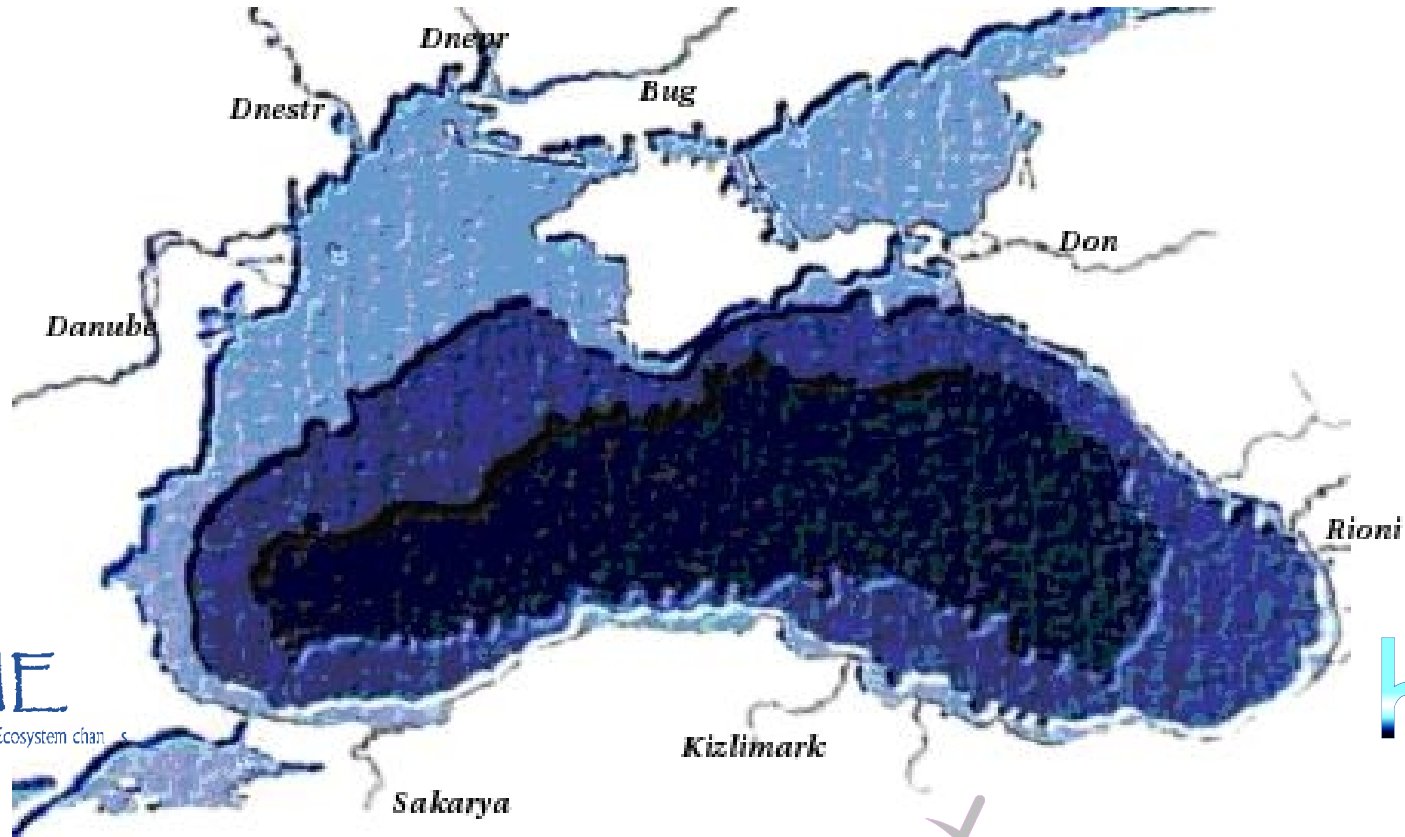


# 3D MODELLING OF THE BLACK SEA NORTH WESTERN SHELF ECOSYSTEM :

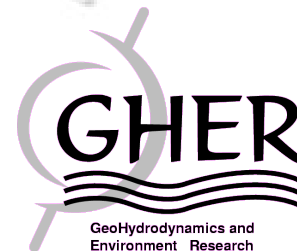


Southern European Seas: Assessing and Modelling Ecosystem changes

WP 4 - 6



INTERFACULTARY CENTER FOR MARINE RESEARCH - LIEGE UNIVERSITY



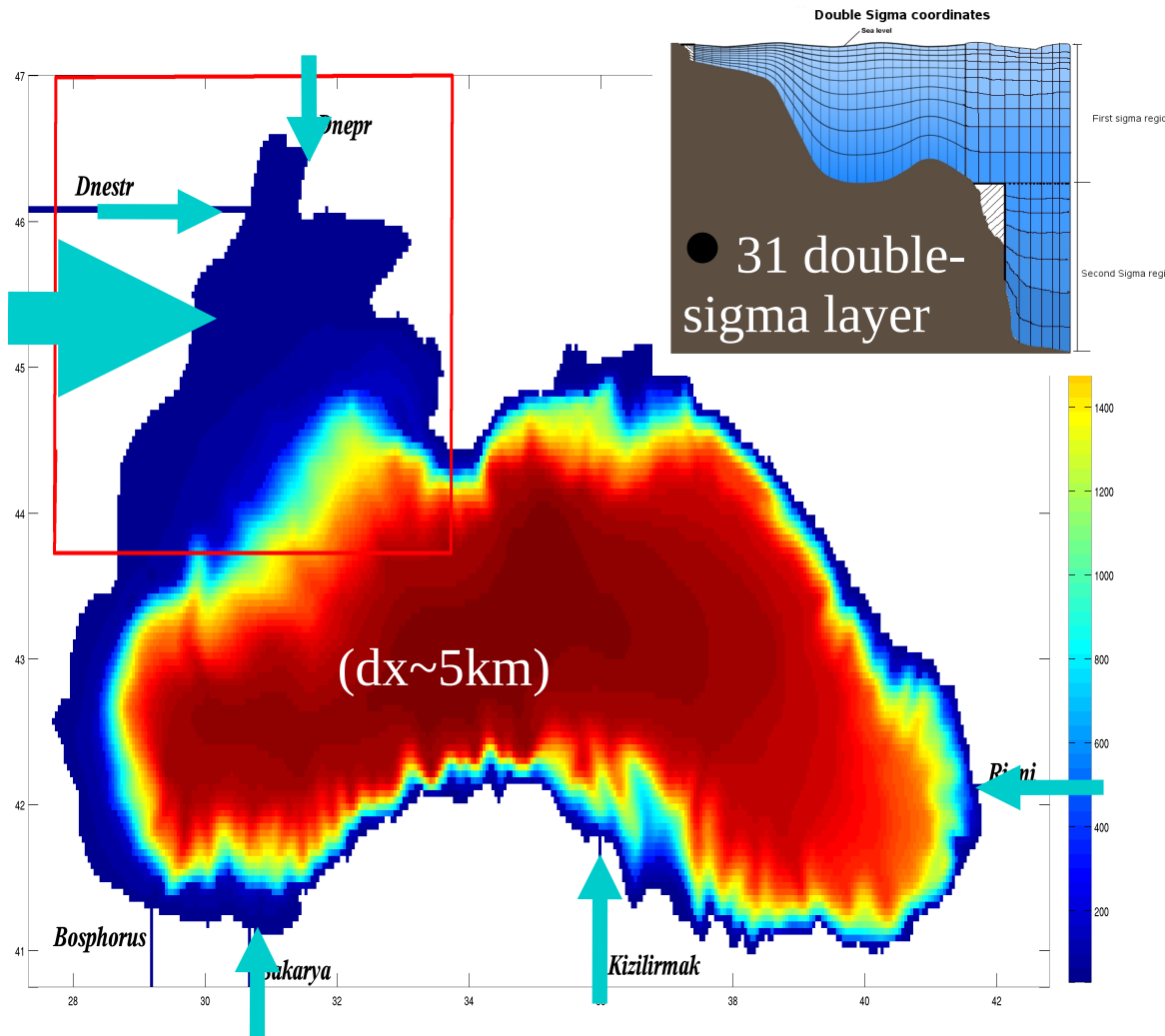
GeoHydrodynamics and  
Environment Research



**Capet Arthur**, Grégoire M, Beckers, JM., Joassin P., Naithani J., Borges A.V.,  
Soetaert K., Meysman F.

# The Model

## 36 States variables



Monthly RIVERS  
fluxes and nutrients flows  
(from L. Wolfgang  
& A. Cociasu)

6h-atmospheric  
forcings from ECMWF  
(1.125°).  
(from ERA40)

### Physics (5)

Currents,  $T^\circ$ , Salinity,  
Surface elevation, Turbulence

Oxygen and Dissolved Inorganic  
Carbon (2)

### Inorganic nutrients (5)

SiO, NO<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>, PO<sub>4</sub>, "Reducers"

### 3 Phytoplankton (6) (free C/N)

Diatoms, Flagellates, Small Flagellates

### Zooplankton (2)

Micro-, Meso-

### Gelatinous zooplankton(2)

Omnivorous , Carnivorous

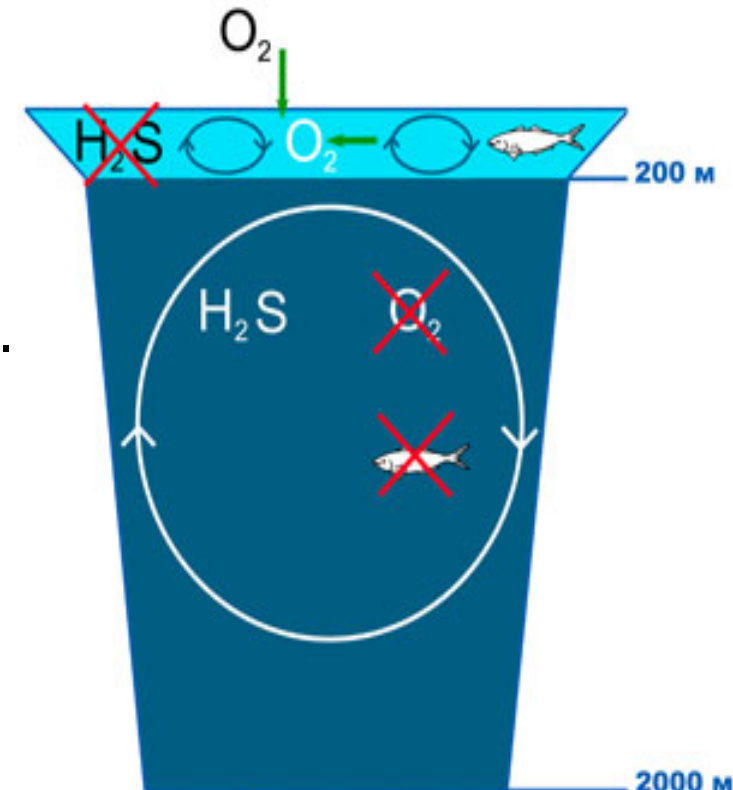
### Detrital matter (8)

