

# SOCIB HF Radar system

## Applications and validation

**C. Troupin**, A. Lana, V. Fernández, J.P. Beltran, B. Frontera,  
S. Gómara, S. Lora, K. Sebastian, and J. Tintoré

Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System

✉ [ctroupin@socib.es](mailto:ctroupin@socib.es)

🐦 [@SOCIB\\_data](https://twitter.com/SOCIB_data)

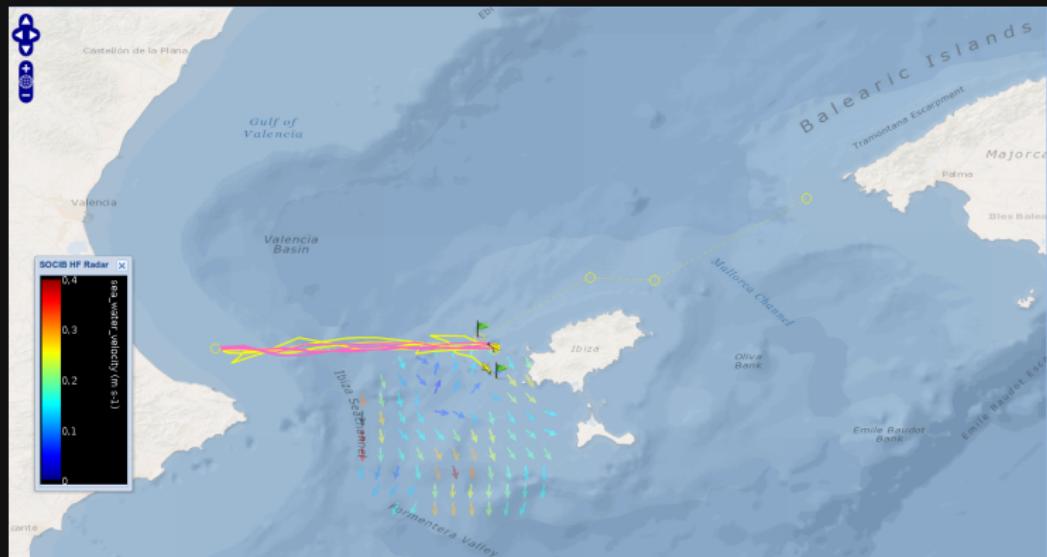


# Context

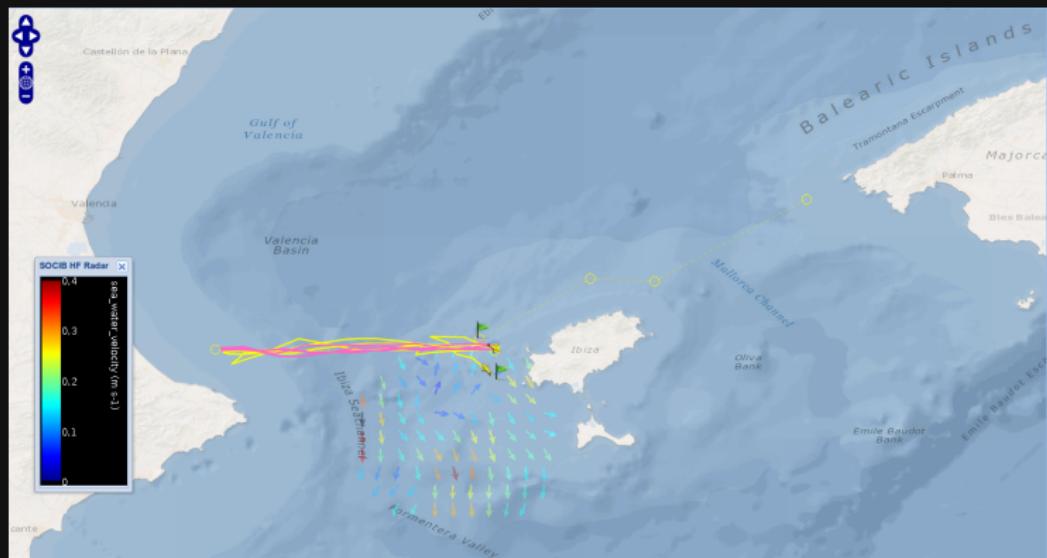
HF Radar **complements** the Coastal Ocean Observing and Forecasting System

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Sociedad de Observación del Clima e Información para la Biodiversidad (SOCIB) website. The header features the SOCIB logo and the text "Baleares Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System". It includes the flags of Spain, the European Union, and the Balearic Islands, along with the text "Instituto de Estudios Avanzados de las Islas Baleares" and "Govern de les Illes Balears". A navigation bar at the top has links for "home", "about us", "facilities", "news", "multimedia", "job opportunities", and "competitive access". Below the navigation is a large banner for a documentary titled "DOCUMENTARY: 'THE GLIDER REVOLUTION' BY THALASSA", featuring an image of a yellow glider in the water. To the right of the banner is a "latest news" sidebar with three items: "HCMR (Hellenic Centre for Marine Research) visit to SOCIB Glider Facility" (15-04-2014), "Surface circulation patterns in the Ibiza channel from HF Radar Data: Initial r ..." (10-04-2014), and "SOCIB present at the 'Historias del Mediterráneo' open public talks at Caixa Fó ..." (20-03-2014). Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, RSS, YouTube, and Flickr are also present. At the bottom, there is a "facilities" section with icons for various observational platforms, including a coastal research vessel, a coastal HF radar (which is highlighted with a blue oval), a glider, a lagrangian platform, fixed stations, beach monitoring, ocean forecast, and a data center.

