

Mass appearance of the giant jellyfish, *Nemopilema nomurai* along the coastal area of Japan

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History

- 1938, 1958, 1995, (Kuroda, 2001), (Yasuda, 2003)
- 2002, 2003
- 2005
- 2006

More frequent occurrence in 21 century

Nemopilema nomurai in Japanese coasts



Distribution and migration in 1958

Wide distribution in October

October

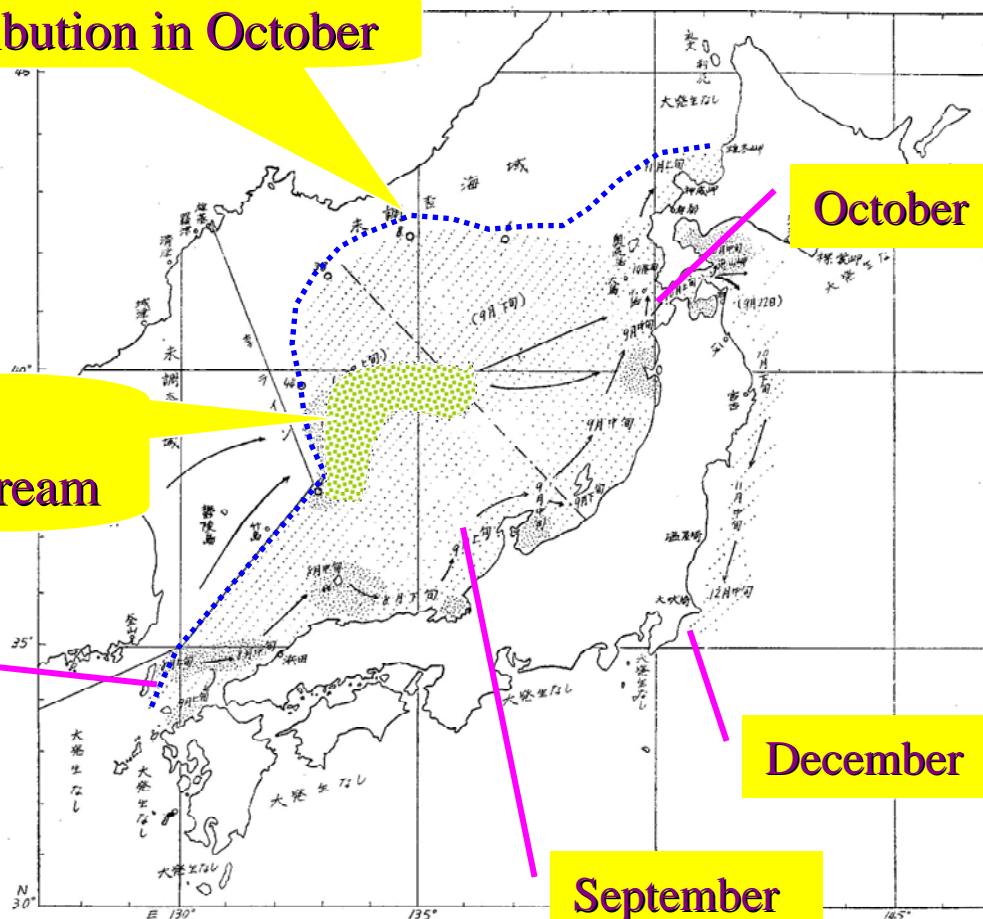
Dense patches in October in
Tsushima Warm Current 2nd stream

August

December

September

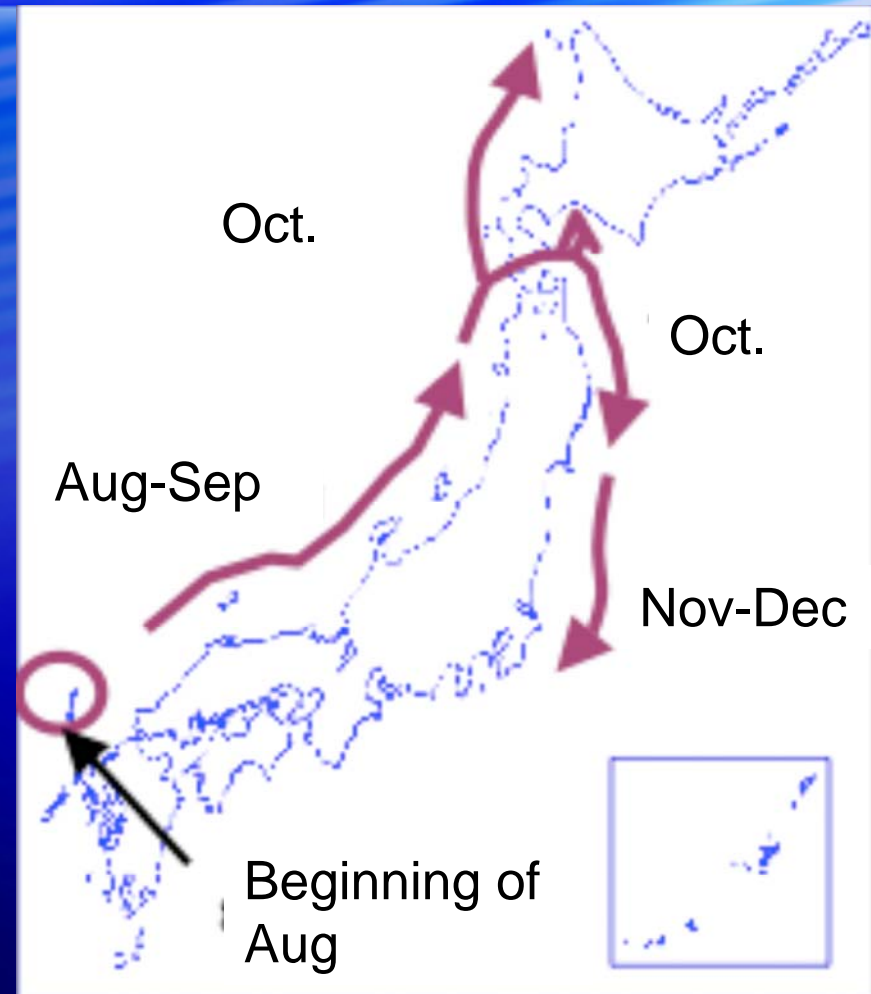
- Shimomura (1959)



第 2 図 1958年秋、エチゼンクラゲの発生域及び始期

Migration (drift) pattern in 2003

- Surveyed by fisheries experimental stations of prefectures along Japan Sea and Pacific Ocean.
- Similar progress of the giant jellyfish was reported in 2002.
- Main body (or bodies) of the giant jellyfish is transported in the second stream of Tsushima Warm Current.