Particulate, Semi-labile and Labile forms  
Silicious Detritus, Aggregates

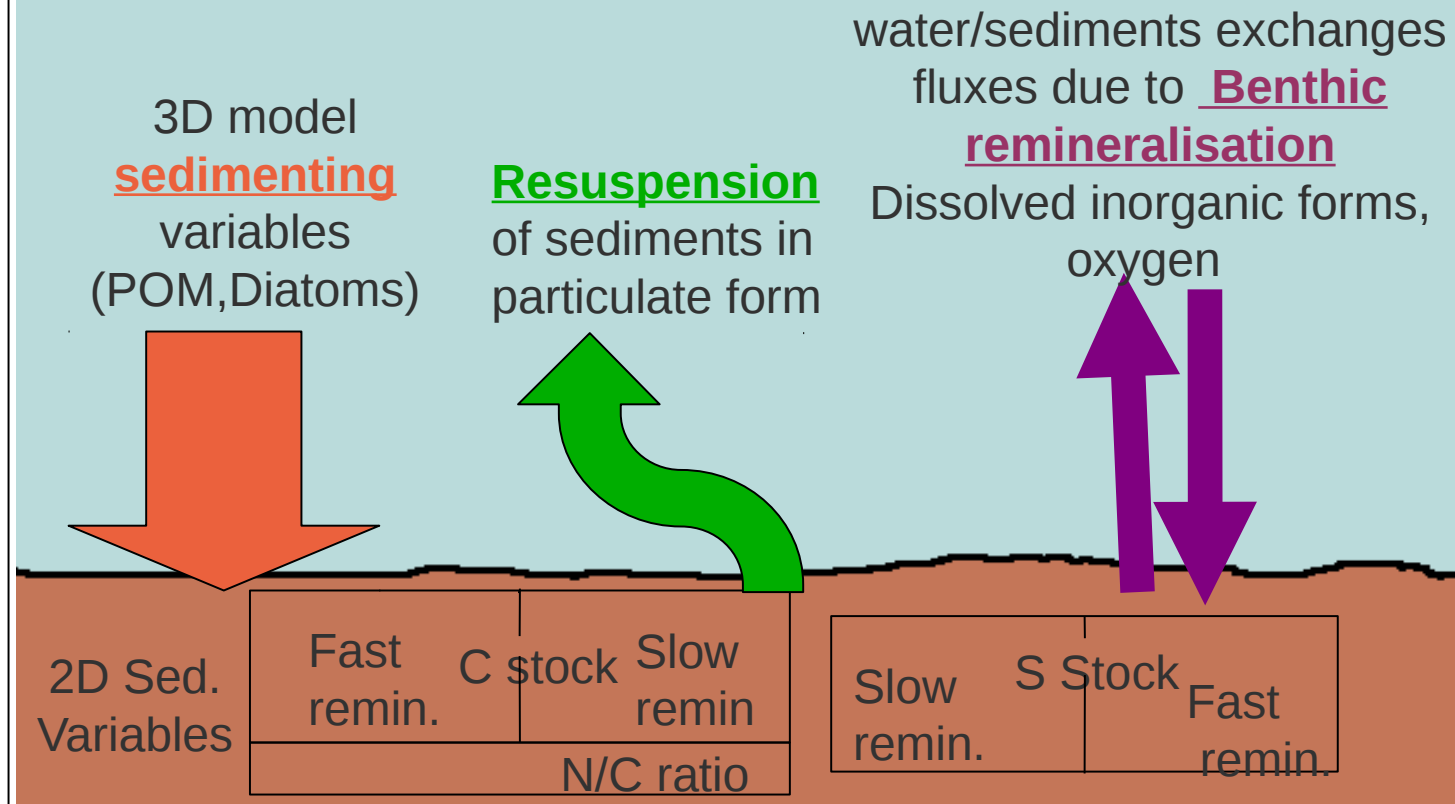
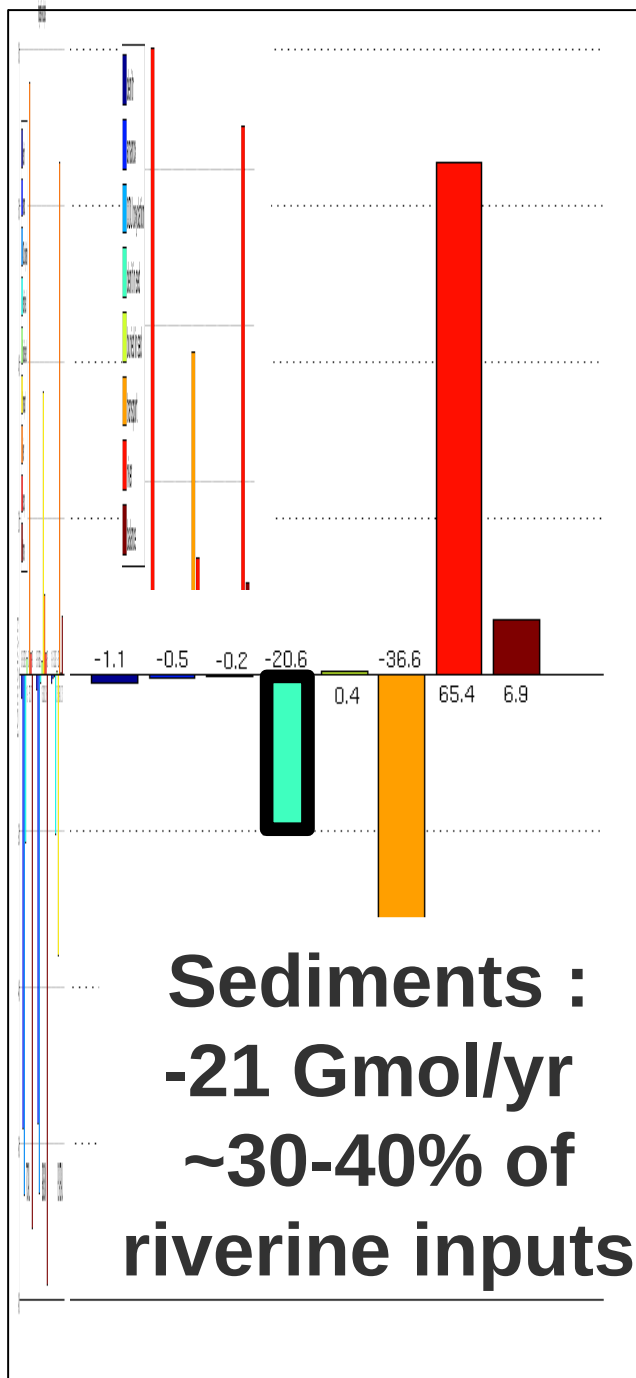
### Bacteria(1)

# Model's Specificity

- No data assimilation : Necessity to construct specific Bosphorus representation to ensure conservation of volume and total salt content.
- Anoxic waters : The biological model explicitly includes anoxic chemistry through the use of a variable 'Oxygen demanding Units', as a proxy for reducers acting in the anoxic zone.
- Sediments compartment

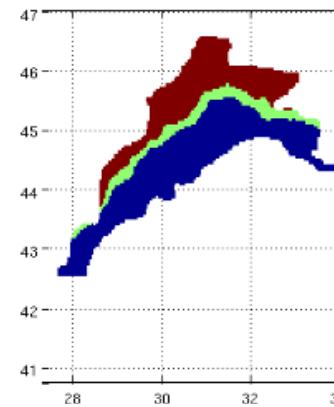
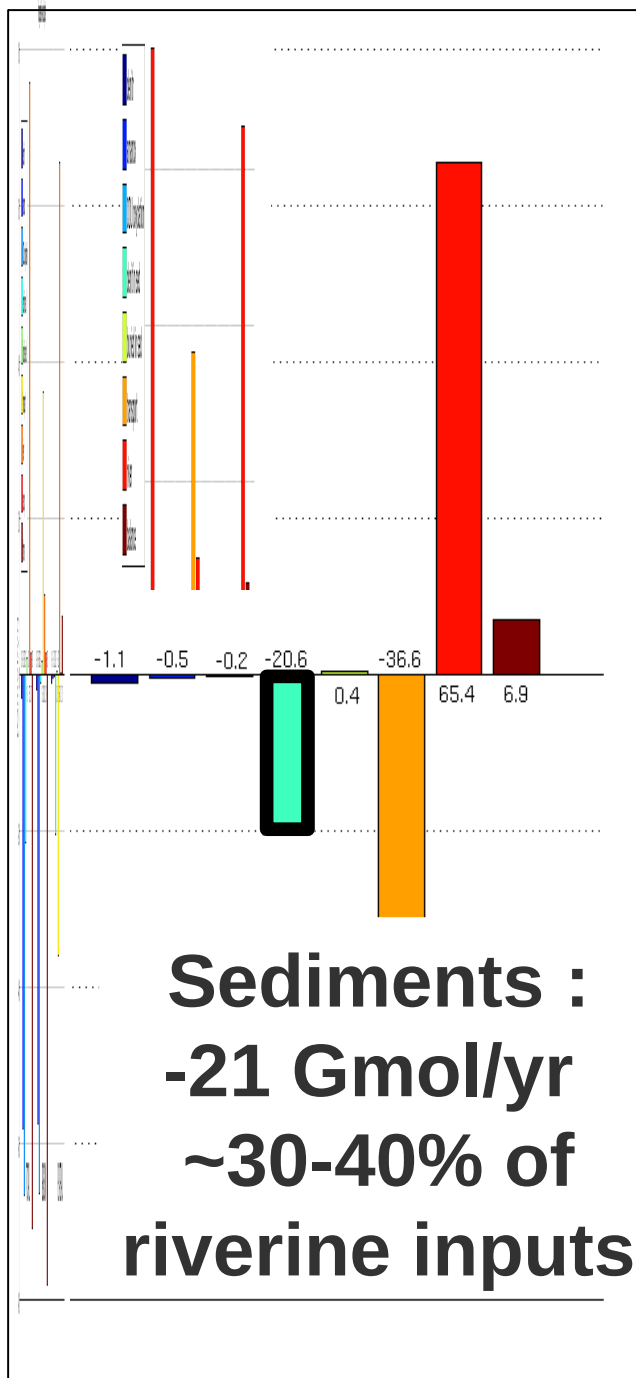


# Sediments Dynamics



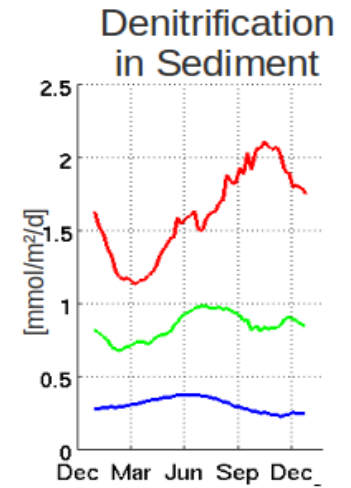
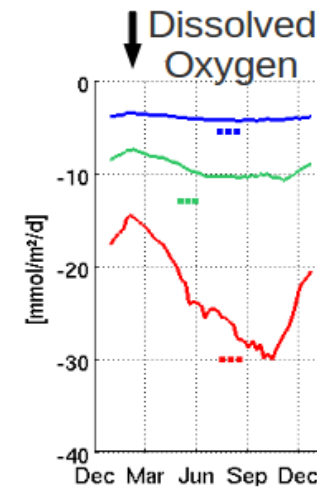
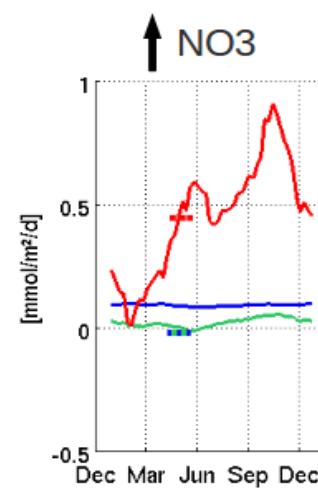
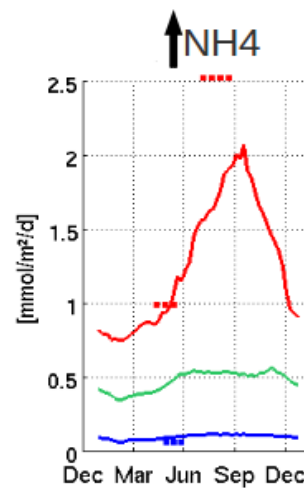
- Sedimentation is driven by an aggregation models [Kriest 2002] (typically ~2/3 m/d).
- Resuspension is the effect of bottom stresses du to bottom currents and (mainly) waves. [cf. pres. of R. Kandilarov ]
- Remineralization is computed according to stocked quantity of sediments, and bottom concentrations [Soetart et al., 2000, Earth-Science reviews ]

# Sediments Dynamics



Climatological run. 1996 → 2000

The dotted bars indicates value from EROS21 [Wijsman, *Spatial distribution in sediment characteristics and benthic activity on the north-western Black Sea shelf*, Mar Ecol Prog Ser **39**

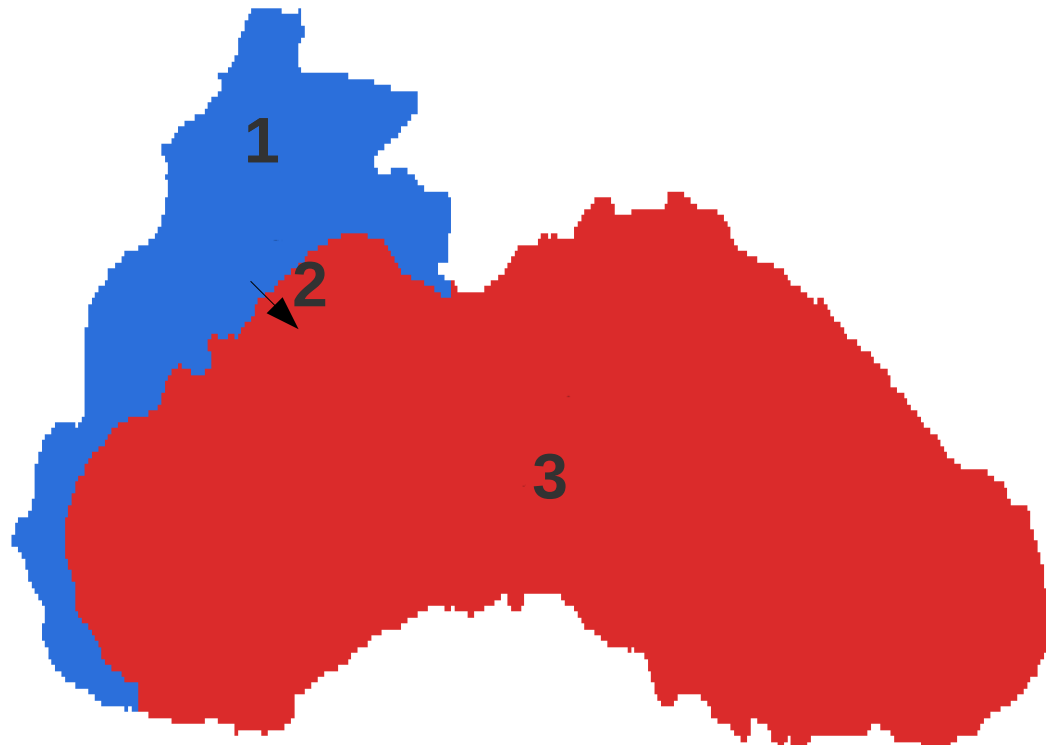


- Detailed remineralisation parameterization is essential in terms of budgets (50% of deposited PON).
- If resuspension is not taken into account, up to 80-90% of riverine N is denitrified on the Shelf
- As benthic fluxes are function of stocked sediments and not of bottom fluxes, the slow remineralisation time of refractory component introduce **strong hysteresis** in the system

