

Recent Developments of ROMS at UCLA

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What do we do:

- grids, configurations, resolutions
- scientific goals
- downscaling
- process studies, submesoscale dynamics
- sediment transport
- parameterizations

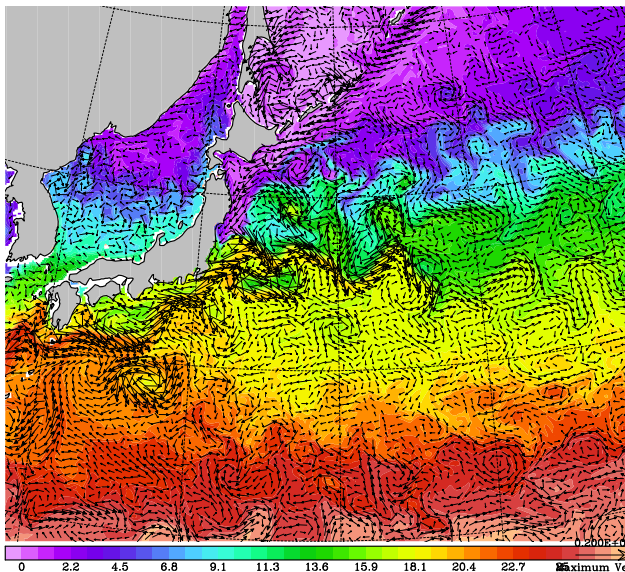
What does it take to make it happen:

- changing requirements for codes to meet scientific goal
- **changes in ROMS kernel algorithms**
- sub-models and parameterizations, interference with kernel
- changing modeling practices
- model logistics and tools: coping with large data
- computational performance: adaptation to multi-core CPUs

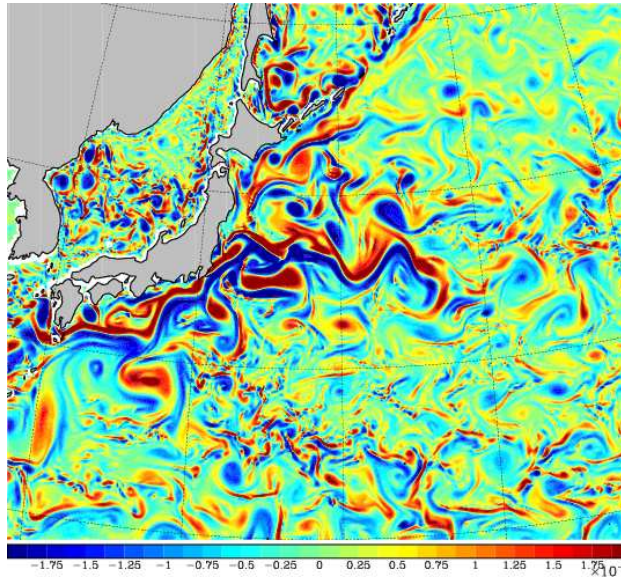
Pacific simulations

Grids: 0.45 deg; 0.22 deg at Equator, isotropic $\Delta\phi = \cos\phi \cdot \delta\lambda$, $976 \times 720 \times 40$
12km, isotropic, centered off Equator, $1840 \times 960 \times 32$
posed as a regional configuration: side boundaries from SODA (a global POP solution)

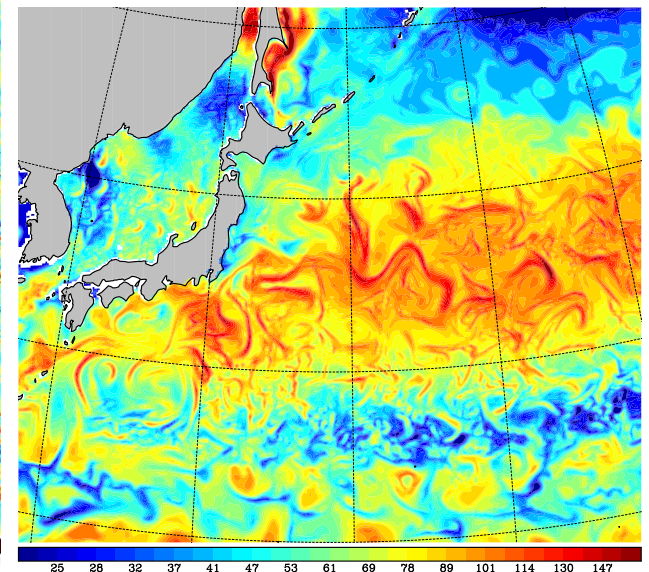
SST + surface velocity, 12km



surface vorticity



KPP PBL depth, December

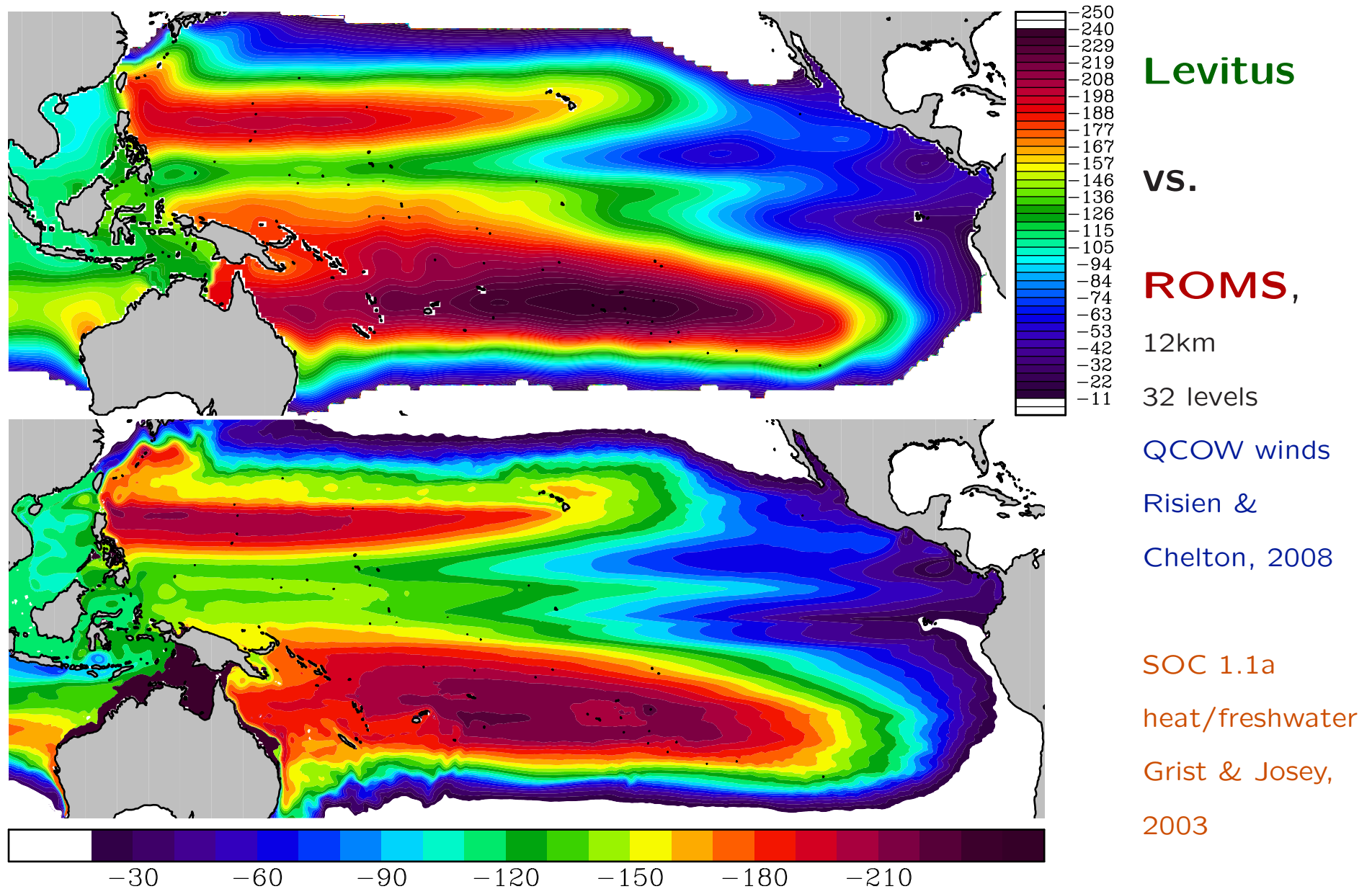


Interests:

- large scale dynamics
- focus vertical parameterization schemes, KPP
- focus on long-term performance and conservation properties of the code
- comparison of different wind/heat forcing products
- air-sea interaction
- modeling sensitivities and safe practices (mainly due to topographic effects)
- standard test platform for Kernel algorithms (time stepping, coupling, parameterization)
- generate side boundaries for other models

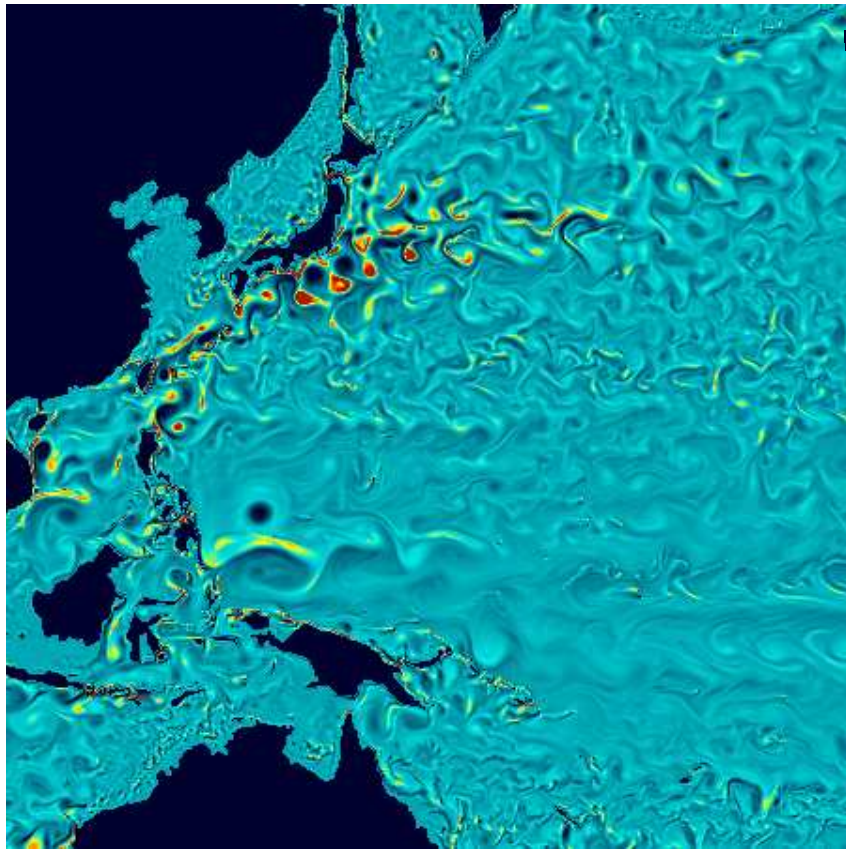
Pacific simulations, continued...

Depth of 20°C isotherm, annual

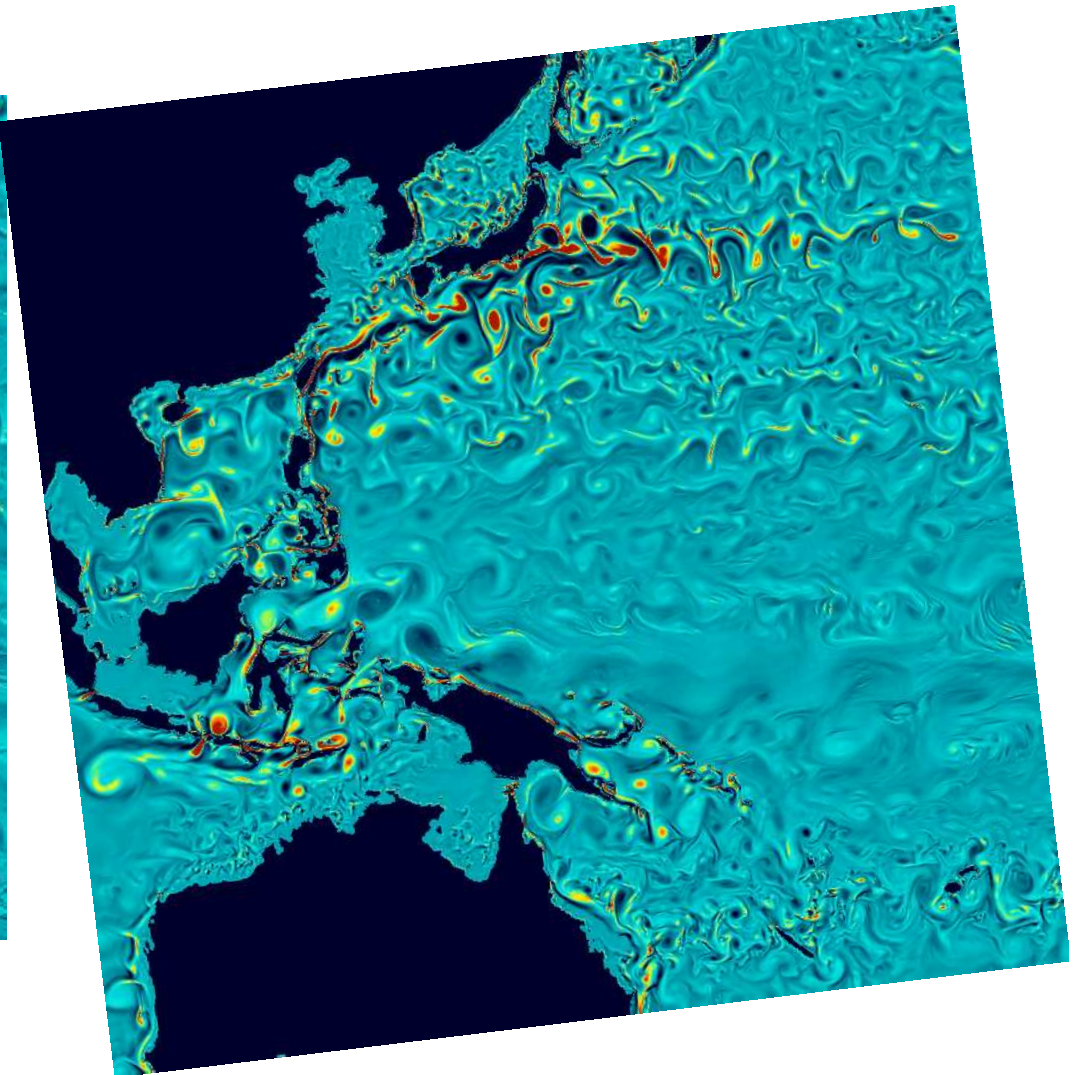


Pacific simulations, continued...

