



Thirty years of GO-SHIP and WOCE data: Atlantic overturning of mass, heat, freshwater, and anthropogenic Carbon transport

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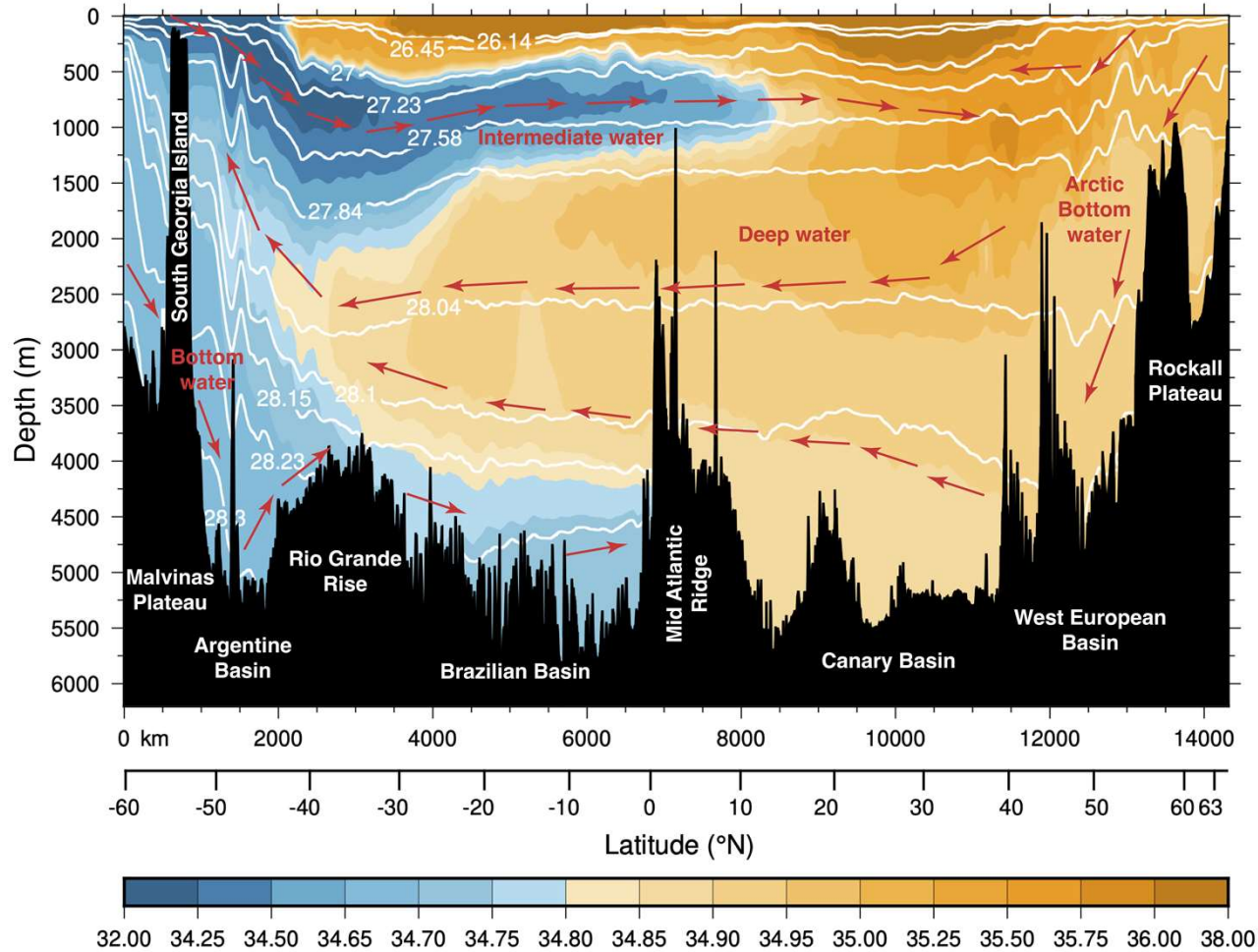
ICARUS – Maynooth University: Gerard McCarthy

**7th Summer School on Theory, Mechanisms and Hierarchical Modelling of Climate Dynamics
Estimating Ocean Transports: Single Sections, Box Models and Reanalysis Products
ICTP Trieste, Italy | 29 June - 11 July, 2026**

- **Introduction**
- AMOC: overturning of mass, heat, freshwater
- Atlantic budget of Anthropogenic Carbon (C_{anth})

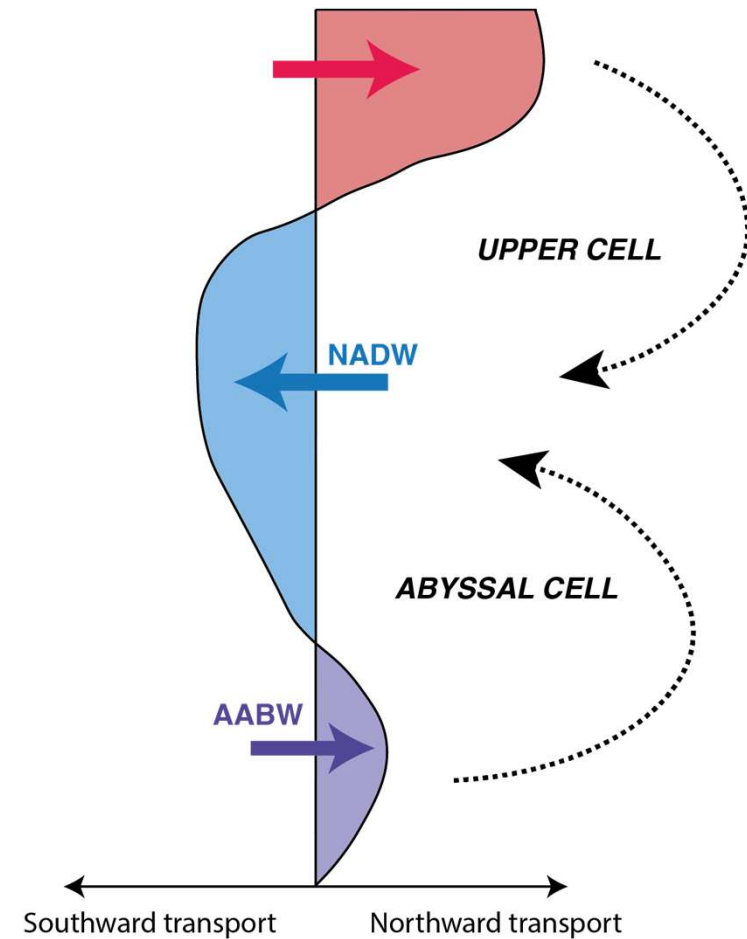
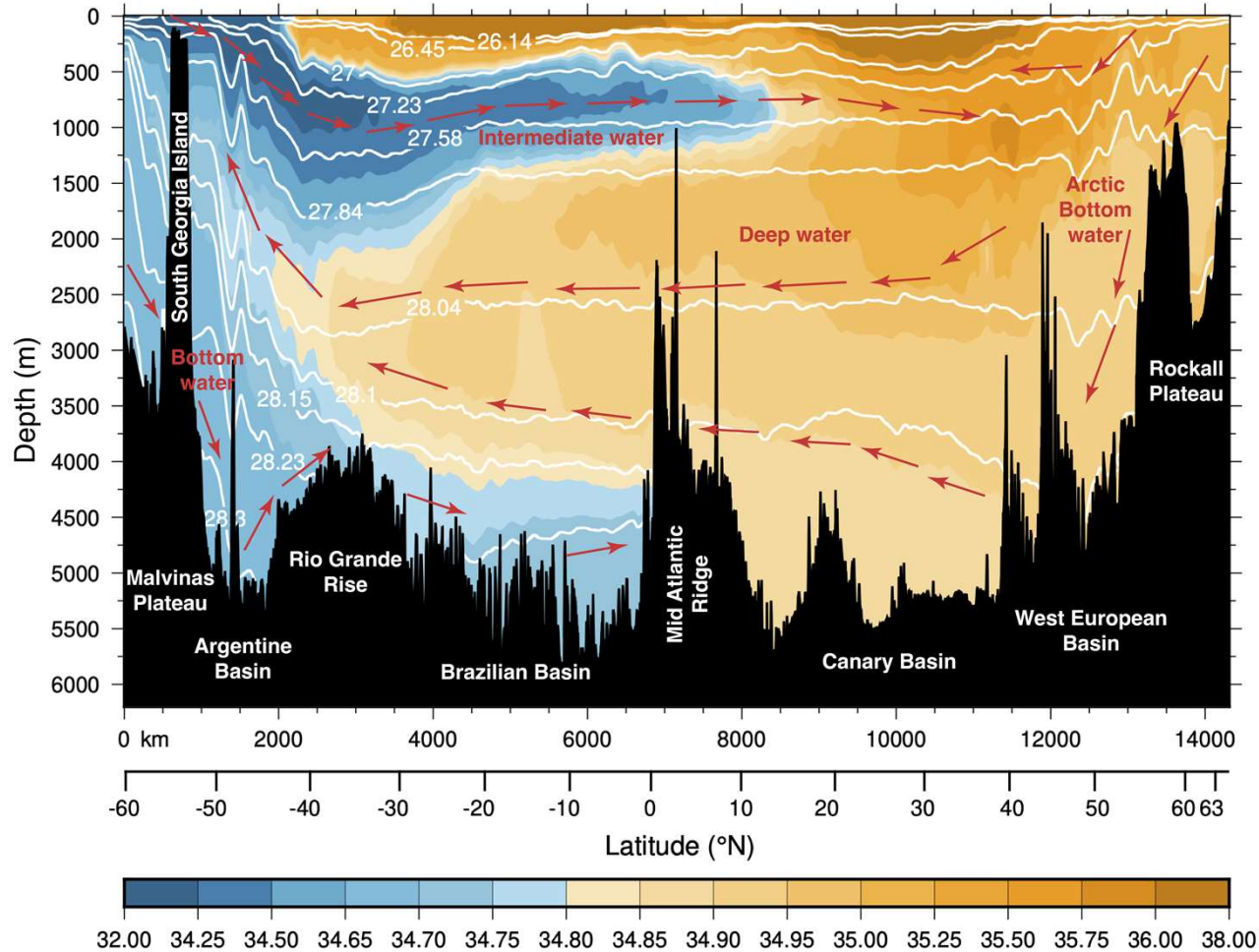
Introduction AMOC definition

The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation



Introduction AMOC definition

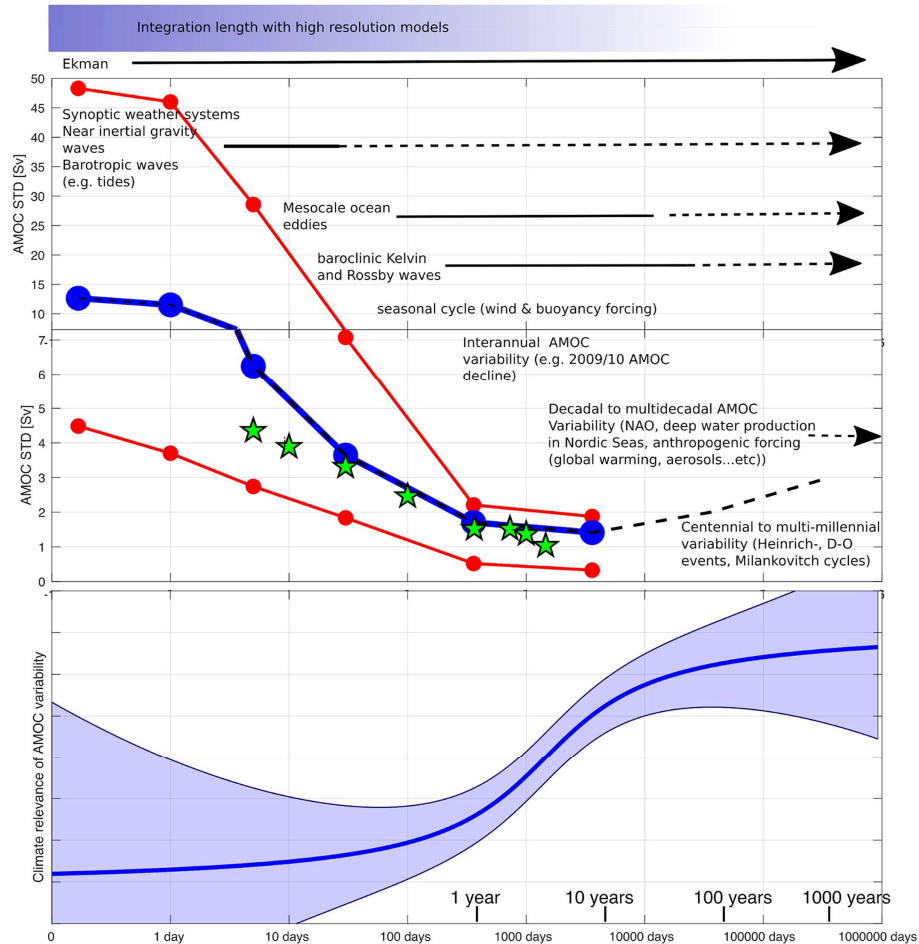
The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation



Adapted from Kersalé et al., 2020

Introduction AMOC variability

Timescales of AMOC variability



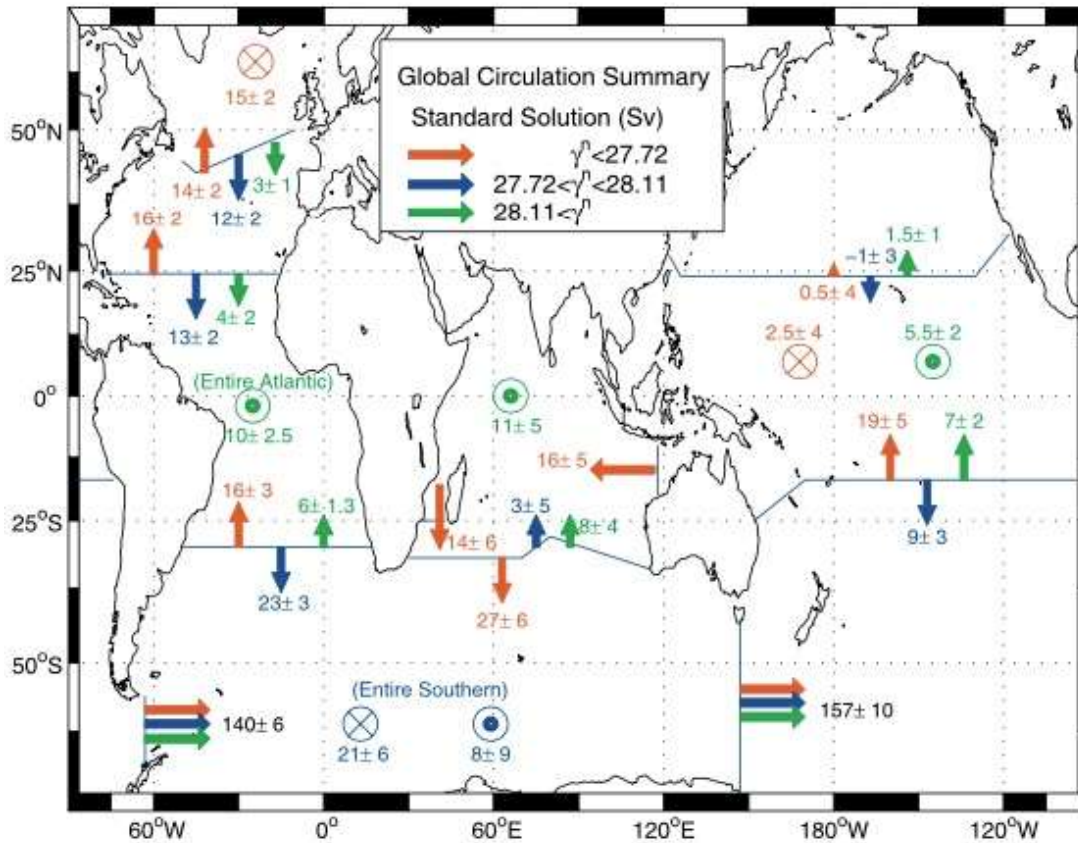
Hirschi et al. 2020

Region-dependent

Subtropics: - wind forcing at higher frequencies
 - buoyancy forcing at lower frequencies

