

→ EARTH OBSERVATION SUMMER SCHOOL

Earth System Monitoring & Modelling

30 July–10 August 2018 | ESA–ESRIN | Frascati (Rome) Italy

OCEAN CIRCULATION II

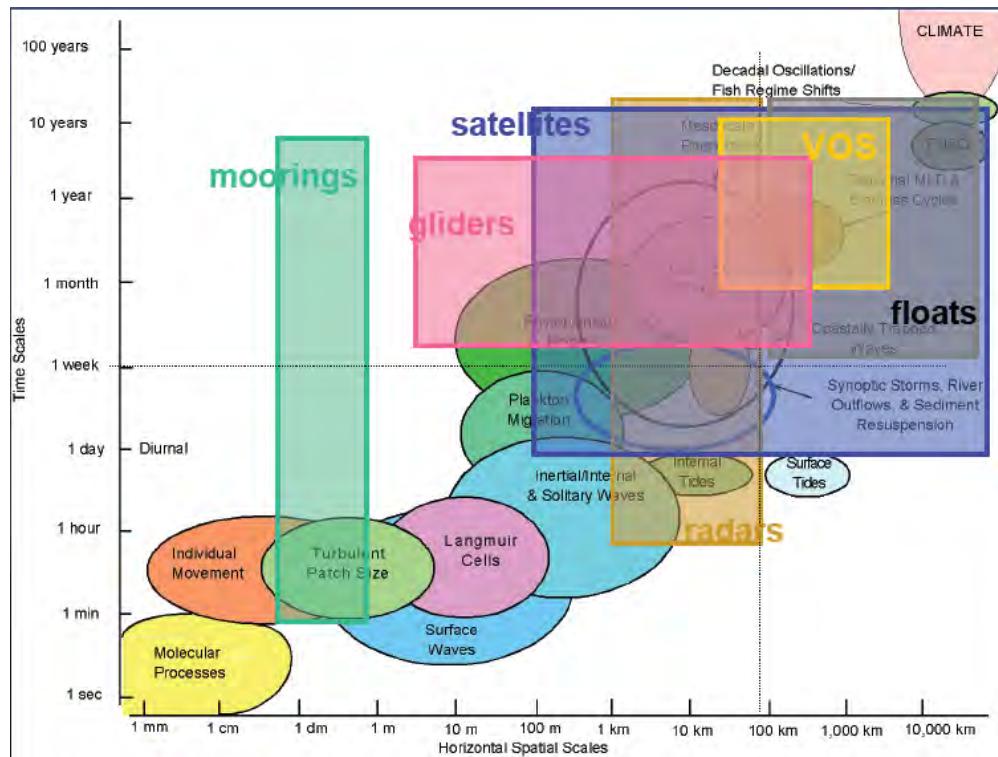
Marie-Hélène RIO

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Space and in-situ data synergy for a better retrieval of the ocean circulation

Complementarity of space and in-situ observations



Space and in-situ Observation network



Space data

GOCE, GRACE



Geoid

ERS, ENVISAT, CRYOSAT, SENTINEL-3
TOPEX, JASON



Sea Surface Height

ENVISAT, Sentinel-1



SAR doppler velocity

In-situ data

SVP drifting buoys



Surface/sub-surface velocities

Argo floats



Temperature, salinity profiles

ENVISAT, Sentinel-3



Sea Surface Temperature

ASCAT, QuickScat



Wind speed

Space and in-situ data synergy for a better retrieval of the ocean circulation



- Geostrophic currents from Altimetry, space Gravity, in-situ measurements of T,S, surface drifter velocities
- Ekman currents from in-situ drifting buoy velocities, altimetry, wind
- SST/SSH synergy for higher resolution surface currents

Space and in-situ data synergy for a better retrieval of the ocean circulation



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Space gravity AND Altimetry synergy for ocean current retrieval

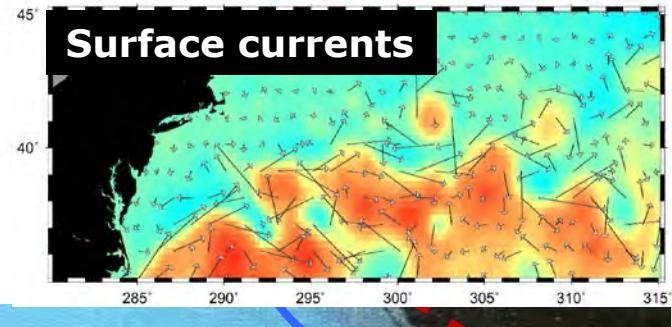
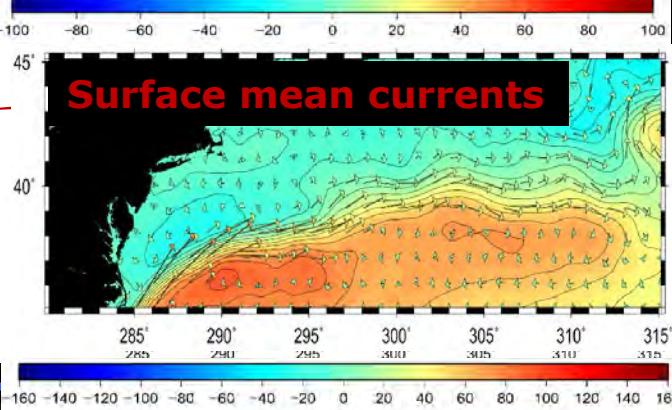
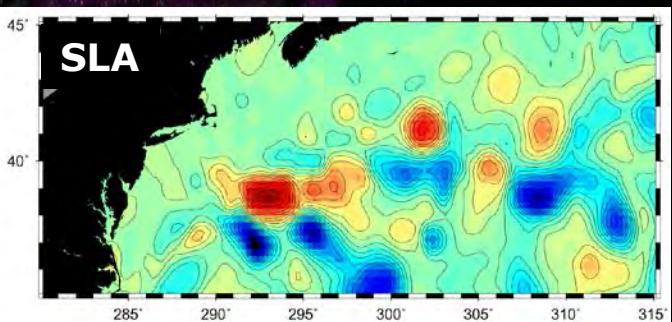
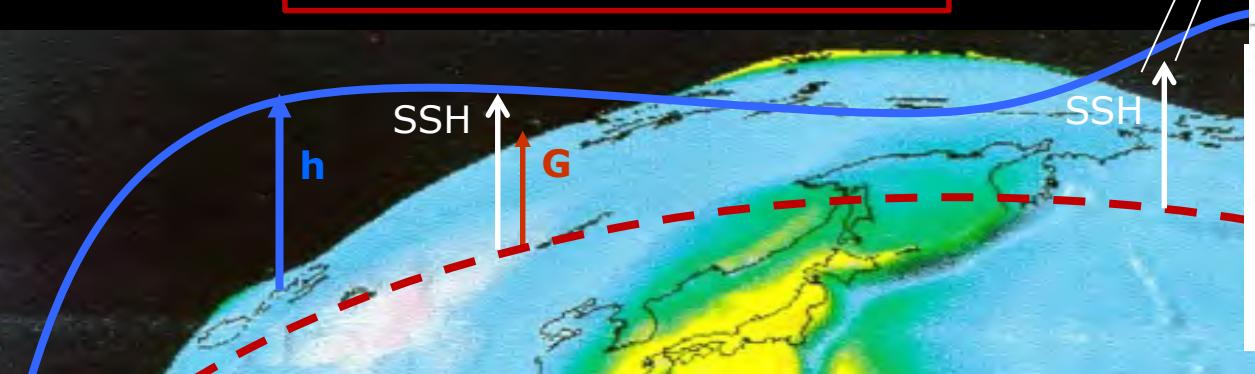
Some very simple equations

$$\text{SSH} = h + G \leftrightarrow h = \text{SSH} - G$$

$$\text{MSSH} = \text{MDT} + G \leftrightarrow \text{MDT} = \text{MSSH} - G$$

$$\text{SSH} - \text{MSSH} = h - \text{MDT} = \text{SLA}$$

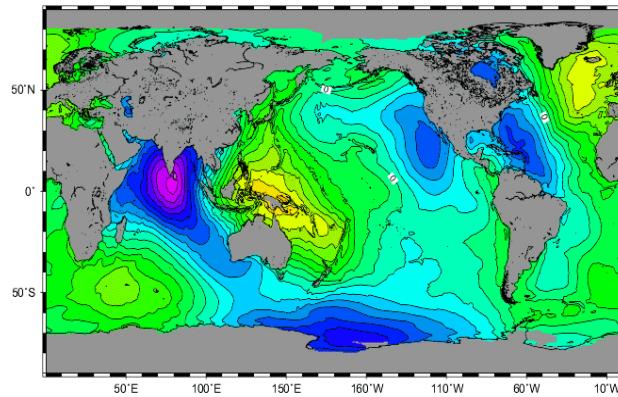
$$h = \text{SLA} + \text{MDT}$$



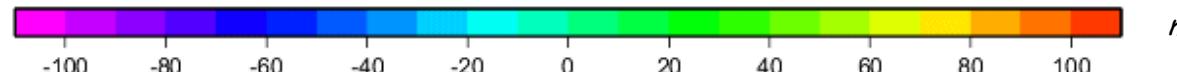
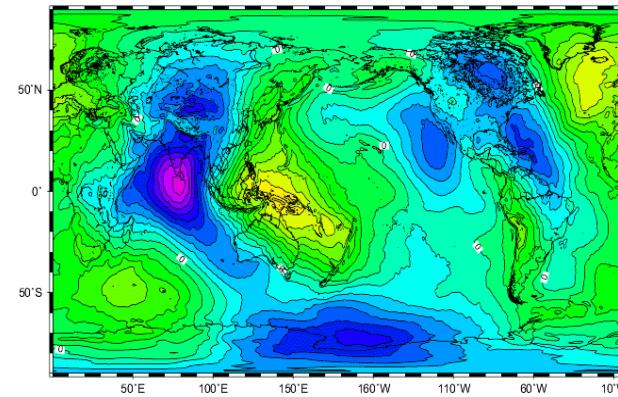
Computation of the « geodetic » MDT

$$MDT = MSS - \text{GEOID}$$

MSS

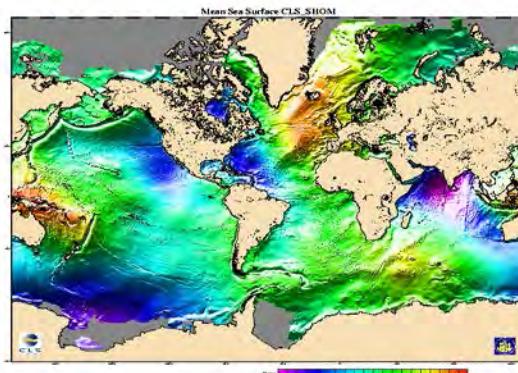


GEOID





Mean Sea Surface estimation: 25 YEARS IMPROVEMENTS



MSS OSU 95

MSS CLS_SHOM98

MSS CLS01

MSS DNSC08

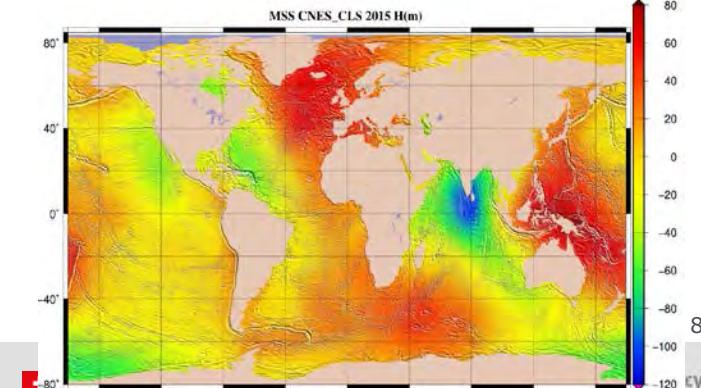
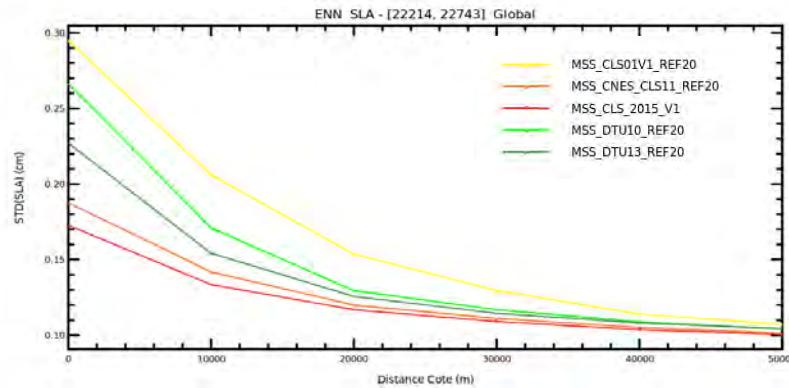
MSS DTU10

MSS CNES_CLS_2011

MSS DTU15

MSS CNES_CLS_2015

Standard Deviation of Envisat New orbit (ENN) SLA as a function of coastal distance when using different MSS solutions



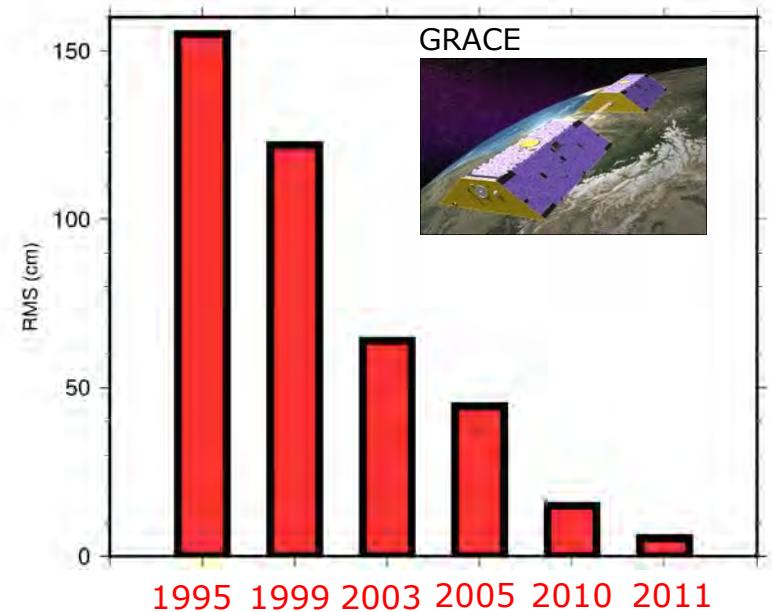
Geoid estimation: 25 YEARS IMPROVEMENTS

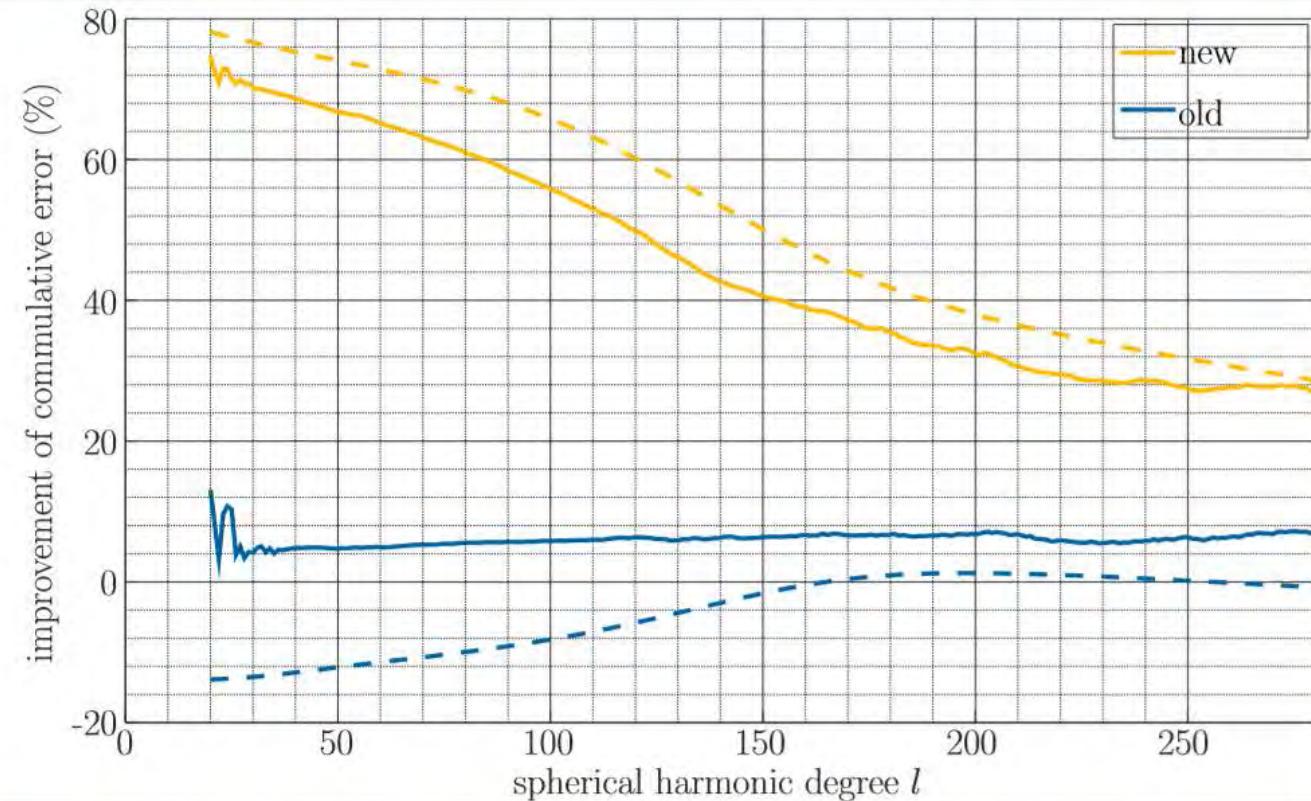


Satellite-only geoid models

Model	Year	Max DO	Data
GRIM4S4	1995	70	Geodetic satellites
GRIM5S1	1999	99	Geodetic satellites
CHAMP3S	2003	140	33 months of CHAMP
GGM02S/ EIGEN3S	2005	150	2 years of GRACE
ITG- GRACE2010s	2010	180	7 years of GRACE
GOCE	2009- 2013	200- 250	2 months (R1) 6 months (R2) 1 year (R3) Full mission (R5)

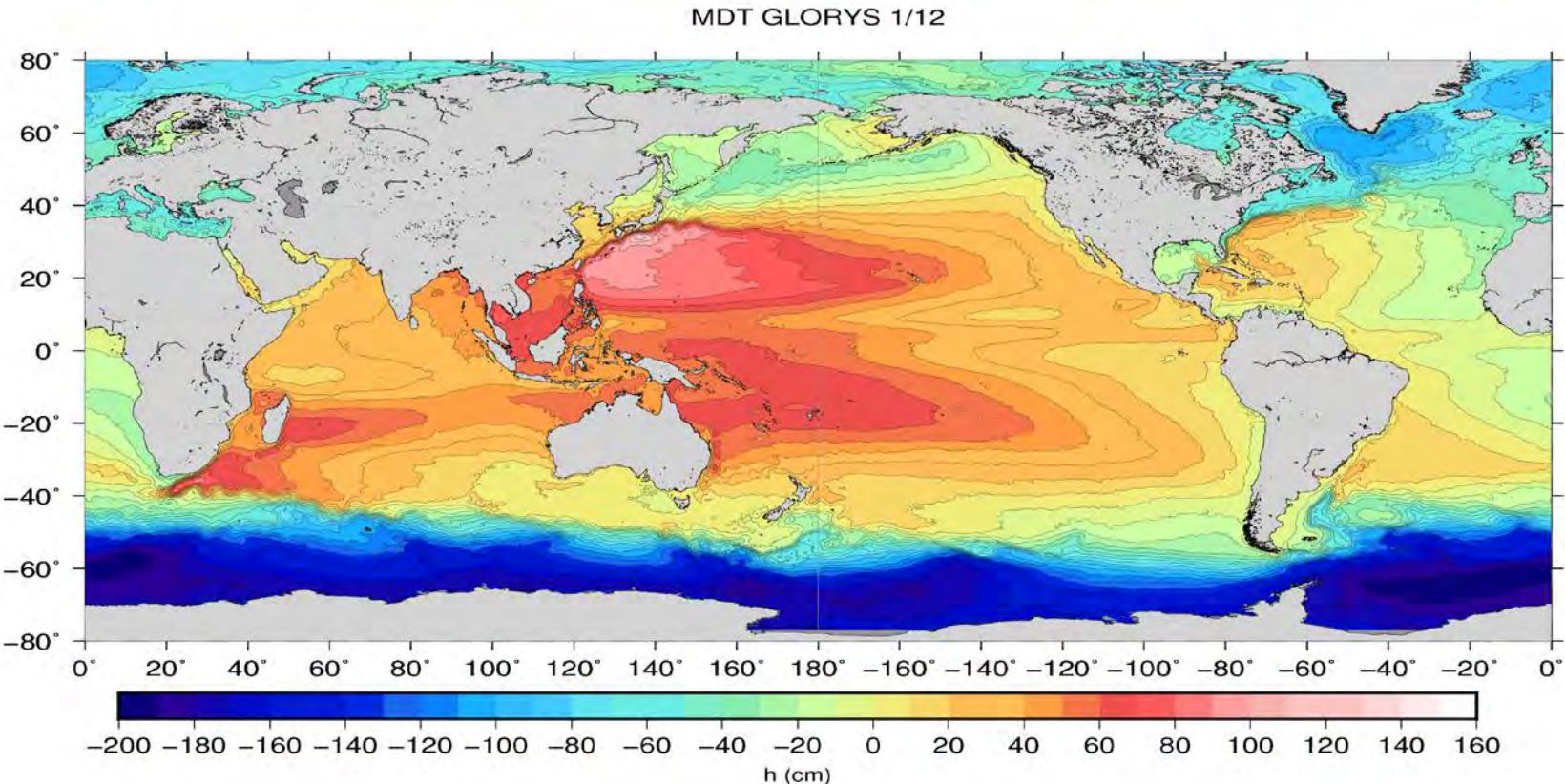
RMS differences (in cm) between geoid models and GOCE-DIR-R5 filtered at 100km (on oceans)





solid: empirical from difference to EGM_TIM_RL05, dashed: formal from covariance matrix

