II SEMINÁRIO SOBRE MODELAGEM NUMÉRICA OCEANOGRÁFICA IEAPM - November 2012

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## Observational and numerical issues related to the air-sea interface

- Space and time scales
- Air-sea coupling
- Future

# Space and time scales

# Space and time scales



Global
Sinoptic
Mesoscale
Microscale

#### $\textbf{Microscale} \rightarrow \textbf{relevant phenomena is TURBULENCE}$



# Turbulence is one of the unsolved problems in Physics.

## 1 million dollar prize!

#### **Clay Mathematics Institute**

Dedicated to increasing and disseminating mathematical knowledge

#### **Navier-Stokes equation**

Waves follow our boat as we meander across the lake, and turbulent air currents follow our flight in a modern jet. Mathematicians and physicists believe that an explanation for and the prediction of both the breeze and the turbulence can be found through an understanding of solutions to the Navier-Stokes equations. Although these equations were written down in the 19th Century, our understanding of them remains minimal. The challenge is to make substantial progress toward a mathematical theory which will unlock the secrets hidden in the Navier-Stokes equations.



From (http://www.claymath.org/millennium/Navier-Stokes\_Equations/)

### Remote sensing



Remote Sensing: Satellite image of Von Kármán Vortex Street, Selkirk Island.

Source: www.efluids.com

# Analogical modeling



#### Wind tunnel

Fonte: www.efluids.com

# Numerical modeling



Figure 1 The sound radiated by a Mach 1.9 circular jet. Contours of vorticity (black) are overlaid on dilatation contours (gray). The computations were performed by J Freund, SK Lele & P Moin (unpublished information).

### Direct numerical simulation.

### Grids: 512<sup>3</sup>

Source: Moin and Mahesh, 1998.

### Equatorial Atlantic data

#### **PIRATA** $\rightarrow$ Upper boundary condition $\rightarrow$ SW $\downarrow$ , T<sub>a</sub>, U<sub>a</sub>, V<sub>a</sub>, RH, SST.

(Prediction and Research Moored Array over the Tropical Atlantic Ocean)

#### **SRB-NASA** $\rightarrow$ Closing the radiation balance $\rightarrow$ SW<sup> $\uparrow$ </sup>, LW<sup> $\uparrow$ </sup>, LW<sup> $\uparrow$ </sup>



### In situ data - PIRATA



# PIRATA ( $0^{\circ}$ , 23<sup>o</sup> W) – monthly average – 1999 to 2006

#### Atmosphere



### ITCZ displacement



PIRATA ( $0^{\circ}$ ,  $23^{\circ}$  W) – monthly average – 1999 to 2006.

### Equator - wind and current

The eastward pressure gradient at the surface is balanced by the wind stress.

Below a few tens of meters , the influence of the wind stress is small, and the pressure gradient is unbalanced, leading to an accelerated flow toward the east:

# equatorial undercurrent (EUC).

Column model



Cross-sectional sketch of the thermocline and sea-surface topography along the equator.



### Numerical study of the equatorial Atlantic Ocean mixed layer using the GOTM model

### General Ocean Turbulence Model (GOTM, Burchard et al., 1999)

#### GOTM:

- A computational tool that compiles different turbulence closure models;
- Column model.

### Assimilation scheme

$$\partial_t X \propto -T_{assim}^{-1}(X-X_{obs})$$

X:Variable prognosticated by the model $X_{obs}$ :Observed variable $T_{assim}$ :Prescribed period of assimilation

$$T_{assim} = 1 \text{ day}$$

### Assimilation scheme



### Assimilation scheme



### Zonal current

Season 1

### к- є model

 $\kappa$ -ε model → turbulent kinetic energy ( $\kappa$ ) and dissipation rate of  $\kappa$  (ε). The prognostic equations for  $\kappa$  and ε:

$$\frac{\partial \kappa}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{\nu_t}{\sigma_{\kappa}} \frac{\partial \kappa}{\partial z} \right) = \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{B} - \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{v_t}{\sigma_{\varepsilon}} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial z} \right) = \frac{\varepsilon}{\kappa} (c_{1\varepsilon} P + c_{3\varepsilon} B - c_{2\varepsilon} \varepsilon)$$

 $\sigma_k, \sigma_{\epsilon}, c_{1\epsilon}, c_{2\epsilon}, c_{3\epsilon}$  are empirical constants  $\sigma_k$  is Schmidt number for k (≈1.0)  $\sigma_{\epsilon}$  is Schmidt number for  $\epsilon$  (≈1.3)  $c_{1\epsilon} \approx 1.44$   $c_{2\epsilon} \approx 1.92$  $c_{3\epsilon} \approx -0.4$  (unstable layer) and ≈1.0 (stable layer)

