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# Euro-Argo ERIC – Copernicus In-Situ Workshop: « Argo Data Requirements of Copernicus Entrusted Entities »

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Workshop Report



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## Applicable Documents

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## List of abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Name   | Reference   |
|--------------|--|---|
| ARCs         | Argo Regional Centres  |   |
| AST          | Argo Steering Team   |   |
| BGC          | Biogeochemical   |   |
| BBP          | Particulate backscattering coefficient   |   |
| C3S          | Copernicus Climate Change Service  | <a href="https://climate.copernicus.eu/">https://climate.copernicus.eu/</a>   |
| Cal/Val      | Calibration and Validation   |   |
| CDOM         | Coloured dissolved organic matter  |   |
| ChIA         | Chlorophyll-A  |   |
| CIMR         | Copernicus Imaging Microwave Radiometer  | <a href="https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2020/11/CIMR">https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2020/11/CIMR</a>       |
| CMEMS        | Copernicus Marine Services   | <a href="https://marine.copernicus.eu/">https://marine.copernicus.eu/</a>   |
| COINS        | Copernicus Observations In Situ  | <a href="https://insitu.copernicus.eu/">https://insitu.copernicus.eu/</a>   |
| CRISTAL      | Copernicus Polar Ice and Snow Topography Altimeter   | <a href="https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2020/09/CRISTAL">https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2020/09/CRISTAL</a> |
| DIC          | Dissolved Inorganic Carbon   |   |
| DMQC         | Delayed-mode quality control   |   |
| ECMWF        | European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts   | <a href="https://www.ecmwf.int">https://www.ecmwf.int</a>   |
| EEA          | European Environment Agency  | <a href="http://www.eea.europa.eu">www.eea.europa.eu</a>  |
| ENVRI        | Community of Environmental Research Infrastructures  | <a href="https://envri2.eu/">https://envri2.eu/</a>   |
| ERIC(s)      | European Research Infrastructure(s)  |   |
| ESA          | European Space Agency  | <a href="https://www.esa.int/">https://www.esa.int/</a>   |
| EUMETNET     | European Meteorological Network (A network of 31 European National Meteorological & Hydrological Services) | <a href="https://www.eumetnet.eu/">https://www.eumetnet.eu/</a>   |
| EUMETSAT     | The European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites                                | <a href="https://www.eumetsat.int/">https://www.eumetsat.int/</a>   |
| FRM          | Fiducial Reference Measurements  |   |
| GDAC         | Global Data Assembly Centre  |   |
| GEORGE       | Horizon Europe GEORGE project  | <a href="https://george-project.eu/">https://george-project.eu/</a>   |
| GTS          | Global Telecommunication System  |   |
| HPLC         | High-performance liquid Chromatography (HPLC)  |   |





|             |  |   |
|-------------|--|---|
| IBI         | Iberia-Biscay-Irish Monitoring and Forecasting Centre                        | <a href="https://marine.copernicus.eu/about/producers/ibi-mfc">https://marine.copernicus.eu/about/producers/ibi-mfc</a> |
| IOCCG       | International Ocean Colour Coordinating Group                                | <a href="https://ioccg.org/">https://ioccg.org/</a>   |
| IMU         | Inertial measurement unit  |   |
| IN SITU TAC | Copernicus Marine IN Situ Thematic Assembly Centre                           |   |
| JERICO      | JERICO Research Infrastructure: the European gateway for coastal observation | <a href="https://www.jerico-ri.eu/">https://www.jerico-ri.eu/</a>   |
| LOV         | Laboratory of Oceanography of Villefranche, France                           |   |
| MFCs        | Monitoring and Forecasting Centres   |   |
| MFF         | Multiannual Financial Framework  |   |
| MOB-TAC     | Multi-Observations Thematic Assembly Centre                                  | <a href="https://marine.copernicus.eu/about/producers/mob-tac">https://marine.copernicus.eu/about/producers/mob-tac</a> |
| MOBY        | Marine Optical BuoY  | <a href="https://mml.sjsu.edu/moby/">https://mml.sjsu.edu/moby/</a>   |
| POC         | Particulate Organic Carbon   |   |
| OGS         | Italian National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics            | <a href="https://www.ogs.it/en">https://www.ogs.it/en</a>   |
| OSes        | Observation System Experiments   |   |
| OSSEs       | Observation System Simulation Experiments                                    |   |
| PACE        | Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem                                    | <a href="https://science.nasa.gov/mission/pace/">https://science.nasa.gov/mission/pace/</a>                             |
| PAR         | Photosynthetically active radiation  |   |
| POC         | Particulate organic carbon   |   |
| QC          | Quality Control  |   |
| RI(s)       | European Research Infrastructure(s)  |   |
| RT          | Real Time  |   |
| SSH         | Sea Surface Height   |   |
| SSS         | Sea Surface Salinity   |   |
| SST         | Sea Surface Temperature  |   |
| T&S         | Temperature and salinity   |   |
| TAC         | Thematic Assembly Centres of the Copernicus Marine Service                   |   |
| UVP         | Underwater Vision Profiler   |   |
| WMO         | World Meteorological Organization  |   |



# 1. Introduction

The Euro-Argo ERIC – Copernicus In Situ Workshop: “Argo Data Requirements of Copernicus Entrusted Entities” was organised as part of the COINS Specific Contract 3, on two half-days. It was hosted by Mercator Ocean International in Toulouse, France. The aim was to initiate a discussion with Copernicus Entrusted entities to (1) assess their requirements in terms of Argo data, (2) see how Euro-Argo ERIC could better respond to these requirements in the context of the OneArgo design and (3) develop a common strategy to advocate for EU complementary funding. It gathered 27 participants, about half of them remotely. ECMWF, EUMETSAT and ESA as well as almost all Monitoring and Forecasting Centres (MFCs) and Thematic Assembly Centres (TACs) of the Copernicus Marine Service (CMEMS) were represented (although in some cases by implementers of the physics part only). The list of participants is provided in Annex 1, as well as the Background Document for this meeting in Annex 6.

A general introduction of both the Copernicus In Situ Component and the COINS Specific Contract 3 was made by Jose Miguel Rubio Iglesias from the European Environment Agency (EEA). An overview of the Argo programme, the new OneArgo design, its implementation in Europe and the associated challenges, and the objectives of the workshop, was provided by Yann Hervé De Roeck, Director General of the Euro-Argo ERIC. Participants were then asked to answer a set of questions for each of the 8 essential ocean variables measured by Argo – temperature, salinity and the six biogeochemical (BGC) variables – and discussions occurred informally between all participants along these questions. The second half-day, dedicated to bio-optical parameters measured by BGC-Argo, was introduced by Hervé Claustre (Senior Scientist at the Laboratory of Oceanography of Villefranche (LOV), France, member of Euro-Argo ERIC Scientific and Technical Advisory Group and co-chair of the international BGC-Argo mission team). Argo-BGC products and new additional BGC-Argo variables (e.g. measured by hyperspectral radiometers and Underwater Vision Profilers) were also discussed. The three introductory presentations are provided in Annex 2-3-4.

This report summarises the discussions and requirements, variable by variable, expressed by the Copernicus Services implementers represented at the workshop. The variables were discussed by order of maturity in the Argo network. The specific requirements of each MFC or entrusted entity are provided in Annex 5. The last section of this report highlights the main conclusions and recommendations that came out of this first workshop.

## 2. Requirements

### 2.1 Temperature

Temperature is absolutely needed for validation activities of Sentinel-3 and others satellites and is assimilated in all ocean and coupled forecast systems represented.

**High latitudes** temperature and salinity (T&S) measurements are needed for satellite data validation. In the context of the future CIMR (Copernicus Imaging Microwave Radiometer) & CRISTAL (Copernicus polaR Ice and Snow Topography Altimeter) missions, high latitudes are seen as a priority for Copernicus



(Polar Copernicus missions 2027-2028). Subsurface T&S measurements are valuable for indirect validation of ice thickness (through the computation of buoyancy).

The importance of **surface** measurements was highlighted. WMO is currently not considering Argo as providing Sea Surface Temperature (SST) but this could change if good arguments are pushed forward. The TRUSTED project was mentioned, as a pilot aiming at answering the question of the interpretation of the surface bin in terms of temperature. Drifting buoys for SST measurements with FRM standard have been funded in that purpose through the Copernicus TRUSTED project. It was also reminded that the next version of the European manufactured core floats should be able to sample up to 0.1 dB.

SST is a priority for Numerical Weather Predictions, for boundary conditions, and also very important for all ocean systems. ECMWF assimilates both SST from satellites and near surface temperature from Argo and they are sometimes different, which can cause issues. The need for Real-Time data (RT, i.e. a few hours after the measurement) was stated. Models without assimilation do not display the right amplitude of the temperature signal at depth, hence assimilation of **deep measurements** (below 2000m) is beneficial. RT deep data are also of interest.

A discussion was held on **Fiducial Reference Measurements (FRM)**. This concept of FRM is described in the recent publication of [Goryl et al. \(2023\)](#), including the concept of maturity matrix. ESA is currently defining the requirements for the CRISTAL mission on Sea Surface Height (SSH), with one of the main features being the traceability. It could be interesting to see how Argo data could be stamped FRM for satellite Cal/Val applications. About SSH, the issue of the imbalance of sea level rise in recent years needs to be resolved: there is a growing mismatch between altimetric observations by satellites and the addition of ocean mass increase (observed by GRACE) and steric effect (temperature and salinity observed by Argo).

The need for coastal temperature measurements was recalled and the Horizon Europe GEORGE project mentioned. Euro-Argo and several of its partners are involved in GEORGE, in particular for the redefinition of a coastal Argo float, presumably through classical Argo floats tuned for coastal applications (same sensors). Collaboration with the emerging Research Infrastructure JERICO is obviously to be considered for coastal measurements.

Regarding **Quality Control** and **delivery time** of temperature data, no specific enhancement was requested.

## 2.2 Salinity

The impact of Argo data assimilation (% of improvement) is around the same on the Heat and Freshwater content but the quality of the models without assimilation is worse in representing the salinity variability compared to temperature. Moreover, **Argo is almost the only source of in situ salinity data.**



EUMETSAT is developing a Sea Surface Salinity (SSS) product from the future CMIR mission. It was noted that Argo is the main source of validation for such missions ([Boutin et al. 2024](#)). Argo salinity is also used to produce the debiased SMOS SSS L3 maps. RBR sensors equipping some of the Argo floats, which do not need any pumping and then measure salinity up to the surface, are a plus.

In the framework of the SynObs project (UN Decade), discussions are occurring between many international groups assimilating Argo data in their ocean prediction systems. From these discussions, it seems that the **impact of doubling the number of Argo profiles in Western Boundary Currents is not obvious**. No clear conclusion was possible from the Observation System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs) performed by Mercator in their  $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$  system, although it may differ in higher resolution systems. However, the **doubling of Argo profiles in the equatorial band has a positive impact** both on temperature and salinity.

Although Argo measures temperature and salinity with the same resolution (same sensor), the requirements from both the satellite and modeler users are not the same for both parameters. It was noted that forecast error maps are different for temperature and salinity, namely in high precipitation regions.

Salinity measurements below 2000m are required in addition to temperature to properly represent the deep ocean dynamics, driven by the density, in ocean models. To complement satellite altimetry data, both vertical profiles of temperature and salinity are also needed. The lack of salinity data in **high latitude regions** was highlighted. Despite the increasing role of the ocean observations by marine mammals for temperature and salinity in in situ data provision, **Argo is still a crucial data provider in these regions**, and should develop its capacity to measure under ice, in both hemispheres (with a priority in the Arctic). Argo salinity measurements **close to the coast** are also important because of the poor quality of satellite measurements in these areas.

The issue of “Abrupt Salinity Drift” of some sensors encountered by Argo and its impact on the Argo salinity dataset quality was pointed out. The impact on model results was significant. More generally, modelers raised the **need to decrease the delay for delayed-mode quality control (DMQC)**, although they are aware of constraints (time series have to be long enough to properly assess the data quality). E.g., in the RT modelling systems, reanalyses are performed in less than one month, so one year for DMQC is too long. A discussion occurred on the Argo quality control processes, in which the historical role of Argo Regional Centres (ARCs) was described. The ARCs are supposed to perform consistency checks at regional level for temperature and salinity, but they are currently underfunded, apart from the Atlantic and the Mediterranean ones. Participants were surprised to learn that Argo data are never reprocessed after the float's end of life, whereas this is a common practice with satellite data. Everyone agreed to state that **regular ‘state of the art’ reprocessing of the historical Argo dataset would be very beneficial**. This activity could be envisaged at the Argo Global Data Assembly Centre (GDAC) level. The **ESA Climate Change initiative** was mentioned as a **possible way to support this action**.

A discussion on the source of Argo temperature and salinity data used by the various entities revealed that some entities take Argo data from the IN SITU TAC, while others use the EN4 product from the



Met Office for reanalyses and data from the Global Telecommunication System (GTS) for Real-Time predictions.

## 2.3 Oxygen

**Oxygen is one of the most important BGC variables.**

It is important for validation and is already assimilated (Mediterranean Sea MFC) or will be in the years to come (2-3y, e.g. global MFC) by some MFCs, together with Dissolved Inorganic Carbon (DIC) and Alkalinity. **Uncertainties are needed** as Oxygen also allows to infer other BGC variables: carbonate and nutrients.

Regarding the source of data, Mercator (global system) uses the products distributed by the MOB-TAC (profiles). These products are made using oxygen data from the IN SITU TAC and machine learning techniques. The MOB-TAC aims at releasing monthly updates of these carbonate system products. (NB: Oxygen is distributed both by IN SITU & MOB TACs). The Mediterranean MFC (OGS) uses Oxygen data directly from the GDAC, for historical reasons. They previously used the RT-adjusted Oxygen data, but had to stop since the density of data decreased in the recent years. OGS performs local quality control (QC) of the Oxygen data because the **QC performed by Argo is not done early enough**. The need to organise a discussion between OGS teams in charge of this local QC and the Argo data management team was raised.

The IBI and Baltic MFCs mentioned the lack of density in Oxygen data availability for data assimilation.

The discussion about Oxygen data led to the suggestion to equip all Argo floats with an Oxygen sensor as a target for Euro-Argo, given the importance of this variable in inferring other parameters. The **need to perform consistency checks at regional level**, which become increasingly important with new sensor types entering the market, was also noted. With this need comes the need to fund such activities.

To be used to infer other key parameters assimilated in BGC ocean models, oxygen data need to be very accurate, and the **uncertainty needs to be known**. It was thus reiterated that the **DMQC for Oxygen and associated uncertainties are not performed soon enough by the Argo community**. For the Black Sea and Baltic Sea MFCs, the quality control remains an issue as the standard procedures cannot be applied directly.

No MFC uses Deep (below 2000m) Oxygen data.

## 2.4 pH

Euro-Argo recalled that at present, Europe has stopped buying pH sensors, since there is an issue with the Seabird IFSET sensor (currently the only sensor on the Argo market)<sup>1</sup>. The **carbon community is reluctant about using pH to estimate carbon**, but pCO<sub>2</sub> sensors are not yet mature enough to be deployed on Argo floats.

The pressing issue of air-sea fluxes for carbon estimation was stated. It was noted that the goal of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) is to get estimates with an accuracy of 2-5 μATM, whereas the best we can currently get with Argo is 15 μATM. In a research proposal (TRICUSO) submitted in March 2024 and in which Euro-Argo is involved, Observation System Experiments (OSEs) are proposed for carbon fluxes estimates using Oxygen, pH and wind data from Argo.

Mercator is only starting to assimilate pH, using **gridded maps because of the lack of global coverage**, which is not ideal. In general, **pH is very useful for BGC models validation** - even if not assimilated.

## 2.5 Nitrate

Nitrate sensors on Argo floats are **5 times more expensive than, e.g., Oxygen sensors**, and Argo is facing a monopolistic situation (only one manufacturer currently on the market). However, tests are currently undertaken by Argo teams with a new Nitrate sensor manufactured by TRIOS (Germany), showing promising results. It was noted that the MOB-TAC products of Nitrate, estimated from Neural Networks techniques (see below, “3D-products” section), have an associated uncertainty of the same order of the Argo Nitrate sensor accuracy (~0.7 μmol/kg).

Nitrate measurements from Argo are used for validation of model outputs. It is presently not assimilated by any group. For the global system, the timeline is the same as for Oxygen, i.e. Nitrates should be assimilated in the 2-3 years to come. The **Mediterranean system used to assimilate Nitrates** data from Argo but **had to stop because of the lack of data**. There was a gap of 2 years without any Nitrate data in the Mediterranean Sea, due to the end of deployments in the region by the scientific teams, and although deployments have started again (through new projects) the data coverage is recovering but still not dense enough for assimilation. The **value of Nitrate for validation** purposes was highlighted, e.g. for **checking the depth vertical profile shape** provided by the models.

The Baltic Sea MFC encounters the same issue for Nitrates as for Oxygen, i.e. a coverage too poor for data assimilation. Given the high cost of the Nitrate sensor, it was not deemed a priority to equip Argo floats with Nitrate sensors, but rather to deploy more floats with other parameters. Moreover, this parameter is **not particularly useful in anoxic areas, which are characteristic of the Baltic Sea**.

Under-ice Nitrate measurements are very valuable, for the same reasons as for Oxygen (strong variability), and the importance of having Nitrate data on the shelf was raised for the IBI MFC.

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<sup>1</sup> It seems from presentations made at the 25th AST meeting the week after this COINS workshop that the SBE pH sensor issue has now been solved.



Regarding QC timeliness, the requirements are the same as for Oxygen and Temperature/Salinity (7 days window).

No MFC uses Deep Nitrate data (below 2000m).

The future strategy for Nitrates was inquired. As we can retrieve Nitrates values through Neural Networks techniques, the idea **in Europe is to put fewer Nitrate sensors on floats**, while continuing the efforts for sensor diversification (with TRIOS) and possibly an associated cost decrease. As an asset, it was also noted that Argo is one of the best platforms to avoid biofouling (as the floats stay in the dark during 10 days).

## 2.6 Chlorophyll-A, particulate backscatter coefficient (BBP), downwelling irradiance & associated products and their potential for satellite validation

Chlorophyll-A (ChIA), BBP & downwelling irradiance are key parameters for Ocean Colour Radiometry.

### ChIA:

ChIA data are measured by fluorescence (FchlA). It was recalled that the ratio  $FchlA/ChIA$  (slope) is not constant; it varies with phytoplankton type, light history, and nutrients limitation and is therefore regionally dependent on the biogeochemical state. Recent studies have highlighted several ways to estimate this slope ([Roesler et al. 2017](#)), which provides a potential framework for reprocessing the whole Argo database, for consistency. It was noted that the seasonal variability is not yet taken into account in the present method developed for slope estimation.

A discussion on the slope factor occurred, where it **was suggested to compare the maps of slope factor obtained from the global MFC and the one from the LOV team**. This comparison should benefit both communities. It was noted that, in the Mediterranean Sea, globally-tuned satellite algorithms do not work well because of the specific bio-optical properties of the basin, so Argo measurements are really needed. The average slope factor of 2 currently used in the global Argo dataset is appropriate for the Mediterranean Sea (compared to variability). The methodology developed by the LOV team for the slope factor  $FchlA/ChIA$  estimation is ready, and the documentation is being finalized. This method was later endorsed by the Argo Steering Team (AST) at the AST25 meeting, the week following the workshop. It will then start to be implemented by the Argo Data Management Team on the global Argo dataset. The Argo dataset adjusted using this method cannot be straightforwardly used by EUMETSAT for satellite Ocean Colour validation, because of non-independence of the datasets, but could be used for Quality Control as well as to identify potential regional differences.

EEA could recommend focusing on this topic within the next research framework programme of the EU (FP10) and also recommend the full reprocessing of the existing dataset. The ENVRI cluster could be targeted in this recommendation.





The Global MFC currently uses ChIA for model evaluation and parametrisation and plans to assimilate ChIA in the future, while the Mediterranean Sea MFC is already assimilating this parameter.

### **Suspended Particles (BBP)**

BBP is much more reliable than ChIA for satellite validation purposes. It is a proxy for Particulate Organic Carbon (POC) concentration and for phytoplankton carbon biomass.

No interest in deep (below 1000m) measurements was raised. However, **measurements during the float drift were deemed interesting**. It was mentioned that BBP, ChIA (although poor) and reflectance surface products are provided by the Ocean Colour TAC.

### **Downwelling Irradiance**

There are currently 3 downwelling irradiance sensors available on the Argo market, with various sensitivities.

Some studies have shown the potential of in situ irradiance measurements from Argo for the validation of satellite algorithms for diffuse attenuation of downward irradiance. The float measurements give access to **profile values of  $K_d$**  (diffuse attenuation coefficient) and have the advantage of being more representative of various regimes (with respect to historical ship-based database skewed towards less clear waters). A Neural Network based model has been developed (**SOCA-light**) to **infer vertical distribution of light thanks to physical data from Argo and satellites Ocean Colour data** ([Renosh et al., 2023](#)). The **retrieved values are less noisy than the direct measurements** (sometimes contaminated by clouds and/or wave-focusing) and could thus be of interest for modellers. This light gridded product should be implemented in the MOB-TAC in the future.

The irradiance sensors make measurements along 4 bandwidths and all Argo floats are not configured to measure the same bandwidths. In 2021, an Argo Working Group issued recommendations for a common set of bandwidths that should be measured by Argo, which enable photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) computation, but these recommendations are not yet implemented by all teams deploying Argo floats.

**Overall, under ice and coastal ChIA, BBP and irradiance measurements were mentioned as very important.**

### **3D-PRODUCTS:**

The MULTIOBS\_GLO\_BIO\_BGC\_3D\_REP product provides global **3D-gridded so-called SOCA** (Satellite Ocean-Color merged with Argo data to infer bio-optical properties to depth) **products of ChIA, POC, radiometric variables (PAR)**, etc. from Copernicus satellite data (Ocean Colour and altimetry) and Copernicus INS-TAC temperature and salinity data (ARMOR-3D). The November 2024 release of this product will use the new slope factor developed by the LOV team (see above), using the SOCA-light





method, i.e. with no radiometry as input. In this product, the POC data is provided using two different algorithms for computation from BBP, so that the user can choose its preferred one.

It was noted that there is a factor of 2 between surface (satellite) and depth (Argo) ChIA. This is currently a problem that is being addressed, in particular using historical High-performance liquid Chromatography (HPLC) measurements that can now be related to a modelled (using neural Network techniques) Argo ChIA profile, providing the HPLC measurements were performed during the ocean color era (i.e. after the launch of Seawifs).

The question whether **it would be useful for MFCs to get the data at the float location instead of gridded** was asked and the answer was positive, as such inputs would be easier for performing OSSEs and are **more appropriate for assimilation** (no correlation in assimilated datasets). The question of where and how Argo should deliver these “along track” products was raised but needs to be further discussed, including within the Argo community.

It was reminded that these products cannot be used for satellite validation because they are not independent.

#### **FROM VAL TO CAL ACTIVITY (radiometry)**

The purpose of the BOUSSOLE project was to establish a time series of optical properties in open ocean waters, in support of bio-optics research, for the calibration of ocean colour satellite observations, and validation of the products derived from these observations. This project has now ended and another European waters site will be chosen to continue the acquisition of in situ optical data for satellite calibration activities. Several **examples in favour of using a dedicated fleet of BGC-Argo for calibration, in complement to this new in situ calibration site**, were presented: the Argo platform is appropriate to avoid seasonal bias ([Bisson et al. 2021](#)). Floats can be used to validate Reflectance measurements thanks to availability of both downwelling irradiance and upwelling radiance ([Gerbi et al. 2016](#)) and are able to provide correction for temperature dependency of the radiometry measurements and to catch the diversity that is not seen by few moorings as MOBY (Hawaii) is presently the only a dedicated one.

As of March 2024, 12 floats equipped with hyperspectral downwelling and upwelling radiance sensors are at sea (EU ERC REFINE project) and there are more to come. NASA is presently supporting four pairs of additional hyperspectral sensors for equipping new French BGC-Argo floats. Since the launch of NASA PACE hyperspectral ocean colour sensor, the float cycles of the 12 floats currently at sea have been set to 5 days instead of 10 days to increase the possibilities of matchups during satellite commission phase. CNR will deploy 6 floats in the Mediterranean Sea through the ITINERIS project equipped with hyperspectral downwelling and upwelling radiance sensors. A few hyperspectral floats are equipped with an additional ChIA channel (instead of CDOM). These JUMBO floats equipped with additional sensors are also bigger and contain more batteries, in order to be able to comply with the classical Argo mission (10-day cycle, for 5 years), leaving sufficient energy to accommodate fit-to-purpose sampling strategies when required as it is here the case for validation purposes.



The **importance of recovering the floats for re-calibration in order to be able to be FRM-stamped was mentioned**. The Ocean Colour community, to get the FRM stamp on radiometry for CAL/VAL, has established specific steps/protocols through EUMETSAT and the FRM4SOC initiative.

Radiometric measurements need to occur at the zenith or at the time of the satellite overpass. An inertial measurement unit (IMU) controls the inclination of the float. The proper calibration of the sensor also requires some profiles in the darkest time of the night to assess the temperature dependence of the sensor: a specific piloting of this kind of float is therefore needed.

The need to **push for incorporating the financing of such CAL/VAL/QC activities in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)** of the European Commission was highlighted. In the next MFF, there should also be opportunities for buying additional equipment (similar to the TRUSTED project), e.g., through CNES. This **idea will be brought at the International Ocean Colour Coordinating Group (IOCCG) level** by Hervé Claustre.

## 2.7 New Argo variables and their potential

### Zooplankton

There are currently **32 floats equipped with an Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP)** sensor at the GDAC. This sensor contributes to the **study of the carbon pump**. The sinking speed of particles in the water can be computed for each particle size range. This sensor can show evidence of diurnal migration (work of Leo Lacour) which could be used for model parametrisation. It was mentioned that it **would be useful to get the information in units of carbon**. This is work in progress. When it will be available (units of carbon), the global MFC will be very interested.

Documentation for UVP data processing is ready and published, but the parameter is not yet endorsed as an official OneArgo variable. The data are available on the GDAC “aux” directory. The idea for the future, if UVP data becomes a OneArgo variable, is to provide UVP data the same way as BBP.

MFCs mentioned that a **global coverage of such data would be interesting**.

### PCO2 and other carbonate system and nutrients variables (provided as products)

Although tests are currently carried out with Argo floats equipped with a pCO<sub>2</sub> sensor (in the HE GEORGE and German C-SCOPE projects), further sensor developments are required for a large-scale deployment.

The MULTIOBS\_GLO\_BGC\_NUTRIENTS\_CARBON\_PROFILES\_MYNRT product, delivered by MOB-TAC, provides Nutrients (since 2019) and Carbonate system (including pCO<sub>2</sub>, since 2022) synthetic profiles obtained from the CANYON-B method, using the GlodapV2 product for training and Argo Temperature, Salinity and Oxygen data as inputs. Uncertainties of all the recomputed variables are provided in Annex 4. pCO<sub>2</sub> is provided with an accuracy of 15 µATM. This product will be released monthly, using



Oxygen data adjusted in RT, increasing the uncertainties when it is only available in RT. The issue of data quality information at the MOB-TAC level yet has to be defined.

**pCO<sub>2</sub> can be used for model validation, but for assimilation it is useful only if pH is also available, because the parameters assimilated are DIC & Alkalinity (inferred from pH and pCO<sub>2</sub>).** Depth data are not important as the interesting part is surface fluxes.

No representative of the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) team in charge of the carbon issue participated in the workshop. In a former discussion between Paul Poli (ECMWF) and YH De Roeck, the interest of C3S for all contributing observations for assessing carbon fluxes was expressed.

It was agreed to **bring to the EC the need to fund the development of pCO<sub>2</sub> sensors for BGC floats**, which could have huge perspectives for the monitoring of the carbon uptake by the ocean.

### Acoustic winds

Wind measurements via acoustics is another prospective field for Argo. First tests were done on USA floats in the 2000's (Riser et al. 2008, data available on the aux directory) and tests of wind sensors are currently carried out in the GEORGE project. The **aim of such measurements is to estimate CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes** ( $FCO_2 = pCO_2 \times fct(\text{wind intensity})$ ).

The complementarity of such direct measurements versus satellite observation by scatterometers still needs to be quantified. The new NASA mission ODYSEA dedicated to winds and surface measurements was mentioned. Satellites measure wind stress, whereas with hyperspectral sensors we also get Sea State data.

Such **wind measurements can also be useful for scatterometers validation, but it depends on uncertainties**, since other in situ measurements are available. It was noted that **rain data would be interesting**. In fact, this passive acoustic measurement records the sea state, which is then converted to wind stress. An IMU would also be a plus to interpret these data, but it only exists so far on floats that carry hyperspectral sensors. Developments at Ifremer/LOV for active acoustic targeting small animals were also mentioned.

It was **suggested to Euro-Argo to contact the responsible of the WIND-TAC (KNMI)**.

### 3. Conclusions, Recommendations and Next Steps

#### 3.1 Summary

The workshop gathered a group of scientists in charge of the implementation of the Copernicus Climate and Marine Services and Euro-Argo representatives. Discussions were very productive and both data users and providers learnt from each other. The willingness to continue these exchanges was expressed by all participants.

In situ ocean observations are crucial for the entrusted Copernicus entities represented at the workshop. All participants valued the importance of achieving a OneArgo implementation by 2030. The table below summarises the use of all variables currently measured by Argo by the various entrusted entities.

**Table 1 - Current and future use of Argo data by Copernicus entrusted entities represented at the workshop - more details are provided in Annex 5**

|               | Temperature  | Salinity   | Oxygen  | Nitrate   | pH  | Chlorophyll a   | Suspended particles  | Downwelling irradiance (Ed)   | Upwelling radiance (Lu)              | pCO <sub>2</sub>  | Surface wind | Zooplankton  |
|---------------|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------|--|
| ECMWF-PHY     | used in operational ocean DA system                                      | used in operational ocean DA system                                      | N/A   | N/A   | N/A   | N/A   | N/A  | N/A   | N/A                                  | N/A   | N/A          | N/A  |
| ARC-MFC       | NRT for forecast and DM for reanalysis with DA system                    | NRT for forecast and DM for reanalysis with DA system                    | For validation of BGC forecast and reanalysis     | DM for DA and validation of nitrate concentration | DM for validation of carbon chemistry (not implemented yet) | NRT and DM for DA and validation of phytoplankton biomass                         | Validation for POC   |   |                                      | DM for validation of carbon chemistry (not implemented yet) |              | DM for validation of zooplankton biomass (not implemented yet) |
| MED-MFC       | DA, Validation + NN for reconstructed profiles                           | DA, Validation + NN for reconstructed profiles                           | Data Assimilation + NN for reconstructed profiles | DA, Validation                                    | Validation  | DA, Validation  | Validation for PhytoC and PPOC                               | At the moment validation just for PAR   |                                      |   |              |  |
| GLO-MFC       | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026              | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026              | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                        | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026  | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                         | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026  | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026 | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                        |              | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                           |
| BLACK-BGC-MFC |  |  |   |   |   |   |  | cal/val of spectral radiation model, more than 3 wavelengths would be even better |                                      |   |              | calibration/validation of BGC model                            |
| IBI-MFC       | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026              | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026              | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                        | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026  | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                         | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026  | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026 | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                        |              | RT Data Assimilation planned in 2026                           |
| BAL-MFC       | CAL/VAL  | CAL/VAL  | CAL/VAL   | CAL/VAL   |   | CAL/VAL   |  |   |                                      |   |              |  |
| OC-TAC        |  |  |   |   |   | Product validation/intercomparison  | Product validation/intercomparison (depending on wavelength) | CAL/VAL Product Validation  | CAL/VAL                              |   |              |  |
| EUMETSAT      | Validation   | Validation   |   |   |   | Validation, if direct measurement and more accurate (better than 30% uncertainty) |  |   |                                      |   |              | For validation of scatterometer winds                          |



The workshop allowed to produce a non-exhaustive list of recommendations that should help Euro-Argo to (i) update its strategy for the implementation of the OneArgo array and (ii) find some complementary fundings needed to achieve the OneArgo design and better serve Copernicus services. These recommendations are detailed hereafter.