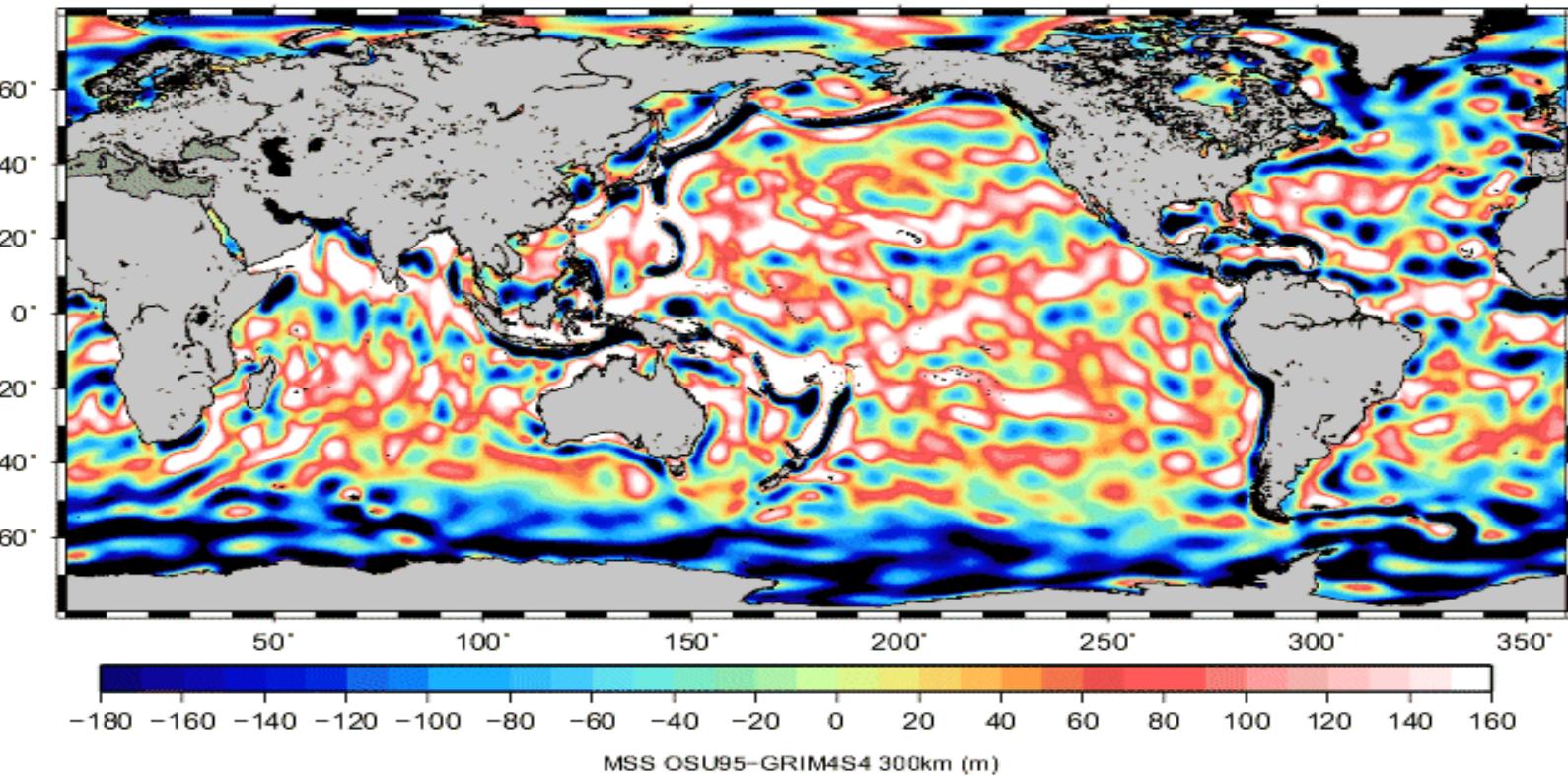
Mean Dynamic Topography from a high resolution (1/12°) ocean numerical model



