

**Effect of marine heatwaves on the bloom of harmful dinoflagellate
Cochlodinium polykrikoides in Korean coastal waters
: Two sides of the same coin?**

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☐ Heatwaves in 2021

Temperatures in the US reached record



British Columbia
595 people
new figure



More than 231 temperatures,

Rhianna Schmunk



A woman hands out water bottles

British Columbia

70% of sudden deaths during heat wave were due to heat, study confirms



570 of the 815 deaths deemed heat-related

CBC News · Posted: Jul 29, 2021 7:52

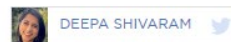


A paramedic outside St. Paul's Hospital. 815 sudden deaths recorded over June's week-long heat wave — 70 per cent — have now been deemed 'heat-related.'

(Ben Nelms/CBC)

Heat Wave Killed An Estimated 1 Billion Sea Creatures, And Scientists Fear Even Worse

July 9, 2021 - 4:40 PM ET

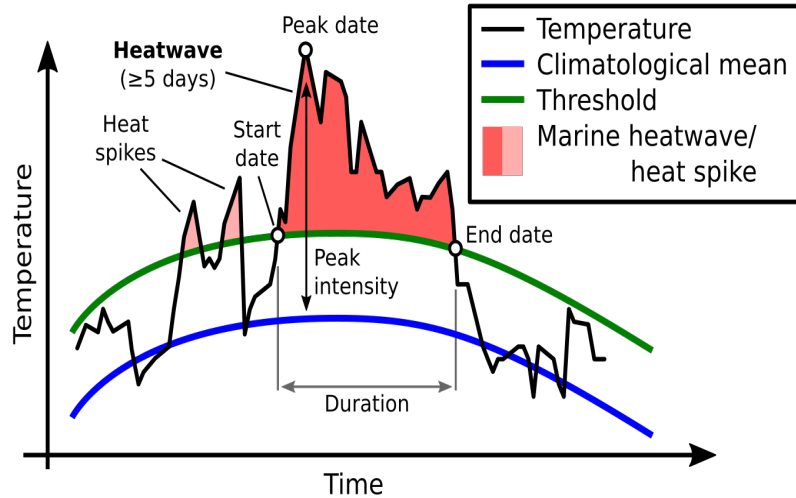


Mussels dying off at such a high rate will have a massive effect on both marine and terrestrial animals, biologists say. Christopher Harley/University of British Columbia

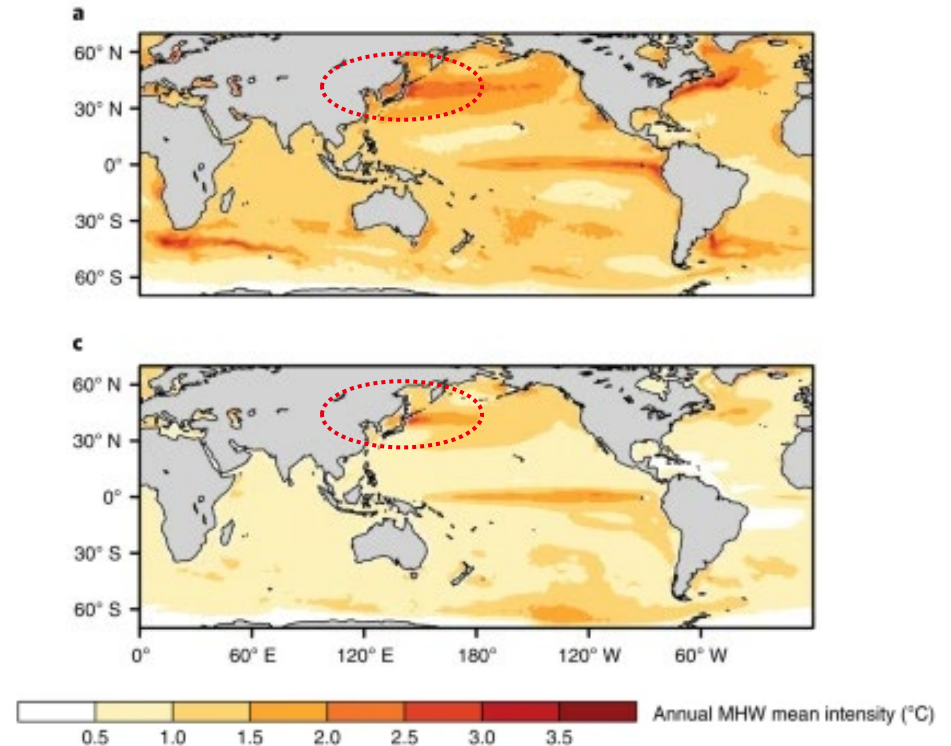
Christopher Harley/University of British Columbia

□ Marine heatwaves (MHWs)

- Marine heatwaves cause an excessively hot weather in the ocean
- The intensity of marine heatwaves is strong in Northwest Pacific, around Korea

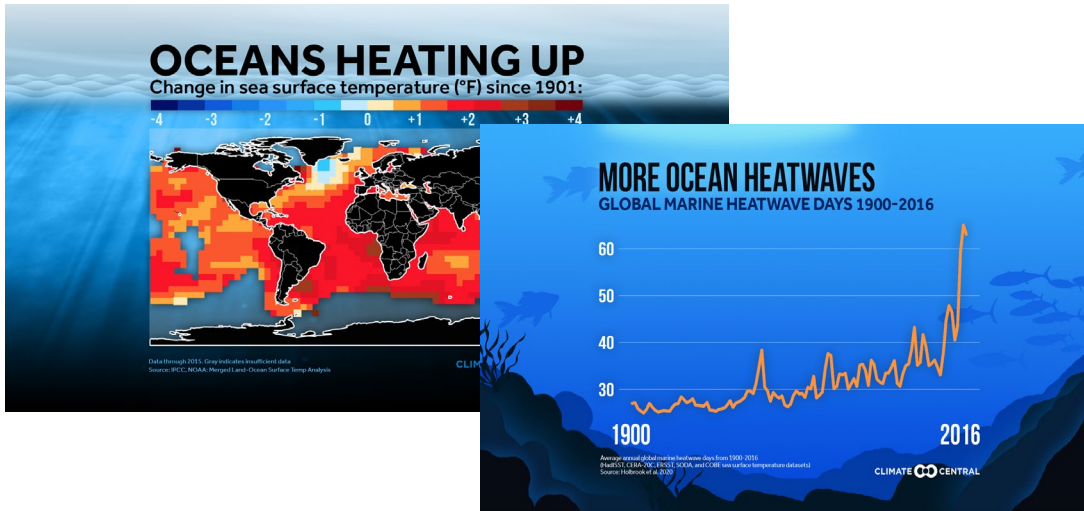


(Hobday et al. 2016).



