



# Monitoring the heat content change over the Atlantic Ocean with the space geodetic approach: the 4DATLANTIC-OHC Project

Gilles Larnicol on behalf of the whole consortium





Global Ocean Heat Content is a good proxy of the Earth Energy Imbalance (Meyssignac et al. 2019, von Schuckmann et al, 2020)

New method based on Space geodetic datasets to estimate the Global OHC (Marti et al., 2022)



Extend the method at regional scale to develop a gridded Atlantic OHC product to provide a realistic monitoring of the Atlantic ocean heat uptake

Estimate rigorously the associated uncertainty

Science investigation:

- the role played by the Atlantic ocean in the climate system ?

- the role and the impact of spatial pattern of ocean warming on the strength of climate feedbacks and climate sensitivity



- **Marti et al. 2022:** Monitoring the ocean heat content change and the Earth energy imbalance from **space altimetry** and **space gravimetry**

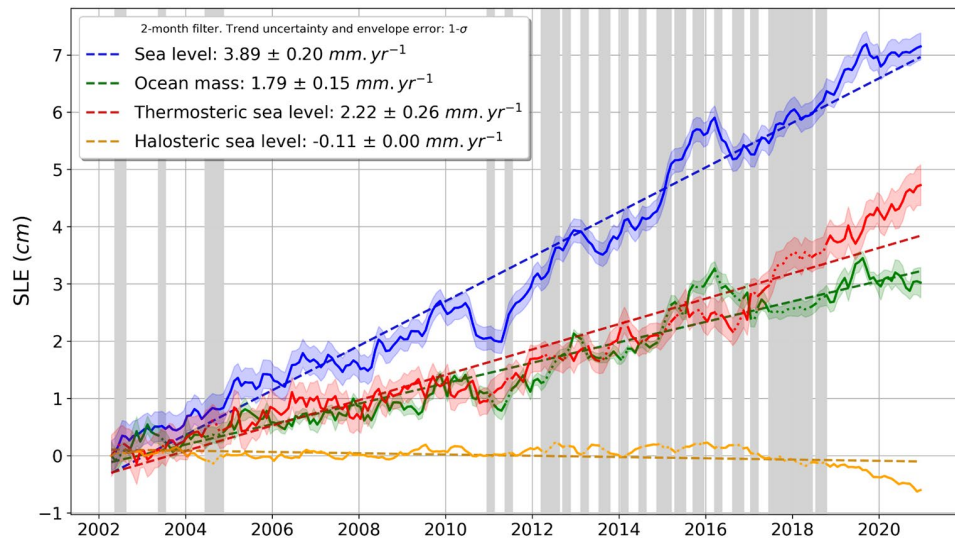
- The regional OHC (  $\rightarrow 1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ , monthly)

$$\Delta OHC = \frac{\Delta SL_{thermsteric}}{IEEH}$$

(IEEH = Integrated Expansion Efficiency of Heat)

- The Sea Level budget equation:

$$\Delta SL_{total} = \Delta SL_{thermsteric} + \Delta SL_{halosteric} + \Delta SL_{mass}$$



*Global Mean Thermosteric Sea Level (red) obtained by removal of Ocean Mass (green) and Halosteric (orange) from the Sea Level (blue)*

**Sea level dataset from altimetry** →  $\Delta SL_{total}$ 

- spatial resolution:  $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$
- temporal resolution: daily
- temporal availability: altimetry era, January 1993 - August 2021
- units: m
- version: C3S

**Gravimetry dataset from GRACE & GRACE follow on missions** →  $\Delta SL_{mass}$ 

Ensemble of 288 OM solutions from Spherical Harmonic products and its ensemble mean update from ([Blazquez et al., 2018](#))

- units: m equivalent water height (EWH)
- spatial resolution:  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$
- temporal resolution: monthly
- temporal availability: April 2002 - September 2021
- version: v1.5.1



$$\Delta SL_{\text{total}} = \Delta SL_{\text{thermosteric}} + \Delta SL_{\text{halosteric}} + \Delta SL_{\text{mass}}$$

