

Gael Forget  
MIT, Jan. 8th 2016



Introduction to ocean  
data-model analysis

# Class overviews

- I. observations
- II. gridded products
- III. numerical models
- IV. completion of activities

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Introduction to ocean  
data-model analysis

# structure of each session

1. review (1/4h)
2. introductory slides (1/2h)
3. activity period (3/4h)

# Links

- IAP course material: [http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/MITgcm/MITgcm\\_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2016/](http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/MITgcm/MITgcm_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2016/)
- ECCO v4 overview paper: <http://www.geosci-model-dev.net/8/3071/2015/gmd-8-3071-2015.html>
- ECCO v4 user guide: [http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/\\*checkout\\*/MITgcm/MITgcm\\_contrib/gael/verification/eccov4.pdf](http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/*checkout*/MITgcm/MITgcm_contrib/gael/verification/eccov4.pdf)
- MITgcm user guide : [http://mitgcm.org/public/r2\\_manual/latest/online\\_documents/manual.pdf](http://mitgcm.org/public/r2_manual/latest/online_documents/manual.pdf)
- Paper reprints: <http://www.gaelforget.net/publications/>

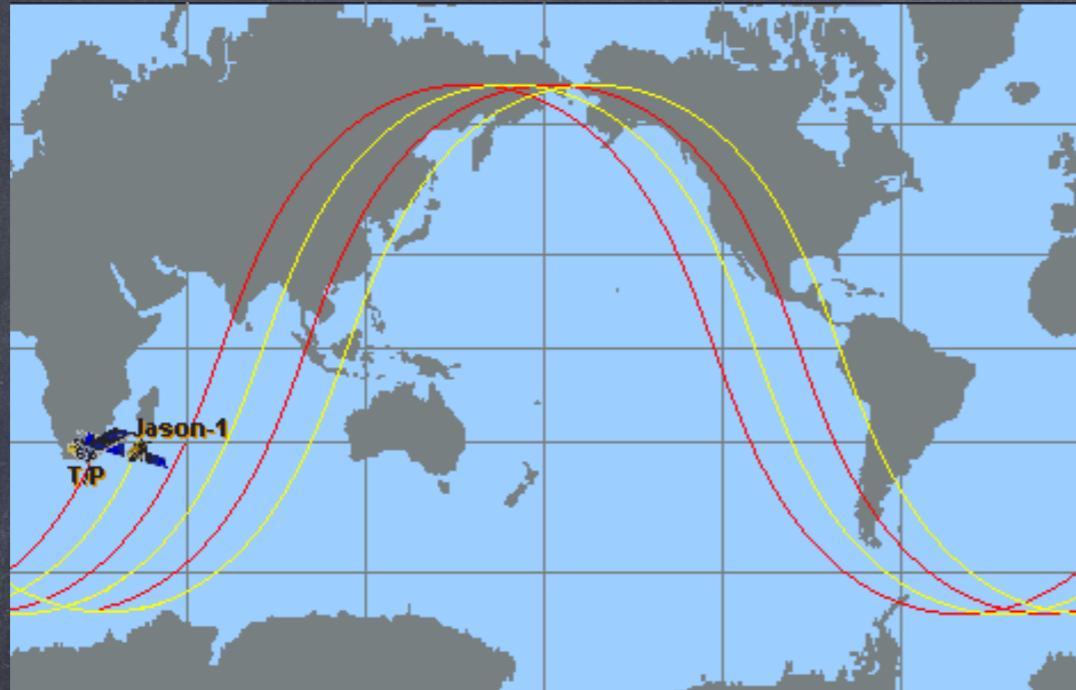
# SESSION I : observations

1. data collection
2. observational statistics
3. MITprof data sets
4. *activity period*

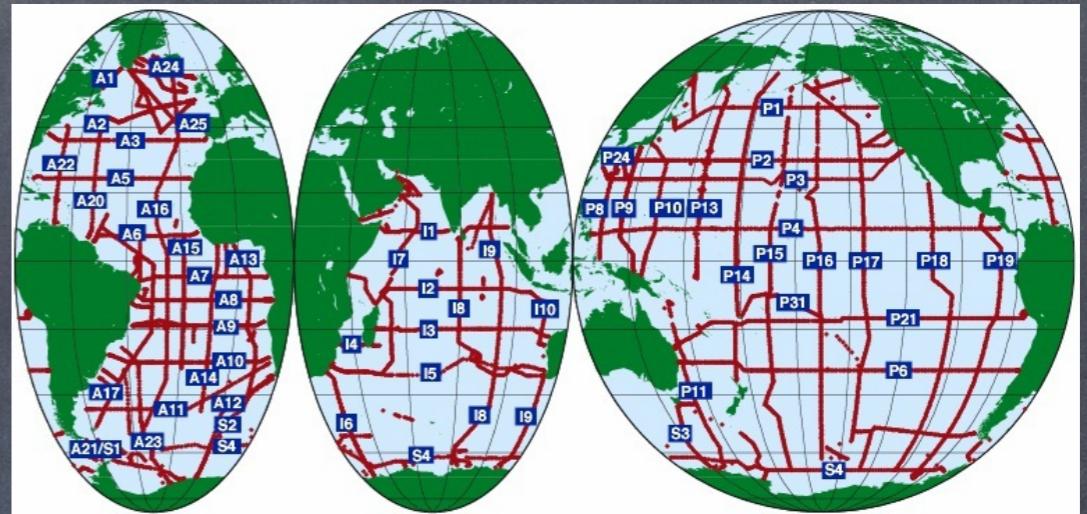
what do I like 'pure' observations for?

1. observational statistics
2. testing models
3. basis for estimation

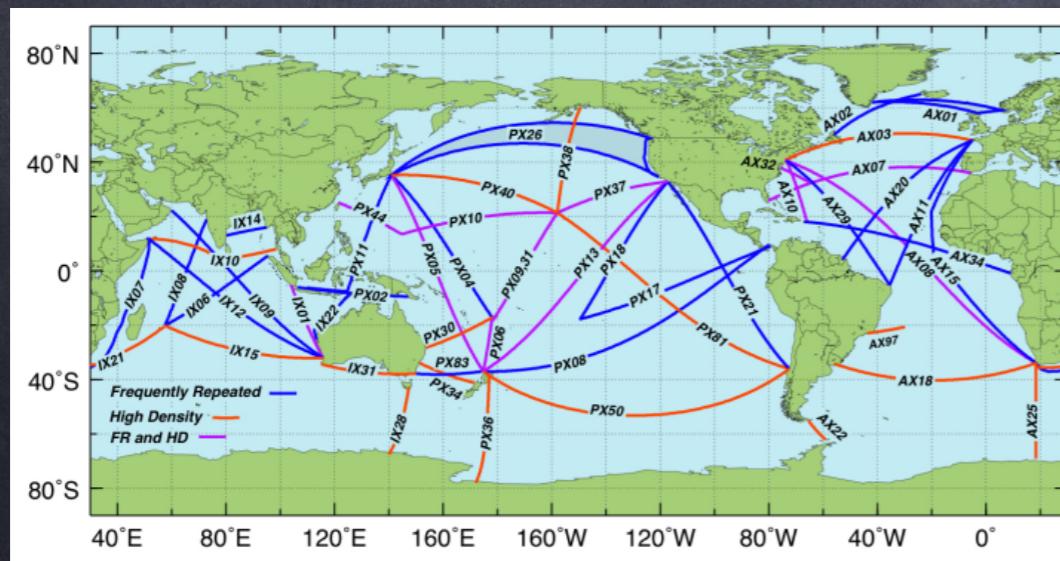
# (1) data collection



remote sensing



WOCE repeat

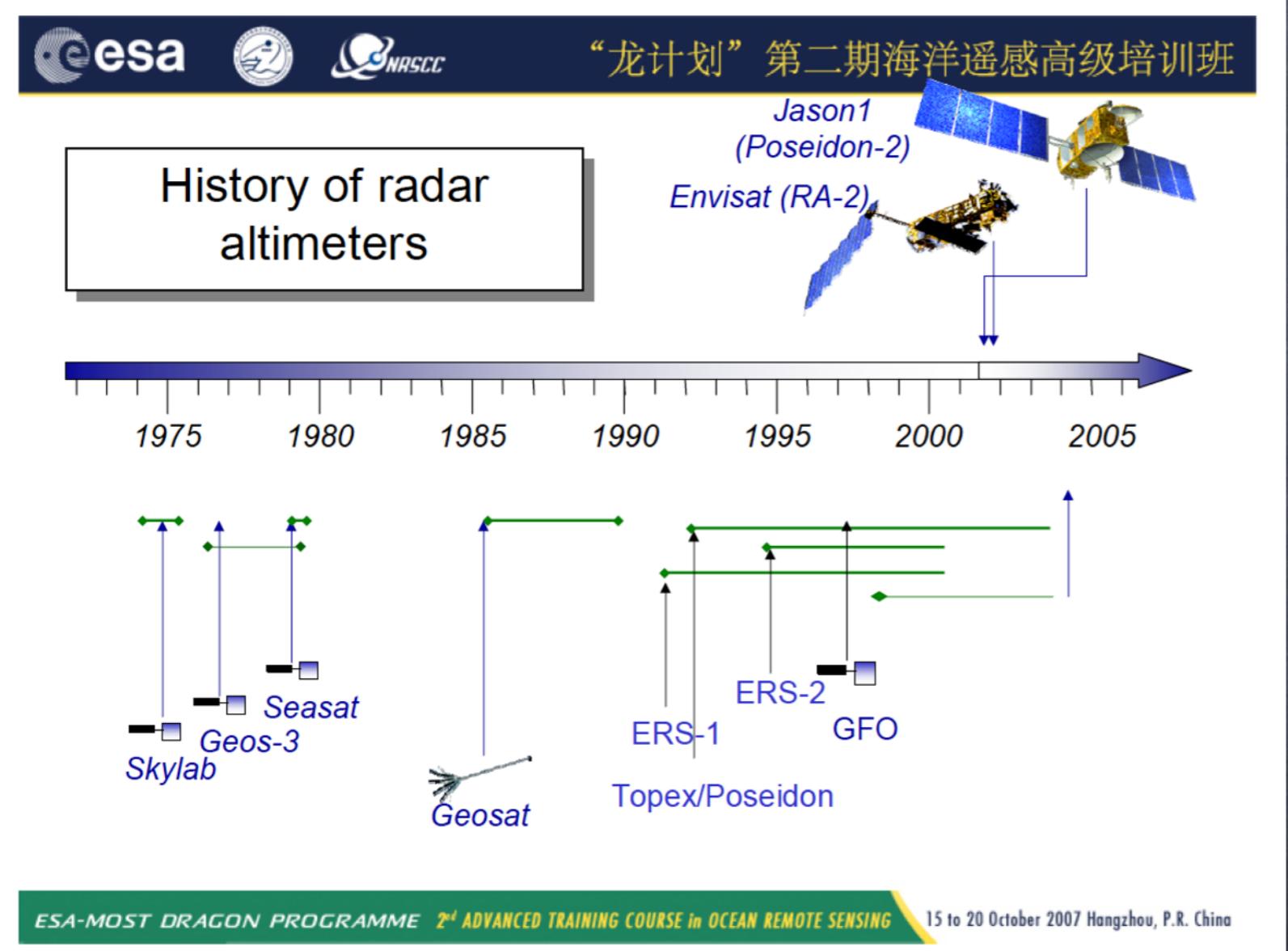


XBT repeat



Argo

# (1) data collection



observed variables:

- SST
- ALTIMETRY
- OCEAN MASS
- OCEAN COLOR
- SSS
- ...

