



# Barrier layer variability in the Western Pacific Warm Pool during 2000-2007

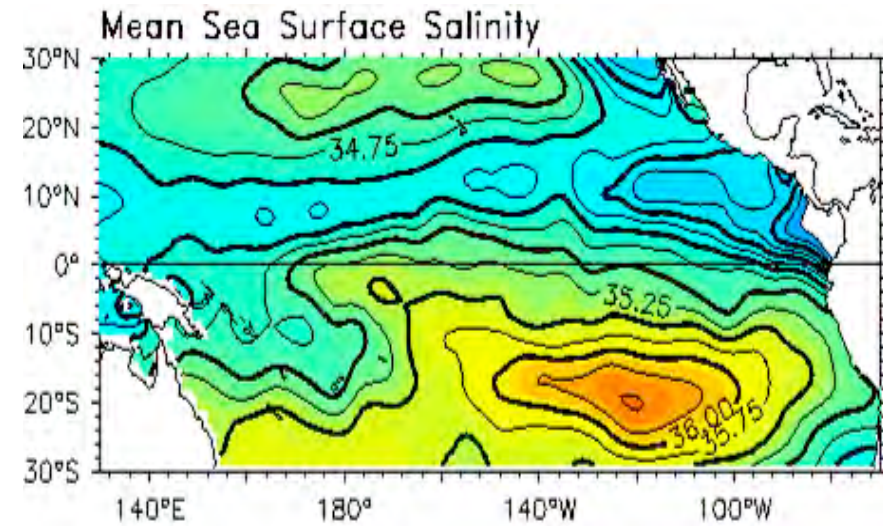
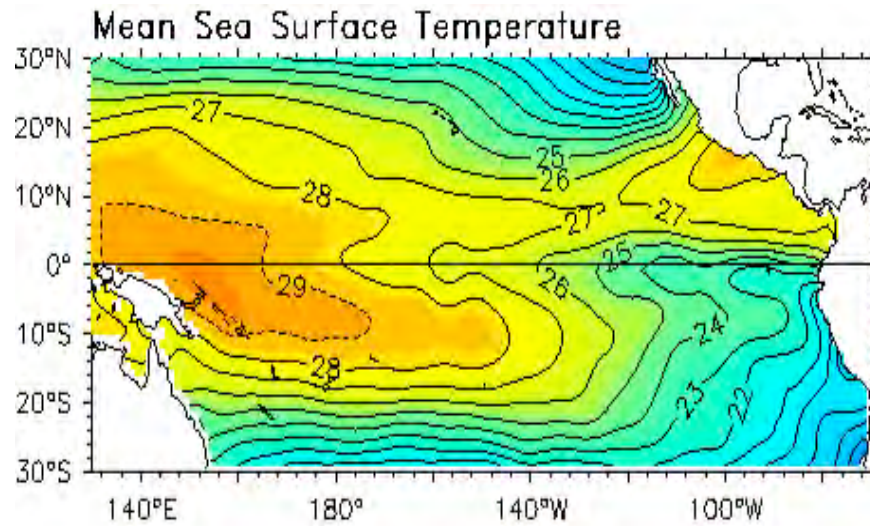
**Christelle BOSC \*, Thierry DELCROIX , Christophe MAES**

**\* Contact : LEGOS – TOULOUSE , [christelle.bosc@legos.obs-mip.fr](mailto:christelle.bosc@legos.obs-mip.fr)**

**First Euro-Argo Users Workshop ; Southampton, June, 24-25<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

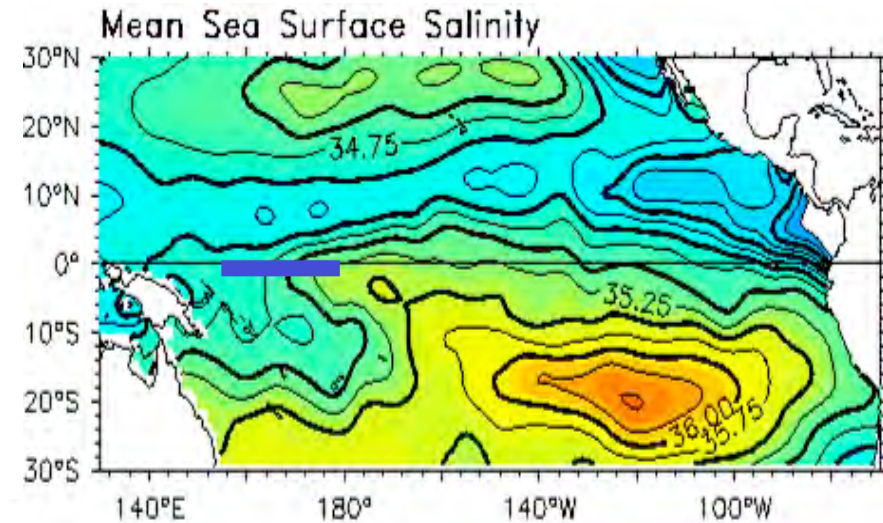
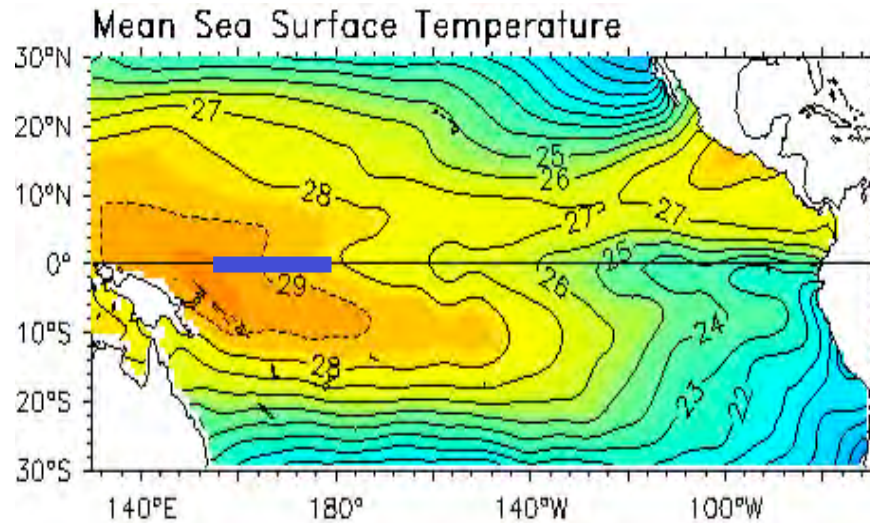
**(@IRD C. Maes)**

# 1. Thermohaline structure of the warm pool

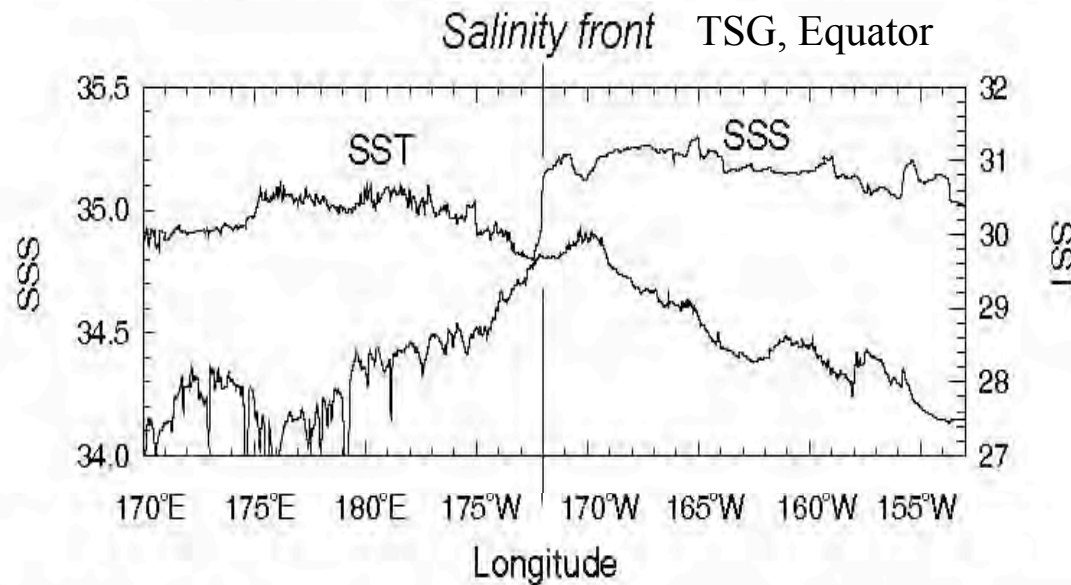


(Levitus 1982)

# 1. Thermohaline structure of the warm pool

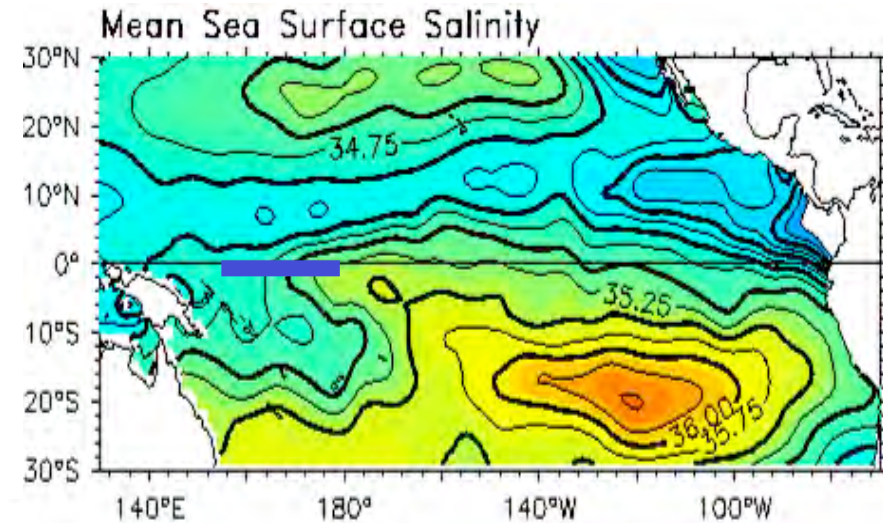
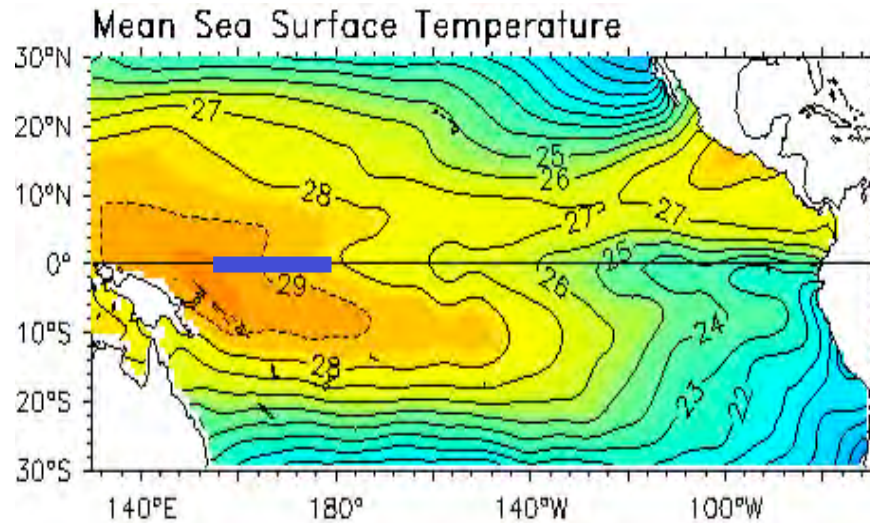


(Levitus 1982)



FLUPAC cruise  
Sept.-Oct. 1994  
TSG, Equator  
(Eldin et al., 1997;  
Rodier et al., 2000)

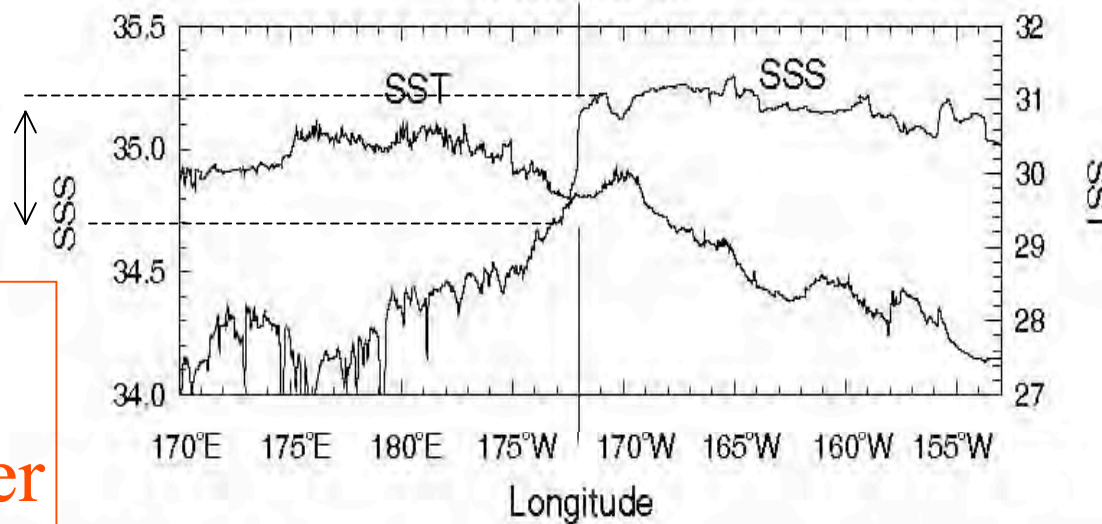
# 1. Thermohaline structure of the warm pool



(Levitus 1982)

Salinity front TSG, Equator

$\Delta S = 0.5$



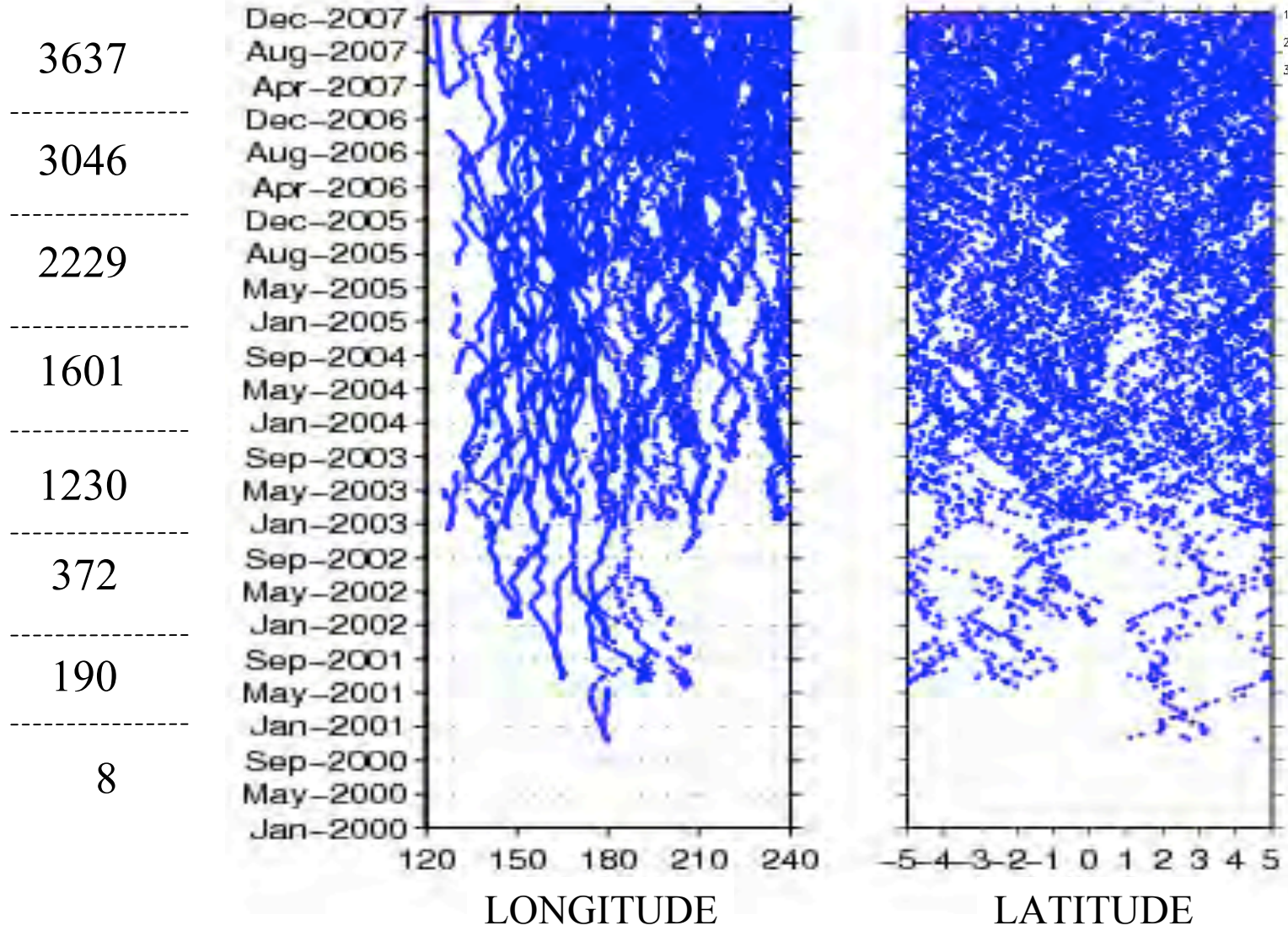
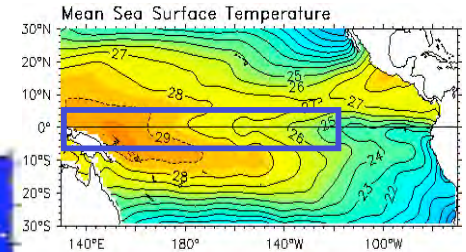
SSS front  
Barrier layer

FLUPAC cruise  
Sept.-Oct. 1994  
TSG, Equator  
(Eldin et al., 1997;  
Rodier et al., 2000)

## 2.1. ARGO profiles available since 2000

N profiles/year

Trajectories of ARGO floats located in the 5°N-5°S-120°E-120°W equatorial region



Source:  
CORIOLIS GDAC  
« good data only »

3637

3046

2229

1601

1230

372

190

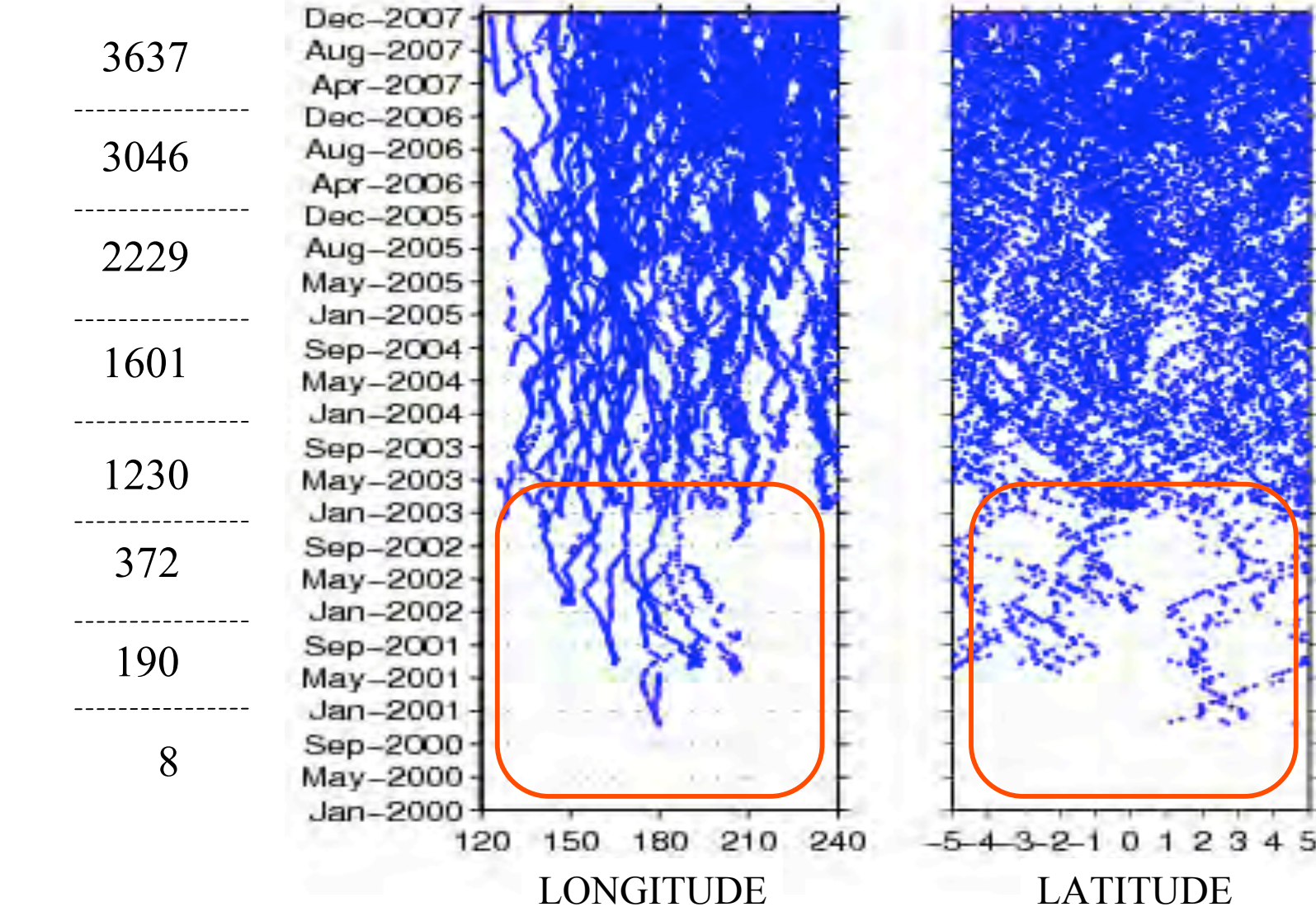
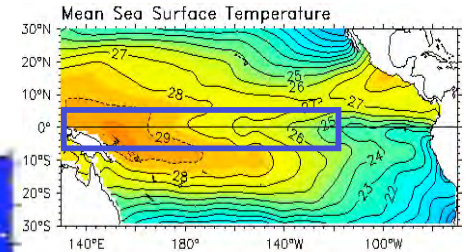
8

Dec-2007  
Aug-2007  
Apr-2007  
Dec-2006  
Aug-2006  
Apr-2006  
Dec-2005  
Aug-2005  
May-2005  
Jan-2005  
Sep-2004  
May-2004  
Jan-2004  
Sep-2003  
May-2003  
Jan-2003  
Sep-2002  
May-2002  
Jan-2002  
Sep-2001  
May-2001  
Jan-2001  
Sep-2000  
May-2000  
Jan-2000

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Source:  
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« good data only »

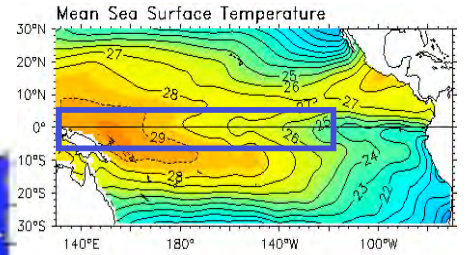
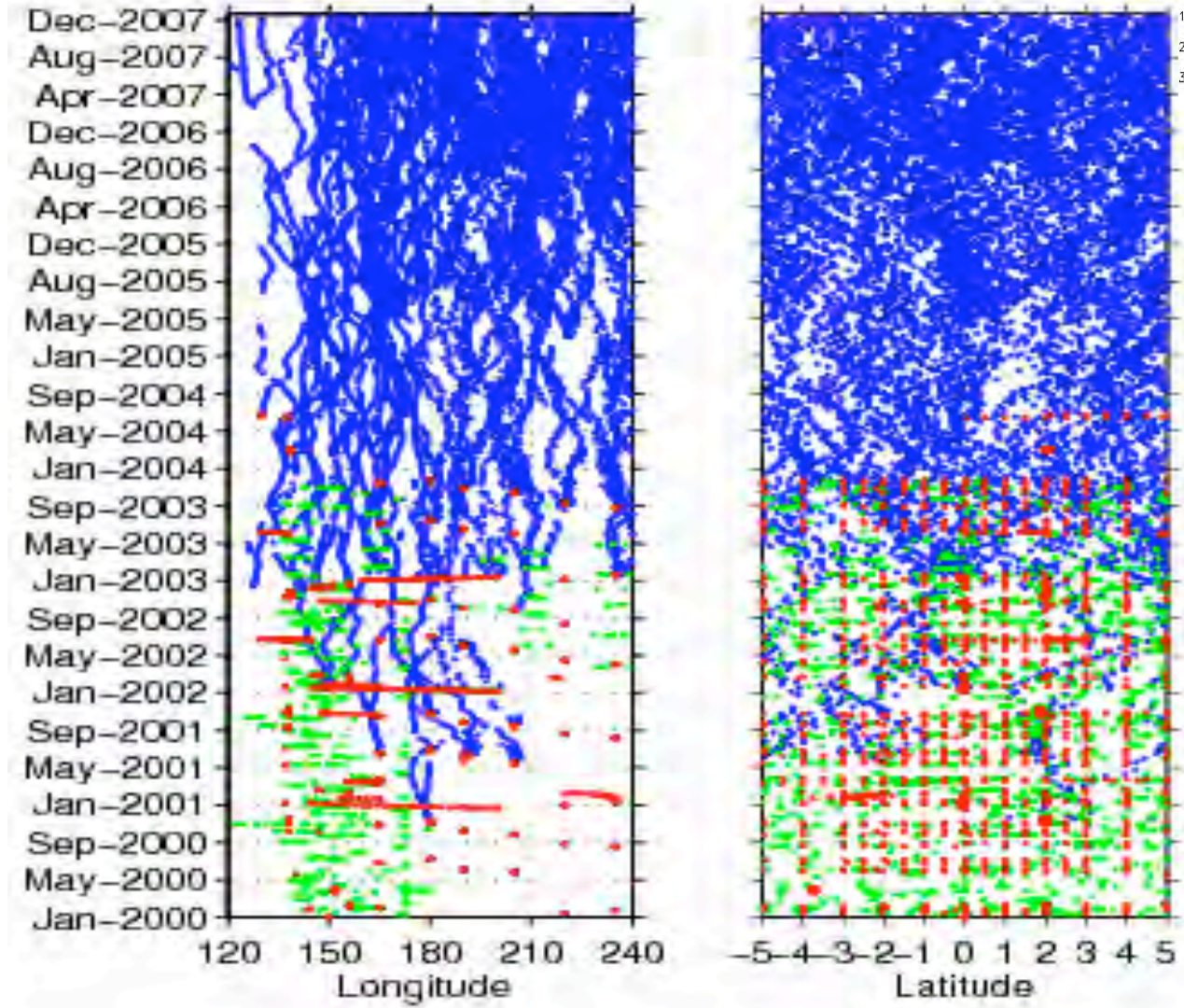
# 2.1. ARGO profiles, CTD, TSG available since 2000

