

# Data assimilation methods based on the Kalman Filter

## Operational implementations in oceanography

P. BRASSEUR

CNRS/LEGI, Grenoble, France  
Pierre.Brasseur@hmg.inpg.fr



*L. Berline, J.M. Brankart, G. Broquet, V. Carmillet, Y. Ourmières, J. Verron*



*P. Bahurel, M. Drevillon, E. Rémy, N. Ferry, L. Parent, C.E. Testut, B. Tranchant*



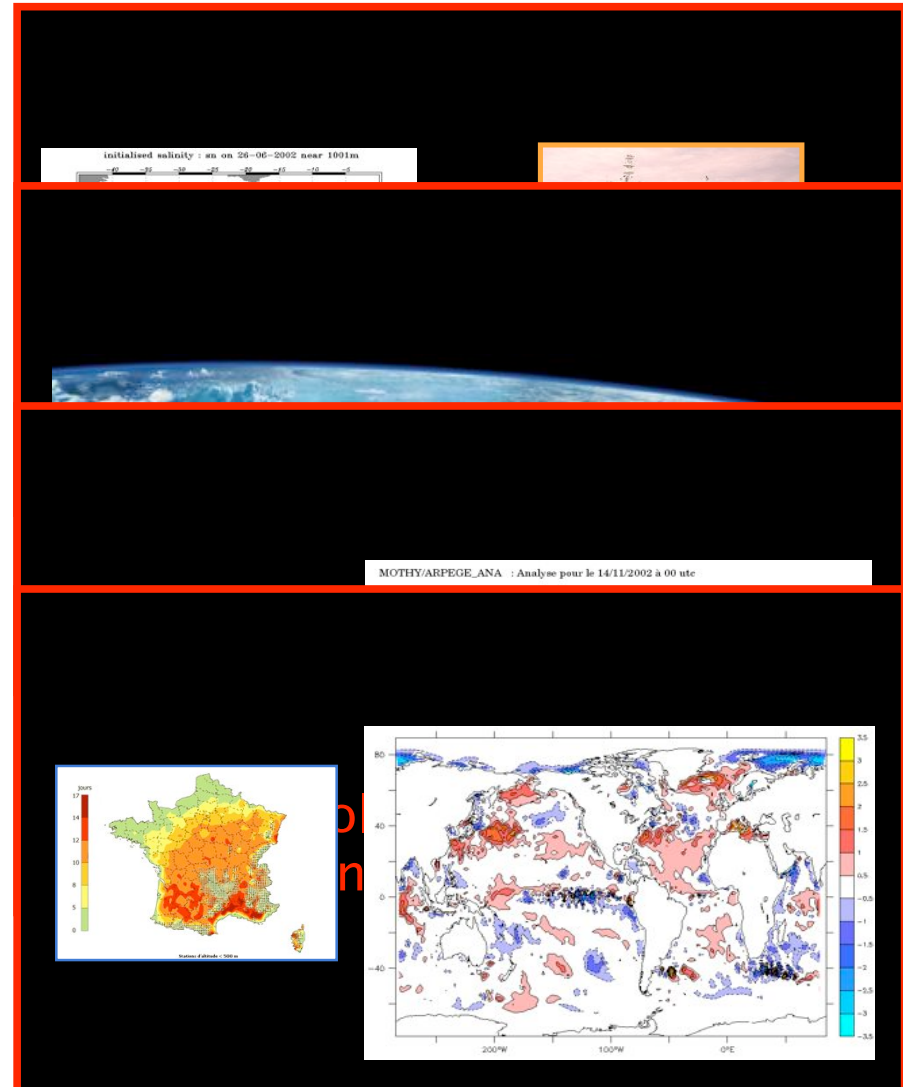
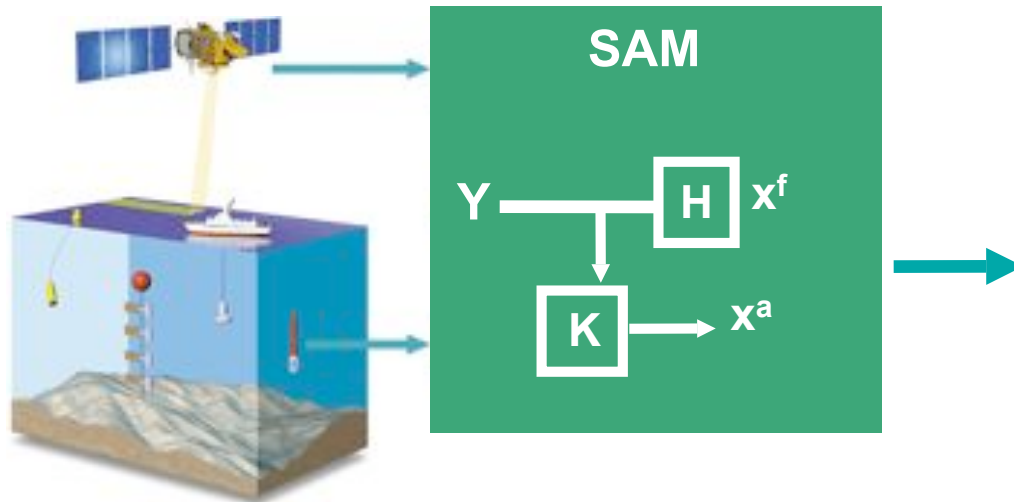
*L. Bertino, G. Evensen*



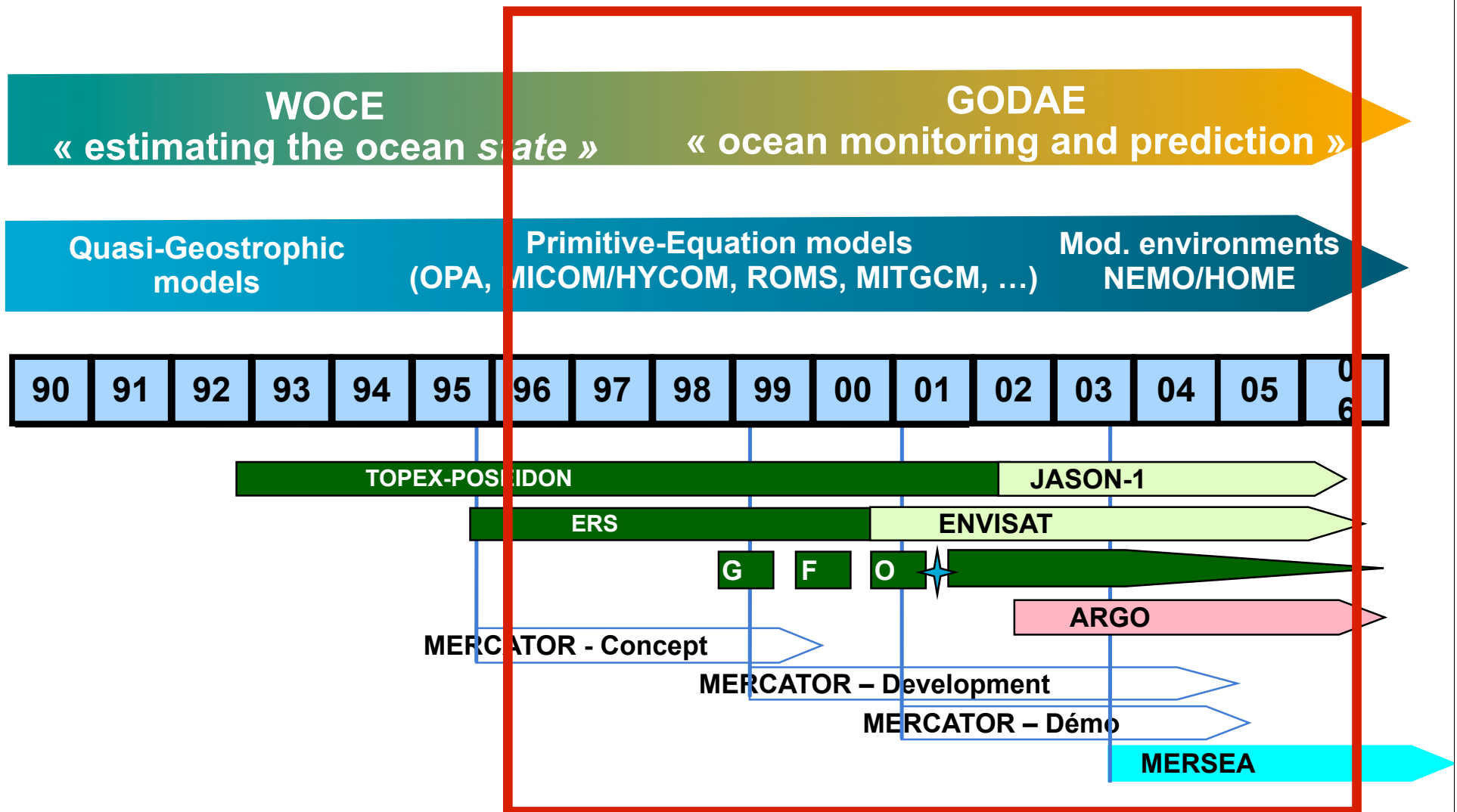
*N. Pinardi, S. Dobricic*

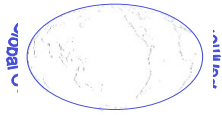


# Operational Oceanography: the backbone for regular and routine provision of data and information for the Ocean

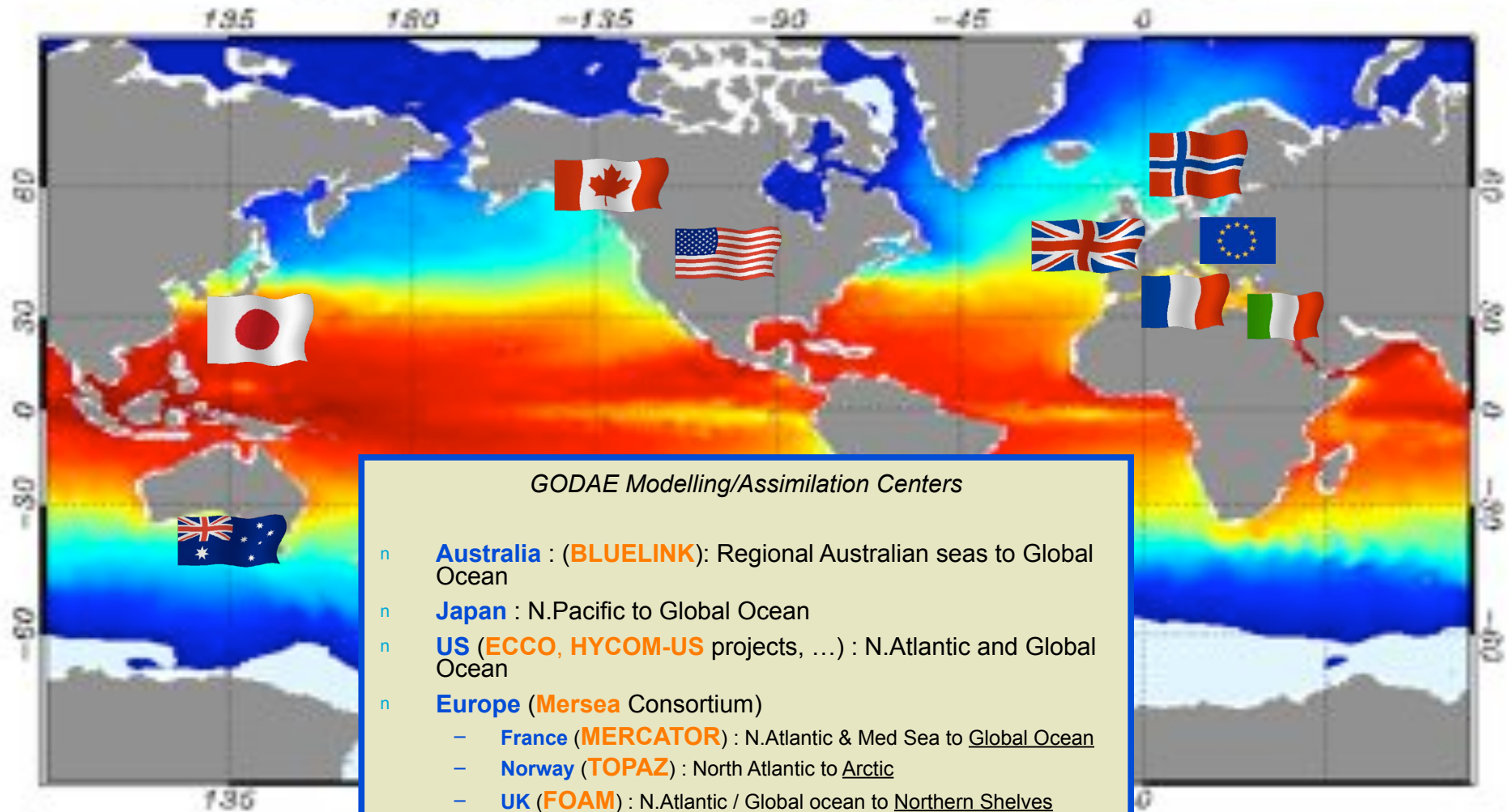


# Operational Oceanography: the first steps





# GODAE Global Ocean Data Assimilation Experiment



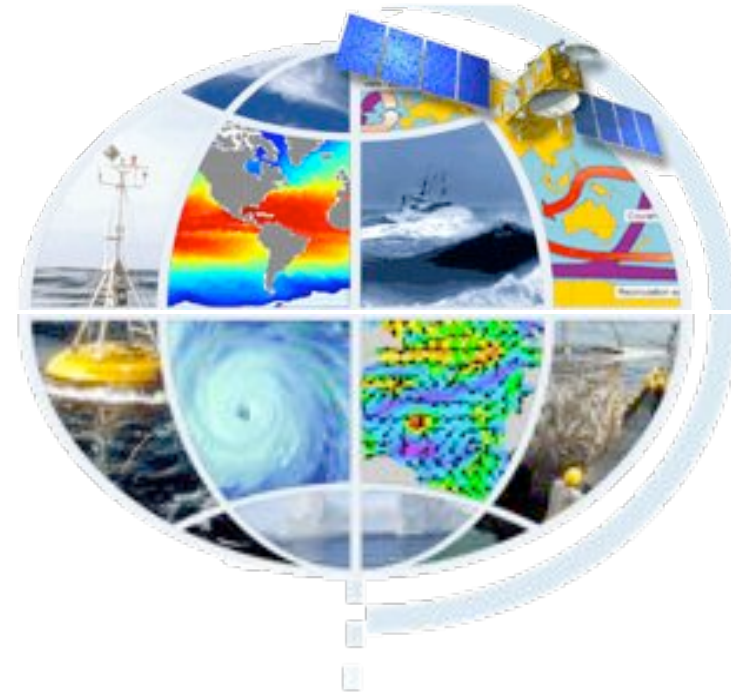


**MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND SECURITY  
FOR THE EUROPEAN AREA**  
Ocean and Marine Applications for GMES



***Objective:** development of a European system of systems for operational monitoring and forecasting of the ocean physics, biogeochemistry, and ecosystems, on global and regional scales*

