



# *An Integrated Ocean Environmental Prediction System: Implementation and Examples*

Ruoying He<sup>1</sup>, John Warner<sup>2</sup>

Joe Zambon<sup>1</sup>, Maitane Olabarrieta<sup>2</sup>, George Xue<sup>1</sup>  
Jill Nelson<sup>1</sup>, Brandy Armstrong<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>. Dept. of Marine, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences  
North Carolina State University

<sup>2</sup>. US Geological Survey  
Woods Hole, MA

# COAWST

Coupled Ocean– Atmosphere – Wave – Sediment Transport  
Modeling System to investigate variability of coastal  
environments.

**C** = Coupled

**O** = Ocean

**A** = Atmosphere

**W** = Wave

**ST** = Sediment Transport

**Modeling System**

**MCT**  
v 2.6.0

<http://www-unix.mcs.anl.gov/mct/>

**ROMS**  
svn 455

<http://www.myroms.org/>

**WRF**  
v 3.2.1

<http://www.wrf-model.org/>

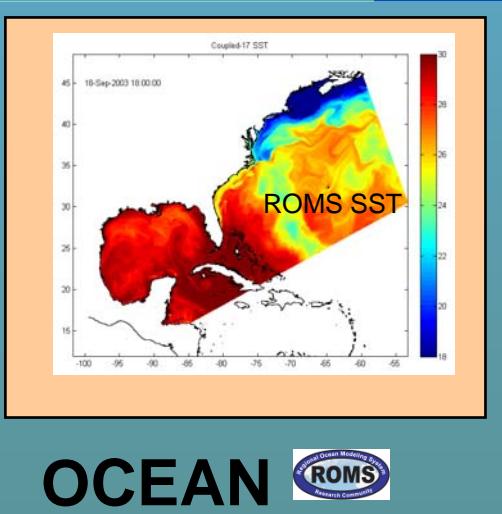
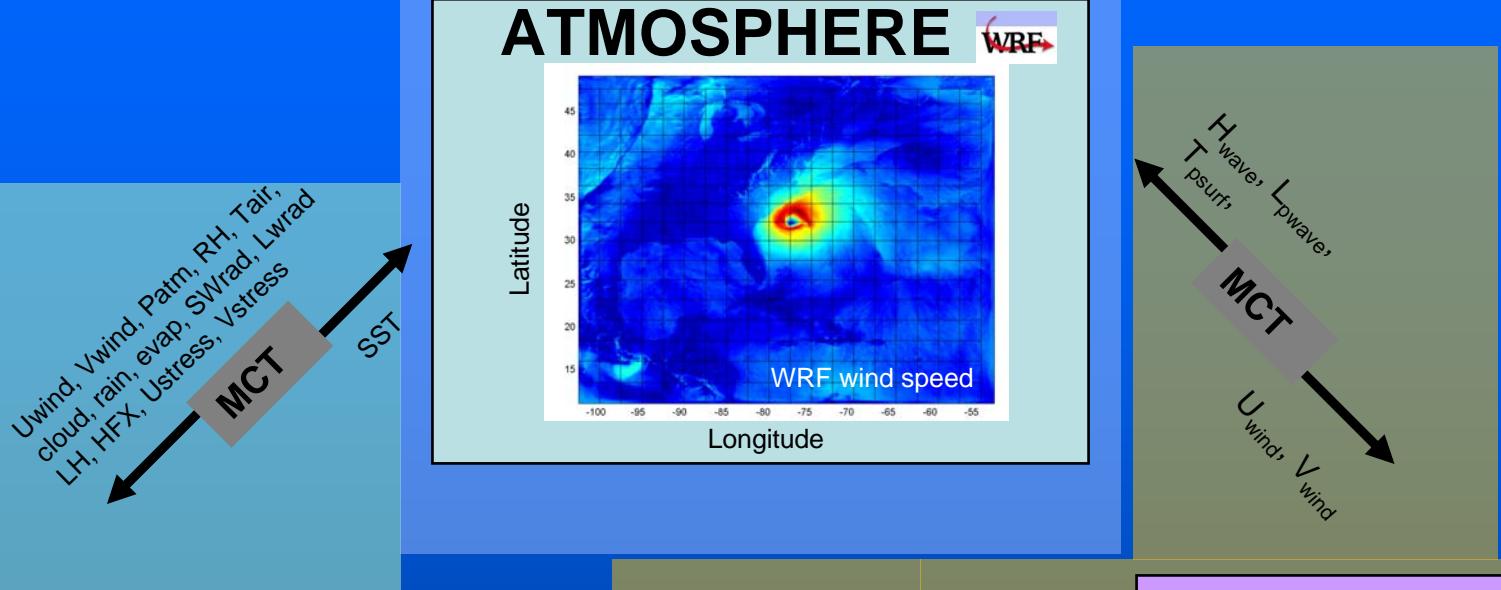
**SWAN**  
v 40.81

<http://vlm089.citg.tudelft.nl/swan>

**CSTMS**

[http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/project-  
pages/sediment-transport/](http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/project-pages/sediment-transport/)

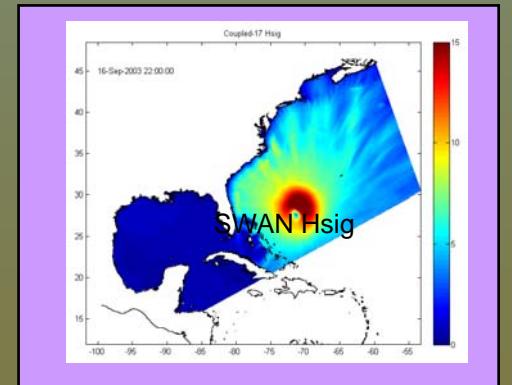




$H_{wave}$ ,  $L_{wave}$ ,  $L_{psurf}$ ,  $D_{wave}$ ,  
 $T_{psurf}$ ,  $T_{mbott}$ ,  $Q_b$ ,  
 $Diss_{bot}$ ,  $Diss_{surf}$ ,  $Diss_{wcap}$ ,  
 $U_{bot}$

**MCT**

$u_s$ ,  $v_s$ ,  $\eta$ , bath,  $Z_0$



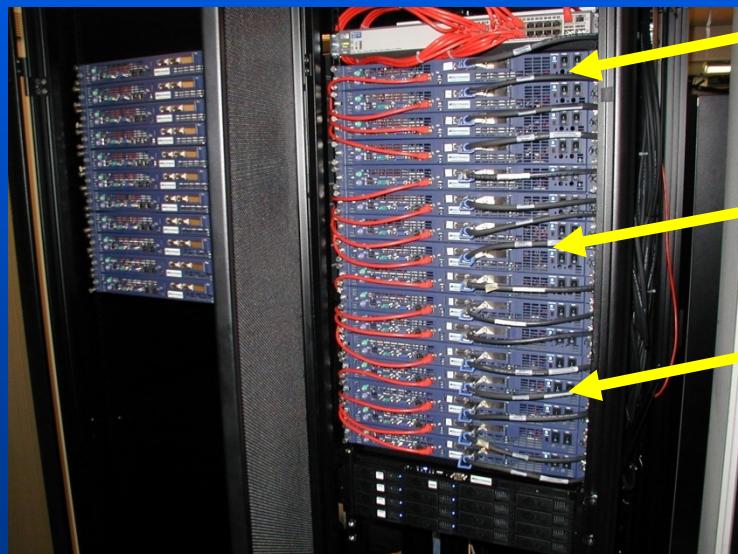
# Coupled Modeling System

## Model Coupling Toolkit

Mathematics and Computer Science Division Argonne National Laboratory  
<http://www-unix.mcs.anl.gov/mct/>

MCT is an open-source package that provides MPI based communications between all nodes of a distributed memory modeling component system.

Download and compile as libraries that are linked to.



Model A running on M nodes.

Model B running on N nodes.

Model C .....

.....



MCT provides communications between all models.

(it also works here)

Warner, J.C., Perlin, N., and Skillingstad, E. (2008). Using the Model Coupling Toolkit to couple earth system models. Environmental Modeling and Software



# ATM Impact on OCN

#define ATM2OCN\_FLUXES

Use momentum +  
heat fluxes computed  
in WRF for both  
ROMS+WRF



Ustress, Vstress,  
Swrad, Lwrad  
LH, HFX

or

#define BULK\_FLUXES

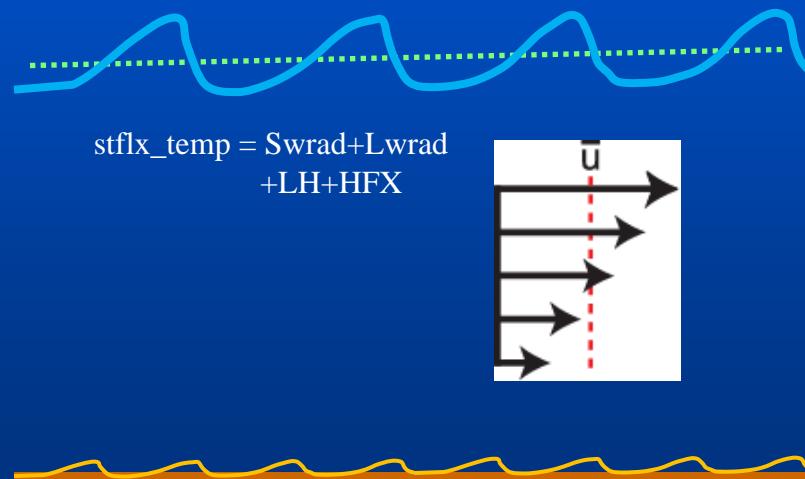
Use wrf vars in  
COARE algorithm



Uwind, Vwind  
Swrad, Lwrad,  
RH, Tair, cloud

LH + HFX computed in  
bulk\_fluxes

$$\text{stflux\_temp} = \text{Swrad} + \text{Lwrad} + \text{LH} + \text{HFX}$$



Salt flux

#define EMINUSP



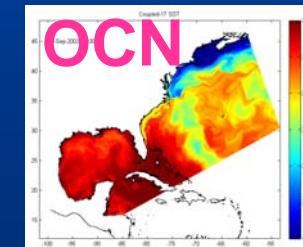
rain,  
evap

$$\text{stflux\_salt} = \text{evap} - \text{rain}$$

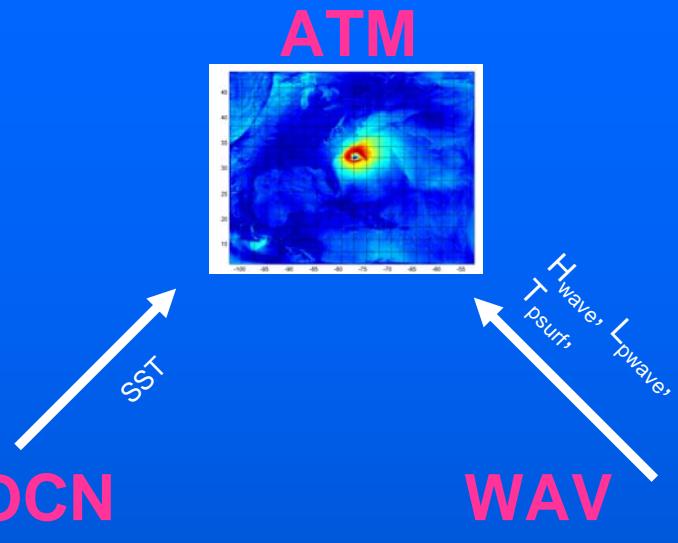
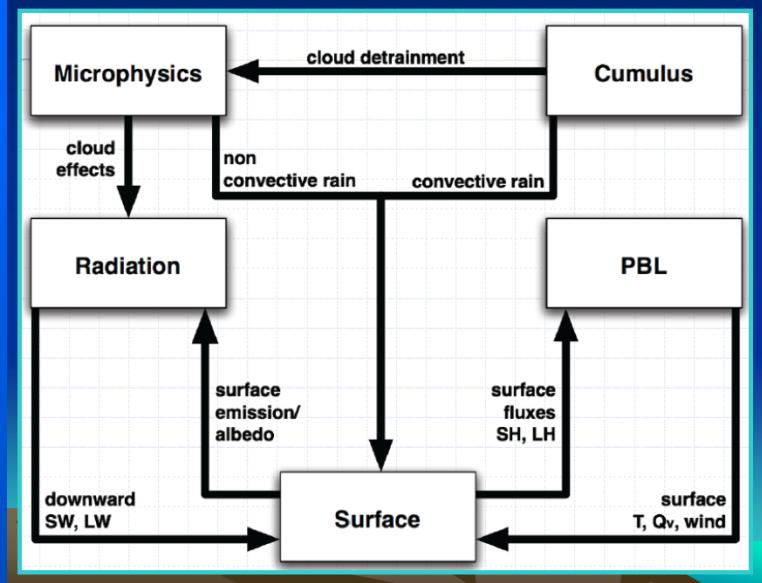
#define ATM\_PRESS - Patm



ATM  
Uwind, Vwind, Patm, RH, Tair,  
cloud, rain, evap, Swrad, Lwrad  
LH, HFX, Ustress, Vstress



# OCN & WAV Impact on ATM



Surface fluxes

- Momentum
- Heat
- Moisture

$$\begin{aligned} F_m &= C_m |\vec{V}_{SL}|^2, \\ F_h &= \rho_1 c_p C_{hq} (\theta_{sk} - \theta_1), \\ F_q &= \rho_1 L C_{hq} M (q_{vsk} - q_{v1}). \end{aligned}$$

$$|\vec{V}_{SL}|^2 = u^2 + v^2$$

$C_m$  is the exchange coefficient for momentum and is expressed as

$$C_m = \frac{u_*^2}{|\vec{V}_{SL}|^2}.$$

$C_{hq}$  is the exchange coefficient valid for both heat and water vapor as

$$C_{hq} = u_* \kappa \left[ \psi_h \left( \frac{z}{L_{MO}} \right) - \psi_h \left( \frac{z_{0T}}{L_{MO}} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{z}{z_{0T}} \right) \right]^{-1},$$

$u_*$  is the friction velocity and is expressed as

$$u_* = \kappa |\vec{V}_{SL}| \left[ \psi_m \left( \frac{z}{L_{MO}} \right) - \psi_m \left( \frac{z_{0m}}{L_{MO}} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{z}{z_{0m}} \right) \right]^{-1}$$

$$z_{0m} = f(H_{wave}, L_{pwave}, T_{psurf})$$

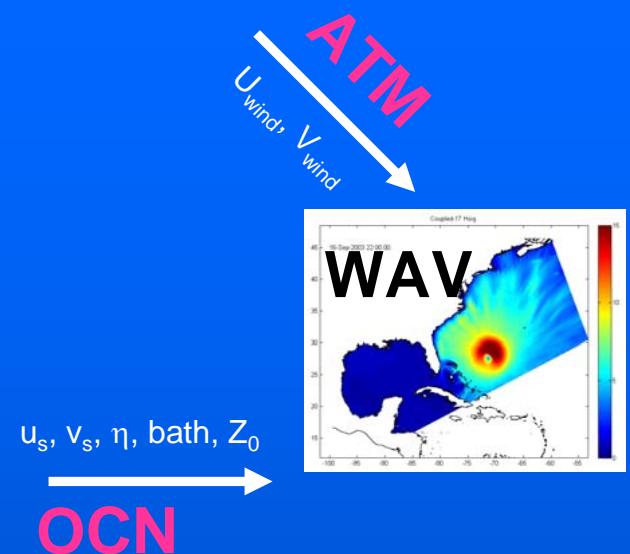
**WAV**

# ATM & OCN impact on WAV

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial c_x N}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial c_y N}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial c_\sigma N}{\partial \sigma} + \frac{\partial c_\theta N}{\partial \theta} = \frac{S_w}{\sigma}$$

1) **Generation** – wind speed forcing is modified by ocean currents:

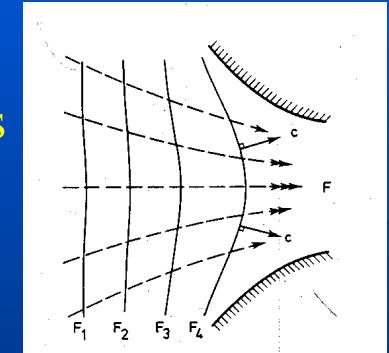
$$S(w) = f(U_{wind} - u_s ; V_{wind} - v_s)$$



## 2) Propagation

– wave celerity in geographic space is modified by ocean currents

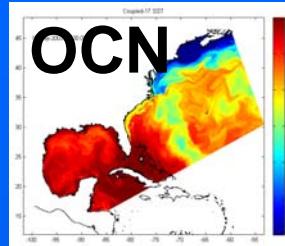
$$c_x = c_{gx} + u_s ; c_y = c_{gy} + v_s$$



– wave celerity in frequency and direction spaces are dependent on η, bathy, and currents

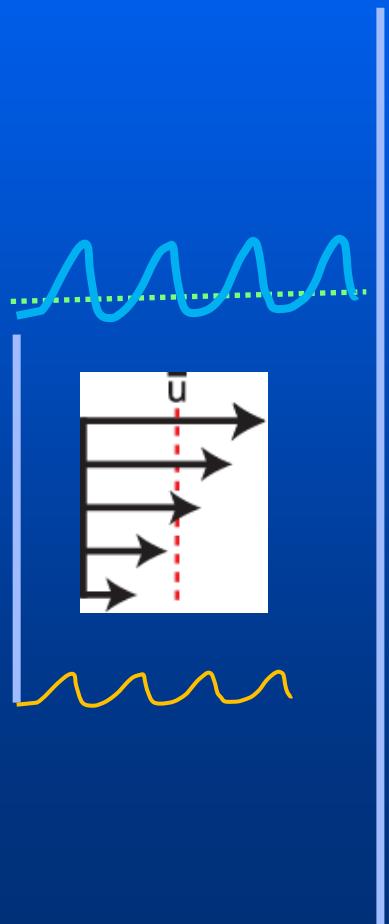
$$C_{g,\theta} = \frac{\sigma}{\sinh(2kh)} \left( \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \sin \theta - \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \cos \theta \right) + \cos \theta \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \sin \theta - \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \cos \theta \right) + \sin \theta \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \sin \theta - \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \cos \theta \right)$$

# WAV impact on OCN



$H_{wave}$ ,  $L_{mwave}$ ,  $L_{pwave}$ ,  $D_{wave}$ ,  
 $T_{psurf}$ ,  $T_{mbott}$ ,  $Q_b$ ,  
 $Diss_{bot}$ ,  $Diss_{surf}$ ,  $Diss_{wcap}$ ,  
 $U_{bot}$

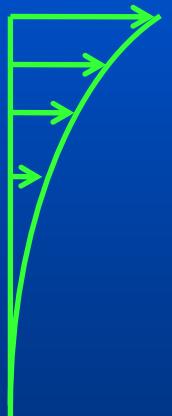
**WAVE**



#define WEC\_VF

Water column

Stokes + VF



$H_{wave}$ ,  $L_{mwave}$ ,  $D_{wave}$ ,  
 $T_{psurf}$ ,  $Q_b$ ,  
 $Diss_{bot}$ ,  $Diss_{surf}$ ,  
 $Diss_{wcap}$ ,

#define CRAIG\_BANNER  
#define CHARNOK  
or  
#define ZOS\_HSIG  
#define TKE\_WAVEDISS

Surface tke flux

$H_{wave}$ ,  $L_{pwave}$ ,  
 $D_{wave}$ ,  $T_{psurf}$ ,

#define COARE\_OOST  
#define COARE\_TAYLOR\_YELLAND  
#define DRENNAN  
CRAIG\_BANNER (default)

