

Long term copepod variability in the coastal Ligurian and Tyrrhenian seas (Mediterranean)

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Why the Mediterranean Sea?

It is an enclosed sea functioning as a small ocean.

Its sub-basins are very sensitive to climate forcing.

Long term datasets are available and can be compared.

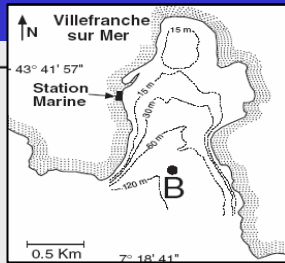
A satellite-style map of the Mediterranean region, showing the Mediterranean Sea, the Balkans, the Middle East, and parts of Europe and Africa. The land is colored in shades of green and brown, while the sea is dark blue. The text is overlaid on the map.

AIM

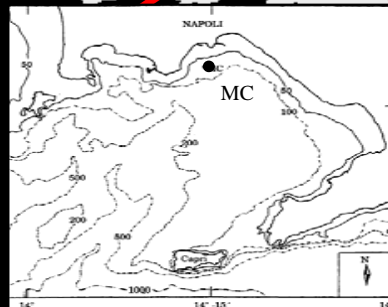
**Comparison between two long-term time series
based on copepod size distribution
using a standardised methodology**

Sampling Sites

- St.MC (Gulf of Naples, Tyrrhenian Sea) from **1984** onwards
- Point B (Villefranche Bay, Ligurian Sea) from **1966** onwards



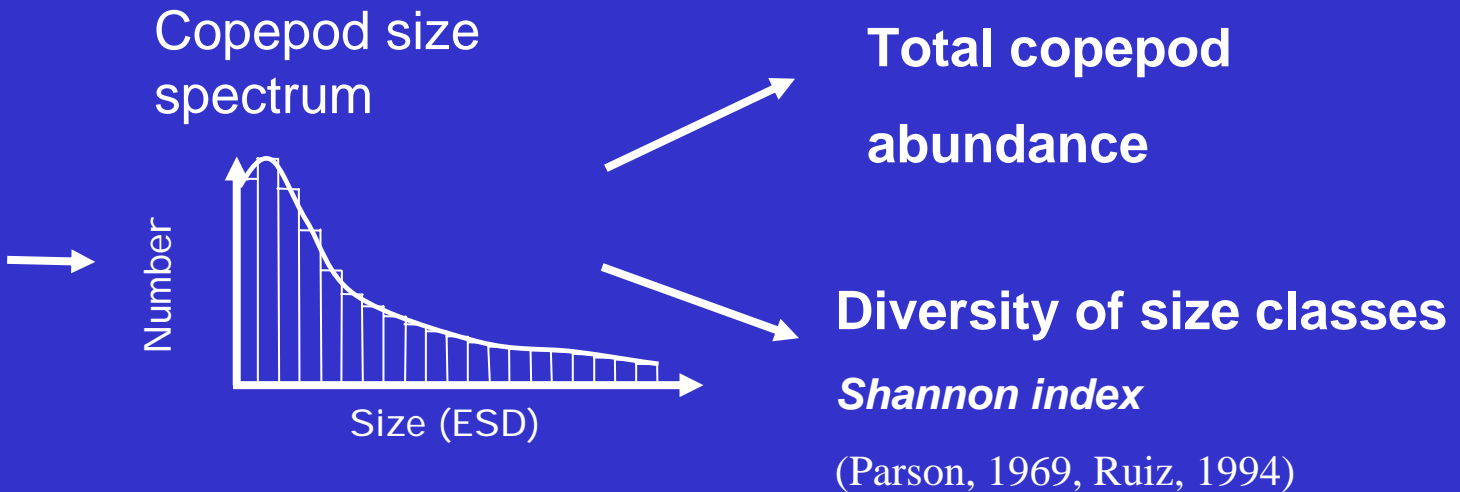
Weekly sampling
Vertical hauls (70-0m)
JB net (330 μ m mesh)



Weekly sampling
Vertical hauls (50-0m)
Nansen net (200 μ m mesh)

Methodology: The Zooscan

- Harmonisation of both time-series
- Copepod automatic Identification (recall 93%, precision 84%)
- Size as a community descriptor

