Changing Ocean, Marine Ecosystems, and Dependent Communities

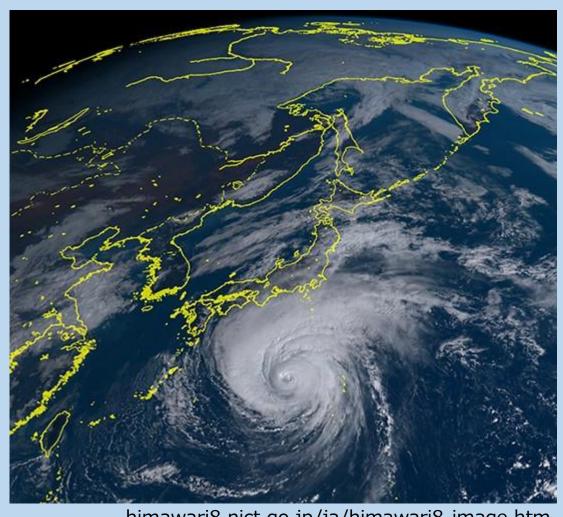
Toshio Suga 須賀 利雄

Tohoku University / JAMSTEC 東北大学/海洋研究開発機構

Rollout Symposium of the IPCC Special Report on The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC) October 15, 2019 Sasagawa Peace Foundation Bldg.

気候変動に関する政府間パネル(IPCC)海洋・雪氷圏特別報告書(SROCC)公表記念シンポジウム 2019年10月15日, 笹川平和財団ビル 11階国際会議場

Super Typhoon No. 19 - Hagibis

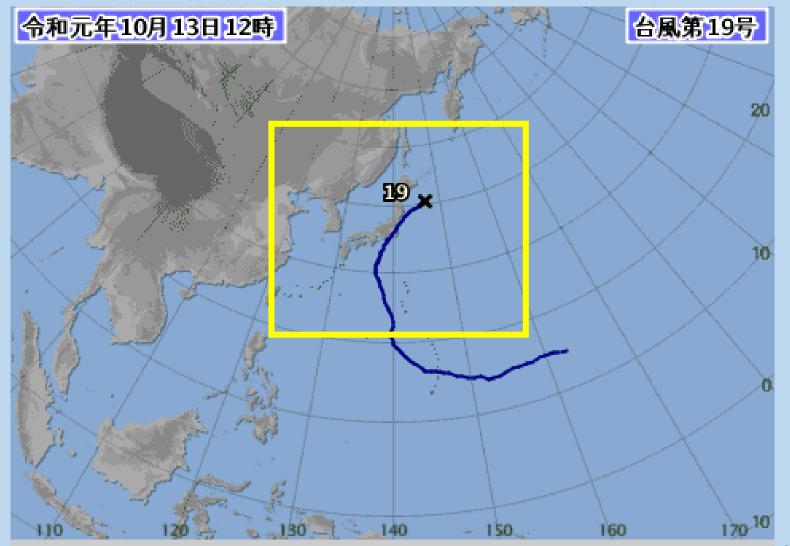


himawari8.nict.go.jp/ja/himawari8-image.htm



www.asahi.com

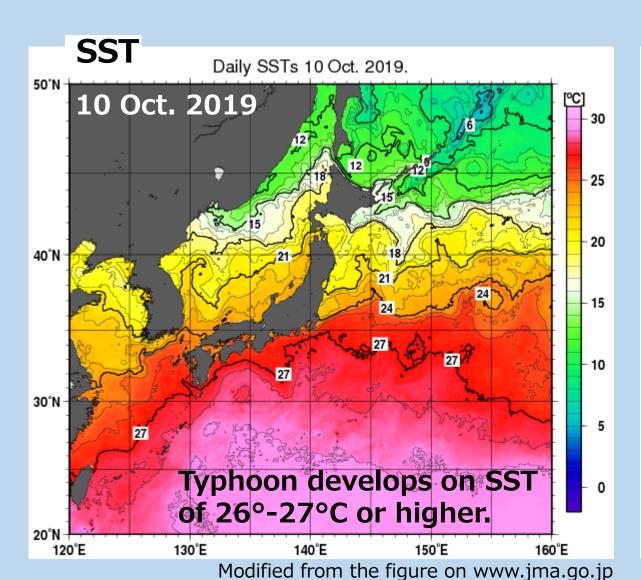
Why Typhoon Hagibis was so strong?