*Funded by E.U. (FP6) 2004-2008*



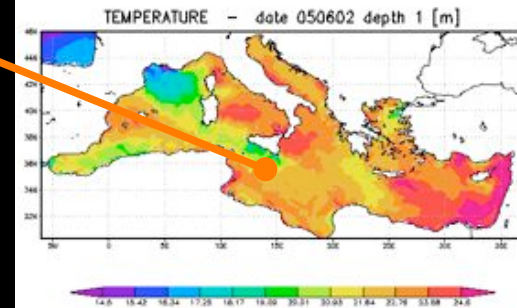
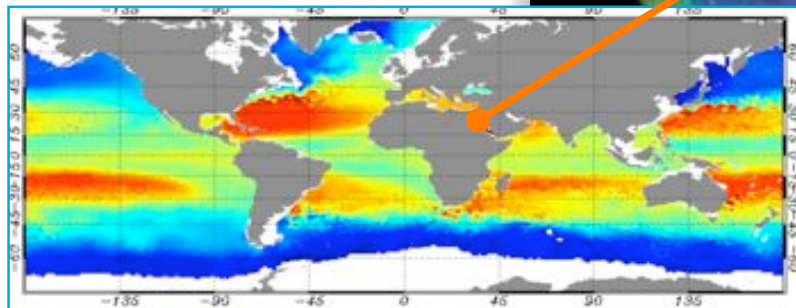
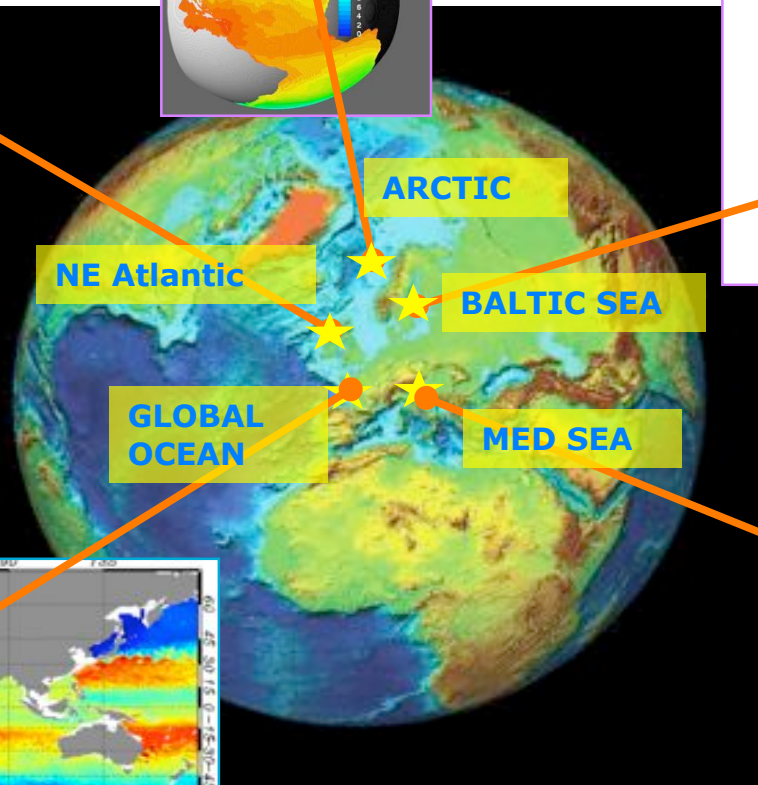
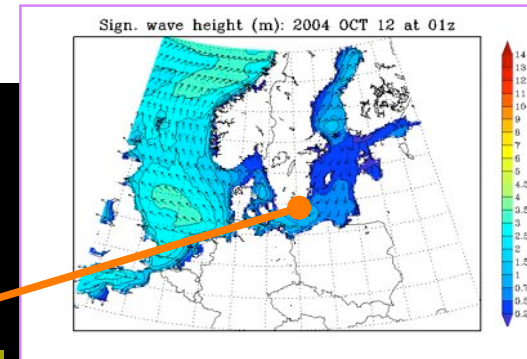
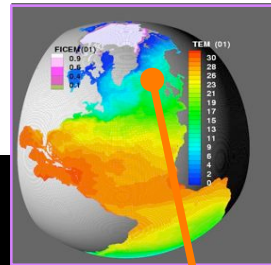
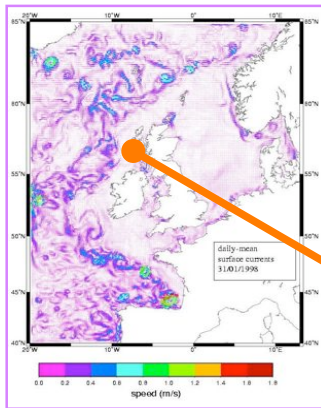
**Mersea Executive Committee** (Y. Desaubies, P. Bahurel, M. Bell, E. Buch, J. Johannessen, P.-Y. Le Traon, G. Manzella N. Pinardi, S. Pouliquen, R. Rayner, H. Roquet, U. Send, J.Verron)

and many partners ....



# MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND SECURITY FOR THE EUROPEAN AREA

Ocean and Marine Applications for GMES



## The MERSEA Integrated System

# OUTLINE of this talk

---

- q **The MERCATOR Ocean Prediction System**
  - ü Objectives and components
  - ü SAM: a hierarchy of Assimilation Schemes
  - ü Applications
  
- q **Assimilation Challenges for MERSEA**
  - ü Assimilating observations at the air/sea interface
  - ü New perspectives for SMOS-type measurements
  - ü Integration of marine ecosystem models

# MERCATOR

## a new player in oceanography since 1995

- Joint initiative of French agencies for Global/Regional Operational Ocean Monitoring and Forecasting



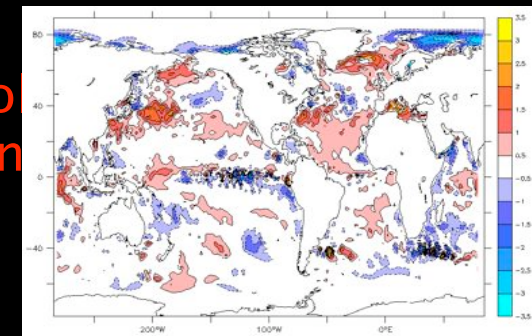
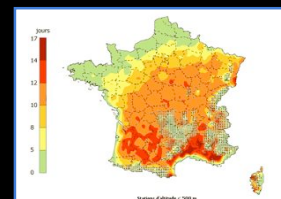
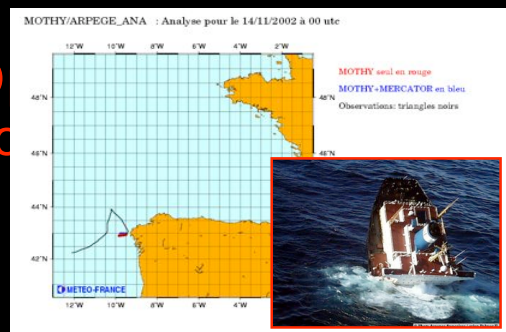
- Providing real-time Ocean Services since 2001, to a wide variety of users

- Participating to the E.U MERSEA integrated project



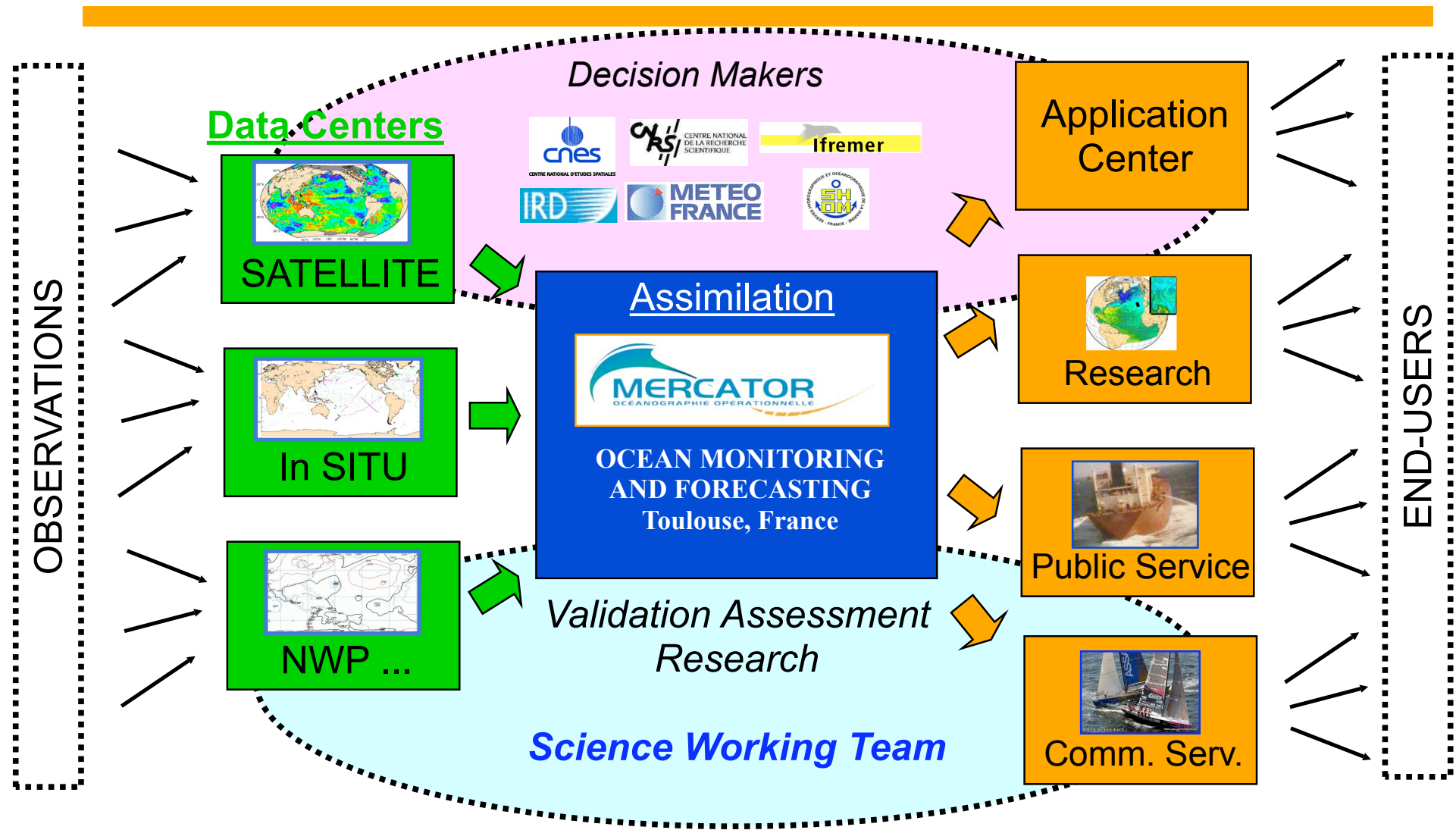
- Next objective: the Fast Track Marine Service for GMES (*Global Monitoring for Environment and Security*)

O  
Instituti

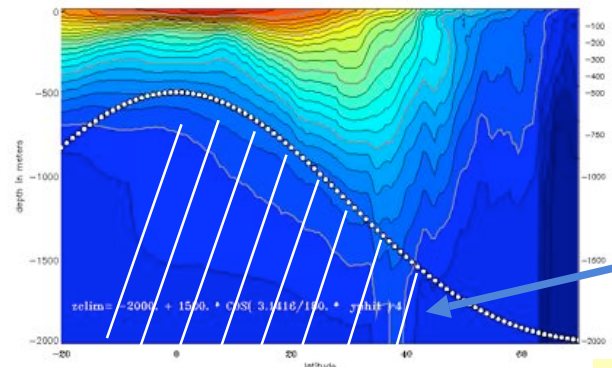
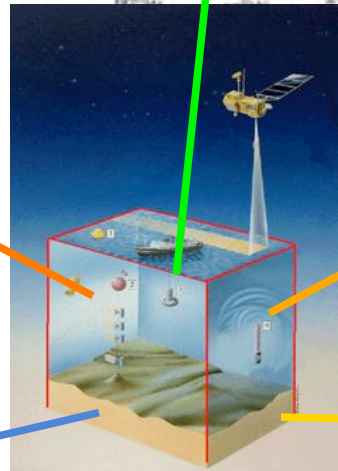
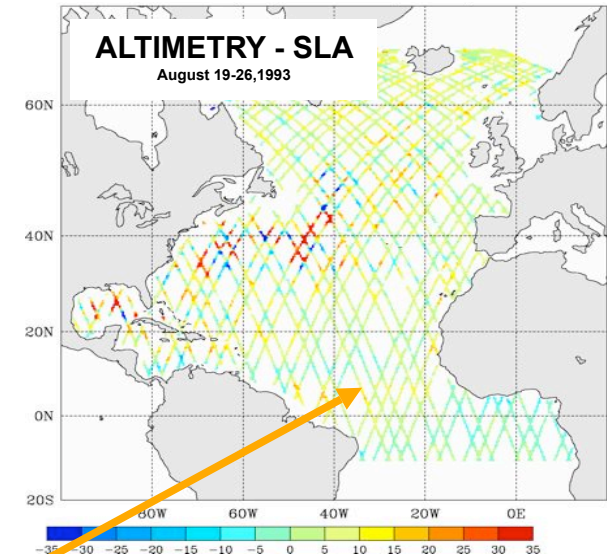
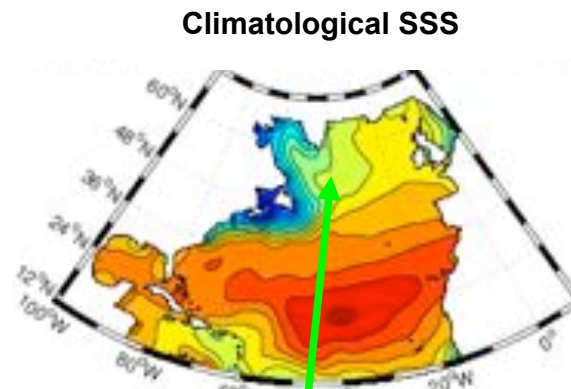
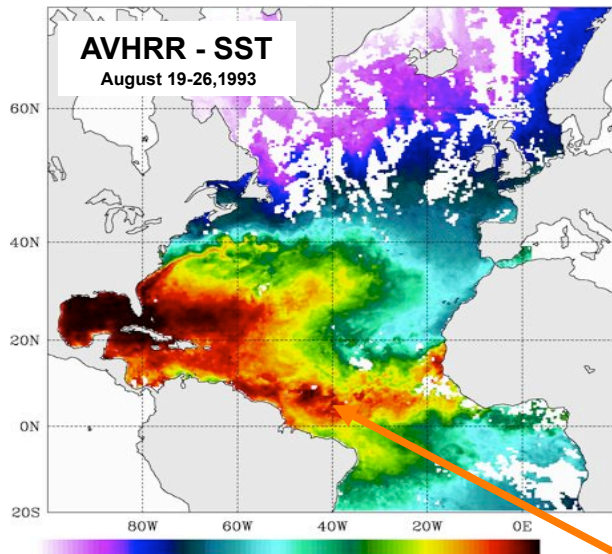