# Location: Ibiza Channel



# Location: Ibiza Channel



See talk Wednesday at 15:15 by Emma Heslop: "*High sub-seasonal variability at circulation "choke" point in the Mediterranean*"

# More details

Lana et al. (2014). SOCIB Continuous Observations Of Ibiza Channel Using HF Radar  
Technology for Characterization and Quantification of Surface Currents, *Sea  
Technology*. Accepted

## SOCIB Continuous Observations Of Ibiza Channel Using HF Radar

*Technology for Characterization and Quantification of Surface Currents*

By Dr. Arancha Lana • Dr. Vicente Fernandez • Dr. Joaquín Tintoré

---

and SOCIB HF Radar Facility:

<http://socib.es/?seccion=observingFacilities&facility=radar>

# Data access & visualisation

# Characteristics

CODAR SeaSonde system  
Two radial stations  
with combined TX-RX antennas

TX center frequency: 13.5 Mhz

Bandwidth: 90 kHz

Grid resolution: 3 km

Averaging radius (radials): 6 km

Temporal resolution: hourly  
(75 min moving average)

Temporal coverage: 1st June 2012  
– ongoing



# Data access: 2 clicks

HF Radar facility

The screenshot shows the SOCIB (Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System) website. A yellow arrow points from the text "HF Radar facility" to the "COASTAL HF RADAR" icon in the "facilities" section at the bottom.

**SOCIB** Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System

home about us facilities news multimedia job opportunities competitive access

latest news

- SOCIB performed a drifter release exercise in the Ibiza Channel [06-10-2014]
- SOCIB featured in UNIDATA news [01-10-2014]
- SOCIB at 'Marginal Seas In Change' Workshop in Korea [29-09-2014]

What is SOCIB

facilities

- COASTAL RESEARCH VESSEL
- COASTAL HF RADAR
- GLIDER
- LAGRANGIAN PLATFORMS
- FIXED STATIONS
- BEACH MONITORING
- OCEAN FORECAST
- DATA CENTER

# Data access: 2 clicks

- ▶ System description
- ▶ HF Radar facility
- ▶ Visualisation tool
- ▶ Access to data (thredds)

The HF Radar facility provides real-time surface current data in the Ibiza Channel. If you are interested in the technical details of functioning of the HF Radar instrument, read general information or access to the presentation at the HF Radar National Meeting.

In this map, the latest currents are represented (by its direction and speed value). All HF Radar Data has passed a battery of tests to ensure that the data being produced is of the highest quality and therefore, a QC flag can be displayed. Data can be downloaded in KML or NetCDF format. For a wider and more complete functionality use CefnC2 application.

Active additional layers (velocity components, magnitude or QC status flags) using the layer controls located at the top right corner. Double click on any point of the map to get a time-series plot for that point for each one of the selected parameters.

Disclaimer

**SOCIB / HF Radar facility**

2014-10-20T10:00:00.000Z

Name: GALT  
Instrument: HF Radar/Sonde  
Location: Western coast of Ibiza (Puig des Gall)

Longitude: 0° 13' 13.19" E  
Latitude: 39° 57' 11.19" N  
Center Frequency: 13.5 MHz  
Bandwidth: 90 kHz  
Antenna pattern: Measured

Puig des Gall  
Formentera

Longitude: 0° 45' 45.2" Latitude: 39° 03' 31"

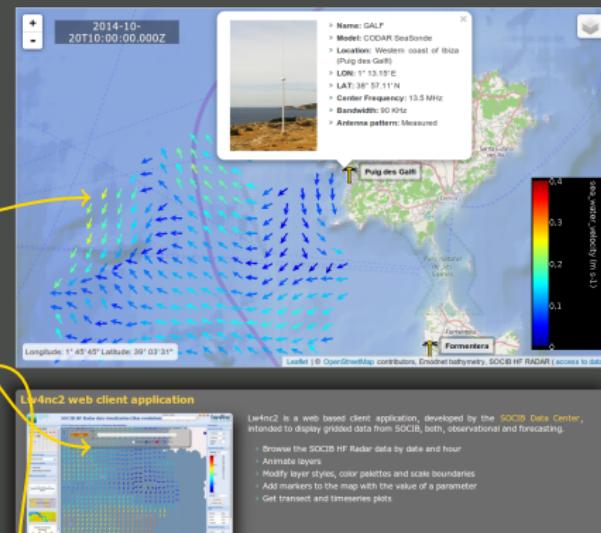
Lu4nc2 web client application

Lu4nc2 is a web-based client application, developed by the SOCIB Data Center, intended to display gridded data from SOCIB, both, observational and forecasting.

- ▶ Browse the SOCIB HF Radar data by date and hour
- ▶ Animate layers
- ▶ Modify layer styles, color palettes and scale boundaries
- ▶ Add markers to the map with the value of a parameter
- ▶ Get transect and timeseries plots

Data from	Download	Data access
HF Radar	Kml (Today's info)	Thredds

Disclaimer & Related links



# Data access: 2 clicks

Antennas FORM and GALF

Select layer



Direct data access

# Data access: 2 clicks

Format: NetCDF CF-1.6 compliant

Coordinates: lon, lat, time

Variables: U, V, sea water speed

Quality flags: for each variable + for individual antennas

CODAR parameters: covariance,  
signal-to-noise ratio,  
radial vector count, ...

