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# Multivariate time-series forecasting of the NE Arabian Sea Oil Sardine fishery using satellite covariates

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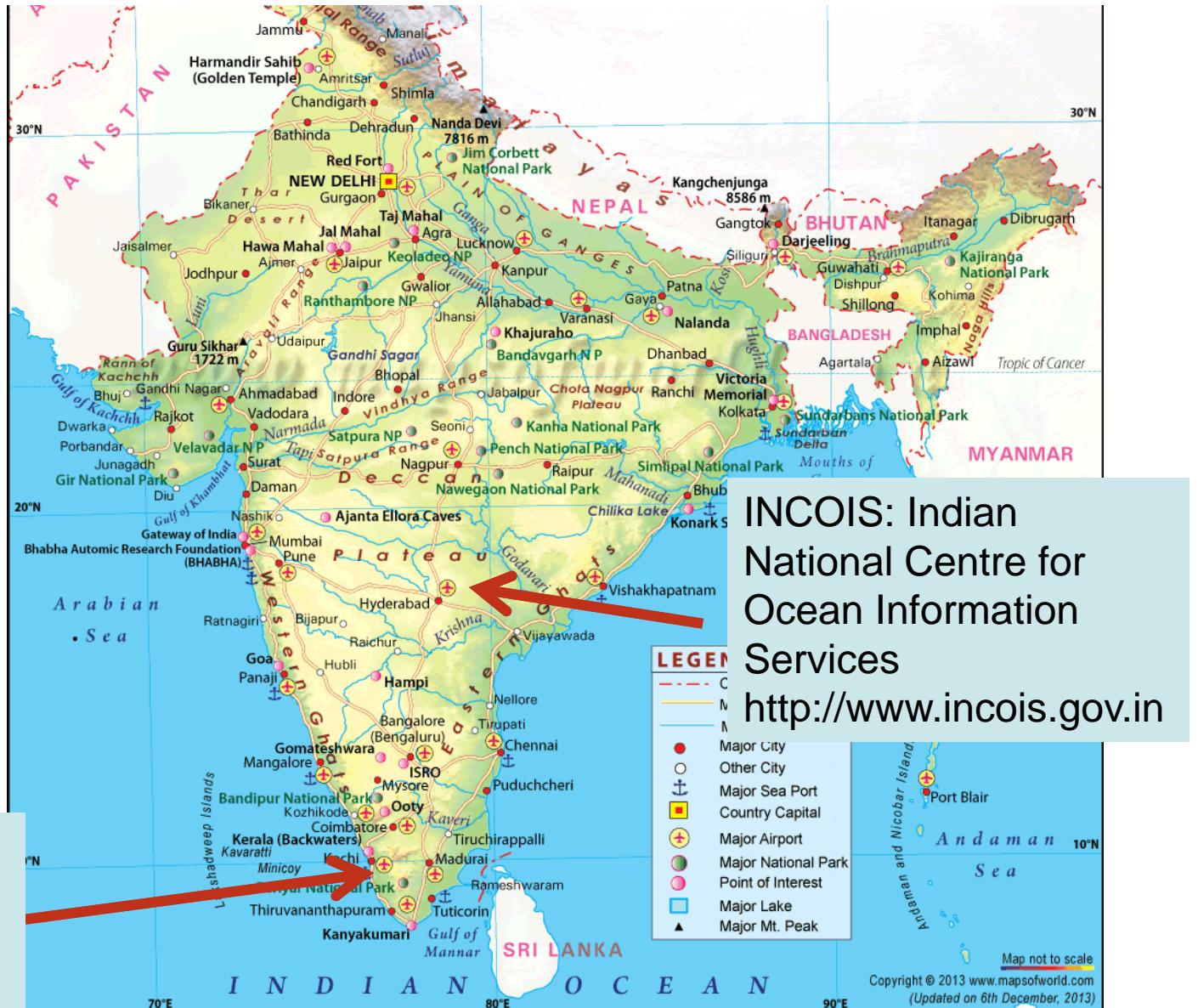
[faculty.washington.edu/eeholmes](http://faculty.washington.edu/eeholmes)

# MoES-NOAA Collaboration: Development of Predictive Capabilities for Marine Fisheries and Harmful Algal Blooms in Indian Seas

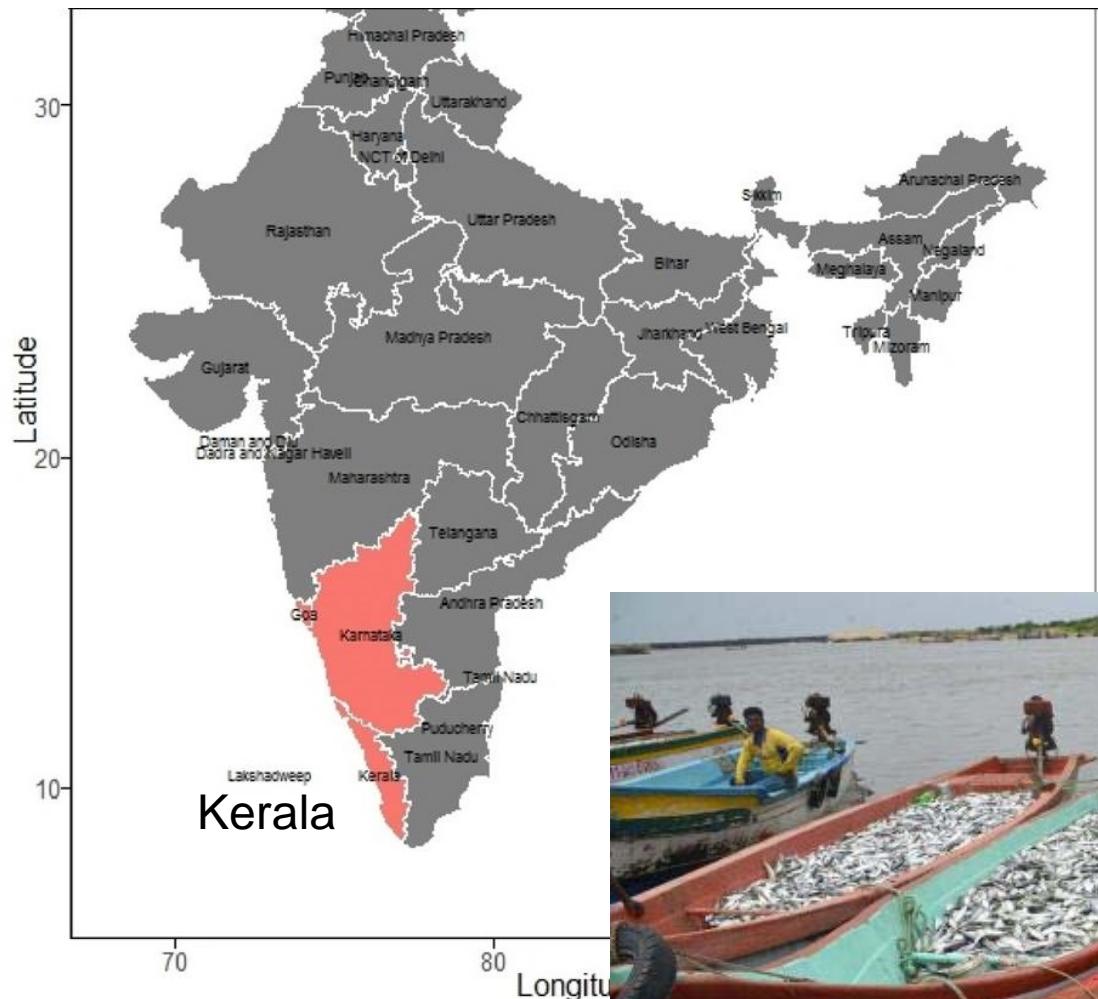


- **Research collaboration on forecasting:**
  - Harmful Algal Blooms
  - *Oil sardine fishery*

**CMFRE: Centre  
for Marine Living  
Resources &  
Ecology**



# Indian Oil Sardine Fishery



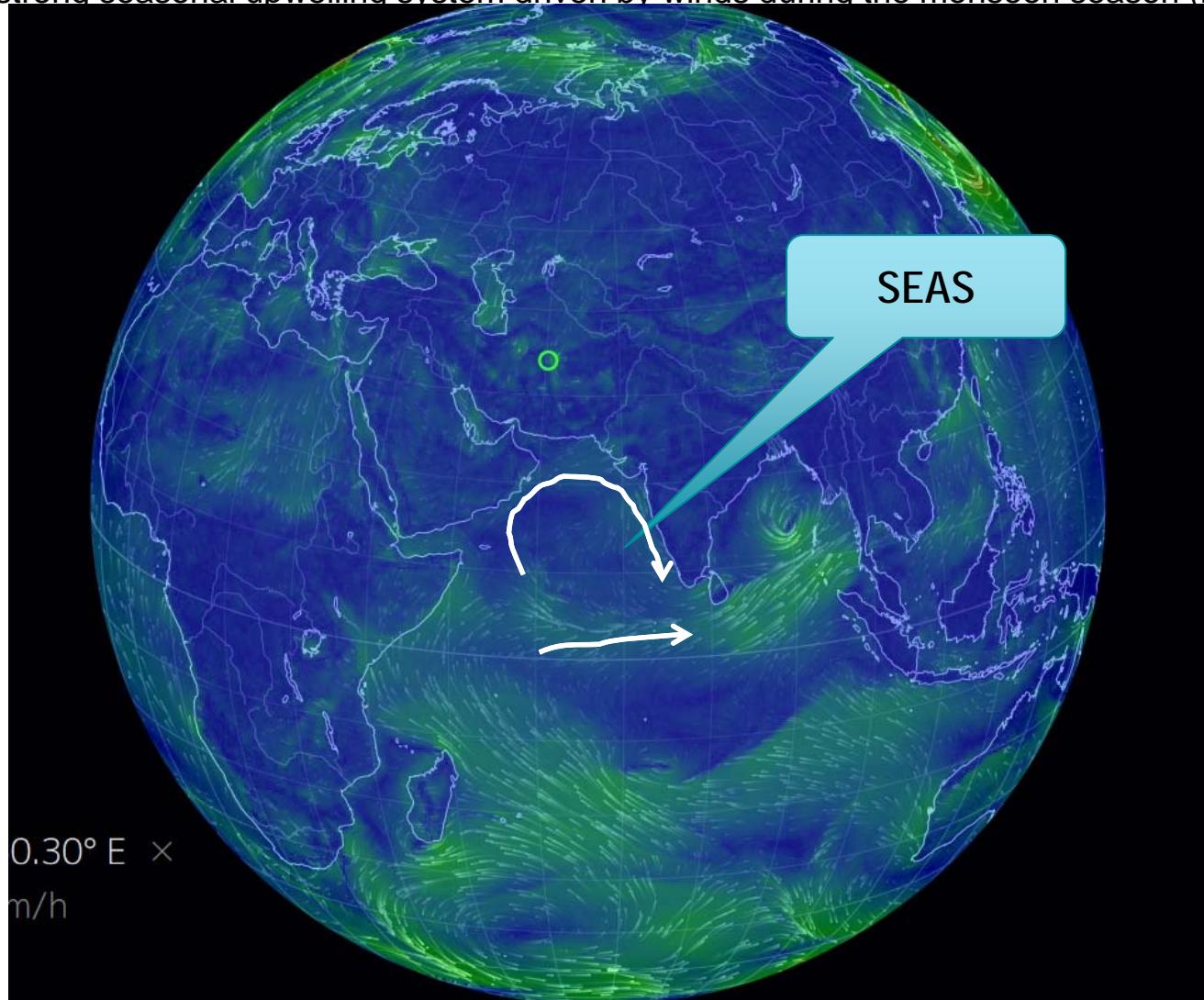
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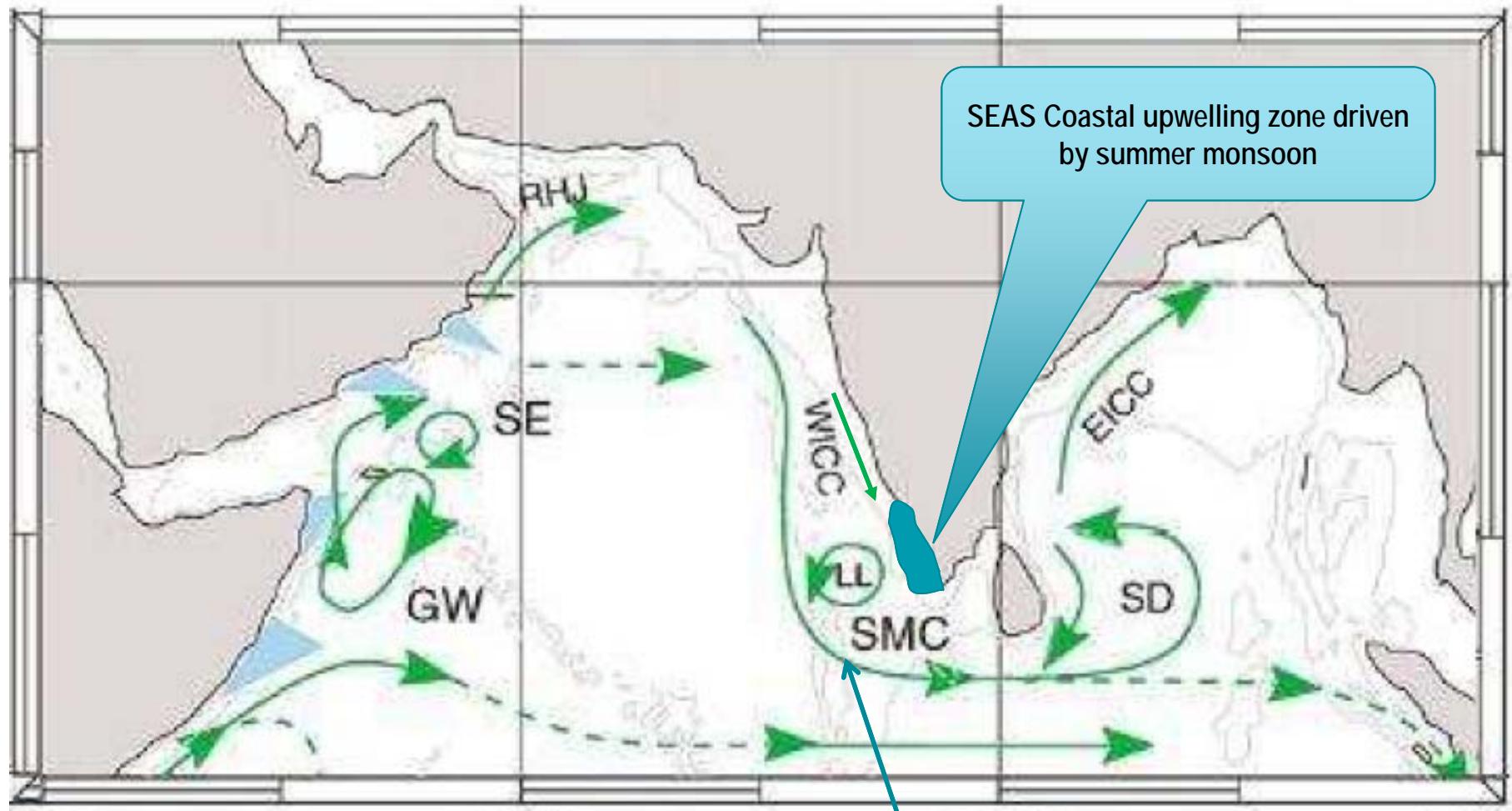
# Today's talk --- overview of the project, challenges, and initial results

- Background
  - Physical processes (upwelling) affecting oil sardines in the SE Arabian Sea
  - Biology of oil sardines and how it interacts with the above
- Satellites covariates
- Exploratory correlation analysis
  - Which covariates have explanatory value? biology + physical processes + information in the covariate
- Testing some forecasting models
  - Regression models
  - Exponential smoothing models

The South East Arabian Sea is one of world's major upwelling zones  
and one of the most productive regions of the world's oceans

Has a strong seasonal upwelling system driven by winds during the monsoon season (May-Sept)



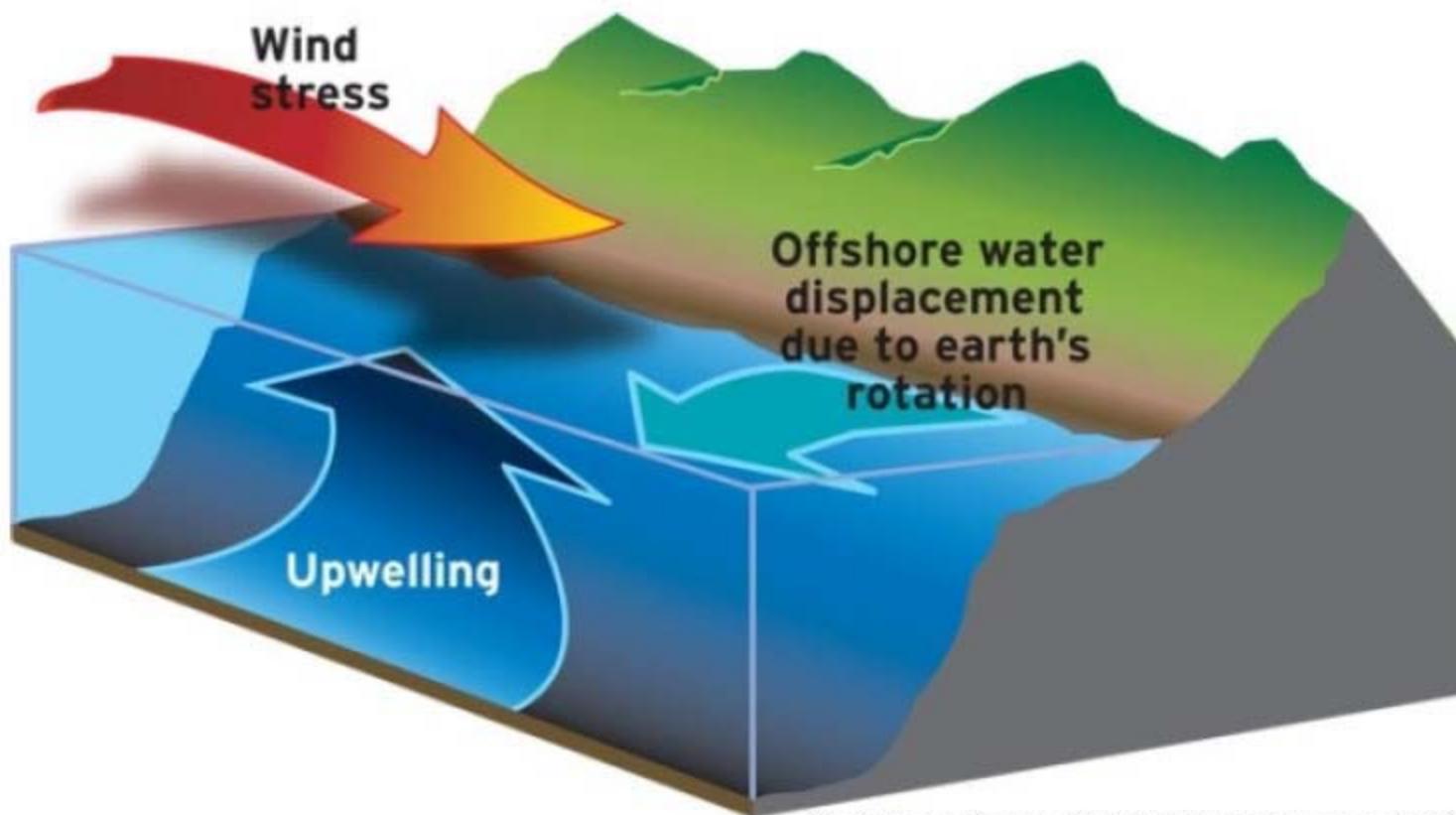


Summer Monsoon Current



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Figure 1.3 from Smitha BR, 2010, thesis