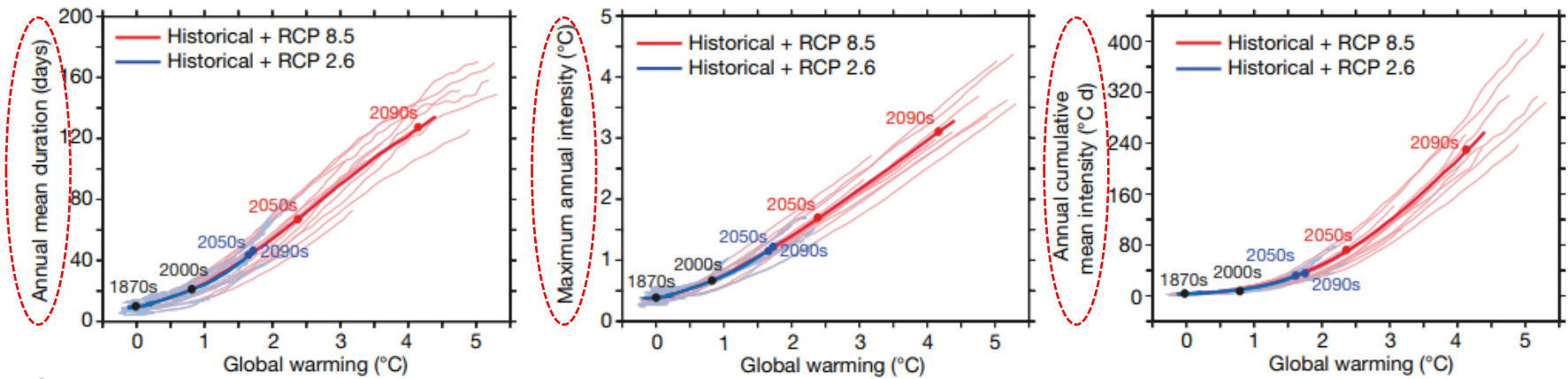
(Guo et al., 2022)

Global warming and MHWs



- In recent decades, MHWs have become **more long-lasting, frequent and intense**, and this trend is expected to accelerate with global warming (Frölicher et al. 2018)

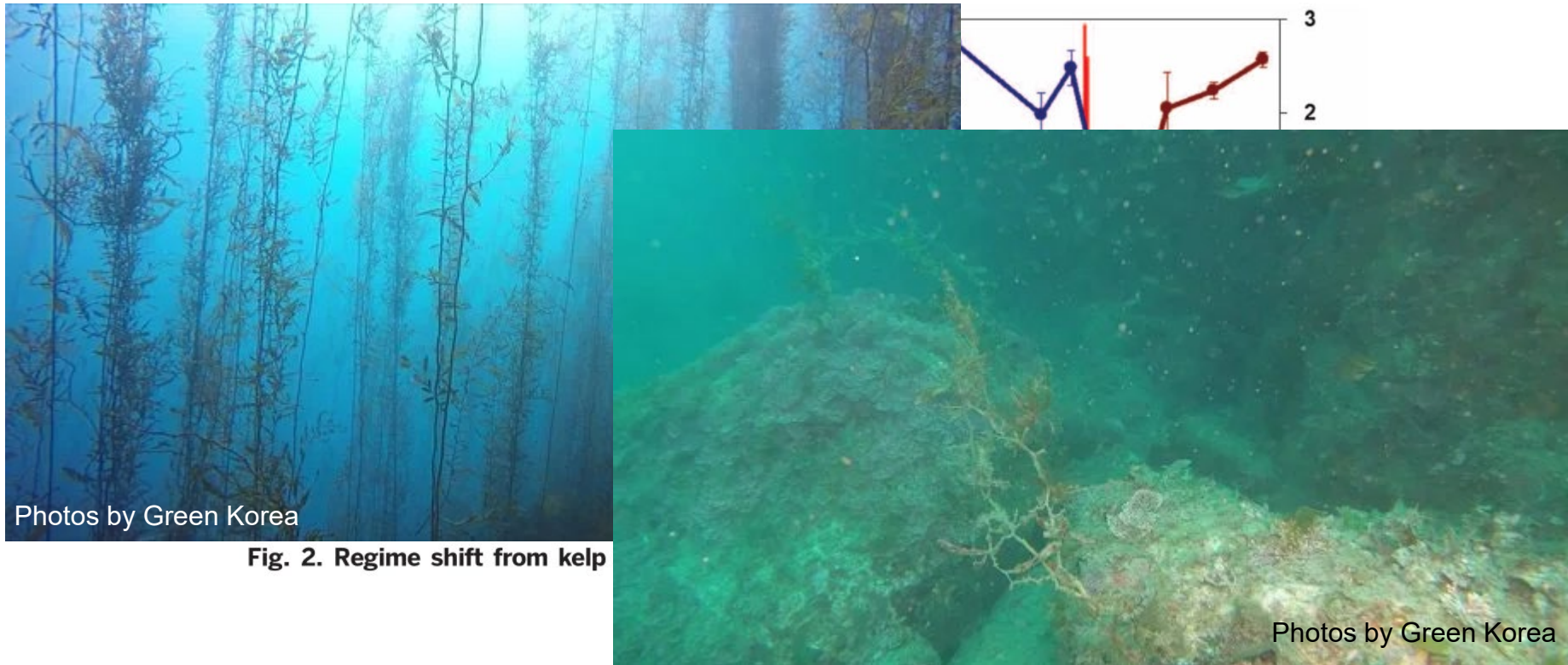
<http://www.marineheatwaves.org/>



(Frölicher et al., 2018)

□ Impacts of MHWs on marine organisms

- In Western Australia in 2011, the dominant macroalgal species changed **from kelp forests to seaweed turfs after MHWs** (Wernberg et al. 2016).
- In 2015/16, the MHWs led to **massive mortality of abalone** in southeastern Australia (Tasmania) (Roberts et al., 2019; Sanford et al., 2019)
- In 2022, MHWs caused the death of macroalgae forests in Jeju island of Korea
- However, few studies have been conducted on the effect of MHWs on **HABs dynamics**

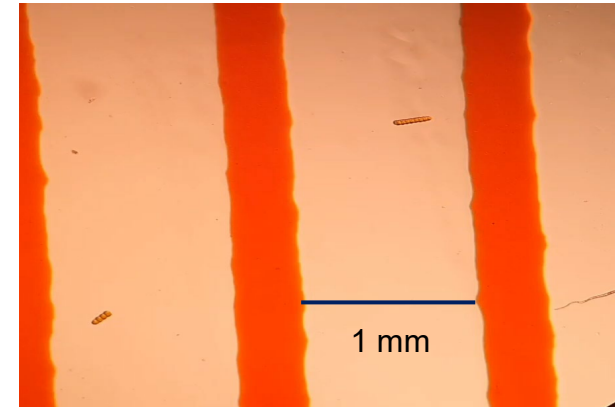


❑ Harmful dinoflagellate *Cochlodinium polykrikoides*

- Long-chain forming: fast swimming
- Occurrence of red tides with high cell densities ($> 1000 \text{ cells mL}^{-1}$)
- The blooms of *C. polykrikoides* lead the massive mortality of farmed fish and a large economic losses.