Mesoscale, effect of resolution



0.22-degree

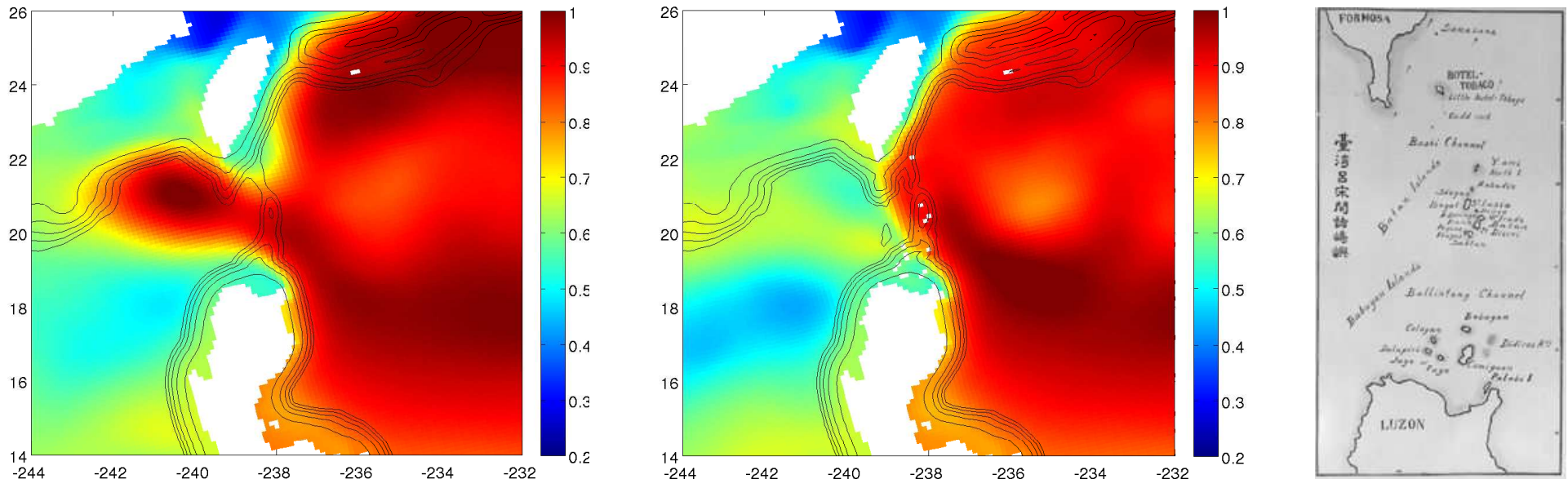


12 km

near-surface relative vorticity in Western Pacific
from ROMS Pacific simulations
min/max saturated colors correspond to $\pm 0.25 \times 10^{-4} \text{ sec}^{-1}$

Pacific simulations, continued...

Topography and land mask sensitivity



Mean annual SSH from two 12km ROMS Pacific simulations, Luzon Strait

topographic contours at 400, 800, 1200, 1600, 2000 m

Note several extra 1-point islands on the right

- Comparable sensitivity was observed by Gille, Metzger, & Tokmakian (2004) in NLOM model
- in line with the experience of **not to neglect small islands**, even though poorly resolved, e.g., Galapagos (barrier for Equatorial undercurrent, Eden & Timmermann, 2004): Caribbean (Gulf Stream separation), Kuril, Aleutian, etc
- sigma-modelers tend to over-smooth topography, because of fear of Haney (1991) criterion. Our current practices lean toward $rx_1 \sim 10$

Luzon Strait map from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luzon_Strait

Pacific simulations, continued...

Coastal upwelling off Peru-Chile region extracted from 12km Pacific solution.

SST, middle of December

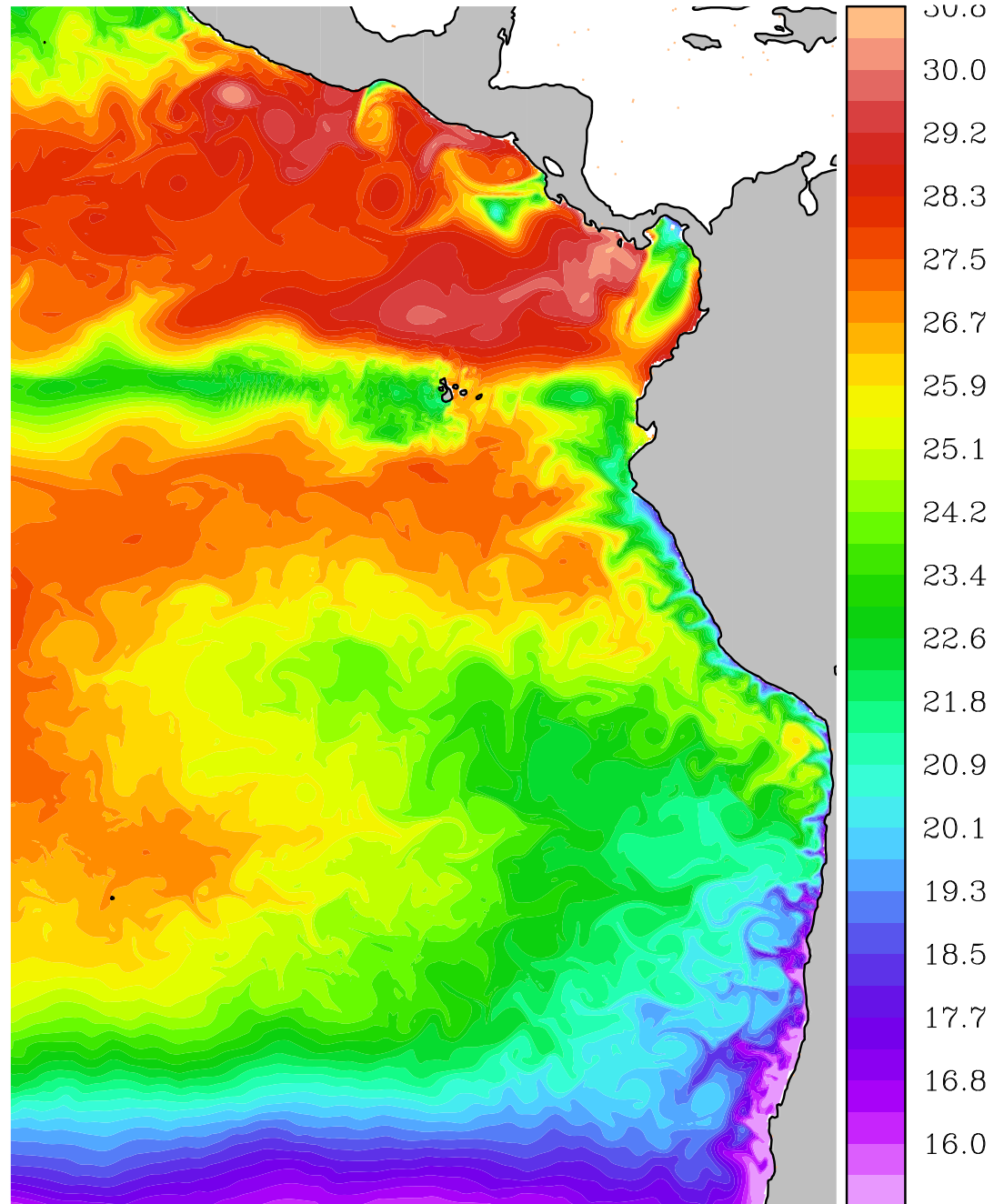
Interests:

air-sea interaction,
VOCALS project: coarse-resolution climate models lack this upwelling

sub-mesoscale activity
(possible in finer nested configuration)

gap wind events

...another “US West Coast” configuration, but with stronger Equatorial link



New US West Coast solutions

USW4: $\Delta x = 4\text{km}$
375 × 625
42 levels

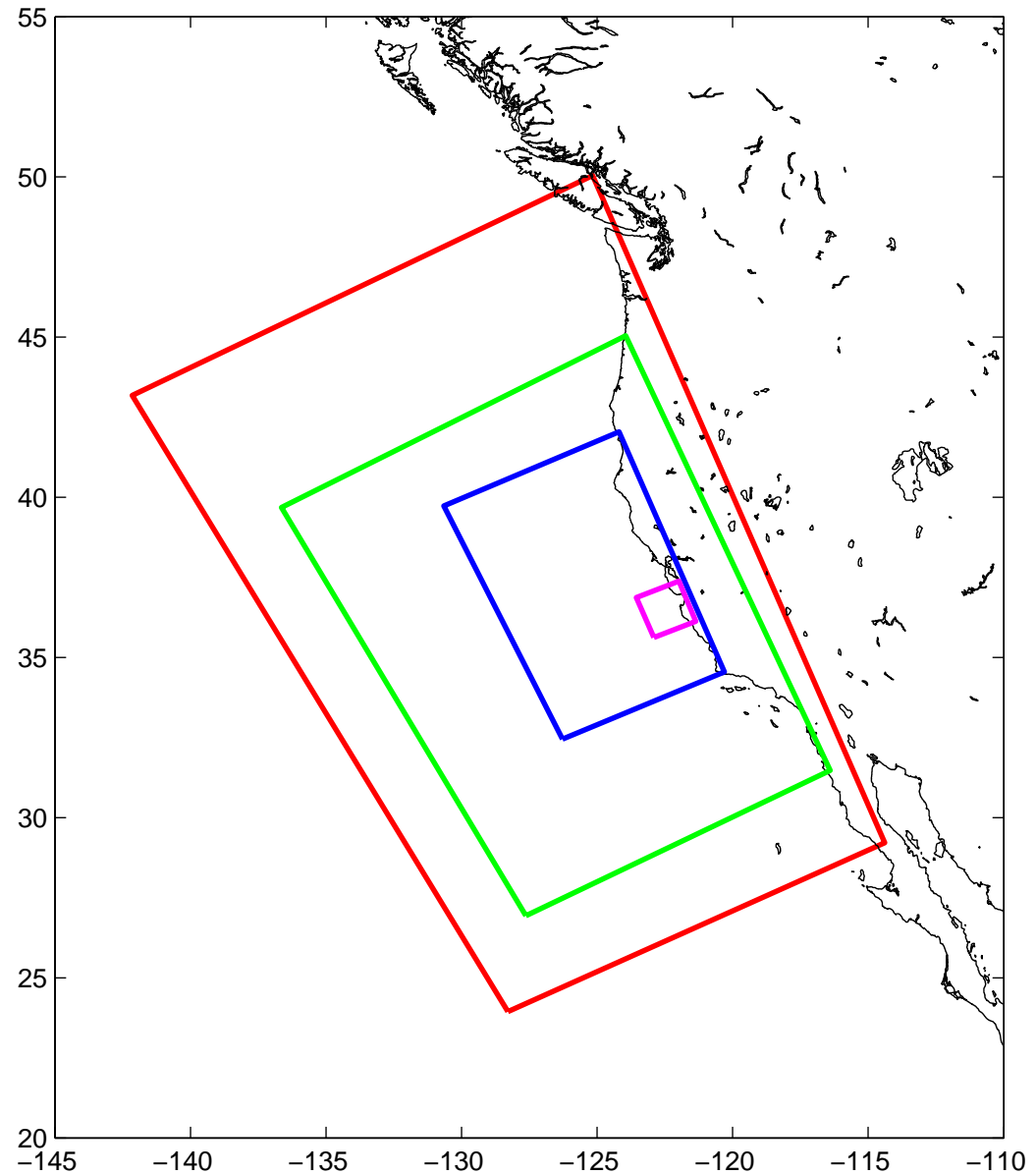
SMCAL: $\Delta x = 1.5\text{km}$
800 × 1100
42 levels

