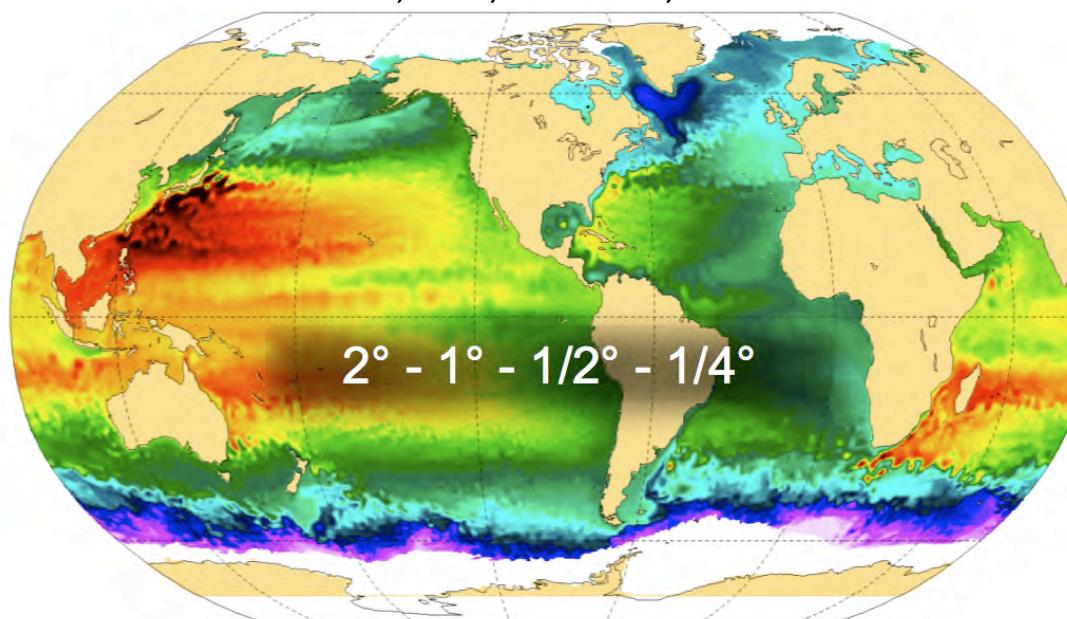


# Valorizing and characterizing ARGO data with the DRAKKAR ensemble of global ocean simulations

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DRAKKAR Consortium  
Ocean Modelling



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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



# Objectives

1. Make use of ARGO (and other hydrographic) observations to assess 50-year eddy-admitting global ocean simulations
2. Jointly use collocated real/model profiles to estimate the observation error of the ARGO array in the mixed layer

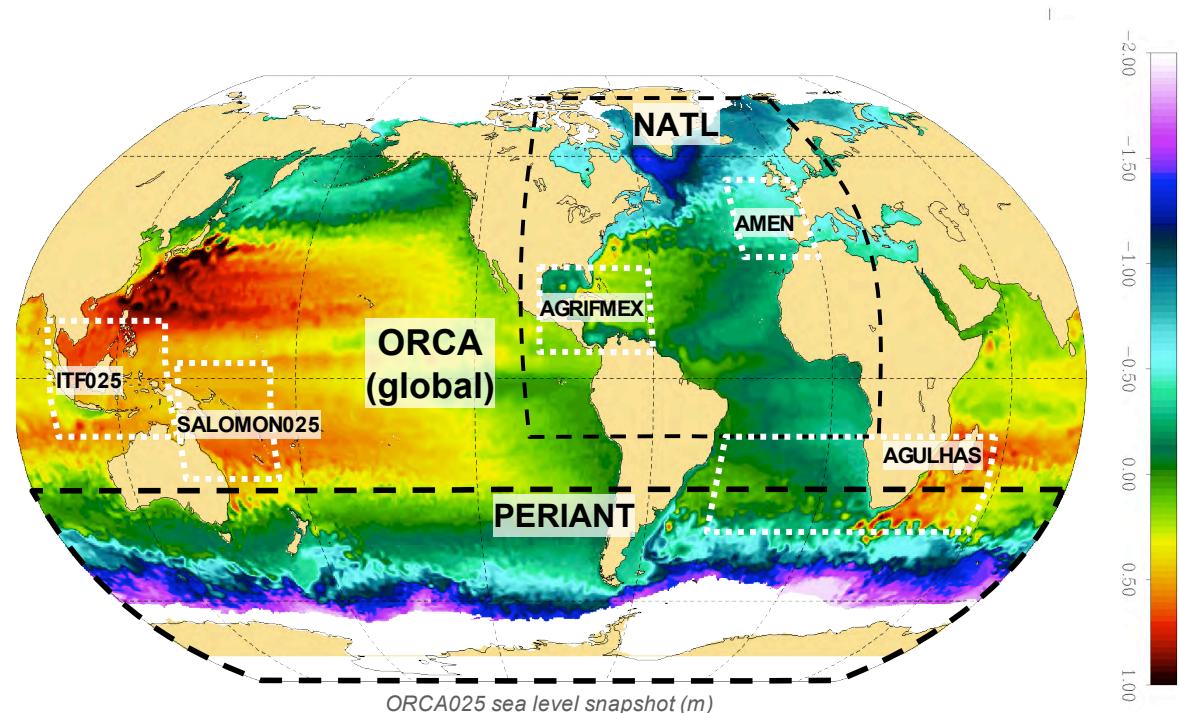
# Outline

- DRAKKAR models – The global  $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$  simulation
- Assessment of simulated mixed layer properties against ARGO
- Evaluation of ARGO sampling errors in the mixed layer
- Conclusion

# DRAKKAR configurations

Barnier et al 2006  
DRAKKAR Group 2007  
Brodeau et al 2007  
Penduff et al 2008

- NEMO ocean/sea-ice/ $^{14}\text{C}/\text{CFC}_{11}$  z-level model with partial steps
- Global 2°, Global 1°, Global 1/2°, *Global 1/4° (67.10<sup>6</sup> points, 186 procs IBM SP4)*
- Nested & standalone zooms
- Period: 1958-2004
- Forcing:
  - COARE bulk formulae
  - ERA40 atm. Variables
  - ISCCP radiative fluxes
  - Xie & Arkin precipitations
  - Dai & Trenberth runoffs



