

Variability of the Black Sea hydrodynamics and biogeochemistry system.

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#### **Enviromental resources: marine Goods and Services**

> The capacity to deliver Goods and Services depend on Environmental status

#### **Goods and Services**

- Fisheries
- Biodiversity
- Tourism
- Carbon sequestration

• ... Environmental status

## **Physics**

Circulation and mixing of water masses.

#### **Goods and Services**

- Fisheries
- Biodiversity
- Tourism

. . .

Carbon sequestration

**Environmental status** 

• Hydrodynamics

### **Chemistry and Biology**

Cycles of the basic elements of life: Carbon, Nitrogen , Oxygen, Phosphorus, Silicate

Transport and transformation

- Inorganic (nutrients)
- Living (planktons)
- Detrital (dead cells, faeces)

#### **Goods and Services**

- Fisheries
- Biodiversity
- Tourism

...

Carbon sequestration

- Hydrodynamics
- Biogeochemistry

#### **Dynamic system**

→ Physical and biogeochemical characteristics are variables in Space and Time

Multi-decadal: from 1960 to present

**External forcings**:

- Atmospheric conditions
- Riverine inputs

#### **Goods and Services**

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- Tourism

•

Carbon sequestration

- Hydrodynamics
- Biogeochemistry

#### Pressure on Ecosystem

- Climate change
- Eutrophication
- Invasive species
- Fishing Pressure

...

Benthic habitat destruction



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# A computer software to reproduce the dynamics of the Black Sea ecosystem



### **3D mechanistic model**

#### Pressure on Ecosystem

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. . .

Benthic habitat destruction



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Benthic habitat destruction

#### **Goods and Services**

- Fisheries
- Biodiversity
- Tourism
- Carbon sequestration

### **Environmental status**

- Hydrodynamics
- Biogeochemistry

**Management tools & Environmental Policies** 

3D

Mode

## Outline

### **Hydrodynamics**

- Introduction: The Black Sea structure
  - Variability from observations: describe
  - Variability from model: resolve and explain

### **Biogeochemistry**

- Introduction: Hypoxia in the Northwestern shelf
  - Model requirements
  - Dynamics of hypoxia

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## A quasi enclosed basin The Bosphorus Strait





### → Large riverine inputs: fresh water and nutrients



 $\rightarrow$  Large riverine inputs: fresh water and nutrients

### Northwestern Shelf

- Shallow (<120 m)</li>
- Rich in nutrients
- Rich ecosystem



#### → Large riverine inputs: fresh water and nutrients



### → Large riverine inputs: fresh water and nutrients



→ Large riverine inputs: fresh water and nutrients

#### Northwestern Shelf

- Shallow
- Rich in nutrients
- High biodiversity

### Central basin

- Deep (>2000m)
- Poor in nutrients



## Circulation



## Circulation





## Circulation















→ No mixing between surface and deep waters. → No oxygen below 200 m



→ No mixing between surface and deep waters.
→ No oxygen below 200 m



Small active volume + Large influence Area = Sensitivity to changing external forcings

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## Vertical profiles → Diagnostics



#### Vertical profiles $\rightarrow$ Diagnostics $\rightarrow$ Spatial variability



**Mixed Layer Depth** 



#### Vertical profiles → Diagnostics → Spatial variability



**Mixed Layer Depth** 



#### Vertical profiles → Diagnostics → Spatial variability



Mixed Layer Depth





seasonal distribution


### Vertical profiles $\rightarrow$ Diagnostics $\rightarrow$ Spatial variability



Mixed Layer Depth



Correct the bias induced by uneven distribution



### Vertical profiles $\rightarrow$ Diagnostics $\rightarrow$ Spatial variability



### **DIVA detrending analysis**

Correct the bias induced by uneven distribution

→ Montlhy climatologies of MLD and CCC



### **Temporal variability**



### **Temporal variability**



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### To build a hydrodynamic model you need ...