Surface stress

$$\tau_s = f(Z_{os})$$

$H_{wave}$ ,  $L_{pwave}$ ,  
 $D_{wave}$ ,  $T_{psurf}$ ,

#define SSW\_BBL

Bottom stress

Zoa

$$\tau_b = f(Z_{ob})$$

$H_{wave}$ ,  $L_{mwave}$ ,  
 $D_{wave}$ ,  
 $T_{mbott}$ ,  $U_{bot}$

## WAV impact on ATM SURFACE ROUGHNESS CLOSURE MODELS

**CHARNOCK 1955 (default)**

$$z_{0m} = \frac{0.011(u_*)^2}{g}$$

**TAYLOR & YELLAND 2001: TY2001 (#define COARE\_TAYLOR\_YELLAND)**

$$\frac{z_{0m}}{H_s} = 1200 \left( H_s / L_p \right)^{4.5}$$

- *Wave steepness based parameterization.*
- *Based on three datasets representing sea-state conditions ranging from strongly forced to shoaling.*

**DRENNAN 2003: DGQH (#define DRENNAN)**

$$\frac{z_{0m}}{H_s} = 3.35 \left( u_* / C_p \right)^{3.4}$$

- *Wave age based formula to characterize the ocean roughness.*
- *They combined data from many field experiments representing a variety of condition and grouped the data as a function of the wind friction velocity.*

**OOST 2002: OOST (#define COARE\_OOST)**

$$\frac{z_{0m}}{L_p} = \frac{25.0}{\pi} \left( u_* / C_p \right)^{4.5}$$

- *Wave age dependent formula but it also considers the effect of the wave steepness.*

$H_s$  = significant wave height

$z_0$  = ocean surface roughness

$u_*$  = wind friction velocity

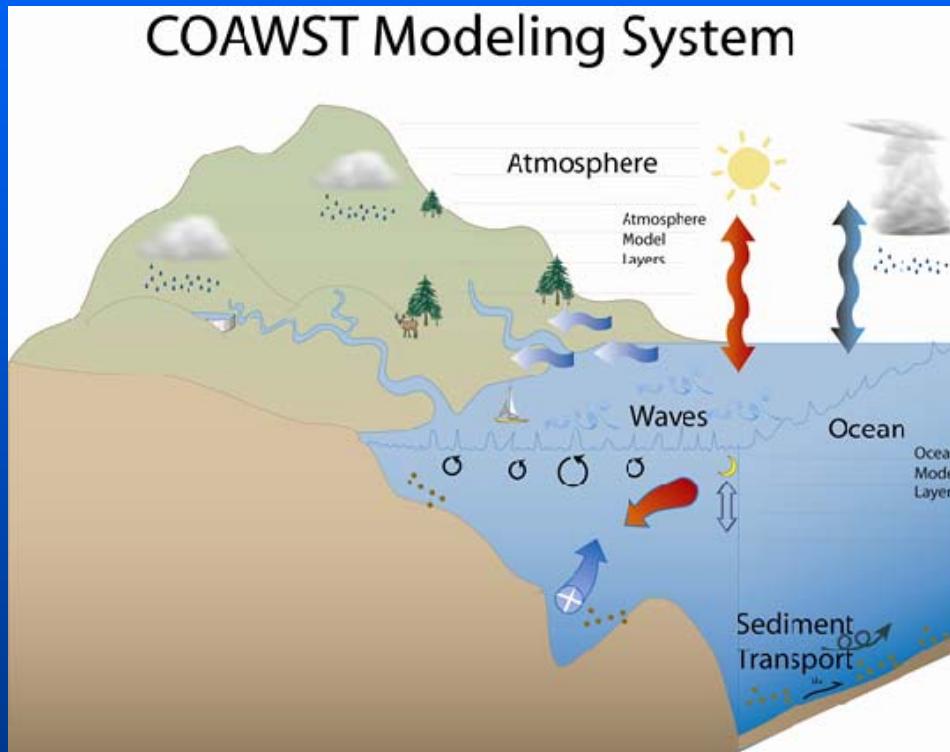
$C_p$  = peak wave celerity

$L_p$  = peak wave length

$\frac{u_*}{C_p}$  = wave age

# Sediment Transport Components

*John Warner, Chris Sherwood and Alfredo  
Aretxabaleta*

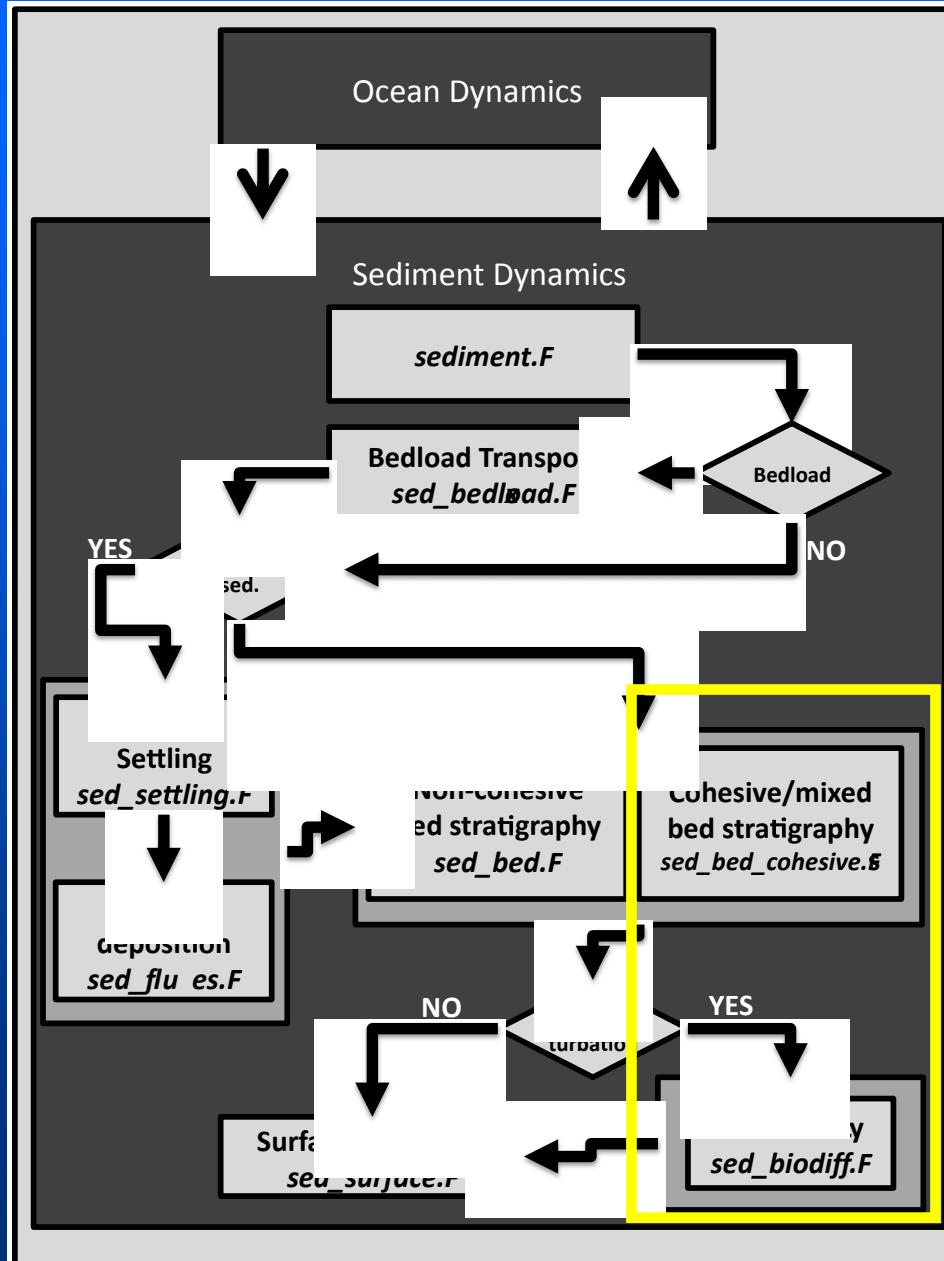


Contributions to cohesive code from  
Courtney Harris and J. Paul Rinehimer

# Sediment Transport Components

- MPDATA – Positive-definite advection scheme
- Sediment influence on density
- Wave input (specified, or SWAN, 1- or 2-way coupled)
- Wave-current combined bottom stresses
- Erosion / deposition / bed model (sand, mud, or mixed)
- Settling
- Bedload transport and flux divergence
- Morphological evolution
- Wetting and drying

# CSTMS Evolution



Current released version of ROMS:

- No cohesive behavior
- No bioturbation

New developments:

- Cohesive/mixed bed
- Biodiffusion
- Altered stratigraphy

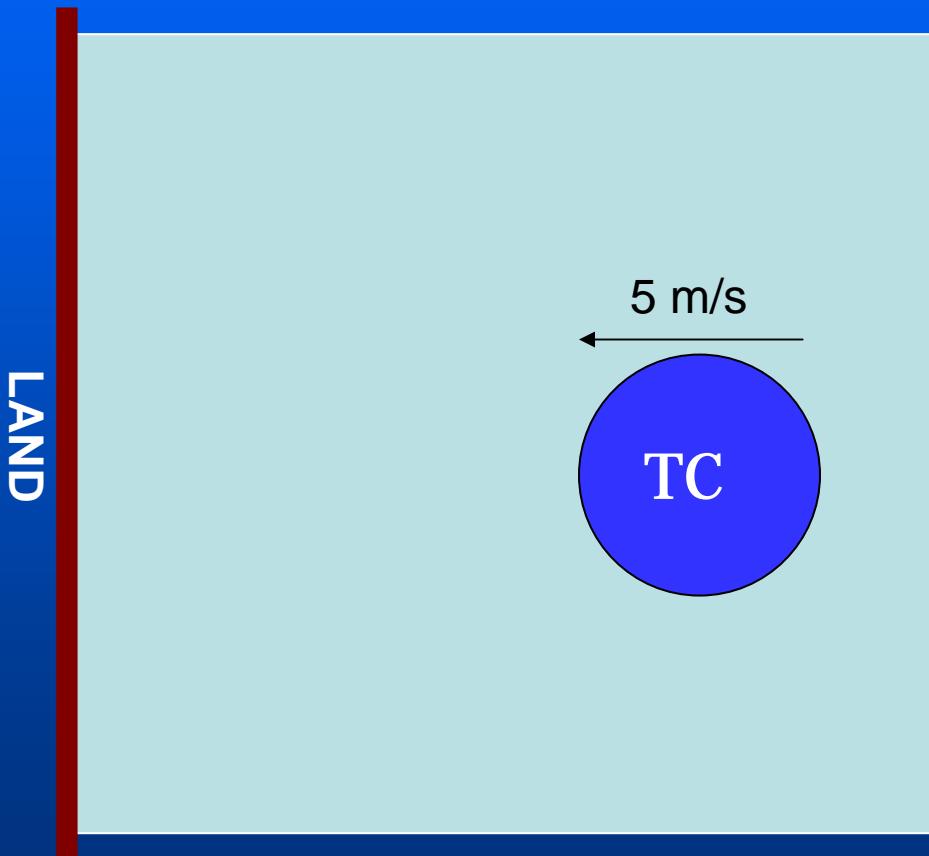
# Examples

- Idealized Tropical Cyclone
- Hurricane Ivan
- Hurricane Irene
- Winter extratropical storm
- Sediment transport
- Quasi-operational system

# Example 1: Idealized TC

- Closed ocean basin
- 200 points in X, 150 in Y
- 12 km grid spacing among all 3 models
- Run from 1-6 September (00Z)

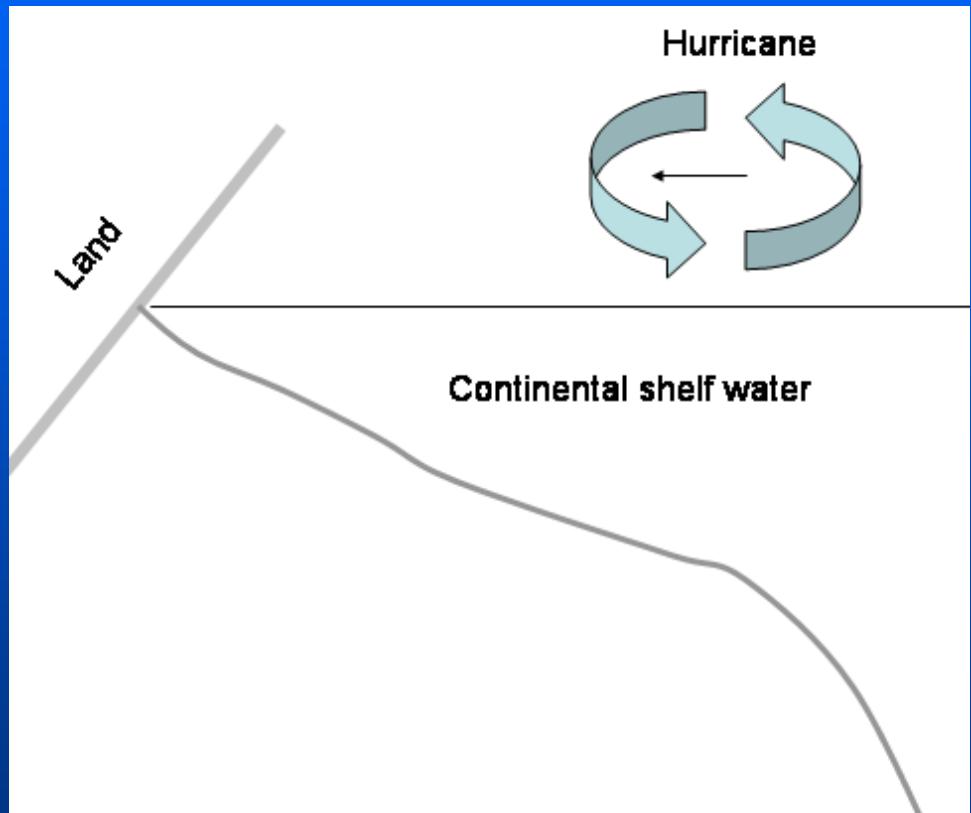
- TC located at  $X=150$ ,  $Y=75$
- Moving westward at  $5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$   
(background wind field)
- Bathymetry along X:
  - 50-69,  $dz/dx = -10\text{m}/12\text{km}$
  - 70-89,  $dz/dx = -40\text{m}/12\text{km}$
  - 90-197,  $z = 1000\text{m}$



Zambon (2009)

# TC initialization

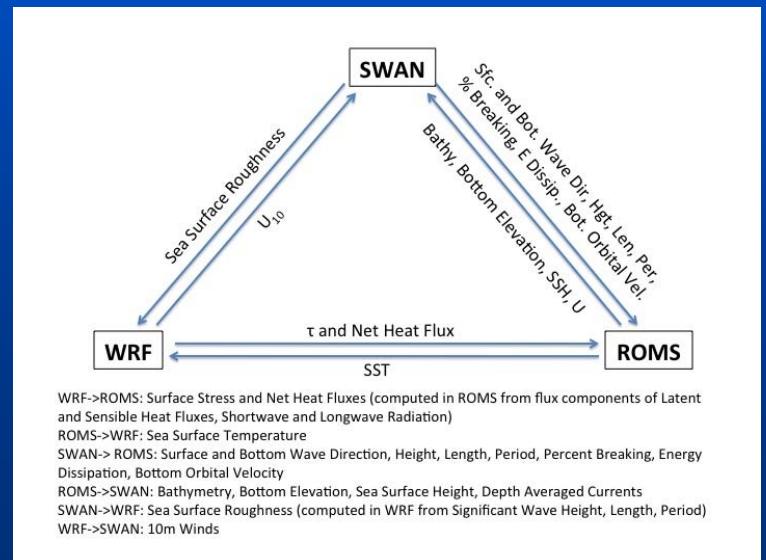
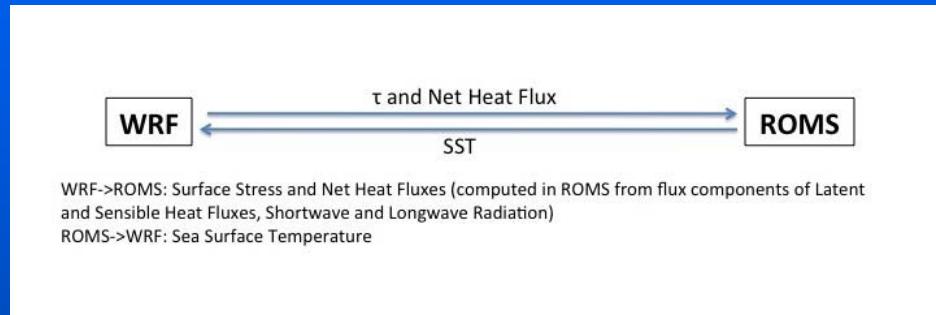
- Idealized TC
  - Initialized using an Idealized TC algorithm Developed by Kwok and Chan (2005)
    - Maximum wind of initial vortex is set to  $20 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , 50 km from center
    - Horizontal wind profile set by Chan and Williams (1987)
    - SST defined to be  $29^\circ \text{ C}$
  - Simulation run on an  $f$ -plane,  $f$  defined to  $20^\circ \text{ N}$



- ROMS Configuration
  - 3-D advection
  - Coriolis
  - Viscosity
  - Mellor-Yamada level-2.5 closure scheme
  - 21 vertical levels
  - 25 s timestep
  - Closed ocean basin – no boundary conditions
- WRF Configuration
  - 200x150, 12km spacing, 31 vertical levels
  - 75 s timestep
  - Kain-Fritsch cumulus parameterization scheme
  - Radiation: RRTM (longwave) and Dudhia (shortwave) schemes (every 10 minutes)
  - Monin-Obukhov (Eta) surface layer physics
  - Thermal Diffusion land surface physics
  - Mellor-Yamada-Janjic TKE PBL scheme (every timestep)
- SWAN Configuration
  - Configured on a Cartesian grid
  - Direction computed in a circular grid with 36  $10^\circ$  bins
  - Waves represented with a PSD between 1s and 25s, broken into 24 1s bins
  - Waves computed in 5-dimensions: west-east, south-north, period, wavelength, and direction of propagation
  - Depth induced breaking constant set to 0.73
    - The ratio of wave height to water depth required to break waves
  - Wind waves created using Komen formulation
  - Backward-in-space, backward-in-time advection scheme

# Sensitivity Experiments

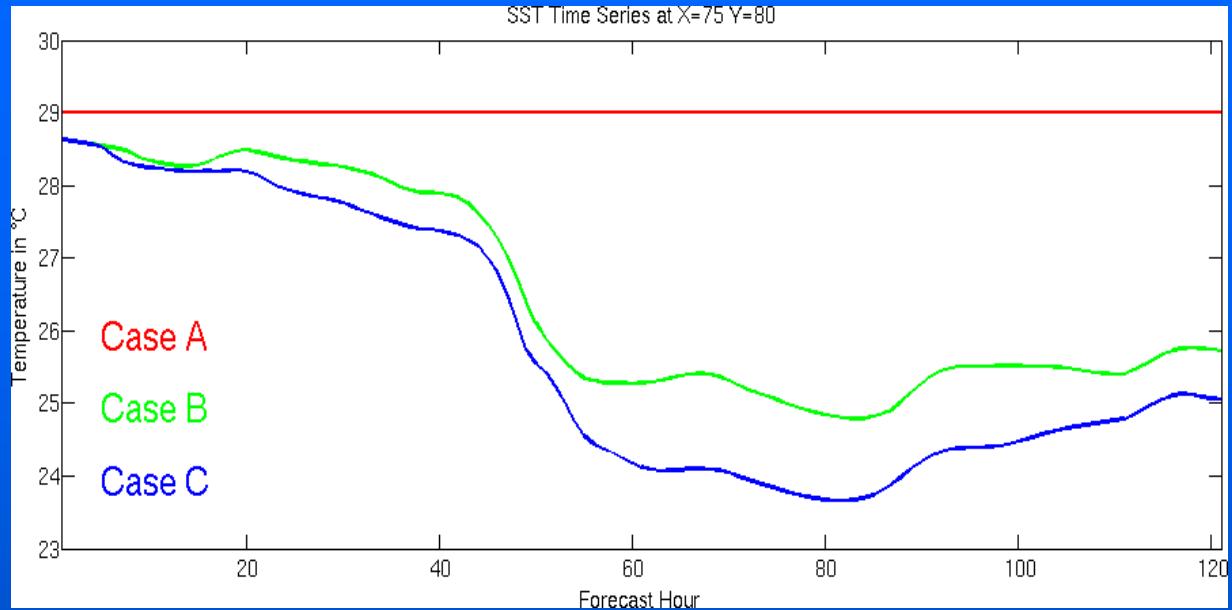
- Case A: WRF only
- Case B: WRF-ROMS  
2-way coupling
- Case C:  
WRF-ROMS-SWAN  
3-way coupling



