



1            **Glider Observations of the Northwestern Iberian**  
2            **Margin During an Exceptional Summer Upwelling**  
3            **Season**

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9            **Key Points:**

- 10            • A glider observed two upwelling events during a 70 day deployment over the North-  
11            western Iberian Margin in summer 2010.
- 12            • During upwelling decreasing temperature and increasing chlorophyll a concentra-  
13            tion lead increasing dissolved oxygen concentration by 6 days.
- 14            • Equatorward flow persisted over the shelf and upper slope throughout the deploy-  
15            ment.

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## Abstract

Glider observations from the Northwestern Iberian Margin during the exceptionally strong 2010 summer upwelling season resolved the evolution of physical and biogeochemical variables during two upwelling events. Upwelling brought low oxygen Eastern North Atlantic Central Water from 190 m depth onto the shelf up to a depth of 50 m. During the two observed periods of upwelling, a poleward jet developed over the shelf break. The persistent upwelling favourable winds maintained equatorward flow on the outer shelf for two months with no reversals during relaxation periods, a phenomenon not previously observed. During upwelling, near surface chlorophyll *a* concentration increased by more than  $6 \text{ mg m}^{-3}$ . Oxygen supersaturation in the near surface increased by more than 20 %, 6 days after the chlorophyll *a* maximum.

## Plain Language Summary

In summer 2010, an autonomous underwater vehicle was used to measure changing water properties in the ocean offshore of Vigo, NW Spain. During summer, winds blowing southward along the Iberian coast push surface waters offshore, causing deep, cold, nutrient rich water to rise to the surface. The nutrients brought up with this cold water enable growth of phytoplankton, impacting higher trophic levels and local fisheries. During June and July 2010 we observed two episodes of deep water rising and the subsequent increases in phytoplankton. Increases in dissolved oxygen concentration and ocean current speed were also observed. Using a robotic underwater glider allowed us to obtain high resolution observations over a longer time period at a fraction of the cost of a research vessel cruise.

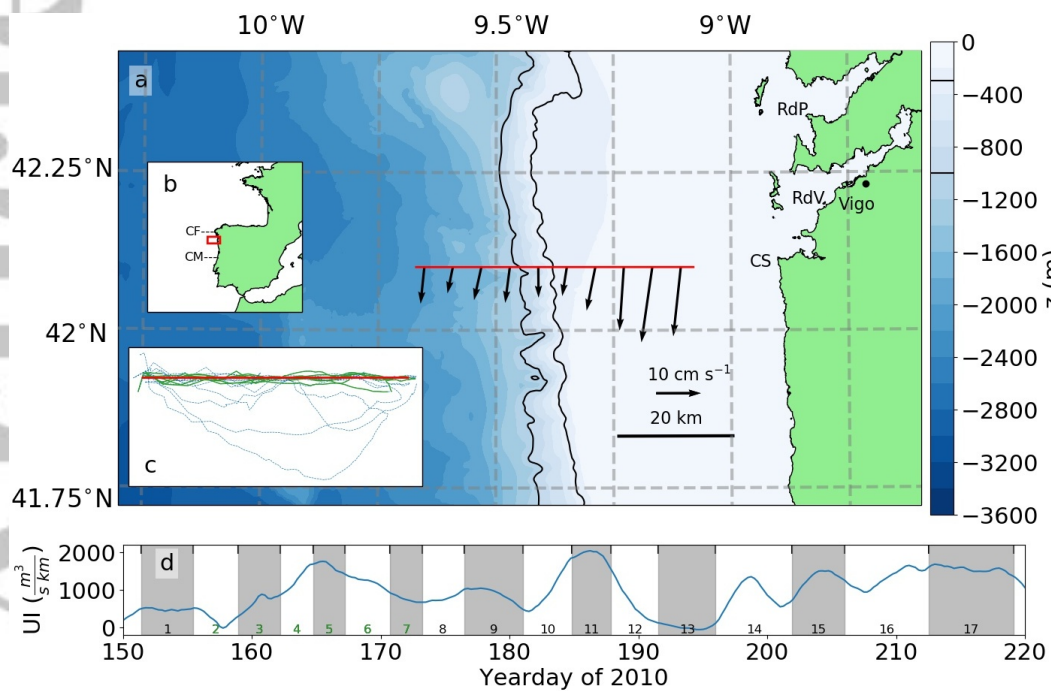
## 1 Introduction

Eastern Boundary Upwelling Systems are some of the oceans' most productive areas, covering less than 1 % of the ocean but accounting for up to 20 % of the global wild fish take (Pauly & Christensen, 1995). The Northwestern Iberian Margin (NWIM) forms the northernmost extent of the Canary Current Upwelling System, an Eastern Boundary Upwelling System of the North Atlantic. The NWIM hosts a seasonally varying multicore flow that exhibits strong variability (Teles-Machado et al., 2015). With the northward movement of the Azores High and the intensification of the Icelandic Low in summer, episodic southward winds blow along the Iberian coastline (Peliz et al., 2002; No-

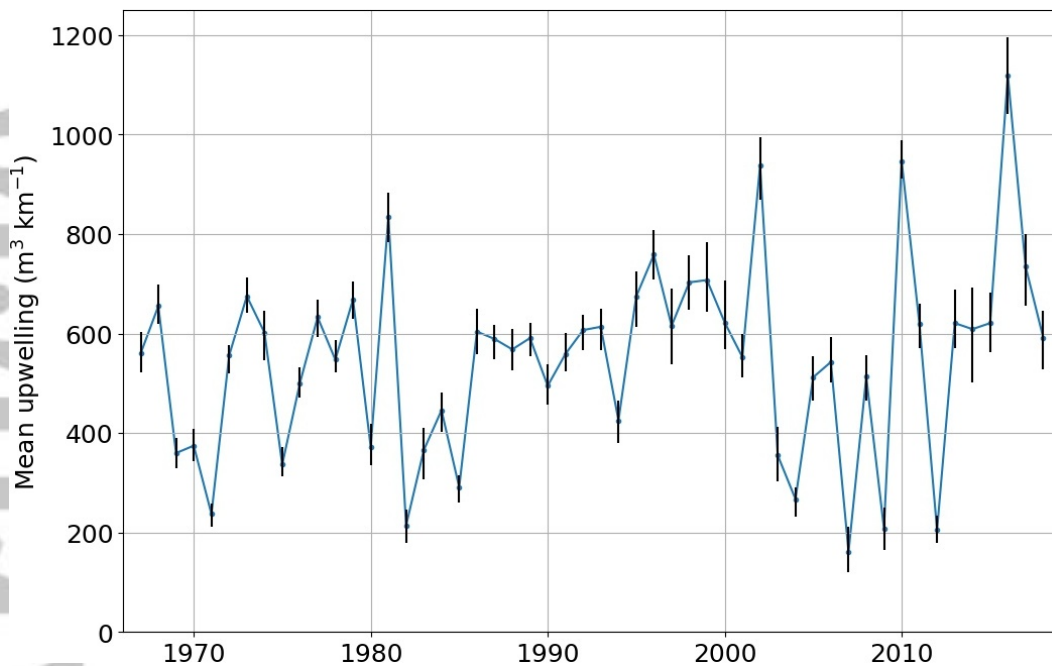
47 lasco et al., 2013). These southward winds drive warm surface waters offshore by Ek-  
48 man transport, inducing the upwelling of cooler, nutrient rich water from as deep as 200  
49 m and enhancing local primary production (Barton, 2001). During upwelling periods,  
50 typically 7-10 days (Huthnance et al., 2002; Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018), the coastal  
51 sea level lowers, the thermocline rises and an equatorward coastal jet develops over the  
52 shelf (Aristegui et al., 2009).

53 The NWIM extends 350 km along the west coast of the Iberian peninsula, from Cape  
54 Mondego to Cape Finisterre (Figure 1). The NWIM consists of a shelf 50-60 km wide  
55 that slopes gently to the shelf break between the 200 and 300 m isobaths before drop-  
56 ping to 2000 m over a distance of 15 km. The glider deployment area, in the neighbour-  
57 hood of Cape Silleiro, is known to feature intensified upwelling in summer (Huthnance  
58 et al., 2002; Relvas et al., 2007). The shelf and slope region host seasonally varying merid-  
59 ional flows detailed by Herrera et al. (2008); Ferreira Cordeiro et al. (2018). Offshore,  
60 the North Atlantic subtropical gyre transports water equatorward in the broad, slow Por-  
61 tugal Current (Aristegui et al., 2009). The most variable current over the slope is the  
62 Iberian Poleward Current (IPC). The IPC transports water poleward, primarily driven  
63 by meridional density gradients (Peliz, 2003). During summer, this poleward flow coex-  
64 ists with two equatorward flows, the Upper Slope Equatorward Current, a topograph-  
65 ically steered jet along the slope, and the intermittent Upwelling Jet that transports shelf  
66 waters equatorward (Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018).