**Interactions & teleconnections**

**Large-scale/low-frequency impact of mesoscale**

**Interpretation of observations** (satellite, ARGO, OVIDE, etc)

**Improve climate & operational ocean models**

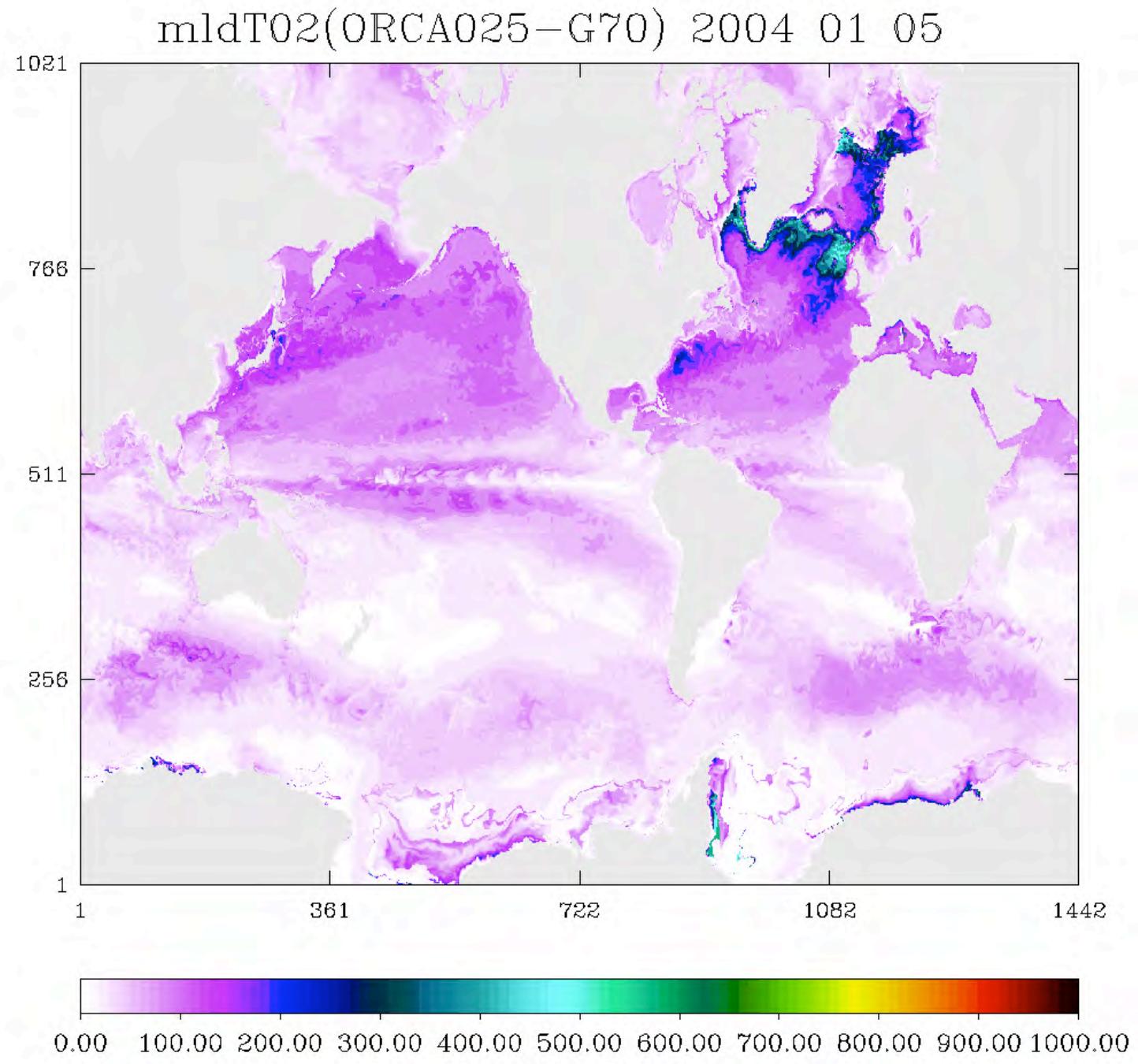
**Foster cooperative studies**

2004  
**Mixed Layer  
Depth**

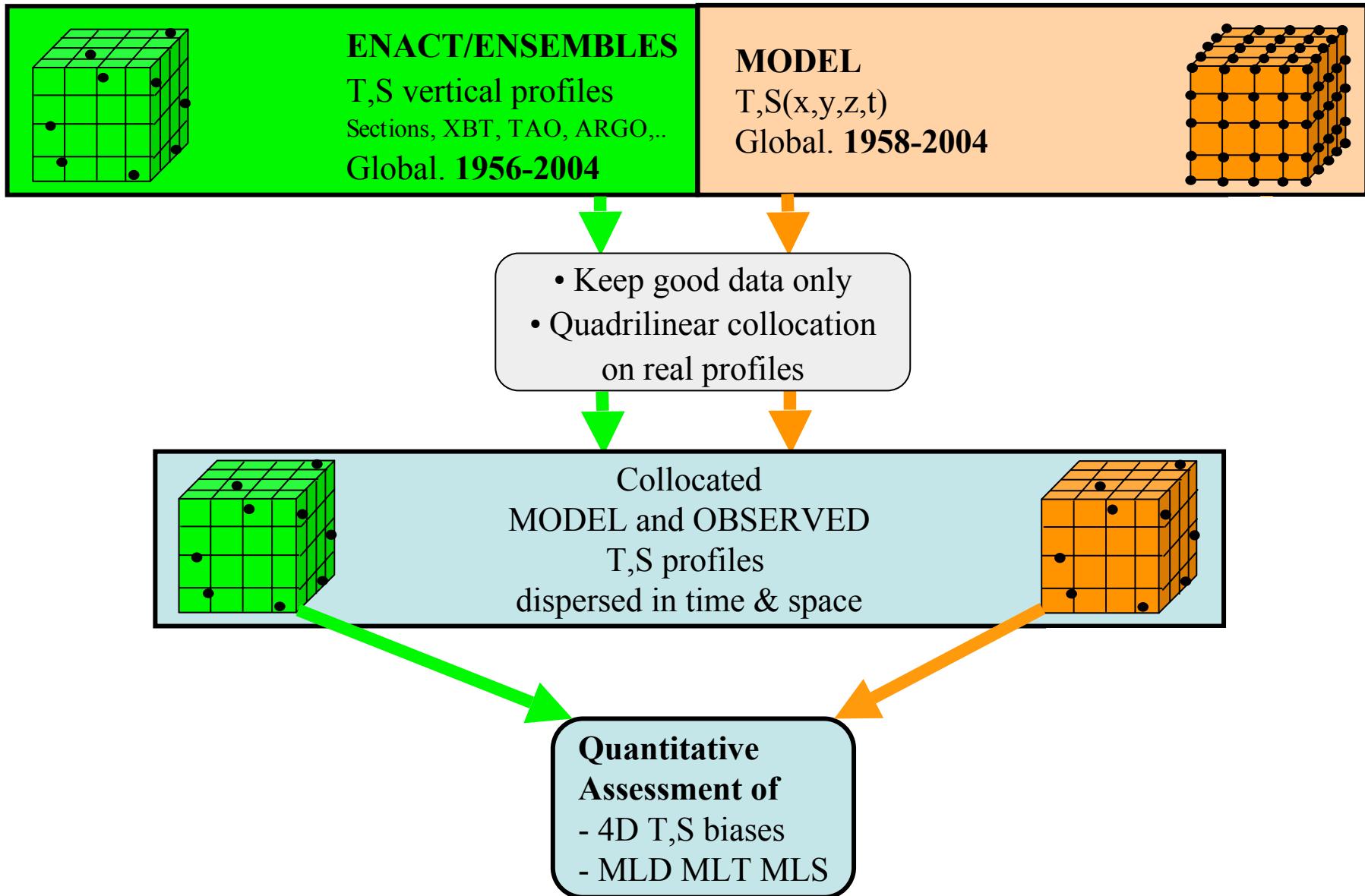
*DRAKKAR  
¼° model*

Strong impact of

- Mesoscale features
- Sea-ice edge

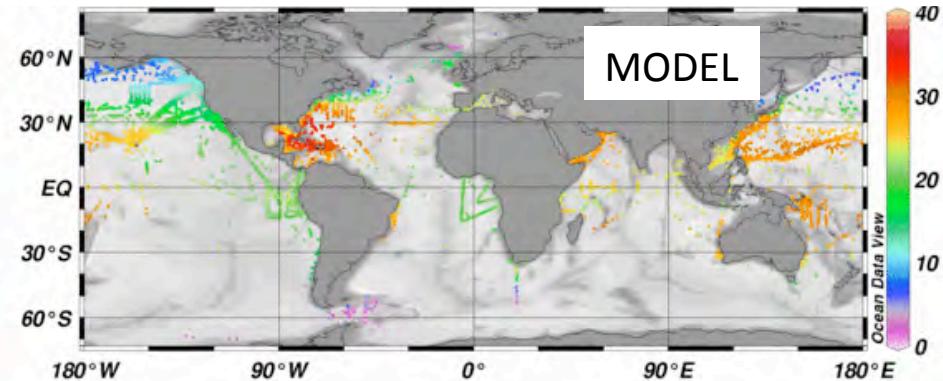
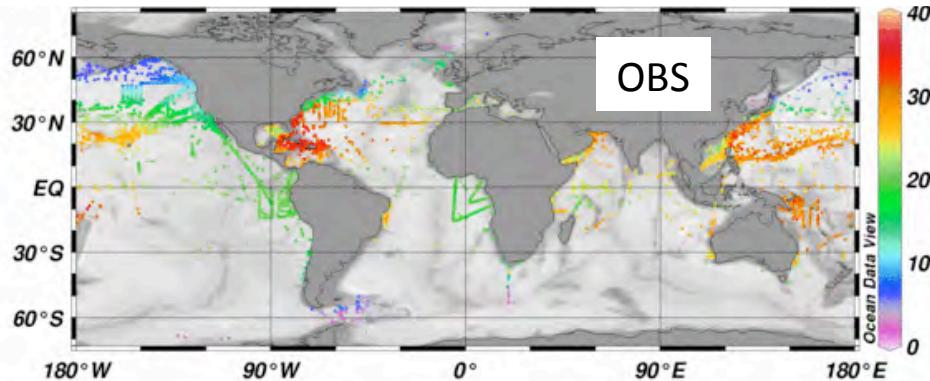


