

**The Wider Caribbean Region  
CARIB-HYCOM domain:**

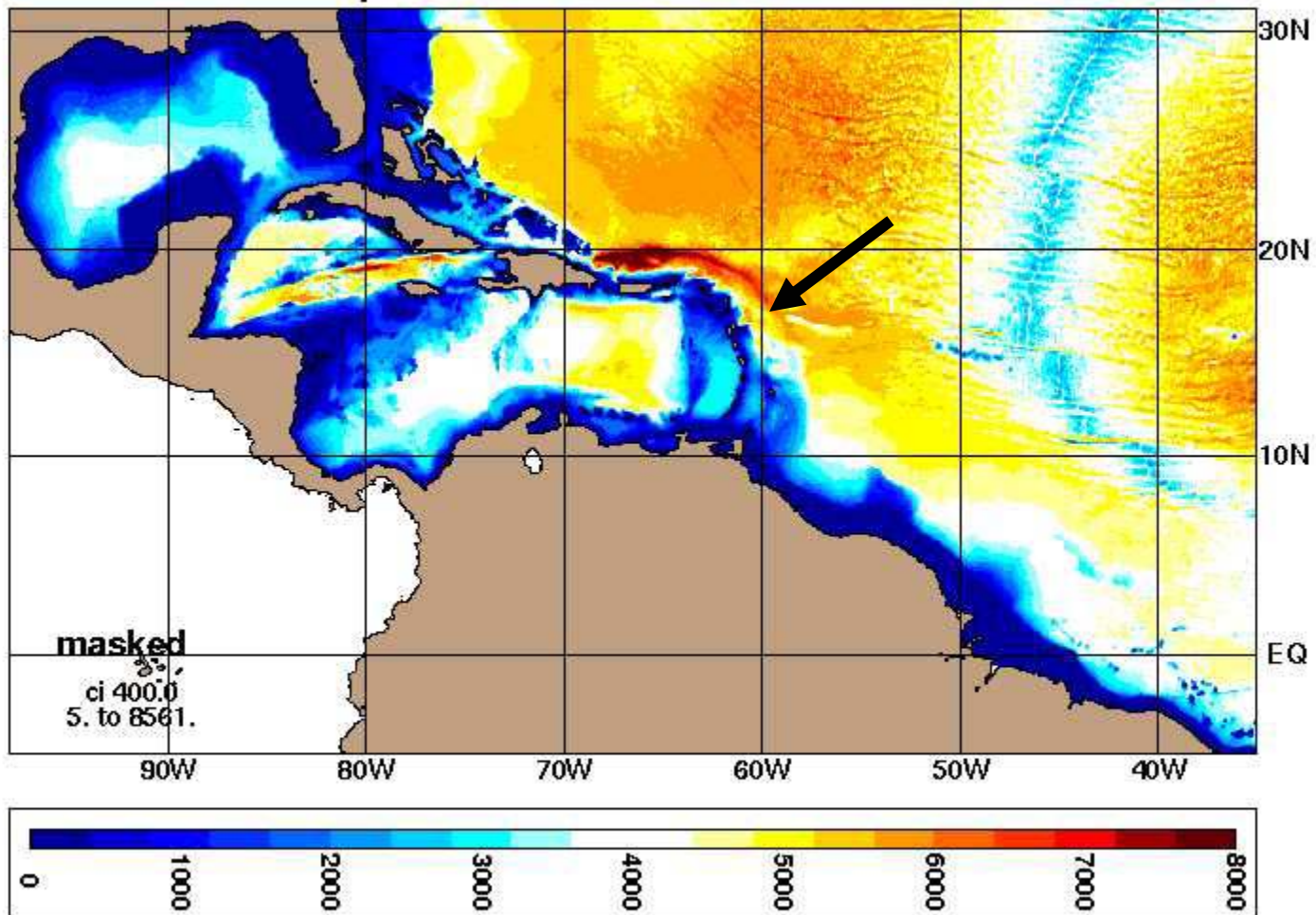
**(The extended IAS-HYCOM domain:)  
preliminary results from nested simulations**

**Villy Kourafalou, Zulema Garraffo,  
George Halliwell, Laurent Cherubin,  
Claire Paris and Annalisa Griffa**

***UM/RSMAS***

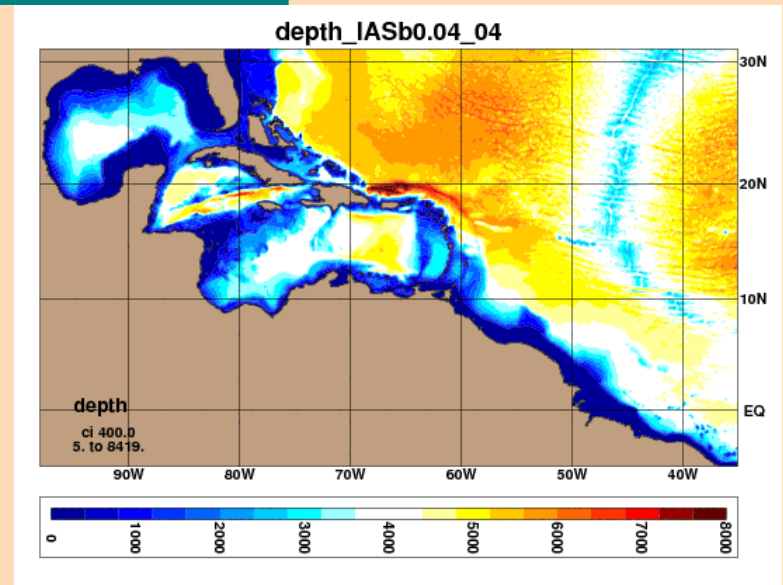
**In Collaboration with  
Joe Metzger and Alan Walcraft (*NRLSSC*)**

depth IASb0.04 Pacific masked



# HYCOM Wider Caribbean Region domain

- 1/24° resolution
- Domain: 98W-35W, 5S-31N



- nested to HYCOM expt 07.1, global 1/12° (NRL)
- depth: 5m coastline, merged depth from:
  - a) DBDB2 for depth < 10m,
  - b) elsewhere interpolated from topography with corrected sills in the NW Caribbean and Florida passages (GLBa0.08 T=7)

- $\sigma_2^*$  (same layers as GLBa0.08 expt 07.1)
- Forcing: (as GLBa0.08 expt 07.1)  
climatological ERA40, 1979-2002.

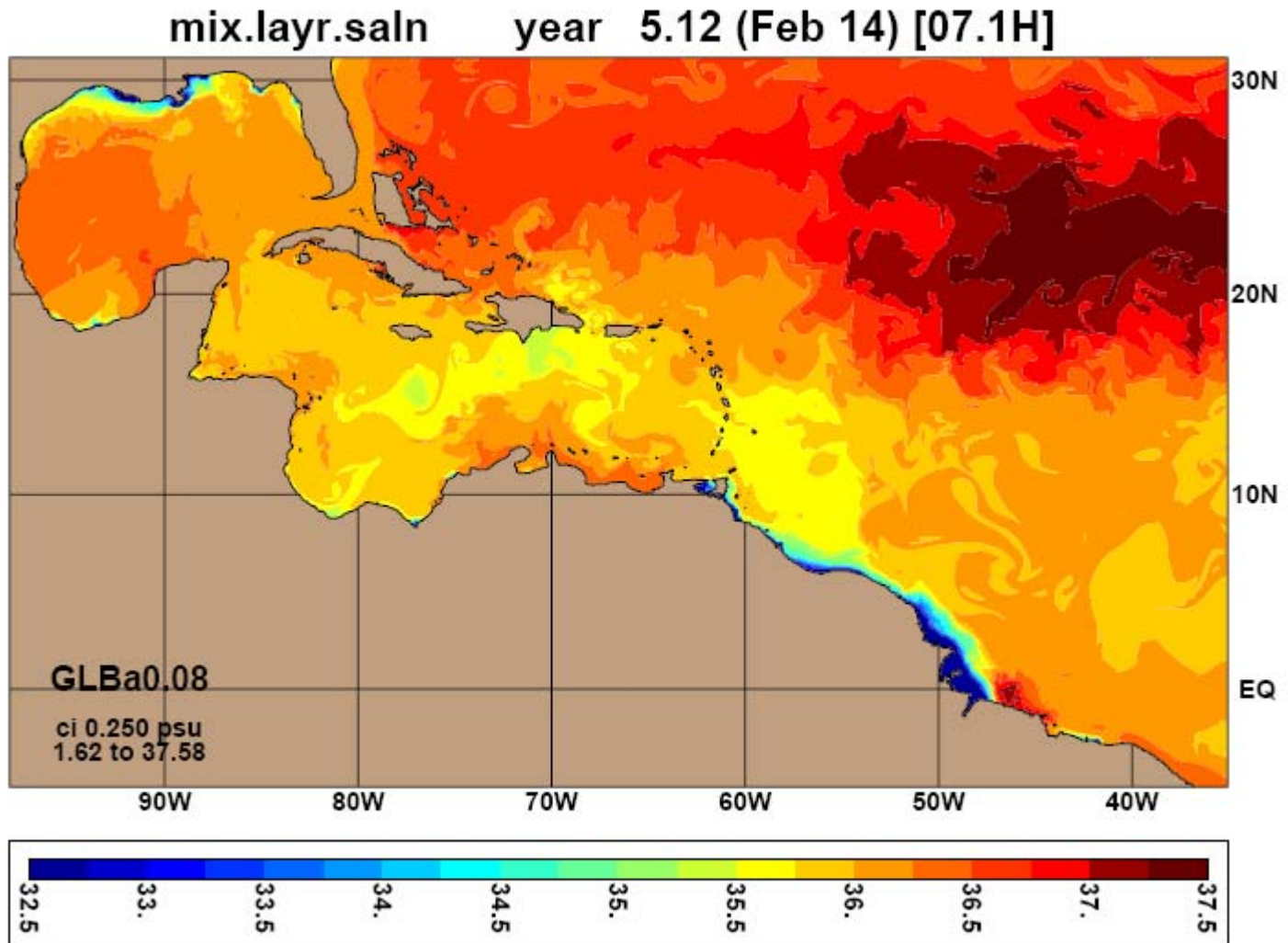
Thermal forcing: sea-extrapolated  
precip: regression-corrected (GPCP)  
surface salinity: relaxation (30 days).