**ISAS temperature and salinity gridded fields (Ifremer):** ISAS20\_ARGO release interpolated on 187 standard depth levels between 0-5500 m depth and 0.5°x0.5° global horizontal grid. ISAS20 use the version 8 of ISAS and updated statistics to produce the monthly analysis (Monthly Climatology and annual STD computed from WOA18A5B7). ISAS20 gridded fields analyze the Argo and Deep-Argo temperature and salinity data alone between 2002-2020

<https://www.seanoe.org/data/00412/52367/>

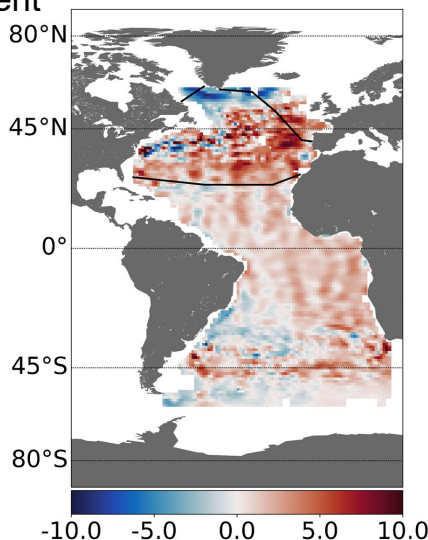
**EN4 temperature and salinity gridded fields (MetOffice):** Version is 4.2.2.109 (Levitus member) EN4 files are available from <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/en4/download-en4-2-2.html> m from 1900 to the present day

For the study: Combination of ISAS20 product (0-2000m) and EN4 (2000-6000m).



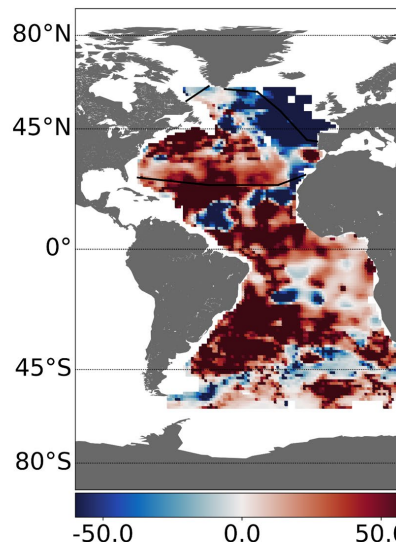
$$\Delta SL_{total} = \Delta SL_{thermosteric} + \Delta SL_{halosteric} + \Delta SL_{mass}$$

OHC trends **without** removal of halosteric component



Ocean Heat Content trends - Apr 2002 - Dec 2020 ( $W. m^{-2}$ )

OHC trends **difference** (%)



Ocean Heat Content relative trends - Apr 2002 - Dec 2020 (%)

- Halosteric signal has a significant impact on OHC trends estimates (up to 60%)

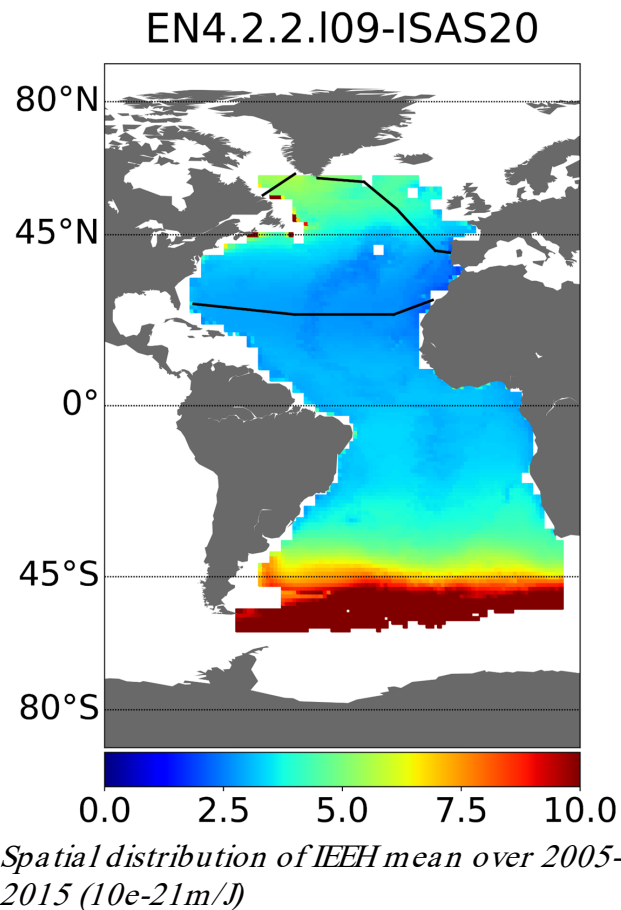
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$$\Delta OHC = \frac{\Delta SL_{thermosteric}}{IEEH}$$

