

Engineered Aeration in Tidal Waters: a Workshop



Lora Harris & Jeremy Testa



Engineered Aeration in Tidal Waters: a Workshop



David Austin – Jacobs Engineering, Lead for Natural Treatment Practices

Bill Ball – Emeritus Professor JHU, Environmental Engineer and Retired Director CRC

Lora Harris – Associate Professor UMCES, Estuarine Ecologist

Andrew Heyes – Associate Research Professor UMCES, Chemist w/ expertise in Mercury

Alex Hounshell – Postdoctoral Scholar, Virginia Tech, Impacts of DO on carbon cycling

Lew Linker – EPA Ches Bay Program

John Little – Endowed Professor Virginia Tech, Environmental Engineer

Mark Mobley – Mobley Engineering, Practitioner focused largely on reservoirs

Sarah Preheim – Assistant Professor, JHU, Microbial Ecology, bubble transfer dynamics

Scott Socolofsky – Professor Texas A&M, Fluid Mechanics, Gas Bubble Plumes

Jeremy Testa – Associate Professor, UMCES, Estuarine Ecologist

Richard Tian – UMCES @ The Ches Bay Program

A Reminder of the Conversation

Tackling Hypoxia in the Baltic Sea: Is Engineering a Solution?

DANIEL J. CONLEY*

Lund University, Sweden

ERIK BONSDORFF

Åbo Akademi University, Finland

JACOB CARSTENSEN

Aarhus University, Roskilde, Denmark

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BO G. GUSTAFSSON

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Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research, Rostock, Germany

LOVISA ZILLÉN

Lund University

Save the Baltic Sea

Geoengineering efforts to bring oxygen into the deep
Baltic should be abandoned, says **Daniel J. Conley**.

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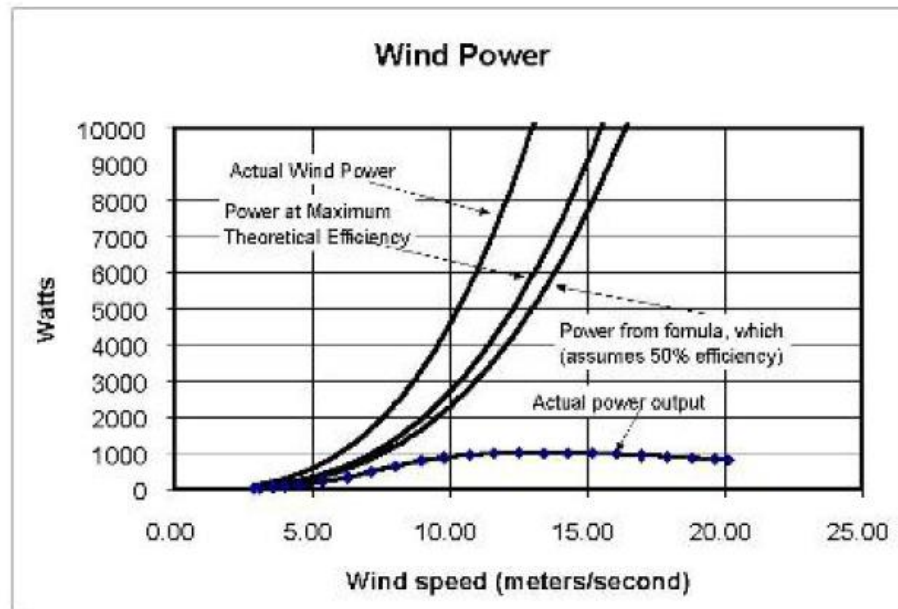