67 Three water masses are typically observed in the upper 1000 m over the NWIM.  
68 In the deeper waters over the slope, Mediterranean Water (MEDW) is observed, typi-  
69 cally below 550-600 m (Fiuza et al., 1998; van Aken, 2000). Above the MEDW two modes  
70 of Eastern North Atlantic Central Water (ENACW) are distinguishable; the subpolar  
71 ( $ENACW_{sp}$ ) and subtropical ( $ENACW_{st}$ ) modes (Ríos et al., 1992). The two converge  
72 in the vicinity of Cape Finisterre around 42-44 °N (Peliz et al., 2002) and are approx-  
73 imately divided along  $\sigma_{\theta} = 27.1 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ . The overlying  $ENACW_{st}$  is warmer, saltier  
74 and more oxygen rich than  $ENACW_{sp}$ , as has been observed elsewhere in the north east  
75 Atlantic (Damerell et al., 2016; Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018; Hall et al., 2017).  $ENACW_{sp}$   
76 is typically observed from depths of 550-600 m up to 250-180 m.  $ENACW_{st}$  is observed  
77 higher in the water column, from 250 m to 20-70 m where it mixes with warm, brack-  
78 ish outflow of the Rías Baixas estuarine inlets to form the surface waters of the upper  
79 20-70 m. These light surface waters flow offshore past the shelf break. The surface wa-



**Figure 1.** (a) Location of the glider section offshore of Vigo, NW Spain. Grey dashed lines at 1/4 degree intervals. Black lines demarcate the 300 and 1000 m isobaths, the shelf break and maximum profiling depth of the glider respectively. Red line marks the glider's nominal section. Arrows are the detided dive average currents, averaged over the deployment. Cape Silleiro is marked with CS. The mouths of the two southern Rías Baixas estuaries are marked: the Ría de Pontevedra (RdP) and Ría de Vigo (RdV). Bathymetry from the EMODnet Bathymetry Consortium (2018). (b) Limits of the Northwestern Iberian Margin, Cape Finesterre (CF) in the north and Cape Mondego (CM) in the south. Red box is area shown in (a). (c) Track of the glider during its 17 transects of the section, same scale as (a). Glider's nominal section in red. Green lines are transects 2-7. (d) Upwelling Index (UI) calculated with winds from the FNMOC model over yeardays 150-220 (30 May to 9 August) 2010. Shading shows the timing of the 17 numbered glider transects. Background shading indicates the direction of glider travel (grey: westward transects, white: eastward transects).



**Figure 2.** Mean and bootstrapped uncertainty range of the Upwelling Index for the 70 day interval 30 May to 8 August inclusive of each year.

80 ters are the warmest and most highly oxygenated waters of the NWIM. In summer, much  
 81 of the vertical displacement of these water masses is driven by upwelling events (Álvarez-  
 82 Salgado et al., 2000).

83 Upwelling episodes boost productivity along the shelf break, increasing primary pro-  
 84 duction by up to 50 % compared with open ocean values (Joint et al., 2002). Due to up-  
 85 welling, the NWIM hosts high concentrations of zooplankton and pelagic fish, enhanc-  
 86 ing its biological and economic importance (Rossi et al., 2013). During upwelling events,  
 87 substantial cross-shelf exchange can take place (Brink, 1998). These events of enhanced  
 88 primary productivity and offshore transport are the focus of this study.

89 The 2010 summer upwelling season was unusually strong. Winds originated from  
 90 the direction  $0 \pm 45^\circ$  (i.e. within  $45^\circ$  of north) for 82 % of the deployment. The mean  
 91 wind speed was  $8.2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and the mean Upwelling Index (UI) was  $950 (\pm 40) \text{ m}^3 \text{ km}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .  
 92 UI is an estimate of offshore Ekman transport. A positive value of UI is indicative of up-  
 93 welling favourable conditions. UI for the region for each year over the same yearday range  
 94 averaged  $550 (\pm 190) \text{ m}^3 \text{ km}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Puertos del Estado, 2019). In 2010, UI was two stan-  
 95 dard deviations above the mean (Figure 2). Similarly strong upwelling conditions occurred

96 during 1981, 2002 and 2016. These unusually strong conditions resulted in a summer dom-  
97 inated by upwelling.

98 To observe this variability during the upwelling season at high spatial and tempo-  
99 ral resolution, an autonomous ocean glider was deployed at the NWIM during summer  
100 2010. The deployment is described in Section 2.1. Data processing and gridding are pre-  
101 sented in Section 2.2. In Section 3 we present the results, in Section 4 we discuss the re-  
102 sults and make recommendations for future observational campaigns on the NWIM. In  
103 Section 5 we summarise the key results.

## 104 **2 Data collection and processing**

### 105 **2.1 Data collection**

106 From 1 June to 5 August 2010, Seaglider SG510 Orca occupied an onshore-offshore  
107 section at 42.1 °N across the shelf and slope from 9.1 to 9.7 °W (Figure 1). Each pas-  
108 sage through the section is referred to as a transect. Seagliders are small, buoyancy-powered  
109 vehicles that profile to 1000 m with a sawtooth dive pattern (Eriksen et al., 2001). The  
110 glider profiled over bathymetry of 150 to 2000 m. Individual dive cycle duration varied  
111 from 30 minutes on the shelf to 4 hours over the deep slope. During a dive the glider trav-  
112 els between 500 m and 4 km horizontally. Each dive cycle yielded two profiles, one when  
113 the glider was descending, one when it was ascending. The glider recorded measurements  
114 every 5 s above 200 m and every 10 s below 200 m. The glider has a typical vertical speed  
115 of 0.1 m s<sup>-1</sup>, resulting in vertical sampling resolutions of approximately 0.5 m and 1.0  
116 m respectively. The glider travelled zonally at 0.1-0.3 m s<sup>-1</sup> relative to the ground.

117 The glider was equipped with a Paine Corporation pressure sensor, an unpumped  
118 Seabird CT sail, a WETLabs ECO Puck triplet sensor and an Aanderaa 4330F oxygen  
119 optode. Transects covered on average 45 km and took 2-6 days. Transect time increased  
120 towards the end of the deployment due to biofouling that increased drag on the glider  
121 (Figure 1d). The glider completed the section 17 times. Some transects were truncated  
122 but all were greater than 36 km (Figure 1c). Due to strong equatorward currents, the  
123 glider deviated meridionally from its intended zonal track with a standard deviation of  
124 2.8 km (Figure 1c). Considering these deviations to be small, we have projected all sam-  
125 ples onto a zonal section. We compared the temperature-salinity characteristics of all  
126 transects (not shown). Transects all sample the same water masses, even those with large

127 meridional deviations. Transects 2 and 6 have been chosen as typical examples of non-  
128 upwelling and upwelling conditions respectively. Transect 2 took place after a period of  
129 relaxation favourable conditions, whereas transect 6 was conducted at the peak of the  
130 first upwelling event.

131 The shelf break is defined as the 300 m isobath shown in Figure 1. Throughout the  
132 text, “shelf” refers to waters east of the shelf break, “slope” refers to waters west of the  
133 shelf break. Yeardays (YD) are used throughout, with January 1st 2010 as yearday 0.

134 The first day of this deployment 1 was June 2010, yearday 151.

## 135 **2.2 Data processing and gridding**

136 The hydrodynamic flight model for the glider was tuned following the methods of  
137 Frajka-Williams et al. (2011). Dive average currents (DACs) were calculated from the  
138 difference between the glider’s flight path calculated from GPS fixes at the beginning and  
139 end of each dive, and the glider’s flight path from the flight model. The flight model re-  
140 gression is very sensitive to drag coefficients, which varied greatly over the glider deploy-  
141 ment. Parasitic drag increased by over 200 % due to biofouling. To accommodate this,  
142 the glider flight model was calculated using batches of 30 dives, allowing the friction co-  
143 efficients to vary over the 1050 dives analysed. The DACs were inspected for directional  
144 biases that can arise from a poorly calibrated compass, but no substantial differences were  
145 found. Thermal lag of the CT cell was corrected following Garau et al. (2011). These  
146 corrections were implemented with the UEA Seaglider Toolbox (Queste, 2014).

147 To remove tidal currents from the DAC time series, dives were separated into two  
148 subsets, onshore and offshore of the shelf break, following the method of Sheehan et al.  
149 (2018) who separated DACs into three spatial bins for tidal analysis. These two datasets,  
150 each comprising approximately one month of DAC observations, were treated as discon-  
151 tinuous time series and harmonic analysis was used to extract the  $M_2$  and  $S_2$  tidal con-  
152 stituents. The combined  $M_2 + S_2$  tidal current had a maximum amplitude of  $0.5 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$   
153 over the slope and  $2.0 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$  on the shelf. The tidal constituents were validated against  
154 the TPXO tide model (Egbert & Erofeeva, 2002). The choice of two domains was made  
155 as the  $M_2$  tidal component in the region varies substantially between shelf and slope (Quaresma  
156 & Pichon, 2013). Each bin also satisfies the Rayleigh criterion for distinguishing between  
157 the  $M_2$  and  $S_2$  tides with time series of greater than 14.8 days (Sheehan et al., 2018).

158 For the purposes of this paper, DAC is assumed to be an approximate barotropic cur-  
159 rent where the glider sampled the full water column and an approximate vertical aver-  
160 age current in the upper 1000 m, where the bathymetry exceeded the glider's profiling  
161 depth. The  $M_2$  and  $S_2$  tidal constituents were subtracted from the DACs before using  
162 the DACs to reference geostrophic shear. DACs are typically considered accurate to within  
163  $1 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$  (Eriksen et al., 2001; Merckelbach et al., 2008). Acknowledging that this de-  
164 tiding will not remove all tidal constituents from the DACs, we have incorporated a 2  
165  $\text{cm s}^{-1}$  uncertainty in our calculations of geostrophic currents. This uncertainty in geostrophic  
166 velocity is used for uncertainty estimates in alongshore transports.