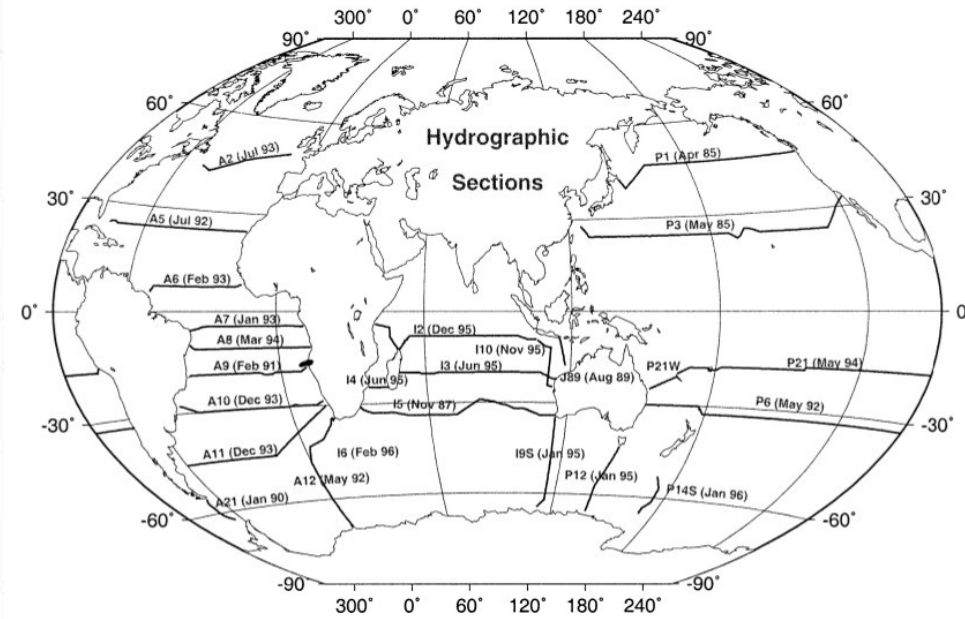
SPNA: - buoyancy and wind forcing at low frequencies
 (linked to NAO)

MOC quantified with hydrographic data



Ganachaud, 2003

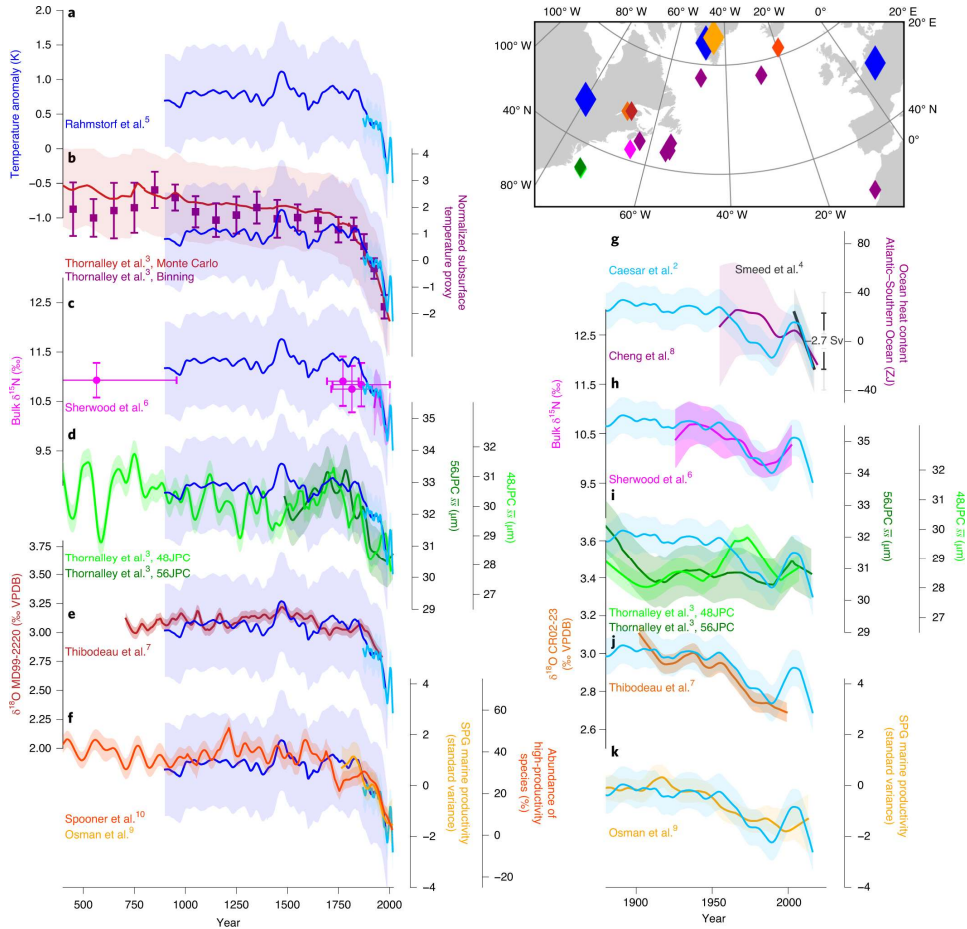
World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE) program



Ganachaud & Wunsch, 2003

Introduction Reconstructions & projections

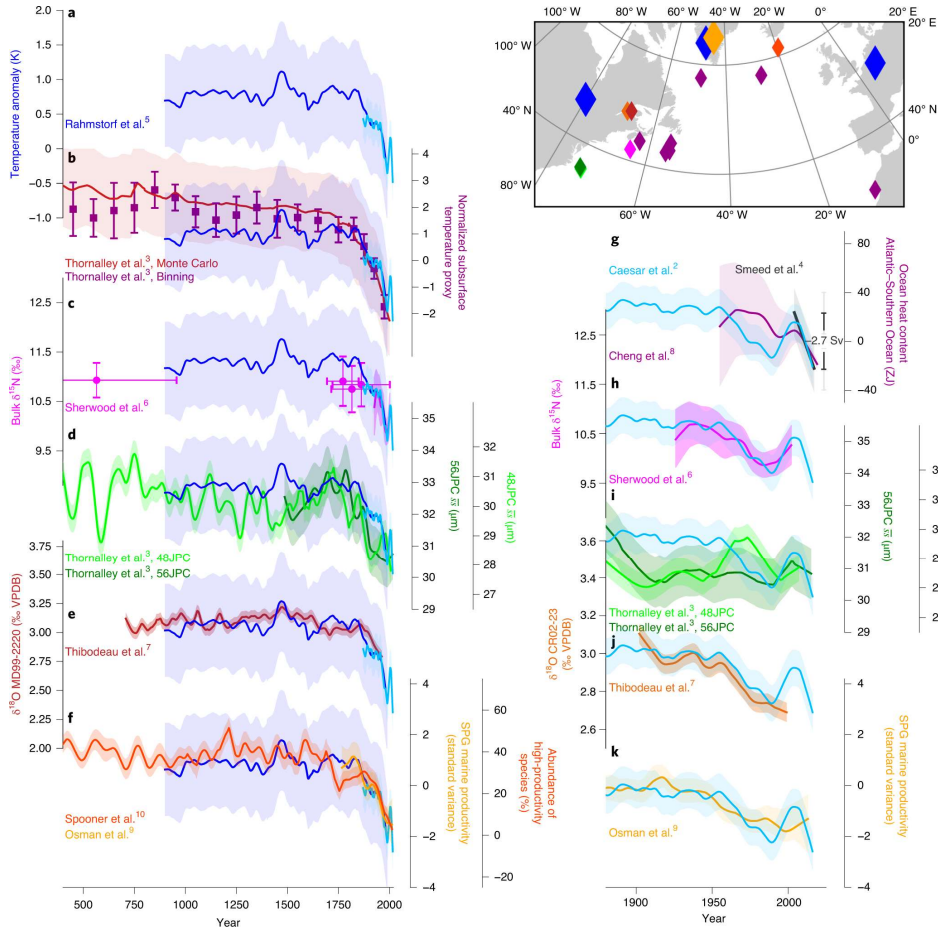
AMOC reconstruction with proxies



Caesar et al. 2021

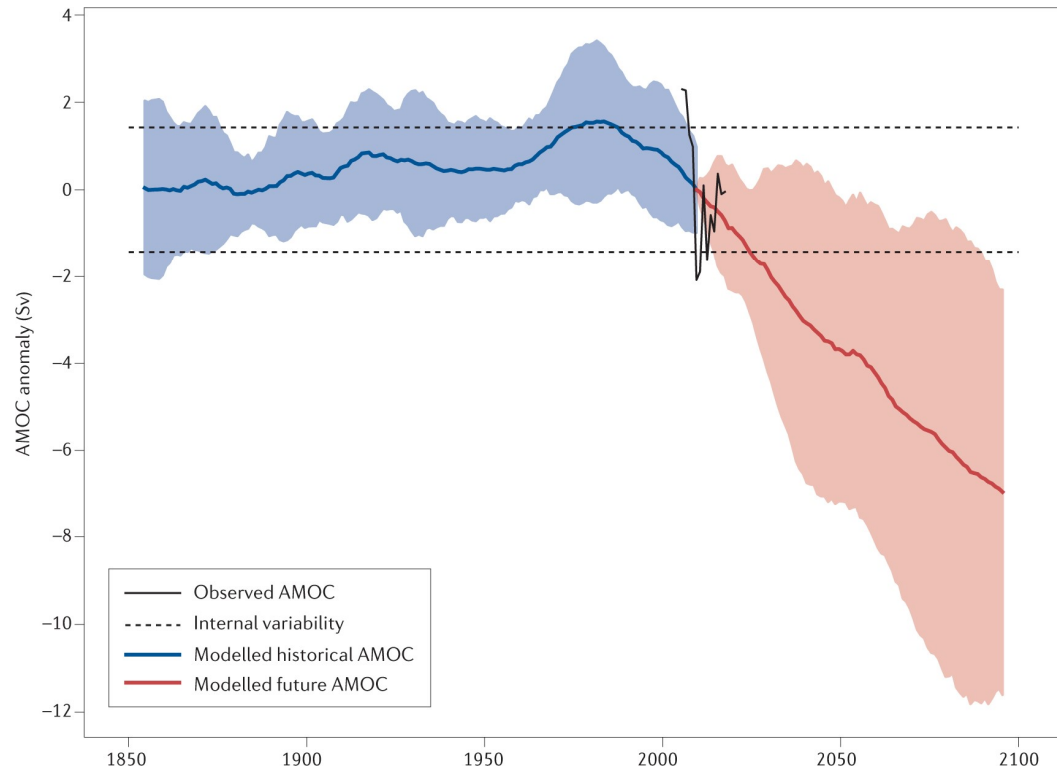
Introduction Reconstructions & projections

AMOC reconstruction with proxies



Caesar et al. 2021

AMOC projections with models

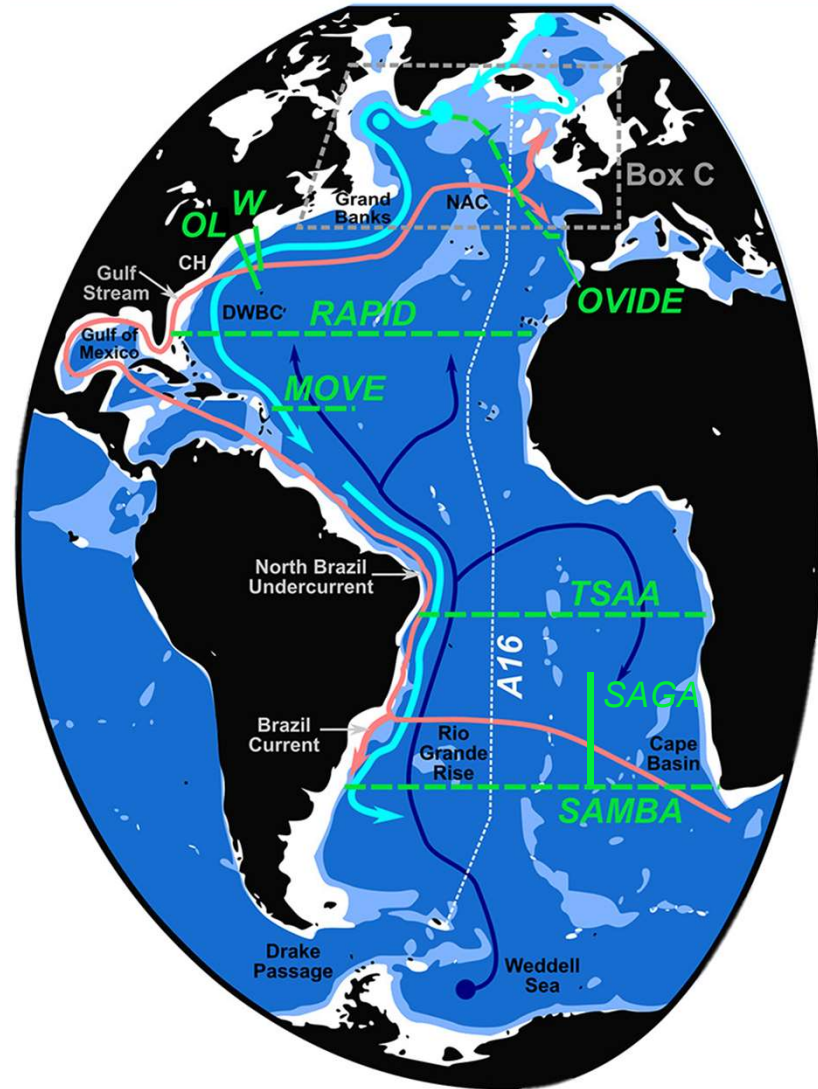
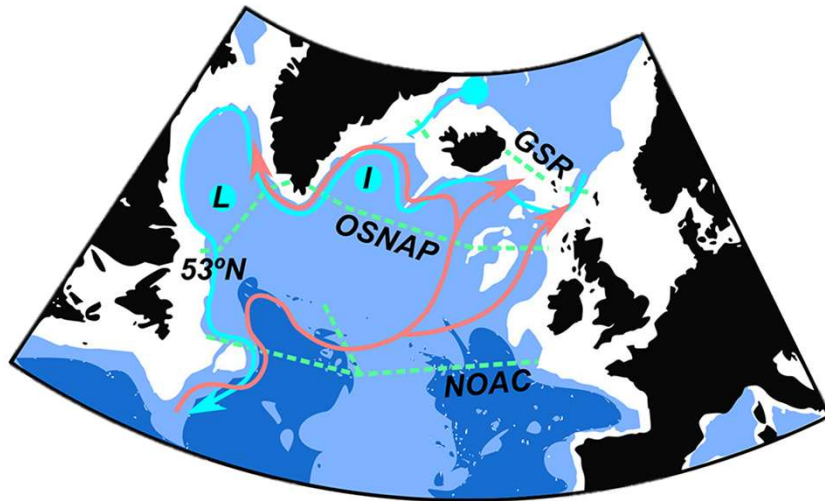


