

PROCESSING AND ANALYZING UNDERWATER GLIDER DATA

Platform user validation and operational oceanography training workshop

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Objectives of the presentation



- **What are glider data ?**
 - Require scientific and technical skills

- **What to do once you get your data ?**
 - Processing / adjustment / QC

- **How to interpret glider data?**
 - Basic principles and example of the ODYSSEA first glider mission

- **How to be connected with the international community?**
 - OceanGlider
 - GDAC glider toolchain

What are glider data?



What are glider data and their specificities?

- A unique sampling strategy
 - High-resolution
 - Long-term
 - Resolve a wide-range of spatio-temporal scales

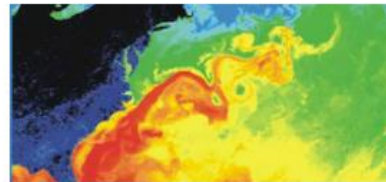
→ An efficient tool to monitor the ocean that “fill the gap”



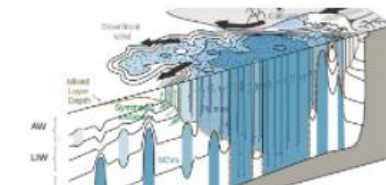
Storms



Ocean Health and Ecosystems



Boundary Currents

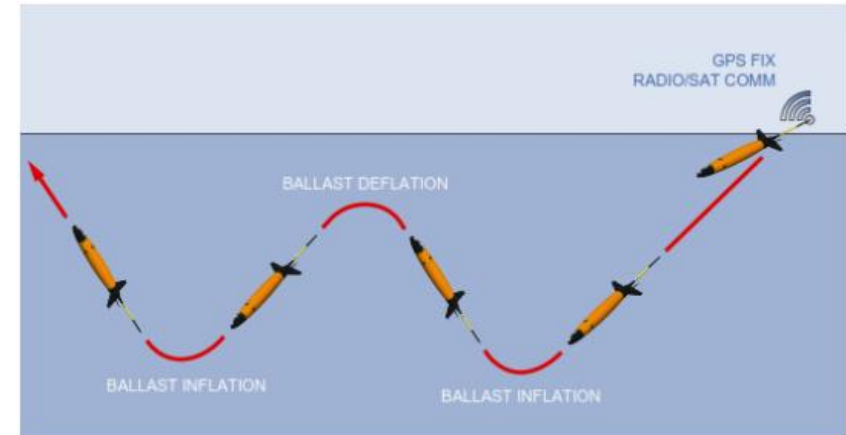


Water Transformation

What are glider data and their specificities?

■ Specificities related to the platform

- A glider is a float that move horizontally
- Neither Eulerian nor Lagrangian
- Hard to decorrelate between spatial/temporal variability
- Sawtooth trajectory
- Profiling platform



→ Require analytical tools and adapted survey

■ Specificities related to the sensors

- Significant constraints (size, power, P,T, response time, stability, Robustness, Biofouling)

→ Require tool for processing, QC/QF and data adjustment



What are glider data and their specificities?



- Glider data acquisition and recovery
 - Spatio-temporal resolution
 - Depends on the sampling rate (typically 4s for a GPCTD-DO and 1s for a FLBB-CD)
 - Depends on the glider vertical and horizontal speed
 - Can be depth and sensor-specific
 - RT dataset
 - Each time the glider surfaces (if needed)
 - Through IRRIDIM telecommunication
 - Subsampled dataset (30s-1min)
 - DM dataset
 - At the end of the mission
 - Full resolution dataset

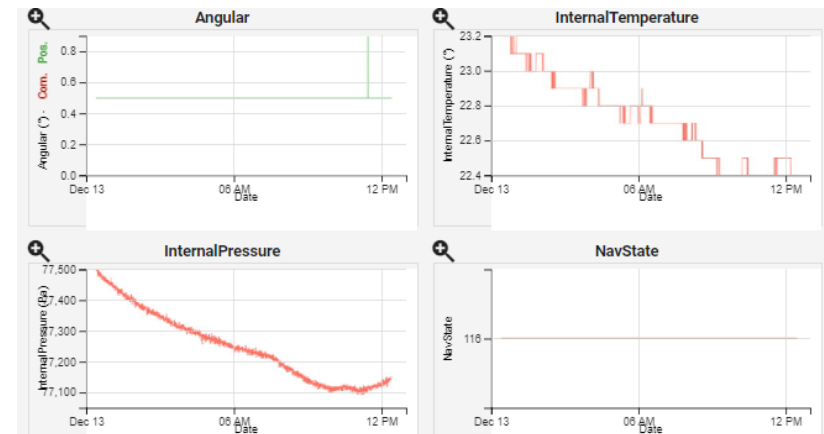
What are glider data and their specificities?



