

## Panel Members:

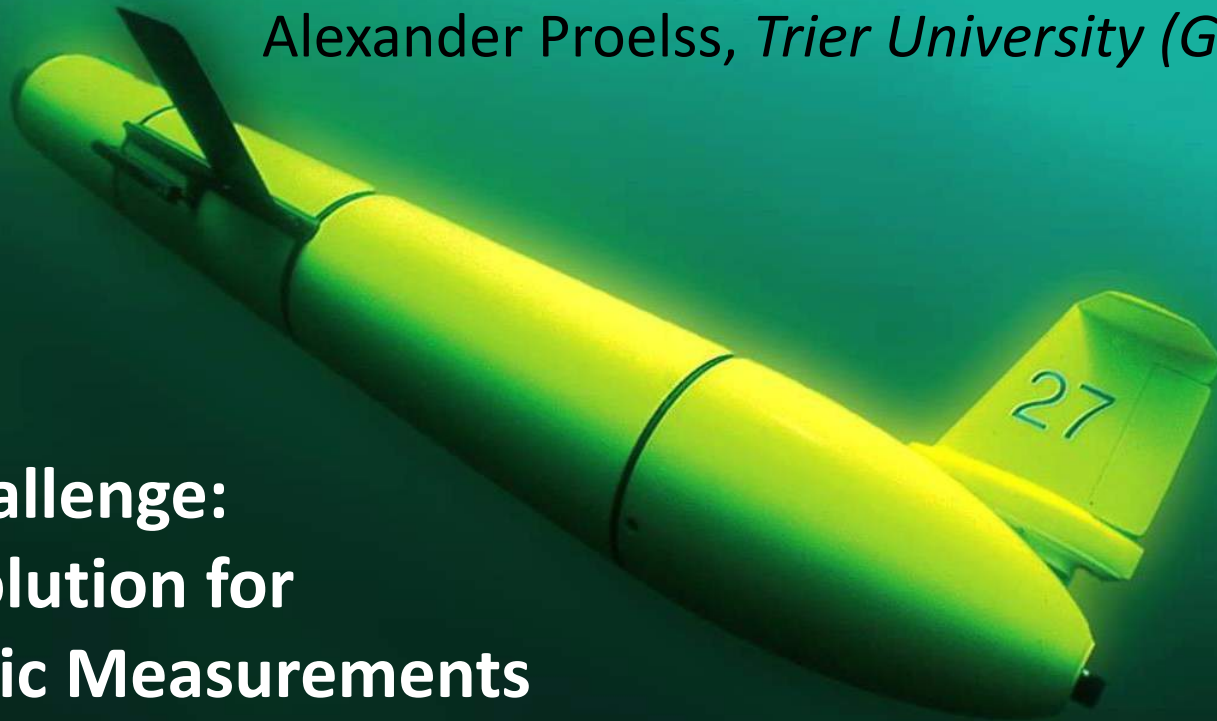
Scott Glenn, *Rutgers University (USA)*

Pierre Testor, *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique - CNRS (France)*

Joaquin Tintore, *Palma de Mallorca (Spain)*

Karen Heywood, *University of East Anglia (UK)*

Alexander Proelss, *Trier University (Germany)*



## Glider Challenge: High Resolution for 4D Oceanic Measurements

*UNESCO IOC Science Day, 17 June 2015*

# Grand Challenge: Earth is Changing, Population is Growing

ipcc  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change

## CLIMATE CHANGE 2014

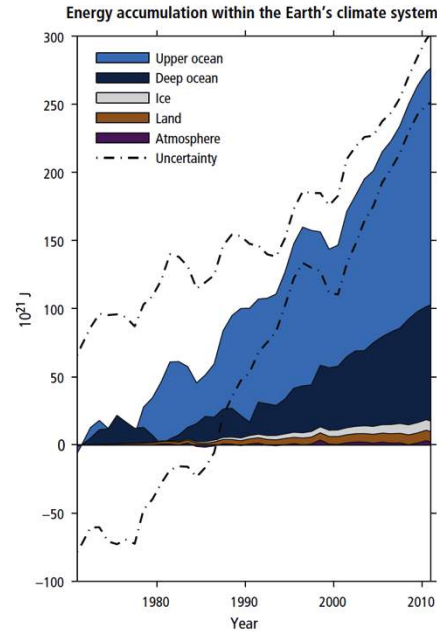
*Synthesis Report*



A REPORT OF THE  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)



“Ocean warming dominates the increase in energy stored in the climate system” -- “>90% of the energy accumulated between 1971 and 2010”

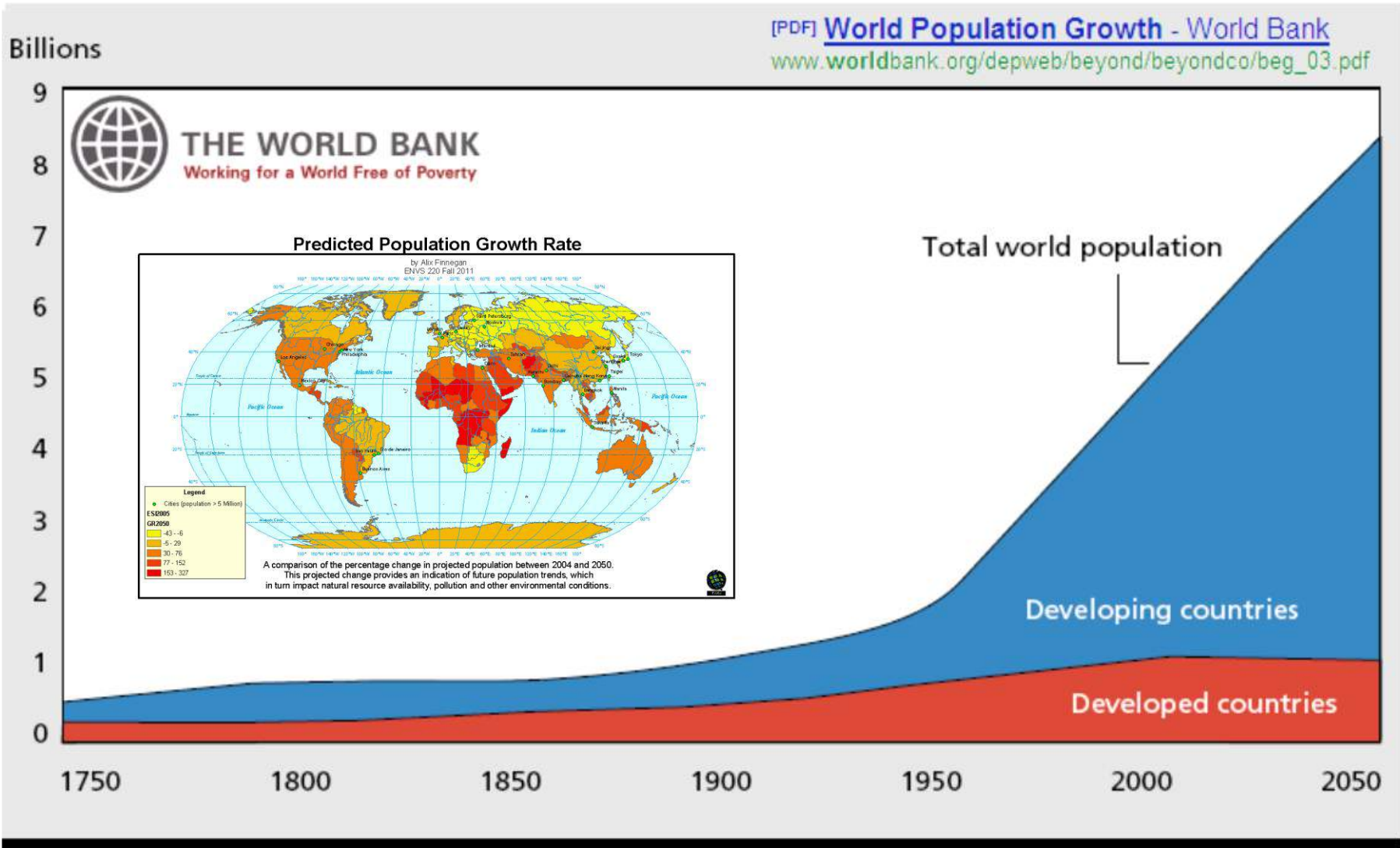
## 2.2 Projected changes in the climate system

