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Variability of the Antarctic Intermediate Water
across the Equatorial Atlantic in 2004
Detected from ARGO Float Data Using the
Optimal Spectral Decomposition Method

Chu, Peter C.; Melnichenko, O.V.; Ivanov, L.M.

Chu P.C., O.V. Melnichenko, and L. M. Ivanov, Variability of the Antarctic Intermediate Water across the Equatorial Atlantic in 2004 Detected from ARGO Float Data Using the Optimal Spectral Decomposition Method, Nineteenth Conference on Climate Variability and Change, American Meteorological Society, San Antonio, Texas, 15-18 January 2007.

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**Variability of the Antarctic Intermediate Water
across the Equatorial Atlantic in 2004 Detected from
ARGO Float Trajectory Data**

**Rapid Change of Mid-Depth North
Atlantic Circulations in Tropics**

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Charles Sun
NOAA/NODC

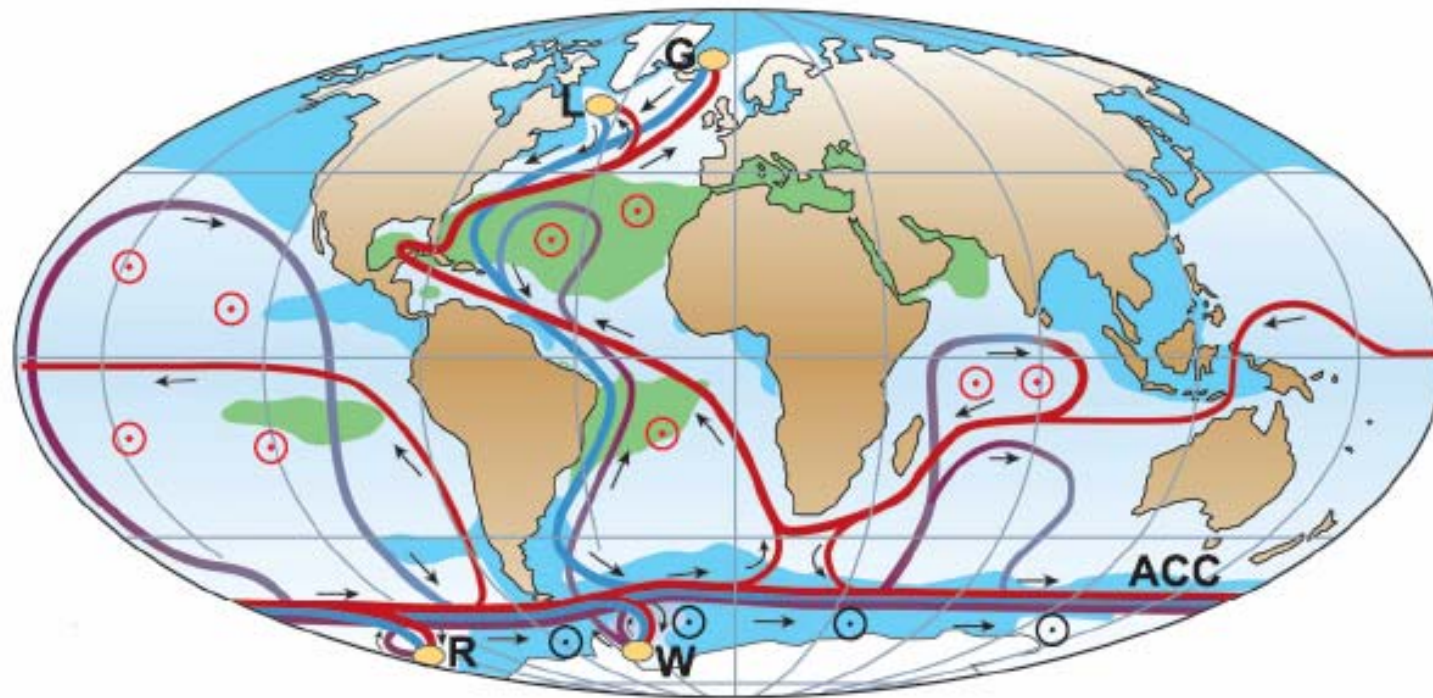
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<http://www.oc.nps.navy.mil/~chu>

Important Element in Climate System

Meridional Overturning Circulation (MOC)

(Rahmstorf 2006)



- Surface flow
- Deep flow
- Bottom flow
- Deep Water Formation

- ⊙ Wind-driven upwelling
- ⊙ Mixing-driven upwelling
- Salinity > 36 ‰
- Salinity < 34 ‰

- L Labrador Sea
- G Greenland Sea
- W Weddell Sea
- R Ross Sea

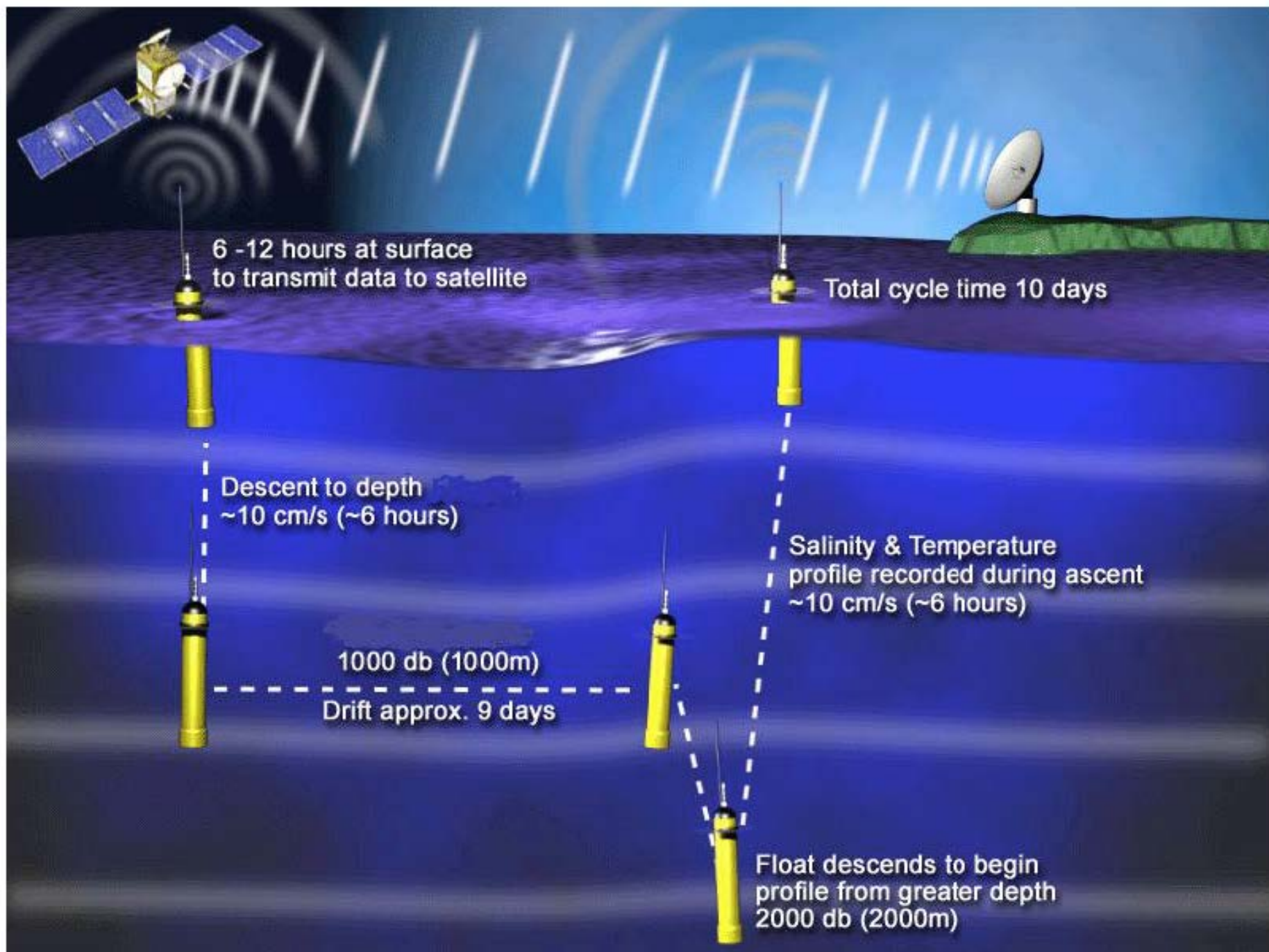
MOC Variation →

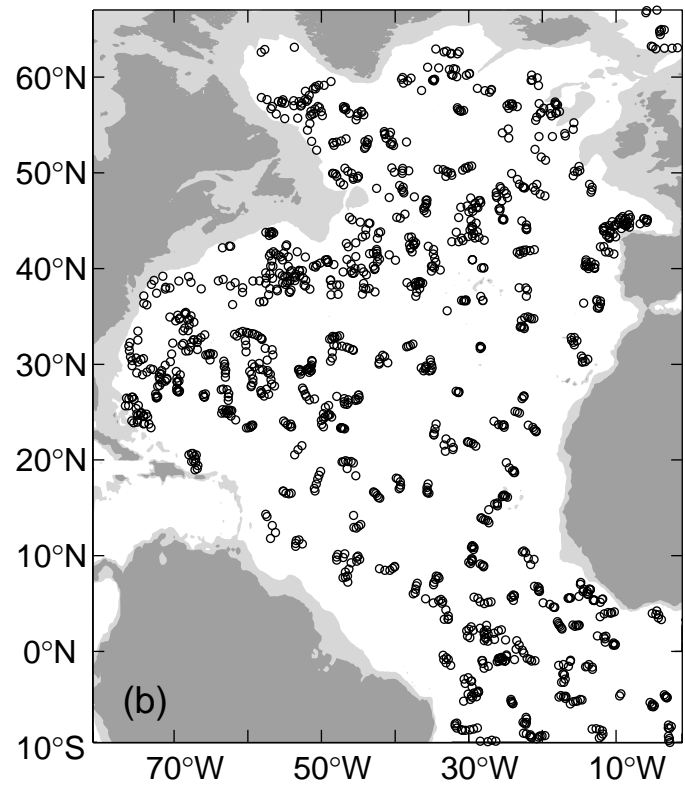
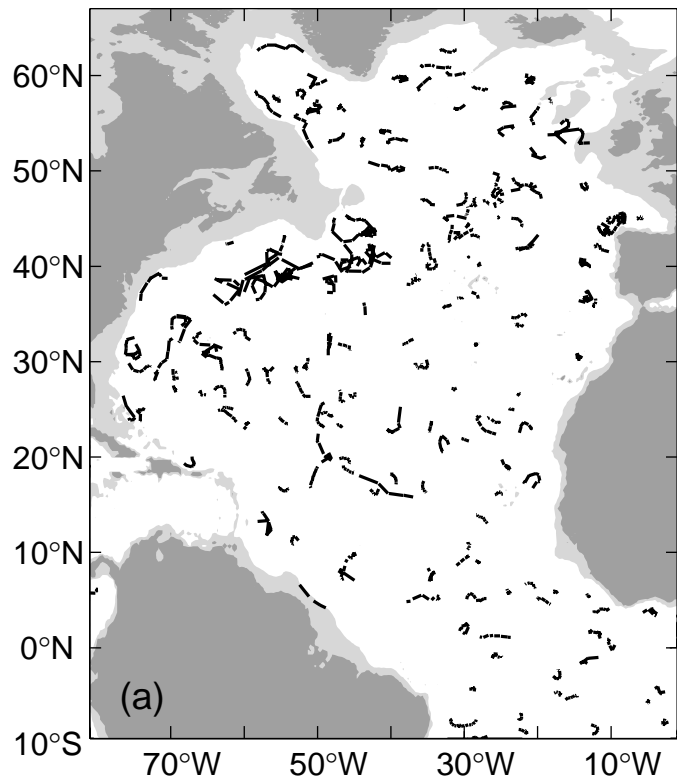
Heat Transport Variation →

