The Western Mediterranean Operational Forecasting System

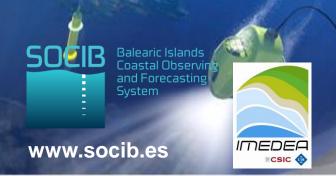
SOCIB Modelling and Forecasting Facility

Baptiste Mourre

Jaime Hernandez-Lasheras, Eva Aguiar, Emma Reyes, Mélanie Juza, Adèle Révelard, Joaquín Tintoré

In collaboration with IMEDEA-TMOOS:

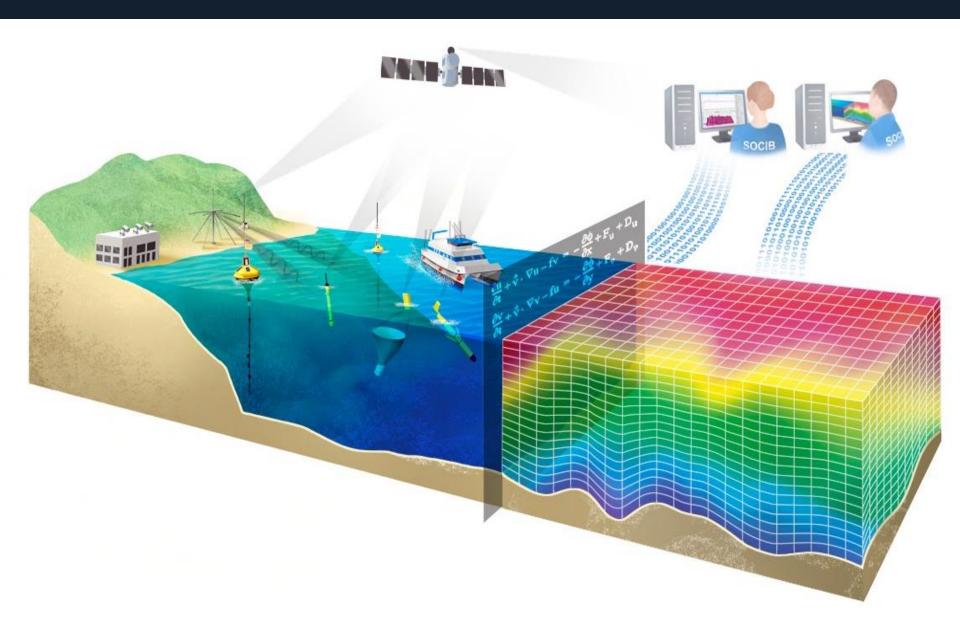
Ananda Pascual, Alejandro Orfila, Simon Ruiz, Evan Mason, Eugenio Cutolo







Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System SOCIB approach



WMOP

Western Mediterranean OPerational model



(Juza et al. 2016; Mourre et al. 2018)

- ✓ Regional configuration of the ROMS model (www.myroms.org)
- ✓ Horizontal resolution: ~ 2km
- ✓ Initial & boundary conditions from : CMEMS MED-MFC model (1/24°)
- ✓ High-resolution atmospheric forcing: AEMET Harmonie (1h, 2.5km)
- ✓ **Data assimilation**: Ensemble Optimal Interpolation with 3-day cycles, assimilating satellite SLA, SST, Argo TS & Ibiza Channel HF radar velocities
 - → High-resolution mesoscale-resolving simulations