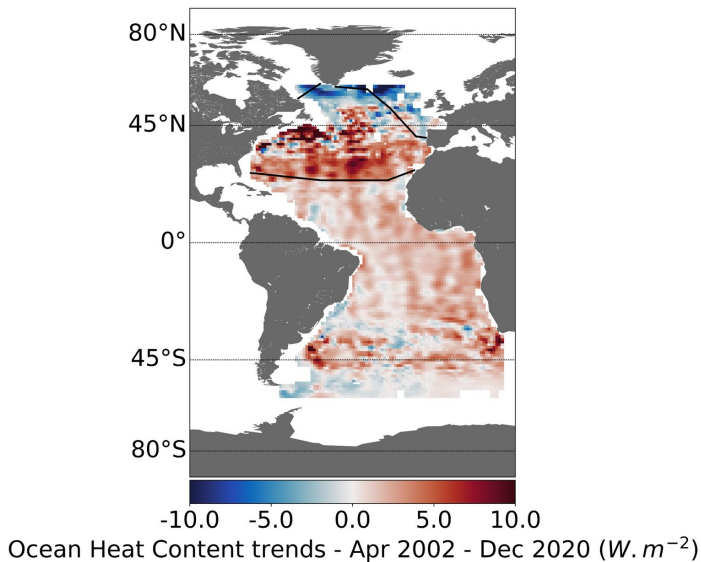
- IEEH is the division of local estimates of Thermosteric Sea Level over OHC
- In-situ OHC and thermosteric are filtered at 3 years to remove the HF variability
- IEEH is dependent on temperature, salinity, and pressure; increasing with temperature and pressure and decreasing with salinity
- Combination of EN4 (NOC) and ISAS (Ifremer) product to be representative of the full water column