Trajectories of floats located in the 5°N-5°S-120°E-120°W equatorial region

ARGO

CTD

TSG



Sources:  
CORIOLIS GDAC,  
WOA05,  
ORE-SSS

## 2.2. Validation and quality control

11 000 ARGO profiles exploitables (96% )  
1 700 CTD profiles (85%)  
16 500 TSG measurements

### Vertical interpolation:

$dz=5m \Rightarrow$  Isothermal layer depth (ILD)  
Mixed Layer Depth (MLD)  
from individual profiles

### Gridding:

$dx=5^\circ$  longitude,  $dy=1^\circ$  latitude,  $dt=14$  days

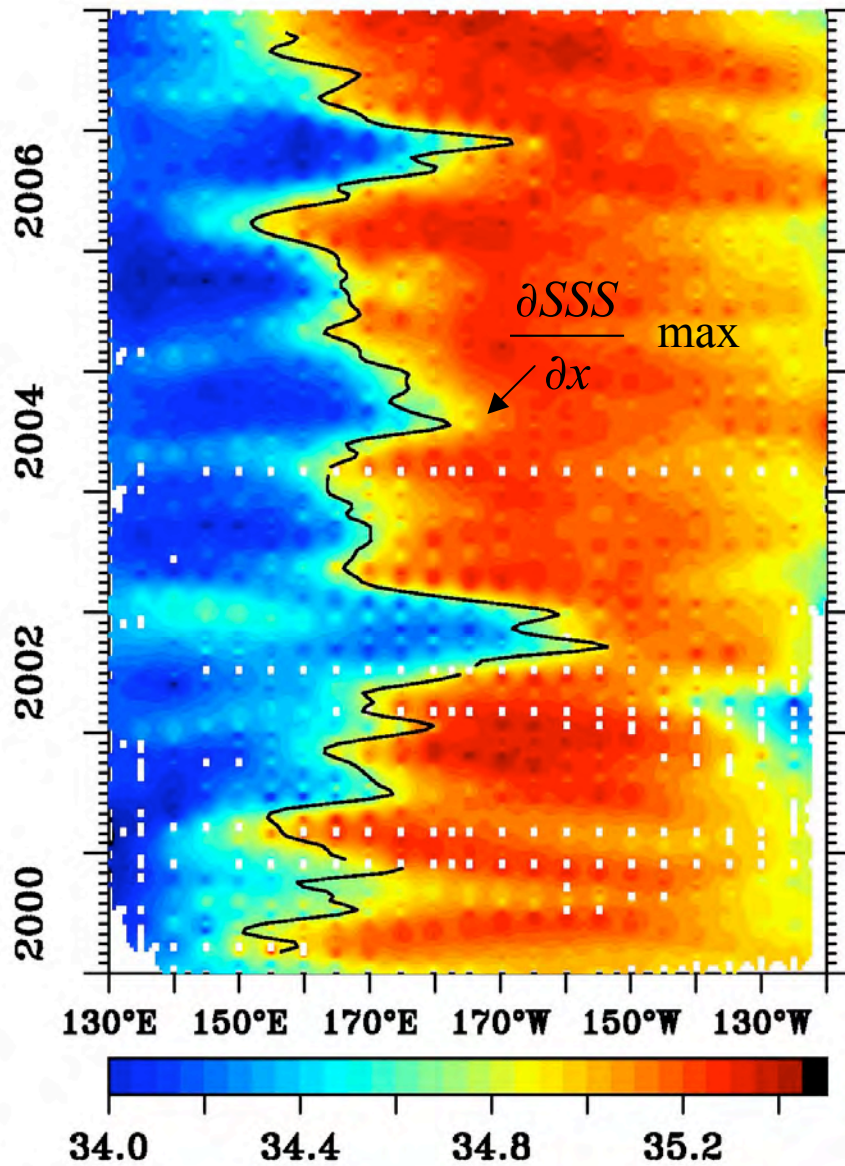


### 3. Thermohaline structure variability

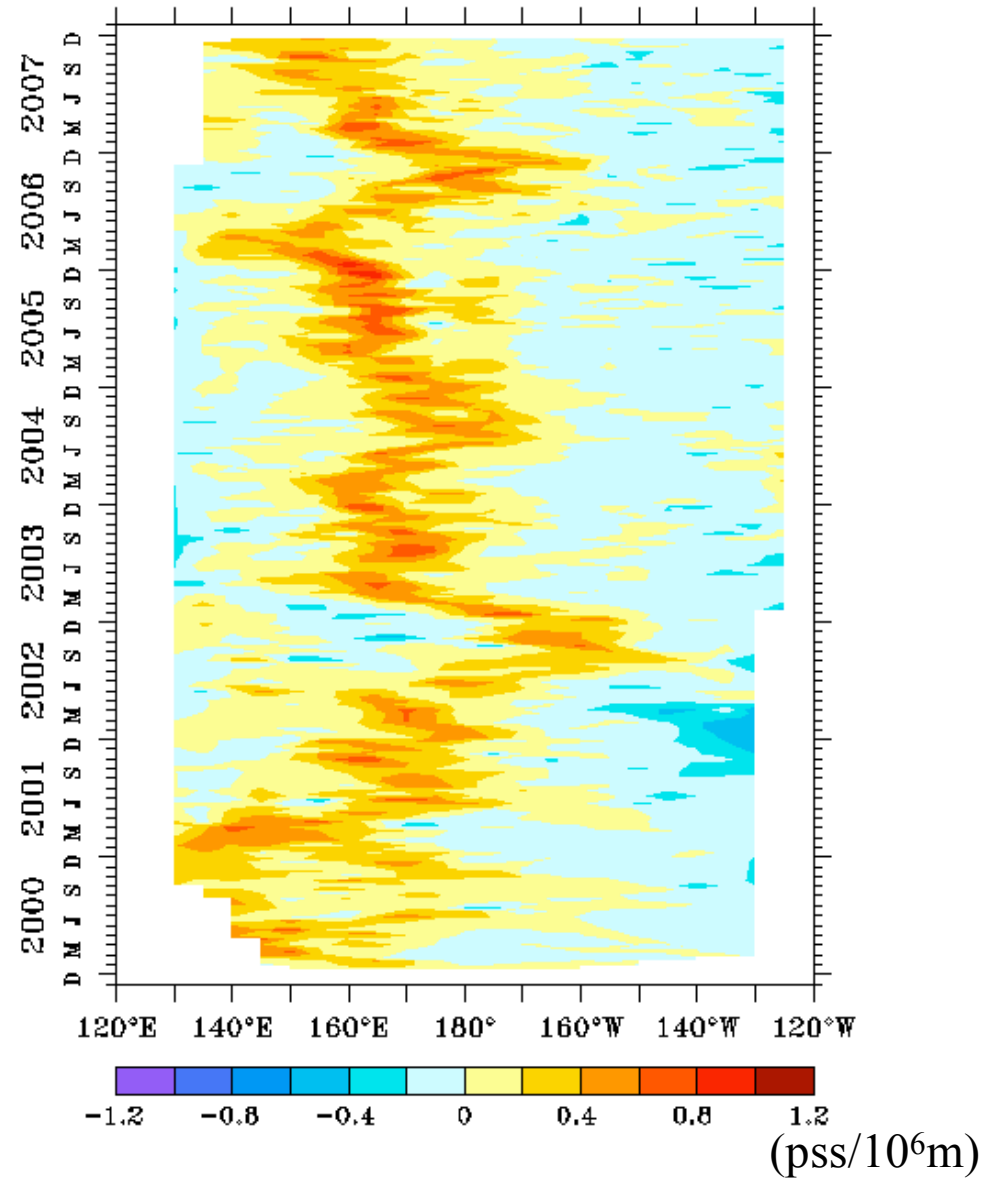
1. Surface thermohaline structure: SSS front
2. Subsurface thermohaline structure: barrier layer

### 3.1. Surface thermohaline structure: SSS front

SSS (15m) 2°N-2°S

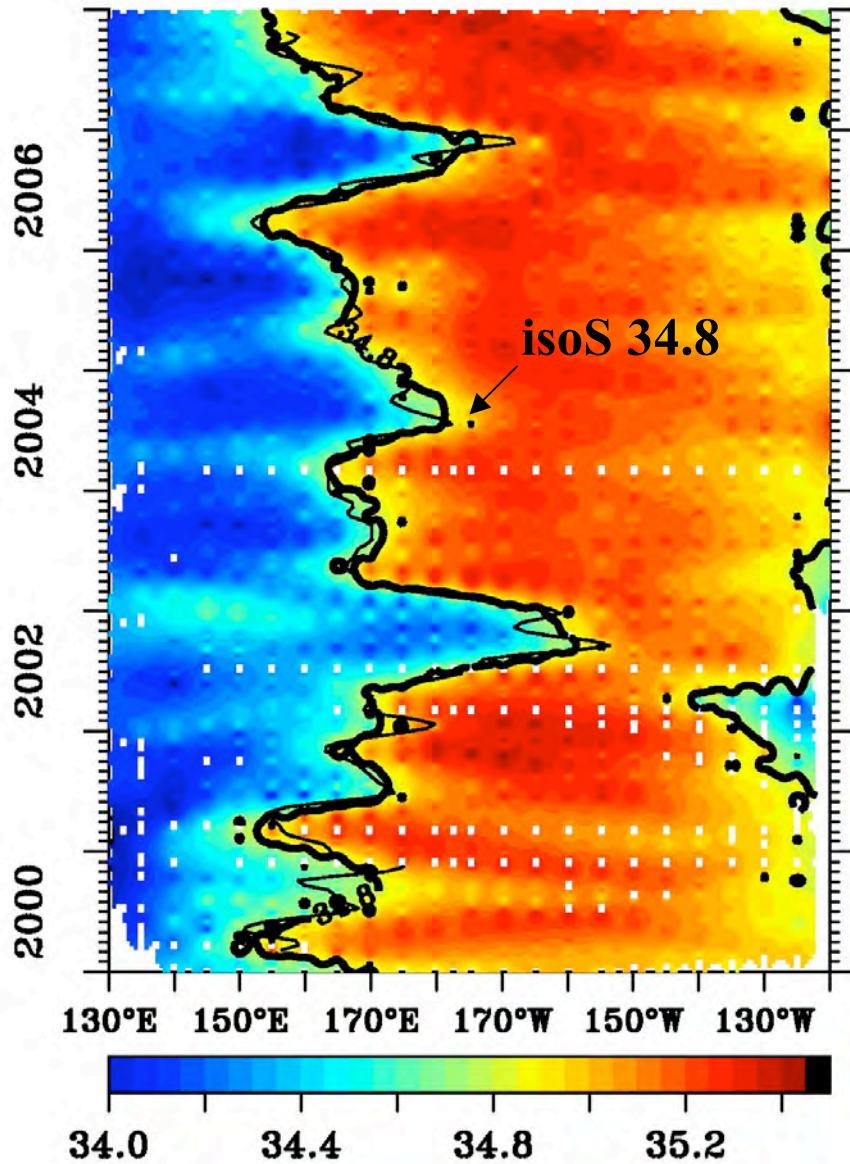


$\frac{\partial SSS}{\partial x}$  2°N-2°S

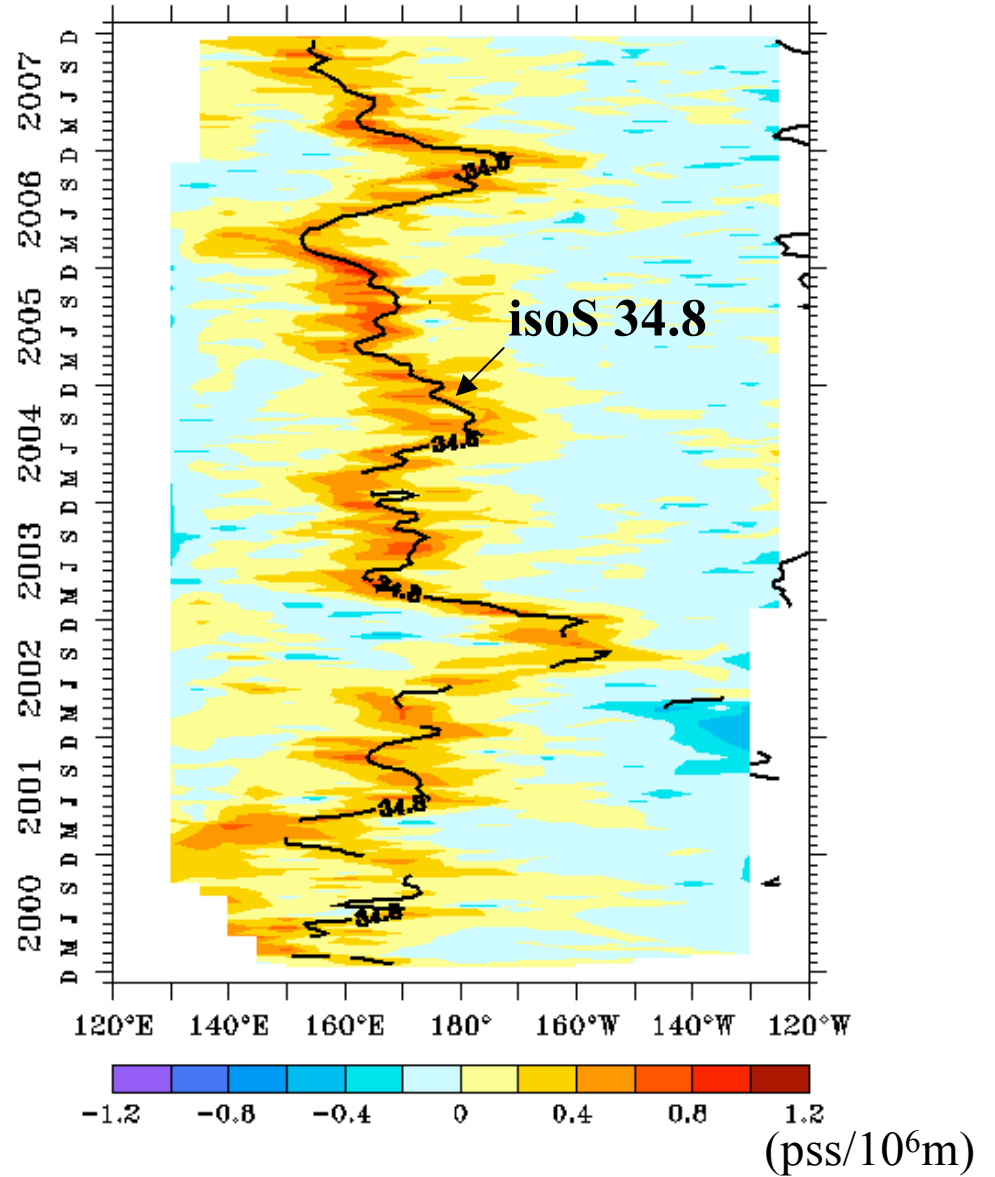


### 3.1. Surface thermohaline structure: SSS front

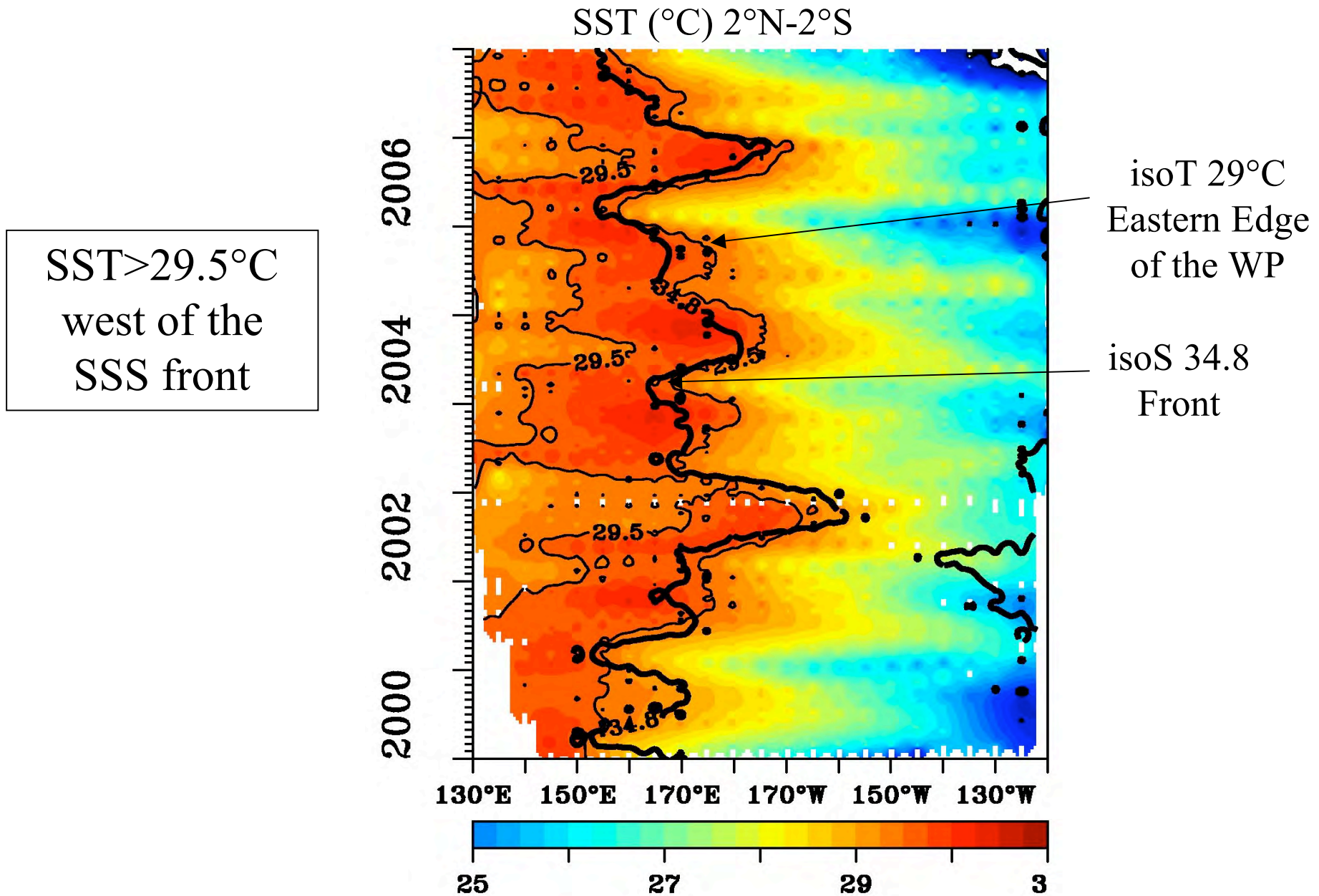
SSS (15m) 2°N-2°S



$\partial\text{SSS}/\partial x$  2°N-2°S



### 3.1. Surface thermohaline structure: SSS front



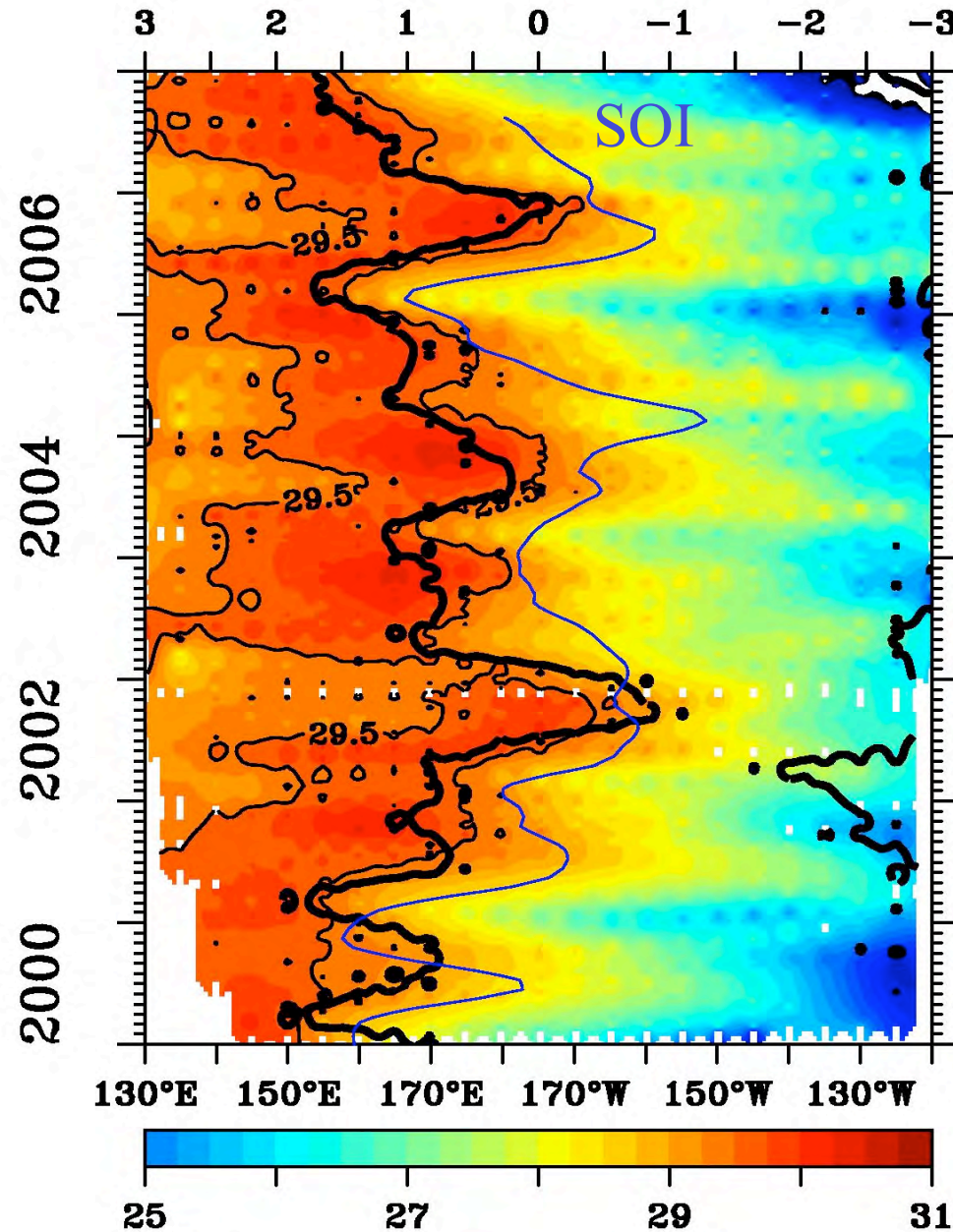
### 3.1.a- Surface thermohaline structure: SSS front

SST ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )  $2^{\circ}\text{N}$ - $2^{\circ}\text{S}$

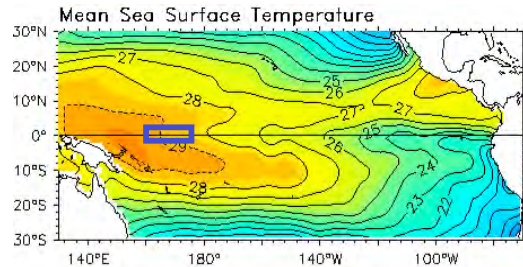
Zonal  
displacements  
-eastern edge of  
the WP  
-SSS front  
in phase with  
the SOI

Advective-Reflective  
Oscillator theory for  
ENSO

(Picaut et al., 1997)

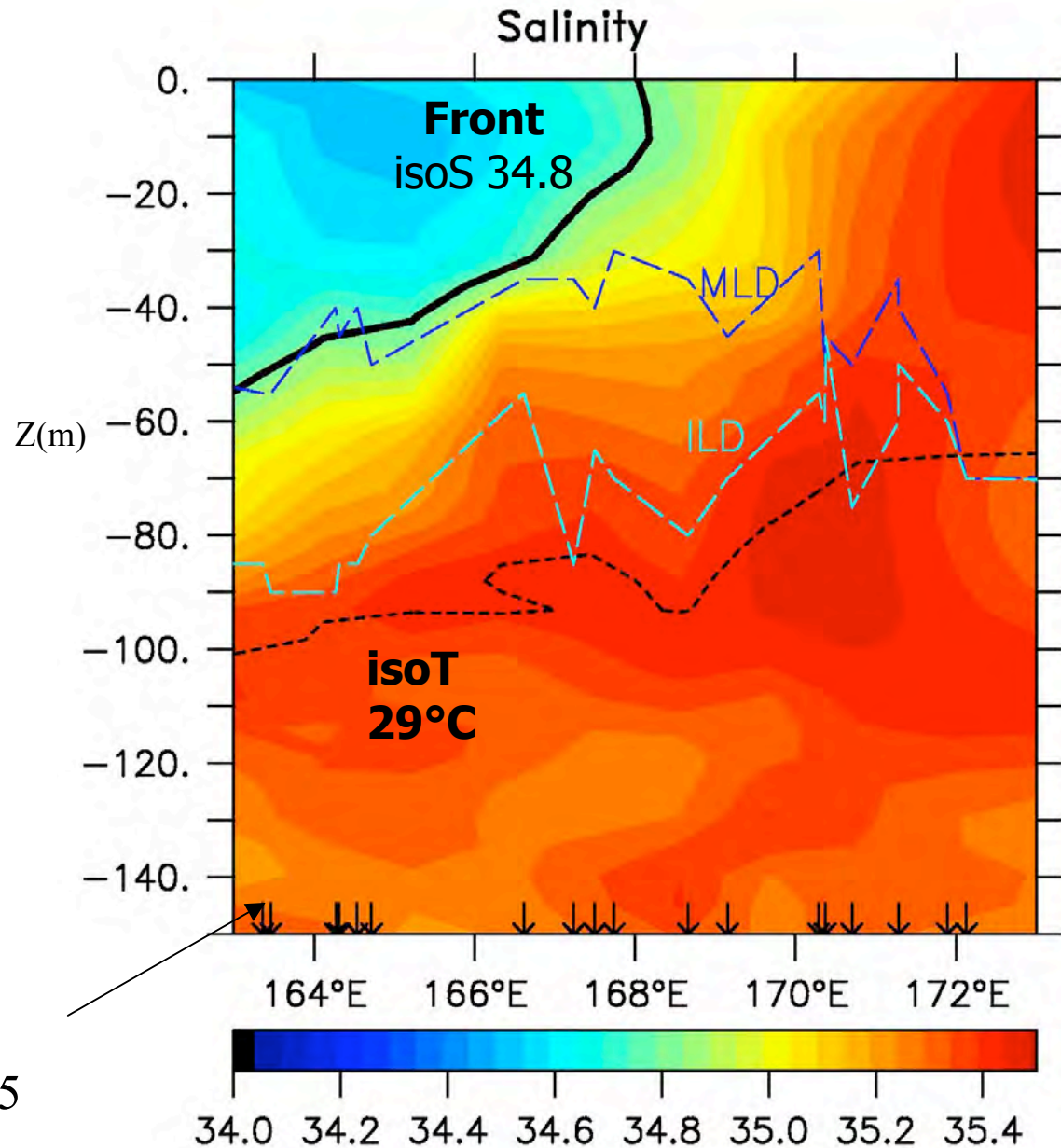


## 3.2. Subsurface thermohaline structure: barrier layer (BL)



Levitus, 1982  
Ref level @15 m  
Mixed Layer (MLD)  
 $\Delta\rho = 0.125 \text{ kg/m}^3$   
Isothermal layer (ILD)  
 $\Delta T = 0.5^\circ\text{C}$   
Barrier layer=ILD-MLD

