

High Latitude Fluxes and Products: Gridded, time series

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Oceanography Section

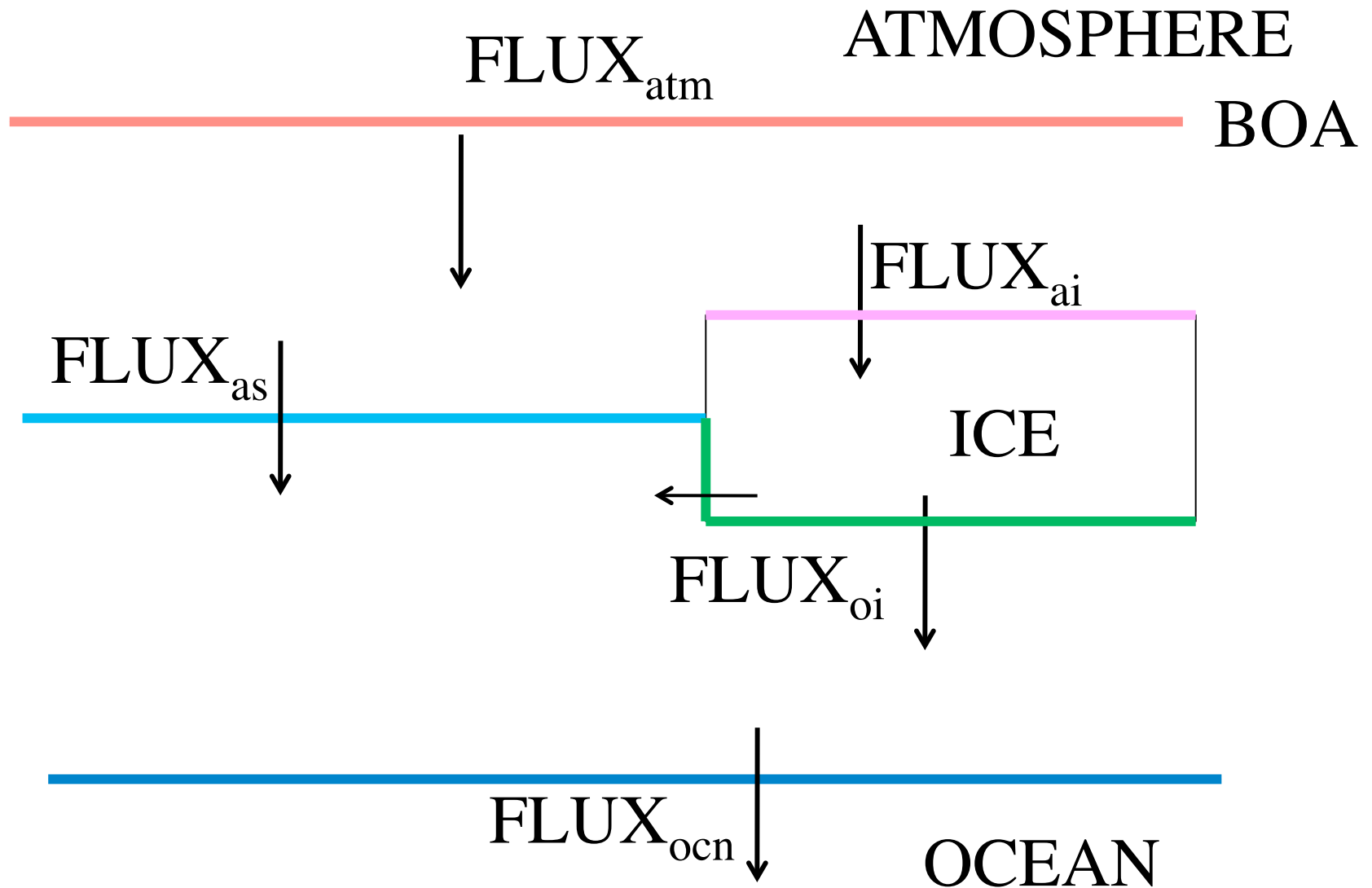
National Center for Atmospheric Research

Boulder Colorado

Why gridded flux time series ?

- **Forcing component models of the ocean, sea-ice, atmosphere and land**
- **Assessing flux errors in coupled climate simulations**
- **Estimating and understanding large scale (global) trends**
- **Investigating coupled feedbacks (clouds) and remote responses**

Challenges of sea-ice (snow) cover



Ocean Surfaces Fluxes

For a fractional sea-ice coverage, f_i , there are

air-sea $\{Q_{as}, F_{as}, \boldsymbol{\tau}_{as}\}$ and

ice-ocean $\{Q_{io}, F_{io}, \boldsymbol{\tau}_{io}\}$ fluxes

$$Q_{ocn} = f_o Q_{as} + f_i Q_{io} + Q_R$$

$$F_{ocn} = f_o F_{as} + f_i F_{io} + \text{Runoff}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{ocn} = f_o \boldsymbol{\tau}_{as} + f_i \boldsymbol{\tau}_{io}$$

$$f_o = 1 - f_i$$

Air –Sea (Ice) Flux Components

$$F_{as} = E(\text{evaporation}) + P_R(\text{rain}) + P_S(\text{snow})$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{as} = & Q_S(\text{SW } \downarrow \uparrow) \rightarrow Q_I(\text{insolation}) [1 - \alpha_s(\text{albedo})] \\ & + Q_L(\text{LW } \downarrow \uparrow) \rightarrow Q_A(\text{LW } \downarrow) - \varepsilon \sigma (\text{SST})^4 \\ & + Q_E(\text{latent}) \rightarrow E \Lambda(\text{latent heat of vaporization}) \\ & + Q_H(\text{sensible}) \\ & + Q_P(\text{heating/cooling of P to SST and snow melt}) \end{aligned}$$

Known (not certain about much)

$\Delta U = U(h) - U_o$ from satellites gives τ_{as} , but neither τ_{ai} nor τ_{io} , to within about 10%