# Assessment of model biases

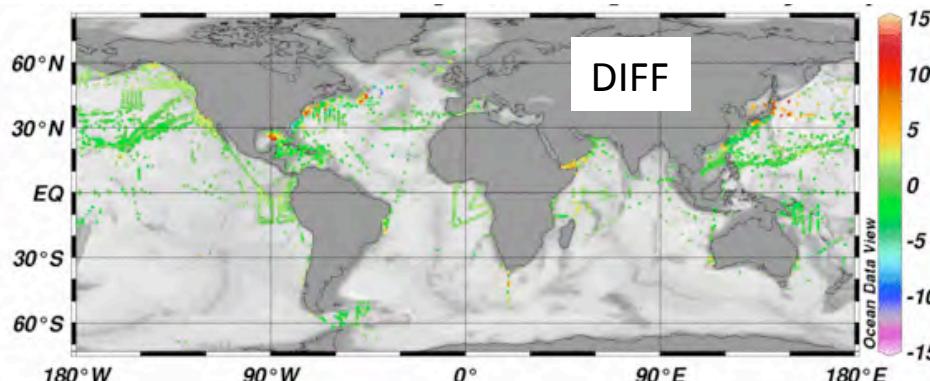


# Heat content estimates 1975-2004

(GJ/m<sup>2</sup>)



*ENSEMBLE/ORCA025-G70 - year 1975 - layer [50m-450m]*

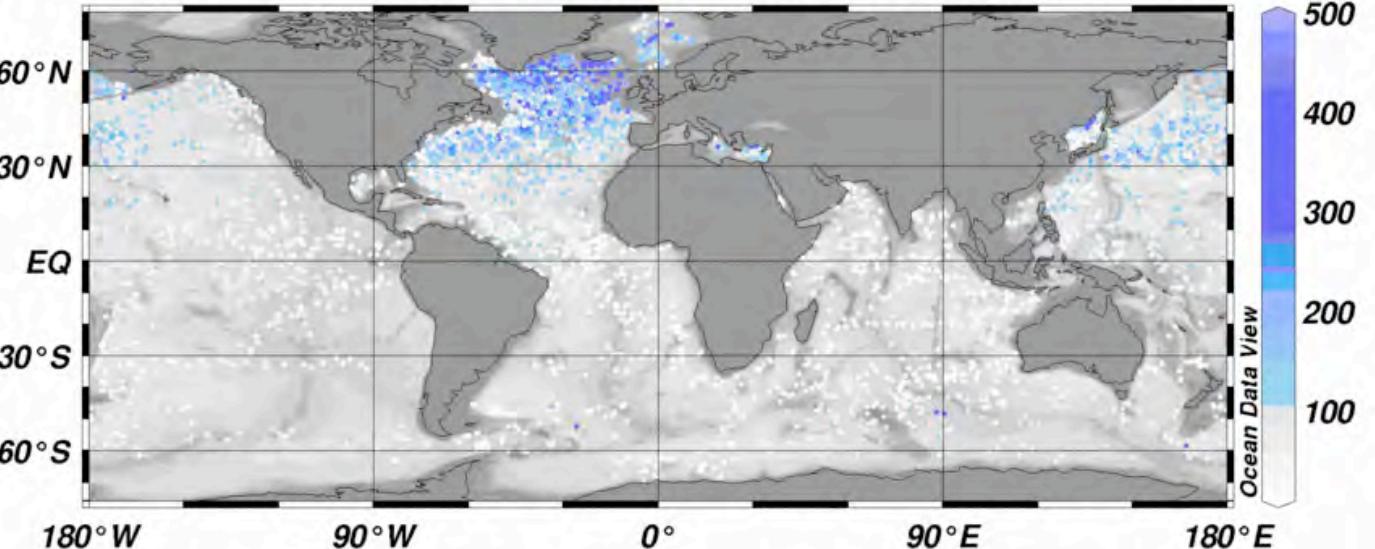


ENACT/ENSEMBLES  
Sections, XBT, drifters, TAO, ARGO, ...