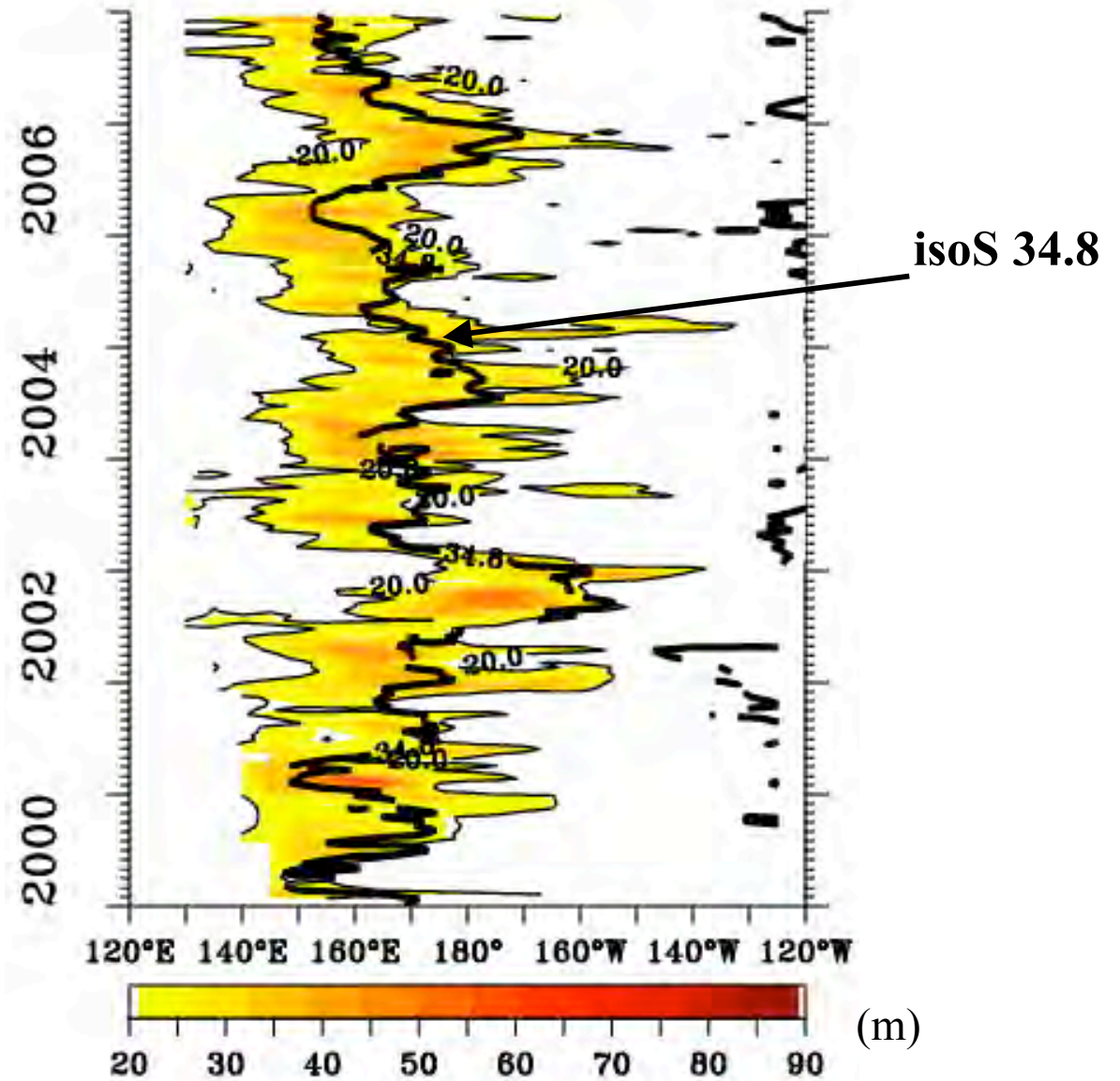
Floats presents  
between 1.5°N-  
1.5°S, during  
June 1-15<sup>th</sup>, 2005



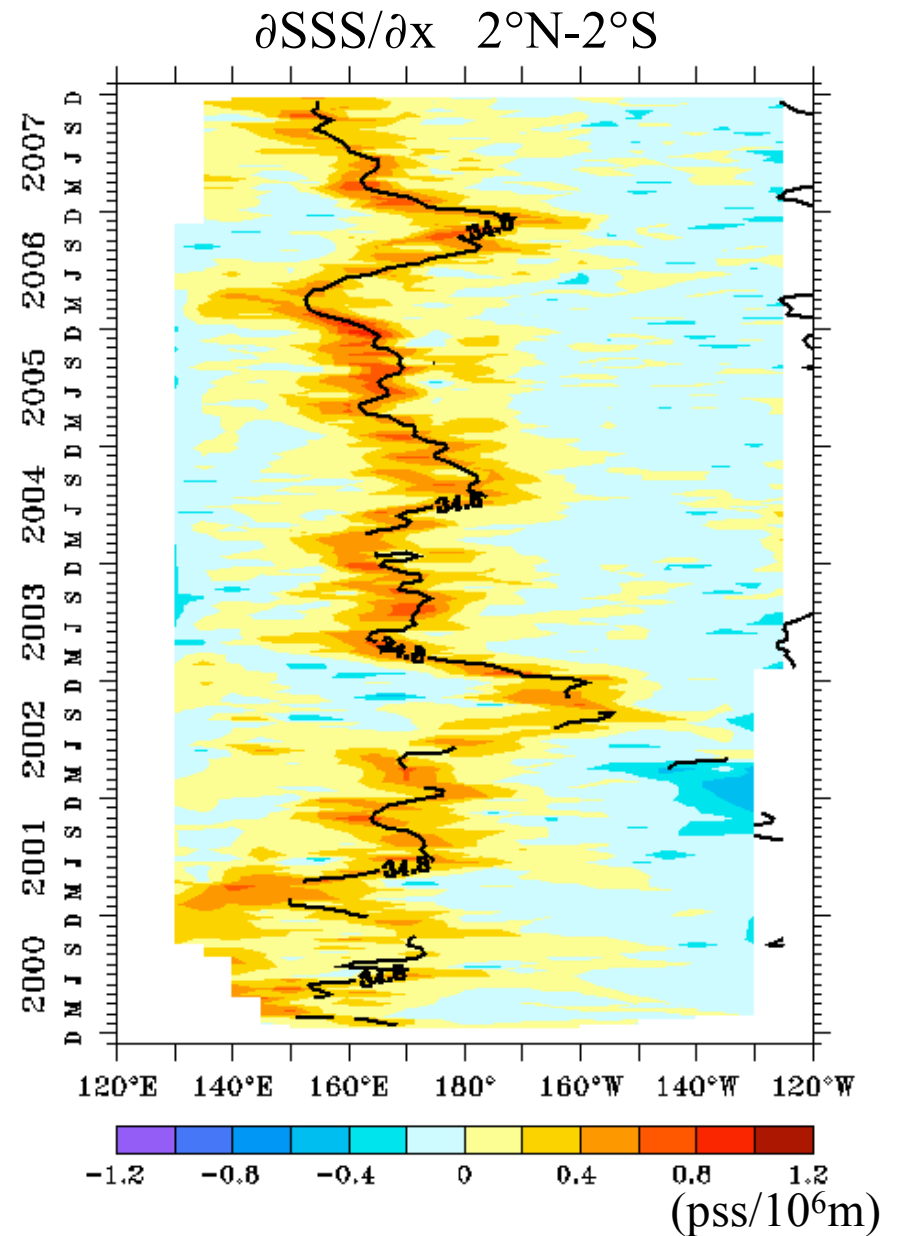
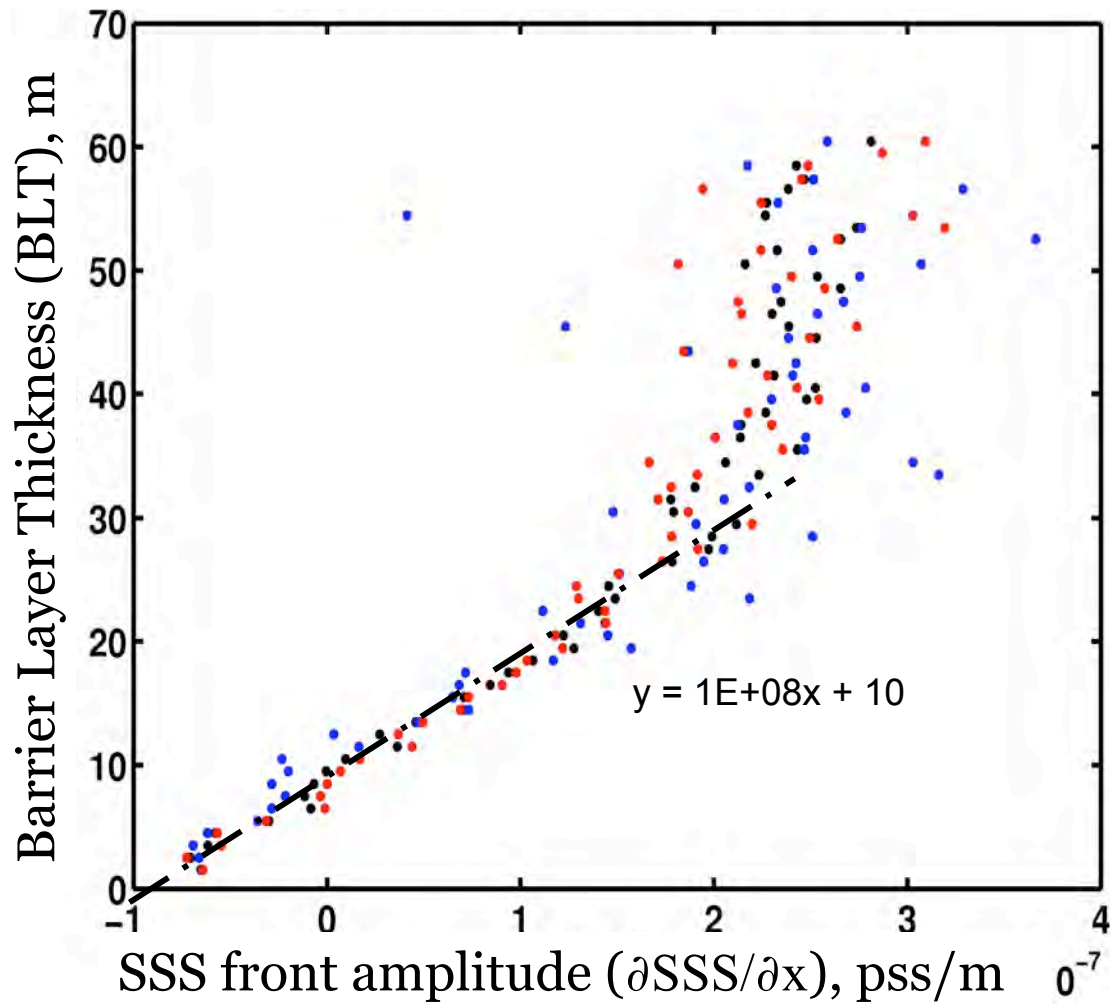
### 3.2. Subsurface thermohaline structure: barrier layer

- Quasi permanent BL
- West of the front

Barrier layer thickness 2°S-2°N



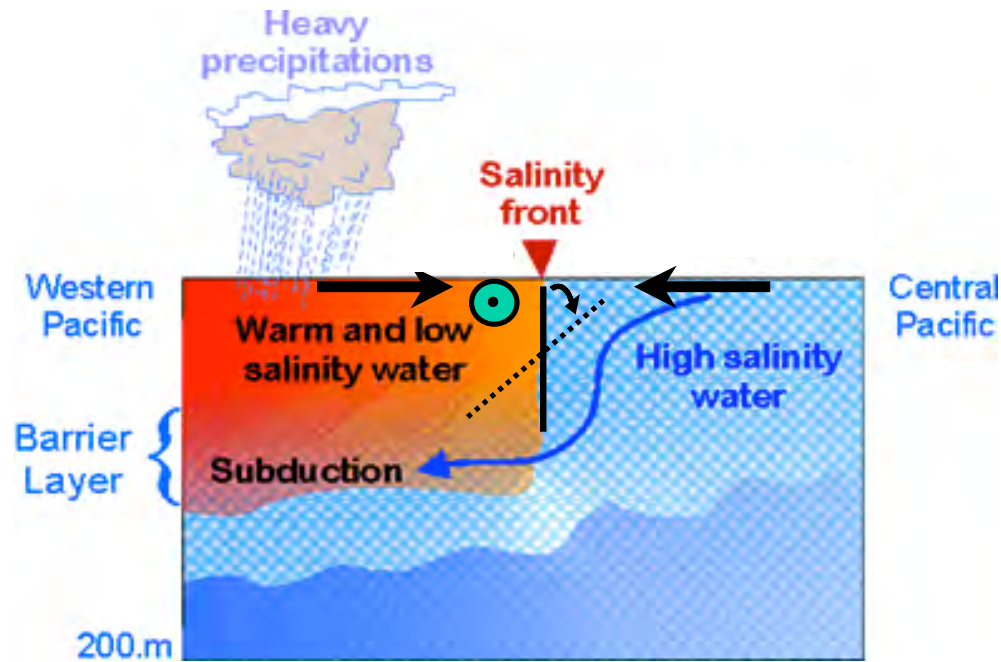
### 3. Thermohaline structure: SSS front and barrier layer





## 4. Possible mechanisms for Barrier layer formation

### 0. Numerous possible mechanisms



Subduction

*Lukas and Lindstrom 1991*

Tilting/shearing

*Cronin and McPhaden, 2002*

Advection

*Cronin and McPhaden, 2002*

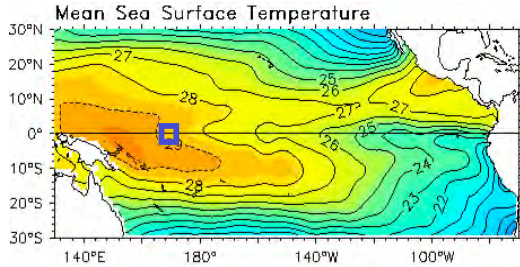
Precipitation

*Mignot et al, 2007*

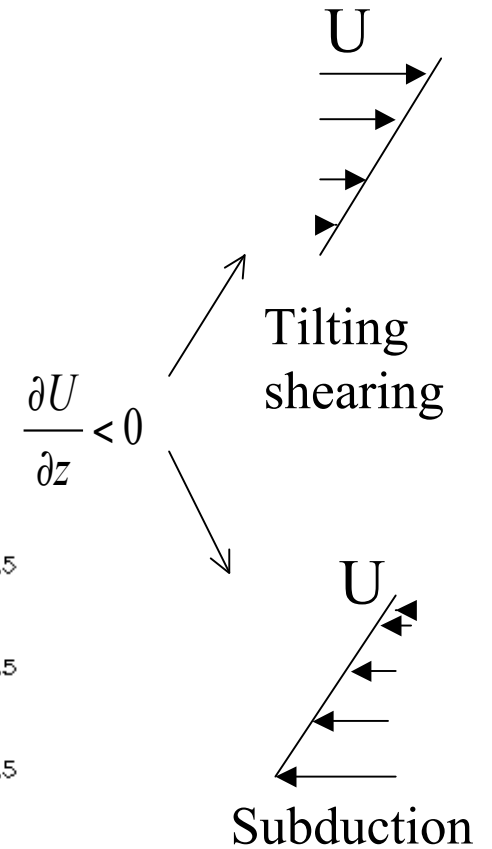
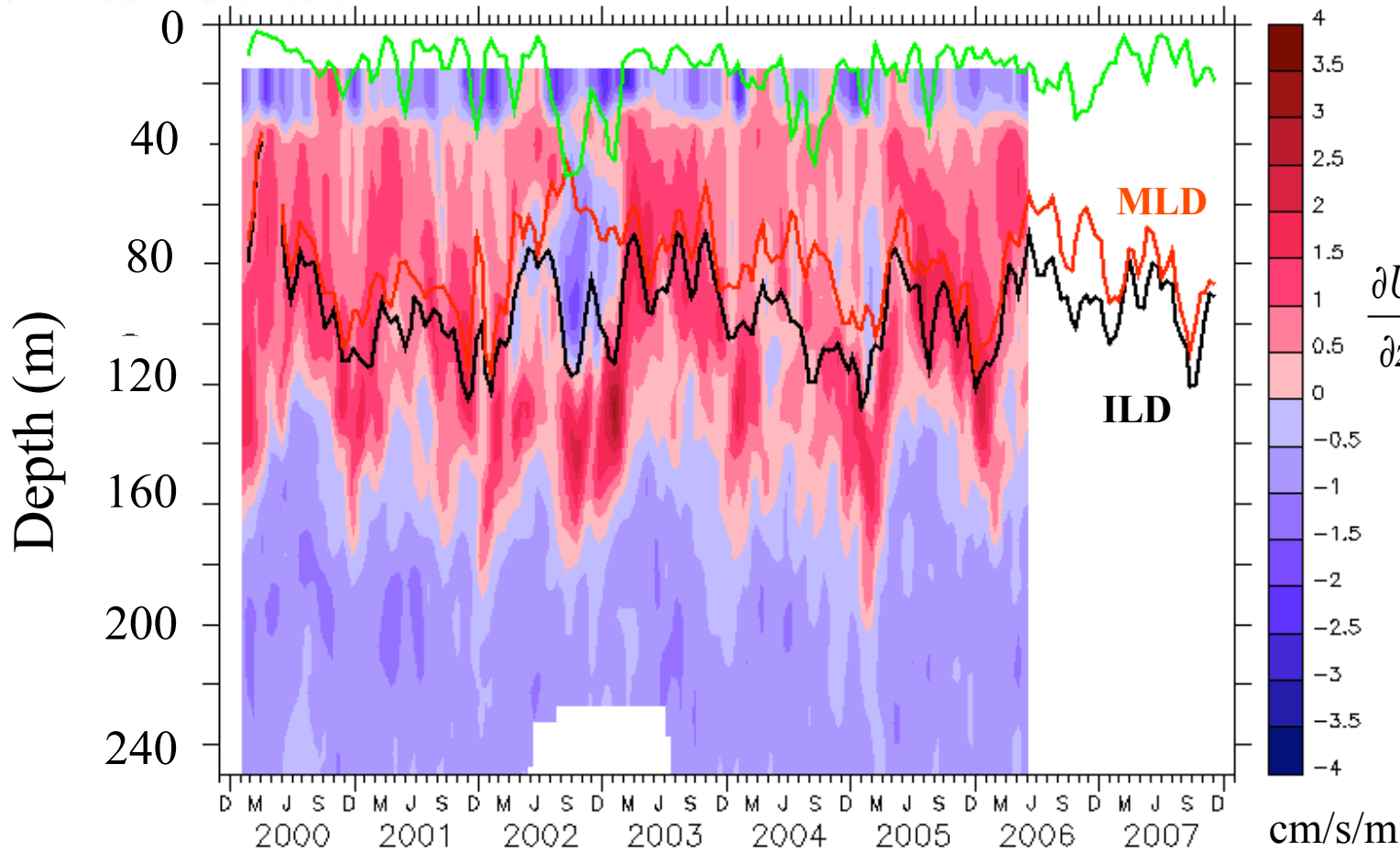
### 1. Local forcing

### 2. Remote forcing: equatorial Rossby waves

# 4.1. Local subsurface forcing : Subduction



Vertical gradient of zonal current ( $\partial U / \partial z$ ): TAO, 170°W-Eq

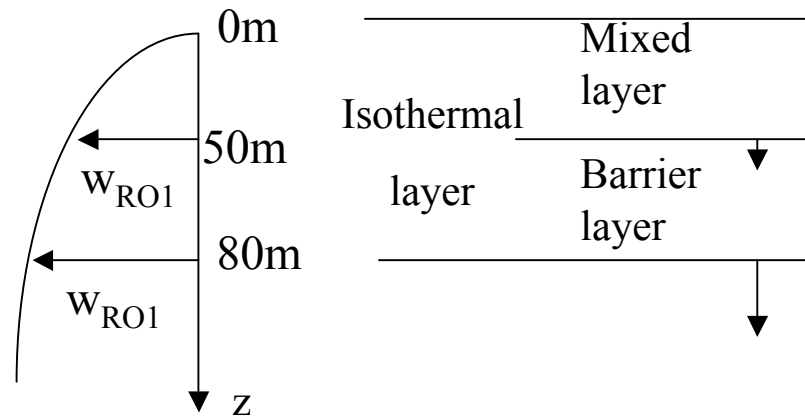
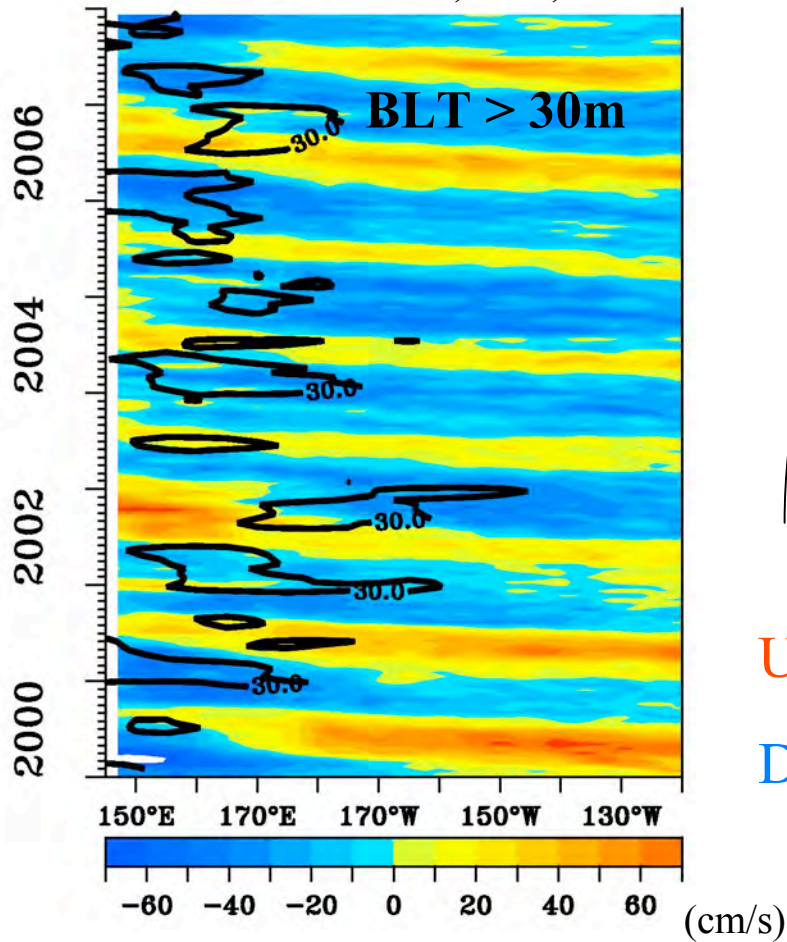


## 4.2. Remote forcing: equatorial Rossby waves

Ugeostrophic/Rosby1 2°N-2°S

*Bosc and Delcroix, JGR, 2008*

$$U_{RO1} < 0 \Rightarrow \text{Udownwelling} \Rightarrow w < 0$$



Upwelling Rossby wave

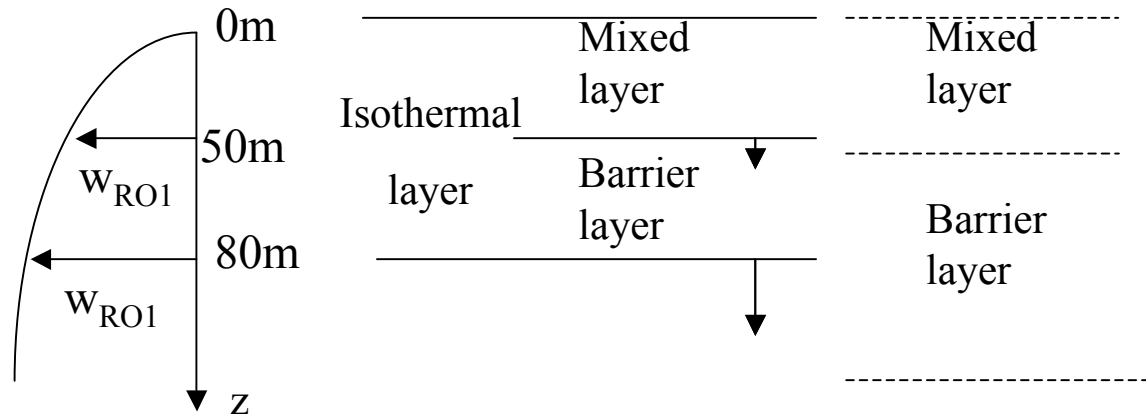
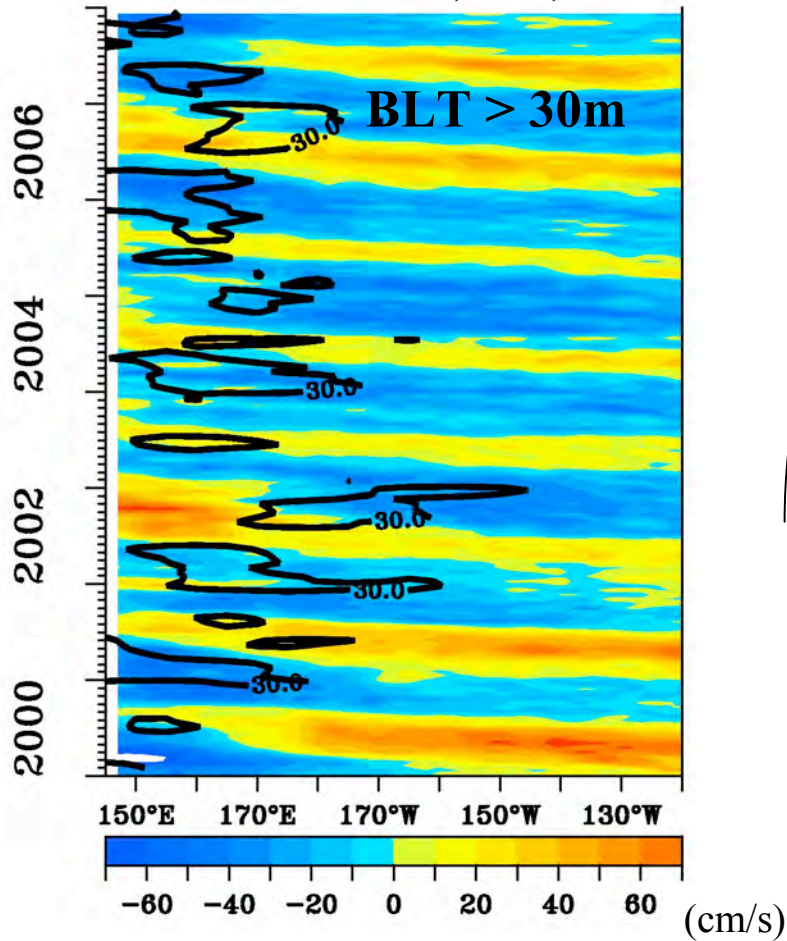
Downwelling Rossby wave

