

An update on the North American Coastal CARbon Synthesis (CCARS)

EAST COAST REGION

Regional Leads:
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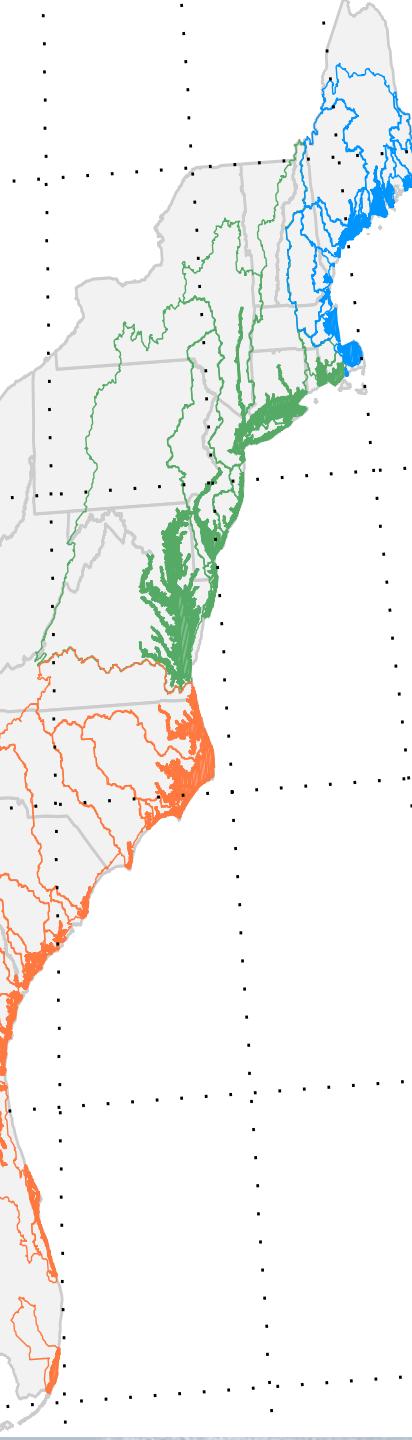
CCARS Workshop, 14 August 2014



River DIC input, Tg C yr⁻¹

	LOADEST (Stets and Striegl 2012)*	DLEM (Tian et al. subm.)
GoM	0.30	0.76
MAB	1.6	0.77
SAB	0.6	0.82
E. Coast	2.5	2.4

