

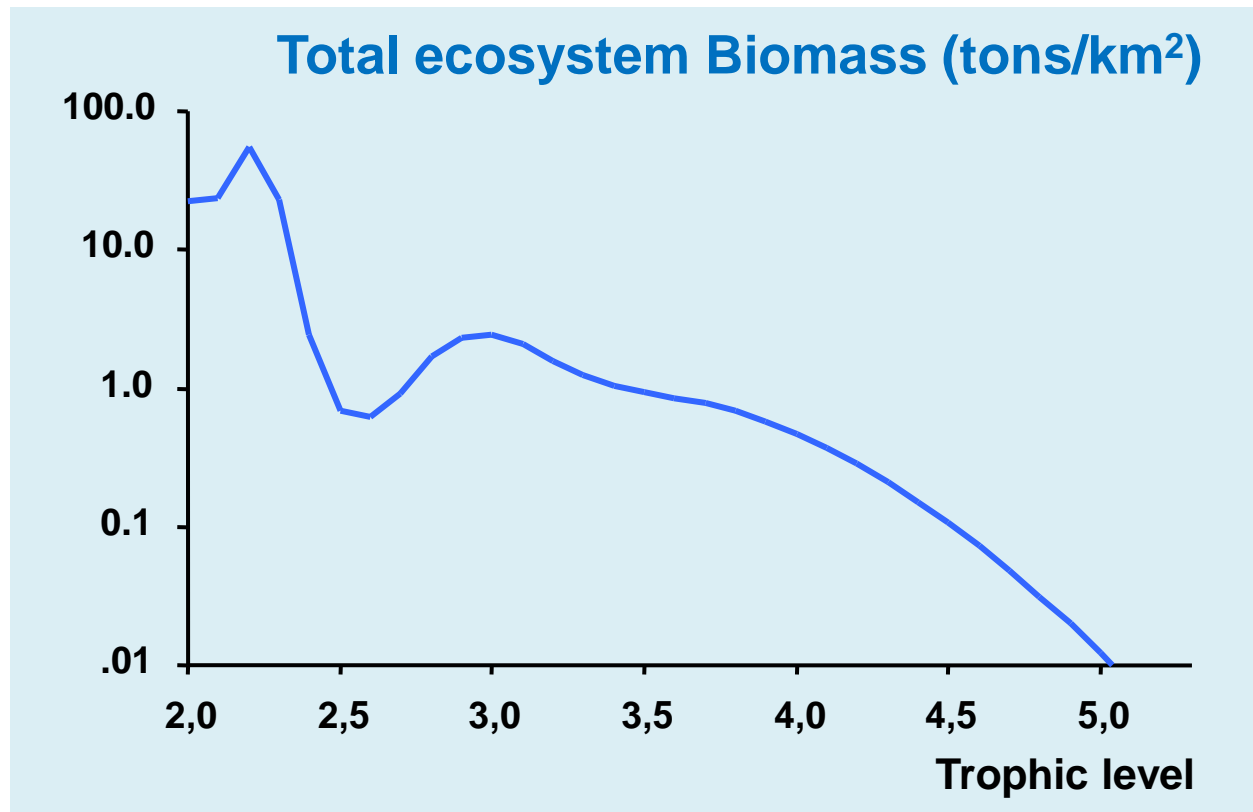
# EcoTroph,

a quasi-physical ecosystem model  
to analyze the global impact of climate change  
on marine food-webs

Didier GASCUEL, Hubert DU PONTAVICE, William W. L. CHEUNG



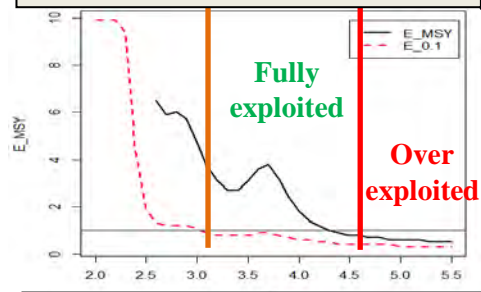
# EcoTroph: an over-simplified ecosystem model