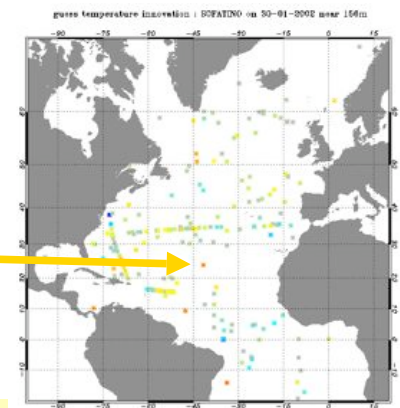
# From observations to end-users



# Ocean data assimilated in operational systems

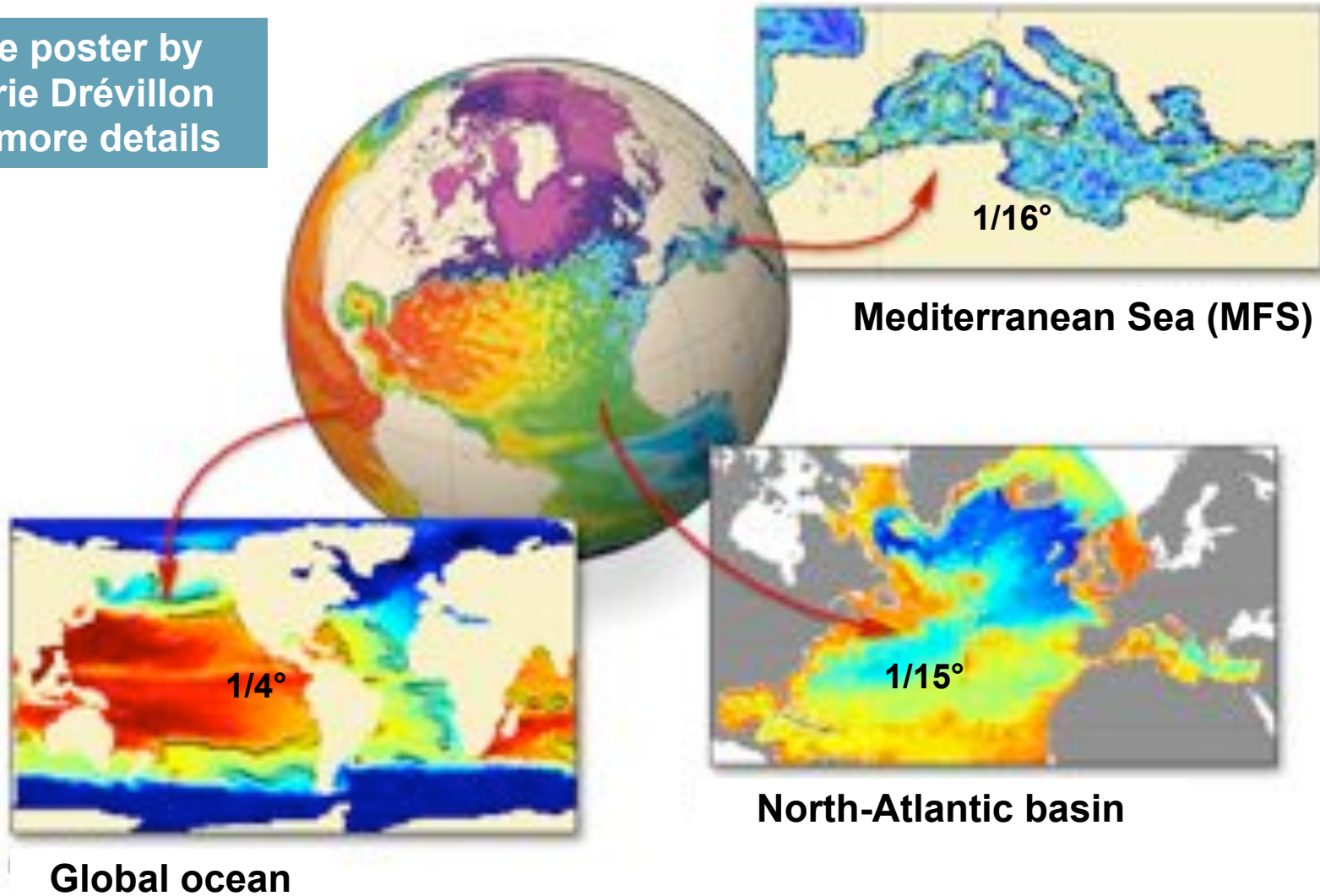


**A scientific challenge:  
combining surface with sub-surface data**



# Ocean domains

See poster by  
Marie Drévillon  
for more details





## The MERCATOR global $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$ model developed in liaison with a science project (CLIPPER)

---

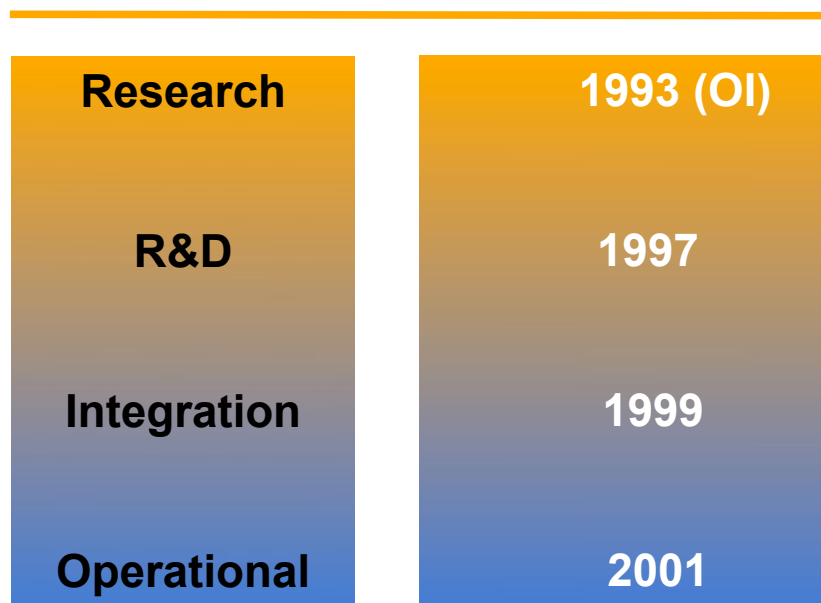


**Barnier et al., 2006:** Impact of partial steps and momentum advection schemes in a global ocean circulation model at eddy-permitting resolution, *Ocean Dynamics*, *in press (online first)*.



# The Mercator Assimilation System (SAM) *from research to real-time operations*

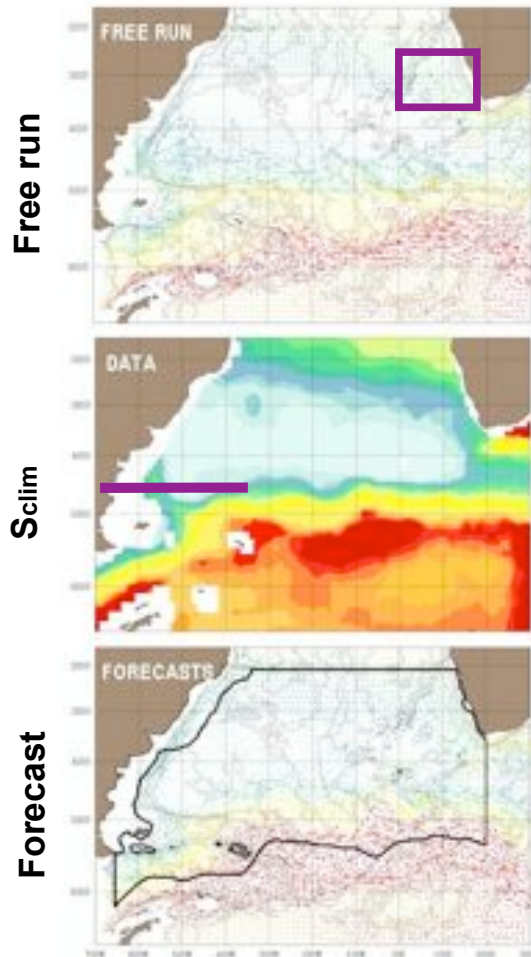
**Brasseur et al., 2006:** Data assimilation for marine monitoring and prediction : the MERCATOR operational assimilation systems and the MERSEA developments, *QJRMS, in press.*



**SAM-1**

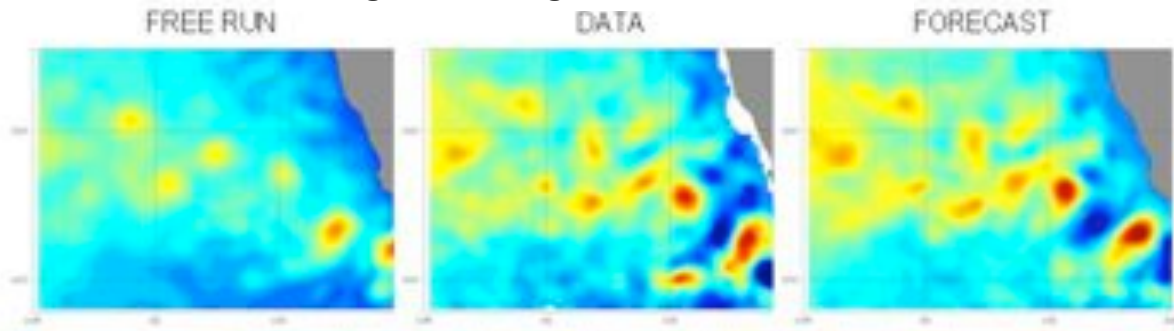
**Incremental implementation strategy**

# The SAM-2 scheme (derived from SEEK) for mesoscale data assimilation in MERCATOR

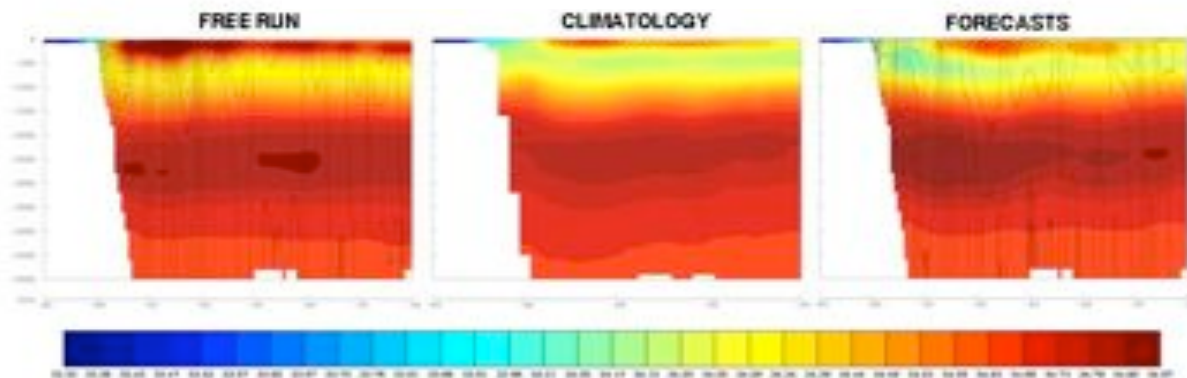


Circulation at 872 m

Agulhas Rings – June 25, 1995



Confluence – mean salinity at 45S



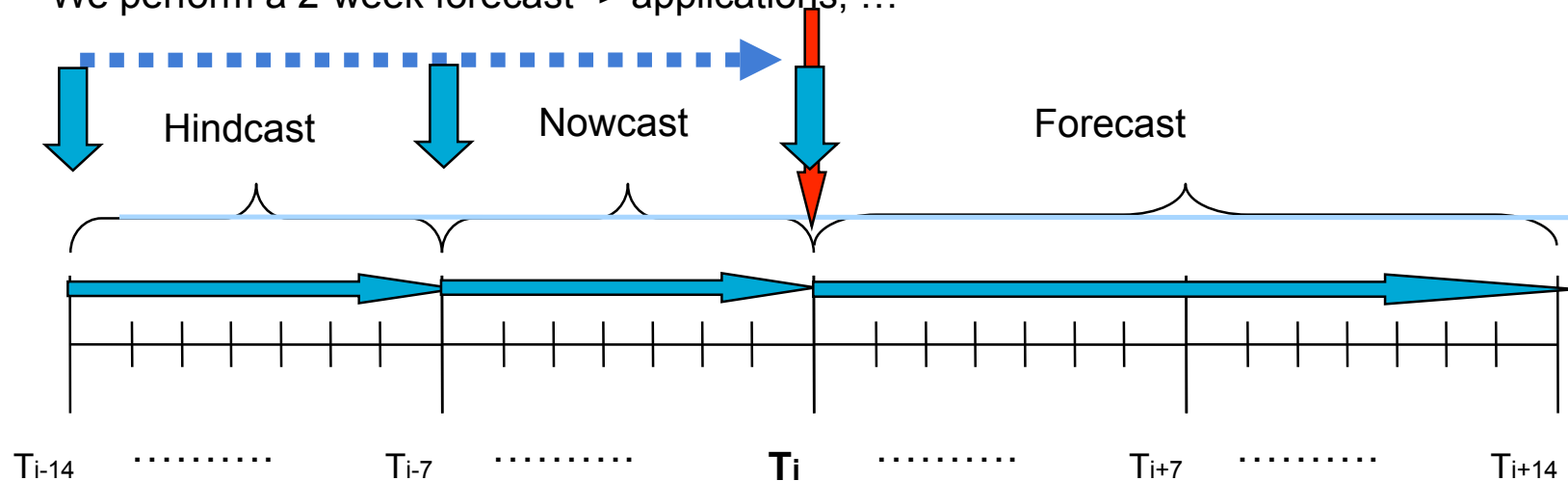
**South Atlantic hindcast** (Penduff *et al.*, 2002)

q OPA model 1/3°, 1993-1996, 6h ECMWF

q Assimilation of SLA (T/P, ERS), SST (AVHRR)

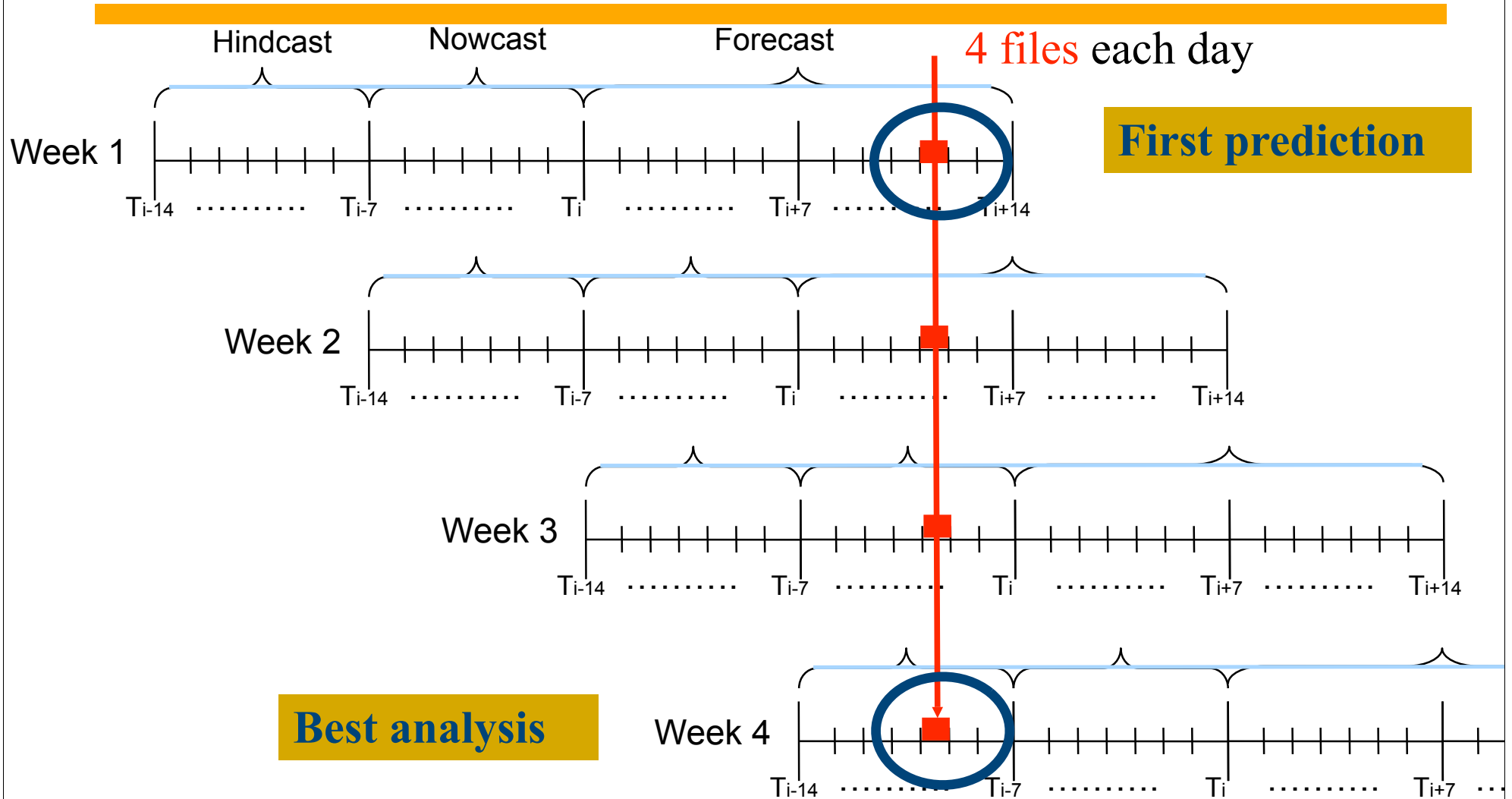
# Real-time assimilation cycle: how does it work ?