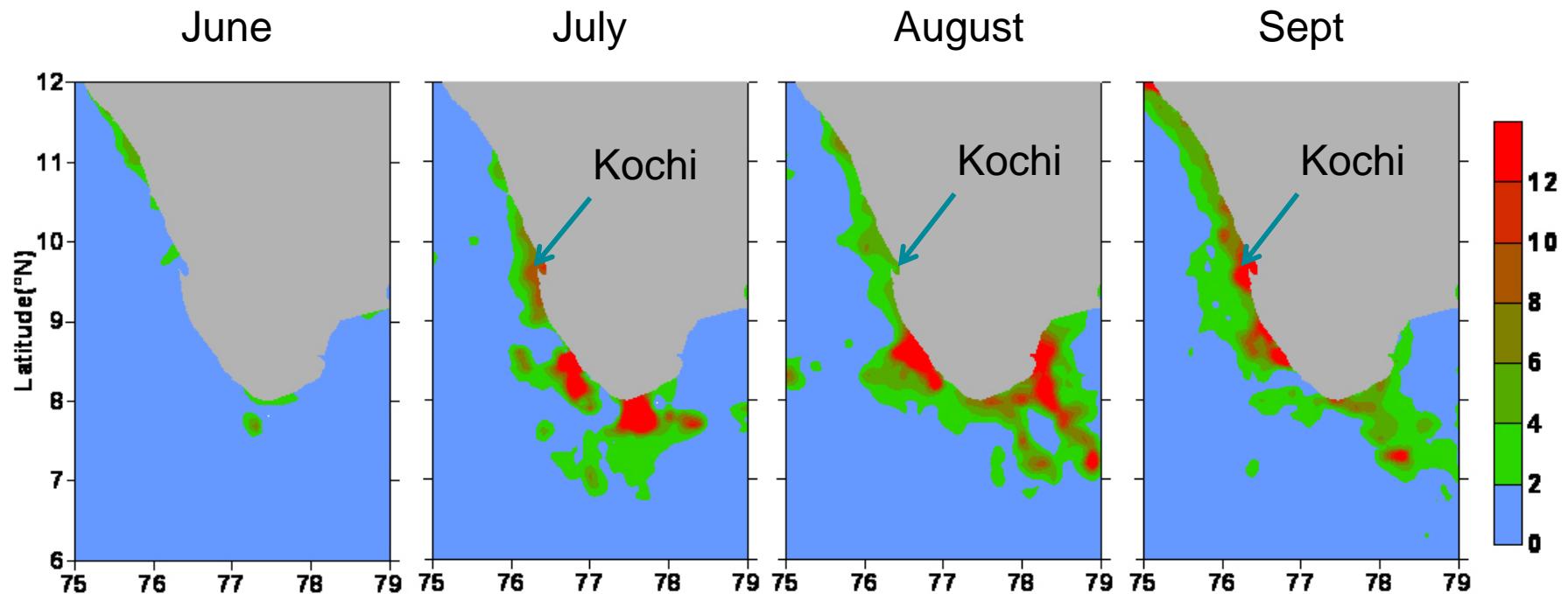
(Source : <http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov>)



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# Our focus area: SW coast of India 8-13 deg latitude

Important oil sardine spawning area



Four-year (2003–2006) average monthly monthly surface Chlorophyll from MODIS AQUA for June–September.(monsoon months)

# Life cycle of the oil sardine

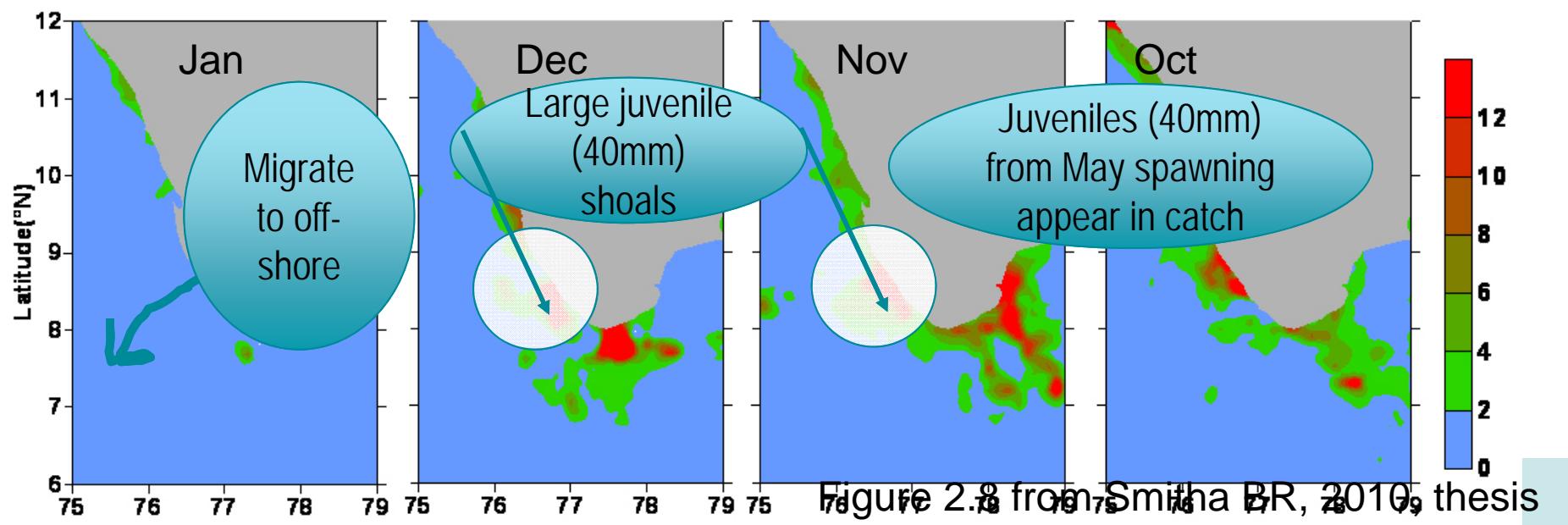
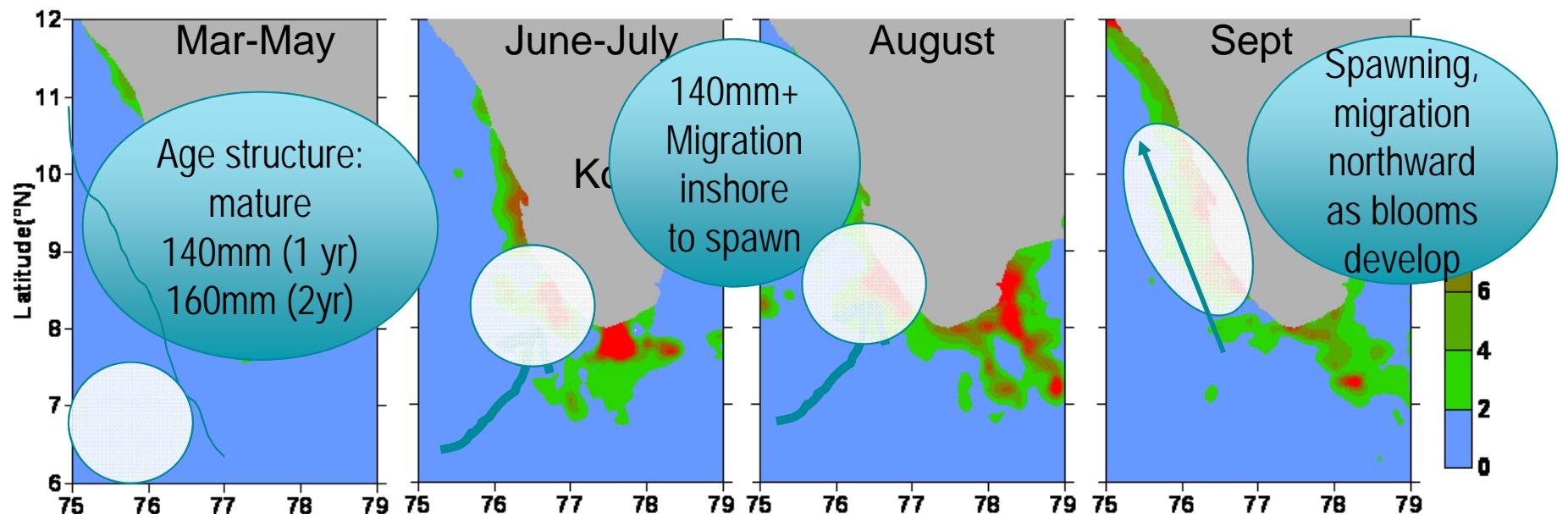
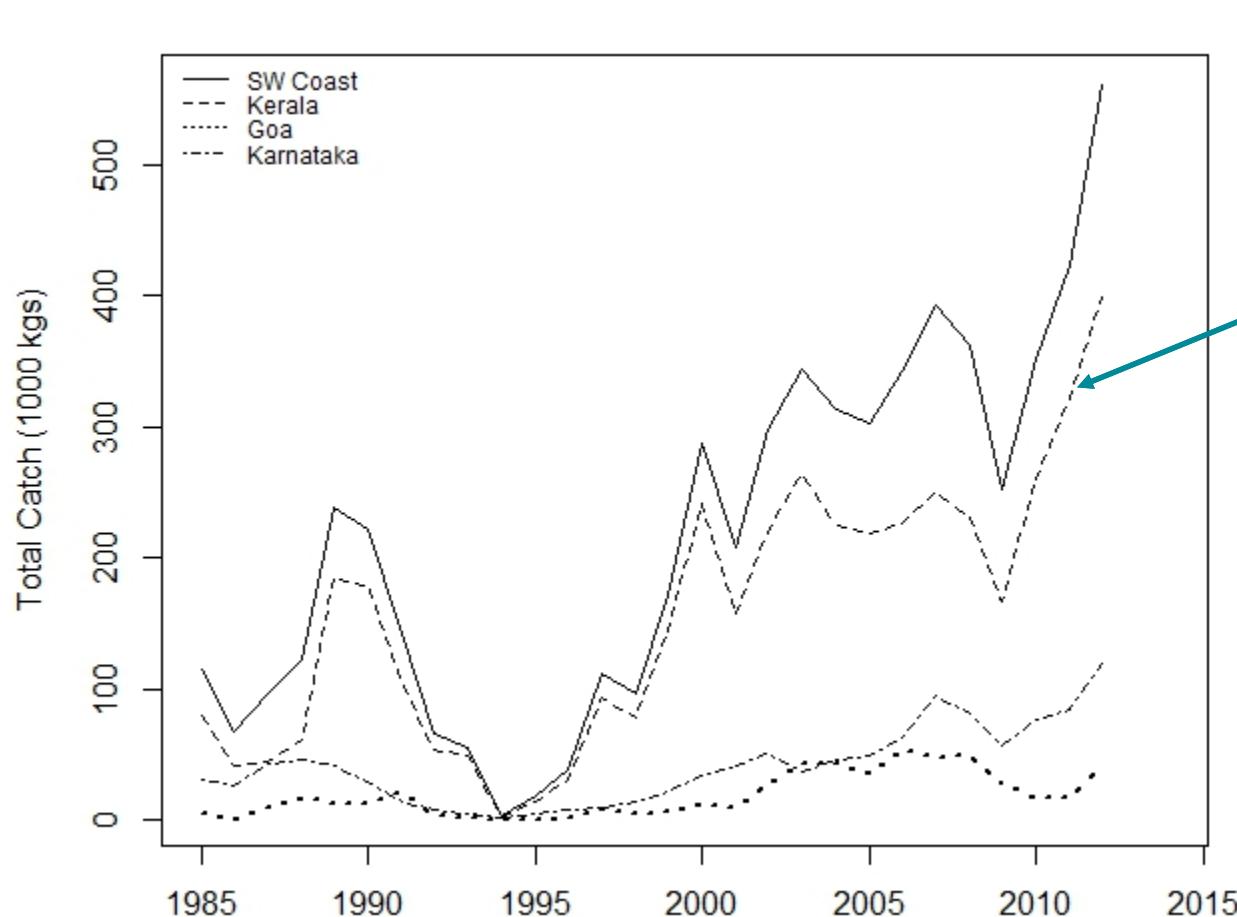
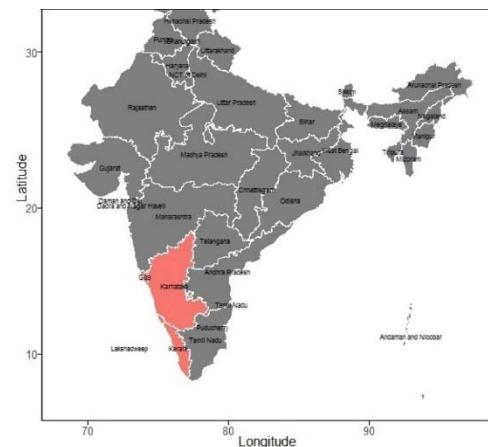


Figure 2.8 from Smitha BR, 2010, thesis

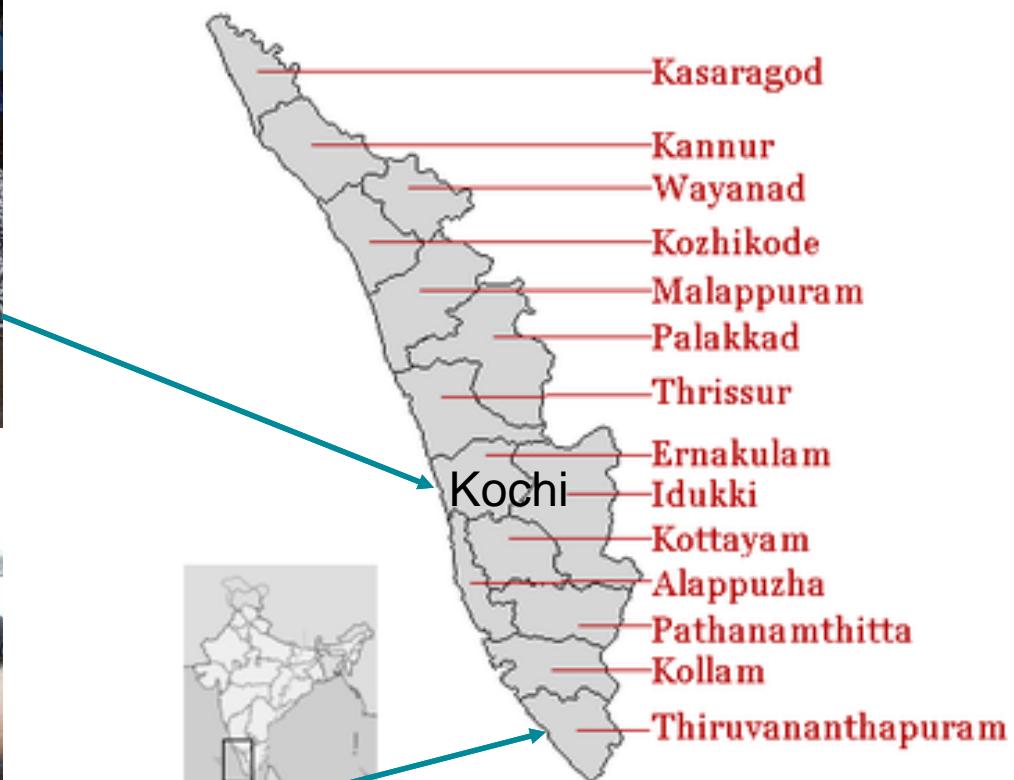
# Yearly trends in the SW coast oil sardine catch since 1985



Kerala  
catch  
makes up  
the majority  
of the SW  
coast  
landings



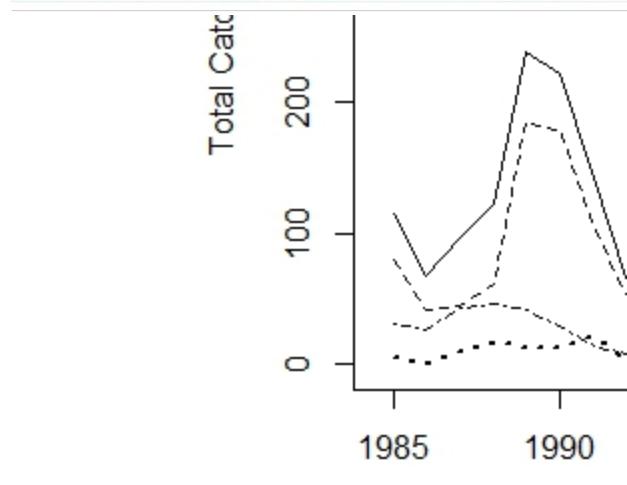
Data collected by Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (Kochi, Kerala)  
Data on the catch by species is collected at 187 landing centers in Kerala (and over 1511 along the entire coast). This is used to produce monthly landings estimates by species.



