



## **Climatic Variability of the Labrador Current**

G. Han, K. Ohashi, and N. Chen

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, St. John's, NL, Canada (Phone: +1-(709) 772-4326, hang@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

TOPEX/Poseidon and Jason-1 satellite altimeter data are used to study interannual and decadal variability of the Labrador Current on the upper and lower slope off Labrador and Newfoundland Sea. Volume transport of the Labrador Current is calculated by combining altimeter data with hydrographic data. Scatterometer data are analyzed to examine the wind stress curl pattern in the North Atlantic. The results indicate that the Labrador Current had a declining trend and substantial interannual variability from the early 1990s onward. Potential dynamical mechanisms are discussed in the context of the North Atlantic Oscillation.