

Glider transport calculations

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Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System

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Description:	This document describes a free and open toolbox for the automatic visualization of SOCB glider physical and biogeochemical observations, as well as derived dynamic geostrophic transports in the Balearic Channels.  This toolbox is available through GitHub and constitutes a Data to Product Thematic Glider Service – D2PTS – from the JERICO-S3 EU funded project.
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## 1. Introduction

SOCIB is a marine research infrastructure, a facility of facilities that contributes to respond to science and society needs by monitoring the ocean using a multi-platform integrated observing and forecasting network focused on the western Mediterranean, and providing free, open and quality-controlled data and resources (Tintoré *et al.*, 2013, 2019). Efficient tools for decision support are also developed for example to monitor and visualize Essential Ocean Variables (as defined by the Global Ocean Observing System, <a href="https://www.goosocean.org/eov">https://www.goosocean.org/eov</a>) and derived indicators (<a href="https://apps.socib.es/subregmed-indicators/">https://apps.socib.es/subregmed-indicators/</a>; <a href="https://apps.socib.es/subregmed-marine-heatwaves/">https://apps.socib.es/subregmed-marine-heatwaves/</a>), and to analyse and understand the ocean state and variability (Juza and Tintoré, 2021; Juza et al., 2022).

More specifically, in the frame of the JERICO-S3 project, SOCIB has implemented an open access toolbox for the computation and visualization of physical/biogeochemical variables from gliders, as well as derived variables and indicators that are relevant for both science and society. This work is a contribution to Task 7.5.2 from the above-mentioned EU funded project: "Estimation of sea water masses types and transport monitoring D2PTS: will develop physical oceanography products from glider data that may be combined with biogeochemistry observations". This report provides some background on the SOCIB sustained endurance lines, the area of application and the tool developed for computation and visualization of key ocean variables.

The Ibiza Channel (IC) is a well-known biodiversity hotspot (Coll et al., 2010) and a choke point of the western Mediterranean Sea (Heslop *et al.*, 2012; Juza *et al.*, 2013) with complex topography and circulation. The significant variability of the meridional circulation at the scales of weeks and few kilometers has been explained through the variability of the water masses in the vertical, with very relevant implications on the marine ecosystem (e.g., Bluefin Tuna, Jellyfish). SOCIB is monitoring the IC quasi-continuously through the deployment of gliders along an endurance line since January 2011. The repeated high-resolution glider sections allow us to describe and understand the ocean processes involved in the ocean circulation variability from daily/weekly to interannual scales. Semi-permanent glider sections are becoming available in different coastal to ocean areas (Boundary ocean Observing Network), and tools such as the one developed will facilitate understanding the circulation in key ocean areas and its relation to water masses driving these changes that are essential to understand the role of the ocean in climate change.









#### Computation and visualization support

An effective tool has been developed processing the SOCIB glider data to monitor and visualize the ocean circulation and variability as observed by the glider measurements. The developed metrics and diagnostics are: (1) vertical sections of temperature (T), salinity (S), density ( $\rho$ ) and geostrophic velocity (GV), (2) T/S diagrams and water mass identification, and (3) geostrophic transports (total and per water mass).

The tool also allows the use of biogeochemical (BGC) data from glider measurements (chlorophyll-a concentration, oxygen concentration and saturation, and turbidity). The data processing applied to the BGC data is the same as for the hydrographic variables (T, S) in order to be able to relate BGC values to the GV and associated water mass transports.

## 1. Toolbox description

The free and open access toolbox is available at: <a href="https://github.com/socib/glider-transport-toolbox">https://github.com/socib/glider-transport-toolbox</a>

#### 1.1. Datasets

The glider data used are the L1 delayed time (DT) or delayed mode (DM) glider products, which are quality-controlled and distributed by SOCIB. The potential temperature  $\theta$  is computed with 0 for the reference pressure.

### 1.2. Scripts

The complete time series (all glider missions) from a given date are processed executing the general script:

#### General script: launch/script\_glider\_transports.sh

The three principal steps of the general script are:

#### 1. launch/generate\_SOCIB\_glider\_mission\_file\_list.sh [loading glider data]

Generates the sorted list (by time) of "correct glider files (discarding "bad" missions) from SOCIB thredds for a given deployment ("Canales" or "all").