Surface temperature is projected to rise over the 21st century under all assessed emission scenarios. It is *very likely* that heat waves will occur more often and last longer, and that extreme precipitation events will become more intense and frequent in many regions. The ocean will continue to warm and acidify, and global mean sea level to rise.

# Grand Challenge: Earth is Changing, Population is Growing

Figure 3.1

World population, 1750–2050





# Response: Mitigate and Adapt to a Changing Climate

## Our Common Future Under Climate Change

International Scientific Conference  
7-10 JULY 2015 Paris, France

### The Venue

UNESCO headquarters and Université Pierre et Marie Curie in the Latin Quarter.

[Further information](#)

Paris

- Explore pathways for adaptation and mitigation with sustainable development
- Builds on IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)
- Preparation for 21<sup>st</sup> UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP21) climate governance regime based on a low carbon, resilient development model
- Oceans are a key component – absorbed 30% of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> and continue to acidify

# Response: Improve Severe Weather Warnings & Resiliency



Hurricane Sandy approaching U.S. East Coast

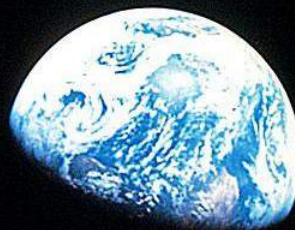




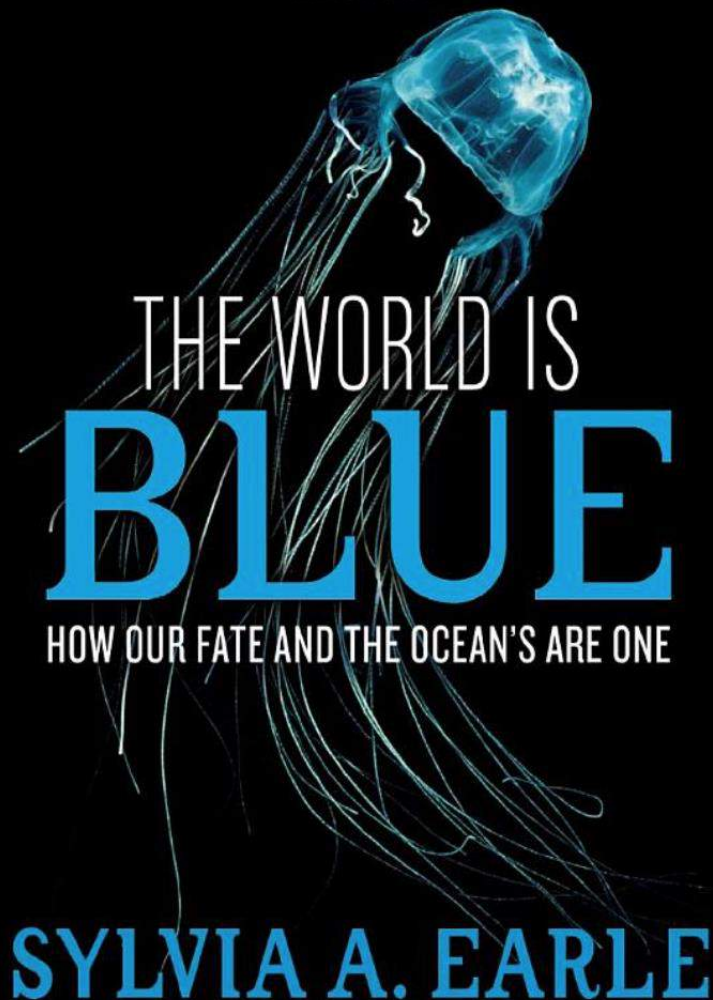
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"What Rachel Carson was to ... our planet in 1962, Sylvia Earle, scientist, explorer, oceanographer ... is now to the ocean."