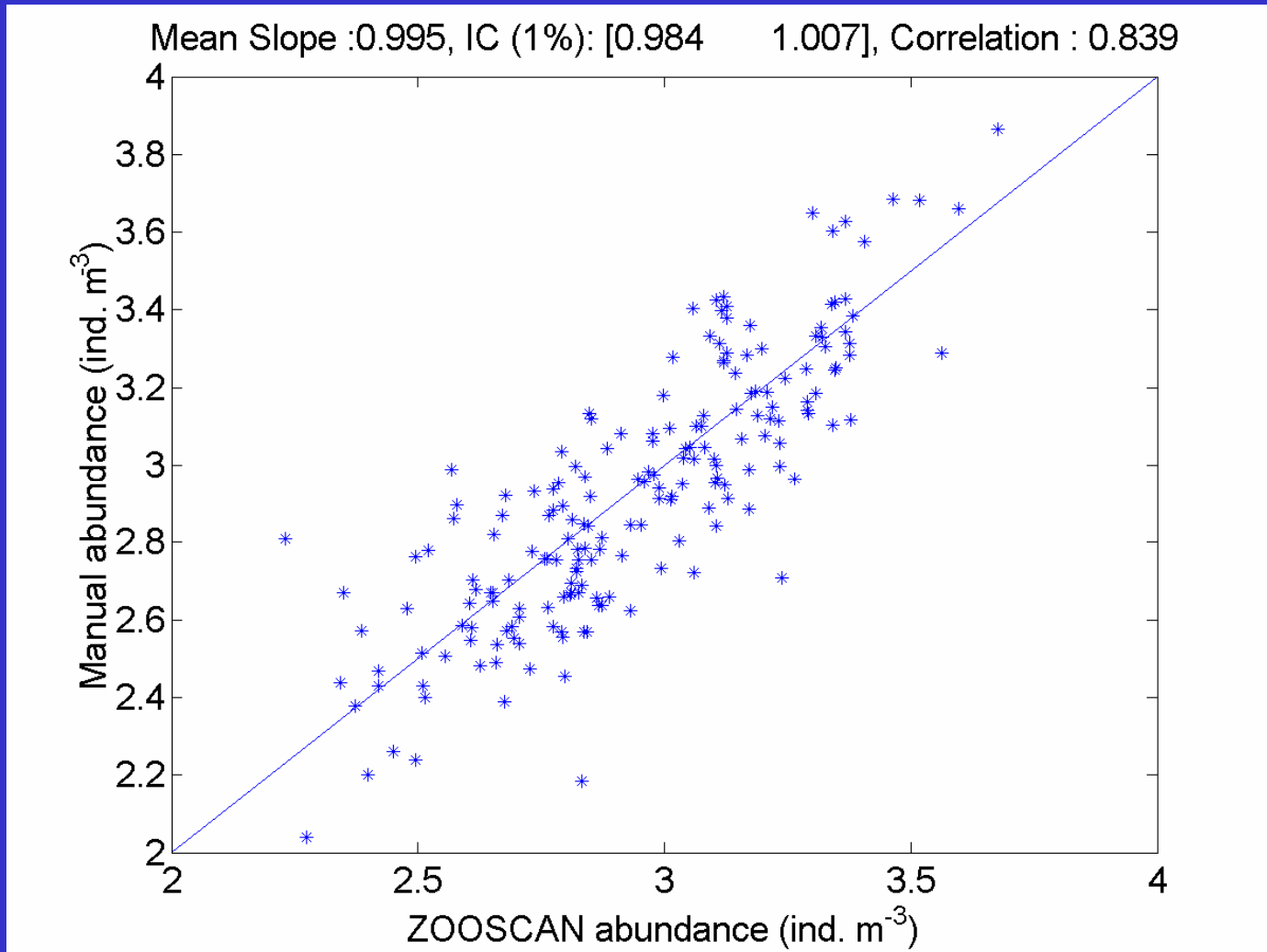


Digitalisation of
>550 samples with
the ZOOSCAN

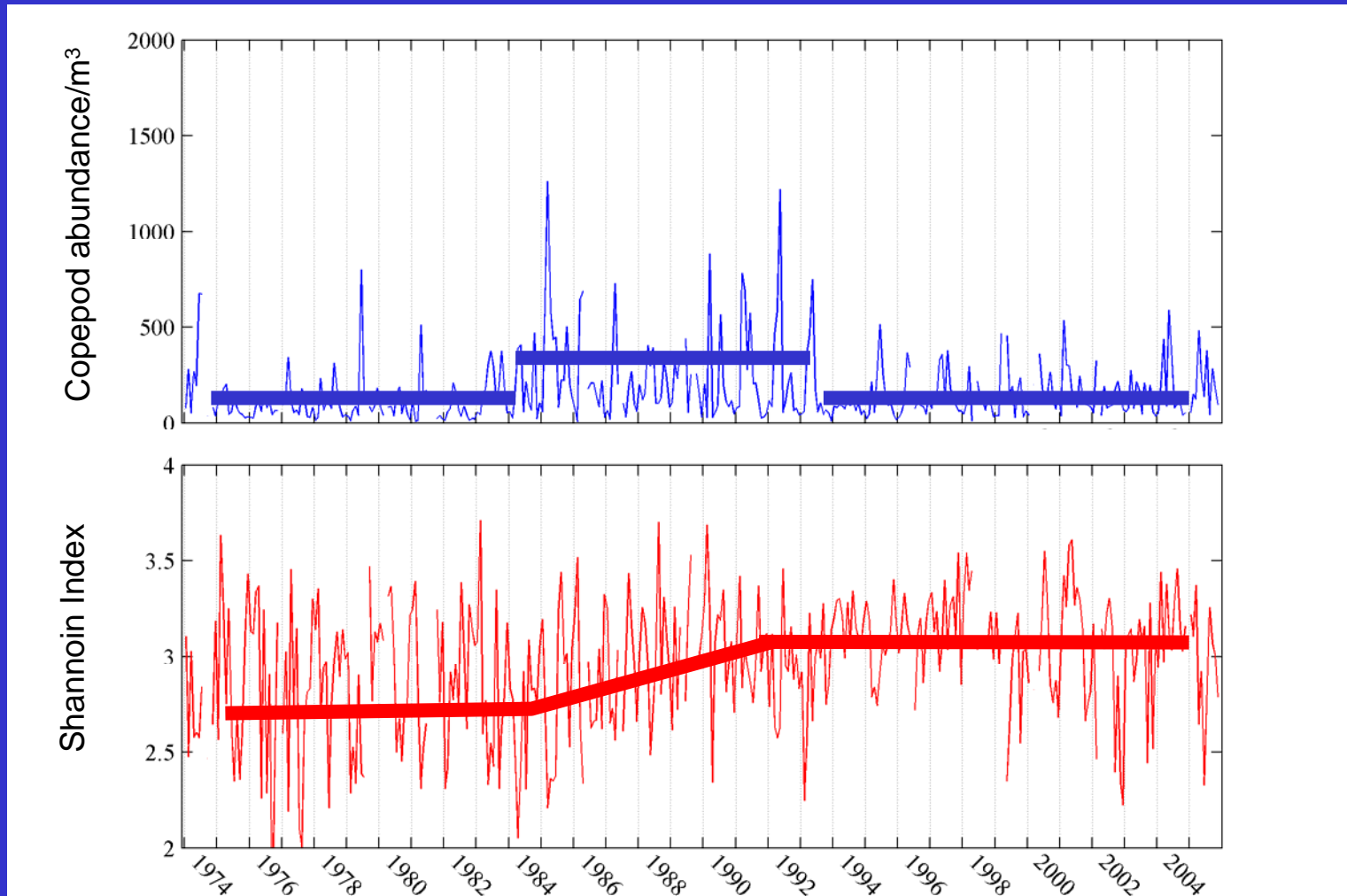
1 Size class ~ 1 Species

$$H' = - \sum p_i \log_2 p_i$$

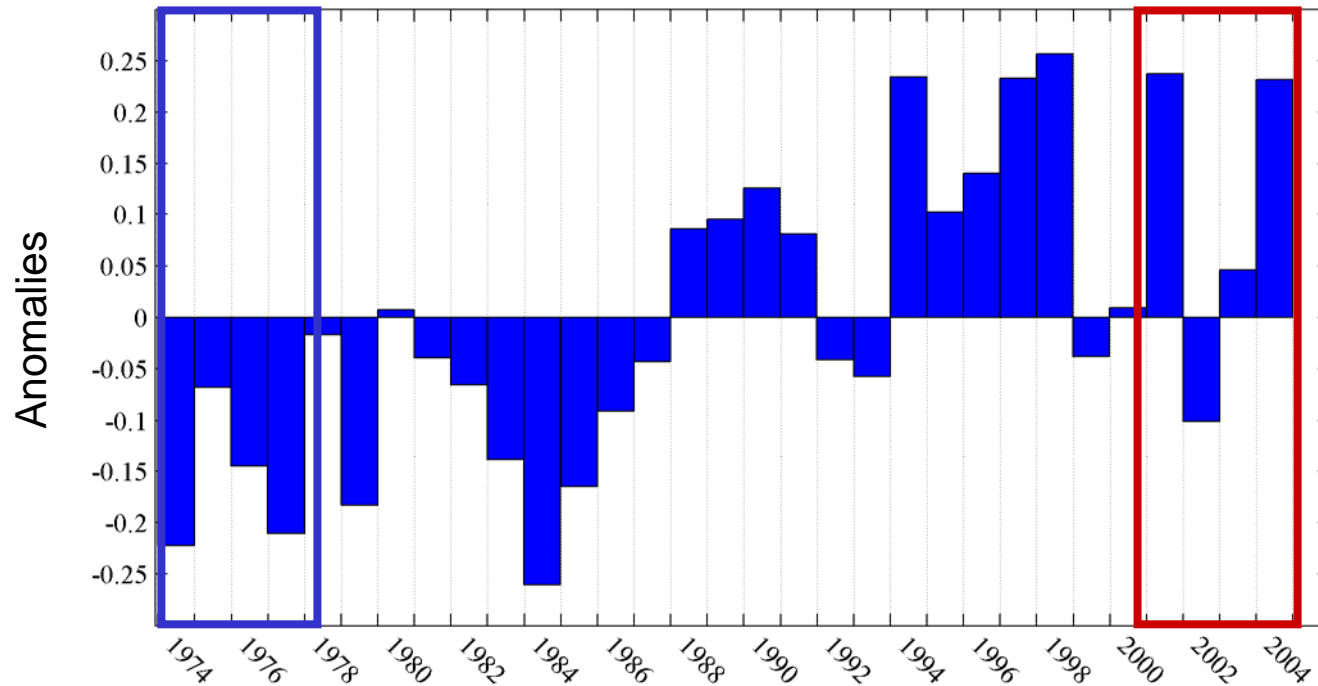
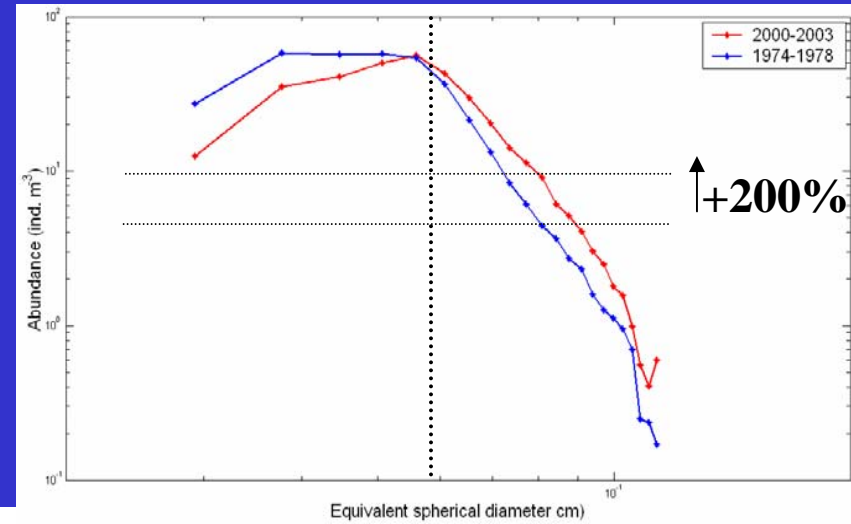
Automatic and Manual counts comparison (Naples time series)



Villefranche Copepod Abundance and Size Diversity (raw data)

