



# OVIDE

Overview of the scientific findings about the variability of natural and anthropogenic carbon in the North Atlantic

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Gilles Reverdin, Virginie Racapé et al.





# The Vigo team

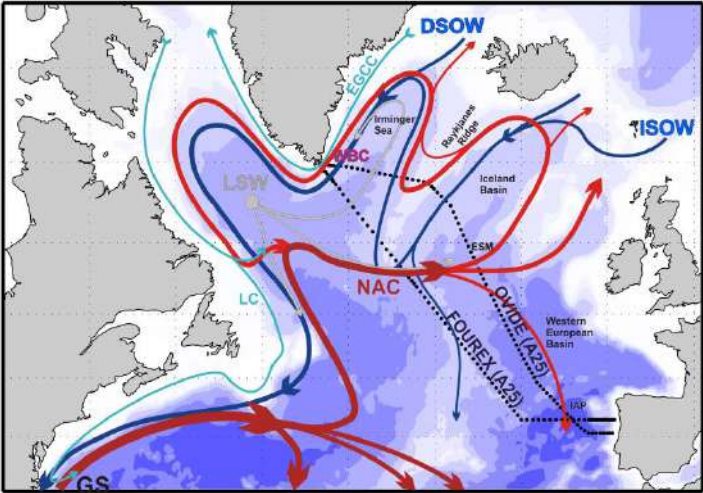
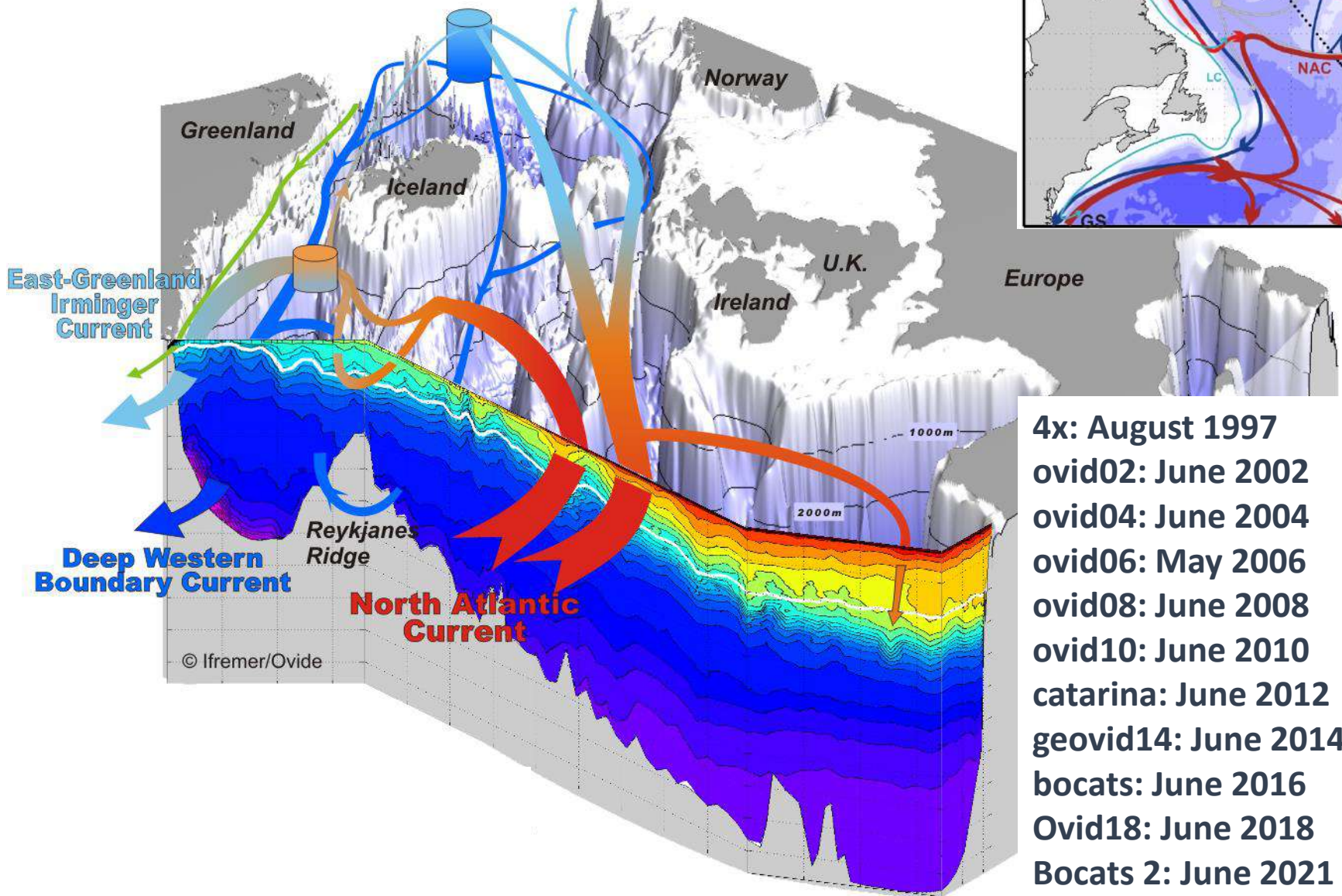
**Fiz F. Perez, Aida Rios, Maribel Garcia Ibañez,  
Marcos Fontela, Lidia Carracedo, Anton Velo,  
Marcos Vazquez Rodrigues  
and the Sarmiento crew members !**



# Four main scientific questions driving the OVIDE project

- ❑ **Introduction**
- ❑ Methodology
- ❑ Quantifying the variability of the Meridional Overturning Circulation (MOC) at subpolar latitudes
- ❑ Elucidating the mechanisms responsible for the storage of anthropogenic carbon dioxide in the North Atlantic

# OVIDE-A25 is one of the high frequency repeats of Go-Ship



- 4x: August 1997
- ovid02: June 2002
- ovid04: June 2004
- ovid06: May 2006
- ovid08: June 2008
- ovid10: June 2010
- catarina: June 2012
- geovid14: June 2014
- bocats: June 2016
- Ovid18: June 2018
- Bocats 2: June 2021

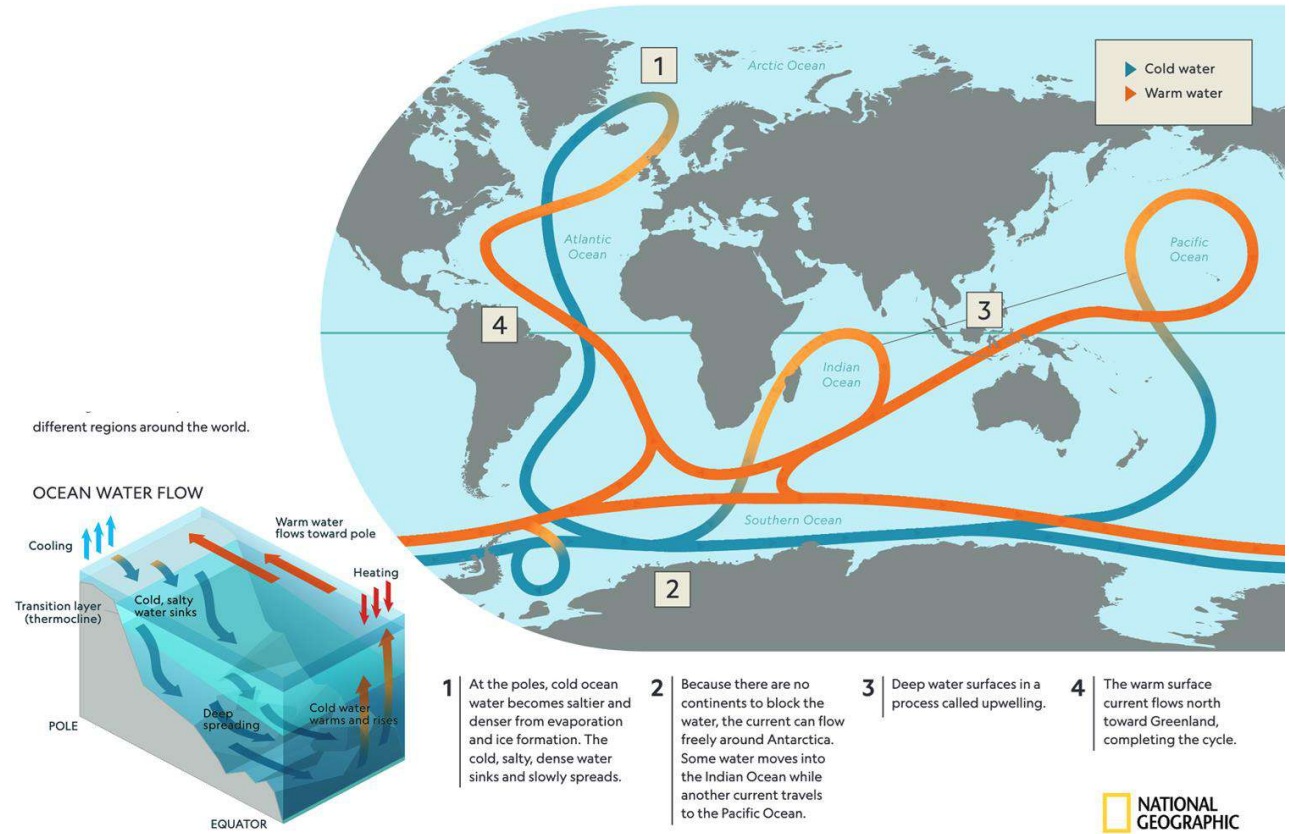


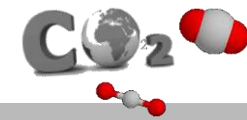
# Ocean carbon cycle: the ocean carbon pumps

What controls atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> uptake and storage by the oceans?

