

# Maximizing the Scientific Value of Ocean Current data from Shipboard ADCP



University of Hawaii / SOEST  
STEMSEAS - M.G.Langseth  
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National  
Oceanography  
Centre



HAVFORSKNINGSINSTITUTTET  
INSTITUTE OF MARINE RESEARCH



SCHMIDT  
OCEAN  
INSTITUTE

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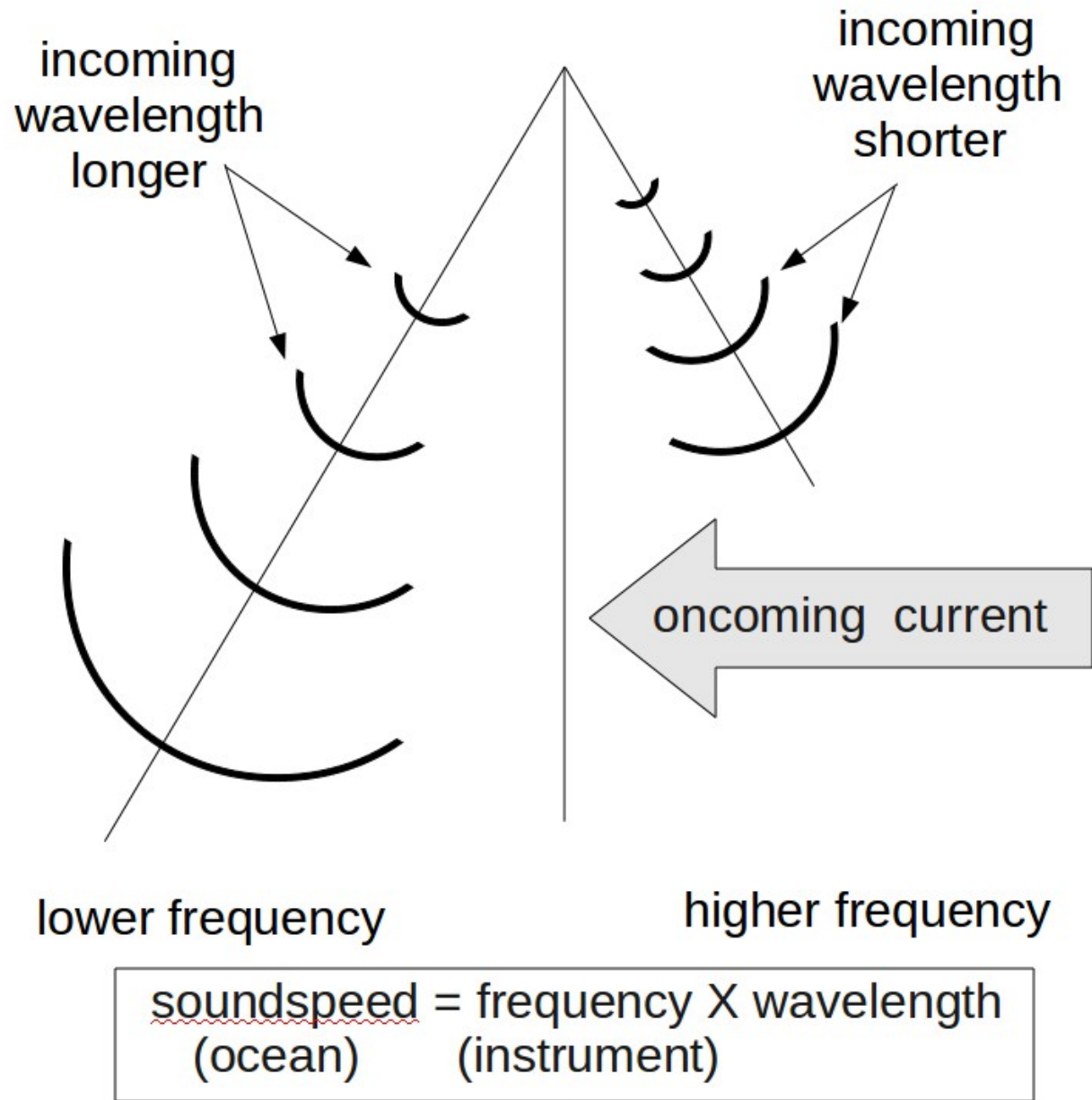
<https://currents.soest.hawaii.edu>  
<https://uhdas.org>

# Overview

- 1) What is shipboard ADCP?
- 2) How is SADCPC data used?
- 3) What does UHDAS do?
  - at sea: acquisition, processing, serving
  - on land: monitoring
- 4) Tour of the UHDAS at-sea web site

# ADCP

## Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler



more details: [Calculating ocean currents from ADCP](#)

# ADCP: Getting Ocean Currents

Collect Data

## Transformations

Doppler to beam  
(occurs in the ADCP)