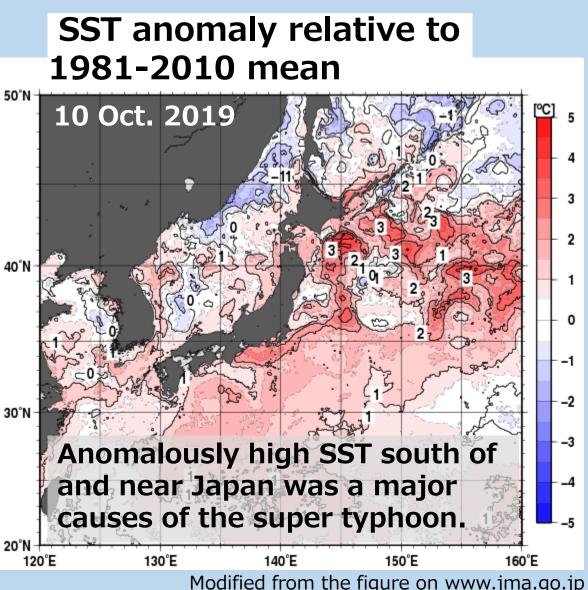


Typhoons in October typically become weakened when approaching Japan due to low sea surface temperature near Japan.

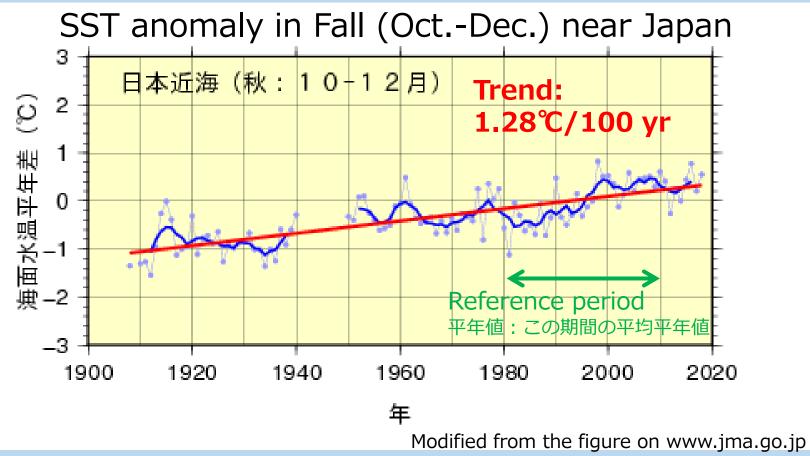
But this time was different.

