

# MERMEx

Marine Ecosystems Response  
in the Mediterranean Experiment



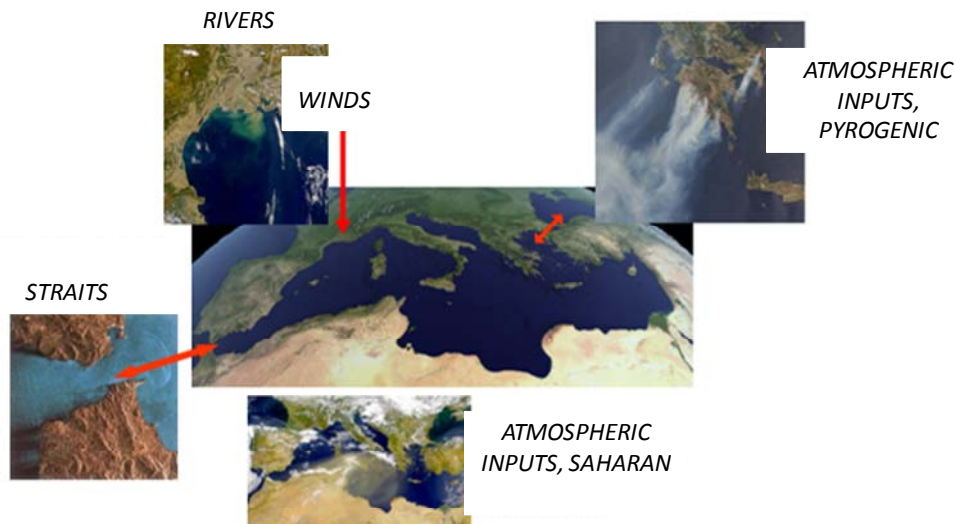
**Coordination:** *Cécile Guieu (LOV, Villefranche), Xavier Durrieu de Madron (CEFREM, Perpignan) and Richard Sempéré (COM/MIO, Marseille), Ivanne Pairaud (IFREMER, La Seyne)*

# Motivations

*Strong anthropogenic pressure  
with geographical and seasonal  
imbalances*



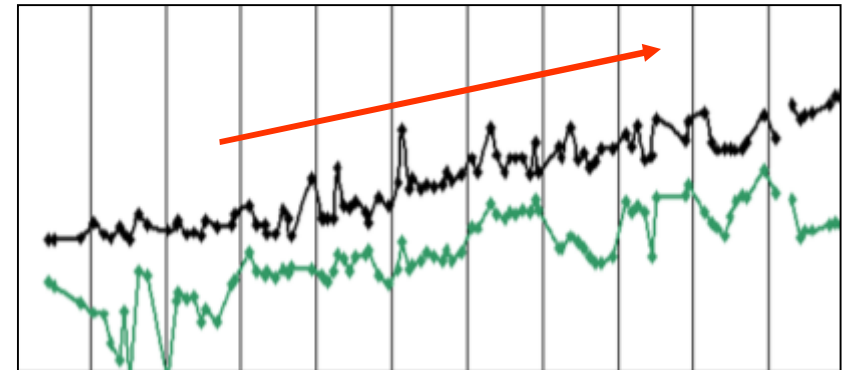
*A unique coupled system  
(ocean/atmosphere/continent)*



*A changing environment :  
on-going increase of temperature*

*Surface waters : + 1.1°C in 27 years*

*Deep waters : + 0.05°C in 10 years*



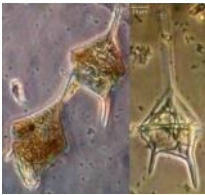
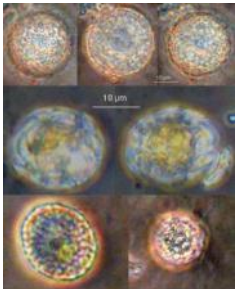
1995 *Deep water at DYFAMED* 2005  
(Marty & Chiaverini, 2002)

*Annual mean temperatures in the  
Mediterranean area are likely to increase  
more than the global mean (IPCC, 2007)*

# Motivations

Med Sea = 0.7% of global Ocean volume, but a major reservoir of diversity (18%) that might be affected introduction of many thermophilic species and global change

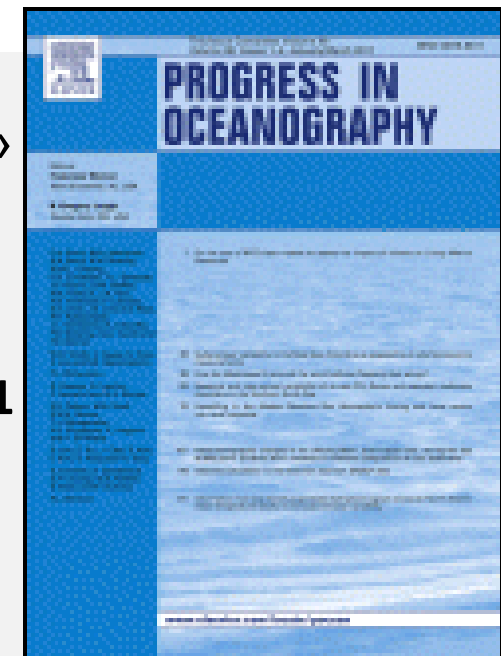
→ disturbance of ecological status, changes in the trophic chain and consequently on the resources



## ***A scientific paper on current knowledge and key questions***

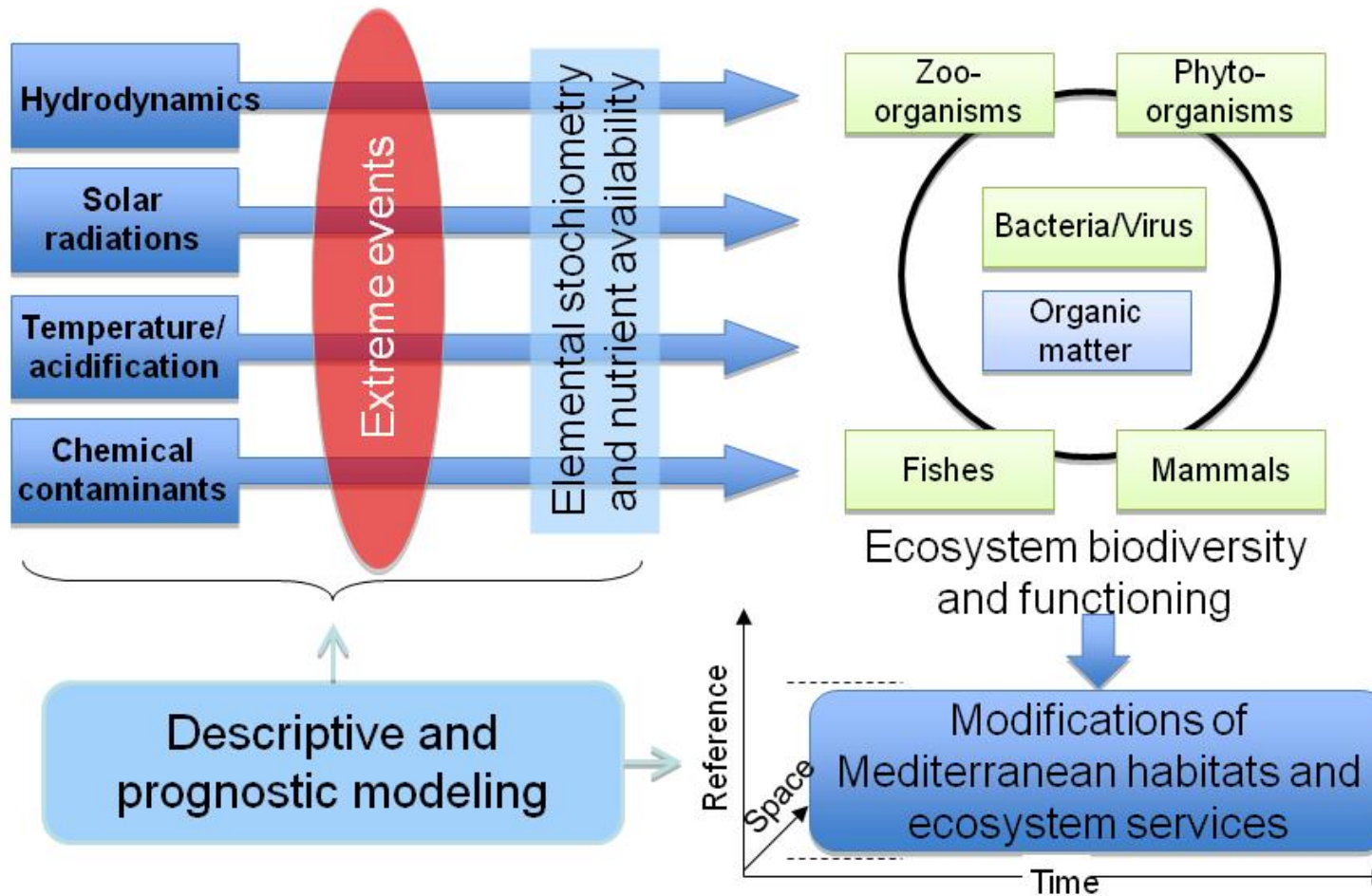
**MERMeX White Book** « Marine ecosystems' responses to climatic and anthropogenic forcings in the Mediterranean »  
*Progress In Oceanography*, Octobre 2011

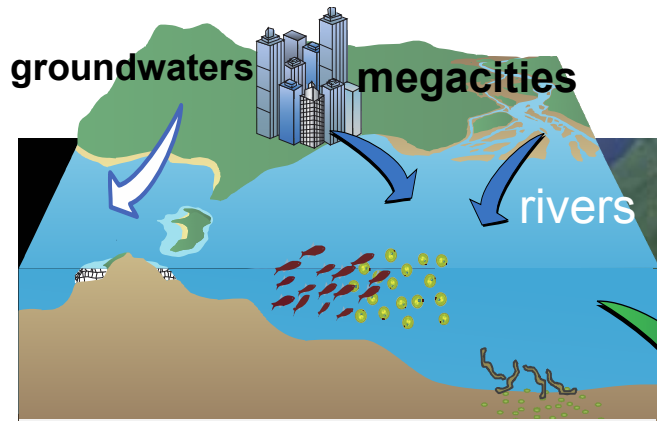
**'Mermex Group', *Progress In Oceanography*, 2011**



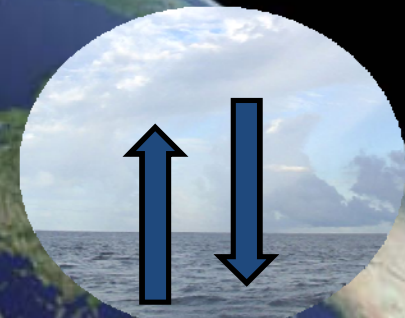


# Scientific Objectives





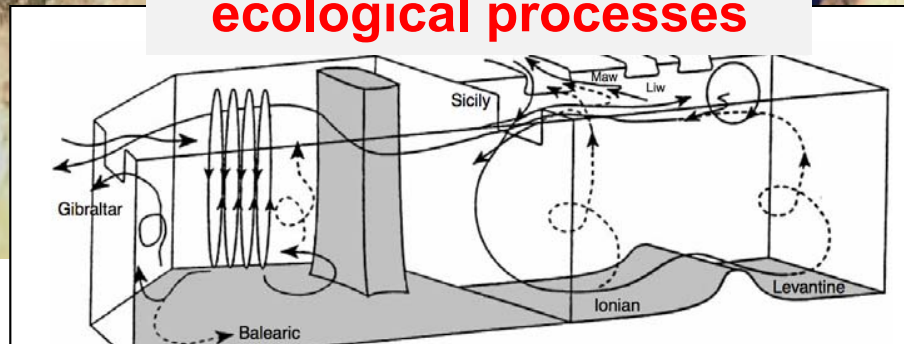
**Land-Sea interactions and extreme events**



**air-sea interactions**

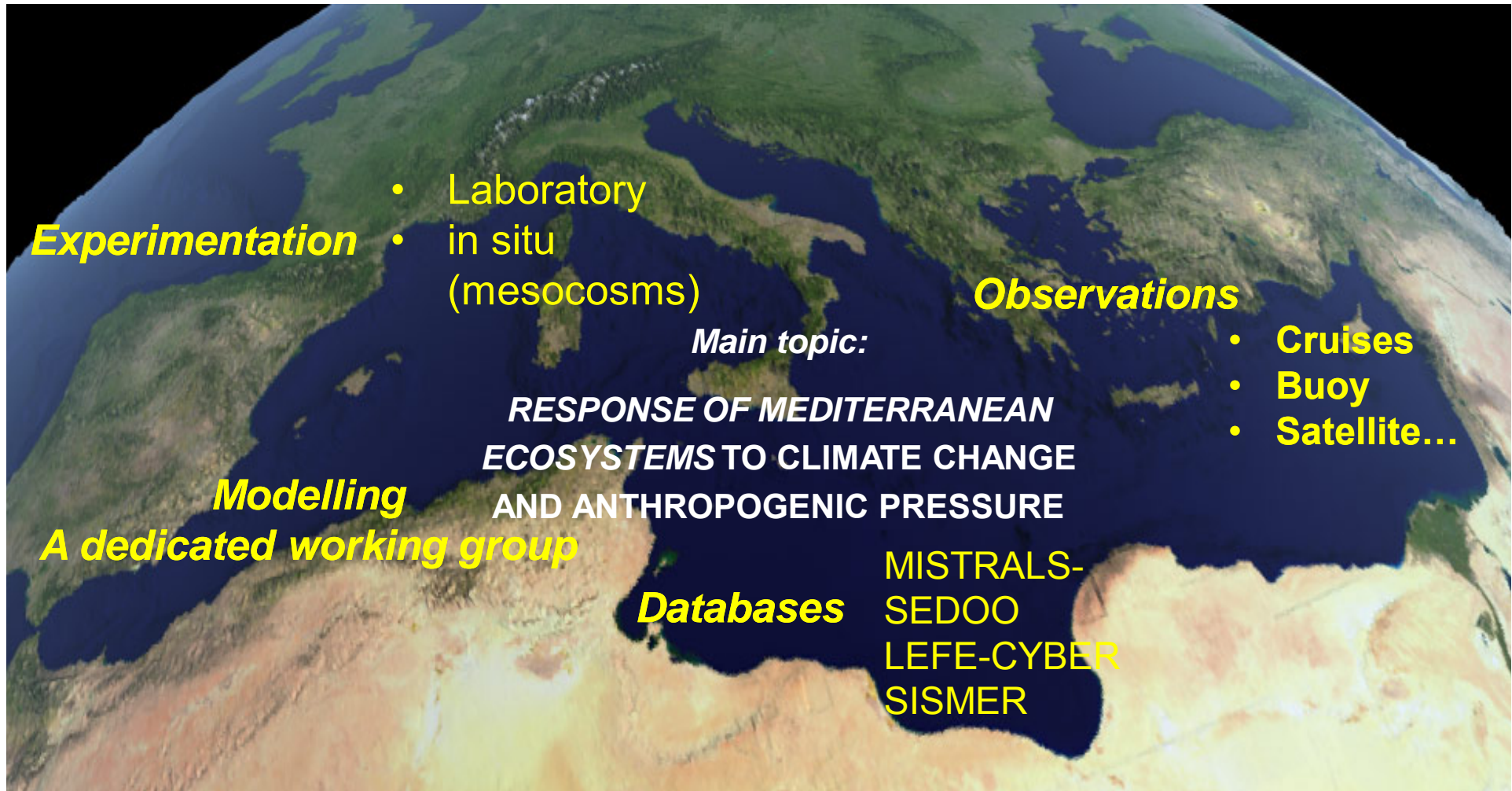
*Main topic:*  
**RESPONSE OF MEDITERRANEAN ECOSYSTEMS TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ANTHROPOGENIC PRESSURE**

**Hydrodynamics and ecological processes**



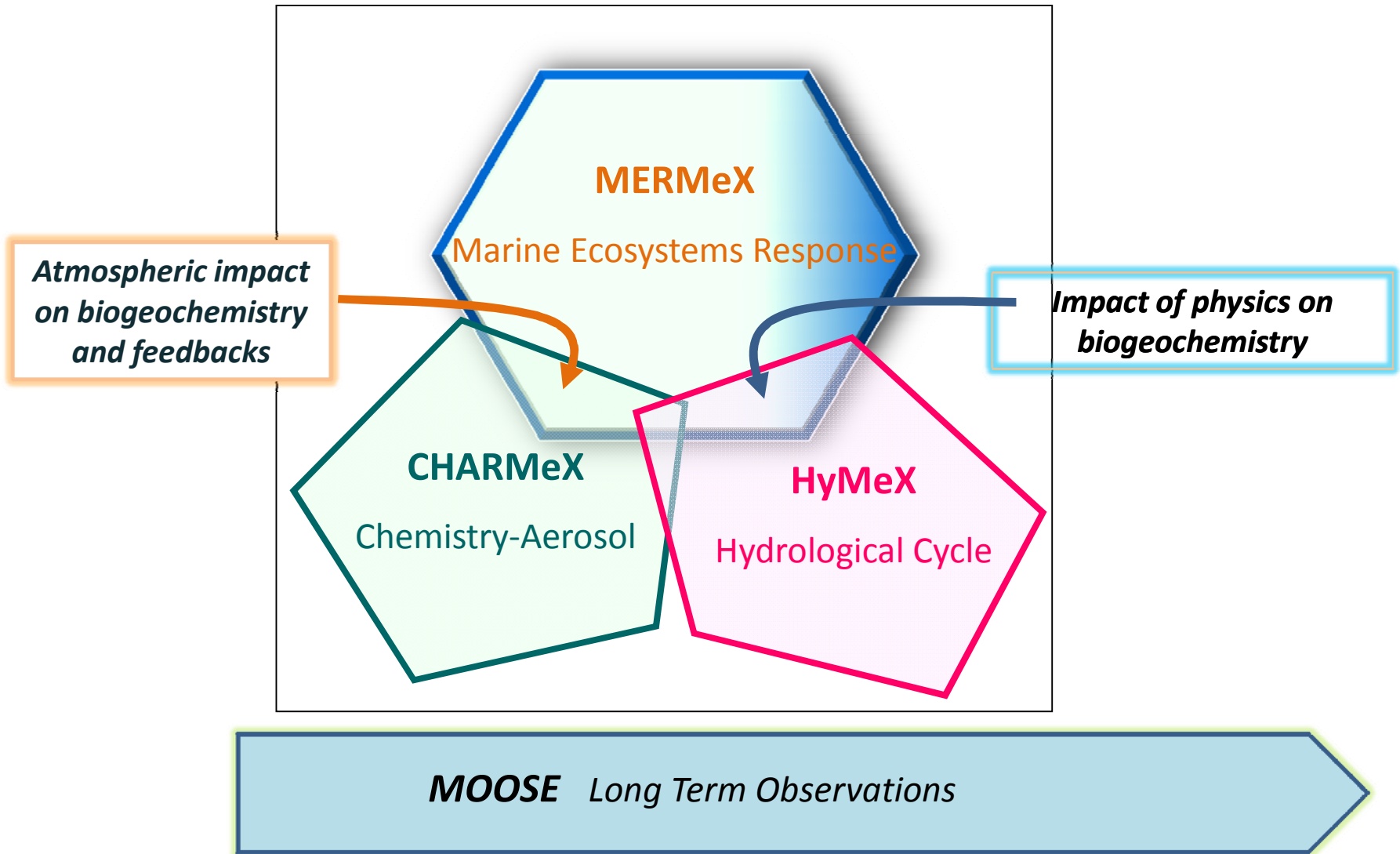
Bio- and eco-**regionalization** of the Mediterranean Sea  
 Mapping of **Ecosystem Services**

# ***Implementation started in 2011***





# *MISTRALS Interconnected Research Projects supported by Long Term Observations*





## MERMEX endorsed by 3 international programs:



IMBER: Integrated  
Marine Biogeochemistry  
& Ecosystem Research



SOLAS: Surface Ocean -  
Lower Atmosphere Study



LOICZ: Land-Ocean  
Interactions in the  
Coastal Zone

## Budget and activity

MERMEX today =

- **15 projects funded or co-funded by MISTRALS**
- **~630 man-month**
- **35 PhD**
- **10 post-doc**

| YEAR    | MISTRALS |
|---------|----------|
| 2011-12 | 200 K€   |
| 2012-13 | 213 K€   |
| 2013-14 | 314 K€   |
| 2014-15 | 331 K€   |

