Yury ZUENKO and Vladimir RACHKOV

Pacific Fisheries Research Center (TINRO), Vladivostok, Russia



Climatic changes of temperature, salinity and nutrients in the Amur Bay of the Japan Sea

poster presentation on PICES 24th Meeting; Qingdao, China, October 2015

Goal: to understand the dependence of climate variation in local coastal area on large-scale climate change, to determine the mechanisms of environmental influence on biological productivity of coastal waters



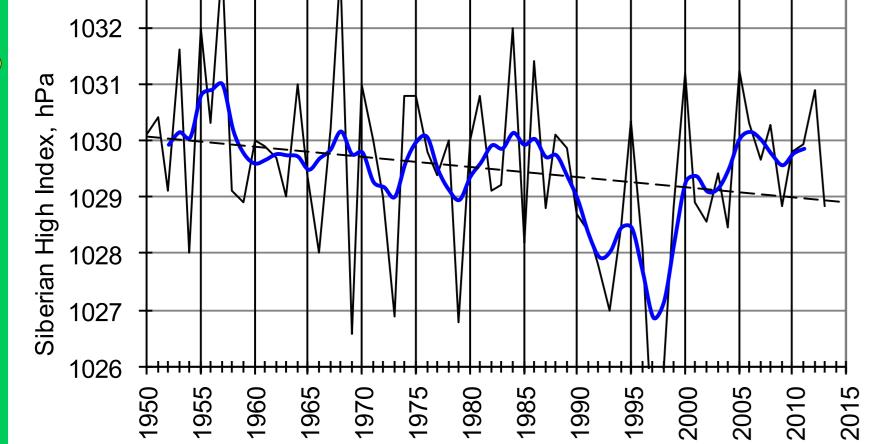
Piver

Tendencies of salinity: slight increase In the whole water column

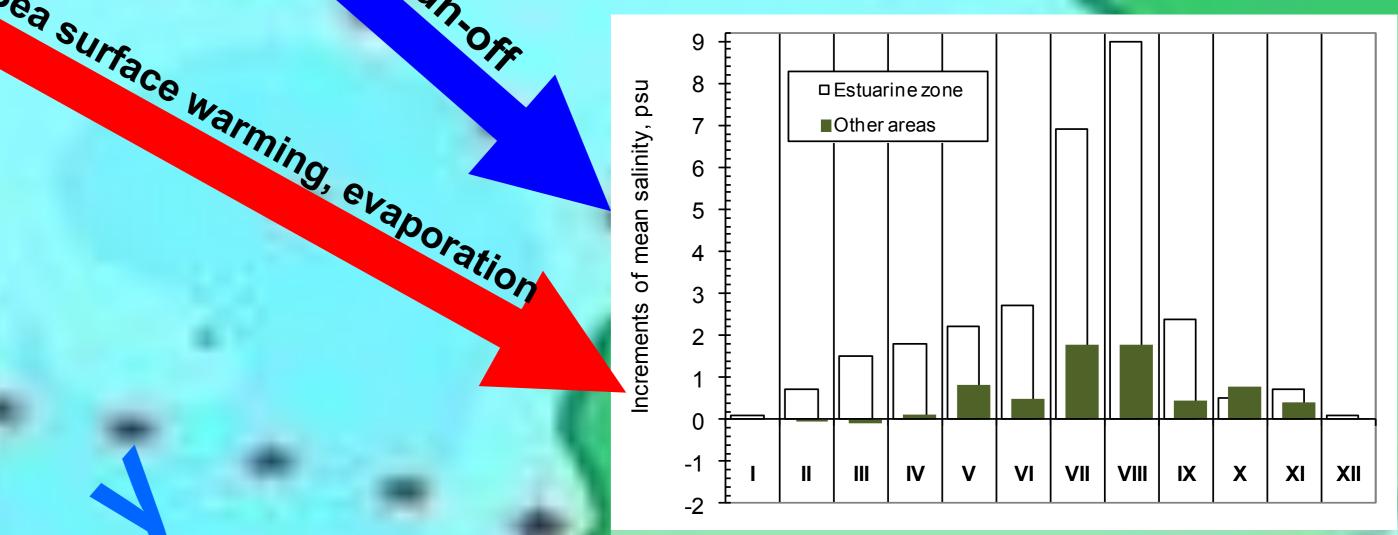
Tendencies of monsoon activity in North-East Asia: weakening prevails In both winter and summer seasons