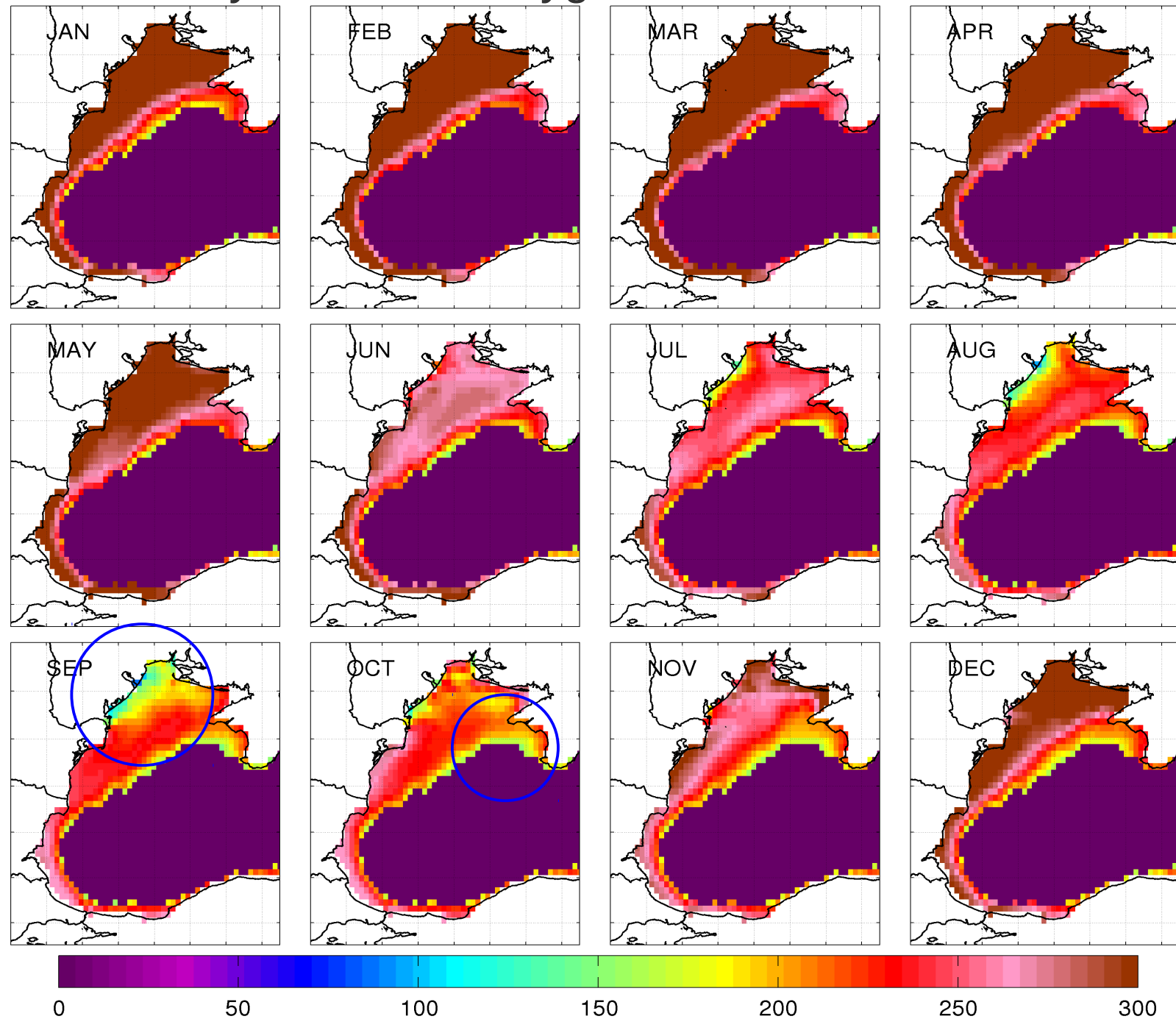
# Analysis

Coupled run from 1985 to 1999.

- 1. North Western Shelf (NWS).  
Seasonal hypoxia, Oxygen budget, interannual variability.
- 2. Export from NWS to open basin.  
Spatial and seasonal variability.
- 3. Open Basin  
Oxicline depth, budget, regionalisation, Bosphorus plume.



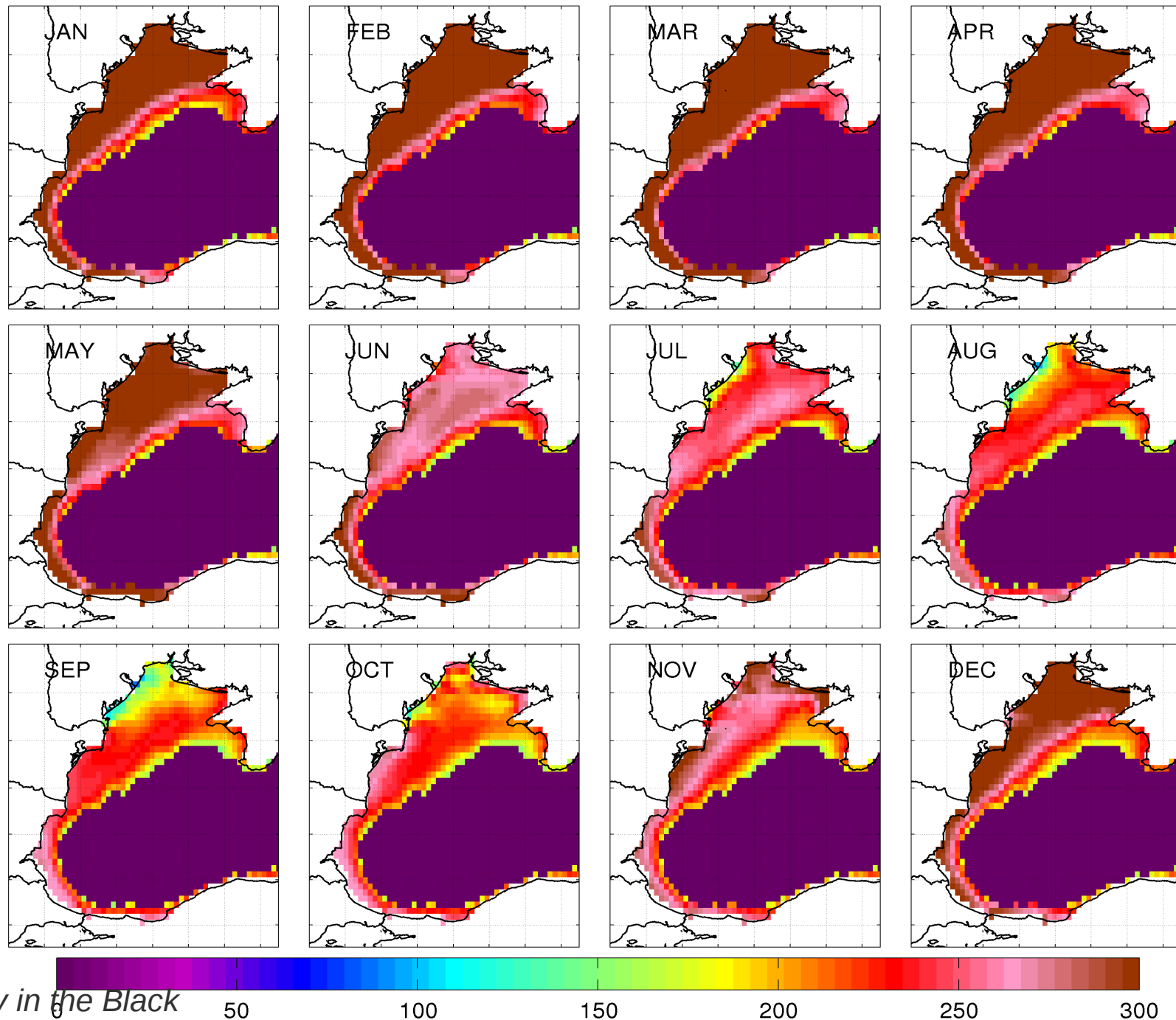
# Climatological seasonnality of Bottom Oxygen conditions on the NWS



Bottom Oxygen Concentration - [ $\mu\text{M}$ ]



## Climatological seasonnality of Bottom Oxygen conditions on the NWS

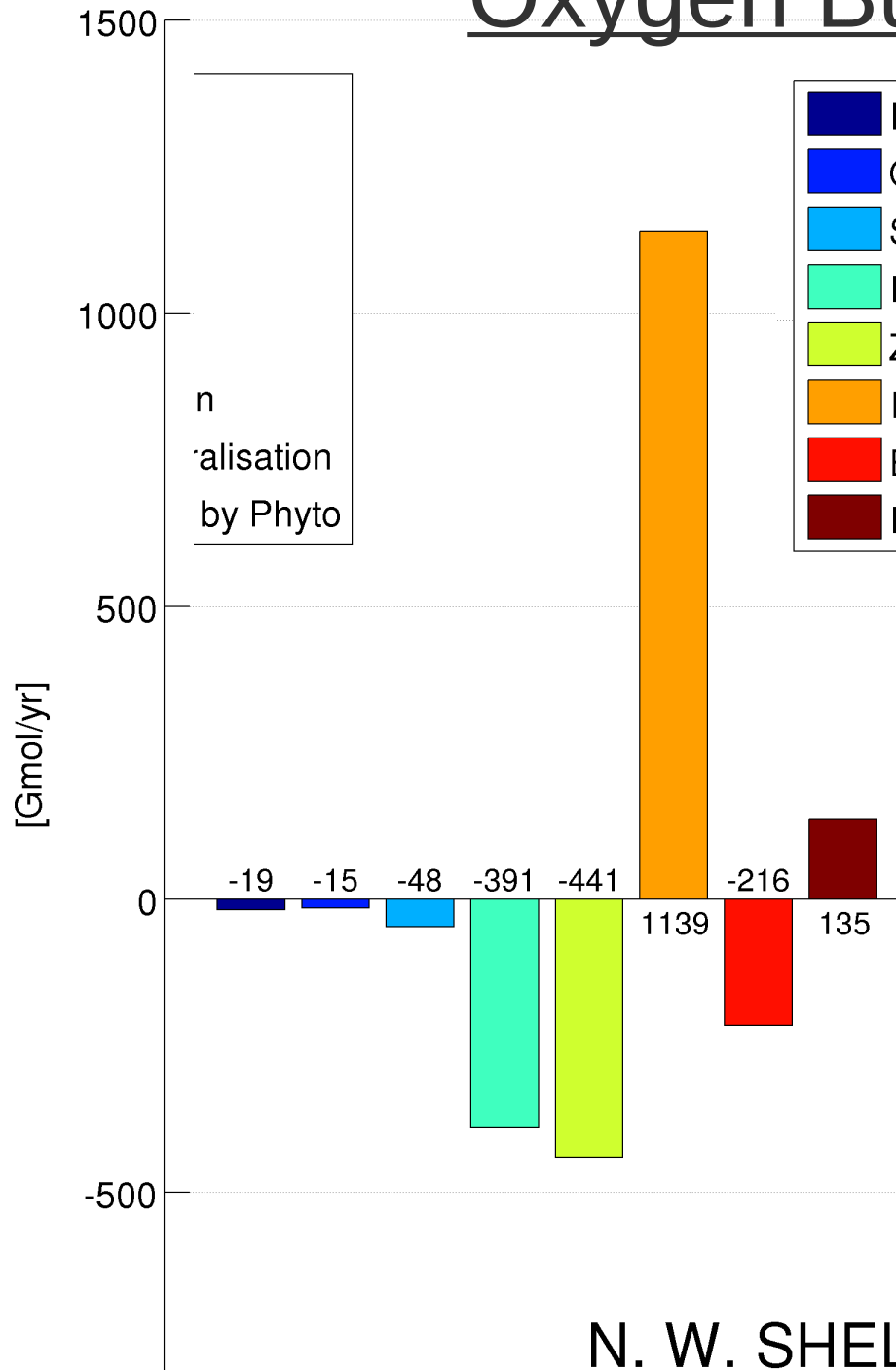


Y.Zaitsev , V. Mamaev,  
*Marine biological diversity in the Black  
Sea : A study of changes and decline*  
UN publication, 1997

Bottom Oxygen Concentration - [ $\mu\text{M}$ ]