■ Structure of glider's files

- 1 *.csv file per yo
- Each measurement is associated to a time and a geographical position (P,T,S)
- Navigation files (*.gli)
 - Contain the technical information of the glider
- Payload files (*.pld)
 - Contain the scientific data

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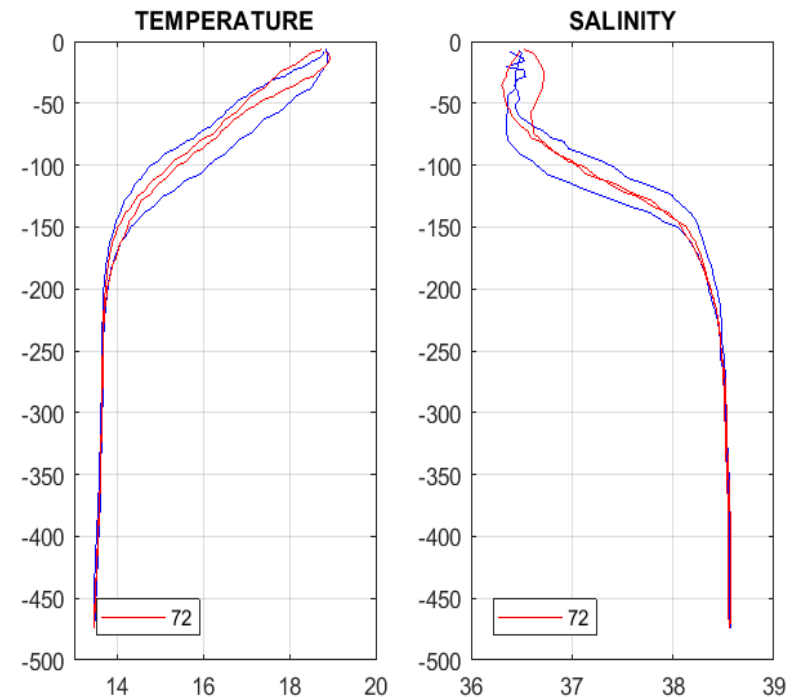


What to do once you get your data?



What to do once you get your data?

- Convert data in physical units
 - PSAL from raw conductivity measurements
 - RHO from the 48-term function of TEMP, SAL and PRES
 - DO from Hz to $\mu\text{mol/kg}$ (use calibration sheet and formulae)
 - http://www.teos-10.org/pubs/IOC-XXV-3_e.pdf
- Adjust data (according to published methods)
 - Thermal lag effect
 - Time lag