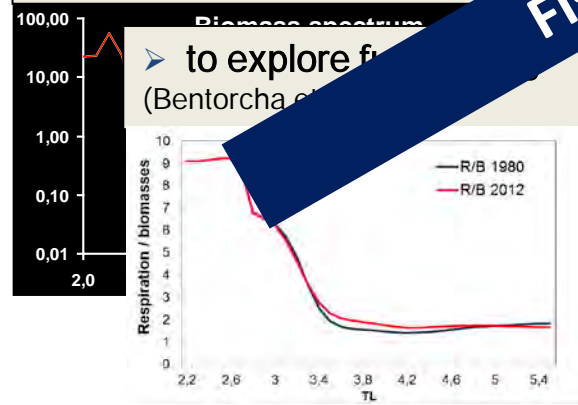


# EcoTroph: applications

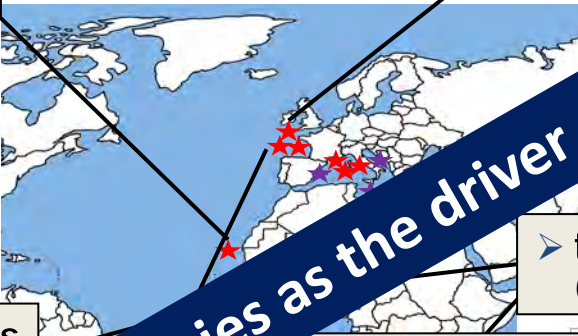
➤ to draw diagnostics  
(Meissa et al., 2015)



➤ to assess fishing impacts  
(Gascuel et al., 2005)



➤ to explore fishing impacts  
(Bentorcha et al., 2012)



**Fisheries as the driver**

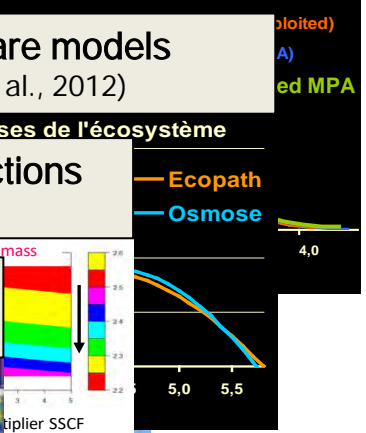
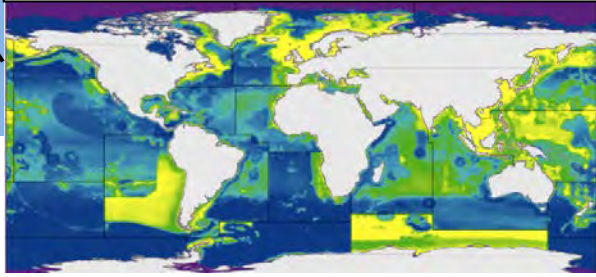
➤ to compare ecosystem's structure and dynamics  
(Moullec et al., 2016)

➤ to monitor MPA's benefits  
(Muller et al., 2012)

➤ to compare models  
(Gasche et al., 2012)

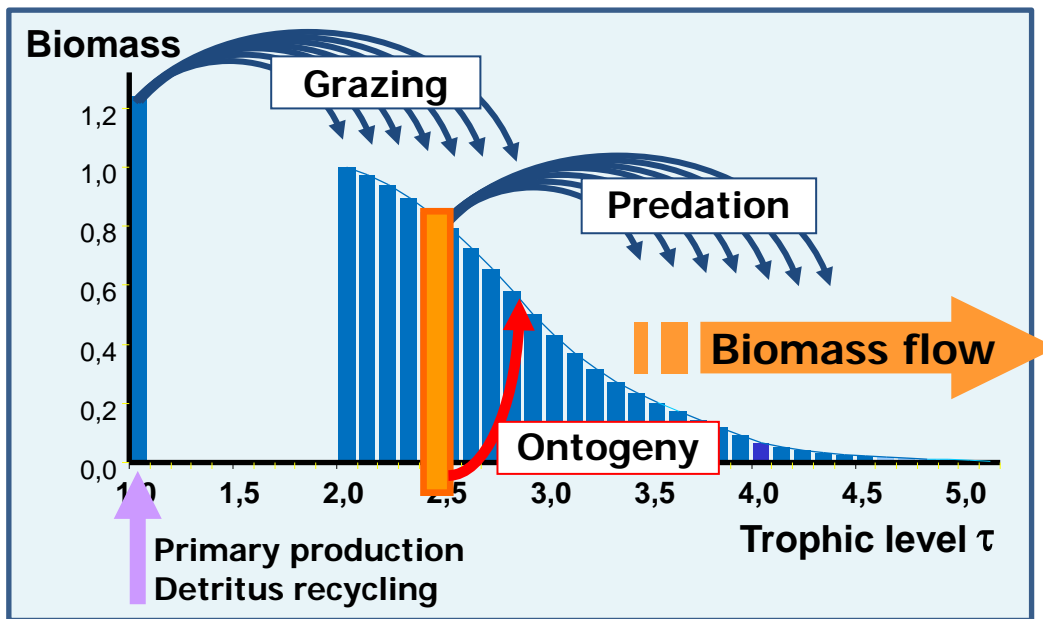
➤ to quantify interactions  
(Gasche et al., 2013)