Sea surface temperate (SST) near Japan is anomalously high



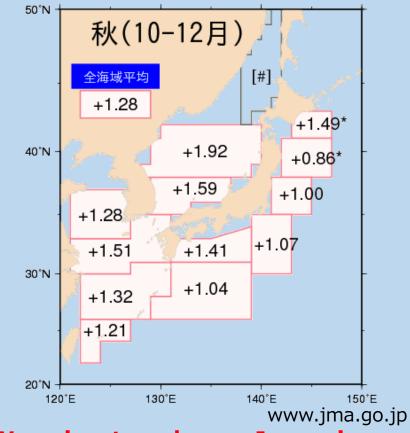


SST variability and long-term change



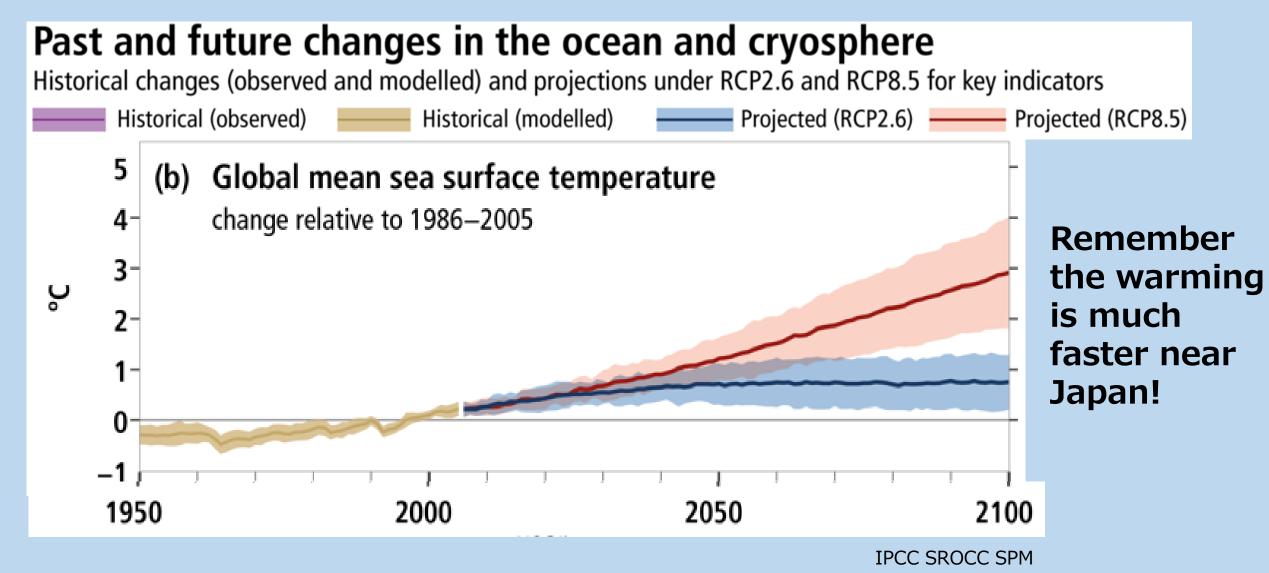
While year-to-year fluctuations of SST are large, the warming trend increases the probability of SST anomaly occurrence, say, higher than 26-27°C, increasing the risk of stronger typhoon.

Long-term change: Trend during 1902-2018 (°C/100 yr) in Fall

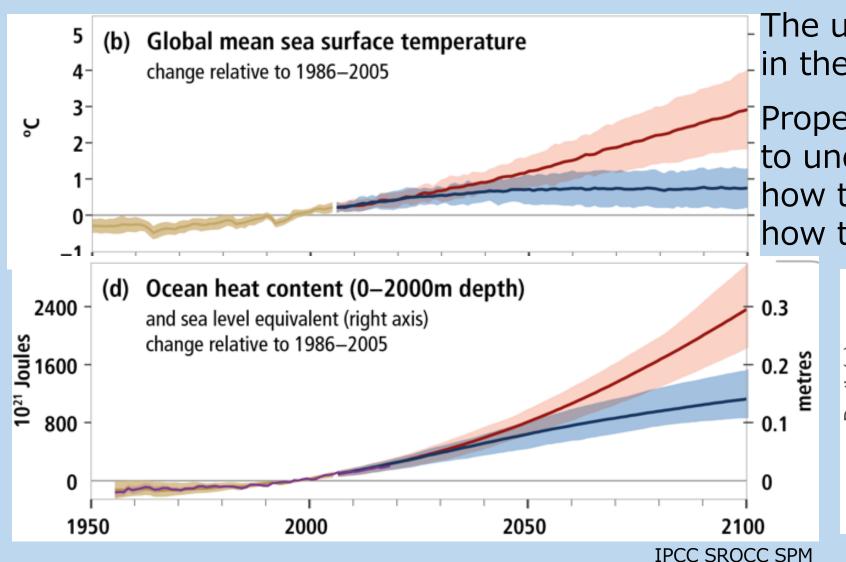


Warming trend near Japan is twice as large as the global mean.

SST warming trend is a consequence of taking the heat from climate change and will continue...