#### **2.** launch/compute\_transports\_glider.m [processing data, computing transports]

- matlab/processing\_transect\_glider.m (1<sup>st</sup> data processing)

  T/S QC, vertical interpolation, glider potential T (θ) computation, transect detection.
- matlab/processing\_transport\_glider.m (2<sup>nd</sup> data processing)

  Projection on standard line, horizontal interpolation, filling, smoothing, water mass detection, geostrophic velocity (GV) and transport computations.







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#### Additional sub-routines (in matlab/)

- binHoriz.m, binHoriz\_bgc.m
- binVert.m, binVert bgc.m
- calculate geostrophy( commonDepth).m
- cnt sigma.m
- colorlist.m
- criterion geometry detection WIW.m
- distance.m
- findGliderType.m
- get\_bathymetry\_sections.m:
- get\_bathymetry\_Smith\_Sandwell.m
- get\_glider\_transects\_IC.m
- get\_logo.m
- initfigall.m
- interpHoriz.m, interpHoriz\_bgc.m
- interpVert.m, interpVert\_bgc.m
- medcoast\_huge\_noriv.mat
- plot\_glider\_bgc\_individual\_sections.m
- plot\_glider\_bgc\_sections.m
- plot glider density individual sections.m
- plot\_glider\_geostrophy\_individual\_sections.m
- plot\_glider\_trajectory.m
- plot\_glider\_ts\_diagram\_IC\_MC.m
- plot\_glider\_ts\_diagram\_watermass.m
- plot\_glider\_ts\_individual\_sections.m
- plot\_glider\_ts\_sections.m
- projectPointsOnLine.m
- redbluelio.mat
- stdLineProjection.m

- horizontal bin interpolation
- vertical bin interpolation
- geostrophy computation
- contours sigma
- colors
- geometry criterion for WIW detection
- distance
- find glider type
- interpolate bathymetry to standard line
- read bathymetry (Smith & Sandwell) \*\*
- detection glider transects \*\*
- load logo
- figure adjustment for print
- horizontal interpolation
- vertical interpolation
- Mediterranean coast line \*\*
- plot vertical section of BGC data
- plot all vertical sections of BGC data
- plot density
- plot geostrophic velocity
- plot glider surface trajectory
- plot TS diagram (IC, MC)
- plot TS diagram (water masses)
- plot TS vertical section
- plot all TS vertical sections
- projection into standard line
- color map
- creation standard line

Data processing (quality control, interpolation on regular grid, transect detection), geostrophic velocity and transport computations.

\*\* Specific function or file for the Balearic Channels in the western Mediterranean

#### 3. matlab/plot\_glider\_model\_transports.m

[visualization]









- get_logo.m	- read logo
- initfigall.m	- figure configuration for print
Plots time series of geostrophic transports for glider (total & per water mass).	

## 1.3. Data processing

## 1.3.1. First step

(processing\_transect\_glider.m)

Input	Glider file (L1)
Profile identification	Find profiles (profile_index)
Data sampling conditions	Number data>10, data gap<5 db, length>20 db (per profile)
Linear interpolation	- Depth resolution = 1m (~glider sampling)
into vertical grid	- From 0 to max(mission pressure)
	- Profile position (lon,lat,time)=mean(lon,lat,time)
Outputs	Figures (see section 3.1)
	- Positions of glider profiles
	- Detected transects in the selected channel
	- Vertical sections of $\theta$ , S, BGC (optional) for all the mission
	- θ/S diagram distinguishing channels for all the mission
	<u>Matfile</u>
	- Structure dataTS with processed profiles and transect index

## 1.3.2. Second step

(processing\_transport\_glider.m)

Input	Output matfile from 1st step
Projection on standard line	Projection of longitude and latitude on fitted line
Filling surface gaps	Horizontal linear interpolation of surface values +
	extrapolation
Bin data / linear interpolation	5m/2km bins in vertical/horizontal
Fill to channel bottom	Interpolate bathymetry into standard line + extrapolation
Horizontal smoothing	Moving average filter: 24km









Geostrophic transports	Compute GV from binned/interpolated/smoothed T/S + total and water mass transports
Outputs	Figures (see section 3.2)
	For each individual transect in channel:
	- Vertical sections of $\theta$ , S, density, BGC (optional), GV
	- θ/S diagram distinguishing the identified water masses
	<u>Matfile</u>
	- Structure dataGV with GV and transports