Winds: scatterometer corrected wind stress and wind speed, plus 6 hourly anomalies (corresponding to NOGAPS Jan 2003-Jan 2004)

- Lateral boundary conditions: nested (to daily fields of year 6 of GLBa0.08 expt 07.1)
- GISS mixed layer

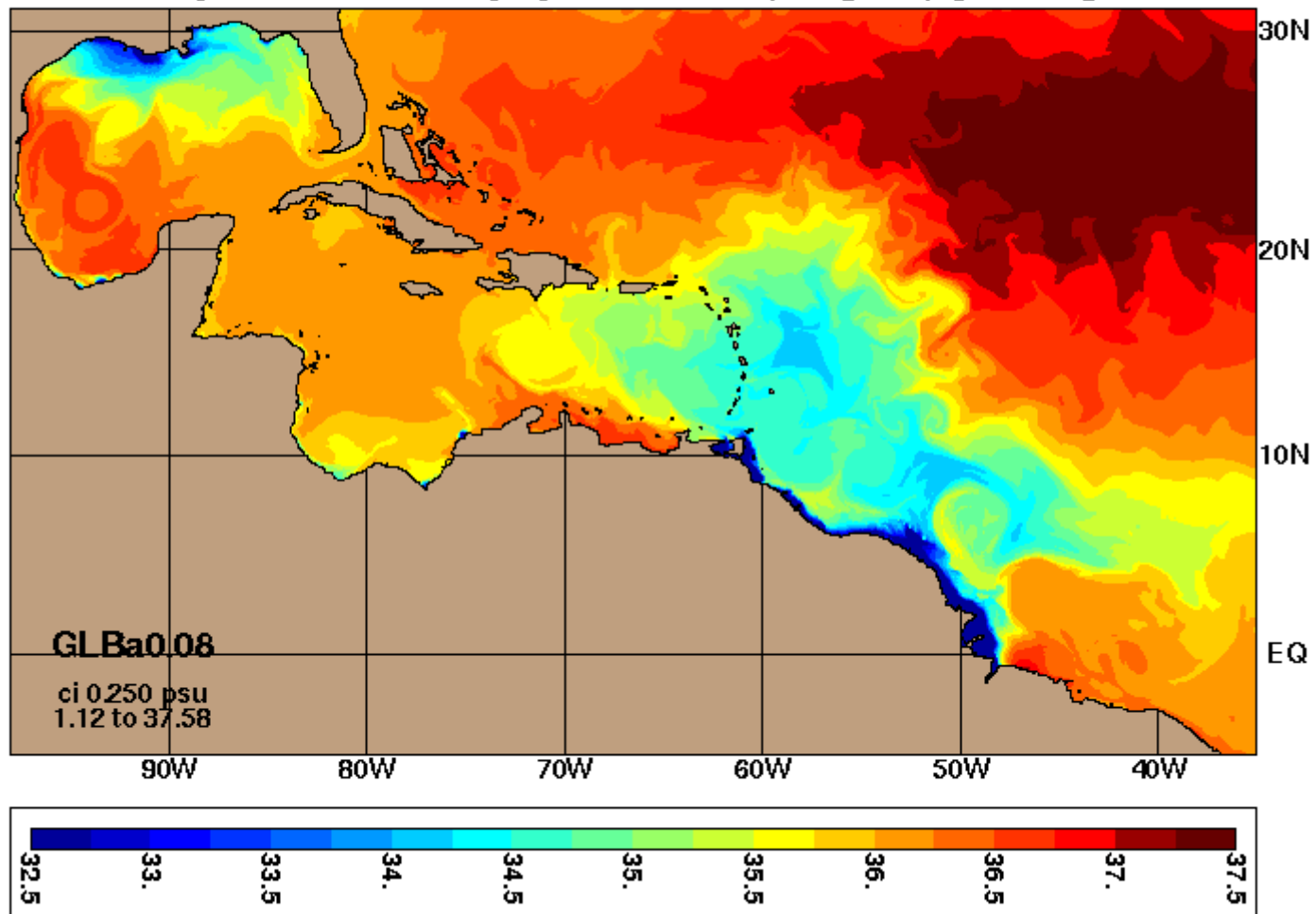
**Seasonal variability in the  
advection of  
Amazon and Orinoco  
low salinity / high nutrient waters**

## February SSS (daily snapshot)

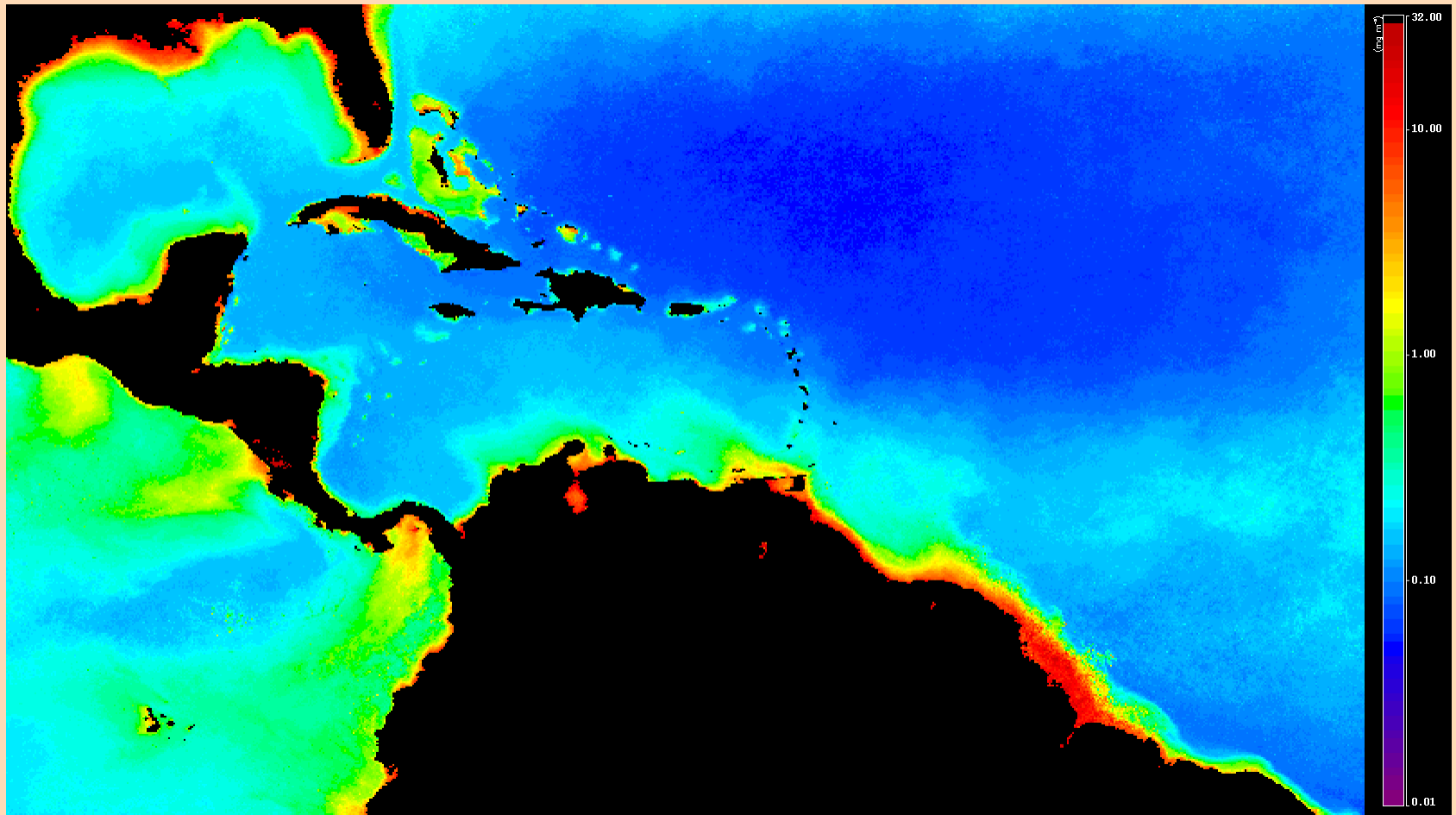


## August SSS (daily snapshot)

layer=01 salinity year 5.61 (Aug 12) [07.1H]