*The Boston Globe*



Solutions we must seek  
will involve the Sea



THE WORLD IS

# BLUE

HOW OUR FATE AND THE OCEAN'S ARE ONE

## SYLVIA A. EARLE

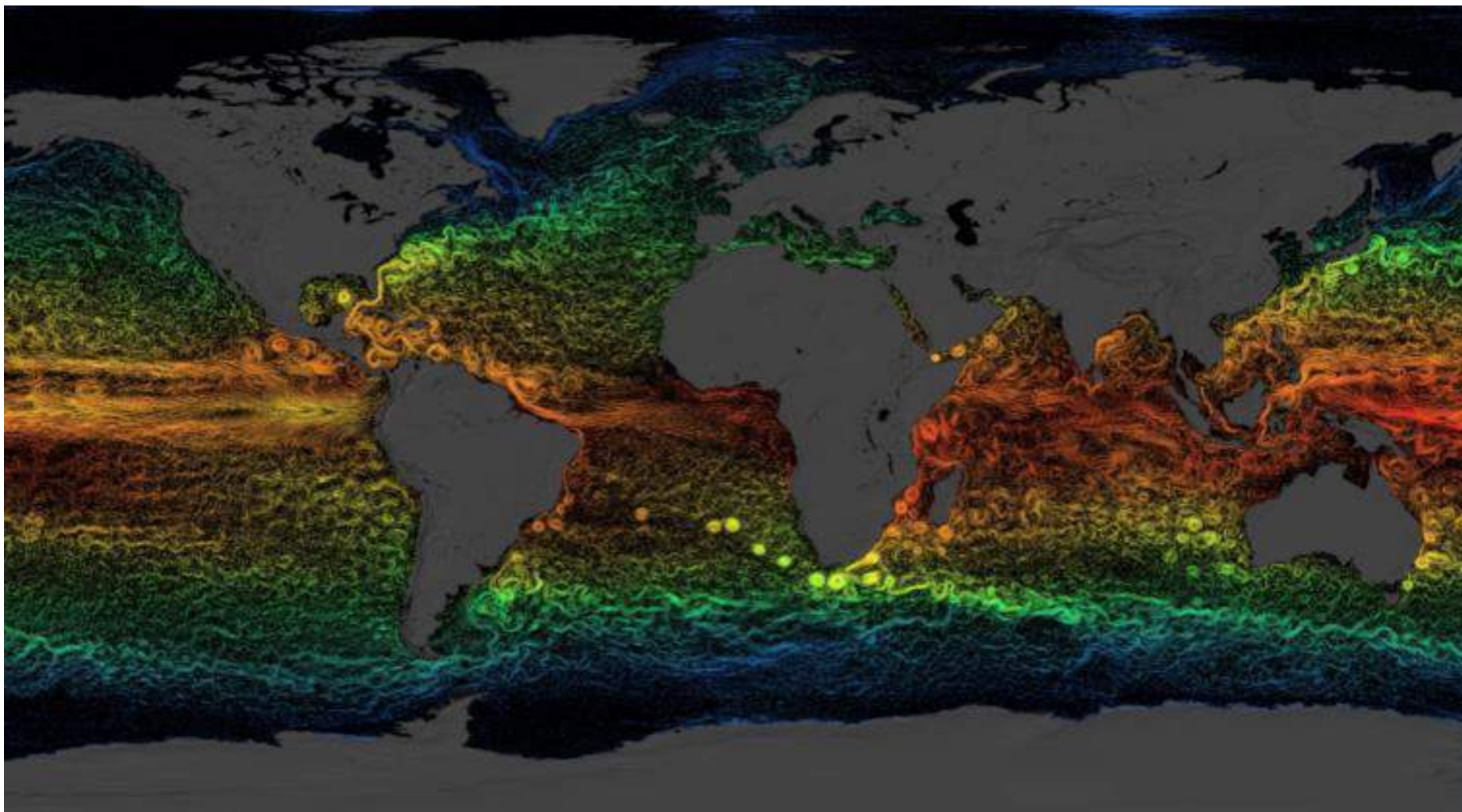
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER-IN-RESIDENCE

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# The Ocean is Physically Complex & Biologically Diverse