167 The WETlabs ECO Puck measures fluorescence as a proxy for chlorophyll *a* con-  
168 centration (henceforth chlorophyll). The ECO Puck excites chlorophyll by emitting at  
169 470 nm and records fluorescence at 695 nm. Chlorophyll fluoresces at a range of wavelengths  
170 centred on 682 nm (Maxwell & Johnson, 2000). The chlorophyll fluorescence data are cal-  
171 culated using a linear equation  $y = m(x-c)$ , where  $y$  is chlorophyll concentration ( $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ )  
172 and  $x$  is the sensor output (counts). We used the manufacturer supplied gradient  $m =$   
173 0.121 and a dark counts level  $c = 48$ , 8 % lower than the manufacturer supplied value,  
174 such that the sensor registered 0 chlorophyll at depths greater than 150 m. An in-water  
175 calibration was carried out with co-located CTD casts on 1 June (YD 151), 29 June (YD  
176 179) and 29 July (YD 210) (Brown, 2013). Chlorophyll values were corrected for the ef-  
177 fects of non-photochemical quenching following the methodology of Thomalla et al. (2018).  
178 As the principal interest of this study is the cross shelf and temporal variability of chloro-  
179 phyll, we are not aiming for an approximation of chlorophyll concentration better than  
180 a factor of two.

181 The Aanderaa optode is a low power foil type sensor as described by Alkire et al.  
182 (2012). Dissolved oxygen concentration was calculated using manufacturer calibration  
183 constants. The oxygen concentration was then corrected for temporal drift by applying  
184 a linear correction in time such that oxygen concentrations at 850-950 m depth remained  
185 constant in time. Winkler bottle samples were used to calibrate the ship CTD  $\text{O}_2$  sen-  
186 sor on 29 July (YD 210), 15 September (YD 257) and 29 September (YD 271). This cal-  
187 ibration was applied to CTD casts on 1 June (YD 151), 29 June (YD 179) and 29 July  
188 (YD 210) (Brown, 2013).



189 Temperature and salinity data for each transect were interpolated with an Objec-  
190 tive Analysis Barnes function (Barnes, 1994) onto a grid with spacing 1 km horizontal  
191 by 1 m vertical, using a horizontal smoothing distance of 8 km and vertical smoothing  
192 of 8 m. This horizontal distance was chosen as it is the first internal Rossby radius of  
193 deformation over the shelf slope at the middle of the section. These gridded values were  
194 then used to calculate the potential density, absolute salinity and conservative temper-  
195 ature using the Gibbs Seawater toolbox (IOC & IAPSO, 2010). We found the geostrophic  
196 velocity field calculated from these interpolated data to be largely insensitive to smooth-  
197 ing distances from 0.5 to 15 km. Dissolved oxygen concentration and chlorophyll con-  
198 centration were gridded using the same methodology.

199 Hovmöller plots were constructed by a Barnes interpolation of samples taken within  
200  $\pm 2.5$  m vertically of the plot level. These samples were interpolated to a grid spaced  
201 1 km horizontally and 8 hours in time, using a smoothing distance of 8 km and smooth-  
202 ing time of 3 days. This smoothing time was chosen as it is the typical response time  
203 of the NWIM to changes between upwelling and downwelling states (McClain et al., 1986).

204 Geostrophic currents were calculated from thermal wind, using the detided glider  
205 DACs as a reference velocity. The geostrophic approximation is commonly used with glider  
206 datasets in upwelling regions (Todd et al., 2011; Pietri et al., 2013), with estimated un-  
207 certainties of 1 -2 cm s<sup>-1</sup>. Geostrophic currents calculated with this method compare  
208 well with ADCP data (Pietri et al., 2013). Bottom velocities were nearest neighbour ex-  
209 trapolated to fill gaps between glider sampling and bathymetry over the shelf and slope,  
210 with no extrapolation past the maximum measurement depth (1000 m). A Monte Carlo  
211 method was used to estimate uncertainty in the alongshore transports by applying ran-  
212 dom Gaussian noise with a standard deviation of 2 cm s<sup>-1</sup> to the DACs, the largest source  
213 of error in estimation of geostrophic currents from glider data.

214 UI for the Rías Baixas is calculated by the Puertos del Estado at 6 hour intervals  
215 using the FNMOC model (Puertos del Estado, 2019). Satellite sea surface temperature  
216 (SST) from CMEMS Atlantic European North West Shelf Seas - Reprocessed SST Anal-  
217 ysis - ODYSSEA from AVHRR Pathfinder v5.3, daily product 0.04 degrees resolution.  
218 Chl a satellite data from MODIS (Hu et al., 2012), daily product 0.0104 degree resolu-  
219 tion. Bathymetry from EMODnet is used in this study (EMODnet Bathymetry Consor-  
220 tium, 2018).

221 We use units of conservative temperature and absolute salinity following IOC and  
 222 IAPSO (2010). All densities are potential density anomalies  $\sigma_\theta = \text{potential density} - 1000$   
 223 with units of  $\text{kg m}^{-3}$ . Oxygen supersaturation,  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  is calculated as

$$\Delta(\text{O}_2) = \frac{c(\text{O}_2)}{c_{eq}(\text{O}_2)} - 1, \quad (1)$$

224 where  $c(\text{O}_2)$  is the measured  $\text{O}_2$  concentration and  $c_{eq}(\text{O}_2)$  is the  $\text{O}_2$  concentration at  
 225 an absolute pressure of 101325 Pa, calculated with potential temperature and salinity  
 226 (Garcia & Gordon, 1992, 1993). A positive value represents oxygen supersaturation, a  
 227 negative one represents oxygen undersaturation.

### 228 3 Results

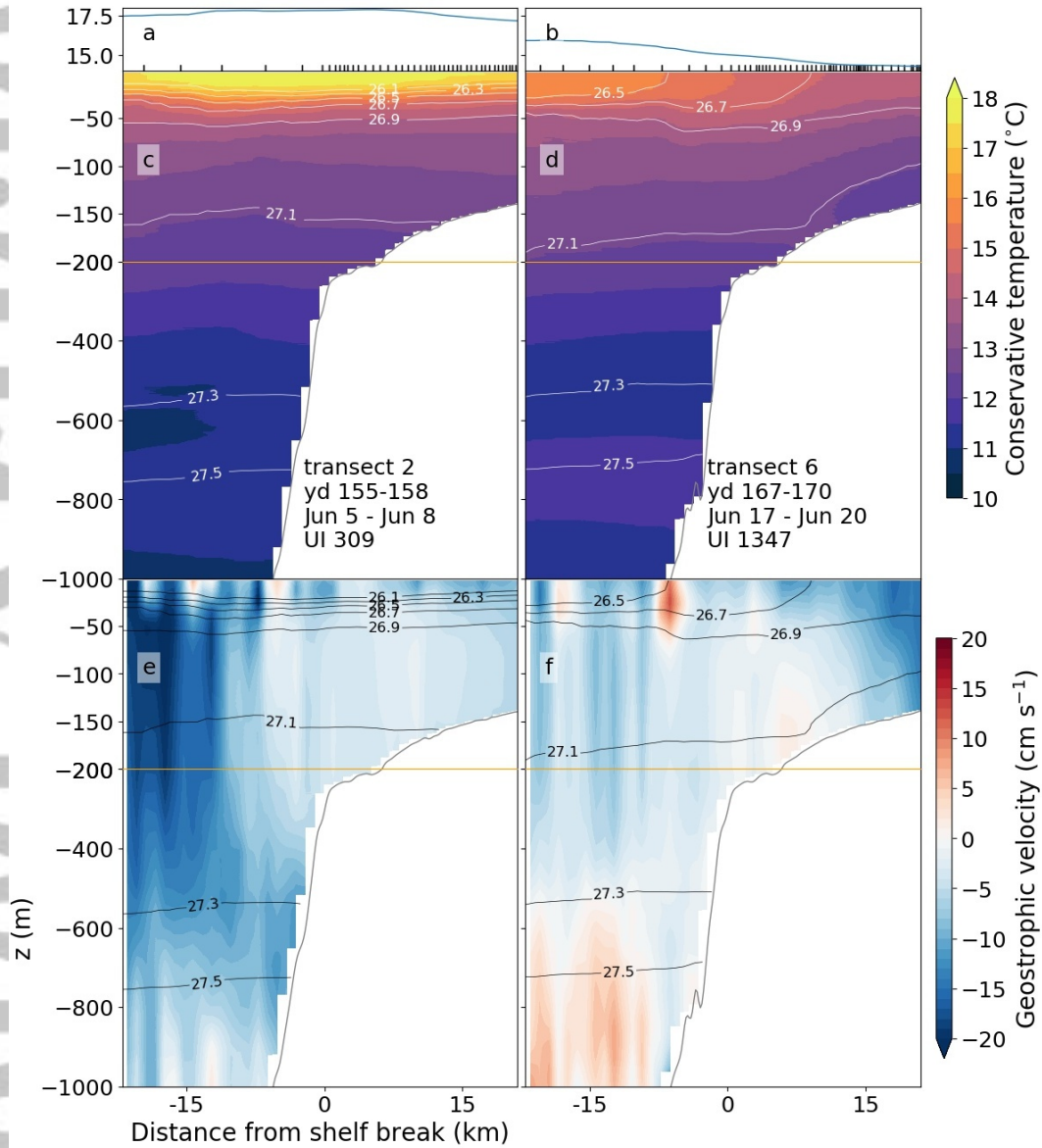
#### 229 3.1 Initial Conditions

230 Prior to upwelling (Figure 1d transects 1, and 2), conditions across the section were  
 231 typical of relaxation. Isopycnals were near horizontal, with a plume of warm  $> 18^\circ\text{C}$ ,  
 232 low salinity  $< 35.9 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ , low density  $\sigma_\theta < 26.0 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  water occupying the upper 20  
 233 m over the shelf and slope (Figures 3c, 4a and 4b). Vertical chlorophyll and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  dis-  
 234 tributions were similar across the section, with a subsurface chlorophyll maximum of 2.1  
 235  $\text{mg m}^{-3}$  at 38 m and a  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  maximum of 12 % from the surface to 25 m (Figures 5a  
 236 and 5b). Water above the  $\sigma_\theta = 26.9 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  isopycnal was supersaturated in oxygen,  
 237 water below this isopycnal was undersaturated. The greatest chlorophyll concentrations  
 238 and greatest  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  were at the eastern end of the section, over the shelf. Below the py-  
 239 cnocline  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  was greater over the shelf break and lower over the inner shelf, partic-  
 240 ularly near the sea floor where  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  of less than -16 % was observed (Figure 5b).

