EAS 4300: Introduction to Oceanography, FALL 2009

INSTRUCTORS:

Emanuele Di Lorenzo phone 404-894-3994 office ES&T 3244 email edl@eas.gatech.edu

Kim Cobb phone 404-894-3895 office ES&T 3240 email kcobb@gatech.edu



TA: Yisen Zhong Email yzhong31@gatech.edu

Course Website http://ocean3d.org/eas-4300

Questions for you:



Why do we care about Oceanography?

Things to think about:



Biodiversity

Medical potential/drug discovery

New models of life

Climate

Fisheries

Recreation

Fossil fuel resource

Ocean energy

Navigation/transportation

Carbon cycle

Marine biology

Hazards



Ocean & Energy



Ocean & Hazards

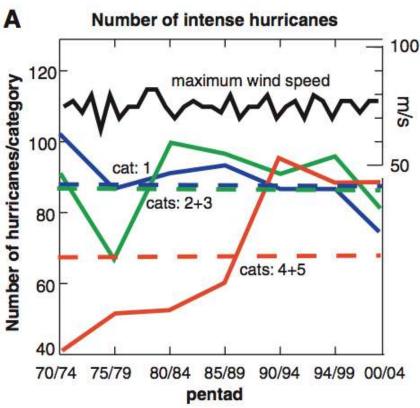
Sea surface temperature in the tropical oceans fuel hurricanes

Changes in Tropical Cyclone
Number, Duration, and Intensity
in a Warming Environment

