# Ocean Forecast and Analysis Models for Coastal Observatories

# **John Wilkin**



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### The Coastal Ocean

- 8% of surface of World Ocean
- 19 to 28% total global ocean primary productivity
- 90% global fish catch

### Continental shelf carbon cycle

 Globally, river input is ~0.8 PgC yr<sup>-1</sup>, comparable to the natural flux of CO<sub>2</sub> from the shelf ocean to the atmosphere

 "Continental Shelf Pump" (atmosphere to shelf bottom waters) could account for 0.6 to 1 PgC yr<sup>-1</sup> (of ~2 PgC yr<sup>-1</sup> anthropogenic)

# Fisheries:

### Help the managers, not just the fishermen

Management practices can alter ecosystem

- Georges Bank ground-fish closed areas have aided scallop populations
- Scallop pelagic larval stage lasts 4-8 weeks

. . .



# Fisheries:

### Help the managers, not just the fishermen

Management practices can alter ecosystem

- Georges Bank ground-fish closed areas have aided scallop populations
- Scallop pelagic larval stage lasts 4-8 weeks
- Hypotheses on larval dispersal can be tested using circulation models
- Multi-species management could choose closed areas good for both ground-fish and scallops

 Holy Grail of fisheries management is prediction of inter-annual variability that would enable year-byyear adaptive extraction (quotas)
aside: West Australian Rock lobster

# River runoff and human pollution

- Coastal ocean is a filter for nutrients and sediments from rivers and atmosphere
  - majority are re-mineralized with little export to the deep ocean
- On U.S. East Coast, the discharge of many rivers is modified in estuaries
- Chesapeake Bay: most runoff is assimilated by plankton in the Bay and exported as inorganic nitrogen
- New York: 90% nitrogen is exported unassimilated onto the shelf
  - NY/NJ Harbor sediments are ~4% of MAB load, but 90% of PCBs and 70% of mercury
- Where it goes and how it is transformed depends not just on biogeochemical processes, but also on the physics of coastal ocean



Fig. 2. The evolution of a surface plume from the Hudson River in the summer of 2000 mapped using SeaWiFs.



- Nutrients, carbon, pollutants enter coastal waters and are transported and transformed while resident in shelf waters
- Shelf-sea/deep-ocean exchange affects shelf residence times and supplies nutrients to the shelf ecosystem
- Physical, geochemical and ecosystem processes interact to regulate primary production and bioaccumulation
- Understanding of <u>processes</u> is required to assess natural variability and human impacts
- This requires multi-disciplinary observations in coastal regimes characterized by short length scales and rapid variability

# **Coastal Observatories**



# **Coastal Observatories**

- The "research mode" expeditionary approach encouraged experiments designed to test specific hypotheses
- But how do we capture (unexpected) EVENTS that have major impacts on the system?
- Need a long-term coastal monitoring observatories
- "Think globally, act locally"

### Long-term Ecosystem Observatory (LEO)



#### **Optical profiler deployed on LEO-15 guest port**





#### Instrument Package for 2000: ac-9, HISTAR, FRR, LISST, HS-2, Biolum, VSM







#### Marine Field Station

NASA - AVIRIS

#### LEO-15

CAL

#### AVIRIS Flight - July 12, 1998



Antanov – NRL PHILLS

Spectral

### **LEO Coastal Predictive Skill Experiments**







#### Seafloor temperature at cross-shelf line through the center of LEO



Cross-shelf distance (km)





16 Oct 2002: 1800 GMT

17 Oct 2002: 1800

**CODAR Surface Currents** 





#### Average Surface Currents (2002-2003)







Josh Kohut Scott Glenn

New Jersey Shelf Observing System

Hernan Arango nn Dale Haidvogel John Wilkin Bob Chant John Kerfoot Liz Creed Katja Fennel Eli Hunter

#### **Regional Scale Observatories**

NEOS, a science consortium established in 2000 provides a regional footprint.

Sub-regional observatories and technology/science working groups.

Current groups include: DODS data management, satellite remote sensing, CODAR, AUVs, bio-optics standards, buoys, waves, shelf carbon biogeochemistry, extreme weather, economic products



#### MVCO: Martha's Vineyard Coastal Observatory and CBLAST



#### **CBLAST:**

#### **Coupled Boundary Layers and Air-Sea Transfer**

The ONR CBLAST-Low program focuses on air-sea interaction and coupled atmosphere/ocean boundary layer dynamics at low wind speeds where processes are strongly modulated by thermal forcing.