(ESA source)

# (1) data collection

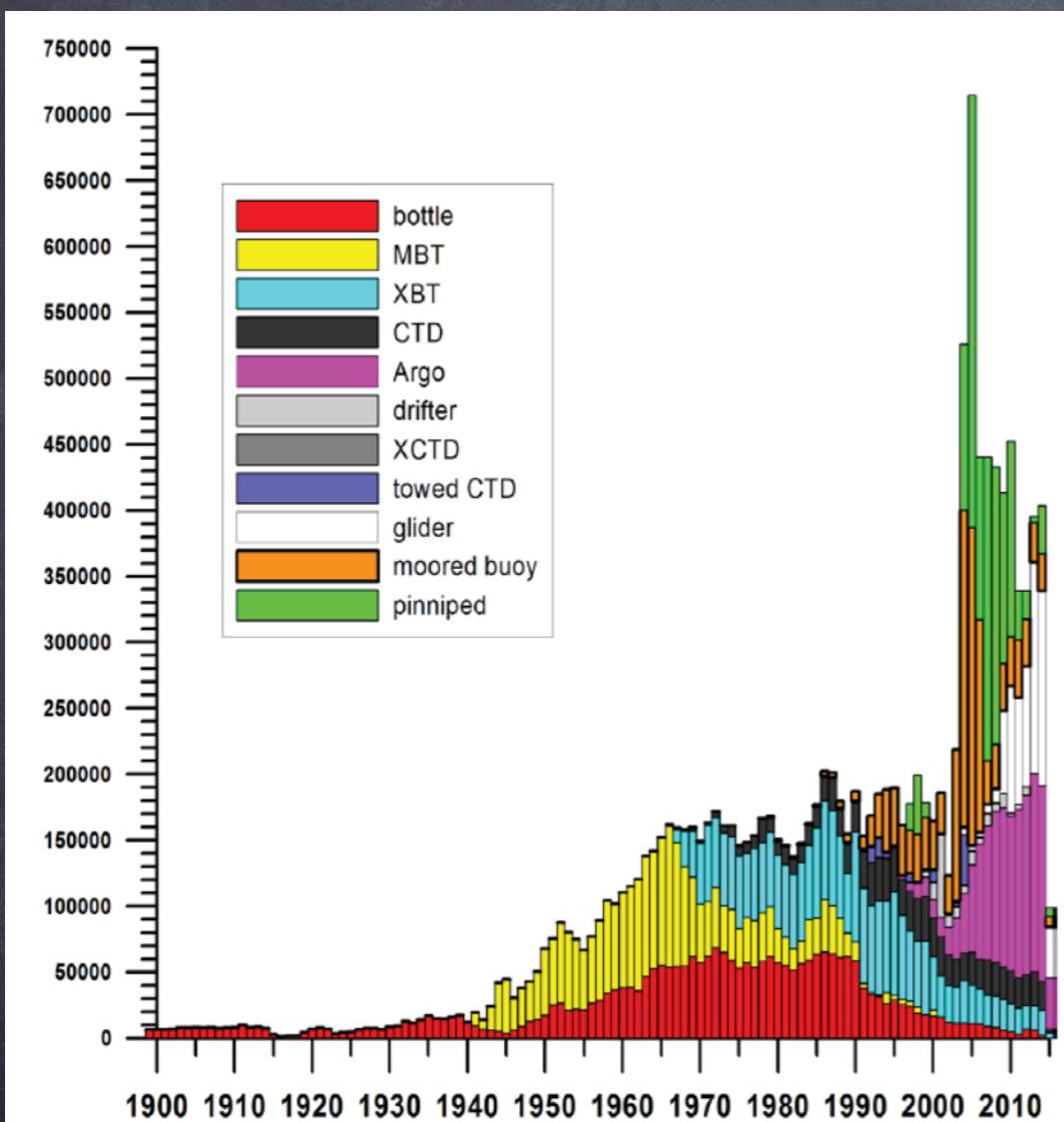


Figure 1: Number of oceanographic casts by instrument for each year 1900-2015 (first quarter) in the World Ocean Database. A cast is a one or more co-located depth/variable profiles.

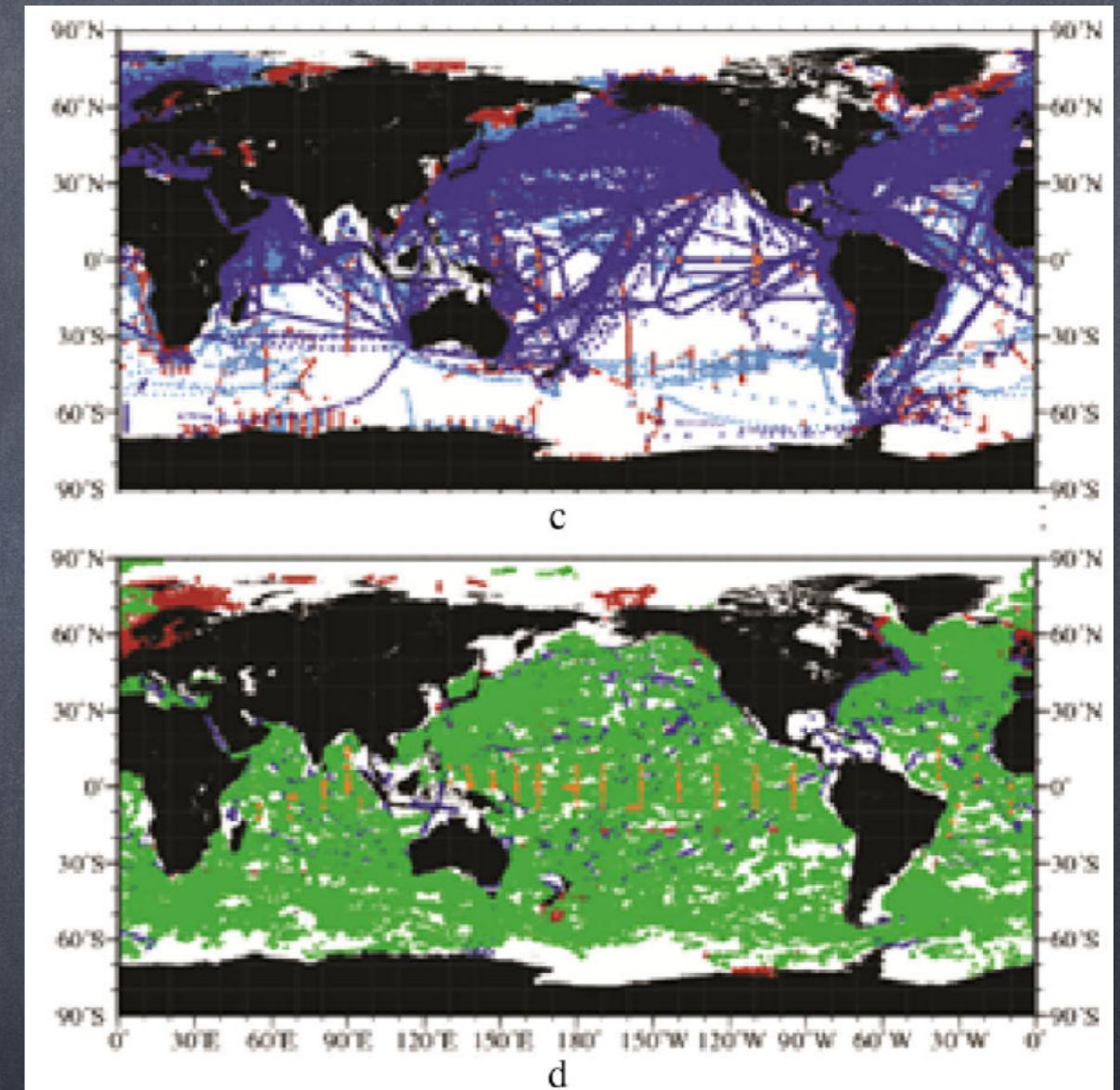
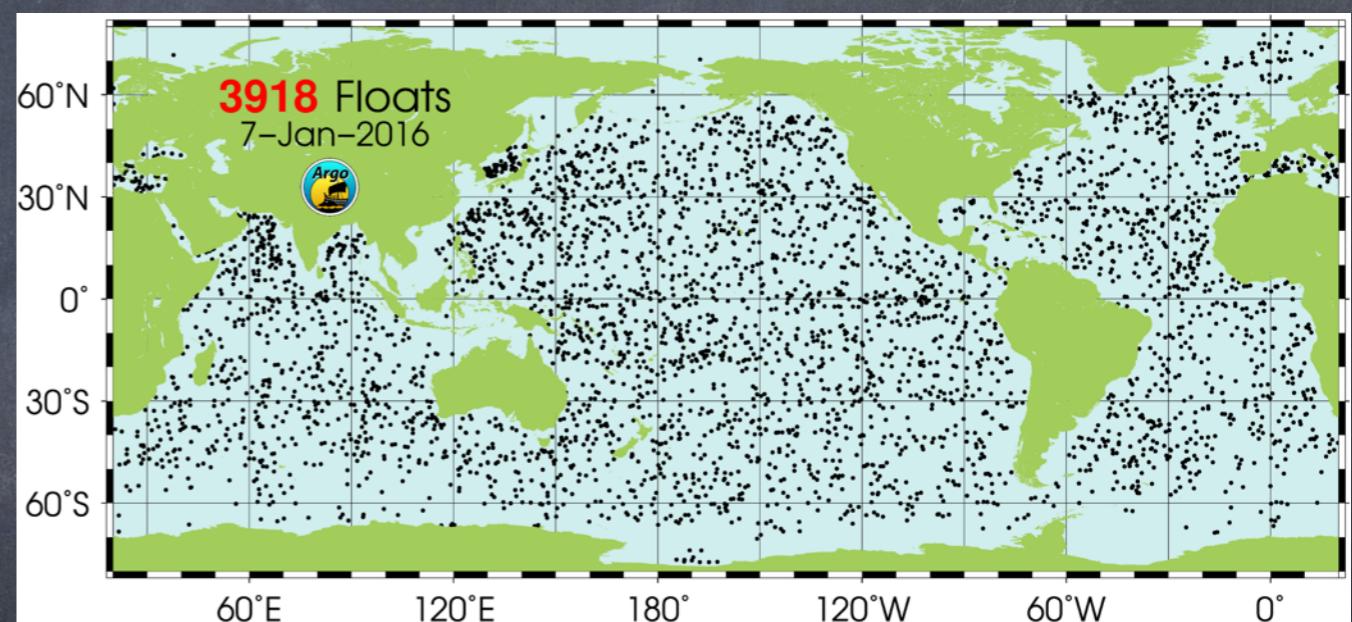
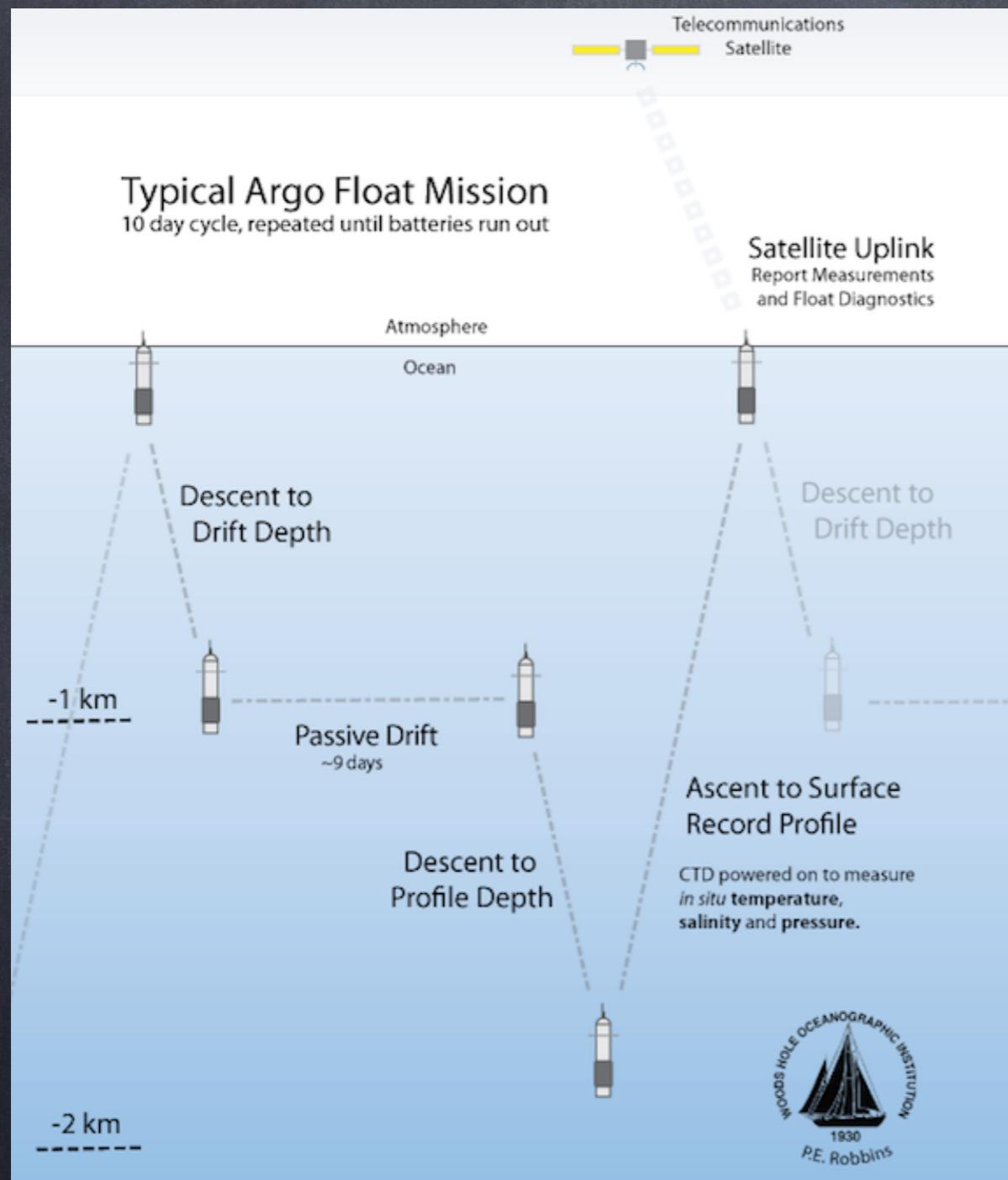