- beam to instrument
- instrument to ship
- ship to earth

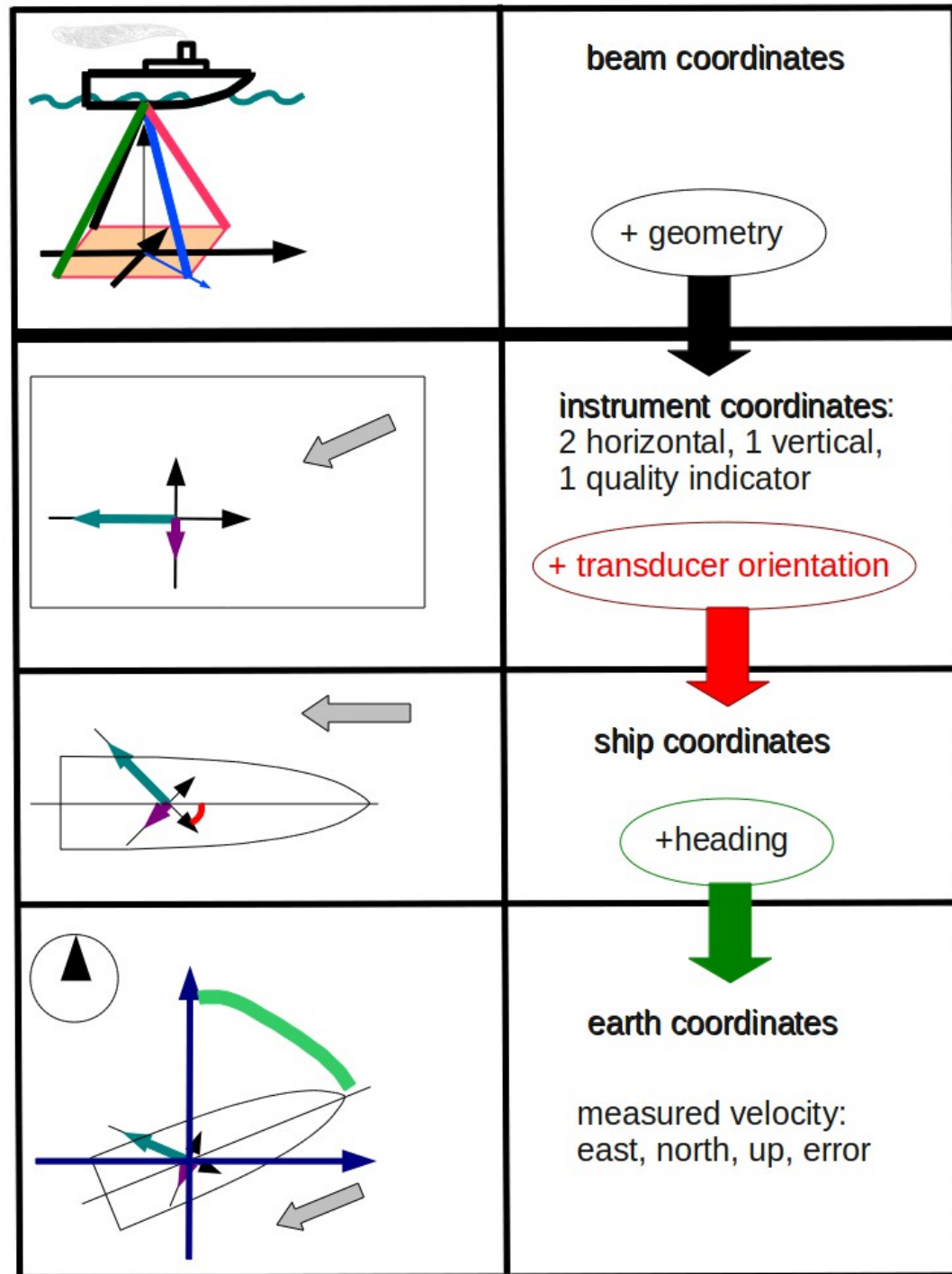
## Preliminary Processing

- single-ping editing
- averaging
- remove ship's speed

ADCP

heading

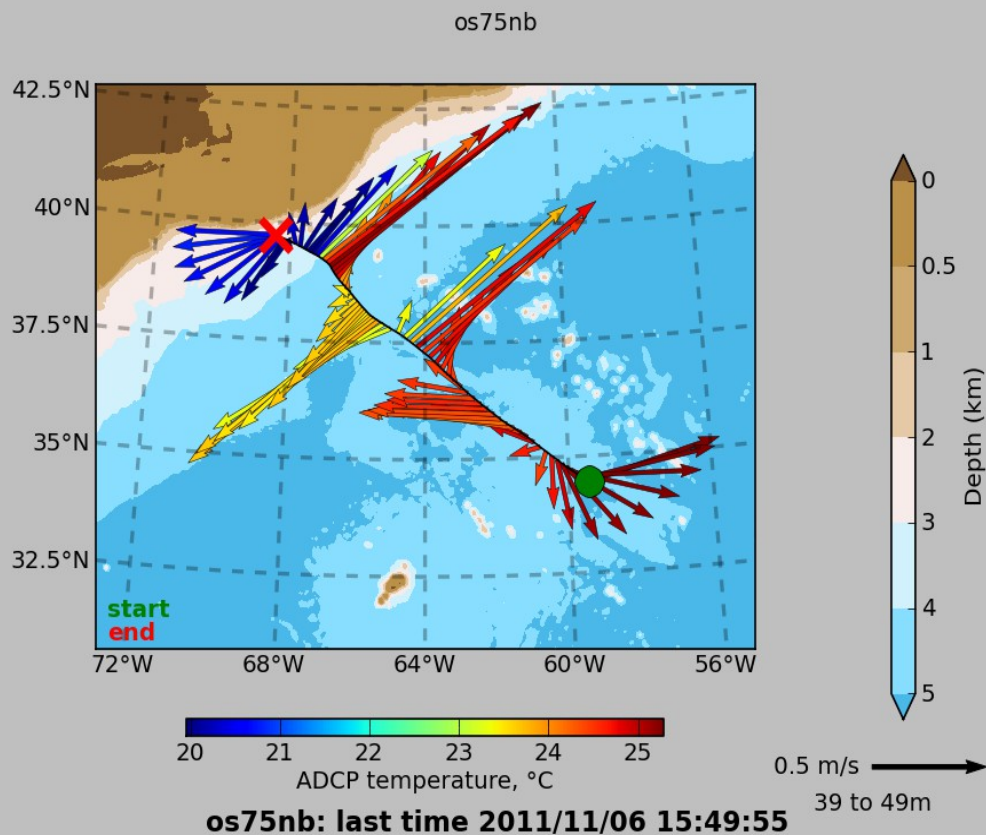
position



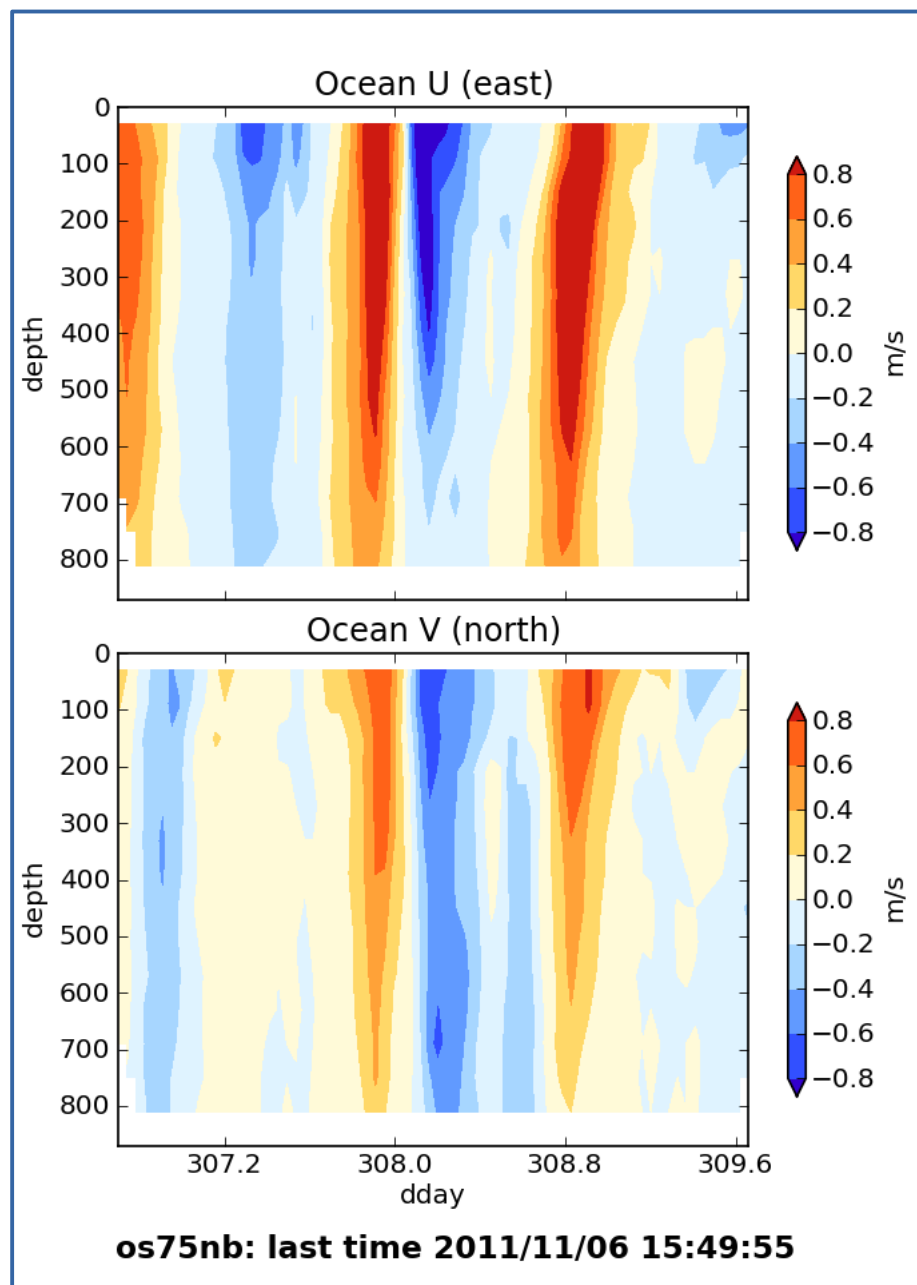
Time, ADCP,  
Position,  
Attitude

primitive (raw) data

AfterProcessing



# After Processing



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# Operational uses of shipboard ADCP data

at sea:

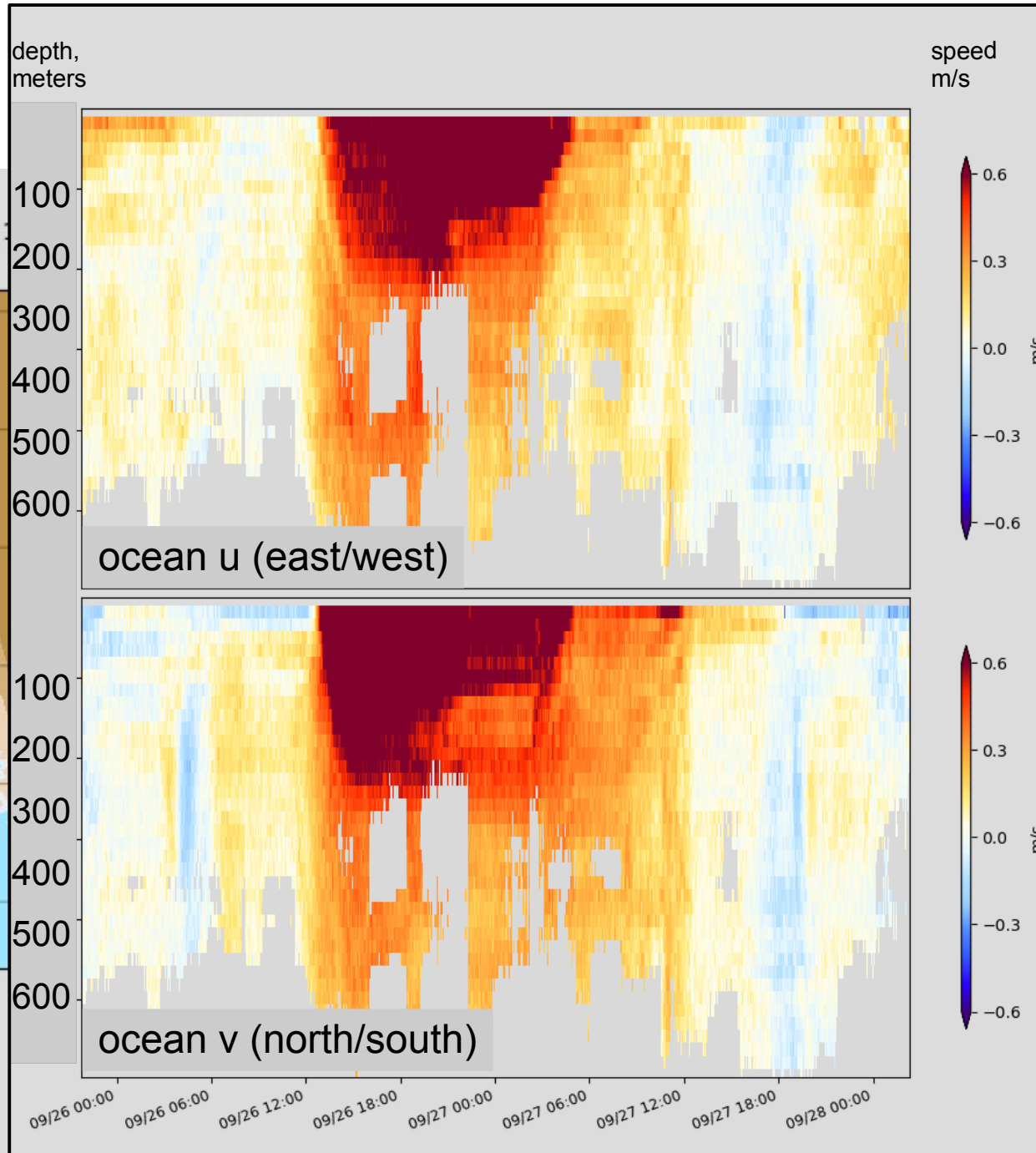
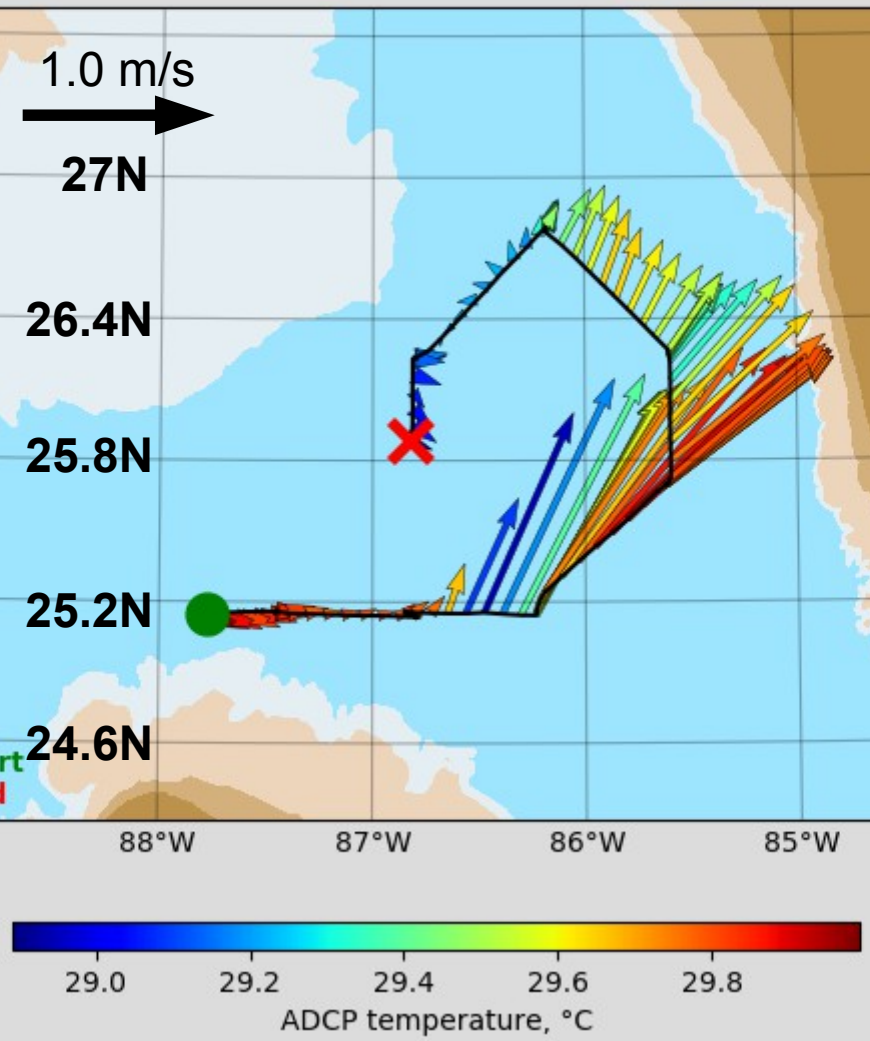
- operations, eg:
  - currents for over-the-side work (moorings, CTD)
  - backscatter levels for targeted biological sampling
  - currents for ROV operators
- dynamic sampling, eg:
  - where is the front?
  - when did we cross the front?
  - which direction will the instrument drift after deployment?



# R/V Pelican Mooring cruise, Gulf of Mexico

Donohue, PE20-06

Ocean currents 35m-175m



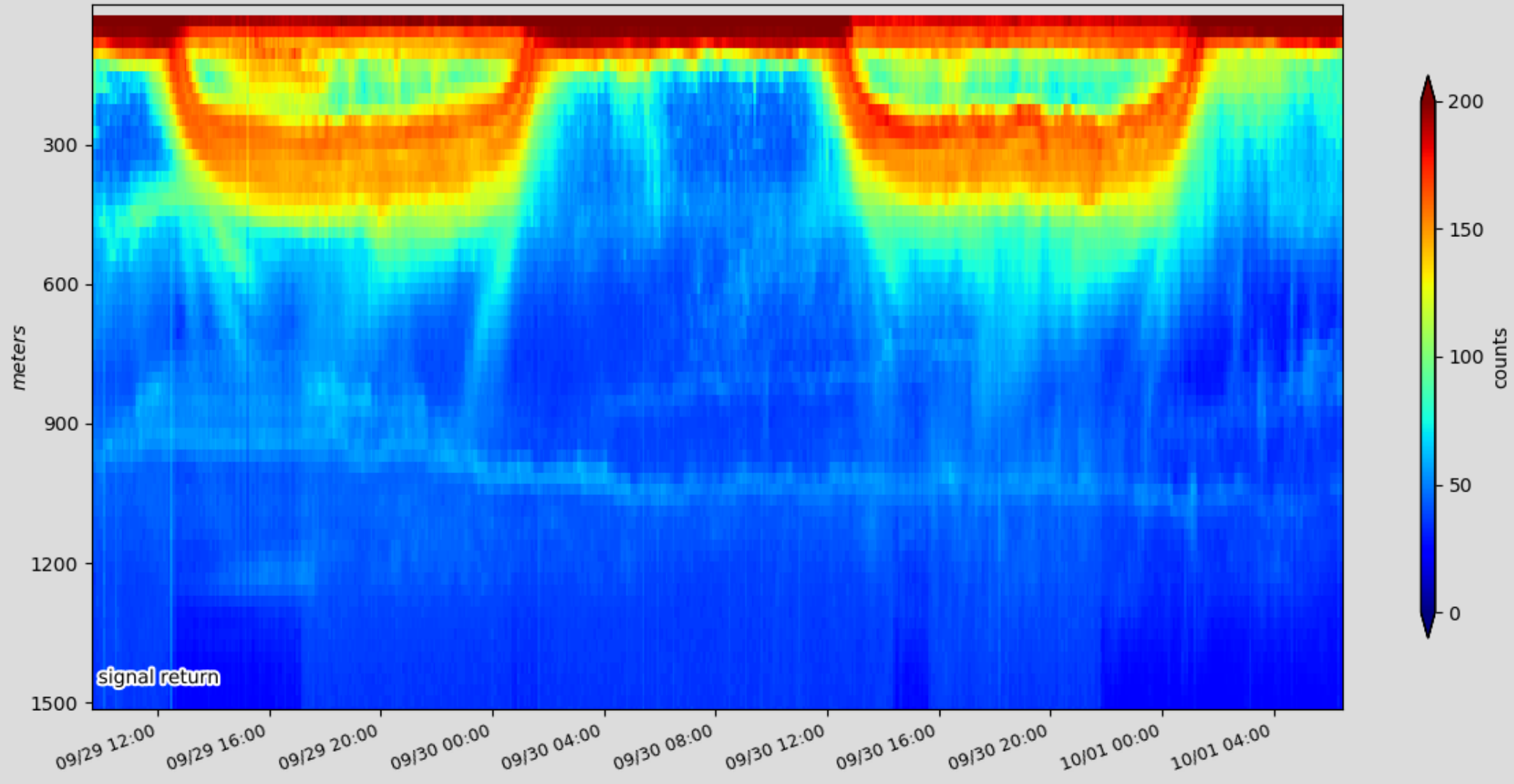


# Scientific relevance of shipboard ADCP data

- **backscatter** (even if uncalibrated)
- process studies:
  - **near-inertial motion**
  - **internal wave energy** (upward propagation of phase)
  - **high-frequency internal waves** (on station)
  - **deep eddies**
  - context for small-scale mixing studies
- time series
  - dedicated, on station (HOT, BATS)
  - transects: **Drake Passage**, Oleander
  - after the fact: **equatorial Pacific**
- comparison with satellites