## THE GLOBAL CONVEYOR BELT

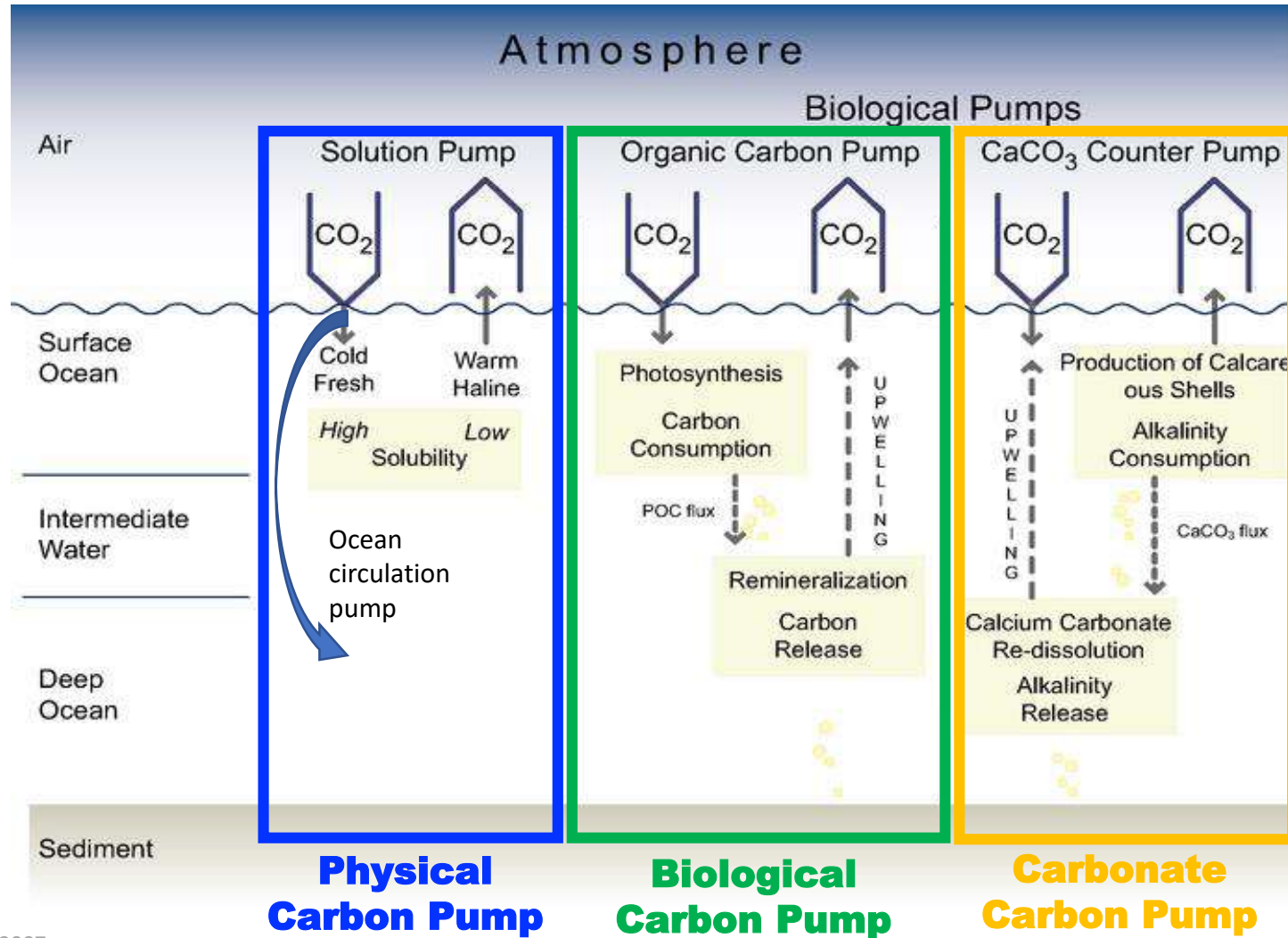
**Physical Carbon Pump (PCP):**  
Water mass formation and advection

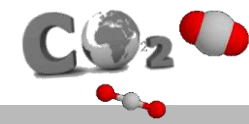




# Ocean carbon cycle: the ocean carbon pumps

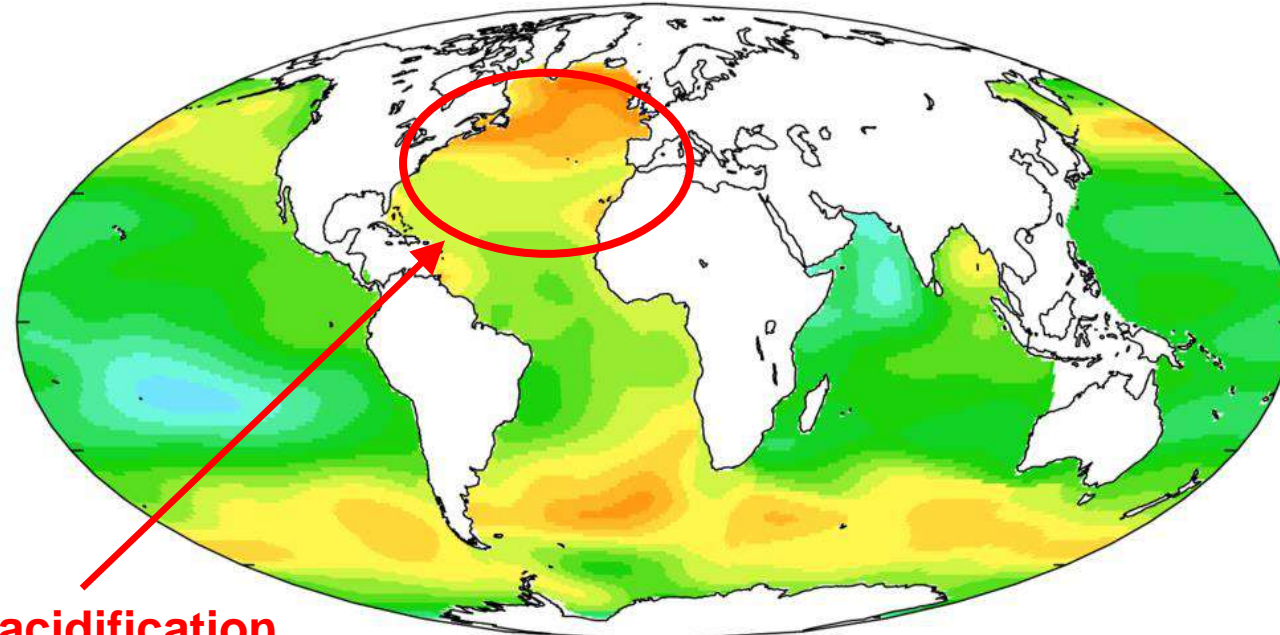
What controls atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> uptake and storage by the oceans?





