

International Symposium: Understanding Changes in Transition Areas of the Pacific

April 24-26, 2018

La Paz, Baja California Sur, México



# CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE PERUVIAN COASTAL UPWELLING AND OPEN OCEAN BIOGEOCHEMISTRY WITH THE PLANKTON VARIABILITY

<u>Michelle Graco,</u> Avy Bernales, Wilson Carhuapoma, Diana Alvites, David Correa, Roberto Quesquén, Jesús Ledesma, Tony Anculle, Georgina Flores, Octavio Morón and Dimitri Gutiérrez

Project: Integrated Study of the Coastal Upwelling of Central Perú





PERUVIAN COASTAL UPWELLING SYSTEM, PRODUCTIVE, NATURALLY SOUR AND BREATHLESS



## Interannually- El Niño



## Remote forcing/ local processes



Chavez et al., PIO 2008

http://www.met.igp.gob.pe/vari abclim/indices.html

Graco et al. Biogeoscience 2017.

## PROJECT: "INTEGRATED STUDY OF COASTAL UPWELLING"

| ACTIVITIES                    | 2013- 2017and more  |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Callao Field<br>trip- 0-50 mn | February, April, June, August,<br>October, December   |
| CRIO callao-<br>Pisco 0-50 mn | April, August   |
| Data and<br>Analysis          | Satellite – winds. Upwelling<br>index.<br>Oceanographic data T (°C),<br>Salinity (ups)<br>Nutrients, Oxygen, pH.<br>Carbonate system.<br>Phytoplankton, zooplankton<br>Benthos, Sediments (OM,<br>porewater). |



To investigate the physical, chemical processes, the atmosphere-oceanic exchange and the planktonic and benthic communities associated to the **Peruvian coastal upwelling**, with emphasis on the **onshore-offshore gradient** off Central Peru and its variability **at different time scales**.





## SULTS

### Physical changes (2013 LN- 2014, 2015-2016 EN, 2017 EN Costero)

Graco et al., 2016 Boletín IMARPE



Strong impact of the remote forcing/ modulated by the local impact of the wind

## □ Chemical changes

#### Graco et al., 2016 Boletín, IMARPE



TEMPERATURE (°C)

## □ Chemical changes



pH / Temperatura (°C)

30.0

35.500

## Phytoplankton







Bernales A. en prep.2017 12:00 S4 sesión PICES Productivity changes



### □ THE IMPACT OF OMZ ON NUTRIENT



Graco et al., BGC 2017

Next steps...

Remote forcing vs local Impact ZMO/ associated with nutrients (N)



Table 2. Slope of the linear fit for oxygen, temperature, salinity, nitrate and nitrite as a function of depth over the period 1999–2011. The slope for thermocline and oxycline depths are also provided as a function of season. The confidence level estimated based on a Student's t test is indicated in parenthesis when larger than 80 %.

| Depth<br>(meter) | (µmol k                                       | $O_2$<br>g <sup>-1</sup> decade <sup>-1</sup> ) |                       | $(^{\circ}C \text{ decade}^{-1})$           | S<br>(PSU decade <sup>-1</sup> ) | Nitrate $(\mu mol L^{-1} decade^{-1})$ | Nitrite<br>(µmolL <sup>-1</sup> decade <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|------------------|---|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 0                |   | 24.03 (90%)                                     |                       | -0.04                                       | 0.02.6                           | 0.93                                   | 0.11   |
| 10               |   | 47.55 (95 %)                                    |                       | 0.53 (80 %)                                 | 0.013                            | -0.17                                  | -0.22 (80 %)   |
| 25               |   | 40.35 (95 %)                                    |                       | 0.65 (90%)                                  | 0.025 (80 %)                     | -1.67                                  | -0.01  |
| 50               |   | 14.40 (85 %)                                    |                       | 0.50(90%)                                   | 0.003                            | 0.01                                   | -0.15  |
| 75               |   | 6.04(90%)                                       |                       | 0.34(90%)                                   | -0.002                           | 1.85                                   | -0.57  |
| 90               |   | 6.76(95%)                                       |                       | 0.42 (95%)                                  | -0.001                           | 2.51 (80%)                             | -0.75  |
| 100              |   | 7.53 (95 %)                                     |                       | 0.46(95%)                                   | 0.003                            | 2.95 (80%)                             | -0.88  |
| Annual           | OMZ (m decade <sup>-1</sup> )<br>-0.64 (95 %) |   | Thermocline           | e (m decade <sup>-1</sup> )<br>-0.30 (95 %) |                                  |  |  |
| Seasonal         | Summer<br>—0.74 (95 %)                        | Winter<br>-0.77 (95 %)                          | Summer<br>0.63 (95 %) | Winter<br>0.03                              |                                  |  |  |
|                  | Fall<br>-0.76 (95 %)                          | Spring<br>-0.69 (95%)                           | Fall<br>-0.49 (95 %)  | Spring<br>0.48 (95 %)                       |                                  |  |  |

1999-2011

#### Graco et al., BGC 2017- updated until 2018

# Summary

- The Coastal Peruvian Upwelling ecosystems, and particularly the coast-open ocean interaction is a very dynamic **transition zone**, highly variable on the oceanographic conditions that determine changes in the upwelling front associated with the equatorial forcing but also local conditions, as winds but also other processes (mesoscale activity).
- Significant changes chemistry observed during 2013-2017 in the was ٠ that changed the gradient between the coast and offshore conditions. Silicates and pH appear as good Oſ the physical dynamic. Nitrates, variable а tracer in turn, are more and related to the changes in the oxygen and the OMZ.
- N/P chlorophyll-a are significantly modified under periods and cold or warm but ٠ in a different way. Low N/P appear under intense OMZ during more favorable upwelling periods. Chlorophyllincrease during the period, particularly 2015appear to warm а 2016. However, the concentration is low compared with previous studies.
- Diatoms are not the only dominant phytoplankton group in coastal areas and phytoflagelates appear more significant than previous was consider that could represent an important carb on source to support productivity.
- Multidiciplinary approach is important to understand transition zones as the complex and variable Coastal Upwelling System of Peru. In this context monitoring is a key and we need to articulate and integrated better our observing system to resolve the different scales of variability and determine trends and future scenarios of productivity.