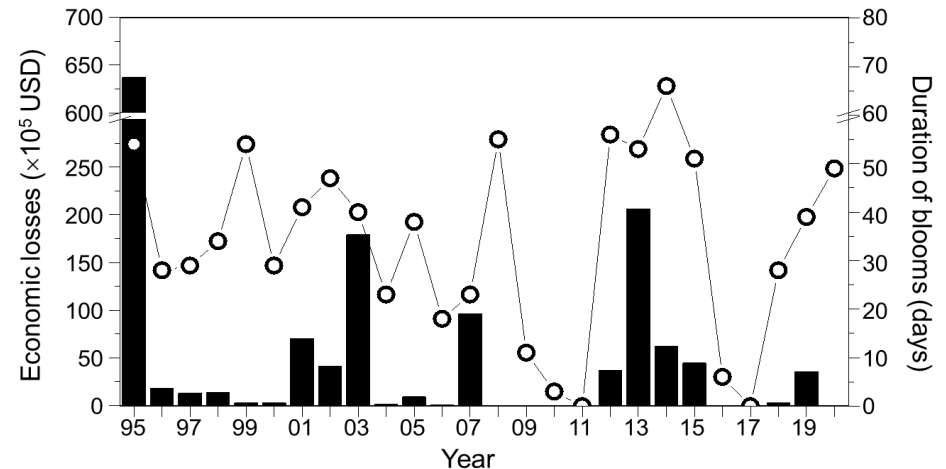
Microscope image of *C. polykrikoides* from field samples in 2018.



Microscope video of swimming of *C. polykrikoides* from field samples around southern coast of Korea in 2022.



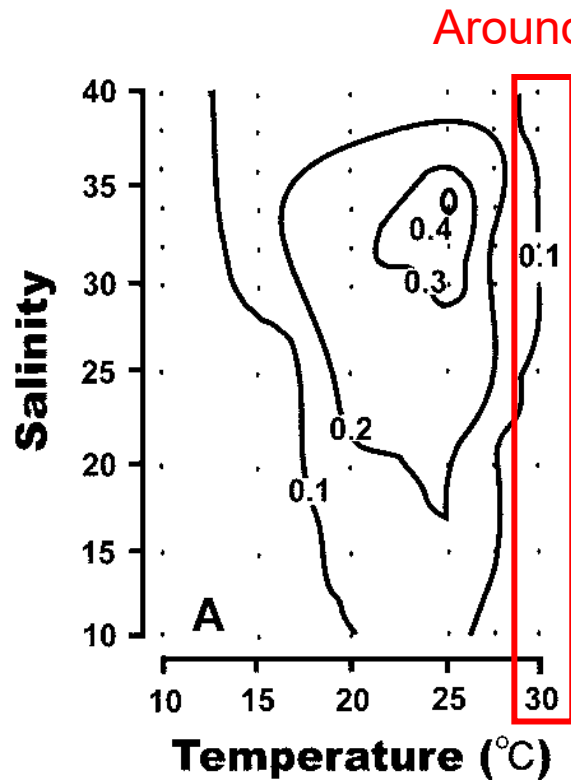
Photo of aquaculture fish mortality caused by the blooms of *C. polykrikoides* in 2019 (Namhae-gun office)



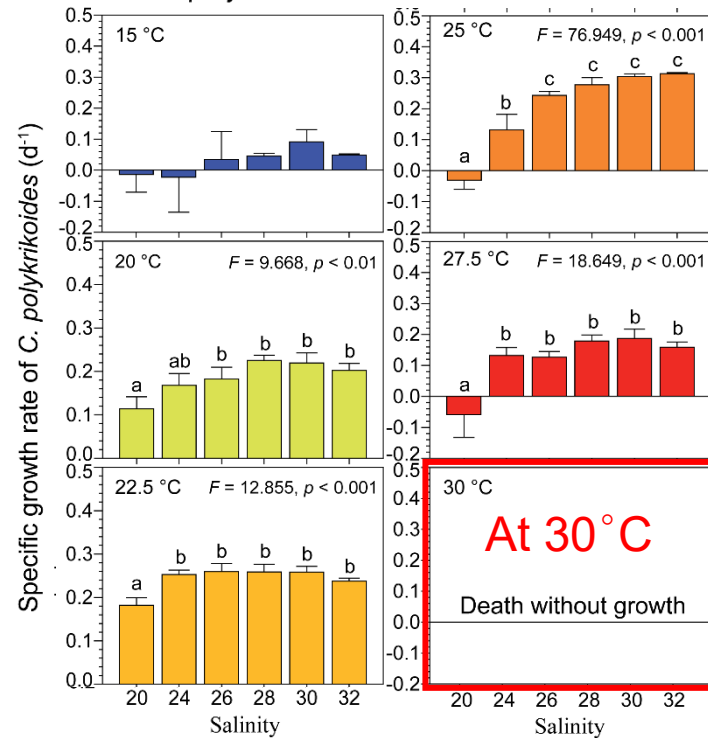
Economics losses caused by *C. polykrikoides* blooms (black bar) and duration of the blooms (circle and line) in Korean coastal waters from 1995 to 2020.

□ Growth characteristics of *C. polykrikoides* in Korea

- The optimum growth water temperature of *C. polykrikoides* is around 25°C in Korea
- *C. polykrikoides* in Korea cannot grow well at high water temperature reaching 30°C



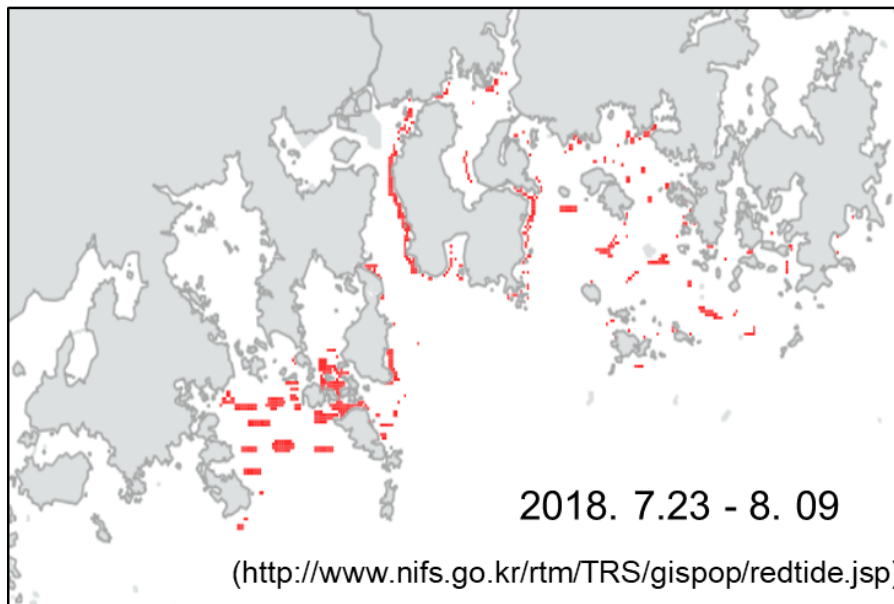
(Kim *et al.*, 2004)



(Lim *et al.*, 2019)

□ Aim to this study

- **First**, How can the blooms of *C. polykrikoides* occur at extremely high temperatures in Korean coastal waters?
 - Growth experiment & genotype analysis of the strain 2018 in the laboratory
- **Second**, How did MHWs affect the blooms of *C. polykrikoides* in 2018?
 - Bloom dynamics & DVM patterns in the field