• Precise observations of air-sea fluxes and turbulent mixing from CBLAST are ideal for evaluating the vertical turbulence closure schemes employed in ocean models.

• This comparison will be possible provided the model captures the essential features of the ocean heat budget on diurnal to several day time-scales, and spatial scales of order 1 km.

• Modeling complements the interpretation of the field observations by quantifying unobserved lateral transport and mixing of heat.

Improve Flux Parameterizations  $\tau = \rho \ C_D \ \Delta U^2$ 



### Improve Flux Parameterizations $\tau = \rho \ C_D \ \Delta U^2$









#### Flux Aircraft **CBLAST-Low Observing System 2002:** N3k (ASIT not 2002) **MVCO** 41°30 **IR** Aircraft Aartha Nantucket ard inev Sound 41°20' ASIMET Nantucket **Nantucket** moorings 41°10'with ocean SODAR 2 orth) **T(z)** .0. and ADCP 41°00' 40% A-F: ASIMET Moorings •E: Fanbeam ASITower G: H-I: MVCO Nodes 40°40' . NPS/NRL 70 71°00' 70°50' 70 70°40' **3-D** mooring Remote Sensing
Autonomous Measurements of Temperature, Salinity and Currents over the Inner-Shelf at the Martha's Vineyard Coastal Observatory

Courtesy of Kipp Shearman, WHOI



## Goals:

- Demonstrate utility of AUVs in observatory science
- Understand inner-shelf stratification variability







### Sep 2003 Observations:

Variable winds, zero mean Weak subtidal current variability, but mean westward along-shelf flow Semidiurnal buoyant plume now warm

not fresh

The Regional Ocean Modeling System (ROMS) has been configured for a region of the southeastern New England shelf encompassing the CBLAST observation area

## **Purpose:**

Obtain model hind-cast of summertime ocean conditions that captures the essential features of the ocean heat budget on diurnal to several day time-scales, and spatial scales of order 1 km The Regional Ocean Modeling System (ROMS) has been configured for a region of the southeastern New England shelf encompassing the CBLAST observation area

## Motivation (1)

Model evaluation:

Compare model heat budget to observations:

- Evaluate heat budget sensitivity to vertical turbulent closures in ROMS
- Evaluate heat budget sensitivity to air-sea flux bulk formulae

• Evaluate contribution to hind-cast skill of meteorological model (COAMPS) compared to using observed marine boundary layer conditions

## **Motivation (2)**

Observational data analysis:

<u>Horizontal</u> mixing and advection are largely unobserved by the CBLAST field instrumentation.

This affects closure of the observed heat budget, especially:

 Advection of vertically mixed waters originating on the Nantucket Shoals

 Advection past MVCO of tidally generated eddies transporting Vineyard Sound water through Muskeget channel

## 1 km grid resolution

20 vertical levels (stretched scoordinate)

Initial and inflow/outflow boundary conditions from bi-monthly climatology (Naimie et al. 1994)

Tides







## Surface forcing:

Heat and momentum fluxes from bulk formulae

model SST

•  $T_{air}$ ,  $p_{air}$ ,  $q_{air}$ ,  $u_{10}$ , v<sub>10</sub> from 3-km resolution nested COAMPS 6-72 hr forecast

 observed downward shortwave and long-wave at MVCO



# Tidal elevation and depth-average velocity are imposed at the ROMS domain open boundary



## **ROMS model attributes**

Split-explicit, free-surface, hydrostatic, primitive equation model

Generalized, terrain-following vertical coordinates and orthogonal curvilinear, horizontal coordinates, Arakawa C-grid

3<sup>rd</sup>-order upstream-biasedvadvection model Generalized, terrain-following vertical coordinates and orthogonal 3rd-order predictor/correctorectime-stepping; weighted temporal averaging; reduced pressure gradient and mode-splitting error Split-explicit time-stepping of barotropic/baroclinic modes Split-explicit time-stepping of of anotropic/baroclinic modes time-evolving coordinate system (due to free-surface) constrained for conservation to f volume and tracer constancy in time-evolving a coordinate system (due to free-surface) Dynamic allocation of memory via de-referenced pointer Continuous, monotonic reconstruction of vertical gradients to maintain high-order accuracy Parallel distributed- and shared-memory portable F90/F95 code Dynamic allocation of memory via de-referenced pointer structures (for multiple levels of nesting).