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Year-to-year changes and trend of winter monsoon in North-East Asia (SHI for December-February)

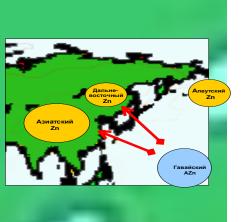


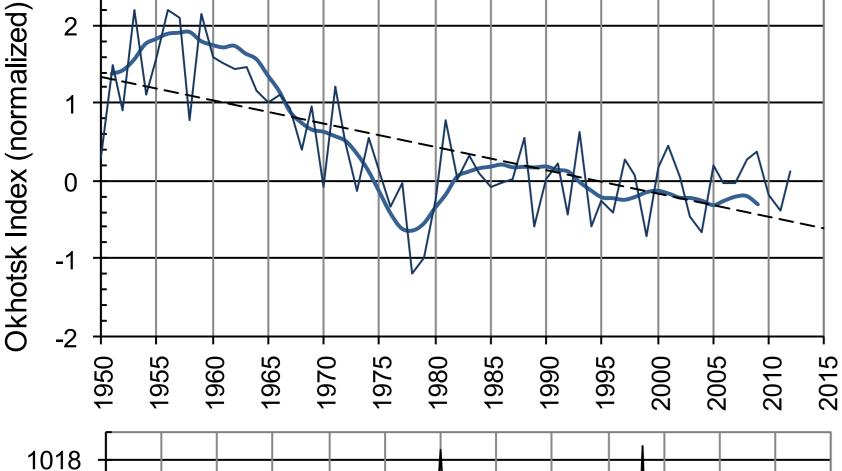
Difference between monthly mean values of salinity at the sea surface in the 1980s and 2000s. Salinity increase prevails, even in the estuarine zone

