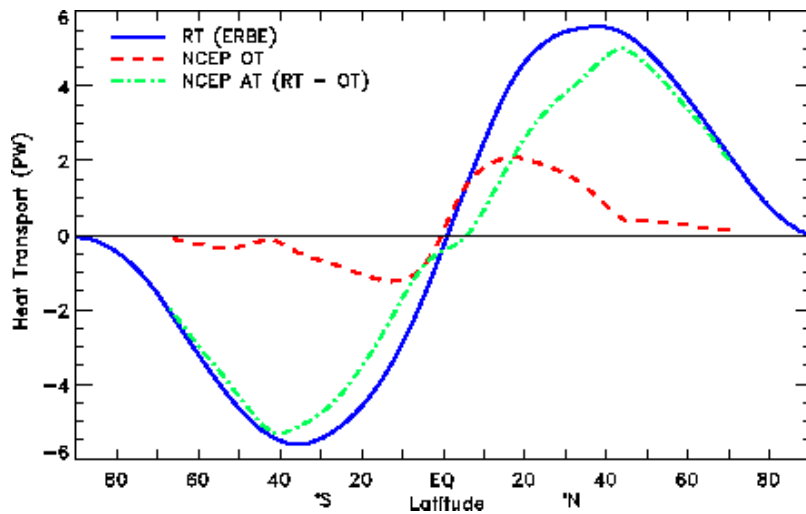


# Changements de l'hydrologie et de la circulation: l'exemple de l'Atlantique Nord

H. Mercier

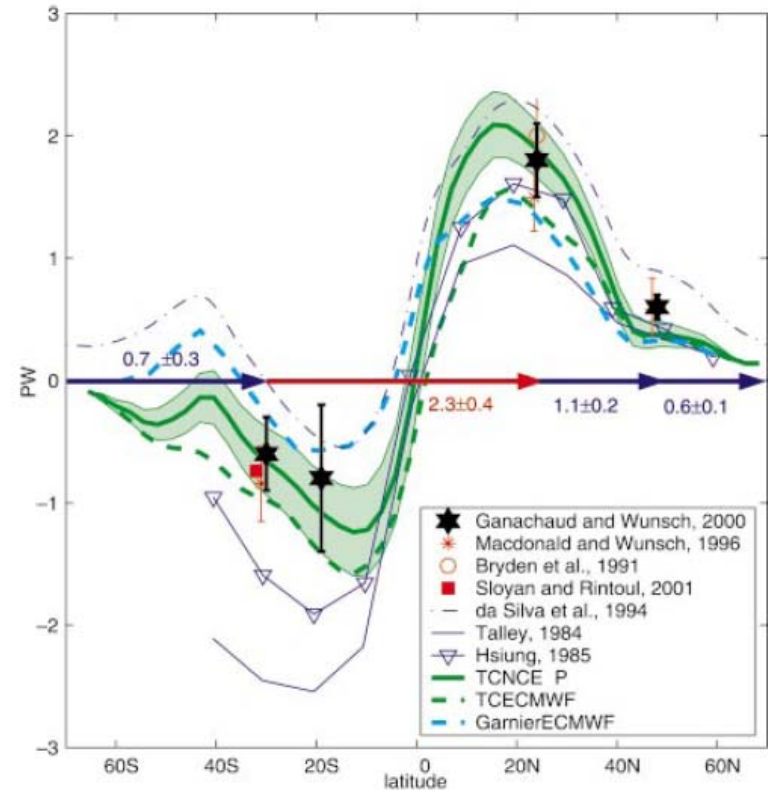
Laboratoire de Physique des Océans

# Le transport de chaleur océanique



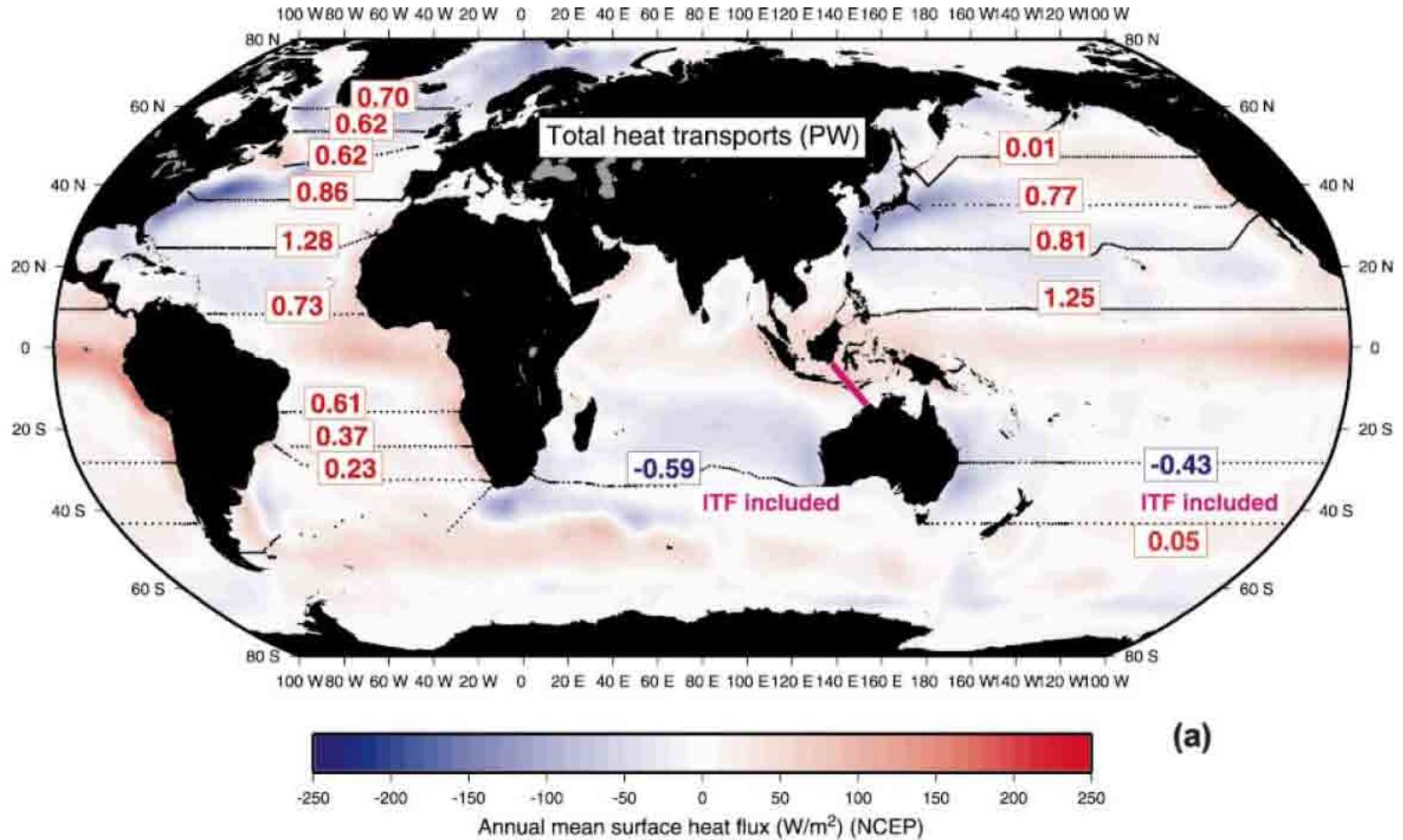
(positif vers le nord)

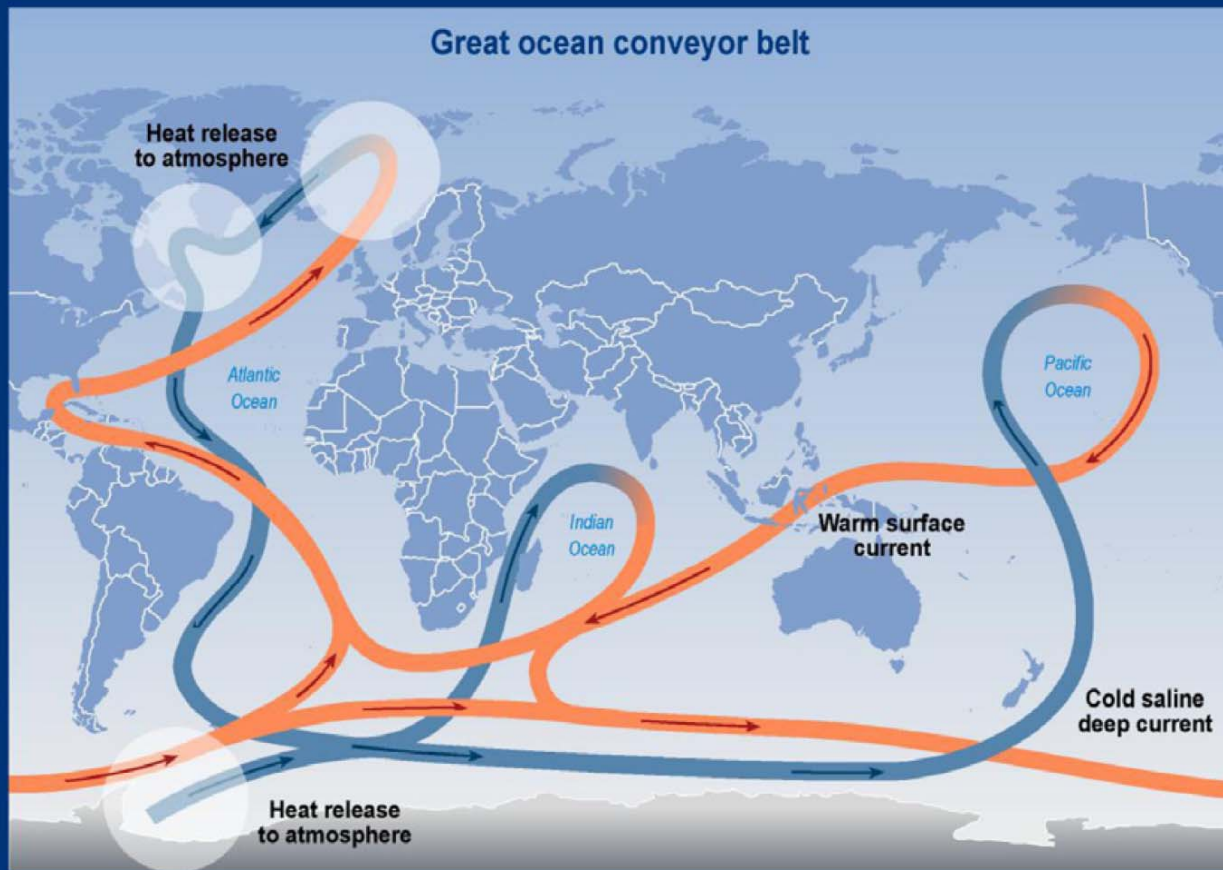
Trenberth and Caron (2001)



Ganachaud and Wunsch (2000)

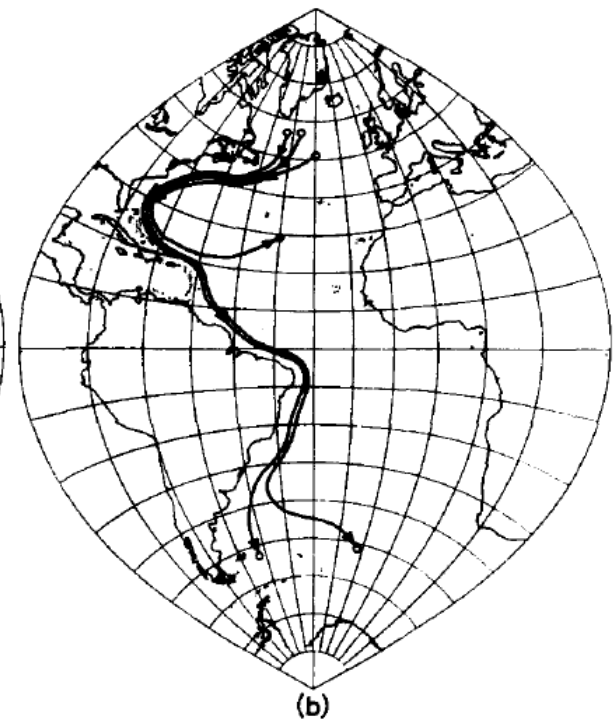
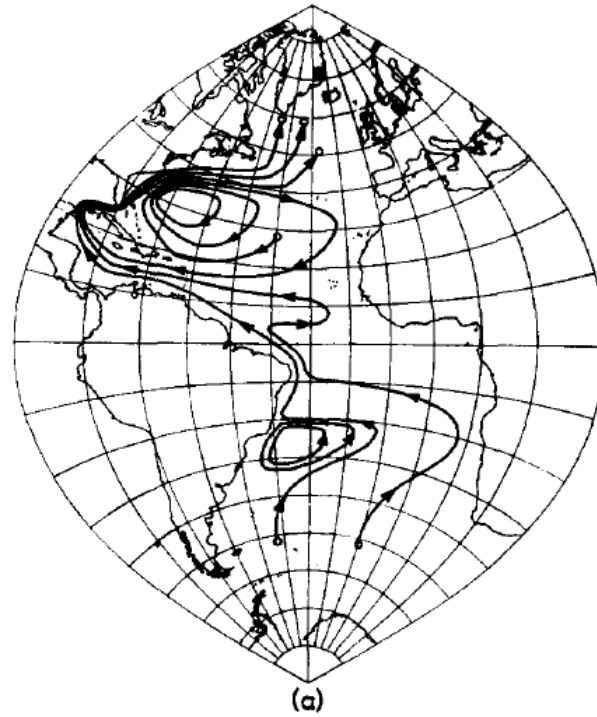
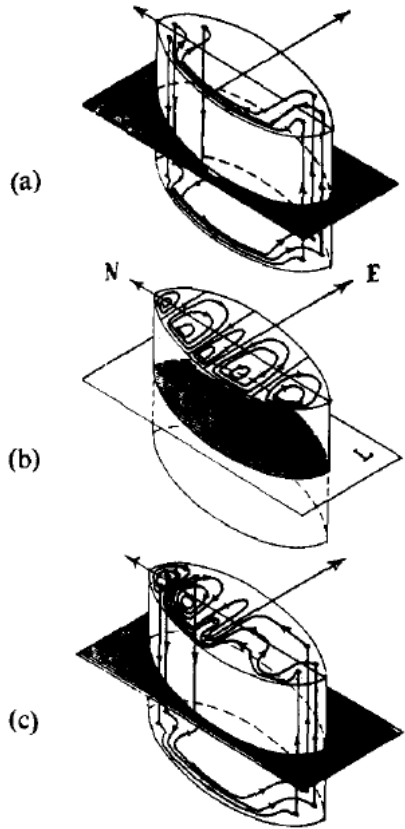
# Transport méridien de chaleur (Talley, 2003)