Climate Change

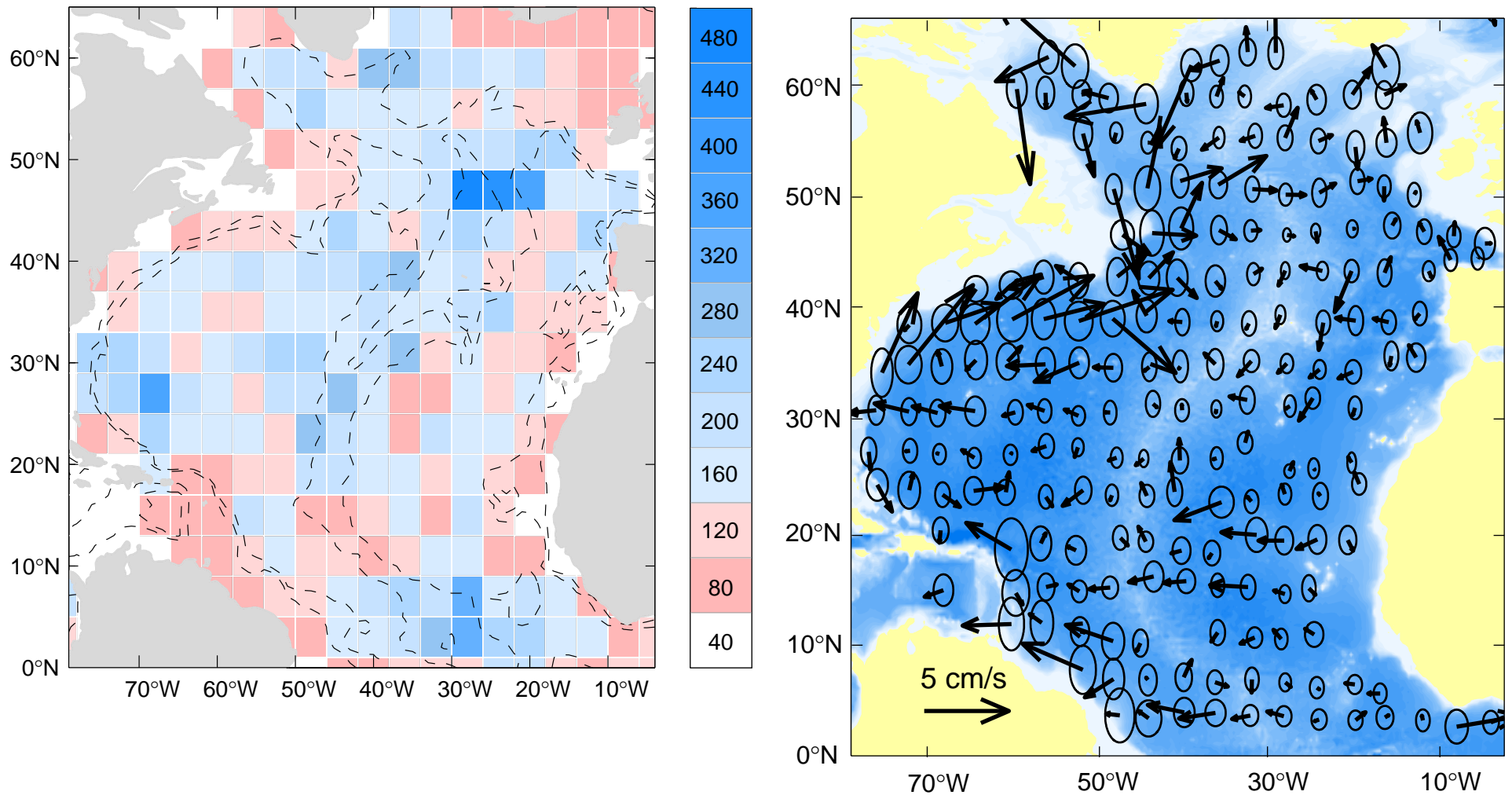
- Are mid-depth (~1000 m) ocean circulations steady?
- If not,
what mechanisms cause the change? (Rossby wave propagation)

(I will answer this question at
1:45 pm on Thursday at 11 IOAS-AOLS)



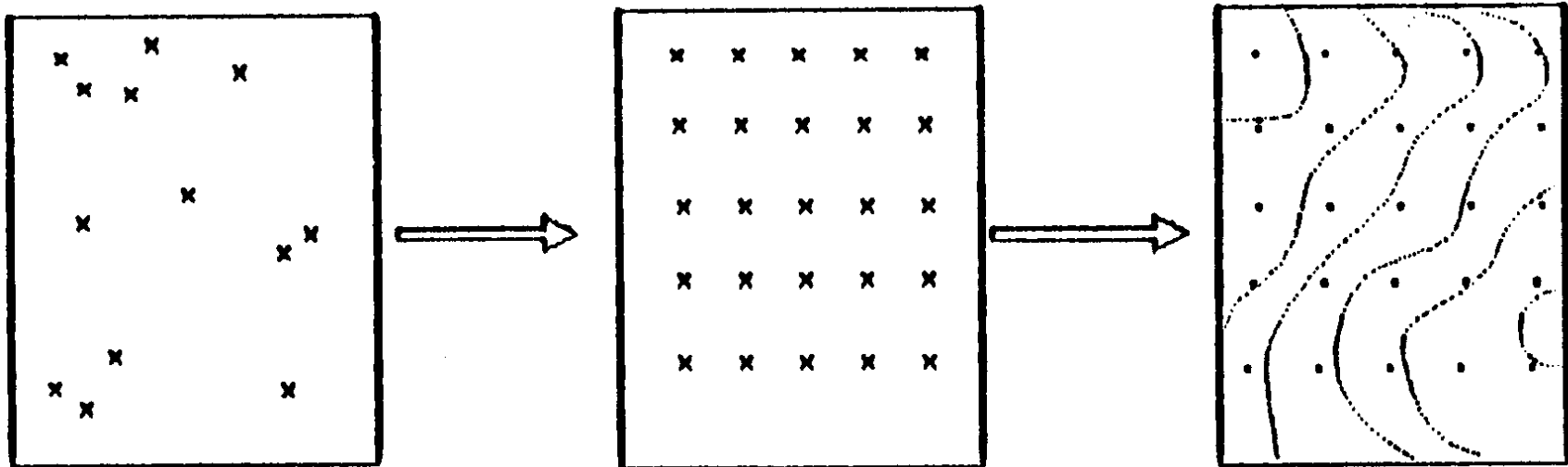


Circulations at 1000 m estimated from the original ARGO float tracks (bin method) April 2004 – April 2005



Most Popular Method for Ocean Data Analysis

Optimum Interpolation (OI)



OI Method Requires:

- (1) First guess field
- (2) Known statistics
such as the autocorrelation function

Ocean velocity data

- (1) First guess field (?)
- (2) Unknown autocorrelation function

Two Ways Out

- (1) Using numerical model to calculate the first guess field and autocorrelation function (Davis, 2002, 2004)
- (2) Using the OSD method

OSD

Spectral Representation

$$c(\mathbf{x}, z_k, t) = A_0(z_k, t) + \sum_{m=1}^M A_m(z_k, t) \Psi_m(\mathbf{x}, z_k),$$

**Spatial Variability is represented
by the basis functions**

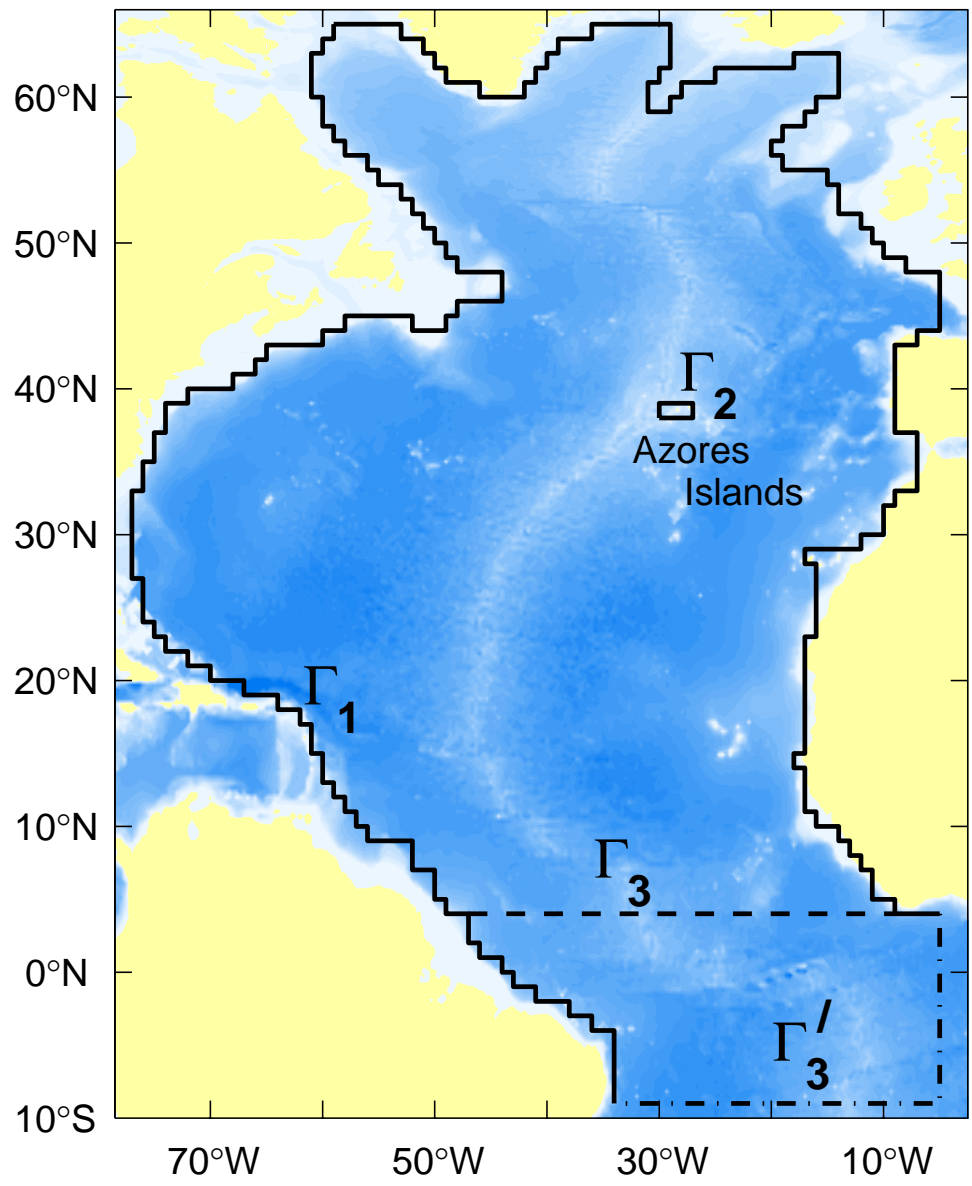
References

- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, T.P. Korzhova, T.M. Margolina, and O.M. Melnichenko, 2003a: Analysis of sparse and noisy ocean current data using flow decomposition. Part 1: Theory. *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, 20 (4), 478-491.
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, T.P. Korzhova, T.M. Margolina, and O.M. Melnichenko, 2003b: Analysis of sparse and noisy ocean current data using flow decomposition. Part 2: Application to Eulerian and Lagrangian data. *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, 20 (4), 492-512.
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, and T.M. Margolina, 2004: Rotation method for reconstructing process and field from imperfect data. *International Journal of Bifurcation and Chaos*, 14(8), 2991-2997.
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, and O.M. Melnichenko, 2005: Fall-winter current reversals on the Texas-Louisiana continental shelf. *Journal of Physical Oceanography*, 35, 902-910
- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, O.M. Melnichenko, and N.C. Wells, 2007: On long baroclinic Rossby Waves in the tropical North Atlantic observed from profiling floats. *Journal of Geophysical Research – Oceans*, in press.
- These papers can be downloaded from:
- <http://www.oc.nps.navy.mil/~chu>

Two approaches to obtain basis functions

- EOFs
- Eigenfunctions of Laplace Operator
- (closed lateral boundary)

$$\nabla_h^2 \Psi_m = -\lambda_m \Psi_m, \quad \Psi_m|_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, M.$$



Basis Functions of Laplace Operator (Open Boundaries)

