

# The effects of climate change and the collapse of the shrimp fishery on fish communities' diversity and ecological functions in a tropical context: The case of the continental shelf off French Guiana

4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium ECCWO, June 4-8, 2018, Washington DC



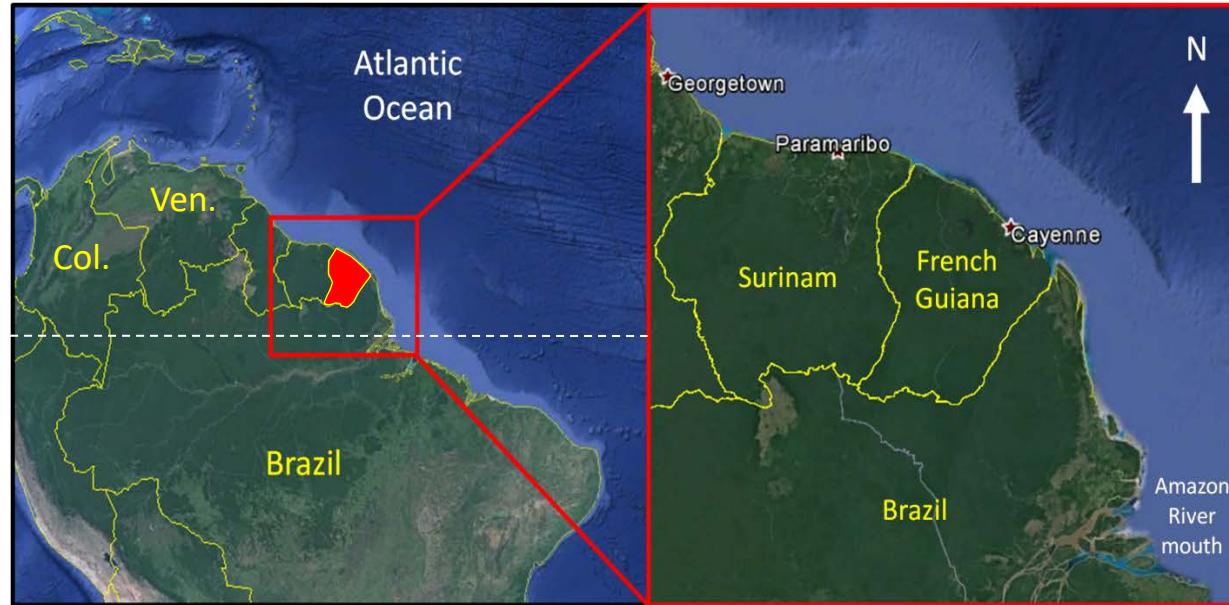
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UMSR LEEISA, University of Guyane - CNRS - Ifremer

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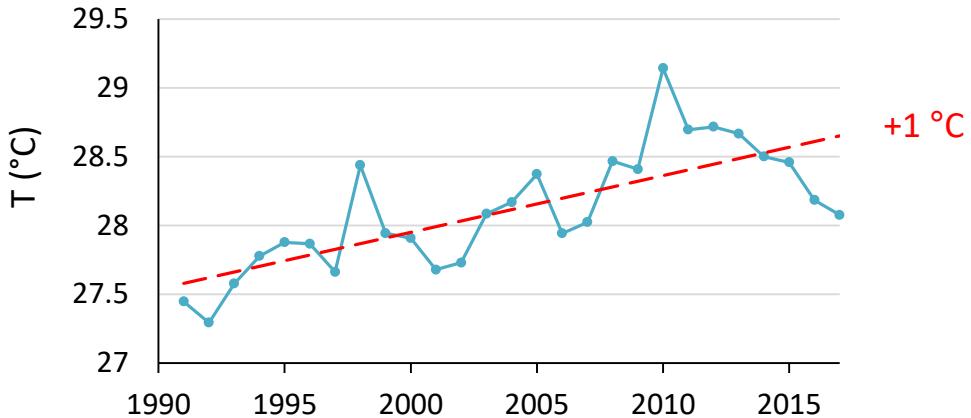
# Local context



A high fish diversity between 400 and 500 species

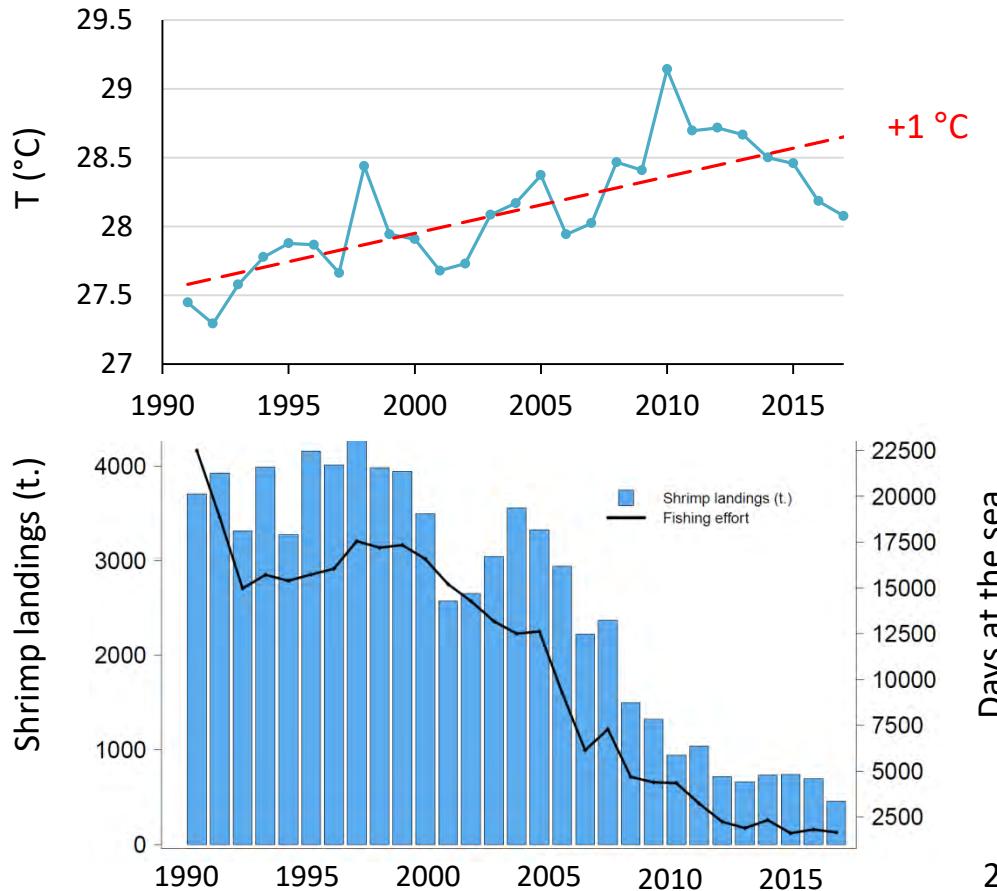
# Local context

- An **increasing SST** (sea surface temperature)



## Local context

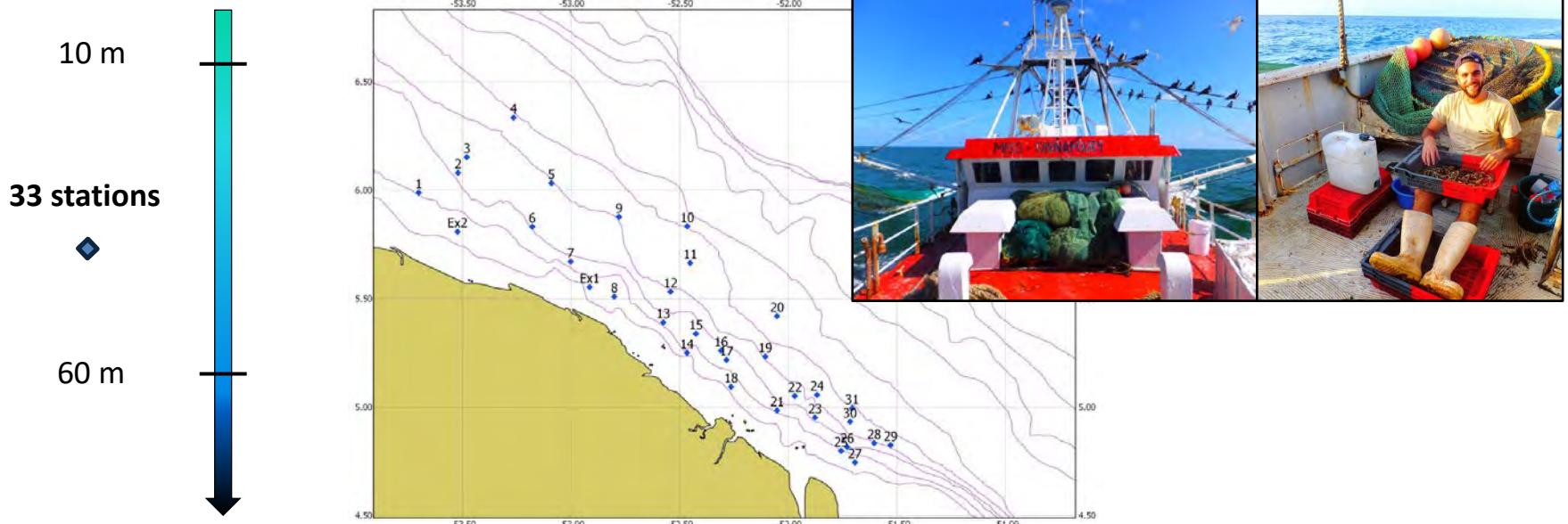
- An **increasing SST** (sea surface temperature)
- A **collapsing fishing pressure** by bottom trawling (shrimp fishery)