# Results

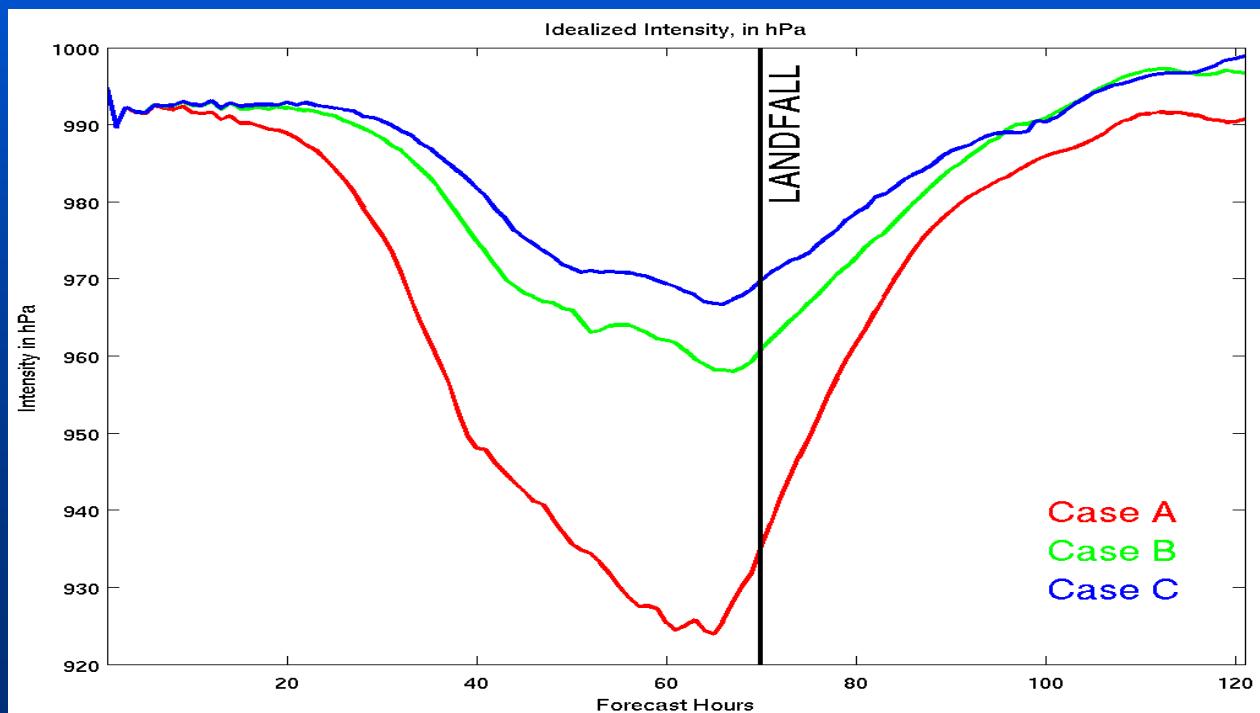
## - SST change

- A: 0 °C
- B: 4 °C
- C: 5 °C



## - Intensity

- A: 924 hPa
- B: 960 hPa
- C: 967 hPa



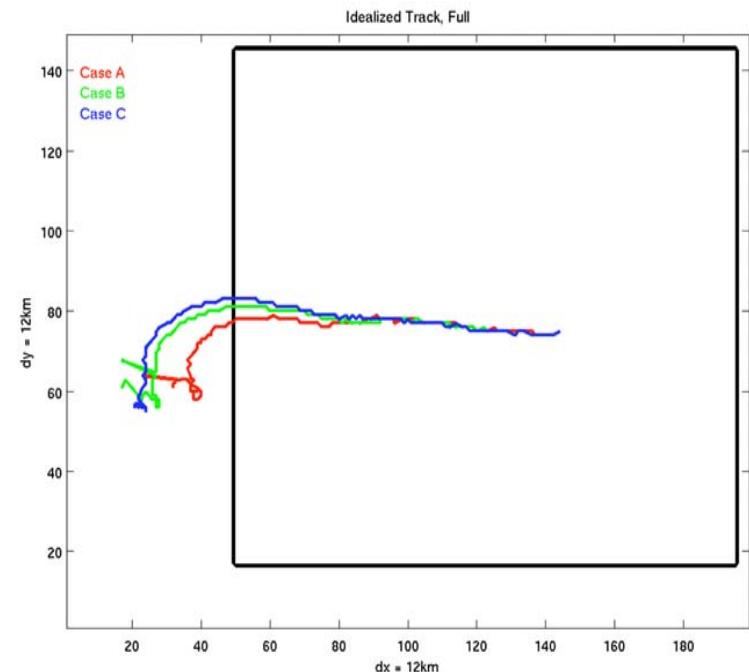
# Results

## – Track

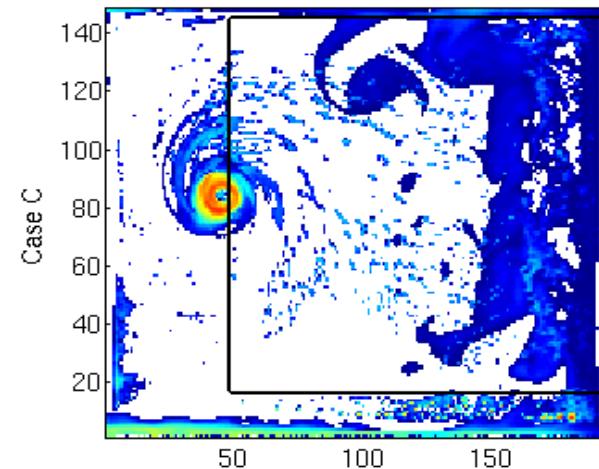
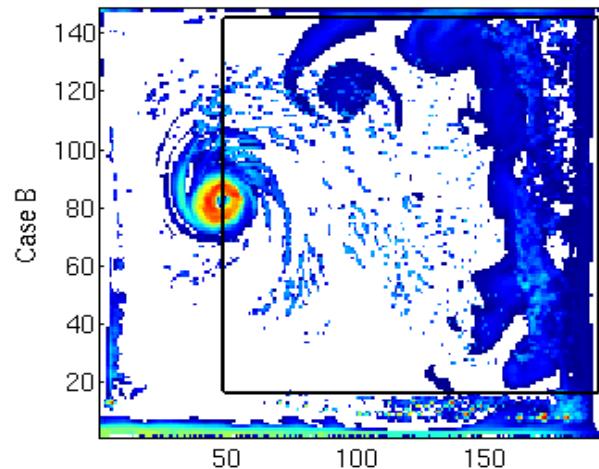
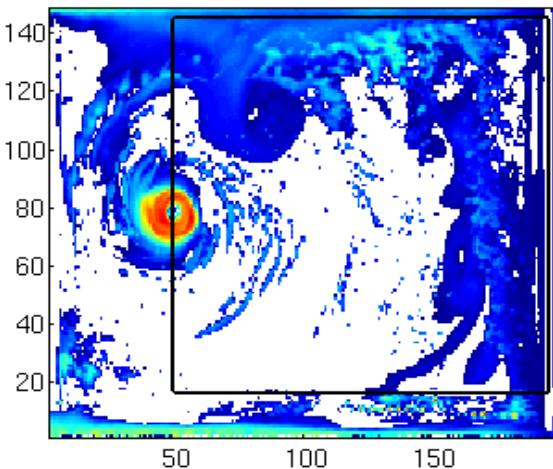
- Northward Drift strongest in C, weakest in A, B is in the middle

## – Size

- Largest in A, weakest in C, B is in the middle



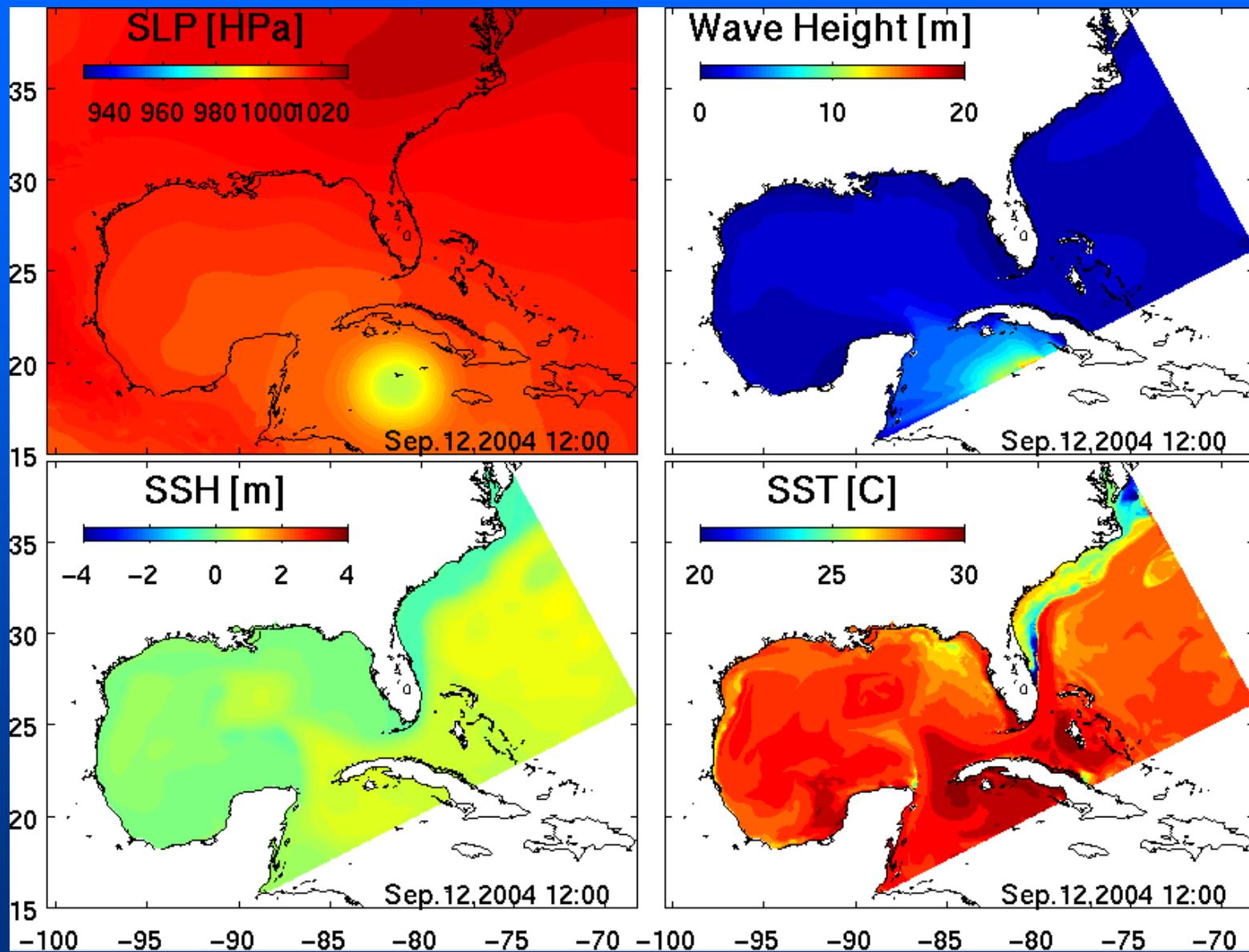
Simulated Radar Reflectivity in dBZ at F06B



# Example 2: Hurricane Ivan

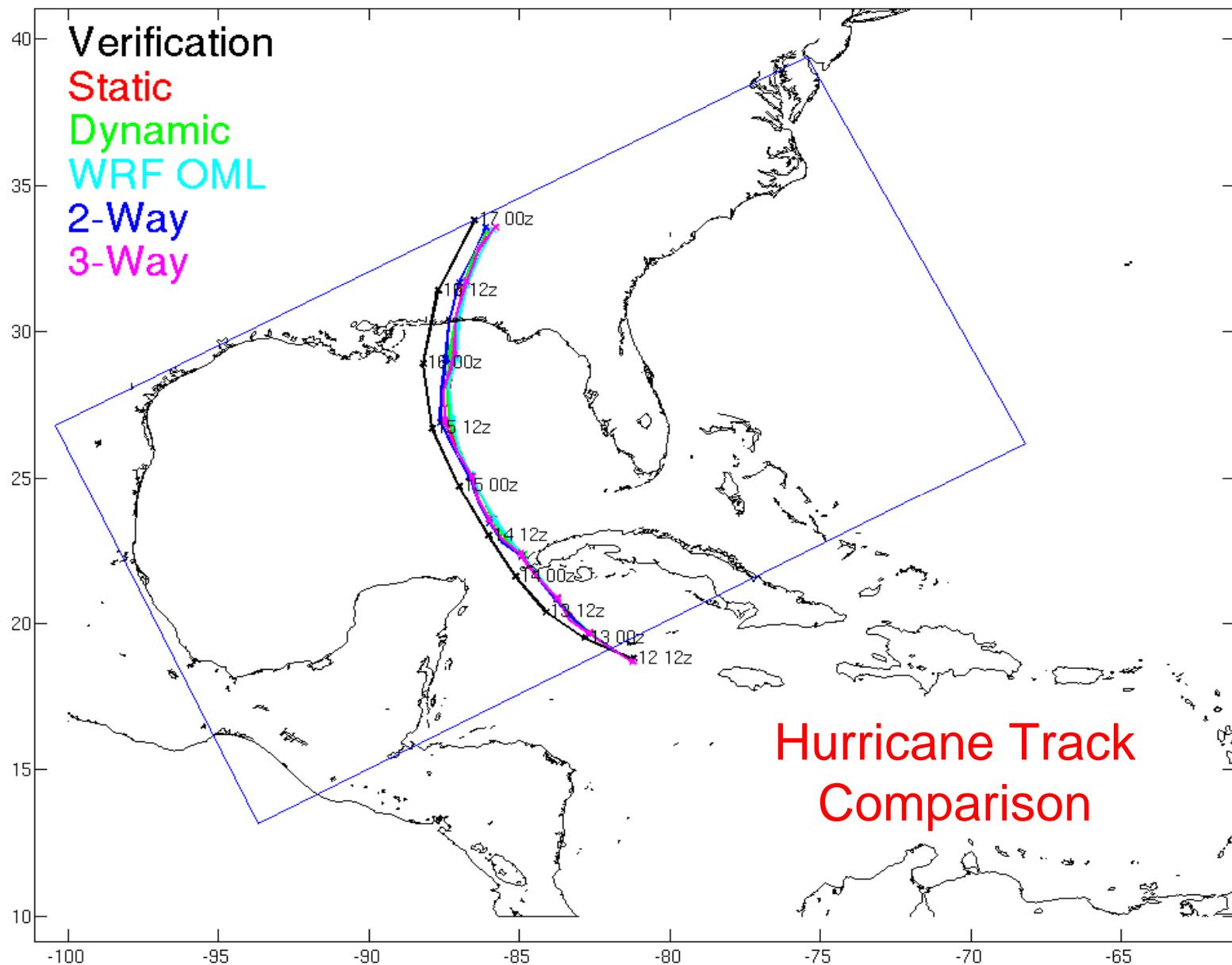
- ROMS Configuration
  - Domain encompasses South Atlantic Bight and Gulf of Mexico (SABGOM) with a horizontal resolution of 5 km
  - nested inside of the HYCOM/NCODA (Hybrid Coordinate Model/NRL Coupled Ocean Data Assimilation) global model
  - 36 vertical levels, 25s timestep
  - Mellor and Yamada (1982) scheme to compute vertical turbulent mixing
- WRF Configuration
  - GFS  $1^{\circ}$  data used for initialization/LBCs (updated every 6 hours), GFDL merged in initialization
  - 8 km grid spacing, 24 s timestep, 31 vertical layers
  - Inner 3-to-1 nest (301x301x31)
  - WSM-6 MP scheme
  - Kain-Fritsch CP scheme (outer domain only)
  - RRTM (LW) and Dudhia (SW) schemes – 8 min
  - Monin-Obukov Sfc Physics, Noah LSM
  - Mellor-Yamada-Janjic TKE PBL scheme – every timestep
- SWAN Configuration
  - Lateral Boundary data provided by WaveWatch 3 (WW3) global wave model
  - Configured on a Cartesian grid
  - Direction computed in a circular grid with 36  $10^{\circ}$  bins
  - Waves represented with a PSD between 1s and 25s, broken into 24 1s bins
  - Waves computed in 5-dimensions: west-east, south-north, period, wavelength, and direction of propagation

# WRF-ROMS-SWAN Coupled Simulation: Hurricane Ivan

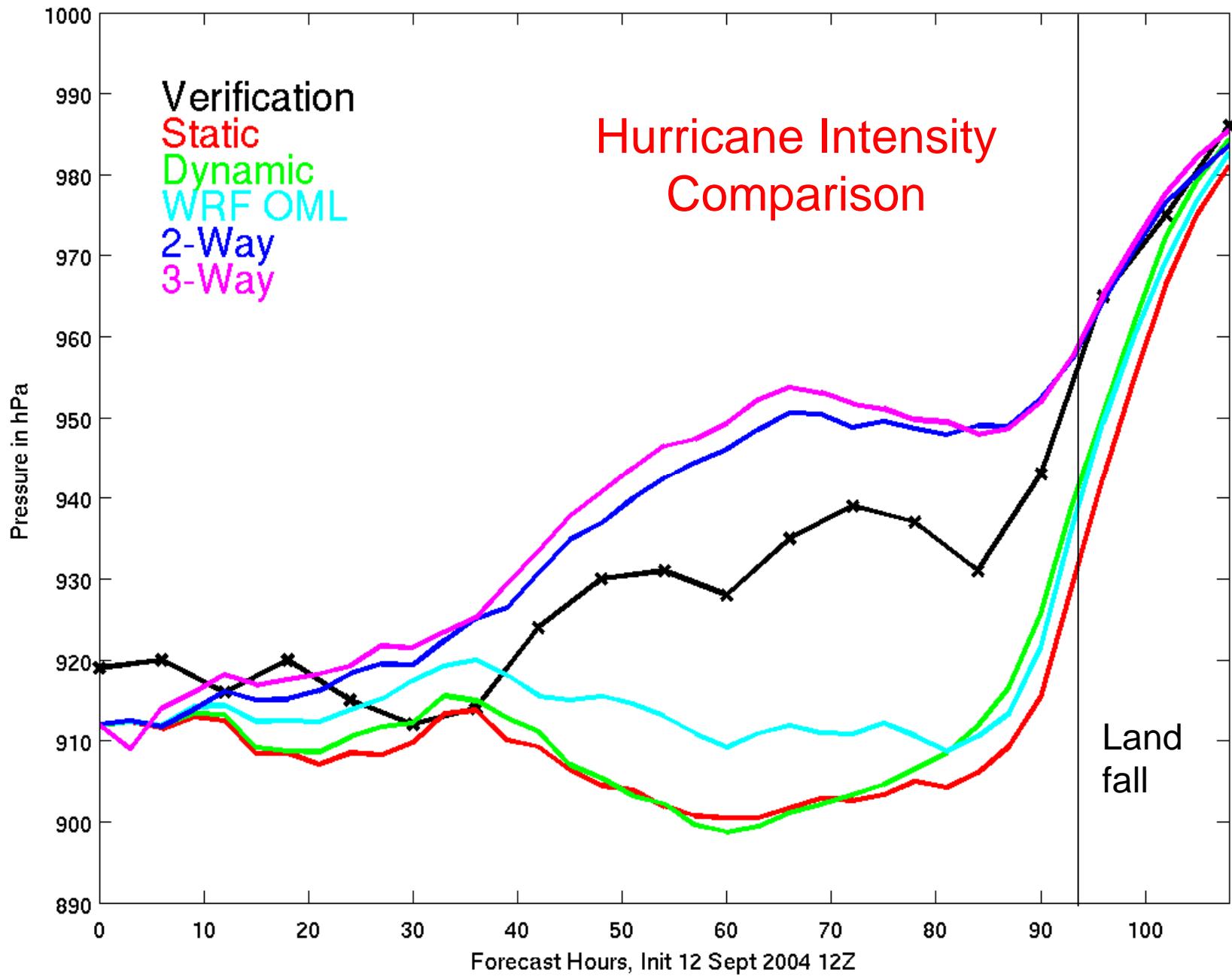


Zambon (2009); Zambon, He and Werner (2012)