 Daily predictions (72h horizon) @www.socib.es

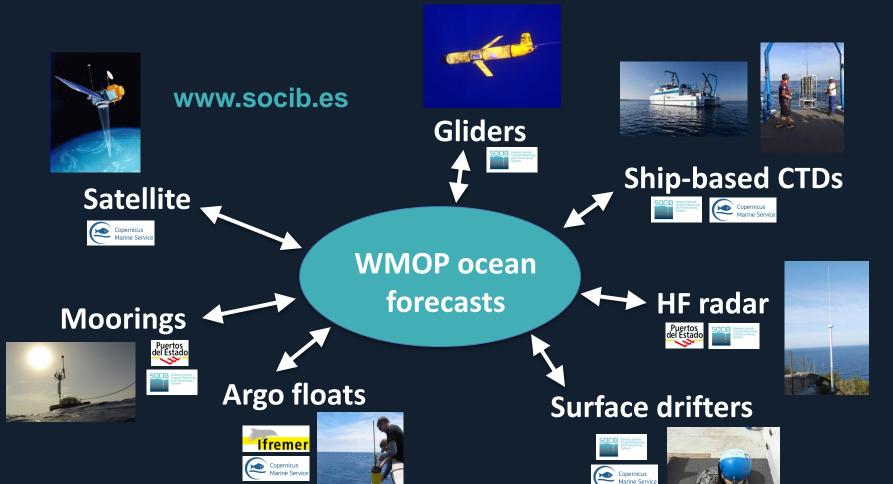
WMOP forecasts systematic evaluation



Near real-time & Delayed modes

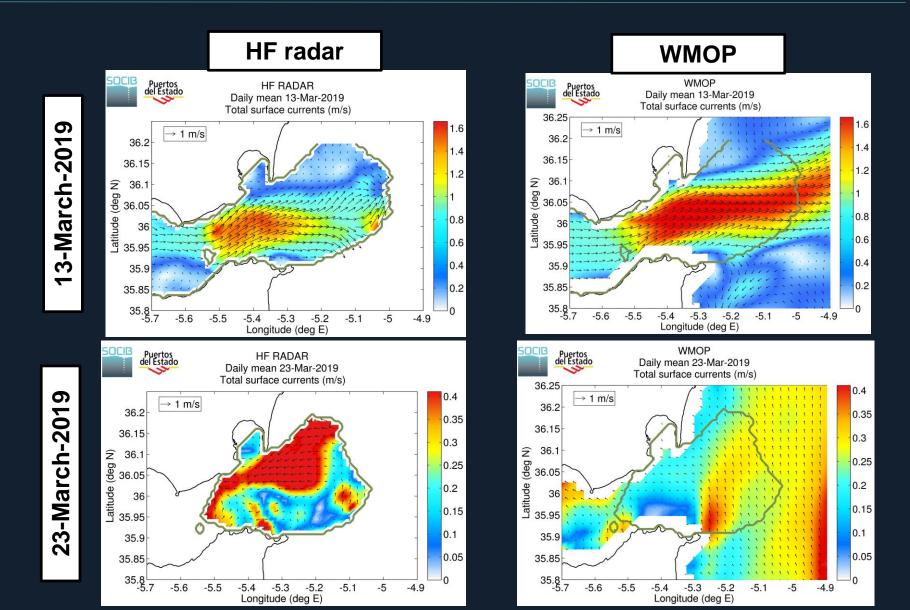






WMOP forecasts systematic evaluation

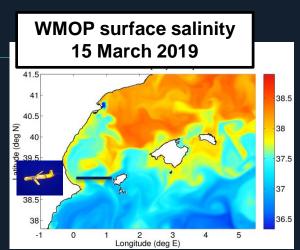
Example: HF radar in Gibraltar strait

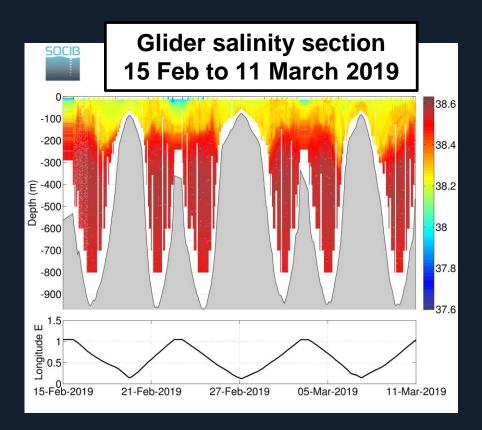


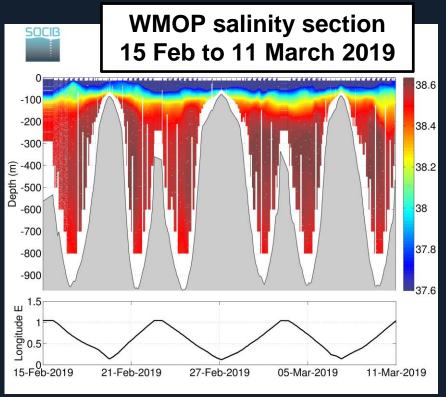
Model assessment using gliders

Developed in the framework of a subcontract within the CMEMS MED-MFC 2015-2018 project.