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of subsurface temperature profiles for (a) 1934, (b) 1960, (c) 1985, and (d) 2009.

(Domingues et al. 2015)

(Abraham et al. 2013)

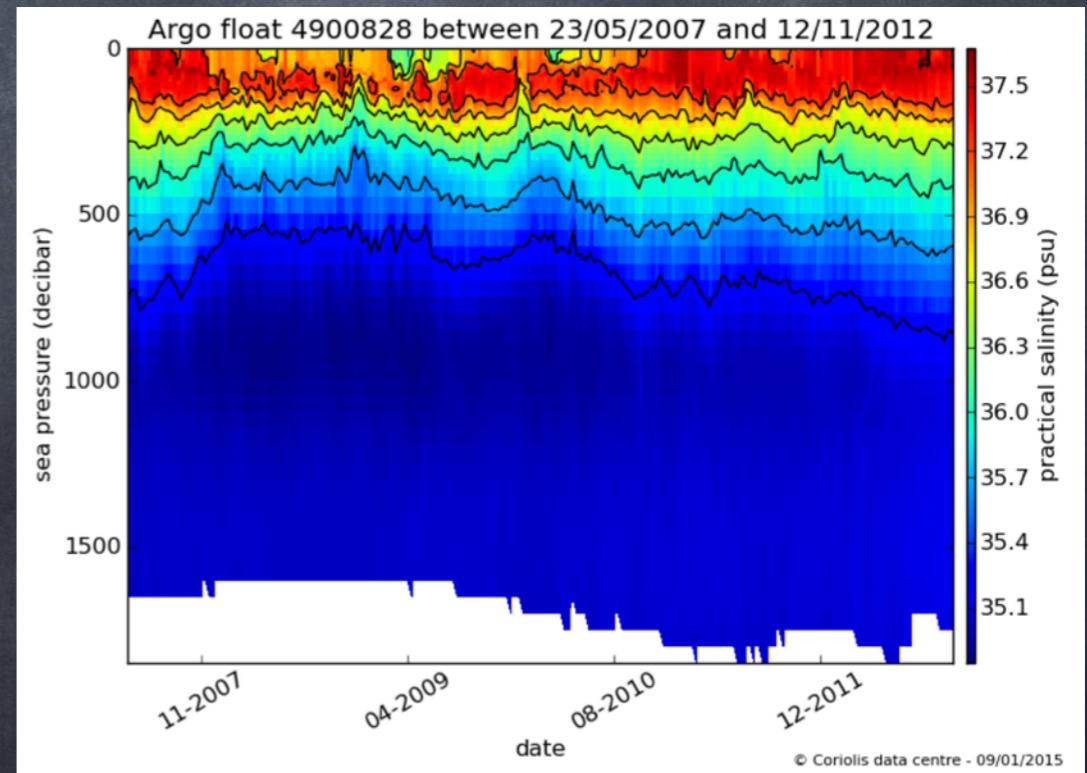
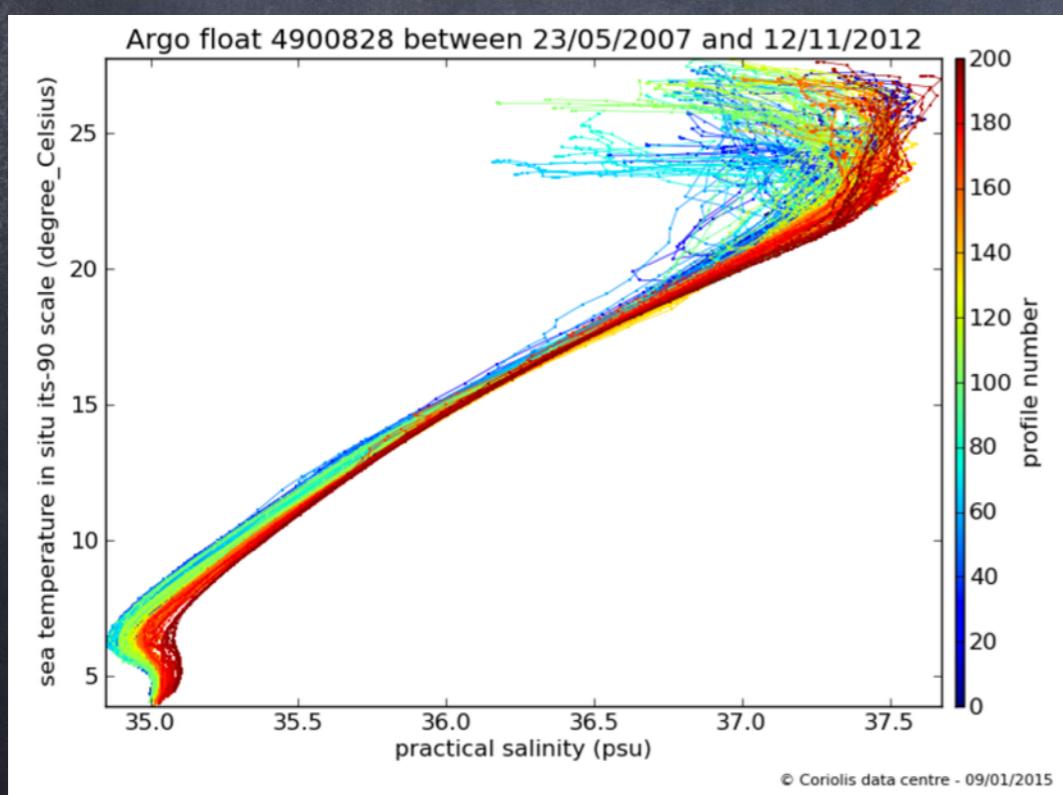
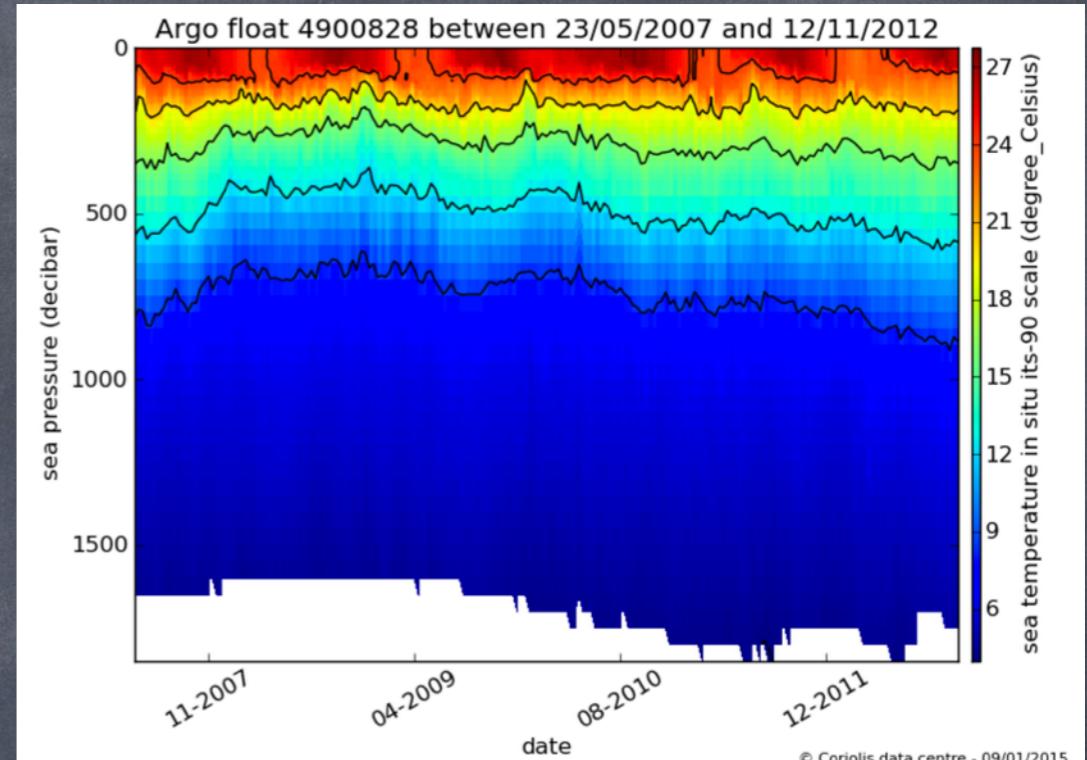
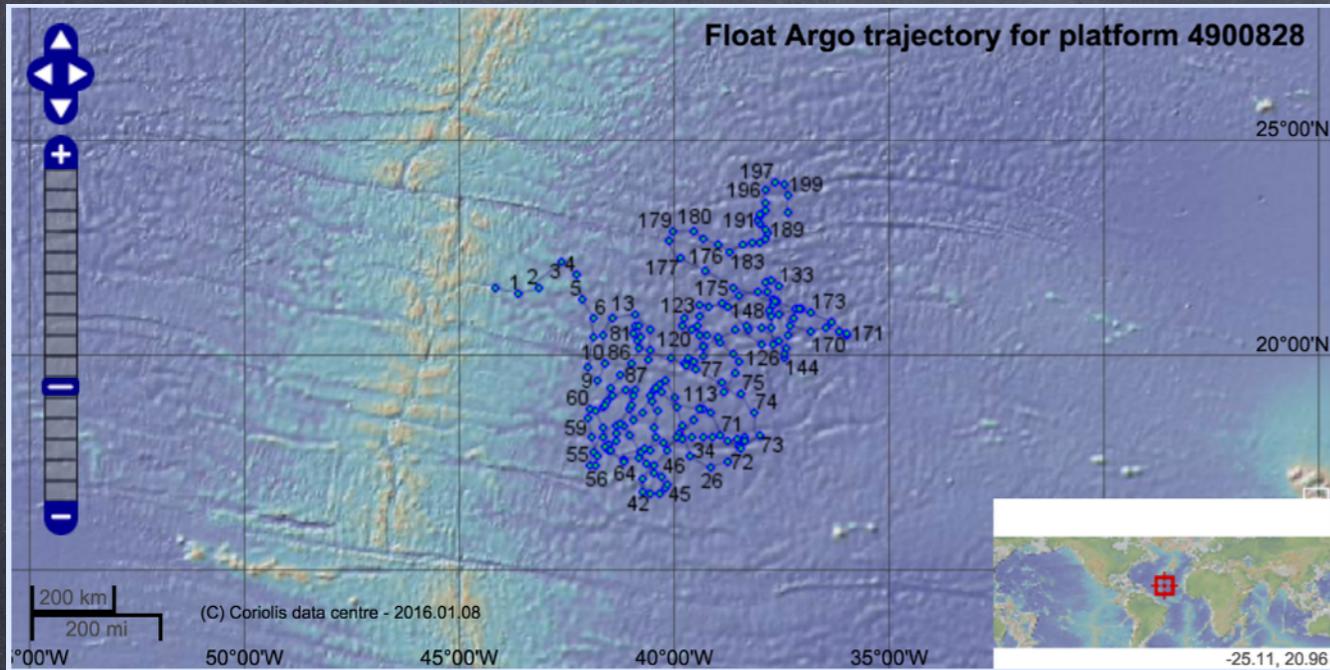
# (1) data collection