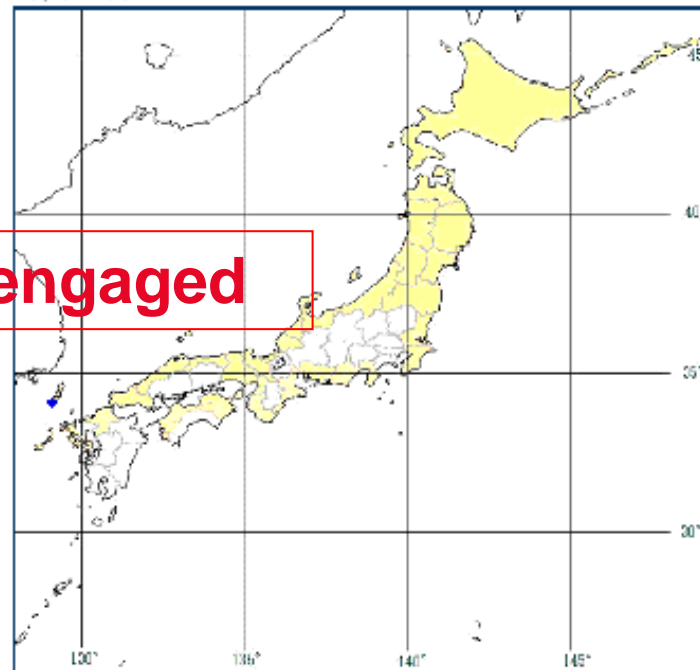
Migration (drift) patterns in 2004 and 2005

2004

2005

7/5~11

Animation disengaged



Numbers in 2004 was far less than those in 2002, 2003.

Jellyfish appeared along the Pacific side of western Japan.

Appearance in 2005

Newspaper on Aug. 5



Aerial photo taken off Kyoto in Sep. 2005



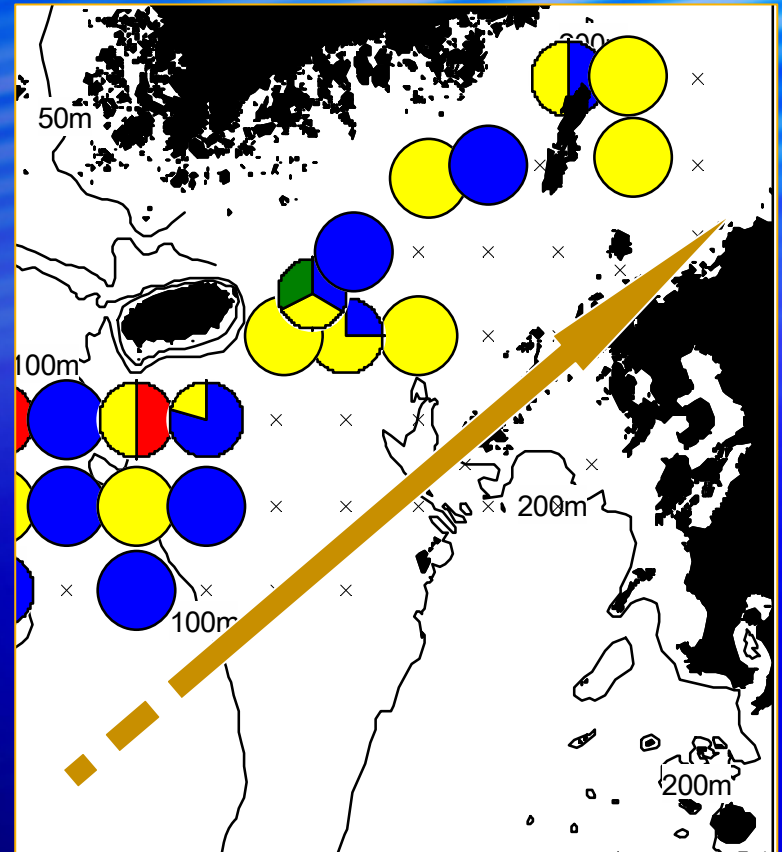
Survey in East China Sea and Japan Sea



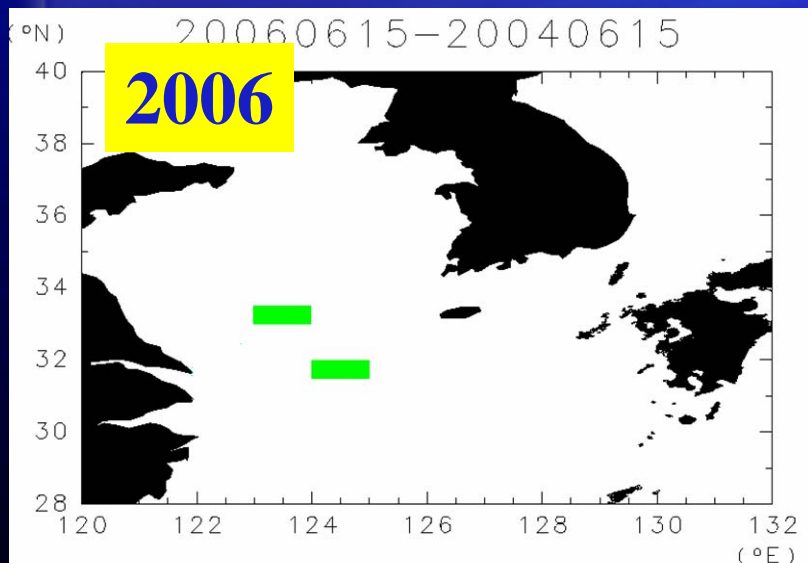
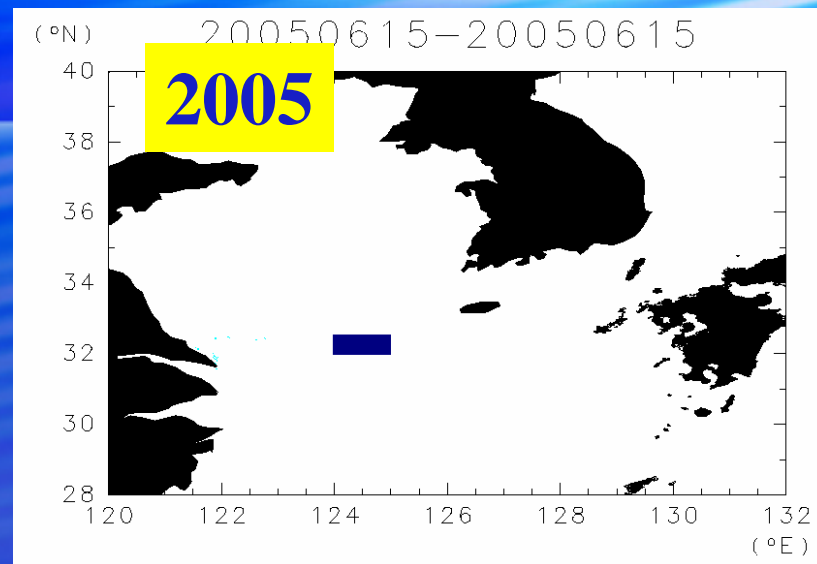
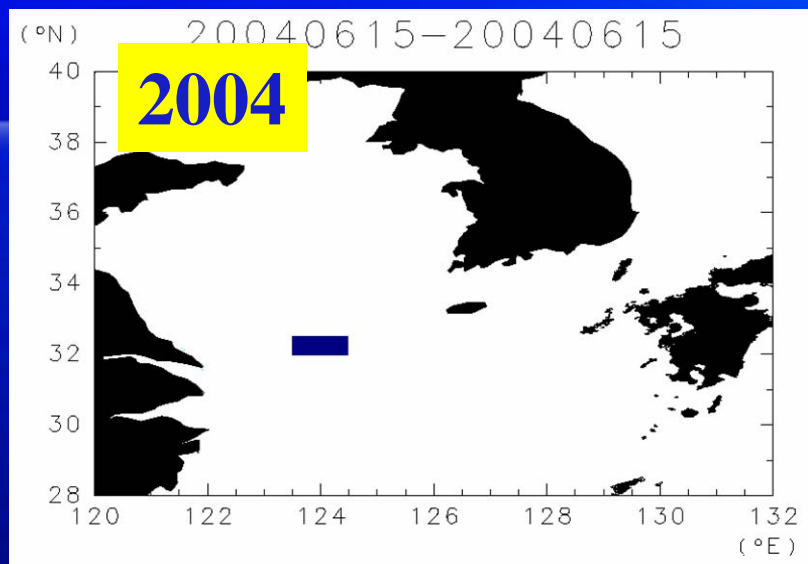
Giant jellyfish in East China Sea in Jun-Jul 2005

- Bell diameter increased while the jellyfish drifted on Tsushima Warm Current.