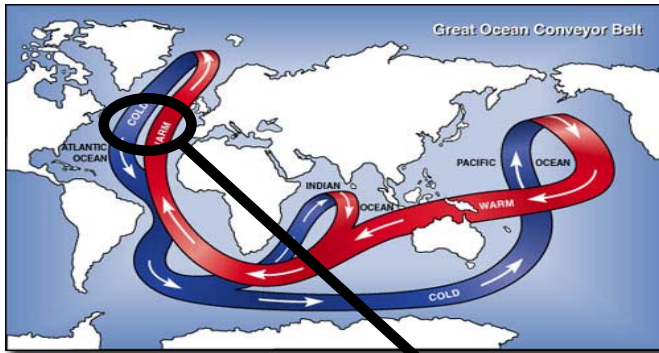


SYR - FIGURE 4-2

# Superposition d'un mode interne thermohalin à la circulation forcée par le vent (Stommel, 1958)



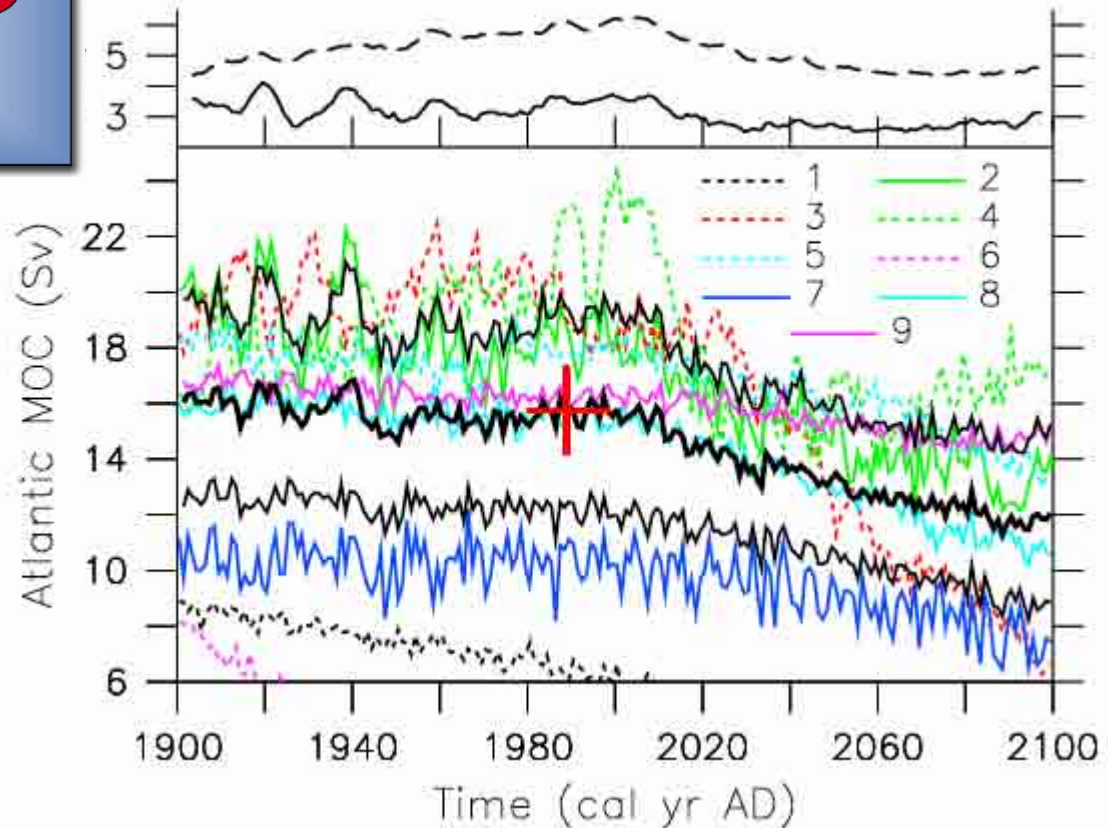
# The future of the ocean conveyor belt



Projection of the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (MOC)

Schmittner et al. 2005

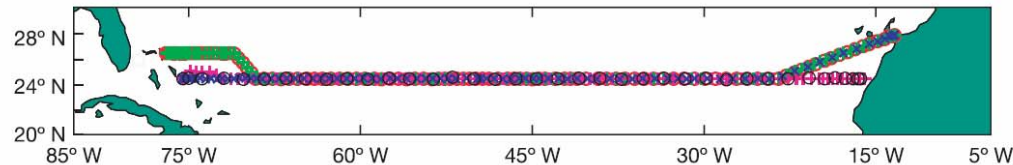
$$1 \text{ Sv} = 10^6 \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$$



# Slowing of the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation at 25° N

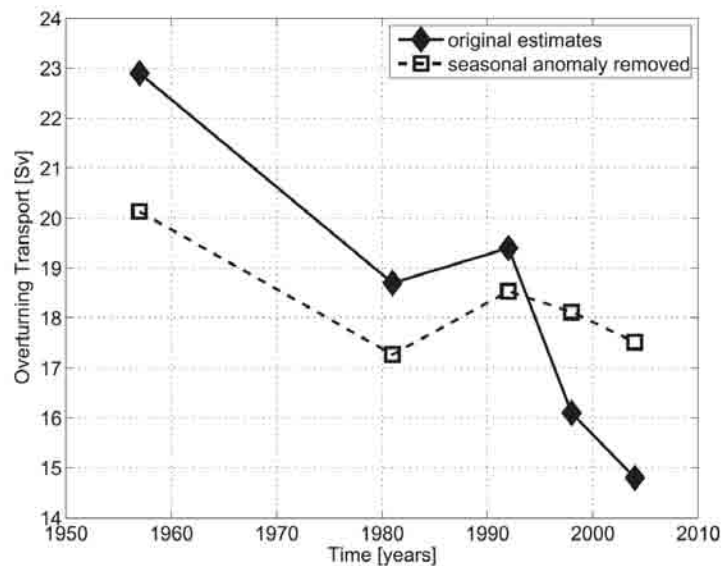
Harry L. Bryden<sup>1</sup>, Hannah R. Longworth<sup>1</sup> & Stuart A. Cunningham<sup>1</sup>

Nature (2005)



**Figure 1 | Station positions for transatlantic hydrographic sections taken in 1957, 1981, 1992, 1998 and 2004.** The 1957 and 1992 sections each went zonally along 24.5° N from the African coast to the Bahama Islands. Because of diplomatic clearance issues, the 1981, 1998 and 2004 sections angled

southwestward from the African coast at about 28° N to join the 24.5° N section at about 23° W. The 1998 and 2004 sections angled northwestward at about 73° W to finish the section along 26.5° N.



Erreur  $\sim 6$  Sv

1 Sv  $10^6$  m<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

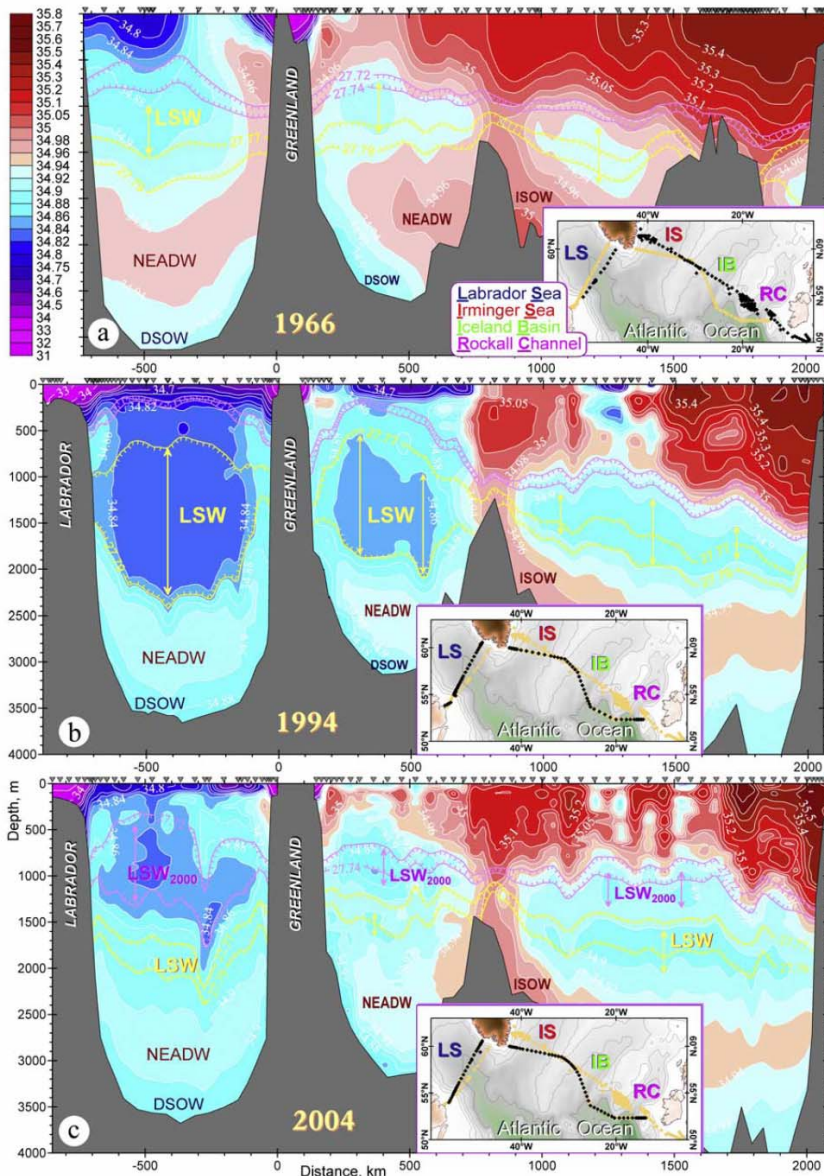
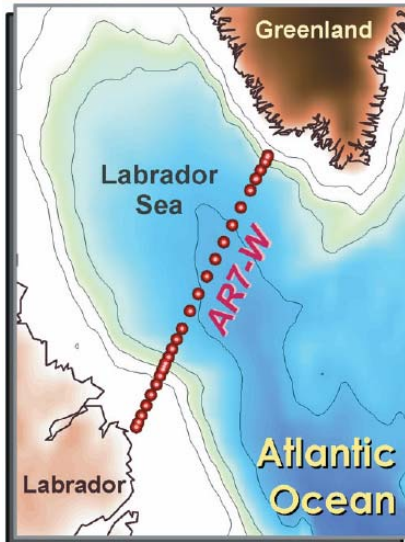