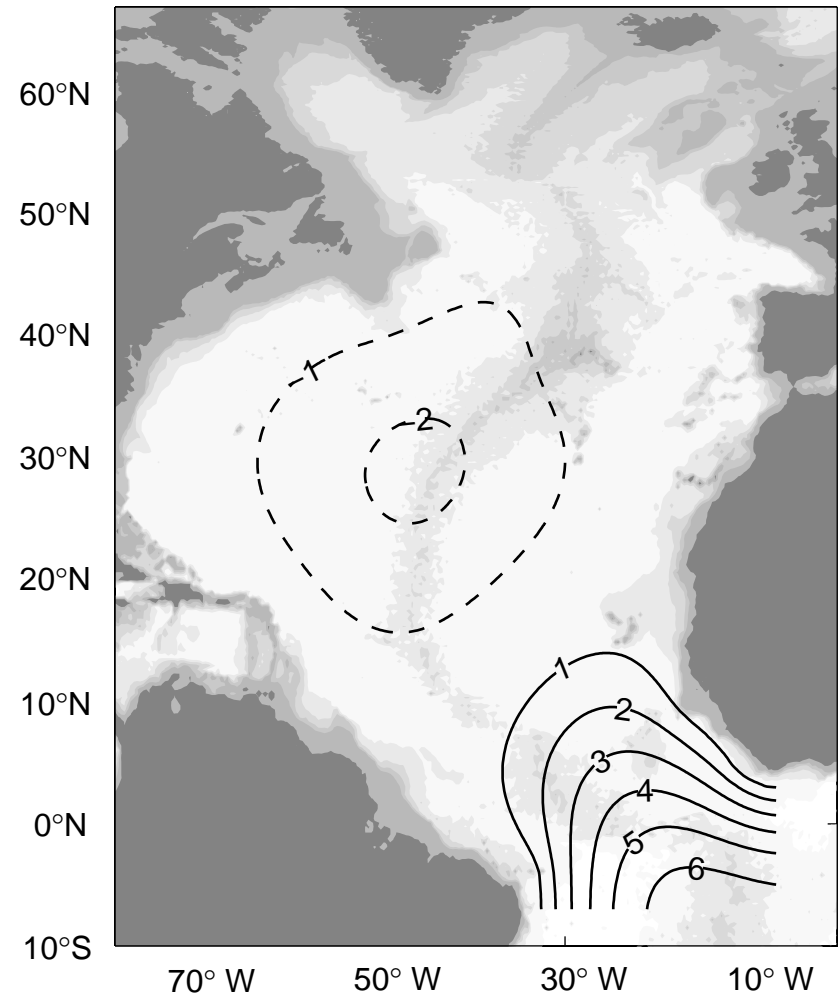
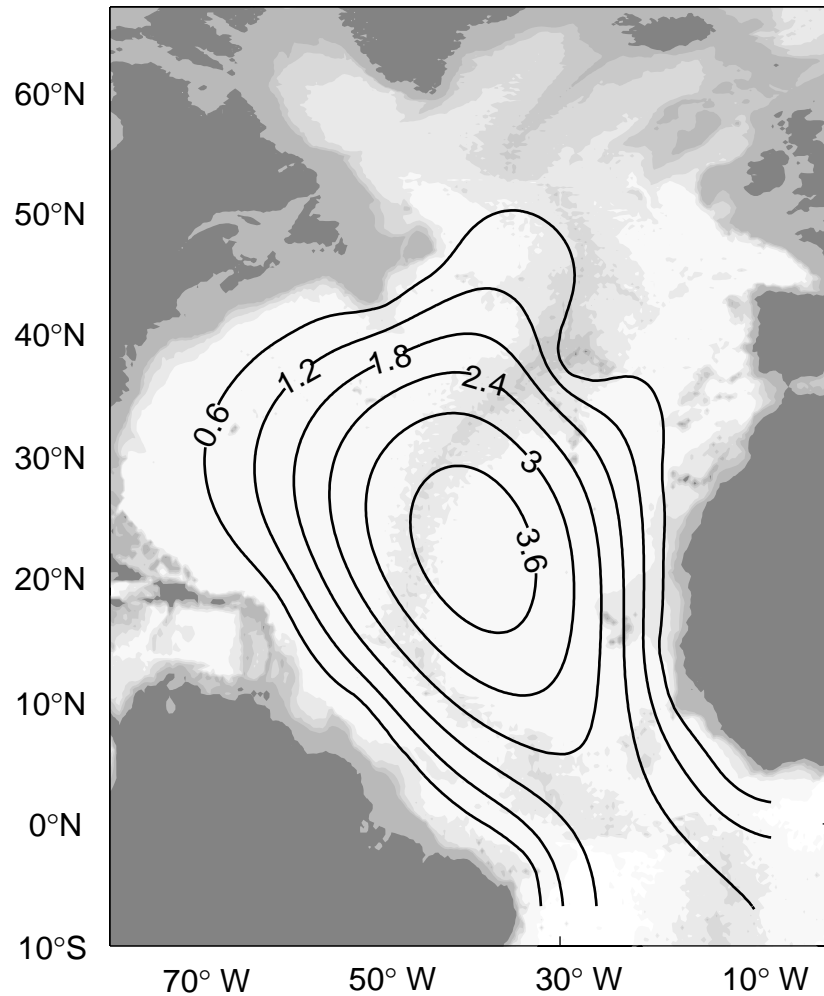
$$\Delta \Psi_k = -\lambda_k \Psi_k,$$

$$\Delta \Phi_m = -\mu_m \Phi_m,$$

$$\Psi_k|_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \Phi_m}{\partial n}|_{\Gamma} = 0,$$

$$\left[\frac{\partial \Psi_k}{\partial n} + \kappa(\tau) \Psi_k \right] |_{\Gamma'_1} = 0, \quad \Phi_m|_{\Gamma'_1} = 0,$$

Basis Functions for Streamfunction Mode-1 and Mode-2



Spectral Decomposition

$$u_{KM} = \sum_{k=1}^K a_k(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Psi_k(x, y, z, \kappa^\circ)}{\partial y} + \sum_{m=1}^M b_m(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Phi_m(x, y, z)}{\partial x},$$
$$v_{KM} = - \sum_{k=1}^K a_k(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Psi_k(x, y, z, \kappa^\circ)}{\partial x} + \sum_{m=1}^M b_m(z, t^\circ) \frac{\partial \Phi_m(x, y, z)}{\partial y}$$

Optimal Mode Truncation

$$J(a_1, \dots, a_K, b_1, \dots, b_M, \kappa, P) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\|u_p^{obs} - u_{KM}\|_P^2 + \|v_p^{obs} - v_{KM}\|_P^2 \right) \rightarrow \min,$$

Vapnik (1983) Cost Function

$$J_{emp} = J(a_1, \dots, a_K, b_1, \dots, b_M, \kappa, P).$$

$$\text{Prob} \left\{ \sup_{K, M, S} |\langle J(K, M, S) \rangle - J_{emp}(K, M, S)| \geq \mu \right\} \leq g(P, \mu)$$

$$\lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} g(P, \mu) = 0$$

Optimal Truncation

- ARGO Data (Mid-Depth North Atlantic)

$K_{opt} = 38$, $M_{opt} = 24$

Determination of Spectral Coefficients (Ill-Posed Algebraic Equation)

$$\mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{QY},$$

Rotation Method for Solving Ill-Posed Algebraic Equation (Chu et al., 2004)

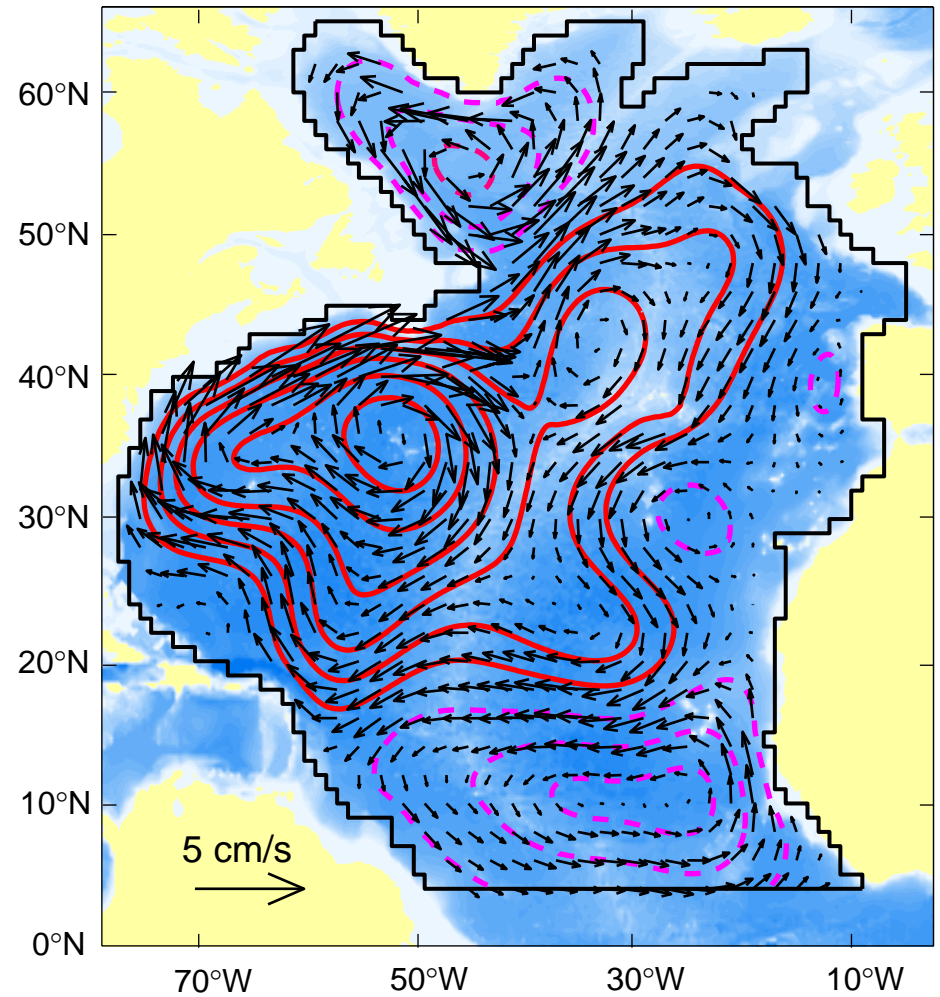
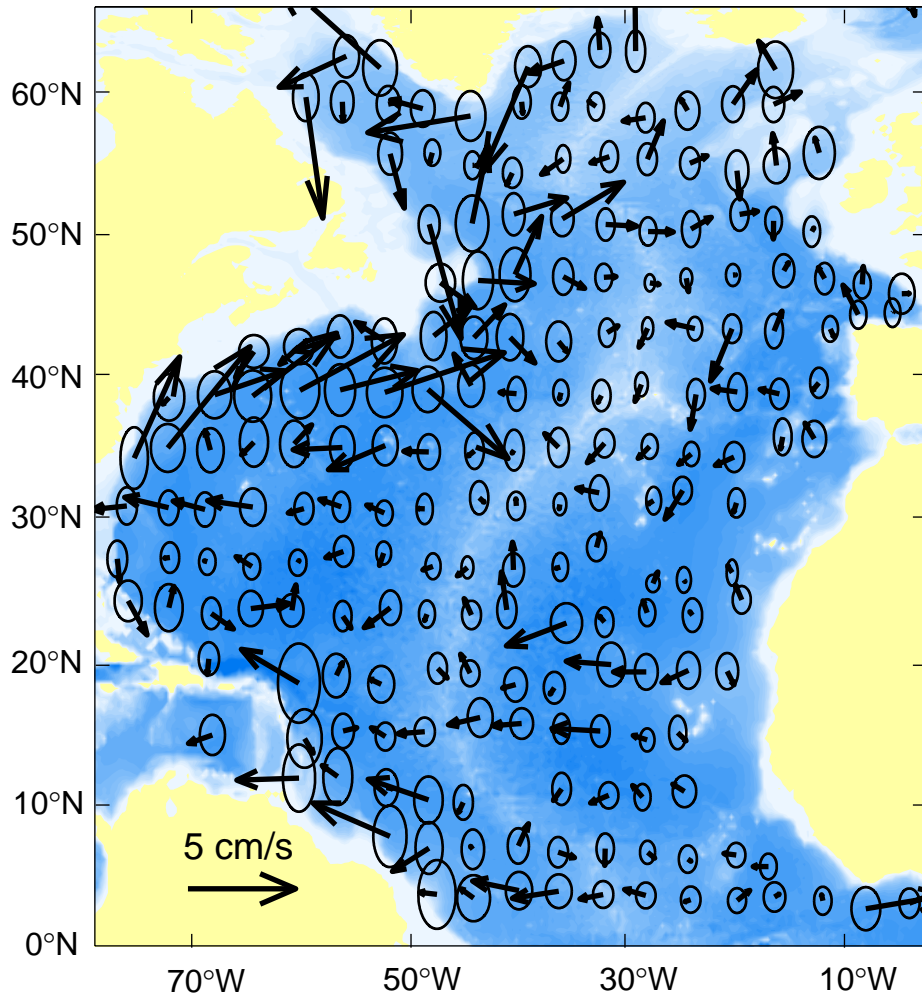
$$\mathbf{SA}\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{SQY},$$

$$J_1 = \|\mathbf{A}\|^2 - \frac{\|\mathbf{SQY}\|^2}{\|\mathbf{a}\|^2} \rightarrow \max,$$