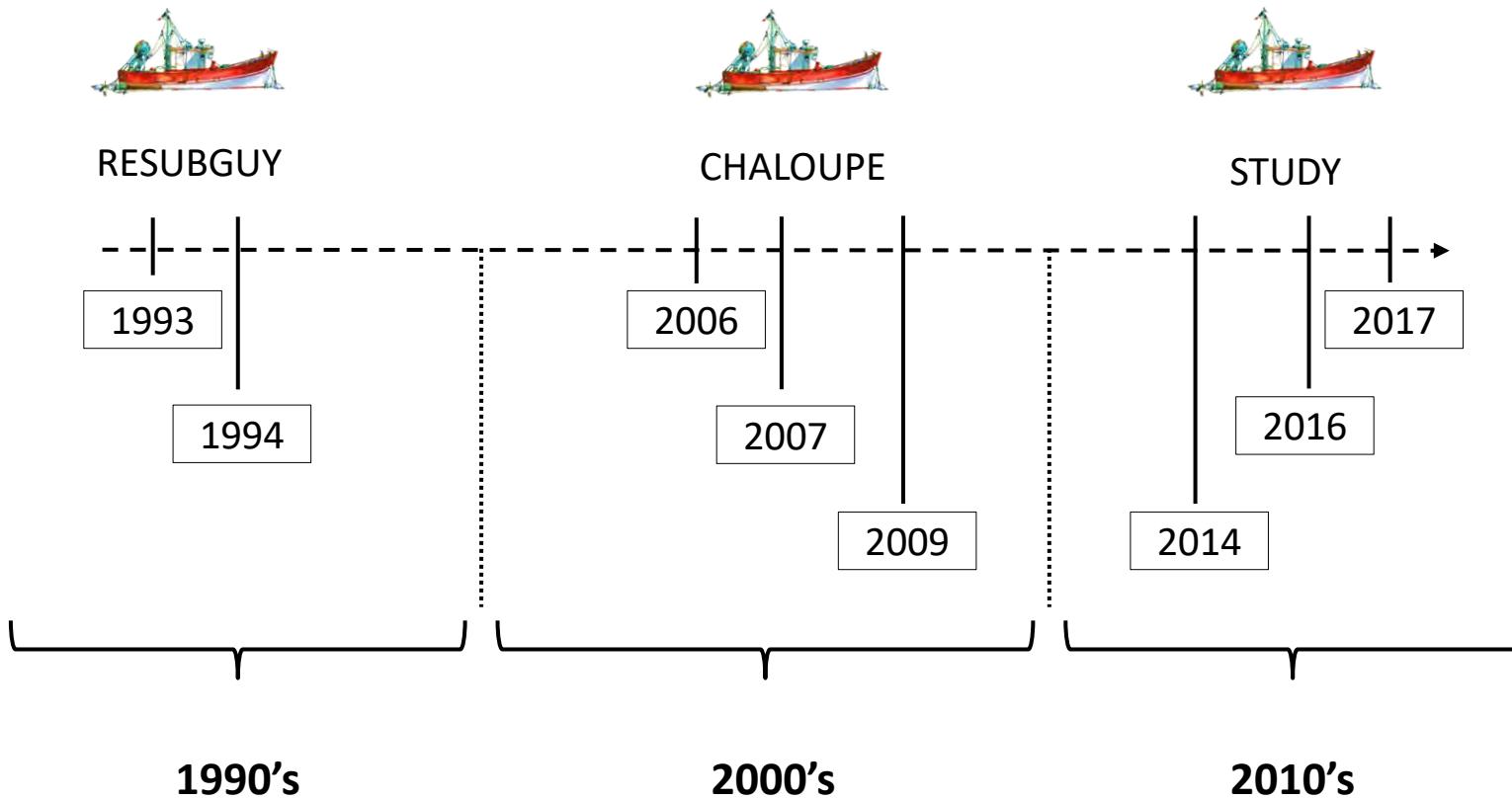
# Objectives and interests

- Describe the effects of climate change and a decreasing fishing pressure on tropical fish communities
- Provide a better understanding of the tropical fish communities' functioning in order to plan how they could respond to future climatic and fishing scenarios
- Set up future ecological and economic implementations

# Samplings



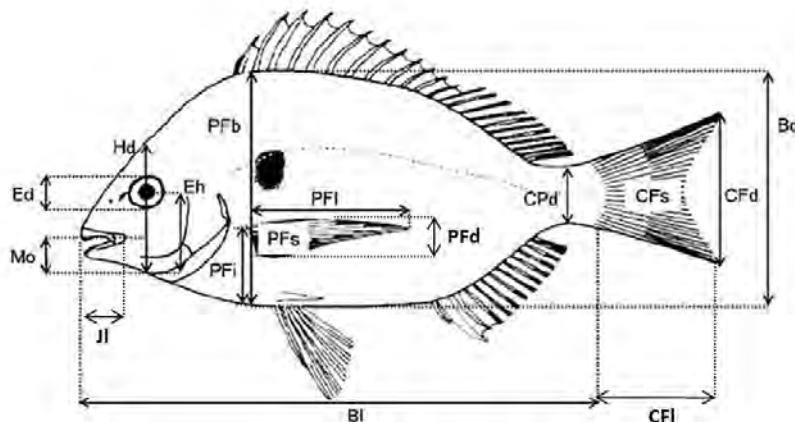
# Samplings



# Functional diversity: the traits based approach

Functional Richness (**F<sub>Ric</sub>**), Functional Dispersion (**F<sub>Dis</sub>**) Functional Specialization (**F<sub>Spe</sub>**)

## 14 morphological traits



Modified from Villéger et al., 2010

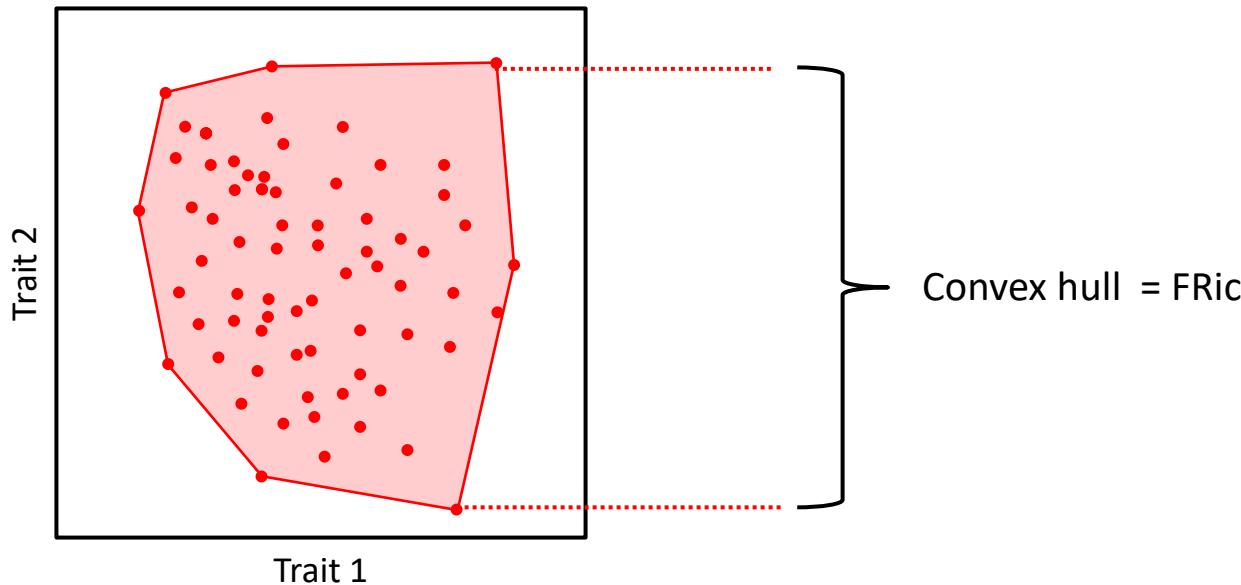
Measured from 1 to 10 collected  
individuals for 174 species

## 2 ecological traits

- Trophic group
  - planktivorous
  - invertivorous
  - piscivorous
  - omnivorous
- Habitat
  - benthic
  - demersal
  - pelagic

# Functional indices

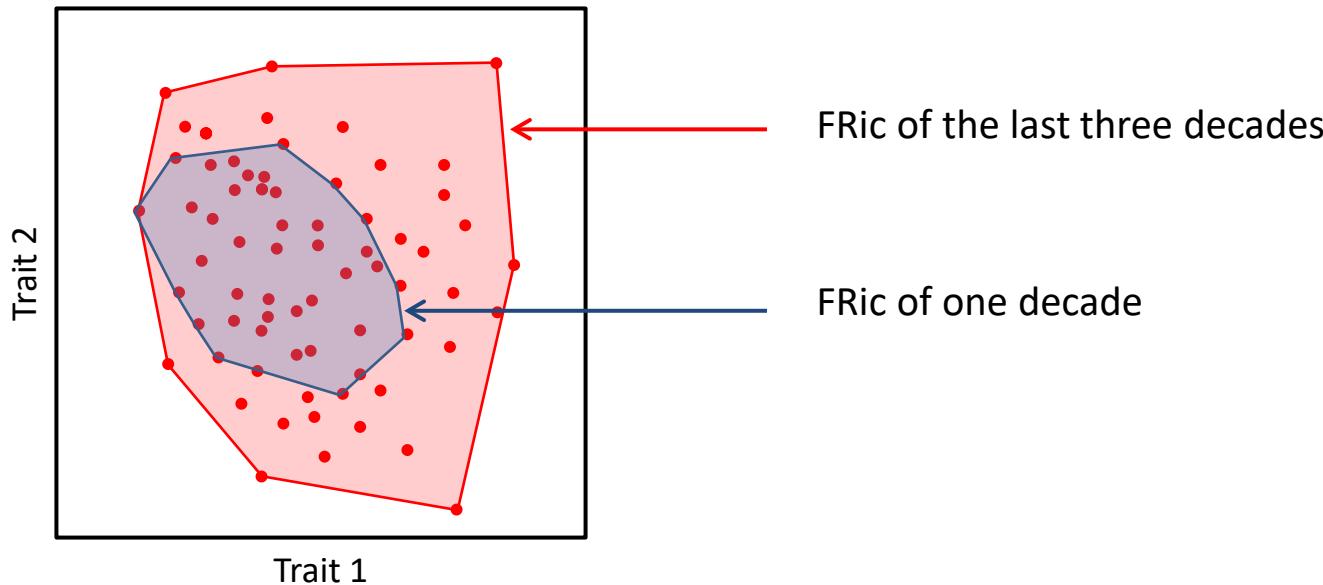
## Functional richness (F<sub>Ric</sub>)



F<sub>Ric</sub> = the portion of the functional space filled by a species assemblage

# Functional indices

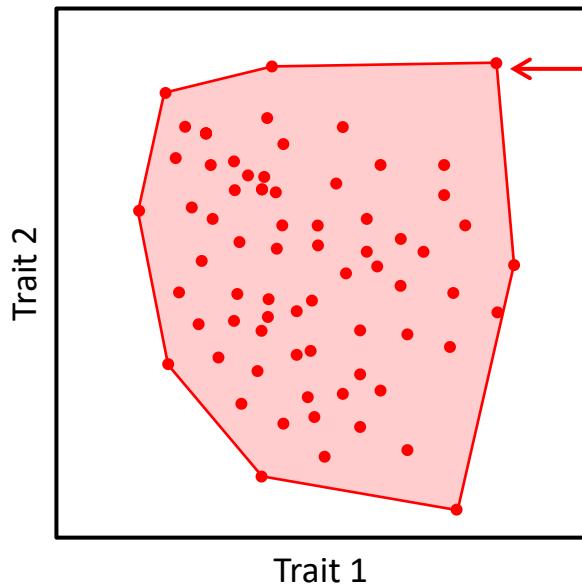
## Functional richness (FRic)



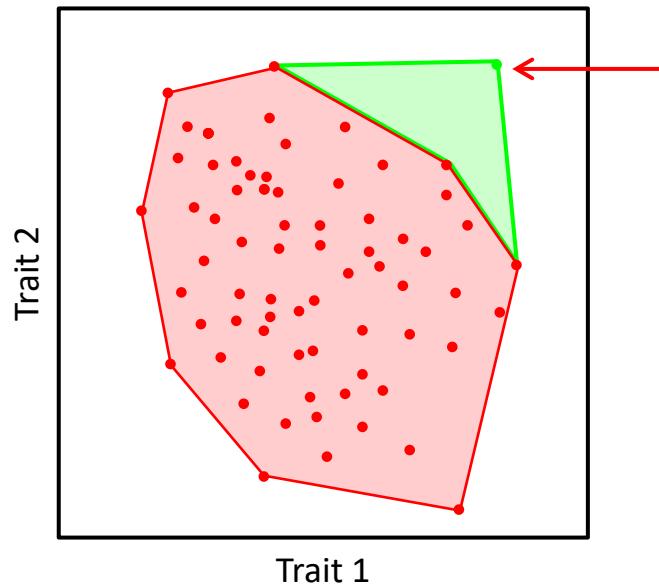
FRic = the portion of the functional space filled by a species assemblage