Figure 2

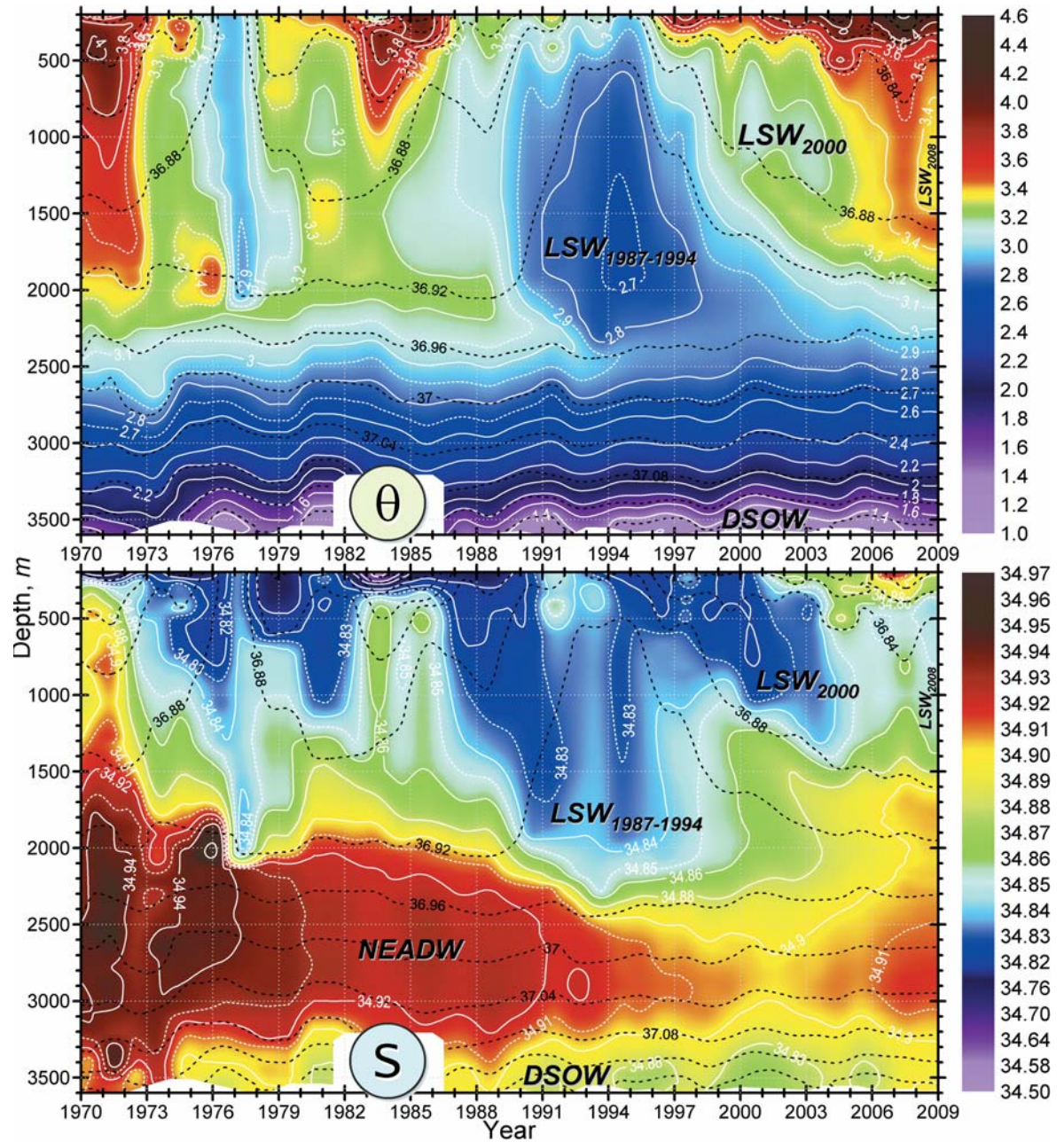
Variabilité de la convection profonde en mer du Labrador.

Yashayaev et al. (2007)

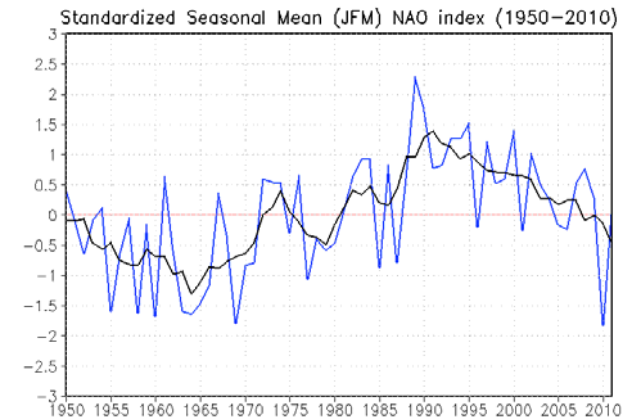
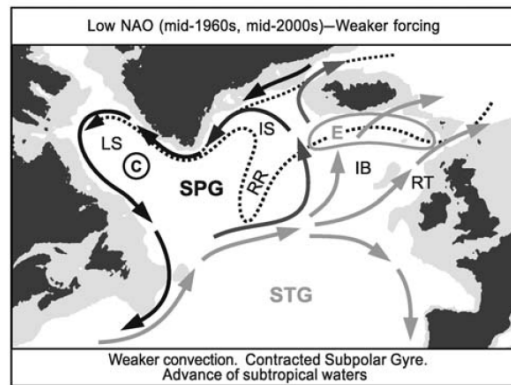
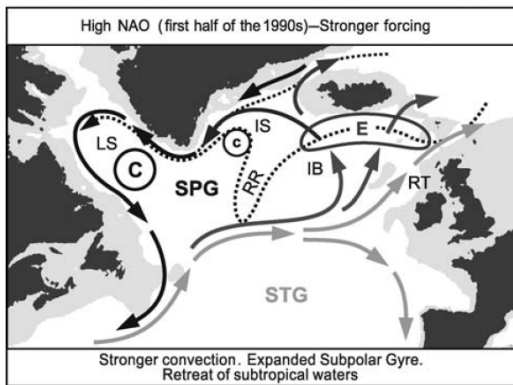
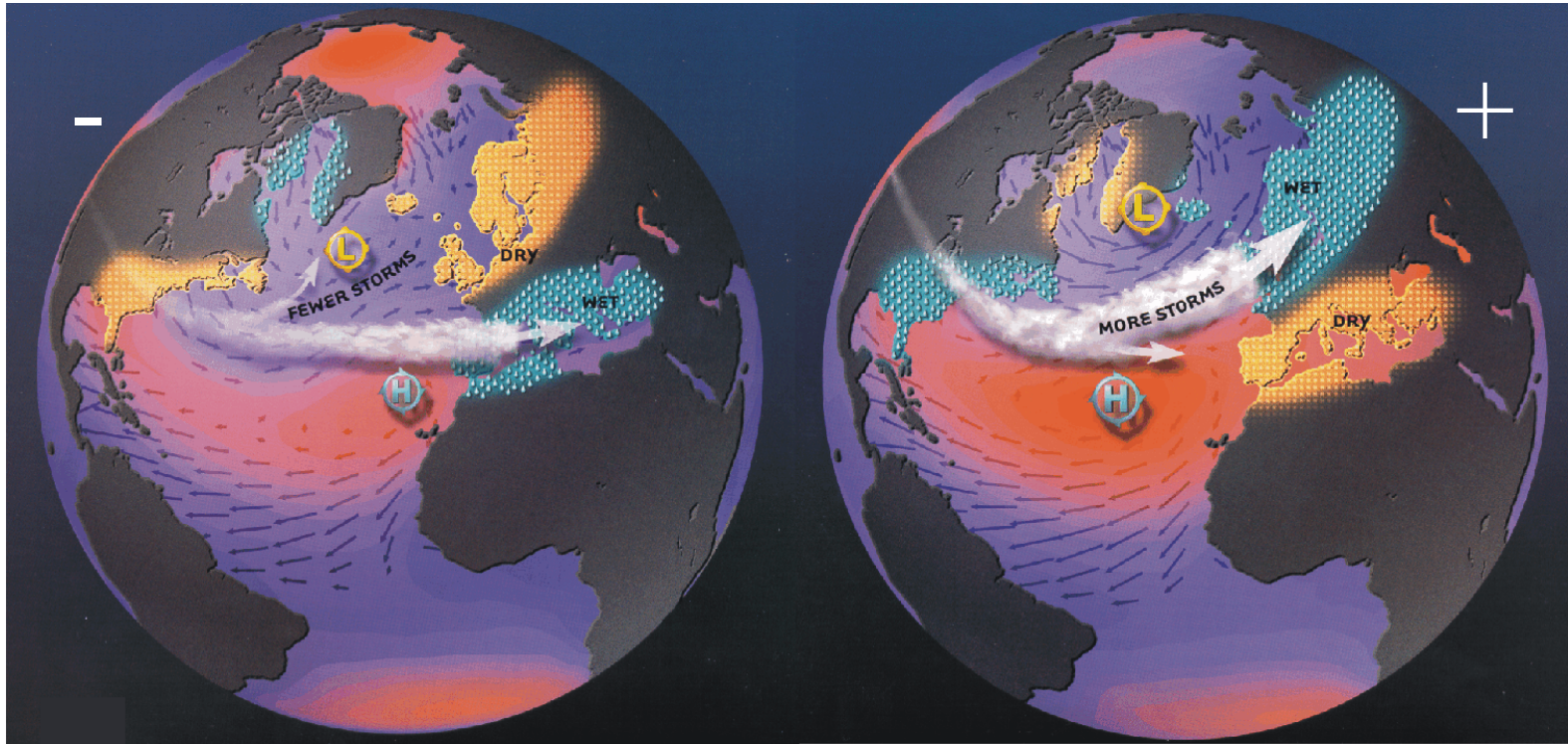




Yashayaev and Loder (2009)