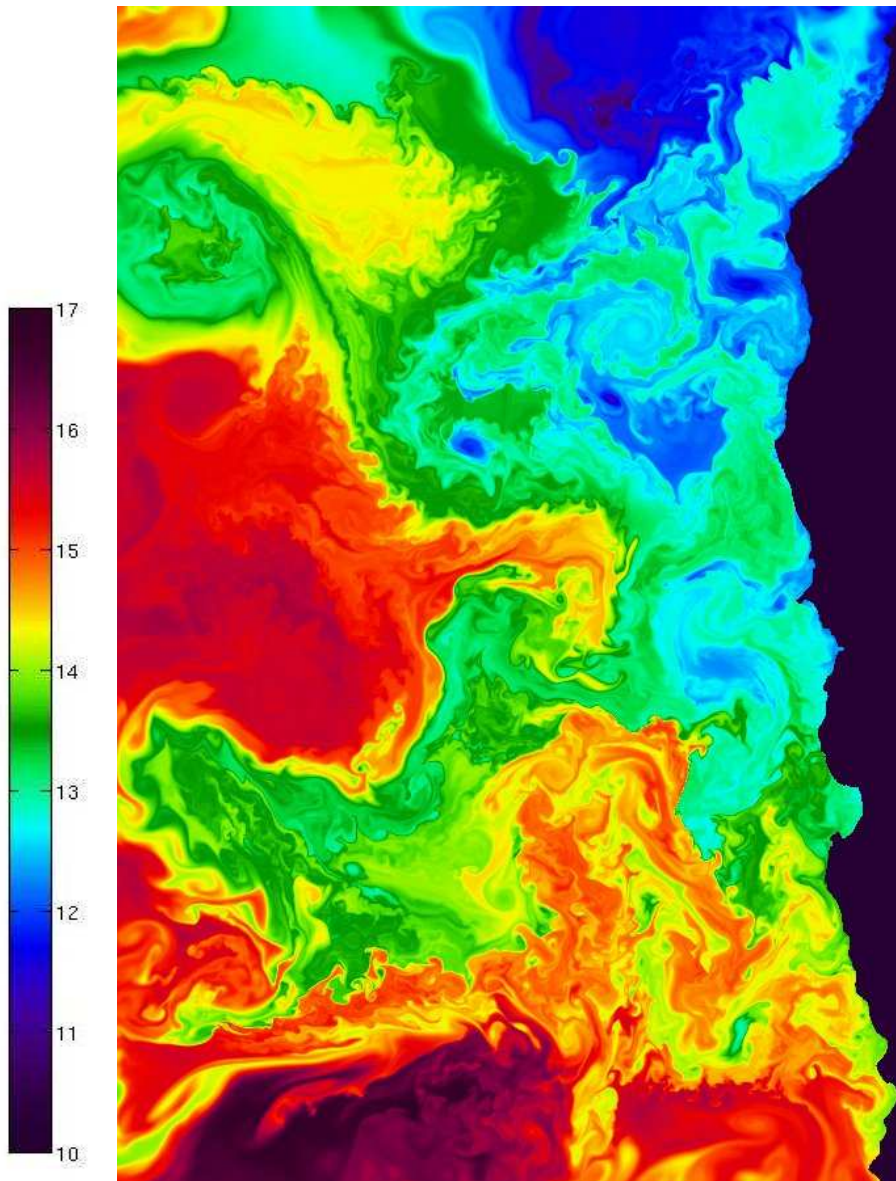
SMCC: $\Delta x = 0.5\text{km}$
1200 × 1800
60 levels

CUC: $\Delta x = 150\text{m}$
900 × 900
80 levels

goals and interests: submesoscale dynamics; process studies; downscaling techniques; interaction of flow with bottom topography; generate side-boundary conditions for other grids.

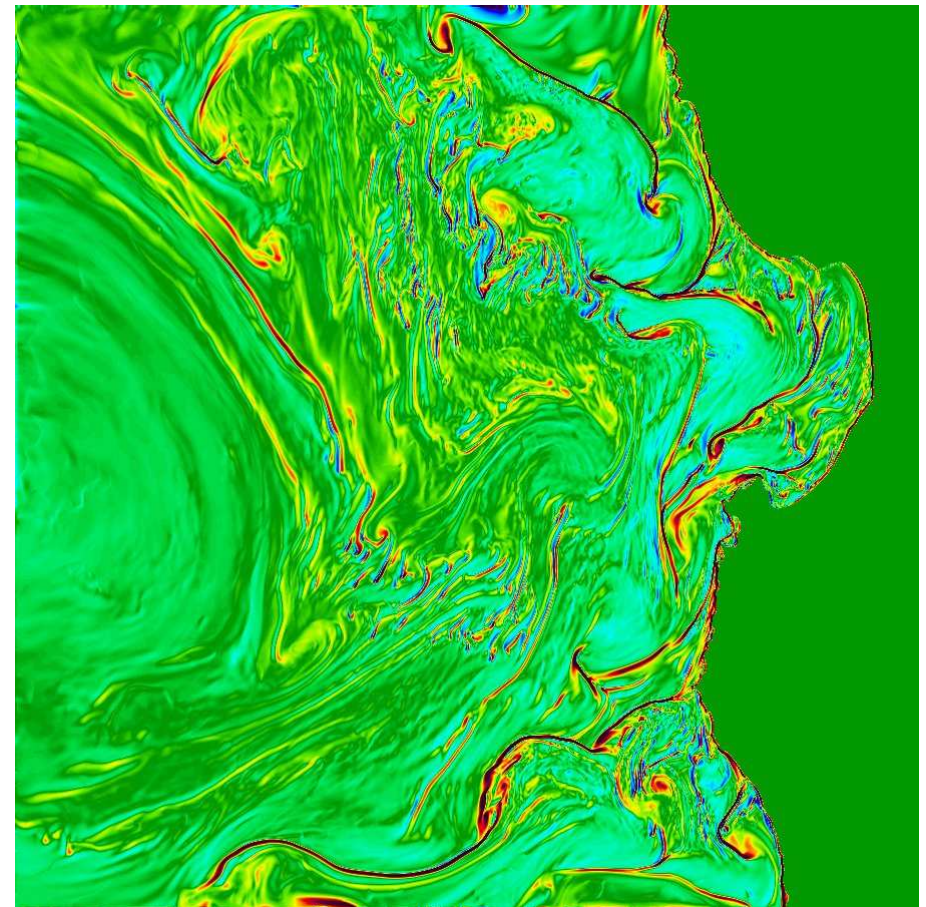
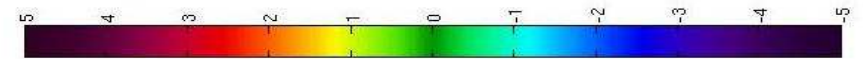
cf., Capet et. al., 2008, but now without idealization, and with updated codes, better techniques, and newer machinery.

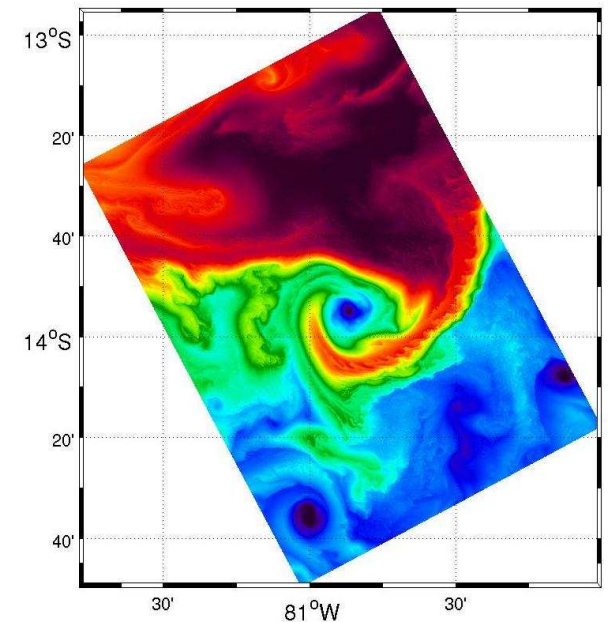
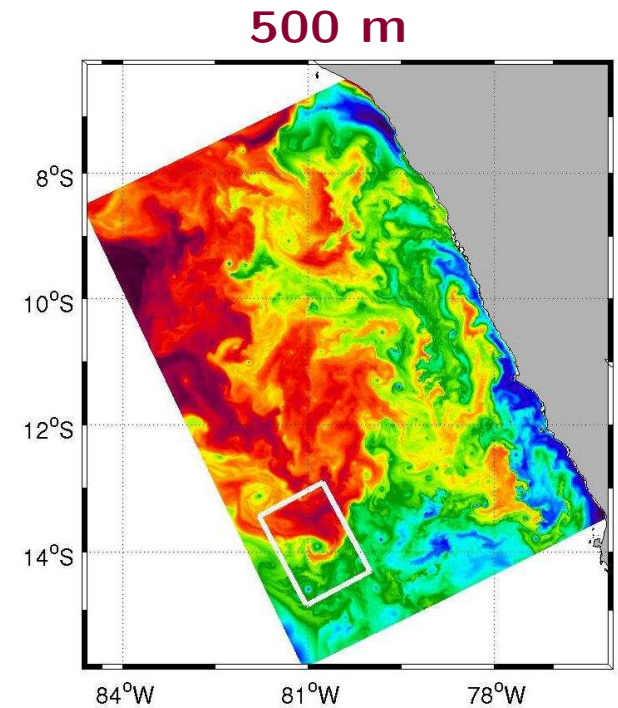
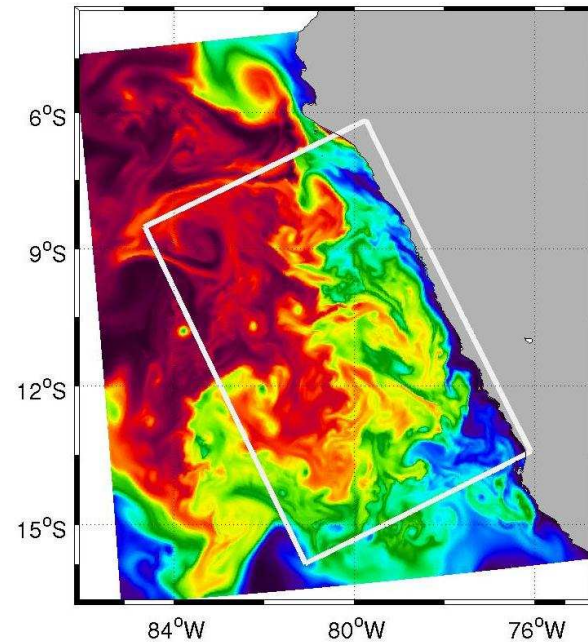
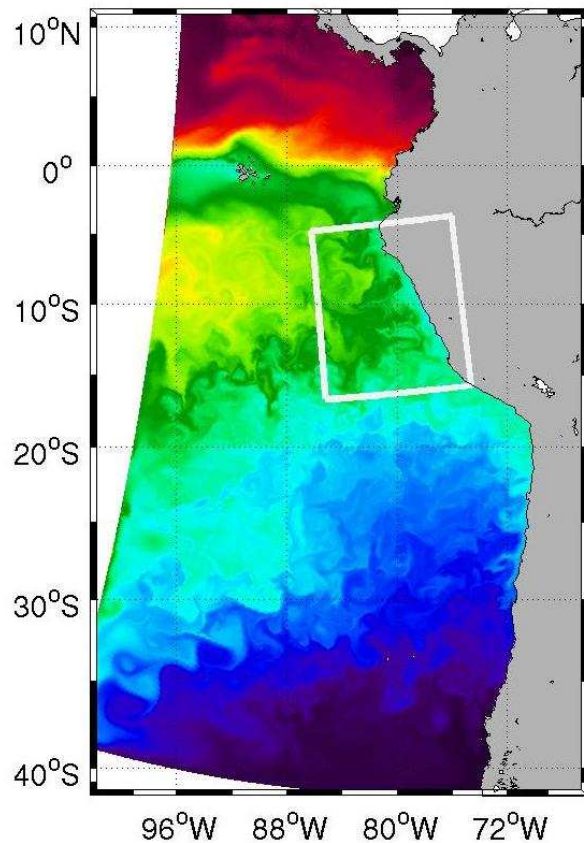




left: **SMCC**, $\Delta x = 0.5\text{km}$, SST

below: **CUC**, $\Delta x = 150\text{m}$, surface vorticity scaled by f





Peru-Chile upwelling system: 4-stage downscaling

7.5 km	$384 \times 800 \times 30$	[1992-1999] POP/CCSM ERS COADS Pathfinder
2.2 km	$468 \times 560 \times 30$	[1994-1998] receives 3-day averages, outputs daily
500 m	$1200 \times 1800 \times 42$	[April 1995 - July 1996] receives daily, outputs every 12h
180 m	$694 \times 972 \times 84$	[1st-30th September 1995] receives 12h outputs every 3h

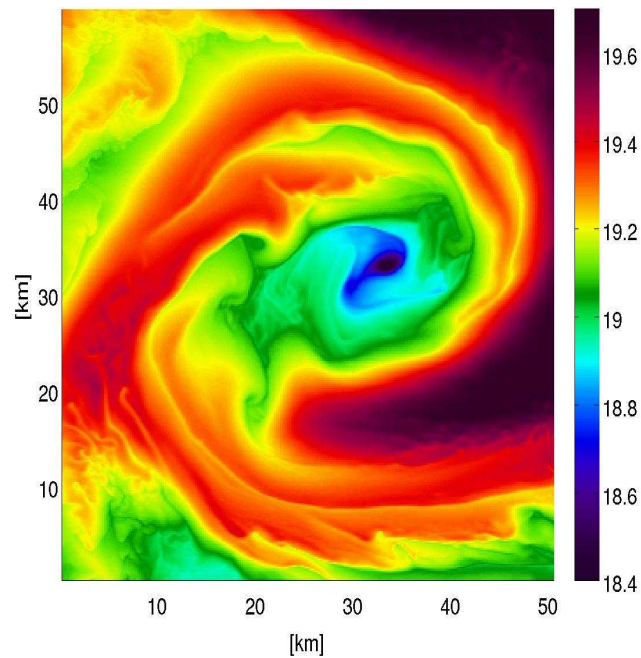
180 m

Peru-Chile continued...