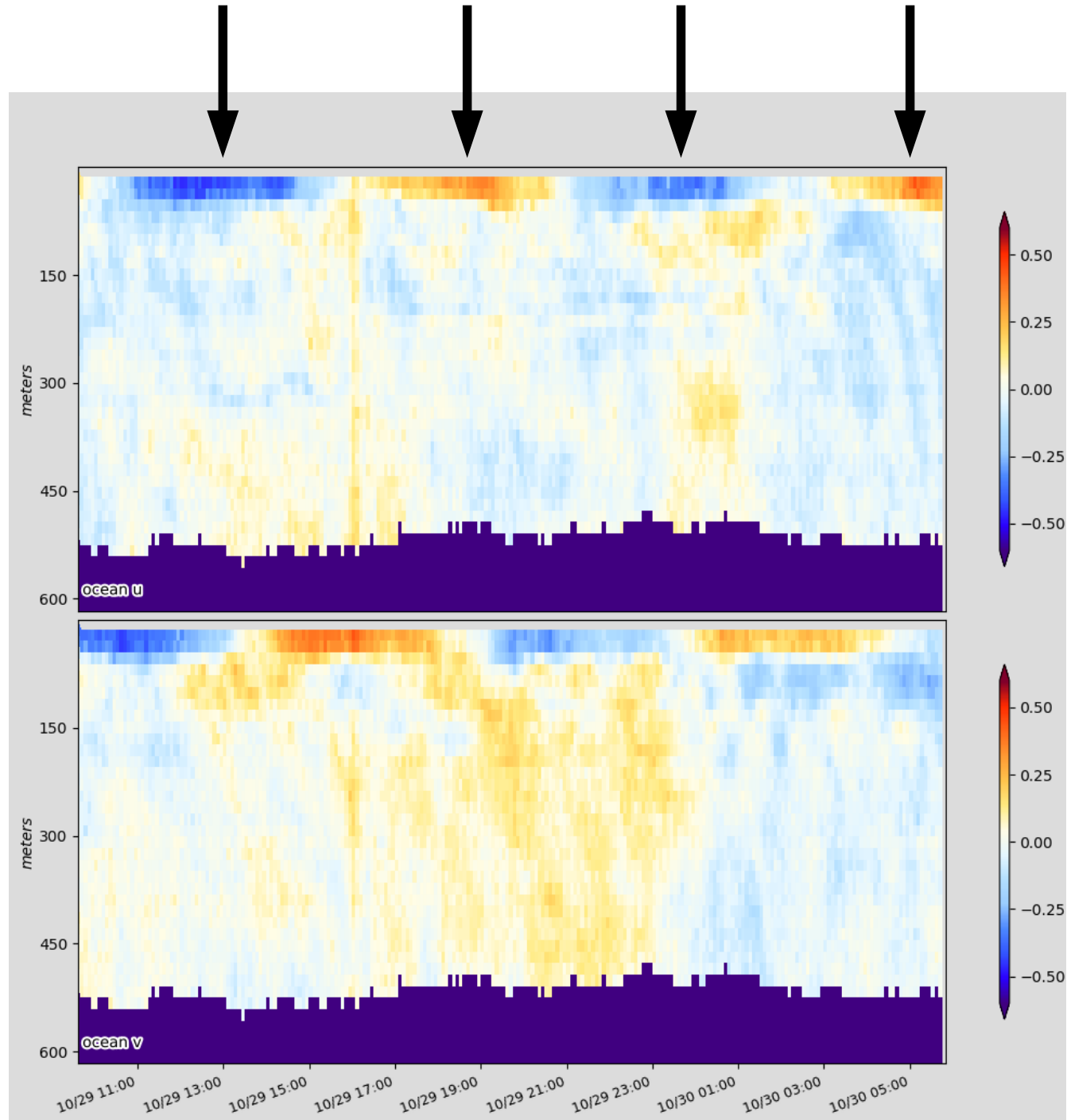
examples  
follow...

# Kilo Moana: 38kHz ADCP backscatter (tropical eastern pacific)

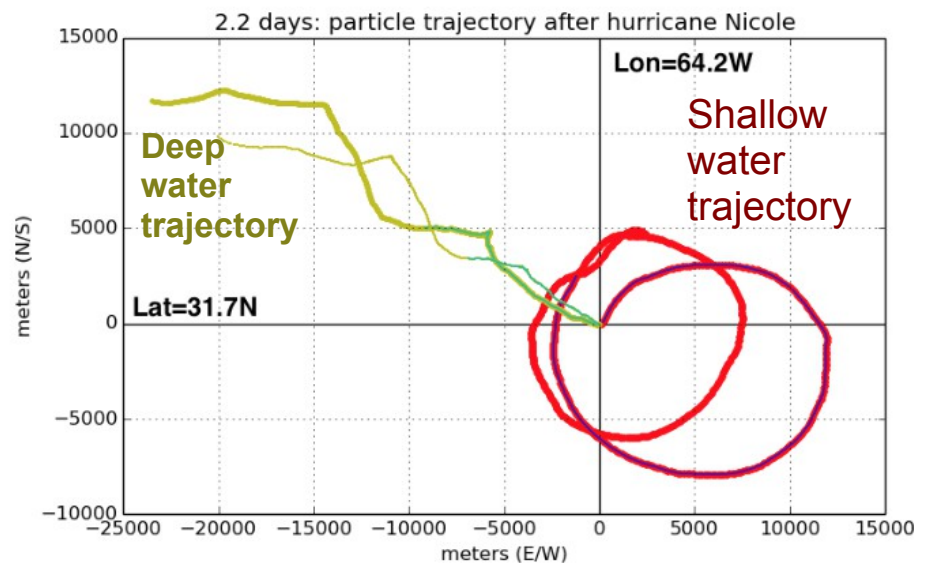
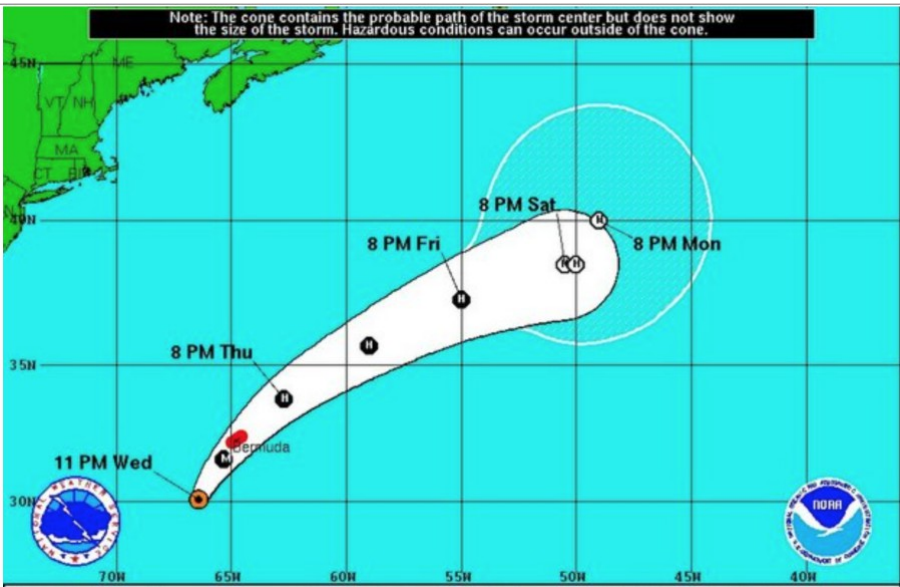


Near-inertial  
motion caused  
by strong winds;

stratified ocean  
keeps the energy  
at the surface



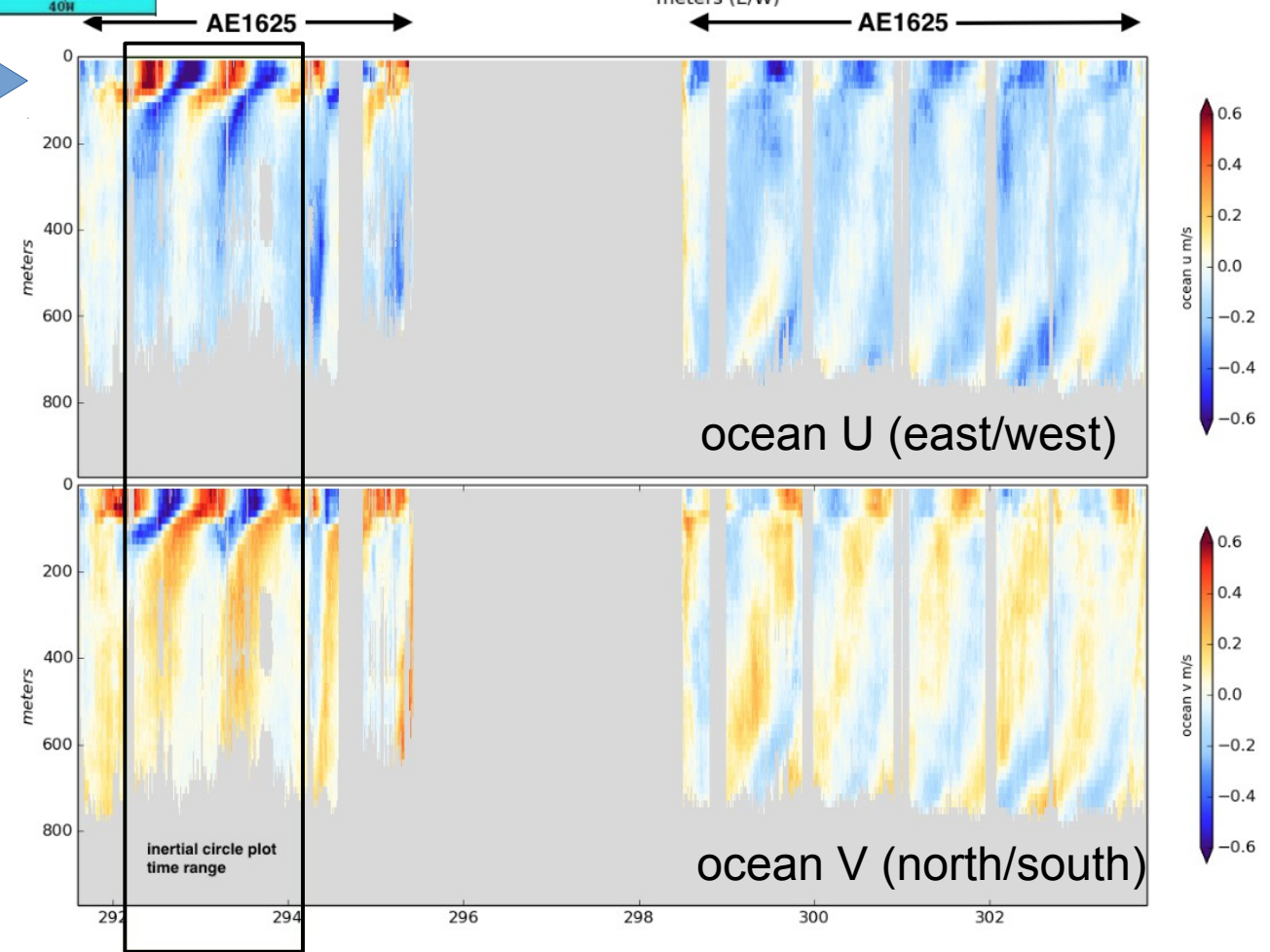
Note: The cone contains the probable path of the storm center but does not show the size of the storm. Hazardous conditions can occur outside of the cone.