Date	WT (°C)
2018-07-24	29.3
2018-07-25	29.1
2018-08-01	30.3
2018-08-02	29.9
2018-08-03	29
2018-08-04	29.6
2018-08-05	29
2018-08-06	30
2018-08-07	29.9
2018-08-08	30.1
2018-08-09	29.8

□ Laboratory experiments-growth characteristics and genotype

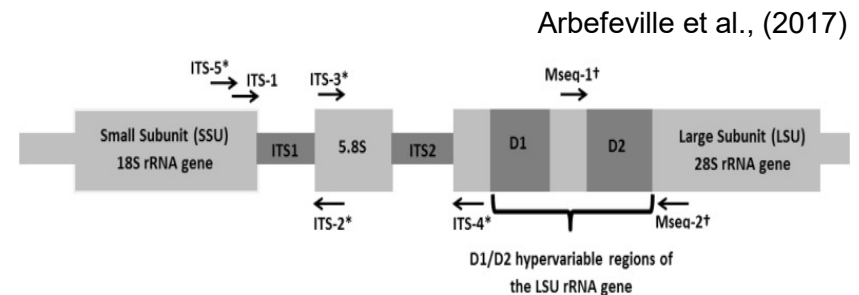
- Experimental water temperatures: 25°C, **28°C, 28.5°C, 29°C, 29.5°C, 30°C**
- Culture conditions : Salinity of 32, 100 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ of irradiance (12L/12D), F/2 media
- Phylogenetic analysis of *C. polykrikoides* (Sequencing of the D1-D2 region of LSU rDNA)
- In both experiments, the *C. polykrikoides* strain in 2013 was used as the reference strain (provided by Library of Marine Samples of KIOST; Incubating at 25°C)



< Incubation >



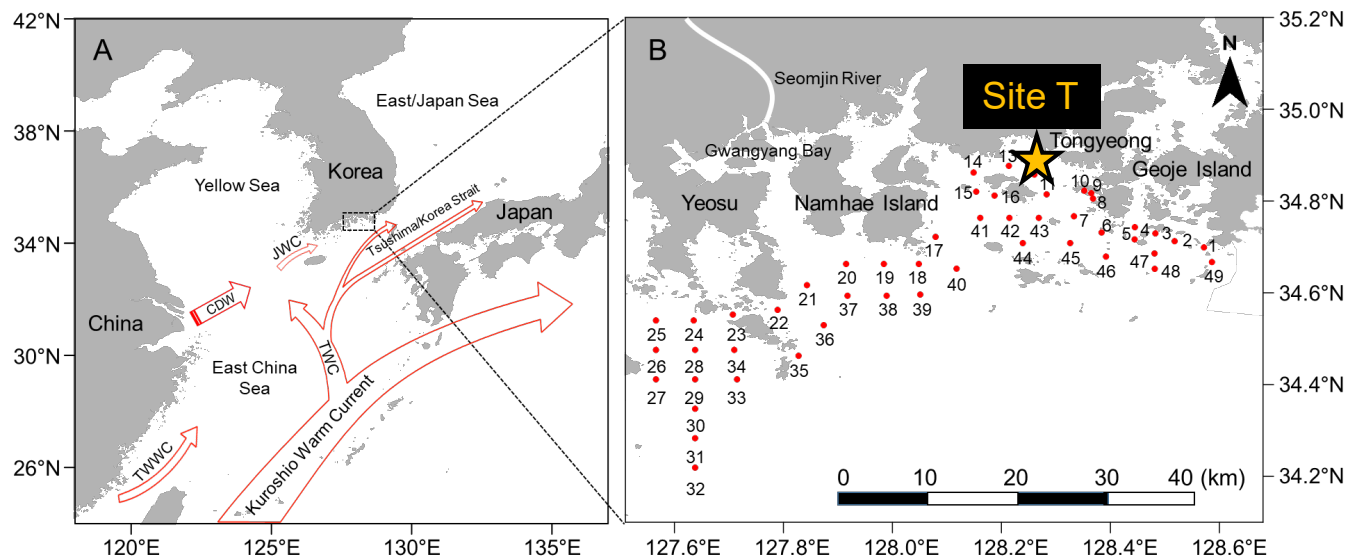
< microscope >



< Sequencing region >

□ Field survey-bloom dynamics and DVM

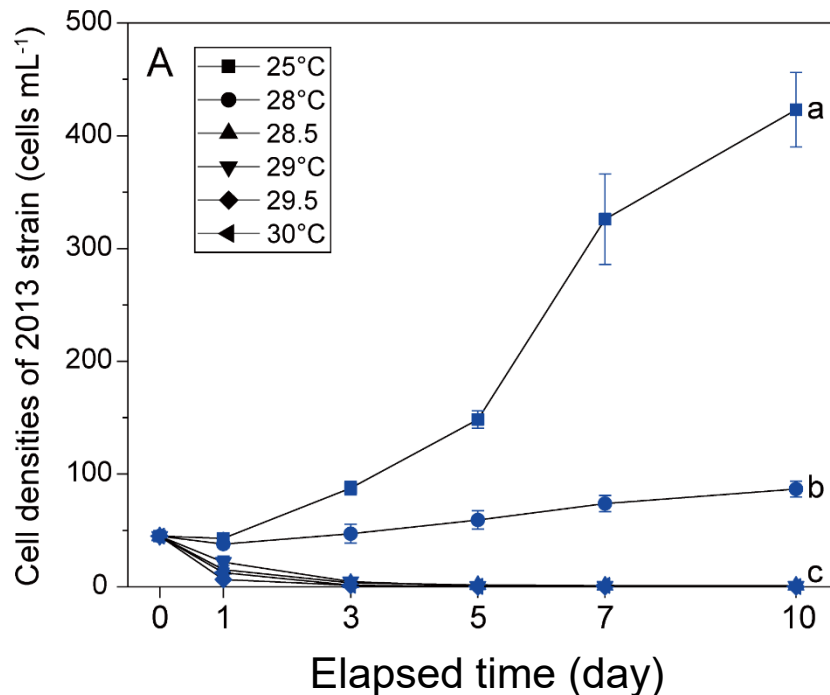
- Horizontal surveys at 49 stations were conducted biweekly from 25th June to 20th August around Geoje island ~ Yeosu
- In-situ vertical investigation was performed at Site T ★ for 48 hours at 1-2 intervals from 8 to 10 August
- The field investigations focused on the changes of *C. polykrikoides* and environmental factors (temperature, salinity, nutrients)