**TOTAL BUDGET  
MERMEX in 2014  
= 1321 K€  
Other funding\*  
= 865 K€**

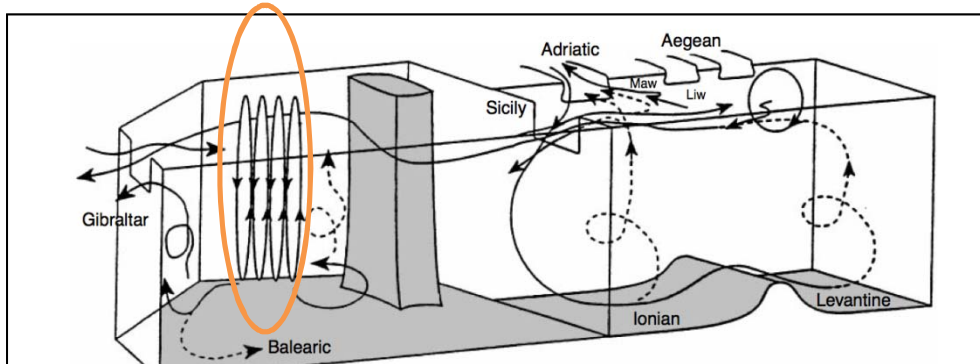
*On going projects, few examples*

- *Europe (Hermione, Perseus, Medsea, Groom)*
- *french ANR (Costas, Sam, Ecogely, Risco)*
- *Other National projects (EC2CO, Equipex NAOS)*
- *Regional (PACA)*
- *Foundation (BNP-Paribas, FRB)*
- *Ministry foreign affairs (Envi-Med)*



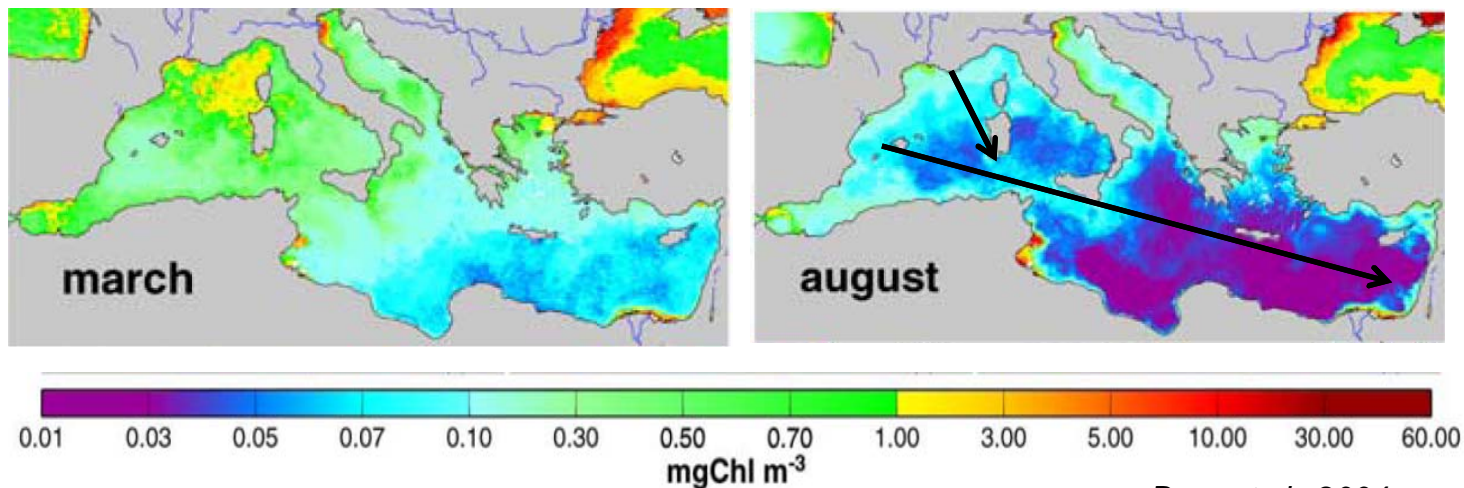
# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

- **Strong dynamic in specific area → determine the distribution of nutrients at large scale**



- **Nutrient stoichiometry is not constant over the bassin (East–West gradient and surface-deep waters gradients)**

- **Strong trophic gradients; very poor waters in the Eastern Bassin; strong seasonal variability**



Bosc et al., 2004

# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

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The main objective: to reconstruct the physics and biogeochemical history of the water masses of the NW Med S

→ a full year observation cycle (2012-2013)

- 6 cruises covering key moments
- Large number of Autonomous platforms with biogeochemical sensors during and in between the cruises comprising:
  - ✓ Gliders for high frequency acquisition
  - ✓ Floats for the low frequency acquisition
- Satellite, in particular Ocean Color

- MerMeX
- HyMeX
- SOERE MOOSE
- ANR ASICS-MED
- EQUIPEX NAOS
- GMMC MESOLAB

Coll. ES, IT

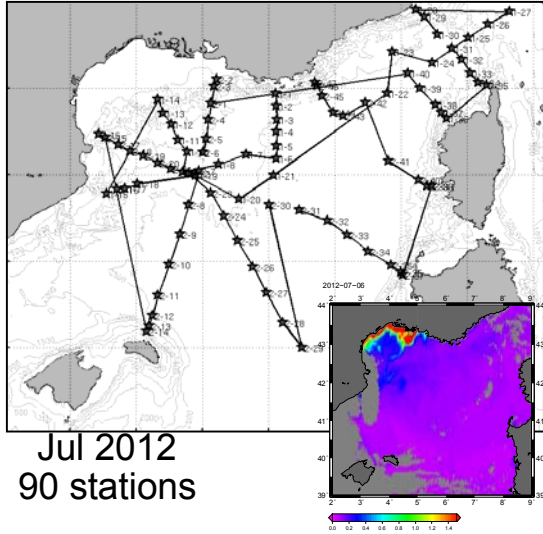
- FP7 GROOM
- FP7 PERSEUS,
- FP7 JERICO
- FP7 E-Aims
- FP7 OSS-2015



# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

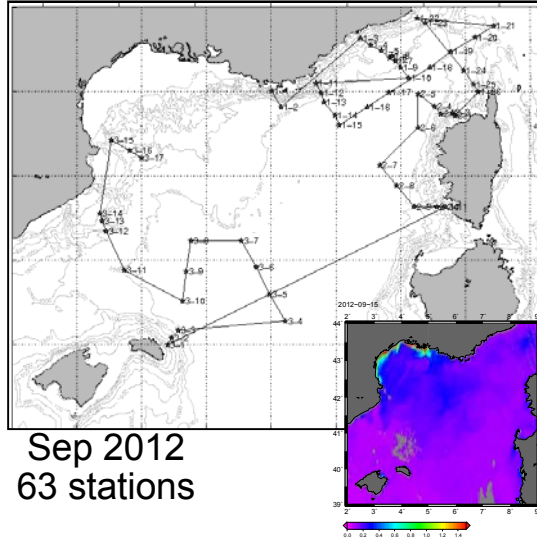
6 cruises = 119 days at sea = 499 stations CTD profiles

**MOOSE-GE2012**



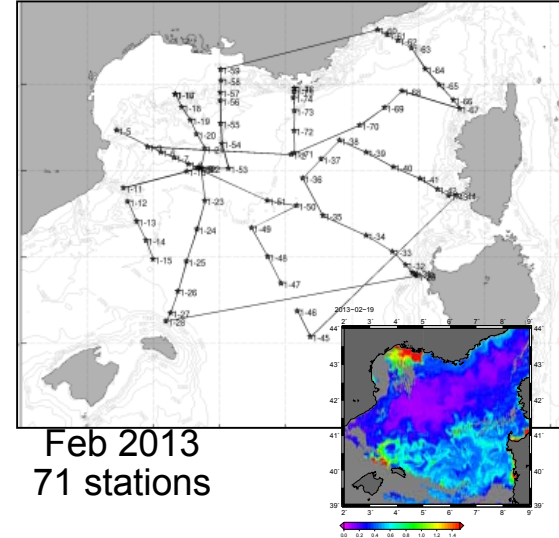
Jul 2012  
90 stations

**DOWEX2012**



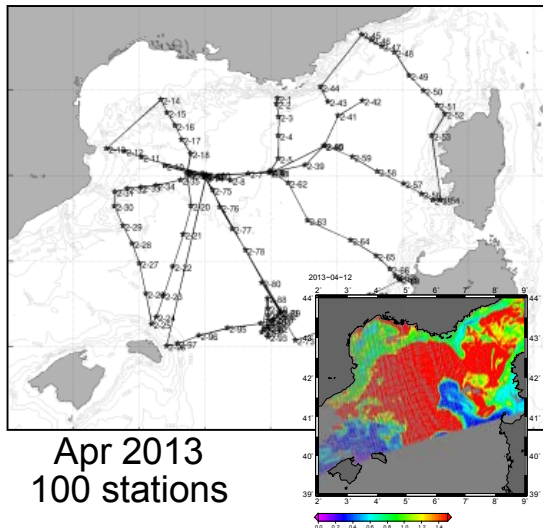
Sep 2012  
63 stations

**DEWEX2013-1**



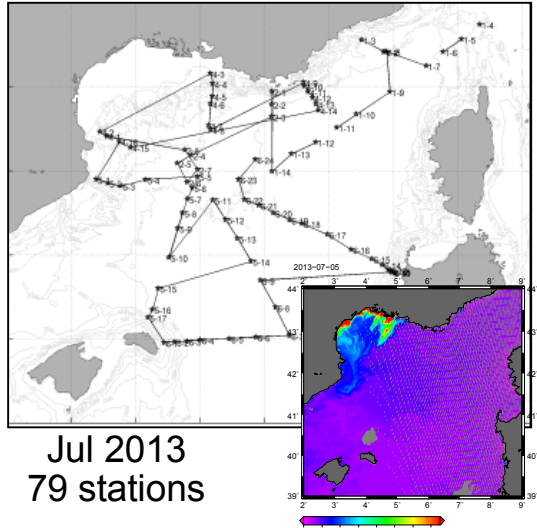
Feb 2013  
71 stations

**DEWEX2013-2**



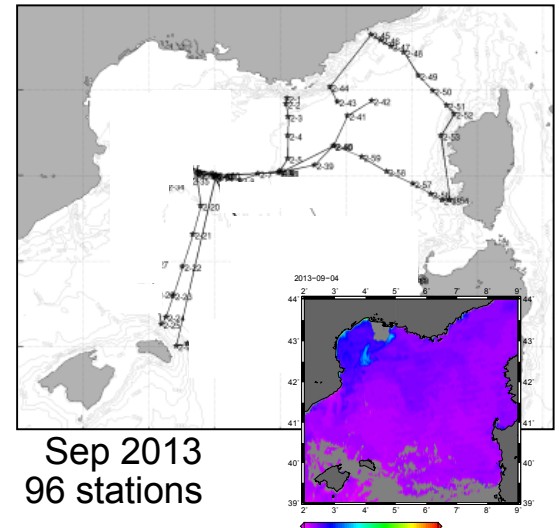
Apr 2013  
100 stations

**MOOSE-GE2013**



Jul 2013  
79 stations

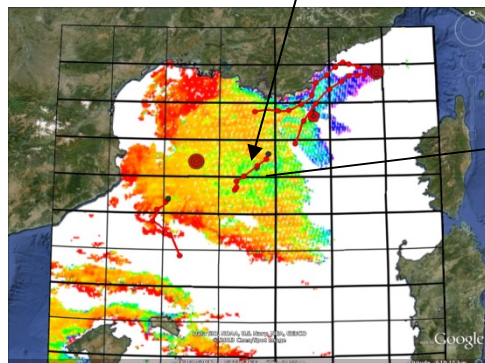
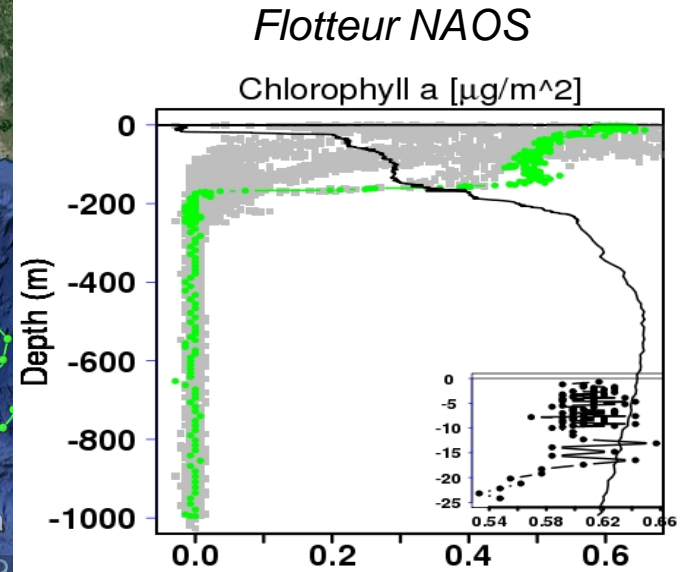
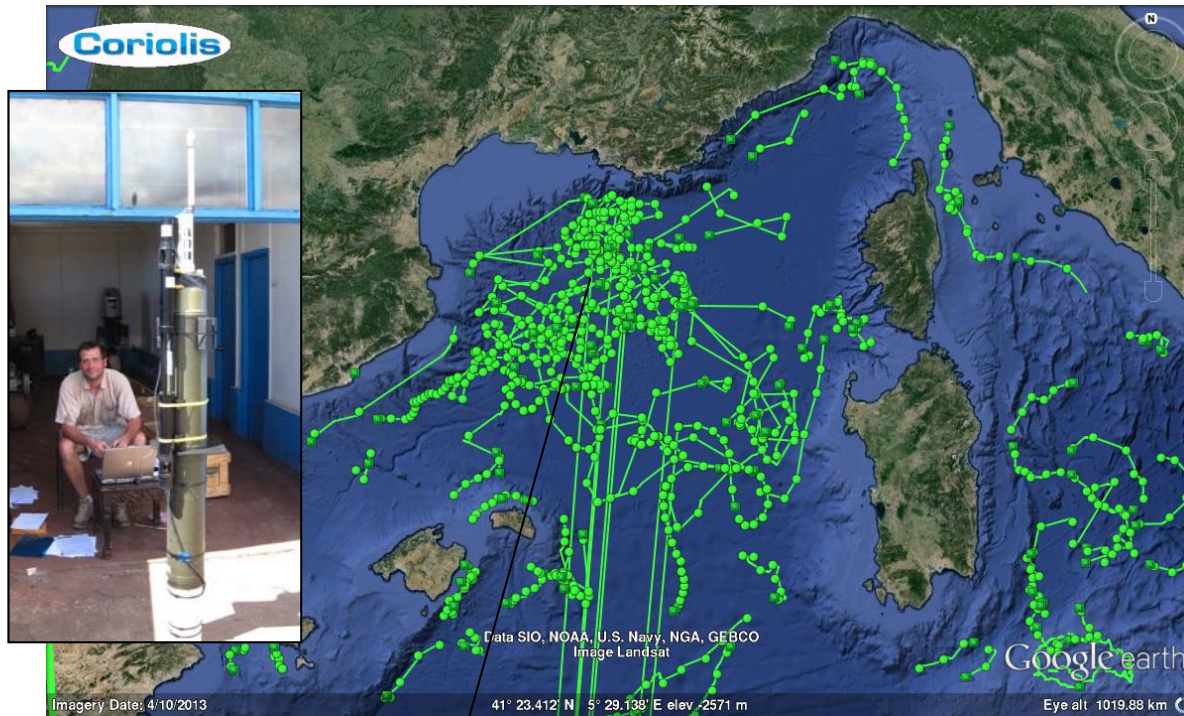
**DOWEX2013**



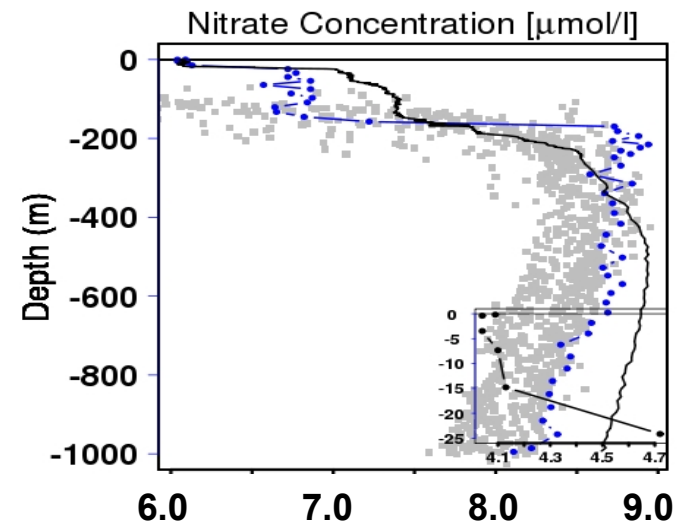
Sep 2013  
96 stations

# Floats = ~1500 profils Argo (0-1000, 520 Bio/02)

Real time transmission of the data to CORIOLIS



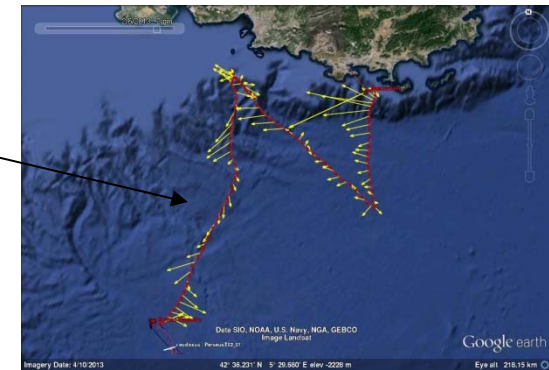
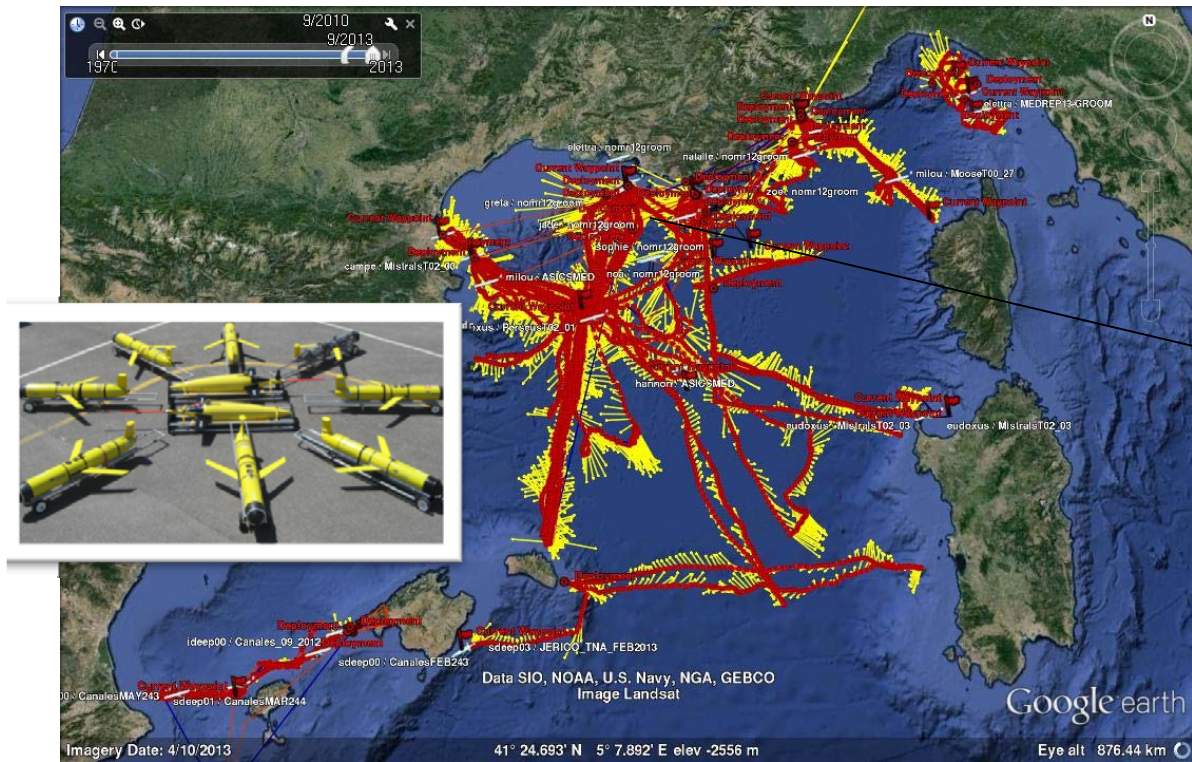
Modis du 10 Janvier