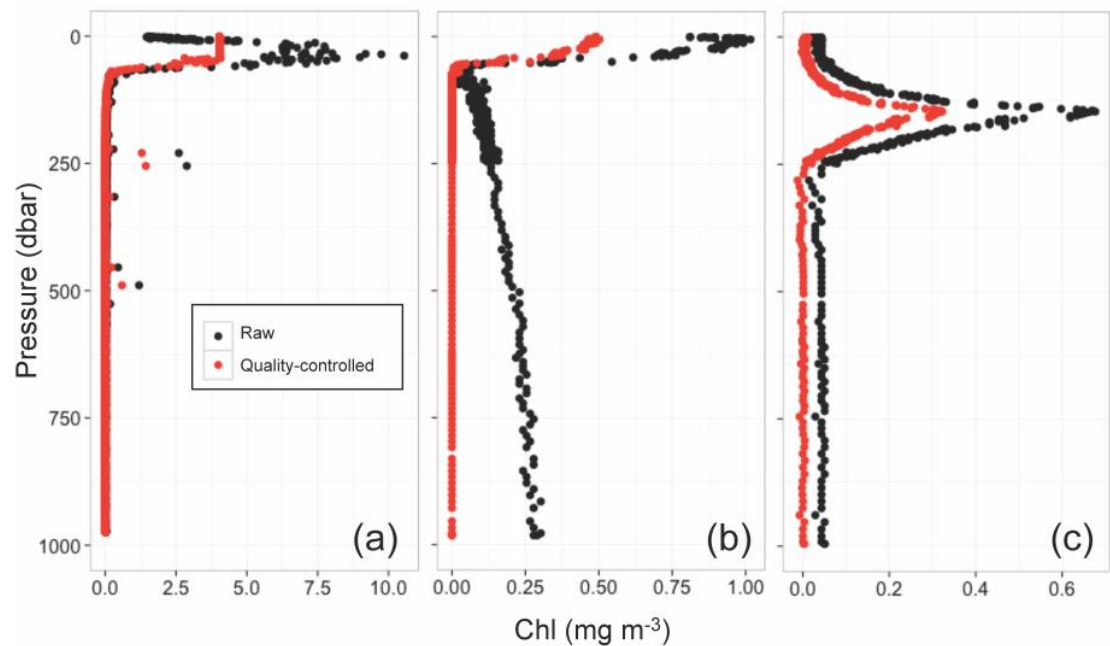


Example from ODYSSEA mission

What to do once you get your data?

- Convert data in physical units using calibration factor
 - Using calibration factor

- Adjust data
 - Dark offset
 - Quenching
 - ...

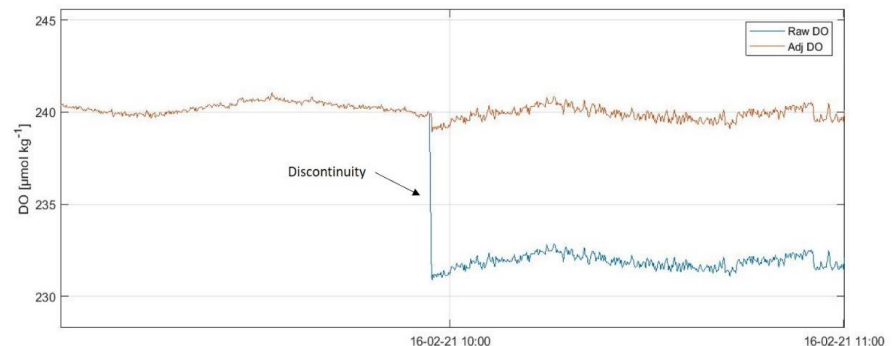
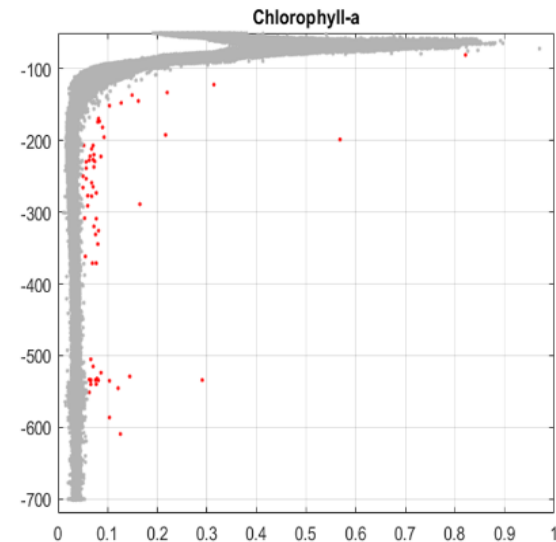


From Organelli et al., (2020)

What to do once you get your data?

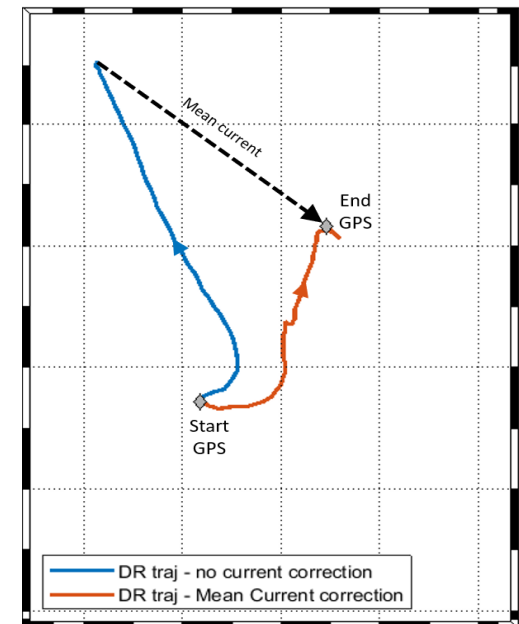
- RT
 - Regional range tests
 - Spikes
 - Offset
 - ...
- DM
 - Sensor drift
 - Discontinuities
 - Expert (Stat., NN, Database)
 -

→ Best practice recommend
the acquisition of reference data



What to do once you get your data?