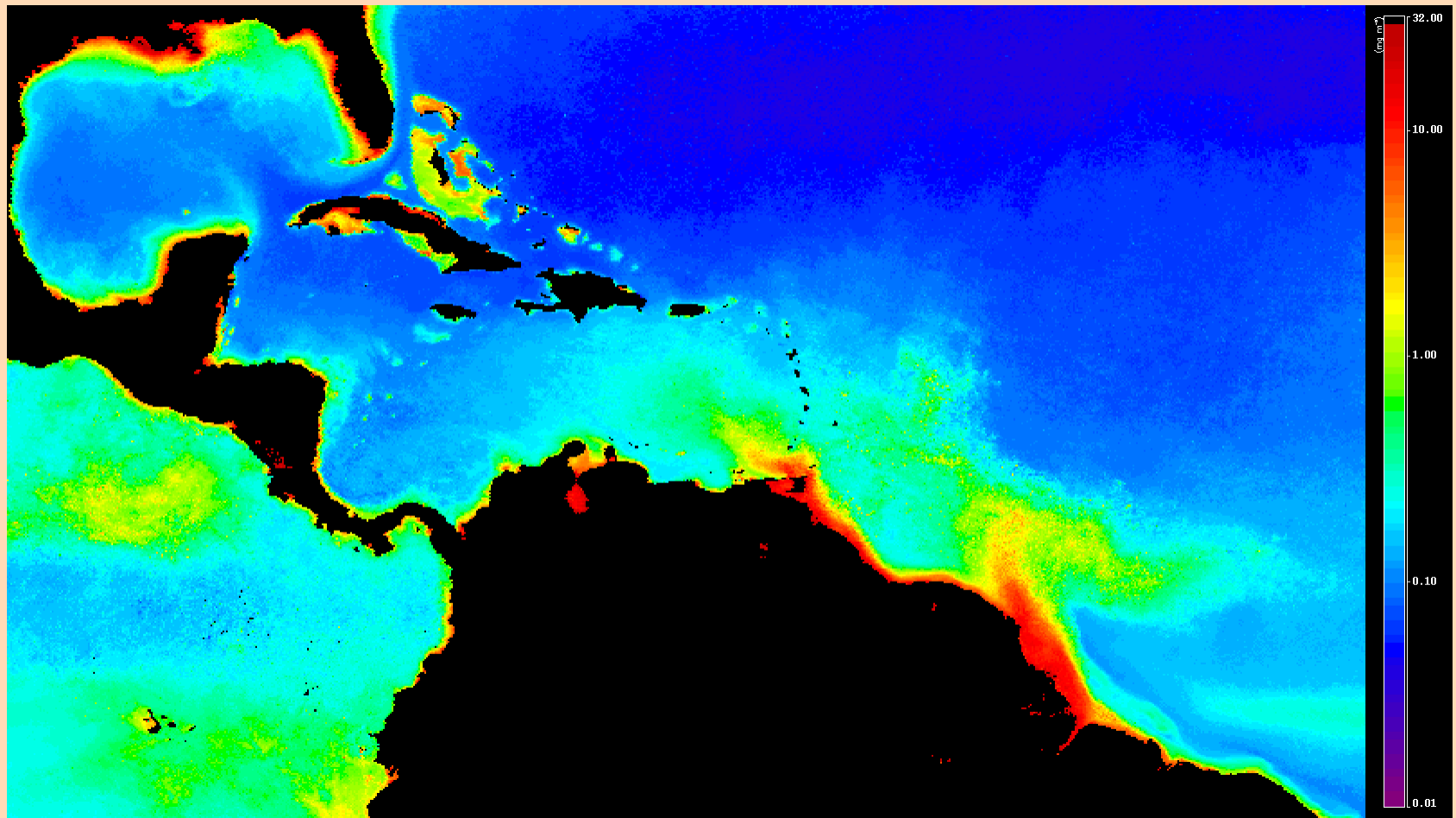
## MODIS climatology – February (monthly mean)



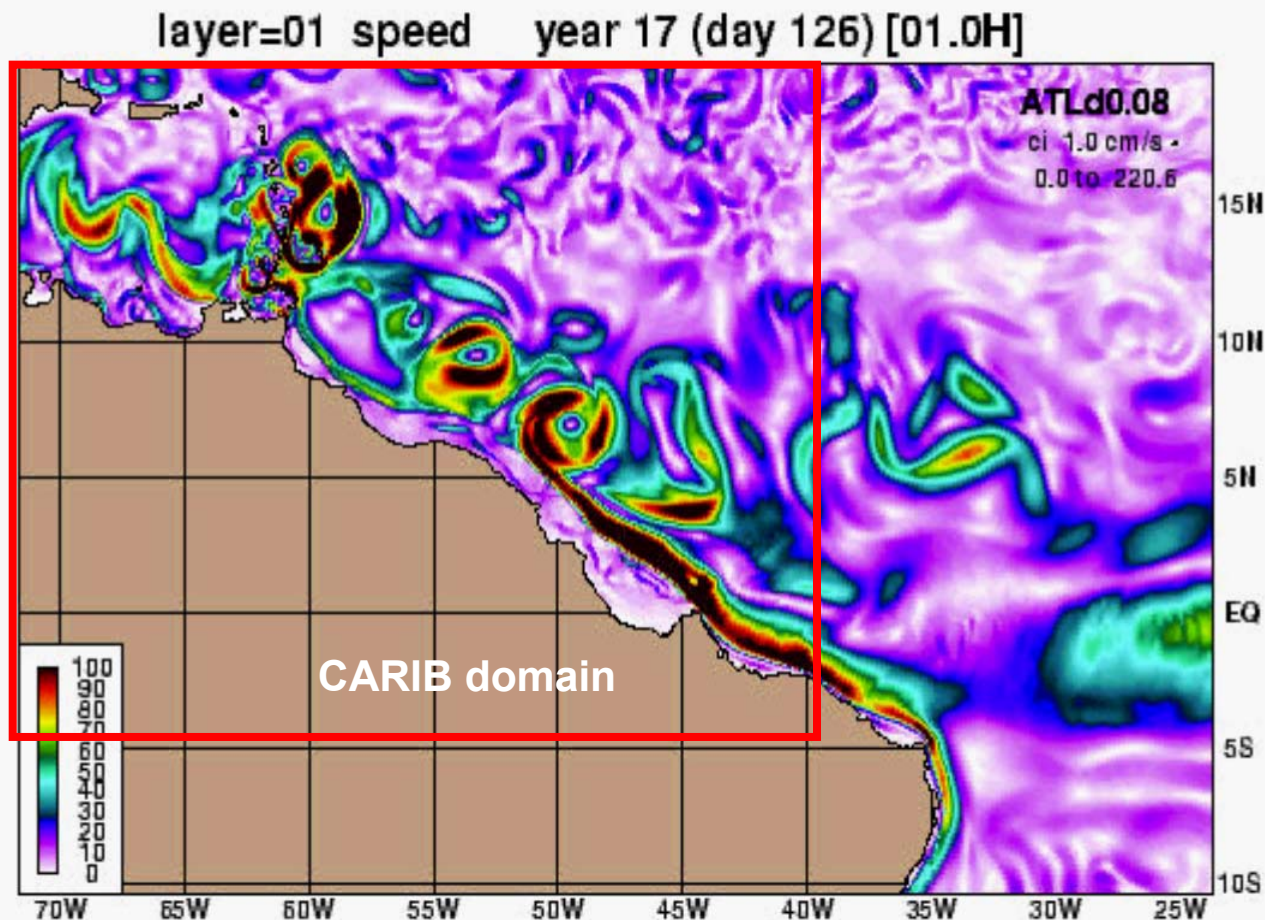
*Provided by Viva Benzon, RSMAS satellite group*