# Quality control & validation

## SOCIB Continuous Observations Of Ibiza Channel Using HF Radar

*Technology for Characterization and Quantification of Surface Currents*

By Dr. Arancha Lana • Dr. Vicente Fernandez • Dr. Joaquín Tintoré

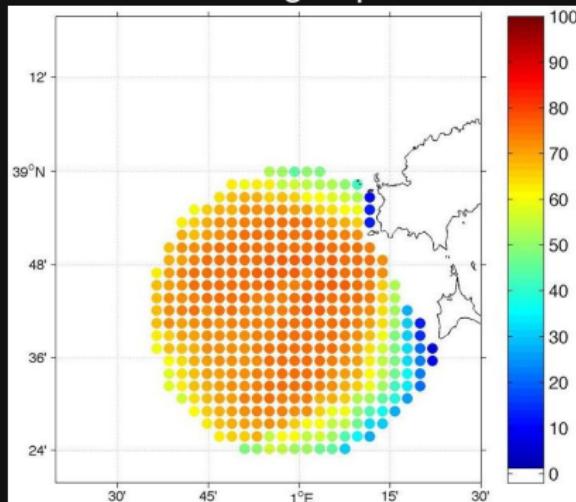
---

# Automated QC procedure

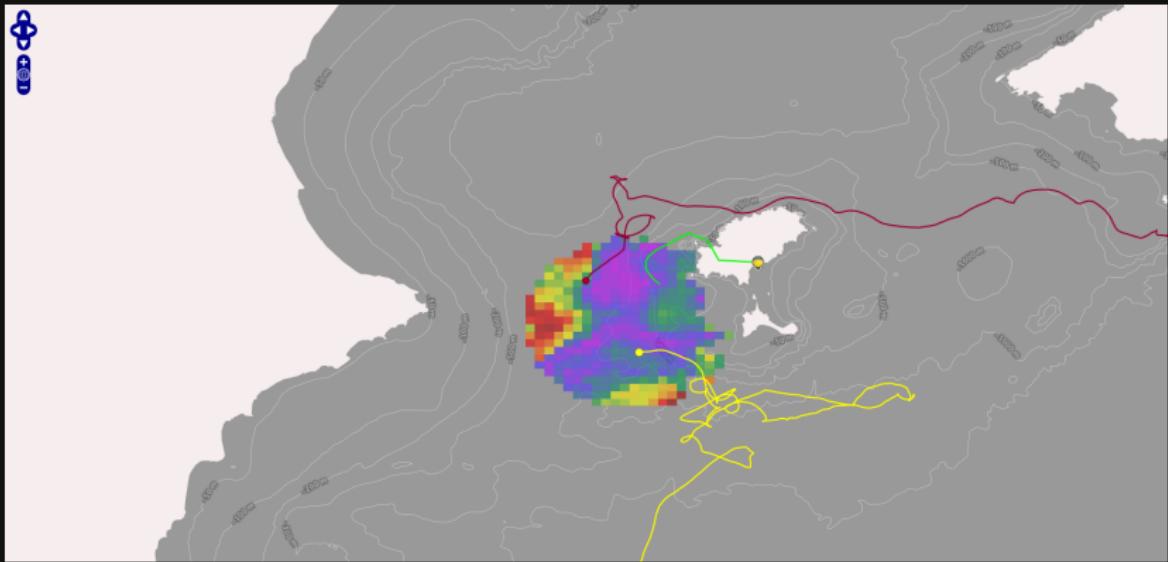
- ✓ CODAR QC procedures
- ✓ SOCIB Data Center procedures and flags for all radial and total data, based on:

1. System functioning diagnostic parameters at each radial station (signal-to-noise ratio, average radial bearing, radial vector count)
2. Battery of tests for individual total vector (range, gradient, spike)

