MIXED LAYER DEPTH AND SURFACE OCEAN FLUXES EVOLUTIONS IN THE SOUTHERN BEAUFORT SEA AND AMUNDSEN GULF

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Photo: Martin Fortier, ArcticNet

#### **Presentation Plan**

- Region of study and database
- ➢Objectives
- ≻Methodology
- ➢ Results
- ➤Conclusions

#### Arctic Ocean

#### Connections

Pacific Ocean: Bering Strait

Atlantic Ocean: Fram Strait & Canadian archipelago

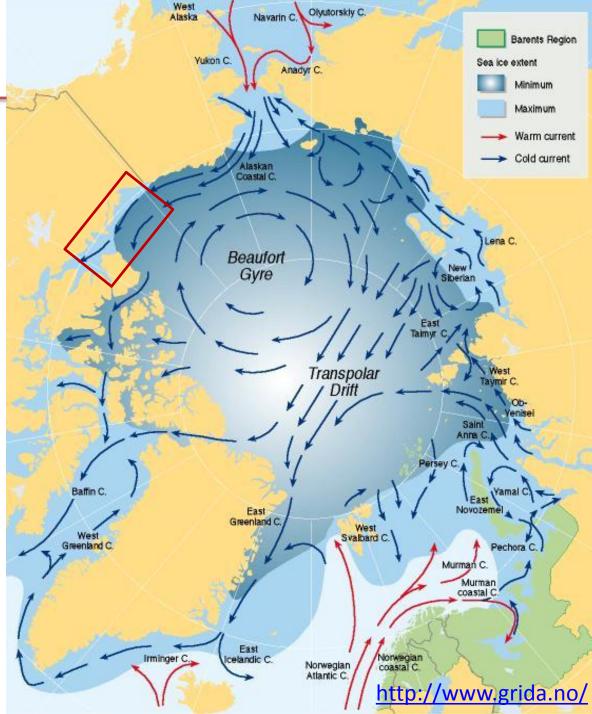
#### Circulation

Beaufort Gyre : Anticyclonic Mack. offshore

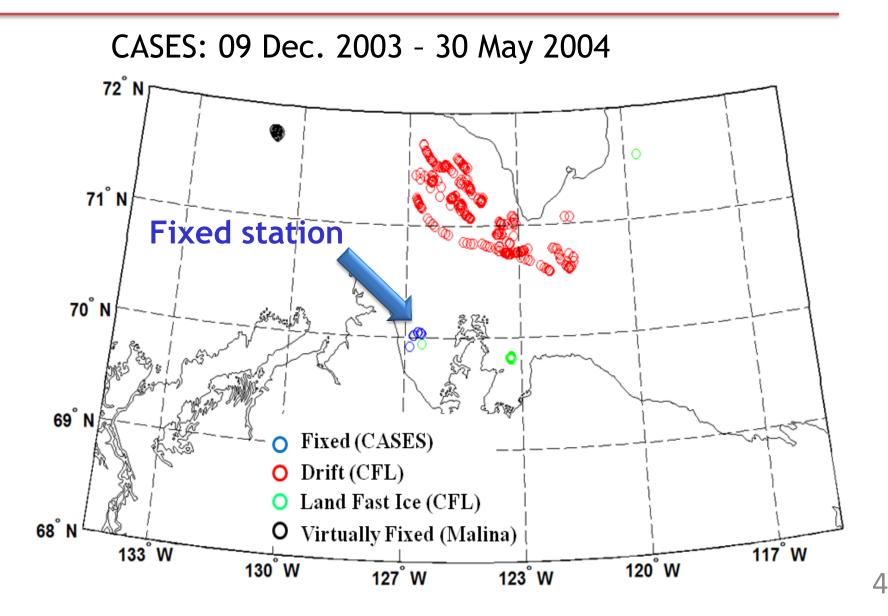
Beaufort Undercurrent: Cyclonic

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Coastal Currents: Cyclonic



## Databases



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#### Annual and seasonal evolutions of MLD

# Interactions between the ocean fluxes and MLD using CTD profiles

## What is the mixed layer?

- Oceanic homogeneous surface layer
- Turbulence (wind, ice freezing) **MLD**
- Turbulence + Restratifying MLD 23 <sub>σ<sub>θ</sub></sub> 24 25 26 27 20 22 21 <u>30</u> S(psu) -20 -40 -60 -80 100<sup>L</sup> -0.5 -1 T(°C)

