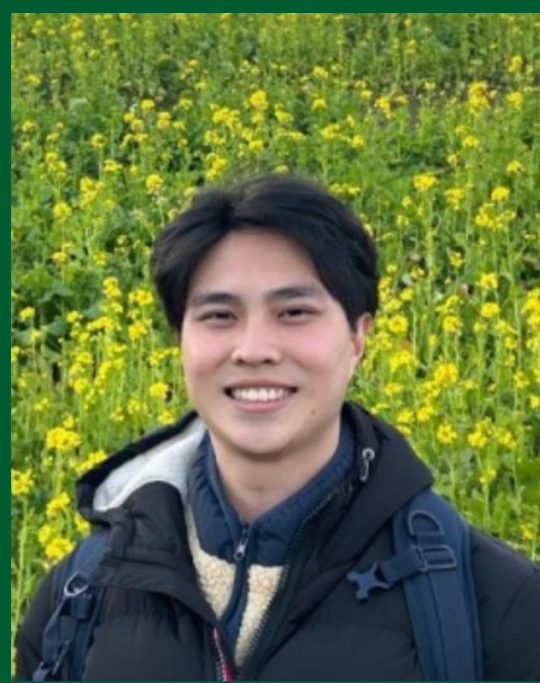




Global investigation of relationship between algal blooms and maritime traffic

海洋交通と藻類ブルームの関係に関する世界的調査

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Abstract: Maritime trade and globalization have resulted in increased ship emissions of pollutants, which can affect air quality and the environment. This study investigates the relationship between algal blooms and maritime traffic, focusing on the effects of iron and nitrogen emissions from ships. It also explores the impact of ballast water discharge and hull-fouling on the introduction of invasive phytoplankton. Algal blooms, characterized by a rapid surge in phytoplankton concentration, can have harmful effects on marine life, human health, and socioeconomics. The study aims to aid development of effective methods for detecting and predicting algal blooms, considering the limitations of current prediction models and data availability. Therefore, it will explore the potential of marine traffic data as a new feature for future machine learning-based predictive models.

要旨: 海上貿易とグローバル化により、船舶からの汚染物質の排出量が増加し、大気品質と環境に影響を与えることがあります。本研究では、船舶からの鉄および窒素の排出効果に焦点を当て、藻類の発生と海上交通の関係を調査します。また、船舶のバラスト水排出と船底の汚損が侵略的な植物プランクトンの導入に与える影響も探究します。藻類の発生は、藻類濃度の急激な増加を特徴とし、海洋生物や人間の健康、社会経済に有害な影響を与える可能性があります。本研究は、効果的な藻類の検出と予測方法の開発に貢献することを目指し、現在の予測モデルとデータの利用可能性の制約を考慮します。したがって、将来の機械学習ベースの予測モデルにおける新たな特徴としての海上交通データの可能性を探求します。

1. Introduction 導入

Ships have been found to increase the solubility of iron in aerosols from ships by up to 80-fold (Ito, 2013), responsible for approximately 15% of these emissions, with increasing importance in coastal regions (Corbett et al. 1999), (Eyring et al. 2010) (Chen et al. 2017), increase chances of invasive species of phytoplankton proliferating in vulnerable regions (Ruiz et al., 1997; Carlton, 1999).

船舶は、船からのエアロゾル中の鉄の可溶性を80倍まで増加させることが確認されています (Ito, 2013年)。これにより、これらの排出物の約15%が船舶によるものであり、沿岸地域での重要性が増しています (Corbett et al., 1999年) (Eyring et al., 2010年) (Chen et al., 2017年)。また、侵入的な藻類の種が脆弱な地域で増殖する可能性を高めます (Ruiz et al., 1997年; Carlton, 1999年)

