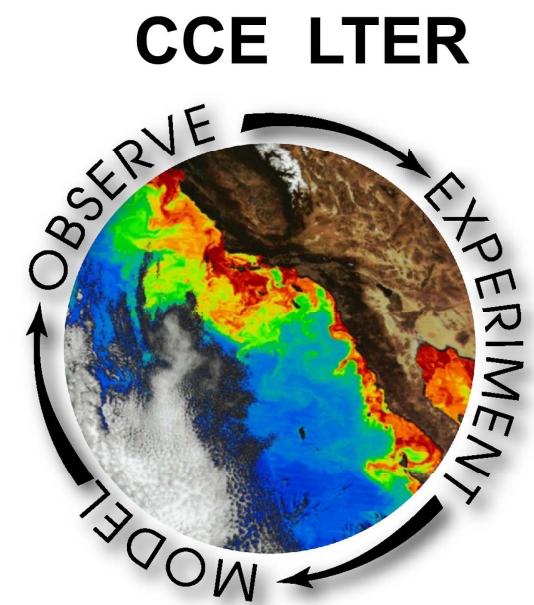


# A *null hypothesis* to explain climate driven “*regime-like*” transitions in ecosystem species

E. Di Lorenzo and M. D. Ohman

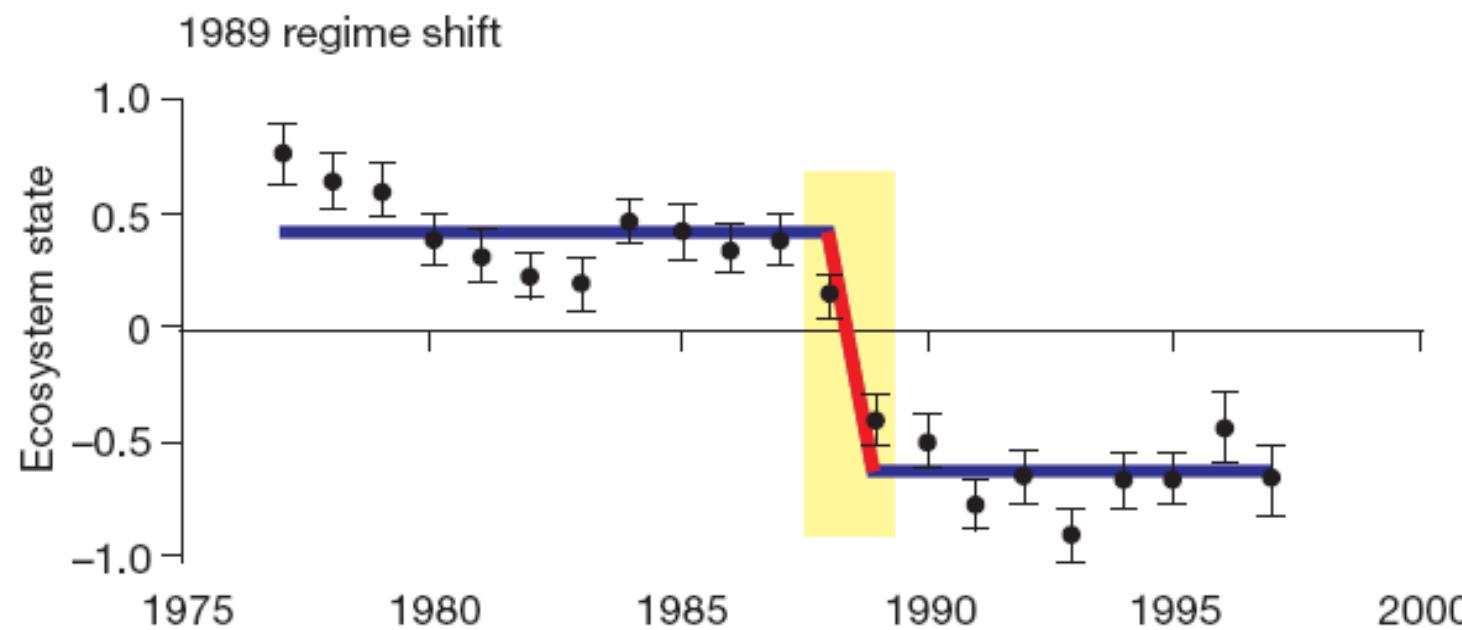
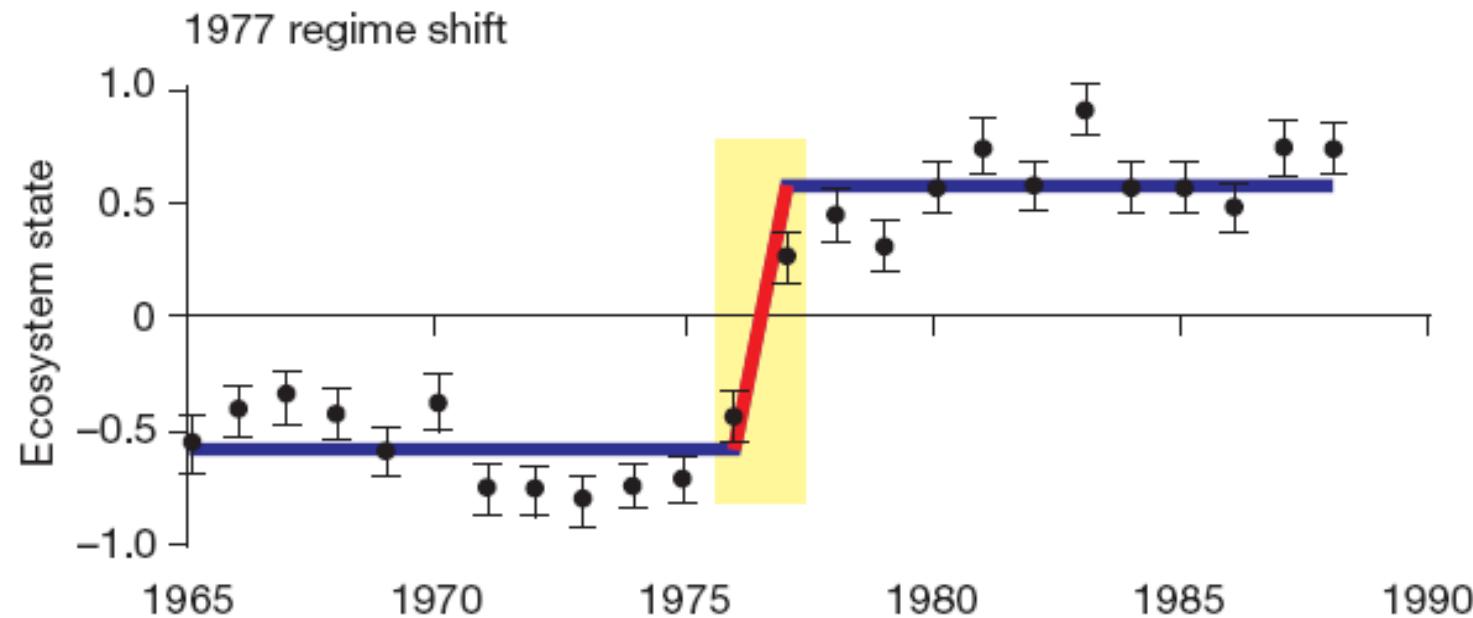


**Georgia**Institute  
of**Tech**nology



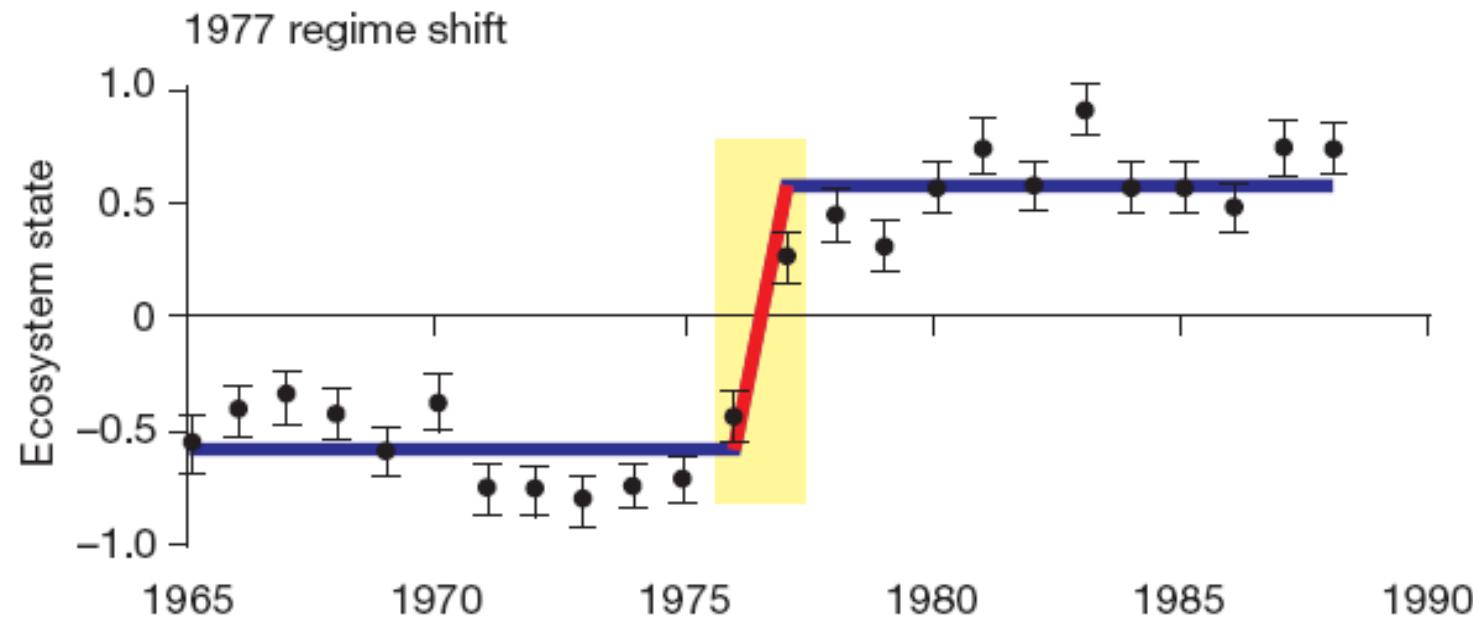
Khabarovsk, October 20, 2011

# Ecosystem exhibit “regime-like” behavior



(from Hare and Mantua 2000, modified by Sheffer et al. 2009)

# Ecosystem exhibit “regime-like” behavior



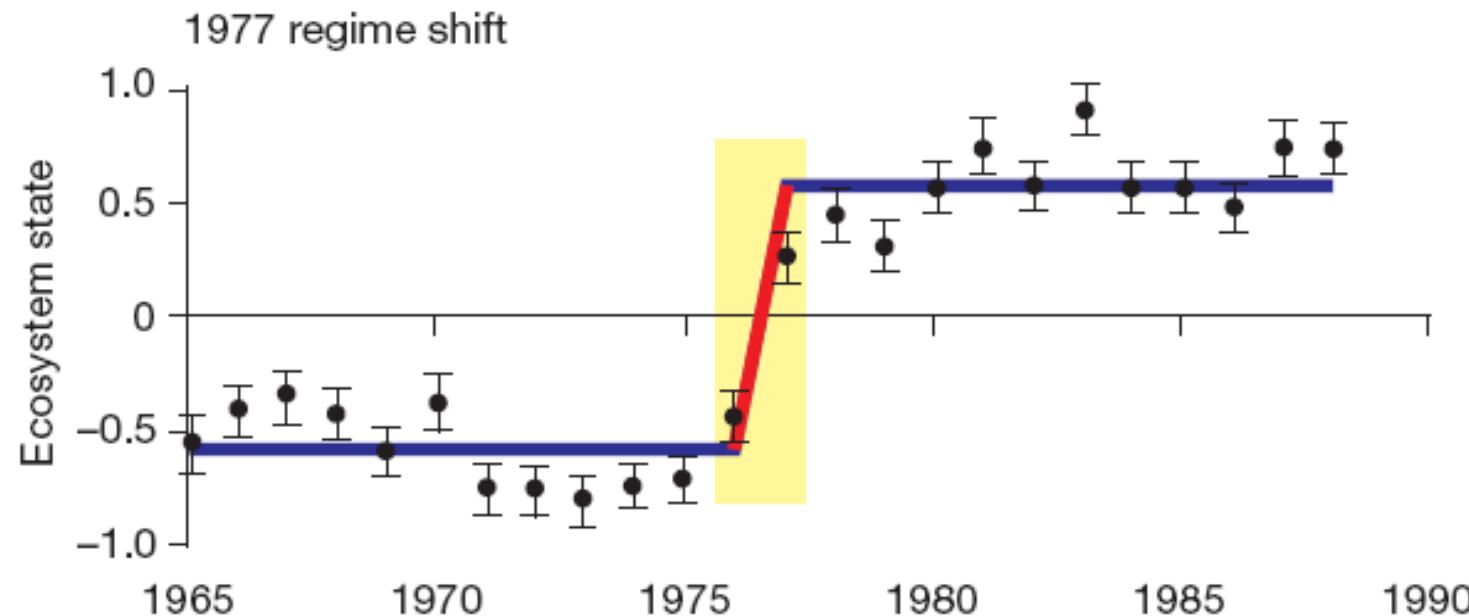
**QUESTION:**

Are these real regime shifts?

1975      1980      1985      1990      1995      2000

(from Hare and Mantua 2000, modified by Sheffer et al. 2009)

# Ecosystem exhibit “regime-like” behavior



## QUESTION:

What do these regime-like changes tell us about the dynamics of ecosystem variability?

1975

1980

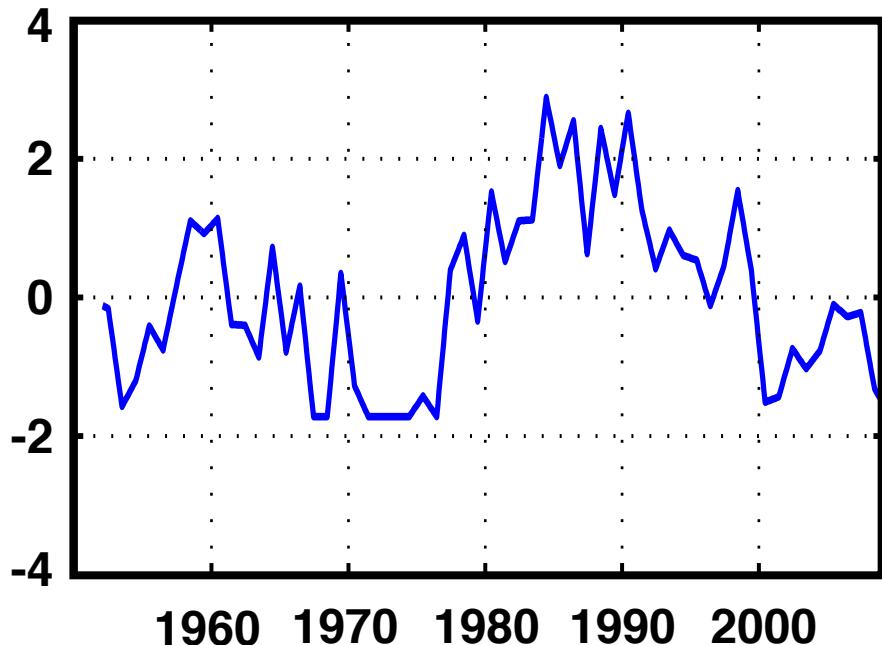
1985

1990

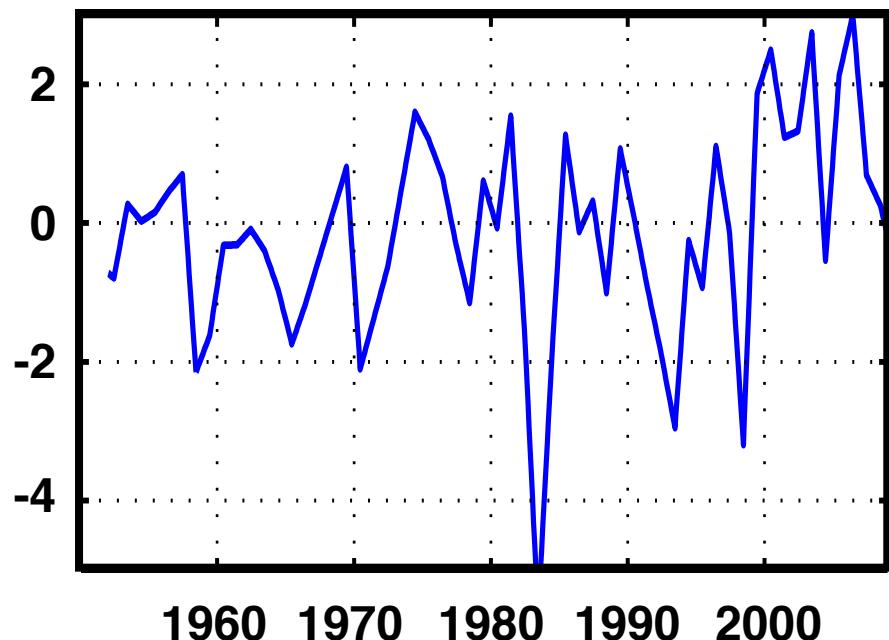
1995

2000

## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



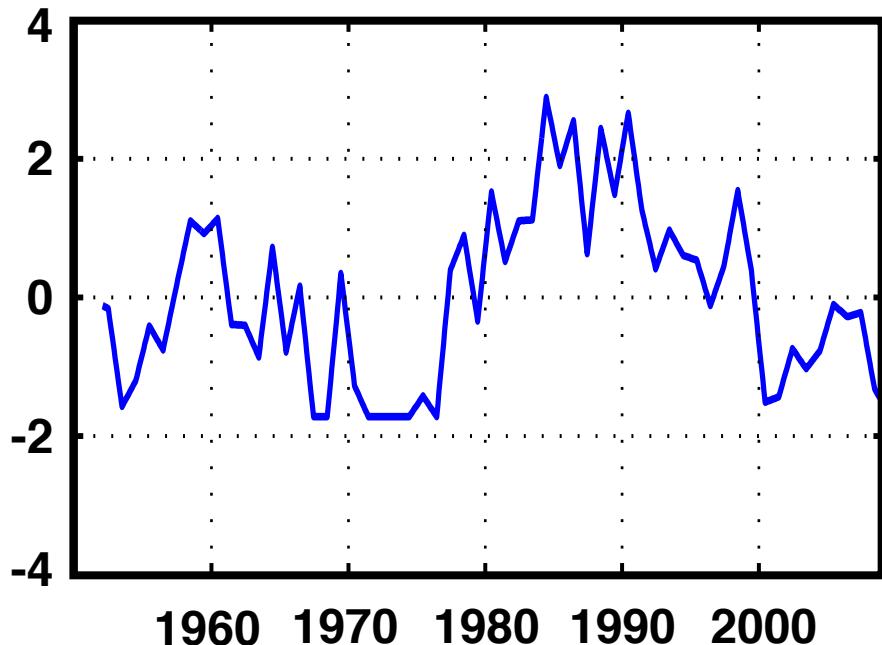
## *Euphausia pacifica*



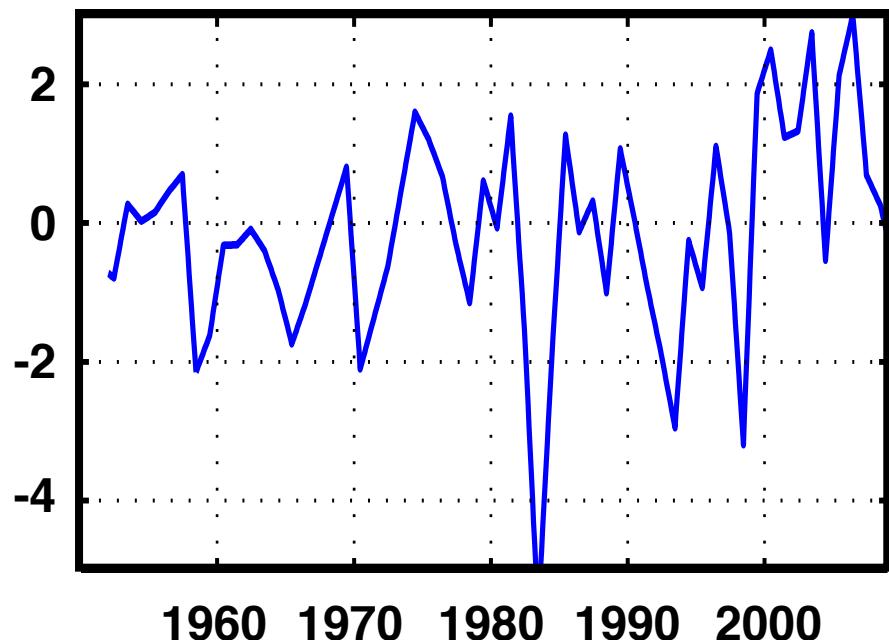
**Zooplankton**  
*observations in the*  
*California Current*



## *Nyctiophanes simplex*

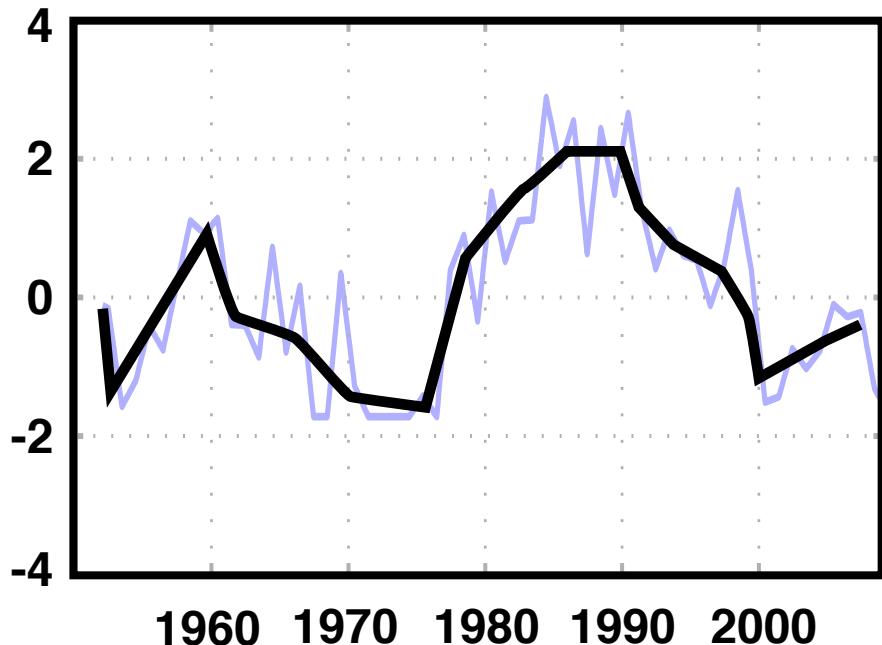


## *Euphausia pacifica*

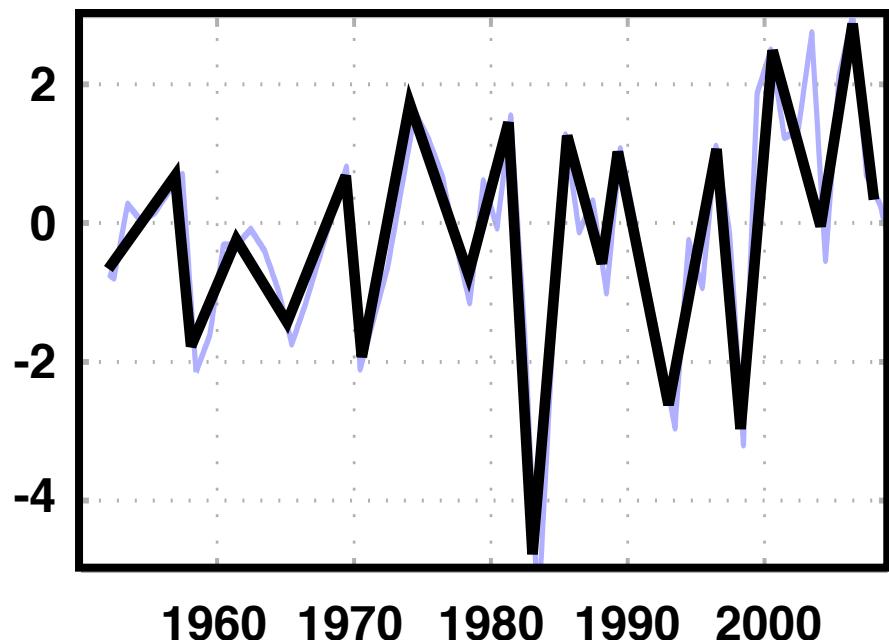


**Zooplankton**  
*observations in the  
California Current*

## *Nyctiophanes simplex*

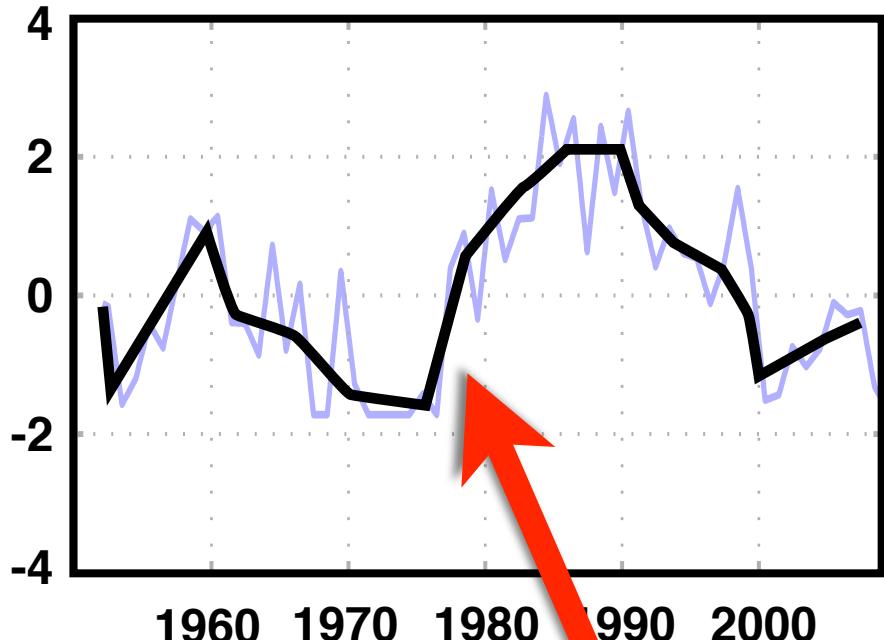


## *Euphausia pacifica*

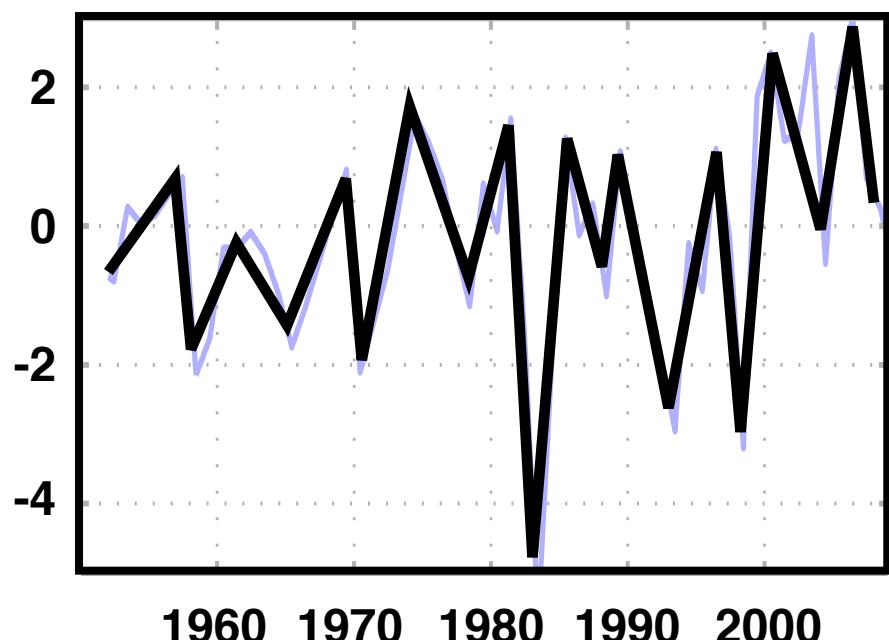


*Zooplankton*  
*observations in the*  
*California Current*

*Nyctiphanes simplex*



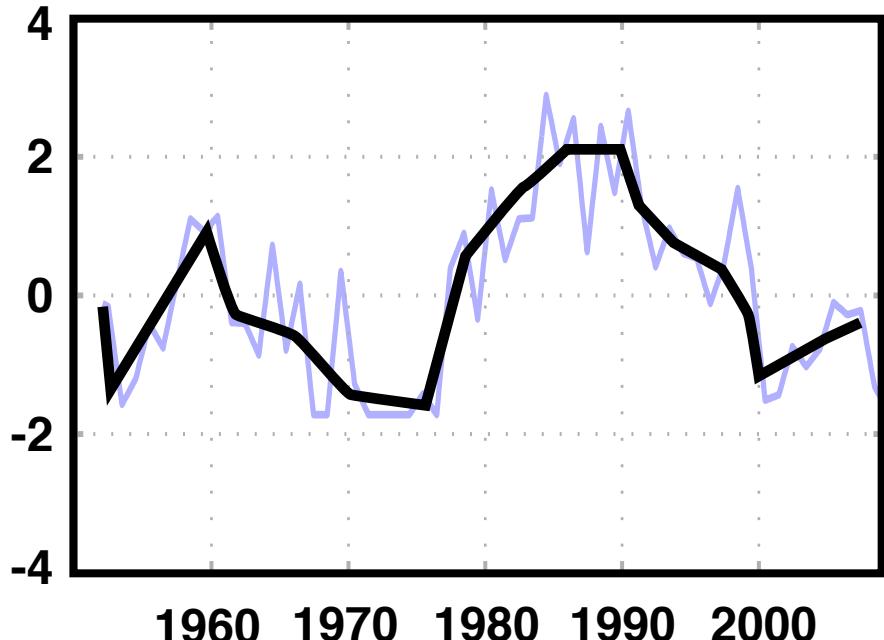
*Euphausia pacifica*



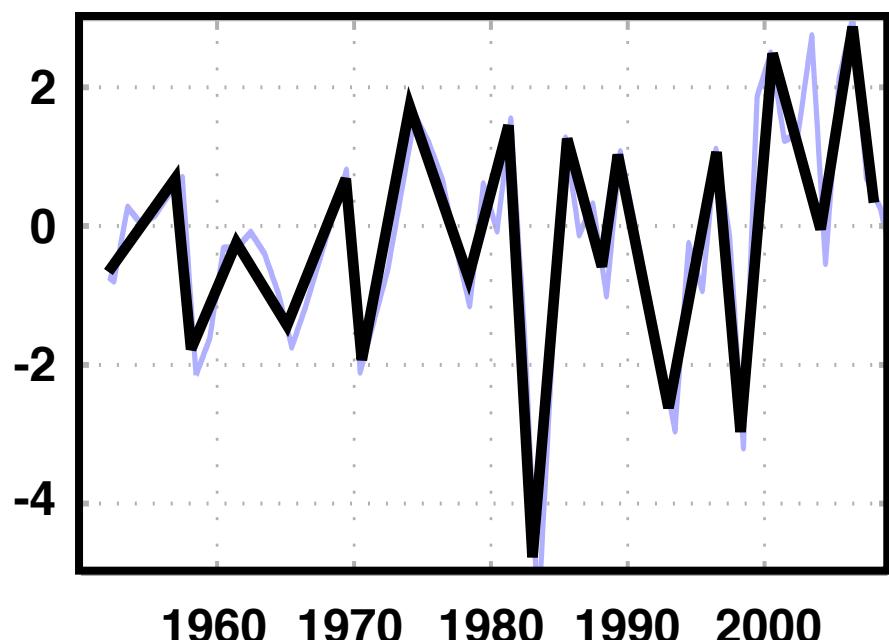
**QUESTION:**

Why do some zooplankton time series exhibit sudden and prolonged transitions on decadal scales?

*Nyctiphanes simplex*



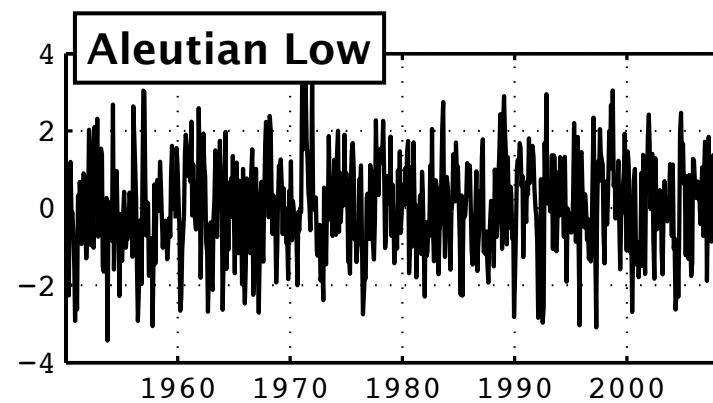
*Euphausia pacifica*



GOAL:

**Develop a null hypothesis or conceptual model  
of ecosystem variability driven by climate  
forcing.**

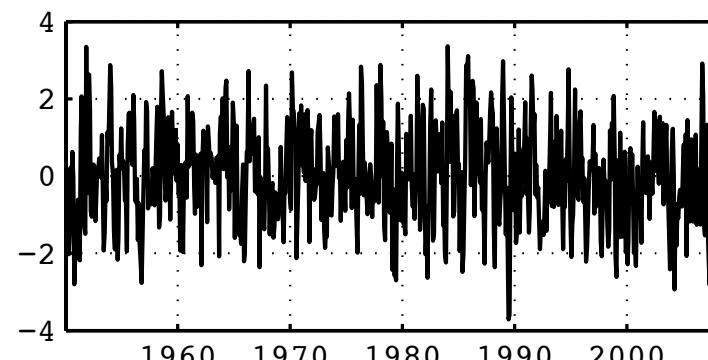
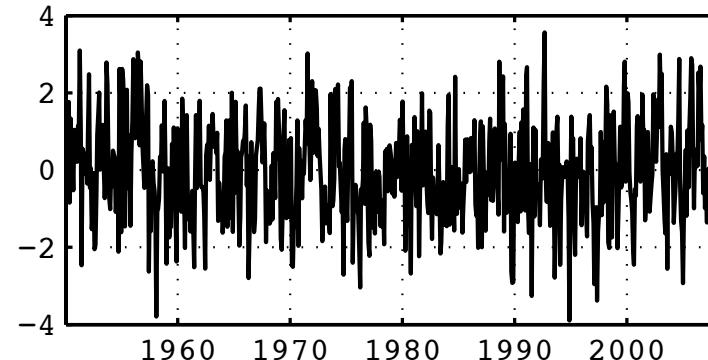
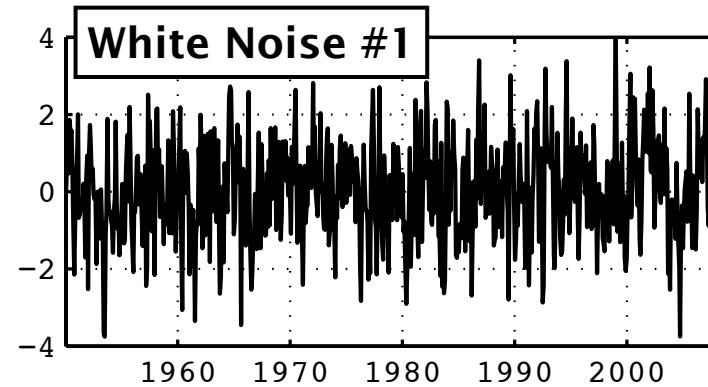
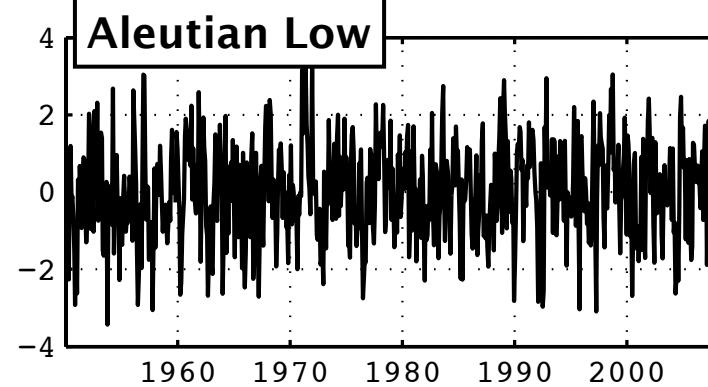
# Atmosphere



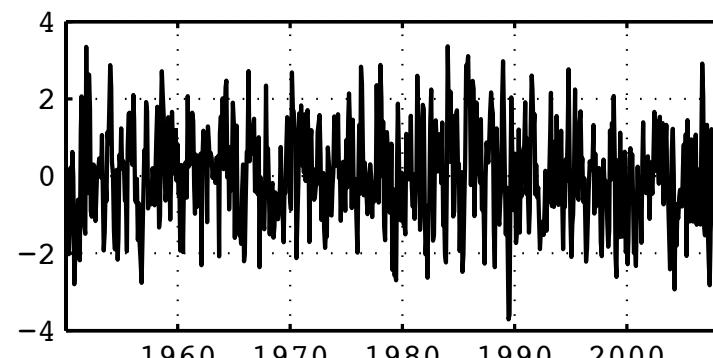
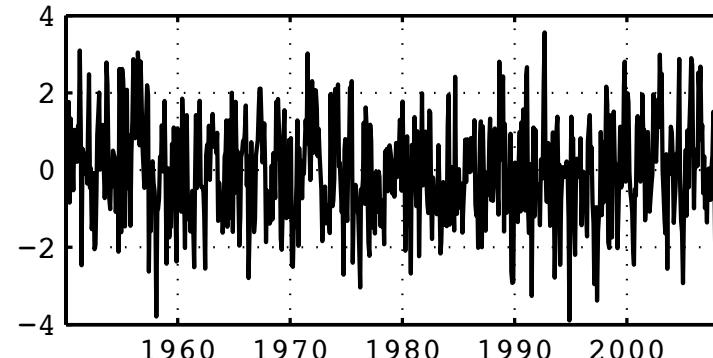
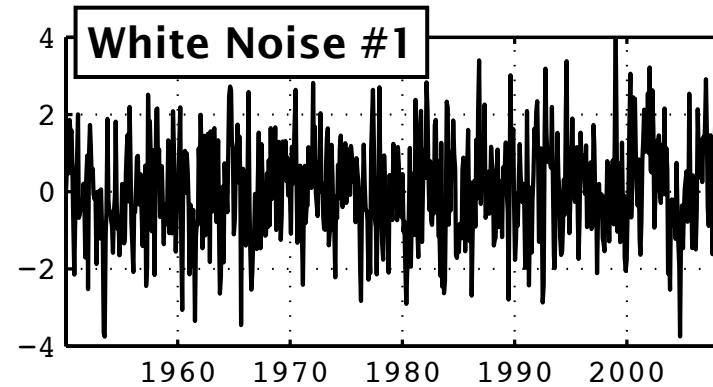
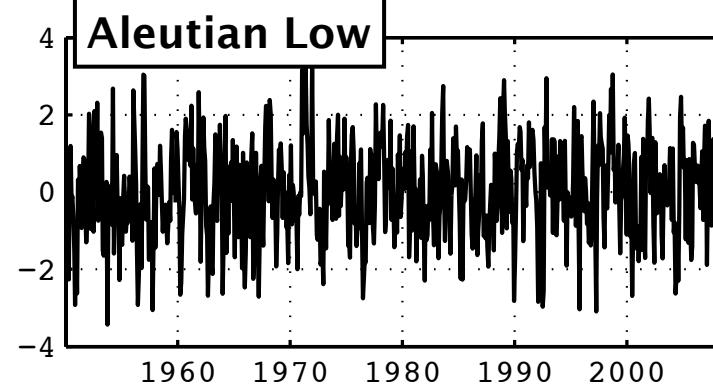
## GOAL:

**Develop a null hypothesis or conceptual model  
of ecosystem variability driven by climate  
forcing.**

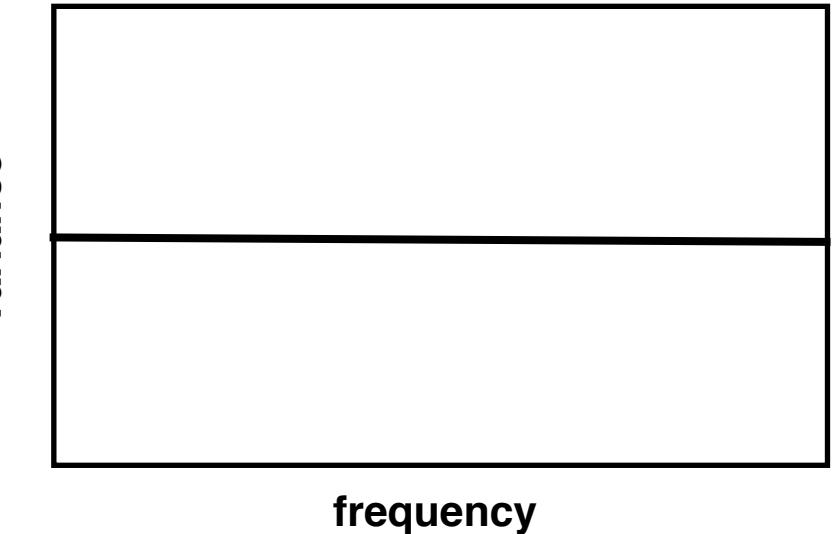
# Atmosphere

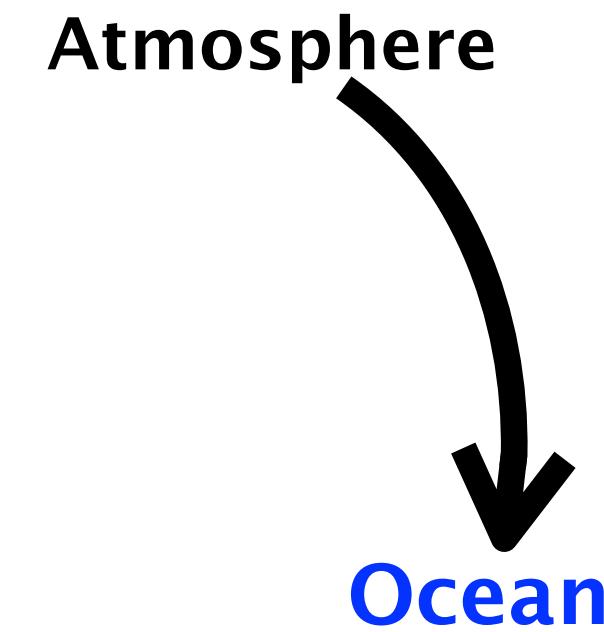
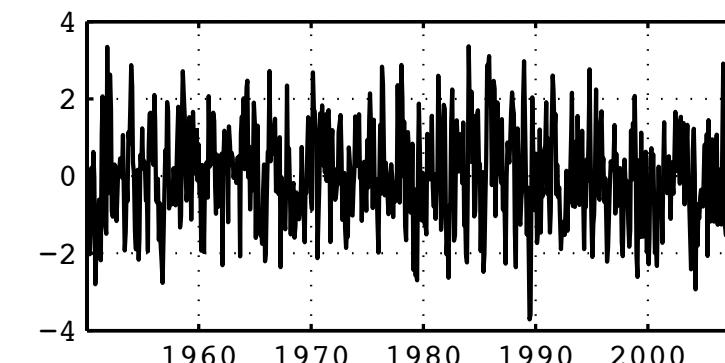
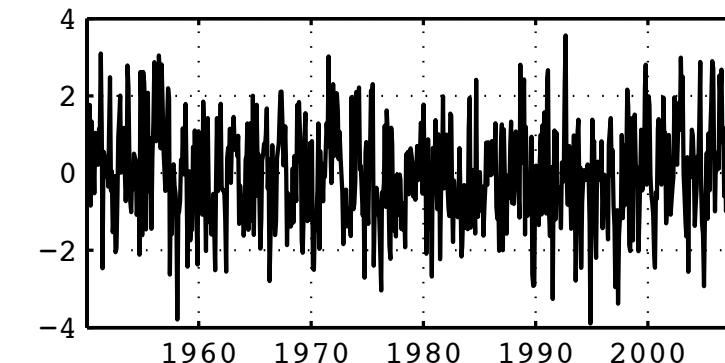
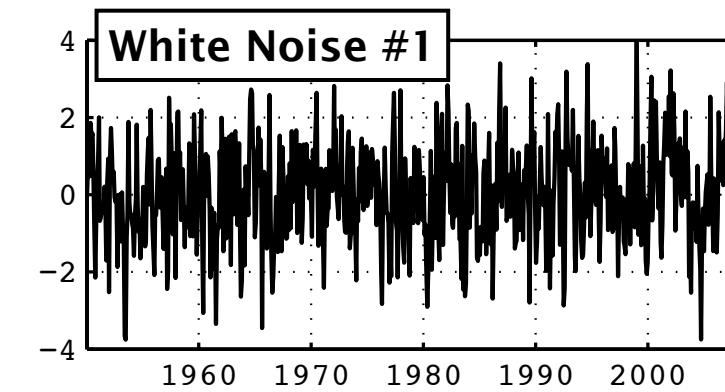
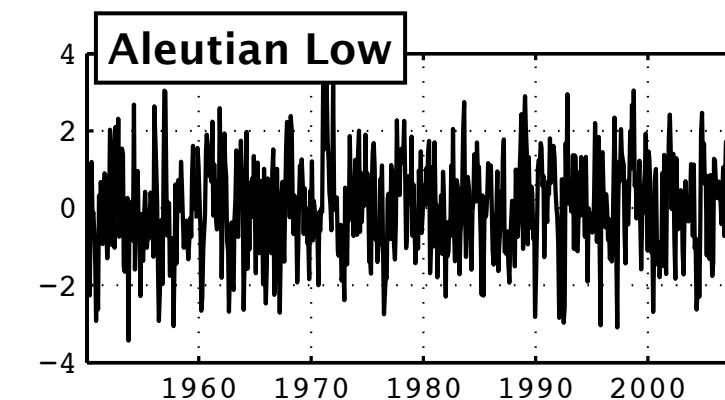


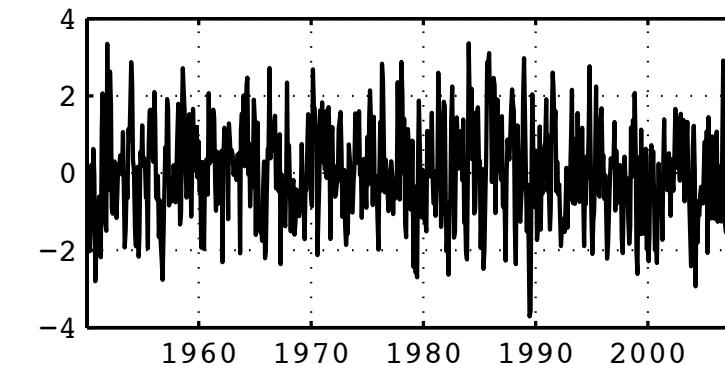
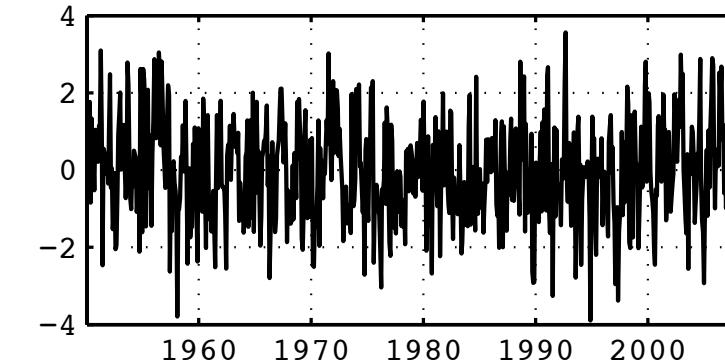
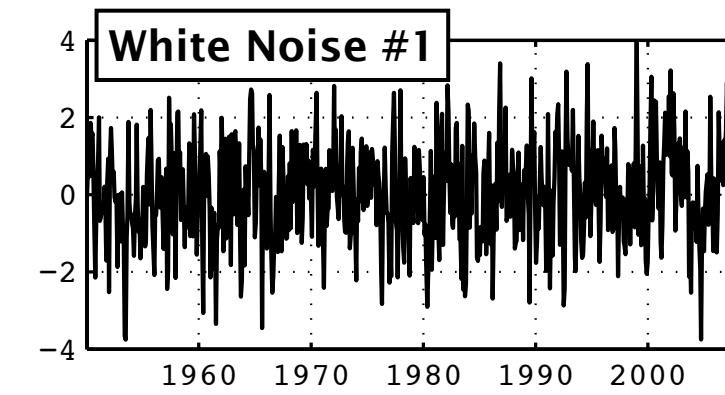
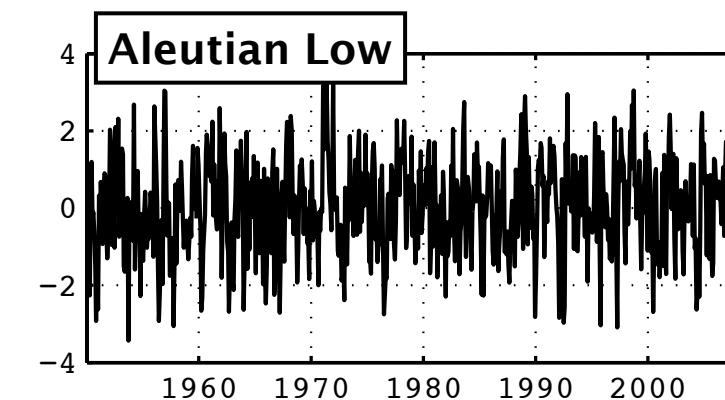
# Atmosphere



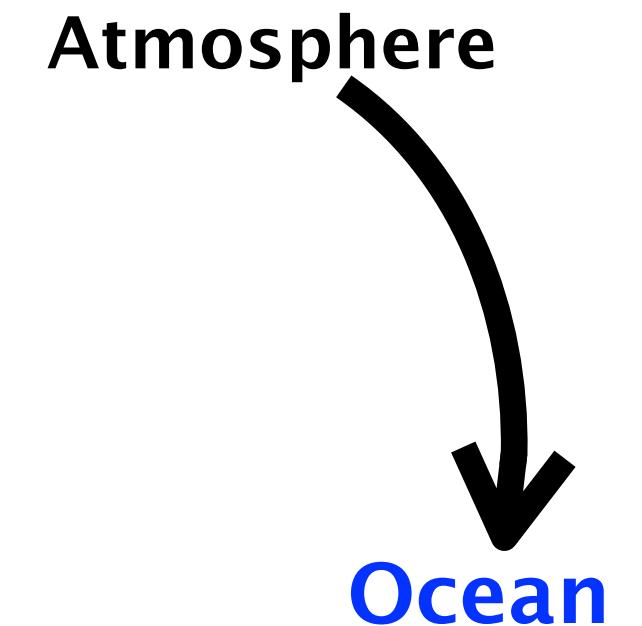
## White Noise (Spectrum)

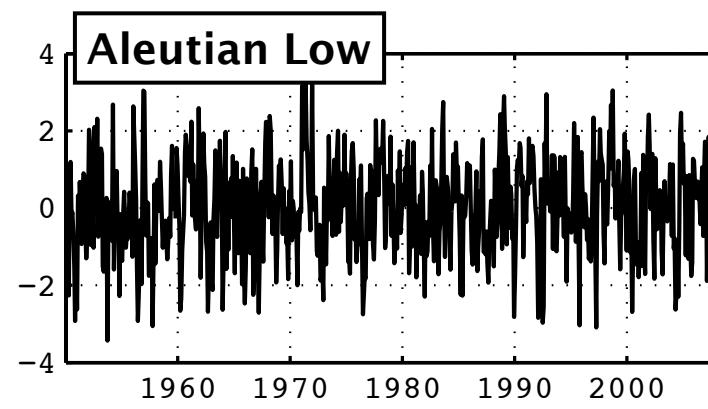




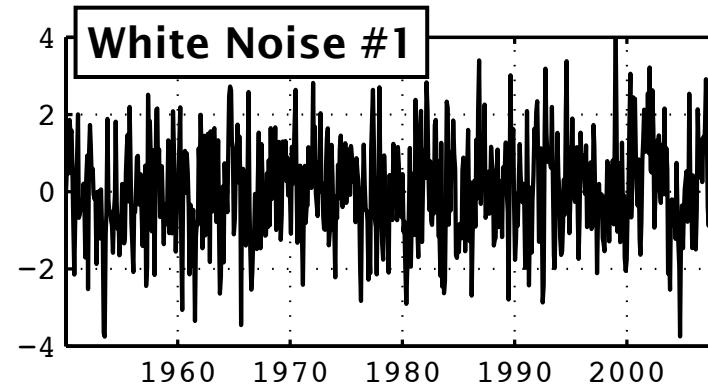


$$f(t)$$

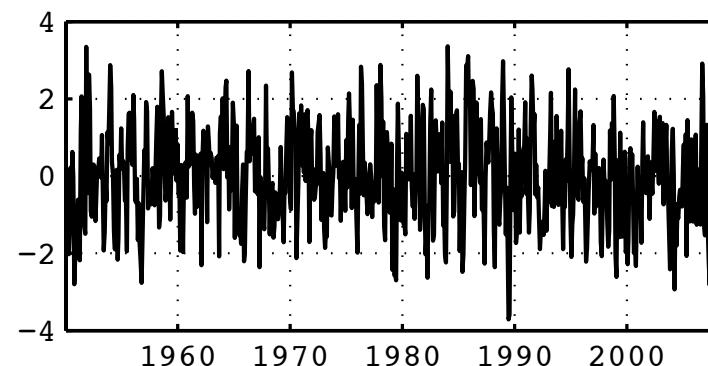
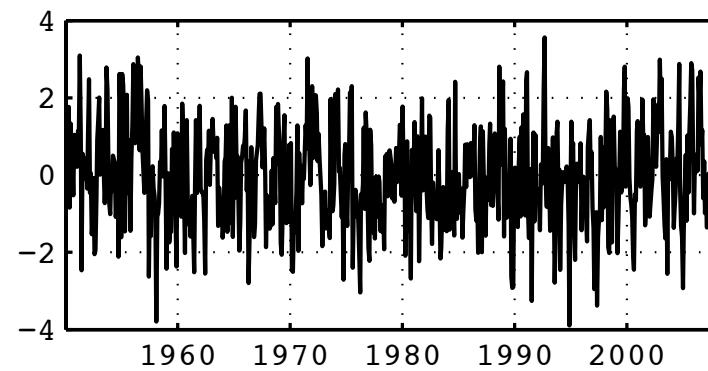




$$f(t)$$

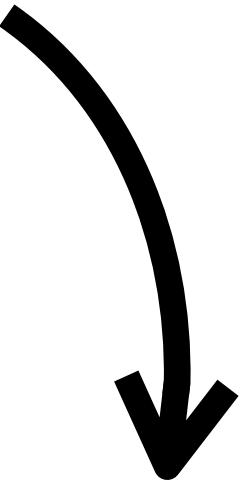


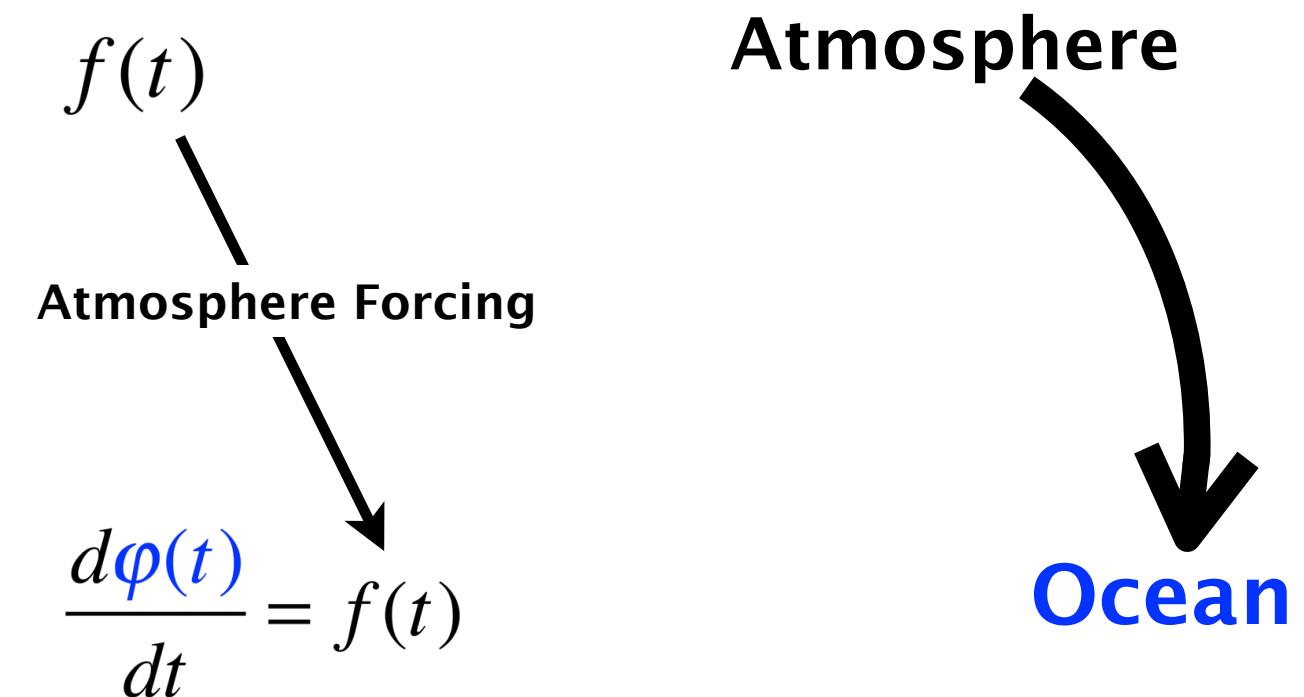
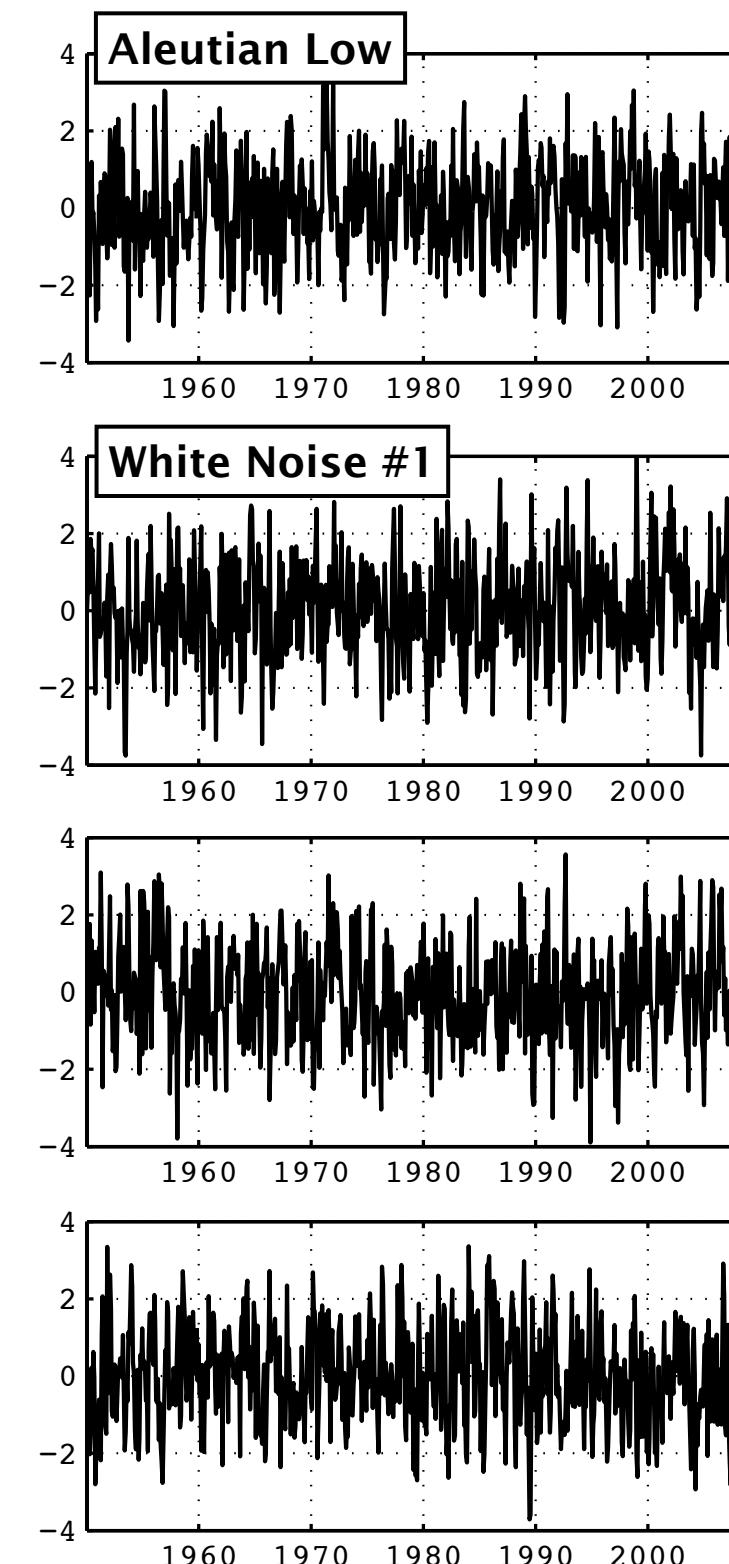
$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t)$$