- What is new in the ROMS 1.0 beta releases?
  - Is there a mailing list for ROMS discussions and questions?
  - Who else uses ROMS?
  - What are some references for ROMS?
  - Is there a manual describing how to use ROMS and its associated software?

#### Platforms and Portability

- What does ROMS run on?
- How to run ROMS in serial mode?
- How to run ROMS in parallel shared-memory computers?
- Is there an MPI version of ROMS?
- Why does ROMS requires a special CPP2

News

Links

Bibliography Preprints Papers

Printer Format

59909 Visits

Workshops Bulletin Board

Job Opportunities

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programs, 3 total: <u>AIR OCEAN</u> •,7 <u>OCEAN</u> •,10 <u>TYPES</u> •	<pre>! ! This ocean model solves the free surface, hydrostatic, primitive ! equations over variable topography using stretched terrain- ! following coordinates in the vertical and orthogonal curvilinear ! coordinates in the horizontal. ! ! Developers: ! ! Dr. Hernan G. Arango ! Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences</pre>	
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Forum	Topics	Posts	Last Post
Events & Job Opportunities			
Meetings/Workshops           Discussion about Ocean Modeling Communities Meetings, Workshops and Events.           Moderators robertson, arango	14	22	16 Sep 2004 04:22 <u>arango</u> <b>→</b> D
Dob Opportunities Look here for job postings within the Modeling community. Moderators <u>robertson</u> , <u>arango</u>		15	07 Jul 2004 16:12 <u>arango</u> <b>→</b> D
ROMS/TOMS			
ROMS Adjoint Discussion about tangent linear and adjoint models, variational data assimilation, and other related issues. Moderators <u>robertson</u> , <u>arango</u>	4	4	21 May 2004 22:46 <u>arango</u> <b>→</b> D
ROMS Applications Discussion of how to use ROMS on different regional and basin scale applications. Moderators <u>robertson</u> , <u>arango</u>	5	9	10 Feb 2004 09:15 <u>bru</u> <b>→</b> D
ROMS Documentation Discussions, suggestions and corrections to ROMS/TOMS documentation currently under development. Moderators robertson, arango	6	8	13 Sep 2004 16:00 <u>tim_cera</u> <b>→</b> D
ROMS FAQ     Frequently Asked Questions about ROMS usage     Moderators <u>robertson</u> , <u>arango</u>	25	45	16 Sep 2004 07:40 jivica <b>→D</b>

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### Introduction

General Information Three-Dimensional models

#### Atmosphere

Data Sources Models Products

#### Ocean

Data Sources Models Internal External Products

#### **Test Problems**

#### Services

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#### Resources

Journals Papers Preprints Needed Software

#### Printer Format

There are at present within the field of ocean general circulation modeling four classes of numerical models which have achieved a significant level of community management and involvement, including shared community development, regular user interaction, and ready availability of software and documentation via the World Wide Web. These four classes are loosely characterized by their respective approaches to spatial discretization (finite difference, finite element, finite volume) and vertical coordinate treatment (geopotential, isopycnic, sigma, hybrid).

The earliest class of ocean models, and still the most widely applied, was pioneered by Kirk Bryan and his colleagues at GFDL utilizing low-order finite difference techniques applied to the oceanic primitive equations written in geopotential (z-based) coordinates. At present, variations on this first OGCM are in place at Harvard (Harvard Ocean Prediction System, HOPS), GFDL (Modular Ocean Model, MOM (MOM), the Los Alamos National Lab (Parallel Ocean Program, POP), the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR Community Ocean Model, NCOM), and other institutions. A set of geopotential models based upon a structured, finite volume disctretization has also been developed at MIT (MITgcm).

During the 1970's, two competing approaches to vertical discretization and coordinate treatment made their way into ocean modeling. These alternatives were based respectively on vertical discretization in immiscible layers ('layered' models) and on terrain-following vertical coordinates ('sigma'' coordinate models). In keeping with 1970's-style thinking on algorithms, both these model classes used (and, by and large, continue to use) low-order finite difference schemes similar to those employed in the geopotential coordinate models.