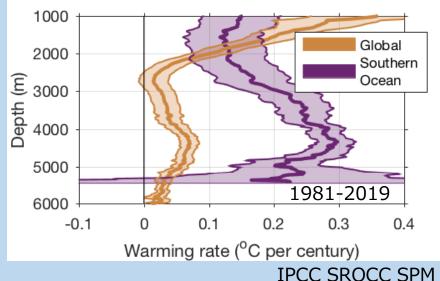


Where did/will the excess heat go?



The up-taken heat is distributed in the **whole water column**.

Proper **observations** are needed to understand and help predict how the heat is up taken and how the temperature changes.

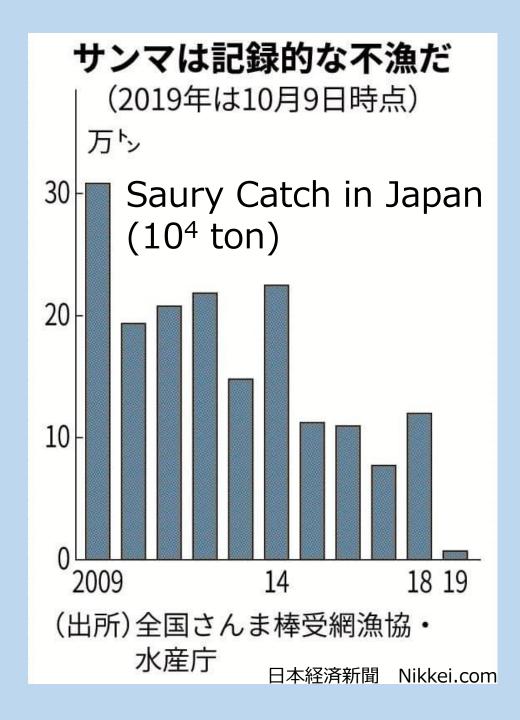


Saury Poor Catch



Warm ocean temperature off Japan is presumably one of major causes, which is apparently related to the global warming.

The story is possibly more complicated and part of changes in marine ecosystem.



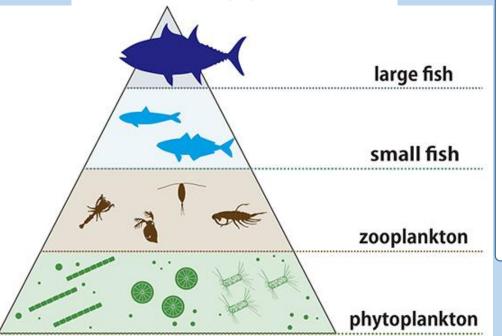
Climate change is causing...

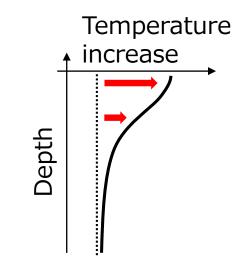
- Warming
- Intensification of the stratification,
 - that reduces the supply of oxygen and nutrients
- Acidification due to carbon uptake

These changes along with human stressors are affecting marine ecosystem through various elements of marine food chain, causing

