Testing a new hypothesis on the persistence of *Calanus finmarchicus* in the Gulf of Maine:

Coastal Amplification of Supply and Transport (CAST)

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### Predicted future looks grim



# ... but also uncertain



Villarino et al., 2015

### Why we care ....



Diet of Atlantic herring in June in the western Gulf of Maine

- Other
- Krill
- Pseudocalanus
- Metridia
- Copepod
- Calanus

Jones et al. (in prep)

# **Classical paradigm**



# 13 Life Stages: Egg; NI-NVI; CI-CVI

# **Classical paradigm**



### Warming as the main threat



# Hot 2012 and expected impact



### To our surprise ...



CV abundance in Wilkinson Basin in 2012 were high and not significantly different from the historical average.

CV population in Wilkinson Basin comprised individuals entering diapause later in summer

# Lead to new hypothesis





Mechanisms supporting persistence of a key plankton species during climate change on the Northwest Atlantic continental shelf

#### Lead to new hypothesis



# Supporting evidence from data





19-Jan 31-Jan 16-Feb 29-Feb 21-Mar 04-Apr 18-Apr 30-Apr 18-May 29-May 14-Jun 05-Jul 17-Jul 02-Aug 13-Aug 11-Sep 18-Sep 09-Oct 19-Oct



### Supporting evidence from model

#### IBM backward tracking











# Supporting evidence from model: connectivity



### Supporting evidence from data: amplification



# **Conceptual framework**





Both data and model suggest that coastal waters including the Maine Coastal Current are major upstream sources for surface-released *C. finmarchicus* individuals in all cases simulated, although distribution patterns vary with release timing.

#### Role of coastal zone:

Amplification of supply (spring reproduction/summer growth in the foodrich coastal region) and transport to receiving basins (e.g. WB) capable of harboring the overwintering stock.

#### Implication for climate impact:

Coastal dynamics and regional settings might allow the C. finmarchicus population to mitigate some climate impact. Needed to be considered for climate projection.

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