(<http://argo.whoi.edu/>)

(<http://www.argo.ucsd.edu/>)

# (1) data collection



(<http://www.argodatamgt.org> > Access to data >> Description of all floats)

## (2) observational statistics

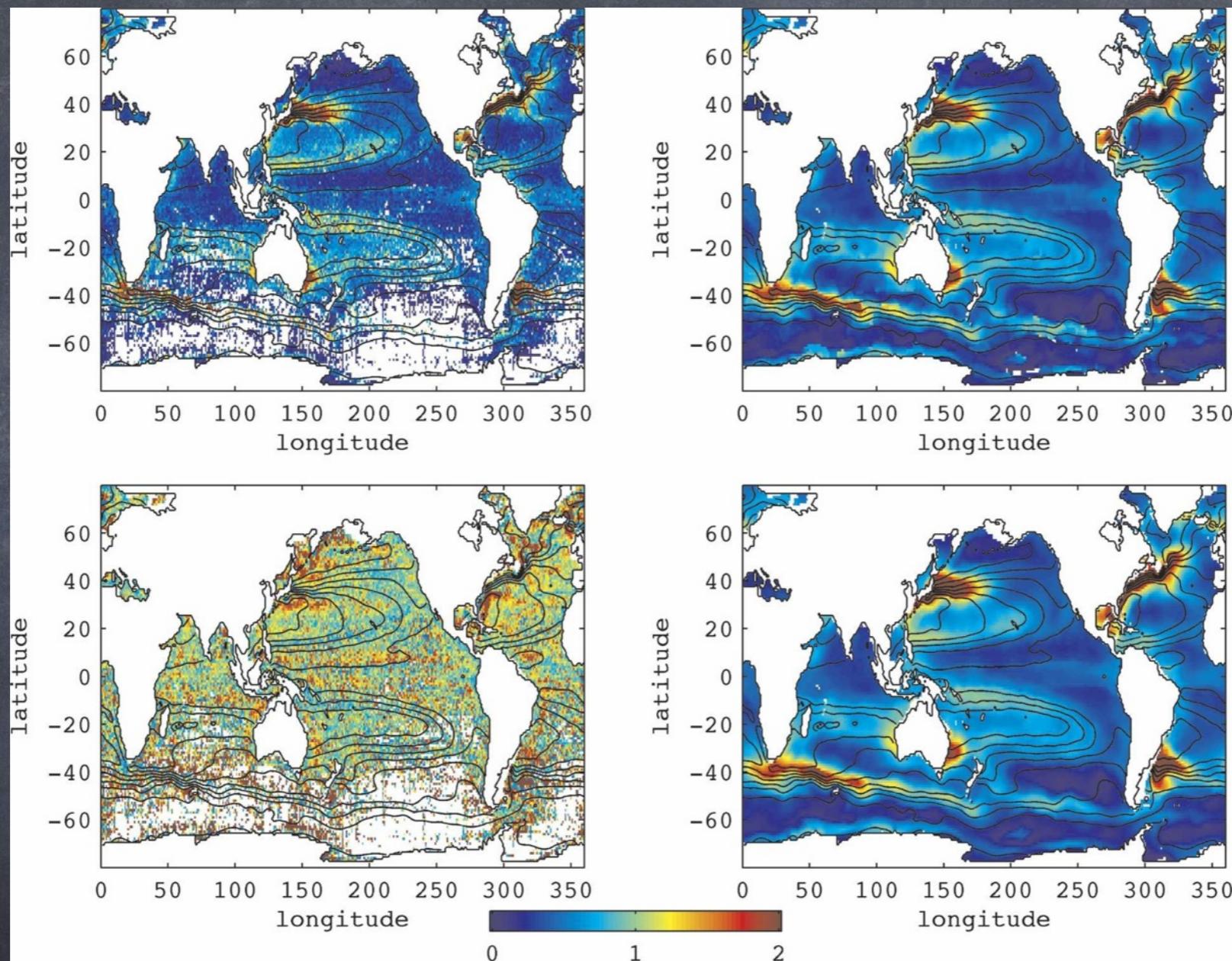


FIG. 3. Illustration of the methodology (see text) for  $T$  at 300 m: (top left) pointwise, (top right) mapped, and (bottom right) estimated standard deviations of  $T$  ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ); and (bottom left) the ratio of the mapped to the pointwise standard deviations. Superimposed contours: annual mean climatological  $T$  ( $\bar{T}$ ) from Stephens et al. (2002) with an interval of  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

## (2) observational statistics

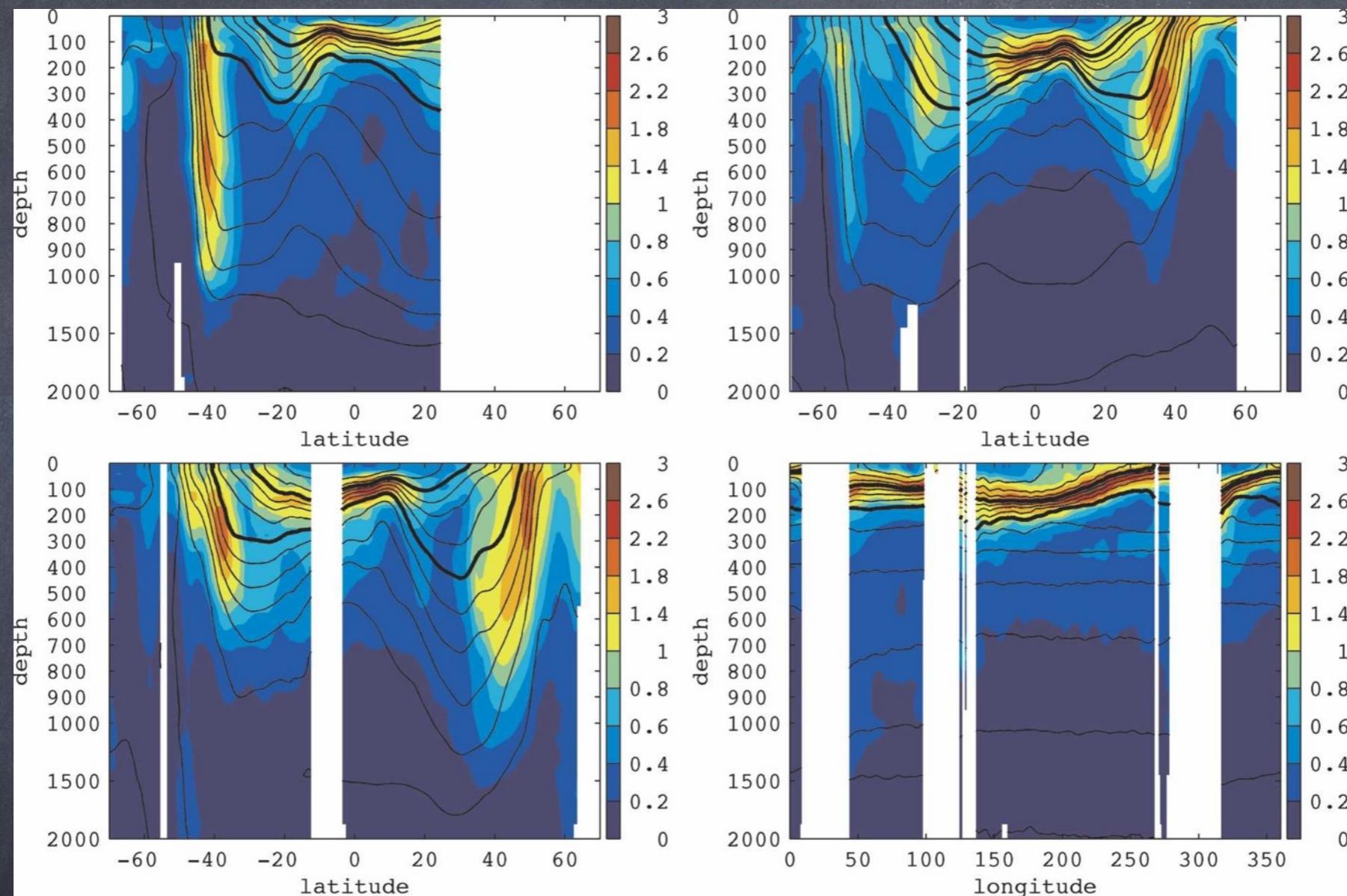
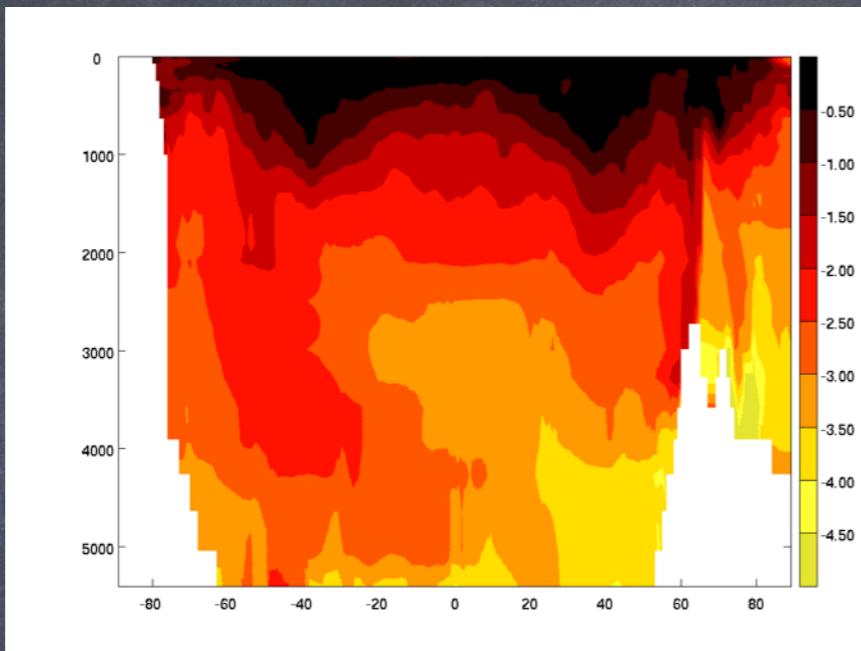


FIG. 5. Estimated standard deviation of  $T$  ( $\tilde{\sigma}_T$ ;  $^\circ\text{C}$ ; colors) in (top left) the Indian Ocean at  $64.5^\circ\text{E}$ , (top right) the Pacific Ocean at  $164.5^\circ\text{E}$ , (bottom left) the Atlantic Ocean at  $322.5^\circ\text{E}$ , and (bottom right) along the equator at  $0.5^\circ\text{S}$ . Superimposed contours:  $\bar{T}$ , with an interval of  $2^\circ\text{C}$ . Thick contours denote the  $\bar{T} = 14^\circ\text{C}$  and  $\bar{T} = 22^\circ\text{C}$  isotherms.