# 1.3.3. Transport visualization (plot\_glideronly\_transports.m)

Output matfiles from 2 <sup>nd</sup> step for processed missions over selected period
Figures (see section 3.3)
- Time series of total geostrophic transports (net, northward, southward)
- Time series of water mass geostrophic transports (northward, southward)

## 1.4. Specific options

Smoothing parameter	- Initial value: 6 km (Heslop et al., 2012)
	- Recommended value: 12 or 24 km (~Ro)
Criterion for WIW	Article (Juza et al., 2019)
Biogeochemical data	- BGC data: chlorophyll-a concentration, oxygen concentration
	/ saturation, turbidity
	- Additional vertical sections of BGC data (sections 3.1.4/3.2.3)
Ibiza / Mallorca	- Some missions monitor both channels
Channels	- Automatic detection of transects distinguishing each channel









## 2. Visualization

## 2.1. Figures (1<sup>st</sup> data processing)

#### 2.1.1. Glider mission

First, the characteristics of the mission are displayed: the trajectory of the glider (Fig. 1) as well as the transects in IC as detected by the tool following the longitude variations (Fig. 2).

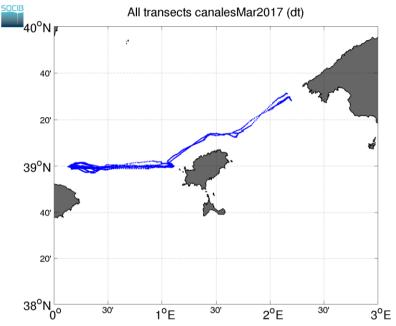


Figure 1: Profile positions during the glider mission deployed in March 2017.

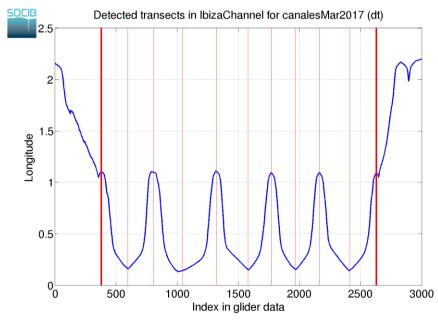


Figure 2: Longitudes (blue) and detected transects (between two red lines) for the glider mission deployed in March 2017









#### 2.1.2. Vertical sections (all transects)

All available vertical profiles of  $\theta$  and S data from glider are shown as function of time. Sections for glider are illustrated in Fig. 3.

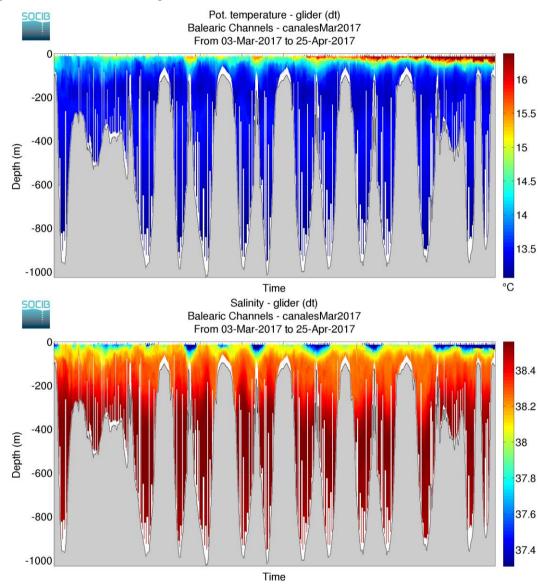


Figure 3: Quality controlled and vertically interpolated θ and S profiles for all transects of the mission in March 2017 (Mallorca and Ibiza Channels).







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## 2.1.3. T/S diagram

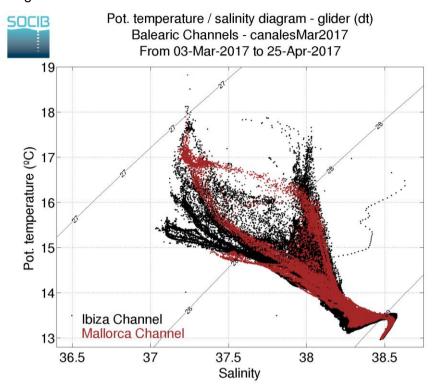


Figure 4: θ/S diagram for all the profiles of the missions distinguishing the channels.