P. J. Webster, 1 G. J. Holland, 2 J. A. Curry, 1 H.-R. Chang 1

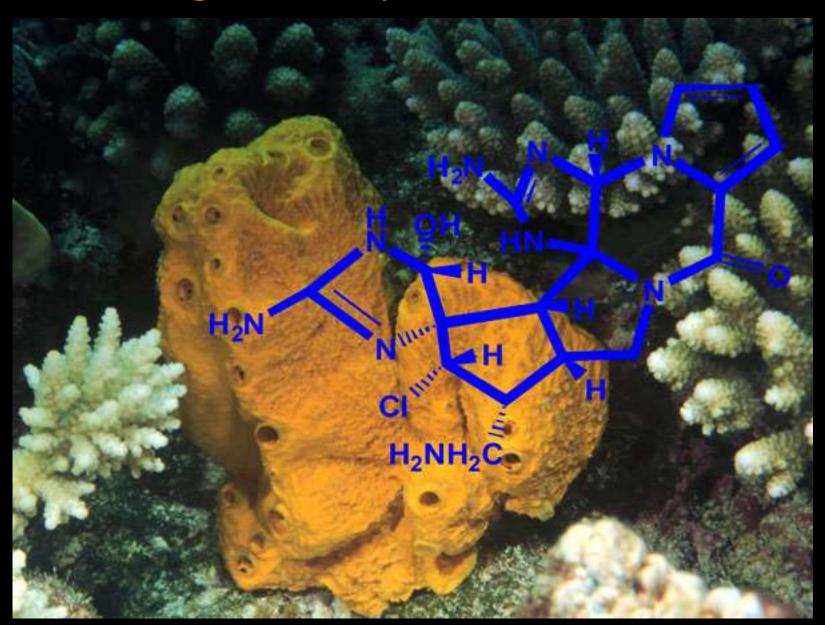
16 SEPTEMBER 2005 VOL 309 SCIENCE





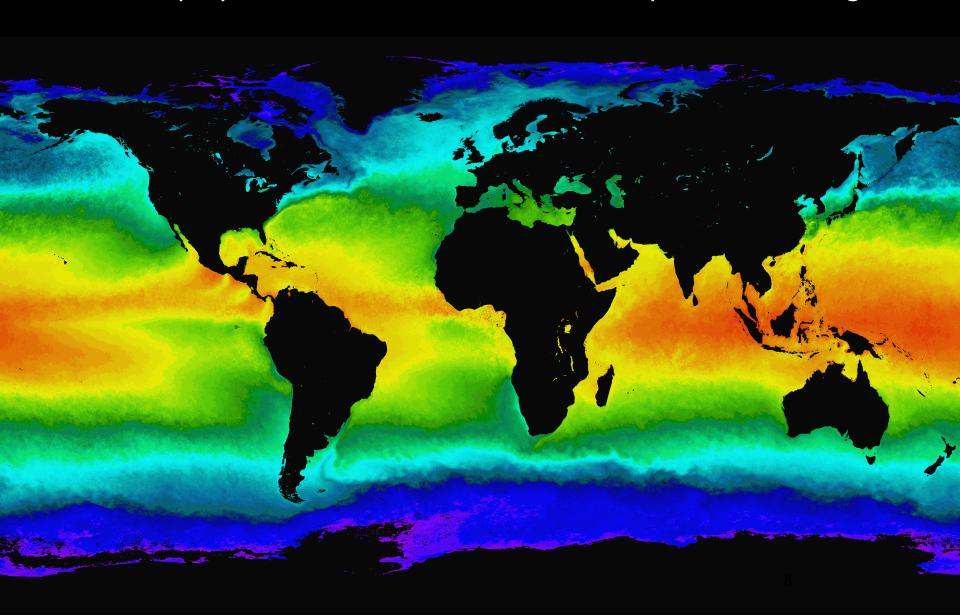
Hurricanes becoming more intense as ocean warms?