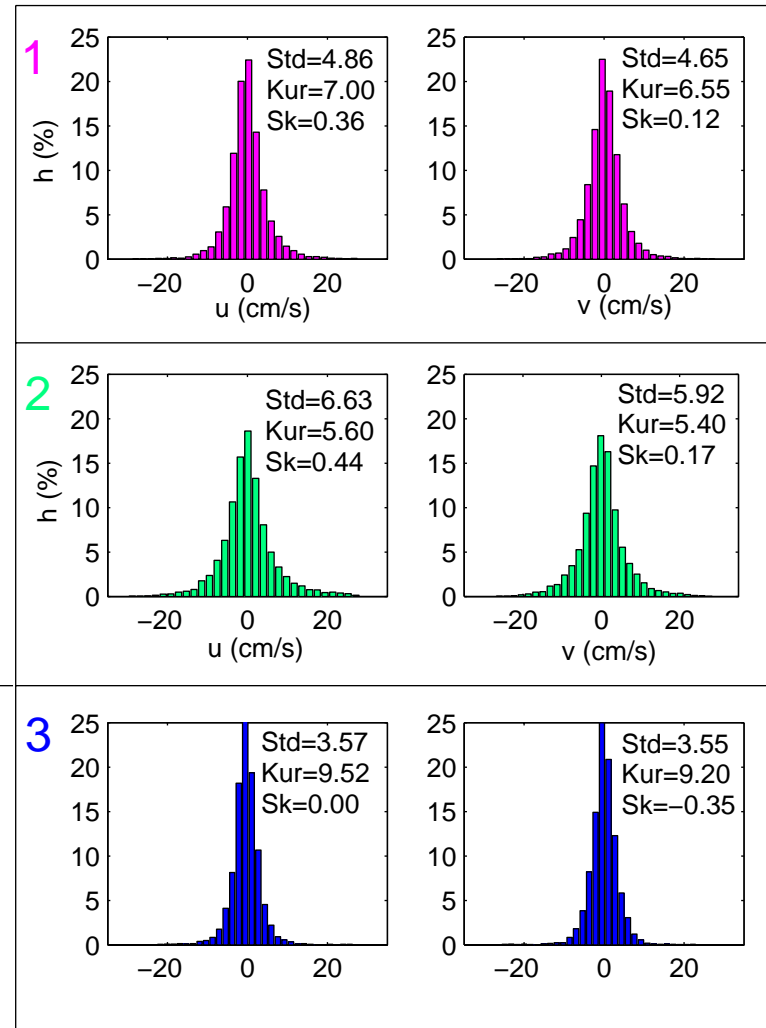
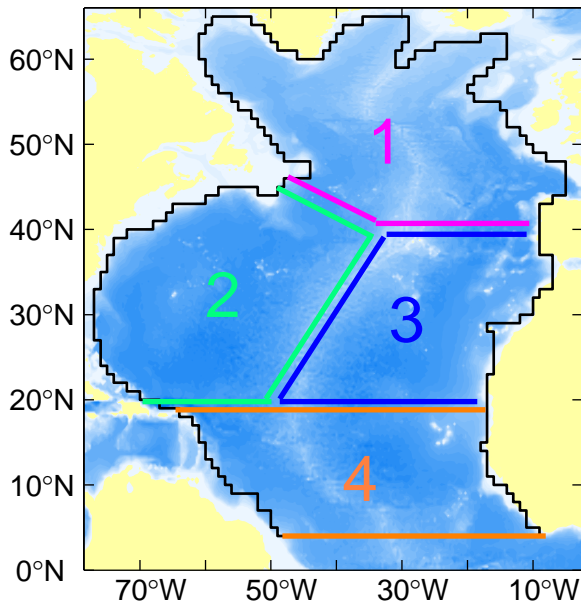
Circulations at 1000 m (March 04 to May 05)

Bin Method

OSD



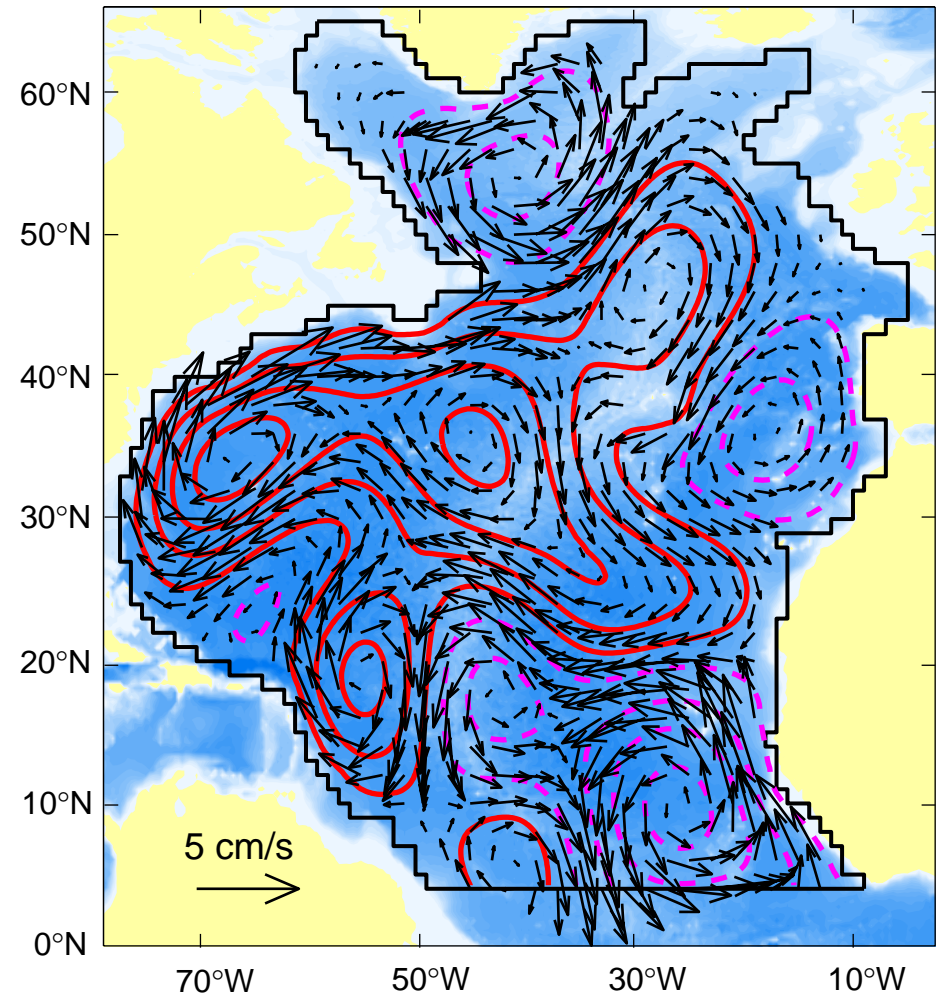
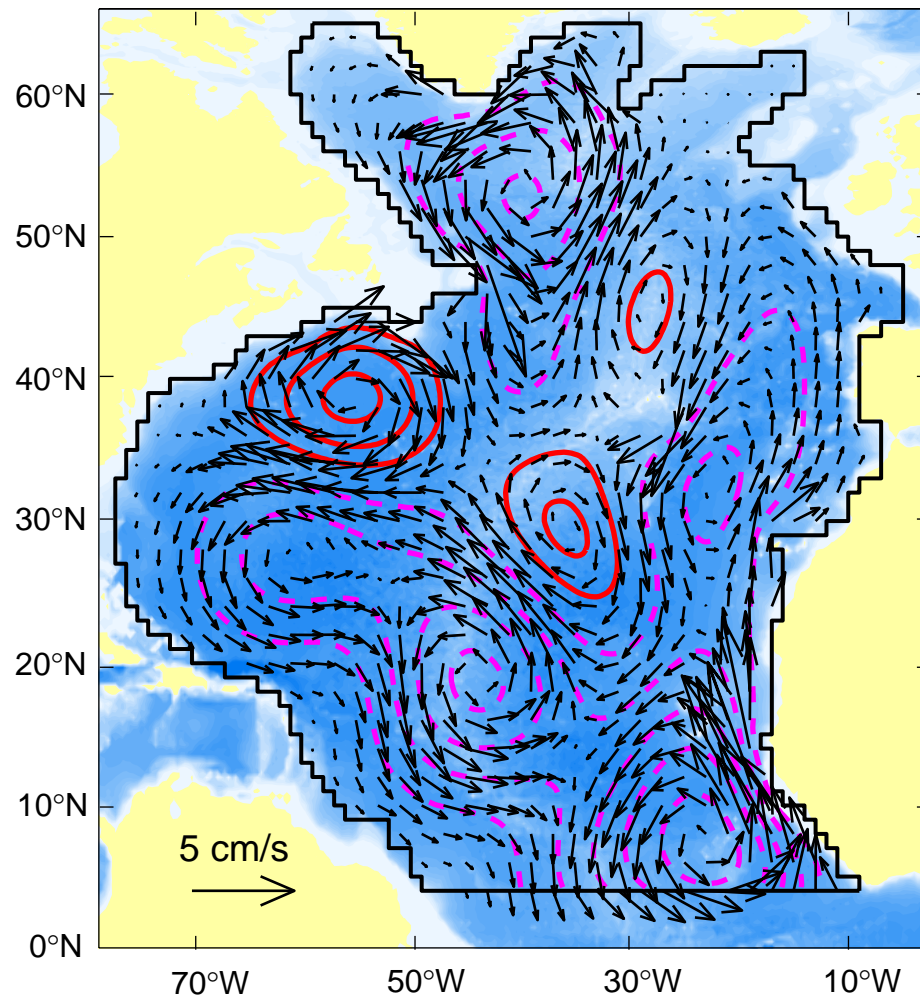
Velocity Variability ($V_{\text{obs}} - \langle V \rangle_{\text{rec}}$)



Mid-Depth Circulations (1000 m)

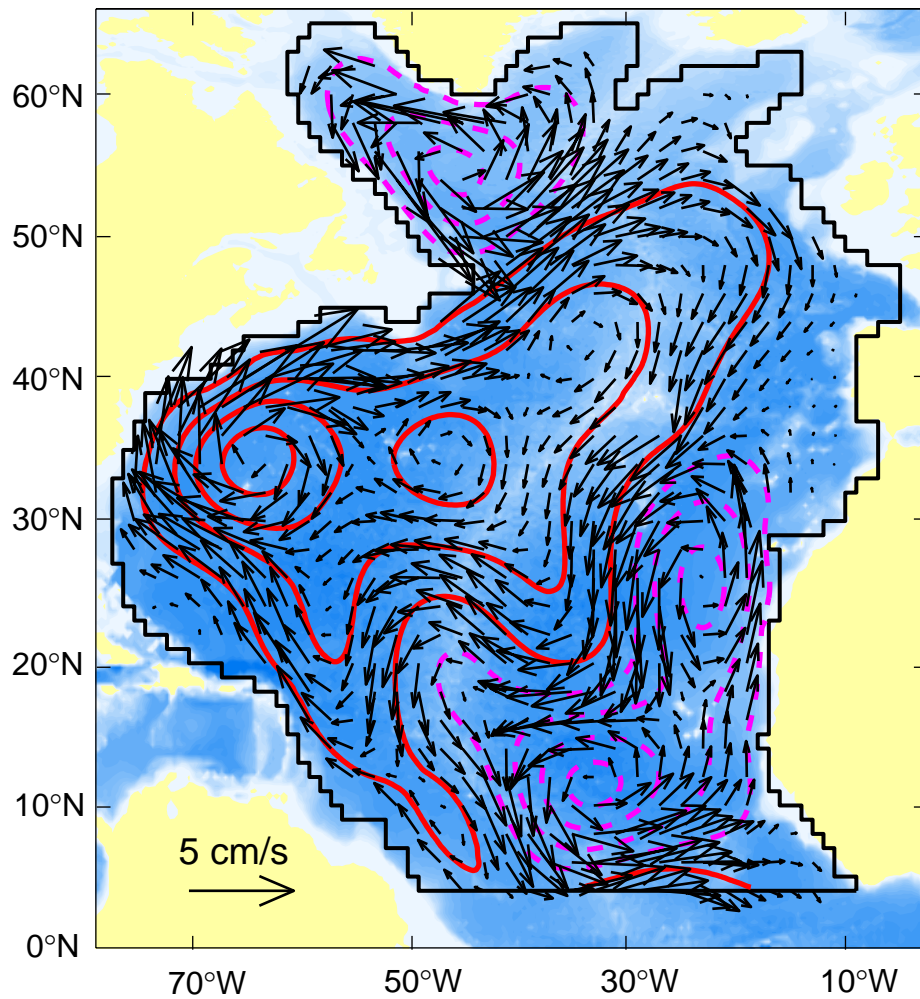
March-May 04

May-July 04

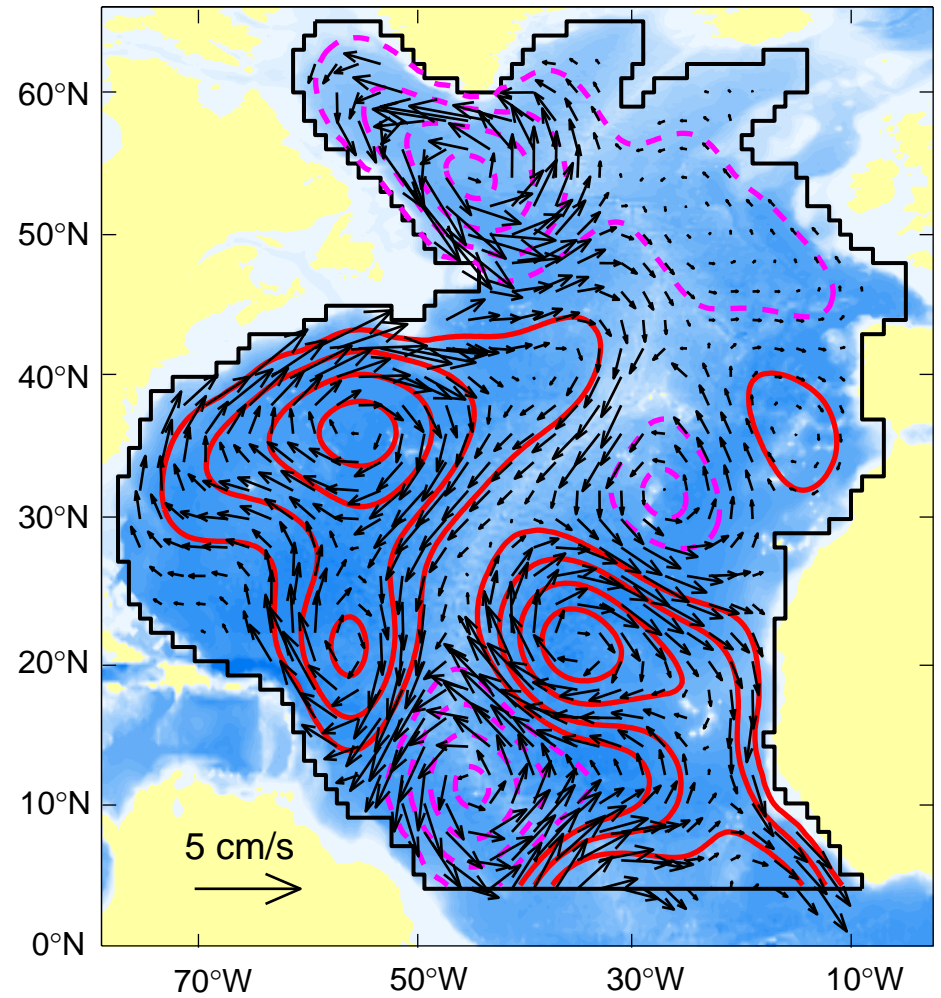


Mid-Depth Circulations (1000 m)