#### 2.1.4. Optional figures (BGC data)

Vertical profiles of BGC data are displayed as function of time (as done for  $\theta$  and S). Illustrations in Fig. 5 are given for the mission in November 2015. Note that no data of Chlorophyll-a and turbidity were collected during this mission.

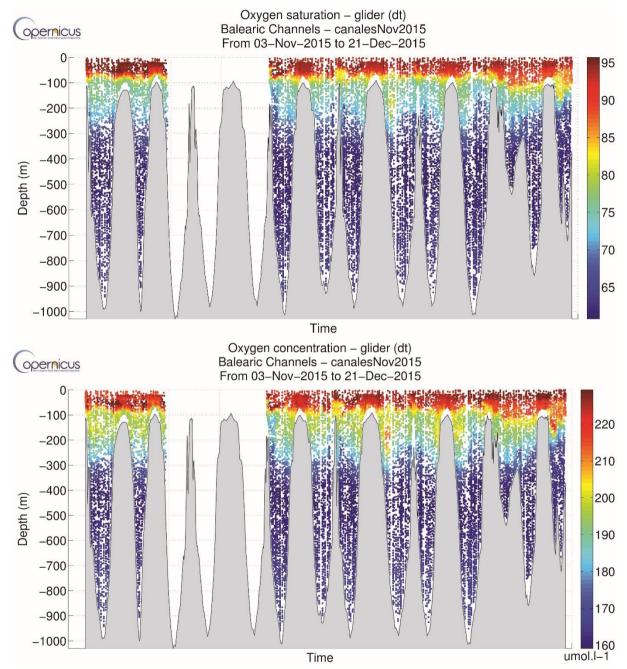


Figure 5: Vertical sections of oxygen concentration and saturation from glider for all monitored transects, plotted as a function of time, during the mission in November 2015.





## 2.2. Figures (2<sup>nd</sup> data processing)

#### 2.2.1. Vertical sections (individual transects)

Illustrations are given for the 4<sup>th</sup> transect of the mission in March 2017.

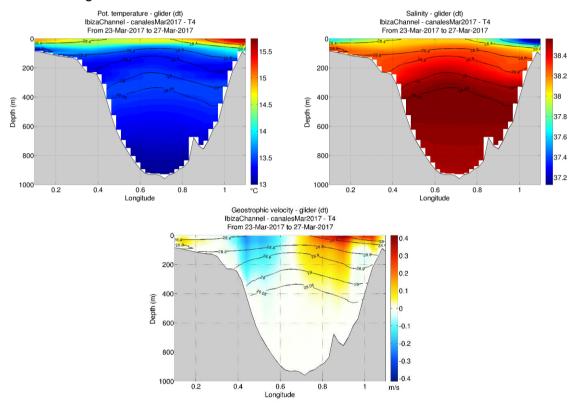


Figure 6: Vertical section of glider  $\theta$ , S and GV for the 4<sup>th</sup> transect in IC of the mission.

### 2.2.2. T/S diagrams (individual transects)

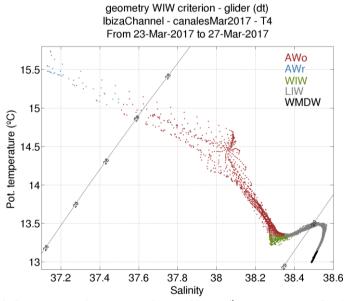


Figure 7:  $\theta$ /S diagram for the profiles of the 4<sup>th</sup> transect in IC of the mission.





## 2.2.3. Optional figures (BGC data)

Illustrations are given for the mission in November 2015.

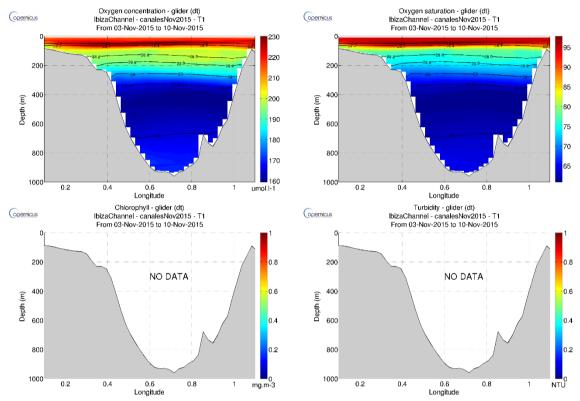


Figure 8: Vertical section of glider oxygen concentration and saturation, Chlorophyll-a concentration and turbidity for the 1<sup>st</sup> transect in IC of the mission.