- n Every week on Tuesday night / Wednesday morning:
  - Most recent data are collected from data centres (SSALTO/DUACS & CORIOLIS)
  - Forcing fields are downloaded (ECMWF)
  - We go 2 weeks back in time and perform a run from  $T_{i-14}$  to  $T_i$ 
    - Hindcast: forecast the past, perform analysis at  $T_{i-7}$ :
      - best MERCATOR estimate from  $T_{i-14}$  to  $T_{i-7}$
    - Nowcast: forecast the present, perform analysis at  $T_i$ :
      - Temporary results (not all the obs available), will be updated next week
  - We perform a 2-week forecast -> applications, ...





# Files created by MERCATOR: full fields - daily

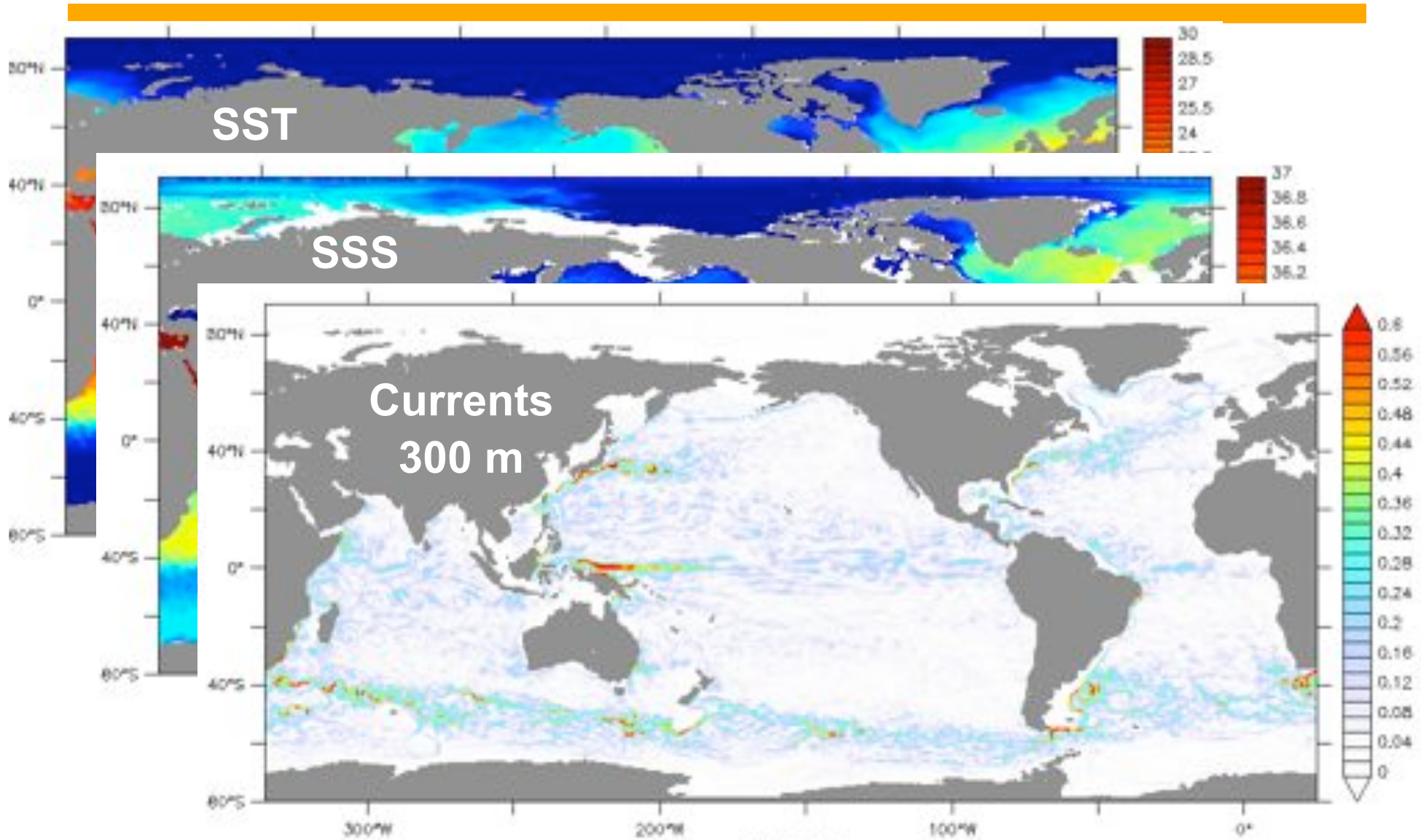






# 14-day forecast, valid August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006

## Global ocean at 1/4° resolution





# Oceanic bulletin web page: <http://www.mercator-ocean.fr/>

The screenshot shows a Netscape browser window displaying the Mercator Ocean website. The browser's address bar shows the URL [http://www.mercator-ocean.fr/html/mod\\_actu/public/welcome\\_en.php3](http://www.mercator-ocean.fr/html/mod_actu/public/welcome_en.php3). The website header features the Mercator logo and the tagline "Mercator analyses and forecasts the ocean in real-time from surface to bottom".

The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following items: Mercator Ocean, News, Products, Applications, Science, Operational systems, Collaborations, Publications, Glossary, Site map, Search engine, and a search input field. A language selector for "Français" is also present.

The main content area is divided into two sections:

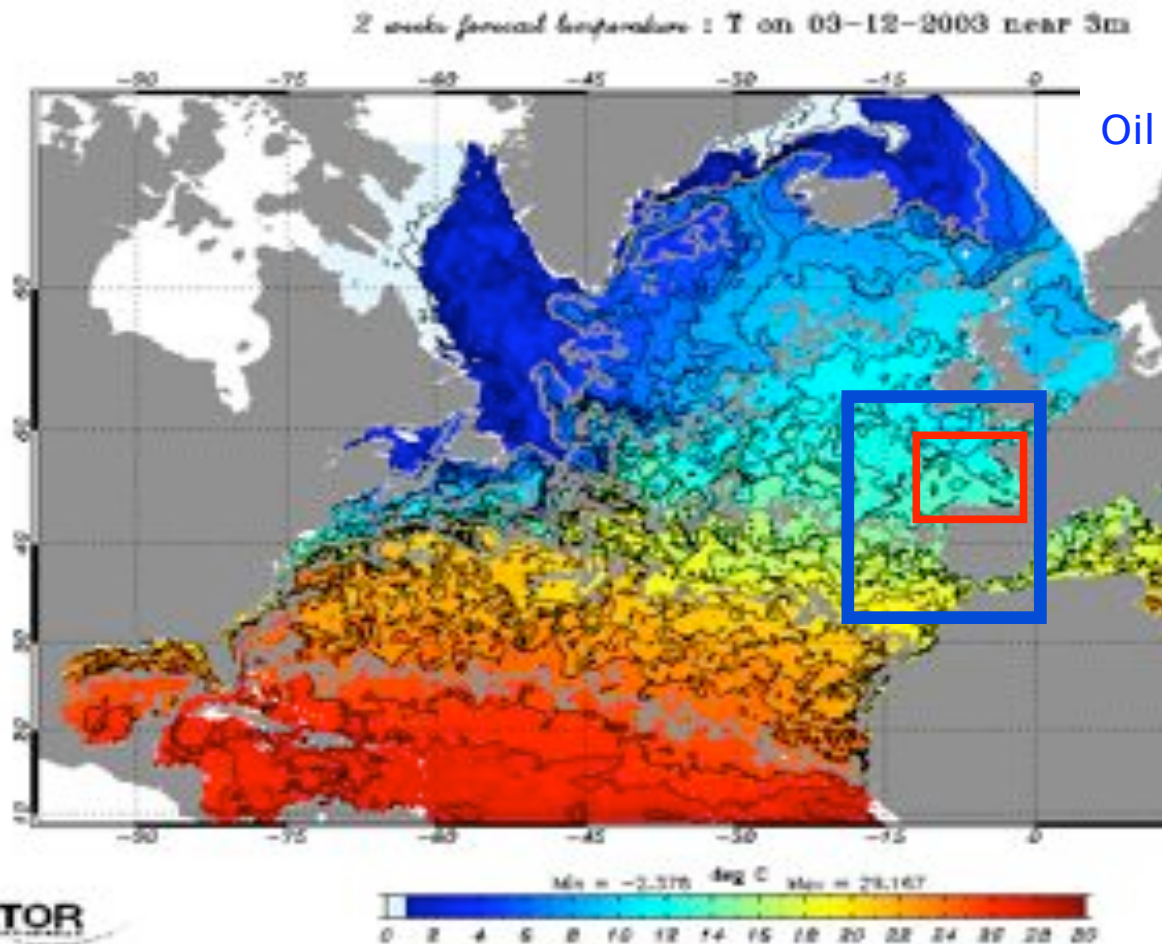
- News:** Features a news item dated [2006/07/13] titled "Project life Mercator Projection #7" with a sub-headline "The seventh Mercator Projection, our outreach revue, is available." and a "[more]" link. Below it is another item dated [2006/08/08] titled "Quarterly Newsletter #21" with a "[more]" link and a "[earlier news]" link.
- Bulletins:** Features two items: "July 19, 2006 bulletin (forecasts up to August 2)" and "Interpreted oceanic bulletin February 2006 : Rescue mission for the 'Guadeloupe' buoy".

On the right side, there is a section titled "Observing the ocean" with an illustration of a satellite and a buoy.

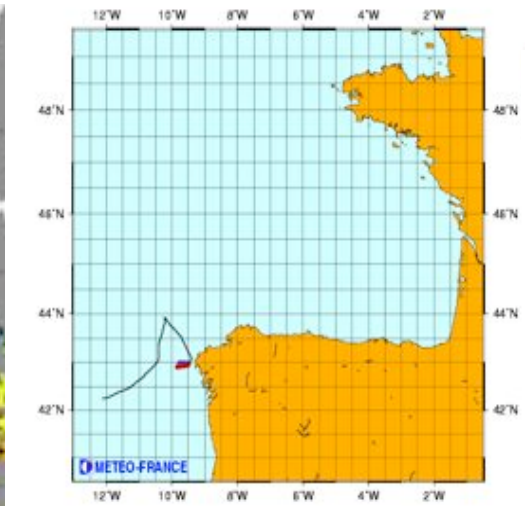
At the bottom of the page, it states "Mercator Ocean is a GMES European program partner" and provides links for "Contacts" and "Français".

# ... operations against Oil Pollution

(serving Météo-France, ...)



Oil spill model alone  
Oil Spill model, forced by Mercator



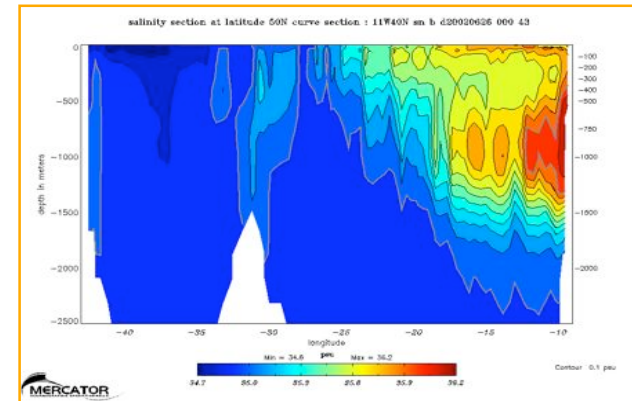
Météo-France Oil  
Drift Forecast  
(courtesy of P.Daniel)