## 3.2 Recommendations

- It is indispensable for CMEMS and EUMETSAT that Argo ensures, in the future, the same level of service as currently (the implementation of OneArgo should not degrade the current core array).
- Euro-Argo is encouraged to demonstrate the value of Argo in providing Sea Surface Temperature (SST) measurements. Although other data sources exist, it could be beneficial that WMO considers Argo as an SST data provider, which is not the case today.
- Recurrent reprocessing of the whole Argo dataset should be performed. This could be envisaged at the GDAC level, and Euro-Argo should investigate how the Climate Change initiative of the ESA could support such an action.
- It is recommended that Euro-Argo investigate the possibility to get Argo data, at least for some parameters, stamped as Fiducial Reference Measurements (Goryl et al., 2023). This would imply recurrent reprocessing of the historical Argo dataset related to these parameters.
- The use of synthetic BGC data products inferred from Argo measurements and Machine Learning techniques is widespread in the different MFCs. For certain applications (data assimilation, e.g. Nitrate), these datasets are even better suited than real observations. Although it is obvious that real observations are always required, a balance could be considered, taking into account the relative cost of the different BGC sensors, when defining the strategy for an efficient OneArgo implementation.
- Argo Oxygen measurements play an important role in the production of BGC synthetic products, in particular to infer carbonate system variables. For this reason, it is recommended that Euro-Argo maintains a sufficient array of floats equipped with Oxygen sensors and investigate the possibility to go up to equipping all core-Argo floats with an Oxygen sensor.
- A prerequisite for an efficient use of Argo Oxygen data by the MFCs is the provision of precise uncertainties associated with the data. These uncertainties have a crucial impact on the inferred parameter values which are then assimilated by the MFCs, and efforts should be pursued by Euro-Argo to improve the uncertainties provided with Oxygen data.
- Polar data (under ice), and coastal data are seen as priorities for Copernicus, for most of the parameters, and it is recommended that Euro-Argo continues to develop its activities in this regard.
- Copernicus would benefit from an improved timeliness of DMQC data provision for all parameters.



- There is an interest from Copernicus in the measurements of new variables by Argo, in addition to the 8 official OneArgo variables, and Euro-Argo is encouraged to continue the ongoing developments for a future integration of Zooplankton, Hyperspectral irradiance, and wind data as part of Argo. The further development of a pCO<sub>2</sub> sensor compatible with Argo is also encouraged.
- As part of the SEAMLESS HE project, developments and experiments of joint satellite and in situ ensemble biogeochemical data assimilation were performed by several MFCs, which led to recommendations on the use of BGC Argo data in the Marine Copernicus MFC 3D domains. Euro-Argo is encouraged to read the associated Deliverable of Cossarini et al. 2023 and the related publication of Ford (2021).
- Euro-Argo should submit proposals to continue activities aiming at demonstrating the usefulness of Argo for Ocean Colour satellite calibration. EEA could recommend focusing on this topic within the next research framework programme of the EU (FP10) and also recommend the full reprocessing of the existing dataset. The ENVRI cluster could be targeted in this recommendation.
- Euro-Argo ERIC and Copernicus Entrusted Entities should prepare a joint lobbying/advocacy paper on the need to include, in FP10, calls for specific Argo technological or other developments related to/answering the needs of operational users.



## Annex 1: Participants list


(\* = remote attendance)

- Estelle Obligis – EUMETSAT: interest in validation of SST, Ocean Colour, altimetry
- Pierre-Yves Le Traon, Antonio Reppucci, Elisabeth Rémy, Alexandre Mignot, Julien Lamouroux, Elodie Gutnecht, Stefano Ciavatta – Mercator Ocean International: CMEMS global and IBI MFC
- Emanuele Organelli – CNR: CMEMS, OC-TAC
- Hervé Claustre – CNRS/LOV: Euro-Argo member, Argo BGC Vice-Chair
- Antoine Mangin – ACRI: CMEMS, OC-TAC
- Jérôme Bouffard\* – ESA: ocean remote sensing
- Laura Tuomi\* – FMI: CMEMS, Baltic sea MFC
- Laura Feudale\* – OGS: CMEMS, Med MFC
- Tsuyoshi Wakamatsu\* – NERSC: CMEMS/ MFC Nordic seas
- Diana Azevedo\* – OGS: CMEMS, Black Sea MFC
- Hao Zuo\* – ECMWF: CMEMS global modelling
- Gianpiero Cossarini\* – OGS: CMEMS Med MFC
- Eric Jansen\* – CMCC: CMEMS Black Sea MFC
- Helen Morrison\* – BSH: CMEMS Baltic MFC
- Jenny Pistoia\* – CMCC: CMEMS Med MFC
- Alessandro Grandi\* – CMCC: CMEMS Med MFC
- Jose Miguel Rubio Iglesias\* – European Environmental Agency, principal for the COINS project
- Kirsty McBeath\* – EUMETSAT (UK Met Office): COINS project manager
- Yann-Hervé De Roeck, Claire Gourcuff, Luc van Dyck, Romain Cancouet\* – Euro-Argo ERIC





2




## Why in situ data in Copernicus?

In situ




In Situ data is used both for **production** and **validation** in Copernicus Services, as well as being provided to users as observations.

Satellite sensors need to be **calibrated**, and their data products **validated**, using independent in situ data sources.

In Situ data comes from a **myriad of data providers** and networks at national, regional and global level, including **Research Infrastructures**.



**Without in situ data, Copernicus simply cannot deliver its data, products and services.**





In situ

# The role of EEA in Copernicus In Situ

**Entrusted Entities** access and manage in situ data directly according to their operational needs on a day-to-day basis.

**The EEA** intervenes when a coordinated approach to accessing in situ data is required at a programmatic level.



PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



Implemented by European Environment Agency



In situ

# In Situ expert support to EEA



PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

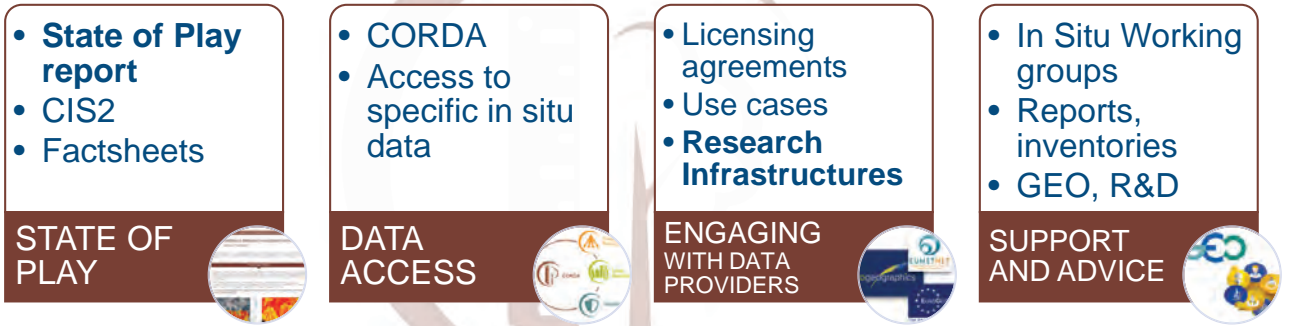


Implemented by European Environment Agency



In situ

## Cross-cutting coordination activities (2021-2028)



PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

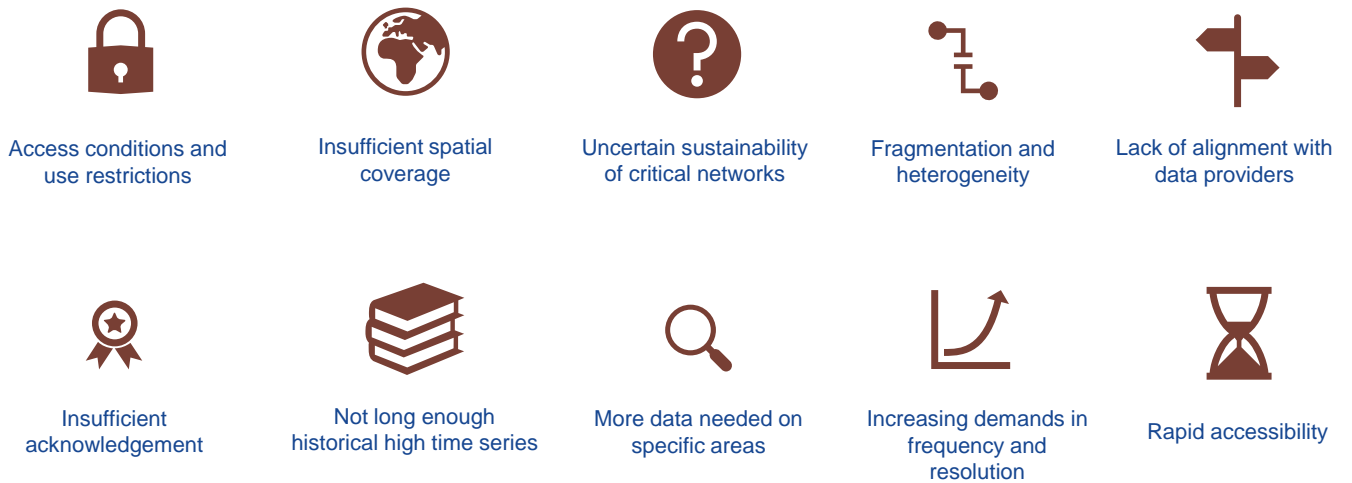


Implemented by



In situ

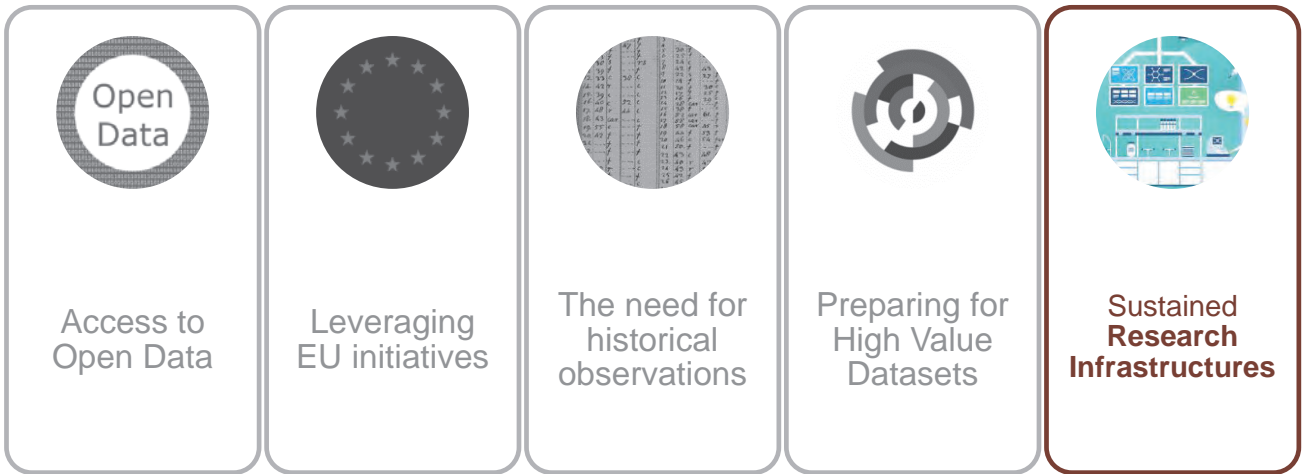
## State of Play 2024: key issues encountered





# State of Play: Closing the gaps

In situ



# State of Play: Strengthening the dialogue

In situ





# Copernicus and Research Infrastructures

In situ

Several **Entrusted Entities** depend on data collected, managed and delivered by **European Research Infrastructures**

The already existing collaboration between Copernicus and RI may benefit from **additional dialogue** and **information exchange**

**There is a need to address the gap** between Copernicus requirements and availability of resources for RI



# Engaging with Research Infrastructures

In situ

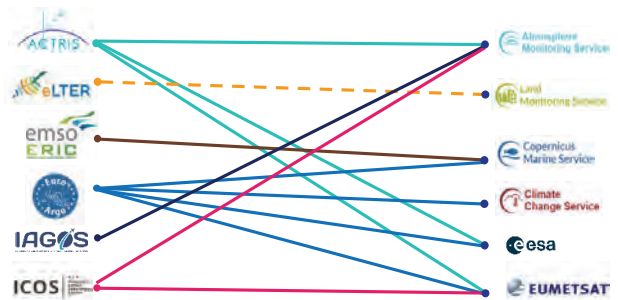
Create an **overview** of main links and dependencies with Copernicus

Bring Copernicus requirements to RIs at the **ERIC fora** and relevant meetings

Highlight the relevance of RI to **Copernicus Governance Bodies** and **Commission**

**Organise workshops** to discuss specific requirements and solutions to address them

**This workshop serves as a blueprint for future similar workshops between Entrusted Entities and RIs**



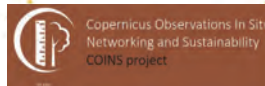




# EUROARGO

EUROPEAN RESEARCH  
INFRASTRUCTURE CONSORTIUM  
FOR OBSERVING THE OCEAN

## Euro-Argo ERIC – Copernicus In-Situ Workshop Argo Data Requirements of Copernicus Entrusted Entities 12 March 2024



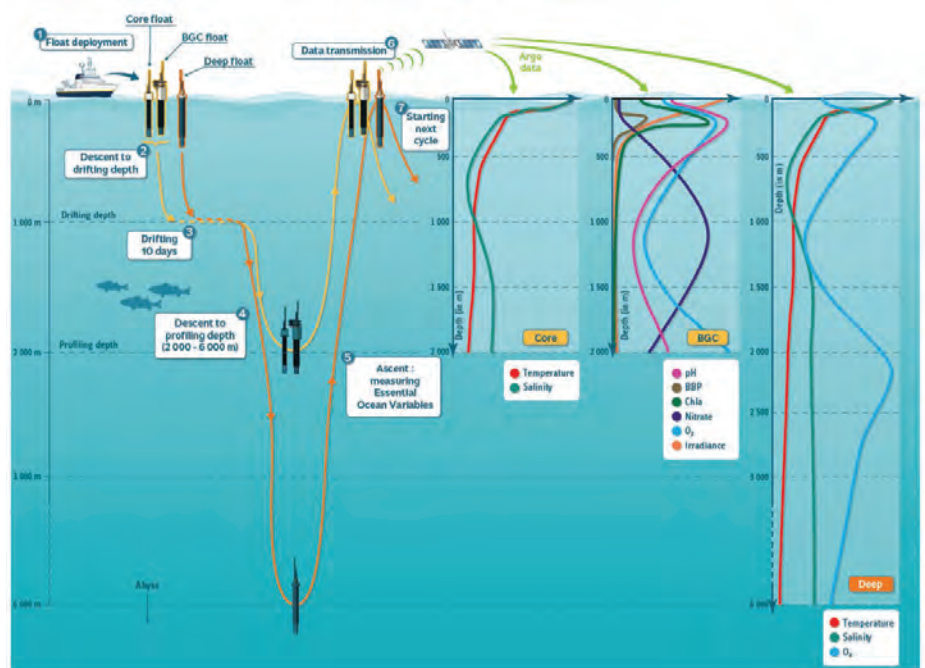
### What is Euro-Argo ERIC



- Euro-Argo ERIC is the Research Infrastructure coordinating and strengthening the European contribution to the International Argo Programme

- Argo is a global real-time *in situ* ocean observing network, of about 4,000 autonomous floats worldwide, performing recurring vertical profiles of the water column while drifting in the oceans

- Euro-Argo ERIC aims at procuring, deploying and operating 25% of the Argo floats network that provide an unprecedented free and open quality-controlled dataset



#### Ten day cycle of an Argo float

Along the initial floats (**Core floats**) measuring T & S, new generations of Argo floats are also able to measure up to six biogeochemical parameters (**BGC floats**) and to dive till -6 000 m (**Deep floats**)

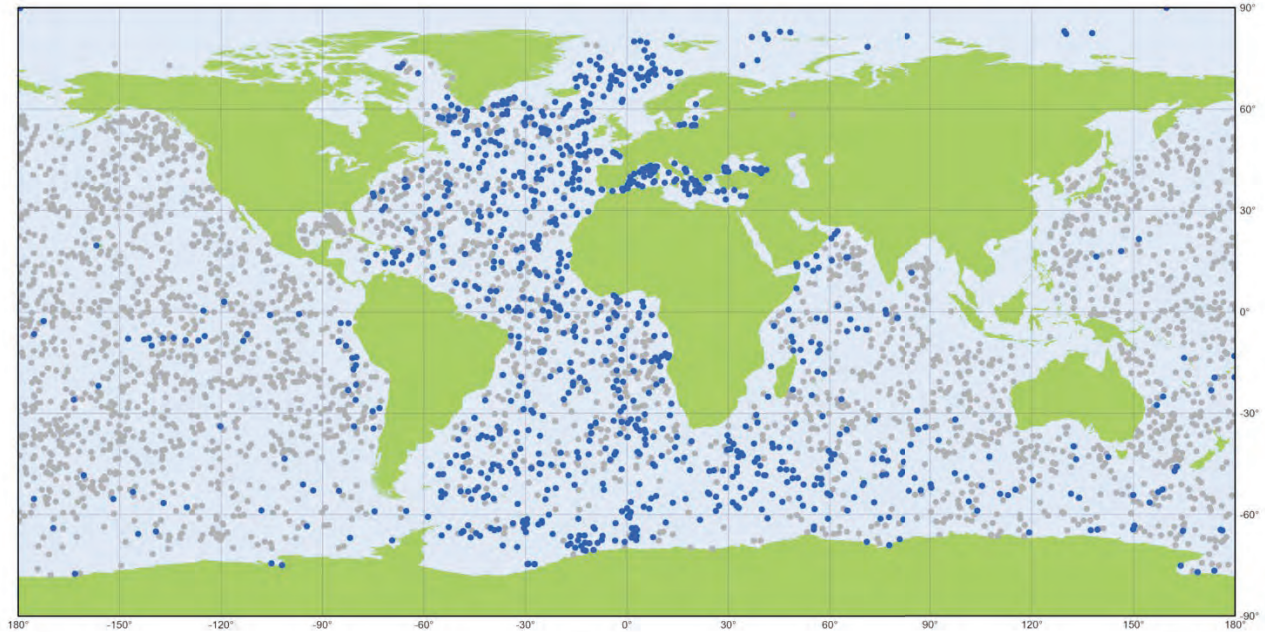


# Argo global array today

1 float / (3°)²



GEORGE



Argo

EuroArgo

January 2024

European contribution to the Argo program via EuroArgo Research Infrastructure  
Latest locations of operational profiling floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)



• Argo EU (972) • Argo non EU (2907)



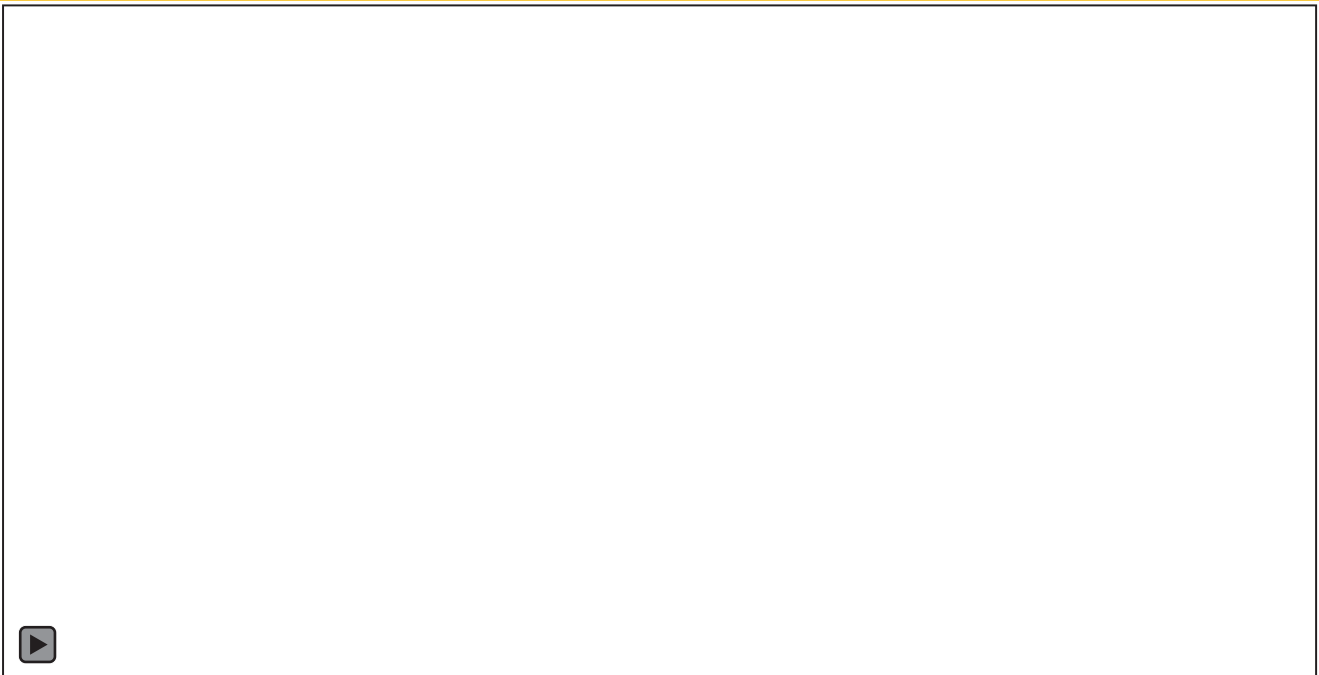
Generated by ocean-ops.org, 2024-02-01  
Projection: Plate Carree



# Argo evolution since 2001



GEORGE



Progressive deployment of the floats  
 Floats drift during 4 to 6 years  
 2008: Argo Core mission covered

10% recovery





Since 2019, new design of the global programme: OneArgo



GEORGIE

### Geographical extent:

- ✓ beyond 60 N et 60 S
- ✓ Marginal seas (even closed ones)
- ✓ Doubled density in:
  - equatorial zones
  - western boundary currents



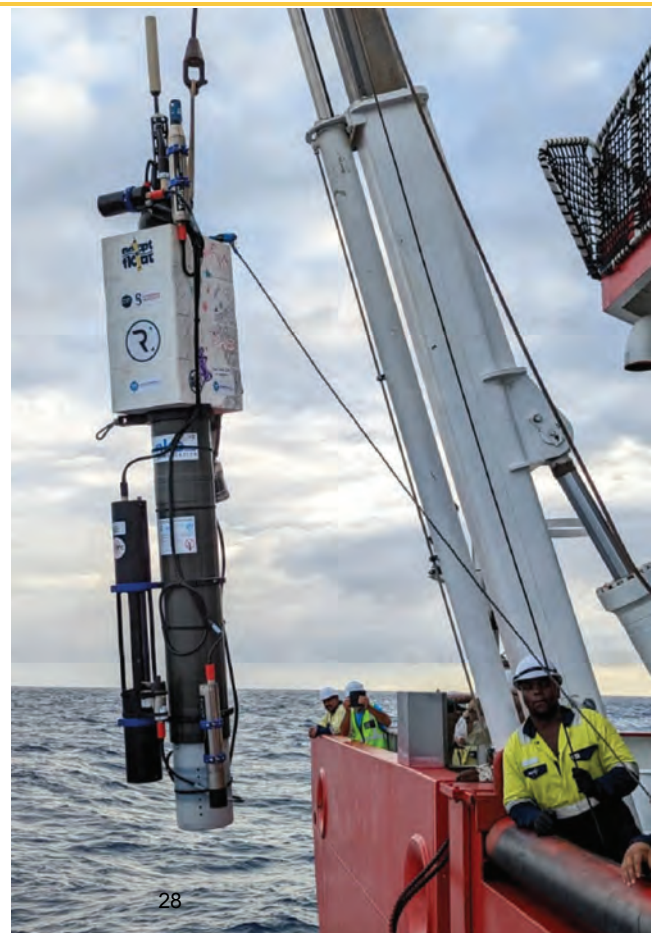
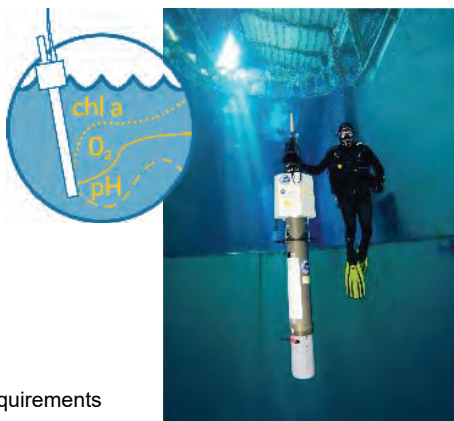
Since 2019, new design of the global programme: OneArgo



GEORGIE

### Biogeochemical variables:

- ✓ Oxygen
- ✓ Chlorophyll-A
- ✓ pH
- ✓ Nitrate
- ✓ Particules (back scattering)
- ✓ Light (irradiance)





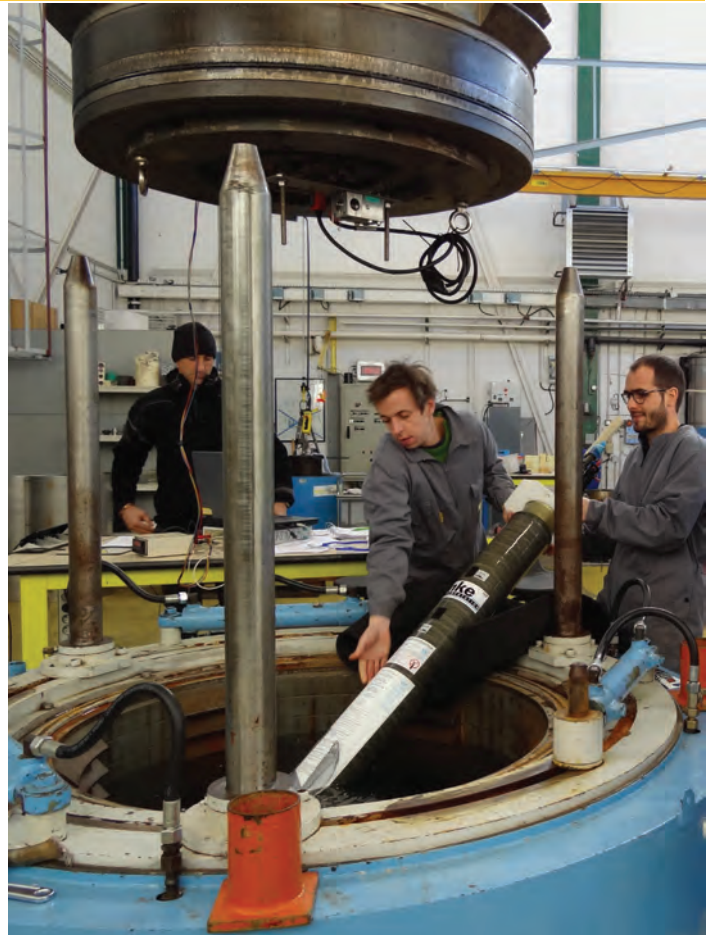


Since 2019, new design of the global programme: OneArgo



GEORGIE

- Deep ocean and abysses:**
- ✓ 4000 m (90% of the ocean)
  - ✓ 6000 m

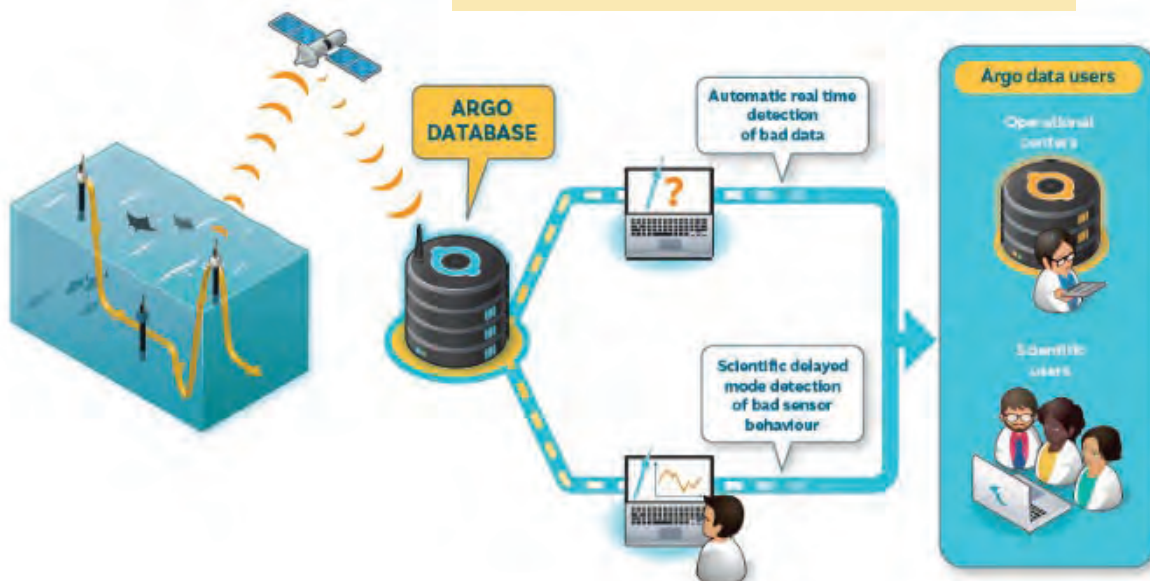


User access and data policy



GEORGIE

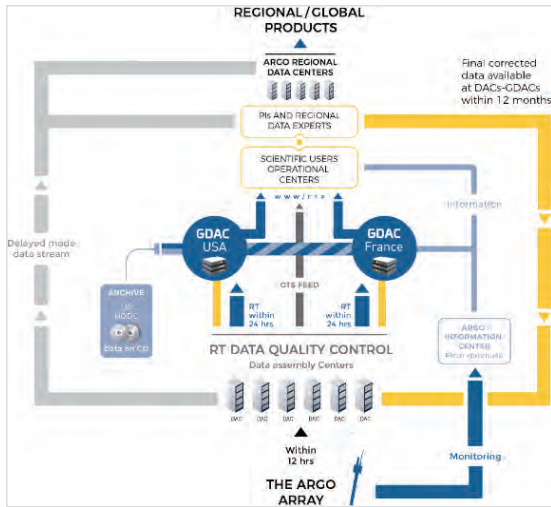
Weather forecast, seasonal forecast  
Operational oceanography, also for the navies  
Satellite validation  
Environmental monitoring (MSFD, CC)



Ocean circulation, Air-sea interaction  
Climate and carbon budgets  
Ecosystem evolution  
Satellite calibration



# DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



Data are managed **at international level:**

- Floats send their measurements to **DACs\***, where raw data are processed and sent to **the 2 GDACs\***:
  - ✓ 1 GDAC in Europe (Coriolis/Ifremer)
  - ✓ 2 DACs in Europe (Coriolis/Ifremer, France and BODC, UK)
- **3 ARCs\*** are coordinated by European partners:
  - ✓ Atlantic ARC (Ifremer, France)
  - ✓ Southern Ocean ARC (BODC, UK)
  - ✓ Med & Black Seas ARC (OGS, Italy)
- **Argo Information Centre (AIC)** at OceanOPS:
  - ✓ Registration of floats
  - ✓ Information on data ("metadata")