## MODIS climatology – August (monthly mean)



*Provided by Viva Benzon, RSMAS satellite group*



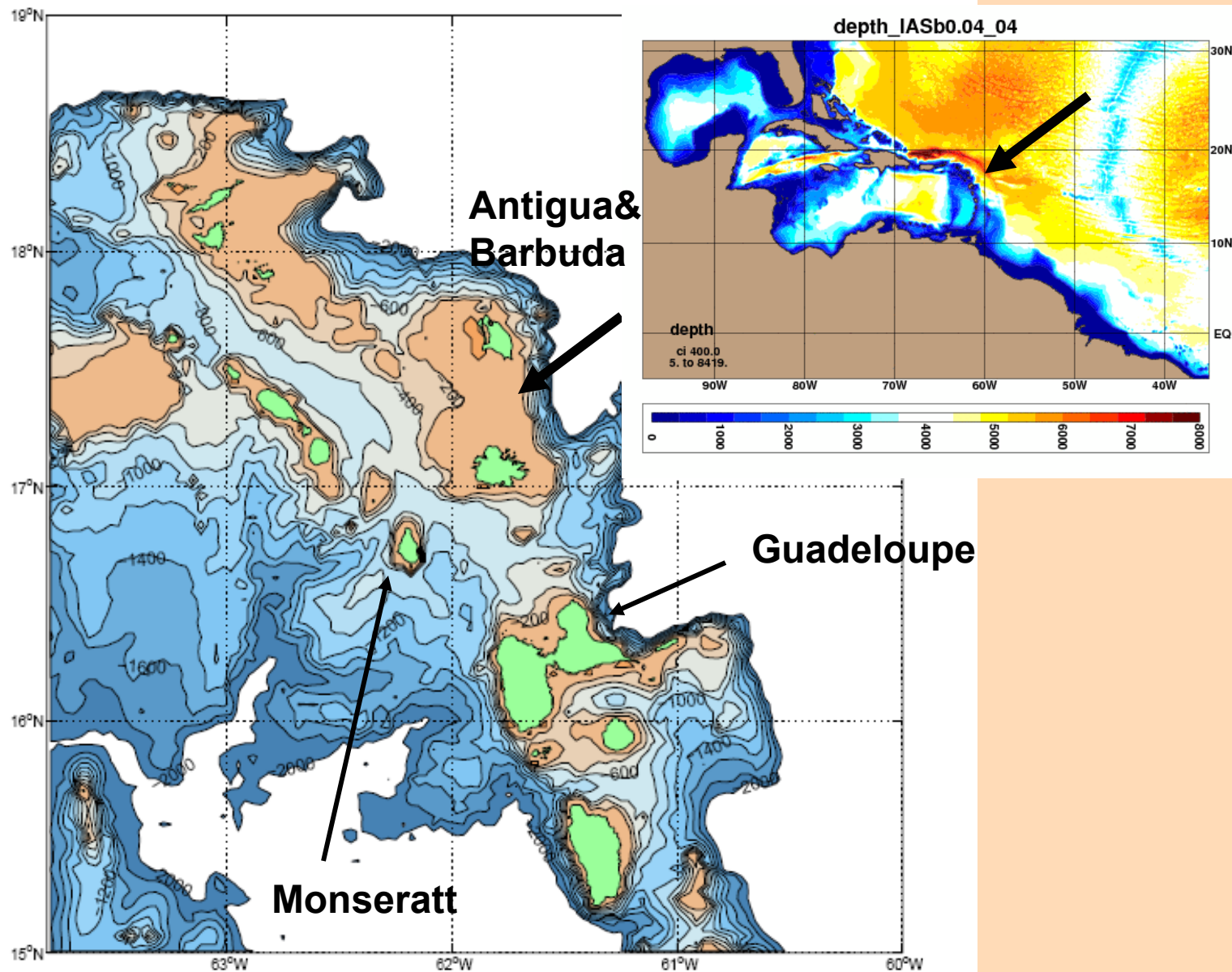
***Brazil Current rings (MICOM)***

## Nested ROMS Model

*(ROMS: H. G. Arango, Rutgers University and A.F. Shchepetkin, UCLA)*

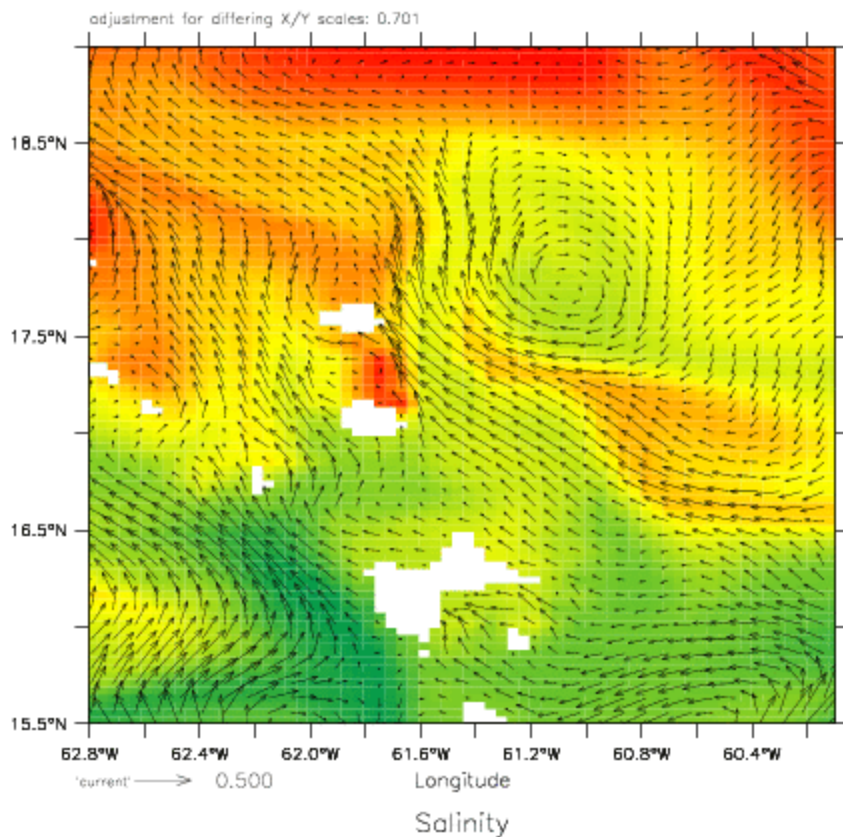
- stretched, terrain-following coordinates in the vertical, 25 layers
- orthogonal curvilinear coordinates in the horizontal (163x221, parent grid, 1.7km)
- Split-explicit time-stepping scheme (Shchepetkin and McWilliams, 1998),  $\Delta t=240s$  (no tides).
- Advection scheme: third-order, upstream biased. => velocity-dependent hyper-diffusion dissipation (Shchepetkin and McWilliams, 1998).
- nested weekly (off-line nesting) with the larger scale HYCOM (global / CARIB)