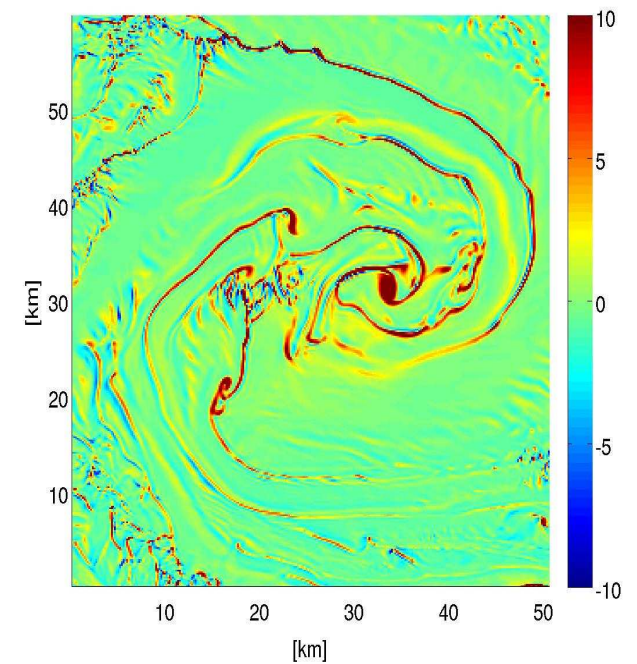
Spiral eddy

$$\Delta x = 180m$$

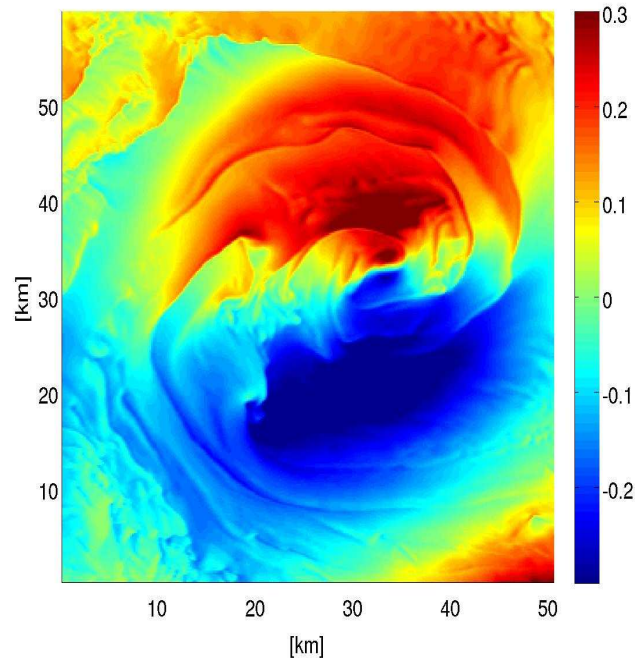
top left: SST



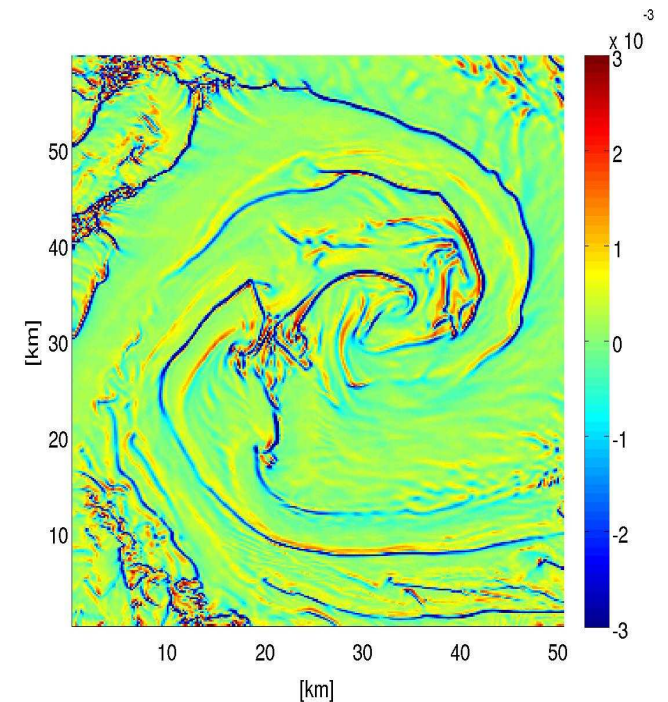
right: $\frac{\text{vorticity}}{f}$



bottom left: **u**



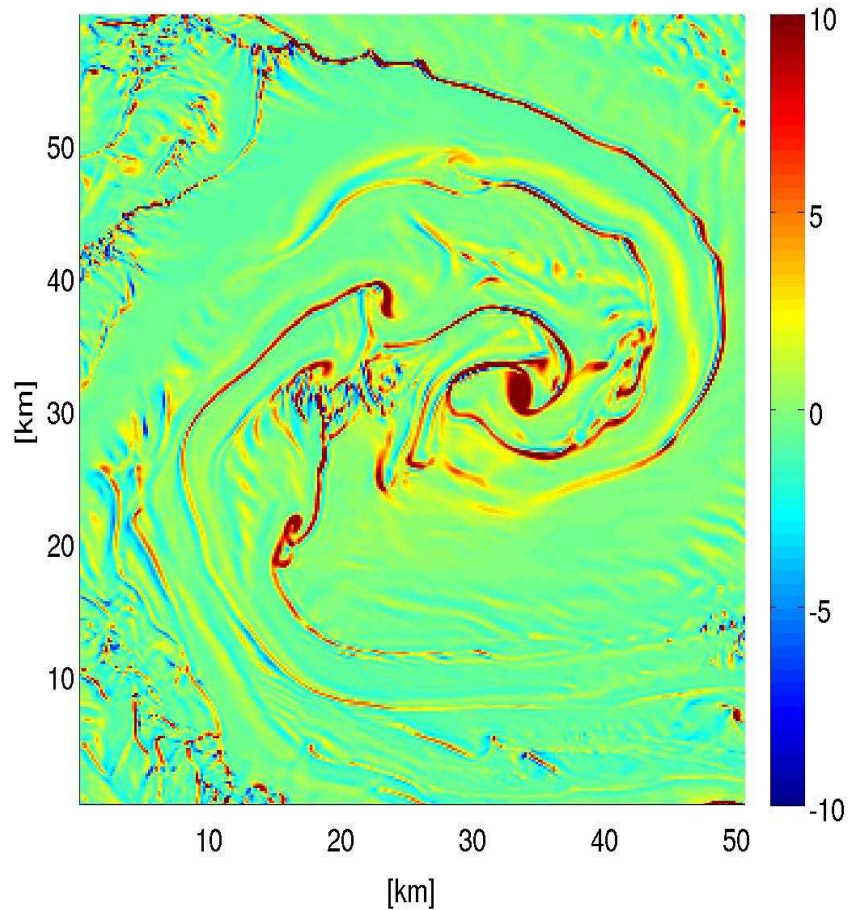
right: **w**
at -10m



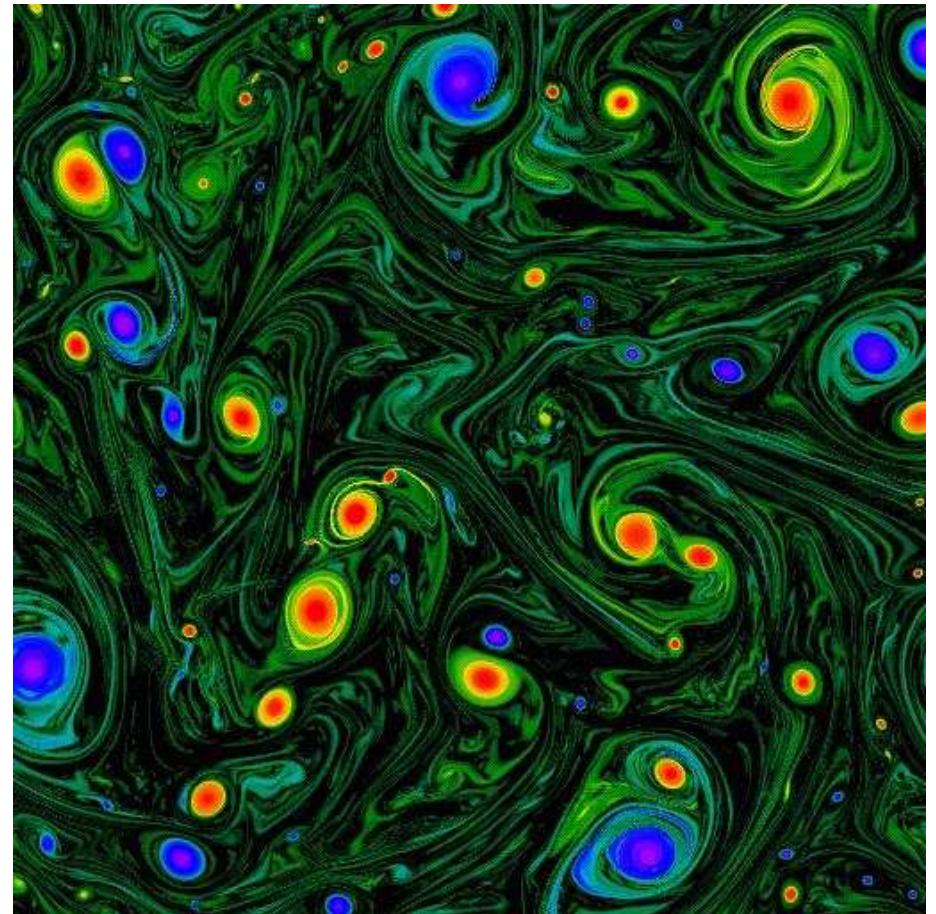
cyclones only

southern hemisphere

Peru-Chile continued...