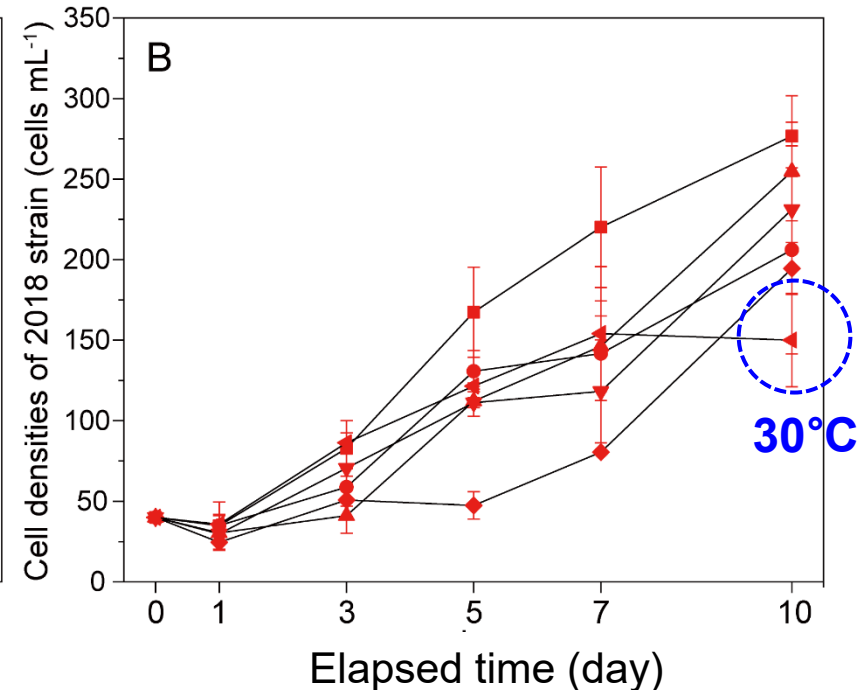
□ Different growth characteristics of both *C. polykrikoides*

- The response to high temperatures was very different for two strains.
- Only the 2018 strain grew in high WT (> 28°C)
- The growth rate was relatively low at 30°C: **potential stress for growth**

The strain 2013

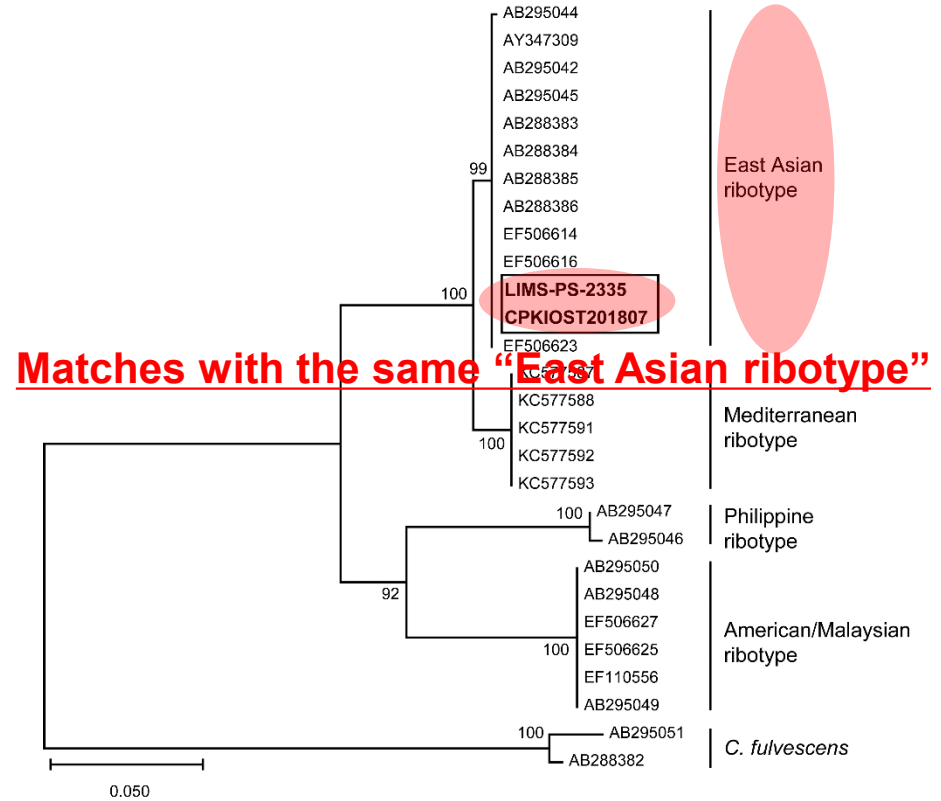
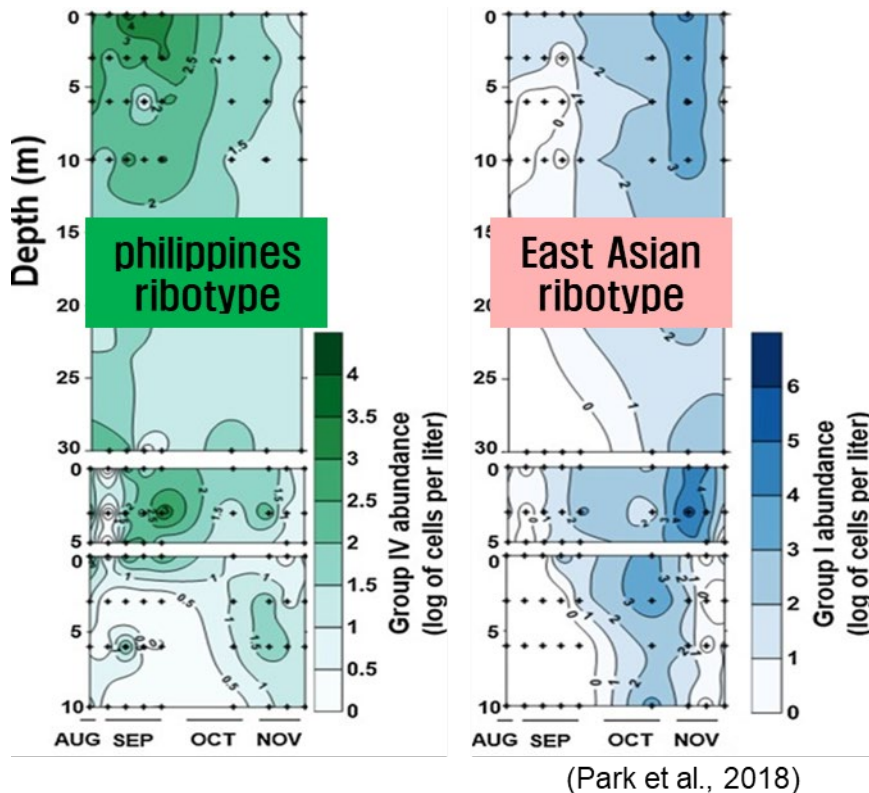