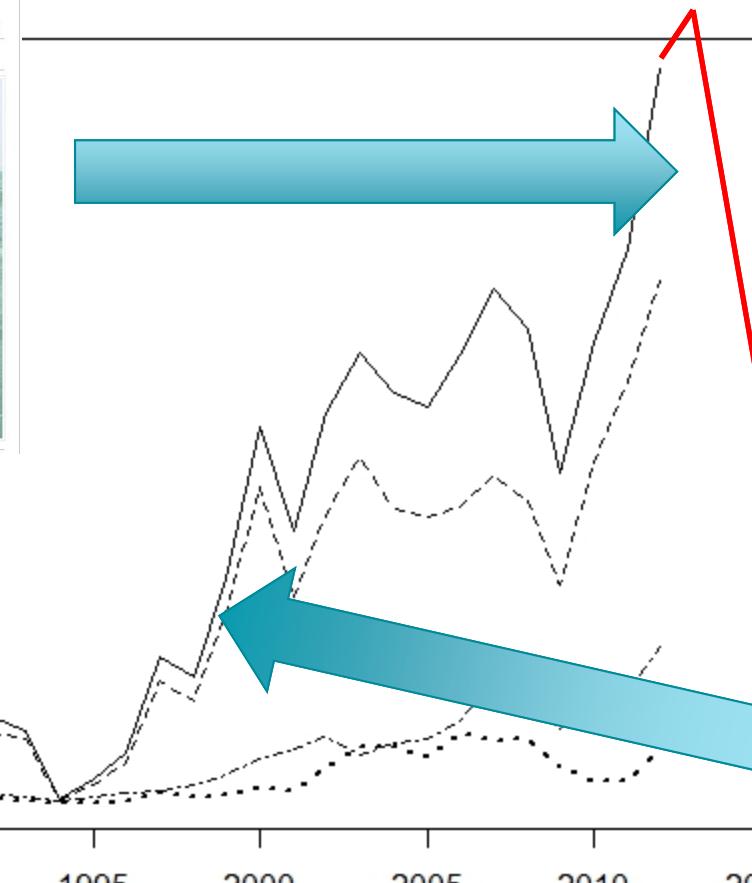
Marine fish catch drops 5.3% in 2015, 51% decline in oil sardine landings

V. SAJEEV KUMAR

PRINT T+



# Big drop in oil sardine catch in 2015



Major change in fishery (boats)



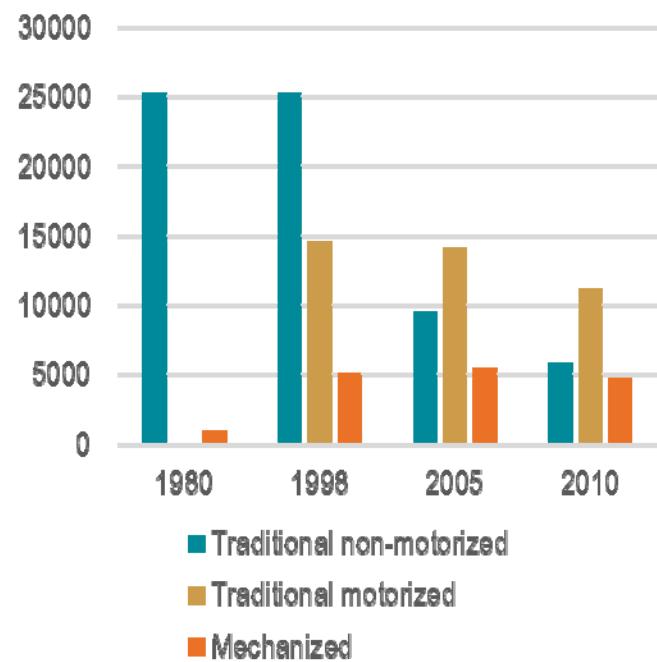
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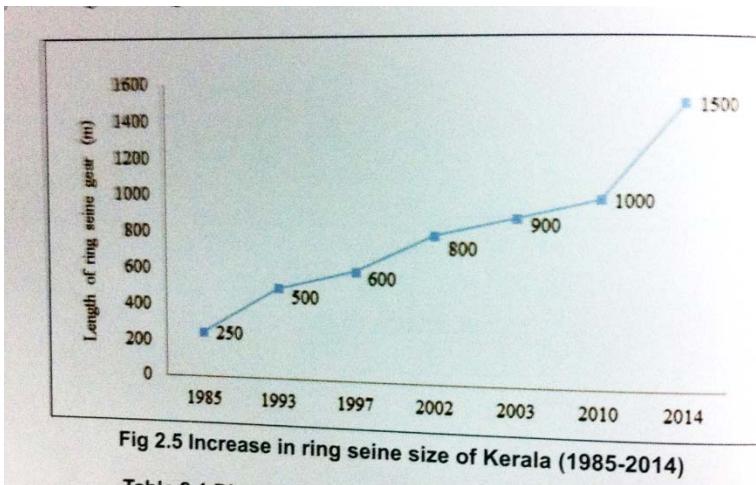
(The Hindu)

Today oil sardines are caught primarily with ring seines using smaller motorized (outboard) boats or larger (inboard) ships

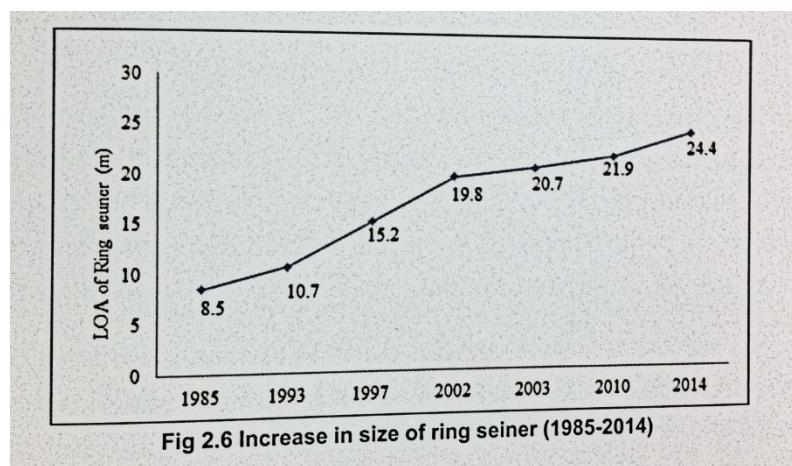
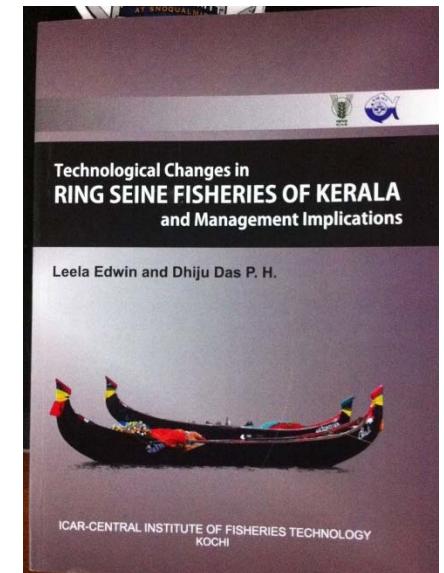
### Changes in the fleet composition in Kerala



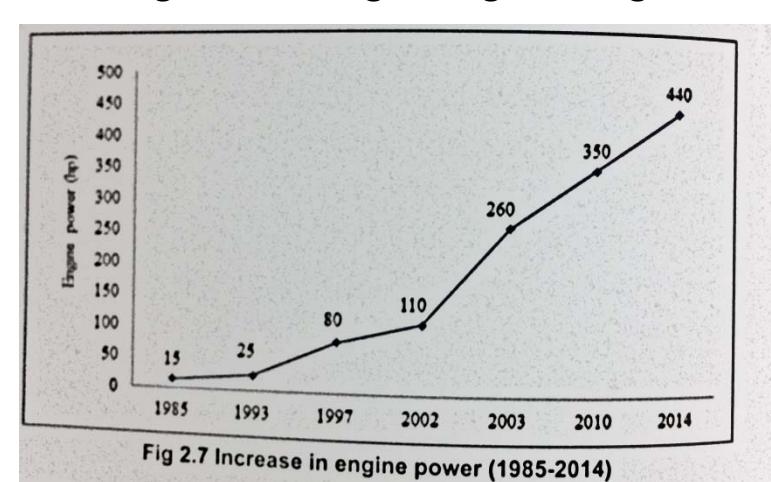
# 1985-2014 Changes in the ring seine boats and gear



Nets are getting longer

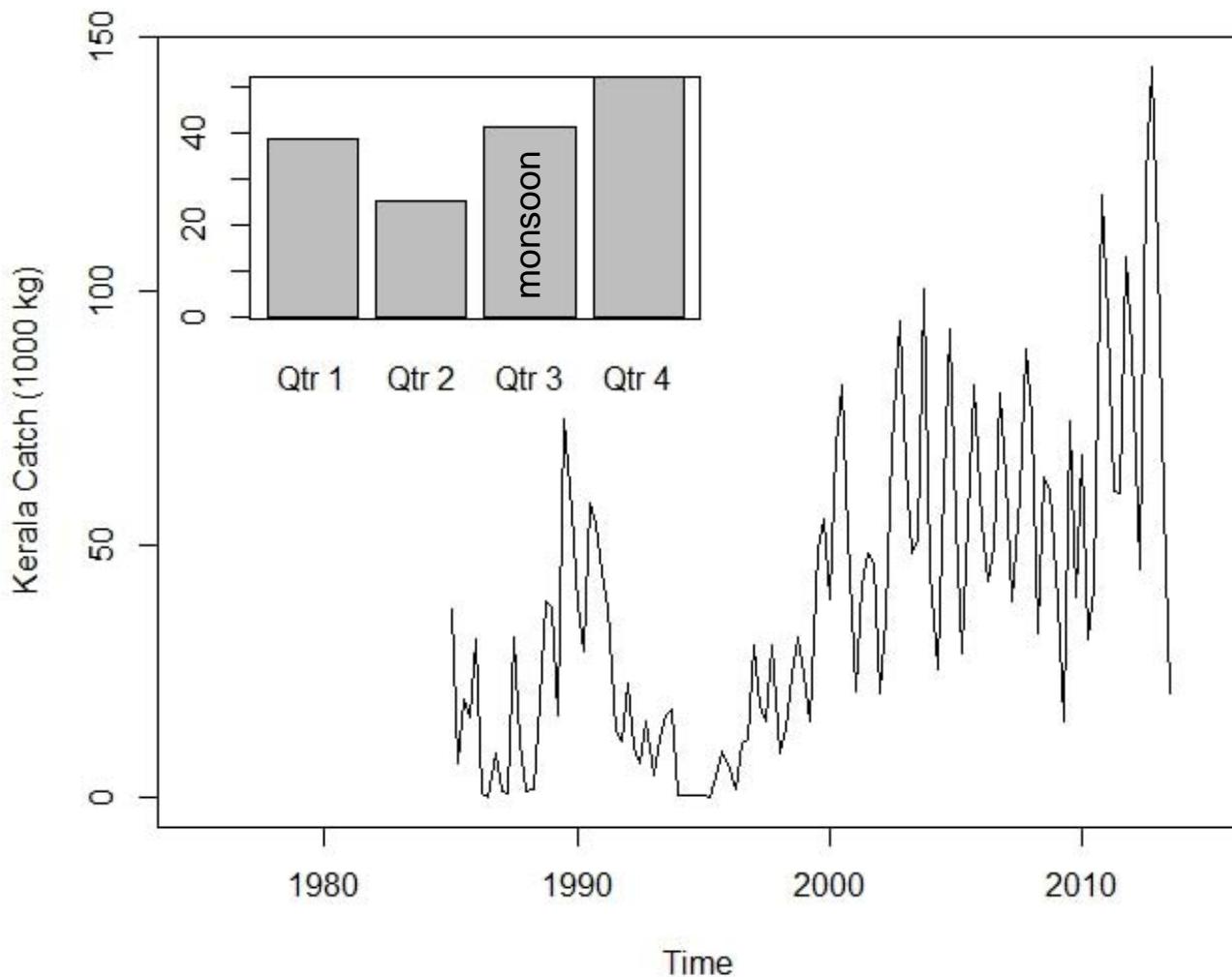


Boats are getting longer

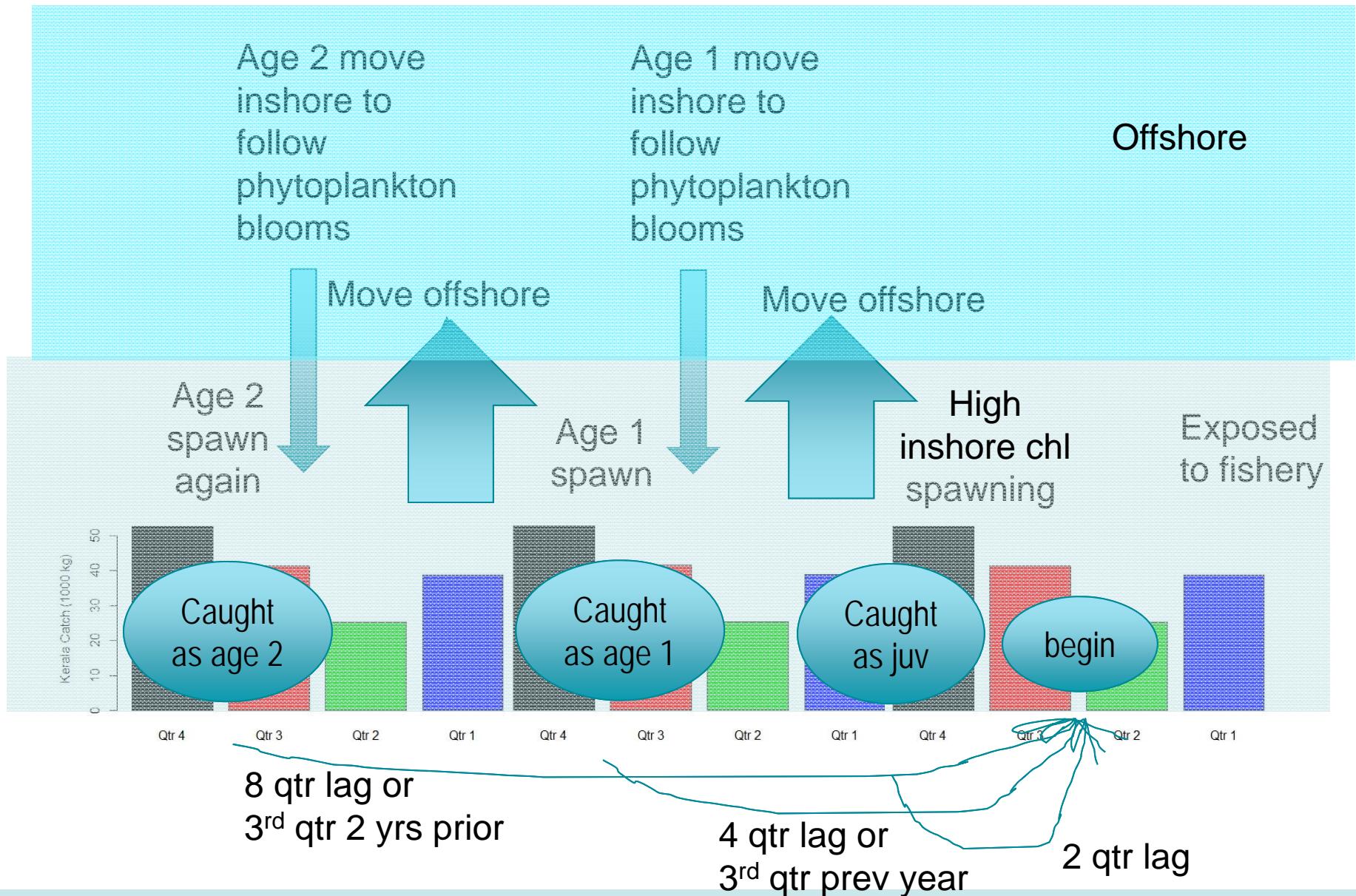


Engines are getting stronger

## Quarterly Kerala Catch

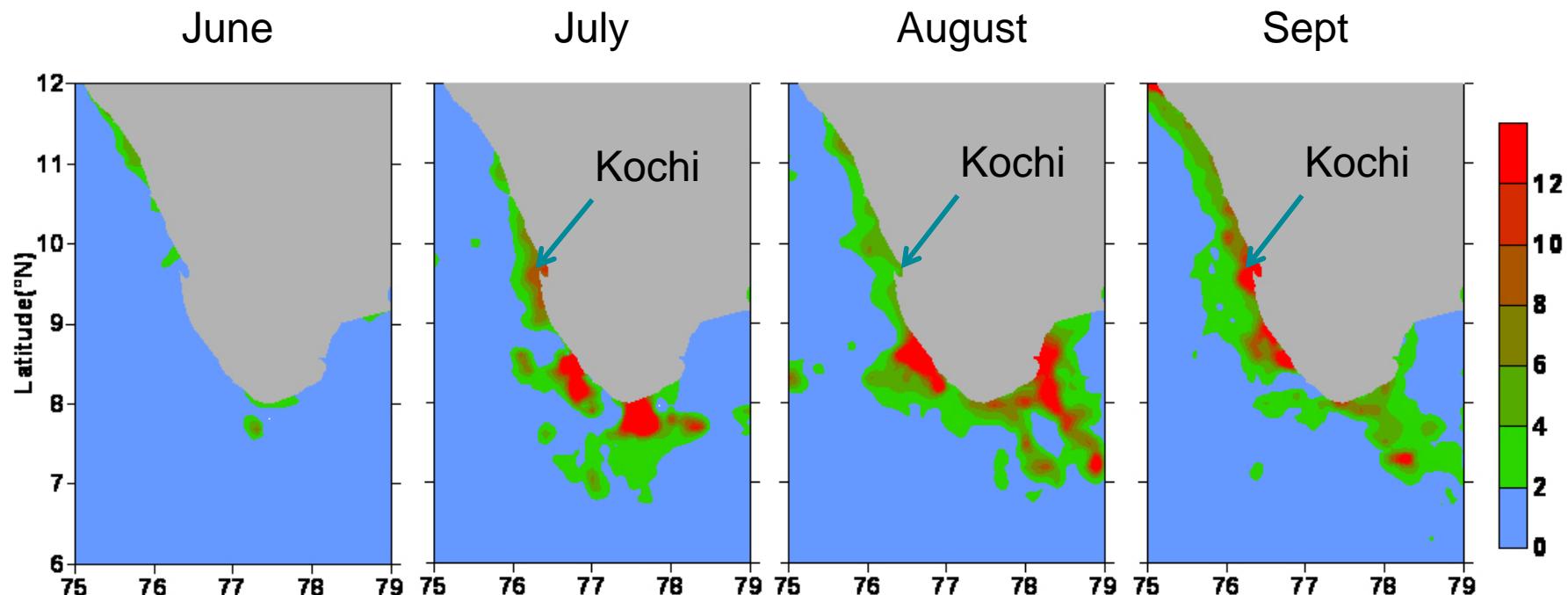


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# Upwelling indices



Four-year (2003–2006) average monthly monthly surface Chlorophyll from MODIS AQUA for June–September.(monsoon months)

# Upwelling indices

- Surface SST
  - Upwelling brings cooler water to the surface
  - The offshore versus onshore differential is used as an upwelling index
- SSH anomaly
  - Upwelling is associated with a drop in SSH
- Surface Chlorophyll
- Wind speed derived upwelling index: BR Smitha, 2010