* Scaled by watershed area



River TOC input, Tg C yr⁻¹

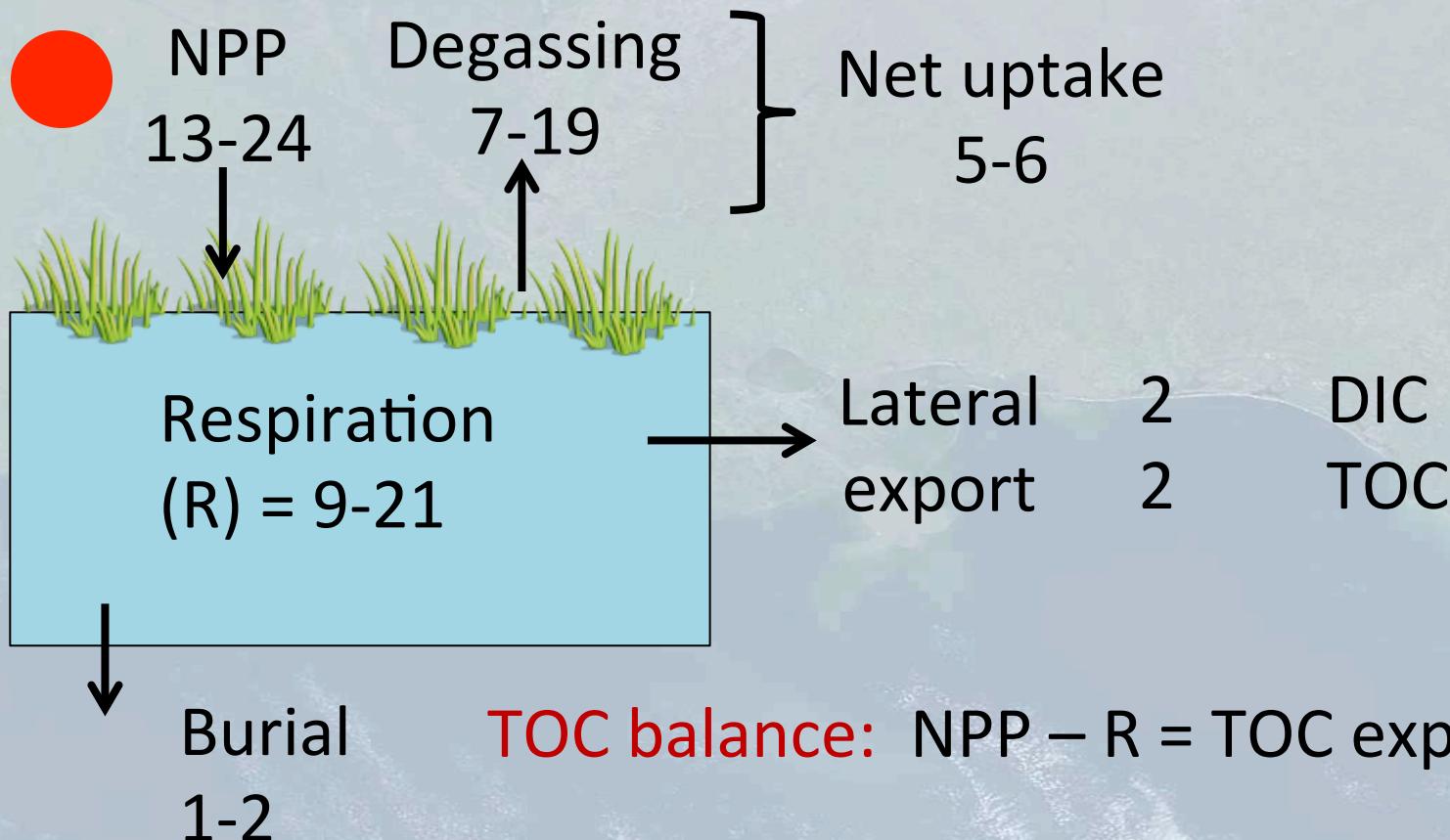
	SPARROW (Shih et al. 2010)	SPARROW + wetlands (Herrmann et al. subm.)	DLEM (Tian et al. subm.)
GoM	0.57*	0.64*	0.95
MAB	1.5	2.0	1.3
SAB	1.9	3.1	1.3
E. Coast	3.9	5.8	3.5

*Does not include Canadian watersheds

Tidal wetland lateral TOC export

- Kroeger compilation of 12 studies
- Export estimates range from 4 to 38 mol C m⁻² y⁻¹
- Mean = 15 mol C m⁻² y⁻¹
- Combine with estimates of tidal wetland area
- Similar approach to lateral DIC export and burial

Fluxes in tidal wetlands, Tg C yr⁻¹



TOC balance: $NPP - R = TOC \text{ export} + \text{Burial}$

1-2

DIC balance: $R = DIC \text{ export} + \text{Degassing}$

TC balance: $\text{Net uptake} = \text{TC export} + \text{burial}$

Estuarine TOC budget, Tg C yr⁻¹

Input from upland sources	NEP	Burial	Export to shelf*
0.52	-0.30	0.03	0.19
1.8	+0.06	0.4	1.4
3.1	-1.4	0.07	1.7
5.4	-1.6	0.5	3.3

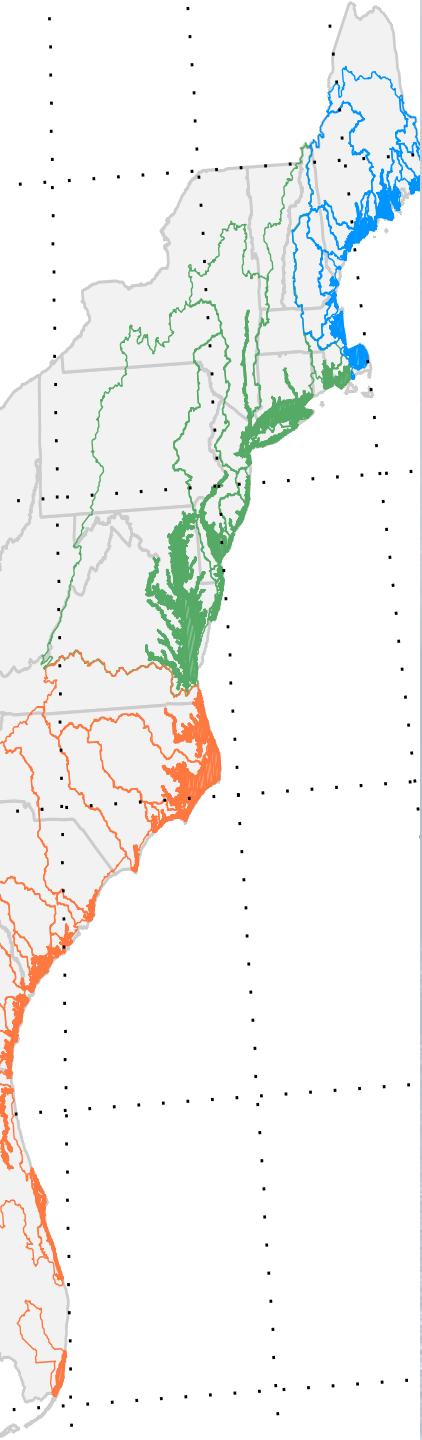
Herrmann et al. (subm.)