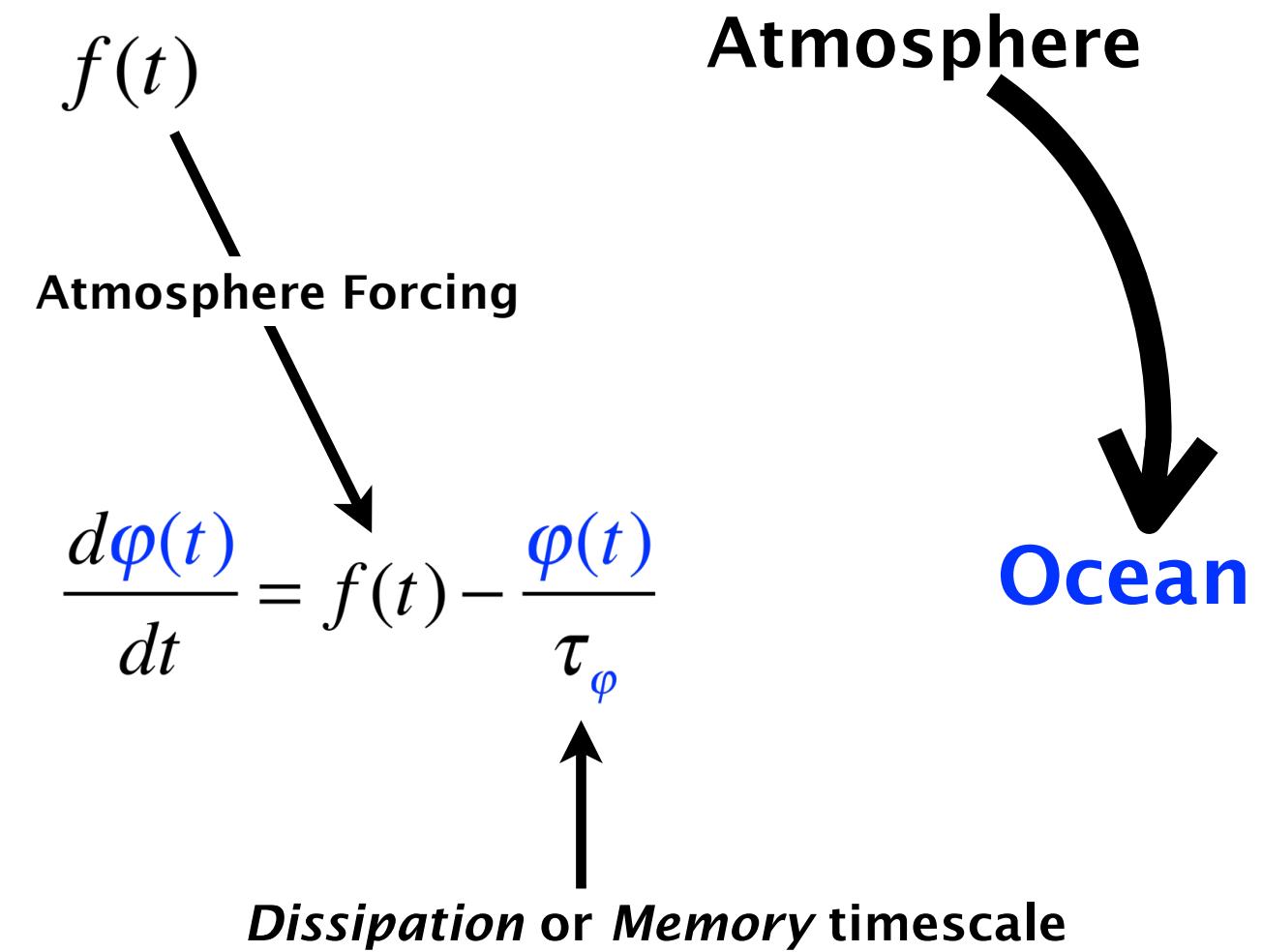
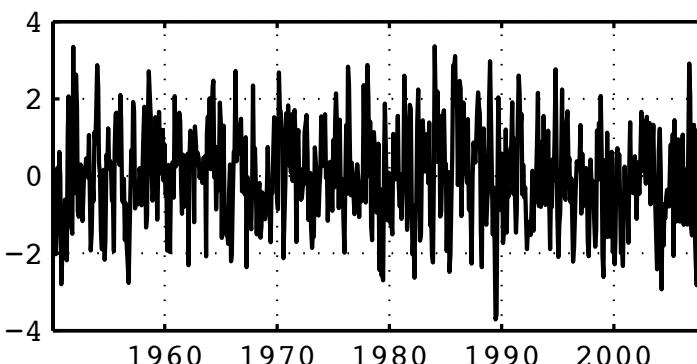
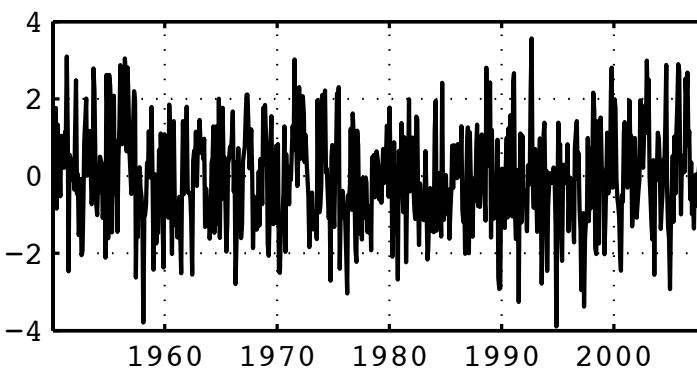
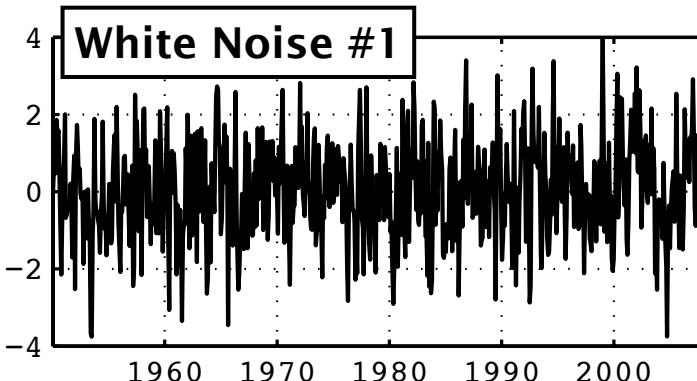
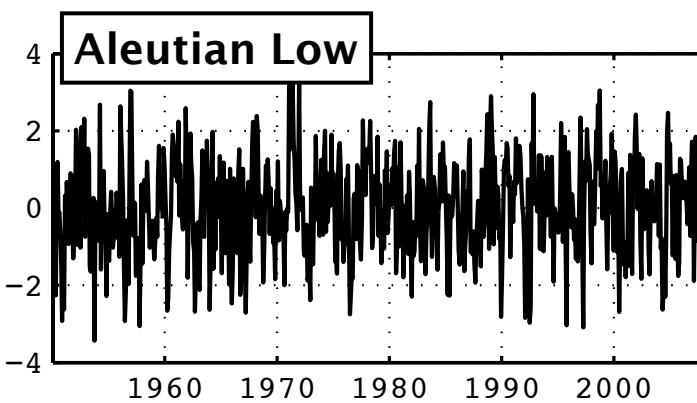


**Atmosphere**

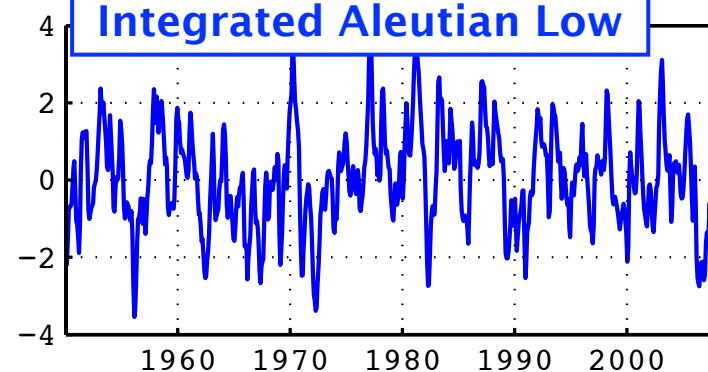
**Ocean**



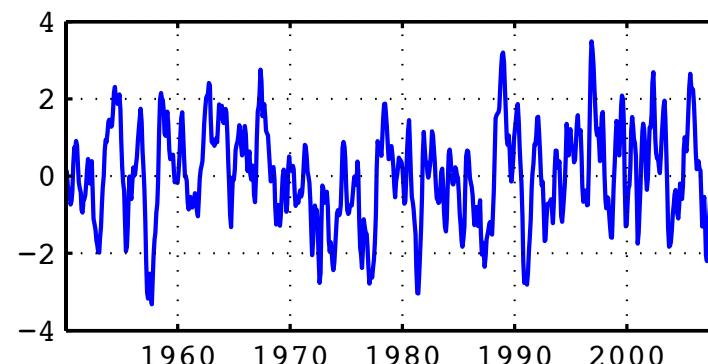
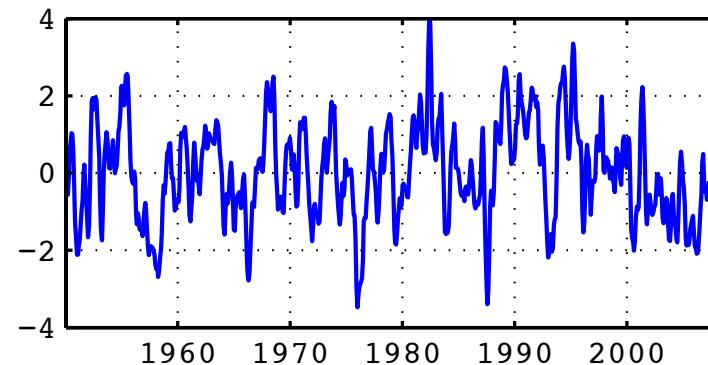
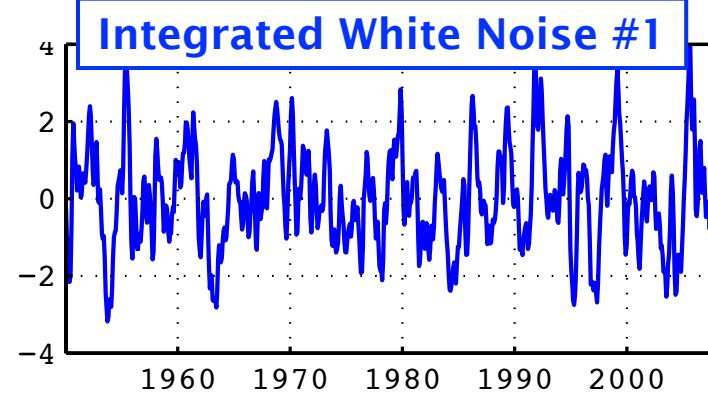




Integrated Aleutian Low



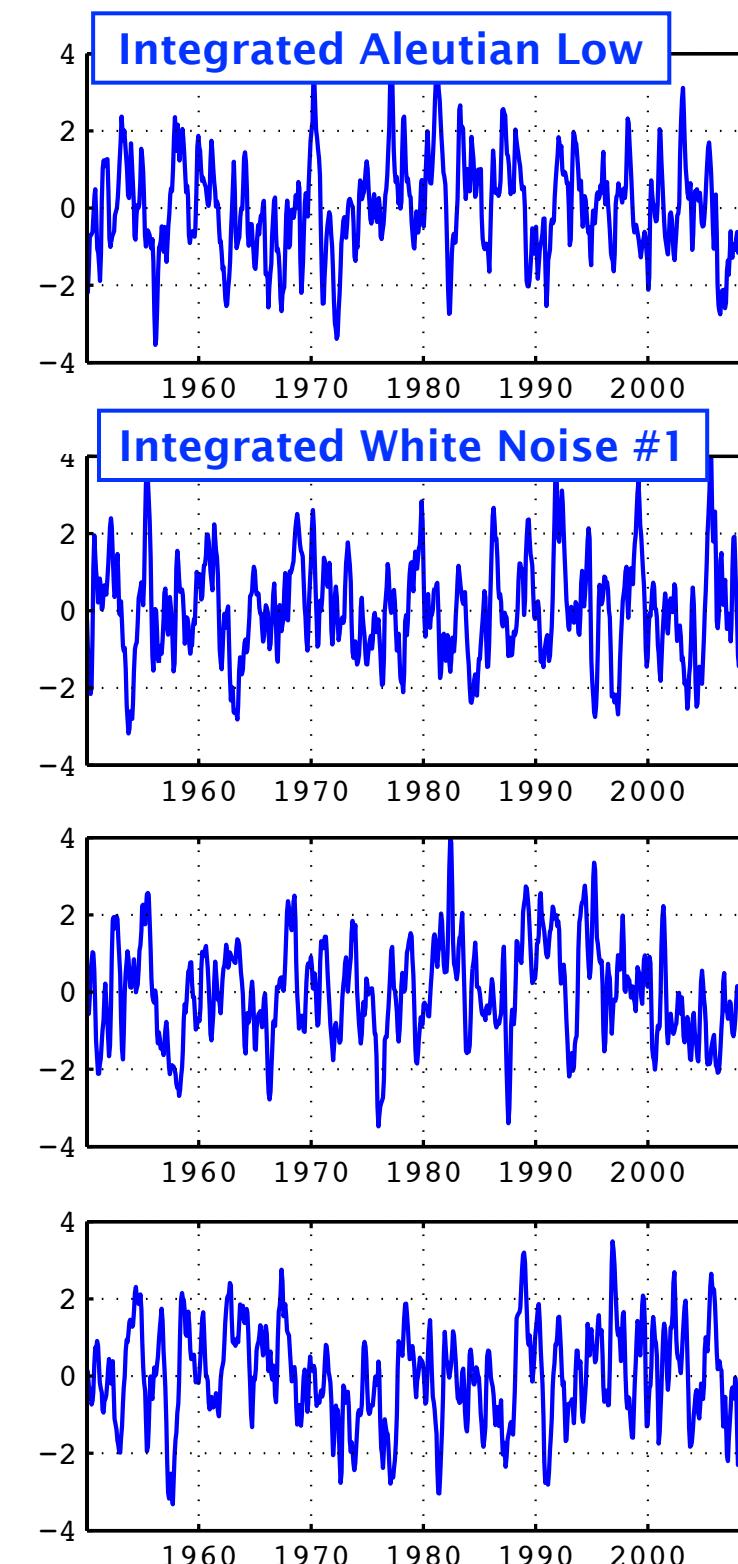
Integrated White Noise #1



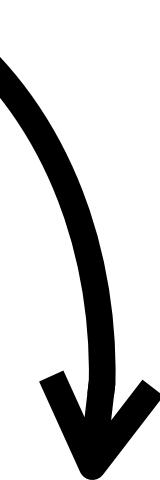
Atmosphere

Ocean

$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$



Atmosphere

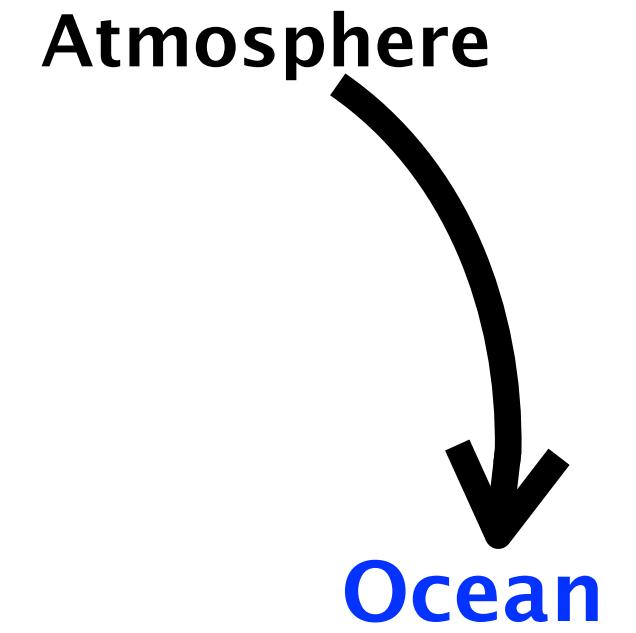
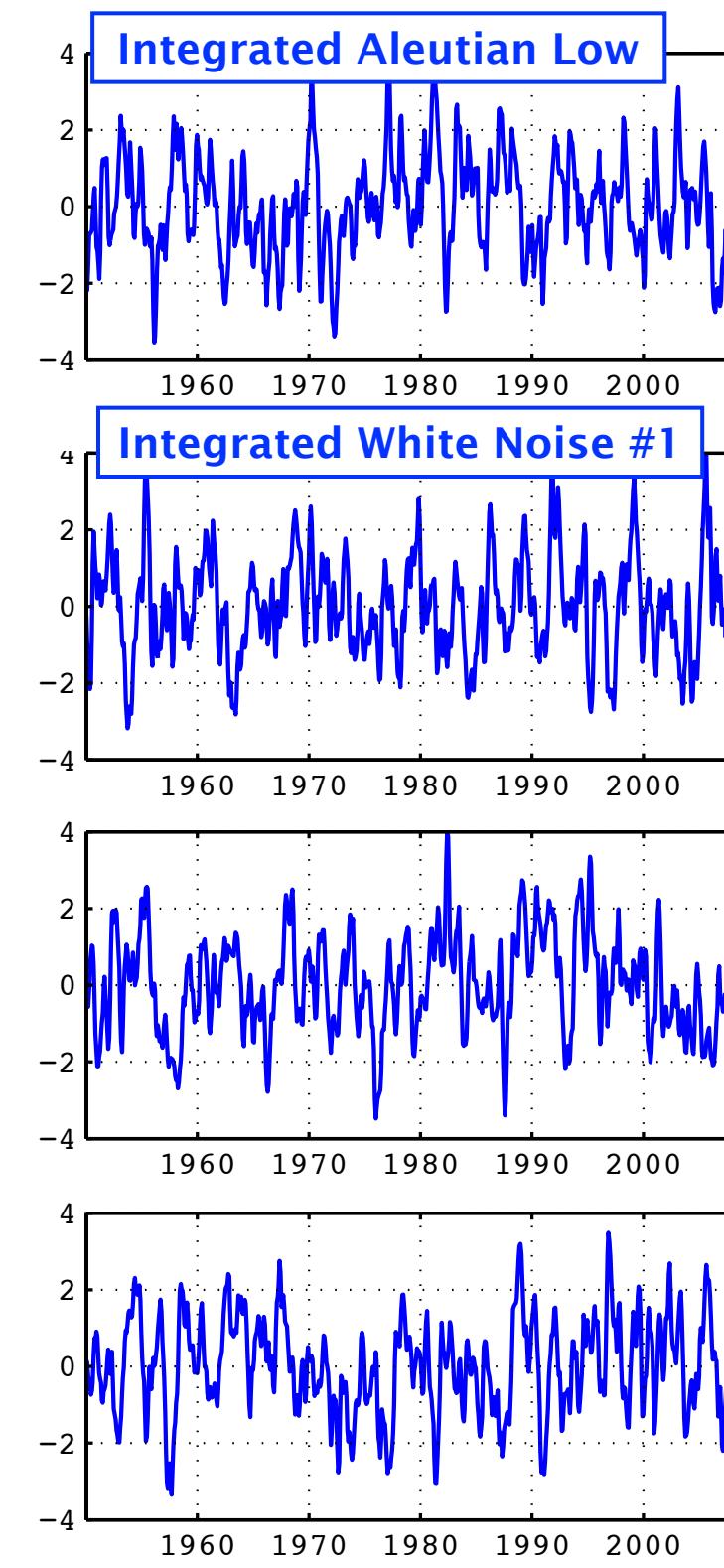


$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$

**AR-1 Model**  
**(Autoregressive Model of Order 1)**

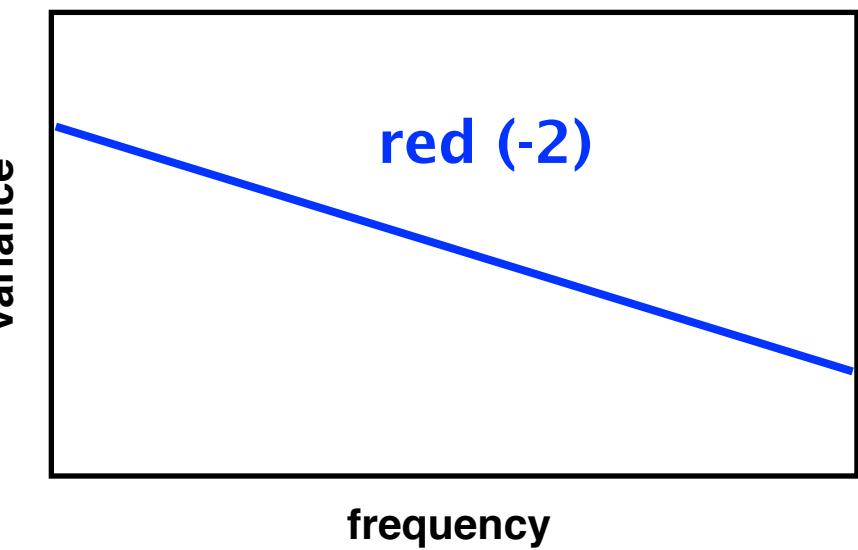


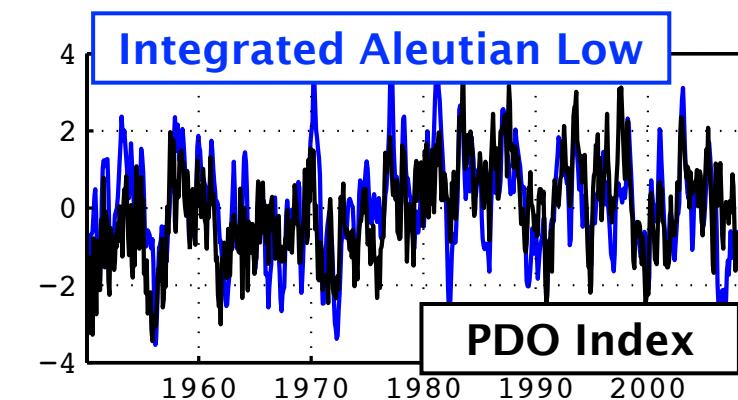
integration of white noise



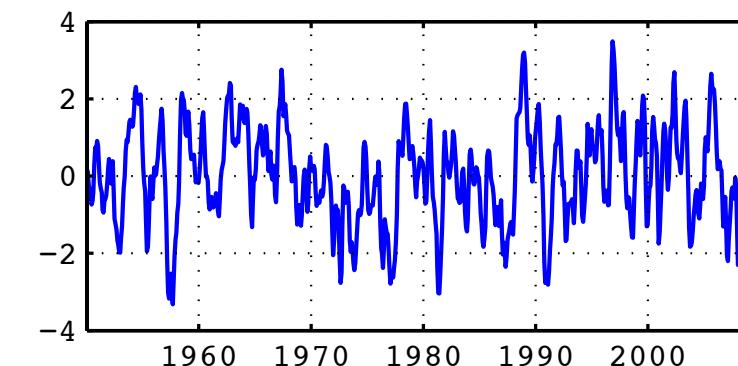
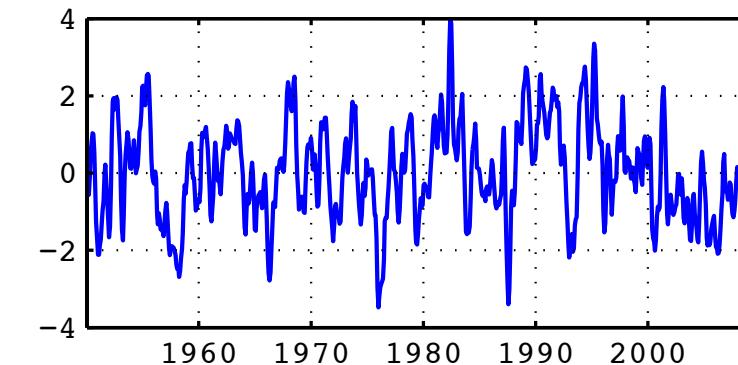
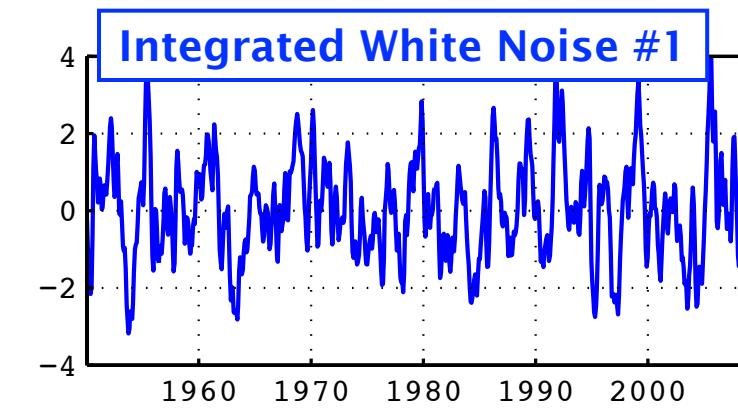
$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$

**AR-1 Model**  
**Red Noise (Spectrum)**

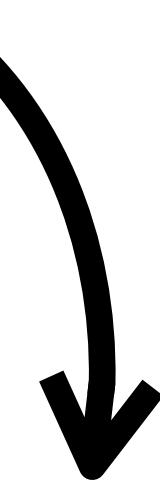




R=0.61

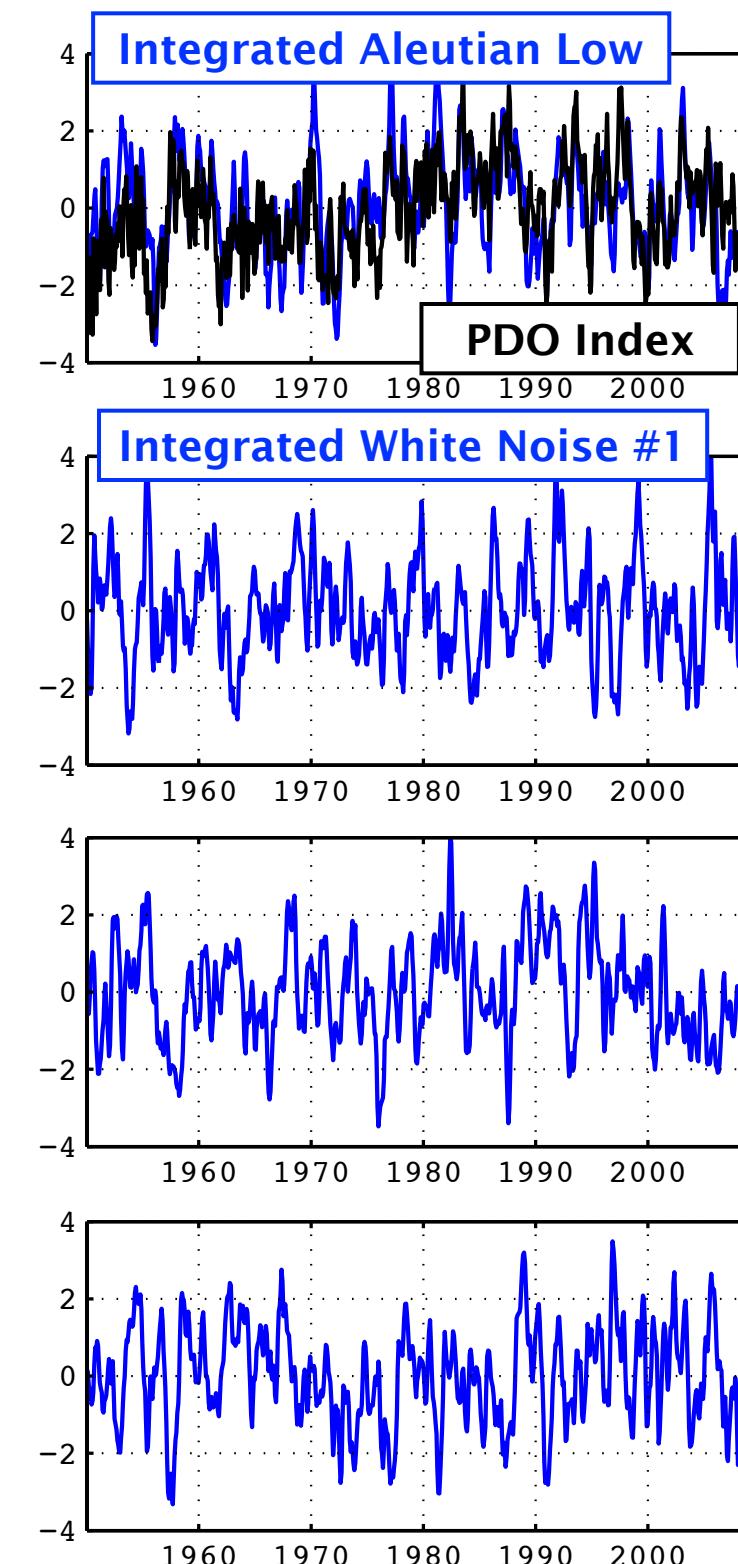


Atmosphere

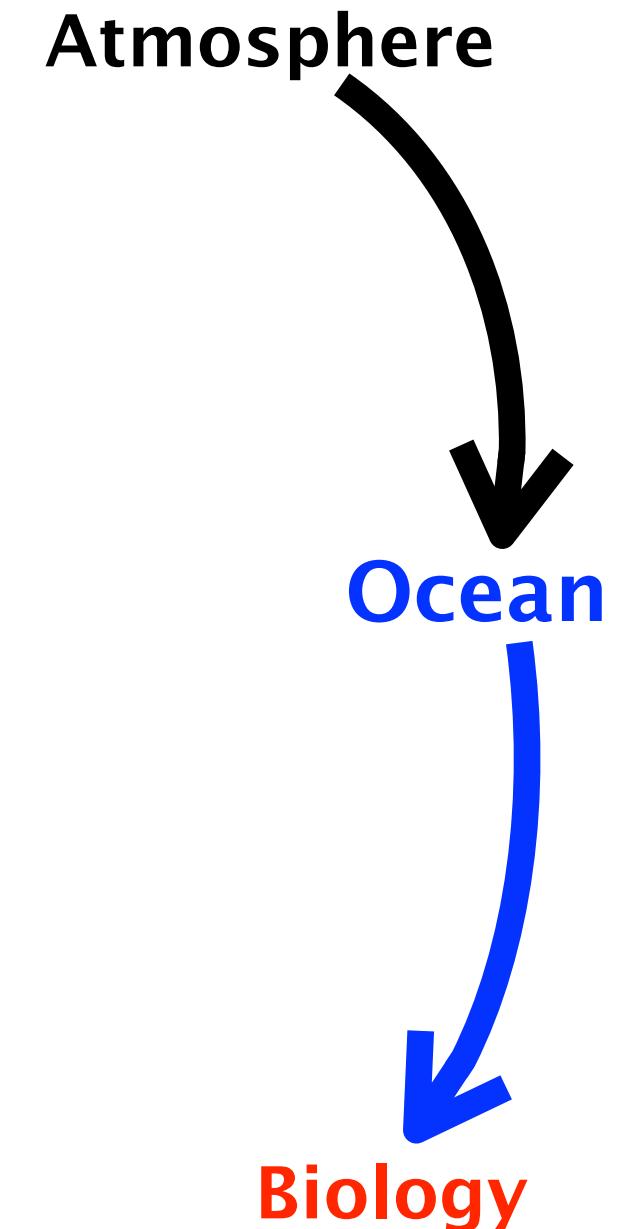


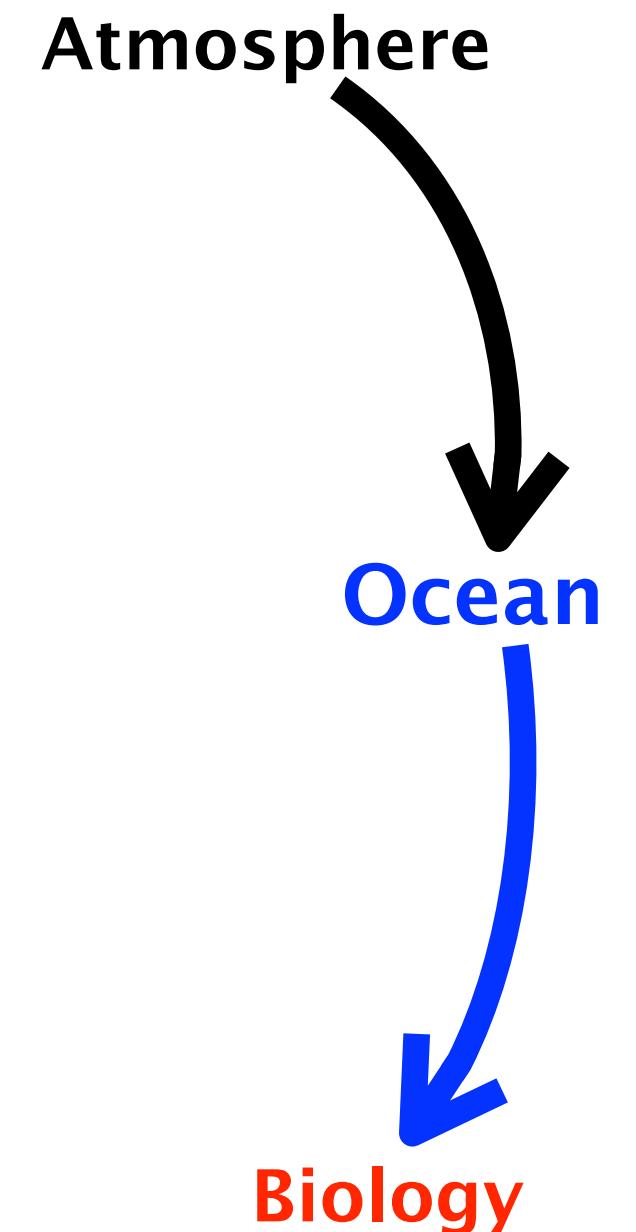
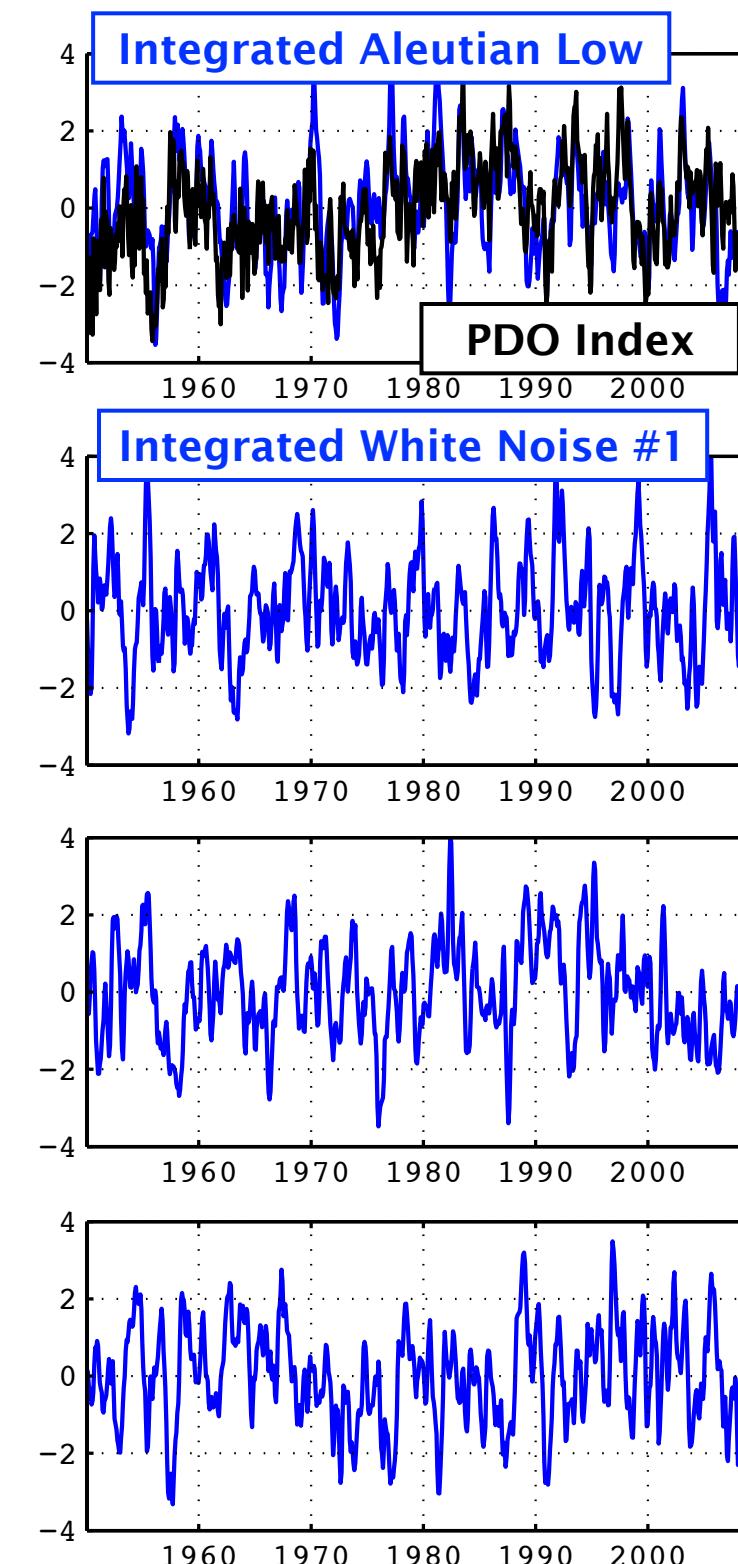
Ocean

$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$



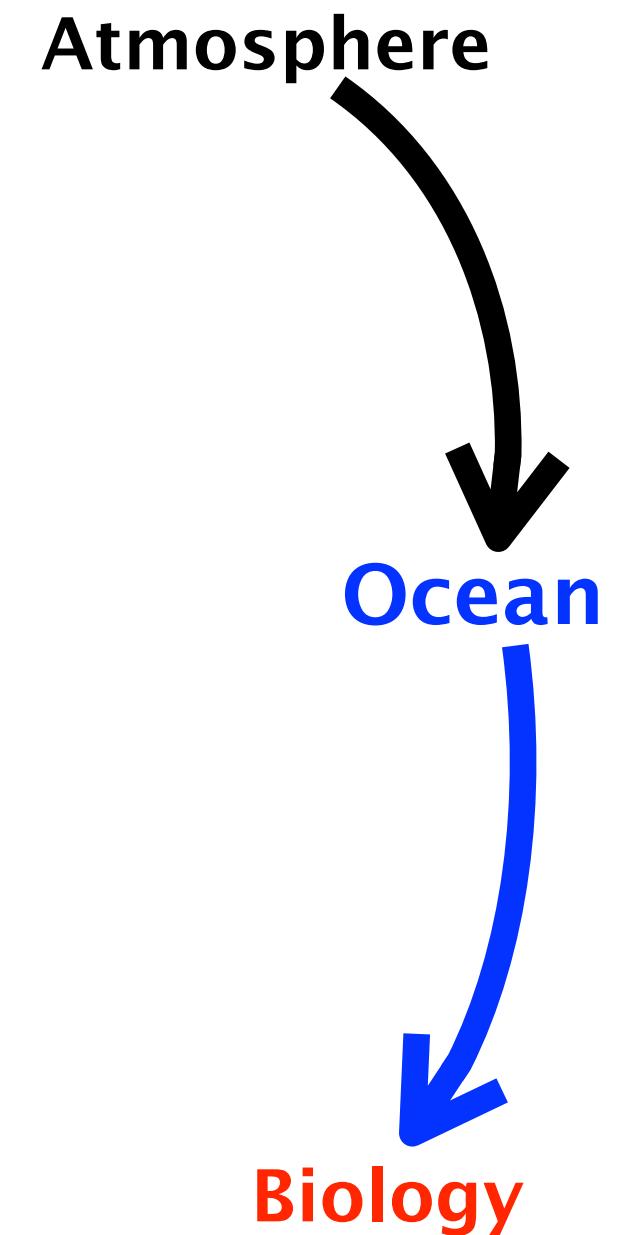
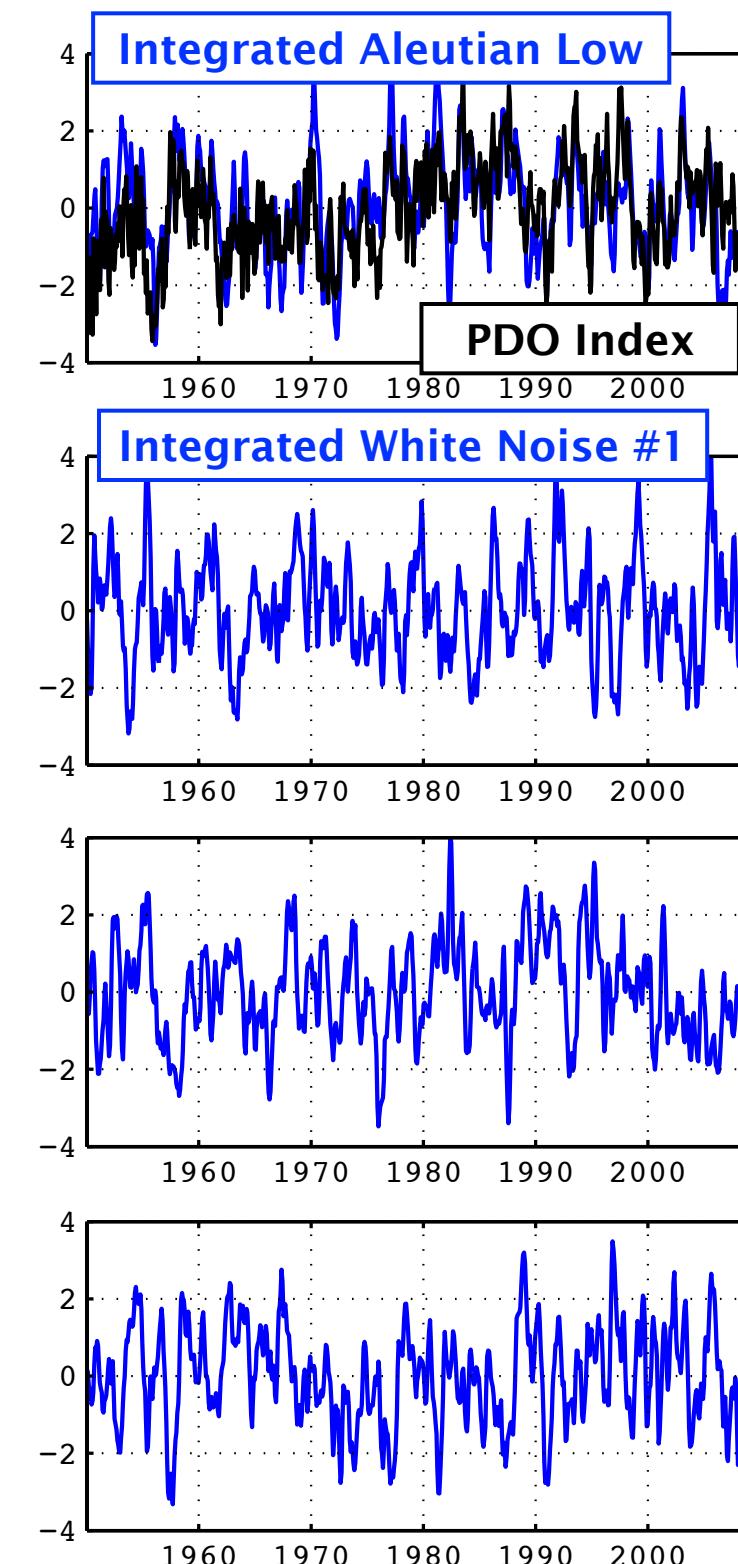
$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$

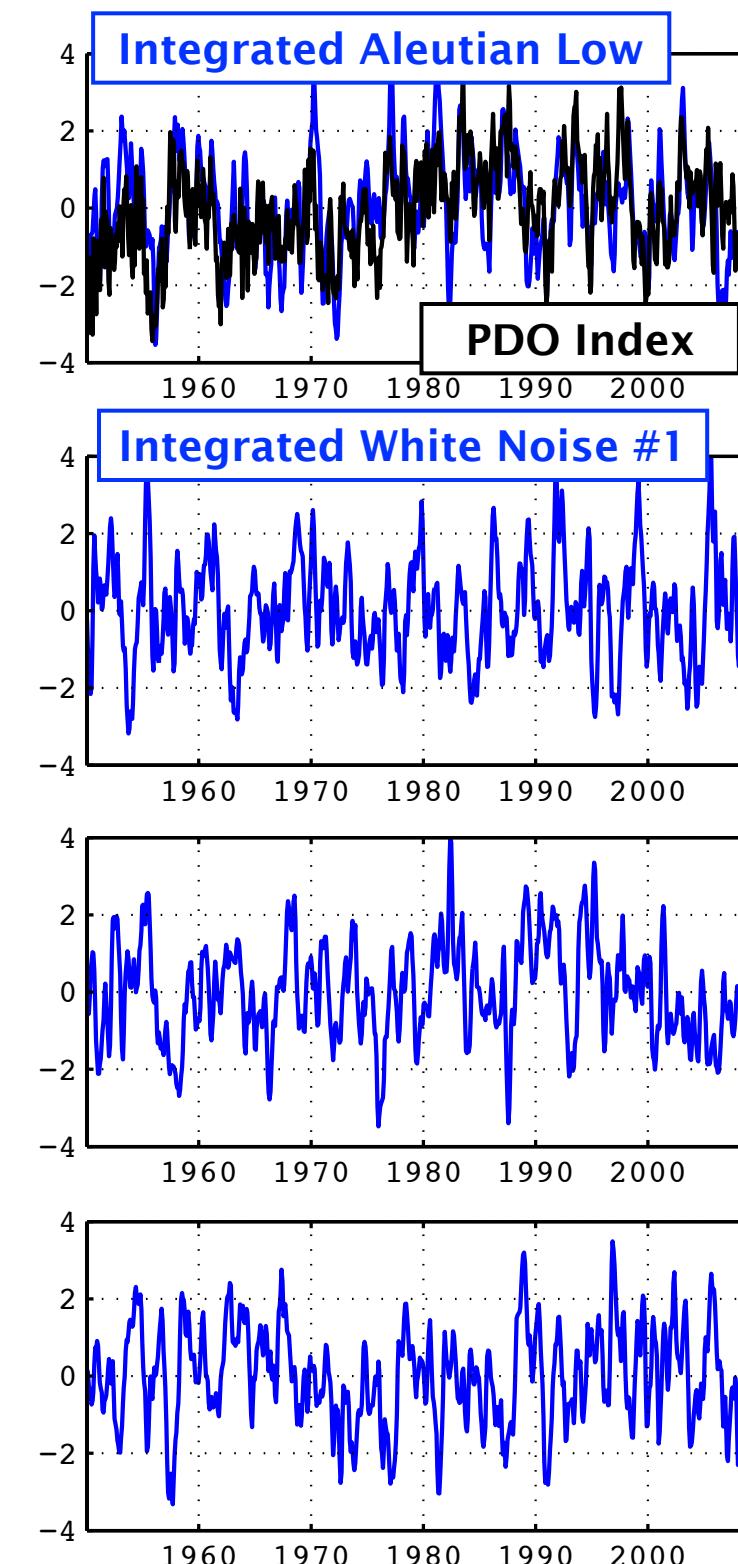




$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$

$$\frac{d\varepsilon(t)}{dt} = \varphi(t)$$

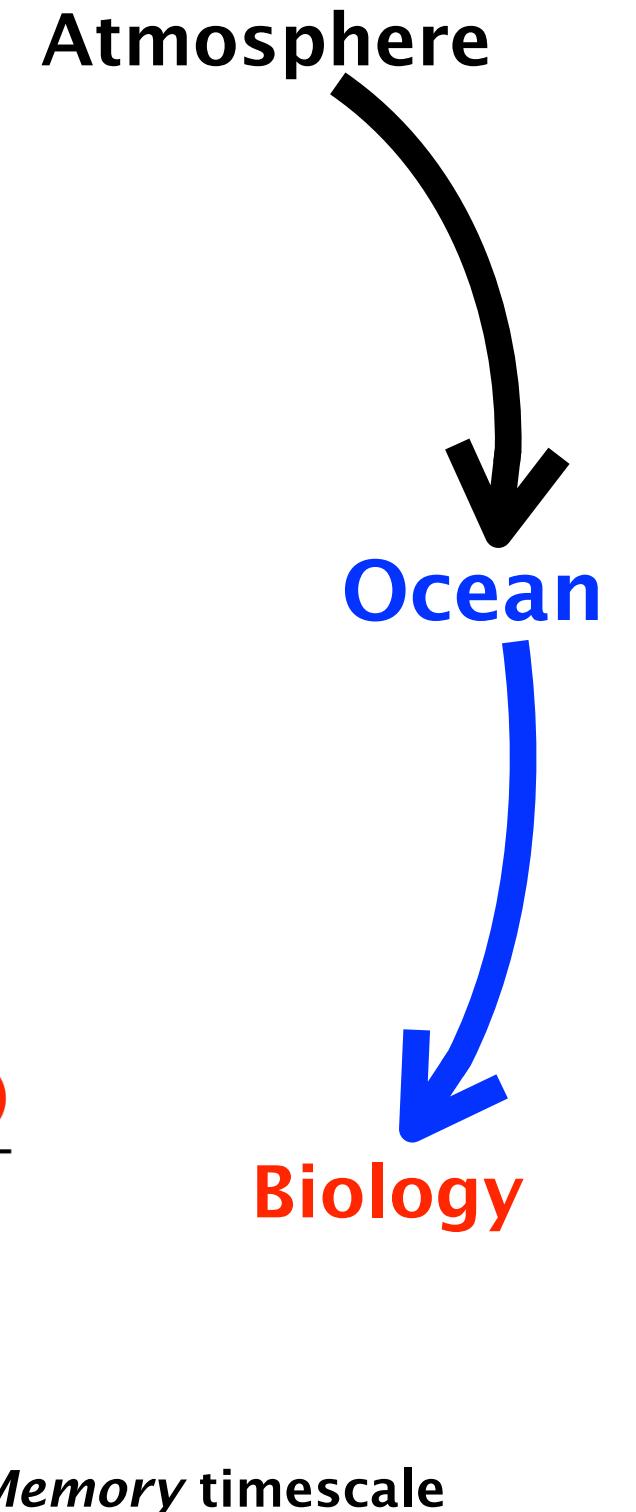




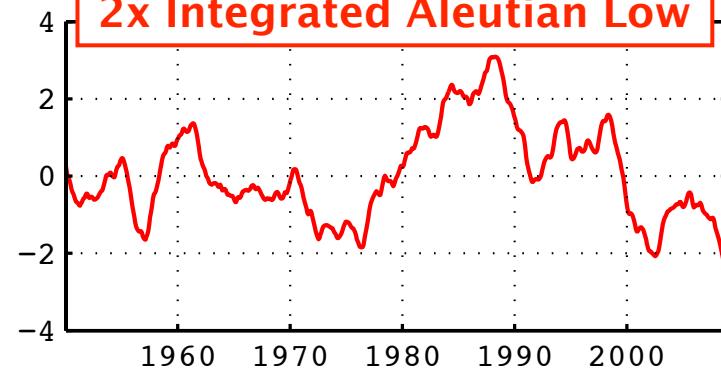
$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$

Ocean Forcing

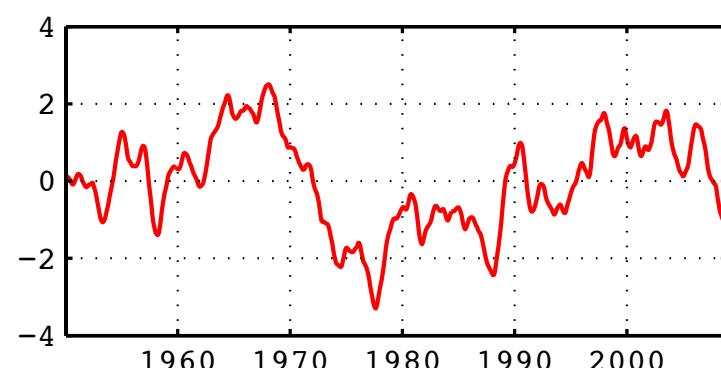
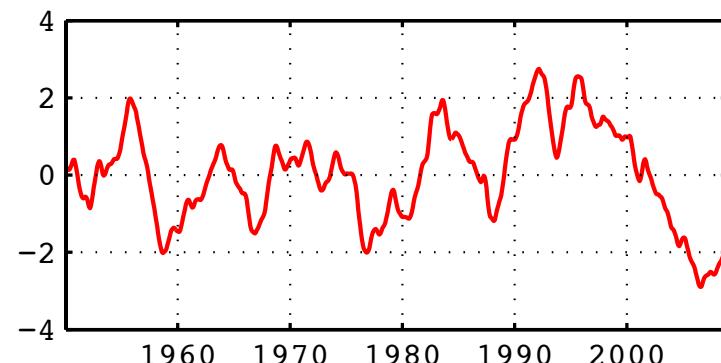
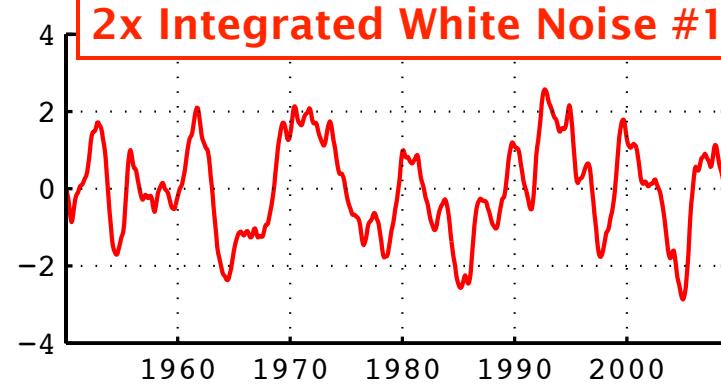
$$\frac{d\varepsilon(t)}{dt} = \varphi(t) - \frac{\varepsilon(t)}{\tau_\varepsilon}$$



**2x Integrated Aleutian Low**



**2x Integrated White Noise #1**



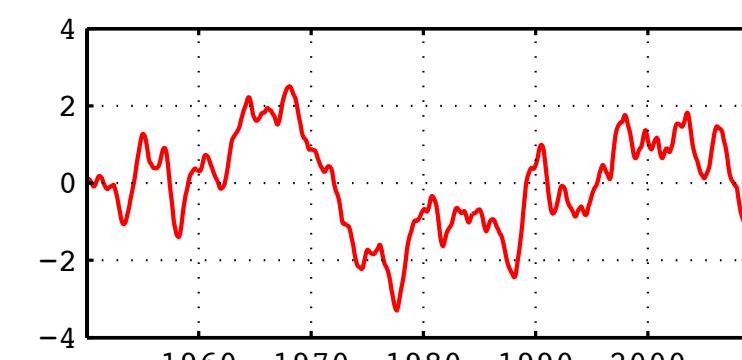
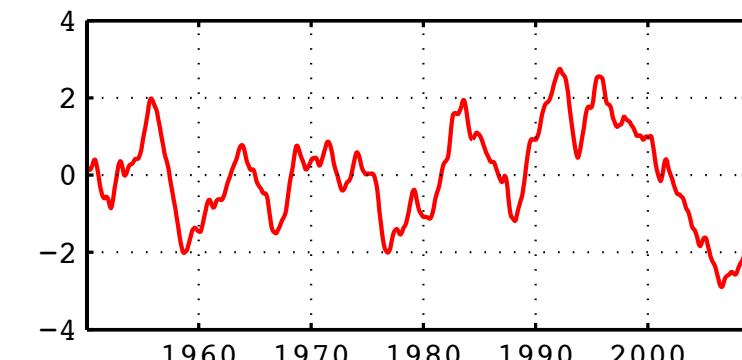
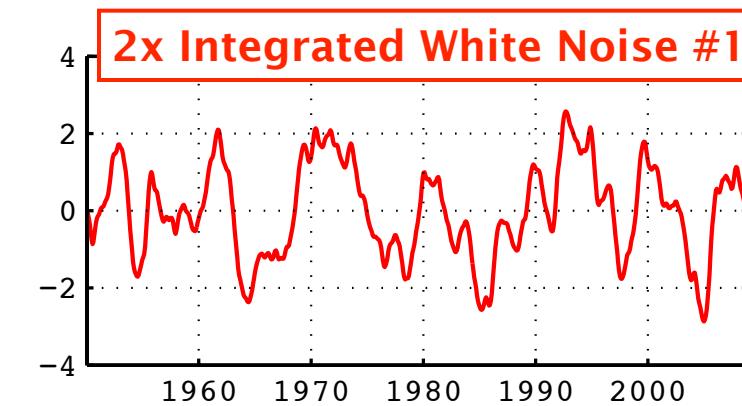
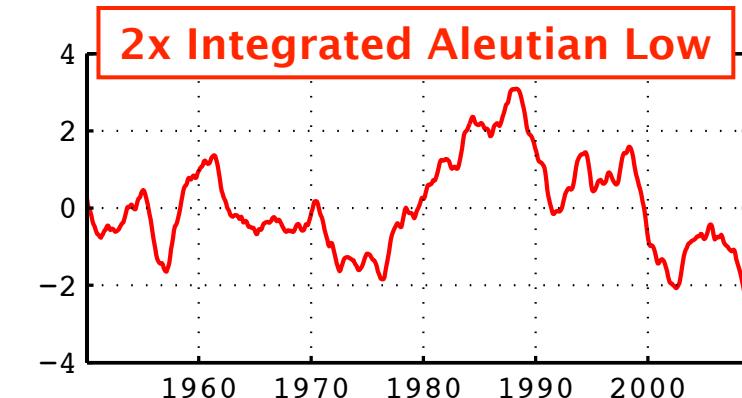
**Atmosphere**