Focus on the seasonal cycle ARGO 1998-2004

# *ARGO mixed layer depth (from ENSEMBLES/ENACT) [m] @ Dummy=Top*

*ARGO data* →

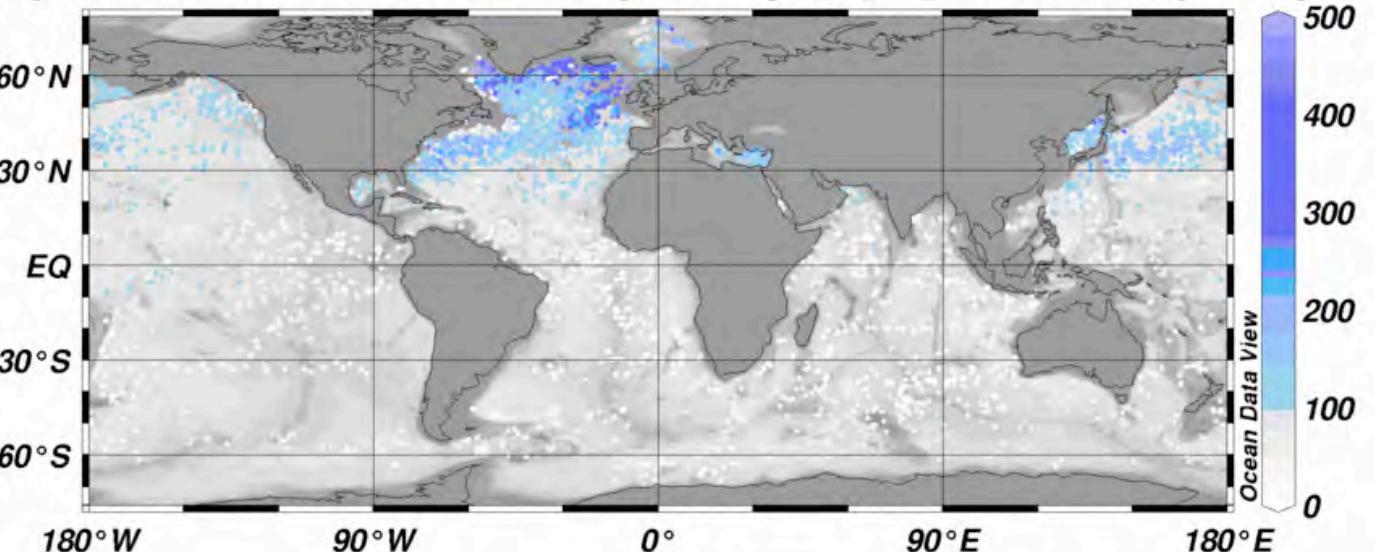


**Collocated  
MLDs (m)  
 $|T-T_0| < 0.2^\circ\text{C}$**

*jan 1998-2004*

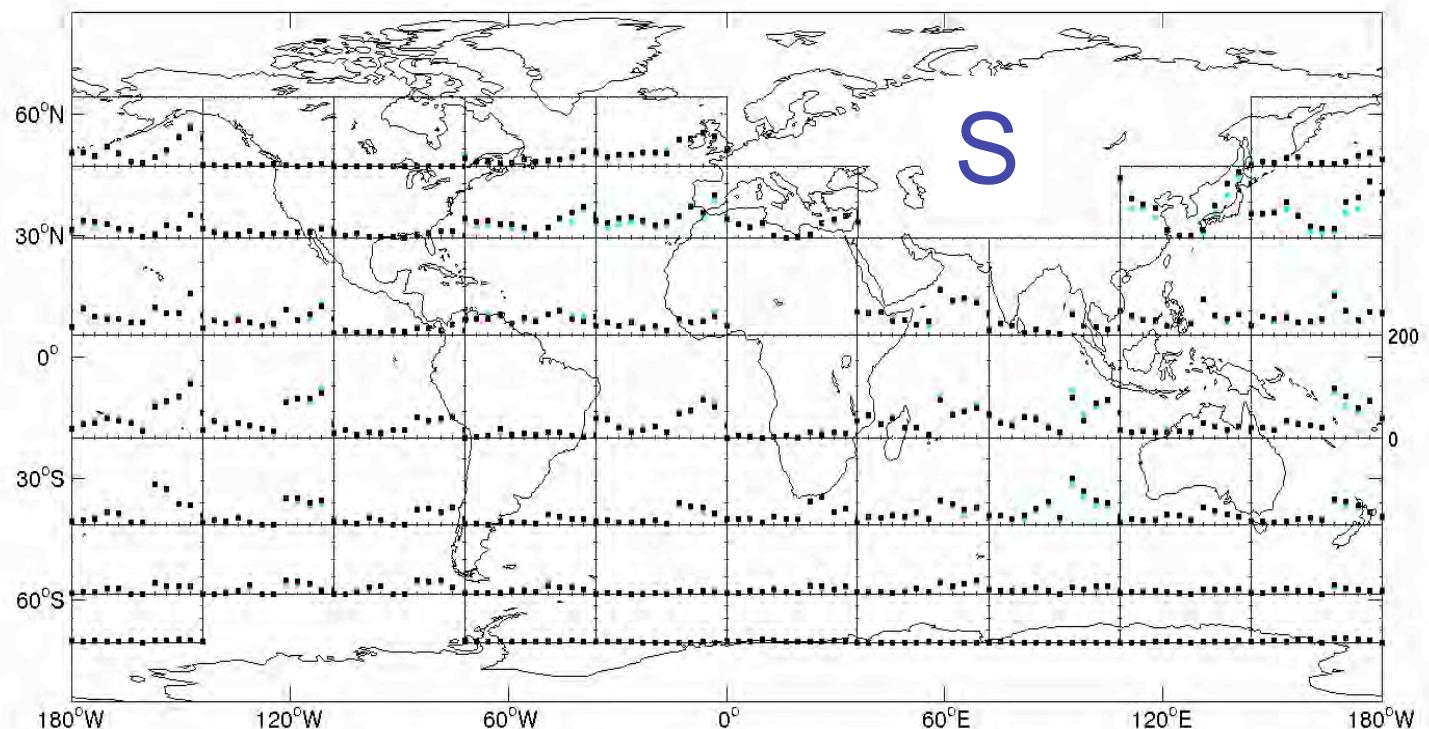
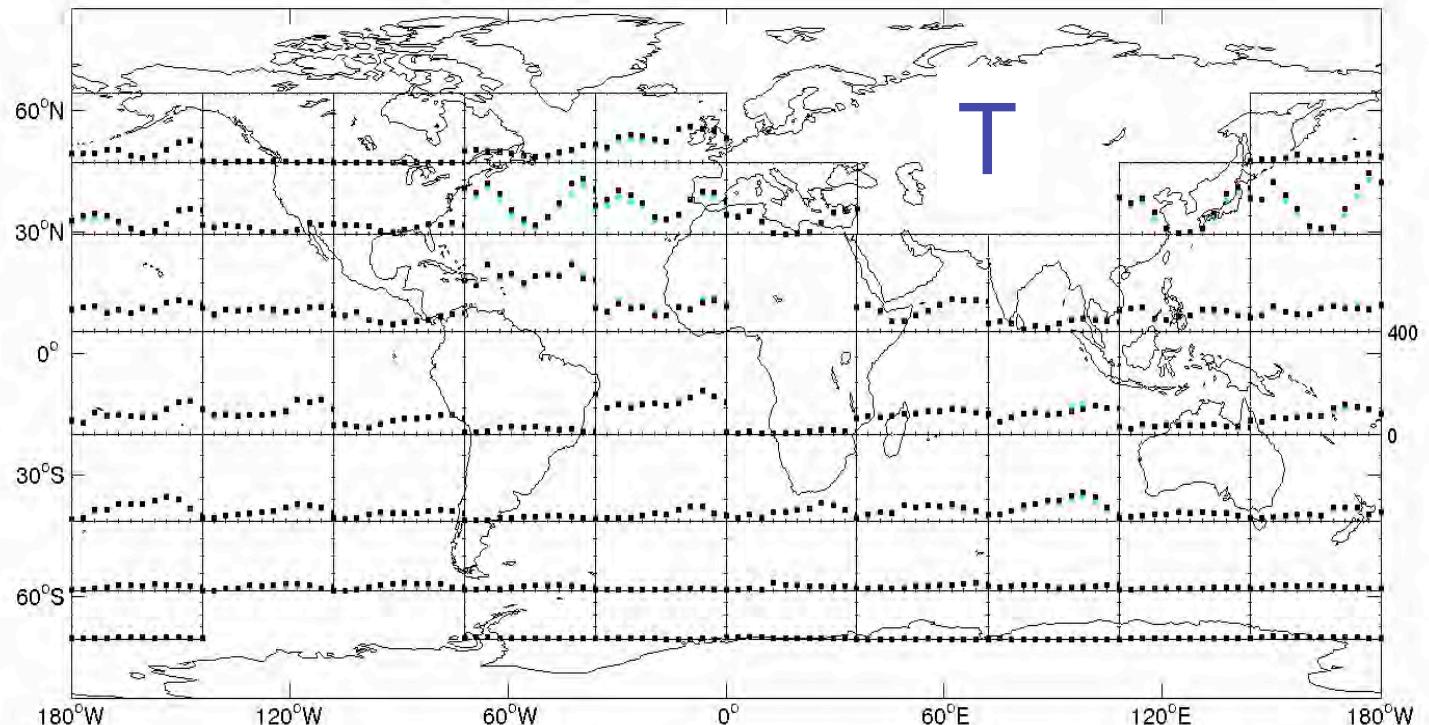
# *equivalent model mixed layer depth [m] @ Dummy=Top*

*DRAKKAR  
 $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$  model* →

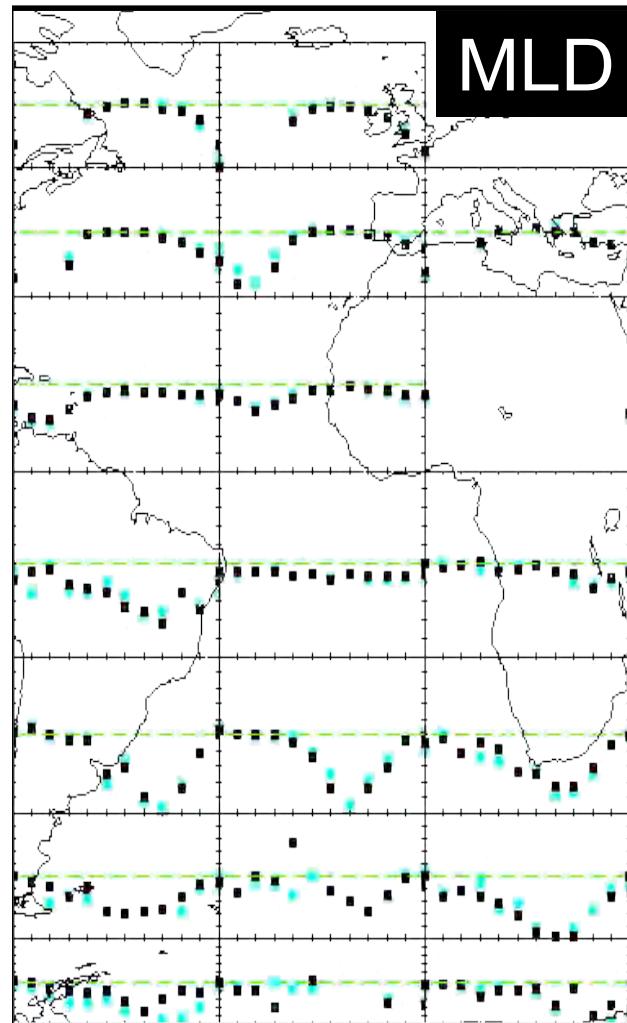


**MIXED LAYER**  
 **$30^{\circ} \times 30^{\circ} \times 1$ -month bins**  
**(2000-2004)**

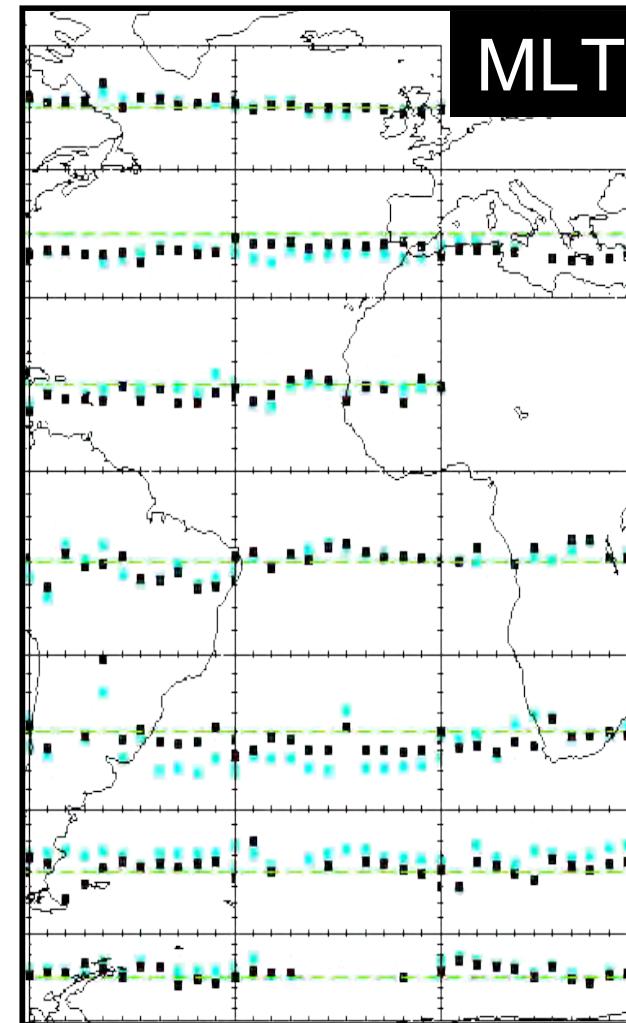
**Number of  
ARGO profiles  
sampling the  
whole mixed Layer**