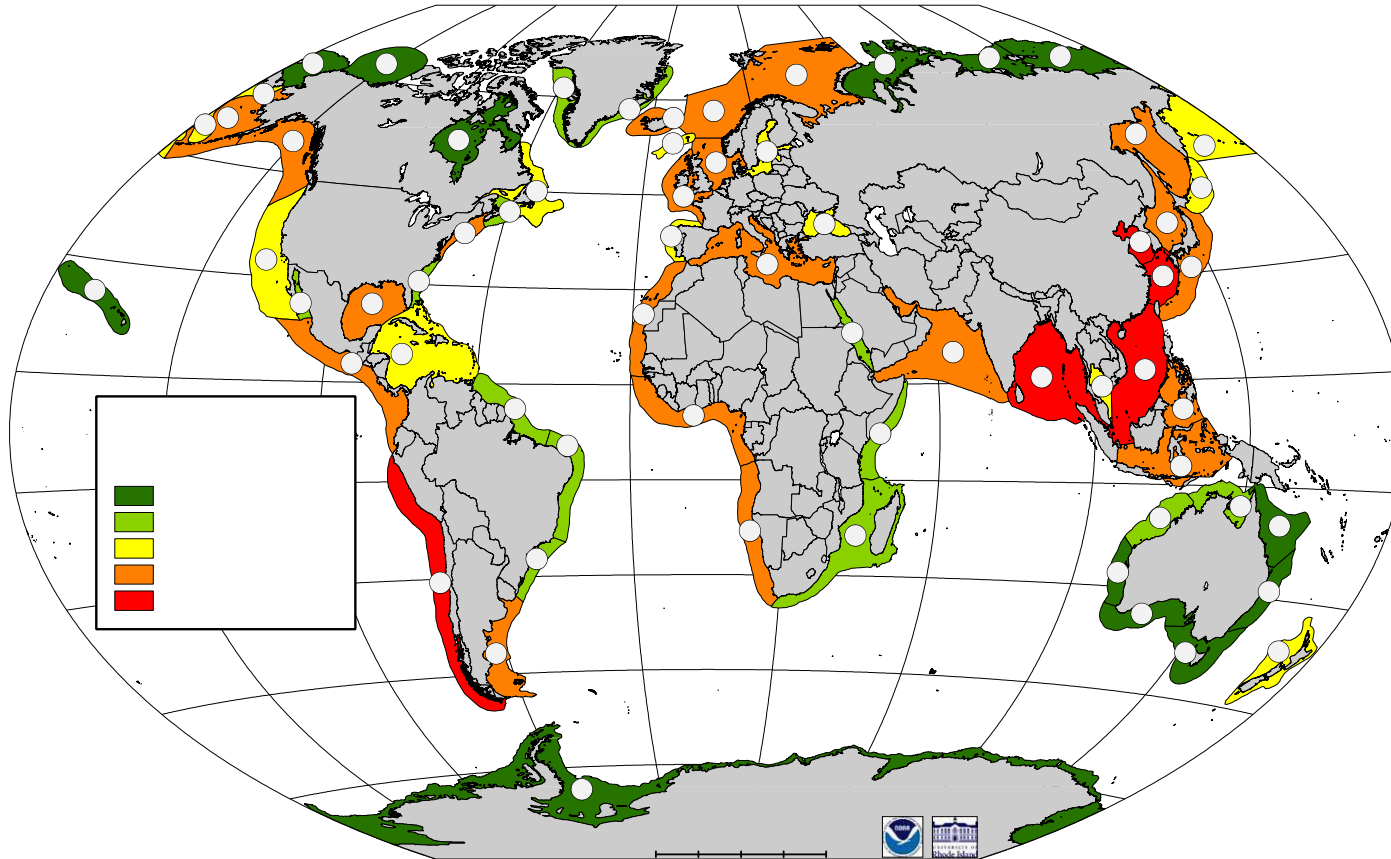


Global circulation dominated by the Mesoscale



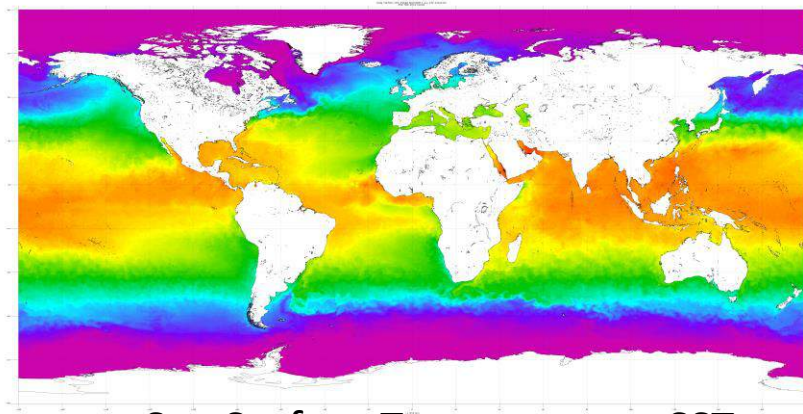
# The Ocean is Physically Complex & Biologically Diverse

Fisheries Catch Abundance in Large Marine Ecosystems: 2000 - 2004



61 Large Marine Ecosystems

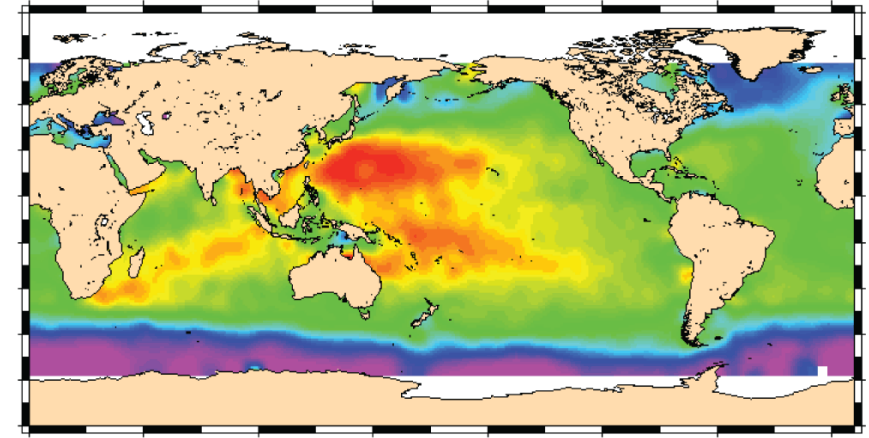
# Satellite Revolution: Global coverage of the ocean surface



Sea Surface Temperature - SST



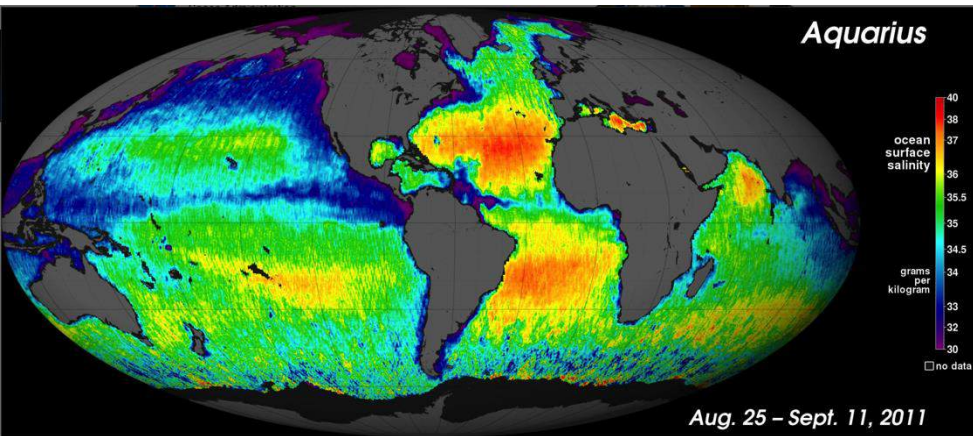
Absolute Dynamic Topography from TOPEX/POSEIDON  
10-20 Dec 2003



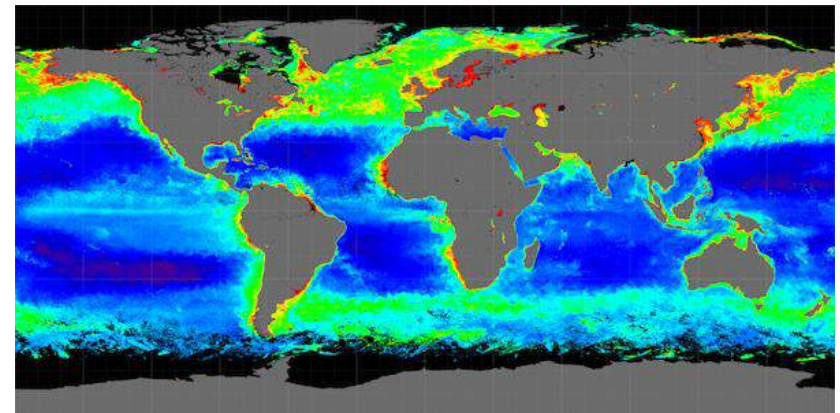
credits: AVISO



Sea Surface Height - SSH



Sea Surface Salinity - SSS



Near Surface Chlorophyll

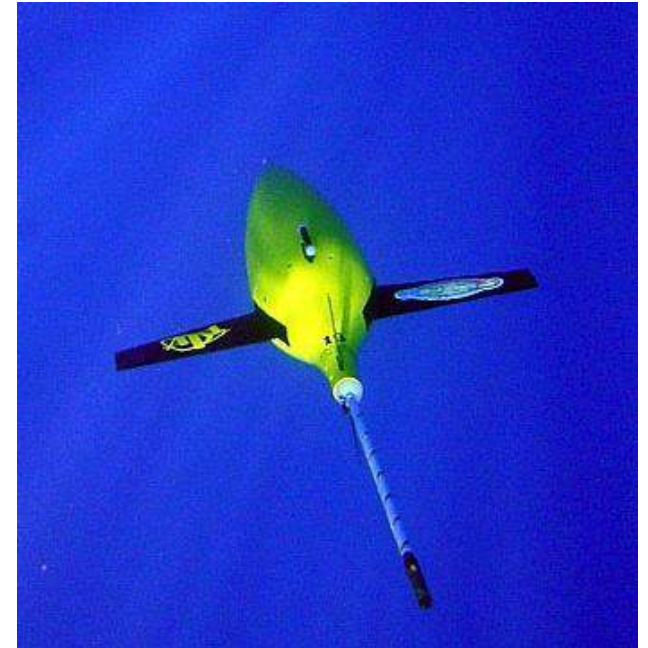
**Below the surface requires  
in-water observations**