**Ocean**

**Biology**

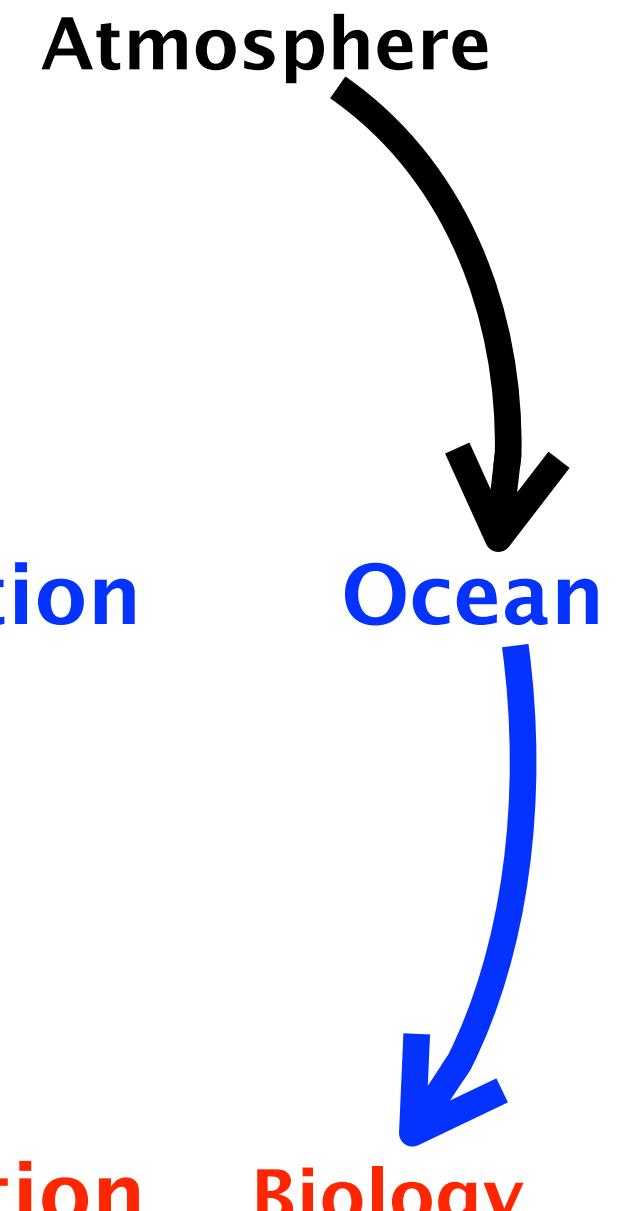
$$\frac{d\epsilon(t)}{dt} = \varphi(t) - \frac{\epsilon(t)}{\tau_\epsilon}$$

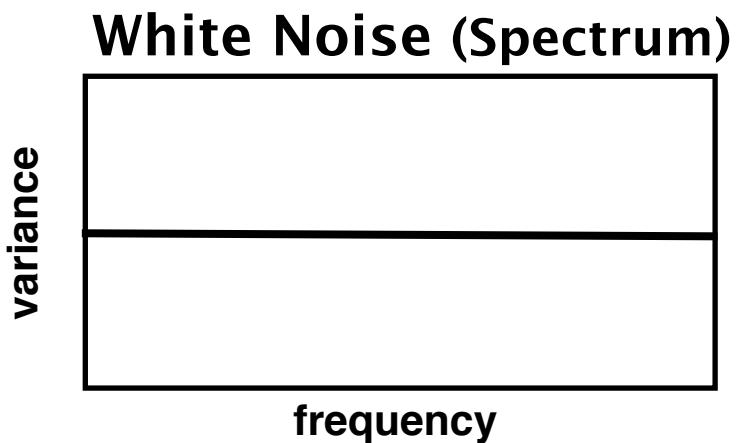
**Biology**



**1 x integration**

**2 x integration**





**1 x integration**

**Atmosphere**

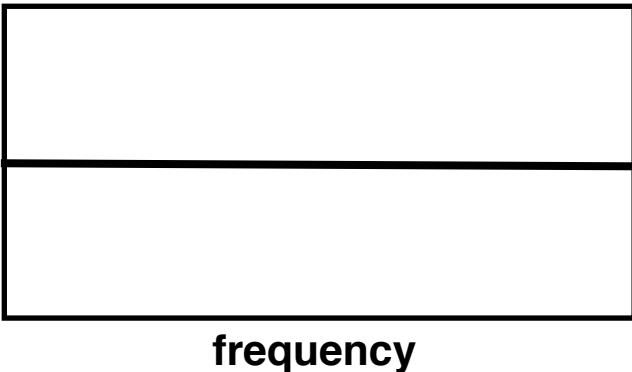
**Ocean**

**2 x integration**

**Biology**

**White Noise (Spectrum)**

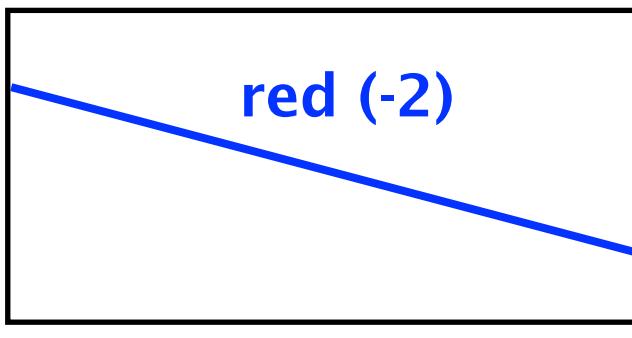
variance



frequency

**Red Noise (Spectrum)**

variance



frequency

red (-2)

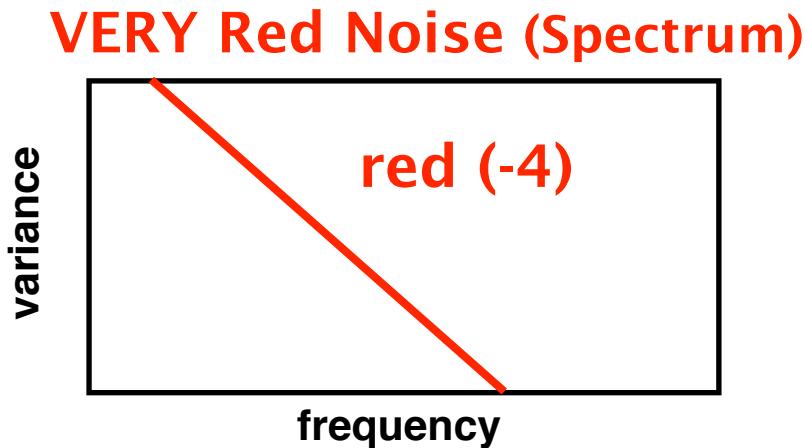
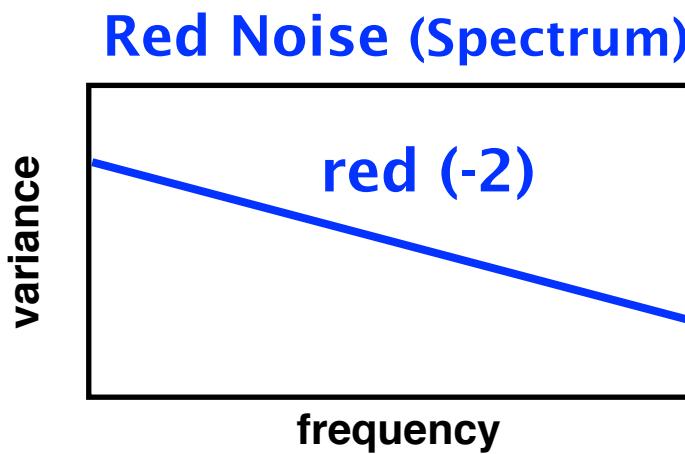
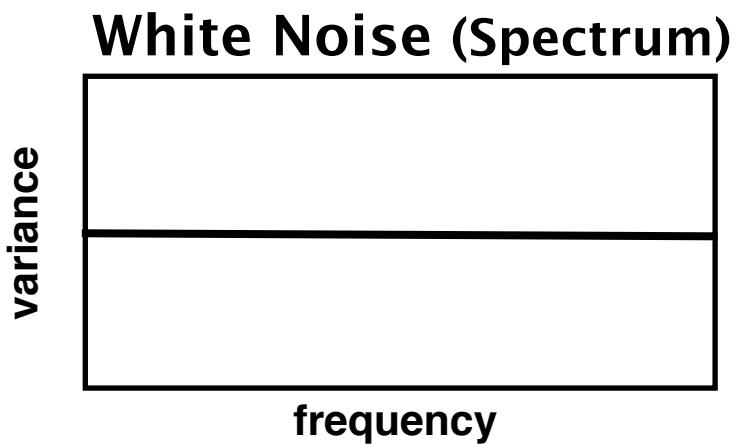
**1 x integration**

**Atmosphere**

**Ocean**

**2 x integration**

**Biology**



**1 x integration**

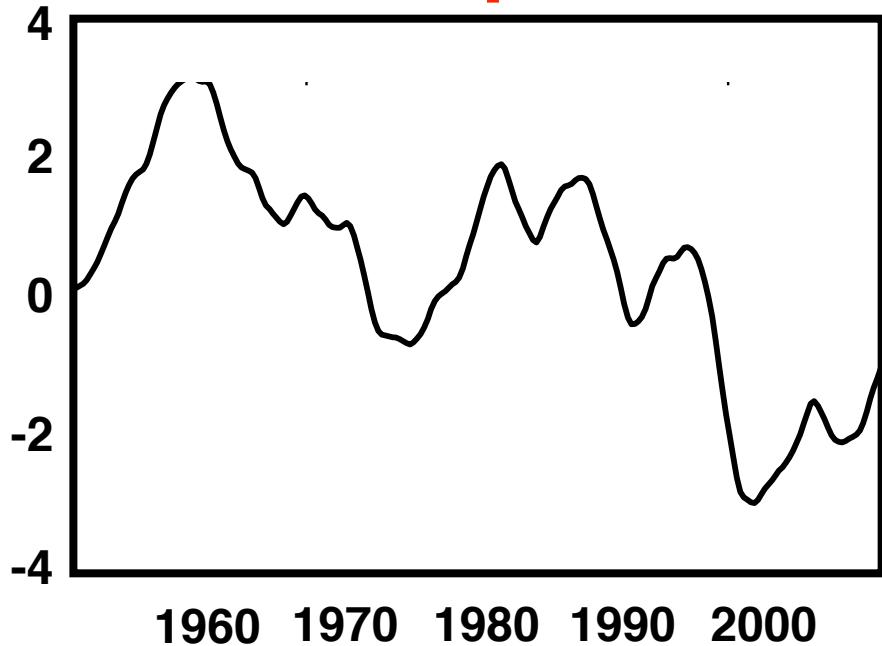
**2 x integration**

**Atmosphere**

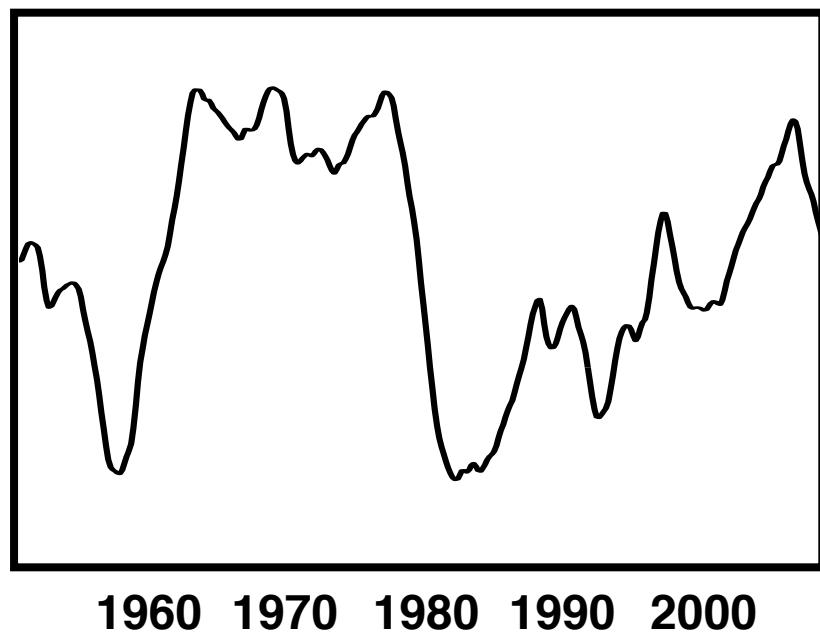
**Ocean**

**Biology**

## Examples



Atmosphere

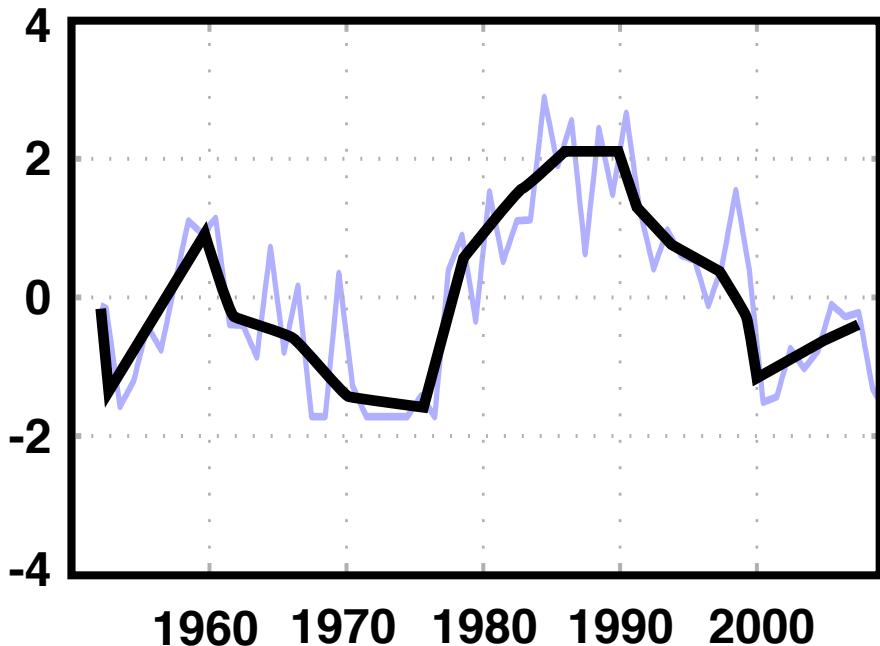


Ocean

2 x integration

Biology

### *Nyctiphanes simplex*

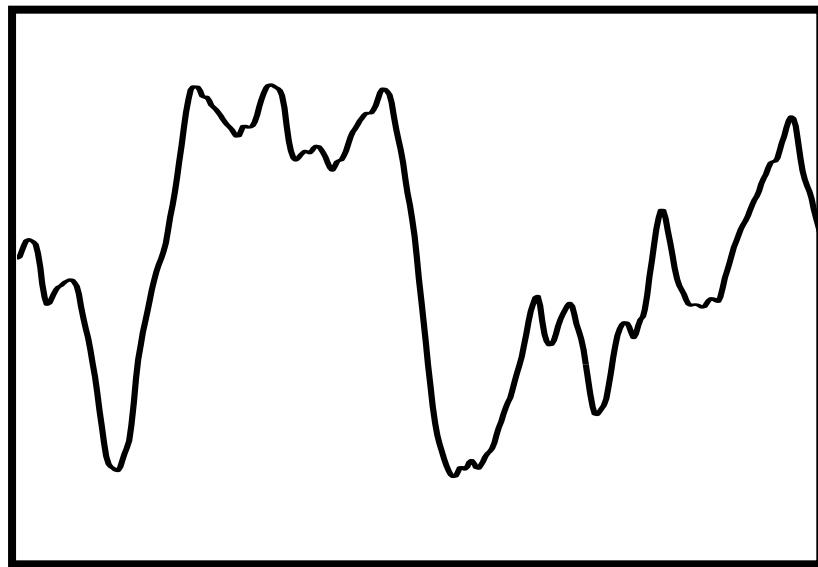


?

Atmosphere

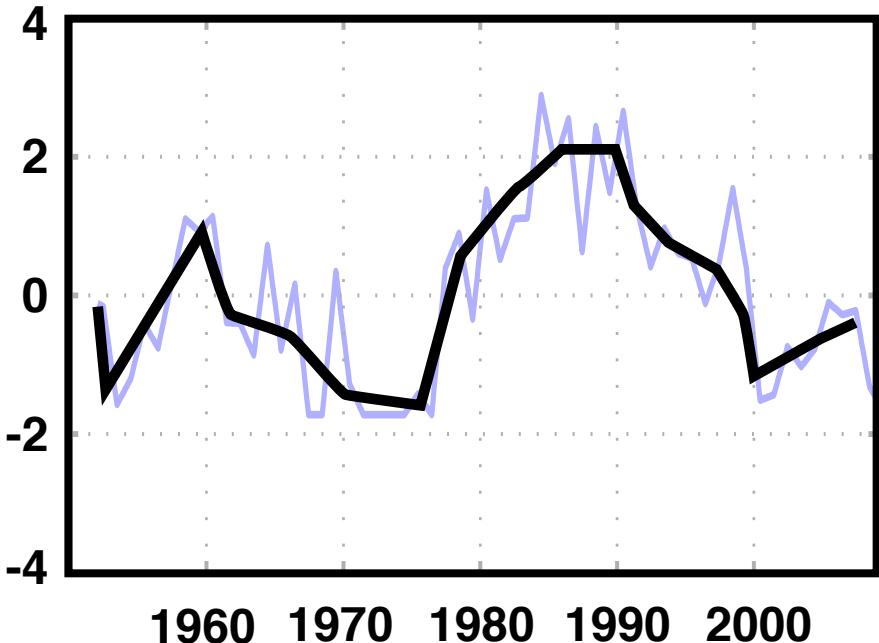
Ocean

Biology



2 x integration

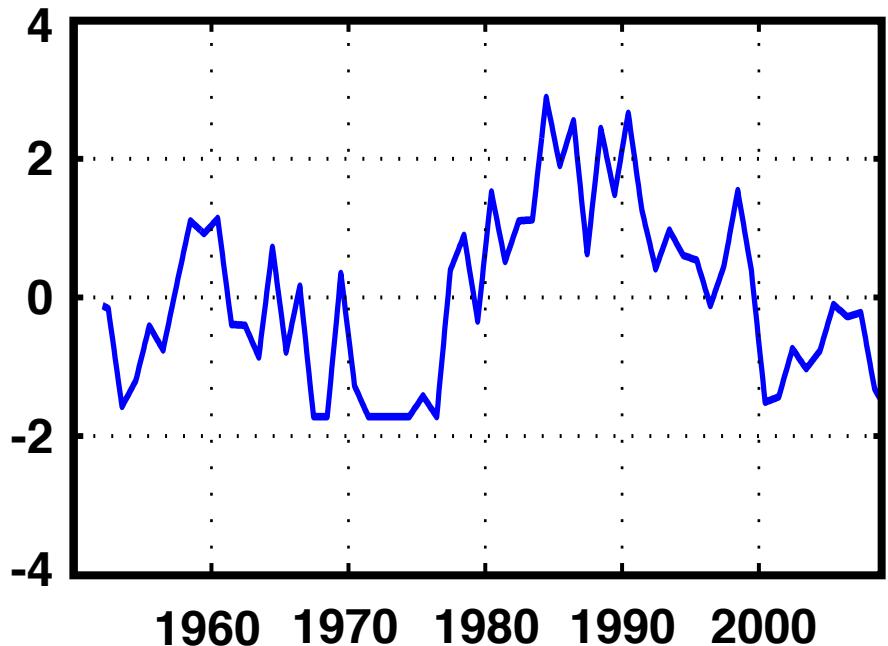
## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



### QUESTION:

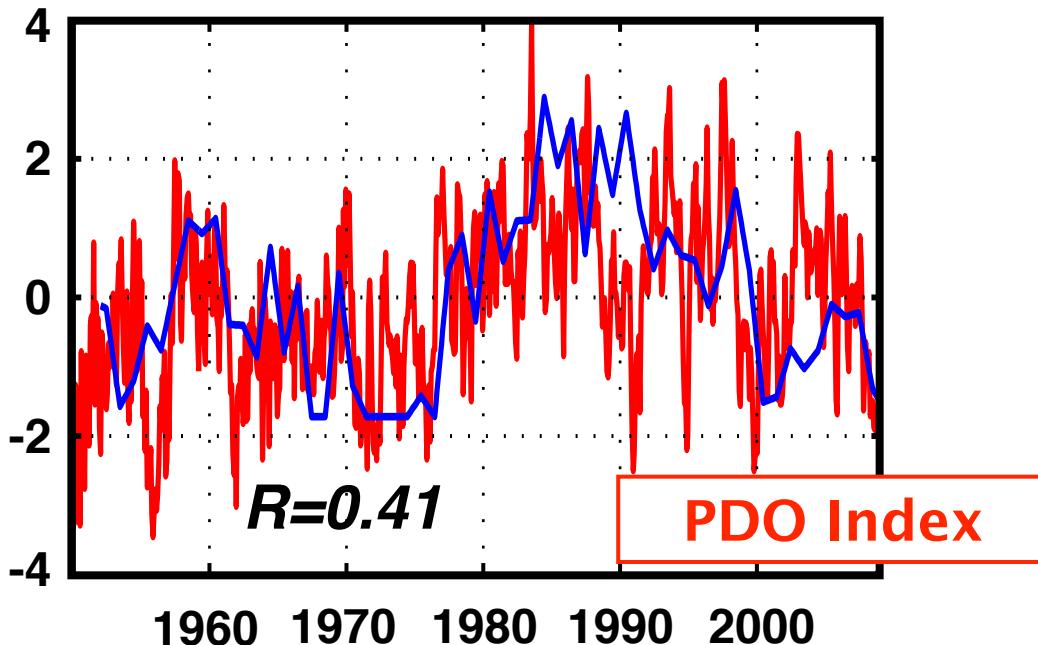
Is the Zooplankton timeseries in the California Current an example of multiple integrations of the climate forcing?

## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



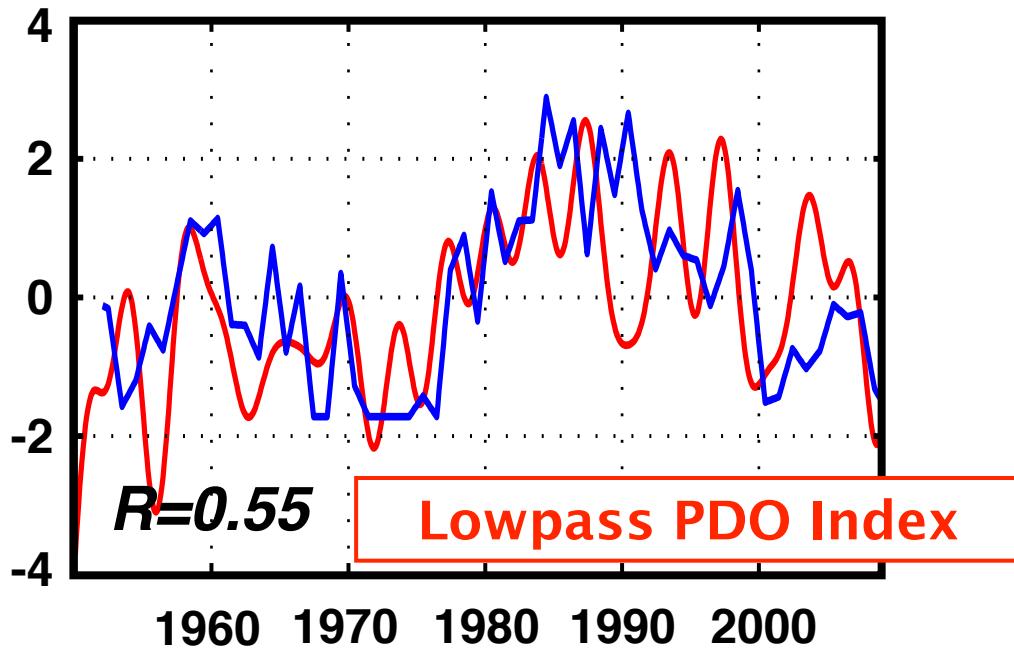
This krill species is connected to the  
Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)

## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



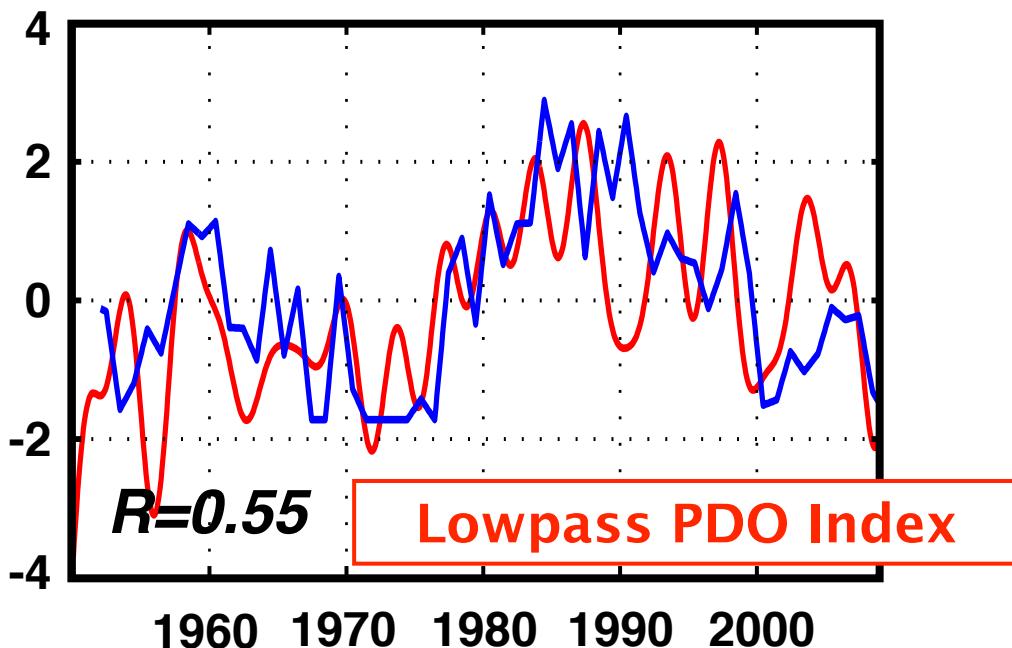
This krill species is connected to the  
Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)

## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



This krill species is connected to the  
Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)

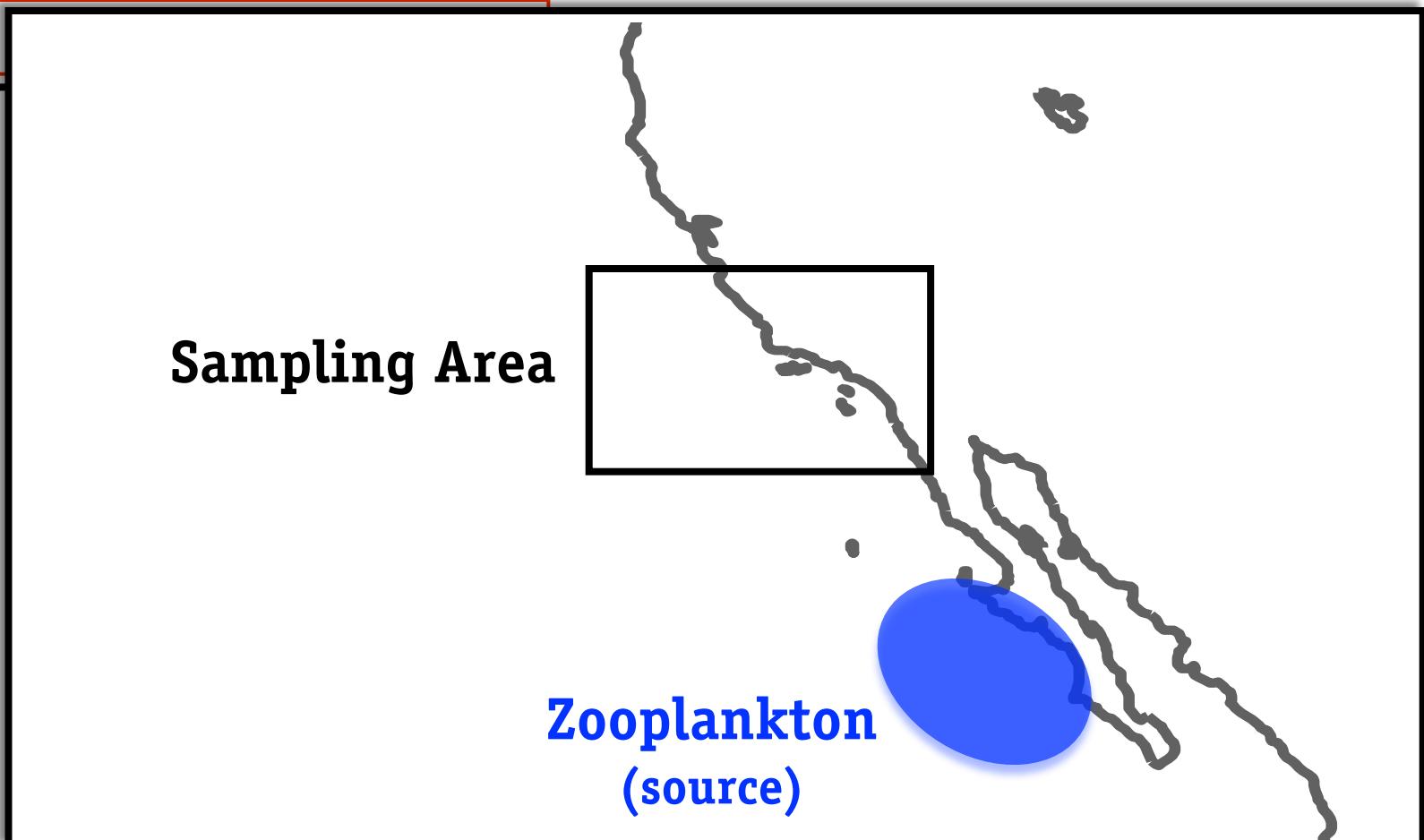
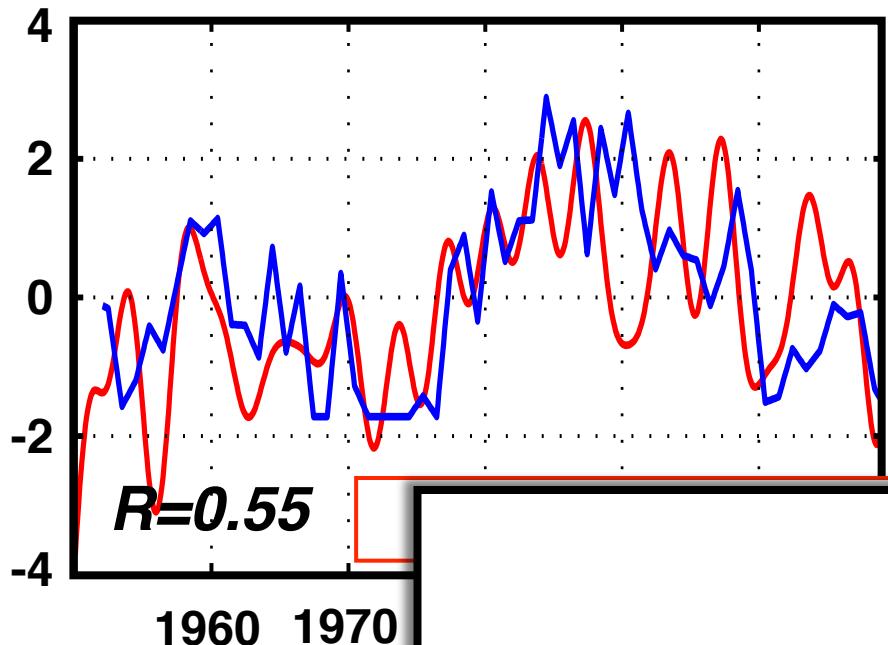
## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



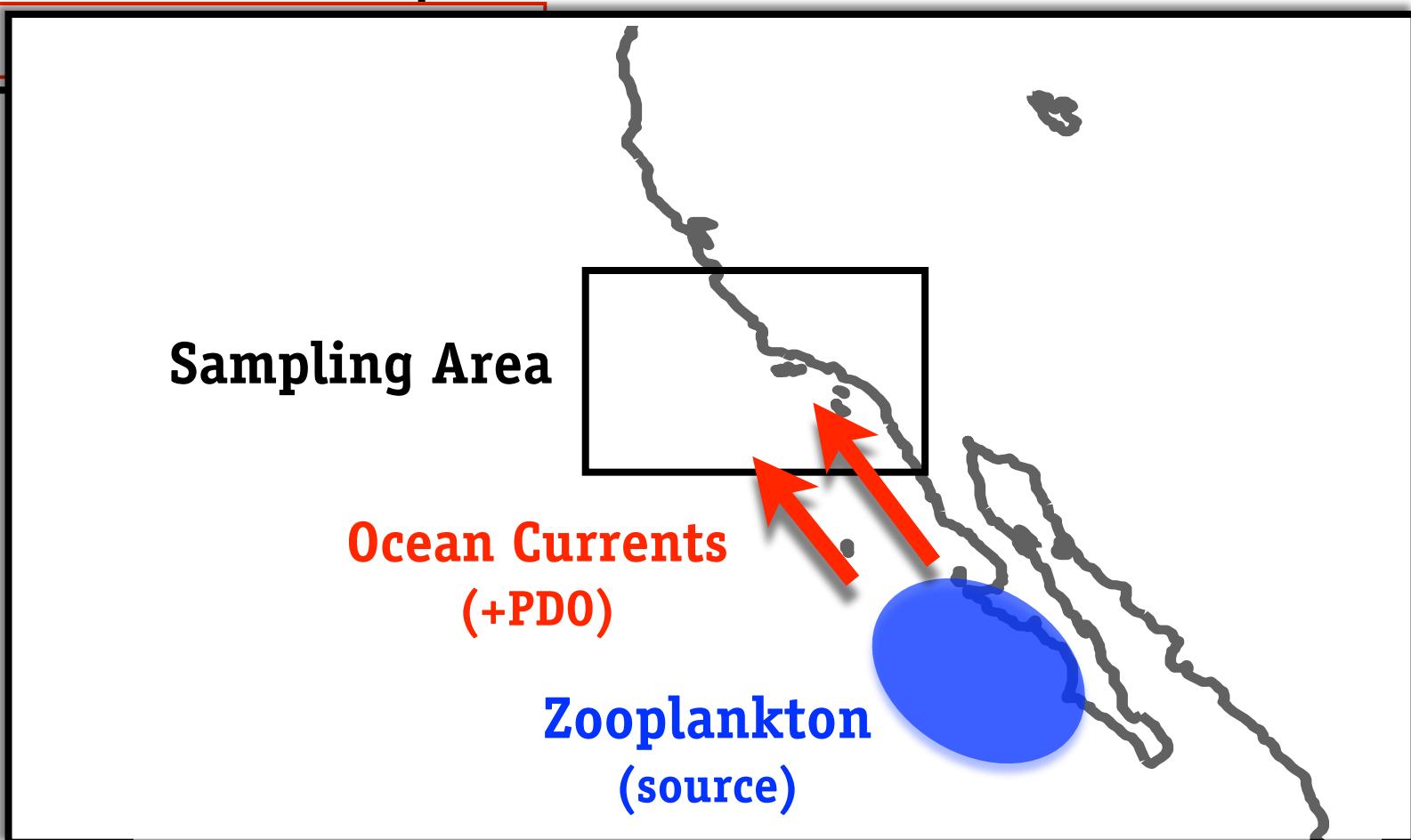
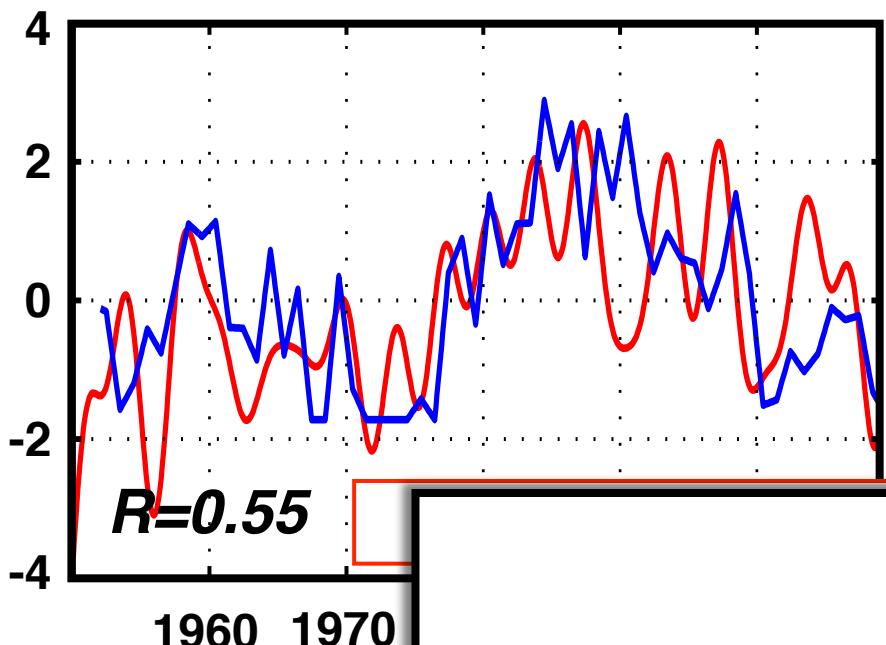
**QUESTION:**

Can we do better than this?

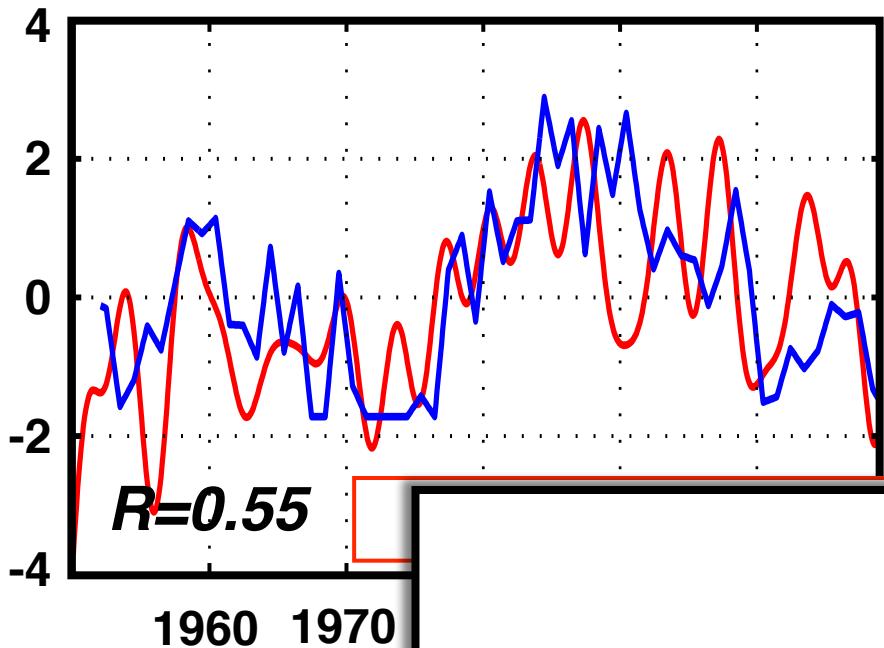
# *Nyctiphanes simplex*



# *Nyctiphanes simplex*



## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



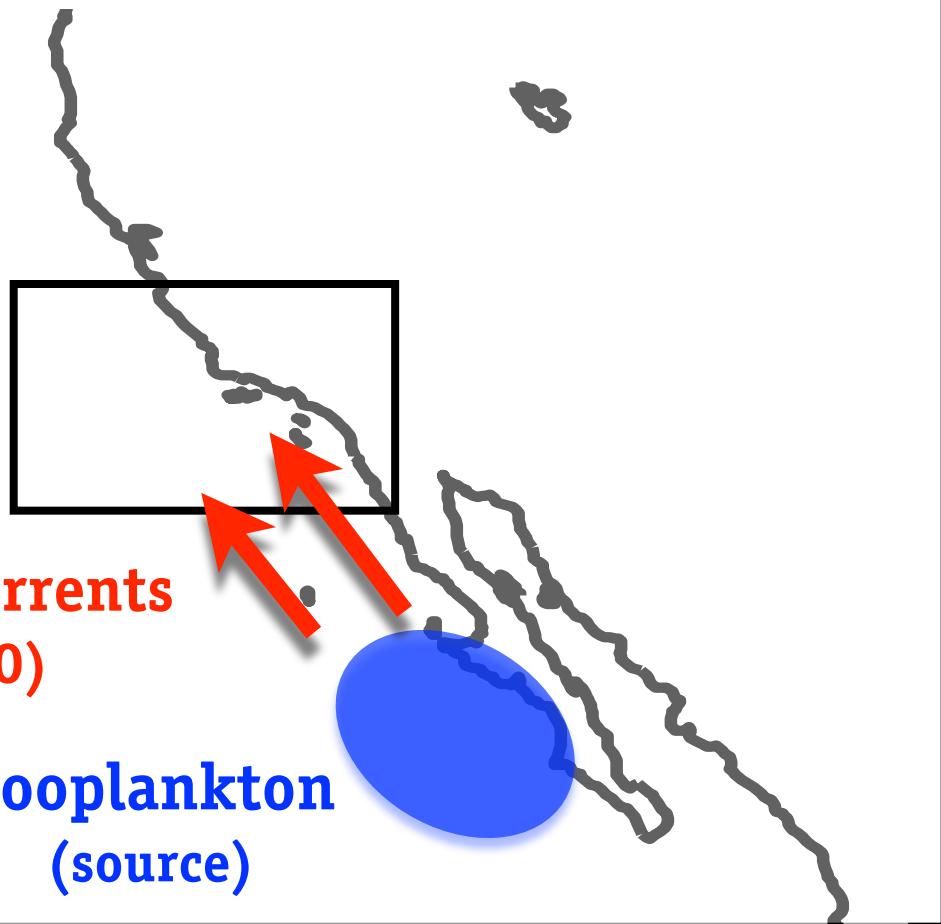
Process Model

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = PDO(t)$$

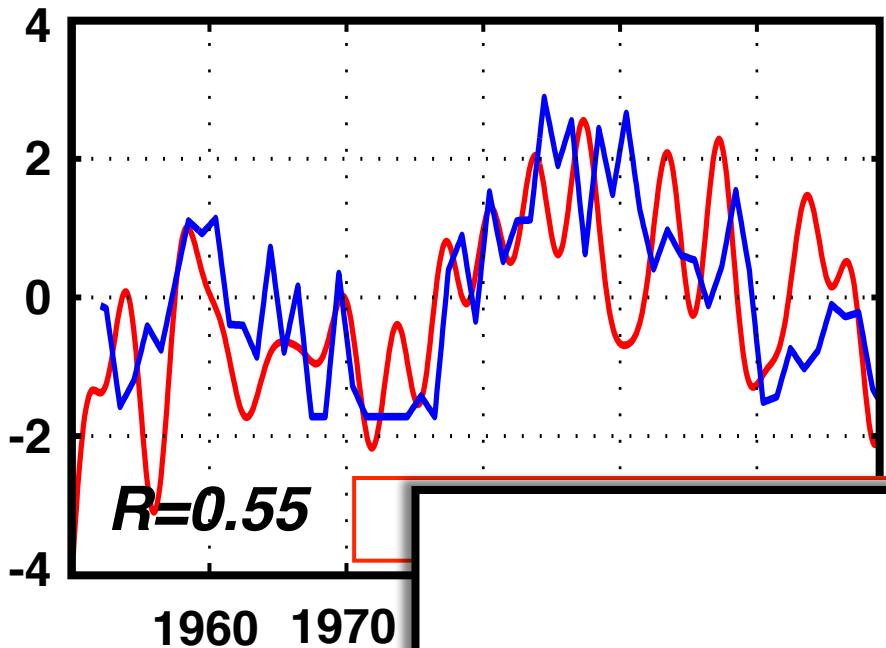
Sampling Area

Ocean Currents  
(+PDO)

Zooplankton  
(source)



## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



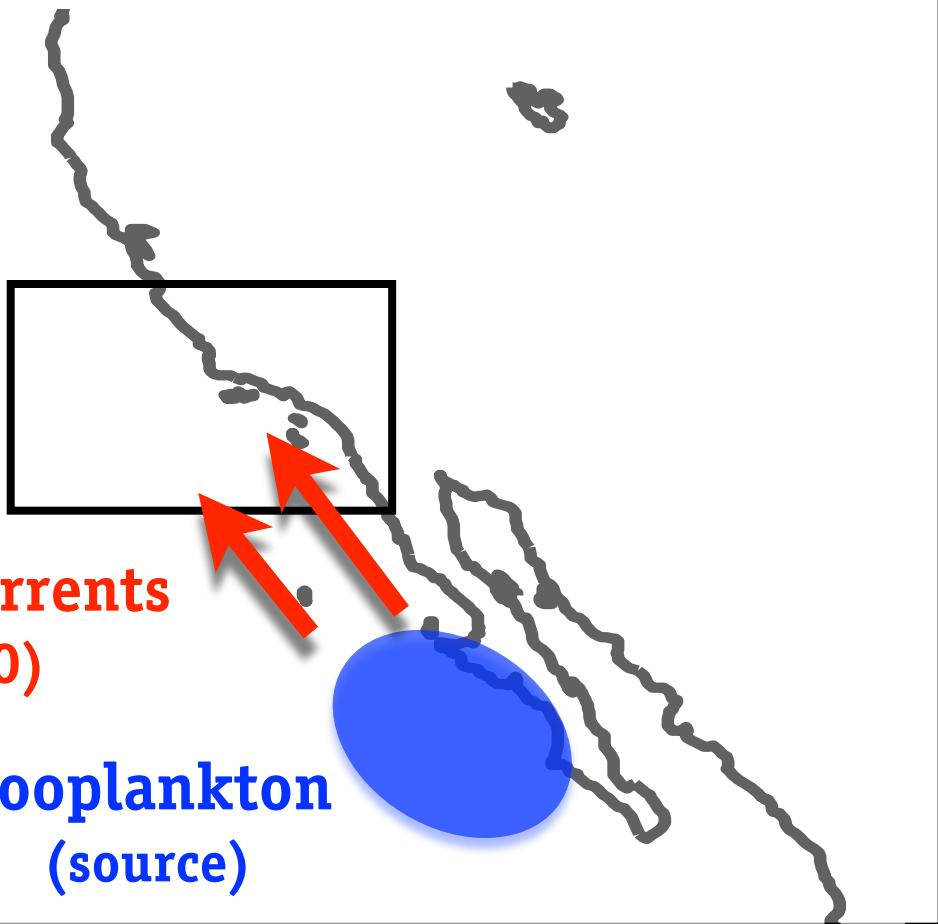
Process Model

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = PDO(t) - \frac{Z(t)}{\tau_Z}$$

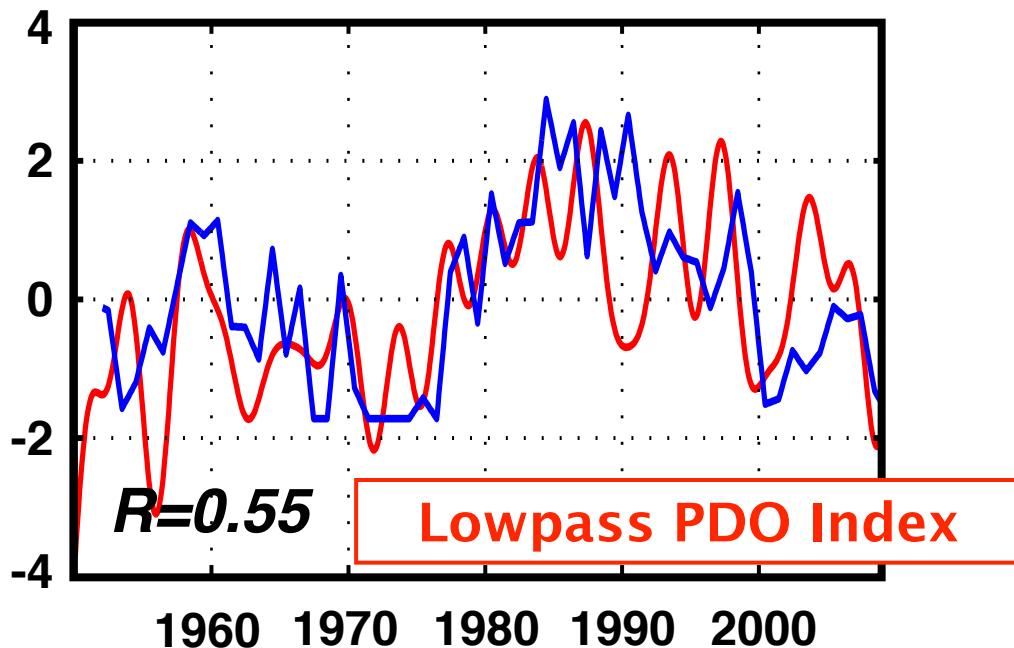
Sampling Area

Currents  
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Zooplankton  
(source)



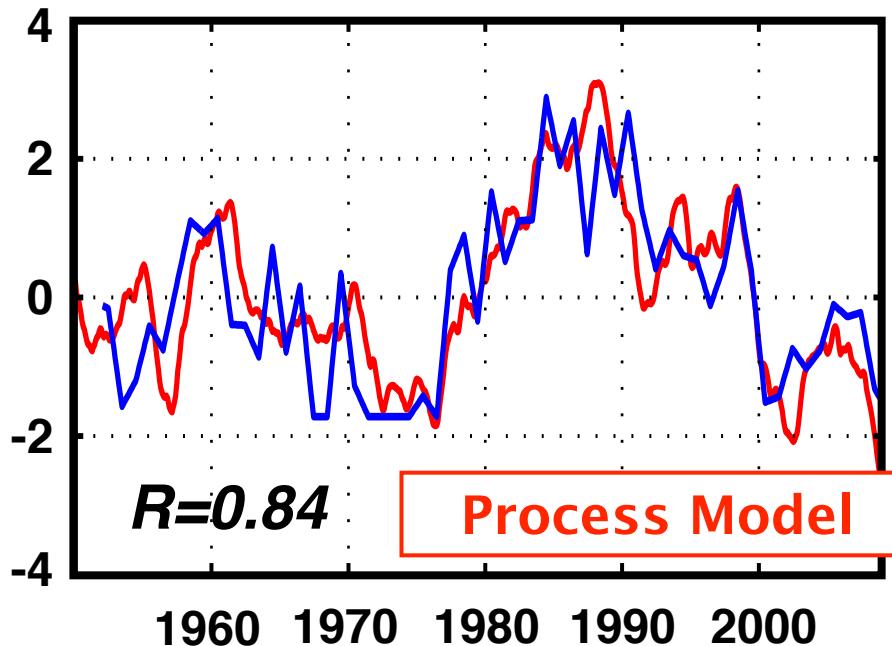
## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



Process Model (AR1 Model)

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = PDO(t) - \frac{Z(t)}{\tau_Z}$$

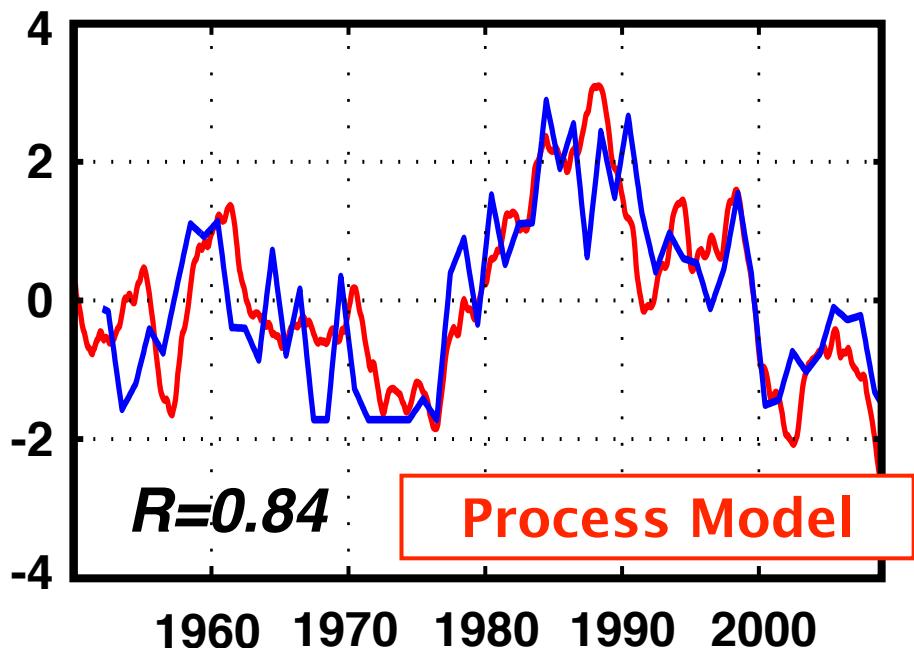
## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



Process Model (AR1 Model)

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = PDO(t) - \frac{Z(t)}{\tau_Z}$$

## *Nyctiphantes simplex*

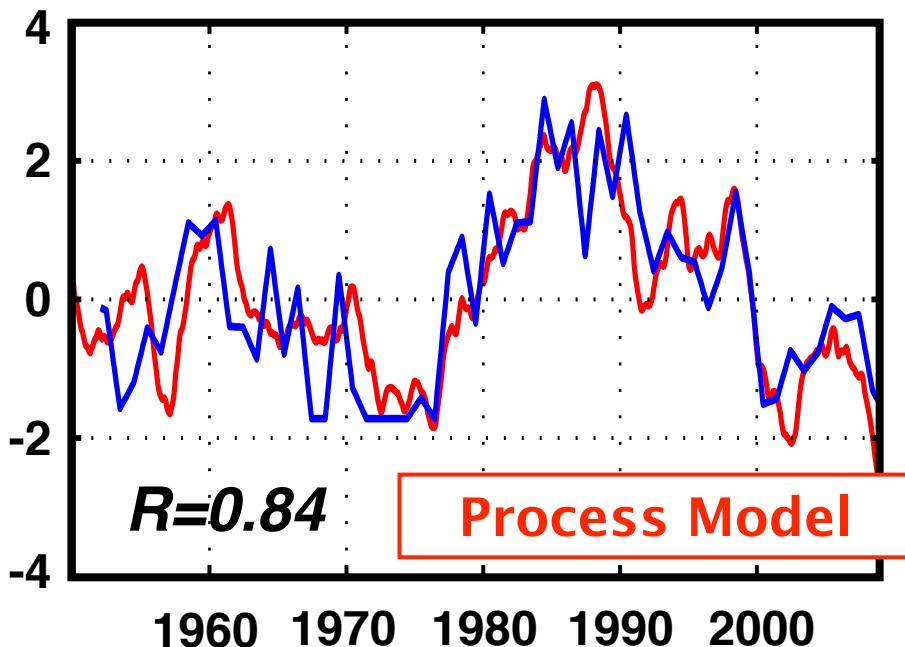


Atmospheric  
Forcing  
Aleutian Low

Process Model (AR1 Model)

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = PDO(t) - \frac{Z(t)}{\tau_Z}$$

## *Nyctiphantes simplex*



Atmospheric  
Forcing

Aleutian Low

1 x  
integration

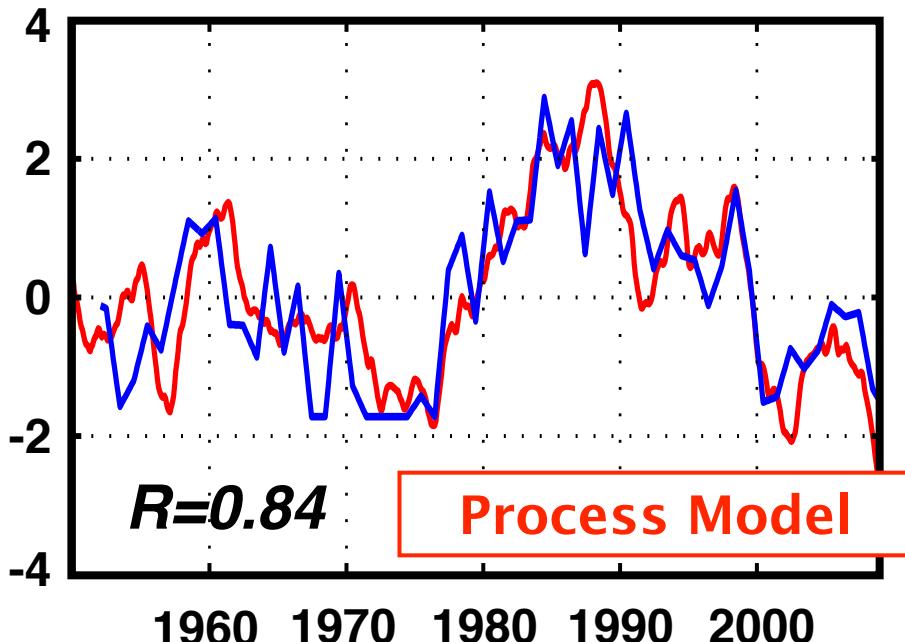
Ocean Transport

Pacific Decadal Oscillation

Process Model (AR1 Model)

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = PDO(t) - \frac{Z(t)}{\tau_Z}$$

## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



Process Model (AR1 Model)

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = PDO(t) - \frac{Z(t)}{\tau_Z}$$

Atmospheric  
Forcing

Aleutian Low

1 x  
integration

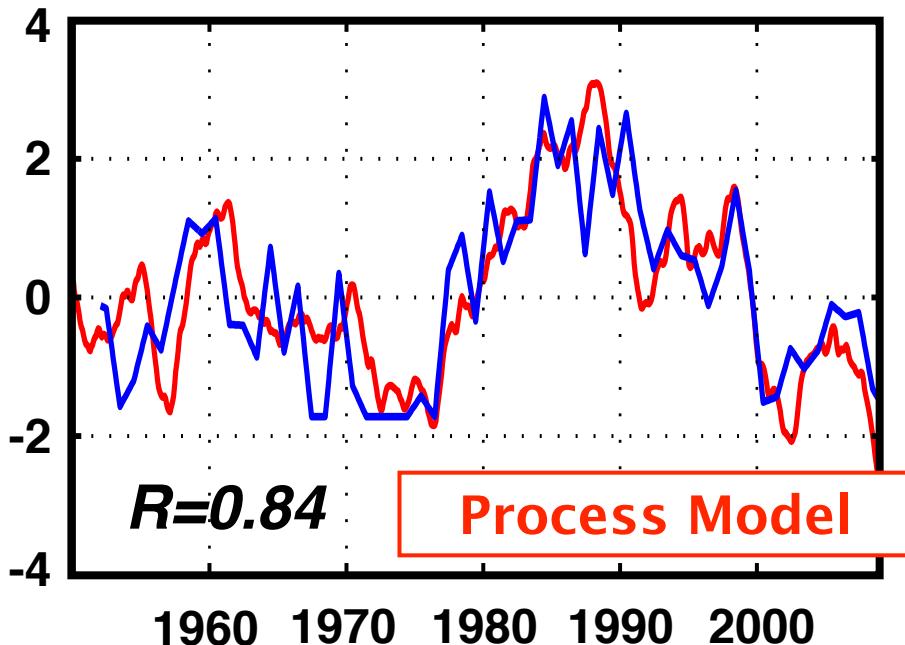
Ocean Transport

Pacific Decadal Oscillation

2 x  
integration

Zooplankton

## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



Process Model (AR1 Model)

null hypothesis for  
ecosystem low-frequency  
variability

Atmospheric  
Forcing

Aleutian Low

1 x  
integration

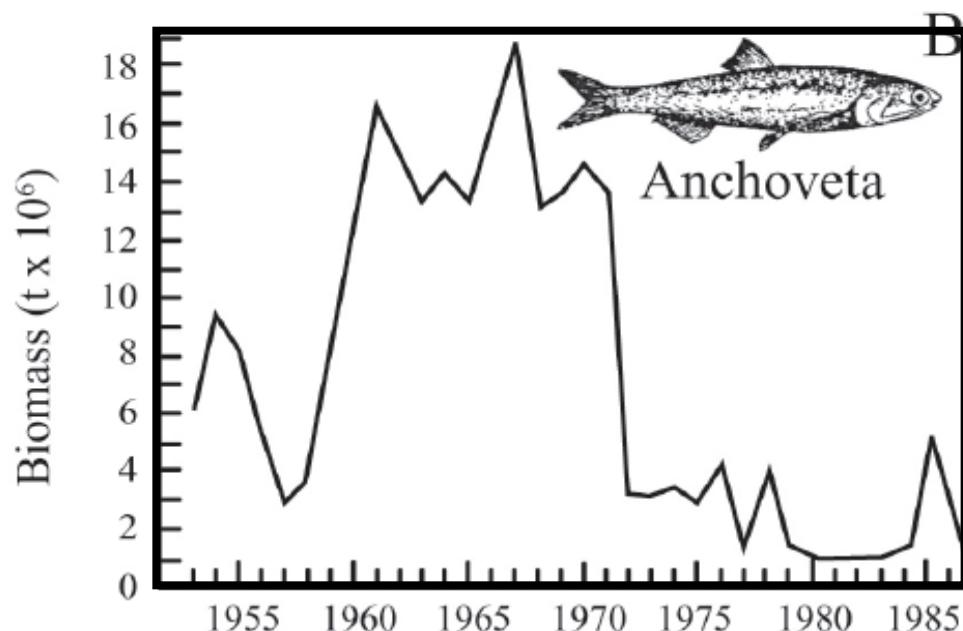
Ocean Transport

Pacific Decadal Oscillation

2 x  
integration

Zooplankton

## Anchoveta



Process Model (AR1 Model)

null hypothesis for  
ecosystem low-frequency  
variability

Atmospheric  
Forcing

Aleutian Low

1 x  
integration

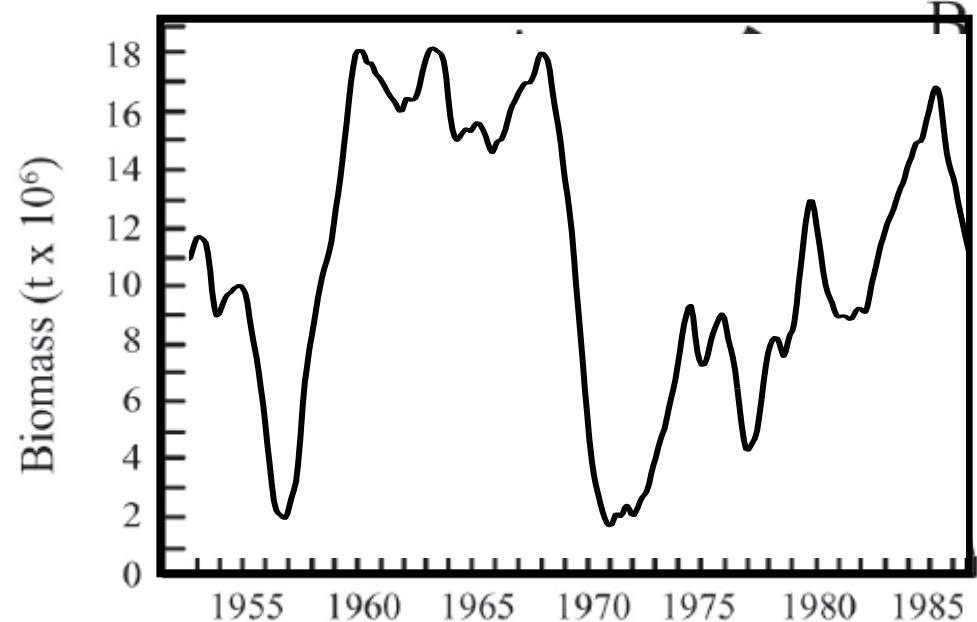
Ocean Transport

Pacific Decadal Oscillation

2 x  
integration

FISH ?