Ocean & Drug Discovery



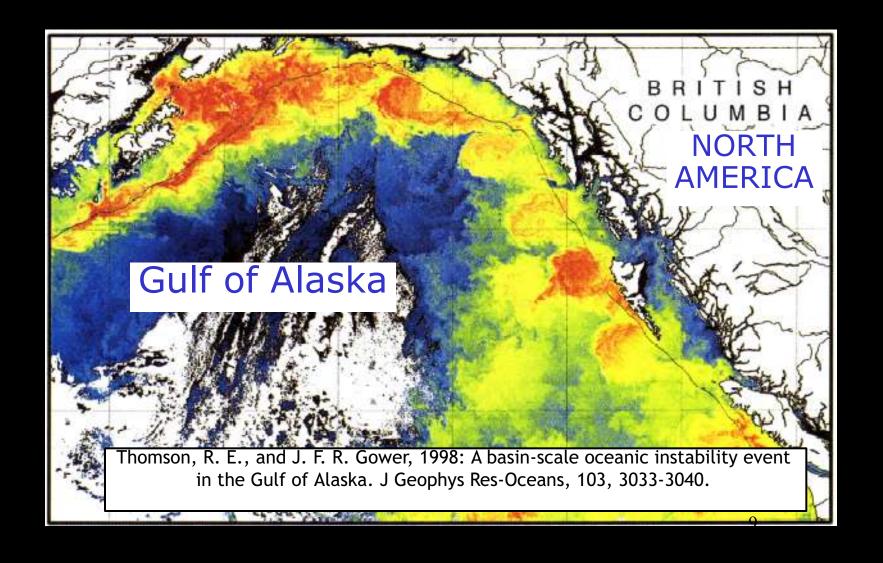
Ocean & Climate

The ocean plays a dominant role in heat transport and mixing



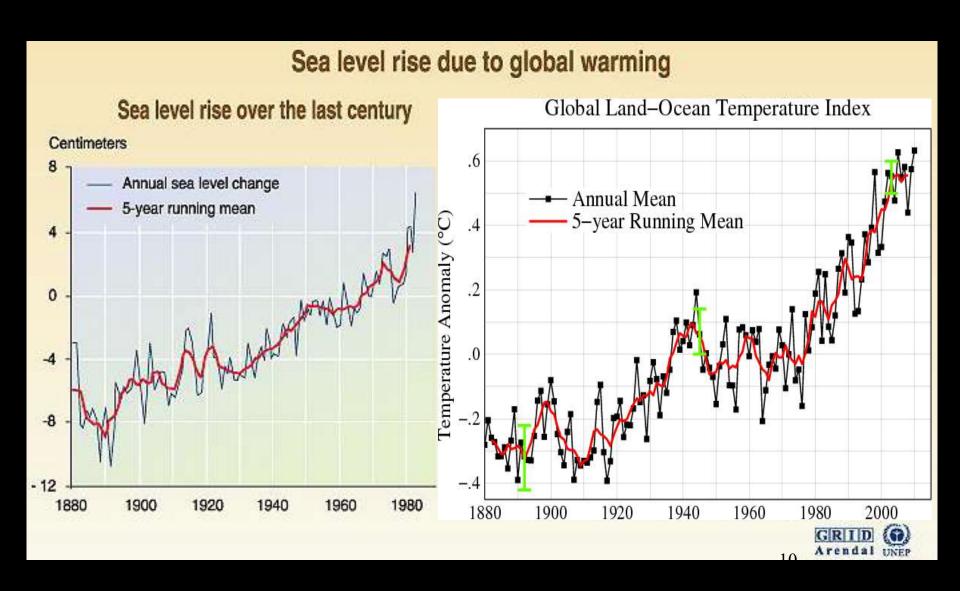
Ocean & Climate

Vortices are the strongest mixing agent in the ocean. They influence the ocean circulation and biology.



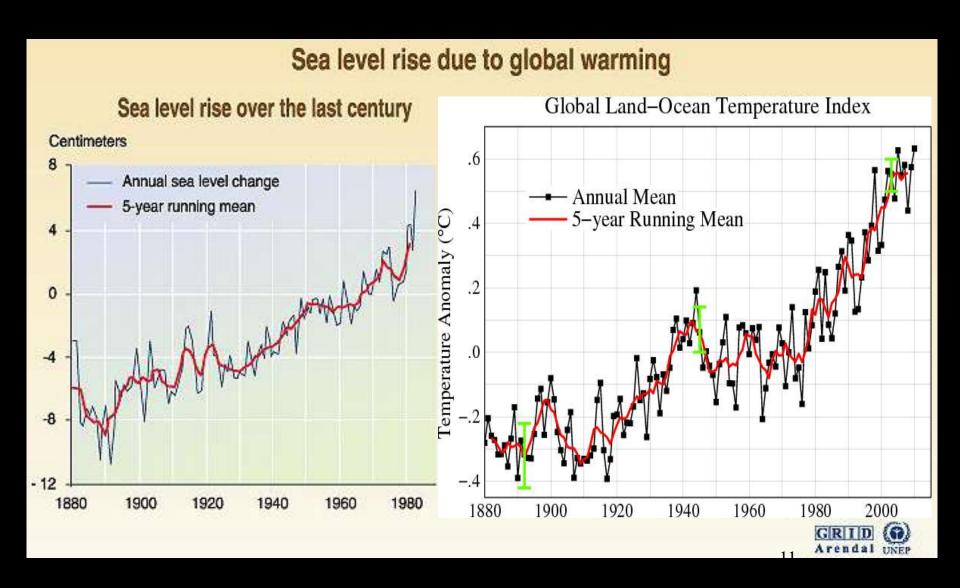
Ocean & Climate Change

Global Surface Temperatures and Sea Level are rising



Ocean & Climate Change

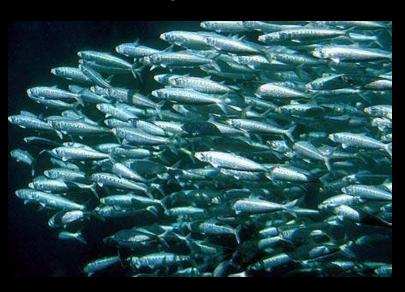
Global Surface Temperatures and Sea Level are rising