Jackson et al. 2022

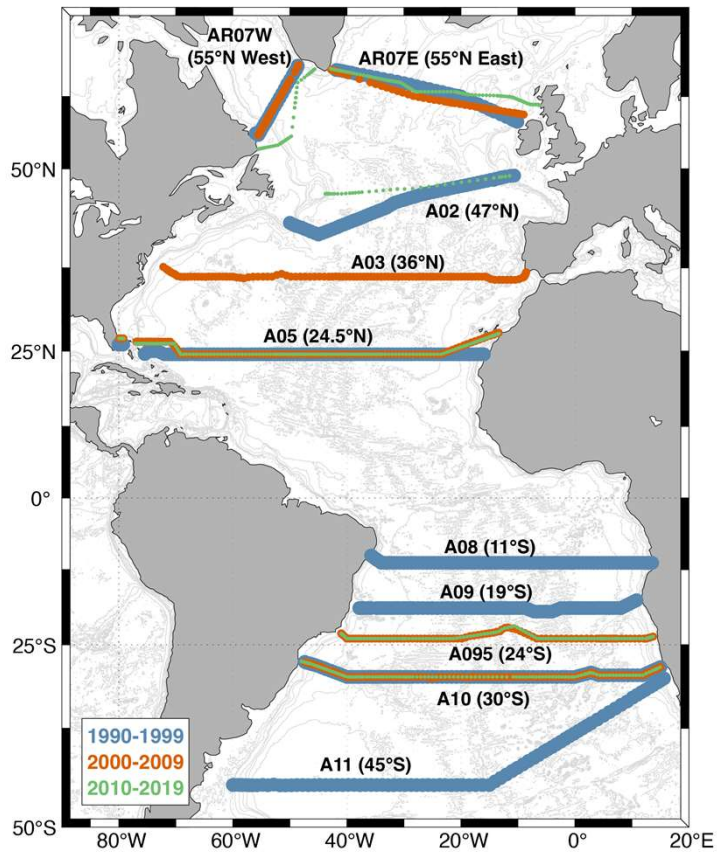
Outline

- Introduction
- **AMOC: overturning of mass, heat, freshwater**
Caínzos et al., 2022 (*GRL*)
- Atlantic budget of Anthropogenic Carbon (C_{anth})

AMOC monitoring

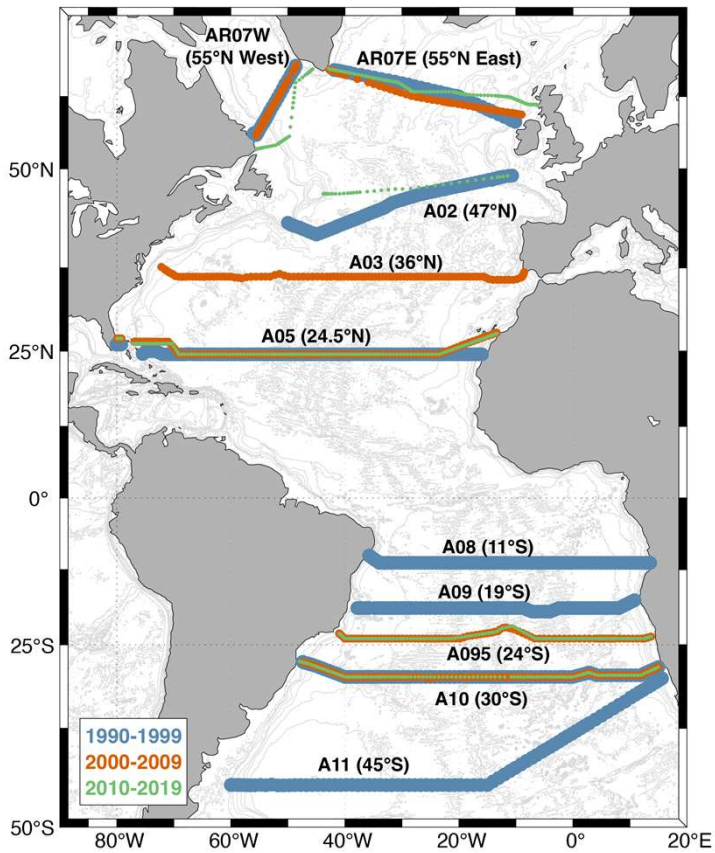


Three inversions for the last three decades: WOCE & GO-SHIP data

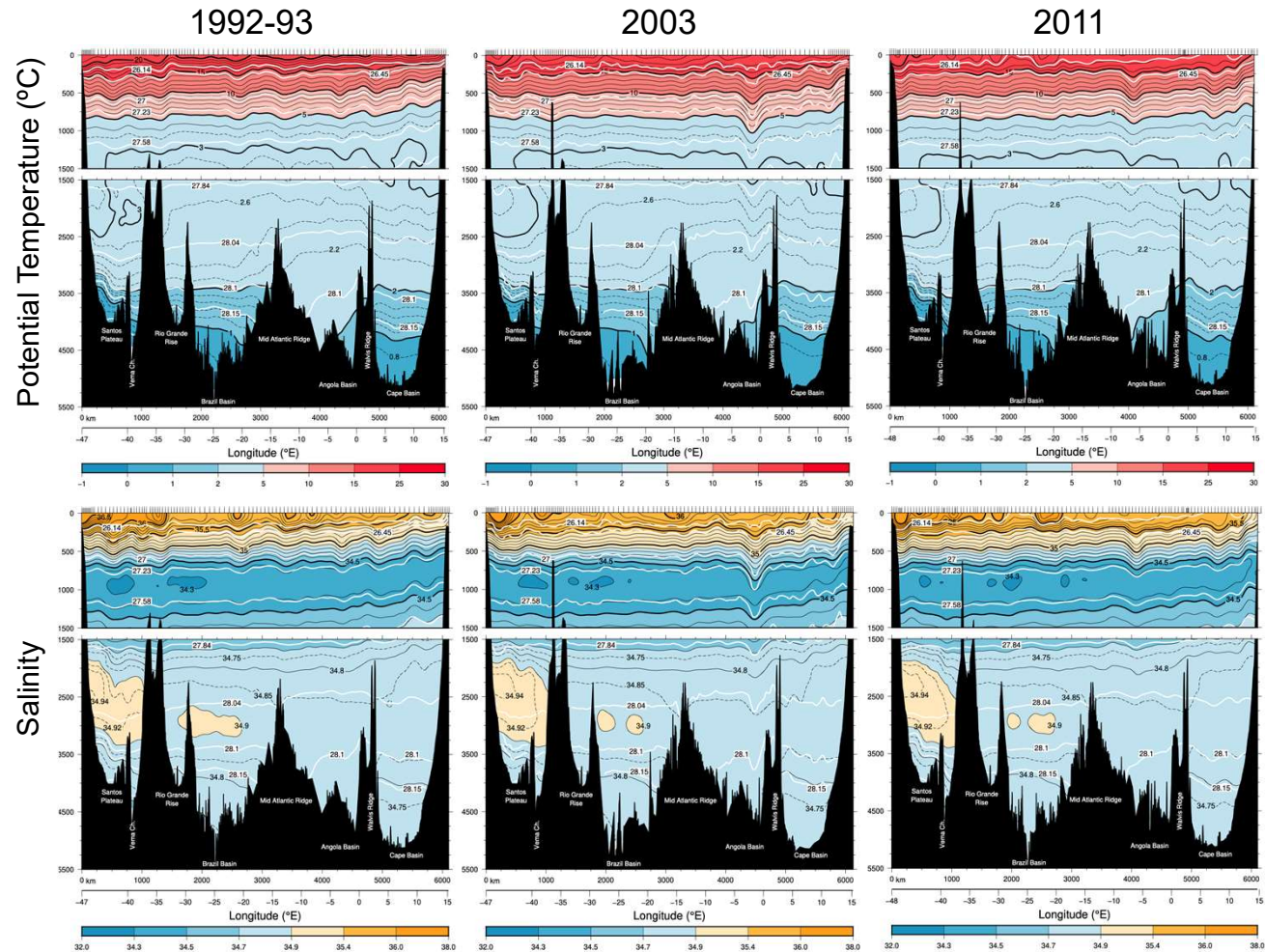


AMOC: mass, heat and freshwater transports Data

Three inversions for the last three decades: WOCE & GO-SHIP data



Vertical sections A10 – 30°S



Inverse modelling - MASS + SALT

Total conservation for each box
(both sections)

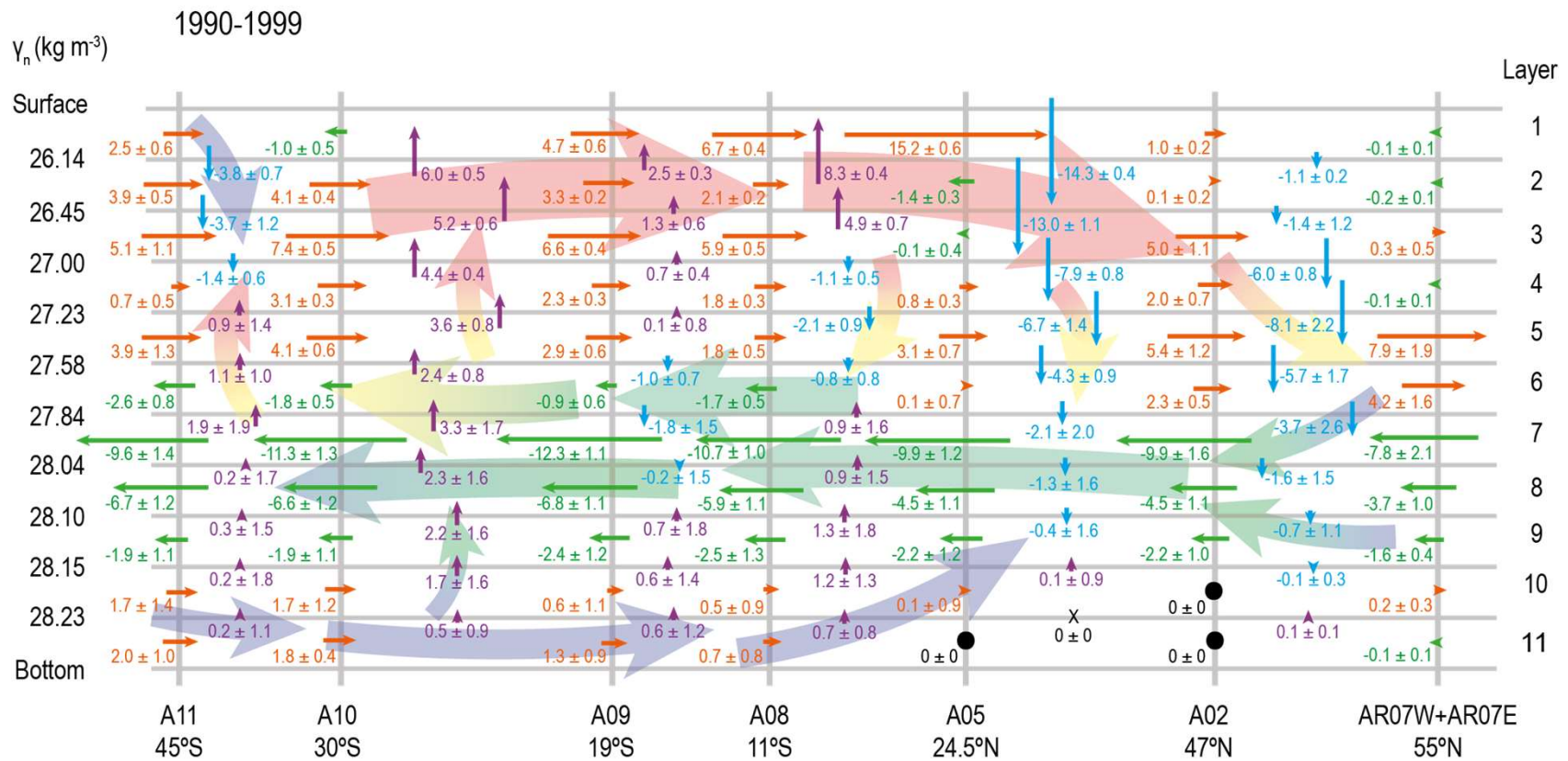
$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{Regional constraints} \\
 \text{for each section} \\
 \\
 \text{Conservation for each} \\
 \text{layer (both sections)} \\
 \\
 \text{Total conservation} \\
 \text{for each section}
 \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 e_{A_{t,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{t,n}} & e_{B_{t,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{t,m}} & 1 & 1 \\
 e_{A_{reg}} & \dots & e_{A_{reg}} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & e_{B_{reg}} & \dots & e_{B_{reg}} & 0 & 0 \\
 e_{A_{1,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{1,n}} & e_{B_{1,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{1,n}} & 1 & 1 \\
 e_{A_{2,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{2,n}} & e_{B_{2,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{2,n}} & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 e_{A_{q-1,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{q-1,n}} & e_{B_{q-1,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{q-1,n}} & 0 & 0 \\
 e_{A_{q,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{q,n}} & e_{B_{q,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{q,n}} & 0 & 0 \\
 \\
 s_{A_{t,1}} & \dots & s_{A_{t,n}} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \overline{\left(\frac{s_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right)} & 0 \\
 \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & s_{B_{t,1}} & \dots & s_{B_{t,m}} & 0 & \overline{\left(\frac{s_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right)}
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 b_{A_1} \\
 \vdots \\
 b_{A_n} \\
 b_{B_1} \\
 \vdots \\
 b_{B_m} \\
 \Delta T_{AEk} \\
 \Delta T_{BEk}
 \end{pmatrix}
 =
 \begin{pmatrix}
 y_{A_t} + y_{B_t} + T_{AEk} + T_{BEk} \\
 y_{A_{reg}} \\
 y_{B_{reg}} \\
 y_{A_1} + y_{B_1} + T_{AEk} + T_{BEk} \\
 y_{A_2} + y_{B_2} \\
 \vdots \\
 y_{A_{q-1}} + y_{B_{q-1}} \\
 y_{A_q} + y_{B_q} \\
 \\
 z_t + T_{AEk} \cdot \overline{\left(\frac{s_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right)} \\
 \\
 z_{B_t} + T_{BEk} \cdot \overline{\left(\frac{s_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right)}
 \end{pmatrix}$$

e: mass *y*: mass transport
s: salt *z*: salt transport

b: reference velocities
 ΔT_{Ek} : Ekman correction
 T_{Ek} : Ekman transport

n: number of pair of stations for section A
m: number of pair of stations for section B
q: number of layers (11)