→ Assessment applied to CMEMS MED-MFC, IBI-MFC and WMOP.



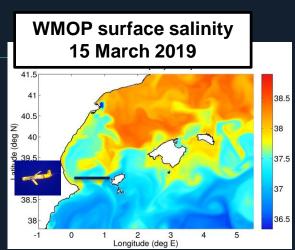


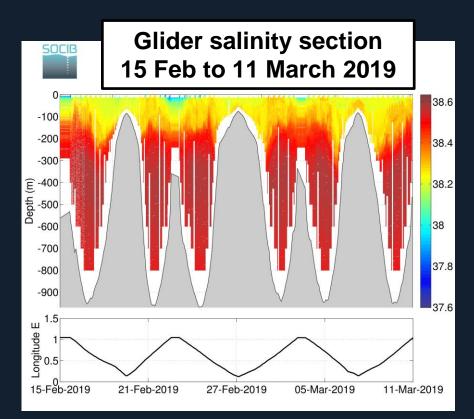


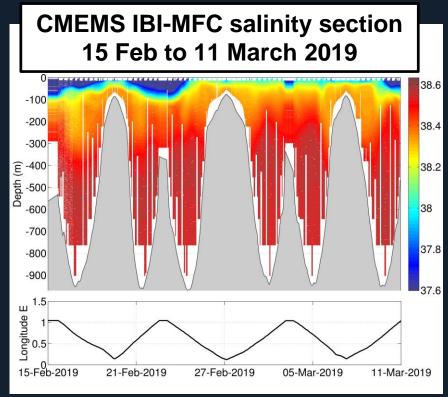
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WMOP simulations



FORECAST oct 2013 – present

(with the current version of WMOP)

data assimilation (since Oct 2018)

climatological river inputs

→ operational daily production of a 72-hour prediction

HINDCAST

HINDCAST 2009-2016

free run daily river discharges

→ used for ocean process studies and variability analysis



REANALYSIS of specific past periods

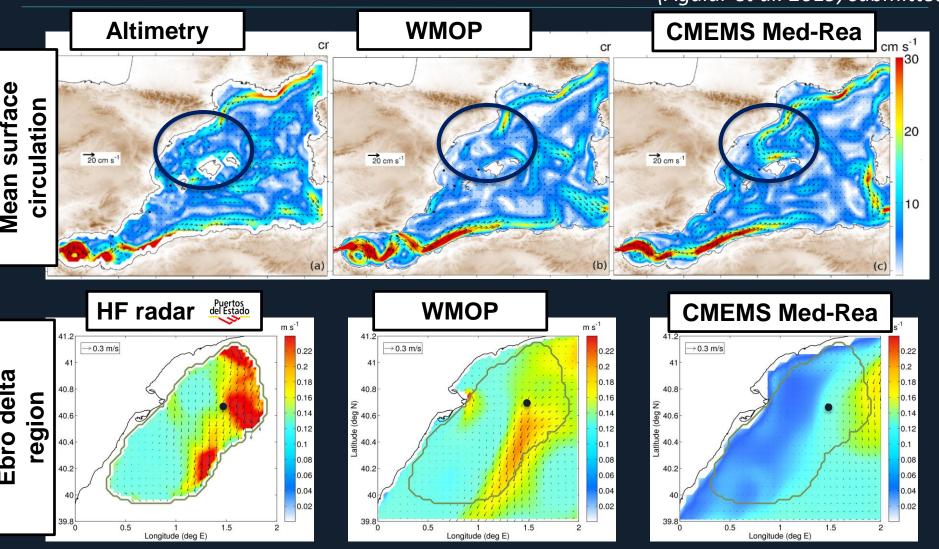
data assimilation

possible model grid refinements

→ analysis of sea trial experiments & impact of observations

Impact of downscaling – WMOP hindcast simulation

(Aguiar et al. 2019, submitted)