July-Sept 04

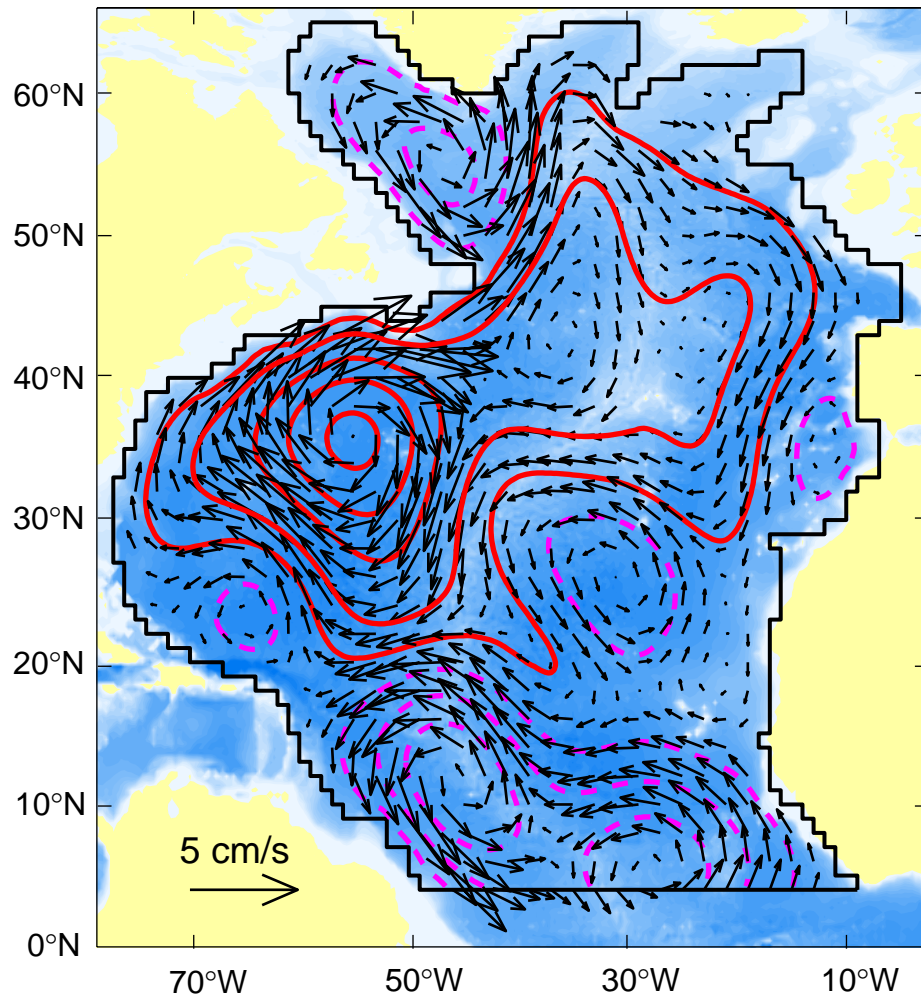


Sept-Nov 04

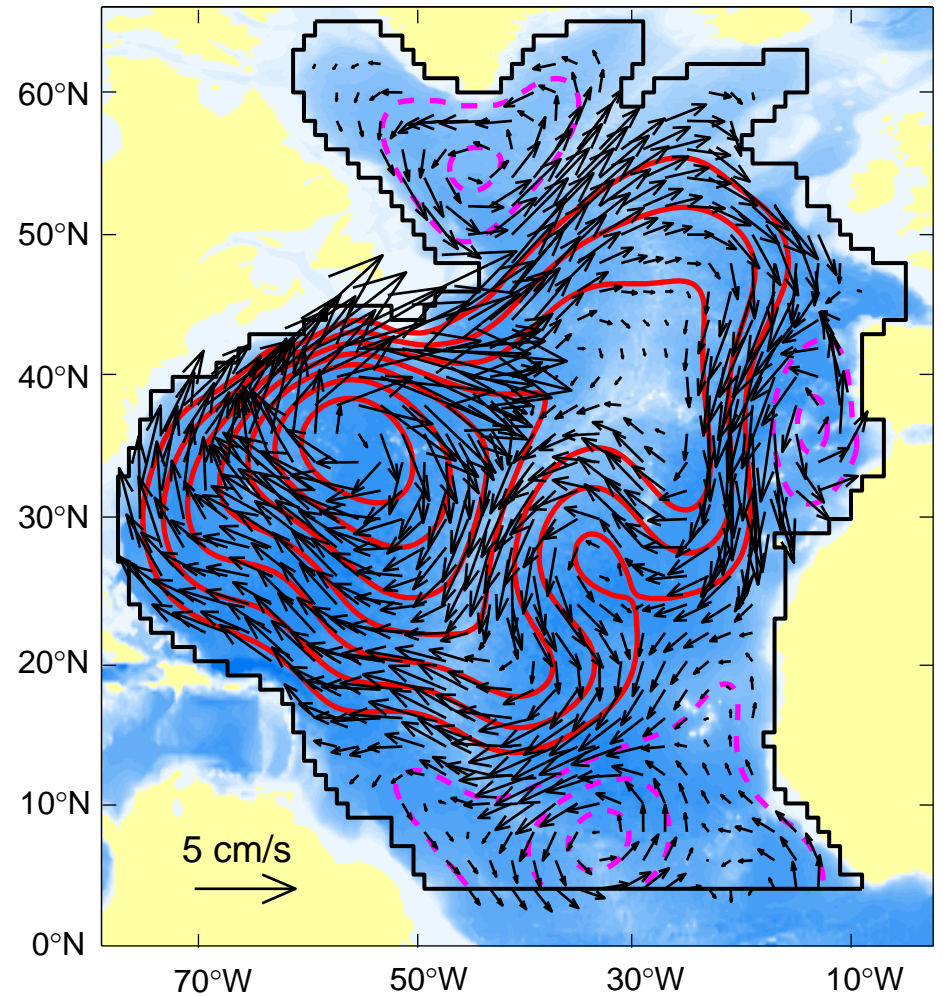


Mid-Depth Circulations (1000 m)

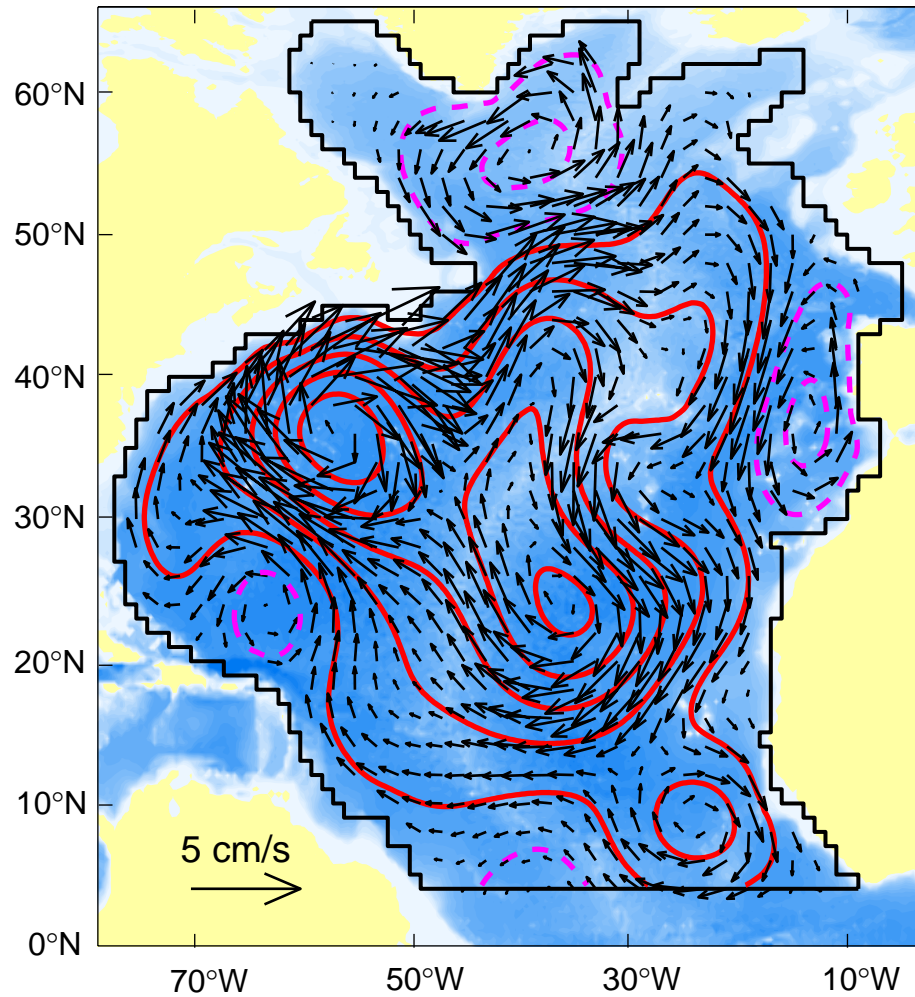
Nov 04-Jan 05



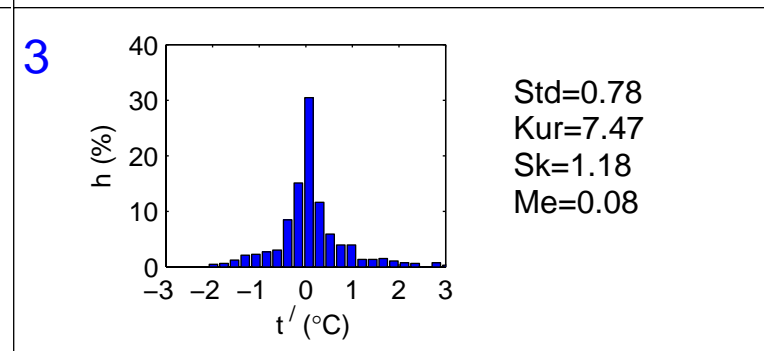
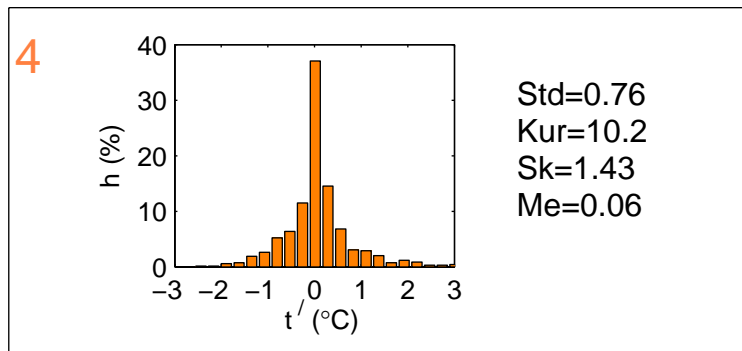
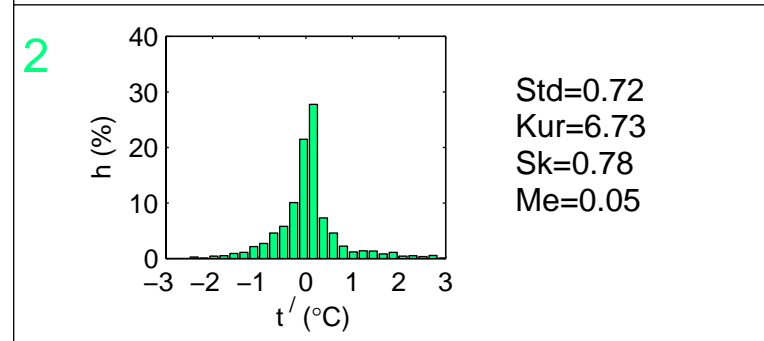
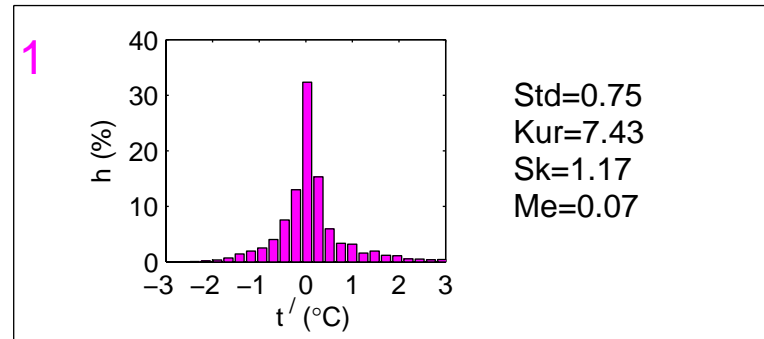
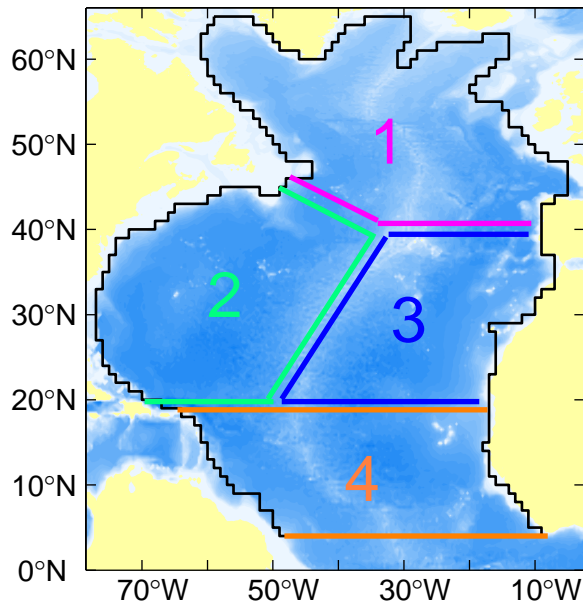
Jan-Mar 05