## Subgridscale parameterizations

- Horizontal mixing of tracers along level, geopotential, isopycnic surfaces
- Transverse, isotropic stress tensor for momentum

## Vertical turbulence closure options

- Mellor-Yamada level 2.5
- k-profile parameterization (KPP) surface and bottom closure scheme (Large et al., 1994, Durski et al., 2001)
- Generalized Ocean Turbulence Model\*
  - 2 (dynamic) equations for turbulent kinetic energy and a generic macro length scale
  - Eddy viscosity and diffusivity product TKE, length scale and a non-dimensional stability function
  - The stability functions are the result of various second-moment closures
  - Encompasses k-ε, k-ω, k-kl (Mellor-Yamada) and others

#### From "Eldridge's Tide Tables"

## Ebb starts at Pollock Rip Channel OR: 4 hours AFTER low water at Boston



6hr

Pollock Rip Channel (slack water at beginning of ebb)



# Validation

• Example: Compare model to mooring temperature time series

# Sensitivity

 Example: Vertical turbulence closure parameterization















Using models for understanding regional ocean processes, or ...

## Never mind the forecast ... let's learn something about the ocean

Southwest of Martha's Vineyard, and within Vineyard Sound, winds drive eastward depth averaged flow.



The open boundary climatology imposes a south and westward flow from the Gulf of Maine, through Great South Channel and around Nantucket Shoals.



Circulation around Nantucket Shoals is augmented by tidal rectified anti-cyclonic flow that carries water into Vineyard Sound through Muskeget Channel



## Put it all together and you get:



## - 0.1 0.3-day composite SST for 30-Aug-2002

Tidal mixing generates a region of perpetually cold SST on the eastern flank of the Nantucket Shoals

0.25

0.2

0.15



Air-sea flux  $(Q_{net})$  is greatest east of Vineyard Sound where SST is cold, but is largely balanced by divergence due to tidal mixing.

Positive warms the ocean



Ocean temperature increase (storage) is largest south of The Islands, primarily due to surface heating.

Positive, the ocean is getting warmer



Horizontal divergence is small in the region of the *B*-C ASIMET moorings - indicating a region of approximate 1-D vertical heat balance suited to evaluating ROMS vertical turbulence closures.

Positive cools the ocean



Time mean advection cools the box at, on average, 200 W/m<sup>2</sup>. The net "eddy" divergence  $\langle u'T' \rangle$  warms the MVCO region at about 50 W/m<sup>2</sup>.



Time series of the heat budget in a box near MVCO shows half the air-sea flux goes to warming the water column, and half is removed by lateral divergence.

Episodic positive divergence (cooling) events arrest the warming trend.


# OK, OK, if you insist I will make a forecast ...

But, if I don't know whether it has any skill, is it worth doing?

Yes, because it focuses the mind.

If nobody ever looks at it, can it be wrong?

Constraints on operating coastal vessels and deploying instruments made it difficult to use forecasts





heavy surface mooring - temperature, salinity and velocity with ~ 2 m resolution, A, E, F with IMET surface met light surface mooring - temperature with 2 m temperature resolution

12

 $( \cdot )$ 

L5

1.04

Node

ASIT

L Ĥ

0

L1D

1.7

T1,T2 Trowbridge moorings

56

NA

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#### **SST** and ship track





**Iridium Antenna** 

# **ARGOS and FreeWave Antennas**

Temperature cross-section: 19-Aug-2003 22:30:00

0

Ο

-5

-10

-15

-20

-25

-30

-35

-40

-45

-50

11

ASIT to Mooring-A section

41.3

13

12

Runs/cblast\_avg\_2003081912\_037.nc

41.25

14

41.2

16

15

Raw CTD data acquired via Iridium from a Slocum Glider transiting between ASIT and mooring-A.