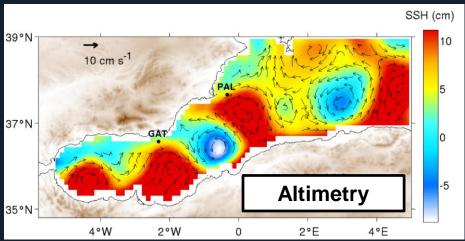


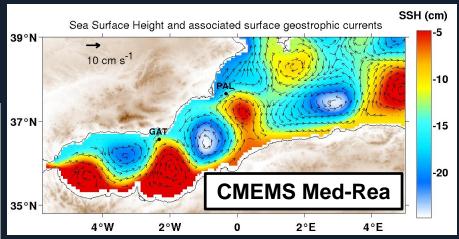
Some improvements in the mean surface circulation...

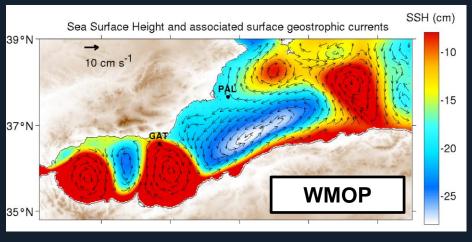
Impact of downscaling – WMOP hindcast simulation

(Aguiar et al. 2019, submitted)

Sea surface height Average July-Sept 2012







... but the mesoscale patterns need to be constrained by data assimilation.

Uses of WMOP

Science

- Ocean process studies
- Support to sea trial experiments
- Study of the impact of observations
- Optimization of observational sampling
- Impact of oceanography on ecosystems
- ...



Society

- Search and rescue
- Response to emergencies
- Lifeguards App
- Swimming across the Ibiza Channel
- Forensic science
- ...

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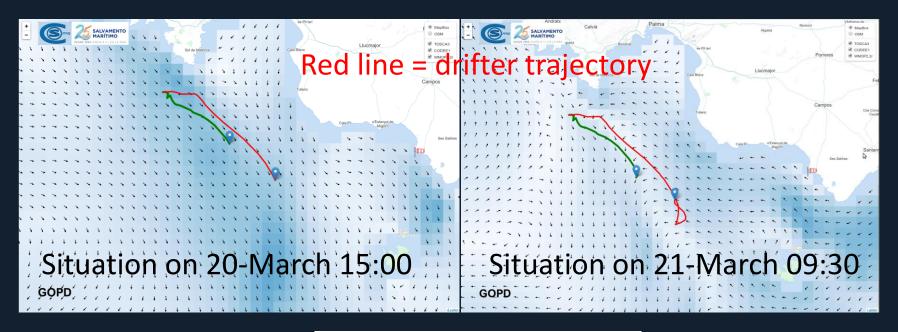
&

Society

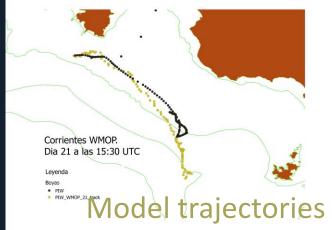
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- ...