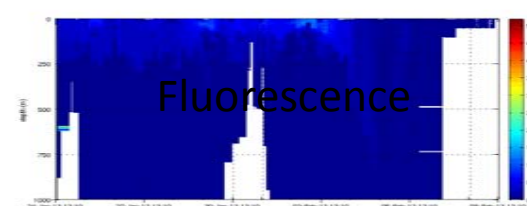
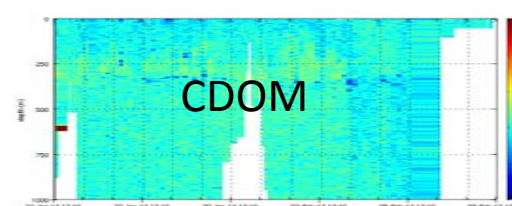
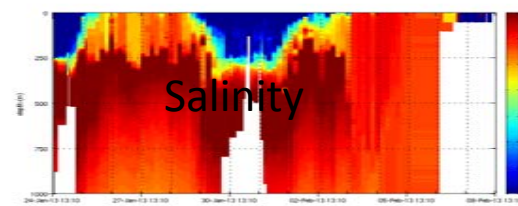
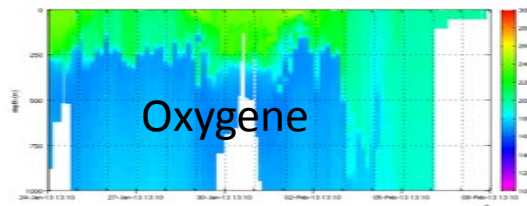
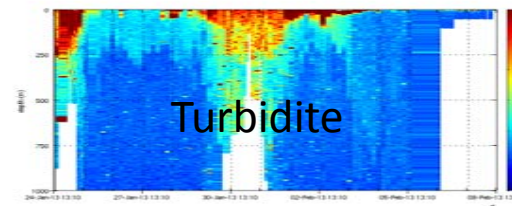
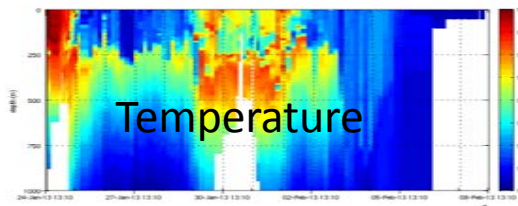


# Gliders: a total of 30 Missions = ~13000 profiles (0-1000m)

Real time transmission of the data to CORIOLIS



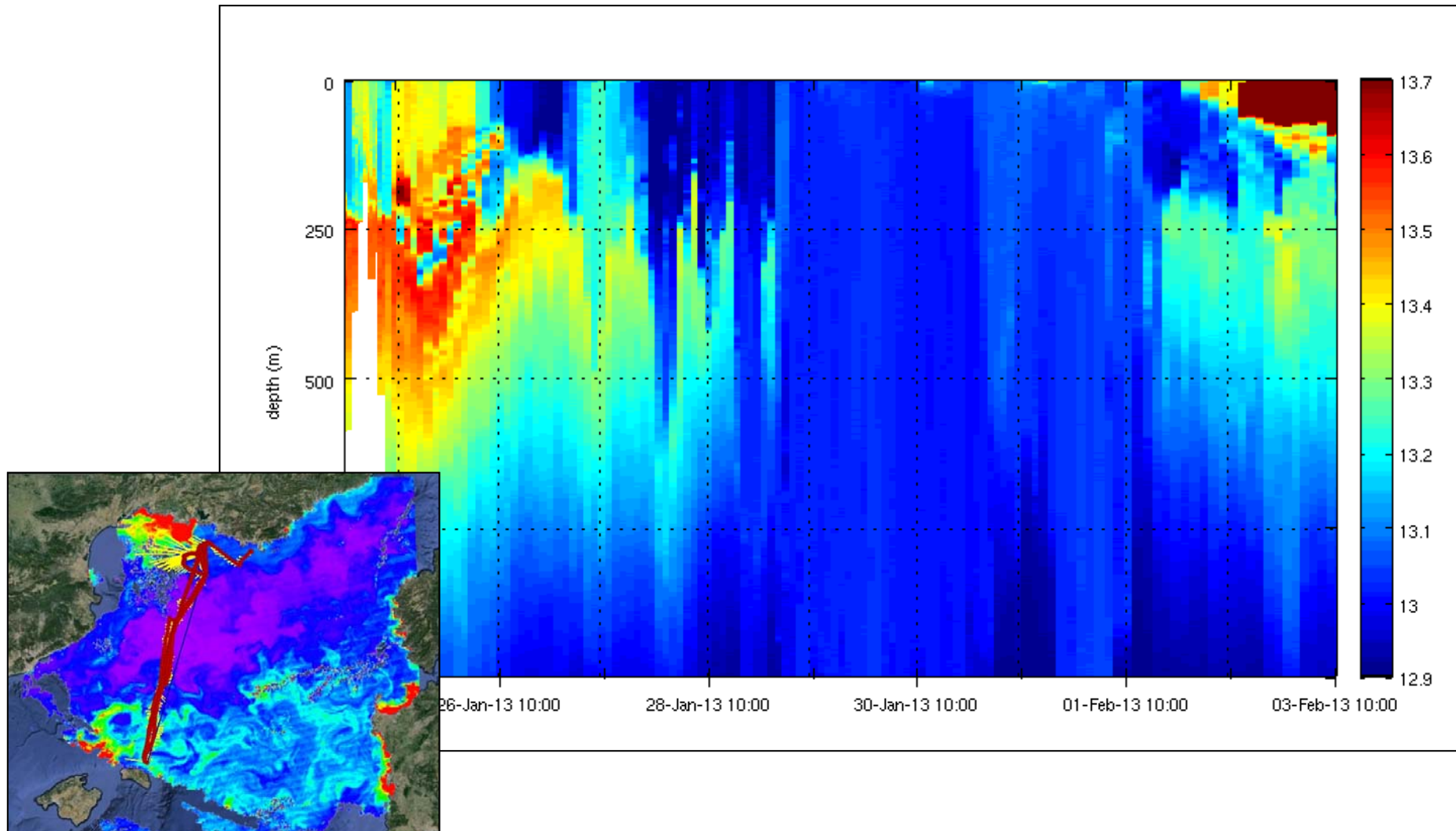
Courants 0-1000m



# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

Gliders transects

temperature

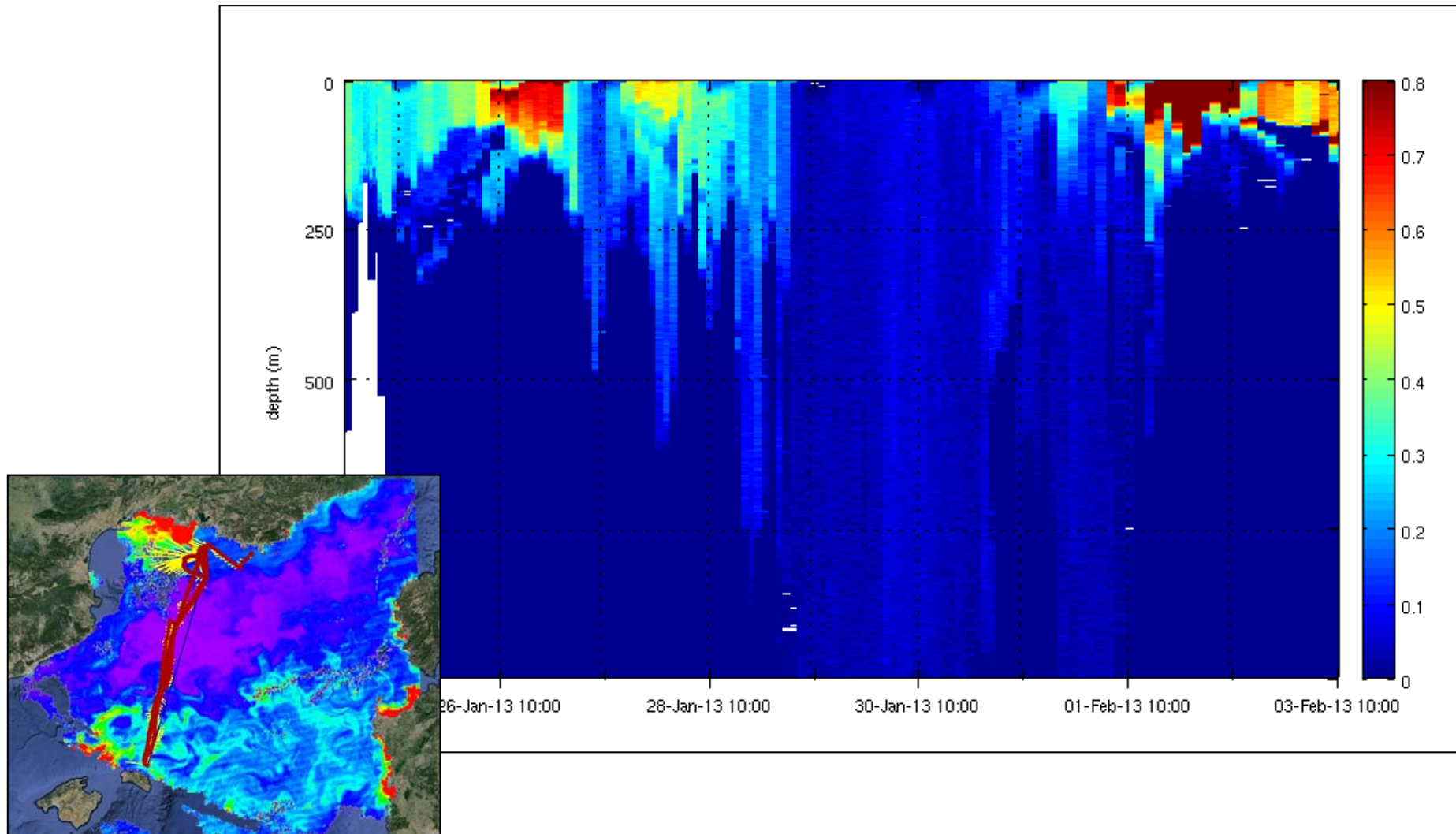




# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

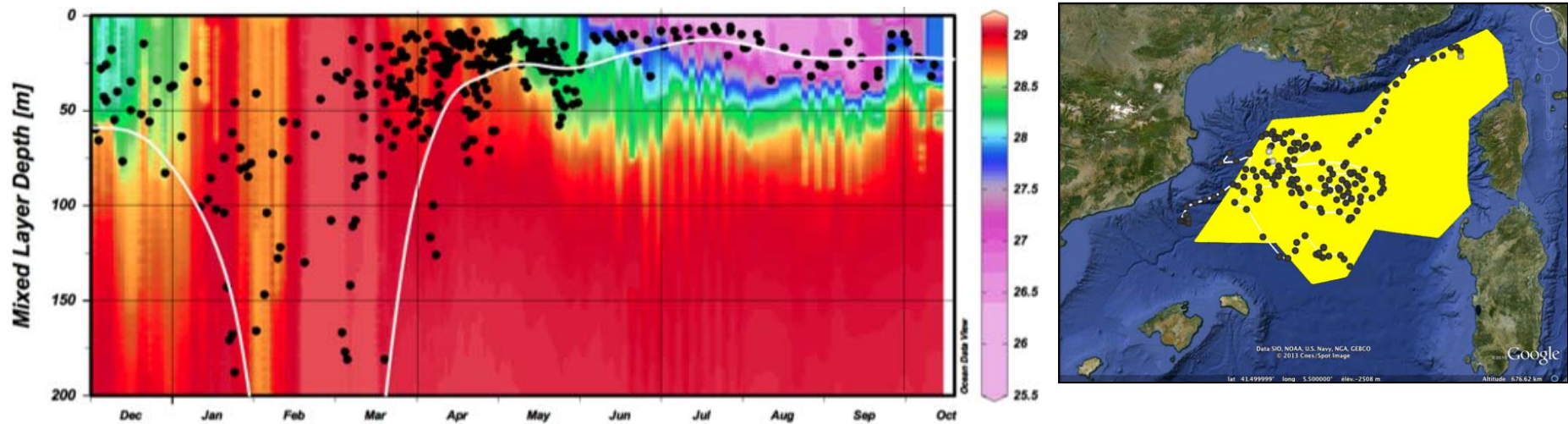
Gliders transects

Chlorophyll



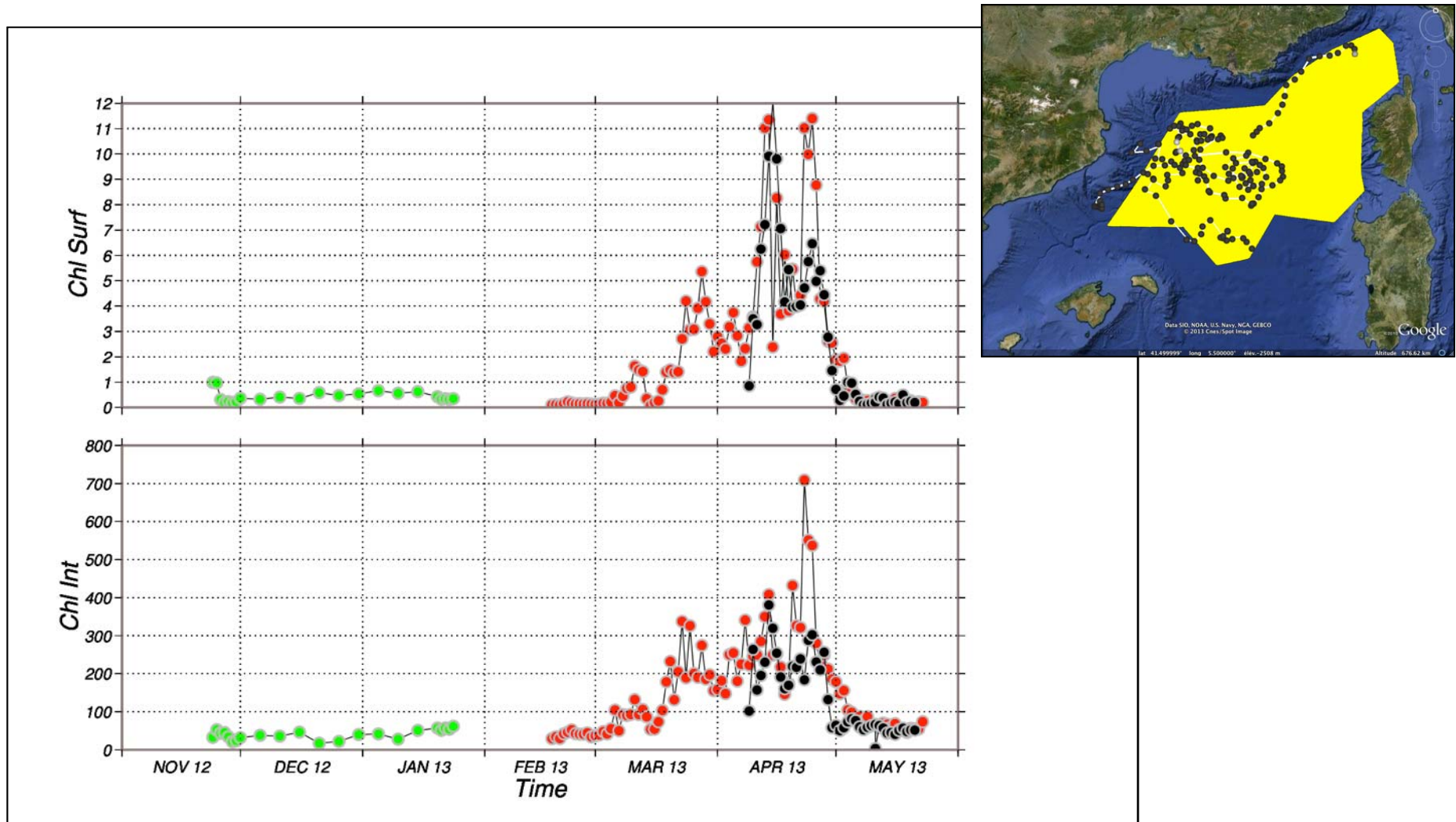
# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

## Bio-Argo floats



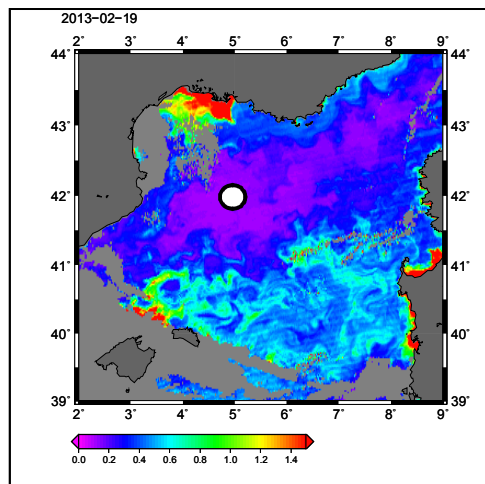
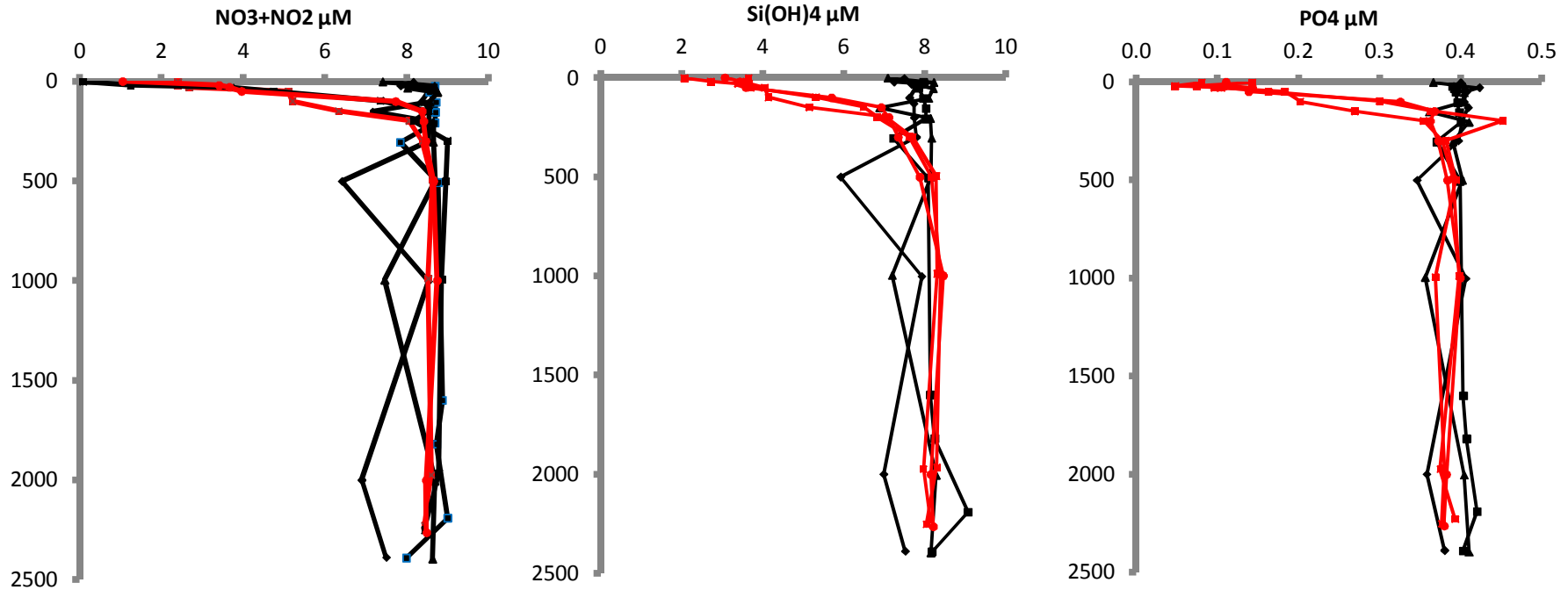
# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