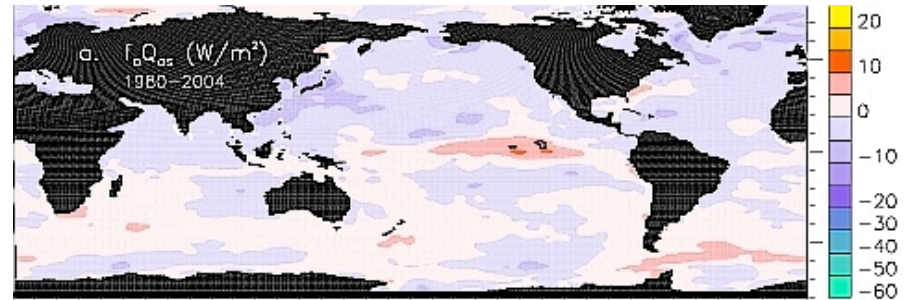
Scatter in Southern Ocean Westerlies,
may reflect phase of AAO

$$C_{YX}$$

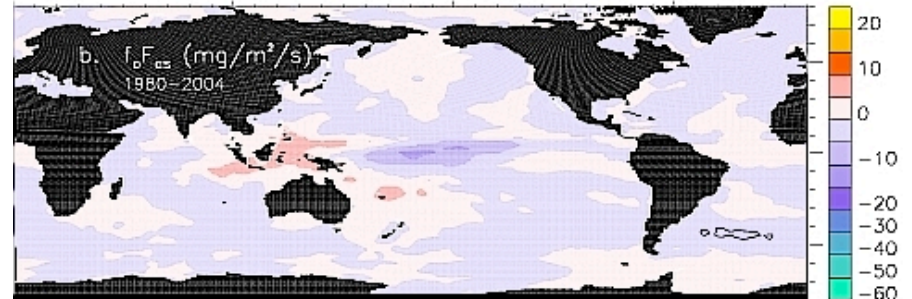
$$X = \text{AAO}$$

r_{YX} contoured at
 $\pm.4, \pm.6, \pm.8$

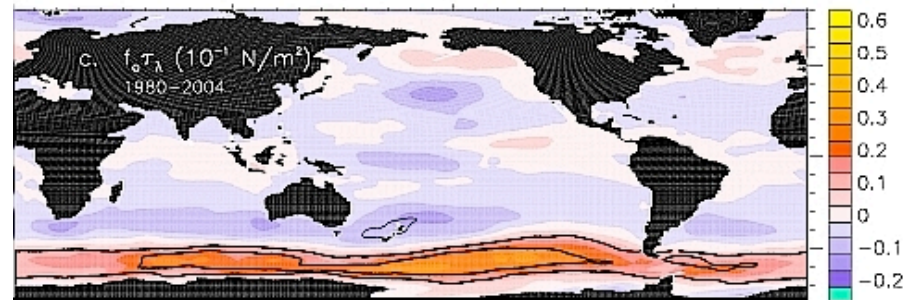
$f_o Q_{as}$



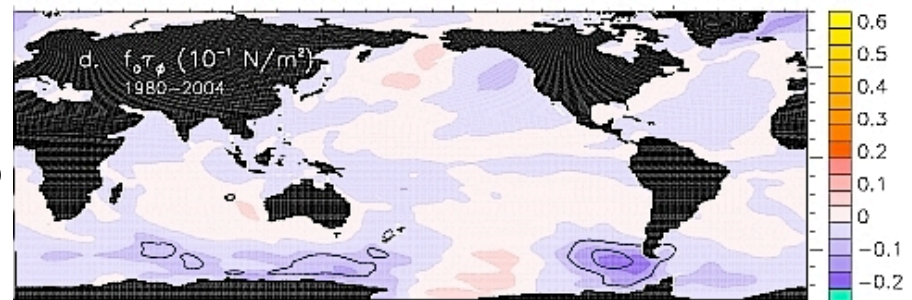
$f_o F_{as}$



$f_o \tau_\lambda$



$f_o \tau_\phi$



100° 200° 300°

Known (not certain about much)

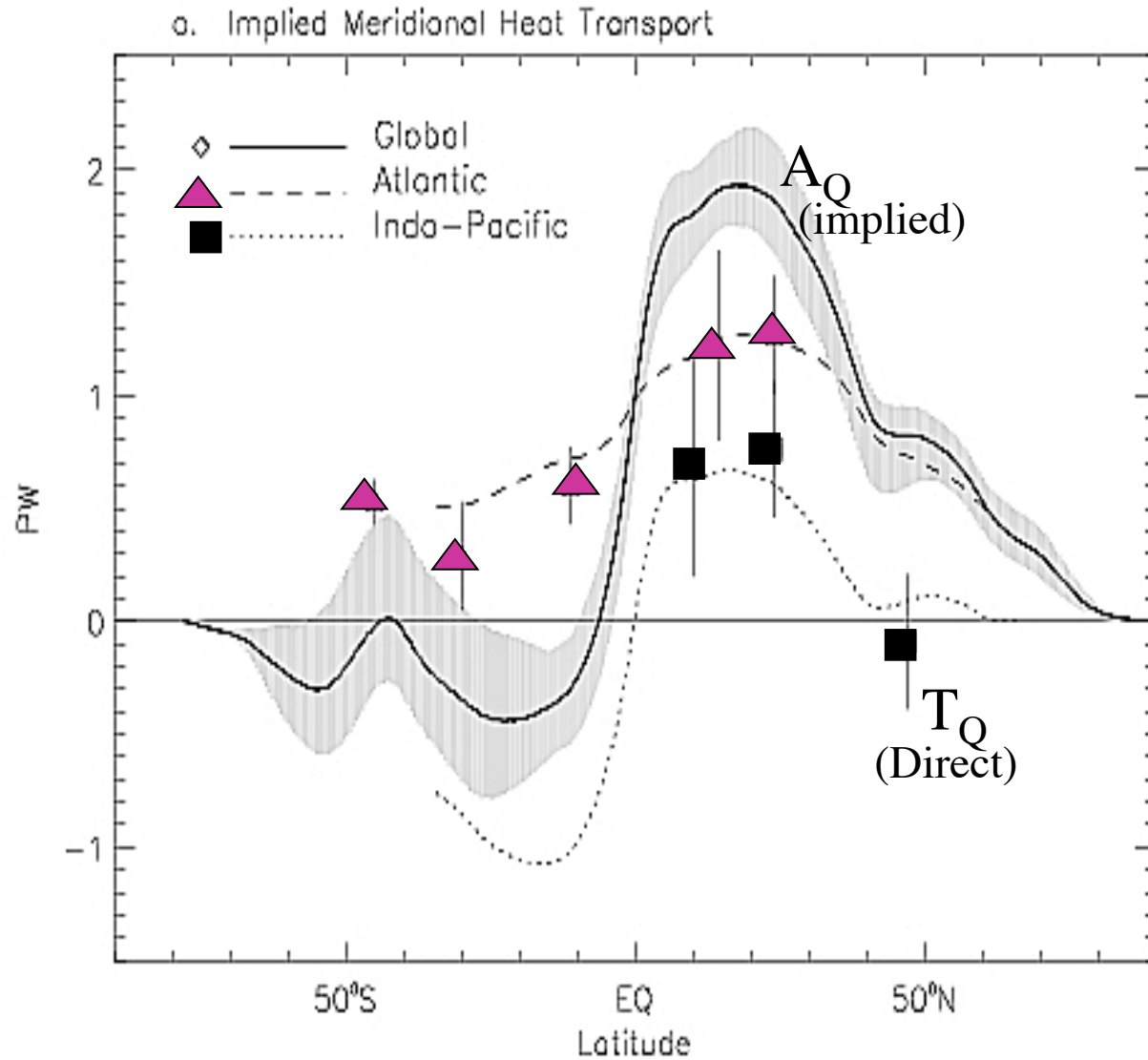
$\Delta U = U(h) - U_o$ from satellites gives τ_{as} , but neither τ_{ai} nor τ_{io} , to within about 10%