Percentage of data flagged as *Good* at each grid point

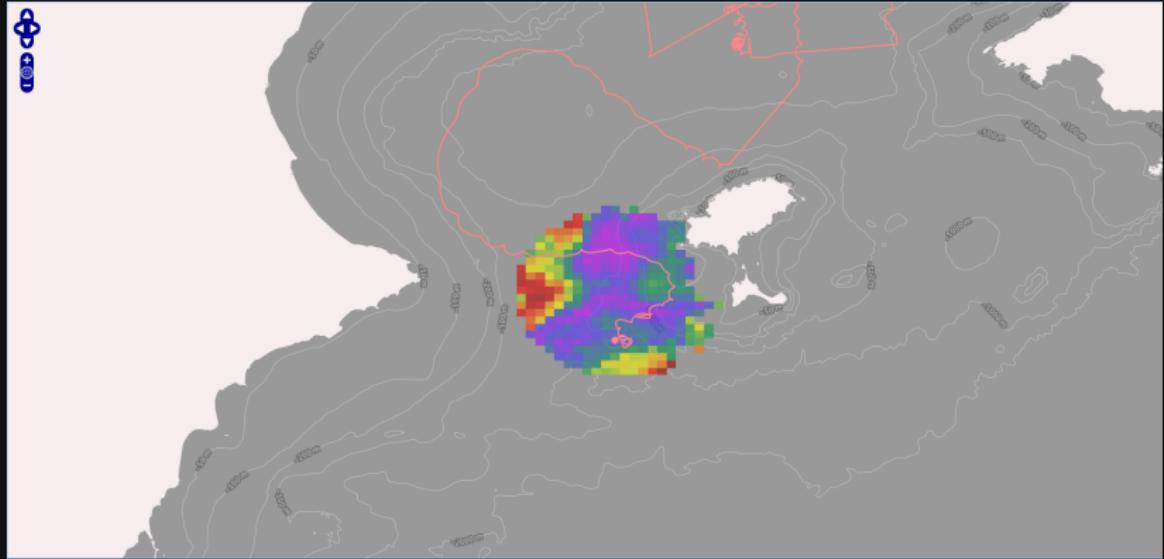


# Validation experiments



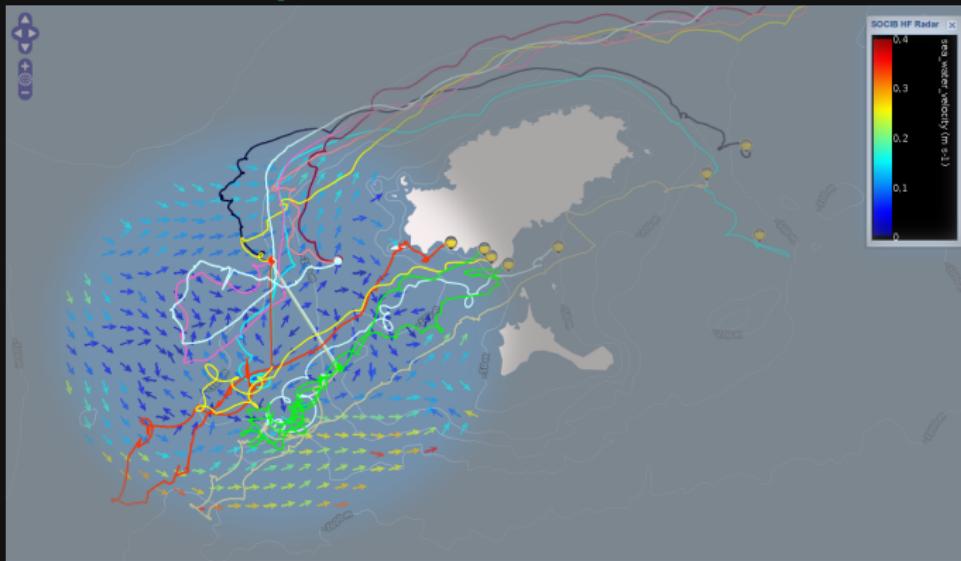
- ▶ TOSCA, October 2012: 3 drifters

# Validation experiments



- ▶ TOSCA, October 2012: 3 drifters
- ▶ G-AltiKa, August 2013: 1 drifter + Glider + 40 Hz altimetry

# Validation experiments



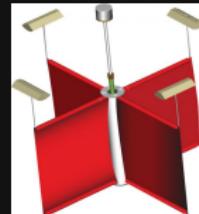
- ▶ TOSCA, October 2012: 3 drifters
- ▶ G-AltiKa, August 2013: 1 drifter + Glider + 40 Hz altimetry
- ▶ Radar-Exp: September 2014: 13 drifters with different shapes and drogue types

# Radar-Exp design

CODE-DAVIS (MetOcean)

Surface (1 m) current tracker

Low wind-exposure

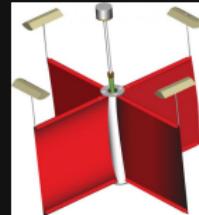


# Radar-Exp design

CODE-DAVIS (MetOcean)

Surface (1 m) current tracker

Low wind-exposure



MD03i (Albatros)

Surface (1 m) current tracker

Low wind-exposure

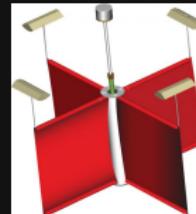


# Radar-Exp design

CODE-DAVIS (MetOcean)

Surface (1 m) current tracker

Low wind-exposure



MD03i (Albatros)

Surface (1 m) current tracker

Low wind-exposure



ODi (Albatros)

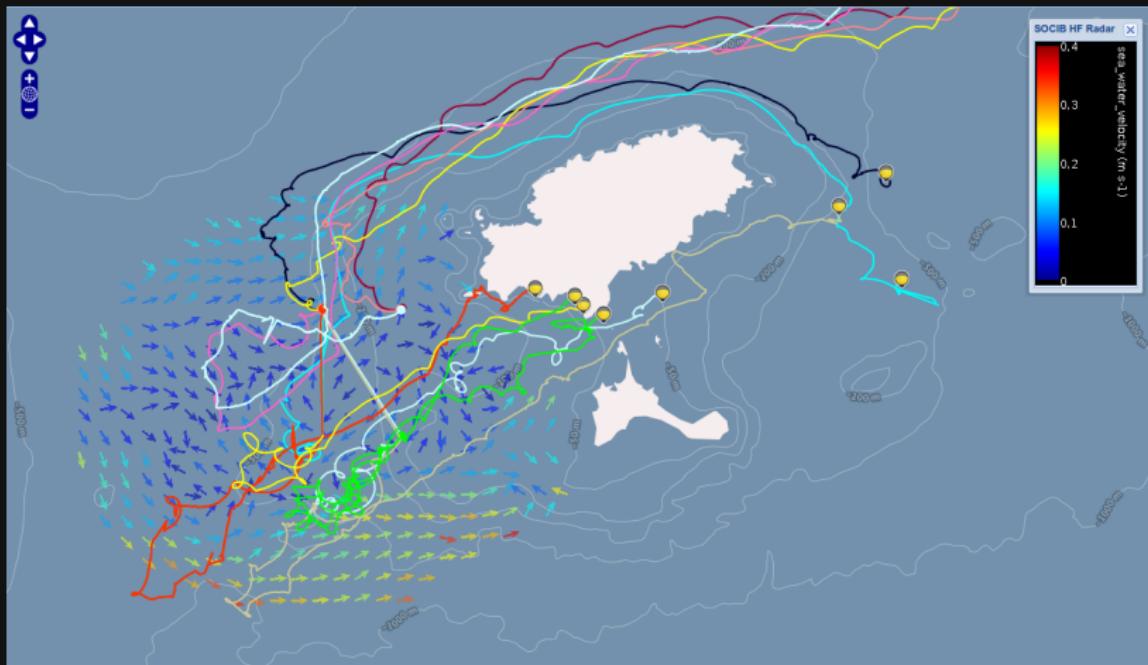
Surface current tracker

High wind-exposure



# Radar-Exp design

3 types of drifters  
at 4 different locations



# Radar-Exp Results

Radial velocities interpolated at drifter positions

N = total number of position

GALF, FORM = radial stations

CODE	N		Correlation coefficient (%)	
	GALF	FORM	GALF	FORM
	611	566	73.3	60.9

Work in progress

# Radar-Exp Results

Radial velocities interpolated at drifter positions

N = total number of position

GALF, FORM = radial stations

---

	N		Correlation coefficient (%)	
	GALF	FORM	GALF	FORM
CODE	611	566	73.3	60.9
MD03i	971	876	68.8	75.3