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



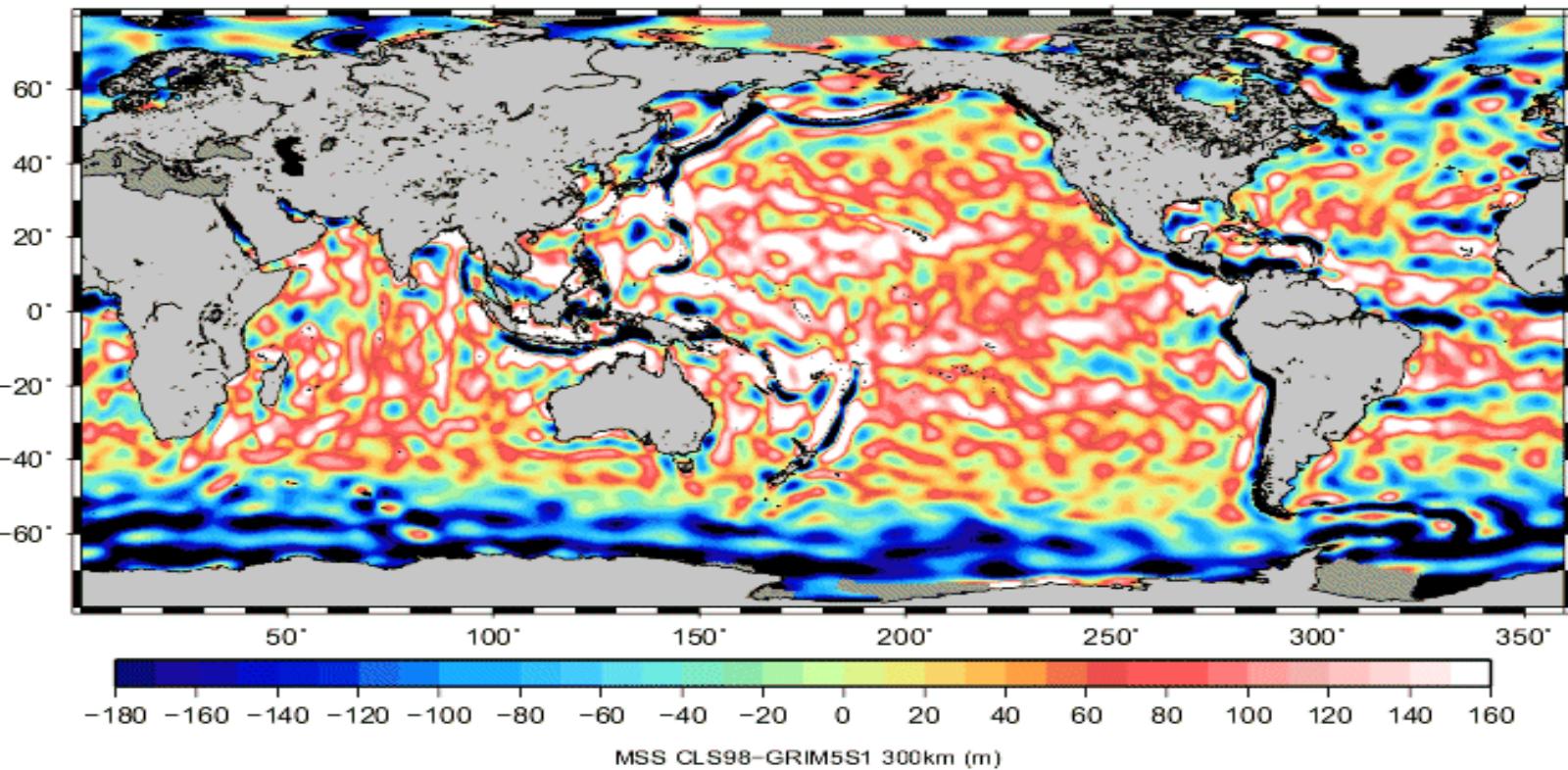
1995



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



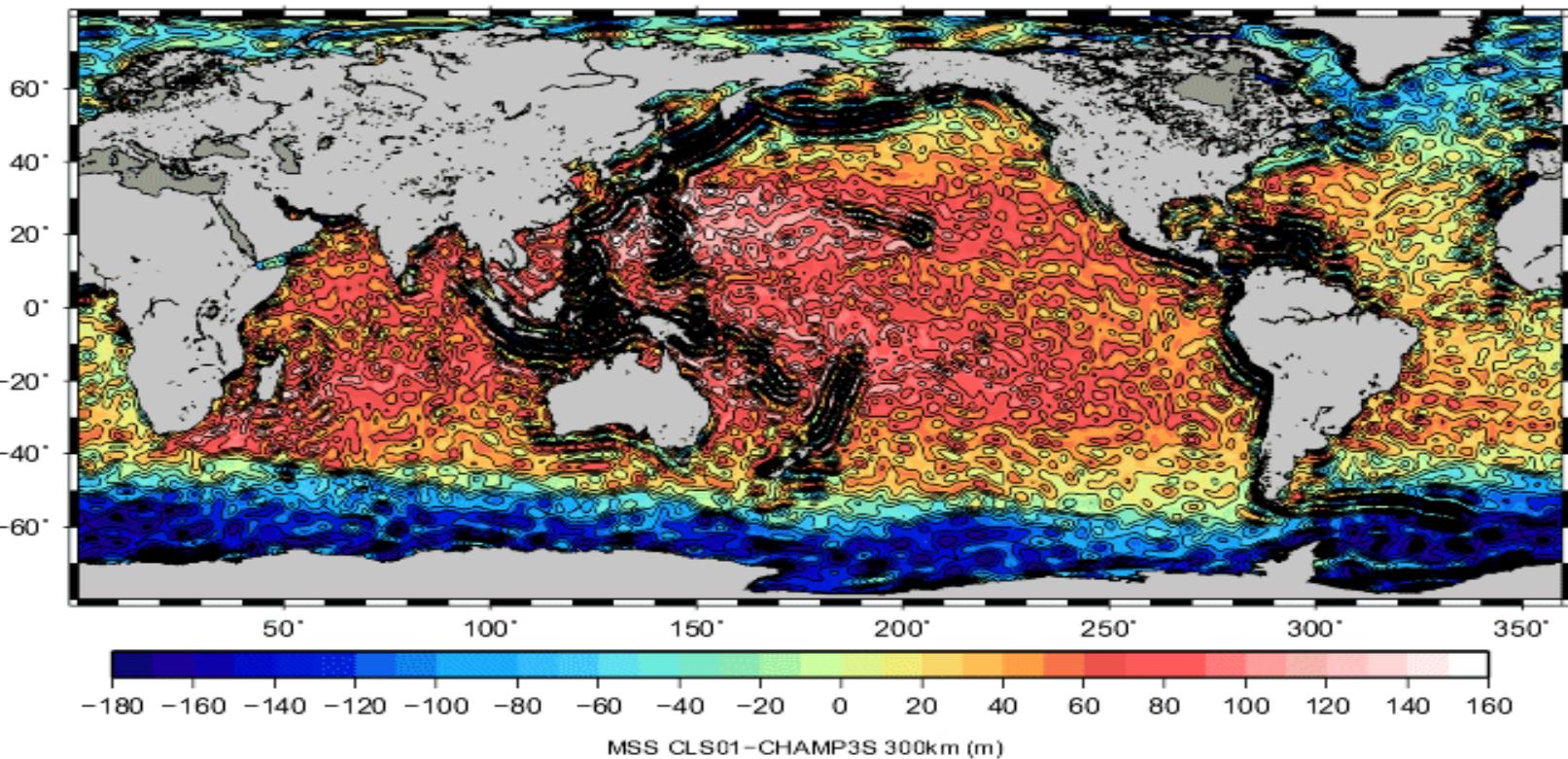
1999



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



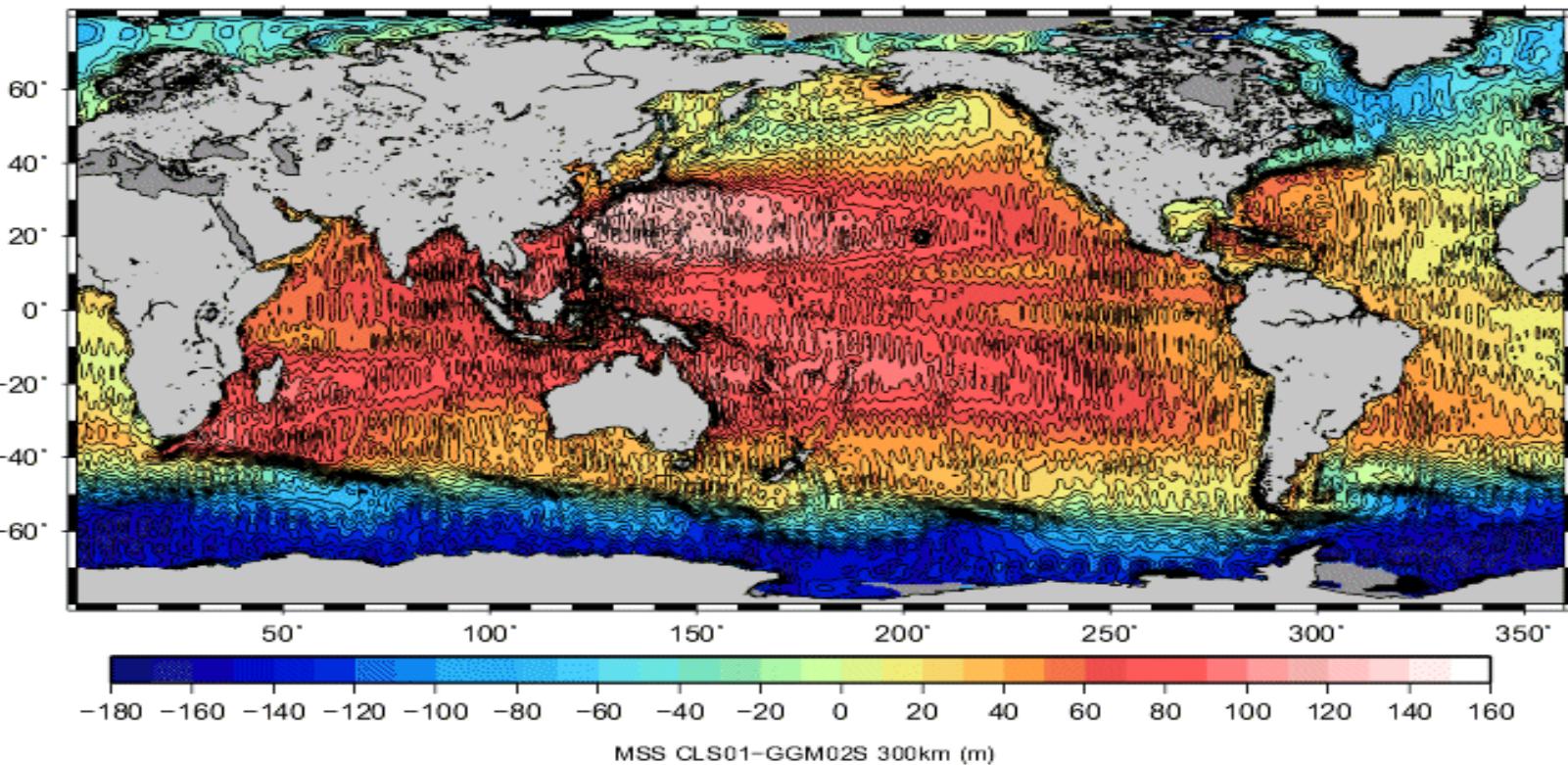
2003



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



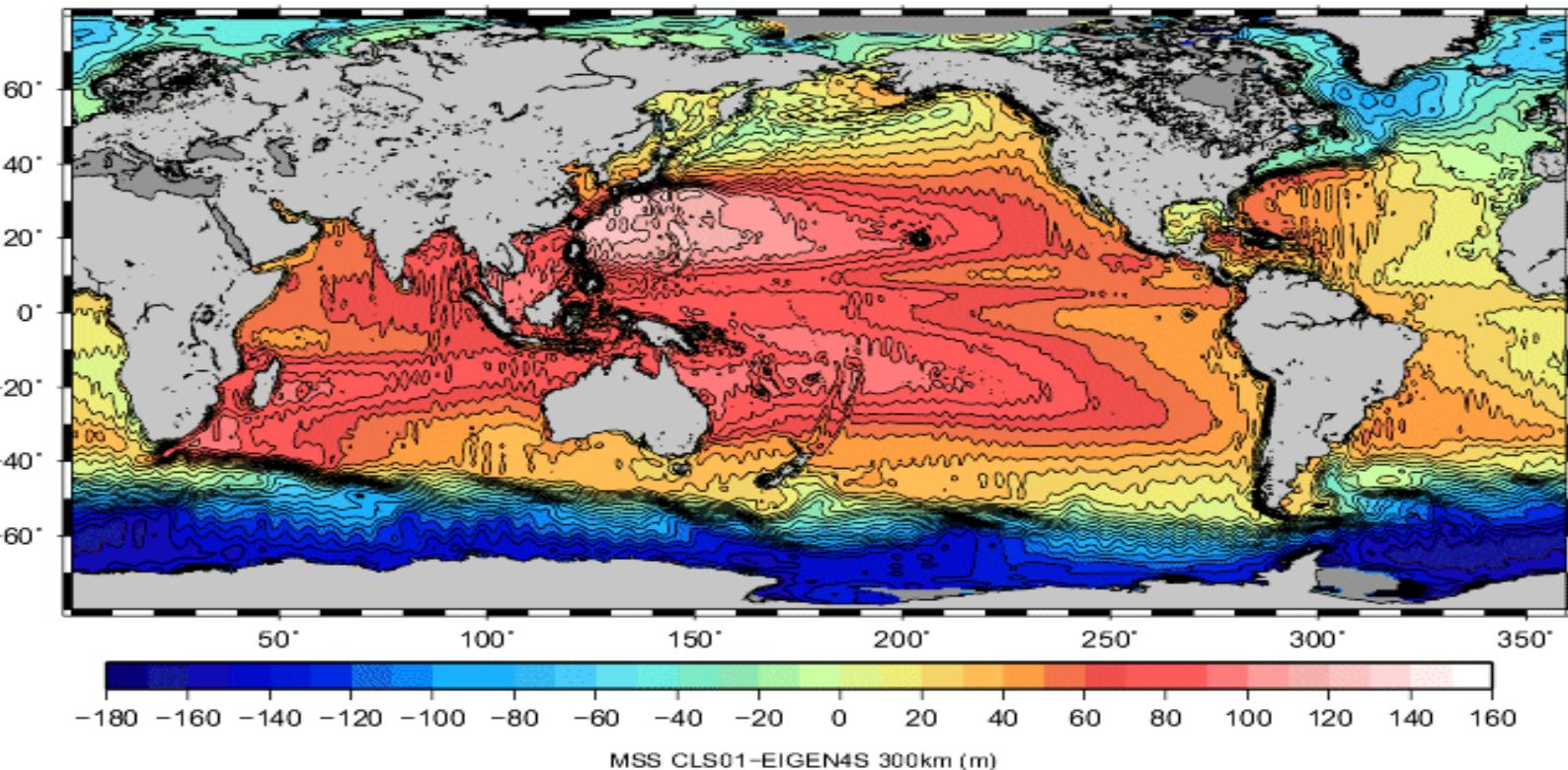
2005



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



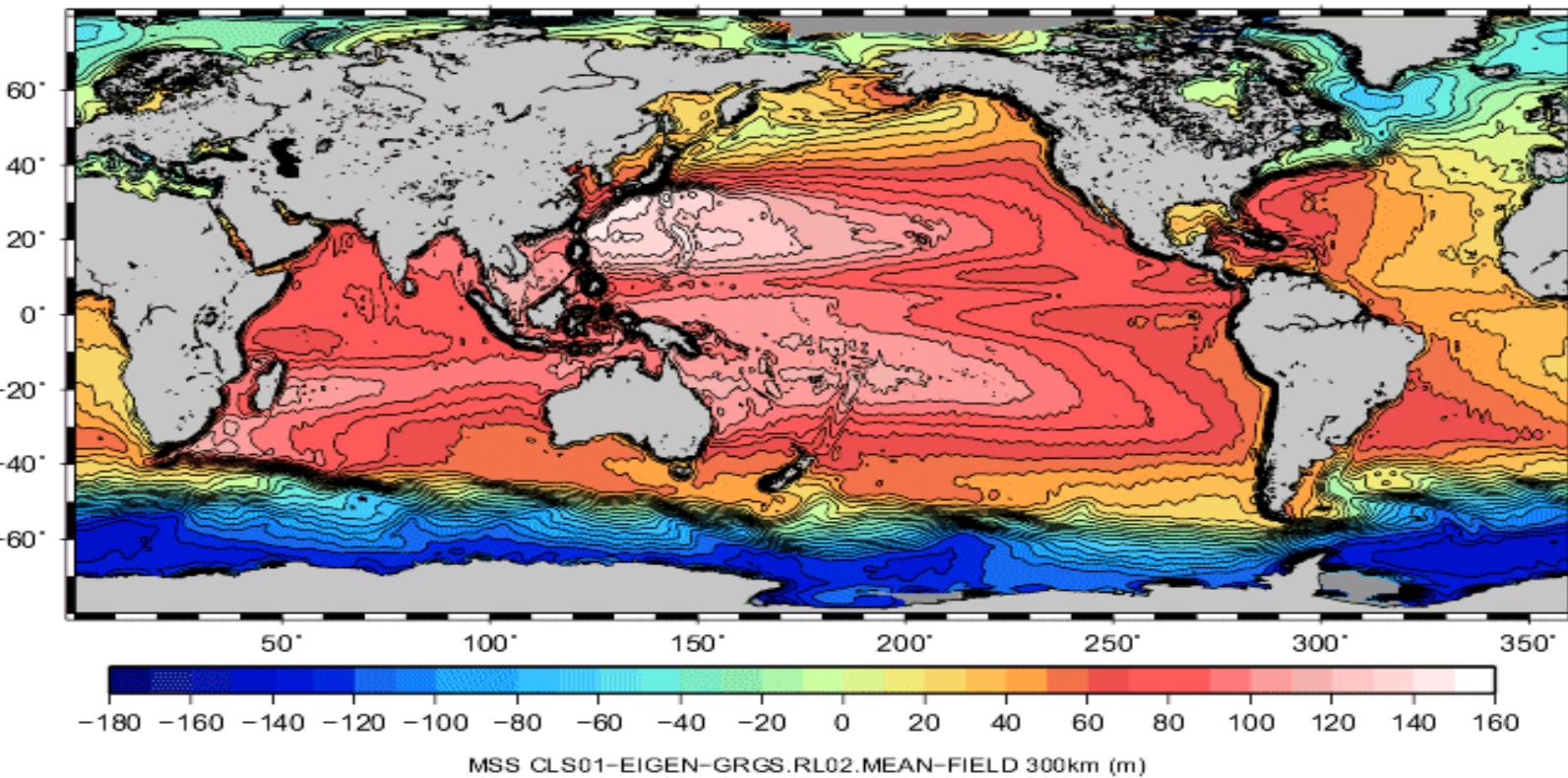
2006



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



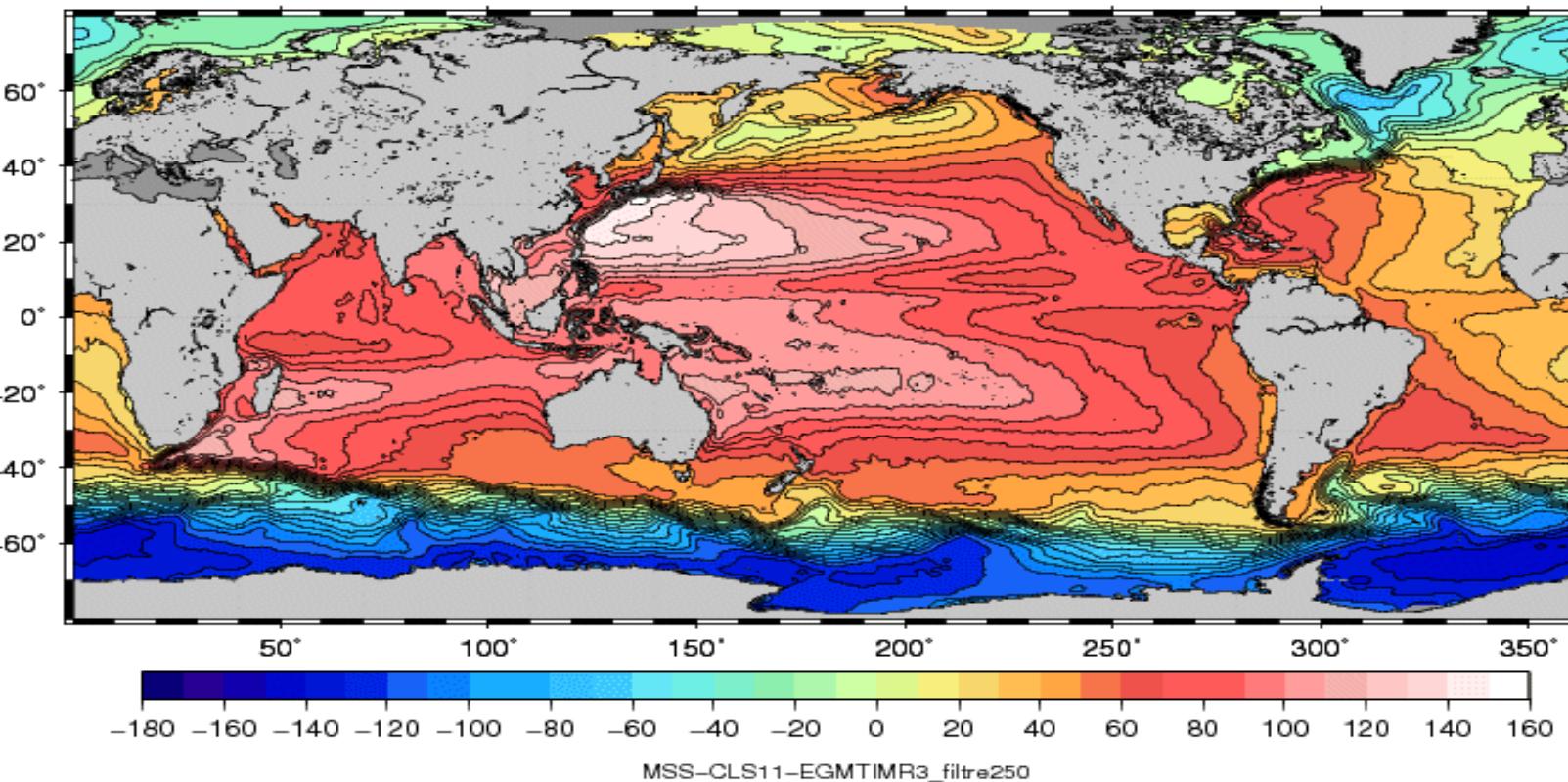
2009



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



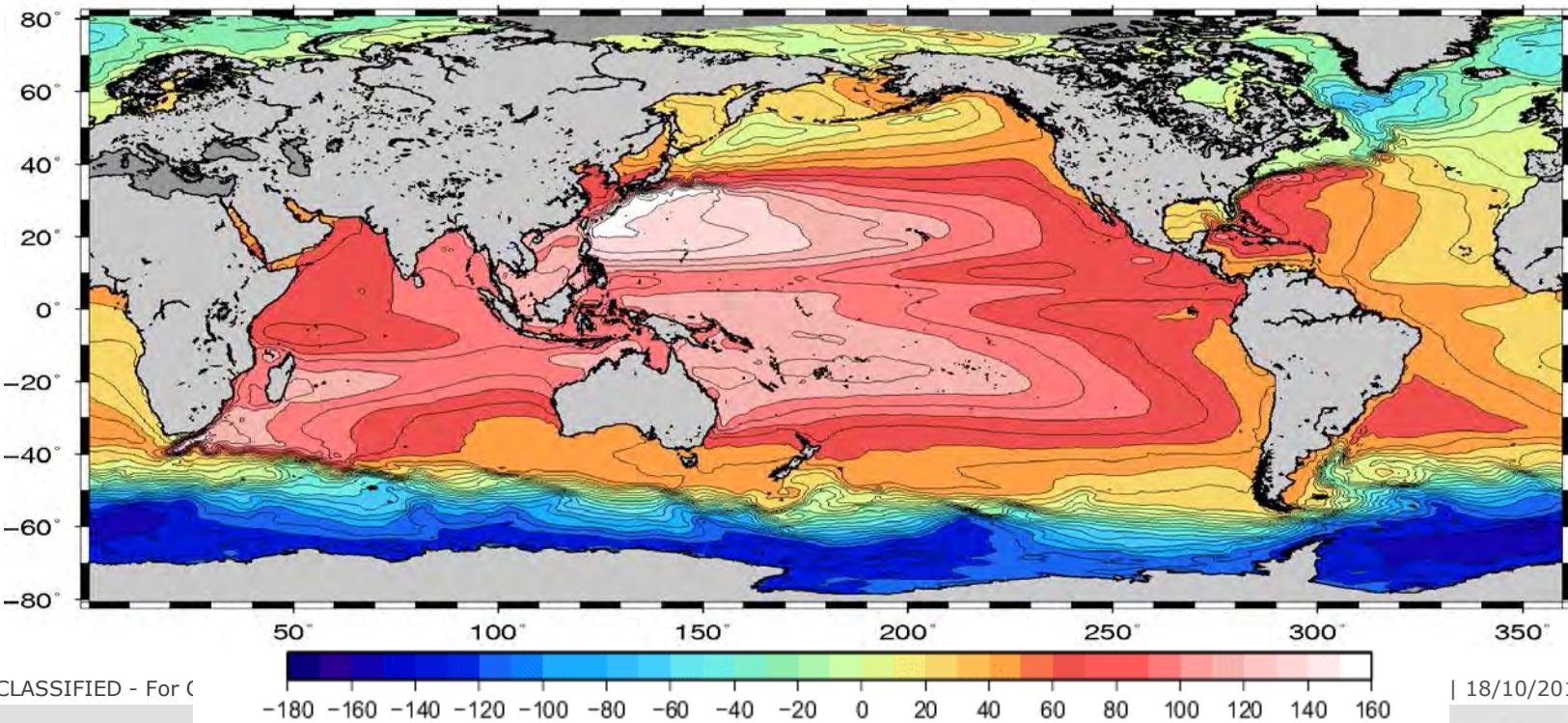
2012



Mean Dynamic Topography estimation 25 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS



2015



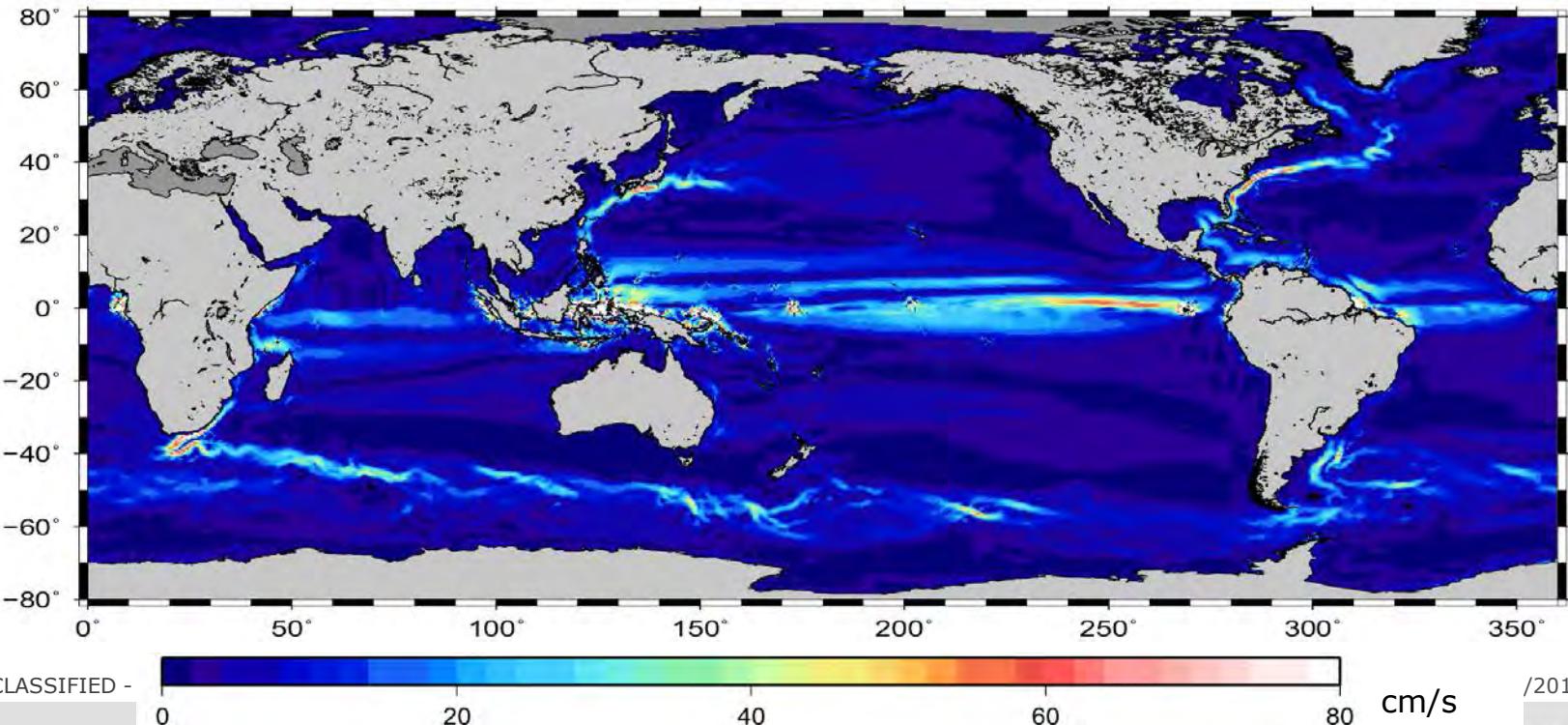
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European Space Agency

Mean geostrophic currents from the GOCE only MDT



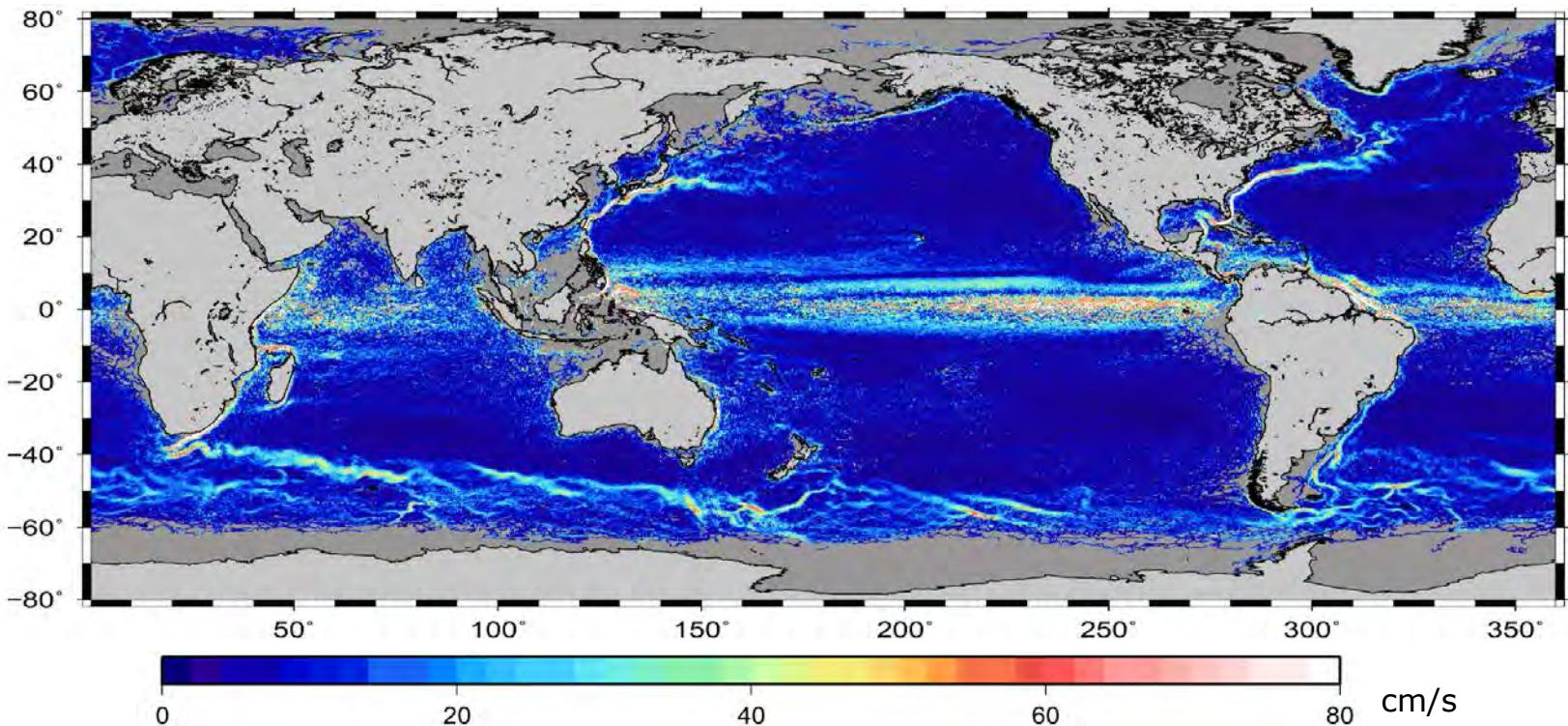
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European Space Agency

Mean geostrophic currents from in-situ measurements

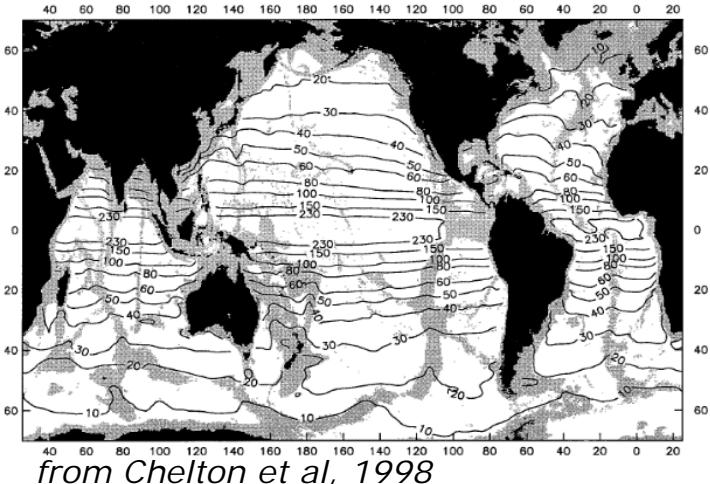


Beyond GOCE resolution: Synergy with space-borne and in-situ data



- MDT spatial scales are expected to be lower than 100 km.