# The anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> : consequences

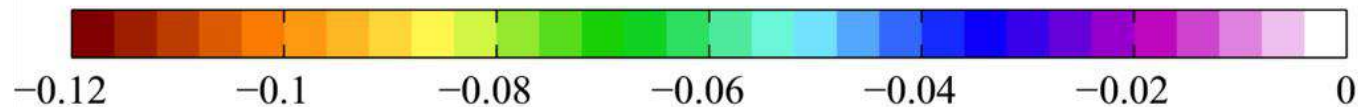
## Ocean Acidification



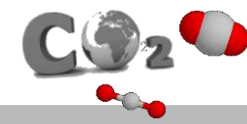
**Maximum acidification  
in the Atlantic North**

$$\Delta \text{pH} (\text{pH}_{1990\text{s}} - \text{pH}_{1970\text{s}})$$

$\Delta$  sea-surface pH [-]



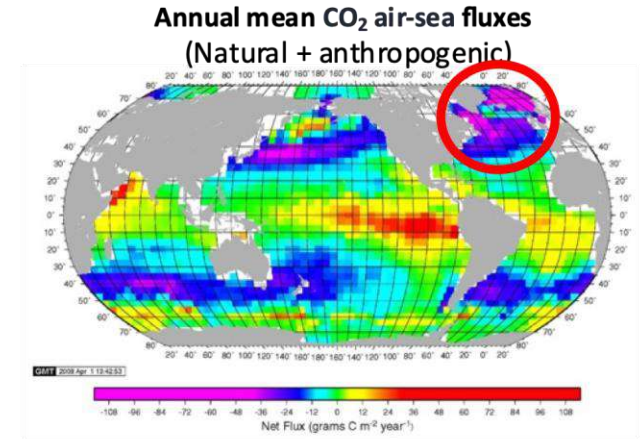
Estimated change in annual mean sea surface pH between the pre-industrial period (1700s) and the present day (1990s).  $\Delta$  pH here is in standard pH units. Calculated from fields of dissolved inorganic carbon and alkalinity from the Global Ocean Data Analysis Project (GLODAP) climatology and temperature and salinity from the World Ocean Atlas (2005) climatology using Richard Zeebe's csys\_package.



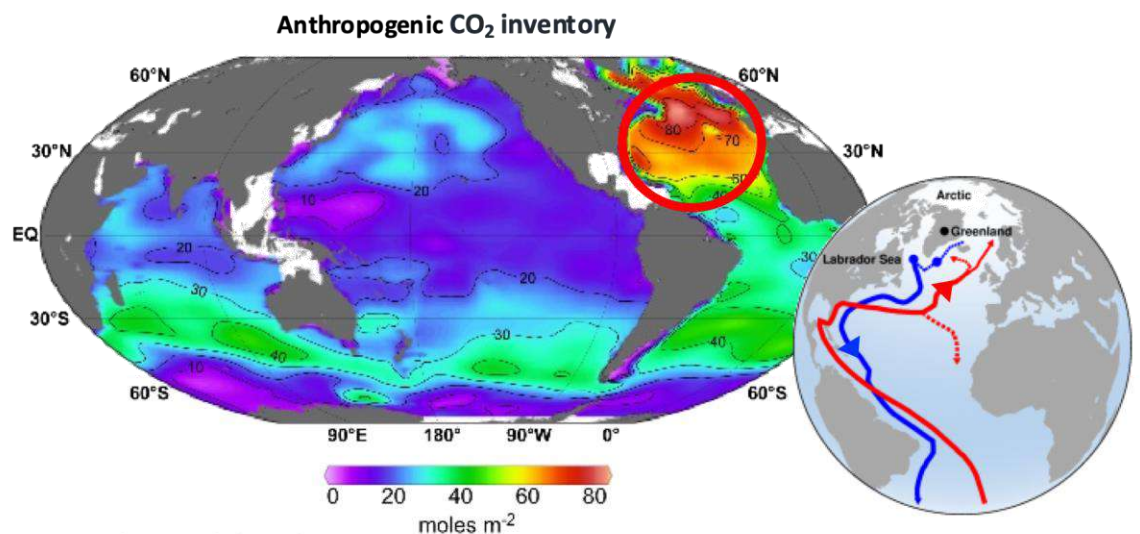
# The anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> (C<sub>ant</sub>): why the NA ?

## North Atlantic

- Is a region of **large atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> uptake** (**41% of global ocean CO<sub>2</sub> flux**)  
*Takahashi et al. 2009*
- Is the **region of largest accumulation of CO<sub>2</sub>** emitted by humankind to the atmosphere (**23% of the global oceanic C<sub>ant</sub>**)  
*Sabine et al. 2004*



Source: Takahashi et al. (2009) DSR



Source: Sabine et al. (2004) Science





# The anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> (C<sub>ant</sub>): why the NA ?

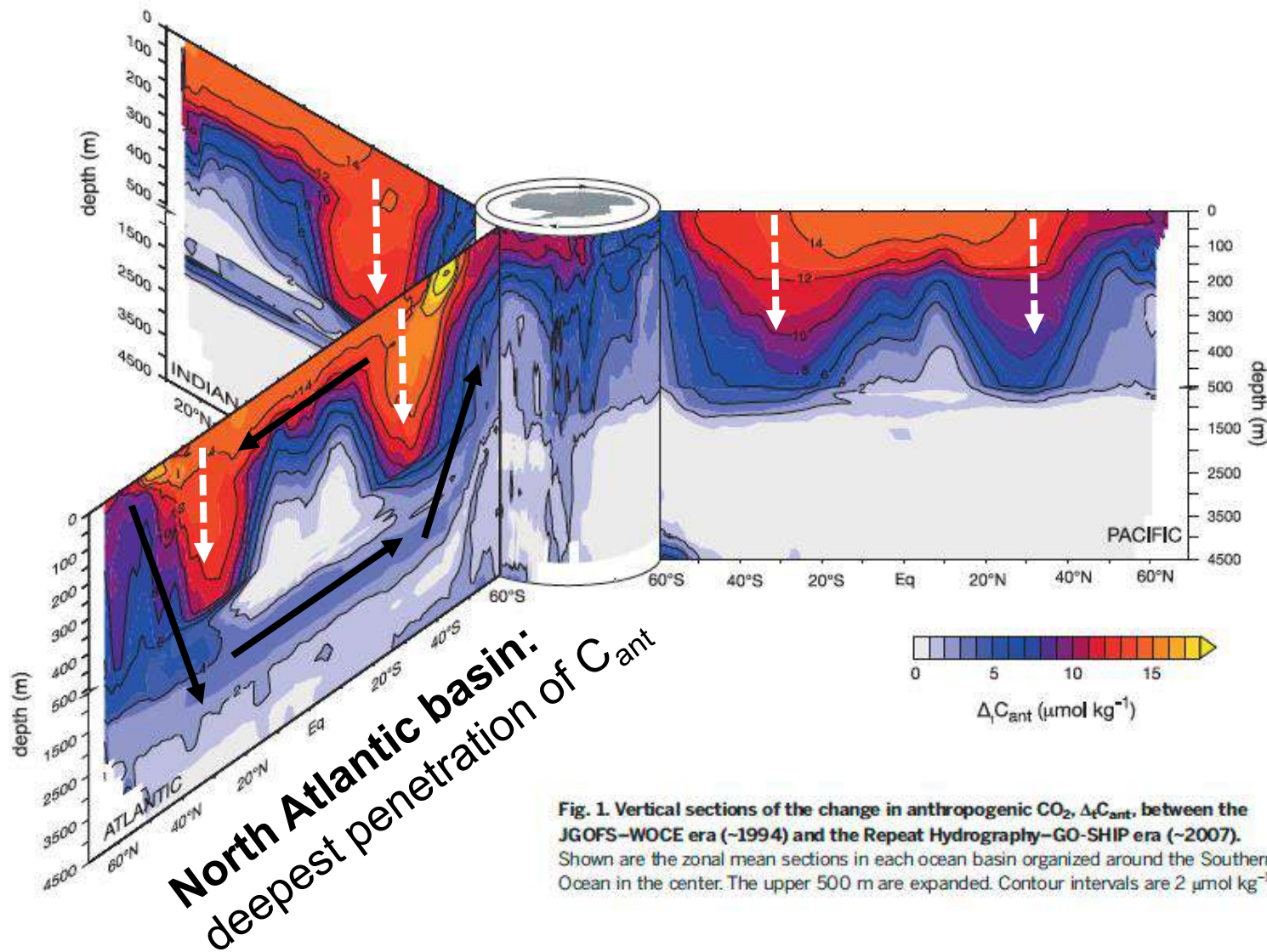
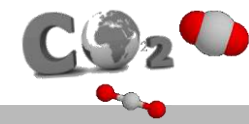


Fig. 1. Vertical sections of the change in anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub>,  $\Delta_t C_{ant}$ , between the JGOFS-WOCE era (~1994) and the Repeat Hydrography-GO-SHIP era (~2007). Shown are the zonal mean sections in each ocean basin organized around the Southern Ocean in the center. The upper 500 m are expanded. Contour intervals are 2  $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ .

# Four main scientific questions driving the OVIDE project

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ **Methodology**
- ❑ Quantifying the variability of the Meridional Overturning Circulation (MOC) at subpolar latitudes
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# C<sub>ant</sub> estimate methods: ocean carbon variables

## Which?

1. pH    2. A<sub>T</sub>    3. C<sub>T</sub>    4. pCO<sub>2</sub>    5. CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>

*“If you know two of these parameters you can compute all the others with a given T, S and P”*

## Where?

✓ Cruise Chemical-CTD *in situ* data :



- pH
- A<sub>T</sub>
- C<sub>T</sub>
- O<sub>2</sub>
- Salinity
- Temperature

✓ World data bases:



## How?

✓ Niskin bottles' sampling :

- pH
- A<sub>T</sub>
- C<sub>T</sub>
- Nutrients
- <sup>14</sup>C and O<sup>18</sup> isotopes
- O<sub>2</sub>
- Salinity

✓ Analysis of the carbonate system variables

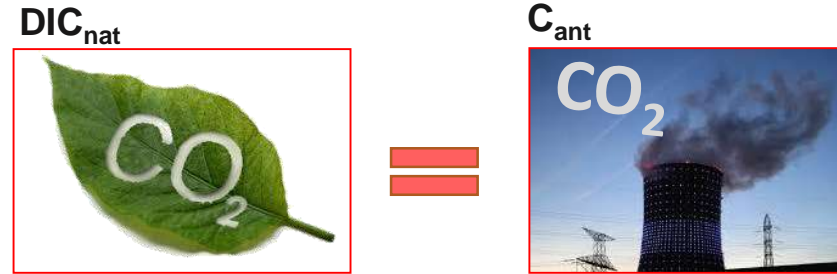
(pairs: pH/A<sub>T</sub>, C<sub>T</sub>/A<sub>T</sub>)



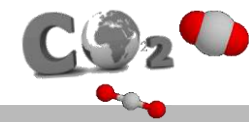


# C<sub>ant</sub> estimate methods

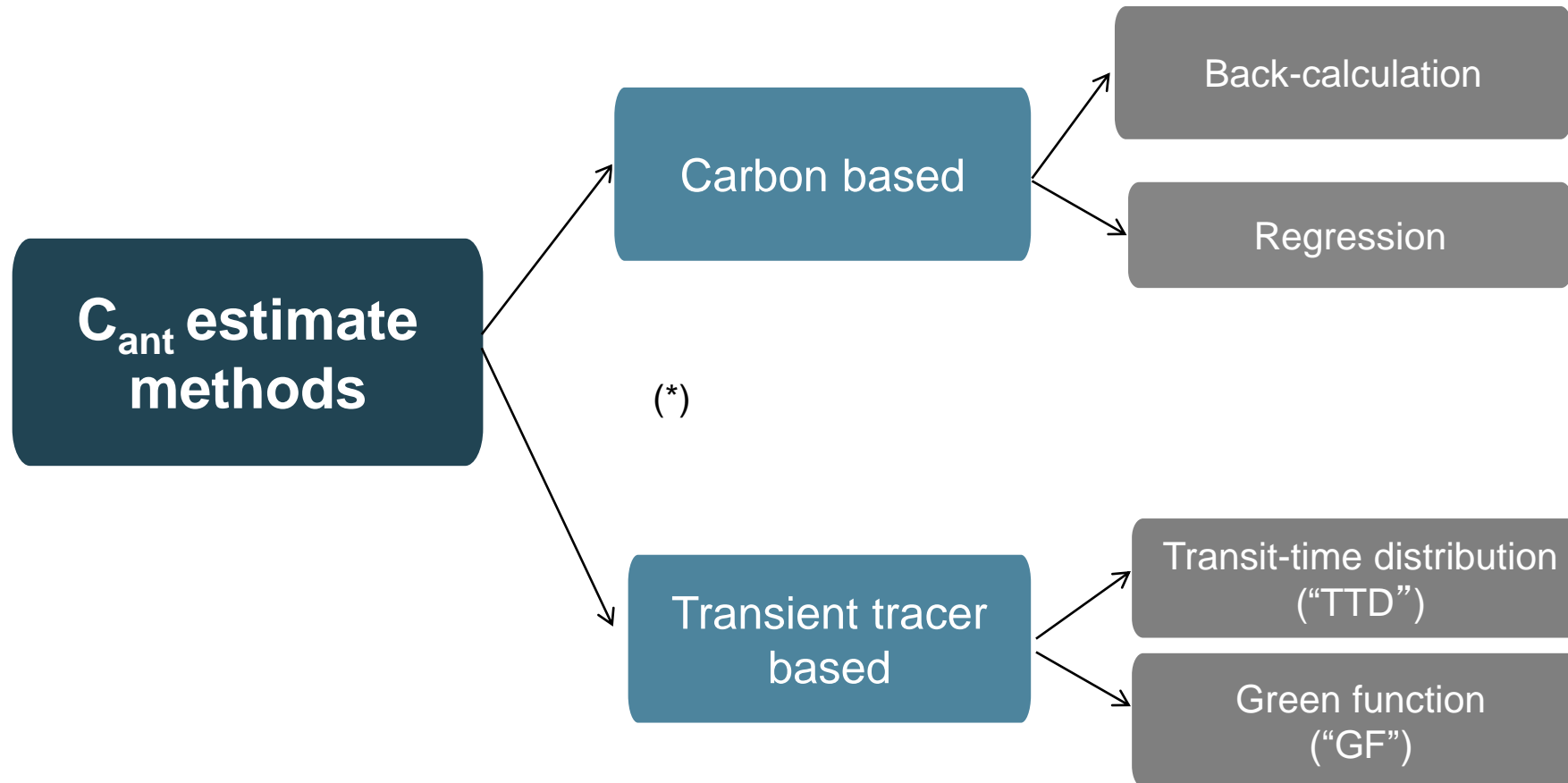
$$\text{DIC} = \text{DIC}_{\text{nat}} + \text{C}_{\text{ant}}$$



- C<sub>ant</sub> is **not a directly measurable quantity**: it has to be estimated using indirect means.
- The anthropogenic signal in the ocean is only **a few percent (3-4%)** of DIC.
- Carbon in the ocean participates in rather **complex in situ biogeochemistry processes**.
- C<sub>ant</sub> distribution in the ocean is highly **heterogeneous**.

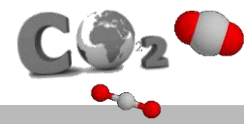


# C<sub>ant</sub> estimate methods



(\*)

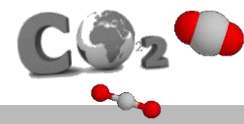
(\*) OCIM: Ocean Circulation Inverse Model (DeVries, 2014)  
[a bit in-between both: inversion method with Δ14C as constraint]



# C<sub>ant</sub> estimate methods: back-calculation methods

## Carbon based

- Indirect estimate of C<sub>ant</sub> from direct measurements (A<sub>T</sub>, C<sub>T</sub>,...)
- Used by the first time in the 70s (Brewer, 1978; Chen y Millero,1979)
- Methods:
  - 1/  $\Delta C^*$  (Gruber et al., 1996)
  - 2/ C<sub>T</sub><sup>0</sup> IPSL (Lo Monaco et al., 2005)
  - 3/ TrOCA (Touratier et al., 2007)
  - 4/  $\varphi C_T^0$  (Vázquez-Rodríguez et al., 2009)



# $C_{\text{ant}}$ estimate methods: back-calculation methods

## Carbon based

$$C_{\text{ant}} = C_{\text{T}} - \Delta C_{\text{bio}} - C_{\text{phys}}$$

$$C_{\text{ant}} = \boxed{C_{\text{T}}^0} - \boxed{C_{\text{T}}^{0\pi}}$$

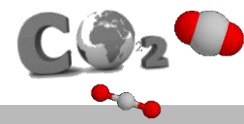
$$\boxed{C_{\text{T}} - \Delta C_{\text{bio}}} \quad \boxed{C_{\text{T}}^{\pi\text{SAT}} + \Delta C_{\text{dis}}^{\pi}}$$

$C_{\text{T}}$  (or DIC): measured total dissolved inorganic carbon.

$\Delta C_{\text{bio}}$ : processes of oxidation/remineralization of the organic matter and processes of dissolution of CaCO<sub>3</sub>.

$C_{\text{T}}^{\text{eq},\pi}$ :  $C_{\text{T}}$  in equilibrium in pre-industrial times.

$\Delta C_{\text{dis}}^{\pi}$ : disequilibrium in the interphase atm-ocean.