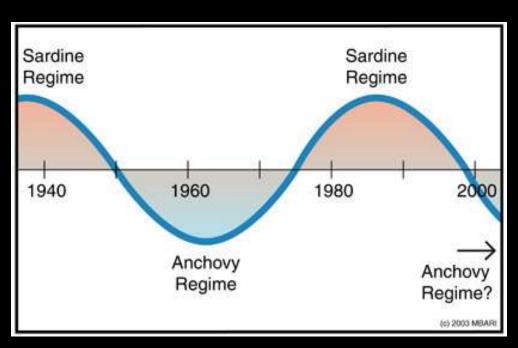


Ocean & Climate & Marine Ecosystems

Ocean climate affects fish distributions and abundance

Sardines/Anchovies

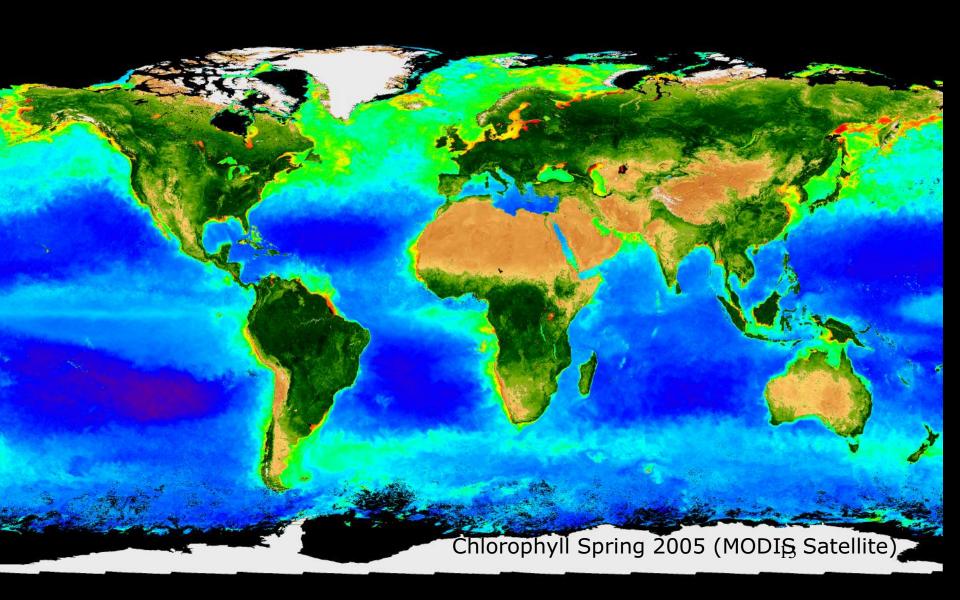




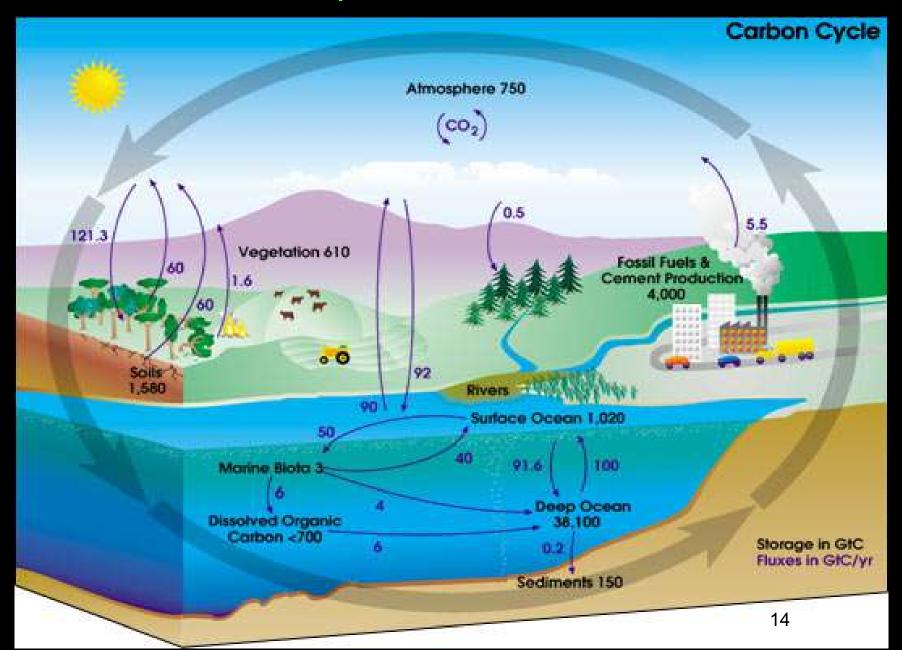
synchronized alternations between sardines/anchovies over the entire Pacific Ocean?