Mid-Depth Circulations (1000 m) Mar-May 05



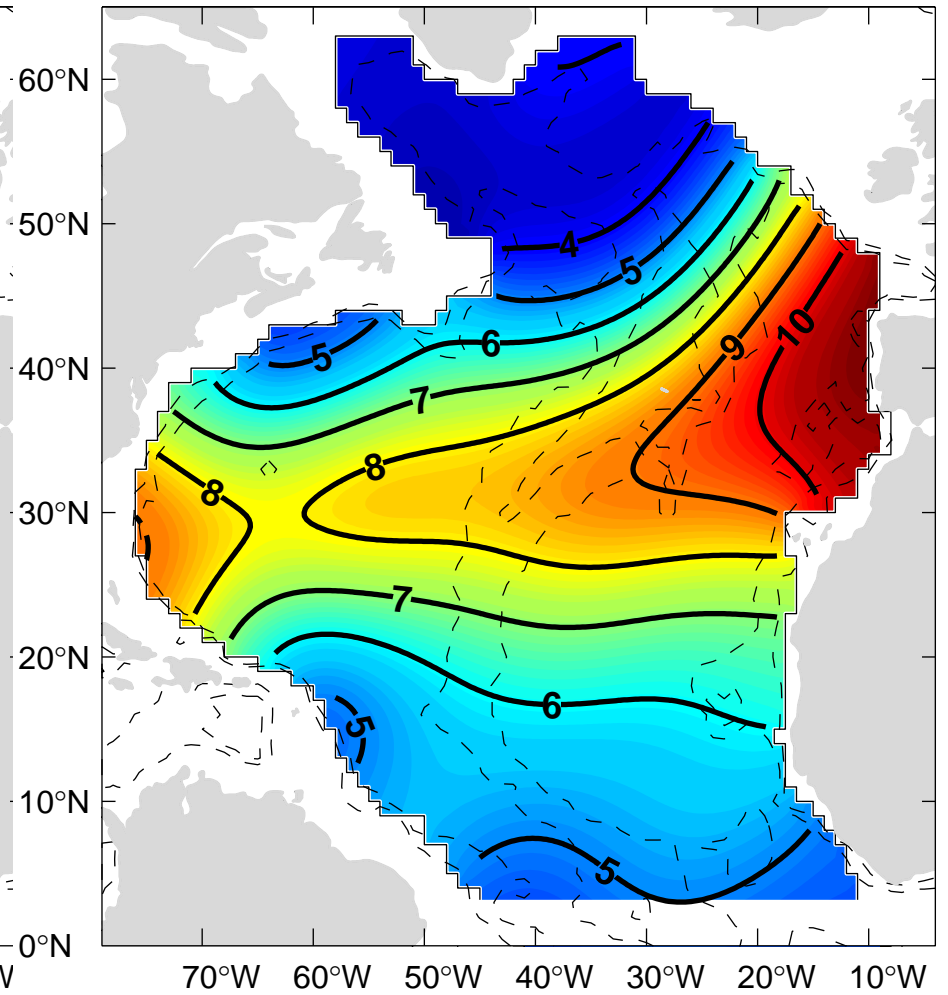
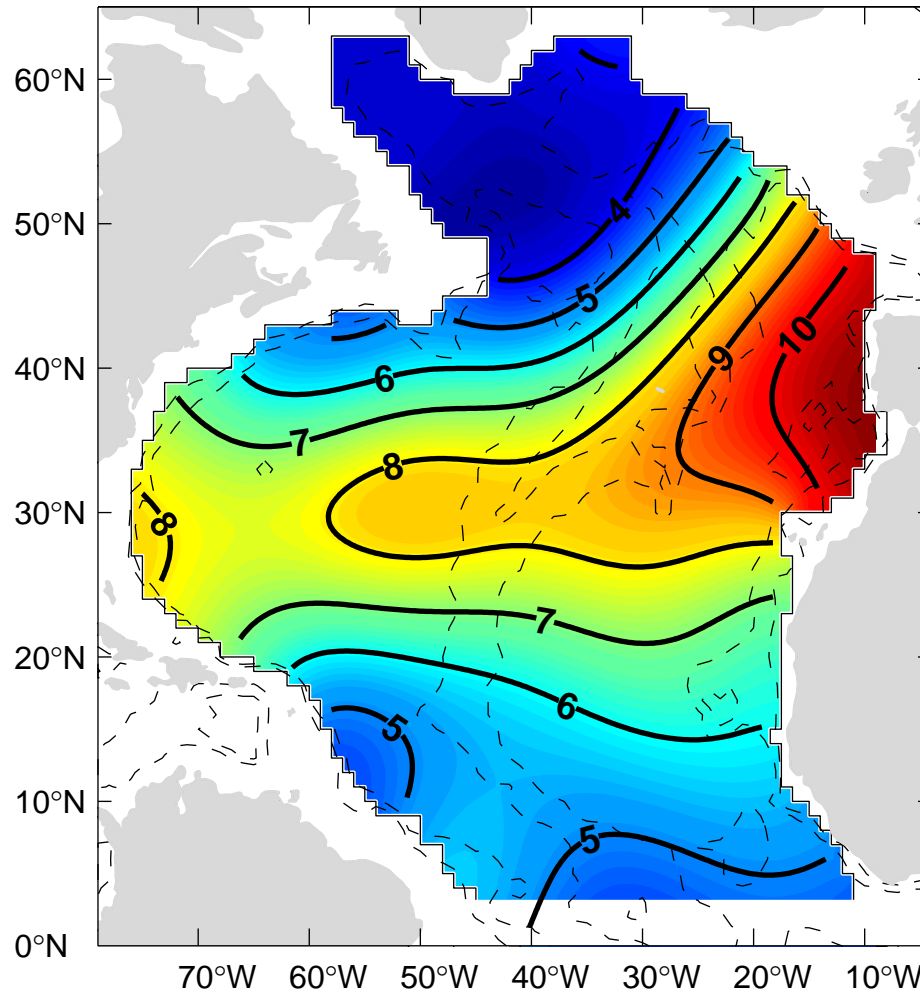
Temperature ($T_{\text{obs}} - \langle T \rangle_{\text{rec}}$)



Mid-Depth Temperature (950 m)

May 04

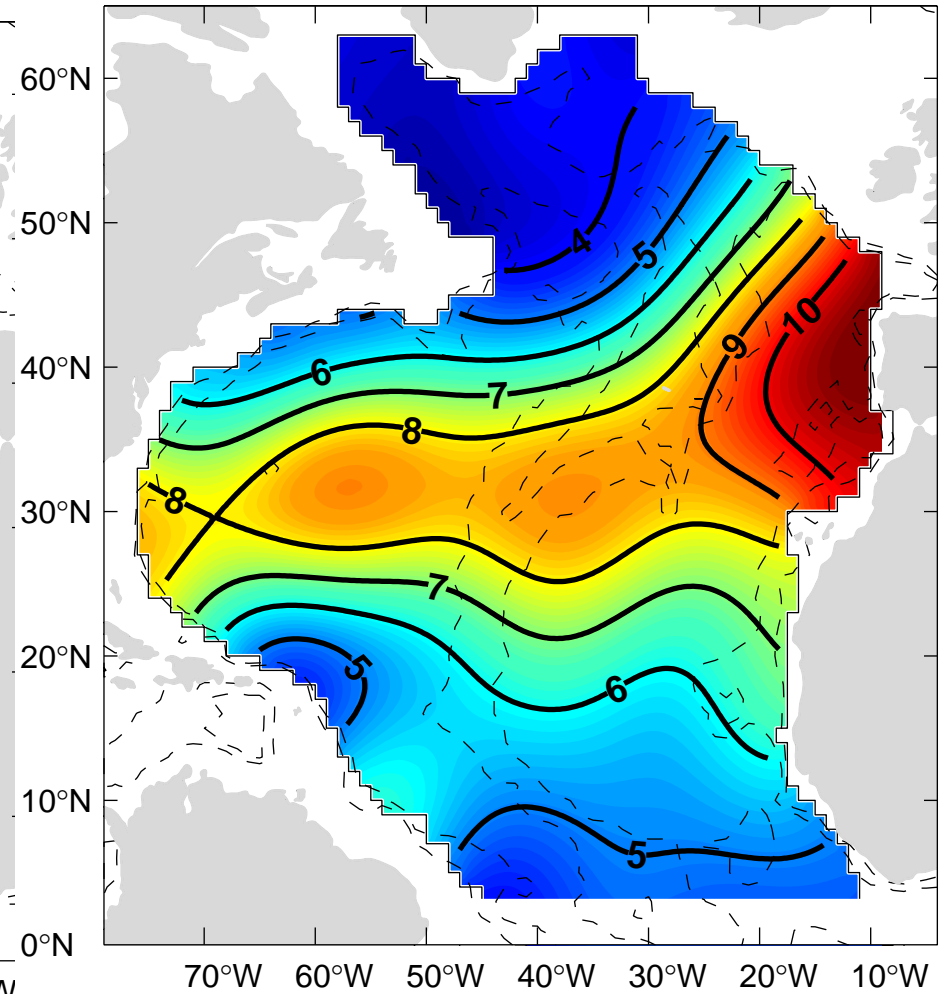
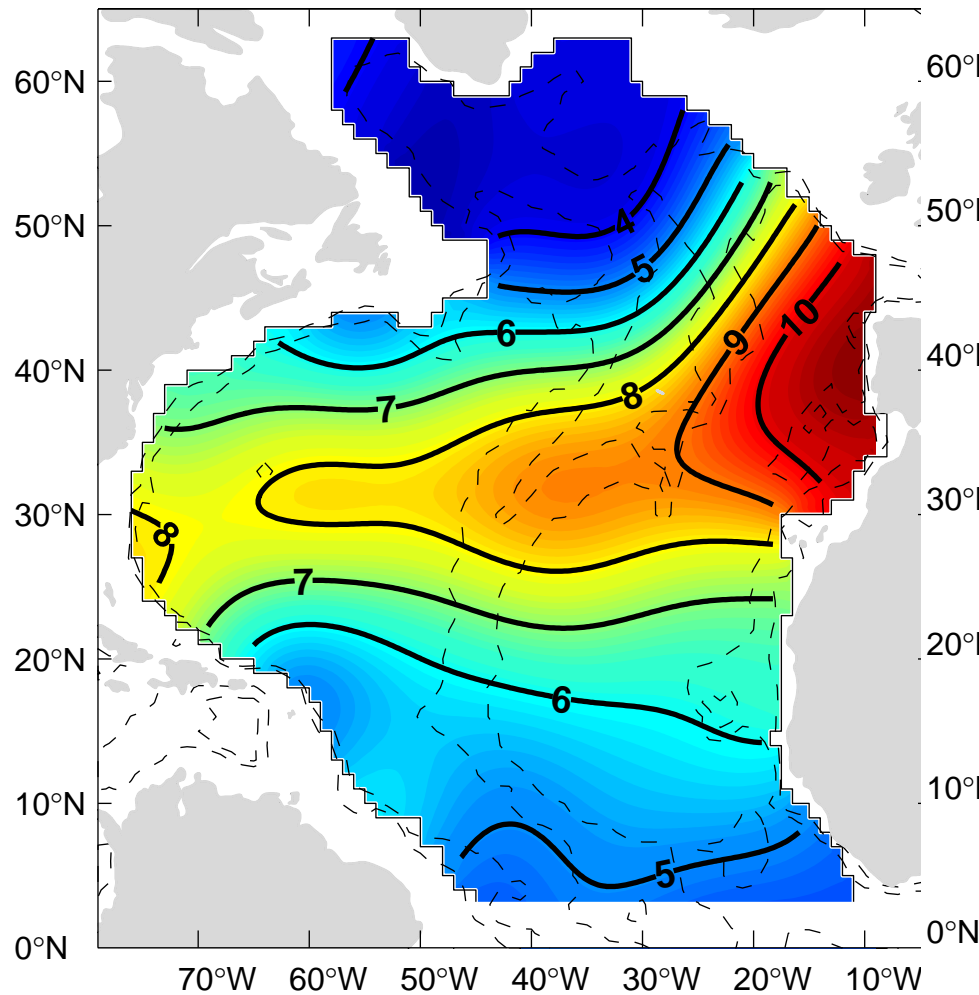
July 04