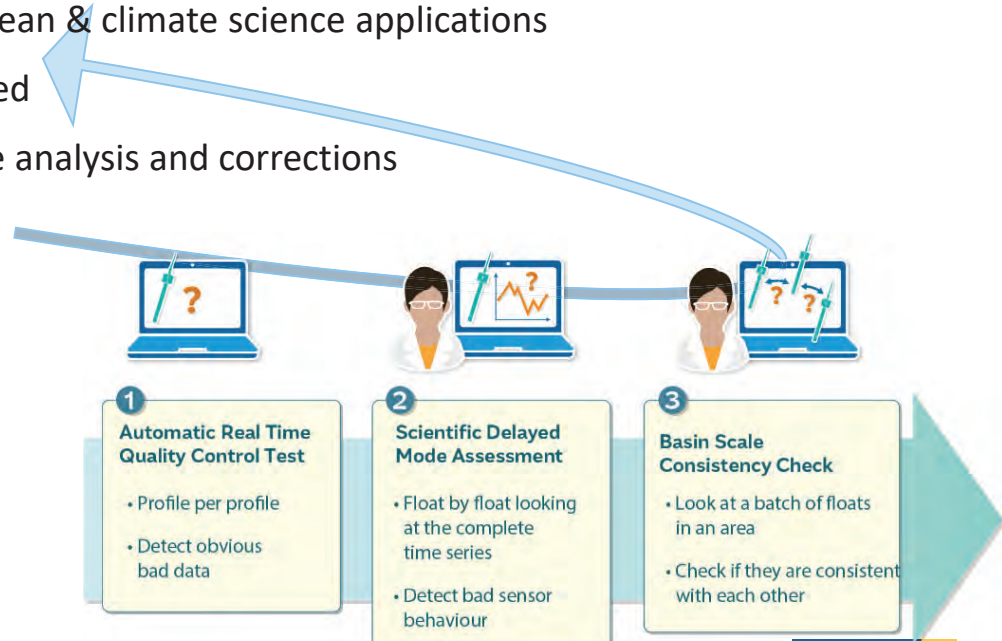
**Data system existed before the Euro-Argo ERIC set-up => with support from EU projects , helped to enhance the existing elements and develop new ones needed for the extensions**



## ARGO DATA SYSTEM RELIES ON 2 DATA FLOWS



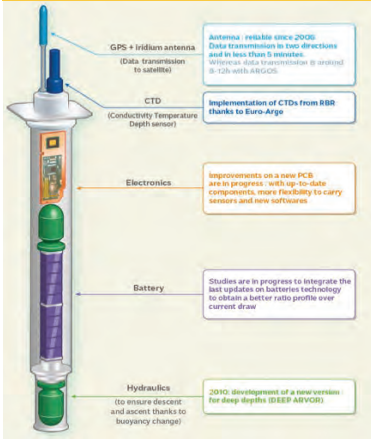
- **Real Time** ⇒ Operational applications
  - ✓ 4 hours max
  - ✓ Automatic Quality Control tests
- **Delayed Mode** ⇒ Ocean & climate science applications
  - ✓ 12 months targetted
  - ✓ Detailed time serie analysis and corrections
- **Consistency check**
  - ✓ Additional analysis
  - ✓ at bassin scales



(Argo Regional Centres)



# Recovery of Argo floats



- **Float recovery: a valuable operation for several reasons**
  - Environmental: decommissioning process vs operation footprint
  - Economical: refitting and reuse vs operation cost
  - Quality control: recalibration of sensors
  - Scientific: exhaustive use of original observations (ex. UVP) stored as raw data in internal memory (too expensive to transmit by satellite)
  - Technical: analysis of default factors
  
- **Euro-Argo has a recovery rate of 10% in recent years**
  - mostly in European Marginal Seas
  - some in North Atlantic
  
- **Ongoing progress, aim to develop this strategy and build a recovery pilot program**



## Argo key achievements



| The infrastructure                       | The data                               | The science   |
|--|--|---|
| 18 652 floats deployed                   | 2.9 millions of T&S profiles           | 6269 research papers                                |
| +3 800 monthly active floats             | Open, free & live data stream          | 1 paper/day since 2014                              |
| Global coverage, 350 ships mobilised     | 100% RT QCed<br>80% DM QCed            | Essential to any ocean state reports                |
| 32 float models, 20 sensor manufacturers | 11 coordinated Data Centers<br>2 GDACs | Essential to ocean model evaluation and development |

The general Argo DOI  
 Argo (2000). Argo float data and metadata from Global Data Assembly Centre (Argo GDAC). SEANOE. <https://doi.org/10.17882/42182>







# Euro-Argo consortium



GEORGE



Euro-Argo ERIC is a distributed European Research Infrastructure Consortium, composed of: 12 members (countries), 28 entities and an office hosted by France

[EURO-ARGO.EU](http://EURO-ARGO.EU)



## Challenges: operational funding & sustainability



GEORGE

Euro-Argo ERIC is a Research Infrastructure:

- Its primary mission is NOT to answer the needs of operational users but to support science
- Its funding is mostly research based with little mid-term visibility
- **Activities are set according to national priorities and research objectives (geographic deployments and types of floats/variables measured)**
- Inflation: 2021-2023: floats and sensors have increased by up to 30%; trend on-going
- OneArgo 3 times more expensive than Core Argo (by far not matched by foreseen national funding)

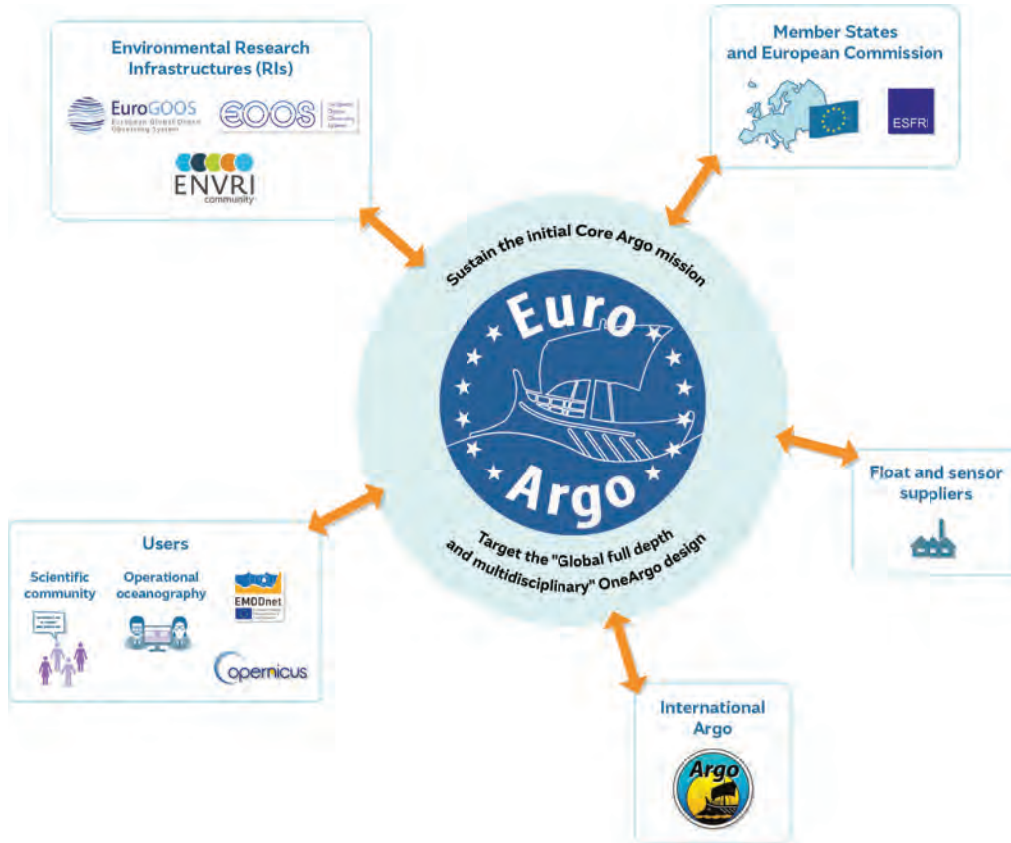


- **There is little room for manoeuvre to fill in current gaps identified by the Copernicus entities, let alone future developments**
- **Given the retail price inflation, the drastic funding gap and as a result of national priorities, the level and spatial distribution of data currently available to Copernicus thematic entities is jeopardized at the horizon 2030**

[EURO-ARGO.EU](http://EURO-ARGO.EU)



# Euro-Argo European and global partnership



EURO-ARGO.EU



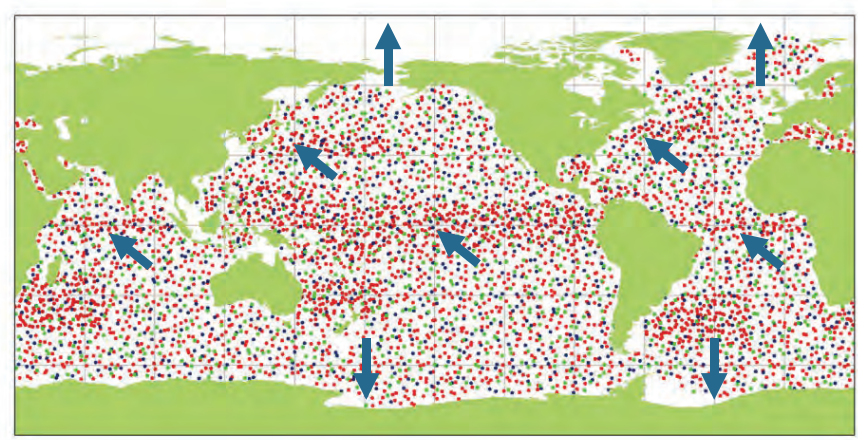
## One Argo design articulated at OceanObs'19 approved by GCOS/GOOS



... 100 M€/year

- Comprises 4700 floats including:
- 1200 deep floats
  - 1000 biogeochemical floats
  - Expansion into seasonal ice zones
  - Enhanced sampling in the equatorial and western boundary regions

OneArgo upgrade is an action of the Ocean Decade



Argo

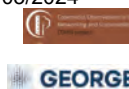
Argo Distribution - OneArgo simple  
Argo global, full-depth, multidisciplinary design: 4700 floats

- Core Floats, 2500
- Deep Floats, 1200
- BGC Floats, 1000

Generated by oceps-ops.org, 2022-03-09  
Projection: Plate Carree (-150,0000)



# Costs of the progressive transition from Core Argo to OneArgo



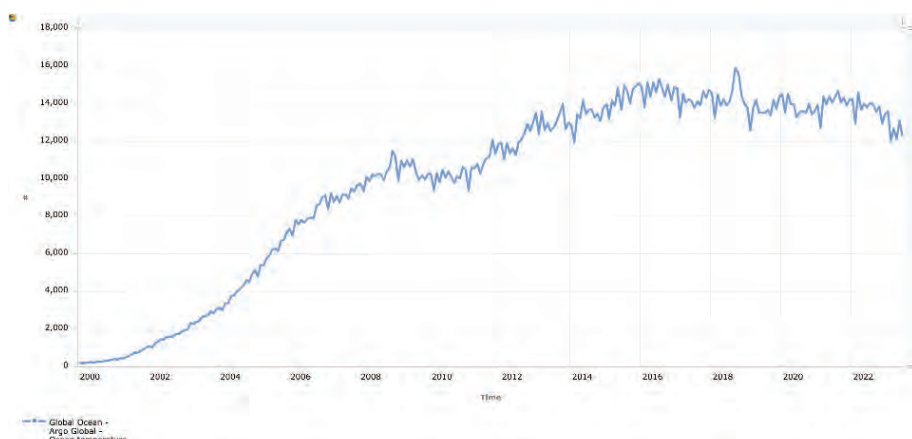
## 2023 cost assessment

| Type of deployed floats      | 2023 float retail price | International Core Argo Design<br>< 2019 | EU share to be deployed per year (25%) | EURO-ARGO mean annual float depl.<br>2019-2022 | Mean annual cost EURO-ARGO | International OneArgo Design<br>2030 | EU share to be deployed per year (25%) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Core                         | 20.000 €                | 4000                                     | 200                                    | 139  | 2.780.000 €                | 2500                                 | 125                                    |
| Deep -4000m                  | 40.000 €                |  |  | 20,25  | 810.000 €                  |                                      |  |
| Deep -6000m                  | 80.000 €                |  |  |  |                            | 1200                                 | 75                                     |
| BGC 1-5 variables            | 80.000 €                |  |  | 40,5   | 3.240.000 €                |                                      |  |
| BGC 6 variables              | 120.000 €               |  |  | 7,75   | 930.000 €                  | 1000                                 | 62,5                                   |
| Total                        |                         | 4000                                     | 200                                    | 207,5  | 7.760.000 €                | 4700                                 | 262,5                                  |
| <b>Annual cost EURO-ARGO</b> |                         |  | <b>6.960.000 €</b>                     |  | <b>15.260.000 €</b>        |                                      | <b>26.883.750 €</b>                    |

Funding gap: more than 11 M€ per year for the implementation of the full OneArgo design by 2030 (at current prices)



## Presently the global Argo system is in net decline



- Total = 3849/4700 (83%)
- Deep = 190/1250 (14%)
- Biogeochemical (>=5 params) = 355/1000 (28%)

### Number of active floats of the global Argo programme

Flat budgets coming mostly from research fundings...  
... while developing new capabilities and facing inflation







- No sustainable solution without significant & recurrent EU funding
- Merit of the claim recognized by DG Grow in 2018... without follow-up
- Advocacy needed before approval of the adoption of the next EU MFF (2027)
- **Support from Copernicus thematic services indispensable!**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs  
Aerospace, Maritime and Defence Industries  
Director

Brussels, 11 04 18  
GROW/12/RG/  
grow.ddg3.1.2(2018)1390146

EURO-ARGO European Research  
Infrastructure Consortium  
Head of office  
Technopôle Brest Iroise  
1625 Route de Sainte Anne  
29280 Plouzané  
FRANCE

The Copernicus programme is already investing in the space component and operating the marine and climate services and, given the importance of ARGO to the development of these services and the aforementioned policy objectives, we will investigate to what extent the future Copernicus programme could support such activities, especially in view of the global dimension of the ARGO network, meaning that it falls outside the usual funding scope of the member states. Given that many of the aforementioned actions are managed by other DGs, DG GROW therefore will contact the relevant DGs and verify to what extent a critical mass of interest could be gathered to justify a possible EU investment applied consistently and complementarily across DGs to best develop and sustain these essential in-situ networks. You will however understand that we are not able to make any financial commitment at this early stage before the approval of the next multi-annual financial framework.

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## Conclusions

- Argo and observations from space are a **powerful observing system combination**
- **Major gaps remain** in the deep and polar oceans, and for biogeochemical sampling
- **OneArgo** is a new design that targets these gaps
- It requires ~ **\$100M/year funding globally**,  
similar in cost to a single sensor Earth Observing Satellite...
- At the EU level, ~11.5 M€/year is missing to reach 25% of the OneArgo design
- National Argo programs and our industrial partners have  
**successfully developed the capacity** to operate the OneArgo array
- Without strong support to **implement OneArgo** (and maintain core Argo),  
**past successes** will be under **threat** and **future gains not realized**
- We need **strong support** to drive the required investment  
in the **OneArgo** new observing revolution
- **Combining Research and Operational requirements** like in Argo,  
means to agree at the global level on a **shared financial support**



## Objectives of the workshop

- For operational usage of OneArgo,  
reach a shared **understanding** of the **potential and requirements**
- Present, at the European level, the **specific priorities** for OneArgo deployment
- Elaborate a common **strategy** and find **advocacy** arguments to ensure the **sustainability of Europe's share of OneArgo**, finding the most efficient pathway to **secure funding**
- Investigate **specific developments** and the possibility to fund them
- Consider this action as a **pilot approach**  
to other **relevant MRIs** that provide operational data:  
connexion to GEORGE project HE INFRA-2022-TECH-01-01 grant n°101094716  
WP7.2: “build a roadmap for the European RI landscape to adopt the new technologies and products in their operations in the future”

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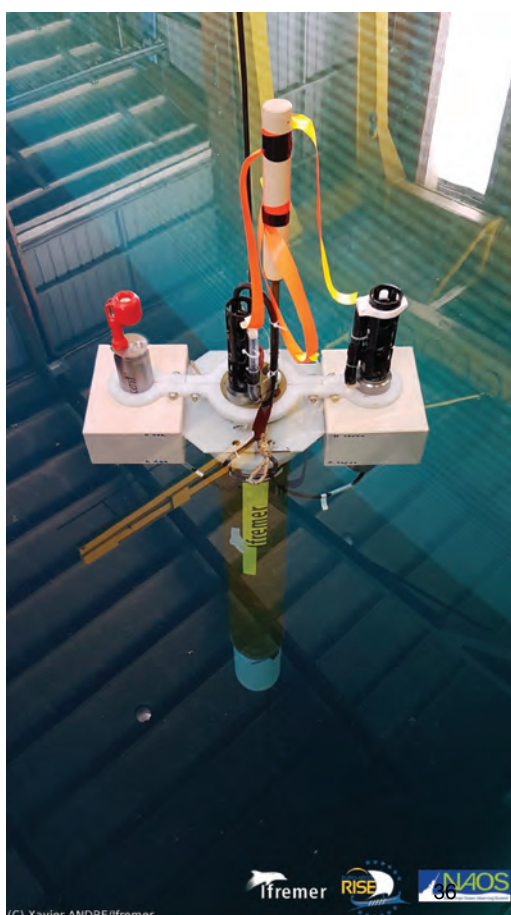


## Temperature: sensors



GEORGE

### 3-head comparison

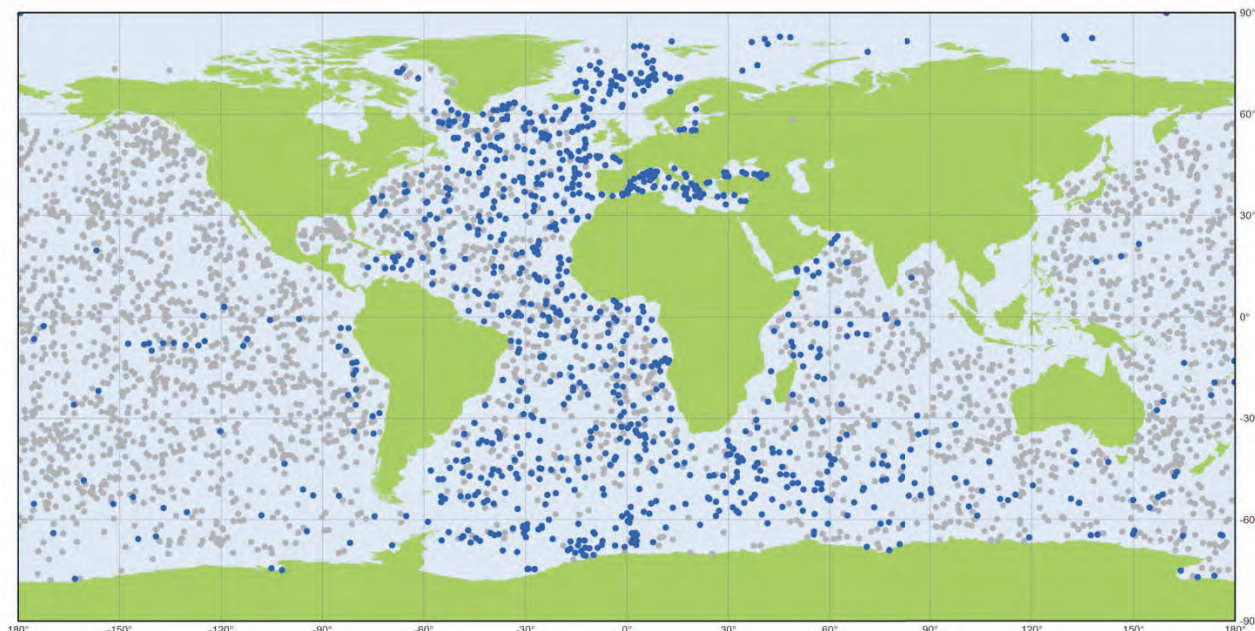


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# Temperature: geographical coverage



Argo

EuroArgo

January 2024

European contribution to the Argo program via EuroArgo Research Infrastructure  
 Latest locations of operational profiling floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)



• Argo EU (972) • Argo non EU (2907)



Generated by ocean-ops.org, 2024-02-01  
 Projection: Plate Carree



## Temperature: requirements

| Variable    | Scientific use   | Float types         | Sensor Type | Accuracy/Precision<br>(subject to rapid updates) | Upper bin<br>shallowest / size | # active<br>floats |
|-------------|--|---------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Pressure    |  |                     |             | 2,4 dbar / 0,1 dbar                              |                                | 2907               |
| Temperature | Ocean circulation, heat fluxes,<br>Air-Sea exchanges, Water<br>cycle | Core<br>Deep<br>BGC | Thermistor  | 0,002 °C / 0,001 °C                              | 1 dbar / 1 dbar                | 2907               |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?



# Salinity: sensors



GEORGE

## Lab test



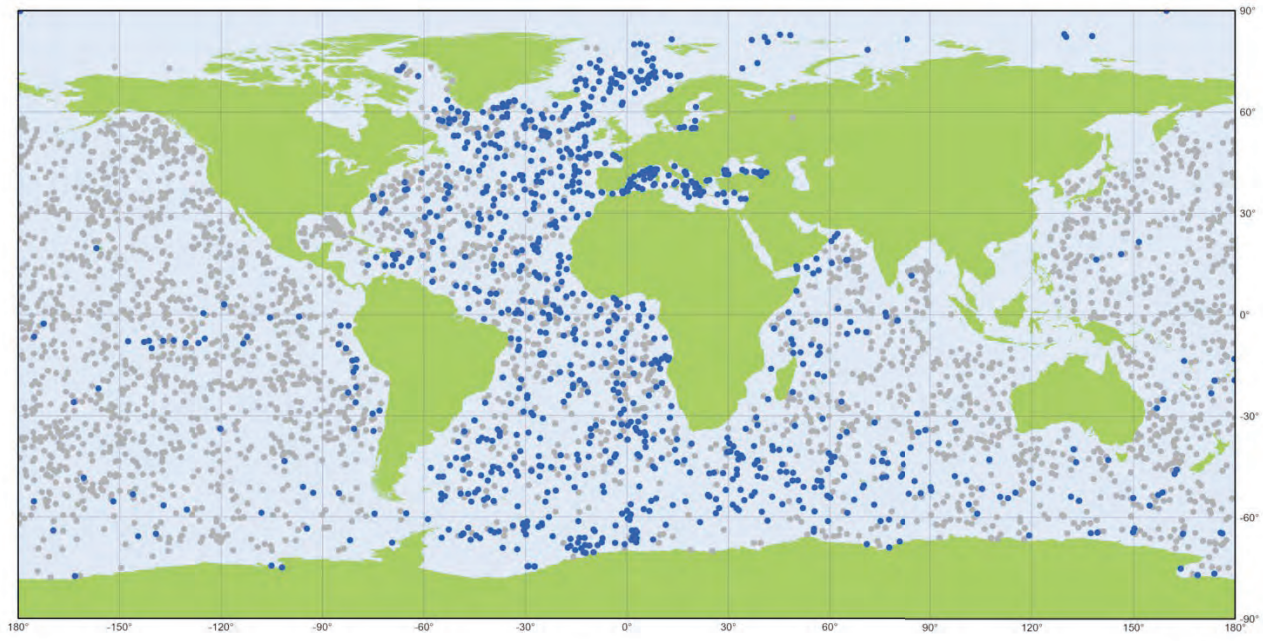
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## Salinity: geographical coverage



GEORGE



Argo

EuroArgo

January 2024

European contribution to the Argo program via EuroArgo Research Infrastructure  
Latest locations of operational profiling floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)

• Argo EU (972) • Argo non EU (2907)



Argo Data Requirements







# Salinity: requirements

| Variable | Scientific use                                    | Float types   | Sensor Type  | Accuracy/Precision<br>(subject to rapid updates) | Upper bin shallowest / size | # active floats |
|----------|---|---------------|--------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Salinity | Ocean circulation, freshwater fluxes, Water cycle | Core Deep BGC | Conductivity | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time   | 2 dbar / 1 dbar             | 2907            |
|          |   |               | Inductivity  | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time   | 1 dbar / 1 dbar             |                 |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?

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# BGC Argo floats: geographical coverage



GEORGE



Biogeochemical Argo

Sensor Types

January 2024

Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)

- Operational Floats (582)
- pH (322)
- Oxygen (576)
- Suspended particles (386)
- Nitrate (305)
- Full BGC Floats (43)
- Downwelling irradiance (116)
- Chlorophyll a (386)



Argo Data Requirements

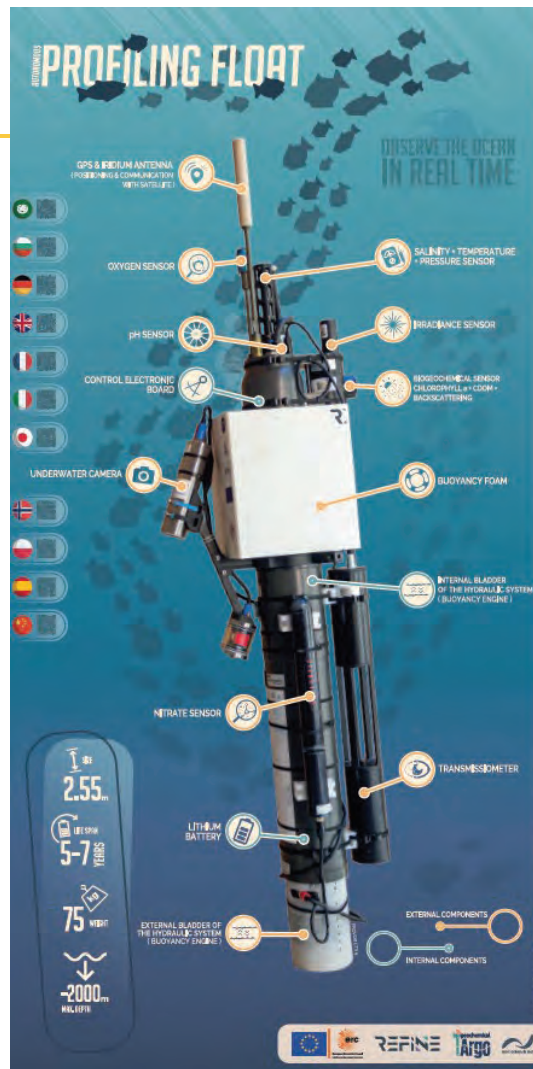




# BGC Argo floats: sensors



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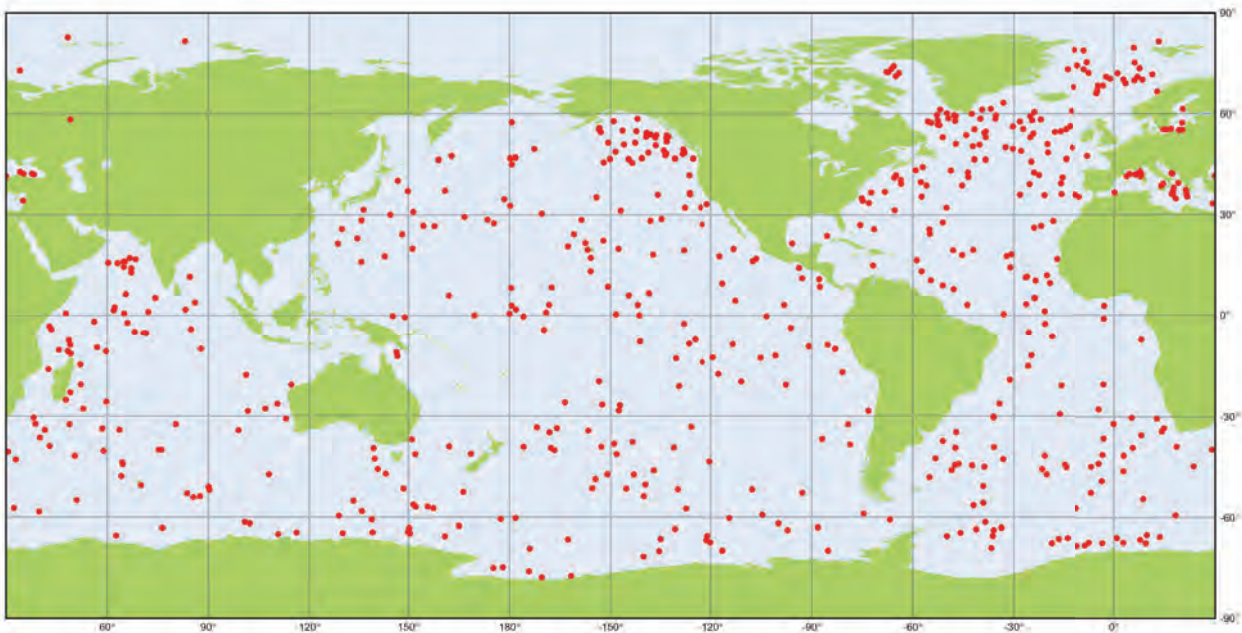
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# Oxygen: geographical coverage



GEORGE



Argo

BioGeoChemical Argo - Oxygen

January 2024

Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)

- IDO\_DOXY (0)
- OPTODE\_DOXY (576)



Argo Data Requirements





## Oxygen: sensor



### Optode



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## Oxygen: requirements

| Variable | Scientific use   | Float types                       | Sensor Type | Accuracy/Precision<br>(subject to rapid updates)         | Upper bin<br>shallowest / size | # active<br>floats |
|----------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Oxygen   | Decrease of oxygenation and oxygen minimum zones, carbon cycle | Core (some)<br>Deep (some)<br>BGC | Optode      | 1% of surface O <sub>2</sub> / 0.2 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> | -0,2 dbar / 0,1 dbar           | 576                |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?

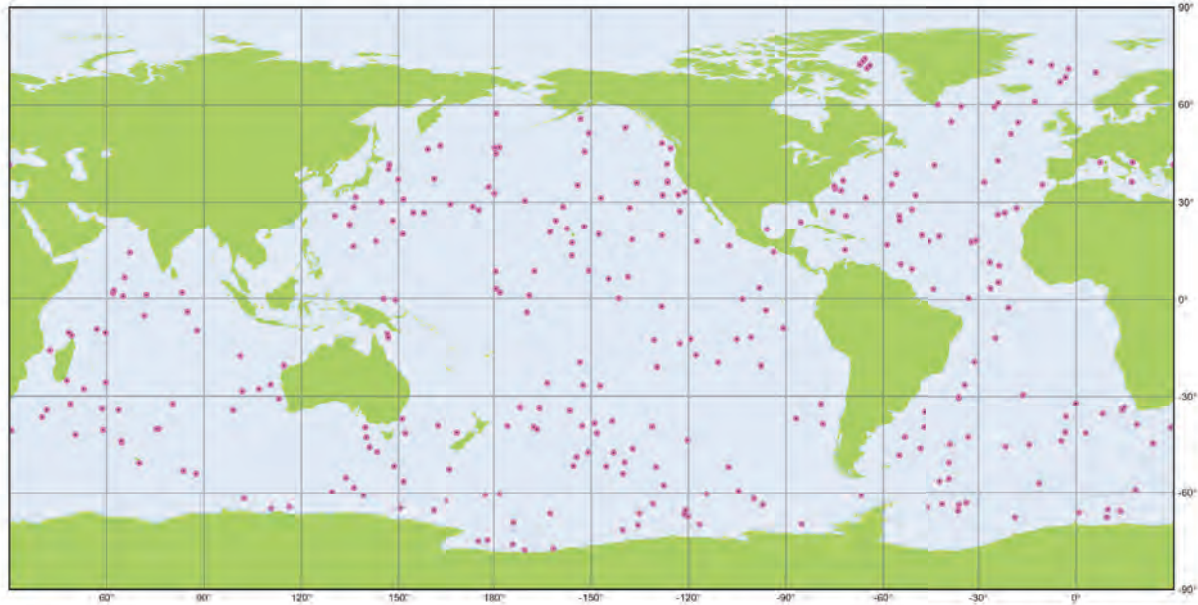




# Nitrate: geographical coverage



GEORGE



Argo

BioGeoChemical Argo - Nitrate

January 2024

Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)



SPECTROPHOTOMETER\_NITRATE/BISULFIDE (305)



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Projection: Plate Carree (-150,0000)

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# Nitrate: sensor



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Argo Data Requirements

## Optical SUNA





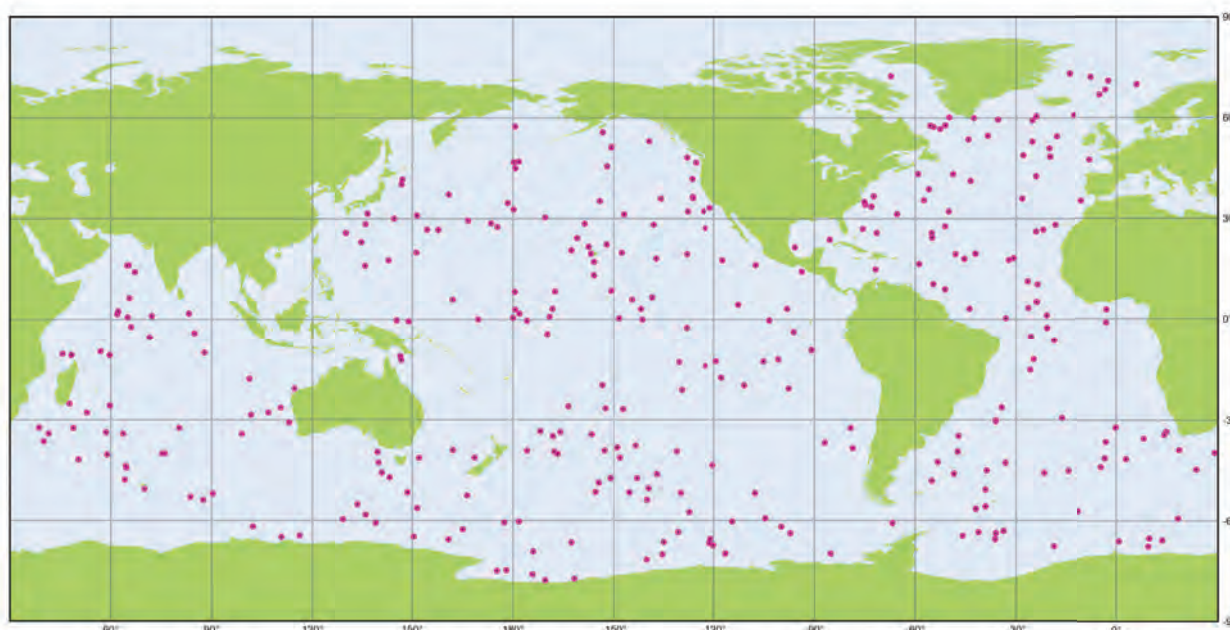
# Nitrate: requirements

| Variable | Scientific use  | Float types | Sensor Type            | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates)           | Upper bin shallowest / size | # active floats |
|----------|---|-------------|------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Nitrate  | Eutrophication, toxic algal blooms, biological productivity | BGC         | Ultraviolet absorbance | 1 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ / 0.1 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ |                             | 305             |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service’s needs?



