

The Influence of Decadal Kelvin Wave into 22°C Isotherm Depth along Western of Sumatra and Southern of Java by Using Wavelet Coherence

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Abstract

This study tried to observe the impact of the decadal Kelvin wave to the variation of thermocline depth along the western of Sumatra and southern of Java. The data would be used was the sea surface height anomaly (SSHA) data, sea temperature for 64 years (1950 – 2013), and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) index and Ocean Nino Index (ONI) for 54 years. They were the results of the 3D hydrodynamic models of *HYbrid Coordinate Ocean Model* (HyCOM). The used methods to analyze the effect of the decadal Kelvin wave to the thermocline depth variability were determination of the isotherm depth of T=22°C, S-transform to observe the energy spectrum and the period of isotherm depth of T=22°C change, and the last method was the wavelet coherence to prove the coherence between SSHA and the isotherm depth of T=22°C. The SSHA data and the isotherm depth of T=22°C has a correlation value of 0.7 with a 95% confidence level. It was reinforced by the results of the wavelet coherence that showed a coherency between SSHA and isotherm depth of T=22°C with a period of 7.25 years (decadal) at any point that coincides with the occurrence of the decadal Kelvin wave along west of Sumatra and southern Java. The isotherm depth T=22°C has the variety of value at A to H point and its period were 8 to 11 years. In addition, when the decadal Kelvin wave propagated, the SSHA condition had been increasing while the isotherm depth of T=22°C had been decreasing.

Keywords: decadal variability, sea surface height anomaly, decadal Kelvin wave, Isotherm depth T=22°C, wavelet coherence

Introduction

There were several variabilities of ocean-atmosphere interaction in Indian Ocean, they were: intra-seasonal, seasonal, inter-annual, decadal, and inter-decadal (Susanto *et al*, 2001; Syamsudin *et al*, 2004; Khoirunnisa *et al*, 2016). The one of the period of inter-annual changes in sea level that is affected by the climatic phenomenon in the Western Indian Ocean (Mahongo *et al.*, 2014). Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) has been observed in the Pacific Ocean and it has the two phases, such as the cold and warm phases (Mantua and Hare, 2002). The meteorology dominantly affects the decadal variability of the ocean-atmosphere interaction (Mahongo *et al.*, 2014).

Similarity with the Pacific Ocean, The Indian Ocean has also the decadal and inter-decadal variability. There is inter-annual and interdecadal variability of ocean-atmosphere

interactions in a large basin of the Indian Ocean that was derived from the monthly SST and surface wind data (Qian *et al.*, 2001). The interannual variability of Indian Ocean dipole (IOD) has also the decadal modulation, moreover influenced the global climate (Yuan *et al.*, 2008). Additionally, the SSHA along the southern of Java has also the decadal (Khoirunnisa *et al.*, 2015).

The Pacific and Indian Ocean have been influenced the Indonesian sea, the one of these was to deepening (shallowing) the thermocline depth (Wyrski, 1961; Gordon, 1984; Gordon *et al.*, 1994). Discovering the correlation between the variation of thermocline depth and IOD index has been proven (Ashok *et al.*, 2004; Schott *et al.*, 2009). The analysis has been done by Gordon *et al.* (1994) which showed that the water masses of Indian or the Pacific Ocean has influenced the thermocline in the Banda Sea. When the water mass of the Pacific Ocean was flowing to the Indian Ocean, the Banda seas thermocline has changed. The change of the thermocline depth variation in Indian Ocean has the seasonal variability. In addition, this correlated negatively to the sea level (Bray *et al.*, 1996). The thermocline is the transition layer which connecting the warm masses water to the cool masses water (NOAA, 2017).

Similarity with the IOD index modulation, the decadal variability of the sea surface height (SSH) in the Indian ocean has also been observed in 1992 and 2001 as well as in the period 2001 to 2008 (Church *et al.*, 2004; Han *et al.*, 2008). In addition, the North Indian Ocean and the South Indian Ocean have been first observed decadal variability on the sea surface temperature anomaly (SSTA) during 1961 to 2000 (Han *et al.*, 2008). The Tropical Indian Ocean region has also an important role on the climate. Based on the research by Han *et al.* (2008) stated that the thermocline depth and the heat content in the Indian Ocean tropical have the decadal variability in 1992 until 2008. Therefore, in the Indian Ocean has observed a link between atmospheric circulation and monsoon or the precipitation anomalies (Qian *et al.*, 2001).

From the research that has been done by Khoirunnisa *et al.* (2016), there was a propagation of the decadal Kelvin wave as much as three times along the western of Sumatra and southern of Java during 1974 to 1976 and 1985 to 1985 and 1998 to 2001 with the period of 7.25 to 19.25 years. Based on the previous study, we would like to investigate the effect of a Kelvin wave to the thermocline depth variation along the western of Sumatra and Southern of Java. The used methods were the S-transform, wavelet coherence, and the determination of the isotherm depth $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ by using visual analysis diagram Hovmoller.

Data and Methods

The data would be used were the SSHA data and vertical distribution of sea temperature along the western of Sumatra and southern Java (Figure 1). They were the results of the hydrodynamic models in 3D, called the Hybrid Coordinate Ocean Model (HyCOM) for 64 years during 1950 to 2013 that has been done by Ningsih *et al.* (2012). The other data that will complete this research were Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) index and Ocean Nino Index (ONI) for 54 years. Those data can be downloaded from <http://www.jamstec.go.jp/frcgc/research/d1/iod/HTML/Dipole%20Mode%20Index.html>

and

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/ensostuff/ensoyears.shtml.

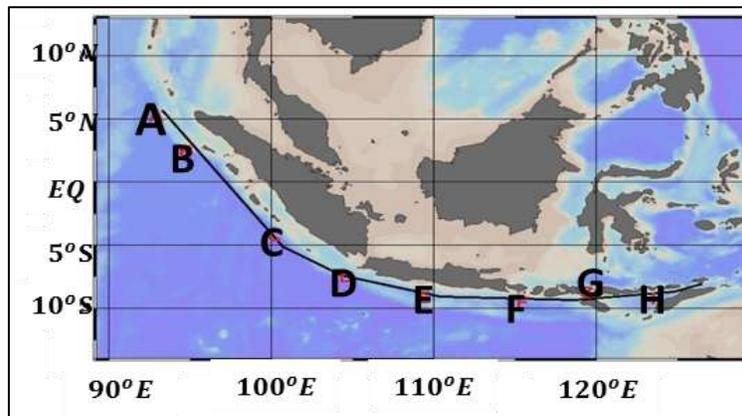


Figure 1 The study area to observe the influence of the decadal Kelvin wave into the variation of thermocline depth. The A – H point were the observation sample points.