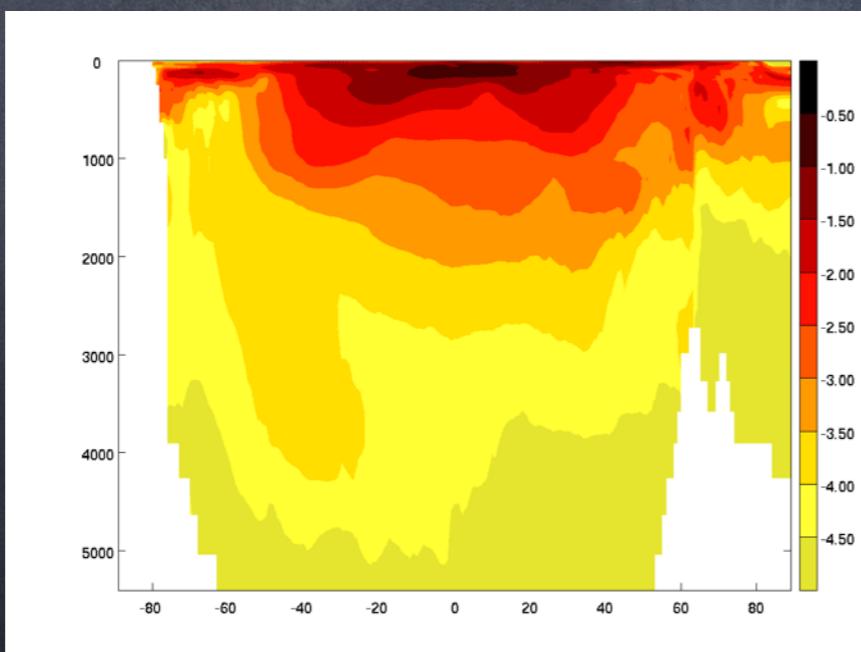
(Forget and Wunsch 2007)

## (2) observational statistics

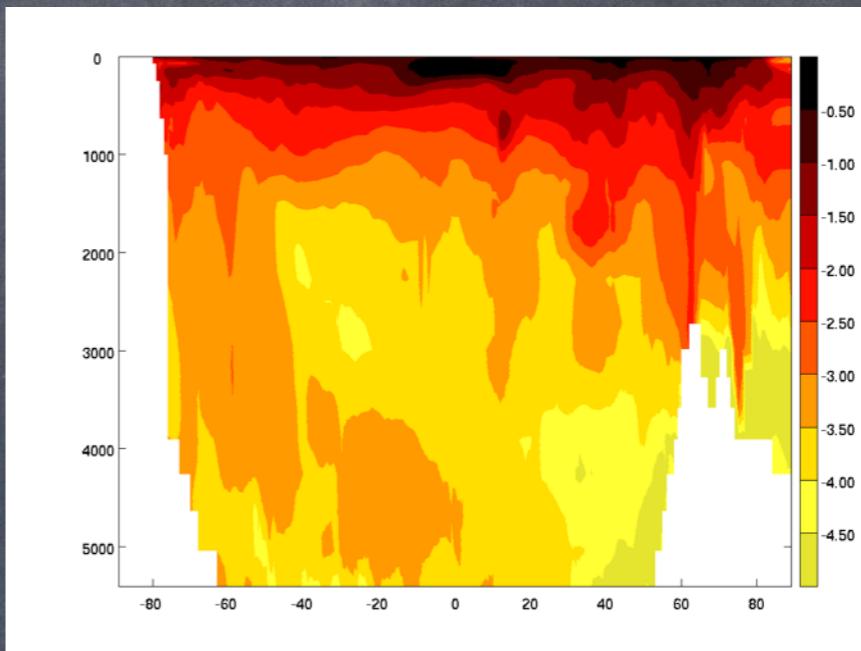
Observed



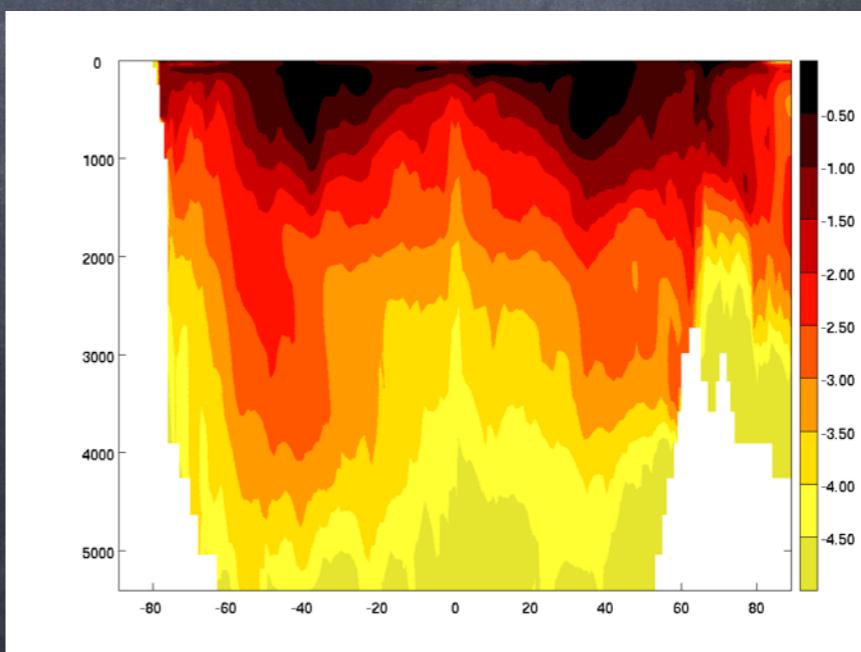
Internal waves  
(Munk 1981)



Large-scale  
Forced  
responses  
(ECCO)



Meso-scale  
eddies  
(MODEL)



## (2) observational statistics

(Worthington 1981)

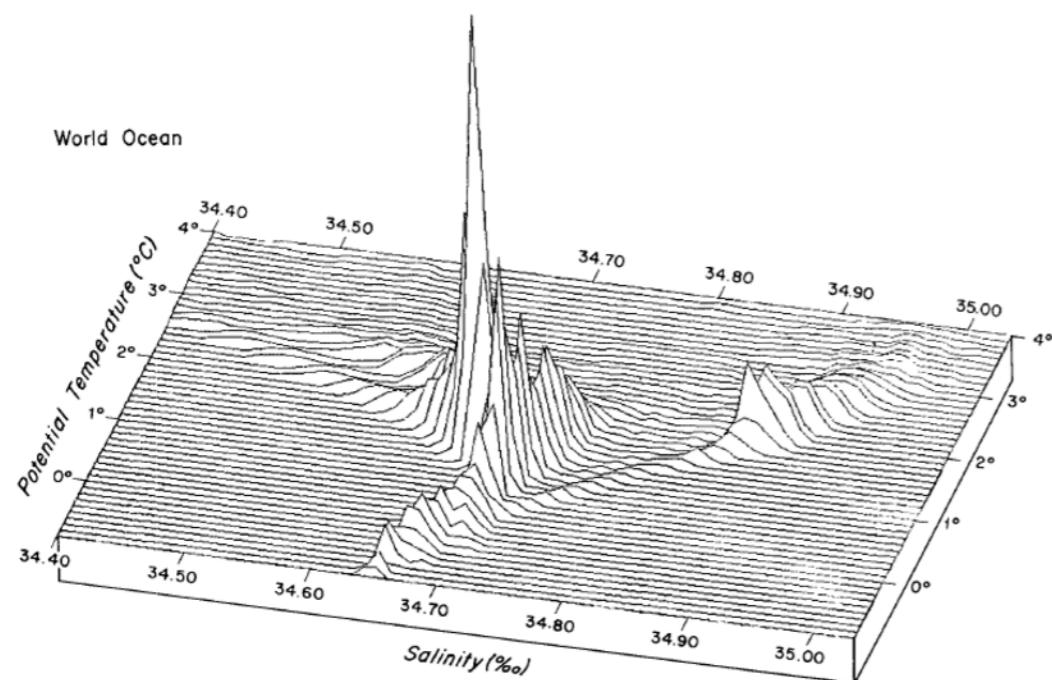
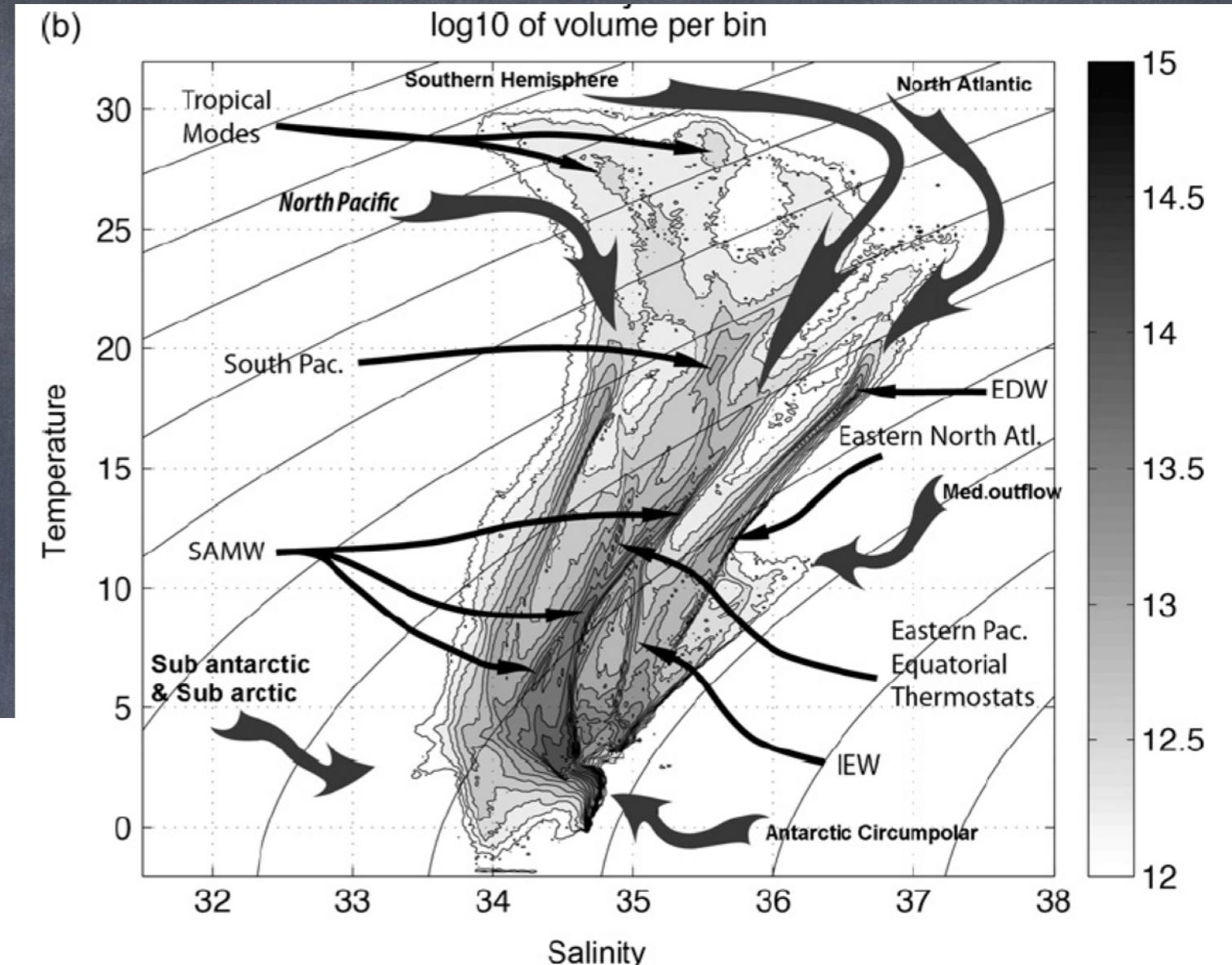