*First baroclinic Rossby radius of deformation
length scale at which the geostrophic balance
will become important*



- In order to go beyond GOCE resolution, synergy with other observations is needed

➤ *Global Ocean*

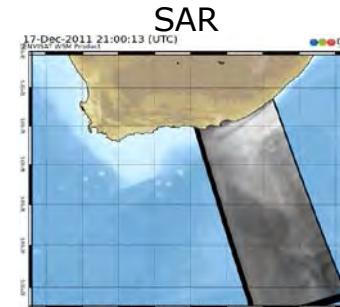
Drifting buoy velocities: One velocity measurement every 6 hours along the buoy trajectory => 2,16 km in 10 cm/s currents, 21.6 km in 1 m/s currents

➤ *Regionally*

HF radar system (coastal)

Typical resolution: 1-10 km, hourly
SAR Doppler radial velocities

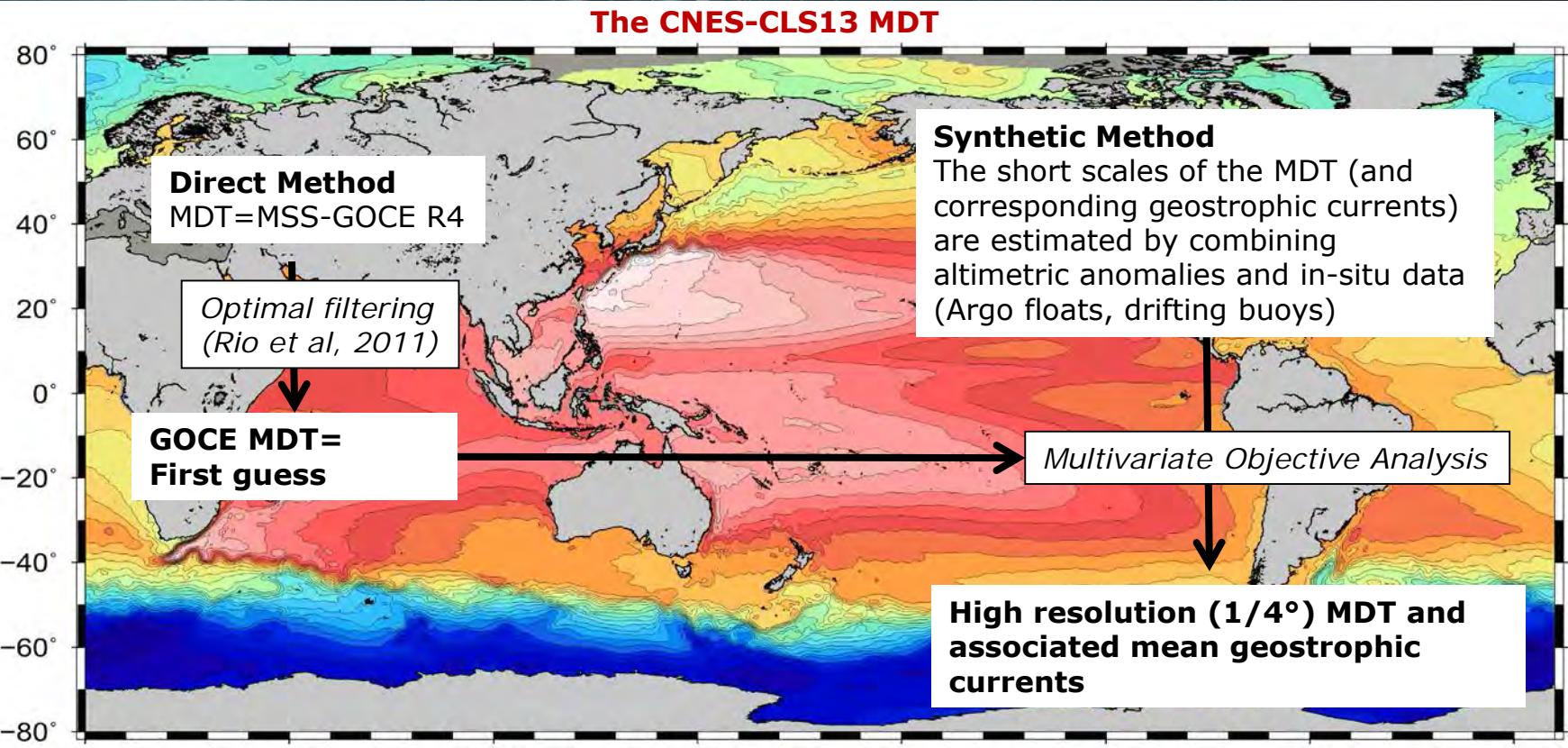
Typical resolution: 4-8 km, every 2-4 days



Drifters



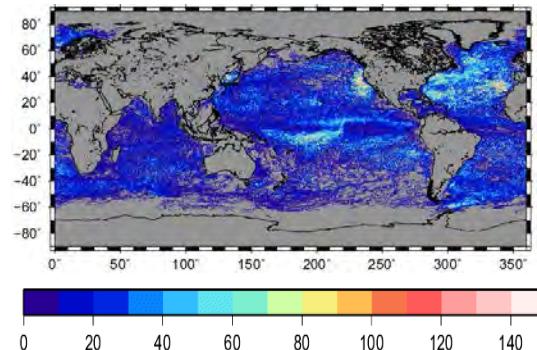
Beyond GOCE resolution: Synergy with in-situ data



Beyond GOCE resolution: Synergy with in-situ data

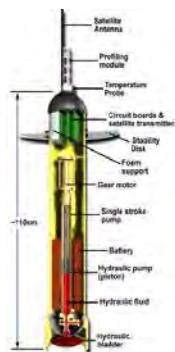
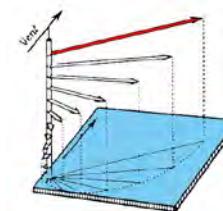


Number of SVP-type velocities (15m depth)

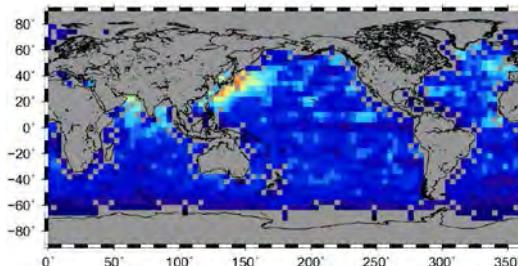


$$U_{\text{buoy}} = U_{\text{geost}} - U_{\text{ekman}} + U_{\text{tides}} + U_{\text{inertial}} + U_{\text{stokes}} + U_{\text{ageost_hf}}$$

- Modelization of Ekman/Stokes currents
- Low pass filtering



Number of Argo floats (T/S profiles and surface velocities)

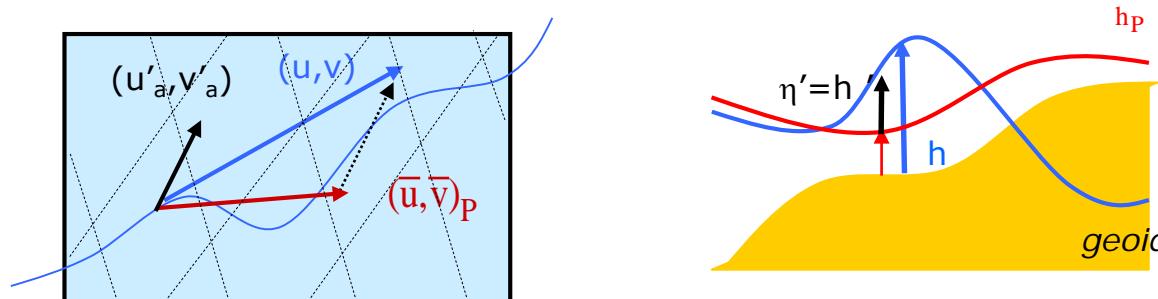


Dynamic Height relative to a reference depth P_{ref} → **baroclinic component of the geostrophic current**

- Processing is needed to add the missing barotropic and deep baroclinic component



Computation of mean heights and mean geostrophic velocities



At each position r and time t for which an oceanographic in-situ measurement is available:
dynamic height $h(r,t)$ or surface velocity $u(r,t), v(r,t)$

- the in-situ data is processed to match the physical content of the altimetric measurement.
- the altimetric height/velocity anomaly is interpolated to the position/date of the in-situ data.
- the altimetric anomaly is subtracted from the in-situ height/velocity

$$\bar{h}_P = h_{\text{insitu}} - h'_P$$

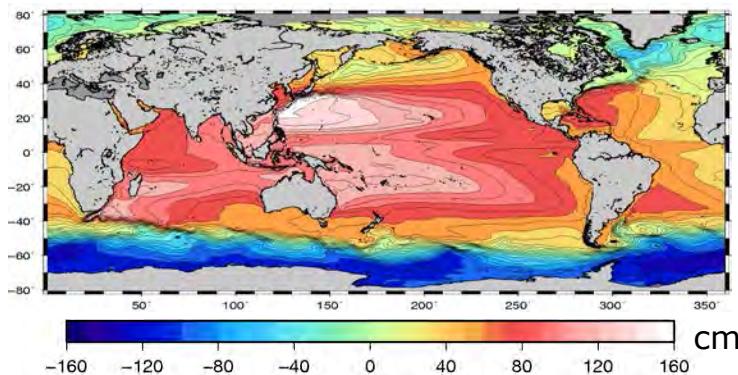
$$\bar{u}_P = u_{\text{insitu}} - u'_P$$

$$\bar{v}_P = v_{\text{insitu}} - v'_P$$

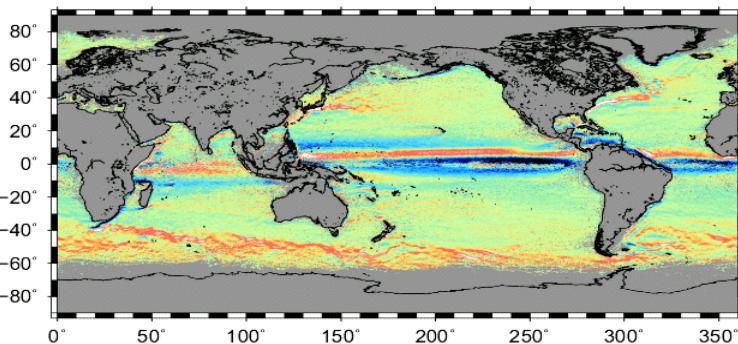
The CNES-CLS13 MDT (Rio et al, 2014)



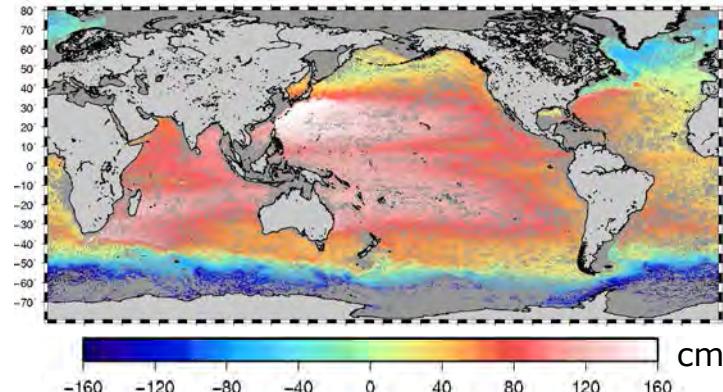
First Guess = MSS - Geoid OPTIMALLY FILTERED



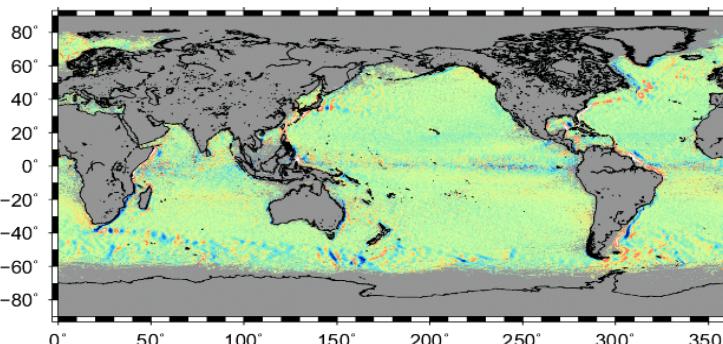
Synthetic Mean Zonal Velocity (1/4° box means)



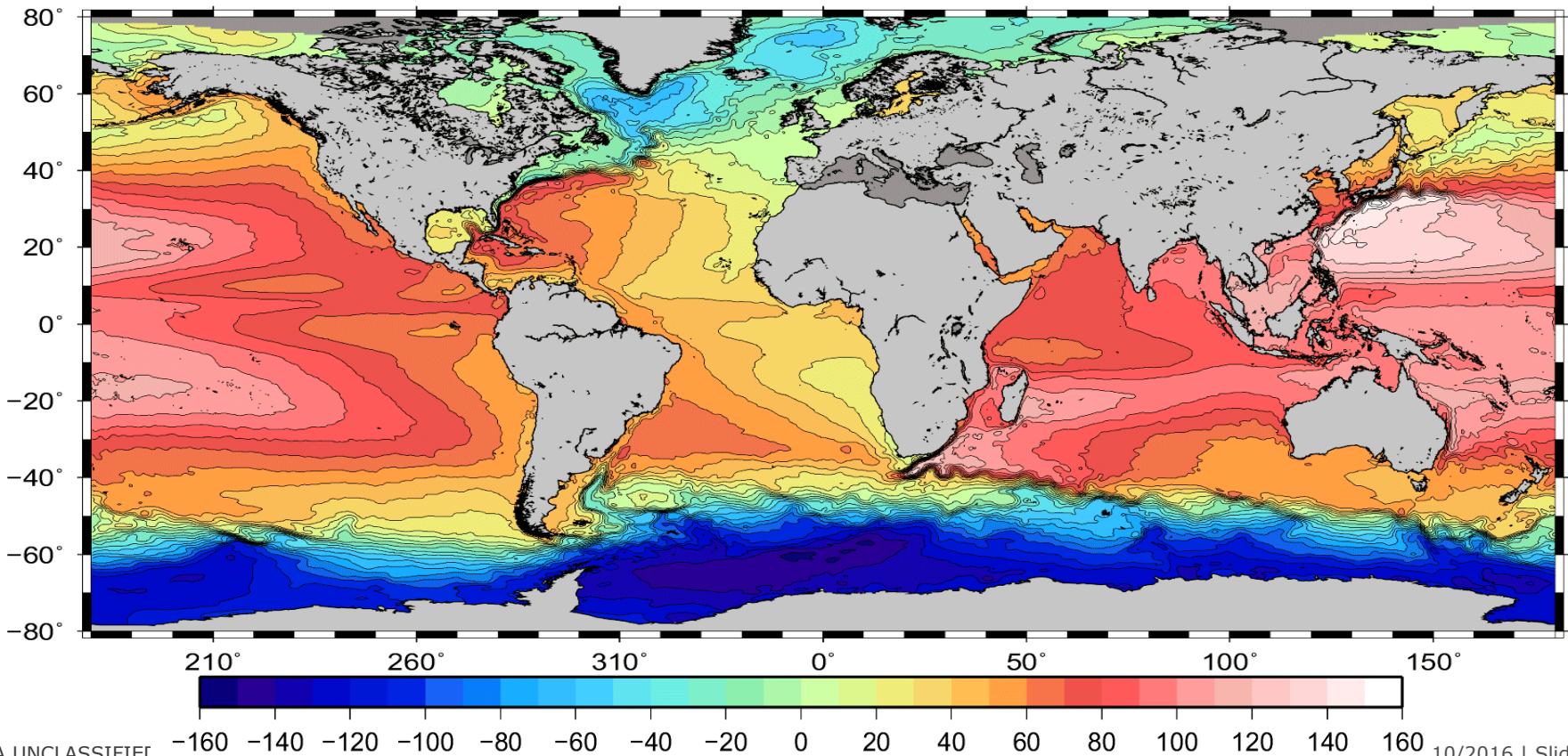
Synthetic Mean Heights (1/4° box means)



Synthetic Mean Meridional Velocity (1/4° box means)



The CNES-CLS13 MDT



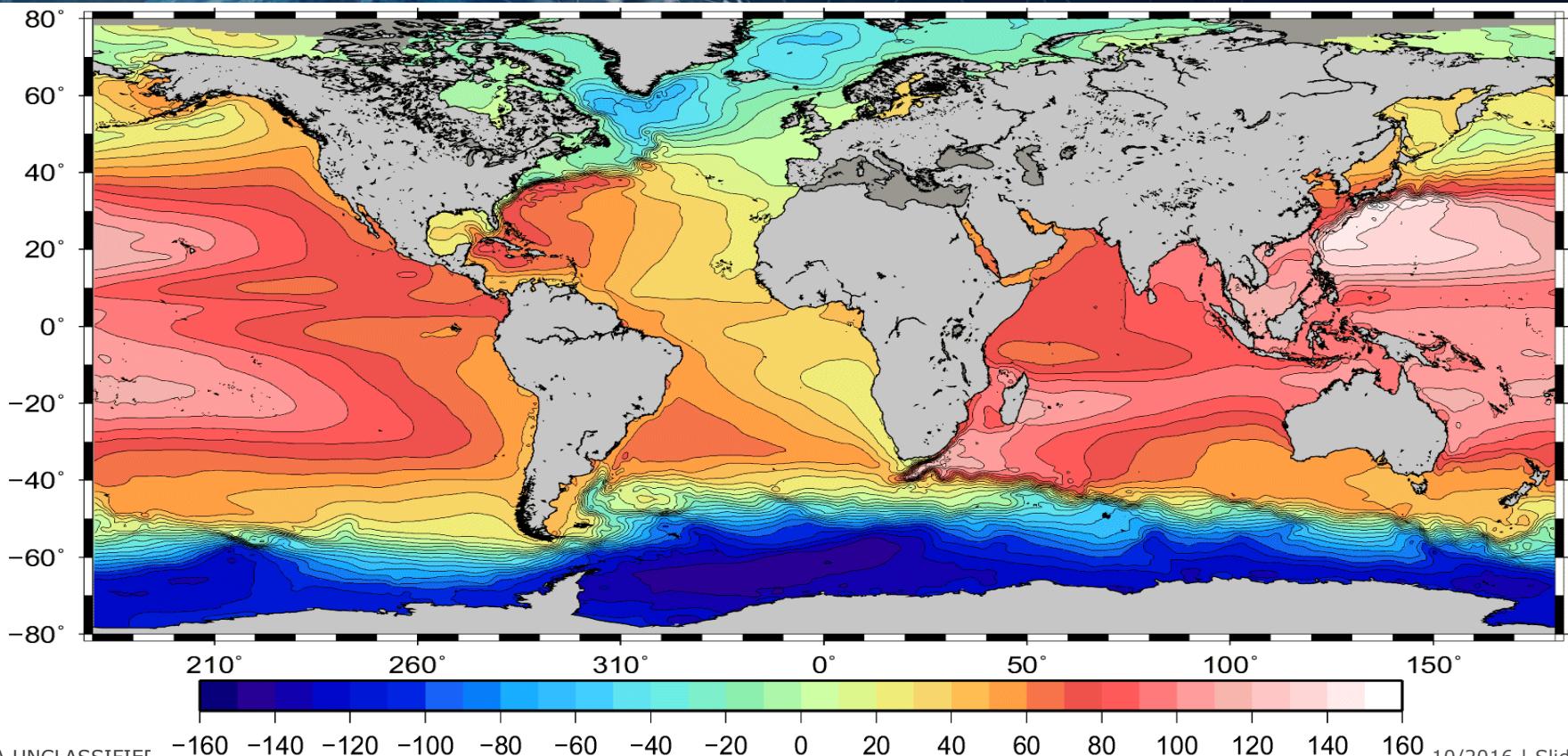
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The GOCE only MDT (First Guess)