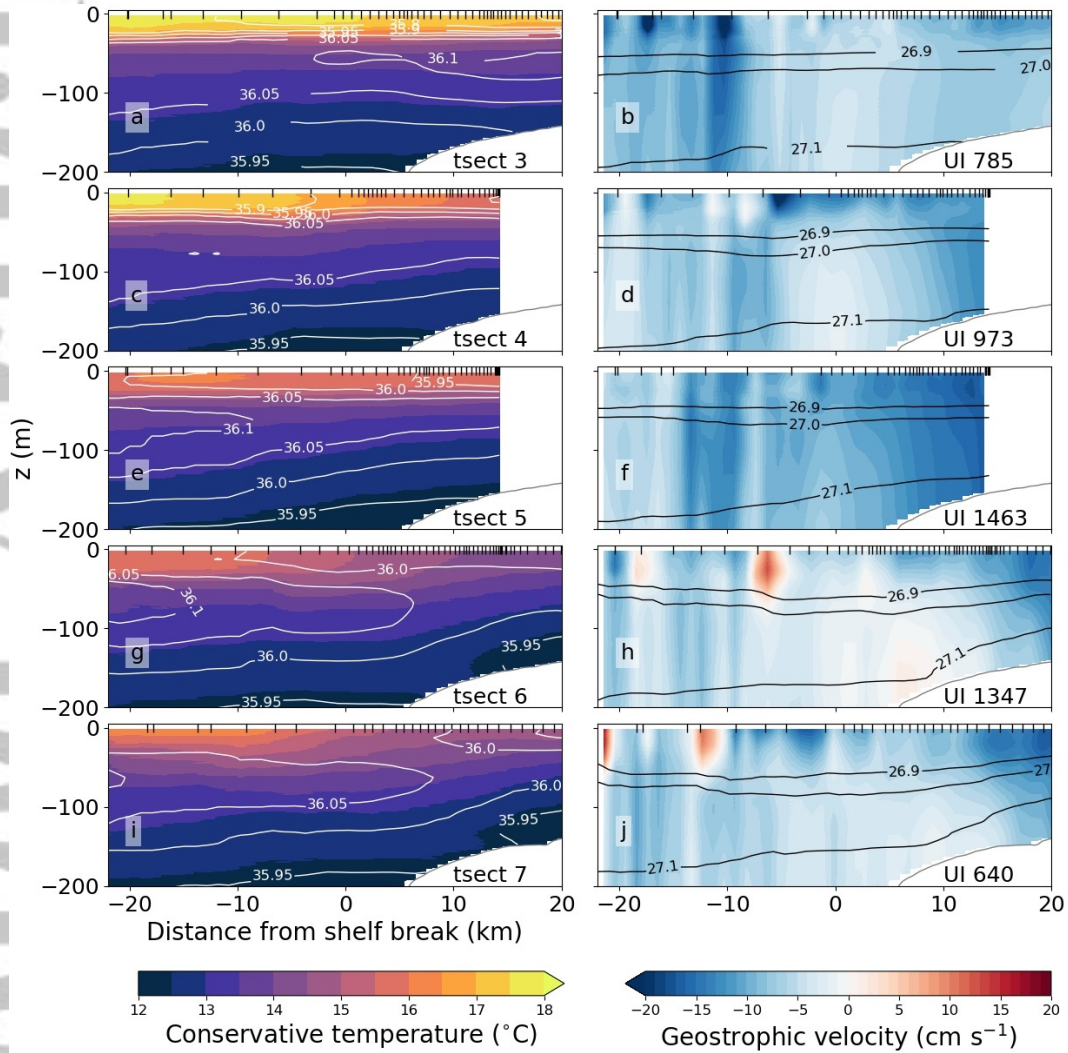
241 During transects 3 and 4 (8-14 June), increasing wind speeds mixed the surface wa-  
 242 ters, increasing the mixed layer depth from 5 to 15 m (Figure 4). Chlorophyll in the up-  
 243 per 30 m increased by 0.8-1.6  $\text{mg m}^{-3}$  and the subsurface chlorophyll maximum shoaled  
 244 to 27 m (Figure 5c). After transect 4, the subsurface  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  maximum was not observed.  
 245 Wind speed increased to  $13 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  during transect 4.

#### 246 3.2 First upwelling event

247 The first upwelling event began on 14 June (YD 164, Figure 6). This occurred dur-  
 248 ing transects 4-7 of the deployment (Figures 4 and 5). The onset of upwelling was first

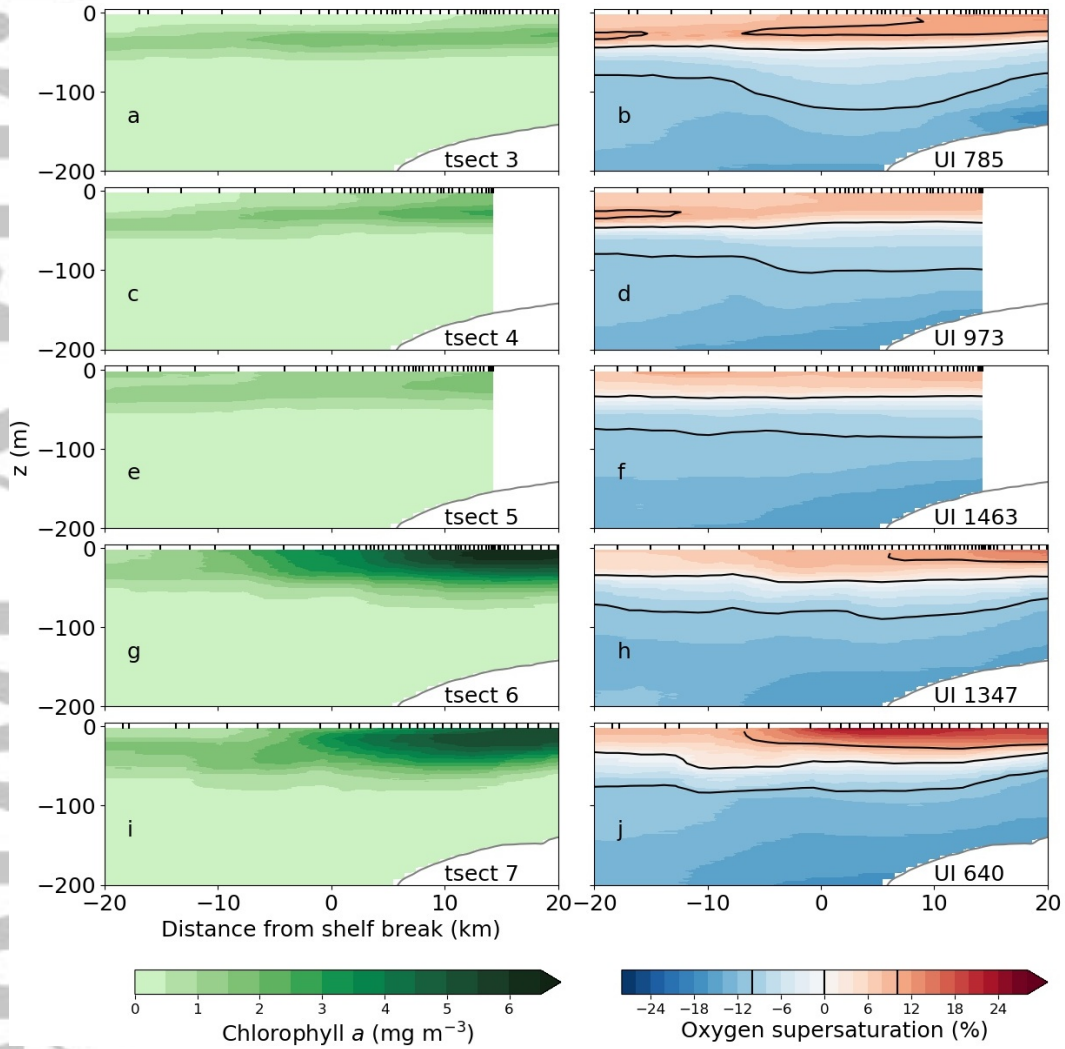


**Figure 3.** Conservative temperature (a-d) and meridional velocity (e & f). (a & b) Conservative temperature averaged over the uppermost 5 m, black ticks mark the surfacing of the glider during the transect for that column. (e & f) Meridional geostrophic velocity, negative velocity is equatorward. Density plotted with black lines. (a,c,e) Transect 2. (b,d,f) Transect 6. Density isopycnals mark the approximate boundaries between ENACW<sub>st</sub> and ENACW<sub>sp</sub> ( $\sigma_\theta = 27.1 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ ) and between ENACW<sub>sp</sub> and MEDW ( $\sigma_\theta = 27.3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ ). Note that the vertical scale changes at  $z = -200 \text{ m}$ .