# ROMS topography: USGS gtopo30 (~ 1km)

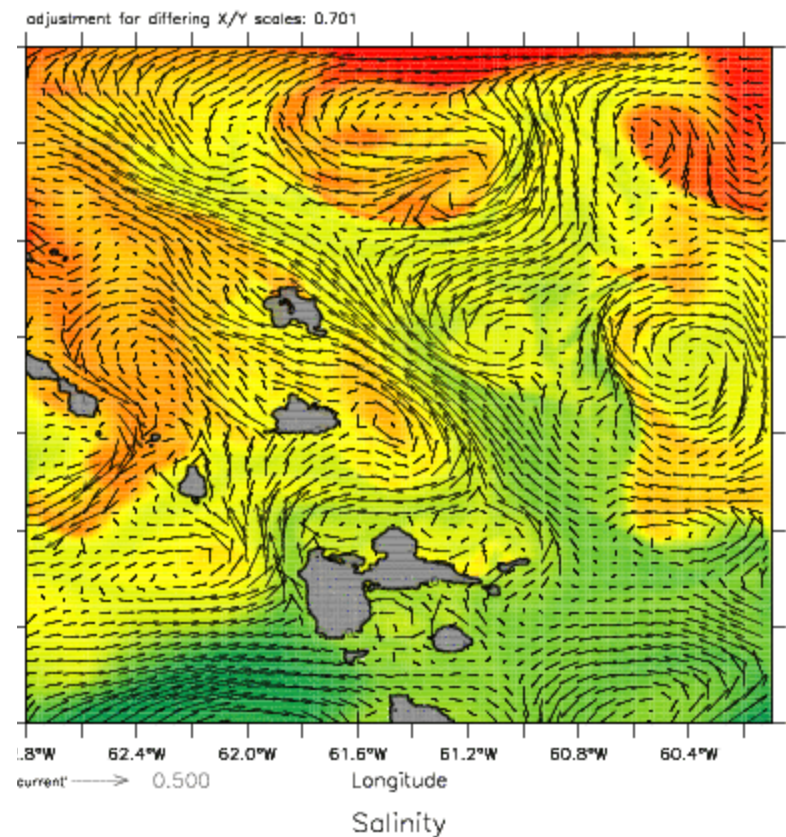




## HYCOM SSS and currents

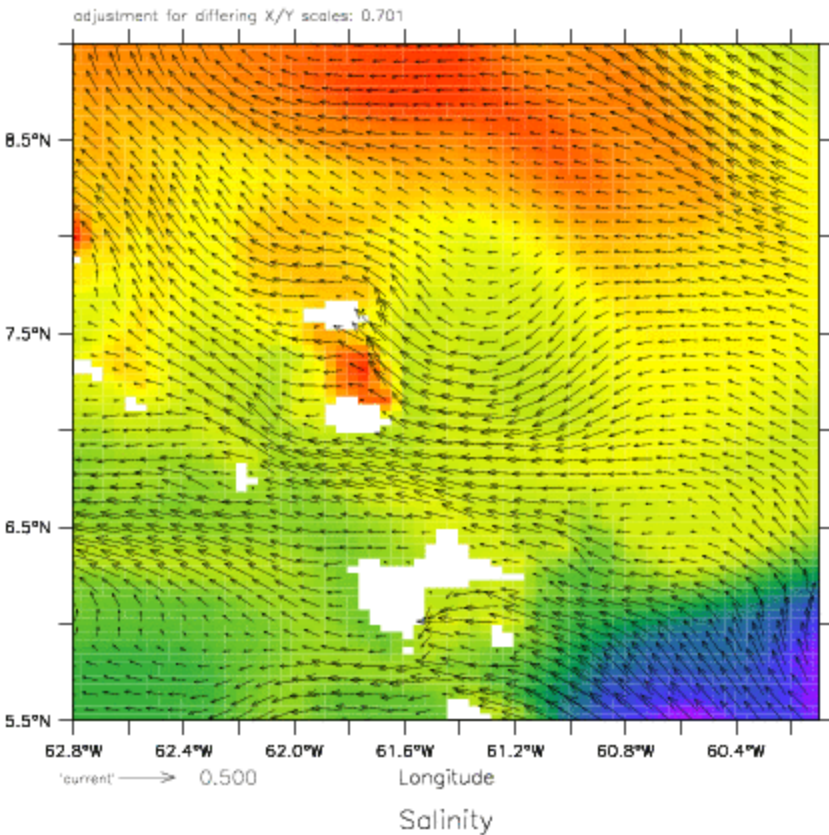


## ROMS SSS and currents

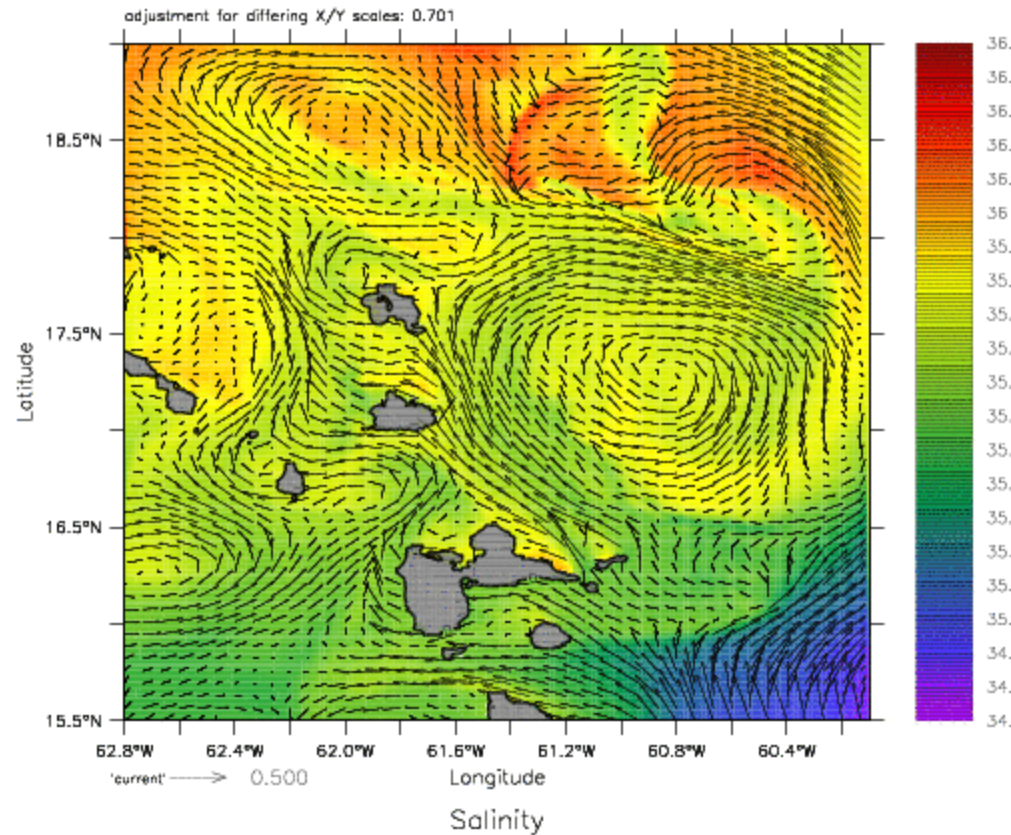


June 1

## HYCOM SSS and currents



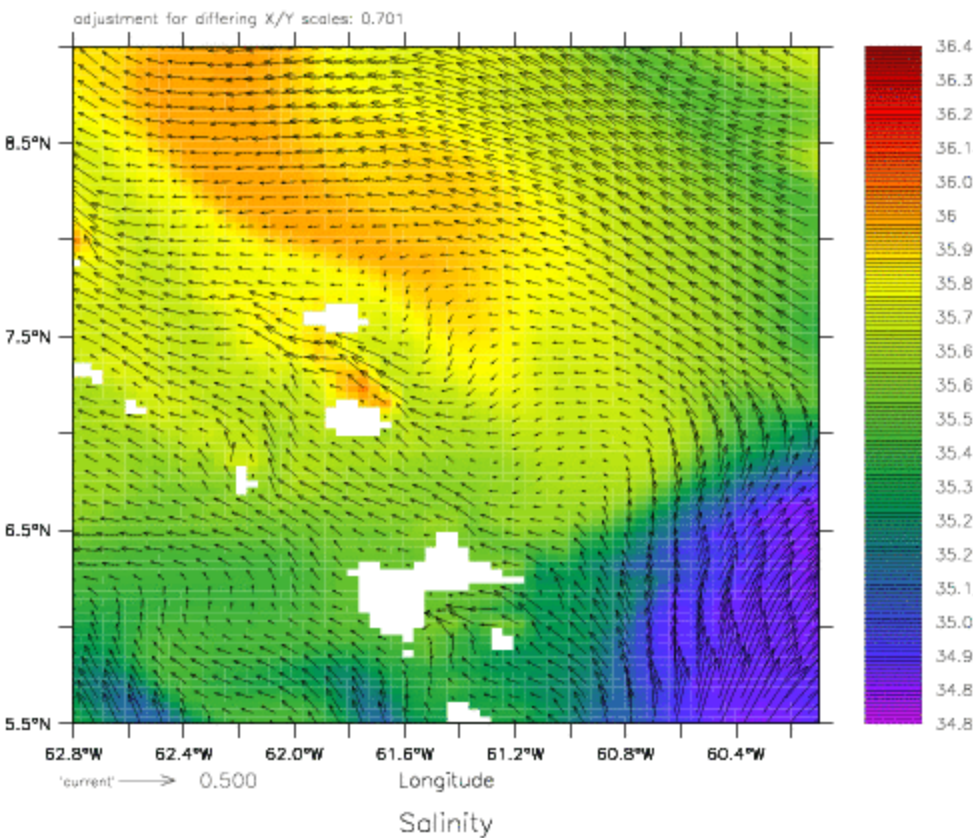