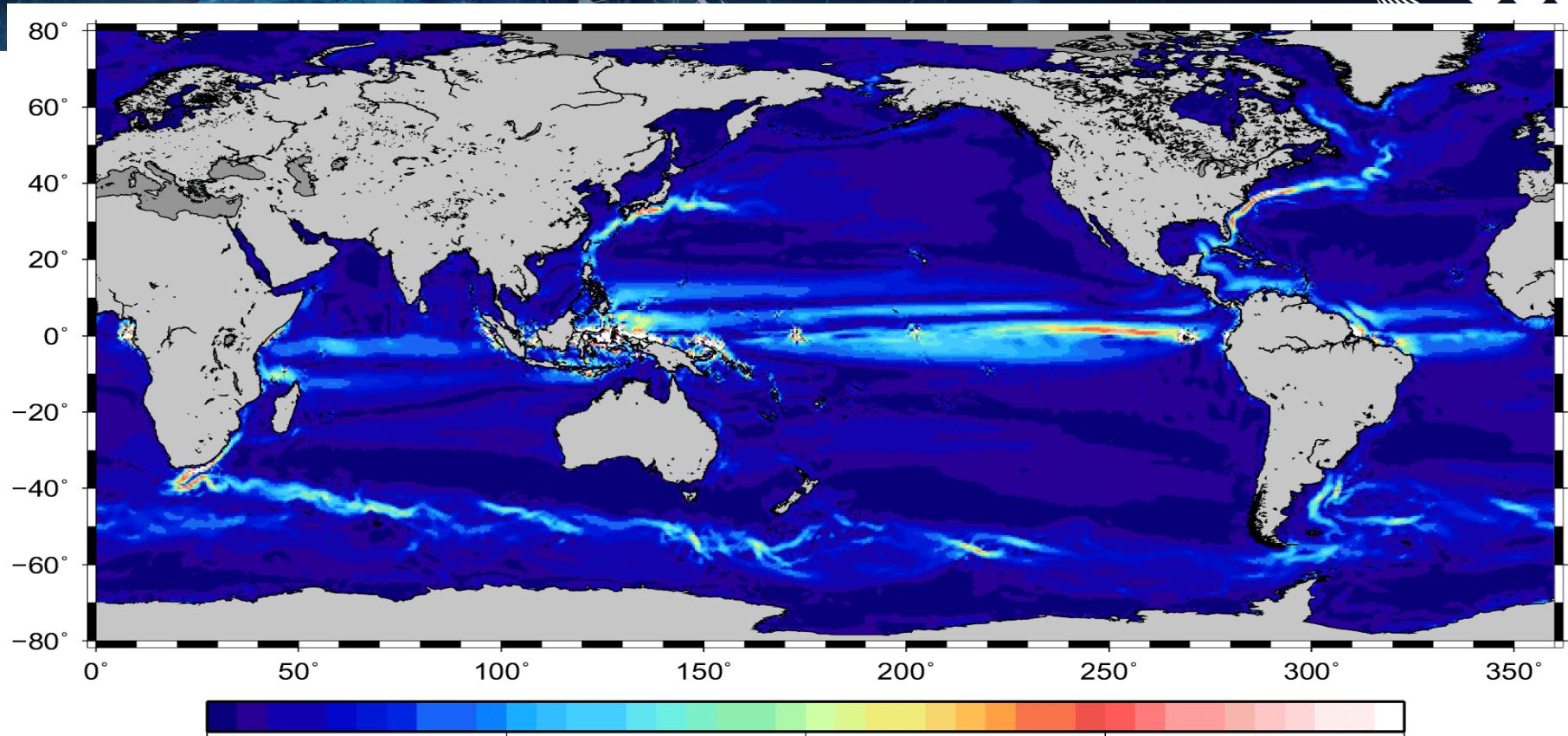
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The GOCE only MDT (First Guess)



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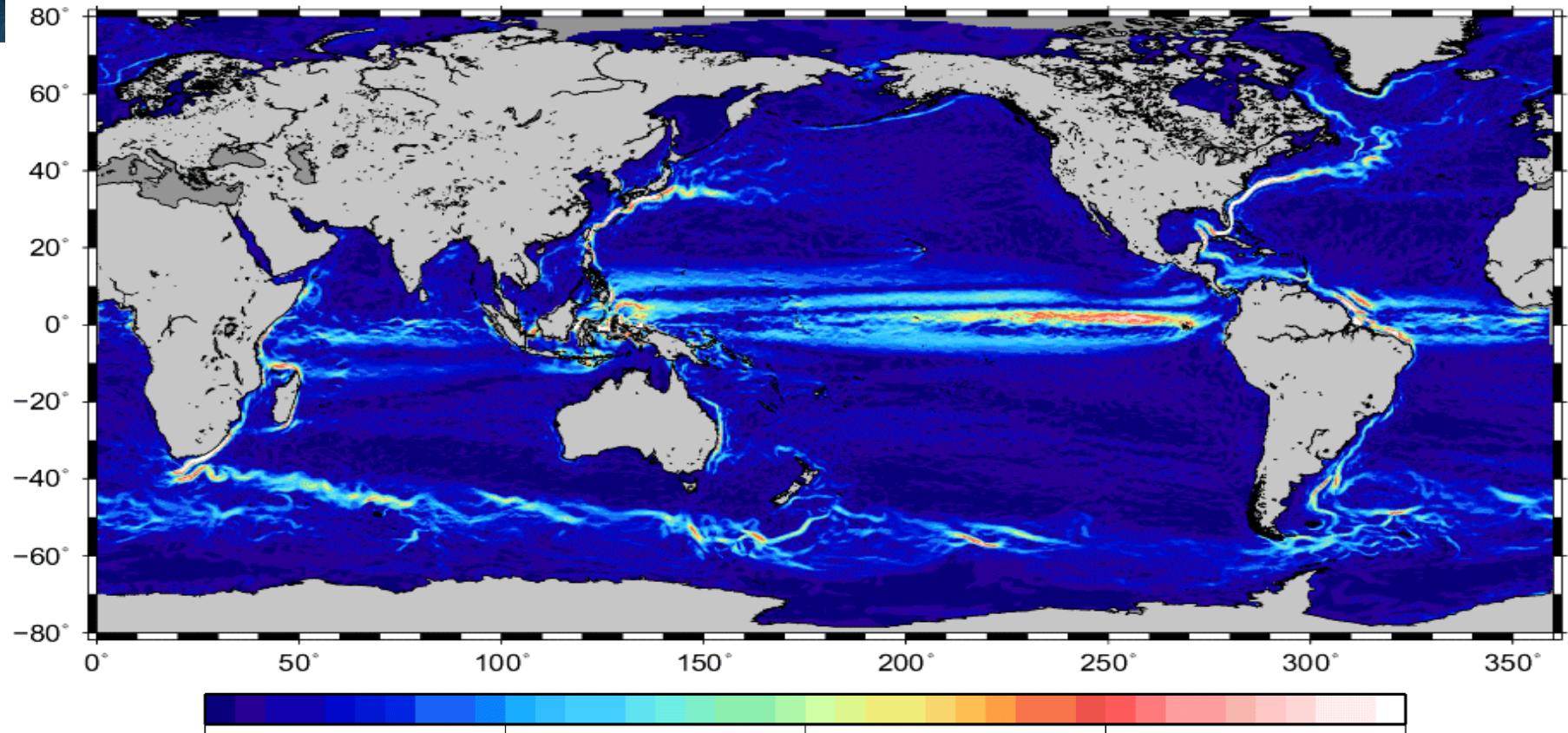
0 20 40 60 80

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European Space Agency

The CNES-CLS13 MDT



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0

20

40

60

80

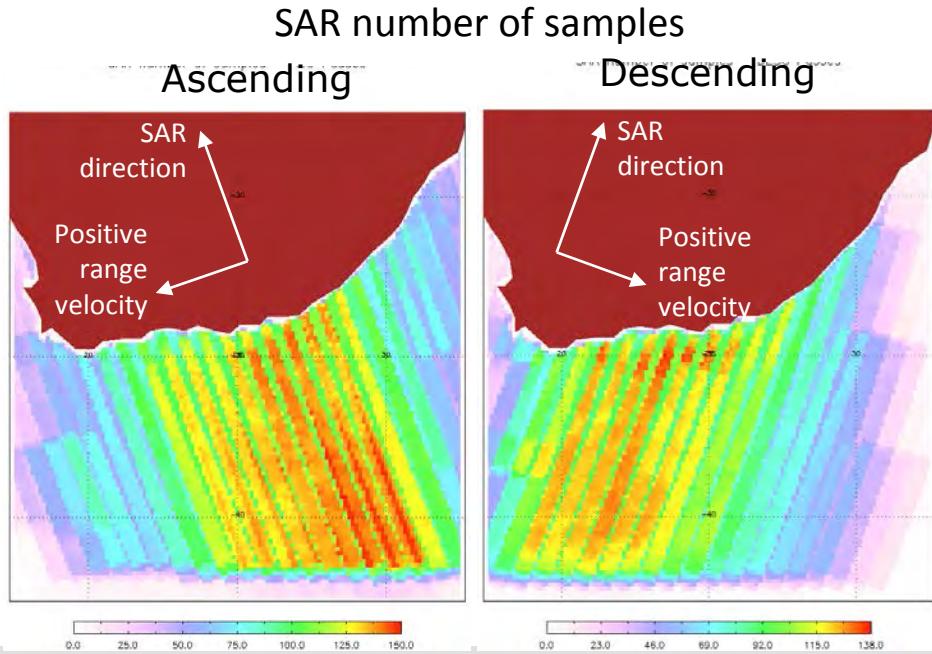
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European Space Agency

Refinement in the Agulhas current using SAR Doppler velocities

- radial velocities from the ENVISAT ASAR images acquired over the Agulhas Current region (lon/lat coordinates [13°, 36°], [-45°, -23°]) from 2007 to 2012 and processed on a systematic basis by (Collard et al., 2008; Johannessen et al., 2008)
- The 2 components velocity vectors are reconstructed using the altimeter-derived current direction information:



V_a^{SAR} and V_d^{SAR} SAR-derived range velocities in ascending and descending passes.

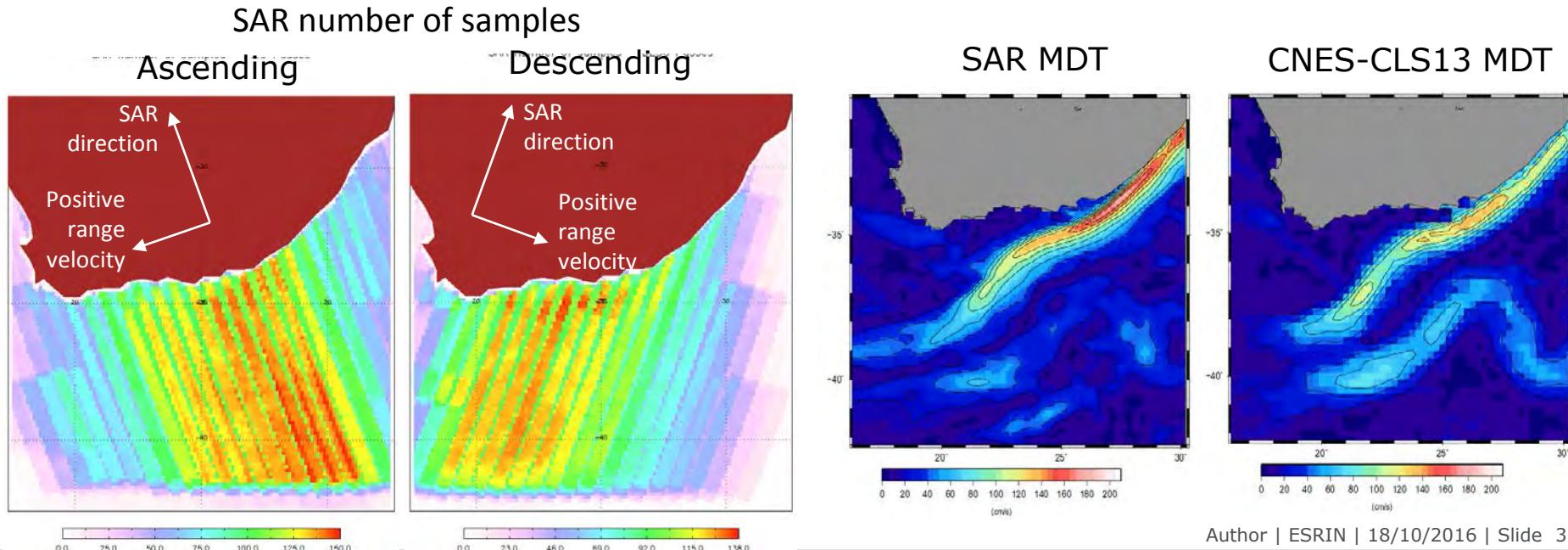
β_a and β_d angle between the SAR range direction and the altimeter-derived current direction for ascending and descending passes.

$$V_a^* = \frac{V_a^{SAR}}{\cos(\beta_a)}$$

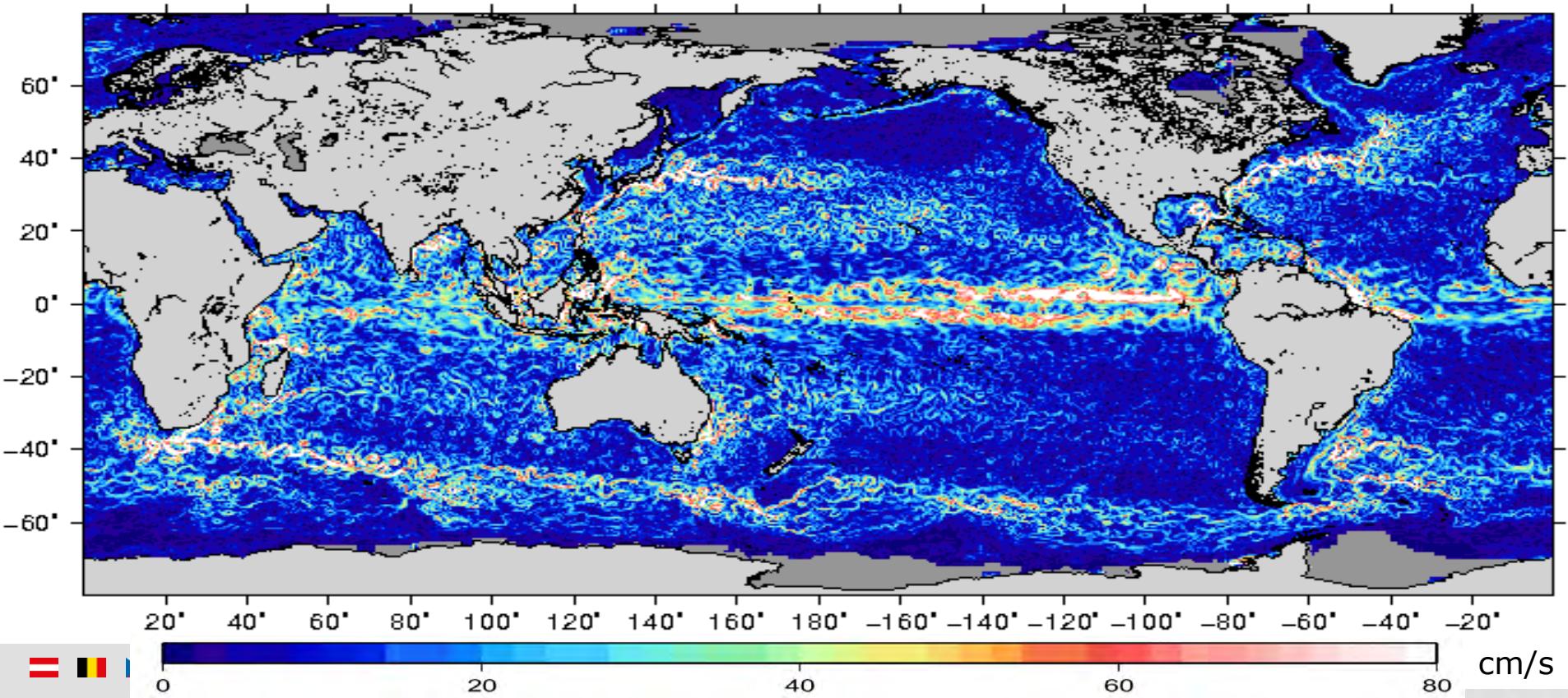
$$V_d^* = \frac{V_d^{SAR}}{\cos(\beta_d)}$$

Refinement in the Agulhas current using SAR Doppler velocities

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The Geostrophic current May, 5th 2016



cm/s

Space and in-situ data synergy for a better retrieval of the ocean circulation

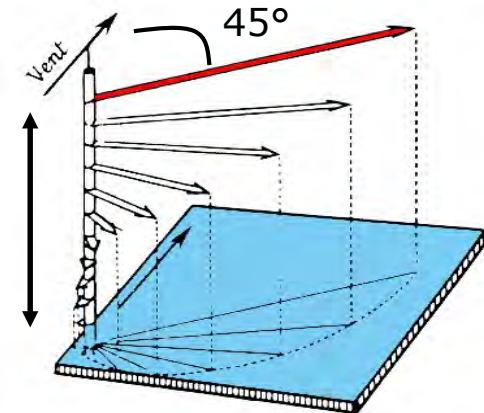


- Geostrophic currents from Altimetry, space Gravity, in-situ measurements of T,S, surface drifter velocities
- **Ekman currents from in-situ drifting buoy velocities, altimetry, wind**
- SST/SSH synergy for higher resolution surface currents

The wind-driven Ekman+Stokes currents

Wind-driven Ekman

$$u_e = \pm \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{\rho(f+w)D_e} e^{\frac{\pi}{D_e}z} * \tau_e * \cos(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi}{D_e}z)$$
$$v_e = \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{\rho(f+w)D_e} e^{\frac{\pi}{D_e}z} * \tau_e * \sin(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi}{D_e}z)$$



Model

Rio et al, 2003, 2014

$$\vec{u}_{buoy} - \vec{u}_{alti} = \beta \vec{\tau}_e e^{i\theta}$$

ERA INTERIM Wind stress

β and θ are estimated through least square fit by month and 4° boxes. At the surface using the Argo float surface velocity dataset from YoMAHA. At 15m depth using SVP Drifting buoys flagged as DROGUED by the SD-DAC

τ_e = Effective Wind Stress

D_e = Ekman depth

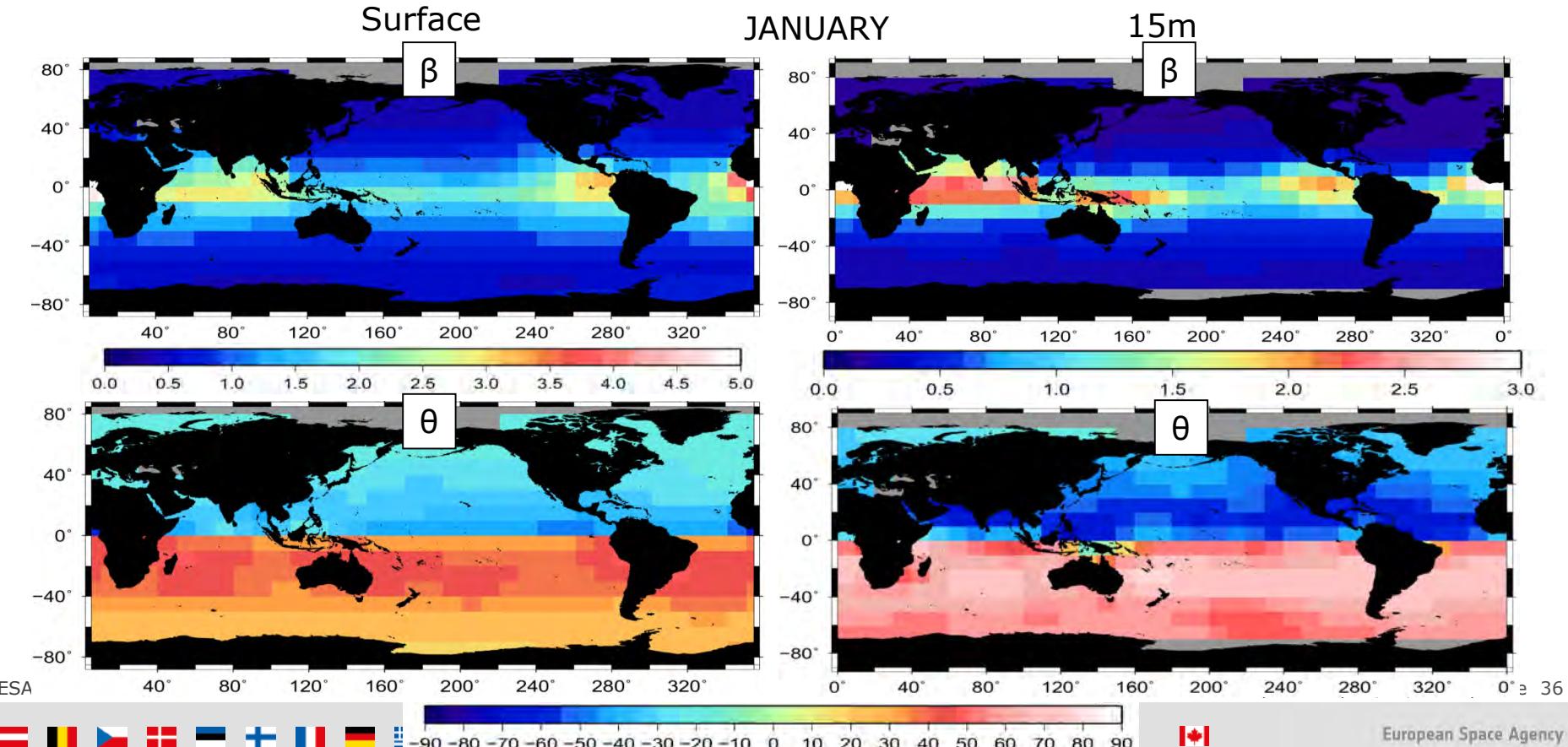
f = planetary vorticity

w =local vorticity

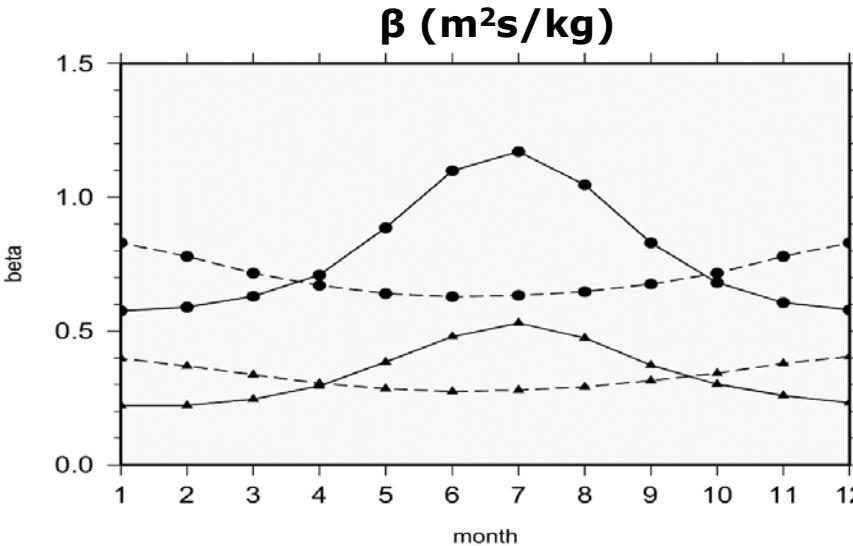
$$2\omega = \partial_x v_{geost} - \partial_y u_{geost}$$

