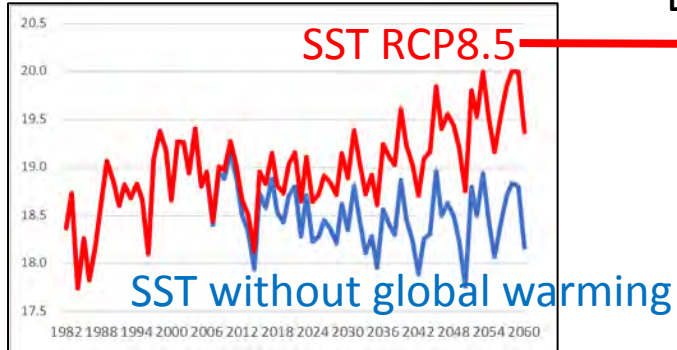
**Observed stock**



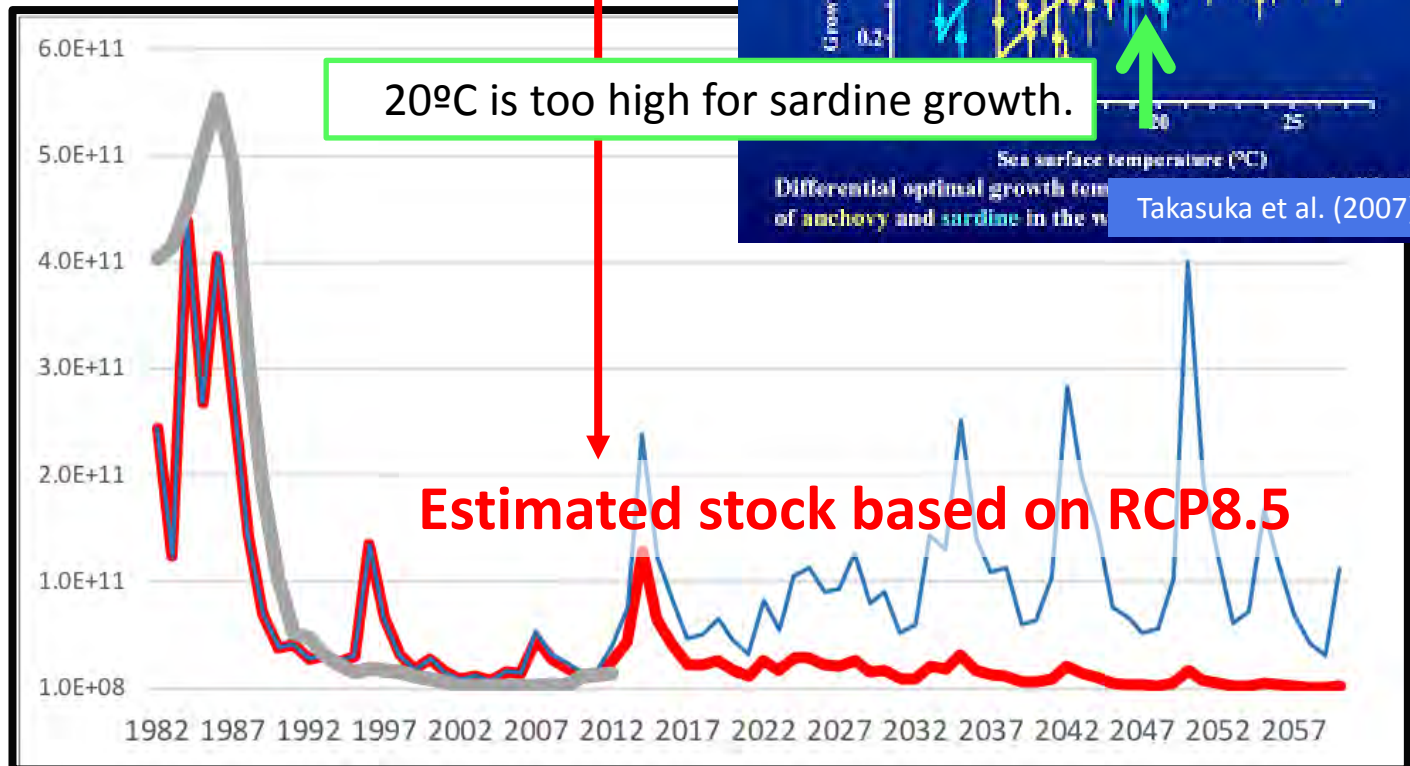
**Estimated stock  
without global warming**

## Future estimation

Due to the Kuroshio intensification, the SST rise steadily.