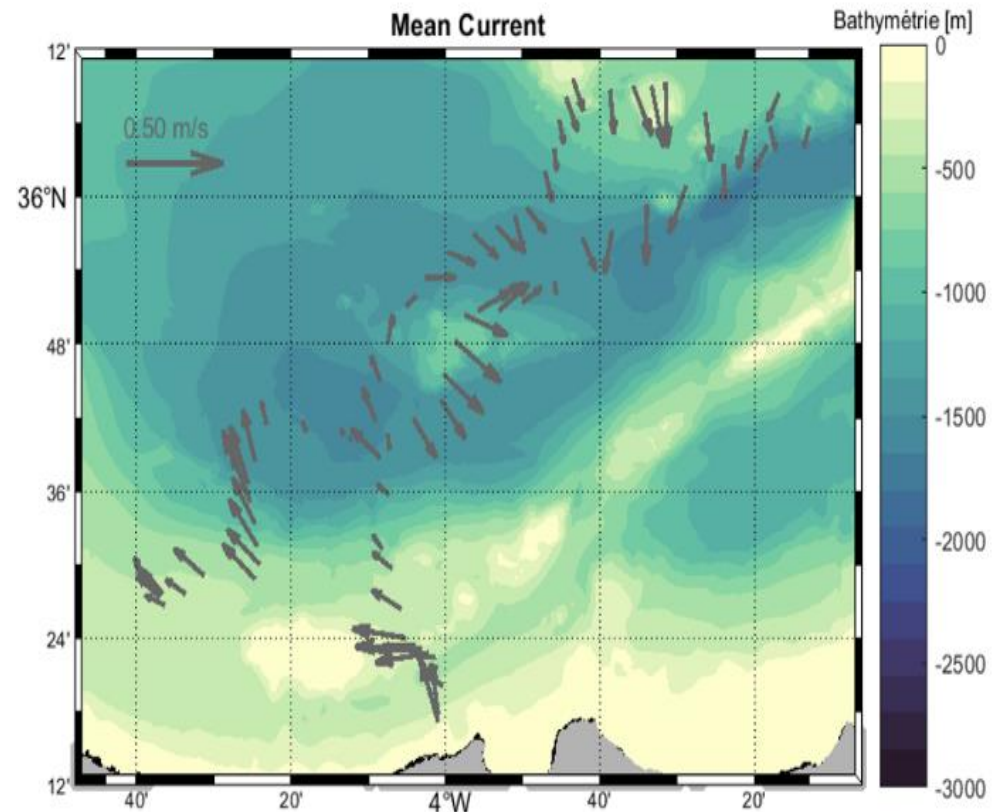
- Glider position known in surface (GPS)
- Within the water-column the position is estimated through the flight model
- The glider is subject to currents and its predicted trajectory rarely coincides with the true position at the end of a dive



- → Difference between predicted (flight model) and measured (GPS) position =
Depth average current

What to do once you get your data?

- Example in ODYSSEA mission



How to interpret glider data?



ODYSSEA

How to interpret glider data?



- Basic recommendations
 - Principle / Anti-principle of (glider) data analysis (<http://jmlilly.net/>)
 - First examine the data with the simplest possible methods and gradually add complexity as needed
 - Find a way to look at the data in such a way that it simplifies
 - Synergy with other dataset

- Additional recommendations relative to BGC data : you measure proxy !
 - PHYTO = Chlorophyll-a fluorescence (NPQ etc.)
 - CDOM = fluorescent dissolved organic matter
 - Turbidity = backscatter index at 700nm

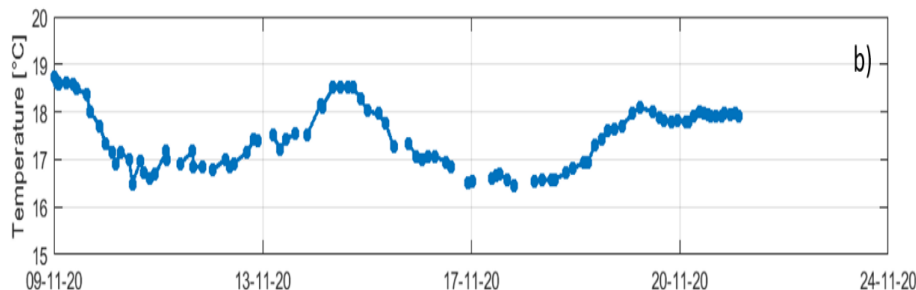
How to interpret glider data?