shallow inertial signal →

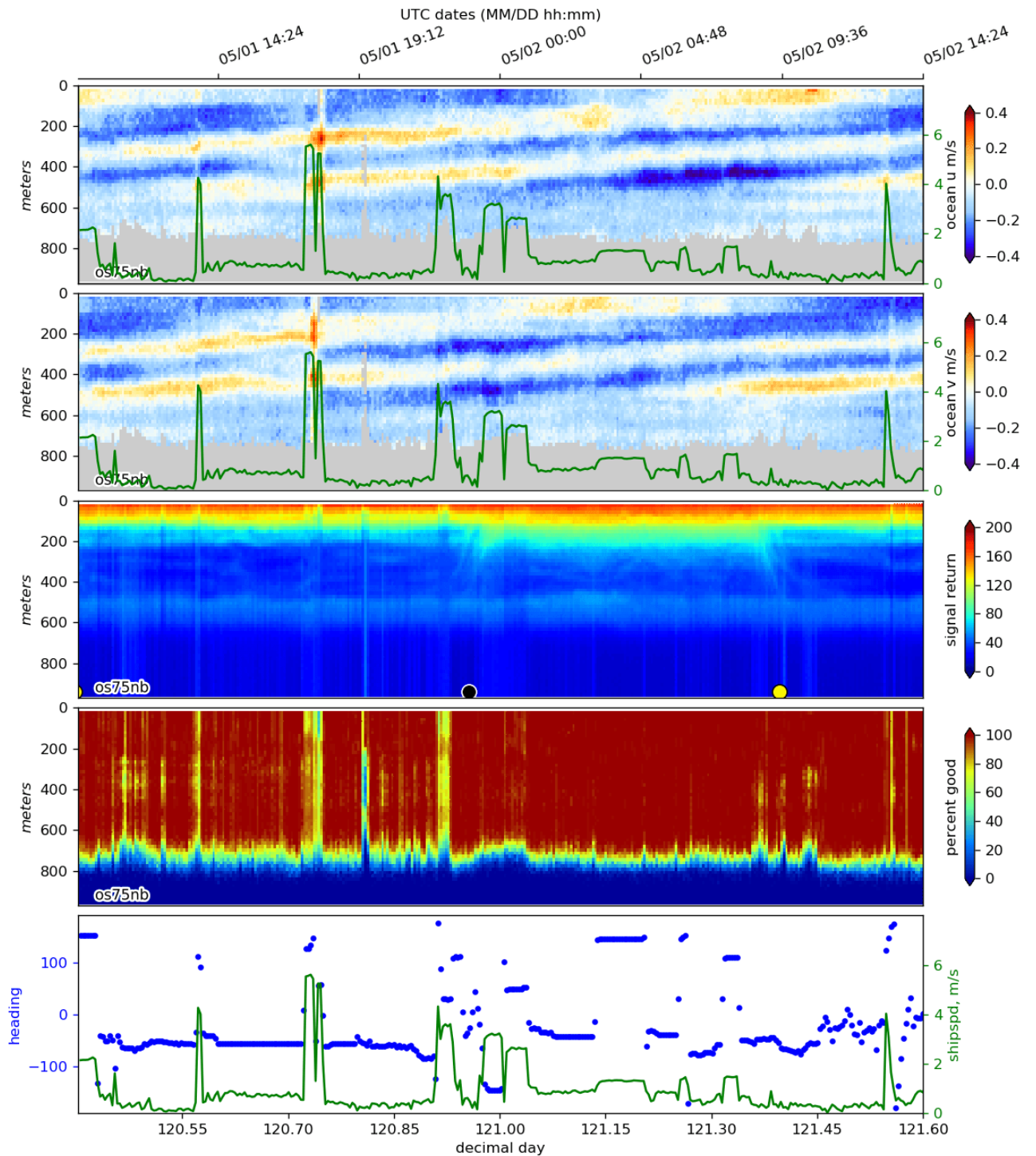
# Hurricane Nicole Oct 12, 2016

deep inertial signal later



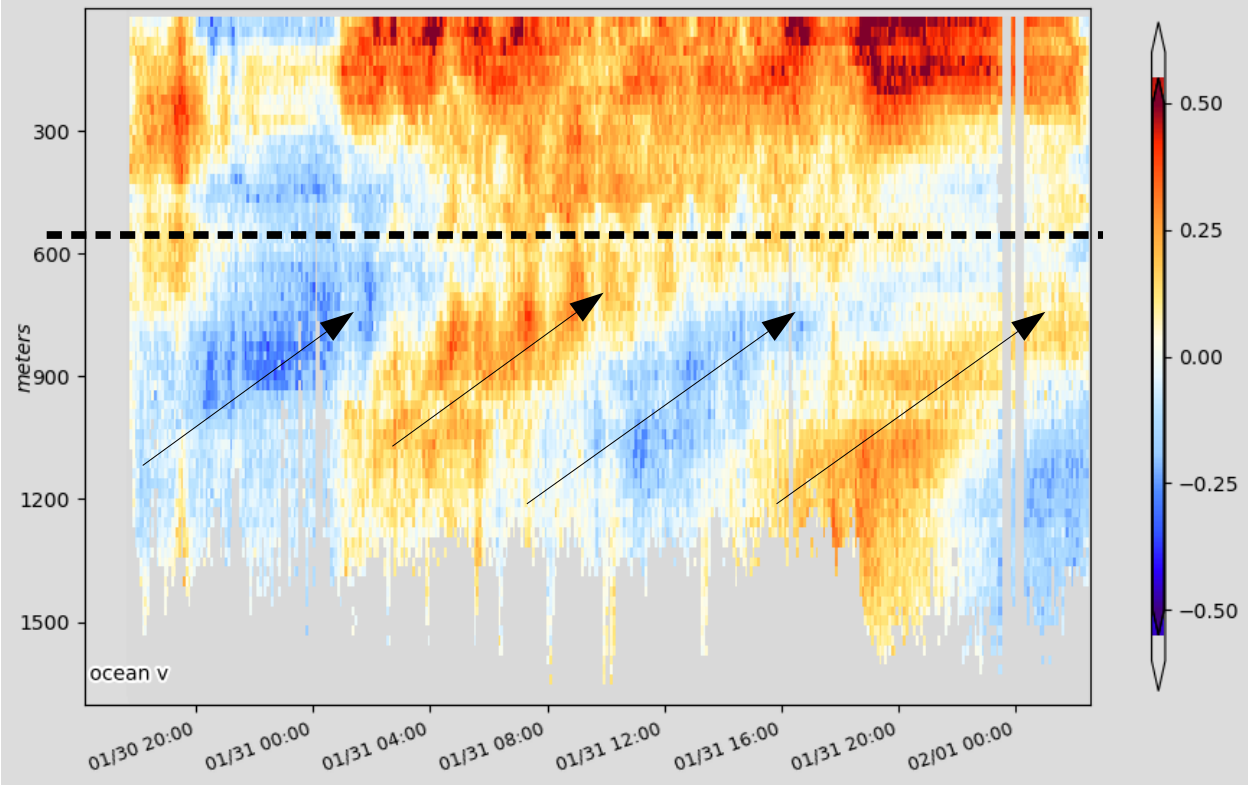
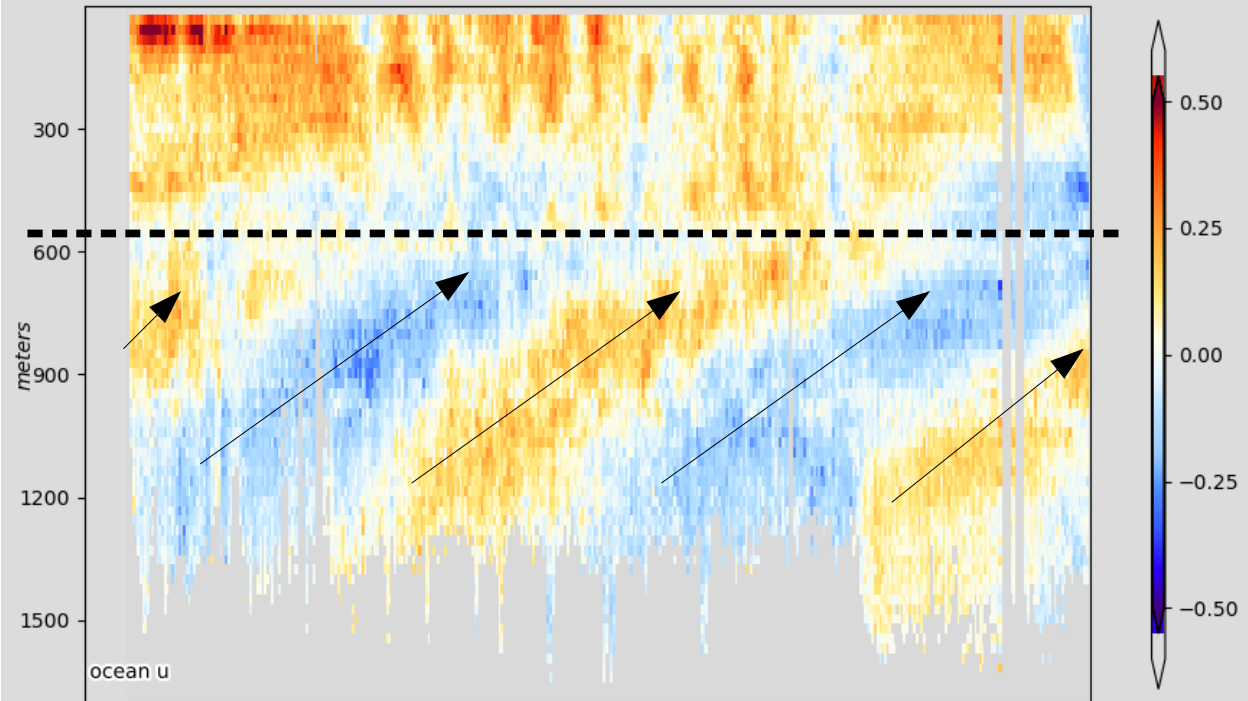
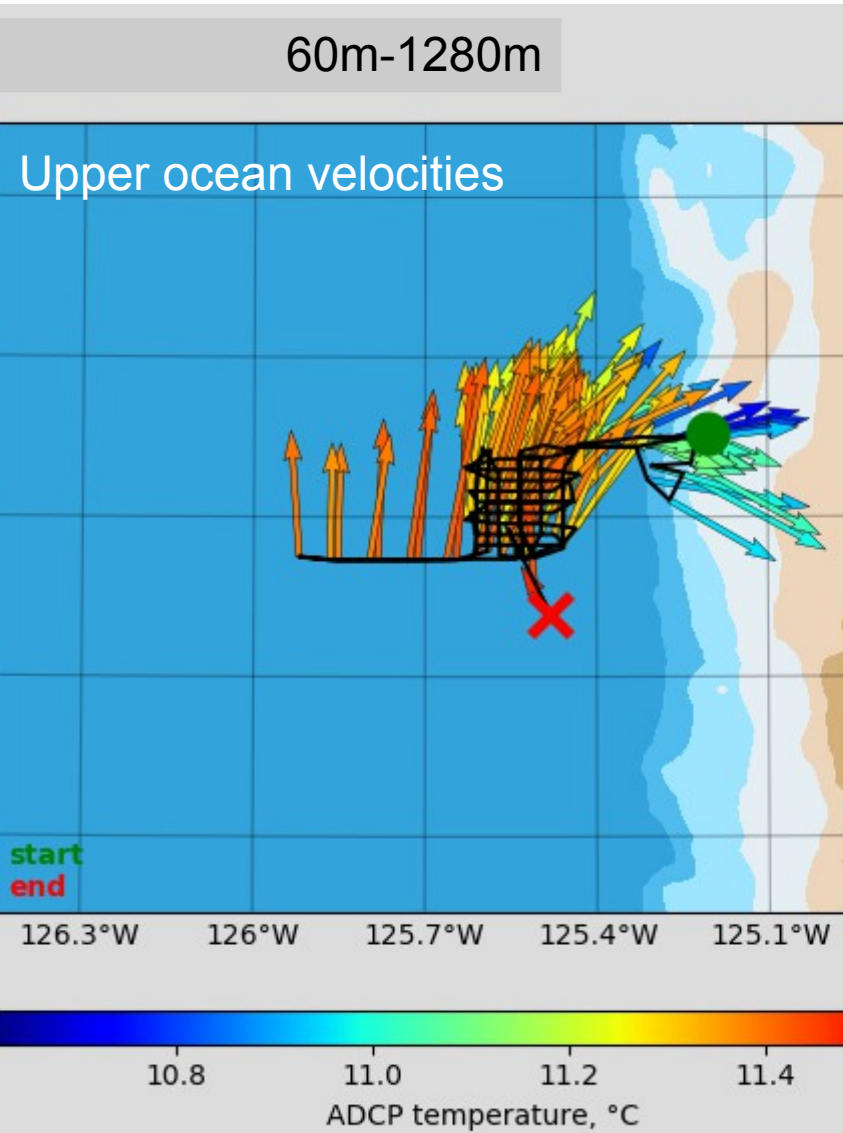
# Atlantic Explorer