P is the shear production of k:

$$P = -\overline{u'\,w'}\,\frac{\partial\overline{u}}{\partial z} - \overline{v'\,w'}\,\frac{\partial\overline{v}}{\partial z}$$

B is the buoyancy production/dissipation of k: B

$$B = \frac{g}{\rho} \overline{u' \theta'}$$

### Upper boundary condition

Momentum

$$-\left(\overline{\mathbf{u'w'}}\right)_{0} = \frac{\tau_{0}^{x}}{\rho_{0}}$$
$$-\left(\overline{\mathbf{v'w'}}\right)_{0} = \frac{\tau_{0}^{y}}{\rho_{0}}$$

(Fairall et al., 2003)

$$-\left(\overline{\theta'w'}\right)_{0} = \frac{Q_{n}}{\rho_{0} c_{p}} = \frac{SW + LW + Q_{e} + Q_{h}}{\rho_{0} c_{p}}$$

 $\epsilon$  – Flow condition derived from the law of the wall:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{\nu_{t}}{\sigma_{\epsilon}} \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial z} \right) = -c_{1} \frac{\nu}{\sigma_{\epsilon}} \frac{k^{3/2}}{0.4(z+z_{0})^{2}}$$

### Lower boundary condition

Rigid lid and zero flow, considering the bottom as a hard surface.

### Surface fluxes



Positive net surface heat flux corresponds to the heat gained by the ocean.

#### Turbulent kinetic energy



#### Season 1

Season 2

Criterion of  $h_{oml}$ log(k)  $\geq$  -5

#### k equation terms – Season 1

#### Mechanical production

Thermal production \ dissipation

Rate of viscous dissipation

(10<sup>-7</sup> m<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-3</sup>)



#### k equation terms – Season 2



#### **Mechanical production**

Thermal production dissipation

Rate of viscous dissipation

(10<sup>-7</sup> m<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-3</sup>)

#### Diurnal evolution of *k*-equation terms



Average vertical profile of the *k*-equation terms **normalized by the viscous dissipation rate of k at the surface (\varepsilon\_0), averaged from October 1 to 10.** 

### Criterion for estimating the depth of the OML (h<sub>oml</sub>)

Source	Criterion		
de Boyer Montegut et al. (2004)	Δθ=0.2° C		
(h <sup>0.03</sup> )	Δρ=0.03 kg m <sup>-3</sup>		
Wang et al. (1998)			
(h <sup>0.01</sup> )	Δρ=0.01 kg m <sup>-3</sup>		
GOTM	k=1 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>		
(h <sup>k</sup> )			

 $\Delta \rho = 0.01$  Kg m<sup>-3</sup>  $\rightarrow$  depth at which potential density differs from that of the surface by 0.01 Kg m<sup>-3</sup>.

 $\Delta \rho = 0.03$  Kg m<sup>-3</sup>  $\rightarrow$  depth at which potential density differs from that of the 10 m depth by 0.03 Kg m<sup>-3</sup>.







Potential density contour interval of 0.03 kg m<sup>-3</sup>.

The thick red lines indicate the ( $h_{oml}$ ) estimated using a TKE threshold of 10<sup>-5</sup> m<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-2</sup>.



#### Turbulent kinetic energy – diurnal cycle



### Comparison

#### **Dissipation rate** $[\log(\varepsilon)]$

log (s) -4 depth (m) -20 -5 -40 -6 -60 -8 -80 -9 -10010 06 12 18 00 Local time 0 depth (m) 20 40 60 80 100 12 18 24 6 Local time

The numerical results were consistent with previous studies in the equatorial Pacific.

GOTM **Equatorial Atlantic** Average from Aug, Sep, Out.

Wang et al. (1998) **Equatorial Pacific** (1 day simulation)

Turbulence criterion  $\log(\varepsilon) \ge -7$ 





- Mechanical production  $\rightarrow$  most important term.
- Buoyancy term  $\rightarrow$  important producing turbulence to ~ 30% of the OML depth during night and during the day dissipating turbulence;



#### Future work

•To investigate the generation of the deep-cycle turbulence (unrelated to surface forcing generated turbulence) including the surface and internal gravity waves.

•To couple the GOTM with an atmosphere second order turbulence model.