# pH: geographical coverage



Argo BioGeoChemical Argo - pH January 2024  
 Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)

TRANSISTOR\_PH (322)





## pH: sensor



GEORGE



## IFSET

### ion sensitive field effect transistor

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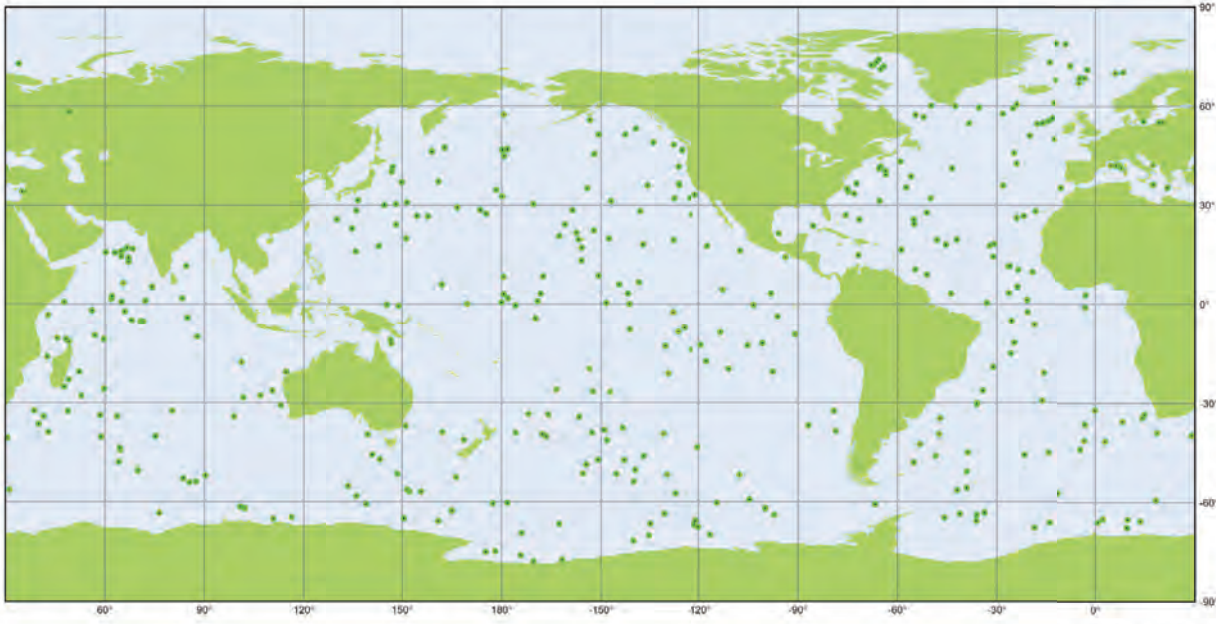
## pH: requirements

| Variable | Scientific use                                  | Float types | Sensor Type                                 | Accuracy/Precision<br>(subject to rapid updates) | Upper bin<br>shallowest / size | # active<br>floats |
|----------|---|-------------|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| pH       | Ocean acidification,<br>CO <sub>2</sub> -Uptake | BGC         | Ion Sensitive<br>Field Effect<br>Transistor | 0.01 pH / 0.0005 pH                              |                                | 322                |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?



# Chlorophyll A: geographical coverage



Argo

BioGeoChemical Argo - Chlorophyll a

January 2024

Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)



FLUOROMETER\_CHLA/CDDM (386)



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Projection: Plate Carree (-150,0000)

EU

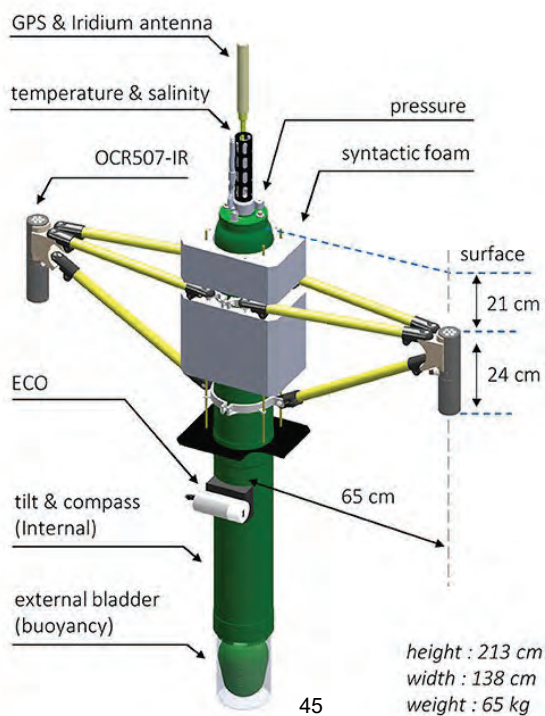
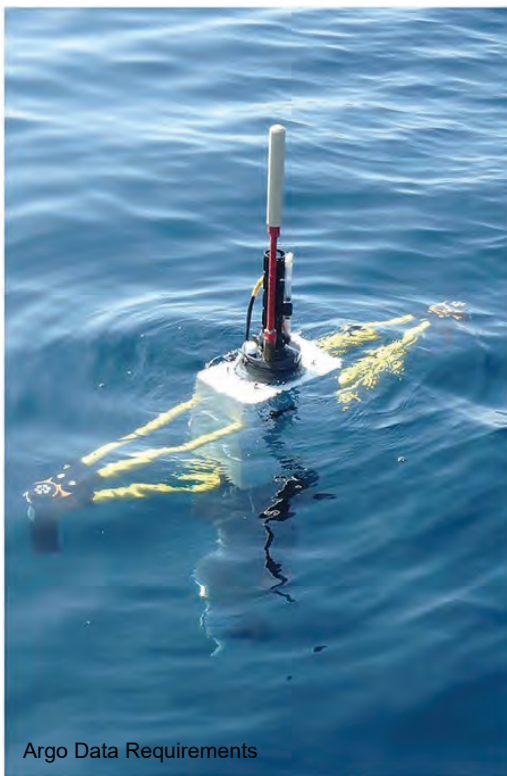


# Chlorophyll-A: sensor

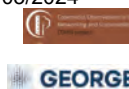


## Radiometer

## Fluorometer?



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## Fluorometer



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## Chlorophyll a: requirements

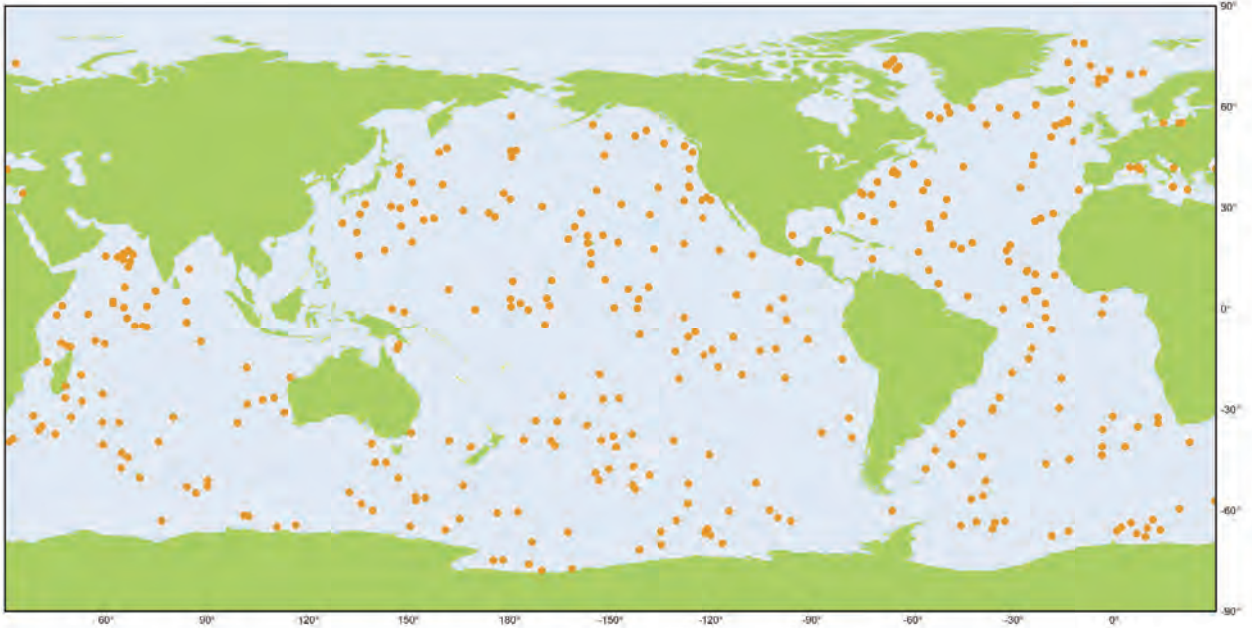
| Variable      | Scientific use                           | Float types | Sensor Type  | Accuracy/Precision<br>(subject to rapid updates)                            | Upper bin<br>shallowest / size | # active<br>floats |
|---------------|--|-------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Chlorophyll a | Biological productivity,<br>carbon cycle | BGC         | Fluorescence | Max (30%, 0.03 mg<br>Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 0.025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> |                                | 386                |
|               |  |             | Radiometer   | Max (24%, 0.03 mg<br>Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 0.025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> |                                |                    |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?





# Suspended particles: geographical coverage



Biogeochemical Argo

BioGeoChemical Argo - Suspended particles

January 2024

Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)



• Suspended particles (388)



Generated by ocean-ops.org 2024-03-08  
Projection: Plate Carree (-150,0000)



# Suspended particles: sensor



## Optical backscatter (+fluorometer)





# Suspended particles: requirements

| Variable            | Scientific use                        | Float types | Sensor Type         | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates)  | Upper bin shallowest / size        | # active floats |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Suspended particles | Biological productivity, carbon cycle | BGC         | Optical backscatter | Suspended particles: Max (50%, 1.5 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ) / 1 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$   | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m | 386             |
|                     |                                       |             |                     | Backscattering coefficient: Max (10 %, $10^{-5} \text{ m}^{-1}$ ) / $4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^{-1}$                          |                                    |                 |
|                     |                                       |             |                     | POC : Max (30%, 20 $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ) / 10 $\text{mg m}^{-3}$<br>PC: Max (30%, 6 $\text{mg m}^{-2}$ ) / 3 $\text{mg m}^{-2}$ |                                    |                 |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service’s needs?

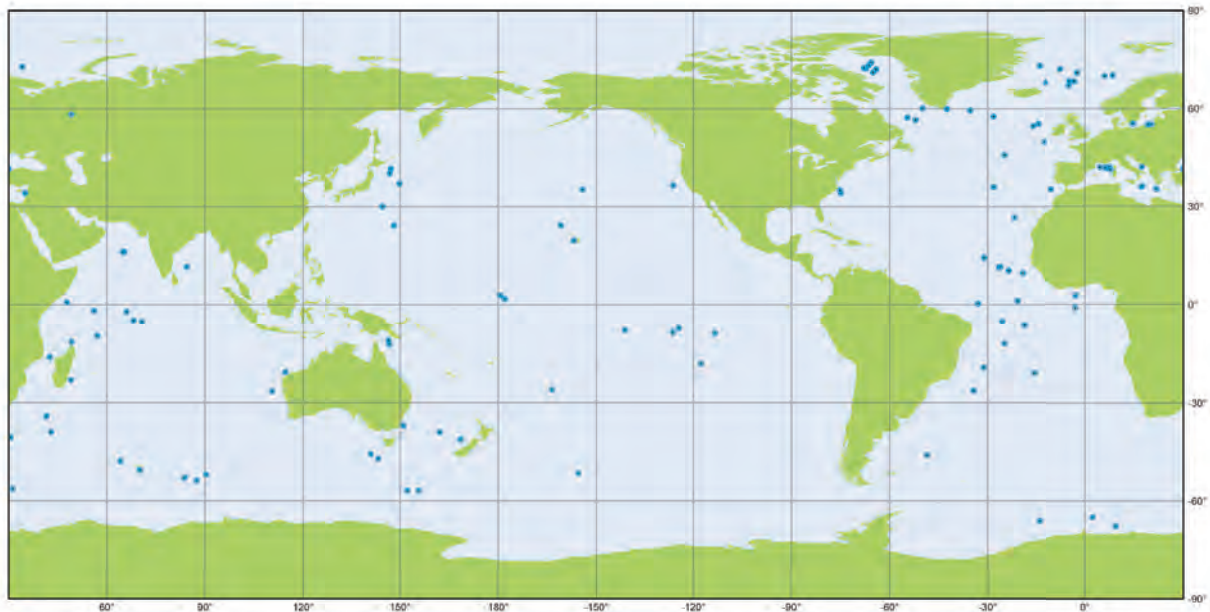
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# Downwelling irradiance: geographical coverage



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Argo

BioGeoChemical Argo - Downwelling irradiance

January 2024

Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)

RADIOMETER (DOWN\_IRR, PAR) (116)

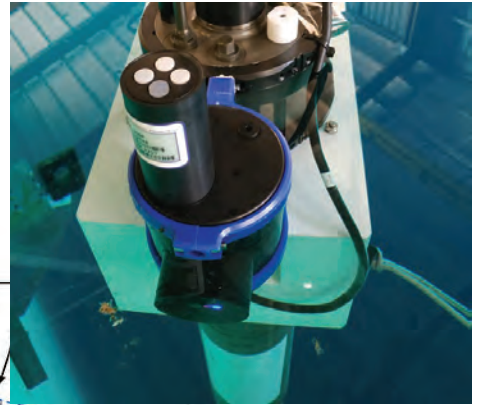
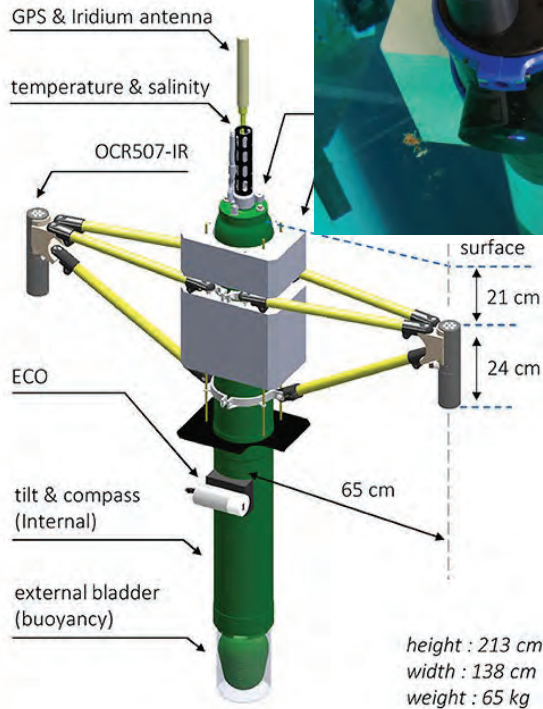
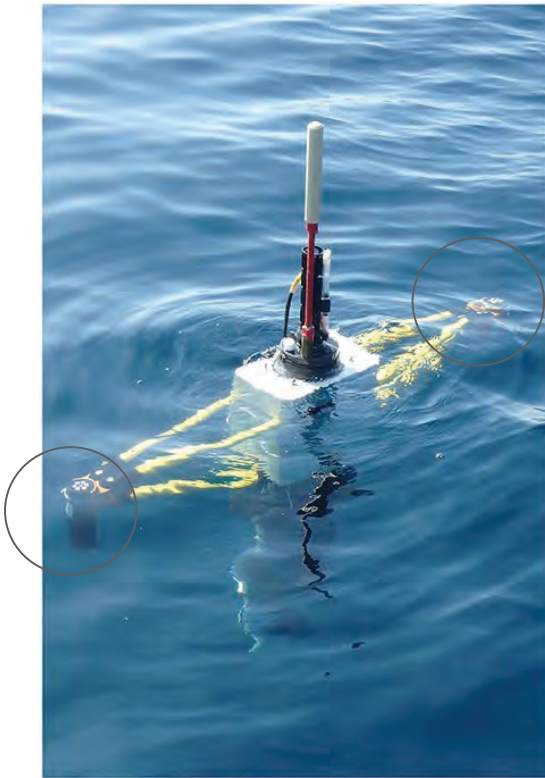




# Downwelling irradiance: sensor



## Radiometer



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## Downwelling irradiance: requirements

| Variable                    | Scientific use  | Float types     | Sensor Type              | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates)   | Upper bin shallowest / size   | # active floats |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle | BGC             | Radiometer               | PAR: Max (3%, 5 $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) / 1 $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$<br>Spectral: Max (3%, 5 $\times 10^{-3} \mu\text{W cm}^{-2} \text{nm}^{-1}$ ) / 2.5 $\times 10^{-3} \mu\text{W cm}^{-2} \text{nm}^{-1}$ | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 116             |
|                             |   | BGC/Provov CTS5 | Hyperspectral radiometer | < 6-10% (depends on wavelength range&calibration quality)   | Acquisition from 300db to surface at 0.3 db resolution near surface | 14              |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?





# Additional variable: underwater vision profiler (UVP)



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Argo

UVP

January 2024

Latest location of operational floats (data distributed within the last 30 days)

• UVP (25)



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Projection: Plate Carree (-150,0000)

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# Additional variable: underwater vision profiler (UVP)



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UVP camera

light source







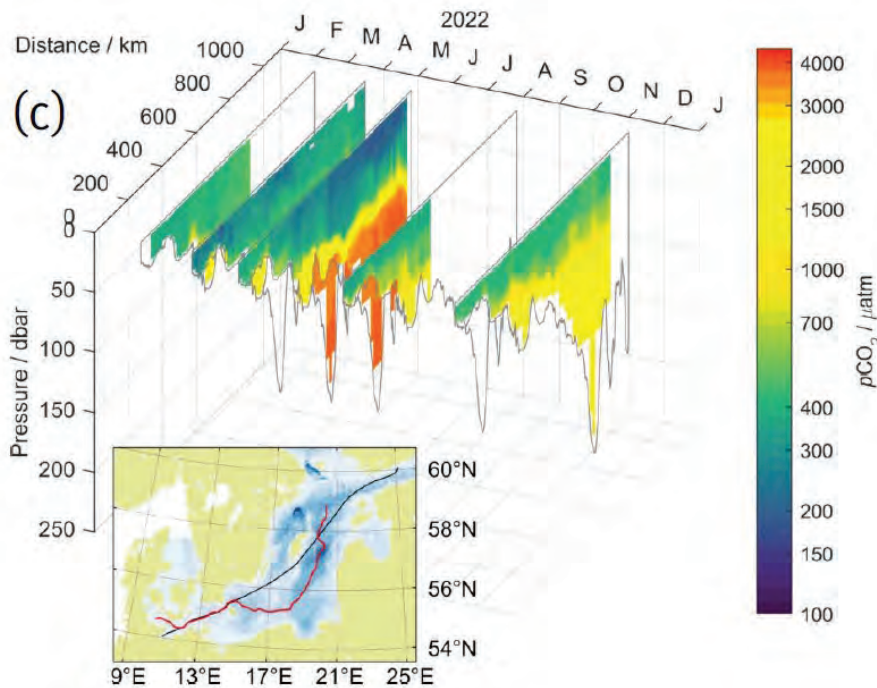
## Additional variable: underwater vision profiler (UVP)

| Variable    | Scientific use           | Float types          | Sensor Type | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates) | Upper bin shallowest / size | # active floats |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Zooplankton | Ecosystems, biodiversity | Prospective (REFINE) | Optic       |   |                             | 33              |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service’s needs?



## Additional variable: pCO2



First experiments in the Baltic Sea (H. Bittig, IOW)



Additional variable: pCO<sub>2</sub>

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Additional variable: pCO<sub>2</sub>

| Variable         | Scientific use | Float types                         | Sensor Type                               | Accuracy/Precision<br>(subject to rapid updates) | Upper bin<br>shallowest / size | # active<br>floats |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| pCO <sub>2</sub> | Carbon uptake  | Prospective<br>(C-SCOPE,<br>GEORGE) | Membrane<br>equilibrator/IR<br>absorbance |  | 1 dbar / 1dbar                 | 2                  |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?



## Additional variable: surface wind



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Developped in the GEORGE project

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## Additional variable: surface wind

| Variable     | Scientific use    | Float types             | Sensor Type      | Accuracy/Precision<br>(subject to rapid updates) | Upper bin<br>shallowest / size | # active<br>floats |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Surface wind | Air-Sea exchanges | Prospective<br>(GEORGE) | Passive acoustic |  |                                | -                  |

1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?
2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?
3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?
4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?
5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?
6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?
7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?



### Variables considered today

| Variable                    | Scientific use   | Float types                                    | Sensor Type                           | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates)  | Upper bin S/shallow/size  | # active floats |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| Pressure                    |  |  |                                       | 2,4 dbar / 0,1 dbar  |   | 2907            |
| Temperature                 | Ocean circulation, heat fluxes, Air-Sea exchanges, Water cycle | Core Deep BGC                                  | Thermistor                            | 0,002 °C / 0,001 °C  | 1 dbar / 1dbar  | 2907            |
| Salinity                    | Ocean circulation, freshwater fluxes, Water cycle              | Core Deep                                      | Conductivity Inductivity              | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time<br>0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time   | 2 dbar / 1 dbar<br>1 dbar / 1 dbar                                  | 2907            |
| Oxygen                      | Decrease of oxygenation and oxygen minimum zones, carbon cycle | Core (some) Deep (some) BGC                    | Optode                                | 1% of surface O2 / 0,2 µmol kg <sup>-1</sup>   | -0,2 dbar / 0,1 dbar  | 576             |
| Nitrate                     | Eutrophication, toxic algal blooms, biological productivity    | BGC  | Ultraviolet absorbance                | 1 µmol kg <sup>-1</sup> / 0,1 µmol kg <sup>-1</sup>  |   | 305             |
| pH                          | Ocean acidification, CO <sub>2</sub> -Uptake                   | BGC  | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor | 0,01 pH / 0,0005 pH  |   | 322             |
| Chlorophyll a               | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                          | BGC  | Fluorescence Radiometer               | Max (30%, 0,03 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (0,025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> )<br>Max (24%, 0,03 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (0,025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> )   |   | 386             |
| Suspended particles         | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                          | BGC  | Optical backscatter                   | Suspended particles: Max (50%, 1,5 µg kg <sup>-1</sup> ) / (1 µg kg <sup>-1</sup> )<br>Backscattering coefficient: Max (10%, 10 <sup>-5</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> ) / (4 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> )<br>POC: Max (30%, 20 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (10 mg m <sup>-3</sup> )<br>PC: Max (30%, 6 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (3 mg m <sup>-3</sup> )<br>PAR: Max (3%, 5 µmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) / (1 µmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 386             |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC  | Radiometer                            | Spectral: Max (3%, 5 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> µW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> ) / (2,5 X 10 <sup>-3</sup> µW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> )  | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 116             |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC/Provior CTSS Prospective (REFNE, ITIMERIS) | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6-10% (depends on wavelength range & calibration quality)  | Acquisition from 300db to surface at 0,3 db resolution near surface | 14              |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            | Carbon uptake  | Prospective (C-SCOPE, GEORGE)                  | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   | < 6% (depends on wavelength range & calibration quality)   | Acquisition from 300db to 1,78db at 0,3 db resolution near surface  | 12              |
| Surface wind                | Air-Sea exchanges  | Prospective (GEORGE)                           | Passive acoustic                      |  | 1 dbar / 1dbar  | 2               |
| Zooplankton                 | Ecosystems, biodiversity                                       | Prospective (REFNE)                            | Optic                                 |  |   | 33              |



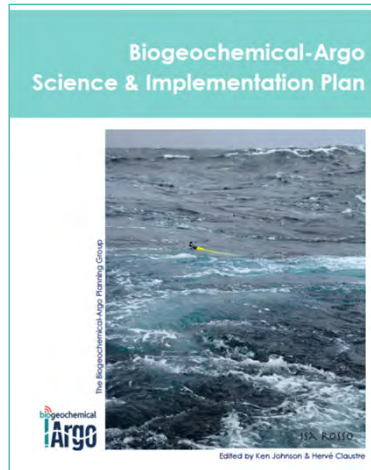
## Biogeochemical-Argo : Science plan and implementation targets

### Research topics

- Biological carbon pump
- Phytoplankton communities
- OMZs and nitrate cycling
- Carbon uptake
- Acidification

### Management topics

- Living marine resources
- Carbon budget verification



<http://biogeochemical-argo.org>

### Six core variables

- **Chl $\alpha$ \***
- **Suspended particles ( $b_{bp}$ )\***
- **Downwelling irradiance\***
- O<sub>2</sub>
- NO<sub>3</sub>
- pH

### One fleet objective

1000 operational floats

\* Key Variables Product of Ocean Color Radiometry (OCR)

## Science plan

### Research topics

- Biological carbon pump
- Phytoplankton communities
- OMZs and nitrate cycling
- Carbon uptake
- Acidification

### Management topics

- Living marine resources
- Carbon budget verification

| TOTAL PROFILES   | 2024 PROFILES   |
|--|---|
| <b>294355</b><br><small>TOTAL O<sub>2</sub> PROFILES</small>         | <b>4807</b><br><small>2024 O<sub>2</sub> PROFILES ACQUIRED BY</small><br><b>570</b> ACTIVE SENSORS        |
| <b>74701</b><br><small>TOTAL NO<sub>3</sub> PROFILES</small>         | <b>2090</b><br><small>2024 NO<sub>3</sub> PROFILES ACQUIRED BY</small><br><b>291</b> ACTIVE SENSORS       |
| <b>53417</b><br><small>TOTAL PH PROFILES</small>                     | <b>2103</b><br><small>2024 PH PROFILES ACQUIRED BY</small><br><b>298</b> ACTIVE SENSORS                   |
| <b>130110</b><br><small>TOTAL CHL A PROFILES</small>                 | <b>2918</b><br><small>2024 CHL A PROFILES ACQUIRED BY</small><br><b>369</b> ACTIVE SENSORS                |
| <b>127592</b><br><small>TOTAL SUSPENDED PARTICLES PROFILES</small>   | <b>2918</b><br><small>2024 SUSPENDED PARTICLES PROFILES ACQUIRED BY</small><br><b>369</b> ACTIVE SENSORS  |
| <b>54333</b><br><small>TOTAL DOWNWELLING IRRADIANCE PROFILES</small> | <b>924</b><br><small>2024 DOWNWELLING IRRADIANCE PROFILES ACQUIRED BY</small><br><b>92</b> ACTIVE SENSORS |

## Implementation targets

### Six core variables

- **Chl $\alpha$ \***
- **Suspended particles ( $b_{bp}$ )\***
- **Downwelling irradiance\***
- O<sub>2</sub>
- NO<sub>3</sub>
- pH

### One fleet objective

1000 operational floats

\* Key Variables Product of Ocean Color Radiometry (OCR)

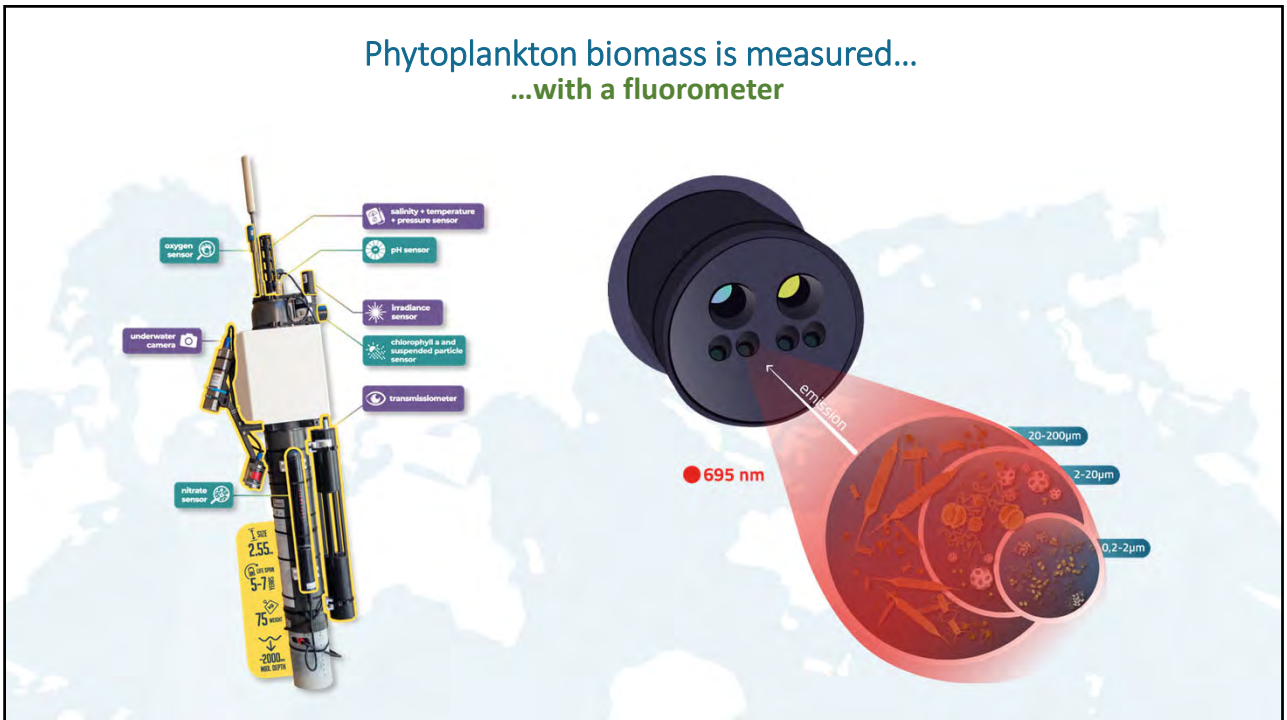
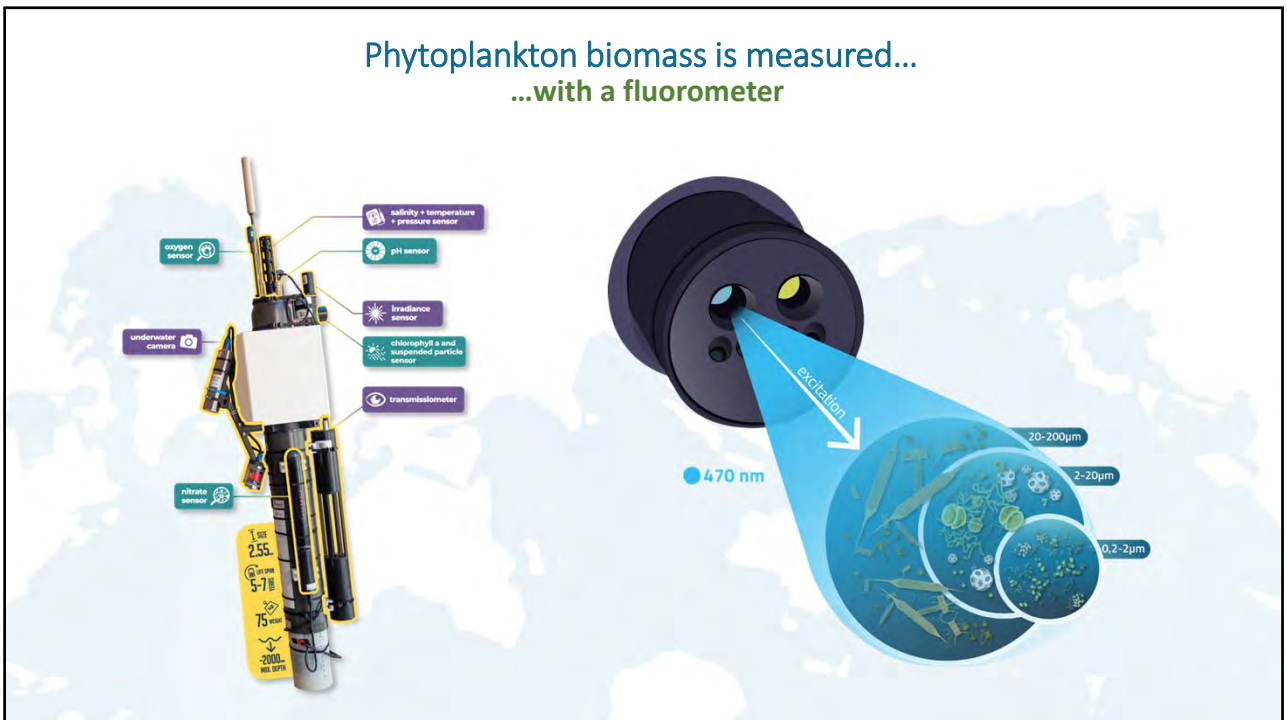