near-inertial energy at depth

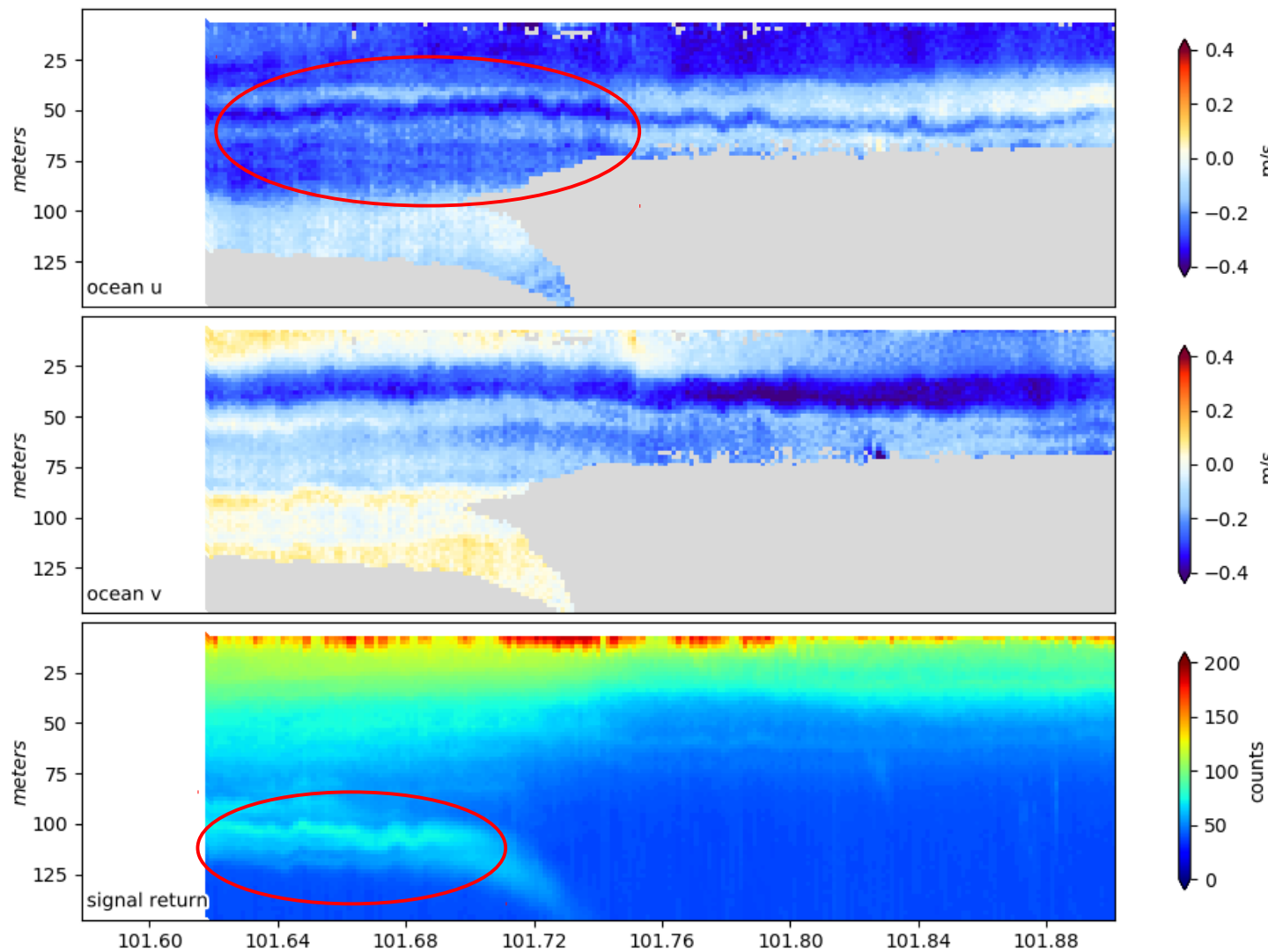
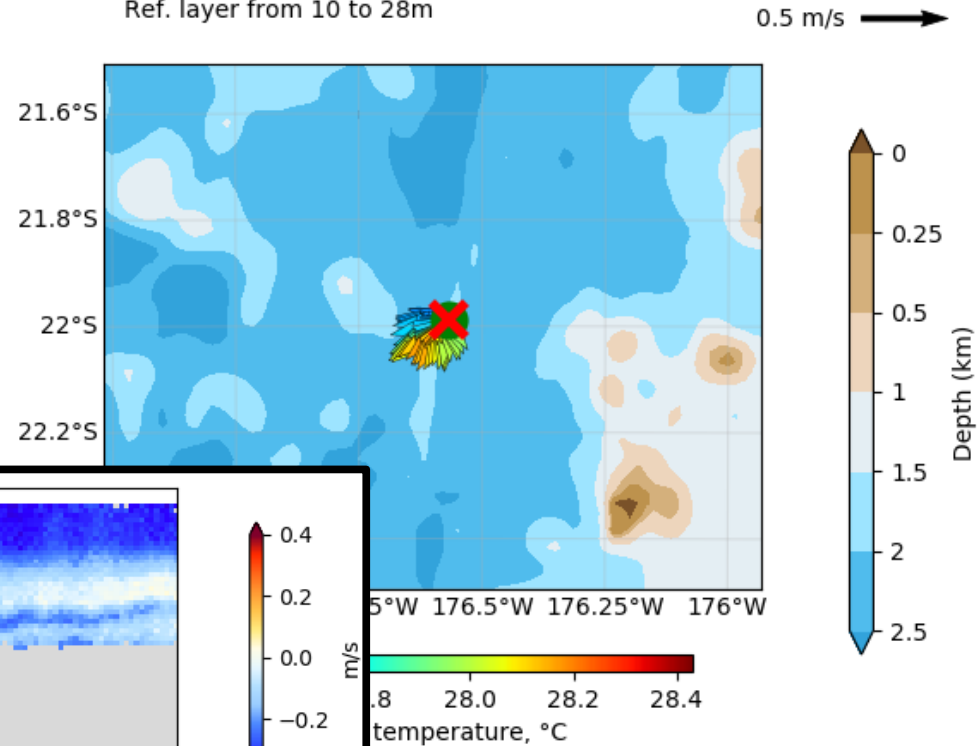




Kilo Moana (45N)  
off the Oregon Coast:  
internal tide beam,  
energy downward  
(phase upward) below 600m



# Thompson high frequency internal waves

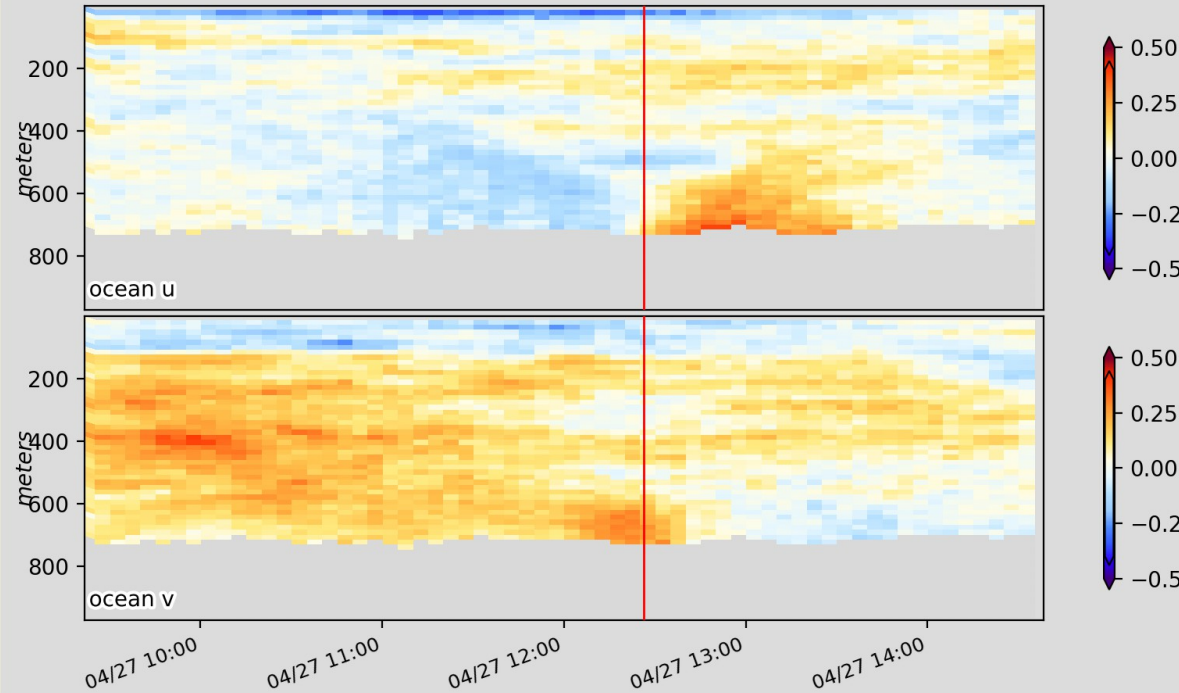
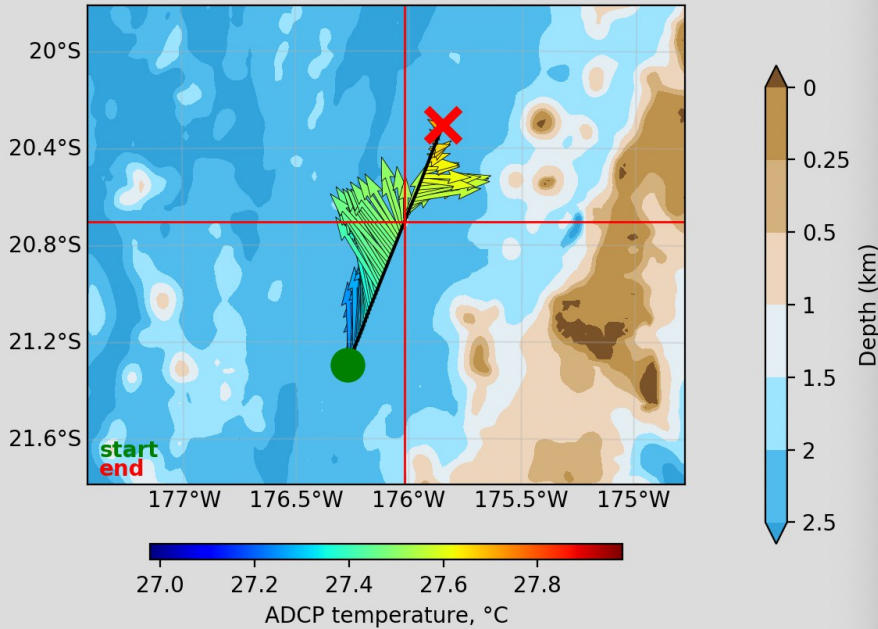




# Deep eddies: Lau Basin (Thompson)

Ref. layer from 613 to 741m

0.2 m/s →

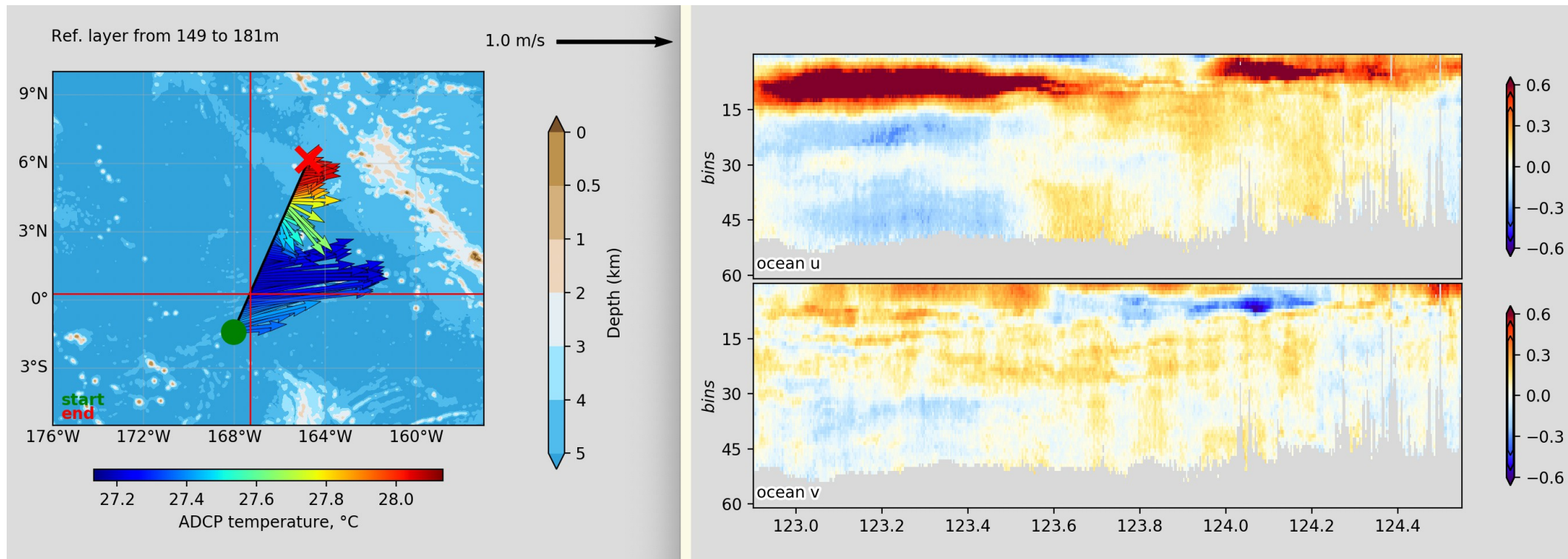


Explore: [Lau Basin Eddies](#)