## 4.2. Remote forcing: equatorial Rossby waves

Ugeostrophic/Rossby1 2°N-2°S

*Bosc and Delcroix, JGR, 2008*

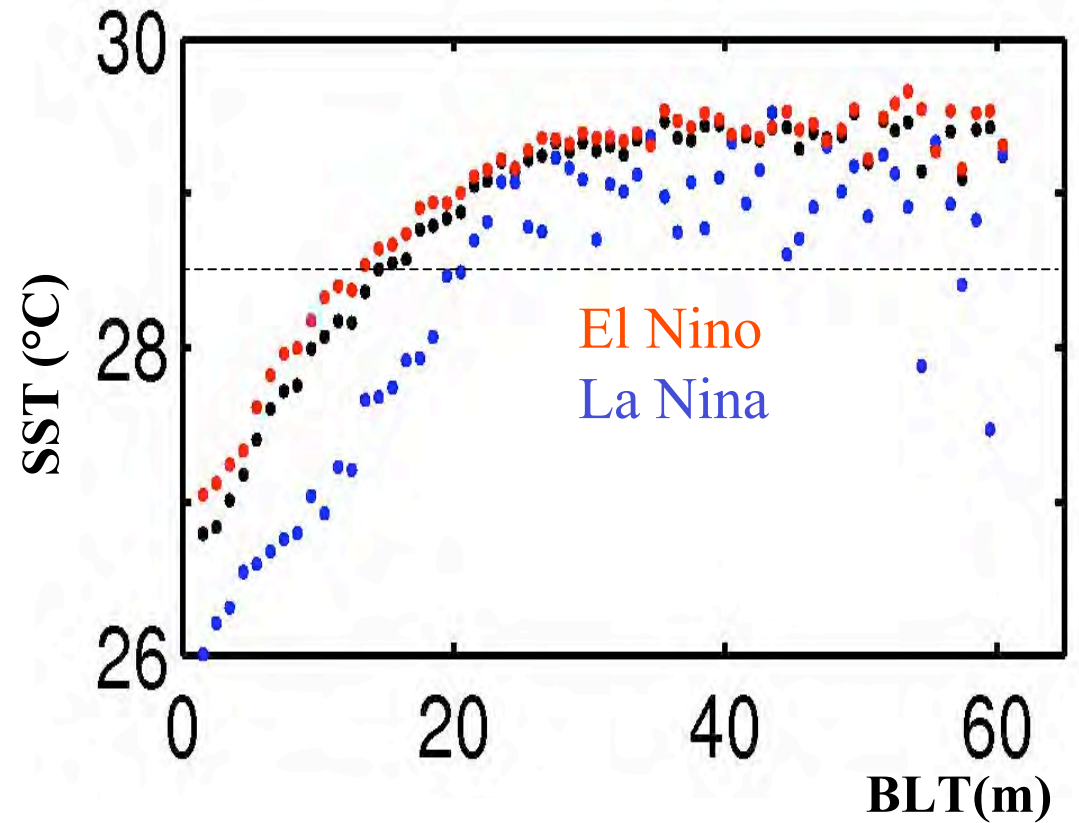
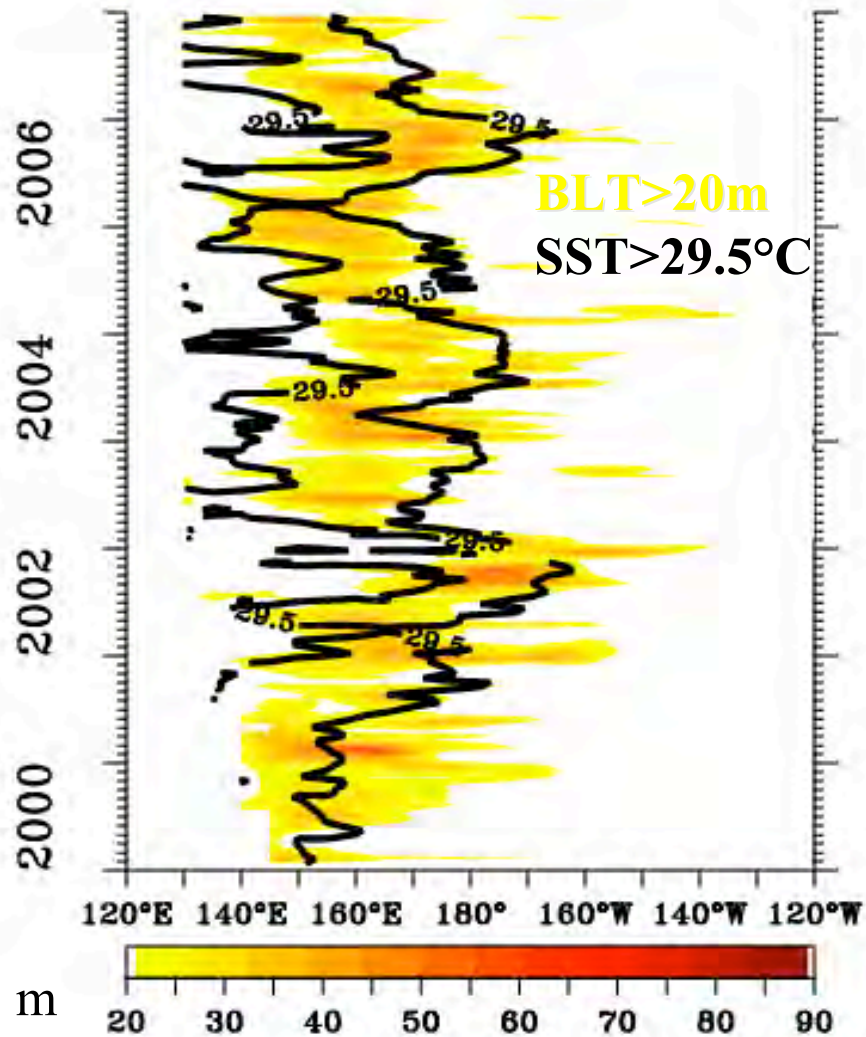
$$U_{RO1} < 0 \Rightarrow \text{Udownwelling} \Rightarrow w < 0$$



Vertical Stretching

## 5. Barrier layer and very warm SST (« hot spots »)

Barrier layer thickness 2N-2S



## **- Summary -**

- **Study of the thermohaline structure of the equatorial western Pacific warm pool thanks to Argo floats (2000-2007)**
  
- **Thermohaline structures of the warm pool:**
  - **surface: SSS front (34.8), eastern edge of the warm pool**
  - **subsurface : quasi permanent barrier layer (>20 m) west of the front**
  - **strongly related, moves zonally in phase with SOI**
  
- **Possible mechanisms for BL formation:**
  - **Local forcing: tilting, subduction**
  - **Stretching by equatorial Rossby waves**
  
- **Very warm SST in the warm pool are associated with Barrier layer**







## 2.2. Validation and quality control ARGO

Different tests for values within 0 - 200m depth: 391 752 data, 12031 profile

➤ file contents (T=S column)

n\_profils\_colmanq= 196: T=S ou bien iparam=1 ou 2 ( svt il manq S dc ca décalle T=Tadjuste)

nlonbad= 0 : lon=0 on la récupère en interpolant

ndatebad= 0 : t=0, on récupère en interpolant

n\_data\_zbad= 6 :  $0 < z < 2200\text{m}$

n\_databad =1304 : T,S>90

➤ T and S range within climatic limits (min, max and vertical gradients)

➤  $0 < z < 700$ :  $5 < T < 35$   $33 < S < 37$   $20 < \rho < 28$

➤  $Z > 700\text{m}$ :  $0 < T < 7$   $20 < S < 35$   $20 < \rho < 28$

➤  $dT/dz < 0.7$  sauf pour thermocline  $14 < T < 27$

Sur 200m:75:  
c'est 1 profil ou  
y a que le  
delayed mode  
donc on lit S  
puis T : pb de  
lecture cf slide2

➤ Stability of the water column :  $d\rho/dz > -0.7$ : 0

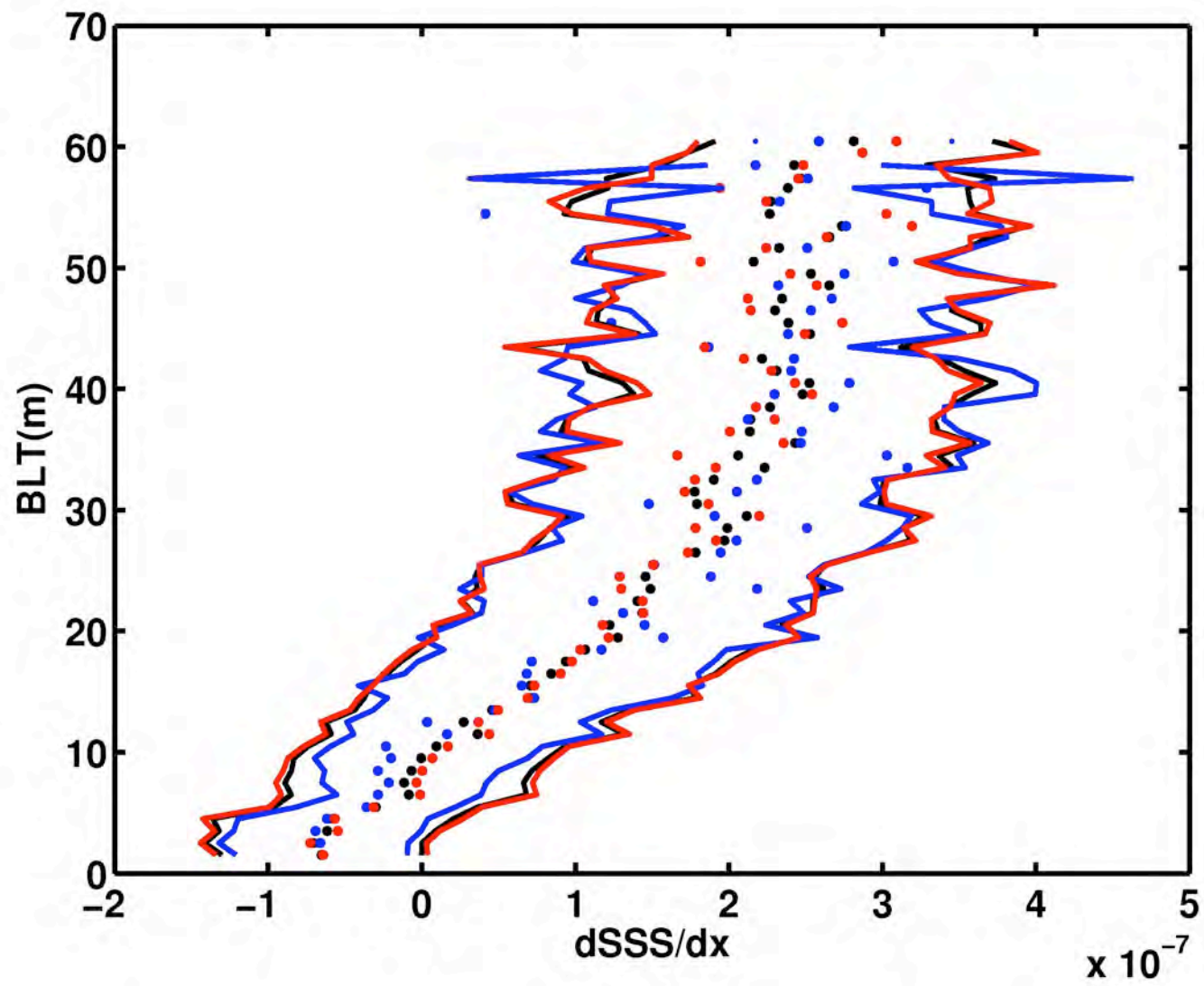
➤ Profiles with 25m data gap within 0-200m depth are not considered: 64

➤ Profile with no data within 0-15m are not considered: SST=T(15m), SSS=S(15m): 264

Sortie: 11 555 profiles (96%), 384479 data (98% )

- **Fichier avec inversion colonnes T et S car y a que le DM (data 35)= pb de lecture**
- \*FI31200497078 CO\_5900645\_20080211\_170104 XXXX UNKNOWN
- 18/12/2004 30/12/2007 PACIFIC OCEAN
- 31 US DOC NOAA ERL PMEL SEATTLE
- UNKNOWN Project=
- Regional Archiving= FI Availability=P
- Data Type=H13 n= 106 QC=Y
- COMMENT
- WMO PLATFORM CODE : 5900645
- PLATFORM NAME : APEX Profiling Float
- \*FI312004970780009 Data Type=H13
- \*DATE=18122004 TIME=1540 LAT=N03 58.98 LON=E179 36.96 DEPTH= QC=1119
- \*NB PARAMETERS=03 RECORD LINES=00072
- \*PRES SEA PRESSURE sea surface=0 (decibar=10000 pascals) def.=-999.9
- \*PSAL PSAL\_ADJUSTED (psu) def.=99.999
- \*TEMP TEMP\_ADJUSTED (degree\_Celsius) def.=99.999
- \*GLOBAL PROFILE QUALITY FLAG=1 GLOBAL PARAMETERS QC FLAGS=100
- \*DC HISTORY=846 Profiling Float, APEX, SBE conductivity sensor
- \*
- \*DM HISTORY=Coriolis station id : 2068090
- \*Station number : 00009
- \*COMMENT
- \*
- \*SURFACE SAMPLES=
- \*
- \*PRES PSAL\_ADTEMP\_ADJUSTED
- 6.0 35.126 29.936 111

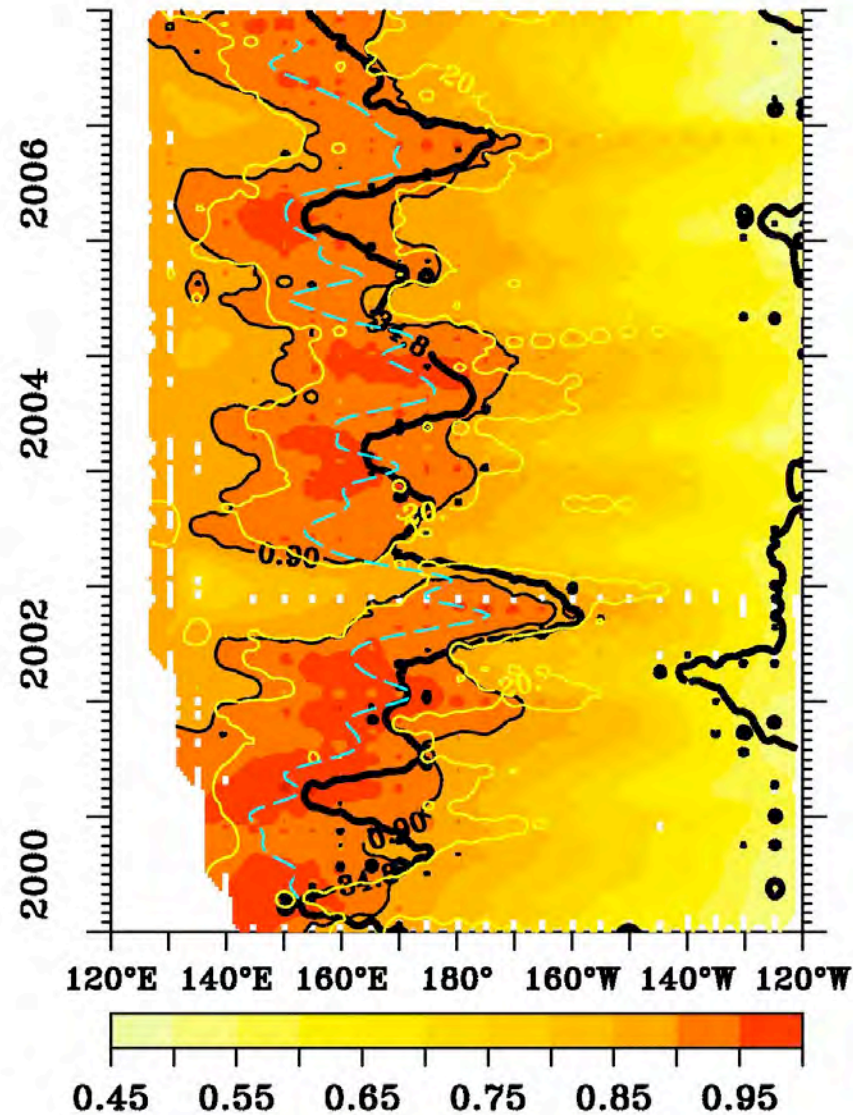
- Pour les CTD, bcp de données de salinités sont mauvaises 25, 50 ...



