

Contents

| | |
|--|-------|
| Abstract | iii |
| <i>Résumé français</i> | iii |
| <i>English abstract</i> | v |
| Abbreviations | xxiii |
| 1 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Climate change, the carbon cycle and the land-ocean carbon transfer | 1 |
| 1.2 Short reviews of main topics covered in this thesis | 5 |
| 1.2.1 Land-ocean exports: From lithology to ocean | 5 |
| 1.2.2 The fate of riverine exports in the ocean | 10 |
| 1.2.3 Global ocean biogeochemical cycling | 12 |
| 1.2.4 Biogeochemical dynamics of the coastal ocean | 15 |
| 1.2.5 The global riverine carbon loop | 19 |
| 1.3 Aims and research questions | 22 |
| 2 Oceanic CO₂ outgassing and biological production hotspots induced by pre-industrial river loads of nutrients and carbon in a global modelling approach | 29 |
| 2.1 Introduction | 30 |
| 2.2 Methods | 35 |
| 2.2.1 Deriving pre-industrial riverine loads | 35 |
| <i>Terrestrial dissolved and particulate organic matter characteristics</i> | 38 |
| <i>Phosphorus</i> | 39 |
| <i>Nitrogen and iron</i> | 42 |
| <i>Dissolved inorganic carbon and alkalinity</i> | 43 |
| <i>Silica</i> | 44 |
| 2.2.2 Ocean Model Setup | 45 |
| <i>Ocean Biogeochemistry</i> | 45 |
| <i>Treatment of the river loads in the ocean biogeochemistry model</i> | 46 |
| <i>Pre-industrial ocean biogeochemistry model simulations</i> | 47 |
| 2.2.3 Definition of coastal regions for analysis | 48 |

| | | |
|-------|---|-----|
| 2.3 | Global weathering | 49 |
| 2.3.1 | Runoff, precipitation and temperature patterns | 49 |
| 2.3.2 | Global weathering yields and their spatial distribution . | 51 |
| 2.4 | Pre-industrial rivers loads | 55 |
| 2.4.1 | Global loads in context of published estimates | 56 |
| 2.4.2 | Spatial load distribution and identified hotspots | 59 |
| 2.4.3 | Exports to chosen coastal regions | 63 |
| 2.5 | Implications for the ocean biogeochemistry | 64 |
| 2.5.1 | Ocean state - An increased biogeochemical coastal sink . | 65 |
| 2.5.2 | Riverine-induced NPP hotspots | 68 |
| 2.5.3 | Riverine-induced CO ₂ Outgassing | 71 |
| 2.5.4 | Sensitivity of the NPP and CO ₂ flux in chosen coastal regions | 72 |
| 2.6 | Origins and fate of riverine carbon | 75 |
| 2.7 | Approach advantages and limitations | 77 |
| 2.7.1 | Rivers in an Earth System Model setting | 77 |
| 2.7.2 | Fate and consistence of terrestrial organic matter in the ocean | 78 |
| 2.7.3 | Arctic Ocean | 79 |
| 2.8 | Summary and conclusions | 79 |
| 3 | The efficient cross-shelf export of organic matter in the coastal ocean: Were continental shelves already a global pre-industrial CO₂ sink? | 85 |
| 3.1 | Introduction | 86 |
| 3.2 | Methods | 93 |
| 3.2.1 | Standard ocean model description | 93 |
| 3.2.2 | Model modifications and extensions | 96 |
| | <i>Consideration of POM mineralization in the coastal sediment</i> | 96 |
| | <i>Representation of riverine loads</i> | 96 |
| | <i>tDOM dynamics in the ocean</i> | 100 |
| 3.2.3 | Physical and biogeochemical indicators of continental shelves | 102 |
| | <i>Continental shelf definition</i> | 102 |
| | <i>Physical indicator: Shelf residence times (RTs)</i> | 103 |
| 3.2.4 | Biogeochemical Indicators: NPP, NPP _c , R _H , NEP and cross-shelf exports | 105 |
| 3.2.5 | Pre-industrial and present day simulations | 106 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| 3.3 Results and Discussion | 106 |
| 3.3.1 Implications of the model extensions for oceanic carbon cycling | 106 |
| <i>Global shelf area</i> | <i>107</i> |
| <i>Shelf sediment remineralization of POM</i> | <i>107</i> |
| <i>The oceanic fate of tDOM</i> | <i>108</i> |
| <i>Implications for global oceanic carbon cycle variables</i> | <i>114</i> |
| 3.3.2 Carbon cycling on continental shelves | 117 |
| <i>Physical variables: RT and MLD</i> | <i>117</i> |
| <i>Continental shelves organic carbon cycling (pre-industrial)</i> | <i>123</i> |
| <i>Modelled present day CO₂ flux in the context of present day estimates</i> | <i>127</i> |
| <i>Implications for the pre-industrial CO₂ flux</i> | <i>131</i> |
| <i>Spatial heterogeneity of the CO₂ flux on the Arctic shelves</i> | <i>135</i> |
| <i>Implications for the anthropogenic CO₂ sink</i> | <i>136</i> |
| 3.4 Model limitations | 137 |
| 3.5 Summary and conclusions | 138 |
| 4 The multifaceted 20th century perturbation of the oceanic carbon cycle: Could coastal ocean and river-induced NPP increases trump implications of increased open ocean stratification? | 141 |
| 4.1 Introduction | 142 |
| 4.2 Methods | 147 |
| 4.2.1 Overview of the model configuration | 148 |
| 4.2.2 Pre-industrial and anthropogenic perturbation of the land-sea fluxes | 150 |
| 4.2.3 Model initialization and transient simulations | 152 |
| 4.2.4 Definition of the coastal ocean in the TP04 configuration | 155 |
| 4.3 Results and discussion | 156 |
| 4.3.1 Perturbations of riverine loads and of the physical ocean | 156 |
| 4.3.2 20th century changes in coastal and open ocean nutrient limitation, NPP and CO₂ fluxes | 160 |
| 4.3.3 Perturbations of nutrient exports from the coastal zone | 171 |
| 4.3.4 Perturbation of global inorganic and organic carbon cycling in the coastal ocean | 177 |
| 4.3.5 Regional assessment of 20th century changes in NPP and CO₂ flux | 183 |
| 4.3.6 Implications for 20th century changes in subsurface oxygen levels | 190 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| 4.4 Limitations of our model study | 192 |
| 4.5 Summary and conclusions | 194 |
| 5 Summary and conclusions | 199 |
| A Appendix | 219 |
| A.1 Freshwater Fluxes | 219 |
| A.2 Coastal Salinity and Nutrient Profiles | 220 |
| A.3 Derivation of carbon fluxes in the simplified coupled system . . | 222 |
| A.3.1 Terrestrial fluxes | 222 |
| A.3.2 Long-term ocean fluxes | 222 |
| A.4 Surface Nutrient profiles | 226 |
| Bibliography | 229 |
| Acknowledgements | 261 |