# Data

## Landing data

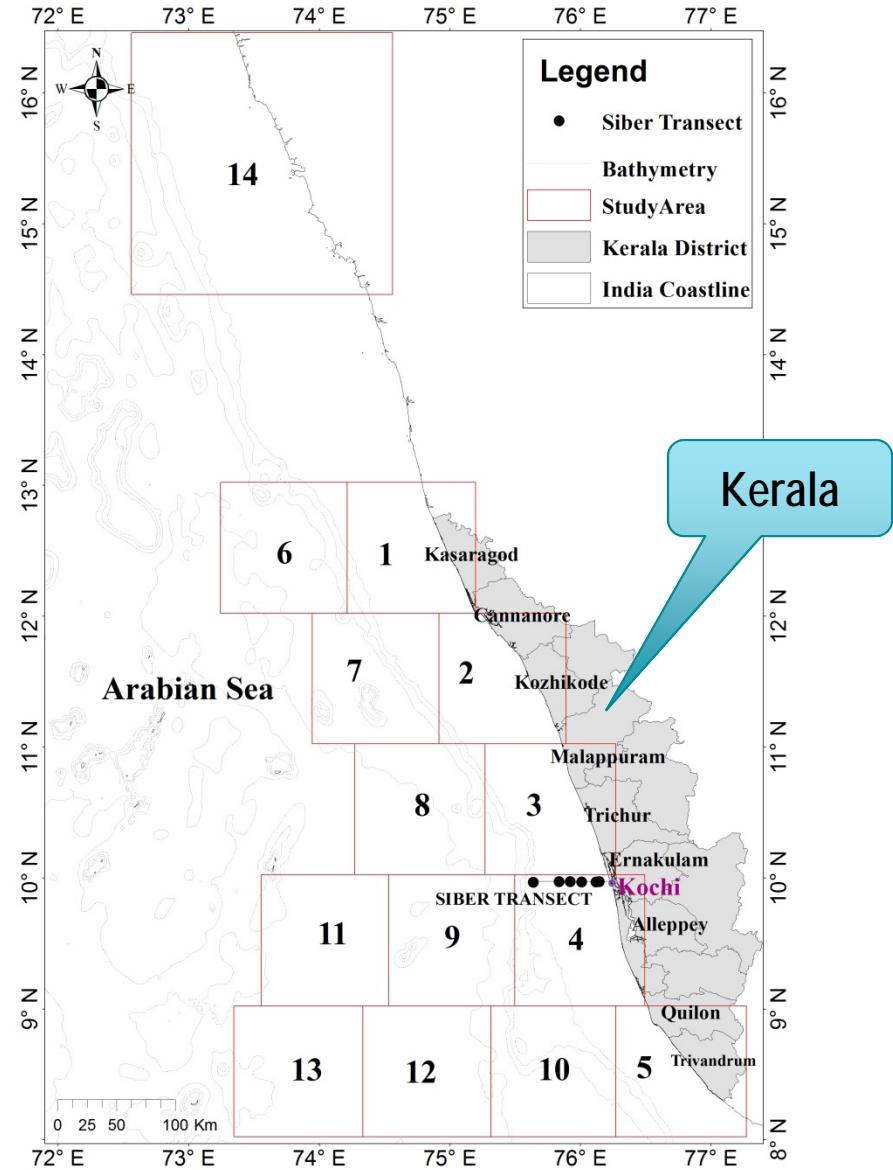
1985-2015 quarterly *landings*  
Kerala, Karnataka, Goa

## Satellite data

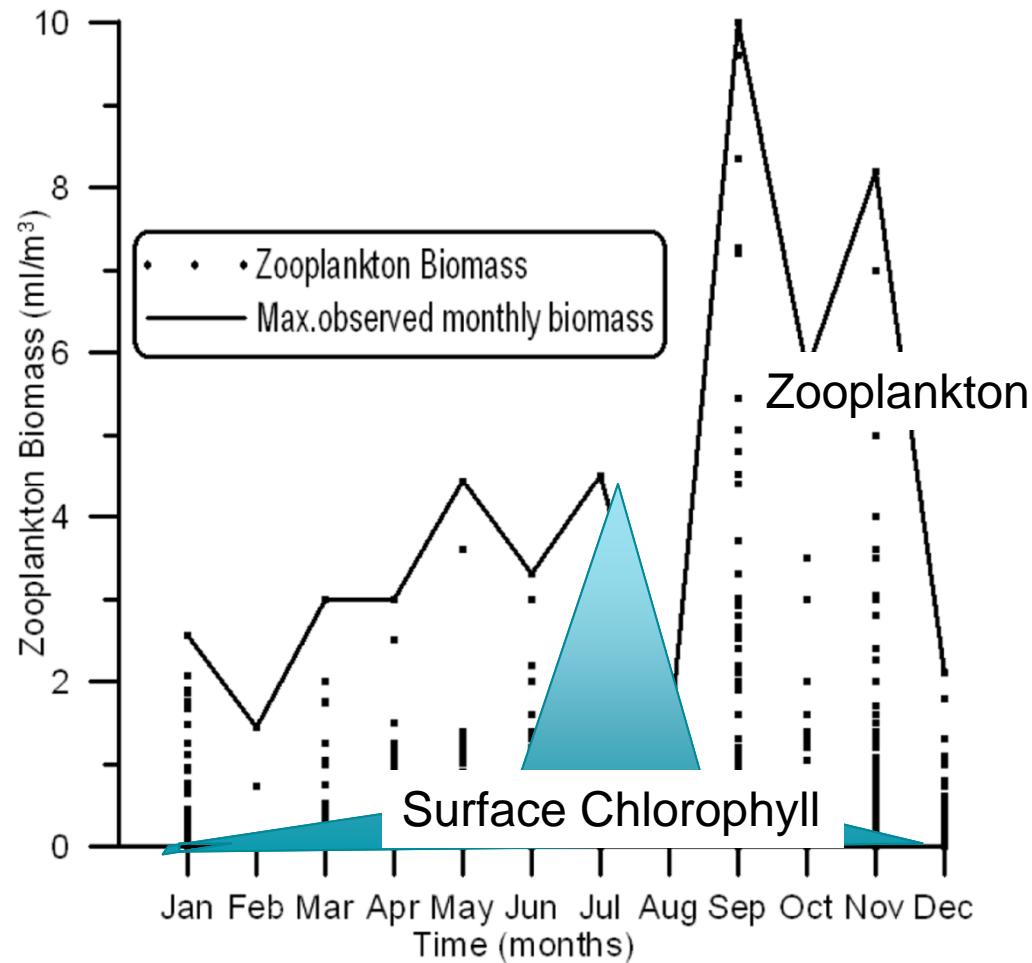
SST  
SSH  
Chl-a  
Precipitation

## Other

10-yr Upwelling index (wind-derived)  
Local measurements (DO, salinity, zooplankton)  
Monsoon onset dates

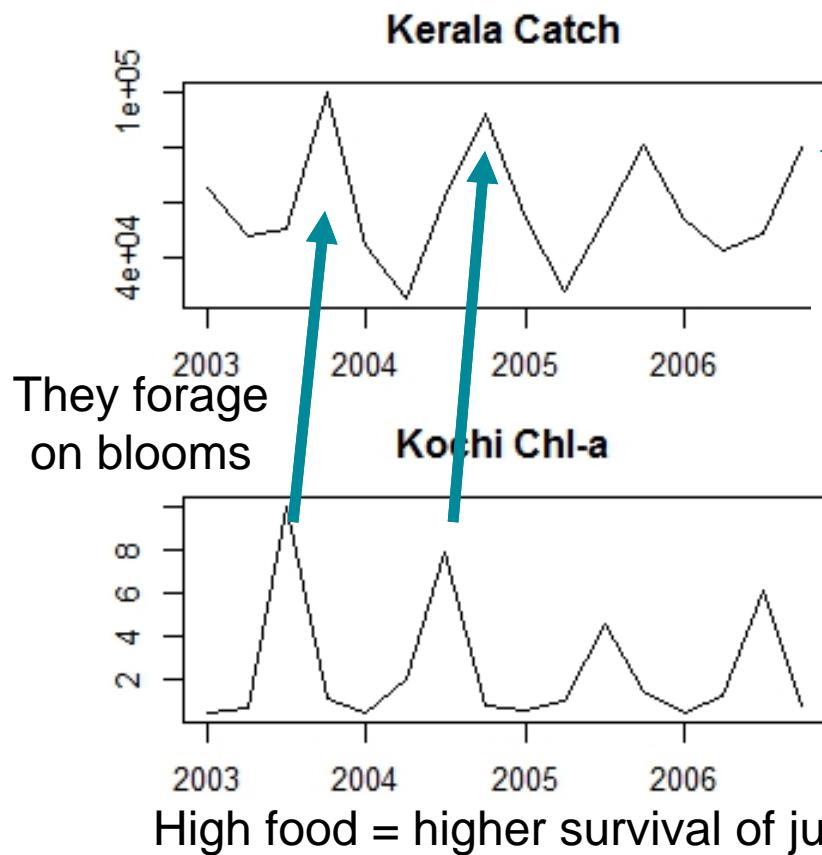
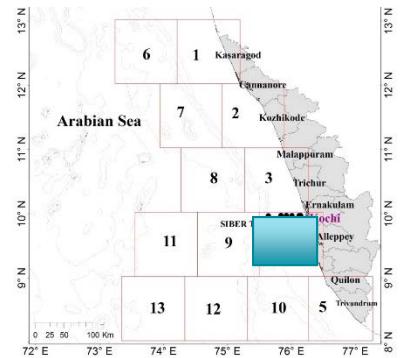


# We expect lagged relationships between our upwelling covariates, Chl, and catch



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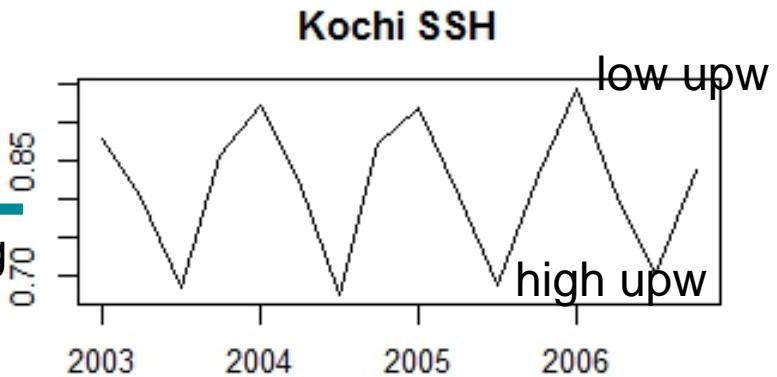
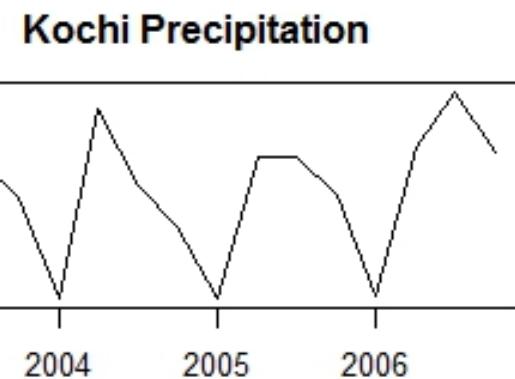
# Seasonality



Dropping salinity cues adults to come inshore

Correlated with monsoon winds

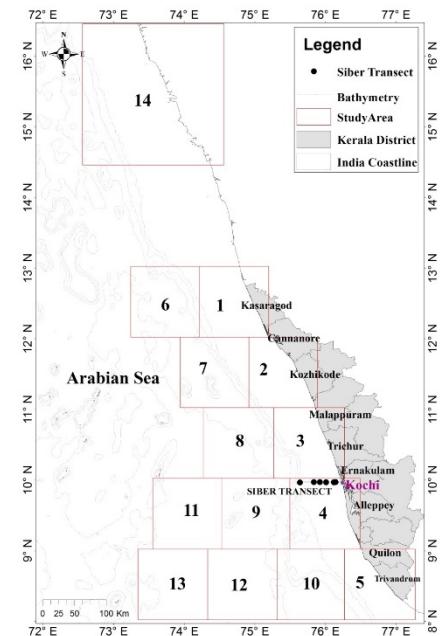
Upwelling signal



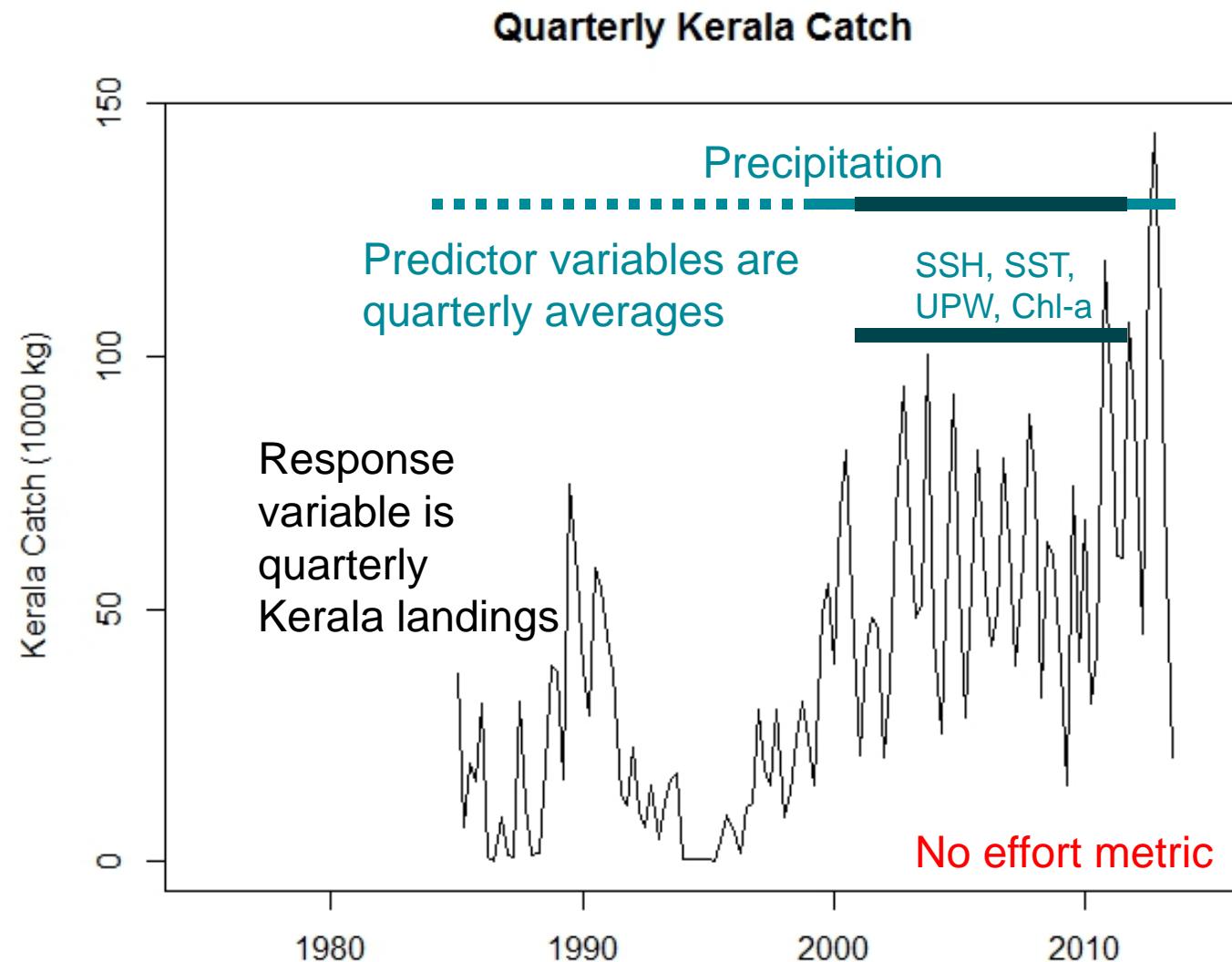
# Statistical Analysis

- What covariates (if any) correlate with landings?
  - 13 boxes, 5 covariates
  - ca 40 landing data points: 2002-2012
- Start with looking at the correlations

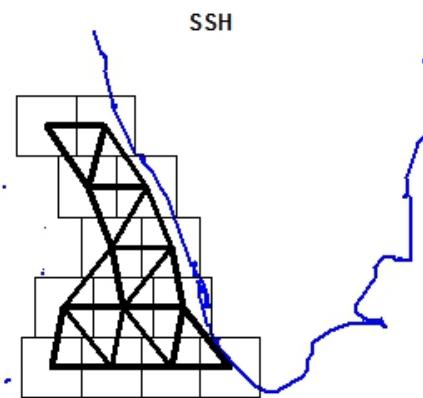
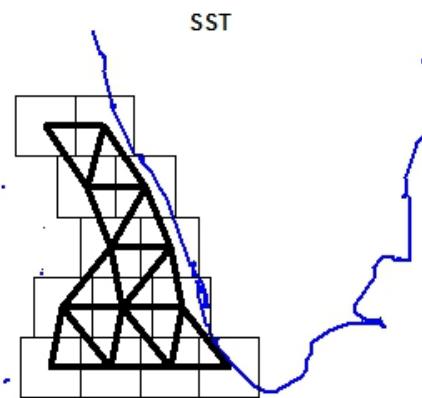
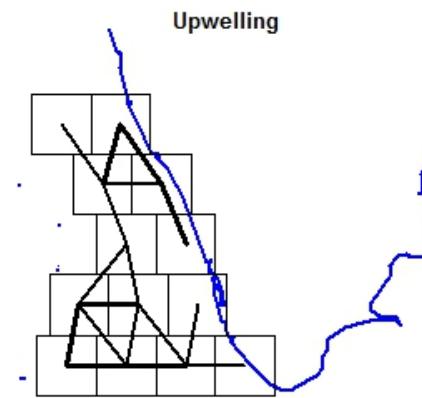
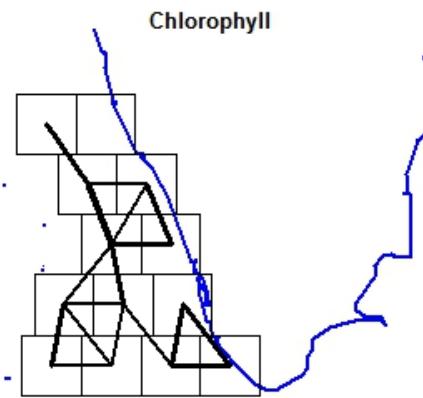
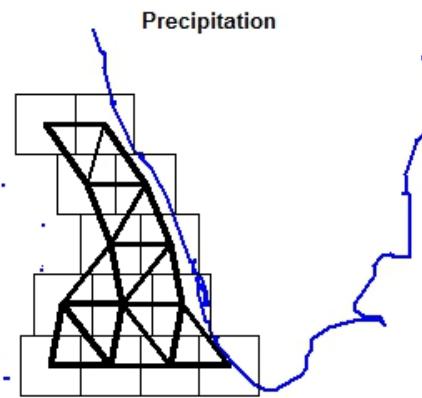
*I used cross-correlation and looking at the R<sup>2</sup> for various multivariate regressions, and then step-AIC regressions. In the end, looking at simple plots seemed most informative.*



# Data used

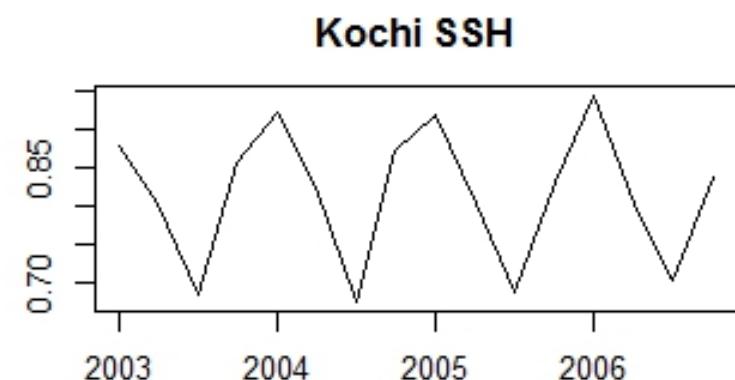
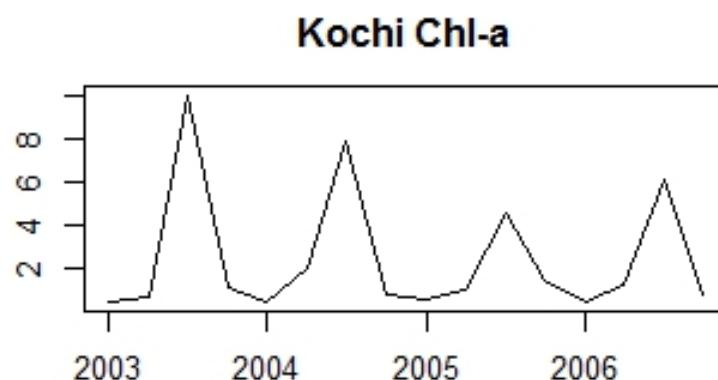
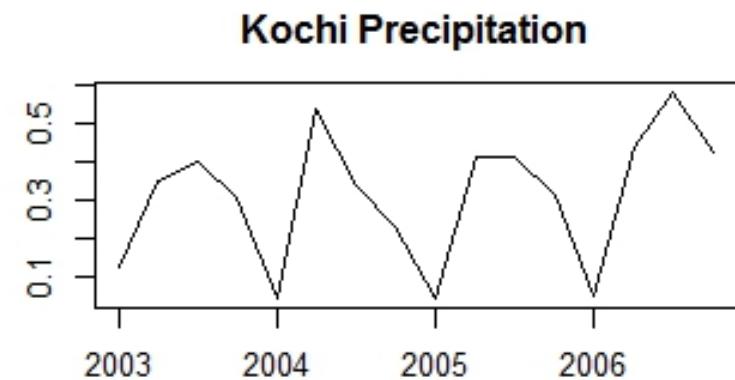
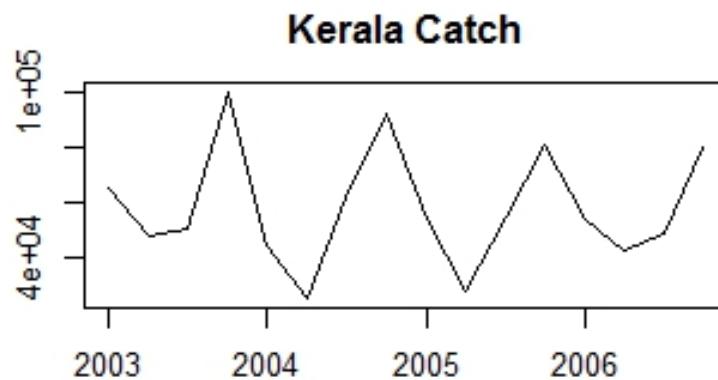


# The covariates are spatially correlated *Which location(s) is(are) important?*



The covariates are temporally correlated.