## synthetic fish from 2 x integration



Process Model (AR1 Model)

null hypothesis for  
ecosystem low-frequency  
variability

Atmospheric  
Forcing  
Aleutian Low

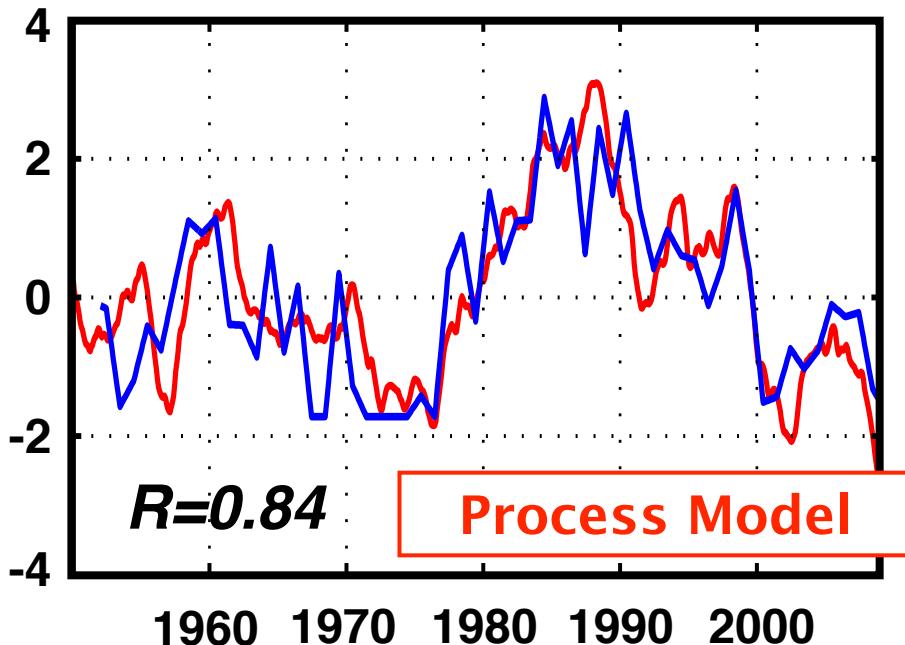
1 x  
integration

Ocean Transport  
Pacific Decadal Oscillation

2 x  
integration

FISH ?

## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



Process Model (AR1 Model)

null hypothesis for  
ecosystem low-frequency  
variability

Atmospheric  
Forcing

Aleutian Low

1 x  
integration

Ocean Transport

Pacific Decadal Oscillation

2 x  
integration

Zooplankton

*null hypothesis*  
for ecosystem species  
response to climate forcing

Atmospheric  
Forcing  
Aleutian Low

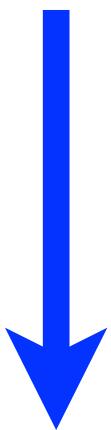
1 x  
integration

Ocean Transport  
Pacific Decadal Oscillation

2 x  
integration

*Zooplankton*

*null hypothesis*  
for ecosystem species  
response to climate forcing



decadal-scale smooth ecosystem  
*transitions & variability* can emerge  
from *cumulative integrations* of  
random climate forcing

Atmospheric  
Forcing  
Aleutian Low

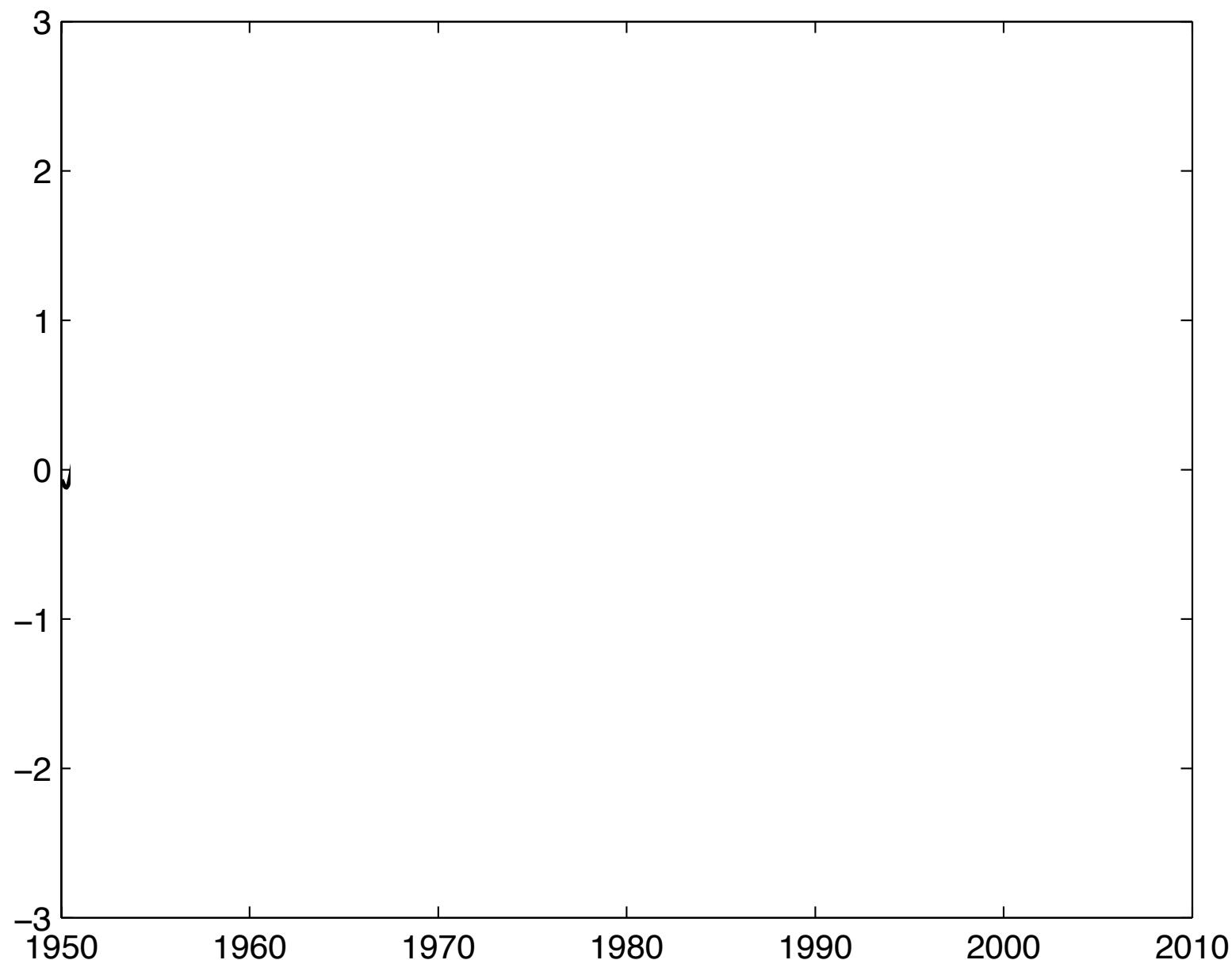
1 x  
integration

Ocean Transport  
Pacific Decadal Oscillation

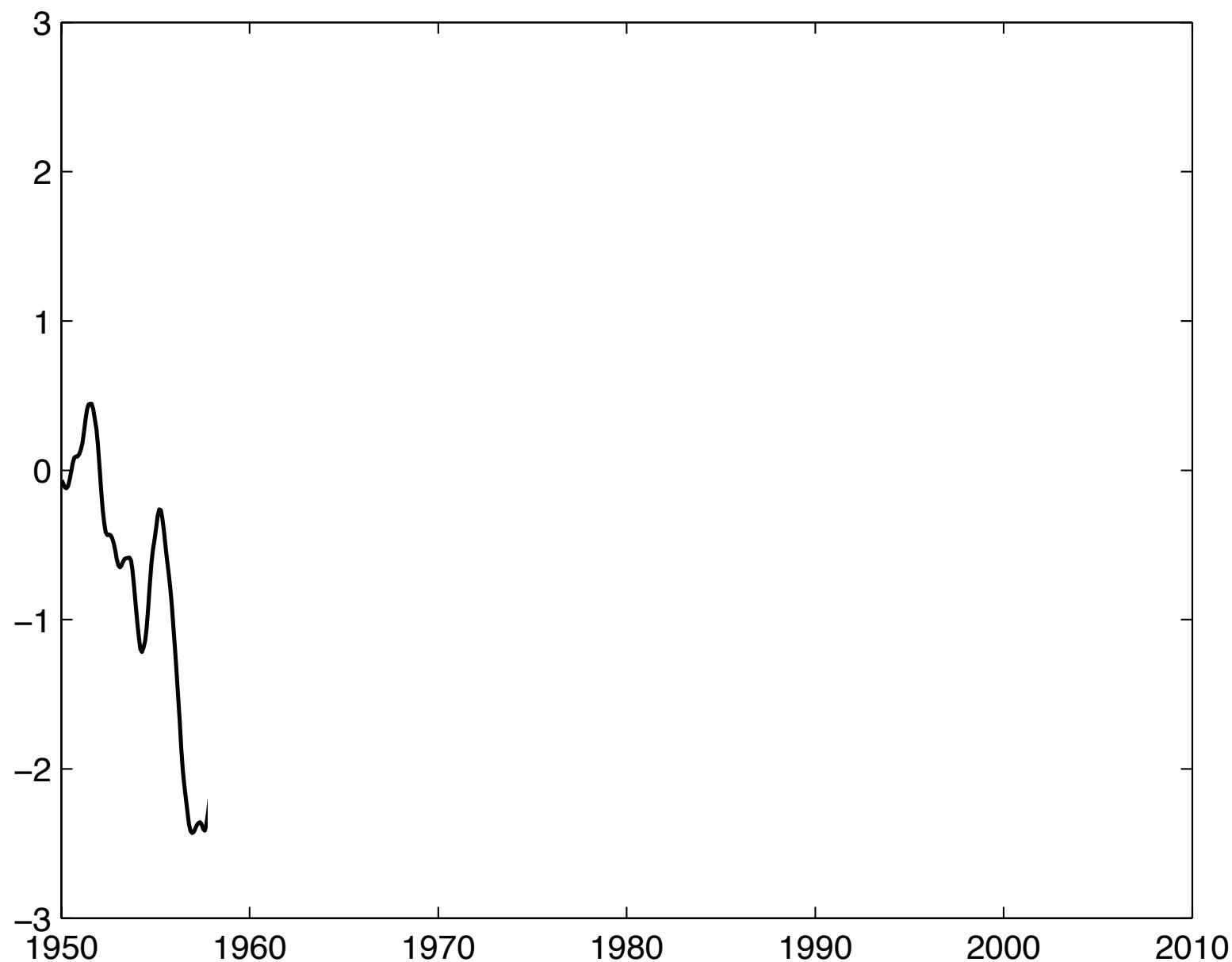
2 x  
integration

Zooplankton

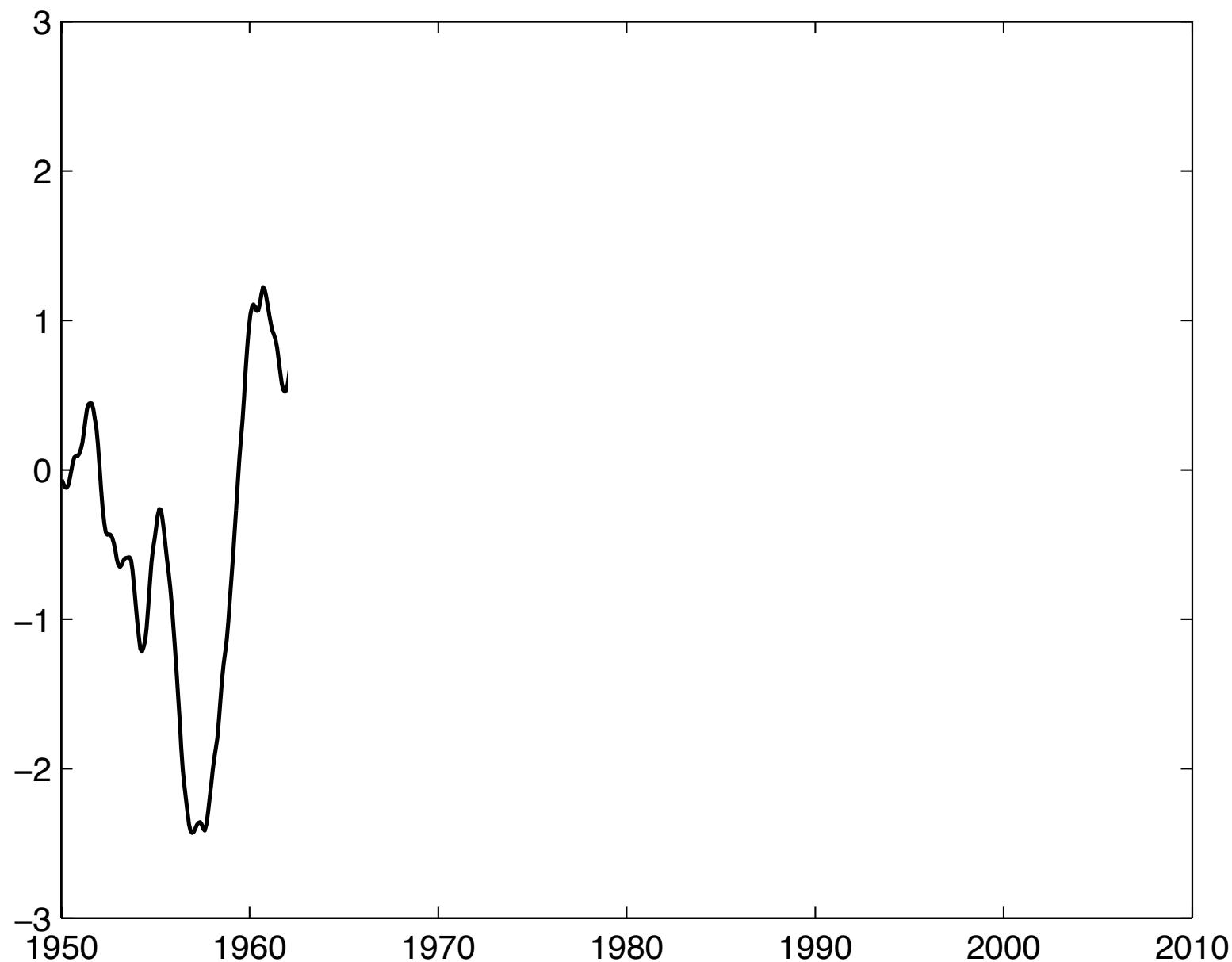
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



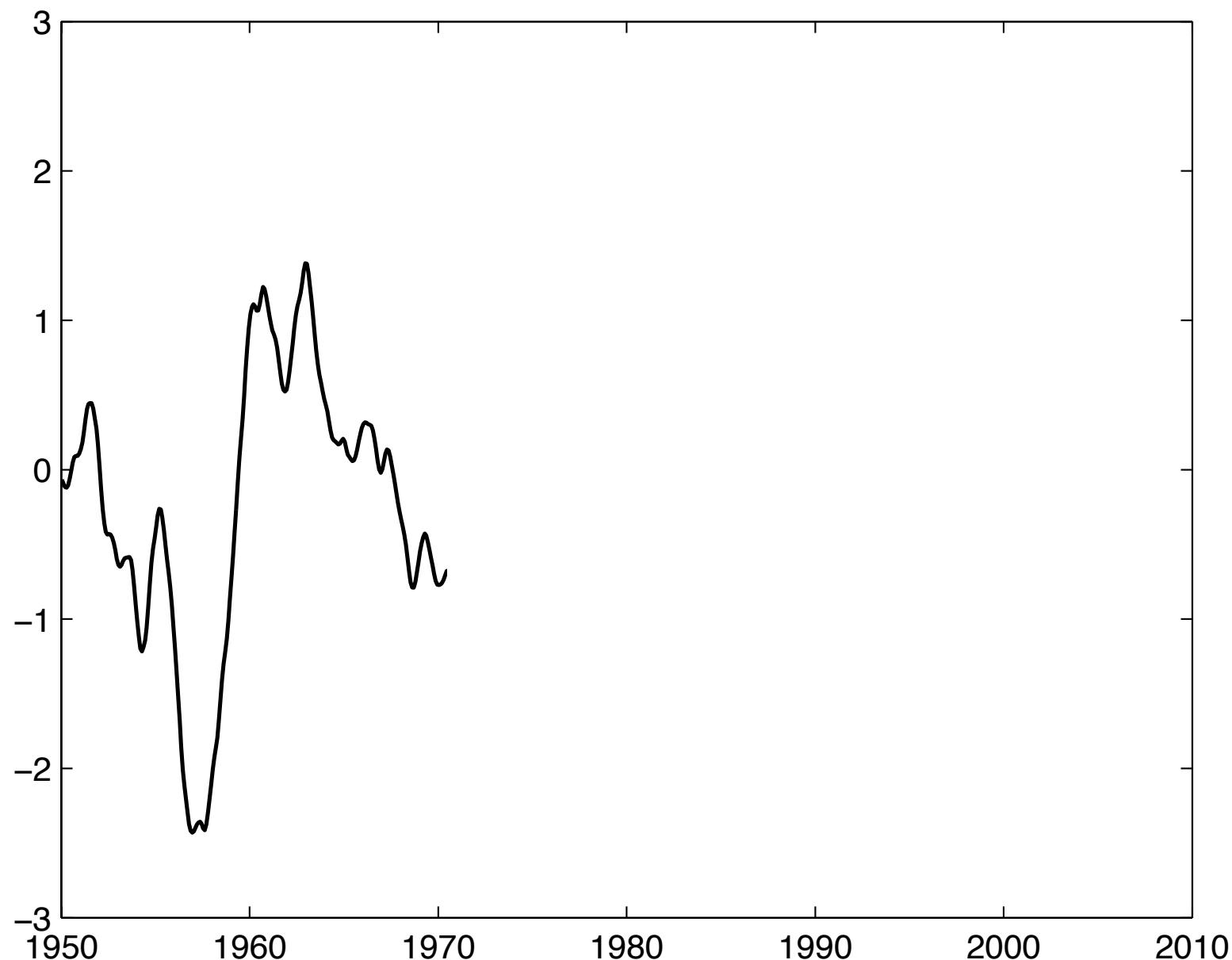
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



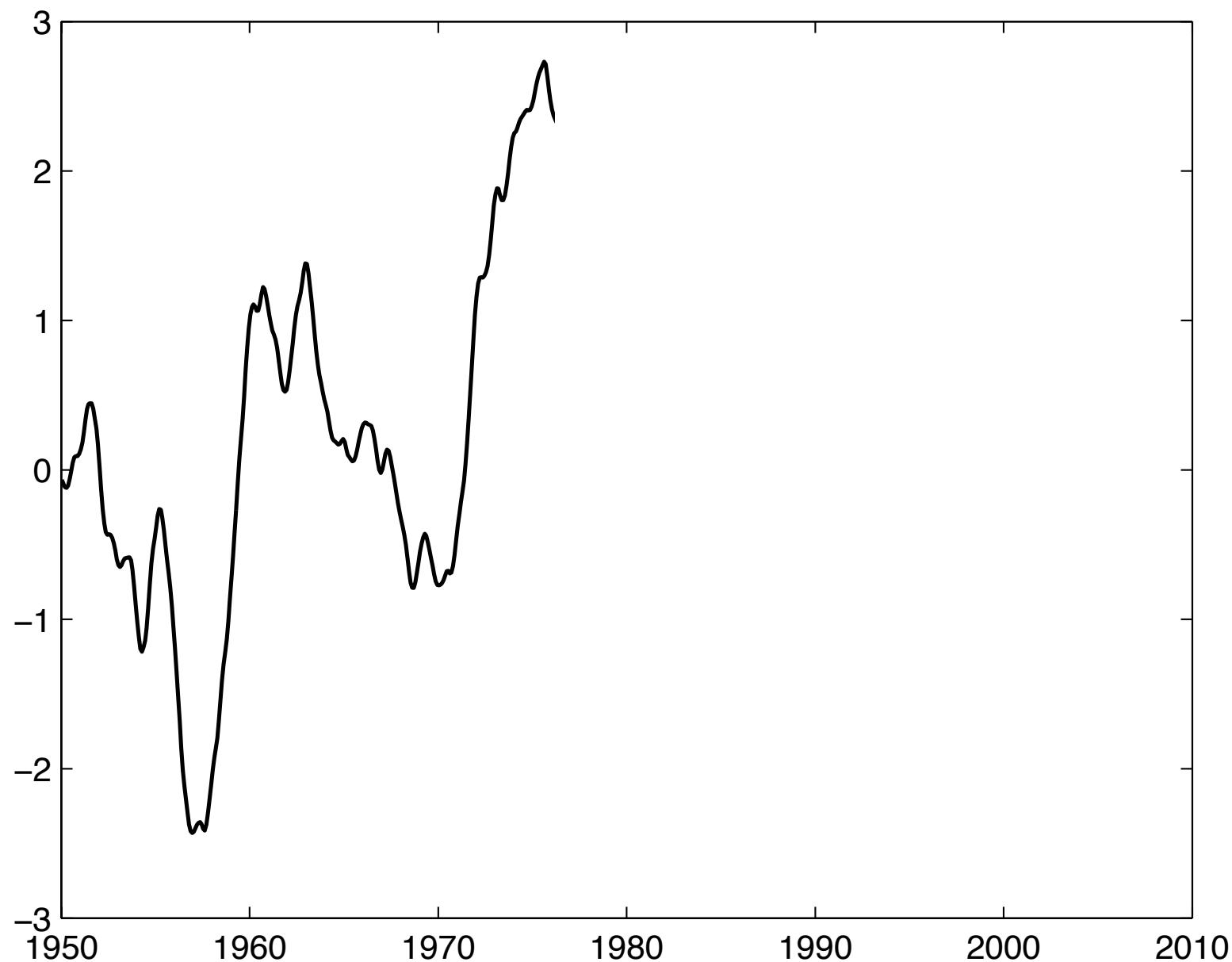
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



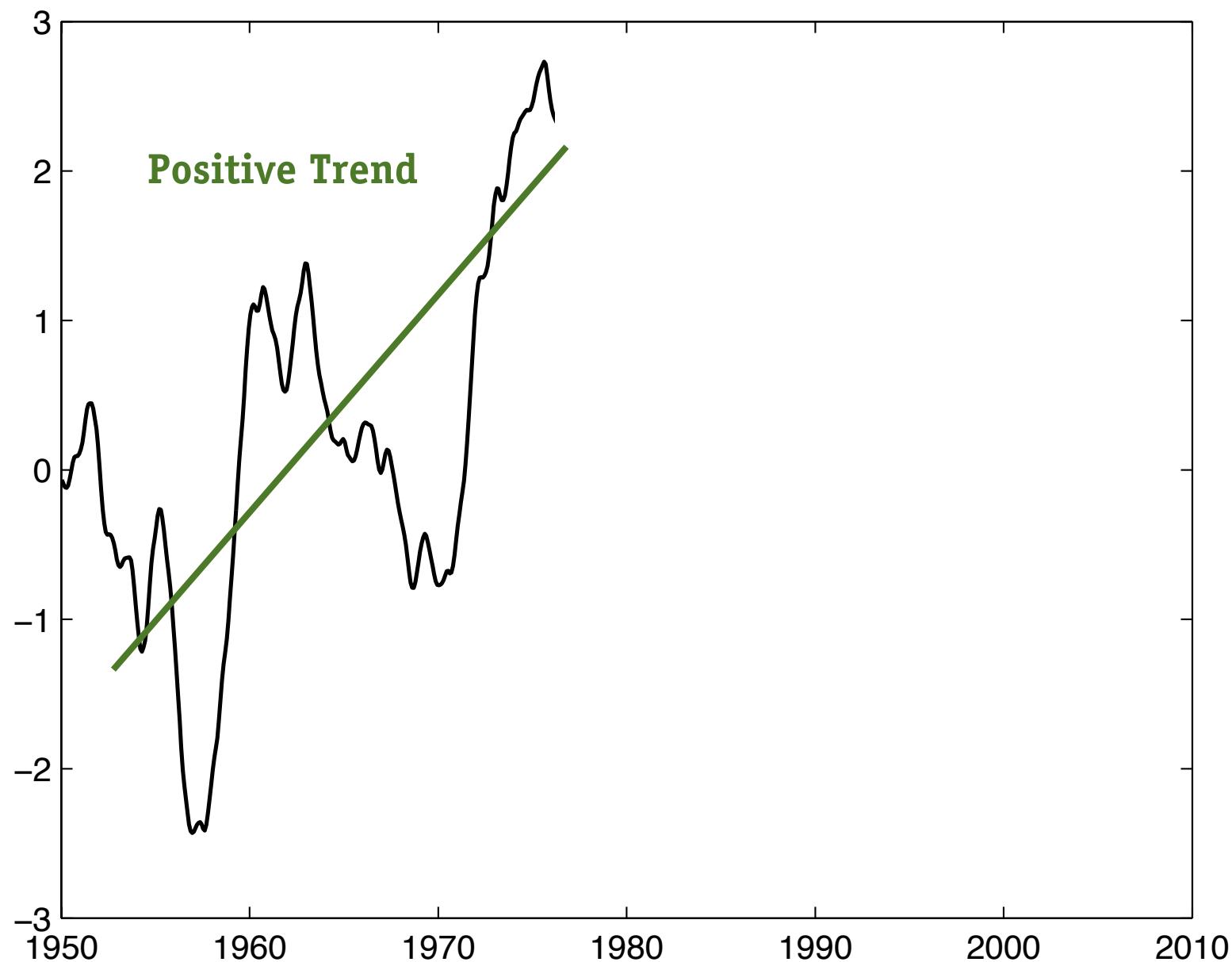
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



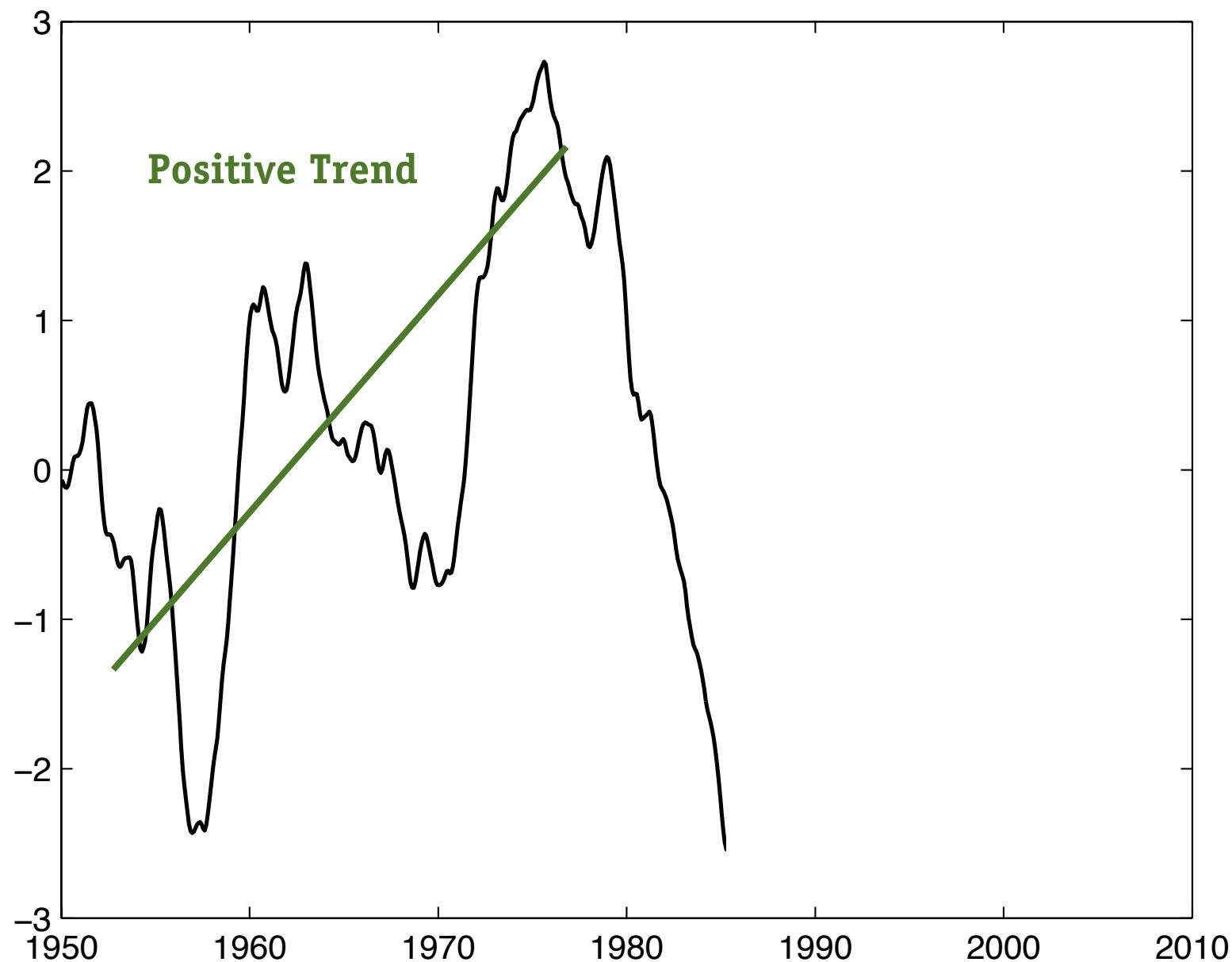
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



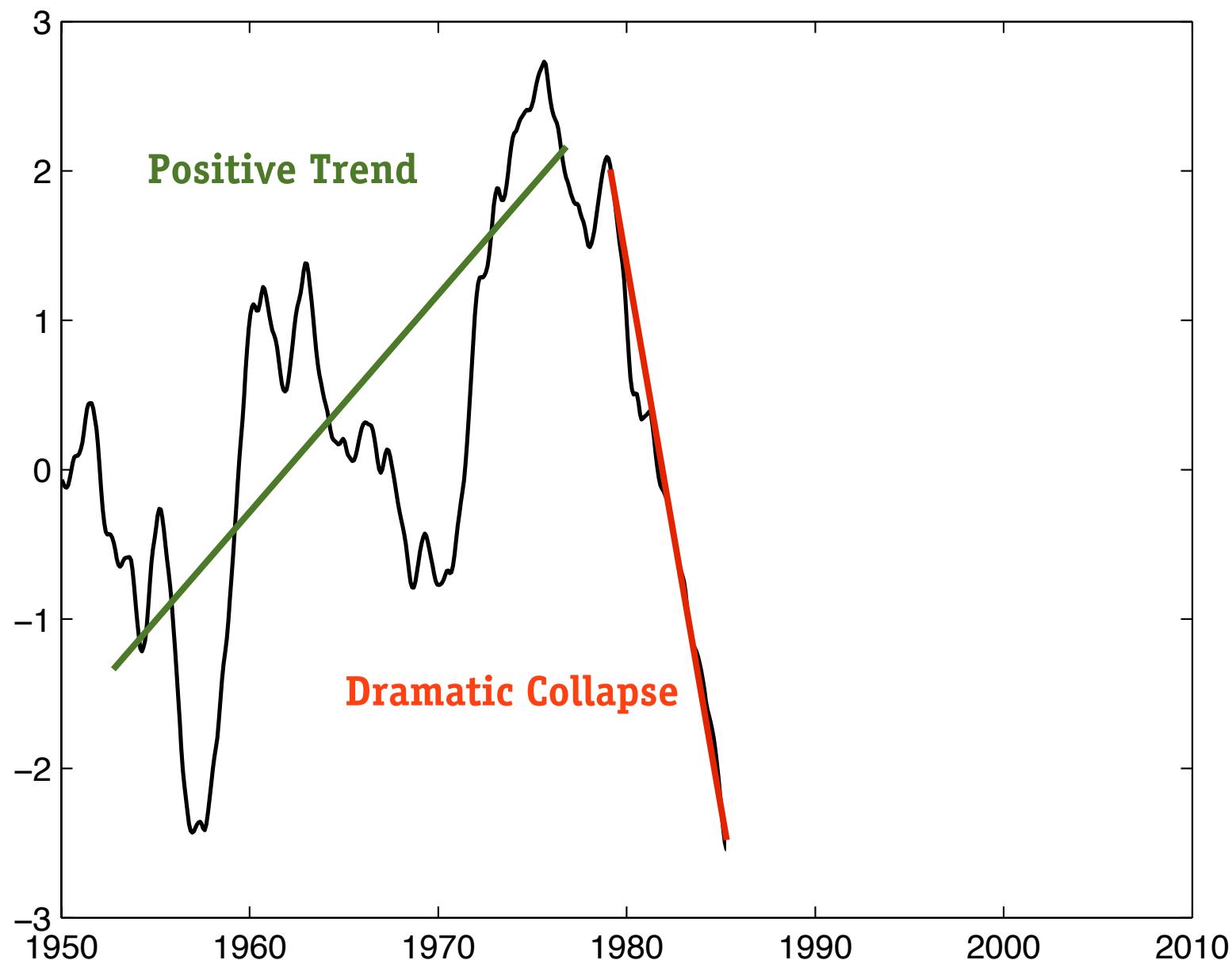
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



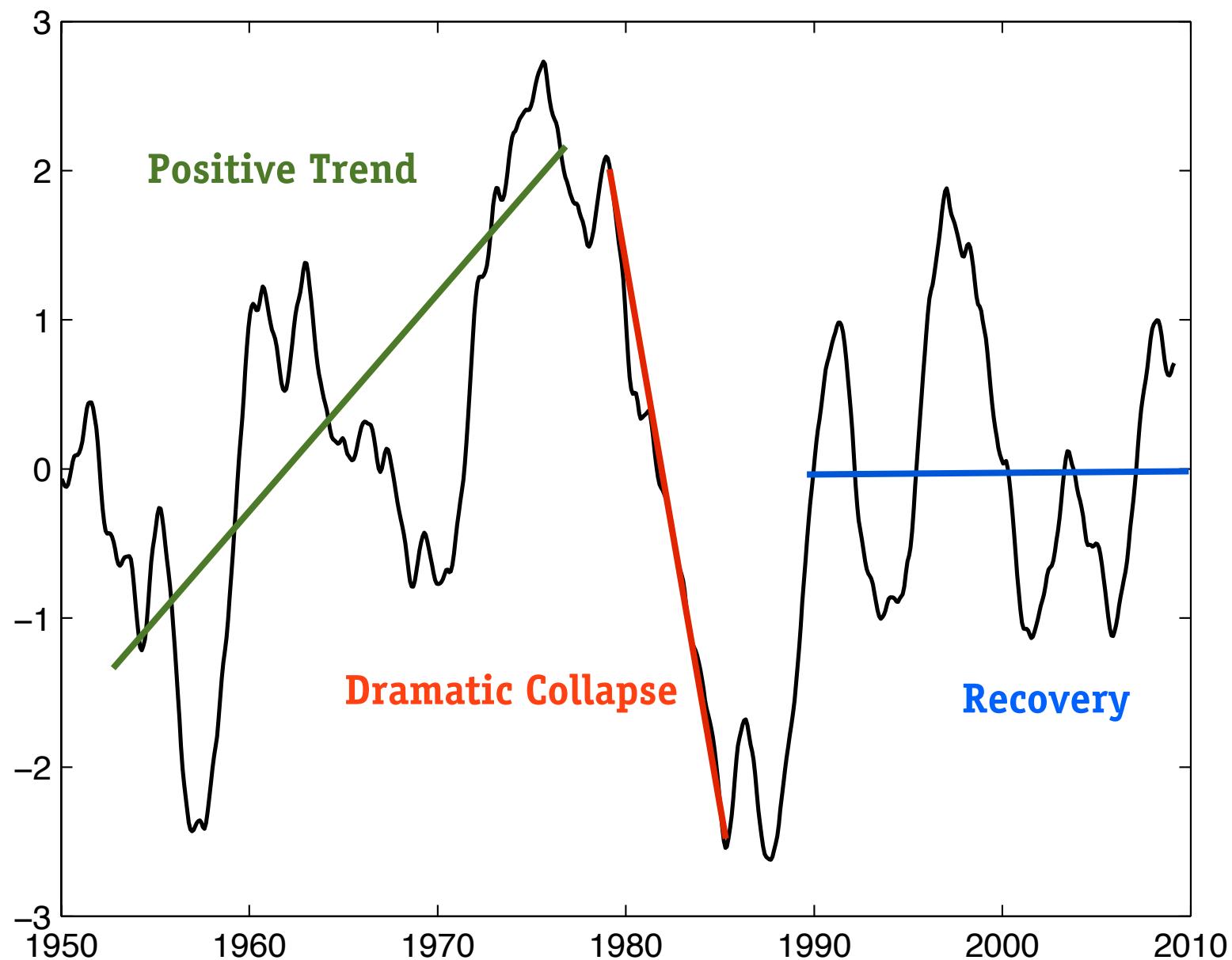
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



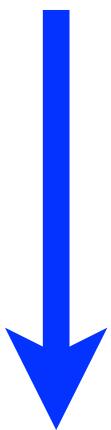
# Idealized Ecosystem Species



# Idealized Ecosystem Species



*null hypothesis*  
for ecosystem species  
response to climate forcing



decadal-scale smooth ecosystem  
*transitions & variability* can emerge  
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Atmospheric  
Forcing  
Aleutian Low

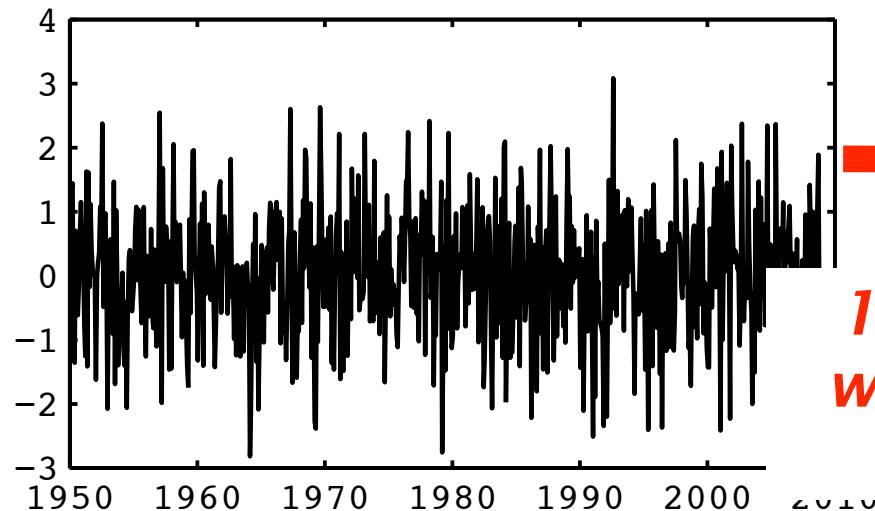
1 x  
integration

Ocean Transport  
Pacific Decadal Oscillation

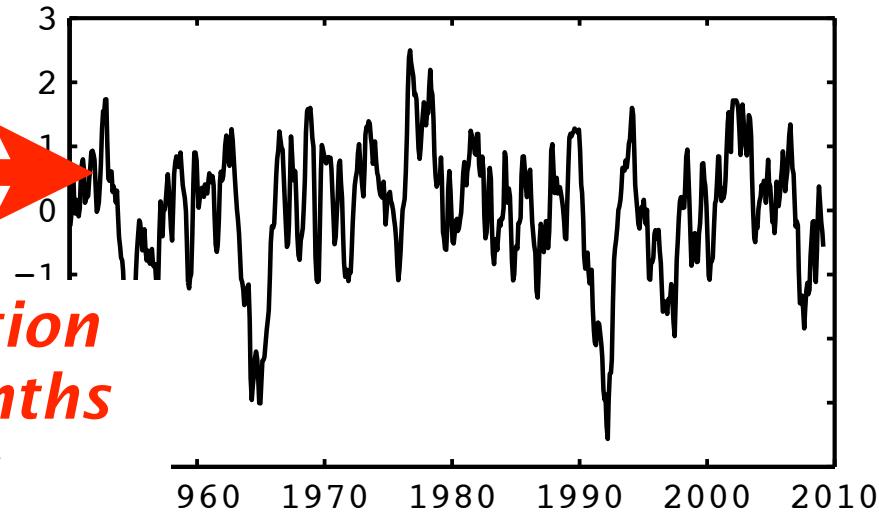
2 x  
integration

Zooplankton

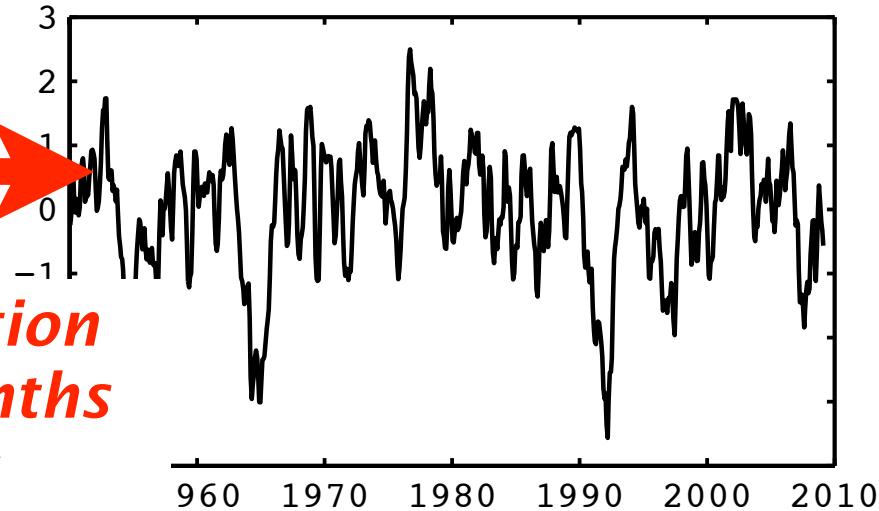
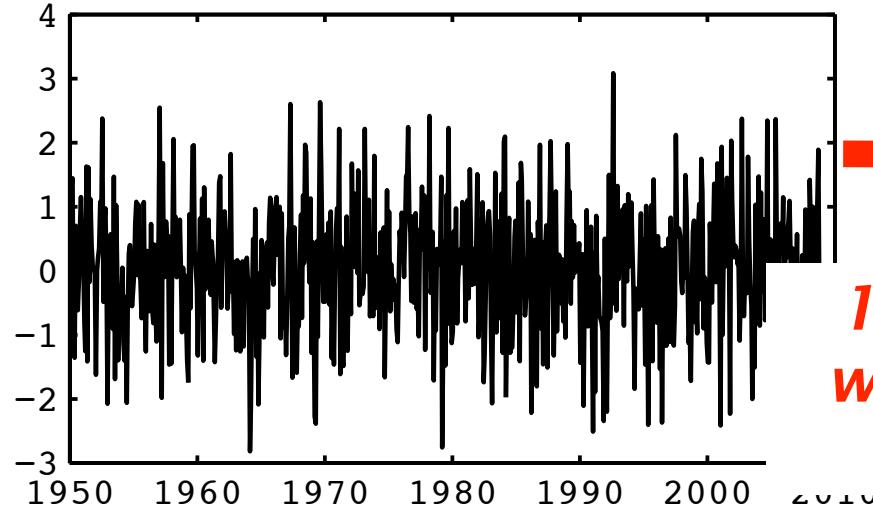
# *White Noise*



*1 x integration  
with 12 months  
memory*

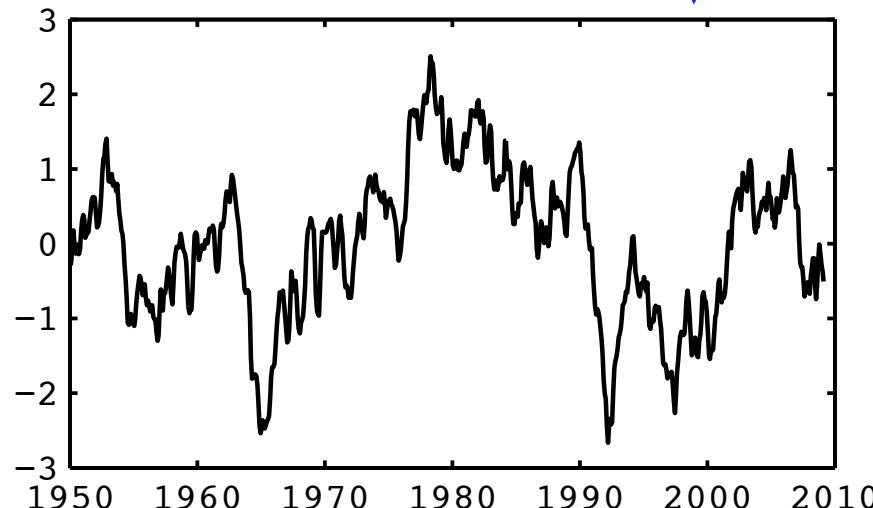


# *White Noise*

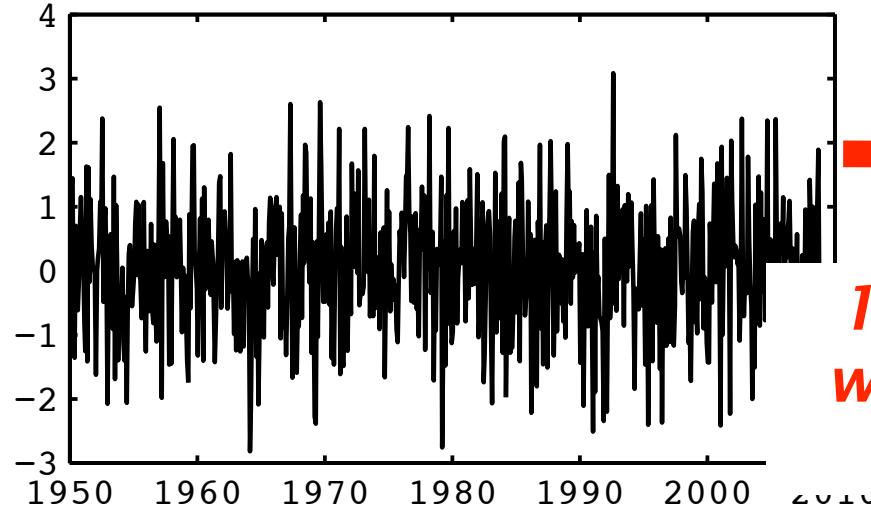


*1 x integration  
with 12 months  
memory*

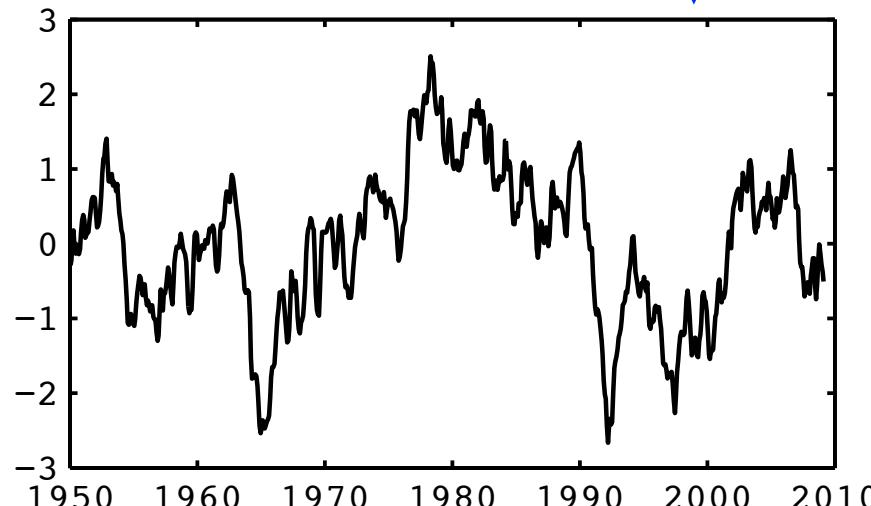
*1 x integration  
with infinite  
memory*



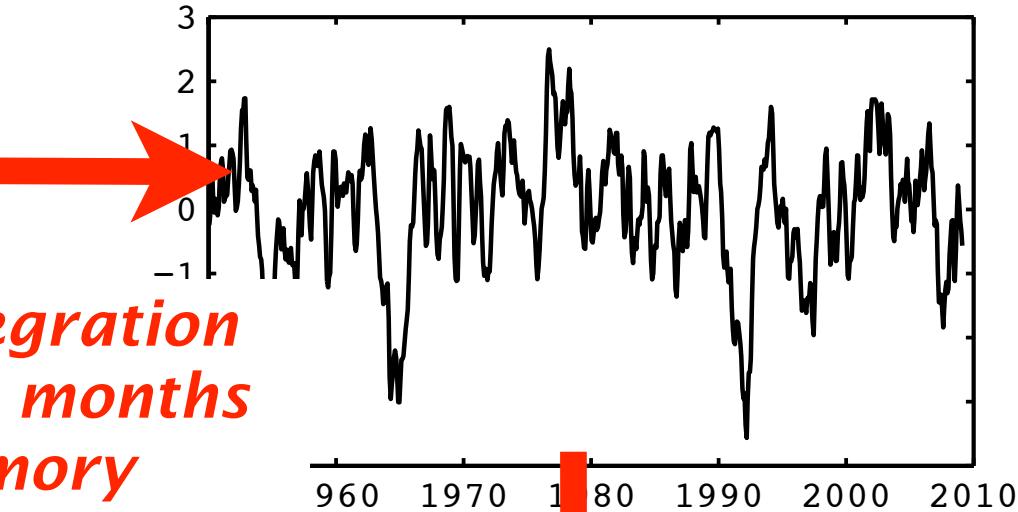
# *White Noise*



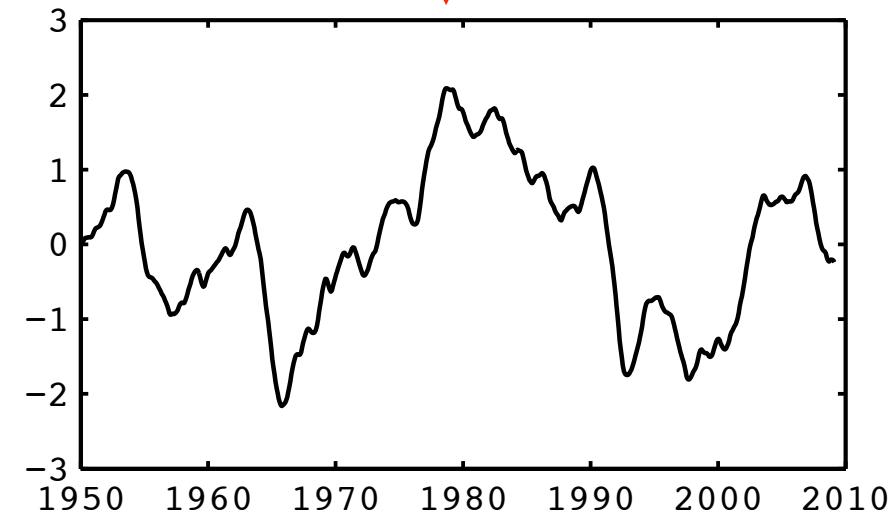
*1 x integration  
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*1 x integration  
with 12 months  
memory*