Search and Rescue: SASEMAR exercise

Drifters launched on 19-March-2018 15:00 UTC





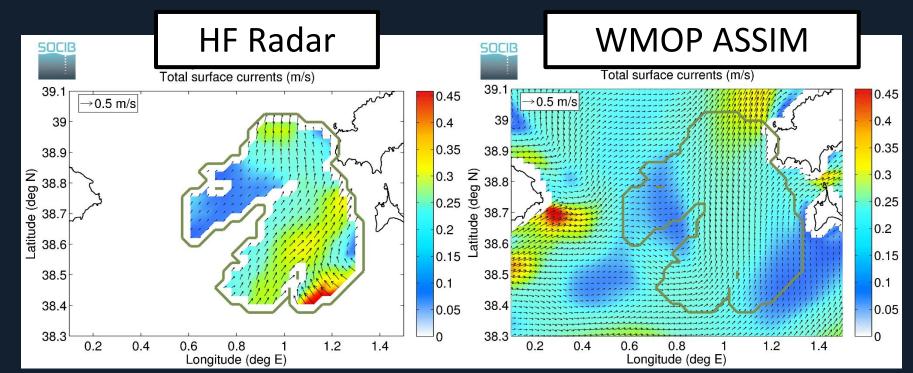


Swimming across the Ibiza Channel – Tita Llorens



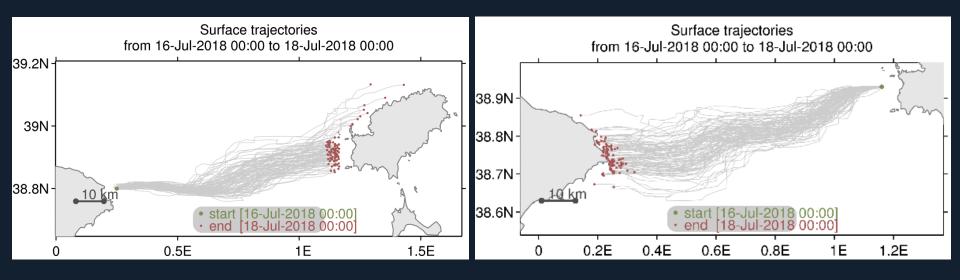


Support to optimize the swimming route and date



Swimming across the Ibiza Channel – Tita Llorens

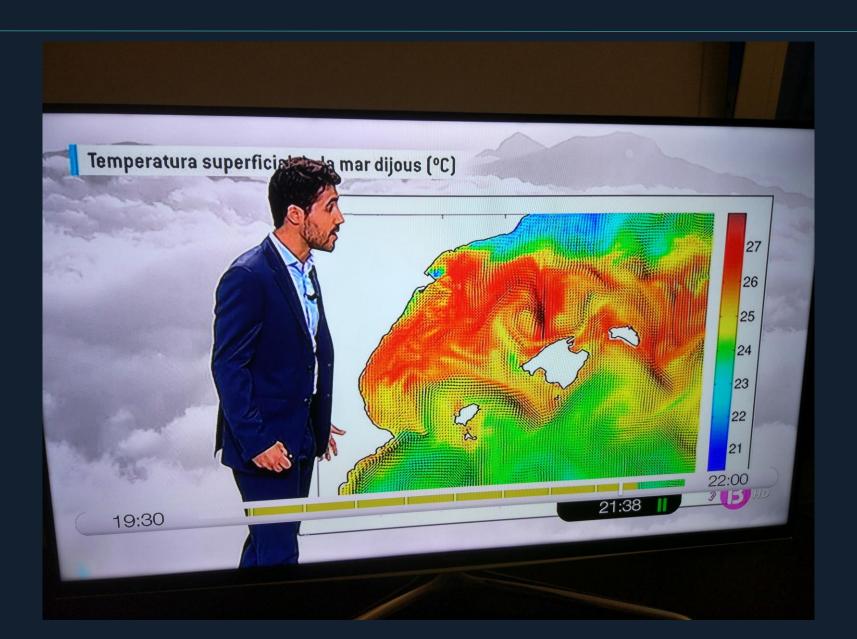
Computation of trajectories and times incorporating currents and swimming components (favorable direction: West to East)

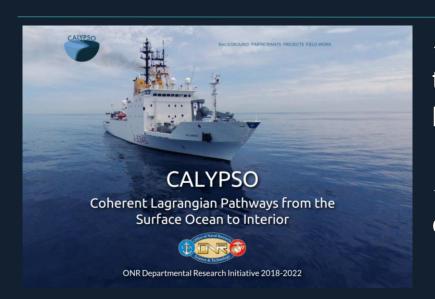


After 2 failed attempts in recent years due to adverse currents, the third try was the good one: Tita Llorens successfully completed the transect in 37h!!