**Figure 4.** Evolution of conservative temperature (a,c,e,g,i) and meridional geostrophic velocity (b,d,f,h,j) during the first upwelling event, transects 3-7. (a,c,e,g,i) Contours are absolute salinity ( $\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ). (b,d,f,h,j) Contours are density. UI on each figure in  $\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1} \text{km}^{-1}$  and is the value at the time the glider crossed the shelf break. Black ticks at the top of figures mark surfacings of the glider.

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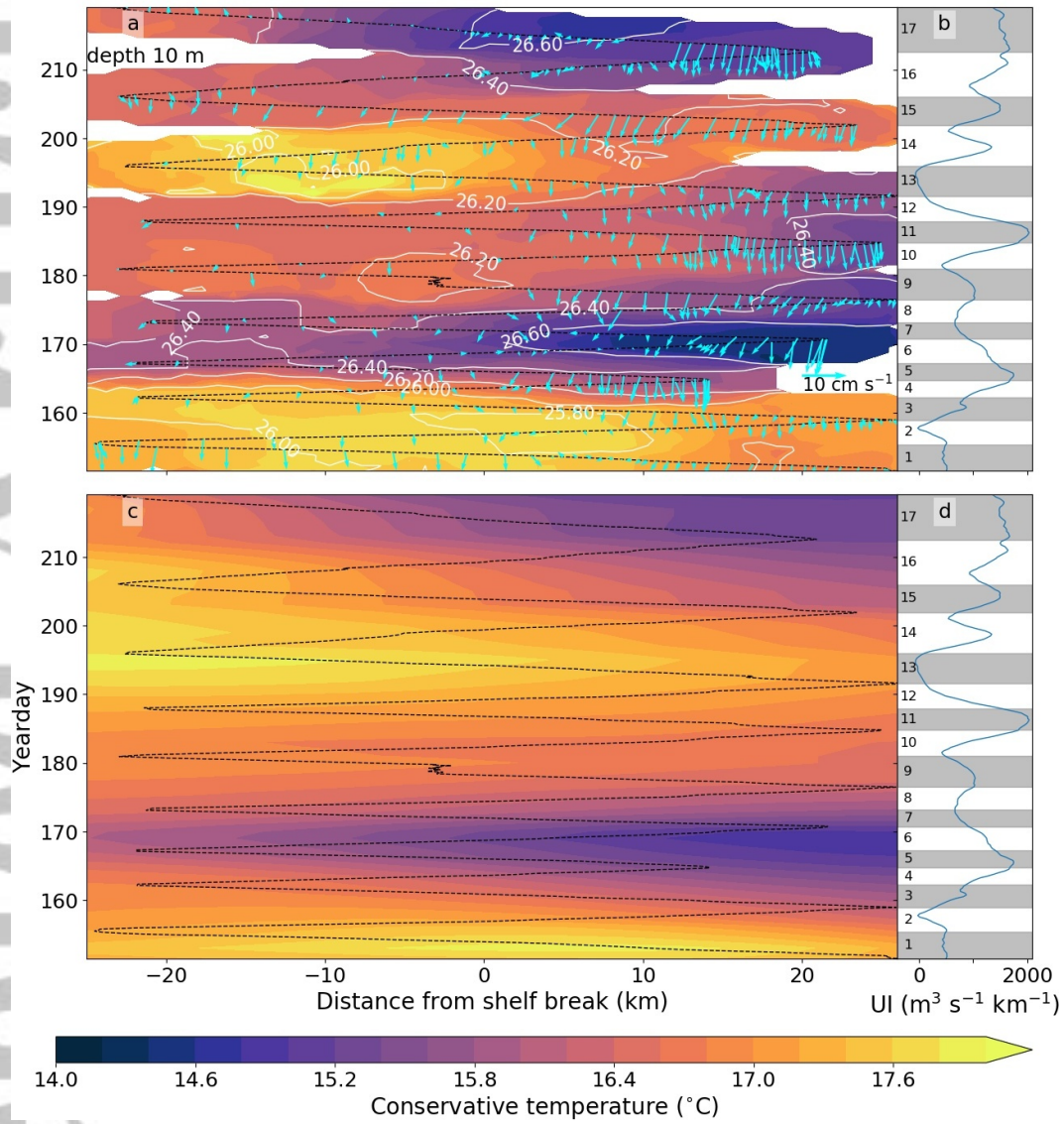


**Figure 5.** Evolution of chlorophyll *a* concentration (a,c,e,g,i) and oxygen supersaturation ( $\Delta(O_2)$ ) (b,d,f,h,j). (b,d,f,h,j) -10, 0 and 10 %  $\Delta(O_2)$  contours in black. Annotations as in Figure 4.

249 apparent in the increase in the equatorward current over the outer shelf from 3 to 8 cm s<sup>-1</sup>  
 250 during transect 4 (14 June, Figure 6a). The buoyant plume of water was advected 30  
 251 km offshore in 4 days (Figures 4a and 4c). The front between the warm water of the buoy-  
 252 ant plume and cooler upwelled water moved offshore at approximately 0.1 m s<sup>-1</sup>, con-  
 253 sistent with previous observations of frontal advection during upwelling (Rossi et al., 2013).  
 254 This current speed is comparable to that of the glider and prevented it from reaching  
 255 its eastern waypoint on transect 4 (Figure 6). Because of this, we have no glider obser-  
 256 vations for the shelf more than 14 km inshore of the shelf break for 10 days. This pe-  
 257 riod coincided with the wind speed peak of the first upwelling event. Satellite data show  
 258 surface cooling and elevated chlorophyll *a* concentrations during this time period (Fig-  
 259 ures 6c and 7c).

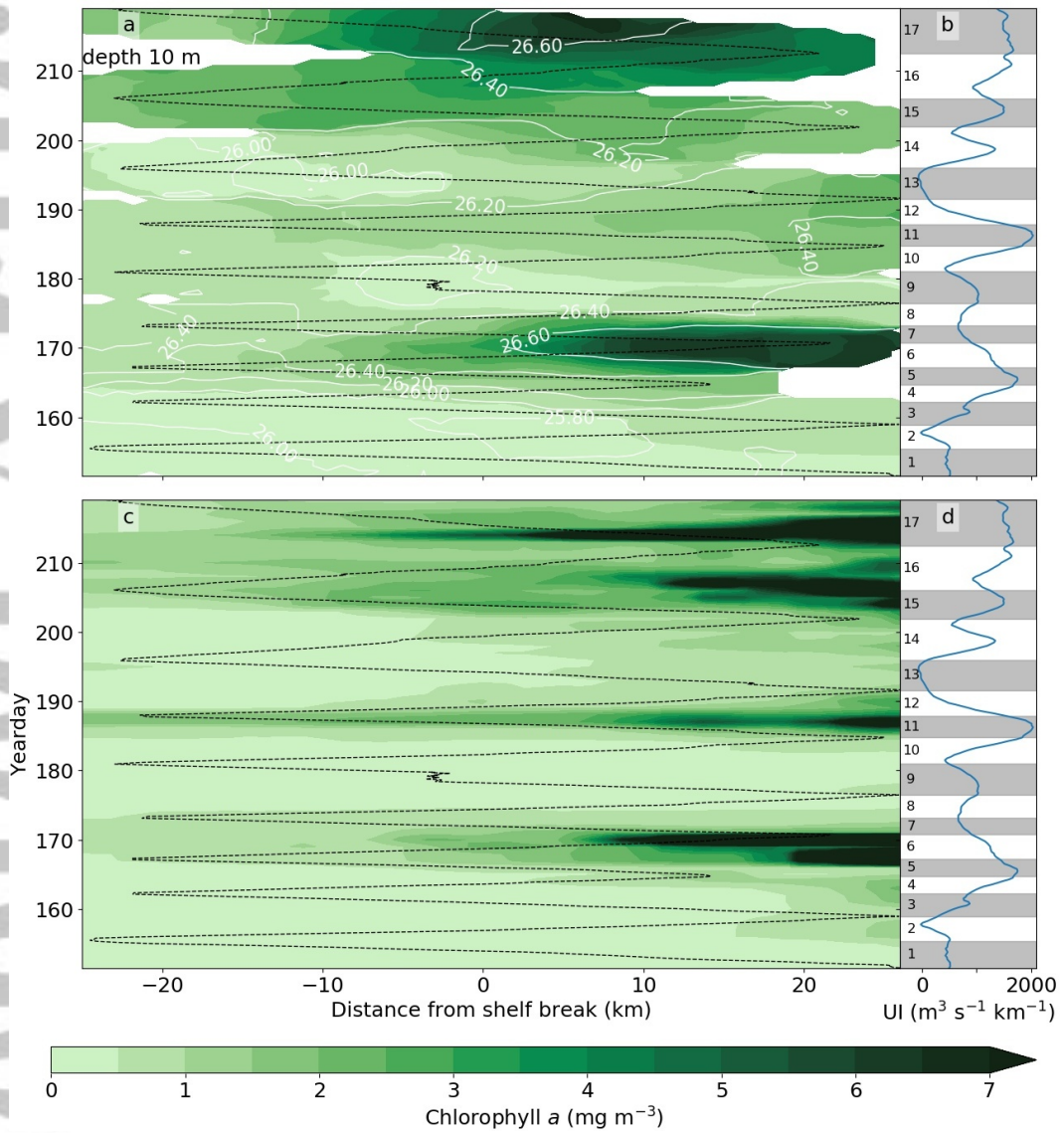
260 After the offshore advection of the buoyant plume, near surface waters over the shelf  
 261 became cooler and more saline (Figures 4g and 4i). Temperature near the surface de-  
 262 creased by as much as 3.0 °C at the eastern end of the section (Figure 6a). An across  
 263 slope temperature gradient of 0.1 °C km<sup>-1</sup> in the upper 20 m was observed (Figure 3b)  
 264 typical of a front between warm surface and cool upwelled waters (Ferreira Cordeiro, 2018).  
 265 Over the shelf, the  $\sigma_\theta = 27.1 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  isopycnal shoaled from 180 m to shallower than  
 266 100 m (Figures 4b and 4h). A core of cool, saline water with temperature-salinity char-  
 267 acteristics between those of ENACW<sub>st</sub> and ENACW<sub>sp</sub> was upwelled onto the shelf dur-  
 268 ing transects 6 and 7 (17-23 June, Figures 4g and 4i). The presence of this water on the  
 269 shelf suggests upwelling of waters from depths of greater than 190 m, as has been ob-  
 270 served previously (Huthnance et al., 2002). The change from near horizontal isopycnals  
 271 pre-upwelling to isopycnal slopes of 4 m km<sup>-1</sup> across the shelf break is pronounced (Fig-  
 272 ures 3c and 3d). The  $\sigma_\theta = 27.0 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  isopycnal shoaled by 20 m over the shelf, sim-  
 273 ilar to that observed during summer 2009 by Ferreira Cordeiro et al. (2018). During the  
 274 upwelling event, isopycnals outcropped over the shelf break (Figure 3f).