## Bio-Argo floats

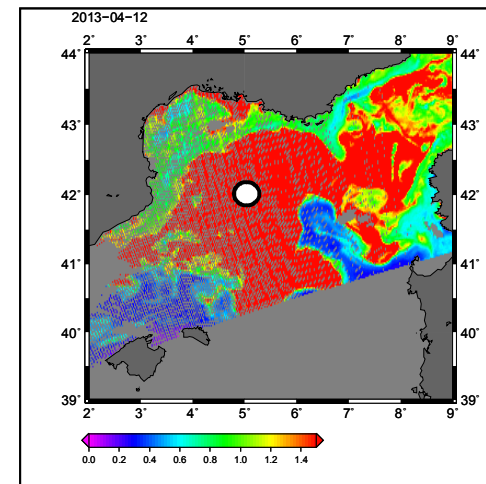


# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

## Data on board



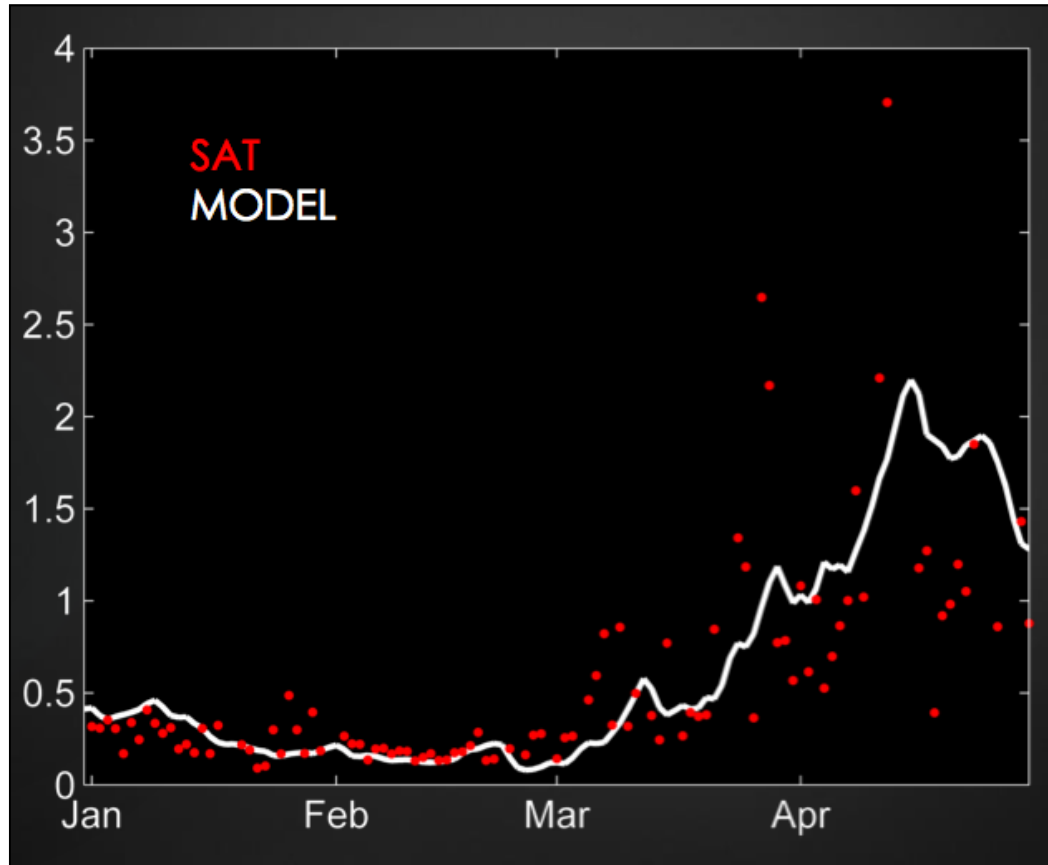
— Février  
— Avril





# DEWEX DEep Water formation EXperiment

## Modelling



### Model (LA Toulouse):

- Symphonie/ECO3m
- 1km résolution
- Aux frontières: Mercator PSY24v4r2
- Forcé en surface: ECMWF (« bulk »)
- Réajustement de l' état initiale avec les données (Juillet-Aout 2012)

DEWEX → an original and huge data set; development of data is underway and a special issue is being prepared

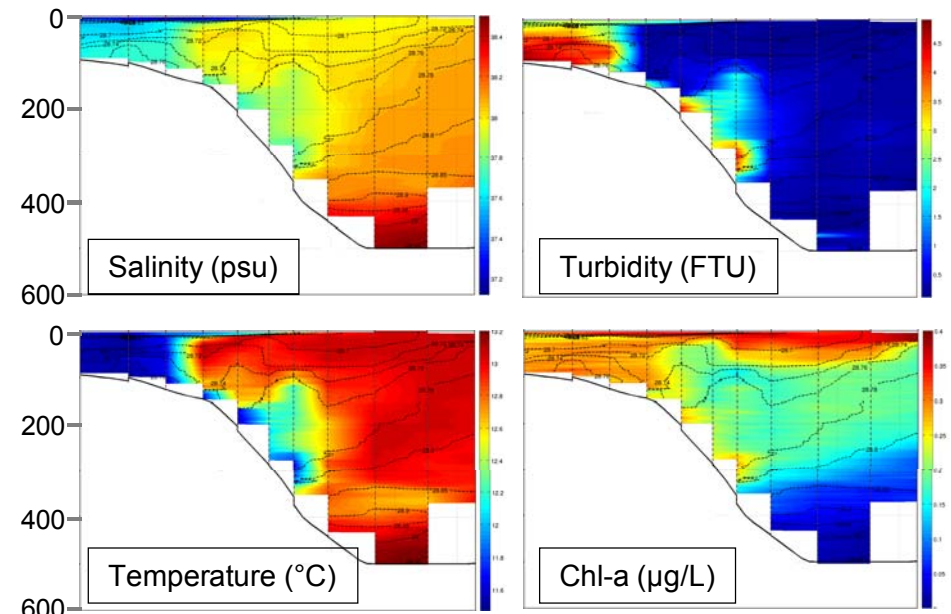
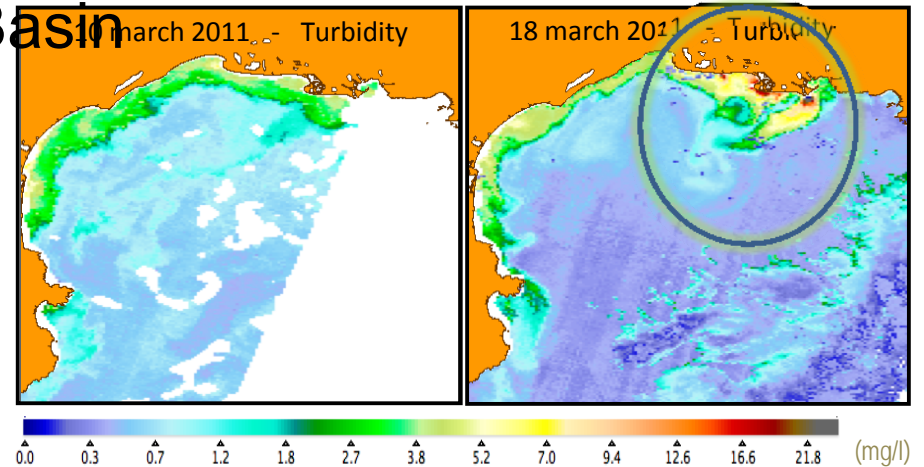
## Land-Sea interactions and extreme events

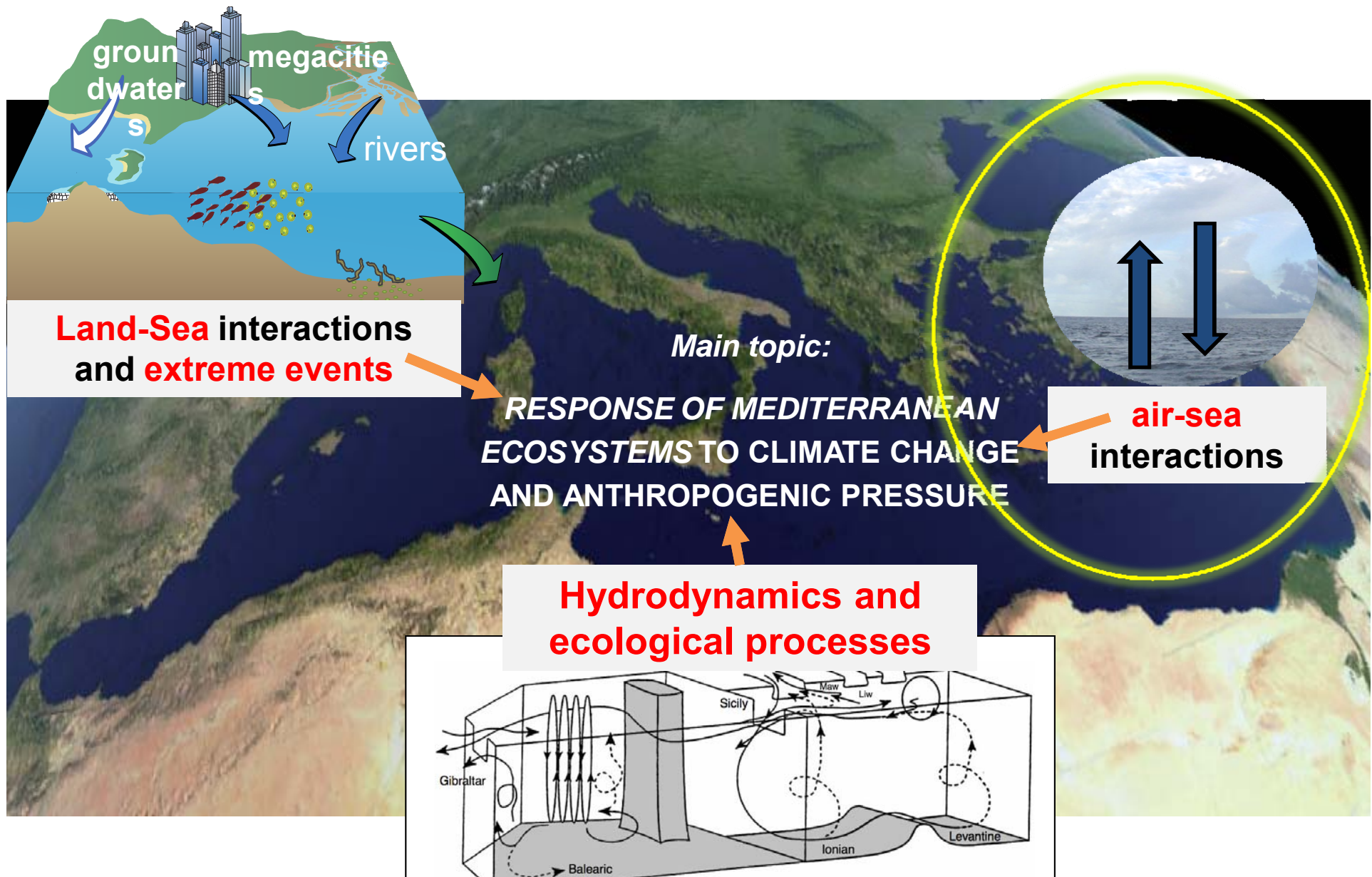
*Transfers and transformations of carbon, nutrients and contaminants from rivers to the open sea, including the impact of extreme events (storms, floods,...).*

Ex. Storm-Induced Export to the Basin

**Storm induced plume on the Gulf of Lion's shelf**

- Along-shore propagation of a turbid plume of buoyant (**cold but fresh**) coastal water during a strong eastern storm
- Storm-induced **downwelling in a canyon**, with the intrusion of **turbid and chlorophyll rich coastal water down to 400 m** depth in the canyon head



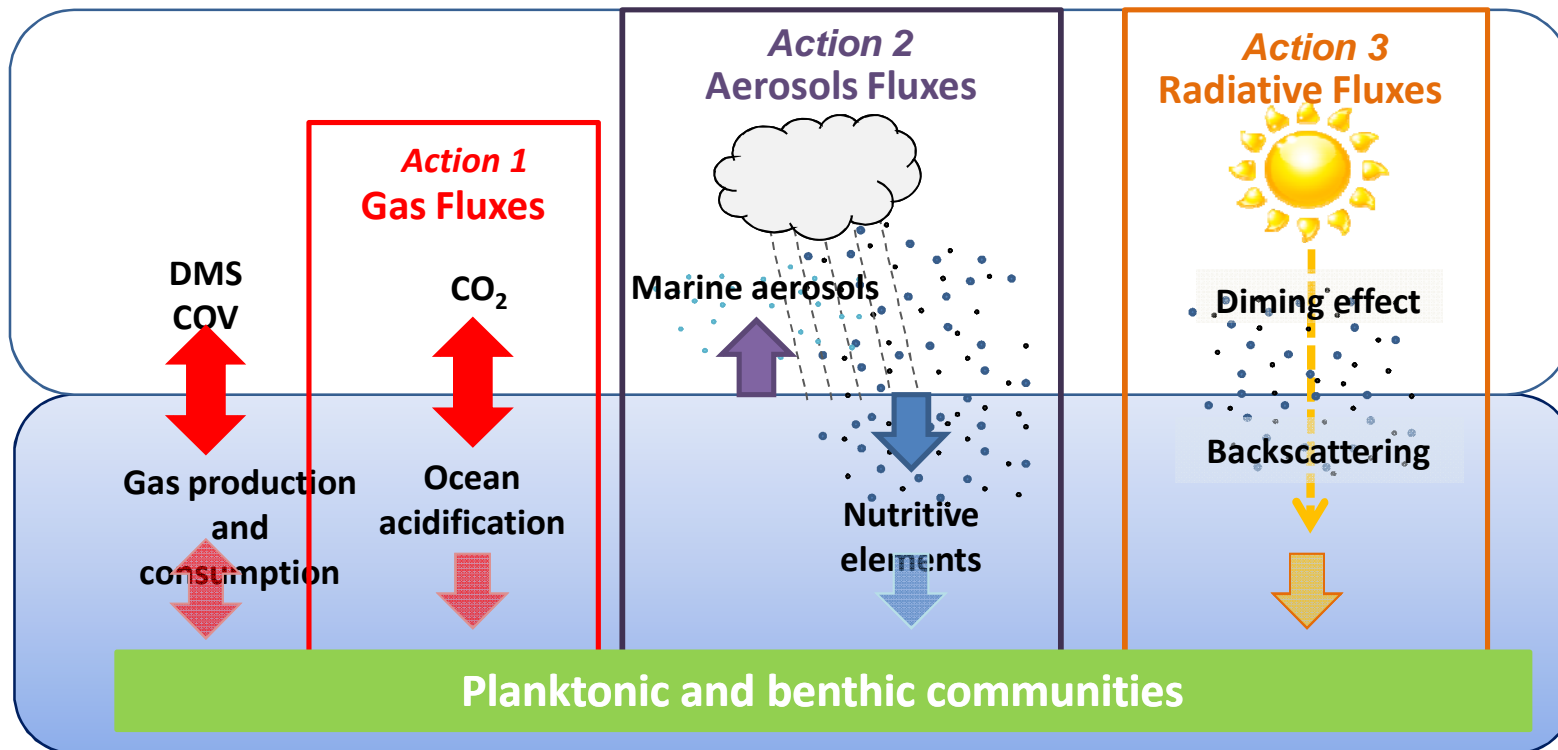


Bio- and eco-**regionalization** of the Mediterranean Sea  
 Mapping of **Ecosystem Services**



# Natural and anthropogenic **air-sea** interactions

→ Impact on ecosystem functioning

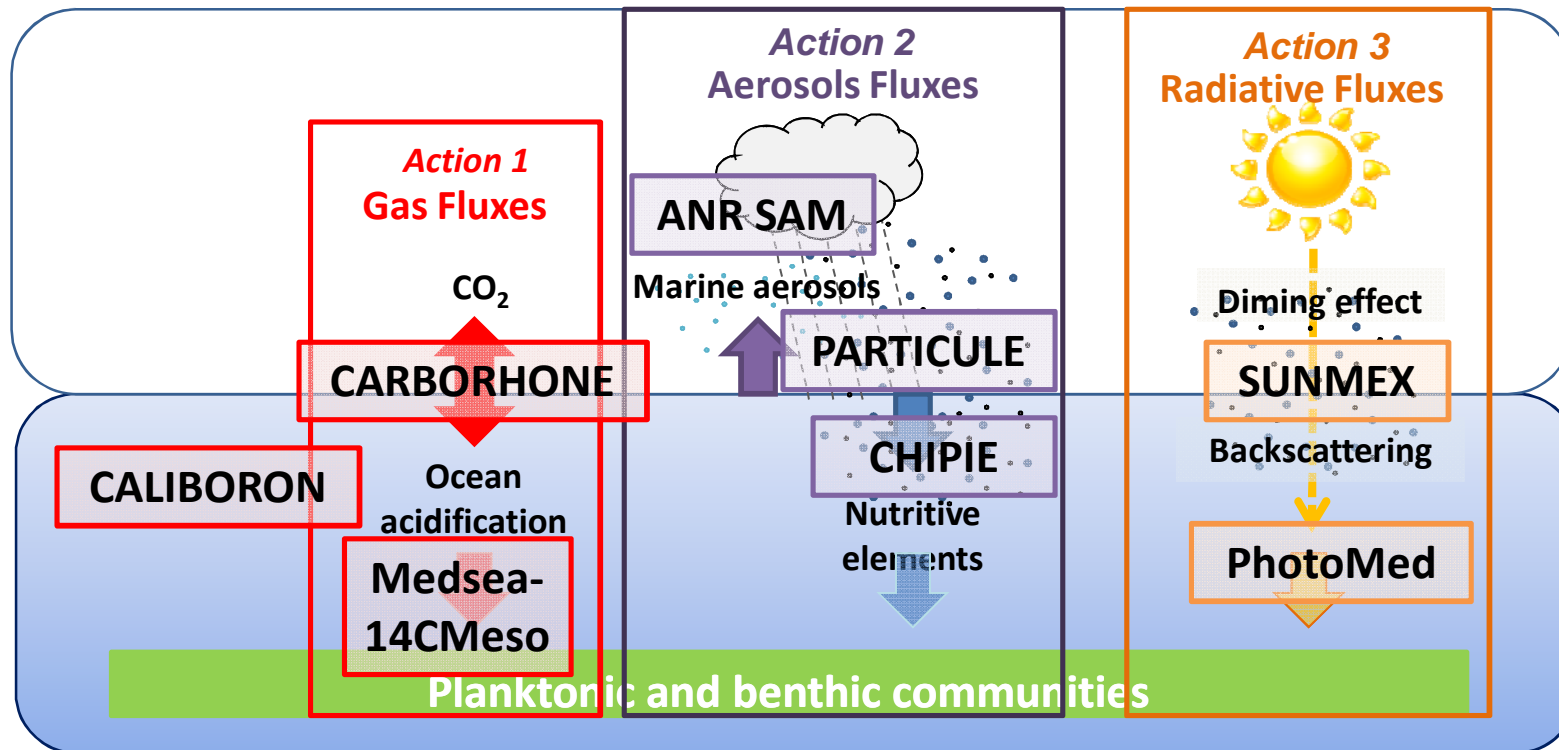




# Natural and anthropogenic **air-sea** interactions

→ Impact on ecosystem functioning

**8 on going projects!**

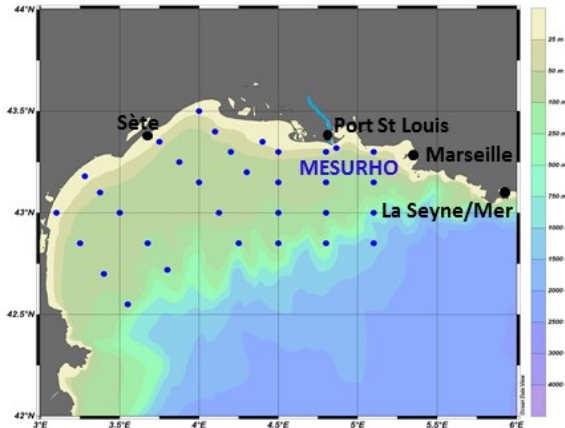




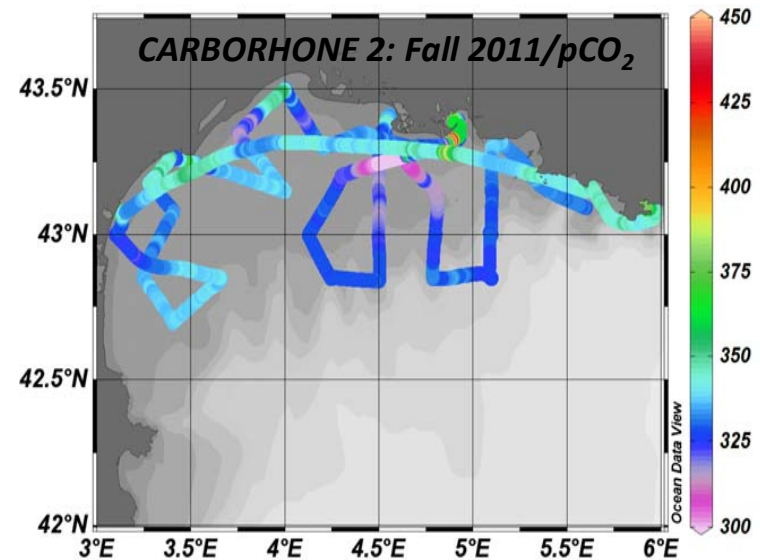
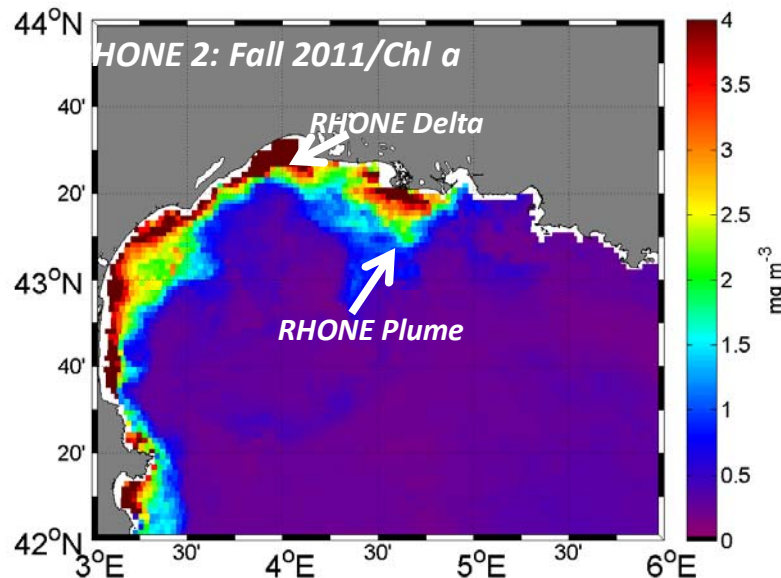
# Gaz fluxes CARBORHONE: Air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes in the Gulf of Lion (GoL)

⇒ What are the biogeochemical processes driving air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes in the GoL?