- Domain: Bathymetry, open boundaries.
- State variables: Temp., Sal., Currents, Elevation, Internal turbulence
- Hydrodynamic equations
- External forcings: River flows, Atmospheric conditions



### Model experiment

# **Objective**: Relate the variability of the Black Sea structure to the variability of atmospheric conditions



Long term simulation with realistic forcings: 1960-2000

### **Model Diagnostics**

- Surface
  - Sea surface temperature (SST)
- Water column
  - Mixed layer depth (MLD)
  - Cold intermediate layer Cold content (CCC)
  - Mean kinetic energy (MKE)

### **Model Diagnostics**

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# Sea Surface Temperature anomalies Model VS Satellite (1985-2000)



### The model allows to go back in time



# SST respond to large teleconnection patterns with various temporal scales













### The model allows to go underwater



### CIL cold content : Model VS Profiles

# Vertical profiles (DIVA detrending)



### The model allows to go underwater



### **Rim Current intensity**

#### Kinetic energy





### Rim Current intensity

#### Kinetic energy





### **Atmospheric regimes**

### 38 years = 468 monthly anomalies classified in 6 patterns (Self Organizing Maps analysis)



107 months (23%) C:-0.06

59 months (13%) C:-0.10

T:-0.15









Air temperature anomaly - [°C]

C:0.09

T:0.61

-0.8 -0.6 -0.4 -0.2 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Ω (Capet et al. 2012, Deep-Sea Research II)

68 months (15%)

### Rim current & winds regime





Anti-Cyclonic patterns



### Rim current & winds regime







Anti-Cyclonic patterns







### Rim current & winds regime

### Cyclonic patterns

0

5

0





Anti-Cyclonic patterns

**Atmospheric Anomalies** 









How times the patterns appears in a two year ?





<sup>(</sup>Capet et al. 2012, Deep-Sea Research II)

## **Conclusions** (Hydrodynamics)

### Conclusions (Hydrodynamics) -1/3

- The 3D model reproduces the variability of hydrodynamics with accuracy.
  - Surface variability validated with satellite data.



Internal variability validated vith vertical profiles.



## Conclusions (Hydrodynamics) - 2/3

 The Rim current intensity regulates the sensitivity of the Black Sea structure to air temperature.



## Conclusions (Hydrodynamics) - 3/3

 The longer persistence of atmospheric anomalies brought the System further from its average state



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### What is hypoxia?



# Why does hypoxia occurs ?

(Capet et al. 2013, Biogeosciences)



#### (Capet et al. 2013, Biogeosciences)

### Seasonal Hypoxia

Oxygen exchange with Atmosphere



### Seasonal Hypoxia



(Capet et al. 2013, Biogeosciences)

### Seasonal Hypoxia in the BS-NWS







1978



1974







#### (Capet et al. 2013, Biogeosciences)
#### Recovery ?



#### **Oxygen records** (World ocean atlas, Seadatanet, Black Sea Comission data)

Hypoxic records (<62 mmol O/m<sup>3</sup>)



### Studying Hypoxia with a 3D model

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#### **36 State variables**





#### Biogeochemical role of the sediment layer



#### Biogeochemical role of the sediment layer



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Model validation

Does the model adequatly resolves ... the horizontal distribution the seasonal distribution the interannual distribution the vertical distribution the specific occurrence of hypoxia ... reflected by in situ observations? Model validation

Does the model adequatly resolves ... the horizontal distribution the seasonal distribution the interannual distribution the vertical distribution the specific occurrence of hypoxia ... reflected by in situ observations? Yes, yes, yes, yes and yes

#### Model Validation : Point-to-point

Merged by months  $\rightarrow$  validation of the seasonal cycle



#### Interannual Model-Data comparison



#### Interannual Model-Data comparison



#### Interannual Model-Data comparison



#### Interannual variability

#### The H-index

An Index to quantify the intensity of hypoxia as an environmental pressure on ecosystems

The H-index express the spatial extension of hypoxia..

.. modulated by the duration of hypoxia



#### Interannual variability of Hypoxia



#### Interannual variability of Hypoxia



What are the drivers of this interannual variability ?