275 Prior to the first upwelling event, average chlorophyll concentrations were similar  
 276 on the shelf and over the slope, though concentrations over the slope exhibited more vari-  
 277 ability (Figures 7 and 8a). Chlorophyll concentrations increased after the development  
 278 of full upwelling, coincident with the decrease in near surface temperature (Figure 7).  
 279 Higher chlorophyll concentrations were observed over the shelf than the slope for the en-  
 280 tirety of the upper 100 m during transect 6 (Figure 8c). The subsurface chlorophyll max-  
 281 imum over the shelf shoaled to 12 m and near surface concentrations surpassed 6.0 mg m<sup>-3</sup>



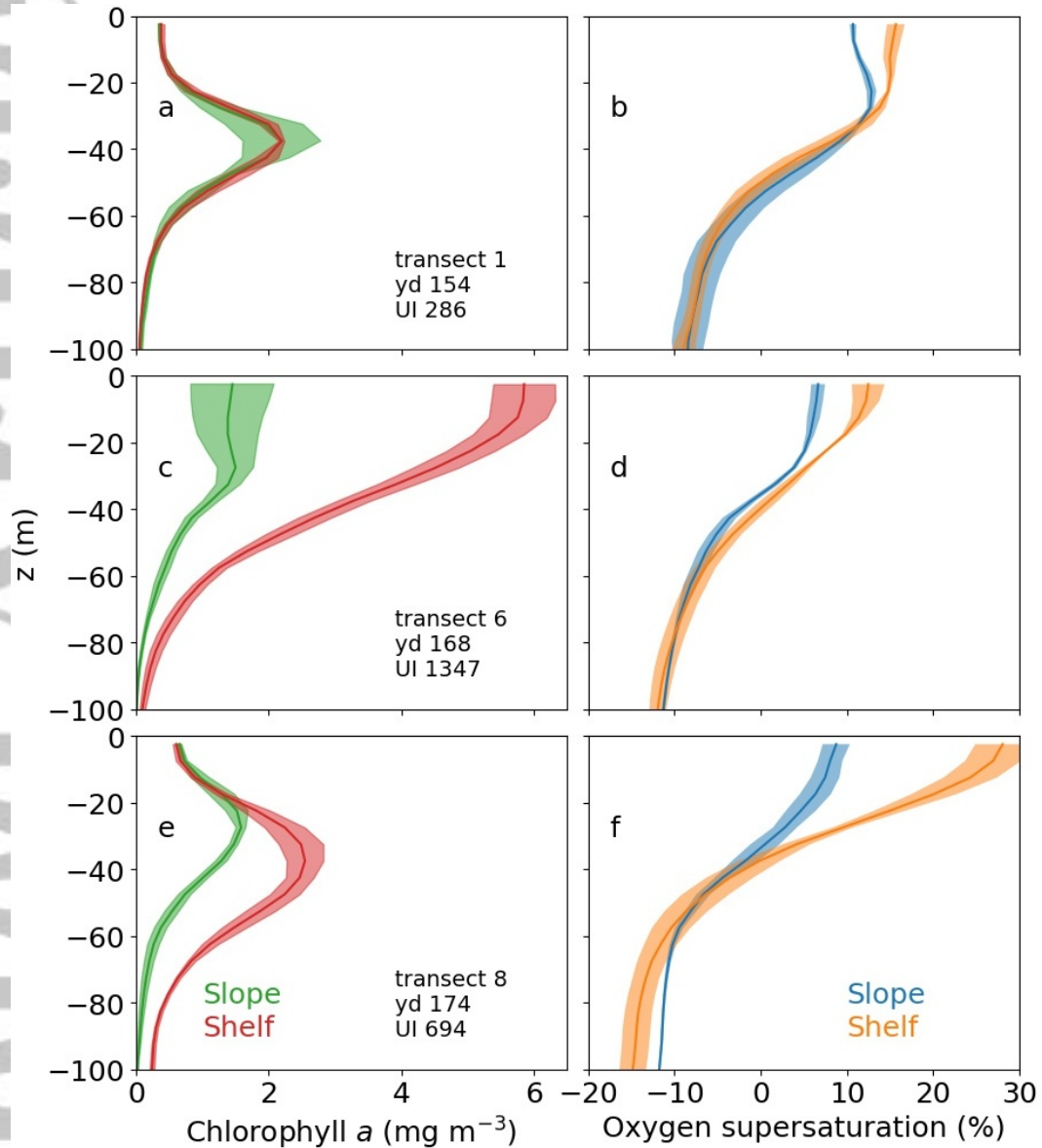
**Figure 6.** (a) Conservative temperature at 10 m depth. Black dashed line demarcates glider track in time. Black lines are potential density anomalies in  $\text{kg m}^{-3}$ . Cyan vectors are detided dive average currents. (c) Satellite observed SST with glider track overlaid. (b & d) Upwelling Index (UI) with glider transects shaded and numbered as in Figure 1.

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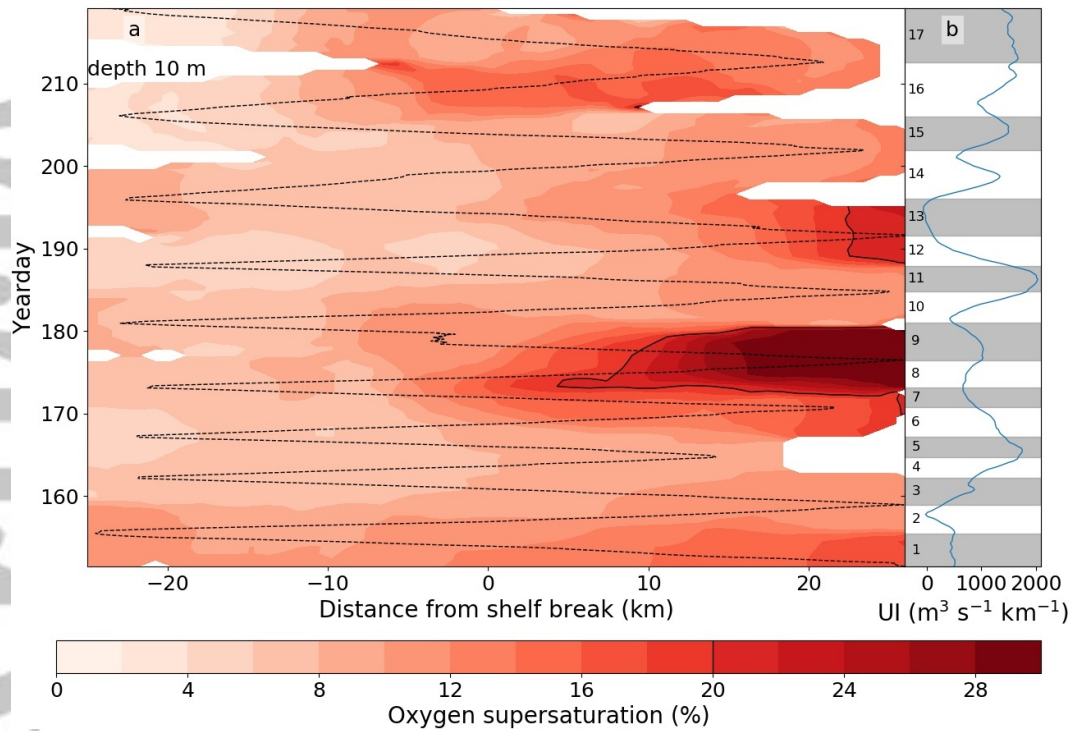


**Figure 7.** As Figure 6 for Chlorophyll *a* concentration.





**Figure 8.** Mean vertical profiles of chlorophyll concentration (a,c,e) and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  (b,d,e) before and during the first upwelling event. The green and blue lines are the average of the water column over the slope, more than 5 km west of the shelf break. The red and orange lines are the average of the water column over the shelf, more than 5 km east of the shelf break. Uncertainty of 1 standard deviation is shaded around each profile. Transect number, yday of the transect and UI during the transect are shown on each panel.