(20cm to 40cm)



Computer model of migration in East China Sea



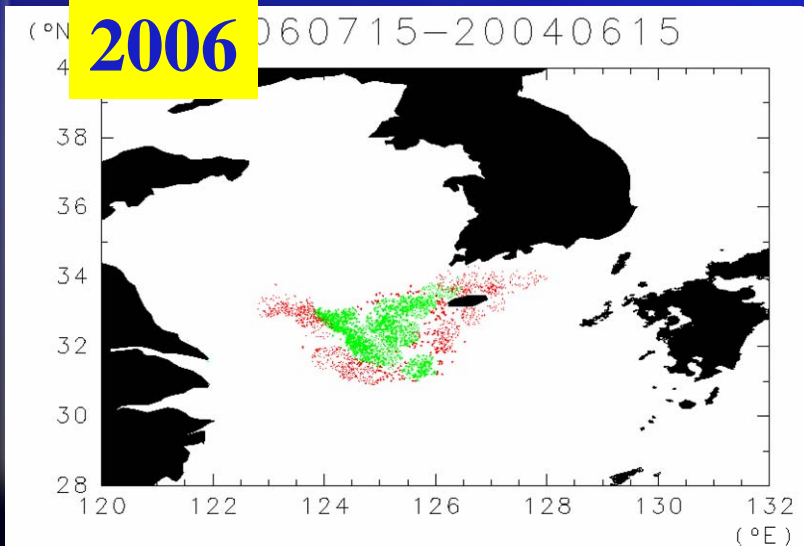
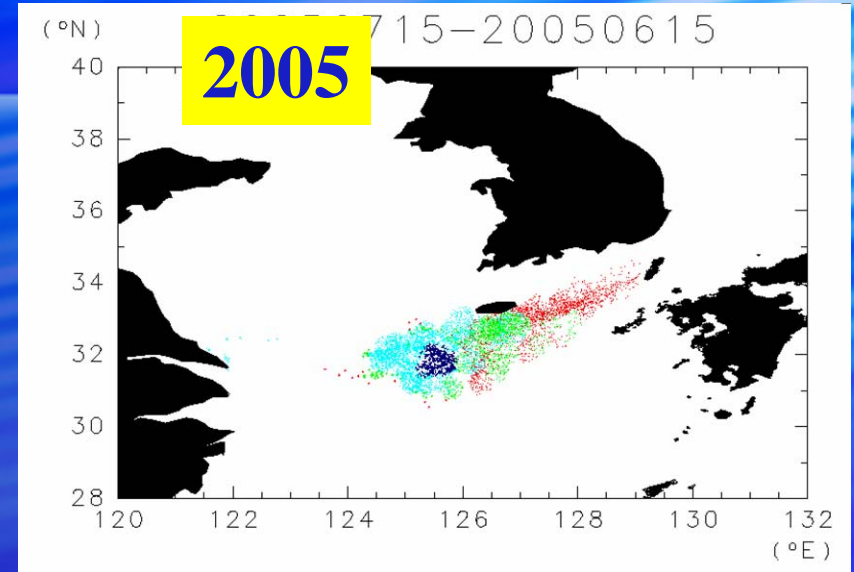
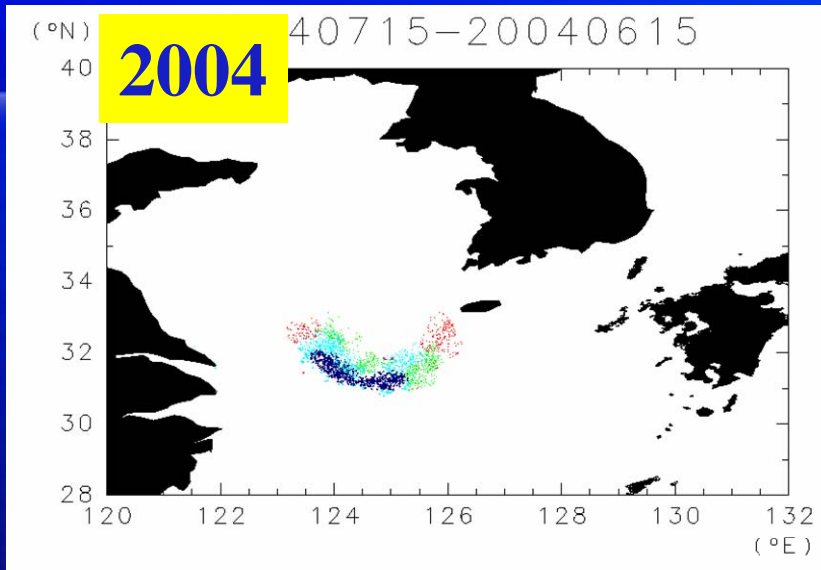
Initial area.

Based on Chinese data.

Concentration (ind./0.5°x0.5°)