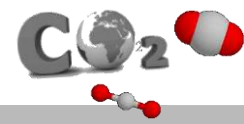
# C<sub>ant</sub> estimate methods: back-calculation methods

## Carbon based

### 4/ $\phi C_T^0$ method (Vázquez-Rodríguez et al., 2009)

- ✓ Method developed by Perez F.F. team – IIM-CSIC (Vigo)
- ✓ C<sub>ant</sub> is the difference between the water mass DIC at their formation time and the DIC that it would have in preindustrial times.
- ✓ Takes into account changes in carbon concentration due organic matter remineralization and CaCO<sub>3</sub> dissolution.
- ✓ Only needs hydrographical data: carbon, oxygen and inorganic nutrients.
- ✓ Overall uncertainty:  $\pm 5.2 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$
- ✓ Reference layer: subsurface layer





# C<sub>ant</sub> estimate methods: back-calculation methods

## Carbon based

### 4/ $\phi C_T^0$ method (Vázquez-Rodríguez et al., 2009)

#### Strengths of the method:

- ✓ Proper characterization of preformed conditions.
- ✓ No need for CFC's data.
- ✓ No assumptions about C<sub>ant</sub> saturation in the water mass formation time.
- ✓ Includes corrections for warming and acidification.
- ✓ Does not need a “zero” C<sub>ant</sub> reference.
- ✓ Is based on biogeochemical and oceanographic knowledge.



# C<sub>ant</sub> estimate methods: back-calculation methods

## Carbon based

### 4/ $\phi C_T^0$ method (Vázquez-Rodríguez et al., 2009)

#### **Weaknesses of the method:**

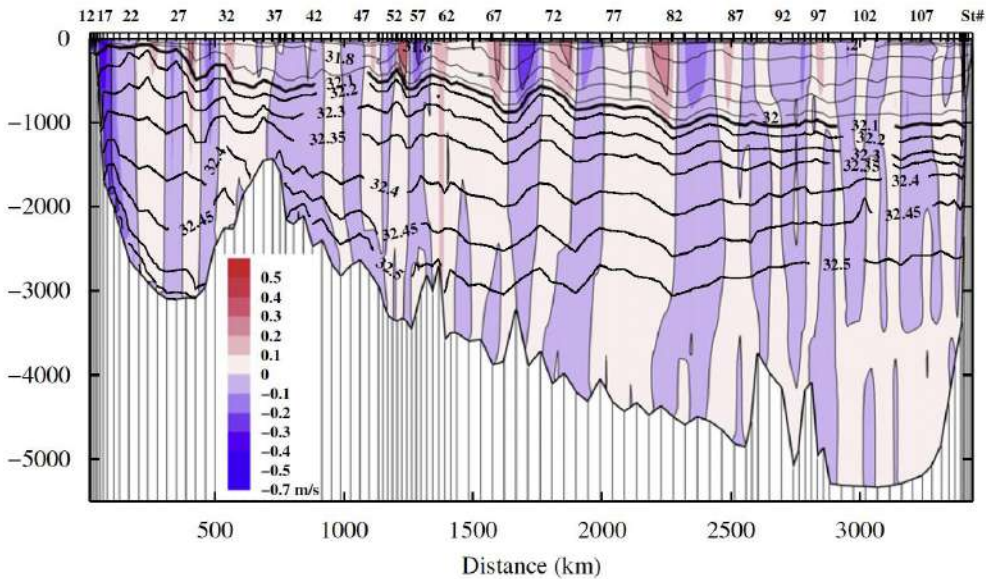
- ✓ Not global, only for the Atlantic Ocean.
- ✓ Depends in part on a simplified OMP.
- ✓  $\Delta C_{dis}$  computation is based on multiple linear regressions (MLR) that are potentially improved.
- ✓ Assume constant and homogeneous stoichiometric ratios.

# Calculation of C<sub>ant</sub> transports

$$T_{\text{Cant}}^{\text{section}}(x,z,t) = \iint [\text{Cant}](x,z,t) v(x,z,t) \rho(x,z,t) dx dz$$

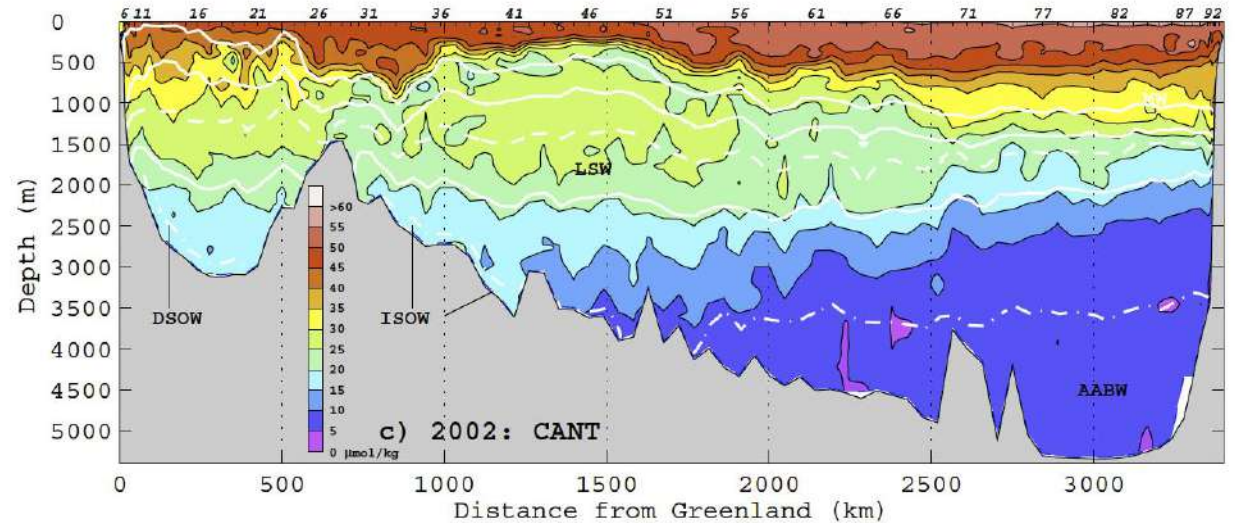
$v(x,z,t)$

$[\text{Cant}](x,z,t)$



Inverse box model

Source: Lherminier et al. (2010)



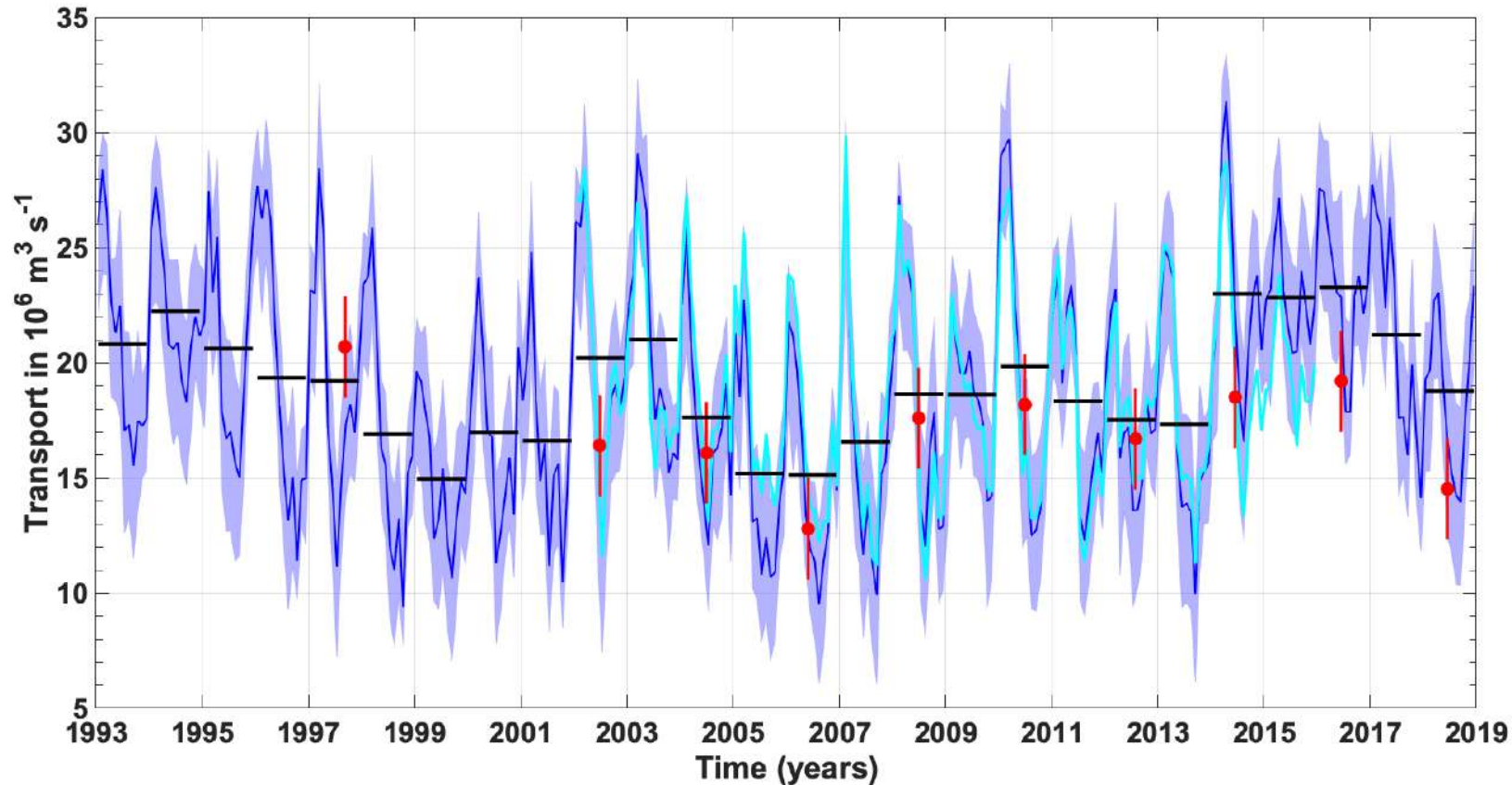
Back-calculation method

Source: Zunino et al. (2014)