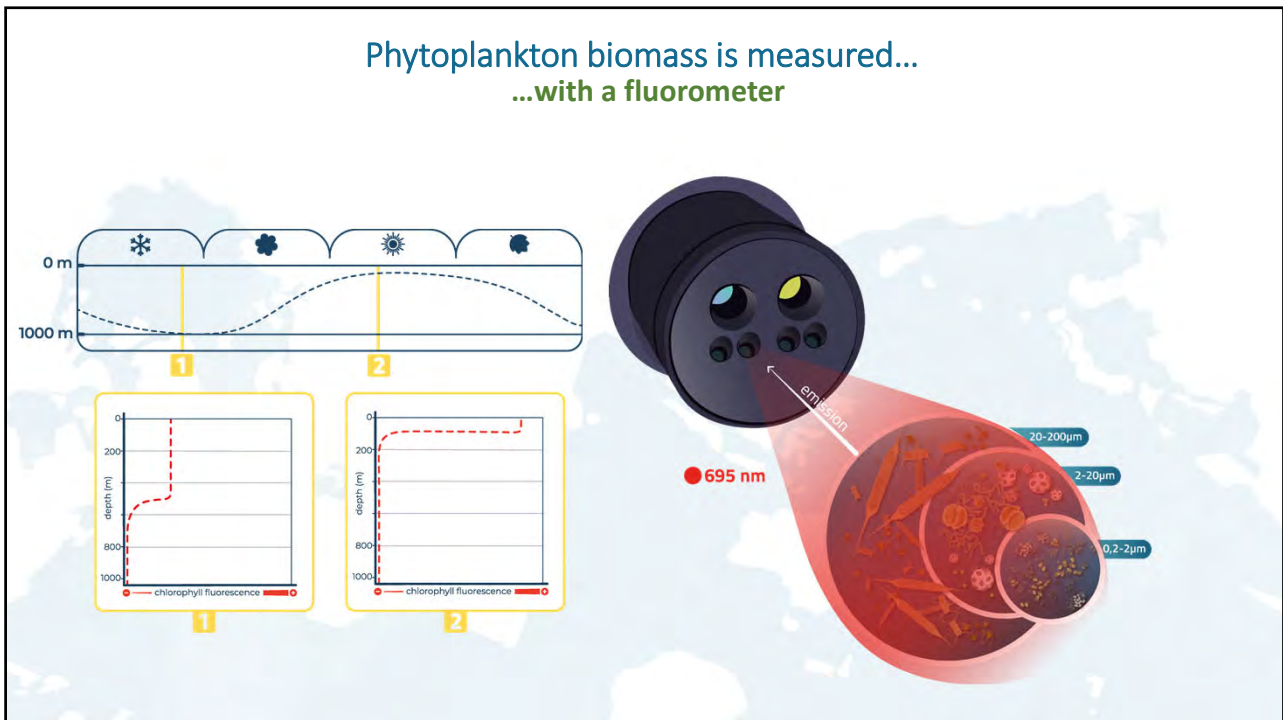
## Variables considered today

| Variable                    | Scientific use   | Float types                                  | Sensor Type                           | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates)   | Upper bin (shallowest) size   | # active floats |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Pressure                    |  |  |                                       | 2,4 dbar / 0,1 dbar   |   | 2907            |
| Temperature                 | Ocean circulation, heat fluxes, Air-Sea exchanges, Water cycle | Core Deep BGC                                | Thermistor                            | 0,002 °C / 0,001 °C   | 1 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2907            |
| Salinity                    | Ocean circulation, freshwater fluxes, Water cycle              | Core Deep                                    | Conductivity Inductivity              | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time  | 2 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2907            |
| Oxygen                      | Decrease of oxygenation and oxygen minimum zones, carbon cycle | Core (some) Deep (some) BGC                  | Oplode                                | 1% of surface O <sub>2</sub> / 0,2 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>  | -0,2 dbar / 0,1 dbar  | 576             |
| Nitrate                     | Eutrophication, toxic algal blooms, biological productivity    | BGC  | Ultraviolet absorbance                | 1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> / 0,1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>   |   | 305             |
| pH                          | Ocean acidification, CO <sub>2</sub> -Uptake                   | BGC  | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor | 0,01 pH / 0,0005 pH   |   | 322             |
| Chlorophyll a               | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                          | BGC  | Fluorescence Radiometer               | Max (30%, 0,03 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 0,025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup><br>Max (24%, 0,03 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 0,025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup>  |   | 386             |
| Suspended particles         | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                          | BGC  | Optical backscatter                   | Suspended particles: Max (50%, 1,5 μg kg <sup>-1</sup> ) / 1 μg kg <sup>-1</sup><br>Backscattering coefficient: Max (10 % 10 <sup>-5</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> ) / 4 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> m <sup>-1</sup><br>POC: Max (30%, 20 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 10 mg m <sup>-3</sup><br>PC: Max (30%, 6 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 3 mg m <sup>-3</sup><br>PAR: Max (8%, 5 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) / 1 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 386             |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC  | Radiometer                            | Spectral: Max (3%, 5 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> ) / 2,5 X 10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup>  | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 116             |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC/Provor CTSS Prospective (REFINE, TINGES) | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6-10% (depends on wavelength range & calibration quality)   | Acquisition from 300db to surface at 0,3 db resolution near surface | 14              |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC/Provor CTSS Prospective (REFINE, TINGES) | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6% (depends on wavelength range & calibration quality)  | Acquisition from 300db to 1,78db at 0,3 db resolution near surface  | 12              |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            | Carbon uptake  | Prospective (C-SCOPE, GEORGE)                | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   |   | 1 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2               |
| Surface wind                | Air-Sea exchanges  | Prospective (GEORGE)                         | Passive acoustic                      |   |   | -               |
| Zooplankton                 | Ecosystems, biodiversity                                       | Prospective (REFINE)                         | Optic                                 |   |   | 33              |

## Phytoplankton biomass is measured... ...with a fluorometer



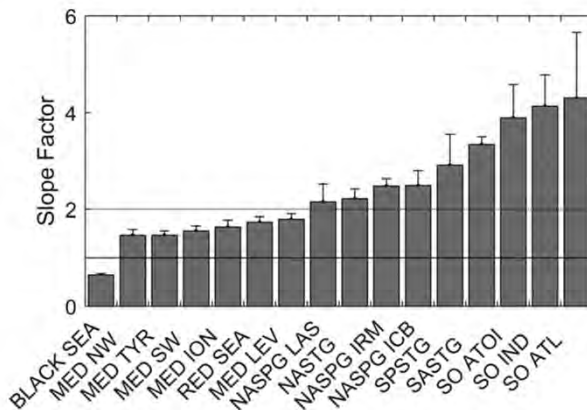




## The ratio $F_{chl a} / [Chl a]$ (slope Factor) is not constant

LIMNOLOGY and OCEANOGRAPHY: METHODS ASLO

Recommendations for obtaining unbiased chlorophyll estimates from in situ chlorophyll fluorometers: A global analysis of WET Labs ECO sensors



The slope varies with:

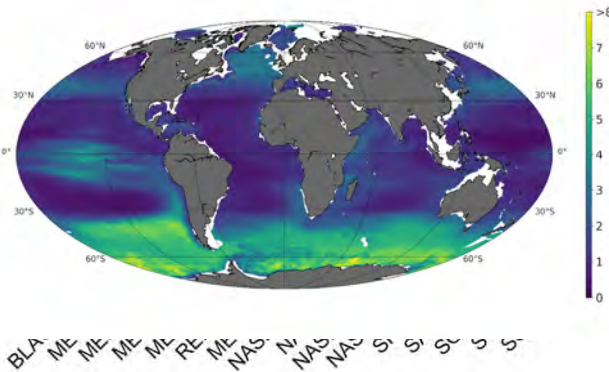
- phytoplankton type
- light history
- nutrient limitation

## The ratio $F_{chl a} / [Chl a]$ (slope Factor) is not constant

LIMNOLOGY  
and  
OCEANOGRAPHY: METHODS

ASLO

Recommendations for obtaining unbiased chlorophyll estimates from in situ chlorophyll fluorometers: A global analysis of WET Labs ECO sensors

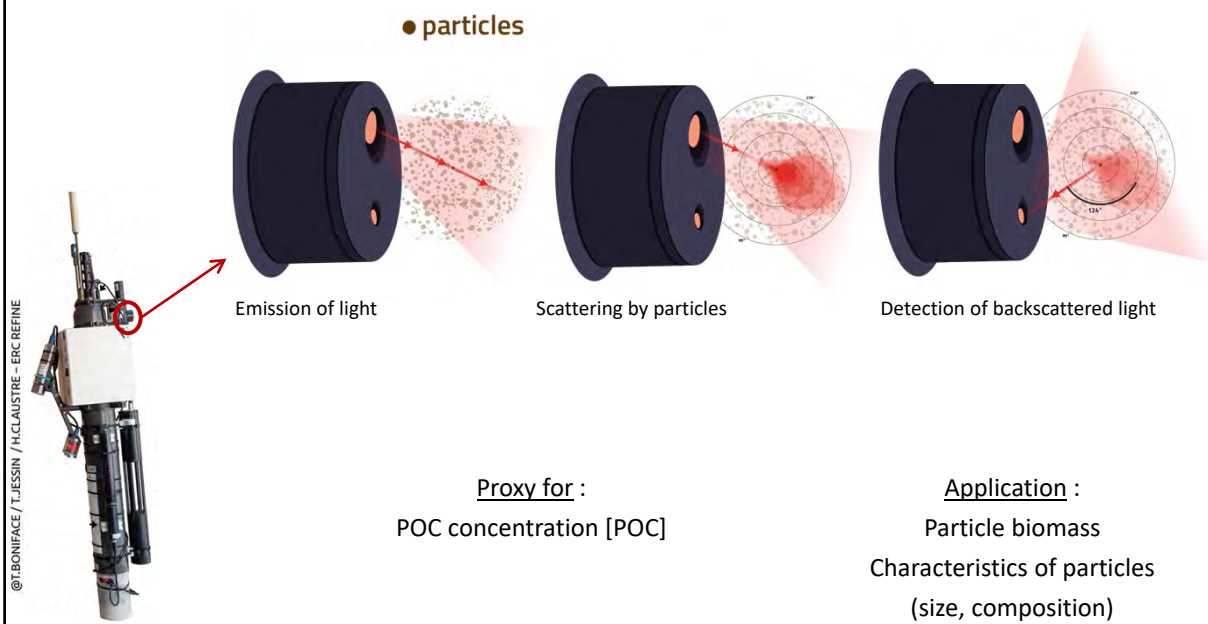


The slope varies with:

- phytoplankton type
- light history
- nutrient limitation

### Particulate backscattering ( $b_{bp}$ )

13





### Radiometer on Float



OCR-504 (SeaBird)



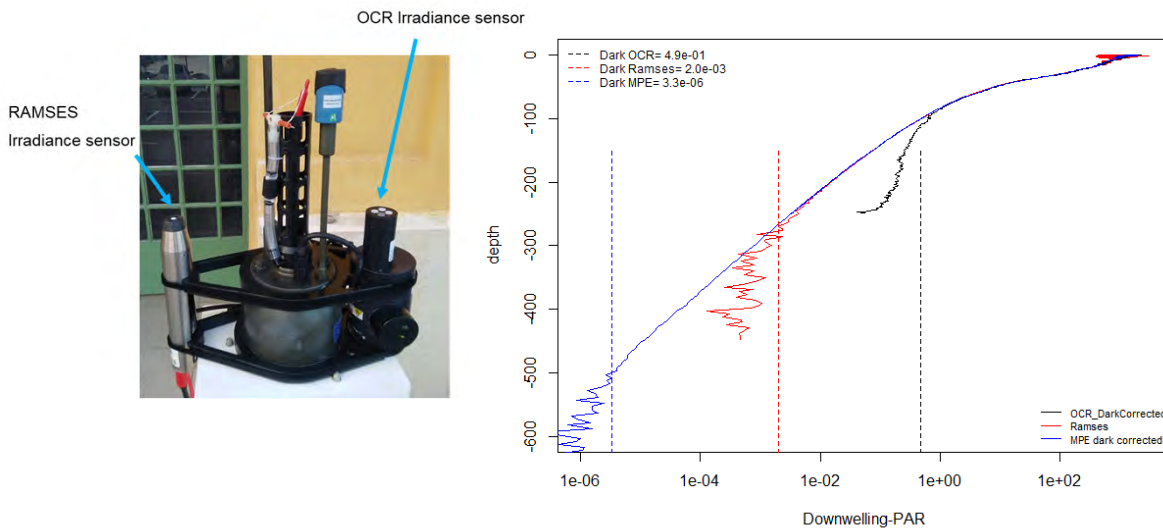
MPE-PAR (BSI)



Ramses (Trios)

| Sensor  | Float type    | Spectral domain                         | frequency            |
|---------|---------------|---|----------------------|
| OCR504  | All           | 4 channels (Vis + PAR)                  | 0.5 Hz (on Provor)   |
| MPE-PAR | Provor        | 1 channel (VIS + PAR), high sensitivity | 1 Hz (on Provor)     |
| RAMSES  | Provor + Apex | 200 (320-950 or 280-720)                | Variable Max 0.25 Hz |

### Sensors sensibility comparison (PAR)



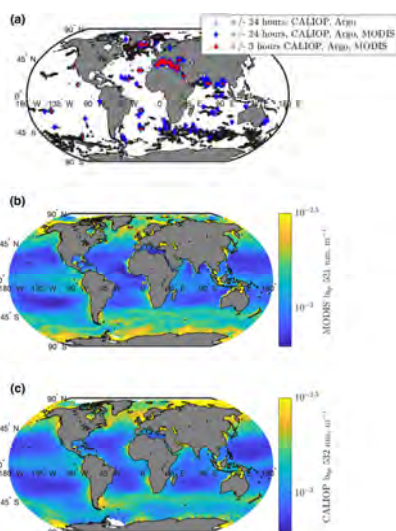


## Synergies between BGC-Argo and satellite Ocean Color Radiometry (OCR) & Lidar : three possible domains

**Chla,  $b_{bp}$ , radiometry**

- Validation of Ocean Color Radiometry satellite products
- Development of 3D products
- From validation to calibration?

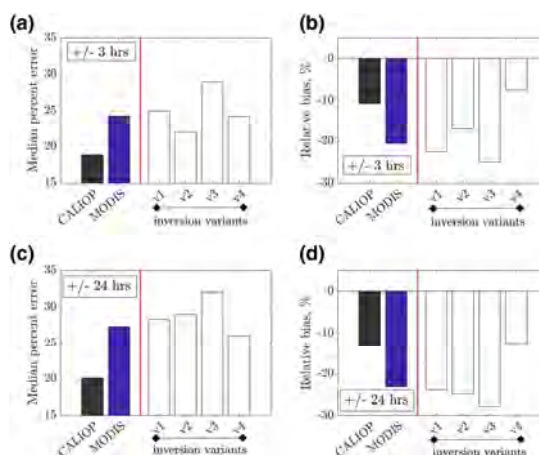
## Validation of products. $b_{bp}$ : floats vs CALIOP & MODIS



### Geophysical Research Letters

RESEARCH LETTER  
 10.1029/2020GL090909

**Particulate Backscattering in the Global Ocean: A Comparison of Independent Assessments**  
 Bisson et al., 2021



# Validation of products. $b_{bp}$ : floats vs CALIOP

frontiers | Frontiers in Remote Sensing

Validation protocol for the evaluation of space-borne lidar particulate back-scattering coefficient  $b_{bp}$

Vadakke-Chanat and Jamet 2023

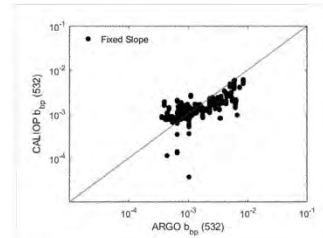
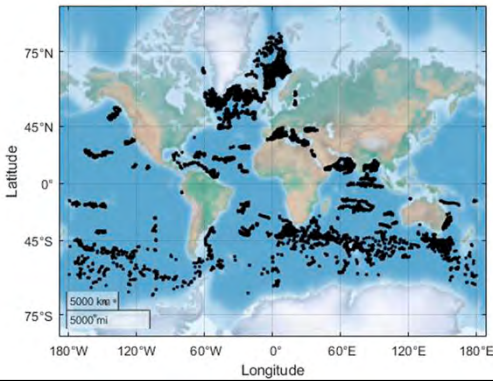


FIGURE 5 Scatter plot showing the match-up of BGC-Argo and CALIOP for 24 h - 9 km window.

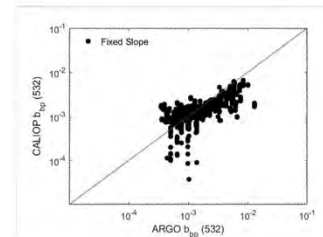


FIGURE 6 Scatter plot showing the match-up of BGC-Argo and CALIOP for 24 h - 15 km window.

# Validation of products. $Chla$ : floats vs MODIS & VRIIS

AGU PUBLICATIONS

Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans

RESEARCH ARTICLE Revisiting Ocean Color algorithms for chlorophyll  $a$  and particulate organic carbon in the Southern Ocean using biogeochemical floats

Haentjens et al., 2017

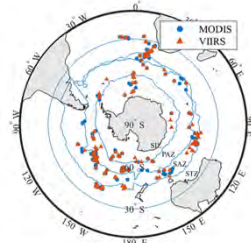
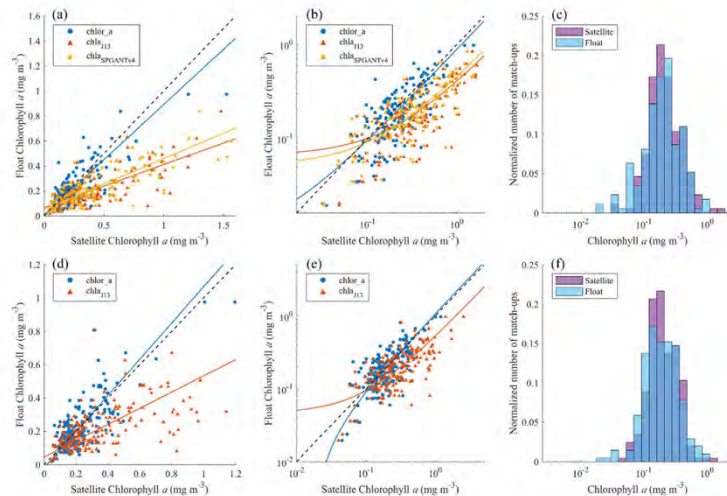


Figure 1. SOCCOM and pre-SOCCOM float and Ocean Color (OC) matchup locations (MODIS in blue circles and VRIIS in red triangles). The acronyms of each region of the Southern Ocean stands for sea ice zone (SIZ), Polar Antarctic Zone (PAZ), Subantarctic Zone (SAZ), and the Sub-tropical Zone (STZ).



# Validation of products. $K_d$ : floats vs various satellites

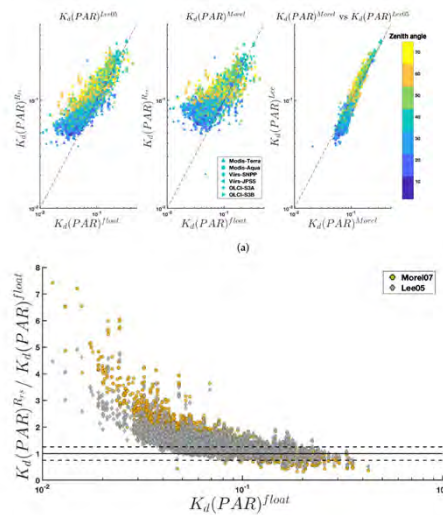


## Validation of Remote-Sensing Algorithms for Diffuse Attenuation of Downward Irradiance Using BGC-Argo Floats

Begouen Demeaux and Boss, 2022

**Abstract:** Estimates of the diffuse attenuation coefficient ( $K_d$ ) at two different wavelengths and band-integrated (PAR) were obtained using different published algorithms developed for open ocean waters spanning in type from explicit-empirical, semi-analytical and implicit-empirical and applied to data from spectral radiometers on board six different satellites (MODIS-Aqua, MODIS-Terra, VIIRS-SNPP, VIIRS-JPSS, OLCI-Sentinel 3A and OLCI-Sentinel 3B). The resultant  $K_d$ s were compared to those inferred from measurements of radiometry from sensors on board autonomous profiling floats (BGC-Argo). Advantages of BGC-Argo measurements compared to ship-based ones include: 1. uniform sampling in time throughout the year, 2. large spatial coverage, and 3. lack of shading by platform. Over 5000 quality-controlled matchups between  $K_d$ s derived from float and from satellite sensors were found with values ranging from  $0.01$  to  $0.67 \text{ m}^{-1}$ . Our results show that although all three algorithm types provided similarly ranging values of  $K_d$  to those of the floats, for most sensors, a given algorithm produced statistically different  $K_d$  distributions from the two others. Algorithm results diverged the most for low  $K_d$  (clearest waters). Algorithm biases were traced to the limitations of the datasets the algorithms were developed and trained with, as well as the neglect of sun angle in some algorithms. This study highlights: 1. the importance of using comprehensive field-based datasets (such as BGC-Argo) for algorithm development, 2. the limitation of using radiative-transfer model simulations only for algorithm development, and 3. the potential for improvement if sun angle is taken into account explicitly to improve empirical  $K_d$  algorithms. Recent augmentation of profiling floats with hyper-spectral radiometers should be encouraged as they will provide additional constraints to develop algorithms for upcoming missions such as NASA's PACE and SBG and ESA's CHIME, all of which will include a hyper-spectral radiometer.

Keywords: radiometry; diffuse attenuation coefficient; algorithm validation; ocean optics; BGC-Argo



# Validation of products. $K_d$ : floats vs various satellites

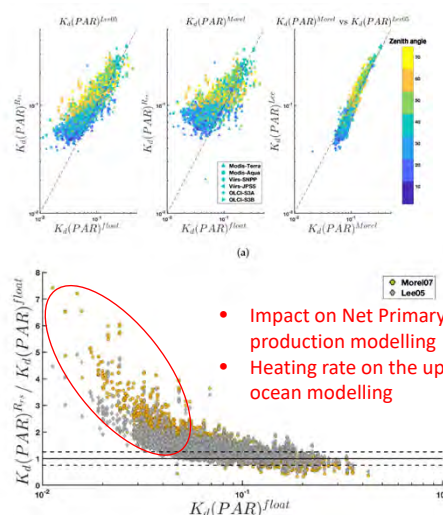


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Keywords: radiometry; diffuse attenuation coefficient; algorithm validation; ocean optics; BGC-Argo



- Impact on Net Primary production modelling
- Heating rate on the upper ocean modelling



# Validation of products. **K<sub>d</sub>**: floats vs various satellites



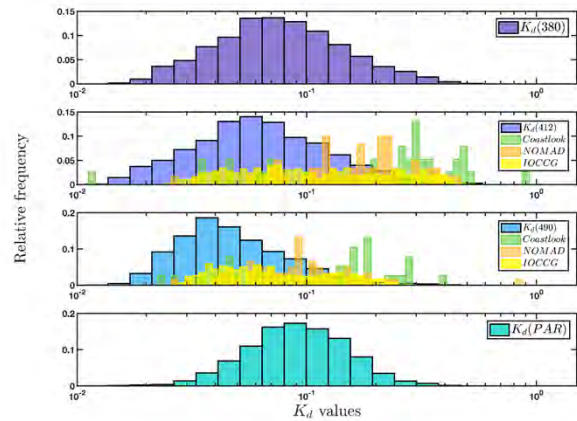
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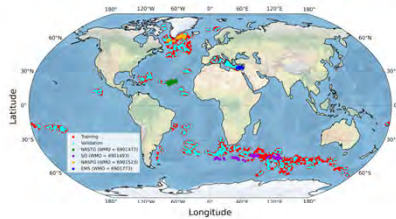
**Keywords:** radiometry; diffuse attenuation coefficient; algorithm validation; ocean optics; BGC-Argo

The discrepancies between observed and modeled  $K_d$  derive from the representativeness of BGC-Argo data with respect to historical ship-based database skewed towards less clear waters (typical of winter conditions or remote sub-tropical gyres).



## Vertically Resolved Global Ocean Light Models Using Machine Learning

Pannimpullath



Neural networks can be trained from BGC-Argo data bases to model "synthetic" radiometric profiles from the "sole" knowledges of (1) the satellite Ocean Color Radiometry surface and (2) the vertical distribution of the physical properties beneath.

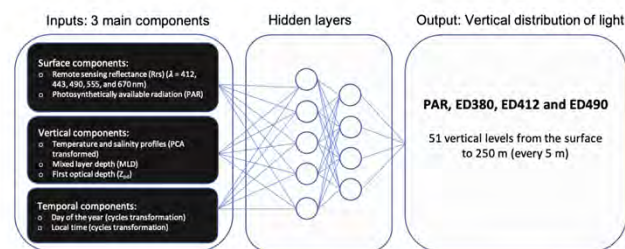
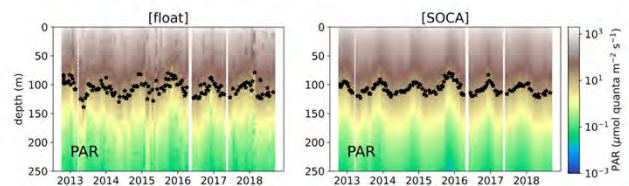
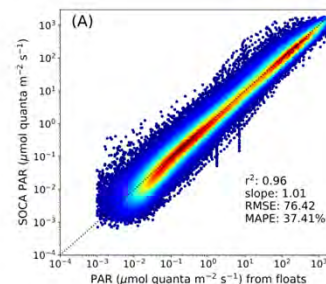


Figure 4. Schematic representation of the SOCA-light multilayer perceptron.



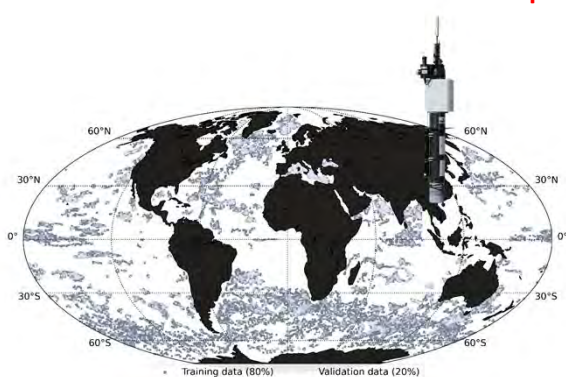


## Synergies between BGC-Argo and satellite OCR (& Lidar) : three possible domains

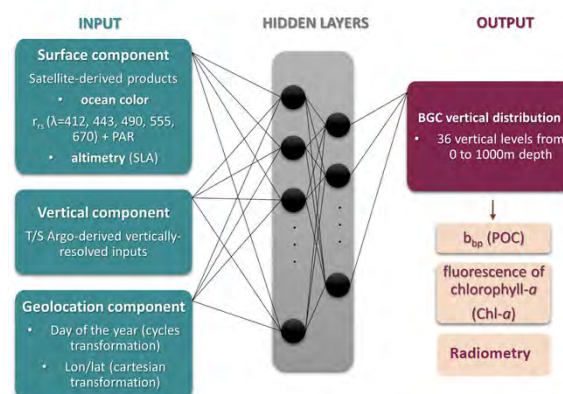
**Chla,  $b_{bp}$ , radiometry**

- Validation of Ocean Color Radiometry satellite products
- Development of 3D products
- From validation to calibration?

## 3D SOCA products : Satellite Ocean-Color merged with BGC-Argo (Chla, $b_{bp}$ , radiometry) data



The proposed approach takes advantage of the synoptic coverage of satellite observations (OC & SLA) coupled with vertically resolved BGC-Argo bio-optical measurements, to develop SOCA algorithms, based on artificial neural networks (ANN), which infer the vertical distribution of various products: Chla, POC ( $b_{bp}$ ), radiometric variables (PAR), etc.



Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans

RESEARCH ARTICLE  
10.1002/2015JC011408

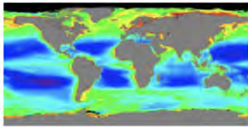
Key Points

A neural network-based method for merging ocean color and Argo data to extend surface bio-optical properties to depth: Retrieval of the particulate backscattering coefficient

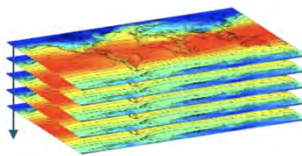
Sauzède et al., 2016

### 3D SOCA products : Satellite Ocean-Color merged with BGC-Argo (Chla, $b_{bp}$ , radiometry) data

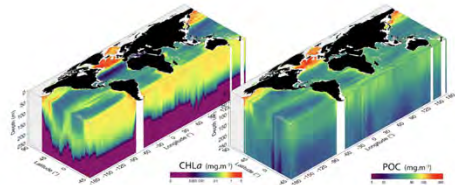
**COPERNICUS SATELLITE FIELDS  
(GLOBECOLOUR AND DUACS)**



**COPERNICUS ARMOR 3D FIELDS  
(T/S, MLD)**



**GLOBAL 3D OUTPUT PRODUCTS**

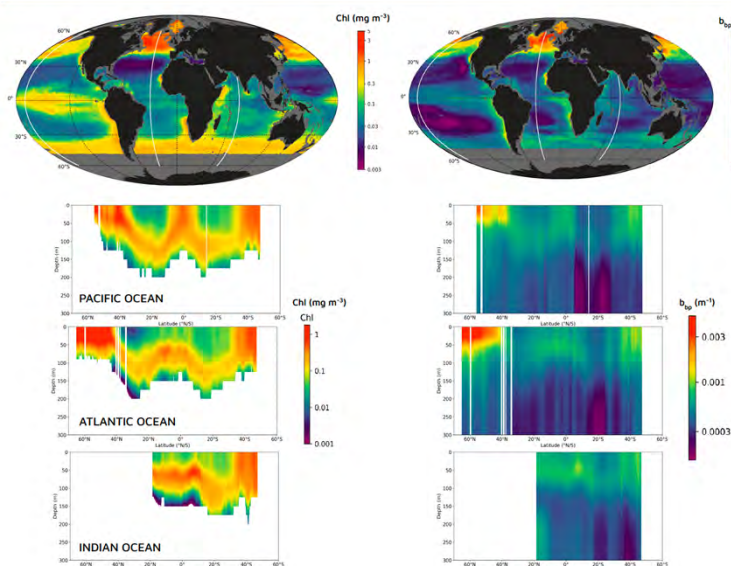


**Operational products distributed by Copernicus Marine Service (CMEMS)**

- [MULTIOBS\\_GLO\\_BIO\\_BGC\\_3D\\_REP\\_015\\_010](#) product from MULTIOBS TAC
- 0.25°x 0.25° (horizontal resolution)
- 36 vertical levels from surface to 1000 m depth (vertical resolution)
- Weekly fields from 1998 to 2021 (temporal resolution)
- Monthly climatological fields (temporal resolution).