# Oxygen Budget on the NWS

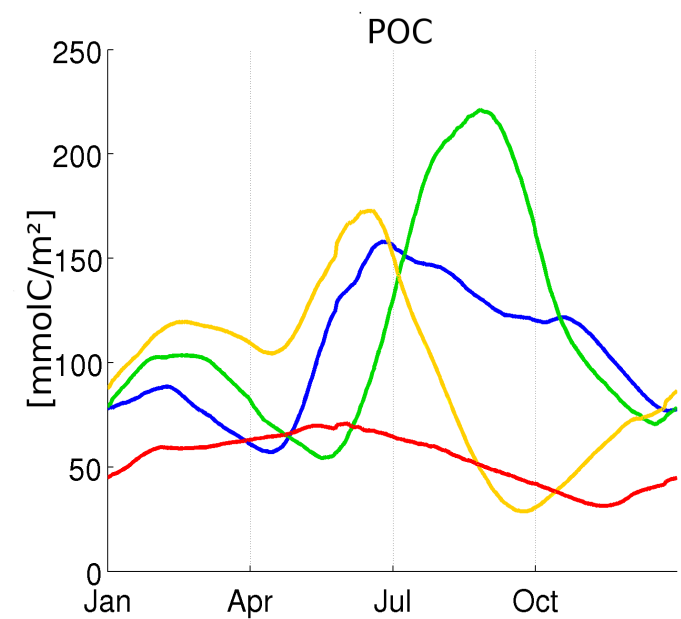
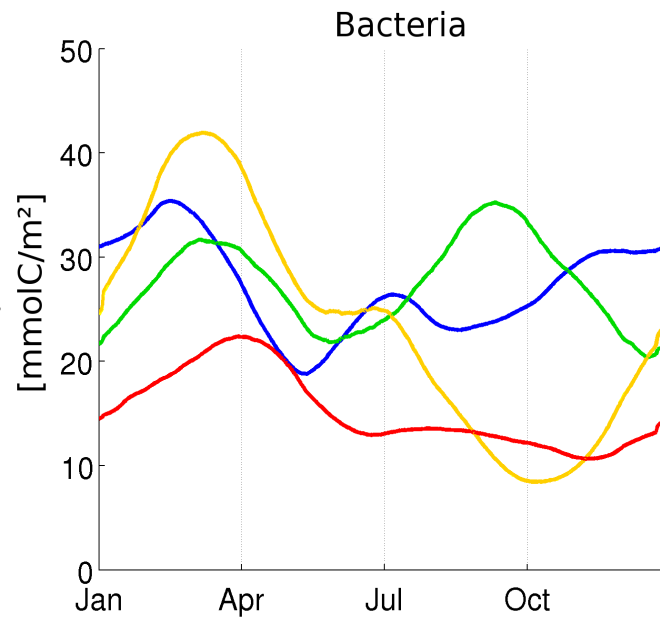
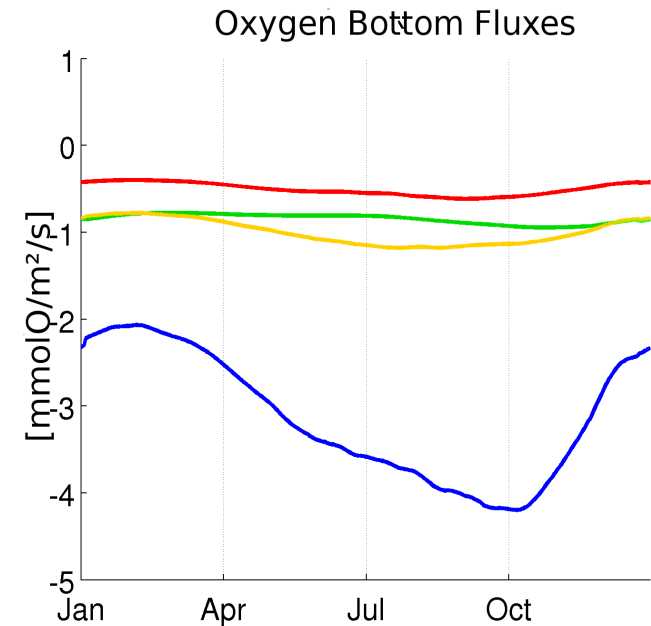
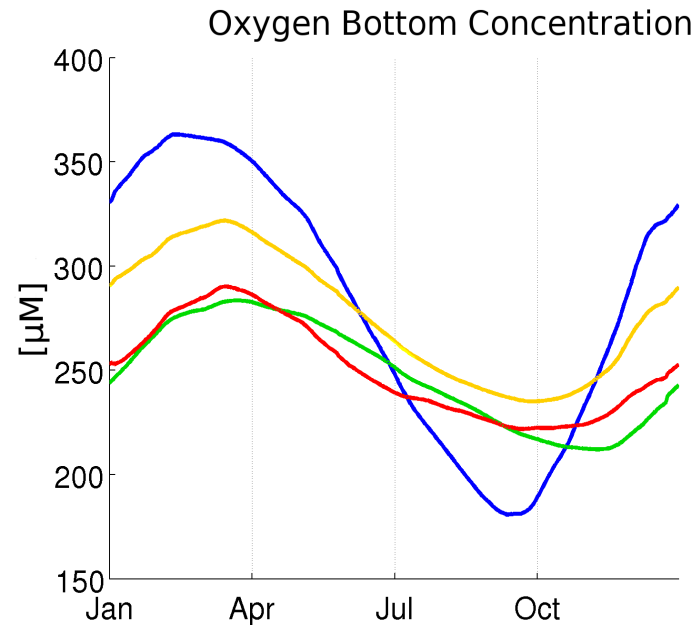
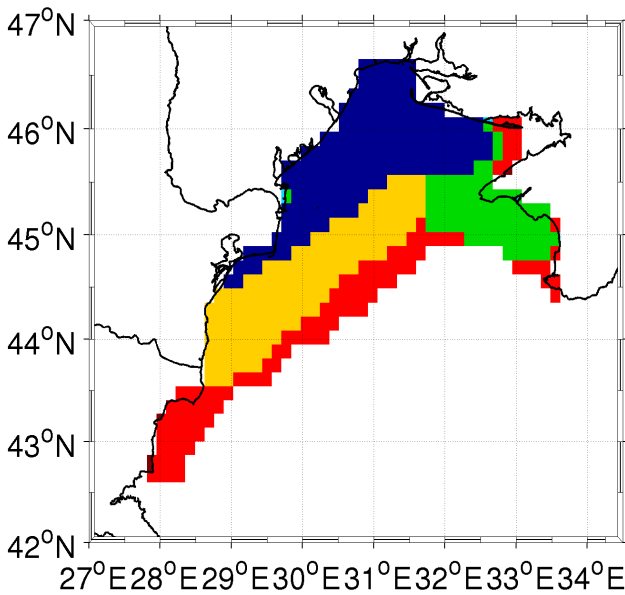


- Net autotrophic ecosystem -> export toward the open basin.

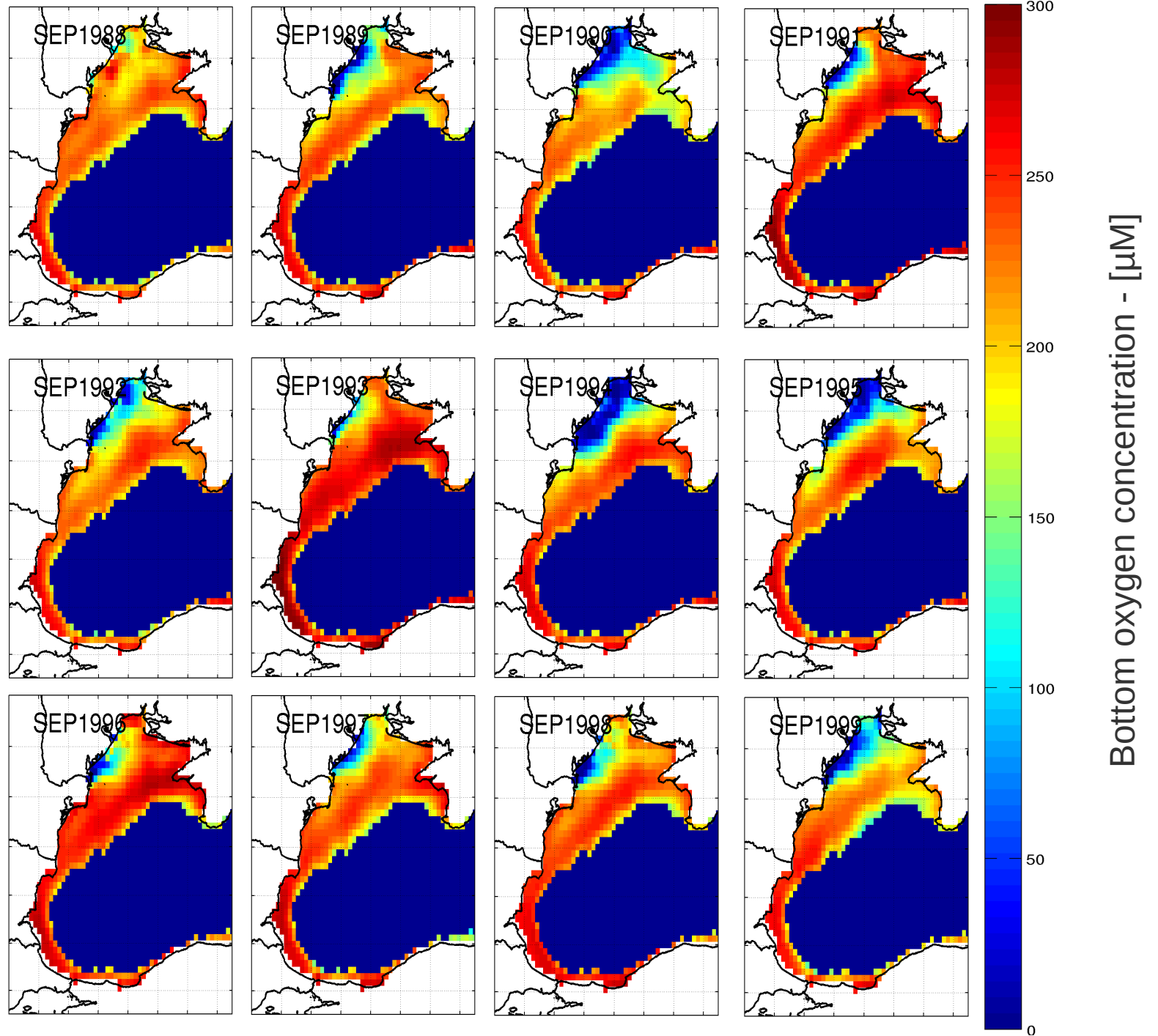
- Sediment consumption as high as Zooplankton respiration, and almost twice of pelagic remineralisation.

# Automatic regionalisation procedure ( Self Organizing Map [Allen 2007] )

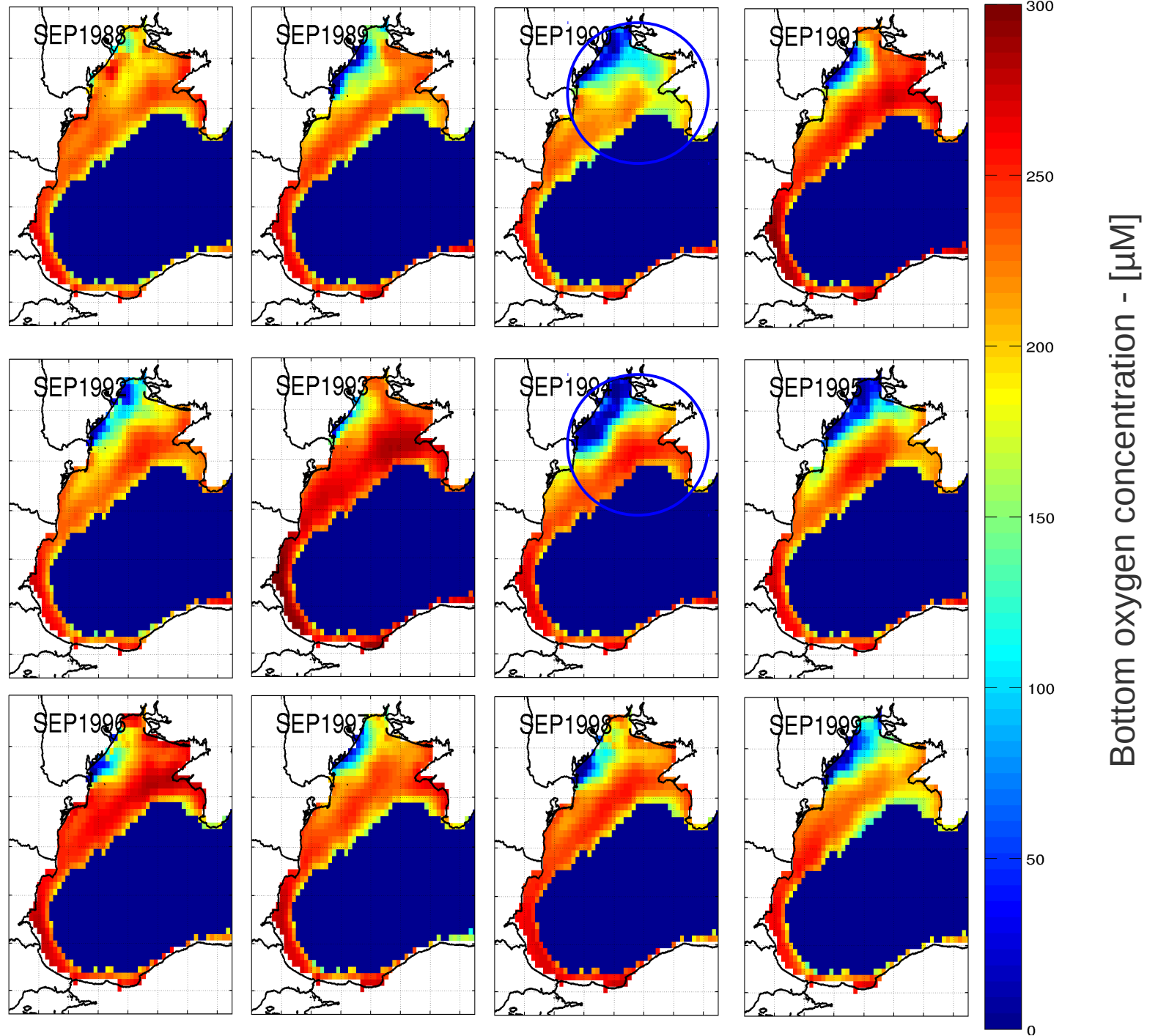
- NW corner bottom oxygen concentration, associated to benthic fluxes.
- Crimea zone is affected by POC accumulation,