---

Work in progress

# Radar-Exp Results

Radial velocities interpolated at drifter positions

N = total number of position

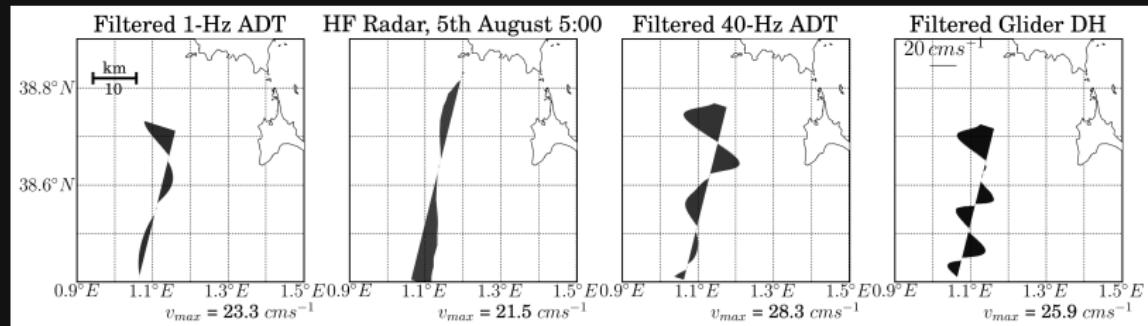
GALF, FORM = radial stations

	N		Correlation coefficient (%)	
	GALF	FORM	GALF	FORM
CODE	611	566	73.3	60.9
MD03i	971	876	68.8	75.3
ODi	697	446	74.3	64.4

Work in progress

# Scientific results

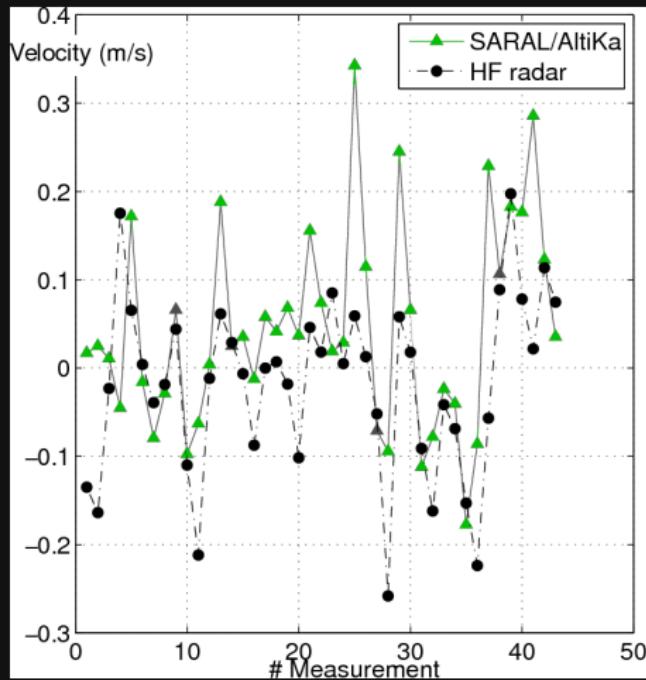
# Multi-platform experiment



- ▶ Radar velocity closest to coast
- ▶ Northwestward current: approx. 20 cm/s
- ▶ Shown by three platforms

Troupin et al. (2014). Illustration of the emerging capabilities of SARAL/AltiKa in the coastal zone using a multi-platform approach, *Advances in Space Research*.  
doi: [doi:10.1016/j.asr.2014.09.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.09.011)

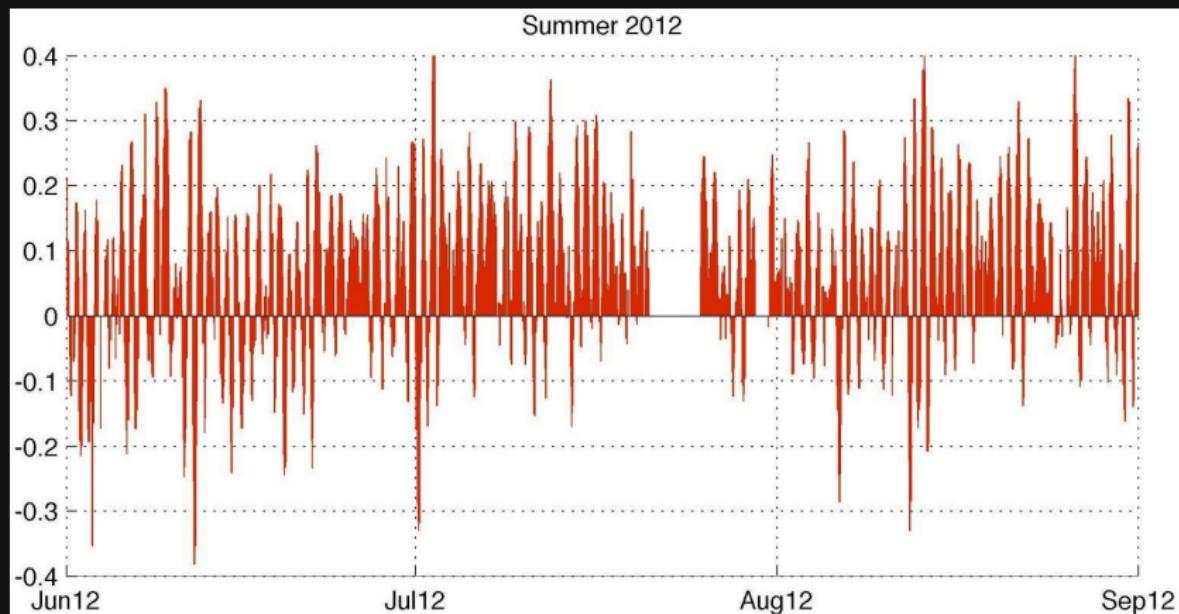
# Comparison with recent SARAL/AltiKa altimeter



- ▶ Good agreement between HF radar and SARAL/AltiKa velocity (significant correlations above 70%)