### 3D SOCA products : Satellite Ocean-Color merged with BGC-Argo (Chla, $b_{bp}$ , radiometry) data



## Synergies between BGC-Argo and satellite OCR (& Lidar) : three possible domains

**Chl<sub>a</sub>, b<sub>bp</sub>, radiometry (Rrs)**

- Validation of Ocean Color Radiometry satellite products
- Development of 3D products
- **From validation to calibration?**

## From Validation to Calibration activity?

- Any OCR satellite needs reference measurements at the ocean surface to evaluate the possible evolution of its gain.
- This requires a complete characterization of the uncertainties related to the in situ reference measurements
- Fiducial Reference Measurements FRM (few points but precise) = > vicarious calibration.
- Validation against in-situ measurements (more points less precise)
- Few reference FRM mooring are available for this (e.g. NASA MOBY site Hawaii is presently the only one).
  - Such sites are expensive and not necessarily easy to maintain (e.g. sensor biofouling ....)
- Could a (dedicated) fleet of BGC-Argo Argo contribute to CAL in complement to reference moorings ?

## From validation to calibration? : Rrs

6078 Vol. No. 23 / 10 August 2021 / Applied Optics

Research Article



### Seasonal bias in global ocean color observations

Bisson et al., 2021

In this study, we identify a seasonal bias in the ocean color satellite-derived remote sensing reflectances ( $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ ;  $sr^{-1}$ ) at the ocean color validation site, Marine Optical Buoy. The seasonal bias in  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  is present to varying degrees in all ocean color satellites examined, including the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite, Sea-Viewing Wide Field-of-View Sensor, and Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer. The relative bias in  $R_{rs}$  has spectral dependence. Products derived from  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  are affected by the bias to varying degrees, with particulate backscattering varying up to 50% over a year, chlorophyll varying up to 25% over a year, and absorption from phytoplankton or dissolved material varying by up to 15%. The propagation of  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  bias into derived products is broadly confirmed on regional and global scales using Argo floats and data from the cloud-aerosol lidar with orthogonal polarization instrument aboard the cloud-aerosol lidar and infrared pathfinder satellite. The artificial seasonality in ocean color is prominent in areas of low biomass (i.e., subtropical gyres) and is not easily discerned in areas of high biomass. While we have eliminated several candidates that could cause the biases in  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ , there are still outstanding questions regarding potential contributions from atmospheric corrections. Specifically, we provide evidence that the aquatic bidirectional reflectance distribution function may in part cause the observed seasonal bias, but this does not preclude an additional effect of the aerosol estimation. Our investigation highlights the contributions that atmospheric correction schemes can make in introducing biases in  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$ , and we recommend more simulations to discern these influence  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  biases. Community efforts are needed to find the root cause of the seasonal bias because all past, present, and future data are, or will be, affected until a solution is implemented. © 2021 Optical Society of America under the terms of the OSA Open Access Publishing Agreement

<https://doi.org/10.1364/AO.426137>

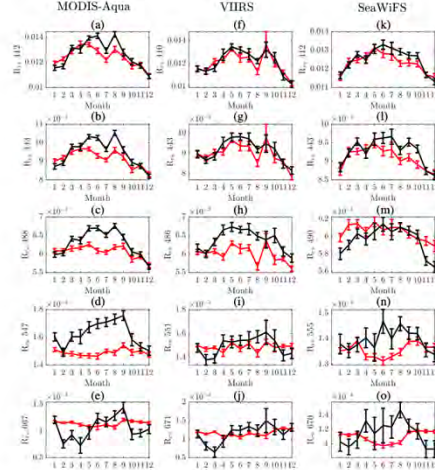


Fig. 1. Monthly averaged  $R_{rs}(\lambda)$  with standard error bars for paired validation observations between (a)–(d) MODIS-Aqua, black line; (f)–(j) VIIRS, black line; (k)–(o) SeaWiFS, black line, and MOBY (red line), for each month. Note that wavelengths displayed in a row are not always similar.

## From validation to calibration? : Rrs



### Validation of Ocean Color Remote Sensing Reflectance Using Autonomous Floats Gerbi et al. 2016

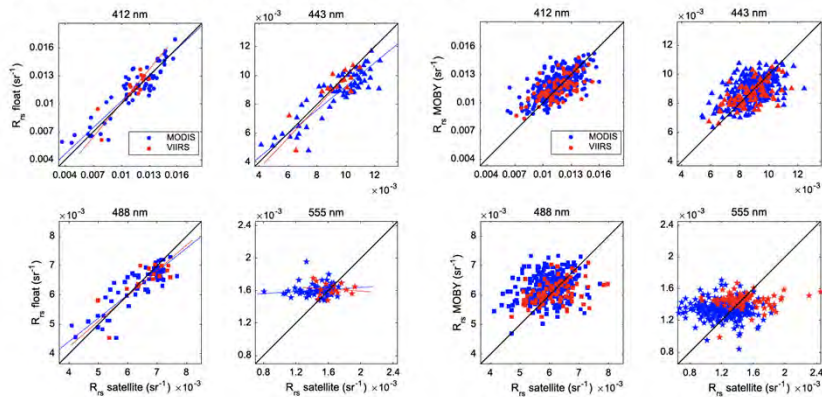


FIG. 9. Scatterplots of  $R_{rs}$ . Vertical axes are float estimates. Horizontal axes are satellite estimates. Blue is MODIS-Aqua. Red is VIIRS. Black lines are 1:1, and thin colored lines show the least squares major axis fits to the observations.

FIG. 13. Scatterplots of  $R_{rs}$ . Vertical axes are MOBY estimates. Horizontal axes are satellite estimates. Blue is MODIS-Aqua. Red is VIIRS. Shapes correspond to wavelength as in previous figures. Black lines are 1:1.



## From validation to calibration? : Rrs Development of a new float



### CTSS NKE float JUMBO (60% more batteries)

- Extended time series : ~ 5 years, vertical profiles every 10 days
- 3 depths over the ~ 9 days drift period: e.g. 150m, 500m, 1000m

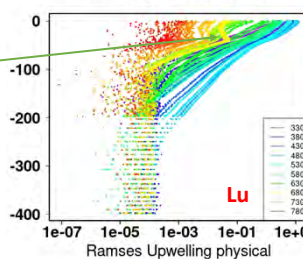
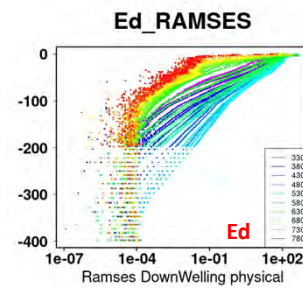
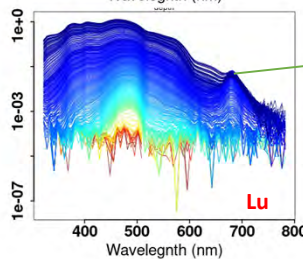
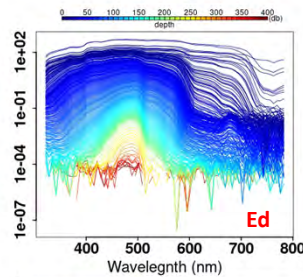
### Standard BGC-Argo Variables

- T, S
- O<sub>2</sub>
- NO<sub>3</sub>
- pH
- **b<sub>bp</sub>(700)**
- **Chla fluorescence**
- **PAR, Ed(380), Ed(412), Ed(490)**

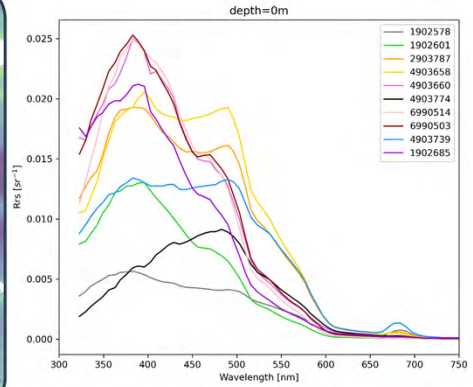
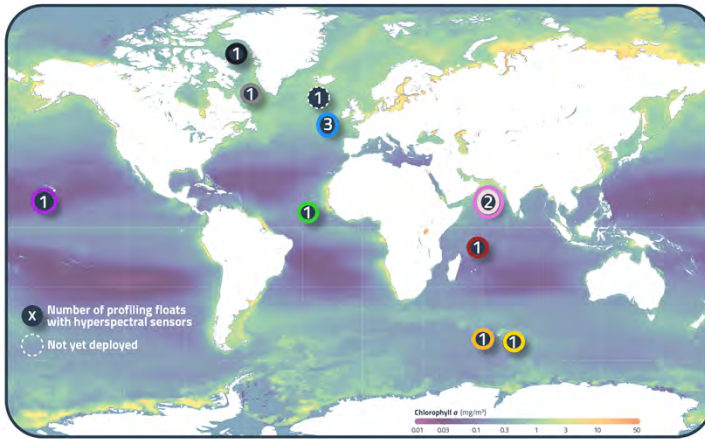
### Additional REFINE measurements

- **Lu / Ed (Rrs) hyperspectral**: optically significant substance, link with remote sensing
- **Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP)**: particle size and flux, zooplankton

## From validation to calibration? : Rrs Development of a new float



## From validation to calibration? : Rrs 12 REFINE floats deployed so far in various areas more to come (support from CNES and NASA)



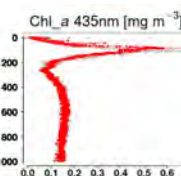
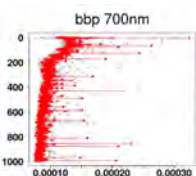
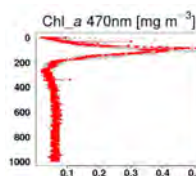
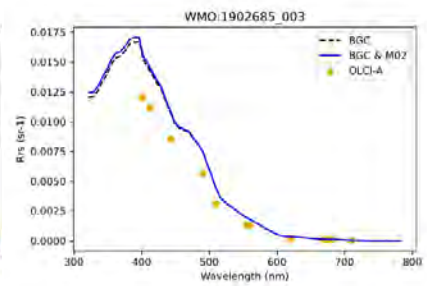
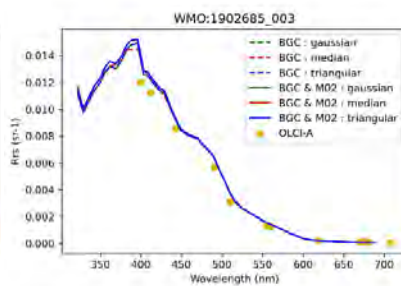
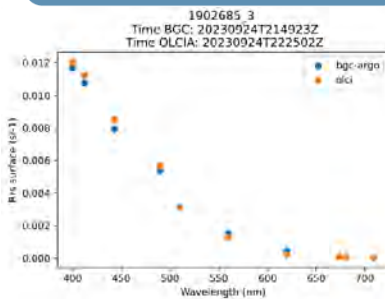
As part of the PACE mission commission phase, the REFINE fleet is being (March 25) accommodated to increase its sampling frequency (from one profile / 10 days to 5 days) and acquisition of more Ed measurements when the float is @ surface

## Exemple of comparison with OLCI : Hawaii (near MOBY)

Extrapolation en exponentielle au-dessus de 25m

Méthode Begouen-Demeaux + BRDF Morel et al. 2002

Méthode Gerbi et al. 2016 + BRDF Morel et al. 2002

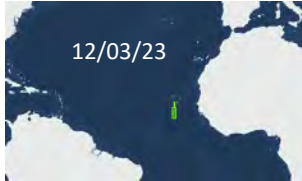
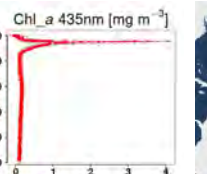
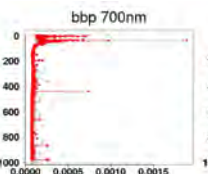
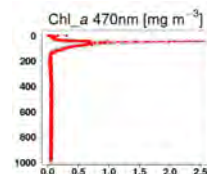
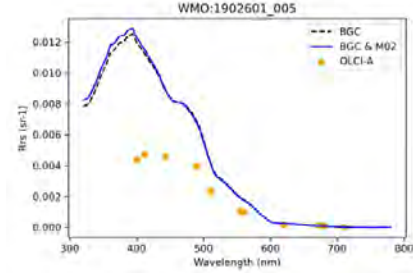
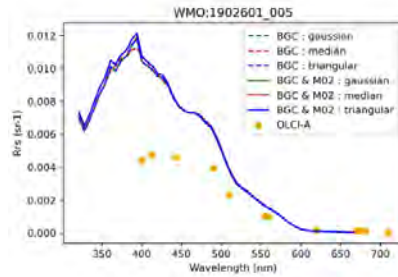
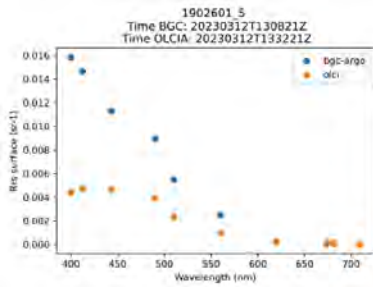


## Exemple de comparaison with OLCI : Subequatorial Atlantic

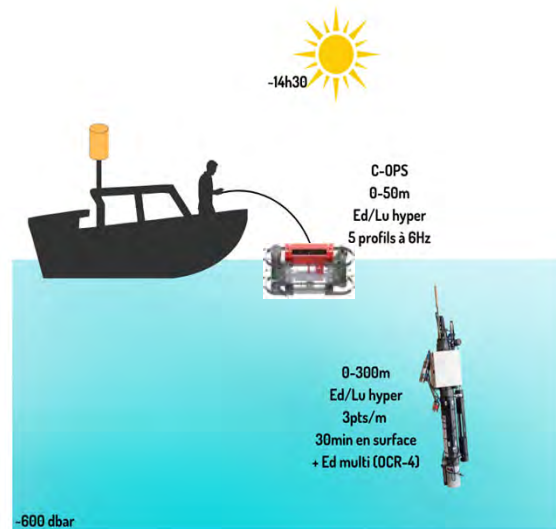
Extrapolation en exponentielle au-dessus de 25m

Méthode Begouen-Demeaux + BRDF Morel et al. 2002

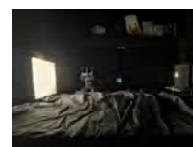
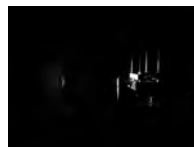
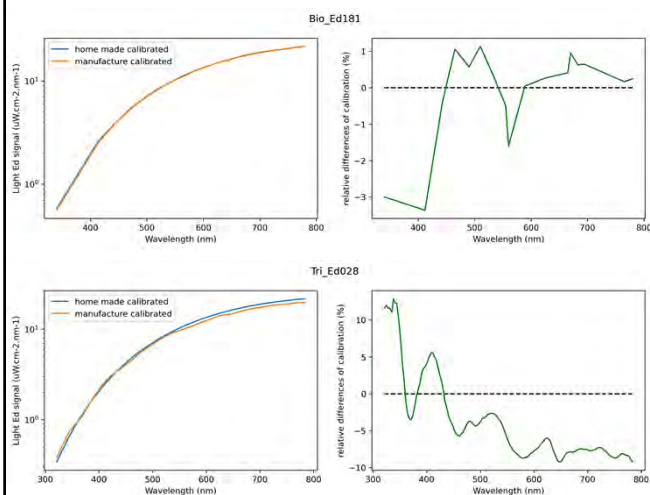
Méthode Gerbi et al. 2016 + BRDF Morel et al. 2002



## On going activities: in situ comparison between Lu/Ed float and C-Ops (reference profiler) near former Boussole site



## On going activities: absolute calibration of sensors in black rooms



| Radiomètre              | Calibration Difference with respect to lamp |
|-------------------------|---|
| Seabird OCR (Ed)        | ~20%  |
| Trios RAMSES (Ed)       | <10%  |
| Trios RAMSES (Lu)       | <25%  |
| Biospherical C-OPS (Ed) | <3%   |
| Biospherical C-OPS (Ed) | <3%   |
| Biospherical C-OPS (Lu) | <5%   |

## From Validation to Calibration activity?

- Could a (dedicated) fleet of BGC-Argo Argo contribute to CAL in complement to reference moorings ?
  - Effort to fully characterize the uncertainty and their evolution with time
  - Not necessarily recovered and recalibrated (but could be envisaged in specific places)
  - Profiling float + sensor : highly resilient to bio-fouling
  - Changing paradigm: considering the uncertainty on a fleet rather on a single platform
  - ....



## Conclusions on “synergies” between BGC-Argo and satellite OCR (& Lidar) activities

- Validation : The BGC-Argo data base (Chla,  $b_{bp}$ , Kd) is the densest ever acquired and is largely representative of the diversity of open ocean conditions. It is increasingly used in validation exercises. Help highlighting (regional) discrepancies and could become reference database to tune inversion algorithms
- 3D product : They are increasingly used for various purposes (Biological carbon pump; modeling primary production; quality control of BGC-Argo databases; fisheries models)
- Towards calibration?:
  - paradigm change : to possible move from only one / few calibration platforms (MOBY presently the only one) to a mixed system with a complementary fleet of BGC-Argo “RRS” floats capturing the open diversity (and associated variability).
  - BGC-Argo can accommodate several requirement and has sampling flexibilities
  - Discussion with TRIOS attending the Argo Steering Meeting Next week.

## Variables considered today

| Variable                    | Scientific use   | Float types                                   | Sensor Type                           | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates)  | Upper bin (shallowest / size)                                       | # active floats |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| Pressure                    |  |   |                                       | 2,4 dbar / 0,1 dbar  |   | 2907            |
| Temperature                 | Ocean circulation, heat fluxes, Air-Sea exchanges, Water cycle | Core Deep BGC                                 | Thermistor                            | 0,002 °C / 0,001 °C  | 1 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2907            |
| Salinity                    | Ocean circulation, freshwater fluxes, Water cycle              | Core Deep                                     | Conductivity Inductivity              | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time   | 2 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2907            |
| Oxygen                      | Decrease of oxygenation and oxygen minimum zones, carbon cycle | Core (some) Deep (some) BGC                   | Optode                                | 1% of surface O <sub>2</sub> / 0,2 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>   | -0,2 dbar / 0,1 dbar  | 576             |
| Nitrate                     | Eutrophication, toxic algal blooms, biological productivity    | BGC   | Ultraviolet absorbance                | 1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> / 0,1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>  |   | 305             |
| pH                          | Ocean acidification, CO <sub>2</sub> -Uptake                   | BGC   | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor | 0,01 pH / 0,0005 pH  |   | 322             |
| Chlorophyll a               | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                          | BGC   | Fluorescence Radiometer               | Max (30%, 0,03 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (0,025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> )<br>Max (24%, 0,03 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (0,025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup> )   |   | 386             |
| Suspended particles         | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                          | BGC   | Optical backscatter                   | Suspended particles: Max (50%, 1,5 μg kg <sup>-1</sup> ) / (1 μg kg <sup>-1</sup> )<br>Backscattering coefficient: Max (10%, 10 <sup>-5</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> ) / (4 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> )<br>POC: Max (30%, 20 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (10 mg m <sup>-3</sup> )<br>PC: Max (30%, 6 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (3 mg m <sup>-3</sup> )<br>PAR: Max (3%, 5 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) / (1 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 386             |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC   | Radiometer                            | Spectral: Max (3%, 5 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> ) / (2,5 X 10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> )  | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 116             |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC/Provior CTSS Prospective (REFNE, ITINERS) | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6-10% (depends on wavelength range & calibration quality)  | Acquisition from 300db to surface at 0,3 db resolution near surface | 14              |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            | Carbon uptake  | BGC/Provior CTSS Prospective (REFNE, ITINERS) | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6% (depends on wavelength range & calibration quality)   | Acquisition from 300db to 1,78db at 0,3 db resolution near surface  | 12              |
| Surface wind                | Air-Sea exchanges  | Prospective (GEORGE)                          | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   |  | 1 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2               |
| Zooplankton                 | Ecosystems, biodiversity                                       | Prospective (REFNE)                           | Passive acoustic Optic                |  |   | 33              |

## Zooplankton and particle size Development of a new float



### CTSS NKE float JUMBO (60% more batteries)

- Extended time series : ~ 5 years, vertical profiles every 10 days
- 3 depths over the ~ 9 days drift period: e.g. 150m, 500m, 1000m

### Standard BGC-Argo Variables

- T, S
- O<sub>2</sub>
- NO<sub>3</sub>
- pH
- **b<sub>bp</sub>(700)**
- **Chla fluorescence**
- **PAR, Ed(380), Ed(412), Ed(490)**

### Additional REFINE measurements

- **Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP):** particle size and flux, zooplankton
- **Transmissometer :** Carbon flux and phytoplankton community composition.

## The Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP6) : particles and zooplankton

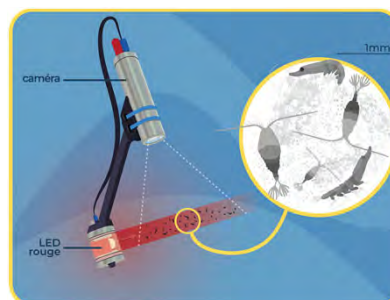
LIMNOLOGY  
and  
OCEANOGRAPHY: METHODS

ASLO

Limnol. Oceanogr., Methods, 2021  
© 2021 The Authors. Limnology and Oceanography: Methods published by  
Wiley Periodicals LLC on behalf of Association for the Sciences of  
Limnology and Oceanography,  
doi: 10.1002/lom2.10475

The Underwater Vision Profiler 6: an imaging sensor of particle size  
spectra and plankton, for autonomous and cabled platforms

Picheral et al., 2021



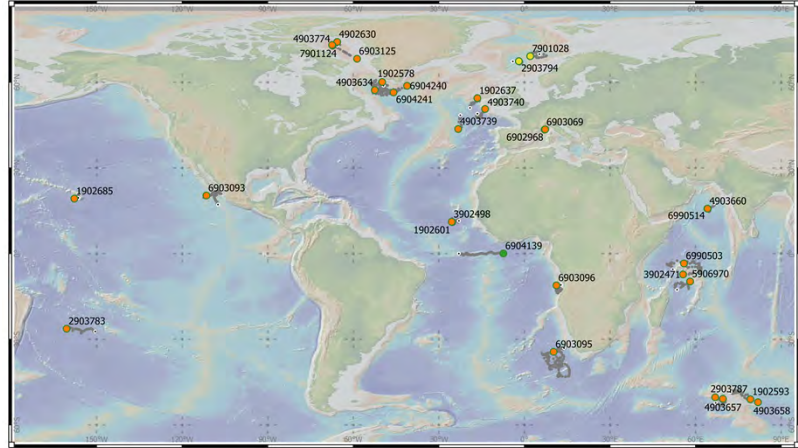
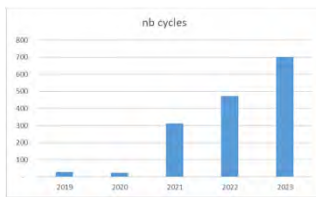
- Low power, image based, sampling volume: 0.7 L
- **particle size counter** 100 μm - 2.5mm
- **Embedded (AI) zooplankton identification** (20 classes)
  - ✓ Count per class vs depth
  - ✓ Volume per class vs depth
  - ✓ Mean gper per class vs depth

## The Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP6) : particles and zooplankton

32 floats at the GDAC

| Année | nb cycles |
|-------|-----------|
| 2019  | 30        |
| 2020  | 24        |
| 2021  | 312       |
| 2022  | 473       |
| 2023  | 703       |

Total 1 542



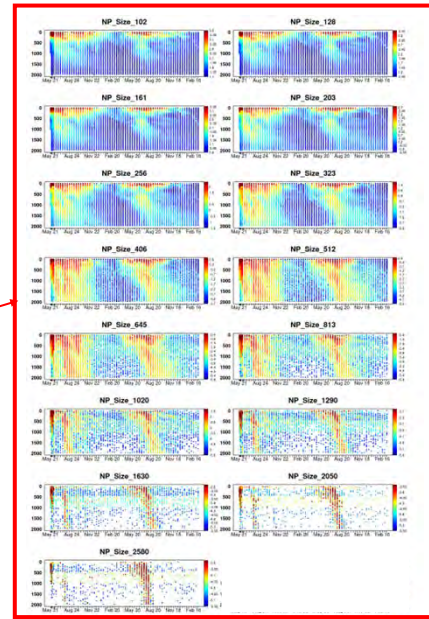
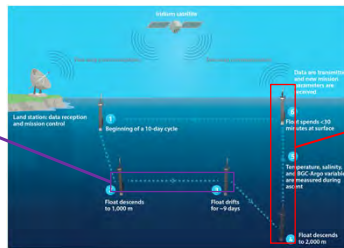
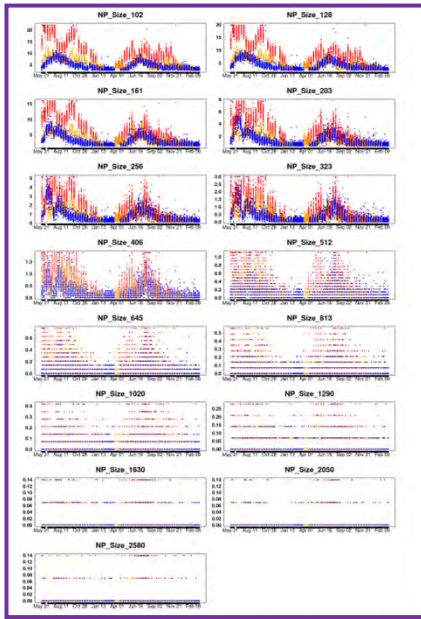
Argo floats equipped with UVP sensor  
19 October 2023

Last positions of floats with UVP  
 ● FRANCE  
 ● GERMANY  
 ● NORWAY  
 ○ Deployment positions  
 ○ Profiles

## The Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP6) : ongoing ~ two-year time-series of particle size distribution ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) in the Labrador Sea

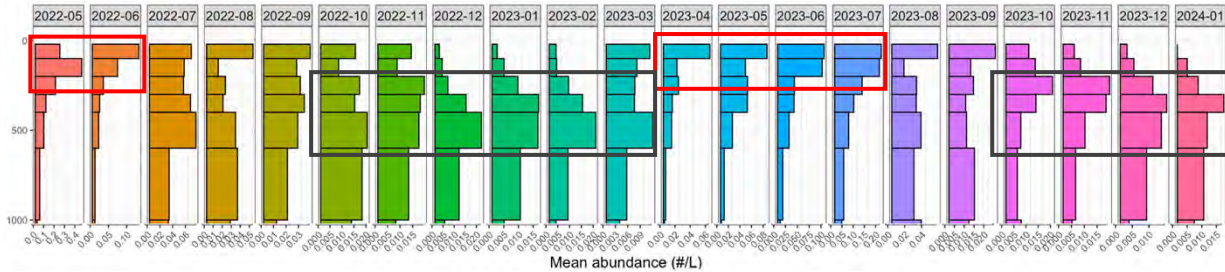
Time series of drift @ 200m 500m 1000m

Time series of 0-2000 m profiles

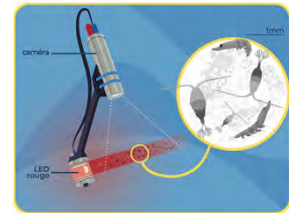




## The Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP6) : ongoing two years time serie of copepods (crustaceans ~1 mm size) in the Labrador Sea



Possible evidence of seasonal migration which impact the sequestration of carbon



## Variables considered today

| Variable                    | Scientific use   | Float types                                       | Sensor Type                           | Accuracy/Precision (subject to rapid updates)  | Upper bin (shallowest / size)                                       | # active floats |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| Pressure                    |  |   |                                       | 2,4 dbar / 0,1 dbar  |   | 2907            |
| Temperature                 | Ocean circulation, heat fluxes, Air-Sea exchanges, Water cycle | Core Deep BGC                                     | Thermistor                            | 0,002 °C / 0,001 °C  | 1 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2907            |
| Salinity                    | Ocean circulation, freshwater fluxes, Water cycle              | Core Deep   | Conductivity Inductivity              | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time<br>0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time   | 2 dbar / 1 dbar<br>1 dbar / 1 dbar                                  | 2907            |
| Oxygen                      | Decrease of oxygenation and oxygen minimum zones, carbon cycle | Core (some) Deep (some) BGC                       | Optode                                | 1% of surface O <sub>2</sub> / 0,2 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>   | -0,2 dbar / 0,1 dbar  | 576             |
| Nitrate                     | Eutrophication, toxic algal blooms, biological productivity    | BGC   | Ultraviolet absorbance                | 1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> / 0,1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>  |   | 305             |
| pH                          | Ocean acidification, CO <sub>2</sub> -Uptake                   | BGC   | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor | 0,01 pH / 0,0005 pH  |   | 322             |
| Chlorophyll a               | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                          | BGC   | Fluorescence<br>Radiometer            | Max (30%, 0,03 mg Chia m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (0,025 mg Chia m <sup>-3</sup> )<br>Max (24%, 0,03 mg Chia m <sup>-3</sup> ) / (0,025 mg Chia m <sup>-3</sup> )   |   | 386             |
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| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC   | Radiometer                            | PAR: Max (3%, 5 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) / (1 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )<br>Spectral: Max (3%, 5 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> ) / (2,5 X 10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> )  | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 116             |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle  | BGC; Provor CTSS<br>Prospective (REFINE, ITINERS) | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6-10% (depends on wavelength range & calibration quality)  | Acquisition from 300db to surface at 0,3 db resolution near surface | 14              |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            | Carbon uptake  | Prospective (C-SCOPE, GEORSE)                     | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   |  | 1 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2               |
| Surface wind                | Air-Sea exchanges  | Prospective (GEORSE)                              | Passive acoustic                      |  |   | -               |
| Zooplankton                 | Ecosystems, biodiversity                                       | Prospective (REFINE)                              | Optic                                 |  |   | 33              |



## From BGC-Argo measurements to inference of “chemical” products example of CO<sub>2</sub> and carbonate system and nutrients



CTSS NKE float JUMBO (60% more batteries)

- Extended time series : ~ 5 years, vertical profiles every 10 days
- 3 depths over the ~ 9 days drift period: e.g. 150m, 500m, 1000m

Standard BGC-Argo Variables

- T, S
  - O<sub>2</sub>
  - pH
  - NO<sub>3</sub>
- pCO<sub>2</sub>, DIC, nutrients...
- **b<sub>bp</sub>(700)**
  - **Chla fluorescence**
  - **PAR, Ed(380), Ed(412), Ed(490)**

Additional REFINE measurements

- **Lu / Ed (Rrs) hyperspectral**: optically significant substance, link with remote sensing
- **Underwater Vision Profiler (UVP)**: particle size and flux, zooplankton

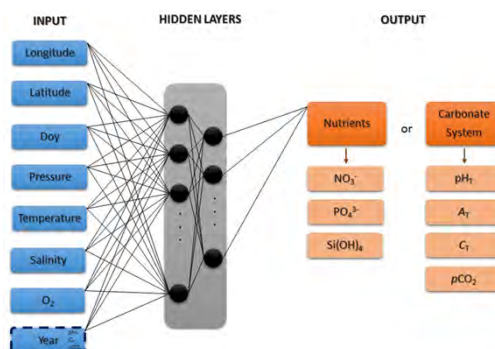
## CANYON : Carbonate system and Nutrients concentrations from hydrological properties and Oxygen using a Neural network

Concept : Nutrient and Carbonate system variables vertical profiles inferred from BGC-Argo O<sub>2</sub> profiles qualified in delayed mode Sauzède et al. 2017.