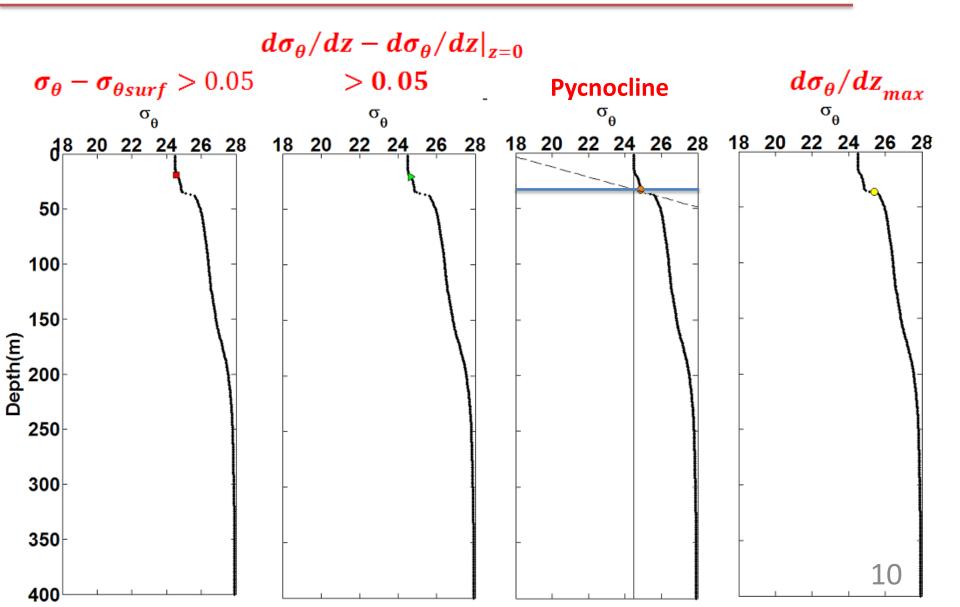
## Importance of the mixed layer

✤Air – sea exchange

#### Affects biological productivity by controlling the supply of nutrients for the phytoplankton

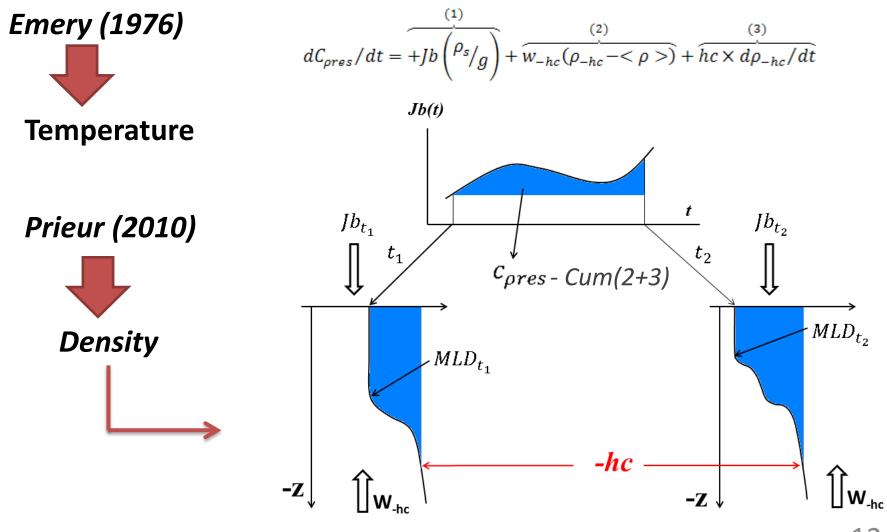
- ➢ Region of study and database
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- ≻Methodology
  - MLD estimation technique
  - ≻Mass flux model
- ➢ Results
- ➤Conclusions

## **MLD** estimations



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  - ≻Mass flux model
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## Ocean flux model



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## Why this model?

#### Simple method

(Emery (1976) approach modified for the density)

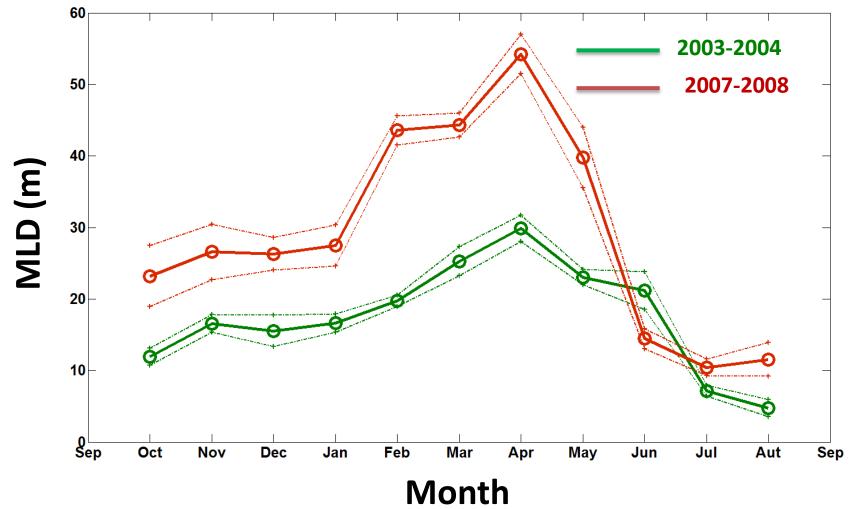
## Using drifting (lagrandian) and fixed (eulerian) profilers.