## 4.1. Local subsurface forcing : Subduction

Dynamic height relative to 200 dbar 2S-2N

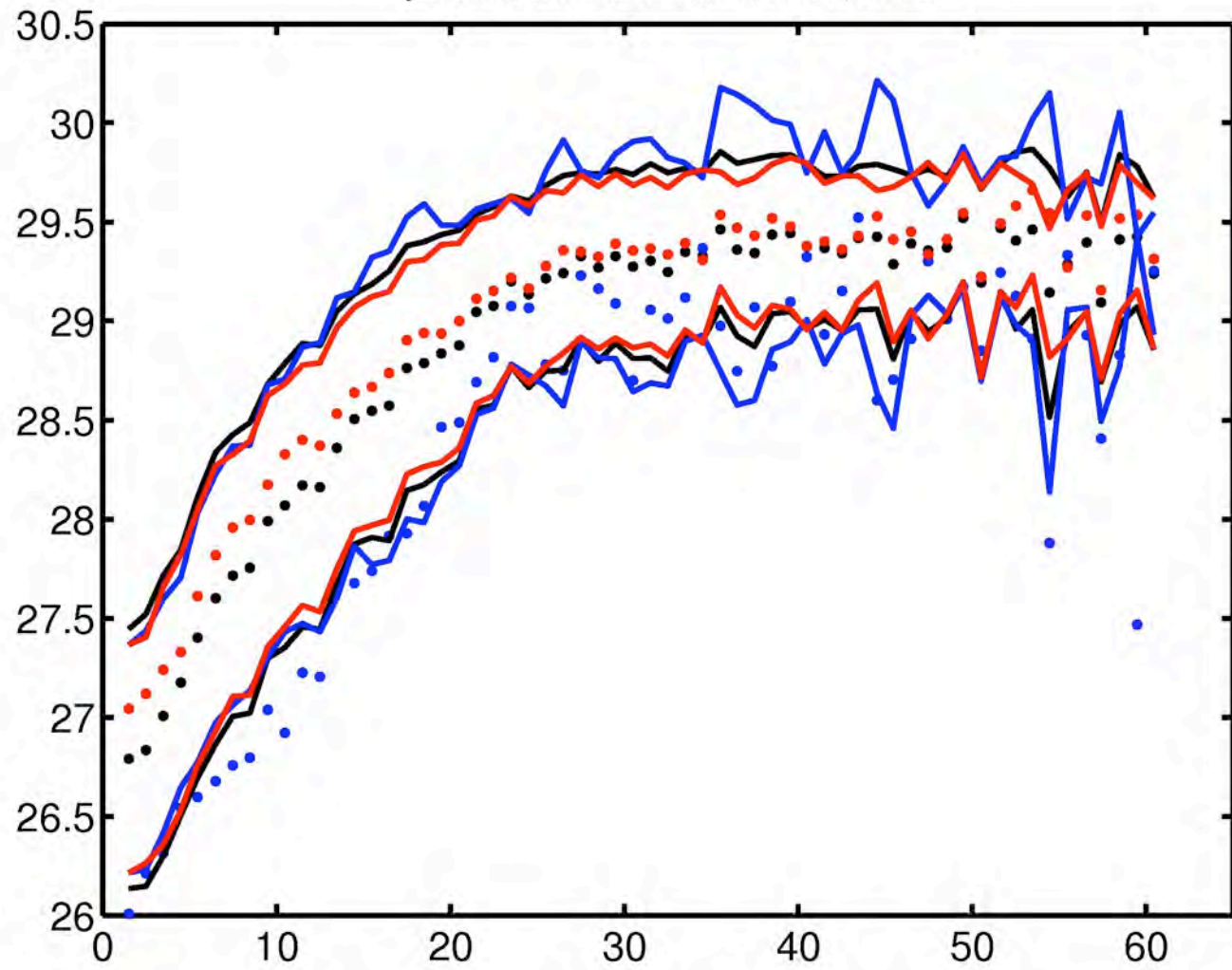
Convergence au front



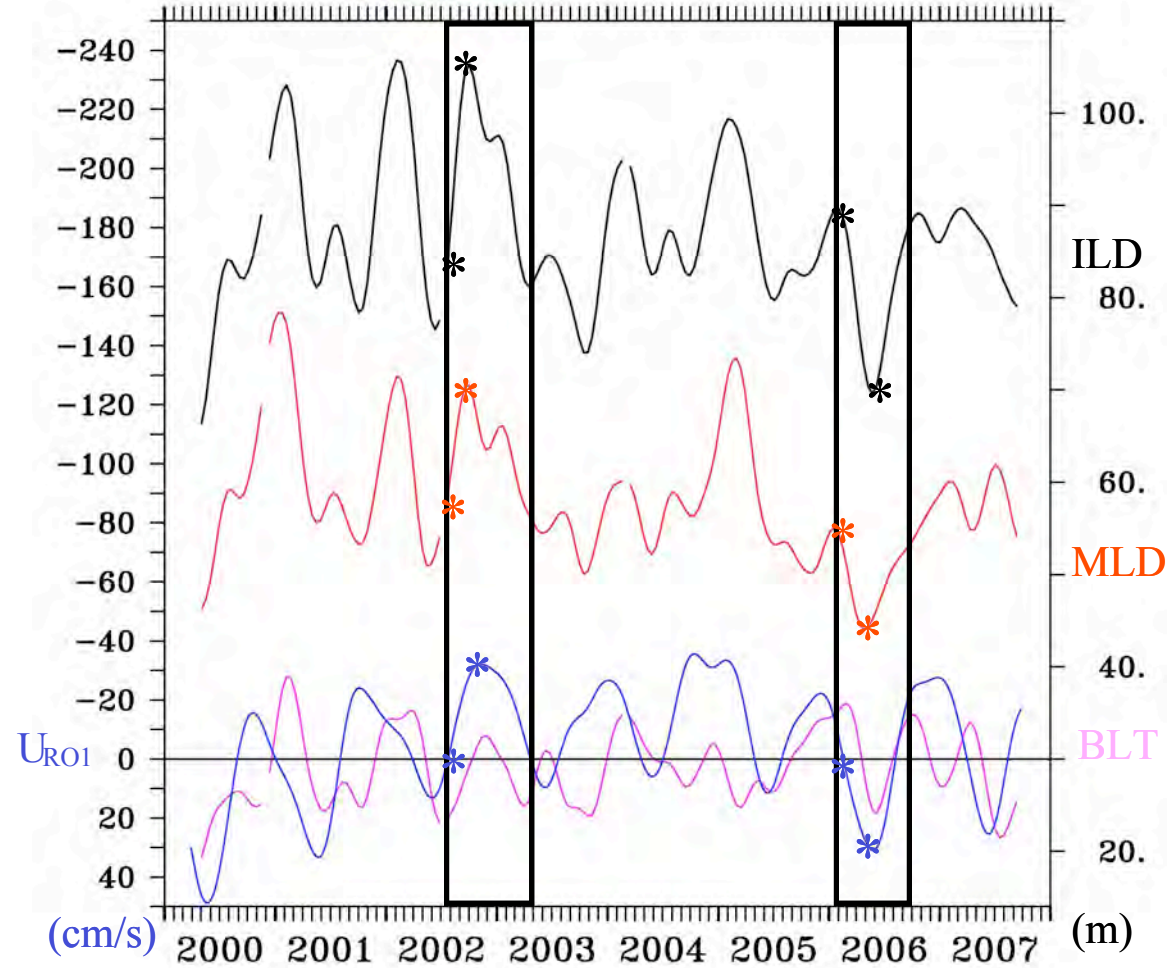
----- Maximum dynamic height

----- BLT >20m

y=2N-2S, SST11 en fonction de BLDDI, bin 1m



## 4.2. Remote forcing: equatorial Rossby waves



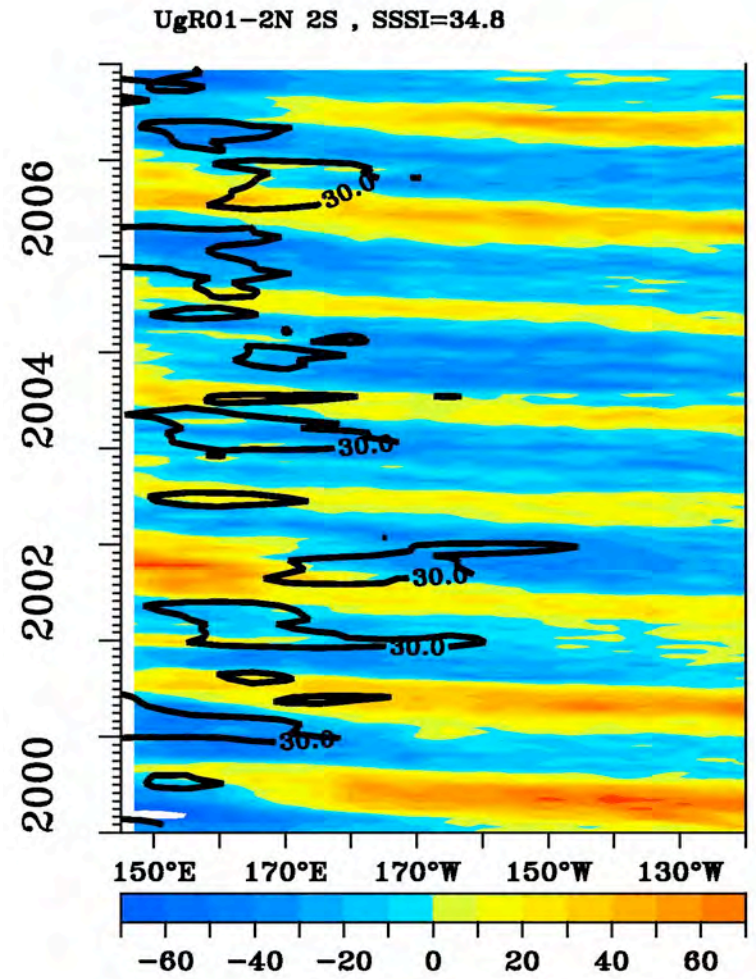
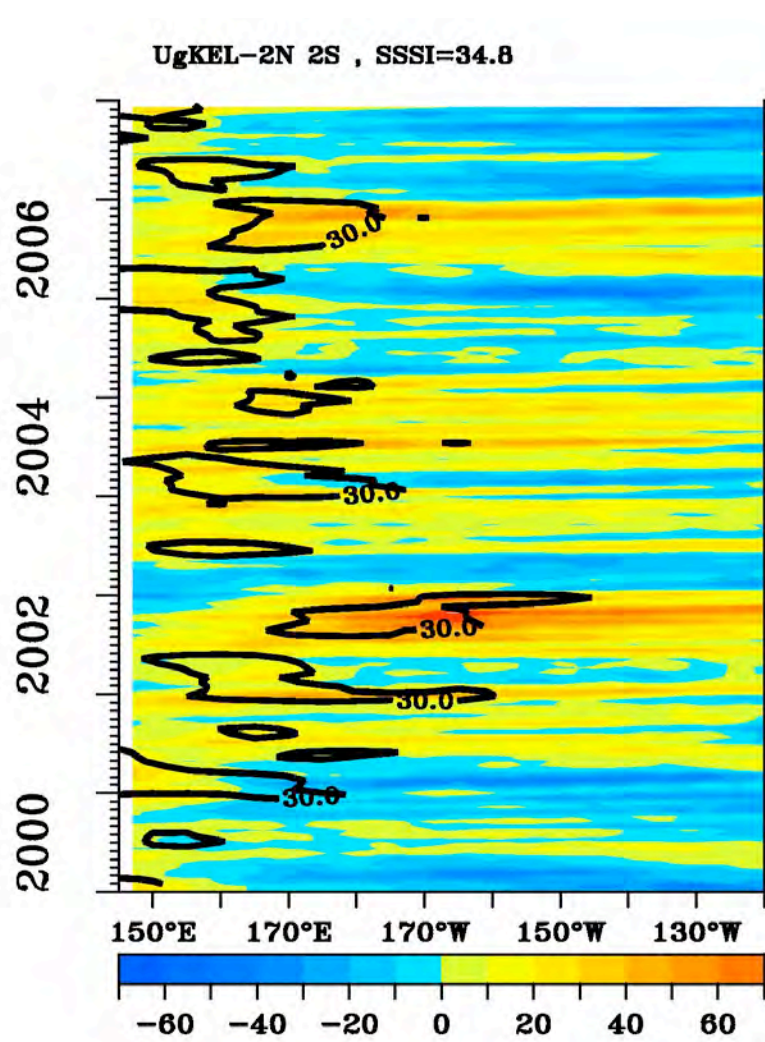
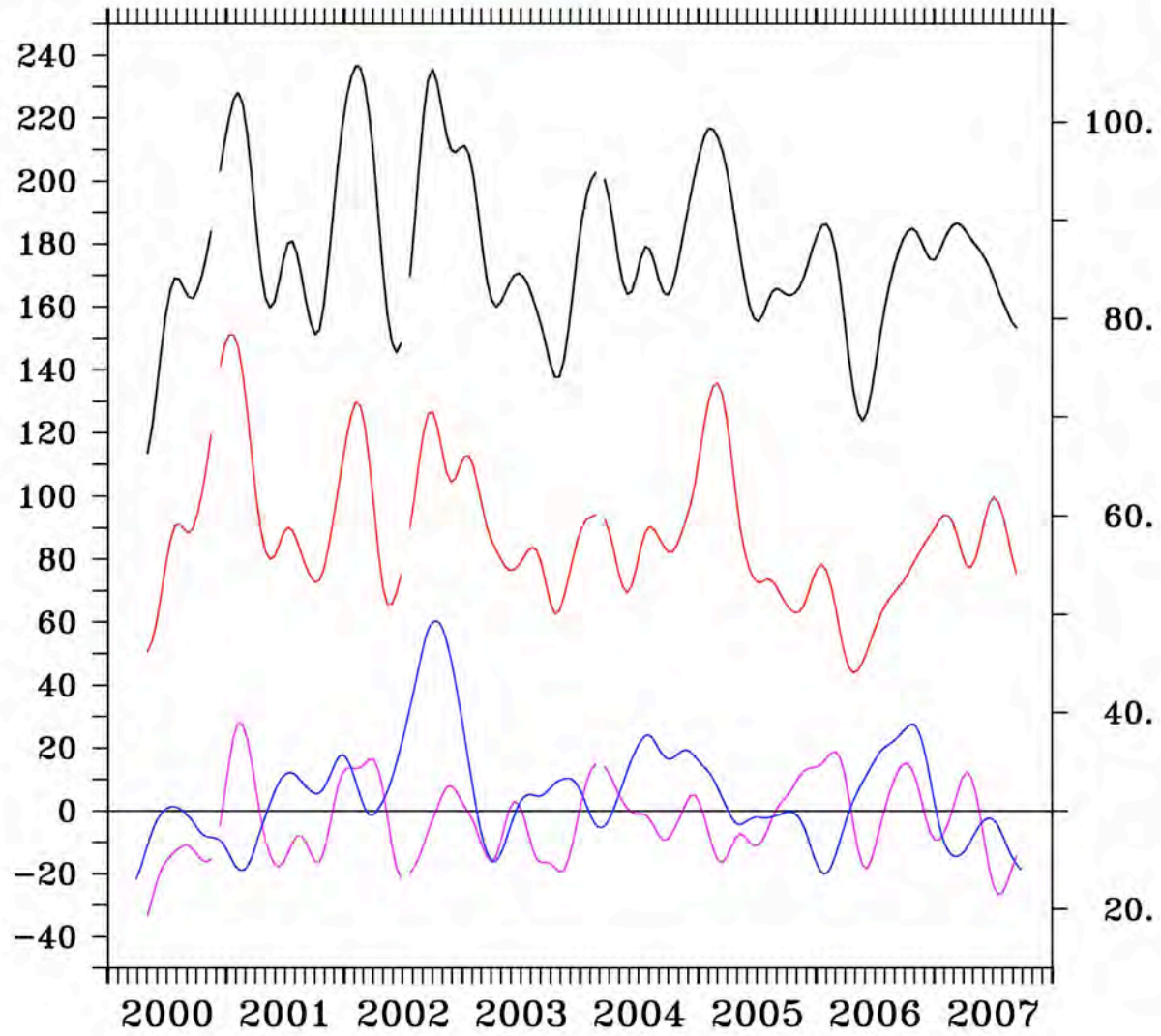


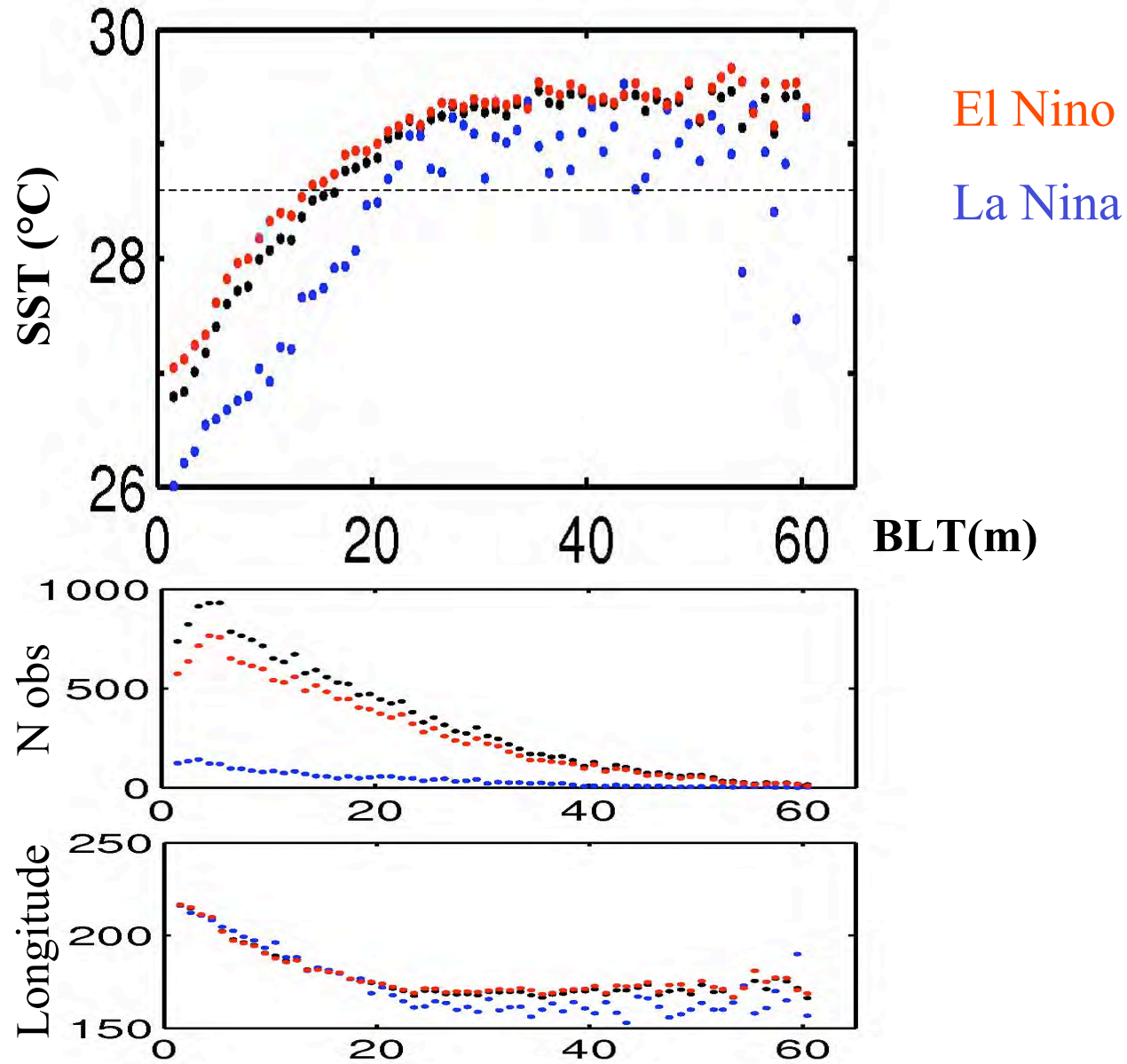
Figure 12.



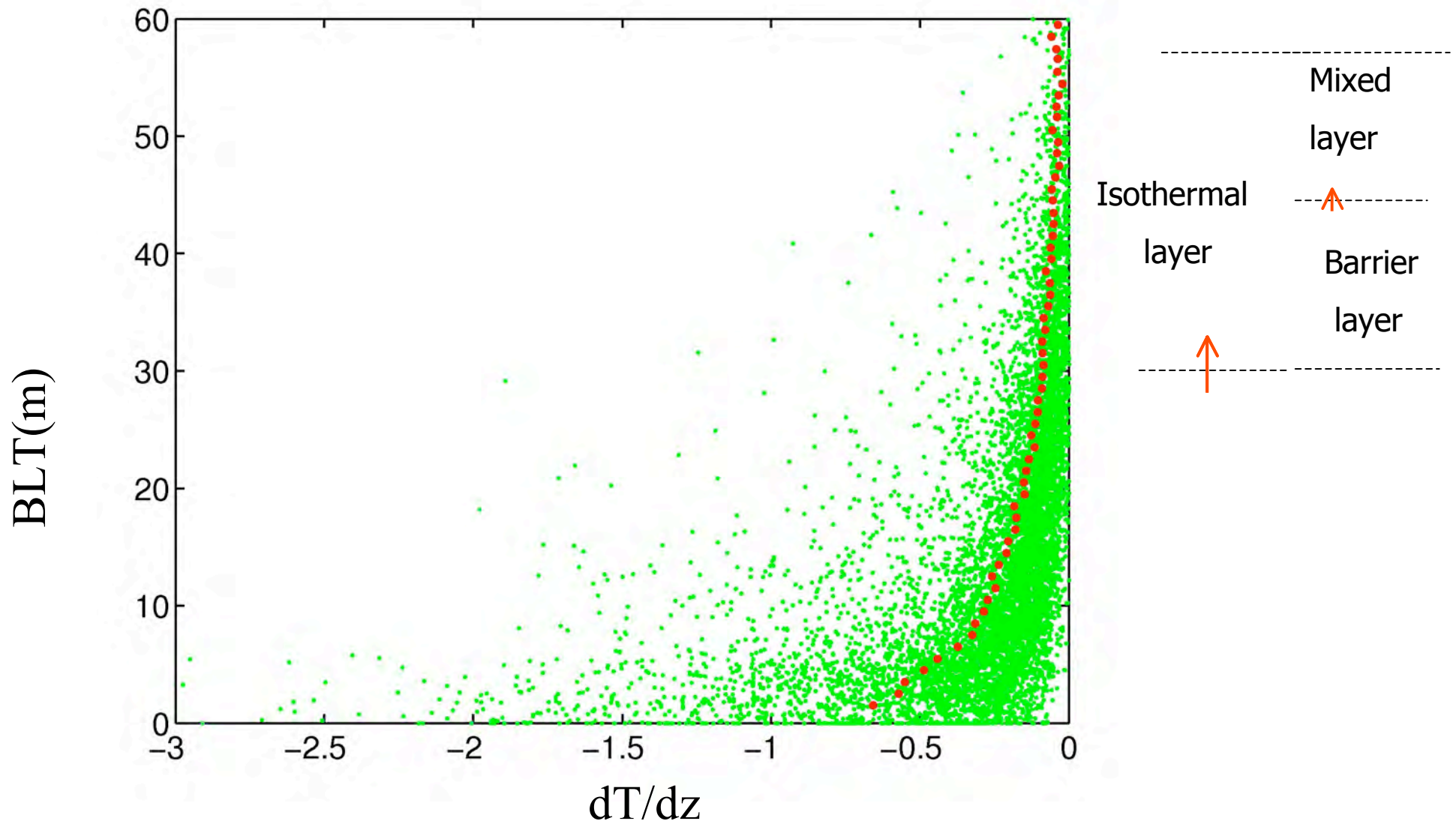
h6mois UgKEL,BLDD,MLDDI,ILDD 2N2S 10degouest



## 5. Barrier layer and associated surface warming

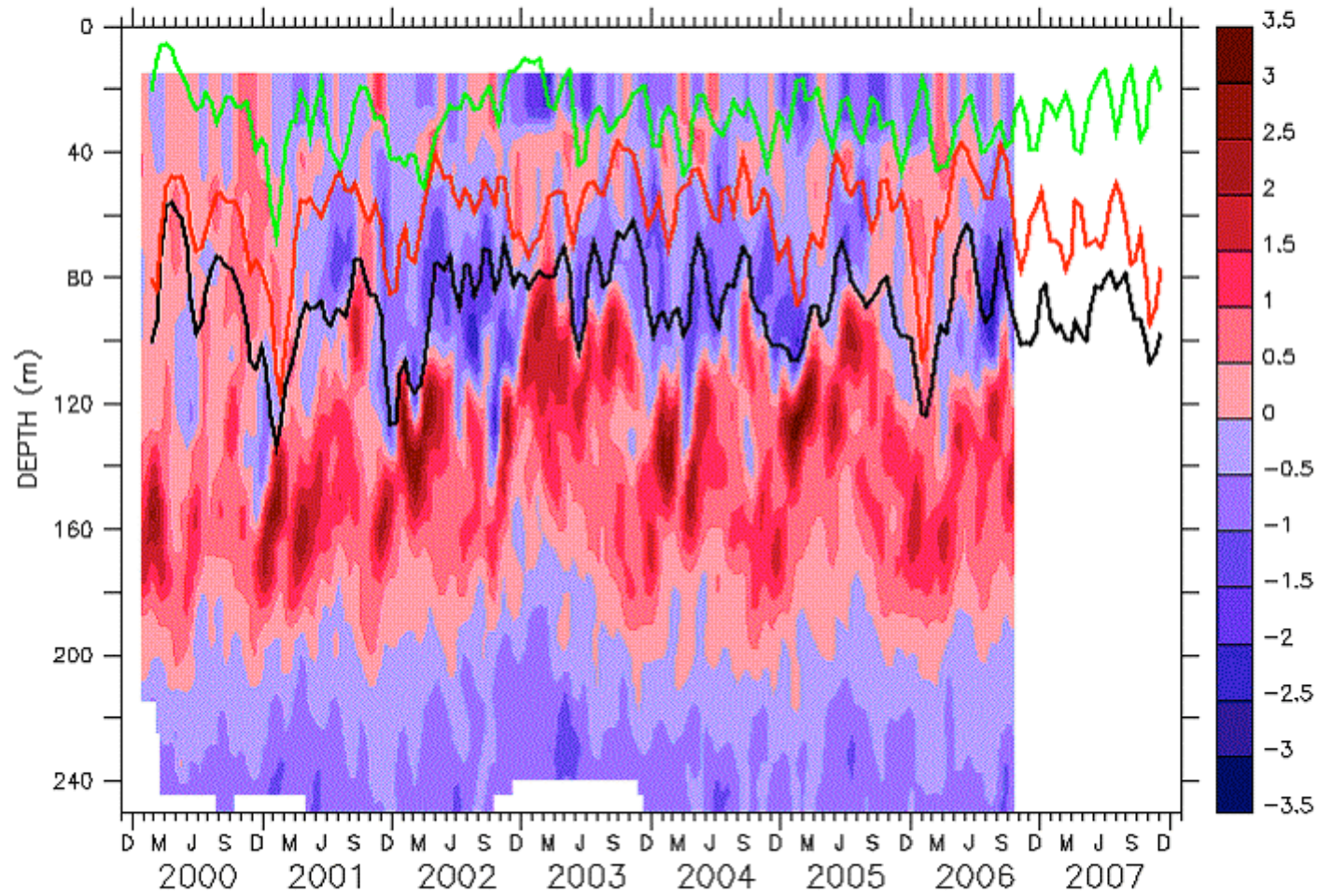


## 5. Barrier layer and associated surface warming

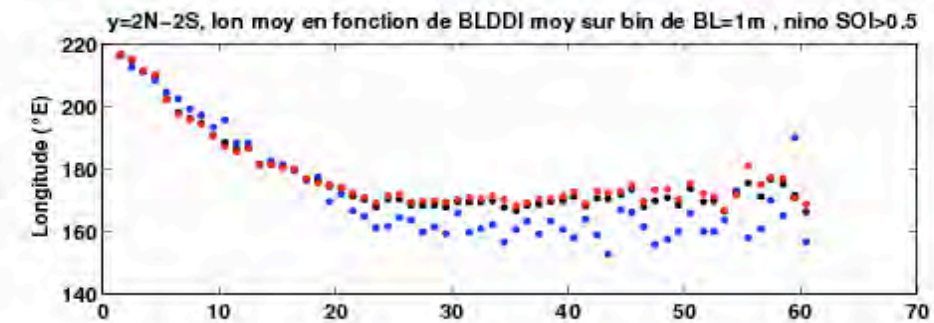
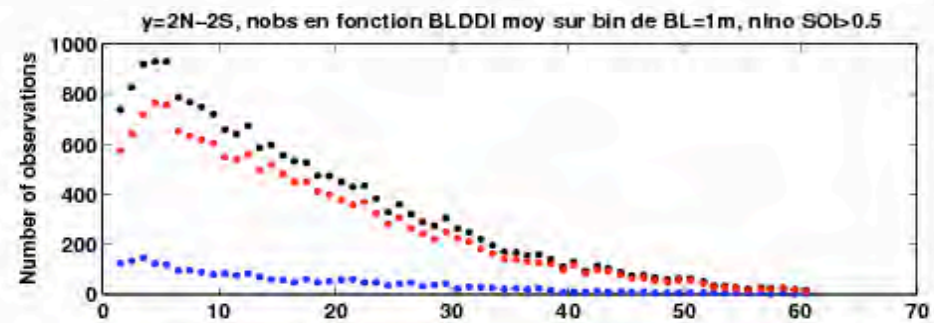
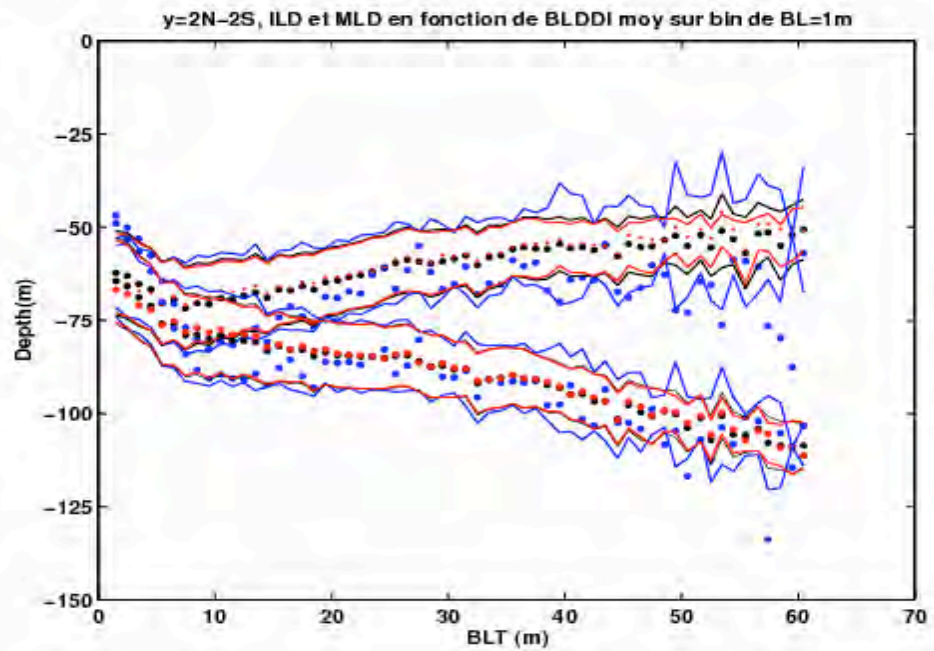


FERRET Ver 5.81  
NOAA/PMEL TMAP  
May 21 2008 17:57:01

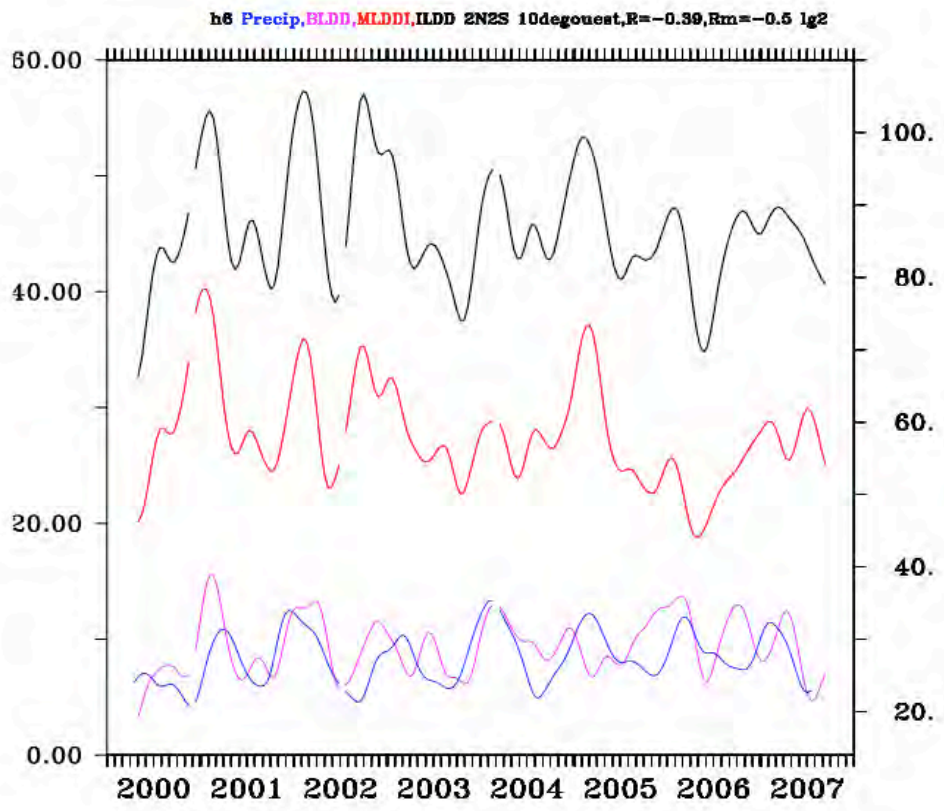
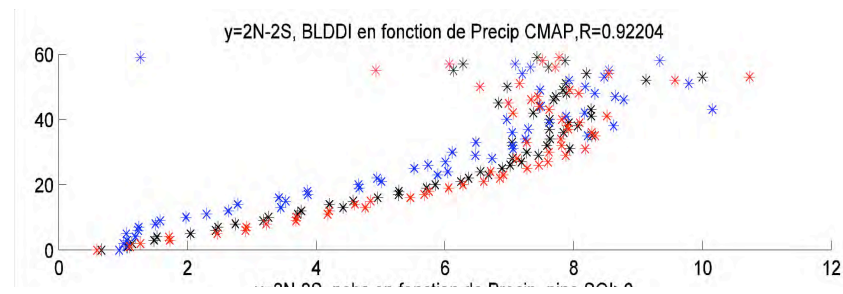
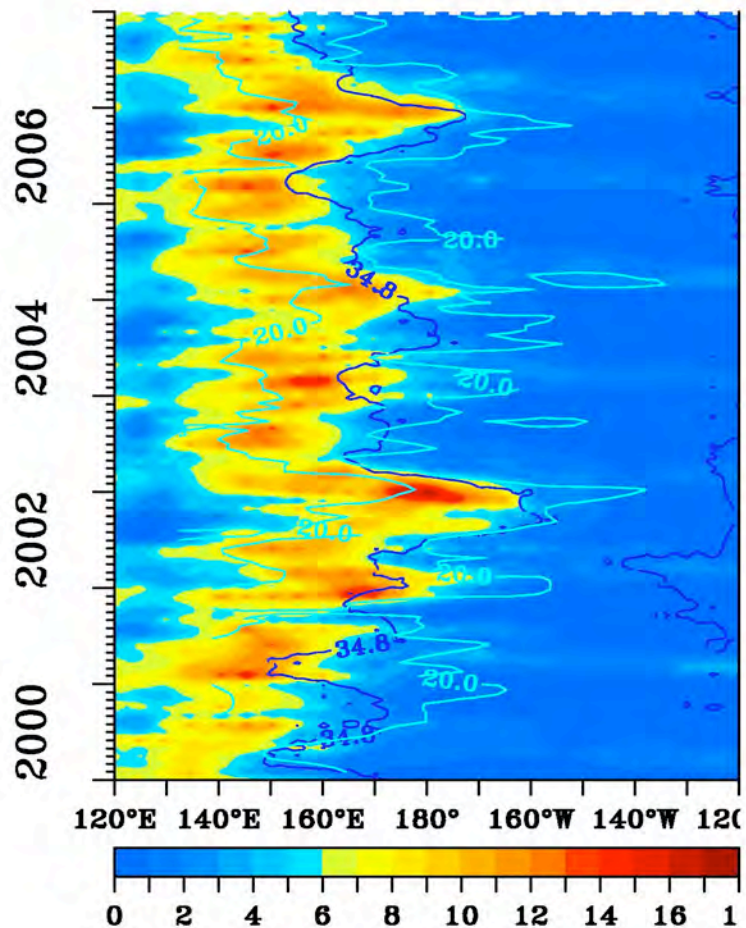
LONGITUDE : 165E  
LATITUDE : 0