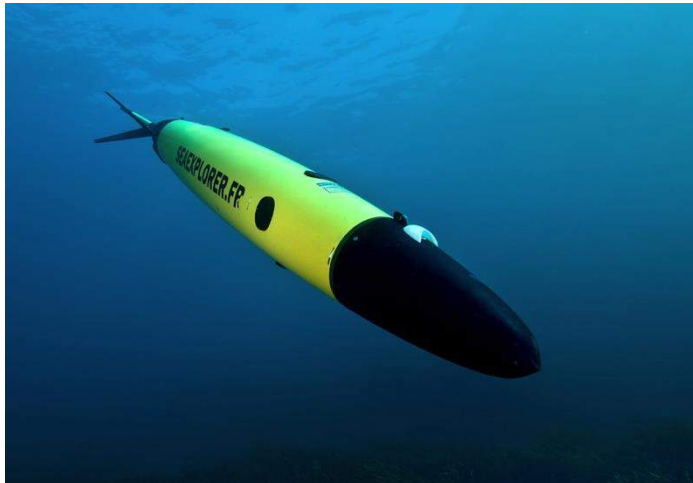
# Robotics Revolution: Commercially Available Gliders



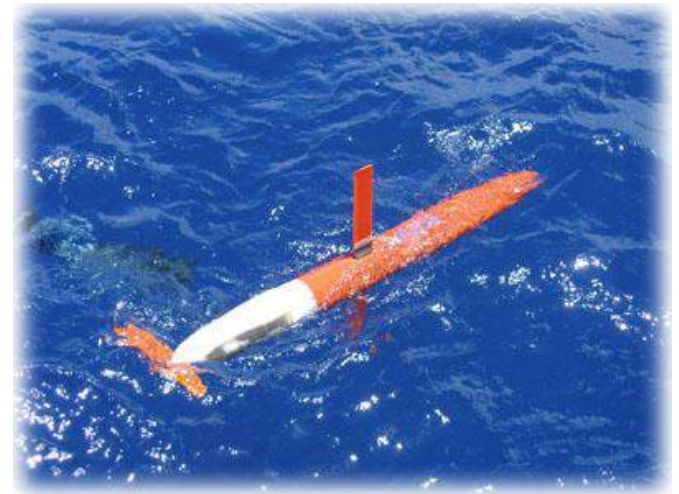
Slocum Glider



Seaglider



Seaexplorer  
Glider



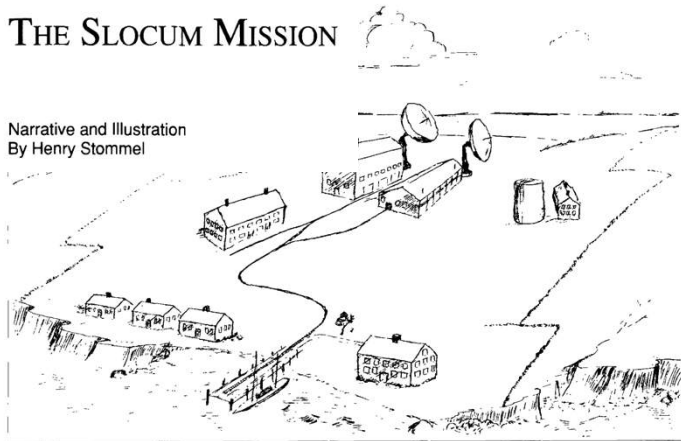
Spray Glider

# Underwater Gliders have Evolved Rapidly

FEATURE

## THE SLOCUM MISSION

Narrative and Illustration  
By Henry Stommel



The Slocum Mission Control Center on Nonamasset Island.

## 1989 Science Fiction Article

Each Slocum reports  
into Mission Control via  
satellite about six times  
a day.



## 1999

## First Slocum deployed at Sea



## 2009

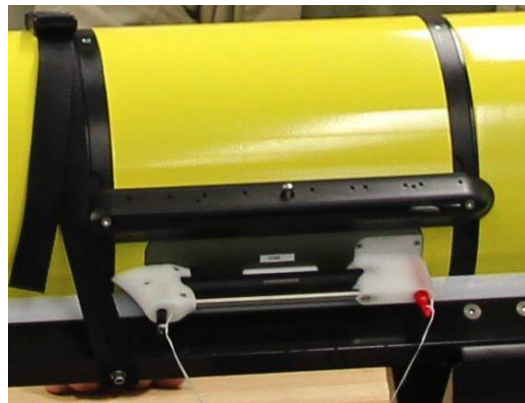
## First Glider crosses an Ocean Basin



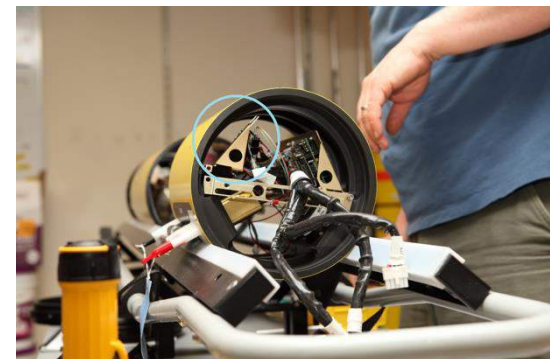


# Gliders can carry a wide variety of sensors

Acoustic Modem  
ADCP/DVL  
Altimeter  
Bathypotometer (bioluminescence)  
Beam Attenuation Meter  
Echo Sounder  
Optical Backscatter  
Optical Attenuation  
Oxygen  
Conductivity, Temperature, Depth  
Fish Tracking  
Fluorometer  
Hydrocarbon  
Hydrophones  
Nitrates  
PAR sensor  
Radiometer  
Scattering Attenuation Meter  
Spectrophotometer (red tide detection)  
Turbulence  
Wave Accelerometer