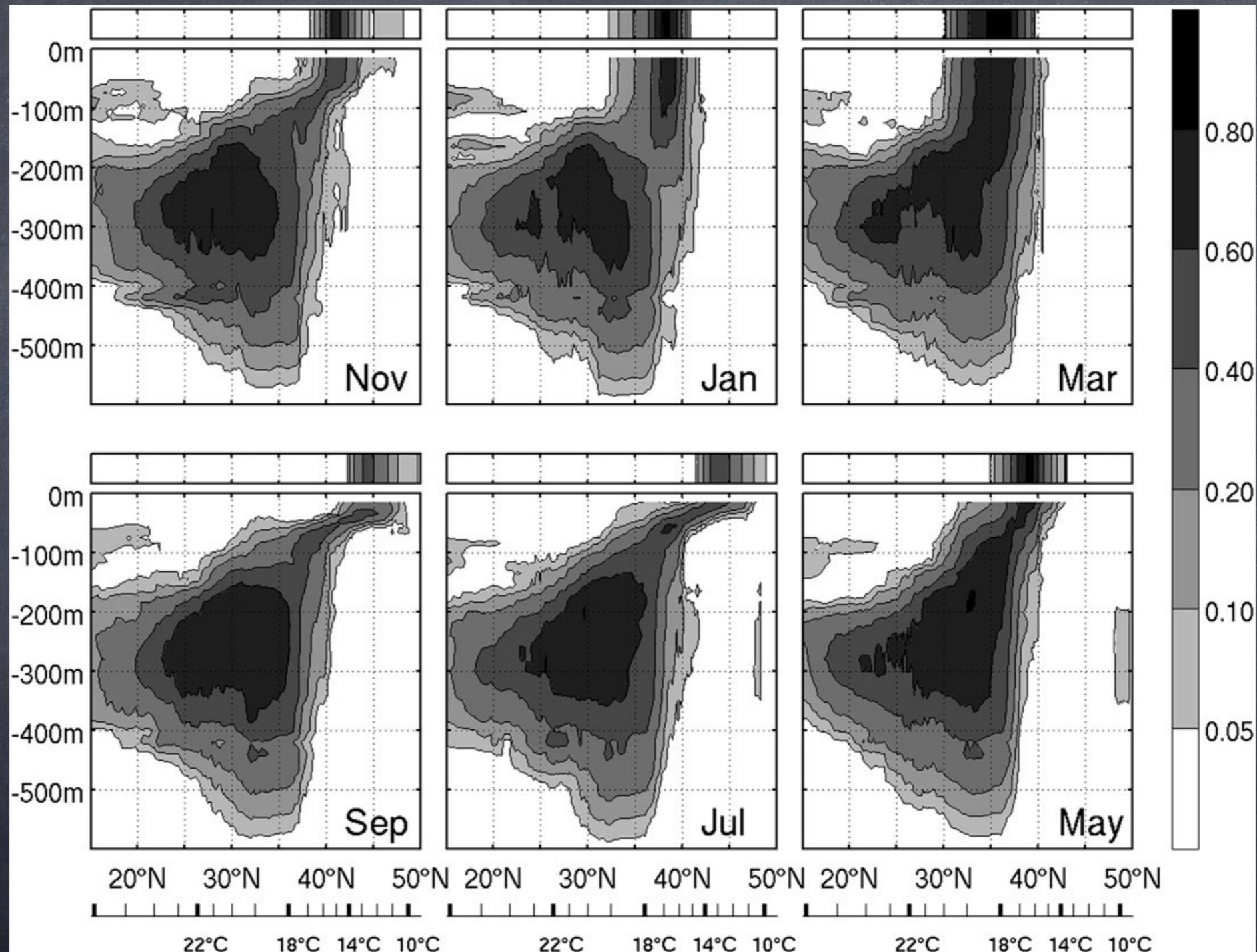
Figure 2.2 Simulated three-dimensional  $T\text{-}S$  diagram of the water masses of the world ocean. Apparent elevation is pro-



(Speer and Forget 2013)

portional to volume. Elevation of highest peak corresponds to  $26.0 \times 10^6 \text{ km}^3$  per bivariate class  $0.1^\circ\text{C} \times 0.01\text{‰}$ .

## (2) observational statistics



(Forget et al. 2011)

## (3) MITprof data sets

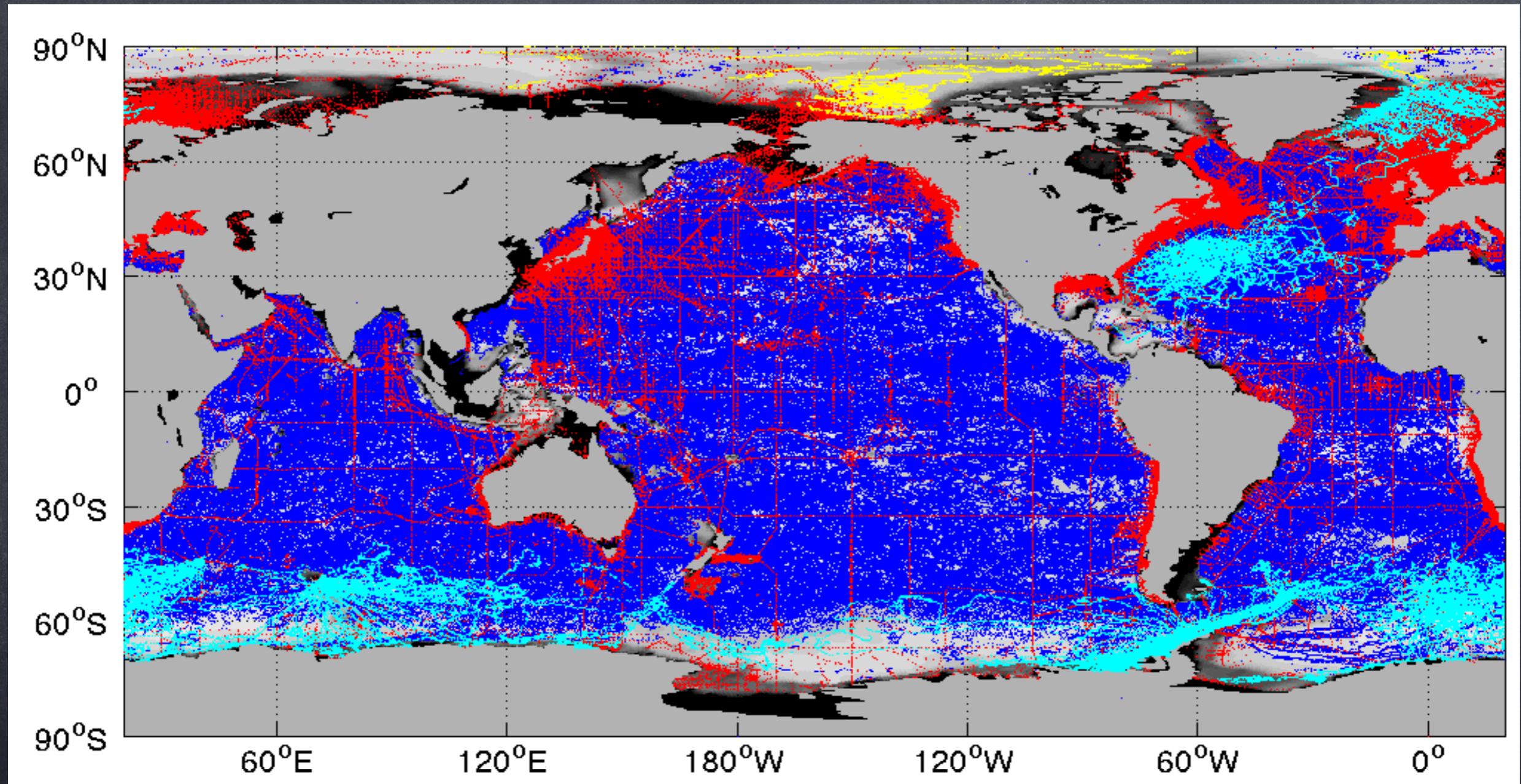
MITprof format Design:

- standardized data collections
- simple file format and usage
- complemented data sets

key MITprof features:

- standard depth level (prof\_depth)
- weight profiles ( $1/\sigma^2$  or 0 if ‘bad data’)
- model or climatology profiles (e.g. ECCO v4)

### (3) MITprof data sets



**Figure F2.** Standardized in situ profile data available in MITprof format from Argo, [WOD](#), [CTD](#), [climode](#), [ITP](#), [seals](#) over 1992-2011. These are the in situ data that, along with WOD XBT data, are used in ECCO v4 release 1.

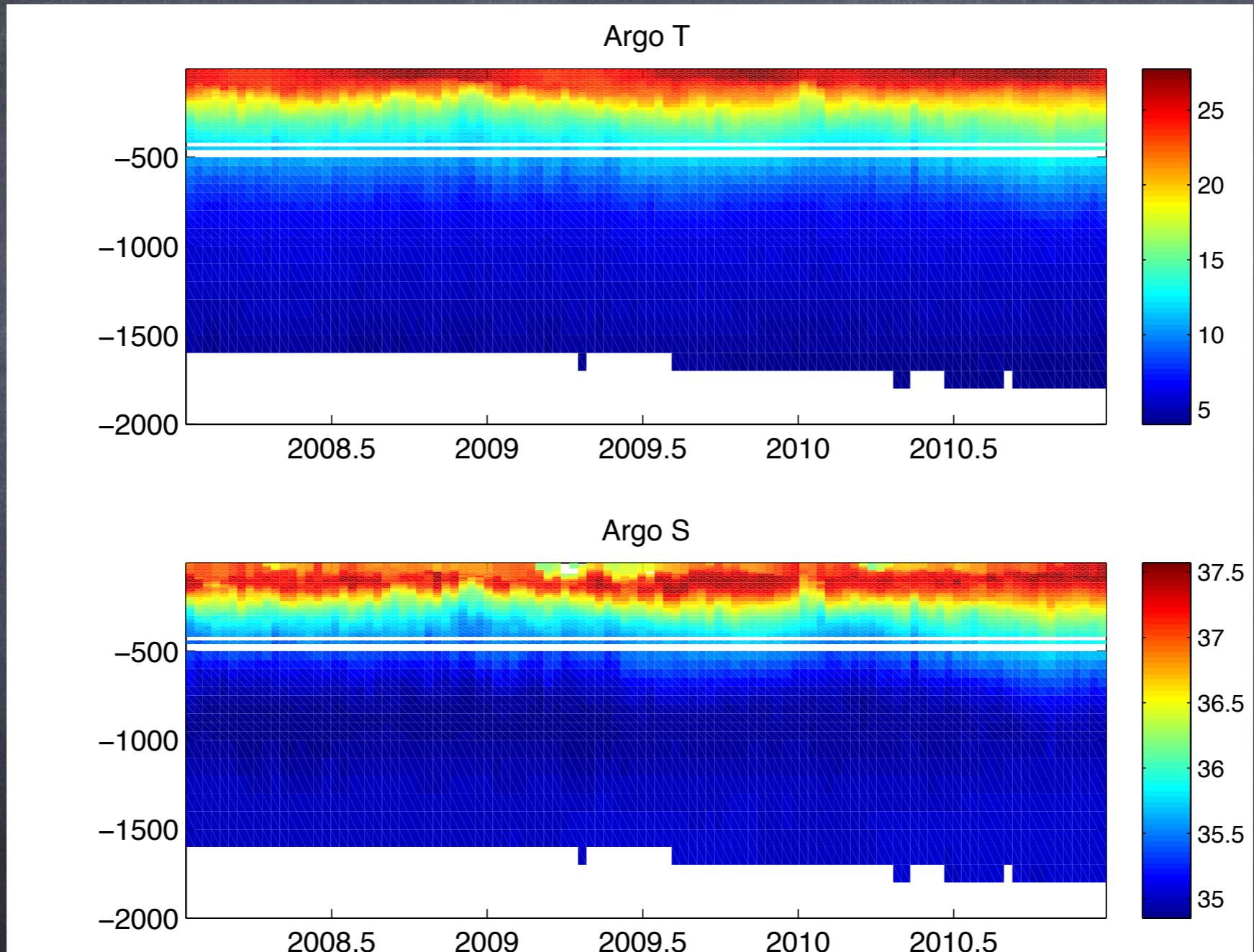
### (3) MITprof data sets

Table 13: Netcdf file header illustrating the MITprof format used in MITgcm/pkg/profiles.

```
netcdf argo_feb2013_2008_to_2010 {  
    ...  
    double prof_T(iPROF, iDEPTH) ;  
        prof_T:long_name = "potential temperature" ;  
        prof_T:units = "degree C" ;  
    double prof_Tweight(iPROF, iDEPTH) ;  
        prof_Tweight:long_name = "least-square weight" ;  
        prof_Tweight:units = "(degree C)^-2" ;  
    double prof_Testim(iPROF, iDEPTH) ;  
        prof_Testim:long_name = "pot. temp. p. estimate" ;  
        prof_Testim:units = "degree C" ;  
    ...  
    double prof_depth(iDEPTH) ;  
    double prof_YYYYMMDD(iPROF) ;  
    double prof_HHMMSS(iPROF) ;  
    double prof_lon(iPROF) ;  
    double prof_lat(iPROF) ;  
    char prof_descr(iPROF, 1TXT) ;  
        prof_descr:long_name = "profiler identifier" ;  
    ...  
}
```