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# OVIDE MOC Time Series



In cyan: with all the monthly and interannual variability of the ISAS hydrography fields

In blue: with the monthly climatology of the ISAS hydrography fields

In black: annual mean

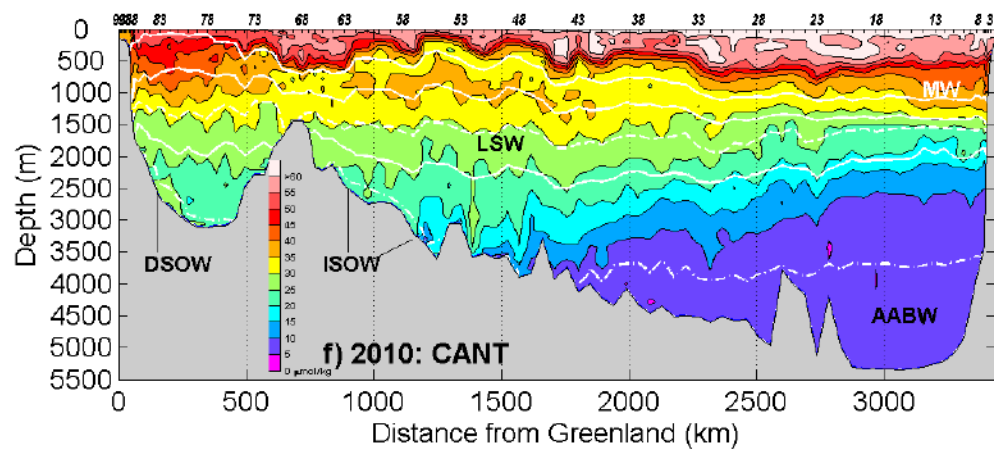
In red: MOC at the time of the cruise

The index includes 1 Sv of transport towards the Arctic and an annual mean Ekman transport of about 1 Sv southward

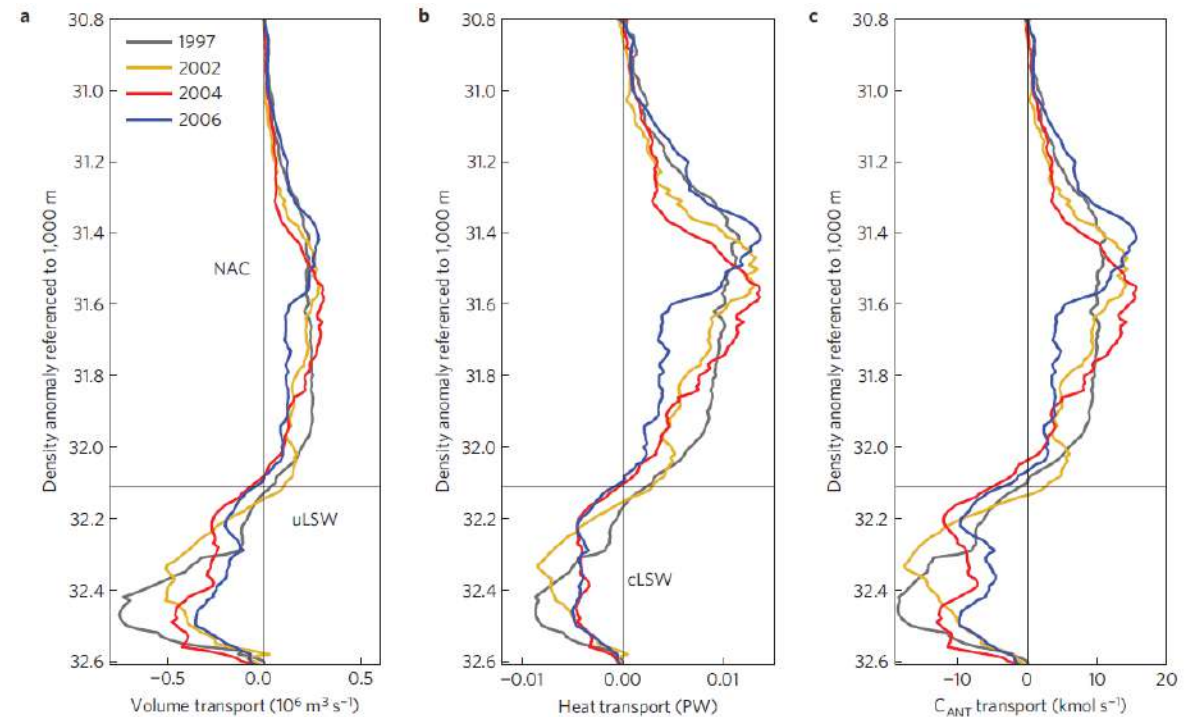
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# Net northward transport of Cant by the MOC



The water masses of the MOC upper (northward) limb show higher Cant than those of the MOC lower (southward) limb.