The determination of the $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth has been done in along western of Sumatra and southern of Java as a first step in this research. The thermocline depth was determined by the vertical distribution of the sea temperature. Susanto et al. (2001) determined the thermocline depth as well as at the $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth (midthermocline). After that, S-transform was used to show the spectrum energy and the dominant period of the $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth variation. In order to determine the relationship between the decadal Kelvin wave and the thermocline depth variation, can be done by the correlation and coherence methods between them.

1. The Determination of $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ Isotherm Depth

The depth of the thermocline was determined from the vertical distribution of sea temperature data. Based on the research of Susanto *et al.* (2001), the thermocline depth was determined by the $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth, represented as the midthermocline.

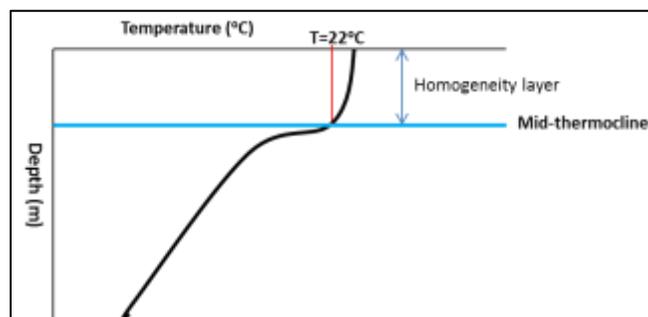


Figure 2 The determination of the $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth illustration (Source: Februario, 2015).

The monthly averaged was applied to the T=22°C isotherm depth. Therefore, the seasonally variation could be observed. Figure 2 explains the illustration of the determination of the T=22°C isotherm depth which was considered as a midthermocline (Susanto *et al.*, 2001).

2. S-transform

The second method was the s-transform to show the energy spectrum of the T=22°C isotherm depth variation. S-transform was a window variable of Short Time Fourier Transform (STFT) or an extension of the Wavelet Transform (WT) (Wang, 2010). The Fourier transform only containing the information of the time-series spectrum components, however can not to detect the time distribution at the different frequencies. The wavelet transform either to extract information from the data with the time and frequency domains. However, the wavelet transform is sensitive to noise. Equation 1 shows the relationship of s-transform with STFT. Here is the STFT equation of the $h(t)$ signal:

$$STFT(\tau, f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t)g(\tau - t)e^{-j2\pi ft} dt \quad (1)$$

Where:

- τ : Spectrum localization time
- f : Fourier frequency
- $g(t)$: Window function

The *S-transform* can be determined by changed of $g(t)$ value into this followed Gaussian function in the Equation 1:

$$g(t) = \frac{|f|}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{t^2 f^2}{2}} \quad (2)$$

Based on the Equation 1 and 2, the S-transform could be arranged by this followed equation:

$$S(\tau, f) = STFT(\tau, f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t) \frac{|f|}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(\tau-t)^2 f^2}{2}} e^{-j2\pi ft} dt \quad (3)$$

Therefore, the S-transform has been concluded as a STFT with the Gaussian function application.

This method was applied to determine the T=22°C isotherm depth variation. Both of the raw data and the low-pass filter data by cut-off 3 years spectrum energies, these were observed by this method.

3. Wavelet Coherence

The wavelet coherence was used to observe the coherence between two phenomenones which correlated in each other into the frequency-time domain. Torrence and Webster (1998) in Grinsted *et al.* (2004) formulated the wavelet coherence equation as well as:

$$R_n^2(s) = \frac{|S(s^{-1}W_n^{XY}(s))|^2}{S(s^{-1}|W_n^X(s)|^2) \cdot S(s^{-1}|W_n^Y(s)|^2)} \quad (4)$$

Which S is the smoothing operator and its formulation is:

$$S(W) = S_{scale}(S_{time}(W_n(s))) \quad (5)$$

Either S_{scale} was a smoothing notation in the wavelet scale, as well as S_{time} in the time scale. This follows equation suits to smoothing operation for the Morlet wavelet:

$$S_{time}(W)|_s = \left(W_n(s) * c_1 \frac{-t^2}{2x^2} \right) \Big|_s, \quad S_{time}(W)|_s = (W_n(s) * c_2 \Pi(0,6s)) \Big|_n \quad (6)$$

Which c_1 and c_2 were the normalization coefficients. Its can be specified numerically. Statistical confidence intervals can be determined by using the Monte Carlo method.

The magnitude squared coherence function was used to estimate the frequency values between 0 and 1, that indicates how well x corresponds to y at each frequency. The magnitude squared coherence can be formulated as follows:

$$C_{xy}(f) = \frac{|P_{xy}(f)|^2}{P_{xx}(f)P_{yy}(f)} \quad (7)$$

Which $P_{xx}(f)$ and $P_{yy}(f)$ were the power spectral density of x and y . Similarly, $P_{xy}(f)$ was a cross power spectral density of x and y .

Results and Discussion

1. The Determination of the T=22°C Isotherm Depth

The Figures 3 to 6 show the visualization of vertical distribution of sea temperature at any point. The vertical distribution of sea temperature data was obtained from the 3D hydrodynamic model called the Hybrid Coordinate Ocean Model (HyCOM) for 64 years with a range of 1950 to 2013 that has been done by Ningsih *et al.* (2012). The $T = 22^\circ\text{C}$ isotherm depth varies for every point. This is shown in Table 1, $T = 22^\circ\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point A - H is different. In addition, the deepest condition of the isotherm depth has occurred at the point of F, such as 40 to 140 m.