➤ to map global fisheries impacts  
(Tremblay-Boyer et al., 2011)



➤ **Climate change as the driver ?**

# EcoTroph: how it works?



Gascuel, 2005 ... Gascuel, Pauly, 2009 ... Gascuel, Guénette, Pauly, 2011

- A continuous representation of the biomass distribution, according to trophic level  $\tau$   
-> the **Biomass Trophic spectrum**

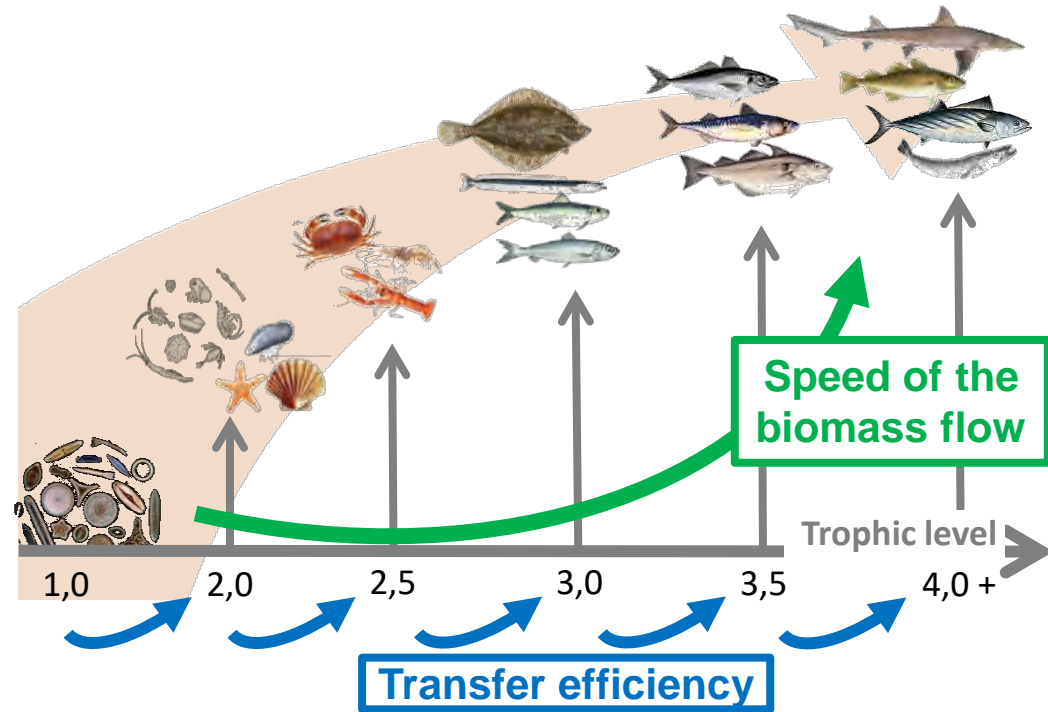
- The ecosystem functioning: a flow of biomass through trophic levels

# EcoTroph: two key parameters

- **The transfer efficiency TE:** defines the quantity of biomass flow ( $\Phi_{\tau}$ ), at each trophic level

- **The flow kinetics K:** celerity of biomass transfers through the food web (in TL/y<sup>-1</sup>)

NB: 1/K is the residence time in the food web



# EcoTroph: basic equations

➤ The master equation:  $\text{Biomass} = \frac{\text{flow}}{\text{speed}} \cdot \Delta\tau$   $B_\tau = \Phi_\tau \cdot \Delta\tau / K_\tau$

An explicit link between:

- ✓ the **biomass** present in the trophic class  $[\tau, \tau+\Delta\tau[$  ->  $B_\tau$ , in tonnes
- ✓ the **production**, which results from the biomass flow passing through the trophic class ->  $P_\tau = \Phi_\tau \cdot \Delta\tau$ , in tonnes/year



# EcoTroph: basic equations

➤ The master equation:  $\text{Biomass} = \frac{\text{flow}}{\text{speed}} \cdot \Delta\tau$        $B_\tau = \Phi_\tau \cdot \Delta\tau / K_\tau$