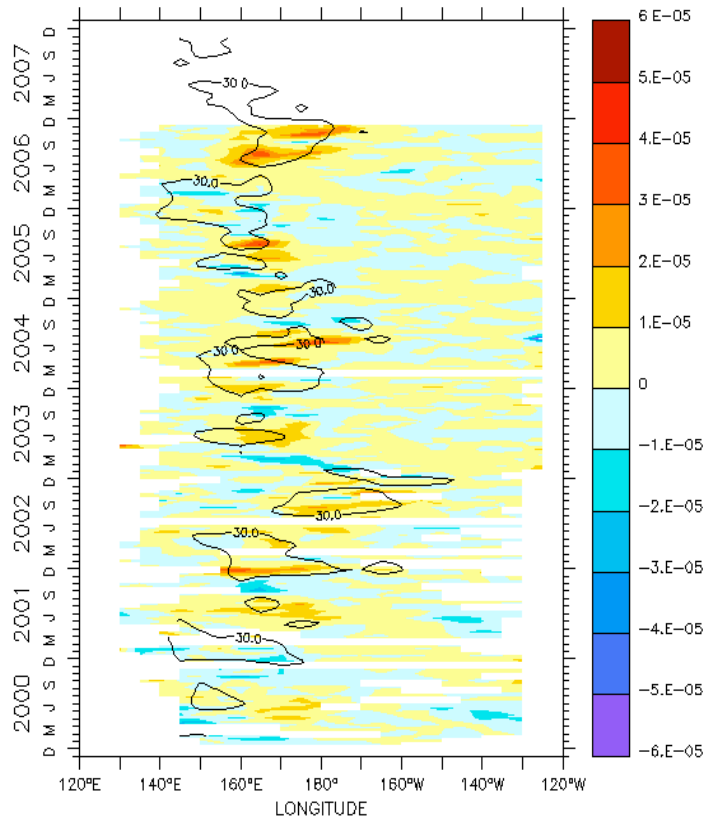
BREG[Z=@DDC] (Hanning smoothed by 3 pts on T)



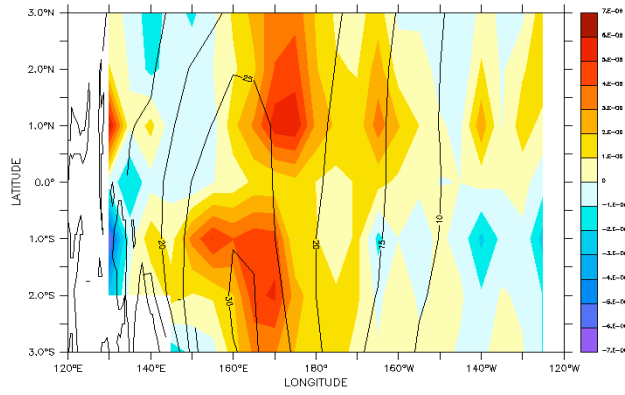
**PRECIP GPCP 2N 2S , SSSI=34.8**



LATITUDE : 2S to 2N (averaged) DATA SET: SBTSEV133

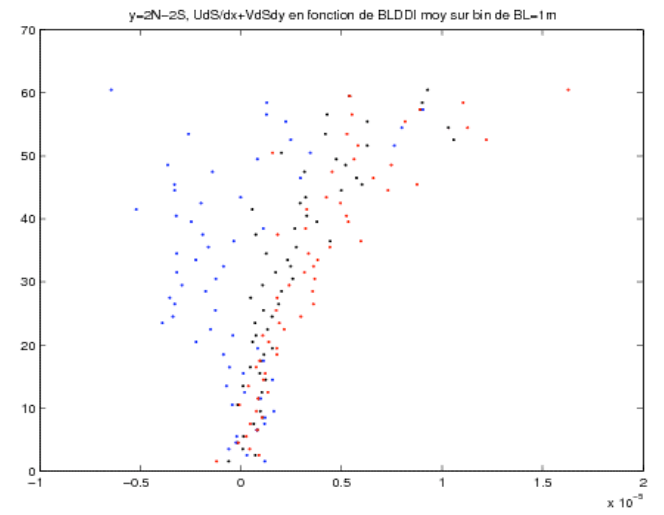


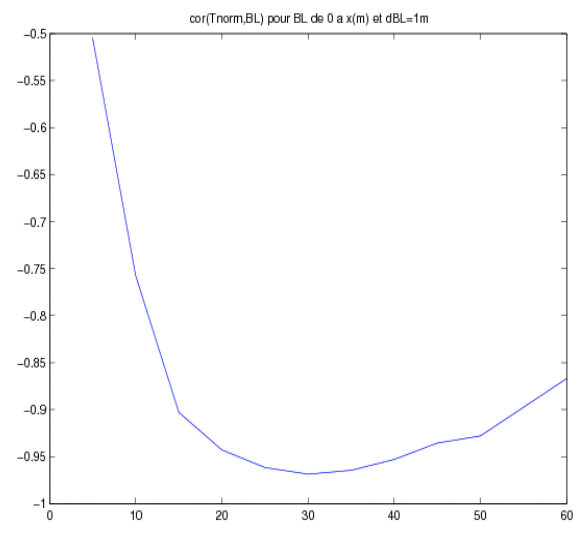
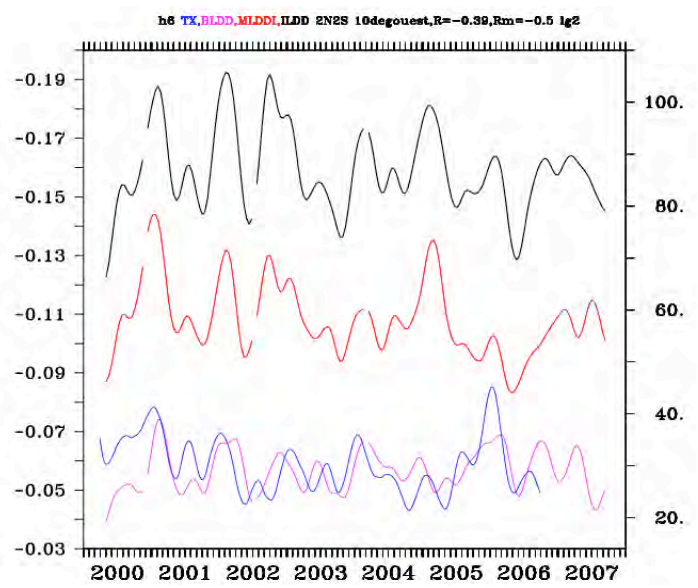
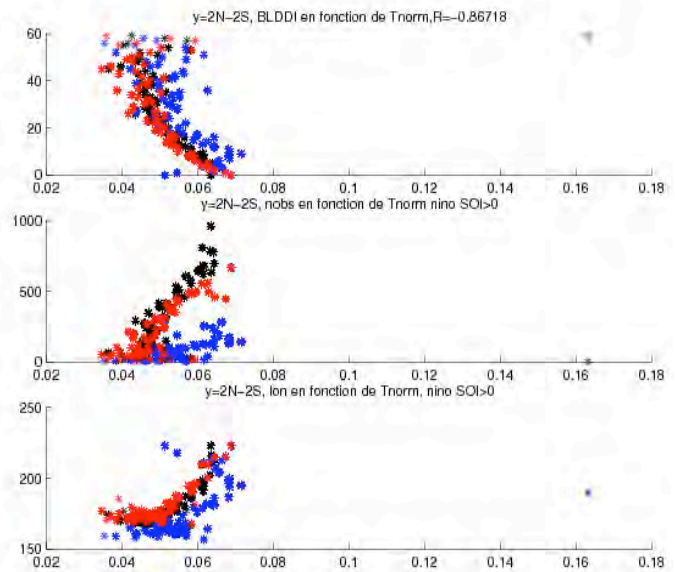
UDSDX+VDSY



UDSDX+VDSY

Contour BL







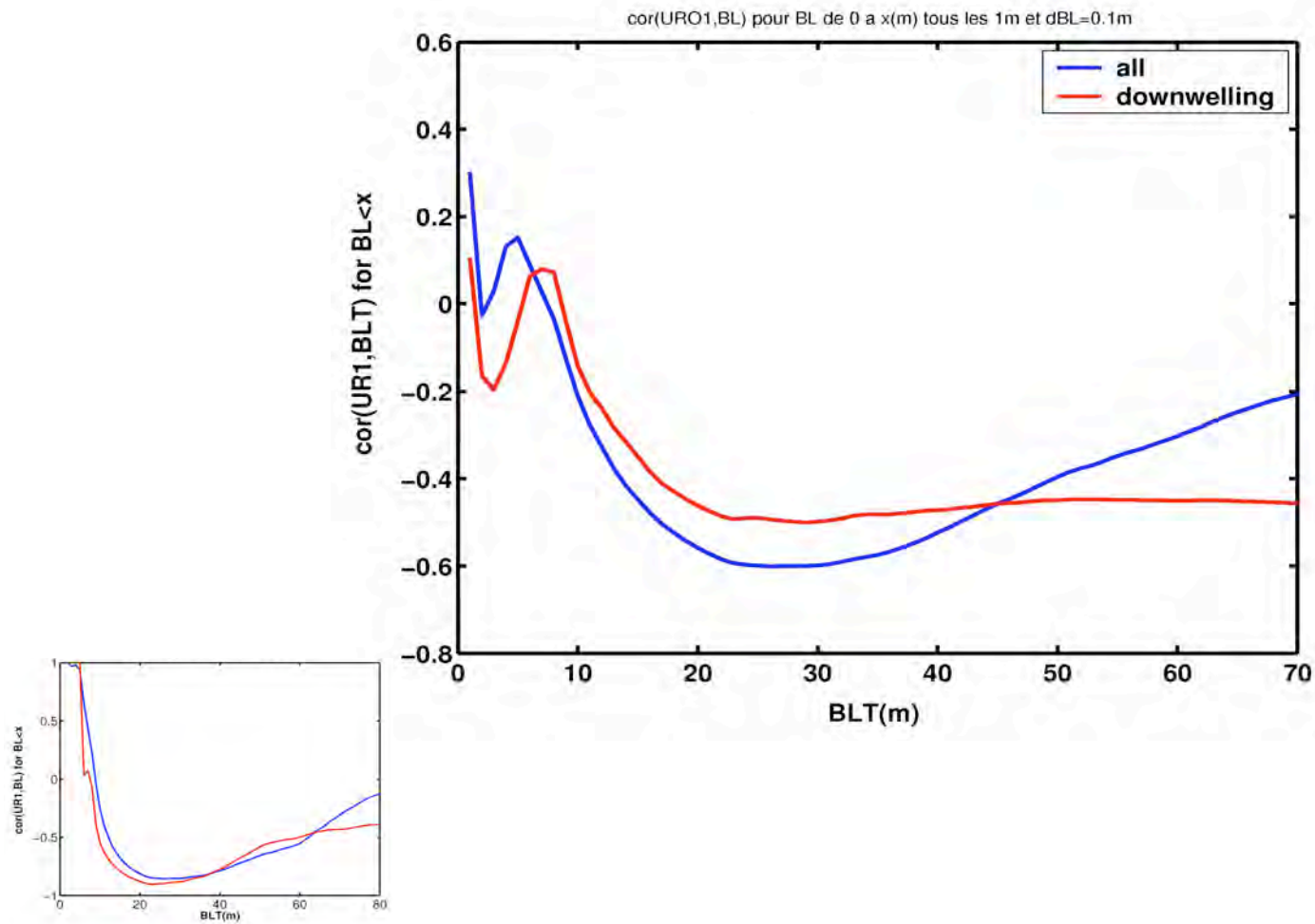
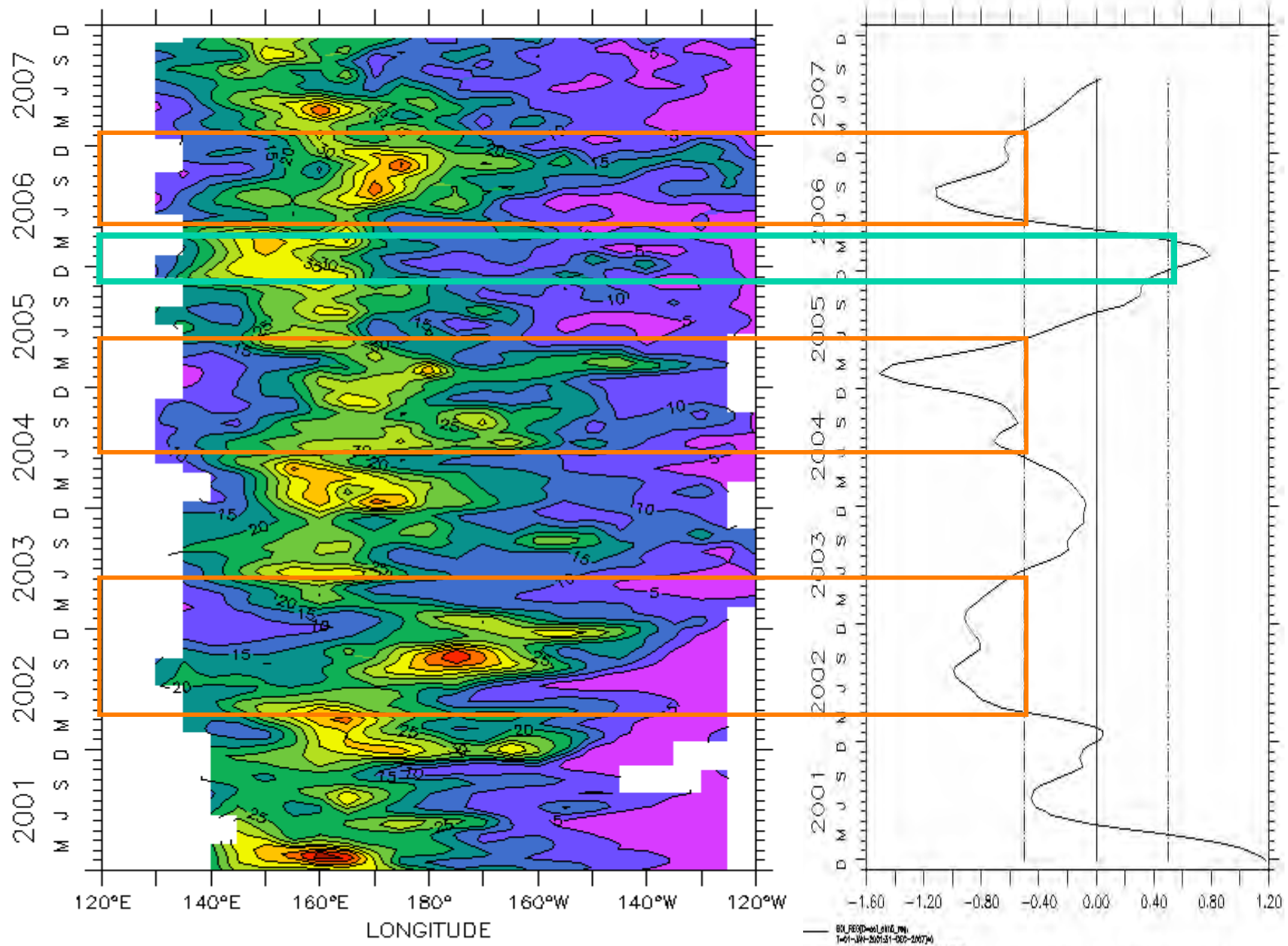


Figure 14.



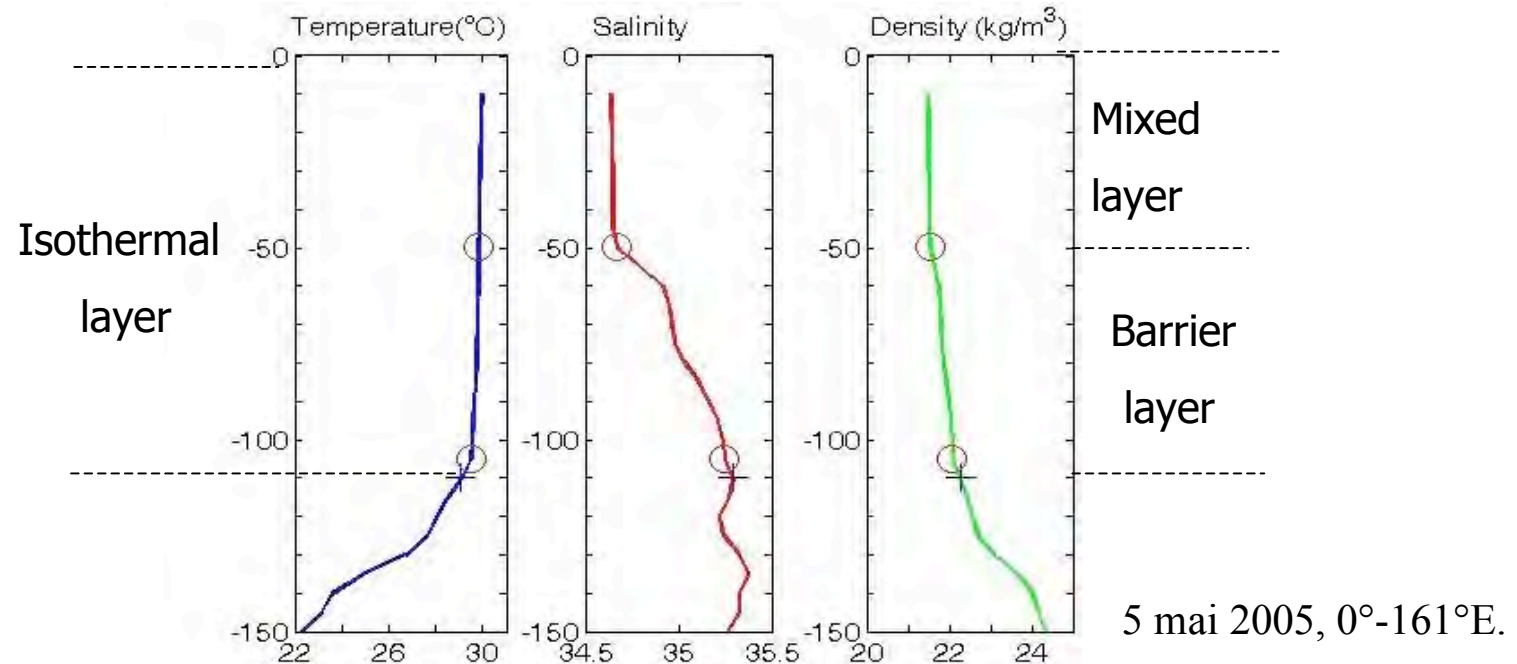
BLDDI (Hanning smoothed by 5 pts on T)

El Niño

La Niña

— BLDDI[GT=BLDDI[D=BLDDI]]  
 - - - - - BLDDI[GT=BLDDI[D=BLDDI]]  
 - - - - - BLDDI[GT=BLDDI[D=BLDDI]]

## 3.2. Subsurface thermohaline structure: barrier layer



Levitus, 1982

○○○○

Mixed layer

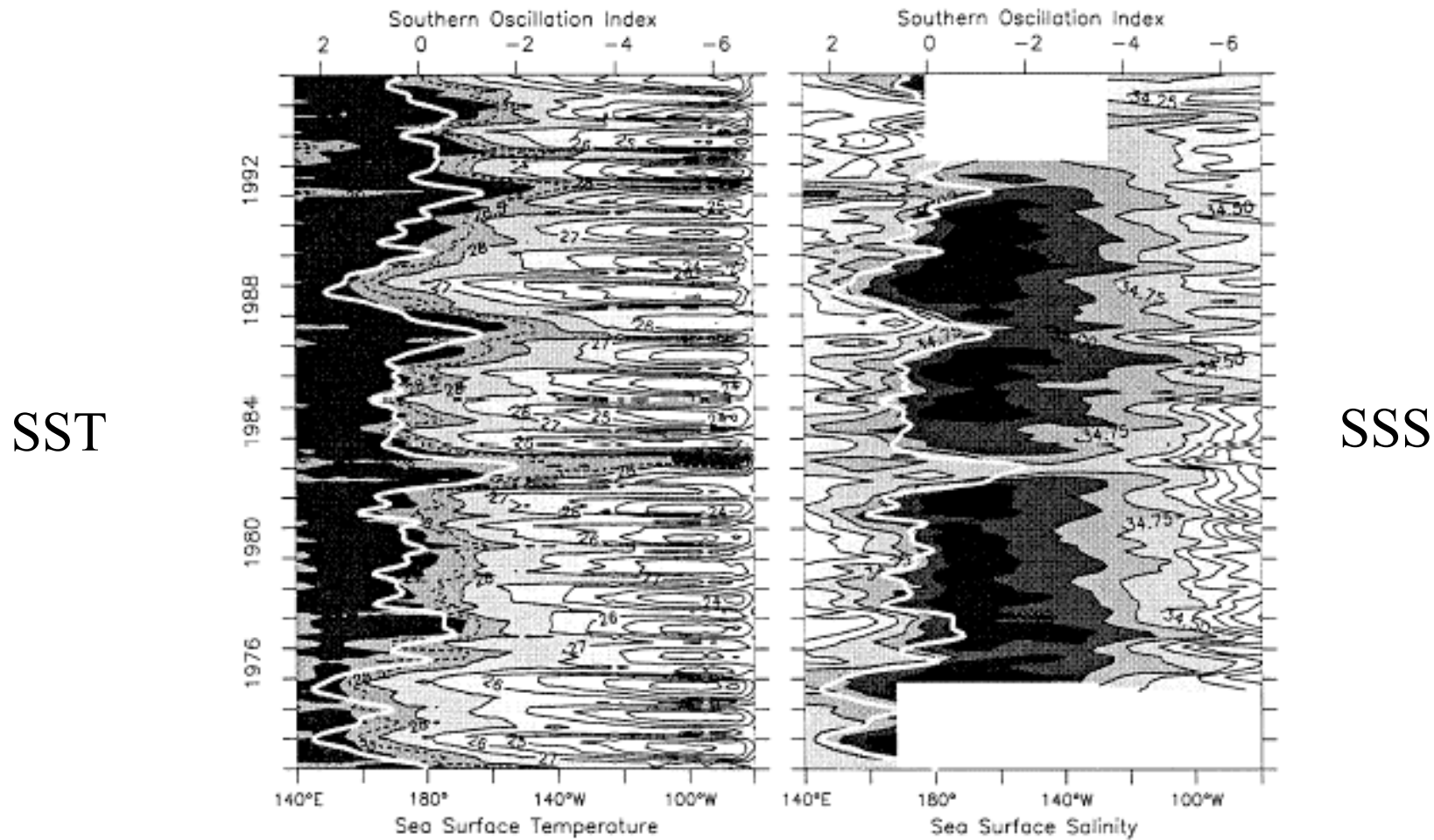
$\Delta T = 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$

Isothermal layer

$\Delta\rho = 0.125 \text{ kg/m}^3$

Ref level @15 m

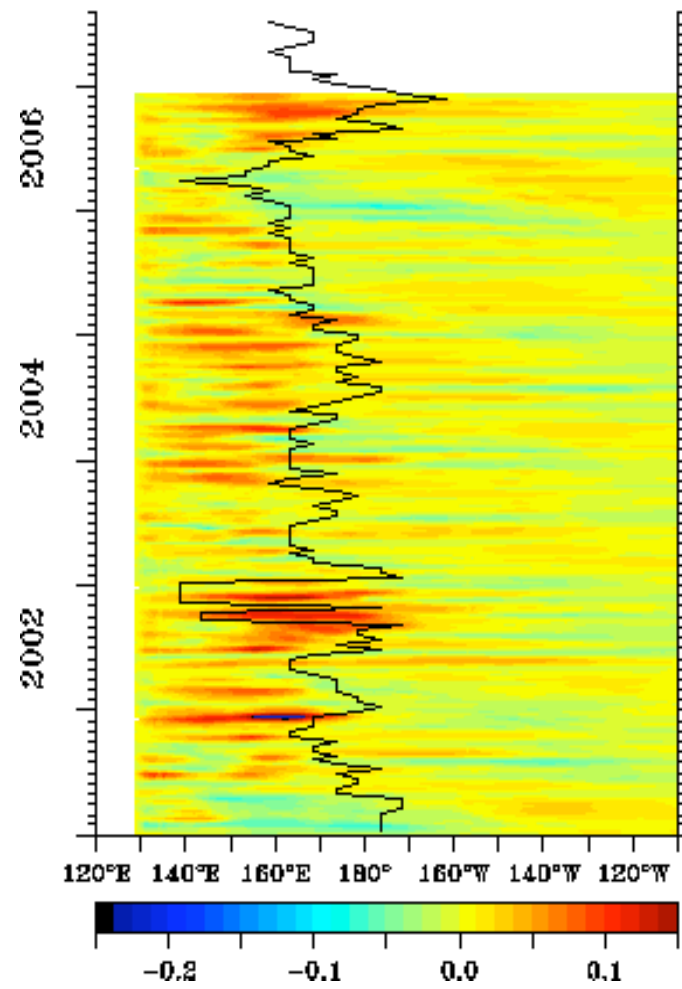
# 1. Thermohaline structure of the warm pool