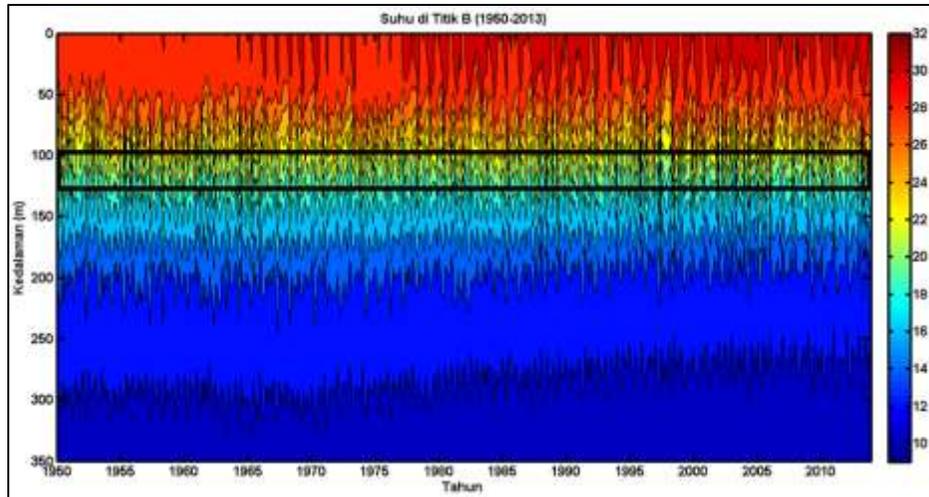


Figure 3 The sea temperature condition in the year of 1950 – 2013 at the point of B.

Figure 3 shows the profile $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point B in 1950 - 2013. It is located in a depth of 80-130 m. Isotherm depth of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ changed seasonally (Figure 3). The change distribution of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point B tends to remain in space (depth). Based on table 2, the condition of the shallowest isotherm $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ was in February, when the southwest monsoon. Based Atsari (2013), SSHA in west of Sumatra was still decreasing in February, it indicates that the condition of the thermocline was shallowing. While the condition of the deepest isotherm $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ in November, which is going on second transitional season.

In Figures 3 to 6, the depth of 22°C isotherm shown in the black box. Figure 4 shows the $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point of F, and clearly it has the depth range of 100 m. The position of point F located on Lombok strait, which has an important role in a stream passing through the waterway, likely the Indonesian Troughflow (ITF). It shows that the variation $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth is regarded as midthermocline dependent on climatic factors.

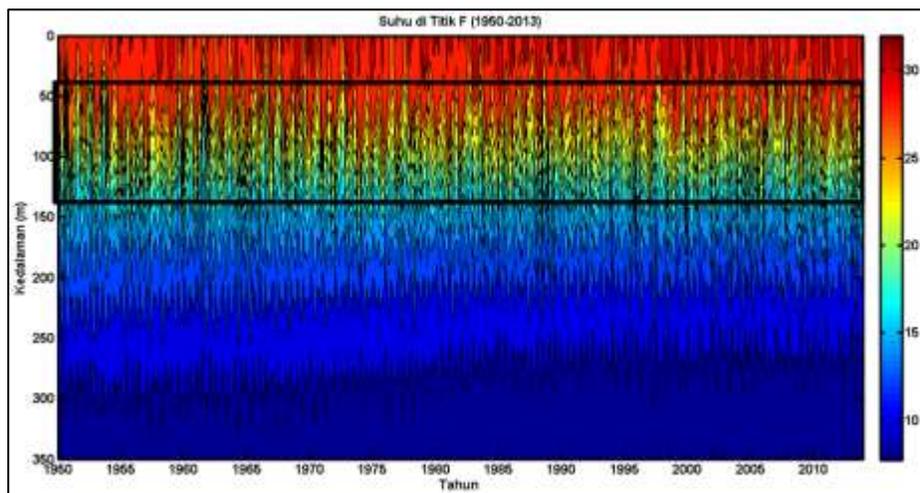


Figure 4 The sea temperature condition in the year of 1950 – 2013 at the point of F.

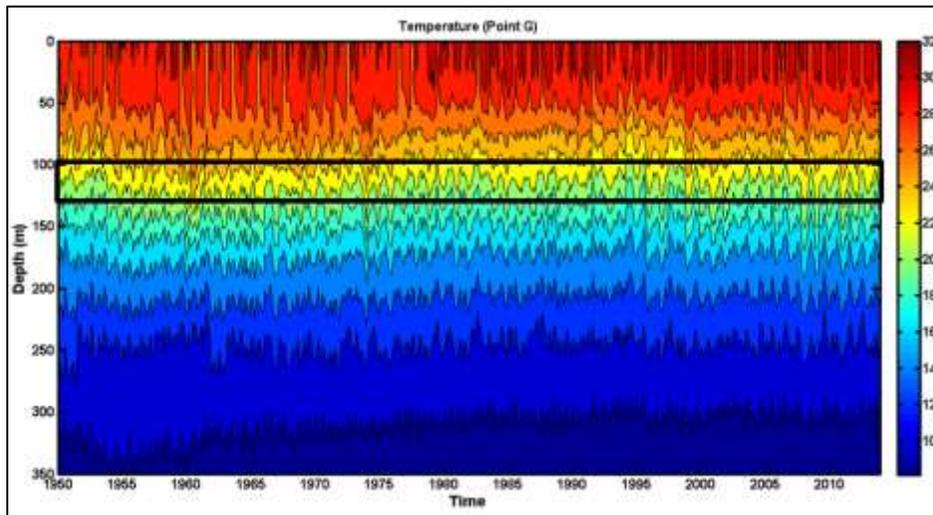


Figure 5 The sea temperature condition in the year of 1950 – 2013 at the point of G.

Figures 5 and 6 show display $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point G and H. The depth interval has a range of between 90-140 m (50 m) (Table 1). The position of point G and H is situated in the lesser Sunda Island, specifically in 120°LS and 124°LS .