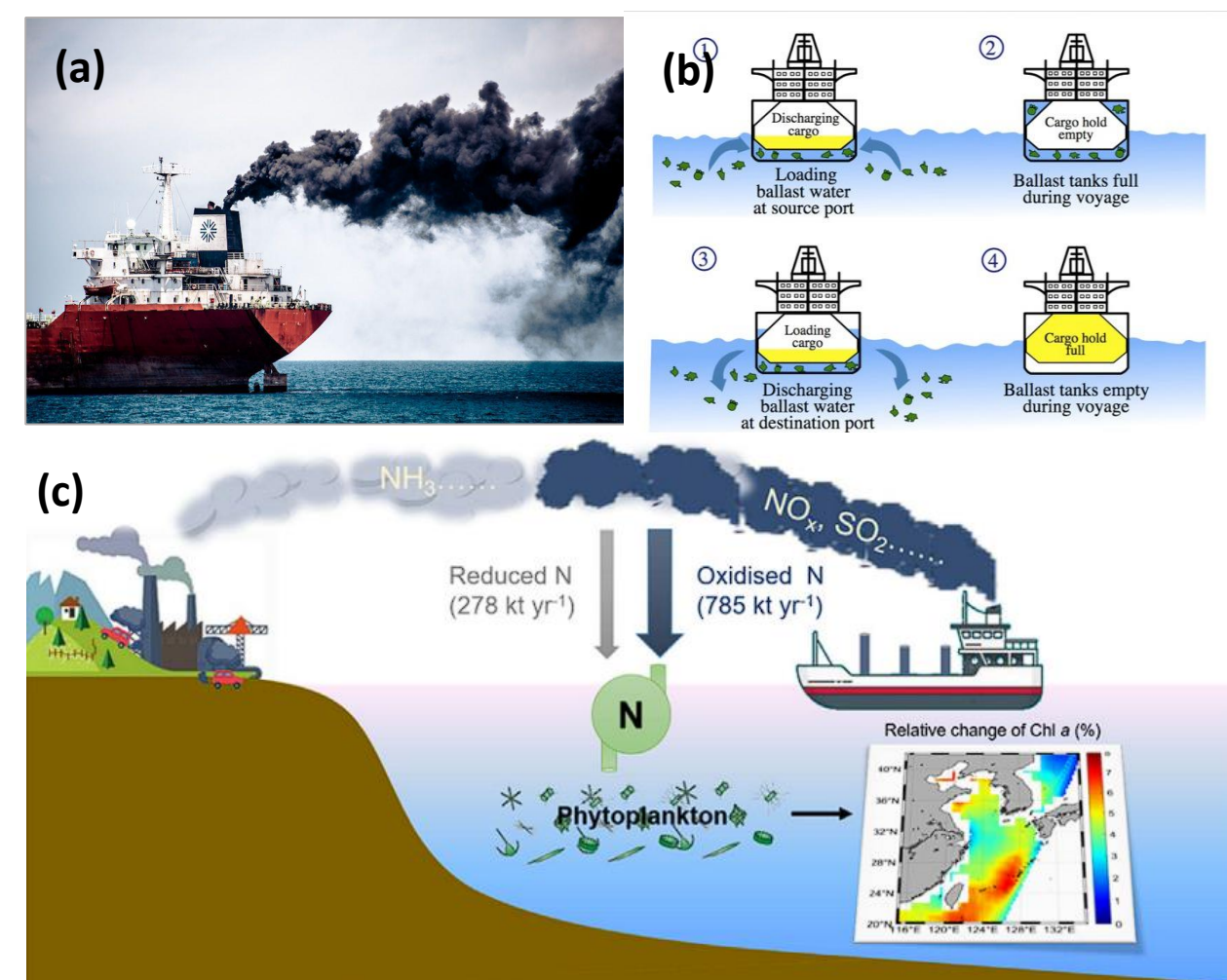


Figure 1 (clockwise from left) (a): Visual of a ship's smokestack burning, emitting iron, nitrogen, and various pollutants. **(b):** Mechanism of ballast water transport and discharge. **(c):** Mechanism of nitrogen fertilisation from ships into the ocean, increasing phytoplankton growth.