Mid-Depth Temperature (950 m)

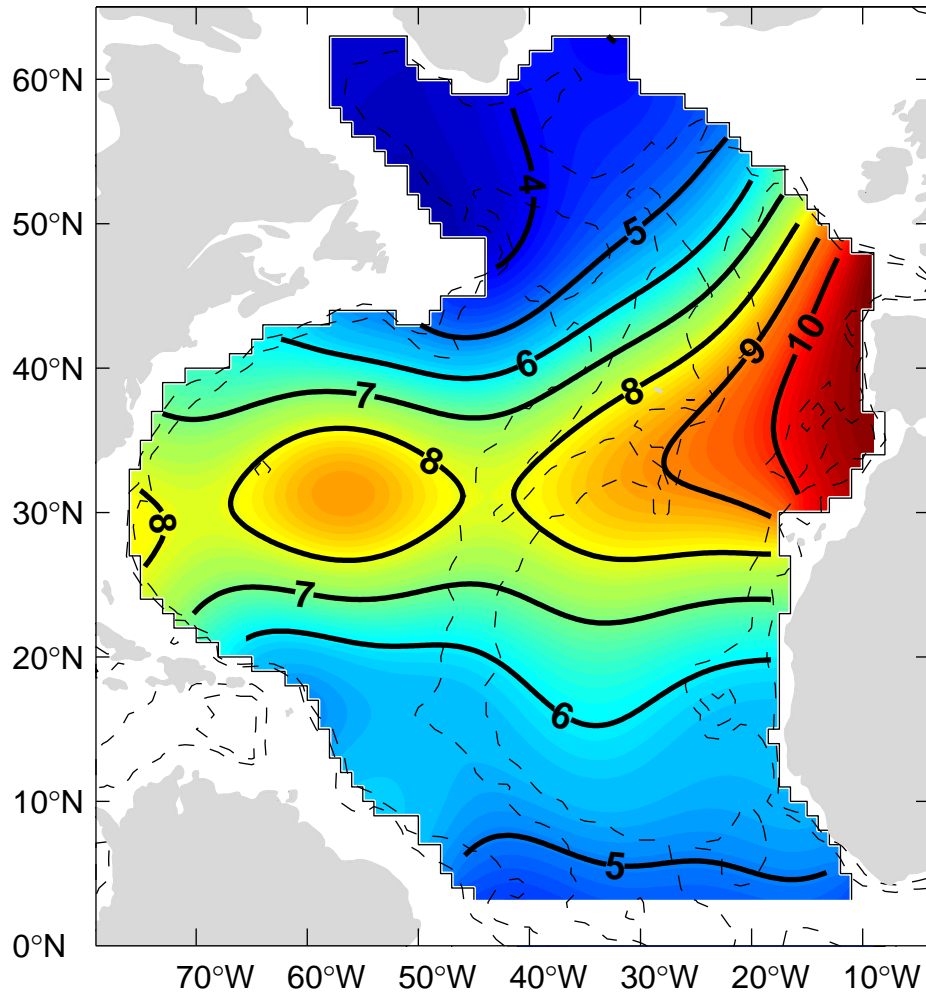
Sept 04

Nov 04

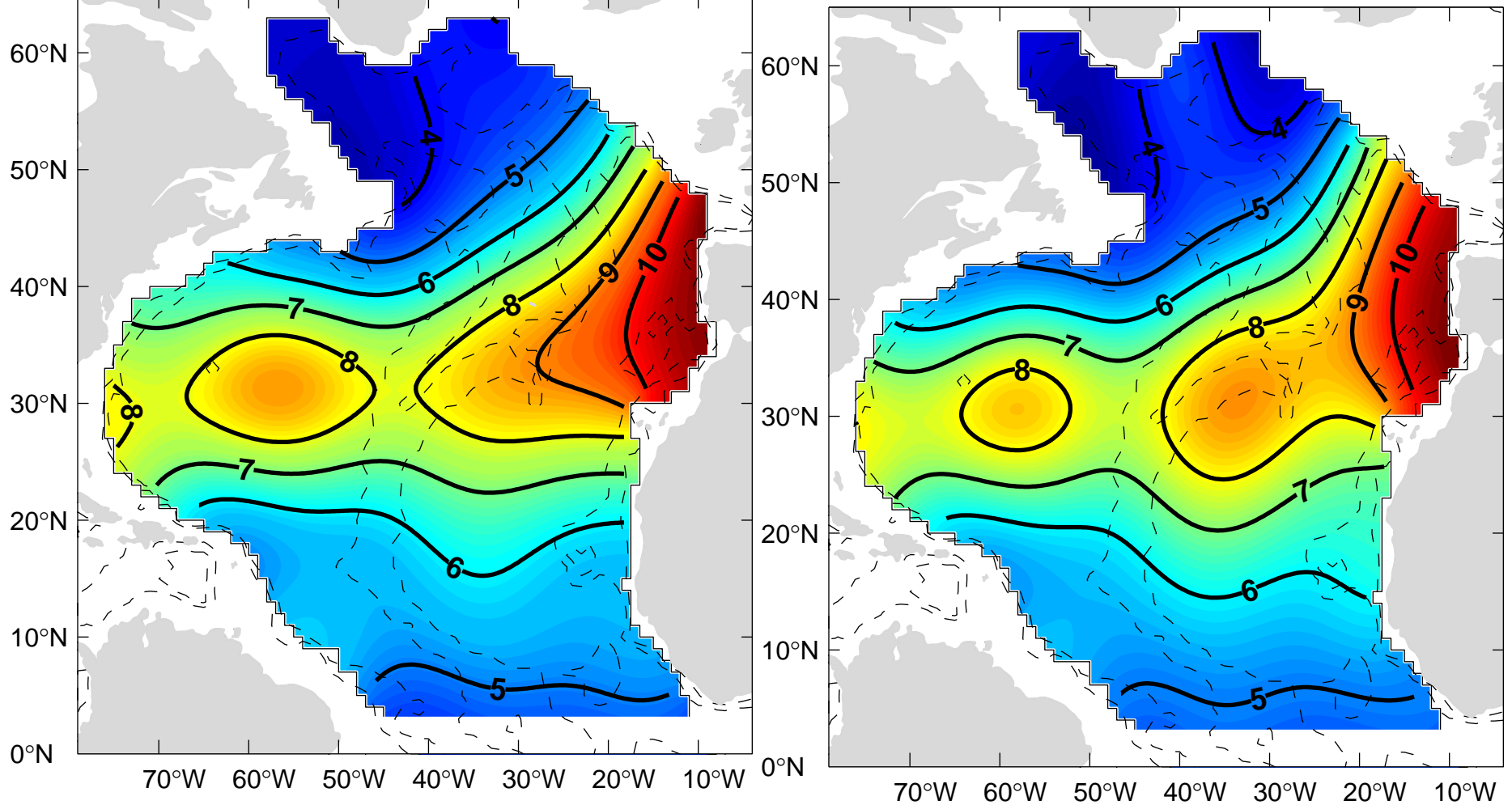


Mid-Depth Temperature (950 m)