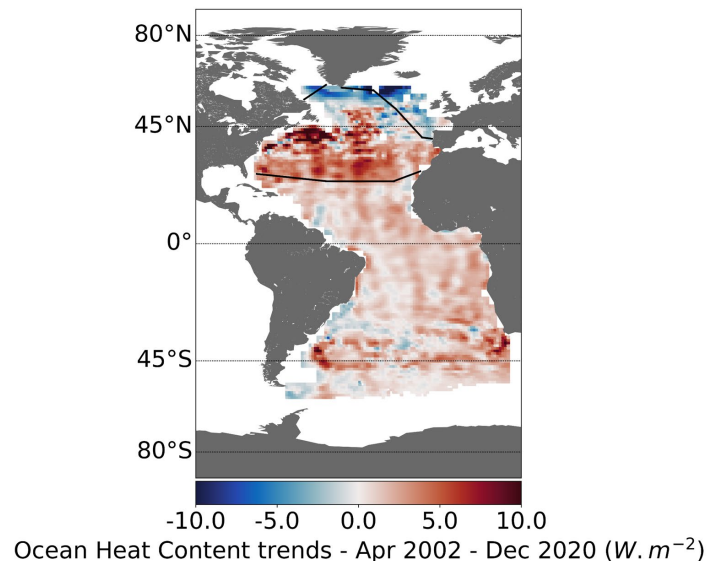


**Deep ocean contribution :** Use of Argo EN4.2.2.109 dataset from 2000m to 6000m

**OHC trends (0-2000m)**



**OHC trends (full depth)**

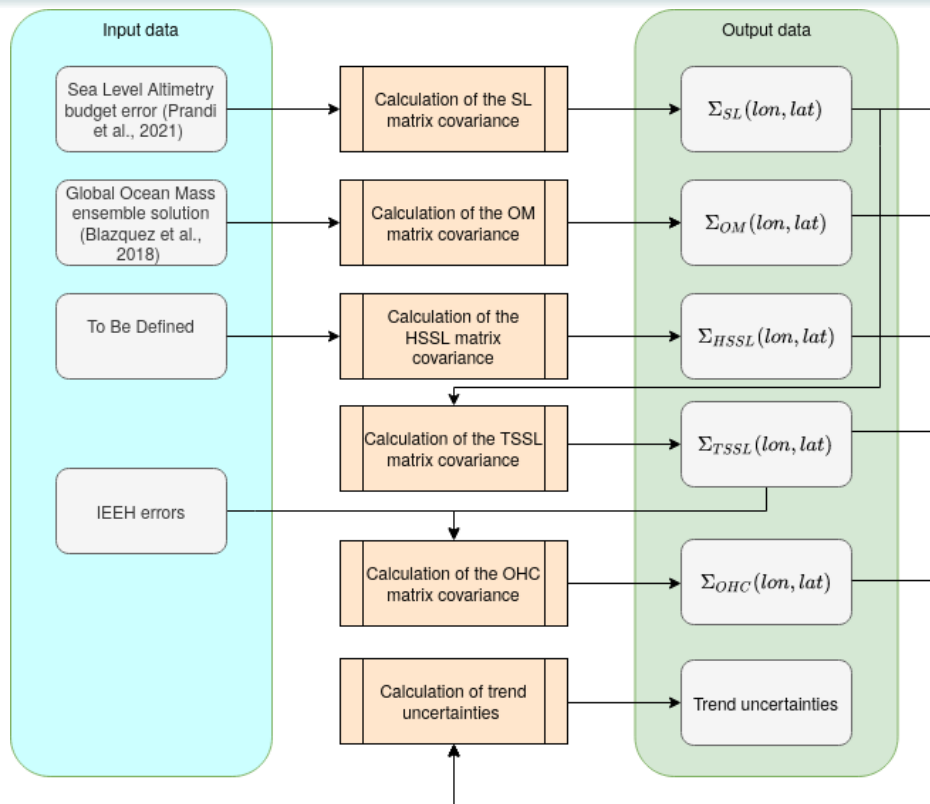


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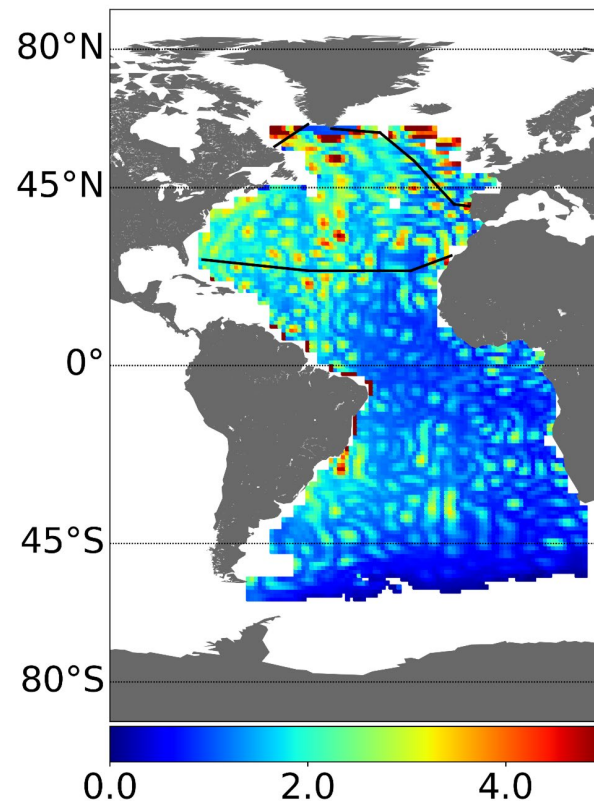
- Weak difference but represents a 5% decrease integrated over the Atlantic Ocean
- Really important to calculate the IEEH as accurately and rigorously possible
- The temporal variations of IEEH are quite negligible but we have taken them into account by using a time dependent IEEH (monthly)