The strain 2018 from MHWs



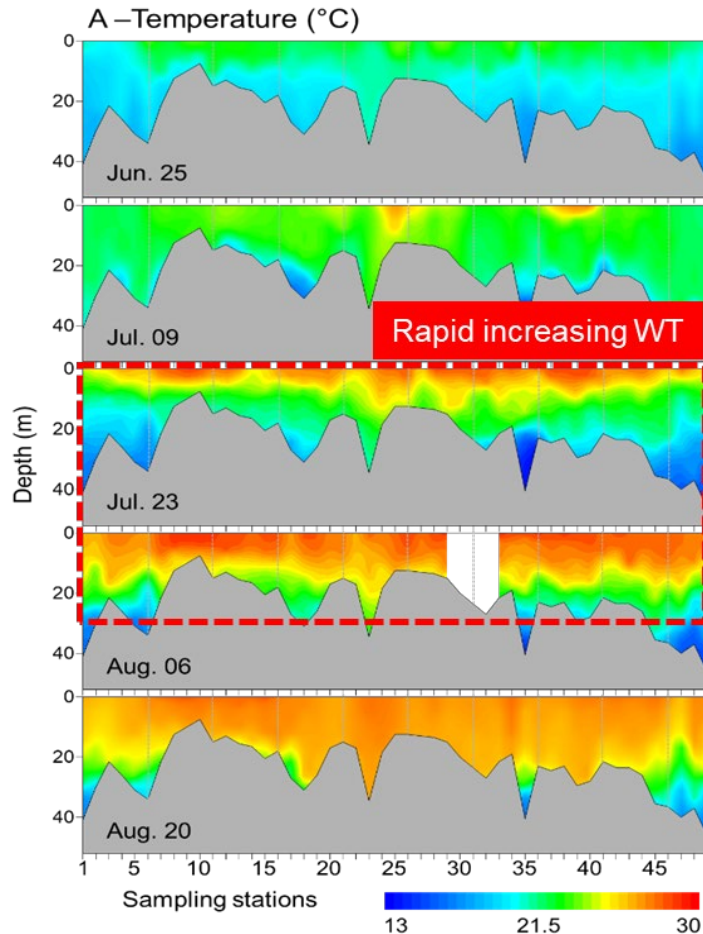
□ Phenotype plasticity of *C. polykrikoides*

- According to previous studies, *C. polykrikoides* is separated into four ribotypes
- In Philippine, blooms of *C. polykrikoides* occurred above 30°C (Azanza et al., 2008)
- Both the strains in 2013 and 2018 were positioned at the “East Asian ribotype”
- ***C. polykrikoides* has phenotype plasticity even with the same genotype**

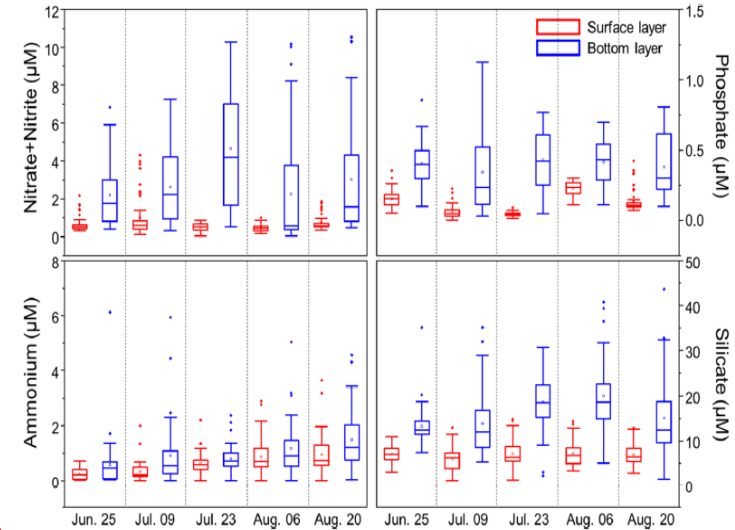


□ Rapid warming and stratification

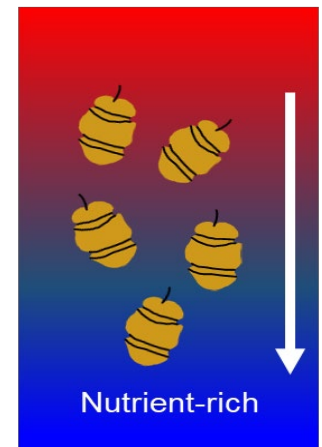
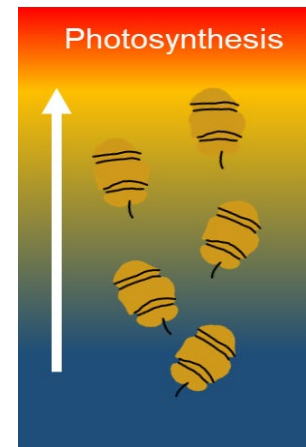
- MHWs developed a strong stratification and depleted the surface nutrients: benefit for DVM organisms, including *C. polykrikoides*



**Nutrient depletion
in surface layer**

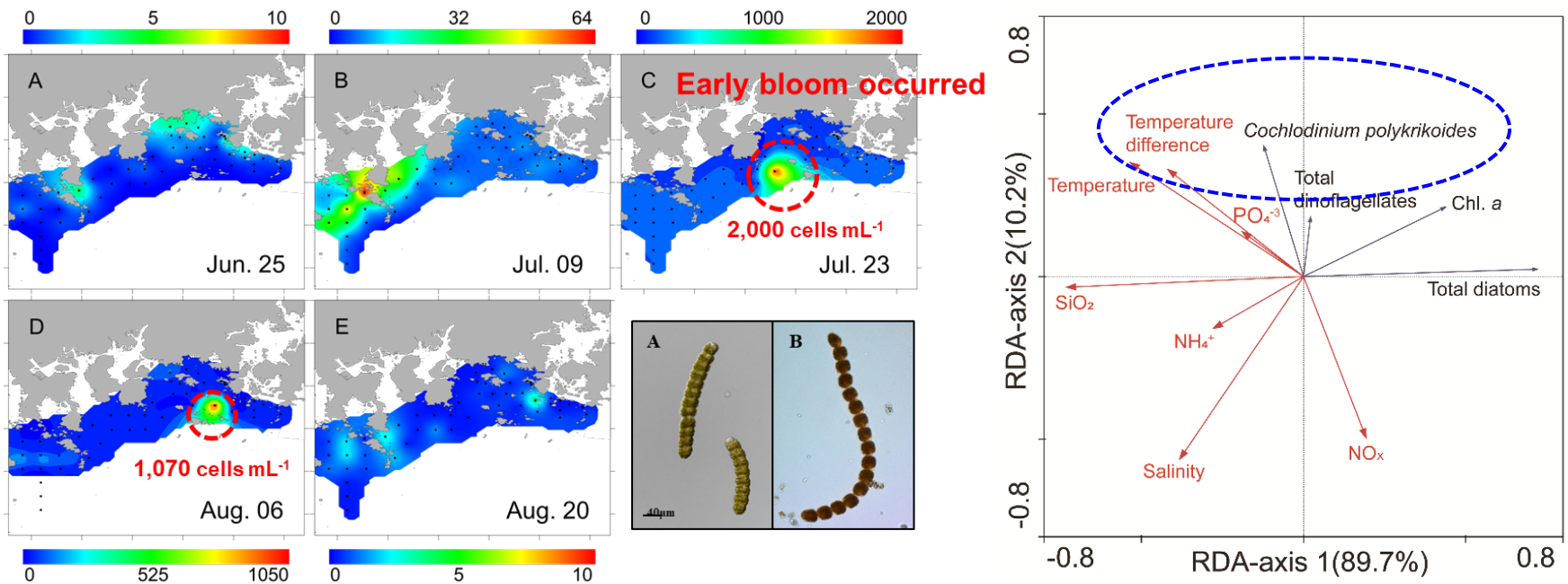


Benefit for DVM organisms



□ Rapid warming and stratification in 2018

- Early stratification → early bloom in 2018 (NIFS; average of last 17 years : 10th Aug.)
- Temperature difference between surface and bottom water positively correlated with the abundance of *C. polykrikoides*