#### Interannual variability of Hypoxia



# Can we exploit this knowledge for management purposes ?

#### Hypoxia response to N discharge



#### Hypoxia response to N discharge



These average atmospheric conditions are not valid anymore



#### Hypoxia response to N discharge







#### The cost of warming



Economical cost 24 % reduction of nutrient loads

## Conclusion (Hypoxia)

# Conclusion (Hypoxia) – 1/3

Hypoxia is still ongoing in the Black Sea NWS

Monitoring should be focused on the area, months and depth of known hypoxia occurence



## Conclusions (Hypoxia) – 2/3

# Hypoxia is intensified by year-to-year accumulation of organic matter in the sediments



Systems with decreasing N  $\rightarrow$  Inertia in the recovery process Systems with increasing N  $\rightarrow$  Increase of the H/N ratio

## Conclusion (Hypoxia) – 3/3

# Climate impacts almost as much as eutrophication.



Nutrient reduction policies must account for realistic climatic scenarios

### **General Conclusions**

 The physical model reproduces the variability of the Black Sea internal structure and allows to investigate its sensitivity to atmospheric conditions

 The biogeochemical model allowed us to untangle the complex dynamics of hypoxia and to evidence the specific impact of its main drivers
#### **General Conclusions**

- 3D biogeochemical models are essential to understand to complex dynamics of marine ecosystems, in which physical, chemical and biological processes are intimately interconnected
- As such these models are indispensable to allows a sustainable management of the goods and services provided by marine ecosystems and to assess to which extent these are endangered by the synergestic impacts of environmental pressures.

#### Thank you for your attention ... and questions !

#### SST anomalies Model VS Satellite (1985-2000)











#### T and S profiles: Central Basin







#### Nitracline in the open basin



# Role of the sediments layer in biogeochemical budgets on the shelf





#### **Deposition Interval**

Time during wich bottom stress is generally lower than the resupsension thresold



#### **Benthic environmental conditions**







#### Validation in the Open basin : Oxygen, Nitrate



#### Validation in the Open basin : Oxygen Temporal





#### Interannual variability of Hypoxia

(1) High nitrogen riverine discharge enhance the influx of organic matter to bottom waters (2) High sedimentary organic carbon content enhances the benthic oxygen consumption.

(3) Warm springs

reduce the ventilation and set summer bottom temperature. (4) Warm summers

extend the duration of the stratified period.



![](_page_126_Figure_0.jpeg)

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#### Model Validation : Point-to-point

![](_page_127_Figure_1.jpeg)

$$D = \frac{1}{\max A(t)} \int_{year} A(t) dt, \qquad \qquad H = \frac{1}{\overline{D}} \int_{year} A(t) dt,$$

![](_page_128_Figure_1.jpeg)

$$D = \frac{1}{\max A(t)} \int_{year} A(t) dt, \qquad \qquad H = \frac{1}{\overline{D}} \int_{year} A(t) dt,$$

![](_page_129_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Recovery ?

![](_page_130_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_130_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Recovery ?

![](_page_131_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_131_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **Benthic Model**

#### **Benthic remineralisation** Remineralised content (in mmolC/m<sup>2</sup>/s) **Resuspension** sedimenting variables = [fast C stock] . $K_{fC}$ . $f(T^{\circ})$ in particulate form (POM, Diatoms) + [slow C stock] . $K_{sc}$ . f(T°) due to bottom stress $W_{POC}$ is given by Calibrated functions compute from from currents and Cmin and Nmin, the fluxes of **Oxygen**, aggregation model (mainly) waves. ODU, DIC, Ammonium, Nitrate, Silicate, according to benthic conditions Fast remin. C stock Slow Slow remin. S Stock 2D Sed. remin Fast Variables remin. N/C ratio

#### Application : dynamique de l'hypoxie sur le plateau continental Nord Ouest

![](_page_133_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_134_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_135_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Oxygen solubility

![](_page_136_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_137_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### The case of Hypoxia

![](_page_138_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Organic matter accumulates in the sediments

$$C(y+1) = C(y)(1 - \beta(y)) + \alpha(y) \cdot N(y)$$
(8)

$$\beta(\mathbf{y}) = \beta_0 \cdot Q^{T_s^*(\mathbf{y})} \tag{9}$$

$$\alpha(y) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_{\mathrm{Si}:\,\mathrm{N}} \cdot (\mathrm{Si}(y) : \mathrm{N}(y)) \tag{10}$$

![](_page_139_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_140_Picture_0.jpeg)

## l prilebom bne-ot-bne : ? txell