[Beaufort Sea Eddies](#)

[Other subsurface Eddies](#)

# Opportunistic timeseries data: eg. Equatorial crossing



- Notice data of interest
- Ask for permission to use it
- Use for training; process and release for others to use



# Time Series: Equatorial Pacific

SADCP from TAO sections  
*Crevatte et al, JMR 2017*

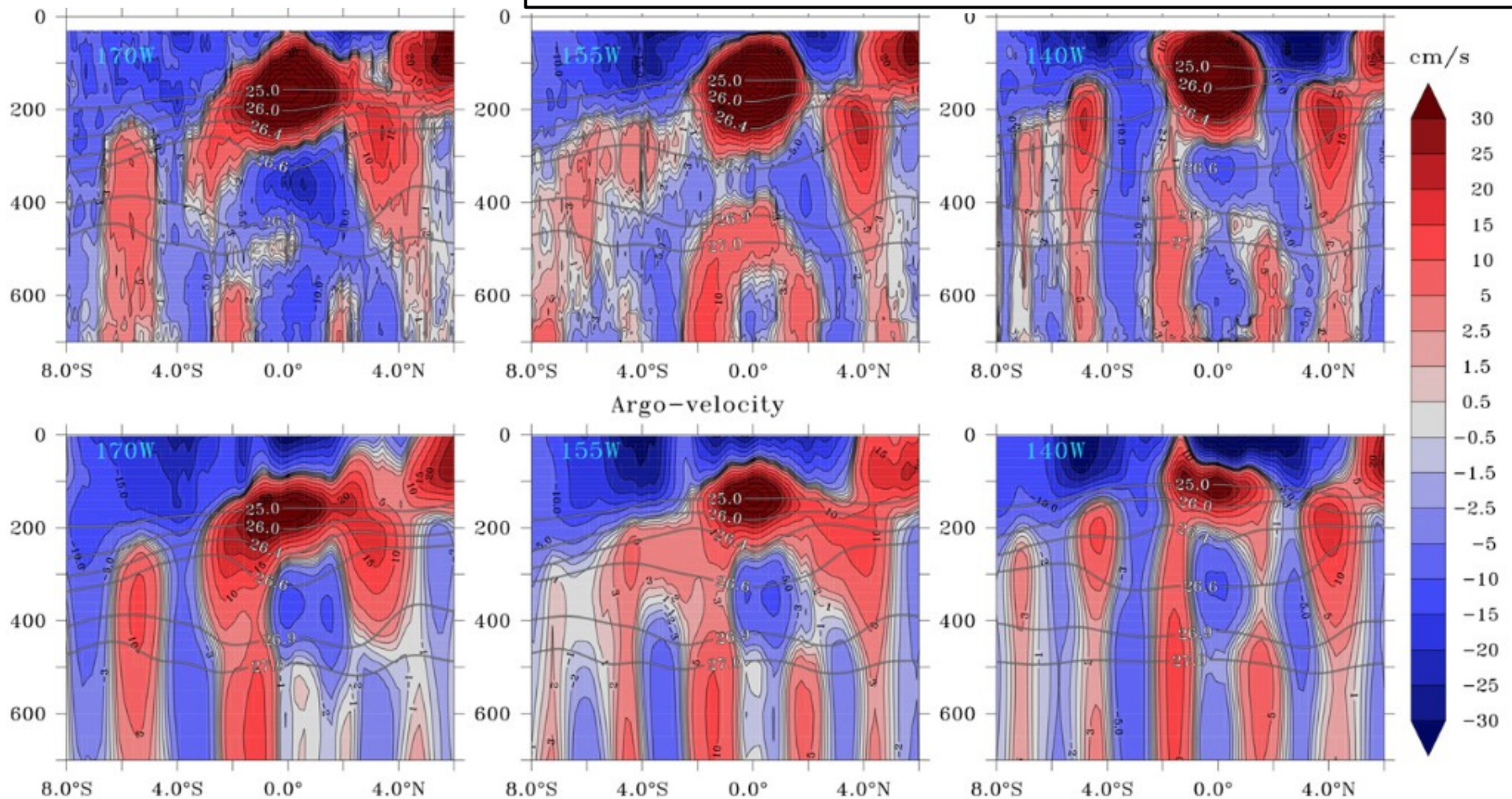
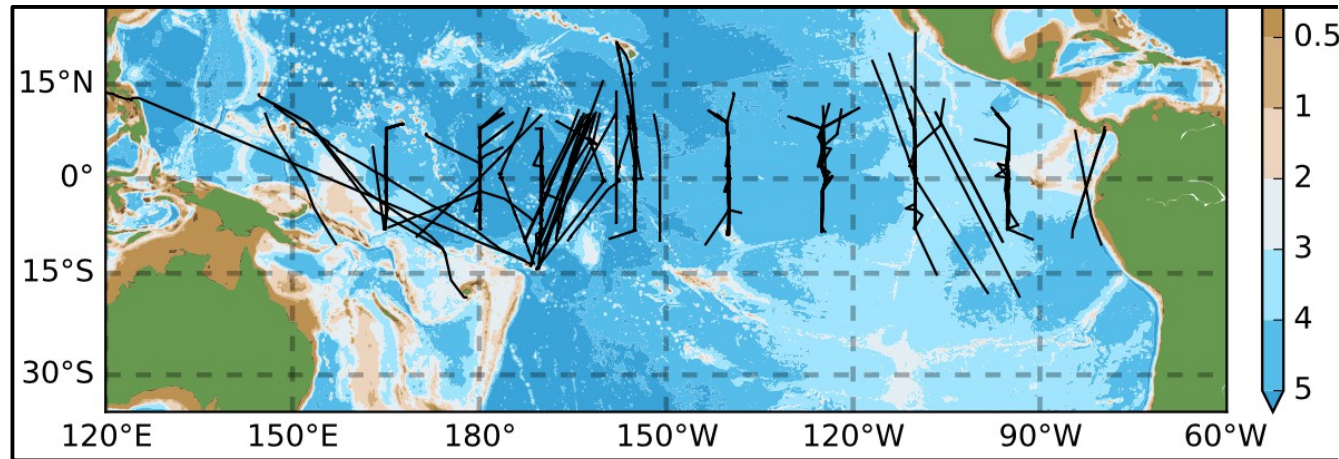


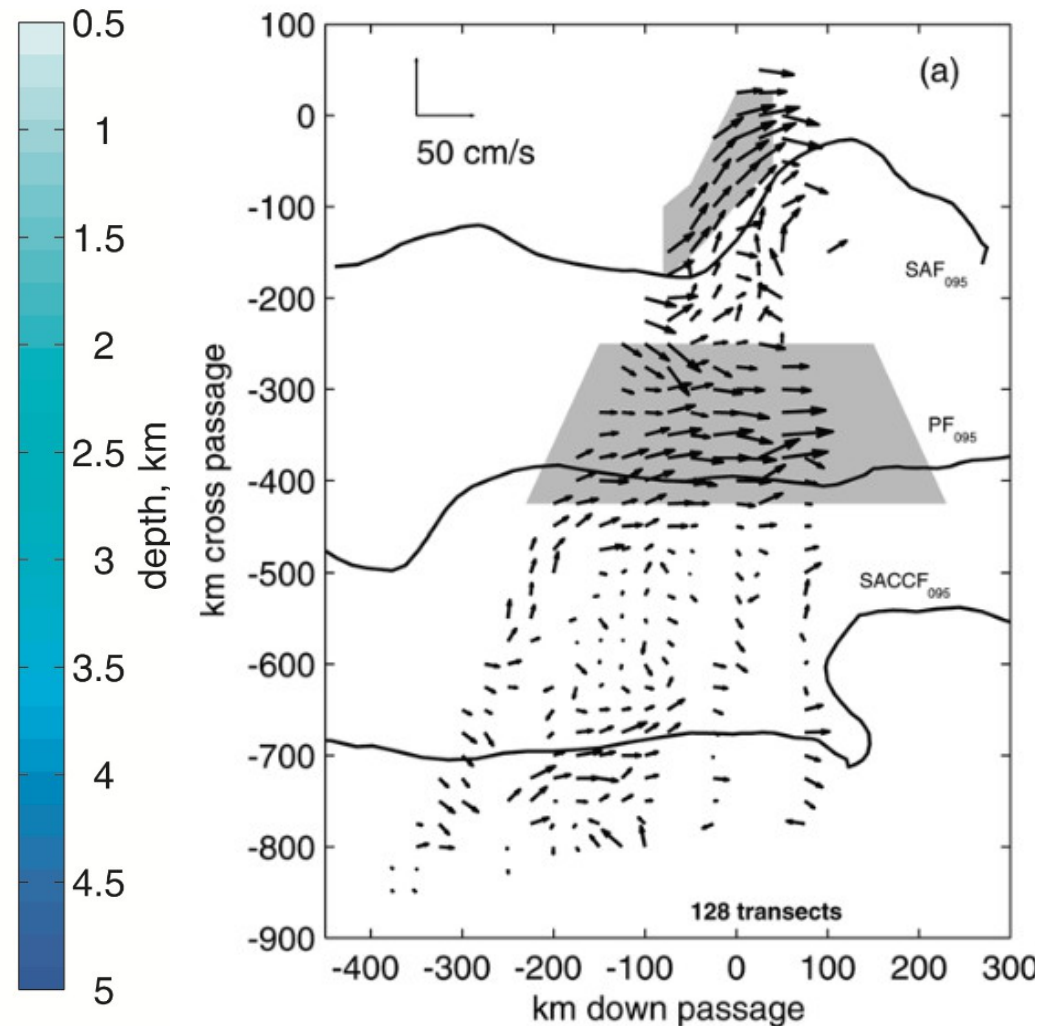
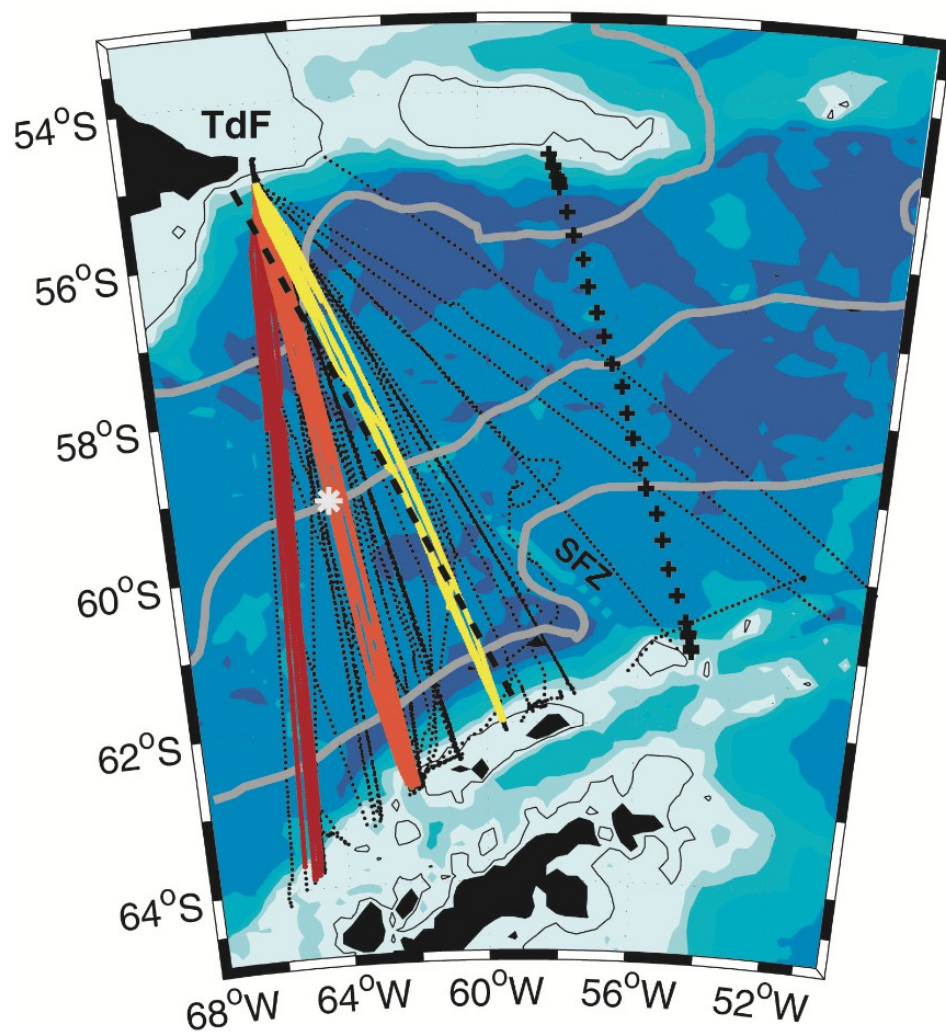
FIG. 12. Mean zonal velocity from (top) SADCP data and (bottom) Argo velocity product at (left) 170°W, (center) 155°W, and (right) 140°W in  $\text{cm s}^{-1}$ . Superimposed are some selected isopycnals.