50-100 **20-49** **10-19** **1-9**

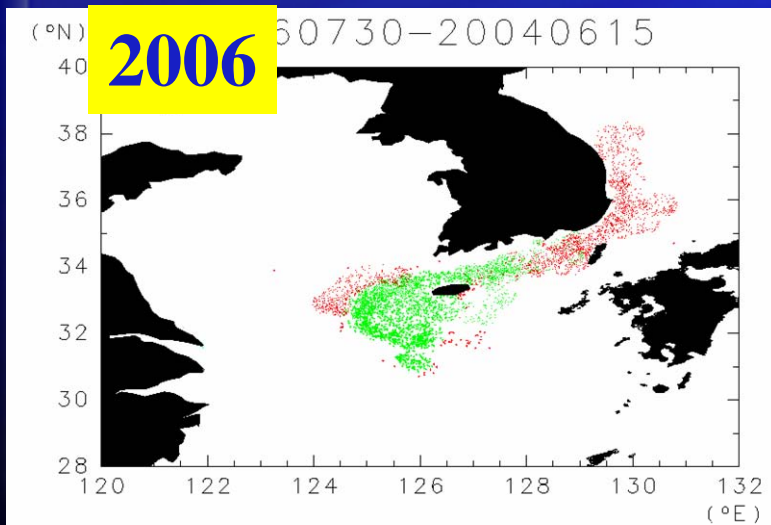
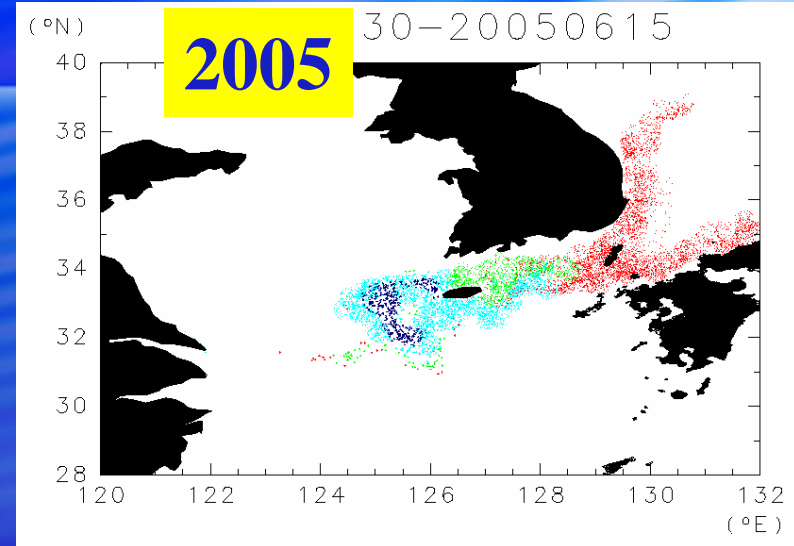
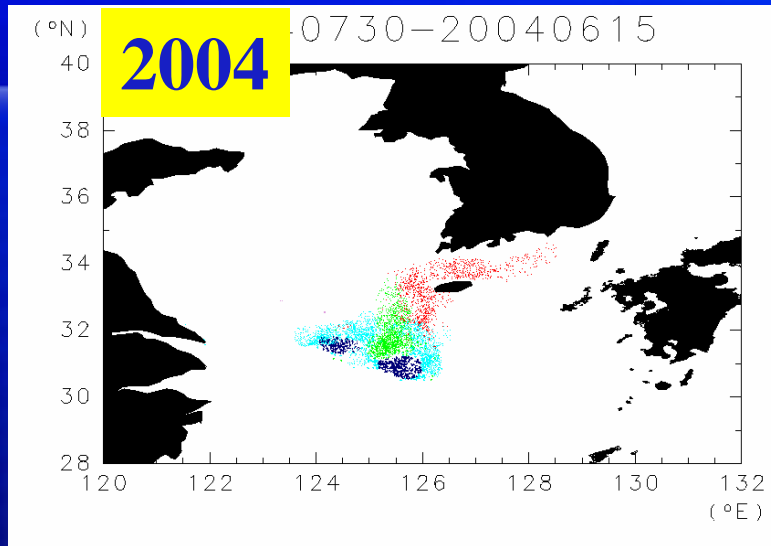
Jul. 15



Concentration (ind./0.5°x0.5°)

50-100 20-49 10-19 1-9

Jul. 30



**Differences among years
are simulated with a good
agreement to observation.**

Concentration (ind./0.5°x0.5°)

50-100 20-49 10-19 1-9

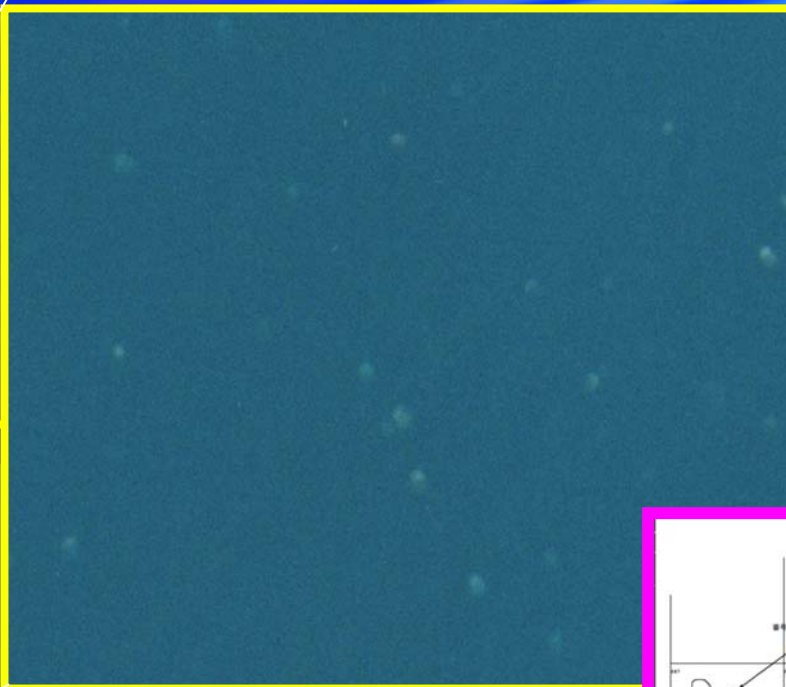
Processes that bring mass appearance of the giant jellyfish at Japanese coasts



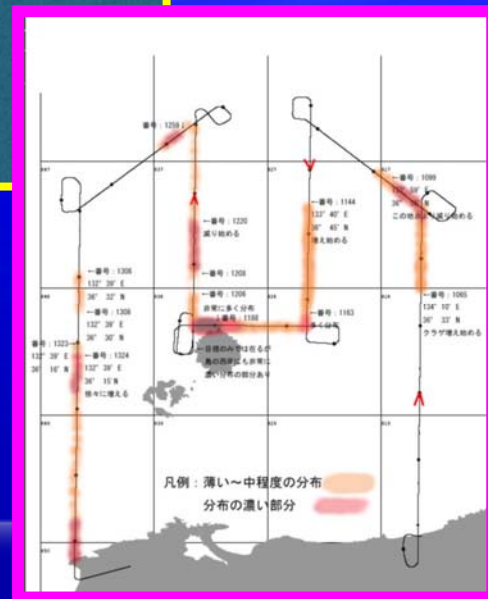
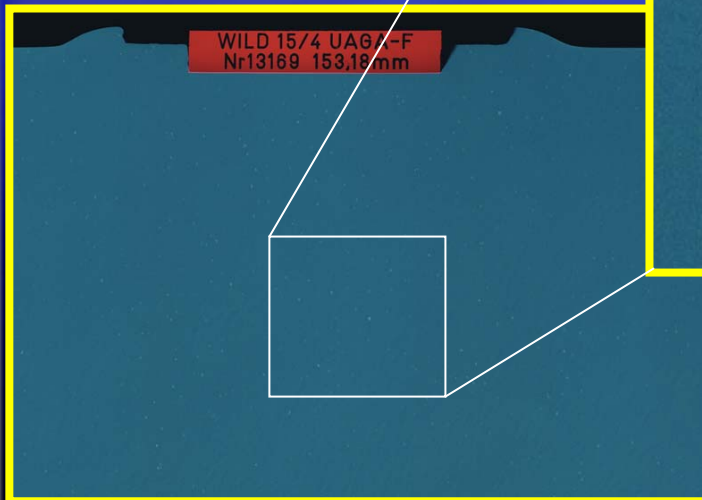
- Biological processes
 - Production of planktonic larvae from polyps
 - Survival in juvenile stage
 - Food, natural enemies, etc
 - Growth in open waters
 - ... Variation in long time-scale ?
Global warming, eutrophication, over-fishing, others?
- Physical processes; drifting
 - Reproduction area to open waters
 - To Tsushima Warm Current
 - Offshore to coastal areas
 - ... Variation in short time-scale, maybe in long one too.