➤ A non-conservative flow:  $\Phi_{\tau + \Delta\tau} = \Phi_\tau \cdot e^{-(\mu_\tau + \varphi_\tau) \cdot \Delta\tau}$

**Natural losses**

- . Non pred.mort. Mo.B
- . Excretion U
- . Respiration R

$e^{-\mu}$  = Transfer efficiency

**Fishing losses**

- . Catches Y

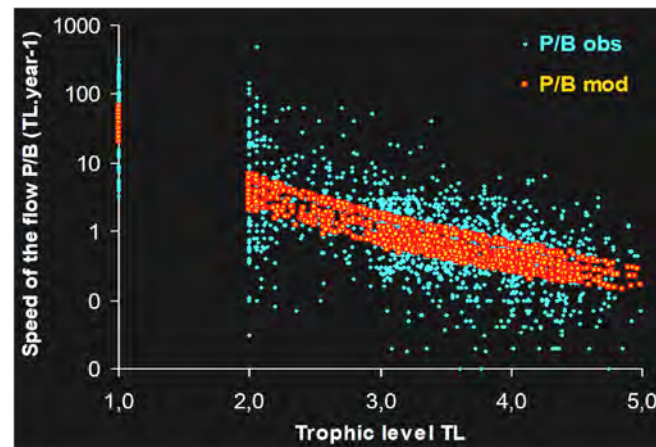


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- An empirical model for kinetics:  $K_{\tau, \text{unexpl.}} = a \cdot \tau^{-b} = 20.2 \cdot e^{0.041 \theta} \cdot \tau^{-3.26}$

Gascuel et al. (2008, Ecol.Mod)

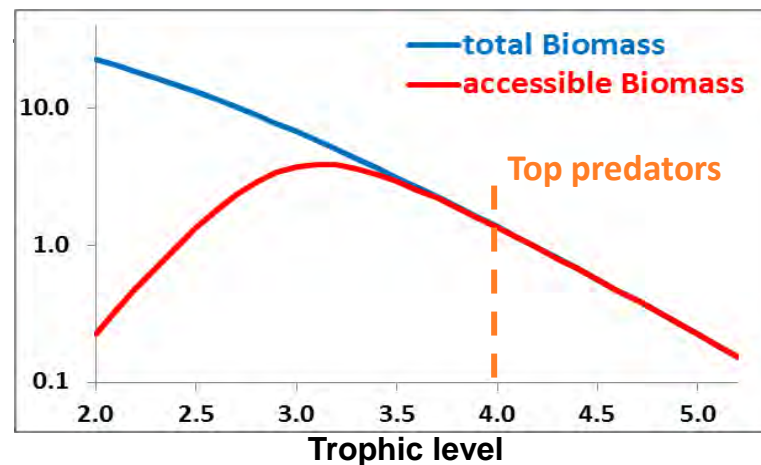
- 55 Ecopath models
- n = 1,718 groups
- $r^2 = 0.54$





# EcoTroph: additional details

- ❑ **Fishing impact on kinetic** (higher mortalities -> shorter life expectancy -> faster transfers)
- ❑ **Feedback effects:**
  - Of predators on prey (Top-down control: more predator -> faster transfers)
  - Of the total biomass on detritus recycling (less biomass -> less recycling)
- ❑ **All organisms are (currently) not exploited**
  - The accessible biomass
  - A distinct kinetics for the accessible and the not-accessible biomass



# EcoTroph: basic equations

- The master equation:  $\text{Biomass} = \frac{\text{flow}}{\text{speed}} \cdot \Delta\tau$   $B_\tau = \Phi_\tau \cdot \Delta\tau / K_\tau$
- A non-conservative flow:  $\Phi_{\tau + \Delta\tau} = \Phi_\tau \cdot e^{-(\mu_\tau + \varphi_\tau) \cdot \Delta\tau}$   $\Phi_1 = \text{NPP}$
- An empirical model for kinetics:  $K_{\tau, \text{unexpl.}} = a \cdot \tau^{-b} = 20.2 \cdot e^{0.041 \theta} \cdot \tau^{-3.26}$