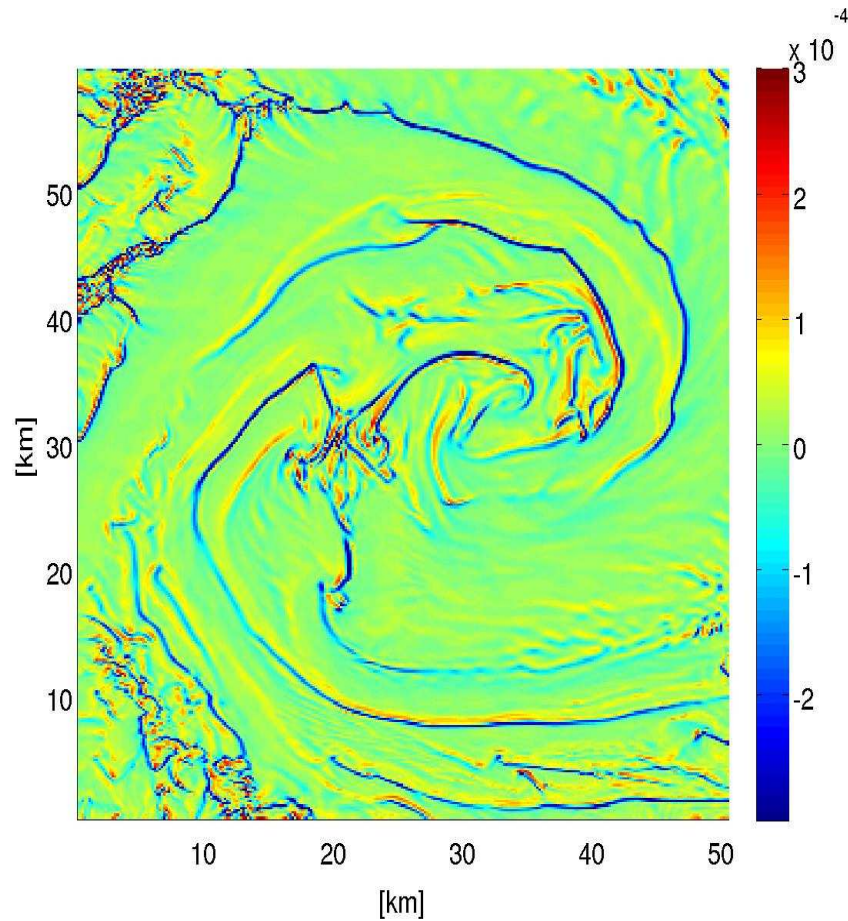
spiral eddy, $\text{vorticity}/f$
cyclones only (southern hemisphere)



2D freely decaying turbulence

1024×1024-grid 6th-order+ELAD dissipation

Peru-Chile continued...



spiral eddy, w at 10 m
180m grid



Mediterranean Sea, Shear Wall Spiral Eddies
STS-41G, October 1984. Picture #17-35-094

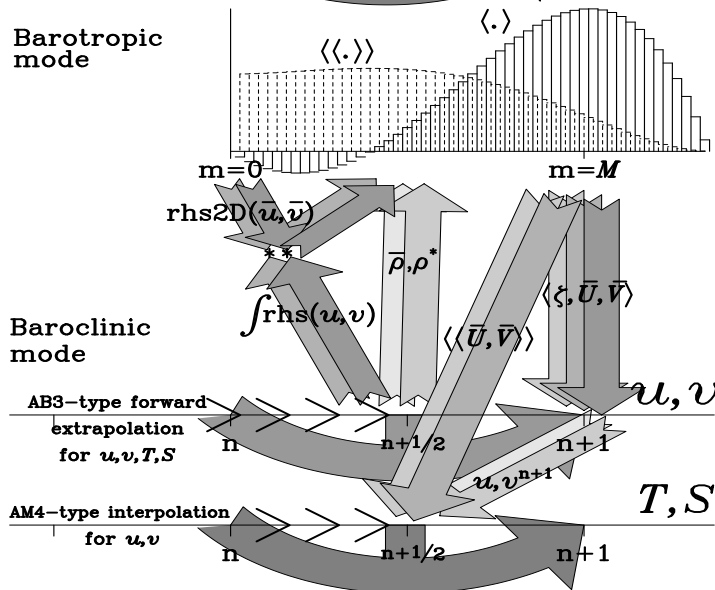
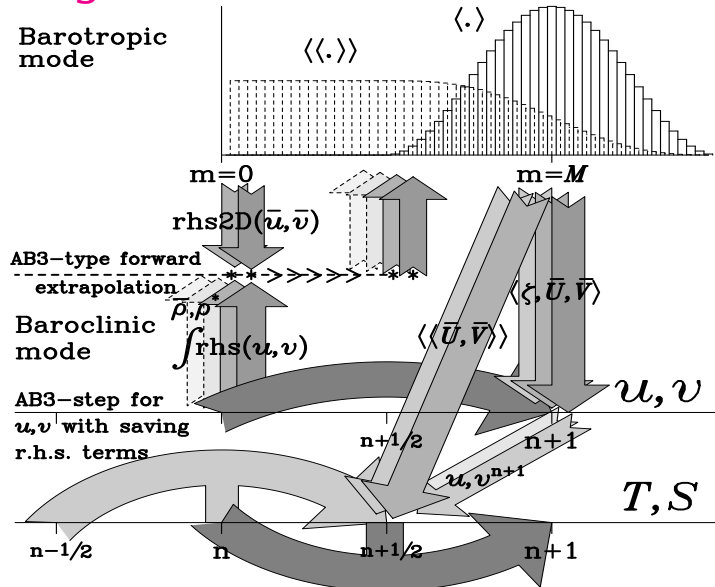
image on the right from

http://www.lpi.usra.edu/publications/slidesets/oceans/oceanviews/slide_03.html

What does it take to make it happen

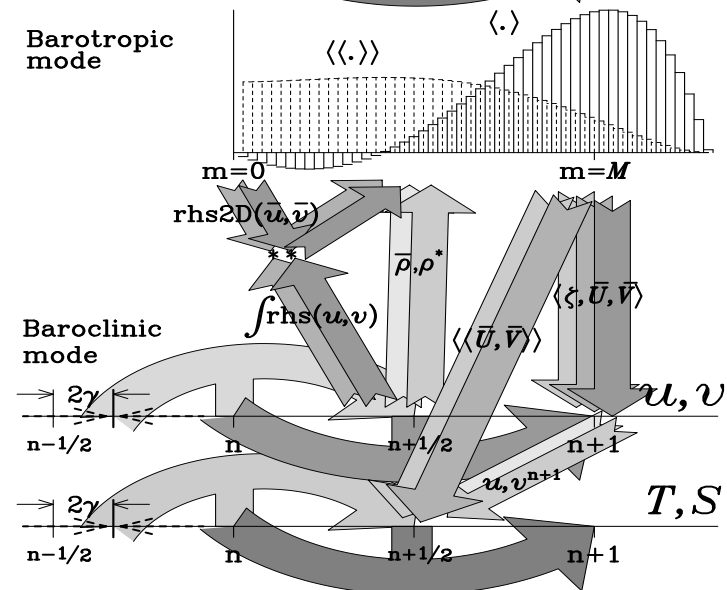
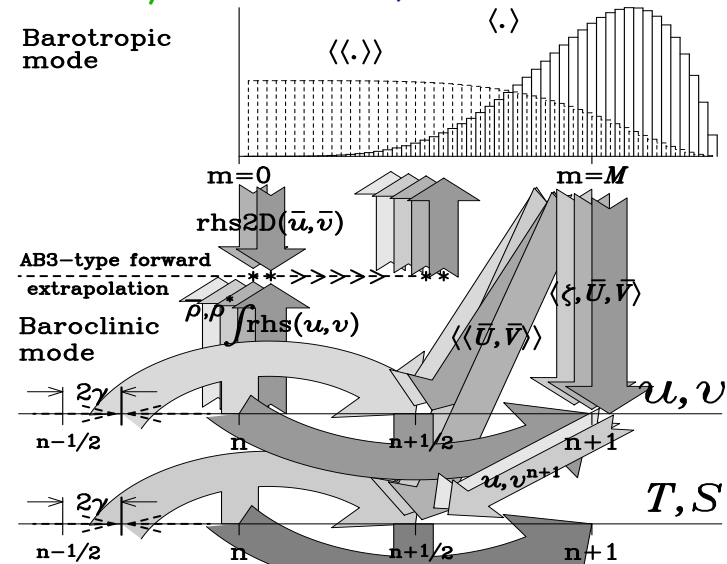
Status Quo: Four variants of ROMS kernel in existence

Rutgers



Non-hydrostatic code prototype

AGRIF/ old UCLA; JPL



UCLA (current)

Algorithmic Features of ROMS

- **vertical coordinate:** loosely $\in \sigma$ -class models, but the code stores $z(x, y, s)$ as an array \Rightarrow a rather general vertical coordinate. Currently settling for "z-sigma":

$$z = z^{(0)} + \zeta \left(1 + \frac{z^{(0)}}{h} \right) \quad z^{(0)} = h \cdot \frac{h_c \cdot s + h \cdot C(s)}{h + h_c} \quad h = h(x, y) \quad h_c = \text{const}$$

$$C(s) \equiv C[S(s)] \quad \text{where} \quad S(s) = \frac{1 - \cosh(\theta_s s)}{\cosh(\theta_s) - 1} \quad C(S) = \frac{\exp(\theta_b(S + 1)) - 1}{\exp(\theta_b) - 1} - 1$$

note $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial C(s)}{\partial s} = 0$ and **there is no restriction $h_c < h_{\min}$!**

- orthogonal curvilinear grid in horizontal directions
- **time stepping engine:** free-surface, split-explicit, barotropic-baroclinic mode splitting; built around new time-stepping algorithms for hyperbolic system equations; always use forward-backward feedback; **exact** finite-time-step, finite-volume conservation and constancy for tracers; **higher-than-second-order** accuracy for critical terms: advection, pressure-gradient, etc; **exact restart capability**
- Boussinesq approximation, with EOS stiffening (not all)
- intended for limited-area modeling \Rightarrow focus on open boundary conditions; grid nesting, RomsTools (more than one branch)
- **adjoint**
- coupled with sub-models (biology, sediment transport, wave effects, etc...)
- non-hydrostatic extension

- parallel via 2D domain decomposition: threaded/OpenMP, or MPI, or both; multiple architecture support; **exact, verifiable single/multi CPU matching**
- *poor man's* computing, ground-up design philosophy, focusing on inter-component algorithm interference; code infrastructure is distinct from *modular* (like in MOM/POP) design
- code architecture decisions involve optimization in multidimensional space, including model physics, numerical algorithms, computational performance and cost
- loose, but talking to each other community > 10 years
- inter-modeling communication

Selected topics:

- Anomalous stable modified RK2 stepping for wave system
- Updated nesting techniques in ROMS
- Implicit bottom drag ... at last

Modified RK2 algorithm of SM2005

$$\partial_t \zeta = -\omega \cdot u \quad \partial_t u = -\omega \cdot \zeta \quad \alpha \equiv \omega \Delta t$$

predictor

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta^{n+1,*} &= \zeta^n - i\alpha \cdot u^n \\ u^{n+1,*} &= u^n - i\alpha \cdot [\beta \zeta^{n+1,*} + (1 - \beta) \zeta^n] \end{aligned}$$

corrector

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta^{n+1} &= \zeta^n - \frac{i\alpha}{2} \cdot (u^{n+1,*} + u^n) \\ u^{n+1} &= u^n - \frac{i\alpha}{2} \cdot [\epsilon \zeta^{n+1} + (1 - \epsilon) \zeta^{n+1,*} + \zeta^n] \end{aligned}$$

stable, the original RK2 is weakly unstable for non-dissipative wave system

can be made **third-order** accurate for phase speed

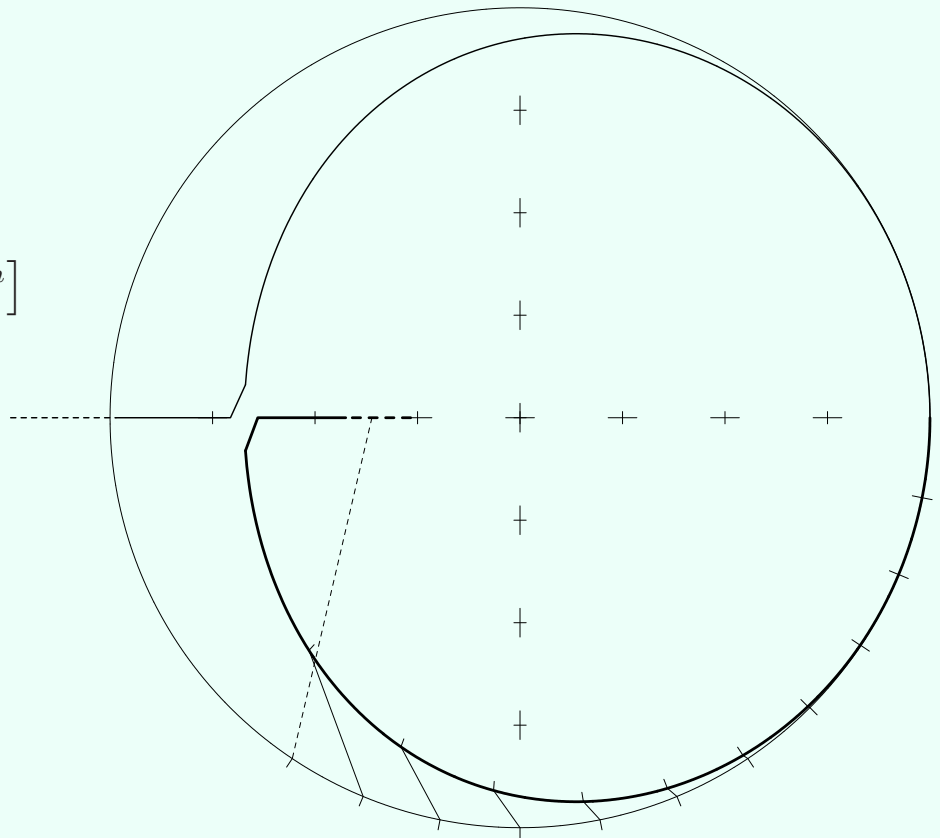
the best choice of coefficients $\beta = 1/3 \quad \epsilon = 2/3$

$$\alpha_{\max} = \sqrt{6(3 - \sqrt{5})} = 2.14093$$

the best accuracy β, ϵ settings also lead to maximum stability

used for startup in ROMS kernels

twice as much work relatively to the classical Forward-Backward scheme, but with only insignificant gain in α_{\max}



$$\beta = 1/3 \quad \epsilon = 2/3 \quad \alpha_{\max} = 2.14093$$

Rueda, Sanmiguel-Rojas, and Hodges (2007)

predictor

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta^{n+1,*} &= \zeta^n - i\alpha \cdot u^n \\ u^{n+1,*} &= u^n - i\alpha \cdot [\beta \zeta^{n+1,*} + (1 - \beta)\zeta^n]\end{aligned}$$

corrector

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta^{n+1} &= \zeta^n - i\alpha \cdot [\gamma u^{n+1,*} + (1 - \gamma)u^n] \\ u^{n+1} &= u^n - i\alpha \cdot [\theta \zeta^{n+1} + (1 - \theta)\zeta^n]\end{aligned}$$

driven by desire to make TRIM of Casulli & Cheng (1992) stable with respect to baroclinic waves