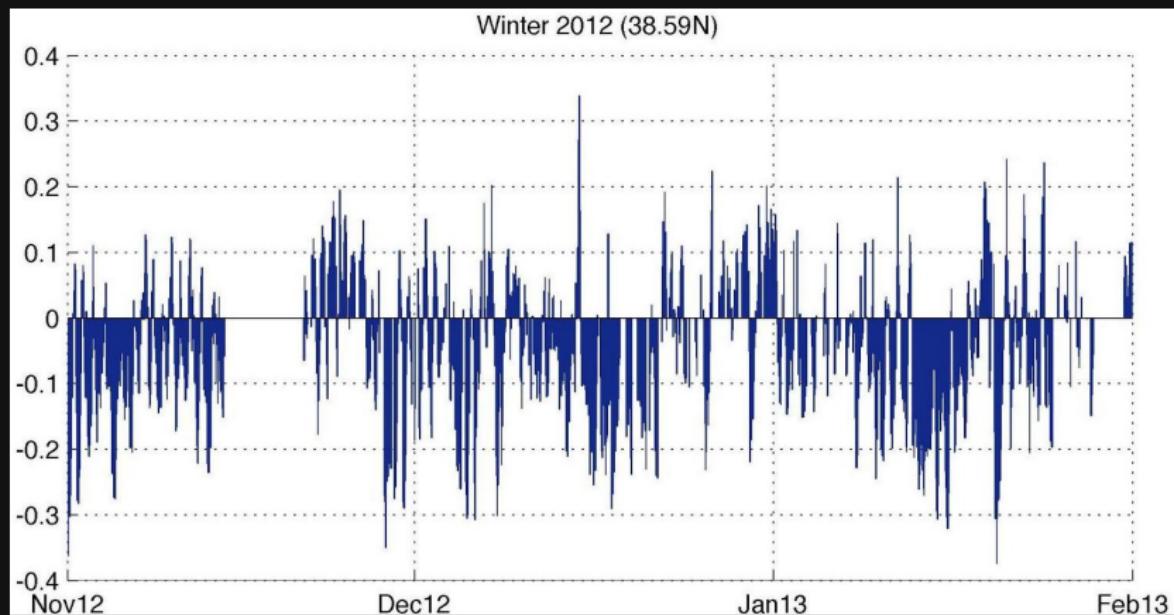
Pascual et al. (2014). Assessing SARAL/AltiKa near-real time data in the coastal zone: comparisons with HF radar and Jason-2 observations. *Marine Geodesy*. Under review.