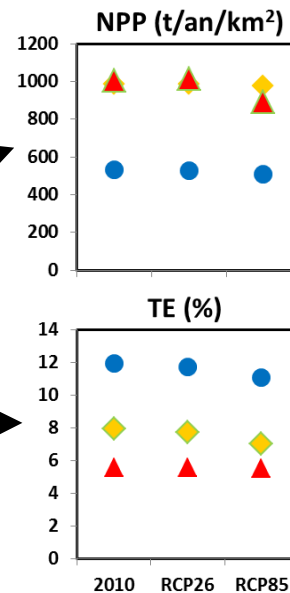
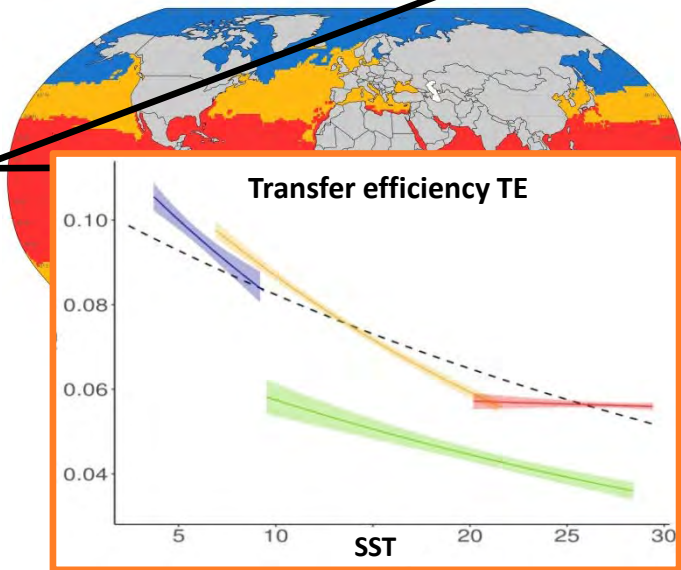
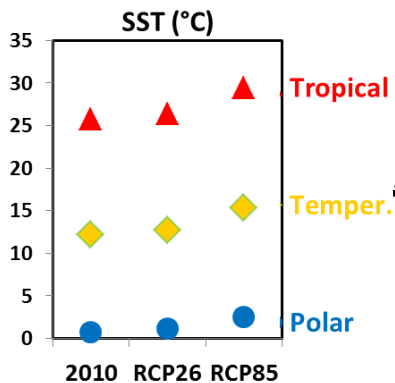
## Climate change affects:

- Net Primary Production NPP
- Transfer efficiency TE
- Flow kinetics K

# Using EcoTroph to simulate climate change

## □ A global analysis

- Using 1° cells, aggregated by ecosystem type
- And for 2 scenarios: RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 in 2100



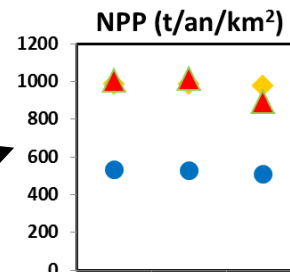
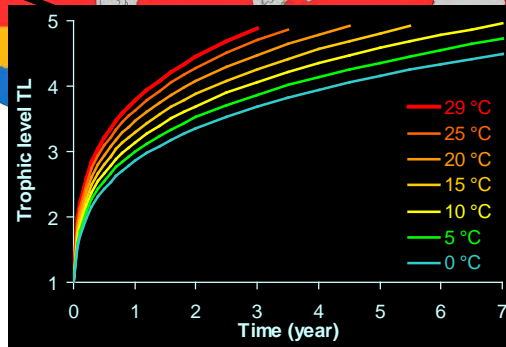
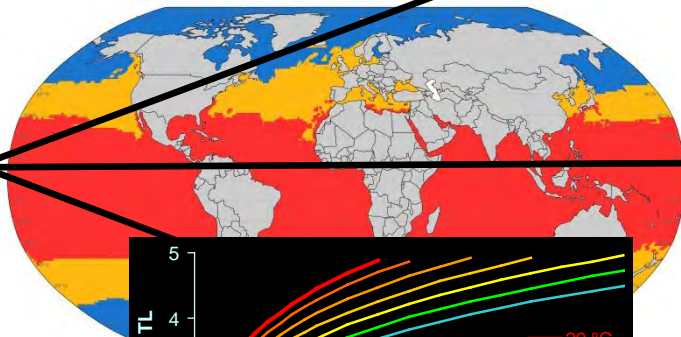
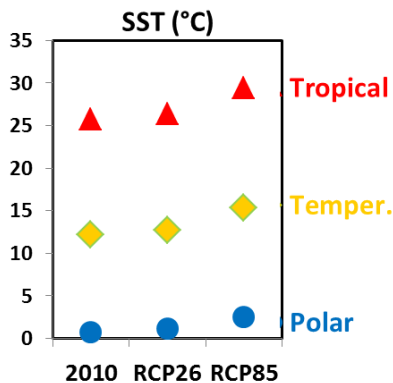
➤ From IPSL

