

# SCHISM Performance in Chester River

Joseph Zhang, Fei Ye, Harry Wang, Zhengui Wang  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

STAC Workshop, May 20, 2015

# Outline of talk

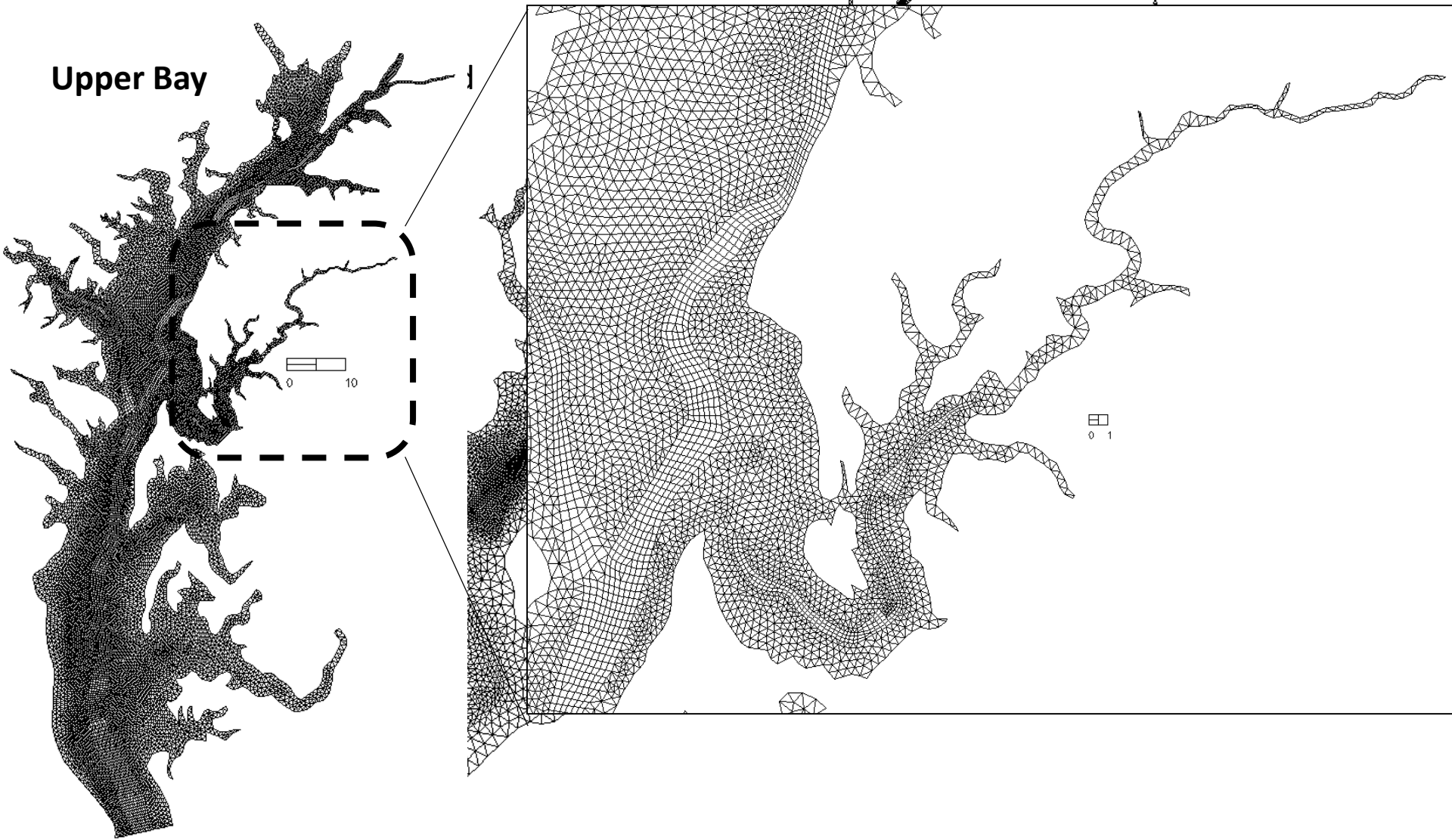
- Hydrodynamic model set-up
- Comparison of salinity and temperature
  - Vertical profiles
- Discussions on initial assessment of model performance
  - Strengths
  - Weaknesses and fixes
- Wave model set-up (whole Bay)
  - Comparison of wave characteristics
- Future work plan

# Chester River model setup

- Horizontal grids
  - Upper-Bay grid: 13K nodes, 22K elements (mixed triangles/quads)
  - 1st version: 1900 nodes, 3000 elements, cut from Upper-Bay grid
  - Finer grid\*: refined from 1st version; 8800 nodes
- Initial condition:
  - Interpolated from observation in 2003
- Boundary condition:
  - CH3D: elevation, salinity, temperature
  - Schism Upper Bay model: elevation, salinity, temperature, velocity
- Fresh water inputs:
  - Point and non-point sources provided by the HSPF watershed model results
  - Susquehanna & Choptank River fall-line flows for the upper bay model
- Wind:
  - Thomas Point station, spatially homogeneous throughout the domain
- Heat fluxes and precipitation:
  - North American Regional Reanalysis (NARR)
  - Our own air-sea exchange module will calculate various fluxes
- Time step: 120 sec
- Transport: TVD<sup>2</sup>
- Performance: 851xRT on 48 cores (finer grid)