**Figure 9.** As Figure 6a and 6b for  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$ . 20 %  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  contour in solid black.

282 over the inner shelf more than 10 km inshore of the shelf break during transects 6-7 (Fig-  
 283 ure 7).  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  followed the same pattern as chlorophyll but peaked during transects 8-  
 284 9, 6 days later (Figures 7 and 9).  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  increased most in the near surface over the shelf  
 285 to greater than 28 %. during transect 8, the greatest supersaturation observed during  
 286 the deployment (Figures 8f and 9). Chlorophyll and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  over the slope increased only  
 287 slightly during the same time period (Figures 8c-8f).

288 After peaking during transect 7, maximum chlorophyll concentration over the shelf  
 289 decreased to  $2.3 \text{ mg m}^{-3}$  and the subsurface chlorophyll maximum descended to 43 m  
 290 during transects 8 and 9.  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  over the shelf also decreased, reaching a minimum dur-  
 291 ing transects 10 and 11, 8 days later than the minimum of chlorophyll in the near sur-  
 292 face (Figures 7 and 9).

293 A brief period of strong equatorward wind around YD 188 (8 July, transects 10-  
 294 11) increased equatorward current speed on the shelf (Figure 6a). However, this event  
 295 was short lived and caused only a modest decrease in temperature on shelf at the east-  
 296 ern end of the transect (Figure 6a). Small increases in chlorophyll ( $0.5 \text{ mg m}^{-3}$ ) and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$

297 (10 %) in the near surface were observed during the following transects 12-13 (Figures  
298 7 and 9). The effects of this period of increased winds were mainly limited to the inner  
299 shelf, more than 10 km east of the shelf break (Figures 6, 7 and 9).

### 300 **3.3 Partial relaxation and second upwelling event**

301 A relaxation of the southward winds during YDs 191-194 (11-14 July, transect 13)  
302 brought surface warming of 2.0 °C over the slope and a decrease in the strength of equa-  
303 torward flows (Figure 6). This relaxation was not sufficient to reverse the equatorward  
304 flow on the shelf, as has been observed during periods of northward winds in other years  
305 (Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018). Chlorophyll concentrations over the slope and shelf de-  
306 creased (Figure 7).

307 During the final three transects of the deployment (21 July-8 August) a second up-  
308 welling event developed. This second event followed a similar pattern to the first with  
309 increased equatorward currents over the shelf and upwelling of cold, dense water decreas-  
310 ing near surface temperature by 2.0 °C (Figure 6). During the final transect, chlorophyll  
311 concentrations over the shelf increased to similar levels as observed during the first up-  
312 welling event (Figure 7). The highest chlorophyll concentration in the near surface were  
313 observed on the outer shelf at 5 km east of the shelf break (Figure 7). Assuming a sim-  
314 ilar lag between chlorophyll and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  in the near surface as observed during the first  
315 upwelling event, it is likely that  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  increased past the end of the deployment.

### 316 **3.4 Geostrophic currents and transports**

317 As expected for the NWIM, along slope flows dominated, as shown by the DACs  
318 (Figure 6). During the deployment, the wind was primarily perpendicular to the glider  
319 transect, so Ekman flow contributed little to along slope velocities. After detiding and  
320 gridding (Section 2.2), we assume the velocity structure we observe to be dominated by  
321 geostrophic flow. The DACs include ageostrophic contributions from wind stress.

322 The alongshore flow averaged horizontally and vertically over the entire section,  
323 and over its shelf and slope subsections, was equatorward in every transect, even though  
324 poleward jets were present (Figure 6a). Average equatorward transport was 0.17 ( $\pm$  0.07) Sv  
325 over the shelf and 0.83 ( $\pm$  0.6) Sv over the slope. Averaged over the 17 transects (not  
326 shown) surface intensification of southward flow over the shelf is apparent, particularly

327 at the near-shore end of the section, with a maximum flow speed of  $15 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ . A min-  
328 imum in southward flow speed of  $2 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$  was observed near the sea floor at the shelf  
329 break. Over the slope, equatorward flow is strongest at 50-150 m, the typical depth of  
330 ENACW<sub>st</sub>. Equatorward flow weakens with depth, reaching a minimum flow speed be-  
331 low 700 m, at the depth of MEDW (Figure 3e and 3f).

332 During the 2 months of observation there was substantial variability in the strength  
333 of the equatorward transport. During upwelling, current speed increased over the shelf  
334 and the flow became more surface intensified (Figures 4d, 4f and 4h). Transport on the  
335 shelf increased from  $0.13 (\pm 0.04) \text{ Sv}$  to  $0.18 (\pm 0.08) \text{ Sv}$  during the two upwelling events.  
336 This flow is strongest at the near-shore end of the section (Figure 3f). The flow can be  
337 reasonably expected to extend further inshore, as has been observed in previous upwelling  
338 seasons on the NWIM (Rossi et al., 2013; Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018) and therefore  
339 our transport is likely an underestimate.

340 Over the slope, a broad equatorward flow dominated in the upper 500 m (Figure  
341 3e). This flow was observed to weaken at depth, with a sporadic poleward flow below  
342 500 m (Figure 3f). No relation was found between the UI and meridional transport over  
343 the slope. Opposing jet pairs were observed in the near surface throughout the deploy-  
344 ment (Figures 4e and 4f). These moved offshore (westward) during the first upwelling  
345 event at  $2 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ , similar to the upwelling event observed by Rossi et al. (2013).

#### 346 **4 Discussion**

347 During June and July of 2010, the shelf and slope near Cape Silleiro experienced  
348 summer upwelling similar in character to that of previous years, but stronger (Relvas et  
349 al., 2007). In contrast to previous years, which featured cycles of upwelling and relax-  
350 ation (Rossi et al., 2013; Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018), upwelling conditions dominated  
351 the observational period. A cross shore temperature gradient between cool upwelled wa-  
352 ter over the shelf and warmer surface waters offshore was present during the majority  
353 of the deployment (Figure 6). Isopycnal outcropping was frequently observed over the  
354 shelf and upper slope (Figure 4).

355 During the first upwelling event, mean temperature of the upper 20 m of the wa-  
356 ter column over the shelf decreased by  $2.5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  in less than 8 days (Figure 6). Latent heat  
357 loss to the atmosphere averaged  $120 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  during this period of increased wind speed

358 (data from ERA5 Global Reanalysis (Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), 2017),  
359 not shown). Over 8 days this latent heat loss would cool the uppermost 20 m of the wa-  
360 ter column by 1.0°C. Sensible heat loss over the same period was an order of magnitude  
361 smaller. The cooling can only be the result of upwelled deeper water or horizontal ad-  
362 vection of a temperature gradient. Previous studies have established upwelling as the  
363 mechanism by which cool, nutrient rich water reaches the near surface over the shelf (Relvas  
364 et al., 2007; Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018). Additionally, satellite SST data show that  
365 cool water features centred on the capes, including Cape Silleiro, expand and contract  
366 zonally but do not migrate meridionally (not shown). This is strongly indicative of up-  
367 welling, not advection. Surface cooling would not explain the observed changes in salin-  
368 ity, chlorophyll,  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  and near surface currents which can only be the result of upwelling.

369 Upwelling raised the subsurface chlorophyll maximum and increased chlorophyll  
370 concentration throughout the mixed layer over the shelf and shelf break (Figure 8). The  
371 upwelled ENACW is relatively low in oxygen but the high nutrient concentration pro-  
372 motes phytoplankton growth (Rossi et al., 2013). We take elevated chlorophyll (Figure  
373 7) and optical backscatter (not shown) to be indicators of elevated primary productiv-  
374 ity and biomass, whilst acknowledging that processes such as photoacclimation or changes  
375 in pigment packaging and ecosystem composition can influence chlorophyll without nec-  
376 essarily increasing primary productivity and biomass (Cetinić et al., 2015). Increased  
377 primary productivity would account for the observed increase of  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  (Figure 8).  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$   
378 peaked after chlorophyll (and optical backscatter at 650 nm, not shown) over the shelf,  
379 with a delay of approximately 6 days. Oxygen in the mixed layer will also be affected  
380 by air-sea gas exchange, which will cause a further lag in the peak response of  $c(\text{O}_2)$  with  
381 respect to the chlorophyll concentration. This measurable time delay is therefore an im-  
382 portant result. Chlorophyll concentration provides a convoluted signal of productivity  
383 and biomass, whereas oxygen concentration is an integrated signal of production, giv-  
384 ing cumulative net community production. One would therefore expect the integrated  
385 signal of oxygen to reach its maximum after the peak in chlorophyll, as is shown in our  
386 glider observations.