*computed as residual

Estuarine air-sea flux: - 5 Tg C yr⁻¹ (outgassing)

	N systems from literature review	CO ₂ flux per unit area (mean $\pm \sigma$, mol m ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Area- integrated CO ₂ flux
GoM	6	-3 \pm 0.4	-0.2 \pm 0.03
MAB	1	-6 \pm ?	-1.5 \pm ?
SAB	5	-25 \pm 6	-3.6 \pm 0.6
E. Coast	12		-5.3 \pm ?

Herrmann literature synthesis: Laurelle et al. (2014)
and references therein; Cai and coworkers



Estuarine DIC budget, Tg C yr⁻¹

	River + wetland input	NEP	Out-gassing	Export to shelf*
GOM	0.3 + 0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.5
MAB	1.6 + 0.9	-0.06	-1.5	0.9
SAB	0.6 + 1.2	1.4	-3.6	-0.4
E. Coast	2.5 + 2.0	1.6	-5.3	0.8

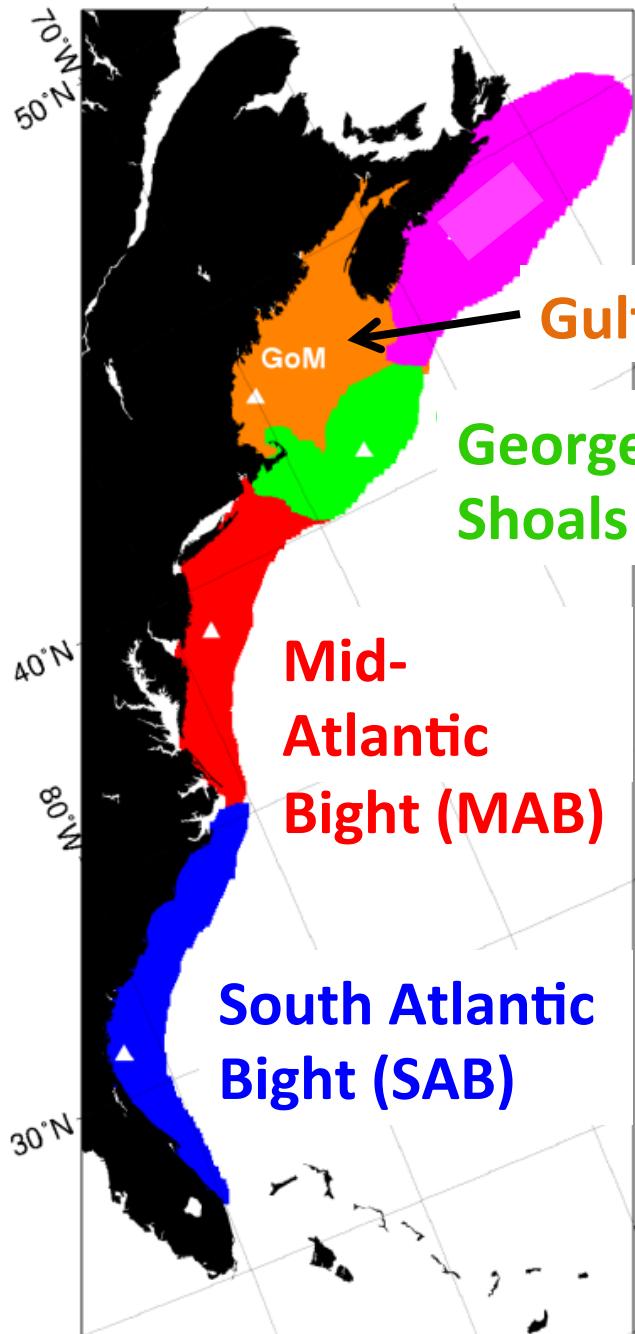
*calculated as a residual

Estuarine Net Primary Production:

$10 \pm 1 \text{ Tg C yr}^{-1}$

	N systems from literature review	NPP per unit area (mean $\pm \sigma$, $\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{y}^{-1}$)	Area- integrated NPP
GoM	4	30 ± 6	2 ± 0.4
MAB	14	18 ± 4	4 ± 0.9
SAB	6	24 ± 7	4 ± 1
E. Coast	24		10 ± 1

Based on synthesis in Cloern et al. (2014)



Shelf primary production:
 $120 \pm 30 \text{ Tg C yr}^{-1}$

Gulf of Maine (GoM)

Georges Bank + Nantucket
Shoals (GB + NS)

Mid-
Atlantic
Bight (MAB)

South Atlantic
Bight (SAB)

34 ± 10

35 ± 10

47 ± 20

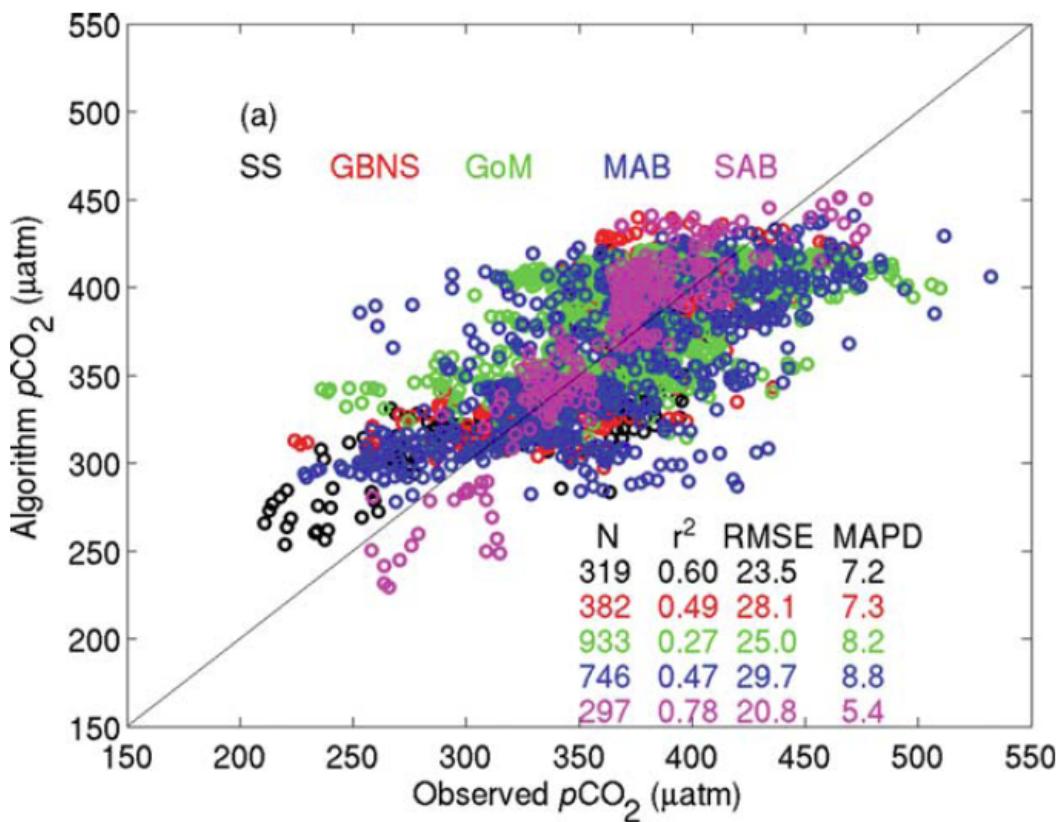
Based on a literature
synthesis

Continental shelf air-sea exchange

(Signorini et al., 2013)