## 2.3. Figures (transport visualization)

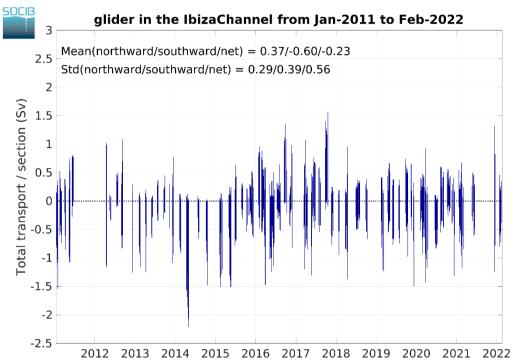


Figure 9: Total geostrophic transports (northward & southward) in the IC for all the missions since 2011.

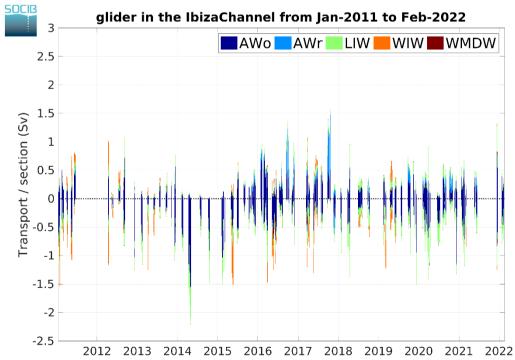


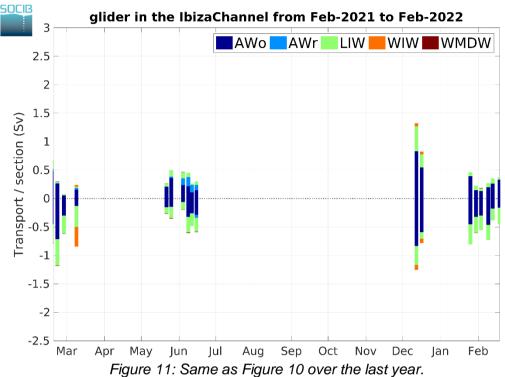
Figure 10: Water mass geostrophic transports (northward & southward) in the IC for all the missions since 2011. Source: https://apps.socib.es/subregmed-indicators/transports.htm











Source: https://apps.socib.es/subregmed-indicators/transports.htm

## 3. Conclusion and perspectives

An automatic tool has been developed to process the L1 product from SOCIB glider observations in the Balearic Channels in order to compute and visualize key variables and indicators (geostrophic transports), flowing three steps:

- 1st data processing: building QC L2 product, identifying transect, generating files/figures
- 2<sup>nd</sup> data processing: computing geostrophic transport per transect, generating files/figures
- Final visualization: displaying time series of geostrophic transports in the Channels.

As future works, it could be performed the following:

- Netcdf files: the toolbox generates, as added-value products from glider data, figures (in png) and files containing the derived variables (in mat). The generation of these files in netcdf is planned.
- **Programming language**: the launch scripts are written in bash. Then, most of the computational codes are written in matlab. The conversion in python is planned, under the condition of finding human resources.
- **Extending/exporting the toolbox**: the structure of the toolbox allows adapting the codes through the modifying of specific/individual function. In particular, the toolbox can









be extended to:

- Model data interpolated at the glider space-time positions
- Gliders deployed in another channels (such as in Gulf of Finland)

## **Acronyms**

AWo Atlantic Water "old"

AWr Atlantic Water "recent"

BGC Biogeochemical data

DM Delayed mode

DT Delayed time

D2PTS Data to product thematic service

EOV Essential ocean variable

GOOS Global ocean observing system

GV Geostrophic velocity

IC Ibiza Channel

LIW Levantine Intermediate Water

NW-MED North-western Mediterranean

PSS Pilot Super Site (JERICO-S3)

T Temperature

θ Potential temperature

S Salinity

SOCIB Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System

WIW Western Intermediate Water

WMDW Western Mediterranean Deep Water

#### References

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