➤ From Du Pontavice (in prep., See **S11-1540**)

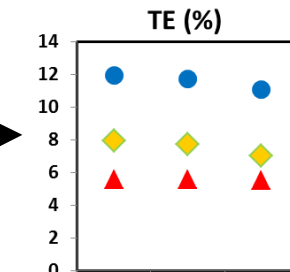
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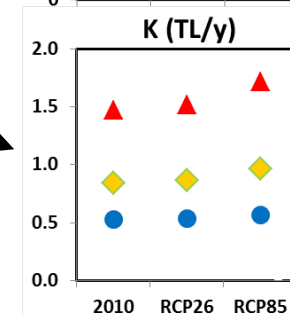
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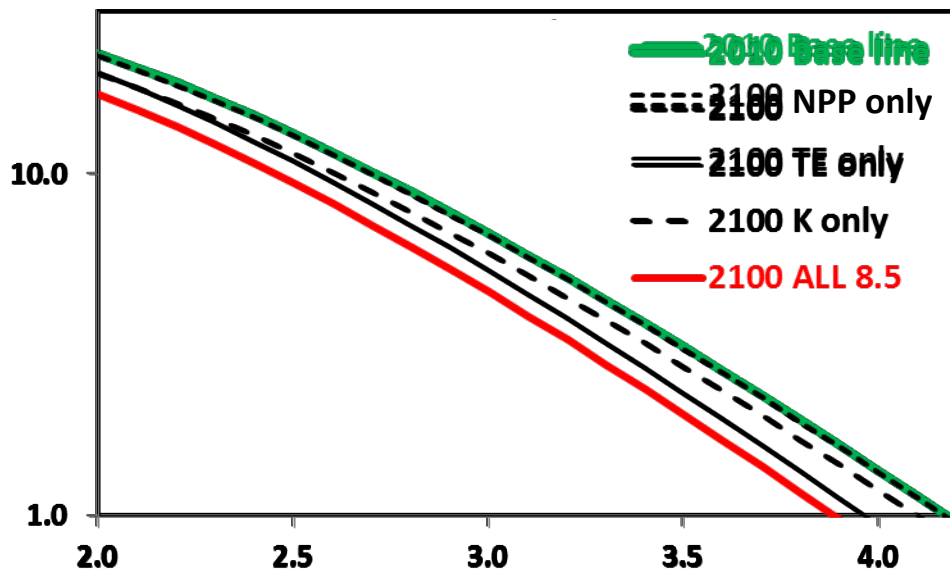
➤ From Du Pontavice (in prep., See S11-1540)



➤ From Gascuel et al. (2008)

# Climate change effects on the biomass trophic spectra

## □ Temperate ecosystems, RCP 8.5, biomass in tons/km<sup>2</sup>



- No change in NPP
- A large effect of changes in Transfer efficiency TE
- An additional effect of change in kinetics K
- A 29% decrease in the total consumer biomass