Author | ESRIN | 18/10/2016 | Slide 35

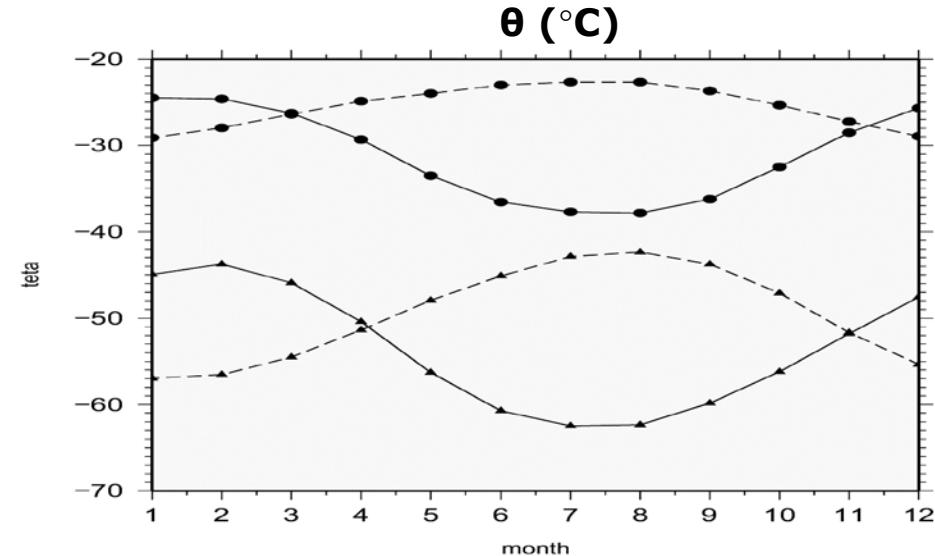
The wind-driven Ekman+Stokes currents



The wind-driven Ekman+Stokes currents



Northern Hemisphere: solid line
Southern Hemisphere: dashed line
Surface: circles
15m depth: triangles



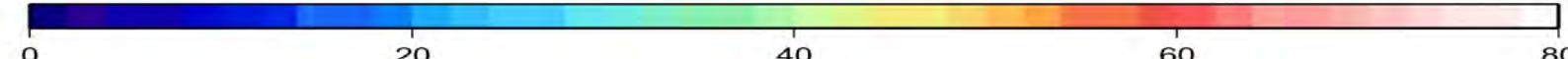
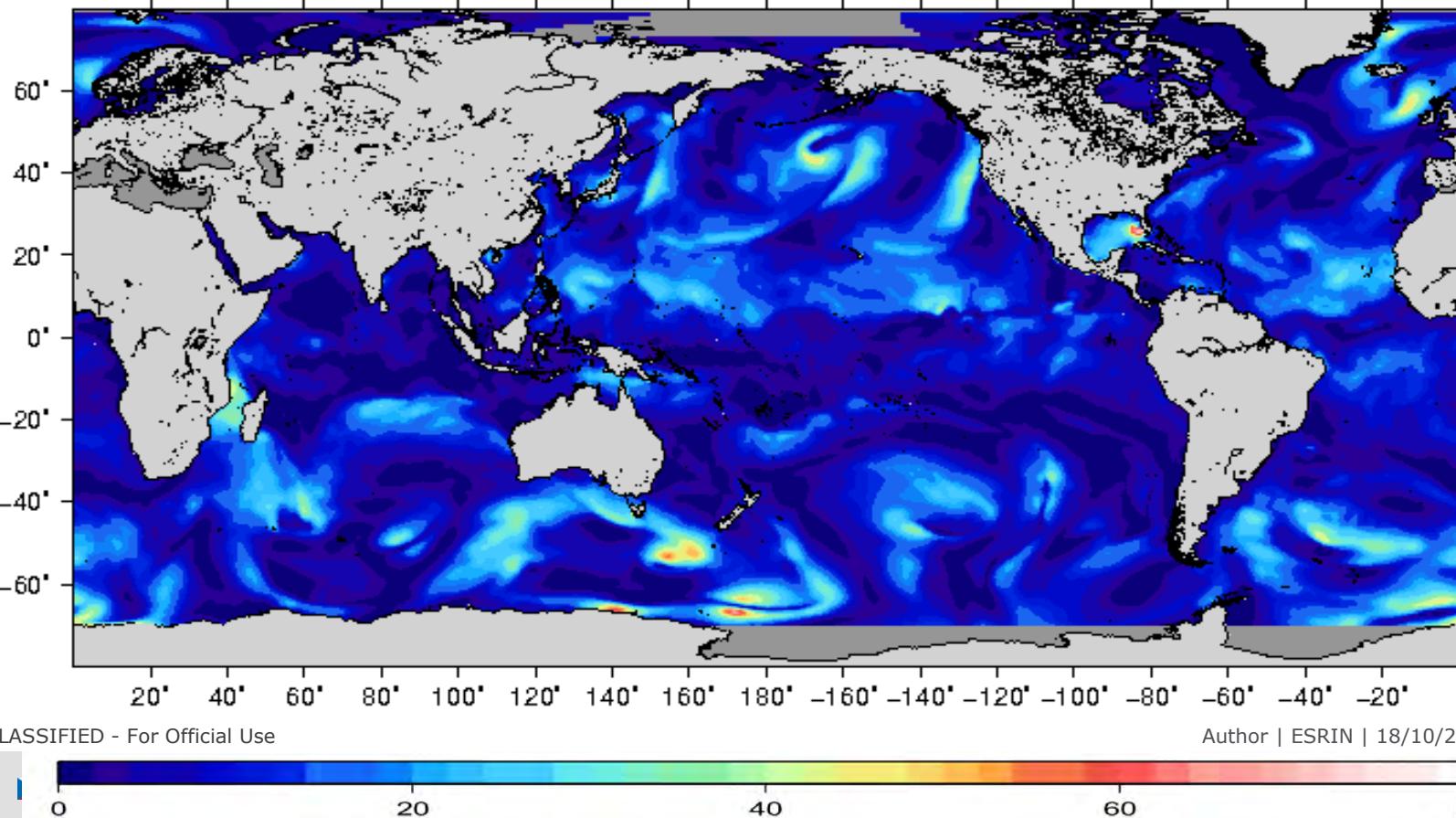
In Summer stratification increases \Rightarrow De
decreases

$$\beta = \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{\rho f D_E} e^{\frac{\pi}{D_E} z} \text{ increases}$$

$$|\theta| = \left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{15}{D_E} \right) \text{ increases}$$

The wind driven Ekman+Stokes current

May, 5th 2016



cm/s



The Globcurrent products (<http://www.globcurrent.org>)

Now accessible via the Copernicus Marine Service (CMEMS) <http://www.copernicus.cmems.eu>)

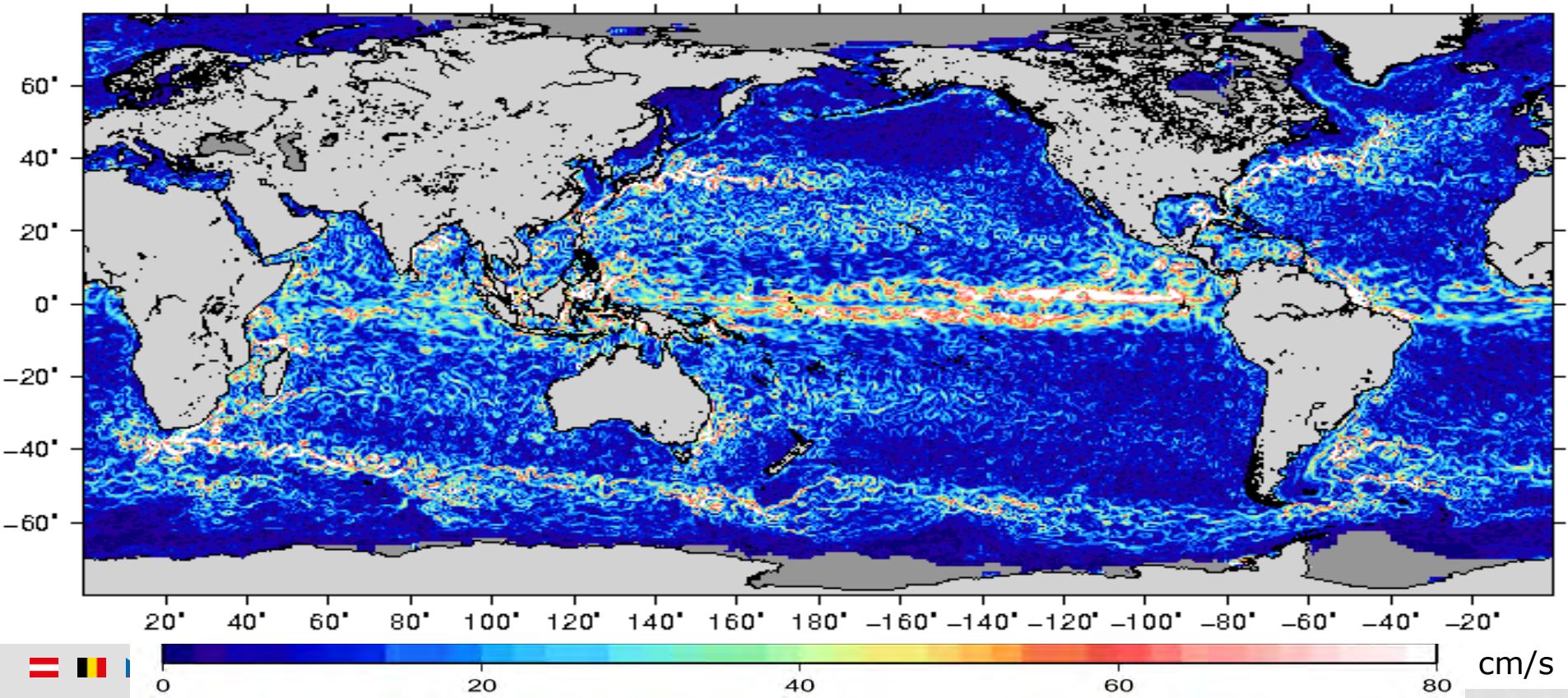
Simplified decomposition of Ocean Surface Currents (OSC)

$$U_{osc} = u + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\rho_0(f+\omega)\delta} e^{z/\delta} \left[\tau_s^x \cos\left(\frac{z}{\delta} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) - \tau_s^y \sin\left(\frac{z}{\delta} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \right]$$

$$V_{osc} = v + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\rho_0(f+\omega)\delta} e^{z/\delta} \left[\tau_s^x \sin\left(\frac{z}{\delta} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) + \tau_s^y \cos\left(\frac{z}{\delta} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \right]$$

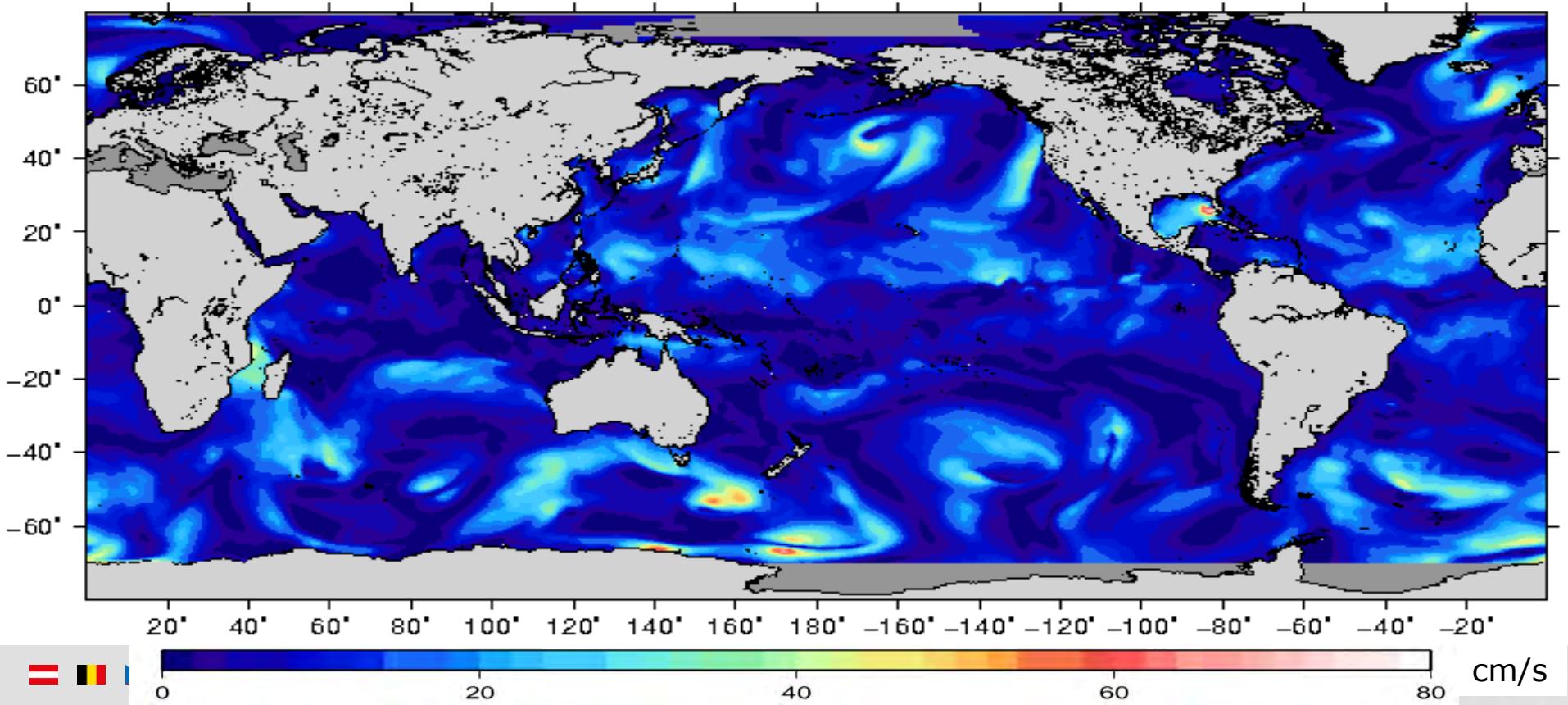
underlying flow *upper wind stress driven flow*

The Geostrophic current May, 5th 2016

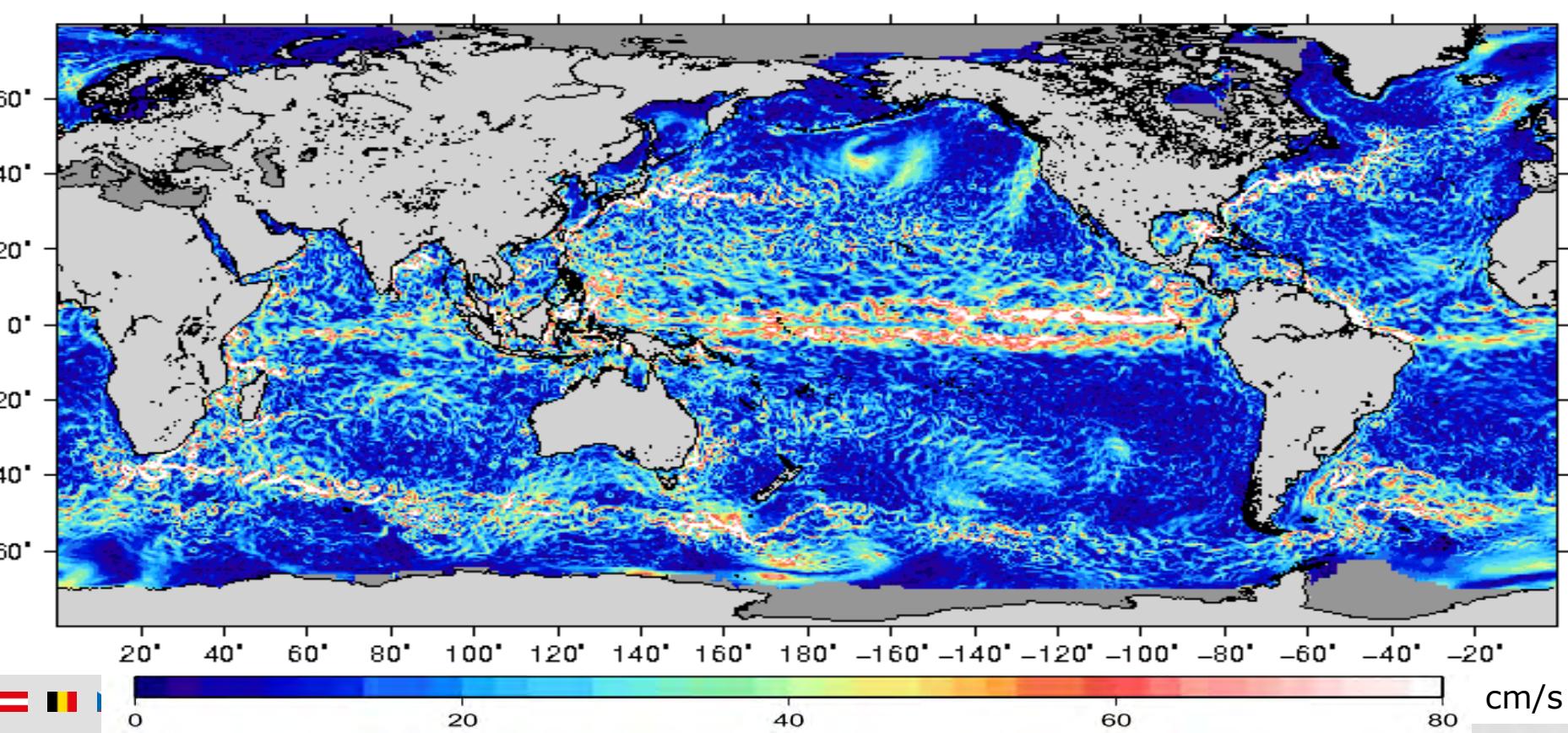


The wind driven Ekman+Stokes current

May, 5th 2016



Ocean Surface Current from Gravity+Altimetry+Wind



Validation of the GlobCurrent 0m currents: Comparison to independent data

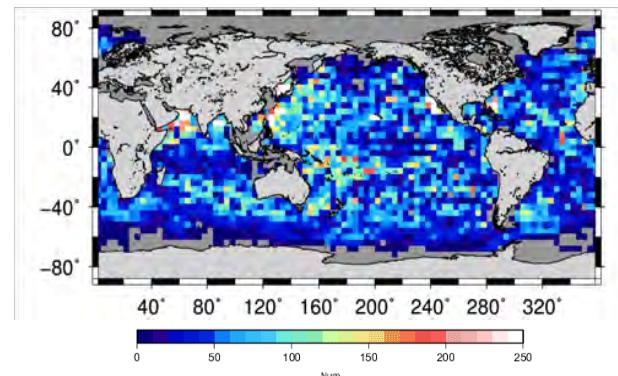


✓ Comparison to Argo surface velocities for the year 2015
(Not used for the MDT calculation nor the Ekman model estimation)

✓ The Mercator-Ocean surface velocities

first level (0.5m) from the 1/4° GLORYS2V4 reanalysis
(with assimilation)

Number of Argo float data



Year 2015: 105349 (100379) velocities*	RMS (cm/s) Bracket: lat >3	
	U	V
DRIFTER	27.6 (26.4)	22.8 (22.6)
DRIFTER-GC Geostrophic	20.2 (19.1)	18.2 (17.7)
DRIFTER-GC Geostrophic + Ekman	17.0 (15.8)	16.6 (16.0)
DRIFTER-Mercator (1/4°)	19.3 (18.6)	18.7 (18.6)

*Unfiltered
velocities: contain
Geos, Ekman, Stokes,
inertial oscillations,
tidal current...