# Meridional transport in the Ibiza Channel



Summer: dominant northward current

# Meridional transport in the Ibiza Channel

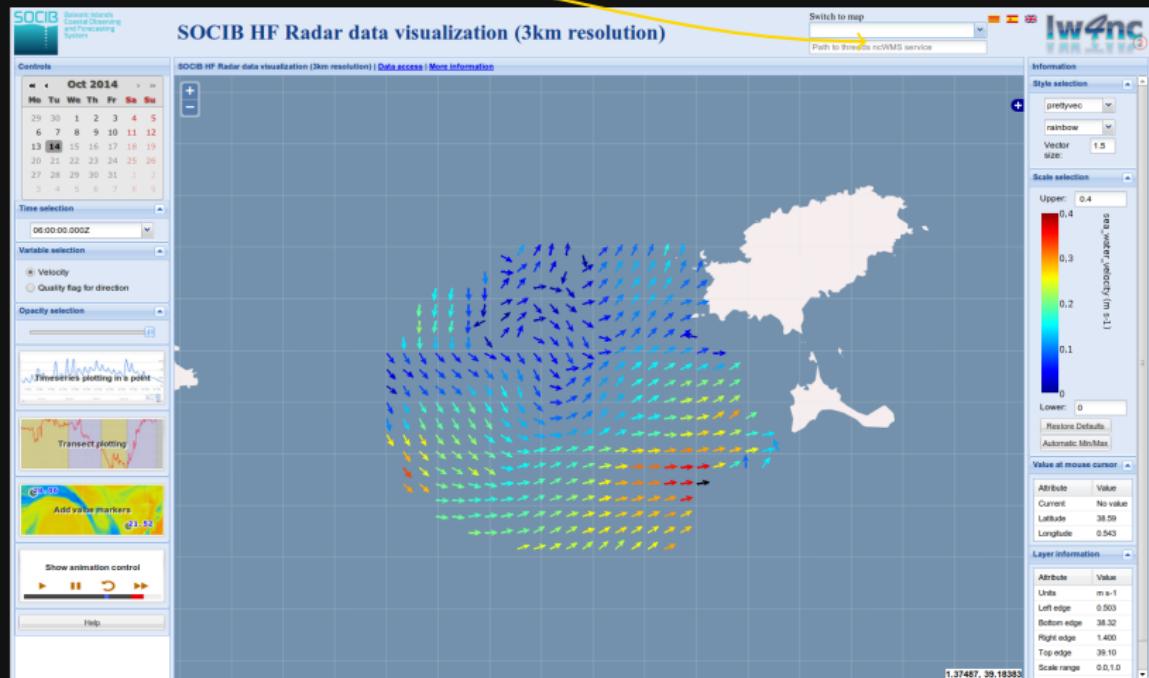


Winter: southward current, weaker

# Web-based Applications

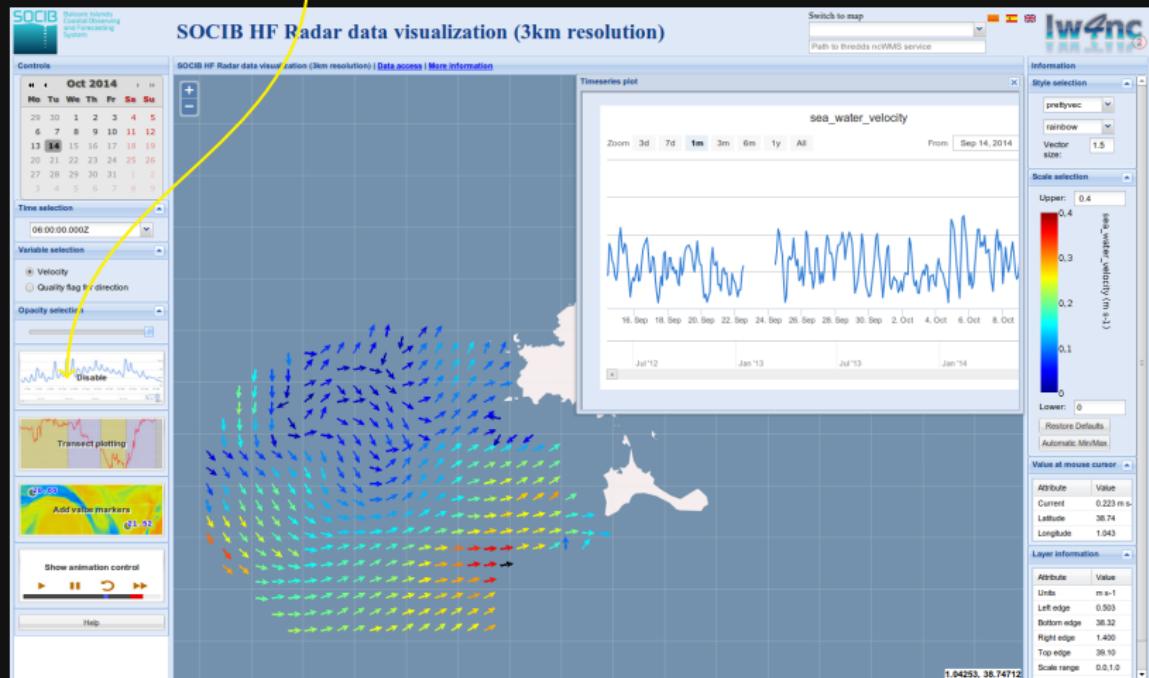
# Lightweight NetCDF viewer

Select data source



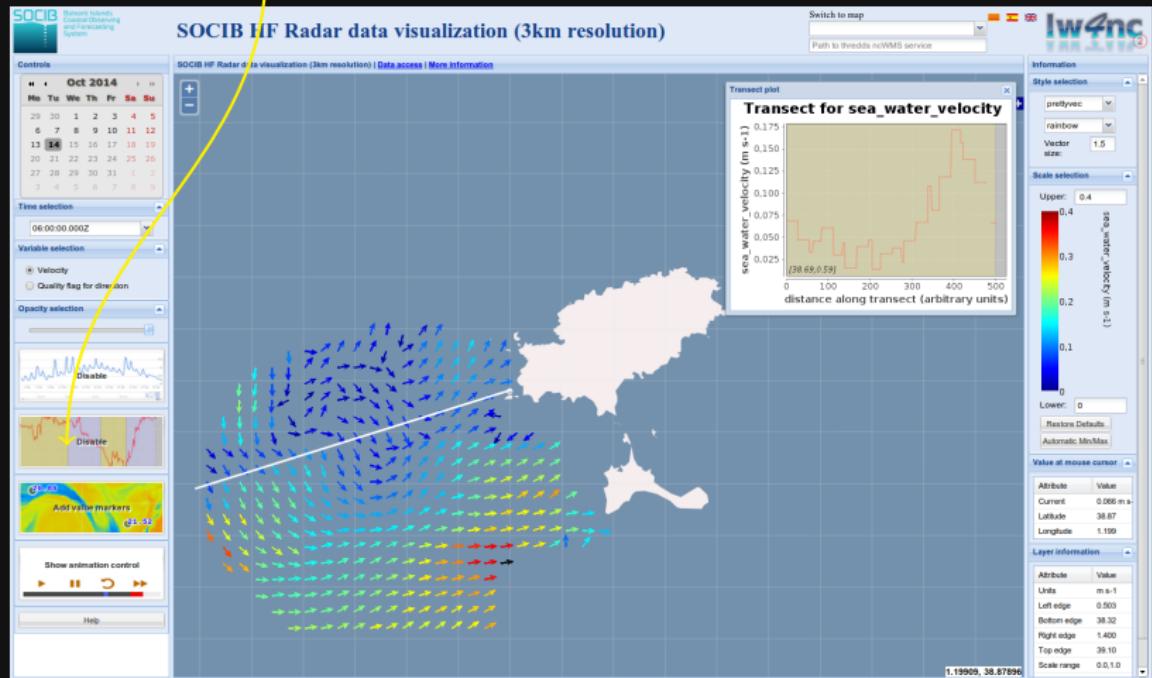
# Lightweight NetCDF viewer

Extract time series



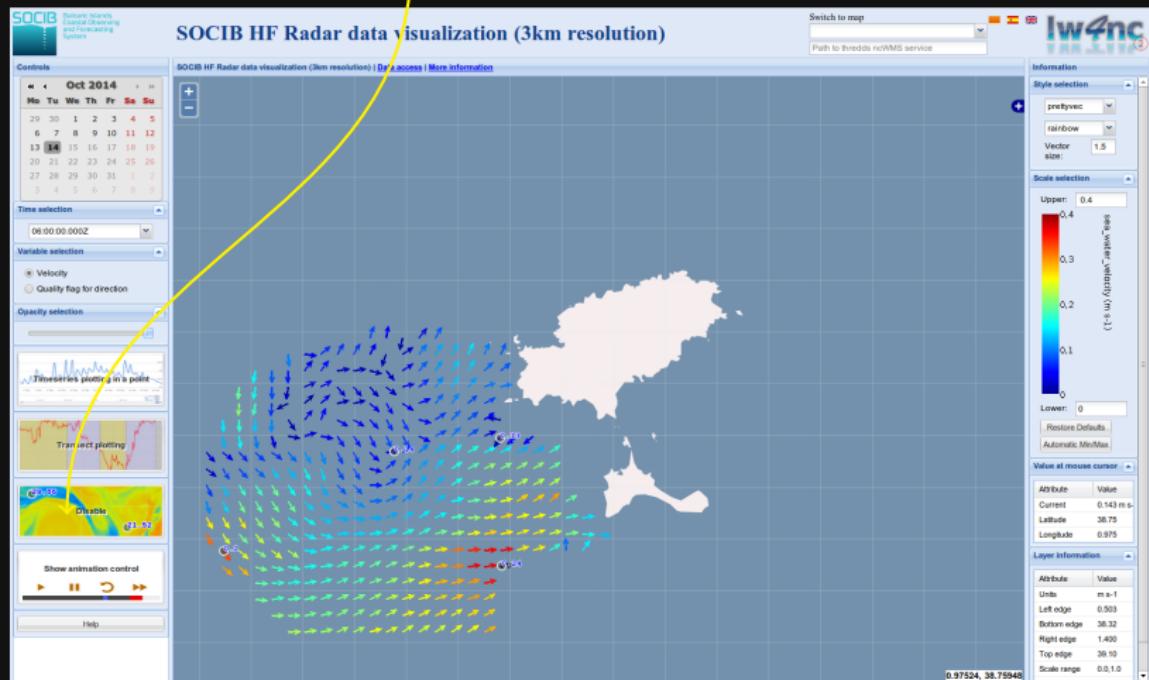
# Lightweight NetCDF viewer

Extract transect



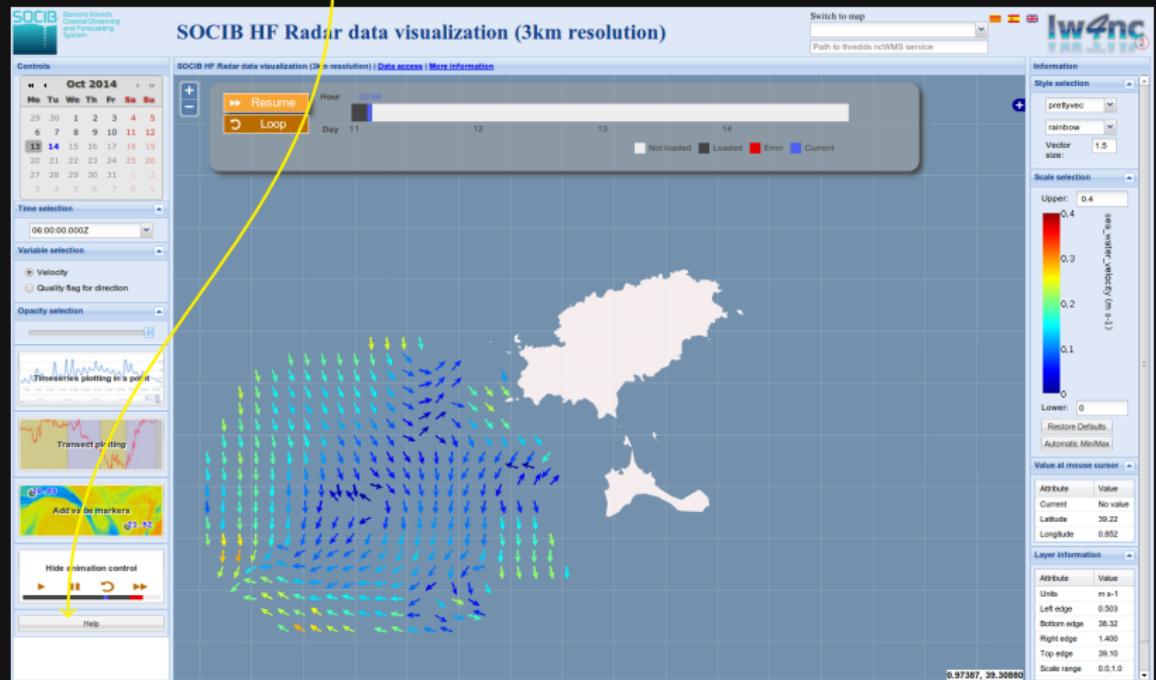
# Lightweight NetCDF viewer

Extract values at markers



# Lightweight NetCDF viewer

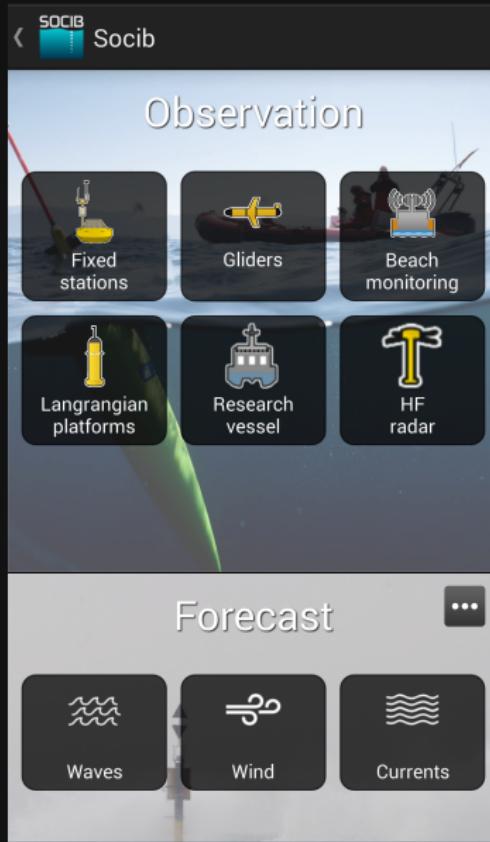
Generate animation



# Smart-phone app



# Smart-phone app



# Messages

- ✉ HF radar as a component of a multi-platform system
- ✉ Quality control: strive for standard procedures, flags, criteria, . . .
- ✉ relevant scientific results
- ✉ Validation: dedicated experiments
- ✉ Efficient visualisation tools and apps

# Future work

Validation using oceanographic buoy in Ibiza Channel

Comparison with ocean forecast model

Assimilation of radar velocities in forecast model

Increase number of users

non-scientists

Thanks  
for your attention

- ✉ [data.centre@socib.es](mailto:data.centre@socib.es)
- 🐦 [@SOCIB\\_data](https://twitter.com/SOCIB_data)