$$\langle Q_{ocn} \rangle = \langle f_o Q_{as} \rangle + \langle f_i Q_{oi} \rangle$$

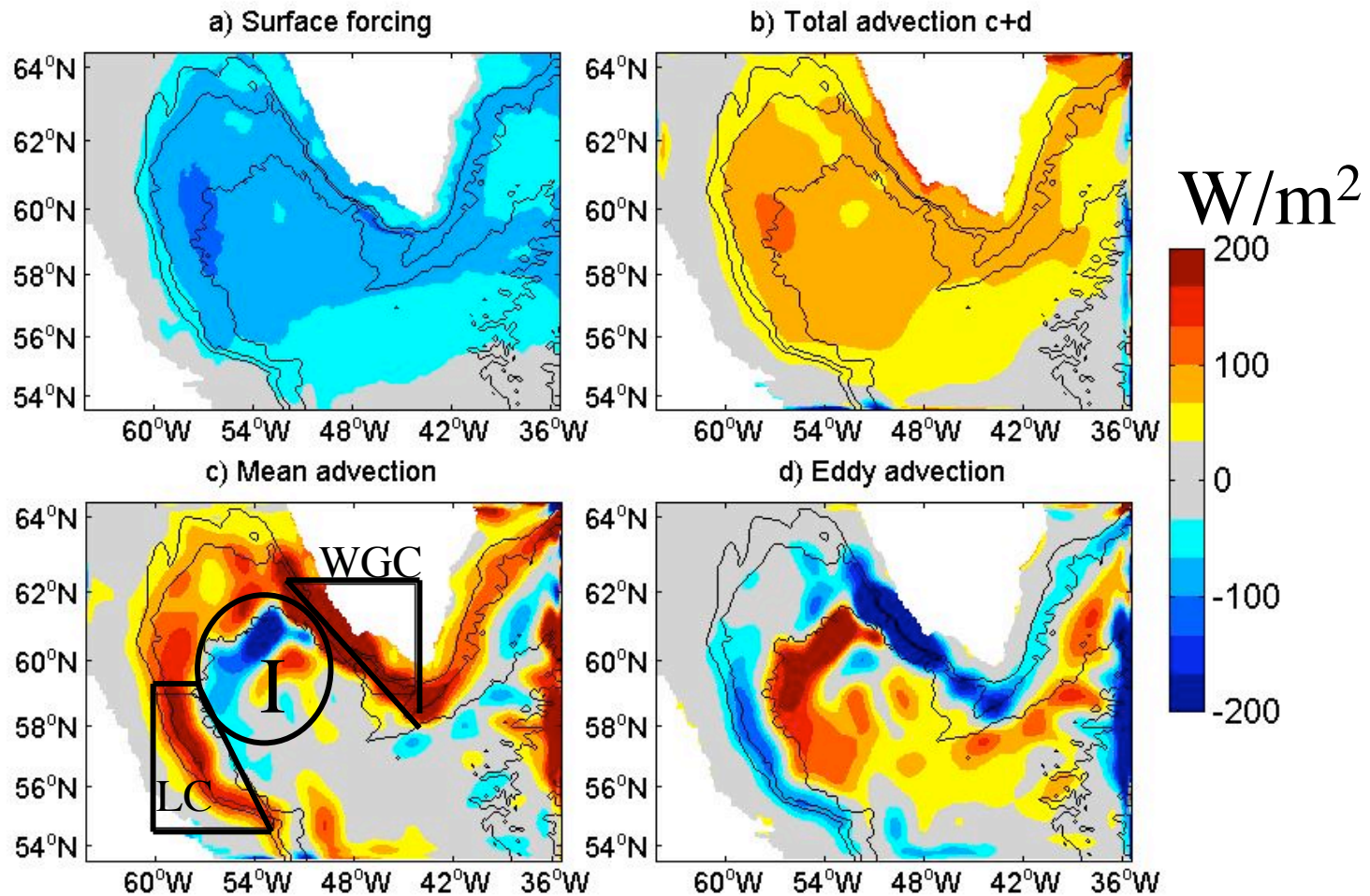
$$\langle 2 \text{ W/m}^2 \sim 2\% \text{ of } Q_E$$

Northward heat transport (PW)

Cool
Heat



Depth Integrated Heat Budget : Labrador Sea



Lab Sea column heat Budget (W/m²)

Region	Mean Advection	Eddy Advection	Surface Heat Flux	Residual
WGC	488	-412	-78	-2
LC	90	-36	-55	-1
Interior	-12	96	-79	4
Lab Sea	53	-1	-57	-5

Known (not certain about much)

$\Delta U = U(h) - U_o$ from satellites gives τ_{as} , but neither τ_{ai} nor τ_{io} , to within about 10%

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Q_{ocn} \rangle &= \langle f_o Q_{as} \rangle + \langle f_i Q_{oi} \rangle \\ &< 2 \text{ W/m}^2 \sim 2\% \text{ of } Q_E \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle F_{ocn} - \text{Runoff} \rangle \sim .1\% \text{ of } E$$

BIG PROBLEM

Precipitation
($\text{mg}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)

$100 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^2/\text{s} =$
 $8.6 \text{ mm}/\text{day} =$
 $3.1 \text{ m}/\text{year}$