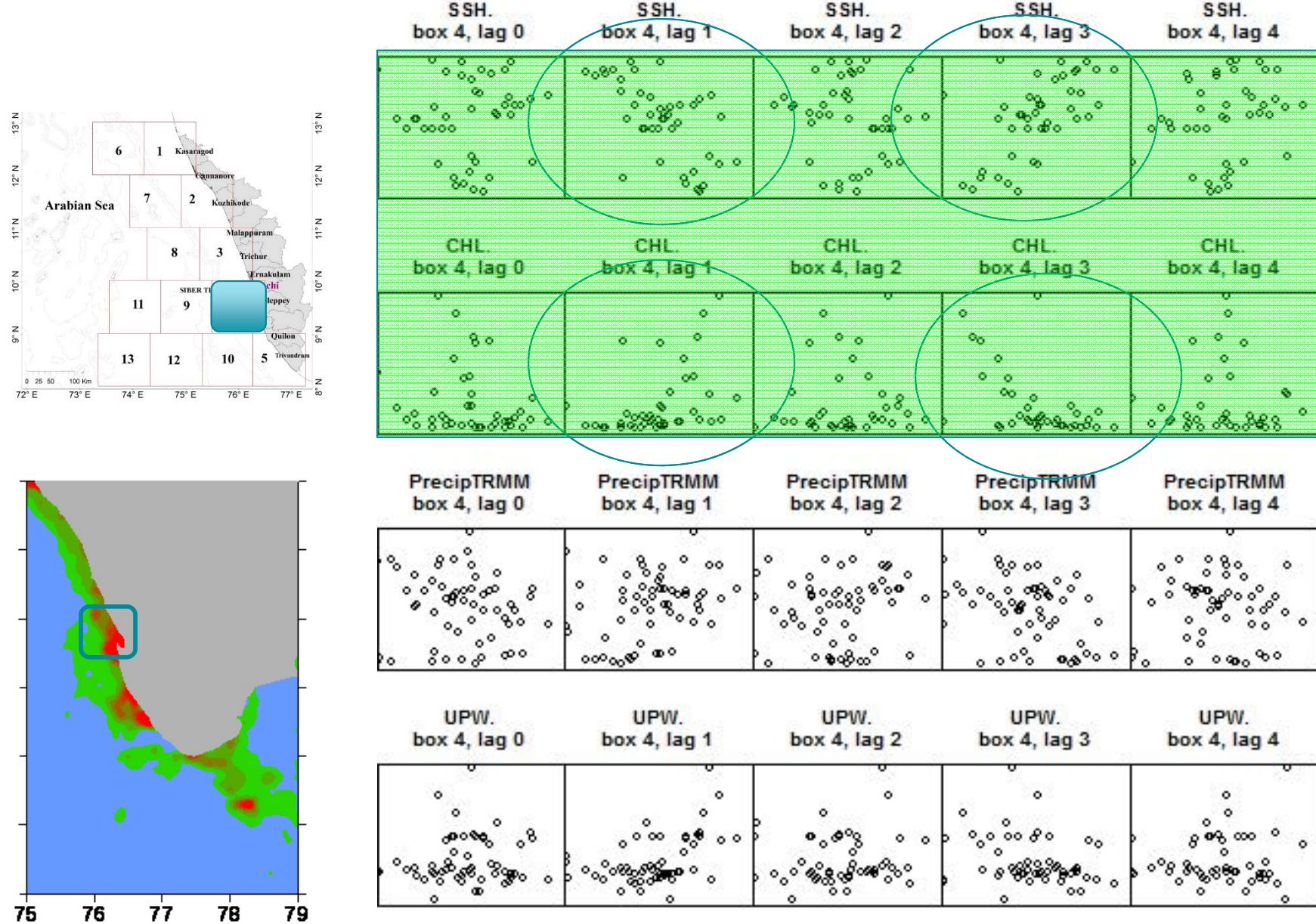
*Which covariate is a good predictor of the seasonal cycle in catch?*



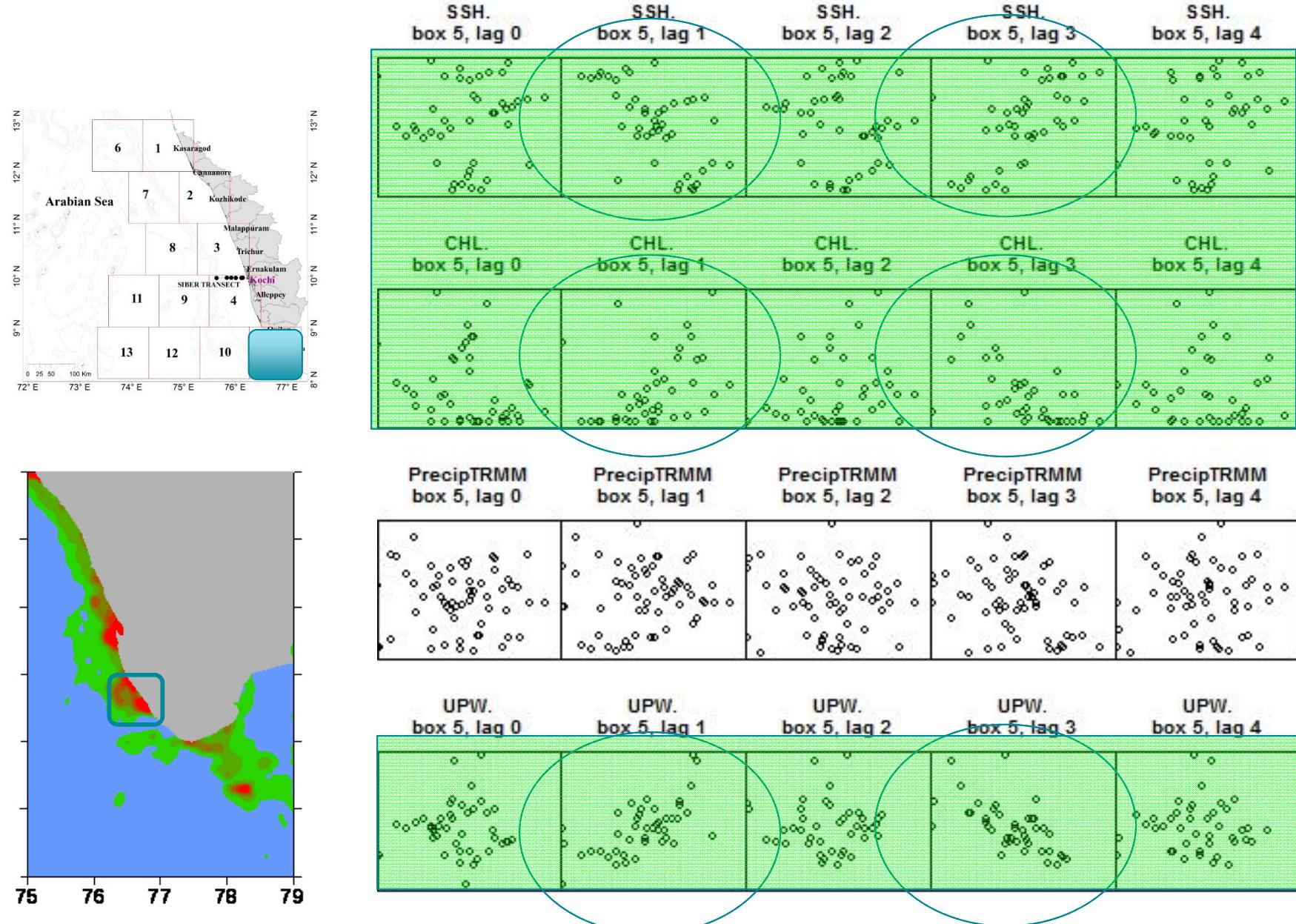
Box 4 off Kochi



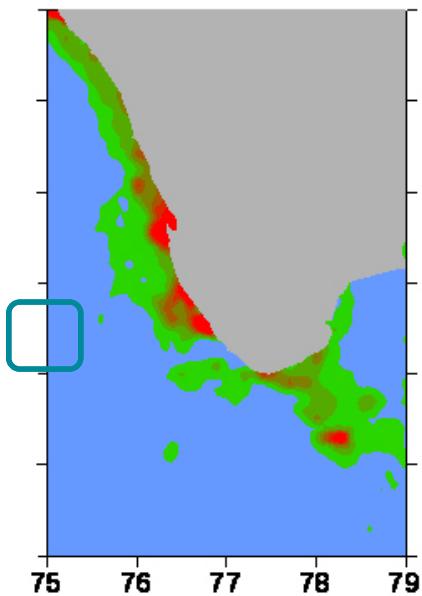
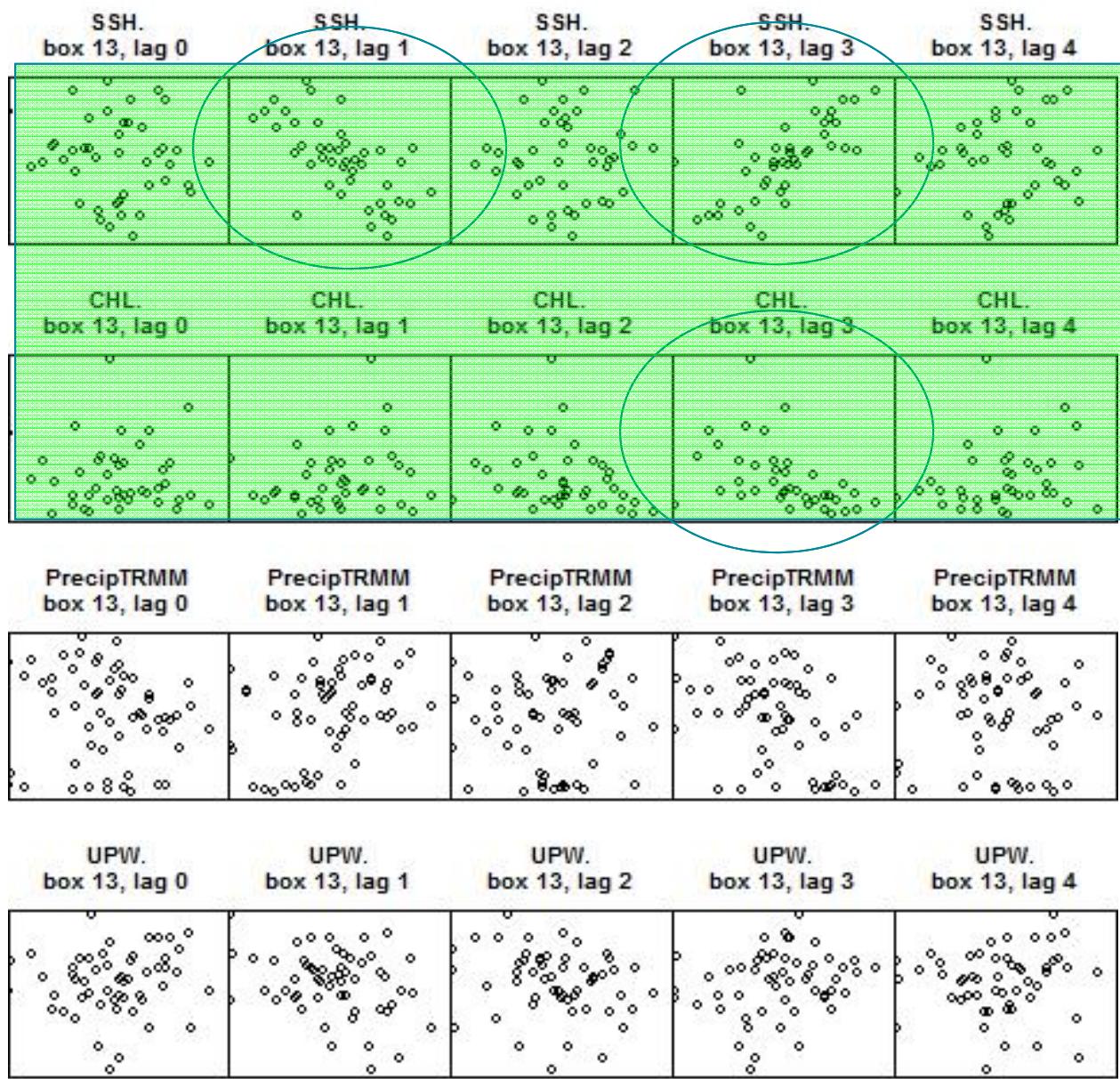
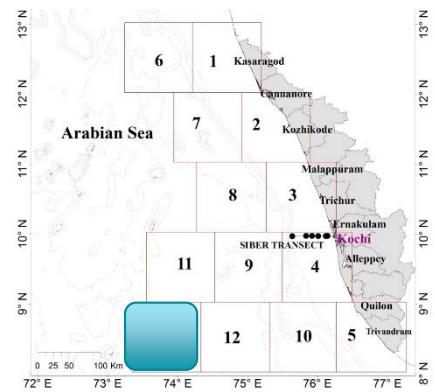
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# What covariates are promising for modeling seasonality?

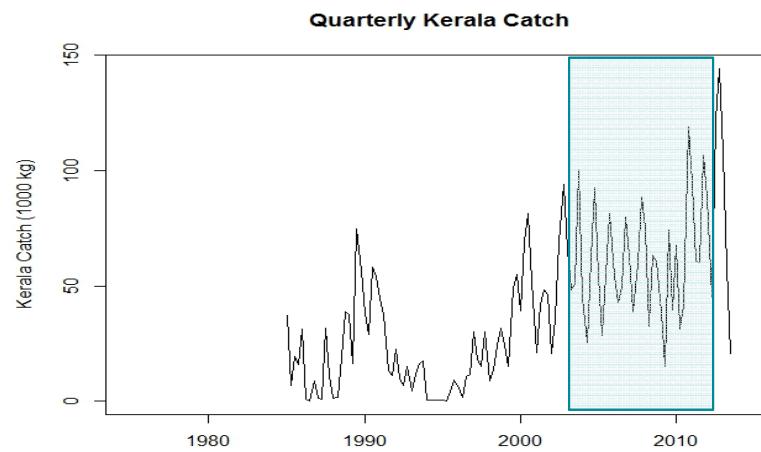
- SSH at lag 1 or lag 3 (prev qtr or 3 qtr prior). No region jumped out as better than another probably because SSH is highly spatially correlated.
- The wind-based upwelling index in the south is also a contender.
- Chl-a isn't as good of a predictor though the correlation is in the right direction. My Chl-a covariate is probably too crude (average quarterly). Others have used the peak (not the average) with success.
- Precipitation was not predictive, too variable. Maybe using average is poor. Biologists think that the date of monsoon onset is important.

# But quarter works just fine for modeling seasonality....

- Just using Quarter and Year is better for years that I have for testing.