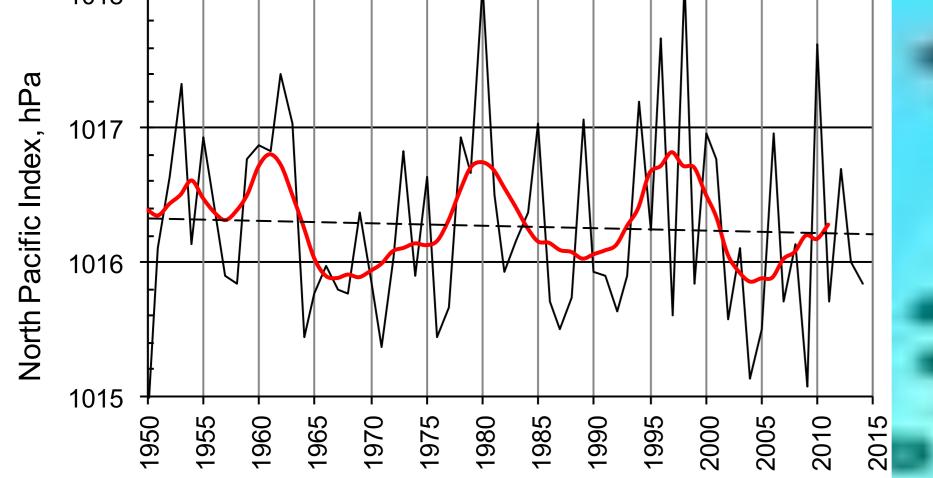
Vladivostok

Russky

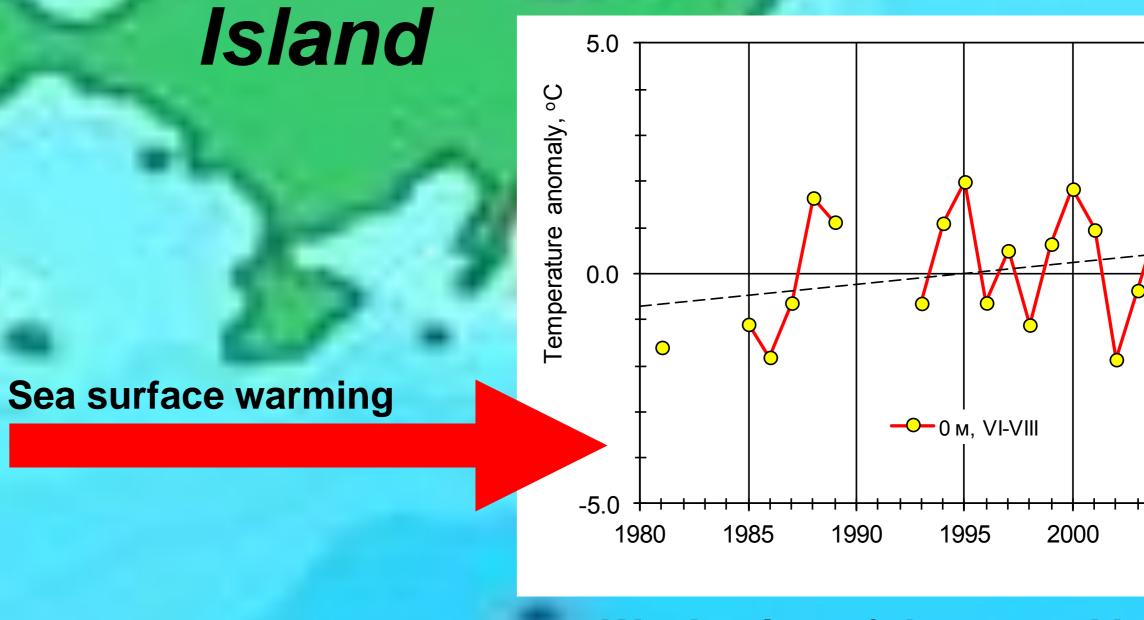
Tendencies of water temperature changes: warming at the sea surface and cooling at the bottom; strengthening of stratification







Year-to-year changes and trends of summer monsoon in North-East Asia (Okhotsk Index in June and NPI in July)