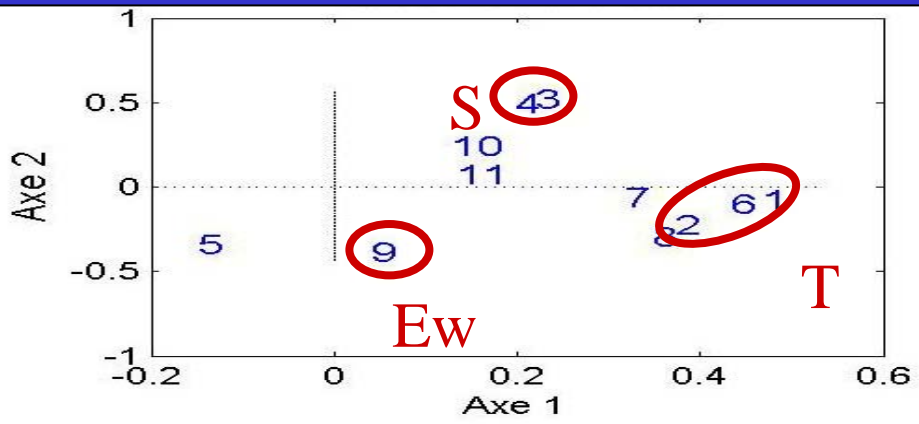


Size Diversity

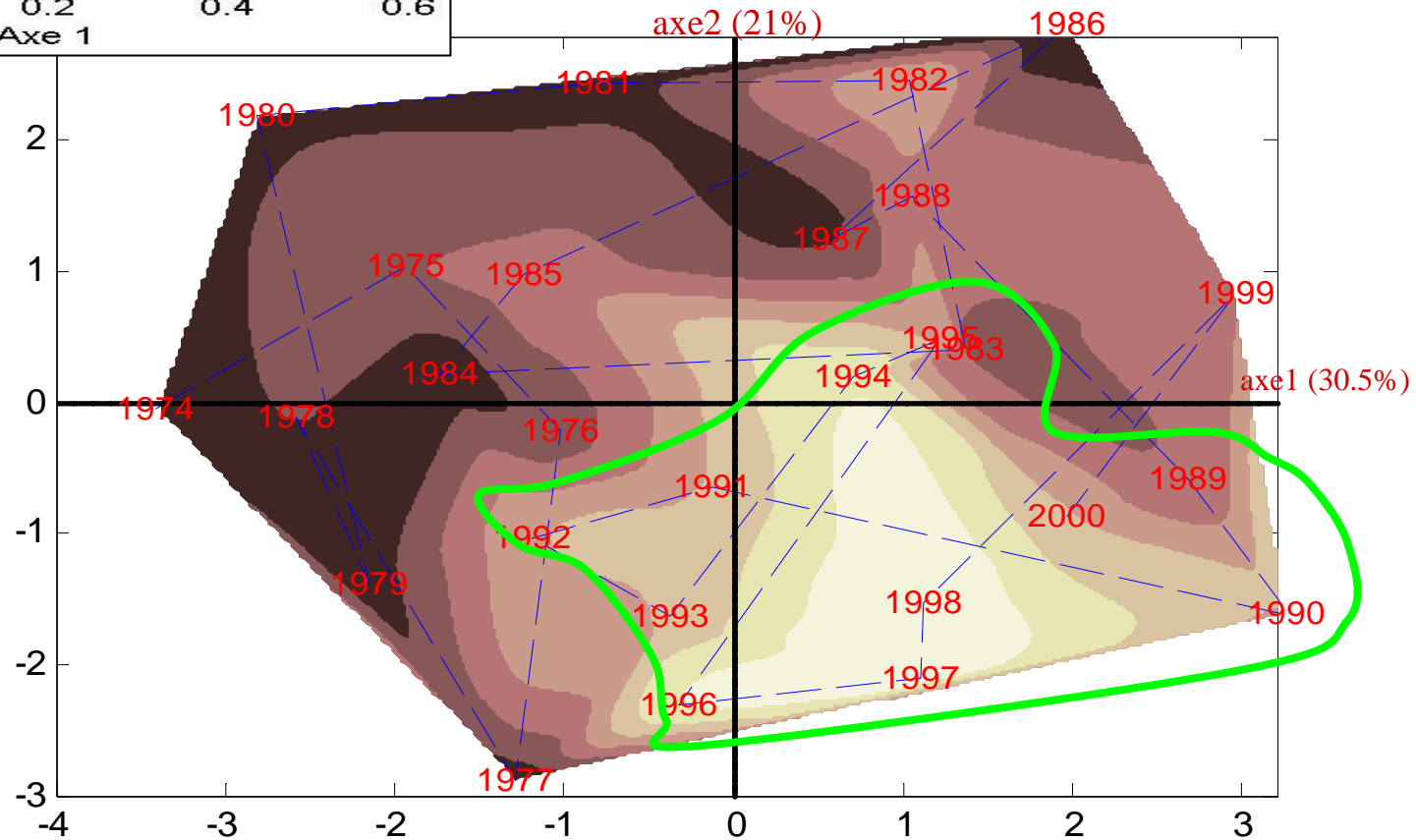


Environmental variables' PCA

(Principal Component analysis)

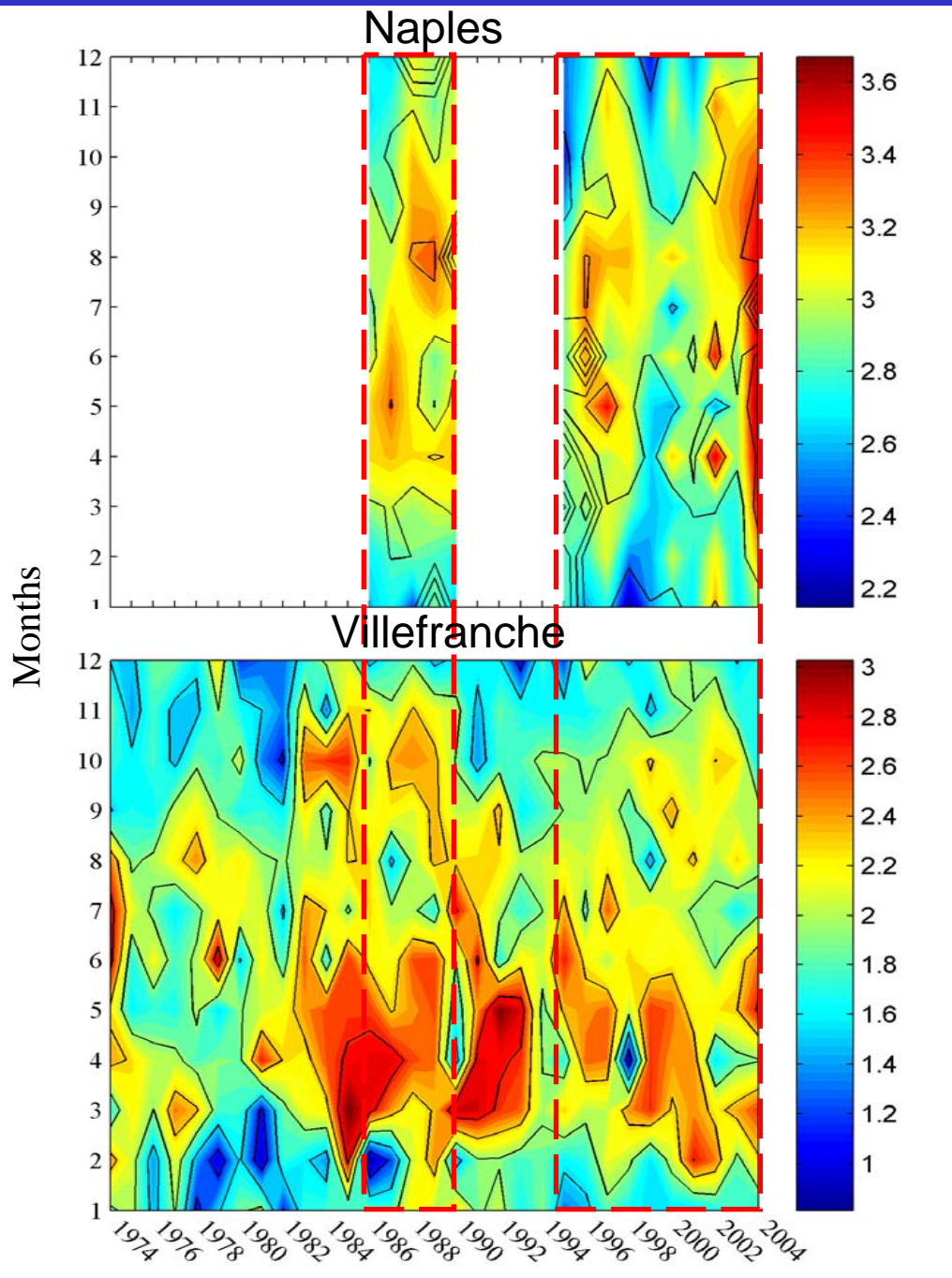


C1 = 30.5% of the variance
C2 = 21% of the variance



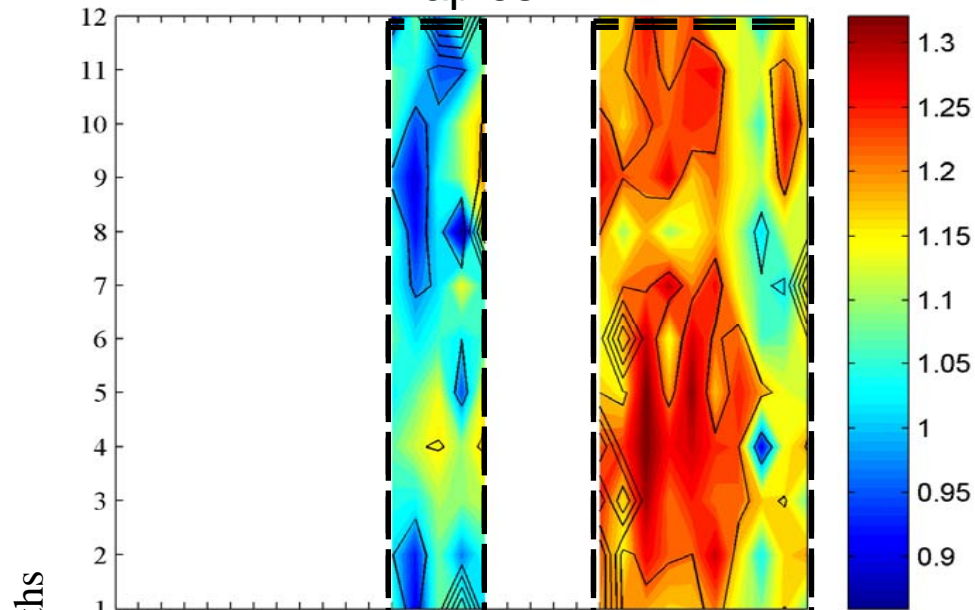
INTERCOMPARISON

Abundance

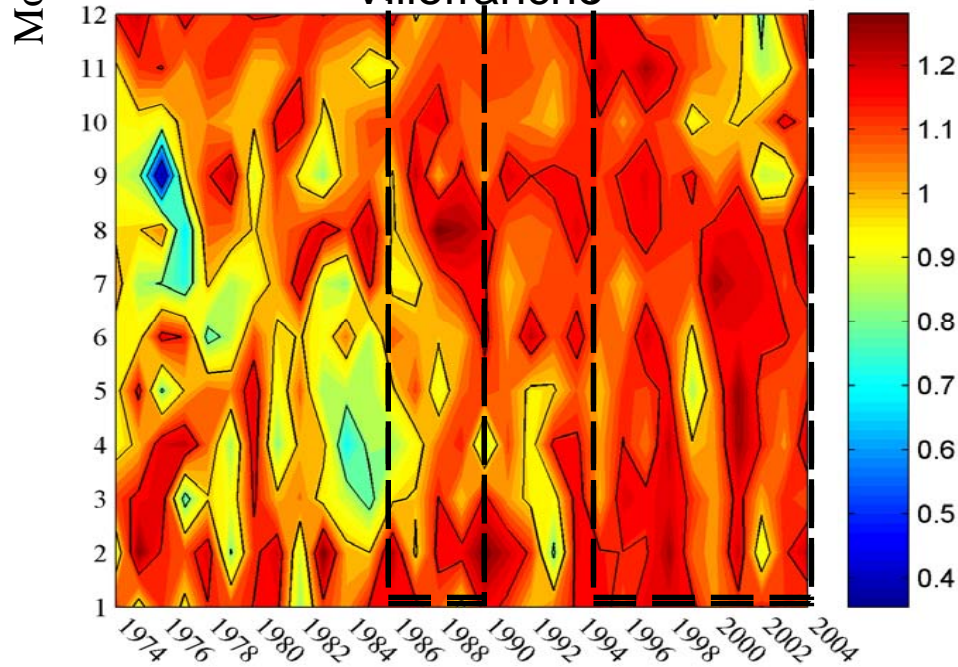


- 1) Villefranche earlier spring peak.
- 2) Naples highest abundances in summer.
- 3) In Villefranche the periods with or without autumnal peaks alternate.