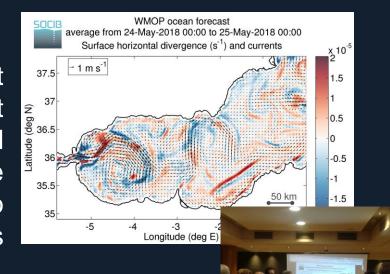
WMOP on TV



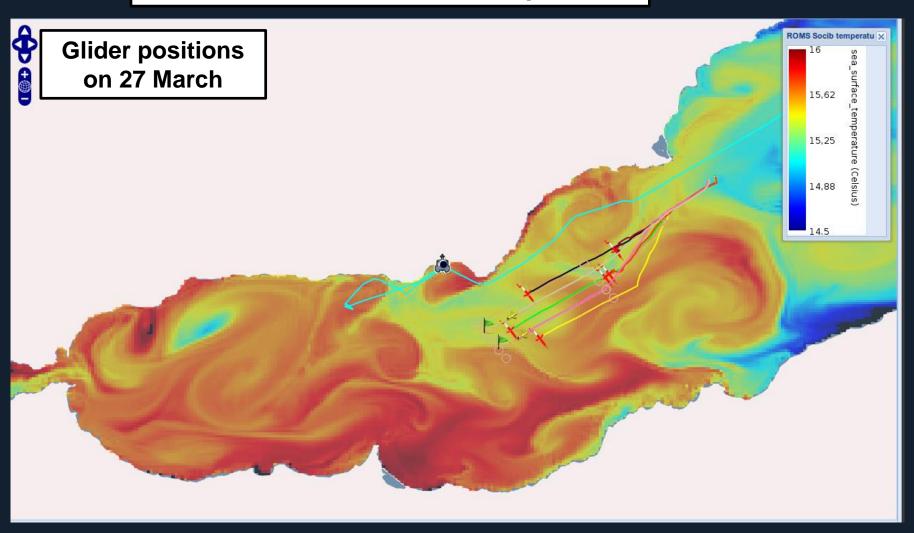


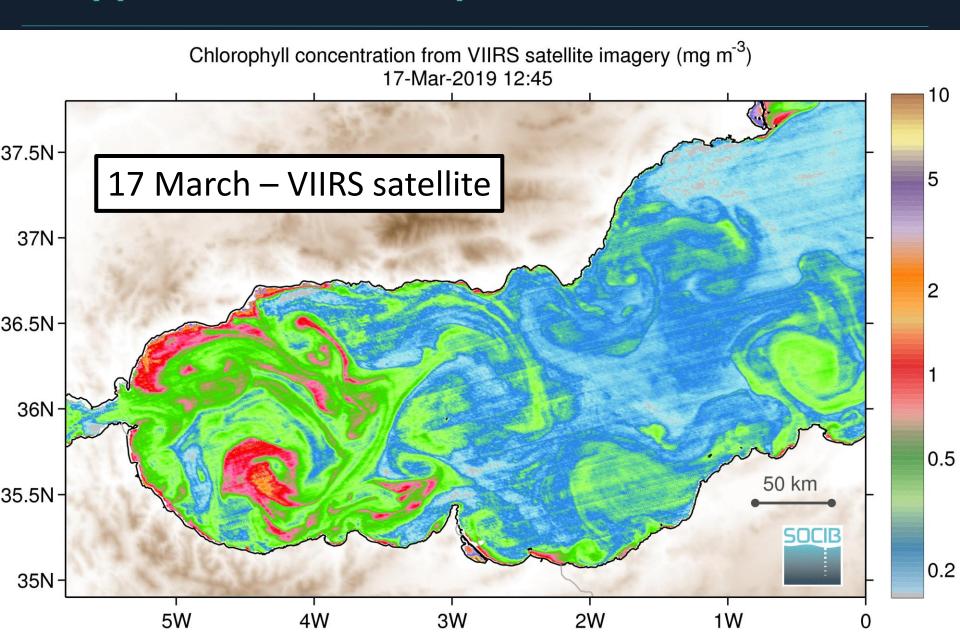
- ✓ Objective: improve understanding of the three-dimensional pathways of water parcels in the upper ocean
- ✓ Target area: Alboran Sea (ideal testbed due to its dynamic jets, fronts and gyres)