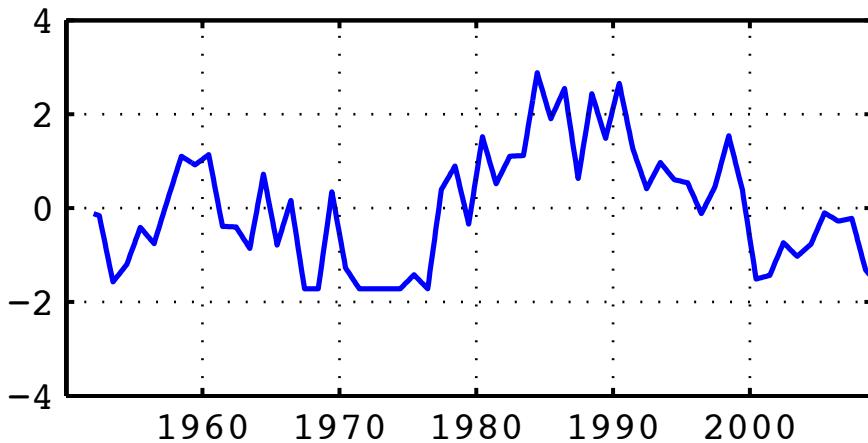


*2 x integration*

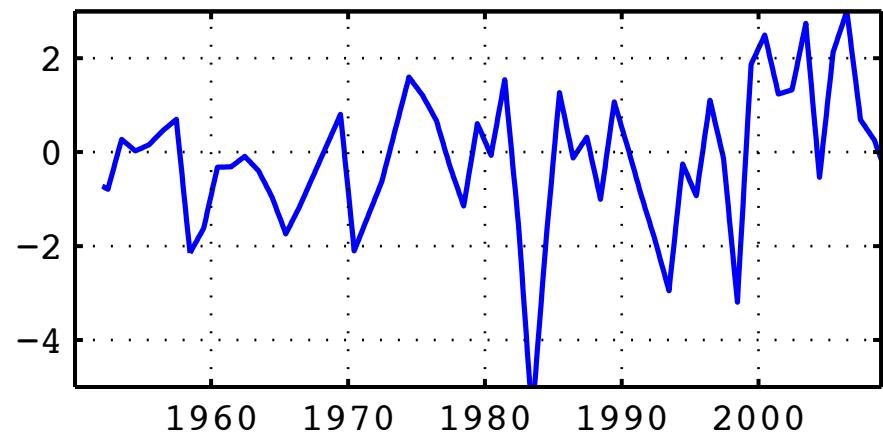


# **Comparison of Zooplankton**

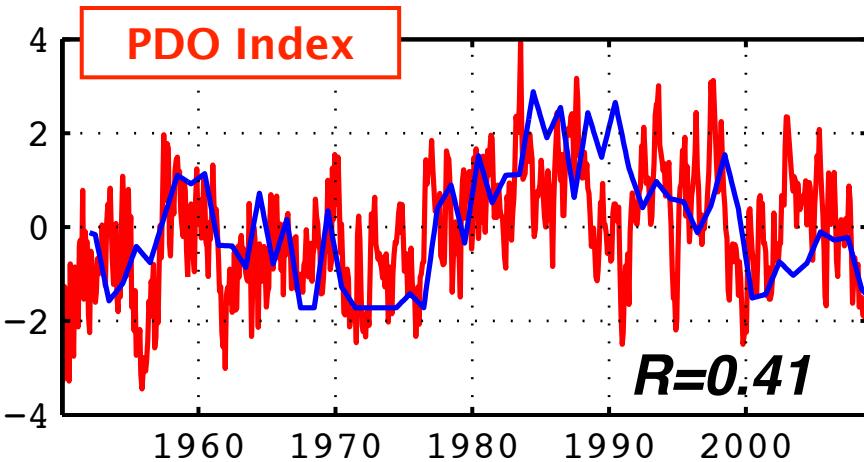
*Nyctiphanes simplex*



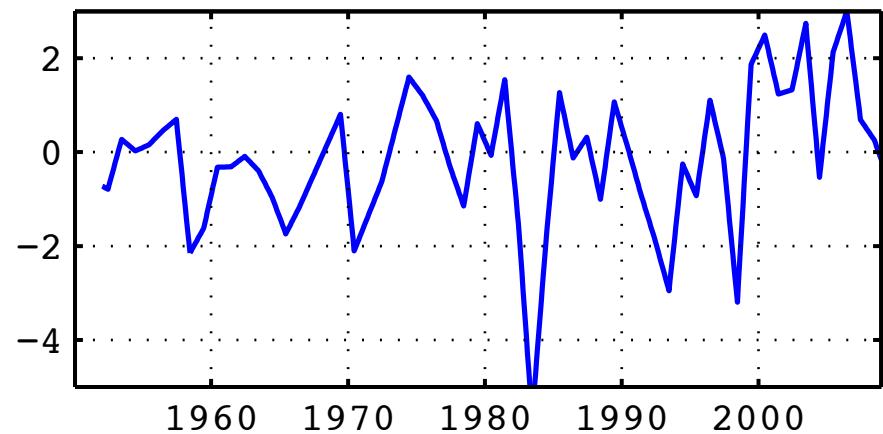
*Euphausia pacifica*



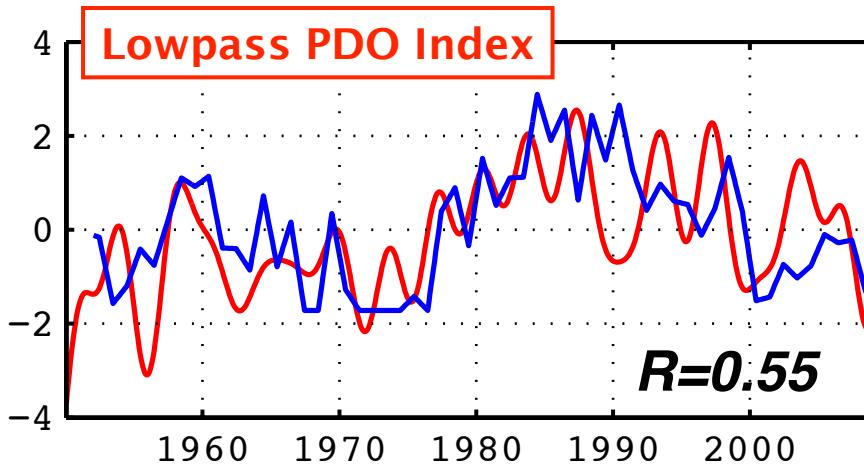
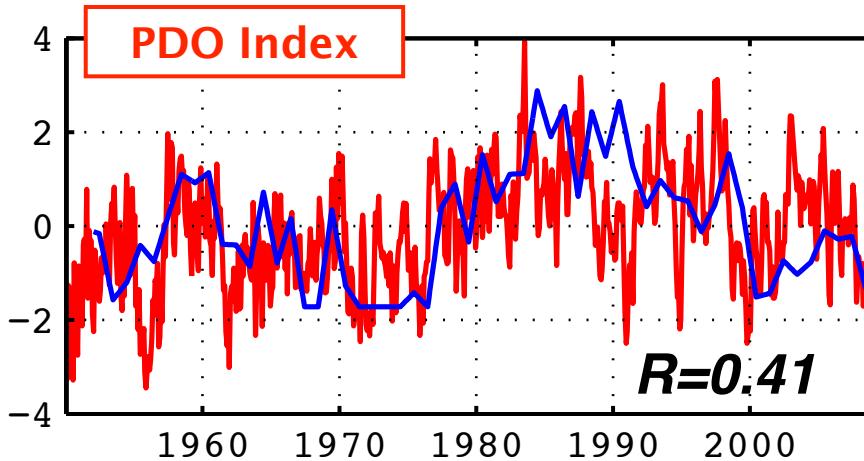
# *Nyctiphanes simplex*



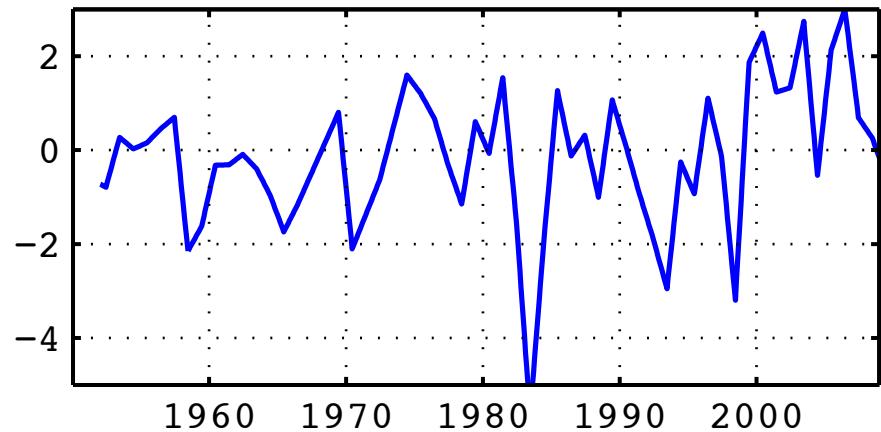
# *Euphausia pacifica*



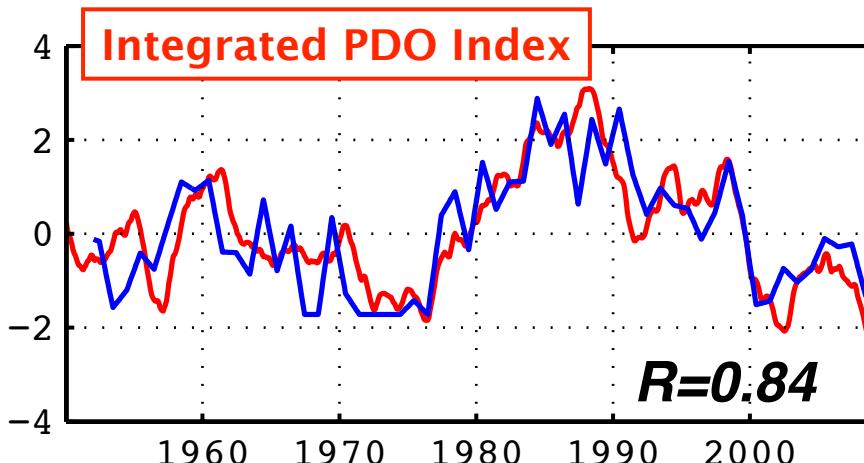
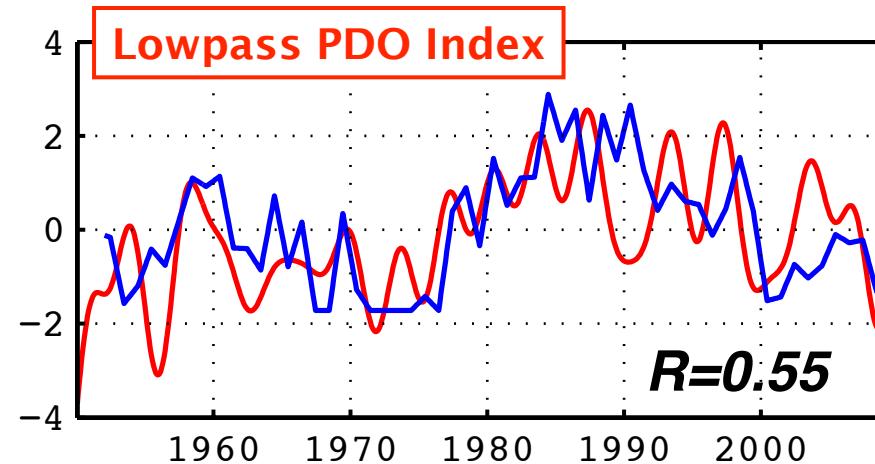
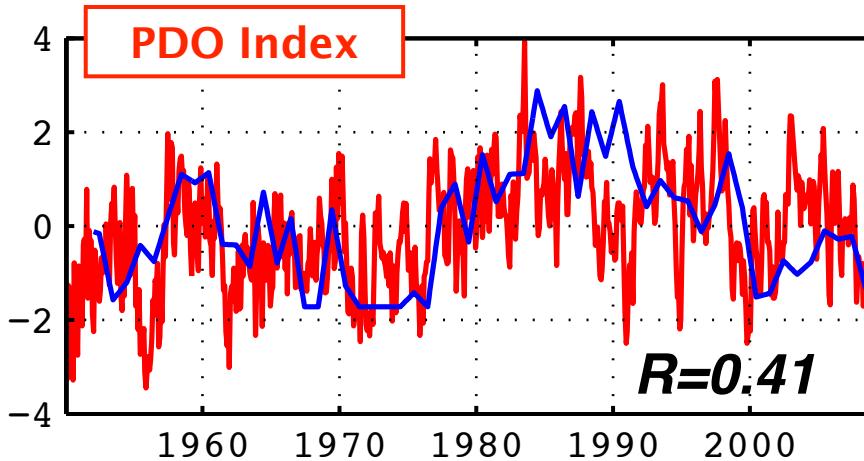
# *Nyctiphanes simplex*



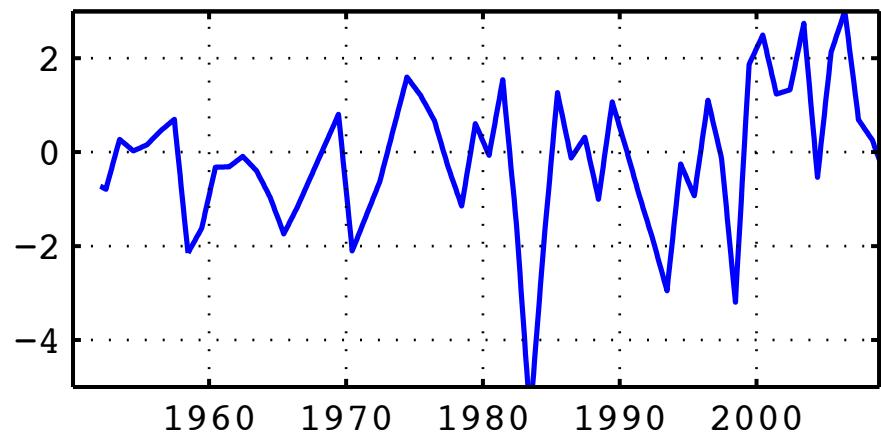
# *Euphausia pacifica*



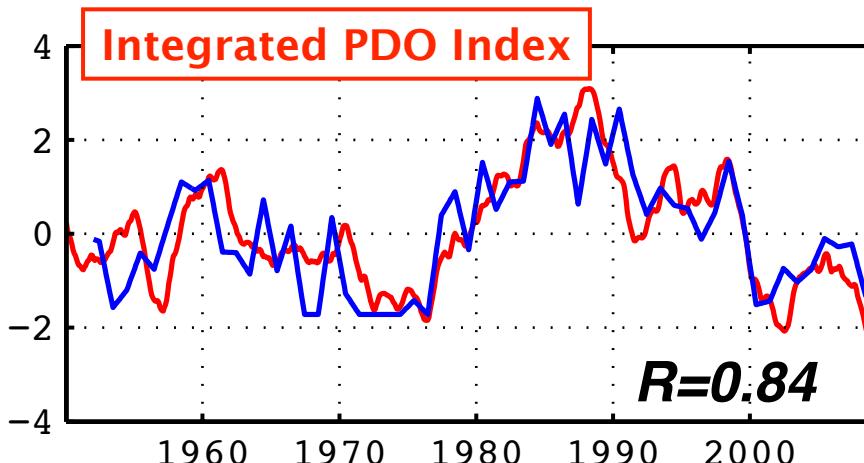
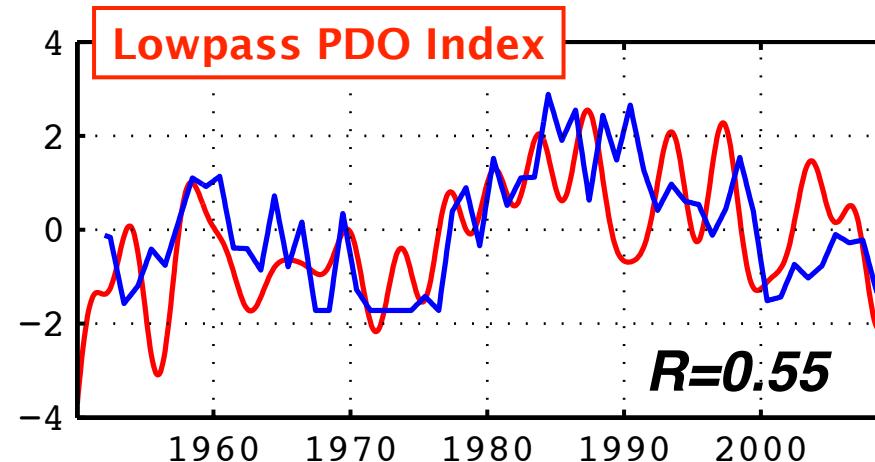
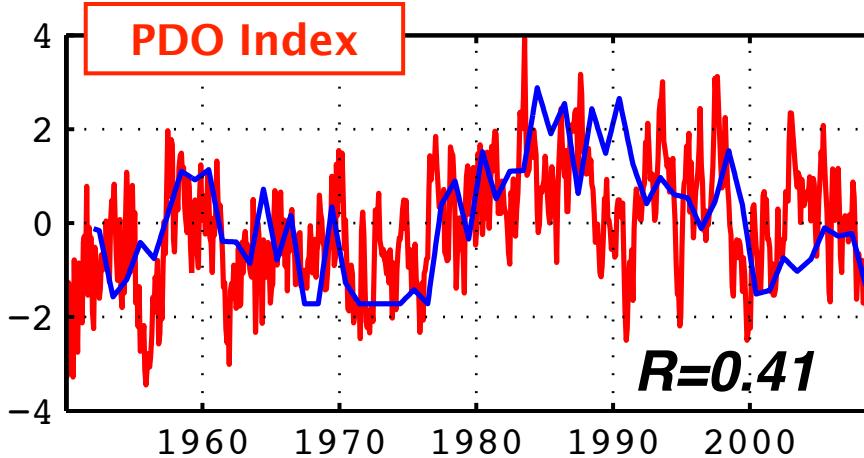
# *Nyctiphanes simplex*



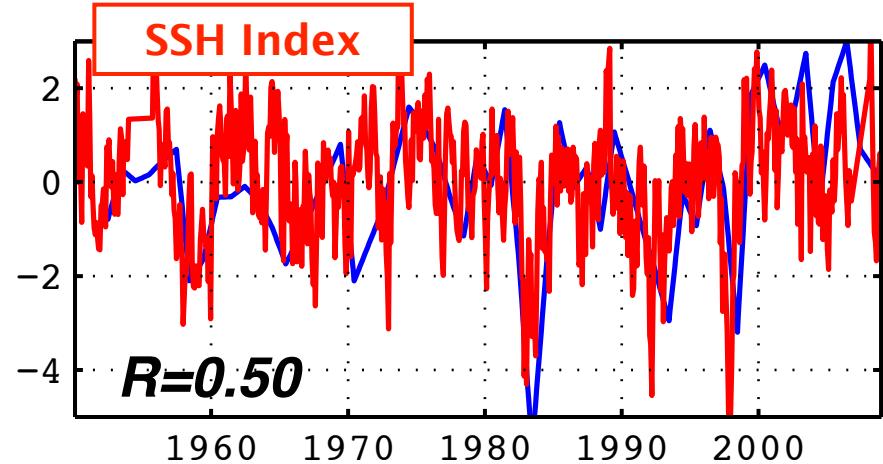
# *Euphausia pacifica*



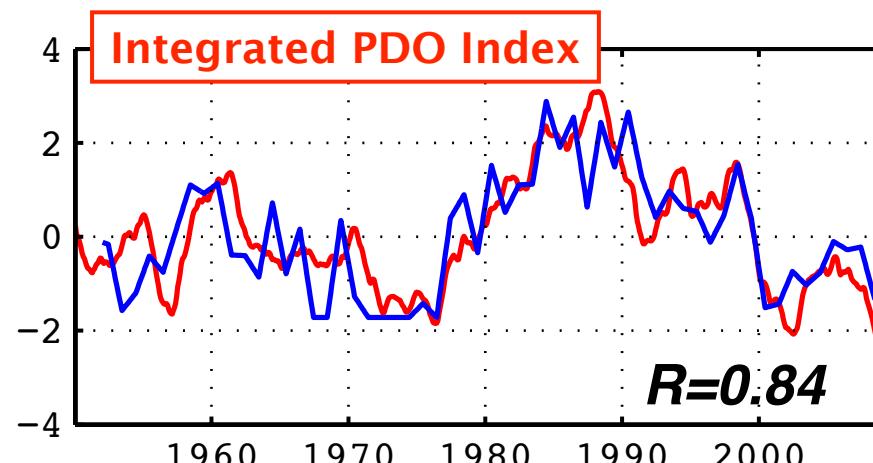
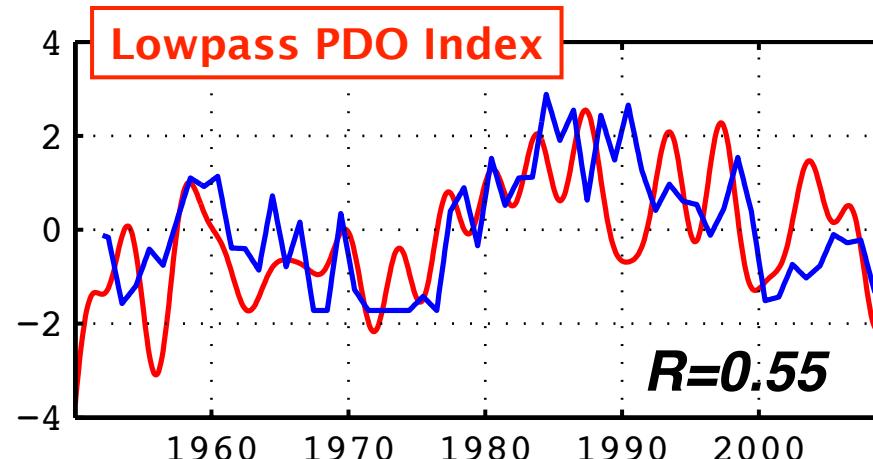
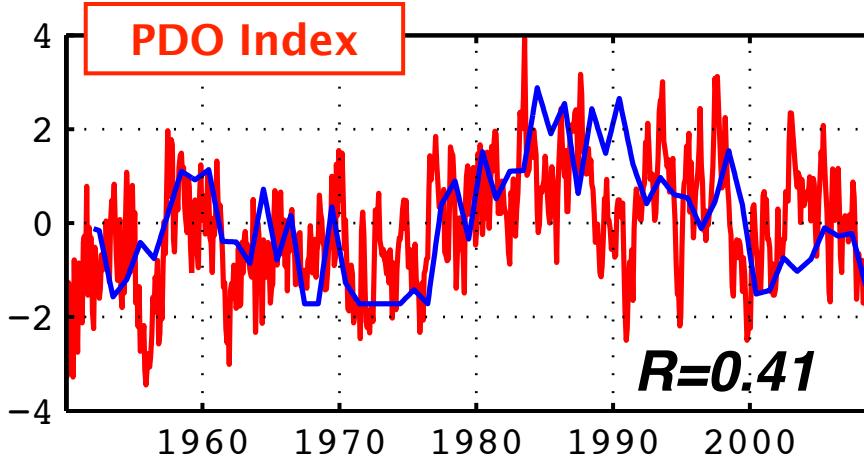
## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



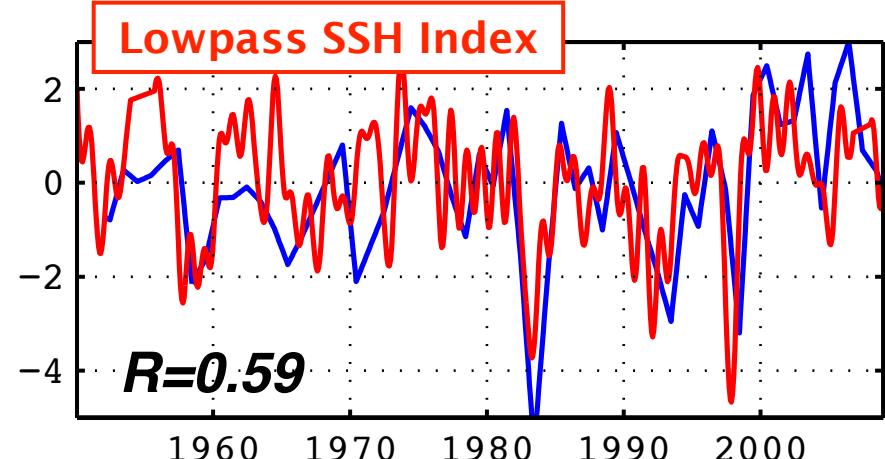
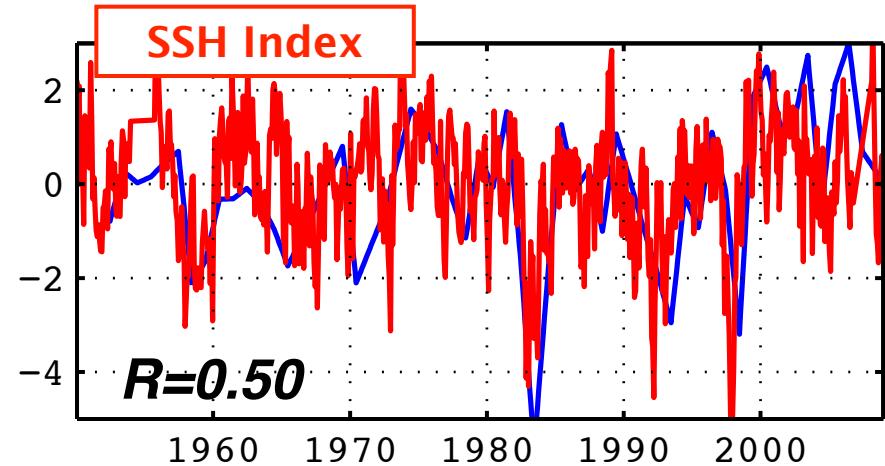
## *Euphausia pacifica*



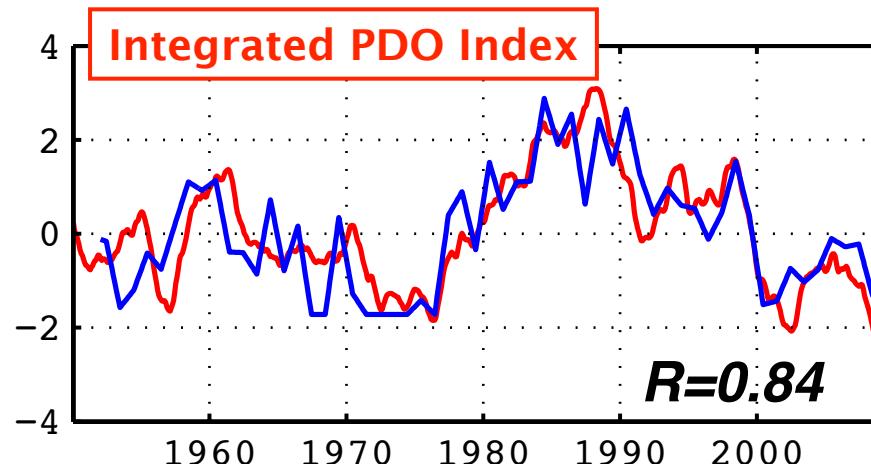
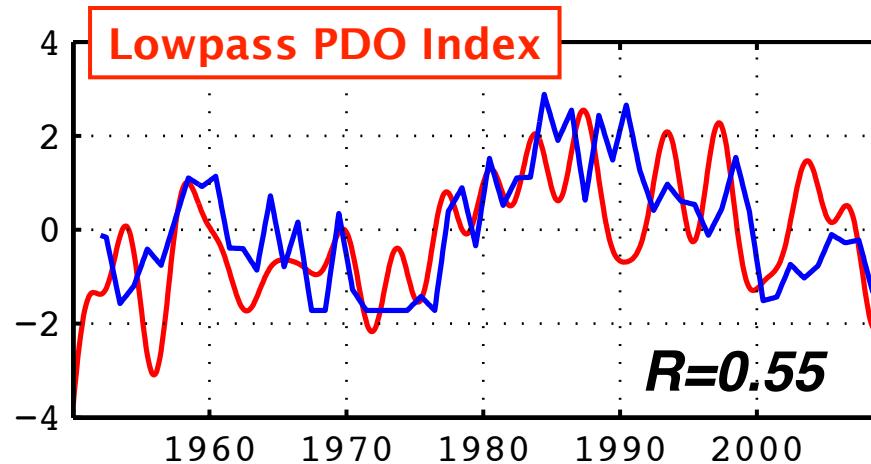
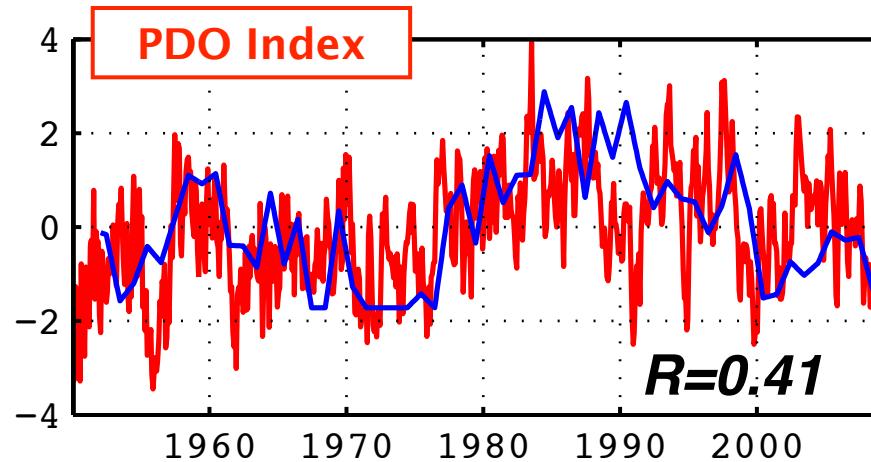
## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



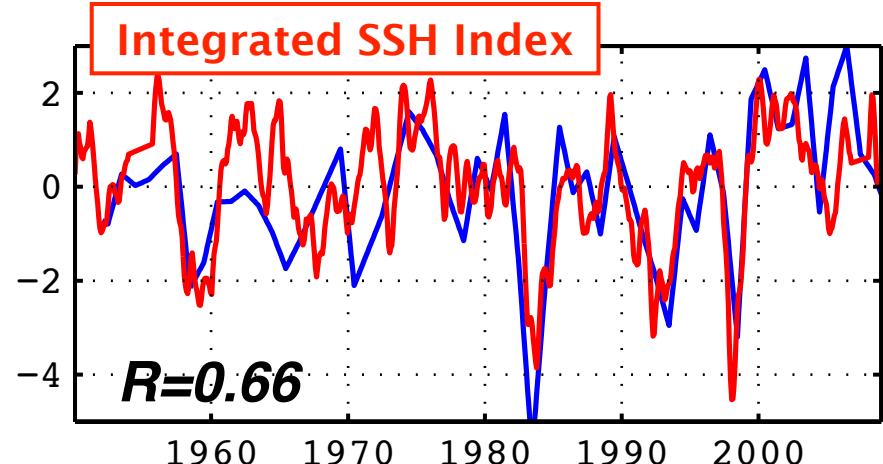
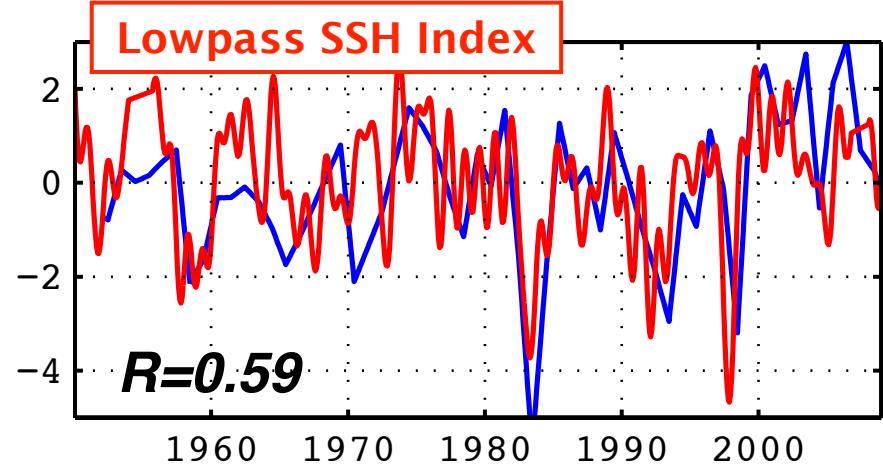
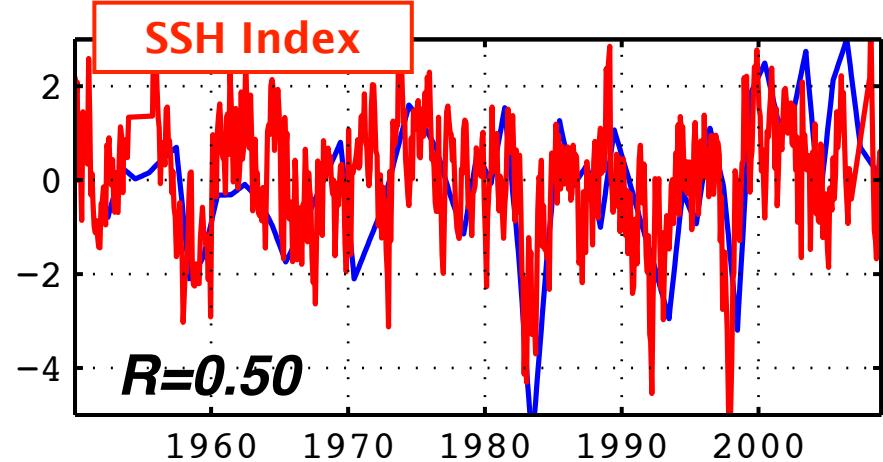
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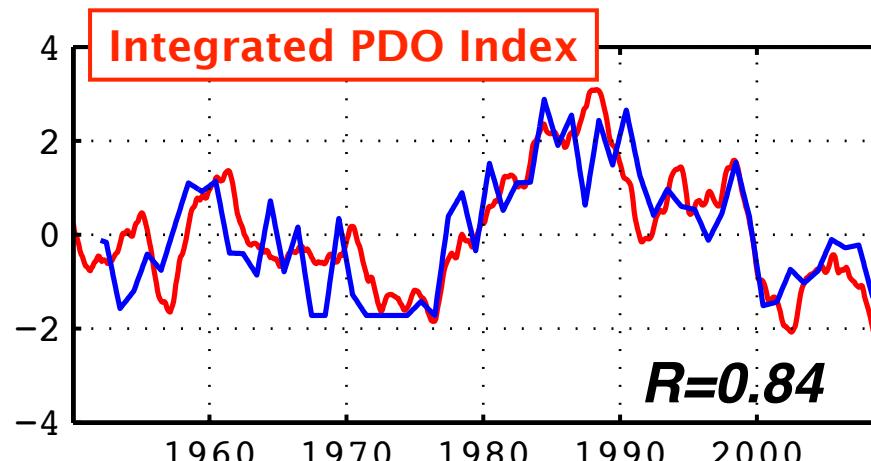
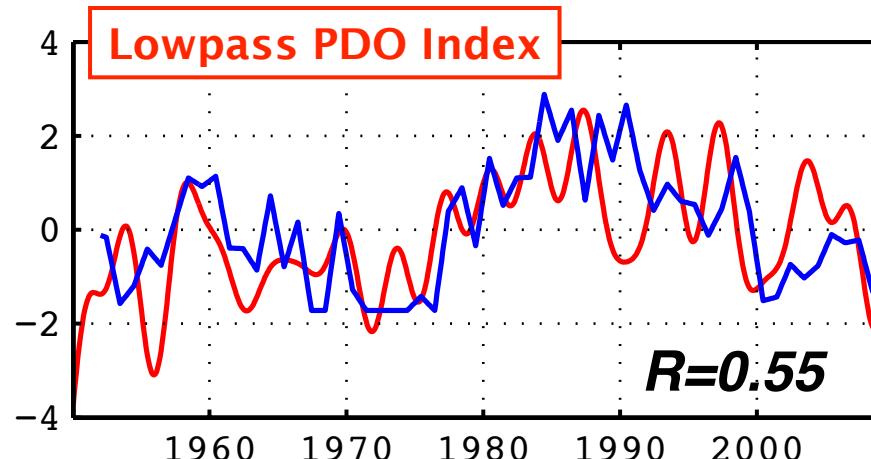
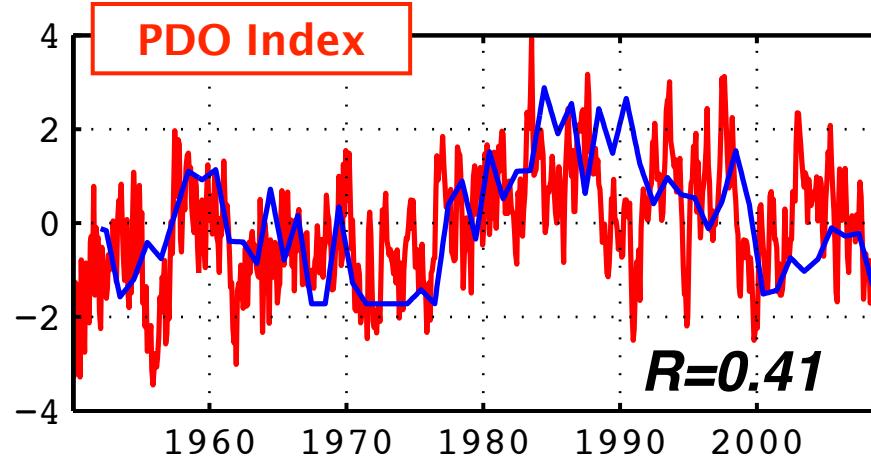
## *Nyctiphanes simplex*



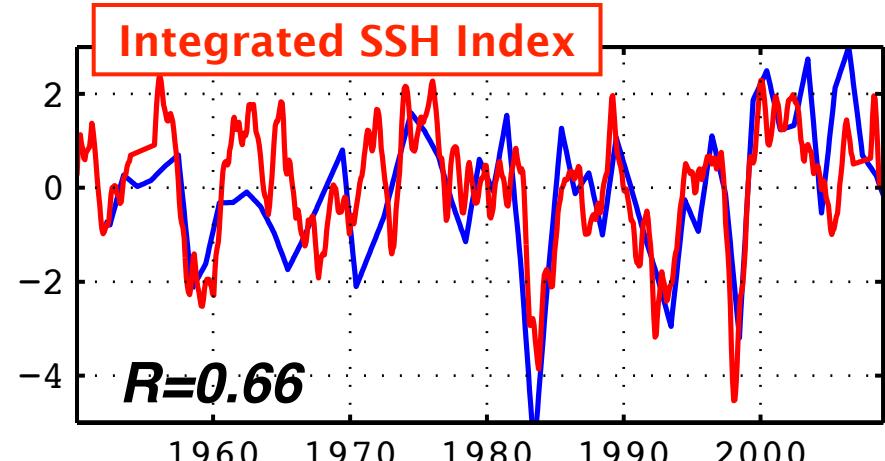
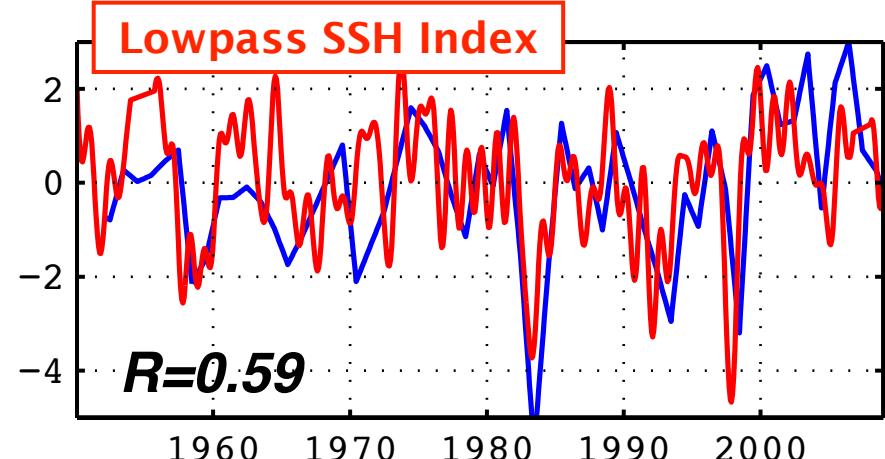
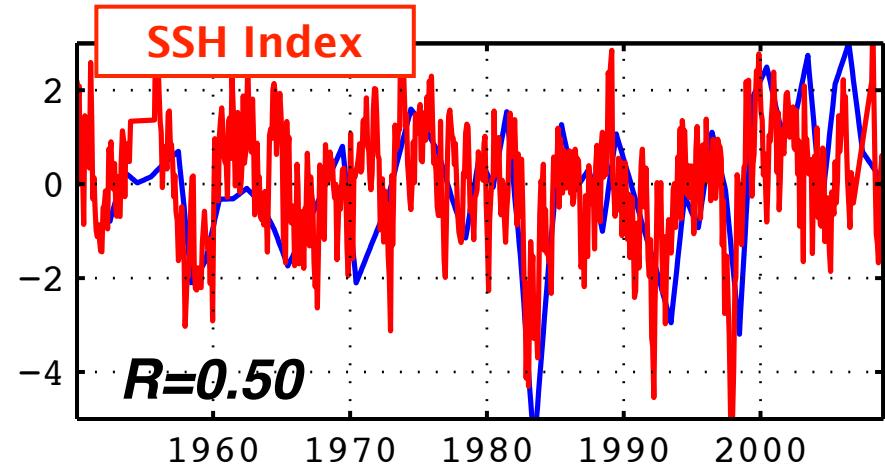
## *Euphausia pacifica*



## *Nyctiphanes simplex*

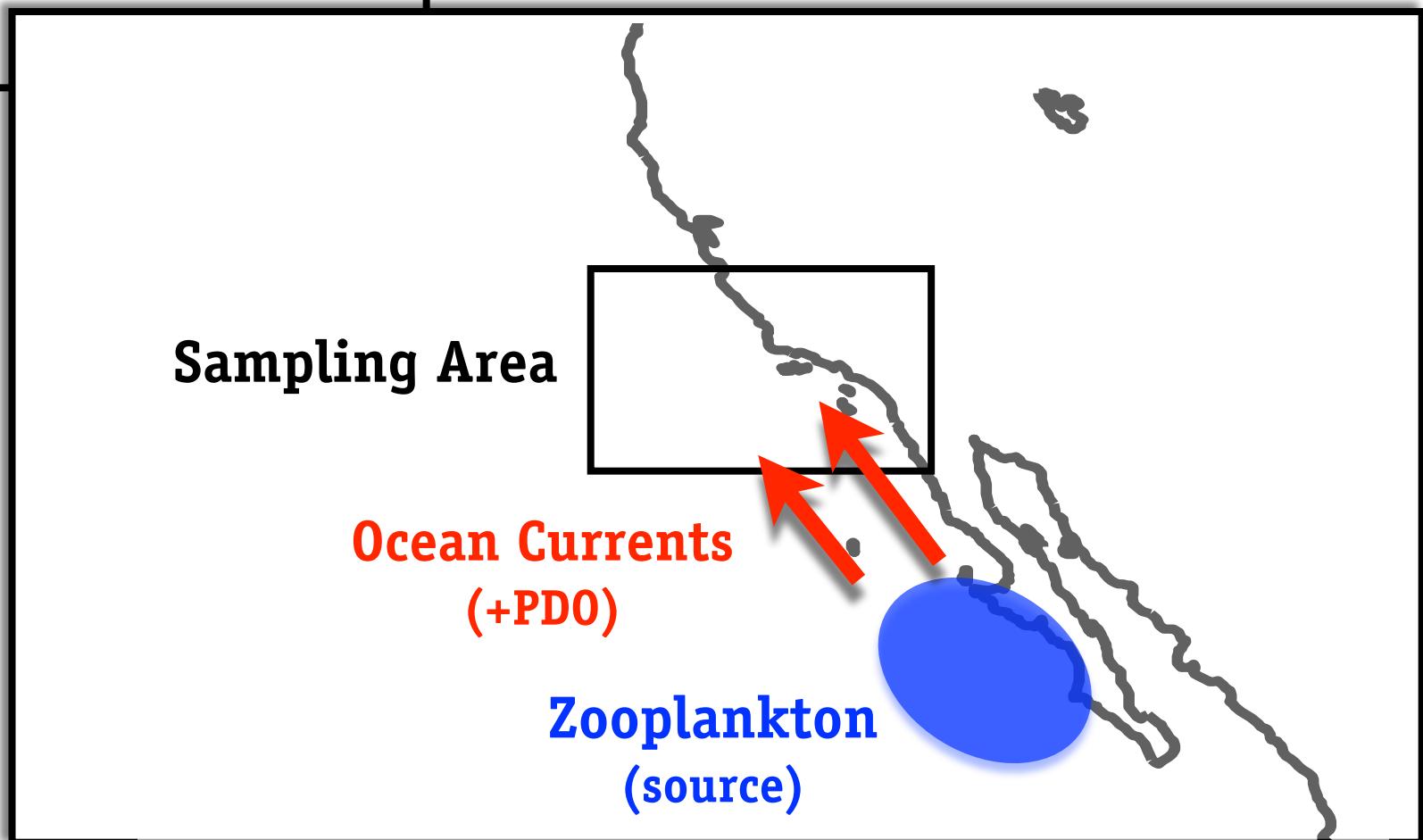
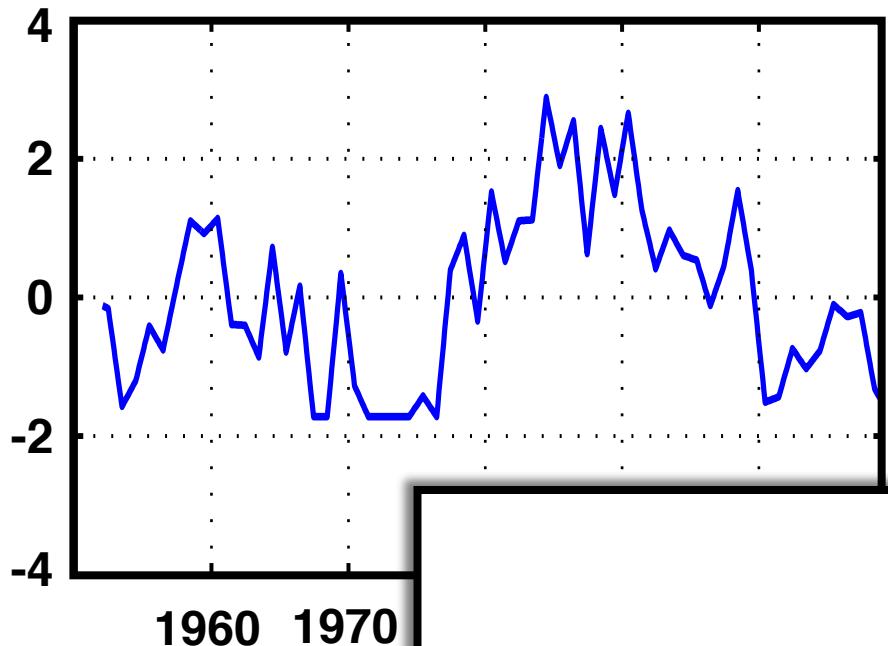


## *Euphausia pacifica*



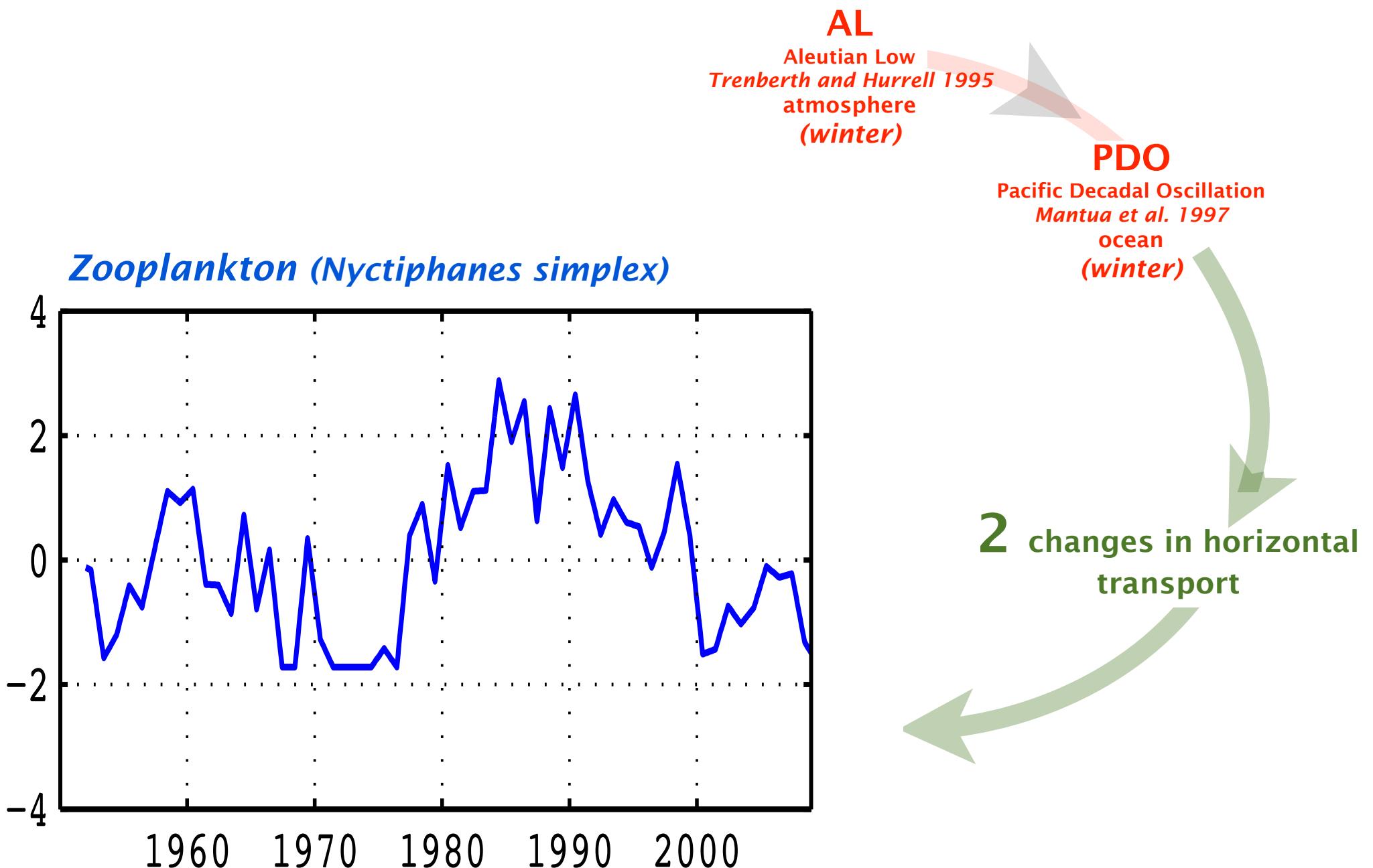
**END**

# *Nyctiphanes simplex*



# *Effects of cumulative forcing on Zooplankton in the California Current*

**AN EXAMPLE**



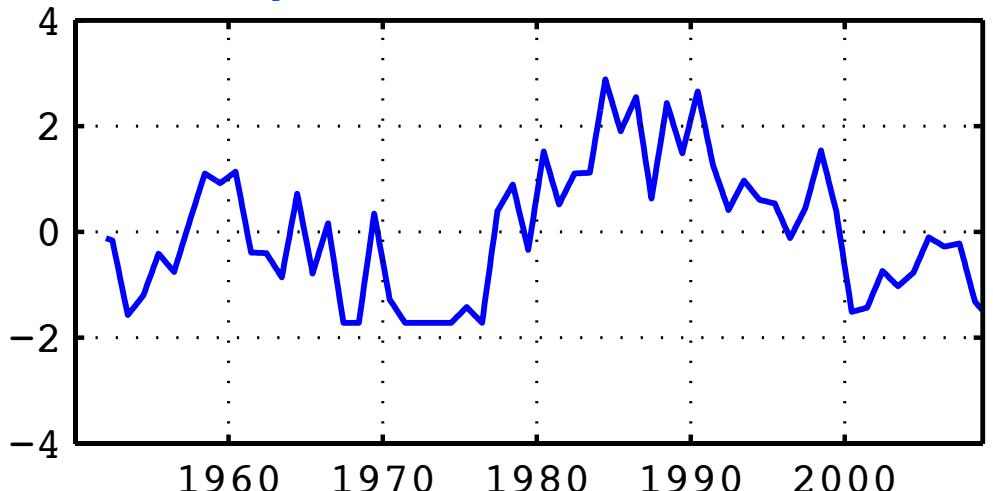
# *Effects of cumulative forcing on Zooplankton in the California Current*

**AN EXAMPLE**

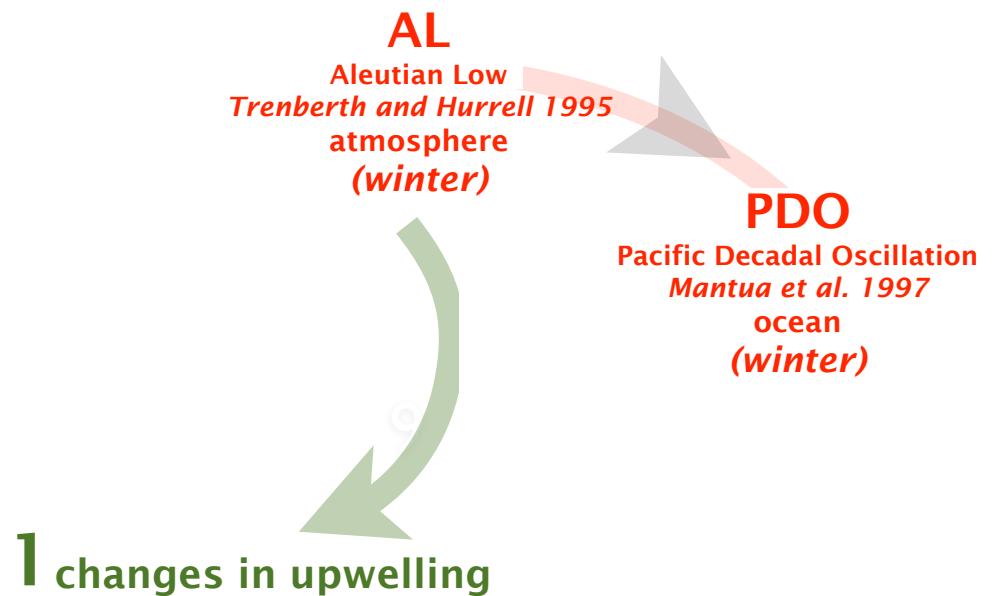


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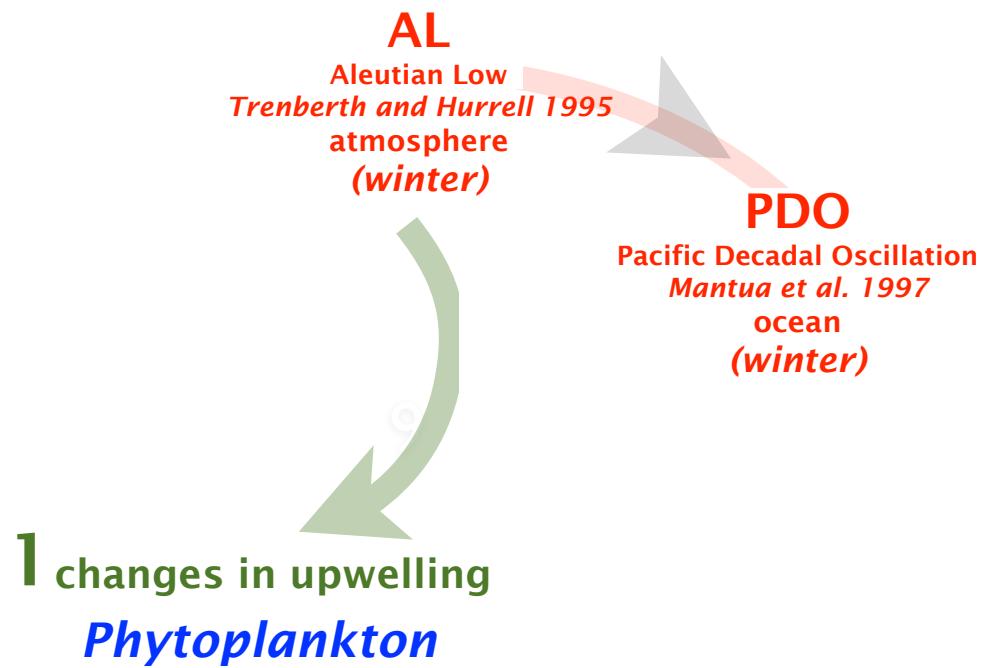
*Zooplankton (*Nyctiphanes simplex*)*



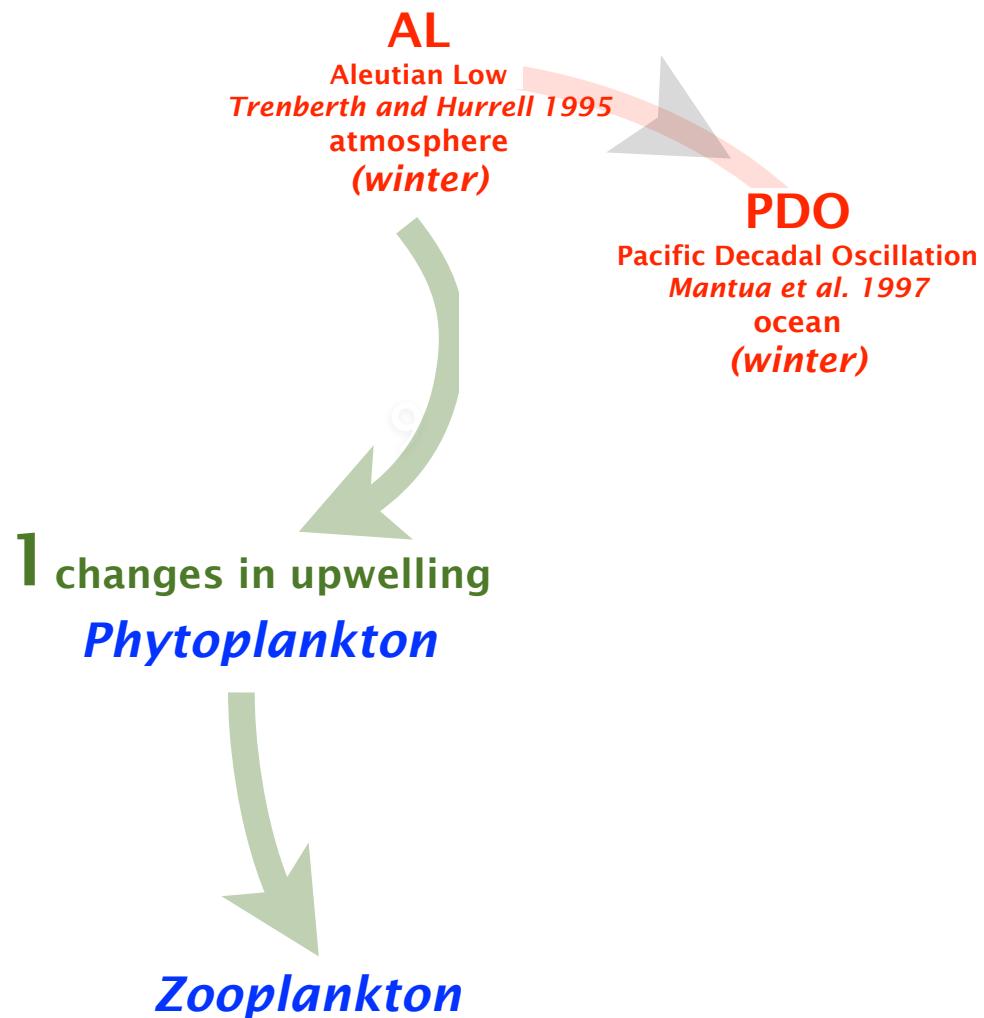
## *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