Naples



Villefranche

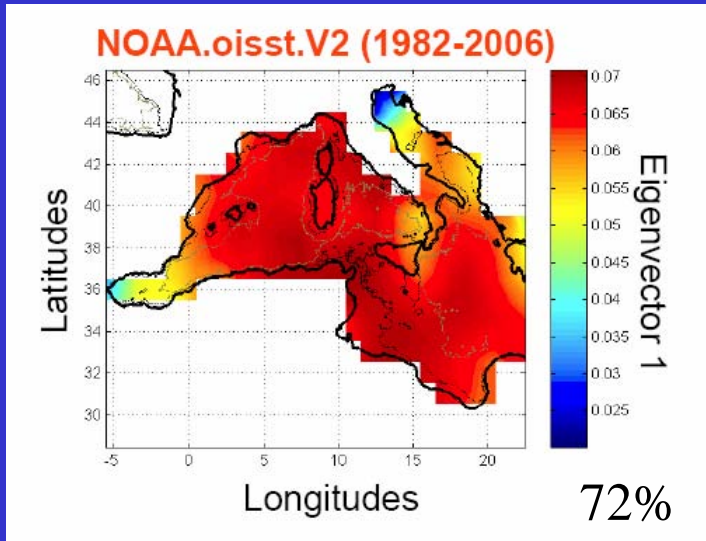


INTERCOMPARISON

Size Diversity

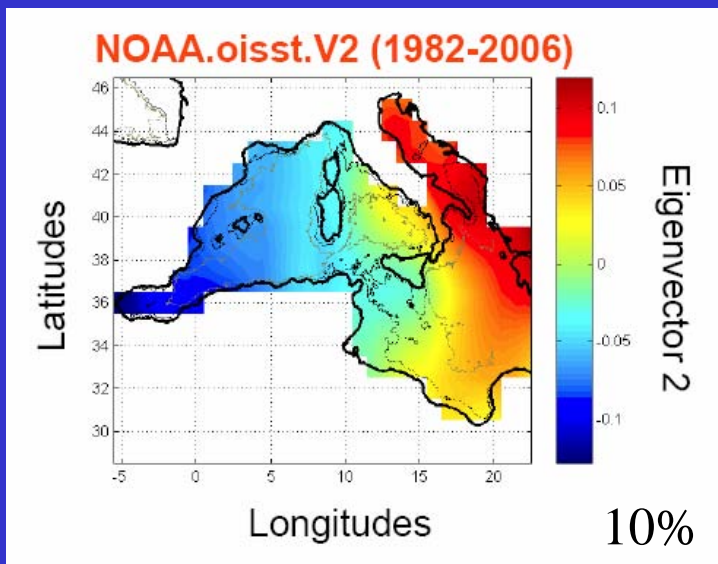
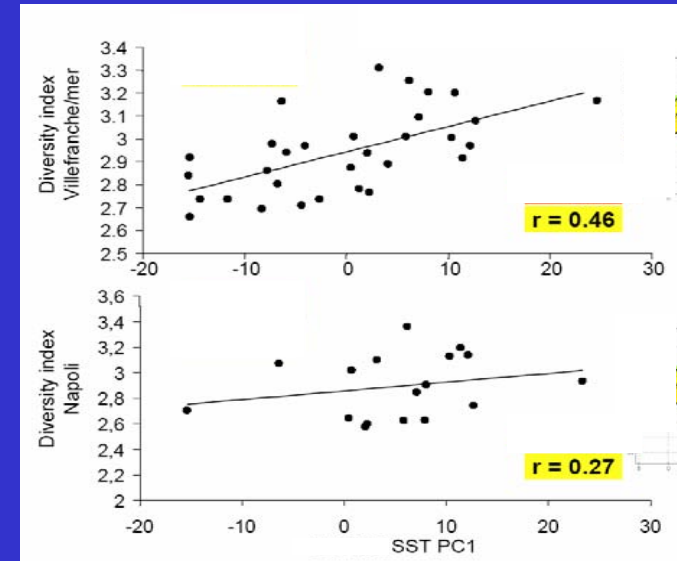
- 1) Expected smaller mean size at the bloom.
- 2) Summer opposite patterns.
- 3) Interannual trend of increasing mean size for both time series until 2000, from 2000 it decreases in Naples.

Relationship with basin scale climate (SST)



1st axe:
Global warming of
the basin.

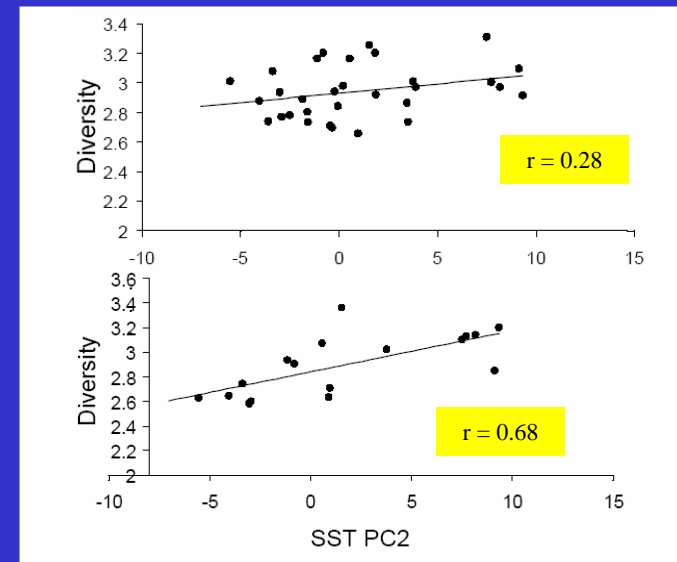
More correlated
to size diversity in
Villefranche.



2nd axe:
Differences
between the east
and west part of
the basin.

Naples at the
boundary.

Local influence on
the size
distribution in
Naples.



Concluding remarks

- In Villefranche, the shift toward larger copepod size classes from 1987 may be probably linked to the arrival of larger open ocean populations driven by the more frequent eastern winds.
- The two sites show different trends and seasonality.
- Naples station is located in a climatological boundary and its size diversity changes seem to be more related to local changes.
- The standardised approach and use of size diversity is a promising tool for long term ecosystem monitoring.

The French – Italian collaboration may be seen as a part of a larger project which is actually undertaken in the framework of the SESAME European program which includes the Mediterranean and Black seas.

Thanks to...

ICES

Eur-oceans

CNR and Egide program

The crews of both sampling sites

SOMLIT monitoring program

NOAA (National Oceanographic and atmospheric
administration)

Iole di Capua

Lionel Guidi



Thank you for your attention!!!

Extras

Dataset

Point B time series (France): 1974-2000

- Monthly Copepod abundance and Size diversity
- Water T and salinity
- Chla and nutrients (from 1991)
- Air T, wind pattern, precipitation , atmospheric pressure and irradiance

MC timeseries (Italy): 1984-2005

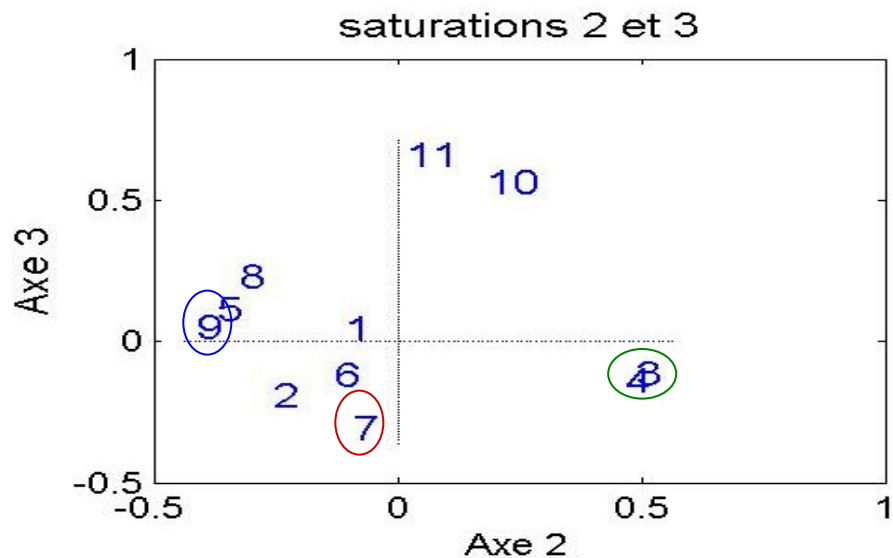
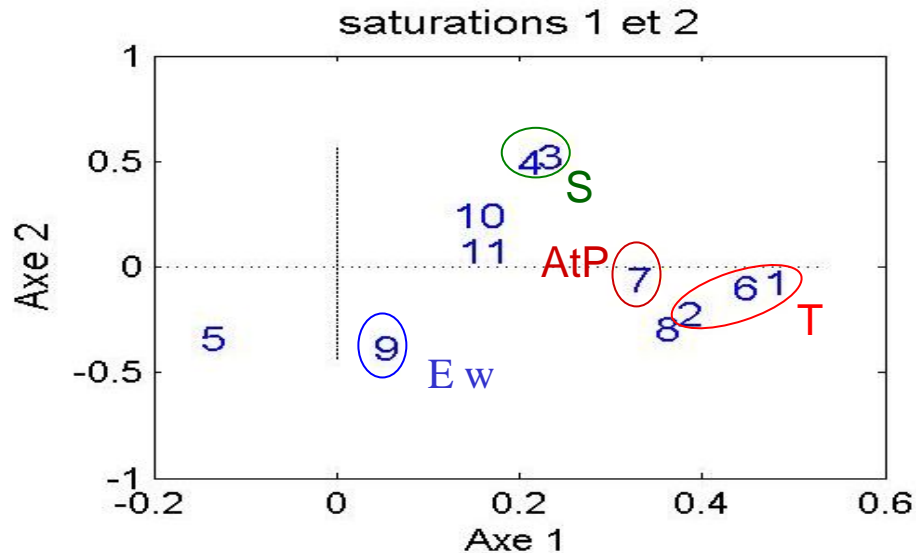
- Monthly Copepod abundance and Size diversity
- Taxonomic counts
- Water T, salinity and Chla

NOAA (National Oceanographic and atmospheric administration)

- Mean SST (1982-2006)