Two counter-rotating overturning cells

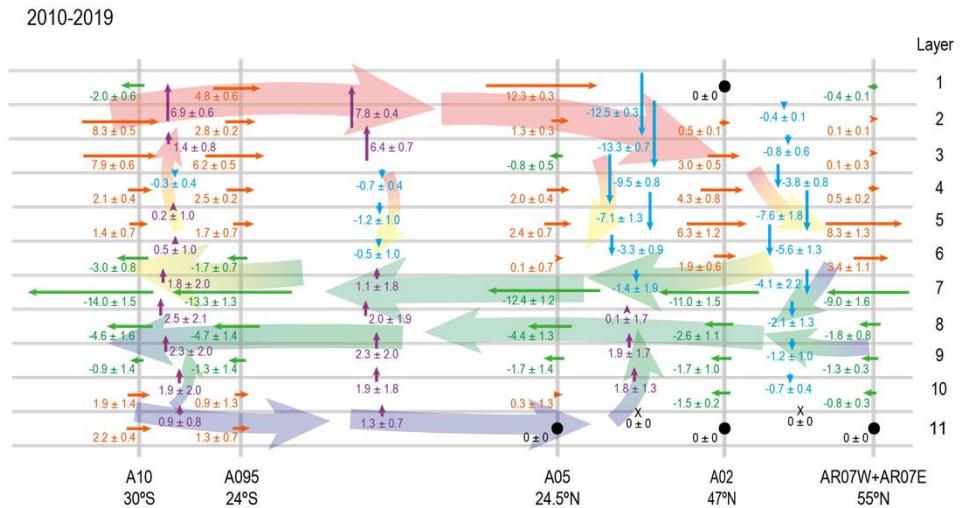
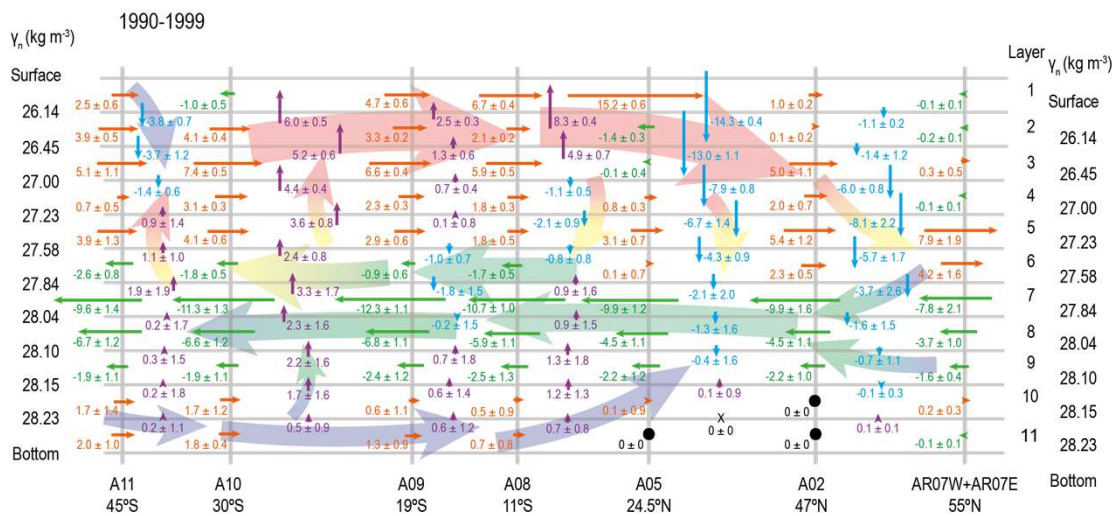
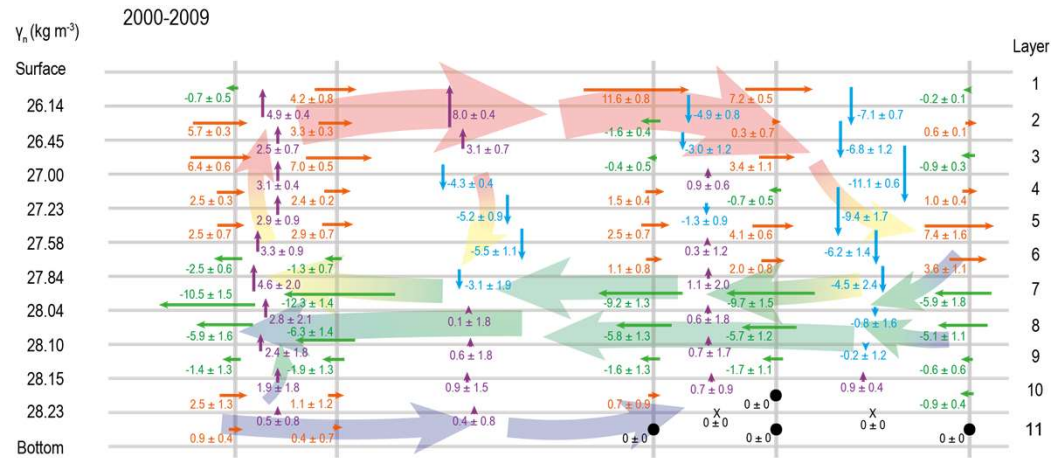


AMOC: mass, heat and freshwater transports Results & Discussion

Two counter-rotating overturning cells

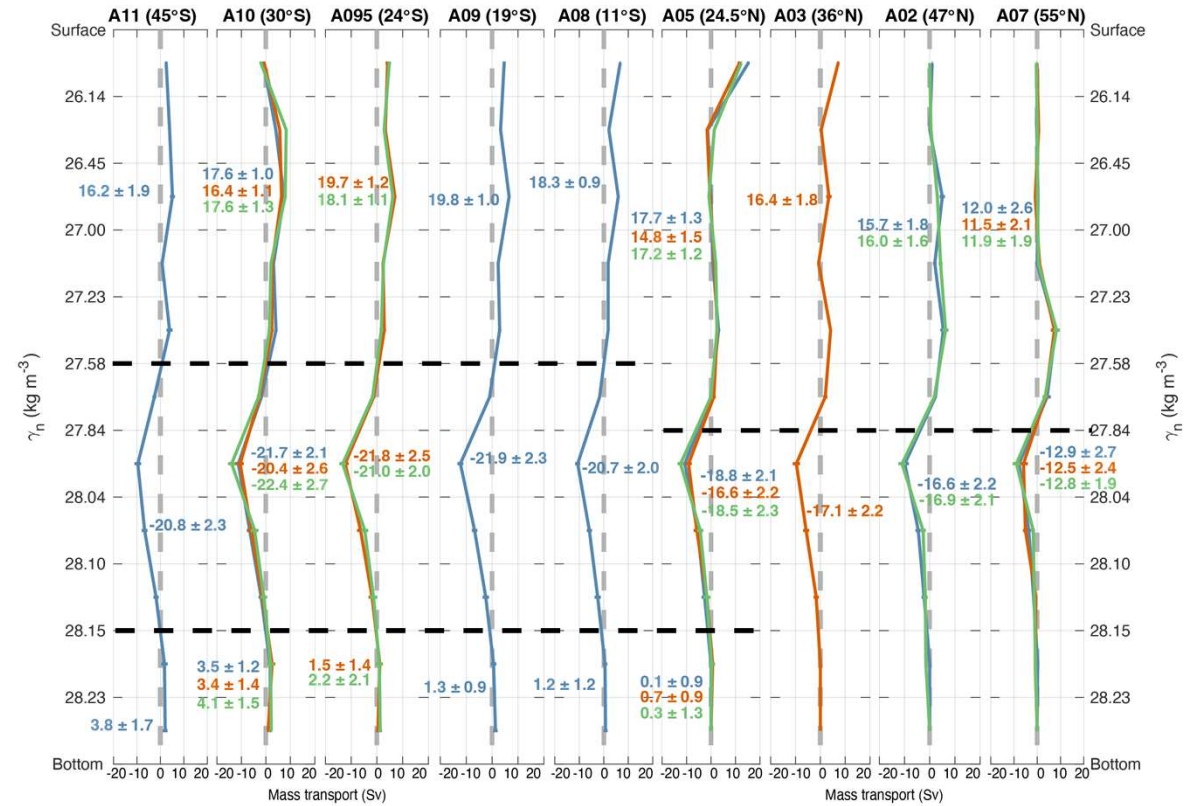
Upwelling in South Atlantic subtropical gyre

Downwelling in North Atlantic subtropical gyre and SPNA



AMOC: mass, heat and freshwater transports Results & Discussion

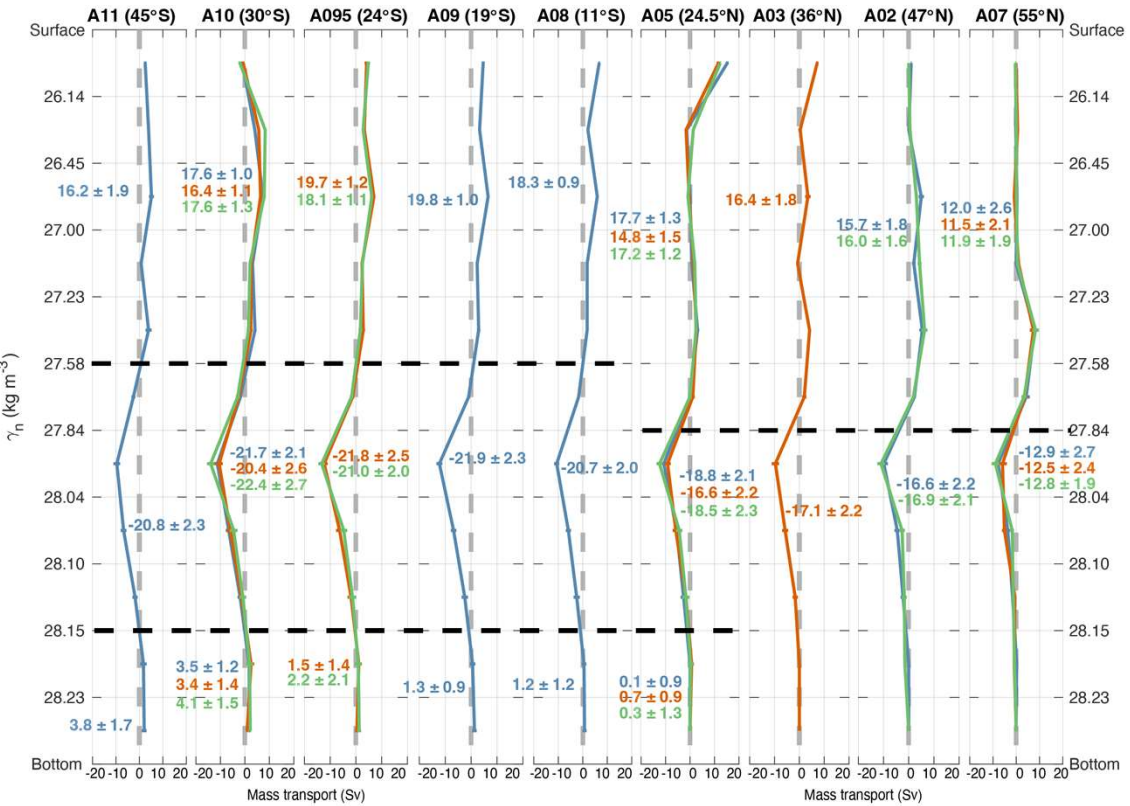
No significant trends for AMOC at any latitude for the last three decades



1990-1999 2000-2009 2010-2019

AMOC: mass, heat and freshwater transports Results & Discussion

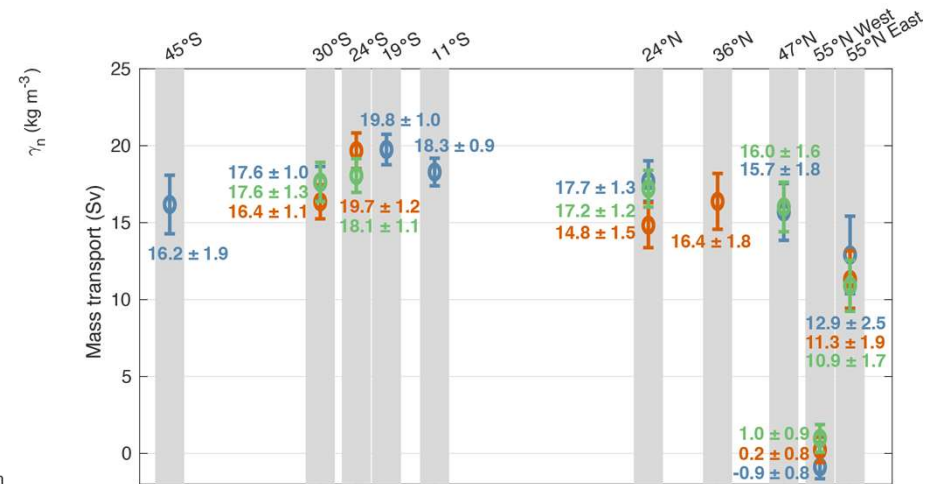
No significant trends for AMOC at any latitude for the last three decades



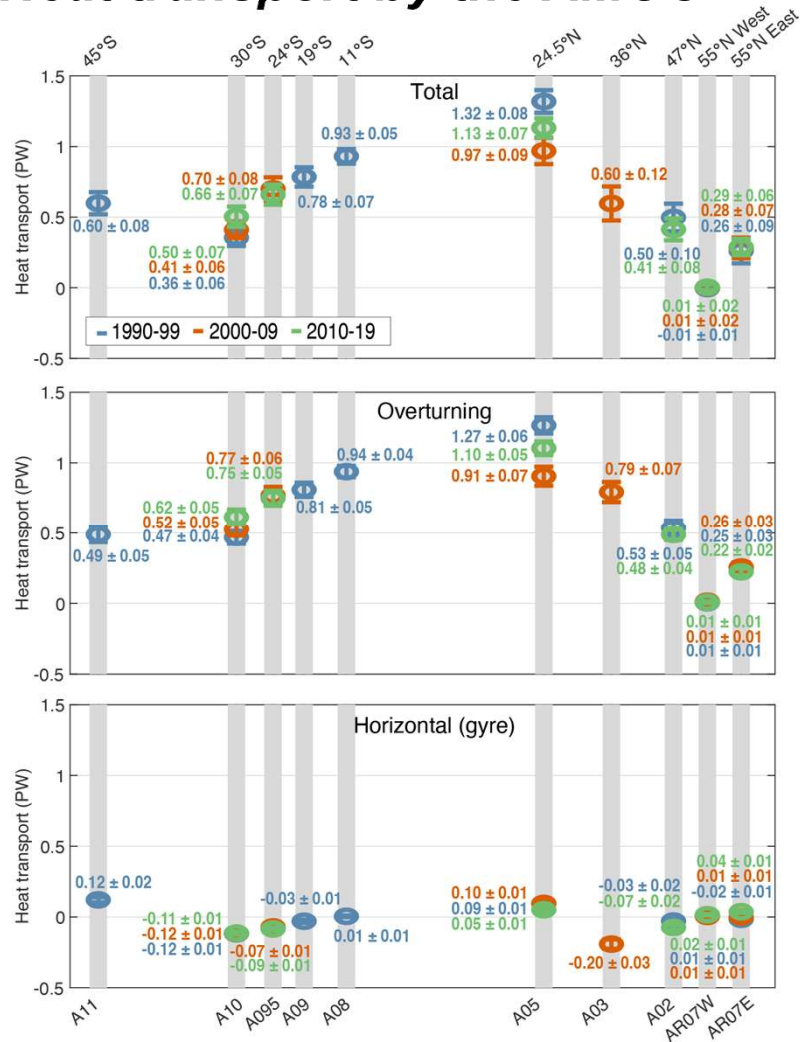
1990-1999 2000-2009 2010-2019

Results for OSNAP line:

**Constant weak transport in Labrador Sea
Eastern basin is major contributor to AMOC**



Heat transport by the AMOC



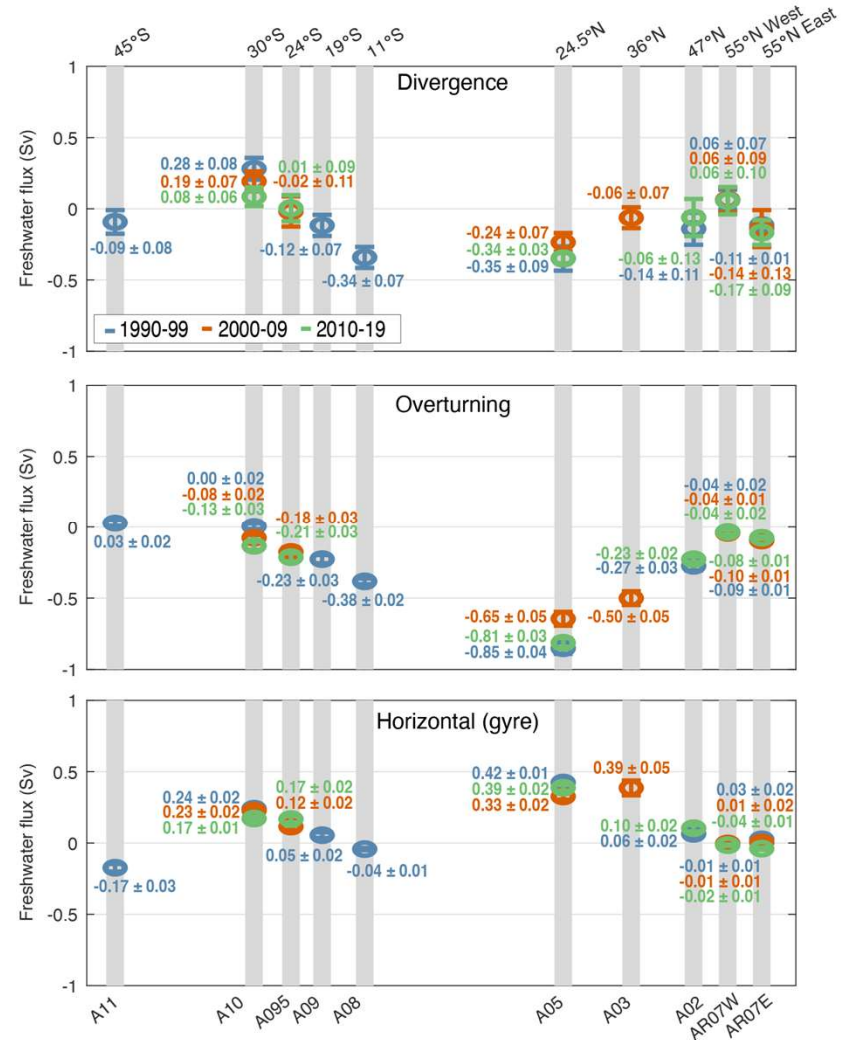
Overturning heat transport, which represents changes in the meridional structure of the water column, dominates the total heat transport and increases equatorward

The horizontal or gyre present constant values across all latitudes and through the decades of this study.

Freshwater transport by the AMOC

The freshwater overturning component presents a stronger southward transport in the sections close to the equator. The south Atlantic subtropical gyre presents low values of overturning freshwater flux at 30°S, with values close to zero at this latitude.

The horizontal or gyre freshwater flux displays a higher northward freshwater flux in the sections that occupy the subtropical gyres, with similar values for all decades.

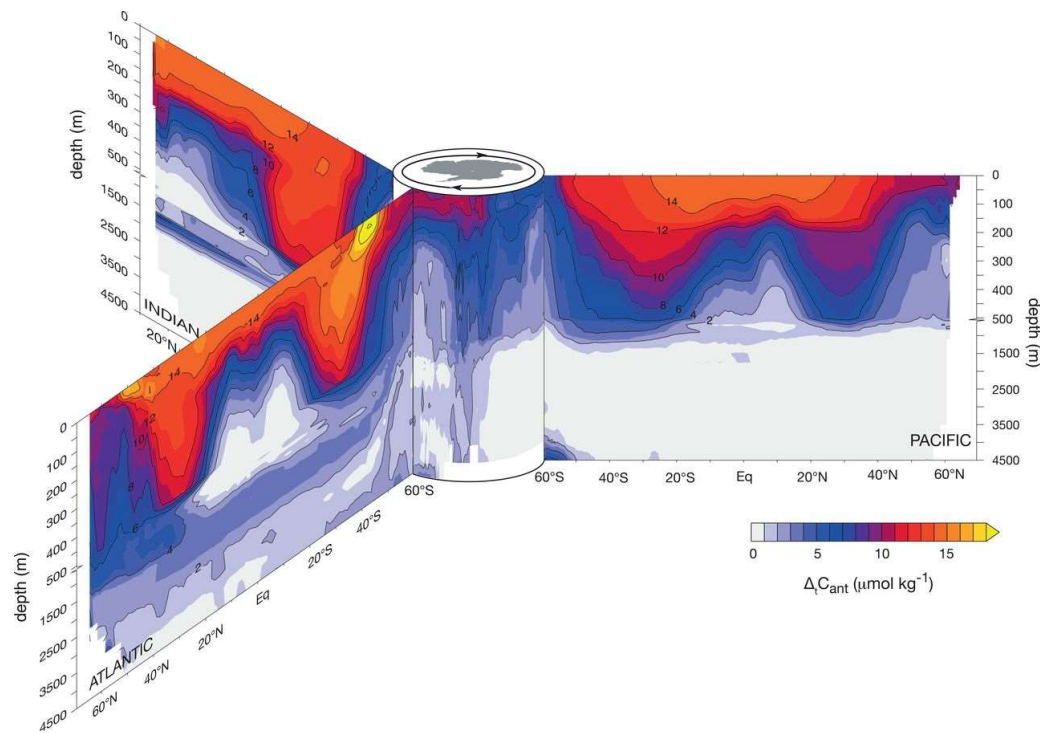


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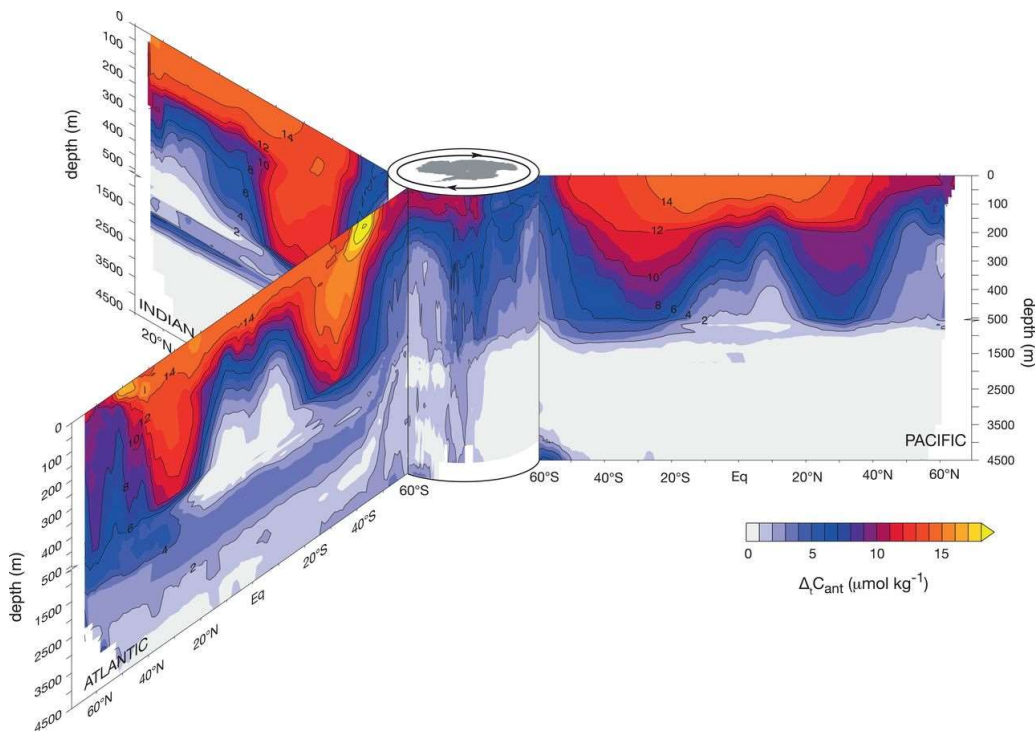
Caínzos et al., 2022 (*GBC*)

The change of Anthropogenic carbon transport in the ocean

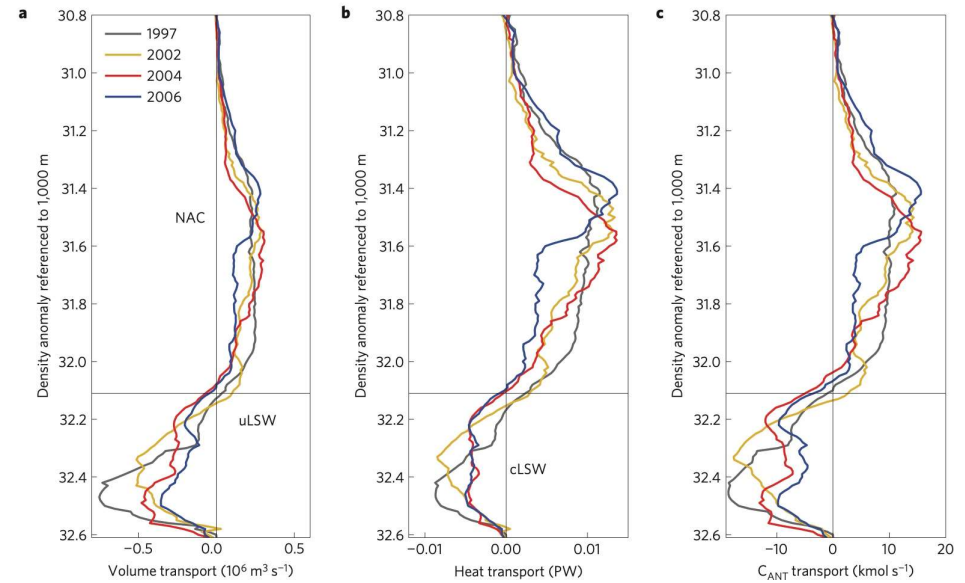


Gruber et al., 2019

The change of Anthropogenic carbon transport in the ocean



Gruber et al., 2019



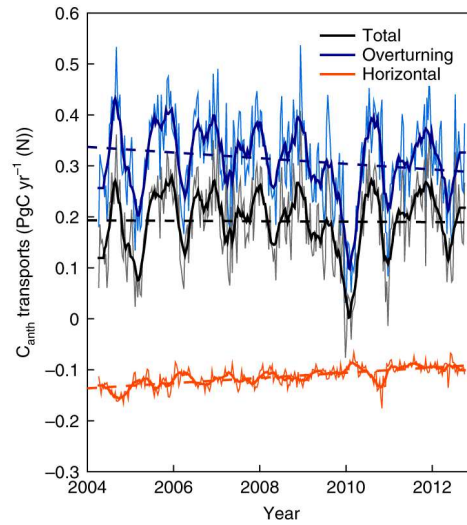
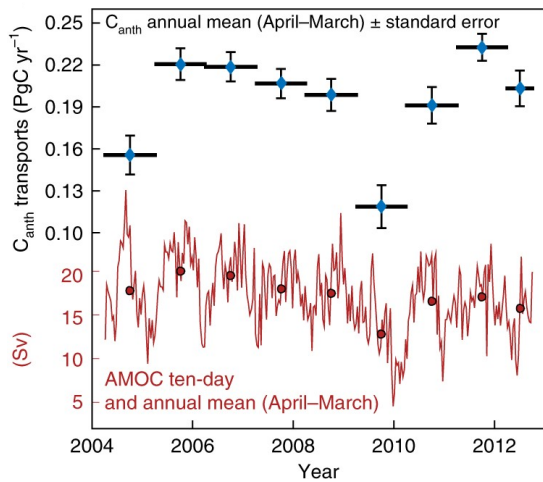
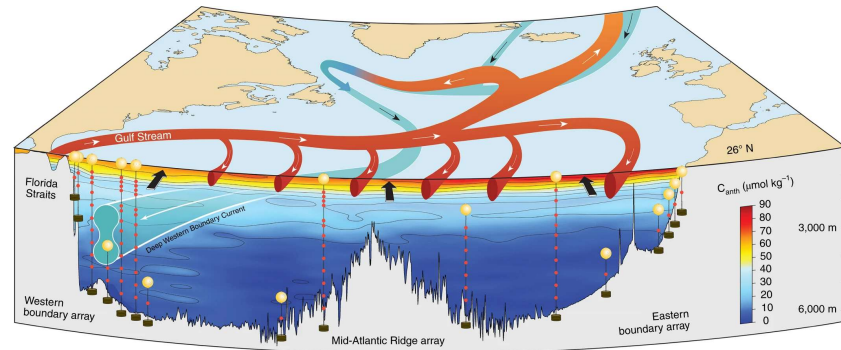
Positive correlation between intensity of AMOC and C_{anth} storage rate in the SPNA

Pérez et al., 2013

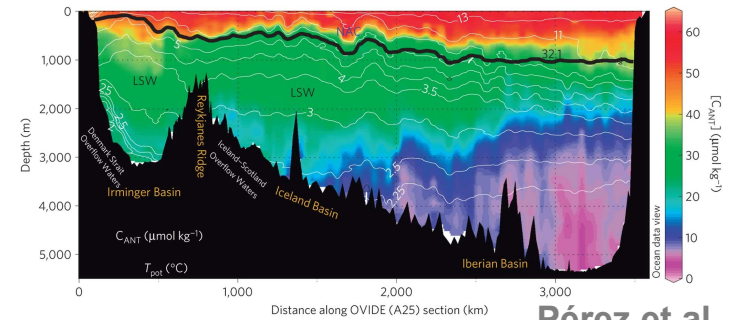
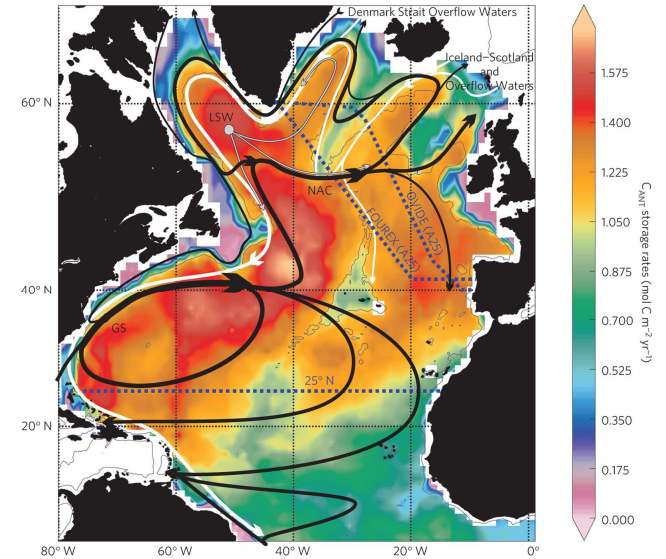
Atlantic C_{anth} transport Introduction