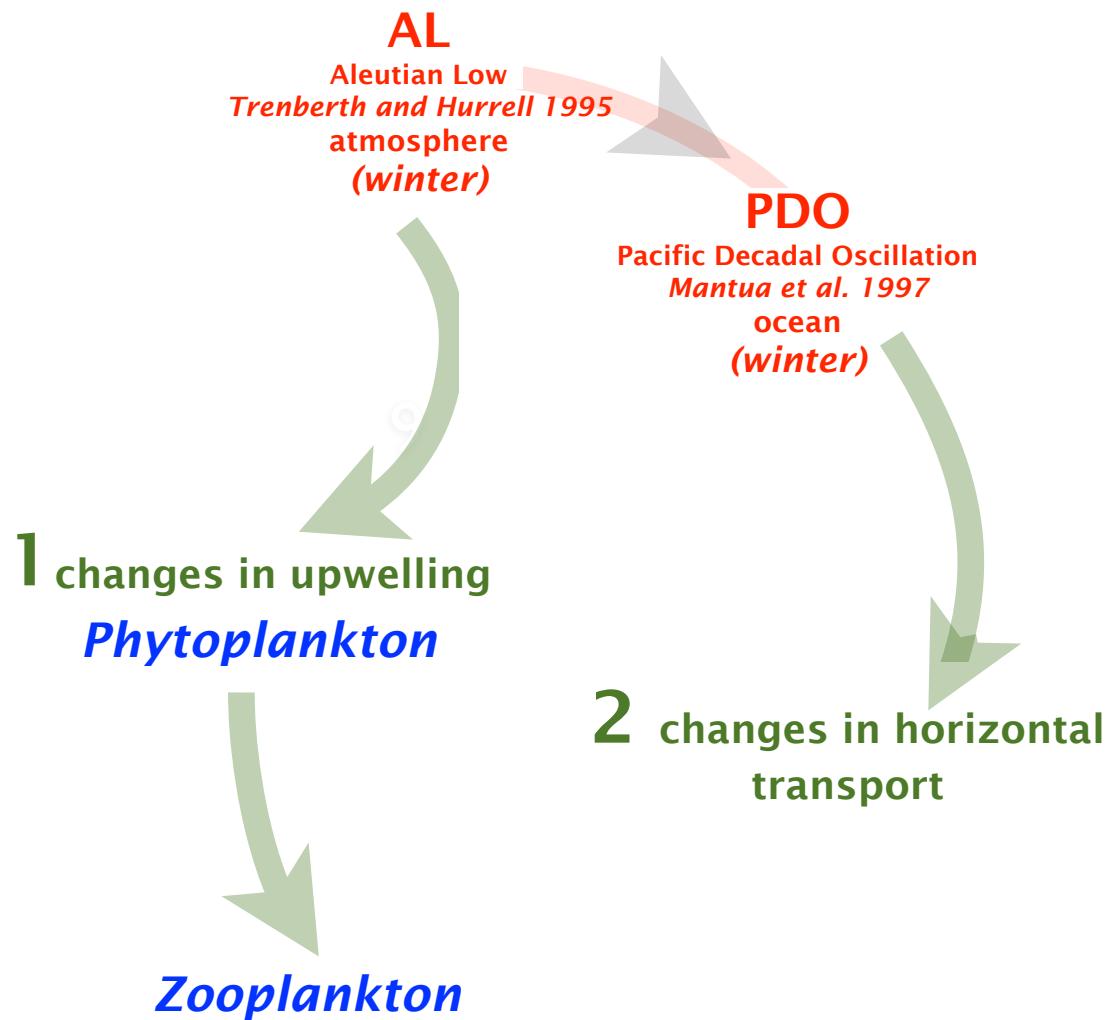
## *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



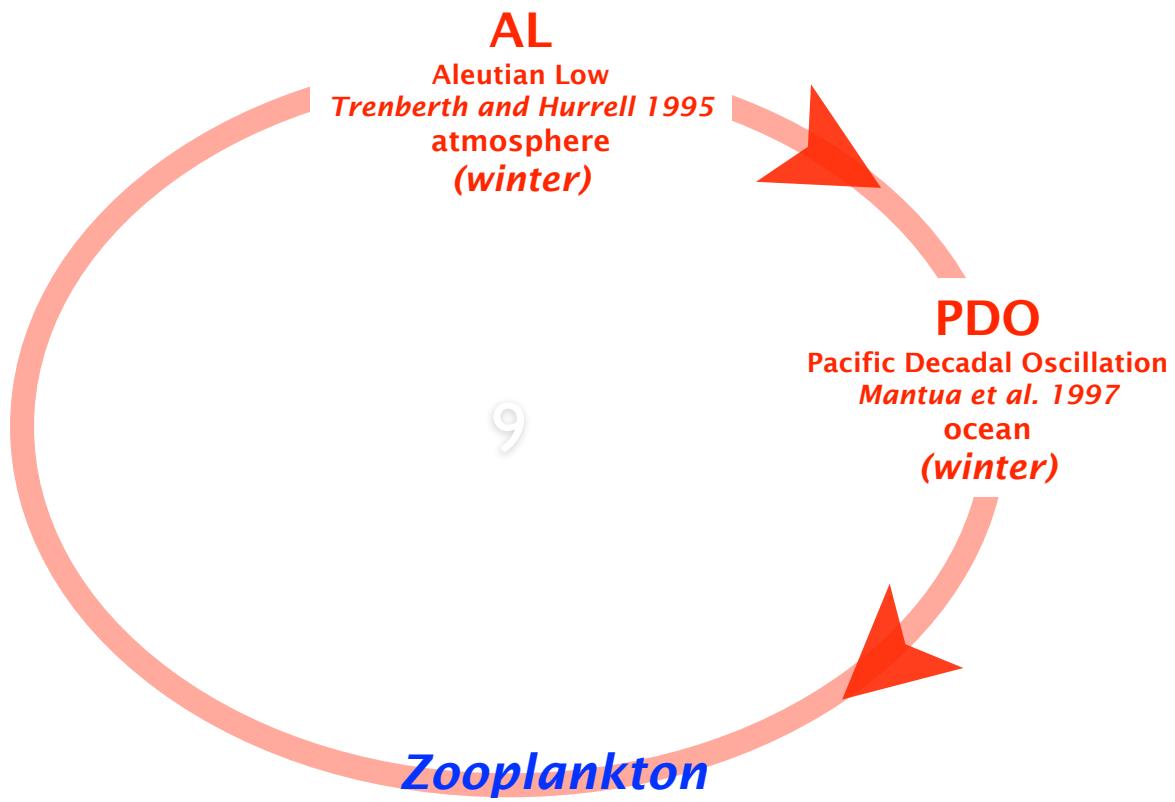
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



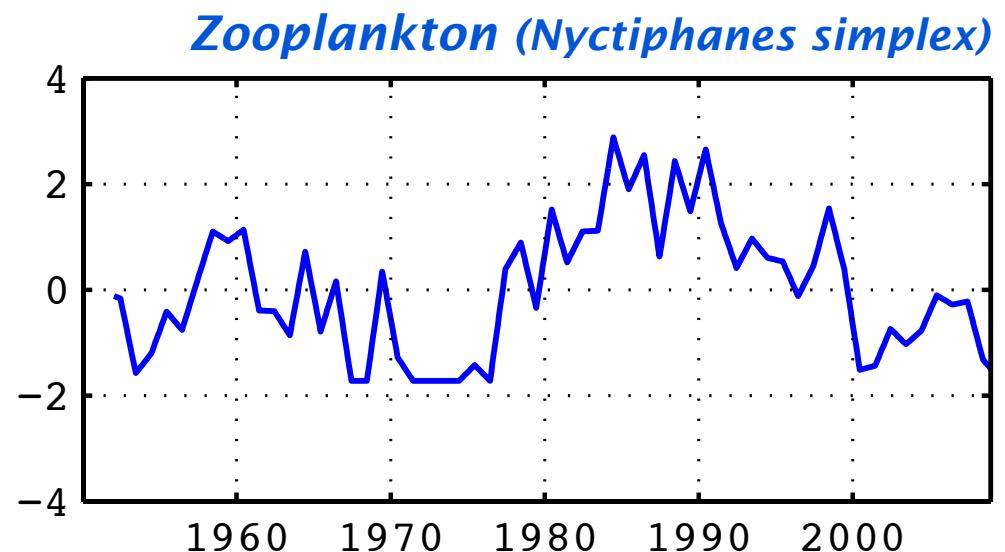
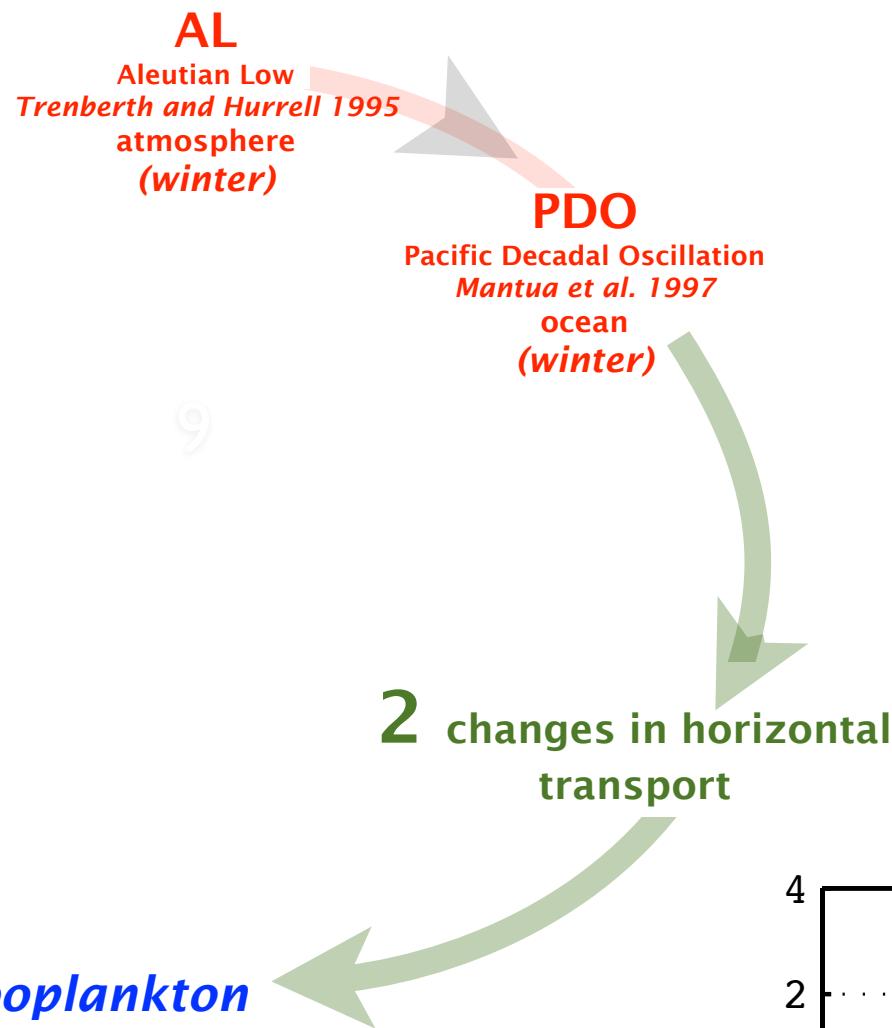
9

2 changes in horizontal  
transport

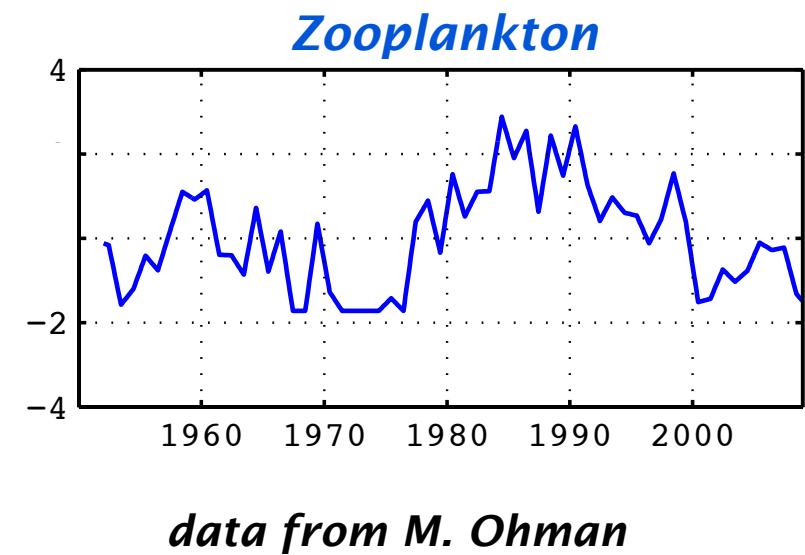
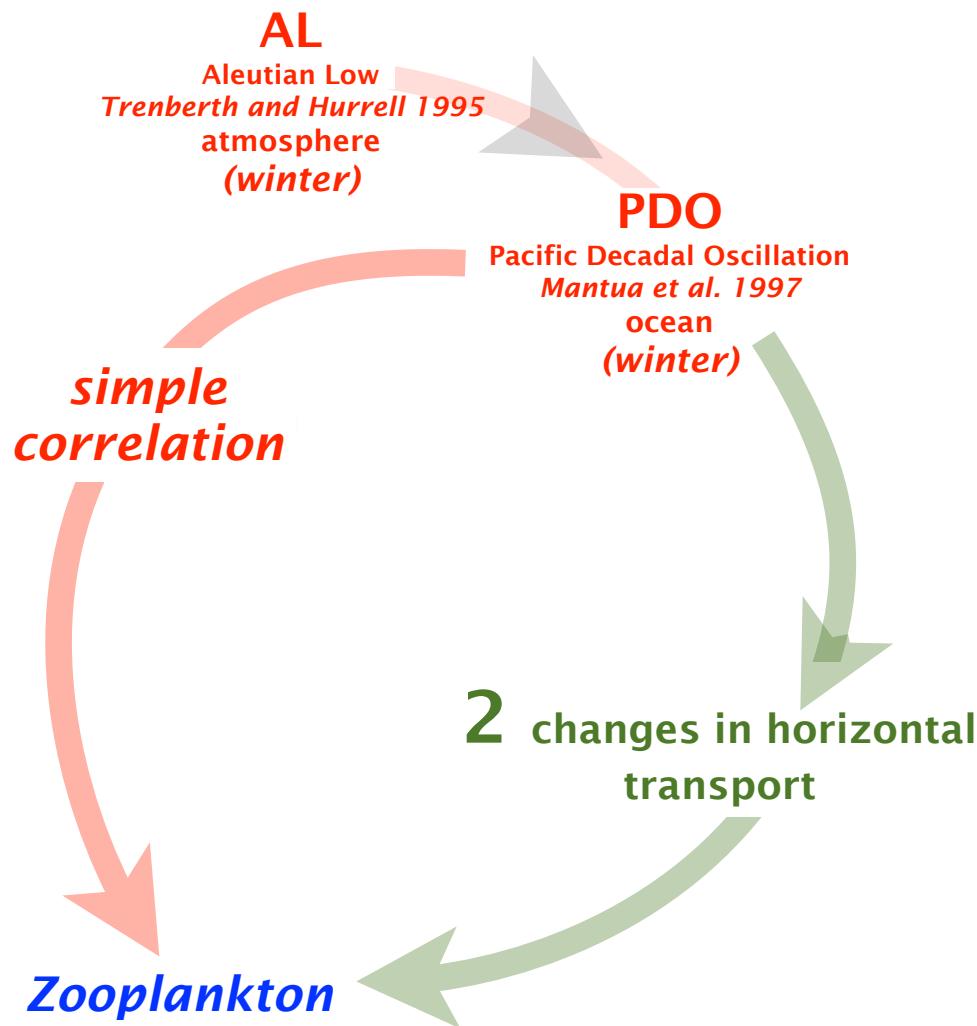
*Zooplankton*



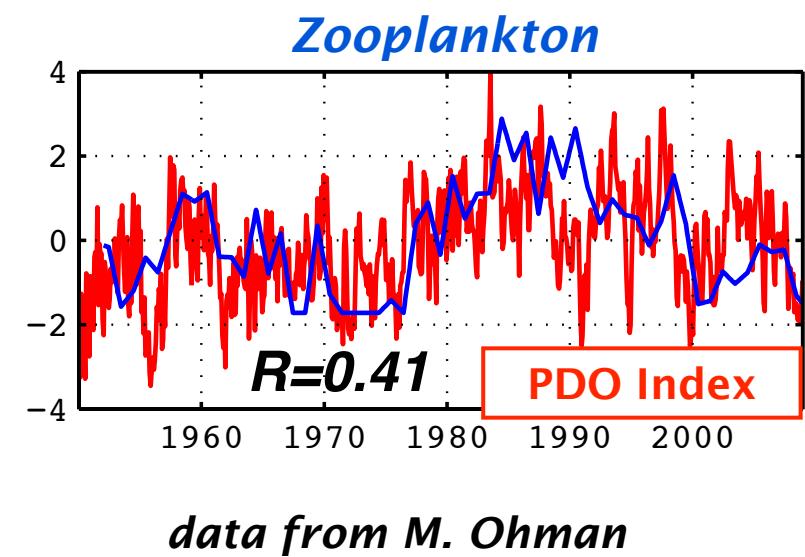
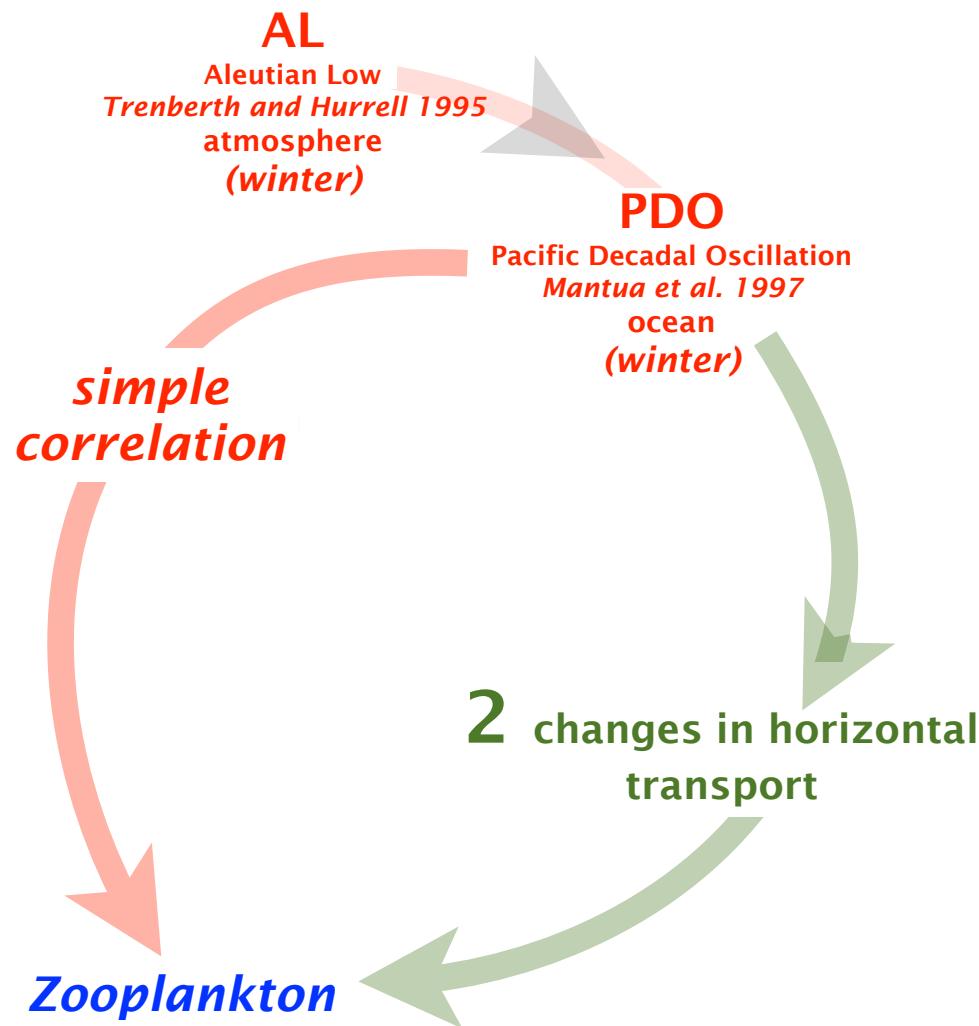
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



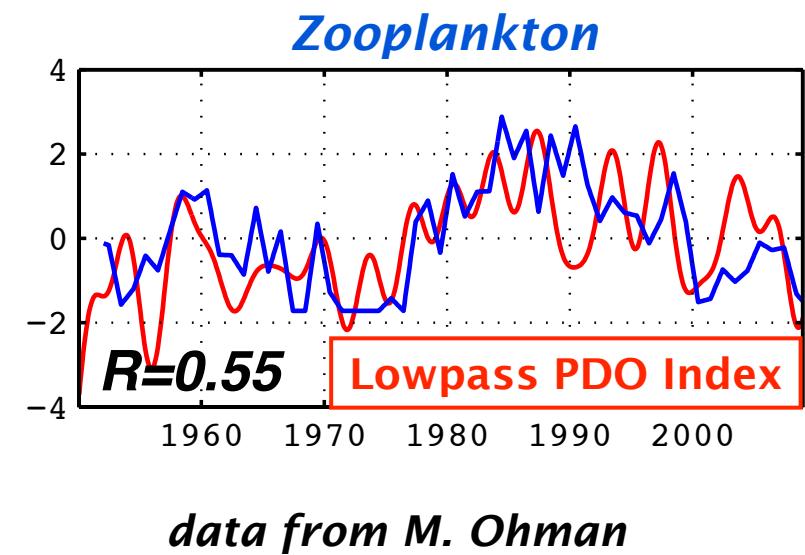
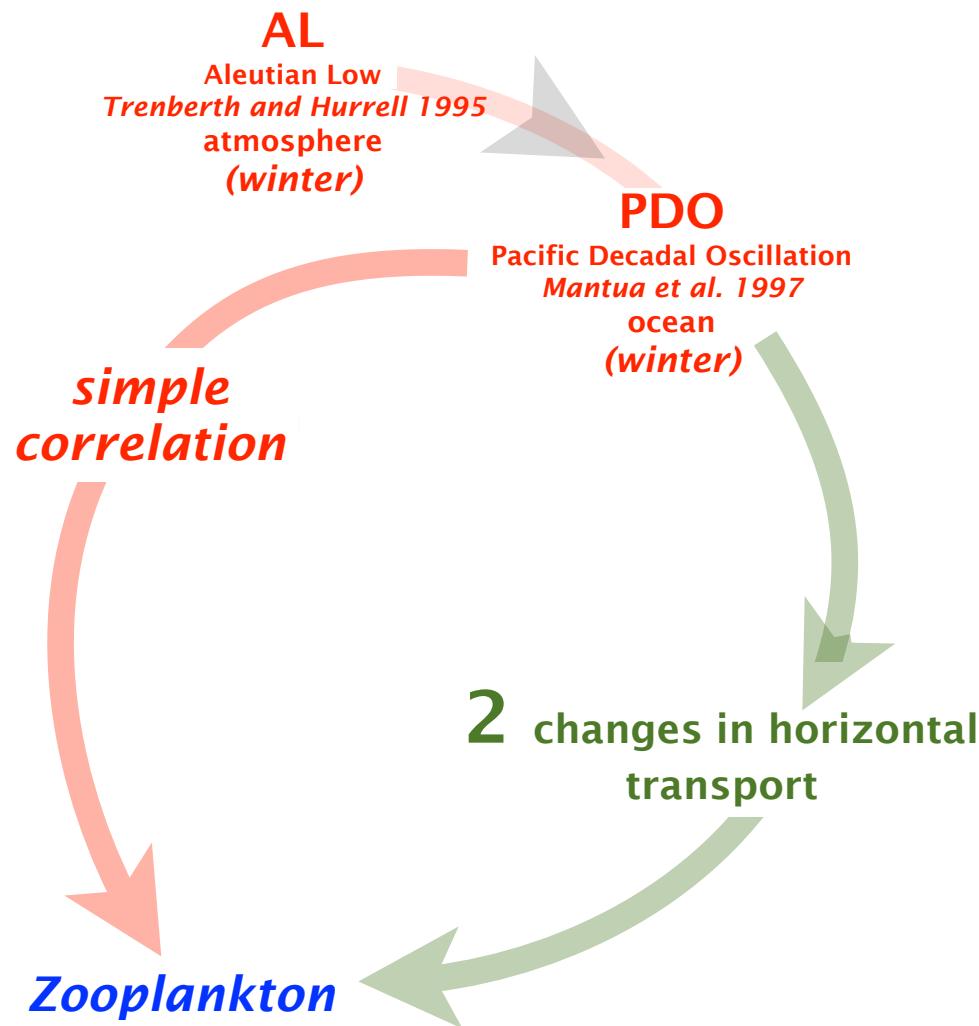
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



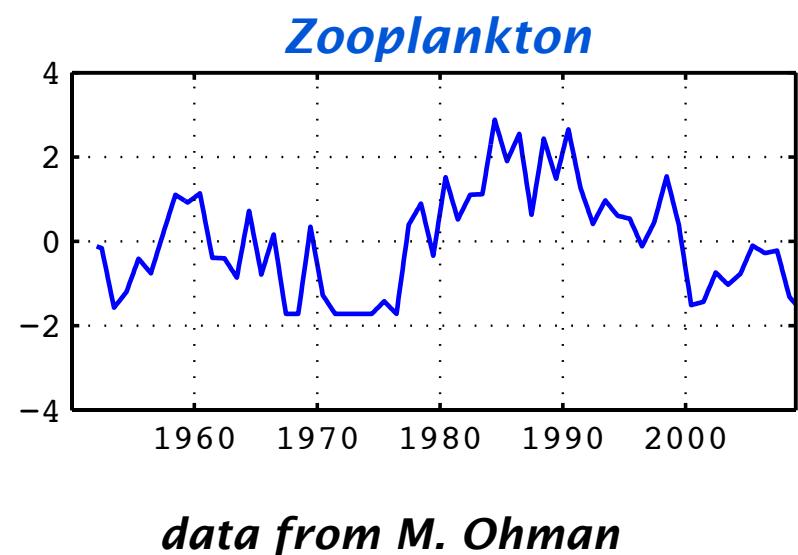
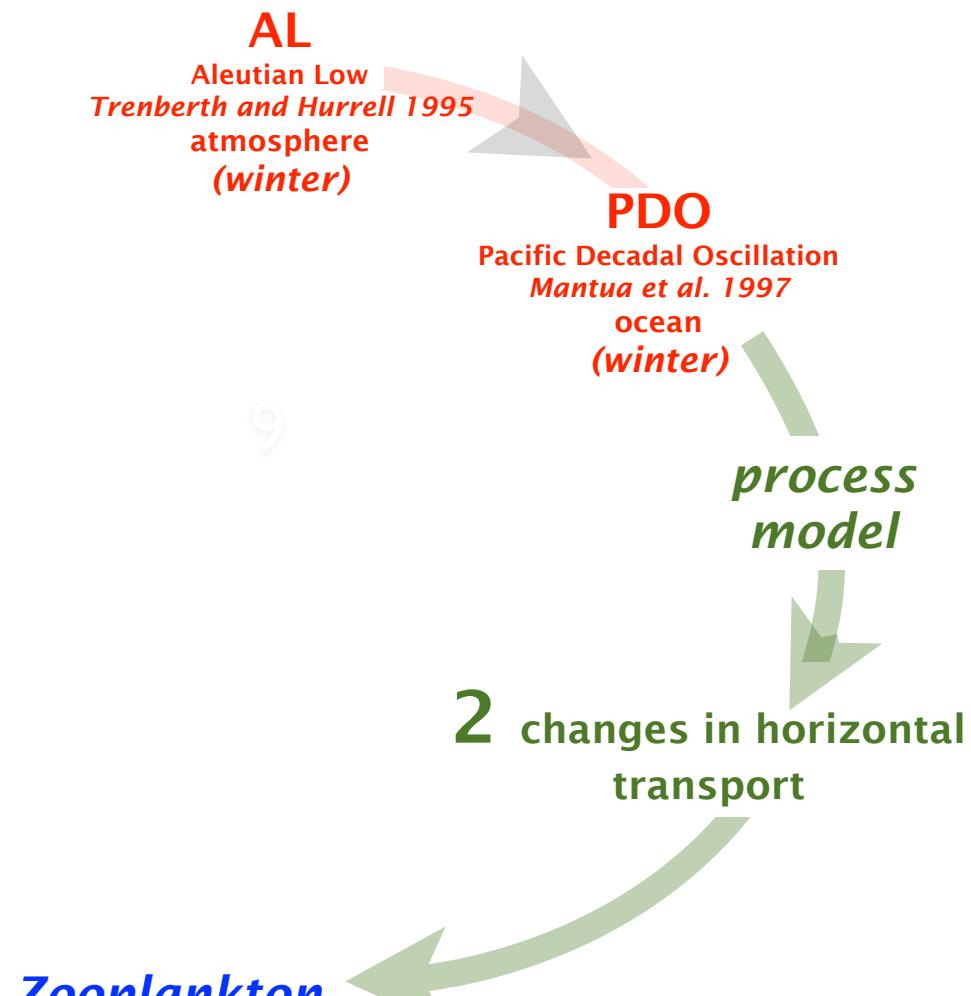
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



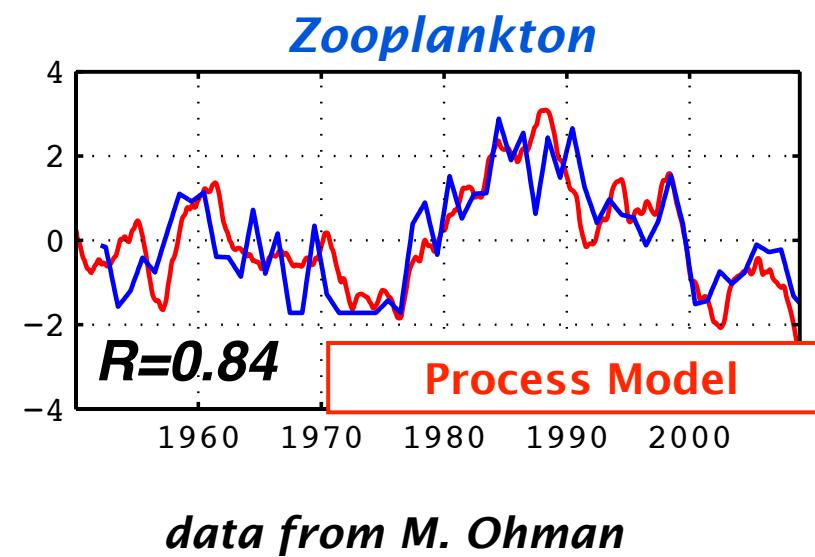
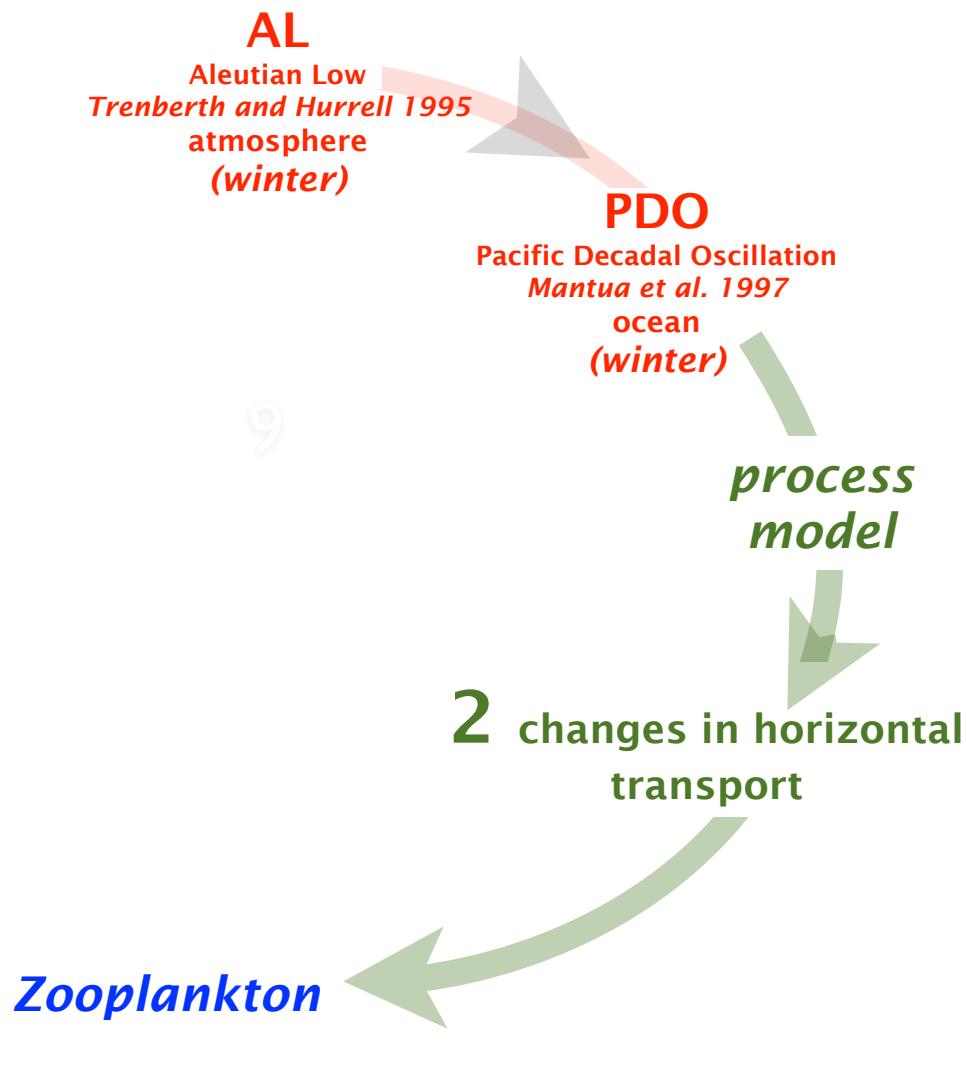
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



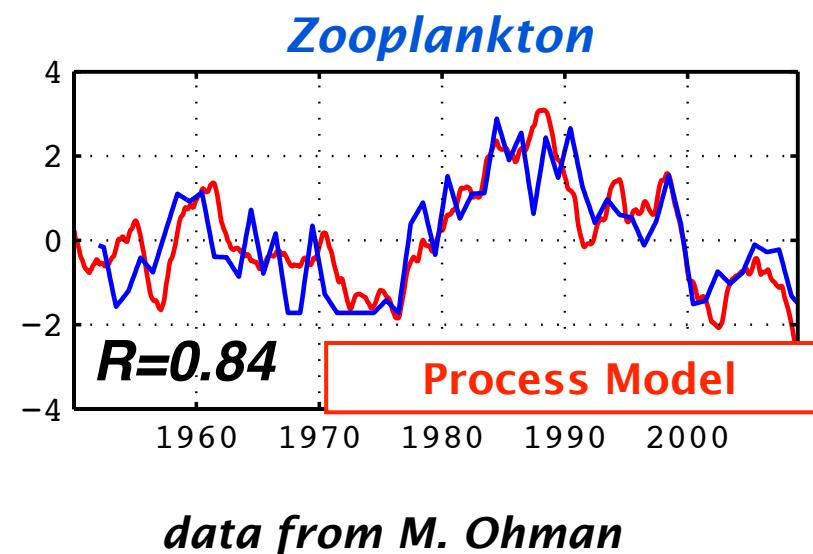
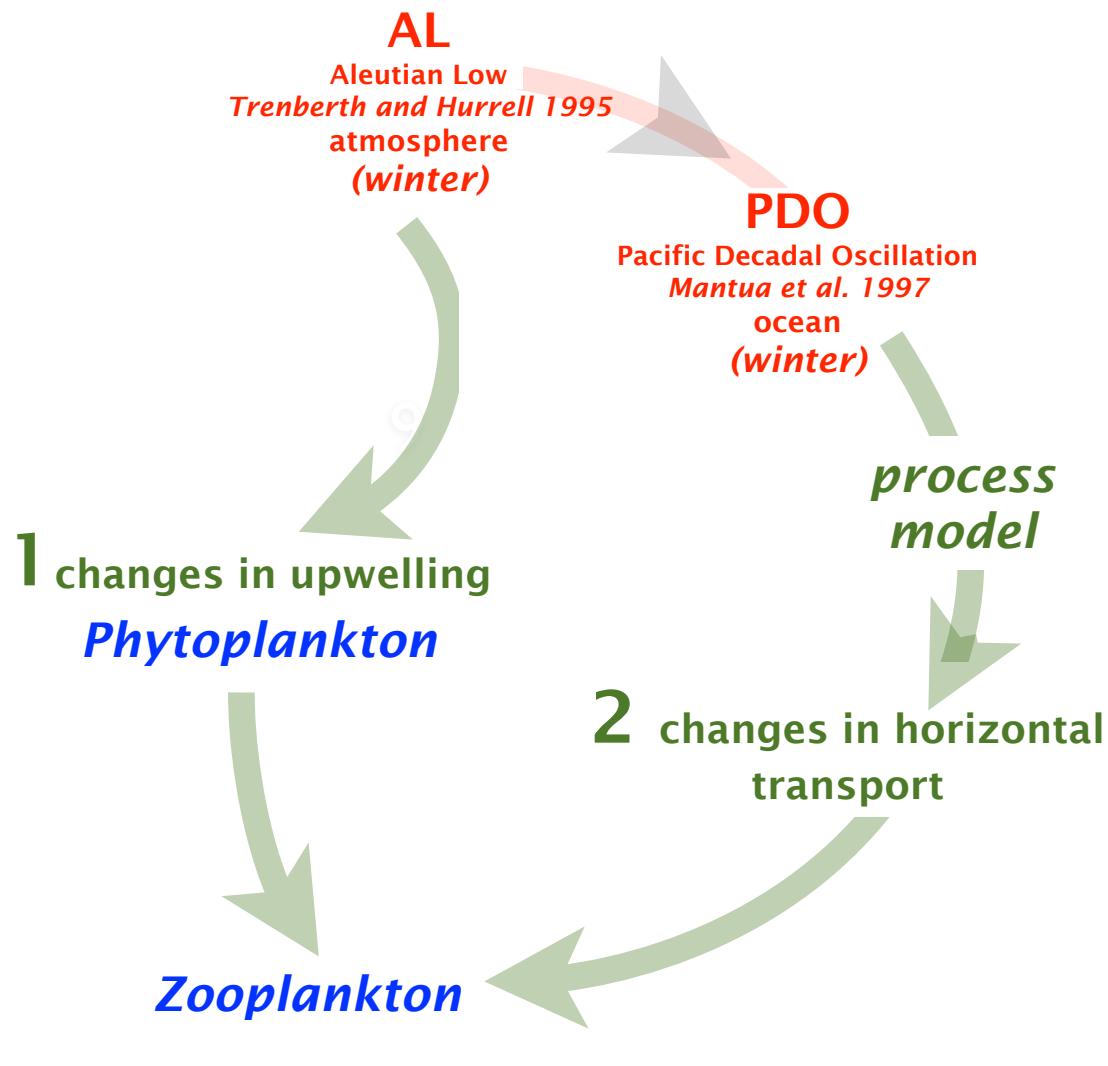
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



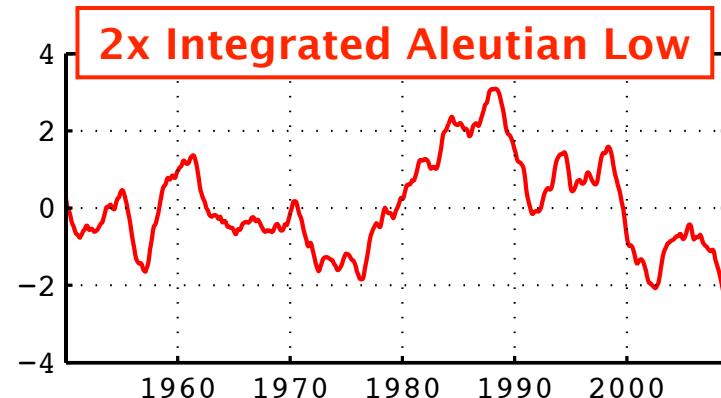
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



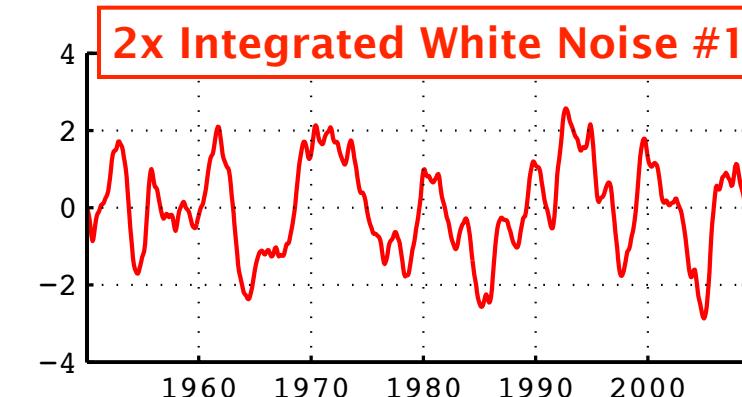
JUNK



## Atmosphere

$$f(t)$$

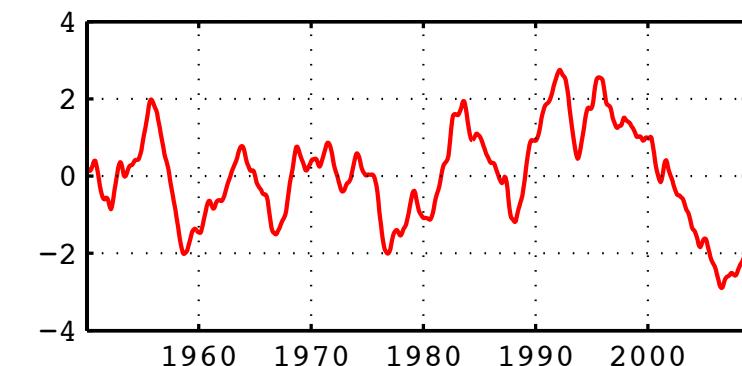
white



## Ocean

$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$

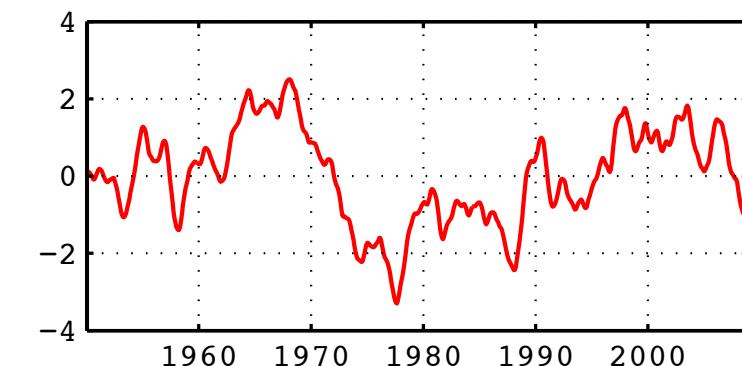
red (-2)



## Biology

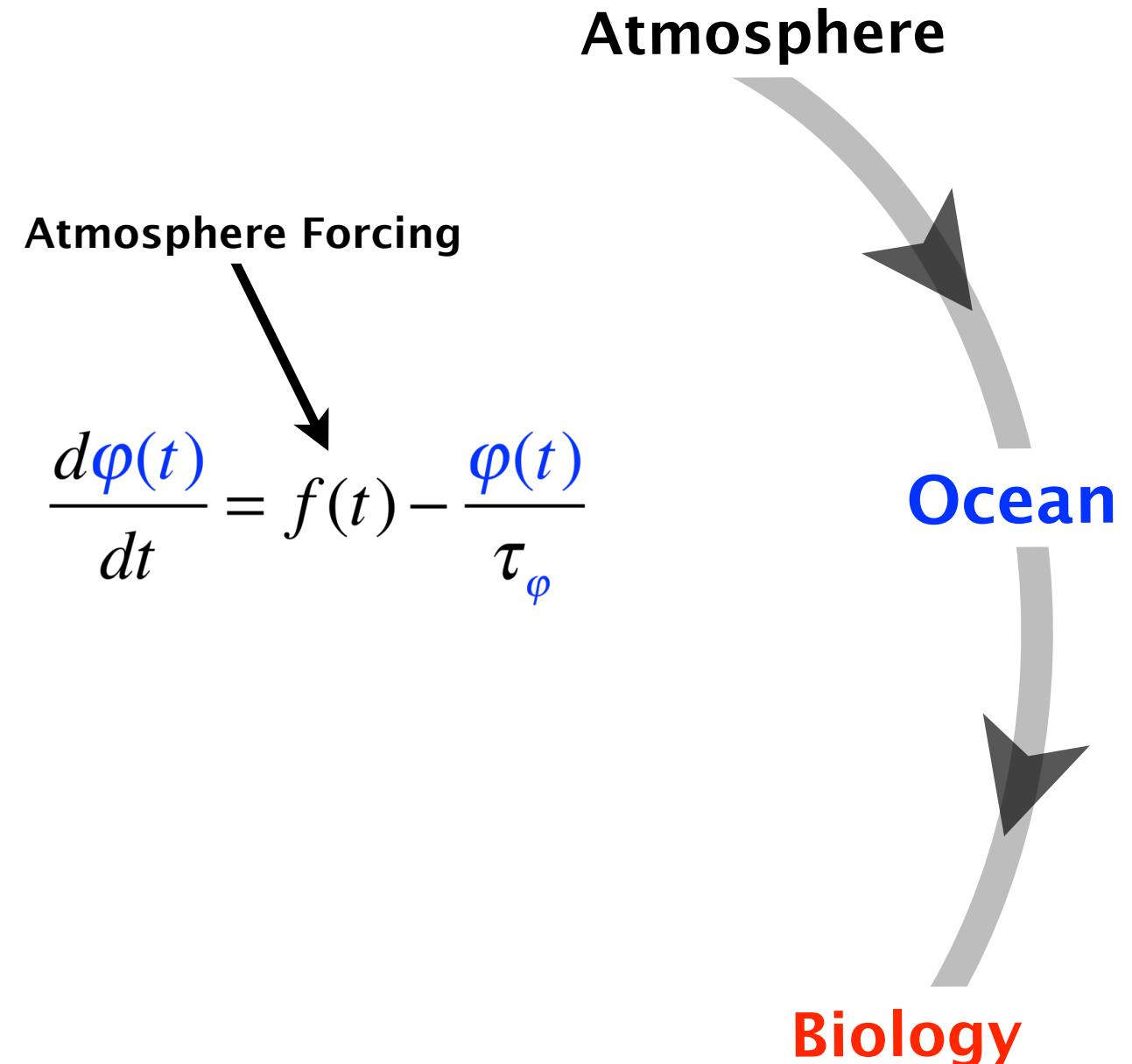
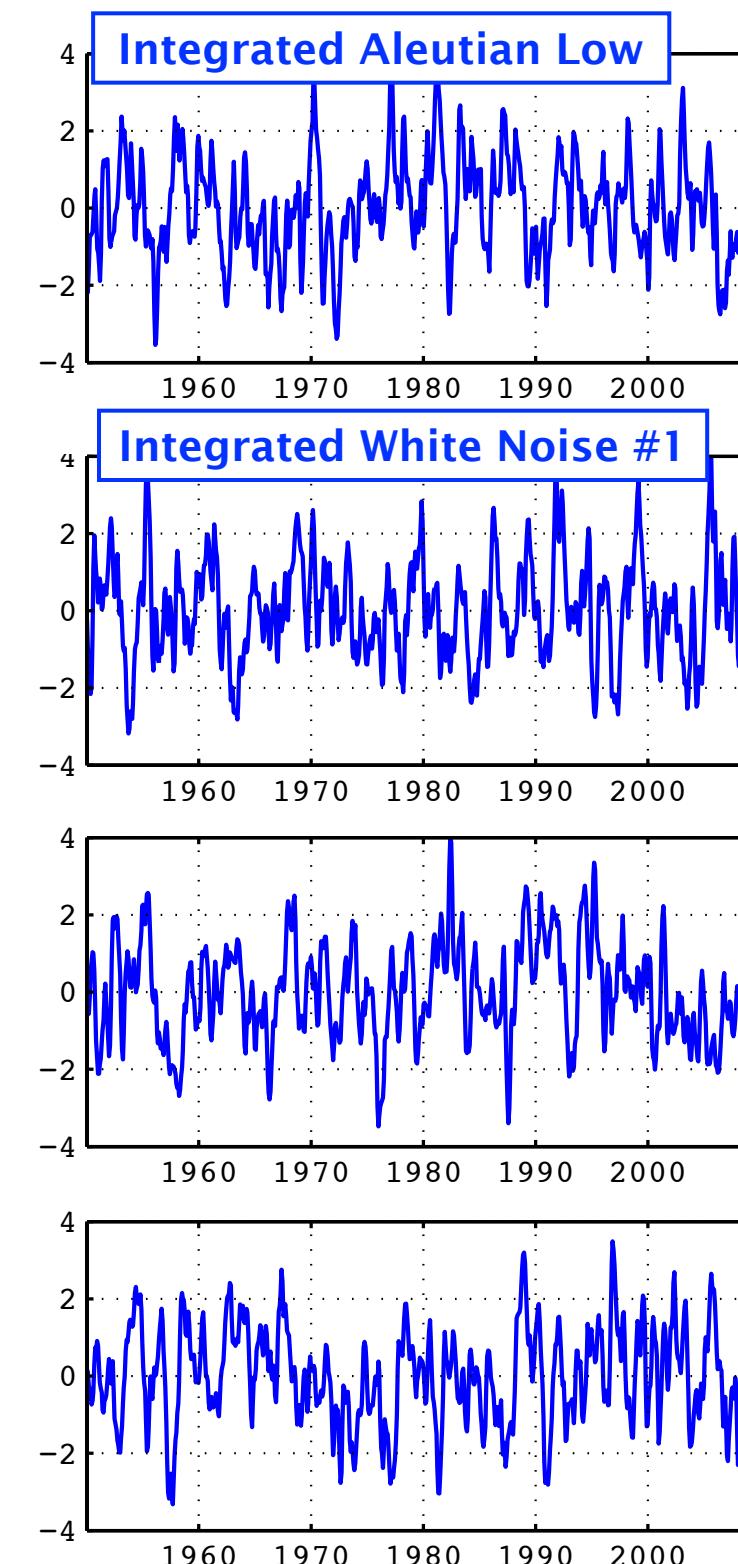
$$\frac{d\epsilon(t)}{dt} = \varphi(t) - \frac{\epsilon(t)}{\tau_\epsilon}$$

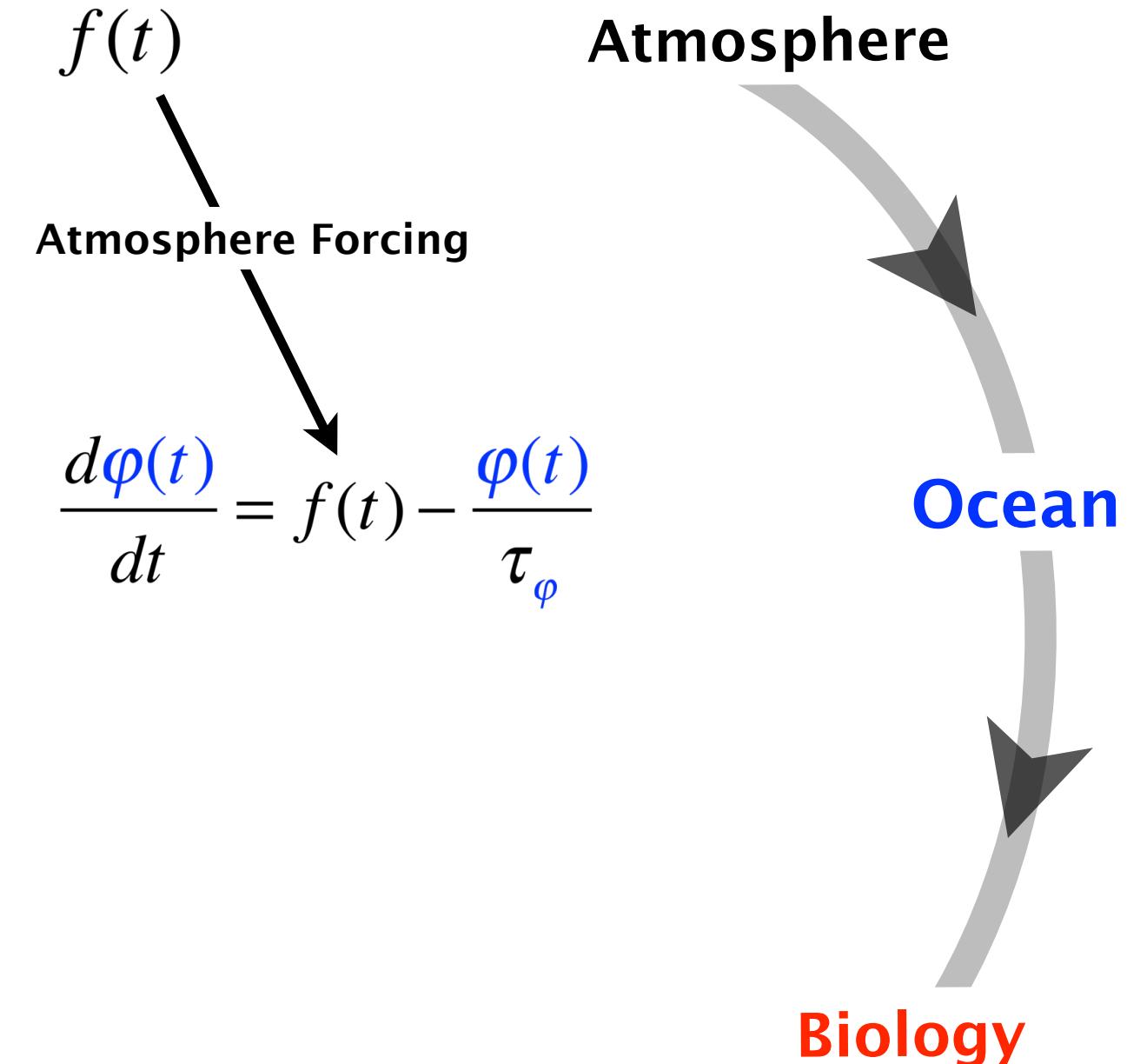
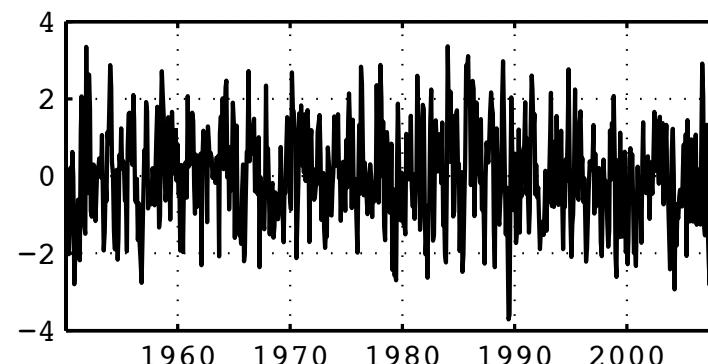
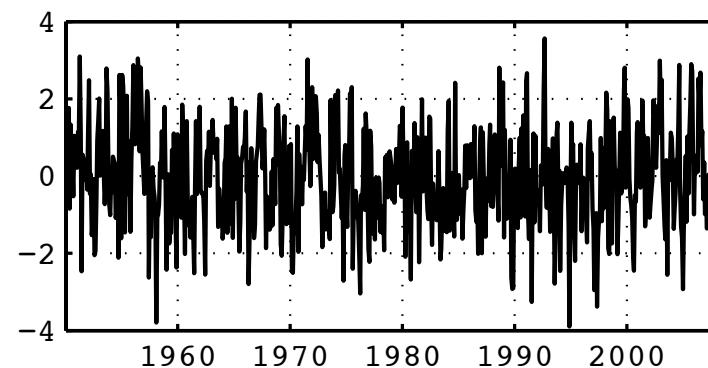
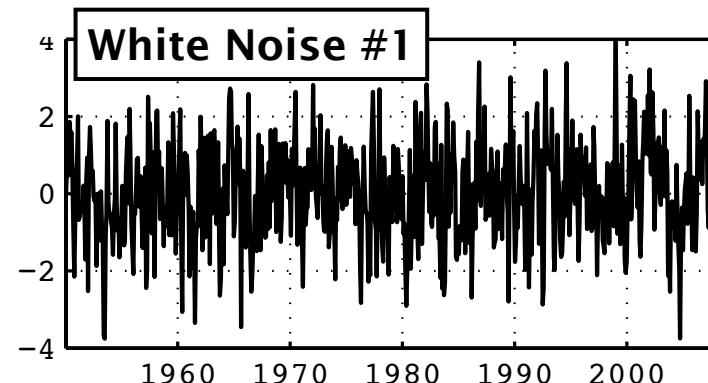
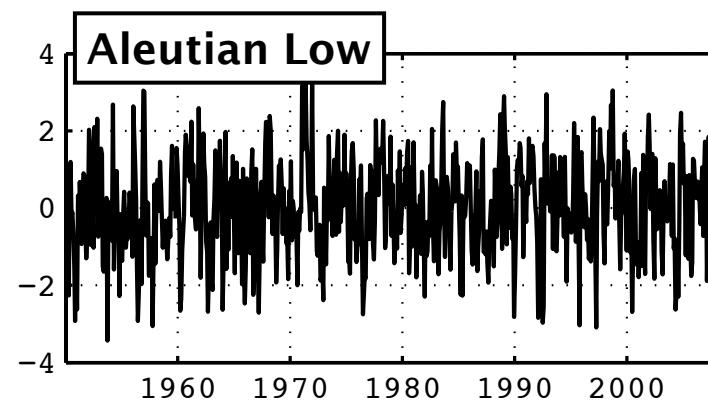
red (-4)