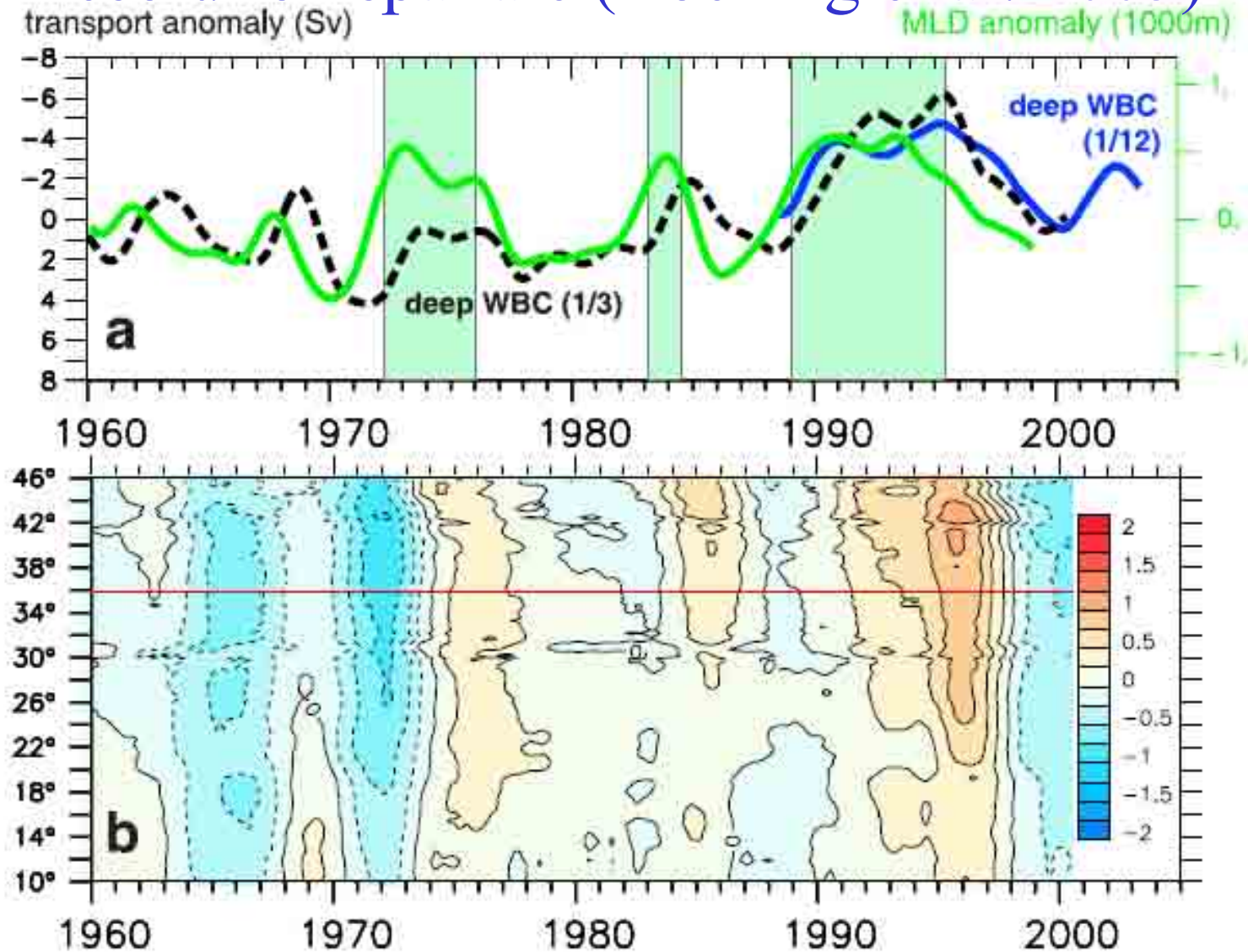
# L'oscillation Nord Atlantique



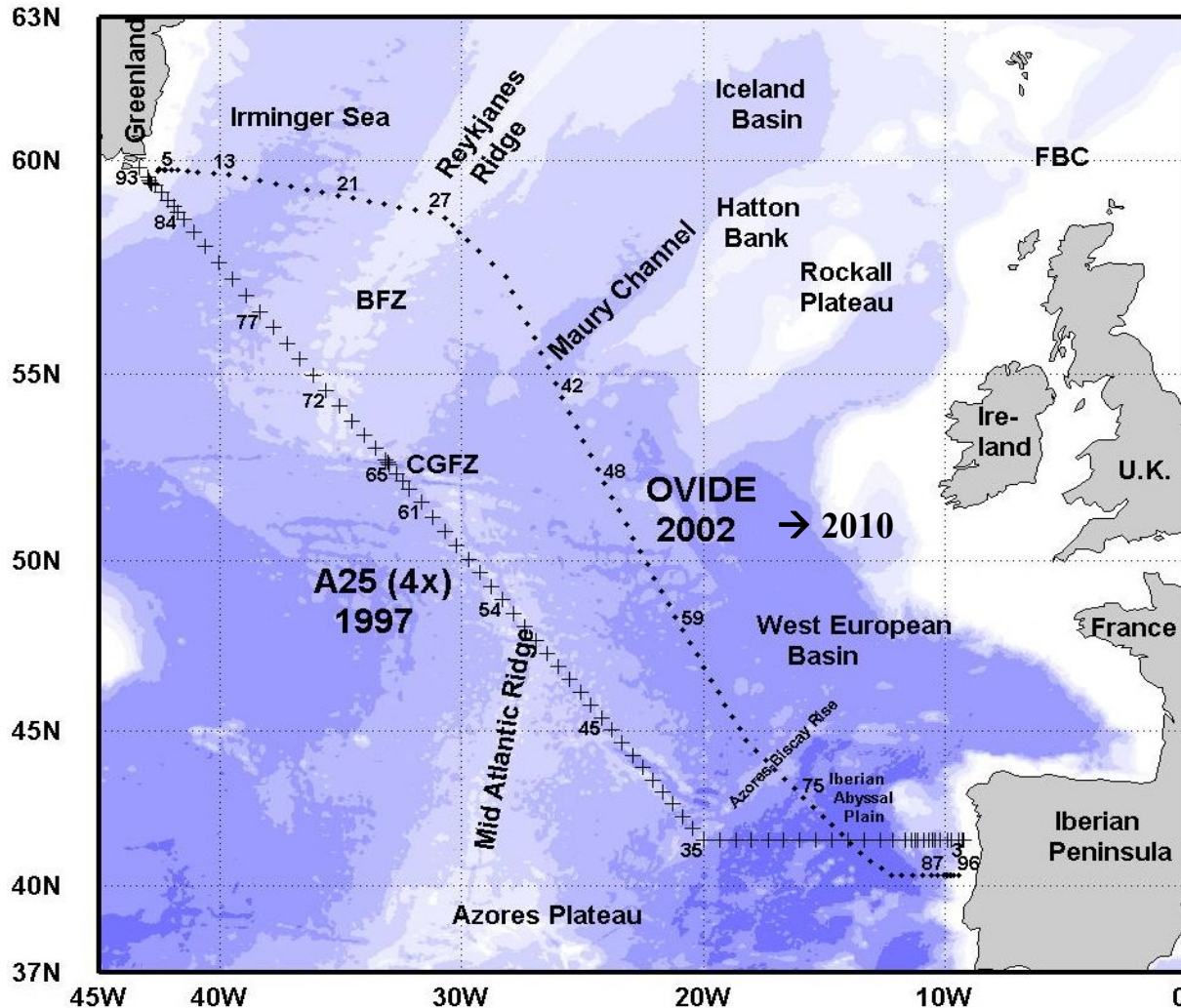
Sarafanov 2009

NOAA (2011)

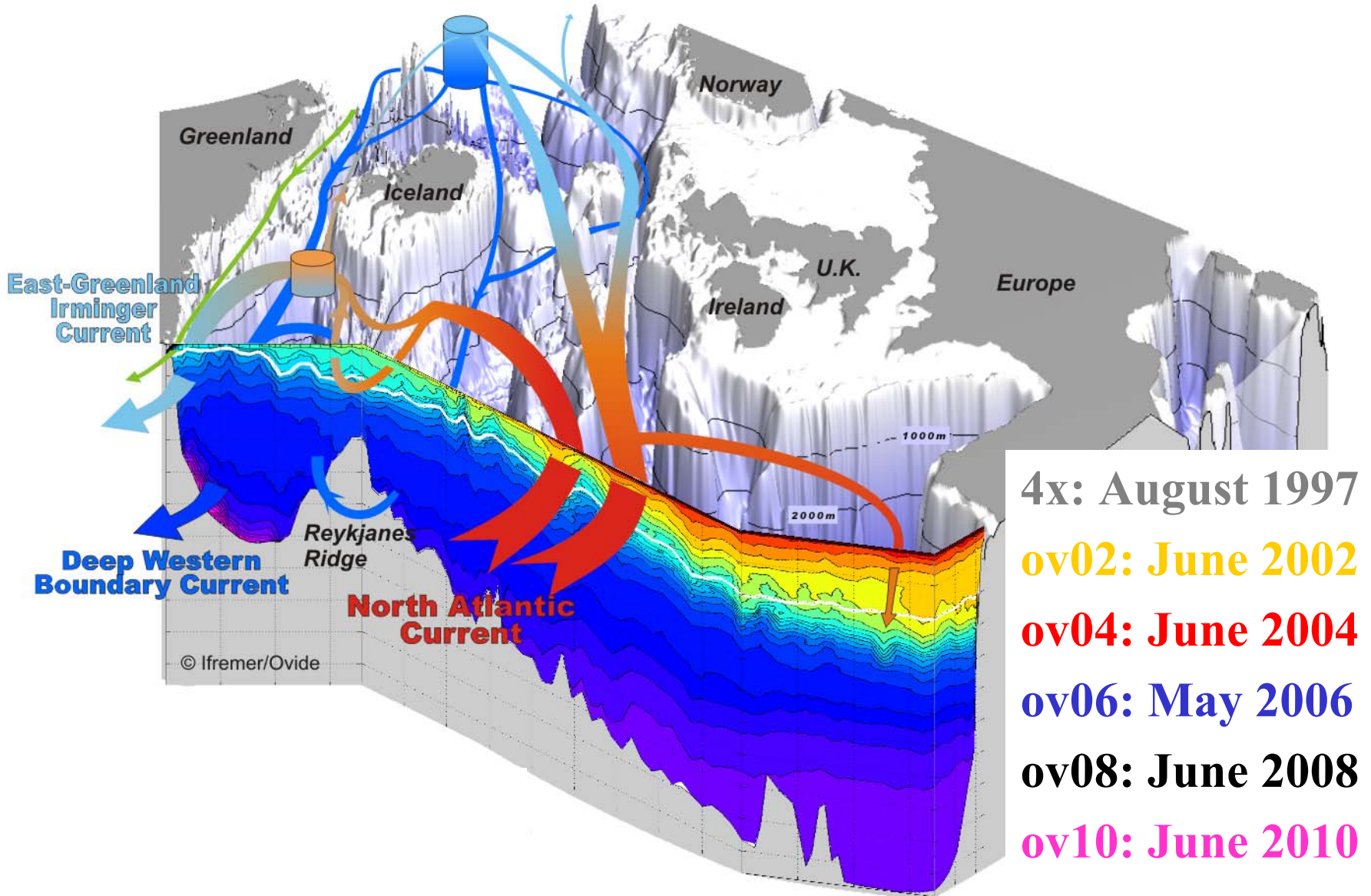
# Anomalies de la cellule méridienne de retournement (MOC) dans un modèle à haute résolution spatiale (Boening et al. 2005)



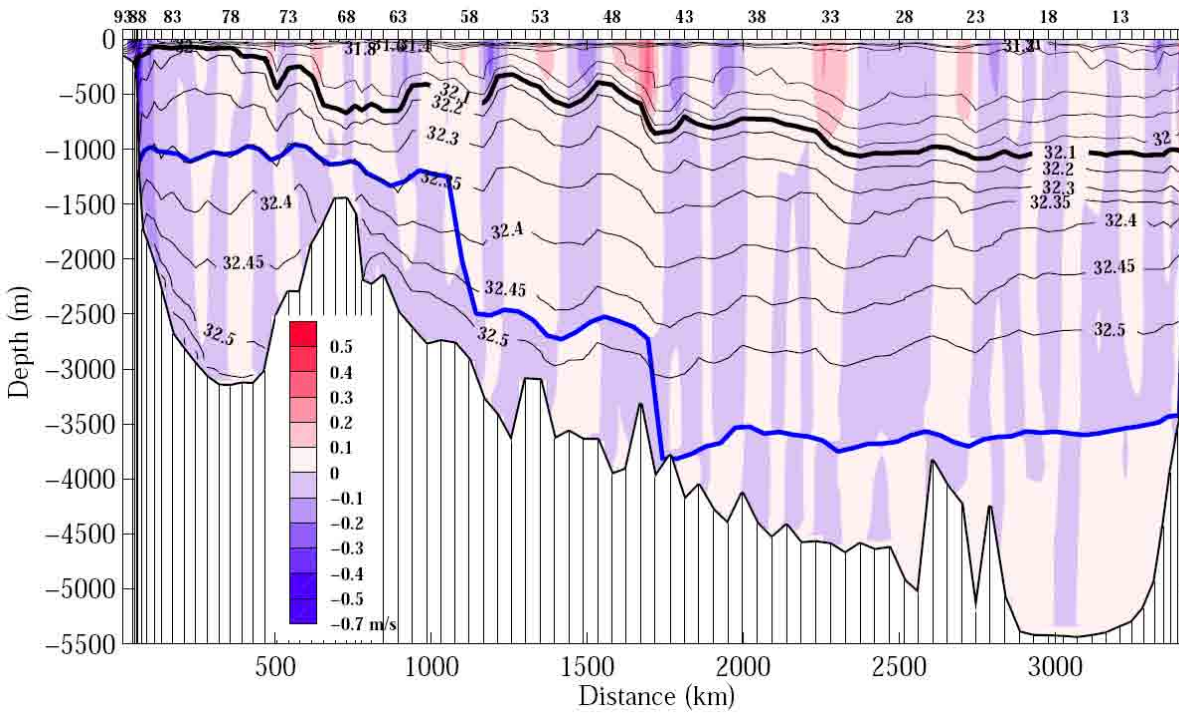
# Towards a MOC index at subpolar latitudes from sustained measurements ?



# Circulation scheme across and North of the A25-OVIDE section



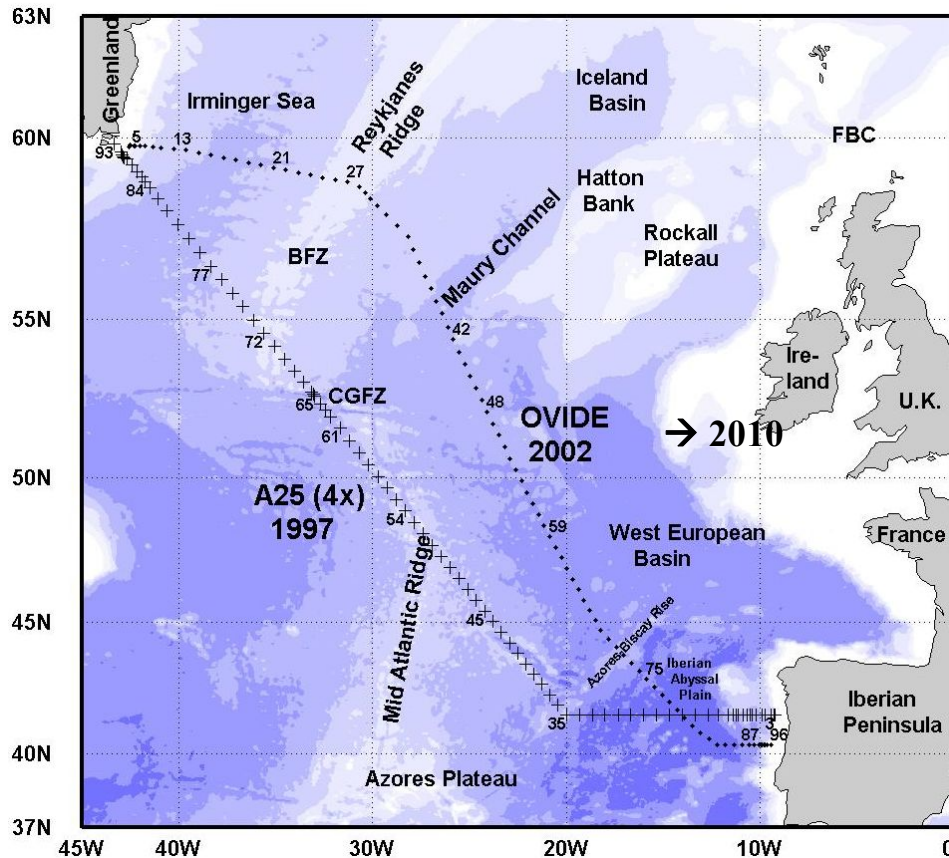
L'observation du champ de densité ne donne accès qu'au cisaillement vertical des vitesses géostrophiques perpendiculaires aux stations hydrologiques