Version 1 day W  
10-2003 see manual  
jul day 19004

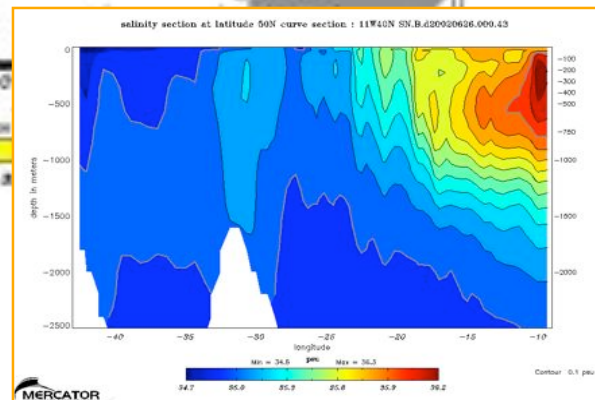
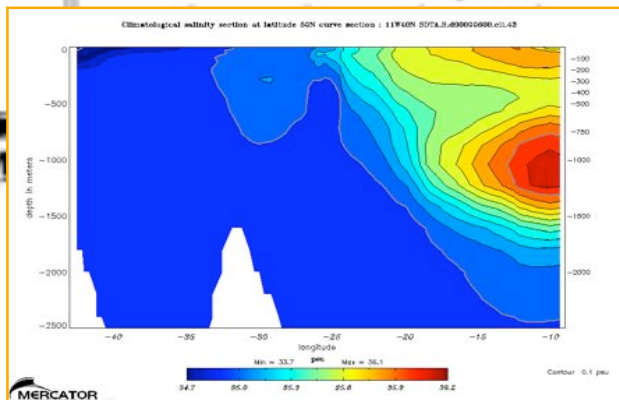
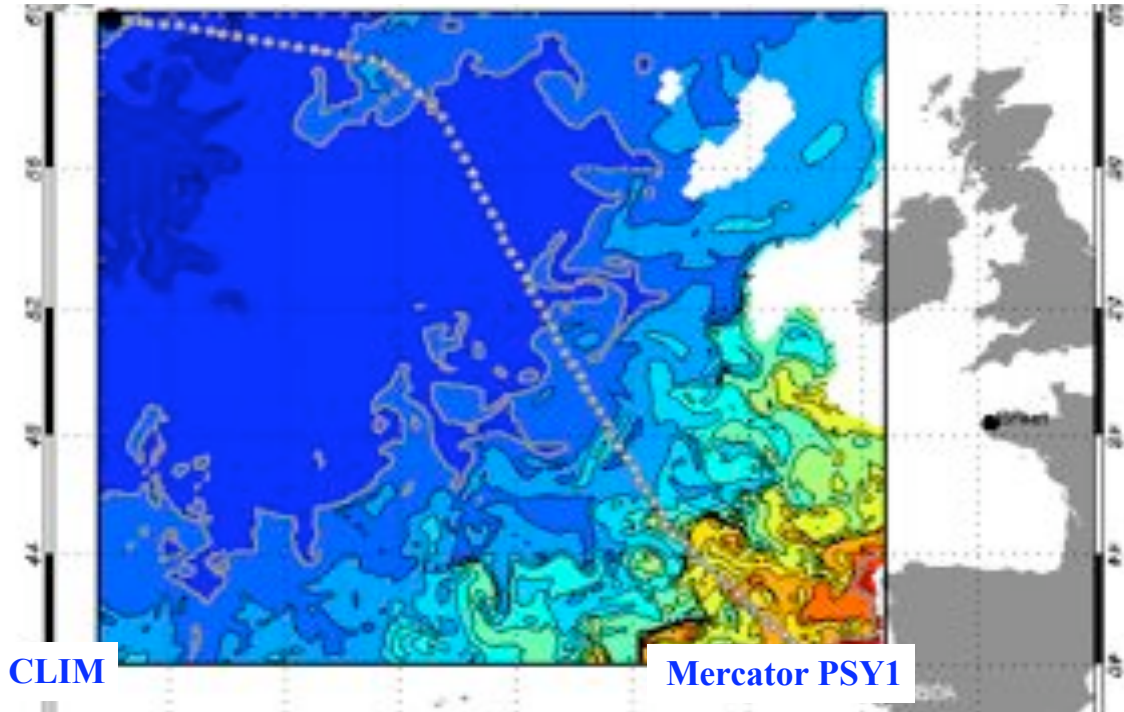
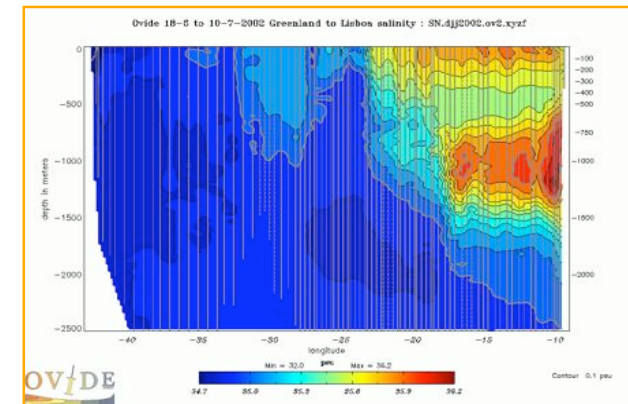
# ... supporting field campaigns

## June 2002 Scientific Cruise (OVIDE) Salinity Field

Mercator PSY2

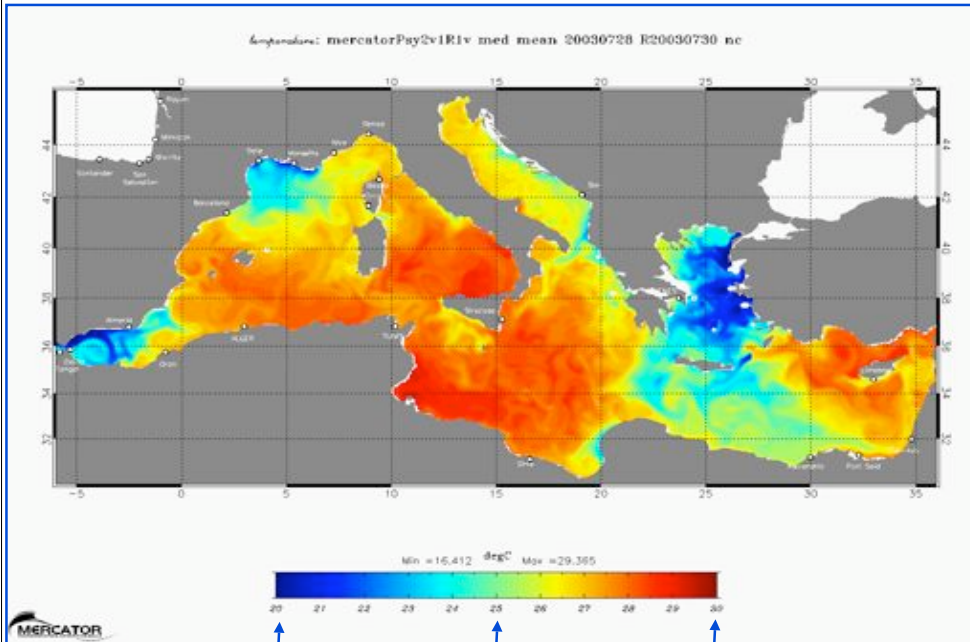


CTD



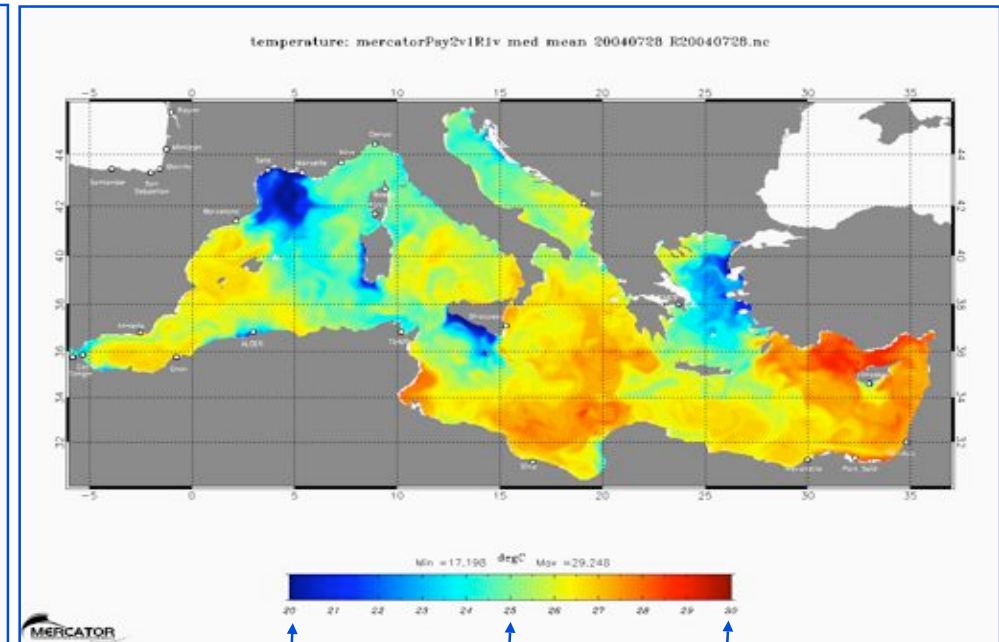
# ... monitoring « ocean climate » and looking back to extreme events

n hot weather event during summer 2003



20° 25° 30°

Mercator SST  
(reanalysis PSY2)  
28 July 2003

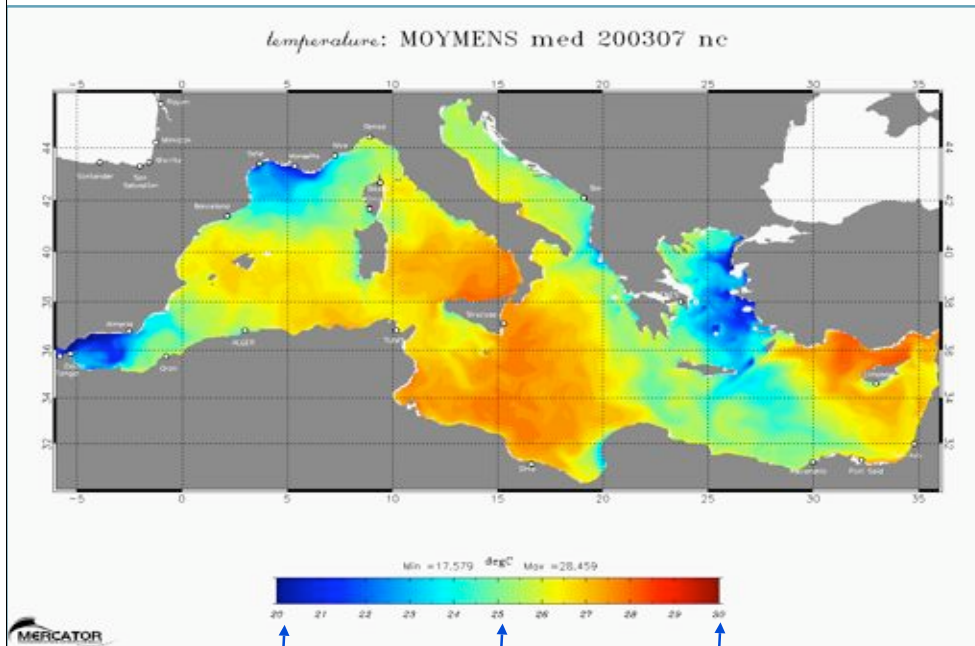


20° 25° 30°

Mercator SST  
(real time PSY2)  
28 July 2004

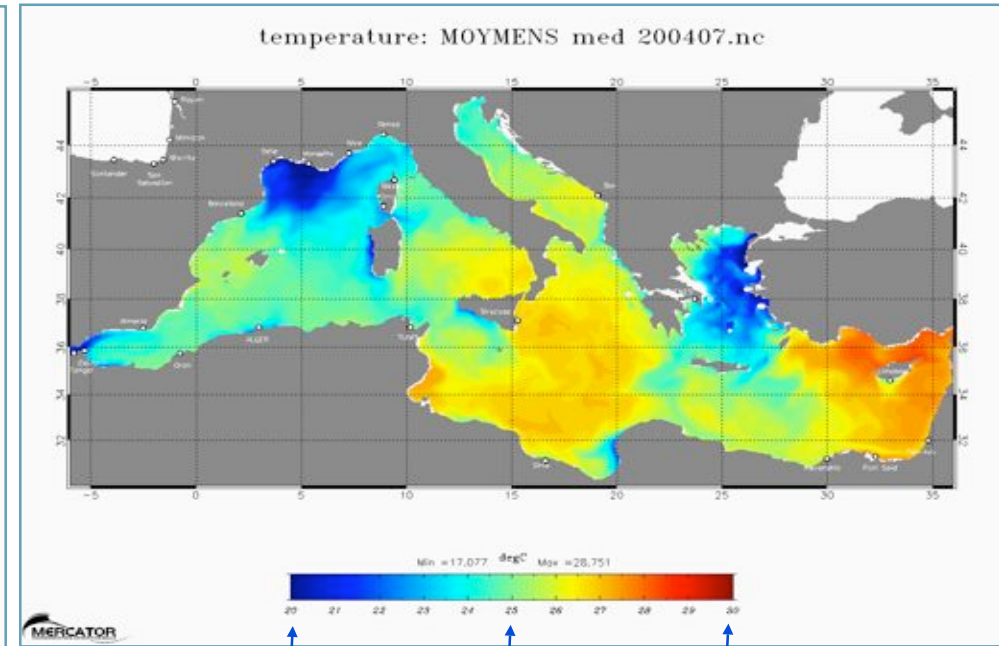
# ... monitoring « ocean climate » and looking back to extreme events

n hot weather event during summer 2003



20° 25° 30°

Mercator Mean SST  
(reanalysis PSY2)  
July 2003

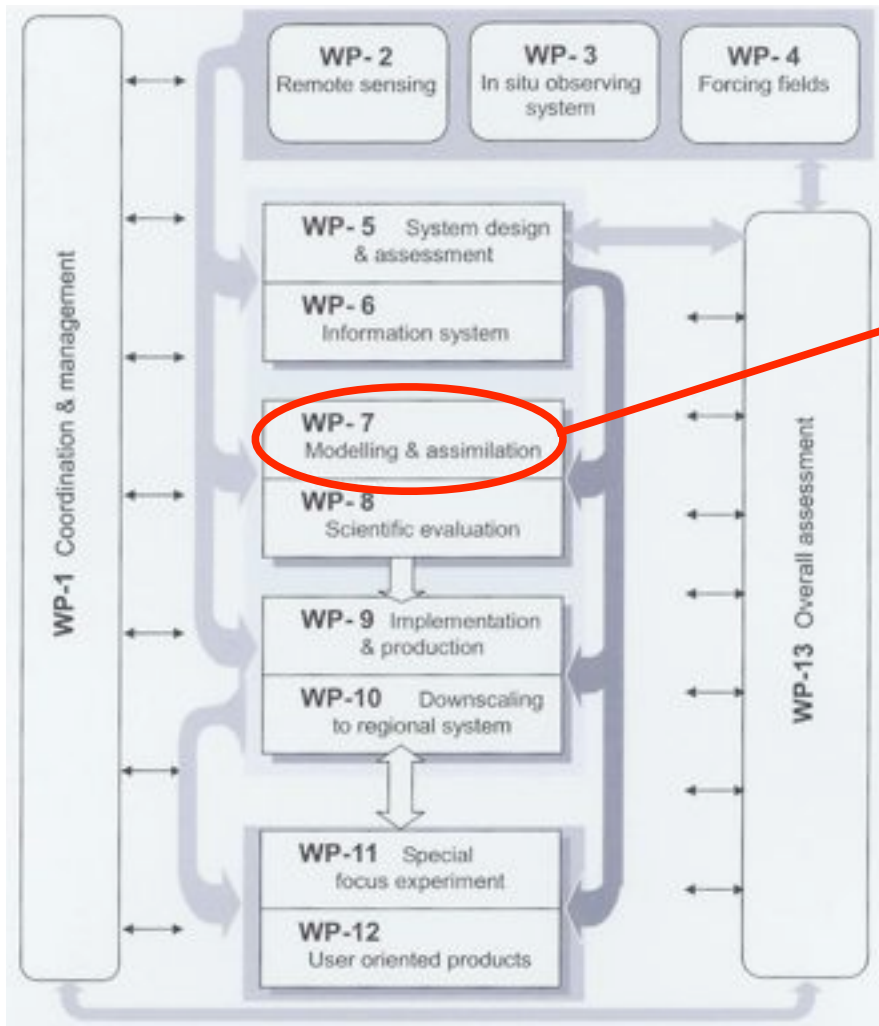


20° 25° 30°

Mercator Mean SST  
(real time PSY2)  
July 2004



# MERSEA R&D in Data Assimilation



## DA objectives

- n to improve our capacity to **assimilate data from different sources** (satellite altimetry, SST, SSS, in situ profiles, sea-ice param., ocean colour, ...) **in ocean circulation models**;
- n to develop the **prototype of a coupled physical biological assimilative system**, with the objective to demonstrate the capacity to routinely estimate and forecast biogeochemical variables.