Ocean & Carbon Cycle

Marine Ecosystem regulate the cycling of chemical species relevant to climate (e.g. Carbon Dioxide)

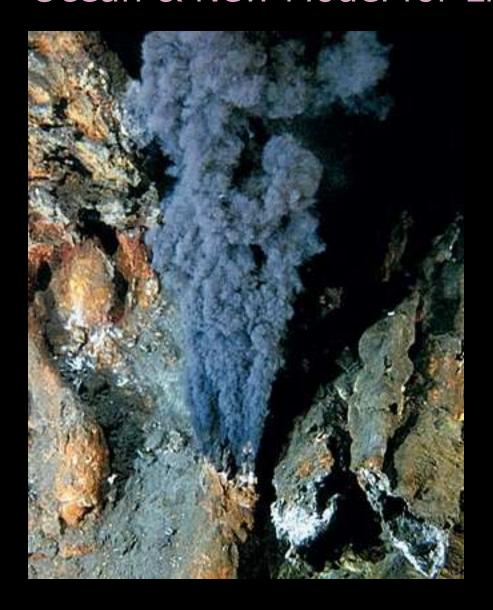


Ocean & Carbon Cycle





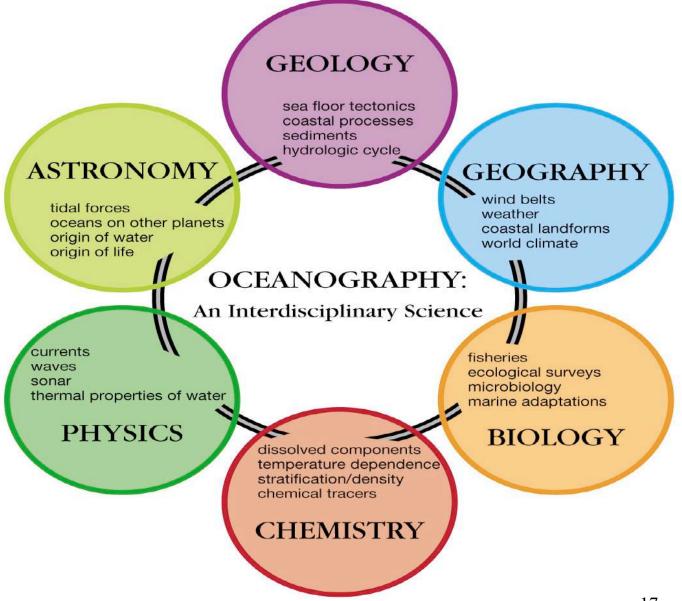
Ocean & New Model for Life





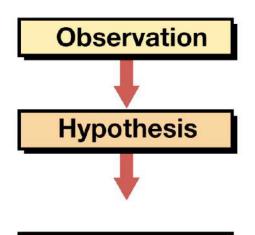


How do we define the science of Oceanography?



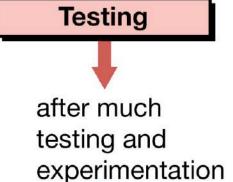


The Scientific Method

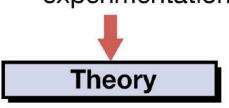


Collection of scientific facts through observation and measurement

A tentative, testable statement about the natural world that can be used to build more complex inferences and explanations



Development of observations, experiments, and models to test (and, if necessary, revise) the hypothesis



In science, a well-substantiated explanation of some aspect of the natural world that can incorporate facts, laws, logical inferences, and tested hypotheses

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