Velocity field for  
OVIDE 2010

Before inversion

# Method for absolute transport estimation



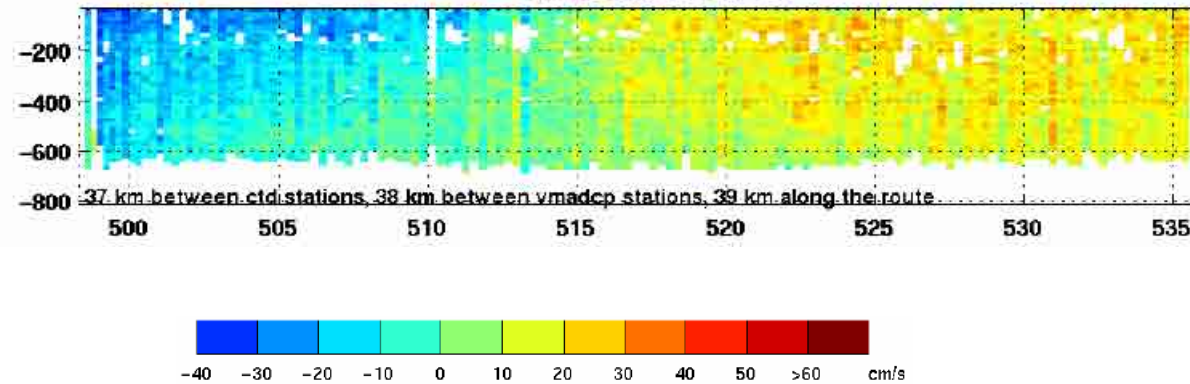
The absolute transports perpendicular to the section were estimated *for the month of the cruise* using a geostrophic inverse model that combines hydrography and ship-mounted ADCP measurements under an overall mass balance constraint (Lherminier et al. 2007)

# SADCP data

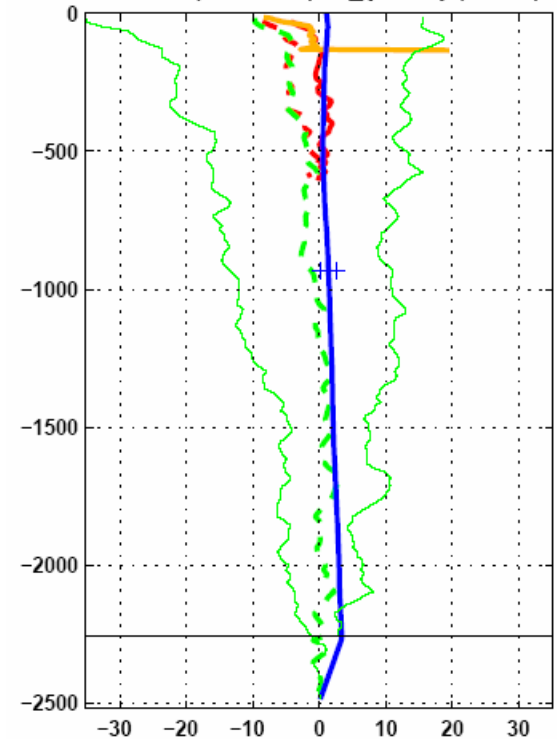
SADCP data are quite reliable:

- Ship ADCP Vel (nb75)
- SADCP betw. St. (nb75)
- SADCP betw. St. (bb150)
- Lower ADCP Vel (nb150)

Pair 20 : stations 31-32

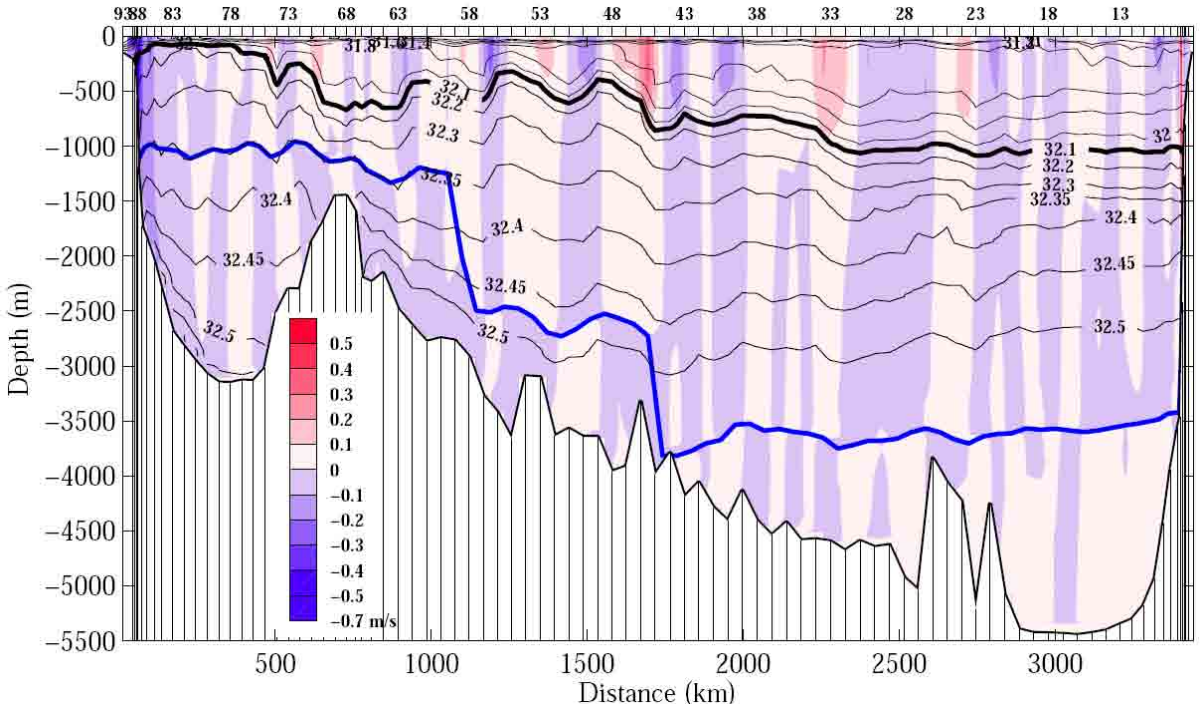


Pair 20 (St.31-32): V\_{ortho} (nb75)



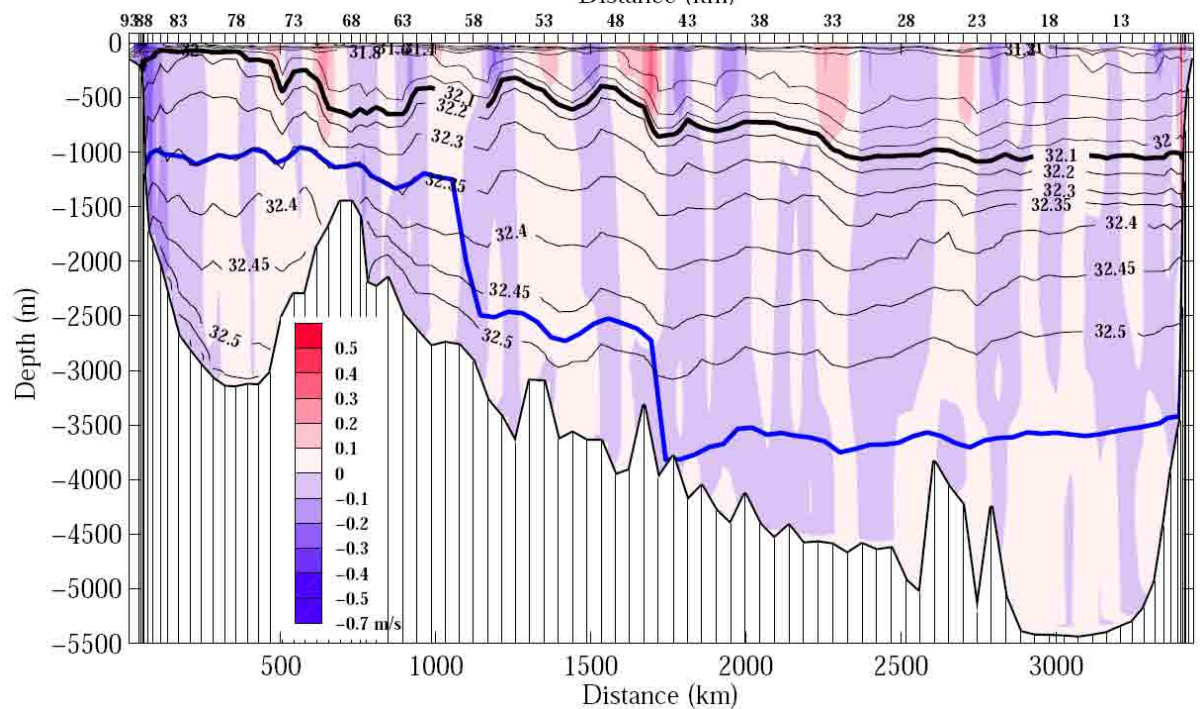
Pair 20 ADCP constraint:  
 $+0.6 \pm 2.2$  cm/s  
between 198 et 406m