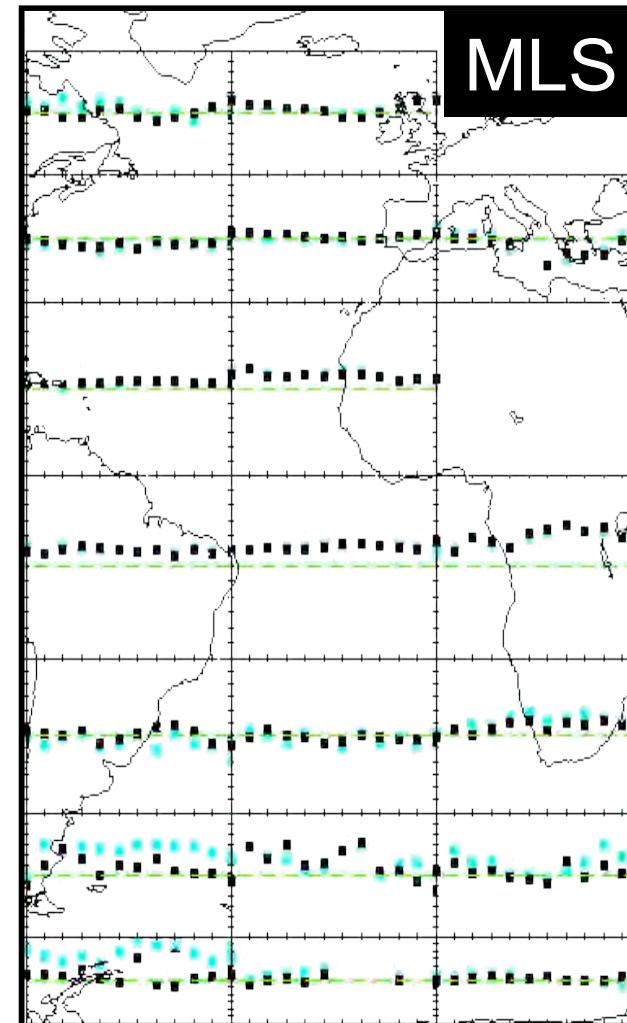
**2000-2004 MIXED LAYER BIASES (30° x 30° x 1-month bins)**  
**ORCA05-G70 - ORCA025-G70**



