# The AMOP project: « Biogeochemical Activity of the Minimum of Oxygen in the eastern Pacific »

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SOLAS-IMBER France Meeting, Paris, 22-23 June 2009

## What, where and why the OMZs ?



Paulmier and Ruiz-Pino, Progress in Oceanography, 2008

Key-role for:

climate (N<sub>2</sub>O);

ecosystems («Respiratory barrier»; N loss)



Bacterial processes specific to the OMZ

![](_page_3_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_3_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Figure_1.jpeg)

**S3**:  $CO_2$  flux and other long life-time species

**ATMOSPHERE** 

MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

**S1** Clouds formation/albedo: aerosols (DMS, HC acids/oxides) Control of O<sub>3</sub> (stratospheric: N<sub>2</sub>O; tropospheric: HC) and O<sub>2</sub> (long-term)

**OMZ** Biogeochemical cycles:

- O<sub>2</sub> loss

- N loss vs Nfix
- C remineralization vs sequestration
  - OM recycling vs preservation
- N<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, halogen compounds (HC),
  - reduced metals (e.g Fe, Cu)

production/accumulation

- DMS consumption vs production

- Acidification

**S1**: Biogeochemical interactions and ocean-atmosphere coupling

![](_page_6_Figure_1.jpeg)

**I4**: Societal responses

![](_page_7_Figure_1.jpeg)

I2: Sensitivity to global changeI3: Feedback on the Earth System

#### 2 new experimental/modelling projects in the OMZs of the Eastern Tropical Pacific

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

#### to understand the biogeochemical/bacterial OMZ activity

- $\rightarrow$  AMOP (2009-2013), focused on:
  - the Eastern North Tropical Pacific (México): largest; anthropic releases/acidification, no anammox observation
  - the oxycline ("OMZ engine"), C-N-O interaction, O<sub>2</sub> and OM (characterization/degradation: LMGEM) sensitivity, isotopic measurements (proxy calibrations: EPOC)
- $\rightarrow$  SFB754/Germany (2009-2012/2020), focused on:
  - the Eastern South Tropical Pacific (Peru): most re-studied
  - N cycle, anammox (MPI) and Nfix (IFM-Geomar)
  - Ultra low O<sub>2</sub> measurement/experiment (STOX, δ<sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub>), molecular "3D map" (DNA, RNA, FISH)

→ SOLAS-AMOP project (White paper for a 2011-2015) on the interaction between the OMZ and the atmosphere in the Eastern Pacific: OBJECTIVES:

 Is it possible to quantify the overall role of the OMZs on the climatic change, taking into account GHGs, clouds formation and atmospheric O<sub>3</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> control?
What are the responsible mechanisms, e.g. the switch from O<sub>2</sub>-respiration to anaerobic respiration (via NO<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, SO<sub>4</sub>, methanogenesis, IO<sub>3</sub>, Fe(III), Mn(III)(IV), ...) for the production of the different GHGs?

APPROACH:

1) Data acquisition and analysis; 2) Parameterizations and large scale validation

→ Hypoxy project (IMBER-SCOR-IOC for 2011-2015) on the whole Eastern Pacific (from Canada to Chile):

 Analysis of the historical data (e.g. Calcofi, Imecocal)
Observations network adapted to the OMZ (autonomous platforms with biogeochemical microsensors)

#### $\rightarrow$ Fast-Track Initiatives SOLAS-IMBER (2010-2011)