Horizontal distribution of *C. polykrikoidese* (cells mL⁻¹)

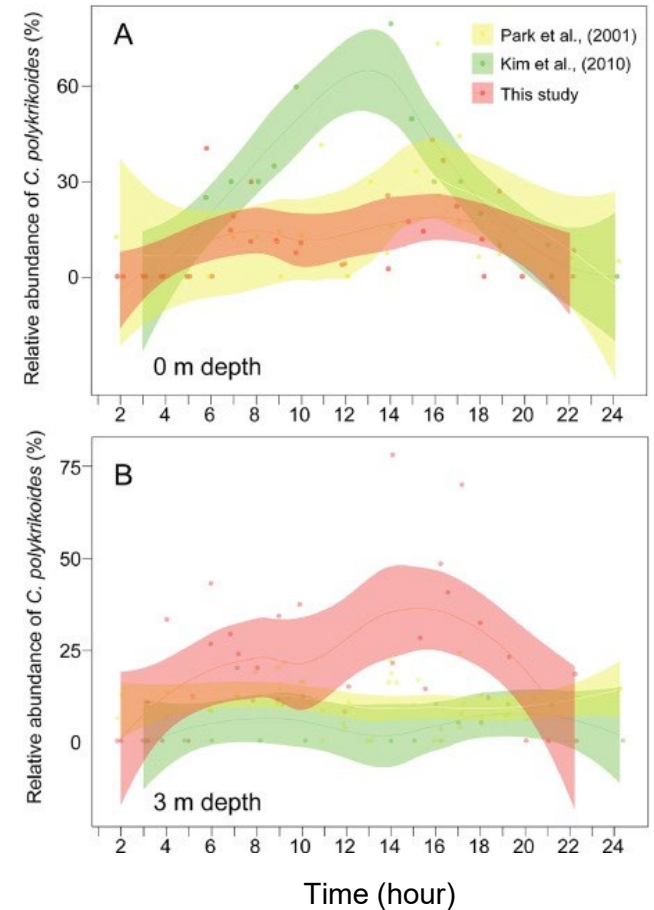
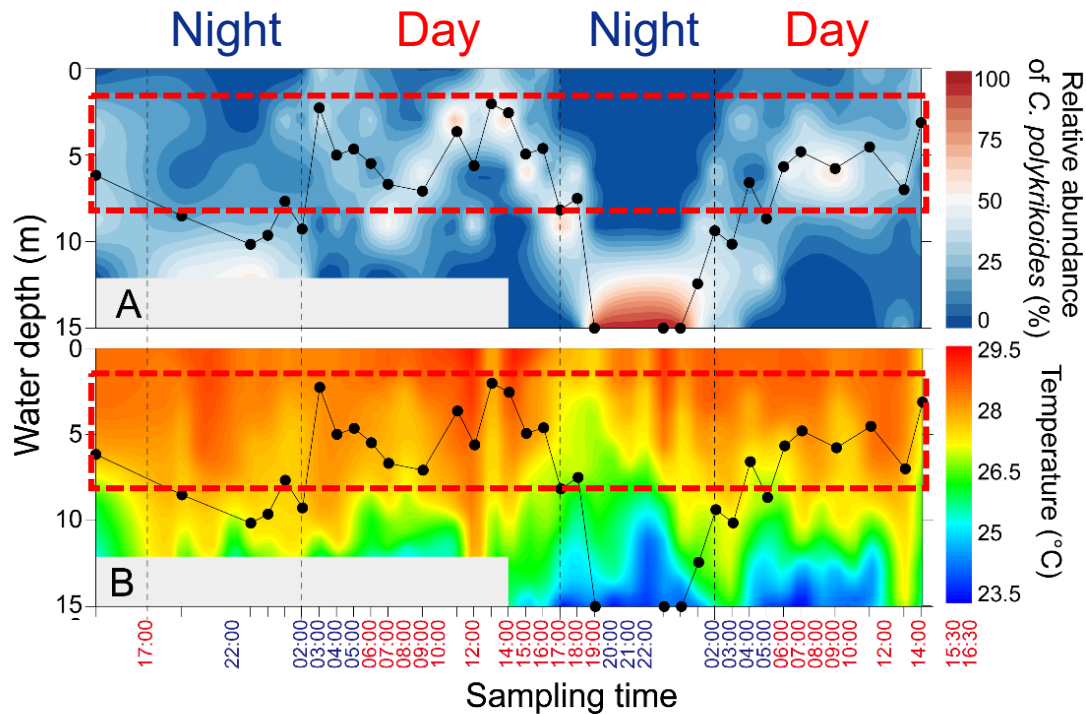
Positive effect of MHWs on bloom formation !



So, does the rise in water temperature only have a positive effect?

Vertical distribution of *C. polykrikoides* during MHWs

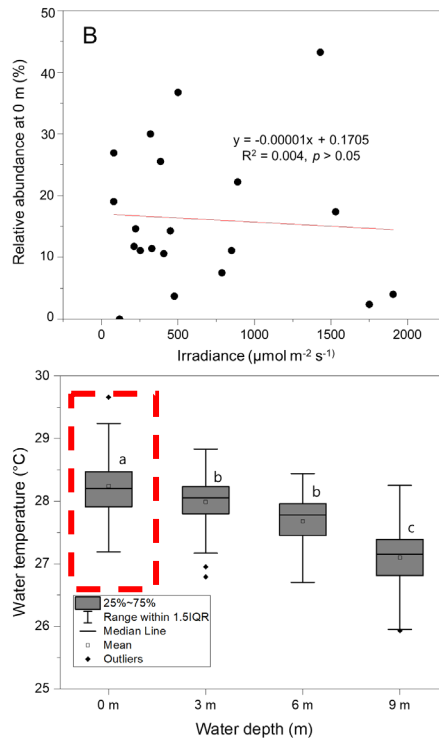
- During MHWs in 2018, most of *C. polykrikoides* did not reach 0 m depth during daytime
- Normal blooms at 25°C in previous studies: most of *C. polykrikoides* were distributed at 0 m during daytime
- These results suggested that the limited DVM behavior in 2018



□ Thermotactic DVM of *C. polykrikoides*

- There is no significant correlation between *C. polykrikoides* and irradiance ($p > 0.05$, Mann-Whitney U-test)
- Water temperature at 0 m was significantly higher than that of 3-6 m depths ($p < 0.05$, Kruskal-Wallis test)
- Some dinoflagellates exhibited “thermotactic behavior” (Clegg et al., 2003)
- Potential decrease of suitable habitat and of photosynthesis efficiency