Internal Payload Bay



Internal

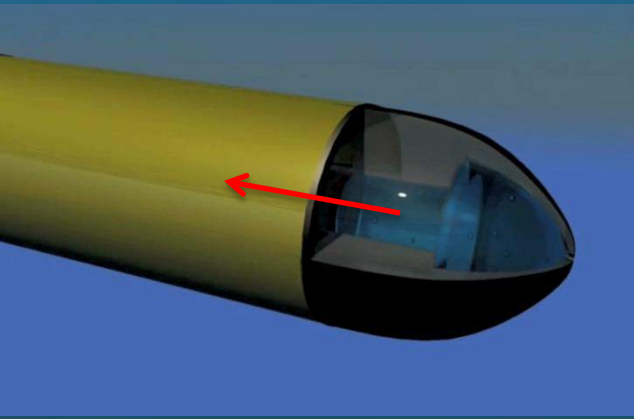


External Payload Area

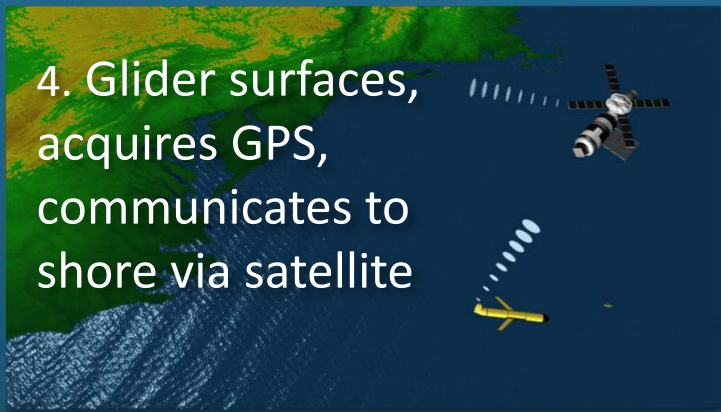


External Mounted

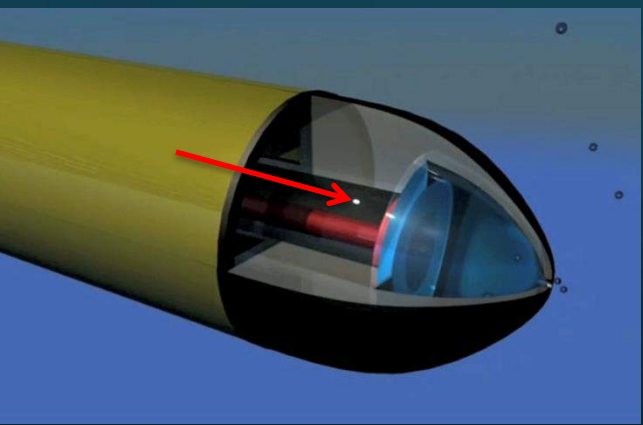
# How an underwater Glider works...



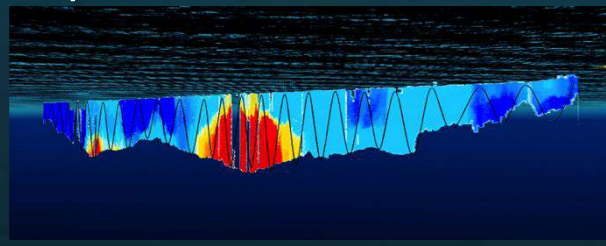
1. At surface, pump/diaphragm decreases volume, Glider descends