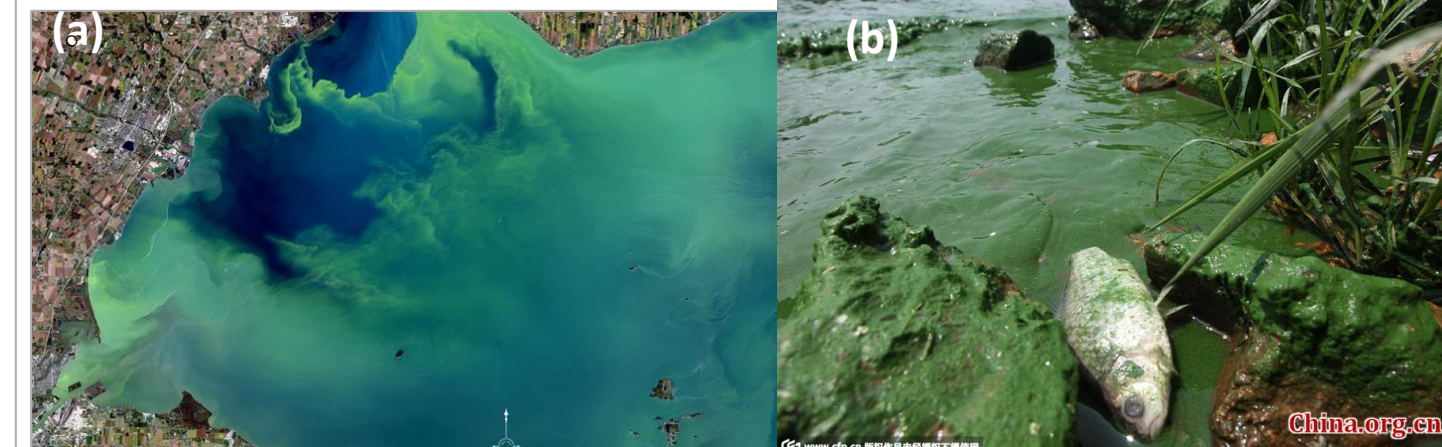


Figure 2a: Satellite view of a large algal bloom event. **Figure 2b:** Visual of fishes that were victim of a severe algal bloom event.

Globally, the aquaculture industry has suffered approximately US\$8 billion annually in damages due to mass fish mortality, catch bans, and the costs to public health. 世界的に見て、養殖業界は年間約80億ドルの損害を被っており、大量の魚の死亡、漁獲禁止、および公衆衛生への費用が主な要因です。