, , , and in 2006

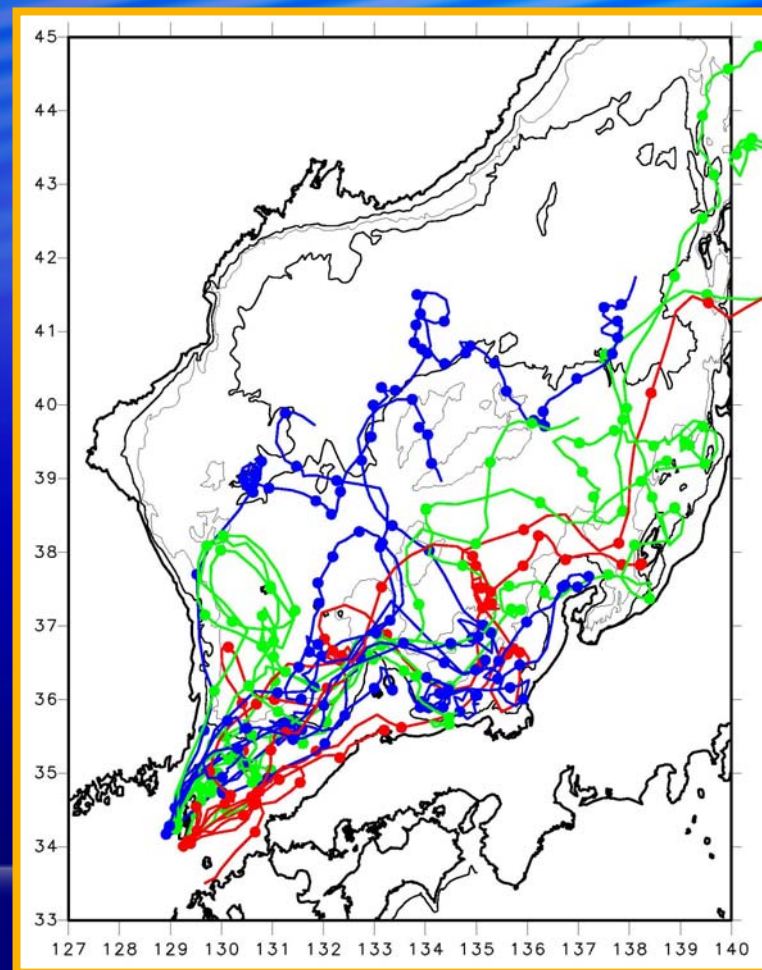
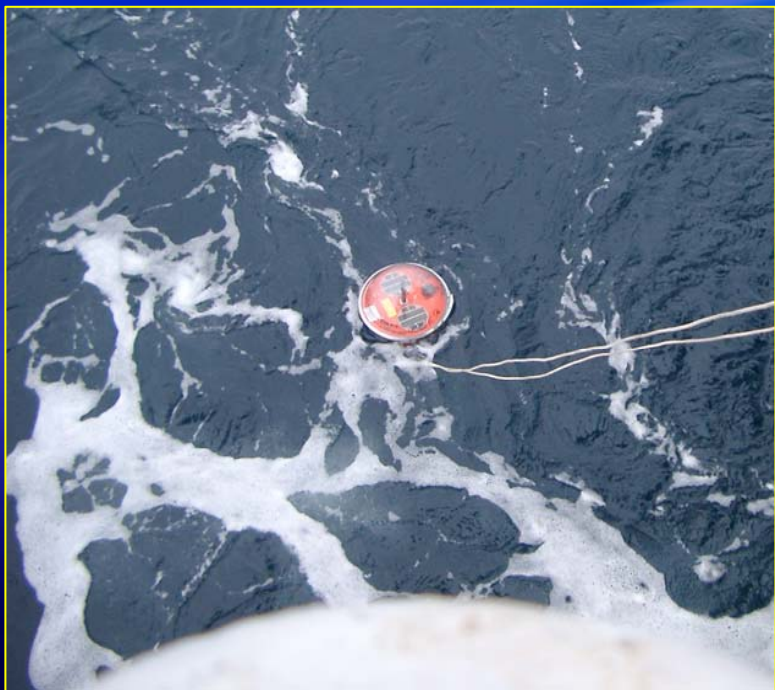
Remote sensing survey off Oki Islands



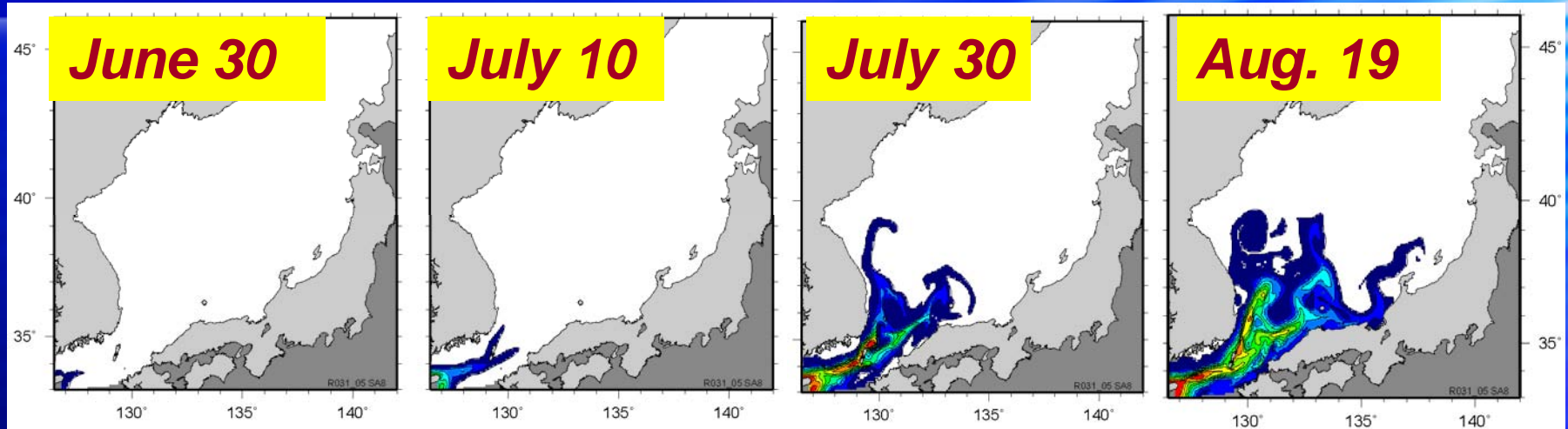
Sep. 29



GPS buoy tracking



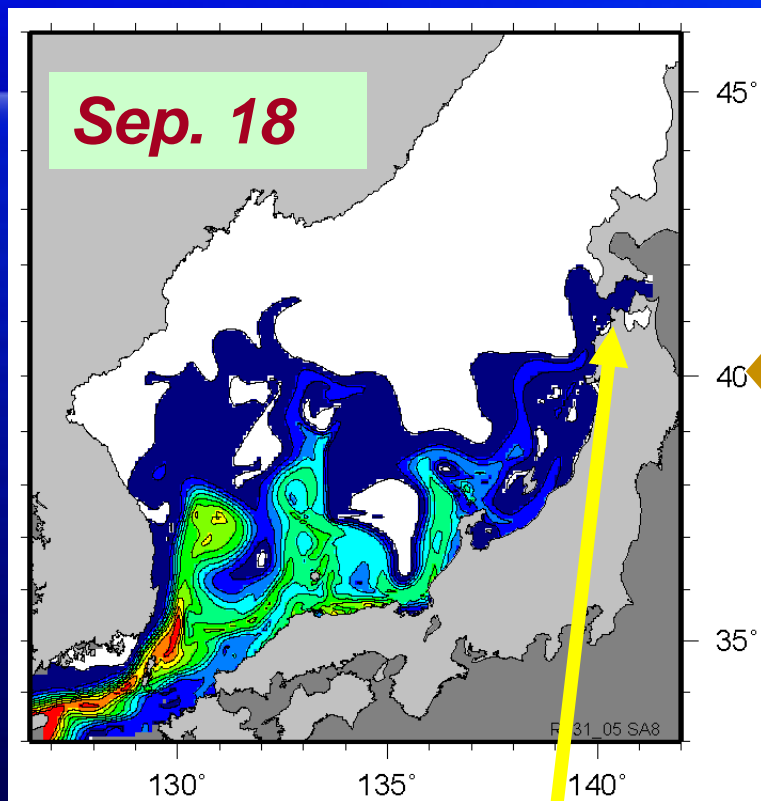
Computer simulation of drift (2005)