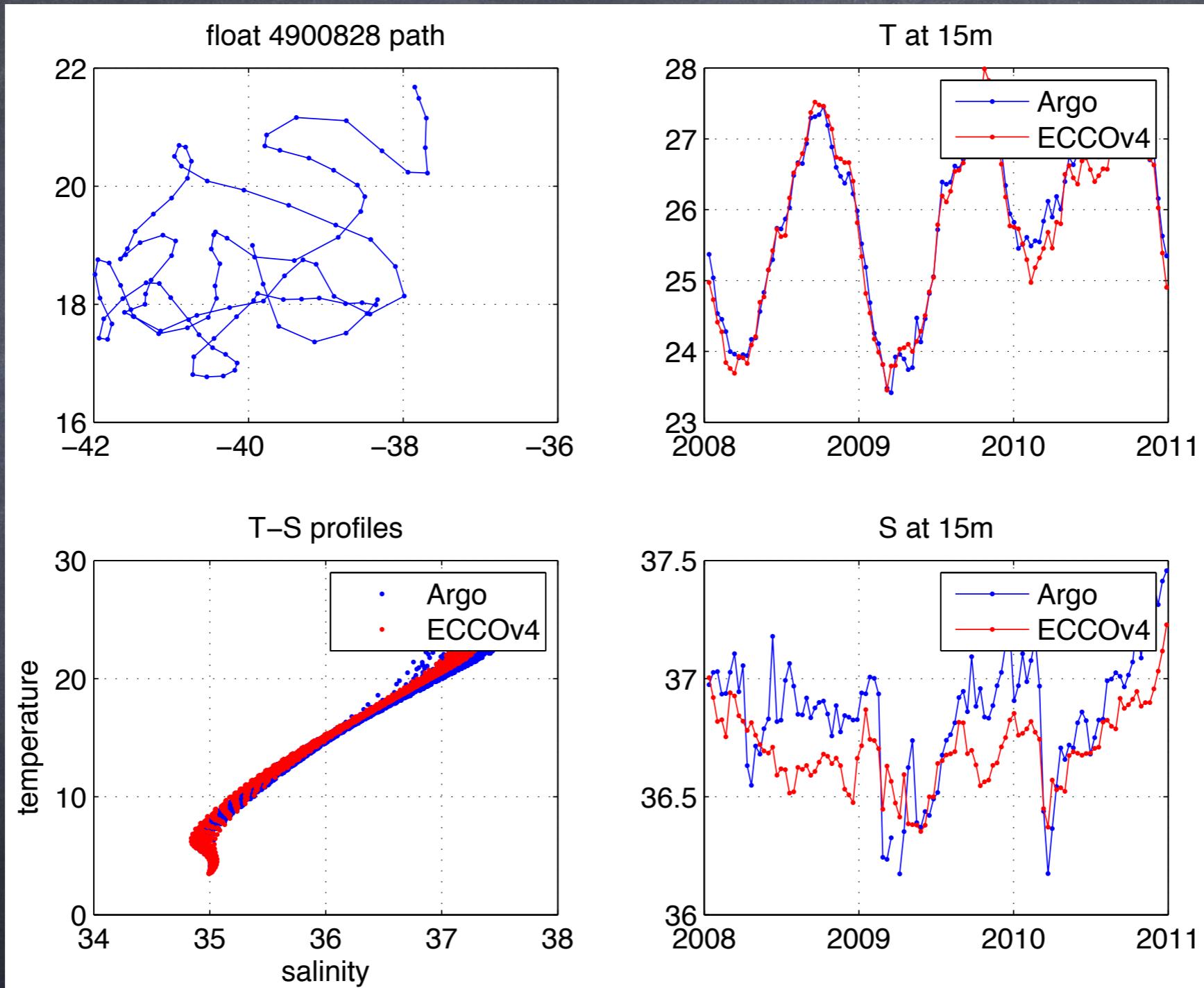
observed profiles  
estimated profiles  
weight profiles  
standard depth levels  
location & date  
identifier

## (3) MITprof data sets



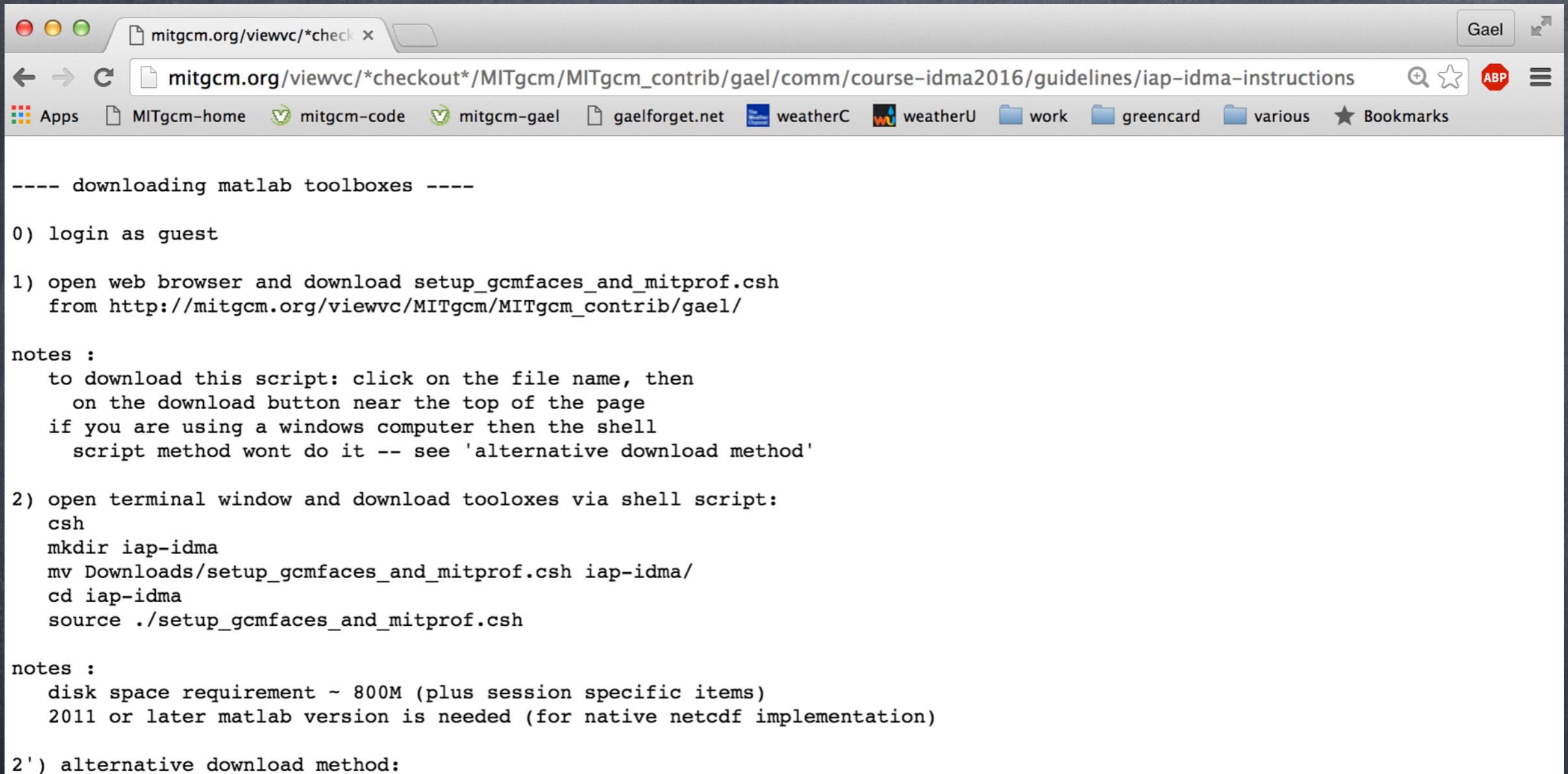
float # 4900828 (MITprof version)

### (3) MITprof data sets



float # 4900828 (MITprof version)

# (4) activity period



mitgcm.org/viewvc/\*check x      Gael

mitgcm.org/viewvc/\*checkout\*/MITgcm/MITgcm\_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2016/guidelines/iap-idma-instructions      ABP

Apps MITgcm-home mitgcm-code mitgcm-gael gaelforget.net weatherC weatherU work greencard various Bookmarks

---- downloading matlab toolboxes ----

0) login as guest

1) open web browser and download setup\_gcmfaces\_and\_mitprof.csh  
from [http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/MITgcm/MITgcm\\_contrib/gael/](http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/MITgcm/MITgcm_contrib/gael/)

notes :  
to download this script: click on the file name, then  
on the download button near the top of the page  
if you are using a windows computer then the shell  
script method wont do it -- see 'alternative download method'