Environmental variables' PCA

(Principal Component Analysis)



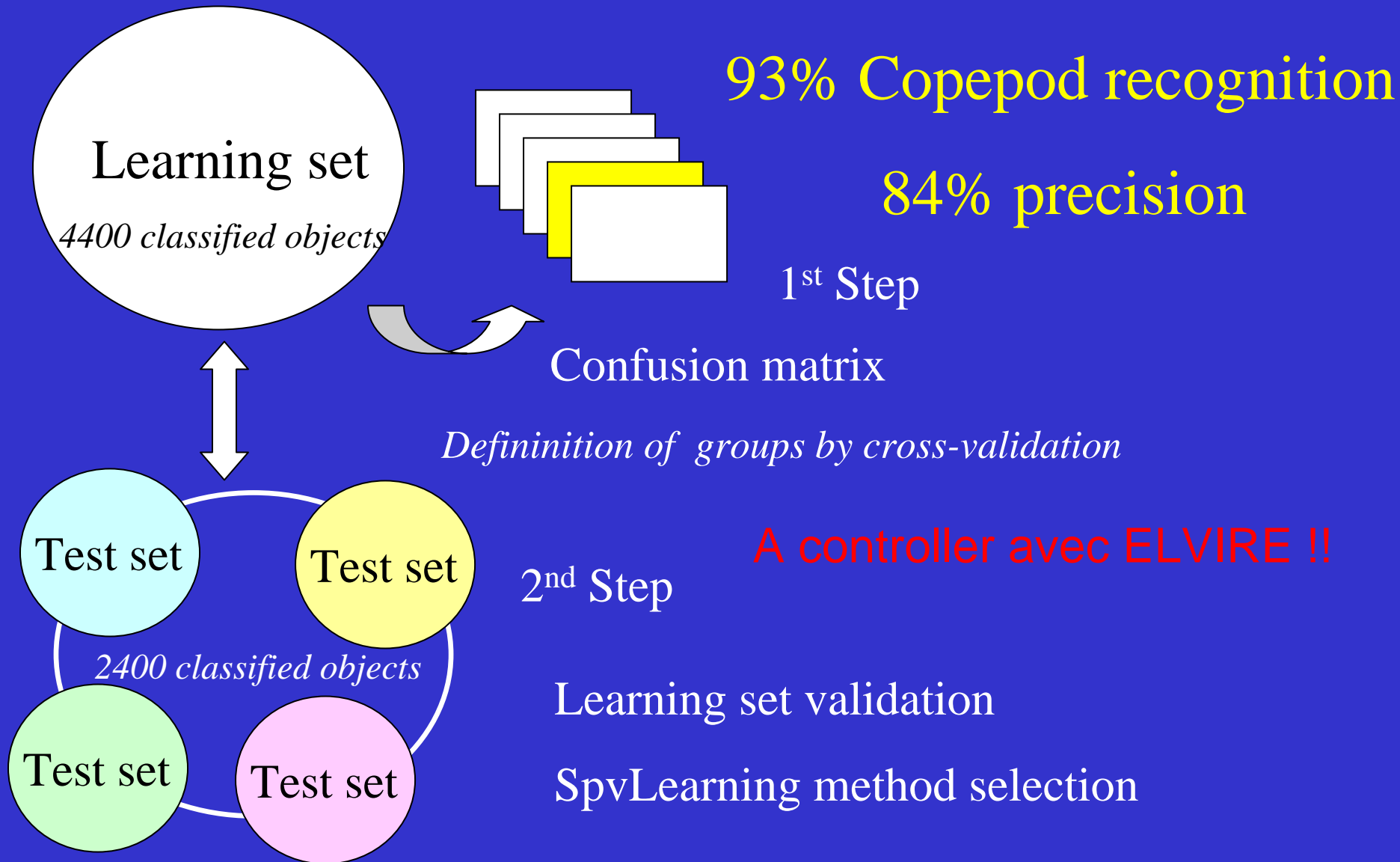
- 1: Temperature (20 m. depth)
- 2 : Temperature (50 m. depth)
- 3 : Salinity (20 m. depth)
- 4 : Salinity (50 m. depth)
- 5 : Rainfall
- 6 : Air Temperature
- 7 : Atmospheric pressure
- 8 : Ekman depth
- 9 : East wind (N days/month)
- 10 : South West wind
- 11 : North/North West wind