⇒ Does the Rhone plume influence air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes at regional scale?

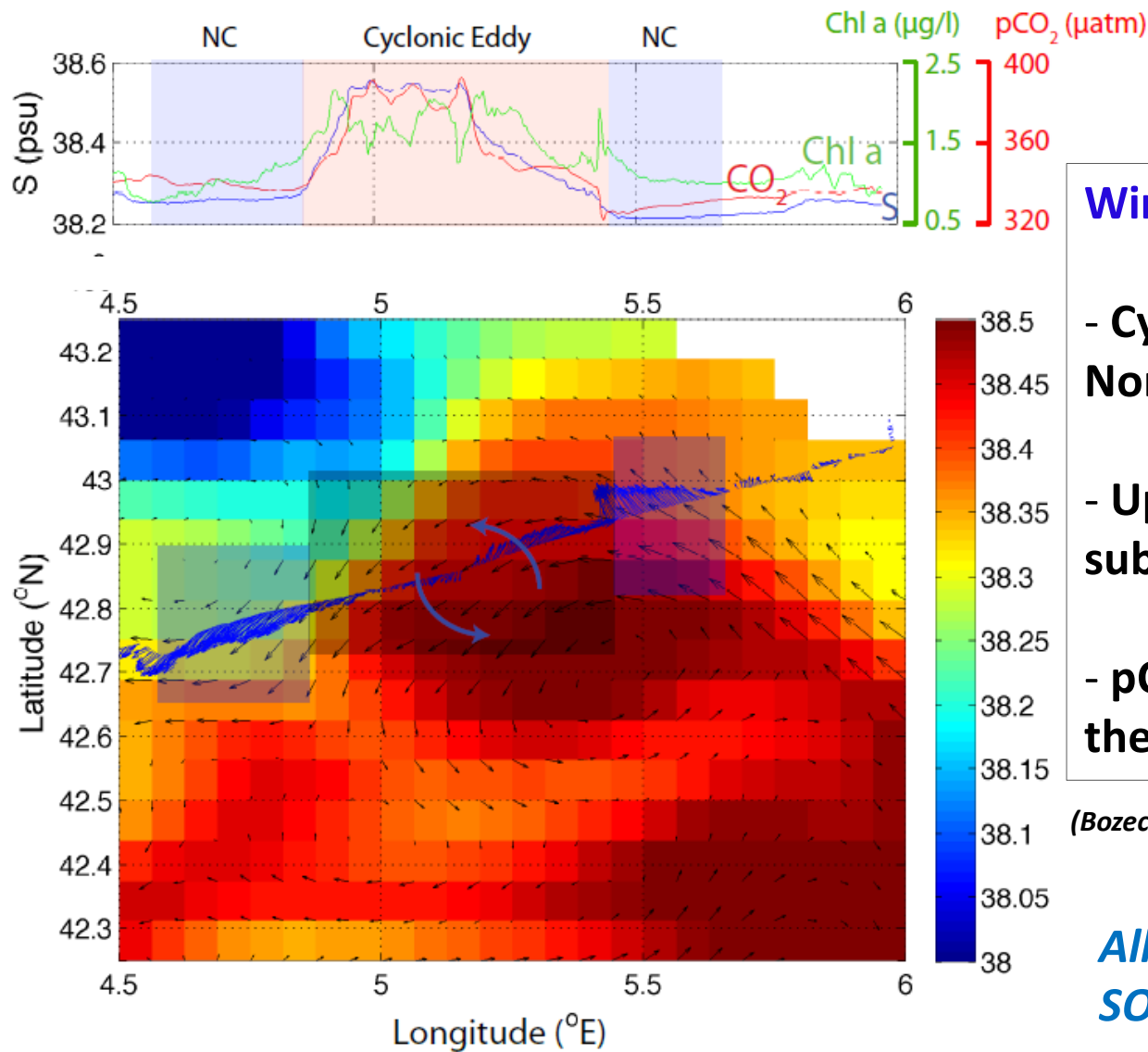


- 4 seasonal cruises in 2011/2012.
- Grid of 31 stations / CTD profiles.
- Surface measurements: T, S, Fluo, pCO<sub>2</sub>, DO.
- Test of the SAMI pCO<sub>2</sub> sensor for MESURHO buoy.



(Bozec et al., IMBER OC, Bergen, June 2014)

# Gaz fluxes CARBORHONE: Cyclonic eddies and pCO<sub>2</sub> in the Gulf of Lion



## Winter 2012 observations:

- Cyclonic eddy located in the Northern Current (NC).
- Upwelling of CO<sub>2</sub>-riched subsurface waters.
- pCO<sub>2</sub> increase of +40 µatm in the eddy.

(Bozec et al., IMBER OC, Bergen, June 2014)

All pCO<sub>2</sub> data → submitted to SOCAT DB, under validation

⇒ Cyclonic eddies decrease the CO<sub>2</sub> sink in the Gol during winter

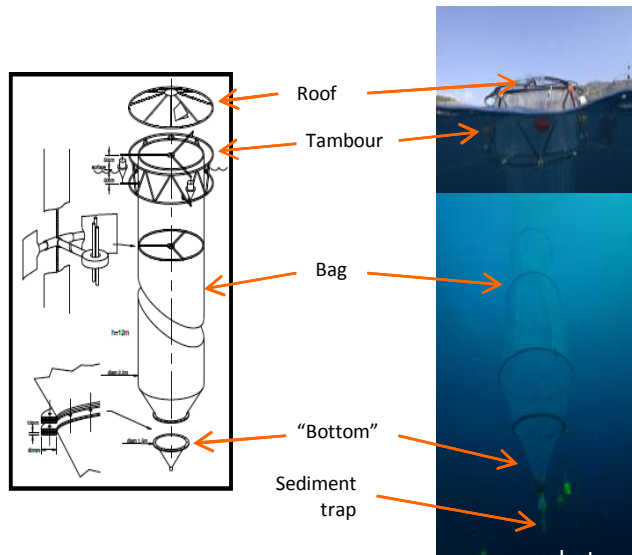
Gaz fluxes/acidification

# Mermex – MedSeA (EU project 2011-2014)

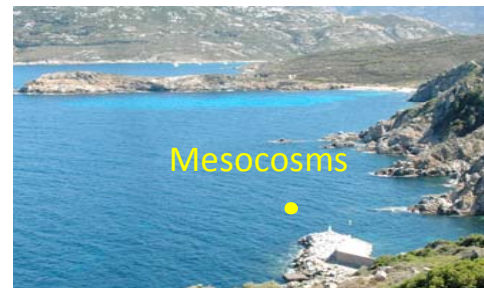


## Two mesocosm experiments to test for ocean acidification impact in the Mediterranean Sea

Mesocosm  
Height 12 m, volume 52 m<sup>3</sup>



Stareso, summer 2012



Villefranche, winter 2013



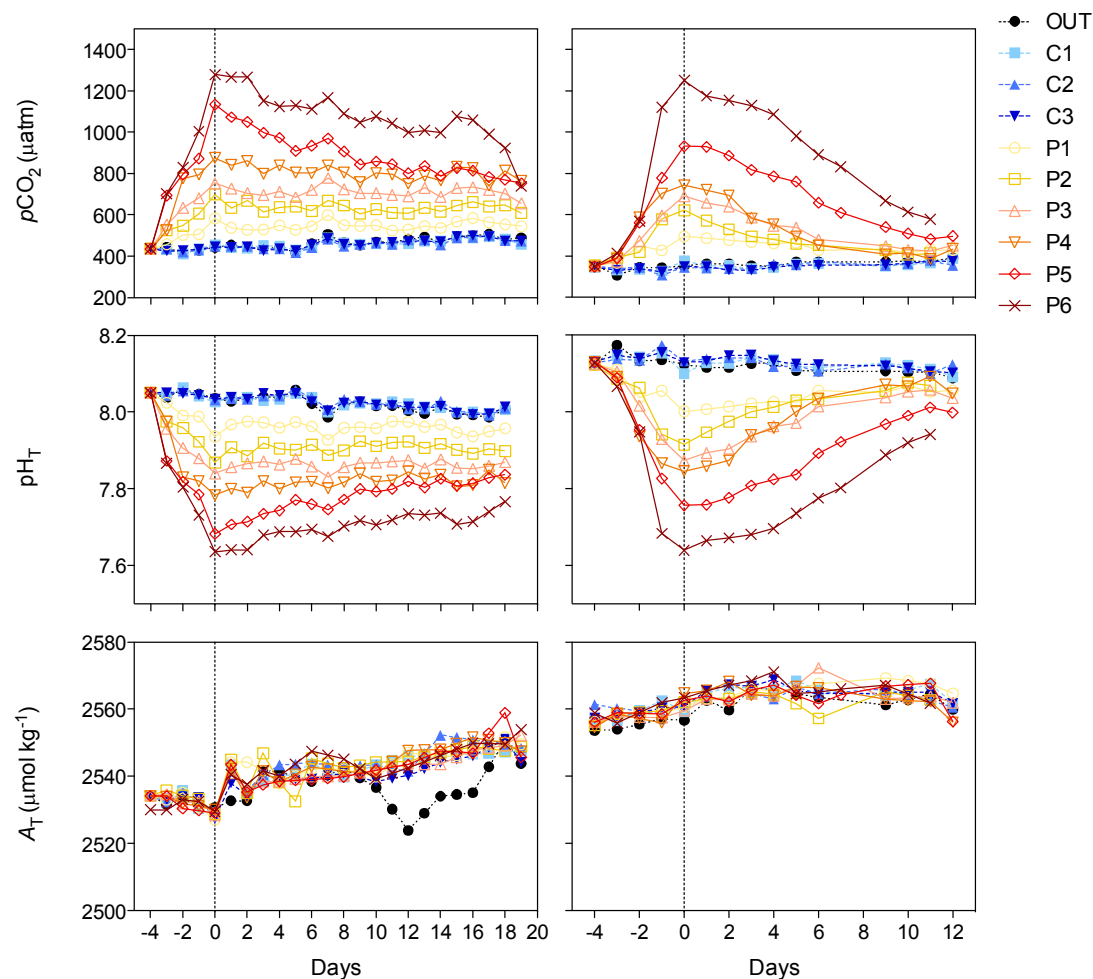
# Mermex – MedSeA (EU project 2011-2014)



## Carbonate chemistry

### Stareso

### Villefranche



- 9 mesocosms
- 6 acidified mesocosms
- Daily sampling with integrative bottles
- 20 days experiment in Stareso
- 12 in Villefranche (bad weather)
- Successful experiments overall
- **No important impacts of ocean acidification in these nutrient-limited ecosystems**
- In the vast majority of the ocean (oligotrophic regions), ocean acidification will not have the fertilizing effect that we anticipated



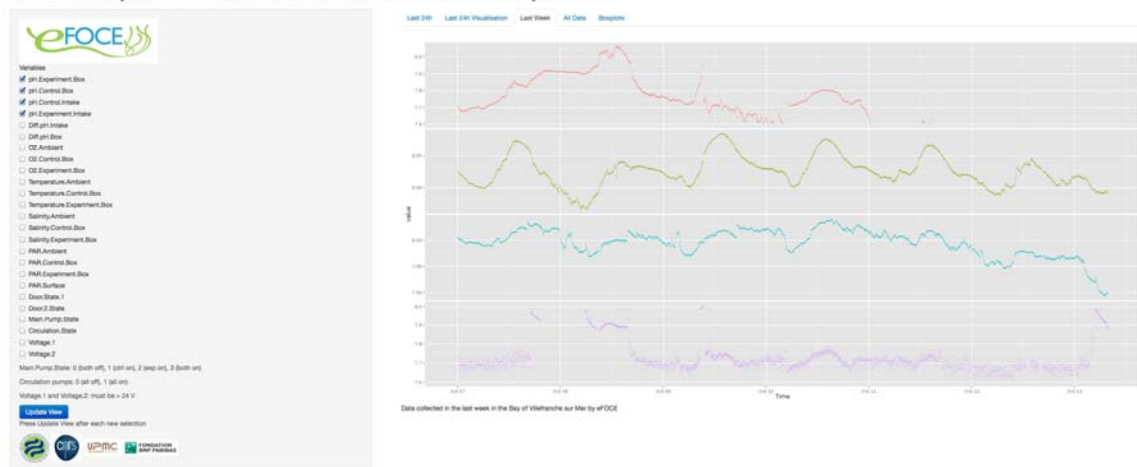
# Mermex – eFOCE (French project 2011-2014)

Development of experimental systems to study the effects of ocean acidification on benthic organisms, directly in the natural environment

- 1 control chamber vs. 1 « acidified » chamber
- Experiment started in June 2014, will end in January 2015
- Continuous pH regulation at -0.3 (projected for 2100)
- Focus on key species (*Posidonia oceanica*: seagrass)



eFOCE: European Free Ocean Carbon dioxide Enrichment Experiment



# MERMEX-CHIPIE

Dust deposition + acidification : What impact on marine biogeochemistry ?



Small version of mesocosms (300 L), in abiotic conditions



# CHIPIE project

**Dust deposition + acidification** : What impacts on marine biogeochemistry ?

1 forcing :

- **dust addition**



**Minicosm of 300 L**  
Abiotic condition

2 forcings :

- **dust addition**
- **acidification**



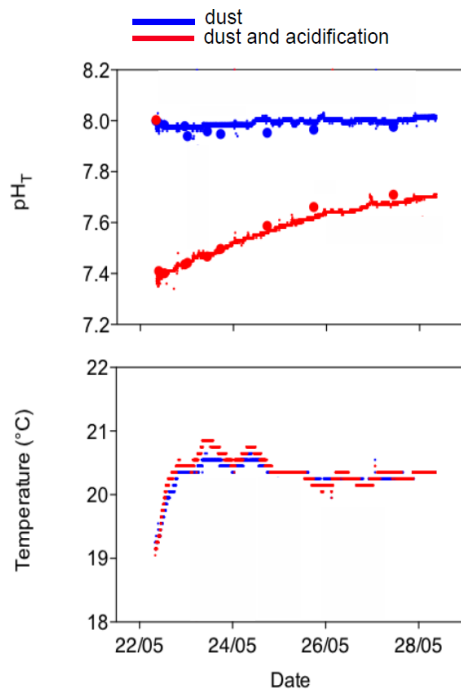
Seawater saturated with  $p\text{CO}_2$  : 1250 ppm



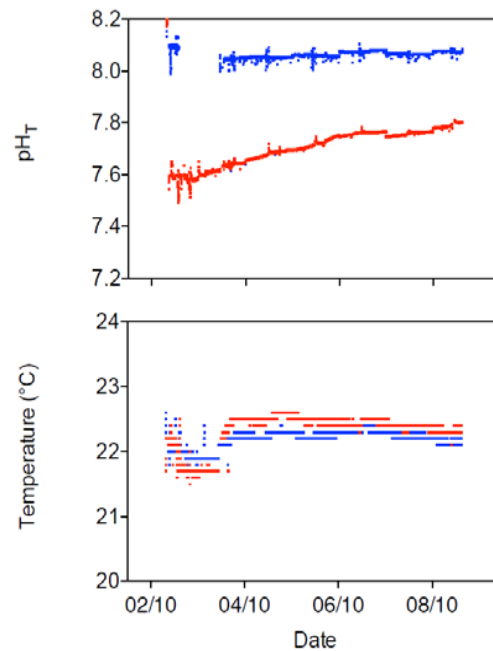
Follow up pH and temperature



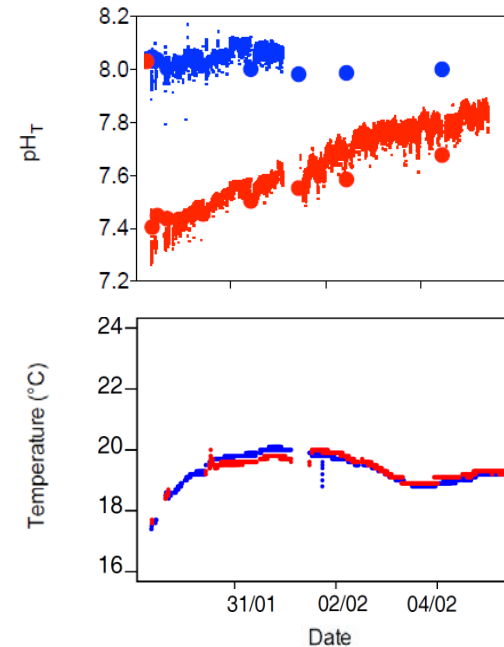
May : post-bloom



October : end of stratification



February : winter mixing layer



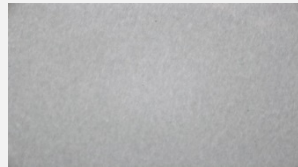
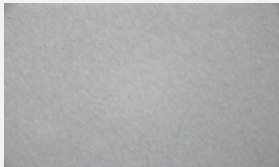
# CHIPIE= Some (very recent) results

**Organic matter – fraction > 0.2 μm**  
*Example of October exp.*

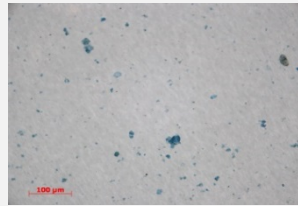
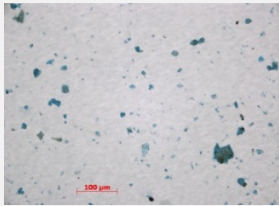
**No acid.**