■ Graphical representation of glider data

- Time-series

- 2D

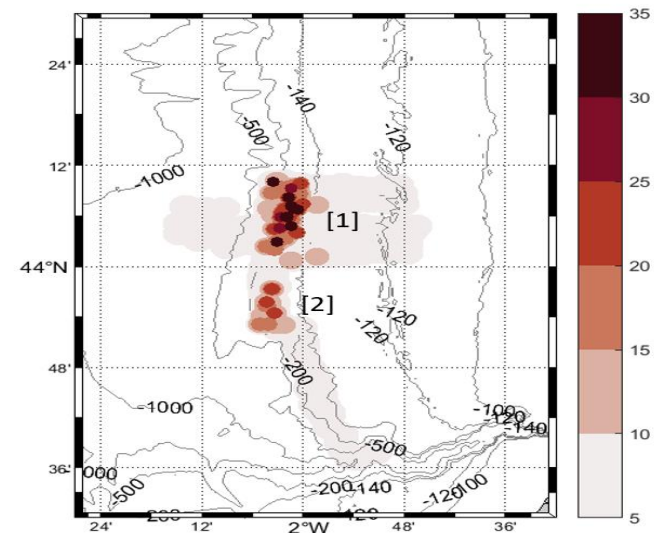
- Focus on the temporal variability



- Map

- 2D

- Focus on the spatial dimension



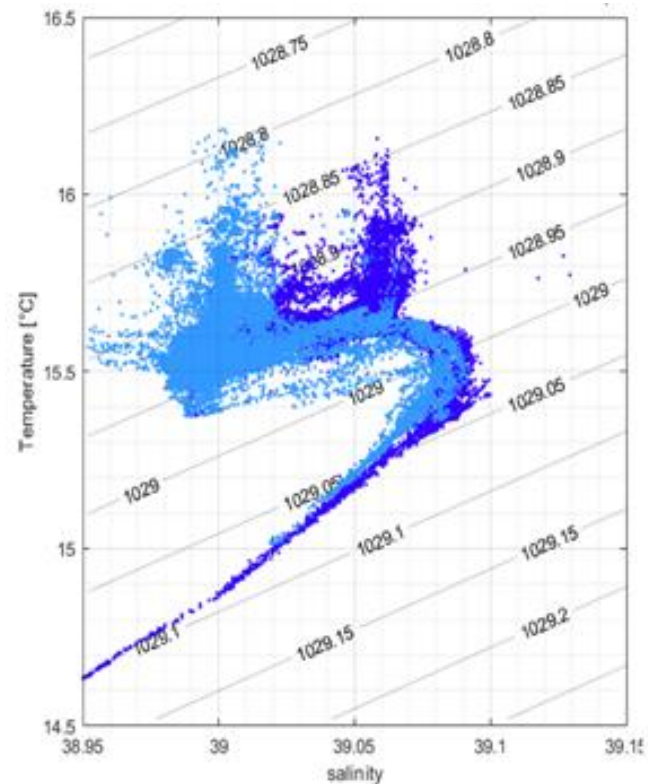
How to interpret glider data?