## Participants

- n NERSC, Norway (L. Bertino)
- n AWI, Germany (J. Schröter)
- n UU, The Netherlands (P.J. van Leeuwen)
- n CNRS, France (J. Verron)

# OUTLINE of this talk

---

## q The MERCATOR Ocean Prediction System

- ü Objectives and components
- ü SAM: a hierarchy of Assimilation Schemes
- ü Applications

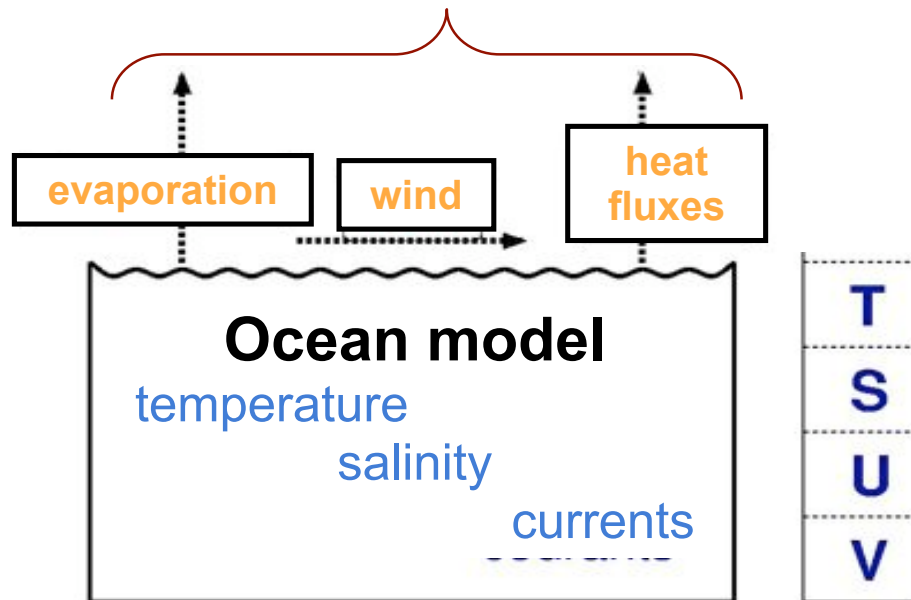
## q **Assimilation Challenges for MERSEA**

- ü **Assimilating observations at the air/sea interface**
- ü **New perspectives for SMOS-type measurements**
- ü **Integration of marine ecosystem models**



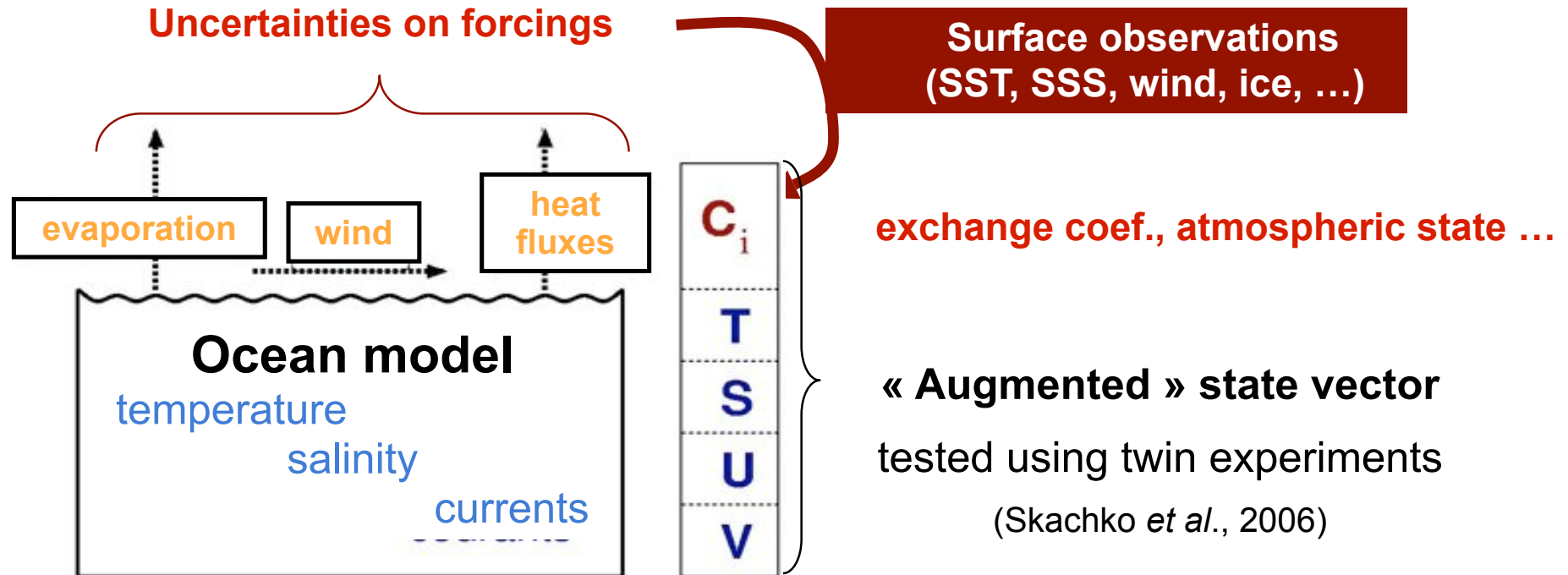
# « Augmented » state vector estimation (Skachko *et al.*, 2006)

## Uncertainties on forcings



# « Augmented » state vector estimation

Skachko *et al.*, 2006

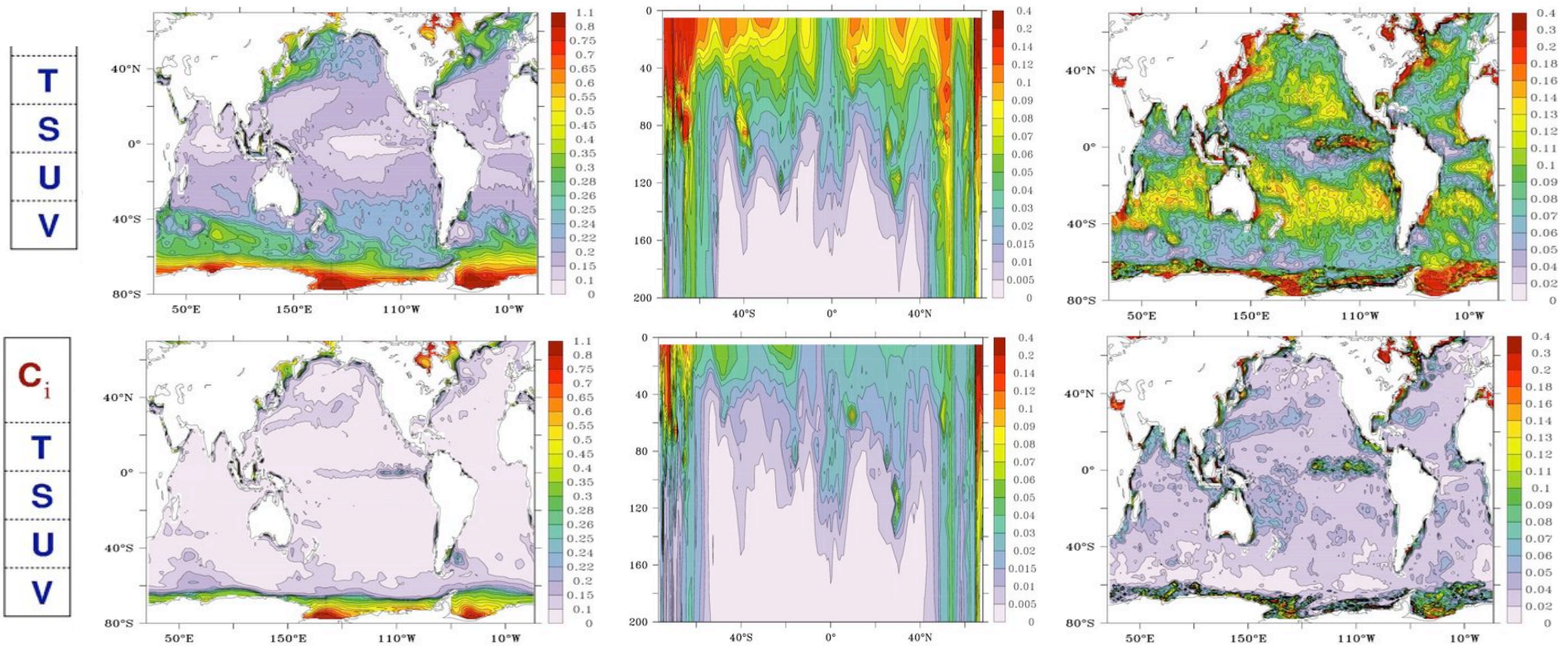


## Expected benefits:

- q Reduction of uncertainties on oceanic forcings (parameterizations)
- q Improved control of mixed layer properties

# « Augmented » state vector estimation including « bulk » coefficients (Skachko *et al.*, 2006)

Assimilation of simulated data (0-200 m) in global OPA 2°x2°



RMS error on latent heat flux coef  
(x 10<sup>3</sup>)

RMS error on temperature

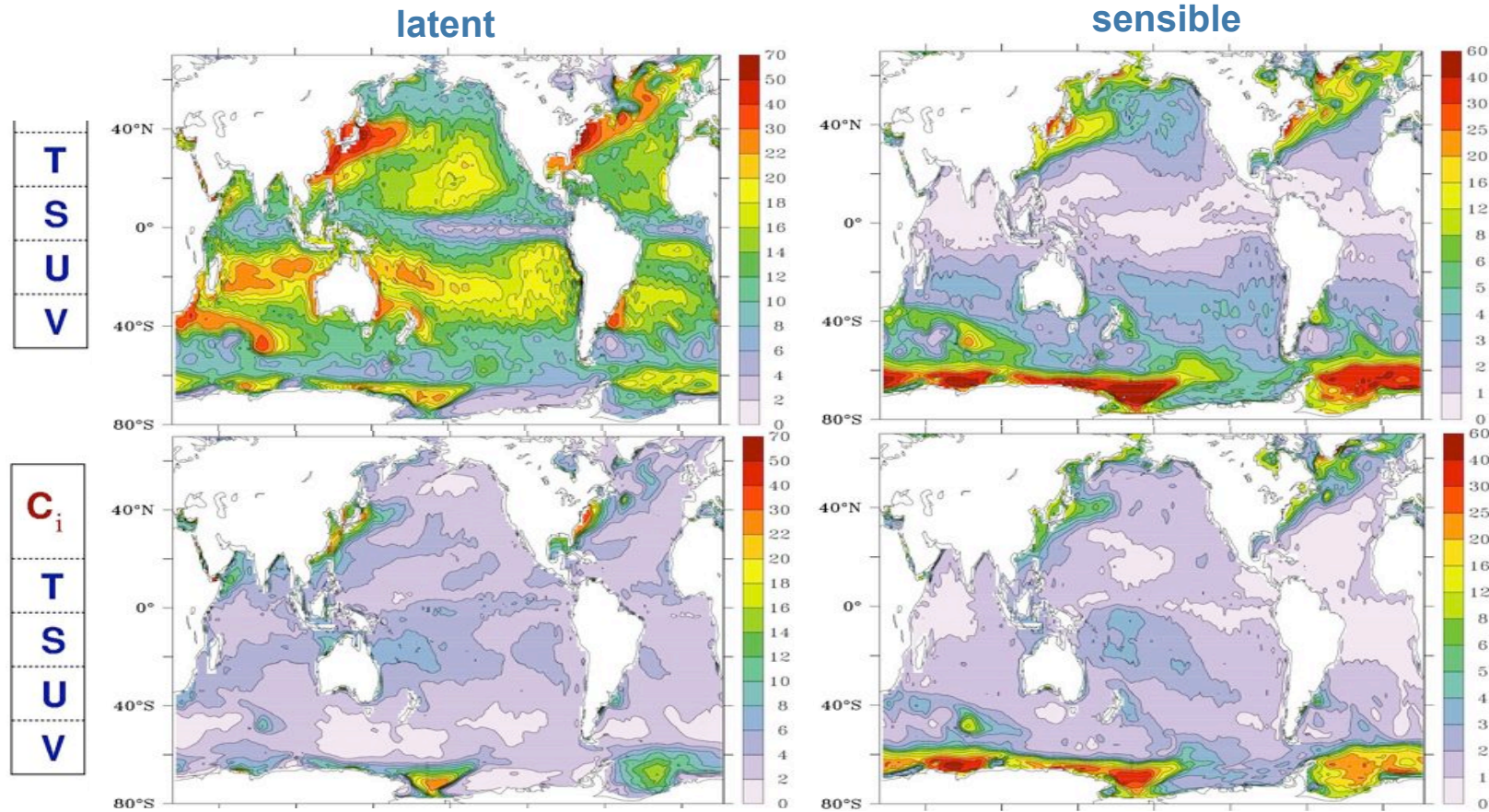
RMS error on SST

$$Q_{lat} = \tilde{n}_{air} L_w C_E W \max(0, q_{srf} - q_{air})$$

# « Augmented » state vector estimation including « bulk » coefficients (Skachko *et al.*, 2006)

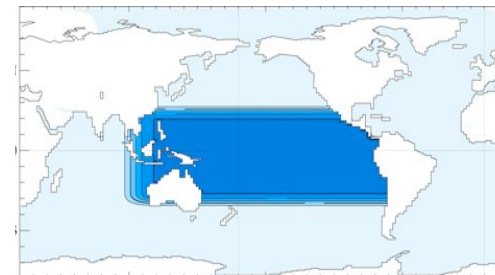
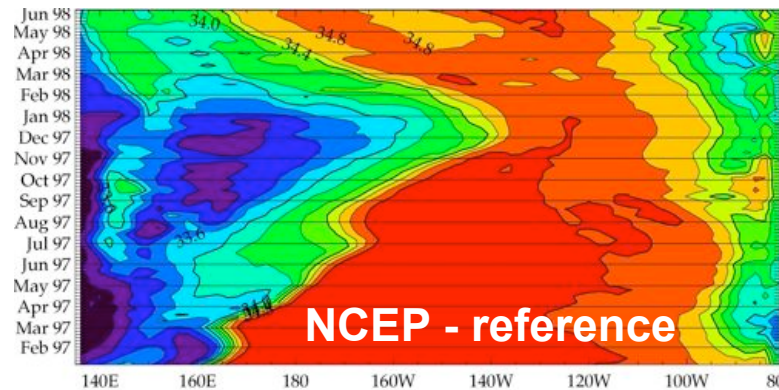
Assimilation of simulated data (0-200 m) in global OPA 2°x2°

RMS error on heat flux (computed *a posteriori*, in W/m<sup>2</sup>)