# Time Series Examples

## Laurence M. Gould: Drake Passage

*Lenn et al, JMR, 2007*



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# Where are scientific shipboard ADCPs installed?

## In the United States:

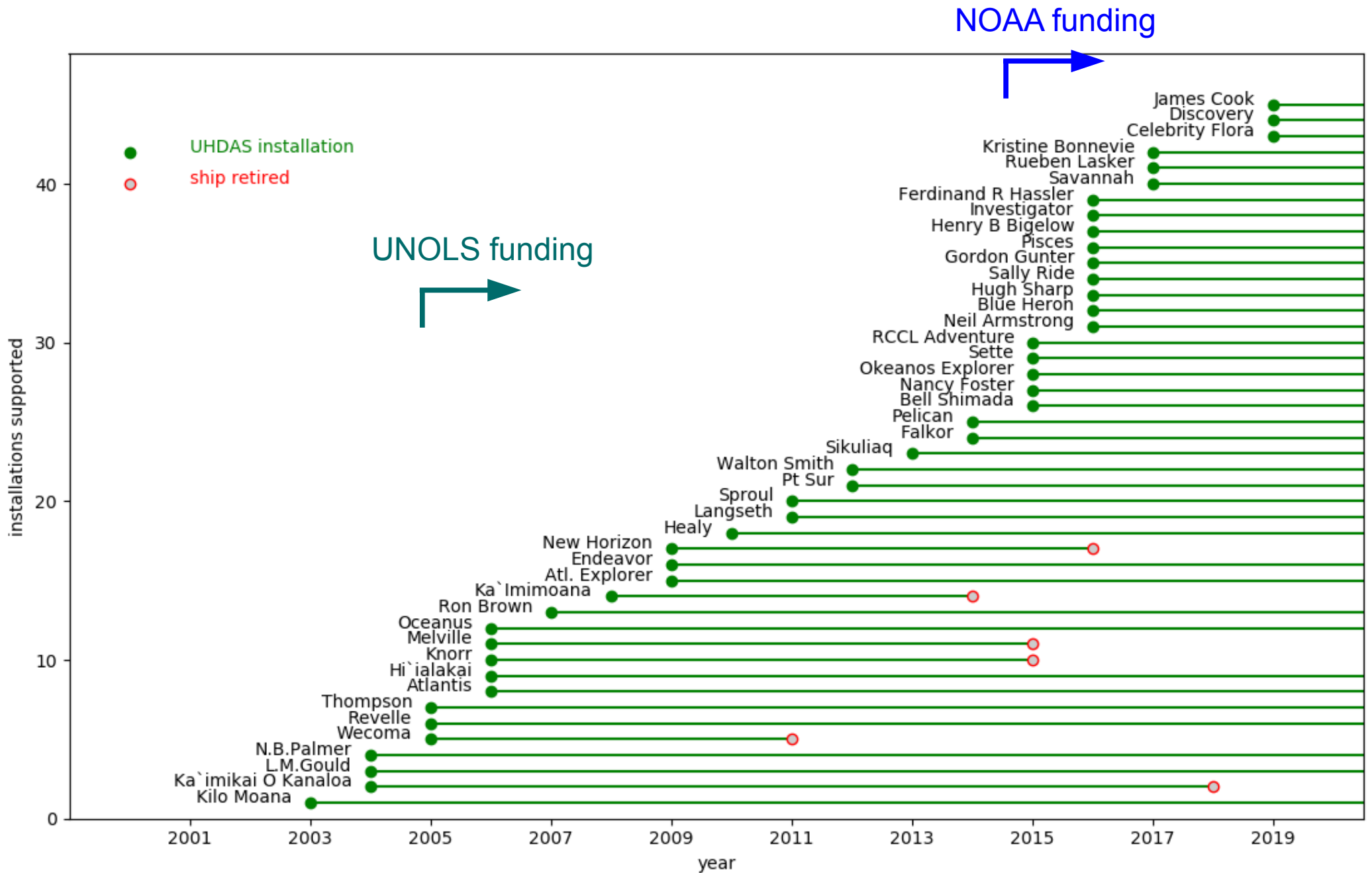
- Academic Research Fleet (**UNOLS ~20 ships, all with UHDAS**)
- Nat'l Oceanographic and Atmospheric Admin (**NOAA 11 ships**)
- smaller science vessels

## Internationally:

- oceanographic research vessels (**UHDAS on ~10**)
- smaller science vessels
- Navy ships

- 
- (1) Teledyne RDI is the only company making viable shipboard ADCPs at this point
  - (2) Most RDI installations would use their Windows program for acquisition (“VmDAS”)

# UHDAS Installations supported: by year





# How UHDAS improves the quality of shipboard ADCP data

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- **acquisition** (ADCP, position, heading)
  - easy to use; can return to known-working settings
- **automated processing** (“pre-processing” at sea)
- **monitoring**
  - on ship: via at-sea web site
  - on land: automated daily emails to UHDAS Team
  - feedback to technicians on the ship
- **data and products**
  - operations and science at sea
  - ease of post-processing after the cruise
  - discovery/evaluation in the future



**CODAS**

# ADCP preliminary Processing

“processing” requires (at minimum)

- transform from beam coordinates to horizontal
- rotation into ship coordinates
- further rotation based on heading
- account for ship's speed

- acoustic interference
- data below the bottom
- short, biased profiles (bubbles)
- remaining statistical outliers

**CODAS**

**single-ping editing:  
remove bins due to...**

- averaging
  - **CODAS directory is staged for post-processing**

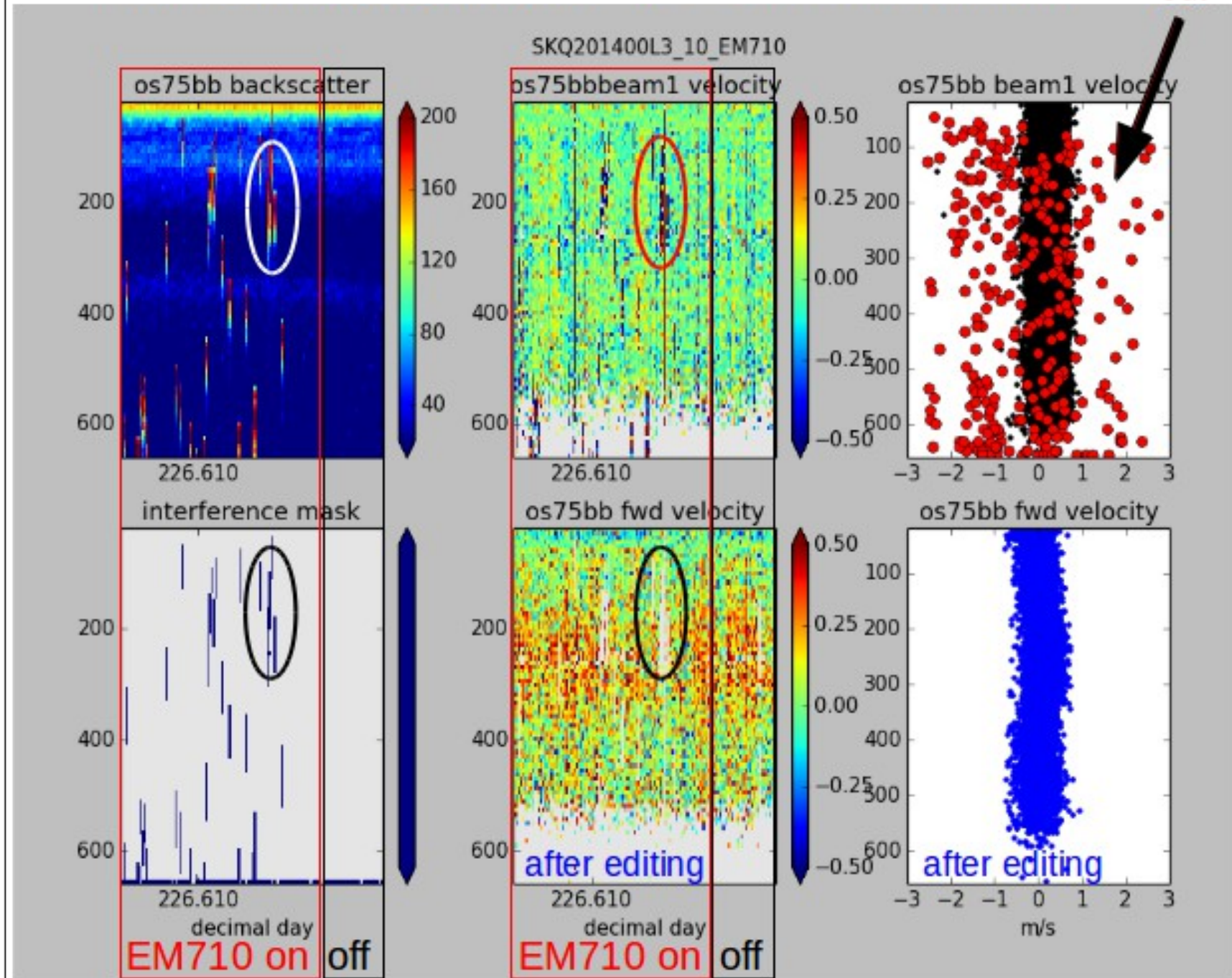
link: [CODAS+UHDAS documentation](https://currents.soest.hawaii.edu/docs/adcp_doc/index.html)

[https://currents.soest.hawaii.edu/docs/adcp\\_doc/index.html](https://currents.soest.hawaii.edu/docs/adcp_doc/index.html)