Validation of the GlobCurrent 0m currents: Comparison to independent data



✓ **Comparison to SVP drogued velocities for the year 2015** (Not used for the MDT calculation nor the Ekman model estimation)

✓ **The Mercator-Ocean surface velocities**

ninth level (13.99m) from the 1/4° GLORYS2V4 reanalysis

✓ **The OSCAR (Ocean Surface Current Analysis Real-Time)**

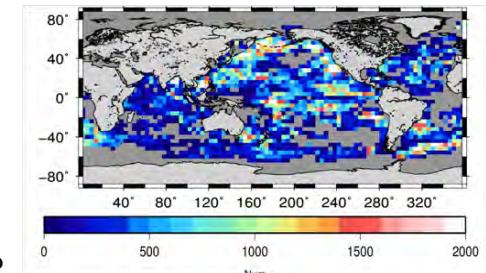
NOAA product (see K. Dohan's talk on Thursday)

- Geostrophic currents based on AVISO data (with the old CNES-CLS09 MDT)

- Ekman current using variable eddy viscosity and NCEP winds -5 days mean, 1/3°

- averaged value over the top 30 m of the solution

Number of SVP data



Year 2015: 722657 (695020) velocities *	RMS (cm/s) Bracket: $ lat > 3$	
	U	V
DRIFTER	23.0	18.8
DRIFTER-GC Geostrophic	14.8 (13.6)	14.2 (13.6)
DRIFTER-GC Geostrophic + Ekman	13.7 (12.5)	13.4 (12.8)
DRIFTER-OSCAR	14.1 (13.4)	13.8 (13.0)
DRIFTER-Mercator (1/4°)	15.9 (15.3)	15.2 (15.2)

***Unfiltered velocities: contain Geos, Ekman, Stokes, inertial oscillations, tidal current...**

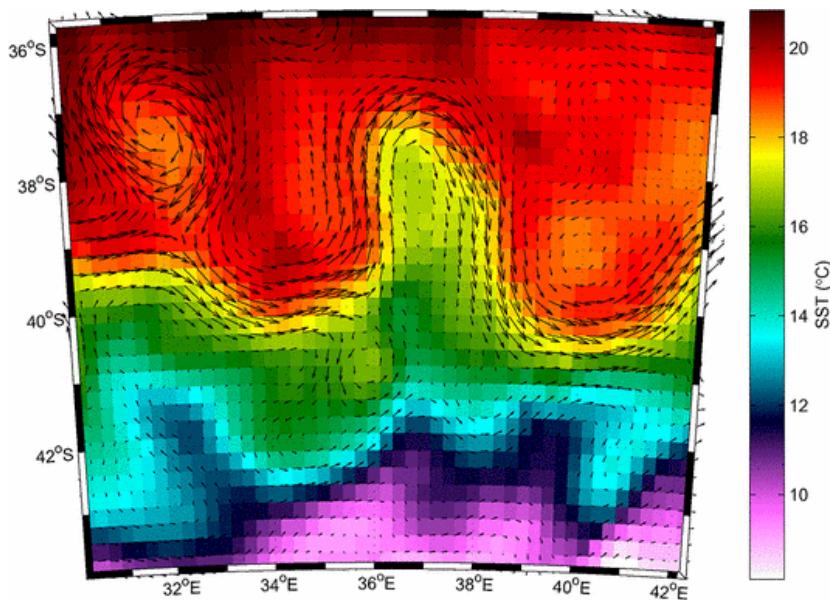
Space and in-situ data synergy for a better retrieval of the ocean circulation



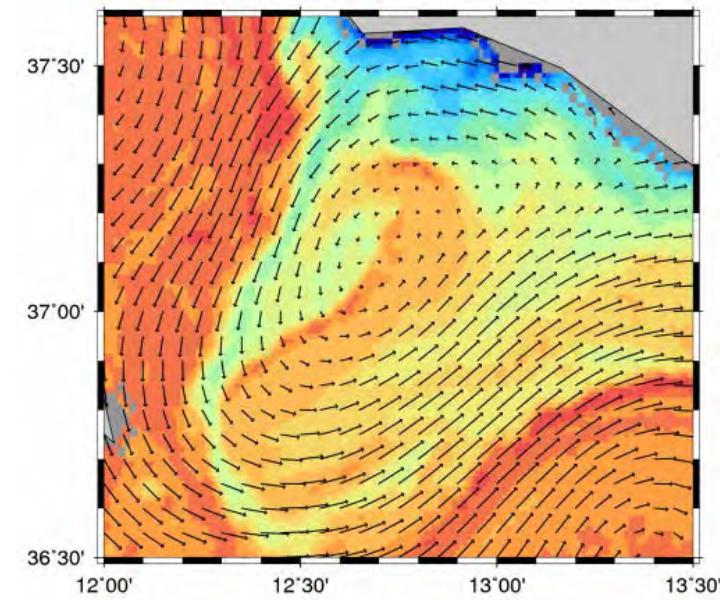
- Geostrophic currents from Altimetry, space Gravity, in-situ measurements of T,S, surface drifter velocities
- Ekman currents from in-situ drifting buoy velocities, altimetry, wind
- **SST/SSH synergy for higher resolution surface currents**

SSH/SST synergy for higher resolution surface currents

January, 1st 2004
Microwave SST product
Altimeter geostrophic velocities



Sentinel-3 data on July, 28th 2016
SRAL and SLSTR



Effective Surface Quasi Geostrophy (E-SQG) Method



Under favourable environmental conditions, the streamfunction ψ from which geostrophic velocities are derived, can be calculated from surface density values:

Lapeyre et al, 2006; Klein et al., 2008

Inversion of the Quasi Geostrophic Potential Vorticity conservation equation in the horizontal Fourier transform domain (valid for space scales of 10-200km)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \psi_{sqg} &= -u \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_{sqg} &= v \end{aligned} \quad \text{Currents} \quad \iff \quad \psi_{sqg}(\vec{k}, z) = \frac{f}{N_{eff} \rho_0 k} \widehat{\rho'_s(\vec{k})} e^{\left(\frac{N_{eff} k z}{f_0}\right)} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Streamfunction} \\ \text{Surface Density Anomalies} \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \rho'_s = -\alpha \cdot T_s' - \beta S_s' = -\alpha' T_s' \quad \text{SST anomaly}$$

N_{eff} is the effective Brunt-Vaisala frequency (constant stratification assumed)

$\alpha' N_{eff}^{-1}$ is a free parameter that needs to be set up to account both interior PV and the partial compensation of salinity and temperature.

$\hat{\psi}(\vec{k}) = F_T(k) \hat{T}_s(\vec{k})$, $F_T(k)$ is the transfer function is to be determined using independent observations.

Effective Surface Quasi Geostrophy (E-SQG) Method



Isern-Fontanet et al. [2014]: the geostrophic streamfunction at the ocean surface is proportional to the SSH (η).

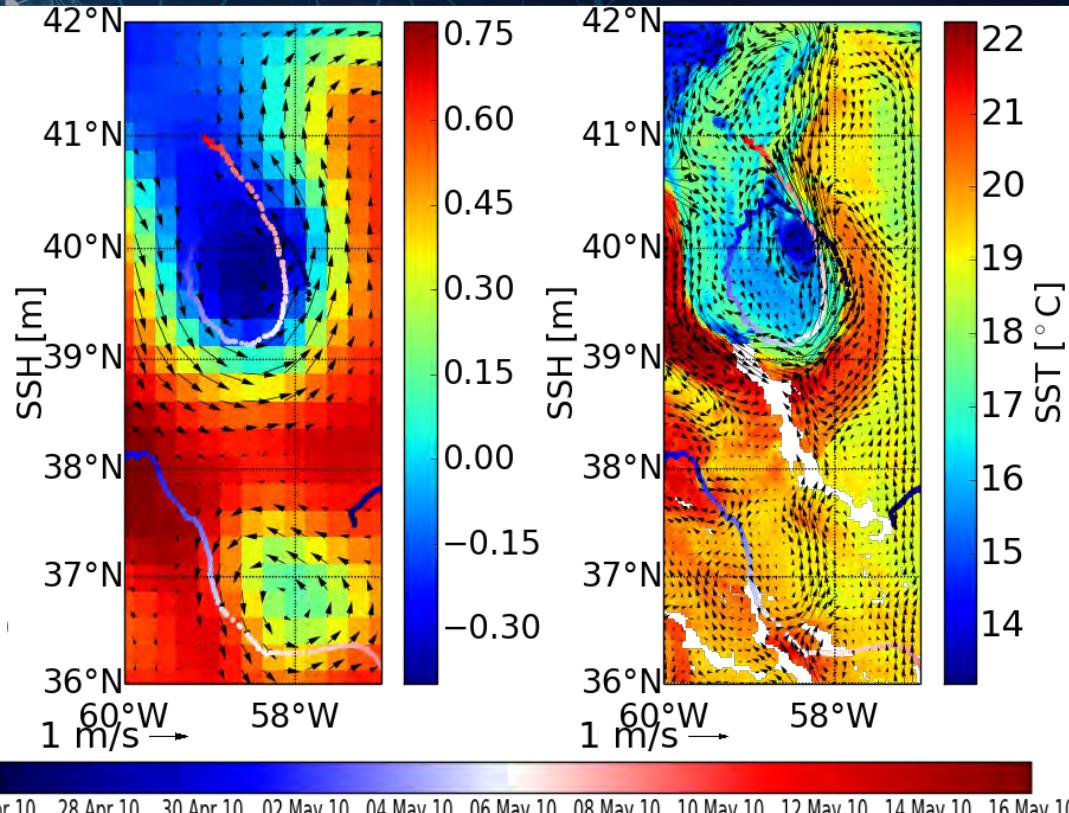
$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{g}{f_0} \eta(\mathbf{x}).$$

So that the transfer fonction can write:

$$F_T(k) = \frac{g}{f_0} \frac{\langle |\hat{\eta}| \rangle_k}{\langle |\hat{T}_s| \rangle_k},$$



Combination of the phase of SST measurements and the amplitude of SSH measurements.



« Optical flow » methods: inversion of a tracer conservation equation



Require the velocity field (u, v) to obey the tracer concentration c evolution equation and inverse it for the velocity vector:

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} = F(x, y, t)$$

c represents the concentration of any tracer as Sea Surface Temperature, Sea Surface Salinity, Chl-a concentration,

$F(x, y, t)$ represents the source and sink terms

Challenge: only **along-gradient velocity** information can be retrieved from the tracer distribution at subsequent times in **strong gradients areas**.

Synergy : Following an approach proposed by Piterbarg et al (2009), the method is used on successive SST images using the altimeter geostrophic velocities as background so as to obtain an optimized 'blended' velocity (u_{opt}, v_{opt}).

Rio et al, 2016, 2018

METHOD

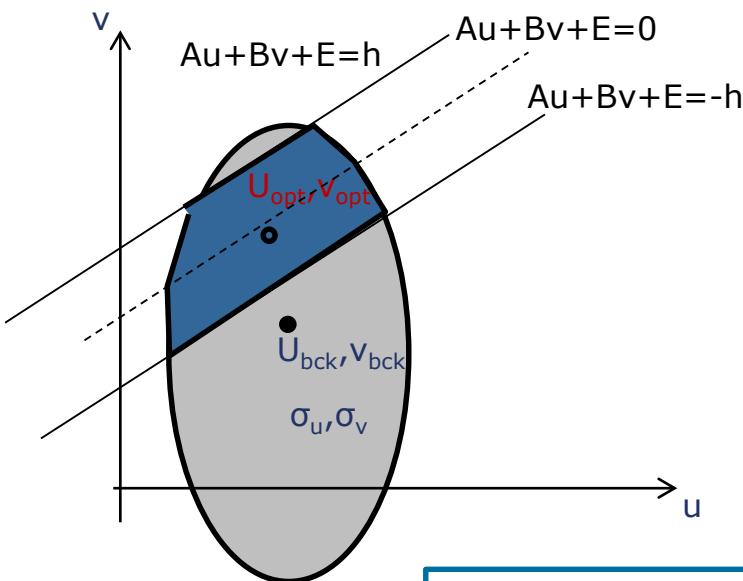
$$\frac{\partial \text{SST}}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial \text{SST}}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial \text{SST}}{\partial y} = F(x, y, t)$$

$$A = \frac{\partial \text{SST}}{\partial x}$$

$$B = \frac{\partial \text{SST}}{\partial y}$$

$$E = \frac{\partial \text{SST}}{\partial t} - F_{\text{bck}}$$

$$|F - F_{\text{bck}}| < h$$



Temporal SST variations
Forcing term estimates
Forcing term error

Spatial SST variations

$$q = \sqrt{(\sigma_u^2 \sin^2 \varphi + \sigma_v^2 \cos^2 \varphi)}$$

$$\varphi = \text{Arc tan}\left(-\frac{A}{B}\right)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{Au_{\text{bck}} + Bv_{\text{bck}} + E + h}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}}$$

$$\beta = \frac{Au_{\text{bck}} + Bv_{\text{bck}} + E + h}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}}$$

$$d = \frac{|Au_{\text{bck}} + Bv_{\text{bck}} + E|}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}}$$

$$p = \frac{\sin \varphi \cos \varphi (\sigma_v^2 + \sigma_u^2)}{q^2}$$

$$u_0 = \frac{F(\min(\beta, q)) - F(\max(\alpha, -q))}{G(\min(\beta, q)) - G(\max(\alpha, -q))}$$

$$v_0 = pu_0$$

$$F(x) = \frac{2(q^2 - x^2)^{3/2}}{3}$$

$$G(x) = x(q^2 - x^2)^{1/2} + q^2 \sin^{-1}(x/q)$$

Background velocity error

$$U_{\text{opt}} = U_{\text{bck}} + u_0 \sin \varphi + v_0 \cos \varphi \quad V_{\text{opt}} = V_{\text{bck}} - u_0 \cos \varphi + v_0 \sin \varphi$$

Global implementation over 2014-2016



DATA USED

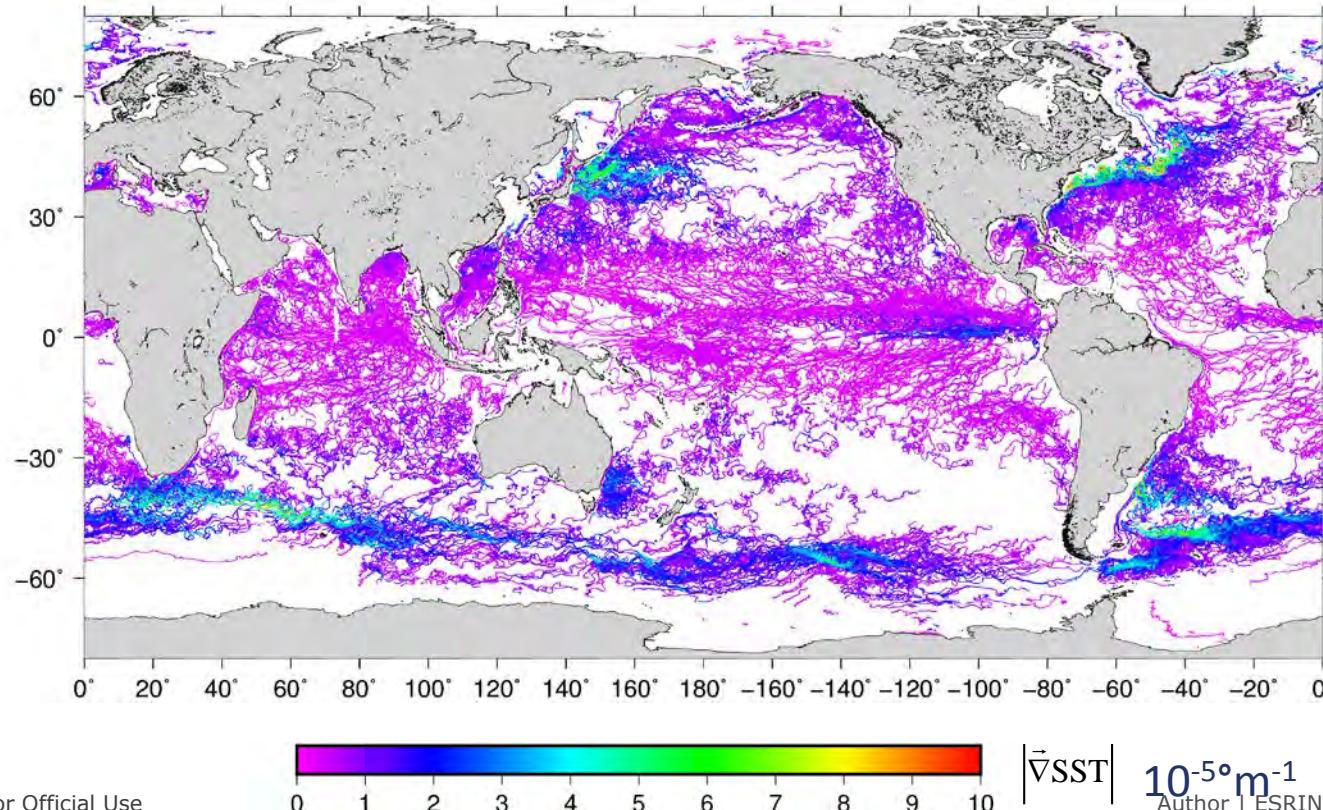
- Background velocities: CMEMS L4 altimeter gridded geostrophic velocity products:
 - « twosat » (2 satellites configuration) - resolution ~250 km
 - « allsat » (5 satellites configuration) - resolution ~100km
- Sea Surface temperature: L4 OI (100km, 4 days) daily maps from REMSS
 - MW: microwave sensors only - resolution $\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$
 - MW_IR: microwave and infrared sensors - resolution ~9 km



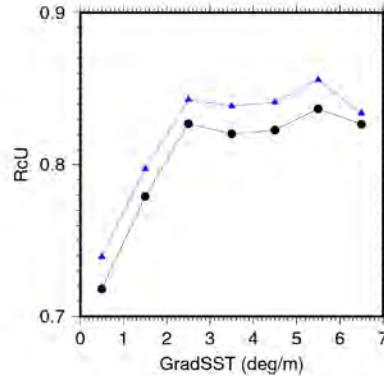
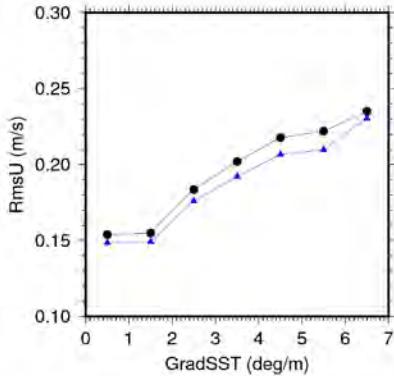
Three years (2014-2016) of global combined « twosat » SSH + MW SST and « allsat » SSH + MW-IR SST has been produced.