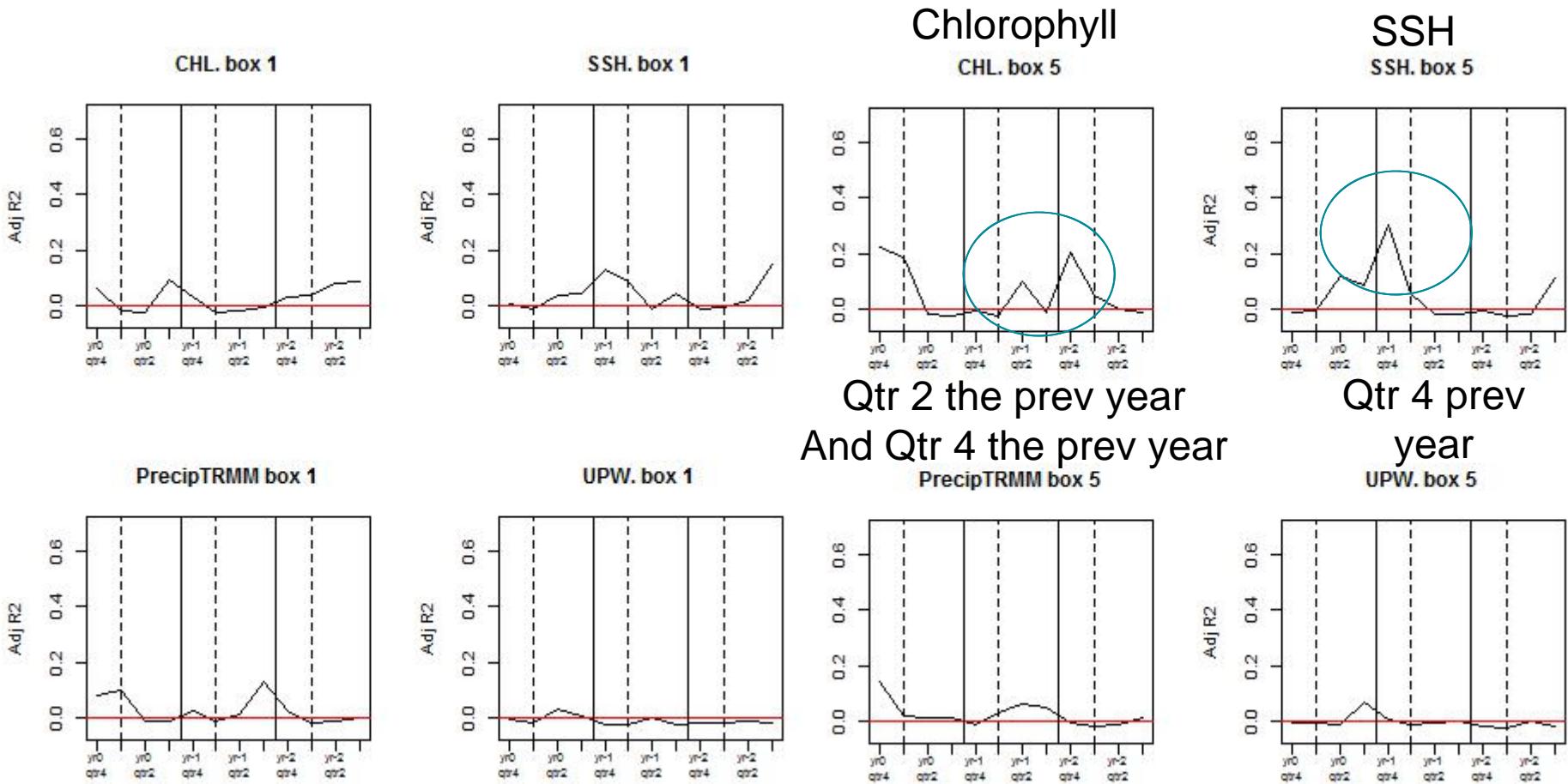
2003-2012  
40 data points

Log catch ~ Year + Qtr	adj R2 = 0.52
Log catch ~ Year + Chl(1 qtr prev)	adj R2 = 0.26
Log catch ~ Year + Chl(3 qtrs. prev)	adj R2 = 0.43
Log catch ~ Year + SSH(1 qtr prev)	adj R2 = 0.52
Log catch ~ Year + SSH(3 qtrs. prev)	adj R2 = 0.49



# What about predicting catch anomalies?

## Effect of covariate anomaly in a particular qtr.



# Using covariate anomalies seems promising

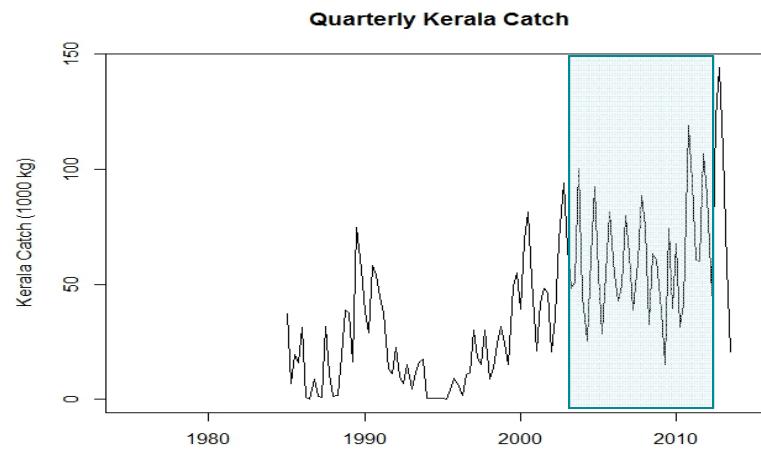
Log catch ~ Year + Qtr

adj R<sup>2</sup> = 0.55

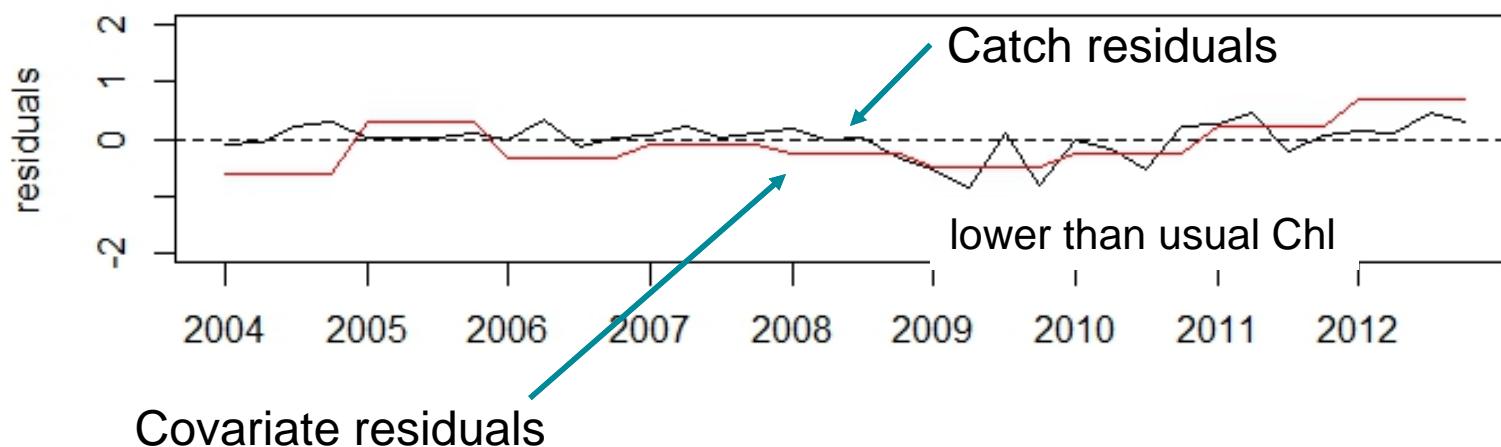
Log catch ~ Year + Qtr + Chl anomaly(qtr 2 prior year) adj R<sup>2</sup> = 0.65

Log catch ~ Year + Qtr + SSH anomaly(qtr 4 prior year) adj R<sup>2</sup> = 0.66

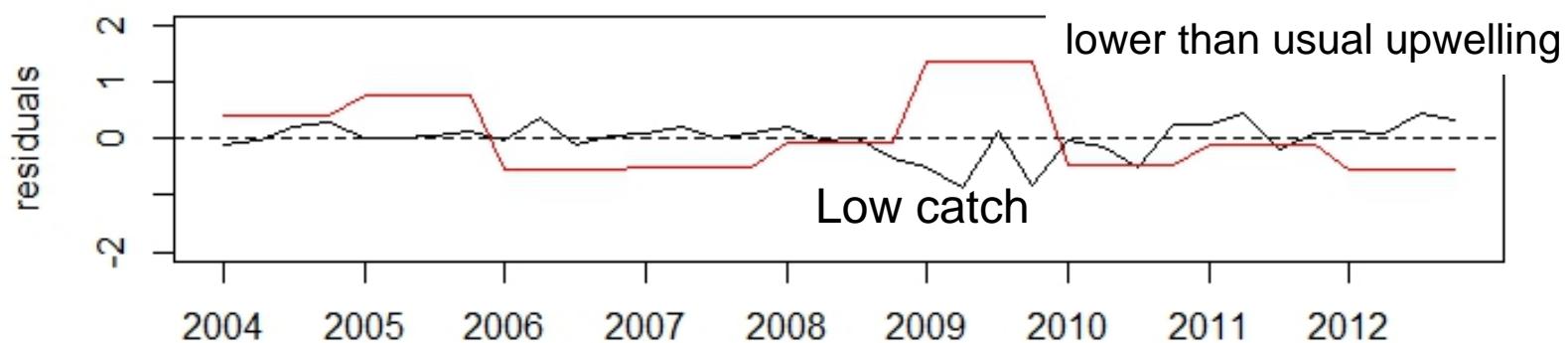
2004-2012  
36 data points



**CHL in box 5 during qtr 2 (pre-monsoon)**  
**only boxes 4 and 5 work**



**SSH in box 5 during qtr 4 (post-monsoon)**  
**any inshore box works similarly**

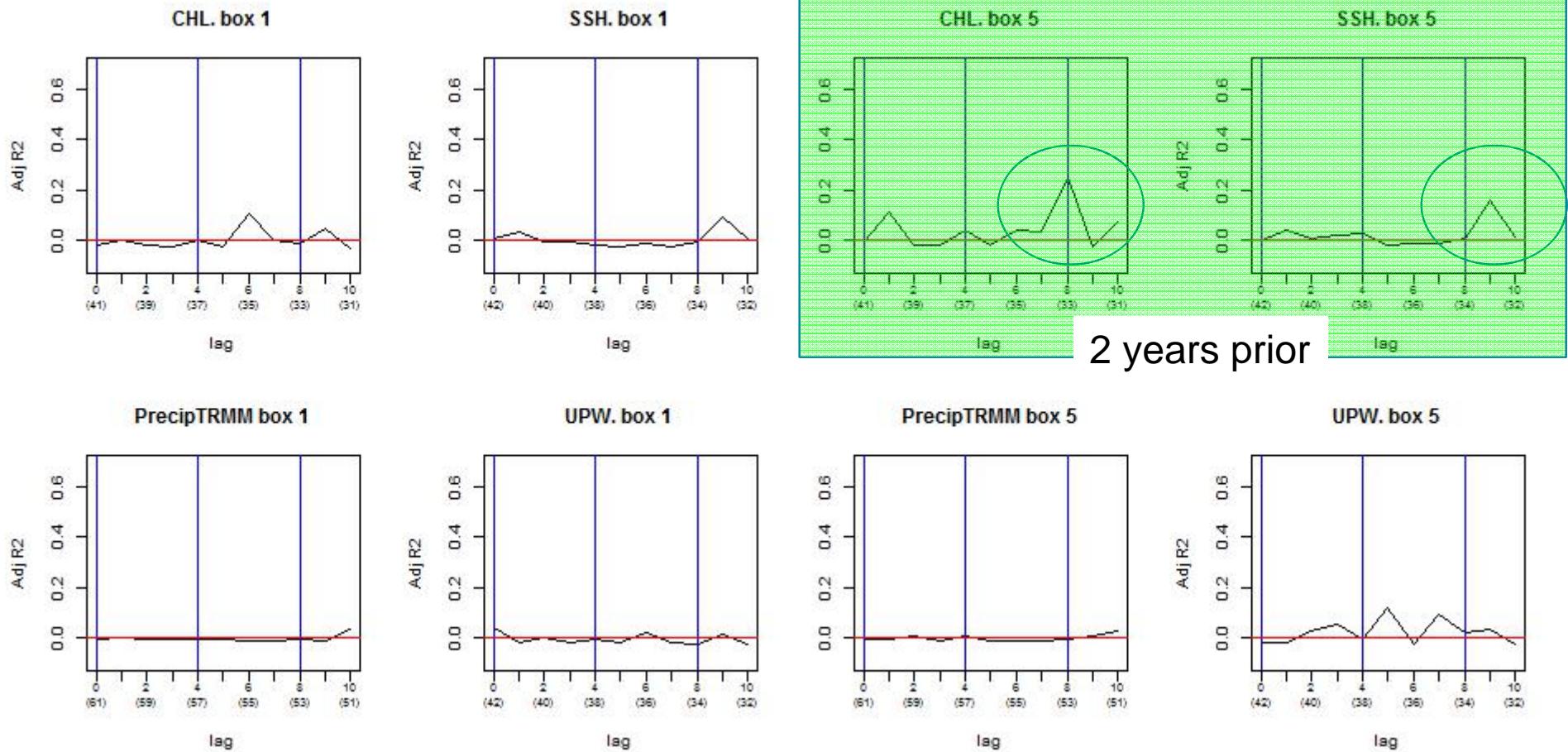


Box 4 not box 5



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# Does predicting catch anomalies using lags work? Effect of covariate at a particular lag (# qtrs. In the past)



# Today's talk --- overview of the project, challenges, and initial results

- Background
  - Physical processes (upwelling) affecting oil sardines in the SE Arabian Sea
  - Biology of oil sardines and how it interacts with the above
- Satellites covariates
- Exploratory correlation analysis
  - Which covariates have explanatory value? biology + physical processes + information in the covariate
- Testing some forecasting models
  - Multivariate regression models
  - Exponential smoothing models

# Multiple regression model

$$y_t = \text{level} + \text{qtr}_t + b1 * \text{cov1}_t + b2 * \text{cov2}_t + e_t$$

$y_t$  is the log catch at t

Level (intercept) is constant

$\text{qtr}_t$  is a factor for the season; qtr factor is constant

$b1$  and  $b2$  are constant (not time-varying)

$e_t$  is i.i.d. and normal

# Exponential smoothing model

Time-series model that allows a time-varying level and time-varying seasonal amplitude

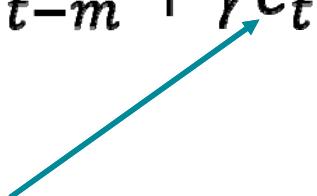
Prediction =  
data      level + season      error

$$y_t = l_{t-1} + s_{t+m} + e_t$$

$$l_t = l_{t-1} + \alpha e_t$$
      Level is a random walk

$$s_t = s_{t-m} + \gamma e_t$$
      M is the period of the  
  season  
  Season is a random  
  walk

Only 1 error at each t



Forecast library in R easily fits these

# Exponential smoothing model output

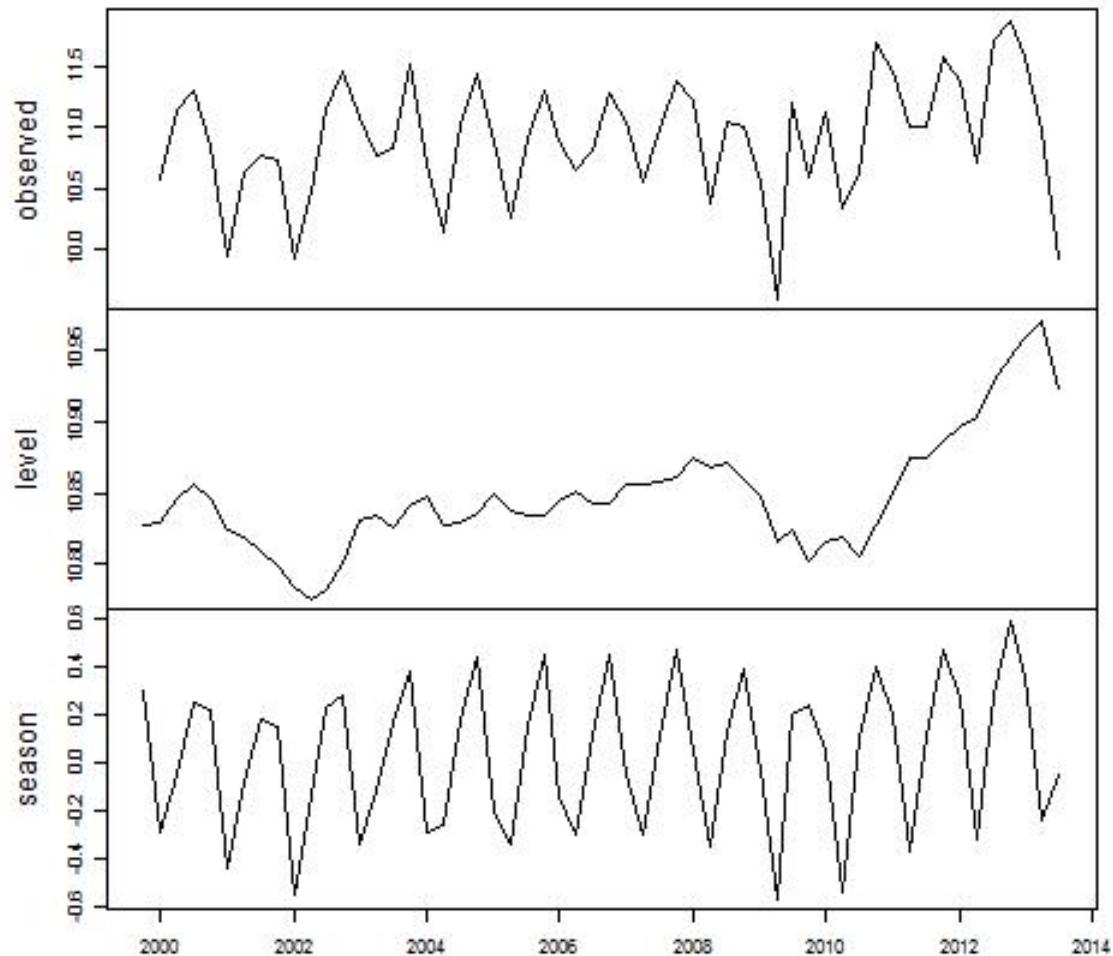
mod=ets(data, model="ANA"); fit(mod)

Decomposition by ETS(A,N,A) method

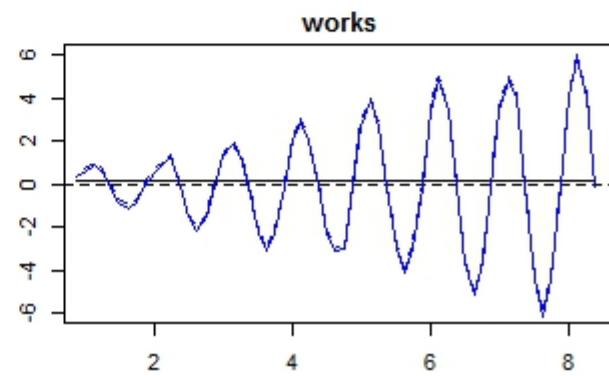
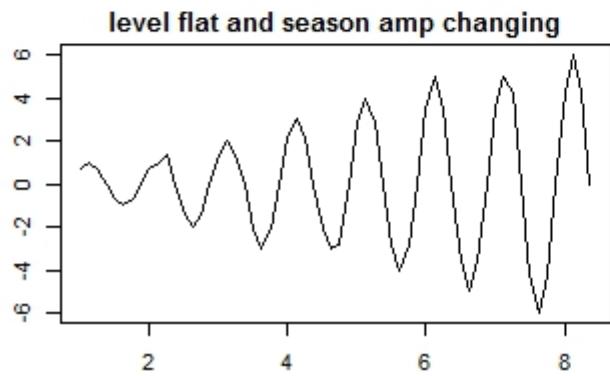
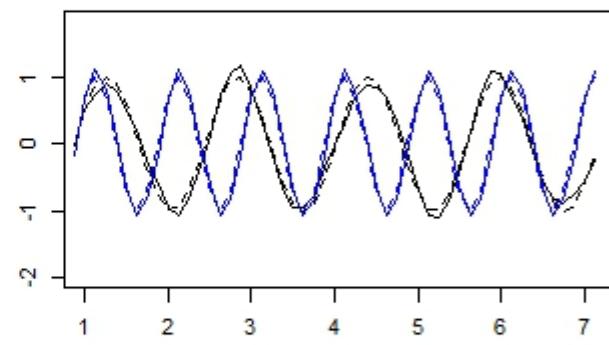
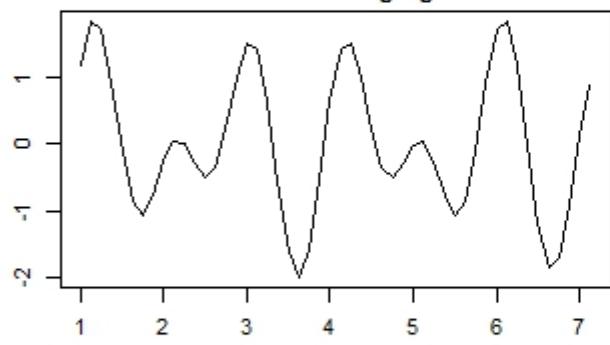
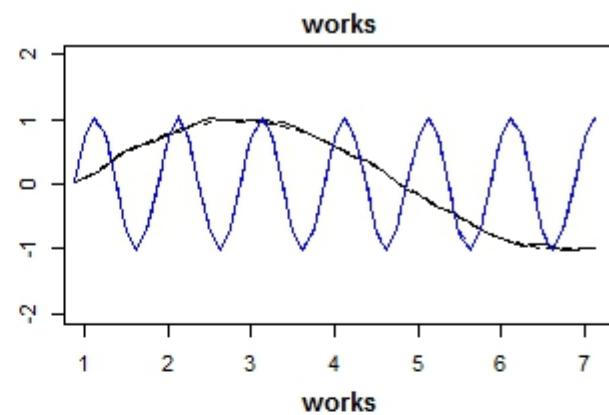
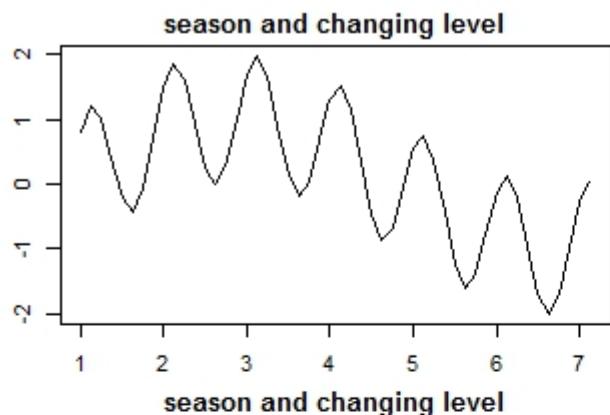
Log qtrly Kerala catch