*Uncertainty calculation  
and propagation chain*

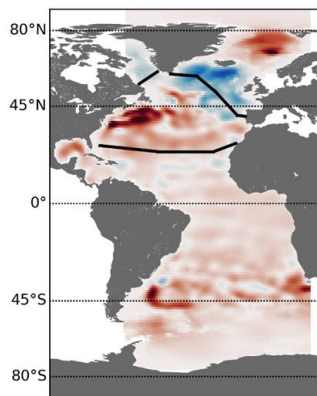


*OHC trends uncertainties (W/m<sup>2</sup>)  
over Jul 2002 - Jul 2020 preliminary results*

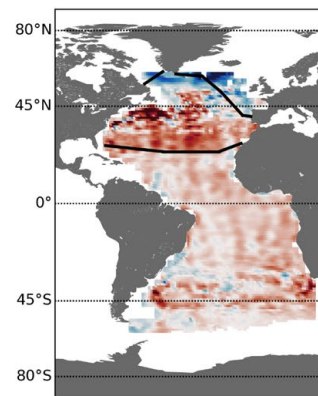




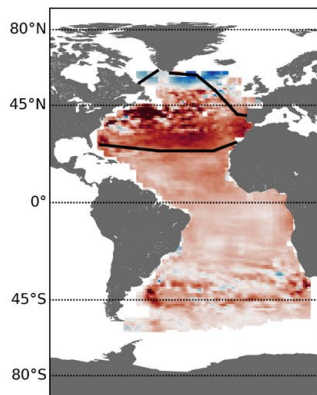
ISAS20+EN4.2.2 OHC trends



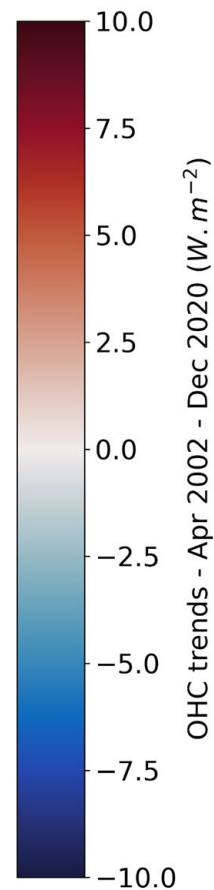
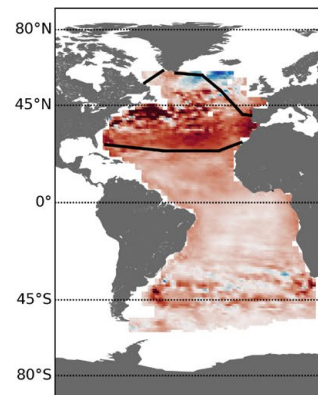
OHC trends HS V1.5.1



OHC trends mascon JPL



OHC trends mascon CSR



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- **Product improvement: spatial coverage near coasts**
  - using the ECCOV4 reanalysis to complete In-situ observations