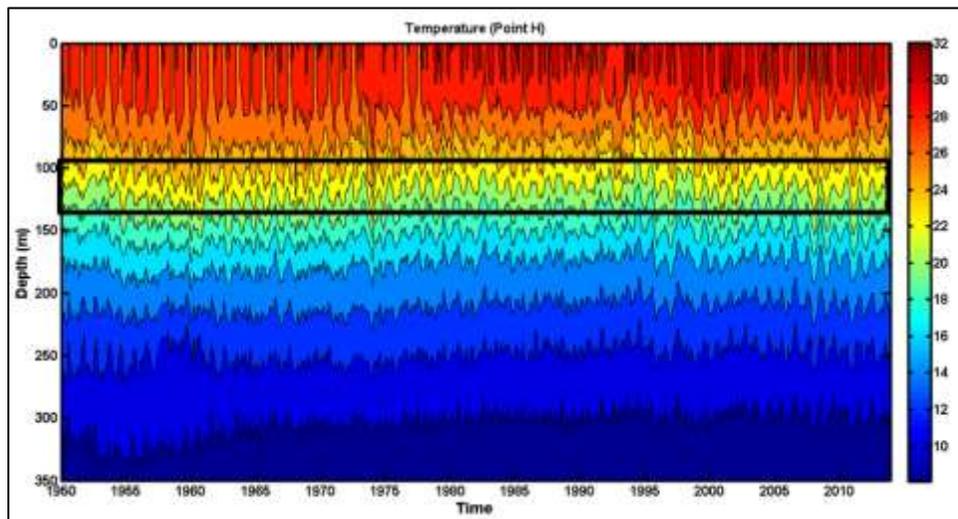


Figure 6 The sea temperature condition in the year of 1950 – 2013 at the point of H.

The point of F is located in the southern of Java. Based on Figure 4, the $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at the point of F has a range of 50-140 m. Based on Table 2, $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth reaches the shallowest point in July, which was going the summer monsoon. Based on Atsari (2013), the summer monsoon has been occurring in June, and it caused the Indonesian sea level was decreasing. Simultaneously, the thermocline was shallowing because of that.

Figures 5 and 6 show the profile of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point G and point H. Point G and H is situated in the waters of the lesser Sunda Islands. The range of the $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$

isotherm depth at point G and H are in the depths of 90-140 m. Based on table 2, T = 22°C isotherm at point G and H have the shallowest condition in August and July, while the T = 22°C isotherm depth was deepening in December.

Table 1 The T=22°C isotherm depth range at the point of A-H

The T=22°C isotherm depth range (m)							
Point							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
80 – 120	80 - 130	70 - 130	80 - 130	60 - 120	40 - 140	90 - 140	90 - 140

Table 2 The T=22°C isotherm depth range average at the point of A-H

The T=22°C isotherm depth range average								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
January	98.85	93.61	99.66	98.25	101.58	107.14	117.05	119.63
February	94.66	90.77	93.33	95.14	98.38	99.69	115.78	118.52
March	93.64	91.08	91.56	95.00	94.59	88.33	111.82	114.29
April	101.97	102.93	99.69	99.21	95.68	89.11	109.22	109.68
May	114.15	115.88	114.04	107.18	99.25	98.72	108.68	109.32
June	110.40	110.59	110.26	106.49	98.05	94.63	110.00	110.16
July	97.32	98.78	95.79	97.63	82.61	77.50	106.67	108.15
August	98.04	97.35	94.63	96.32	76.76	77.59	105.95	110.39
September	97.96	100.00	97.17	94.77	80.87	80.00	109.61	115.31
October	104.00	105.81	104.47	99.22	91.96	90.97	112.32	117.69
November	114.56	116.11	118.89	109.13	103.95	111.93	117.63	120.33
December	110.00	108.67	115.00	110.00	108.33	115.31	119.35	121.19

Table 2 shows the monthly average of T = 22°C isotherm depth at point of A to H. The depth of T=22°C isotherm variation change in spatial and time, shown in Table 2. When the summer monsoon, thermocline is moving westward and having the shallowest conditions, i.e. in July-September. Meanwhile, when the winter monsoon, the thermocline is reaching the deepest conditions than usual, it was occurring in in November and December for each point. When the first transitional period (March to May), the T=22°C isotherm depth condition was deeper than the second transitional period (September to October).

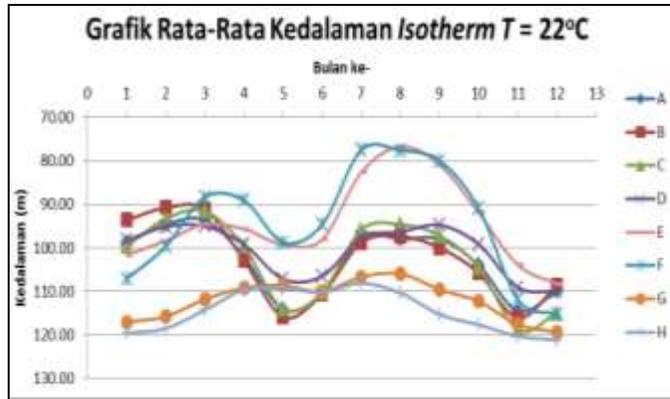


Figure 7 The graph of $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at the point of A to H

Figure 7 shows the change of the $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth as the monthly average at the point of A to H. From that graph, could be seen that the point E and F has a large depth variation, as large as 60 to 100 m.

4. The Energy Spectrum of $T=22^{\circ}\text{C}$ Isotherm Depth

After $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth was determined, the next method was used to observe energy spectrum of the depth of the isotherm $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ using s-transform for each point. Figure 8 shows the energy spectrum of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point B and it has a period of eight yearly.