A Reminder of the Conversation

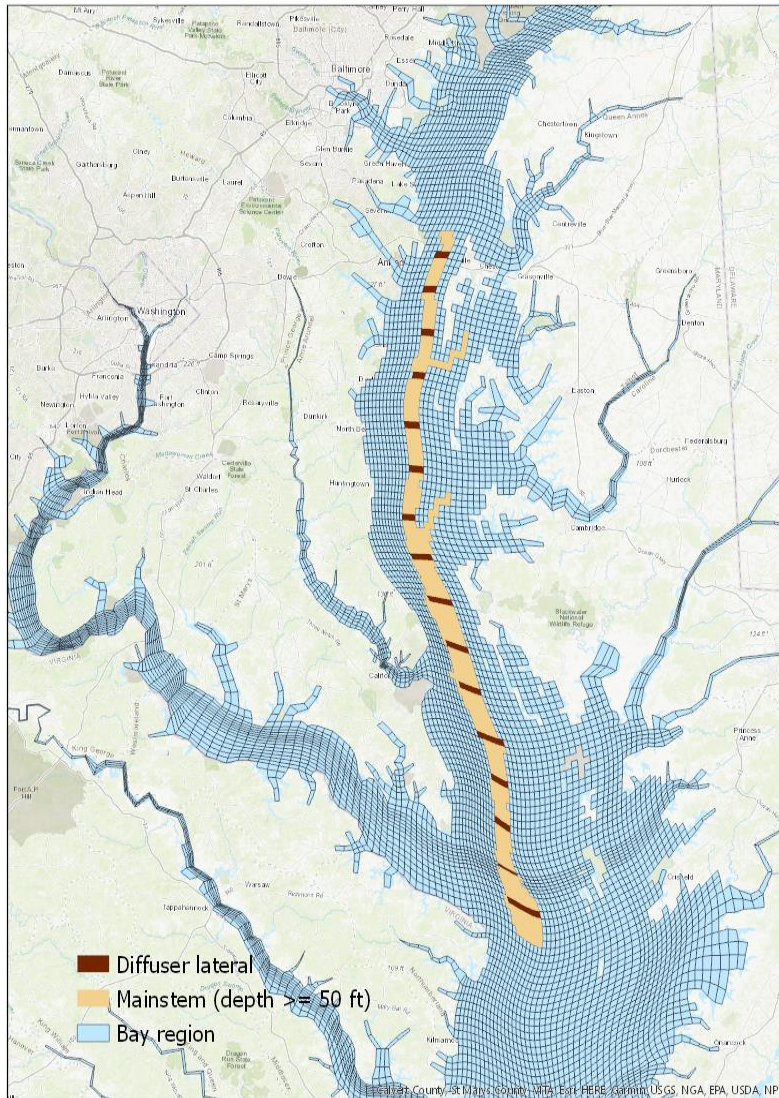
STAC Report: Can Windmills Save the Bay?

Figure 1. Windmill efficiency

(from <http://www.energyadvocate.com/fw91.htm>)



A Reminder of the Conversation



Dan Sheer work
with Richard et al.
to implement trial
runs of aeration in
main stem of
Chesapeake Bay...

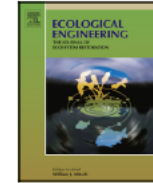
A Reminder of the Conversation



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Ecological Engineering

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoleng



Optimizing recovery of eutrophic estuaries: Impact of destratification and re-aeration on nutrient and dissolved oxygen dynamics



L.A. Harris^{a,*}, C.L.S. Hodgkins^a, M.C. Day^a, D. Austin^b, J.M. Testa^a, W. Boynton^a,
L. Van Der Tak^b, N.W. Chen^c