**Acid.**

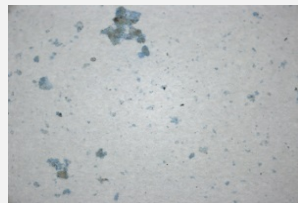
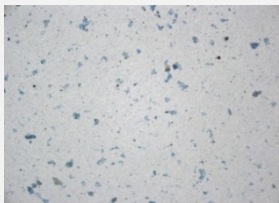
Before seeding - Vol. filtered : 50mL



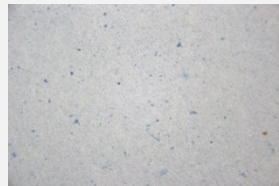
1 hour after seeding - Vol. filtered : 15mL



1 day after seeding - Vol. filtered : 40mL

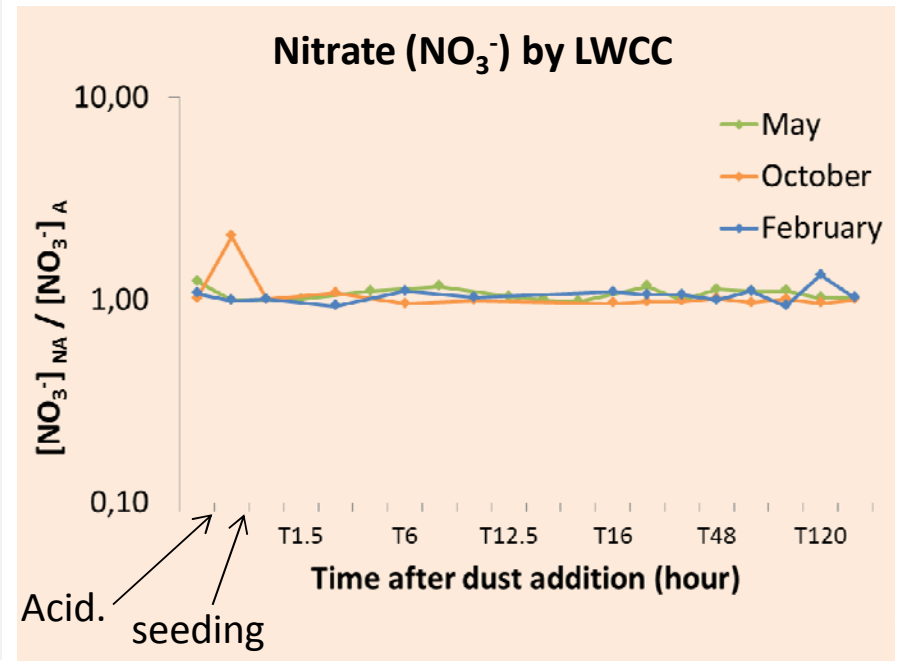
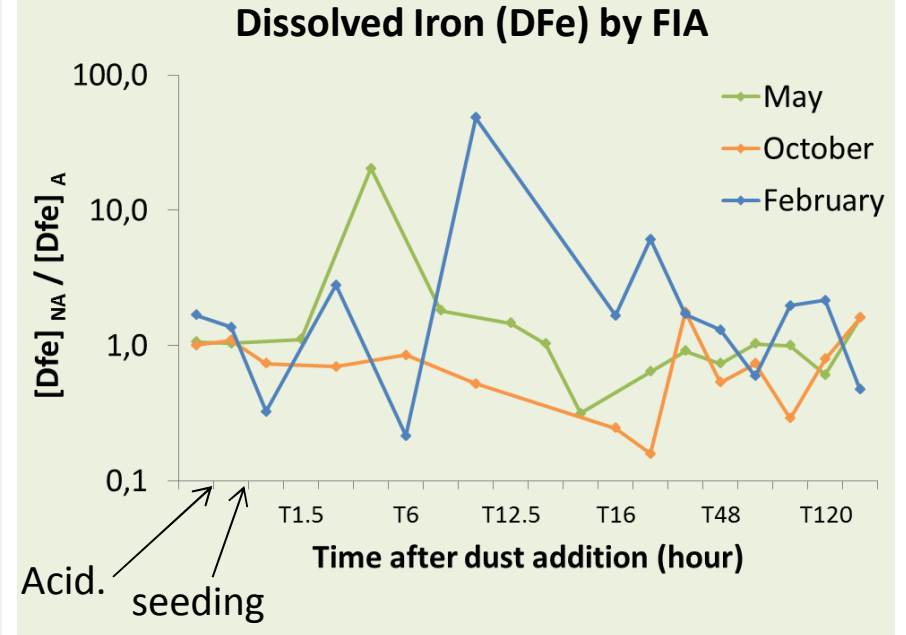


6 day after seeding - Vol. filtered : 50mL



aggregation

sinking





# SAM and MedSea-emissions : Mesocosms studies

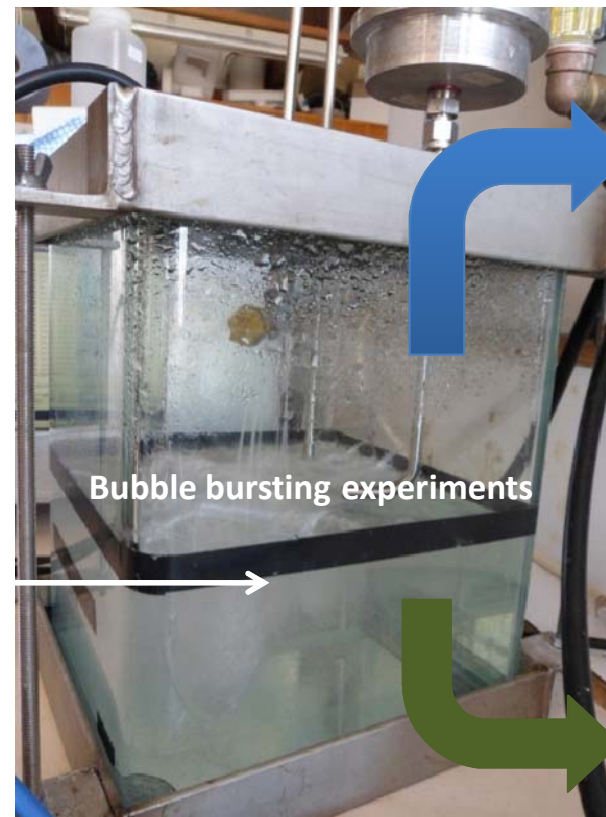
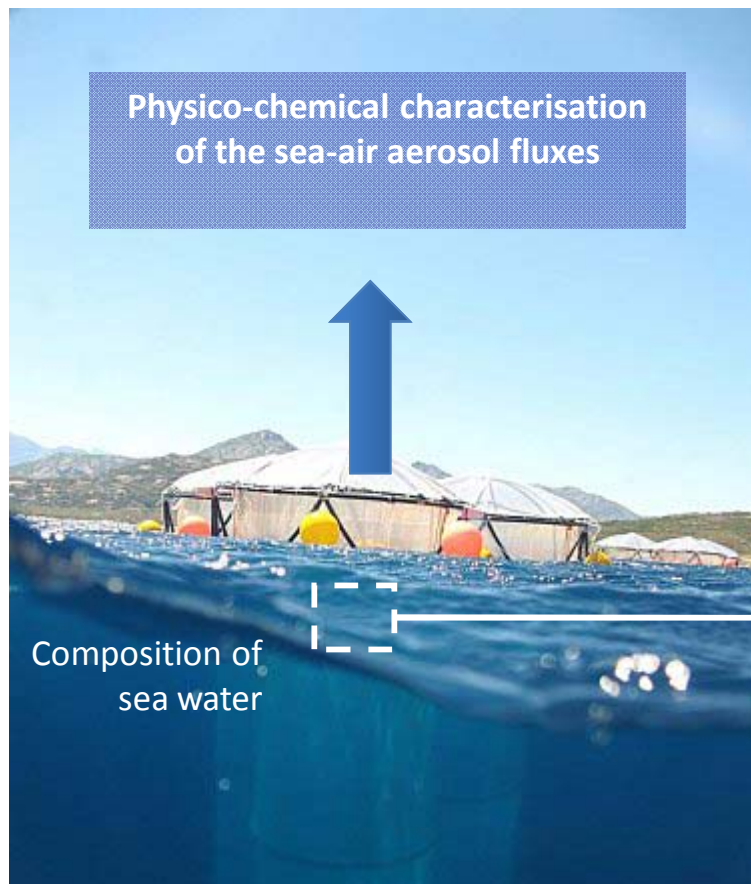


*How are marine emissions related to the biogeochemical composition of the Sea water?*



Stareso station

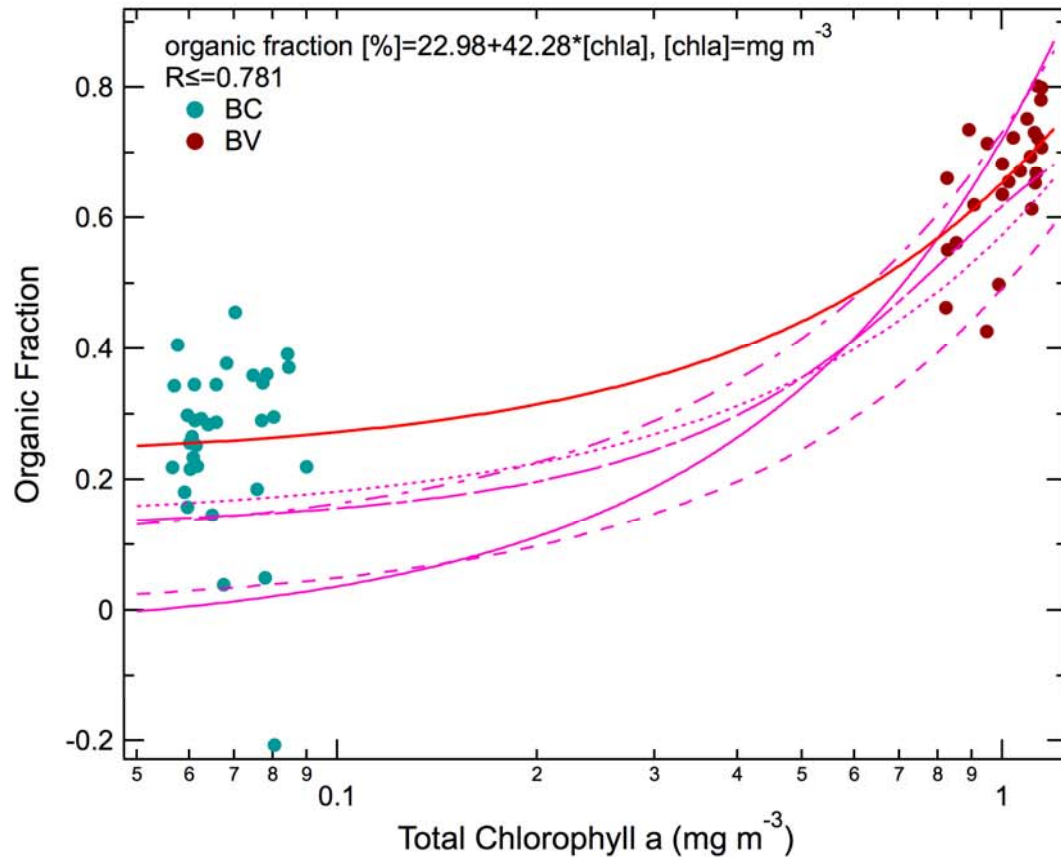
# Objective 1: Characterize and quantify the primary marine aerosol fluxes



- Chemical composition
- Size distribution
- Cloud Cond. Nuclei
- Biological charac.

- Chl-a
- DOC-POC
- Biological charac

# New parametrizations of marine aerosol emissions



- Rinaldi et al. [2013]: North Atlantic Ocean
- Gannt et al. [2011]: Mace Head, Ire.
- Vignati et al. [2010]: Mace Head, Ire.
- Langmann et al. [2008]: revised O'Dowd et al. [2008]
- O'Dowd et al. [2008]: Northeast Atlantic Ocean
- This work

A higher organic content from the Mediterranean waters?

Schwier et al. ACPD 2014



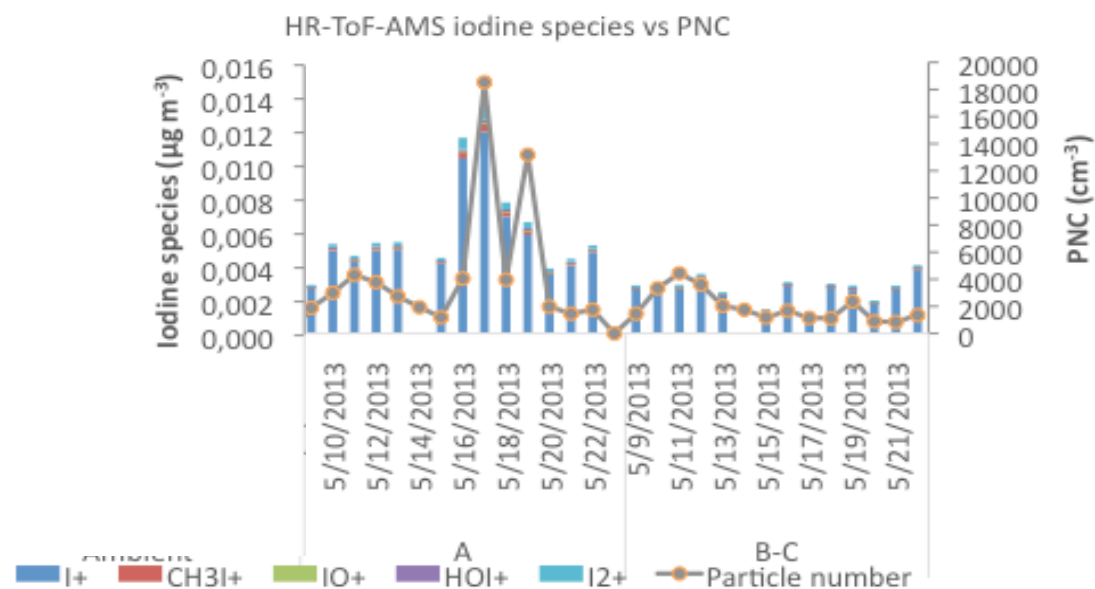
## Objective 2: Characterize the VOC emissions and understand the secondary aerosol formation



Directly from the emerged part of the mesocosm:

- VOC measurements from PTRMS
- Ultrafine particle size distribution
- trace species on HR-AMS

→ New particle formation observed for the first time w/o presence macroalgae



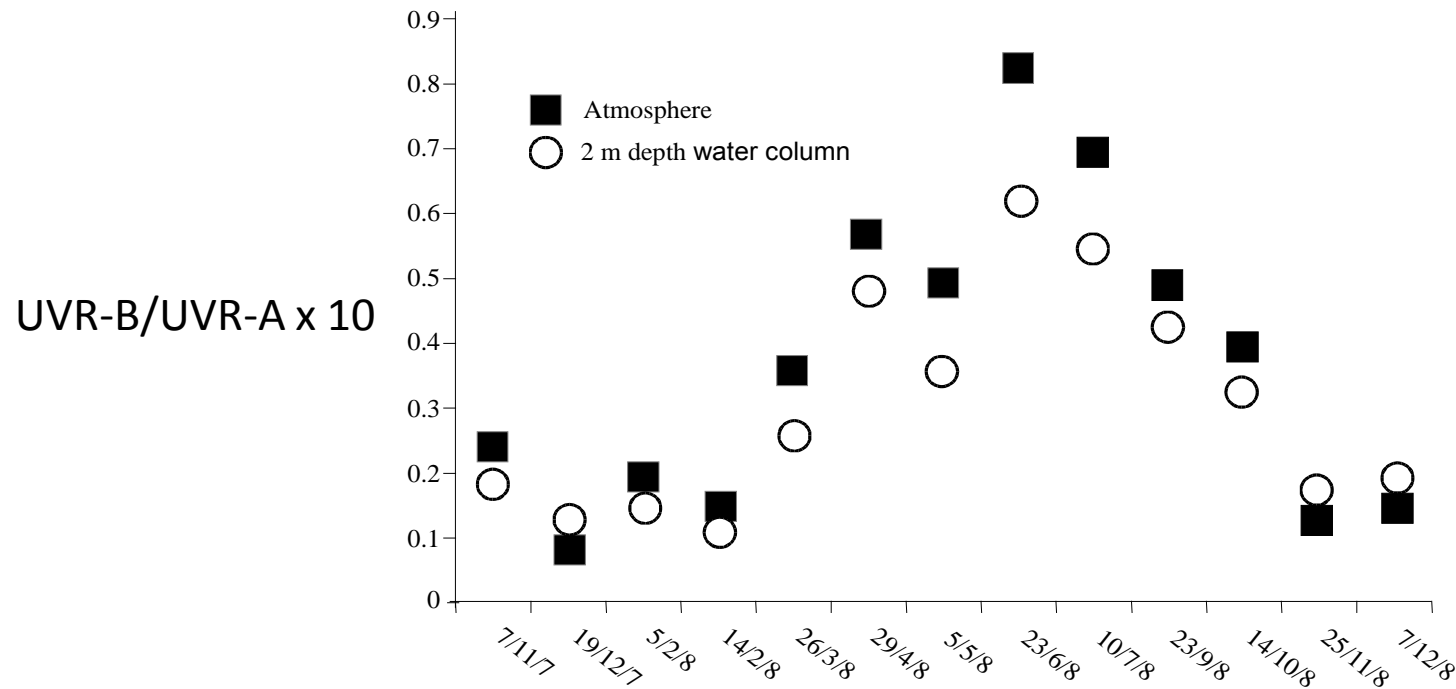


## Radiative fluxes

### Sunmex, Marseille Bay

Potential effect of aerosol and tropospheric ozone attenuation on marine ecosystems and seagrass rarefaction

*R. Sempéré, B. Charriere, M. Mallet, J. Para*



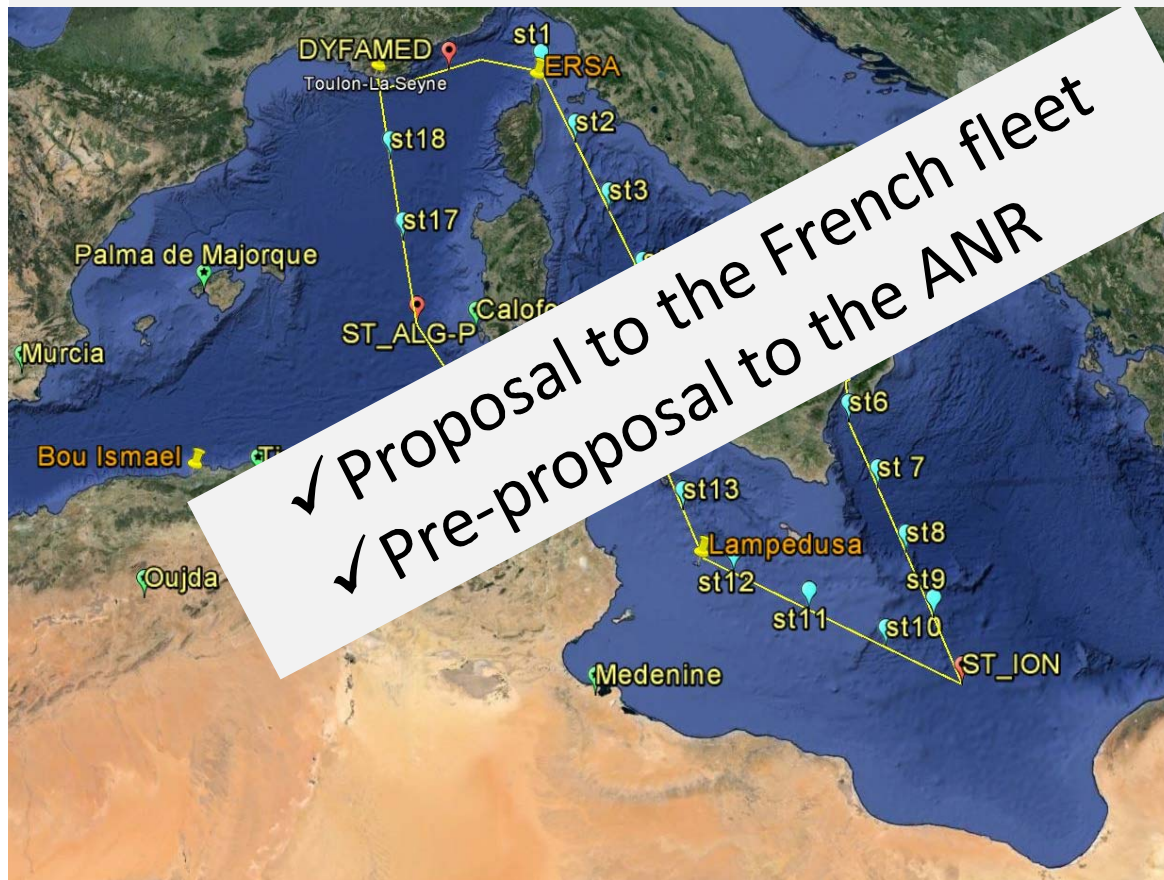
- These UVR values are the first ever reported on an annual basis in Mediterranean Sea.
- Examination of the ratios of UVR-B/UVR-A shows that **UVR-B increased 7 to 8 fold more than its UVR-A** during the summer.