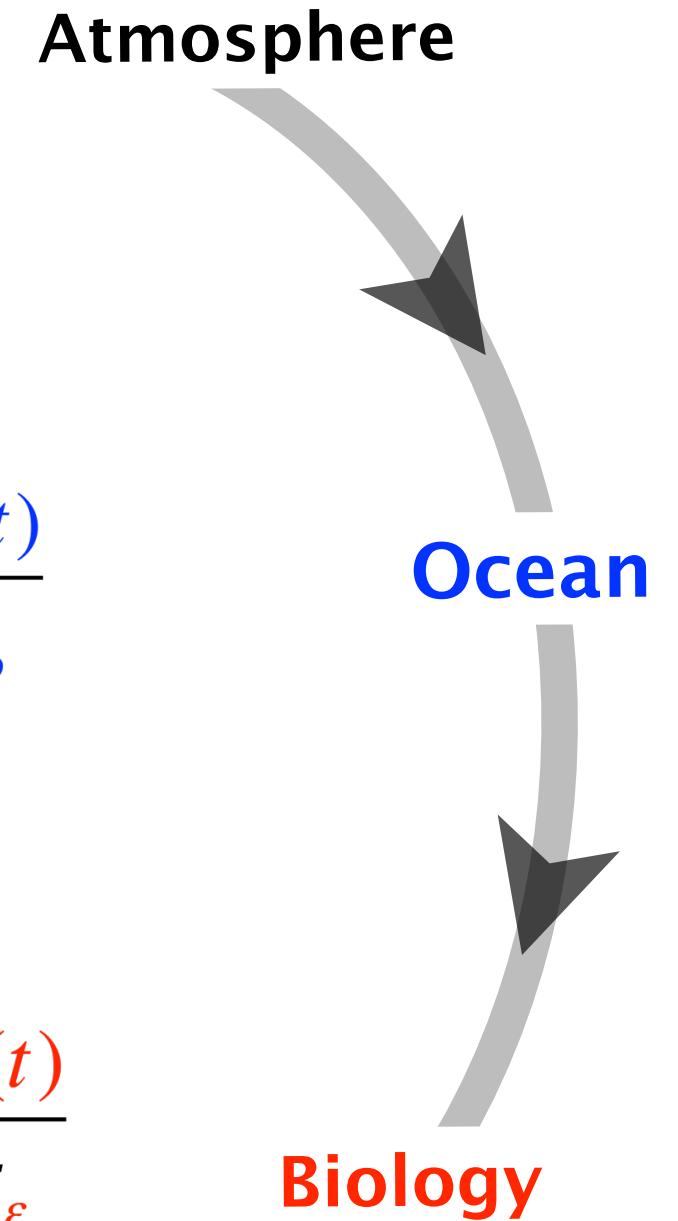
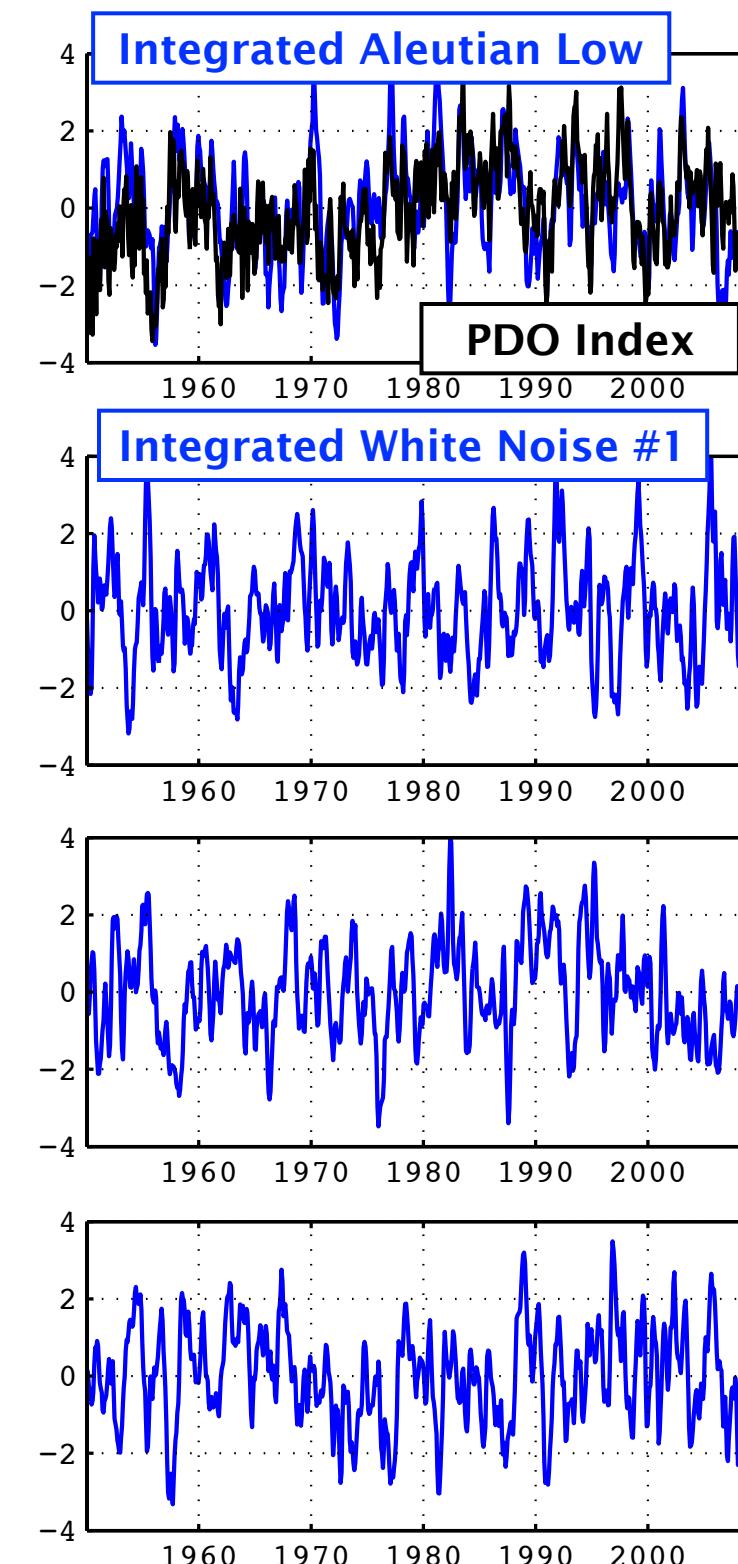


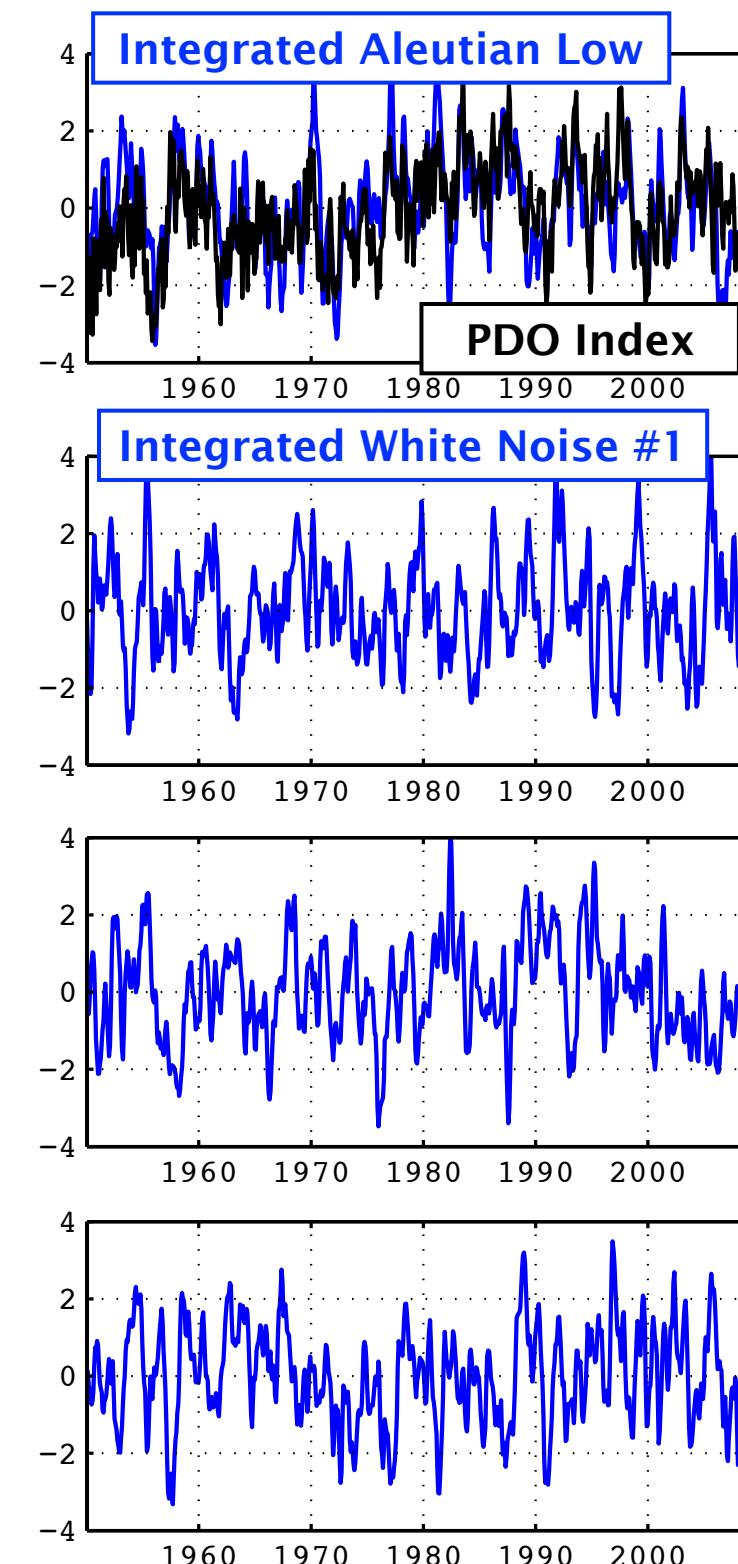
frequency

frequency

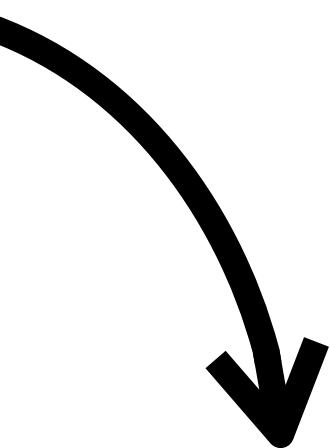








Atmosphere



$$\frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} = f(t) - \frac{\varphi(t)}{\tau_\varphi}$$

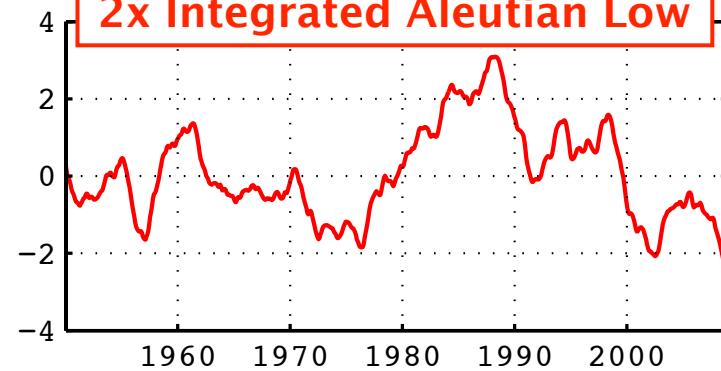
Ocean Forcing

$$\frac{d\varepsilon(t)}{dt} = \varphi(t) - \frac{\varepsilon(t)}{\tau_\varepsilon}$$

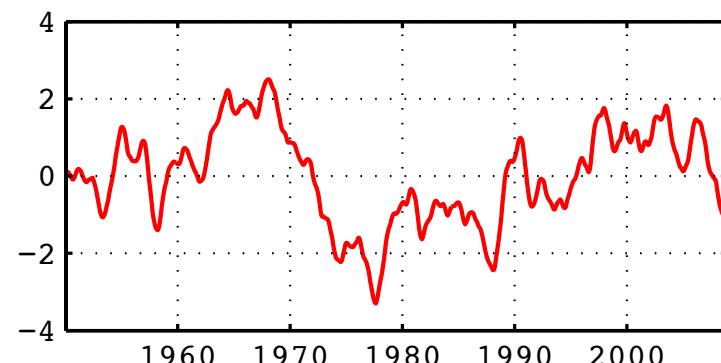
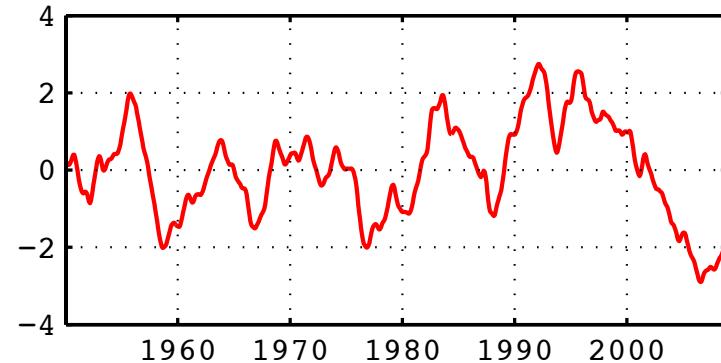
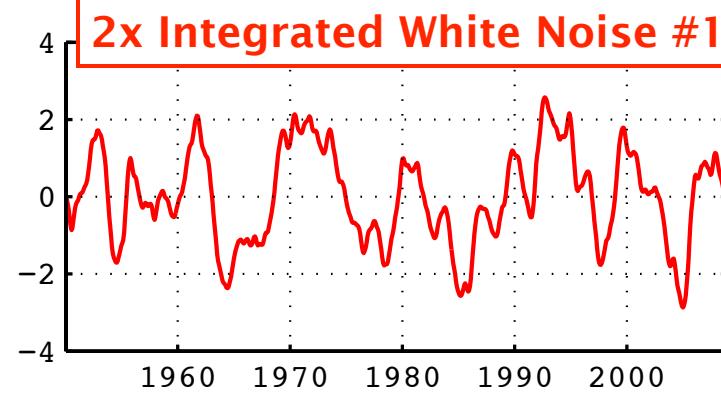
Ocean

Biology

**2x Integrated Aleutian Low**



**2x Integrated White Noise #1**



## Biology

$$\frac{d\epsilon(t)}{dt} = \varphi(t) - \frac{\epsilon(t)}{\tau_\epsilon}$$

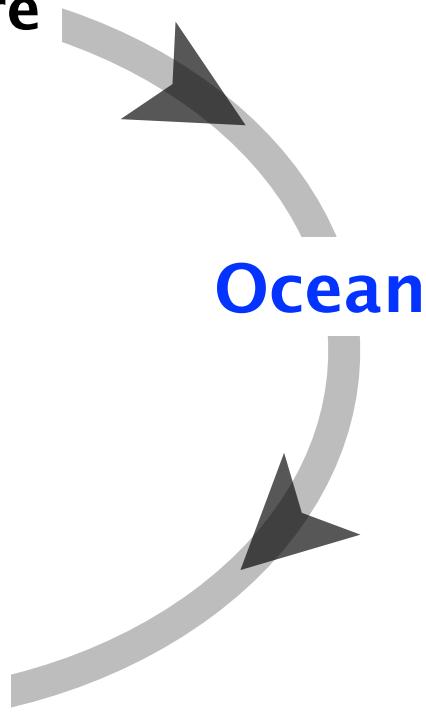
Ocean Forcing

Atmosphere

Ocean

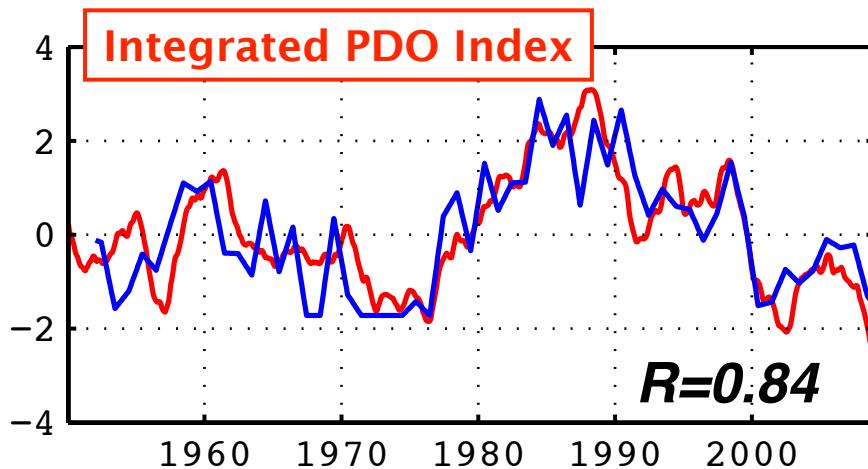
Biology

9

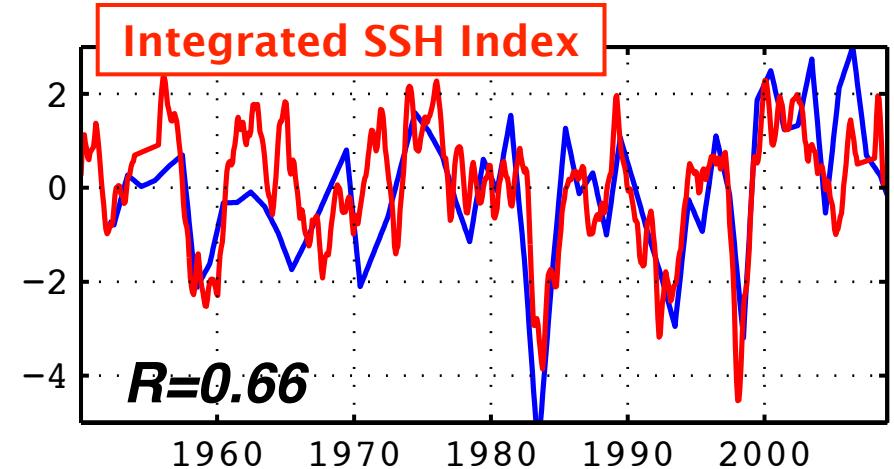


# Summary

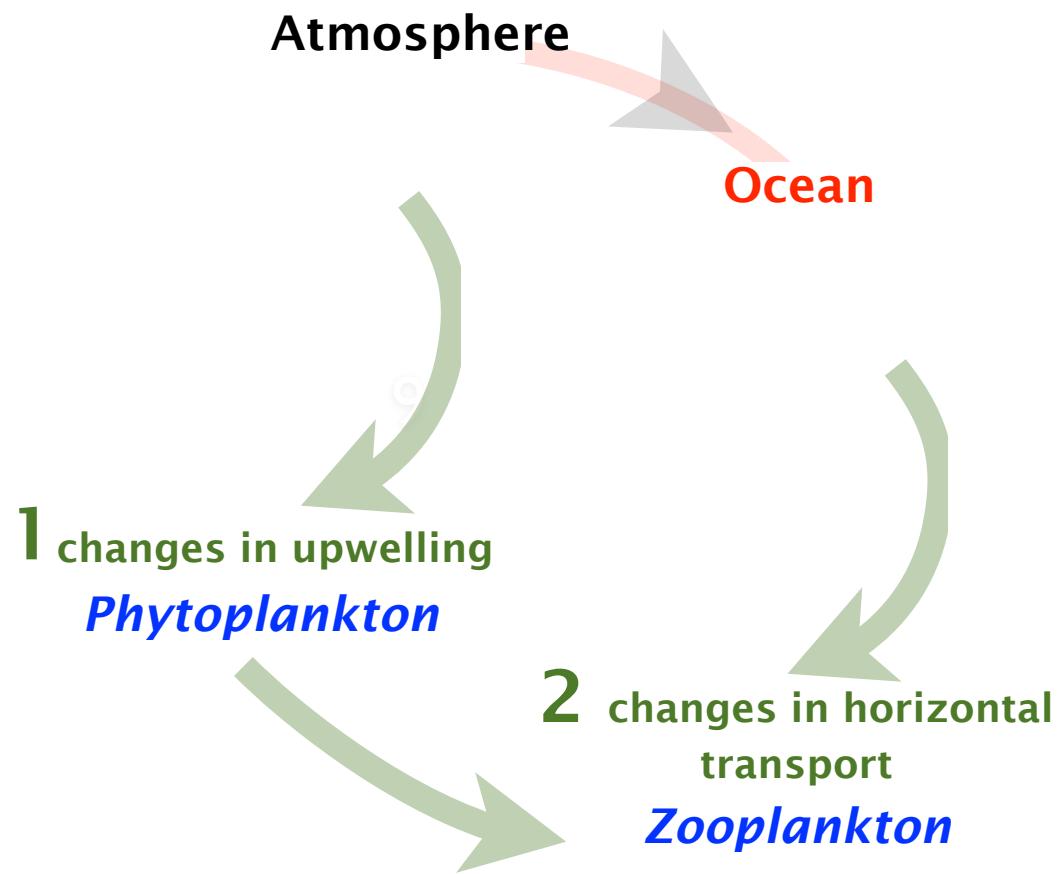
*Nyctiphanes simplex*



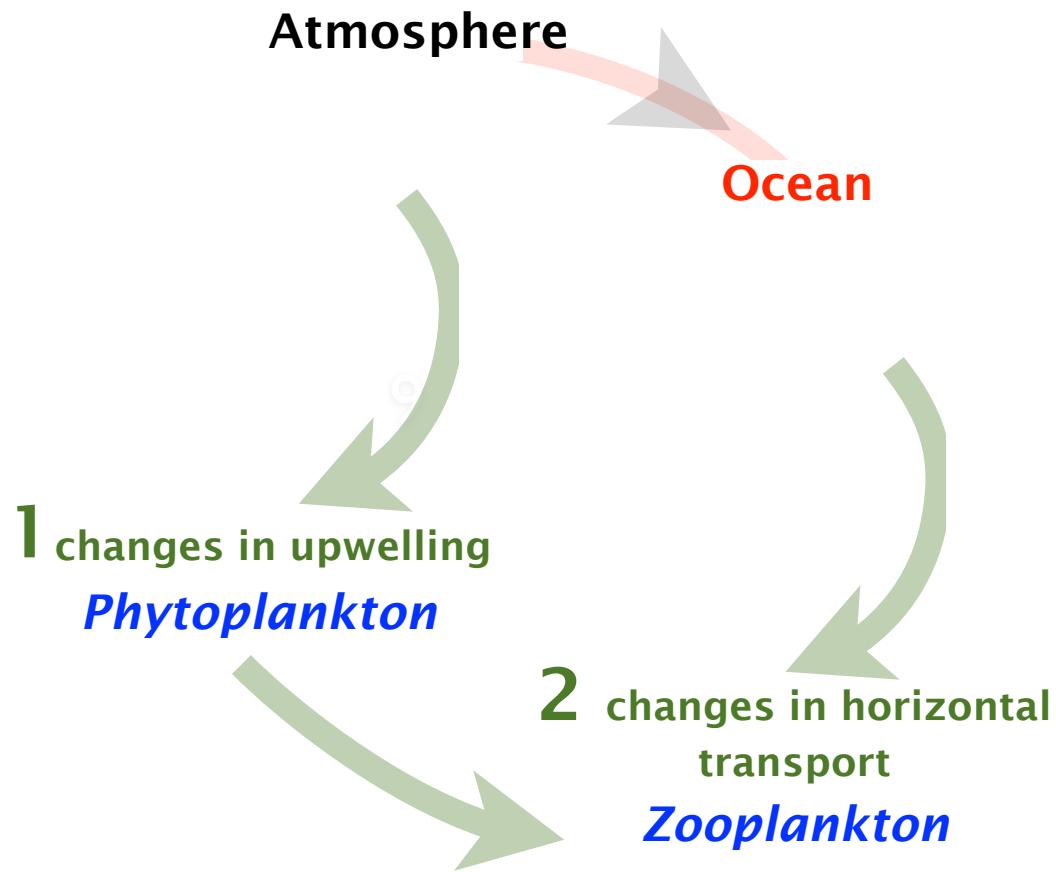
*Euphausia pacifica*



## *Types of impacts of climate variability on Ecosystem Species*

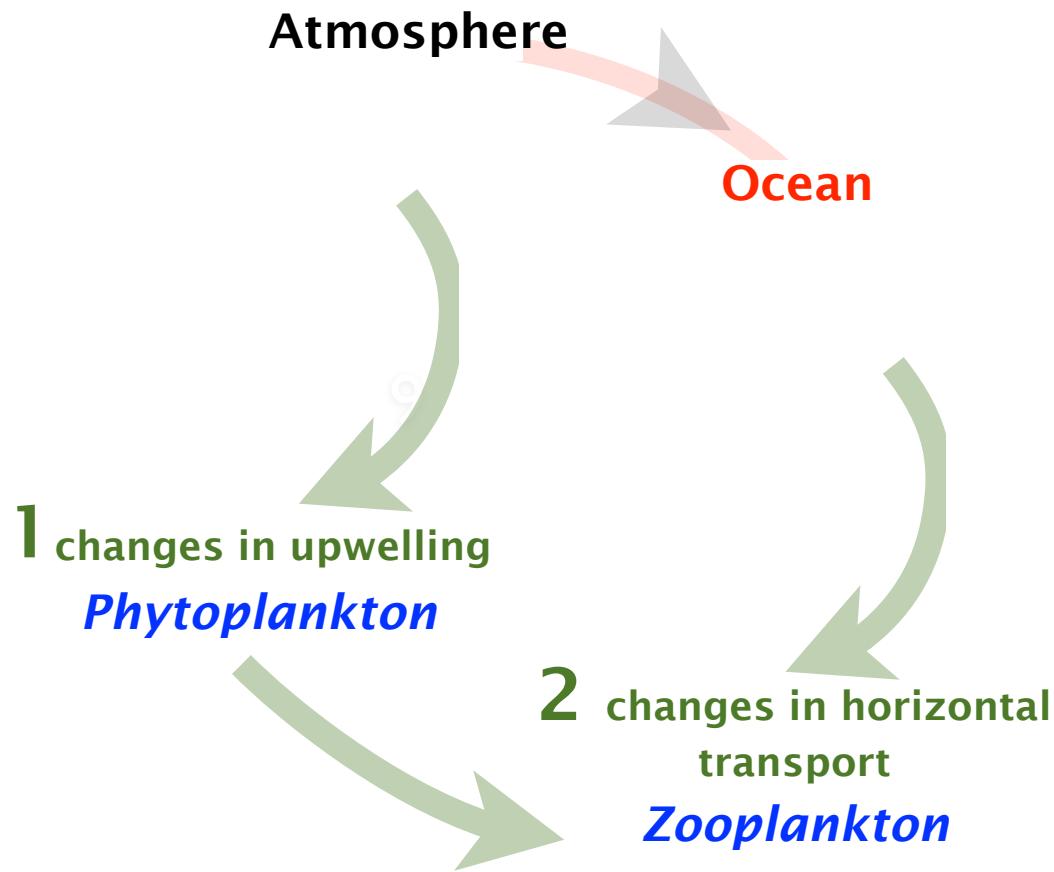


## *Types of impacts of climate variability on Ecosystem Species*



1 *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing*

## *Types of impacts of climate variability on Ecosystem Species*



1 *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing*

2 *Biology integrates the effects of oceanic forcing*

# *Framework for Pacific Climate Variability & Ecosystem*

# *Framework for Pacific Climate Variability & Ecosystem*



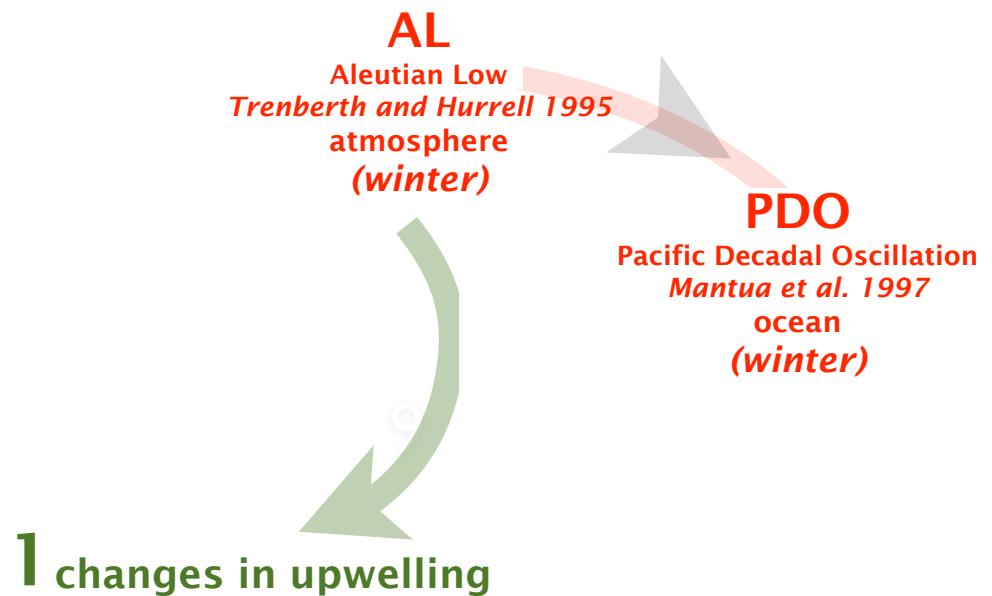
9

**How is this framework useful to understand, quantify and predict ecosystem variability?**

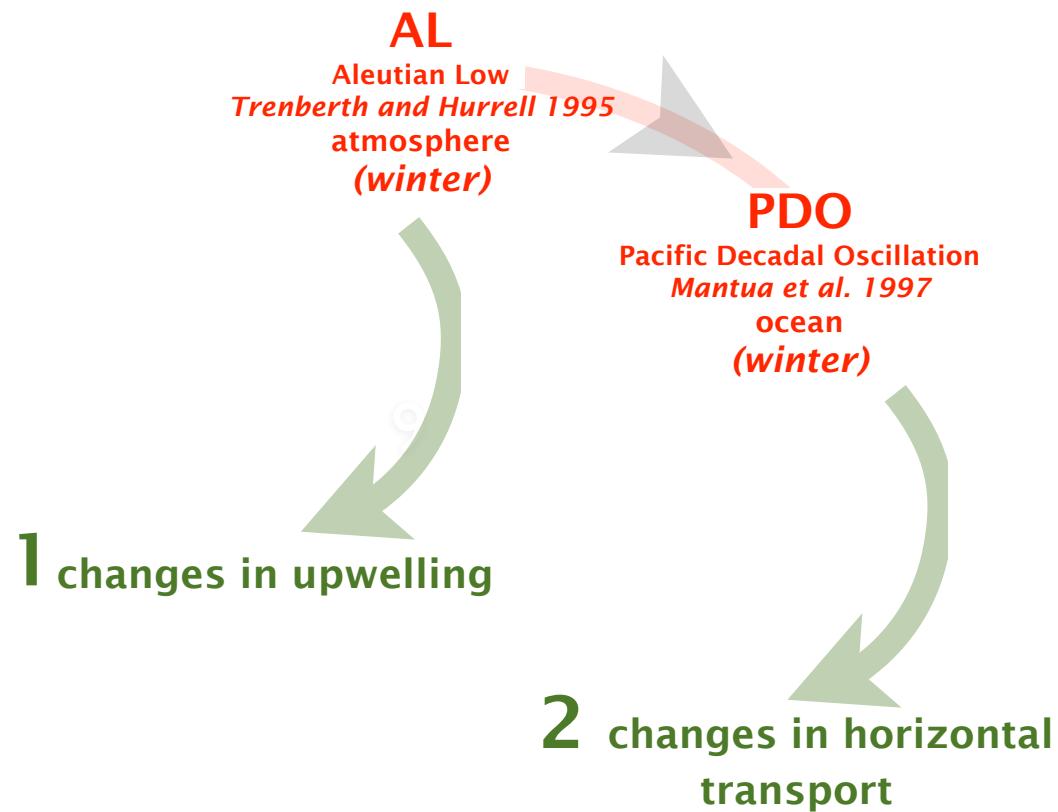
## *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



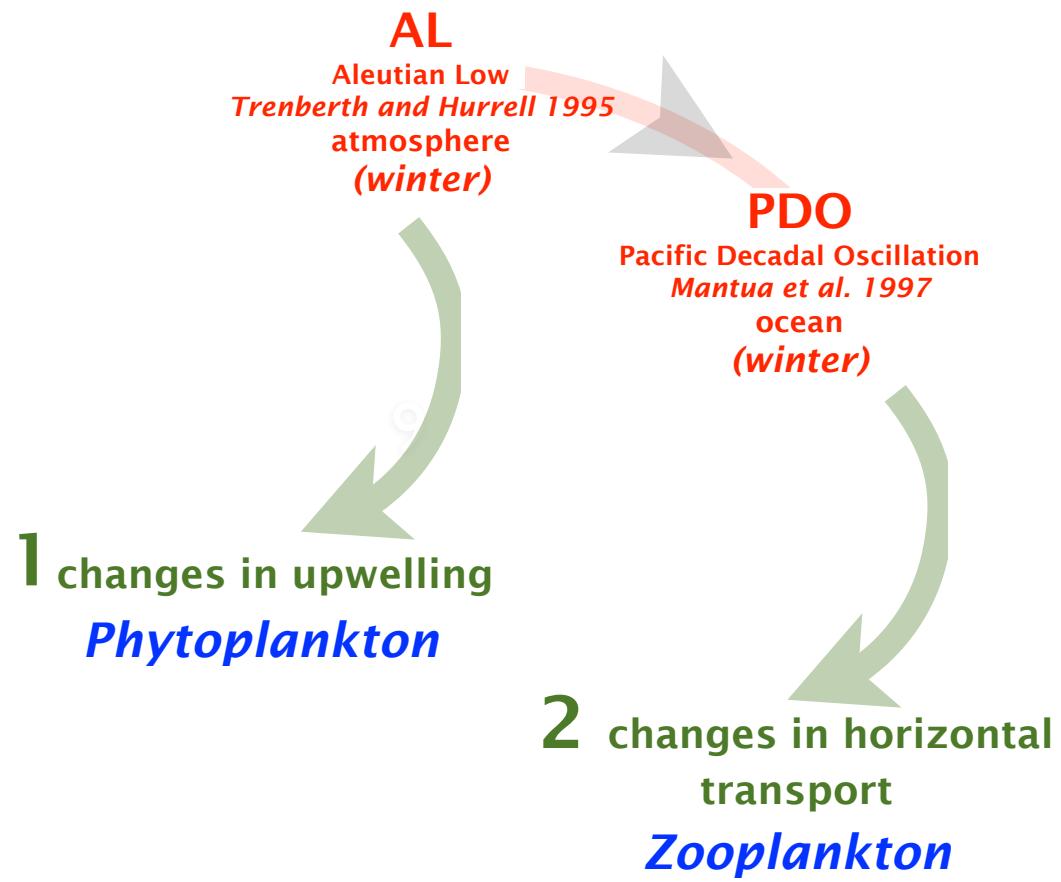
## *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



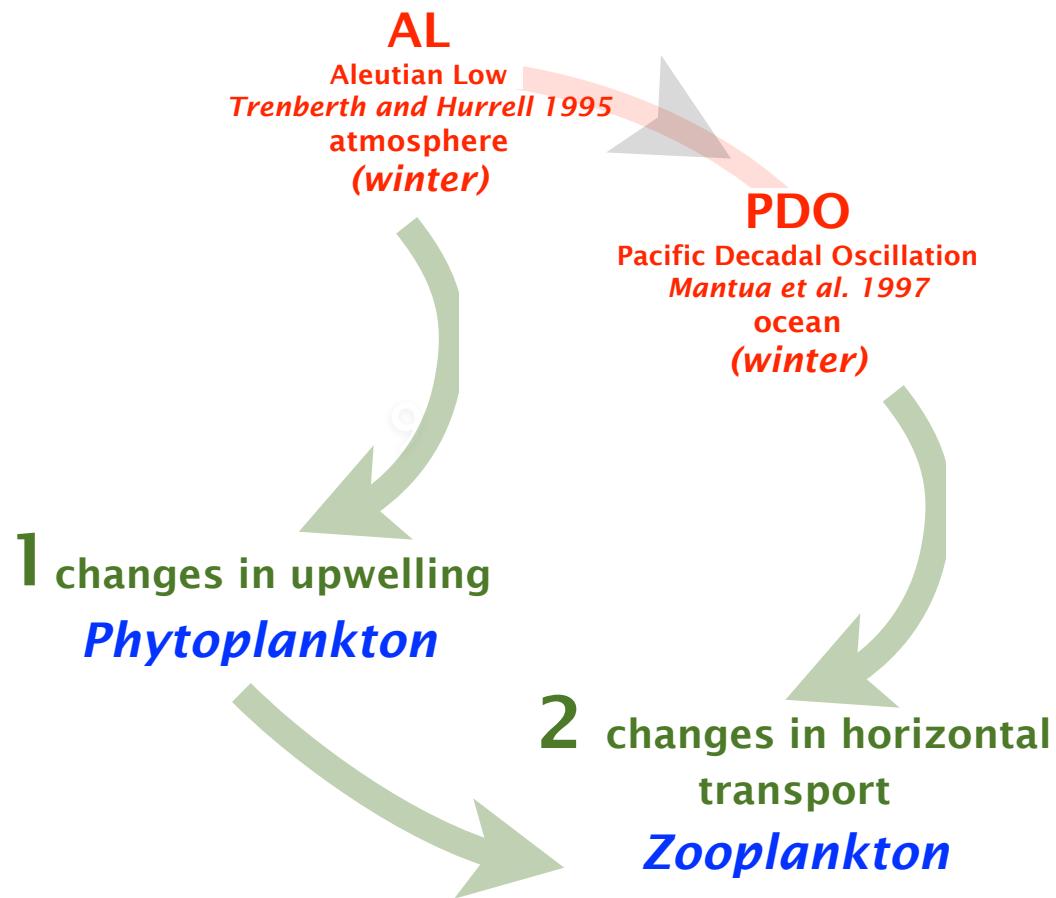
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



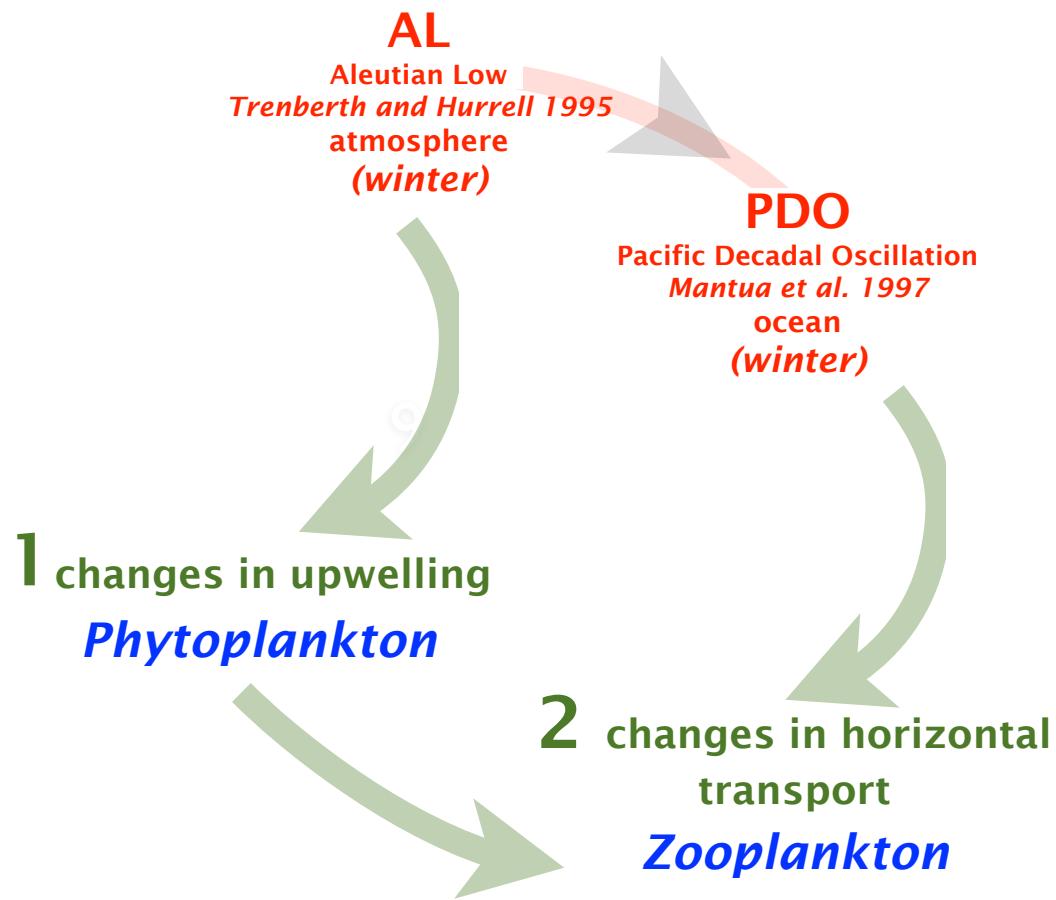
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*

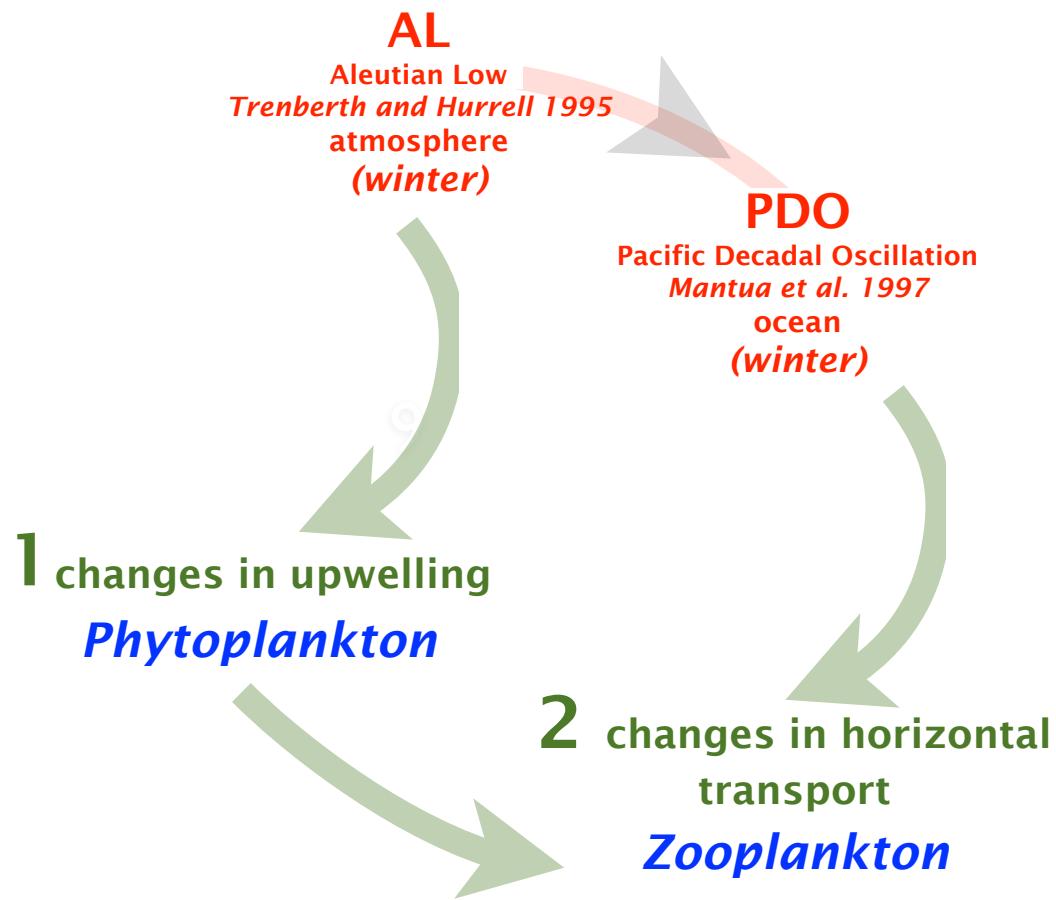


## *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



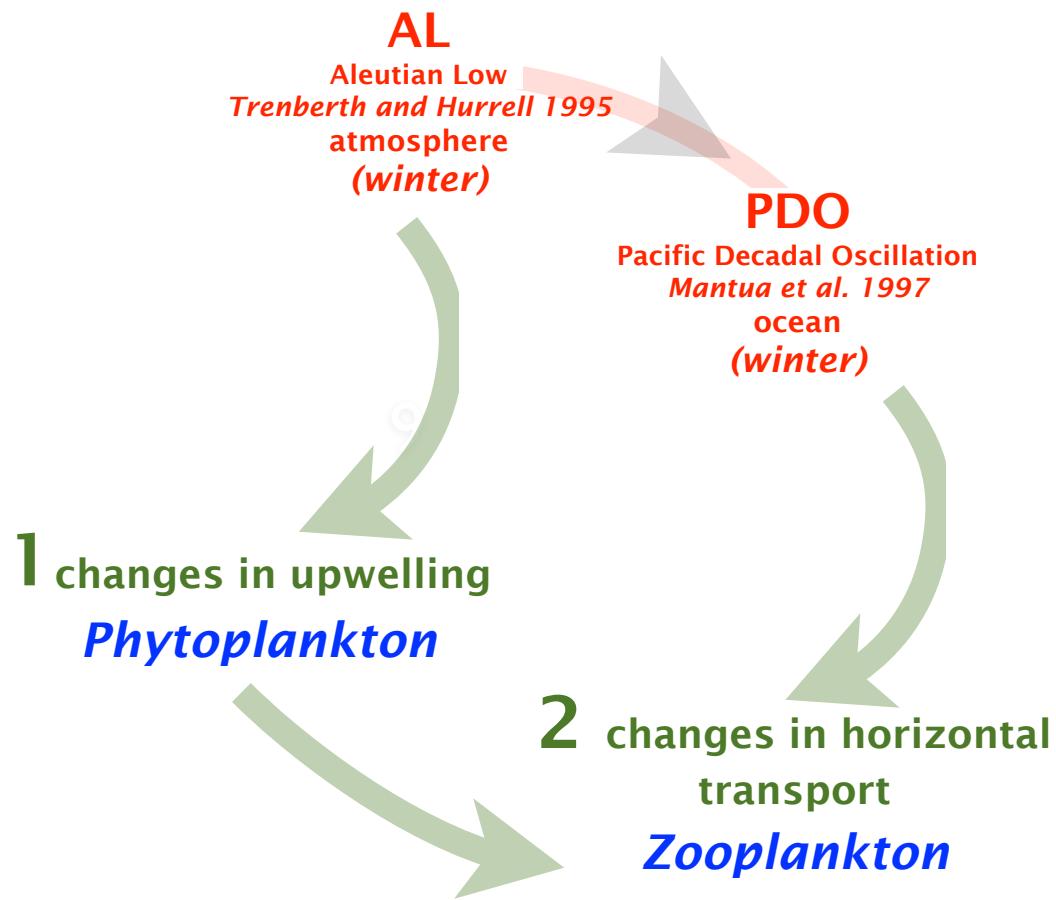
1 *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing*

## *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



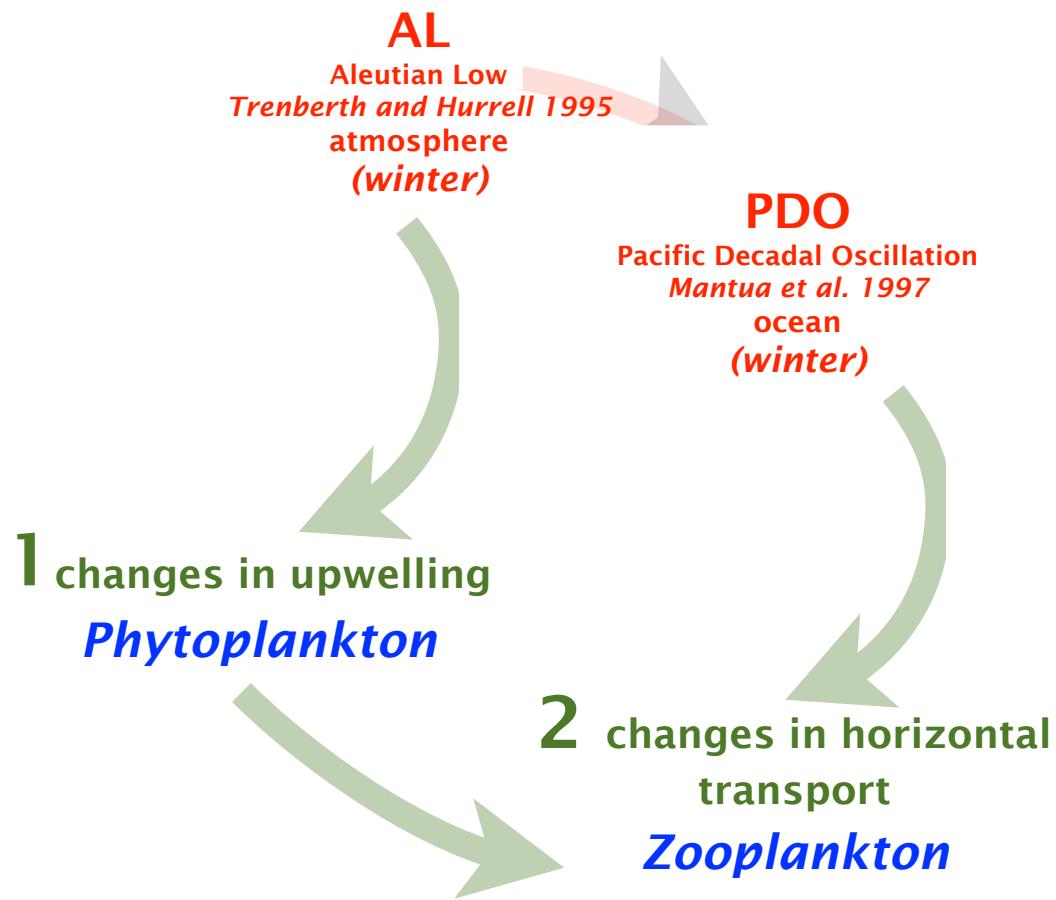
- 1 *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing*
- 2 *Biology integrates the effects of oceanic forcing*

## *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



- 1 *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing*
- 2 *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing 2X*

# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



## *A simple process model*

**Biology**

**Climate Forcing or Indices**

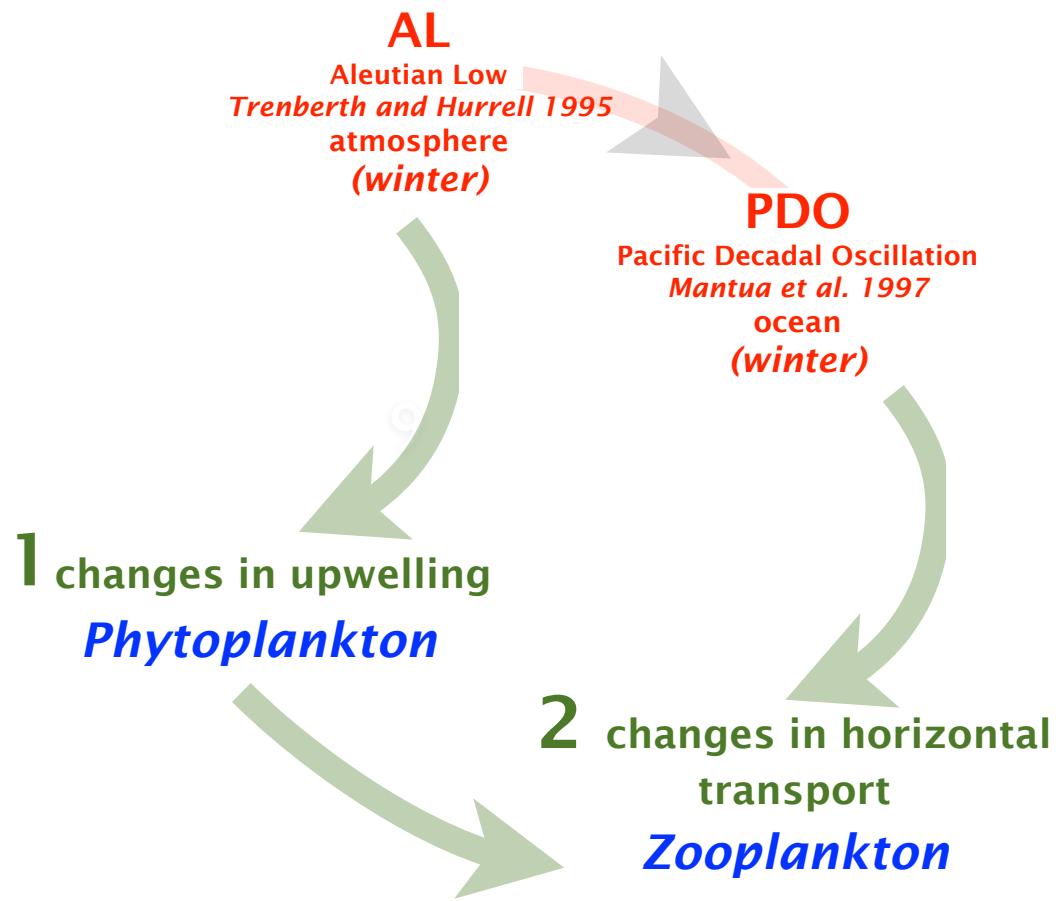
$$\beta(t+1) = a\beta(t) + b\phi(t) + \varepsilon(t)$$

↑

*memory*

*noise*

# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



*A simple process model*

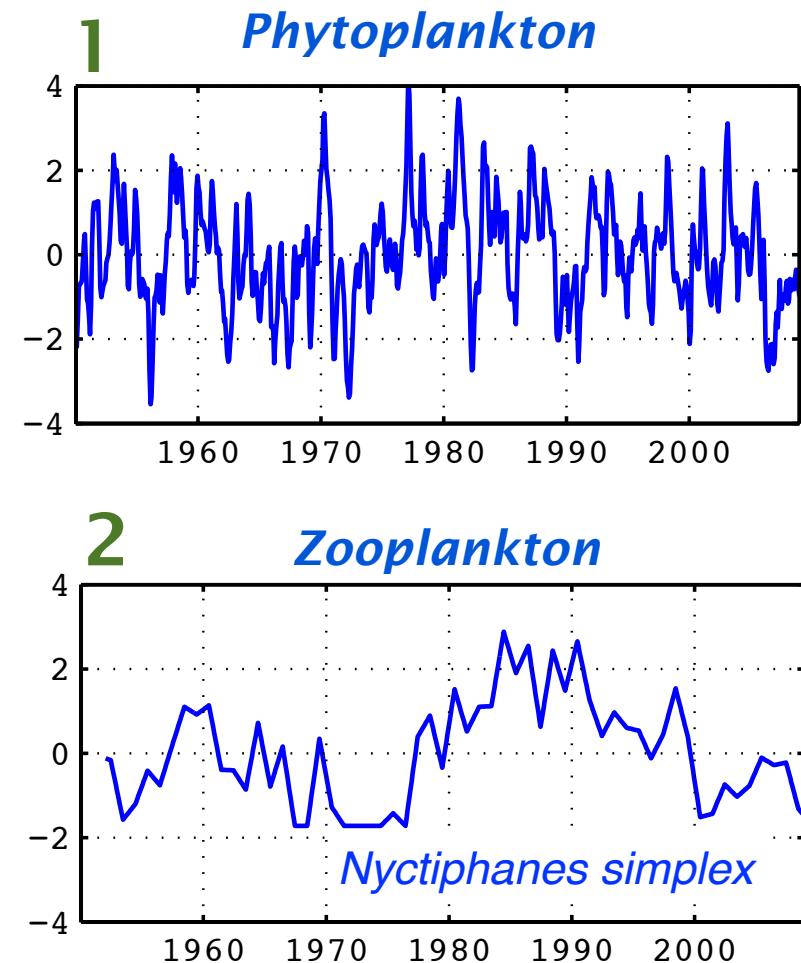
*Biology*

$$\beta(t+1) = a\beta(t) + b\phi(t) + \varepsilon(t)$$

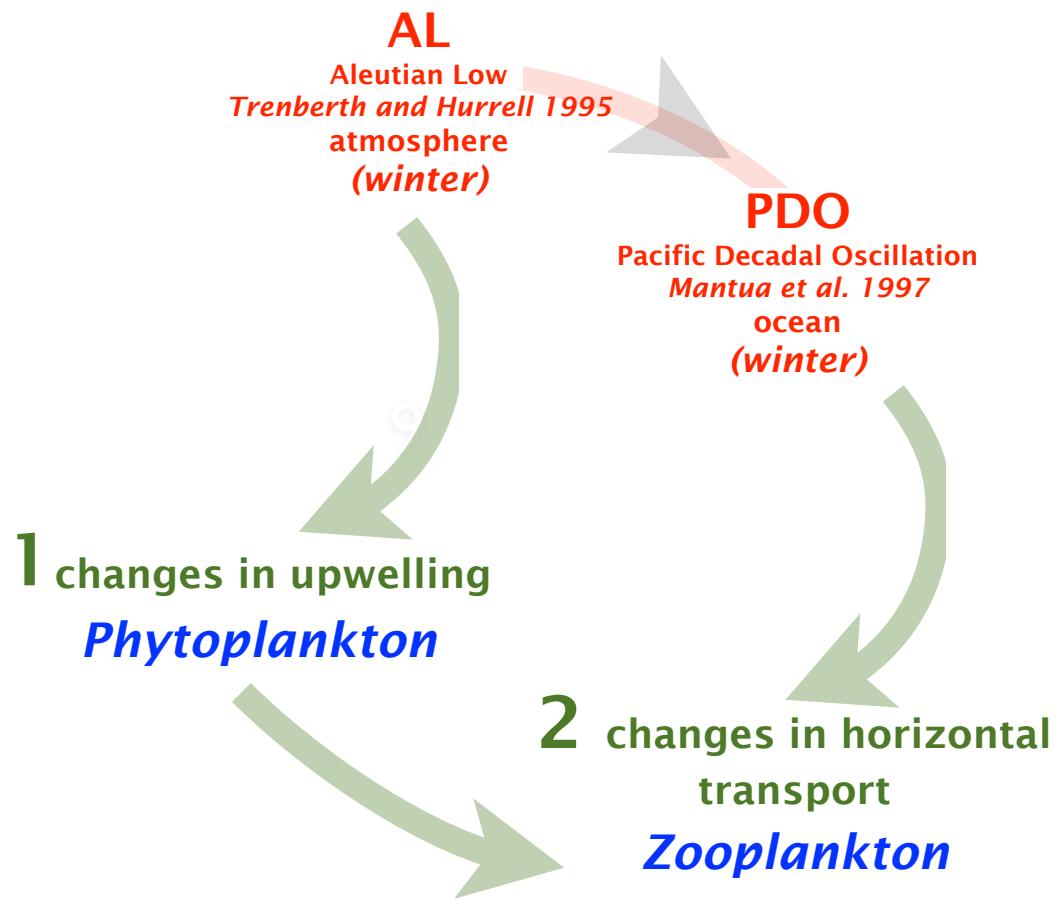
*↑  
memory*

*Climate Forcing or Indices*

*noise*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



*A simple process model*

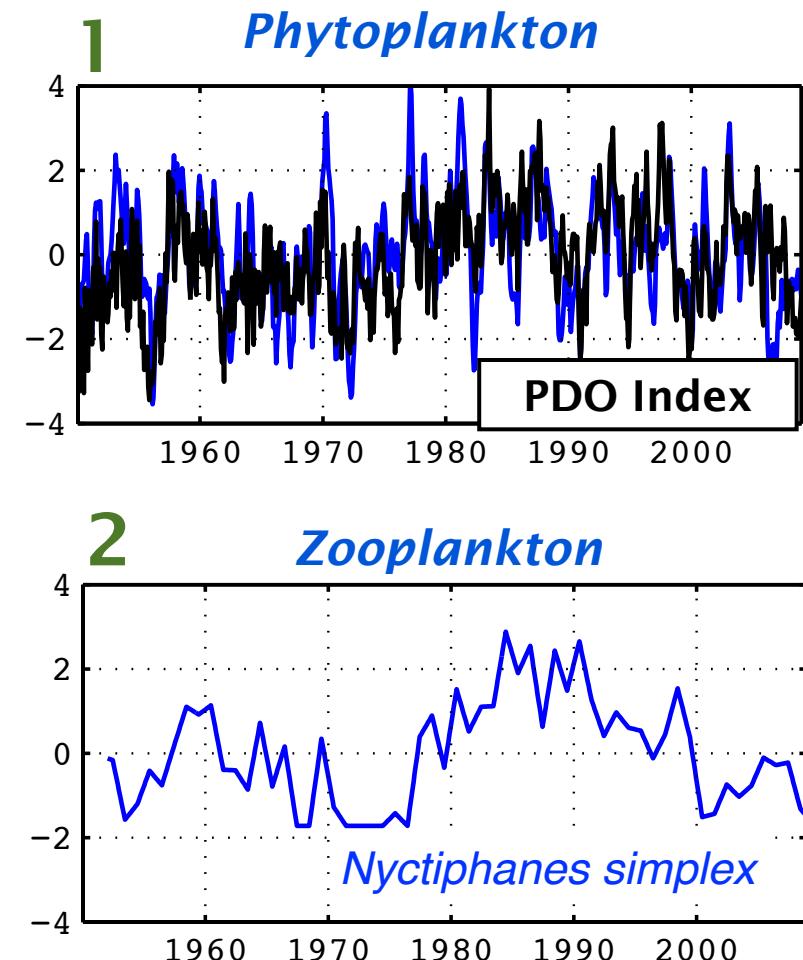
*Biology*

*Climate Forcing or Indices*

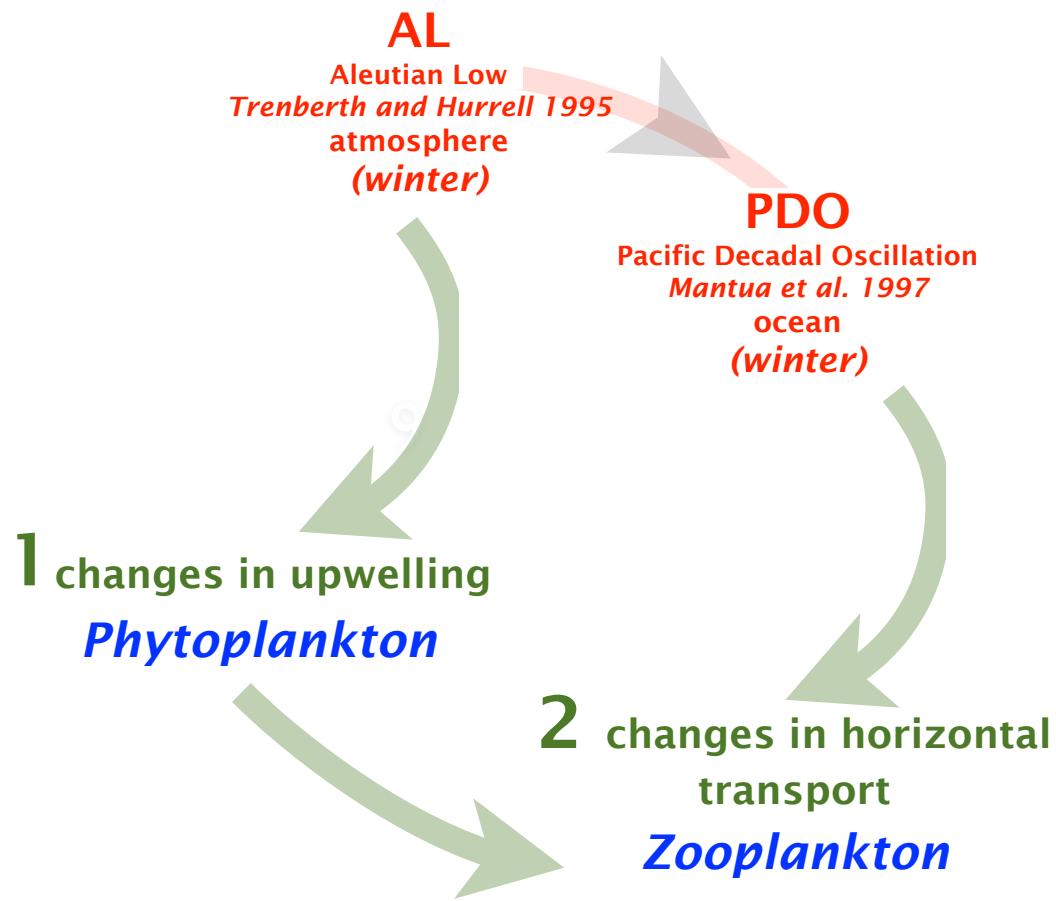
$$\beta(t+1) = a\beta(t) + b\phi(t) + \varepsilon(t)$$