# Functional indices

Functional richness (FRic)



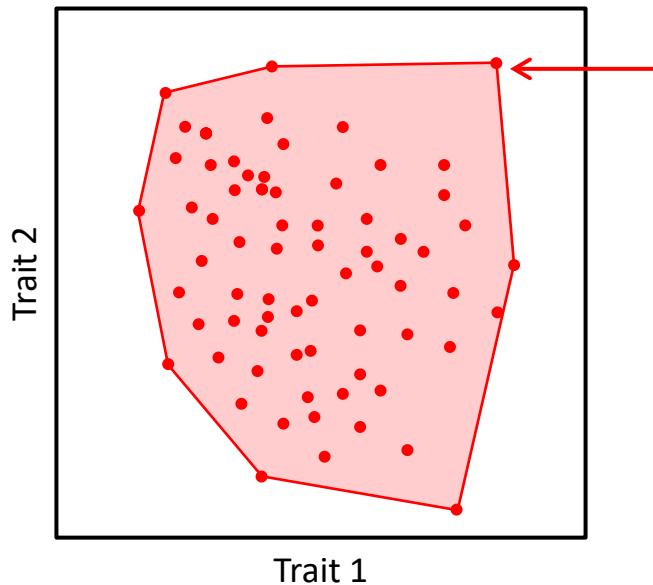
Rare species  
with an  
extreme  
combination  
of traits



FRic = the portion of the functional space filled by a species assemblage

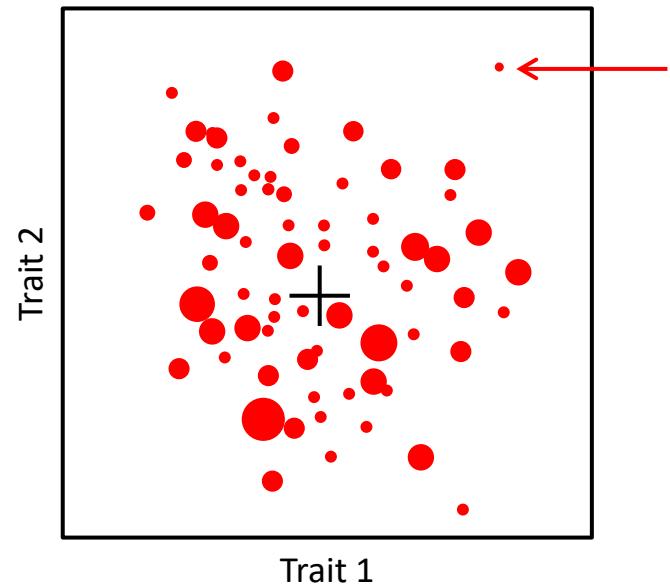
# Functional indices

Functional richness (FRic)



FRic = the portion of the functional space filled by a species assemblage

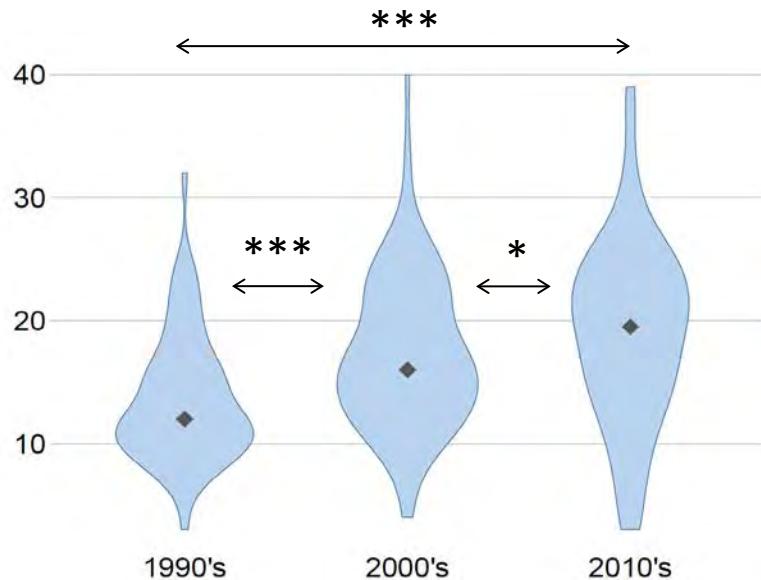
Functional Dispersion (FDis)



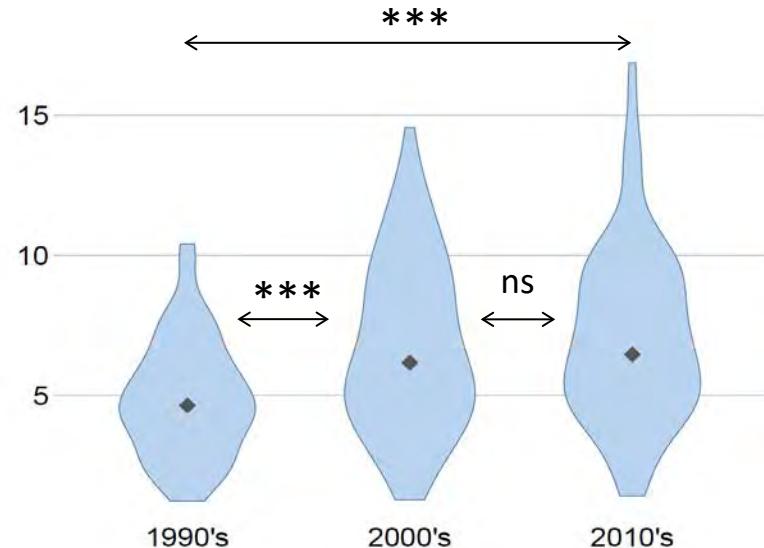
FDis = **abundance weighted** deviation of species trait values from the center of the functional space filled by the community

# Taxonomic indices

Species richness ( $S$ )

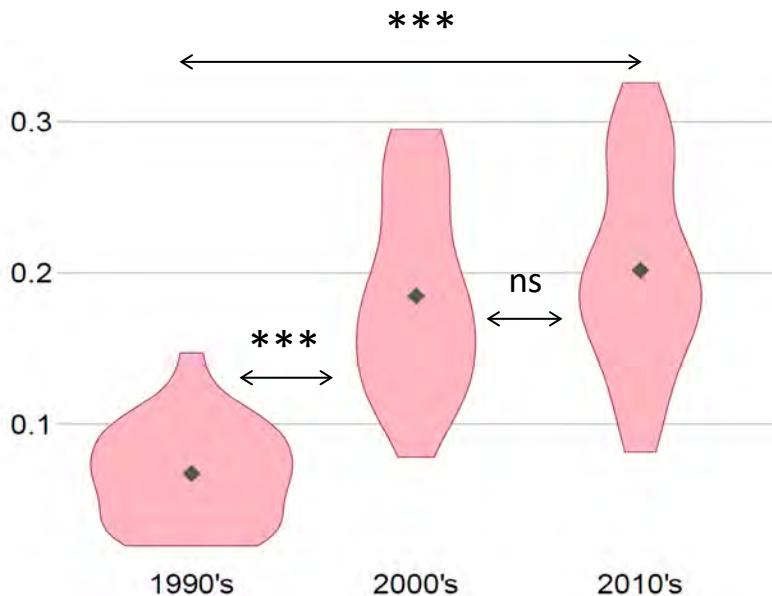


Shannon exponential ( $H'$ )

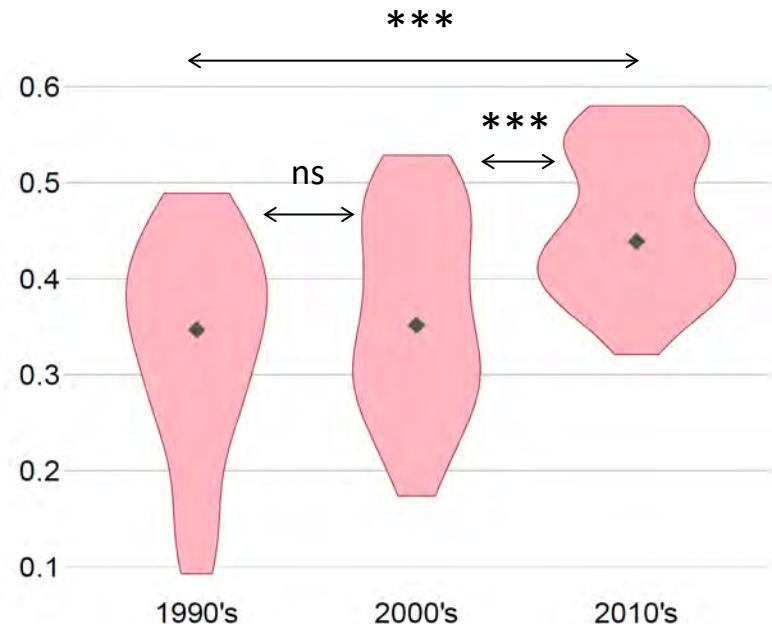


# Functional indices

Functional richness (FRic)

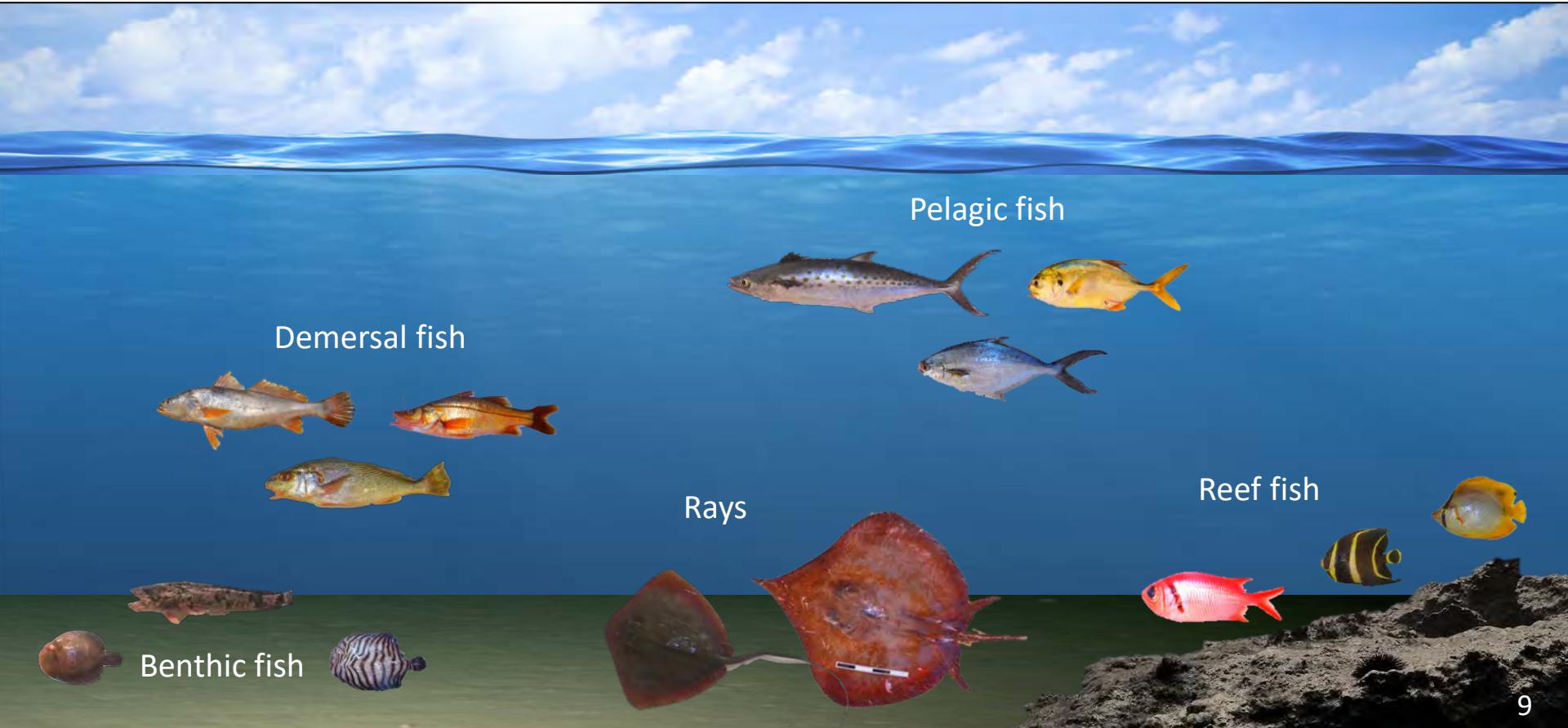


Functional Dispersion (FDis)