Line that goes  
through the data.  
Like a time-varying  
intercept/level

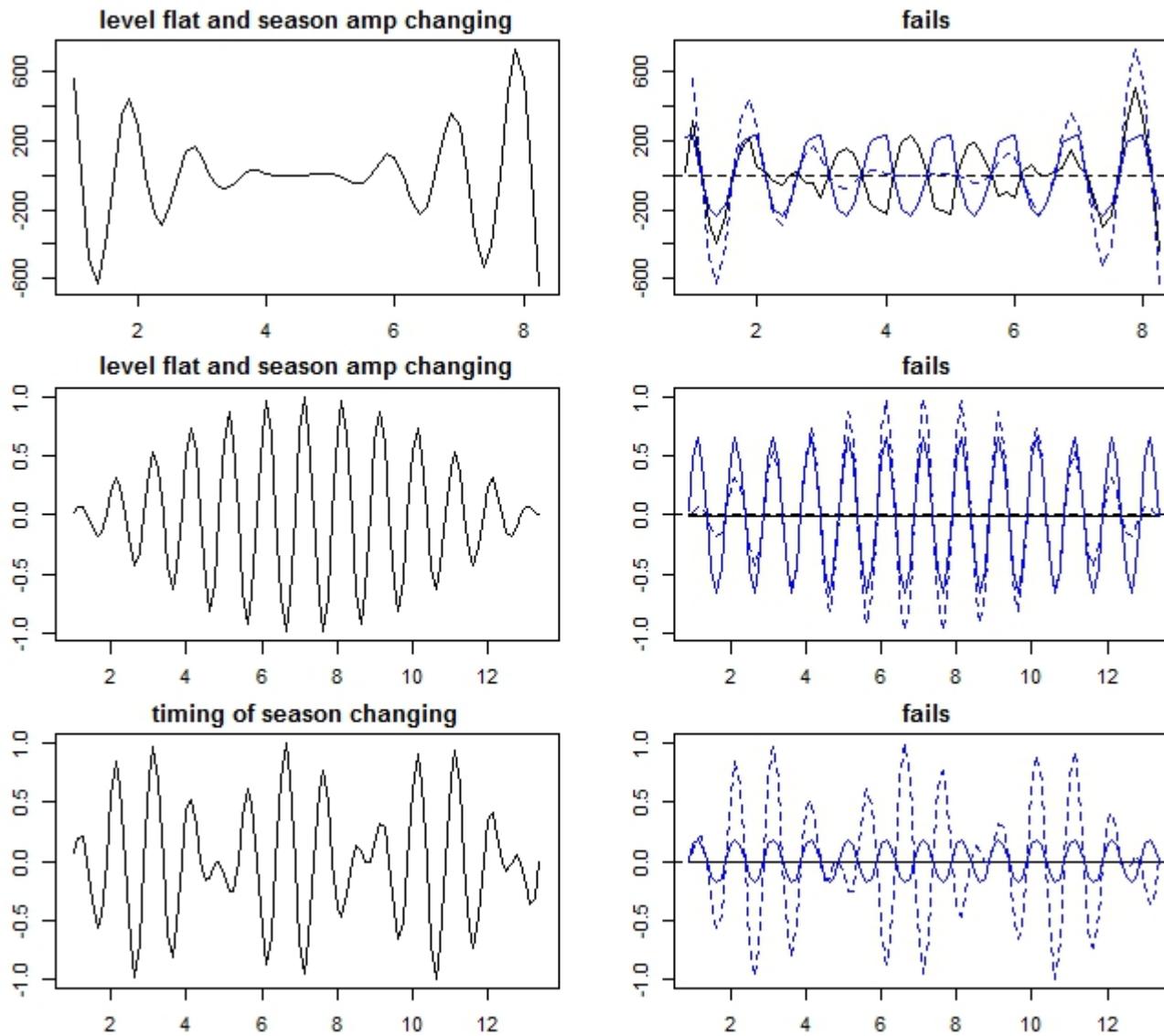
Time-varying  
seasonal component.



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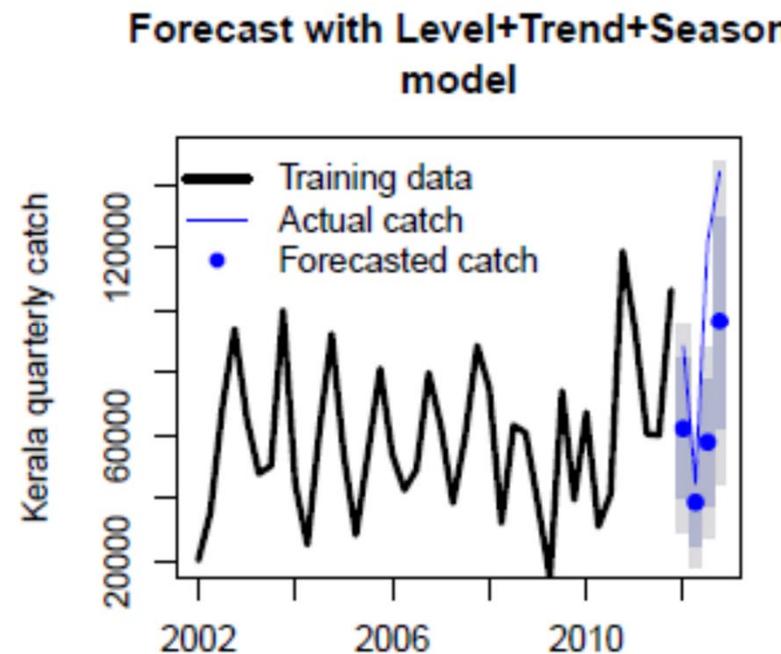


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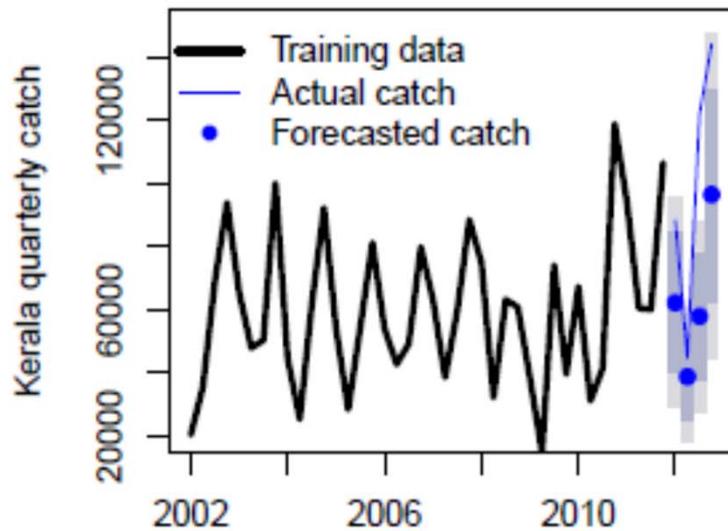
# Exponential smoothing model forecast



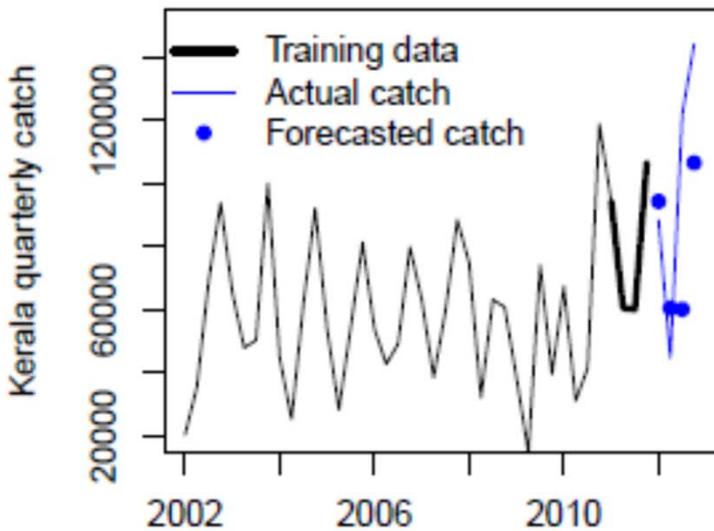
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# One step ahead forecast tests (out of sample)

Forecast with Level+Trend+Season model



Forecast using last year



- Predict one qtr ahead for a series of training windows of different sizes
- Store the error (predict – observed)
- Compute the Root mean square error (RSME) for prediction performance

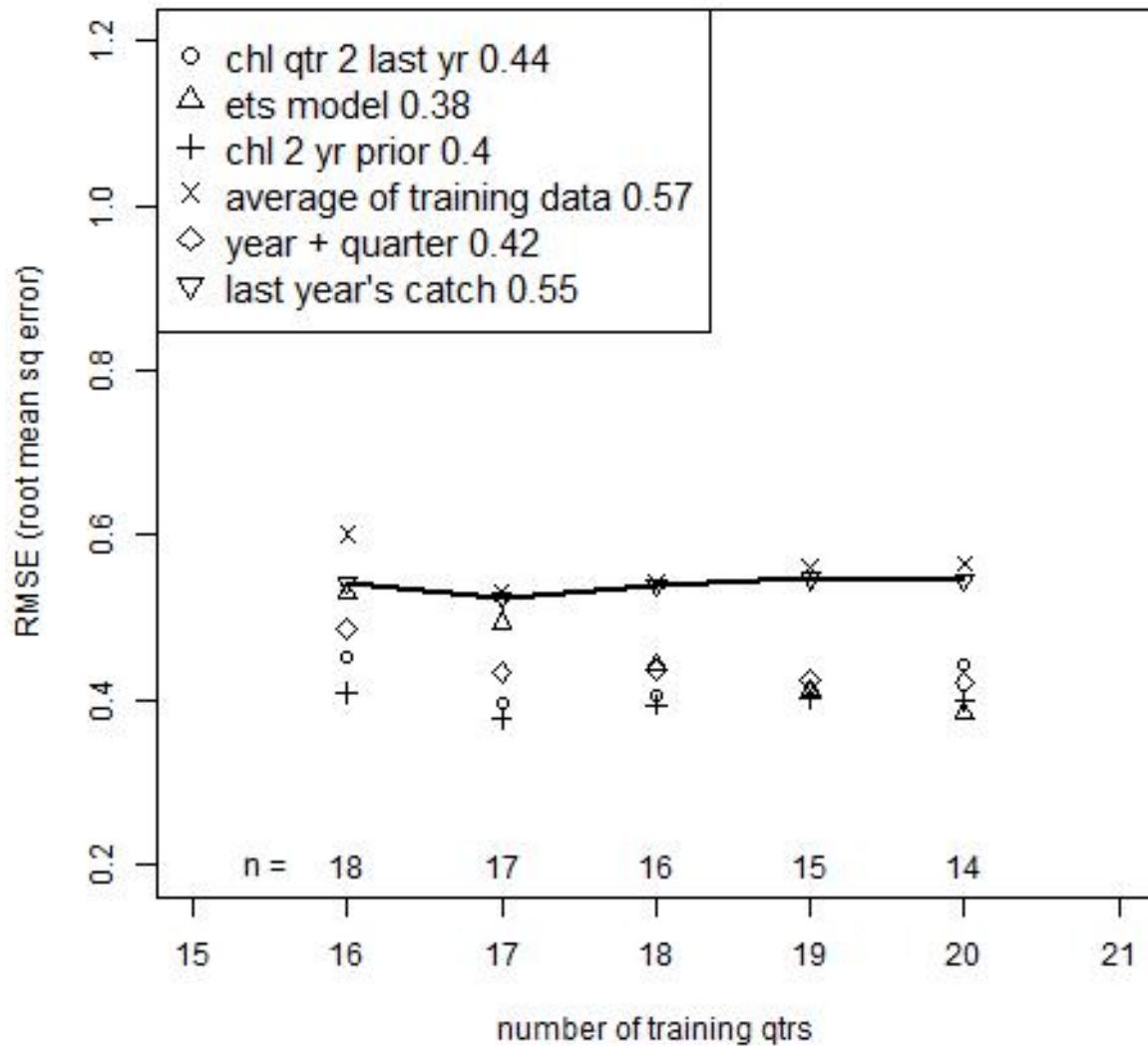


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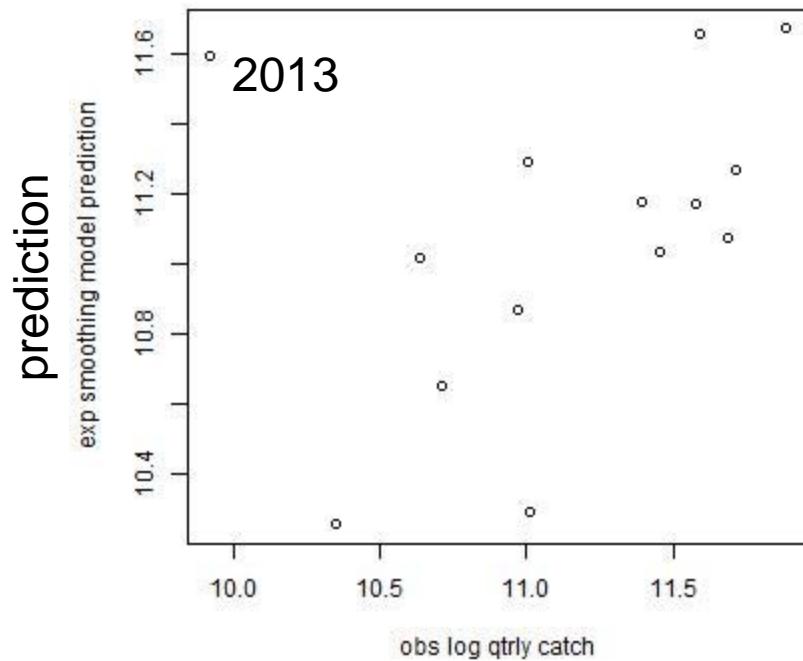
# Models I will test

- Linear regression with quarter factor (season), chlorophyll anomaly from quarter 2 (pre-monsoon) of the previous year
- Linear regression with quarter factor (season), chlorophyll anomaly from 8 quarters (2 years) prior
- Exponential smoothing model with time-varying quarter factors and time-varying level
- Linear regression with year effect and quarter
- Linear regression intercept only (flat level model)
- Use last year's catch from the same quarter as the predictor

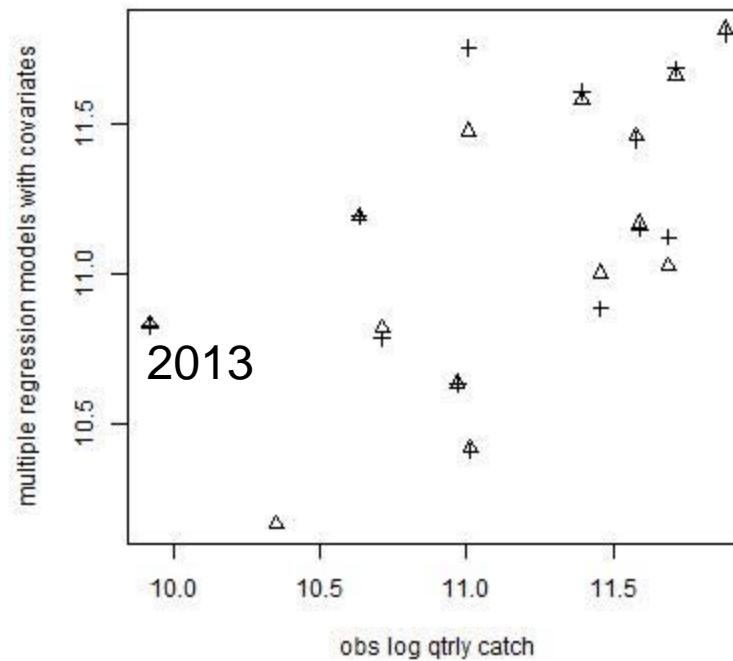
### forecast performance 2005 to 2013



### Exp Smoothing



### Models with covariates

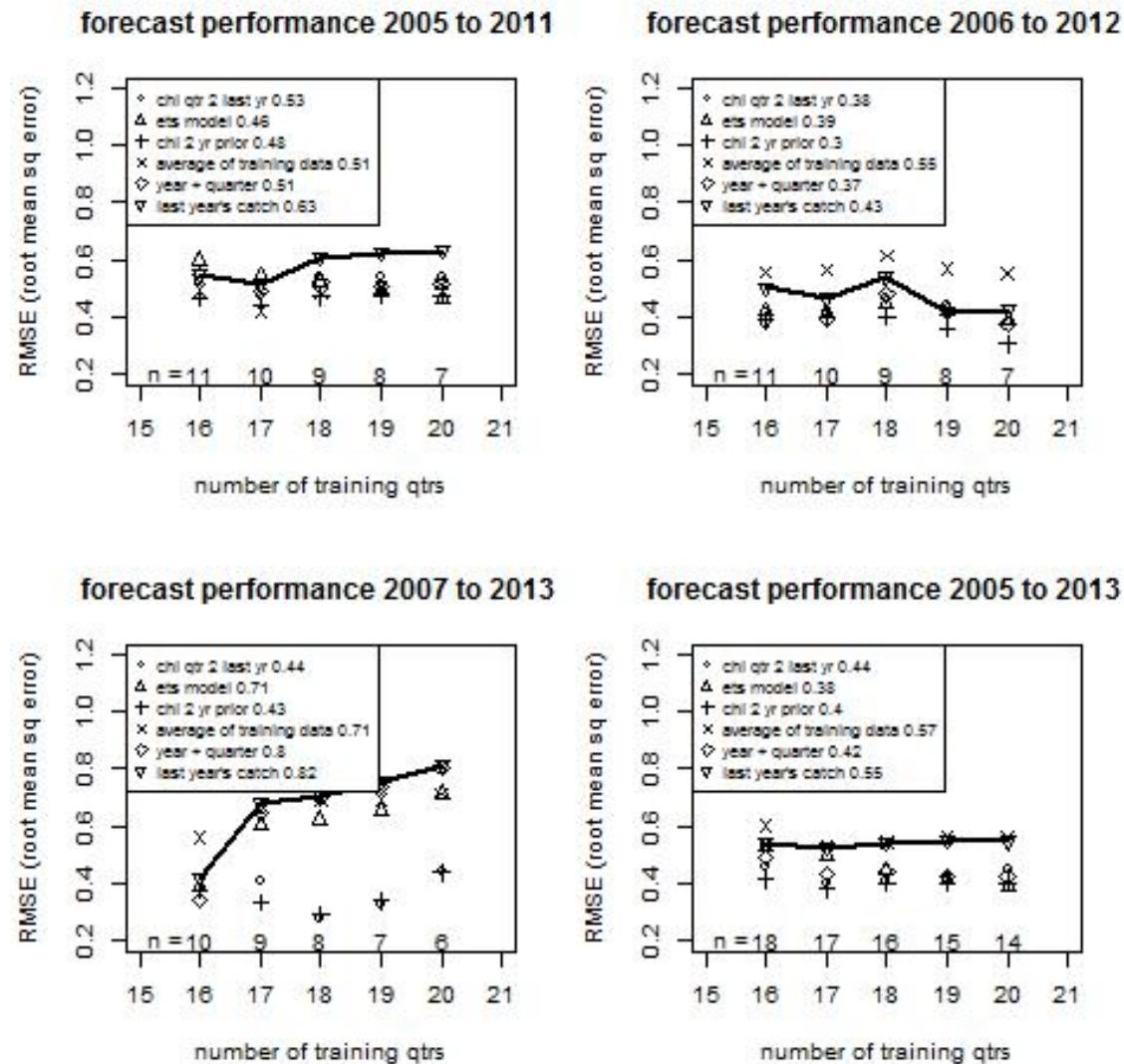


observed



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Same take-home message with slightly different testing year ranges. Exp smoothing and covariate models performing similarly