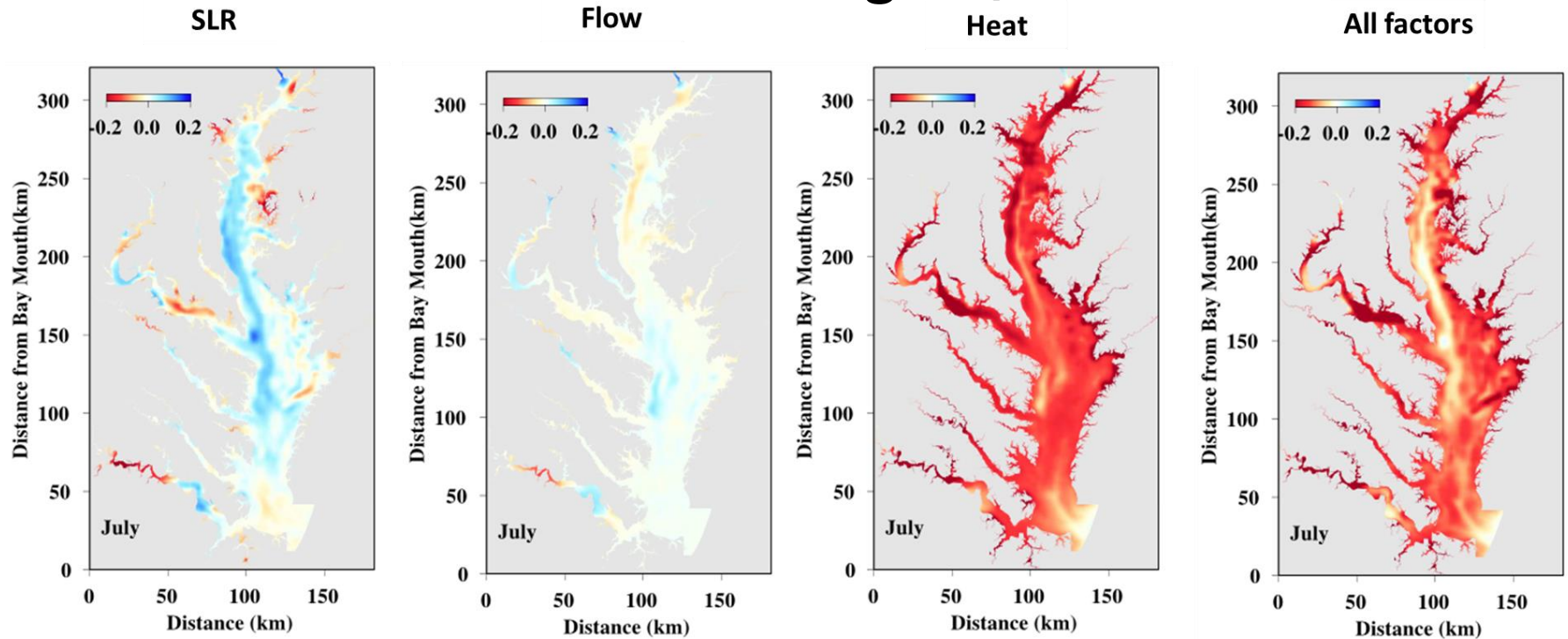


Workshop Motivation and Objectives

1. Identify modeling approaches and insights from the engineered-aeration community (frequently nontidal) that can be applied or adapted to estuarine settings.
2. Identify associated research questions that may be necessary to move modeling forward into estuarine ecosystems.
3. Identify observations or experiments necessary to better constrain models and our understanding of aeration efficacy toward next-phase tidal aeration models.

Key Takeaway #1: Is now the time to consider interventions to address additional TMDL burden of Climate Change?

Bottom DO change by 2025



Slide from R. Tian

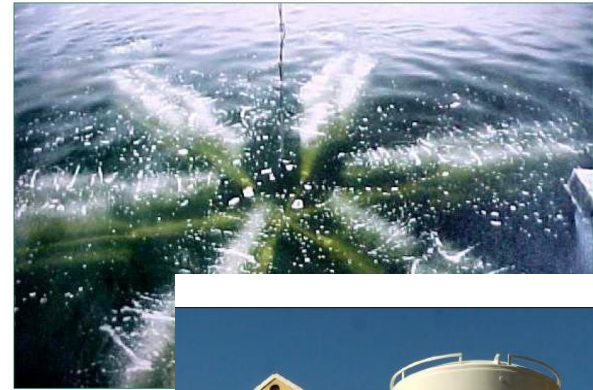
Key Takeaway #2: Large-Scale Aeration is already a Reality

- Baltic
- Lake Strom Thurmond
(Savannah River) = 288 km²
- CB Hypoxic area ~1000 km²



Key Takeaway #3: There are many modern flavors of aeration

- Pure oxygen versus air
- Bubble plumes that dissolve, others that mix
- Dynamics of entrained water, estuarine circulation response



Josh Meltzer

Key Takeaway #4: Three Estimates of Oxygen Mass “Needed” converge

- Spring oxygen sag in deep water =
- Numerical model oxygen budget = ~1200 tons/d
- Fermi estimate based on 10 km³ Volume and classical engineering 2x factor = 1500 tons/d
- This number is doable with current technology, but what are the other limitations?