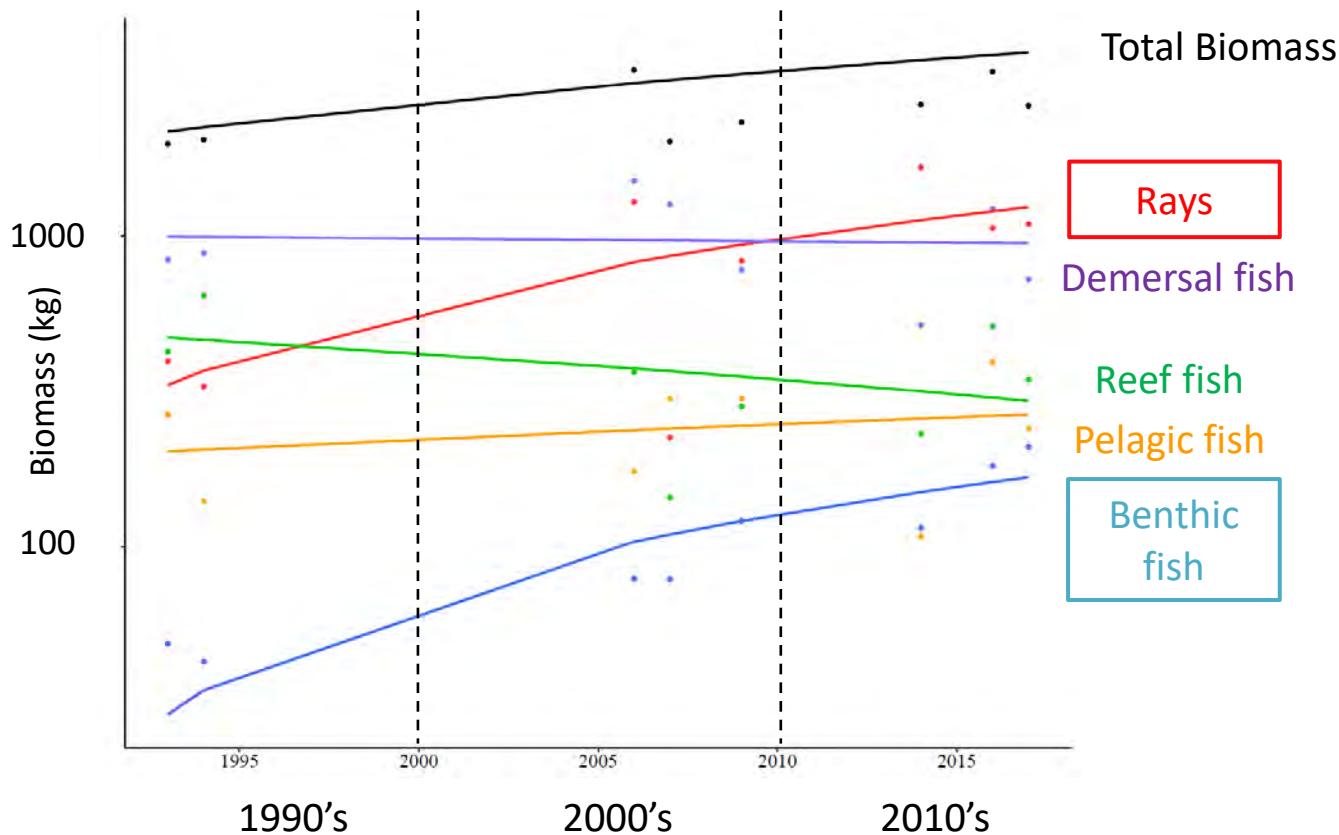


The same trend is observed for the functional specialization (**FSpe**)