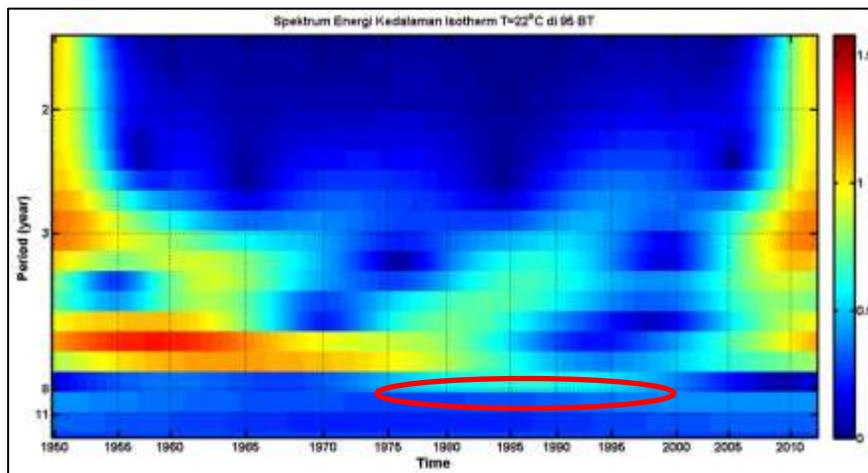


Figure 8 The energy spectrum of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth by using the S-transform at the point of B.

In figure 9 was indicated that their 8th annual variation is the substantial portion of the variation $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth at point F. The case also has been shown in Figure 10 and 11, where it proved that the decadal variability the $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth variation in along the south west coast of Sumatra and Java to the small Sunda Islands was exist.

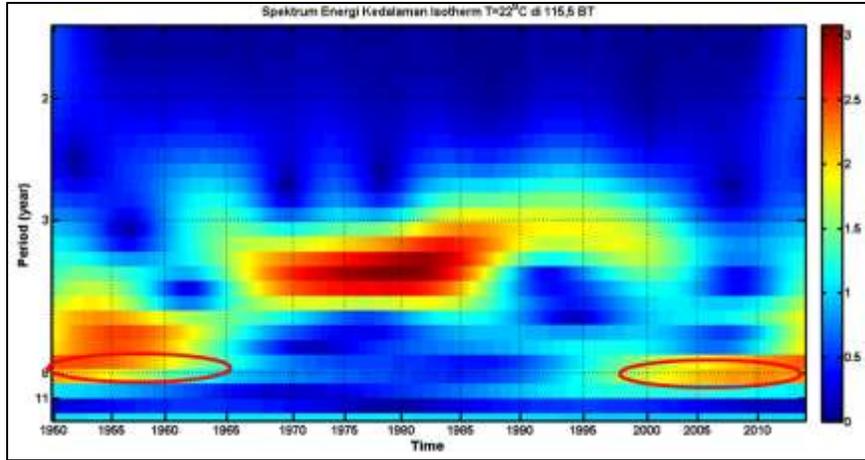


Figure 9 The energy spectrum of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth by using the S-transform at the point of F.

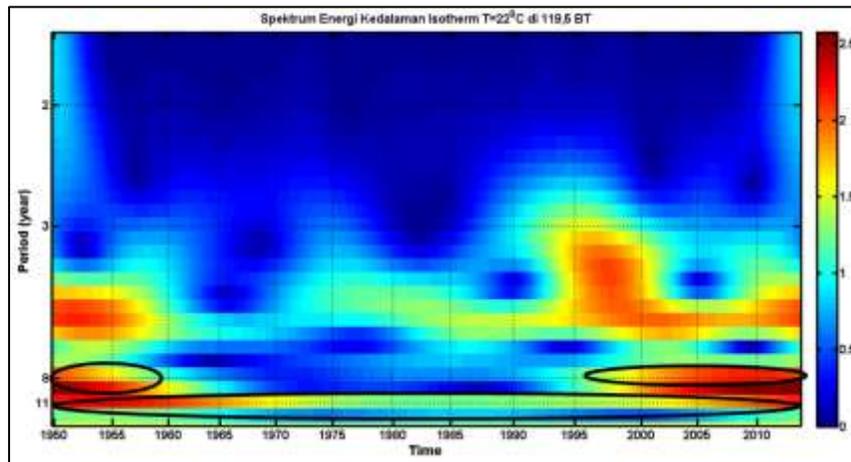


Figure 10 The energy spectrum of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth by using the S-transform at the point of G.

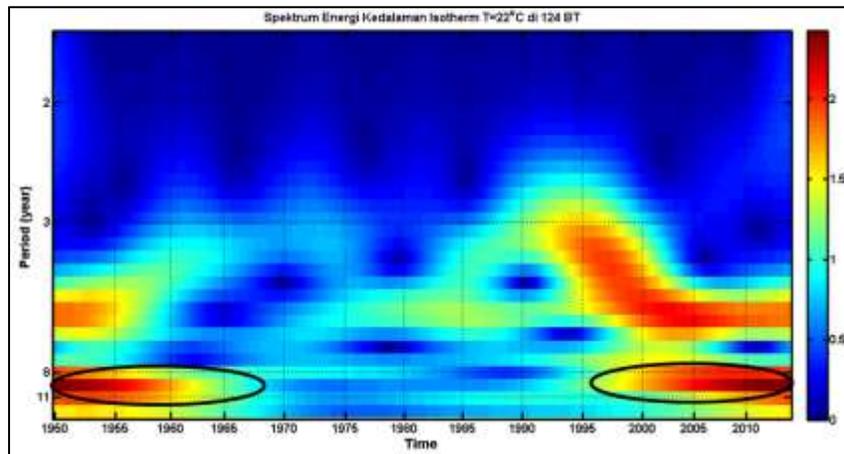


Figure 11 The energy spectrum of $T = 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ isotherm depth by using the S-transform at the point of H.

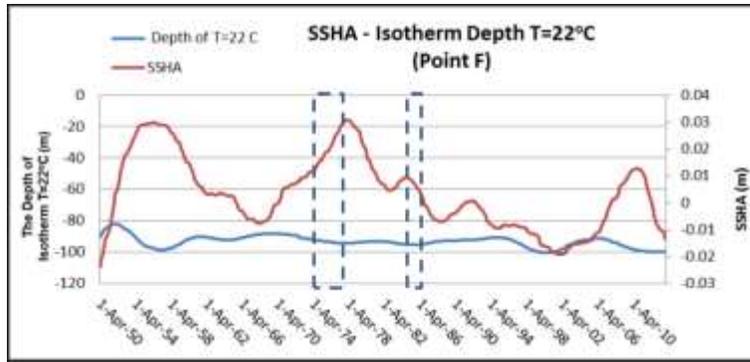


Figure 12 The relation between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at the point of F. the dashes box as the time of the Kelvin wave propagation.