Key Takeaway #5: An Experimental Pilot Project is Needed

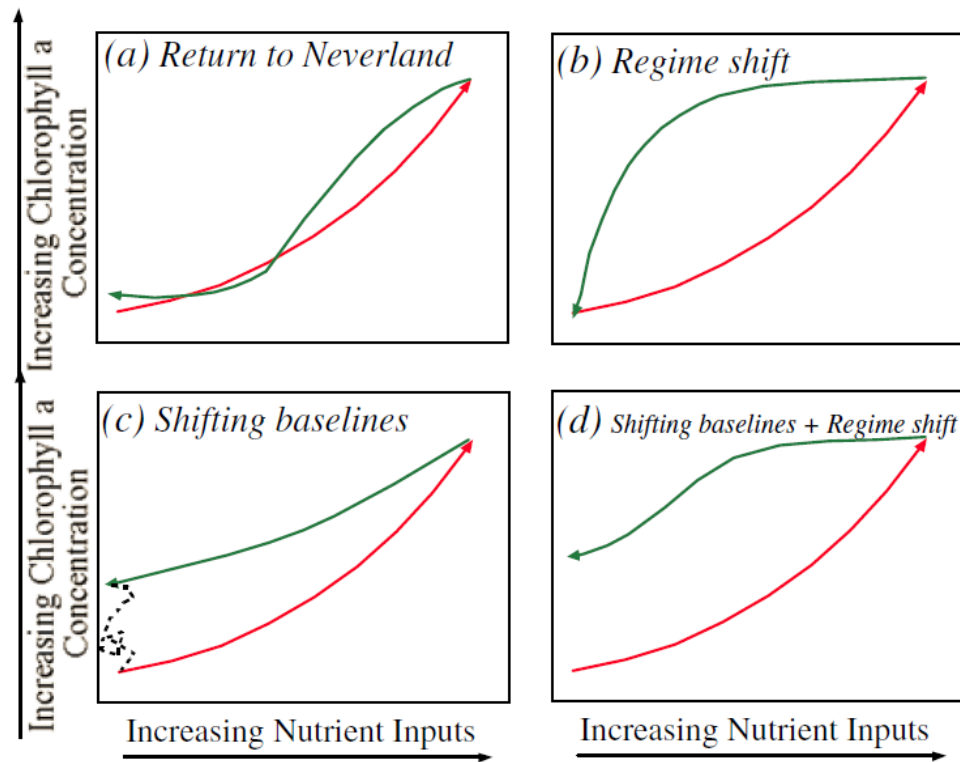
- Implementation under realistic circulation/mixing
- Small enough scale to adequately measure, large enough to approach mainstem scale
- Circulation effects, dispersion of injected oxygen, ecosystem impacts, biogeochemical response, fouling, etc, etc,

Report Anticipated Late Spring



Return to *Neverland*: Shifting Baselines Affect Eutrophication Restoration Targets

Carlos M. Duarte • Daniel J. Conley •
Jacob Carstensen • María Sánchez-Camacho



Hypoxia-induced shifts in nitrogen and phosphorus cycling in Chesapeake Bay

Jeremy Mark Testa,* and W. Michael Kemp

Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Cambridge, Maryland

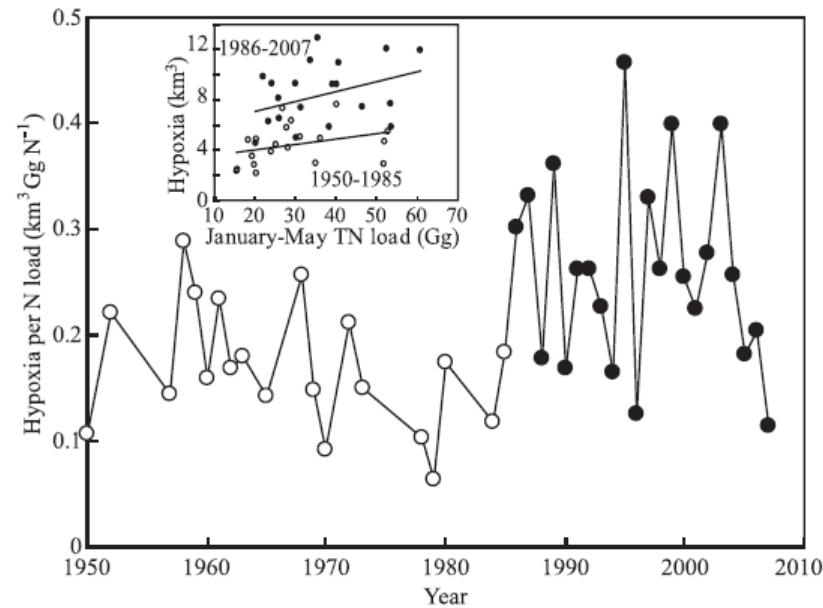


Fig. 2. Time series of July hypoxic ($O_2 < 62.5 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) water volume per unit winter-spring Susquehanna River TN load (January to April) from 1950 to 2007 and (inset) correlations between TN load and hypoxic water volume in two periods (1950–1985, open circles; 1986–2007, closed circles). Hypoxic volume and TN loads were calculated as described in Methods.