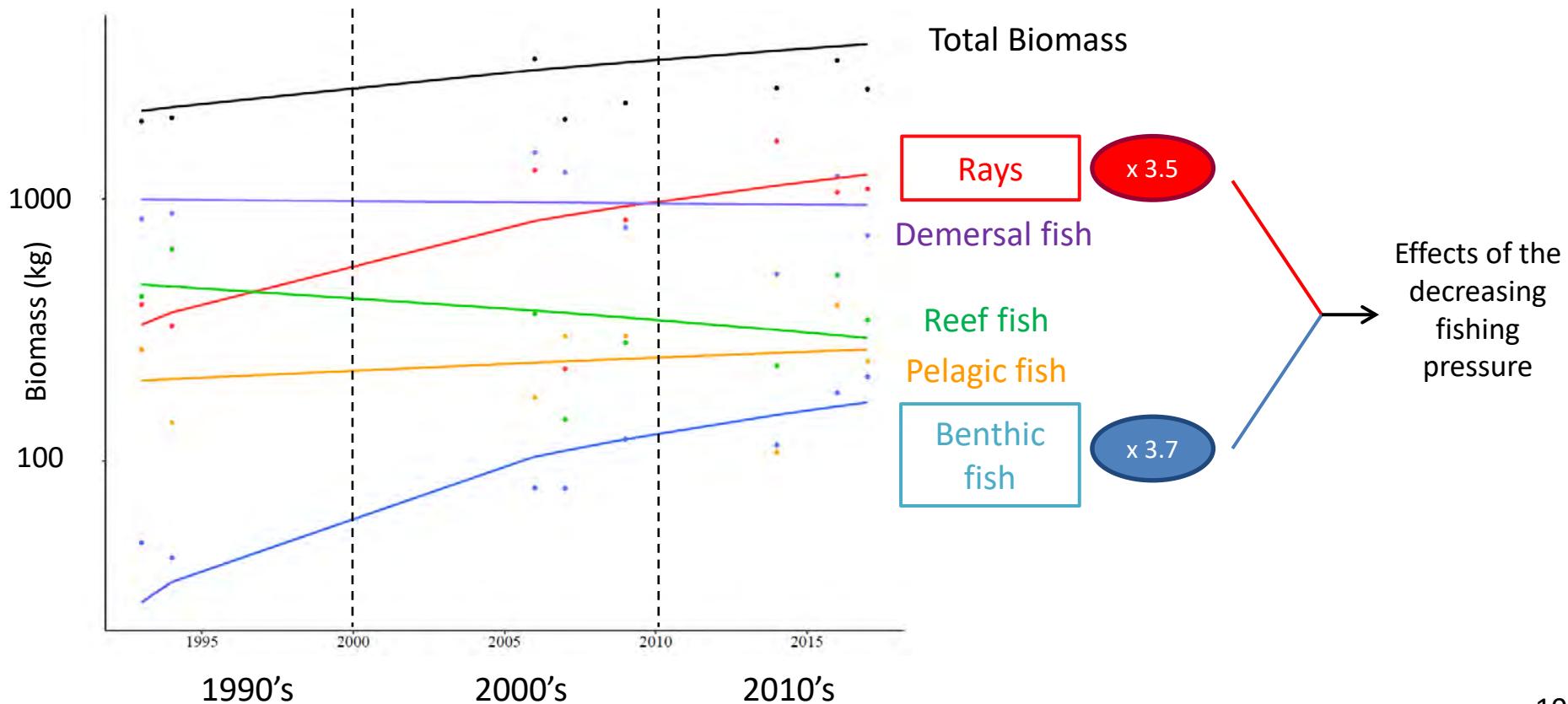
# Morpho-ecological groups



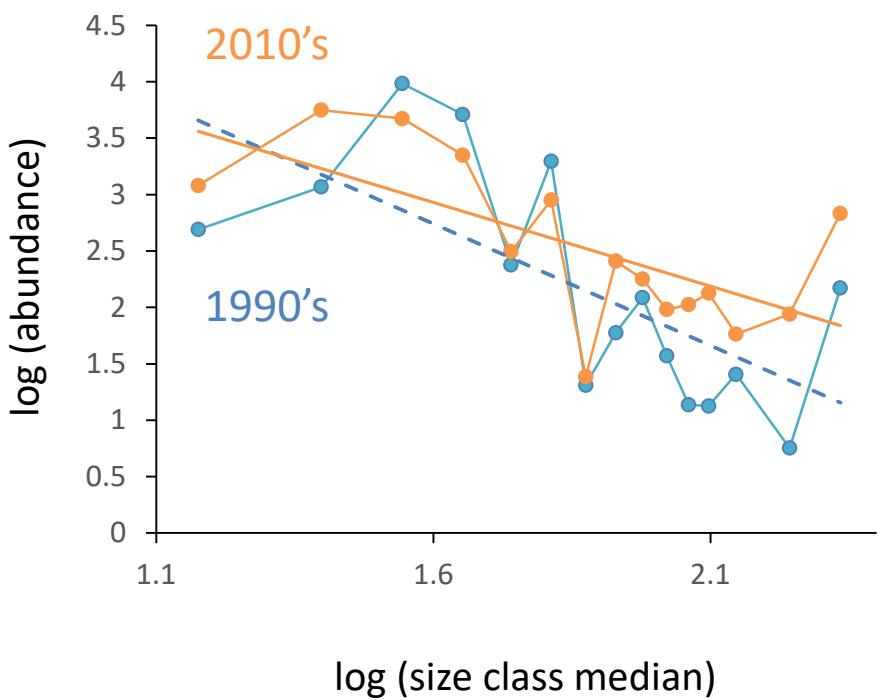
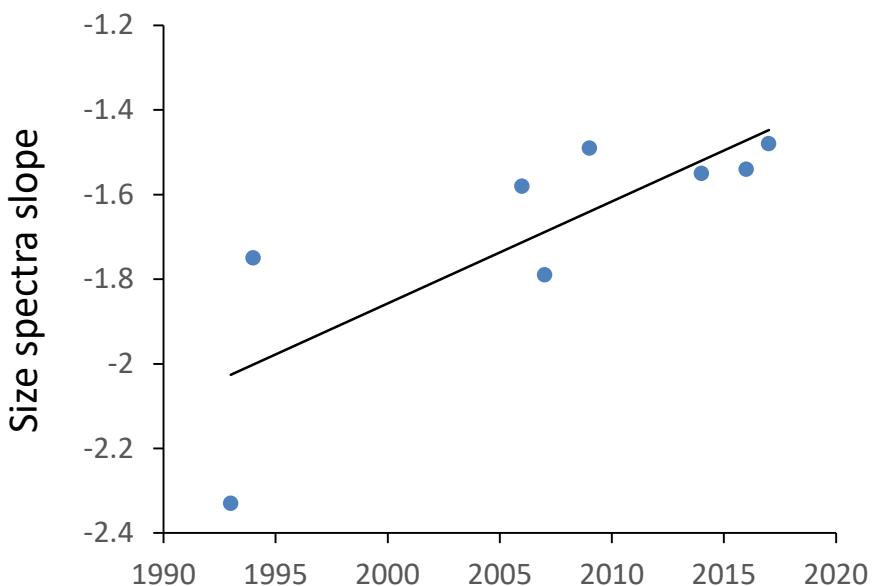
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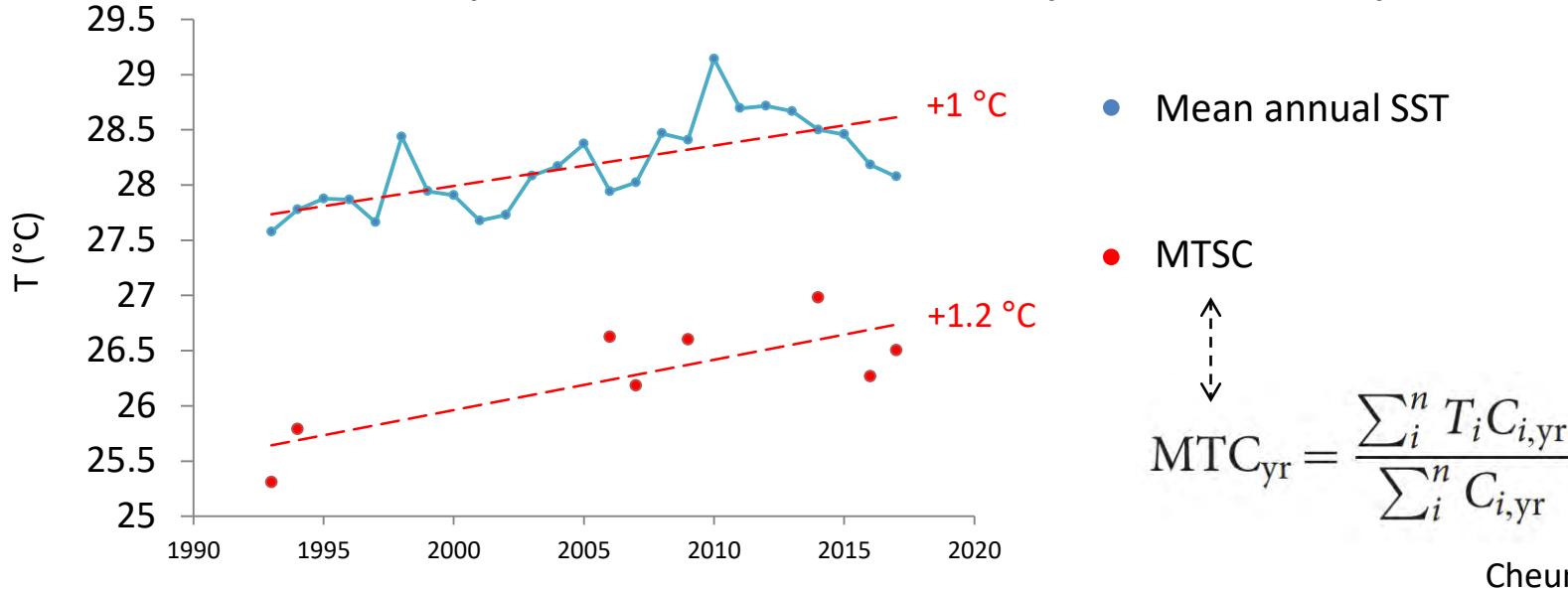
# Morpho-ecological groups



# Size Spectra Slope (SSS)



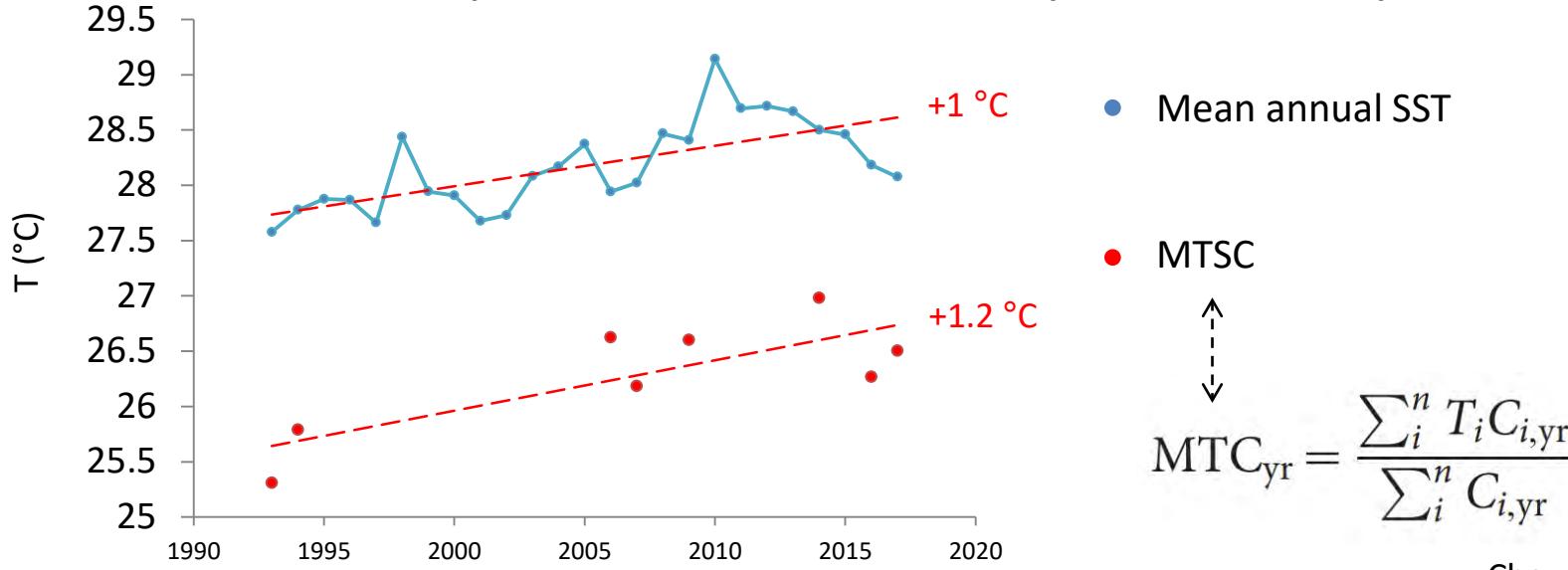
# Mean Temperature of the Survey Community (MTSC)



$$MTC_{\text{yr}} = \frac{\sum_i^n T_i C_{i,\text{yr}}}{\sum_i^n C_{i,\text{yr}}}$$