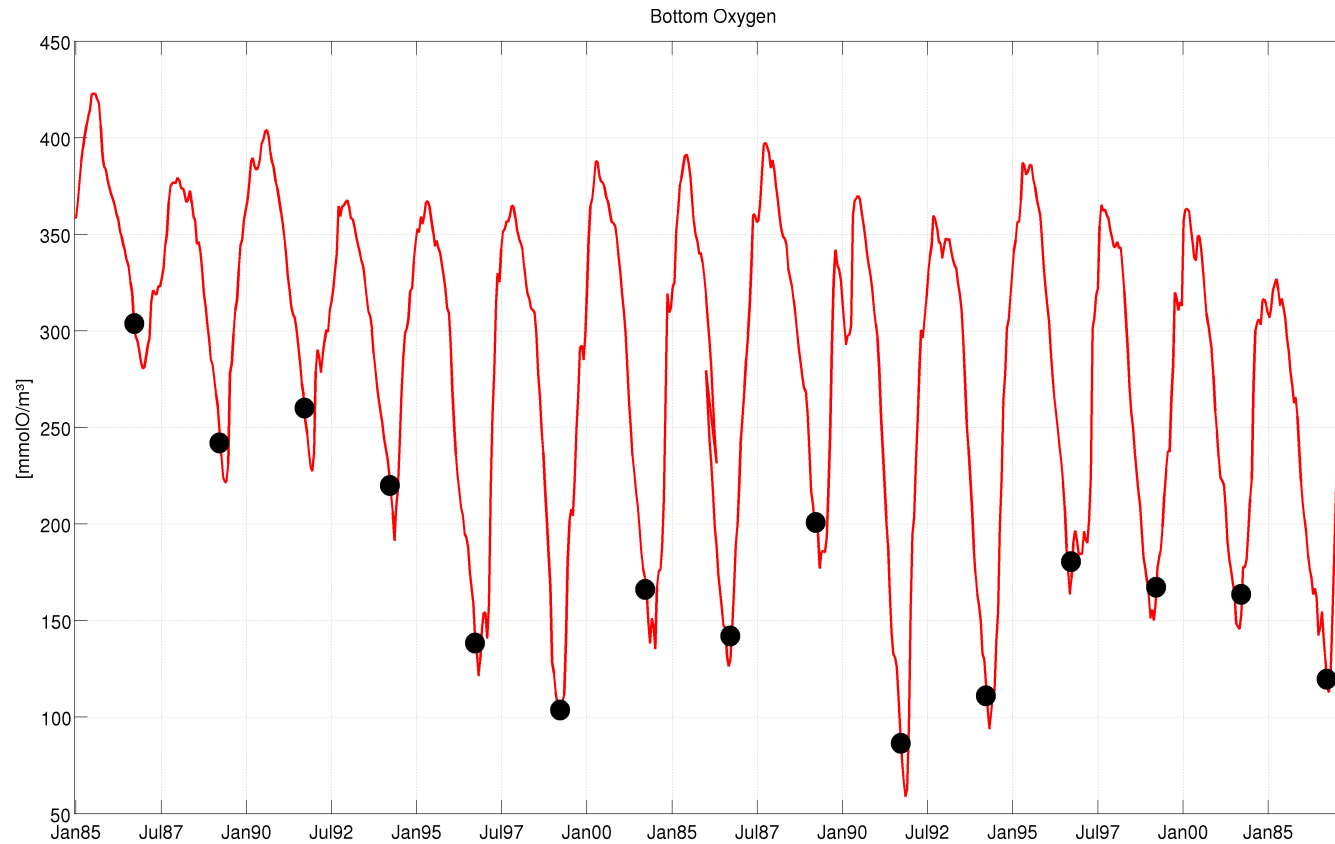
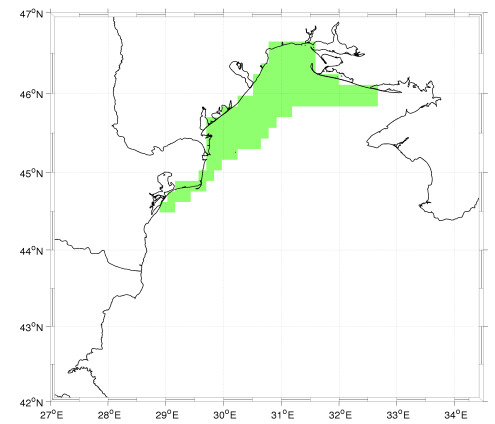
# Interannual variations



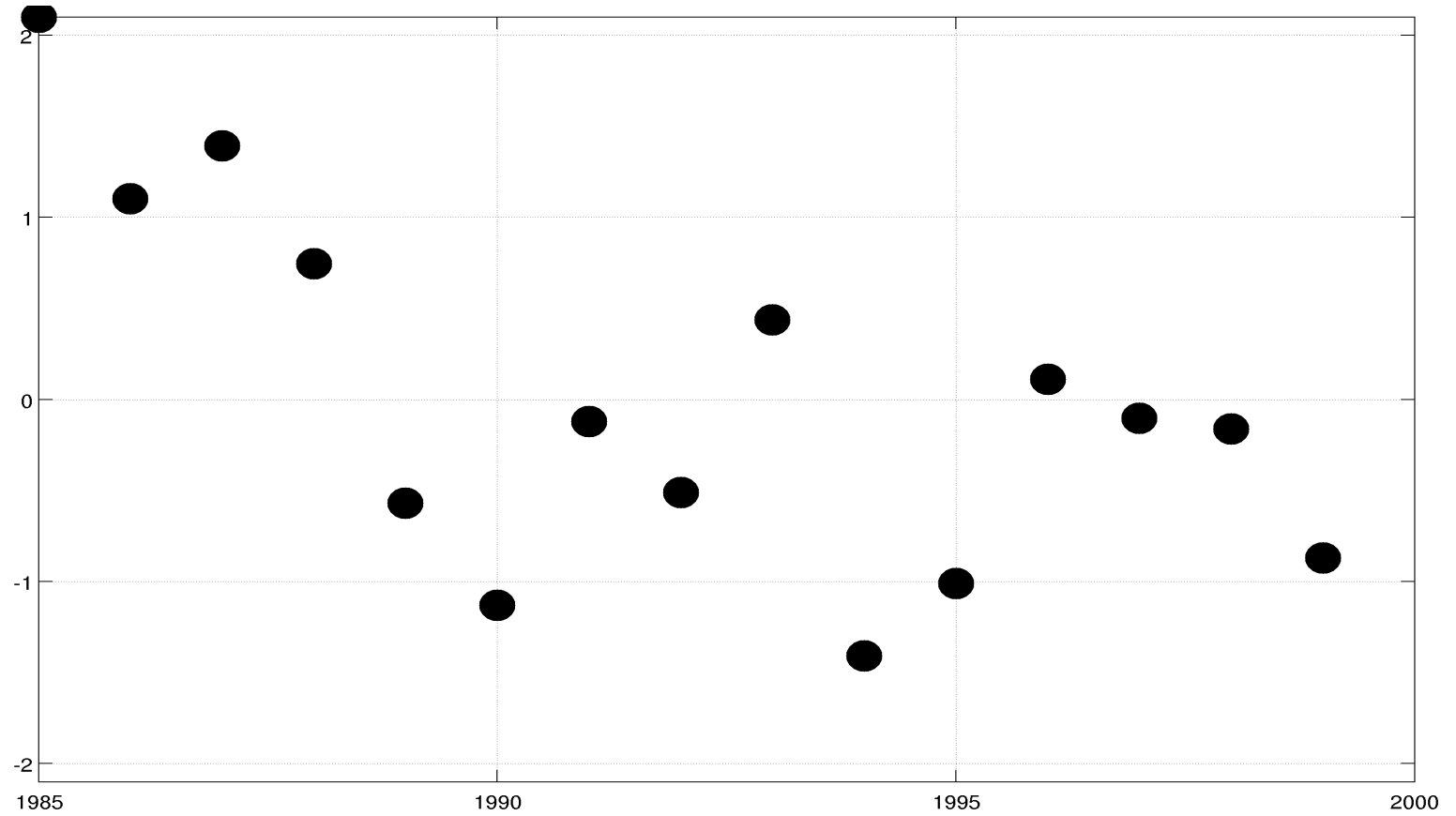
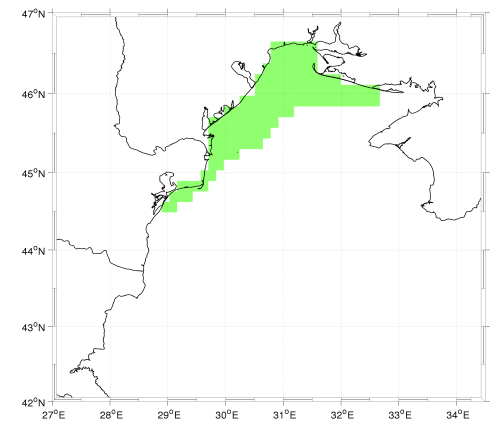
# Interannual variations



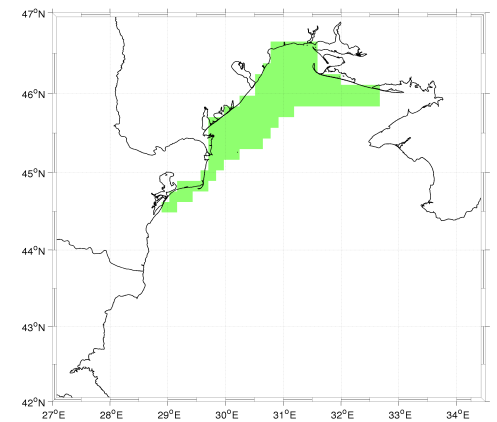
# Looking for drivers



# Looking for drivers



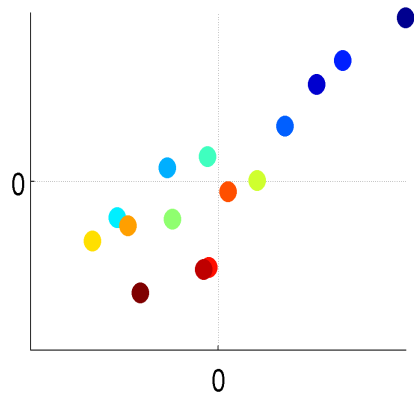
# Looking for drivers



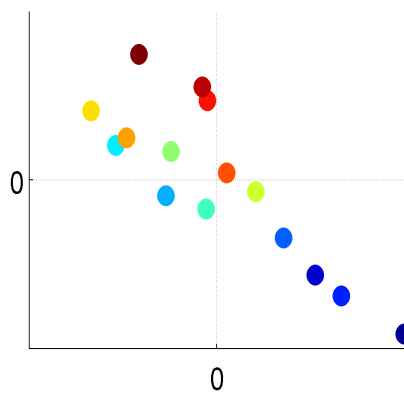
- Bottom Oxygen fluxes.
- Bottom ODU fluxes.
- Bottom Temperature.
- Integrated Chlorophyll content.
- Integrated Bacteria content.
- Integrated POC content.
- Sea surface temperature.
- Potential energy anomaly.
- Riverine water discharge.
- Riverine Nitrogen discharge.
- Riverine Phosphate discharge.