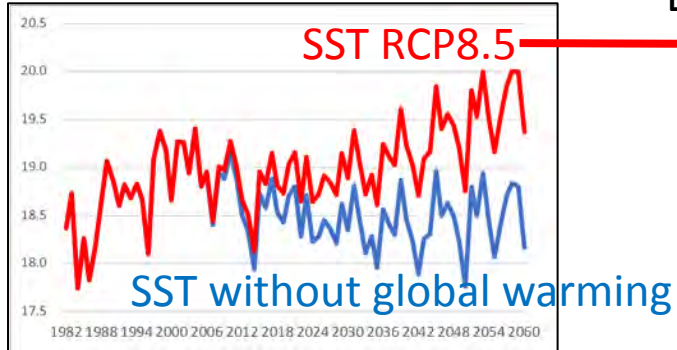


20°C is too high for sardine growth.

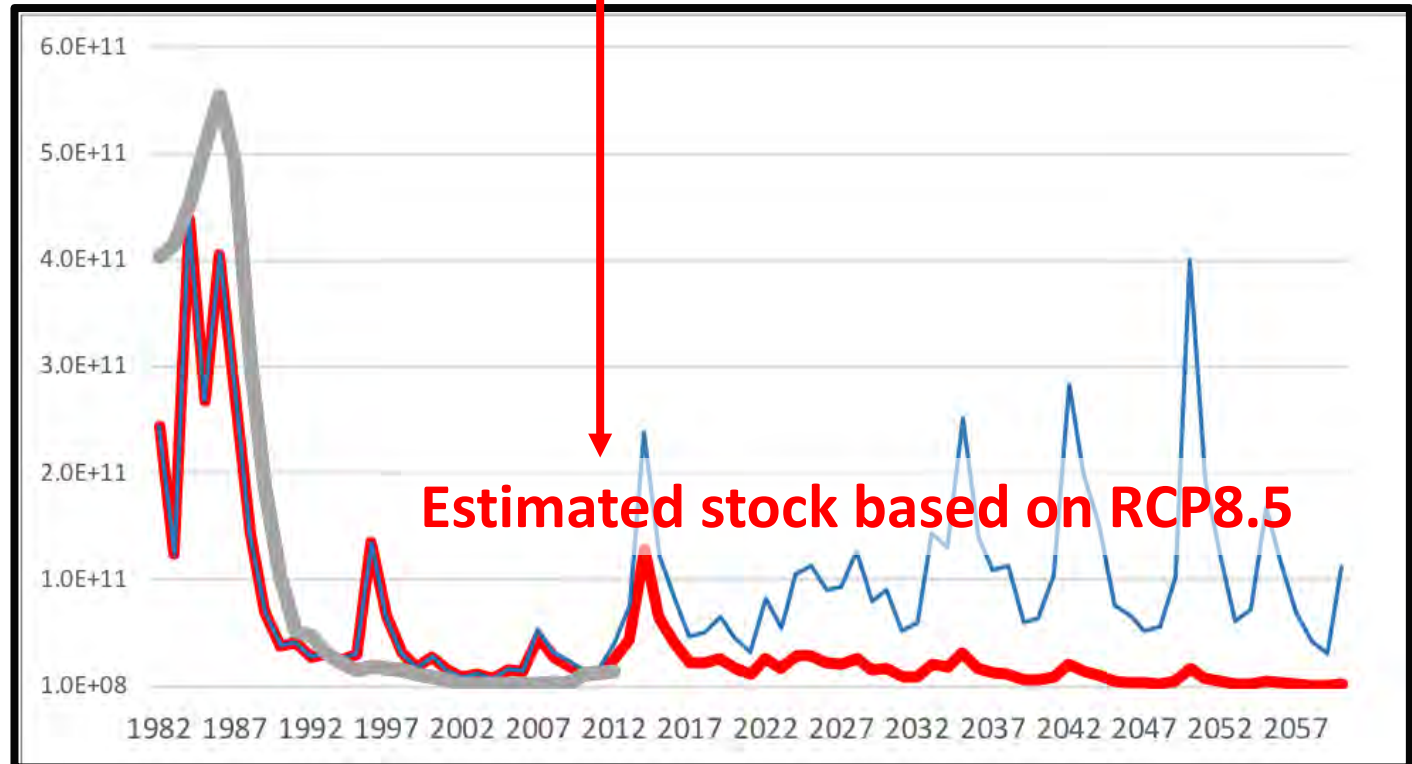


## Future estimation

Due to the Kuroshio intensification, the SST rise steadily.



**If the Global warming progress, sardine will never prosper again.**



## SUMMARY

### **Japanese sardine stock and environmental change**

- **Japanese sardine stock level strongly depends on the Kuroshio condition.**

When the Kuroshio acceleration occurs, the larval distribution area becomes warm. Warm condition is bad for both larval growth itself and forage plankton growth (food availability).

- **Density effect is also important for sardine stock fluctuation.**
- **Global warming might be bad for sardine stock.**

But more realistic estimation needs to include impact of the global warming on the migration, food and so on.