# *In project* PEAcEtIME : ProcEss studies at the Air-sEa Interface after dust deposition in the MEditerranean sea (2015-2018)

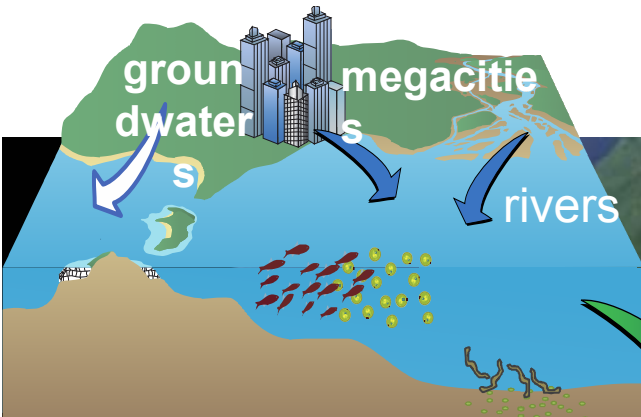
*Cécile Guieu and Karine Desboeufs: PI of PEACETIME*

To characterize the fundamental processes and their interactions at the ocean-atmosphere interface in the Mediterranean Sea, and how these processes impact, and will impact, the functioning of the pelagic ecosystem and the feedback to the atmosphere, today and in the future.

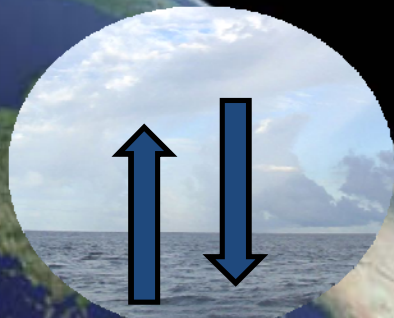
Experimentalists and modelers from atmospheric and marine sciences,



- Target: A 33-days cruise planned in MAY 2016 R/V Pourquoi Pas? (40 scientists embarked).
- 14 lab in France
- 9 research laboratories abroad
- **National Frame:** part of the **MISTRALS** programme (Mediterranean Integrated Studies at Regional And Local Scales) and a joint project between **ChArMEx** (the Chemistry-Aerosol Mediterranean Experiment) and **MERMEx** (Marine Ecosystems Response in the Mediterranean Experiment).
- **International Frame:** SOLAS, GEOTRACES, IMBER (supports)



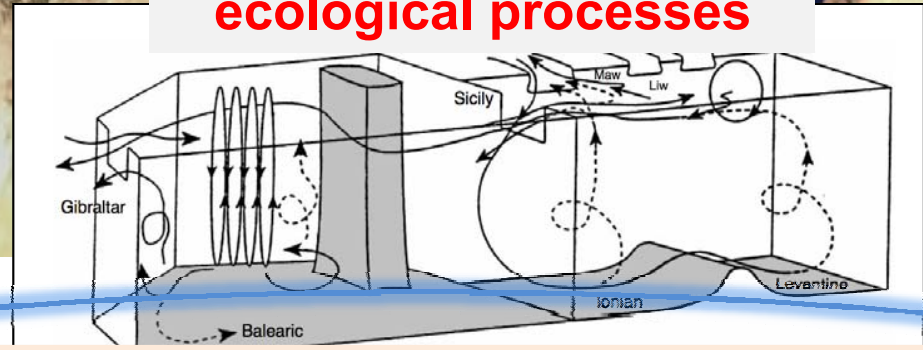
**Land-Sea interactions and extreme events**



**air-sea interactions**

*Main topic:*  
**RESPONSE OF MEDITERRANEAN ECOSYSTEMS TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ANTHROPOGENIC PRESSURE**

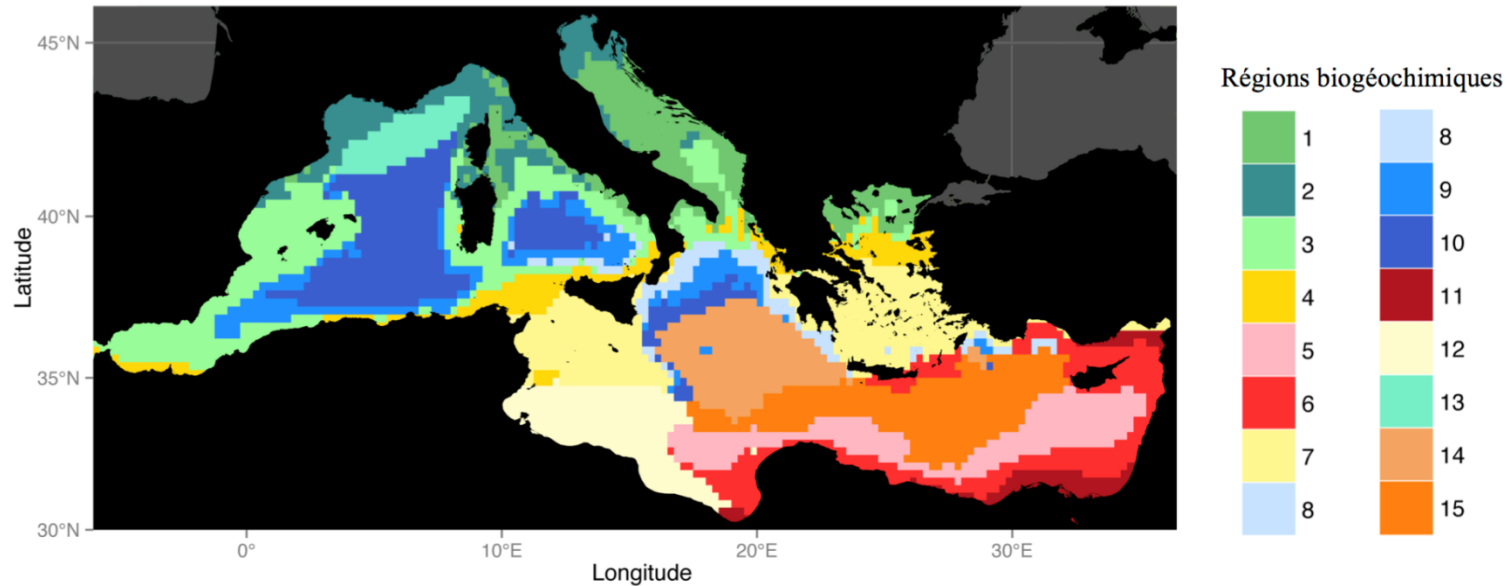
**Hydrodynamics and ecological processes**



**Bio- and eco-regionalization of the Mediterranean Sea**  
**Mapping of Ecosystem Services**

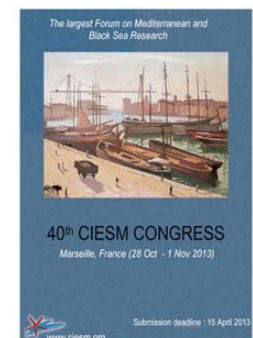


# REGIONALISATION: Bio- and eco-regionalization of the Mediterranean Sea from data analysis in international databases + data collected by MERMEX



*Reygondeau et al., 2013*  
*Post-doc funded by PERSEUS*

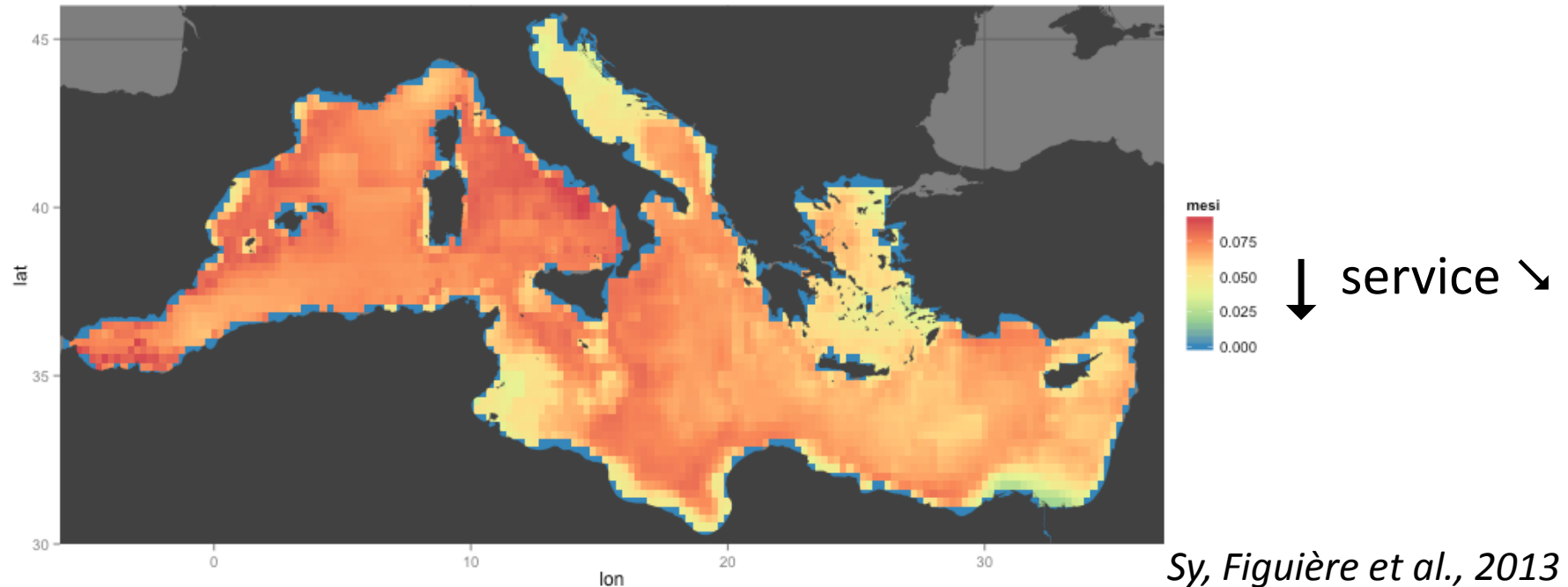
- Mediterranean bio-region:
- Acquisition of the distribution of 14 environmental variables... → clustering
- A map composed of homogeneous regions: « bio-region »
- On going: seasonal pattern of the bio-regions and 3D pattern;





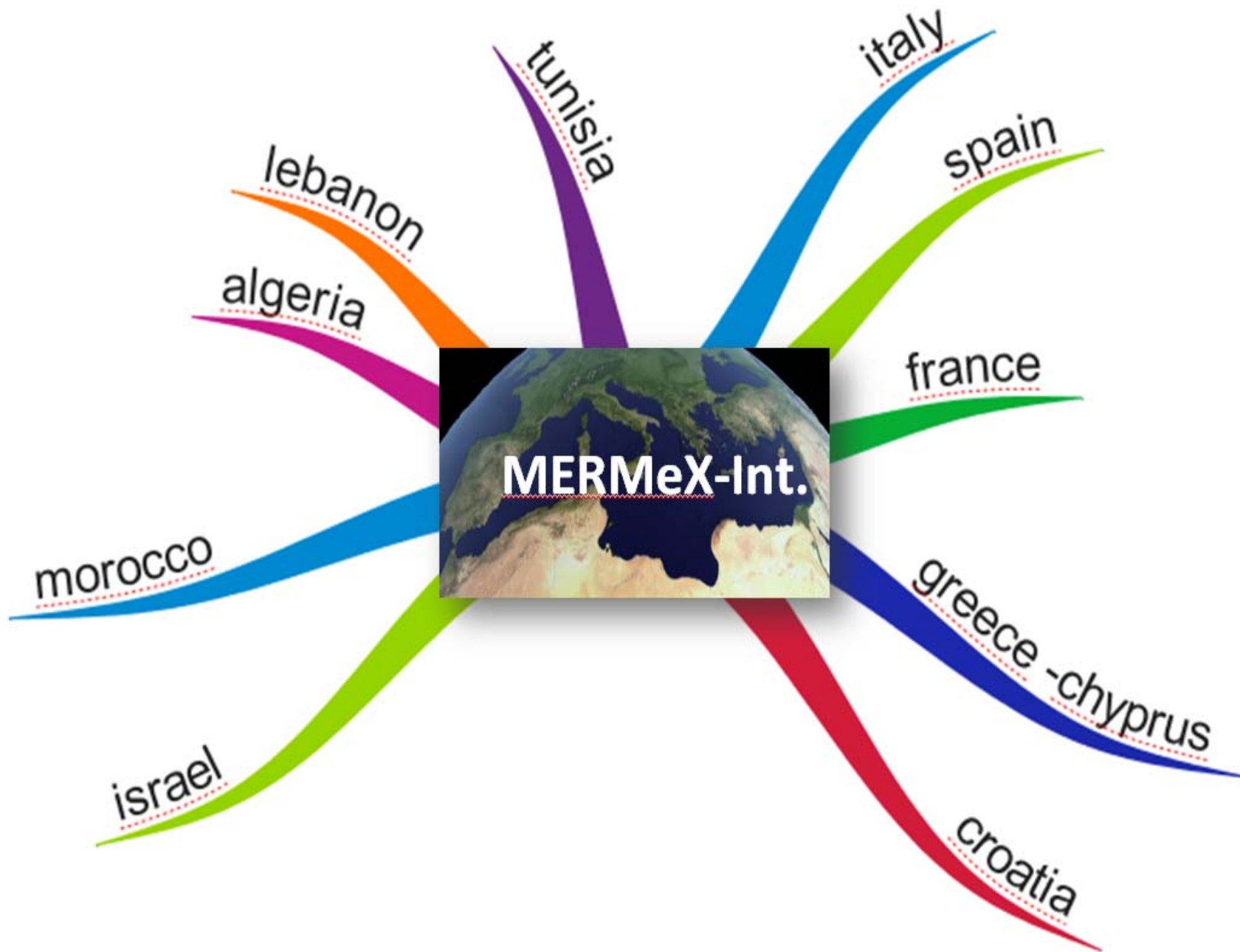
## Mapping of ecosystem services

### MESI index



MESI index → mapping of ecosystem services

- Nord-ouest more rich in term of ecosystem services compared to the south and north-east
- MESI is higher in some area where there are no MPAs!



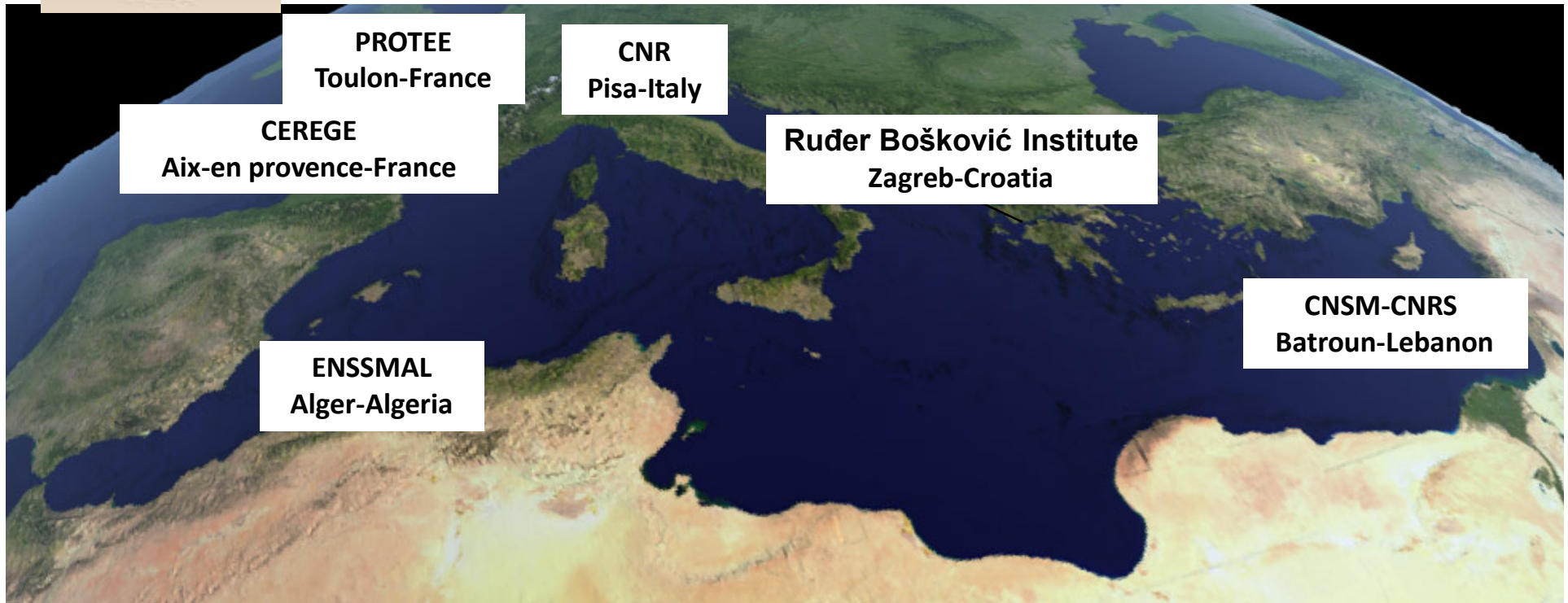


# Envimed project: cycles of trace metal contaminants – WP3 (on going project)

Contaminants Métalliques dans l'Environnement COtier Méditerranéen

**COMECOM-MERMEX**

**2<sup>nd</sup> call**



➤ **P.I. Olivier Radavovitch (CEREGE-Aix en Provence-France)**

**Knowledge and the sharing of expertise concerning the cycles of trace metal contaminants in the Mediterranean coastal area and their impacts on the marine ecosystem**