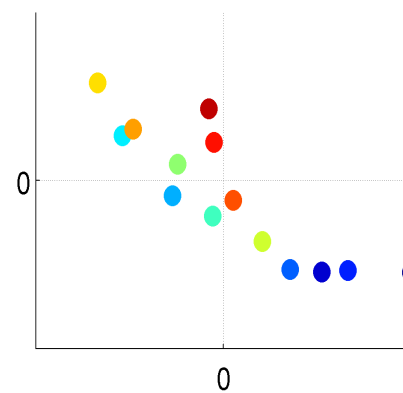
Oxygen bottom fluxes : 0.85



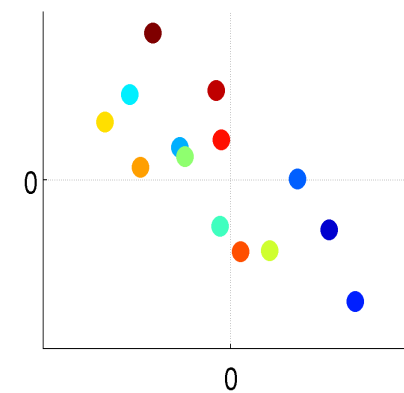
remineralised C sed : -0.85



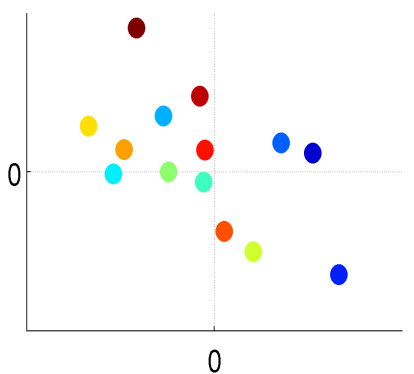
ODU bottom fluxes : -0.82



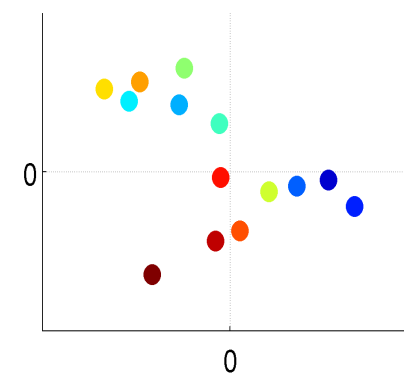
bottom TEM : -0.80



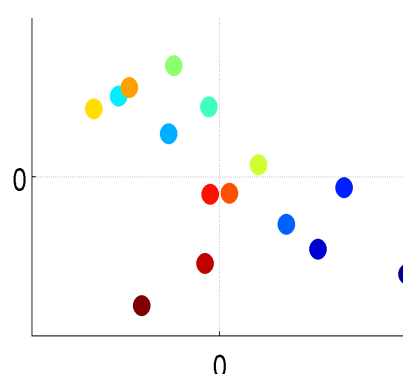
Surface TEM: -0.69



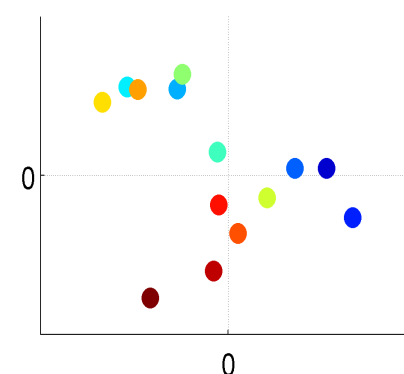
POC : -0.64



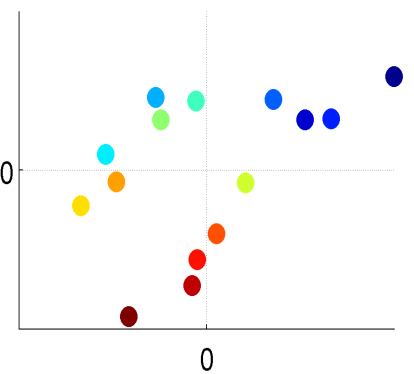
Bacteria : -0.54



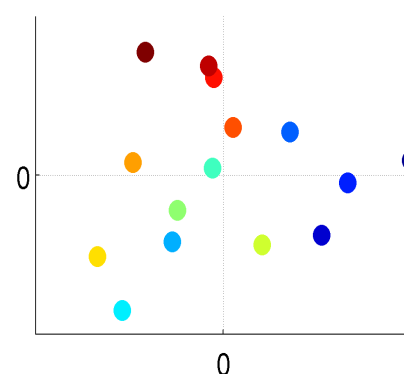
Chlorophyll: -0.51



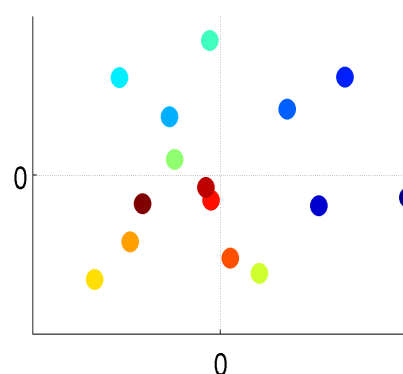
River nitrogen load : 0.46



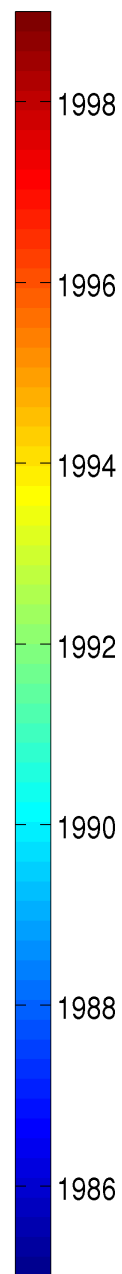
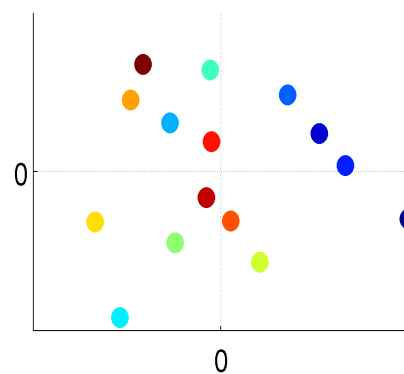
River water discharge : 0.13



River phosphate discharge : 0.12



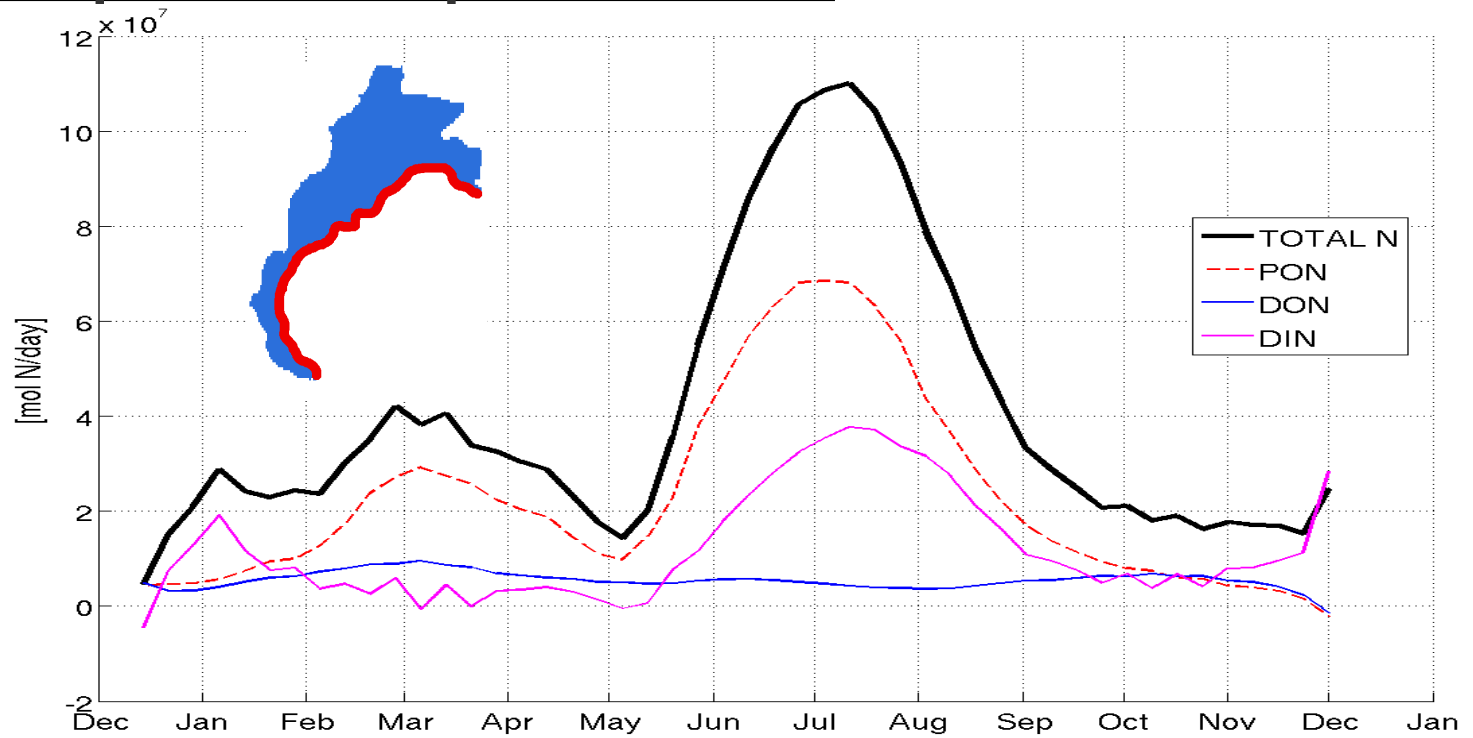
Potential energy anomaly : 0.03



# NWS : Conclusions

- Seasonal hypoxia events occur on the NWS with a peak in September.
- 2 zones are concerned (NW corner and Southwest Crimea) but for different causes.
- NW corner intensity of hypoxia depends on sediment process, linked to eutrophication but modulated by bottom temperature, and buffered by sediments hysteresis.
- Southwest Crimea is affected by POM accumulation and pelagic oxygen consumption.