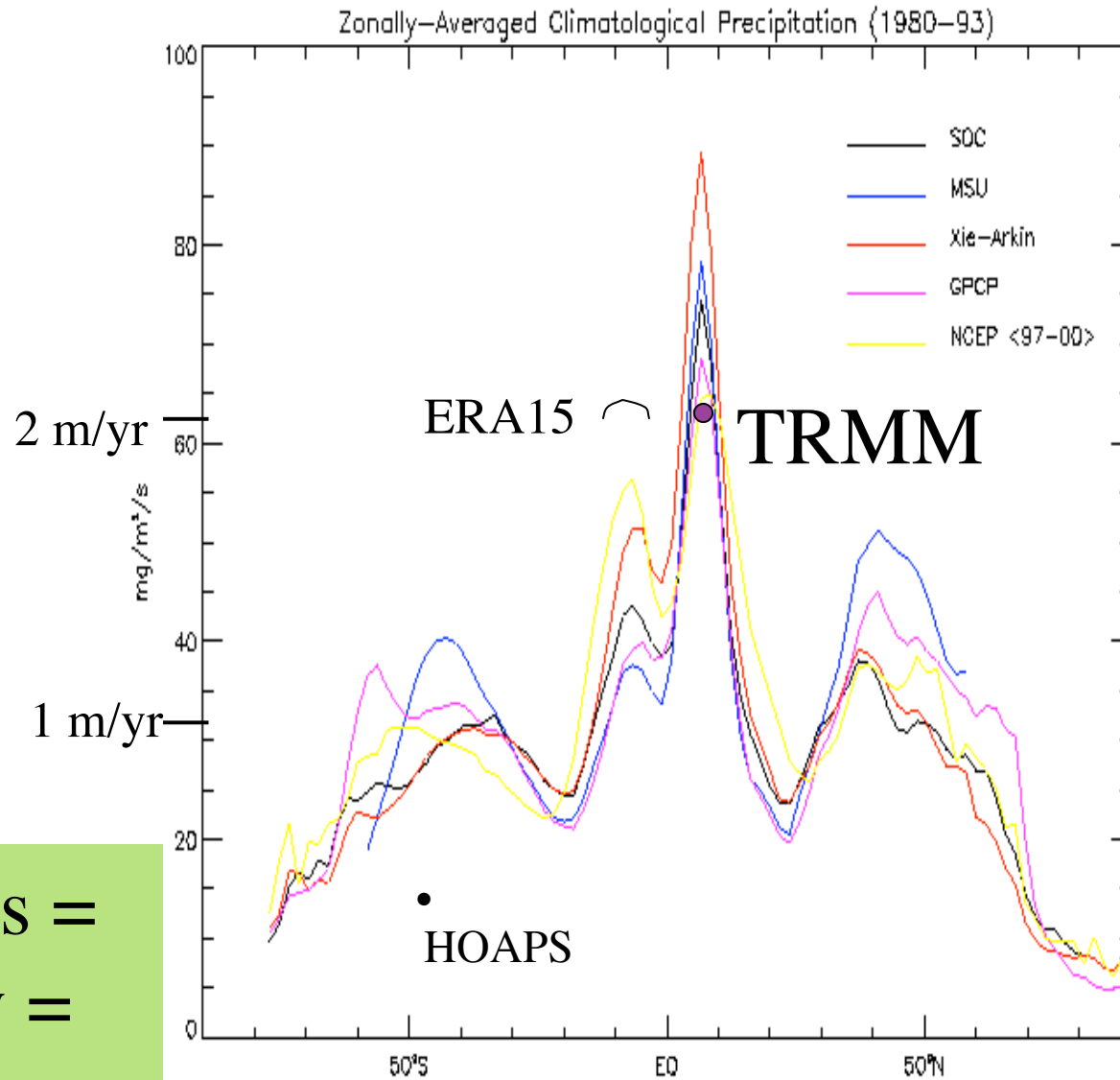
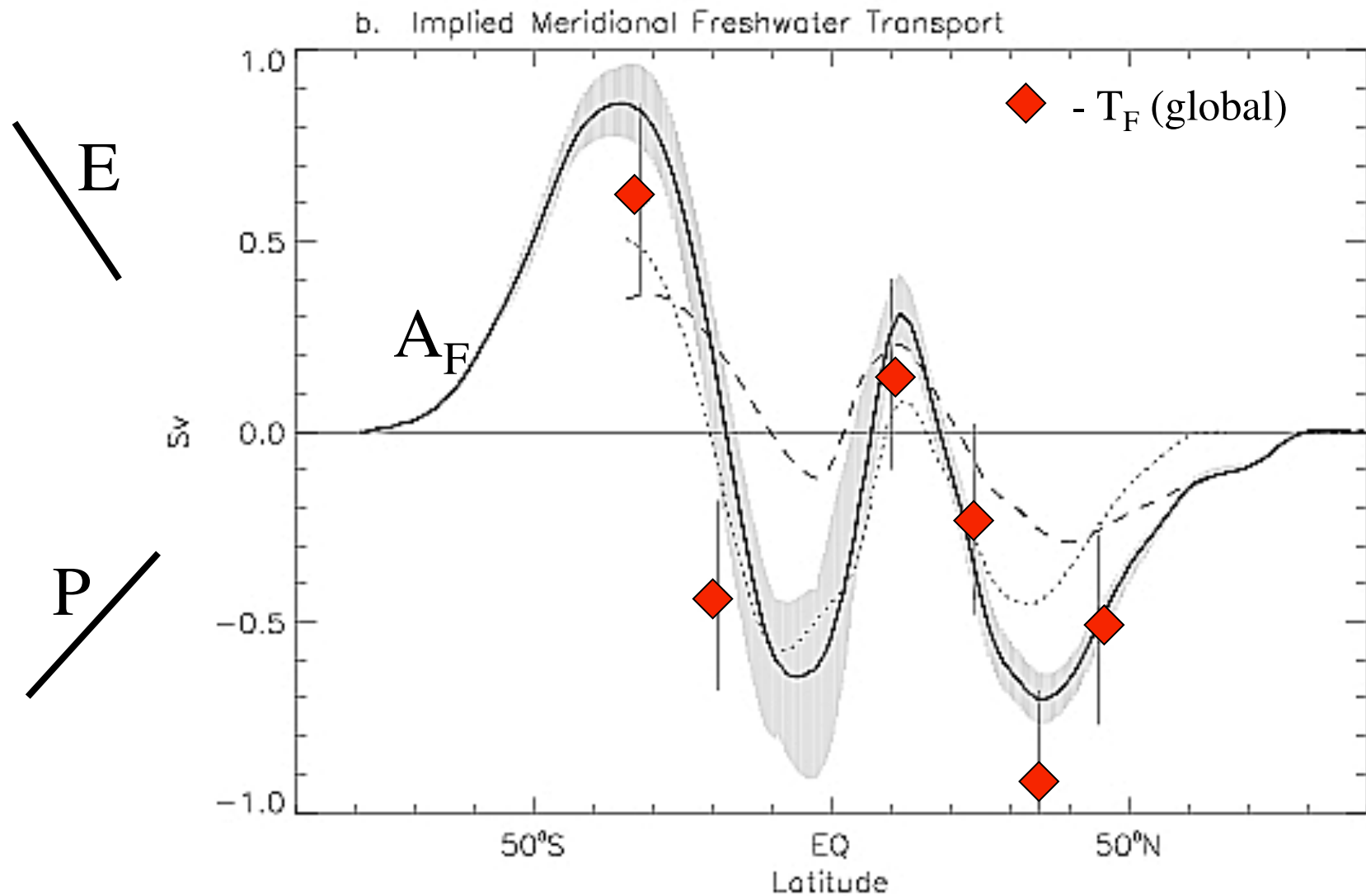


Figure 4: Zonally averaged climatological ocean precipitation from various sources, as described in Large and Yeager (2008).