- Déplacement bord Est de la Warm Pool, front de salinité en phase avec SOI.
- L'oscillateur advectif-réfectif (Picaut et al., 1997): **zone du front au coeur de la dynamique ENSO**

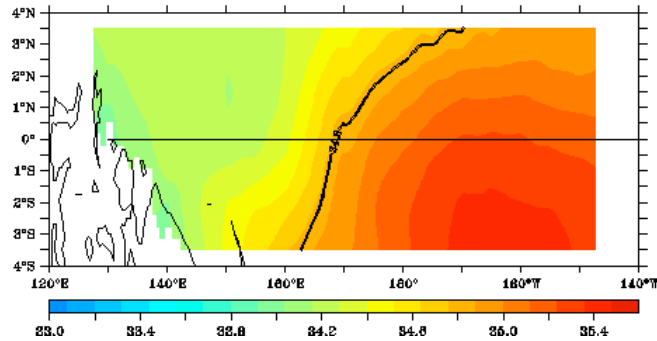
Voir la synthèse de Picaut et al, 2001

TXh532\_no9306-4N4S120E250E,Frontgradmax

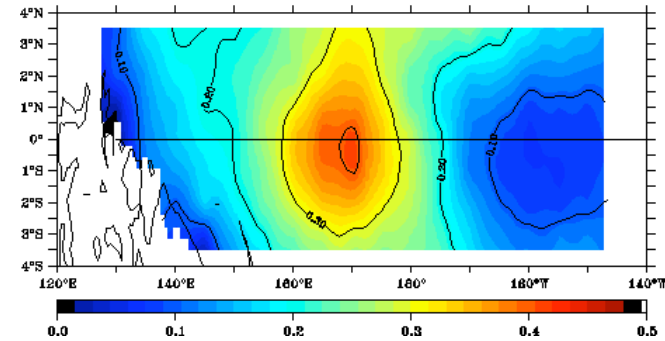


# 1.3. ENSO. Etude de la zone frontale: motivations

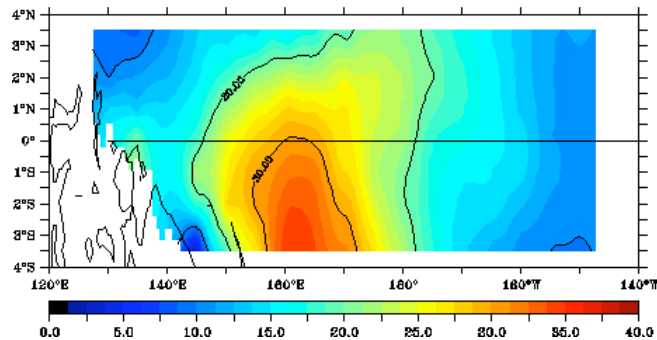
MOY SSSI: 08-Jan-2003 a 04-Jul-2007



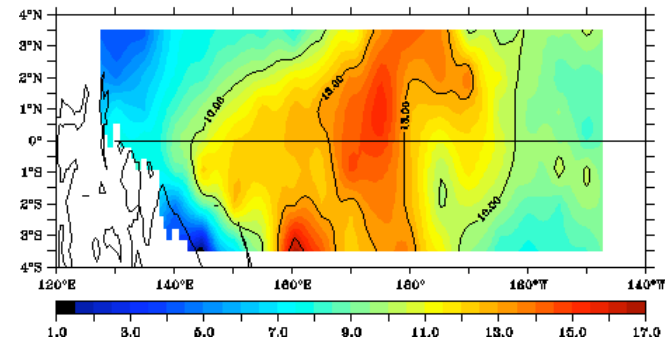
RMS SSSI: 08-Jan-2003 a 04-Jul-2007



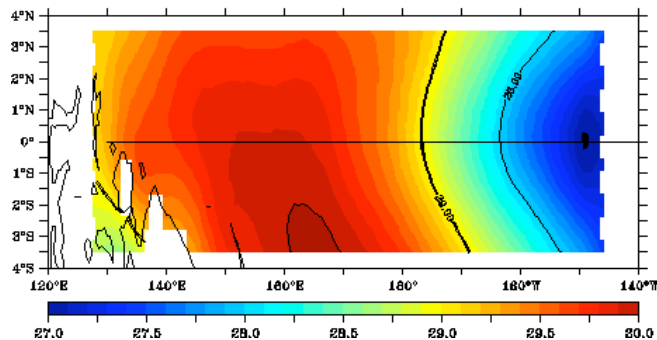
MOY ZBLDDI: 08-Jan-2003 a 04-Jul-2007



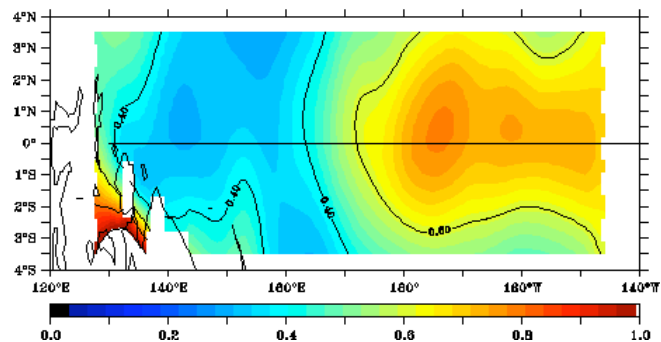
RMS ZBLDDI: 08-Jan-2003 a 04-Jul-2007



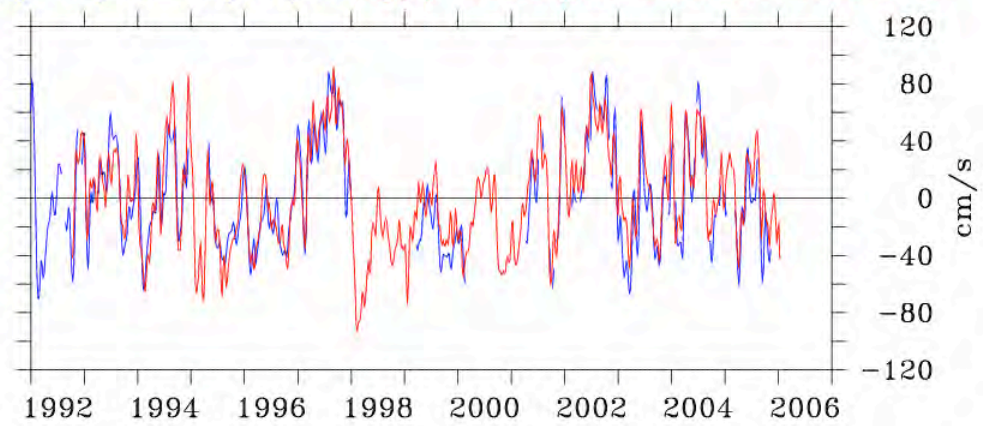
MOY SST: 01-Jan-2003 a 11-Jul-2007



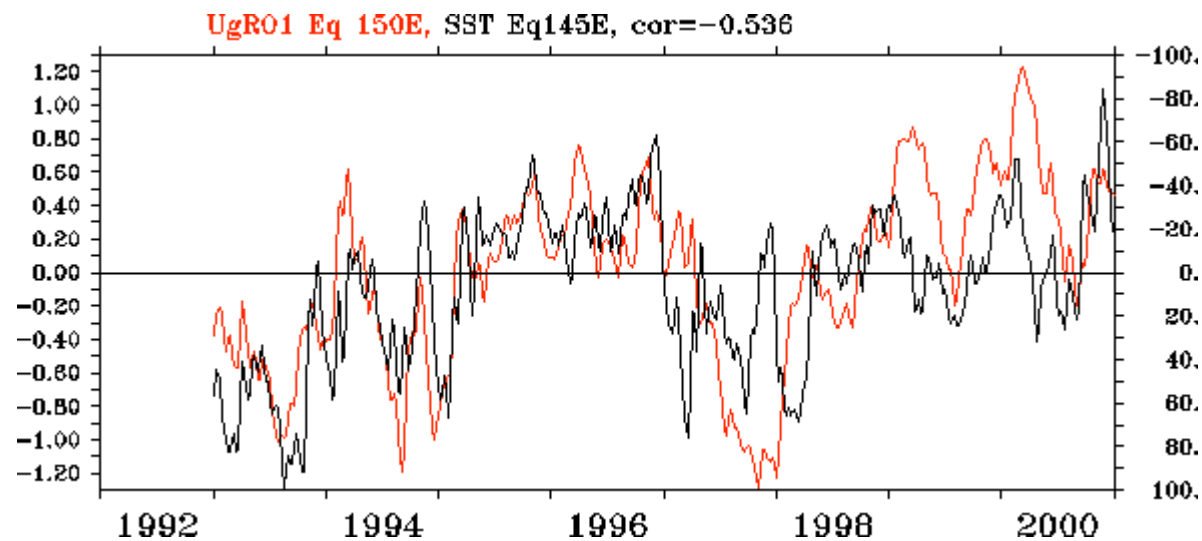
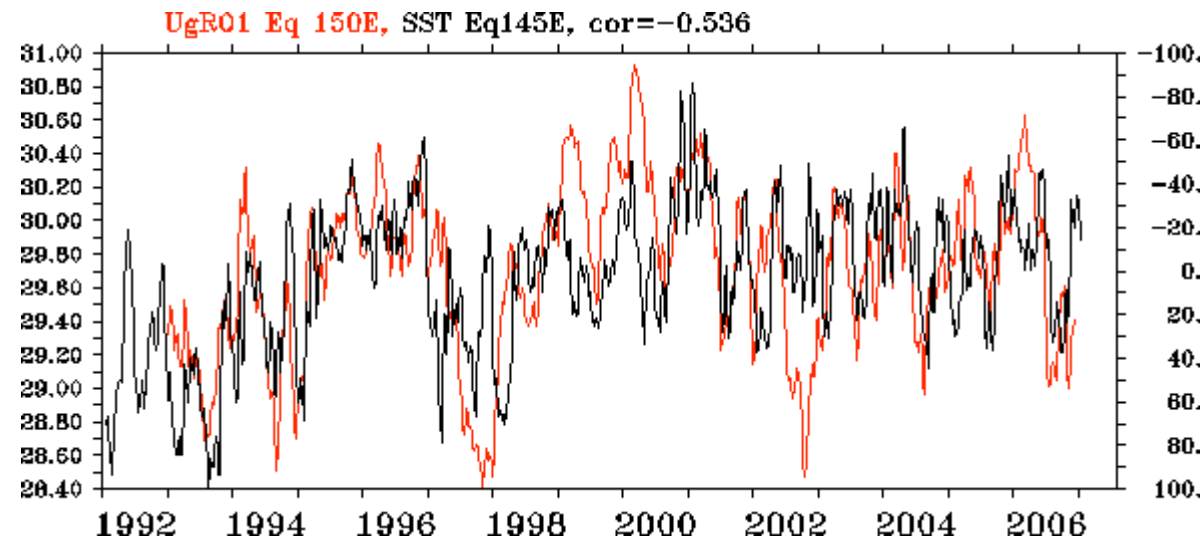
RMS SST: 01-Jan-2003 a 11-Jul-2007



$U(z=35)TAO - moyTAO/UG, Ug(0)$  165E Eq, cor=0.88, ect=15.9, s=1.

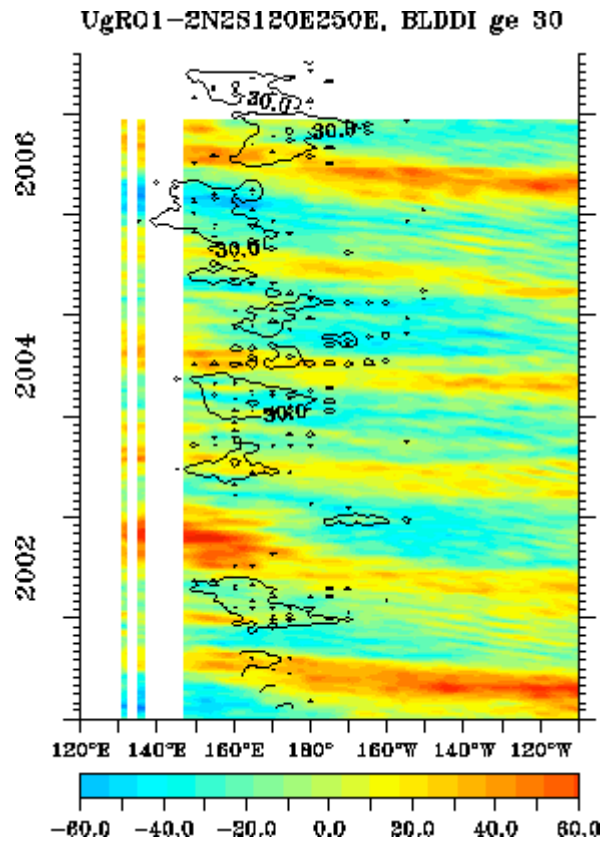


### 3.5. Couche barrière: entre l'océan et l'atmosphère



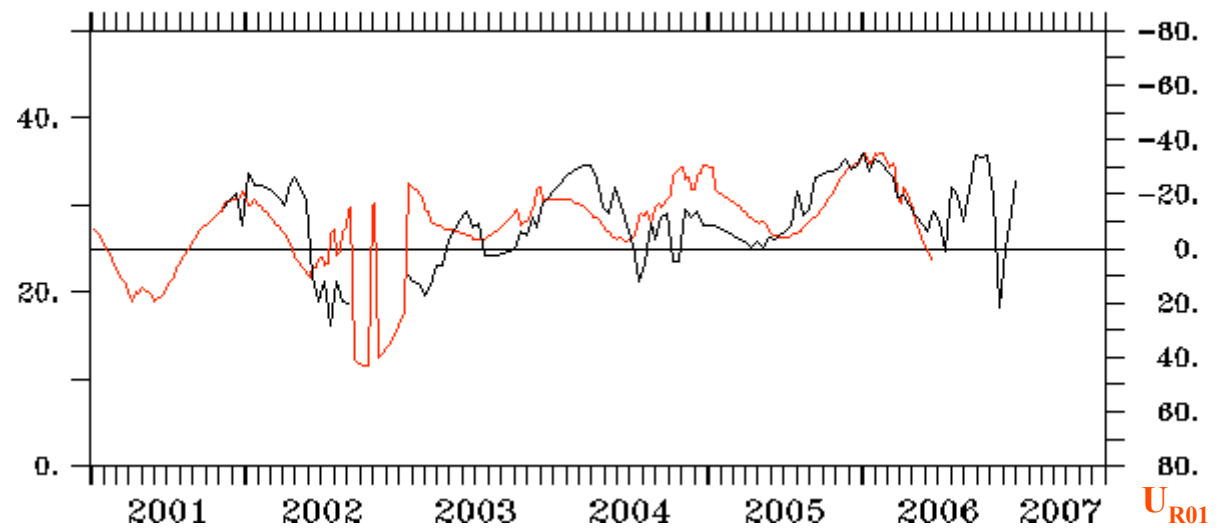


## 3.2. Mécanismes: formation de la couche barrière de sel



Couper  
2003, ech

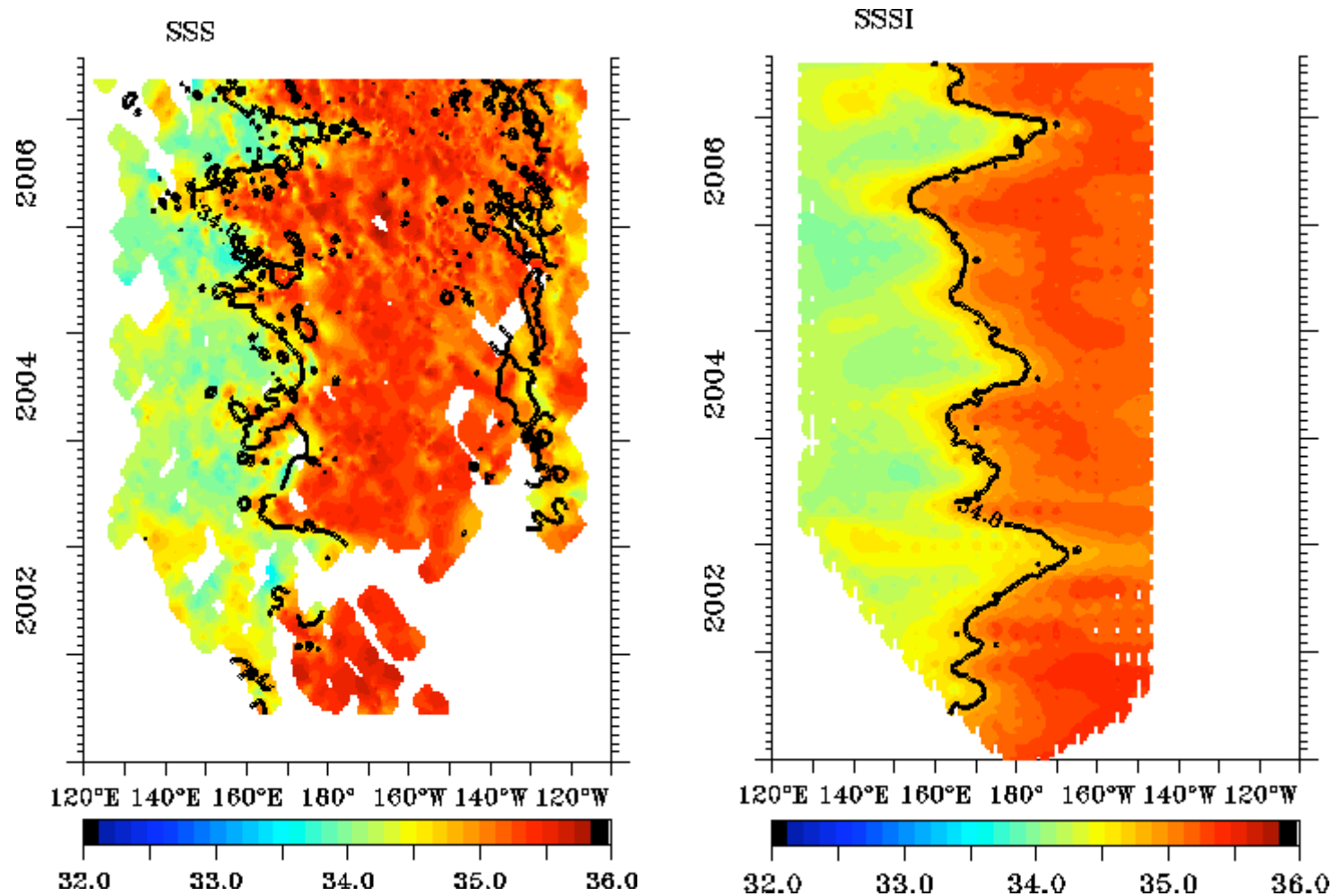
UgR01 10deg Est du front 2N2Sh24 ZBLDDI h12 10 Ouest, cor=-0.39 (lag=9 R=-0.46)



Schema  
upwell,  
approf

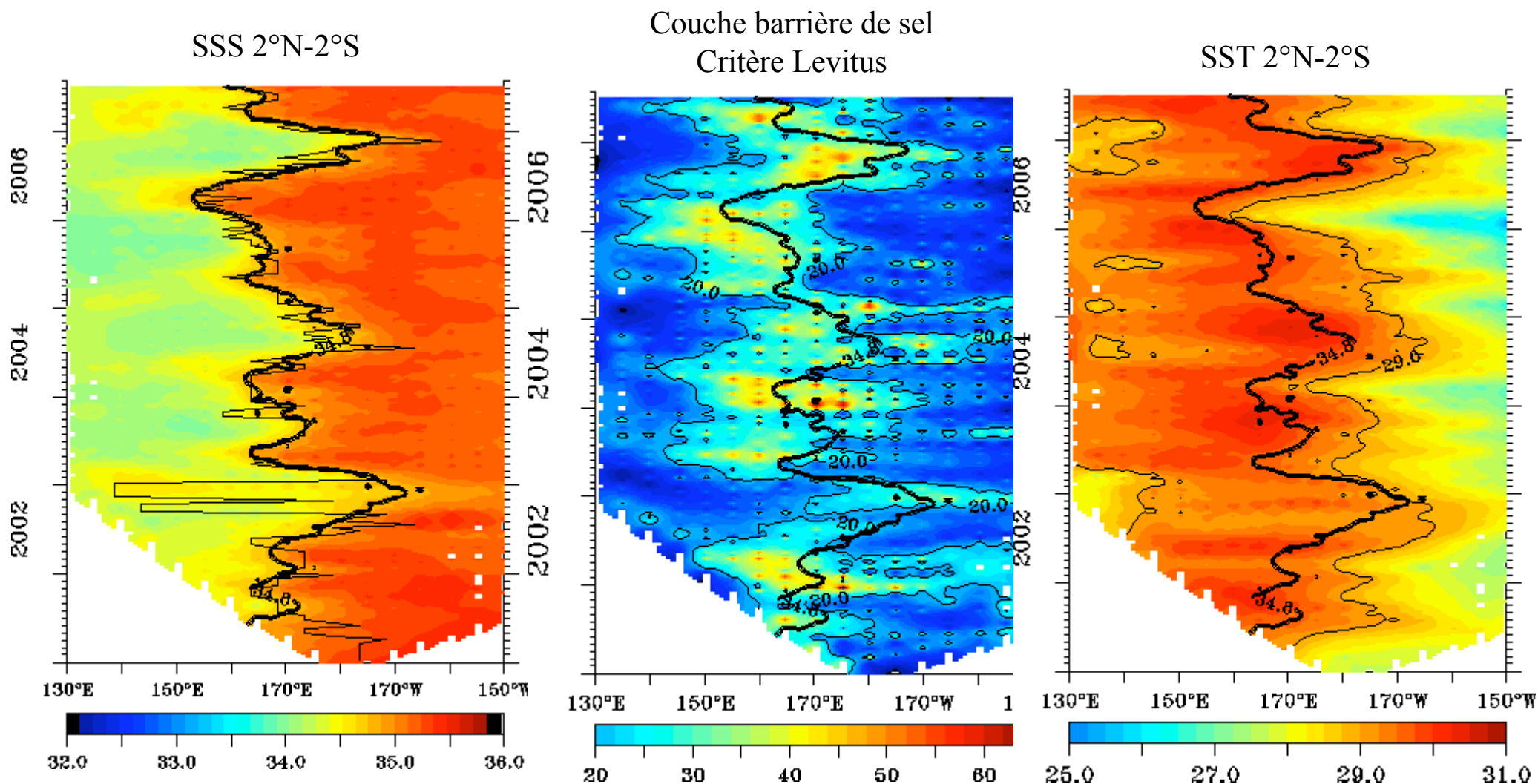
Front  
apparaît

## 2.2. Observations disponibles depuis 2000: gridding

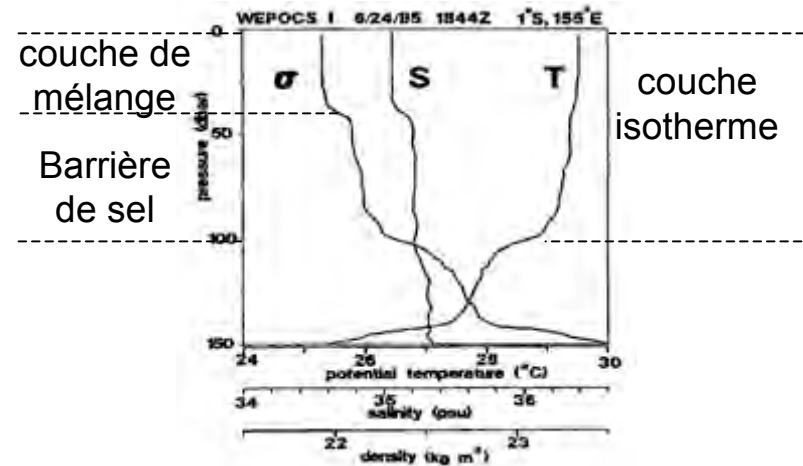
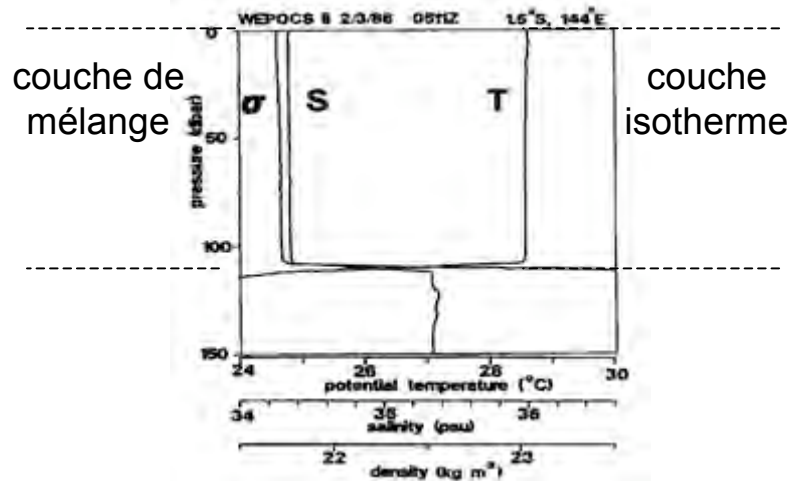


Interpolation:  $5^{\circ} \times 1^{\circ} \times 14 \text{ jours} \times 5 \text{ m}$

### 3.1. Observation du front: structure horizontale et verticale



## 1.2. ENSO. Etude de la zone frontale : structure thermo haline verticale



Lukas and Lindstrom

Couche de mélange

$$\partial_z \rho = 0.01 \text{ kg/m}^4$$

Couche isotherme

$$\partial_z T = 0.05 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C/m}$$

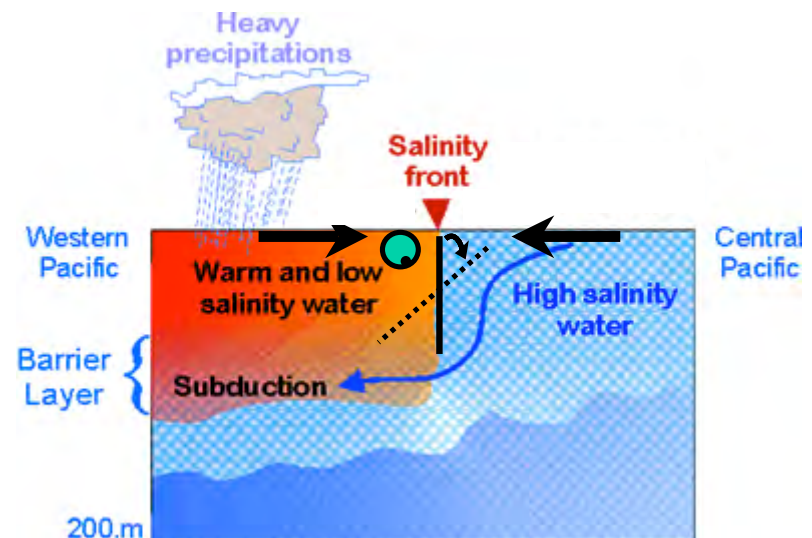
Levitus

$$\Delta T = 0.5^\circ\text{C}$$

$$\Delta \rho = 0.125 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

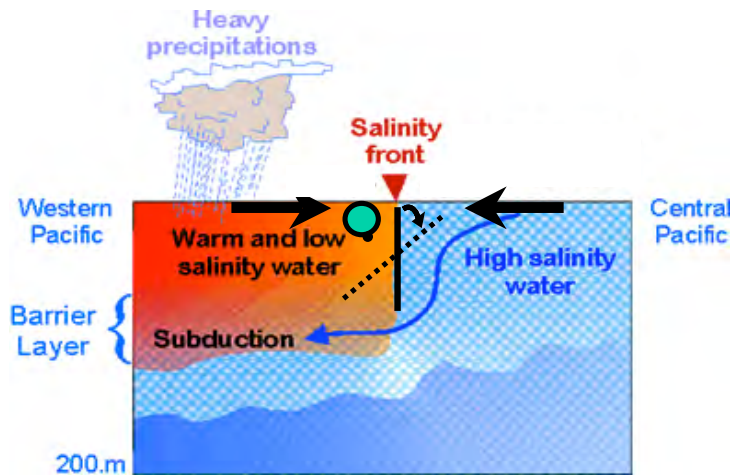
Ref level @20 m

Maes ??