C1 = 30.5% of the variance

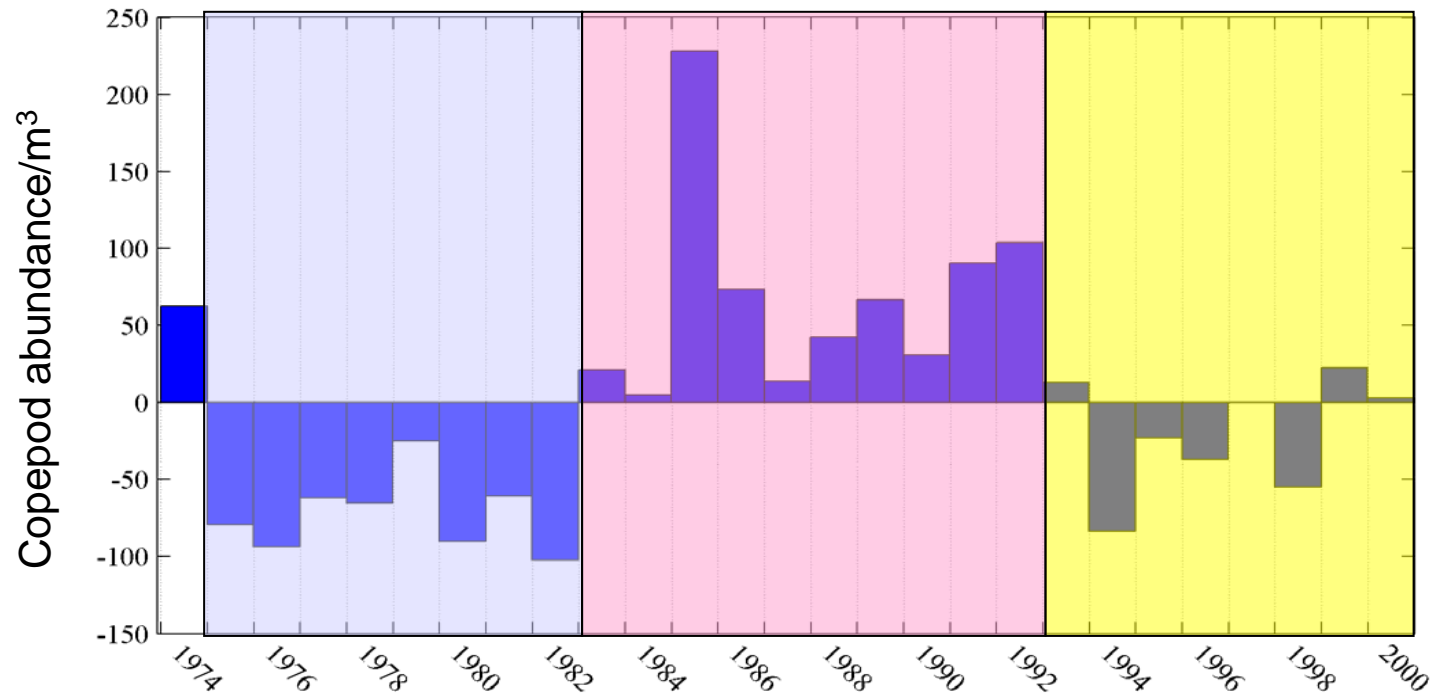
C2 = 21% of the variance

C3 = 16% of the variance

Copepod recognition

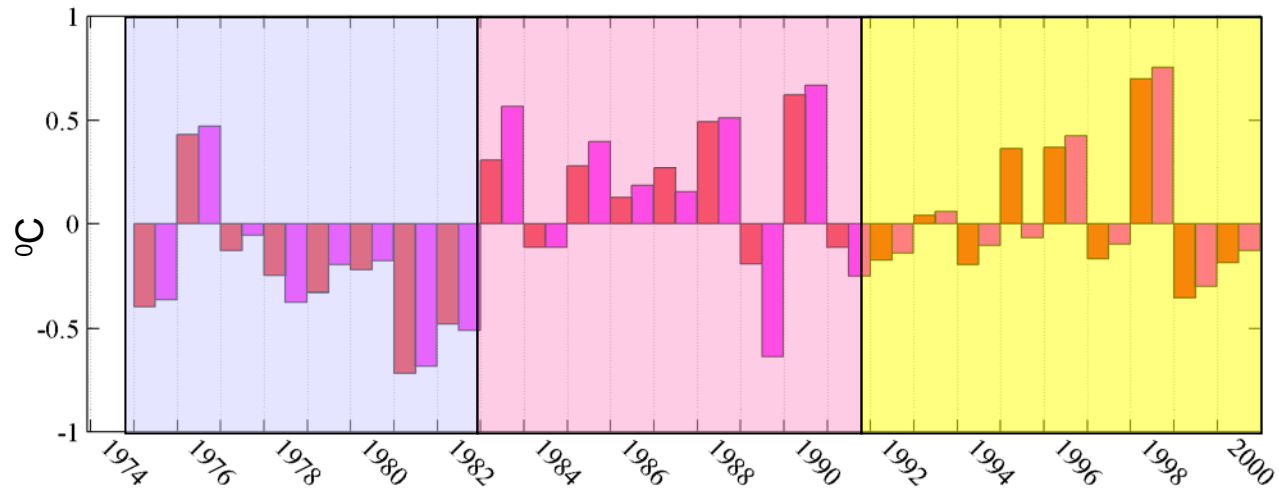


Copepod Abundance Anomalies around the mean

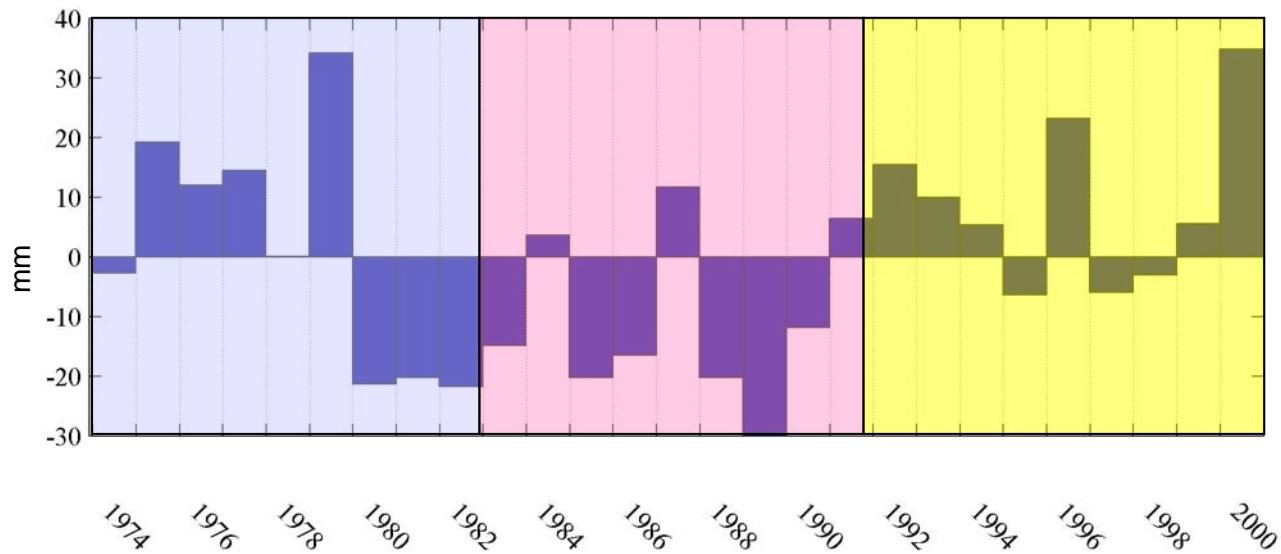


3 periods empirically distinguished

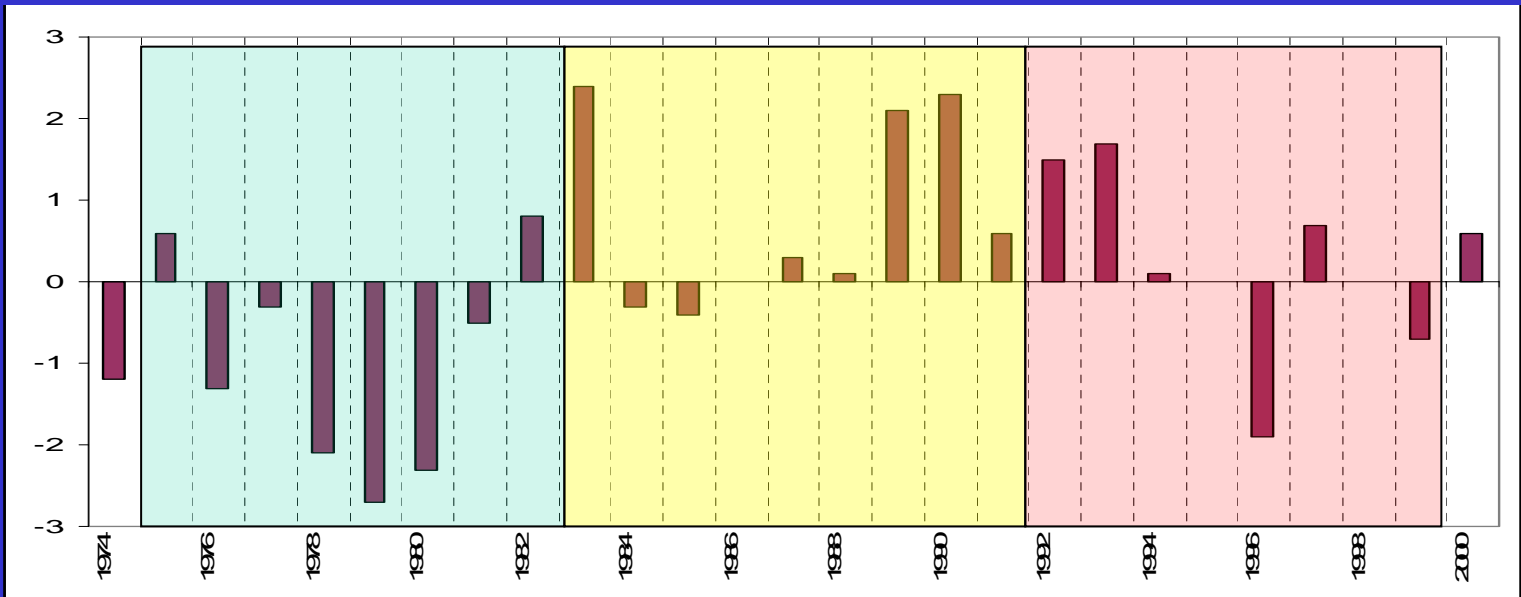