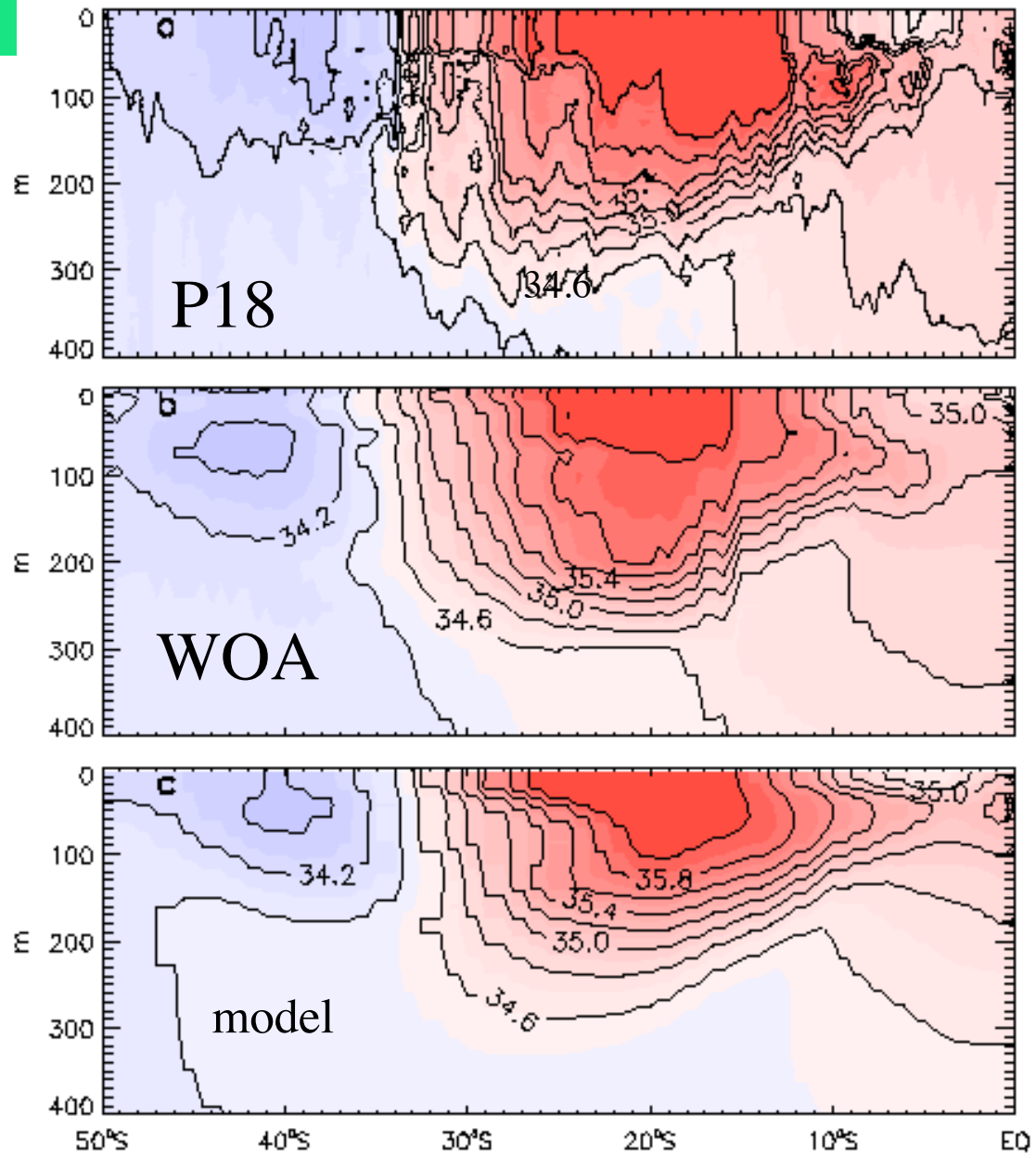
Northward freshwater transport (Sv)