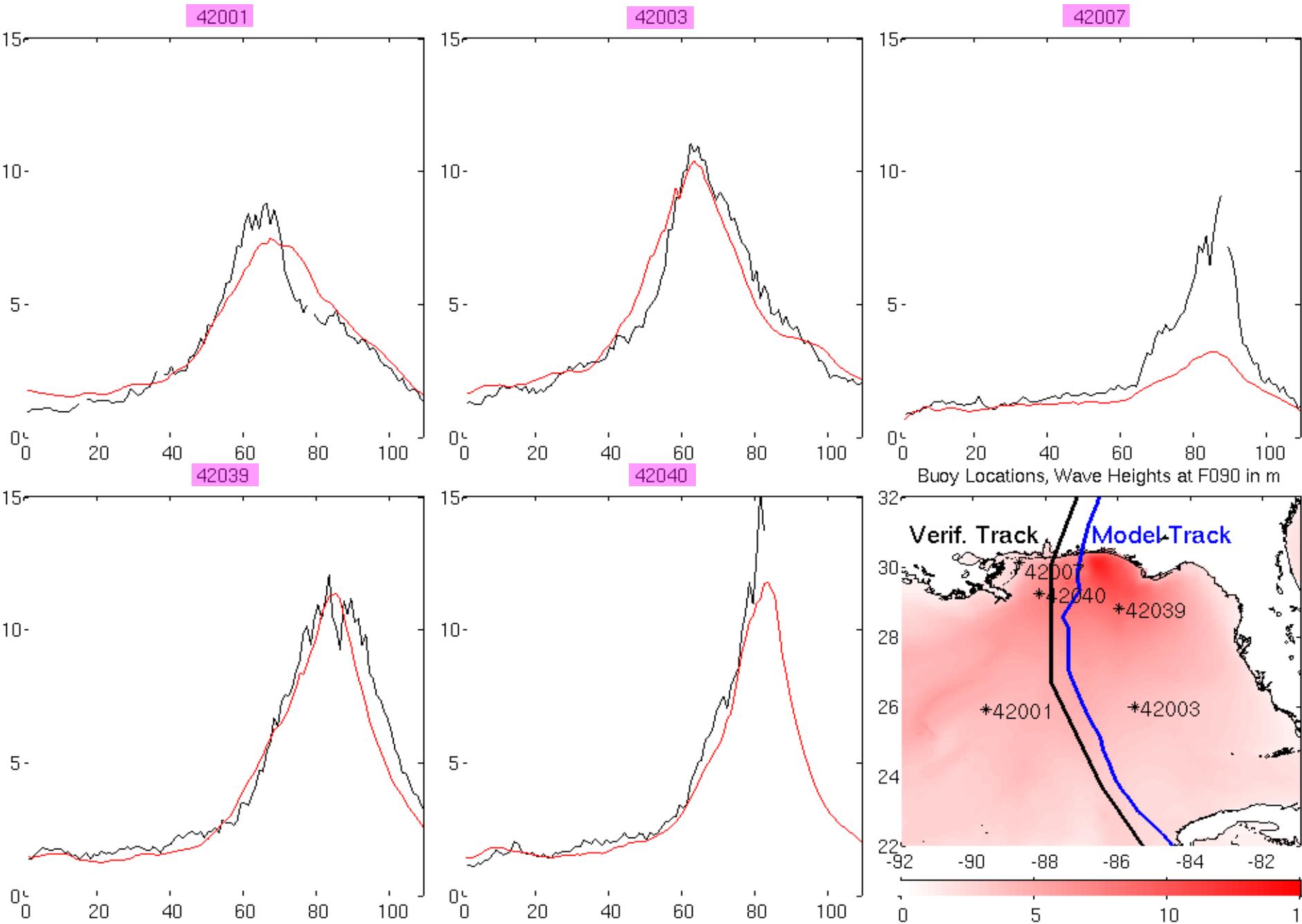
Model Comparison, Track



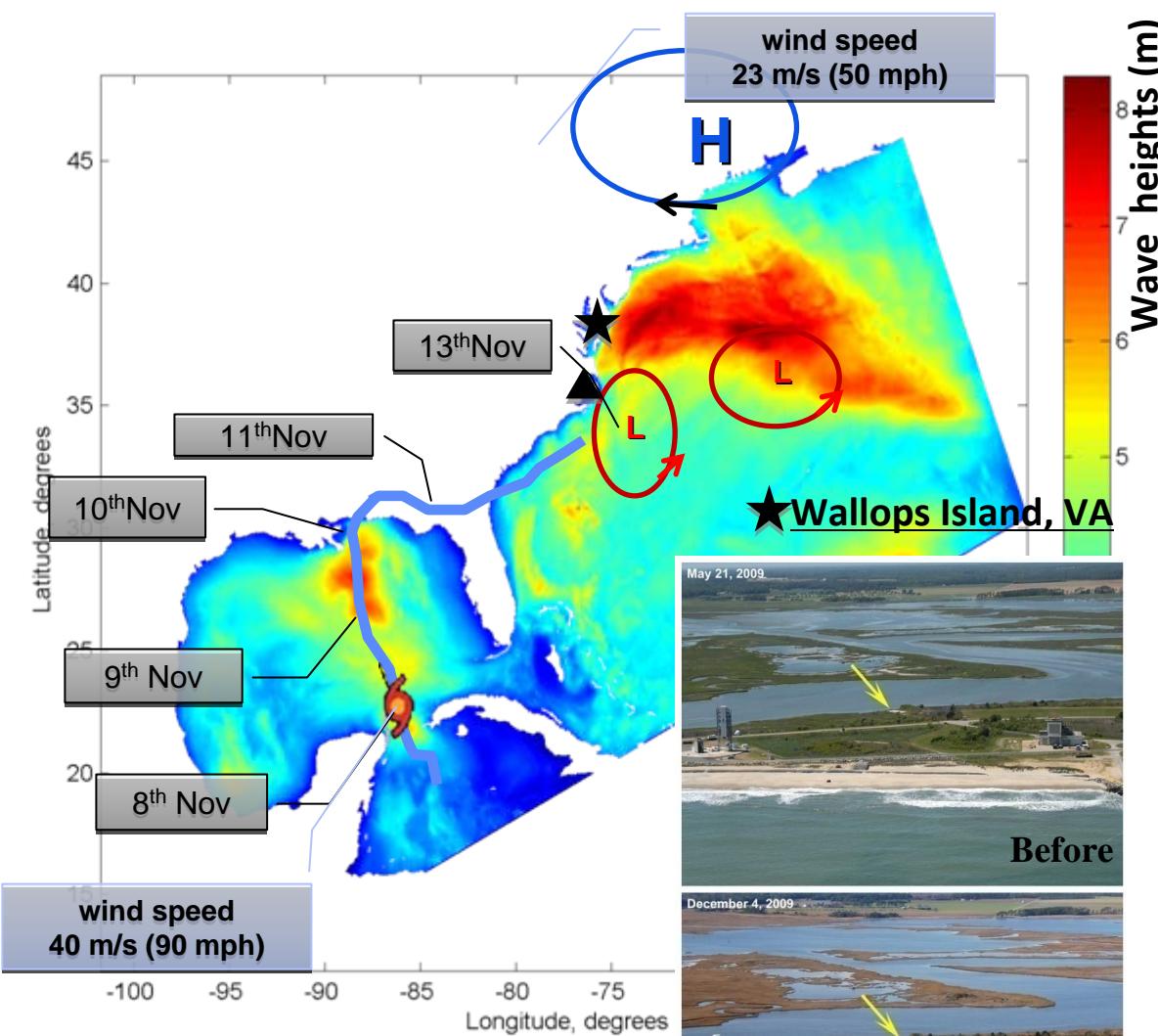
Model Comparison, Intensity



# Wave Height (in m) Time Series (Valid 12-Sept-04 12Z through 17-Sept-04 00Z)

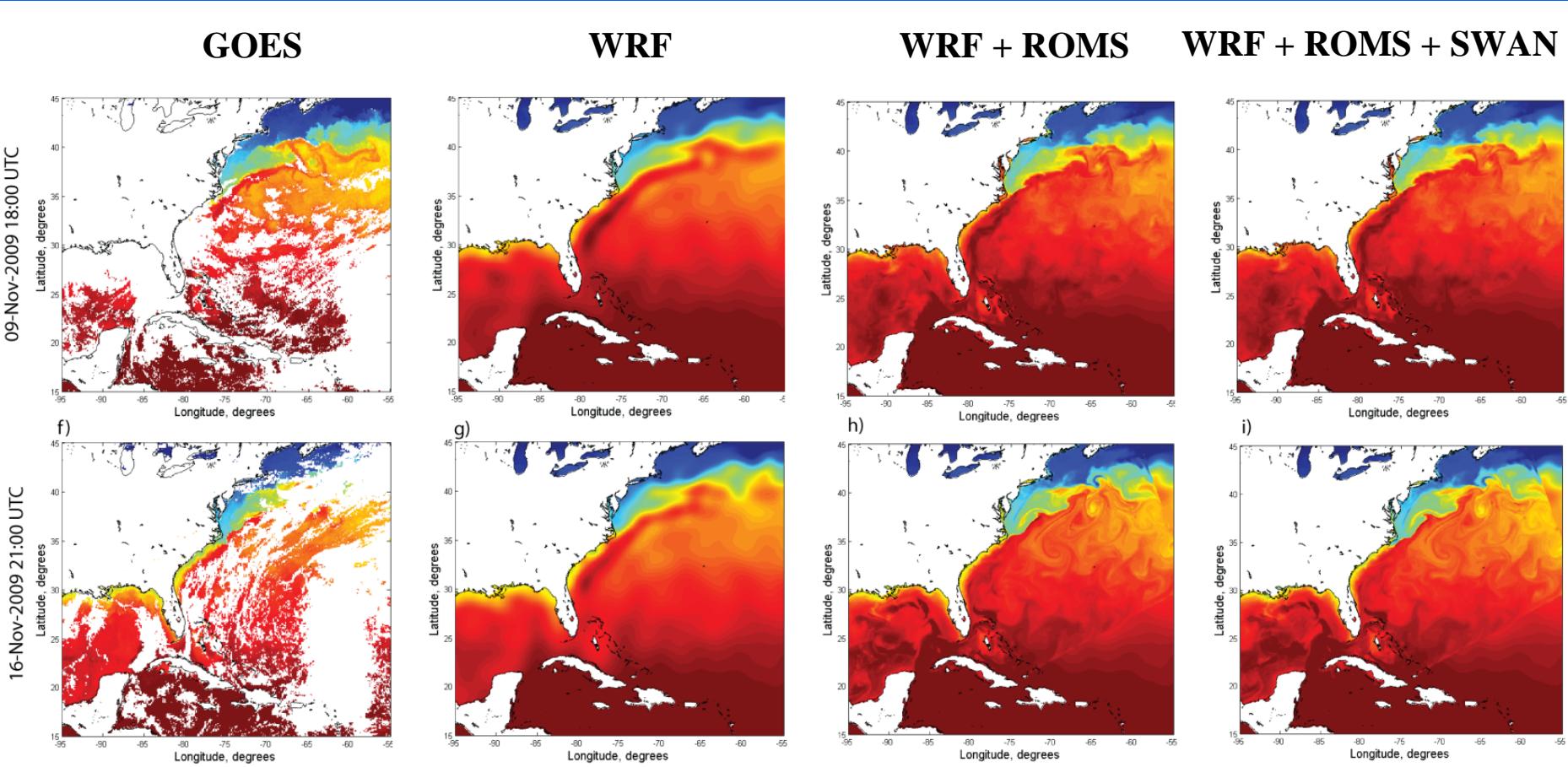


# Example 3: Nor’Ida Nov 2009



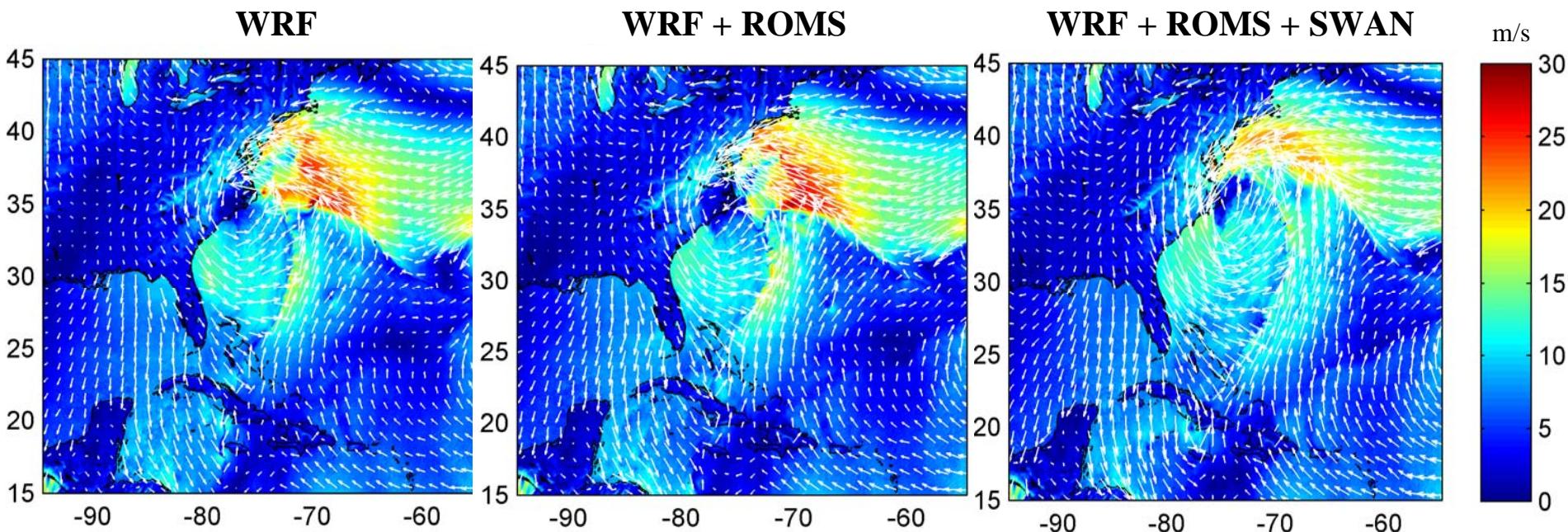
<http://coastal.er.usgs.gov/hurricanes/norida/>

# SST Comparison

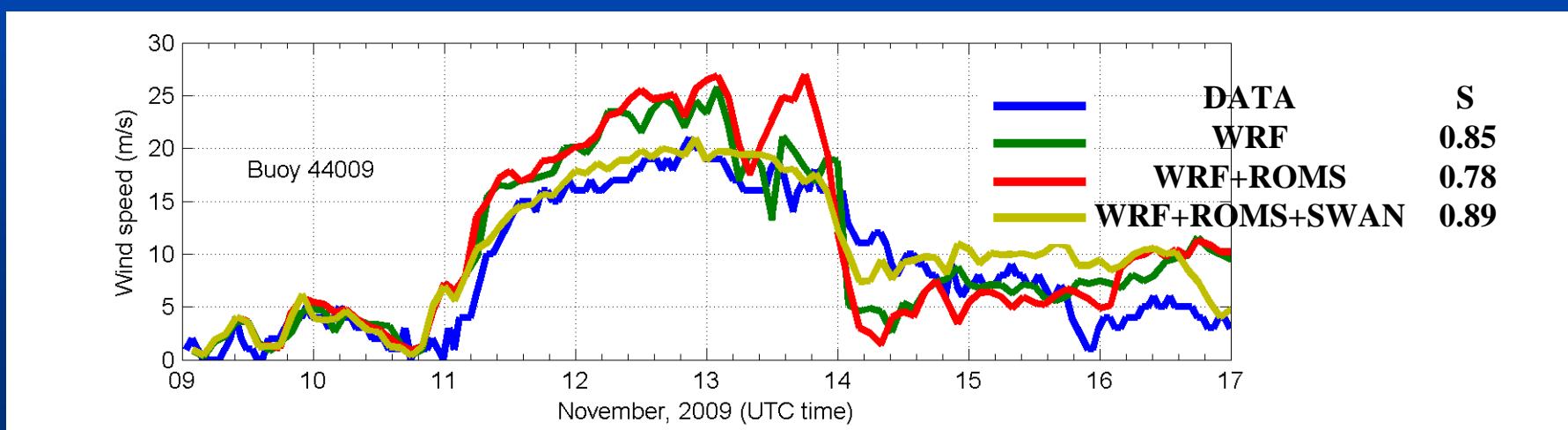


Olabarieta, M., Warner, J., Armstrong, B., Zambon, J., and He, R. (2012)

# Surface Wind Comparison (Nov 13)



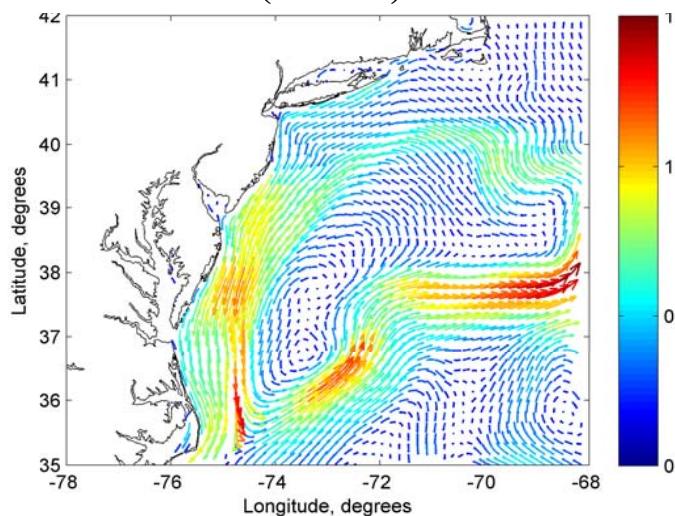
Reduced wind speed with waves coupling



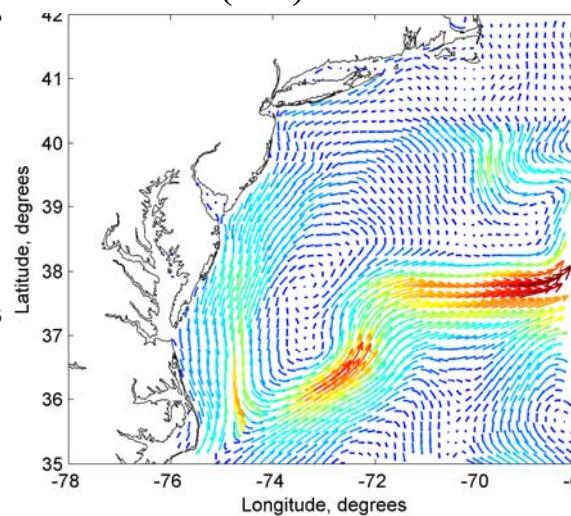
# Surface Current Comparison (Nov 13)

WRF + ROMS + SWAN

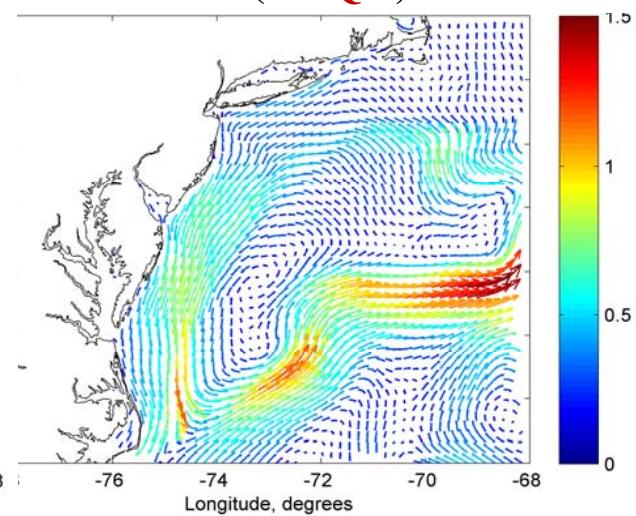
(OOST)