- Validation dataset: Drifting buoy velocities, SVP 15m drogued, 6 hourly resolution along the buoy trajectory

Global implementation over 2014-2016



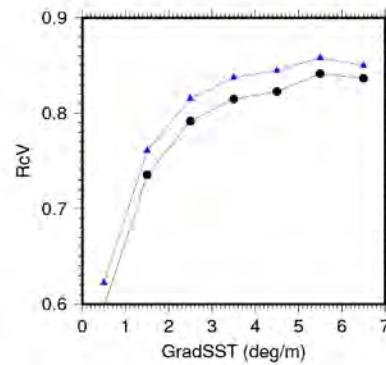
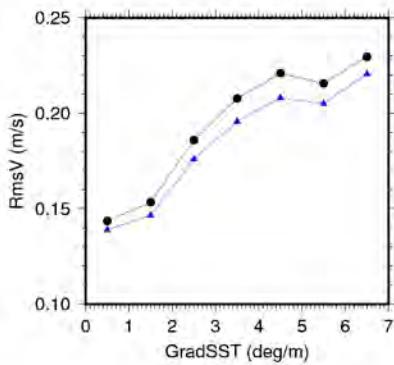
VALIDATION 2014-2016



Alti « twosat »

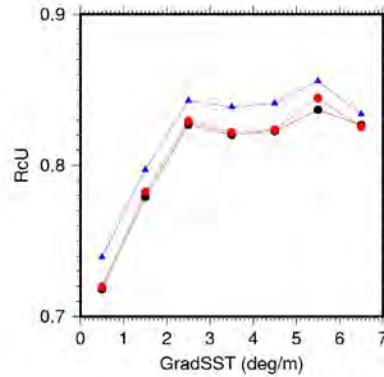
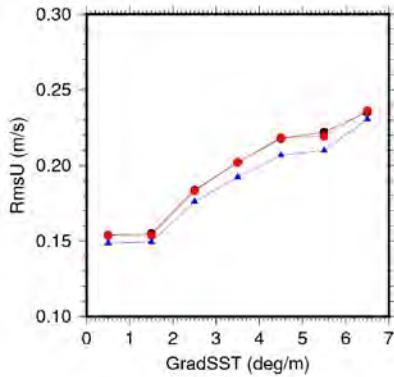
Alti « allsat »

- « allsat » velocities closer to in-situ velocities than « twosat » velocities everywhere

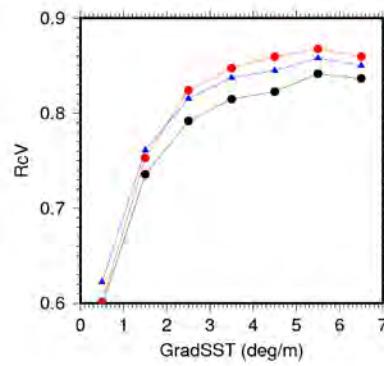
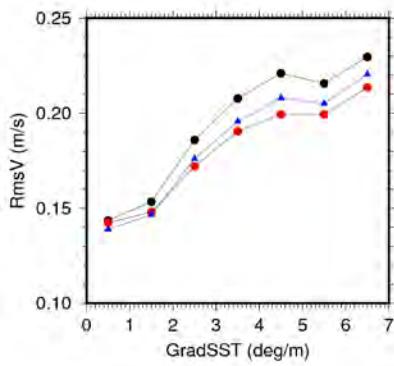


Rio and Santoleri, 2018

VALIDATION 2014-2016

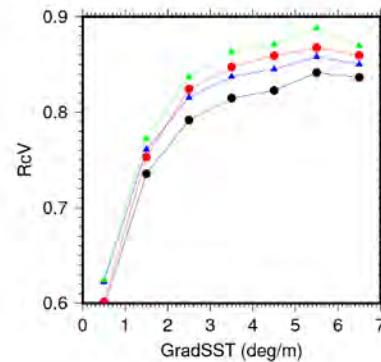
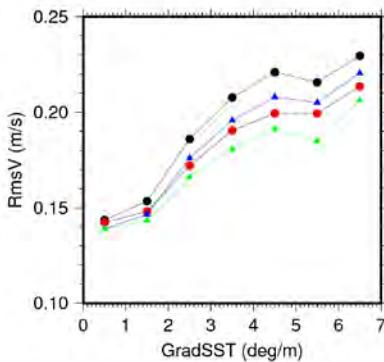
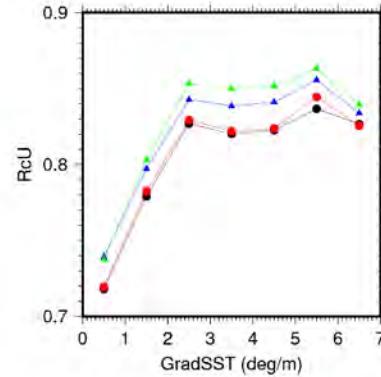
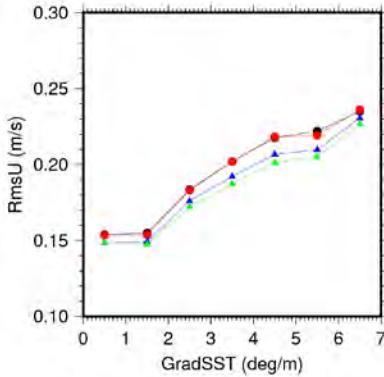


Alti « twosat »
Alti « twosat » + SST MW
Alti « allsat »



- « allsat » velocities closer to in-situ velocities than « twosat » velocities everywhere
- Strong improvement for the meridional component of the velocity in areas where SST gradients greater than $10^{-5} \text{ }^{\circ}/\text{m}$
- « twosat »+ MW SST better than « allsat »

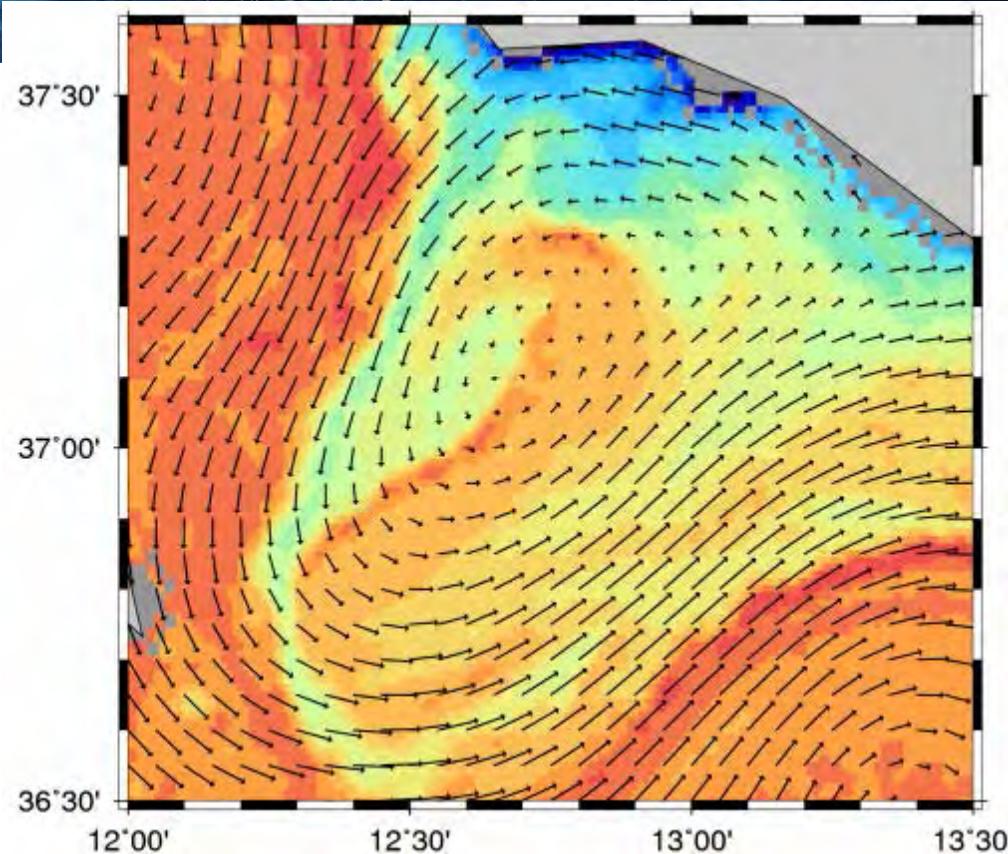
VALIDATION 2014-2016



Alti « twosat »
Alti « twosat » + SST MW
Alti « allsat »
Alti « allsat »+SST MWIR

- « allsat » velocities closer to in-situ velocities than « twosat » velocities everywhere
- Strong improvement for the meridional component of the velocity in areas where SST gradients greater than 10^{-5} °/m
- « twosat »+ MW SST better than « allsat »
- Further improvement with « allsat »+MWIR SST (also on the zonal component)

Sentinel-3 data on July, 28th 2016



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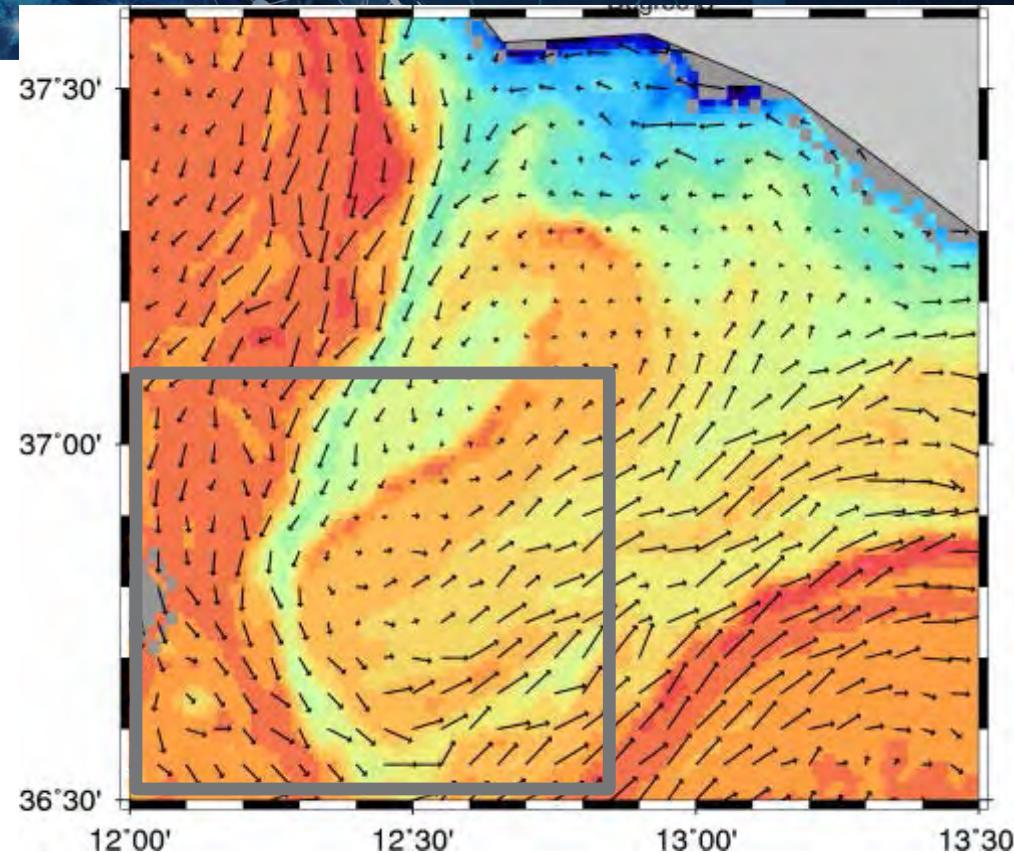
15

30 °C

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Sentinel-3 data on July, 28th 2016



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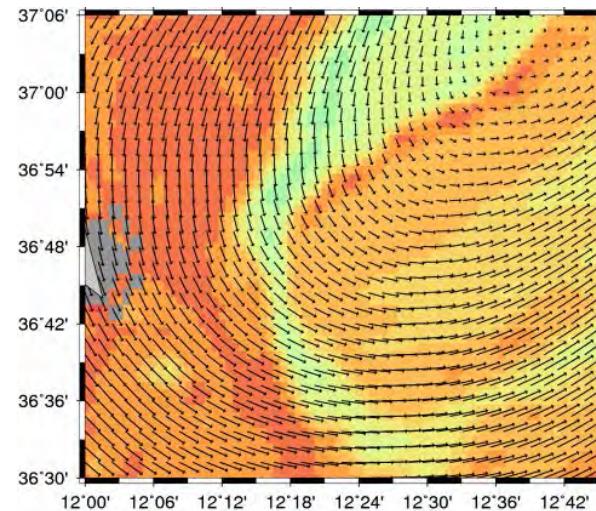
15

30 °C

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Sentinel-3 data on July, 28th 2016



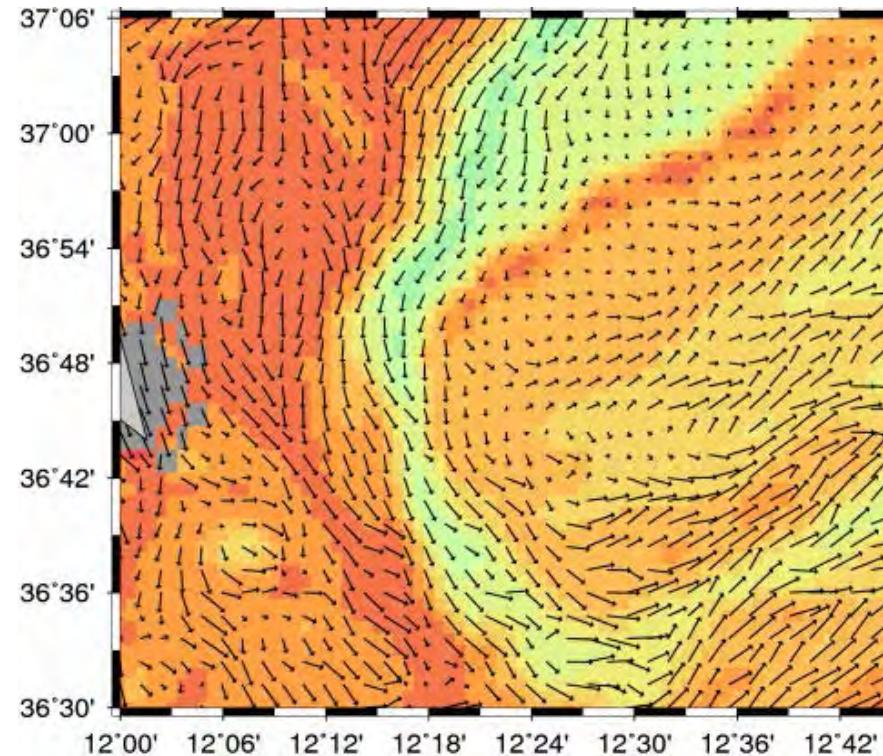
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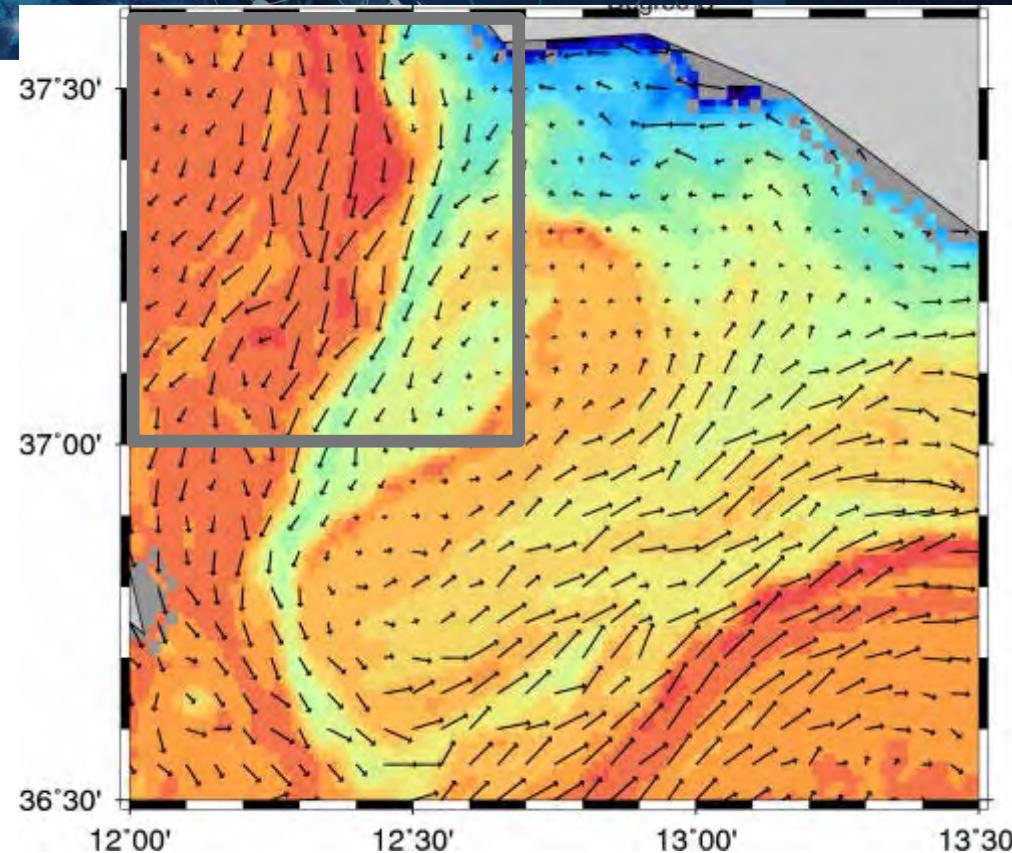
15

30 °C

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Sentinel-3 data on July, 28th 2016



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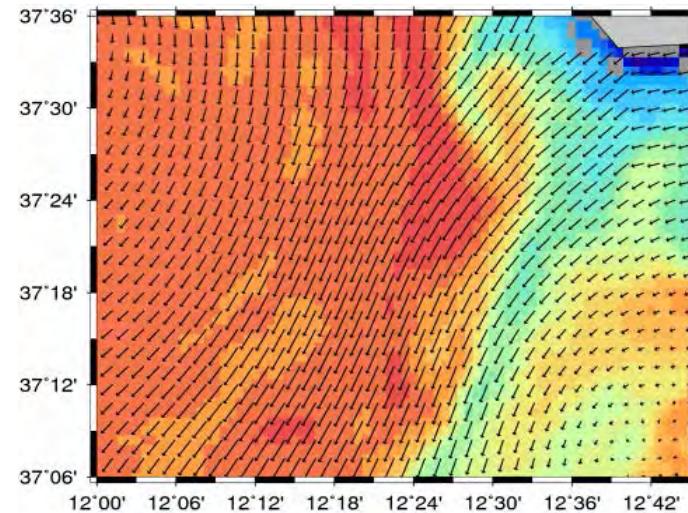
15

30 °C

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Sentinel-3 data on July, 28th 2016



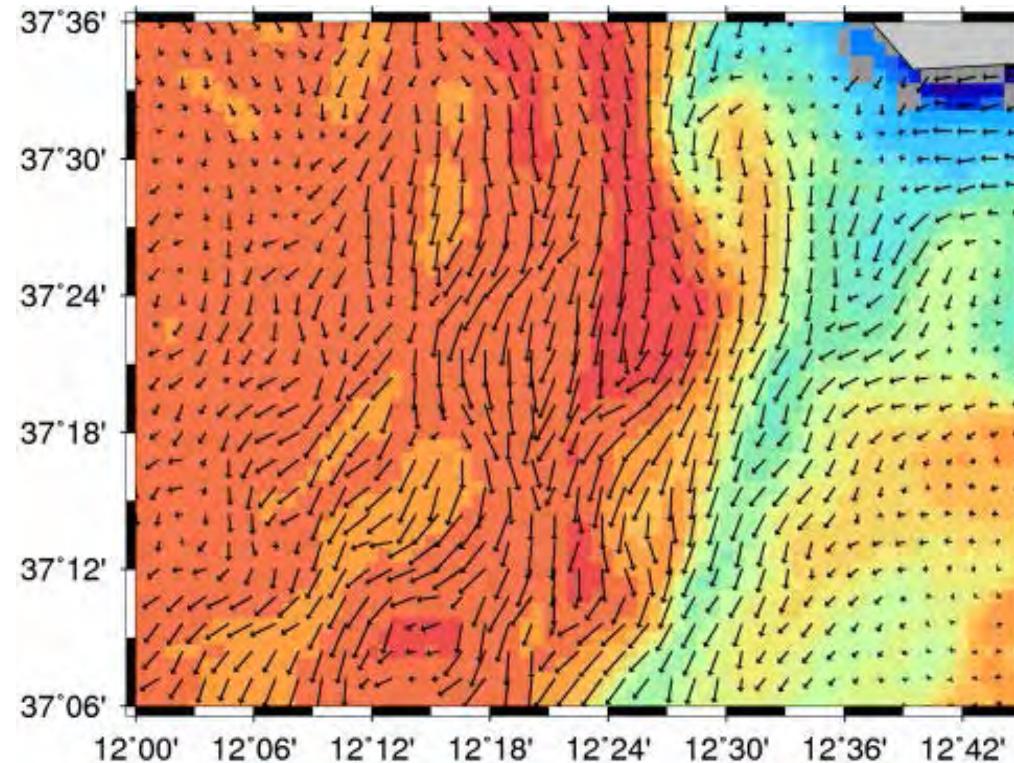
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SSH/SST merging for ocean circulation estimation



- Promising combination results are obtained
- The quality of the merged velocities strongly depends on the quality of the SST product
- The spatio-temporal resolution of the merged product is the spatio temporal resolution of the SST product

- Today: MW 25 km, daily, all weather
- IR on geostationary satellites: few km, hourly, cloud sensitive

- Tomorrow? CIMR (Copernicus Imaging Microwave Radiometer) Phase A/B1

Sub-daily measurements of SST at 15km, all weather



Strong impact for global ocean currents retrieval from SSH/SST merging

Thanks!