Anthropogenic carbon transport with monitoring arrays

RAPID/MOCHA/WBTS



OVIDE



Brown et al., 2021

Pérez et al., 2013

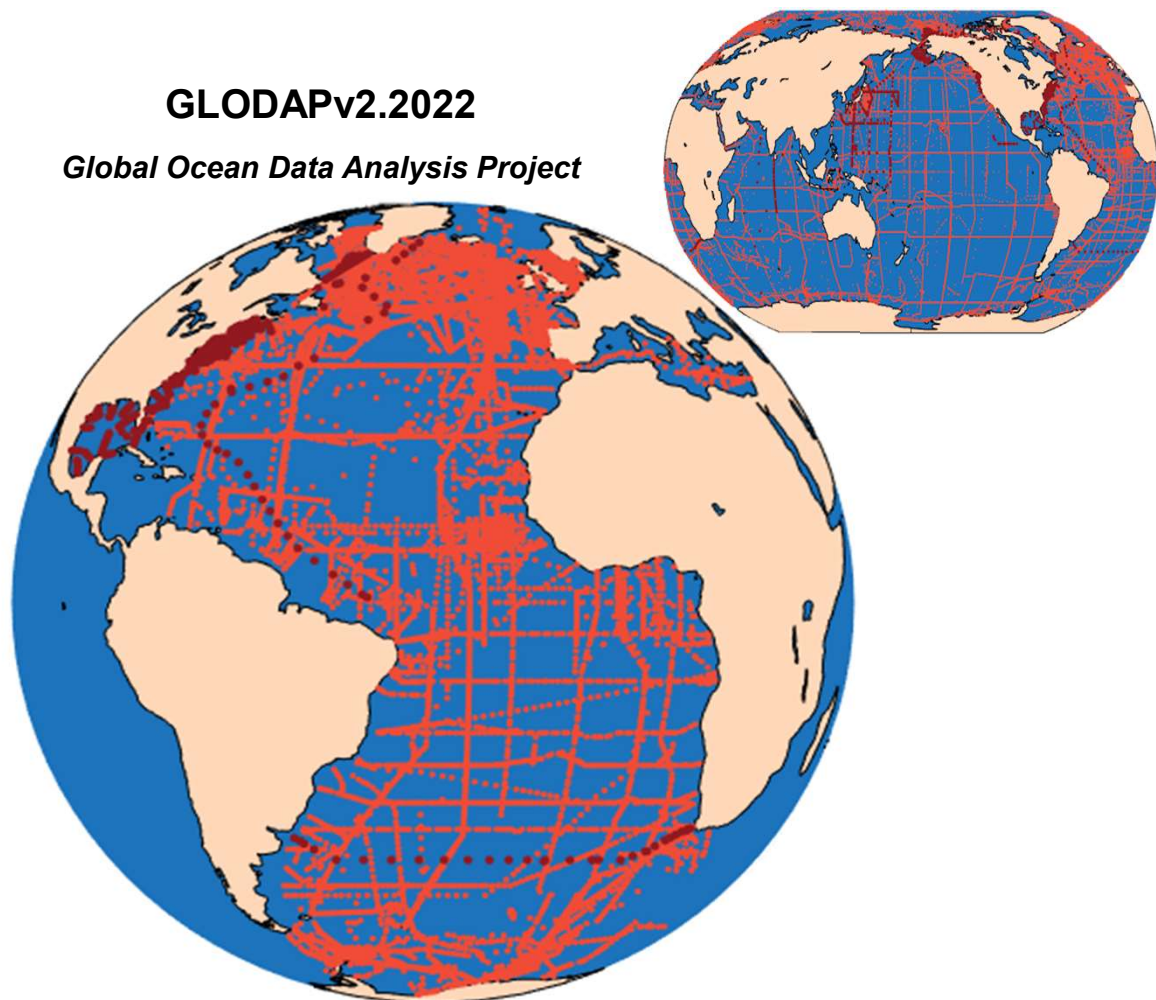
Atlantic C_{anth} transport Data

Biogeochemical data

Latitude	Section	Year	Code	Dataset
45°S	A11	1992	74DI19921222	GLODAPv2
30°S	A10	1992-93	06MT19921227	GLODAPv2
19°S	A09	1991	06MT19910210	GLODAPv2
11°S	A08	1994	06MT19940329	GLODAPv2
24°N	A05	1992	29HE19920714	GLODAPv2
47°N	A02	1993	06GA19930612	CCHDO
55°N	AR07W	1990	18DA90012	CCHDO
55°N	AR07E	1991	74AB62	CCHDO
30°S	A10	2003	49NZ20031106	GLODAPv2
24°S	A095	2009	740H20090307	GLODAPv2
24°N	A05	2004	74DI20040404	GLODAPv2
36°N	A03	2005	74AB20050501	GLODAPv2
55°N	AR07W	2005	18HU20050526	GLODAPv2
55°N	AR07E	2007	64PE20070830	GLODAPv2
30°S	A10	2011	33RO20110926	GLODAPv2
24°S	A095	2018	740H20180228	GLODAPv2
24°N	A05	2011	29AH20110128	GLODAPv2
47°N	A02	2013	06M220130509	GLODAPv2
55°N	AR07W	2014	74JC20140606	BODC
55°N	AR07E	2014	74JC20140606	BODC

GLODAPv2.2022

Global Ocean Data Analysis Project



Lauvset et al., 2022

Inverse modelling with biogeochemical variables

$$\begin{pmatrix}
 e_{A_{t,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{t,n}} & e_{B_{t,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{t,m}} & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 c_{A_{reg}} & \dots & c_{A_{reg}} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & e_{B_{reg}} & \dots & e_{B_{reg}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 e_{A_{1,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{1,n}} & e_{B_{1,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{1,m}} & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 e_{A_{2,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{2,n}} & e_{B_{2,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{2,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 e_{A_{q-1,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{q-1,n}} & e_{B_{q-1,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{q-1,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 e_{A_{q,1}} & \dots & e_{A_{q,n}} & e_{B_{q,1}} & \dots & e_{B_{q,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 s_{A_{t,1}} & \dots & s_{A_{t,n}} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \left(\frac{s_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & s_{B_{t,1}} & \dots & s_{B_{t,m}} & 0 & \left(\frac{s_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 f_{A_{1,1}} & \dots & f_{A_{1,n}} & f_{B_{1,1}} & \dots & f_{B_{1,m}} & \left(\frac{f_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) & \left(\frac{f_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) & 1 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 f_{A_{2,1}} & \dots & f_{A_{2,n}} & f_{B_{2,1}} & \dots & f_{B_{2,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 f_{A_{q-1,1}} & \dots & f_{A_{q-1,n}} & f_{B_{q-1,1}} & \dots & f_{B_{q-1,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 \\
 f_{A_{q,1}} & \dots & f_{A_{q,n}} & f_{B_{q,1}} & \dots & f_{B_{q,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \\
 g_{A_{1,1}} & \dots & g_{A_{1,n}} & g_{B_{1,1}} & \dots & g_{B_{1,m}} & \left(\frac{g_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) & \left(\frac{g_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) & 0 & r_{NO} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 g_{A_{2,1}} & \dots & g_{A_{2,n}} & g_{B_{2,1}} & \dots & g_{B_{2,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{NO} & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 g_{A_{q-1,1}} & \dots & g_{A_{q-1,n}} & g_{B_{q-1,1}} & \dots & g_{B_{q-1,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & r_{NO} & 0 \\
 g_{A_{q,1}} & \dots & g_{A_{q,n}} & g_{B_{q,1}} & \dots & g_{B_{q,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & r_{NO} \\
 h_{A_{1,1}} & \dots & h_{A_{1,n}} & h_{B_{1,1}} & \dots & h_{B_{1,m}} & \left(\frac{h_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) & \left(\frac{h_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) & 0 & r_{SiO} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 h_{A_{2,1}} & \dots & h_{A_{2,n}} & h_{B_{2,1}} & \dots & h_{B_{2,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{SiO} & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 h_{A_{q-1,1}} & \dots & h_{A_{q-1,n}} & h_{B_{q-1,1}} & \dots & h_{B_{q-1,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & r_{SiO} & 0 \\
 h_{A_{q,1}} & \dots & h_{A_{q,n}} & h_{B_{q,1}} & \dots & h_{B_{q,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & r_{SiO} \\
 j_{A_{1,1}} & \dots & j_{A_{1,n}} & j_{B_{1,1}} & \dots & j_{B_{1,m}} & \left(\frac{j_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) & \left(\frac{j_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) & 0 & r_{PO} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 j_{A_{2,1}} & \dots & j_{A_{2,n}} & j_{B_{2,1}} & \dots & j_{B_{2,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{PO} & \dots & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 j_{A_{q-1,1}} & \dots & j_{A_{q-1,n}} & j_{B_{q-1,1}} & \dots & j_{B_{q-1,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & r_{PO} & 0 \\
 j_{A_{q,1}} & \dots & j_{A_{q,n}} & j_{B_{q,1}} & \dots & j_{B_{q,m}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & r_{PO}
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 b_{A_1} \\
 \vdots \\
 b_{B_n} \\
 b_{B_1} \\
 \vdots \\
 b_{B_m} \\
 \Delta T_{A_{EK}} \\
 \Delta T_{B_{EK}} \\
 \Delta F_{a-s} \\
 \Delta B_{O_{21}} \\
 \Delta B_{O_{22}} \\
 \vdots \\
 \Delta B_{O_{2q-1}} \\
 \Delta B_{O_{2q}}
 \end{pmatrix}
 =
 \begin{pmatrix}
 y_{A_t} + y_{B_t} + T_{A_{EK}} + T_{B_{EK}} \\
 y_{A_{reg}} \\
 y_{B_{reg}} \\
 y_{A_1} + y_{B_1} + T_{A_{EK}} + T_{B_{EK}} \\
 y_{A_2} + y_{B_2} \\
 \vdots \\
 y_{A_{q-1}} + y_{B_{q-1}} \\
 y_{A_q} + y_{B_q} \\
 z_{A_t} + T_{A_{EK}} \left(\frac{s_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) \\
 z_{B_t} + T_{B_{EK}} \left(\frac{s_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) \\
 k_{A_1} + k_{B_1} + T_{A_{EK}} \left(\frac{f_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) + T_{B_{EK}} \left(\frac{f_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) + F_{a-s} + B_{O_{21}} \\
 k_{A_2} + k_{B_2} + B_{O_{22}} \\
 \vdots \\
 k_{A_{q-1}} + k_{B_{q-1}} + B_{O_{2q-1}} \\
 k_{A_q} + k_{B_q} + B_{O_{2q}} \\
 r_{A_1} + r_{B_1} + T_{A_{EK}} \left(\frac{g_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) + T_{B_{EK}} \left(\frac{g_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) + B_{O_{21}} \cdot r_{NO} \\
 r_{A_2} + r_{B_2} + B_{O_{22}} \cdot r_{NO} \\
 \vdots \\
 r_{A_{q-1}} + r_{B_{q-1}} + B_{O_{2q-1}} \cdot r_{NO} \\
 r_{A_q} + r_{B_q} + B_{O_{2q}} \cdot r_{NO} \\
 t_{A_1} + t_{B_1} + T_{A_{EK}} \left(\frac{h_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) + T_{B_{EK}} \left(\frac{h_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) + B_{O_{21}} \cdot r_{SiO} \\
 t_{A_2} + t_{B_2} + B_{O_{22}} \cdot r_{SiO} \\
 \vdots \\
 t_{A_{q-1}} + t_{B_{q-1}} + B_{O_{2q-1}} \cdot r_{SiO} \\
 t_{A_q} + t_{B_q} + B_{O_{2q}} \cdot r_{SiO} \\
 u_{A_1} + u_{B_1} + T_{A_{EK}} \left(\frac{j_{A_1}}{e_{A_1}}\right) + T_{B_{EK}} \left(\frac{j_{B_1}}{e_{B_1}}\right) + B_{O_{21}} \cdot r_{PO} \\
 u_{A_2} + u_{B_2} + B_{O_{22}} \cdot r_{PO} \\
 \vdots \\
 u_{A_{q-1}} + u_{B_{q-1}} + B_{O_{2q-1}} \cdot r_{PO} \\
 u_{A_q} + u_{B_q} + B_{O_{2q}} \cdot r_{PO}
 \end{pmatrix}$$

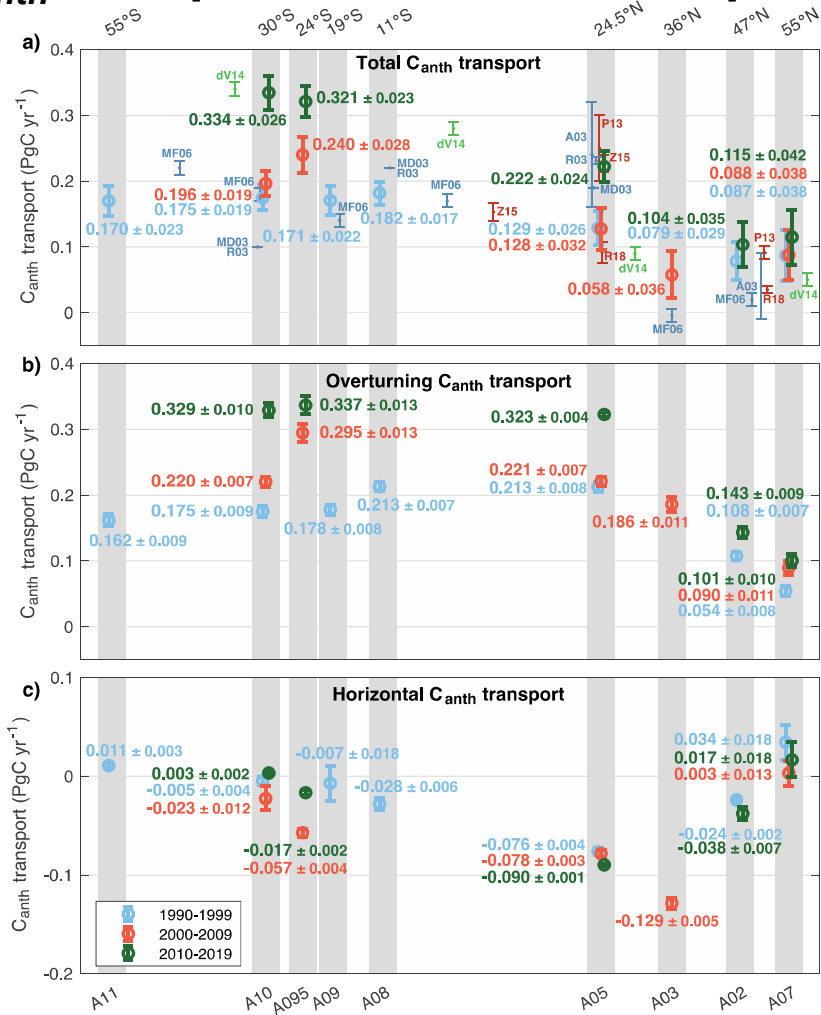
e: mass
s: salt
f: oxygen
g: nitrate
h: silicate
j: phosphate
y: mass transport
z: salt transport
k: oxygen transport
r: nitrate transport
t: silicate transport
u: phosphate transport

b: reference velocities
 T_{EK} : Ekman transport
 ΔT_{EK} : Ekman correction
 F_{a-s} : oxygen influx from the air- sea interphase
 ΔF_{a-s} : adjustment of oxygen influx
 B_{O_2} : sources and sinks of oxygen in water column
 ΔB_{O_2} : adjustment of oxygen consumption
 r_{NO} : Redfield ratio N-O
 r_{SiO} : Redfield ratio Si-O
 r_{PO} : Redfield ratio P-O

n: number of pair of stations for section A
m: number of pair of stations for section B
q: number of layers (11)