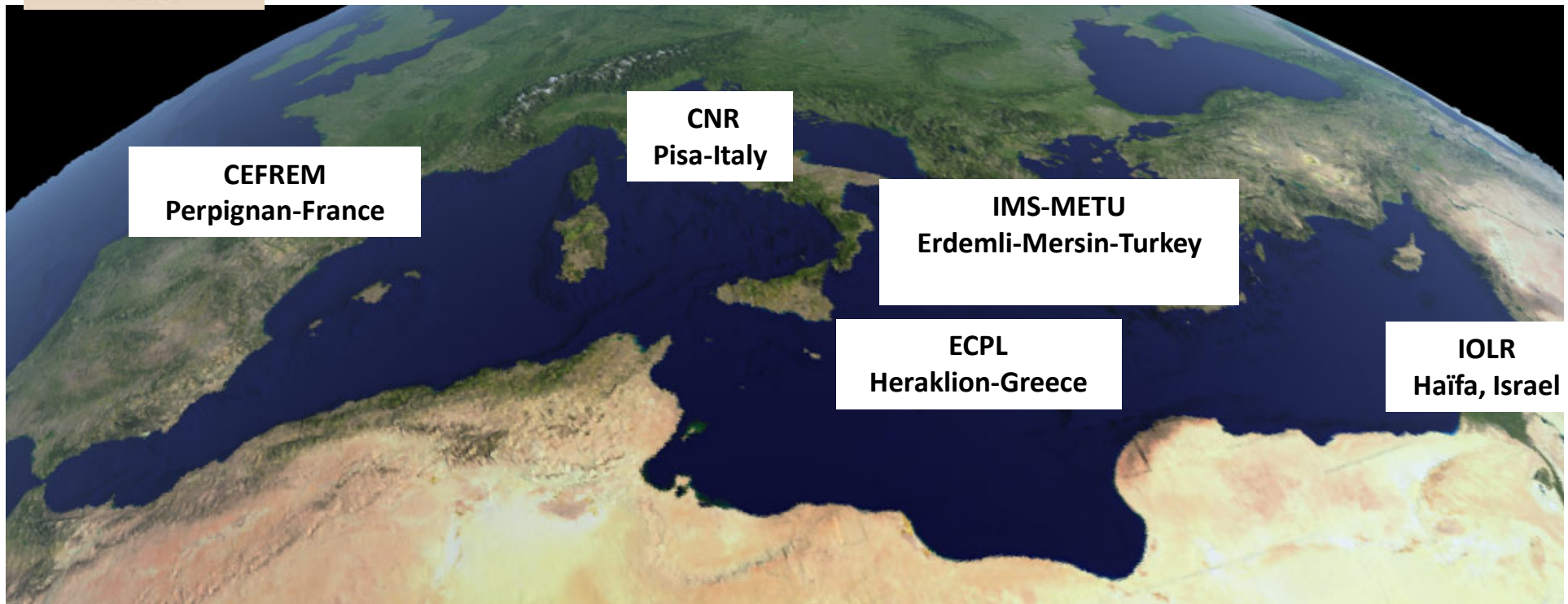


## Envimed project: Atmospheric inputs to coastal Med Sea –WP4 (on going project)

TRansfer of Atmospheric COntaminants to the MEDiterranean Sea

**TRACOMED- MERMEX**

**2<sup>ND</sup> CALL**



➤ **P.I. Dominique Aubert (CEFREM-Perpignan-France)**

**Knowledge and the sharing of expertise concerning the atmospheric input of trace metal and nutrients**





# Envimed project: SOMBA-WP1

Systeme d'observation de la mer dans le bassin algerien

**SOMBA-MERMEX**

**2<sup>nd</sup> call**



LOCEAN-Paris, MIO  
Marseille-France

ENSSMAL  
Alger-France

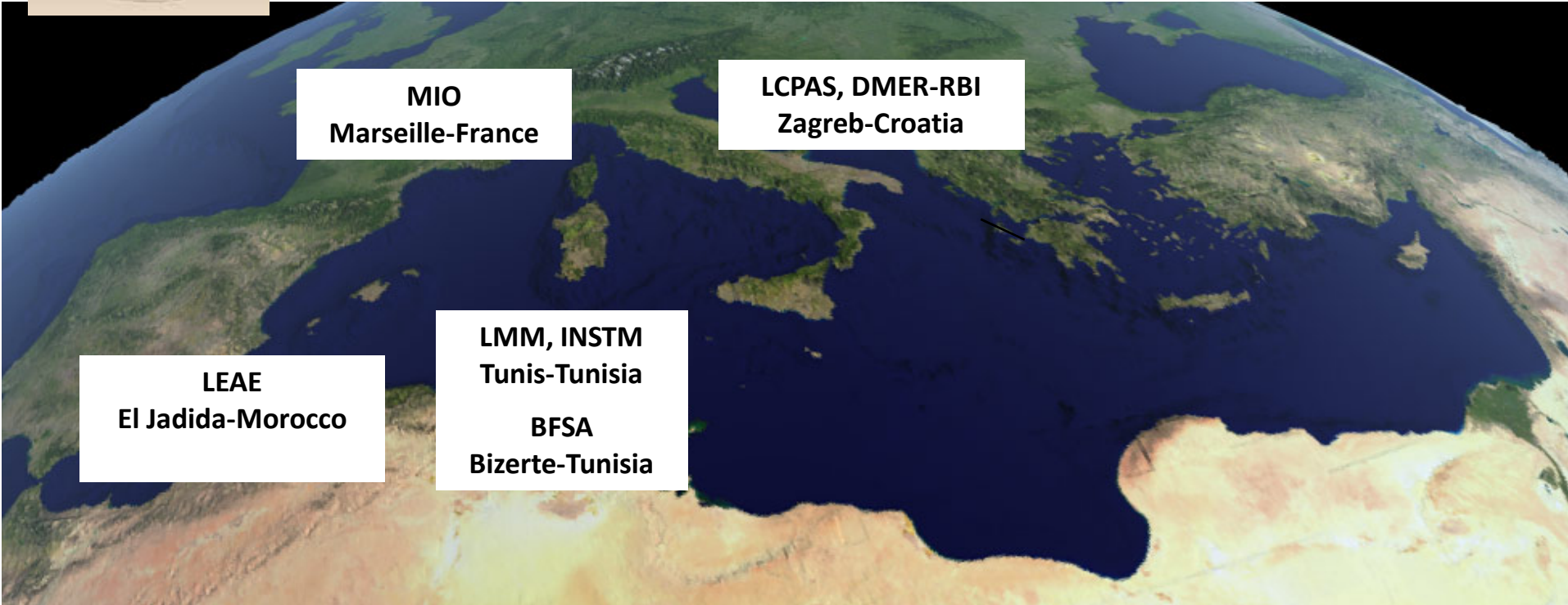


➤ P.I. Laurent Mortier, (LOCEAN, UPMC)



# Envimed project: Effets of physical forcing on COastal ZOoplankton community structure-WP2

**COZOMED-MERMEX**  
**3rd call**

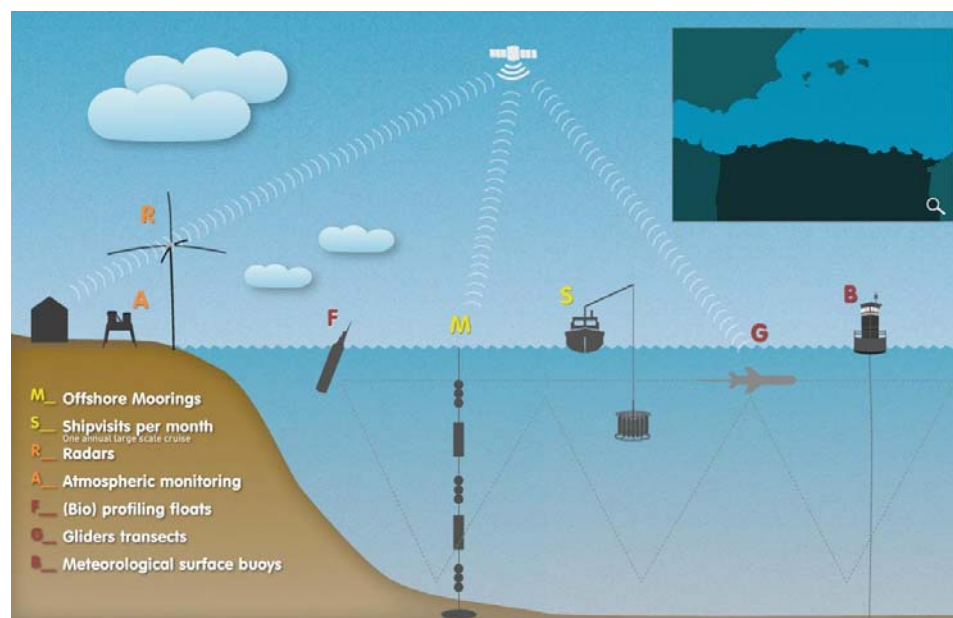


➤ **P.I. Marc Pagano (MIO-Marseille-France)**

**Knowledge and the sharing of expertise concerning the role of hydrodynamic and trophic forcing on the variability in time and space of Mediterranean coastal and lagoon zooplankton communities under contrasted tidal influence**

# SOMBA

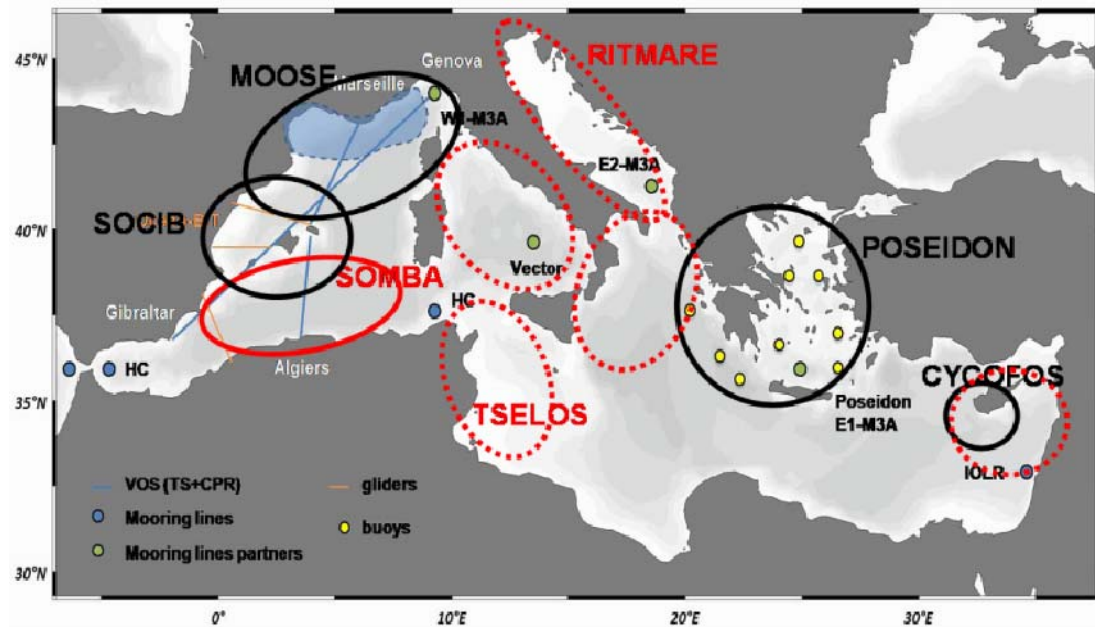
## « Système d'Observation à la Mer du Bassin Algérien »



INSTITUT  
FRANÇAIS  
ALGERIE

Laurent Mortier, LOCEAN, [mortier@locean-ipsl.upmc.fr](mailto:mortier@locean-ipsl.upmc.fr)  
Ferial Louanchi, ENSSMAL, [ferlou18@gmail.com](mailto:ferlou18@gmail.com)

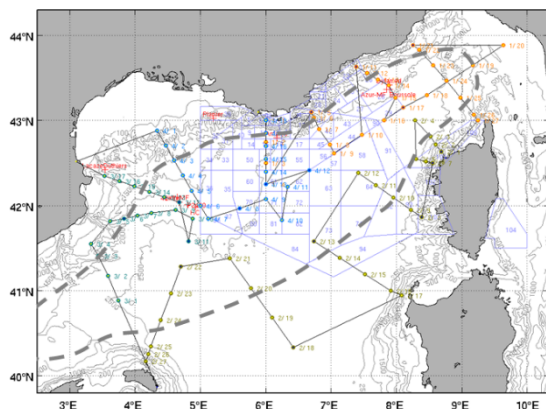
# SOMBA: OBJECTIVES



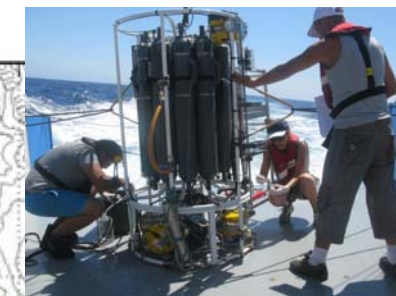
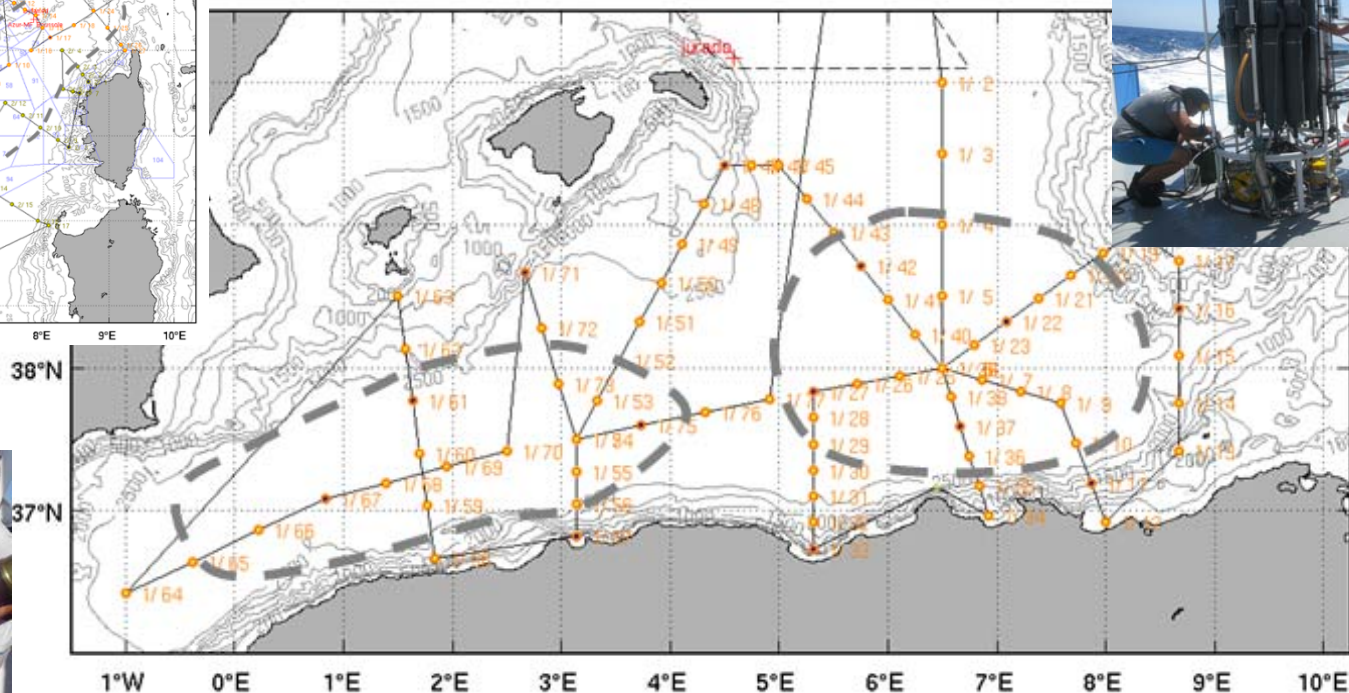
- To develop open-sea observation of the Algerian Basin
- To integrate those observation to International-MOOSE
- To support MERMEX-Algeria and national authorities (fisheries...)
  - A mooring ✓ summer 2014
  - ARGO float → autumn 2014
  - Yearly Oceanographic campaign ✓ summer 2014
  - Implement a glider Palma-Alger ✓ on-going
  - Workshop 'instruments' ✓ spring 2014
  - MOOSE methological standards (O2, DIC, Nut.) ✓ on going



## Bassin Algerian → 2 Gyres → Campagnes SOMBA-GE



Campagnes  
MOOSE-GE



- Pilot campaign SOMBA-GE2014: 15/08-10/09 sur **le R/V TethysII**
- PIs: ENSSMAL (Alger) et LOCEAN (Paris)
- Idem MOOSE-GE parameters, same protocols
- Next in september 2015
- Algerian boat from ENSSMAL « **Benyahia** »





## Modelling activities

### WP1

**Impact of hydrodynamic changes** on Mediterranean biogeochemical budgets

Dense water formation influence on ecosystem, Biogeochemistry of the Mediterranean

### WP 4

Natural and anthropogenic **air-sea interactions**

Ocean acidification, Carbon fluxes

### Models:

**Process studies**

**Data interpolation**

**Impact of climate change**

### WP2

**Ecological processes:** biogeochemistry and food web interactions

HTL models: ecological models, end-to-end models, Impact of climate change on ecosystems

### WP3

**Land-ocean interactions** including extreme events

Cascading, Influence of extreme events on the sediment budget over the goL, Impact of coastal cities on ecosystems and fate of contaminants

### WP5

**Ecosystem Based Management**

Ecological niche models  
Statistical models

*Links with other programs: Hymex, Charmex, Simed, COMODO, AMICO, PERSEUS,...MOOSE*

*Mistrals workshop in January 2015 : climate integrated modelling studies in the Mediterranean*

# Modelling activities

-13 configurations of  
models/ coupling including  
HTL and contaminant/ hindcasts, forecasts and scenarios

| Configuration Name          | Sub-models (name + type)                                    | Coupling type | Ongoing Developments                             | Area            | Horizontal resolution       | Contact               |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| NEMOMED12-ECO3M-Med         | NEMOMED12 (0)<br>ECO3M-Med (1)                              | HydroBio      |  | Med             | 1/12°                       | F. Diaz               |
| NEMOMED12-PISCES            | NEMOMED12 (0)<br>PISCES(1)                                  | HydroBio      |  | Med             | 1/12°                       | J-C. Dutay            |
| MENOR                       | MARS3D (0)  |               |  | NW Med          | 1.2 km                      | P. Garreau            |
| MENOR-ECO3M-Med             | MARS3D (0)<br>ECO3M-Med (1)                                 | HydroBio      |  | NW Med          | 1.2 km                      | M. Baklouti           |
| Cascade                     | S-model (0)<br>ECO3M-S (1)<br>Sedim (9)<br>ICHTHYOP+DEB (3) | HydroBio      |  | W Med           | Polar grid:<br>700m (pole)  | C. Estournel          |
| NWMed111                    | S-model (0)<br>ECO3M-S (1)                                  | HydroBio      |  | NW Med          | 1/111°                      | C. Ulses/C. Estournel |
| E2A                         | S-model<br>ECO3M-S  | HydroBio      |  | NW Med          | 2.5 km                      | C. Ulses              |
| GOL                         | MARS3D (0)<br>MARS,(WW3)(9)                                 |               |  | Rhone-Marseille | 400m                        | R. Verney             |
| GULI                        | MARS3D (0)<br>ECO3M-Massilia (1)                            | HydroBio      |  | GoL             | 1.2km                       | C. Pinazo             |
| Golfe du Lion               | SYMPHONIE (0)<br>ECO3M (1)<br>OSMOSE (3)                    | E2E           | Coupling with<br>Symphonie-<br>Eco3M             | GoL             | 3km to 1km<br>Osmose: 12 km | D. Banaru             |
| Golfe du Lion(plateau)      | OPATM (0)<br>BFM (1)<br>Ecopath(Ecosim) (3)                 | E2E           | Forced by<br>OPATM - BFM                         | GoL             |                             | D. Banaru             |
| RHOMA                       | MARS3D (0)<br>MARS,(WW3)(9)<br>Met&Or (5,6)                 |               | Forced by<br>ECO3M-Massilia<br>(1)<br>(BioConta) | Rhone-Marseille | 200m<br>and<br>400m         | I. Pairaud            |
| MARS3D_RHOMA-ECO3M_MASSILIA | MARS3D (0)<br>ECO3M-Massilia (1)                            | HydroBio      |  | Rhone-Marseille | 400m                        | C. Pinazo             |

*SIMED, workshop in January*

http://mermex.pytheas.univ-amu.fr/



The image shows a screenshot of the MerMex website. The header features a blue background with a school of fish and the MerMex logo, which includes a map of the Mediterranean region and the text 'MISTRALS'. The main title is 'MerMex Marine Ecosystems Response in the Mediterranean Experiment'. A navigation bar contains links for MerMex, Science, News, Meetings, Products, Early Career, Jobs and Funding, Useful links, and White book. The main content area displays a search bar, a list of events (currently empty), and a list of tags. A featured article titled 'MERMEX workshop in Marseille, 7-10 April 2015' is shown, including a thumbnail image of Marseille and a PDF icon.

MerMex  
Marine Ecosystems Response in the Mediterranean Experiment

MerMex Science News Meetings Products Early Career Jobs and Funding Useful links White book

Search Search

Events  
No Events

Tags  
2013 cascade CIESM cruise envimed funding High frequency  
Information international international MERMEX lion  
gulf Marseille meeting Meeting  
Workshop mermex mermex algérie  
Mermex cruise newsletter observation OSM2014  
plankton Publications Réunion white book wokshop workshop  
WP3 Zagreb

« DEWEX Meeting 26 -27 May 2014 Meeting of COMECOM-mermex, an ENVIMED project »

MERMEX workshop in Marseille, 7-10 April 2015  
e-News, Meetings - Workshops, MerMex, News by sempere 20/07/2014

MERMEX-workshop

in Marseille Luminy campus.

Tags: Marseille, wokshop