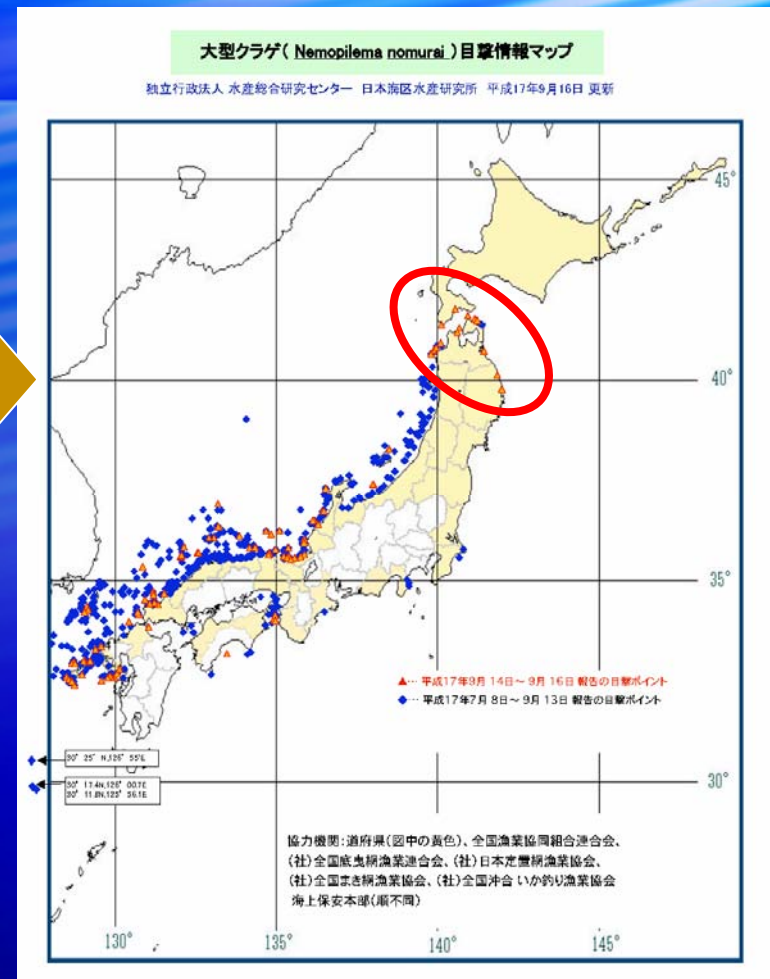
Ocean model used for forecasting the giant jellyfish migration 【RIAMOM】

- Developed by Research Institute for Applied Mechanics, Kyushu University
- Assimilate with daily weather, SST (Sea Surface Temperature) and SSH (Sea Surface Height) data

Forecast of jellyfish appearance in coastal waters

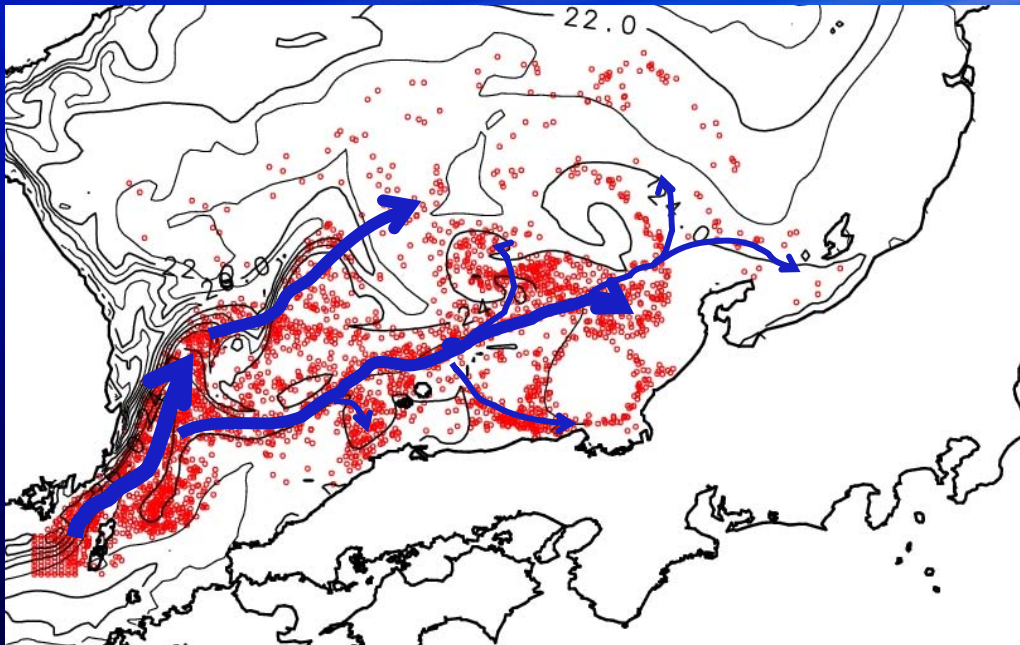


Model forecasted that jellyfish pass through the Tsugaru Strait in the middle of Sep.

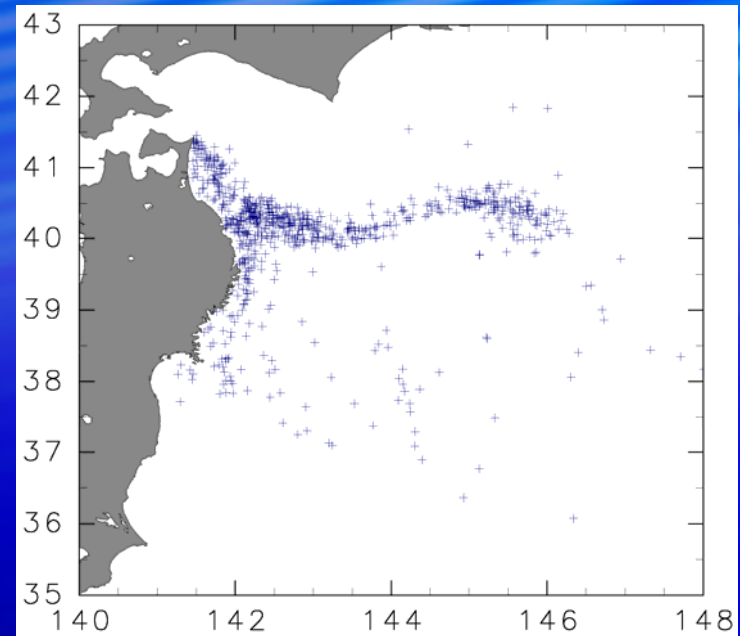


▲: sighted during Sep. 14 to 16.