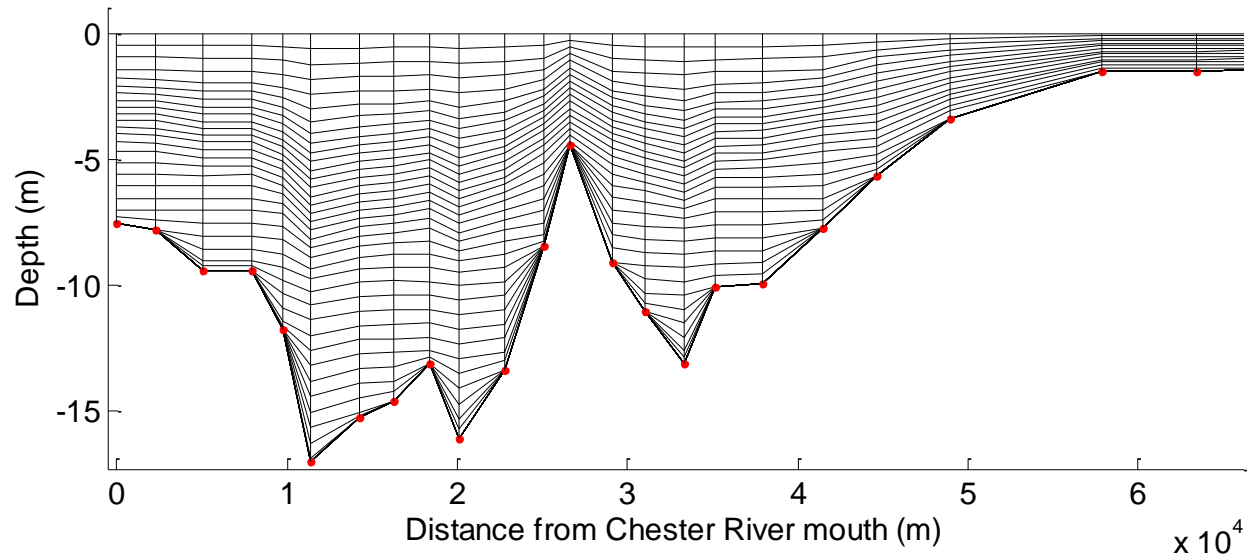
# Grids

Upper Bay

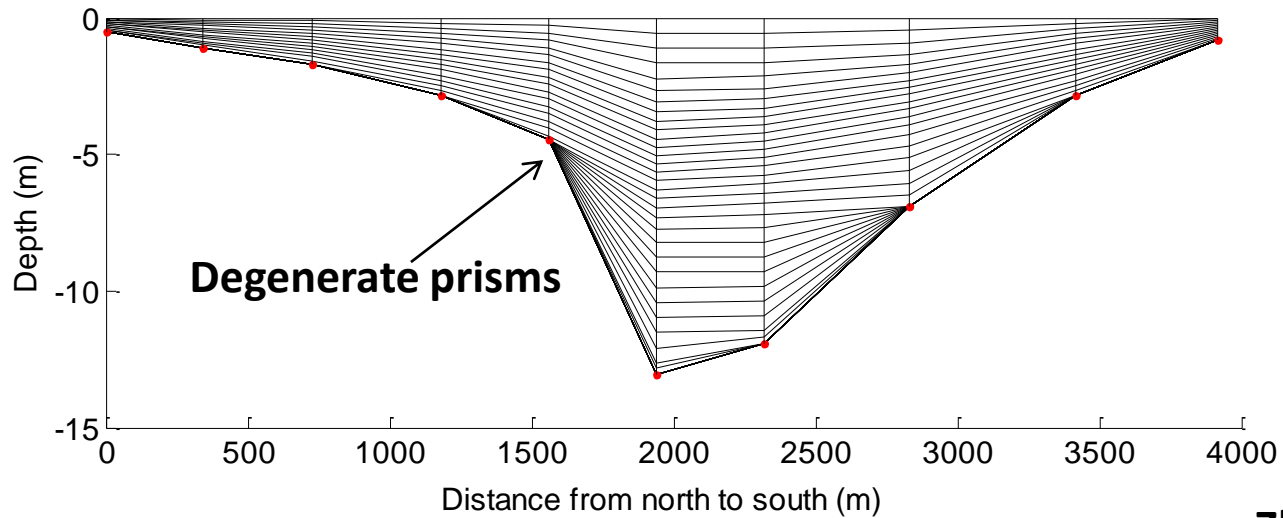


# Vertical discretization in the Chester River

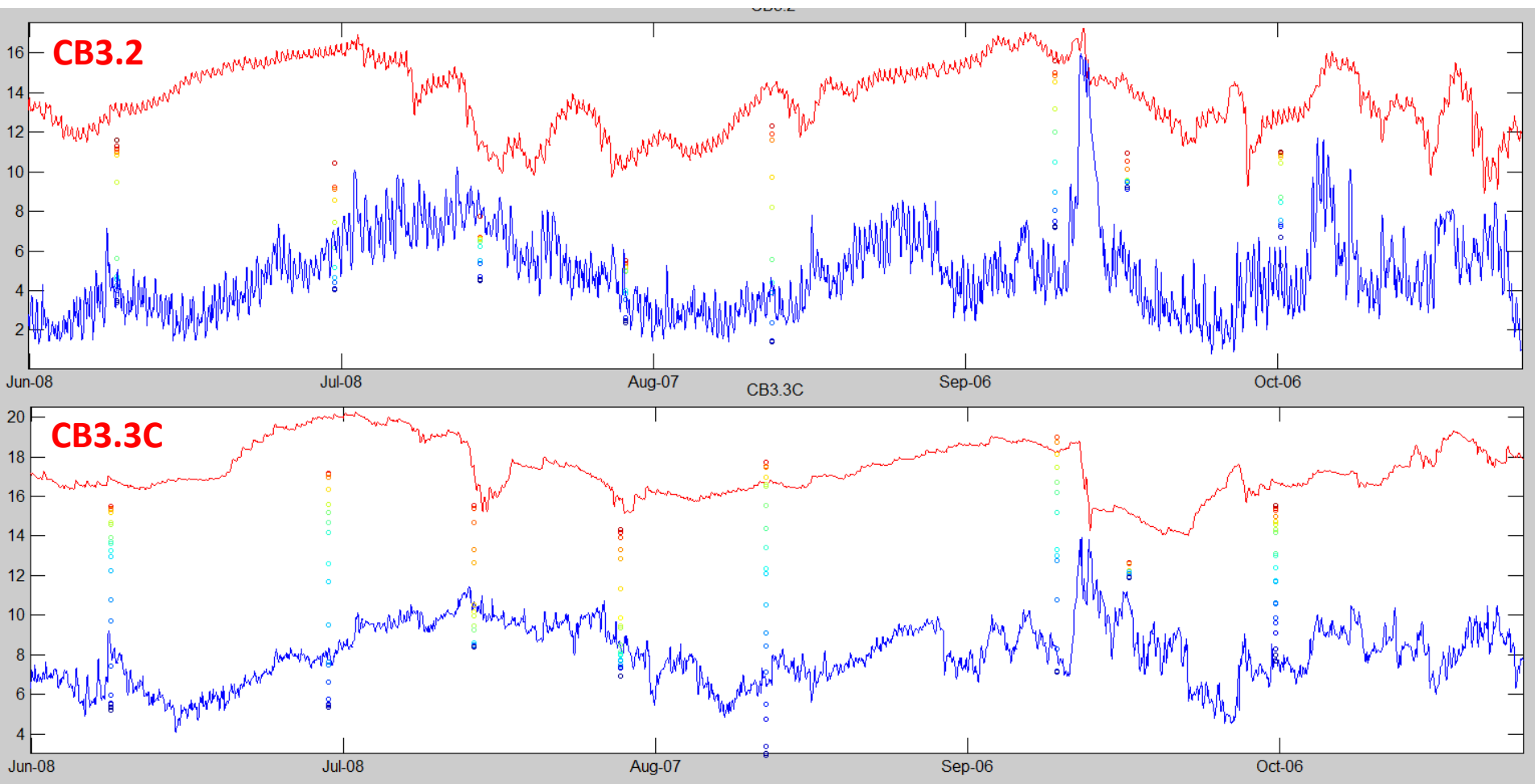
Along channel transect



Cross channel transect near ET4.2



# CH3D b.c.

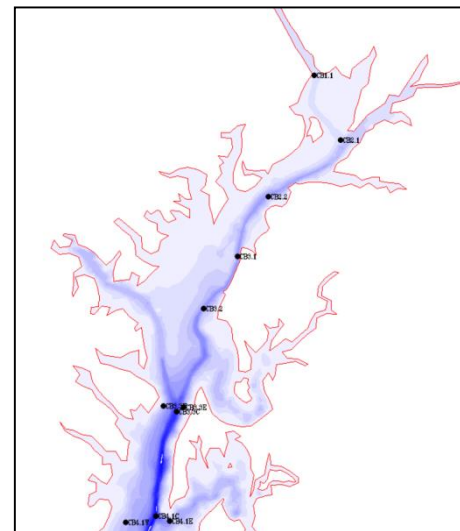


Days in 2003

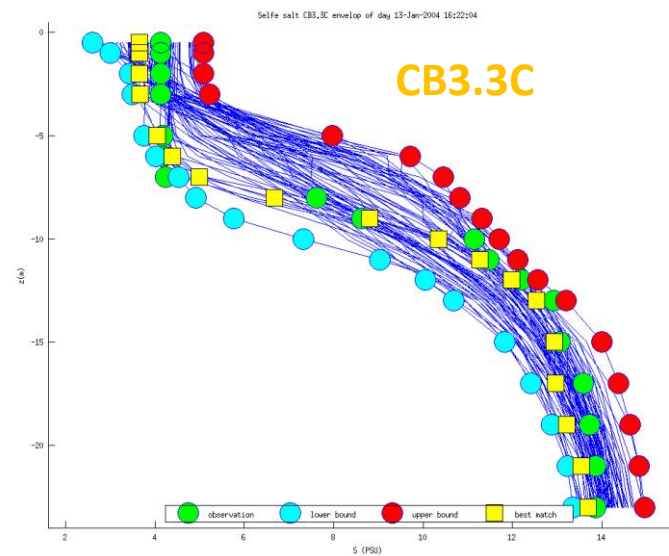
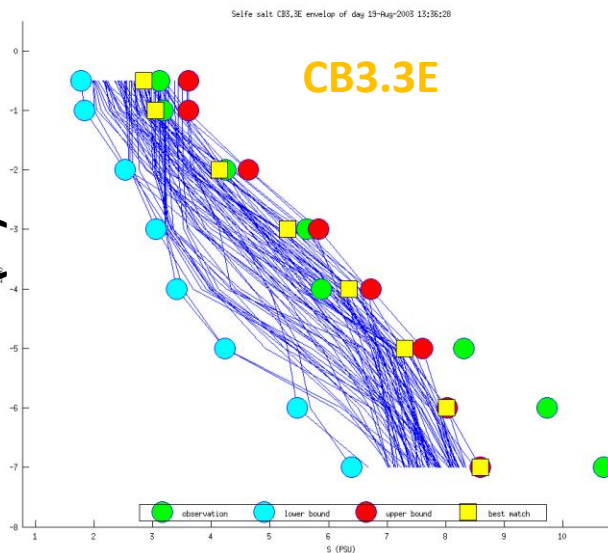
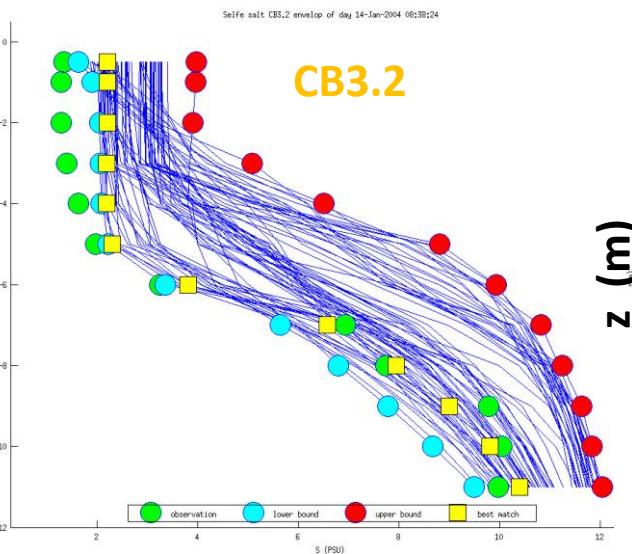
# Salinity Profiles

We are doing well in the main stem of Upper Bay

Stations	Correlation
CB2.1	0.78
CB2.2	0.88
CB3.1	0.9
CB3.2	0.94
CB3.3C	0.96
CB4.1C	0.95
CB4.2C	0.96
CB4.3C	0.96



3 stations closest to Chester River



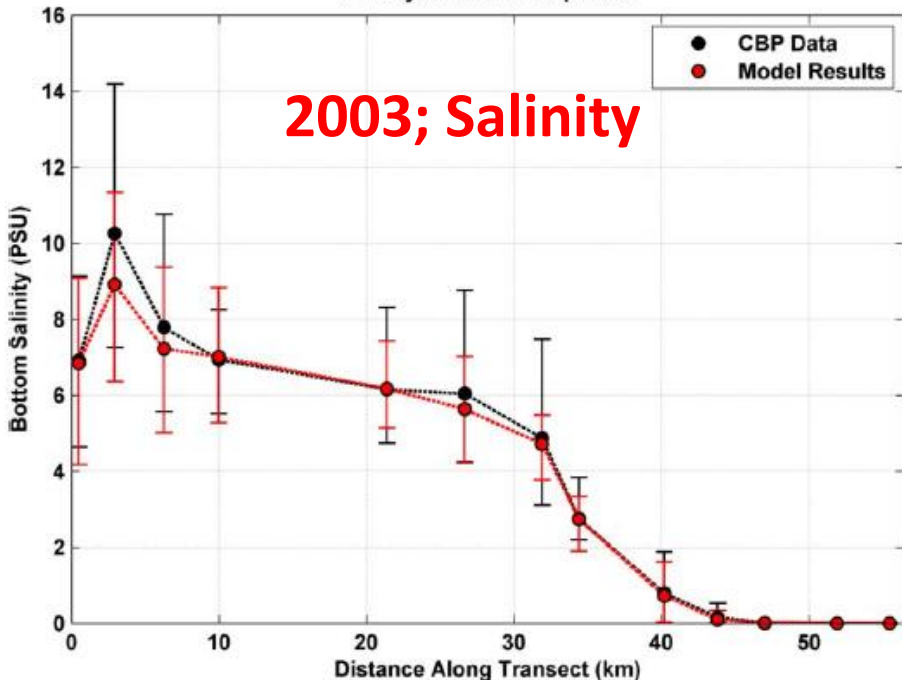
Salinity (PSU)

# Model strengths

- The accuracy of the boundary condition is very important and is the source of *greatest* sensitivity for the model
  - With CH3D b.c., the over-estimation of S at boundary led to over-estimation upstream
- Overall structure and variability for T,S seem correct with SCHISM b.c.
- Variability and trend of stratification are reasonably captured