“balance rule” $\gamma + \theta \equiv 1$ must be respected to maintain second-order accuracy

can be made **third-order** accurate

the best choice $\beta = 1/6, \quad \gamma = \theta = 1/2$

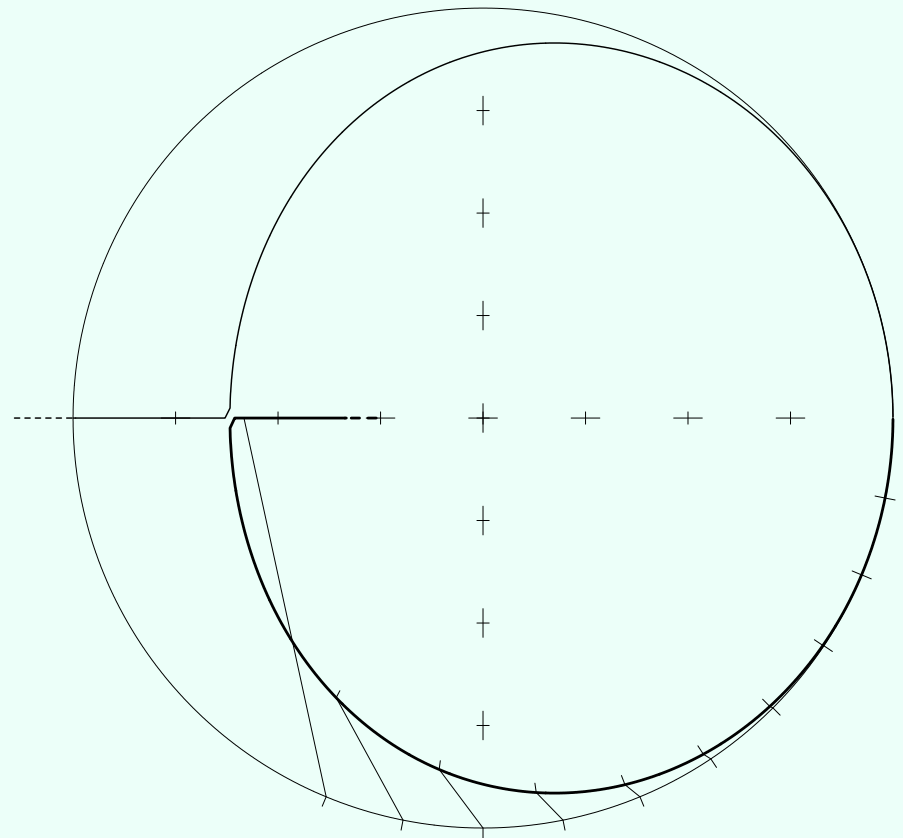
$\alpha_{\max} = 2$ independent of β

[same as $\theta_p = 1/6, \theta_b = \theta = 1/2$ in their original notation; inspired by “theta”-method of Casulli \Rightarrow use of θ -s for all coefficients. Also somewhat by SM2005]

does not revert to the standard RK2 if $\beta = 0, \gamma = \theta = 1/2$, but becomes Higdon (2002) instead

intersects SM2005 if $\epsilon \equiv 1$ there, $\gamma = \theta = 1/2$

...just another modified Runge-Kutta scheme



$$\beta = 1/6, \quad \gamma = \theta = 1/2, \quad \alpha_{\max} = 2$$

Temptation: For all “sane” choice of coefficients the range of stability in **both cases** is limited by one of the branches leaving the unit circle along negative real axis.

However, at some point **after** the scheme is becomes unstable ($\alpha > \alpha_{\max}$) the branch **reverses its direction and re-enters** the unit circle.

Can the point of reversal be brought into the unit circle?

The answer is **NO for both** SM2005 and Rueda et. al. (2007): there are *not enough free coefficients left to play with*.

But, what if combine them ...

mod. RK2 of SM2005 + Rueda et. al. (2007) combined

predictor

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta^{n+1,*} &= \zeta^n - i\alpha \cdot u^n \\ u^{n+1,*} &= u^n - i\alpha \cdot [\beta \zeta^{n+1,*} + (1 - \beta) \zeta^n]\end{aligned}$$

corrector

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta^{n+1} &= \zeta^n - i\alpha \cdot [(1 - \theta) u^{n+1,*} + \theta u^n] \\ u^{n+1} &= u^n - i\alpha \cdot [\theta (\epsilon \zeta^{n+1} + (1 - \epsilon) \zeta^{n+1,*}) + (1 - \theta) \zeta^n]\end{aligned}$$

γ is replaced by $1/2 - \theta$ because of “balance rule” \Rightarrow at least second-order $\forall \beta, \theta, \epsilon$

Characteristic equation

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda [2 - \alpha^2 + \alpha^4 A] + 1 - \alpha^4 B = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} A = \beta \epsilon \theta (1 - \theta) \\ B = (1 - \theta)(\beta - \beta \epsilon \theta + \epsilon \theta - \theta) \end{cases}$$

substitute $\lambda = e^{\pm i\alpha}$ and Taylor expansion

$$\alpha^4 \left(\frac{1}{12} - A - B \right) \pm i\alpha^5 B + \alpha^6 \left(\frac{B}{2} - \frac{1}{360} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^7) = 0$$

third-order accuracy $A + B = \frac{1}{12}$ or $\epsilon = 1 + \frac{1}{12\theta(1-\theta)} - \frac{\beta}{\theta}$ still leaves β, θ free

mod. RK2 of SM2005 + Rueda et. al. (2007) continued ...

Eliminating ϵ leaves us with

$$\left. \begin{aligned} A &= (1 - \theta) (C^2 - (\beta - C)^2) \\ B &= (1 - \theta) \left((\beta - C)^2 - C^2 + \frac{1}{12(1 - \theta)} \right) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \text{where} \quad C = \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{1}{24(1 - \theta)}$$

Can eliminate B as well (fourth-order accuracy), but it is actually a bad idea ...

Instability occurs when leaving unit circle through $\lambda = \pm 1$, so substitute it into Char. Eqn.

$$\lambda = -1 \quad : \quad 4 - \alpha^2 + \alpha^4(A - B) = 0$$

$$\lambda = +1 \quad : \quad \alpha^2 [1 - \alpha^2(A + B)] = 0$$

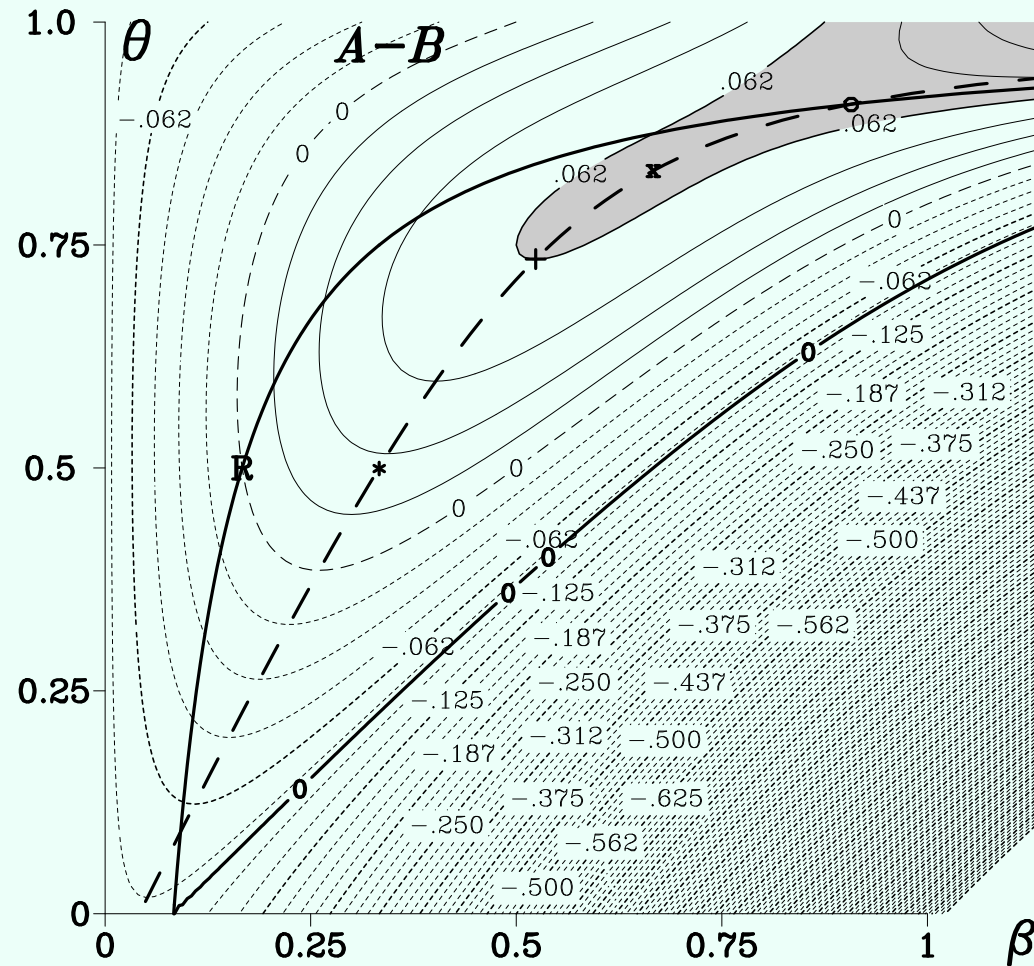
- Case of $\lambda = -1$ yields $\alpha_{\max}^2 = \left(1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 16(A - B)}\right) / [2(A - B)]$ where the sign \pm must be chosen to be the same as the sign of $(A - B)$. The solution **exists only if** $A - B < 1/16$. As $A - B \rightarrow 1/16$, then $\alpha_{\max} \rightarrow \sqrt{8}$, which is the largest stability limit when this limitation applies.

[Note that $\alpha_{\max} = 2$ in the case of $A - B = 0$, and changes continuously when $A - B$ changes sign.]

- Case $\lambda = +1$ yields $\alpha_{\max}^2 = 1/(A + B)$, which with leads to a **less restrictive** $\alpha_{\max} = \sqrt{12}$ **for the entire subset of third-order algorithms.**

mod. RK2 of SM2005 + Rueda et. al. (2007) continued ...

...so it is all about $A - B = A(\beta, \theta) - B(\beta, \theta)$



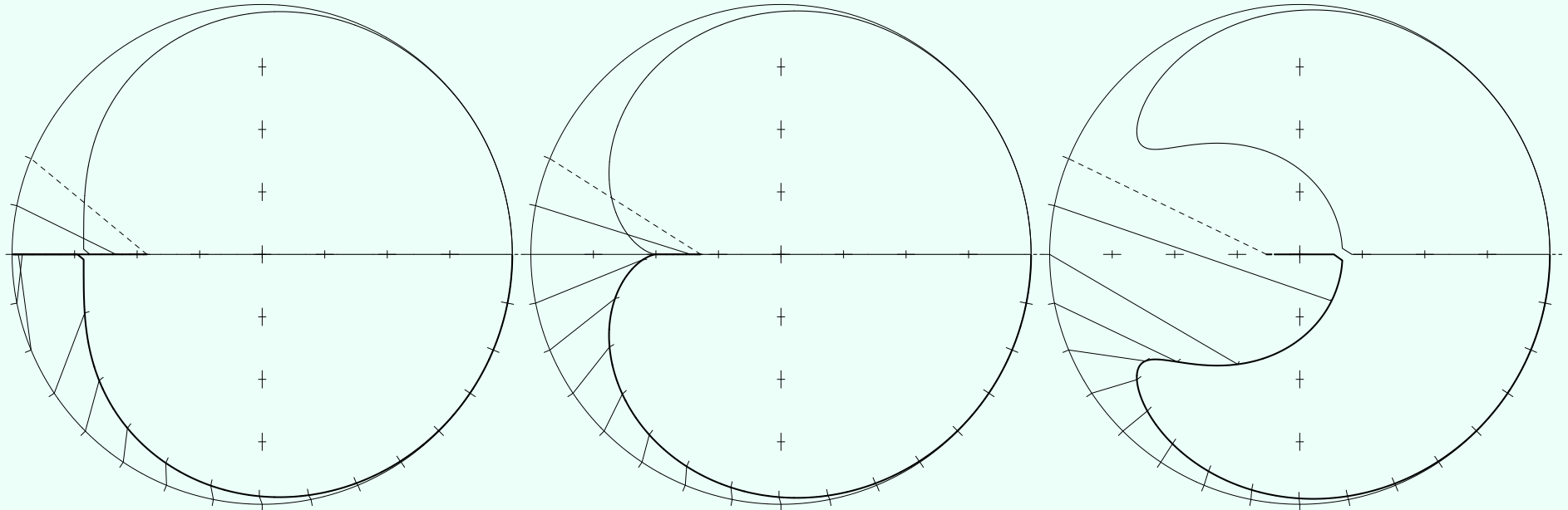
shaded is the region where $\lambda \rightarrow -1$ branch does not leave the unit circle

R corresponds to Rueda et. al. (2007), ***** to SM2005;

solid bold curves $\epsilon = 0$ upper and $\epsilon = 0$ lower; **dashed bold** minimum dissipation curve

mod. RK2 of SM2005 + Rueda et. al. (2007) continued ...