2. Methodology 研究方法

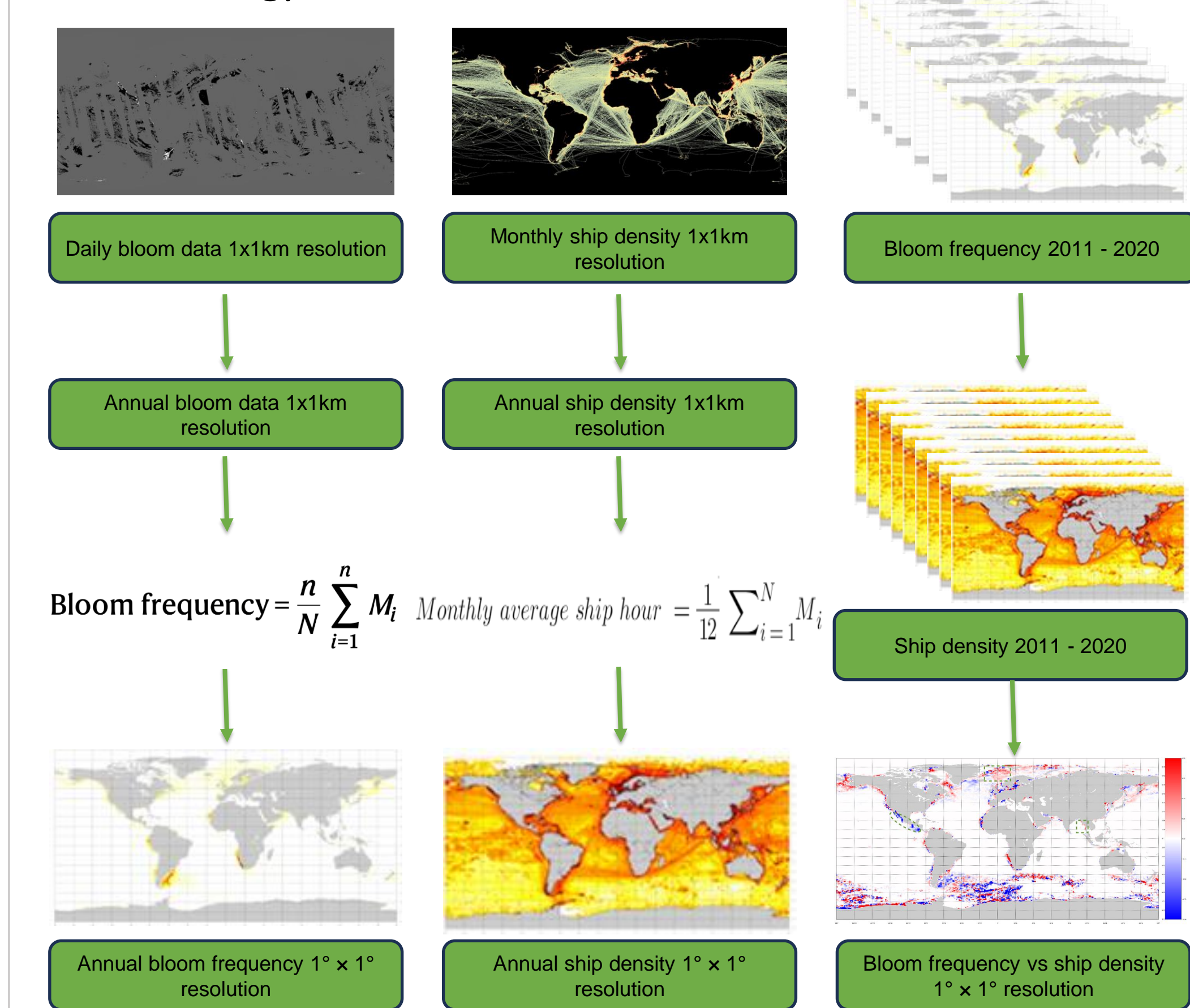


Figure 3a. Algal bloom frequency processing **Figure 3b.** Ship density processing **Figure 3c.** Global bloom frequency vs ship density linear least squares regression