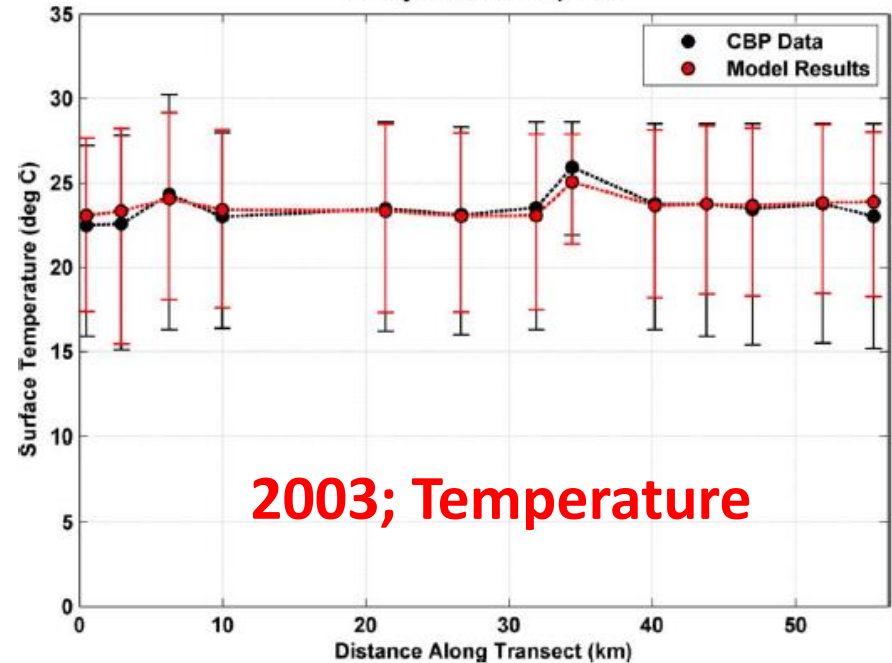
## SCHISM, SCHISM Boundary Conditions

01-May-2003 to 01-Sep-2003



## SCHISM, SCHISM Boundary Conditions

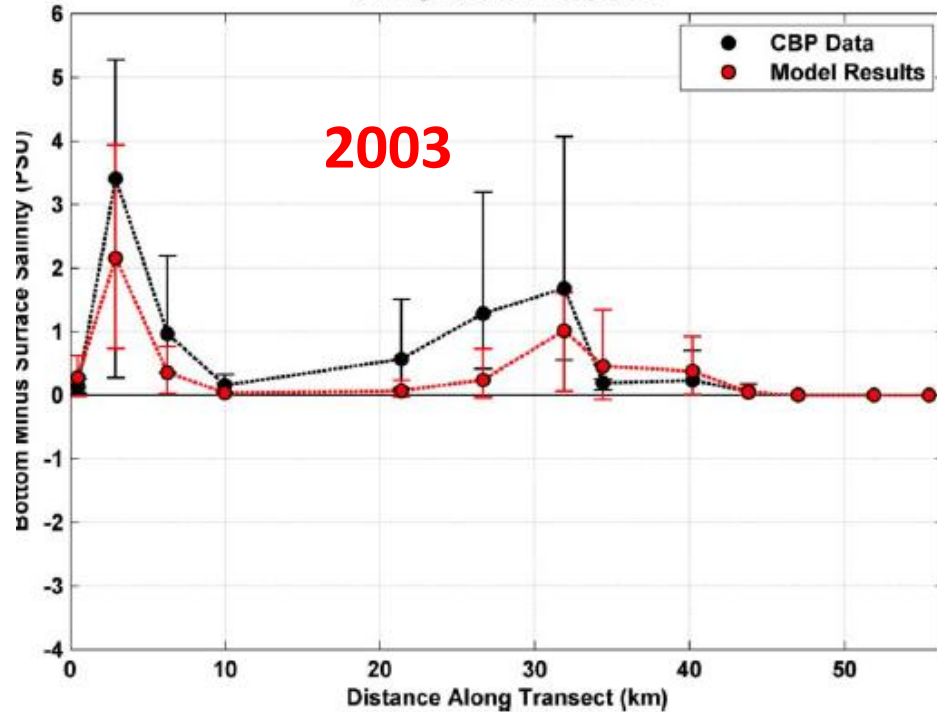
01-May-2003 to 01-Sep-2003



# Model strengths

## SCHISM, SCHISM Boundary Conditions

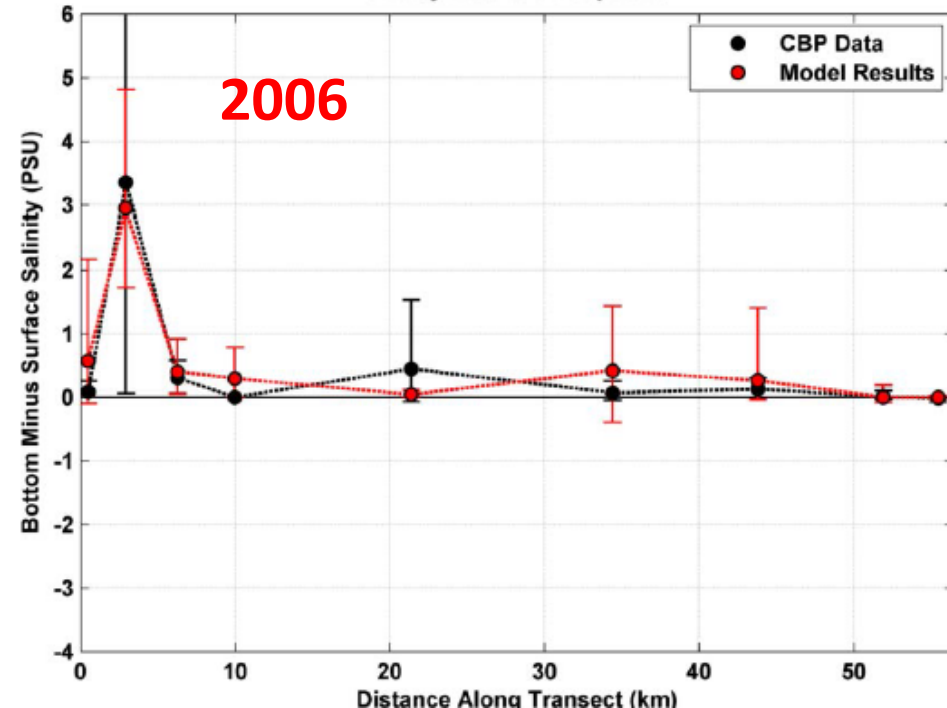
01-May-2003 to 01-Sep-2003



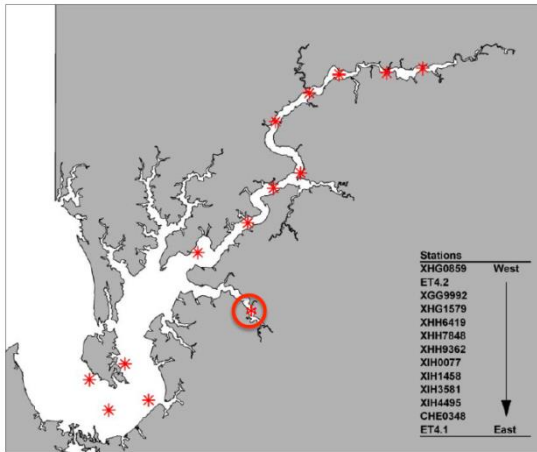
Stratification @ ET4.2 seems correct

## SCHISM, SCHISM Boundary Conditions

01-May-2006 to 01-Sep-2006

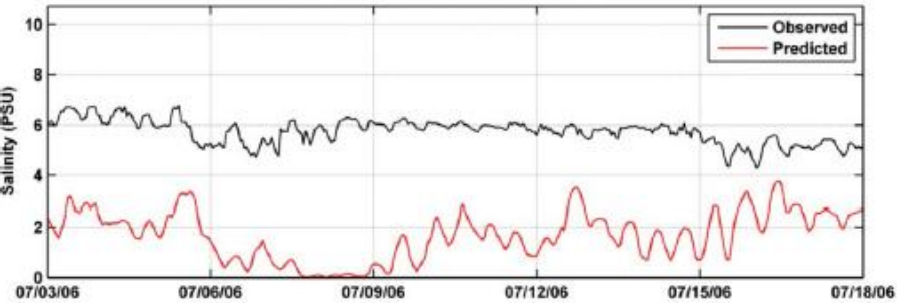


# Model weakness I

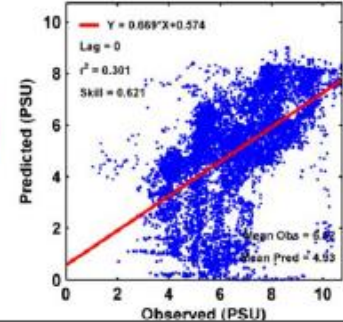
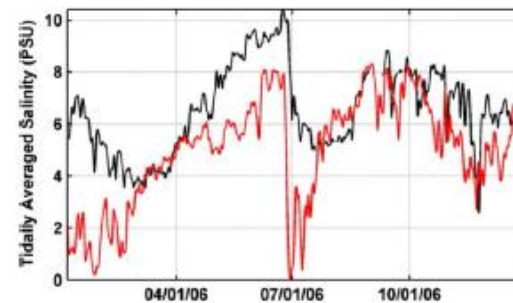
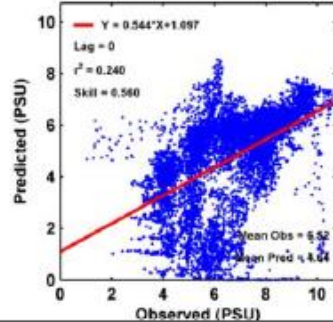
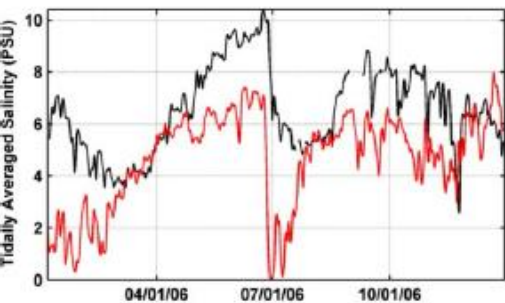
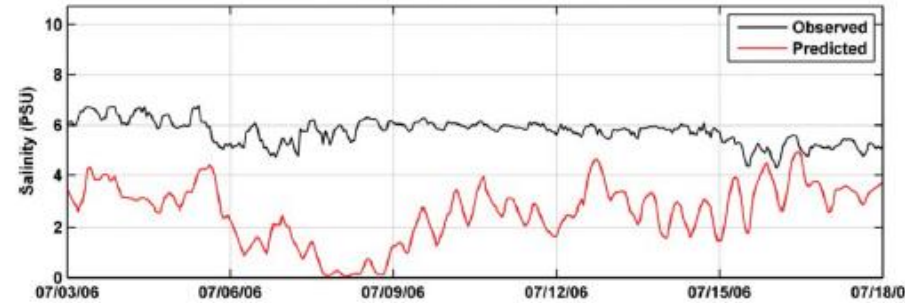


- Salinity near intrusion limit needs improvement, especially for 2006
- Fixes
  - Check model set-up for 2006
  - Further work on horizontal and vertical grids
  - Distribution of point sources

SCHISM, SCHISM Boundary Conditions  
Salinity at Station XHH3851

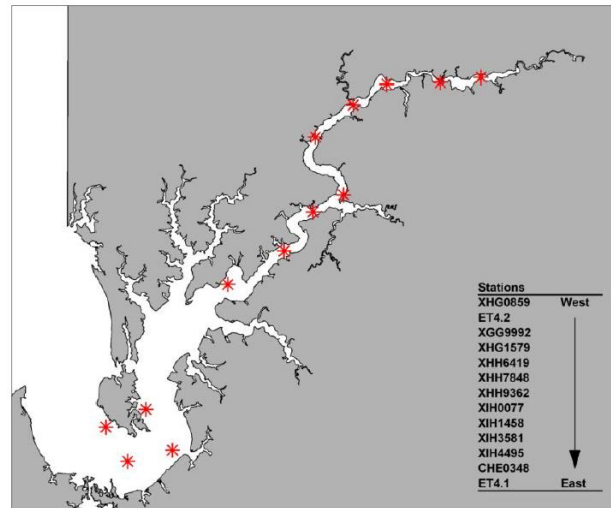


SCHISM, CH3D Boundary Conditions  
Salinity at Station XHH3851



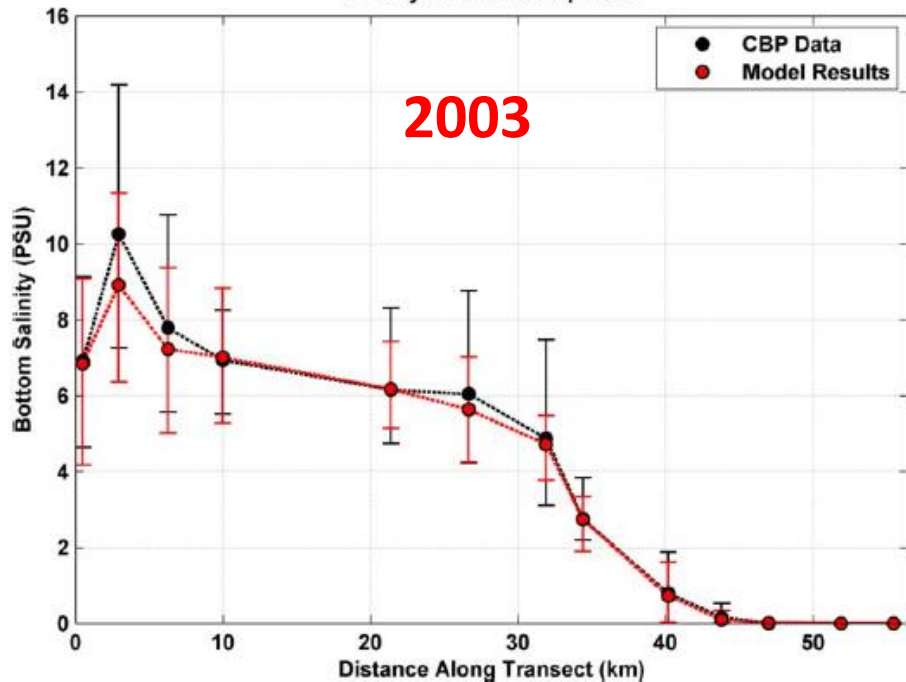
## Model weakness II

- The overall salinity structure for year 2006 is worse than 2003, and needs improvement
- Fixes
  - Check model set-up for 2006, especially point sources and sensitivity to evaporation/precipitation