Examples of anomalously stable mod. RK2 time stepping



$\theta = 0.734$
 $\beta = 0.523641604$
 $\epsilon = 0.71340818$
[just entered shaded area]

$$\theta = \frac{5}{6} \quad \beta = \frac{2}{3} \quad \epsilon = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\theta = \beta = \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{6}} \approx 0.9082482$$

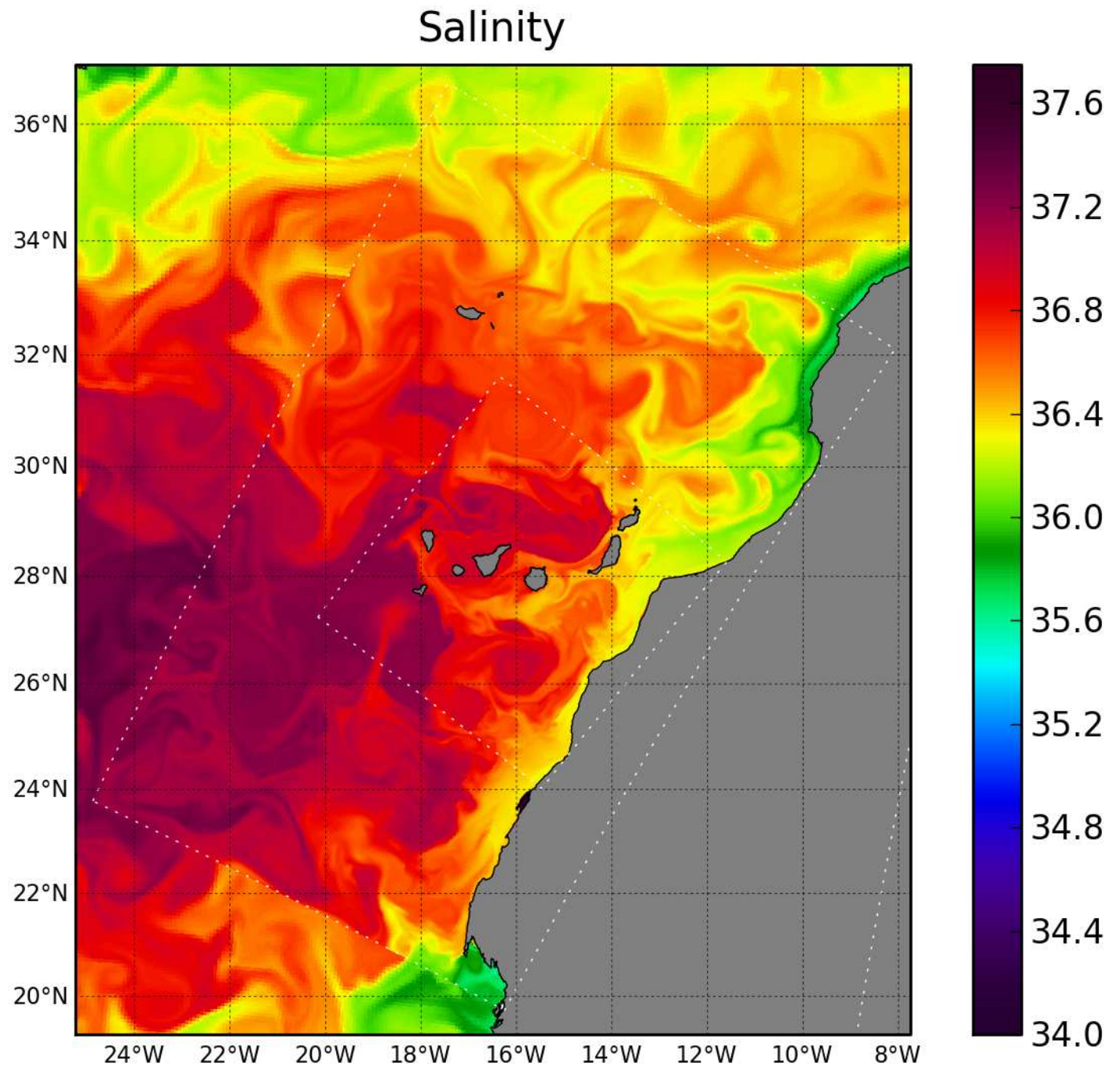
$\epsilon = 1$
[Rueda et.al.(2007) can be tuned to this without changing code]

$\alpha_{\max} = 2\sqrt{3} \approx 3.4641$ in all cases

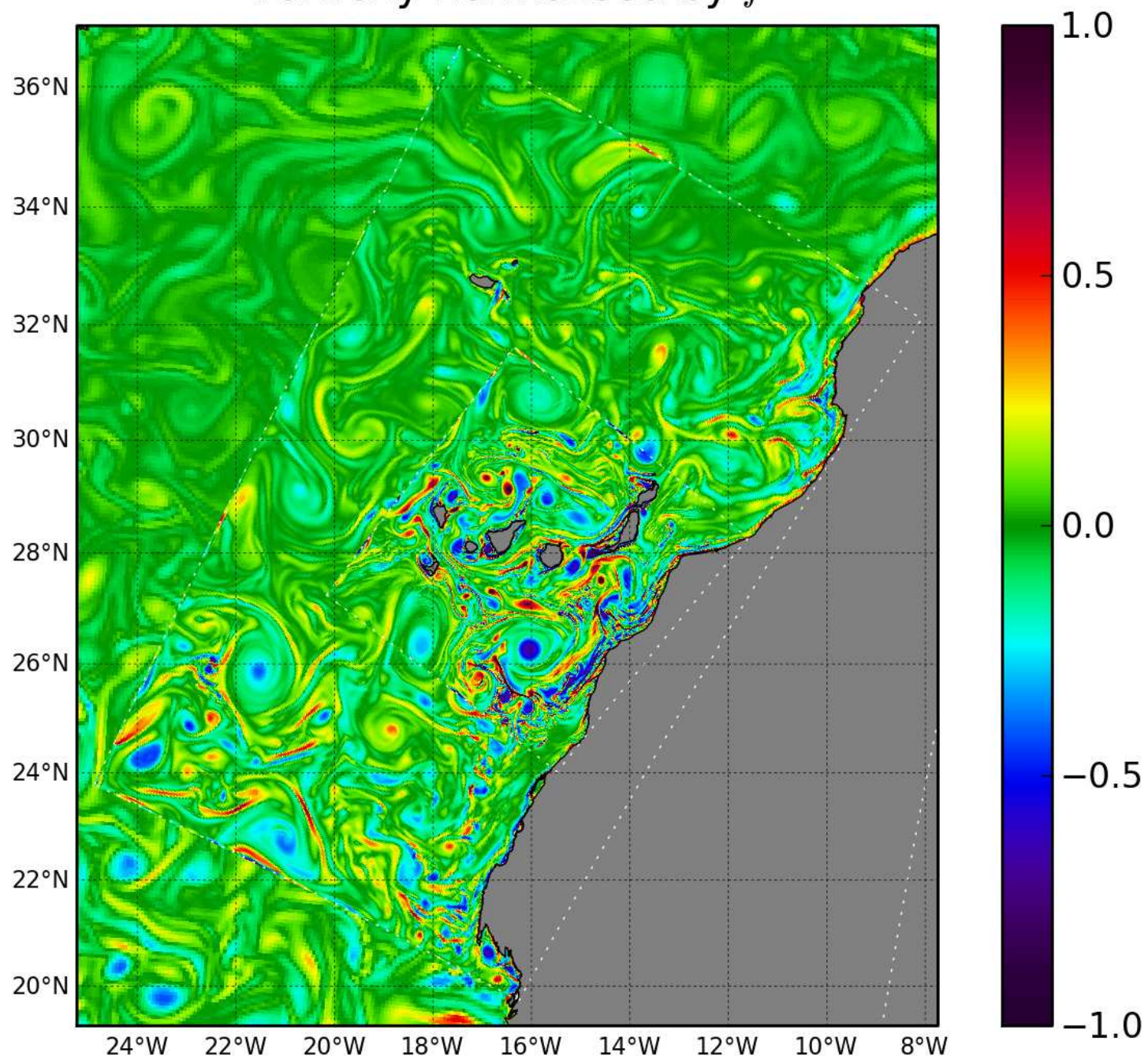
- **2-time-level, all-positive coefficients** *valuable for engineering codes*
- $\approx 1.7\times$ **gain in α_{\max} relatively to SM2005**
- efficiency comparable with forward-backward schemes

Grid nesting techniques

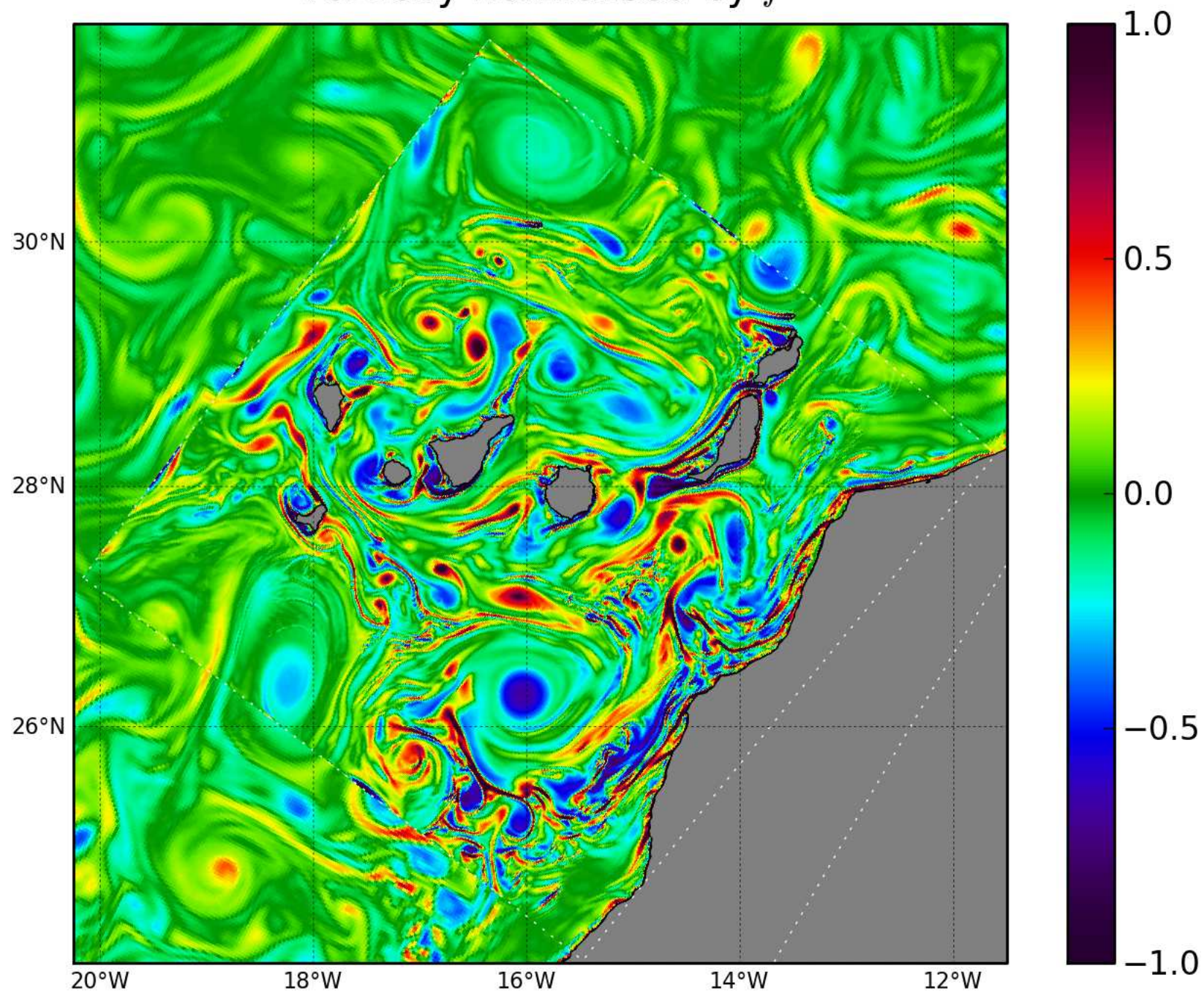
- downscaling
- 1-way
- new Flather-type characteristic BC for normal barotropic velocity
- radiation for normal 3D velocities
- upstream advection BC for tangential velocities
- upstream advection for tracers
- forced by 1 row of boundary points
- rotated grids
- new “tools”