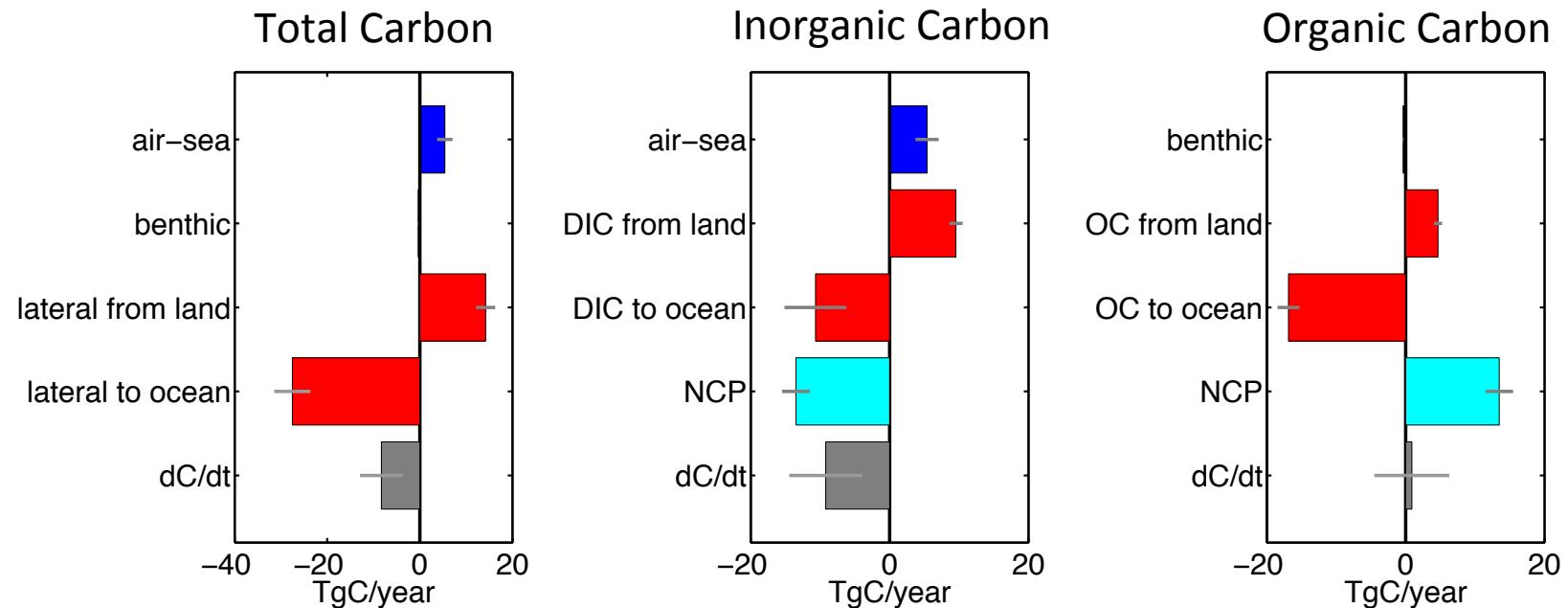
Surface $p\text{CO}_2$ algorithm
exploiting satellite data

$$\text{Flux} = f(\Delta p\text{CO}_2, \text{wind}, \text{SST})$$



	Uptake Tg C yr^{-1}
GoM	0.0
GB+NS	1.0
MAB	2.1
SAB	0.9
East Coast	4.0

USECoS: Lateral carbon fluxes on the U.S. eastern continental shelf



mean over 2004-2007

- Lateral exchange is large term in the US East Coast carbon budgets
- Large interannual variability of lateral DIC flux