(TY)

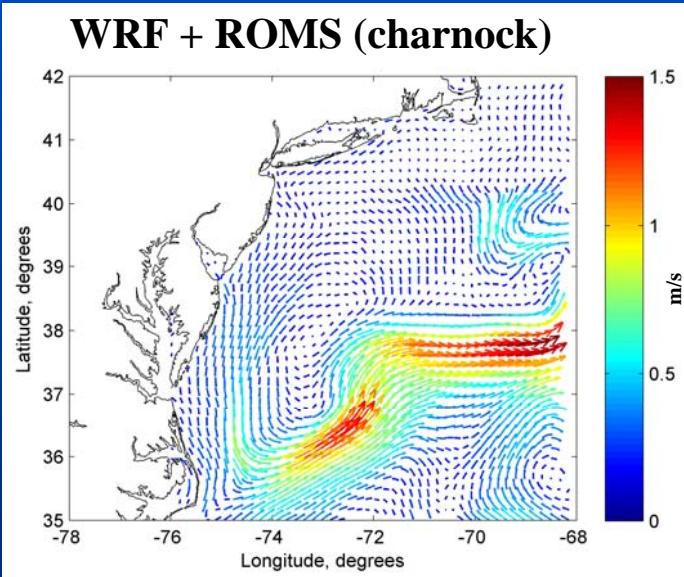


(DGQH)

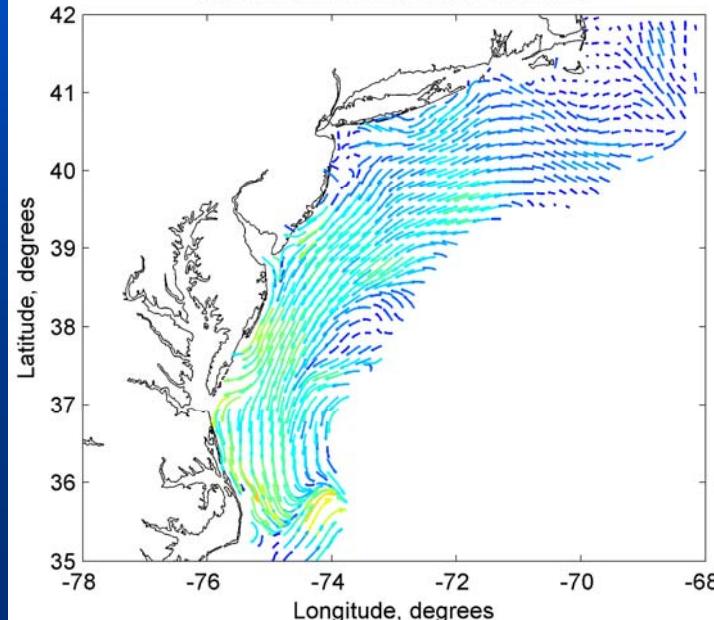


Increased current speed with waves coupling.

WRF + ROMS (charnock)



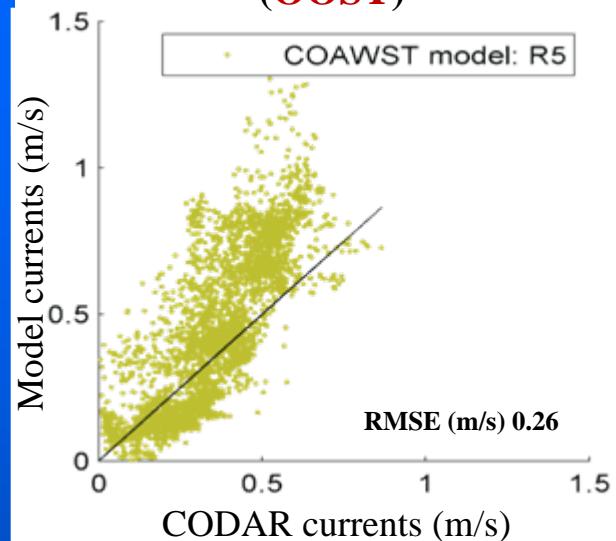
CODAR CODAR Surface currents: 13-Nov-2009



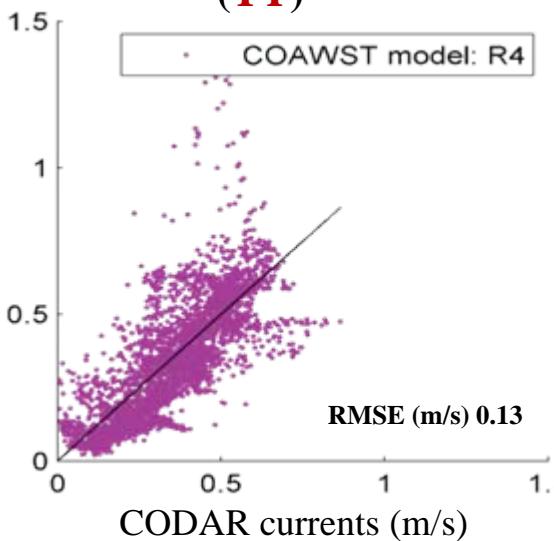
# Surface Current Comparison

**WRF + ROMS + SWAN**

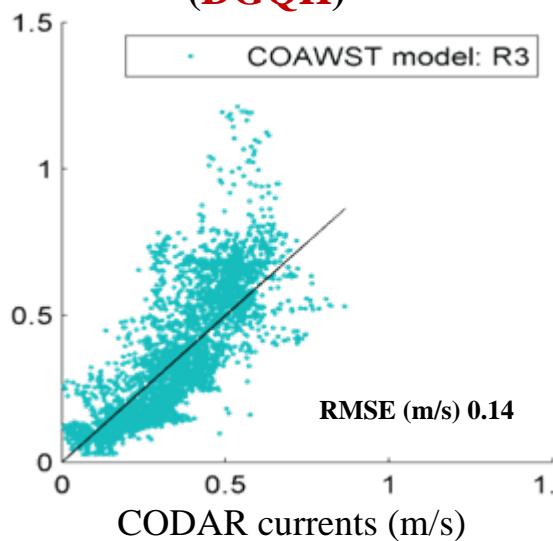
**(OOST)**



**(TY)**

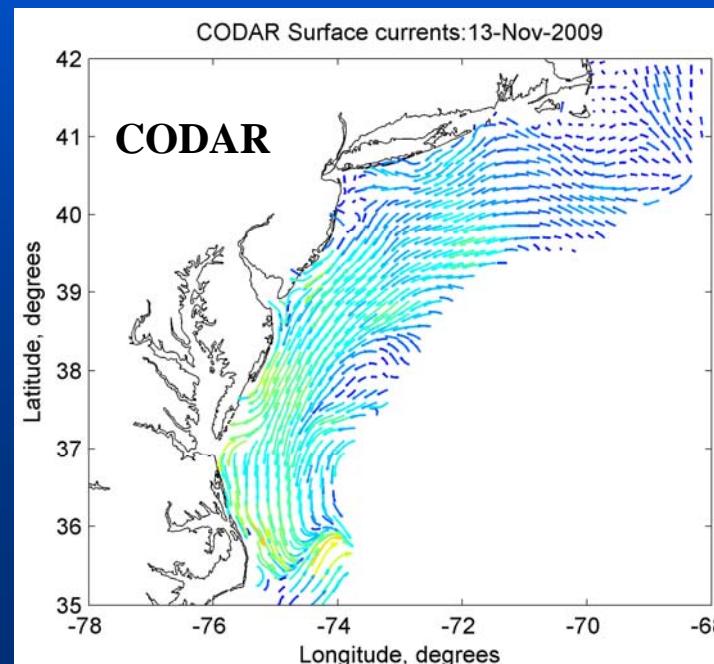
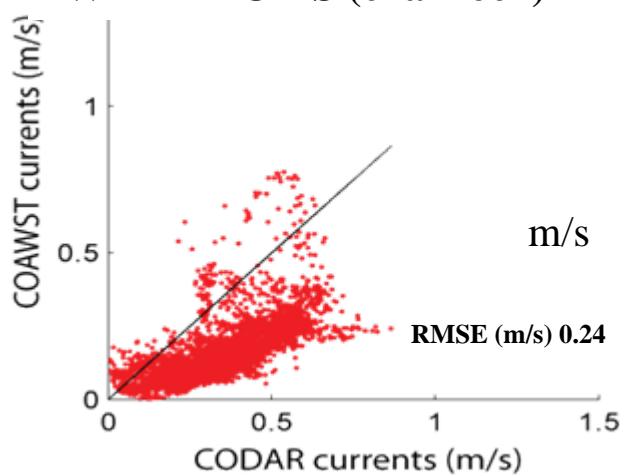


**(DGQH)**



**Increased current speed with waves coupling.  
TY / DGQH best.**

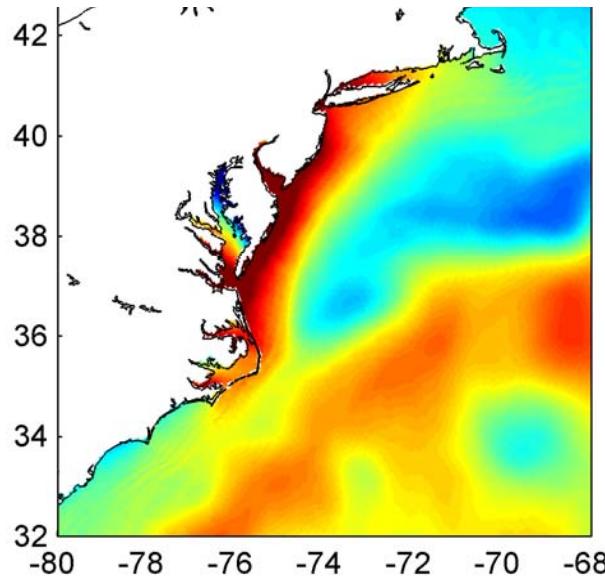
**WRF + ROMS (charnock)**



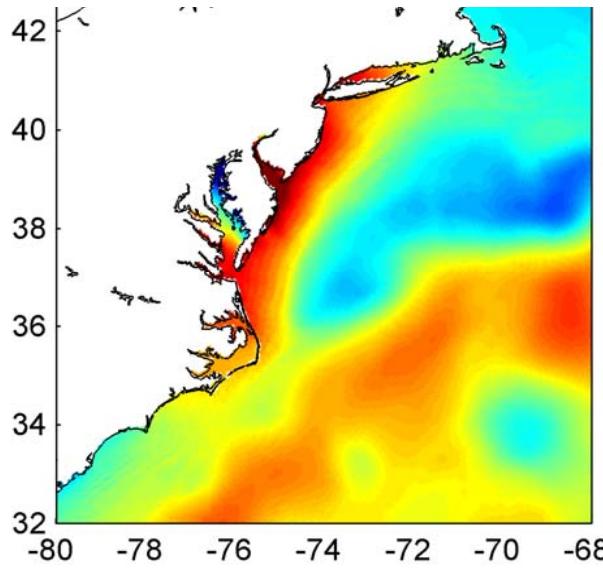
# Storm Surge Comparison

WRF + ROMS + SWAN()

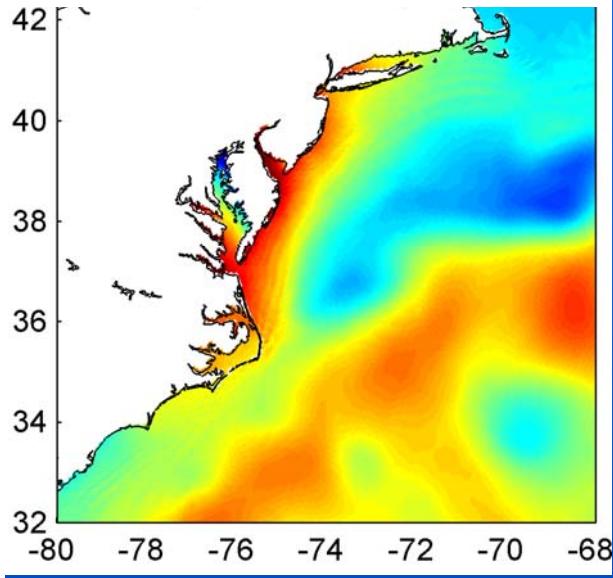
(OOST)



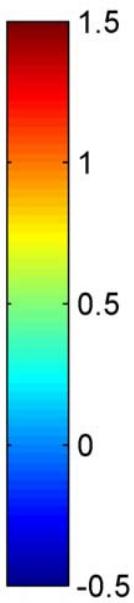
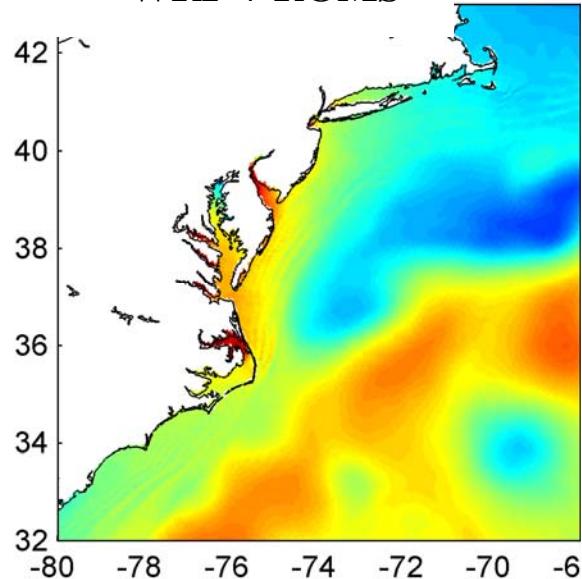
(TY)



(DGQH)

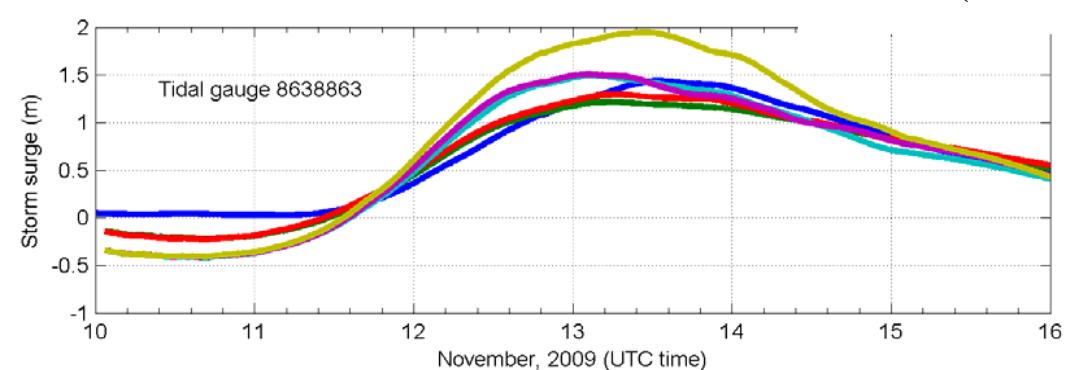


WRF + ROMS



Increased surge with waves  
coupling.  
TY / DGQH best

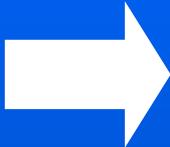
- DATA
- WRF
- WRF+ROMS
- W+R+S (DGQH)
- W+R+S (TY2001)
- W+R+S (OOST)



# Example 4: Winter Extratropical Storm in January 2005



- Widespread rain, snow, and ice
- Strong winds and extreme cold
- Affects densely populated areas



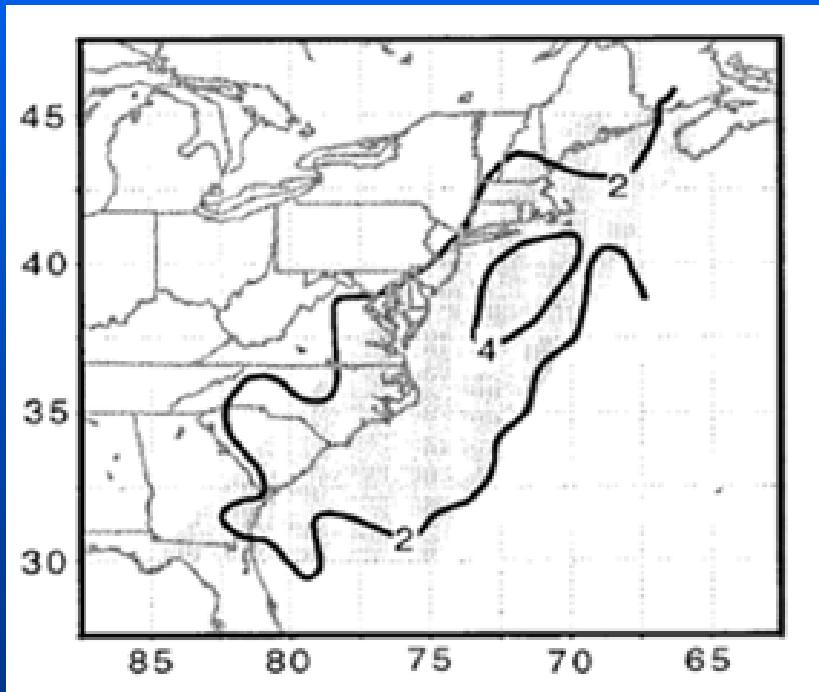
- Coastal storm surge and flooding
- Severe beach erosion
- Commercial fishing industry affected



# Example 4: Winter Extratropical Cyclone (ETC)

## Cyclogenesis Areas

[# storms form each January]

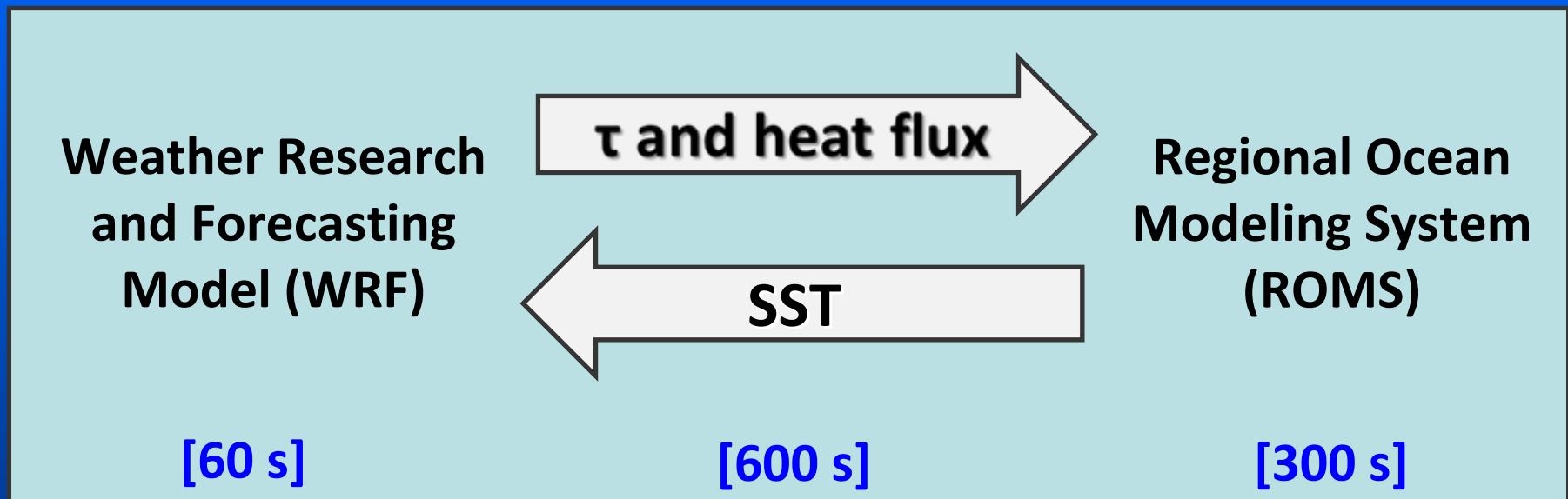


[Zishka and Smith, 1980]