# Export to open sea

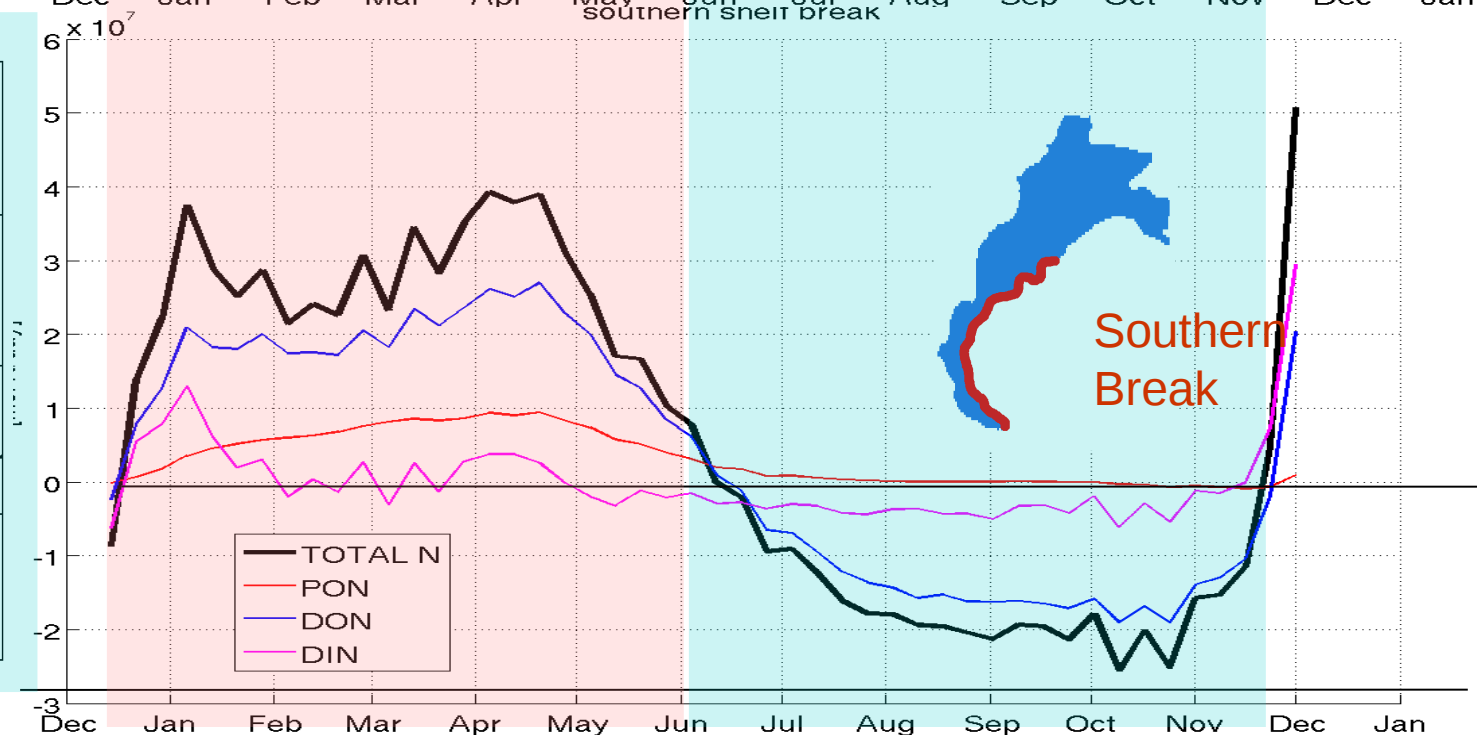
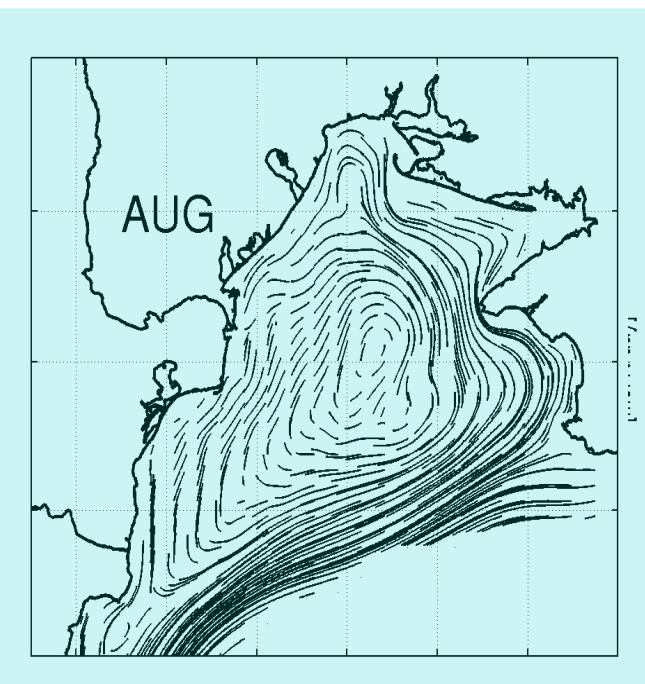
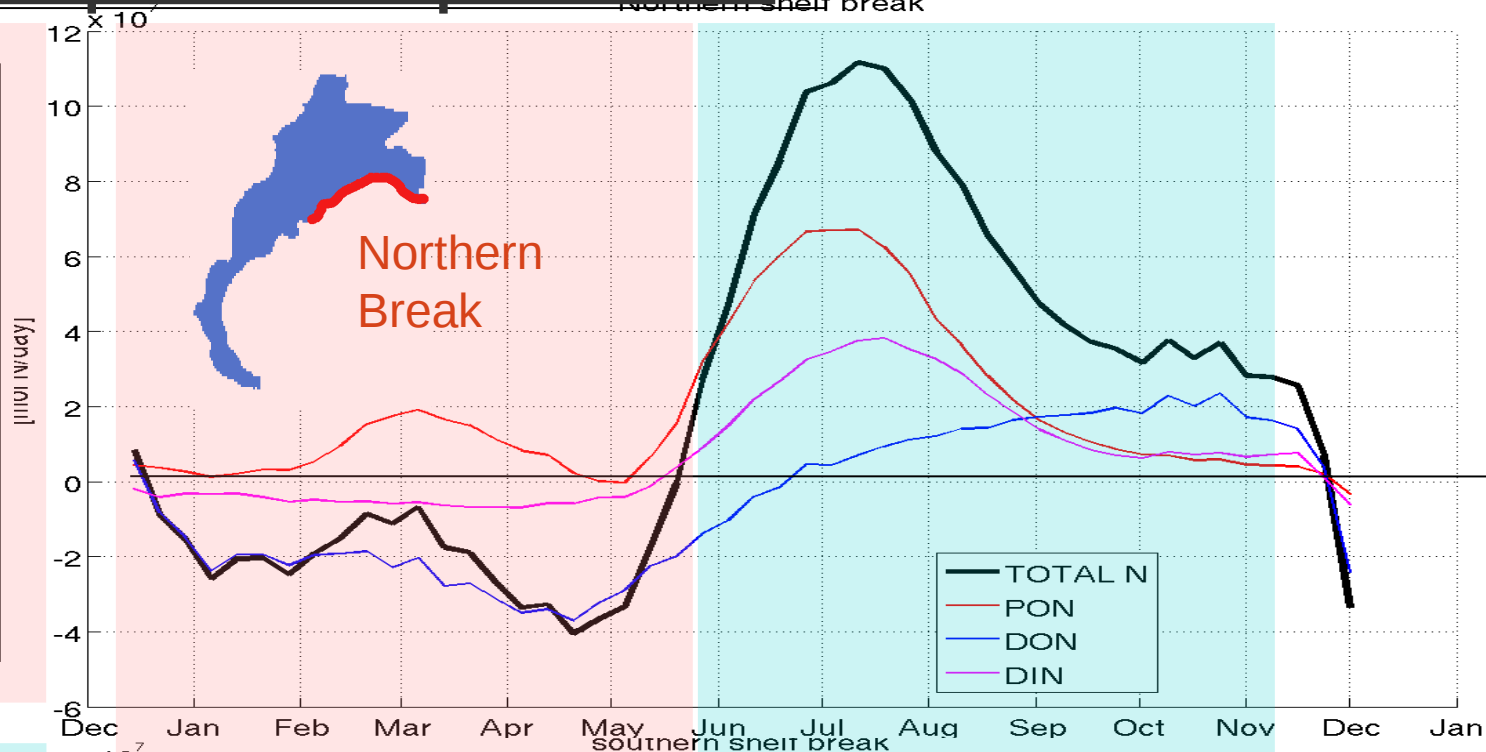
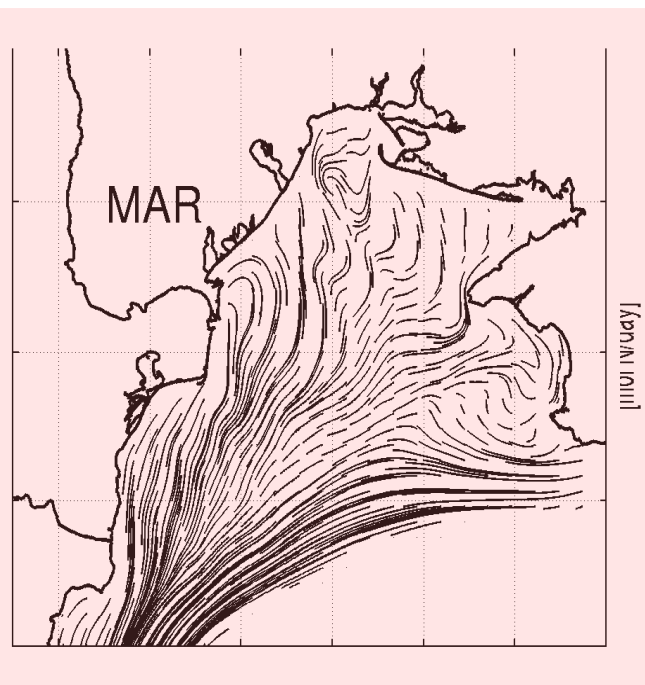


Integrated along the shelf break

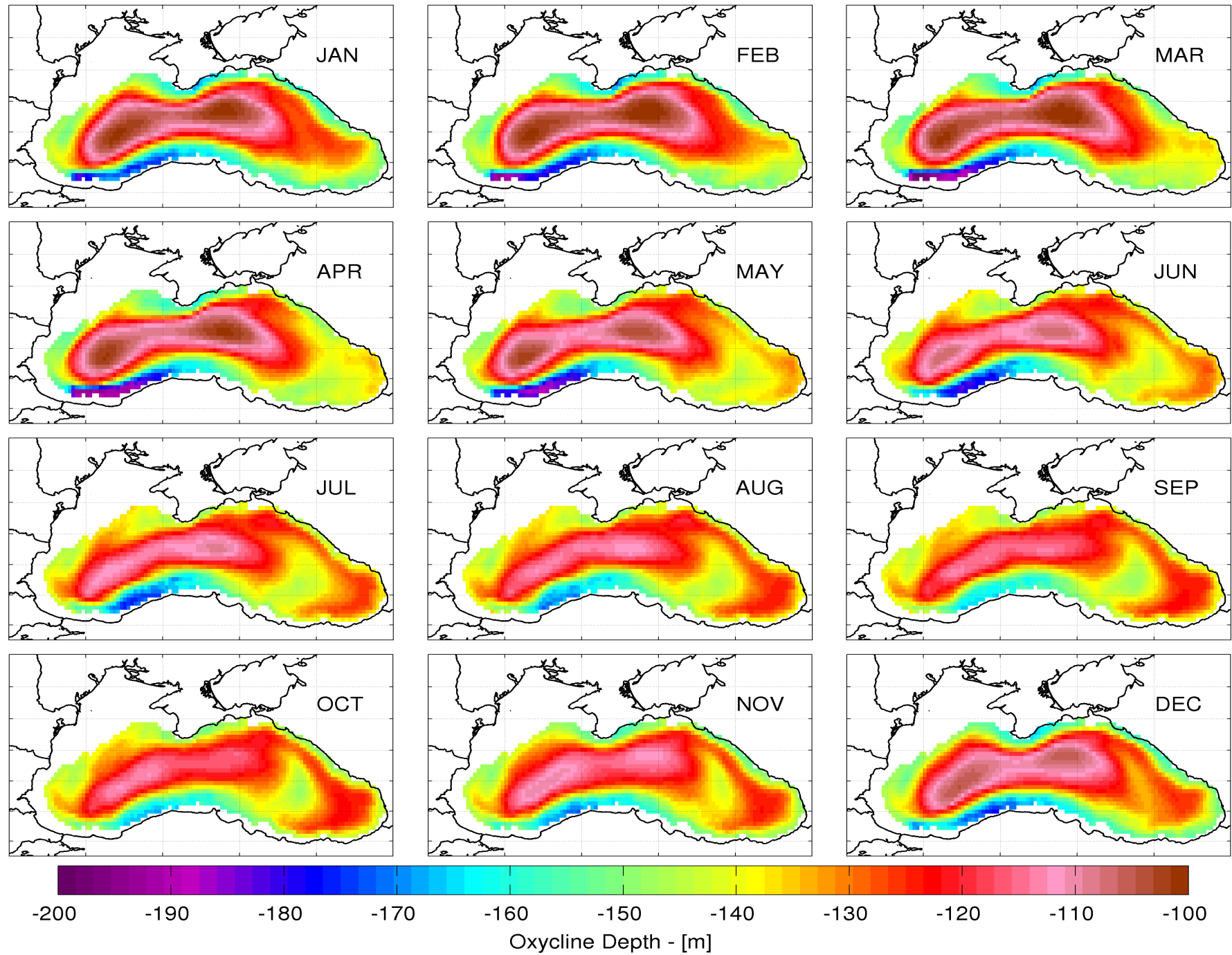
Detailed between PON DON and DIN.

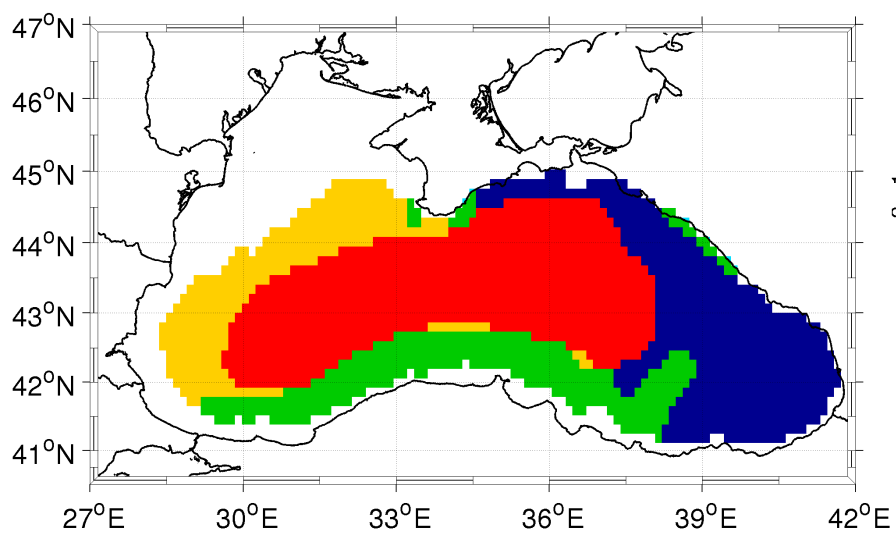
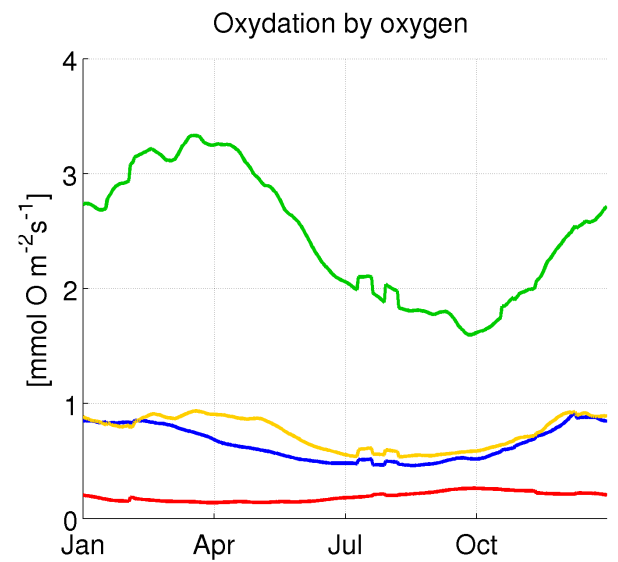
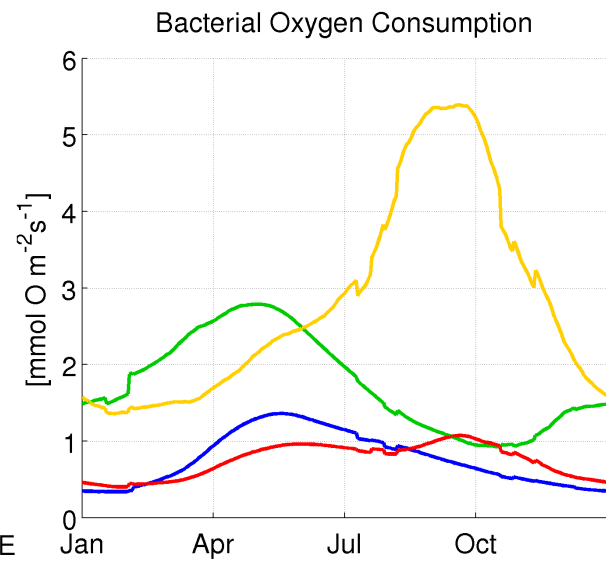
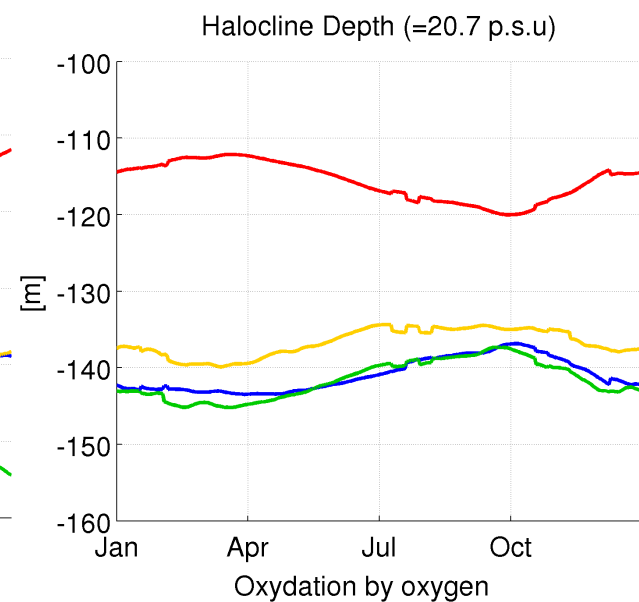
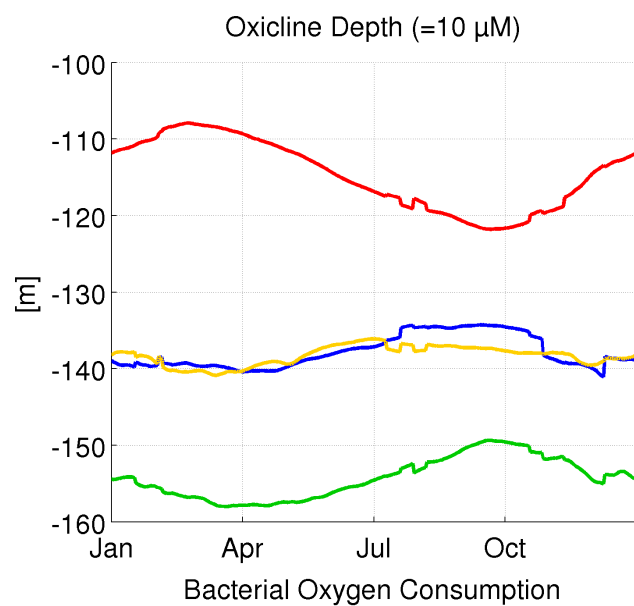
# Export to open sea