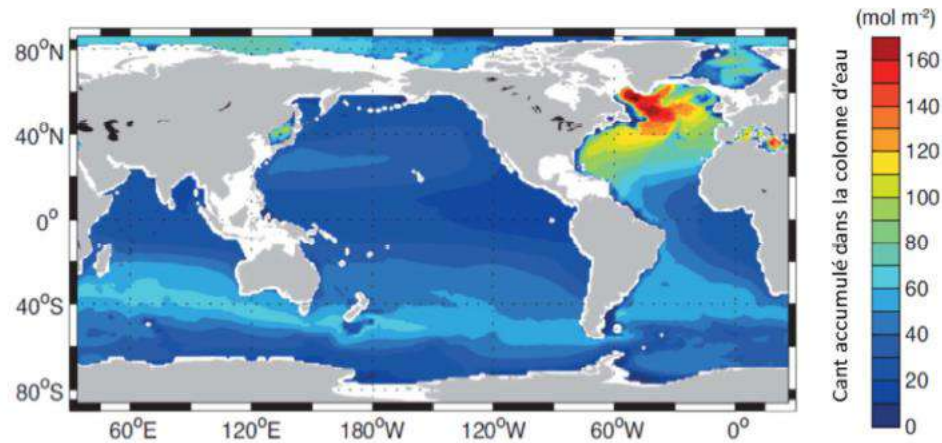
Volume transport

Heat Transport

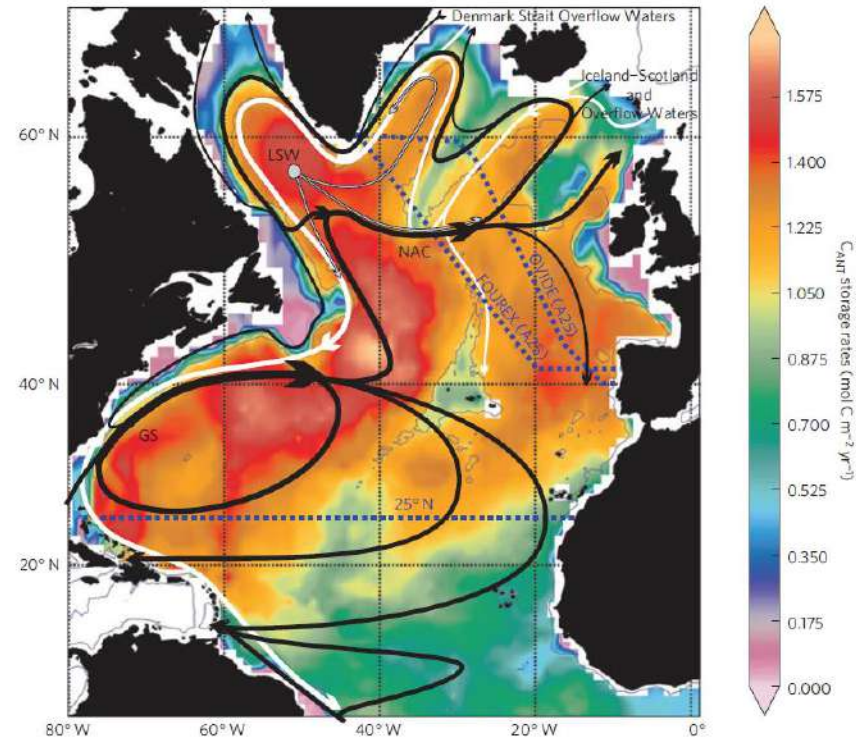
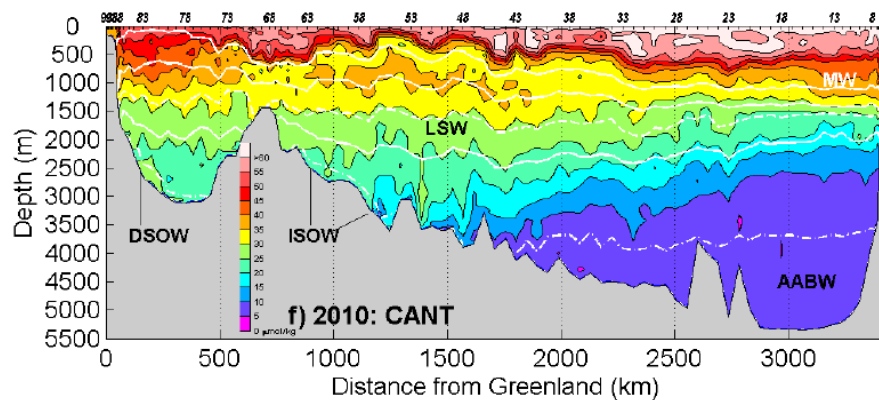
Cant transport

- ❑ The net transport of Cant by the MOC is northward
- ❑ Cant accumulates in the northern North Atlantic because of this net northward transport by the MOC.
- ❑ Perez et al. (2013); Zunino et al. (2014); Perez et al. (2019)

# Anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> uptake, advection and storage



**C<sub>ant</sub> = Anthropogenic Carbon**

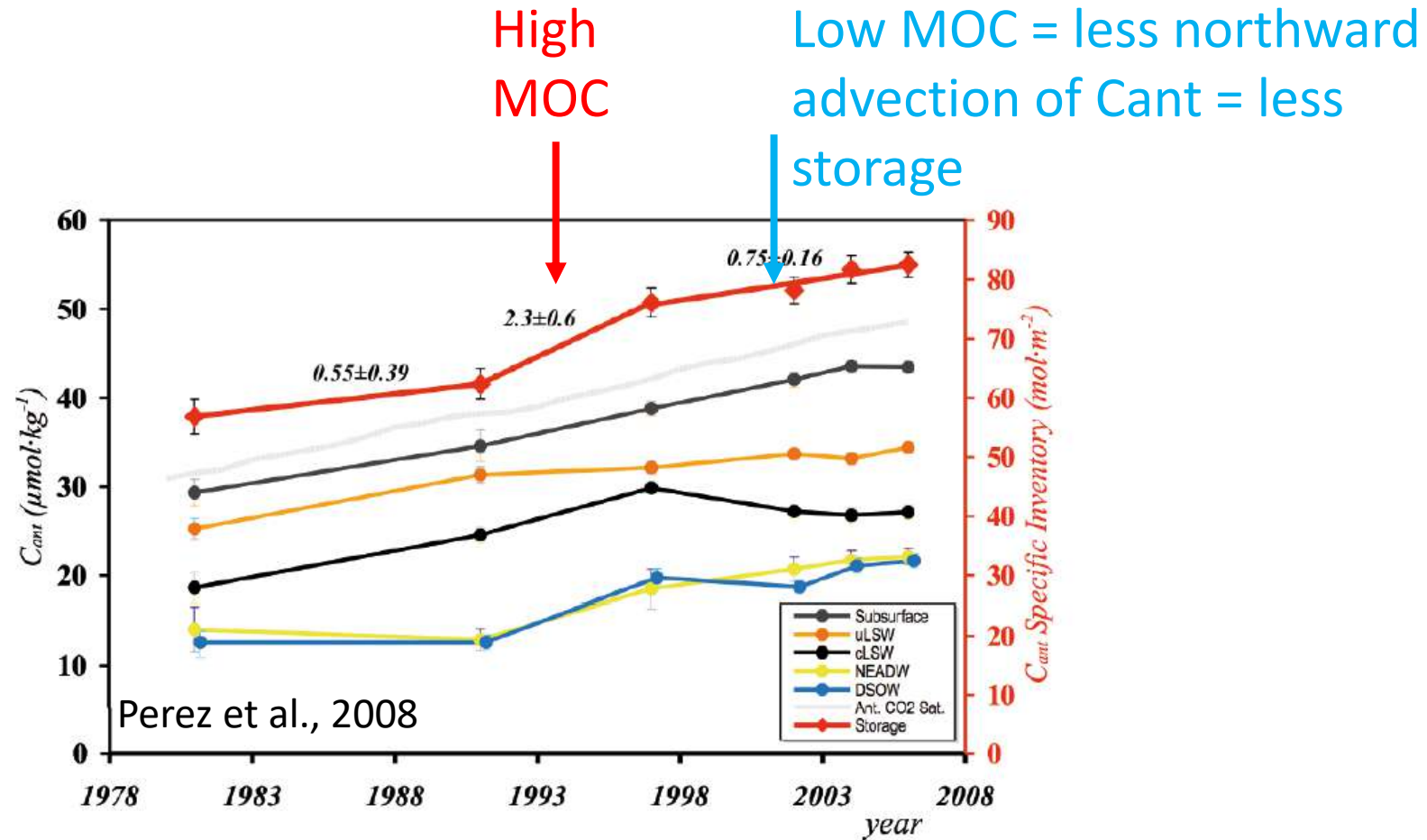


**In the NA, Cant uptake occurs in the subtropical gyre (mostly)**

**Cant storage rate in 2004 from Perez et al. (2013)**

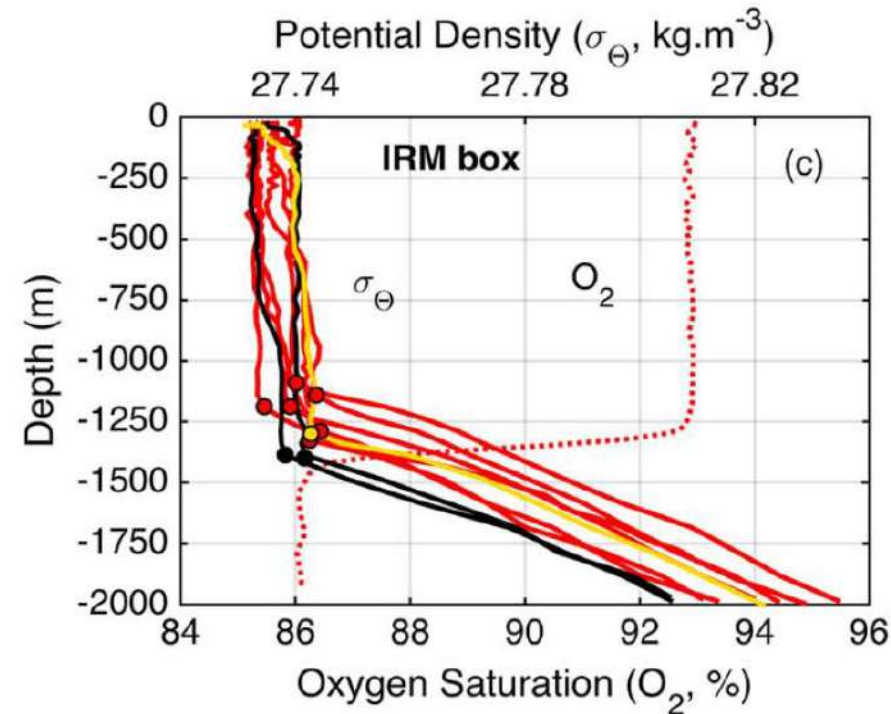


# MOC variability and Cant storage rate

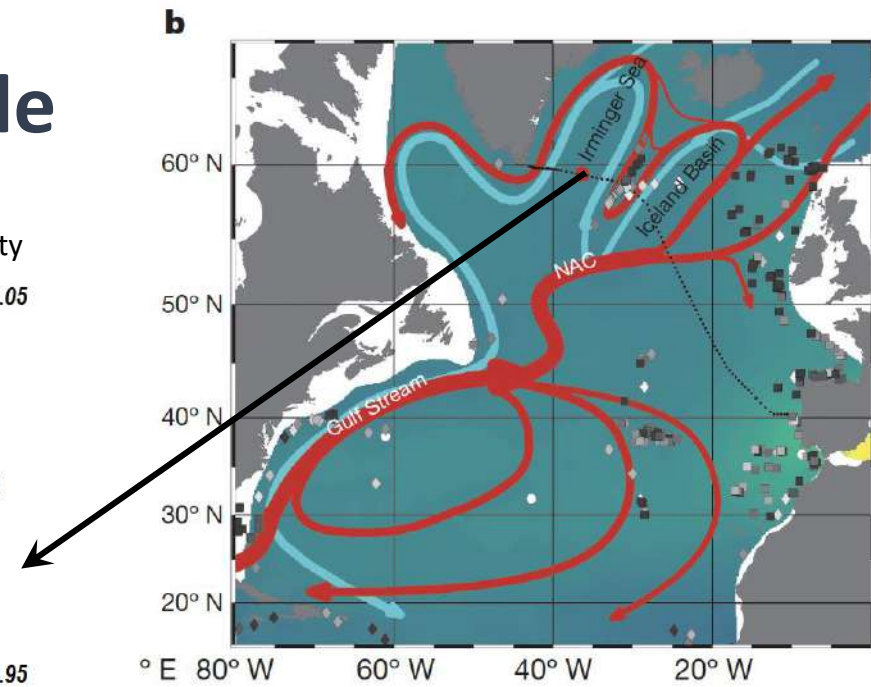
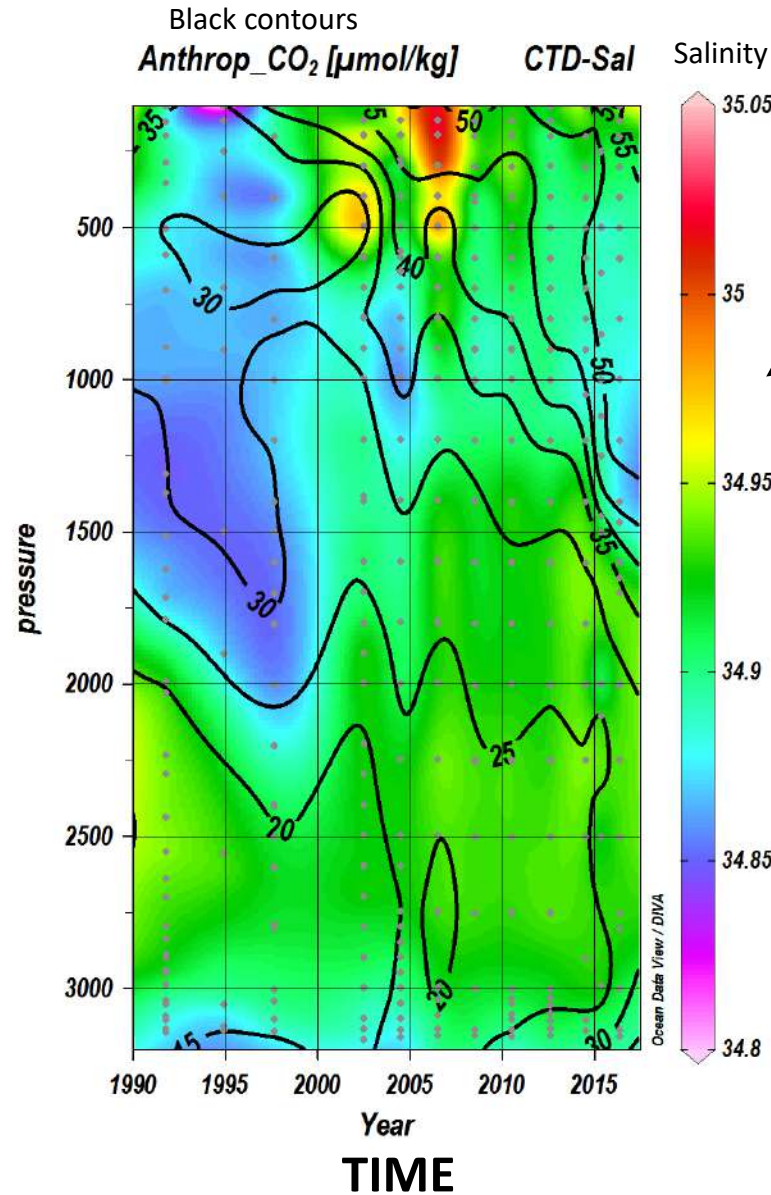


On inter-annual to decadal time scale MOC controls the storage rate of Cant in the North Atlantic subpolar gyre (see Zunino et al. 2014 for longer time scales)

# Anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> cycle



Exceptional deep convection in the Irminger Sea during winter 2014-2015. Piron et al. (2017).

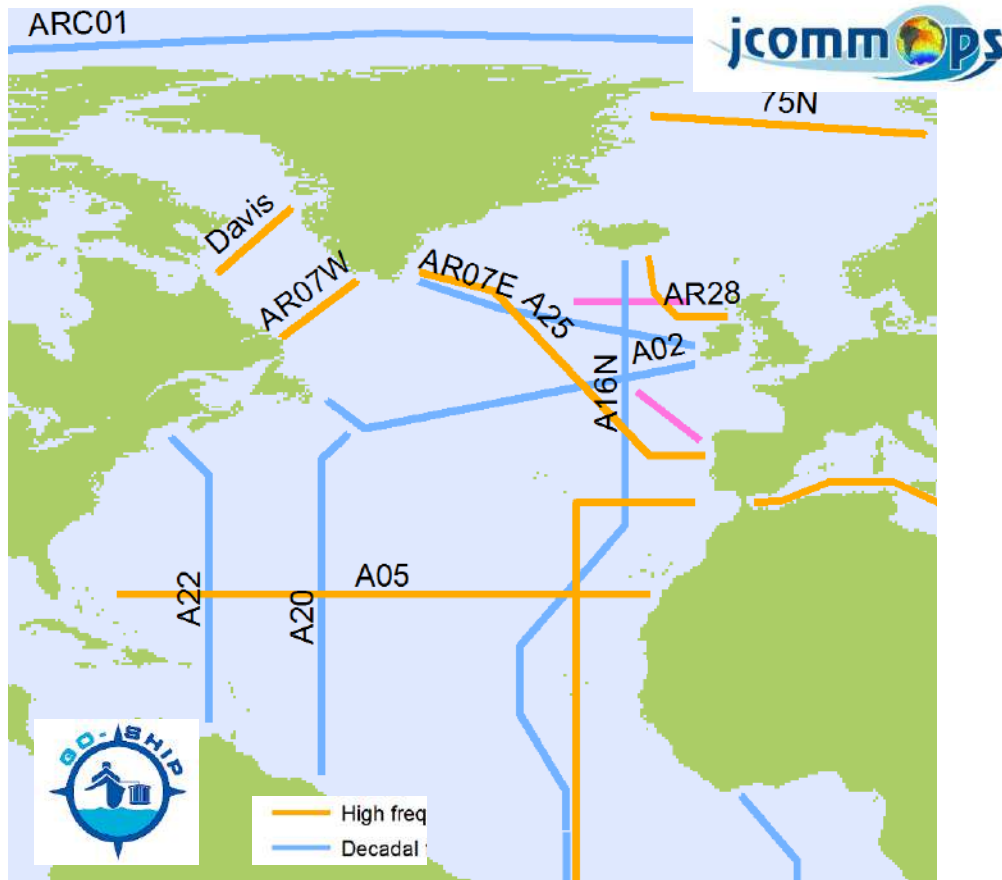


Injection of Cant into the deep ocean by deep convection events (Perez et al, Nature 2018)

# Conclusions

- The upper MOC<sub>σ</sub> time series reveals a strong seasonal to decadal variability
- The MOC<sub>σ</sub> variability is important to understand the interannual variability of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> storage rate
- More deep convection in the subpolar gyre in the latest year: Piron et al. (2017); Zunino et al. (2020).
- Data: Mercier Herle, Daniault Nathalie, Lherminier Pascale (2016). Time series of the Meridional Overturning Circulation strength at OVIDE.  
<http://doi.org/10.17882/46445>.
- Carbon related data: [https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/ocean-carbon-data-system/oceans/RepeatSections/clivar\\_ovide.html](https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/ocean-carbon-data-system/oceans/RepeatSections/clivar_ovide.html)
- Next occupations of the OVIDE line 2023 (Ship time already secured by Anton Velo and the Ovide group).

# Go-Ship : an international context



## OVIDE-A25 =

- One of the GO-SHIP high-resolution sections in the North Atlantic since 2002
- Physical and biogeochemical data
- Conducted by France (2002-2010) and Spain/France alternatively since 2012
- Contribution to CLIVAR & OSNAP