## ROMS SSS and currents



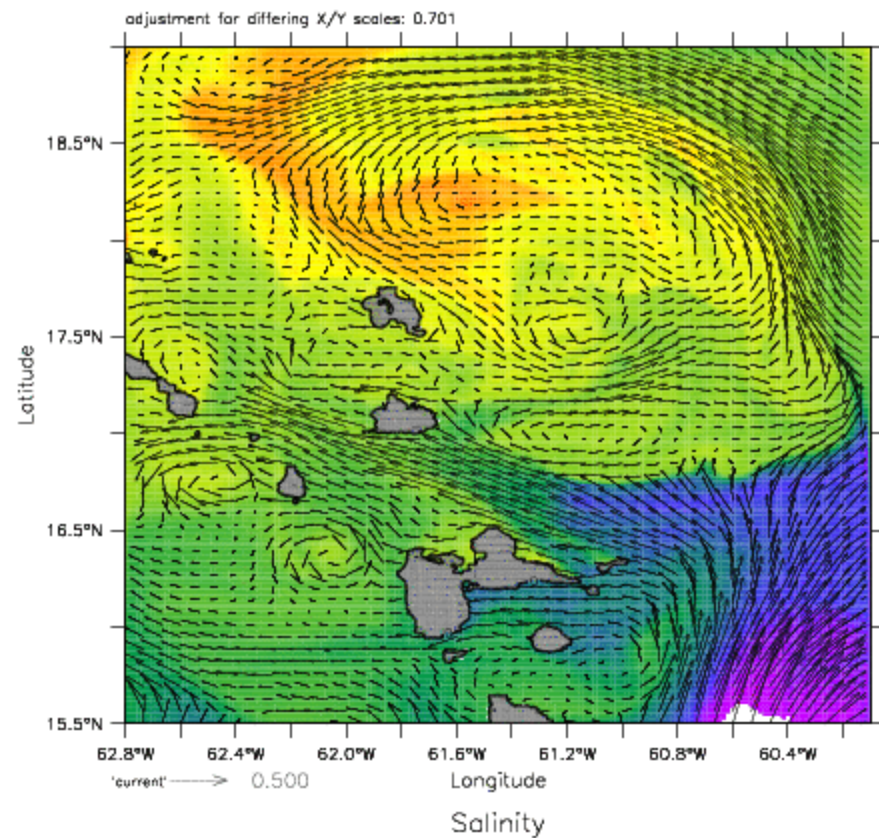
June 15



## HYCOM SSS and currents

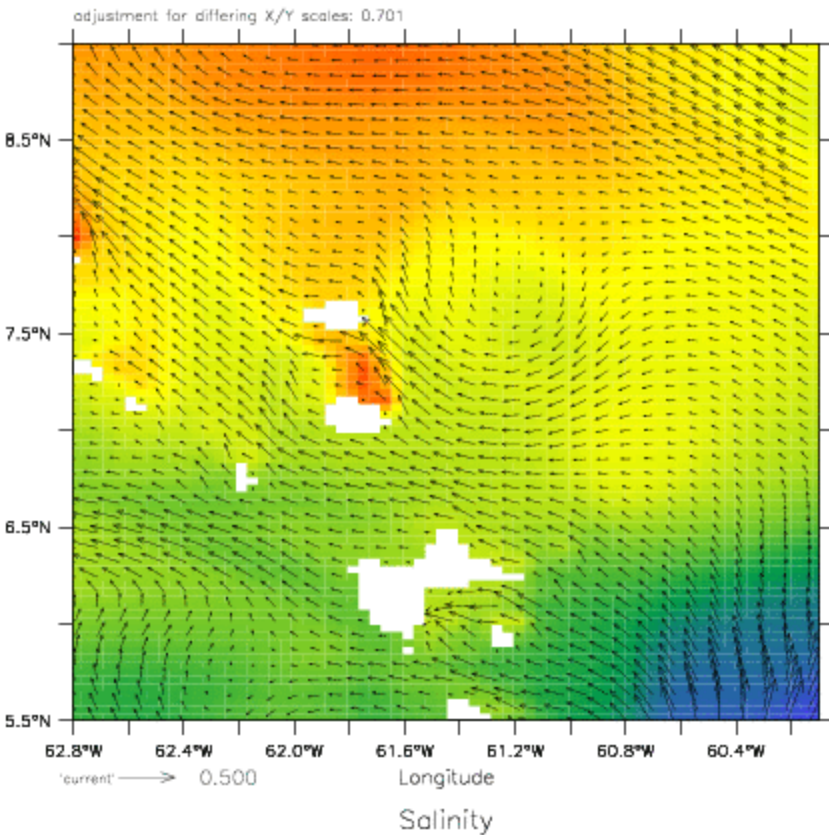


## ROMS SSS and currents

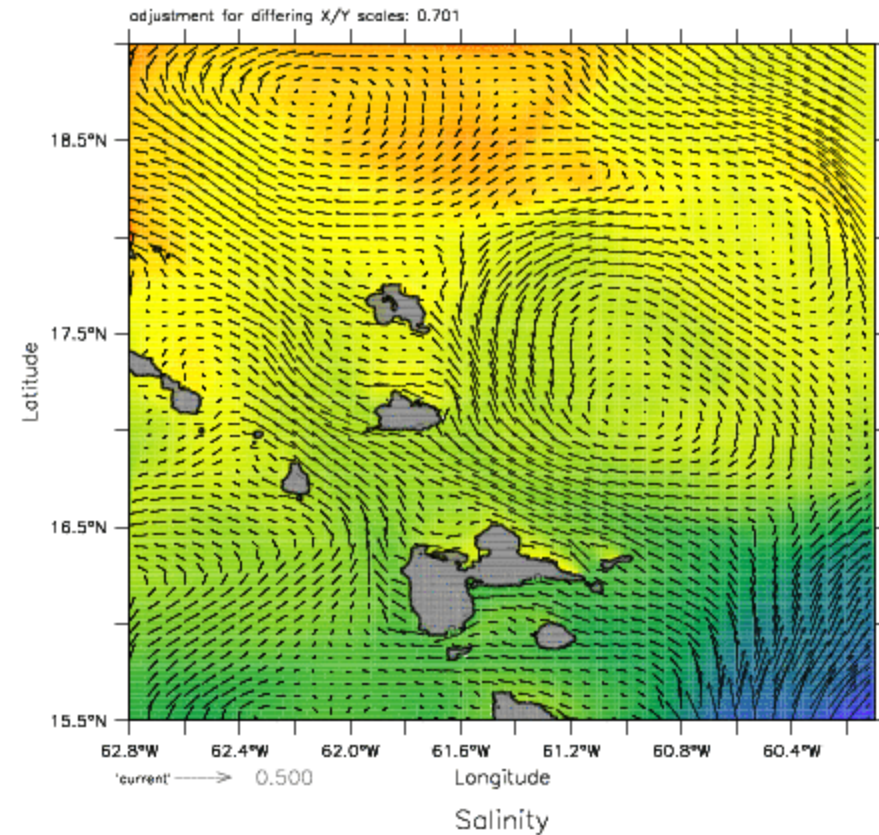


June 30

## HYCOM SSS and currents



## ROMS SSS and currents



June (mean)