#### Vertical advection

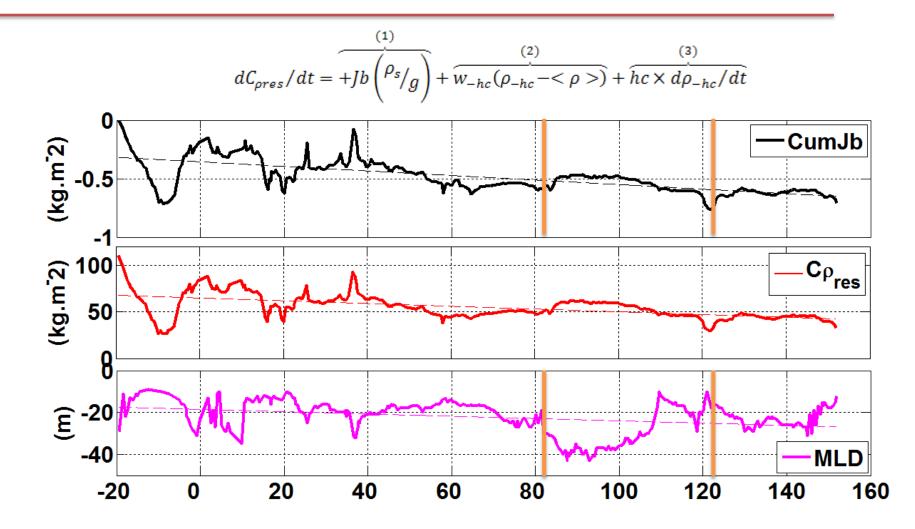
#### Under ice atmospheric flux estimation

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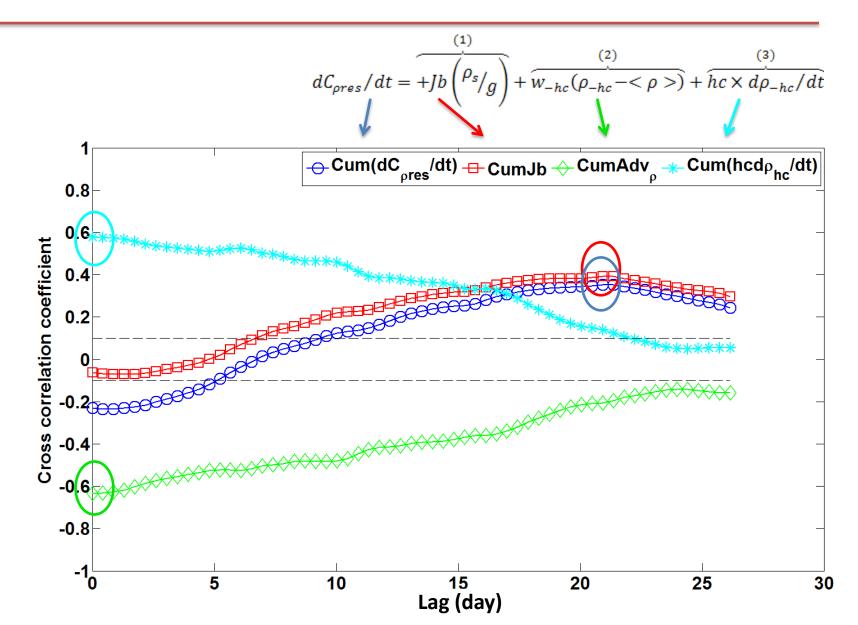
## **Mean MLD evolution**



## Model results for the fixed station



### **Cross-correlations**



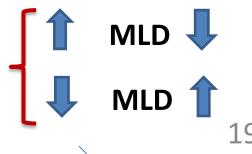
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## Conclusions

MLD increases in winter and reaches to its max in spring

upwelling in fall 2007

- Increase of MLD in 2007-2008
- Landfast ice (2003-2004)-mobile ice(2007-2008)
- $\succ$  Ocean flux model  $\rightarrow$  simple & efficient
- > MLD and estimated atmospheric flux under ice (CumJb) are correlated with delay
- Vertical advections has Important effect
  MLD
  MLD











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