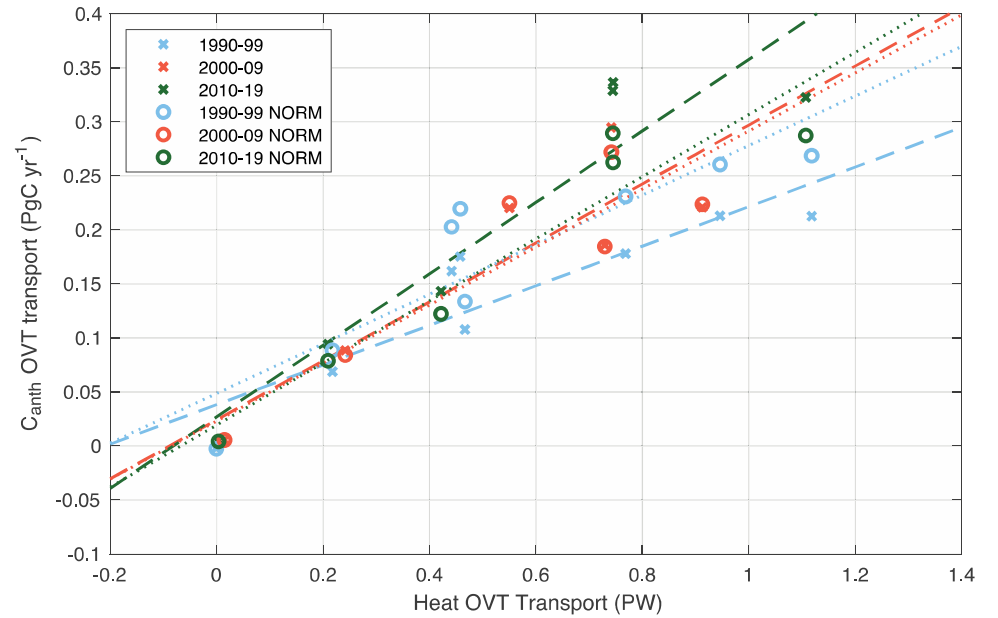
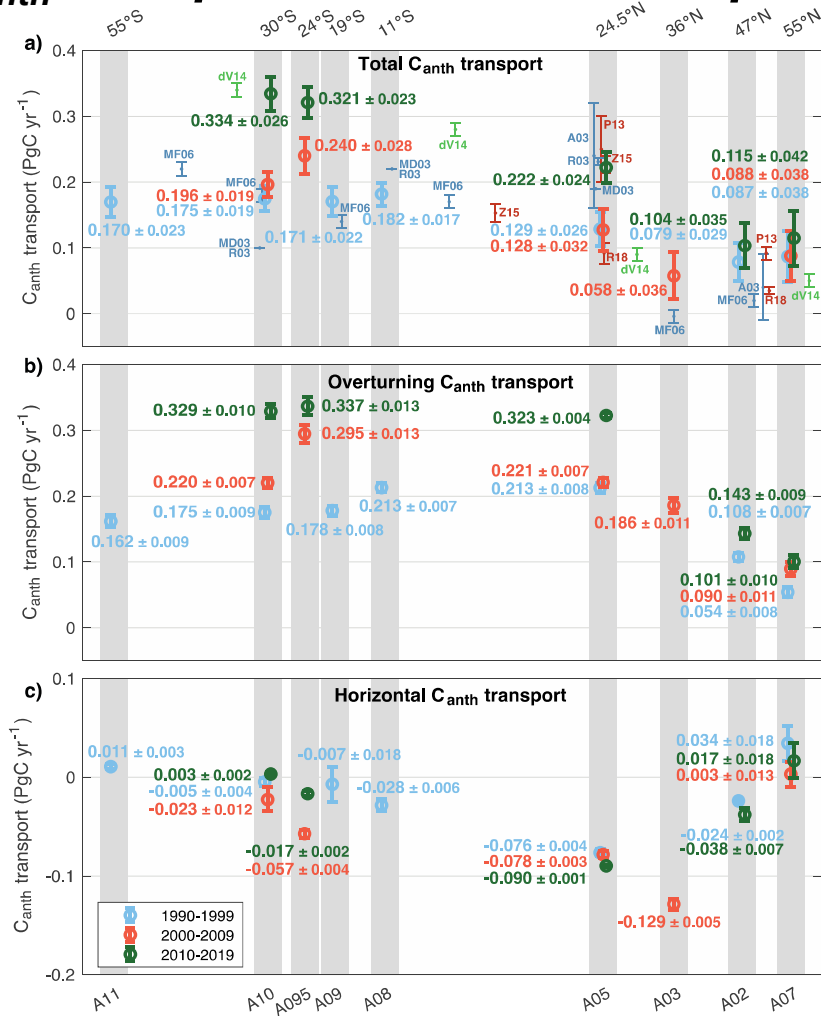
Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion

C_{anth} transport divided into components

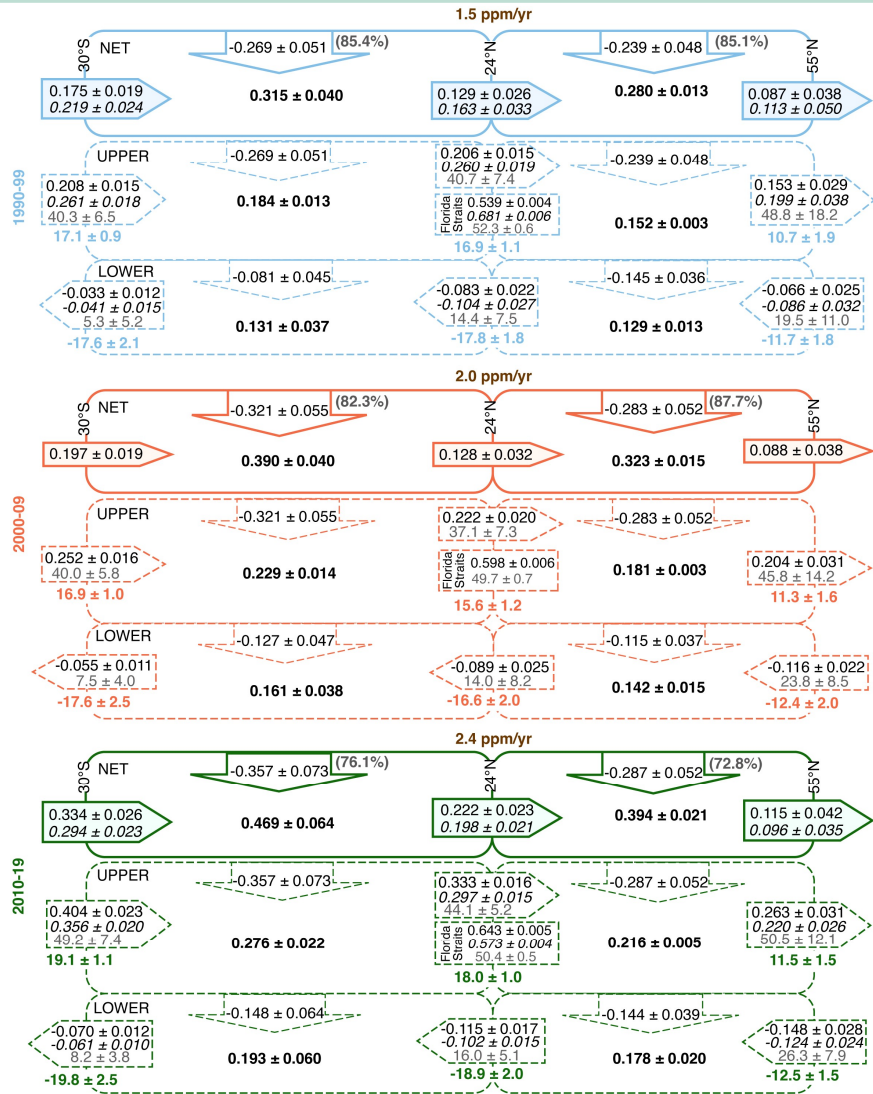


Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion

C_{anth} transport divided into components



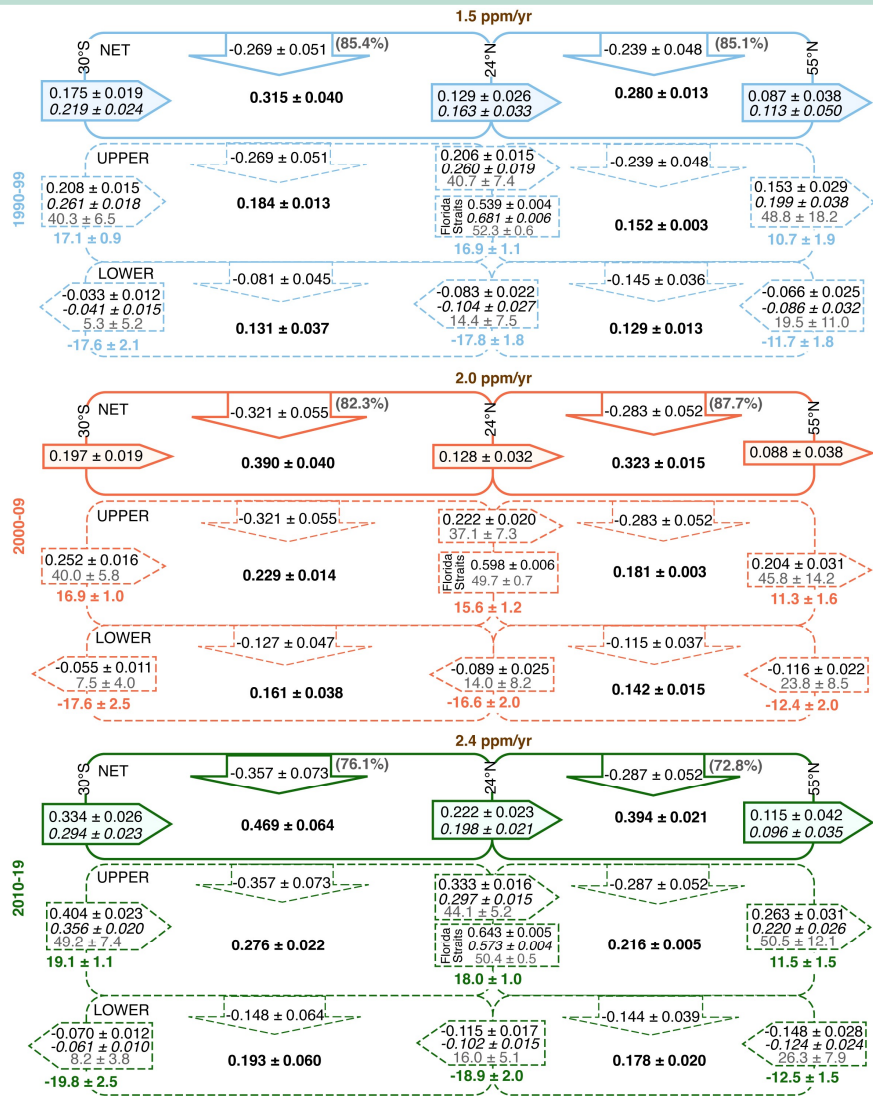
Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion



C_{anth} transport and storage budgets

Decreasing northward transport from recent central and intermediate waters from Southern Ocean

Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion

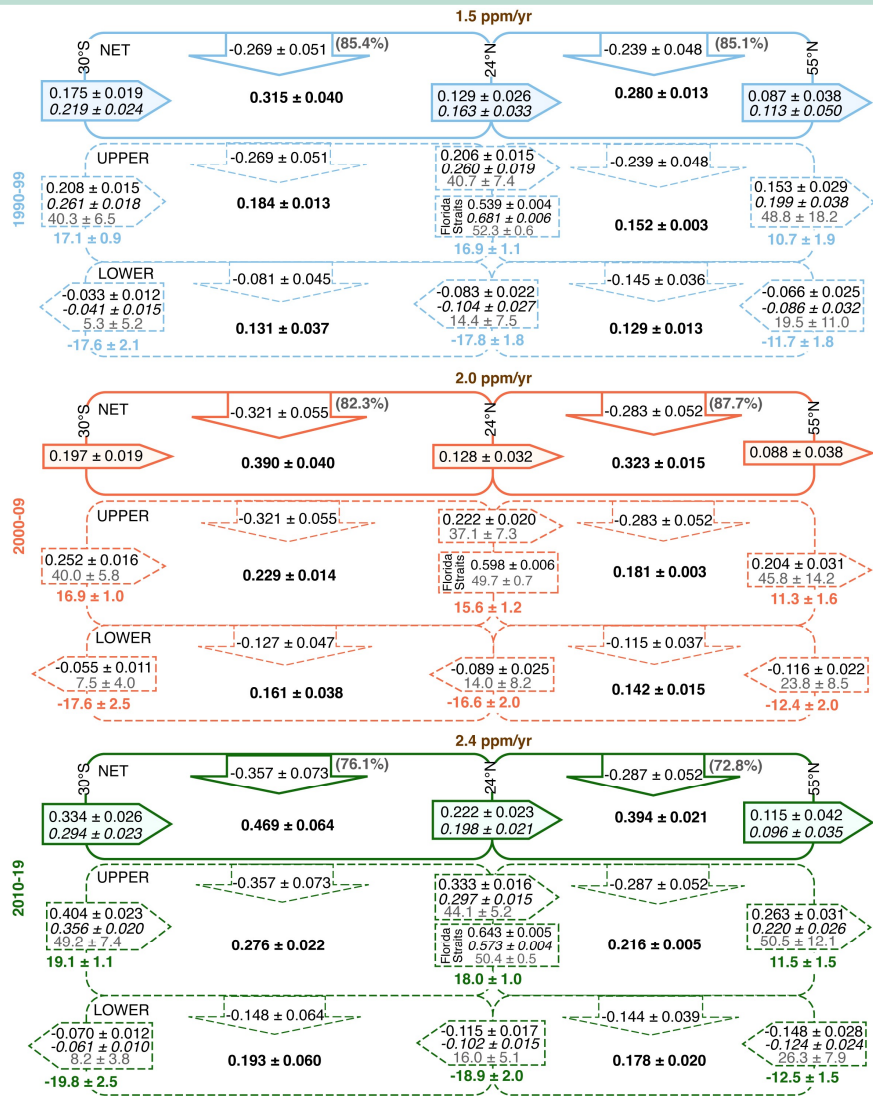


C_{anth} transport and storage budgets

Decreasing northward transport from recent central and intermediate waters from Southern Ocean

Transports at 24°N show weaker values for 2000-09, with recuperation for last decade

Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion



C_{anth} transport and storage budgets

Decreasing northward transport from recent central and intermediate waters from Southern Ocean

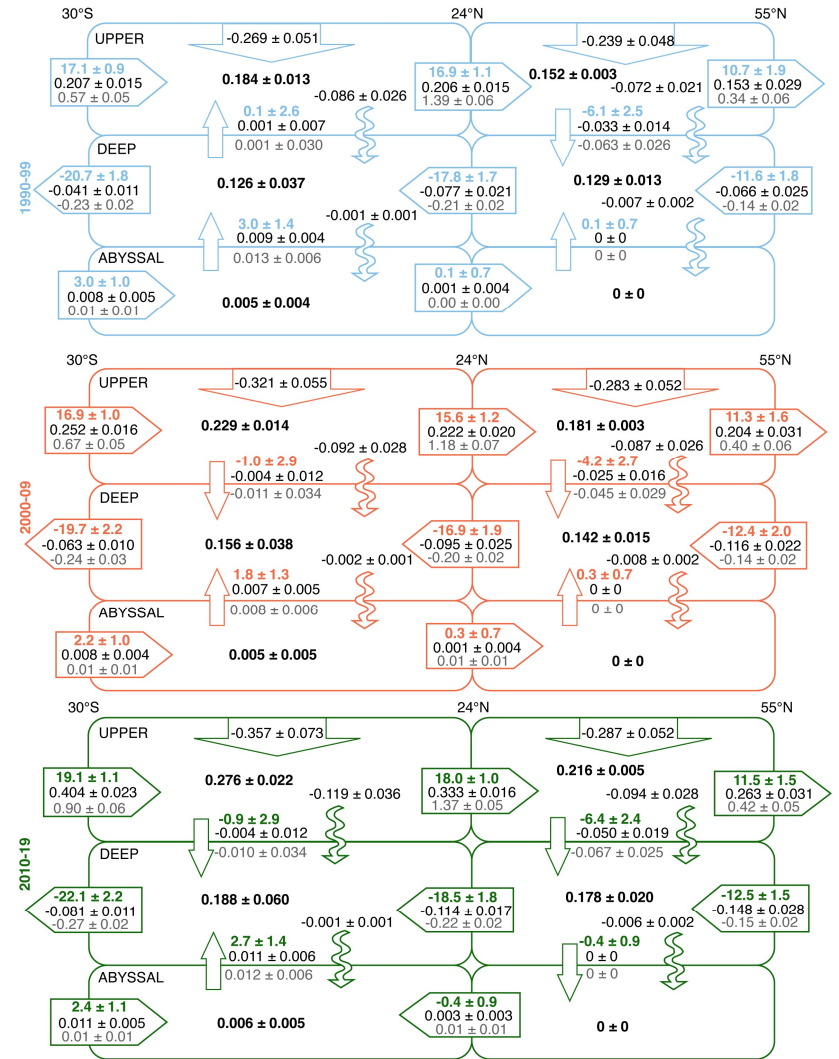
Transports at 24°N show weaker values for 2000-09, with recuperation for last decade