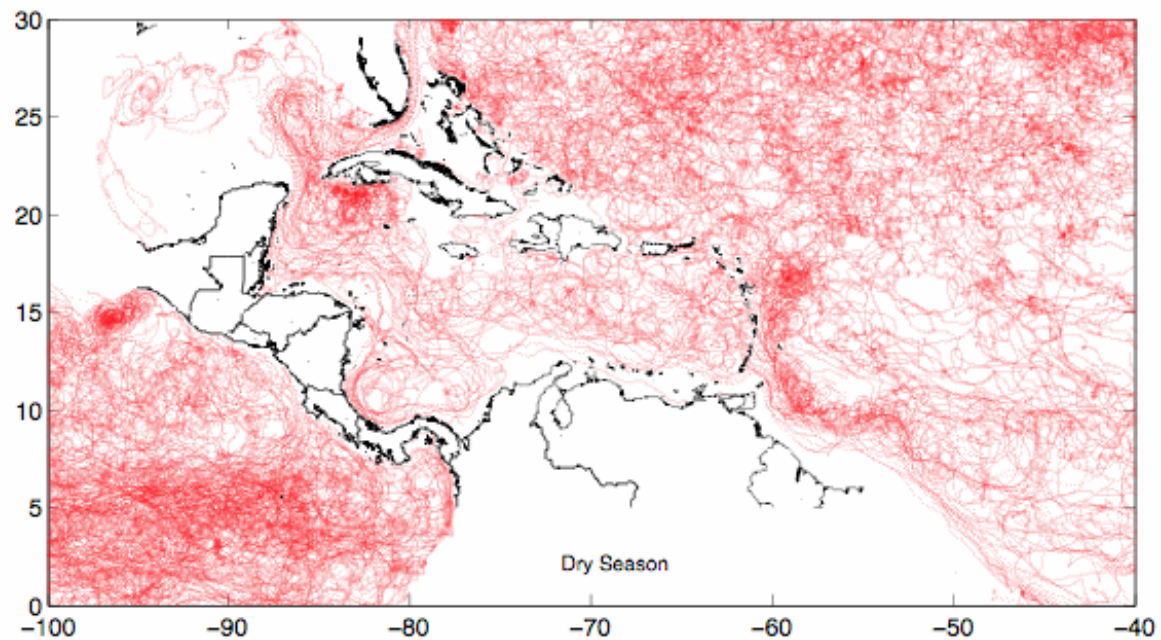


Caribbean historical data set

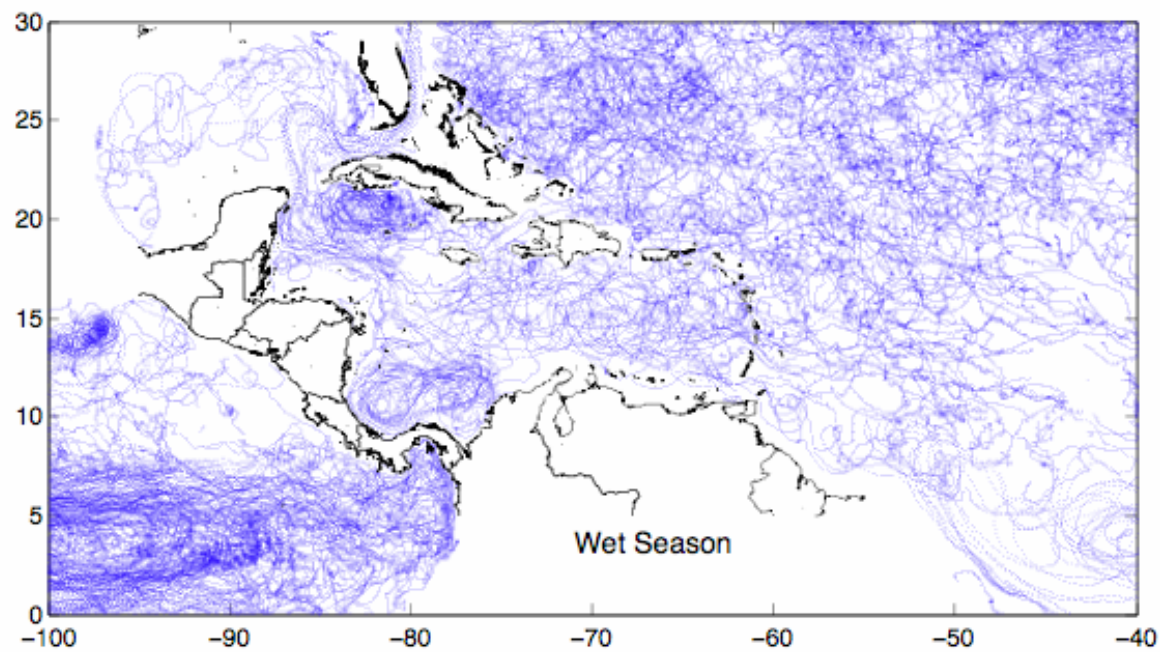
1978-2007

*(NOAA/AOML)*

**Dry Season  
(Jan-Jul)**

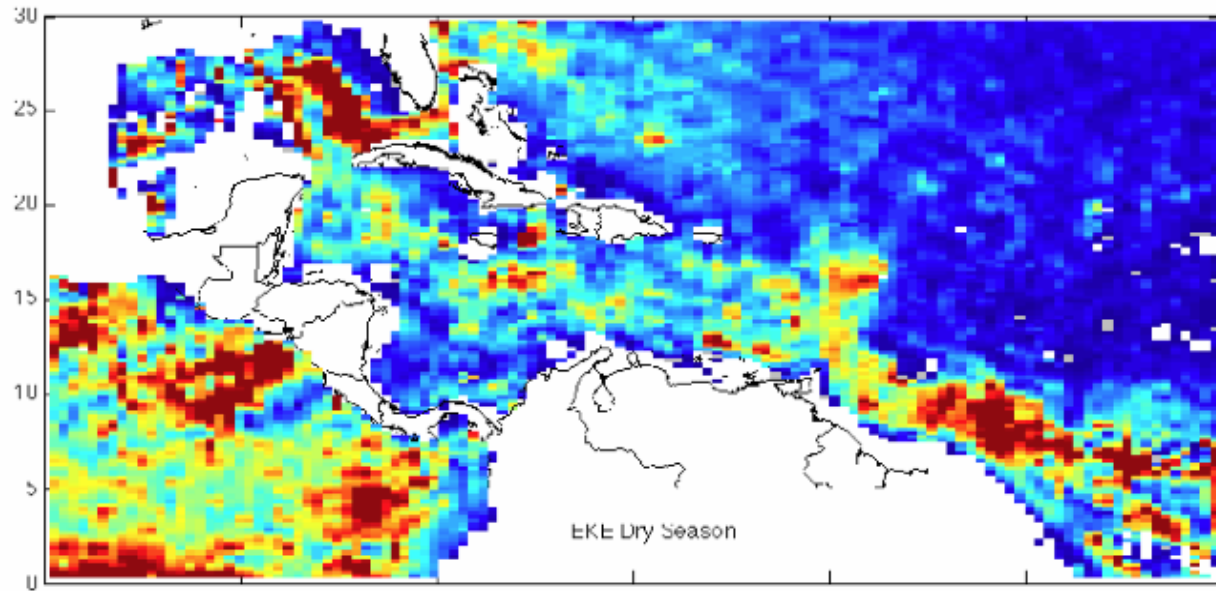


**Wet Season  
(Aug-Dec)**

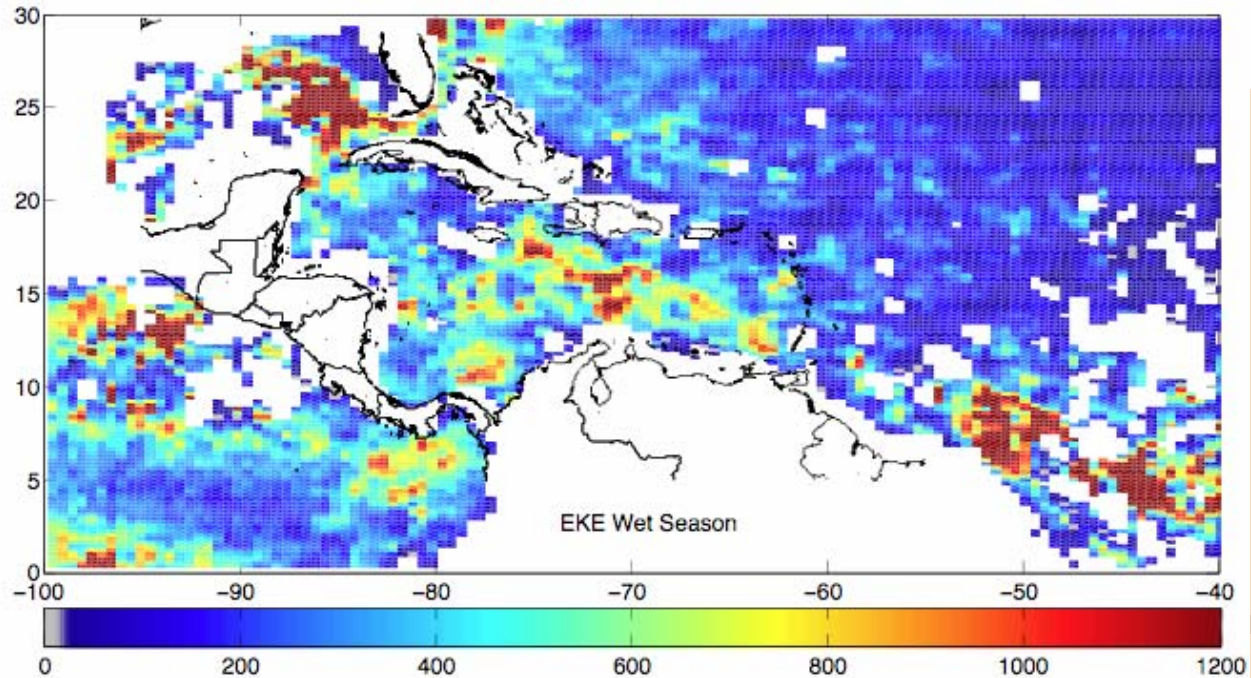


**EKE**

**Dry Season  
(Jan-Jul)**

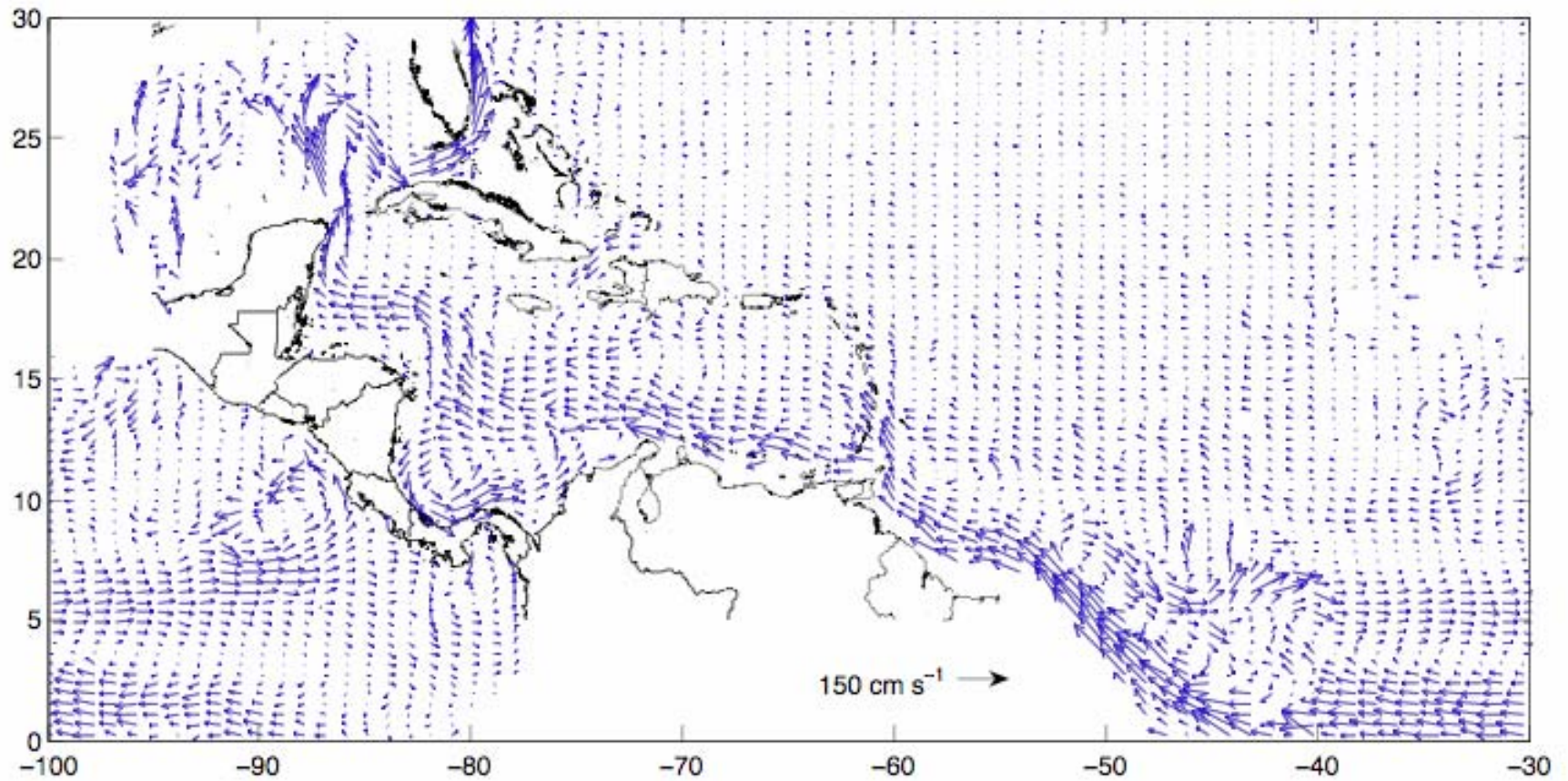


**Wet Season  
(Aug-Dec)**

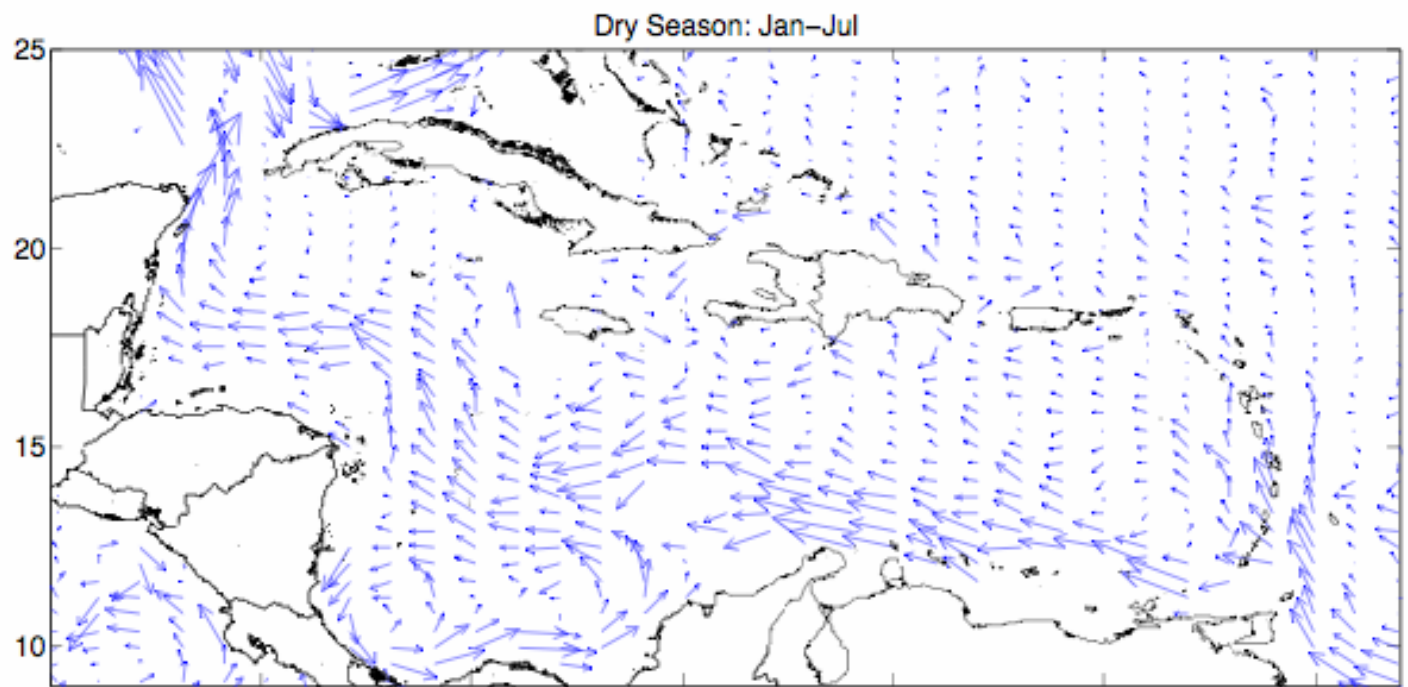




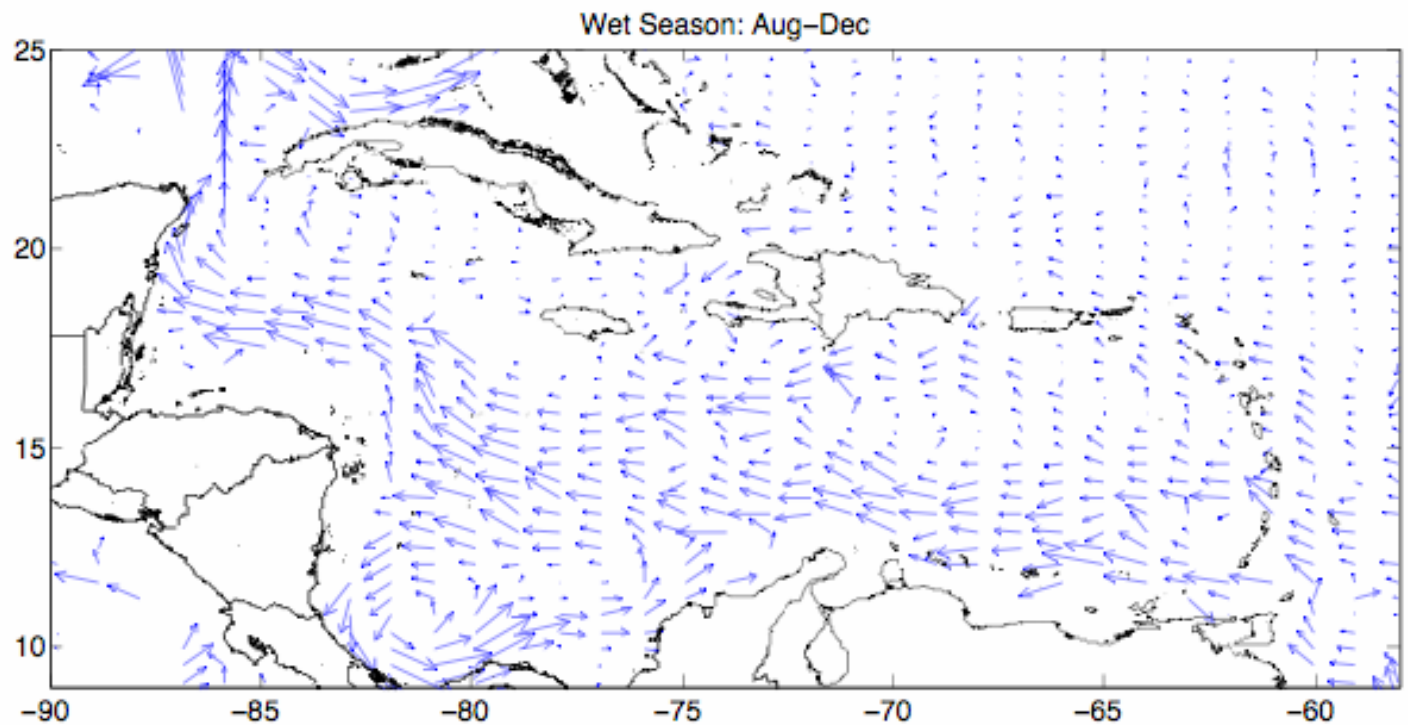
## Mean Velocity (from drifters)



**Dry Season  
(Jan-Jul)**

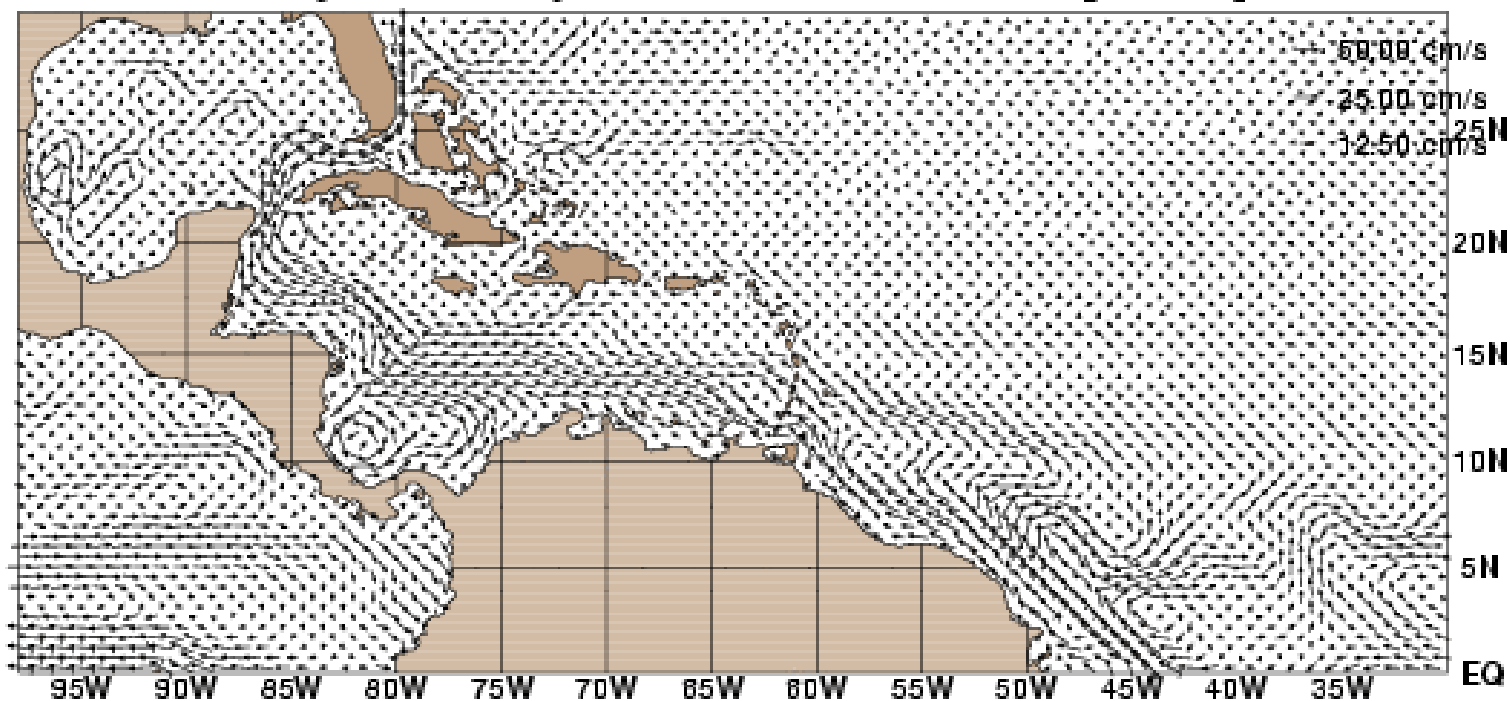


**Wet Season  
(Aug-Dec)**



## Mean Velocity (from HYCOM)

mix.lyr. velocity mean: 5.00- 6.00 [07.1H]





# Mean Transports in the IAS\*

Expt.	FC 27°N	Abaco north ward	FC + Abaco	NWP	OBC	Yuc Chan	WW	Mona	Aneg	Less Antil	Lucia Vince Gren
Obs.	30-34	5	37	-1.2	-1.9	23-27	-7.0	-2.6	-2.5	-17.1 (resid) <sup>#</sup>	-10.1
05.2 (7-9)	24.0	8.0	31.8	-2.2	0.0	22.3	-3.6	-2.1	-4.2	-12.1	-8.3
05.6 (9-13)	24.9	3.1	26.9	-2.4	-0.3	22.6	-2.8	-2.4	-4.6	-12.5	-8.0
07.1 (4)	26.5	8.0	34.4	-2.5	0.7	24.6	-0.2	-2.2	-4.7	-17.5	-11.7

\* Positive transport defined northward and eastward

<sup>#</sup> Residual of Yucatan – WW – Mona - Anegada

**Provided by  
Joe Metzger**

**END**