3. Results & Discussion 結果と考察

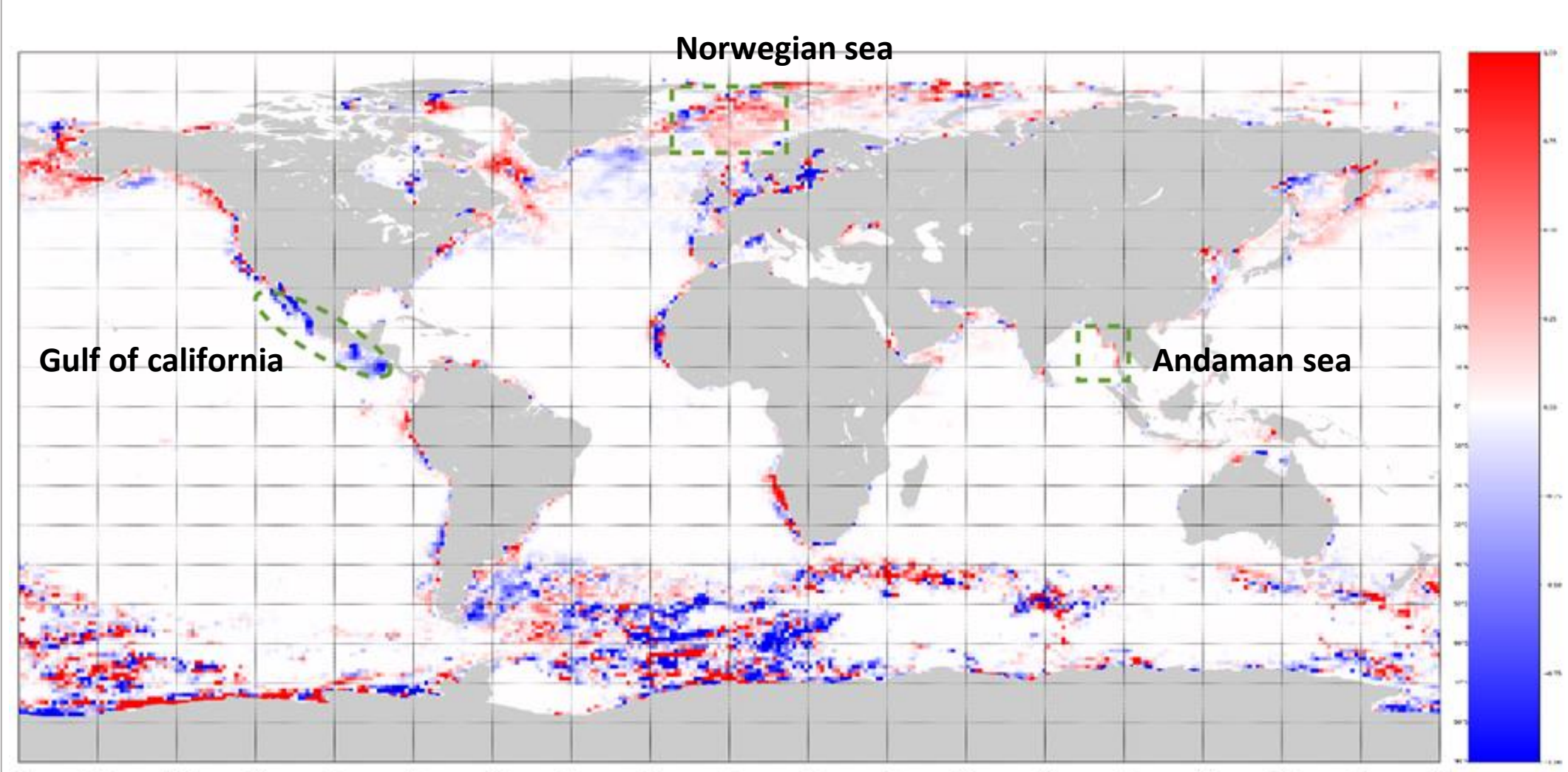


Figure 4: Global linear least squares regression between trends of annual average monthly ship hours per 1° and phytoplankton bloom frequency at a 1° x 1° grid scale (Slope at 10² scale). Areas of interest are marked out in green dotted bounding boxes. (add labels to boxes)

A global plot of correlation slopes between annual average monthly ship hours and phytoplankton bloom frequency is produced (figure 4), at a 1° x 1° resolution. Red areas denote positive slopes, where bloom frequency increases when more ships pass through the area, and blue areas denote negative slopes, where bloom frequency decreases when more ships pass through the area.

年平均の月別船舶運航時間と藻類ブルームの頻度の相関傾斜の地球規模のプロットを作成しました (図4)。解像度は1° x 1° です。赤い領域は正の傾斜を示し、船舶が通過する領域ではブルームの頻度が増加します。青い領域は負の傾斜を示し、船舶が通過する領域ではブルームの頻度が減少します。