- Graphical representation of glider data

- Diagram T-S

- Focus on water-masses

- Focus on mixing



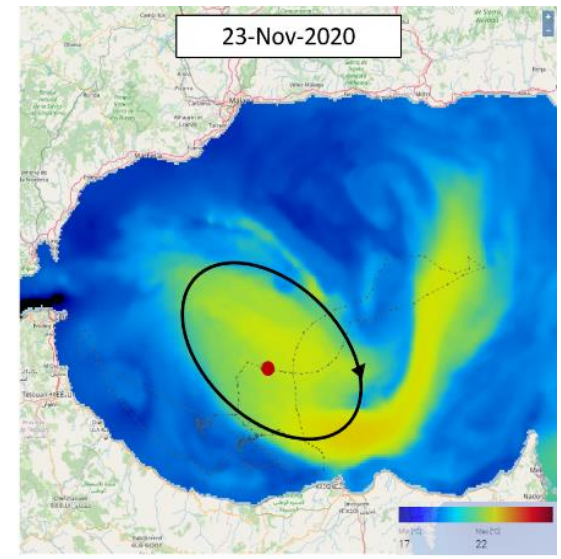
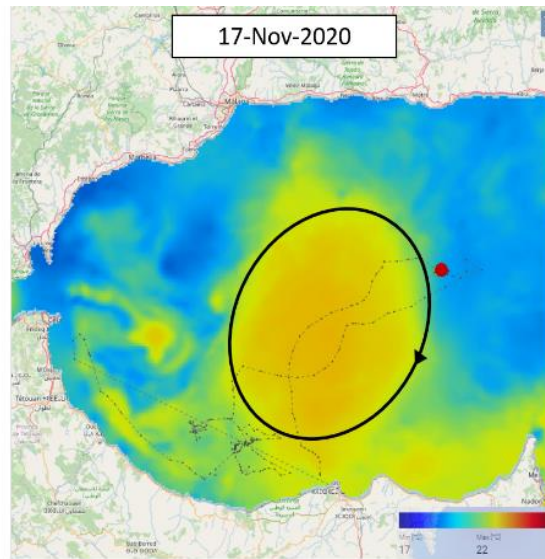
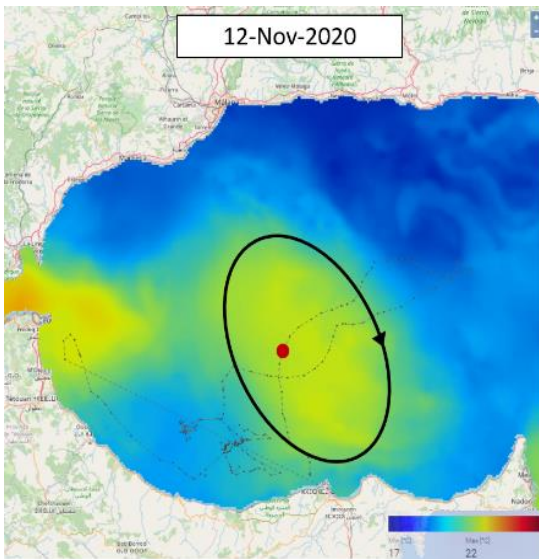
Example of the first ODYSSEA glider mission



- 3-D context (synergy with other platforms)
 - e.g. complementarity with satellite data
 - Help interpreting glider profiles
 - <https://marine.copernicus.eu/>

WAG

- anticyclonic gyre
- warm core
- Size/location variable



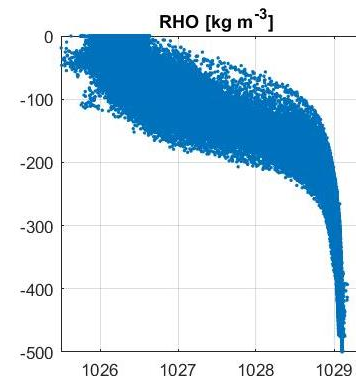
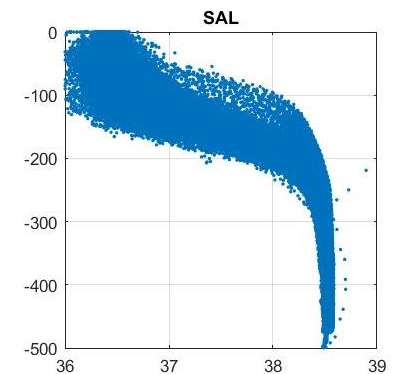
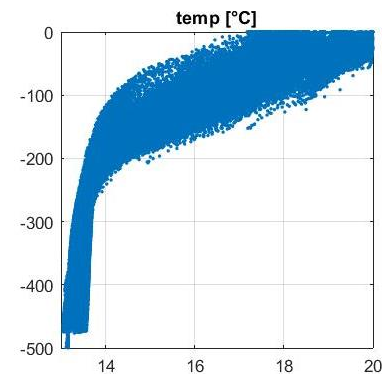
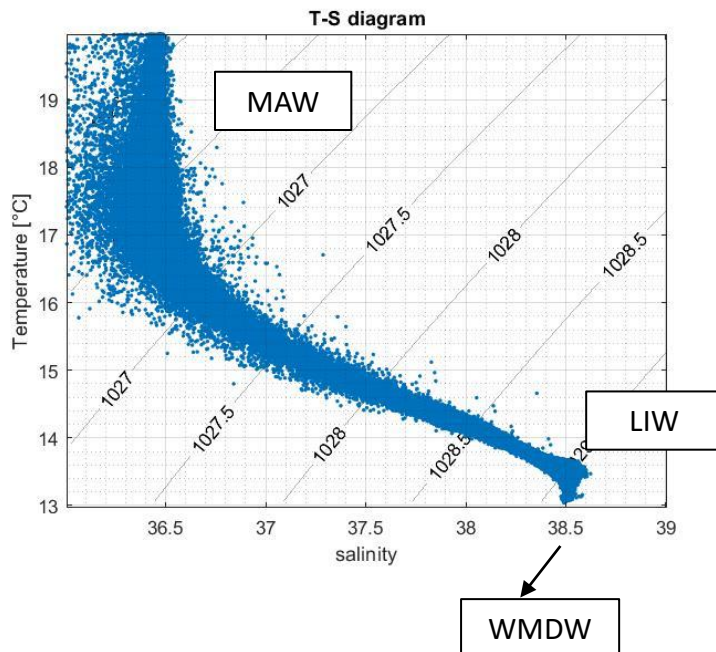
Nibani et al., (EUROGOOS - 2021)