When the SSHA was increasing, the T=22°C isotherm depth was decreasing. Likewise, when SSHA has decreased, midthermocline conditions have increased. Based on the Figures 12 and 13, the condition of SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at the time of the incident wave Kelvin can be observed, i.e. in the year 1974-1976 and 1985-1986 (Khoirunnisa et al, 2016). At the point of B, F, G, and H, when the Kelvin wave was propagating can caused the SSHA conditions are going to rise and midthermocline were deepening, likely in the year of 1974 - 1976.

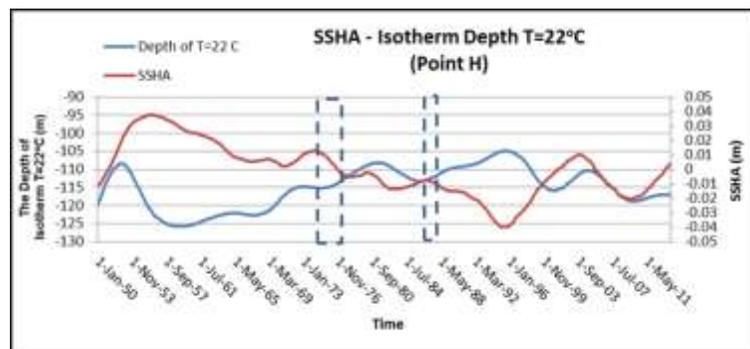


Figure 13 The relation between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at the point of H. the dashes box as the time of the Kelvin wave propagation.

Figures 14 and 15 show the relation between the IOD, ONI, SSHA, and T=22°C isotherm depth condition in seasonal and decadal variations. The red boxes indicate the time of the decadal Kelvin wave propagation, and it shows that the condition of the SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth have the negative correlation. Figure 15 shows the decadal variation of the IOD, ONI, SSHA, and T=22°C isotherm depth and also the decadal Kelvin wave propagation. When the decadal Kelvin wave was propagating in the year of 1974 – 1976, the decadal modulation of IOD had increasing, meanwhile the ONI had decreasing. At the same time, the positive IOD co-occurred with the El Nino, it makes the SSHA increased than normal condition and the midthermocline is going to decrease. It proved the influence of decadal Kelvin wave into the decadal variation thermocline depth.

Strengthening the westerlies and southeasterly trades is the impact of the wind change over the southern Indian Ocean. It makes the increasing of the Ekman pumping velocity in the western Tropical Indian Ocean (Han et al, 2006; Trenary and Han, 2013).

According to Treanary and Han (2013), the correlation between SSHA and thermocline depth variability is 0.84. It more strength the hypothesis that the decadal Kelvin waves exist in the western of coast Sumatra and Southern coast of Java and also it influenced the thermocline depth.

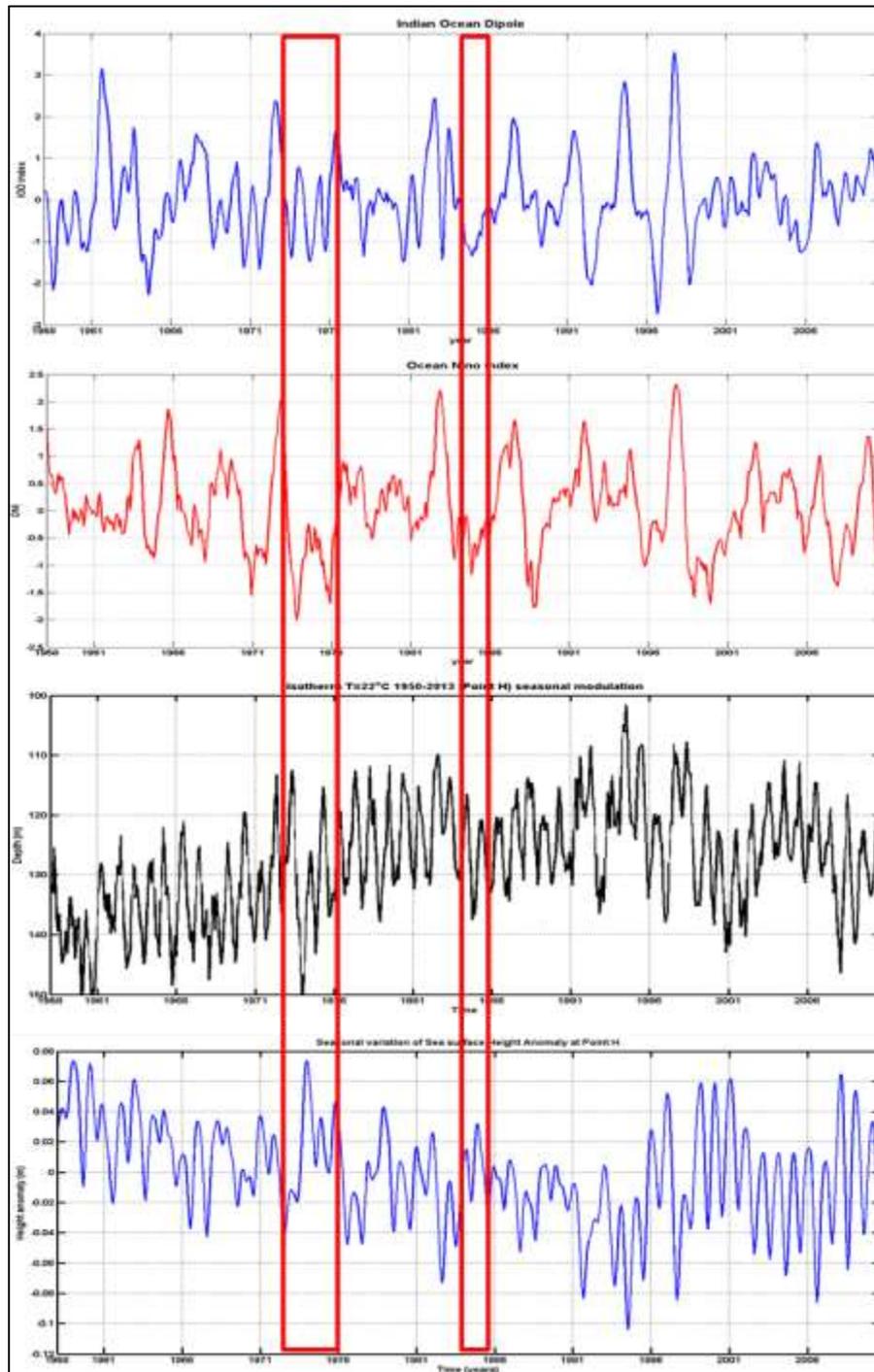


Figure 14 The condition of IOD, ONI, T=22°C isotherm depth, and SSHA during the Kelvin wave occurrence (red boxes) without lowpass filter.