**MLD**



**MLT**



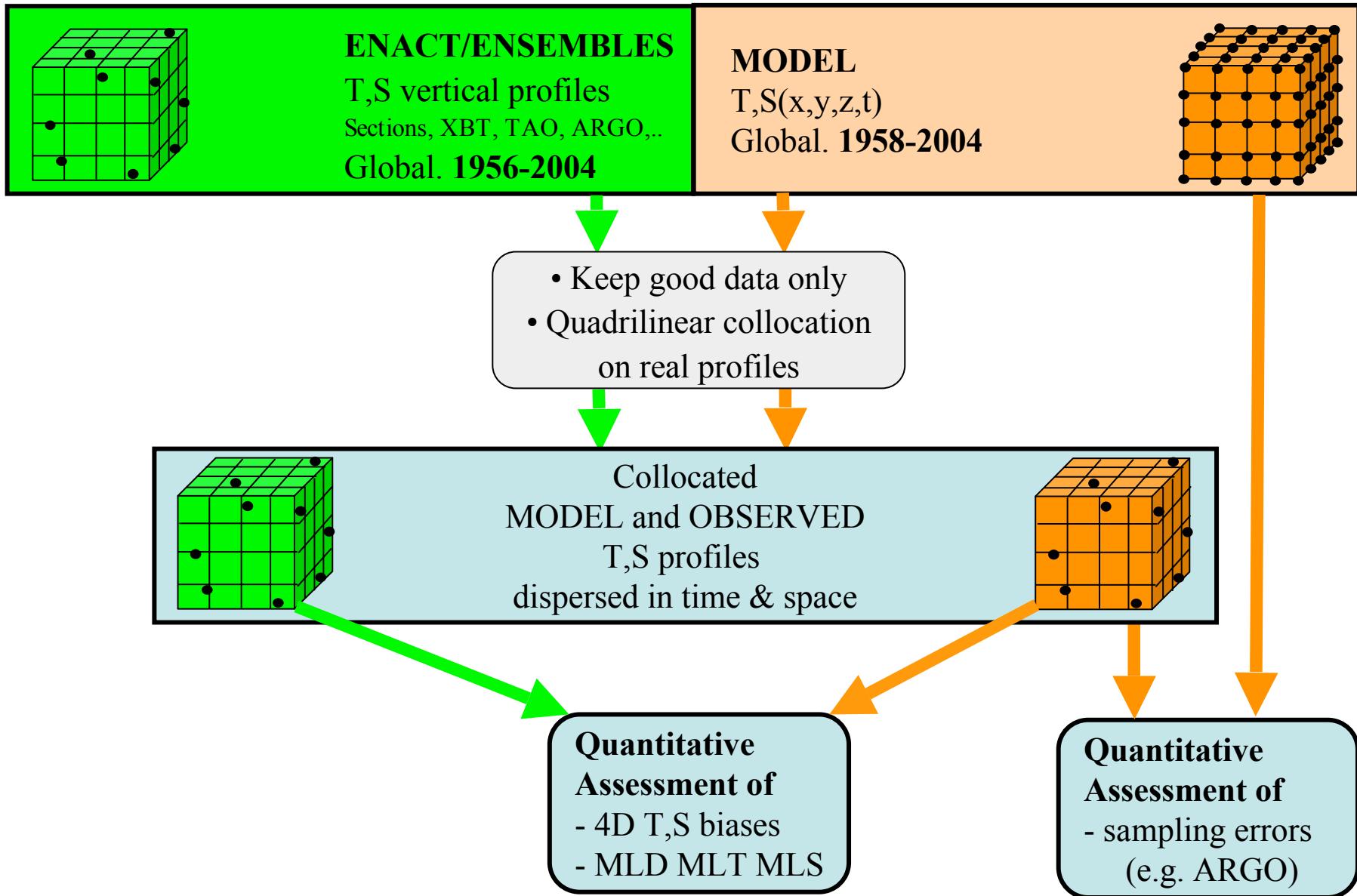
**MLS**

↑ 50m too shallow  
↓ 50m too deep

↑ 5°C too warm  
↓ 5°C too cold

↑ 1 psu too salty  
↓ 1 psu too fresh

# ARGO sampling errors

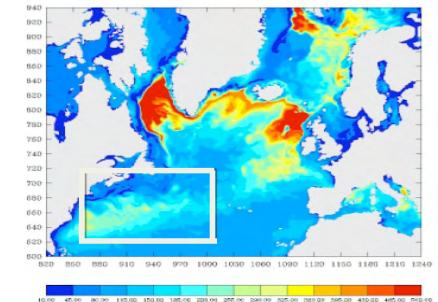


# ARGO sampling errors

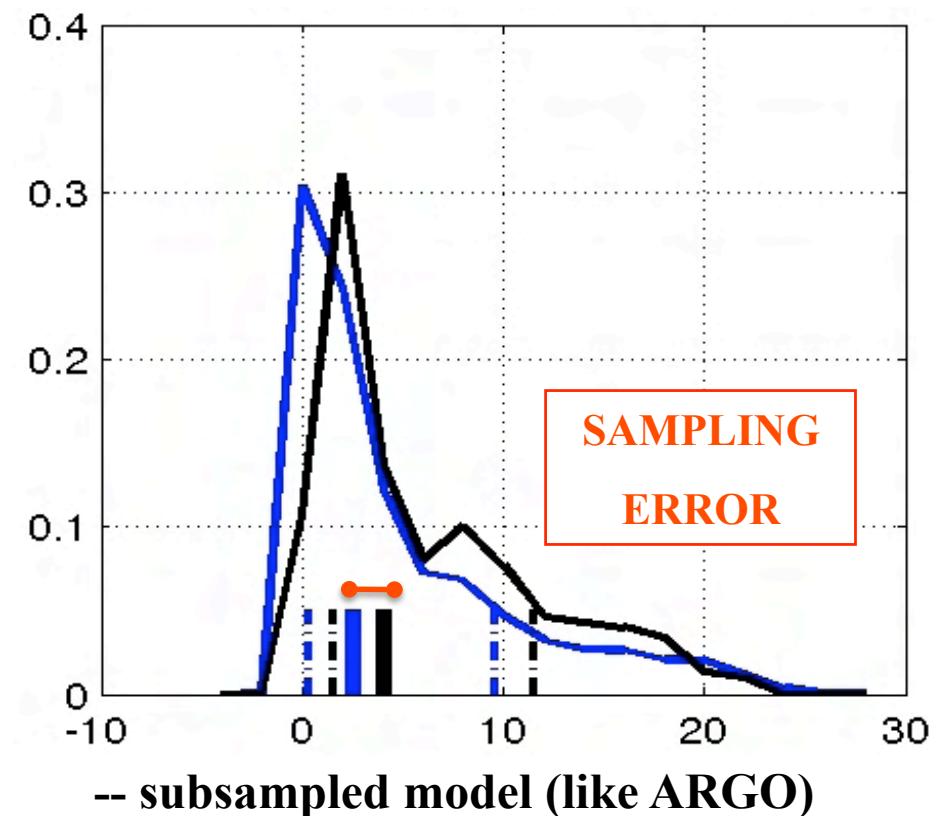
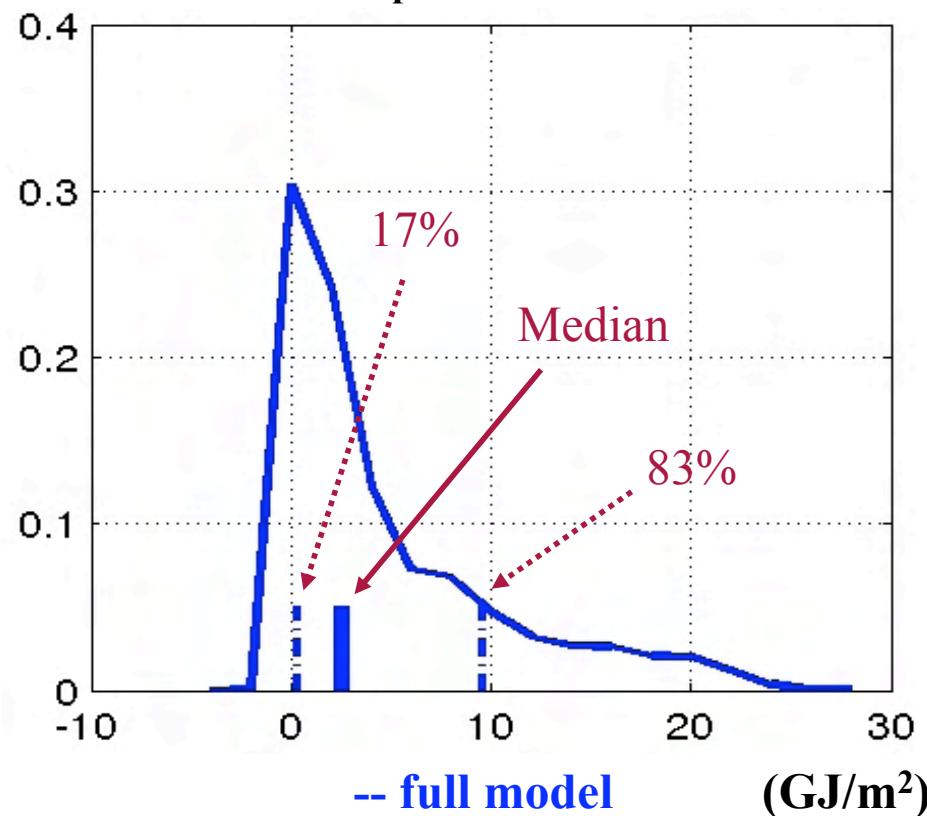
Mixed Layer Depth / Temperature / Salinity / Heat and Salt Contents

Example: MLHC in NW Atlantic

$$MLHC = \rho_0 Cp \int_{z=MLD}^0 \Delta T dz$$

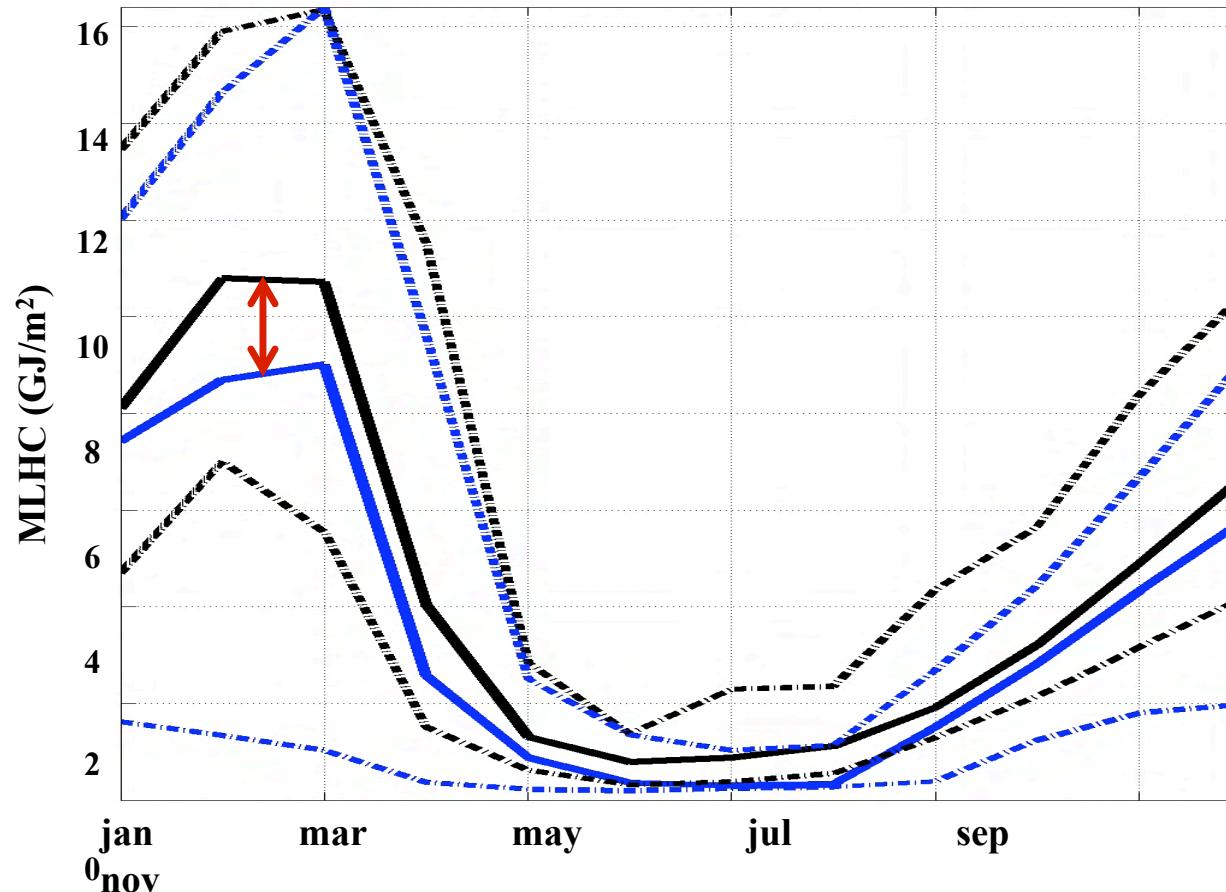


April 1998-2004



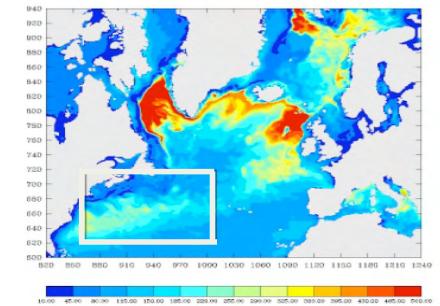
# ARGO sampling error : MLHC

Monthly cycle of MLHC (1998-2004):