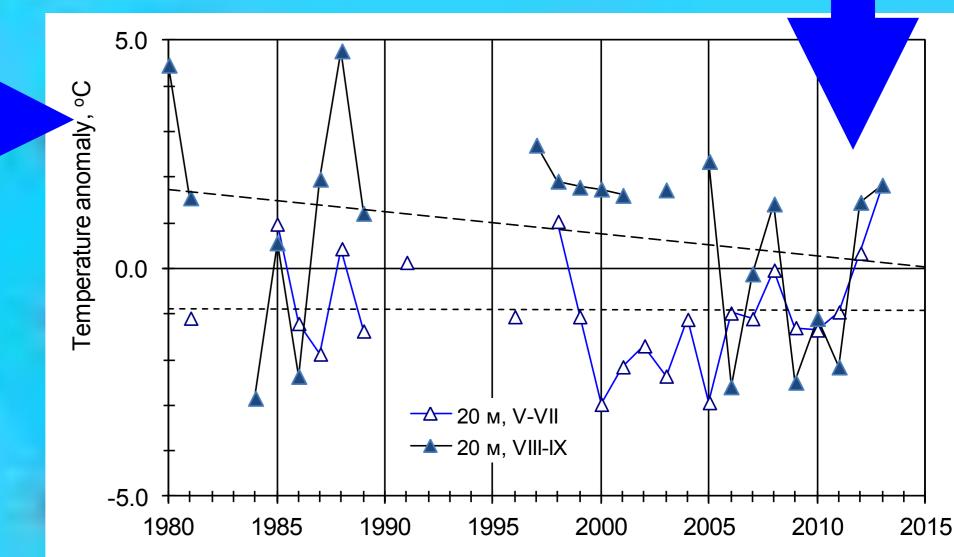


Weakening of downward heat flux

2015

2005

201

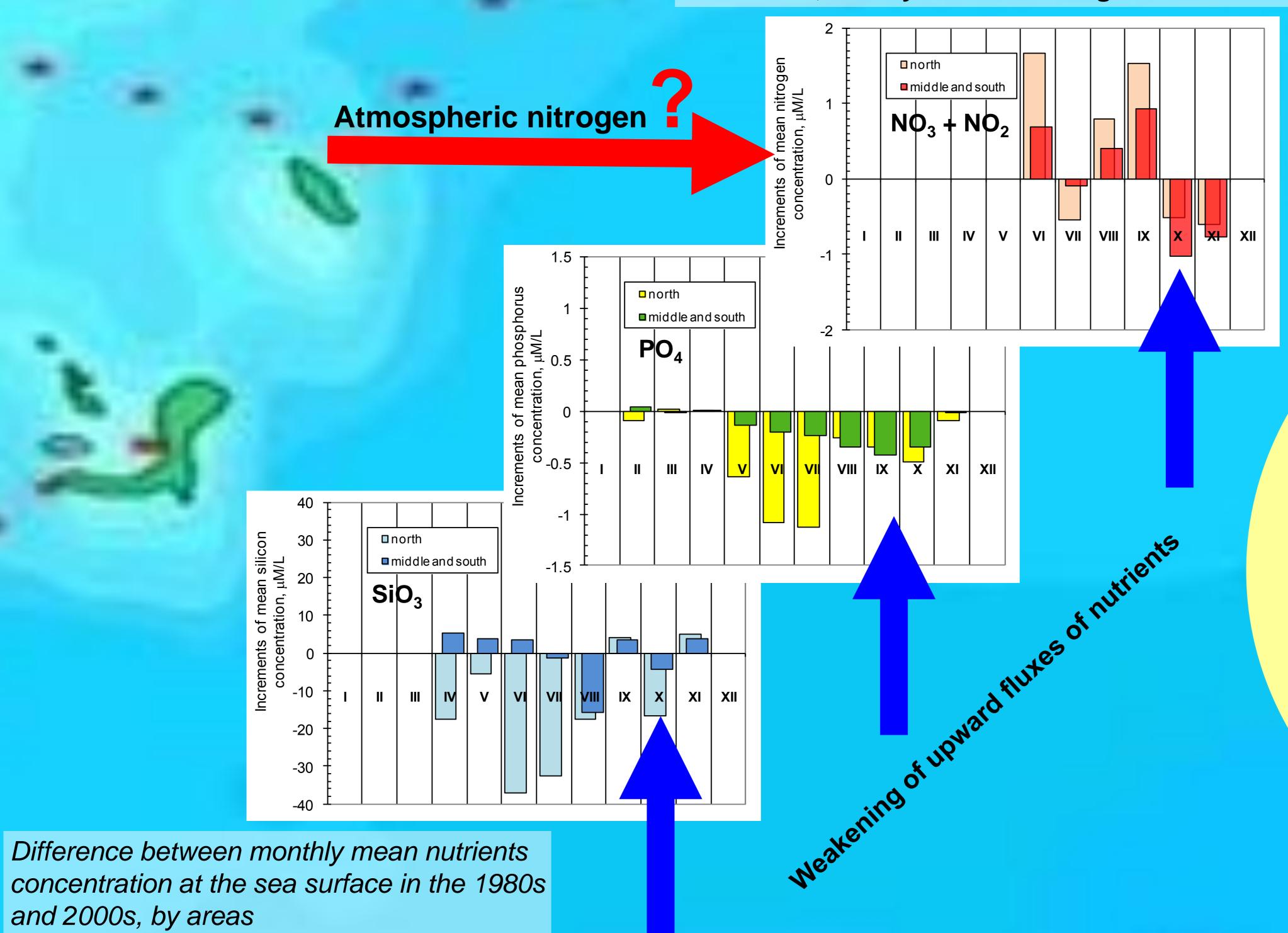


Year-to-year changes and trends of water

Weakening of summer downwelling

Tendencies of nutrients changes in the upper layer: depletion of phosphorus in all areas and seasons; depletion of silicon in the open sea but no trend in the estuarine zone;

- depletion of nitrogen in cold seasons but enrichment in summer, mostly because of higher nitrate



temperature at the sea surface and at the 20 m depth in summer (averaged over the bay)

Conclusion:

Consequences of recent monsoon weakening for the Amur Bay (Japan Sea): - warming of the sea surface,

- strengthening of summer stratification,
- weakening of summer downwelling,
- cooling at the bottom,
- lowering of nutrients concentrations in the upper layer because of weaker upward flux.

However, the nitrate concentration increases in summer, possibly due to anthropogenic nitrogen influx from the atmosphere.