# CODAS single-ping editing based on acoustic interference

## EM710 pinging impact on OS75 broadband

edited  
out



# How UHDAS improves the quality of shipboard ADCP data

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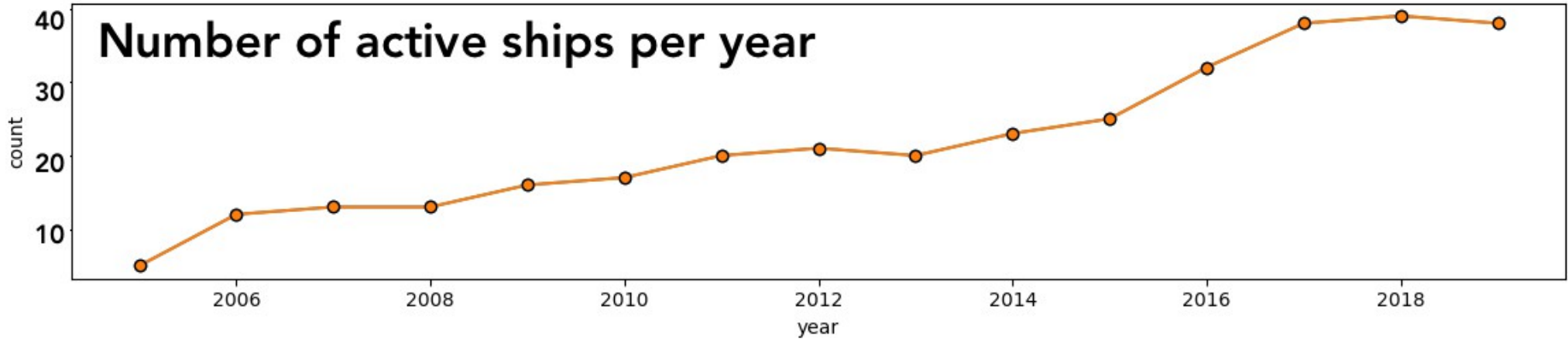
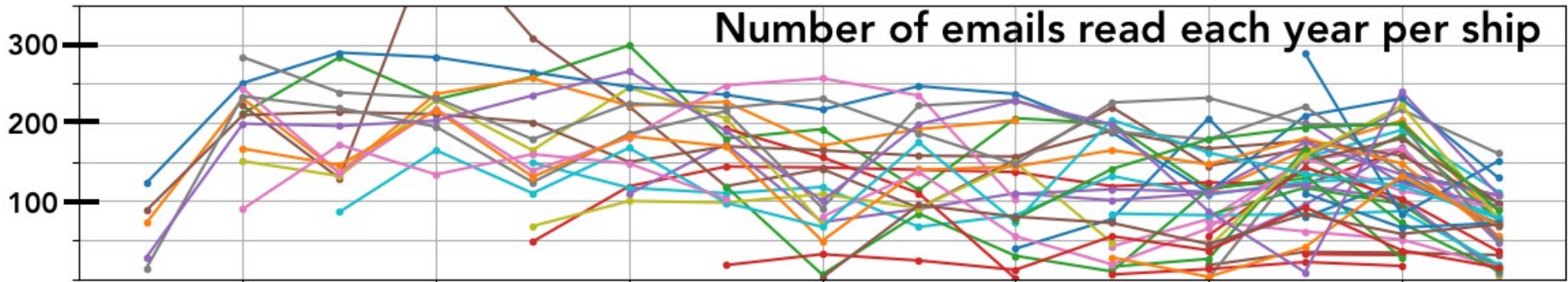
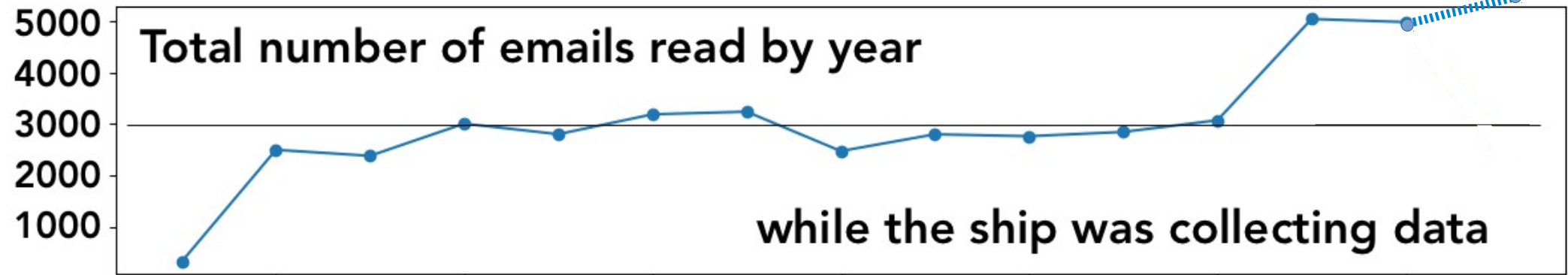
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# Monitoring

- on ship:
  - via [web site on ship](#) (science and diagnostic figs)
- on land
  - automated daily emails to UHDAS Team
  - dashboard with
    - cruise status
    - links to figures, diagnostic files
  - ticketing system: first pass at identifying problems:
    - notifies the UHDAS team of a problem
    - mechanism for tracking problems (eg, cruise, ship, instrument)
    - has guidance for common problems
- Team provides feedback to technicians on the ship



# UHDAS ship and email metrics



# How UHDAS improves the quality of shipboard ADCP data

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- acquisition (ADCP, position, heading)
  - easy to use; can return to known-working settings
- automated processing (“pre-processing” at sea)
- monitoring
  - on ship: via at-sea web site
  - on land: automated daily emails to UHDAS Team
  - feedback to technicians on the ship
- data and products for
  - operations and science at sea
  - ease of post-processing after the cruise
  - discovery/evaluation in the future



# CODAS data and products

## **At sea:**

- **Example At-Sea UHDAS web site** (M.G.Langseth May, 2022)
  - figures for operations and science at sea
  - netCDF data files for science
  - matlab data files
  - archive of daily figures
  - calibration from processing
  - settings used during processing
- complete CODAS+UHDAS documentation

# Tour of the UHDAS at-sea web site figures

## UHDAS Figures (live)

### Diagnostic and Operational

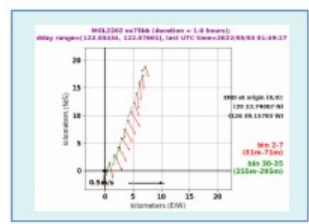
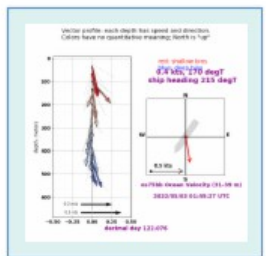
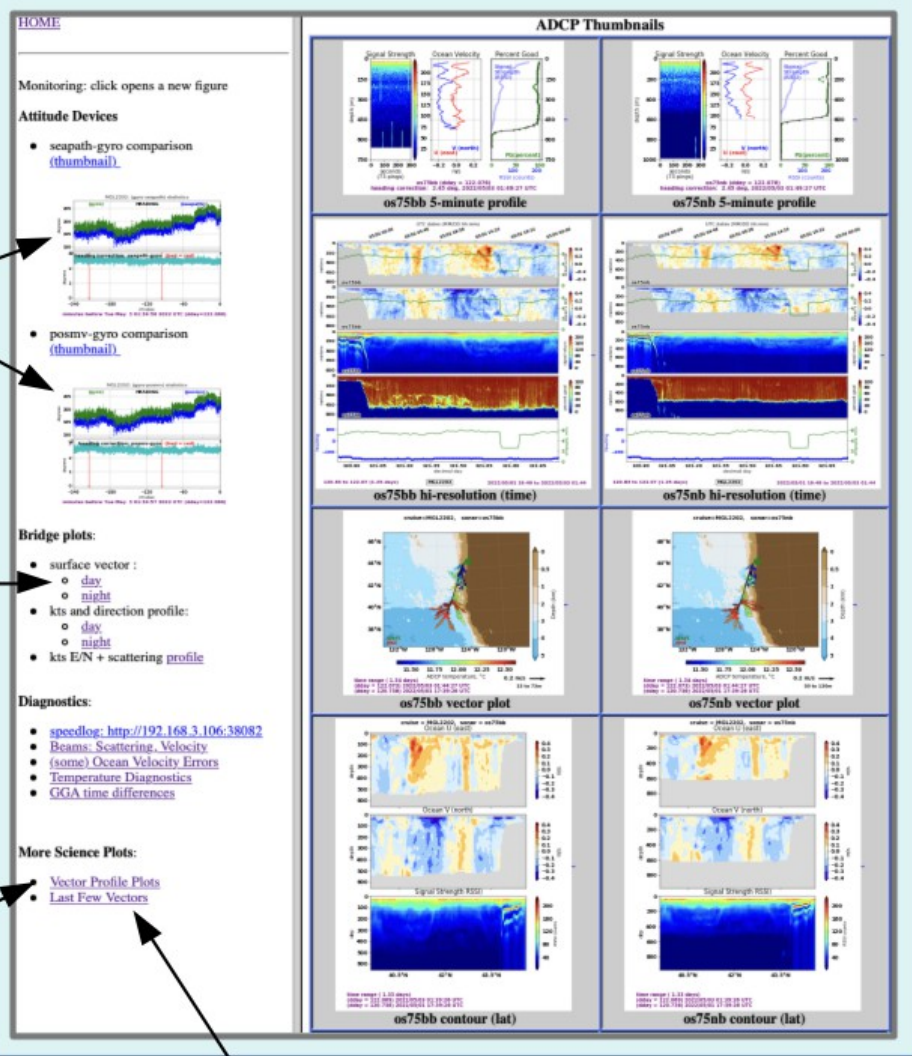
### Science plots: one column per instrument+pingtype os75bb os75nb

monitor heading devices

Bridge vector plot

vector profile plot

last few vectors



Link to [documentation](#) about figures

# References

## Drake Passage

- ***Vertical structure and transport of the Antarctic Circumpolar Current in Drake Passage from direct velocity observations***

Journal of Geophysical Research, 116, C08015; 2011; Y. Firing, T. Chereskin, M. Masloff

- ***Mean jets, mesoscale variability and eddy momentum fluxes in the surface layer of the Antarctic Circumpolar Current in Drake Passage***

Journal of Marine Research, 65, 27–58, 2007; Y.-D. Lenn, T. K. Chereskin, J. Sprintall, E. Firing

## Equatorial Pacific

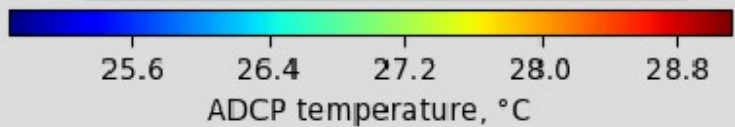
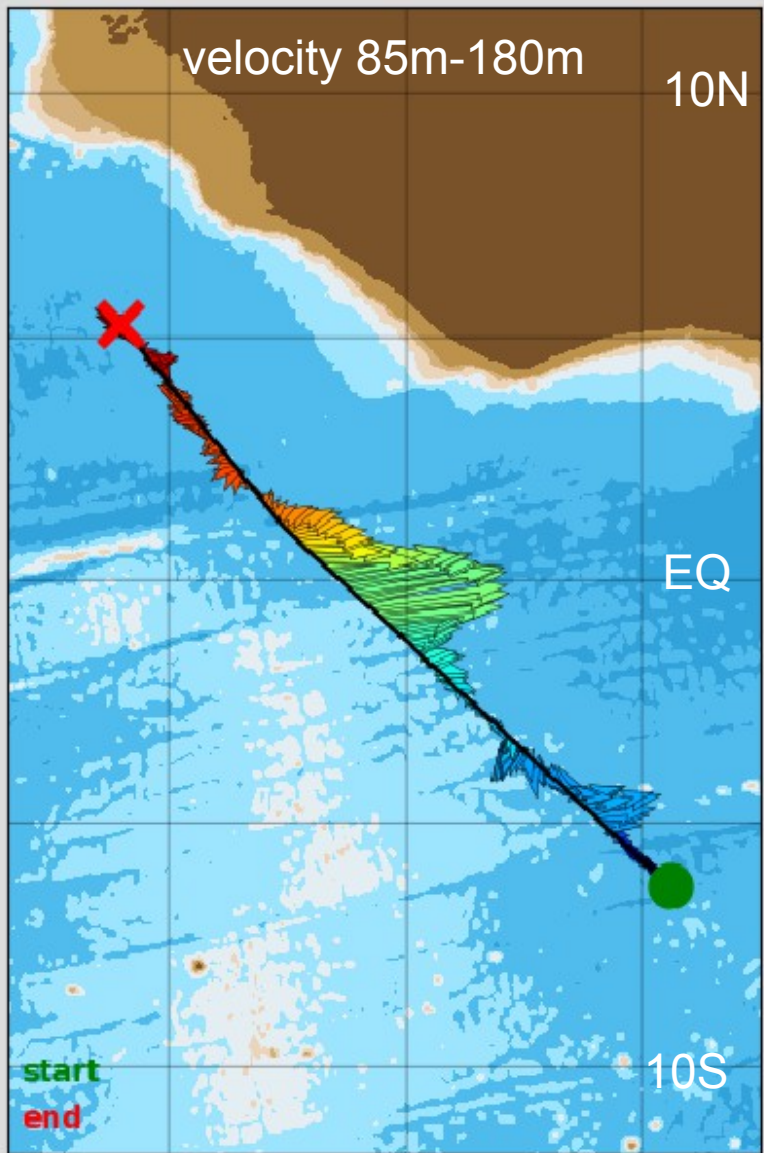
- ***Subthermocline and Intermediate Zonal Currents in the Tropical Pacific Ocean: Paths and Vertical Structure***

Journal of Physical Oceanography, 47, 2305-2324, 2017; S. Cravatte, E. Kestenare, F. Marin, P. Dutrieux, E. Firing

- ***Annual Reversal of the Equatorial Intermediate Current in the Pacific: Observations and Model Diagnostics***

Journal of Physical Oceanography, 40, 915-933, 2010; F. Marin, E. Kestenare, T. Delcroix, F. Durand, S. Cravatte, G. Eldin

0.2 m/s →



# Equatorial Cross-section R/V James Cook Oct 21-24, 2019