→ well observed seasonal cycle

→ small sampling error. JFM  $\sim 2 \text{ GJ/m}^2$

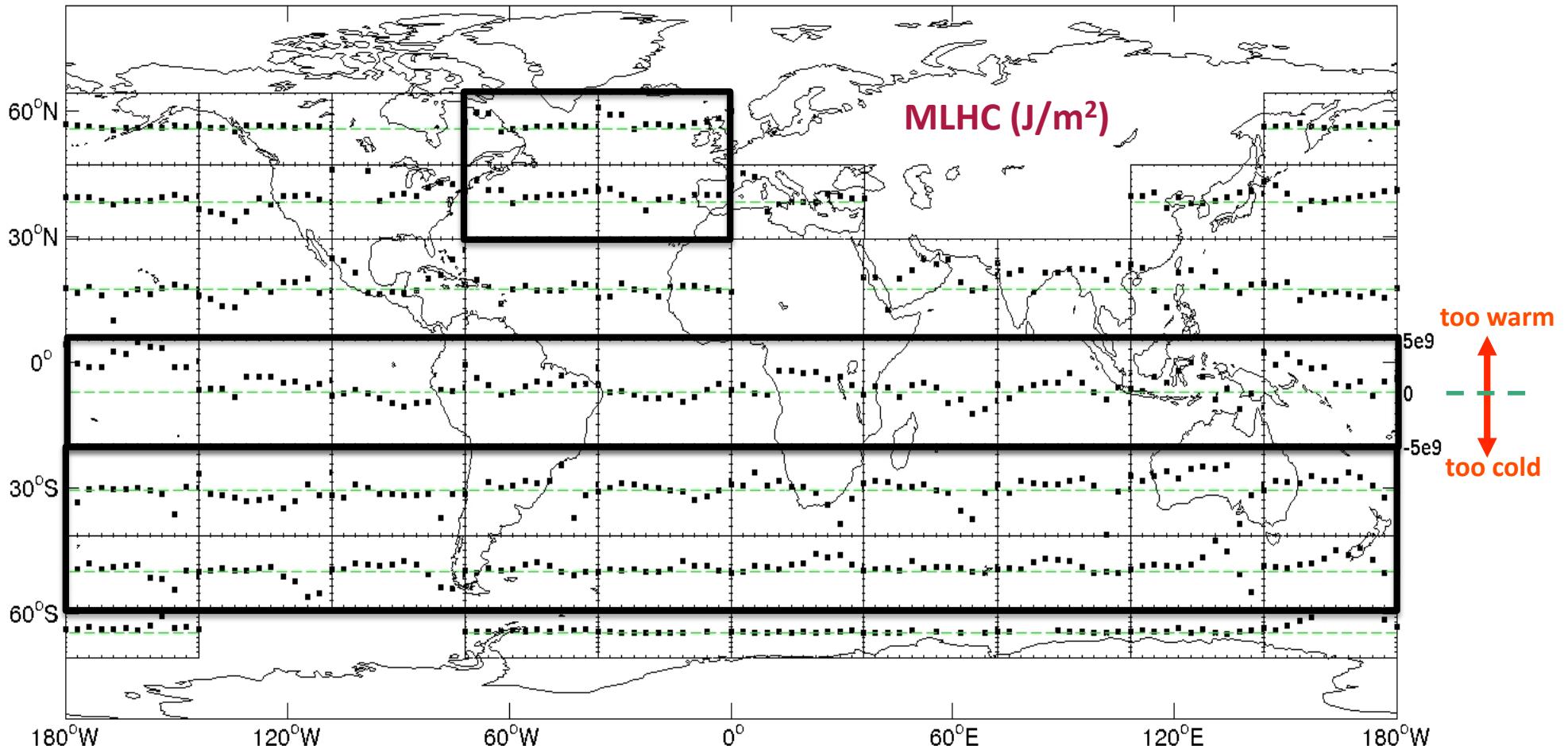


-- sub-sampled model

-- full model  $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$

# ARGO sampling error : MLHC

ARGO sampling error on monthly MLHC (1998-2004)



$$\text{Error} = \langle \text{subsampled model} \rangle - \langle \text{full model} \rangle$$

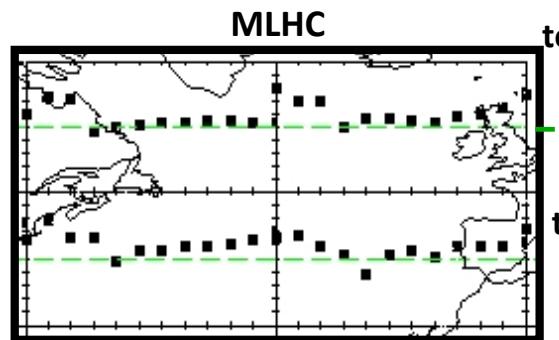
$30^\circ \times 30^\circ \times 1 \text{ month bins (1998-2004)}$