- **First version of Atlantic OHC products will be delivered in Septembre 2022**

temporal availability: April 2002 - September 2021

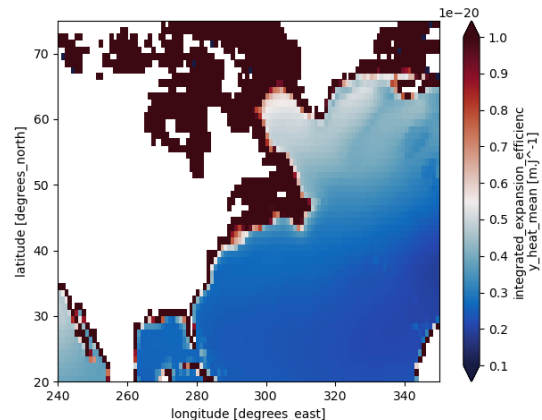
spatial resolution:  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$

temporal resolution: monthly

- **Available on the AVISO website**

<https://www.aviso.altimetry.fr/en/data/products/ocean-indicators-products/ocean-heat-content-and-earth-energy-imbalance.html>

referenced with a DOI



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## ● Products validation

- RAPID-MOCHA section (NOC)
- OVIDE-AR7W section (LOPS)

## ● Science case

Estimating the Meridional Heat Transport (MHT) in the North Atlantic with a regional heat budget (LEGOS)

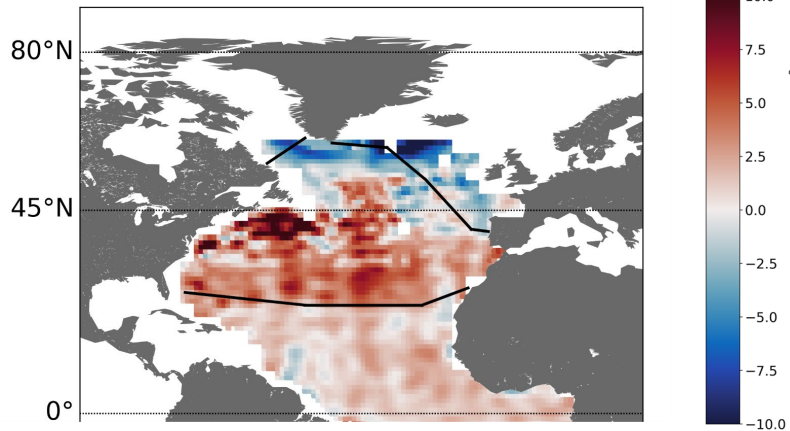
## ● Early adopters assessment

Use Case 1: Improvement of the operational decadal predictions  
*Test EO based OHC products for initialisation of decadal system*

Use Case 2: Contribution to the Copernicus Marine Service ocean  
*Analyse consistency of EO based OHC products with existing CMEMS products used for the Ocean State Report*

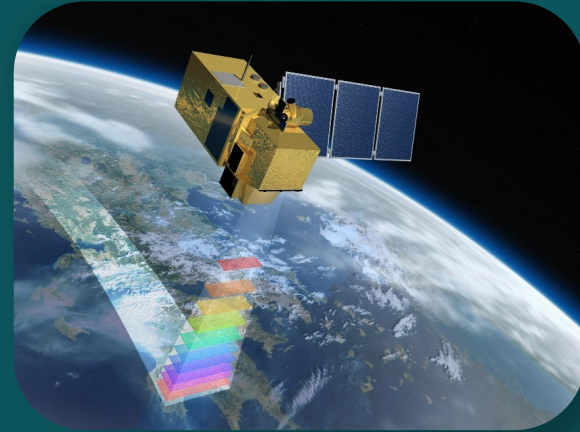
Use Case 3: Evaluation for use as part of climate indicators dashboard

4DATLANTIC OHC trends





Thank you for your  
attention.



[4datlantic-ohc.org/](http://4datlantic-ohc.org/)



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## Main scientific objective:

- to better understand the role played by the Atlantic Ocean in the climate system especially the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC)

## Objective-1: Develop an EO-based OHC product over Atlantic Ocean

- Method based on space geodetic measurements (Altimetry & Gravimetry)
- To properly provide the product uncertainty

## Objective-2: Validation and scientific activities

- Provide Science Case Study focused on the Meridional Heat Transport (MHT) in the North Atlantic with a regional heat budget
- To perform independent comparison with in situ data for the quality assessment

## Objective-3: Transfer our results to implement solutions for society through Use Cases

- Climate monitoring and predicting community
- Operational community (Copernicus)

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