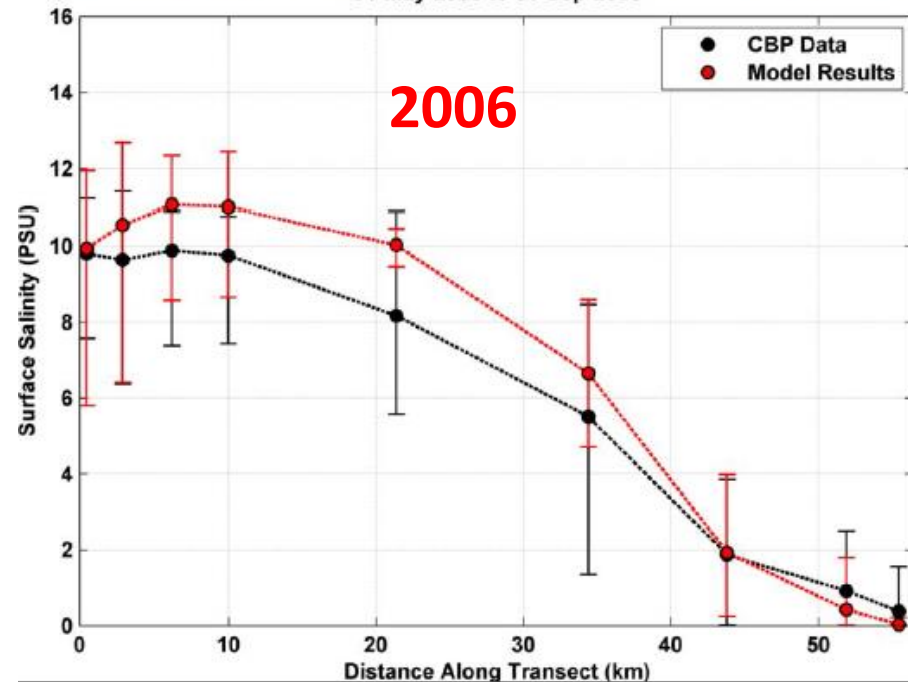
### SCHISM, SCHISM Boundary Conditions

01-May-2003 to 01-Sep-2003



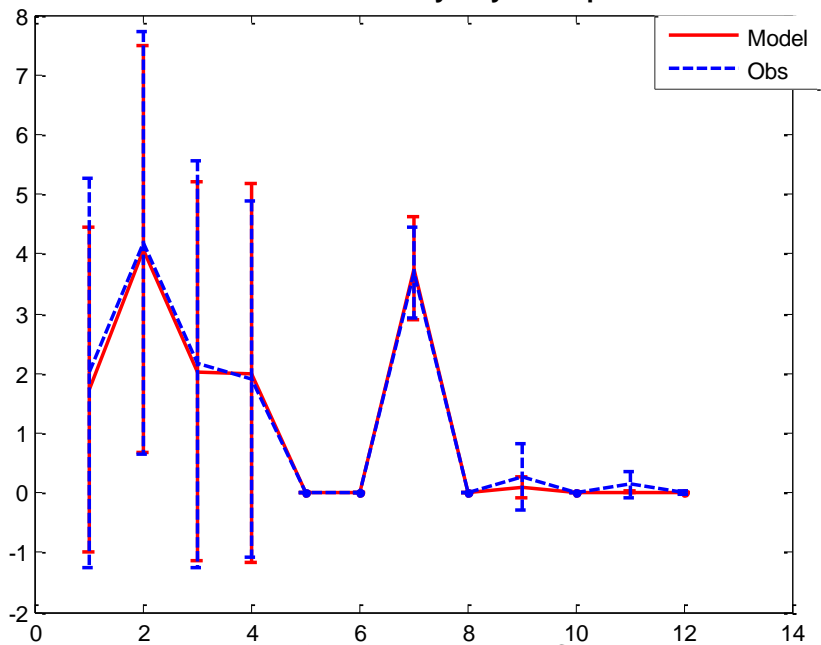
### SCHISM, SCHISM Boundary Conditions

01-May-2006 to 01-Sep-2006

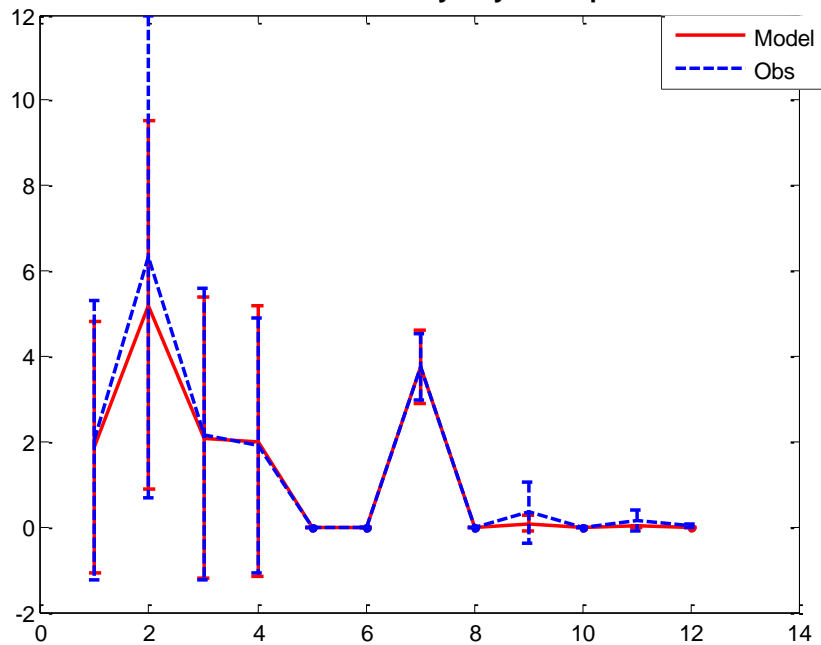


# Model weakness

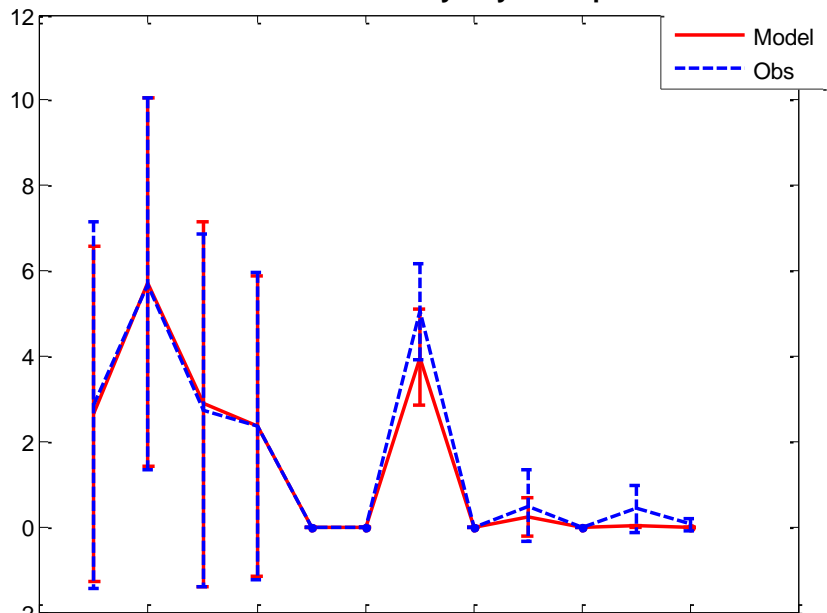
2004 surface salinity May 1 ~ Sep 1



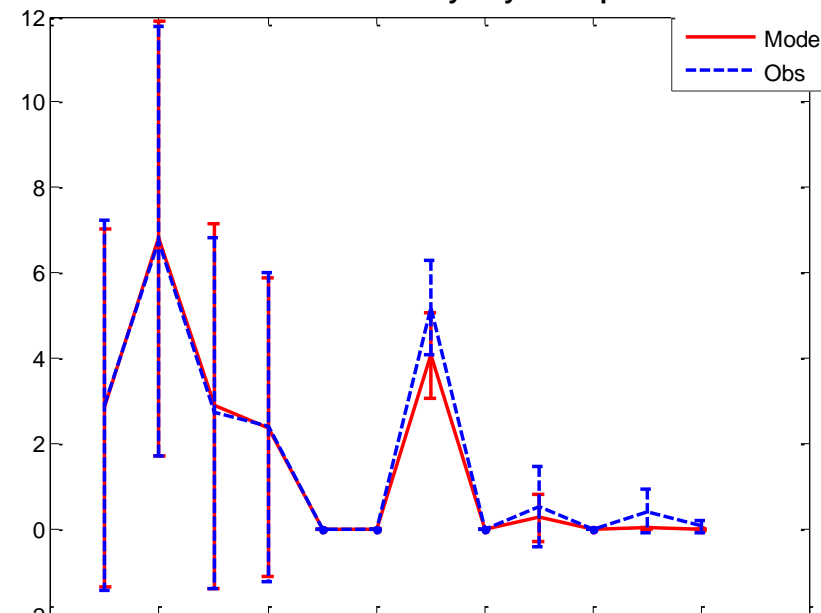
2004 bottom salinity May 1 ~ Sep 1



2005 surface salinity May 1 ~ Sep 1

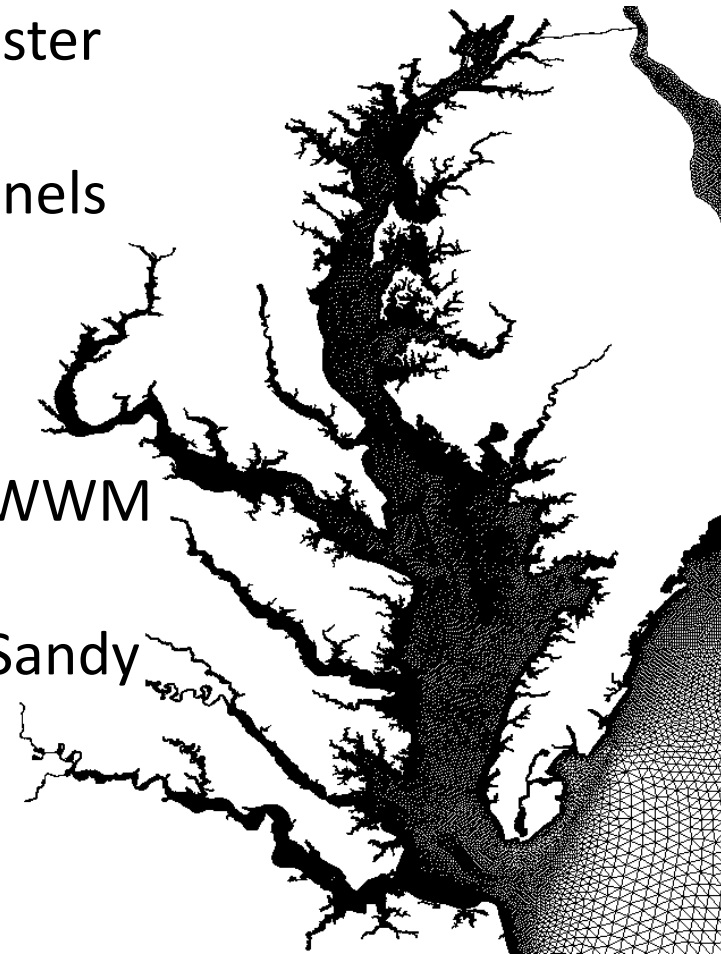


2005 bottom salinity May 1 ~ Sep 1



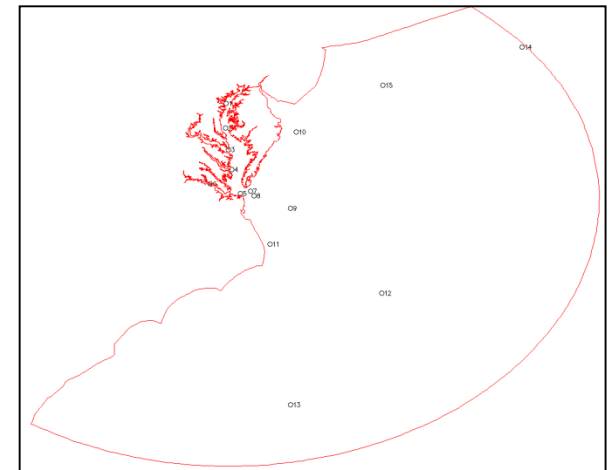
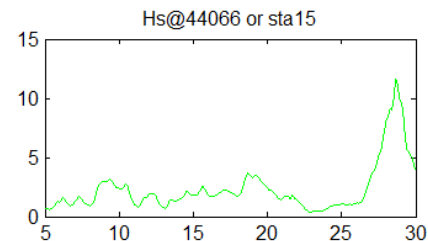
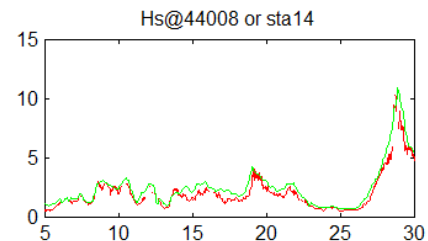
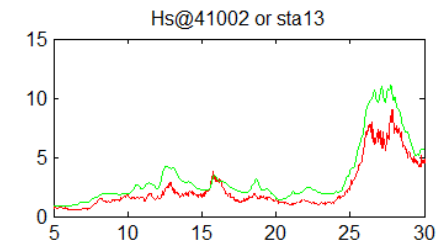
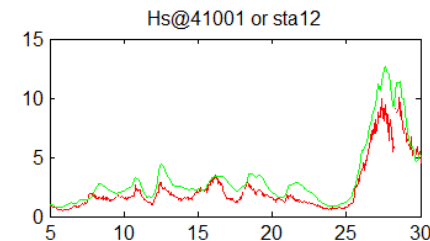
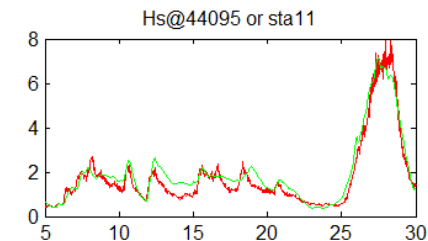
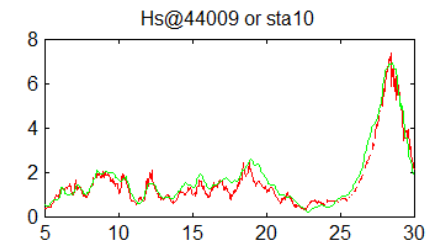
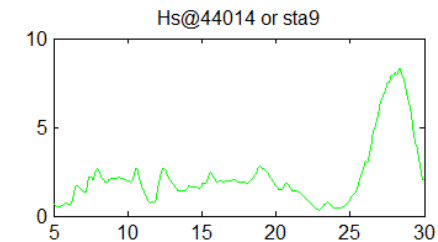
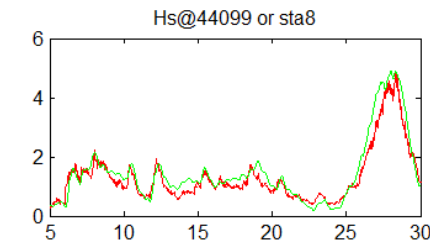
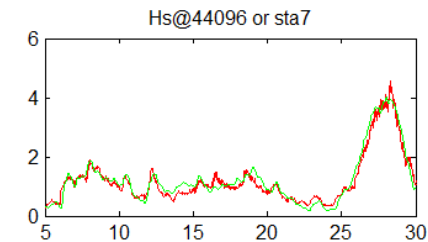
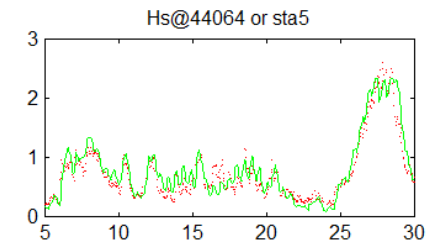
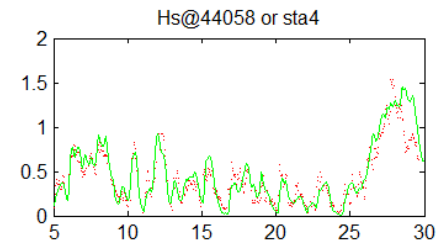
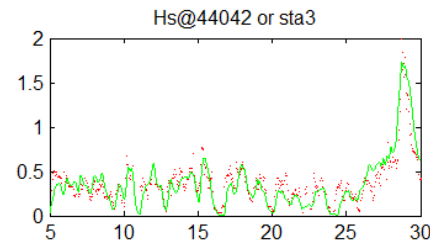
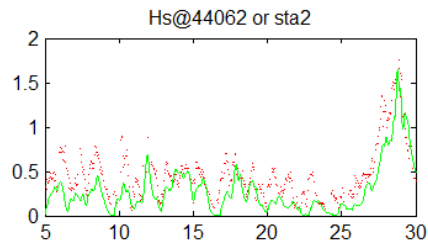
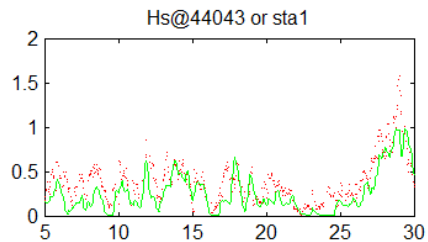
## Wave model set-up