# Thoughts and plans for the forecast model development

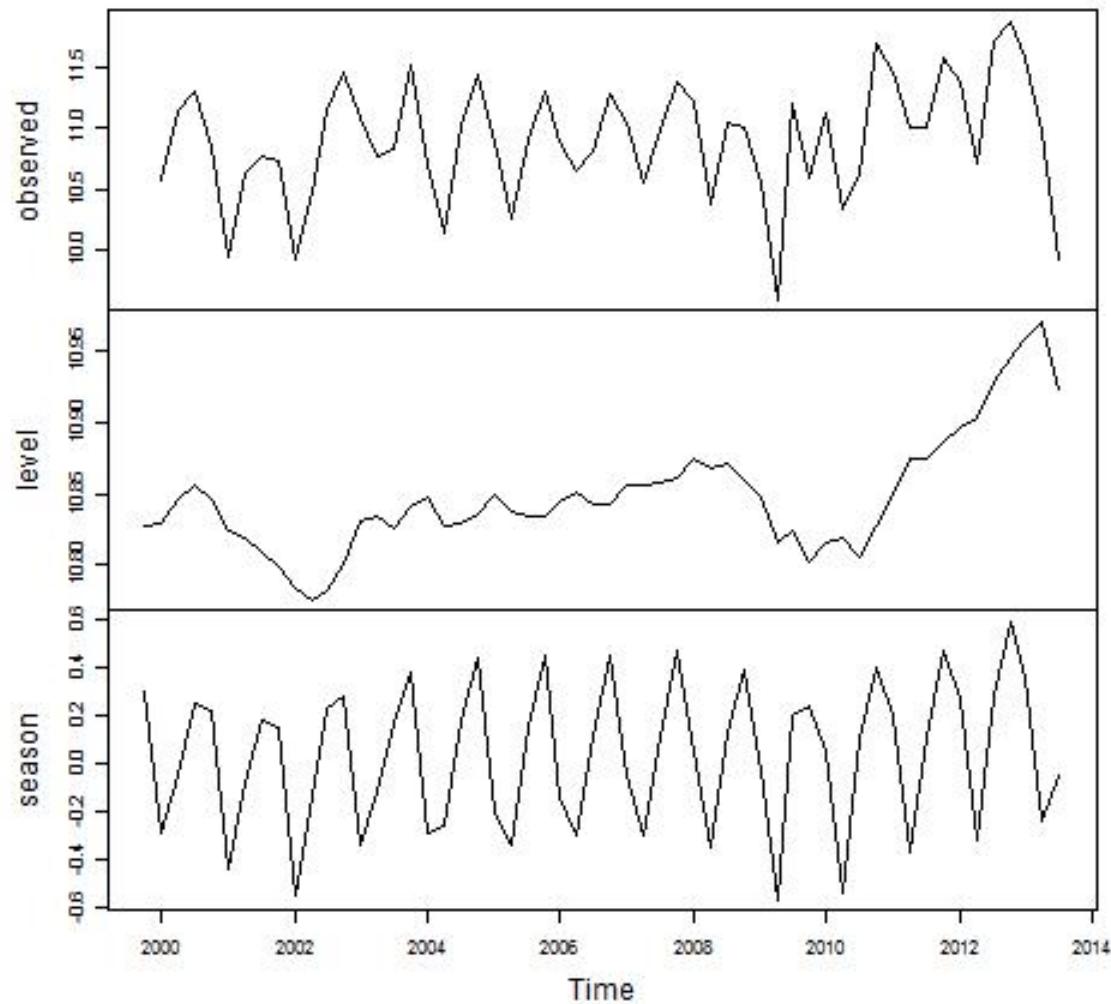
- Need more data for testing and building models
- My forecast models seem to be an improvement over season model and last year's catch model.
- But....I used catch data up to the previous qtr. It takes 12 months to process the data. So in reality you only catch data from 12 months prior not the previous qtr.
  - Probably will kill the exponential smoothing model predictions
- Work on using covariates (SSH) as the 'season' metric rather than estimating using factors.
- Test ARMA models
  - Doubtful unless I can use much more training data than 16 qtrs.

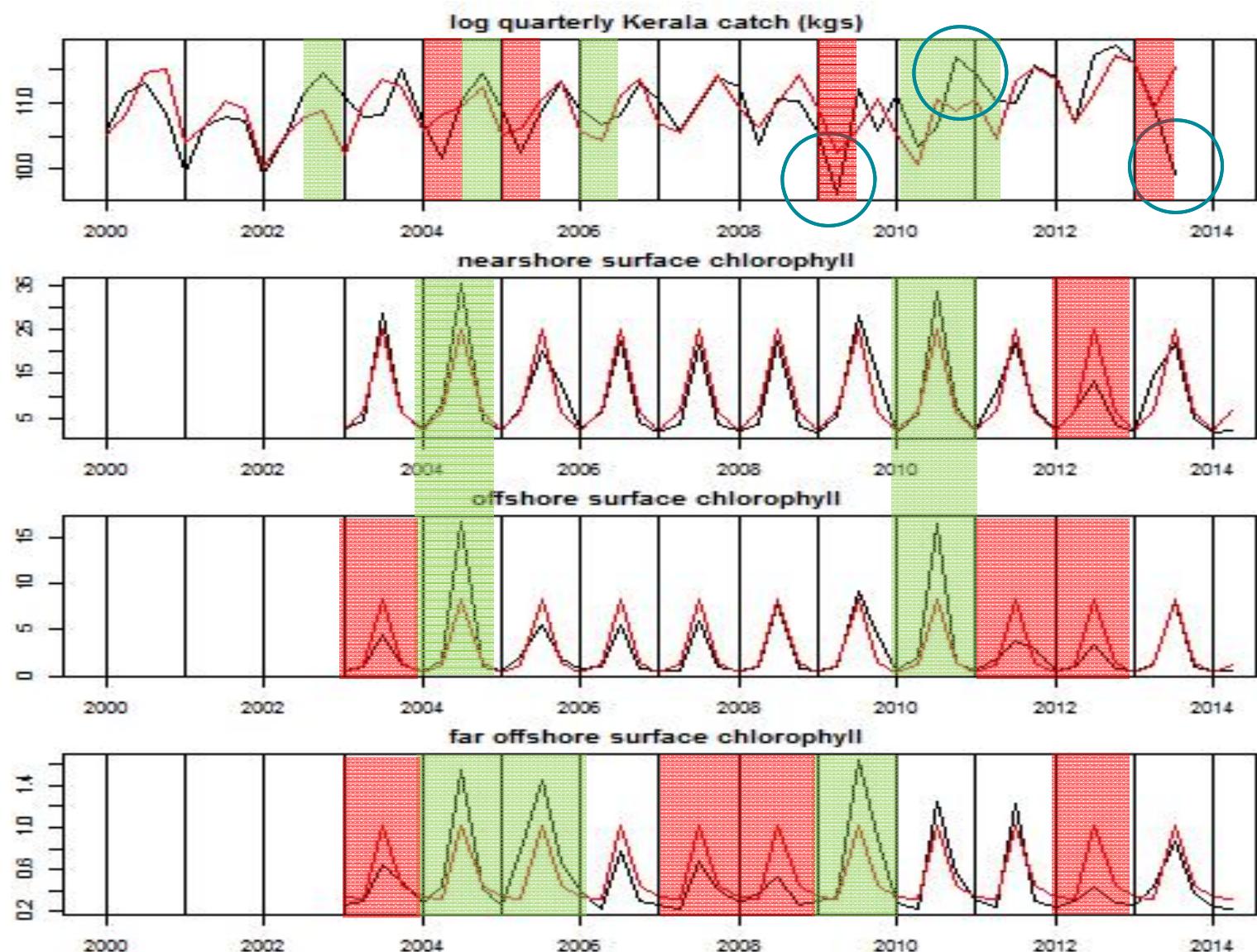
Log qtrly Kerala catch

Line that goes  
through the data.  
Like a time-varying  
intercept/level

Time-varying  
seasonal component.

Decomposition by ETS(A,N,A) method

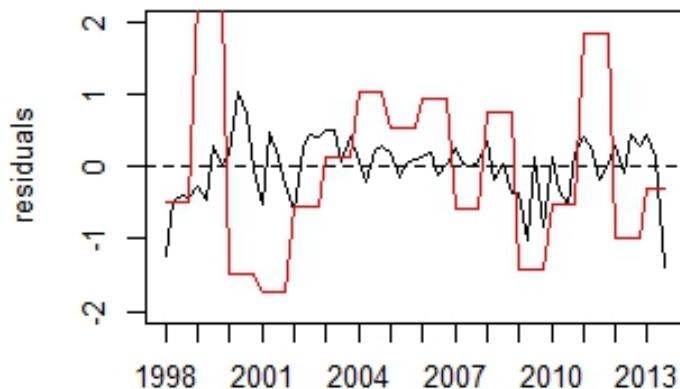




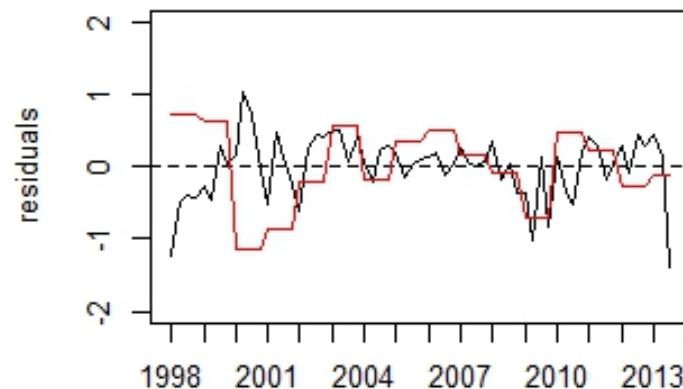
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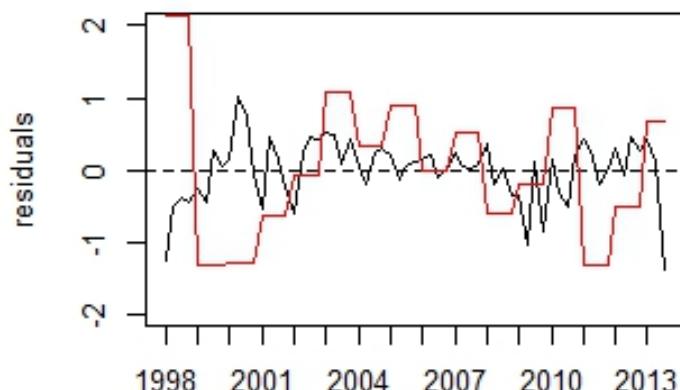
**NOI during qtr 1 previous year**



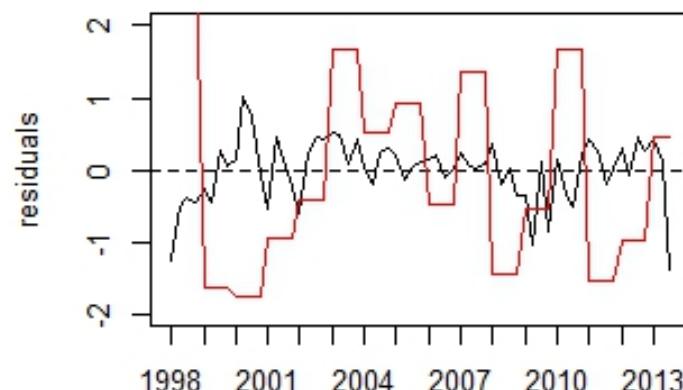
**NOI during qtr 2 previous year**



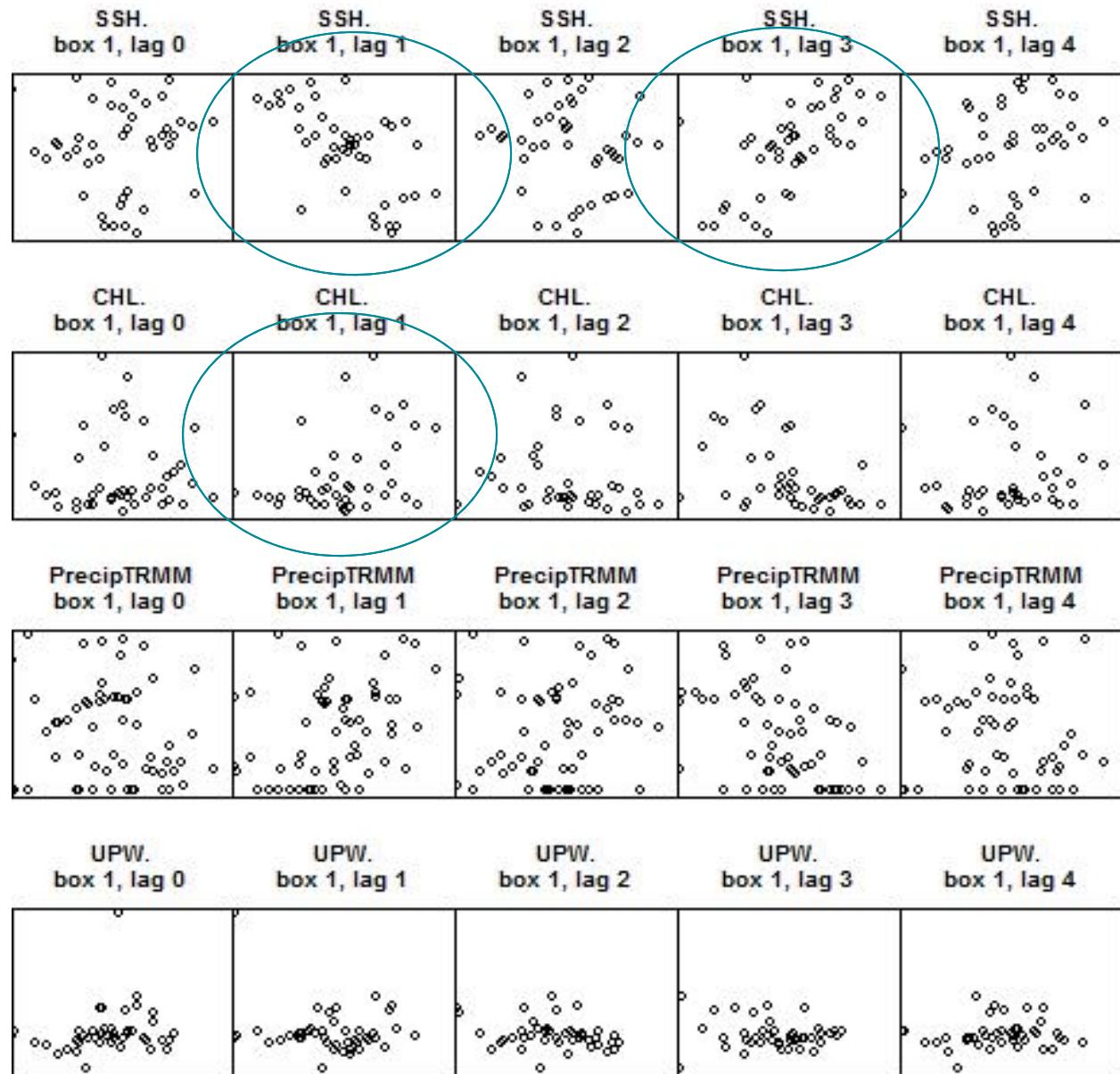
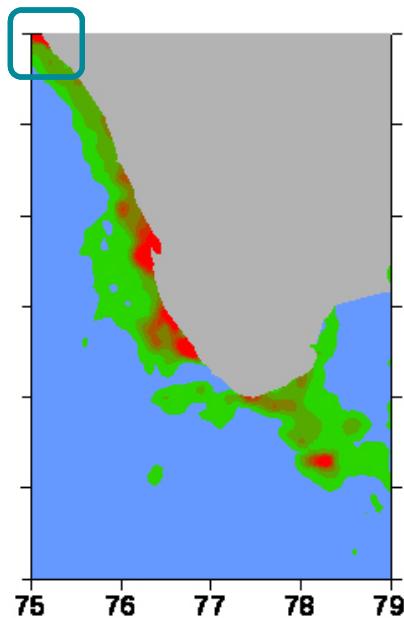
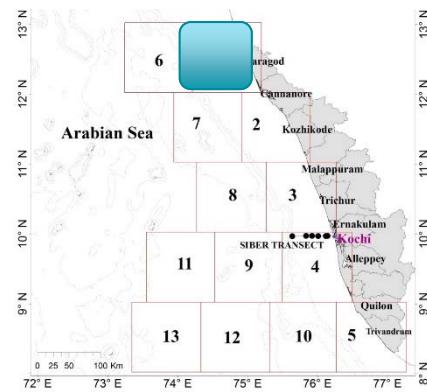
**NOI during qtr 3 previous year**



**NOI during qtr 4 previous year**



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*SST left off for space. Less correlated than SSH, more than Chl-a*



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The South east Arabian Sea is one of world's major upwelling zones and  
one of the most productive regions of the world's oceans

Has a strong seasonal upwelling system driven by winds during the monsoon season (May-Sept)