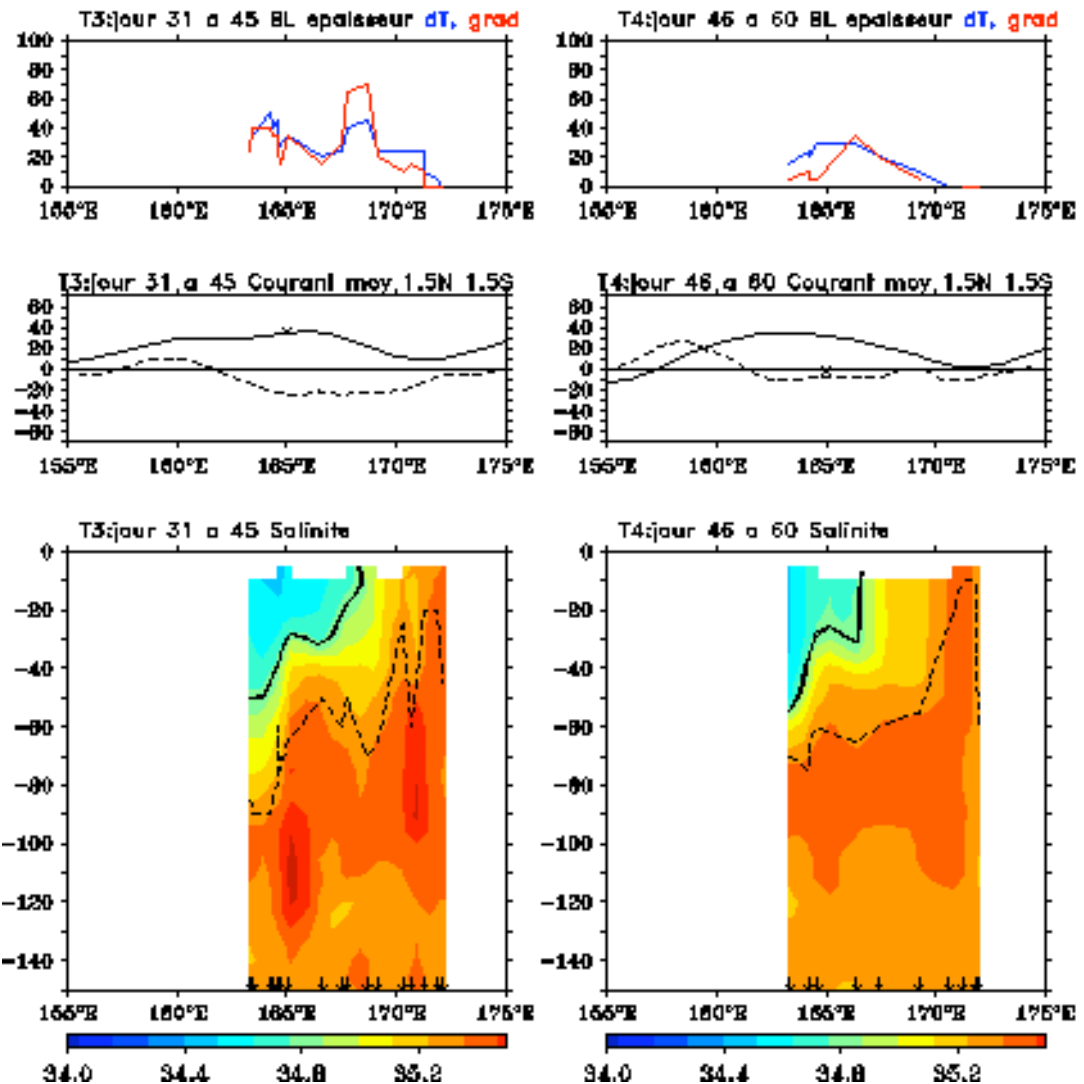


(Lukas et Lindstrom, 1991)

## 3.2. Front et Couche Barrière de sel



Dates?



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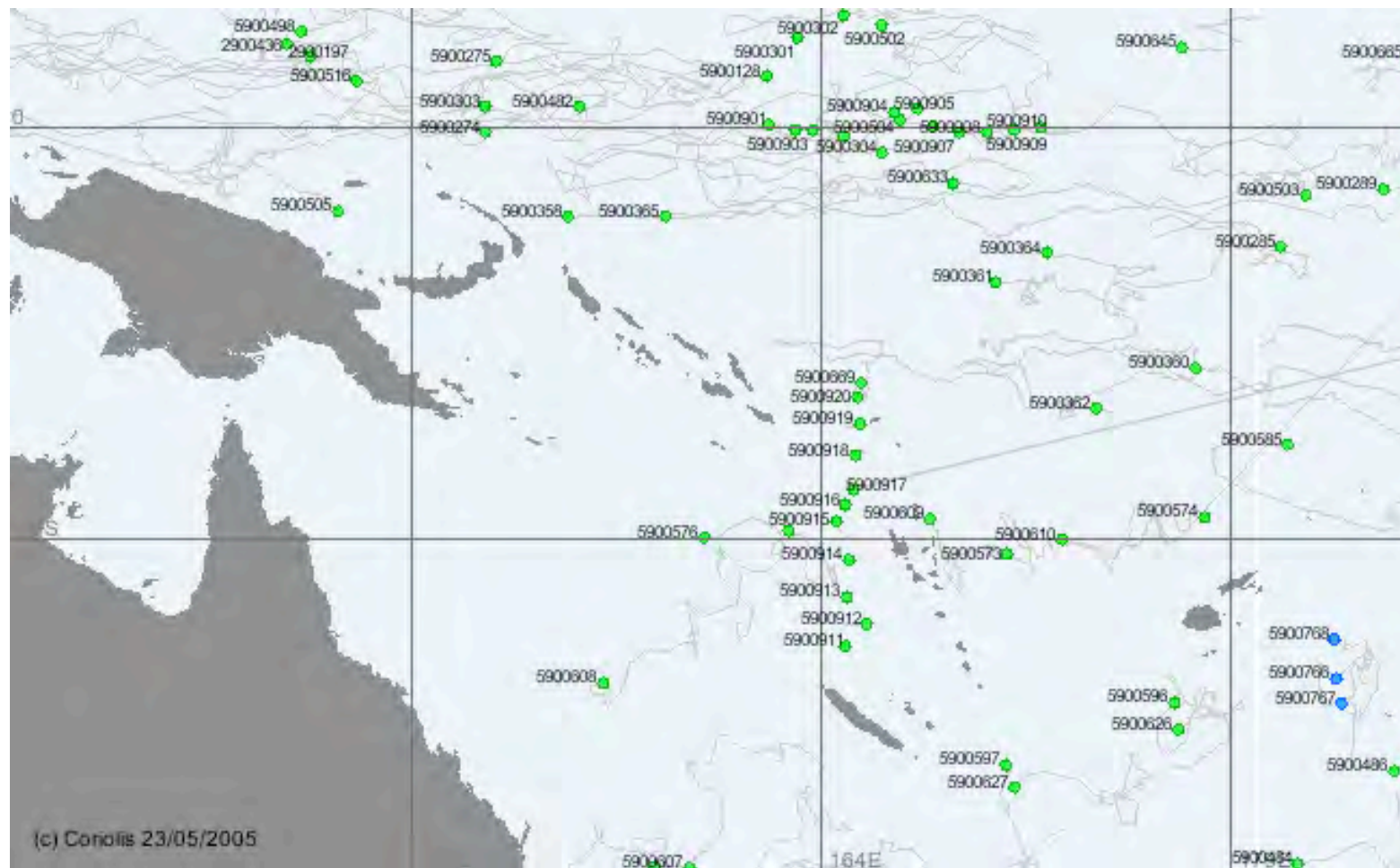
npro colonnes manquantes zt=zs, %	33	0.405804
npro trous de 50m dans 0-200m, %	41	0.504181

ndata zt ou zs=amiss, %	1793	0.334444		
ndata pb ampli et delta , %	3950.00	0.736784		
ndata pb stabilité , %	0	0.		
Profils:n,ndef,%	8132	165	2.02902	
Data:n,ngood,%	536114	527478	98.3891	
Profils BL:npro,nBL,% ,zo=	20	8132	7433.00	91.4043

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# Déploiements Frontalis-3

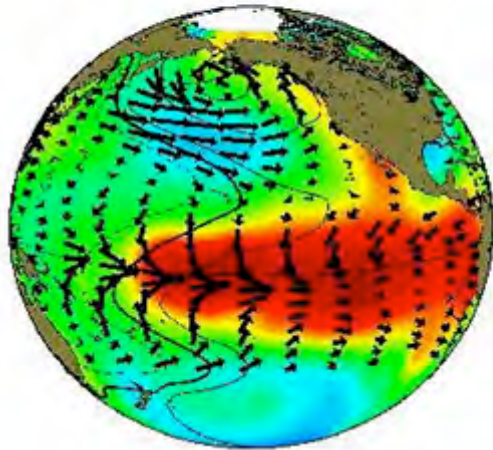
au 23 mai 2005



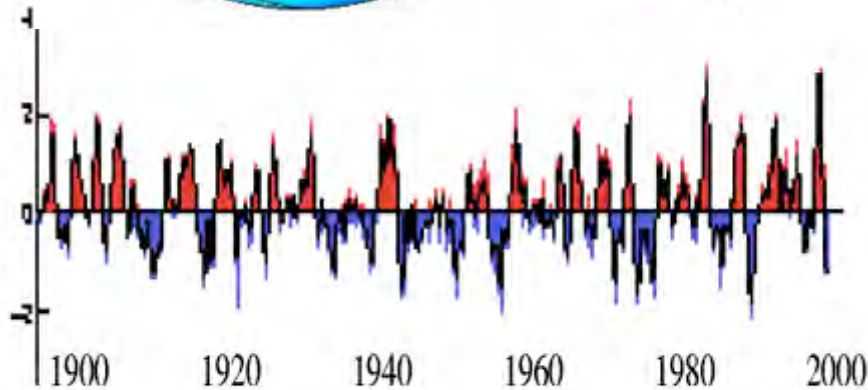
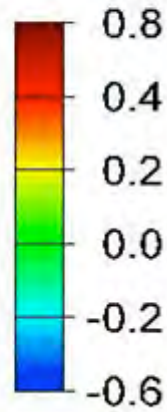
## 1.2. Variabilités **décennales** : rappel

### El Nino Southern Oscillation

El Nino

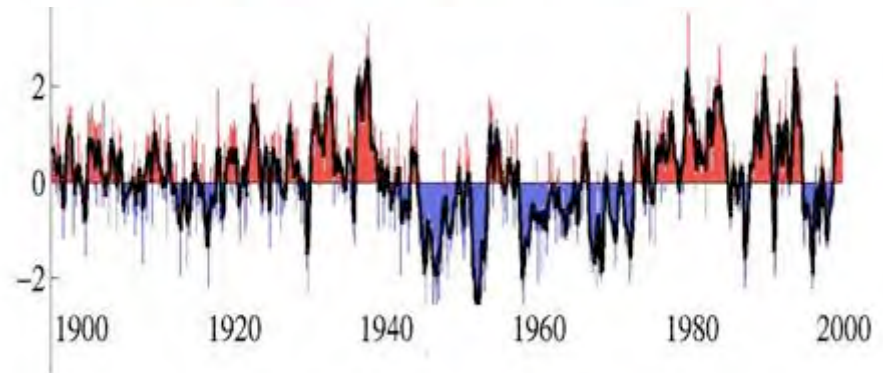
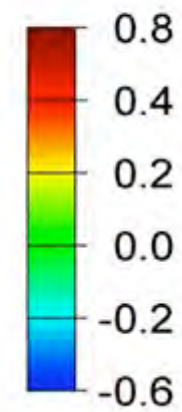
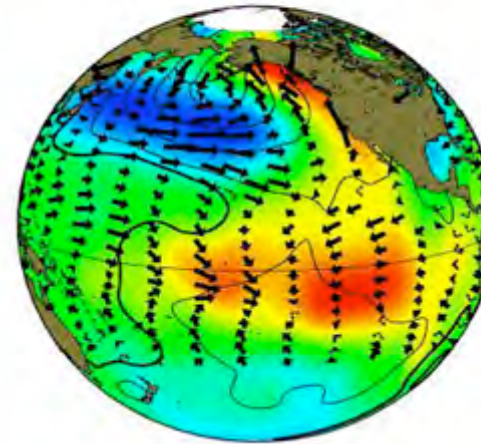


Wind-SST



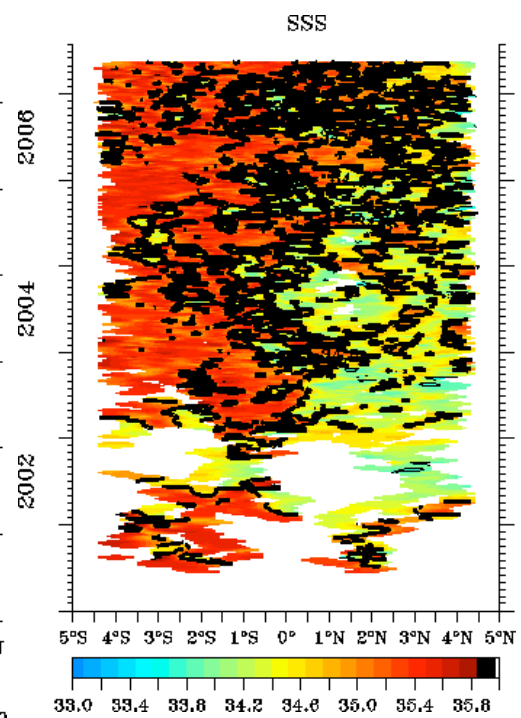
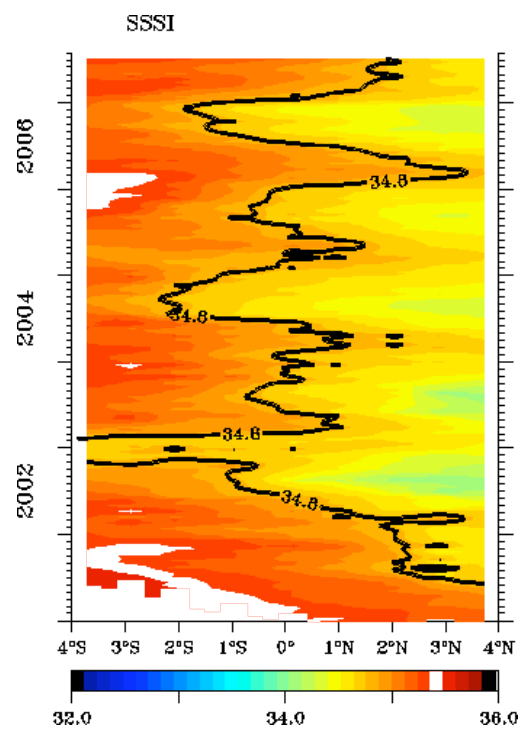
### Pacific Decadal Oscillation

positive phase



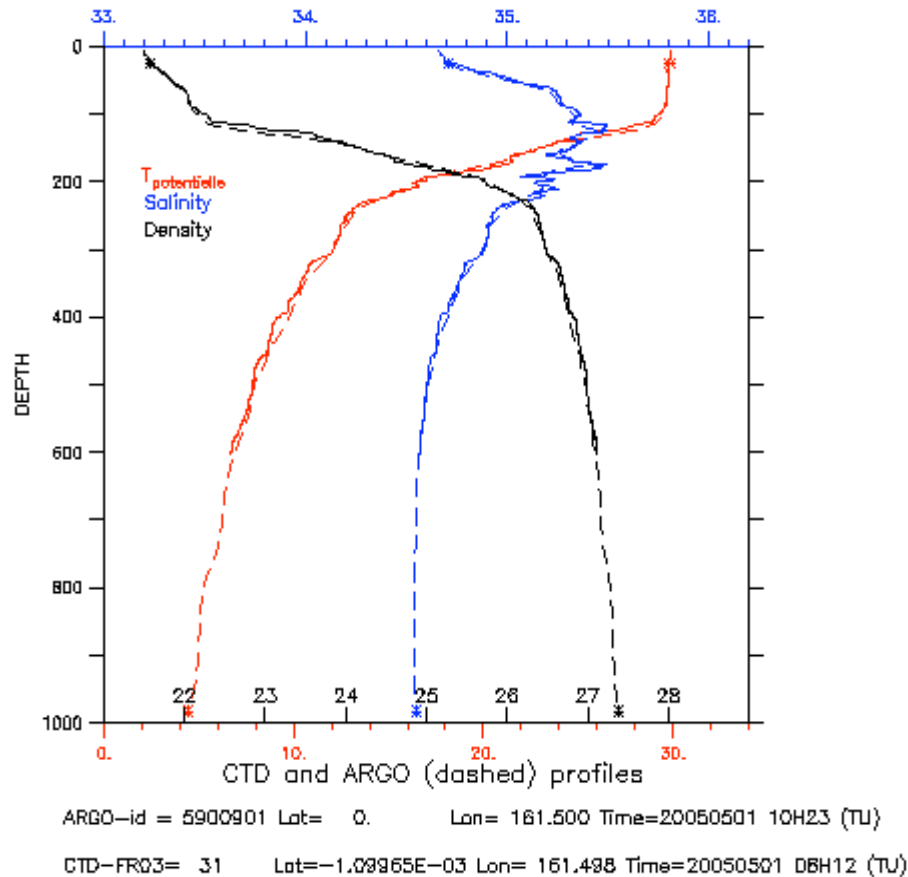
*Mantua and Battisti, 1994*





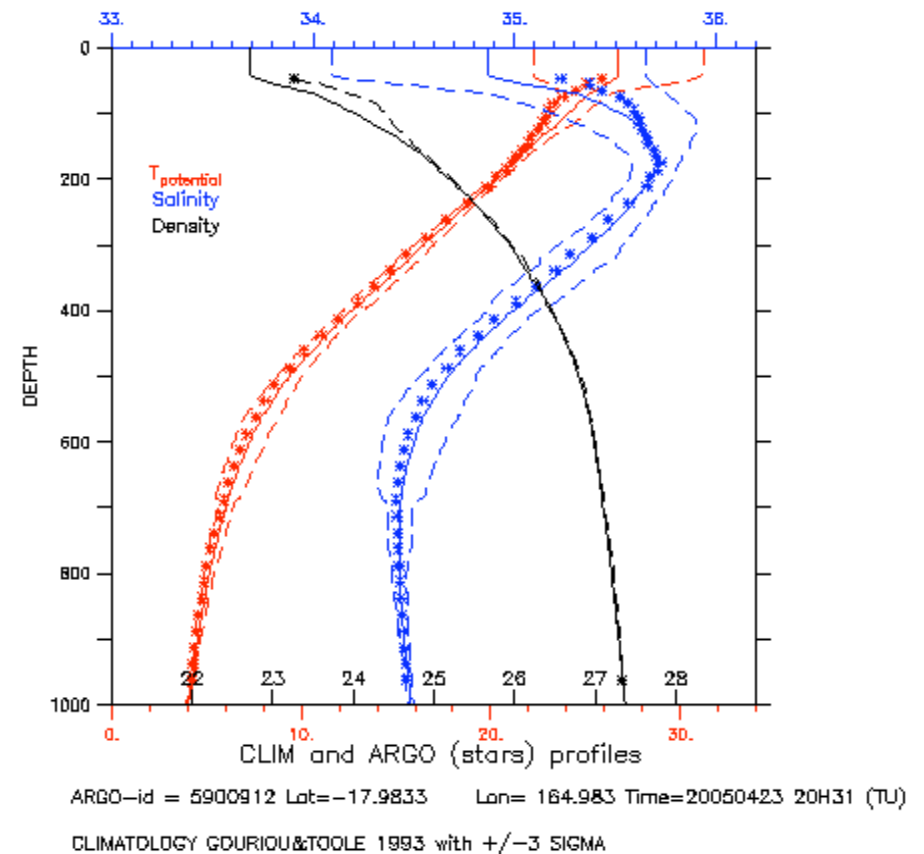
# 3.1. Estimation de la qualité des données récoltées au déploiement

Comparaison avec CTD simultanée



(0° - 161.5°E)

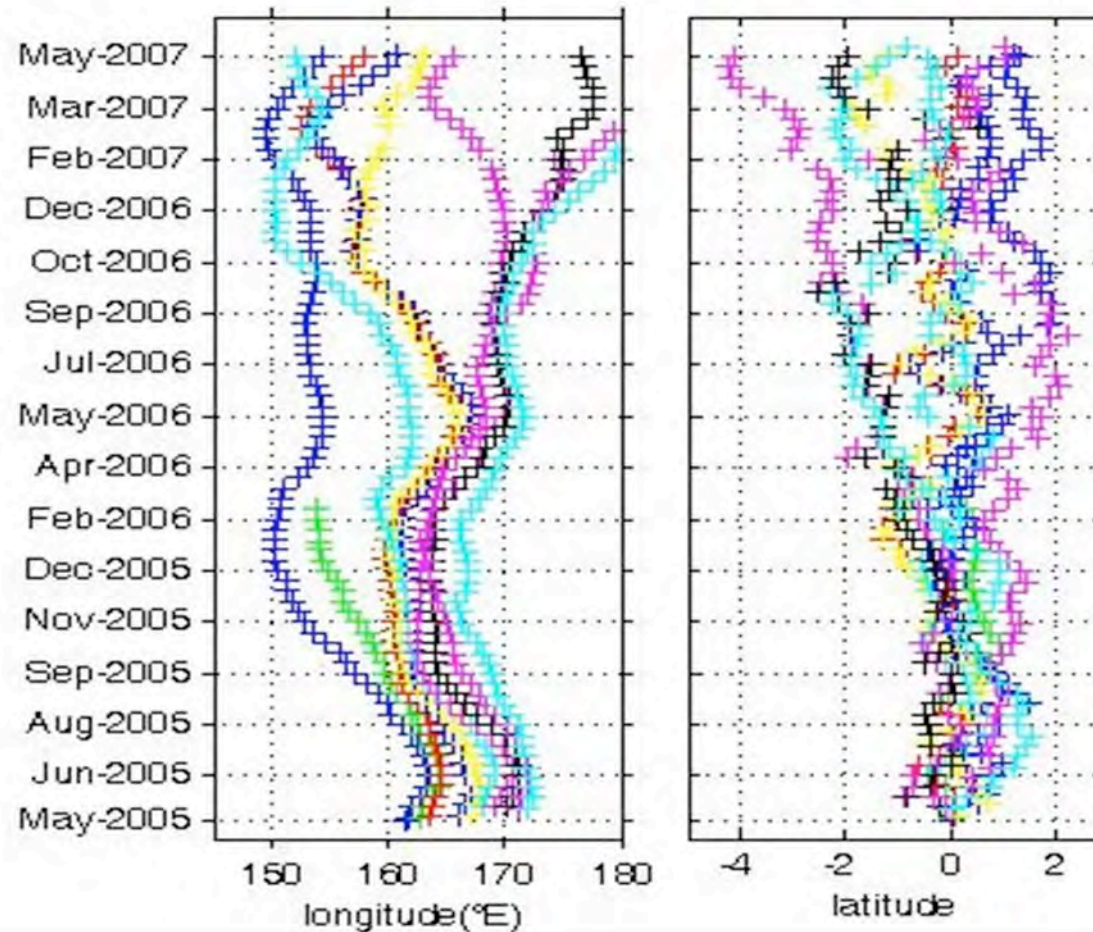
Comparaison avec la climatologie\*  
(Moyenne ± 3 σ)



(17°S - 165°E)

\* Delcroix et al. (1992), Gouriou and Toole (1993)

## 2.1. Observations du front équatorial: Frontalis 3



Trajectoire des flotteurs mis à l'eau pendant FRONTALIS3

## 1.2. ENSO. Etude de la zone frontale: motivations