- Wind Wave Model III (Roland et al. 2012, JGR)
  - Fully integrated into SCHISM modeling system
- Set up for whole Bay + shelf
  - To eventually provide wave b.c. for Chester River model or other sub-domains
  - 308K nodes, 559K elements; both channels and shallows are resolved (~50-100m)
  - B.c. from Wave Watch III
  - 30 directional bins, 24 frequency bins
  - Time steps: 150s for SCHISM, 450s for WWM
  - 90x faster than RT on 160 cores
- Validation: NDBC buoys, during Hurricane Sandy (2012)



# Wave model validation (Sandy)

## Significant Wave Height (m)

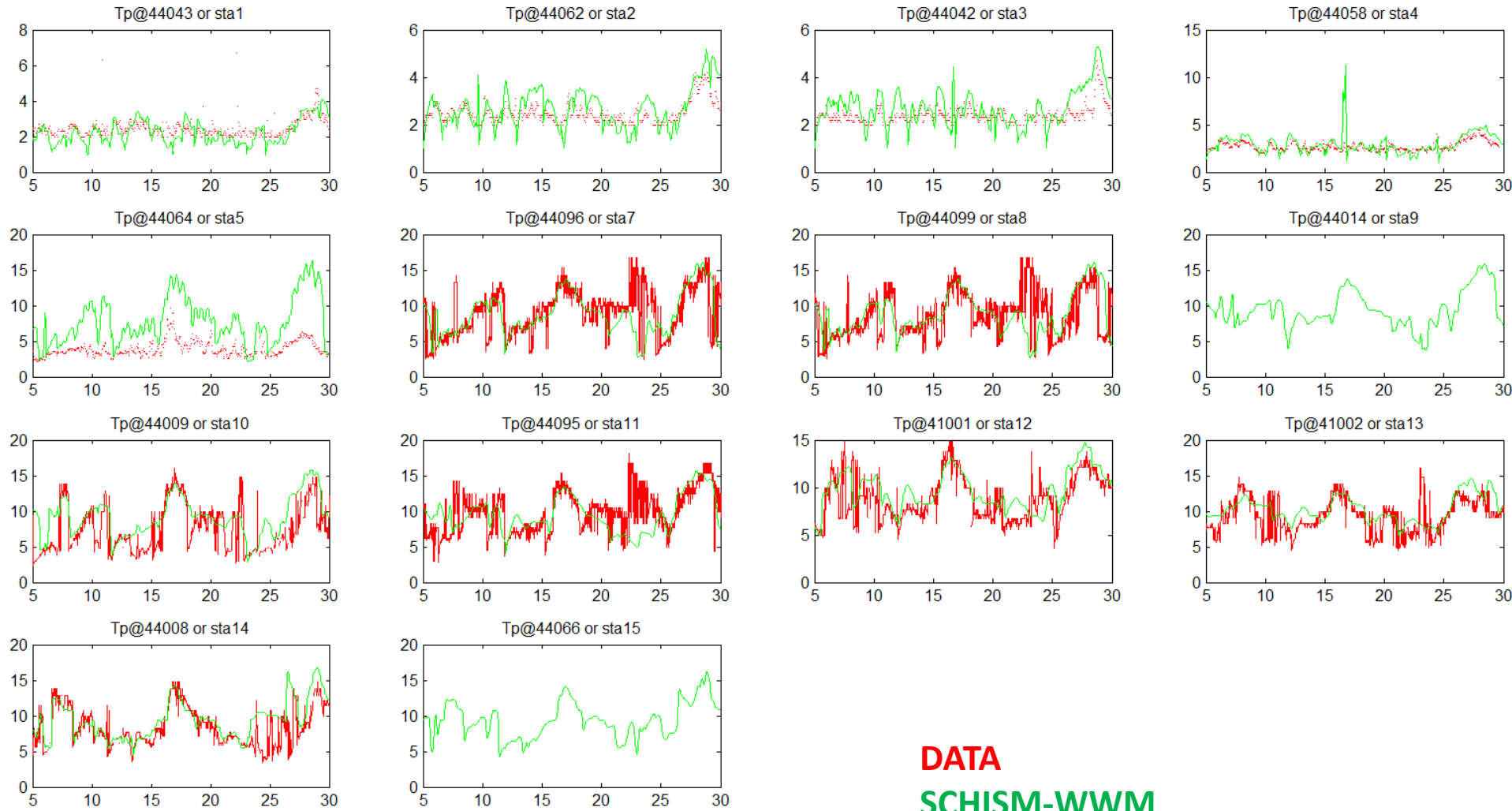


Days from 10/1/2012

**DATA**  
**SCHISM-WWM**

# Wave model validation (Sandy)

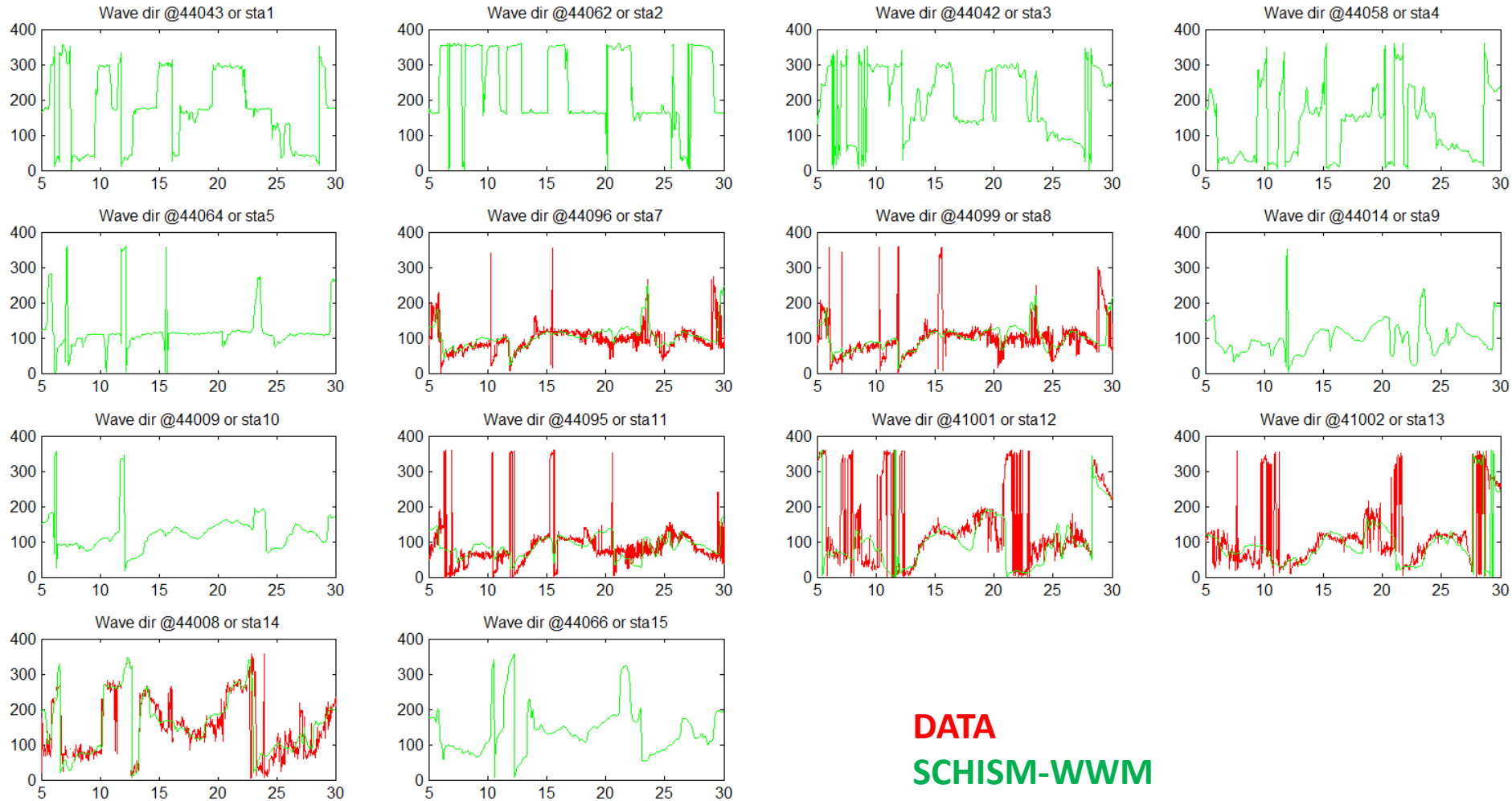
## Peak period (sec)



Days from 10/1/2012

# Wave model validation (Sandy)

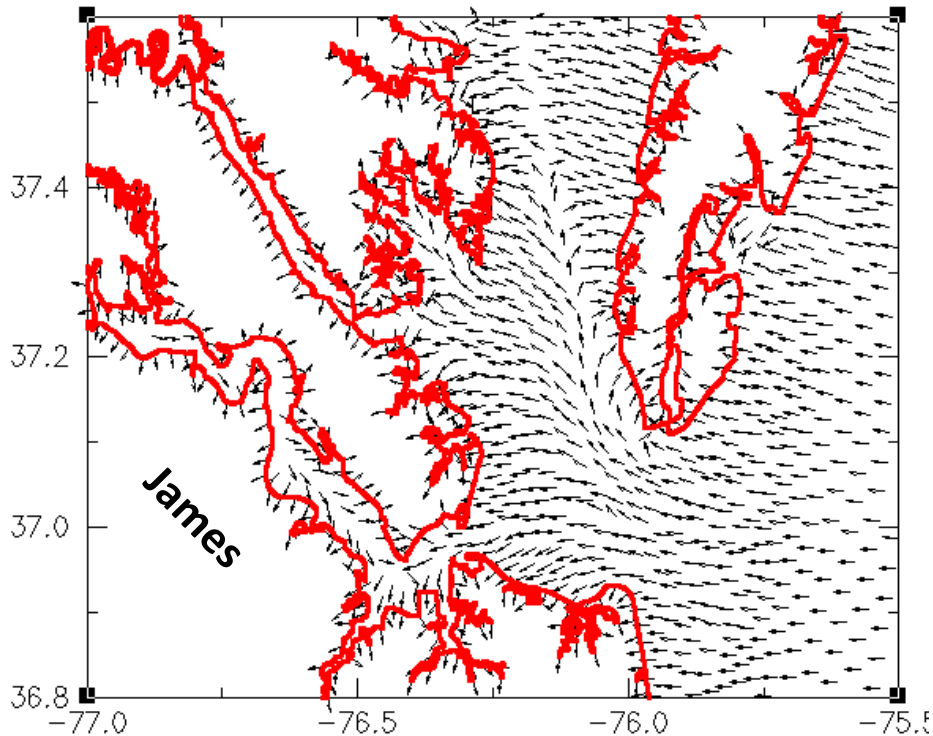
## Mean Wave Direction (degrees)