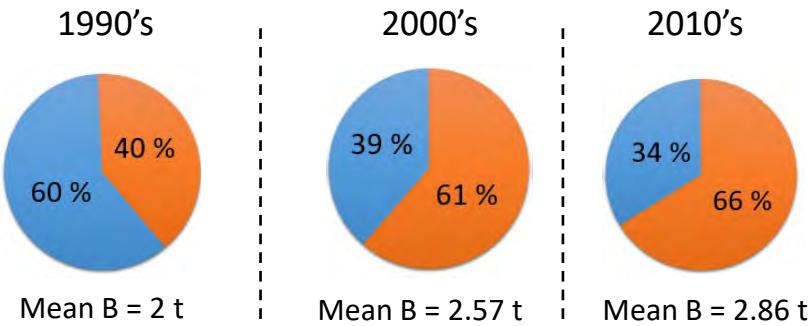
Cheung et al., 2013

# Mean Temperature of the Survey Community (MTSC)



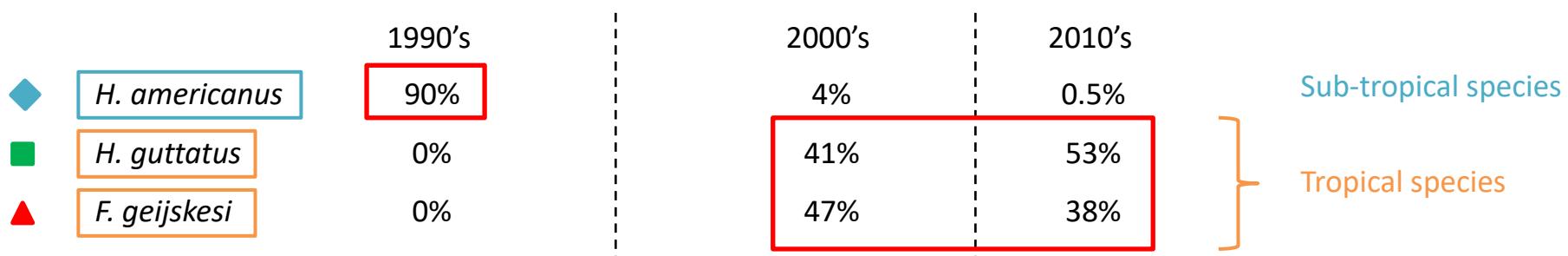
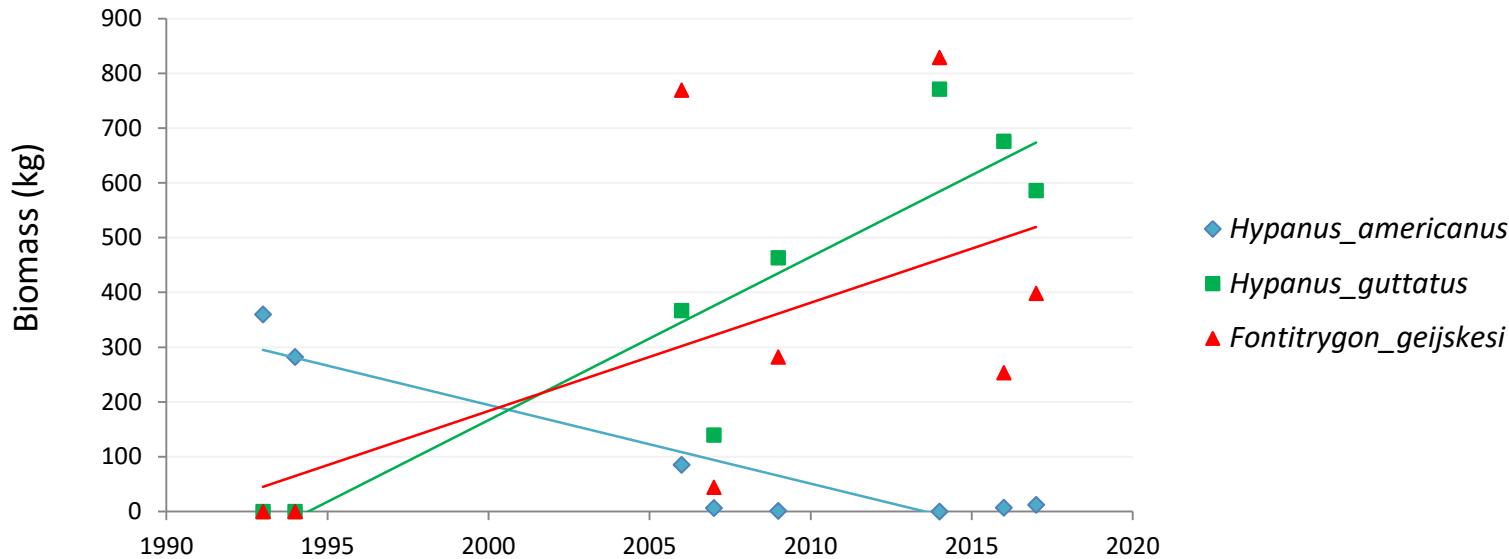
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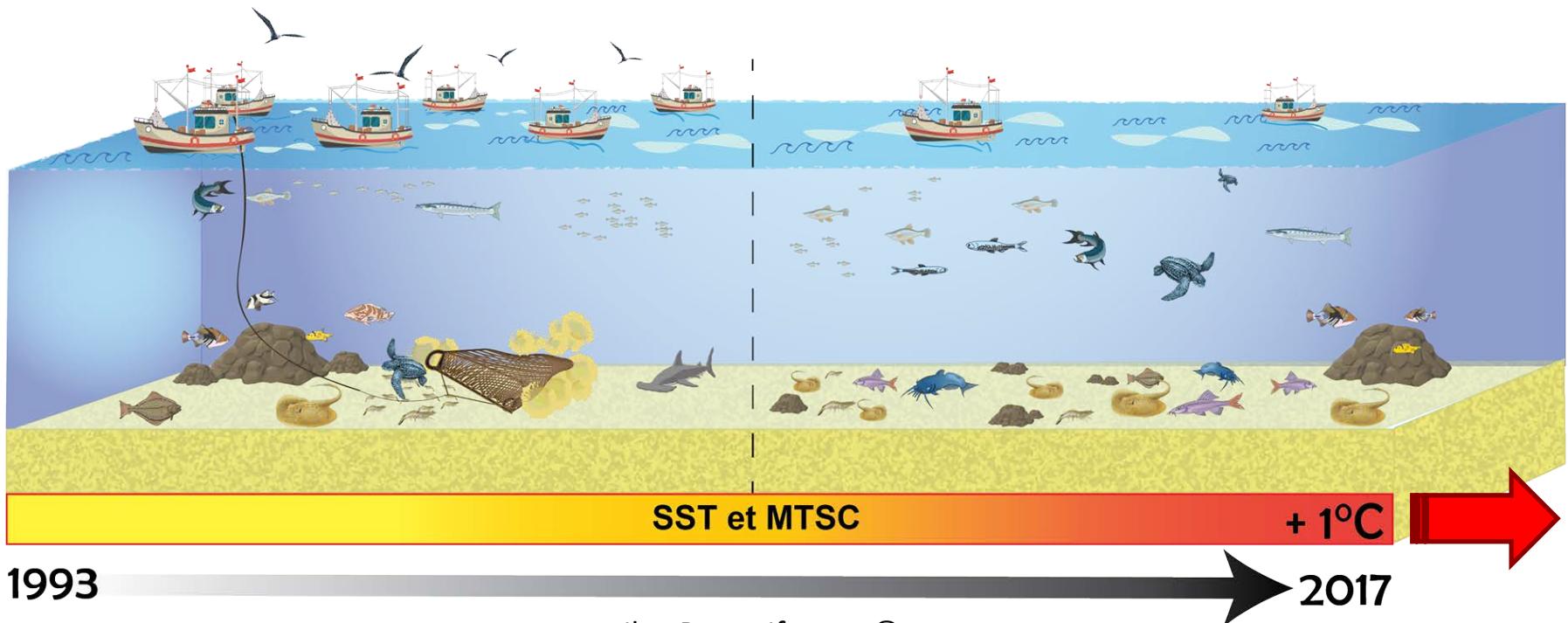
- █ Tropical species
- █ Sub-tropical species

# The Rays group

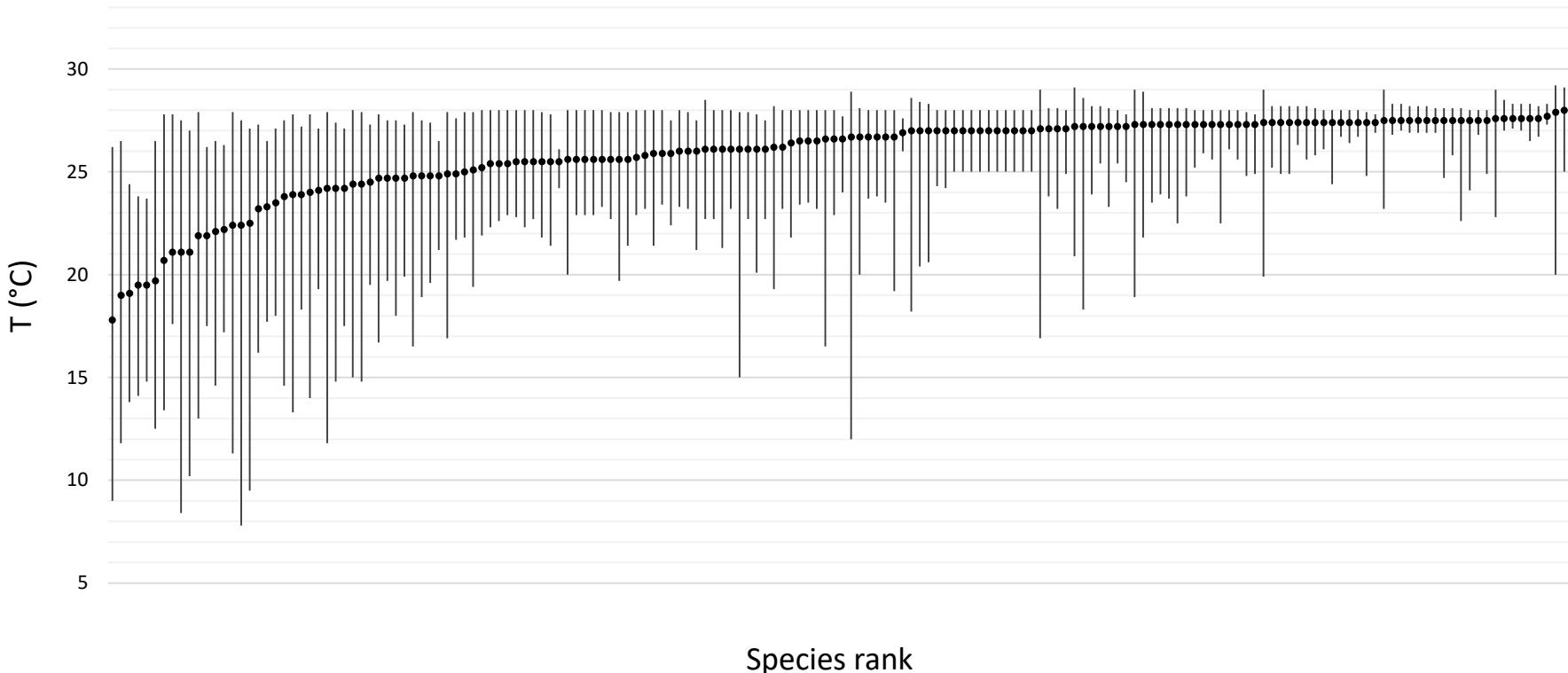


# Synthesis

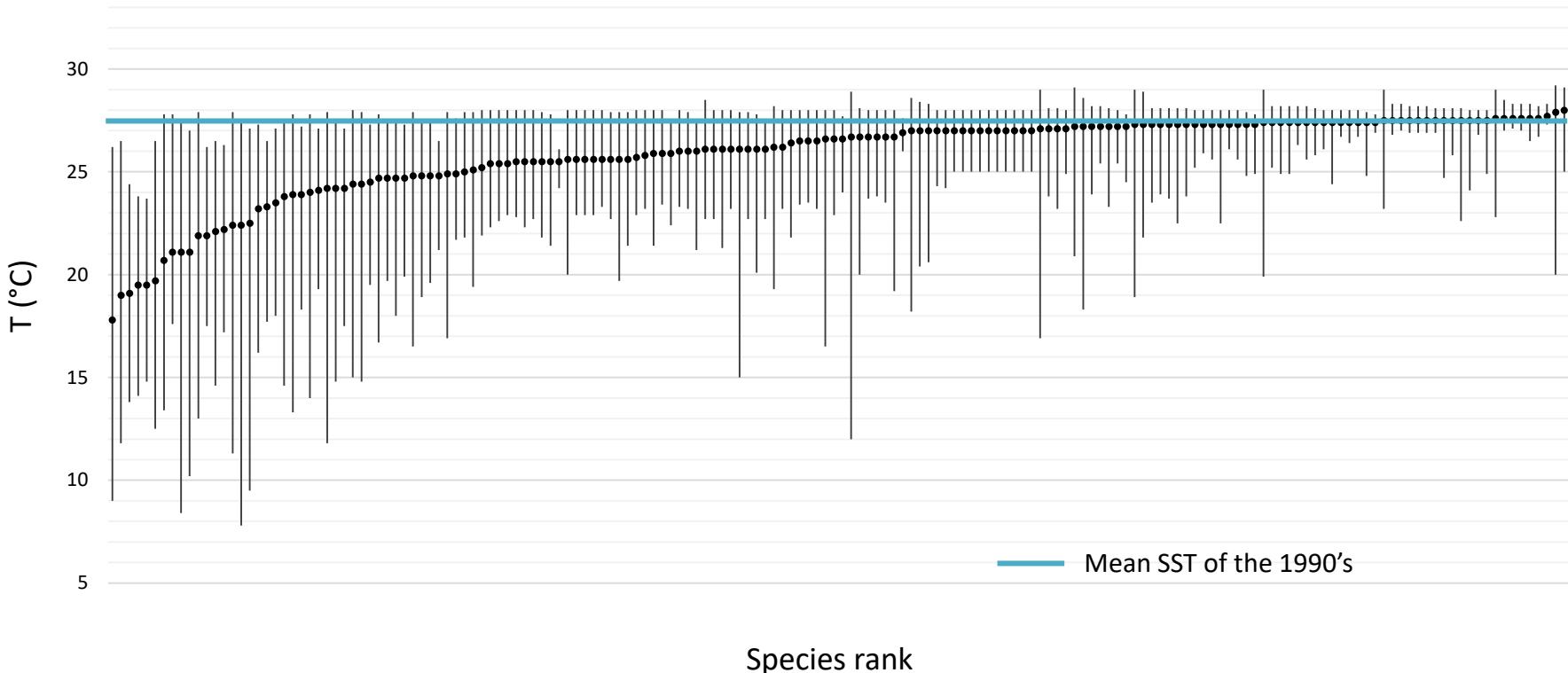
Restructuring of the fish communities so far but until when ?