Winter Water Temperature at 20 and 50 m



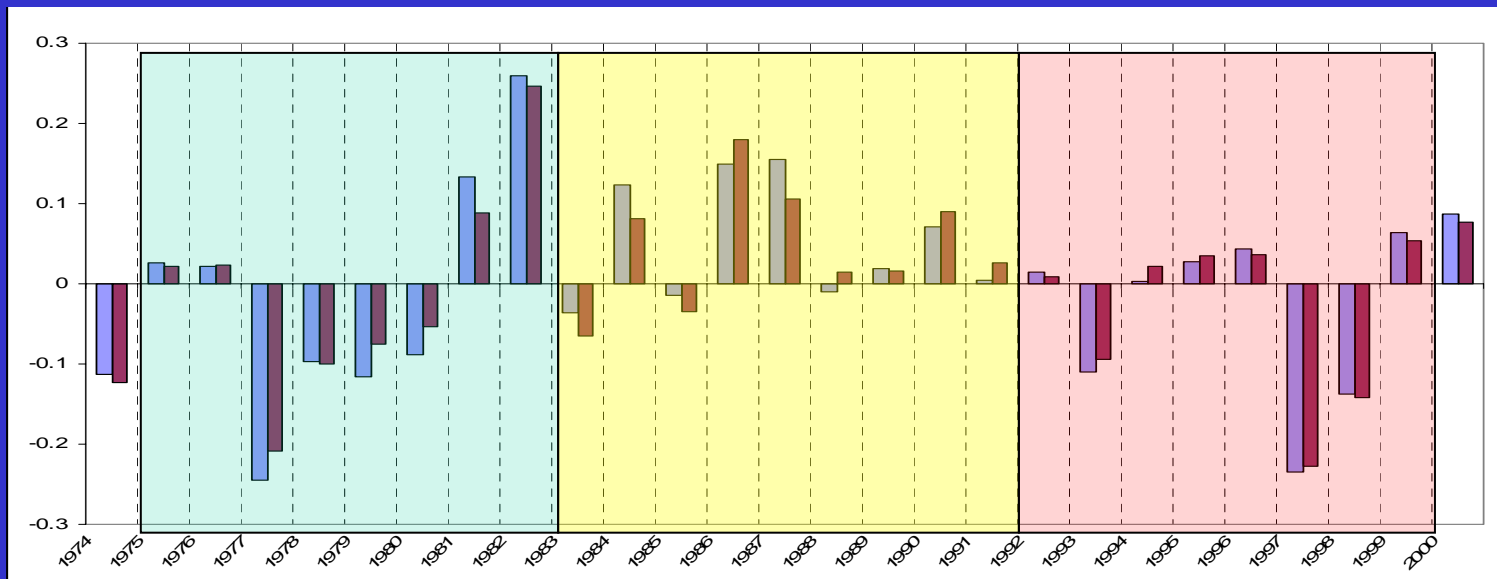
Rainfall



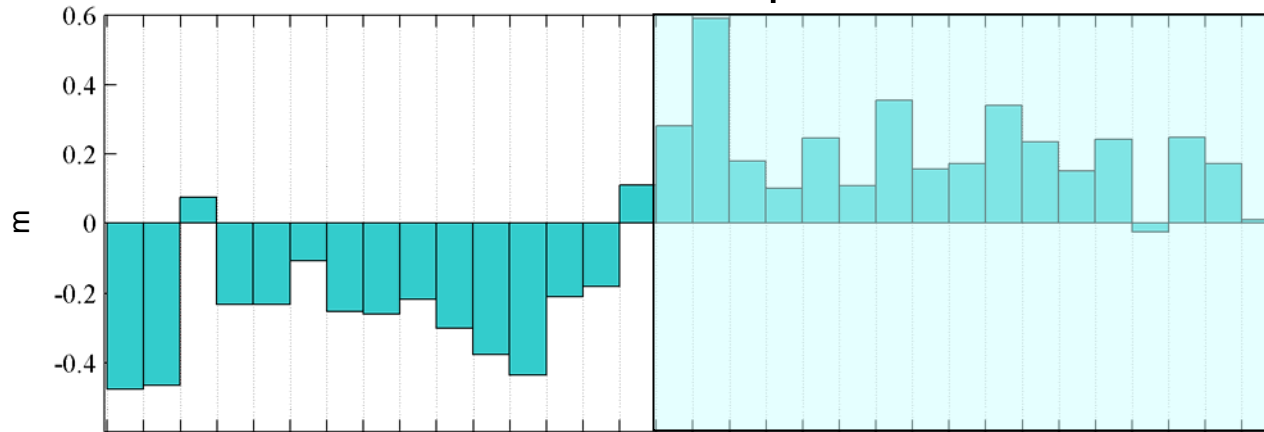
Atmospheric pressure



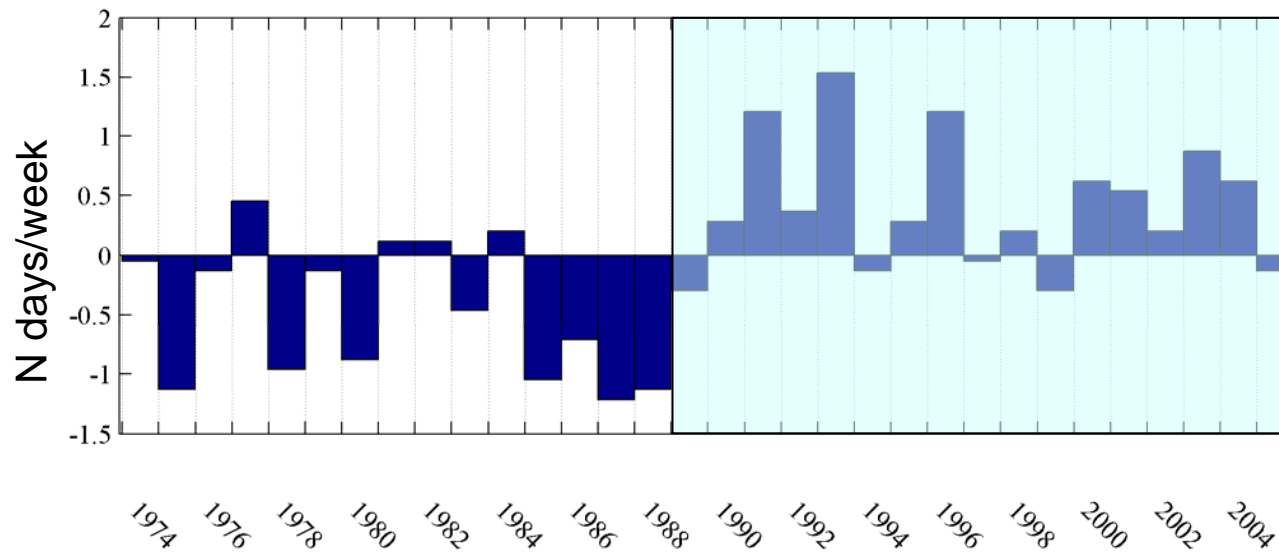
Winter Salinity at 20 and 50 m

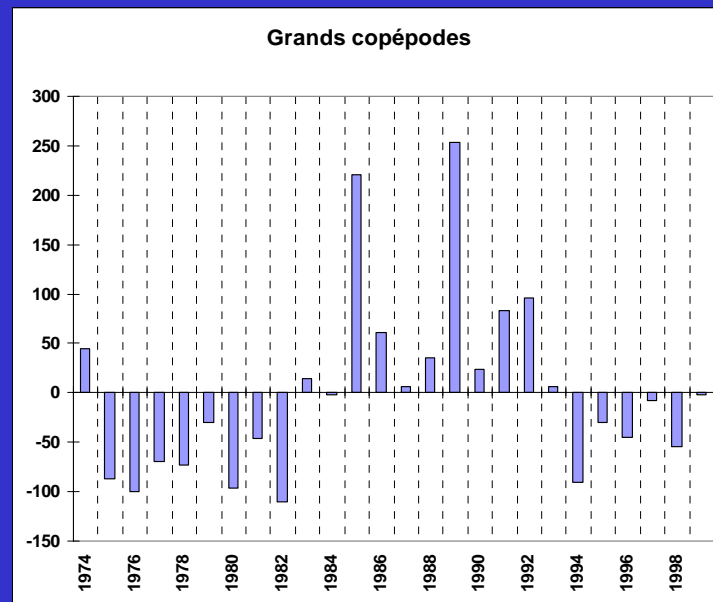
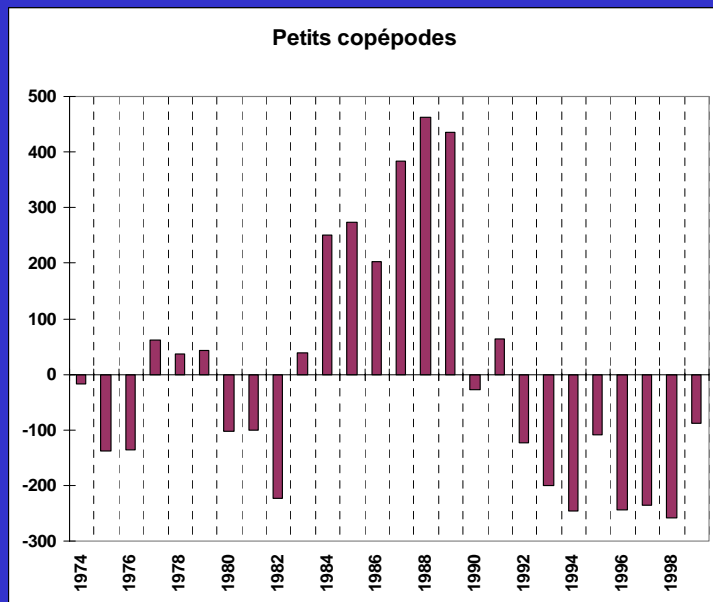
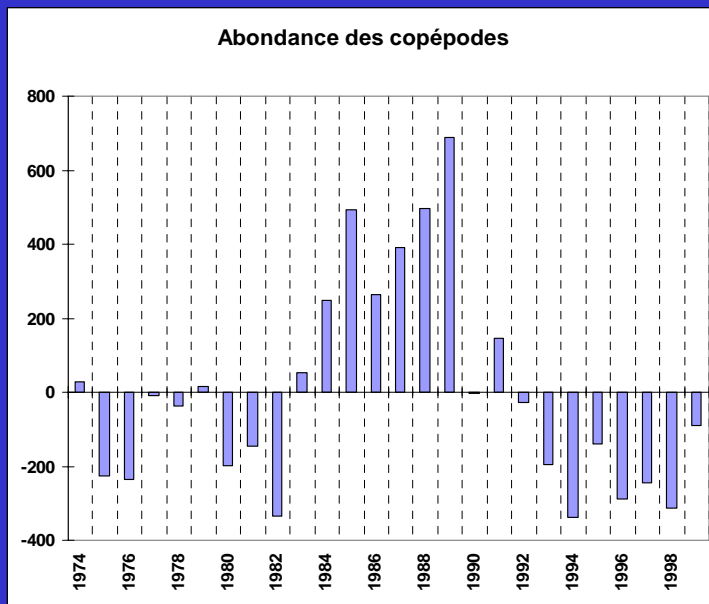