→ Sampling errors of MLD and MLT

# ARGO sampling error : MLHC, MLD, MLT

Contribution of MLD / MLT to the ARGO sampling errors of MLHC

North  
Atlantic



too warm

too cold

MLT

MLD

5°C too warm

5°C too cold

100m too shallow

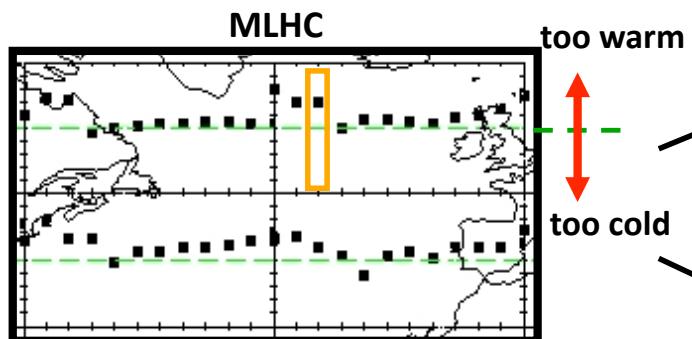
100m too deep

$$MLHC = \rho_0 C_p \int_{z=MLD}^0 \Delta T dz$$

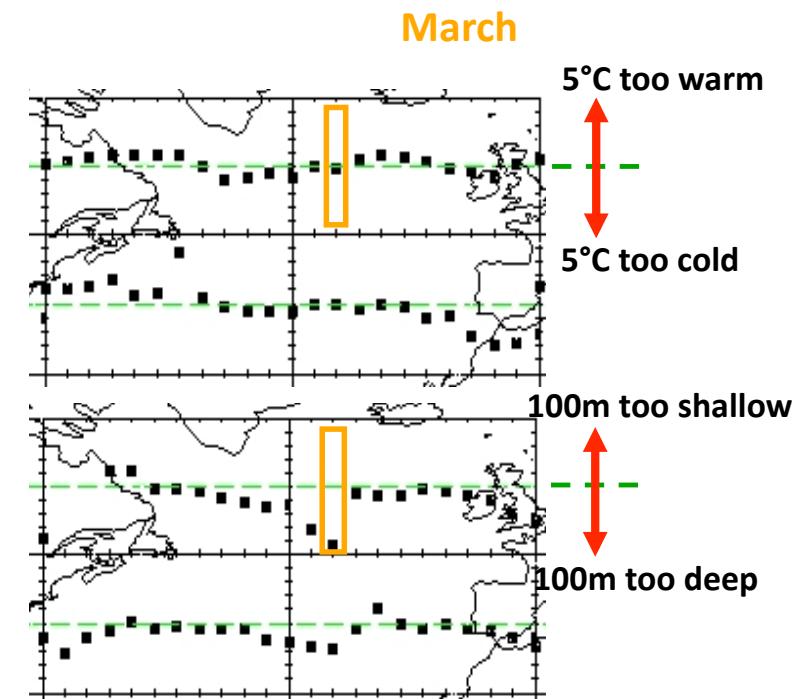
# ARGO sampling error : MLHC, MLD, MLT

Contribution of MLD / MLT to the ARGO sampling errors of MLHC

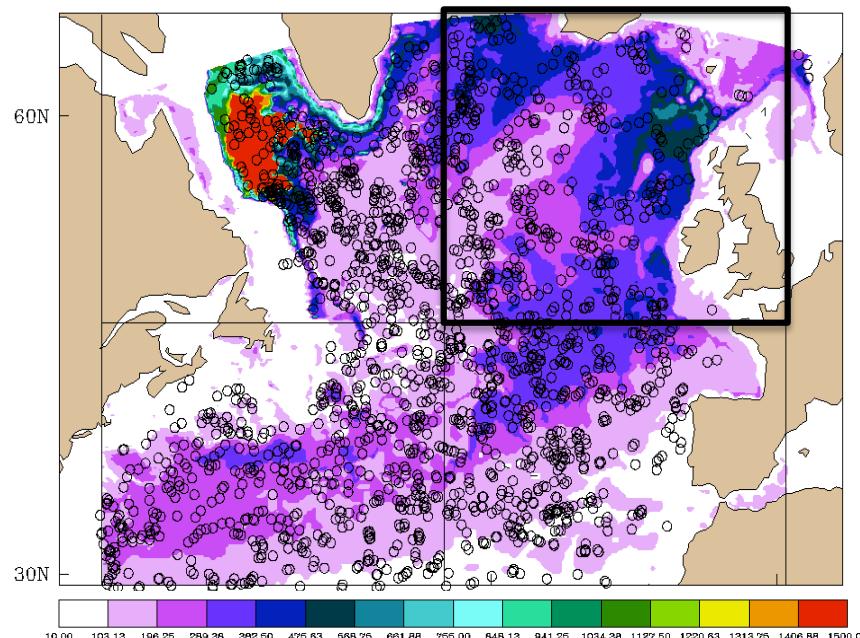
North Atlantic



MLT



¼° model MLD & ARGO floats positions – mar 1998-2004



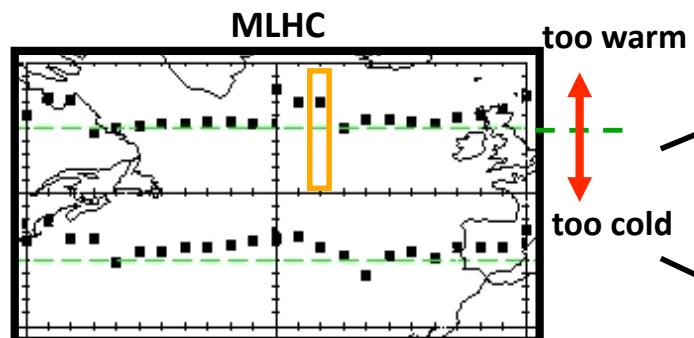
→ Quantity of data per bin? Moderate effect

→ Spatial distribution of ARGO floats?

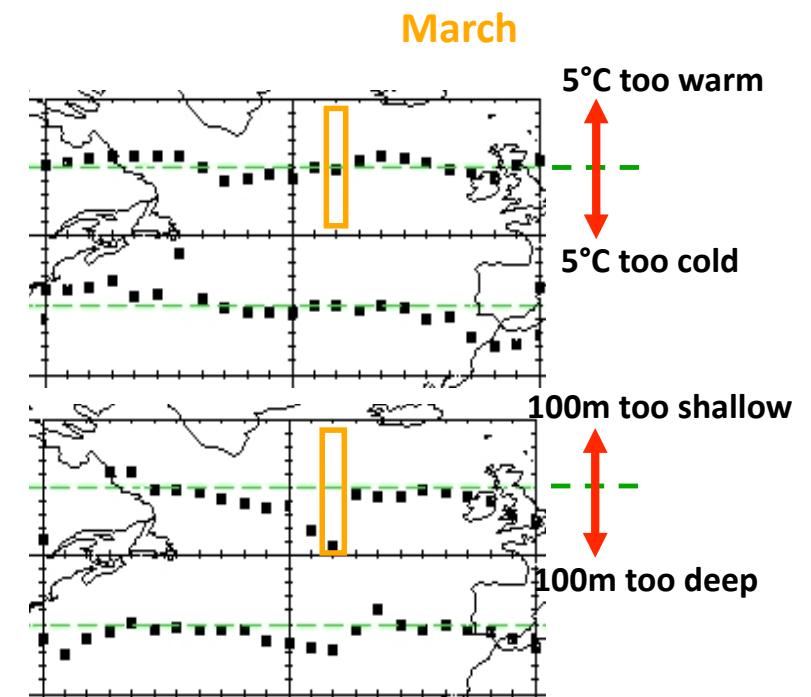
# ARGO sampling error : MLHC, MLD, MLT

Contribution of MLD / MLT to the ARGO sampling errors of MLHC

North Atlantic

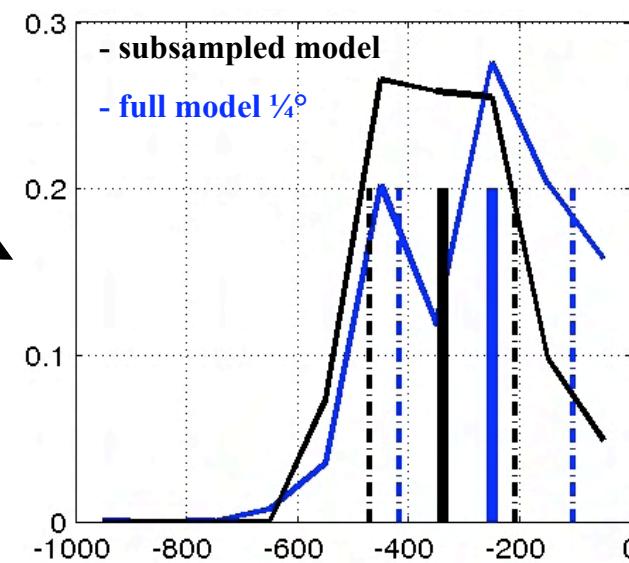
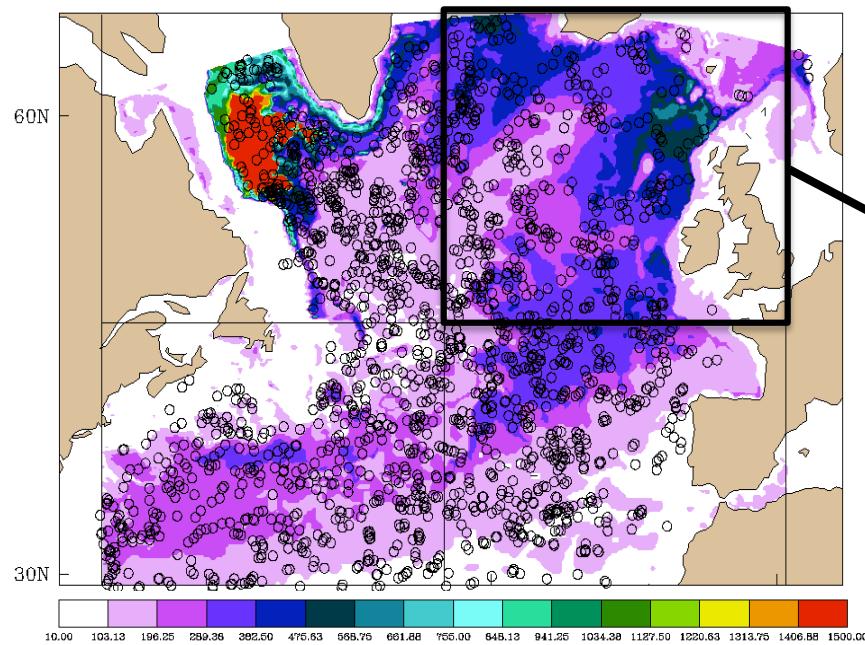


MLT



MLD

1/4° model MLD & ARGO floats positions – mar 1998-2004



MLD

# Conclusions - Perspectives

- Complementarity of simulations and observations
- DRAKKAR assessment: altimetry, hydrography, SST, currentmeters, etc.
- 4D biases of T,S quantified → further model improvements
- Preliminary estimates of ARGO sampling errors in the mixed layer

	Typical	Max
Depth	+/- 10 m	+/- 100 m
Temperature	+/- 1 °C	+/- 5 °C
Heat content	+/- 1 GJ/m <sup>2</sup>	+/- 5 GJ/m <sup>2</sup>

+ and Salinity, Salt Content.

- This method: Moderate impact of quantity of ARGO data  
Strong impact of spatial distribution
- Extend this assessment: to 2005-present (maximum ARGO coverage)  
toward the last 50 years (interannual cycles)
- ARGO community suggestions? Approach, error estimates, future deployments..