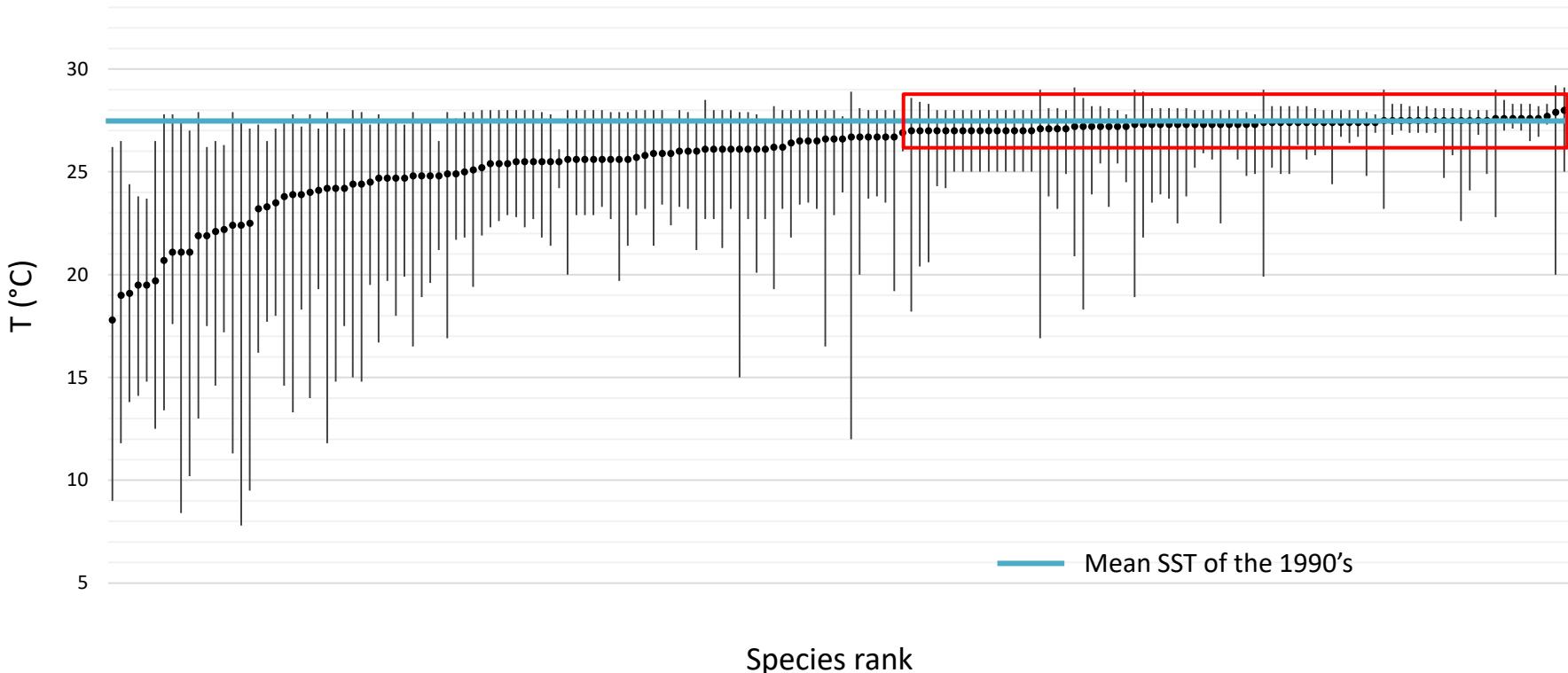
# What's next about SST ?



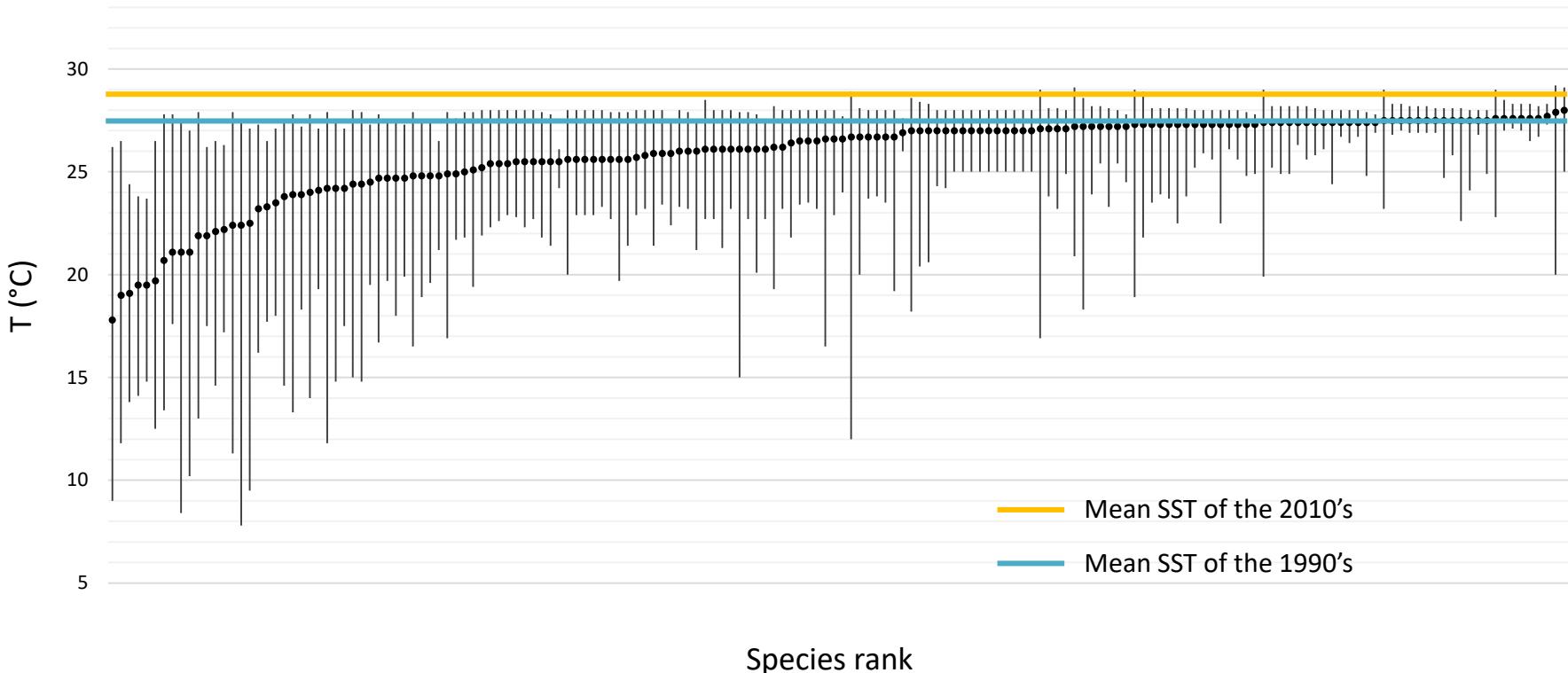
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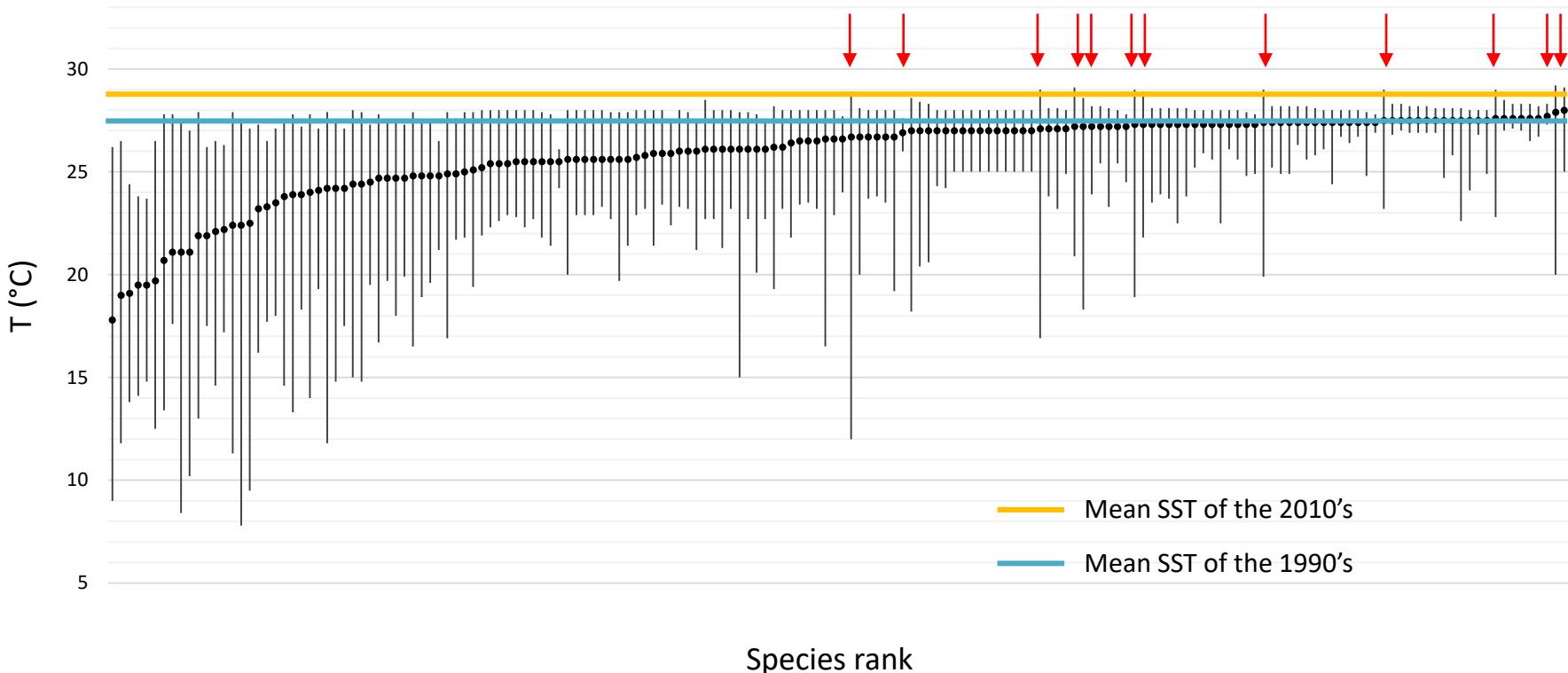
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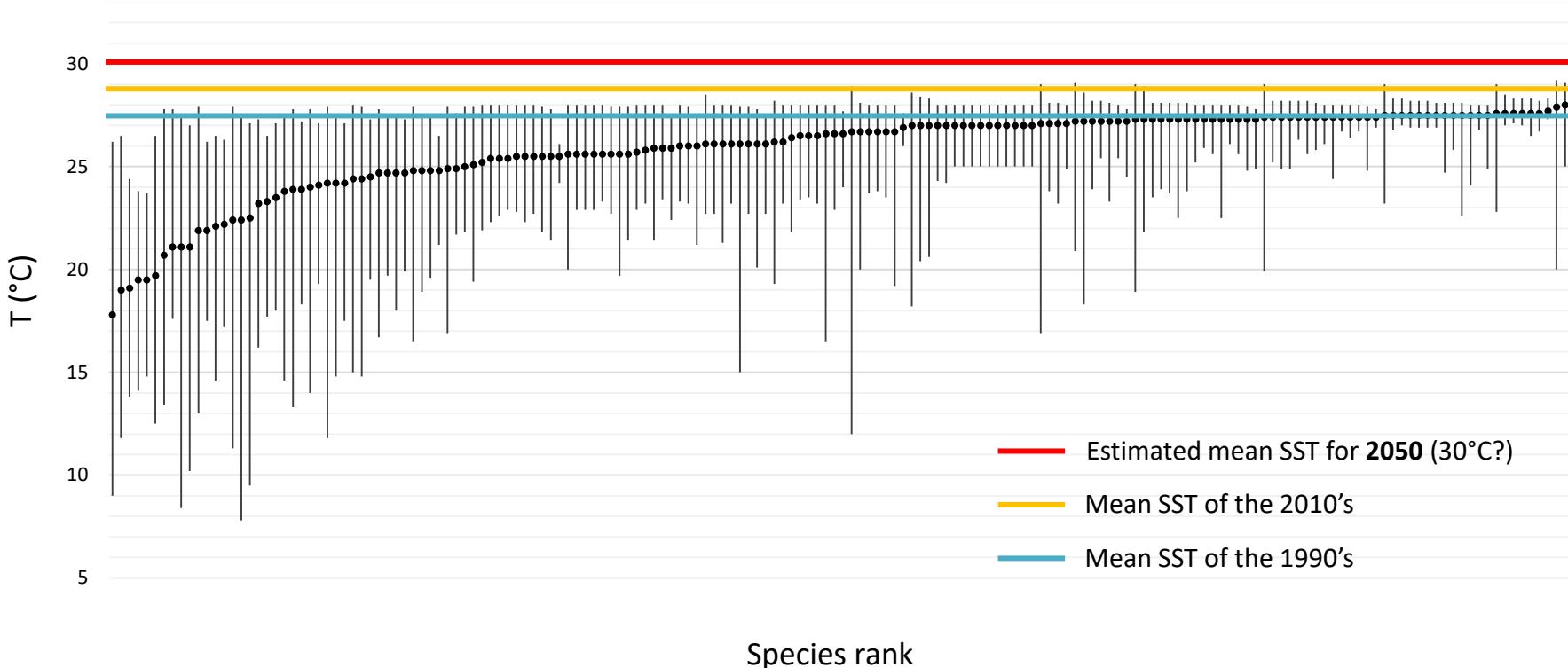
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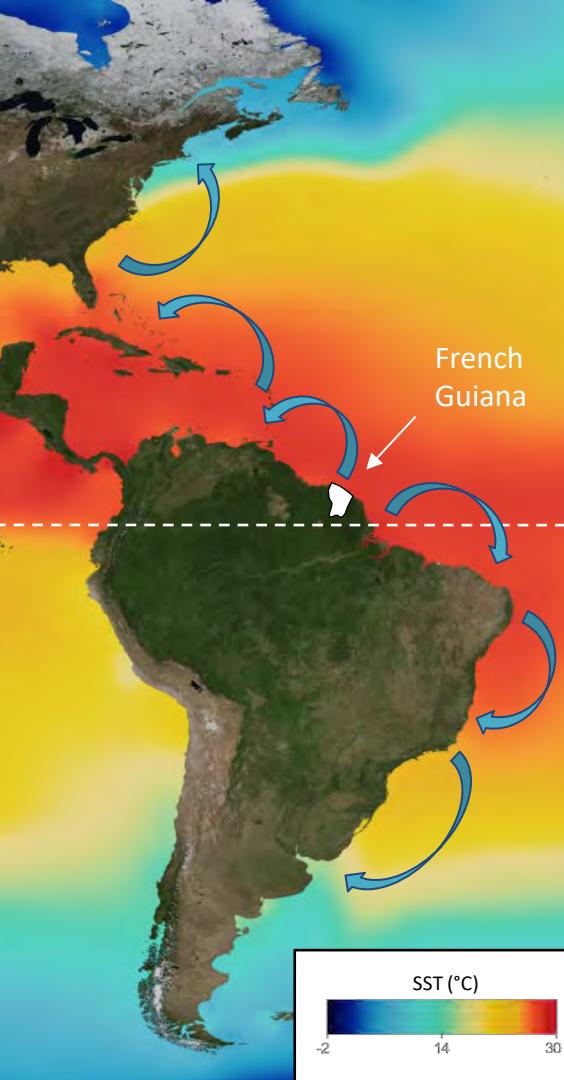