Drift simulation in Japan Sea and the Pacific Ocean (2006)



RIAMOM



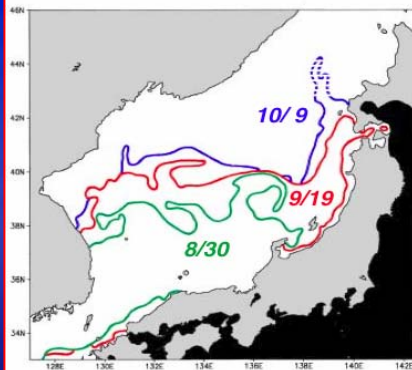
JCOPE

Public announcement of simulation results

別紙2

予測情報

独立行政法人水産総合研究センターでは、これまで寄せられた情報を基に、九州大学応用力学研究所と共同で海流予測モデル(RIAMOM)を用いて、大型クラゲの分布域を予測計算しました。その結果、大型クラゲは、能登半島以北では対馬暖流に乗って沖合域を中心に北上し、9月中旬には早い個体で津軽海峡に達することが示されました。



数値シミュレーションモデルから推定された8月30日、9月19日及び10月9日における大型クラゲの分布域

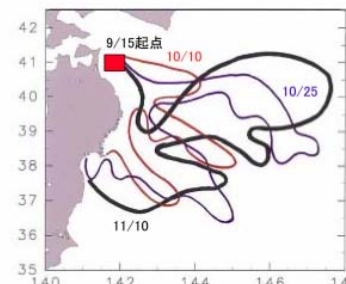
Aug/ 31

Oct/ 12

別紙2

東北太平洋岸における予測情報

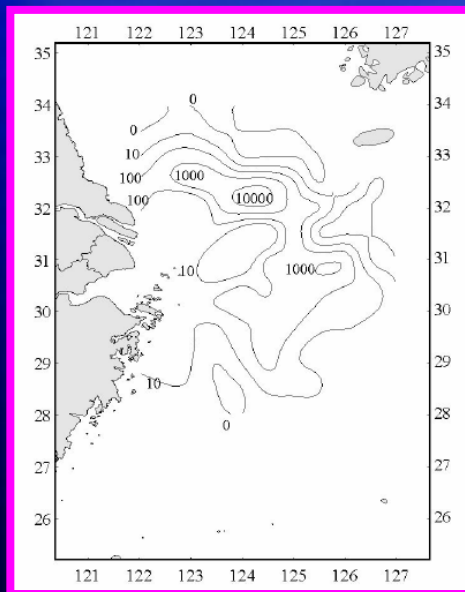
独立行政法人水産総合研究センターでは、独立行政法人海洋研究開発機構と共同で海況予測モデル(JCOPE)を用いて、東北太平洋岸における大型クラゲの分布域を予測計算しました。9月15日に青森県三沢沖で発見された情報を基にすると、大型クラゲが、しばらく岩手県北部沿岸(北緯40度付近)に滞留した後、親潮前線沿いに東へ流されるものと、親潮第1分枝沿いに南へ流されるものに2分されます。このうち、東北沿岸を南下する大型クラゲは、10月中旬には金華山沿岸、10月下旬には常磐沿岸に達することが示されました。なお、北海道への出現については本予測には含まれません。



9月15日を初期値とし、海況予測モデル(JCOPE)から推定された、10月10日、10月25日、11月10日の大型クラゲの分布域

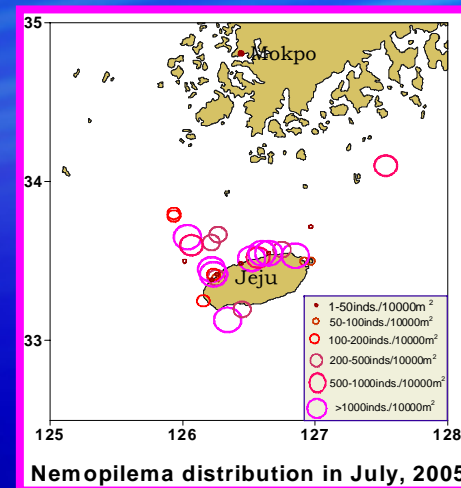
Collaboration with China and Korea

- Data exchange
- International workshops
- MOU among national institutes

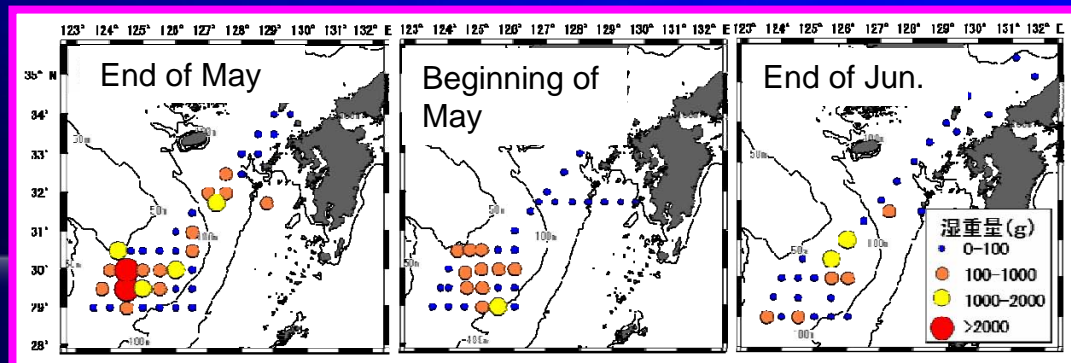


China

Korea

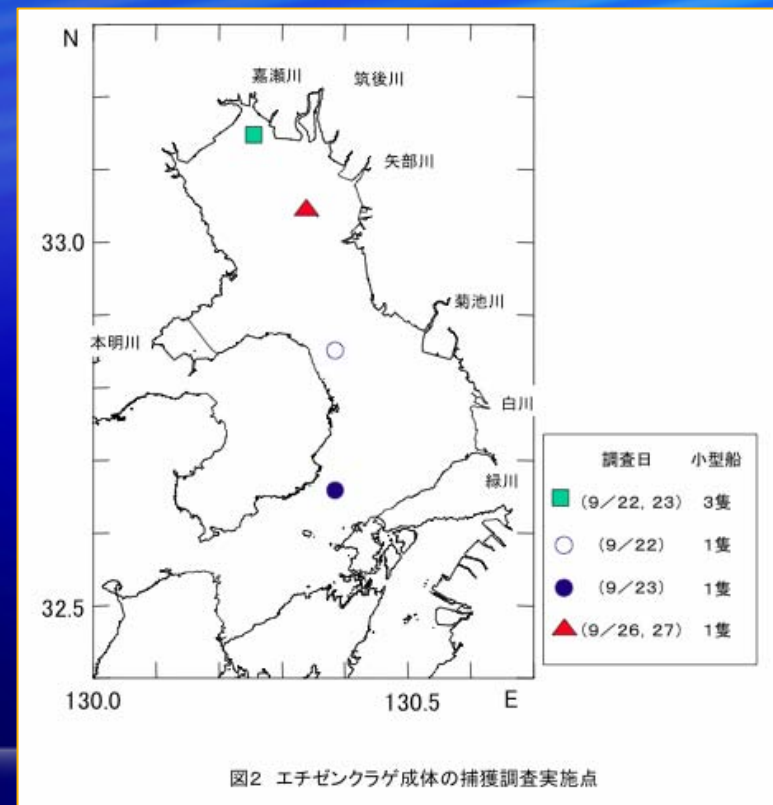
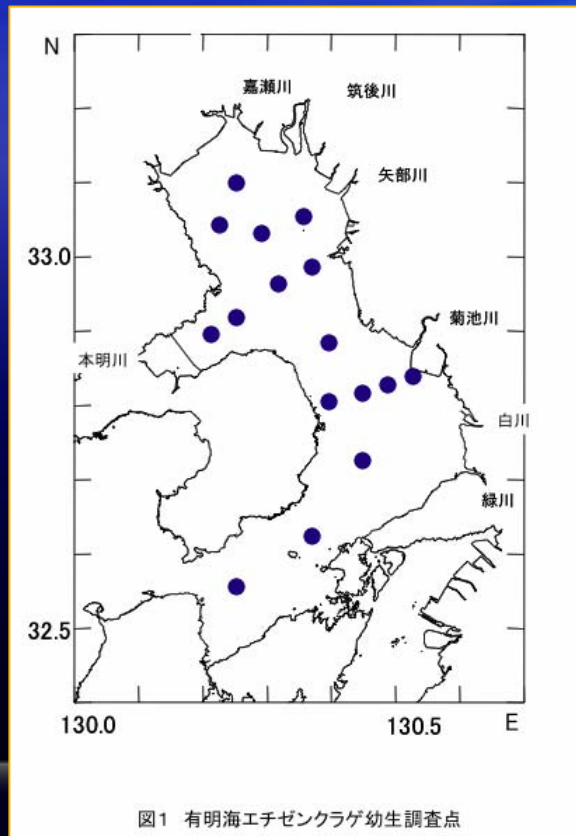