- 12 east coast ETCs per winter
- Intense ETCs most common in January
- “Bomb” cyclones (**SLP deepens at least 1 mb/hr for 24 hrs**) typically develop:
  - near the strongest SST gradients
  - along the leading edge of an Arctic air mass

# Coupled Modeling Study of ETCs in January 2005

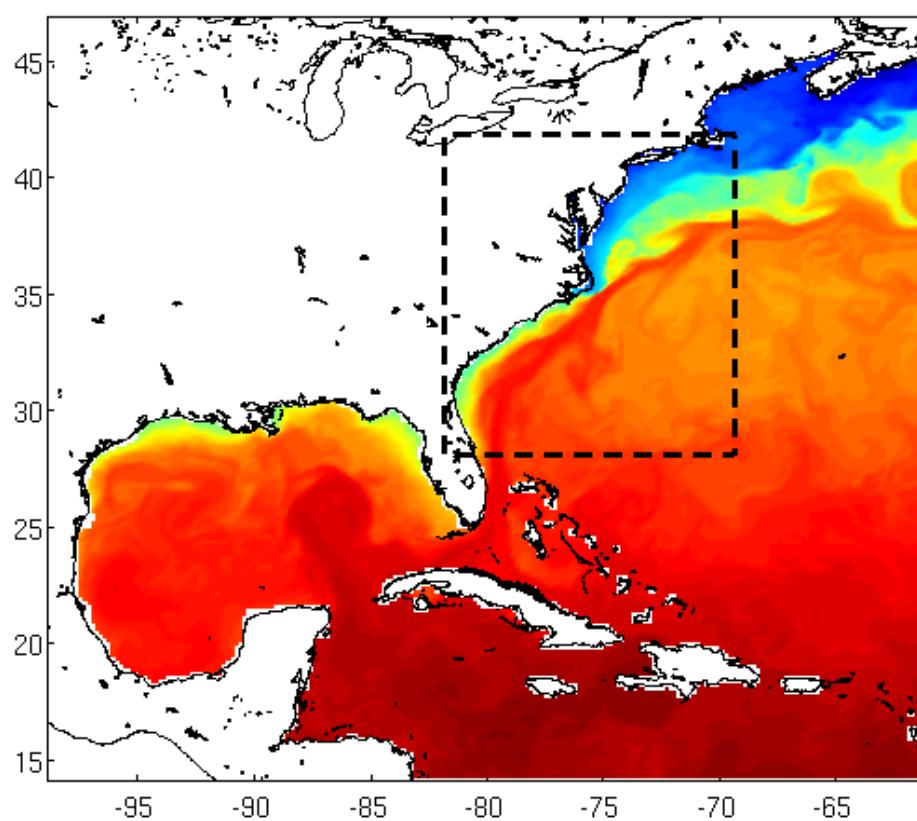
2-way coupled WRF/ROMS system



Neslon, J (2011), Nelson and He (2012)

# Model Setup

## Study Domain



### WRF Setup

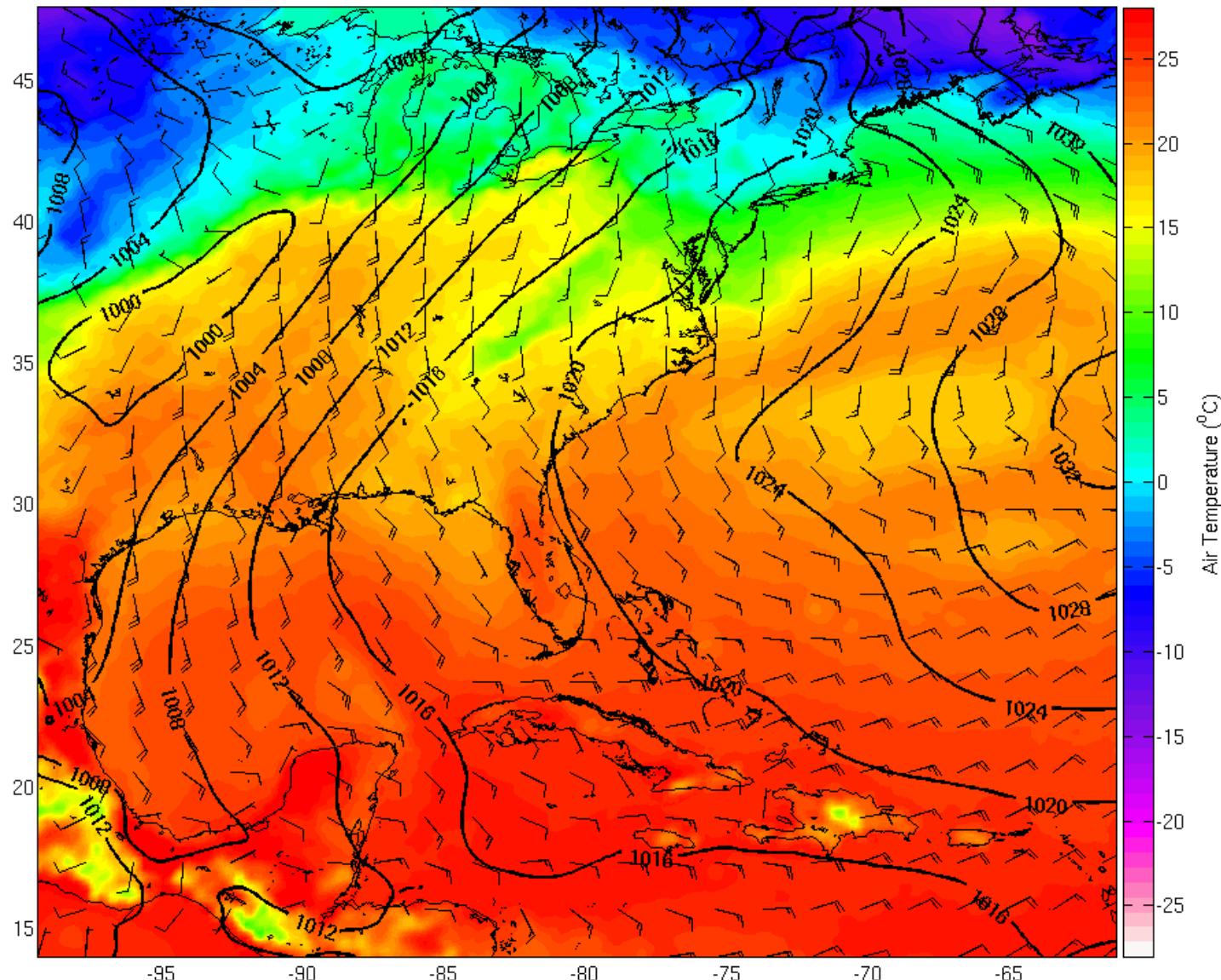
- 15 km horizontal resolution
- 48 vertical levels
- Initial and boundary conditions from 3-hrly, 32-km NCEP North American Regional Reanalysis (NARR)

### ROMS Setup

- 5 km horizontal resolution
- 18 vertical levels
- Initial and boundary conditions from daily, 10-km global HYCOM simulation
- Open BCs at southern and eastern boundaries

WRF Surface Forecast: MSLP (mb) and Winds ( $2.5/5/10 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ )

Valid: 2005-Jan-13 00:00:00

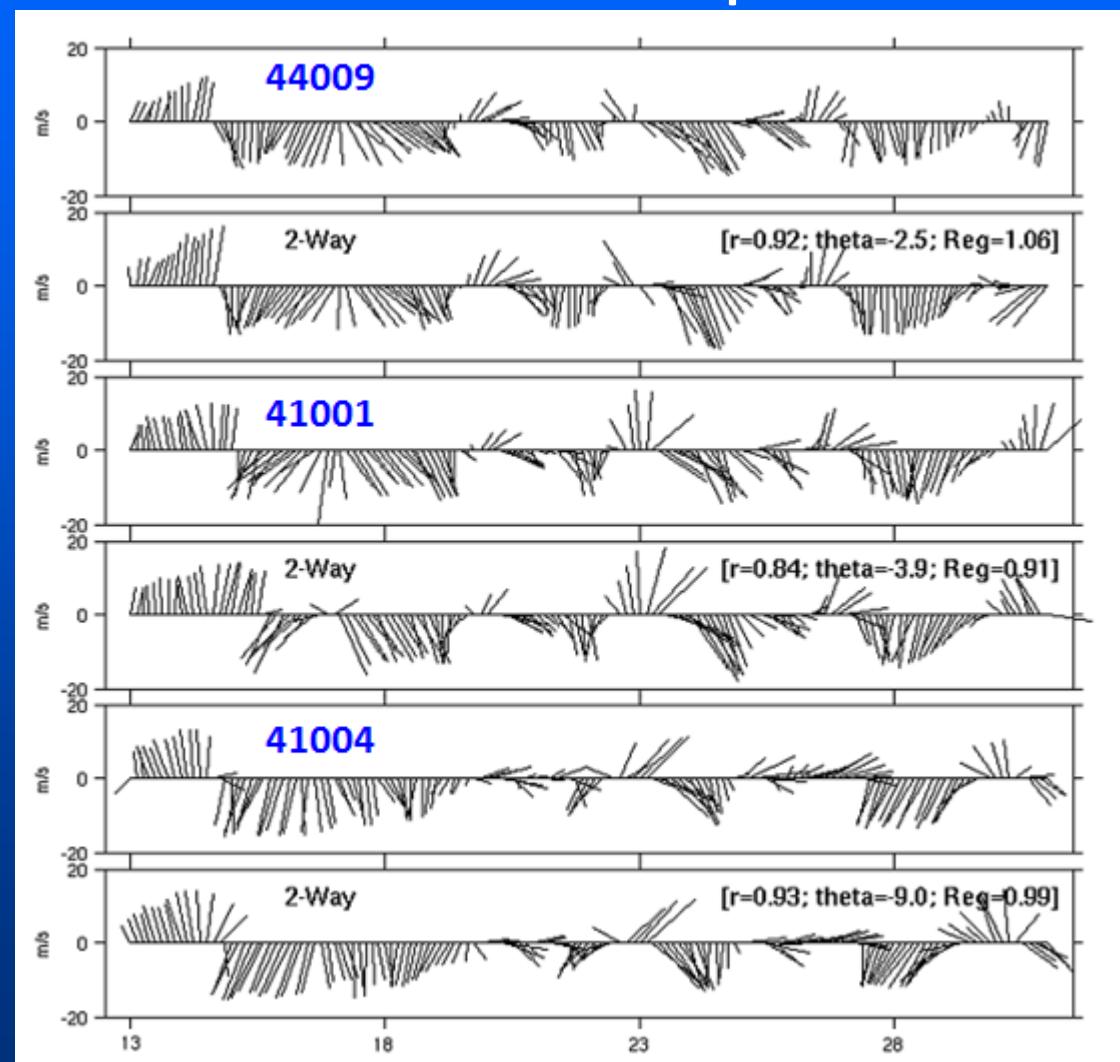
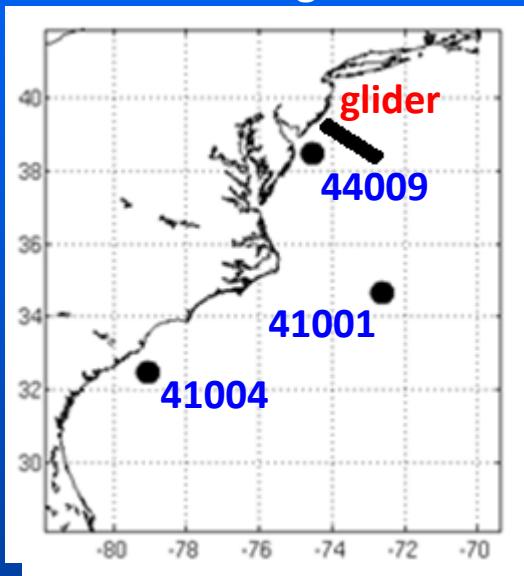


January 22- 24, "Bomb" cyclones deepen at least 1 mb/hr for 24 hrs

# Model/Data Comparisons

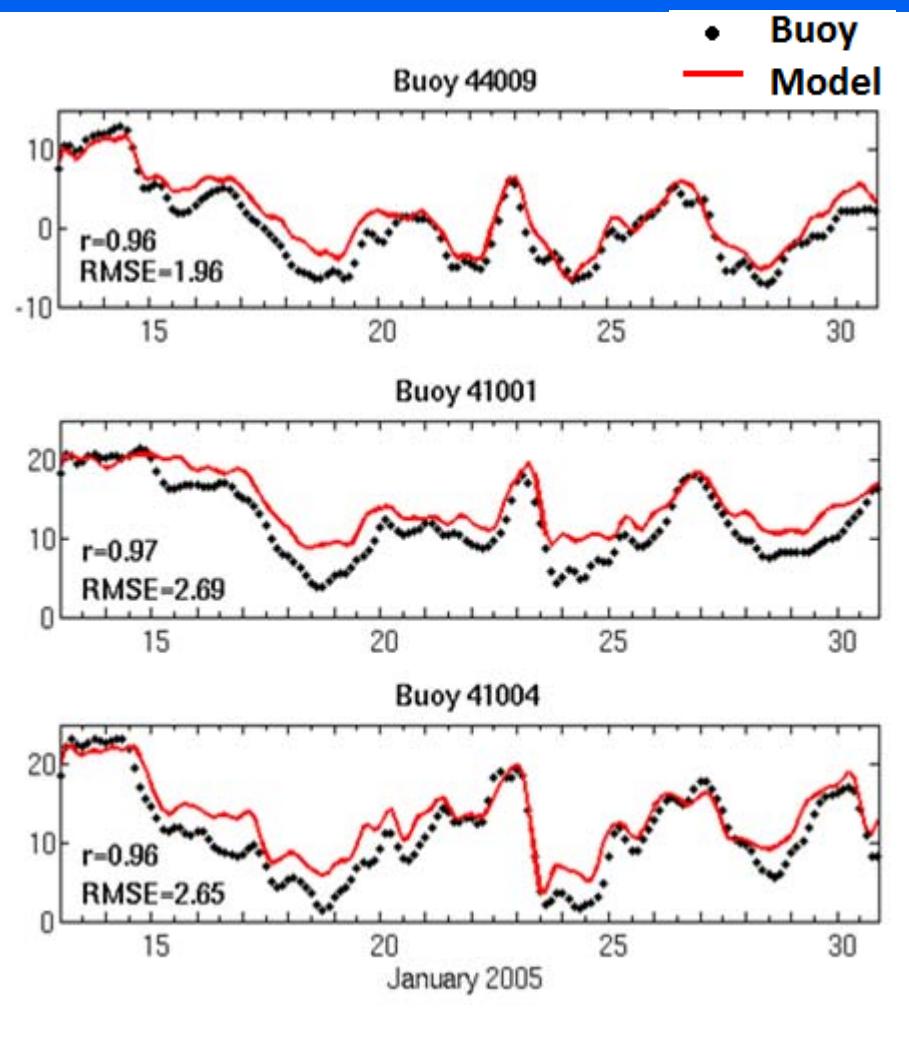
## Surface Wind Comparison

Observing Sites

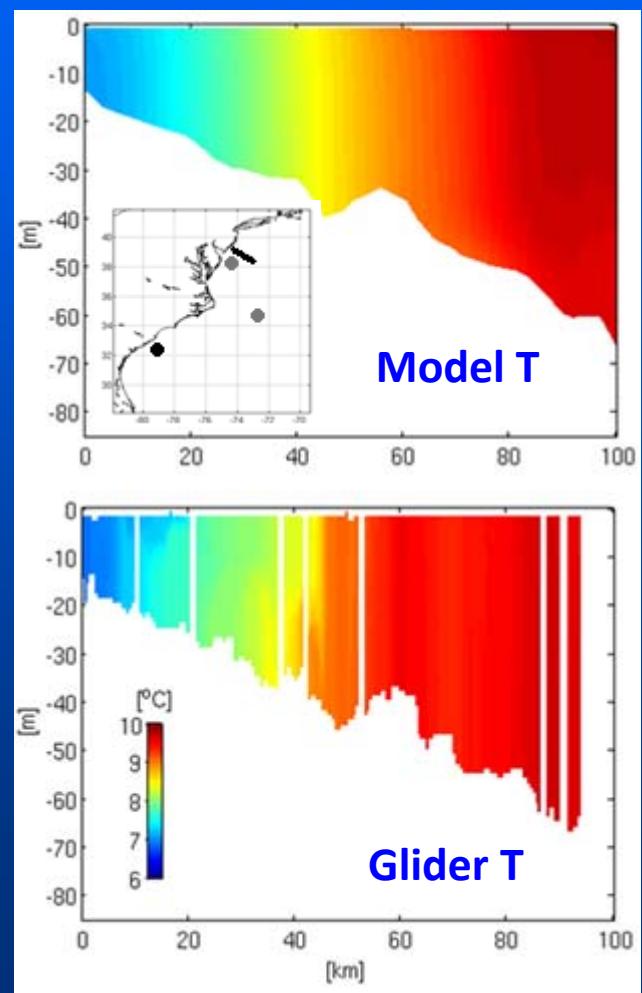


# Model/Data Comparisons

## Surface Air Temperature

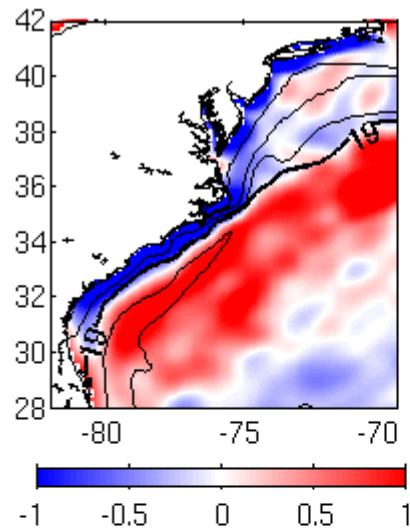


## Shelf water Temperature 14 January 2005

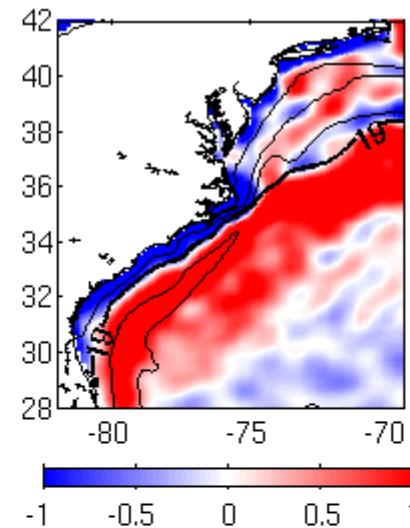


# Wind Convergence vs Laplacian of SLP and SST

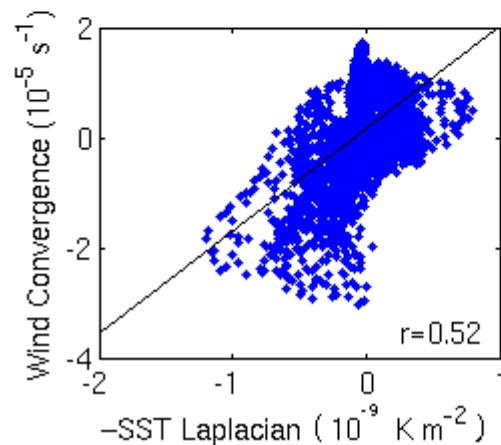
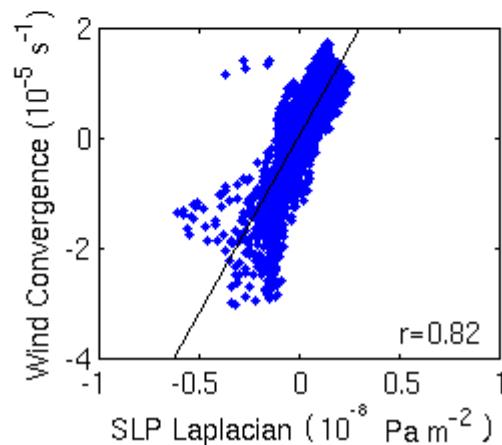
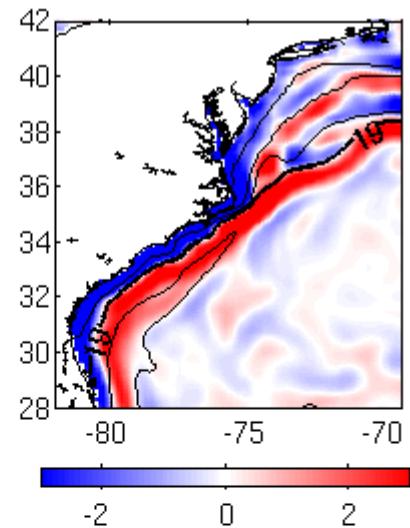
Synoptic Mean Wind  
Convergence [ $10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ]