Northern shelf break



# Climatological seasonnality of Oxicline depth in the open basin

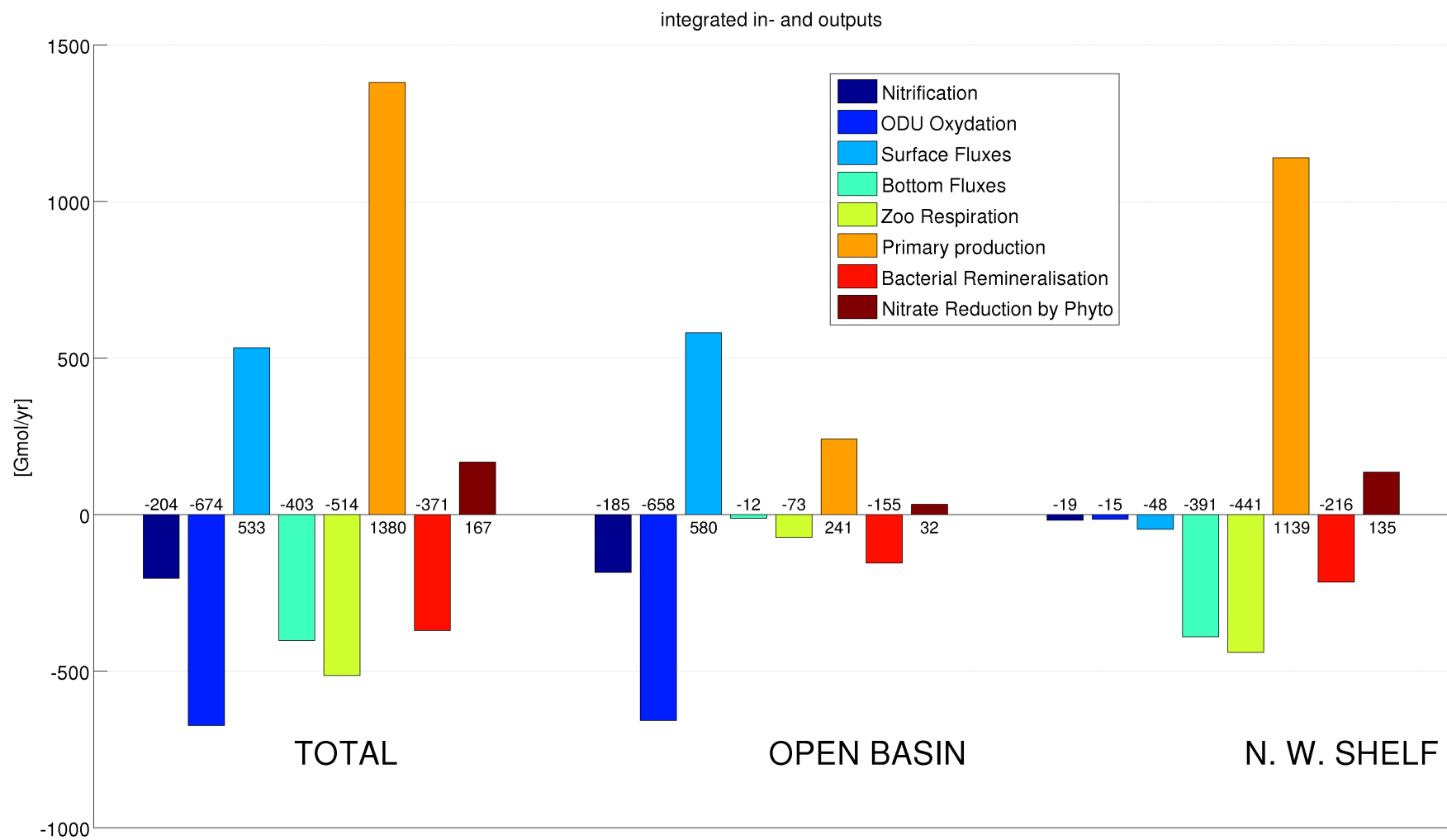




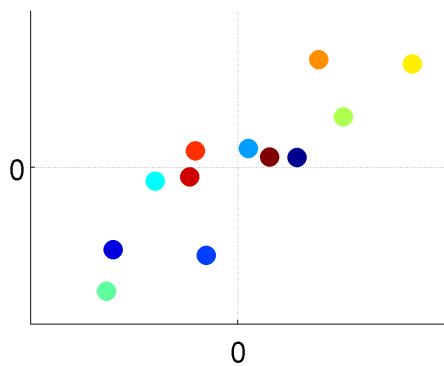
# Open basin : Conclusions

- Seasonal hypoxia events occur on the NWS with a peak in September.
- 2 zones are concerned (NW corner and Southwest Crimea) but for different causes.
- NW corner intensity of hypoxia depends on sediment process, linked to eutrophication but modulated by bottom temperature, and buffered by sediments hysteresis.
- Southwest Crimea is affected by POM accumulation and pelagic oxygen consumption.

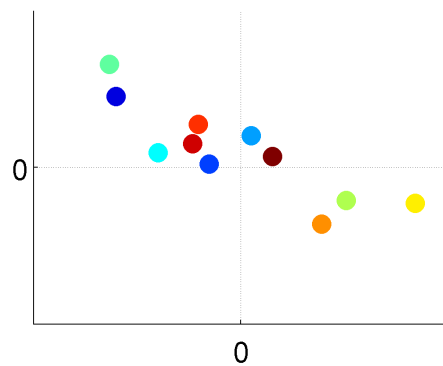




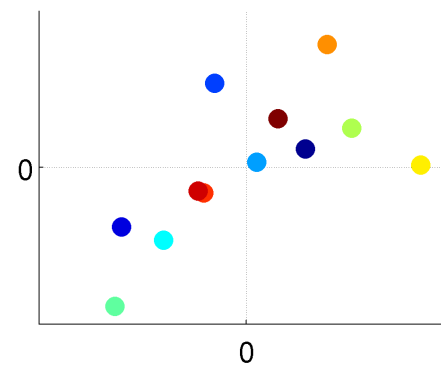
Circulation intensity : 0.86



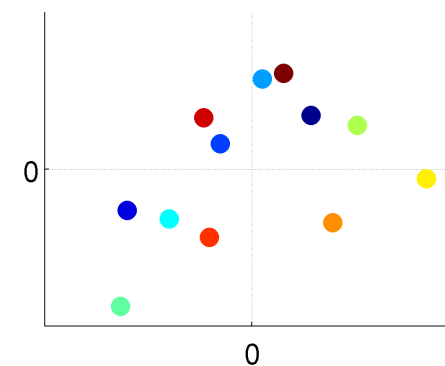
20.7-isohaline depth: -0.69



shelf oxygen content : 0.66



Shelf's river discharge : 0.44

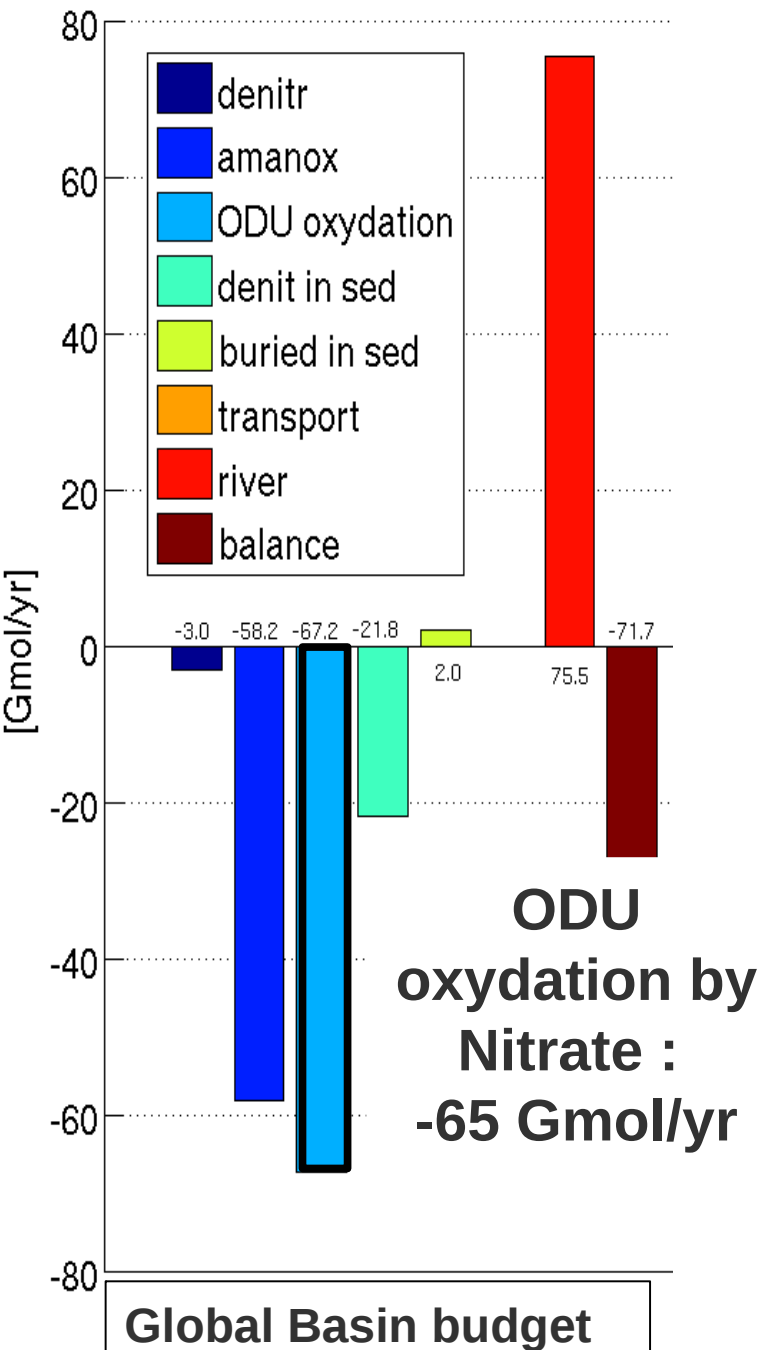




Thanks for your attention ...

*The Black Sea, P. Alechinsky*

# Nitrogen consumption in the suboxic layers



[Konovalov, 2006, *Deep-Sea Research II*]

~ 40 Gmol/yr for oxydation by Sulfide and manganese

~ 30 Gmol/yr for ANAMOX

[McCarthy, 2007, *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf science*]

~ 52 Gmol/yr for ANAMOX

Mainly resulting from Shelf's export entrained by the Bosphorus plume