Overall East Coast Carbon Budget

Tidal wetlands

NPP
13-24

Degassing
7-19

River input
3.9 TOC
2.5 DIC

5

Continental shelf

4.3

120 NPP, 13 NEP
107 R

1 DIC
3 TOC

11 DIC
17 TOC

Open Ocean

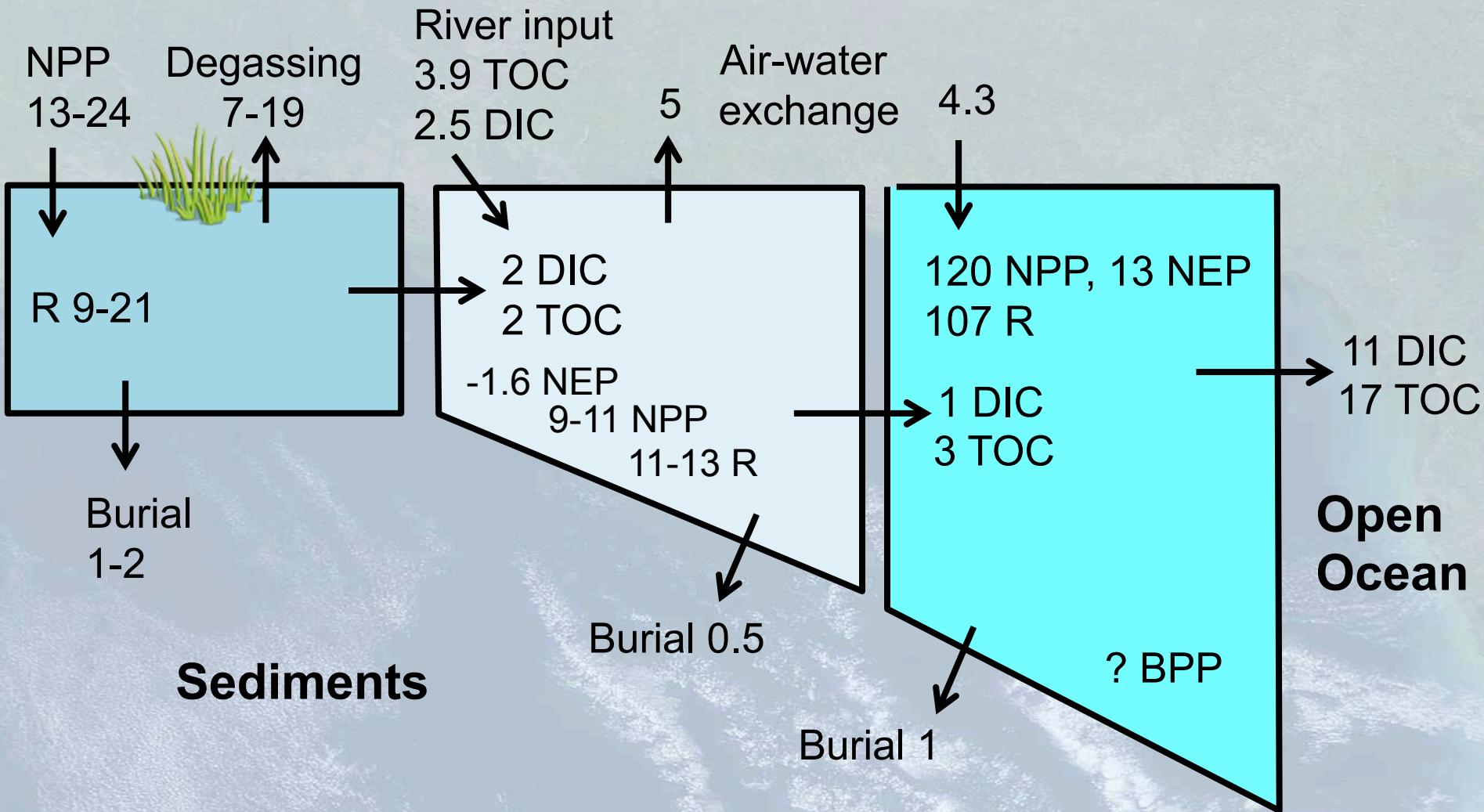
Burial
1-2

Sediments

Burial 0.5

Burial 1

? BPP



Summary

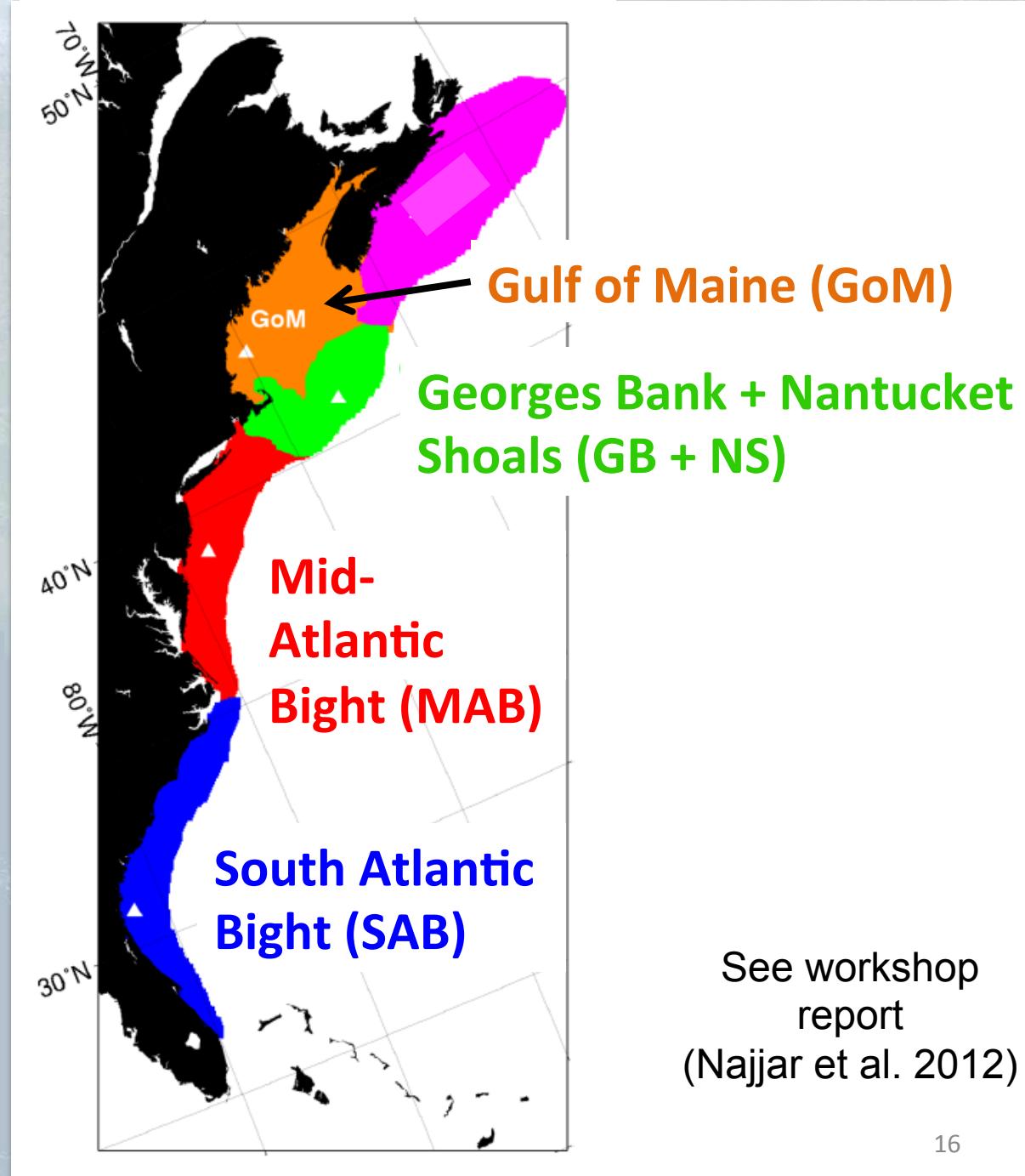
- Best constraints on riverine fluxes
- Poorest constraints on sedimentary processes, respiration, tidal wetland NPP
- Additional data mining, modeling can take us further
- But a new suite of observations are needed

ADDITIONAL SLIDES

East Coast

Head-of-tide to shelf
break (~200 m)

	% Area
Tidal wetlands	2
Estuaries	19
Shelf waters	78



Tidal wetland TOC export:

Study location	TOC (mol C m ⁻² yr ⁻¹)	Source
Ware Creek, VA	10	<i>Axelrad et al., 1976</i>
Carter Creek, VA	12	<i>Axelrad et al., 1976</i>
Sapelo Island, Ga	22	<i>Chalmers et al., 1985</i>
Synthesis of multiple studies	20	<i>Childers et al., 2000</i>
North Inlet, SC	38	<i>Dame, 1995</i>
Hudson River, NY	27	<i>Findlay et al., 1998</i>
Crab Haul Creek, North Inlet, SC	11	<i>Gardner and Kjerfve, 2006</i>
Bay Creek, North Inlet, SC	19	<i>Gardner and Kjerfve, 2006</i>
High Marsh, MD	4	<i>Jordan and Correll, 1991</i>
Kirkpatrick Marsh, Chesapeake Bay, MD	4	<i>Jordan and Correll, 1991</i>
Rhode River, MD	5	<i>Jordan et al., 1983</i>