Interannual Variations of sea ice in the Pacific side of the Arctic and its relation with the Pacific Inflow

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http://www-nsidc.colorado.edu/data/seaice_index/n_plot.html

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Ice Area (1978.11-2007.12)







Summer

Yearly Mean

Monthly data from NSIDC

Winter

Comparison of yearly minimum ice extent in Arctic Ocean





solid:1979-2000; dash:2005

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What we want to know and understand:

- What's the special features of the sea ice interannual variation in Pacific side of Arctic (Total four regions; Separate regions)
 - Spatial distribution of variational trend
 - Abrupt test
 - Periodicity

Links to AO and PDO

Links to the Pacific Inflow



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Distribution of sea ice concentration trend (1979-2007) March September



Data from Met Office Haddley Center's HadISST1.1 (1871.01-2007.12), 1×1; We use 1979.01-2007.12)

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Total: Oct. (Aug.-Oct.)

Chukchi Sea :Oct. (Aug.-Oct.) Bering Sea:Apr. (Jan. –Apr.) Beaufort:Sep.(Aug.- Oct.) East Siberian: Oct.(Aug.-Oct.) Jie Su

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Abrupt? Change?Shift? Chukchi Sea





Abrupt? Change?Shift? Beaufort Sea



East Siberian Sea -

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Periodicity



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Filter the seasonal signal and subtract the trend

Periodicity :18 months lowpass



Whole Arctic

Total Four Regions





The Beaufort Sea Monthly mean after filter





The Bering Sea Monthly mean after filter

5

2

-1

-2

-3

-4

-5



East Siberian Sea Monthly mean after filter



Is there any link to AO and PDO?



Figure 4. Regimes of surface currents and ice drift in the Arctic Ocean redrawn from *Sokolov* [1962]. (a) Type A circulation, corresponding to prevailing Arctic High atmospheric pressure; (b) Type B circulation, corresponding to prevailing Icelandic Low atmospheric pressure. Numbered features are 1, Beaufort Gyre; 2, Transarctic Drift Current; 3, Laptev Sea cyclonic circulation; 4, Barents Sea currents; 5, East Siberian Sea circulation; and 6, Kara Sea coastal flow.

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The opinion of AO connection and two regimes theory can't explain this ! Jie Su PICES2008, Dalian 16







A parameter to represent Pacific Inflow's intensity

Accumulated heat: Q_{t} $Q_{t} = \sum_{i} w_{i} T_{i} S_{i}$ $w_{i} = \begin{cases} 0 & T_{i} < T_{threshold} \\ 1 & T_{i} \ge T_{threshold} \end{cases}$

 S_i : area of a grid, $T_{threshold} = -1.0^{\circ}C$

Qt in Pacific (45N North, SODA)

conclusion

- In summer, Sea ice concentration decreased more significant in Pacific side of Arctic. Except Bering Sea, sea ice area has significant interannual variation during Aug.-Oct.
- The four regional sea don't share the same interannual change in the trend as well as in the periodicity.
- There is a abrupt (change, shift) around 1997 in Chukchi Sea, Bring Sea and East Siberian Sea.
- The two regimes theory of AO is difficult to explain interannual variation of sea ice area, while PDO index matches with the filtered sea ice area series with 2-4 years lag
- A parameter Qt is defined to represent the strength of Pacific inflow. Qt in Bering sea matches well with sea ice area of Chukchi Sea during Jun.-Nov. Qt in North Pacific shows earlier and earlier warm in a year cycle these years. Jie Su PICES2008, Dalian 23

Thank you!