# Air-sea coupling

# Cabo Frio



### Cabo Frio observational data

Research	Local	Data	Period	Frequency	Instrument
Leite (2005)	(22°59,16' S 42°03,98' W)	Surface wind	Summer 2001	Hourly average	Meteorological buoy
	(22°59,280' S 42°06,733' W)		Winter 2001		
Oda (1997)	Meteorological station (number 83719) (22,879° S 42,018° W)	Surface wind	1970 to 1980	Hourly	Anemograph
	"Companhia Nacional de Álcalis" (22,9604° S 42,0313° W)	SST	1970 a 1980	Hourly	Atmospheric sounding
	(22° 57' 58" S 42° 01' 40" W)	Surface wind Air temperature Mixing ratio	Summer (09/01/1995) Winter (04/08/1995)	Different times	Atmospheric sounding
Dourado and Oliveira (2001)	(23° 00' S 42°08' W)	Air temperature Mixing ratio	Winter (07-10 July 1992)	1 atmospheric sounding each 4 hours	Atmospheric sounding
		Sea temperature vertical profile		1 oceanic sounding each 4 hours	Oceanic sounding

Observed wind



Monthly average wind velocity and number of occurrences (column). Data from 1970 to 1980.

Max 8760

### Observed SST



Monthly average SST and number of occurrence of TSM < 20 °C (column). 1970 to 1980.

# Cabo Frio - Upwelling region



Fig. 1 Scheme of the Ekman transport during a coastal upwelling favorable wind and b coastal downwelling favorable wind

- A semi-permanent high pressure center (South Atlantic High Pressure system) causes NE winds.
- Coastal upwelling.
- Passage of cold fronts cause SW winds.

### Atmospheric model Non hydrostatic Mesoscale Vorticity Model (TVM)

- Vorticity equations.
- Tridimensional.
- Incompressible.
- Boussinesq approximations.
- Sigma coordinates.
- The atmospheric surface layer uses the Monin-Obukhov Similarity Theory.





• The local topography was a determining factor in the local atmospheric circulation and indirectly influences the phenomenon of coastal upwelling;



### Land use



• Land use has minor role in the local atmospheric circulation.

# Atmospheric model



Upwelling condition



### Ocean model

- Bi-dimensional, 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> layers.
- Deep layer inert.
- Surface layer uses nonlinear equations and vertically integrated momentum, continuity and heat.
- Finite differences: advanced in time and centered in space.

### Ocean model

Grid points equal to the atmospheric model in the horizontal directions.







SST field after 2 days of ocean model integration. Line interval equal 1° C. NOAA-12 satellite (28 Jan 1993).

### Model coupling



- $SH \rightarrow sensible heat flux$
- $LH \rightarrow latent heat flux$
- $Q \rightarrow surface \ heat \ flux$
- $\zeta \rightarrow$  momentum flux from the atmosphere to the ocean
- $s \rightarrow$  source/ sink of heat across the interface
- $H \rightarrow$  thickness of the oceanic superficial layer.

 $\Delta t (atm) = 30 \text{ s and } \Delta t (ocean) = 600 \text{ s}$ 

# Coupled model



Upwelling condition





#### *Atmospheric*

#### Coupled model



### Remark

• The results indicate that accurate models of coastal upwelling processes can require representations of ocean—atmosphere interactions on short temporal and spatial scales.

# Where to go?

### FluTuA

Observational campaign of May 2002 (mobile platform)

 Observational campaign of December 2008 (tower)

### FluTuA Observational campaign May 2002







#### Surface emissivity

#### Broadband atmospheric transmissivity



#### $\epsilon = 0.97$ Surface emissivity



 $\Gamma = 0.5 + 0.3 \cos Z$ 

#### Surface albedo

#### Net radiation





# Comparison with satellite estimate (SRB/NASA project)



#### FluTuA

### **Observational campaign December 2008**



São Pedro and São Paulo Archipelago

### Radiation balance



#### Air temperature and SST



### Turbulence – nighttime conditions (20 Hz)



### Turbulence – daytime conditions (20 Hz)

13h-14h



## Remarks

•Model results depend in part on imperfect parameterizations of boundary layer turbulence, so that conclusions about these dynamics based purely on simulations must be treated with caution.

•Results indicate that air—sea interaction on short temporal and horizontal scales may play a central role in controlling essential elements of ocean circulation.

•It is necessary in situ high frequency measurements.



#### http://www.iag.usp.br/meteo/labmicro/publicacoes/index.html

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# Thank you!