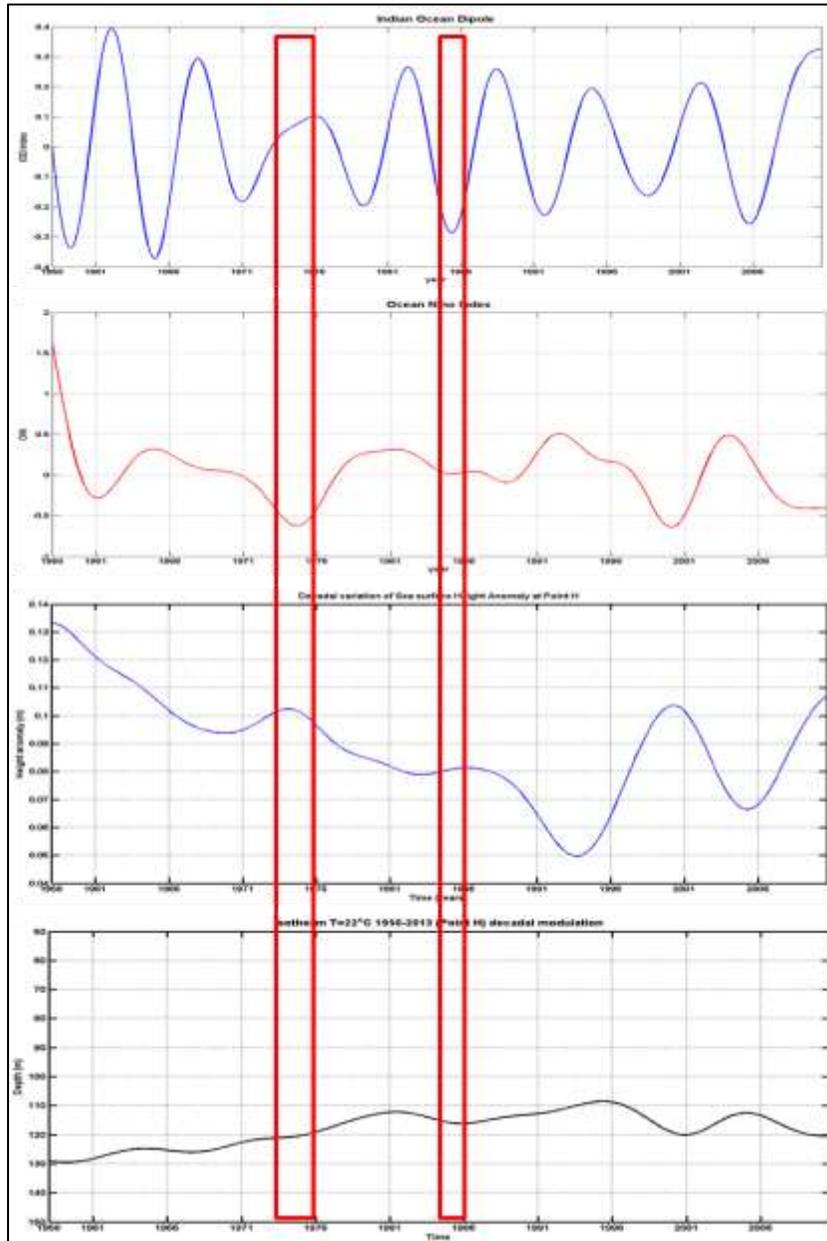


Figure 15 The condition of IOD, ONI, T=22°C isotherm depth, and SSHA during the Kelvin wave occurrence (red boxes) by seven years lowpass filter.

5. Wavelet coherence between SSHA and T=22°C Isotherm Depth

In Figures 20 to 23 show the results of wavelet coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at any point. In Figures 20 and 21 show the existence of the coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth in the period of 7.25 years at the point of B and F, whereas in Figures 22 and 23 coherence between SSHA with a depth of 22°C isotherm has the highest periods of 4.6 and 2.6 years. These results show that the SSHA has the correlation to T=22°C isotherm depth.

There was the Kelvin wave propagation in along the west of Sumatra and Southern of Java with a period of 7.25 to 7.3 years (Khoirunnisa et al, 2017). This is consistent with the results of wavelet coherency of the points of A, B, C, D, E, and F which have the coherence with a period of 7.25 years between SSHA and 22°C isotherm depth (Figures 20 and 21). In Figures 20 to 23, there are two red boxes indicating time of occurrence Kelvin waves, which in 1974-1976 and 1985 - 1986. Figure 21 shows the coherence with a period of 7.25 years at point of F in a Kelvin wave propagation time, such as during 1974 - 1976. It shows the influence of the decadal Kelvin wave to the T=22°C isotherm depth by decadal period.

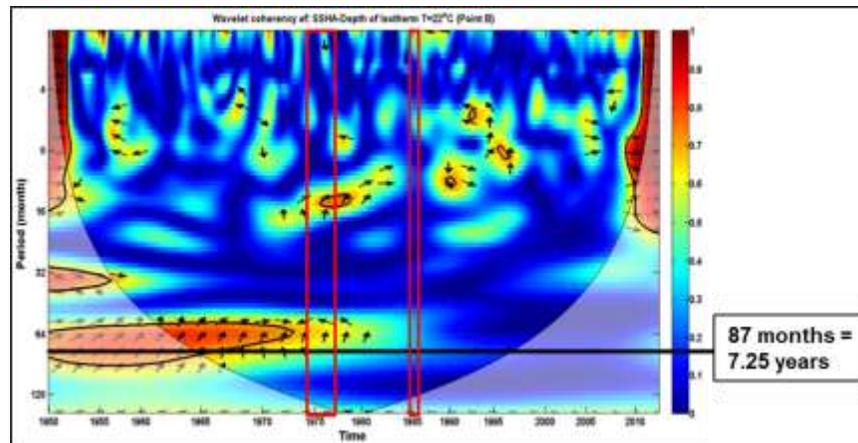


Figure 16 The wavelet coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at the point of B. The red box shows the occurrence of Kelvin wave in the year of 1974 to 1976 and 1985 to 1986.