41.7 F



Ο

-5

-10







# **CBLAST:**

**Ocean modeling lessons:** 

- A high-resolution coastal model, carefully constructed, has intrinsic forecast skill without assimilation
- Differing vertical turbulence parameterizations lead to different 3-dimensional coastal mesoscale flows
- CBLAST data suited to turbulence closure evaluation:
  - Combination of direct air-sea flux and in situ oceanic conditions for validation
  - Eventually we will compare to vertical turbulence observations
- Spatially variable atmospheric forcing (COAMPS) is important
- Heat budget requires further analysis of horizontal/vertical circulations: overturning/upwelling vs. depth-average flow contributions, especially at moorings and ASIT

# **CBLAST:**

**Oceanography lessons:** 

- Tides affect the circulation and heat budget through residual mean currents and vertical mixing
- Wind-driven upwelling circulation contributes to the heat budget southwest of Martha's Vineyard
- Lateral heat transport is large in much of the region, including near MVCO, and will need to be considered in the analysis of CBLAST heat budgets
- Vineyard Sound, Nantucket Shoals, MVCO, shows differing heat balances in July mean
- Modeling shows a 1-D heat balance occurs near the B-A-C MET mooring sites, which suggests vertical turbulence closures might be evaluated locally there

The capability to simulate regional dynamics at high resolution has generated new applications for the model (= funding!)

Processes controlling seasonal variability of phytoplankton over the inner shelf:

Bio-optical instrumentation at MVCO gives information on

- phytoplankton abundance
- community structure
- growth rate

We know that primary production is very patchy ...

Is the variability local, or advected from somewhere else?



Figure 7. Example of phytoplankton time series observations from a test deployment of FlowCytobot at MVCO in 2002. Abundance and average cell volume for the cyanobacteria genus *Synechococcus* and a group of mixed taxonomy eukaryotic pico- and nanophytoplankton were separately quantified with hourly resolution. Diel variations in cell size, which we have used to quantify cell growth rates (Sosik et al. 2003), are prominent for Synechococcus and large changes in average cell size for eukaryotes (likely indicative of species changes) occurred around 1 and 7 November in conjunction with storm events. The capability to simulate regional dynamics at high resolution has generated new applications (=funding!)

Processes controlling seasonal variability of phytoplankton over the inner shelf:

**Bio-optical instrumentation at MVCO gives information on** 

- phytoplankton abundance
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- Using NJSOS to study the transport and transformation of the Hudson River plume
- NY/NJ Harbor discharges 4% sediment load in Mid-Atlantic Bight, but 96% of PCBs and 69% of mercury
- Each spring, we inject dye in the plume and track it, monitoring:
  - physics
  - chemistry (nutrients, metals, caffeine ...)
  - optics
  - ecology (PP, zooplankton, bioaccumulation ...)

Lagrangian studies of the transport, transformation and biological impact of nutrients and contaminant metals in a buoyant plume: A process study in an operational ocean observatory.





<sup>1</sup>Rutgers, <sup>2</sup>Lamont-Doherty, <sup>3</sup>U. Mass Boston, <sup>4</sup>FERI, <sup>5</sup>Calpoly, <sup>6</sup>U. Fla.

April 15, 2003 0724 GMT



## April 16, 2003 0713 GMT





# Top view (salinity)

### **Cross-shore sections**

(contours show salinity, Colors show temperature)





RU COOL Raw Velocities 2004/04/15 1600 GMT



### **R/V** Cape Hatteras

#### **R/V** Connecticut

NJN

NJN

## Bob Chant

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHER NEWS



NJN

#### **RU02 – Hudson River Plume**

#### 29-Apr-2004 15:24:44 - 30-Apr-2004 04:27:30













04-May-2004 00:12:34





Along shore velocity (color) and salinity (contours) from inshore moorings in 15 m water. Positive currents are to the north.

0.2

0

-0.2

-0.4

-0.6

-0.8

x 10

Along shore wind speed. Positive winds are upwelling favorable







4/05/04 1709 GMT 🏹

Chlorophyll-a from OCM on May 4<sup>th</sup> 1700 GMT.

A plume of high chlorophyll extends south along NJ coast, and the old plume along Long Island's south shore


CODAR surface current, wind, ship & mooring salinity @ 04-May-2004 12:19:00 GMT



CODAR surface current, wind, ship & mooring salinity @ 05-May-2004 20:55:00 GMT





Dots show location of the maximum dye concentration every 2 hours.

The size of the dot is scaled by dye concentration and its salinity is depicted by color.

> s depict winds: Northerly to southerly e after dye passed 40.2°N.