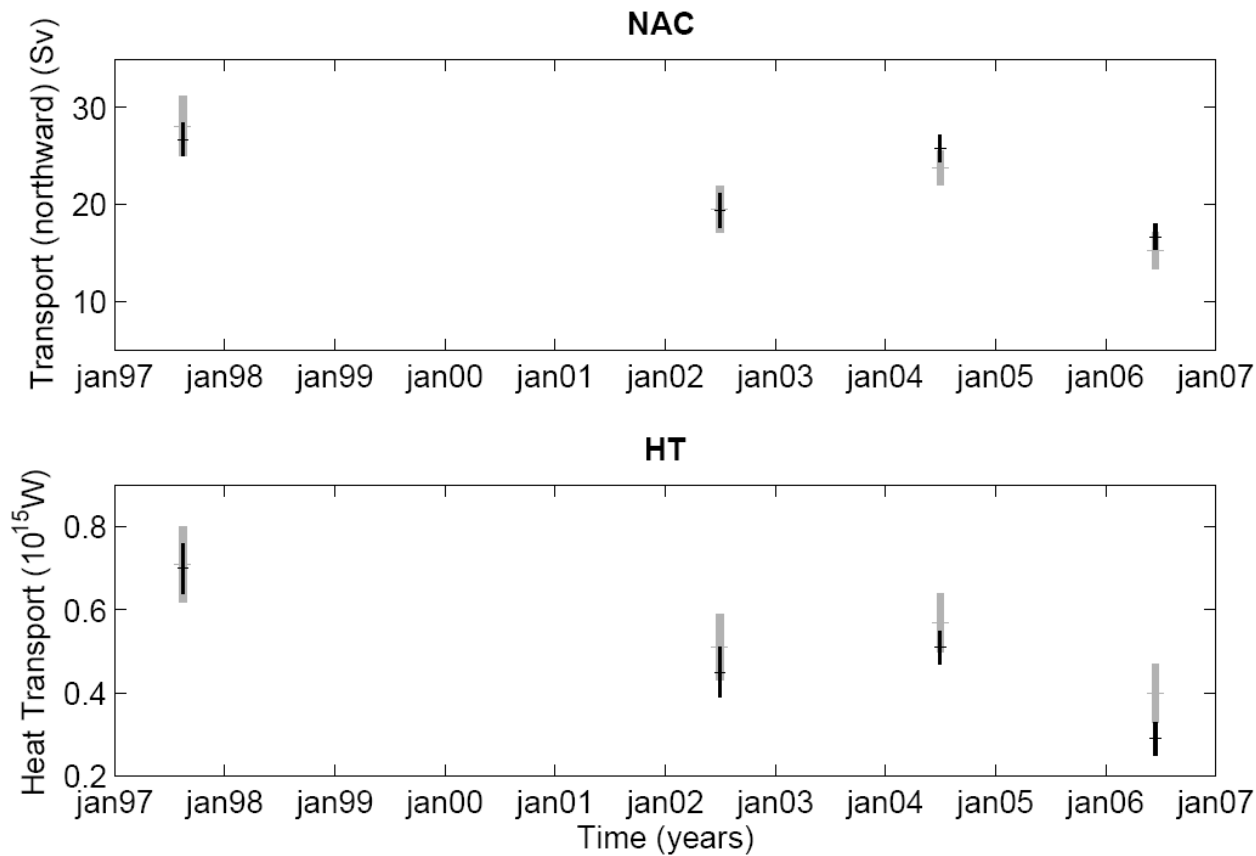
Velocity field for  
OVIDE 2010

Before inversion



After inversion

# S-ADCP versus Altimetry constraints

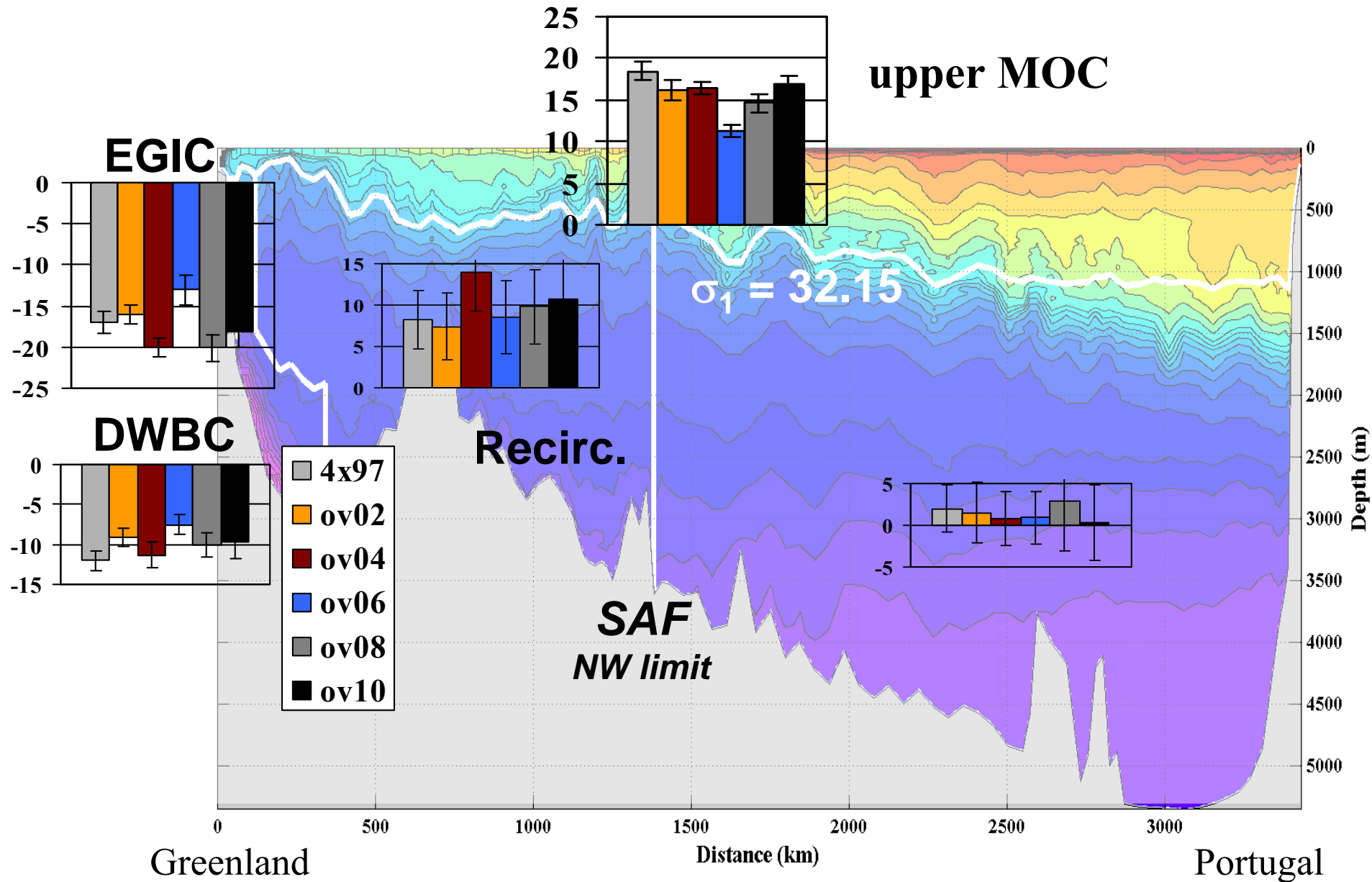


— Altimetry constraints

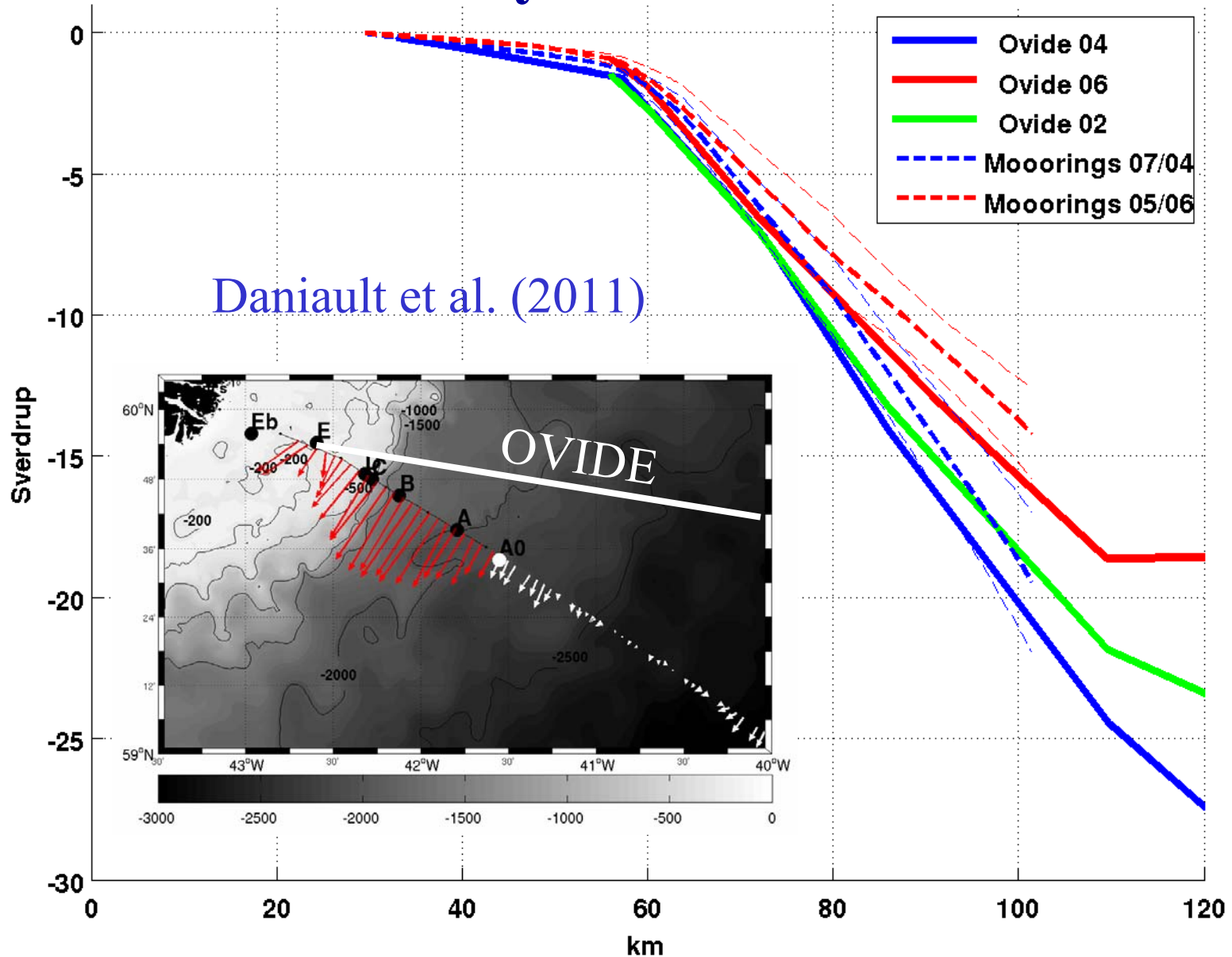
— S-ADCP constraints

Gourcuff et al. (JAOT, 2011)

# Main components of the MOC $\sigma$

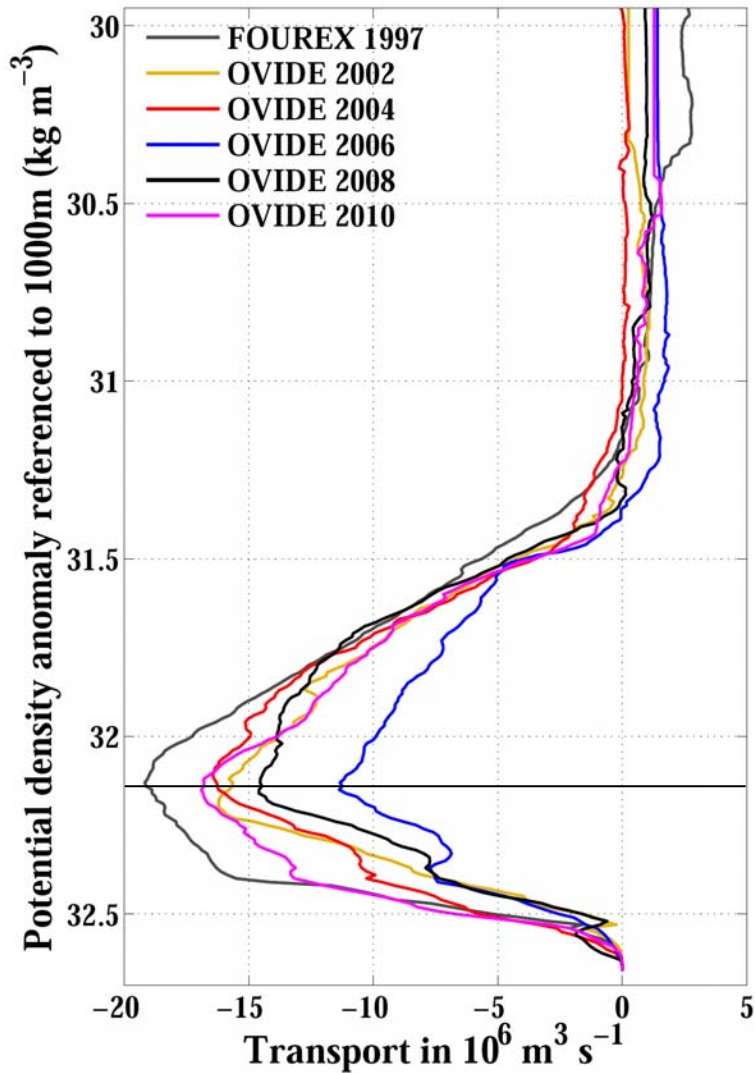


# Comparison with transports from a current meter array in the EGIC



# MOC<sub>σ</sub> transport variability

Greenland-to-Portugal accumulated transport



32.15

## MOC<sub>σ</sub>

4x97 18.5

ov02 16.2

ov04 16.4

ov06 11.2

ov08 14.6

ov10 16.8

MOC in Sv; error ~ 2 Sv

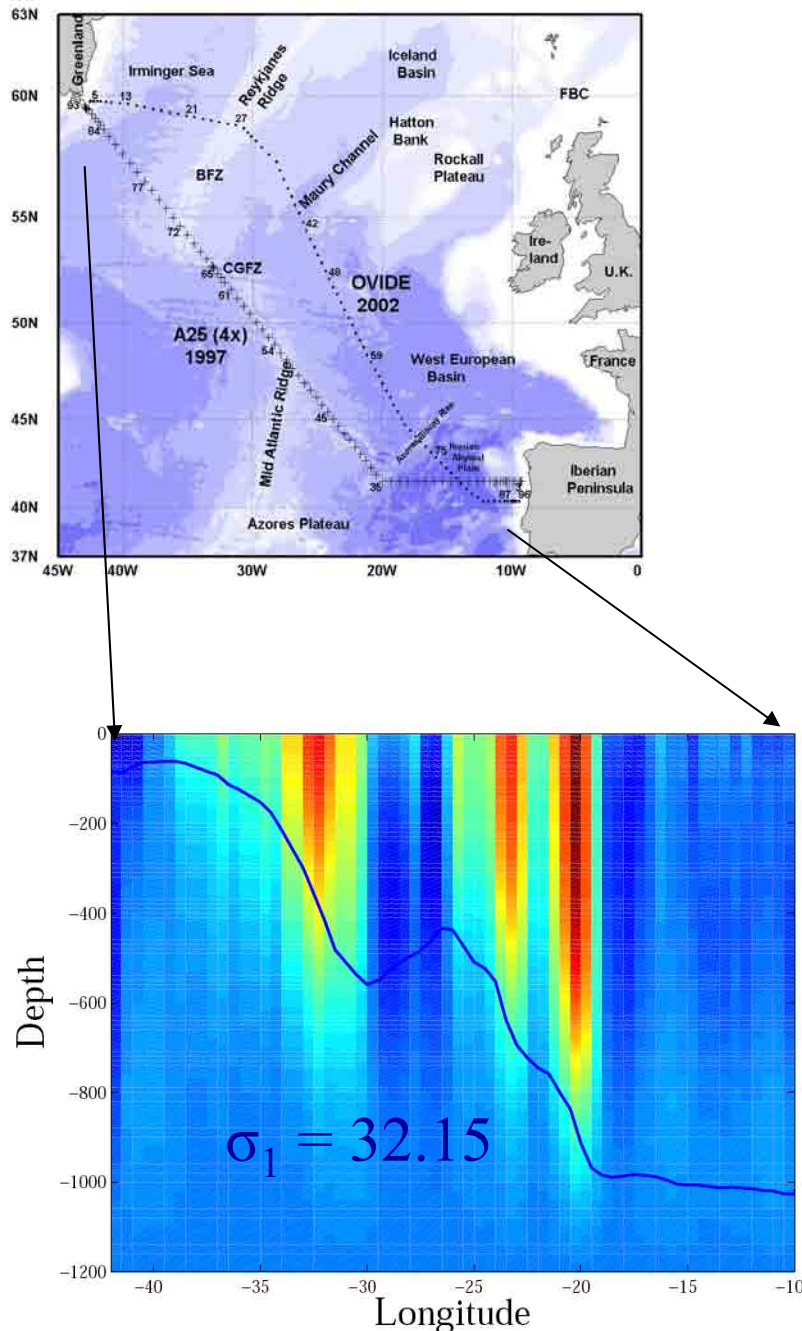
$\langle \text{MOC} \rangle = 15.6 \text{ Sv}$