- ❖ Based on a **neural-network method** trained on high quality nutrient data collected over the last 30 years (GLODAPv2 database, Olsen et al., 2016)
- ❖ **CANYON-B** (Bittig et al., 2018)
- ❖ Regional version for the Mediterranean Sea: **CANYON-MED** (Fourier et al. 2020)

### Outputs

- Profiles of concentration of nitrates (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>), phosphates (PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>) and silicates (Si(OH)<sub>4</sub>)
- Profiles of Carbonate system variables (pH, total alkalinity (A<sub>T</sub>), dissolved inorganic carbon (C<sub>T</sub>), and partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> (pCO<sub>2</sub>))

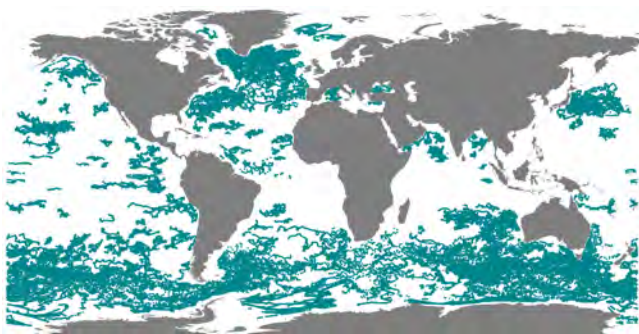


### Global CANYON accuracies

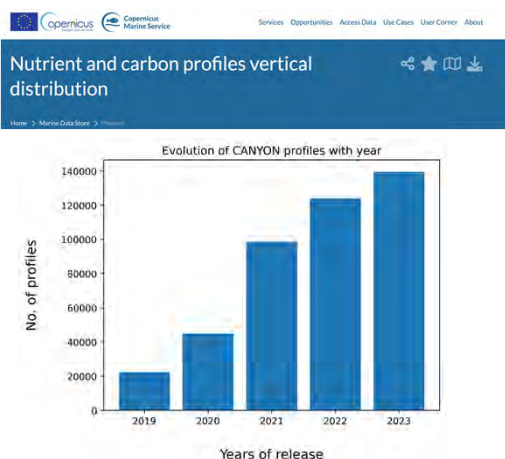
|  |  |
|--|--|
| NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> : 0.68 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>  | pH <sub>T</sub> : 0.015                    |
| PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> : 0.05 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> | A <sub>T</sub> : 7.1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> |
| Si(OH) <sub>4</sub> : 2.3 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>            | C <sub>T</sub> : 6.9 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> |
|  | <b>pCO<sub>2</sub> : 15 μatm</b>           |

## CANYON products are delivered by CMEMS

CMEMS product of **profiles of nutrients concentrations** (1<sup>st</sup> release in 2019) and **carbonate system variables** (1<sup>st</sup> release in 2022) derived from BGC-Argo O<sub>2</sub> profiles qualified in delayed mode and release yearly



NRT delivery targeted for the end of 2024



[https://data.marine.copernicus.eu/product/MULTIOBS\\_GLO\\_BGC\\_NUTRIENTS\\_CARBO\\_NUTRIENTS\\_CARBO\\_PROFILES\\_MYNRT\\_015\\_009/description](https://data.marine.copernicus.eu/product/MULTIOBS_GLO_BGC_NUTRIENTS_CARBO_NUTRIENTS_CARBO_PROFILES_MYNRT_015_009/description)

## Acoustic winds on float



February 23, 2024

**Ocean scientists call for increased efforts towards a global surface ocean carbon observing system**

Late last year, over a hundred ocean carbon scientists, including several GEORGE partners, from around the world met at Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) in Oostende, Belgium, to review the status of the Surface Ocean Carbon Value Chain and decide on specific improvements to the structure, process and information sharing. Now they have released a declaration...

February 15, 2024

**Roadmap published for sensor and platform integration and sea deployments over 4 years**

A new deliverable report has been published as part of the HORIZON-funded project GEORGE. Next Generation Multiplatform Ocean Observing Technologies for Research Infrastructures. The deliverable 5.1 "Technology validation and prototyping Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) and trials project plan" will be the road map to the integration across the new sensors and platforms, to the deployments...

- $FCO_2 = pCO_2 \times fct(\text{wind intensity})$
- Wind sensor is being implemented / tested on floats as part of the GEORGE project
- EU projects submitted to combine Wind measurements and Machine Learning approaches (e.g. CANYON) to infer  $pCO_2$  and  $FCO_2$  from floats to fill observational gaps in critical areas (e.g. Southern Ocean, especially in winter)
- Wind speed (and rain) potentially interesting validation products...
- Acquisition during the drift phase (9 days over 10)
- Transmission of Sound Pressure Level (SPL) for 9 spectral band between 63 Hz and 21 kHz
- Derivation / test of various algorithms
- Riser, S. C., J. Nystuen, and A. Rogers (2008), Monsoon effects in the Bay of Bengal inferred from profiling float-based measurements of wind speed and rainfall, *Limnology and Oceanography*, 53(5), 2080-2093, doi:10.4319/lo.2008.53.5\_part\_2.2080.

## Final message

- BGC-Argo is quickly filling many observational gaps for key biogeochemical and bio-optical variable
- The community is working to improve the evaluation of the uncertainties of the measurements
- While the uncertainties of some key measurements (Rrs, pCO<sub>2</sub>) might remain larger than that of moorings (Rrs) or ship-based (e.g. pCO<sub>2</sub>), the density of the dataset acquired by BGC-Argo might help reconsidering the fleet as a whole (rather than on a platform by platform basis) to reduce the uncertainty in those key measurements.
- While more and more and new products are derived from Argo, it is not the mandate of Argo (DAC and GDAC) to deliver and maintain them. The help of Copernicus is essential in this respect (MOBTAC and in situ TAC)

ANNEX 5 - Argo\_Description

| Variable                    | Scientific use  | Float types                                    | Sensor Type                           | Accuracy/Precision   | Upper bin   | # active | 1st   |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|----------|-------|
| Pressure                    |   |  |                                       | 2,4 dbar / 0,1 dbar  |   | 2907     | 1996  |
| Temperature                 | Ocean circulation, heat fluxes,                               | Core   | Thermistor                            | 0,002 °C / 0,001 °C  | 1 dbar / 1dbar  | 2907     | 1996  |
| Salinity                    | Ocean circulation, freshwater fluxes, Water cycle             | Core<br>Deep                                   | Conductivity                          | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time   | 2 dbar / 1 dbar   | 2907     | 1996  |
|                             |   |  | Inductivity                           | 0,01 psu in delayed mode; 0,1 psu in real time   | 1 dbar / 1 dbar   |          |       |
| Oxygen                      | Decrease of oxygenation and                                   | Core (some)                                    | Optode                                | 1% of surface O <sub>2</sub> / 0,2 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>   | -0,2 dbar / 0,1 dbar  | 576      | 2002  |
| Nitrate                     | Eutrophication, toxic algal blooms, biological productivity   | BGC  | Ultraviolet absorbance                | 1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup> / 0.1 μmol kg <sup>-1</sup>  |   | 305      | 2007  |
| pH                          | Ocean acidification, CO <sub>2</sub> -Uptake                  | BGC  | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor | 0.01 pH / 0.0005 pH  |   | 322      | 2012  |
| Chlorophyll a               | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                         | BGC  | Fluorescence                          | Max (30%, 0.03 mg Chia m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 0.025 mg Chla m <sup>-3</sup>   |   | 386      | 2004  |
|                             |   |  | Radiometer                            | Max (24%, 0.03 mg  |   |          |       |
| Suspended particles         | Biological productivity, carbon cycle                         | BGC  | Optical backscatter                   | Suspended particles: Max (50%, 1.5 μg kg <sup>-1</sup> ) / 1 μg kg <sup>-1</sup>   | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 386      | 2005  |
|                             |   |  |                                       | Backscattering coefficient: Max (10 %, 10 <sup>-5</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> ) / 4 x10 <sup>-6</sup> m <sup>-1</sup>  |   |          |       |
|                             |   |  |                                       | POC : Max (30%, 20 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 10 mg m <sup>-3</sup>  |   |          |       |
|                             |   |  |                                       | PC: Max (30%, 6 mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) / 3 mg m <sup>-3</sup>  |   |          |       |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle | BGC  | Radiometer                            | PAR: Max (3%, 5 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) / 1 μmol photons m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup><br>Spectral: Max (3%, 5 x10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> ) / 2.5 X 10 <sup>-3</sup> μW cm <sup>-2</sup> nm <sup>-1</sup> | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m                                  | 116      | 2012  |
|                             |   | BGC/Provor CTS5                                | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6-10% (depends on wavelength range&calibration quality)  | Acquisition from 300db to surface at 0.3 db resolution near surface | 14       |       |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle | BGC/Provor CTS5 Prospective (REFINE, ITINERIS) | Hyperspectral radiometer              | < 6% (depends on wavelength range&calibration quality)   | Acquisition from 300db to 1.78db at 0.3 db resolution near surface  | 12       | 2014  |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            | Carbon uptake   | Prospective (C-SCOPE, GEORGE)                  | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   |  | 1 dbar / 1dbar  | 2        | 2022  |
| Surface wind                | Air-Sea exchanges   | Prospective (GEORGE)                           | Passive acoustic                      |  |   | -        | 2025? |
| Zooplankton                 | Ecosystems, biodiversity                                      | Prospective (REFINE)                           | Optic                                 |  |   | 33       | 2020  |



**ANNEX 5 - ECMWF-PHY\_Requirements**

| Variable                           | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation? | Sensor Type | Expected Accuracy/Precision                 | Delay (timeliness) | Upper bin / Lower bin (size) | Geographic coverage and density needed (density)                  | Deep relevant | Under-ice relevant |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------|---|--------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>Pressure</b>                    | used in obs oper to match model levels  |             |   | 12h                |                              | Global coverage; enhanced density needed for ITCZ region and WBCs | y             | y                  |
| <b>Temperature</b>                 | used in operational ocean DA system   |             | current accuracy is sufficient              | 12h                |                              | Global coverage; enhanced density needed for ITCZ region and WBCs | y             | y                  |
| <b>Salinity</b>                    | used in operational ocean DA system   |             | accuracy is sufficient; drifting is a issue | 12h                |                              | Global coverage; enhanced density needed for ITCZ region and WBCs | y             | y                  |
| <b>Oxygen</b>                      | Data Assimilation (DA), NN for reconstructed profiles                           |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>Nitrate</b>                     | DA, Validation  |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>pH</b>                          | Validation  |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>Chlorophyll a</b>               | DA, Validation  |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>Suspended particles</b>         | Validation for PhytoC and PPOC  |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>Downwelling irradiance (Ed)</b> | At the moment validation just for PAR   |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>Upwelling radiance (Lu)</b>     |   |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>pCO<sub>2</sub></b>             |   |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>Surface wind</b>                |   |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |
| <b>Zooplankton</b>                 |   |             |   |                    |                              |   |               |                    |

**ANNEX 5 - ARC-MFC\_Requirements**

| Variable                           | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation? | Sensor Type | Expected Accuracy/Precision | Delay (timeliness)                       | Upper bin / Lower bin (size) | Geographic coverage and density needed (density)  | Deep relevant | Under-ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Pressure</b>                    | For matching Temperature and Salinity profiles to model levels with DA system   |             |                             | 1 day for NRT (daily forecast)           |                              | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle   | yes           | yes                | yes                   | now                               |
| <b>Temperature</b>                 | NRT for forecast and DM for reanalysis with DA system                           |             |                             | 1 day for NRT (daily forecast)           | 1 dbar/1 bar for upper 2000m | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle   | yes           | yes                | yes                   | now                               |
| <b>Salinity</b>                    | NRT for forecast and DM for reanalysis with DA system                           |             |                             | 1 day for NRT (daily forecast)           | 1 dbar/1 bar for upper 2000m | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle   | yes           | yes                | yes                   | now                               |
| <b>Oxygen</b>                      | For validation of BGC forecast and reanalysis                                   |             |                             | 1 to 2 years                             | 1 dbar for upper 500m        | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle for winter, 5 days cycle for bloom period | yes           | yes                | yes                   | now                               |
| <b>Nitrate</b>                     | DM for DA and validation of nitrate concentration                               |             |                             | 1 year for DM (annual reanalysis update) | 1 dbar for upper 500m        | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle for winter, 5 days cycle for bloom period | yes           | yes                | yes                   | now                               |
| <b>pH</b>                          | DM for validation of carbon chemistry (not implemented yeat)                    |             |                             | 1 to 2 years                             | 1 dbar/1 bar for upper 2000m | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle   | yes           | yes                | yes                   | 2026                              |
| <b>Chlorophyll a</b>               | NRT and DM for DA and validation of phytoplankton biomass                       |             |                             | 1 year for DM (annual reanalysis update) | 1 dbar for upper 500m        | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle for winter, 5 days cycle for bloom period | no            | yes                | yes                   | now                               |
| <b>Suspended particles</b>         | Validation for POC  |             |                             | 1 to 2 years                             | 1 dbar for upper 500m        | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree,10 days cycle for winter, 5 days cycle for bloom period  | no            | yes                | yes                   | 2026                              |
| <b>Downwelling irradiance (Ed)</b> |   |             |                             |  |                              | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle   | no            | yes                | yes                   |                                   |
| <b>Upwelling radiance (Lu)</b>     |   |             |                             |  |                              | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle   | no            | yes                | yes                   |                                   |
| <b>pCO<sub>2</sub></b>             | DM for validation of carbon chemistry (not implemented yet)                     |             |                             | 1 to 2 years                             | 1 dbar/1 bar for upper 2000m | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 10 days cycle   | yes           | yes                | yes                   | 2026                              |
| <b>Surface wind</b>                |   |             |                             |  |                              |   | no            | no                 | no                    |                                   |
| <b>Zooplankton</b>                 | DM for validation of zooplankton biomass (not implemented yet)                  |             |                             | 1 to 2 years                             |                              | Arctic Mediteranean Seas, 3 degree by 3 degree, 5 days cycle  | no            | yes                | yes                   | 2026                              |

**ANNEX 5 - Med-MFC-PHY\_Requirements**

| Variable                           | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation? | Sensor Type              | Expected Accuracy/Precision | Delay (timeliness) | Upper bin / Lower bin (size)   | Geographic coverage and density needed (density)  | Deep relevant | Under-Ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Pressure</b>                    | Neural Network (NN) for reconstructed profiles                                  |                          |                             | 24h                |                                |   | y             | N/A                | y                     |                                   |
| <b>Temperature</b>                 | DA, Validation  | Thermistor               |                             | 24h                | 1 dbar /1dbar                  | Additional floats are desirable in Aegean, Levantine, Gulf of Sidra and in the Atlantic near the Strait of Gibraltar. | y             | N/A                | y                     |                                   |
| <b>Salinity</b>                    | DA, Validation  | Conductivity Inductivity |                             | 24h                | 2 dbar /1dbar<br>1 dbar /1dbar | Additional floats are desirable in Aegean, Levantine, Gulf of Sidra and in the Atlantic near the Strait of Gibraltar. | y             | N/A                | y                     |                                   |
| <b>Oxygen</b>                      |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Nitrate</b>                     |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>pH</b>                          |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Chlorophyll a</b>               |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Suspended particles</b>         |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Downwelling irradiance (Ed)</b> |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Upwelling radiance (Lu)</b>     |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>pCO<sub>2</sub></b>             |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Surface wind</b>                |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Zooplankton</b>                 |   |                          |                             |                    |                                |   |               |                    |                       |                                   |

ANNEX 5 - EUM\_Requirements

| Variable                    | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation? | Sensor Type | Expected Accuracy/Precision | Delay (timeliness) | Upper bin / Lower bin (size)        | Geographic coverage and density needed (density) | Deep relevant | Under-ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing   |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Pressure                    | Neural Network (NN) for reconstructed profiles                                  |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| Temperature                 | NN for reconstructed profiles   |             | 0.05 K                      | 24h                | As close of the surface as possible | Global including high latitudes                  | no            |                    | yes                   | continuity of the current service is mandatory. Extension to high latitudes by 2028 |
| Salinity                    | NN for reconstructed profiles   |             | 0.1 PSU ?                   | 24h                | the surface                         | Global including high latitudes                  | no            |                    | yes                   | By 2028   |
| Oxygen                      | Data Assimilation (DA), NN for reconstructed profiles                           |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| Nitrate                     | DA, Validation  |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| pH                          | Validation  |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| Chlorophyll a               | DA, Validation  |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    | yes                   | yes if direct measurement   |
| Suspended particles         | Validation for PhytoC and PPOC  |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | At the moment validation just for PAR   |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     |   |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| pCO2                        |   |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |
| Surface wind                |   |             | 0.1 m/s                     | 24h                |                                     | global   |               |                    | yes                   | For validation of our scatterometer winds   |
| Zooplankton                 |   |             |                             |                    |                                     |  |               |                    |                       |   |



ANNEX 5 - Med-MFC-BGC\_Requirements

| Variable                    | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/NAL and/or assimilation? | Sensor Type                           | Expected Accuracy/Precision | Delay (timeliness)  | Upper bin / Lower bin (size)       | Geographic coverage and density needed (density)   | Deep relevant   | Under-Ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing  |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Pressure                    | Neural Network (NN) for reconstructed profiles                                  |                                       |                             | 48h   |                                    |  |                 |                    |                       |  |
| Temperature                 | NN for reconstructed profiles   | Thermistor                            |                             | 48h   | 1 dbar /1dbar                      |  |                 |                    |                       |  |
| Salinity                    | NN for reconstructed profiles   | Conductivity Inductivity              |                             | 48h   | 2 dbar / 1 dbar                    |  |                 |                    |                       |  |
| Oxygen                      | Data Assimilation (DA), NN for reconstructed profiles                           | Optode                                |                             | 48h (in DM it would be feasible 1month to align with Satellite Products and Interim production) | -0,2 dbar / 0,1 dbar               | Now, 25 active floats in the MED. Additional floats are desirable in Tyrrhenian, Southern Ionan, Aegean and Southern Levantine.  | no, for the Med | N/A in the Med     |                       | Adjusted NR mode in 48h (for operational DA); Delay mode in 1 year or earlier as possible (for validation and reanalysis)  |
| Nitrate                     | DA, Validation  | Ultraviolet absorbance                |                             | 48h   |                                    | Now, 3 active floats in the MED. It is desirable to have at least 7 (one in each macro-region: NorthWestern Med, SouthWestern Med, Tyrrhenian, Ionian, Southern Adriatic, Levantine, Aegean)         | no, for the Med |                    |                       | Adjusted NR mode in 48h (for operational DA); Delay mode in 1 year, or earlier as possible (for validation and reanalysis) |
| pH                          | Validation  | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor |                             | 48h   |                                    | no float active in the Med   | no, for the Med |                    |                       |  |
| Chlorophyll a               | DA, Validation  | Fluorescence Radiometer               |                             | 48h   |                                    | Now, 9 active floats in the MED. It is desirable to have at least 14 (two floats in each macro-region: NorthWestern Med, SouthWestern Med, Tyrrhenian, Ionian, Southern Adriatic, Levantine, Aegean) | no, for the Med |                    |                       | Adjusted NR mode in 48h (for operational DA); Delay mode in 1 year or earlier as possible (for validation and reanalysis)  |
| Suspended particles         | Validation for PhytoC and PPOC  | Optical backscatter                   |                             |   | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m | It is desirable to have at least 14 floats (two floats in each macro-region: NorthWestern Med, SouthWestern Med, Tyrrhenian, Ionian, Southern Adriatic, Levantine, Aegean)                           | no, for the Med |                    |                       |  |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) | At the moment validation just for PAR   | Radiometer                            |                             | 48h   | 0,1 dbar / 0,1 dbar for upper 300m | It is desirable to have at least 7 (one floats in each macro-region: NorthWestern Med, SouthWestern Med, Tyrrhenian, Ionian, Southern Adriatic, Levantine, Aegean)                                   | no, for the Med |                    |                       |  |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     |   | Hyperspectral radiometer              |                             |   |                                    | highly desirable, at least one to test these new data for bio-optics model validation  |                 |                    |                       |  |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            |   | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   |                             |   |                                    | not present in the Med, but highly desirable. A minimum requirement is as for the other bgc-variables(one in each macro-region)  |                 |                    |                       |  |
| Surface wind                |   | Passive acoustic                      |                             |   |                                    |  |                 |                    |                       |  |
| Zooplankton                 |   | Optic                                 |                             |   |                                    | highly desirable, at least one to test these new data for model validation   |                 |                    |                       |  |

**ANNEX 5 - GLO-MFC-BGC\_Requirements**

| Variable                           | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?                            | Sensor Type                                  | Expected Accuracy/Precision   | Delay (timeliness)  | Upper bin / Lower bin (size)  | Geographic coverage and density needed (density)   | Deep relevant | Under-Ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation |
|------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Pressure</b>                    | use when comparing the model equivalent to T,S and BGC observations when the depth variable not available. |  | 20 cm/surf to 20 m at 6000 m depth  | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) |   |  |               |                    |                       |                            |
| <b>Temperature</b>                 | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis                                   | Thermistor                                   | current accuracy ok   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | as close as possible to the surface (10 cm bin is fine), to the bottom where the bins can be larger | global coverage, at least with the present density ((3°x3° - 10 days); with "coastal" and under ice floats | yes           | yes                | yes                   | now                        |
| <b>Salinity</b>                    | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis                                   | Conductivity Inductivity (same requirements) | current accuracy ok   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | as close as possible to the surface (10 cm bin is fine), to the bottom where the bins can be larger | global coverage, at least with the present density ((3°x3° - 10 days); with "coastal" and under ice floats | yes           | yes                | yes                   | now                        |
| <b>Oxygen</b>                      |  | Optode                                       | 1 µmol kg-1 / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>Nitrate</b>                     |  | Ultraviolet absorbance                       | 1 µmol kg-1 / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>pH</b>                          |  | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor        | 0.01 pH / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>Chlorophyll a</b>               |  | Fluorescence Radiometer                      | 0.01 mg/m3/10-20 % . There is a significant discrepancy between chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) estimates derived from BGC Argo floats and those derived from satellite data. This discrepancy may hinder efforts to use both data sources for assessment and data assimilation. To achieve a more robust analysis, the Chl-a measurements from BGC Argo floats and satellite observations need to be reconciled. | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>Suspended particles</b>         |  | Optical backscatter                          | POC: 10 mg m-3 / 10-20 %  | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>Downwelling irradiance (Ed)</b> |  | Radiometer                                   |   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>Upwelling radiance (Lu)</b>     |  | Hyperspectral radiometer                     |   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>pCO<sub>2</sub></b>             |  | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance          | 5-10 uatm / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) |   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |
| <b>Surface wind</b>                |  | Passive acoustic                             |   |   |   |  |               |                    |                       |                            |
| <b>Zooplankton</b>                 |  | Optic  | 10-20 mg m-3 / 10-20 %  | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) |   | Global coverage, at least (3° x3°)   | No            | Yes                | Yes                   | 2026                       |

**ANNEX 5 - Black-Sea-BGC\_Requirements**

| Variable                           | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?                  | Sensor Type                           | Expected Accuracy/Precision | Delay (timeliness) | Upper bin / Lower bin (size) | Geographic coverage and density needed (density) | Deep relevant | Under-Ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Pressure</b>                    |  |                                       |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Temperature</b>                 |  | Thermistor                            |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Salinity</b>                    |  | Conductivity Inductivity              |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Oxygen</b>                      |  | Optode                                |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Nitrate</b>                     |  | Ultraviolet absorbance                |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>pH</b>                          |  | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Chlorophyll a</b>               |  | Fluorescence Radiometer               |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Suspended particles</b>         |  | Optical backscatter                   |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Downwelling irradiance (Ed)</b> | calibration/validation of spectral radiation model, more than 3 wavelengths would be even better | Radiometer                            | Max 5 % error               | not important      | 0.1 db                       | black sea  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Upwelling radiance (Lu)</b>     |  | Hyperspectral radiometer              |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>pCO2</b>                        |  | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Surface wind</b>                |  | Passive acoustic                      |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Zooplankton</b>                 | calibration/validation of BGC model  | Optic                                 |                             | not important      |                              | black sea  |               |                    |                       |                                   |

ANNEX 5 - IBI-MFC-BGC\_Requirements

| Variable                    | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?                            | Sensor Type                           | Expected Accuracy/Precision   | Delay (timeliness)  | Upper bin / Lower bin (size)  | Geographic coverage and density needed (density) | Deep relevant | Under-Ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pressure                    | use when comparing the model equivalent to T,S and BGC observations when the depth variable not available. |                                       | 20 cm/surf to 20 m at 6000 m depth  | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) |   |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| Temperature                 | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis                                   | Thermistor                            | current accuracy ok   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | as close as possible to the surface (10 cm bin is fine), to the bottom where the bins can be larger |  | N/A           | N/A                | yes                   | now                               |
| Salinity                    | validation and data assimilation in RT and in DM (mostly) for reanalysis                                   | Conductivity                          | current accuracy ok   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | as close as possible to the surface (10 cm bin is fine), to the bottom where the bins can be larger |  | N/A           | N/A                | yes                   | now                               |
| Oxygen                      |  | Optode                                | 1 µmol kg-1 / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| Nitrate                     |  | Ultraviolet absorbance                | 1 µmol kg-1 / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| pH                          |  | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor | 0.01 pH / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| Chlorophyll a               |  | Fluorescence Radiometer               | 0.01 mg/m3 /10-20 % .<br>There is a significant discrepancy between chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) estimates derived from BGC Argo floats and those derived from satellite data. This discrepancy may hinder efforts to use both data sources for assessment and data assimilation. To achieve a more robust analysis, the Chl-a measurements from BGC Argo floats and satellite observations need to be reconciled. | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| Suspended particles         |  | Optical backscatter                   | POC: 10 mg m-3 / 10-20 %  | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) |  | Radiometer                            |   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     |  | Hyperspectral radiometer              |   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) | 1 dbar from surface to 2000 m   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            |  | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   | 5-10 uatm / 10-20 %   | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) |   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |
| Surface wind                |  | Passive acoustic                      |   |   |   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         |               | N/A in IBI         |                       |                                   |
| Zooplankton                 |  | Optic                                 | 10-20 mg m-3 / 10-20 %  | 1 day for assimilation in real time (assimilation window of 7-days) |   | at least 1 float by 1° in the IBI region         | No            | N/A in IBI         | Yes                   | 2026                              |



**ANNEX 5 - BAL-MFC\_Requirements**

| Variable                    | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation? | Sensor Type                           | Expected Accuracy/Precision | Delay (timeliness) | Upper bin / Lower bin (size) | Geographic coverage and density needed (density) | Deep relevant | Under-Ice relevant           | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pressure                    | Cal/Val   |                                       |                             | 24h                |                              | Baltic Sea - North Sea                           |               | Y but coordinates are needed | Y                     |                                   |
| Temperature                 | Cal/Val   | Thermistor                            |                             | 24h                |                              | Baltic Sea - North Sea                           |               | Y but coordinates are needed | Y                     |                                   |
| Salinity                    | Cal/Val   | Conductivity Inductivity              |                             | 24h                |                              | Baltic Sea - North Sea                           |               | Y but coordinates are needed | Y                     |                                   |
| Oxygen                      | Cal/Val   | Optode                                |                             | 24h                |                              | Baltic Sea - North Sea                           |               | Y but coordinates are needed | Y                     |                                   |
| Nitrate                     | Cal/Val   | Ultraviolet absorbance                |                             | 24h                |                              | Baltic Sea - North Sea                           |               | Y but coordinates are needed | Y                     |                                   |
| pH                          |   | Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                              |                       |                                   |
| Chlorophyll a               | Cal/Val   | Fluorescence Radiometer               |                             | 24h                |                              | Baltic Sea - North Sea                           |               | Y but coordinates are needed | Y                     |                                   |
| Suspended particles         |   | Optical backscatter                   |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                              |                       |                                   |
| Downwelling irradiance (Ed) |   | Radiometer                            |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                              |                       |                                   |
| Upwelling radiance (Lu)     |   | Hyperspectral radiometer              |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                              |                       |                                   |
| pCO <sub>2</sub>            |   | Membrane equilibrator/IR absorbance   |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                              |                       |                                   |
| Surface wind                |   | Passive acoustic                      |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                              |                       |                                   |
| Zooplankton                 |   | Optic                                 |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                              |                       |                                   |

**ANNEX 5 - OC-TAC\_Requirements**

| Variable                           | Specific usage: variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation? | Sensor Type                         | Expected Accuracy/Precision | Delay (timeliness) | Upper bin / Lower bin (size) | Geographic coverage and density needed (density)     | Deep relevant | Under-Ice relevant | Coastal Argo relevant | appropriate implementation timing |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Pressure</b>                    |   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Temperature</b>                 | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Salinity</b>                    | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Oxygen</b>                      | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Nitrate</b>                     | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>pH</b>                          | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Chlorophyll a</b>               | Product validation/intercomparison  | Fluorescence Radiometry             |                             | 12-18h             | 0,5 dbar for upper 50 m      | Global, Med Sea, Black Sea, Baltic Sea, Arctic Ocean | No            | No                 | Yes                   | 2025                              |
| <b>Suspended particles</b>         | Product validation/intercomparison (depending on                                | Optical Backscatter                 |                             | 12-18h             | 0,5 dbar for upper 50 m      | Global, Med Sea, Black Sea, Baltic Sea, Arctic Ocean | No            | No                 | Yes                   | 2025                              |
| <b>Downwelling irradiance (Ed)</b> | CAL/VAL Product Validation  | Radiometer Hyperspectral radiometer |                             | 12-18h             | 0,1 dbar for upper 50 m      | Global, Med Sea, Black Sea, Baltic Sea, Arctic Ocean | No            | No                 | Yes                   | 2025                              |
| <b>Upwelling radiance (Lu)</b>     | CAL/VAL   | Hyperspectral Radiometer            |                             | 12-18h             | 0,1 dbar for upper 50 m      | Global, Med Sea, Black Sea, Baltic Sea, Arctic Ocean | No            | No                 | Yes                   | 2025                              |
| <b>pCO<sub>2</sub></b>             | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Surface wind</b>                | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |
| <b>Zooplankton</b>                 | N/A   |                                     |                             |                    |                              |  |               |                    |                       |                                   |



## Euro-Argo ERIC – COINS S3 Workshop

### Argo Data Requirements of Copernicus Entrusted Entities

**Venue:** Mercator Ocean International  
 2 Av. de l'Aérodrome de Montaudran  
 31400 Toulouse, France

**Dates:** From 12 March 2024 at 2 PM to 13 March 2024 at 1 PM

### Background, Agenda and Provisional List of Participants

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## Introduction

COINS S3 is an EEA-funded project whose purpose is to assist the EEA in accomplishing the delegated activities pertaining to the cross-cutting coordination of the Copernicus in-situ component. Copernicus Services rely on many environmental measurements collected by data providers external to Copernicus, from ground-based, sea-borne or air-borne monitoring systems, as well as geospatial reference or ancillary data, collectively referred to as “in situ” data. The Copernicus In-Situ Component maps the landscape of in situ data availability, identifies data access gaps or bottlenecks, supports the provision of cross-cutting data and manages partnerships with data providers to improve access and use conditions.

Euro-Argo ERIC is third-party to the project. The research infrastructure coordinates the European component of Argo, which is a key in-situ oceanographic network for operational applications. As such, it is a major data provider and natural partner of the Copernicus Services. The objectives of the workshop are to (1) discuss the Argo data needs and gaps identified by the Copernicus Services, (2) develop various scenarios allowing to respond to the needs of the services, and (3) provide a rationale as well as data to advocate for EU complementary funding. The workshop is also meant to be a pilot exercise that could be repeated with other relevant European research infrastructures.