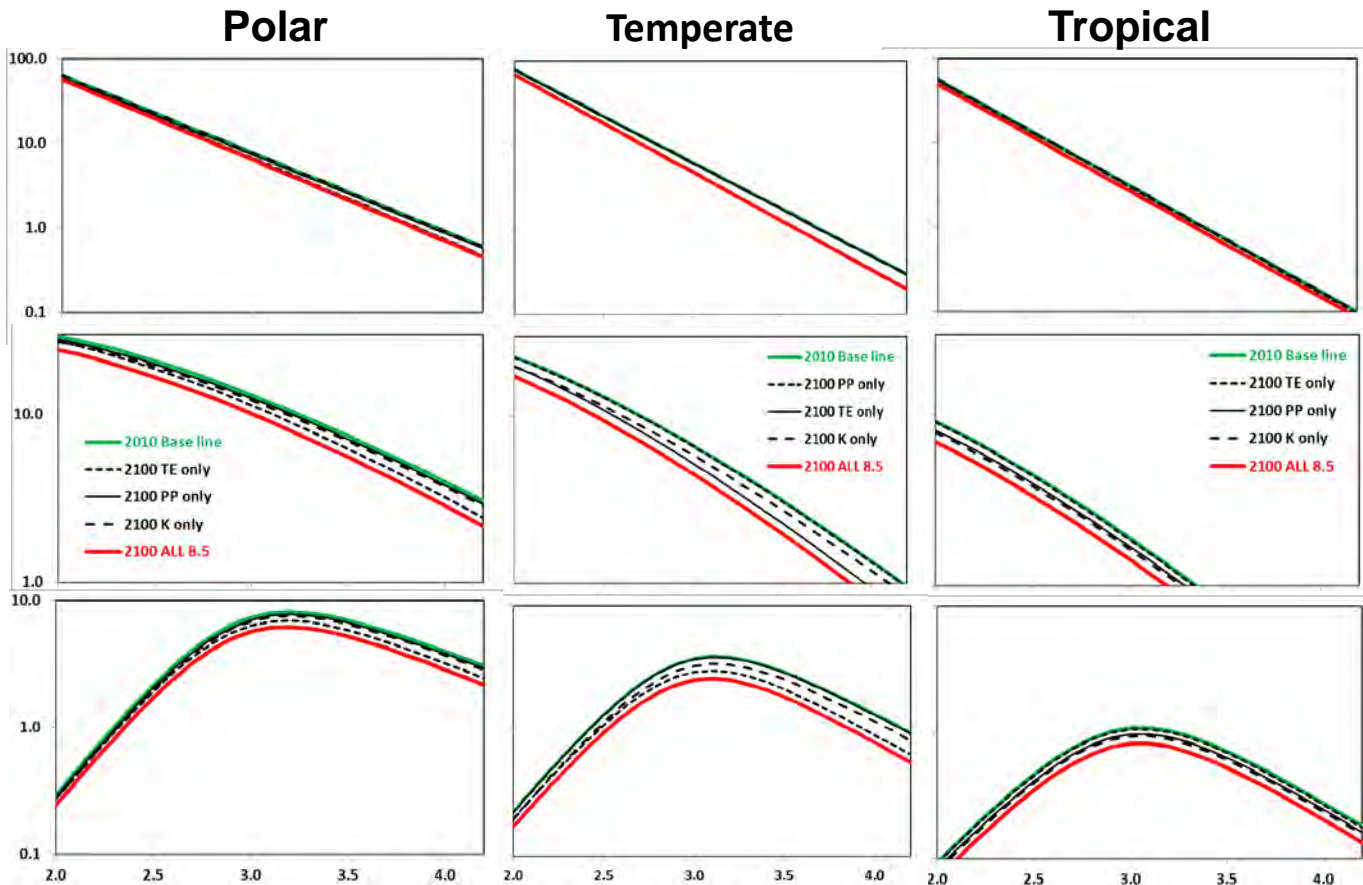
# Effects on Production, Biomass & Accessible biomass



**Production**  
(tons/y/km<sup>2</sup>)

**Biomass**  
(tons/km<sup>2</sup>)

**Accessible Biomass**  
(tons/km<sup>2</sup>)



# Effects on Production, Biomass & access. Biomass

## Loss in total consumer Production

	2010 Base line	2100 RCP 2.6	2100 RCP 8.5
Polar	0%	3%	14%
Temperate	0%	3%	16%
Tropical	0%	-1%	12%

2100 RCP 8.5		
TE only	NPP only	K only
10%	4%	0%
15%	1%	0%
1%	11%	0%

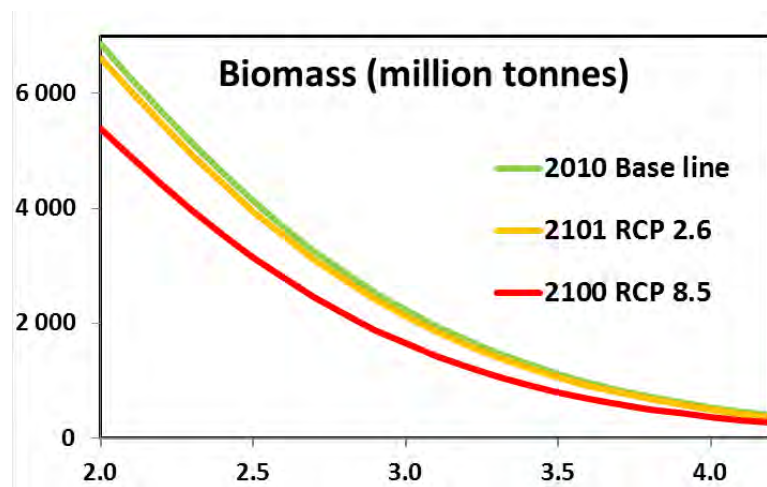
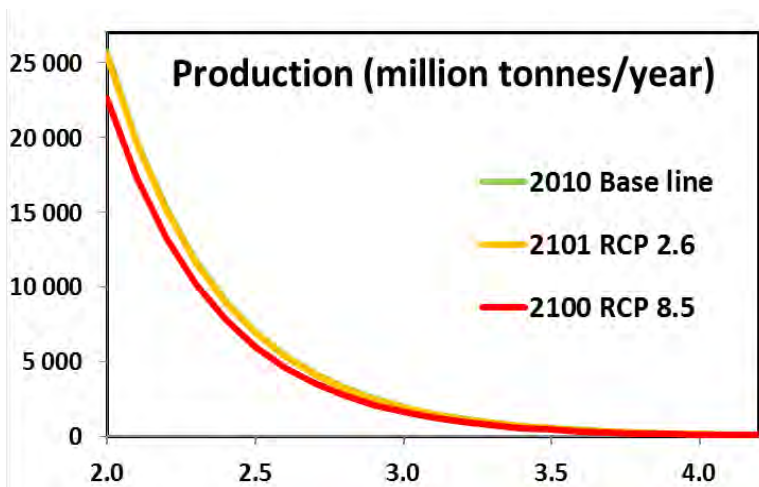
## Loss in total consumer Biomass