#### LATTE 2004 Salinity Cross-Sections: Hudson River Plume



## Summary

- New technologies are expanding our ability to study coastal processes by simultaneously observing physics, geochemistry and ecology at resolutions suited to quantitative interdisciplinary analysis
- Long-term point time series and repeat observations
- Observing system developments are matched by advances in ocean modeling:
  - high resolution; accurate forcing; adequate CPU
  - more accurate numerical algorithms
  - realistic parameterizations of subgridscale physics

- Coastal ocean forecasts complement the operation of coastal observatories:
  - Explore conceptual ideas and test hypotheses
    - Process-oriented dynamic studies (e.g. idealized physics)
    - Lagrangian pathways (Where did the water come from?)
  - Synthesis tool with coupled geochemical-ecosystemoptics models
  - Adaptive sampling design (real-time)
  - Observing system design
- Models have the skill to become short-term ocean prediction systems for coastal waters



## NENA

- Northeast North America shelf model
- Continental shelf nutrient and carbon budget
- Simple nesting within basin scale models



#### 1-way nested grid open boundary conditions



 Tracers and 3D momentum: Clamped to interpolated values from larger grid time snapshots

 2D normal momentum: Flather boundary conditions

 $\overline{\mathbf{U}}^{\mathbf{n}+1} = \overline{\mathbf{U}}_{\mathbf{b}} + (g/h)^{1/2} (\zeta^{\mathbf{n}} - \zeta_{\mathbf{b}})$ 

 2D tangential momentum: Chapman boundary conditions

$$\overline{\mathbf{V}}^{n+1} = (\overline{\mathbf{V}}^n + \mathbf{c}\overline{\mathbf{V}}^{n+1})/(1-\mathbf{c}), \quad \mathbf{c} = \frac{\Delta \mathbf{t}}{\Delta \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{g}\mathbf{h})^{1/2}$$

 Free-surface: Chapman boundary conditions

$$\zeta^{n+1} = (\zeta^n + \mathbf{c} \zeta^{n+1}) / (1 - \mathbf{c}),$$

$$c = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (gh)^{1/2}$$

## Mid Atlantic Bight (MAB)





file: /home/paulg/roms2p1/nena/ecco02/out//eccoplus\_avg\_0199.nc SALT – Day 960.75 – Depth 4 m – Date 18–Aug–1994





WOA98 salinity at 10 m for Aug



file: /home/kfennel/toms/nena/ucar/run4/nena\_avg\_004\_0198.nc SALT – Day 962.75 – Depth 4 m – Date 20-Aug-1994 18:00:00





#### CHLOR\_A June





## CHLOR\_A September



Log Chlor\_a (mg m<sup>-3</sup>) SEPTEMBER - REPRO4





## PPD September





#### CHLOR\_EUPHOTIC June





#### CHLOR\_EUPHOTIC September







#### POC September

2.0

25













# Primary productivity differences

#### reduction due to denitrification

#### Increase due to riverine inputs



Mean annual denitrification flux in MAB: 1.1 mmol N /m2 /y

Observational estimates for North Atlantic Shelves: 0.7 mmol N /m2 /y

Nova Scotia to Cape Hatteras: 1.4 mmol N /m2 /y

(Seitzinger and Giblin 1996)

• denitrification removes 60% of all N entering MAB



- denitrification removes 60% of all N entering MAB
- remainder exported as PON
- inflow from north is mostly in form of DIN
- cross-isobath export of PON
- cross-isobath import of DIN





#### Implications for C-cycle

#### **Assume:**

N supply to MAB is matched by C supply in Redfield ratio; N loss due to denitrification is matched by outgassing of CO<sub>2</sub>

5.3 x10<sup>10</sup> mol N y<sup>-1</sup> ~= 4.2 x10<sup>12</sup> gC y<sup>-1</sup>

Extrapolated to North Atlantic shelf area: 0.18 PgC y<sup>-1</sup>

30% of the North Atlantic C uptake -0.6 PgC y<sup>-1</sup> (Takahashi et al. 2002)

# Summary

- Nested bio-physical model within large scale circulation model (boundary artifacts?)
- Spatial variability in simulated surface chlorophyll agrees well with SeaWiFS, although some features are missing (e.g. Georges Bank)
- Tool for quantitative understanding of shelf processes and their role in biogeochemical cycling
- Denitrification removes more than half the nitrogen entering the MAB (much more than river inputs)
- Extrapolation to the NA basin suggests this sink offsets 30-60% of N<sub>2</sub>-fixation
- Implications for carbon cycling