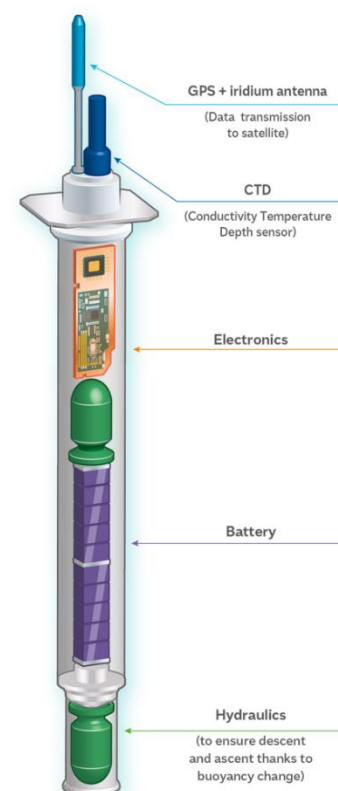
### 1.1 The International Argo Programme

Argo is a scientists-driven international programme that collects information from inside the ocean using free drifting profiling floats (Fig. 1). The programme was initiated in 1999 as a pilot project endorsed by the Climate Research Program of the World Meteorological Organization, the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. The Argo network is now a global array of about 4000 autonomous instruments, deployed over the world ocean, reporting subsurface ocean properties in near real-time. The data are provided to a wide range of users via satellite transmission links to data centres. The network provides 100,000 temperature/salinity profiles and reference velocity measurements per year.

The objectives of Argo are to:

1. Provide a quantitative description of the evolving state of the upper ocean by collecting temperature and salinity profiles from the surface to 2,000 meters depth at a resolution of 1 float/(3°)<sup>2</sup>.
2. Improve weather and climate forecasts through the assimilation of Argo data in ocean and coupled (ocean and atmosphere) forecast models.

Argo data are used for initialization and validation of ocean models. They provide an essential complement to satellite observations by delivering



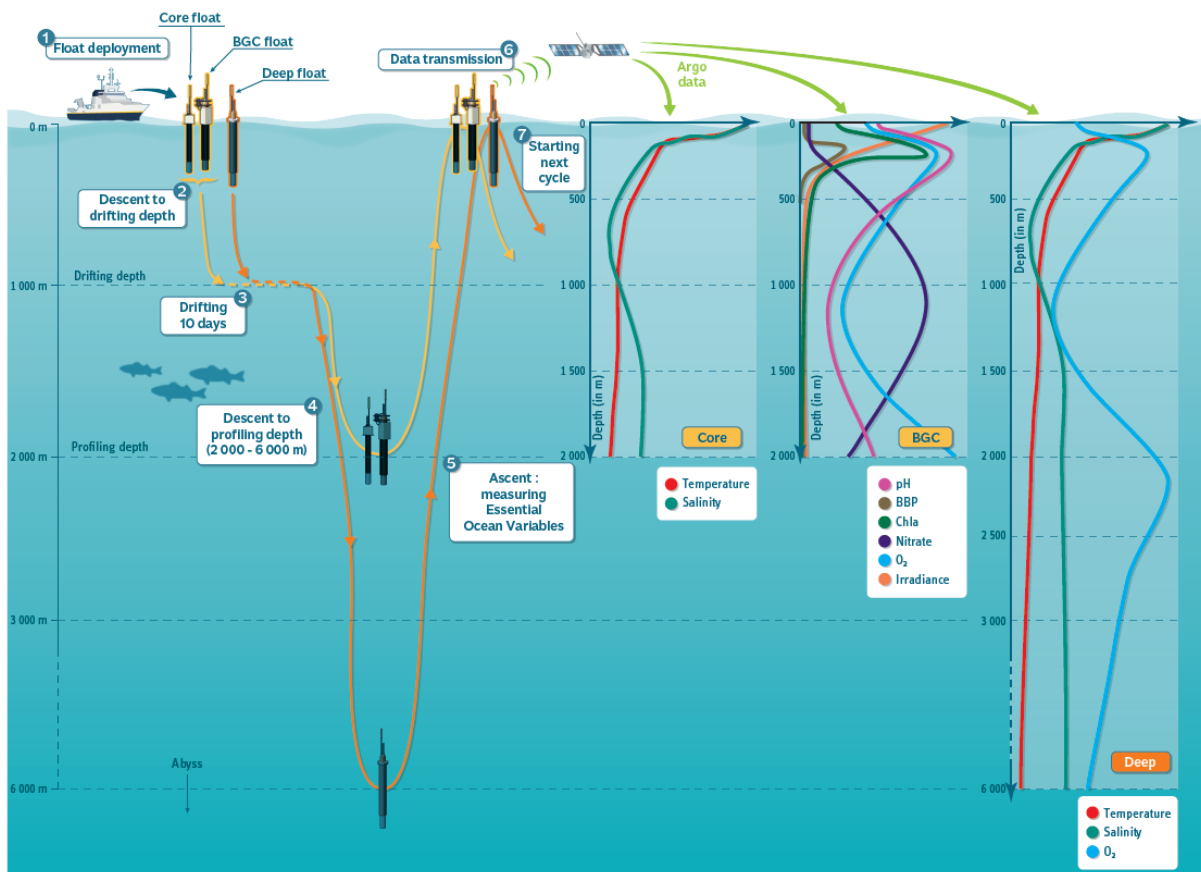
**Fig. 1 Argo float**



information on the ocean interior. Argo data are also useful for the calibration and validation of satellite measurements (e.g. ocean colour).

## 1.2 From Core Argo to OneArgo

The initial Mission of the International Argo Programme, Core Argo, aimed to measure temperature and salinity in the upper 2,000 meters of the global ocean from 60°N to 60°S. Successful pilot studies carried out in the 2010's have shown the potential and the technology readiness of Argo to extend its mission towards greater depths and biogeochemistry. Since 2020, Argo is progressively transitioning to OneArgo, an enhancement of the programme which adds a higher regional resolution in key areas like the Western Boundary currents and equatorial regions, geographical extensions (polar zones, marginal seas) as well as a BioGeoChemical (BGC) Mission (measuring O<sub>2</sub>, pH, and 4 other parameters) and a Deep Mission (down to 6000m) (Roemmich *et al.*, 2019). The life cycles of Core, BGC and Deep floats is depicted in Fig. 2.



**Fig. 2 Life cycles of Argo floats.** The autonomous platforms drift in all oceans at a depth of 1000m (which, by means of geo-localization, provides information on currents), dive further down and, on their way to the surface, measure essential ocean variables. Quality controlled data are then transmitted by satellite in near real-time before a new measurement cycle begins. Data are also reprocessed in delayed mode.

Eight essential environment variables are measured by Core, BGC and Deep floats. Their scientific use and the type of floats on which appropriate sensors are installed are presented in Fig. 3. Argo floats have an average lifespan of 3- to 5 years depending on the type of float, and have to be replaced to maintain the global coverage.

| Parameter                     | Scientific use  | Float types  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Salinity</b>               | Ocean circulation, heat and freshwater fluxes, Air-Sea exchanges, Water cycle | <b>Core</b><br><b>Deep</b><br><b>BGC</b>               |
| <b>Temperature</b>            | Ocean circulation, heat and freshwater fluxes, Air-Sea exchanges, Water cycle | <b>Core</b><br><b>Deep</b><br><b>BGC</b>               |
| <b>Oxygen</b>                 | Decrease of oxygenation and oxygen minimum zones, carbon cycle                | <b>Core (some)</b><br><b>Deep (some)</b><br><b>BGC</b> |
| <b>pH</b>                     | Ocean acidification, CO <sub>2</sub> -Uptake                                  | <b>BGC</b>   |
| <b>Nitrate</b>                | Eutrophication, toxic algal blooms, biological productivity                   | <b>BGC</b>   |
| <b>Chlorophyll</b>            | Biological productivity, carbon cycle   | <b>BGC</b>   |
| <b>Suspended particles</b>    | Biological productivity, carbon cycle   | <b>BGC</b>   |
| <b>Downwelling irradiance</b> | Underwater light field, biological productivity, carbon cycle                 | <b>BGC</b>   |

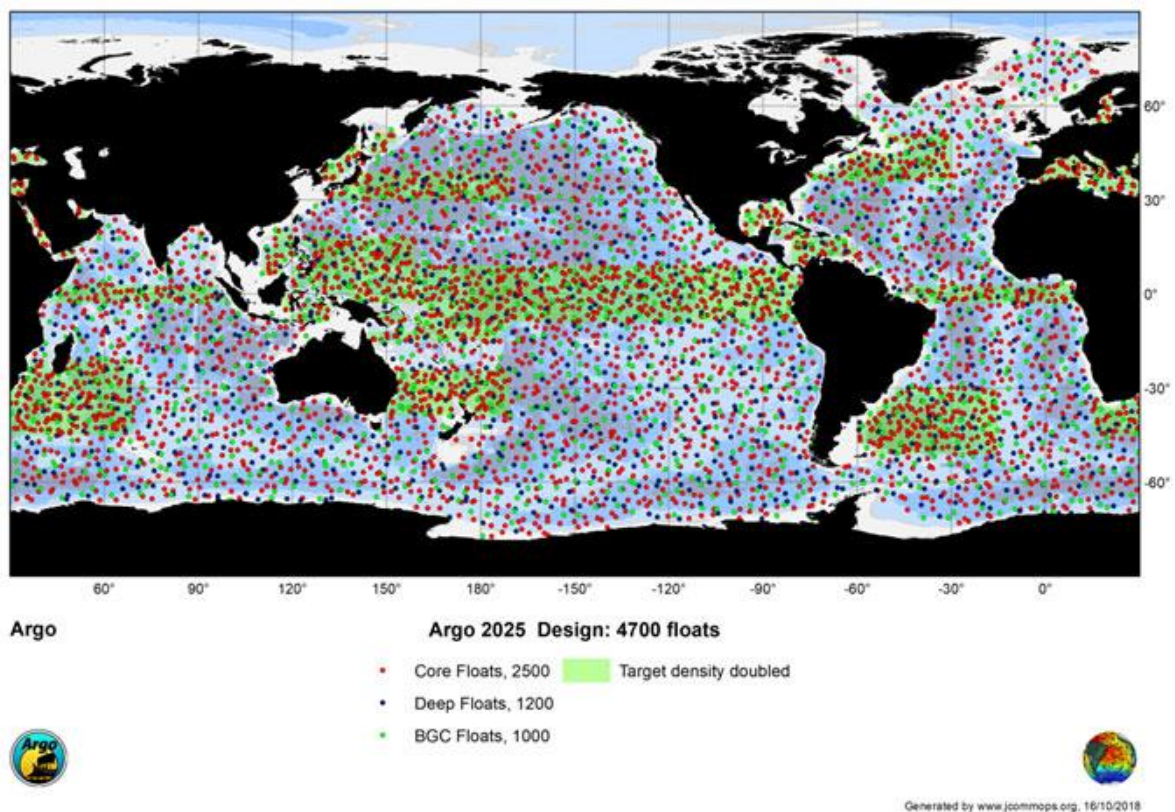
**Fig. 3 Essential ocean variables measured by Argo and their scientific uses.**

The OneArgo design includes four elements:

- Driving towards spatial completeness to include Polar sea-ice zones and marginal seas
- Increasing regional resolution in key areas like the Western Boundary currents and equatorial regions
- The BioGeoChemical (BGC) mission
- The Deep Argo mission

Achieving the full implementation of the design will require an increase of the total number of active floats (4,700 floats for OneArgo compared to 4,000 floats for the initial Core Argo) (Fig. 4).

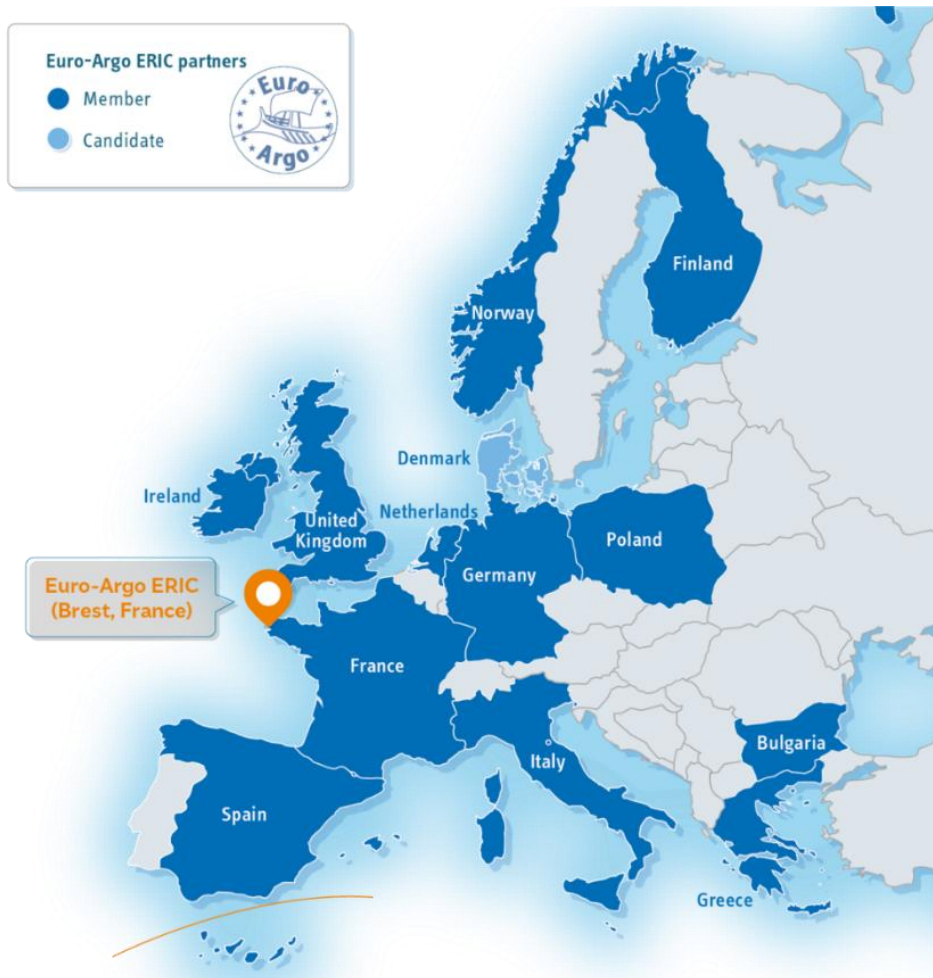
The tentative objective of the Argo community is to reach the implementation of the OneArgo design by 2030. This, however, represents a major challenge in technical, operational and financial terms.



**Fig. 4 Global OneArgo design as foreseen at the horizon 2030.**

### 1.3 The Euro-Argo European Research Infrastructure Consortium (Euro-Argo ERIC)

Euro-Argo is the European contribution to the International Argo Programme. Since 2014, it is coordinated by the Euro-Argo European Research Infrastructure Consortium (Euro-Argo ERIC). The ERIC comprises 12 Member States and one candidate (see Fig. 5). Their national Argo programmes constitute most of the European Argo contribution – a very limited number of floats have been purchased over time via EU-research project funding.



**Fig. 5 Membership of Euro-Argo ERIC**

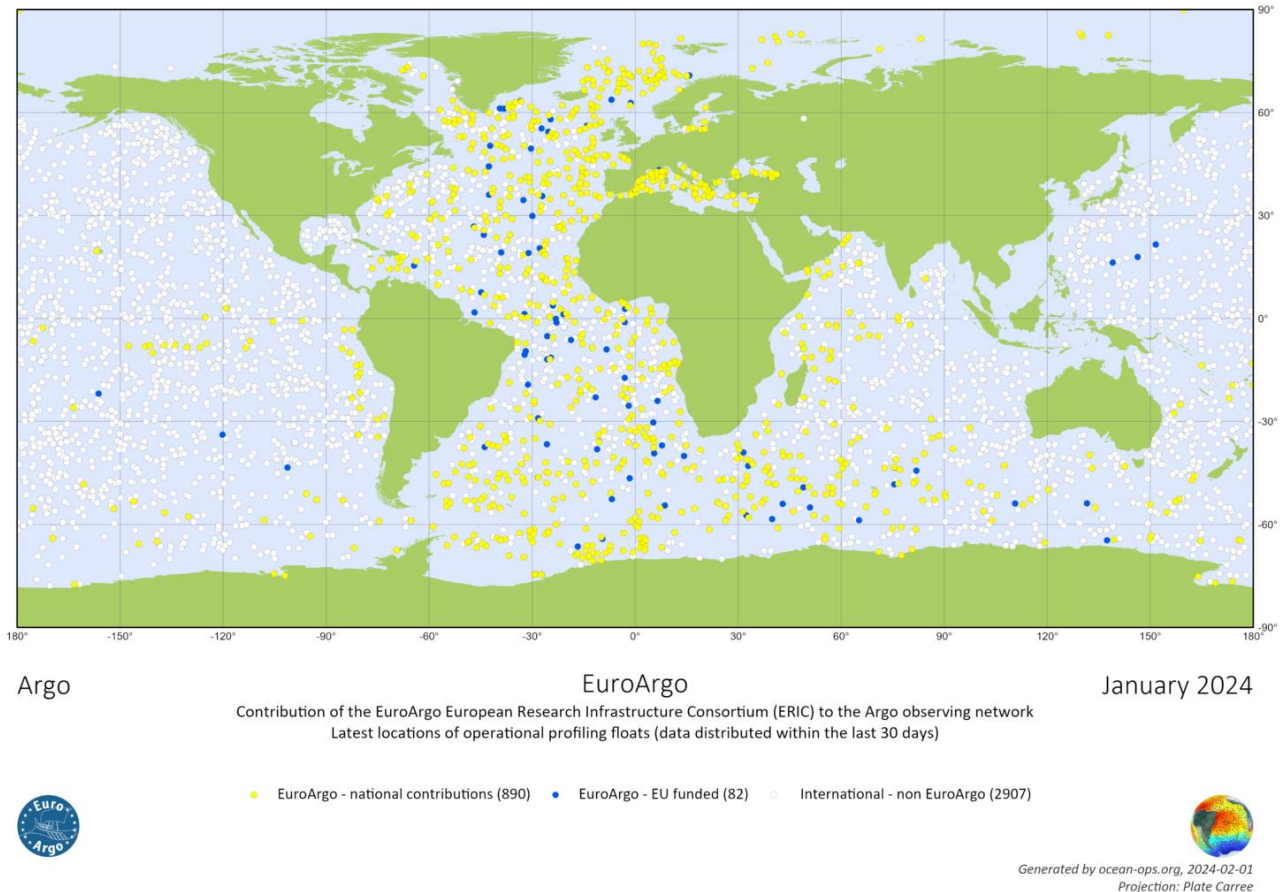
The Euro-Argo objectives, set at the creation of Euro-Argo ERIC in the context of Core Argo, are to:

1. Provide, deploy and operate an array of around 800 floats contributing to the global array (a European contribution of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the global array).
2. Provide enhanced coverage in the European regional seas.
3. Provide quality controlled data and access to the data sets and data products to the research (climate and oceanography) and operational oceanography communities.



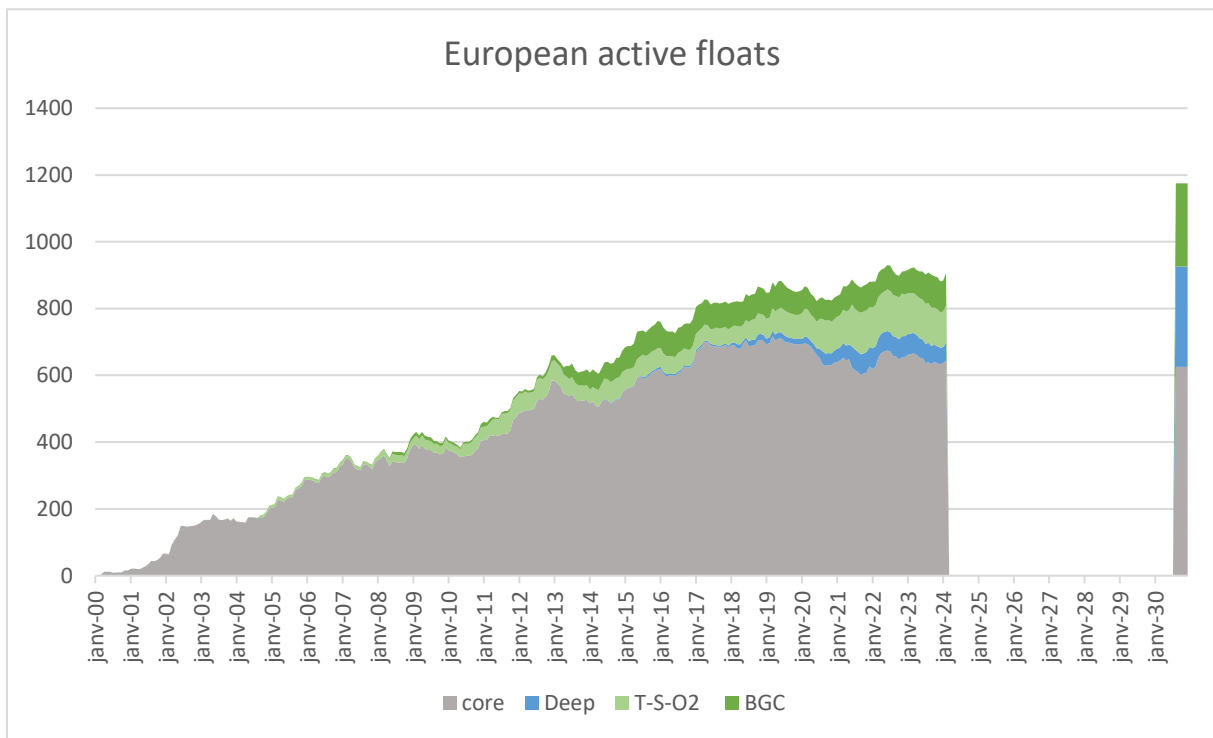
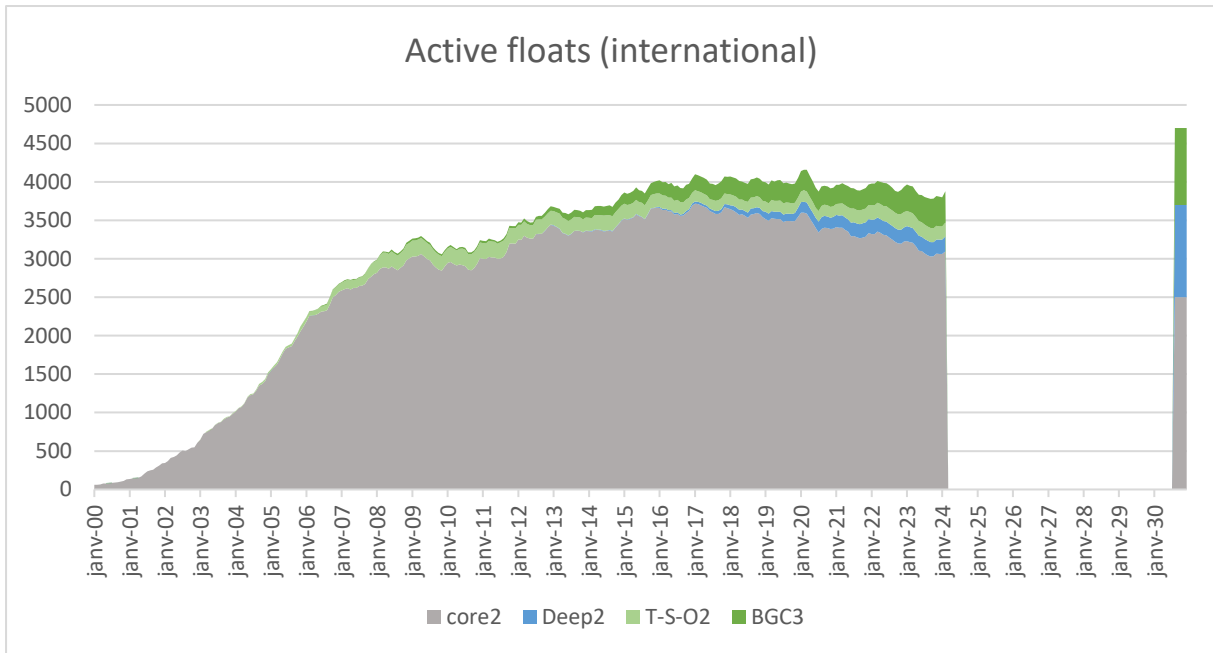
## 1.4 Current status of the OneArgo array implementation

The European objective to cover  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the global array has, so far, been achieved by Euro-Argo (Fig. 6). With the implementation of the new phase of Argo, OneArgo, it will be necessary to increase the number of annual deployments to reach the full OneArgo design.



**Fig 6. Euro-Argo contribution to the global Argo array as of January 2024: 972 active floats out of 3979 (25%)**

The initial Core Argo design was achieved in 2008, with a total of 3000 active floats (Fig 7). The deployment of Deep and BGC floats has started in the 2010's through pilot research projects and the number of active Deep and BGC Argo floats has grown since then, the total number of floats reaching a plateau in 2017-2018. Although much efforts have already been put by Euro-Argo members to start implementing the new OneArgo design (Fig 8), mainly through short-term research projects, the gap towards the OneArgo ambitious targets remains very significant.



**Fig 7. OneArgo implementation as a function of time. Top: international effort. Bottom: European effort. The numbers for the period 2000 to 2024 represent the active floats while, for 2030, they represent the targets to achieve.**

## 1.5 Challenges: Euro-Argo operational funding & sustainability

Beside the technical and operational aspects, the major challenge for the implementation of the OneArgo design is undoubtedly of financial nature. It should be recalled time and again that Euro-Argo ERIC is a research infrastructure. Funding is almost exclusively provided by the ERIC Member States via their national Argo programmes. As their primary mission is to support science and not to answer evolving needs of operational users, funding is primarily research based, which offers little mid- and long-term visibility on the resources that will be available. Consequently also, activities are set according to national priorities and research objectives (in terms of geographic deployments, types of floats and/or variables measured). The implementation of the OneArgo design has been decided by the scientists-driven International Programme and endorsed by Euro-Argo ERIC. It is supported by the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) ('the Ocean Decade') coordinated by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). OneArgo is progressively being implemented since 2020. The objective is to reach the implementation of the full design by 2030 or shortly after. However, whether this objective can be met is highly doubtful. Since 2021, the prices of floats and sensors have increased by more than 30% and the inflation trend is on-going. This inflation has not been compensated by the funders. Most importantly, OneArgo is 3 times more expensive than Core Argo (see Fig. 5). These costs are, by far, not matched by the foreseen national funding.

| Type of deployed floats | 2023 float retail price | International Core Argo Design<br>< 2019 | EU share to be deployed per year (25%) | EURO-ARGO mean annual float depl.<br>2019-2022 | Mean annual cost EURO-ARGO | International OneArgo Design<br>2030 | EU share to be deployed per year (25%) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Core                    | 20.000 €                | 4000                                     | 200                                    | 139  | 2.780.000 €                | 2500                                 | 125                                    |
| Deep -4000m             | 40.000 €                |  |  | 20,25  | 810.000 €                  |                                      |  |
| Deep -6000m             | 80.000 €                |  |  |  |                            | 1200                                 | 75                                     |
| BGC 1-5 variables       | 80.000 €                |  |  | 40,5   | 3.240.000 €                |                                      |  |
| BGC 6 variables         | 120.000 €               |  |  | 7,75   | 930.000 €                  | 1000                                 | 62,5                                   |
| Total                   |                         | 4000                                     | 200                                    | 207,5  | 7.760.000 €                | 4700                                 | 262,5                                  |
| Annual cost EURO-ARGO   |                         |  | 6.960.000 €                            |  | 15.260.000 €               |                                      | 26.883.750 €                           |

**Fig. 5 Costs of the progressive transition from Core Argo to OneArgo.** At current prices and given the commitments of the Euro-Argo ERIC Member States, a funding gap of more than 11 M€ per year can be estimated for the implementation of the full OneArgo design by 2030.

Given the retail price inflation, the drastic funding gap and as a result of national priorities, the level and spatial distribution of Argo data currently available to Copernicus Services is jeopardized at the horizon 2030. Responding to the Copernicus Services' needs through the implementation of the OneArgo design will require large-scale, complementary EU funding. The support of the Copernicus Entrusted Entities will be required for advocating for complementary EU funding. The objective of the workshop for Euro-Argo ERIC is therefore to assess more precisely the needs of Copernicus Entrusted Entities and identify priorities in terms of Argo data (geographical coverage, types of measurements, data quality and vertical resolution, etc.). On the long run, ways to better associate the operational users to the OneArgo array design should be sought.

## 1. Agenda of the workshop

| Tuesday 12 March 2024  |   |
|--|---|
| 14:00  | <p>Welcome Address &amp; Tour de Table</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Pierre-Yves Le Traon &amp; Yann-Hervé De Roeck</i></p>  |
| 14:15  | <p>COINS SC3</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jose Miguel Rubio Iglesias</i></p>  |
| 14:25  | <p>Argo Challenges &amp; Objectives of the Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Yann-Hervé De Roeck</i></p>  |
| <p>Eight thematic sessions will address the Copernicus Services' needs regarding the essential ocean variables measured in OneArgo. The sessions should provide, for each Service, answers to the following questions (where appropriate):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is this variable used/needed for products, CAL/VAL and/or assimilation?</li> <li>2. What is the geographic coverage and density needed?</li> <li>3. Would deep measurements be relevant for this variable?</li> <li>4. Would under-ice measurements be relevant for this variable?</li> <li>5. Should this variable be included if coastal Argo is developed?</li> <li>6. What are your quality control requirements (e.g., in terms of timing)?</li> <li>7. What is the appropriate implementation timing to respond to your Service's needs?</li> </ol> |   |
| 14:45  | Session 1: Temperature  |
| 15:25  | Session 2: Salinity   |
| 16:00  | Coffee Break  |
| 16:30  | Session 3: Oxygen   |
| 17:10  | Session 4: pH   |
| 17:50  | Session 5: Nitrate  |
| 18:30  | End of day 1  |
| Wednesday 13 March 2024  |   |
| 9:00   | Session 6: Chlorophyll  |
| 9:40   | Session 7: Suspended Particles  |
| 10:20  | Session 8: Downwelling Irradiance   |
| 11:00  | Coffee Break  |
| 11:30  | <p>Additional Copernicus Services' needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional variables not measured currently (e.g., hyperspectral radiometry)</li> <li>• Operational refinements (e.g., measurements at or near the ocean surface)</li> <li>• Coastal Argo? Others?</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Moderation: Hervé Claustre</i></p> |
| 12:30  | <p>Variables priority ranking for the Copernicus Services</p> <p>Wrap-up &amp; Concluding Remarks</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Yann-Hervé De Roeck &amp; Henrik Steen Andersen</i></p>  |
| 13:00  | End of the workshop   |



## 2. Provisional List of Participants

### Mercator Ocean International:

- Pierre-Yves Le Traon ([pletraon@mercator-ocean.fr](mailto:pletraon@mercator-ocean.fr))
- Antonio Repucci ([areppucci@mercator-ocean.fr](mailto:areppucci@mercator-ocean.fr))
- Representatives of Marine Forecasting Centres
- Representative of in-situ and Mobs TACs

### EUMETSAT:

- Thierry Marbach ([Thierry.Marbach@eumetsat.int](mailto:Thierry.Marbach@eumetsat.int))

### ECMWF:

- Hao Zuo ([hao.zuo@ecmwf.int](mailto:hao.zuo@ecmwf.int))
- Richard Engelen ([richard.engelen@ecmwf.int](mailto:richard.engelen@ecmwf.int)) – invited

### ESA:

- Jerome Bouffard ([jerome.bouffard@esa.int](mailto:jerome.bouffard@esa.int))

### Euro-Argo ERIC:

- Yann-Hervé De Roeck ([Yann.Herve.De.Roeck@euro-argo.eu](mailto:Yann.Herve.De.Roeck@euro-argo.eu))
- Claire Gourcuff' ([claire.gourcuff@euro-argo.eu](mailto:claire.gourcuff@euro-argo.eu))
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### COINS/EEA:

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