Non-correlation with irradiance



High temperature at 0 m



Limited DVM behavior

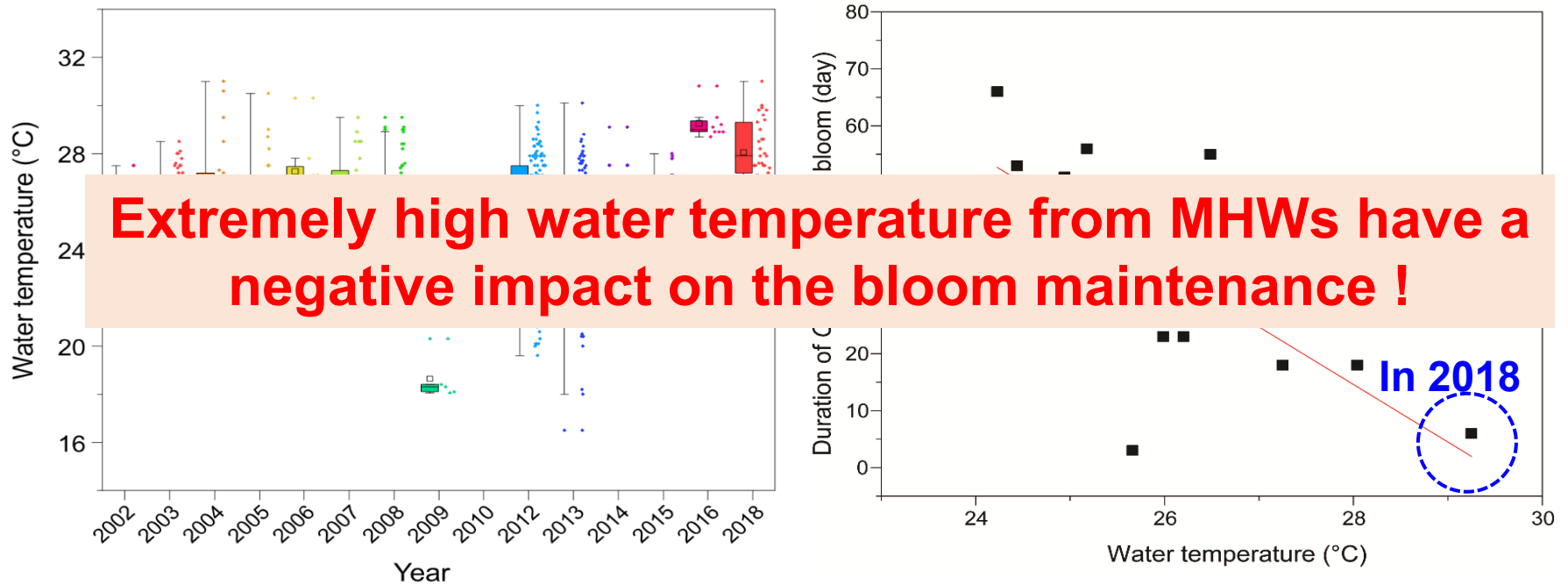
MHWs cause thermal stress



To overcome, do limited DVM by thermotaxis as ecological strategy

□ Relationship between WT and *C. polykrikoides* bloom

- Most of *C. polykrikoides* blooms have occurred between 24-27°C during last 17 years
- The blooming period in 2018 was unusually shorter than in the past 17 years, despite an ecological strategy of thermotaxic DVM
- Negative correlation between WT and bloom duration, indicating that high WT is unfavorable for the bloom of *C. polykrikoides* in Korea

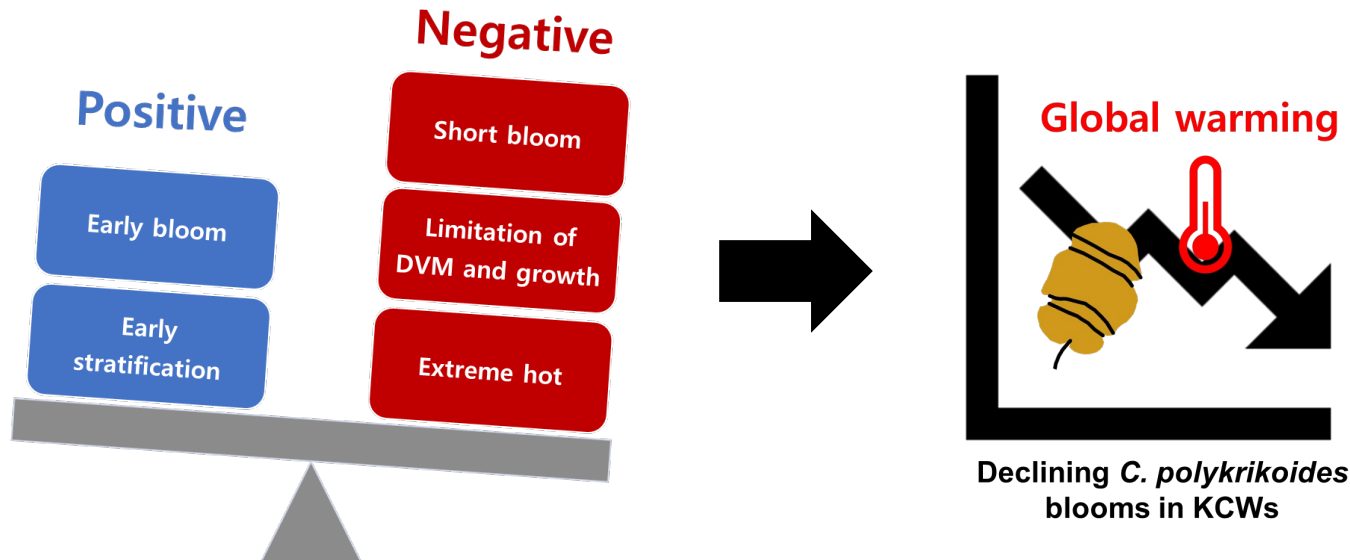
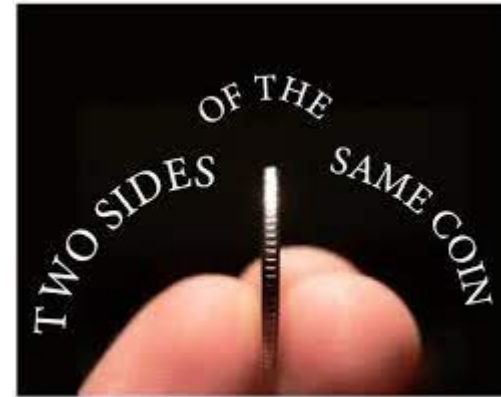
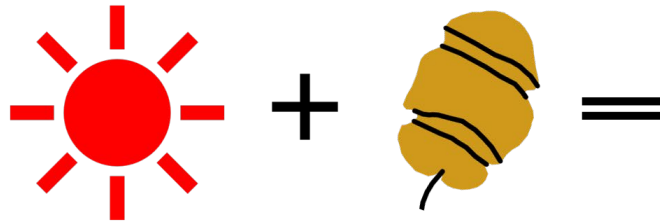


Extremely high water temperature from MHWs have a negative impact on the bloom maintenance !

<Variations in water temperature during *C. polykrikoides* blooms from 2002 to 2018.>

<Relationship between average water temperature and duration in each *C. polykrikoides* blooming year from 2002 to 2018>

Marine heatwaves $C. polykrikoides$



- ✓ The strengthening MHWs with global warming is likely to negatively affect *C. polykrikoides* blooms in the future !

Publications

Harmful Algae 104 (2021) 102029



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Effect of marine heatwaves on bloom formation of the harmful dinoflagellate *Cochlodinium polykrikoides*: Two sides of the same coin?

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Thermotaxic diel vertical migration of the harmful dinoflagellate *Cochlodinium (Margalefidinium) polykrikoides*: Combined field and laboratory studies

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