### Using models to understand ocean current variability and fisheries links

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http://coastalmodeling.rsmas.miami.edu









# Chl-a: seasonal variability (MODIS climatology)

#### MODIS climatology – February (monthly mean)



Provided by Viva Benzon, RSMAS satellite group

MODIS climatology – August (monthly mean)



Provided by Viva Benzon, RSMAS satellite group

### Salinity: seasonal variability (CARIB-HYCOM SSS climatology)





## GoM-HYCOM: Model to data comparison: 20° isotherm at 175m



Good representation of the northward penetration of the Loop Current by the model
Analysis tool for OSSEs

> Analysis tool for OSSEs

![](_page_6_Figure_0.jpeg)

### Simulation of dramatic SSH and SST changes during extreme events: hurricane Katrina example

-20

-40

-60

#### pre-Katrina

#### SSH (m), EXP1 30<sup>°</sup> N 60 40 20 25<sup>°</sup> N 0 20<sup>°</sup> N 95<sup>°</sup> W 90<sup>°</sup> W 85<sup>°</sup> W 80<sup>°</sup> W 2005/08/25 0000

SST (C), EXP1

![](_page_7_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### post-Katrina

![](_page_7_Figure_6.jpeg)

SST (C), EXP1

![](_page_7_Figure_8.jpeg)

### Loop Current influence on offshore removal of Mississippi River waters

7/30/04

8/05/04

![](_page_8_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### > Connectivity of remote ecosystems

![](_page_8_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### Eddy activity and fronts in the Gulf of Mexico

#### Sea Surface Height May 18 2004 00Z GOMh0.04

![](_page_9_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **Eddy evolution in the Straits of Florida**

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 10 20 30 40 50

Sea Surface Height Apr 29 2007 18Z Keyb0.01

Sea Surface Height May 06 2007 06Z Keyb0.01

![](_page_10_Figure_5.jpeg)

Sea Surface Height May 24 2007 12Z Keyb0.01

![](_page_10_Figure_7.jpeg)

60 70

80

![](_page_10_Figure_8.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_9.jpeg)

-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

#### **Eddy evolution in the Straits of Florida**

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

79°W

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Eddy prediction is crucial for biophysical connectivity studies

Alongshore current and larval counts during an eddy passage (2001 data)

![](_page_13_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_3.jpeg)

BiOlogical Lagrangian Transport System (BOLTS) coupled with HYCOM

part of the Connectivity Modeling System (CMS) http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/personal/cparis/cms/description.htm Blue: early larvae Red: late larvae

#### **BiOphysical Lagrangian Tracking System (BOLTS)**

Transport and recruitment of Coral reef Larvae

![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_3.jpeg)

Dry Tortugas - Release April 1, 2004 Daily position of particles during a 30-day passive transport in the Florida Current

**Recruitment to coral reef = 2%** 

Photo: C Guigand

Dry Tortugas - Release April 1, 2004 30-day active transport with OVM (Ontogenetic Vertical Migration) observed from the bicolor damselfish larvae Recruitment to coral reef = 38%

population connectivity models need to include physical-biological interactions
 CMS efficiently performs sensitivity analyses on the influence of biophysical parameters

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

Coupled FKEYS-HYCOM and CSM/BOLTS with Ontogenetic Vertical Migration

Trajectory depth : red at 0-10 m to dark blue at 40-50 m

Transport of 100 individual particles integrated over 30 days released in the upper 5 m at a single location in the Dry Tortugas Ecological Reserve

Particle age from day 1 (blue) to day 30 (red)

Concentration of blue and cyan particles (early stage) indicates the spawning area while areas with red particles (late larvae) indicate larval retention and/or the end of the 30-day advection

# Modeling lobster transport and recruitment

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)