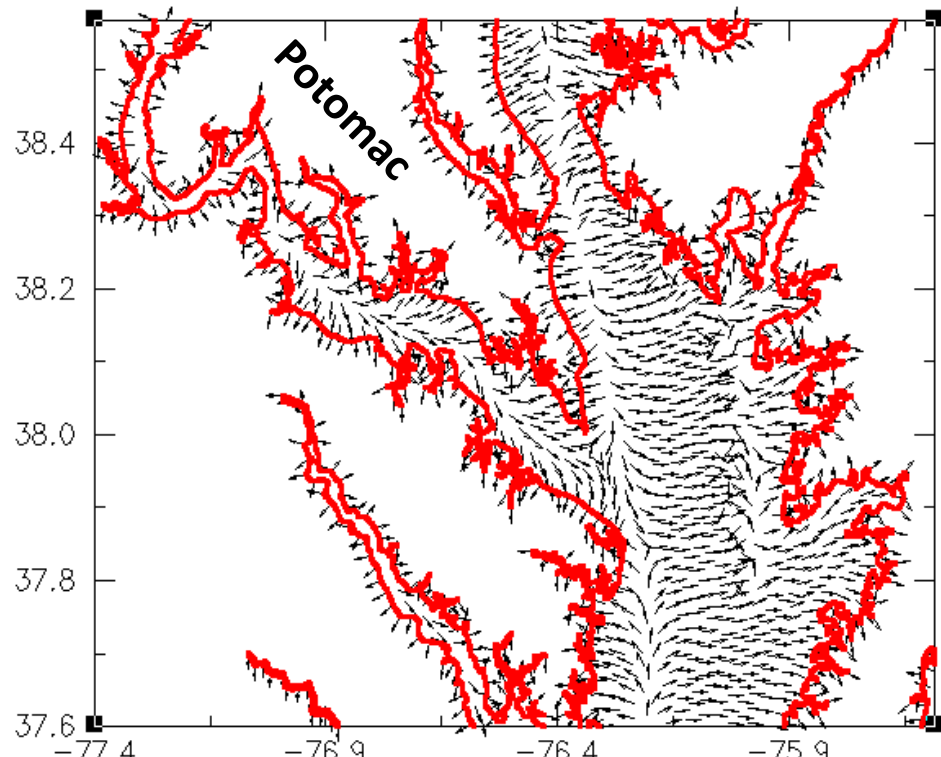
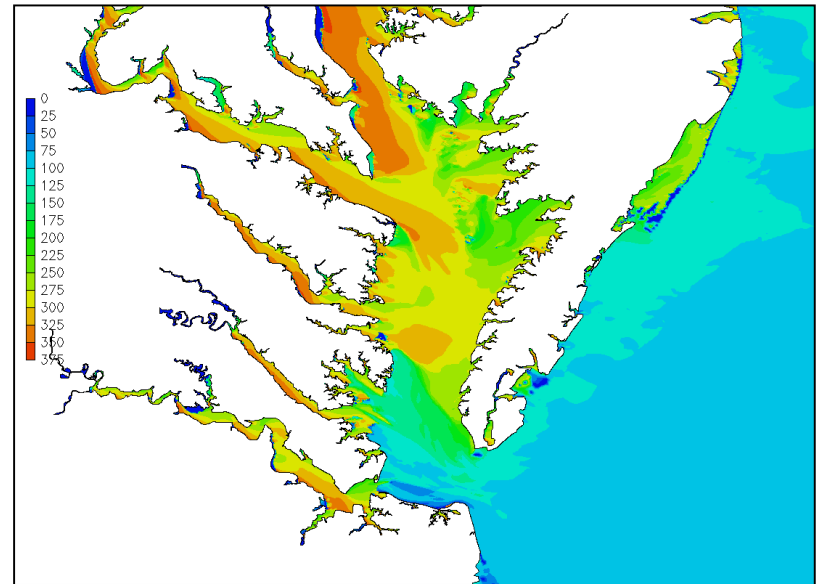
Days from 10/1/2012

**DATA**  
**SCHISM-WWM**

# Average wave direction



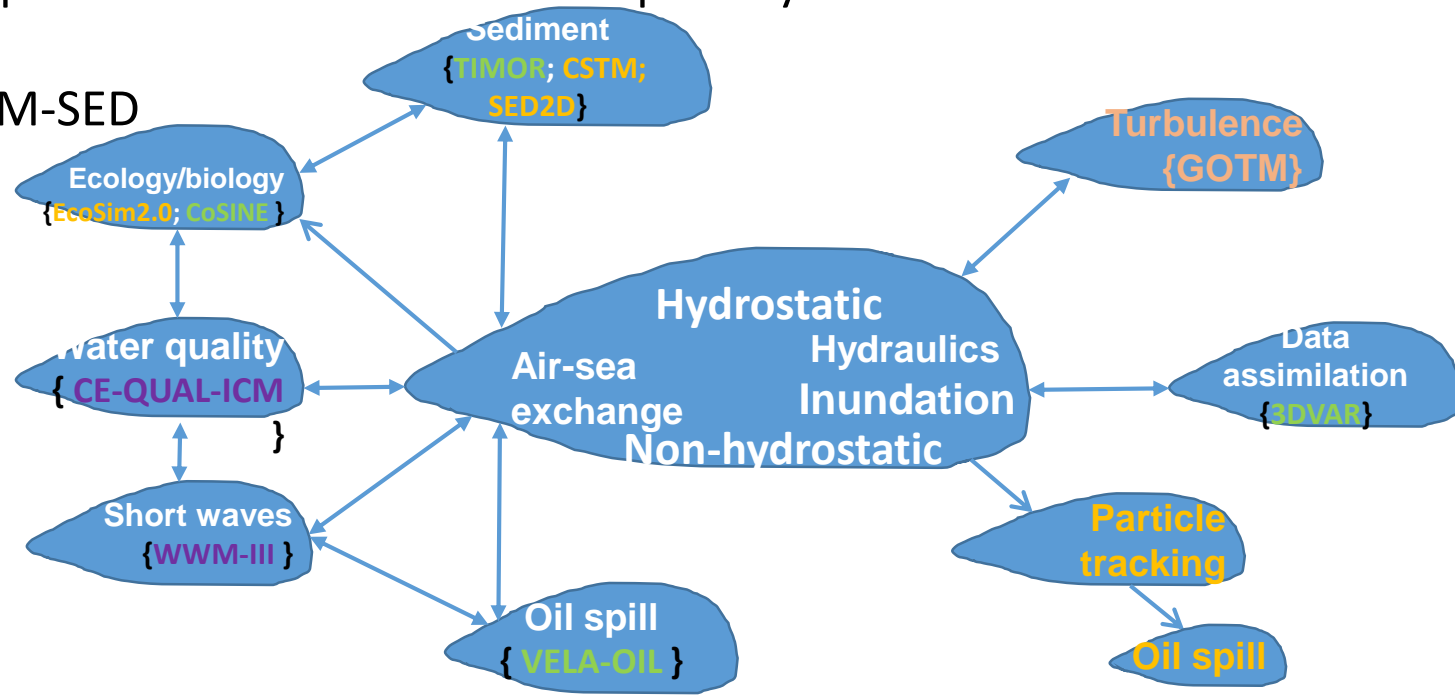
- Averaged over Oct. 10 to 22, 2012
- Only direction is shown



# Future work

- Further work on hydrodynamics
- TSS
  - Conducting long-term wave simulation to provide b.c. for the Chester River model
  - Calibrating the sediment transport model for whole Bay as well as for the Chester River
- DO, Chl
  - Conducted 1<sup>st</sup> simulation on a coarser grid
  - Processing nutrient load inputs
  - Estimated performance: 4x slower than pure hydro code
- Fully coupled