Vorticity normalised by f



Vorticity normalised by f



Bottom drag: a modeler prospective

model needs $\Delta z_1 \cdot \frac{u_1^{n+1} - u_1^n}{\Delta t} = A_{3/2} \cdot \frac{u_2^{n+1} - u_1^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{3/2}} - r_D \cdot u_1^n \quad r_D = ?$

where $u_1 \equiv u_{k=1}$ is understood in finite-volume sense $u_1 = \frac{1}{\Delta z_1} \int_{\text{bottom}}^{\text{bottom} + \Delta z_1} u(z') \, dz'$

from physics $\text{STRESS} = F(u), \quad F = ?$

duality of u_* : it controls **both** bottom stress and vertical viscosity profile

$$\text{STRESS} = u_*^2, \quad \text{and} \quad A = A(z) = \kappa u_* \cdot (z_0 + z) \quad z \rightarrow 0$$

roughness length z_0 = statistically averaged scale of unresolved topography

constant-stress boundary layer $A(z) \cdot \partial_z u = \text{STRESS} = \text{const} = u_*^2$

$$\kappa u_* (z_0 + z) \partial_z u = u_*^2 \quad \text{hence} \quad u(z) = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \ln \left(1 + \frac{z}{z_0} \right)$$

$$u_1 = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \left[\left(\frac{z_0}{\Delta z_1} + 1 \right) \ln \left(1 + \frac{\Delta z_1}{z_0} \right) - 1 \right] \quad \text{hence} \quad u_* = \kappa \cdot u_1 / [\dots]$$

$$-r_D \cdot u_1 = -\kappa^2 |u_1| \cdot \left[\left(\frac{z_0}{\Delta z_1} + 1 \right) \ln \left(1 + \frac{\Delta z_1}{z_0} \right) - 1 \right]^{-2} \cdot u_1$$

$$r_D = \kappa^2 |u_1| \left/ \left[\left(\frac{z_0}{\Delta z_1} + 1 \right) \ln \left(1 + \frac{\Delta z_1}{z_0} \right) - 1 \right] \right.^2$$

well-resolved asymptotic limit for $\Delta z_1/z_0 \ll 1$ is $r_D \sim 4\kappa^2 |u_1| \cdot \frac{z_0^2}{\Delta z_1^2}$

however in this case $u(z) = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \ln \left(1 + \frac{z}{z_0} \right) \sim \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \cdot \frac{z}{z_0}$ hence $u_1 = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \cdot \frac{\Delta z_1}{2z_0}$

resulting $r_D \sim \kappa^2 u_* \cdot \frac{2z_0}{\Delta z_1} = \frac{A_{\text{bottom}}}{\Delta z_1/2}$ in line with no-slip with laminar viscosity

unresolved $\Delta z_1/z_0 \gg 1$ limit $r_D \sim \kappa^2 |u_1| \left/ \ln^2 \left(\frac{\Delta z_1}{z_0} \right) \right.$ known as "log-layer"

- overall there is nothing unexpected
- smooth transition between resolved and unresolved
- avoids introduction of *ad hoc* "reference height" z_a , e.g., Soulsby (1995) formula $\text{STRESS} = [\kappa / \ln(z_a/z_0)]^2 \cdot u^2|_{z=z_a}$ where $u|_{z=z_a}$ is hard (or impossible) to estimate from discrete variables
- in practice this differs by a factor of 2 from published formulas, e.g., Blaas (2007), with $z_a = \Delta z_1/2$, due to finite-volume vs. finite-difference interpretation of discrete model variables
- near-bottom vertical grid-box height Δz_1 is an inherent control parameter of r_D , making it impossible to specify "physical" quadratic drag coefficient, $r_D = C_D \cdot |u|$

How large is $\frac{\Delta t \cdot r_D}{\Delta z_1}$?

$$\frac{\Delta t \cdot r_D}{\Delta z_1} = \underbrace{\frac{\Delta t \cdot |u_1|}{\Delta x}}_{\text{advective Courant number}} \cdot \underbrace{\kappa^2 \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta z_1} \bigg/ \left[\left(\frac{z_0}{\Delta z_1} + 1 \right) \ln \left(1 + \frac{\Delta z_1}{z_0} \right) - 1 \right]^2}_{\text{purely geometric criterion}}$$

in unresolved case $\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta z_1} \cdot \left[\kappa \bigg/ \ln \left(\frac{\Delta z_1}{z_0} \right) \right]^2$

Typical high-resolution ROMS practice $h_{\min} \sim 25m$, $N = 30...50$, hence $\Delta z \sim 1m$, $\Delta x = 1km$, and $z_0 = 0.01m$, $\kappa = 0.4$ estimates the above as 7.5.

- **$\sim 50...100$ in Bering Sea in our $\Delta x = 12.5km$ Pacific simulation, even more in a coarser 1/5-degree**

It is mitigated by the bottom-most velocity Courant number ~ 0.1 but, still exceeds the limit of what explicit treatment can handle

- sigma-models are the most affected, but they are the ones which are mostly used when bottom drag matters
- vertical grid refinement toward the bottom makes this condition stiffer

Implicit treatment of $-\Delta t \cdot r_D \cdot u_1^{n+1}$ term: include it into implicit solver for vertical viscosity terms, however this interferes with Barotropic Mode (BM) splitting:

- Bottom drag can be computed only from full 3D velocity, but not from the vertically averaged velocities alone.
- Barotropic Mode must know the bottom drag term **in advance** as a part of 3D→2D forcing for consistency of splitting. This places computing vertical viscosity before BM, however, later when BM corrects the vertical mean of 3D velocities, it *destroys* the consistency of (no-slip like) bottom boundary condition.
- If BM receives bottom drag based on the most recent state of 3D velocity **before** BM, but the implicit vertical viscosity terms along with (the final) bottom drag are computed **after** BM is complete (hence accurately respecting the bottom boundary condition), this changes the state of vertical integrals of 3D velocities, interfering with BM in keeping the vertically integrated velocities in nearly non-divergent state.
- Current ROMS practice is to split bottom drag term from the rest of vertical viscosity computation. This limits the time step (or r_D itself) by the explicit stability constraint.

Ekman layer in shallow water: $h = 10m$,
 $u_* = 6 \times 10^{-2} m/s$ ($\approx 5m/s$ wind), $f = 10^{-4}$,
 $A_v = 2 \times 10^{-3} m^2/s$, non-slip at $z = -h$

Top: Explicit, CFL-limited, bottom drag **before** Barotropic Mode (BM) for **both** r.h.s. 3D and for BM forcing (\Rightarrow no splitting error); implicit step for vertical viscosity **after** with bottom drag excluded (\Rightarrow undisturbed coupling of 2D and 3D); **need** $r_D < \Delta z_{\text{bottom}}/\Delta t_{3D}$ for stability

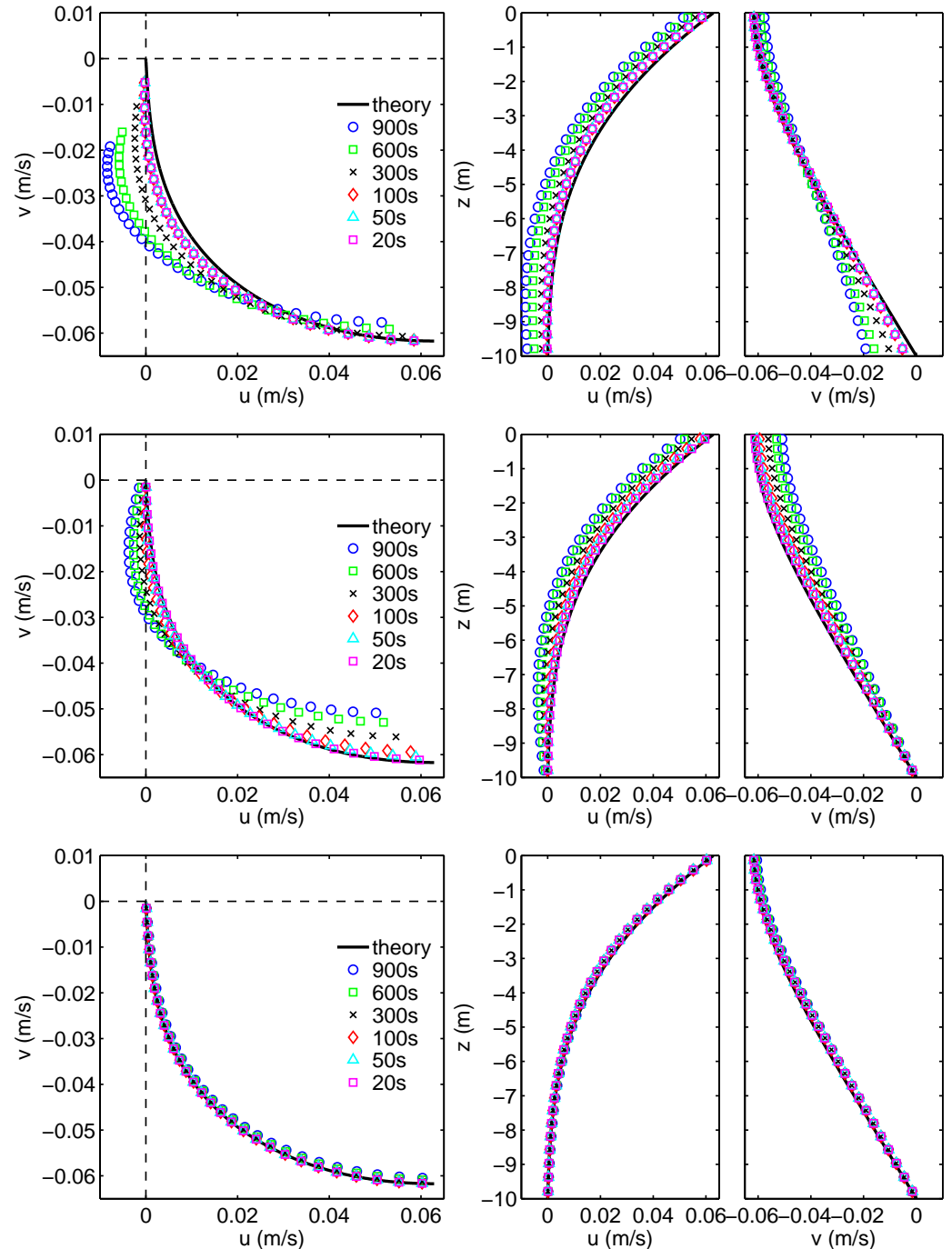
Middle: Unlimited drag **before** BM applies for BM forcing **only**; implicit vertical viscosity **after** with drag included into implicit solver (i.e., the drag is recomputed relative to what BM got before \Rightarrow splitting error)

Bottom: Bottom drag is computed as a part of implicit vertical viscosity step **before** and for **both** 3D and BM forcing

In all cases BM has bottom drag term which captures its tendency in fast time

$$\partial_t \bar{\mathbf{U}} = \dots \left[\underbrace{-r_D \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\text{bottom}} + r_D \cdot \bar{\mathbf{u}}^{m=0}}_{\substack{\text{drag from 3D mode} \\ \text{3D} \rightarrow \text{BM forcing}}} \right] - r_D \cdot \bar{\mathbf{u}}$$

so when $\mathbf{u}_{\text{bottom}}$ is updated/corrected by BM, so does the $-r_D \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\text{bottom}}$ term computed from it; above $\bar{\mathbf{U}} = (h + \zeta) \bar{\mathbf{u}}$



- Classical operator splitting dilemma

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} = \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{u}) \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathcal{R}_1(\mathbf{u}) + \mathcal{R}_2(\mathbf{u}) \quad \text{both are stiff, but}$$

$$\mathbf{u}^{n+1} = \mathbf{u}^n + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{u}^{n:n+1})$$

is not practical because of complexity (implicitness), so instead

$$\mathbf{u}' = \mathbf{u}^n + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_1(\mathbf{u}^{n:'}) \quad \text{followed by} \quad \mathbf{u}^{n+1} = \mathbf{u}' + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_2(\mathbf{u}^{':n+1})$$

$$\mathbf{u}^{n+1} = [1 + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_2(.)] \cdot [1 + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_1(.)] \mathbf{u}^n$$

$$[1 + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_2(.)] \cdot [1 + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_1(.)] \neq [1 + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_1(.)] \cdot [1 + \Delta t \cdot \mathcal{R}_2(.)]$$

resulting in $\mathcal{O}(\Delta t)$ operator splitting error. Especially inaccurate in near cancellation $R_1 \approx -R_2$ situation (balance).

- reminiscent of implicit no-slip boundaries + pressure-Poisson projection method for incompressible flows
- Requires substantial redesign of ROMS kernel
- somewhat encourages **anti-modular** code design
- Possible only in corrector-coupled and Generalized FB variants of ROMS kernels
- Incompatible (or at least hard to implement) in Rutgers kernel because of forward extrapolation of r.h.s. terms for 3D momenta (AB3 stepping) and extrapolation of 3D→BM forcing terms which is not compatible with having stiff terms there
- Incompatible with predictor-coupled kernel (currently used by AGRIF), because of extrapolation of 3D→BM forcing, and because overall having BM too early the computing sequence (implicit vertical viscosity step is done only after predictor step for tracers which is after BM)
- **Must have, long overdue**

Other models? POM? GETM?