Example of the first ODYSSEA glider mission



■ Vertical structure

- T (resp. S) decrease (resp.) increase with depth
- Important variability above the thermocline

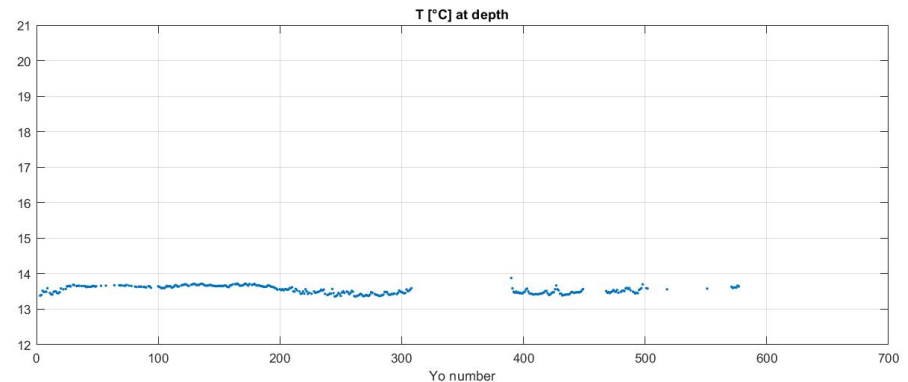
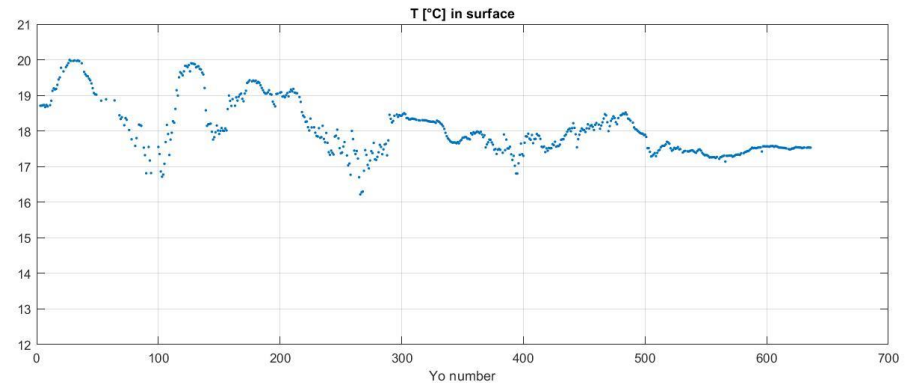


*Nibani et al.,
(EUROGOOS - 2021)*

Example of the first ODYSSEA glider mission



- Temporal variability
 - In surface from 16 to 20°C
 - Almost no variability at depth



- Decorrelation between the surface and the deep layer
- What can explain the observed variability?

Nibani et al., (EUROGOOS - 2021)