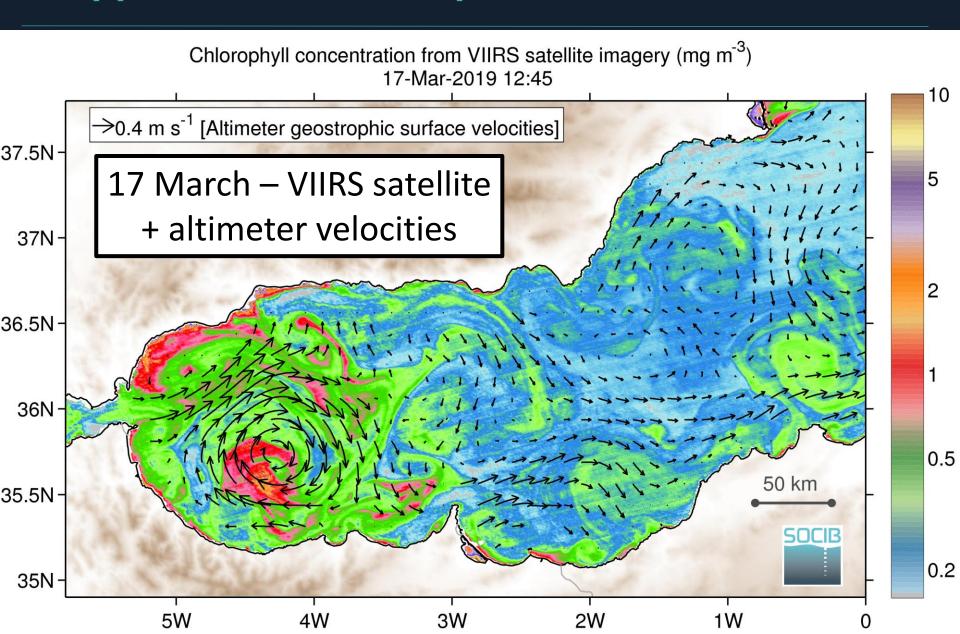
✓ WMOP simulations used in complement to satellite data to identify areas of interest (density fronts, areas of convergence and subduction) and provide insights into the expected small-scale variability, so as to optimize the deployment of instruments (moorings, floats, drifters, gliders).