# A monthly MOC index from altimetry and Argo

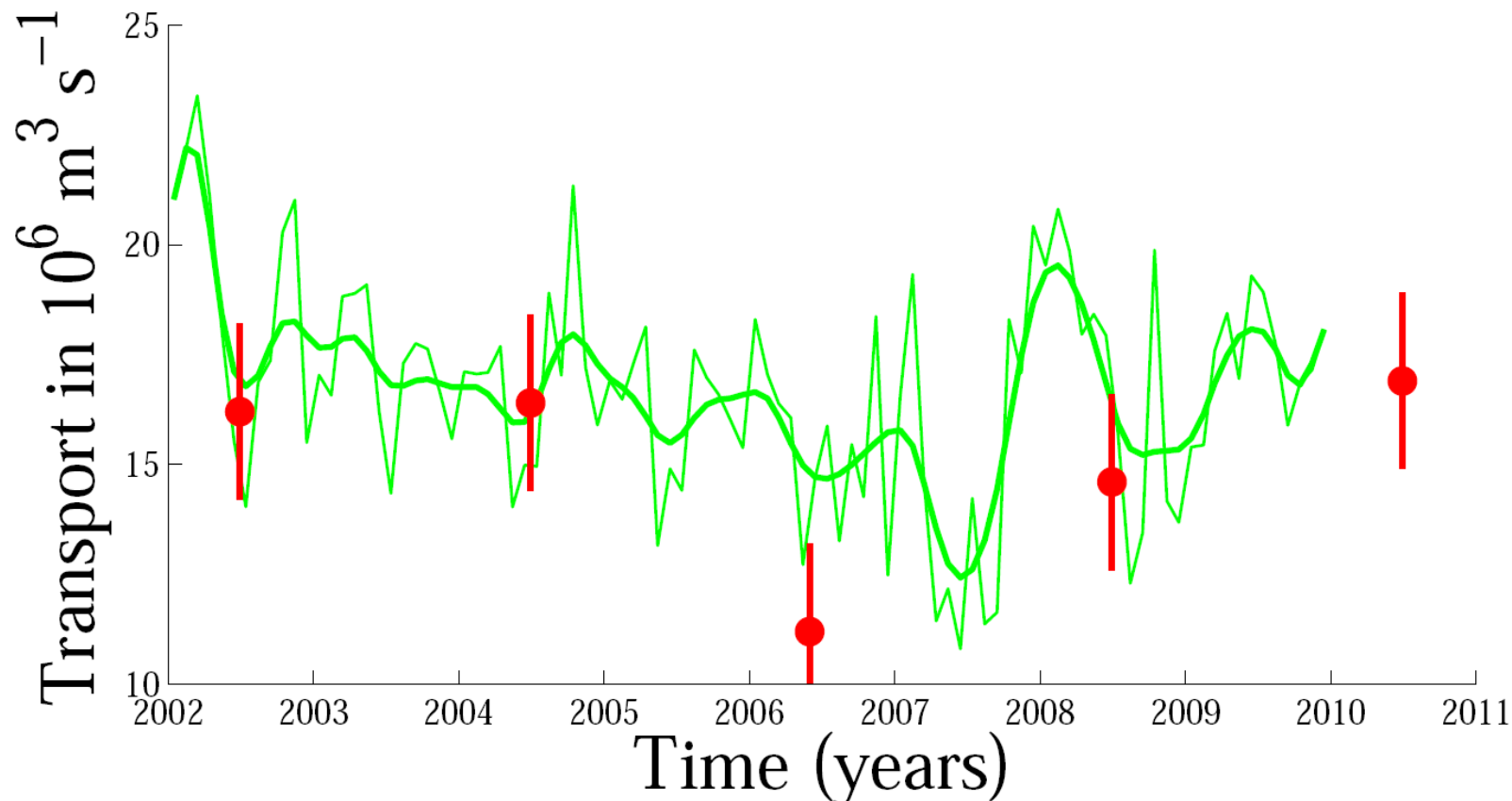
- Geostrophic velocities referenced to the surface are computed from the ISAS mapped Argo T, S fields (F. Gaillard, LPO)

- Absolute surface velocities are from the AVISO mapped altimetry products

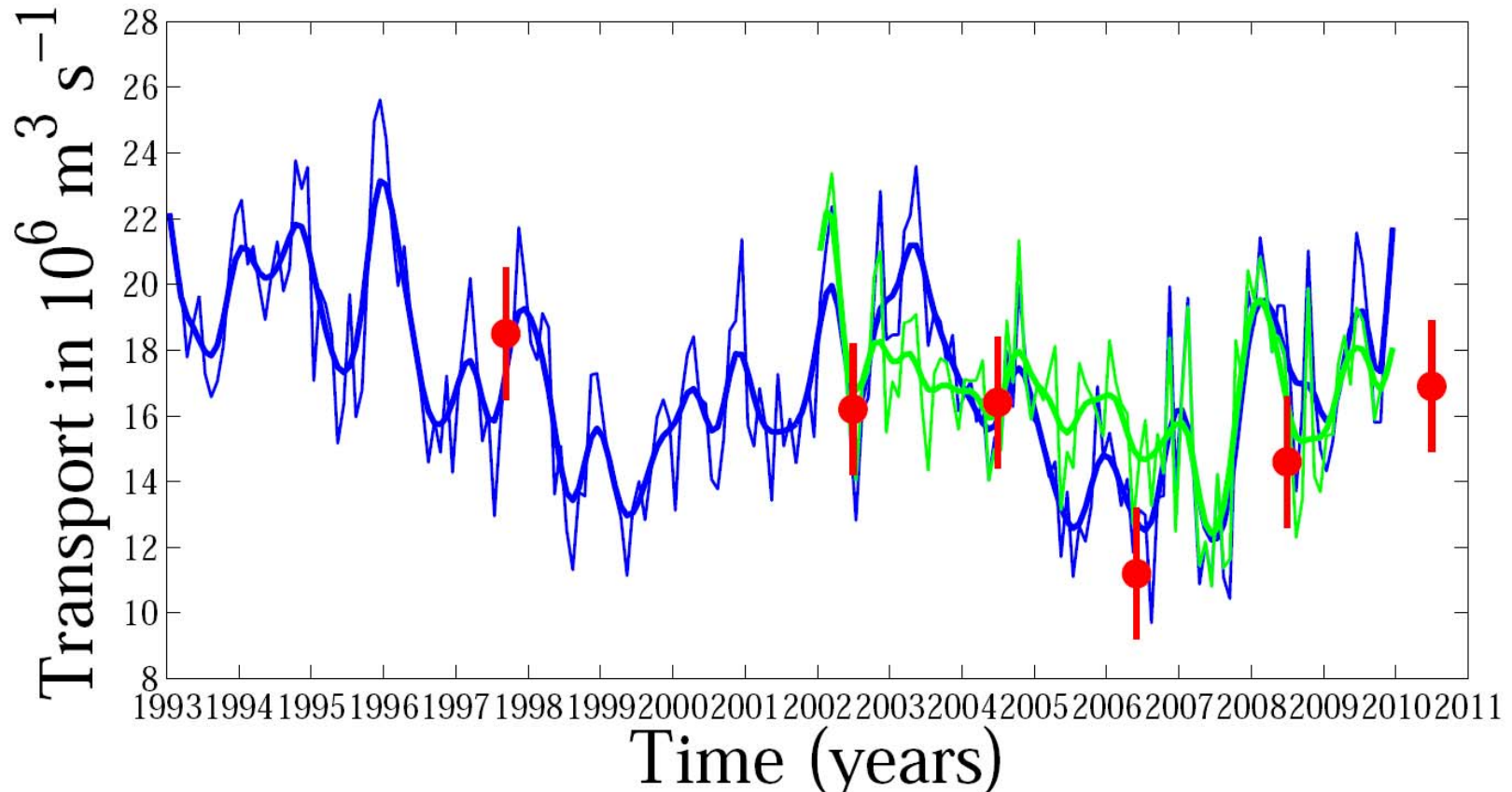
- The MOC index is the transport above  $\sigma_1 = 32.15$  (available every month)