Polar	0%	5%	22%
Temperate	0%	6%	29%
Tropical	0%	2%	25%

Access. Biomass	Top-pred. Biomass	
12%	4%	7%
26%	31%	
18%	14%	12%
35%	44%	
2%	11%	14%
25%	26%	

- A large impact on production and biomass, especially in temperate ecosystems
- Key role of NPP in tropical ecosystems, TE in temperate and polar, K everywhere
- Highest impacts on accessible and top-predator's biomass

# Global effects



RCP 2.6

-1 %

-5 %

RCP 8.5

-14 %

-25 %

**Accessible Biomass**

**-28 %**

**Top-predator biomass**

**-33 %**



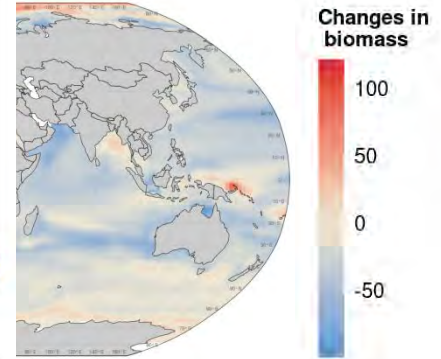
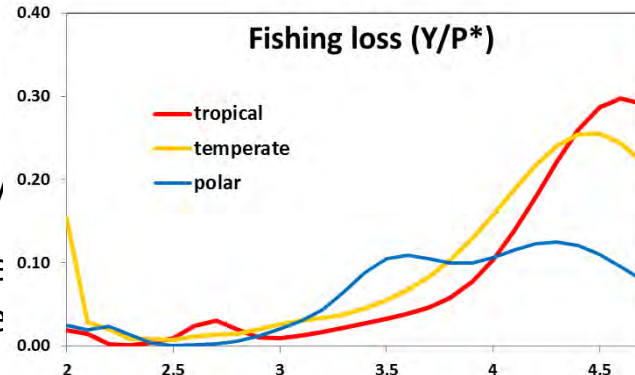
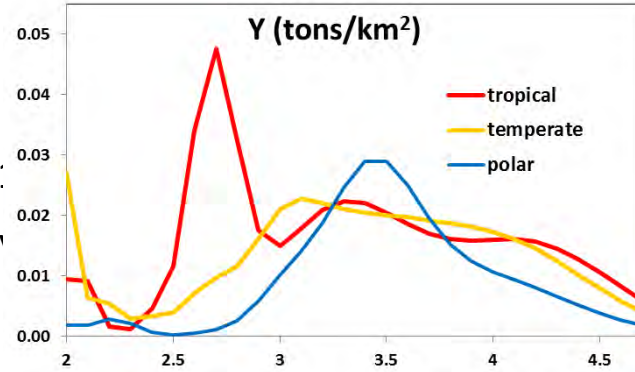
# Discussion & Conclusion

## Next steps:

- Include catches
- Run the model locally (
- Sensitivity analyses (be
- Add changes (in TE and at the individual level

## Take-home messages

- Simple model may prov
- Climate change will affe NPP, decreasing Transfe
- ... thus leading to a large decrease in total consumer production, biomass and structure



avice et al., in prep.

integrative tool)

mechanisms: changing v kinetics...

# Thank you...