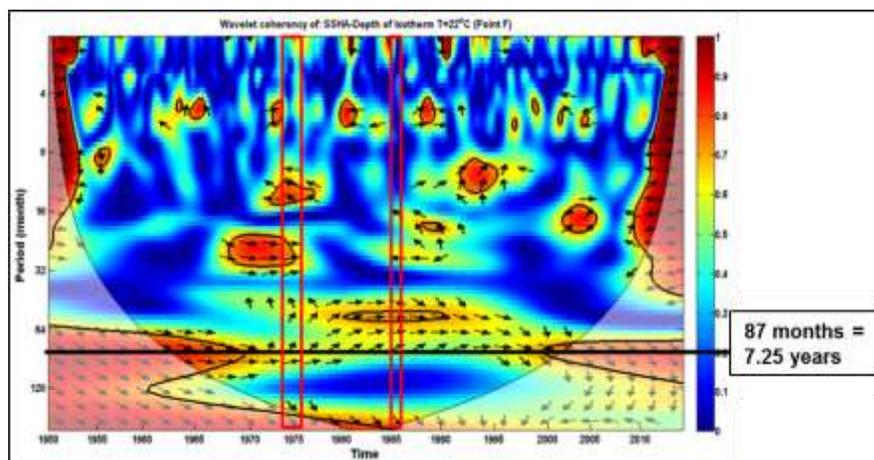


Figure 17 The wavelet coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at the point of F. The red box shows the occurrence of Kelvin wave in the year of 1974 to 1976 and 1985 to 1986.

Similarly to points A and C, there is a dominant coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth with a period of 7.25 years, which coincided with the time of the incident Kelvin wave in the year of 1974 - 1976. In Figures 22 and 23 show that there is no coherence with decadal period that coincides with Kelvin wave propagation. The highest period for coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth was 4.6 and 2.6 years.

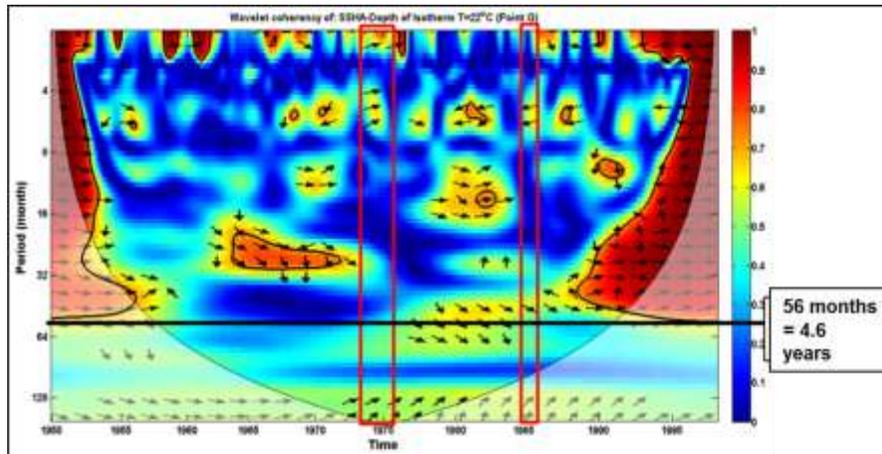


Figure 18 The wavelet coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at the point of G. The red box shows the occurrence of Kelvin wave in the year of 1974 to 1976 and 1985 to 1986.

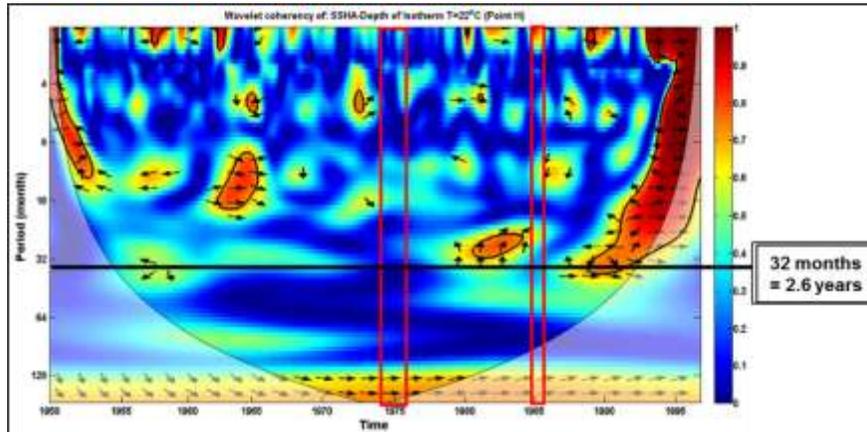


Figure 19 The wavelet coherence between SSHA and T=22°C isotherm depth at the point of H. The red box shows the occurrence of Kelvin wave in the year of 1974 to 1976 and 1985 to 1986.

Conclusion

The T=22°C isotherm depth (midthermocline) has a different value of each other at point A to H. The point F has the largest range of the T=22°C isotherm depth, which is 100 m. The T=22°C isotherm depth variation has decadal period (8 and 11 years) throughout the observation point along the west coast of Sumatra and the southern of Java. Based on the wavelet coherence results, there was a coherence between T=22°C isotherm depth and SSHA with decadal period. It indicates that the decadal Kelvin wave propagation influence the variation of the T=22°C isotherm depth in along west of Sumatra and the southern coast of Java. When the Kelvin wave was propagating, the SSHA at the points of B, F, G, and H, especially in the year of 1974 to 1976 are going to rise and midthermocline was deepening.

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