Strong lateral transports at 55°N with deep convection carrying C_{anth} into Nordic Seas

Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion

Vertical transport of C_{anth} transport

Overtuning in North Atlantic redistributes the newly gained C_{anth} from the atmosphere, exporting to deep layers

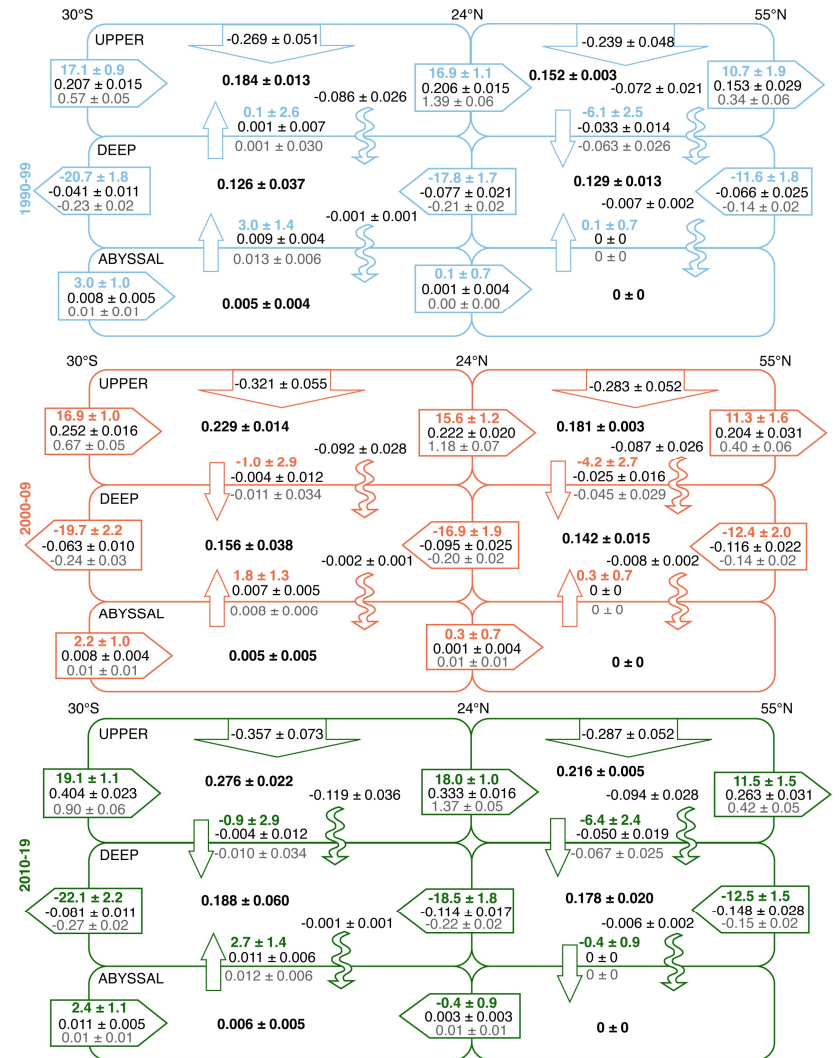


Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion

Vertical transport of C_{anth} transport

Overturning in North Atlantic redistributes the newly gained C_{anth} from the atmosphere, exporting to deep layers

Abyssal layers in South Atlantic introduce C_{anth} from AABW with an upward flux to deep layers



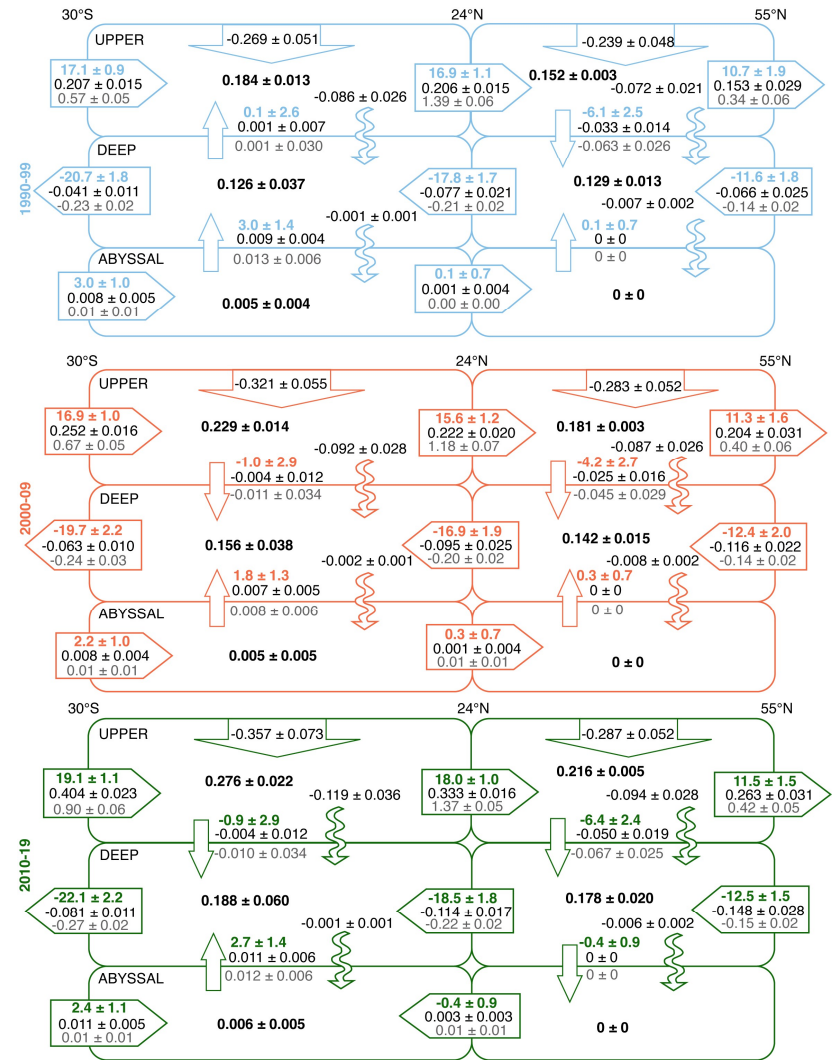
Atlantic C_{anth} transport Results & Discussion

Vertical transport of C_{anth} transport

Overturning in North Atlantic redistributes the newly gained C_{anth} from the atmosphere, exporting to deep layers

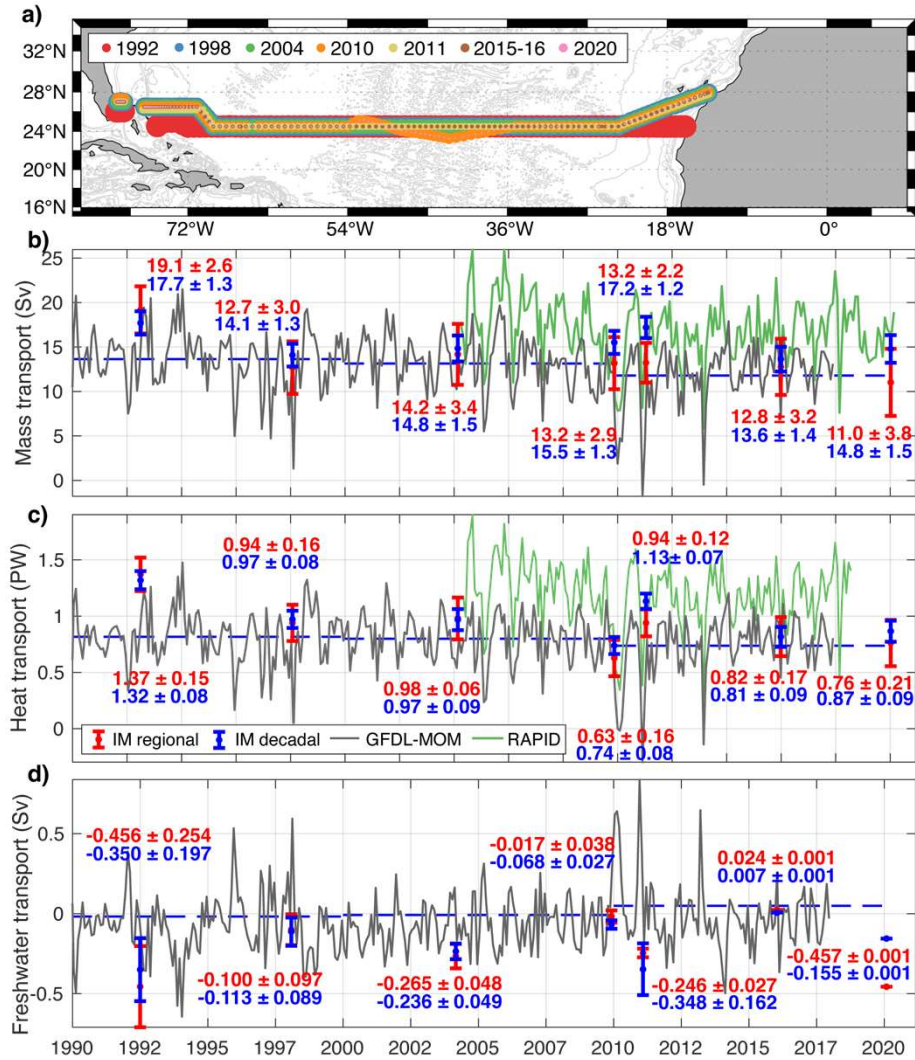
Abyssal layers in South Atlantic introduce C_{anth} from AABW with an upward flux to deep layers

Mixing by diffusion occurs in the whole basin mainly between upper and deep layers



A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright, glowing orb on the horizon, partially obscured by a thin layer of clouds. The sky is filled with large, dark, textured clouds that are illuminated from below, creating a dramatic play of light and shadow. The colors range from deep blues and purples in the upper sky to warm oranges and yellows near the horizon. The ocean in the foreground is dark with gentle ripples, reflecting the light from the sun.

Thanks for your attention!

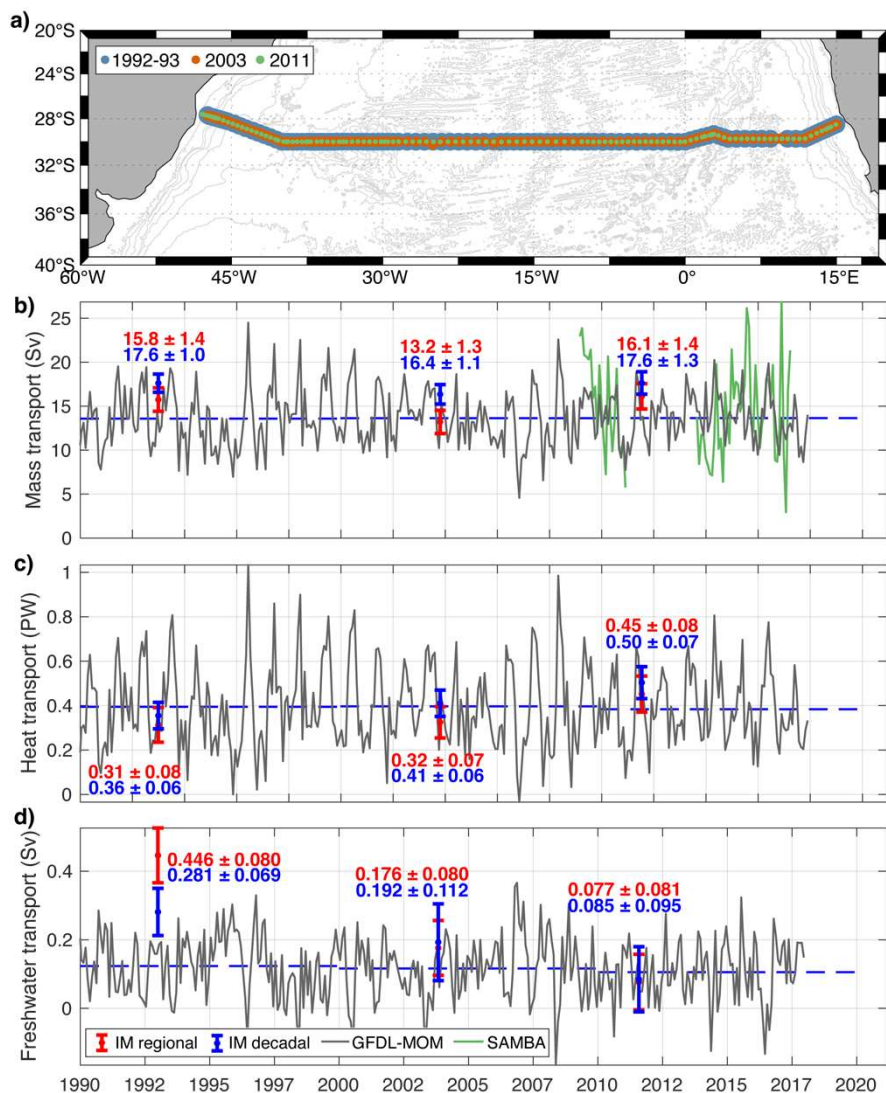


Comparison for 24.5°N

		GFDL-MOM cruise	GFDL-MOM decadal
Single-section inverse model	RMSE AMOC (Sv)	1.8	2.4
	RMSE MHT (PW)	0.18	0.19
	RMSE MFT (Sv)	0.220	0.280
Multiple-section inverse model	RMSE AMOC (Sv)	3.9	1.5
	RMSE MHT (PW)	0.19	0.15
	RMSE MFT (Sv)	0.277	0.267

Inverse solutions from single sections are affected by aliasing, as they capture the circulation structure of the time of the cruise.

Inverse models with multiple sections at different latitudes and times agree with decadal averages from an ocean general circulation model.



Comparison for 30°S

		GFDL-MOM cruise	GFDL-MOM decadal
Single-section inverse model	RMSE AMOC (Sv)	0.9	1.4
	RMSE MHT (PW)	0.05	0.07
	RMSE MFT (Sv)	0.180	0.193
Multiple-section inverse model	RMSE AMOC (Sv)	2.9	2.6
	RMSE MHT (PW)	0.09	0.07
	RMSE MFT (Sv)	0.084	0.104

Inverse solutions from single sections are affected by aliasing, as they capture the circulation structure of the time of the cruise.

Inverse models with multiple sections at different latitudes and times agree with decadal averages from an ocean general circulation model.