Synoptic Mean SLP  
Laplacian [ $10^{-9} \text{ Pa m}^{-2}$ ]



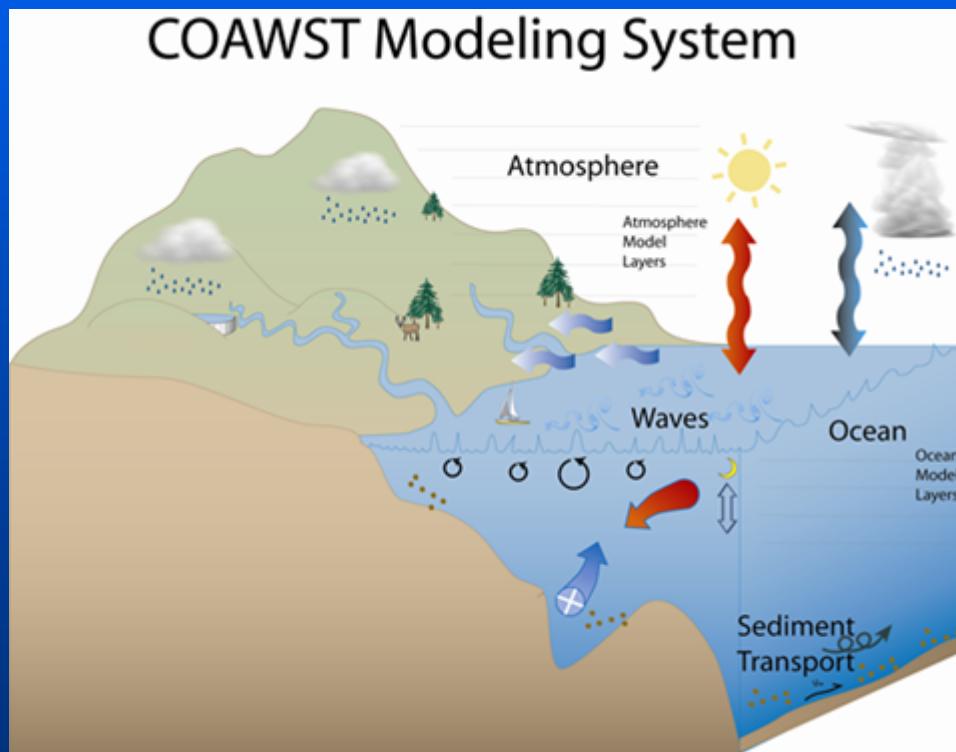
Synoptic Mean –SST  
Laplacian [ $10^{-10} \text{ K m}^{-2}$ ]



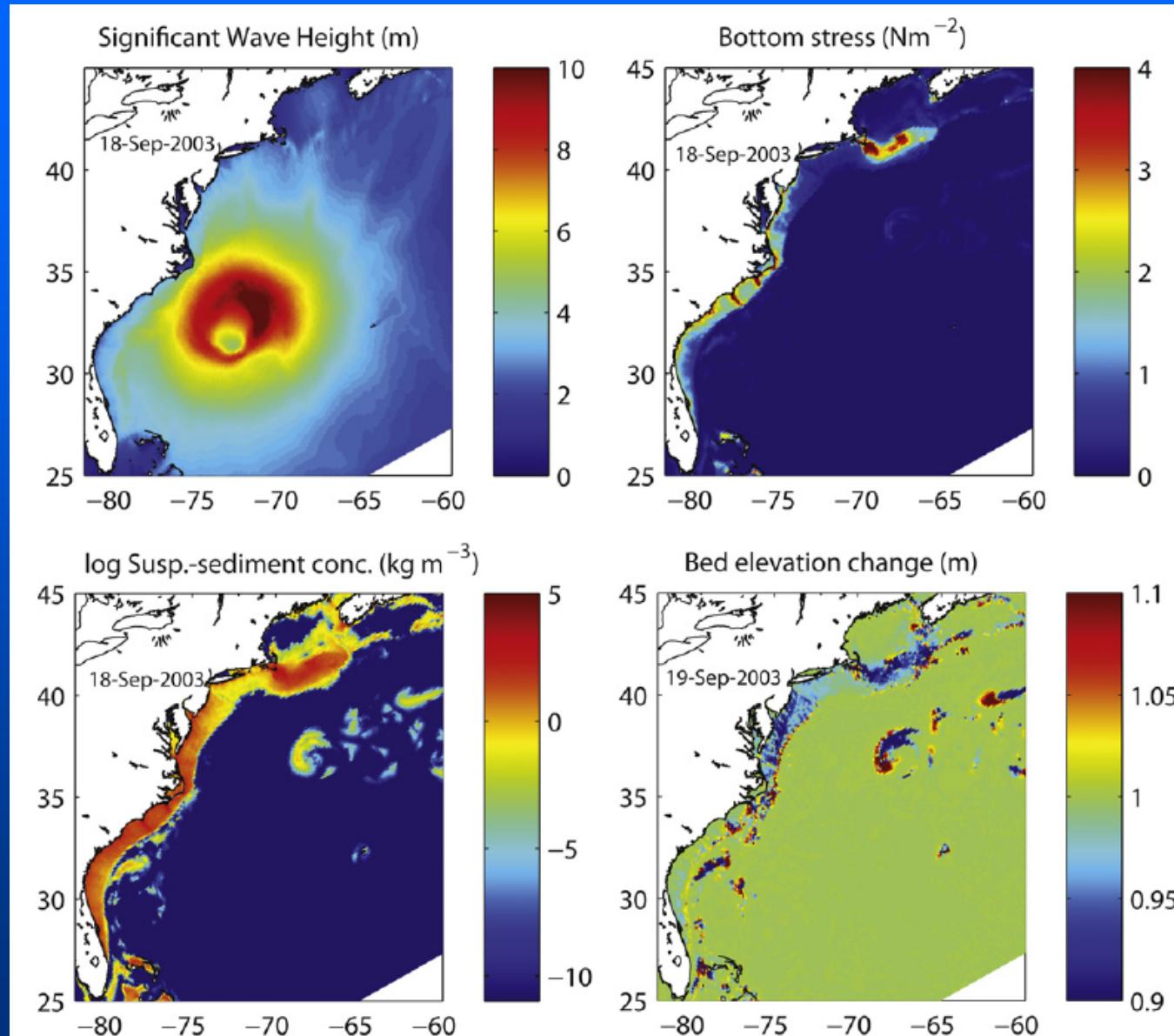
$$-(u_x + v_y) \rho_0 \sim -(T_{xx} + T_{yy})$$

Minobe et al. (2008); Nelson (2011), Nelson and He (2012)

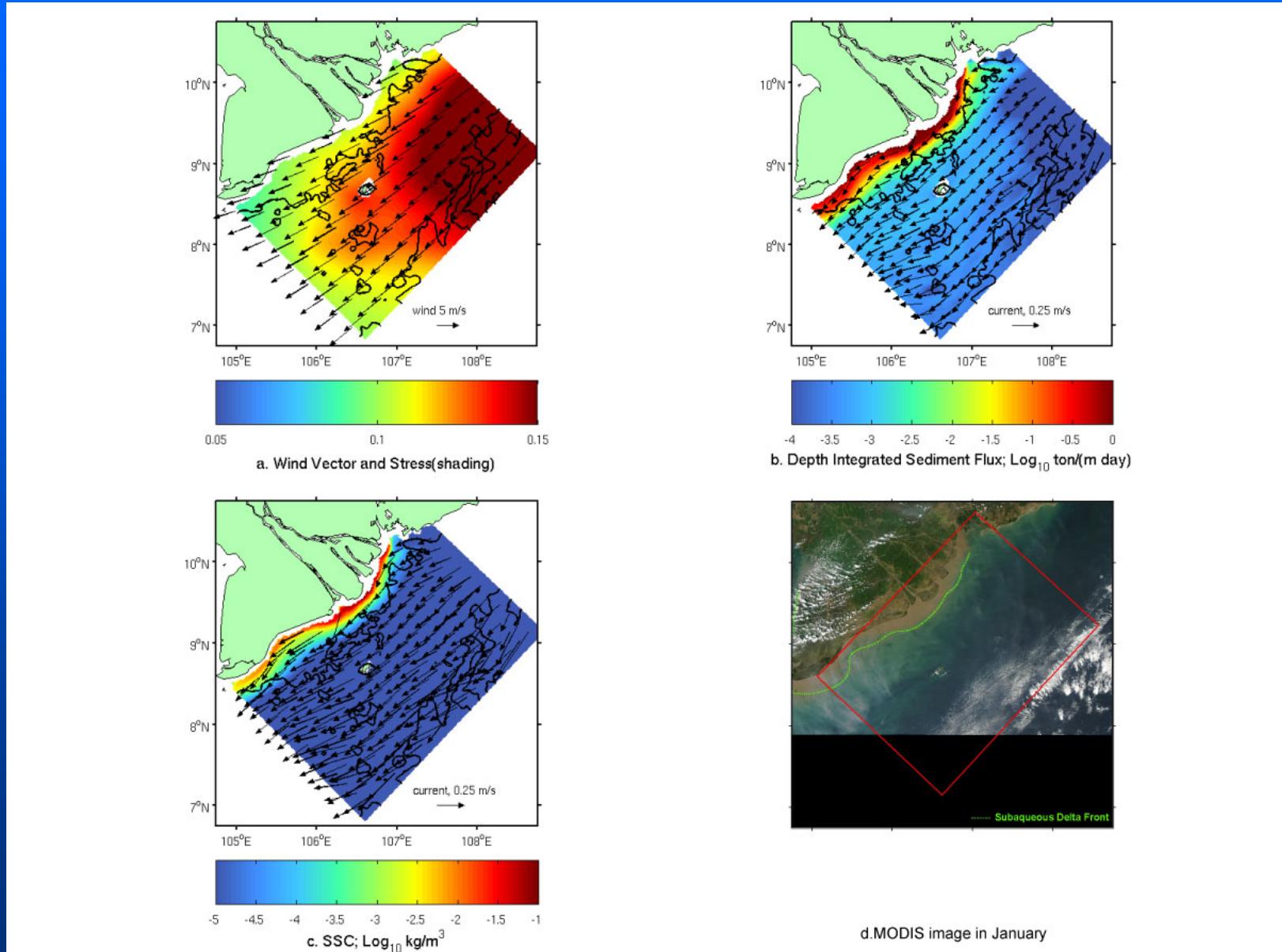
# Example 5: Modeling the Coastal Sediment transport



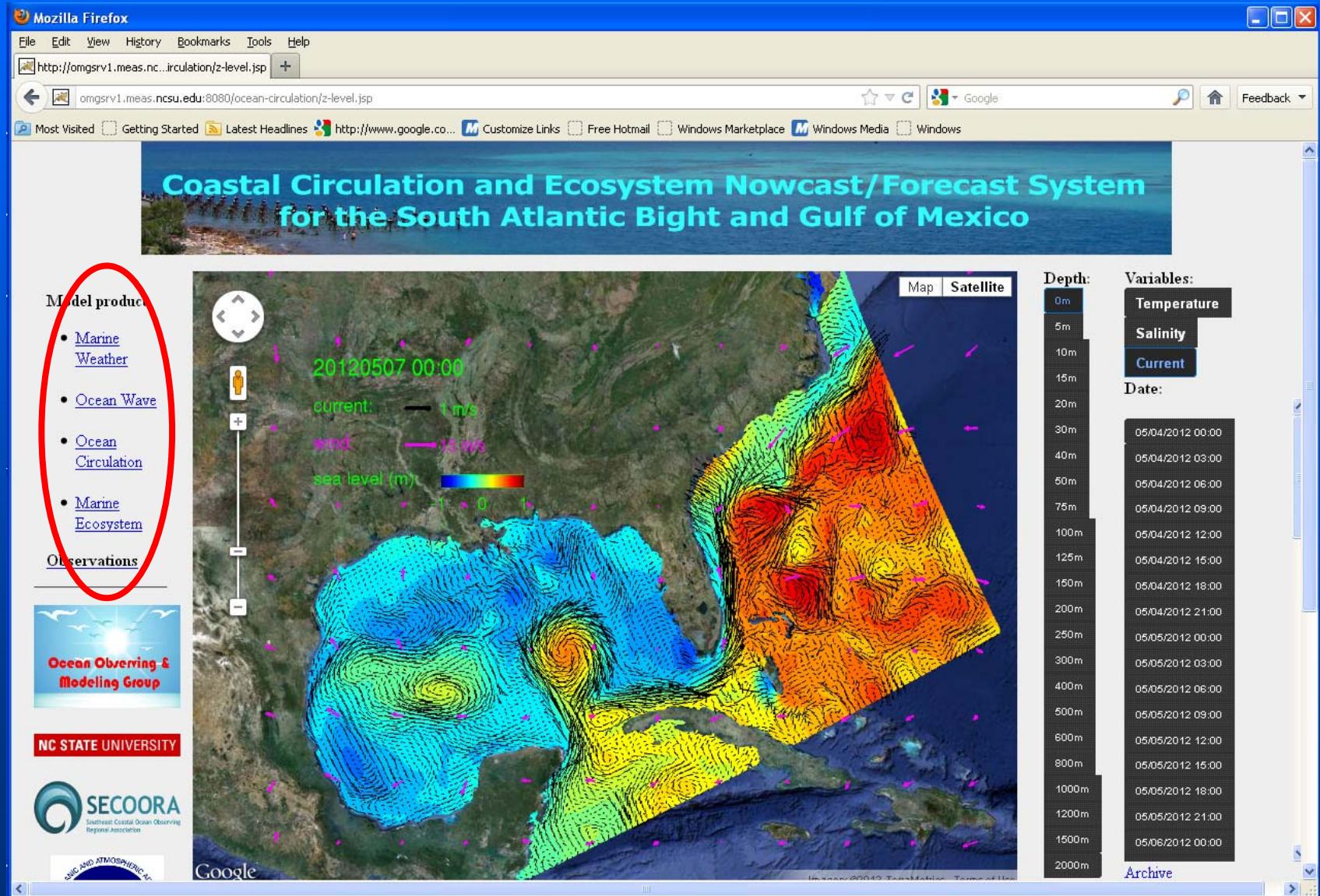
# Sediment transport, suspension and Erosion During Hurricane Isabel in September 2003



# Mekong River Sediment Re-suspension and Transport: December 2005

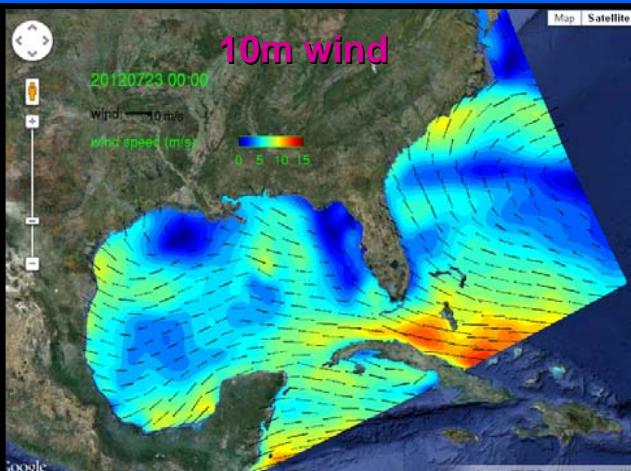


# Example 6: An integrated Ocean Circulation, Wave, Atmosphere and Marine Ecosystem Prediction System for the South Atlantic Bight and Gulf of Mexico

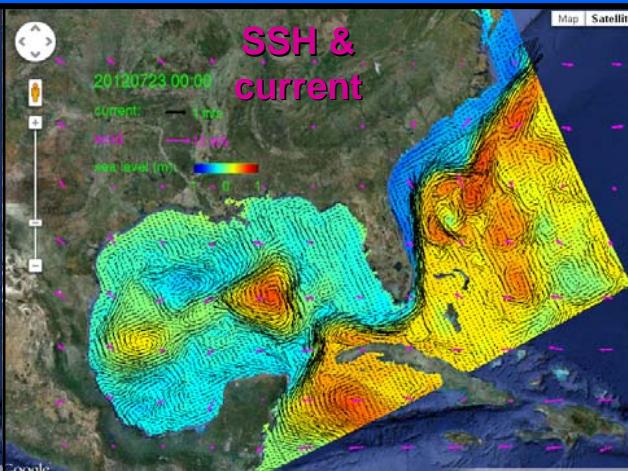


# SABGOM Model Prediction 7/23/2012

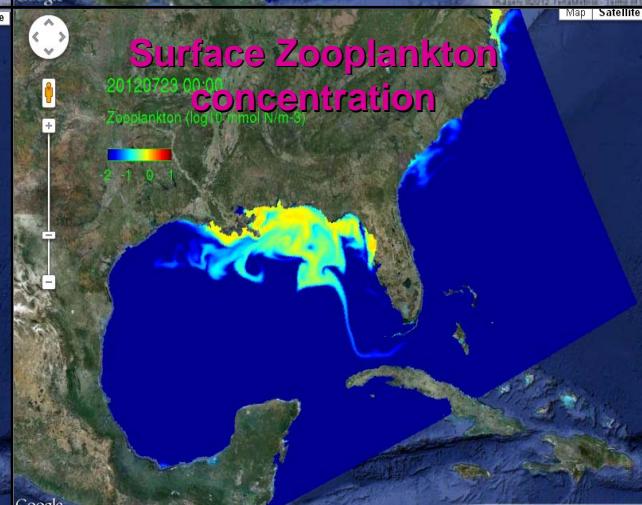
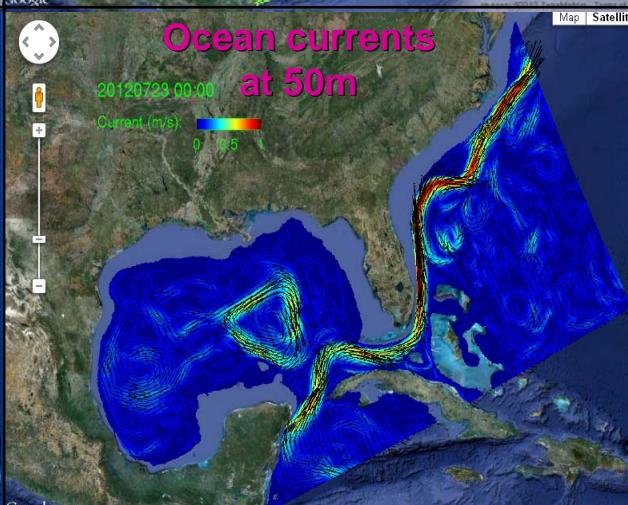
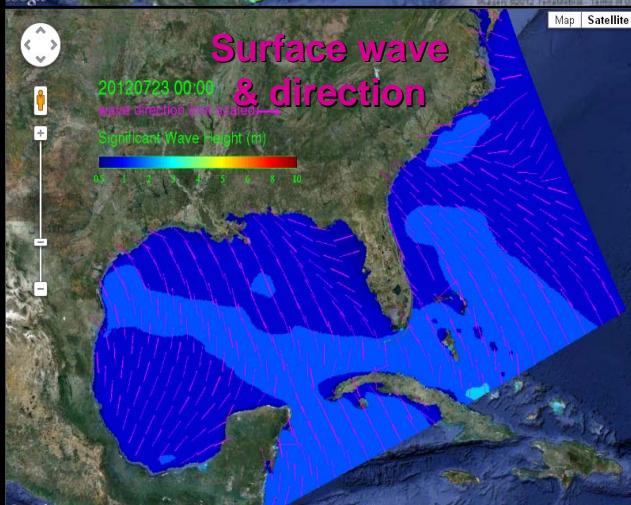
Marine Weather & Ocean Wave