3. Glider flies a saw tooth pattern, collecting environmental data along it's path



2. At depth pump/diaphragm increases volume, Glider ascends





# Mobile Subsurface Profile Observation Capabilities

Drifters

Gliders

Ships

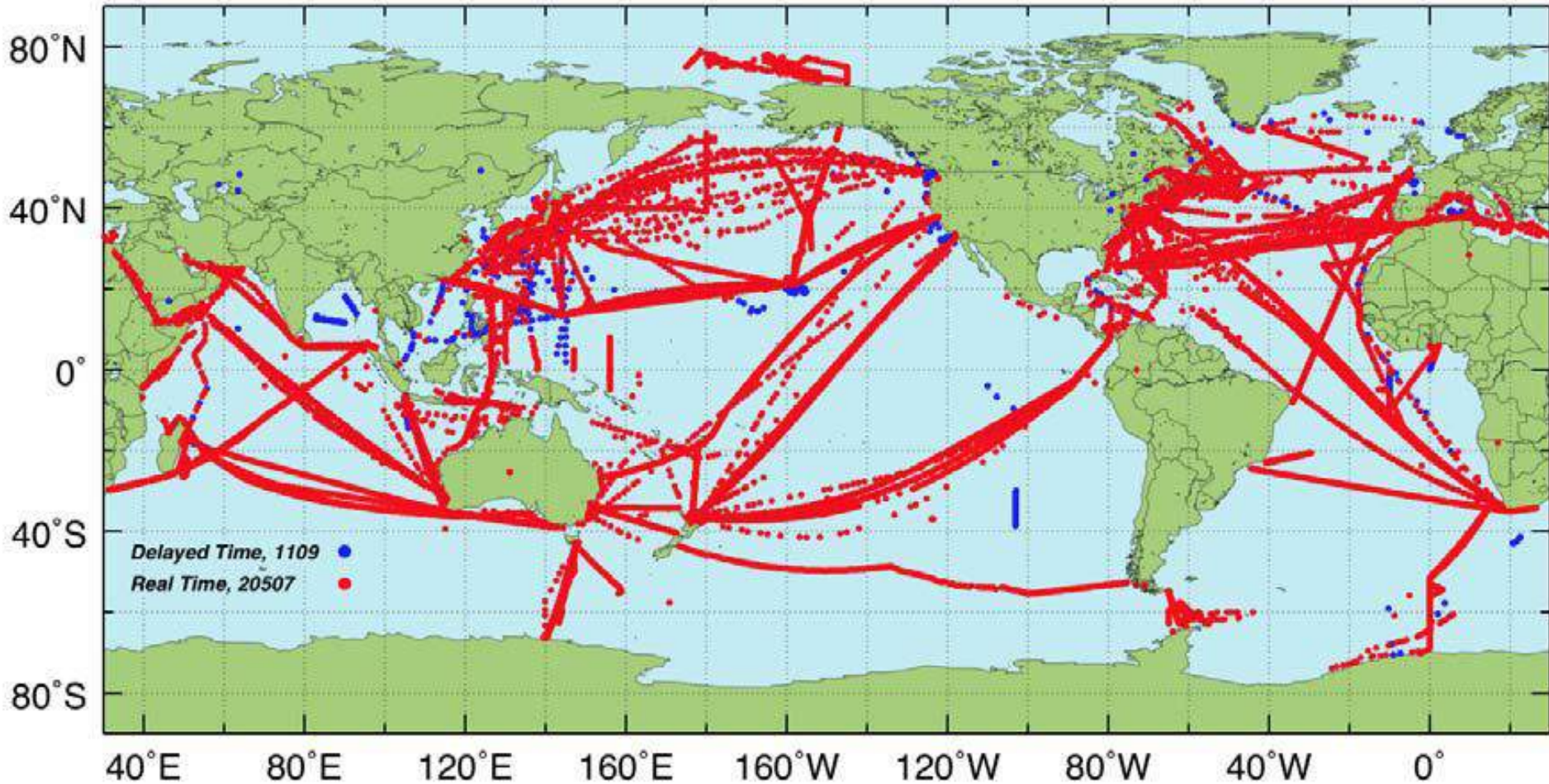


Increasing Control, Capacity & Cost



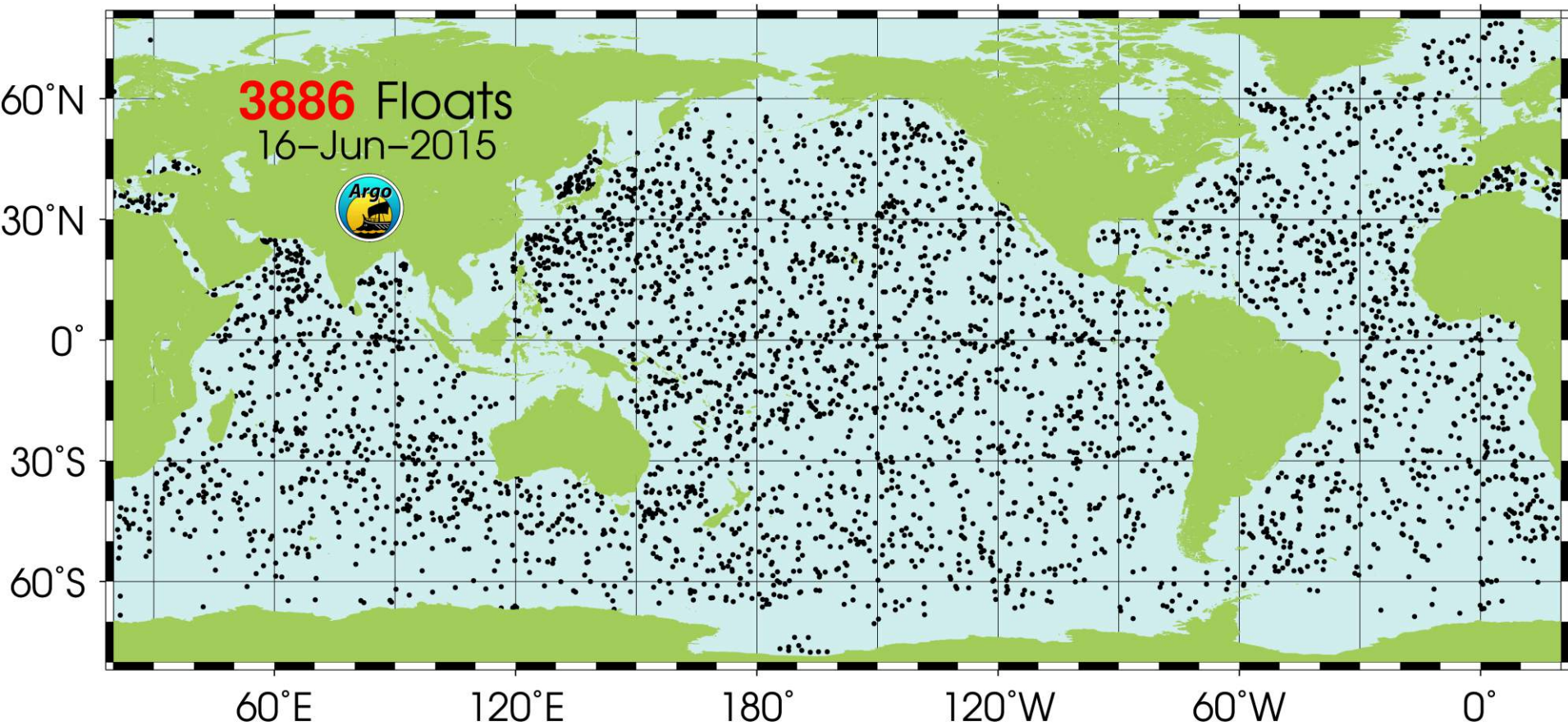
Decreasing Endurance & Risk Tolerance

# Sustained Subsurface Profile Observations by Ships of Opportunity



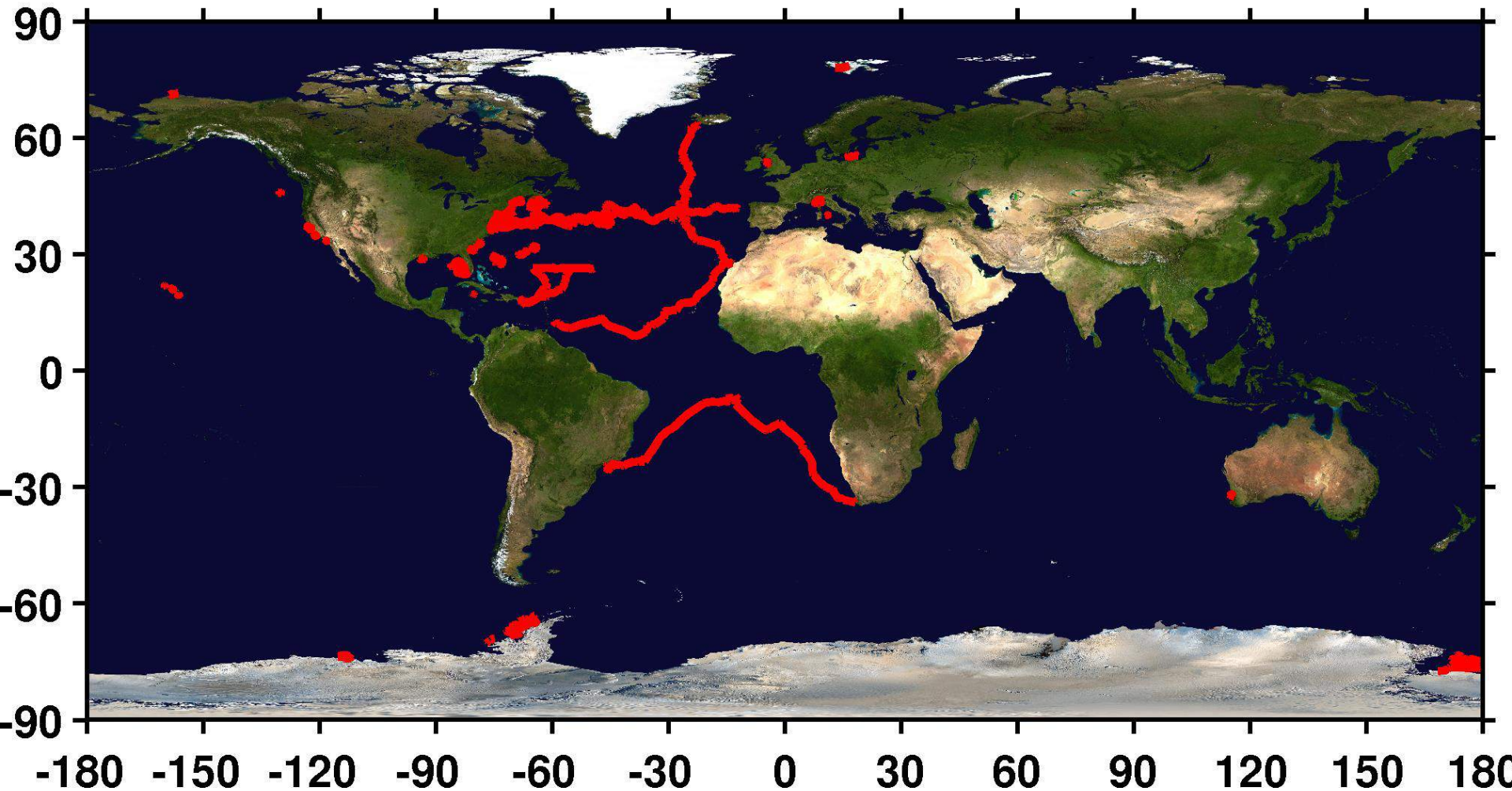


# Sustained Subsurface Profile Observations by Argo Drifters



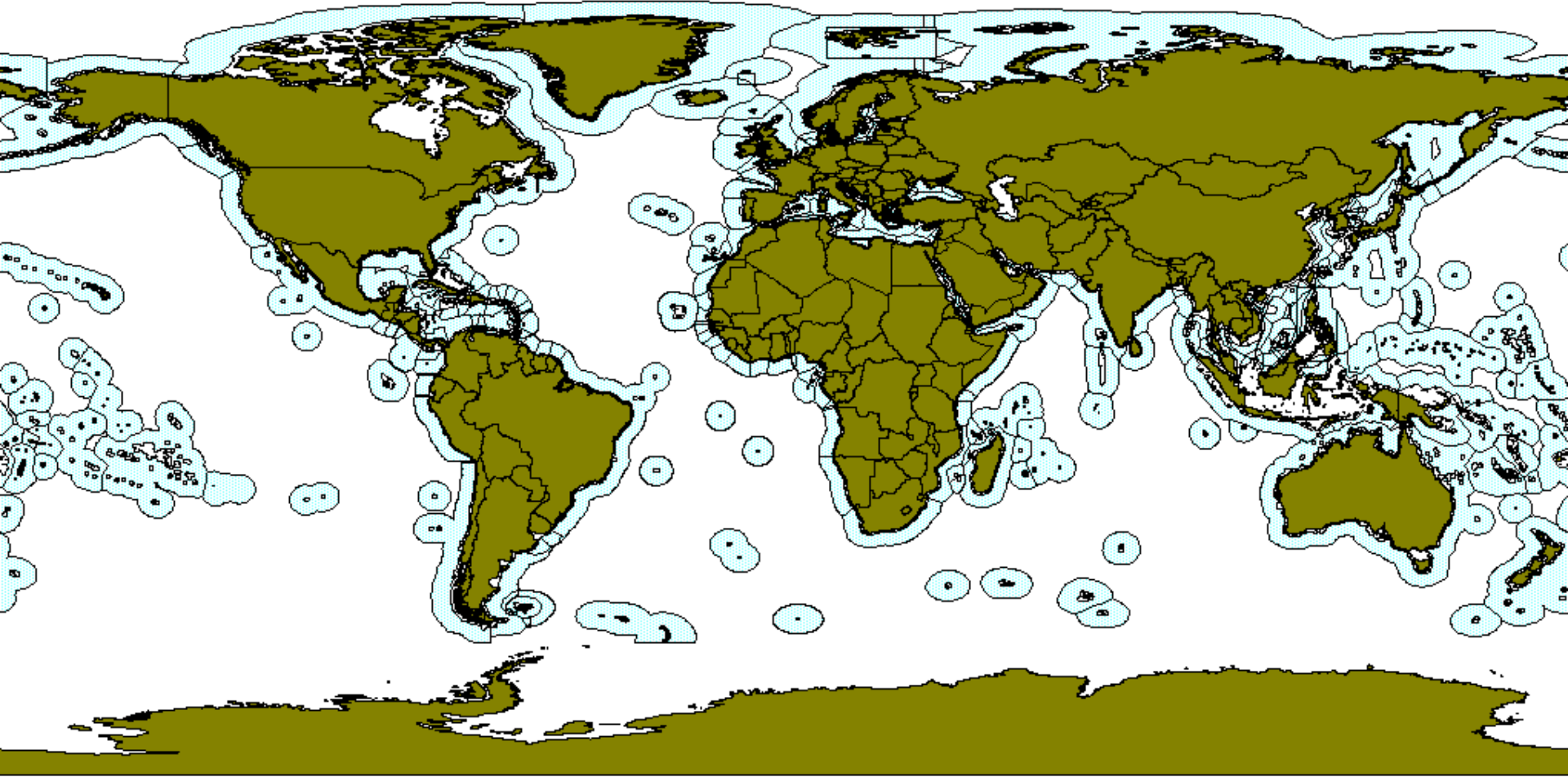
# Sustained Subsurface Profile Observations by Gliders - 1 Center

394 deployments - 170065.54km flown - 8093 days





# Large Marine Ecosystems & Exclusive Economic Zones



Gliders can fill the sustained coastal ocean profile sampling gap

# **Glider Challenge: High Resolution for 4D Oceanic Measurements**

## **Panel Presentations:**

- **Pierre Testor** – Building an international glider community and using gliders to resolve mesoscale and smaller features
- **Joaquin Tintore** – Gliders as a sustained component of integrated observing and forecast systems
- **Karen Heywood** – Gliders in remote and extreme environments
- **Alexandar Proelss** – Legal aspects of glider operations

## **Discussion Points:**

- Where are the greatest needs for sustained 4-D oceanic measurements?
- What are the barriers to progress?
- What can we do together as an international community?
- How can the IOC help?