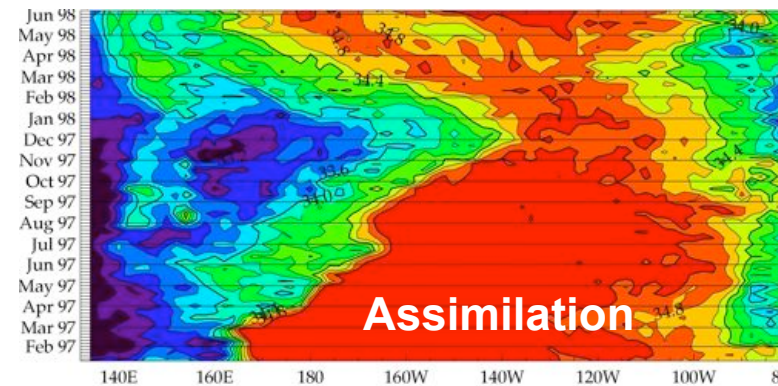
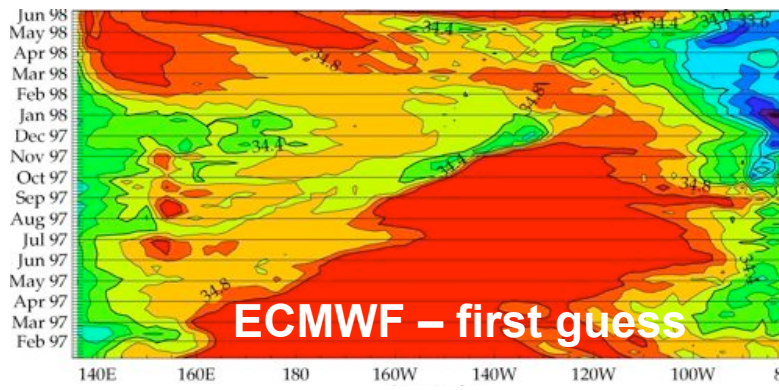


q Generic approach: to be generalised to other observations at O/A interfaces

# Towards Sea-Surface Salinity Data Assimilation with SMOS (2007) (Durand *et al.*, 2003)



**Migration de la Fresh Pool – El Niño**

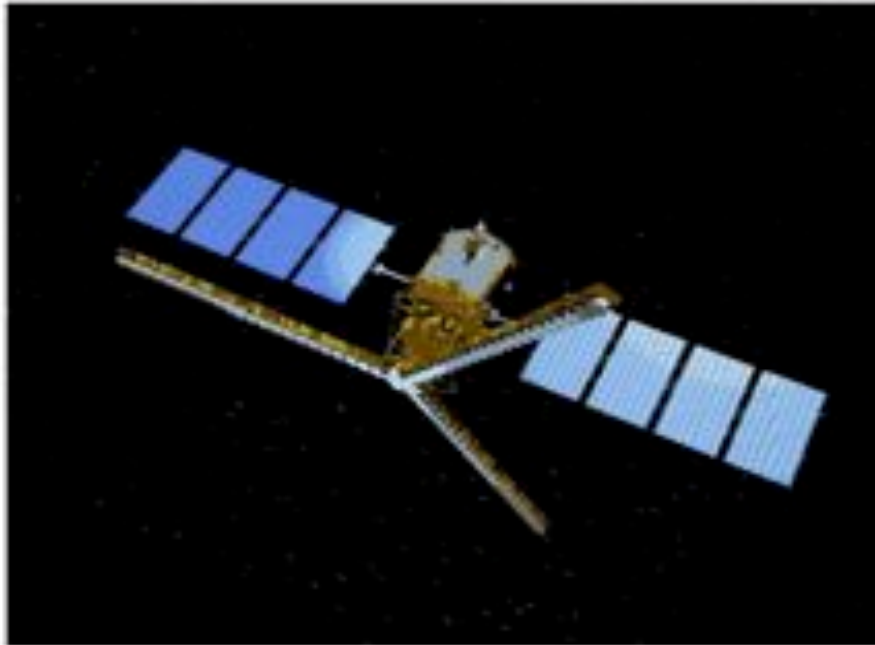


32.8      33.6      34.4      35.2 (psu)

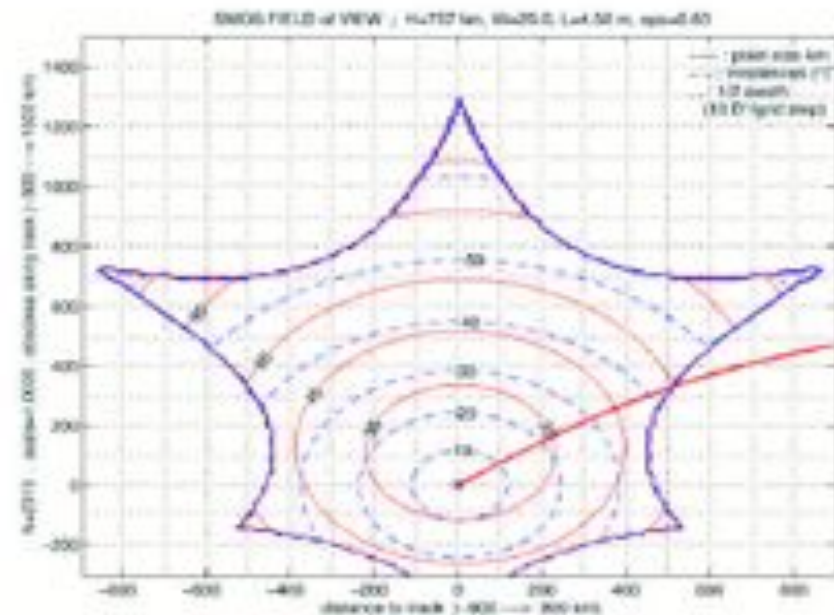
- q In the Tropical Pacific, SSS is potentially useful to
- (i) compensate errors arising from ocean/atmosphere interactions (E-P)
  - (ii) better understand / forecast (?) seasonal climate variability.

# The ESA SMOS Mission (Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity, 2007)

- **The MIRAS sensor:** an L-band Y-shape interferometric radiometer (1.4 GHz)



(a) Artist view of SMOS



(b) Field of view (FOV)

- **The measurements:** for a given pixel in FOV (sizes from ~35km to ~80km), a series of reconstructed L-band **brightness temperature** is measured at several incidence angles (0-60°) and polarization

*(Courtesy N. Reul, Ifremer)*

## Ocean Surface Salinity: measurement principle of SMOS

- For electromagnetic frequencies < 20 GHz, the dielectric constant  $\epsilon$  of sea water follows :

$$\epsilon(T, S, f) = \underbrace{\epsilon_{\infty}(T, S) + \frac{\epsilon_o(T, S) - \epsilon_{\infty}(T, S)}{1 - j2\pi f\tau(T, S)}}_{relaxation} + j \underbrace{\frac{\sigma_i(T, S)}{2\pi\epsilon'_o f}}_{conductivite}$$

where  $\epsilon_{\infty}$ ,  $\epsilon_o$ ,  $\tau_{sw}$  et  $\sigma_i$  are polynomial functions of sea surface salinity  $S$  (SSS) and Sea Surface Temperature  $T$ . Maximum sensitivity to  $S$  occurs for low values of  $f$  ( $=1.4$  GHz)

- The brightness temperature  $T_B$  of the sea surface measured by a radiometer at frequency  $f$ , incidence angle  $\theta_i$ , azimuth  $\Phi_i$  and polarization  $p$  is given by:

$$T_B(\theta_i, \phi_i, f, p) = T \cdot e(\theta_i, \phi_i, f, p, \epsilon(T, S, f), \vec{U}, X)$$

where  $e$  is surface emissivity and  $\vec{U}$  is the wind speed vector

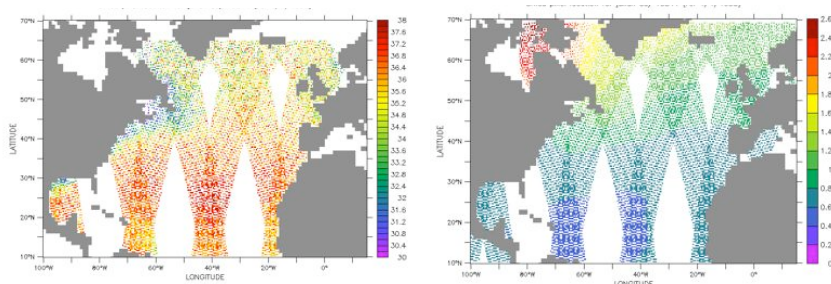
(Courtesy N. Reul, Ifremer)

$$T_B(\theta_i, \phi_i, f, p) = T \cdot e(\theta_i, \phi_i, f, p, \epsilon(T, S, f), \vec{U}, X)$$

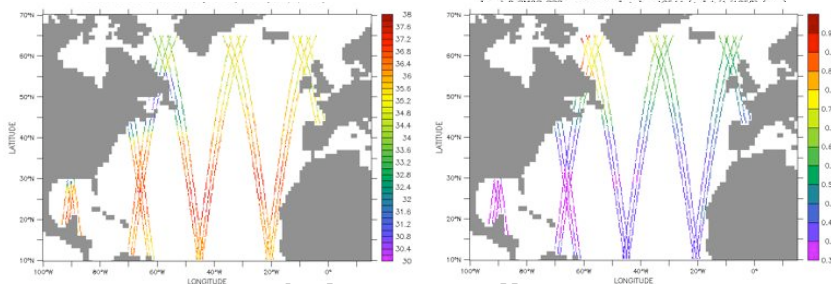
Ø 2 different approaches:

Ø Invert  $T_b$  measurements into SSS data (using, e.g. look-up tables), and then assimilate SSS in the PE model.

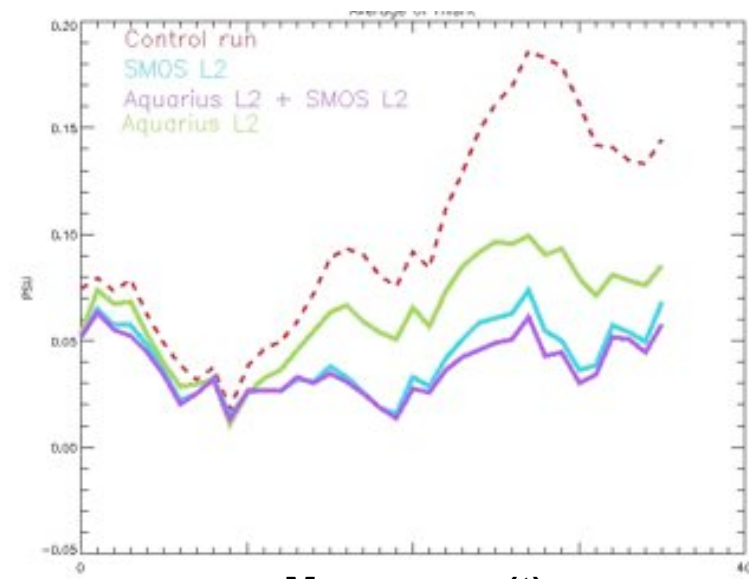
SMOS



AQUARIUS



1-day sampling



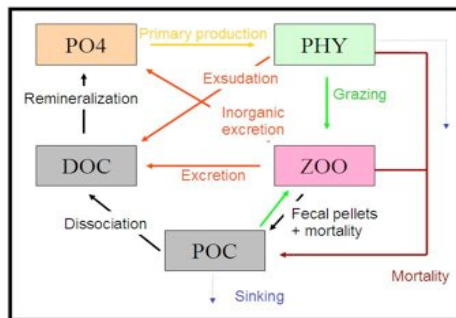
Mean error (t)



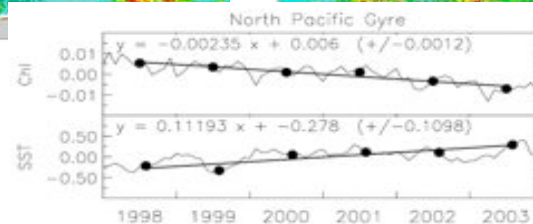
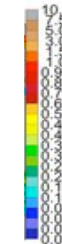
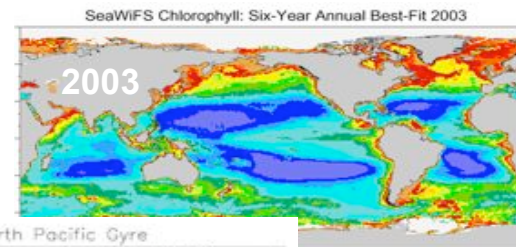
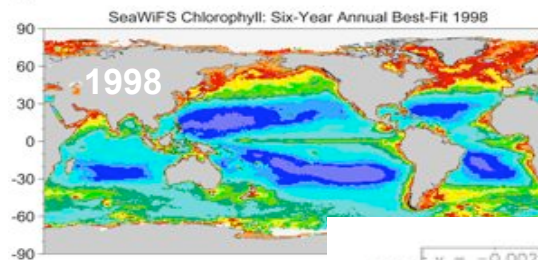