*↑  
memory*

*noise*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



*A simple process model*

*Biology*

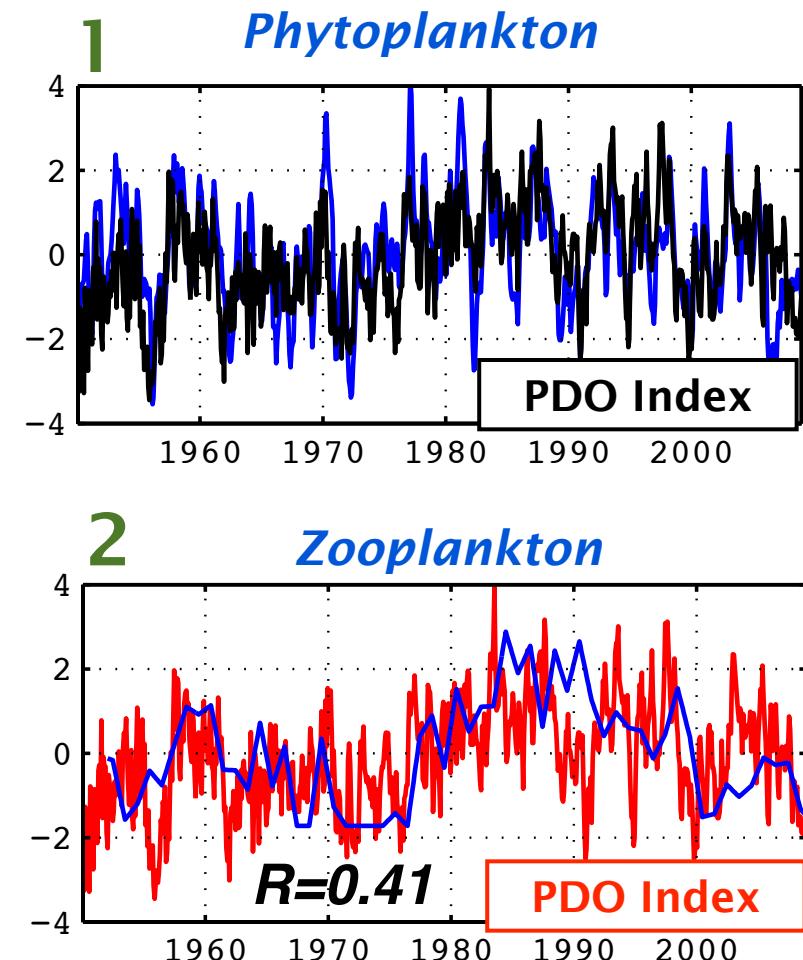
$$\beta(t+1) = a\beta(t) + b\phi(t) + \varepsilon(t)$$



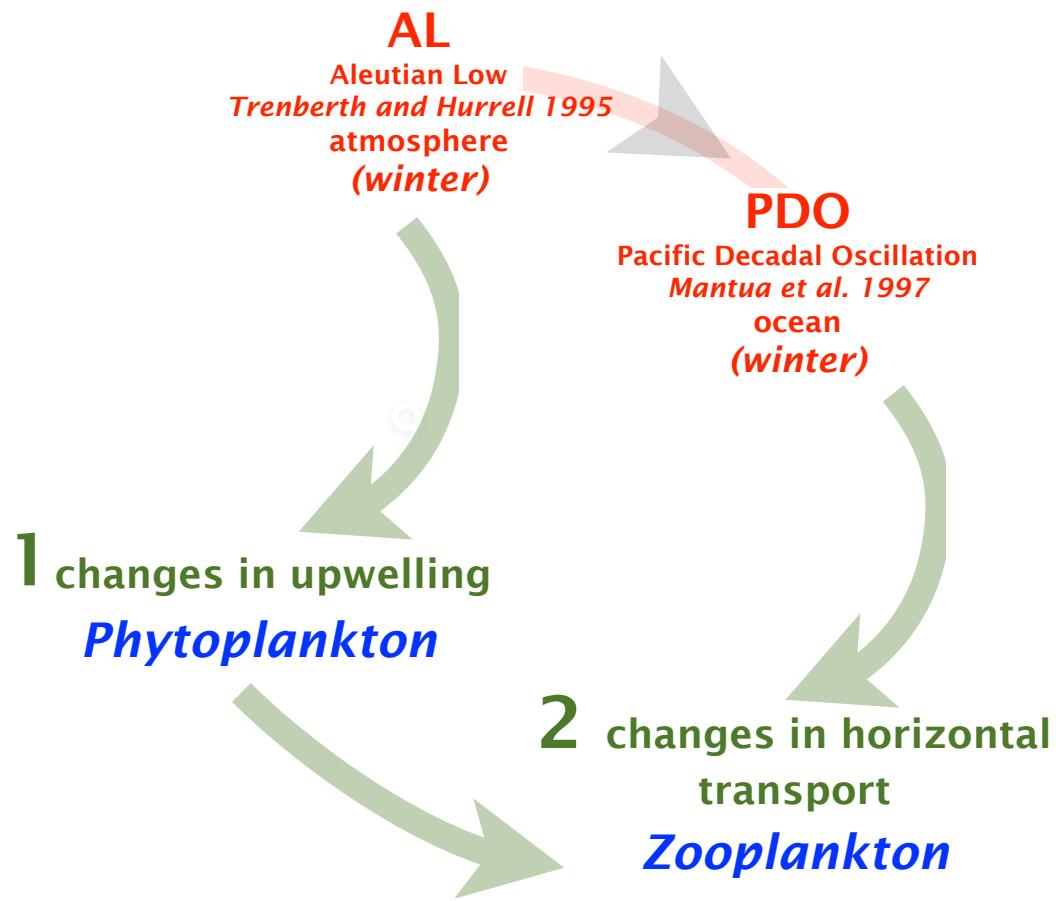
*memory*

*Climate Forcing or Indices*

*noise*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



*A simple process model*

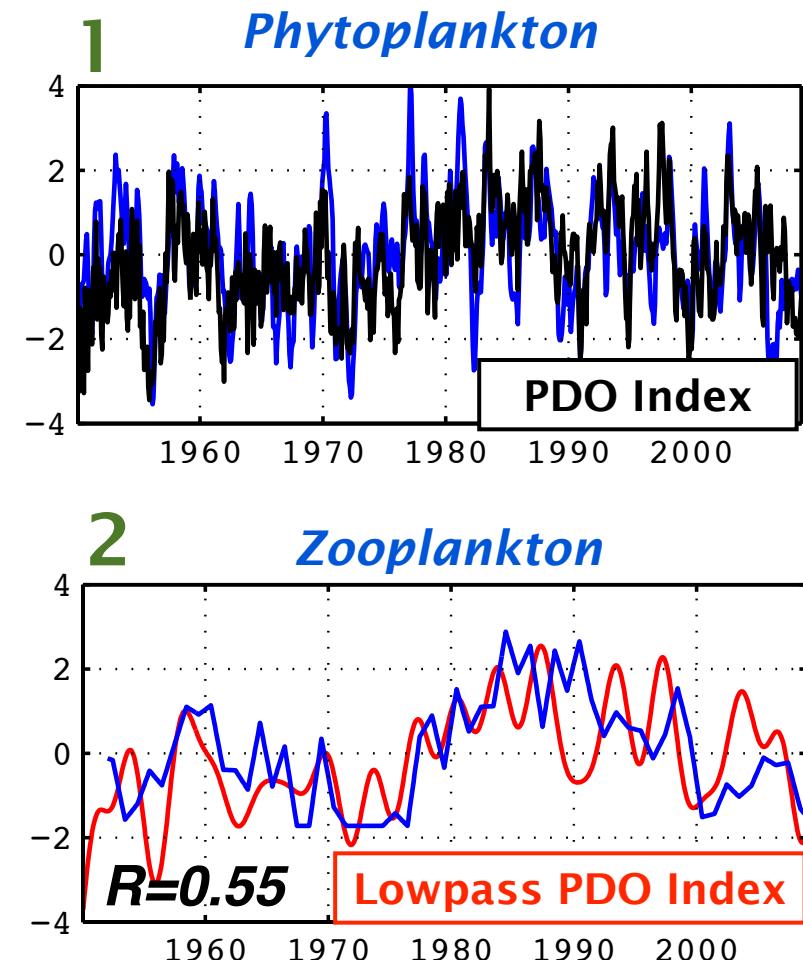
*Biology*

*Climate Forcing or Indices*

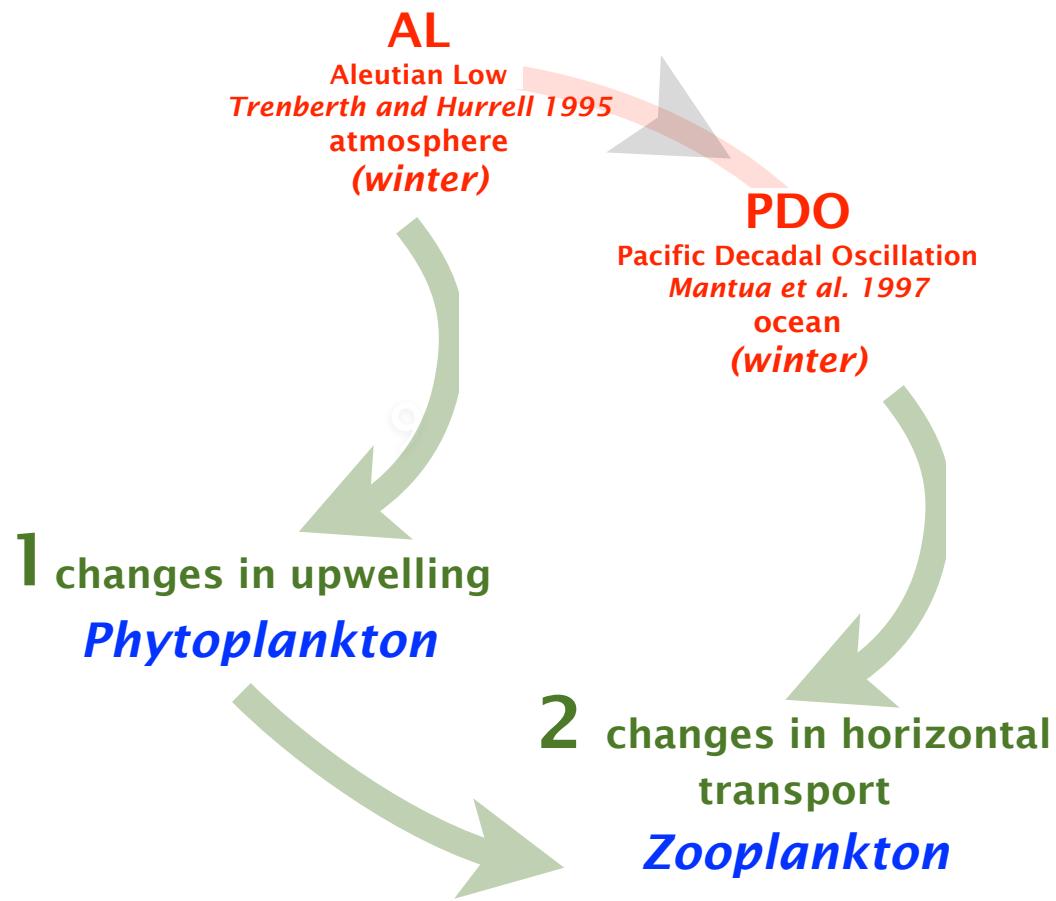
$$\beta(t+1) = a\beta(t) + b\phi(t) + \varepsilon(t)$$

*↑  
memory*

*noise*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



*A simple process model*

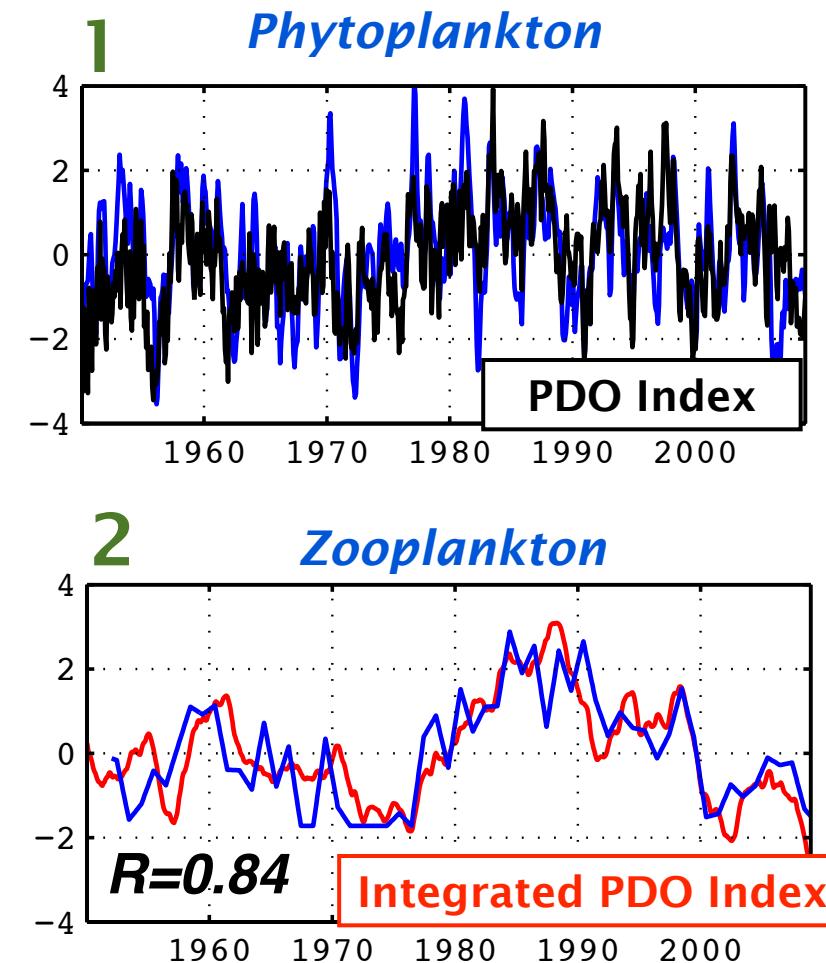
*Biology*

*Climate Forcing or Indices*

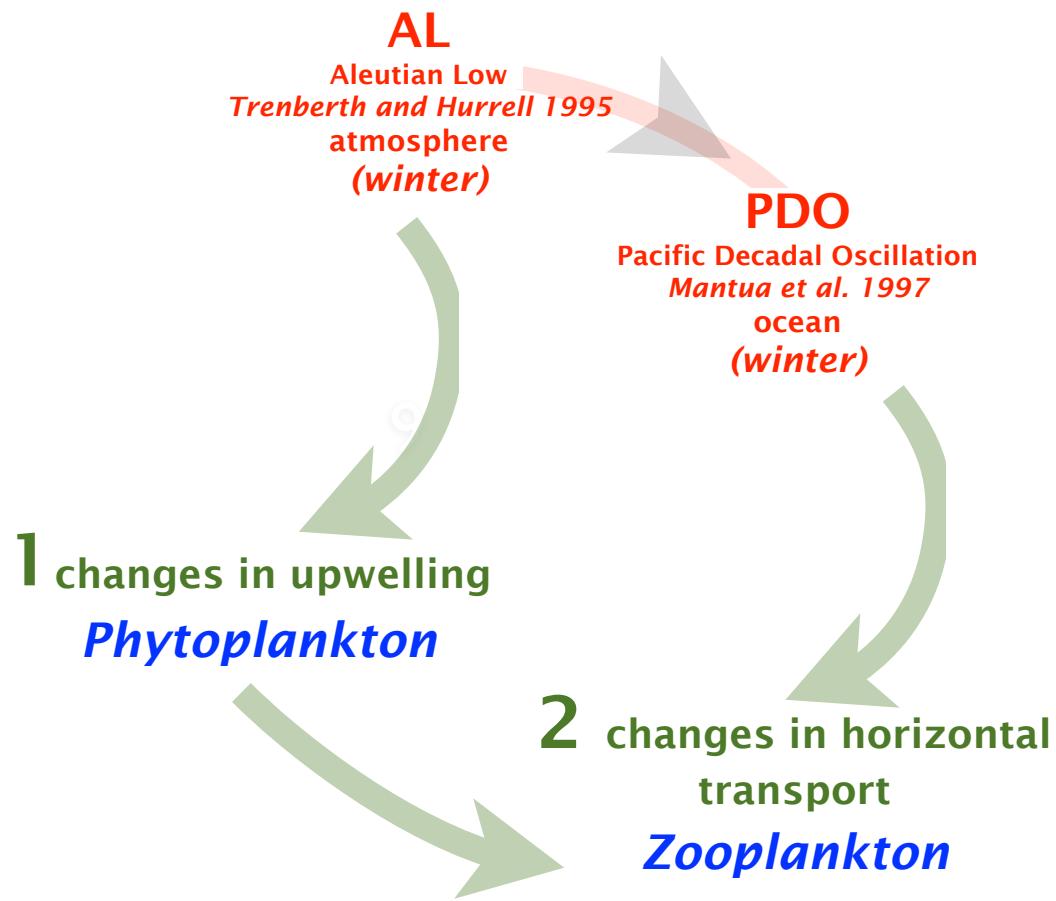
$$\beta(t+1) = a\beta(t) + b\phi(t) + \varepsilon(t)$$

$\uparrow$   
*memory*

*noise*



# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



*A simple process model*

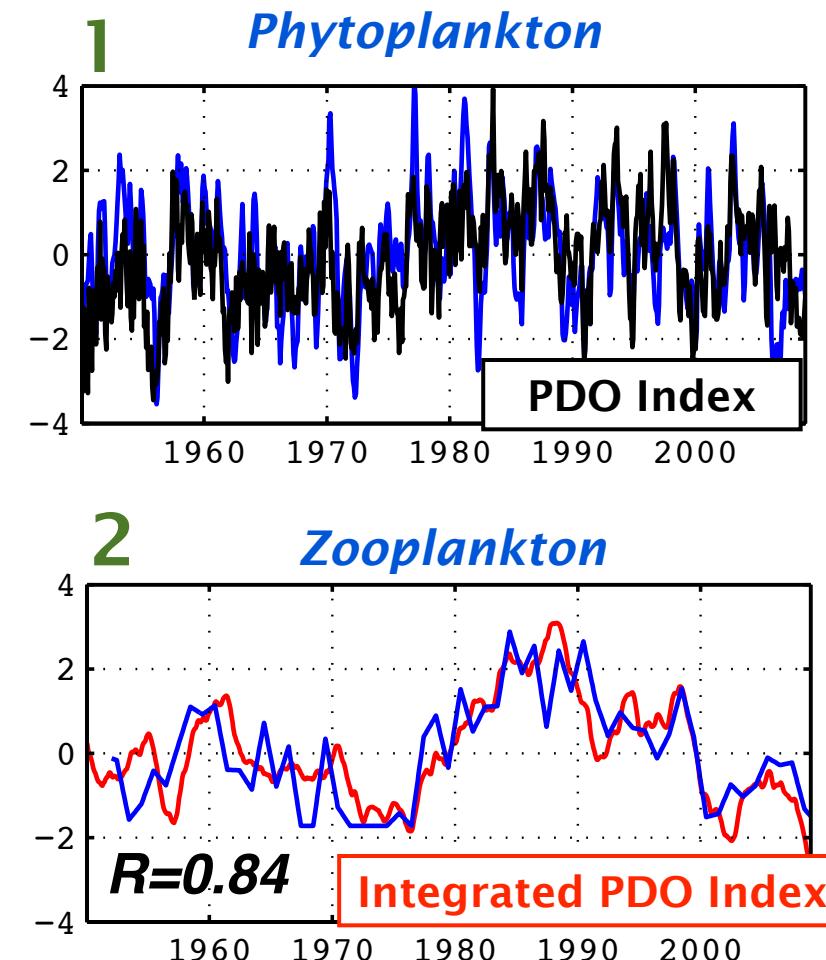
*Biology*

*Climate Forcing or Indices*

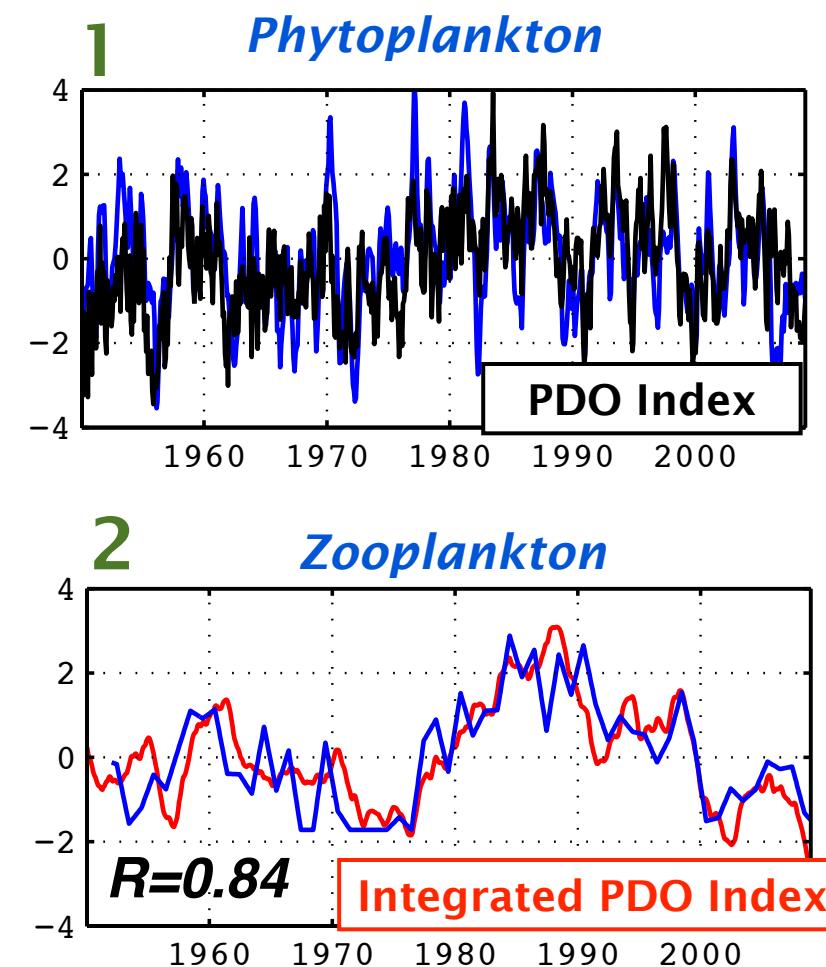
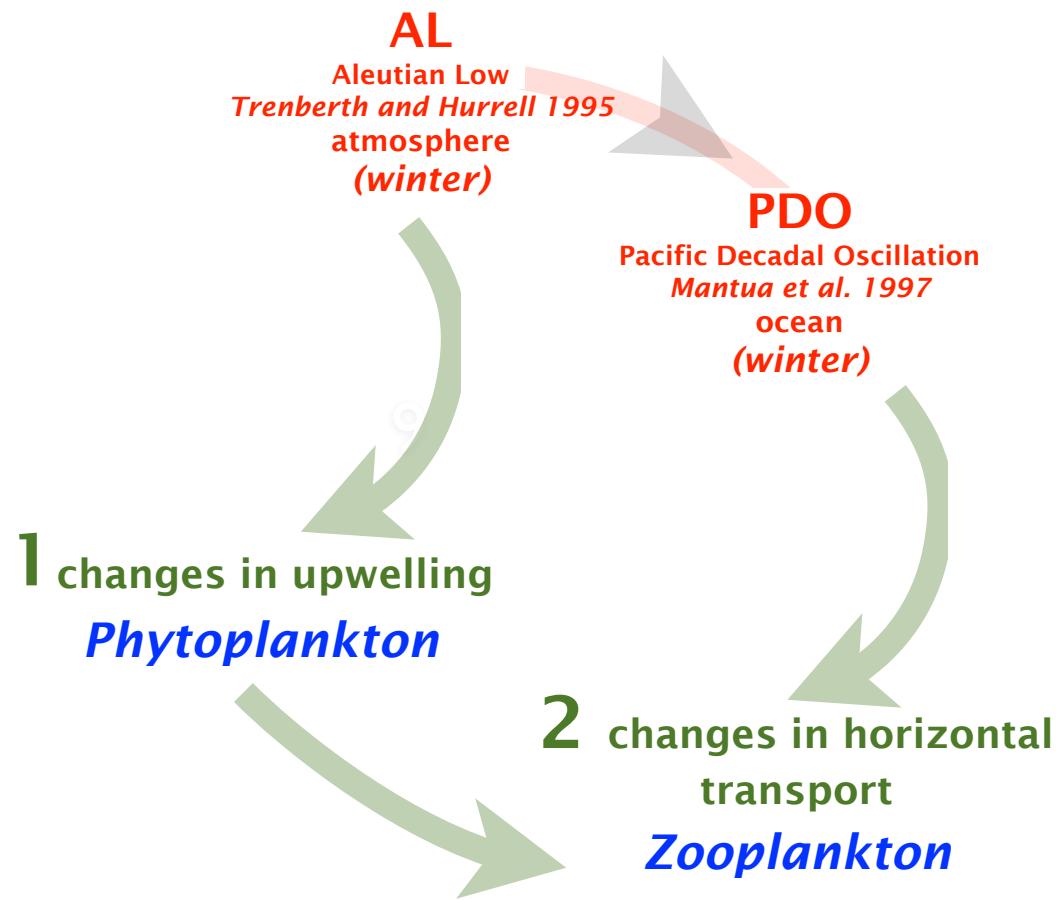
$$\beta(t+1) = a\beta(t) + b\phi(t) + \varepsilon(t)$$

$\uparrow$   
*memory*

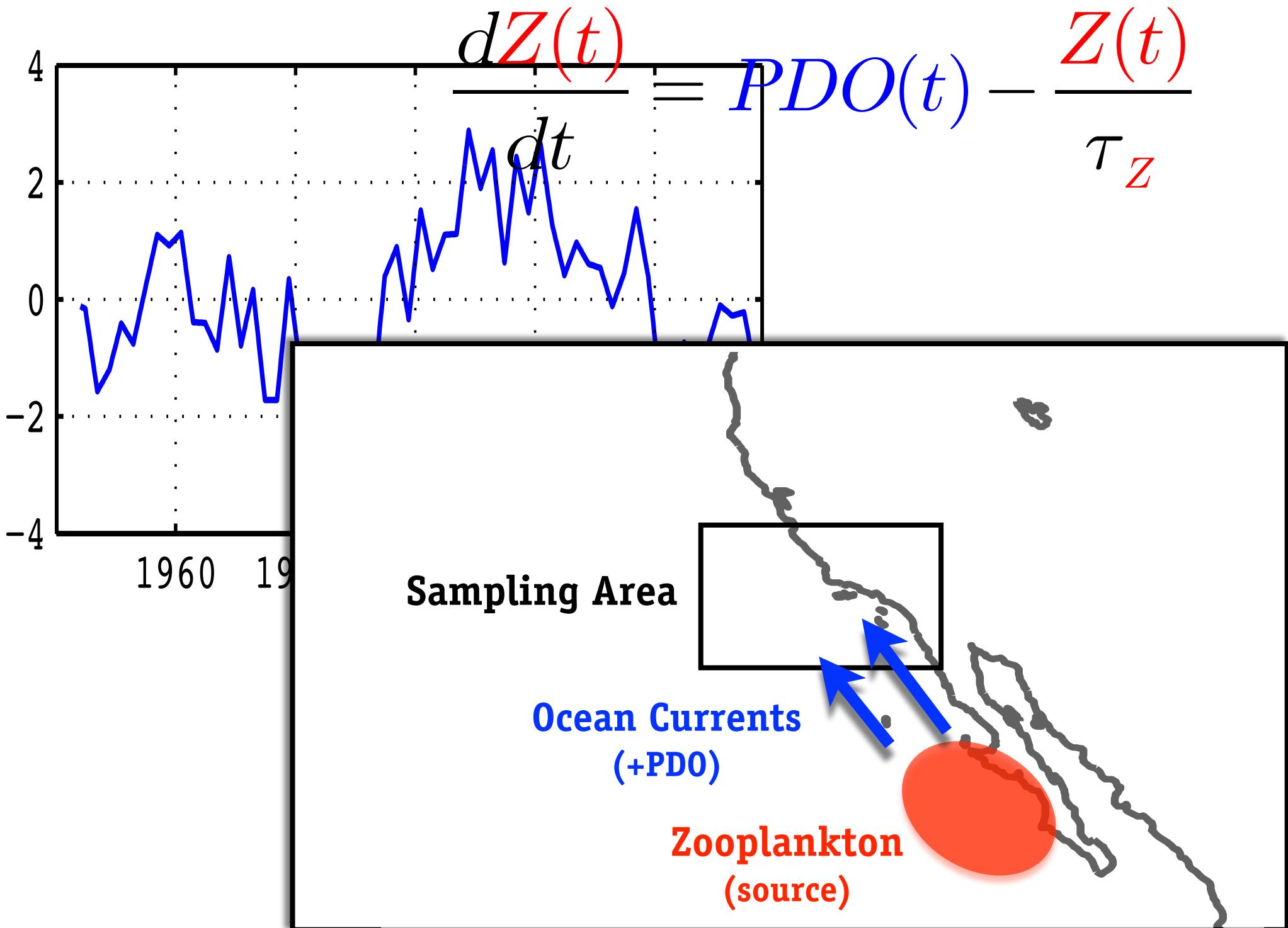
*noise*



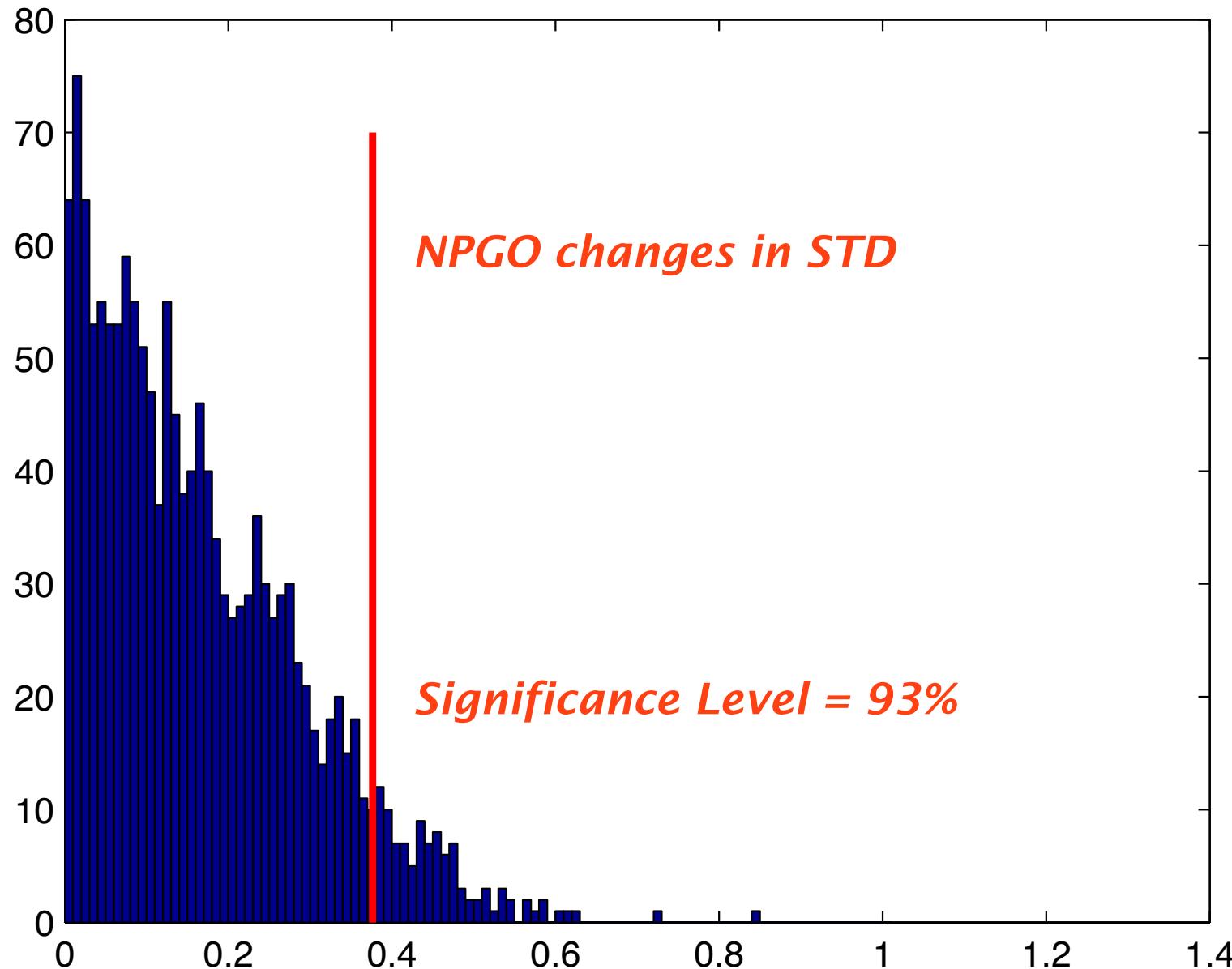
# *Types of impacts of climate modes on Ecosystem*



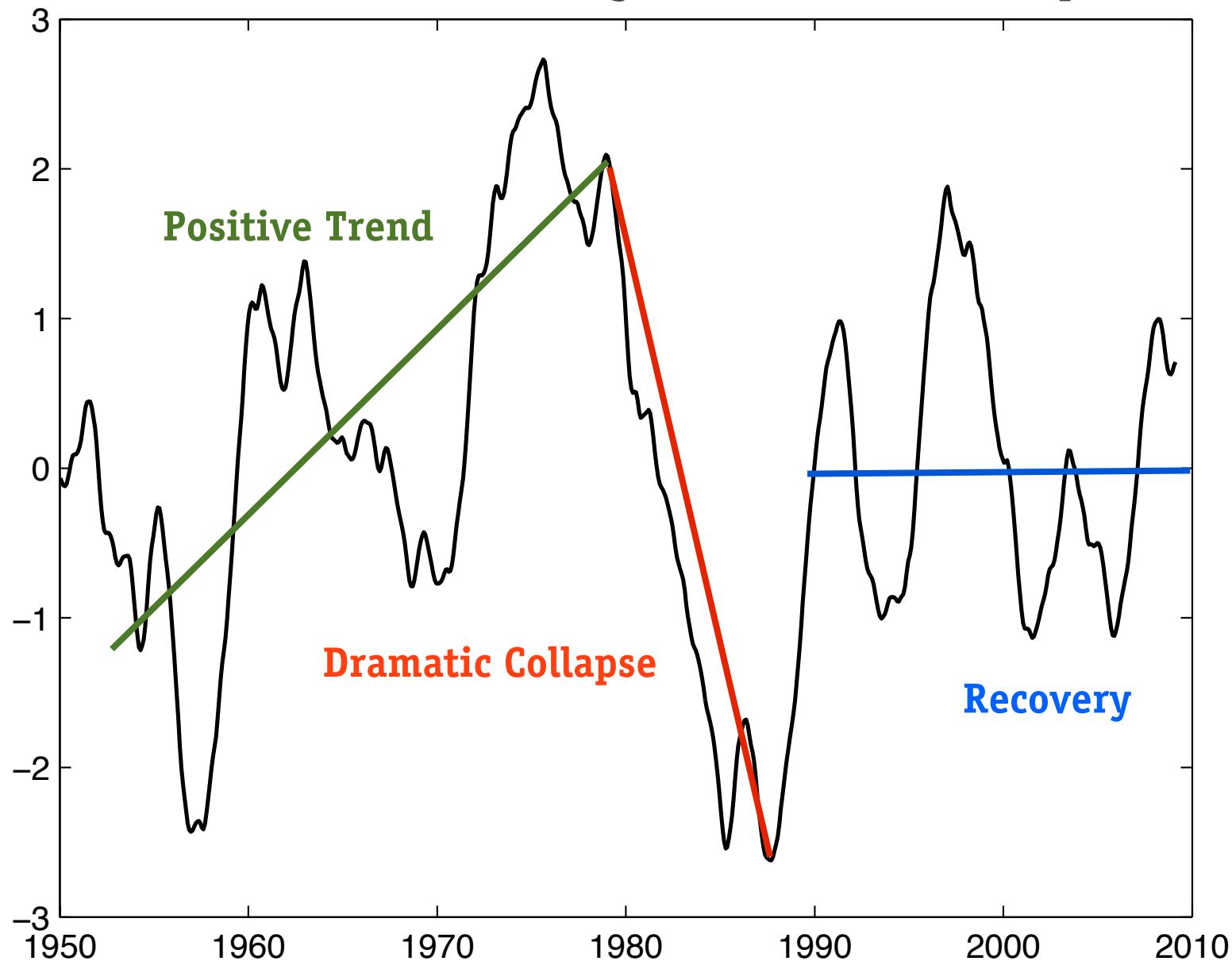
- 1** *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing*
- 2** *Biology integrates the effects of atmospheric forcing 2X*



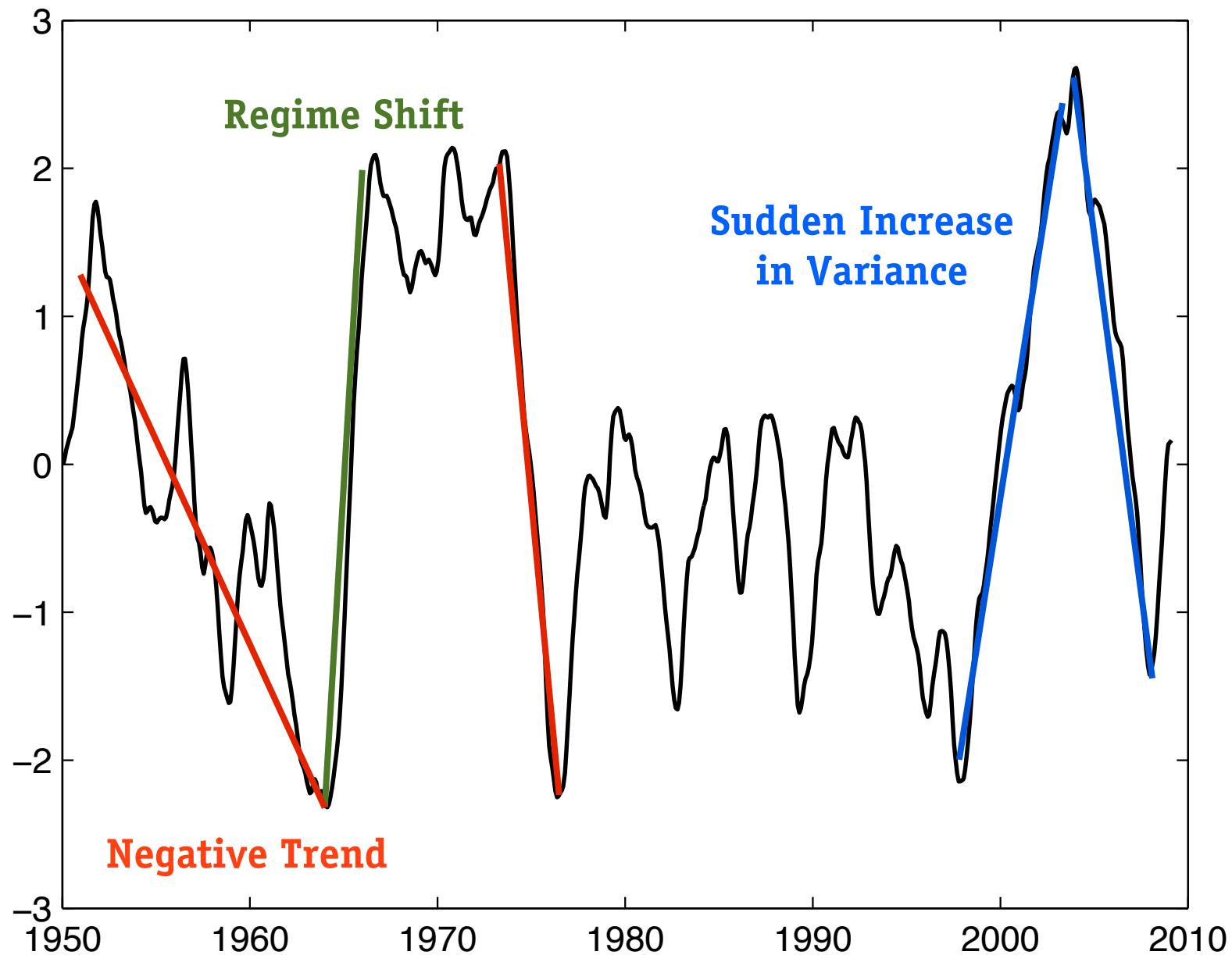
## *Probability Distribution of changes in STD*



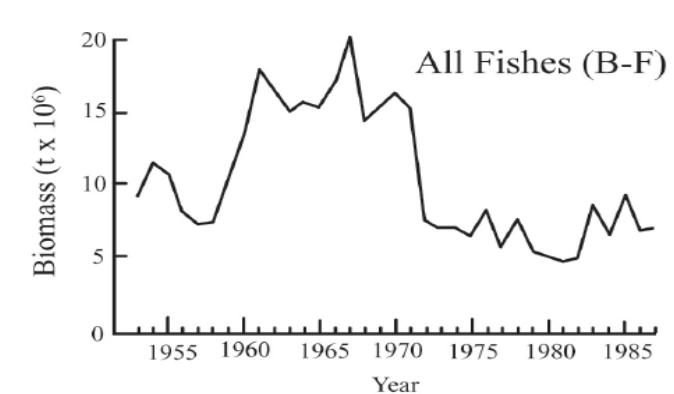
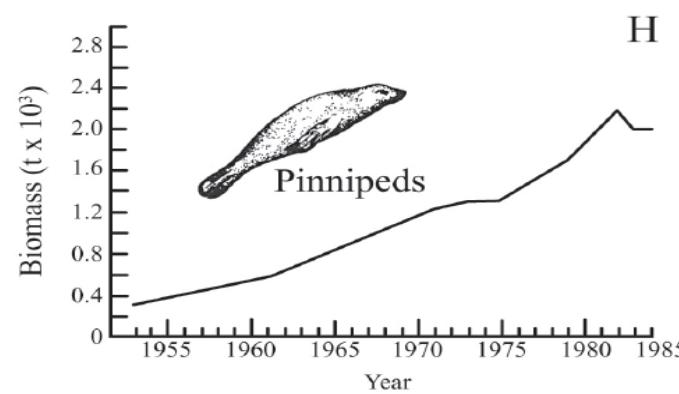
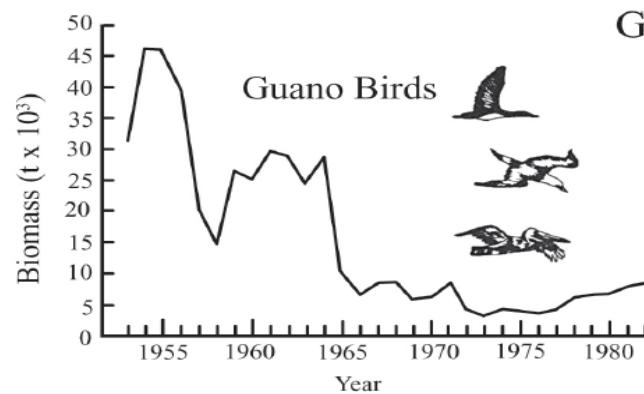
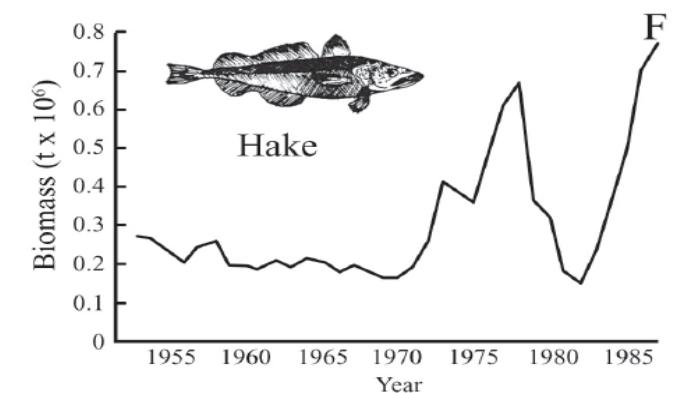
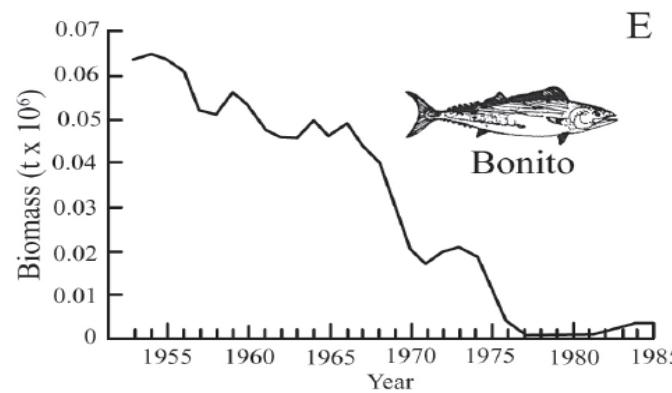
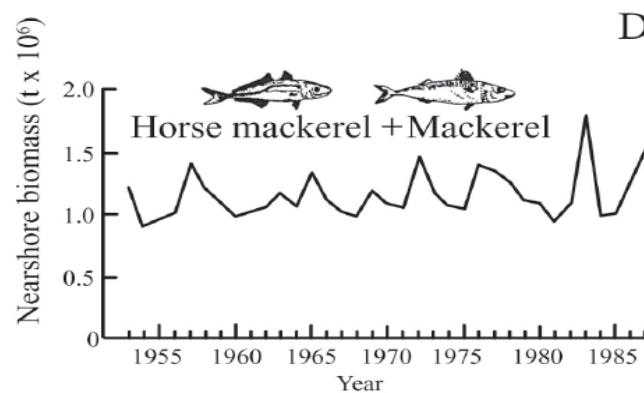
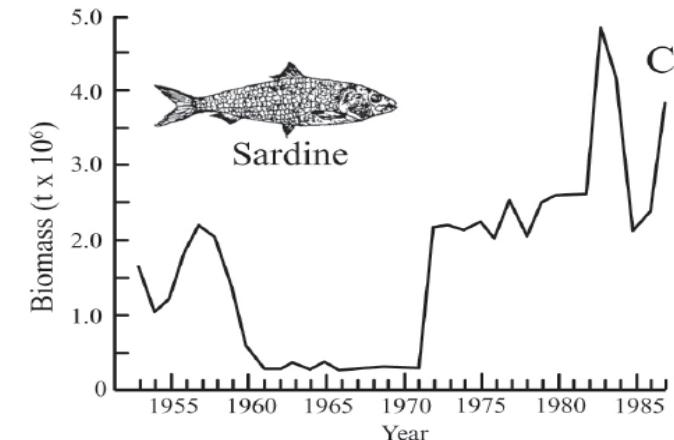
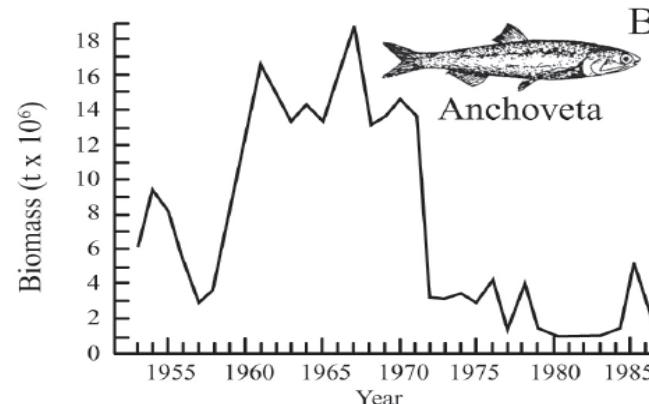
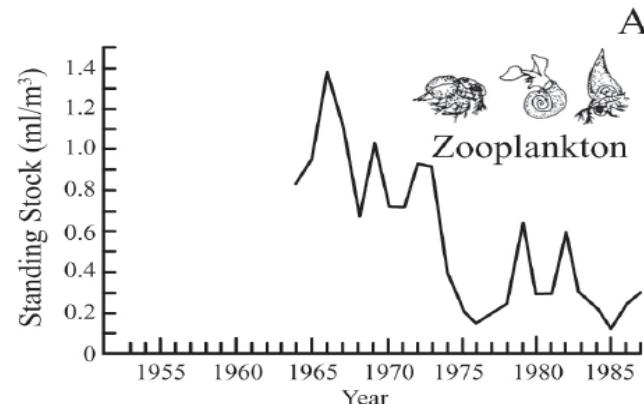
## Effects of Cumulative Forcing on an Idealized Fish Species



# Idealized Fish Species

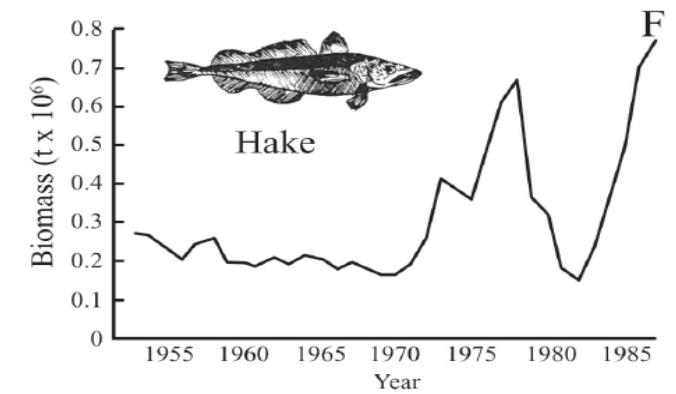
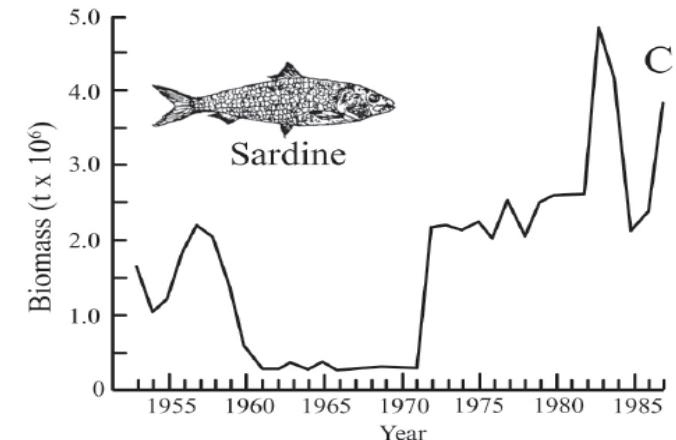
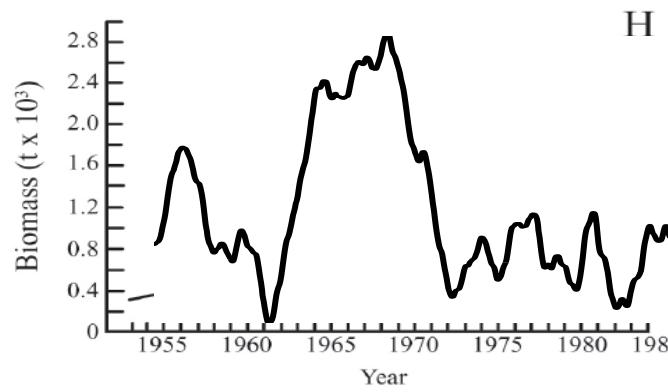
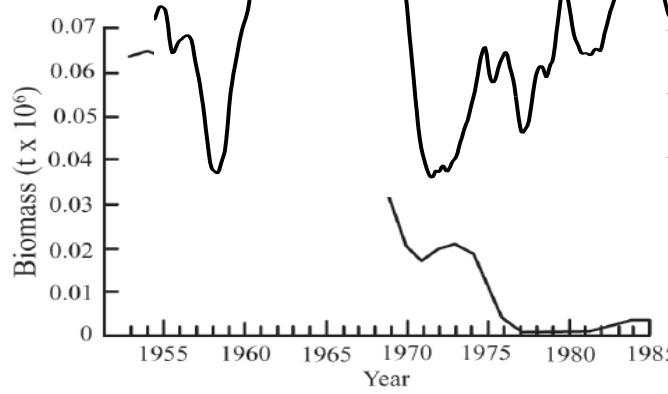
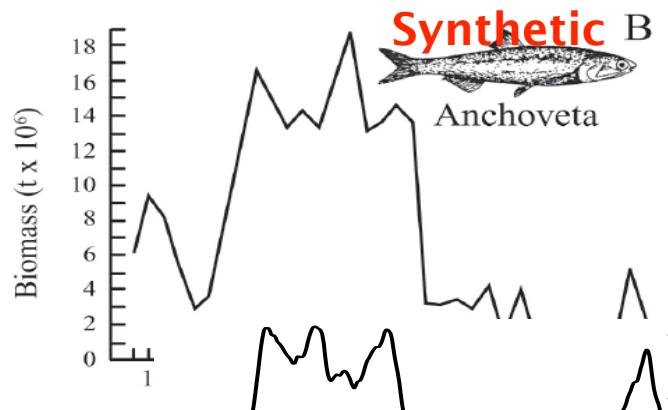
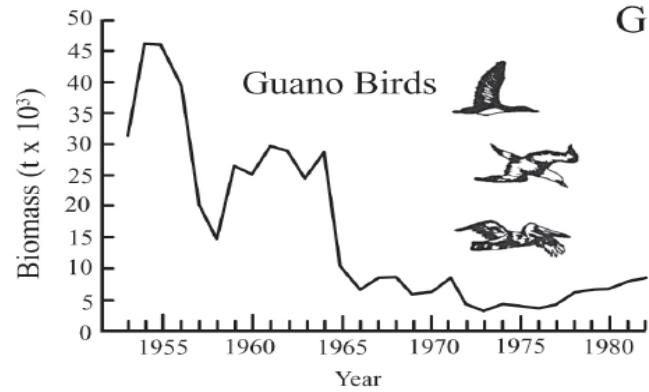
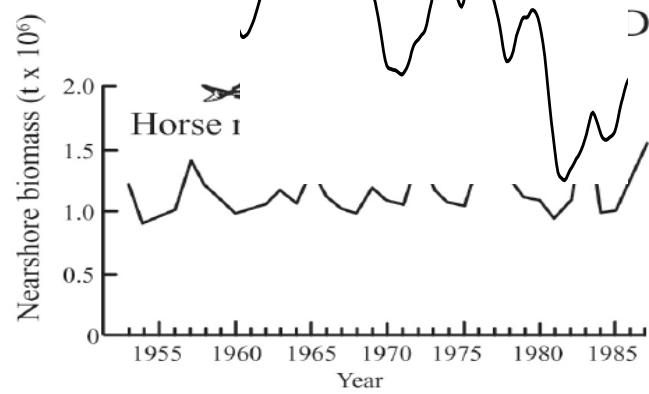
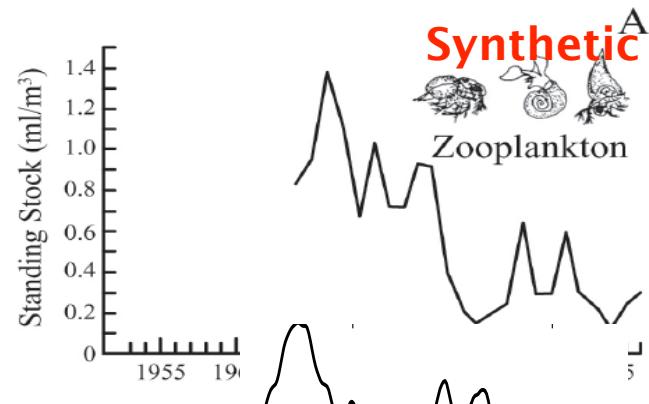


# Timeseries of Fish



(from Polovina 2005, modified from Muck 1989)

# Timeseries of Fish



(from Polovina 2005, modified from Muck 1989)



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