- Changes in primary production and biomass
- Shifts in fish populations

Marine food chain





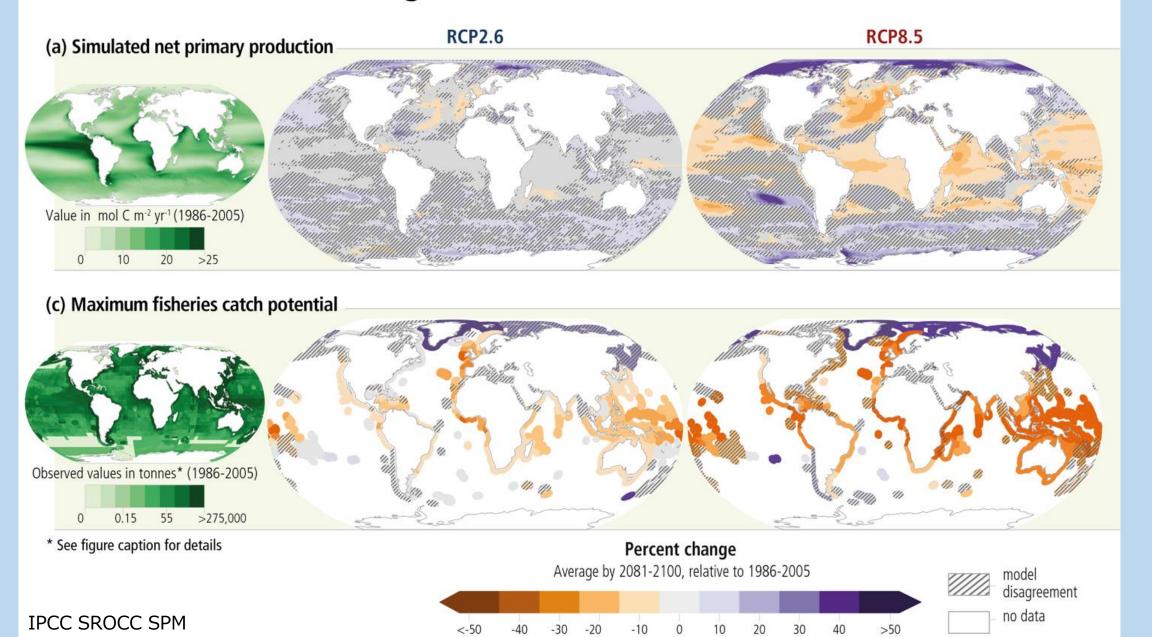
Surface intensified warming strengthens stratification.

Mixing between upper and lower layers is suppressed.

iamstec.go.ip

•

Projected changes, impacts and risks for ocean ecosystems as a result of climate change

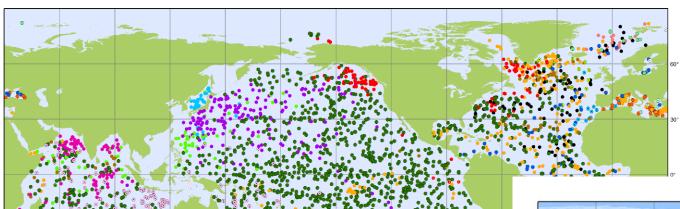




GOOS strategy 2030

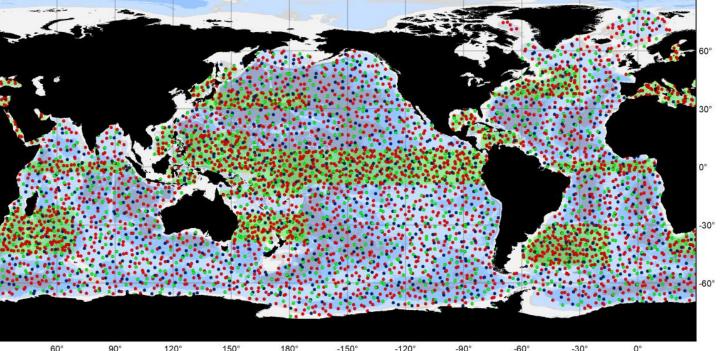
to deliver the essential information needed for our sustainable development, safety, wellbeing and prosperity

Contributing to UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)



Argo: A network of over 3000 profiling floats measuring temperature and salinity of the top 2000 m of the global ocean, maintained for 15 years and contributing to detect ocean changes.





New phase of Argo Program:

Argo 2020 Design

to measure down to the bottom and to measure biogeochemical properties or better understanding (prediction of

for better understanding/prediction of climate change and impacts

Argo 2020 Design 4600 floats

- Core Floats, 2400 Target density doubled
- Deep Floats, 1200
- BGC Floats, 1000



Argo

Take-home messages

- Carbon emissions from human activities are causing ocean warming, acidification, and oxygen loss with some evidence of changes in nutrient cycling and primary production.
- Those changes are affecting weather/coastal phenomena and marine ecosystem, which impacts on our life through increasing disaster risks, threatening food security, etc.
- The changes and impacts are projected to increase over coming decades; adaptation actions are required and a decarbonized society will help make more time and space for the adaptation.