OGCM Fidelity

S

March model salinity unstable & comparable to WOCE (P18) and WOA98

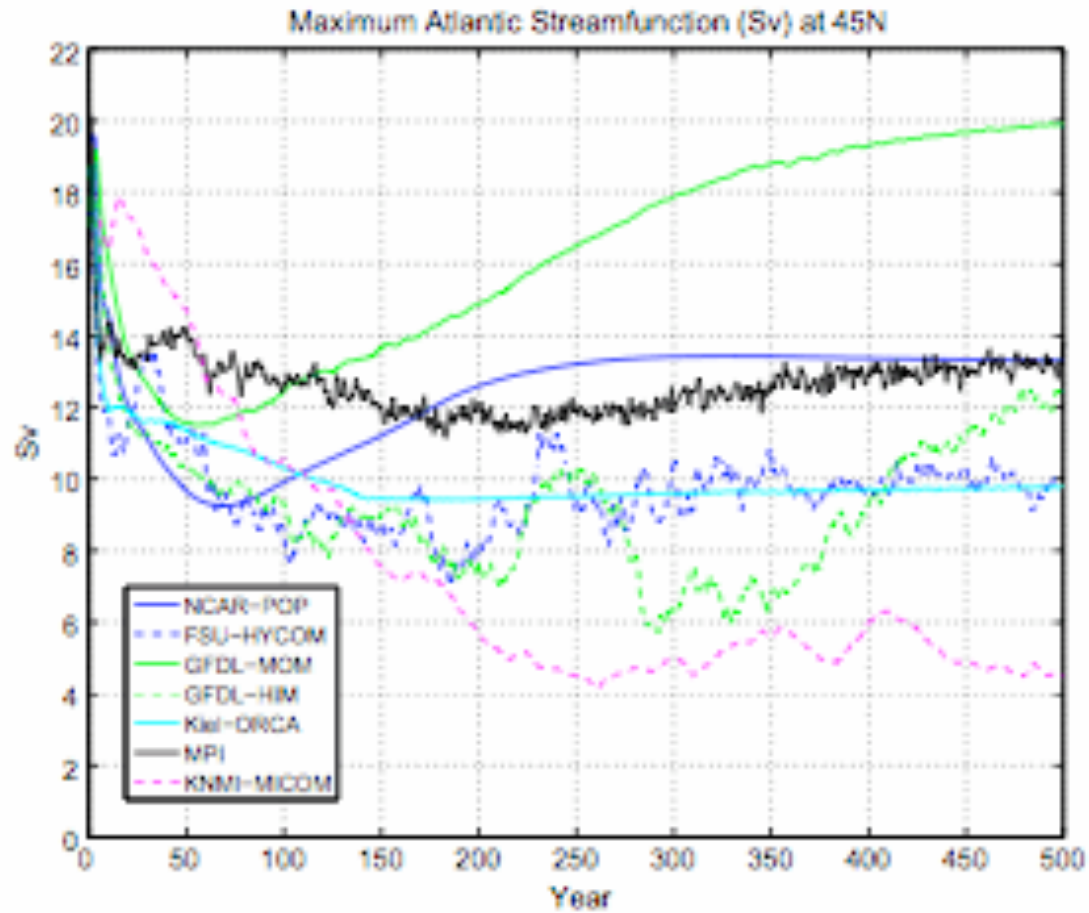


Coordinated Ocean Research Experiments (CORE) :

Hypothesis : With similar forcing, different coupled ocean-ice models will give similar solutions.

FALSE !!!

CORE : AMOC



Coordinated Ocean Research Experiments (CORE) :

$$F_{\text{ocn}} = f_o F_{\text{as}} + f_i F_{\text{io}} + \text{Runoff} + \underline{F_r}$$

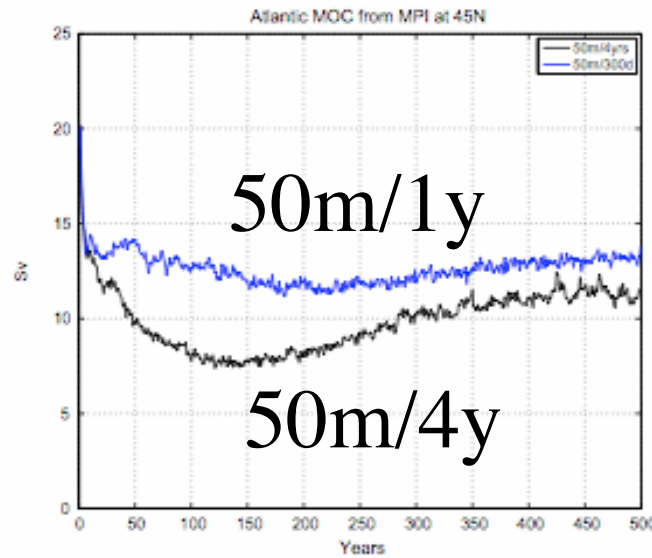
$$F_r = V_p [S(1) - SSS_{\text{obs}}] \cdot \{ f_o; 1-H(f_i); (f_o+f_i) \}$$

$$V_p = \{ 0 ; 50\text{m}/4\text{y} ; 50\text{m}/1\text{y} ; 50\text{m}/30\text{d} \}$$

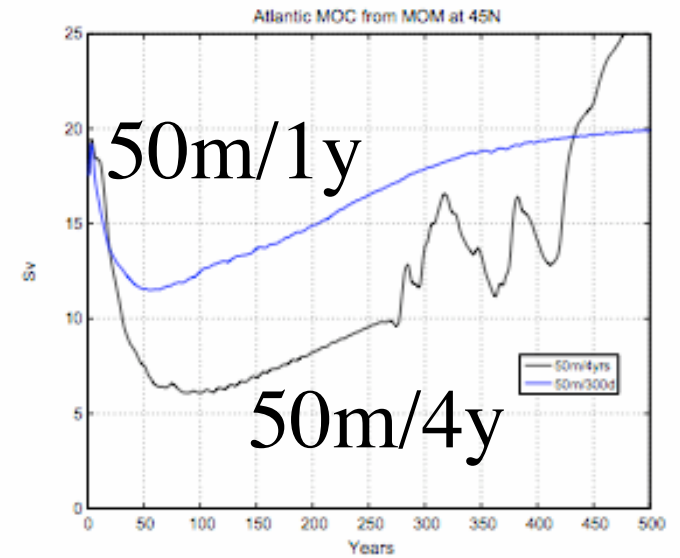
Sensitivity

AMOC

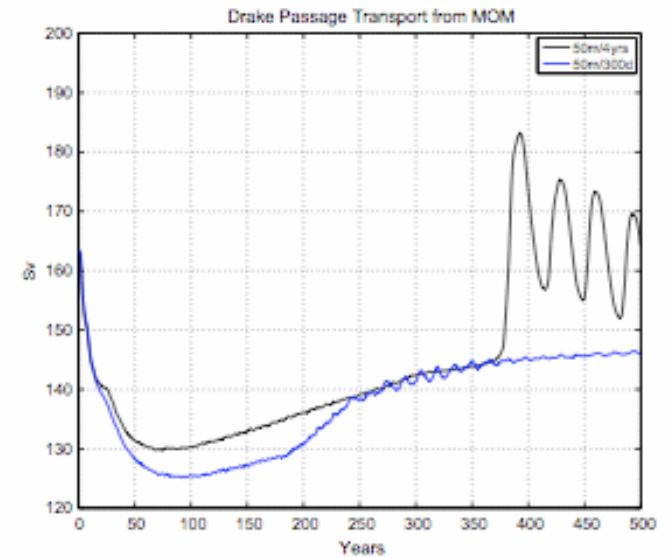
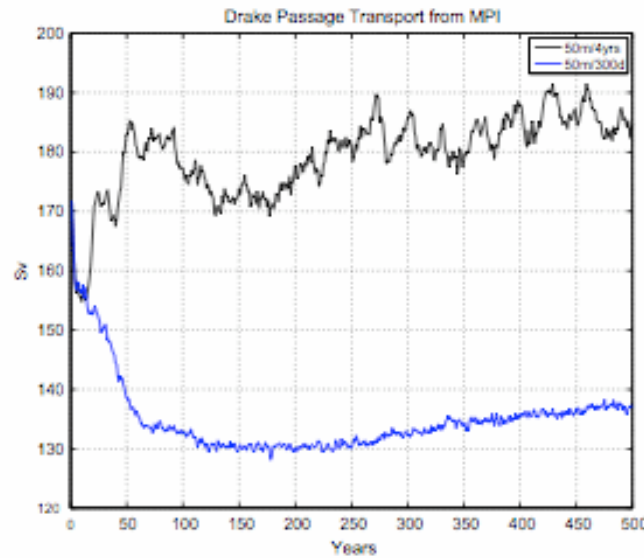
Model A