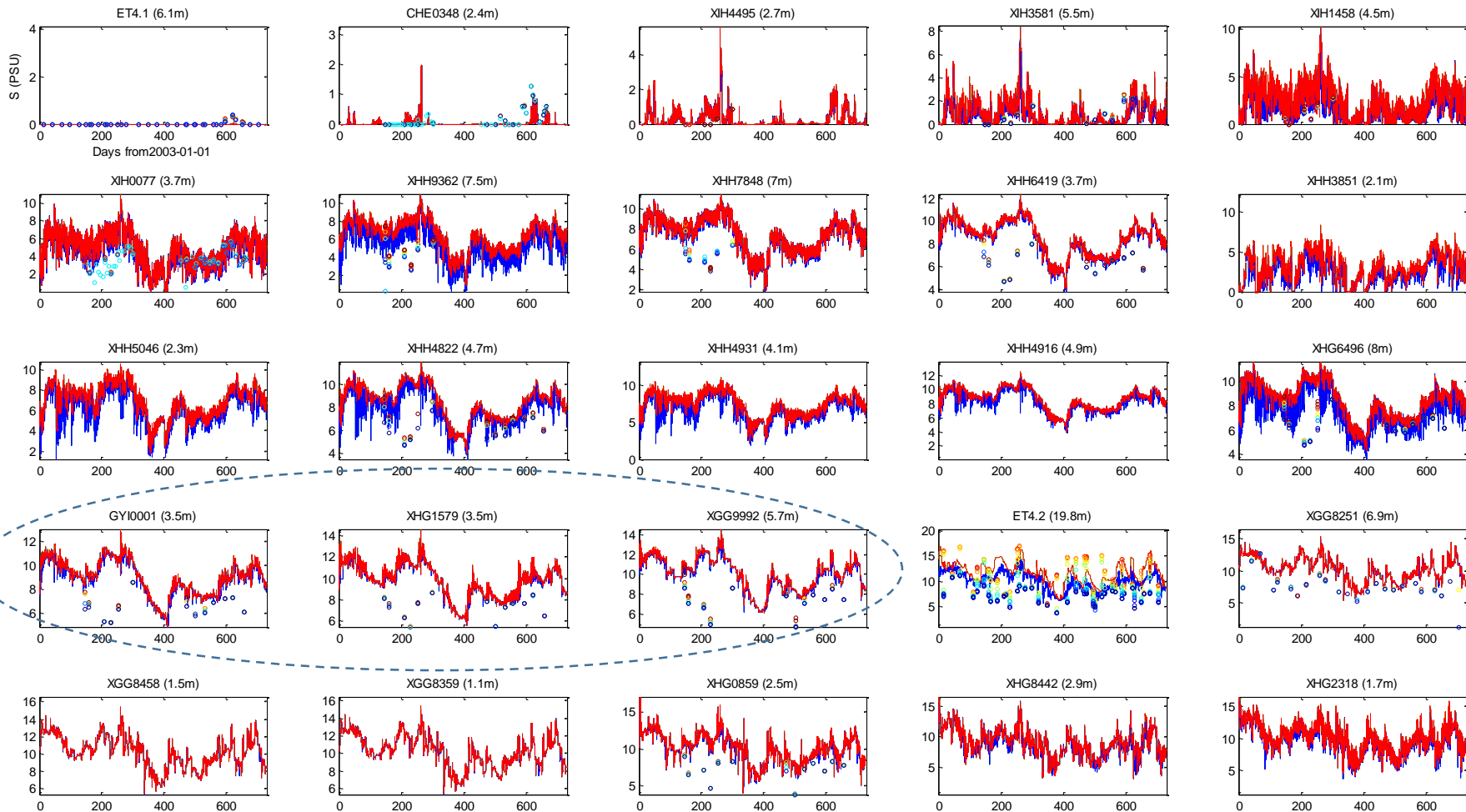
SCHISM-ICM-WWM-SED



End



# Comparison: salinity (with CH3D b.c., 2003~2004)



Days from 1/1/2003

Bottom

Surface

Bottom

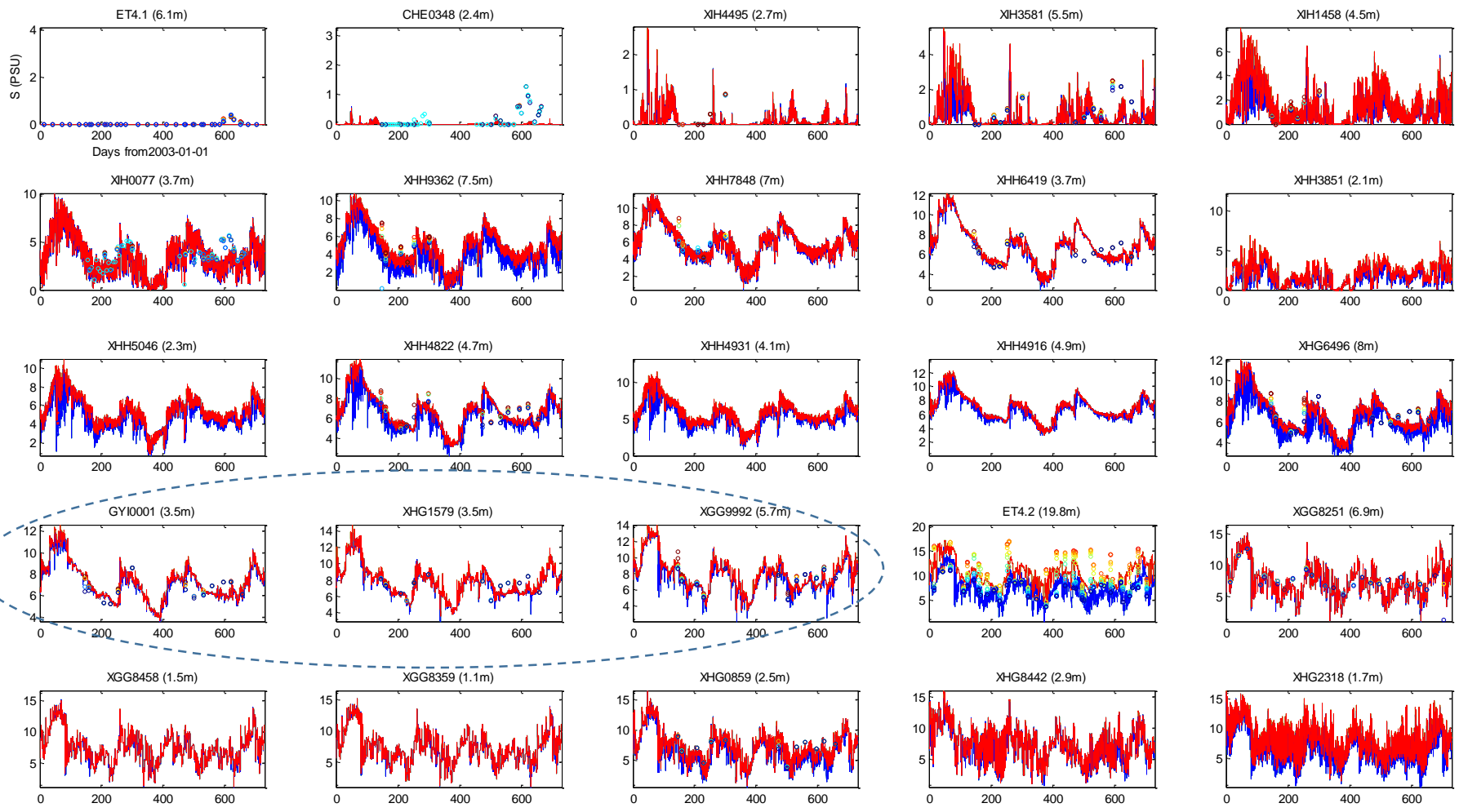
Surface

Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Model: ———

• The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth

# Salinity (with upper bay b.c., 2003~2004)

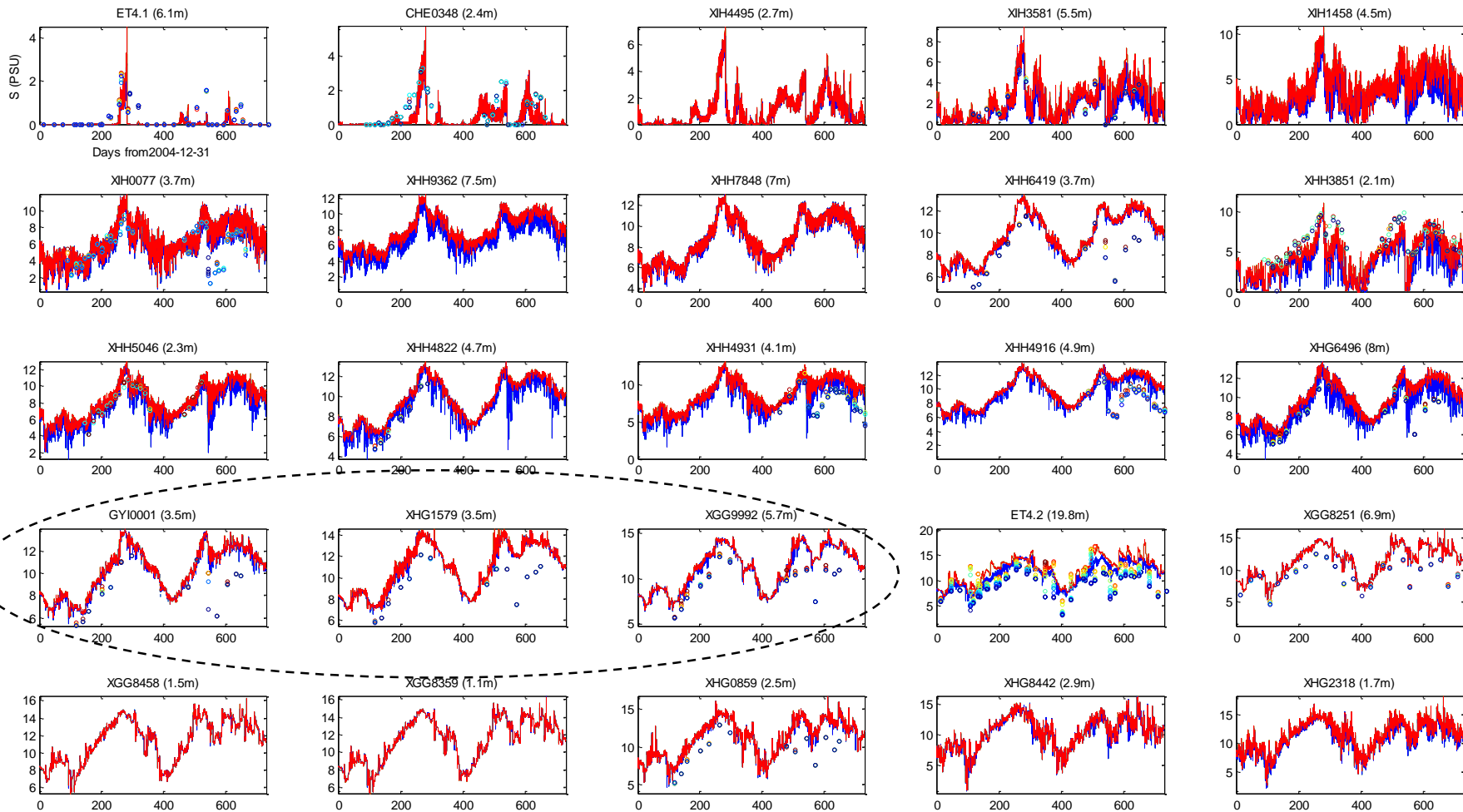


Days from 1/1/2003

Bottom                      Surface                      Bottom                      Surface  
 Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○                      Model: ——— ———