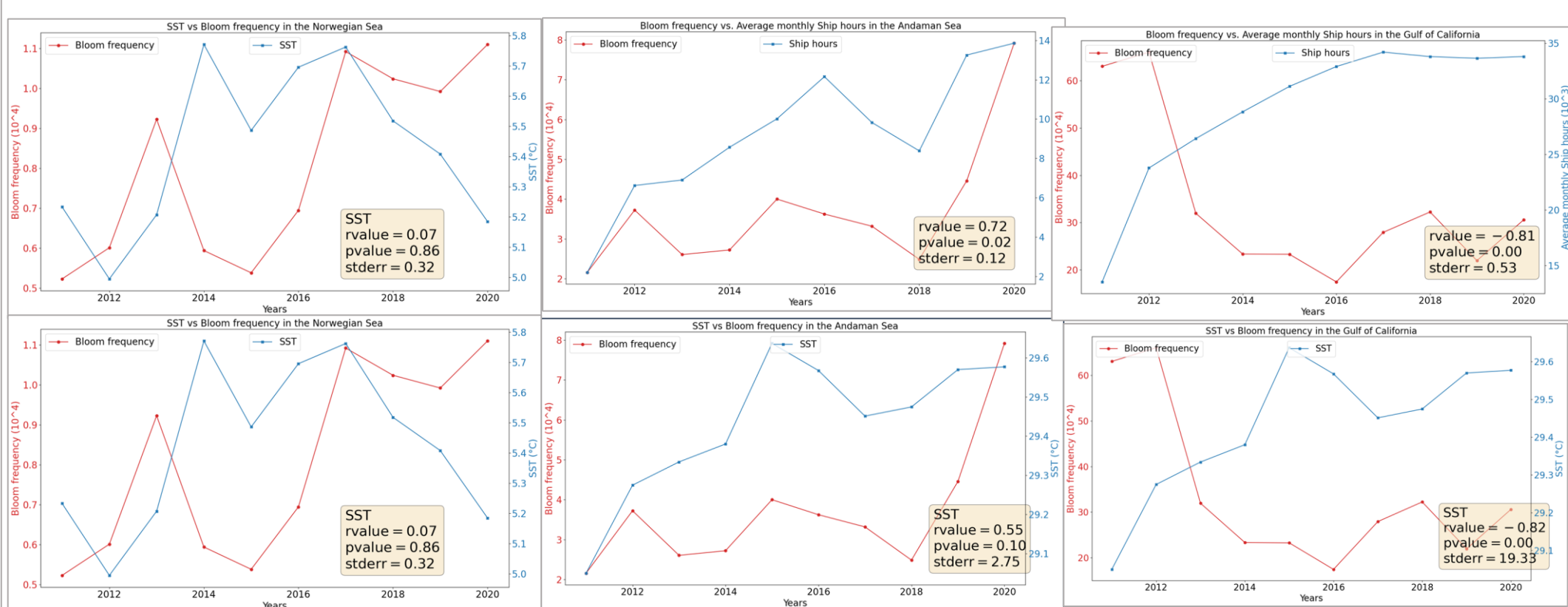


Figure 5 (Top row): Global linear least squares regression between trends of annual average monthly ship hours and phytoplankton bloom frequency at Areas of interest (from left to right) Norwegian Sea, Andaman Sea, Gulf of California.

Figure 5 (bottom row): Global linear least squares regression between trends of SST and phytoplankton bloom frequency at Areas of interest (from left to right) Norwegian Sea, Andaman Sea, Gulf of California.

Norwegian Sea
 Mechanism in arctic regions could be: decreasing ice cover, leading to increase in shipping. Increased shipping means more unregulated ballast water discharge (Klein 2010; Smayda, 2007; Laget, 2017), sewage discharge, and emissions. A number of studies have indicated that cruise ships are also significant pollution sources (Butt, 2007). It is estimated that a cruise ship generates between 1 and 3.5 kg of solid waste per passenger and 50 tons of sewage per day (Sweeting and Wayne, 2003; Herz, 2002).

Andaman Sea
 Studies also show that blooms that occurred in myanmar are not very sensitive to temp. (Su-Myat, Kazuhiko Koike, 2013) Very close to coasts, but fertiliser is not a reason. Nitrogen trend is < 1 kg/ha per year, phosphorus is also < 1kg/ha per year (Data from world in numbers). Other factors such as shipping could be a reason.

Gulf of California and Mexican East Coast
 Negative correlation observed between shipping and bloom frequency. Dai, et al, 2023 showed that SST gradient, a proxy for the magnitude of oceanic mesoscale currents, is strongly correlated to the downtrend in algal bloom frequency. It is highly possible that this reason was the prevailing factor in bloom frequency in this region. In this particular case, we can conclude that shipping was not a factor in determining the downtrend in bloom frequency, i.e. it is not likely to be a causal factor for decreasing bloom frequency.

Conclusion
 Bloom frequency, algal bloom events are caused by multiple factors coming together, not always in an additive fashion and can be highly complex. Algal blooms are affected by shipping asymmetrically around the globe, but the results show promise in the feasibility of using ship density data for future ML prediction models.

結論
 ブルームの頻度、藻類ブルームの発生は複数の要素が組み合わさって引き起こされ、必ずしも加算的な形ではなく、非常に複雑なものです。船舶は世界中で非対称に藻類ブルームに影響を与えますが、結果は船舶密度データを将来の機械学習予測モデルに利用する可能性を示しています。