387 During crossings 12 and 13, the local maxima of chlorophyll and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  coincided  
388 (Figure 7 and Figure 9). This could indicate that another mechanism affects the con-  
389 centration of oxygen in near surface waters. This could be a physical effect such as bub-  
390 ble injection, or a different ecosystem response to that which contributed to the delay

391 between maxima in chlorophyll and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  observed after the first upwelling event. The  
392 absence of observed lag could also be a result of the relatively long transect sampling in-  
393 terval; the time between crossings 12 and 14 over the inner shelf was 10 days.  
394 As is apparent in Figure 7c, chlorophyll over the inner shelf can increase and decrease  
395 in as little as 3 days.

396 During the first upwelling the chlorophyll maximum and near surface temperature  
397 minimum were observed at the eastern end of the section. During the second upwelling  
398 event, the chlorophyll maximum and near surface temperature minimum were observed  
399 5 km east of the shelf break by the glider. The observations of minimum near surface  
400 temperature and maximum chlorophyll near the shelf break during the second upwelling  
401 event may be due to observational limitations. During the second upwelling event the  
402 glider was travelling slowly due to biofouling. The glider reached the shelf break more  
403 than a day after its final sampling of the inner shelf. Satellite SST and chlorophyll data  
404 support this interpretation (Figures 6c and 7c). The bloom initiating with the second  
405 upwelling event spread further offshore than the first bloom (Figures 7a and Figures 7c).  
406 Westward DACs over the outer shelf and shelf break may have contributed to this off-  
407 shore spreading of chlorophyll (Figure 6a).

408 In deeper water ( $> 50$  m) over the shelf,  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  decreased during and after upwelling  
409 events (Figure 8). A potential cause is the advection of low oxygen ENACW<sub>sp</sub> onto the  
410 shelf. The upwelling of ENACW<sub>sp</sub> is visible in the temperature and density transects  
411 (Figure 3) in the shoaling of the  $\sigma_\theta = 27.1 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  isopycnal over the inner shelf. Bi-  
412 ological activity also contributes to low oxygen values in deeper water (Rossi et al., 2013).  
413 During upwelling, nutrients depleted by near surface phytoplankton are replenished at  
414 depth by microbial remineralisation, consuming oxygen (Álvarez-Salgado et al., 1997;  
415 Rossi et al., 2013). Our observations of decreased  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  below 50 m over the shelf agree  
416 with observations of near-bottom low-oxygen layers by Rossi et al. (2013).

417 The persistence of equatorward flow over the shelf throughout the deployment is  
418 atypical for the NWIM. Prior studies of the summer upwelling season have observed a  
419 reversion to poleward flow over the shelf during relaxation of equatorward winds (Peliz  
420 et al., 2002; Rossi et al., 2013; Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018). The absence of poleward  
421 flow over the shelf in our observations may be due to the time taken for the glider to re-  
422 turn to the shelf. After the relaxation of the southward winds during YDs 191-194 (11-

423 14 July), the glider was not present again over the shelf until YD 199 (19 July Figure  
424 6). Ferreira Cordeiro et al. (2018) noted poleward flows from a relaxation period of only  
425 5 days of weak winds. The shelf could have experienced poleward flow during the 5 days  
426 that the glider was off the shelf. Alternatively, the dominance of upwelling favourable  
427 winds in summer 2010 may explain this absence of observed poleward flow (Figure 2).  
428 No downwelling events were observed during the deployment.

429 Geostrophic flows matched the typical upwelling season flow regime of NWIM, with  
430 a near-shore surface intensified upwelling jet and equatorward flow over the shelf break  
431 and upper slope (e.g. the schematic shown by Ferreira Cordeiro et al. (2018)). Our ob-  
432 served equatorward transport over the shelf  $0.17 (\pm 0.07)$  Sv is greater than the seasonal  
433 transport of 0.09 Sv for June and July from the numerical modelling study of (Teles-Machado  
434 et al., 2015). This is expected as the 0.09 Sv is based on a climatology of the years 1989-  
435 2008, which all had lower median values of UI than 2010 (Figure 2). Our observations  
436 of poleward flow near the seafloor over the shelf during upwelling (Figure 3f) are in agree-  
437 ment with previous studies observing a poleward countercurrent during upwelling at this  
438 location (Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018; Teles-Machado et al., 2015).

439 Offshore of the shelfbreak, a strong equatorward flow persisted throughout the de-  
440 ployment. We do not observe the poleward flow of the Iberian Poleward Current seen  
441 in models (Teles-Machado et al., 2015) and observations (Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018;  
442 Torres & Barton, 2007). This could be because the glider does not sample far enough  
443 offshore, turning around at  $9.7^\circ\text{W}$  over bathymetry of 2000 m, midway down the slope  
444 (Figure 1). An observational campaign in June and July of 2009 only observed the pole-  
445 ward flow west of  $9.8^\circ\text{W}$  (Ferreira Cordeiro et al., 2018). Earlier observational studies  
446 have shown a similar pattern of poleward flows in the upper 200 m west of  $9.8^\circ\text{W}$  dur-  
447 ing the summer months (Torres & Barton, 2007). The observed pattern of equatorward  
448 flow dominance over the shelf and upper slope would be expected during upwelling con-  
449 ditions, with the upwelling jet keeping the IPC offshore as has been suggested by Nolasco  
450 et al. (2013).

451 The slow speed of the glider resulted in considerable time lapse between transects  
452 (6 days on average). Due to this, the glider did not observe some events apparent in the  
453 satellite chlorophyll data such as the increases in near surface chlorophyll concentration  
454 over the shelf YDs 188-190 and 205-208. The time gap between observations of the shelf

455 limited our ability to constrain the timing of some events, such as the lag between the  
456 chlorophyll and  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  maxima (Figures 7a and 9a). The strong currents over the shelf  
457 also prevented the glider from reaching its eastern waypoint during the development of  
458 the first upwelling event. The glider's short section limited our observations of along-  
459 shore currents over the deep slope and of upwelling features inshore of the 160 m isobath.  
460 Future glider deployments in the region will need to consider the trade off between sec-  
461 tion length and the frequency of observations at either end of the section. Alternatively,  
462 multiple gliders could be deployed concurrently.

## 463 5 Summary

464 An autonomous ocean glider was used to observe the 2010 summer upwelling sea-  
465 son over the NWIM. Upwelling of cold ENACW from below 190 m contributed to an in-  
466 crease of near surface chlorophyll concentrations from less than  $1 \text{ mg m}^{-3}$  to greater than  
467  $7 \text{ mg m}^{-3}$ . The increase in primary production contributed to a near surface increase  
468 of  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  of 16 %, 6 days after the chlorophyll maximum. Decreasing  $\Delta(\text{O}_2)$  was observed  
469 near the sea floor over the shelf during upwelling.

470 The 2010 summer upwelling season featured atypically strong upwelling favourable  
471 winds. Persistent net equatorward flow was observed on the shelf throughout the two  
472 month deployment, a phenomenon not previously observed. Equatorward flow increased  
473 and became more surface intensified during upwelling and a sporadic, weak poleward jet  
474 was observed over the shelf break.

475 This was the first, and to date only, deployment of a glider to observe summer up-  
476 welling over the NWIM. This study highlights some of the challenges of using gliders to  
477 study shelf break regions, particularly when the length of time between observations over  
478 the shelf is longer than the time period of current reversals on the shelf. Despite these  
479 difficulties, a single glider was able to occupy a cross shelf section for two months, with-  
480 out the need for a costly ship based campaign.

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482 Glider data are held at the British Oceanographic Data Centre (Rollo et al., 2020),  
483 doi.org/10.5285/9b3b453b-2afb-0abd-e053-6c86abc0a59c. Wind speed and Upwelling In-  
484 dex and wind speed data were accessed from the Puertos del Estado database (Puertos



485 del Estado, 2019) <http://www.indicedeafloramiento.ieo.es/HBaixas/uitimeseries.ui>. Bathymetry  
 486 data from EMODnet Bathymetry Consortium (2018) [doi.org/10.12770/18ff0d48-b203-](https://doi.org/10.12770/18ff0d48-b203-4a65-94a9-5fd8b0ec35f6)  
 487 [4a65-94a9-5fd8b0ec35f6](https://doi.org/10.12770/18ff0d48-b203-4a65-94a9-5fd8b0ec35f6). Heat flux data from the ERA5 Global Reanalysis was accessed  
 488 via the Copernicus Climate Change Service Information (Copernicus Climate Change  
 489 Service (C3S), 2017) [doi.org/10.24381/cds.bd0915c6](https://doi.org/10.24381/cds.bd0915c6). Sea surface fields from CMEMS  
 490 Atlantic European North West Shelf Seas [doi.org/10.5194/os-15-1133-2019](https://doi.org/10.5194/os-15-1133-2019). This study  
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504 All plots were created with Python matplotlib (Hunter, 2007), Figure 1 also used  
 505 cartopy (Met Office, 2010 - 2015). Filled contour plots used the cmoccean perceptually  
 506 uniform colourmaps developed by Thyng et al. (2016).

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