• The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth

# Salinity (with CH3D b.c., 2005~2006)



Days from 12/31/2004

Bottom

Surface

Bottom

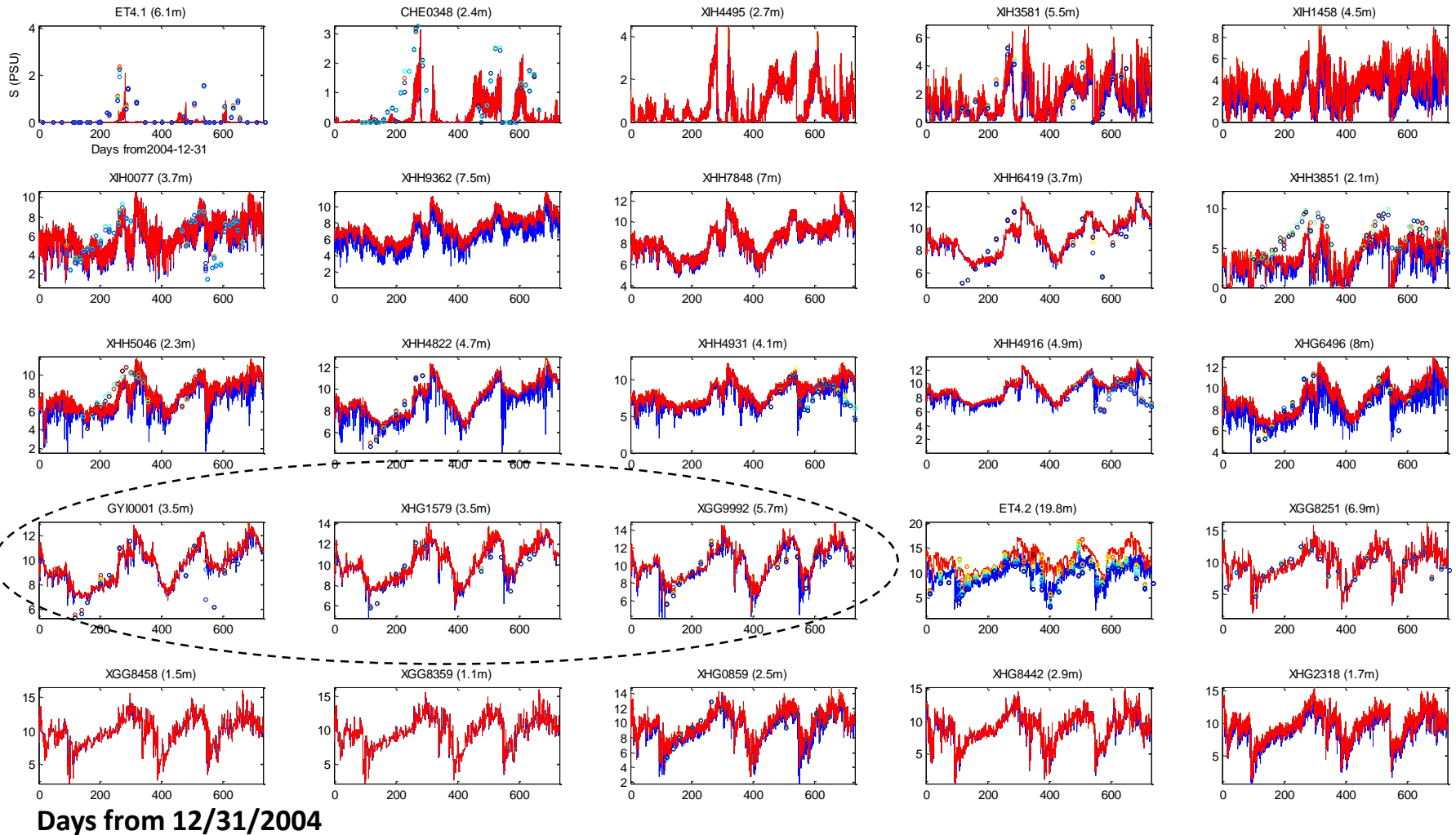
Surface

Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Model: — — — — —

• The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth

# Salinity (with **upper bay b.c.**, 2005~2006)



Bottom

Surface

Bottom

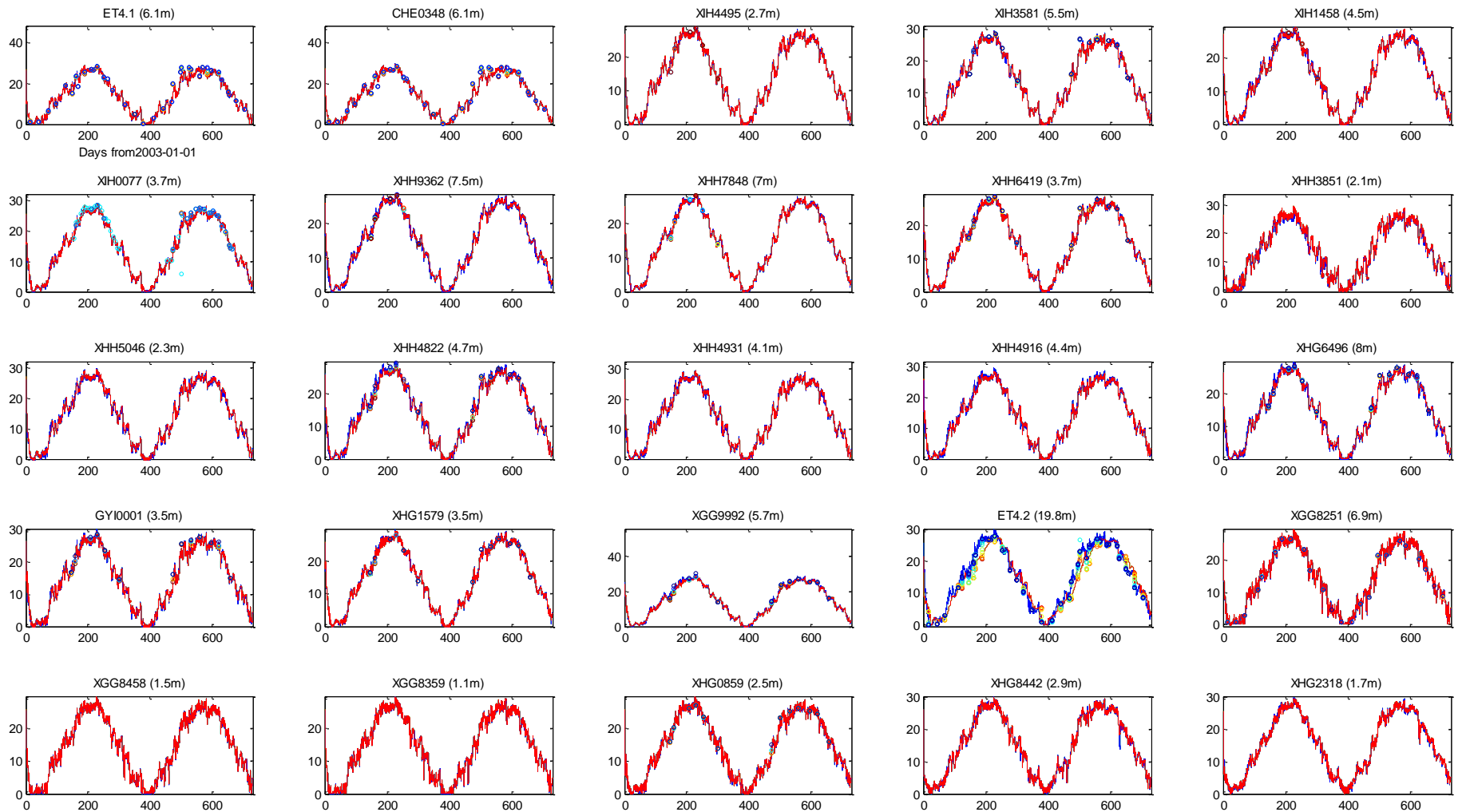
Surface

Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Model: — — — — —

• The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth

# Temperature (with CH3D b.c., 2003~2004)



Days from 1/1/2003

Bottom

Surface

Bottom

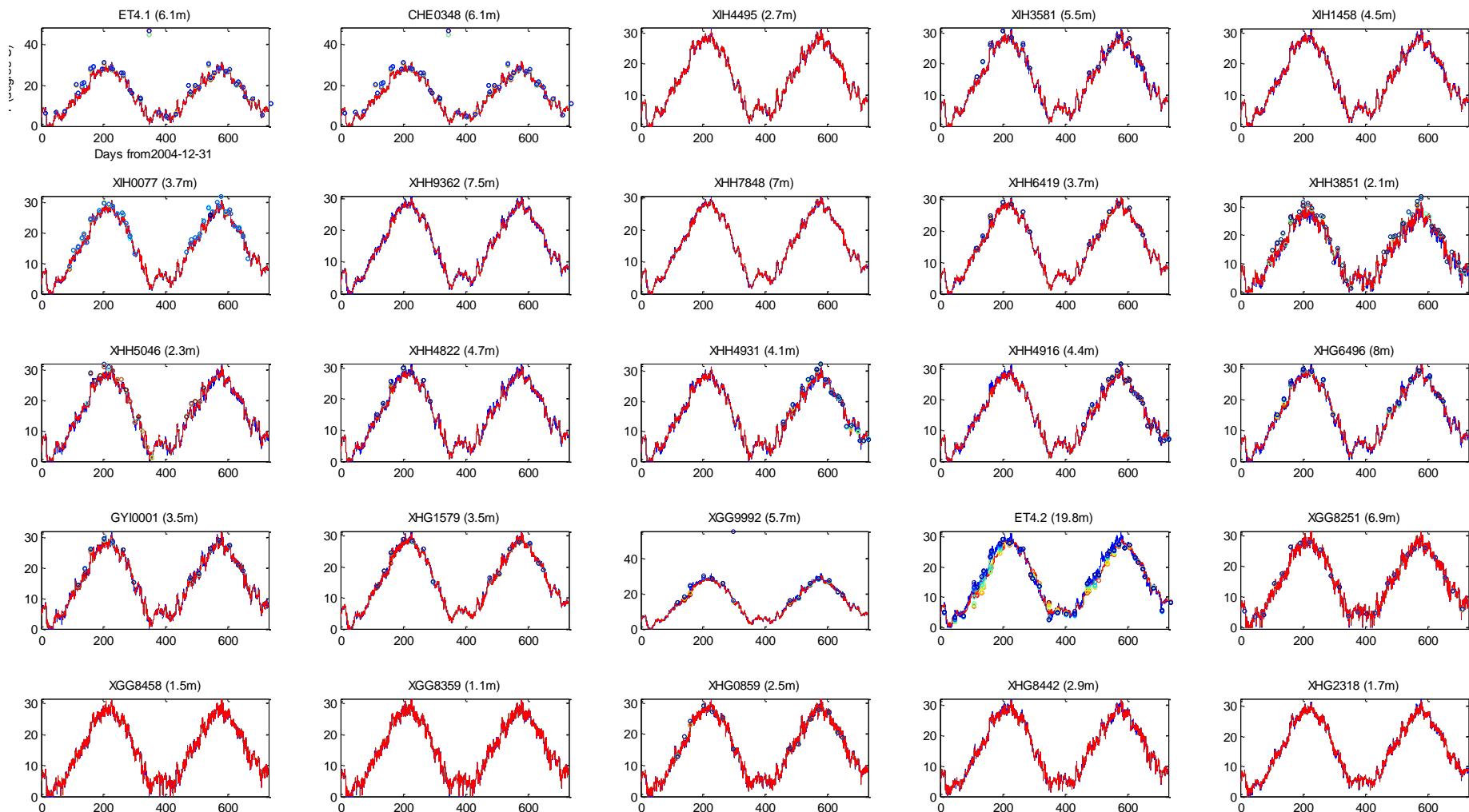
Surface

Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Model: — — — — —

• The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth

# Temperature (with CH3D b.c., 2005~2006)



Days from 12/31/2004

Bottom

Surface

Bottom

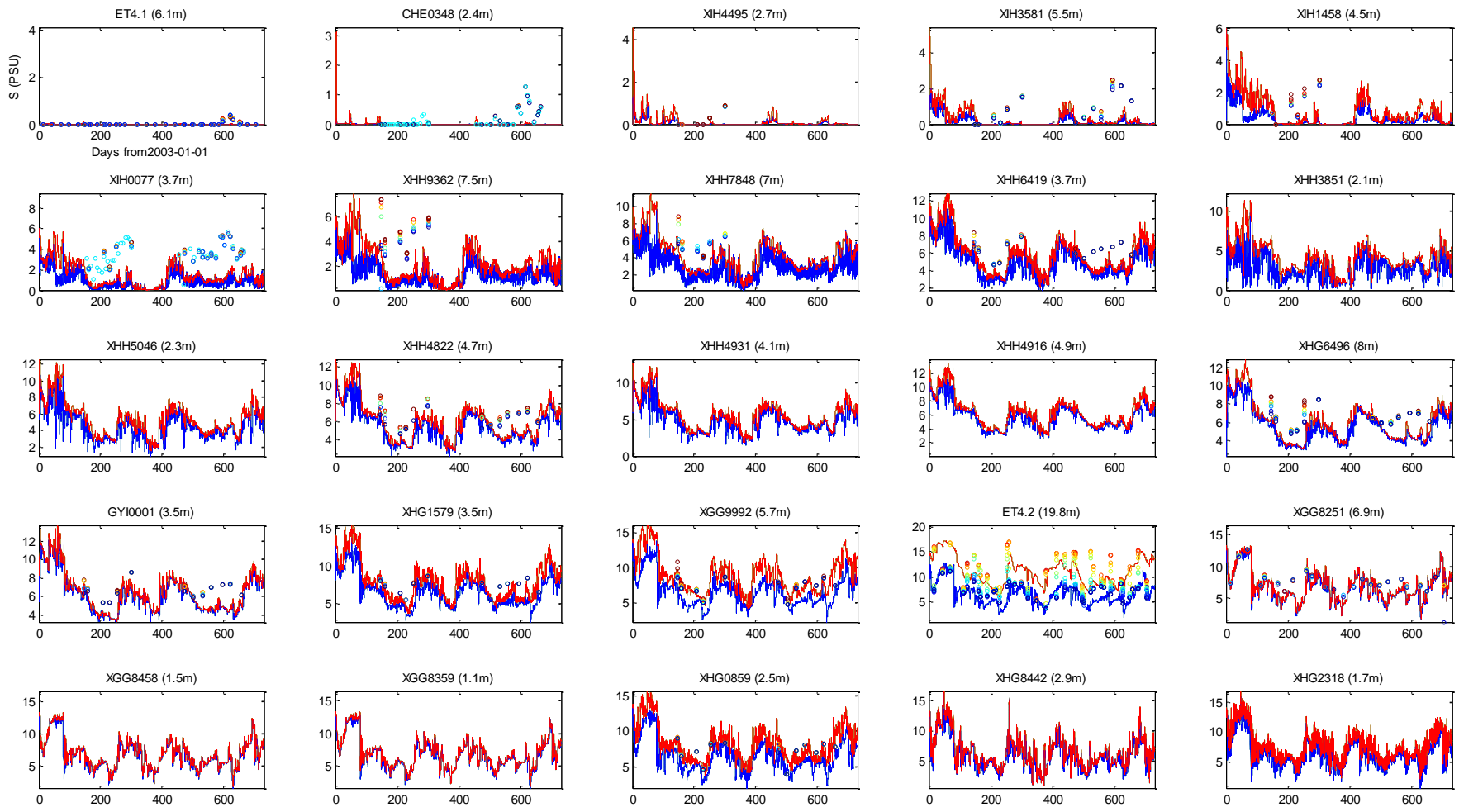
Surface

Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Model: ———

- The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth

# Salinity (Upper bay model, 2003~2004)



Days from 1/1/2003

Bottom

Surface

Bottom

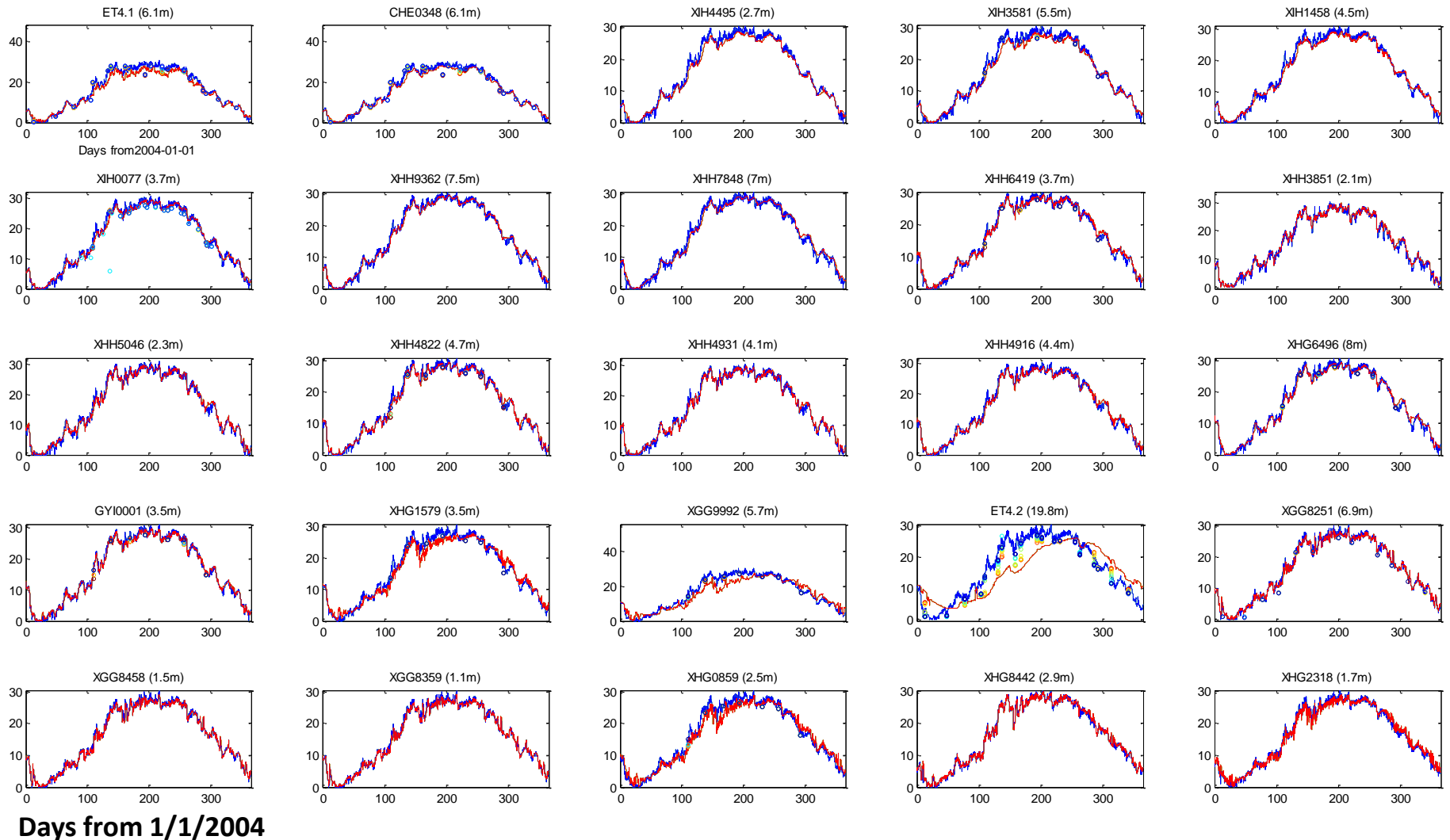
Surface

Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Model: — — — — —

• The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth

# Temperature (Upper bay model, 2004)



Bottom

Surface

Bottom

Surface

Observation: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Model: — — — — —

- The depth of each station is the maximum sampling depth