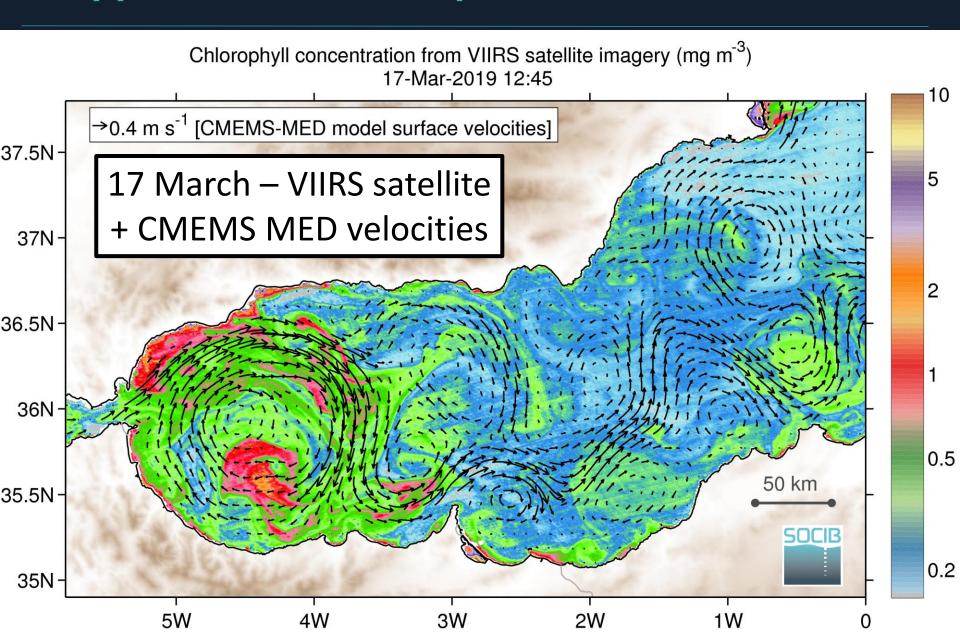


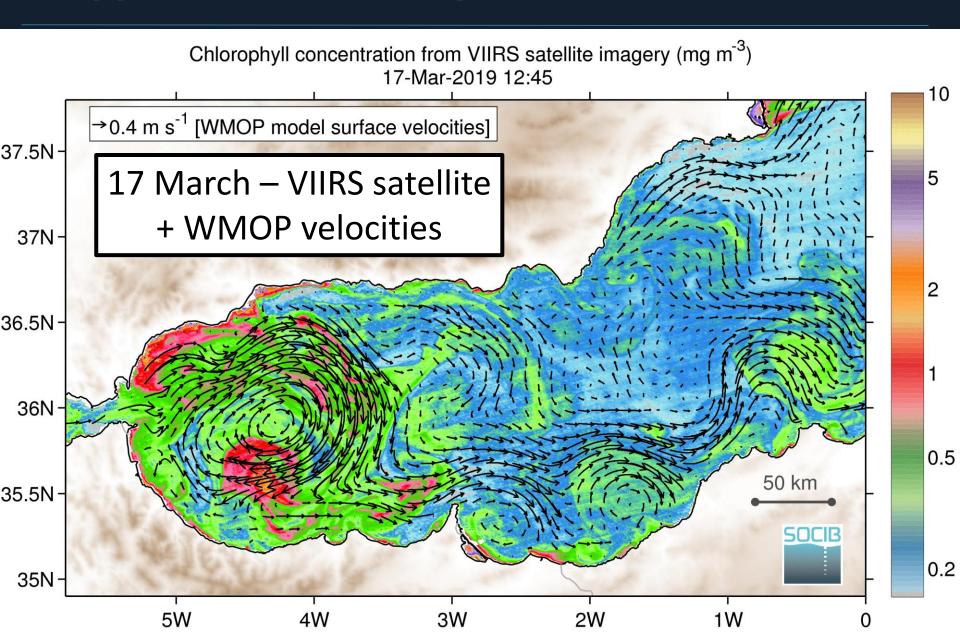
2019 sea trial: 27 March - 11 April 2019



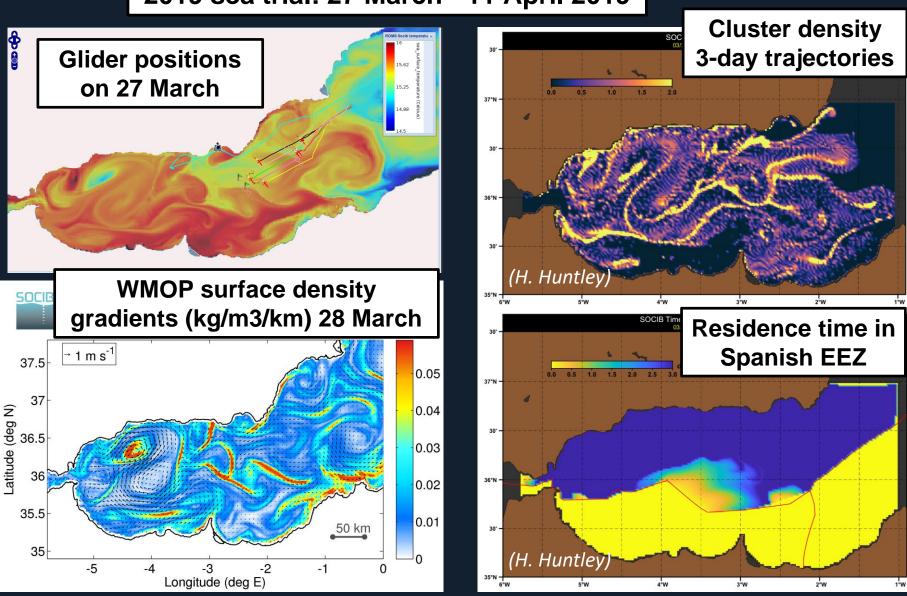








2019 sea trial: 27 March - 11 April 2019



Summary

WMOP is a regional modelling system

- ... downscaling CMEMS MED model
- ... using observations from CMEMS catalogue (among others) for model assessment and data assimilation
- ... exploited to address scientific questions and to generate products and services for society