Model B

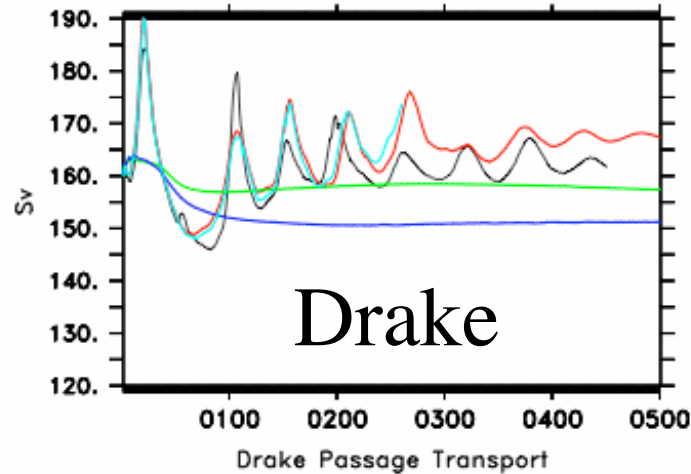
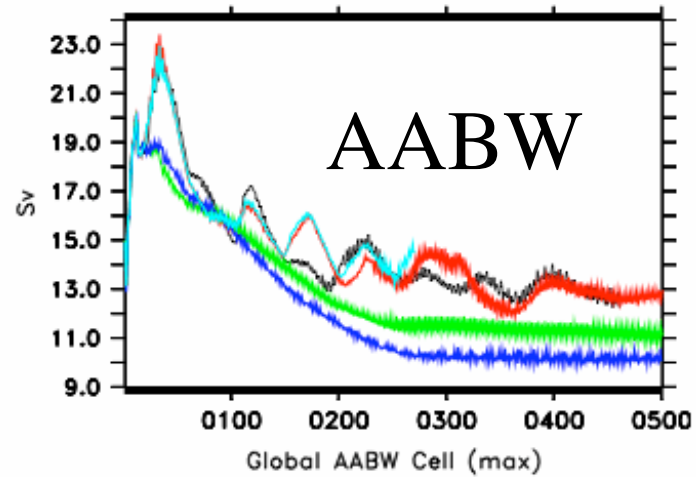
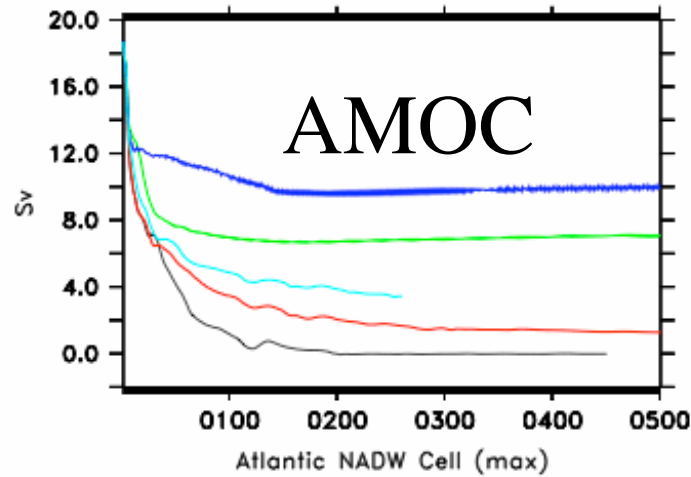


Drake
Passage



Sensitivity

Model C



- strong
- strong sub-polar
- weak + precip
- weak
- none

Bulk turbulent fluxes :

$$E = \rho C_E(h) |\Delta \mathbf{U}(h)| [q(h) - q_{\text{sat}}(\text{SST})]$$

$$Q_H = \rho C_p C_H(h) |\Delta \mathbf{U}(h)| [\theta(h) - (\text{SST})]$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{as}} = \rho C_D(h) |\Delta \mathbf{U}(h)| \Delta \mathbf{U}(h)$$

$\mathbf{U}(h)$, wind velocity at $z = h$ (10m)