# Response of marine ecosystems to ocean climate variability ?

## NPDZ - LOBSTER - PISCES - ?



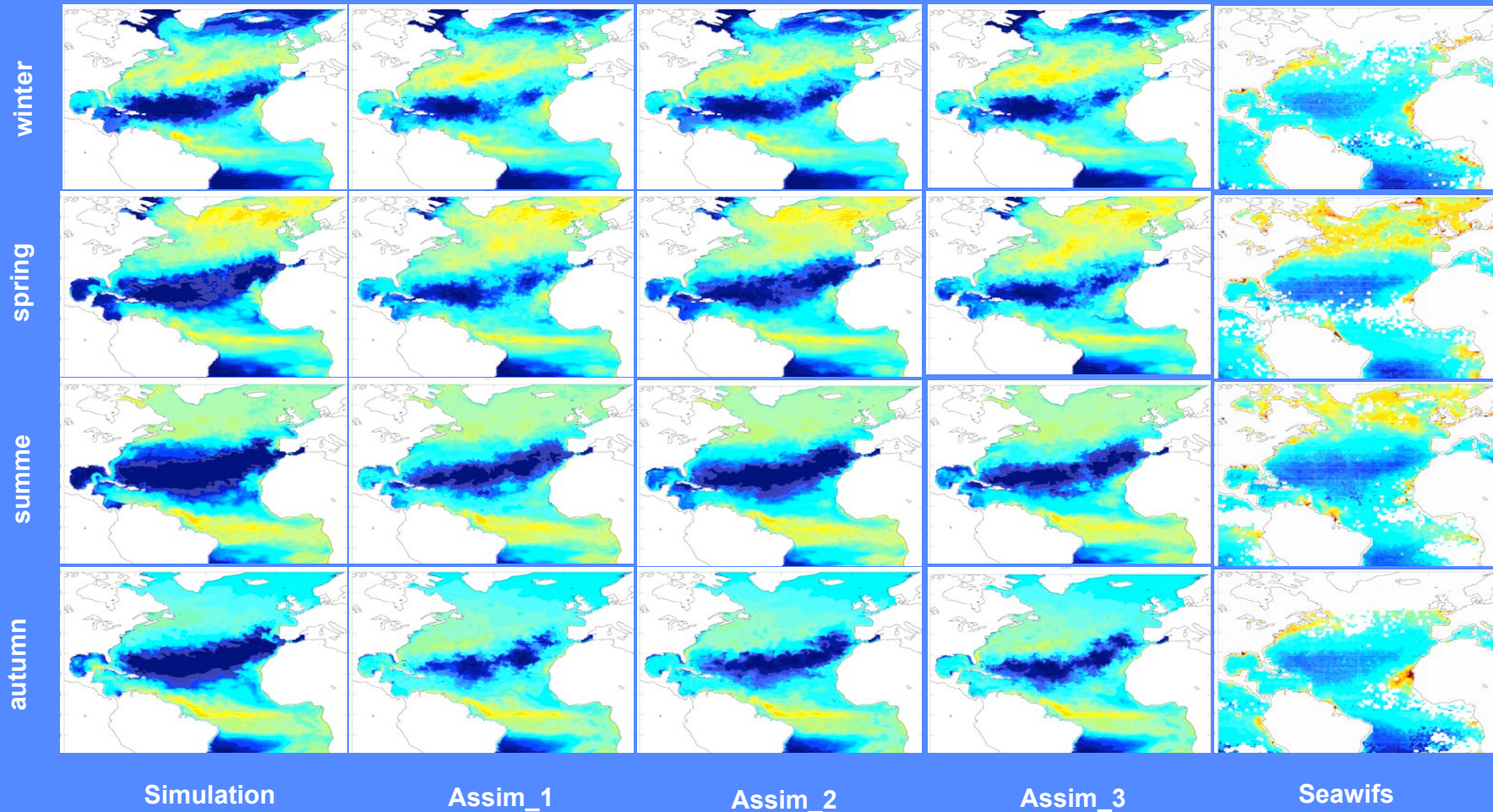
ASSIMILATION



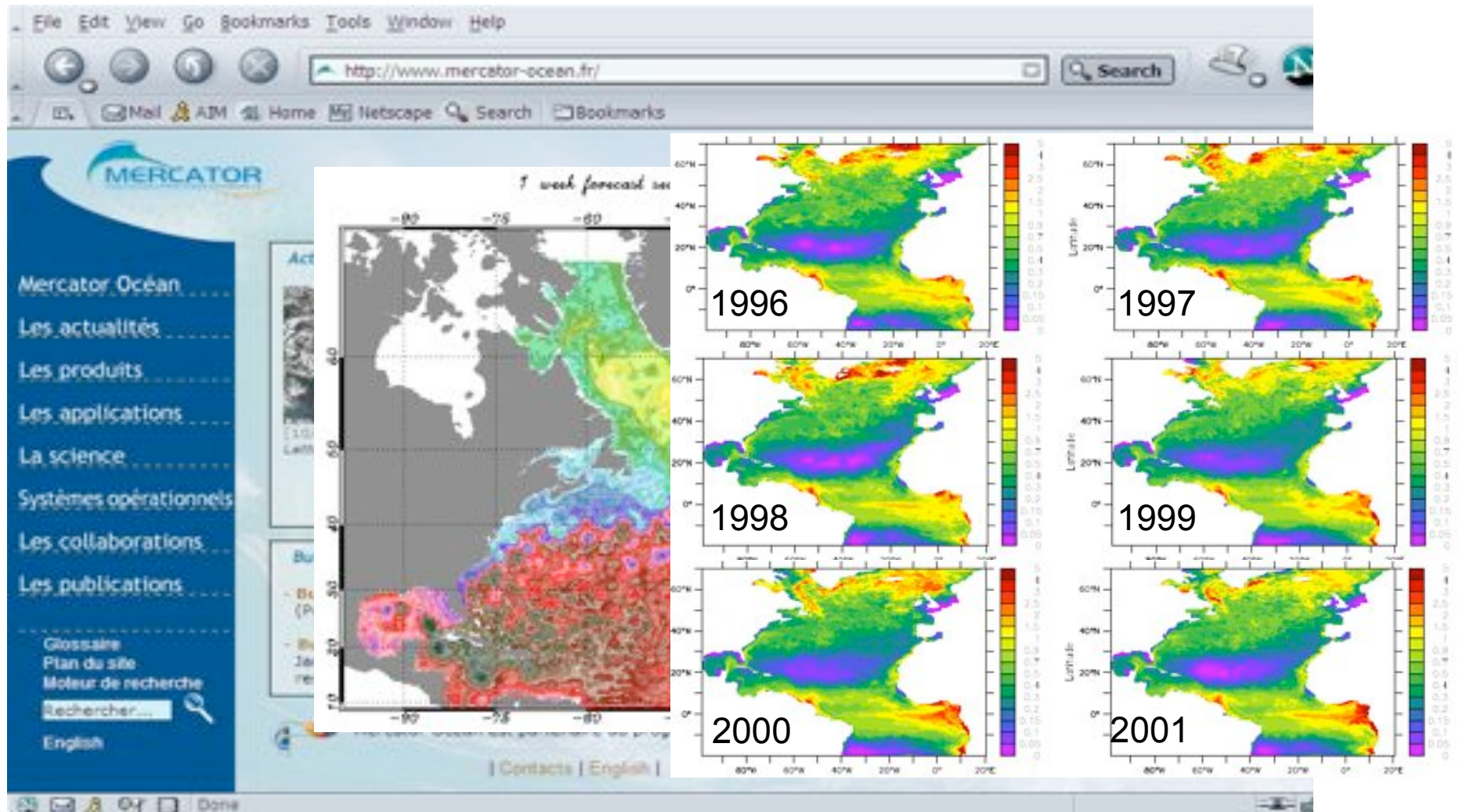
Gregg et al., 2005, GRL

## Assimilation of SLA+SST data in coupled models

Surface Chlorophyll<sub>a</sub> (mg .m<sup>-3</sup>) – seasonal average (Berline *et al.*, 2006)

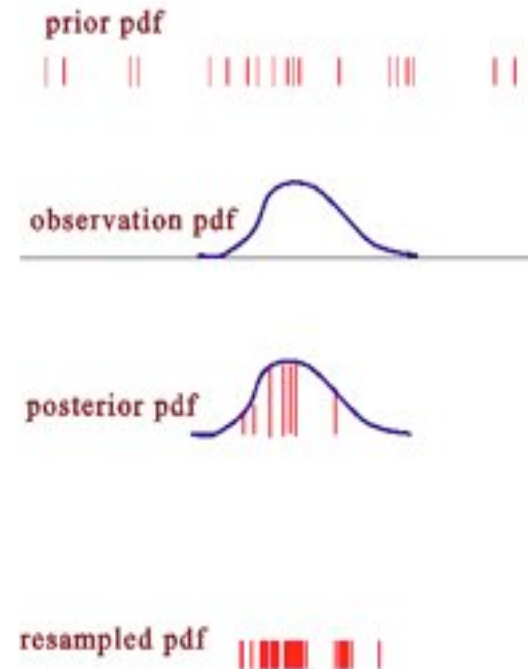
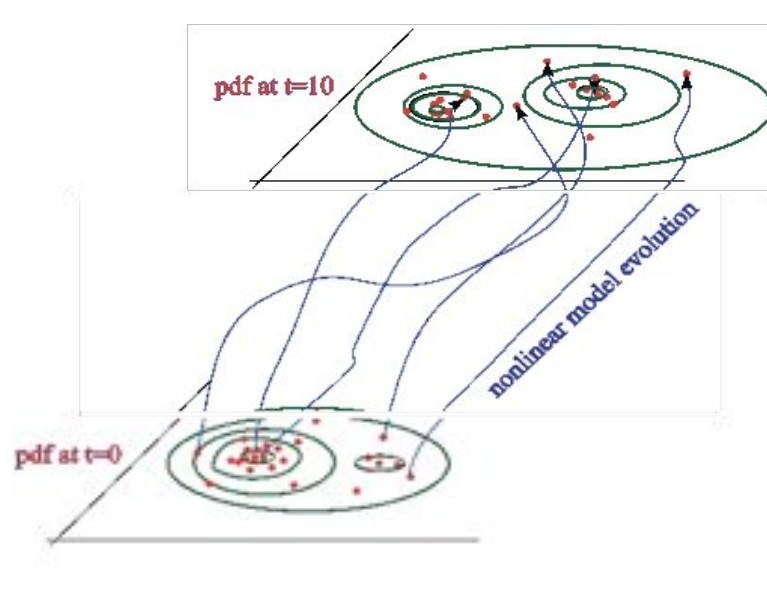


# A MERSEA demonstration: the BIONUTS/Mercator project



## Development of advanced sequential filters: towards non-linear filtering

- n Traditional data-assimilation based on linearizations (Kalman Filter, 4D-VAR)
- n Models become strongly nonlinear (physics/bio-chemistry, higher resolution)
- n Need for nonlinear data-assimilation

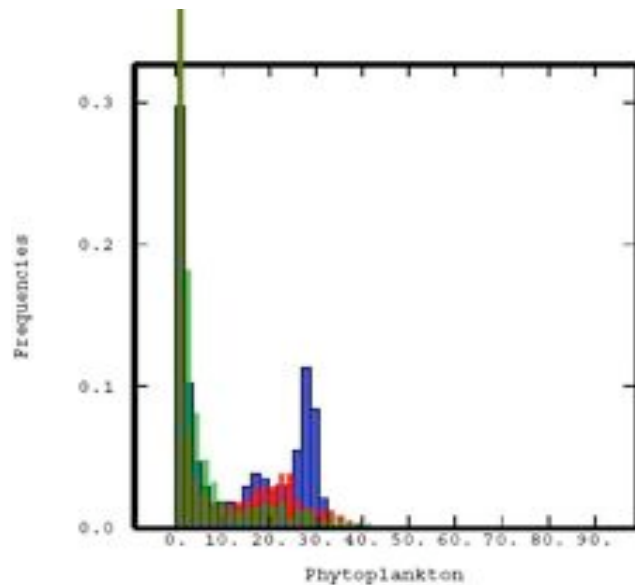


→ new « resampling » strategies (SIR, EnKF)



## Development of the EnKF: anamorphosis

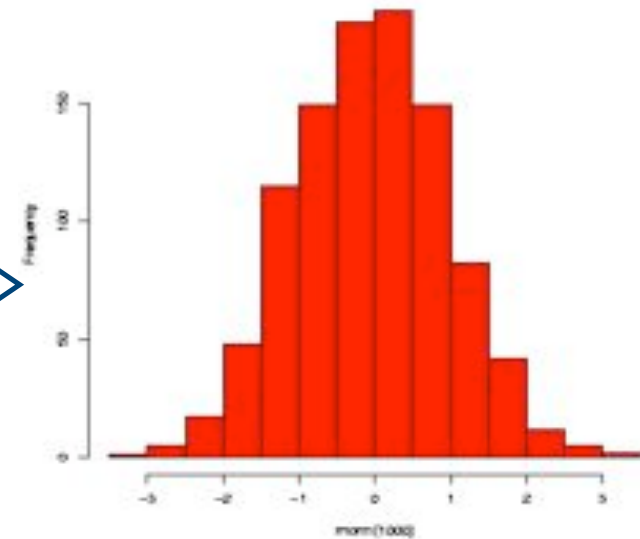
Model variable:  $P$



Example: phytoplankton  
*in situ* concentrations

$$S = \varphi(P)$$

Statistical variable:  $S$



*Improves EnKF with 1D ecosystem model [Bertino et al. ISR 2003]*



# Illustration

*Idealised case: 1-D ecological model*

- n Spring bloom model, yearly cycles in the ocean
- n *Evans & Parslow (1985), Eknes & Evensen (2002)*

## Characteristics

- *Sensitive to initial conditions*
- *Non-linear dynamics*

Nutrients

Phytoplankton

*time-depths plots*

Herbivores



## Anamorphosis: a logarithmic transform

---

Original  
histograms  
**asymmetric**

N

P

H

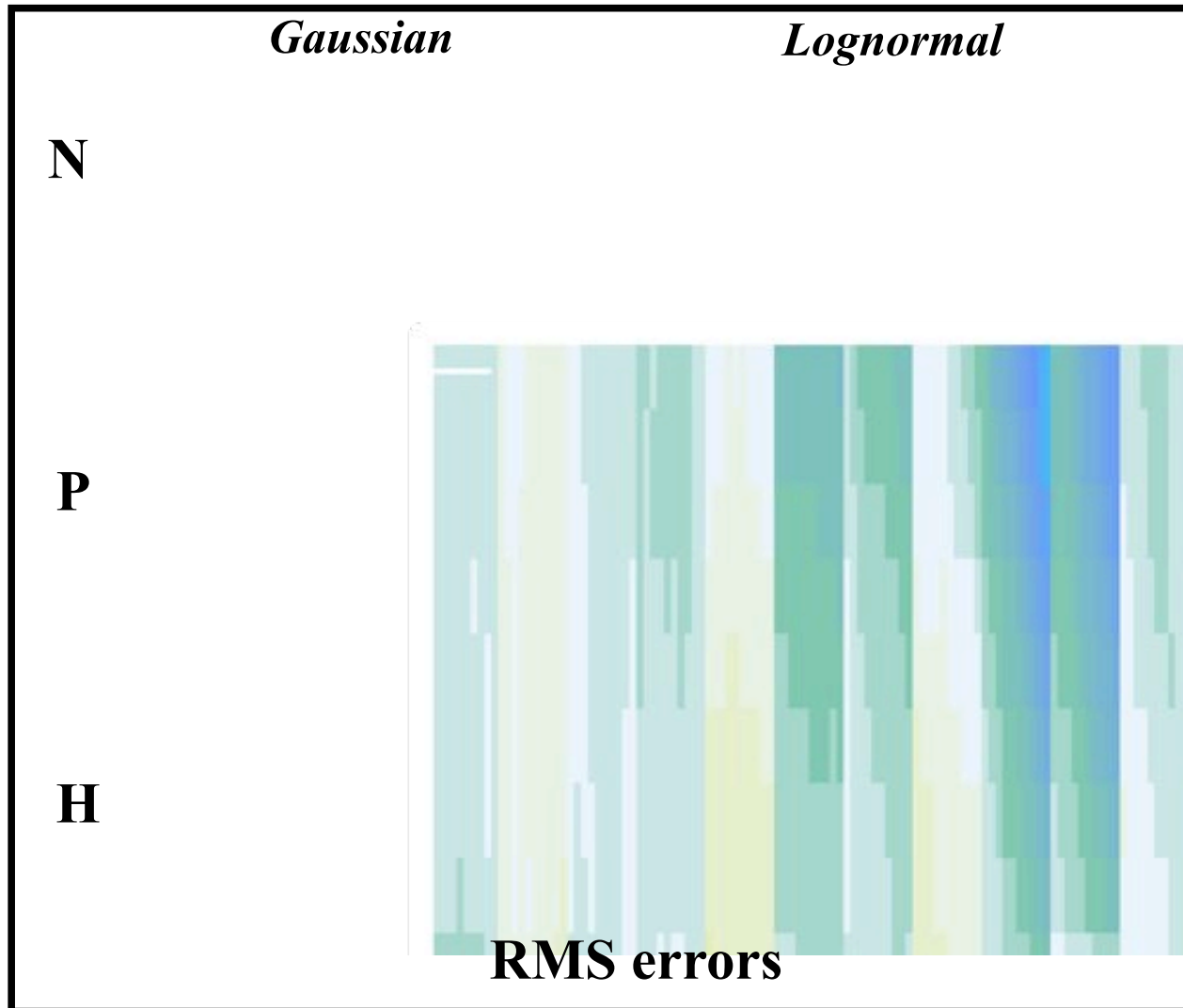
Histograms of  
logarithms  
**less**  
**asymmetric**

*Arbitrary choice, possible refinements (polynomial fit)*



# EnKF assimilation results

(Bertino et al., 2003)



- n Gaussian assumption
  - Truncated  $H < 0$
  - Low H values overestimated
  - "False starts"
- n Lognormal assumption
  - Only positive values
  - Errors dependent on values



## Concluding remarks

---

- q **Operational Oceanography is on good tracks**; the progress should continue after GODAE
- q **Satellite altimetry is absolutely vital** for ocean forecasting systems. The expected gap in altimetric missions (post-Envisat, post Jason-1) will not be filled in by alternative observing systems (in space or *in situ*).
- q Efforts should be undertaken (at institutional level) to make sure that the ocean **research and operational communities are working together** in the best possible way (GMES will not solve everything !)



www.dilbert.com



© 2003 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.



© 2003 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

**Thank you !**