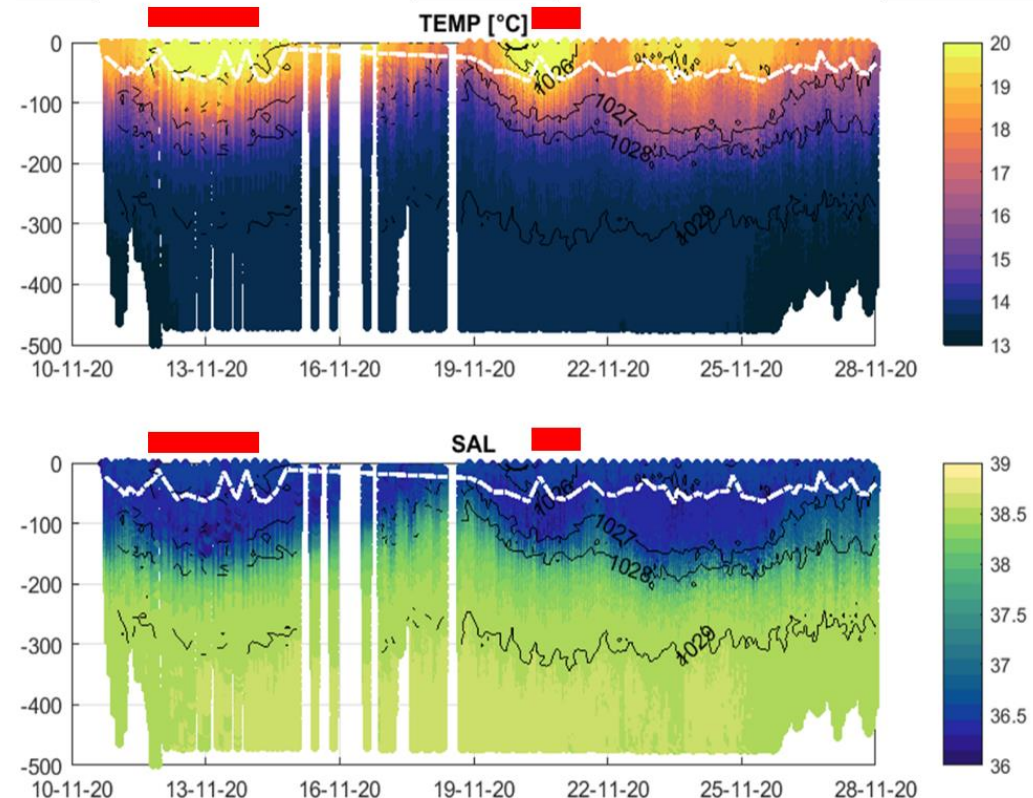
Example of the first ODYSSEA glider mission



- Glider Hovmoller diagram

- Clear signature of the WAG
- Uplift of isopycnal levels

- Glider data allows to describe the WAG structure in the whole water-column
- Open questions : impact on the ecosystem, mixing of Atlantic waters?



Nibani et al., (EUROGOOS - 2021)

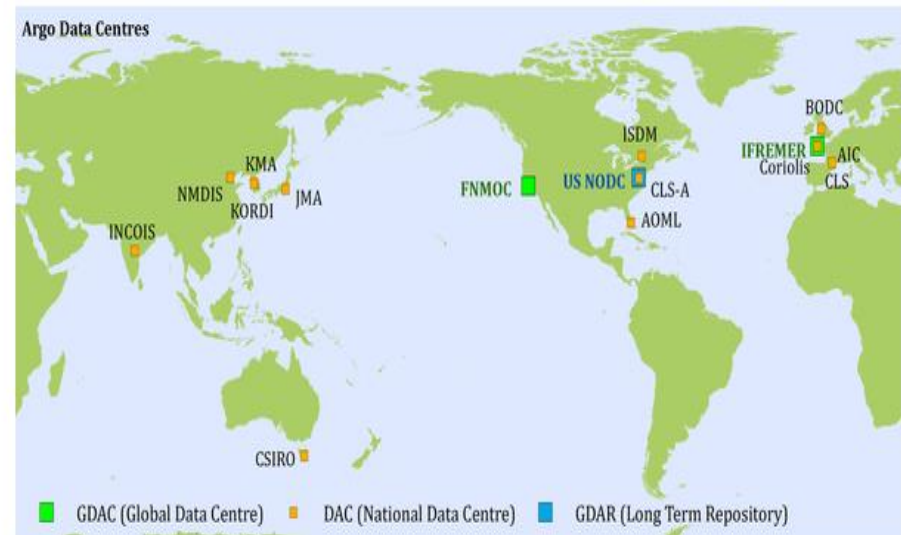
How to be connected with the international community ?



The international community



- OceanGliders
 - support coordination of the worldwide glider activity
 - www.oceangliders.org
- Best practice and recommendations documentation
 - Standard operating practice (SOP)
 - Processing and CQ
- Send your data to the GDAC
 - Gain visibility
 - Obtain a WMO
 - Get your data processed according to international standard



Available tools

- Coriolis processing chain
 - Decode and format the glider data and metadata
 - Apply Real Time Quality Control (RT QC) tests
 - Generate NetCDF files
 - <https://www.seanoe.org/data/00343/45402/>

- SOCIB toolbox
 - https://github.com/socib/glider_toolbox

THANK-YOU

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