$\theta(h)$, potential temperature at $z=h$

$q(h)$, specific humidity at $z=h$

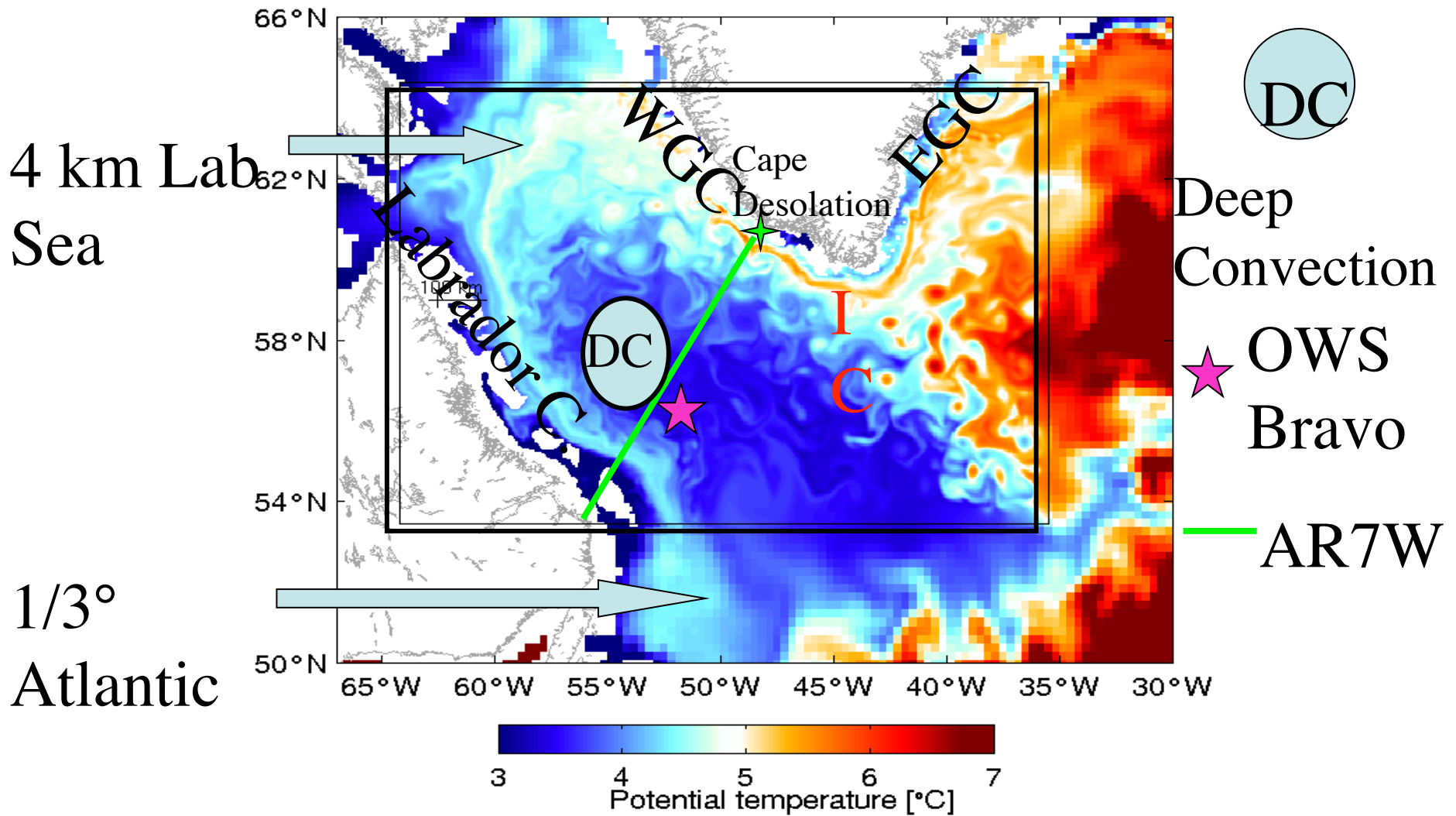
ρ , air density

SST, sea surface temperature

\mathbf{U}_o , sea surface current

$\Delta \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U}(h) - \mathbf{U}_o$, Surface Vector Wind (satellite)

Labrador Sea, T(182m), Year 10

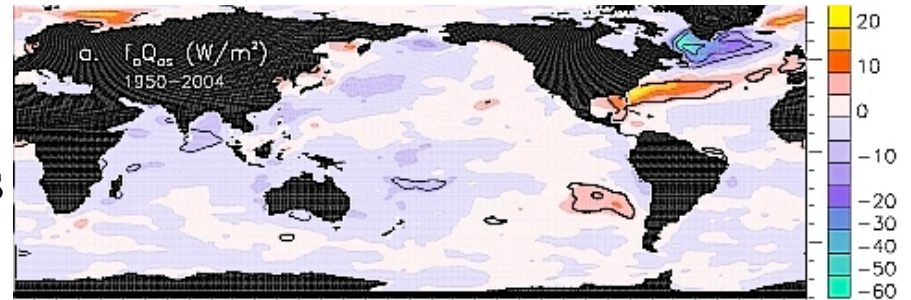


$$C_{YX}$$

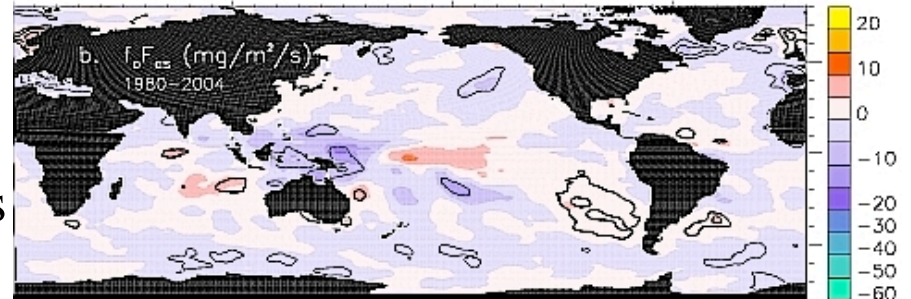
$$X = \text{NAO}$$

r_{YX} contoured at
 $\pm.4, \pm.6, \pm.8$

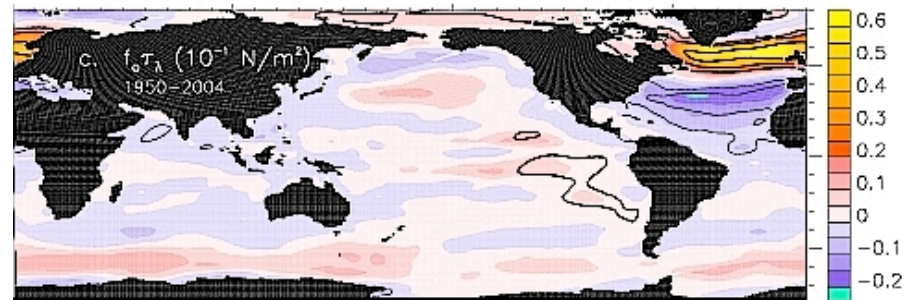
$f_o Q_{as}$



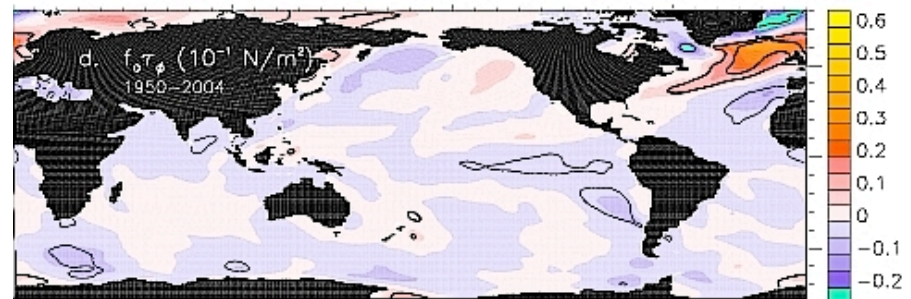
$f_o F_{as}$



$f_o \tau_\lambda$



$f_o \tau_\phi$



100° 200° 300°

e.g Ocean (Ice) surface fluxes

Q_{ocn} , the net surface heat flux **into** the ocean

F_{ocn} , the net freshwater flux **into** the ocean

$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{ocn}} = (\tau_{\lambda}, \tau_{\phi})_{\text{ocn}}$, the horizontal stress, or momentum flux vector **into** the ocean (zonal, +ve east, meridional, +ve north)

All these fluxes are highly variable in time (weather, seasonal cycle) and space (tropics to high latitudes), with much less interannual (decadal) variability and small trends;

AMOC