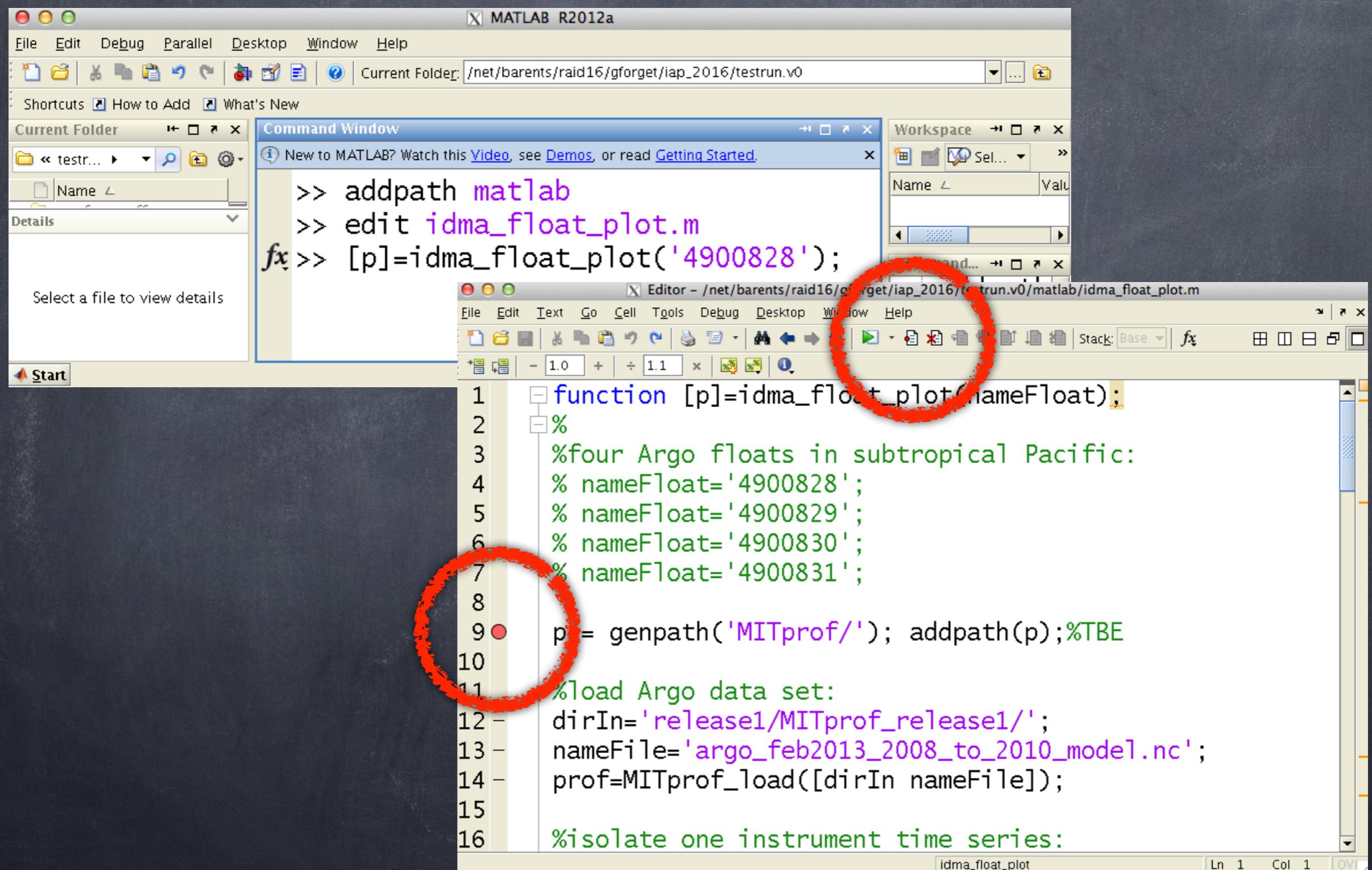
2) open terminal window and download tooloxes via shell script:  
csh  
mkdir iap-idma  
mv Downloads/setup\_gcmfaces\_and\_mitprof.csh iap-idma/  
cd iap-idma  
source ./setup\_gcmfaces\_and\_mitprof.csh

notes :  
disk space requirement ~ 800M (plus session specific items)  
2011 or later matlab version is needed (for native netcdf implementation)

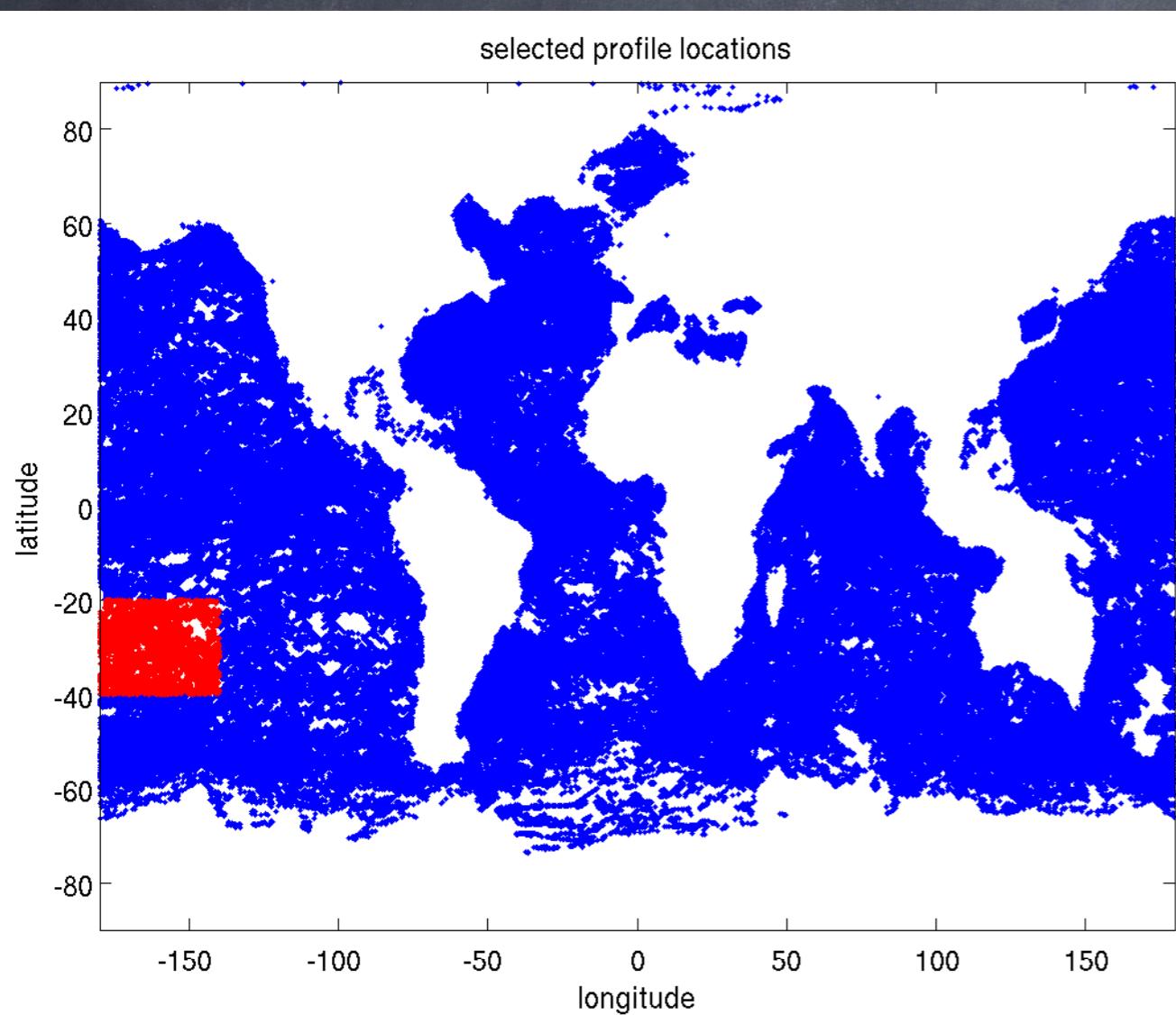
2') alternative download method:

To get started: follow instructions @  
[http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/\\*checkout\\*/MITgcm/MITgcm\\_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2016/guidelines/iap-idma-instructions](http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/*checkout*/MITgcm/MITgcm_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2016/guidelines/iap-idma-instructions)

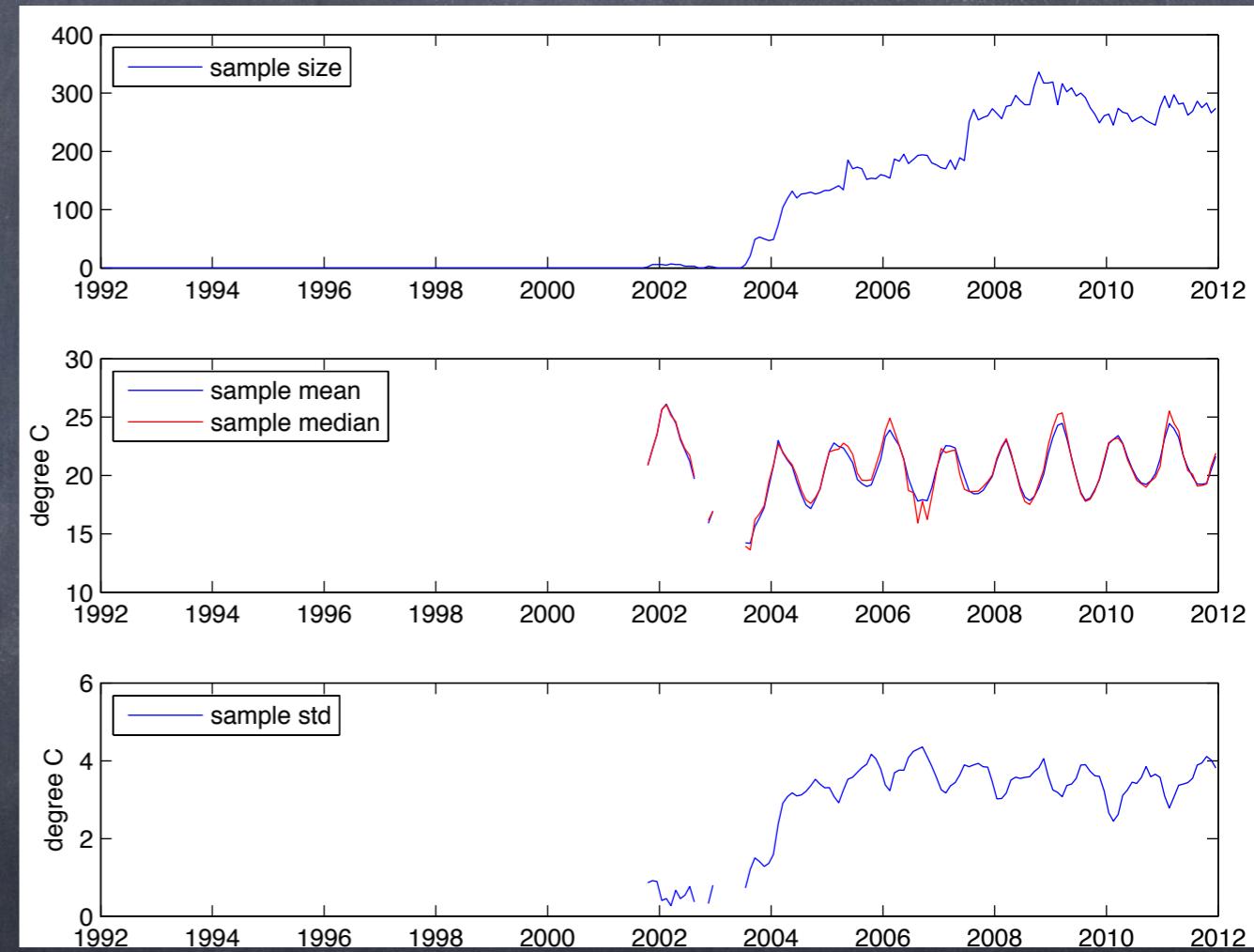
# (4) activity period



## (4) activity period



(idma\_box\_subset.m)



(idma\_box\_mean.m)

# (4) activity period

A screenshot of a web browser window titled "mitgcm.org/viewvc/\*check". The address bar shows the URL "mitgcm.org/viewvc/\*checkout\*/MITgcm/MITgcm\_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2015/computing/iap-idma-exercises". The bookmarks bar includes links to "Apps", "MITgcm-home", "mitgcm-code", "mitgcm-gael", "gaelforget.net", "weatherC", "weatherU", "work", "greencard", "various", and "Bookmarks". The main content area contains text about proposed exercises and tips for MATLAB usage.

Below is a list of proposed, self guided exercises. I generally tried to order the exercises by increasing complexity. While none of them is really challenging, the various exercises aim to give you with first hand experience with the data sets and tools discussed over the course of the IAP activity.

**tips :** - look for answers/examples in the programs we ran together in class #1 and #2  
- type 'help read\_nctiles' in matlab and similarly for all other functions  
- use the matlab debugger to go through computations step by step

**notes on matlab software and exercises:**

Having the up-to-date matlab software (gcmfaces and MITprof) set-up is pre-requisite.

- 1) if you did this set-up by following steps 1 and 2 of computing/iap-idma-readme (i.e. using setup\_gcmfaces\_and\_mitprof.csh) then the 'software exercise' #1 is for you
- 2) If you operate on a windows PC where shell scripting, cvs, etc cannot be relied upon, then 'software exercise' #2 below is for you.

**software exercises:**

- 1) in a terminal window, go to your copy of gcmfaces and update it using cvs,

Suggested exercise subjects are @

[http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/\\*checkout\\*/MITgcm/MITgcm\\_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2016/guidelines/iap-idma-exercises](http://mitgcm.org/viewvc/*checkout*/MITgcm/MITgcm_contrib/gael/comm/course-idma2016/guidelines/iap-idma-exercises)