Ekman's depth

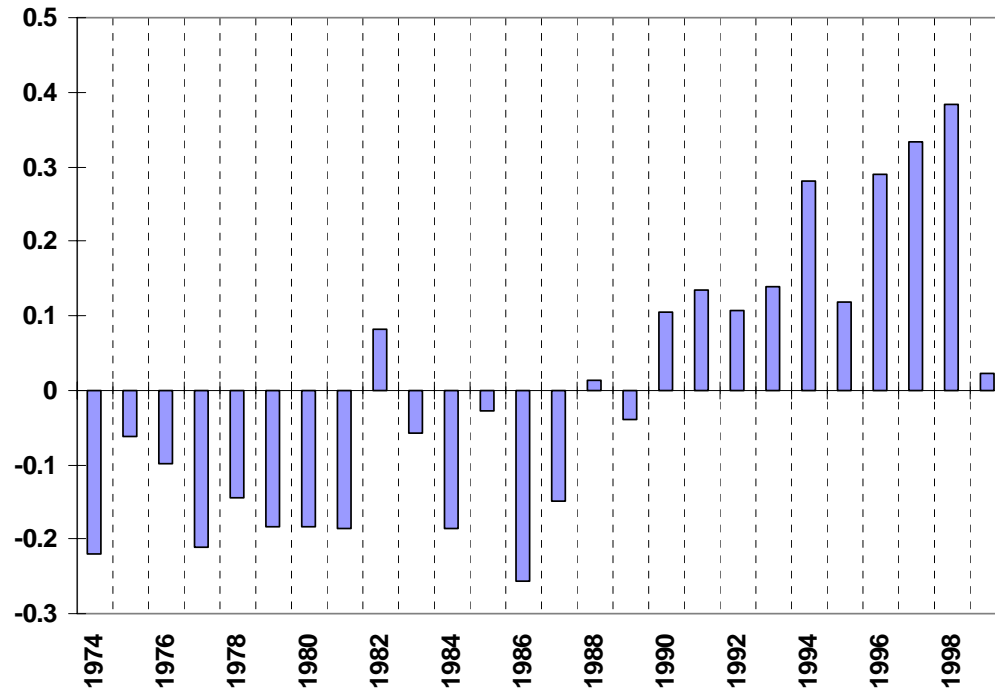


East Wind

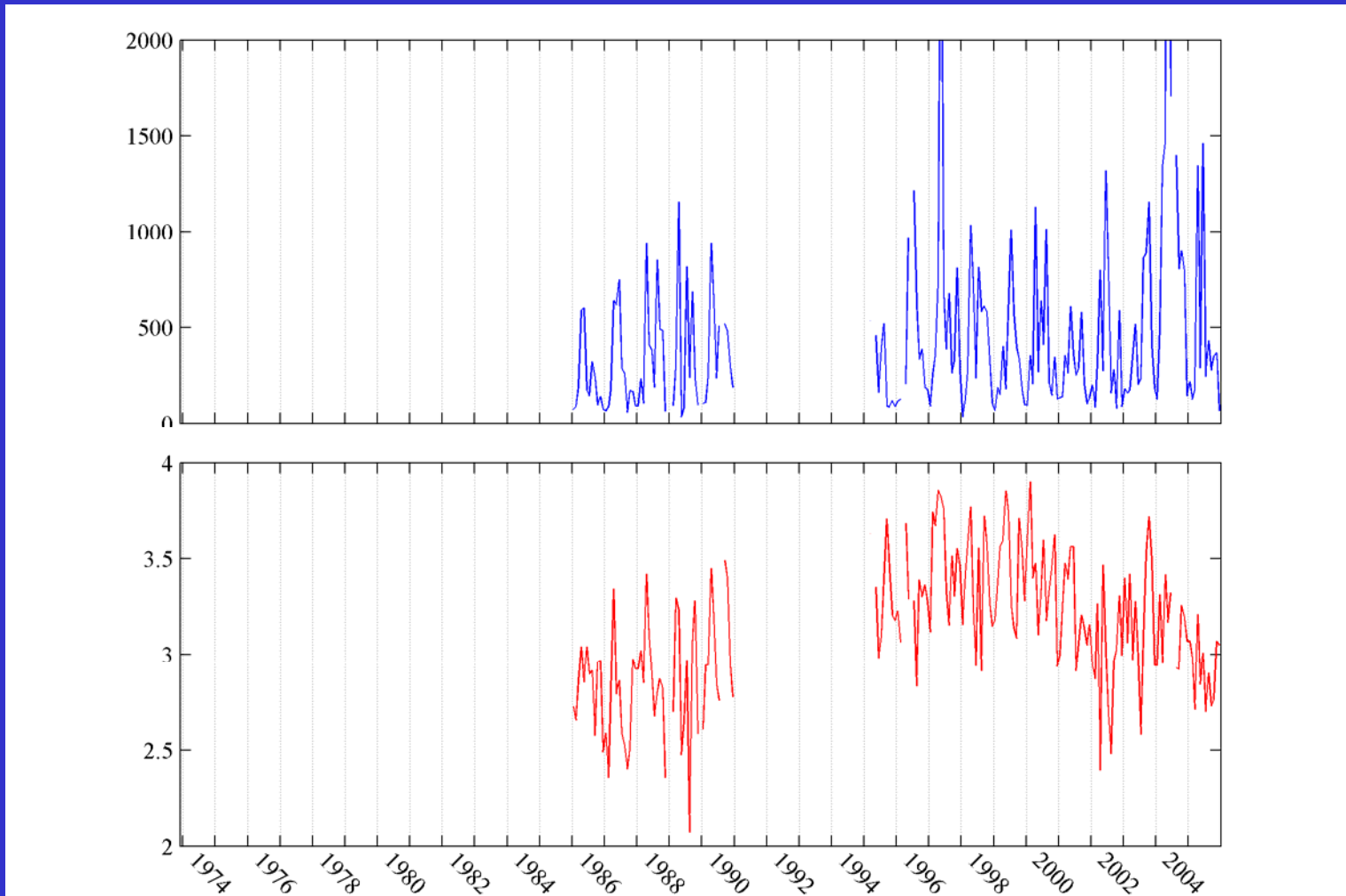




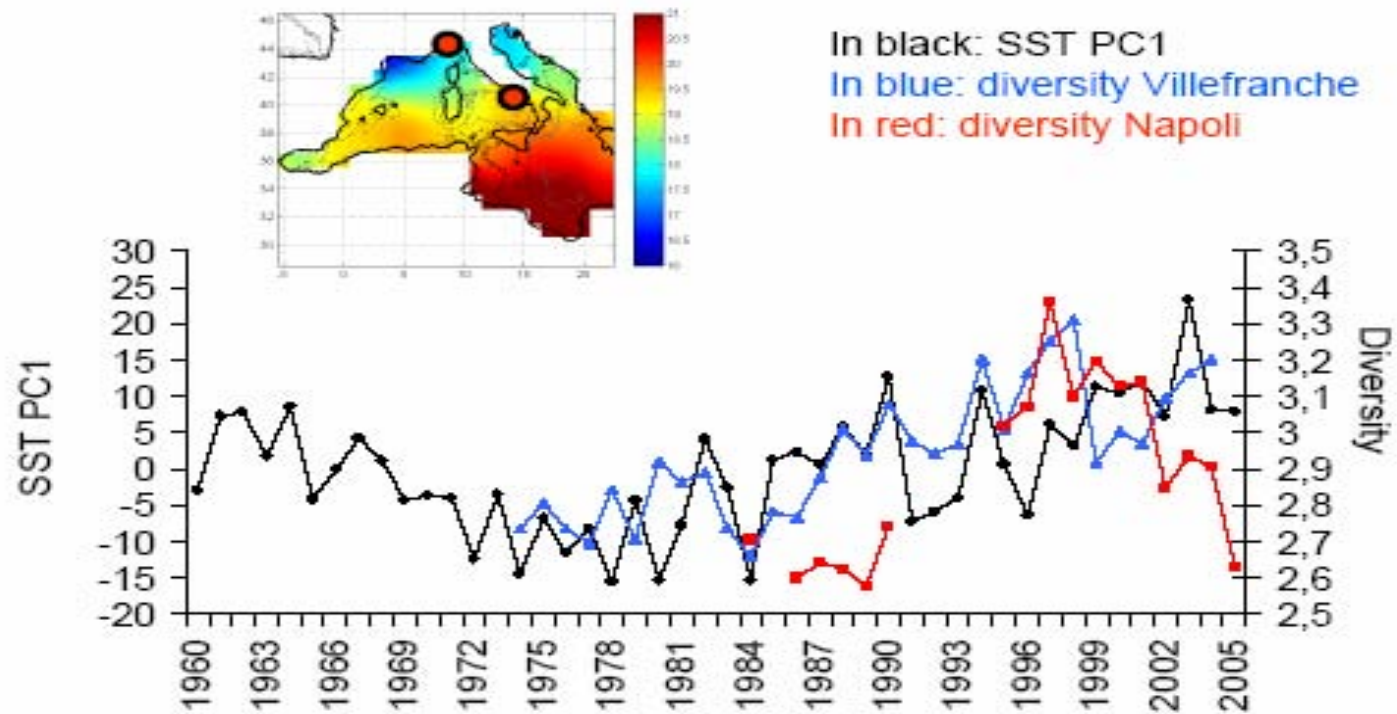
Indice de diversité des tailles



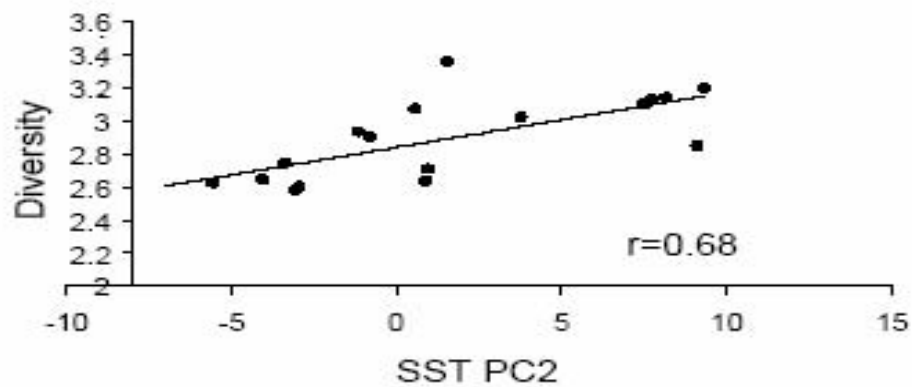
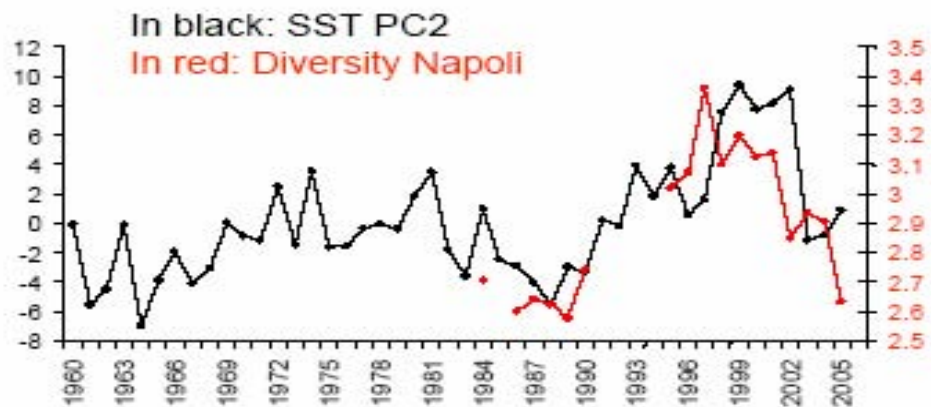
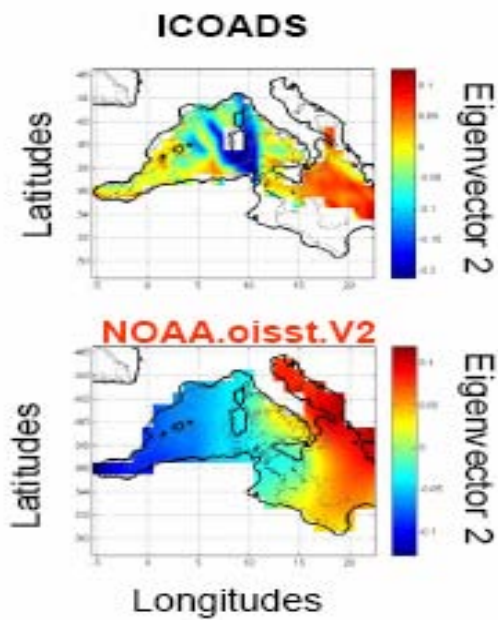
Naples time series (raw data)



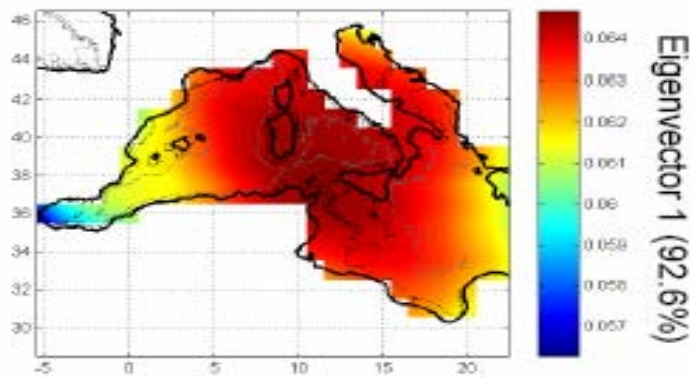
Diversity and SST changes (first mode or PC1)



Clear relationship at Villefranche and no relationship at Napoli



Sea Level Pressure



SST