# A monthly MOC index from altimetry and Argo



# A MOC index from altimetry only

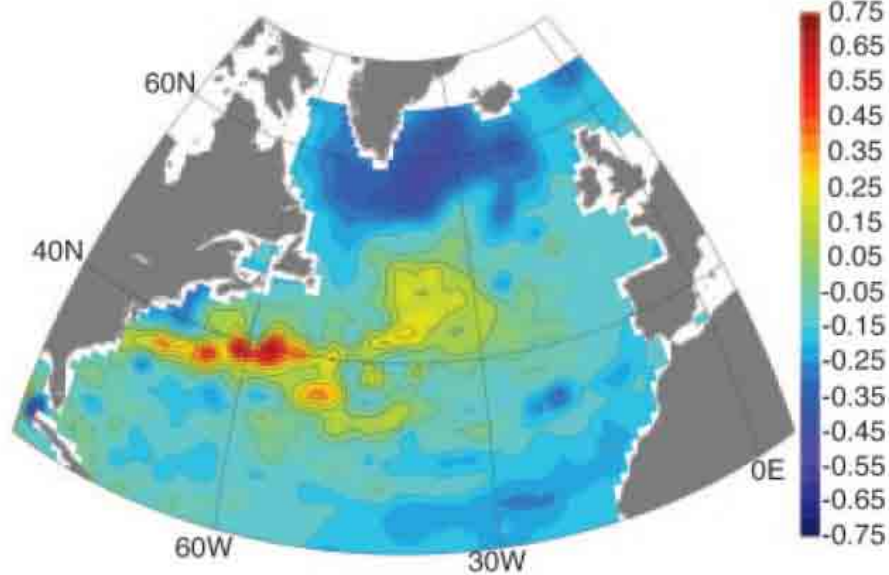


Linear trend : decline of 2 Sv since the mid 1990's

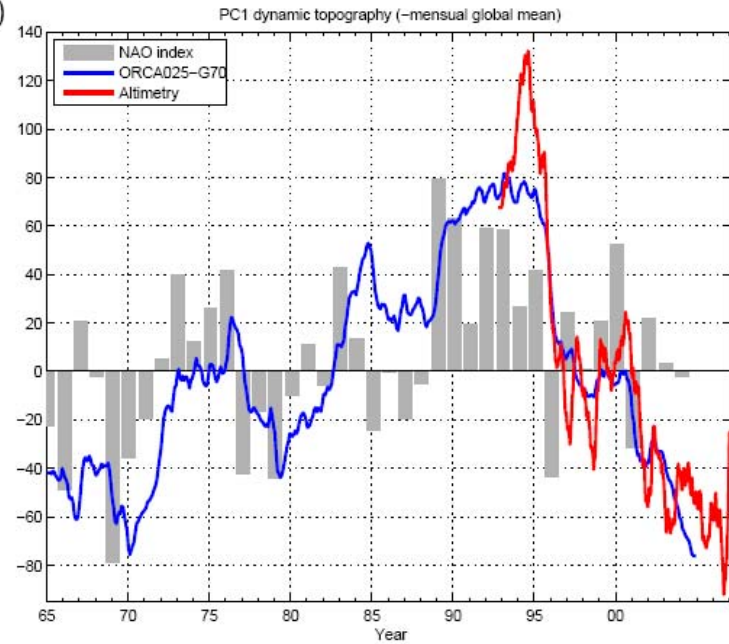


# Relation avec la variabilité de la circulation de surface ?

A

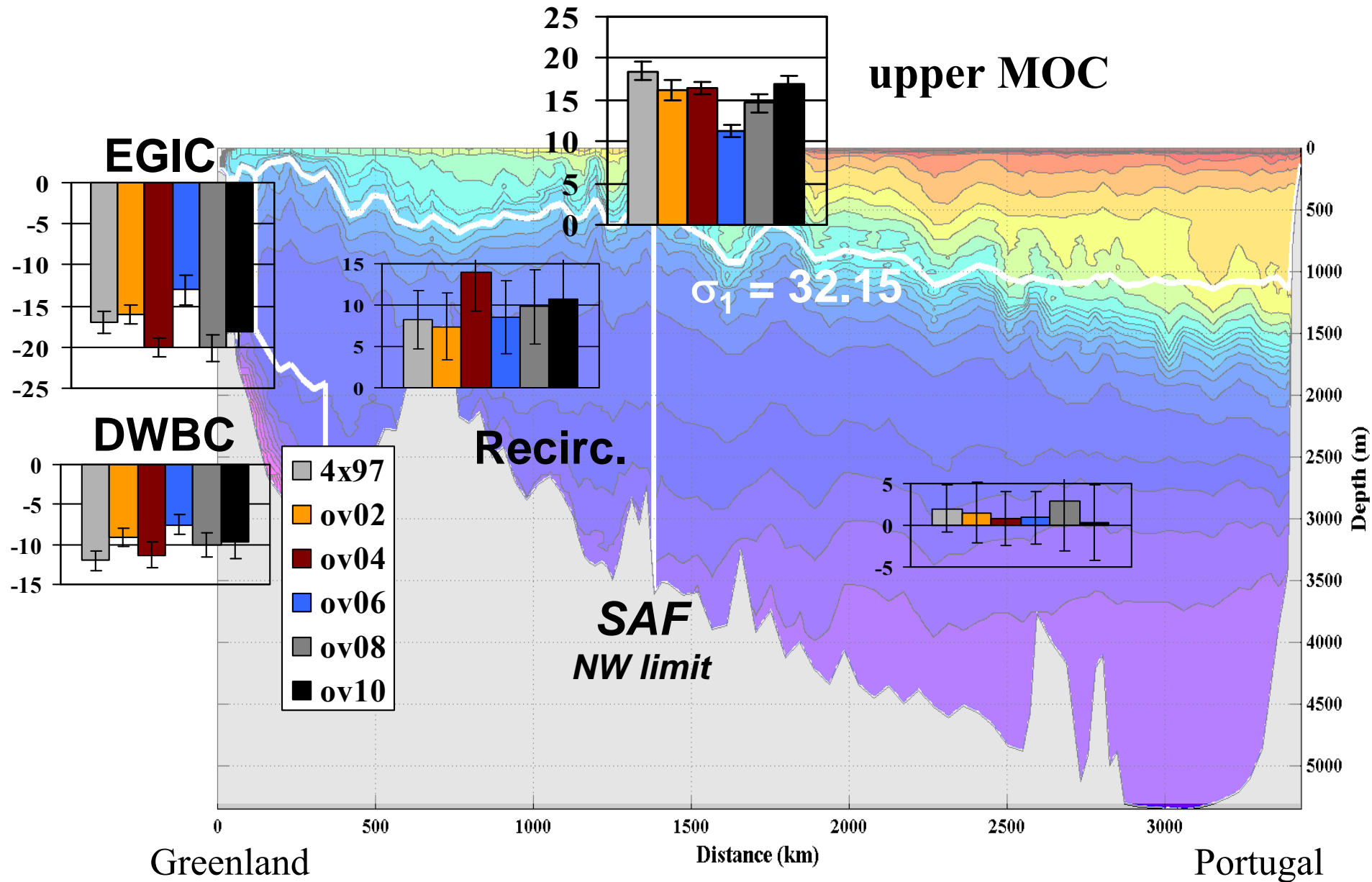


b)



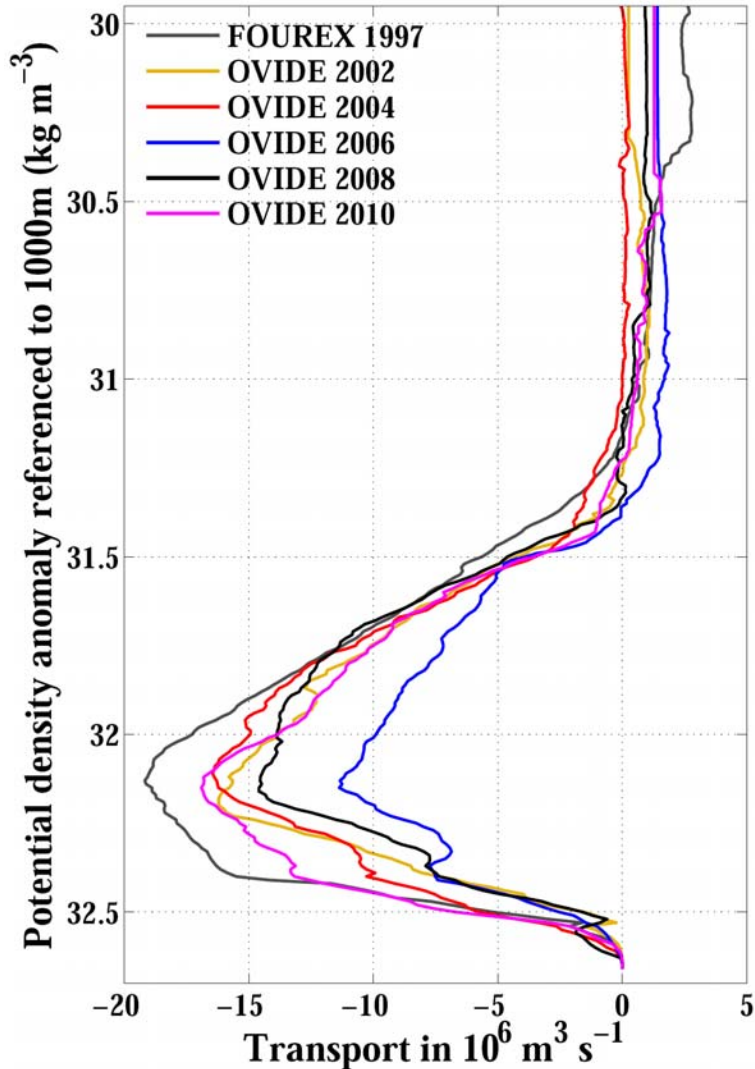
Adapted from Hakkinen and Rhines (2004)

# Main components of the MOC $\sigma$



# MOC<sub>σ</sub> and heat transport variability

Greenland-to-Portugal accumulated transport



	<b>MOC<sub>σ</sub></b>	<b>HF</b>	<b>HF<sub>MOC</sub></b>	<b>HF<sub>iso</sub></b>
<b>4x97</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>0.05</b>
<b>ov02</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.03</b>
<b>ov04</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.08</b>
<b>ov06</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>-0.04</b>
<b>ov08</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.04</b>
<b>ov10</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.07</b>

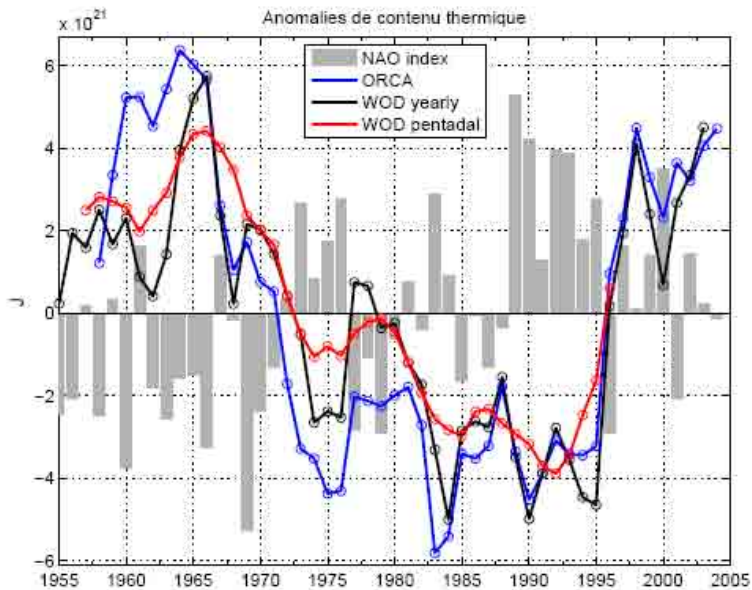
MOC in Sv; error  $\sim 2$  Sv

HF in PW; error  $\sim 0.05$  PW

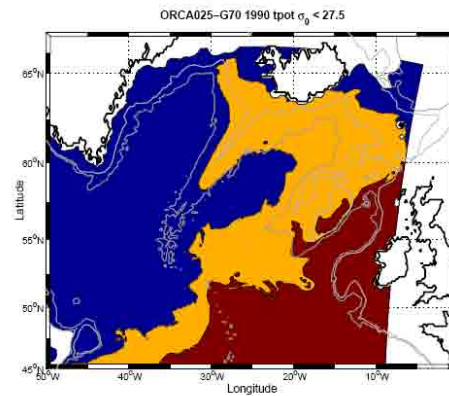
$\langle \text{HF} \rangle = 0.45$  PW

# Evolution du contenu thermique au nord de la section OVIDE

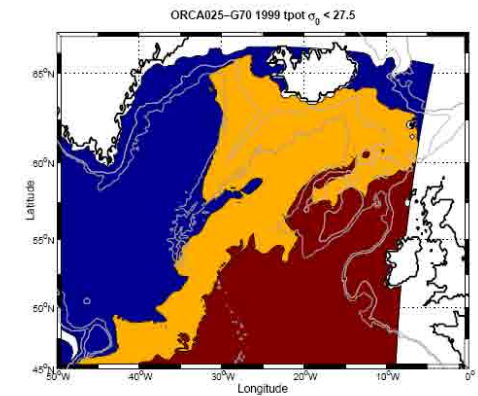
(a) SPG



(c) 1990



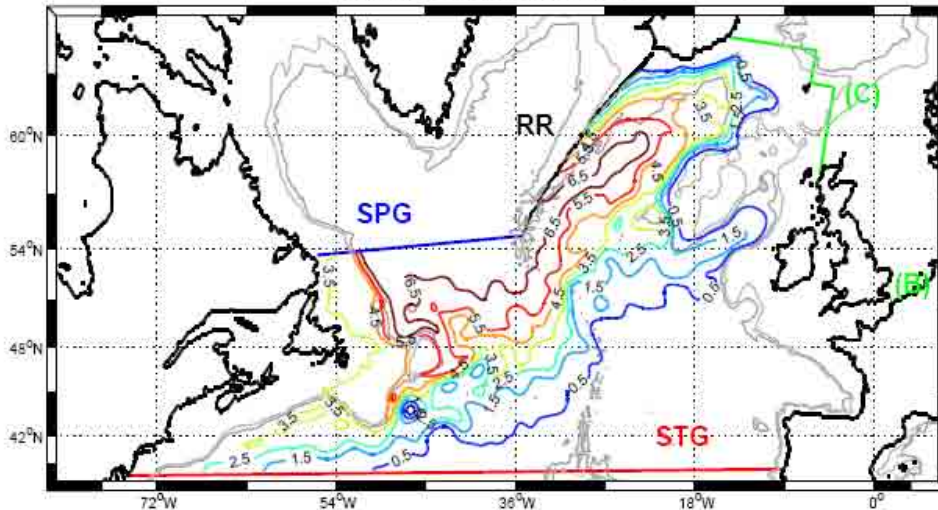
(d) 1999



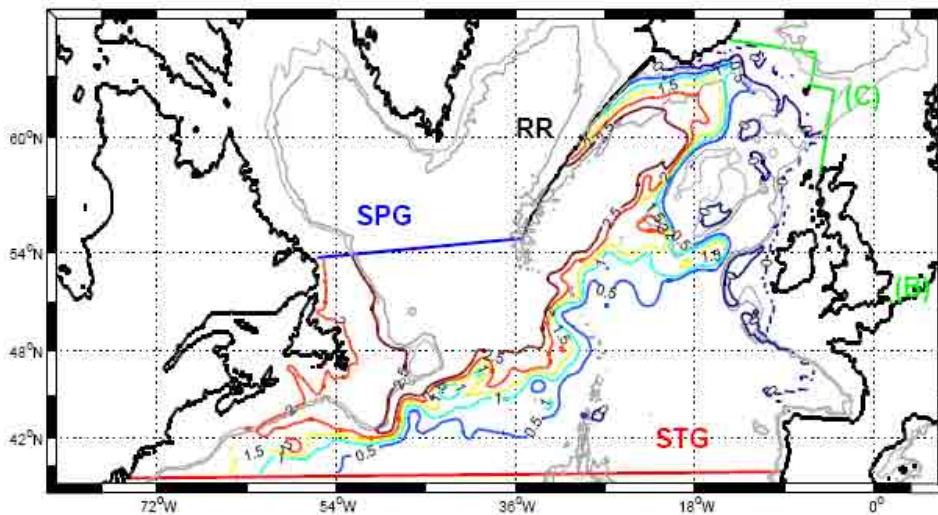
De Boisséson et al. (2011), Hatun et al. (2005)

# Evolution du contenu thermique au nord de la section OVIDE

Streamfunction SPMW 1990



Streamfunction SPMW 1998



- L'advection des eaux d'origine subtropicale domine celle des eaux subpolaires en période NAO-

-Les pertes de chaleur du gyre subpolaire plus faible en période NAO – qu'en période NAO +

de Boissésou et al. (2011)

Desbruyères et al. (2011)

# Conclusions

- A decomposition based on in situ observations, allowed the derivation of a  $MOC_{\sigma}$  index from Argo and Altimetry, compatible with hydrographic estimates and varying in the range 12-23 Sv. An energetic low-frequency variability ( $\sim$  8-9 years) is evidenced from the 1993-2009 MOC index (altimetry only). Useful benchmark for numerical models.
- A MOC decrease of 2Sv evidenced between 1995-2009 might be linked to NAO (decrease in convection intensity and surface circulation). Will it propagate southward ?
- What are the consequences in term of heat content variability North of Ovide Section ? Does the Labrador Sea matter ?