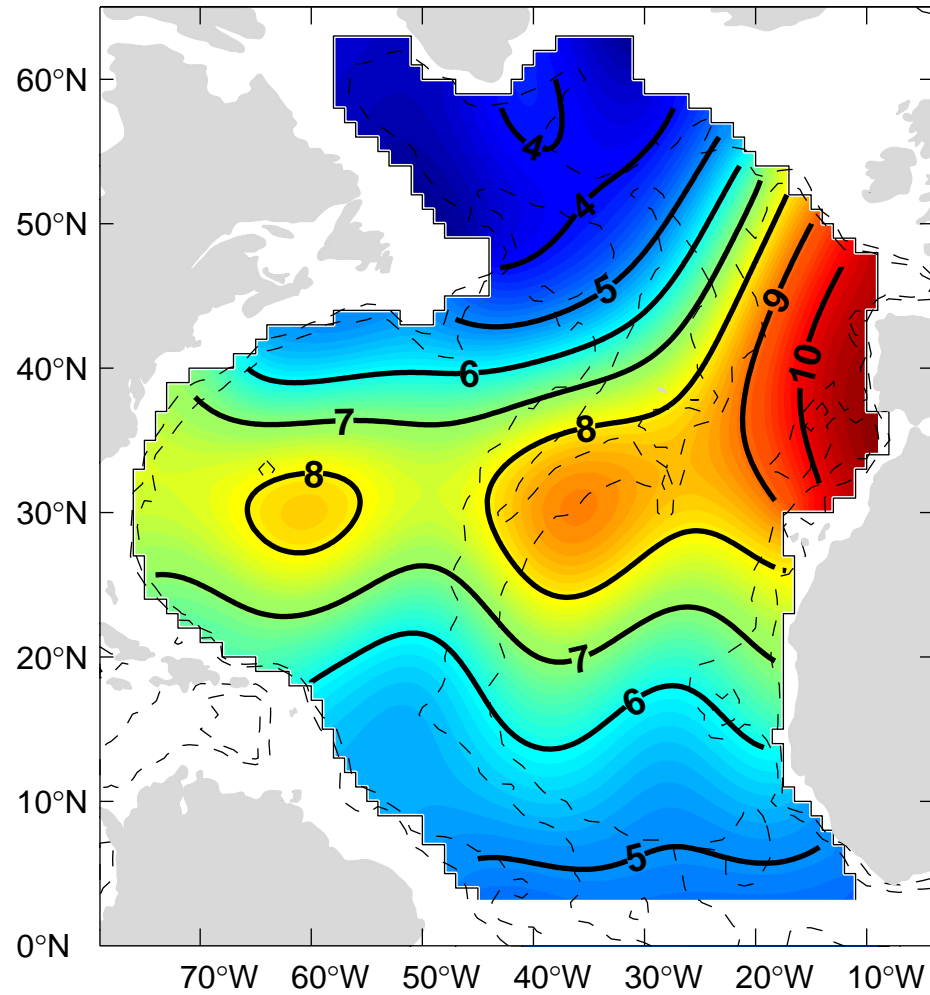
Jan 05



Mar 05



Mid-Depth Temperature (950 m) May 05

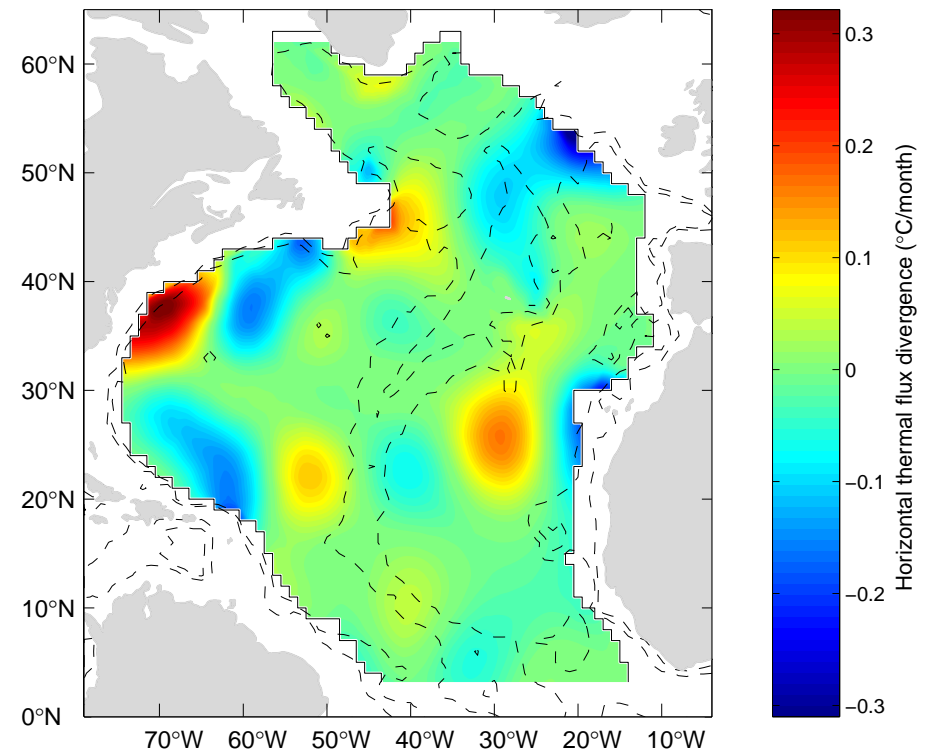
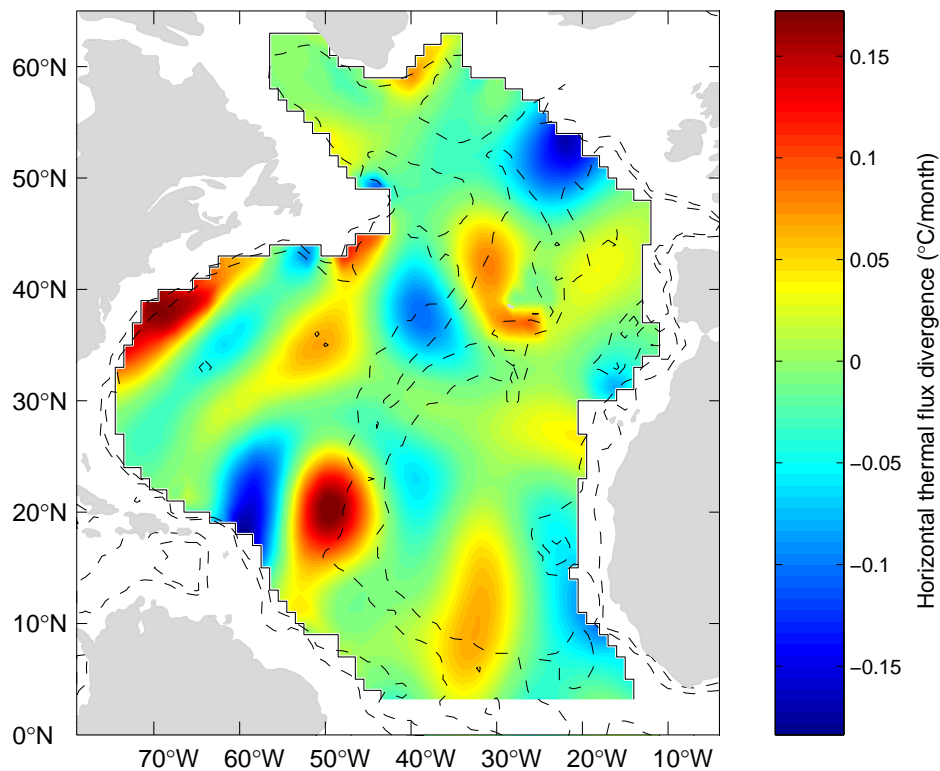


Horizontal Heat Advection at 950 m

$$-u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} - v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}$$

June 04

Aug 04

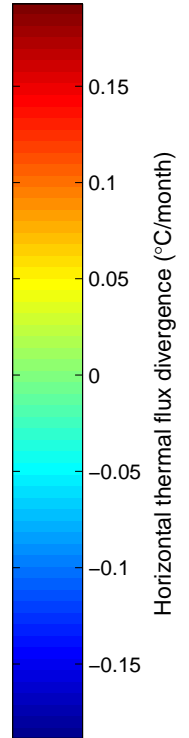
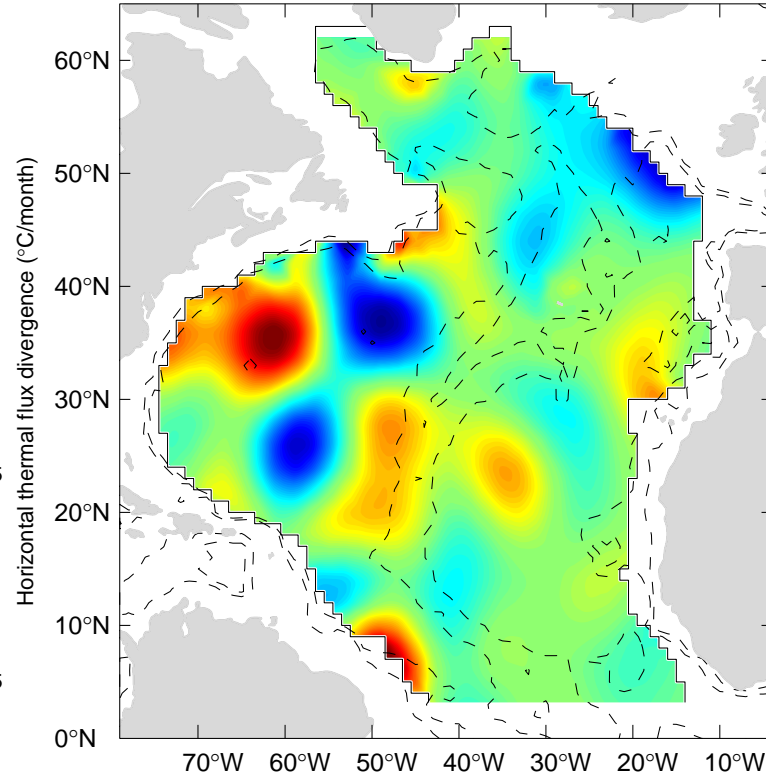
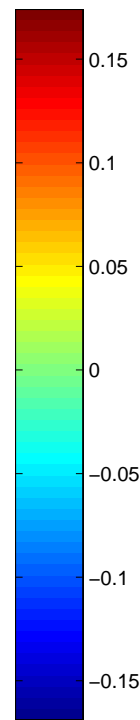
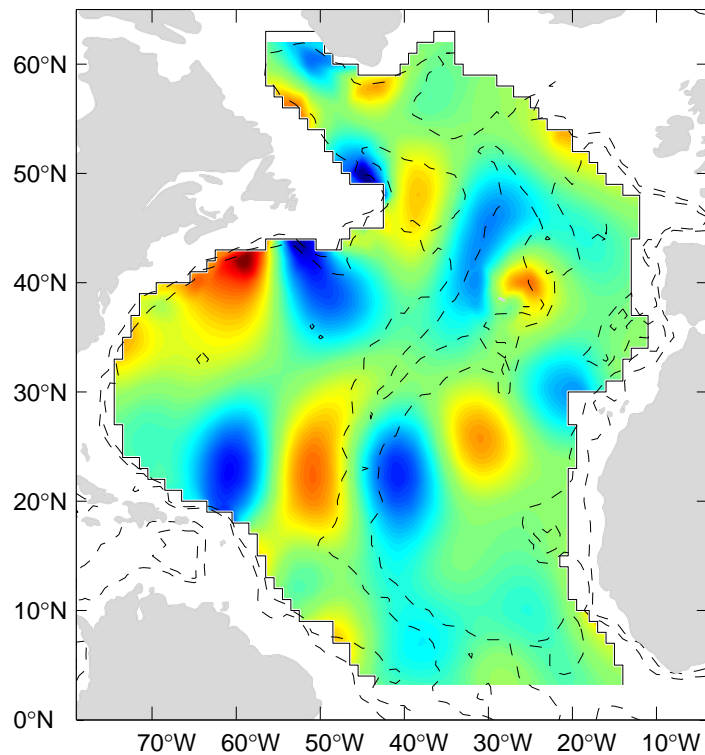


Horizontal Heat Advection at 950 m

$$-u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} - v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}$$

Oct 04

Dec 04

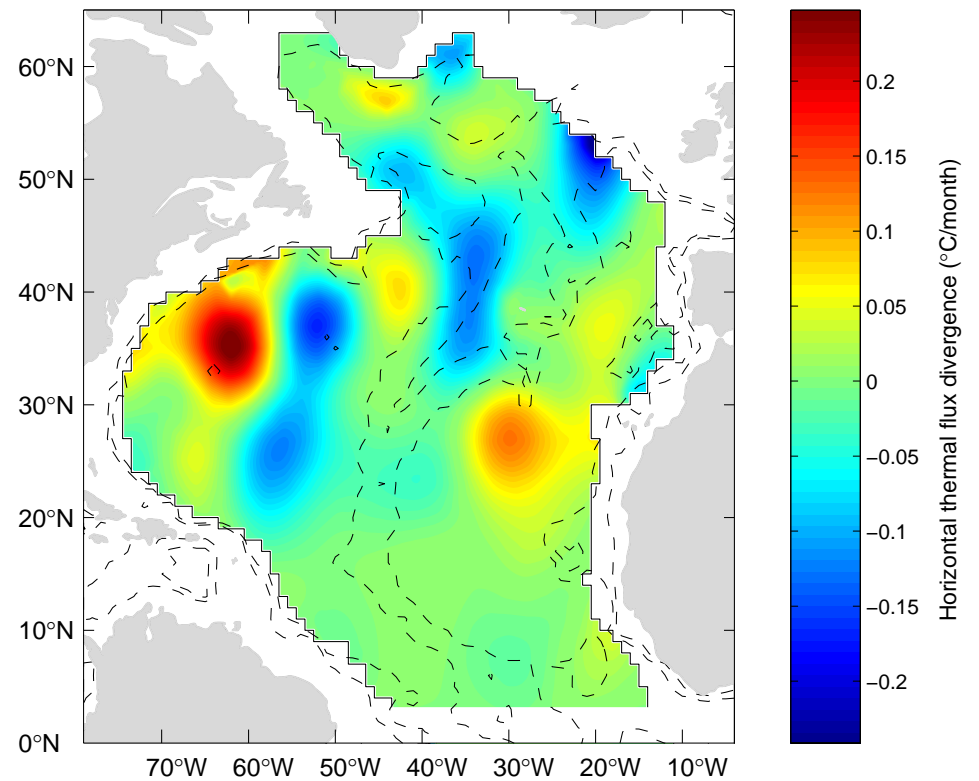
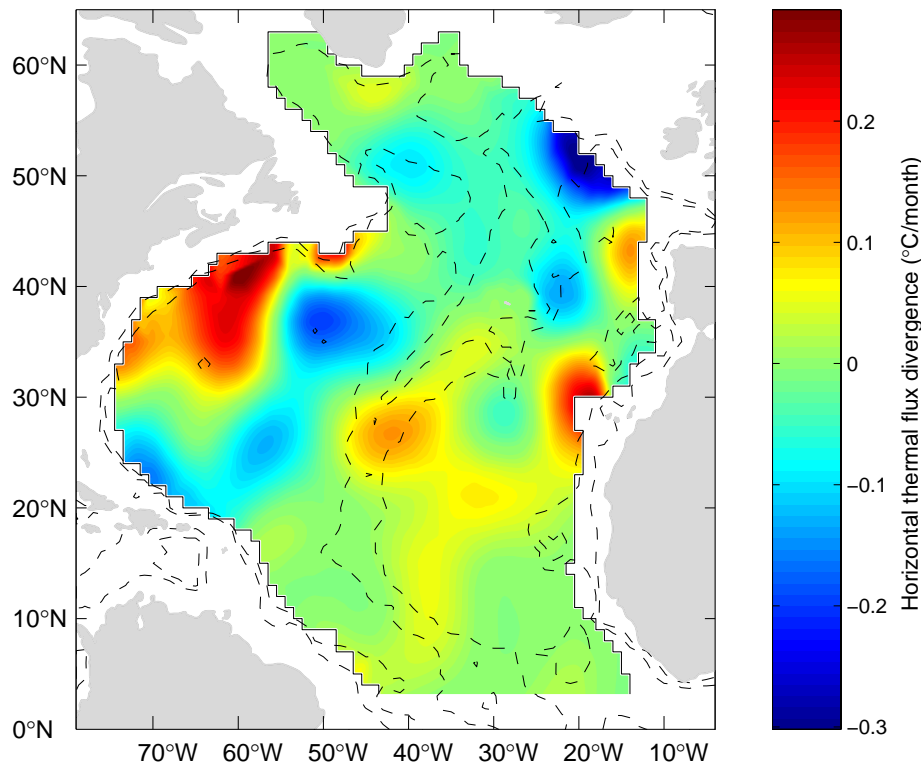


Horizontal Heat Advection at 950 m

$$-u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} - v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}$$

Feb 05

Apr 05



Conclusions

- Mid-depth North Atlantic Ocean circulation has rapid change (not steady!).
- The circulation variability is around 5 cm/s.
- The maximum horizontal temperature advection is around 0.25°/mon.
- The velocity and temperature perturbations are not normally distributed.
- OSD is a useful tool for processing real-time velocity data with short duration and limited-area sampling especially the ARGO data.