# What's next about SST ?



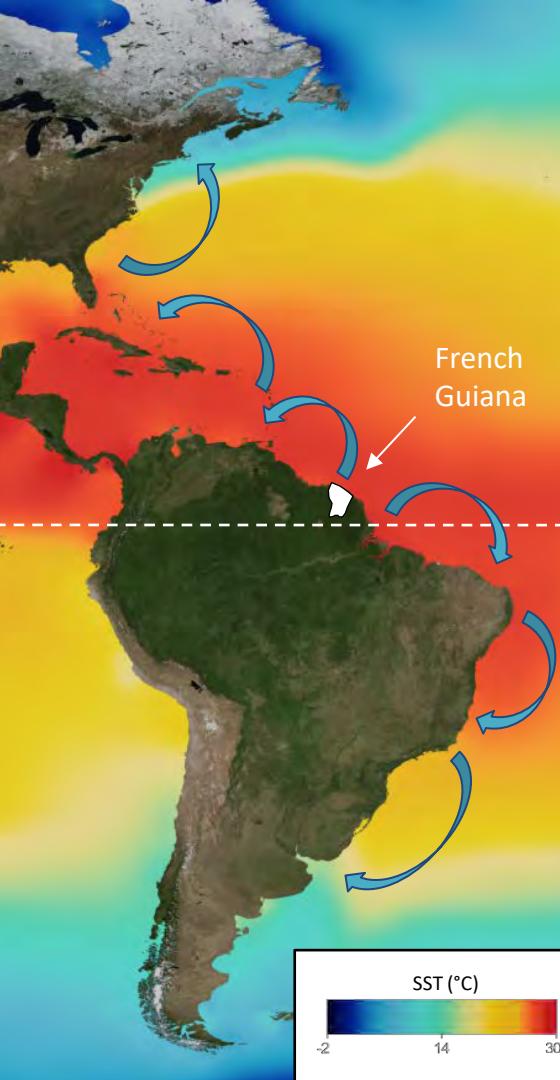
# What's next about SST ?





# Conclusions

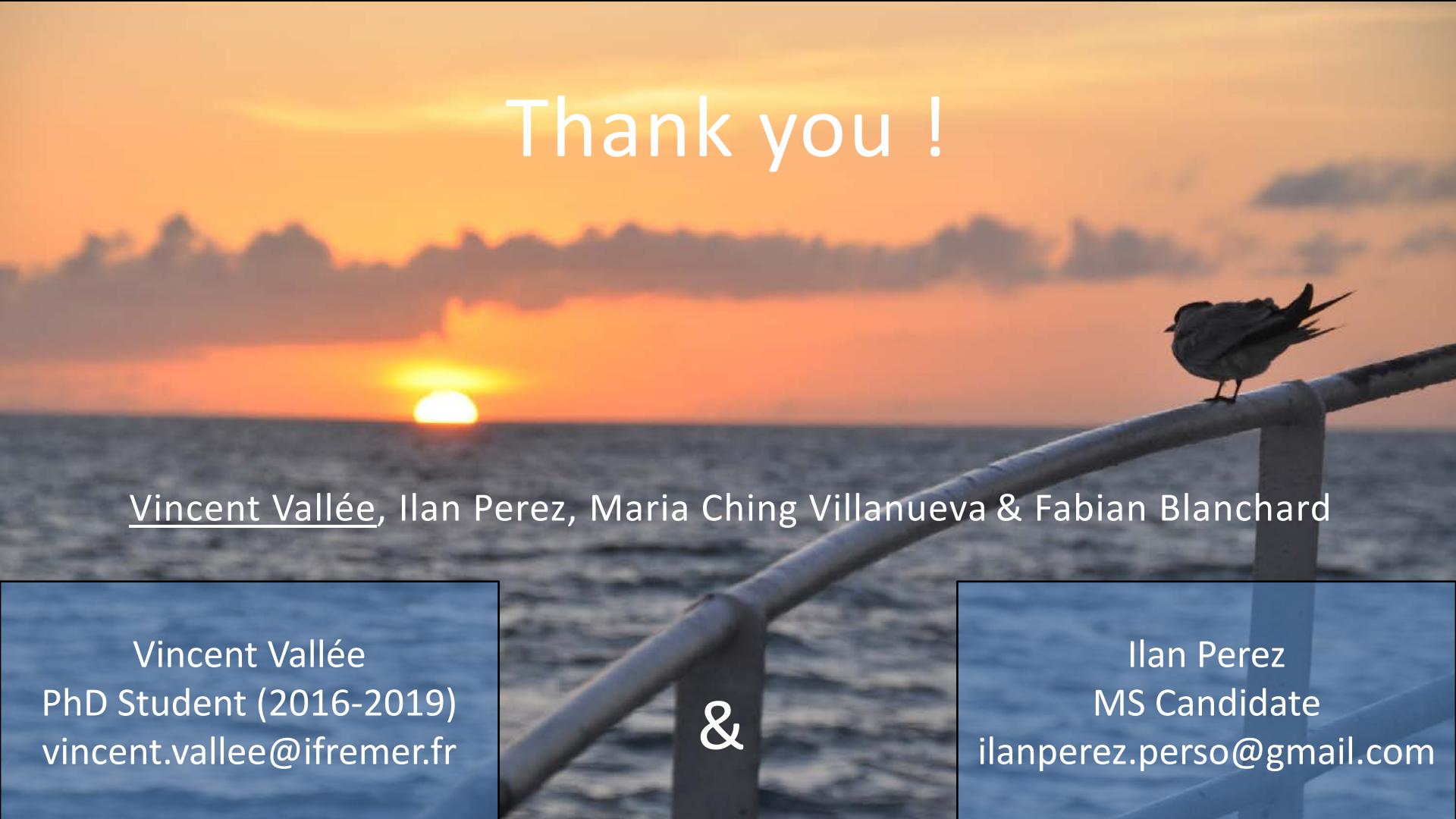
- Biodiversity in tropical regions is likely to be impacted by higher rate of local extinction due to warming waters
- In **French Guiana**, positive effects of the decreasing fishing pressure on the fish communities' dynamics dominates over the climate change **so far**



# Conclusions

- Biodiversity in tropical regions is likely to be impacted by higher rate of local extinction due to warming waters
- In **French Guiana**, positive effects of the decreasing fishing pressure on the fish communities' dynamics dominates over the climate change **so far**
- Ecosystem approach to fisheries management
- Mechanistic approaches to evaluate impacts of future scenarios on fish communities

# Thank you !

A photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sky is filled with warm orange and yellow hues, transitioning into darker blues and purples at the top. The sun is a bright yellow orb partially hidden behind a layer of clouds. In the foreground, the dark blue ocean waves are visible. A metal railing runs diagonally across the frame from the bottom left. A small, dark bird is perched on the railing, facing towards the left. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

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