Following the referee comments we add some figures of bottom temperature and salinity at BY1 and BY0. This led to a new arrangement of Section 5. It is obvious that at BY1 the temperature/salinity and oxygen concentration tend to evolve out-of-phase, i.e. when temperature/salinity is higher, oxygen concentrations tend to be lower and vice versa. However, at BY5 the bottom oxygen and bottom salinity are positively correlated. Both facts support our suggestions that the increase of near-bottom oxygen is mainly due to inflow pulses. We'd like to thank the referee for helping us to improve the content of the manuscript.
We agree with the referee that the importance of the air-sea exchange for short time oxygen dynamics is different than that on seasonal scales. The short term dynamics of oxygen is not the scope of the article and would require the availability of data sets measured at high frequency for validation.

Please also note the Supplement to this comment.

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 6, 2115, 2009.