Ocean Circulation

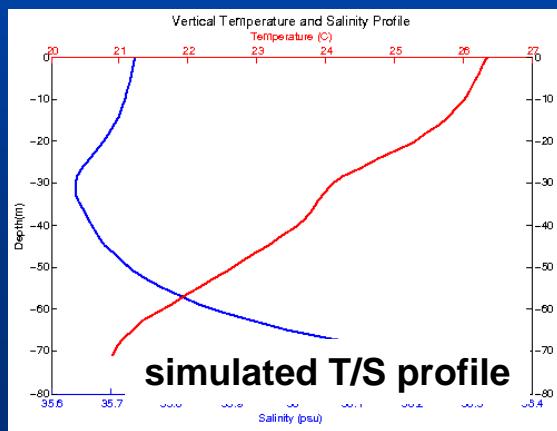
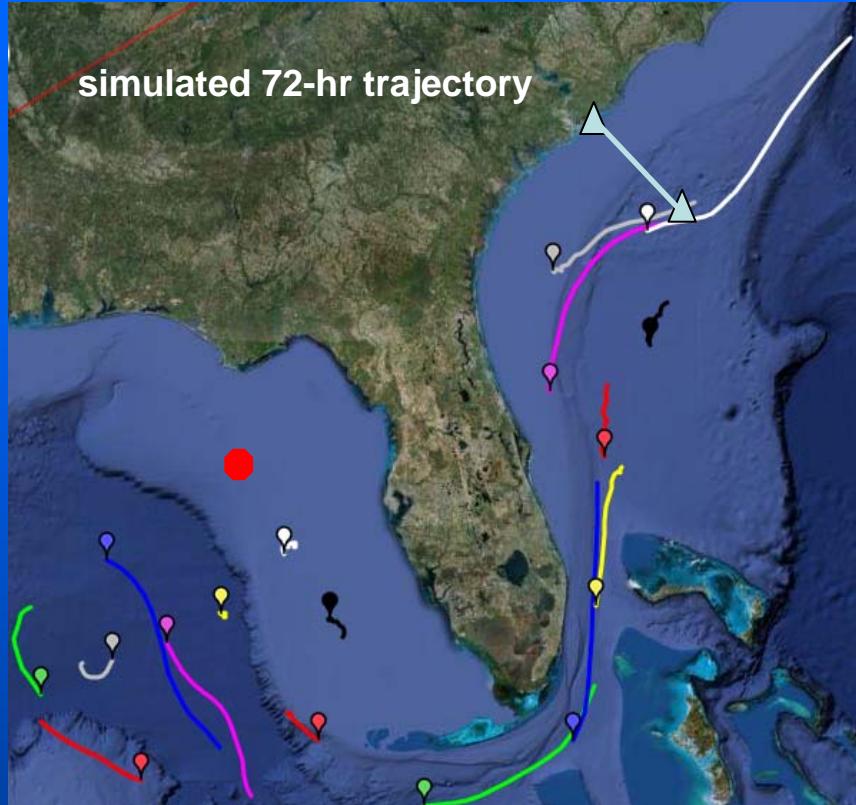


Marine Ecosystem

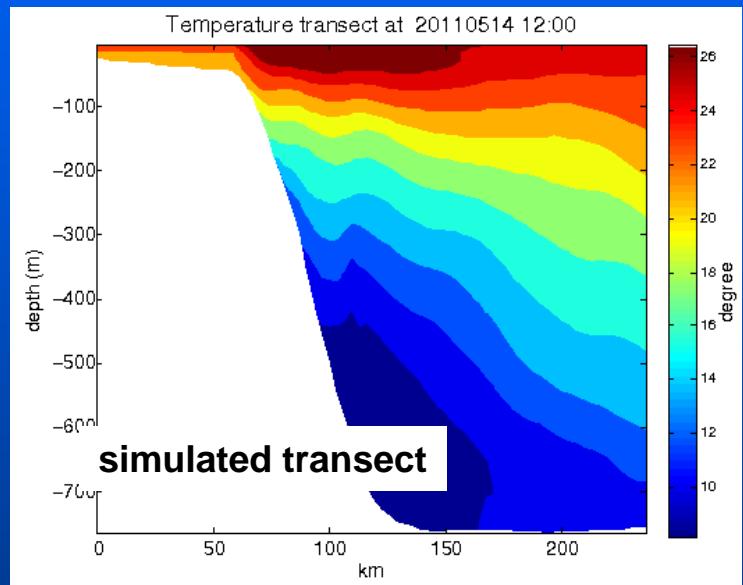


<http://omgsrv1.meas.ncsu.edu:8080/ocean-circulation>  
112-Processor Linux cluster is dedicated to the operation

# Web Interface & User Defined Online Functions



<http://omgsrv1.meas.ncsu.edu:8080/ocean-circulation>



# 2010 The Gulf of Mexico BP Oil Spill



# SABGOM OPeNDAP Server

<http://omglnx1.meas.ncsu.edu:8080/thredds/catalog/fmrc/sabgom/catalog.html>

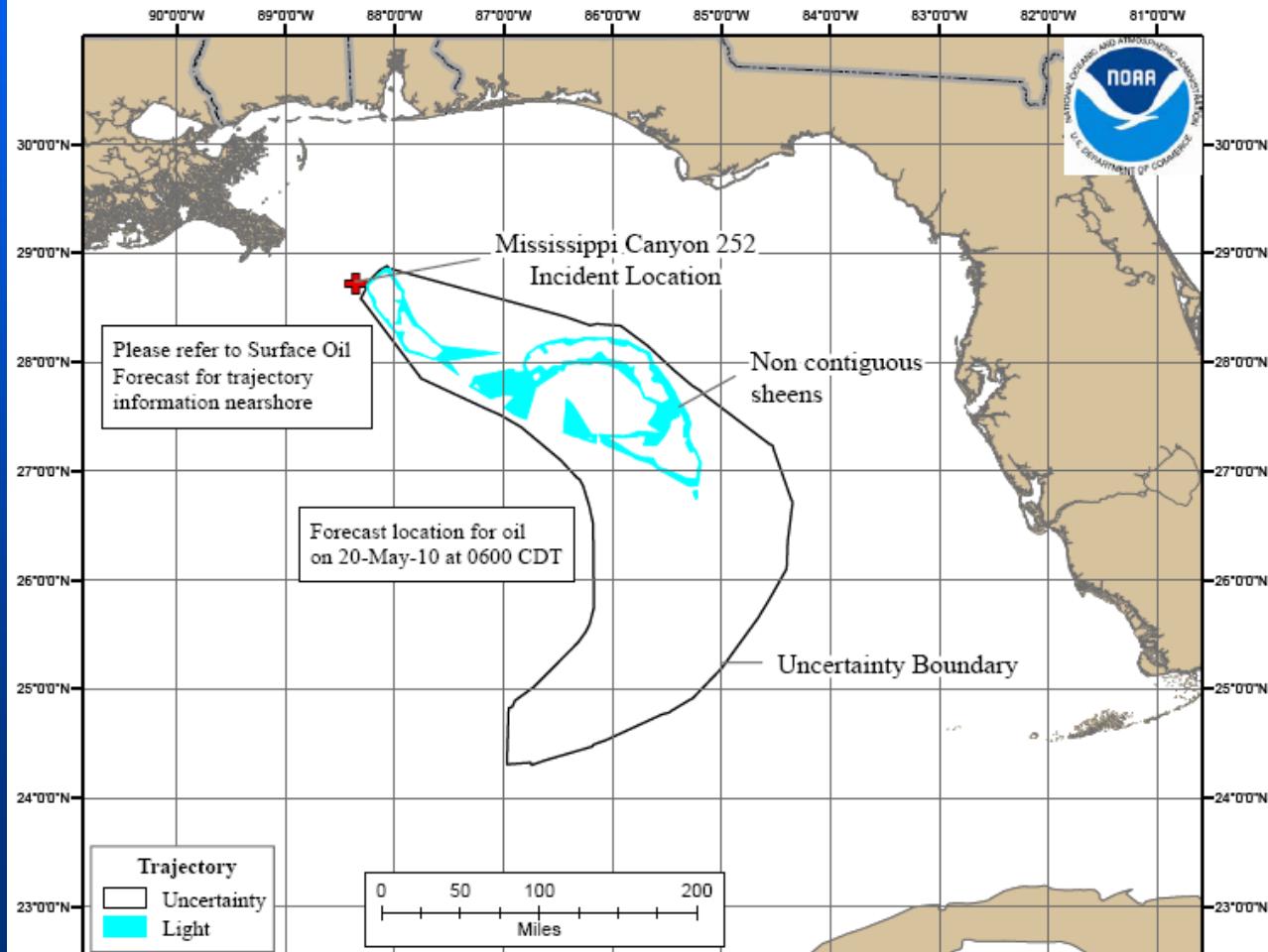
## Offshore Surface Oil Forecast Mississippi Canyon 252

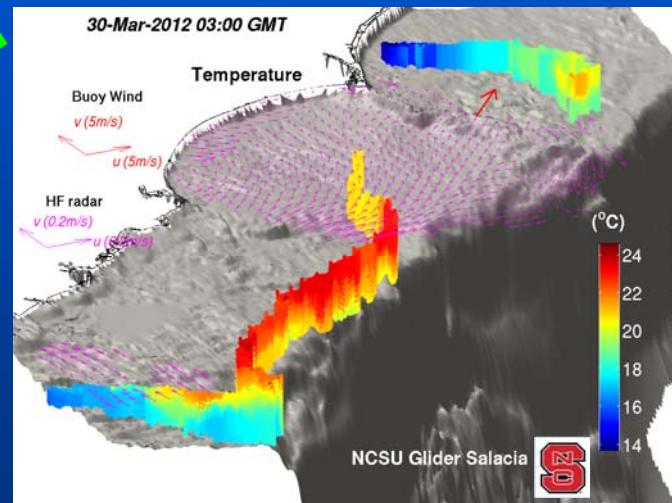
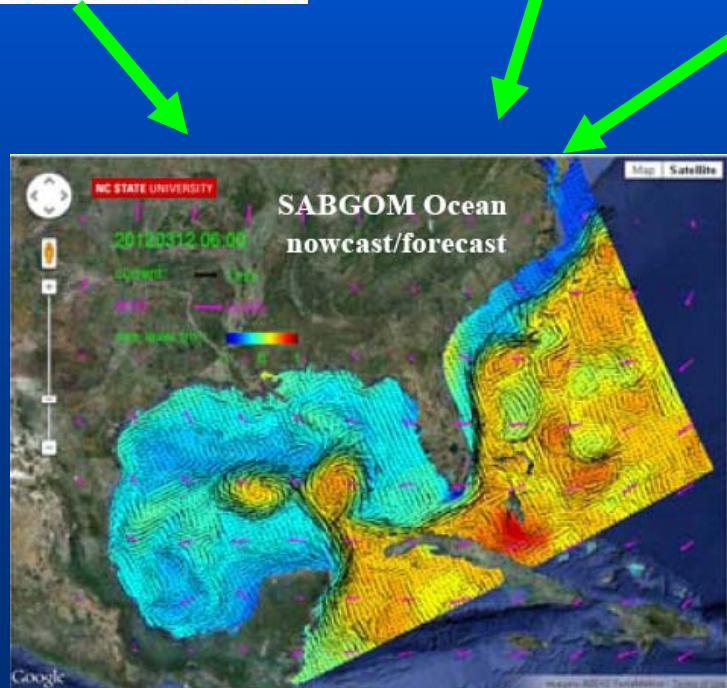
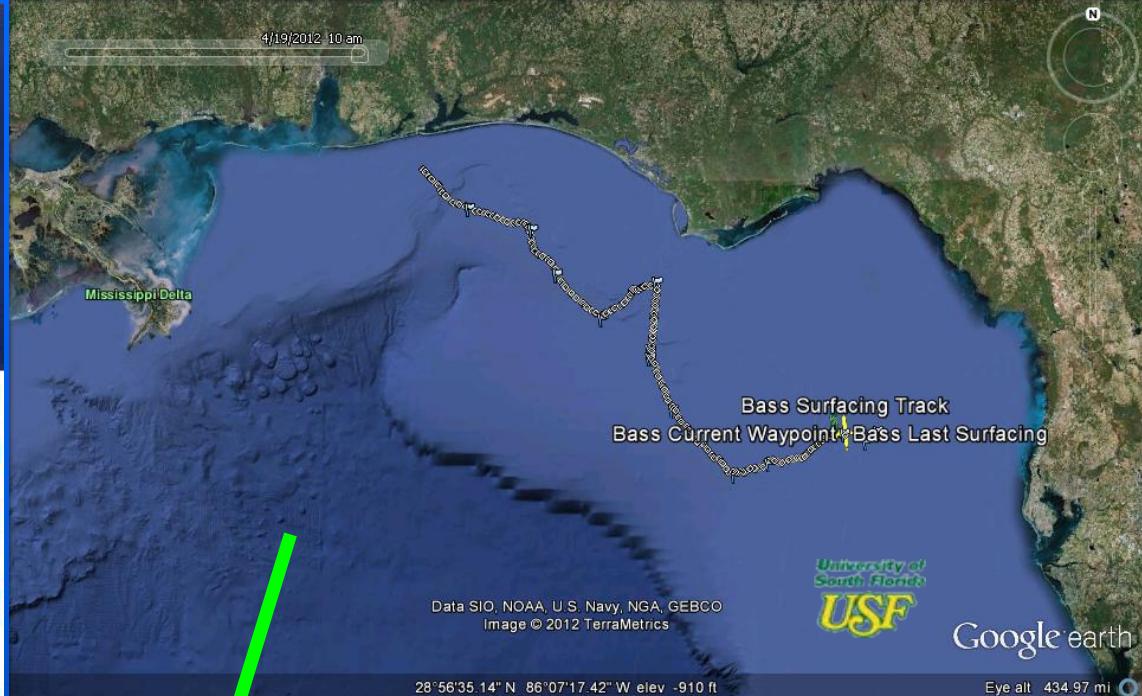
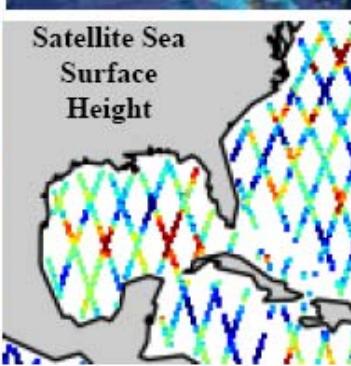
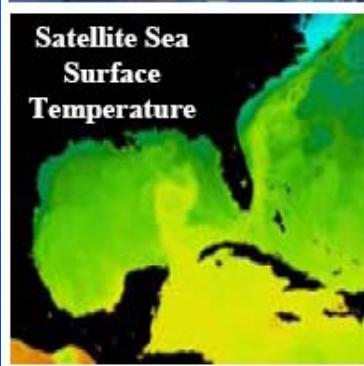
NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Estimate for: 0600 CDT, Thursday, 5/20/10

Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Tuesday, 5/18/10

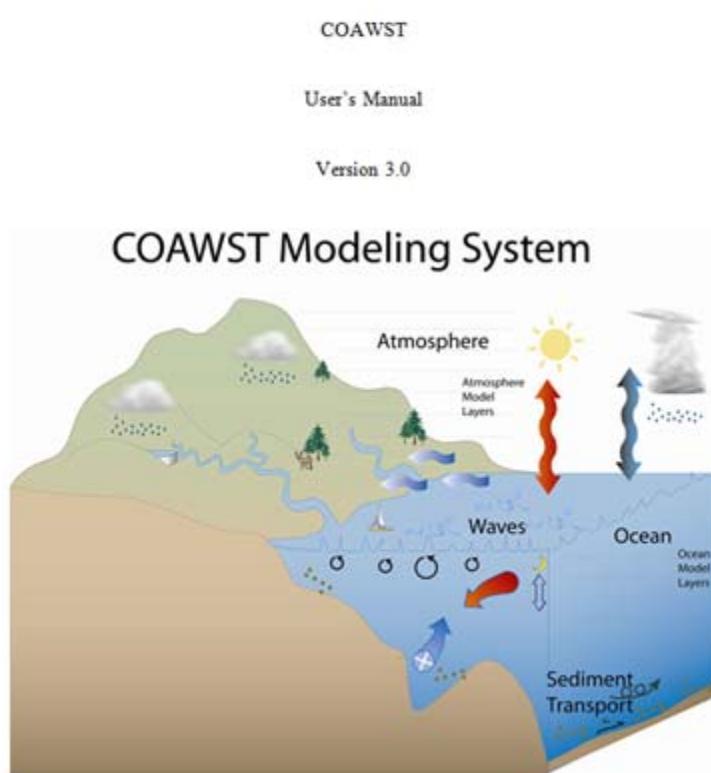
This map shows the predicted location of oil that has entered the loop current. Currents were obtained from four models: NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, NRL IASNFS and NC State SABGOM. Each include Loop Current dynamics. Gulf wide winds were obtained from the gridded NCEP product. The model was initialized from Tuesday AM satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS).





# Summary

- It is important to take coupled ocean, wave, and atmospheric dynamical processes into consideration
- Coupled modeling systems provides a powerful tool to address both scientifically important and societal relevant problems (e.g., storm prediction, and hazard assessment and mitigation) in the coastal ocean.
- Deterministic predictions of the coastal ocean environment will require refined models, advanced observational infrastructure together with sophisticated techniques for data assimilation.



<http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/operations/modeling/COAWST/index.html>

John C. Warner  
Brandy Armstrong  
Ruoying He  
Joseph Zambon  
~~Joseph Zambon~~  
Maitane Olabarrieta

USGS  
USGS  
NCSU  
NCSU  
USGS

(THIS DOCUMENT is under development)

- Coupling of WRF-ROMS-SWAN
  - ROMS 2-way flux conserving grid refinement
  - SWAN 1 way grid refinement
  - WRF has its own grid refinement
  - roms+swan coupled on multiple levels of refinement
  - Any one WRF level can drive the roms+swan. All grids can be different and we use SCRIP for flux conserving remapping

## COAWST related publications

- Warner, J.C., Armstrong, B., He, R., and Zambon, J.B. (2010), Development of a Coupled Ocean-Atmosphere-Wave-Sediment Transport (COAWST) modeling system: *Ocean Modeling*, v. 35, no. 3, p. 230-244.
- Kumar, N., Voulgaris, G., and Warner, J.C. (2011). Implementation and modification of a three-dimensional radiation stress formulation for surf zone and rip-current applications, *Coastal Engineering*, 58, 1097-1117, doi:10.1016/j.coastaleng.2011.06.009.
- Olabarrieta, M., J. C. Warner, and N. Kumar (2011), Wave-current interaction in Willapa Bay, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 116, C12014, doi:10.1029/2011JC007387.
- Kumar, N., Voulgaris, G., Warner, J.C., and M., Olabarrieta (2012). Implementation of a vortex force formalism in a coupled modeling system for inner-shelf and surf-zone applications. *Ocean Modeling*.
- Olabarrieta, M., Warner, J., Armstrong, B., Zambon, J., and He, R. (2012), Ocean-Atmosphere Dynamics During Hurricane Ida and Nor’Ida: An Application of the Coupled Ocean-Atmosphere-Wave-Sediment Transport (COAWST) Modeling System, *Ocean Modelling*, 43-44, 112-137.
- Xue, Z., He, R., Liu, J. P, J. C. Warner (2012), Modeling Transport and Deposition of the Mekong River Sediment, *Continental Shelf Research*, doi:10.1016/jcsr.2012.02.010.
- Nelson, J. and He. R. (2012), Effect of the Gulf Stream on Winter Extratropical Cyclone Outbreaks, *Atmospheric Research Letter*, doi: 10.1002/asl.400.