Japan

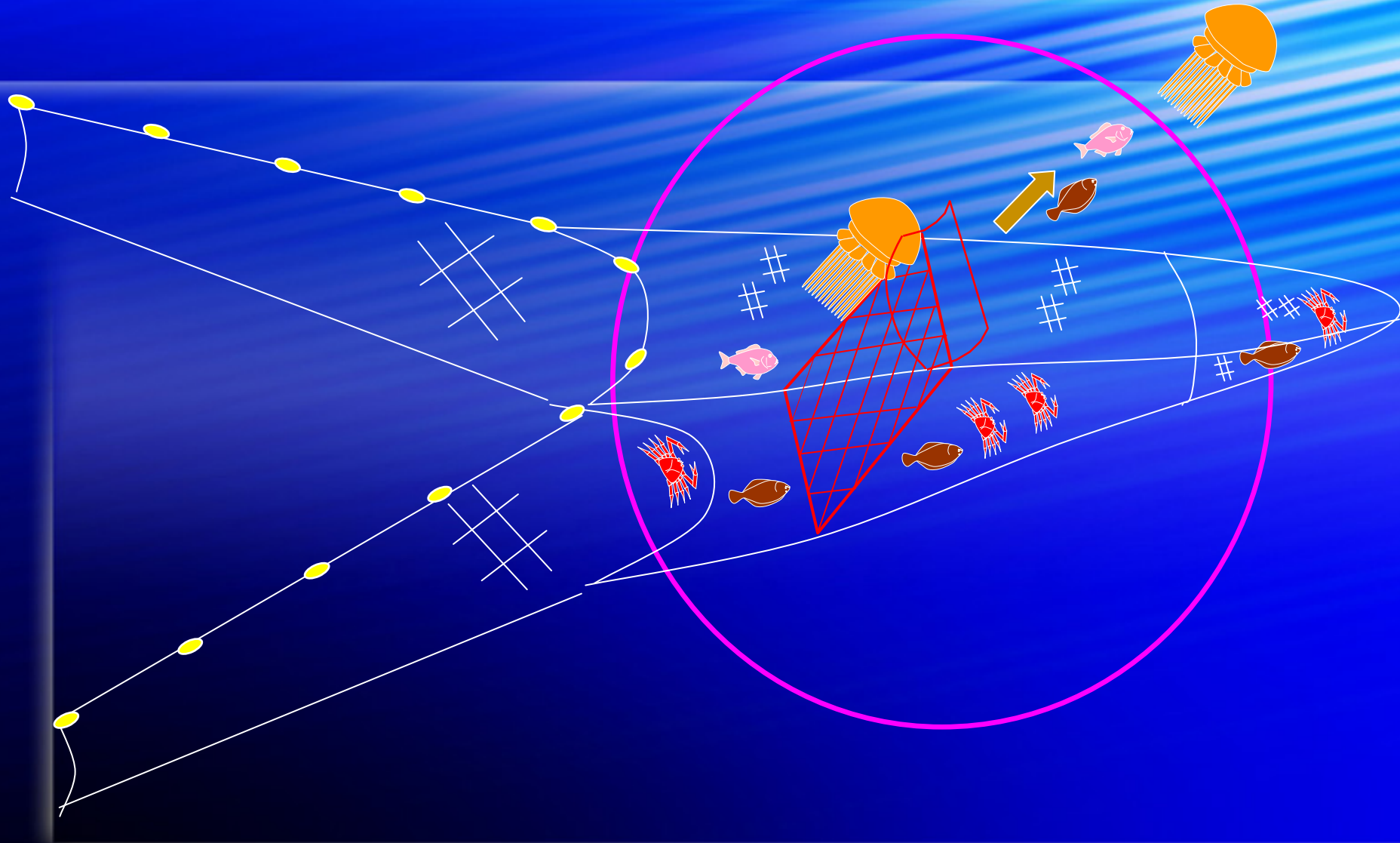


Giant Jellyfish in Ariake Bay

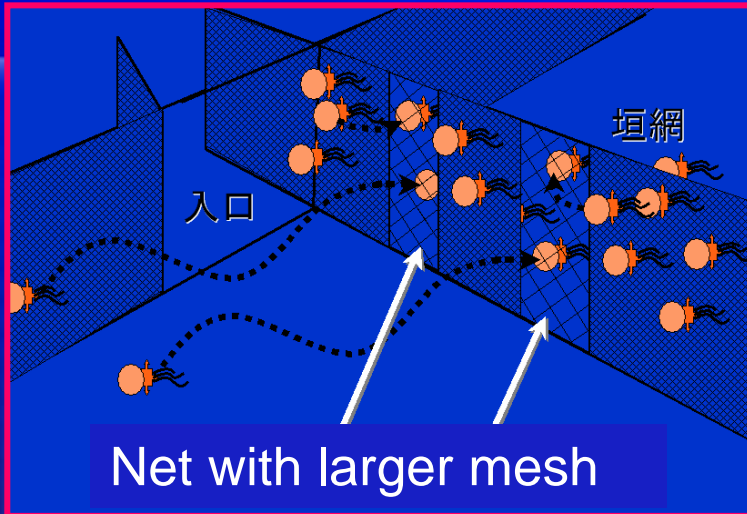
There were some reports of sighting *Nemopilema nomurai* in the bay. Searches for larvae and adult jellyfish show no positive evidences.



New technologies in trawl nets



New technologies in set nets



**Jellyfish passes through, but
fish can see the net.**

Jellyfish diameter: ca.80cm

Utilization of giant jellyfish

- Search for functional activities in extracts
 - Reduction of neutral fatty acids, prevention of thrombosis and osteoporosis
- Development of
 - Processed materials for food products
 - Local specialties
 - Traditional salted jellyfish

